

GRAVITATIONAL WORMHOLES

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Outline

- Introduction
- Wormhole series solutions
- Matching the series solutions
- Conclusions



INTRODUCTION

Background Information

- ❑ A wormhole is a tunnel-like structure that connects two distant regions of spacetime or even two separate universes.
- ❑ Wormholes were first introduced as a traversable model for interstellar travel by Morris and Thorne in 1988.

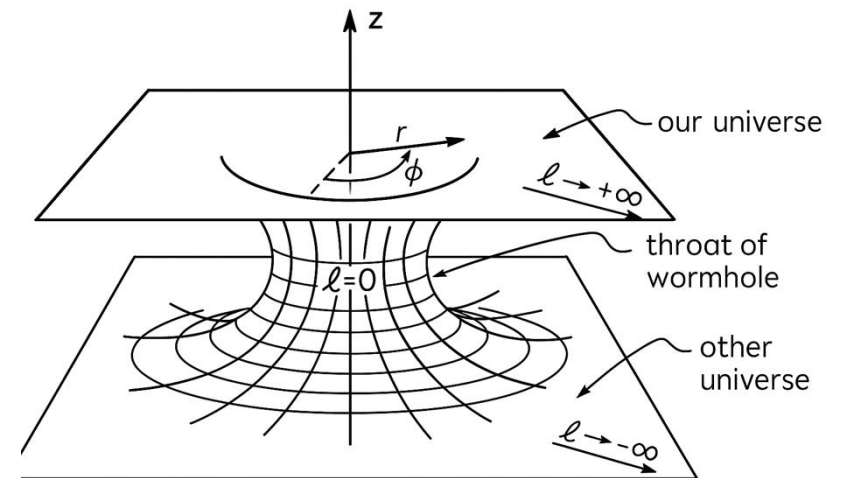
Wormholes in spacetime and their use for interstellar travel: A tool for teaching general relativity ✓

Michael S. Morris; Kip S. Thorne



Am. J. Phys. 56, 395–412 (1988)

<https://doi.org/10.1119/1.15620>



Background Information

The Morris–Thorne wormhole spacetime is described by:

$$ds^2 = -e^{2\Phi(r)} dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - b(r)/r} + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

- $\Phi(r)$: Redshift function, must be finite everywhere to avoid horizons
- $b(r)$: Shape function, determines the spatial geometry of the wormhole

Throat occurs at minimum radius, i.e., $r = b(r)$

- ℓ : Radial proper distance from throat satisfies $\frac{d\ell}{dr} = \pm \left(1 - \frac{b(r)}{r}\right)^{-1/2}$
- Asymptotic flatness: $b(r)/r \rightarrow 0, \Phi(r) \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

Motivation

- ❑ In general relativity, traversable wormholes require exotic matter (matter with negative energy density that violates energy conditions) to prevent the throat from collapsing.
- ❑ Open question: Can pure gravity (without any matter) support wormholes? (Gravitational wormholes: wormholes that only need pure gravity to construct.)
- ❑ Conjecture: Higher-curvature gravity theories (without any matter), such as Einsteinian Cubic Gravity, may allow for purely gravitational wormhole solutions.
- ❑ Set-up: We work in four-dimensional Einsteinian Cubic Gravity (ECG) that extends general relativity with cubic terms in curvature.

Set-up

The action of 4-dimensional Einsteinian Cubic Gravity is [31-35]

$$\mathcal{I} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (-2\Lambda_0 + R + \alpha\mathcal{P} + \beta\mathcal{C} + \gamma\mathcal{C}'),$$

where α , β and γ are coupling constants, \mathcal{P} , \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}' are cubic densities given by

$$\mathcal{P} = 12R_a^c R_b^d R_c^e R_d^f R_e^a R_f^b + R_{ab}^{cd} R_{cd}^{ef} R_{cd}^{ab} - 12R_{abcd} R^{ac} R^{bd} + 8R_a^b R_b^c R_c^a,$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{1}{2} R R_a^b R_b^a - 2R^{ac} R^{bd} R_{abcd} - \frac{1}{4} R R_{abcd} R^{abcd} + R^{de} R_{abcd} R^{abc}_e,$$

$$\mathcal{C}' = R_a^b R_b^c R_c^a - \frac{3}{4} R R_a^b R_b^a + \frac{1}{8} R^3.$$

Set-up

The field equations is given by

$$\mathcal{E}^a_b := \frac{g^{ac}}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta \mathcal{I}}{\delta g^{cb}} = T^a_b$$

where T_{ab} is the matter stress-energy tensor, and we shall let it be zero.

In the general static spherically symmetric (GSSS) ansatz

$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{1}{N(r)f(r)}dr^2 + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2),$$

the field equations depend on α and $2\beta + \gamma$ because the densities C and C' are linearly dependent. We shall henceforth set $\gamma = 0$ without loss of generality.

