

**HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS OF QUADRATIC GRAVITY**

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It is believed that soon after the Planck time, Einstein's general relativity theory should be corrected to an effective quadratic theory. In this work we present the 3+1 decomposition for the zero vorticity case for arbitrary spatially homogenous spaces. We specialize for the particular Bianchi *I* diagonal case. The 3- curvature can be understood as a generalized potential, and the Bianchi *I* case is a limiting case where this potential is negligible to the dynamics. The spirit should be analogous, in some sense to the BKL solution. In this sense, a better understanding of the Bianchi *I* case could shed some light into the general Bianchi case.

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**1. Introduction**

The semi-classical theory consider the back reaction of quantum fields in a classical geometric background. It began about forty years ago with De Witt Ref. 1, and since then, its consequences and applications are still under research, see for example Ref. 2.

Different from the usual Einstein-Hilbert action, the one loop effective gravitational action surmounts to quadratic theories in curvature, see for example Refs. 1, 3. It is the gravitational version of the Heisenberg-Euler electromagnetism. As it is well known, vacuum polarization introduces non linear corrections into Maxwell electrodynamics,<sup>4</sup> first obtained by Heisenberg- Euler.<sup>5</sup>

This quadratic gravity was previously studied by Starobinsky.<sup>6</sup> It is of interest for example in the context of the final stages of evaporation of black holes, inflationary theories,<sup>7</sup> in the approach to the singularity,<sup>8</sup> and also in a more theoretical context.<sup>9</sup>

The effective gravity, was apparently first investigated in Tomita's article Ref. 10 for general Bianchi *I* spaces. They found that the presence of anisotropy contributes to the formation of the singularity. Berkin's work shows that a quadratic Weyl theory is less stable than a quadratic Riemann scalar  $R^2$ . In particular, in the very interesting article Ref. 11, Barrow and Hervik addressed the anisotropic cases of

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Bianchi *I* and *II*. The most interesting results of Barrow and Hervik are the exact solutions for quadratic theories of the same type investigated in this present article. Instead of the metric, the field equations in Ref. 11 are written in a different set of variables which by now is a well known procedure used in the context of dynamical systems in cosmology.<sup>12</sup> Homogenous solutions in the context of quadratic gravity was also addressed by Ref. 13. There is an interesting article by Saridakis, Ref. 14 in which the Kantowski Sachs anisotropic case is addressed for quadratic gravity. Schmidt does a review of higher order gravity theories in connection to cosmology.<sup>15</sup>

Also in the context of quadratic theories we have the alternative of Gauss-Bonnet type  $F(G)$  by Odintsov, Nojiri and collaborators Ref. 16 (for recent reviews see Ref. 17). When the action depends on an arbitrary function of the Gauss-Bonnet term, it is not a top invariant and a consistent dynamic follows from it. Theories of  $R^2$  type are also investigated, for example in Ref. 18.

In our case the Gauss-Bonnet term is understood as a surface term and discarded.

We have previously addressed the Bianchi *I* solutions in Refs. 19, 20. Stability is also discussed there. More recently we have submitted two articles, one in which we investigate how the approach to Minkowski space occurs in the Bianchi *I* case.<sup>22</sup> In the other article we present the Bianchi  $VII_A$  solutions Ref. 21. In Ref. 22 it is obtained that the solution is a superposition of a pure tensorial component, and a pure scalar component. Thus the approach to Minkowski space involves the production of scalar and tensorial gravitational waves. Speculations about the validity of the semi-classical argument can be raised, anyway, in a certain sense the quadratic counterterms which we consider are the most natural ones expected from the renormalization of a quantum field.<sup>23</sup>

The purpose of this article is to cast the dynamical equations of motion in a 3+1 decomposition for the zero vorticity case. A time like and geodesic vector can be defined and we impose the homogeneity on the 3-space. Apparently it is the first time the equations are presented in this form. The Bianchi *I* case is revisited but now the equations are written in an analytical fashion. We intend to use the expressions obtained in this work in our future works. Most of the article is there just for completeness.

The article is organized as follows. In section 2 a brief exposition of the vacuum polarization by the external gravitational field. In section 3 we present the 3 + 1 decomposition for any Bianchi type. In the section 4 we specialize to the Bianchi *I* case. And the conclusions are presented in section 5.