Set-up

The two independent field equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\frac{1}{8r^5} \left\{ 8r \left(r^2(-1 + r^2\Lambda) + 6\alpha N^2 f'^2(-1 + r^2 f' N') + r N f'(r^2 + 12\alpha f' N') \right) \right. \\
 & + 2f \left[4r^2 N'(r^2 + 15\alpha f' N') + r N \left(3r^2(74\alpha + 5\beta) f'^2 N^2 + 4r(r + 48\alpha N' f'') \right) \right. \\
 & - 24f' \left((8\alpha - \beta) N' - 8r\alpha N'' \right) + 24r\alpha N^3 \left(4f'^2 + r^2 f''^2 + r f'(-4f''' + r f'''')) \right) \\
 & + 12N^2 \left(f' \left(8\alpha + r^3(22\alpha + \beta) N' f'' \right) + 8r^2 \alpha f'^2 \left(-3N' + r N'' \right) + 4r\alpha \left(-2f'' + r f''' \right) \right) \\
 & + 6f^3 \left[r^2 N'^2 \left(-4\alpha N' + r(8\alpha + \beta) N'' \right) + 4N^2 \left(2\beta N' - r \left((-4\alpha + \beta) N'' + 4r\alpha N''' \right) \right) \right. \\
 & + r N \left((8\alpha - 7\beta) N'^2 + 2r^2(8\alpha + \beta) N''^2 + 2r N' \left(-20\alpha N'' + r(8\alpha + \beta) N''' \right) \right) \\
 & + 3f^2 \left[r N' \left(6\beta N' + r^2(28\alpha + 3\beta) f' N'^2 + 16r\alpha N'' \right) - 32\alpha N^3 \left(2f' + r(-2f'' + r f''') \right) \right. \\
 & + 2N \left(2r^2 N'^2 \left(-52\alpha f' + r(26\alpha + 3\beta) f'' \right) + N' \left(-8\beta + r^3(108\alpha + 11\beta) f' N'' \right) \right. \\
 & + 4r \left((-4\alpha + \beta) N'' + 4r\alpha N''' \right) + 4r N^2 \left[r \left(r(12\alpha + \beta) f'' N'' + N' \left(-48\alpha f'' + r(8\alpha + \beta) f''' \right) \right) \right. \\
 & \left. \left. \left. + f' \left(6(8\alpha - \beta) N' + 4r\alpha(-12N'' + r N''') \right) \right] \right] \right\} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{8r^5} \left\{ -8r \left(r^2(-1 + r^2\Lambda) + 6\alpha N^2 f'^2(-1 + r^2 f' N') + r N f'(r^2 + 12\alpha f' N') \right) \right. \\
 & + 6\beta f^3 N \left(r N'^2 + N(-8N' + 4r N'') \right) - 2f \left[-12r^2 \alpha f' N^2 + r N \left(3r^2(26\alpha + 3\beta) f'^2 N^2 \right. \right. \\
 & + 4r \left(r + 12\alpha N' f'' \right) + 24f' \left((-2\alpha + \beta) N' + 2r\alpha N'' \right) \left. \left. + 24r\alpha N^3 \left(4f'^2 + r^2 f''^2 \right. \right. \right. \\
 & + r f'(-4f''' + r f'''')) + 12N^2 \left(f' \left(8\alpha + r^3(12\alpha + \beta) N' f'' \right) + 2r^2 \alpha f'^2 \left(-8N' + r N'' \right) \right. \\
 & + 4r\alpha \left(-2f'' + r f''' \right) \left. \left. \right] + 3f^2 \left[r N'^2 \left(2\beta + r^2(8\alpha + \beta) f' N' \right) - 2N \left(2r^2 N'^2 \left(-4\alpha f' \right. \right. \right. \right. \\
 & + r(8\alpha + \beta) f'' \right) + 4r\beta N'' + N' \left(-8\beta + 3r^3(8\alpha + \beta) f' N'' \right) \left. \left. \right] + 32\alpha N^3 \left(2f' + r \right. \right. \\
 & \left. \left. \left(-2f'' + r f''' \right) \right) - 4r N^2 \left(2f' \left((8\alpha - 3\beta) N' - 8r\alpha(N'') \right) + r \left(r(8\alpha + \beta) f'' N'' + N' \right. \right. \right. \\
 & \left. \left. \left. \left(-16\alpha f'' + r(8\alpha + \beta) f''' \right) \right) \right] \right] \right\} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$



WORMHOLE SERIES SOLUTIONS

Series solutions

Now let us consider the following metric ansatz with the advantage that the domain of x is finite $x \in [0, 1)$

$$ds^2 = -\frac{r_0^2 g(x)}{(1-x)^2} d\tilde{t}^2 + \frac{r_0^2 dx^2}{n(x)g(x)(1-x)^2} + \frac{r_0^2}{(1-x)^2} (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2),$$

where the transformation is

$$x = 1 - r_0/r \quad \tilde{t} = t/r_0 \quad n = N \quad g = \frac{f r_0^2}{r^2}$$

For traversable wormhole solutions, the metric functions must be every-where positive, with $n=0$ and g is finite positive at $x = 0$ (wormhole throat $r=r_0$), infinity compactified to $x = 1$.

Large-r solutions

We now consider asymptotically AdS wormholes ($n(1)=1, g(1)=a_0$), substitute the series solutions in the distant region at large r ($x=1$)

$$g = a_0 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n(1-x)^n, \quad n = 1 + \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} b_n(1-x)^n, \quad a_0 = r_0^2/l^2 \equiv Lr_0^2, \quad a_2 = 1 + \delta$$

into the field equations and solve them order by order. The lowest two orders of field equation yield

$$24\alpha L^2 + 1 = 0$$

Large-r solutions

The large-r series solutions (with $\beta=0$) are

$$g = a_0 + a_2(1-x)^2 + \frac{4}{5}a_0b_3(1-x)^3 - \frac{333a_0^2b_3^2}{200(a_2-1)}(1-x)^4 \\ + \frac{3b_3(-400a_2 + 800a_2^2 - 400a_2^3 + 7923a_0^3b_3^2)}{3500(a_2-1)^2}(1-x)^5 + \dots,$$

$$n = 1 + b_3(1-x)^3 - \frac{81a_0b_3^2}{20(a_2-1)}(1-x)^4 \\ + \frac{3b_3(-400a_2 + 800a_2^2 - 400a_2^3 + 8271a_0^3b_3^2)}{1000a_0(a_2-1)^2}(1-x)^5 + \dots,$$

where we set $\beta=0$, and a_0 , a_2 and b_3 are the only free variables in this solution.

Near throat solutions

Series solutions in near throat region at $r=r_0$ ($x=0$) satisfy $n(0)=0$, $g(0) \neq 0$

$$n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n x^n \quad g = B_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n x^n, \quad B_0 \neq 0,$$

Plug these into field equations, we get the near throat series solutions (with $\beta=0$), whose coefficients are fully determined by A_1 , B_0 and a_0

$$n_{th} = A_1 x - \frac{72 \left(A_1 B_0 + \frac{4}{3} \right) a_0^3 - 8 \left(A_1^2 B_0^2 - \frac{7}{2} A_1 B_0 - 6 \right) a_0^2 - 5 A_1^4 B_0^4 - 9 A_1^3 B_0^3 - 4 A_1^2 B_0^2}{4 \left(A_1 B_0 + 1 \right)^2 A_1 B_0^2} x^2 + \dots$$

$$g_{th} = B_0 + 2 \frac{8 a_0^3 + 4 a_0^2 - A_1^3 B_0^3 - B_0^2 A_1^2}{A_1^2 B_0 \left(A_1 B_0 + 1 \right)} x + \dots$$



MATCHING THE SERIES SOLUTIONS

Matching the Solutions

We expect the far-region series matches with the near-throat series as long as a wormhole solution exists for some values of a_0, a_2, b_3, A_1, B_0 . We do this by minimizing the objective function below

$$\Delta \equiv (\Delta g)^2 + (\Delta g')^2 + (\Delta n)^2 + (\Delta n')^2$$

as a function of the parameters $(a_0, a_2, b_3, A_1, B_0)$, where $\Delta F \equiv F_\infty - F_{th}$

Wormhole boundary condition

- Support a throat: $n(0)=0, g(0) \neq 0$
- Asymptotically AdS: $n(1)=1, g(1)=a_0$

Wormhole examples ($g(x)$ solid, $n(x)$ dashed)

Example 1

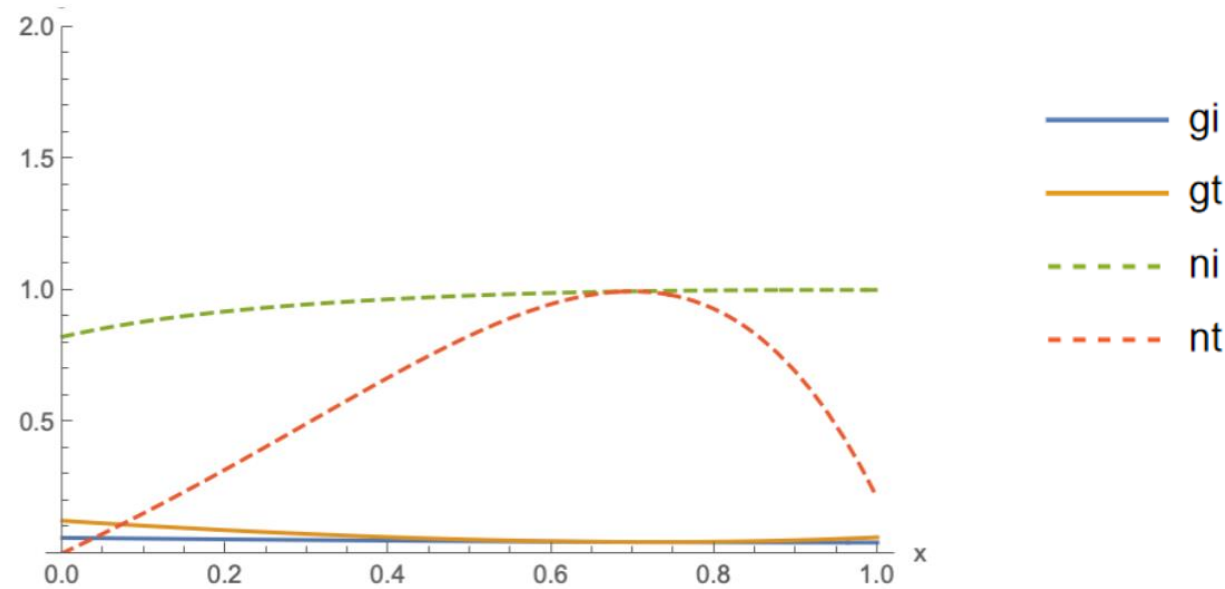


Figure 1. Plots of the series solutions $[g(x), n(x)]$ for both large- r [(solid blue, dashed green)] and near-throat [(solid orange, dashed red)]. The solutions smoothly match at $x = 0.694284$ for the parameters $a_2 = 0.0238388$, $b_3 = -0.2000$, $A_1 = 1.44815$, $B_0 = 0.122817$, and $a_0 = 0.04000$.

Example 2

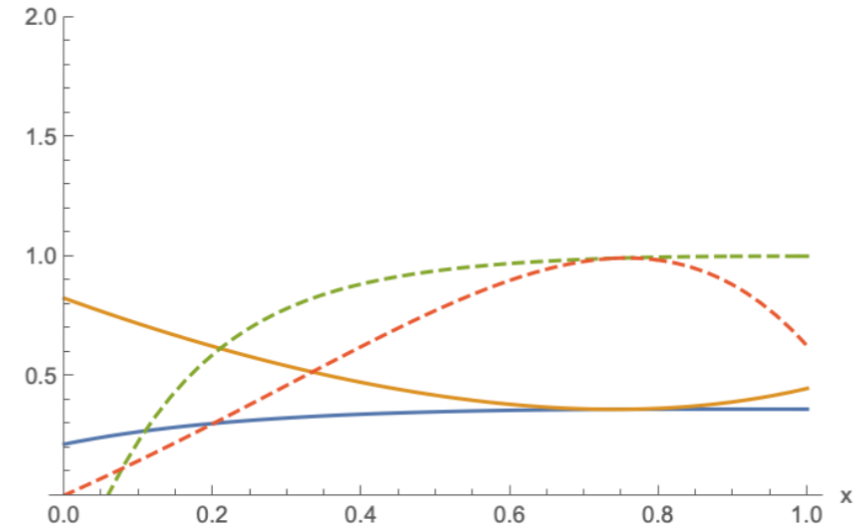


Figure 2. Plots of the series solutions $[g(x), n(x)]$ for both large- r [(solid blue, dashed green)] and near-throat [(solid orange, dashed red)]. The solutions smoothly match at $x = 0.694284$ for the parameters $a_2 = 0.029988289977868732$, $b_3 = -0.6000$, $A_1 = 1.3906651114275435$, $B_0 = 0.8239700690981224$, and $a_0 = 0.36000$.

Wormhole examples with beta

What if we want to minimize the objective function below to match the 2nd derivative?

$$\Delta(x_0) \equiv \left(\frac{\Delta g}{0!}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta g'}{1!}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta g''}{2!}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta n}{0!}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta n'}{1!}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta n''}{2!}\right)^2$$

We need to introduce a new parameter to dial!

$$(\beta, r_0, a_2, b_3, A_1, B_0)$$

Wormhole examples with beta

If beta is non-zero, we can still get the far-region series solutions

$$g = Lr_0^2 + a_2(1-x)^2 - \frac{2}{5}b_3Lr_0^2(1-x)^3(9\beta L^2 - 2) \\ - \frac{9b_3^2L^2r_0^4(1-x)^4(828\beta^2L^4 - 363\beta L^2 + 37)}{200(a_2 - 1)}$$

$$n = 1 + b_3(1-x)^3 + \frac{27b_3^2Lr_0^2(1-x)^4(11\beta L^2 - 3)}{20(a_2 - 1)} \\ + \frac{3b_3(1-x)^5(-400a_2^3 + 800a_2^2 - 400a_2 + 9b_3^2L^3r_0^6(11916\beta^2L^4 - 6621\beta L^2 + 919))}{1000(a_2 - 1)^2Lr_0^2}$$