## 2. The Divergent Counterterms

Since the contribution of other spin fields to the effective action, are of the same type for the scalar field, see for example Ref. 23, we will consider a quantum

scalar field in a curved classical background only

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (\partial_k \phi \partial^k \phi - m^2 \phi^2 - \xi R \phi^2).$$

After an integration in parts in the above action, the gaussian integral results as

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-iW} &= \int D\phi \exp \left\{ \frac{-i}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \phi [\nabla_a \nabla^a + m^2 + \xi R] \phi \right\} \\ e^{-iW} &= [\det(iF/2\pi M^2)]^{-1/2} \\ W &= \frac{i}{2} \ln(\det(iF/2\pi M^2)) = \frac{i}{2} \text{tr} \ln(F) + C, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\langle x|F|y \rangle = (\nabla_a \nabla^a + m^2 + \xi R)\delta(x-y)/\sqrt{-g}$ ,  $M$  and  $C$  are constants, and the trace means  $\text{tr}B = \lim_{x \rightarrow y} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \langle x|B|y \rangle$ . The effective Lagrange function is obtained as a Mellin transform of the Schrödinger kernel

$$\begin{aligned} \delta W &= \frac{i}{2} \text{tr} \left( \frac{\delta F}{F} \right) = \frac{i}{2} \text{tr} \left\{ i \int_0^\infty ds e^{-isF} \delta F \right\} \\ \delta W &= -\frac{i}{2} \delta \text{tr} \left\{ \int_0^\infty ds \frac{e^{-isF}}{s} \right\} \\ W &= -\frac{i}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \int_0^\infty ds \frac{K(s, x)}{s}, \end{aligned}$$

where the kernel  $K(s, x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x'} K(s, x, x')$ , satisfies a Schrödinger type equation

$$\square K(s, x, x') + \xi R K(s, x, x') + m^2 K(s, x, x') = i \frac{\partial}{\partial s} K(s, x, x'),$$

together with the boundary condition  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} K(s, x, x') = \delta(x - x')$ . This equation can be solved perturbatively,

$$K(s, x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x'} K(s, x, x') = -\frac{i}{(4\pi s)^2} e^{-i(\sigma/2s + m^2 s)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (is)^n$$

where  $\sigma$  is half of the length squared of the geodesic

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\lambda d\lambda' \left( g_{ab} \frac{dx^a}{d\lambda'} \frac{dx^b}{d\lambda'} \right)^{1/2}$$

and the  $a_n$  are known as Seeley-de Witt coefficients. The ones connected to divergencies are just the first three

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= 1 \\ a_1 &= \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) R \\ a_2 &= \frac{1}{180} (R^{abcd} R_{abcd} - R^{ab} R_{ab}) - \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{1}{5} - \xi \right) \nabla^a \nabla_a R + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{6} - \xi \right) R^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{div} = \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{32\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\tau}{\tau^3} e^{-m^2 \tau} \sum_{n=0}^2 a_n \tau^n.$$

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The term  $\nabla_a \nabla^a R$  is a total derivative and will be omitted. Also making use of the Gauss-Bonnet surface term

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R^{abcd} R_{abcd} - 4R^{ab} R_{ab} + R^2),$$

the square of the Riemann tensor term can be written in a convenient combination  $R_{ab} R^{ab} - 1/3 R^2$  which is dynamically equivalent to a term proportional to the square of the Weyl tensor  $C_{abcd} C^{abcd}$ . A theory without these specific counterterms is certainly inconsistent, except for very particular situations.

With this in mind, the field equations for the semiclassical theory, are obtained performing metric variations in the gravitational Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\Lambda + R + \alpha \left( R_{ab} R^{ab} - \frac{1}{3} R^2 \right) + \beta R^2 \right], \quad (1)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constants. Classical sources are not taken into account in this present work. For the spatially homogenous space they are described by the tensor  $E = E_{ab} \omega^a \otimes \omega^b$ ,  $\omega^0 = dt$ ,

$$E_{ab} \equiv G_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} \Lambda - \left( \beta - \frac{1}{3} \alpha \right) H_{ab}^{(1)} - \alpha H_{ab}^{(2)} = 0, \quad (2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} G_{ab} &= R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} R, \\ H_{ab}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} R^2 - 2R R_{ab} - 2g_{ab} \square R + 2R_{;ab}, \\ H_{ab}^{(2)} &= \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} R^{cd} R_{cd} - \square R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} \square R + R_{;ab} - 2R^{cd} R_{cbda}. \end{aligned}$$

First let us emphasize that every Einstein space satisfying  $R_{ab} = g_{ab} \Lambda/2$  is an exact solution of (2), apparently first realized in Ref. 11. As any other metric theory, the covariant divergence of the above tensors are zero. And the zero divergence  $\nabla_a E_b^a = 0$  implies that  $E_{00}$  and  $E_{0\alpha} = 0$ , are in fact constraints, while the dynamical equations are contained in the spatial part  $E_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ , see for example Ref. 24, p. 165.