Wormhole examples with beta

The near throat series solutions with beta are

$$n_{th} = A_1 x + \frac{1}{8A_1 B_0^2 (A_1 B_0 (3\beta L^2 - 1) - 1)^2}$$
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} &2A_1^2 B_0^2 (1 - 3\beta L^2) (A_1^2 B_0^2 (5 - 12\beta L^2) + 9A_1 B_0 + 4) \\ &-8L^2 r_0^4 (2A_1^2 B_0^2 (3\beta L^2 - 1) + A_1 B_0 (7 - 24\beta L^2) + 12) \\ &+48L^3 r_0^6 (A_1 B_0 (8\beta L^2 - 3) - 4) \end{aligned} \right\} x^2 + \dots$$
$$g_{th} = B_0 - \frac{2L^2 \left(3A_1^2 B_0^2 (A_1 B_0 + 1) \left(\beta - \frac{1}{3L^2} \right) + 8Lr_0^6 + 4r_0^4 \right)}{A_1^2 B_0 (A_1 B_0 (3\beta L^2 - 1) - 1)} x + \dots$$

Wormhole examples with beta

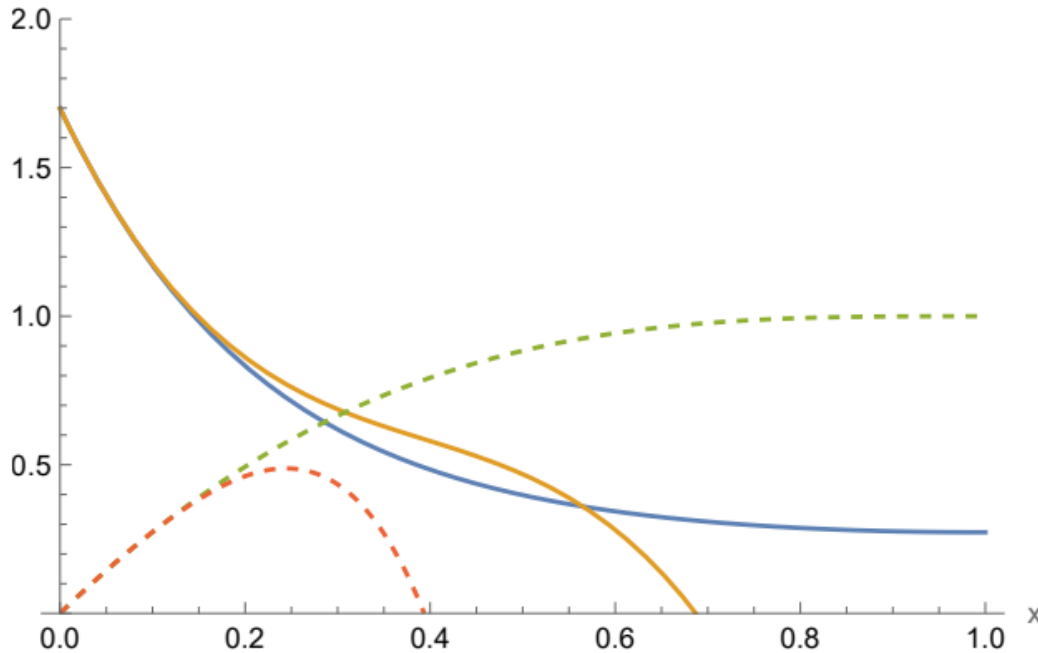


FIG. 1. Plots of the series solutions $[g(x), n(x)]$ for both large- r [(solid blue, dashed green)] and near-throat [(solid orange, dashed red)]. The solutions smoothly match with $\Delta = 1.03924 \times 10^{-19}$ at $x = x_0 = 0.00505304$ for the parameters $\beta = 0.505553, a_2 = 0.318022, b_3 = -0.680002, r_0 = 0.522375, A_1 = 3.03285, B_0 = 1.69888$.

- With beta we can matches the second derivative

Wormhole examples with beta

■

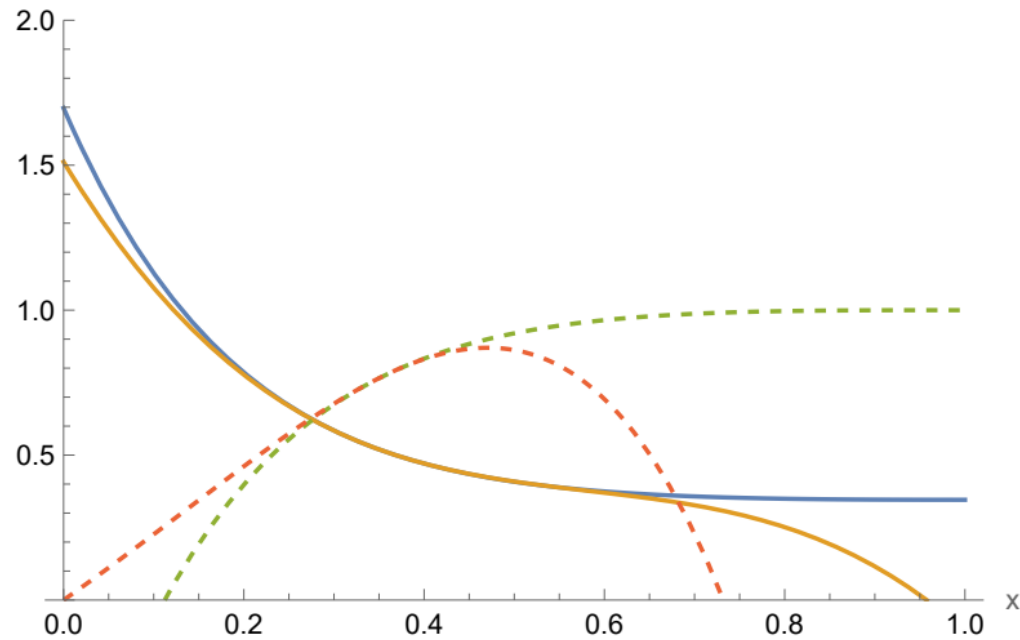


FIG. 2. Plots of the series solutions $[g(x), n(x)]$ for both large- r [(solid blue, dashed green)] and near-throat [(solid orange, dashed red)]. The solutions smoothly match with $\Delta = 3.22544 \times 10^{-15}$ at $x = x_0 = 0.35156$ for the parameters $\beta = 0.792546, a_2 = 0.0368723, b_3 = -0.327935, r_0 = 0.588074, A_1 = 2.1819, B_0 = 1.51153$.

- With beta we can matches the second derivative

Wormhole examples with beta

■

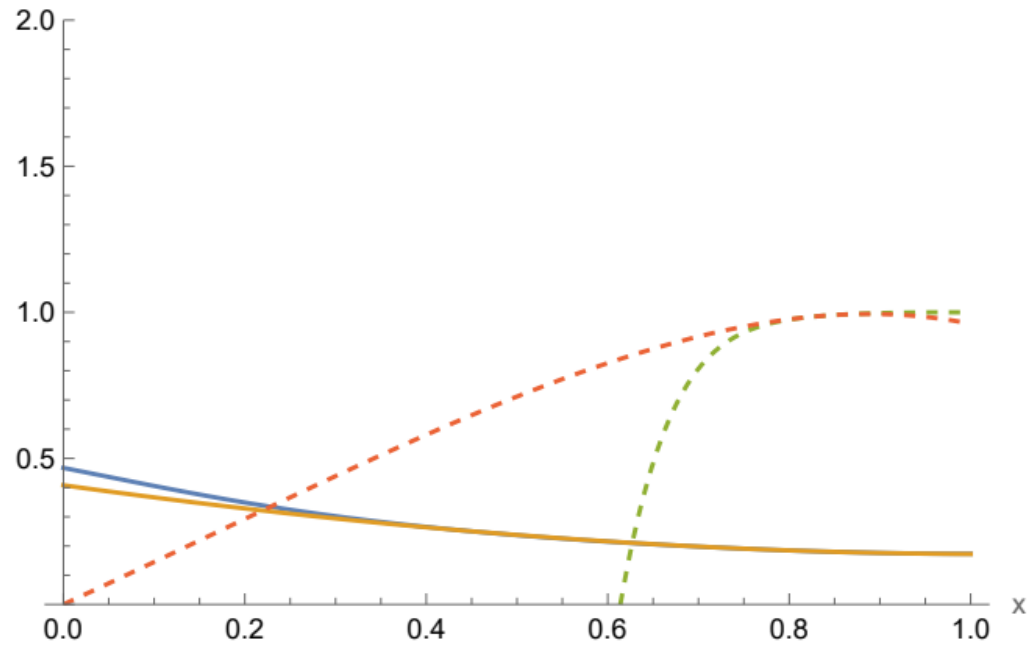


FIG. 3. Plots of the series solutions $[g(x), n(x)]$ for both large- r [(solid blue, dashed green)] and near-throat [(solid orange, dashed red)]. The solutions smoothly match with $\Delta = 3.2155 \times 10^{-16}$ at $x = x_0 = 0.83693$ for the parameters $\beta = 0.0706116, a_2 = 0.34649, b_3 = -3.53033, r_0 = 0.41619, A_1 = 1.43351, B_0 = 0.408057$.

- With beta we can matches the second derivative



CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

- ✓ We solve Einsteinian Cubic gravity field equations to get far-region series solutions and near throat series solutions
- ✓ We require the two solutions to be connected smoothly, to get the parameters in the coefficients in the series solution.
- ✓ We also investigate the case when beta is non-zero, and match to series solutions to the second order derivatives.
- ✓ Results: Einsteinian Cubic gravity contains wormhole solutions that are purely gravitational.

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Thank you for your attention!



APPENDIX

Wormhole examples

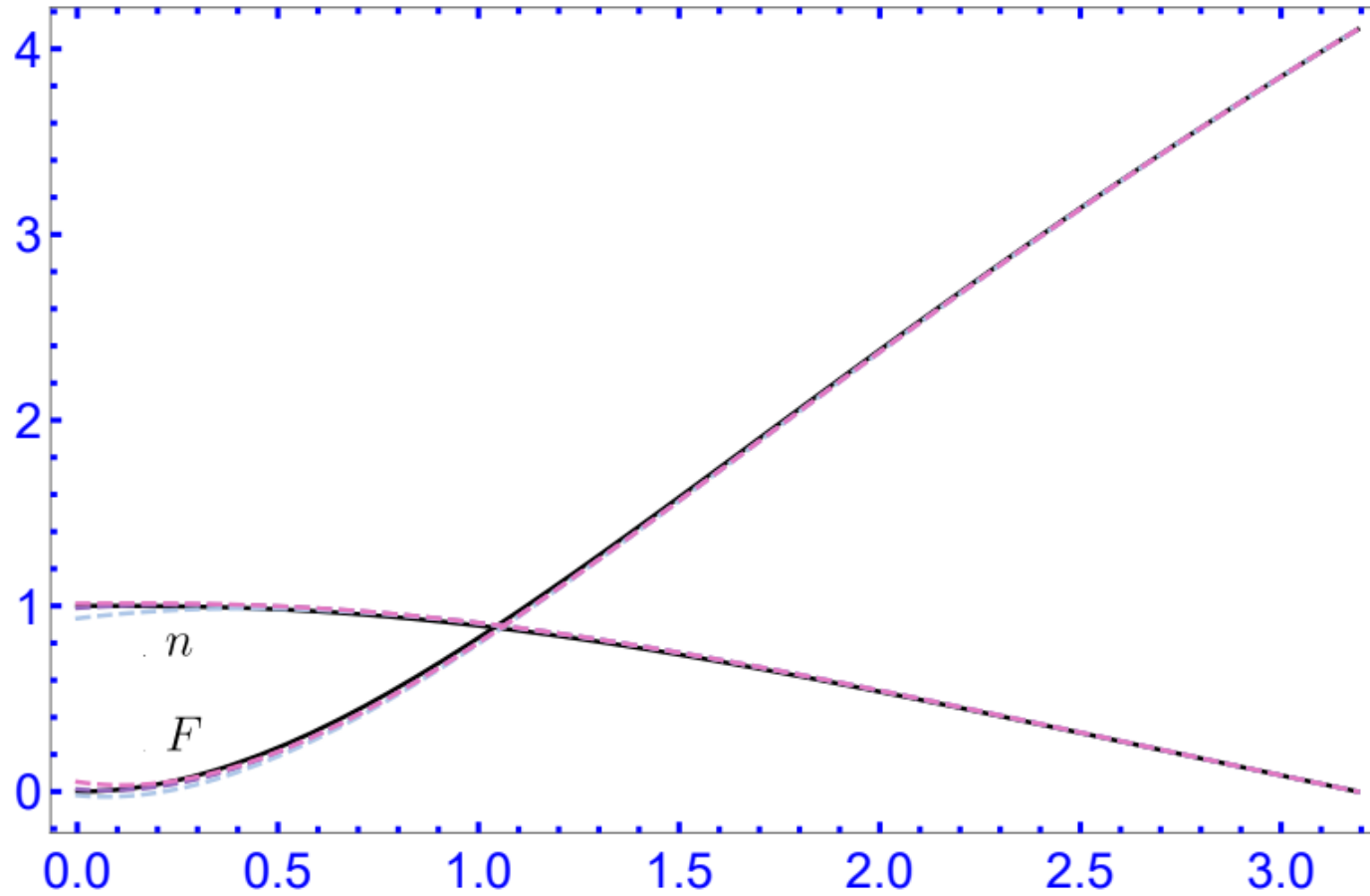
Our construction relies on the shooting method, namely, looking for initial conditions satisfying (1.6) at $r = \infty$ such that the wormhole boundary conditions are fulfilled at the throat r_{th} . For this purpose, we take $u \equiv 1/r$, $F(u) \equiv -1/g_{tt}$, $n(u) \equiv -g^{rr}/g_{tt}$ to rewrite the metric ansatz (1.5) as

$$ds^2 = -\frac{1}{F(u)} dt^2 + \frac{1}{u^4} \frac{F(u)}{n(u)} du^2 + \frac{1}{u^2} (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2). \quad (2.1)$$

$$F(u) = F_2 u^2 + F_4 u^4 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} F_i u^i, \quad n(u) = 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} n_i u^i,$$

$$F(u) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \tilde{F}_i (u - u_{\text{th}})^i, \quad n(u) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \tilde{n}_i (u - u_{\text{th}})^i,$$