### 3. 3+1 Decomposition

We briefly develop the general homogenous case, for more details see Ref. 25. The right-invariant basis are the Killing vectors, and satisfy the Lie algebra

$$[\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta] = -C_{\alpha\beta}^\nu \xi_\nu,$$

where the greek indices run from 1 to 3. On the other hand the left-invariant basis vectors satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} [e_\alpha, e_\beta] &= C_{\alpha\beta}^\nu e_\nu \\ [e_0, e_\alpha] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The connection is defined as

$$\nabla_a e_b = \Gamma_{ba}^c e_c.$$

The anti symmetric part of the connection follows from

$$\nabla_\beta e_\alpha - \nabla_\alpha e_\beta = [e_\beta, e_\alpha],$$

which can be regarded as the definition of zero torsion. Metricity  $\nabla_c g_{ab} = 0$  implies that

$$\Gamma_{abc} = \frac{1}{2} (g_{ab|c} + g_{ac|b} - g_{bc|a}) + \frac{1}{2} (-C_{abc} + C_{bac} + C_{cab}),$$

where the  $|$  means the directional derivative  $f_{|a} = e_a^i \partial_i f$ . We restrict the analysis to rotation free models in this present work

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + h_{\alpha\beta} \omega^\alpha \otimes \omega^\beta,$$

where  $\omega^\alpha$  is the left invariant 1-form basis, dual to  $e_\beta$ . Once the structure constants are known, in fact, the 1-form basis can be found by solving Cartan first structure equation

$$d\omega^\alpha = -\frac{1}{2} C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \omega^\mu \wedge \omega^\nu.$$

The time like vector field  $u^a = (1, 0, 0, 0)$  is geodesic and rotation free, as can be easily checked for the above line element and connection. In this particular case the extrinsic curvature

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\alpha\beta} &= \nabla_\alpha u_\beta = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^0 = \frac{1}{2} \dot{h}_{\alpha\beta} \\ K_\alpha^\beta &= h^{\beta\mu} K_{\mu\alpha} = \Gamma_{\alpha 0}^\beta = \Gamma_{0\alpha}^\beta, \end{aligned}$$

and the spatial part of the connection reads

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \frac{1}{2} (-C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} + C_{\beta\alpha\gamma} + C_{\gamma\alpha\beta}).$$

The 3 and 4 Riemann curvature follows

$$\begin{aligned} {}^3 R_{\beta\mu\nu}^\alpha &= \Gamma_{\rho\mu}^\alpha \Gamma_{\beta\nu}^\rho - \Gamma_{\rho\nu}^\alpha \Gamma_{\beta\mu}^\rho - C_{\mu\nu}^\rho \Gamma_{\beta\rho}^\alpha \\ R_{\beta\mu\nu}^\alpha &= {}^3 R_{\beta\mu\nu}^\alpha + K_\mu^\alpha K_{\beta\nu} - K_\nu^\alpha K_{\beta\mu} \\ R_{\alpha\beta\mu}^0 &= -C_{\beta\mu}^\rho K_{\alpha\rho} + K_{\rho\beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho - K_{\rho\mu} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho \\ R_{\alpha 0\beta}^0 &= \dot{K}_{\alpha\beta} - K_{\rho\beta} K_{\alpha}^\rho, \end{aligned}$$

note that  $\dot{K} = \partial_t (K_1^1 + K_2^2 + K_3^3)$ . The Ricci tensor and Riemann scalar follow from contractions of the above tensors

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\alpha\beta} &= {}^3 R_{\alpha\beta} + K K_{\alpha\beta} - 2K_\alpha^\rho K_{\rho\beta} + \dot{K}_{\alpha\beta} \\ R_{0\alpha} &= C_{\alpha\beta}^\rho K_\rho^\beta - K_\alpha^\rho C_{\rho\beta}^\beta \\ R_{00} &= -\dot{K} - K_{ij} K^{ij} \\ R &= {}^3 R + 2\dot{K} + K_{ij} K^{ij} + K^2. \end{aligned}$$

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This theory depends on the derivatives of the Ricci tensor and Riemann scalar