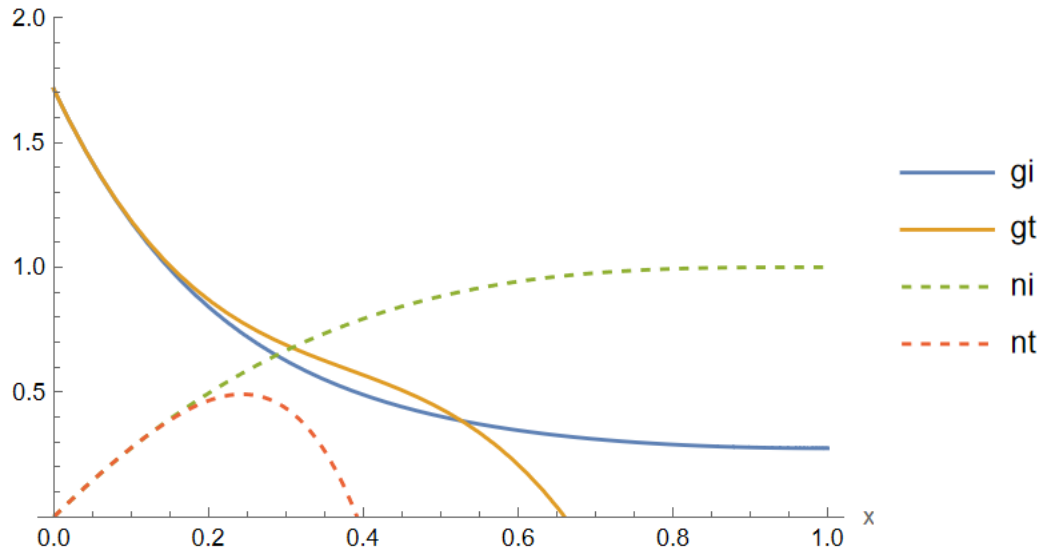
Wormhole examples



u

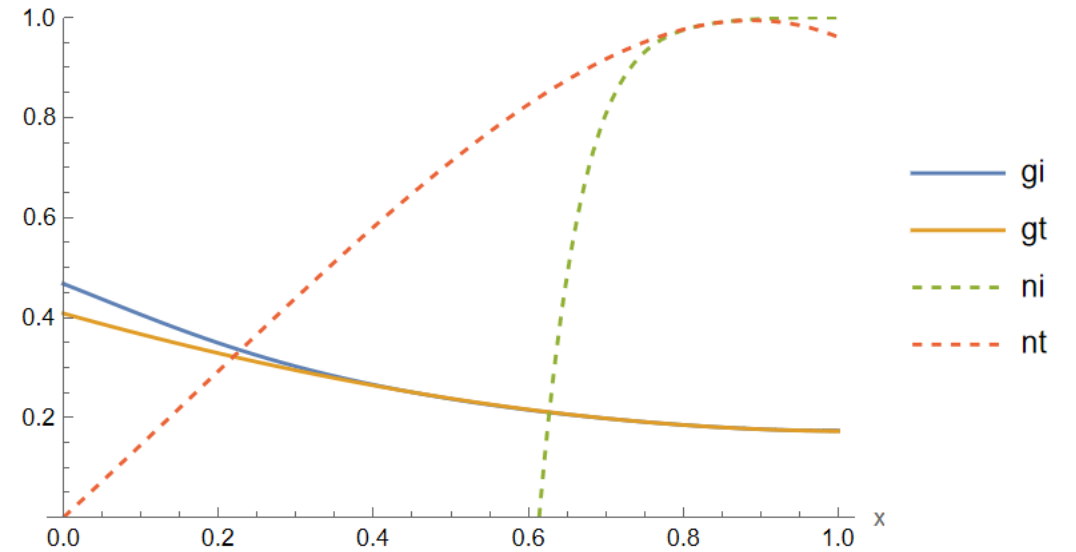
Wormhole examples with beta

- Example 3



$\{1.48066 \times 10^{-17}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.501936, aa2 \rightarrow 0.327455, bb3 \rightarrow -0.680223, r \rightarrow 0.524004, AA1 \rightarrow 3.06577, BB0 \rightarrow 1.71347, x \rightarrow 0.000519844\}\}$

- Example 4



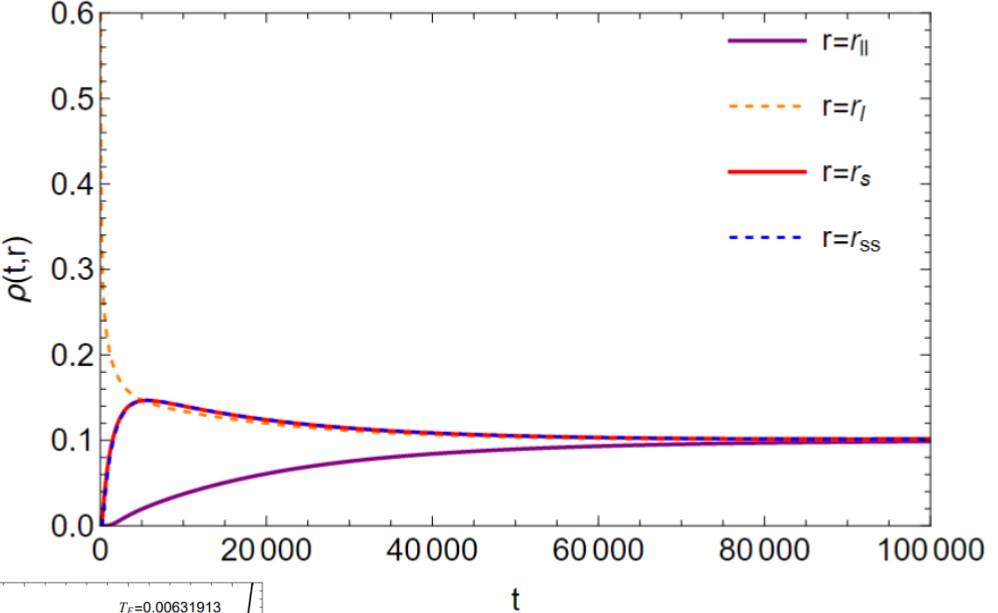
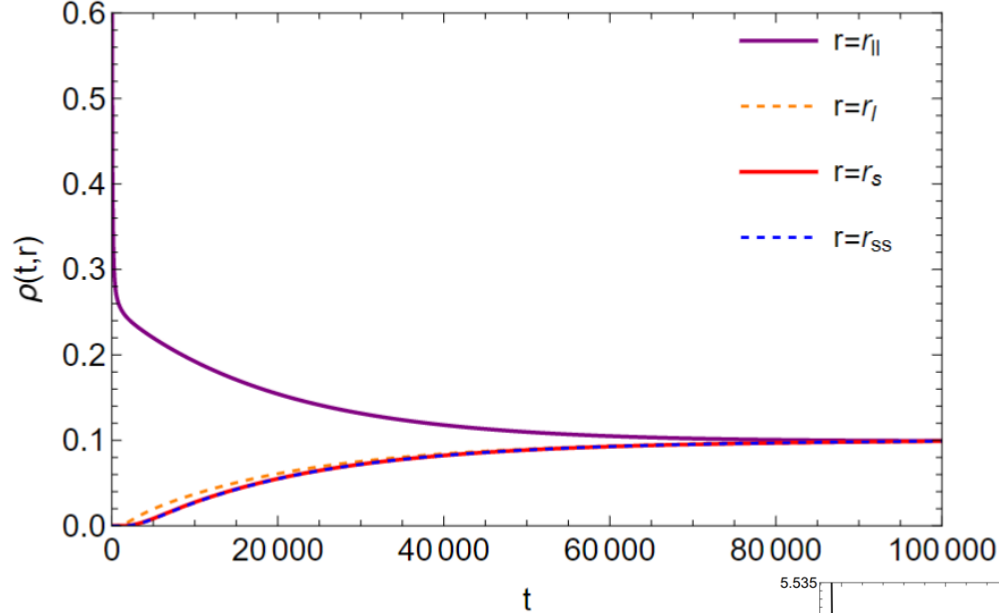
$\{3.2155 \times 10^{-16}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.0706116, aa2 \rightarrow 0.34649, bb3 \rightarrow -3.53033, r \rightarrow 0.41619, AA1 \rightarrow 1.43351, BB0 \rightarrow 0.408057, x \rightarrow 0.83693\}\}$

- With beta we can matches the second derivative

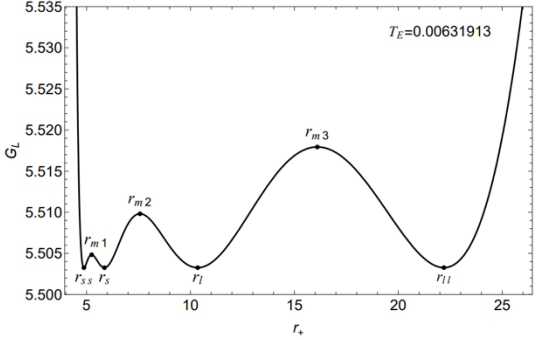
Probability evolution for four stable phases at middle temperature

Initial state is the largest BH

Initial state is the large BH



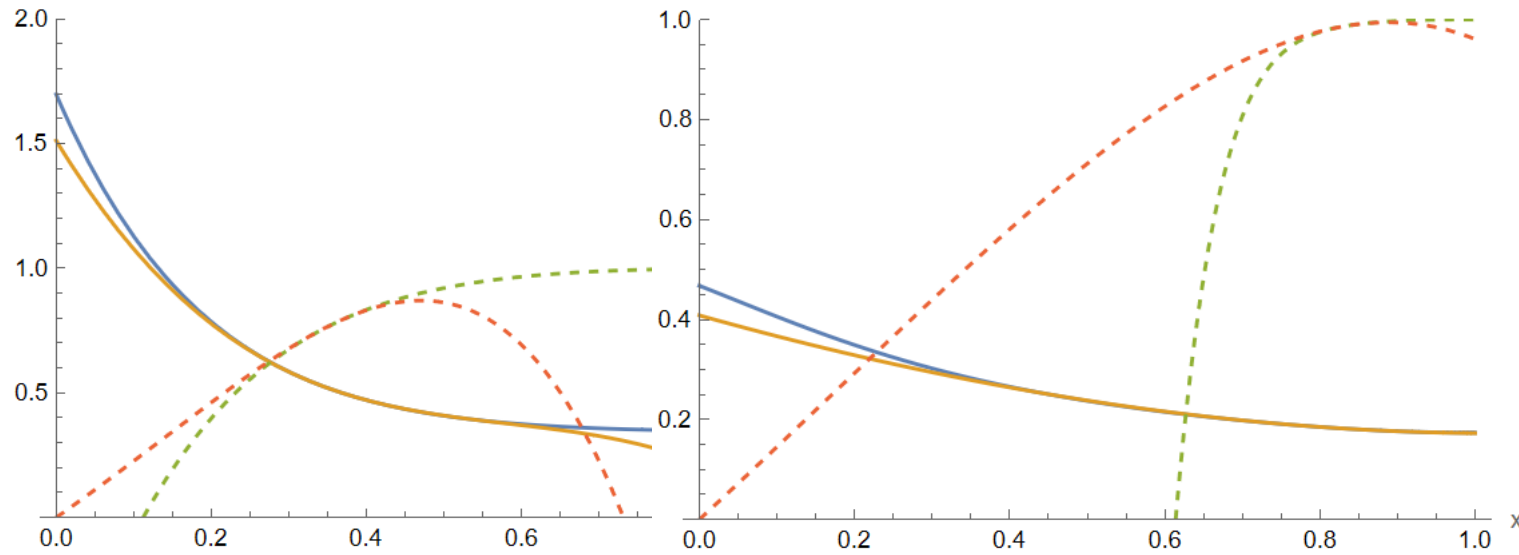
	$t(ll \rightarrow l)$	$t(ll \rightarrow s)$	$t(ll \rightarrow ss)$
T_L	307	439	447
T_I	1593	1817	1827
T_H	3309	3672	3685



	$t(l \rightarrow s)$	$t(l \rightarrow ss)$	$t(l \rightarrow ll)$
T_L	132	140	1160
T_I	224	234	912
T_H	363	376	466

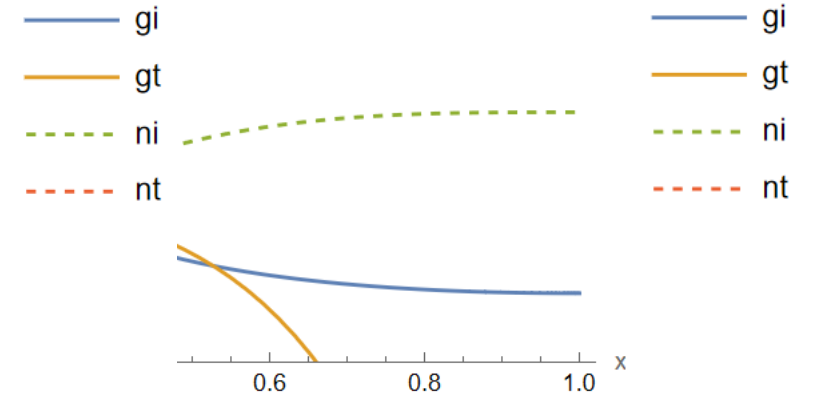
Wormhole examples

Example 1



$\{3.22544 \times 10^{-15}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.792546, aa2 \rightarrow 0.0368723, bb3 \rightarrow -0.327935, r \rightarrow 0.588074, AA1 \rightarrow 2.1819, BB0 \rightarrow 1.51153, x \rightarrow 0.35156\}\}$

Example 2



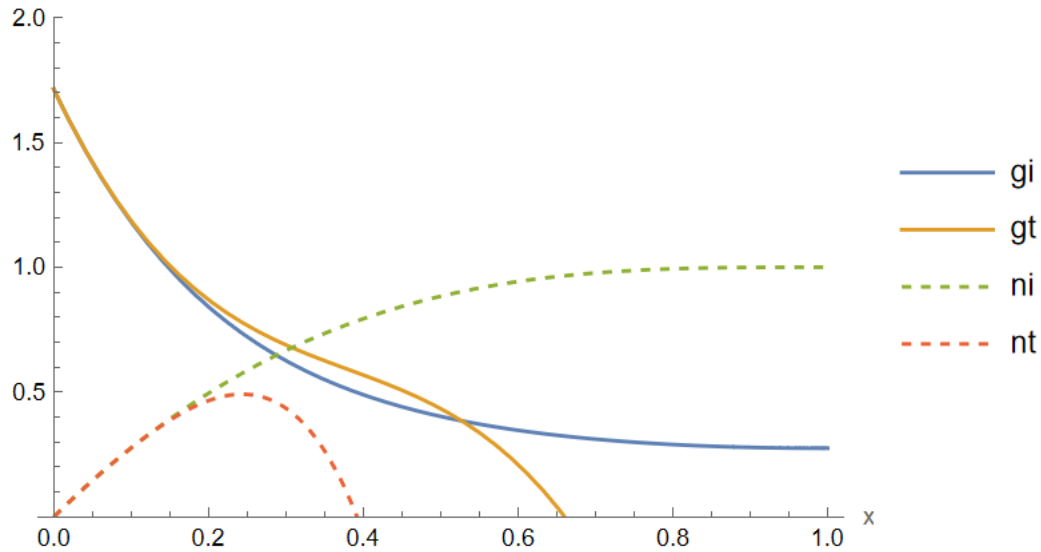
$\{1.48066 \times 10^{-17}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.501936, aa2 \rightarrow 0.327455, bb3 \rightarrow -0.680223, r \rightarrow 0.524004, AA1 \rightarrow 3.06577, BB0 \rightarrow 1.71347, x \rightarrow 0.000519844\}\}$



Chebyshev Spectral Methods

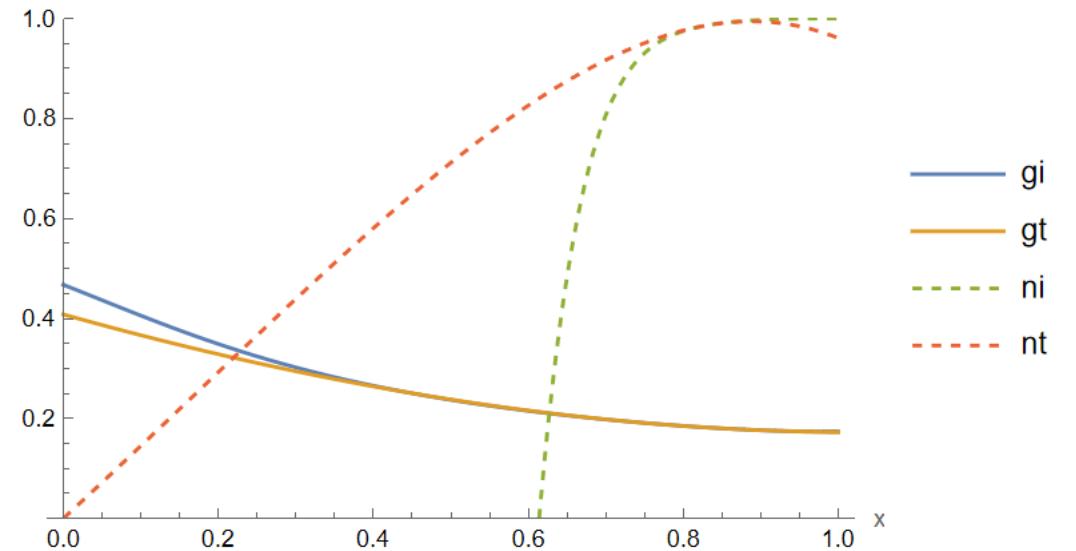
Wormhole examples with beta

- Example 3



$\{1.48066 \times 10^{-17}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.501936, aa2 \rightarrow 0.327455, bb3 \rightarrow -0.680223, r \rightarrow 0.524004, AA1 \rightarrow 3.06577, BB0 \rightarrow 1.71347, x \rightarrow 0.000519844\}\}$

- Example 4



$\{3.2155 \times 10^{-16}, \{\beta \rightarrow 0.0706116, aa2 \rightarrow 0.34649, bb3 \rightarrow -3.53033, r \rightarrow 0.41619, AA1 \rightarrow 1.43351, BB0 \rightarrow 0.408057, x \rightarrow 0.83693\}\}$

- With beta we can matches the second derivative