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla_a \nabla_0 R &= \delta_{a0} \ddot{R} \\
 \nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta R &= -K_{\alpha\beta} \dot{R} \\
 \square R &= -\ddot{R} - K \dot{R} \\
 \square R_{00} &= -\ddot{R}_{00} - \dot{R}_{00} K + 2R_{\alpha\beta} K_\rho^\alpha K^{\rho\beta} + 2K_\rho^\alpha C_{\beta\alpha}^\rho R_0^\beta + 2C_{\alpha\rho}^\rho K^{\alpha\beta} R_{0\beta} \\
 &\quad + 2K_{\alpha\beta} K^{\alpha\beta} R_{00} \\
 \square R_{0\alpha} &= -\ddot{R}_{0\alpha} + 2\dot{R}_{0\rho} K_\alpha^\rho - K \dot{R}_{0\alpha} + 2K^{\rho\beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\nu R_{\nu\rho} + R_{00} (-C_{\alpha\nu}^\rho K_\rho^\nu + C_{\nu\rho}^\rho K_\alpha^\nu) \\
 &\quad + R_{0\alpha} K^{\mu\nu} K_{\mu\nu} + R_{0\nu} (\dot{K}_\alpha^\nu + K K_\alpha^\nu + \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu \Gamma_{\mu\gamma}^\nu h^{\beta\gamma} + C_{\mu\gamma}^\gamma \Gamma_{\alpha\rho}^\nu h^{\rho\mu}) + 2R_{0\nu} K^{\nu\mu} K_{\mu\alpha} \\
 &\quad + R_\alpha^\nu (K_\mu^\rho C_{\nu\rho}^\mu + C_{\rho\mu}^\mu K_\nu^\rho) \\
 \square R_{\alpha\beta} &= -\frac{1}{2} \ddot{R}_{\alpha\beta} + 2\dot{R}_{\rho\beta} K_\alpha^\rho - \frac{1}{2} K \dot{R}_{\alpha\beta} + R_{\nu\rho} \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\nu h^{\mu\gamma} + R_{00} K_\alpha^\mu K_{\mu\beta} \\
 &\quad - R_{\mu\nu} K_\alpha^\mu K_\beta^\nu + R_{\beta\nu} (\dot{K}_\alpha^\nu + K K_\alpha^\nu + \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho \Gamma_{\rho\gamma}^\nu h^{\mu\gamma} + C_{\rho\mu}^\mu \Gamma_{\alpha\theta}^\nu h^{\theta\rho}) \\
 &\quad + R_{\alpha 0} (C_{\beta\nu}^\rho K_\rho^\nu + C_{\rho\mu}^\mu K_\beta^\rho) + \alpha \leftrightarrow \beta,
 \end{aligned}$$

after the substitution of the above expressions into (2), it can be seen that the higher time derivatives are contained in the spatial parts of  $H^{(1)}$  and  $H^{(2)}$ .

#### 4. Bianchi I

We shall apply the preceding expressions to the particular spatially flat case. The reason is that the  ${}^3R_{\beta\gamma\delta}^\alpha$ , acts as a generalized potential much in the same sense as in the mixmaster case. In this sense,  ${}^3R_{\beta\gamma\delta}^\alpha$ , can decrease and become irrelevant and the dynamics can be arbitrarily close to the Bianchi I case.

This is the abelian case in which all the structure constants are zero. Of course  ${}^3R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = 0$ . We will restrict ourselves to diagonal extrinsic curvature  $K_{\alpha\beta} = \text{diag}[K_1, K_2, K_3]$ , which is consistent with a diagonal metric also  $h_{\alpha\beta} = \text{diag}[a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2]$ . Note that  $\dot{K}_{\alpha\mu} h^{\mu\beta} = \delta_\alpha^\beta (\dot{H}_\beta + 2(H_\beta)^2)$ , where  $H_\beta = \dot{a}_\beta / a_\beta$  are the Hubble constants in each direction, and as usual, the trace  $K = H_1 + H_2 + H_3 = \theta$ , is the expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_\alpha^\beta &= \delta_\alpha^\beta (\theta H_\beta + \dot{H}_\beta) \\
 R_{0\alpha} &= 0 \\
 R_{00} &= -\dot{\theta} - H_\alpha H_\beta \delta^{\alpha\beta} \\
 R &= 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\alpha H_\beta \delta^{\alpha\beta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

In the following we quote the result for the contribution coming from the  $R^2$  term,

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{00}^{(1)} &= -\frac{1}{2} \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + 2 \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) (\dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu}) \\
 &\quad - 4\theta(\ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu}) \\
 H_{0\alpha}^{(1)} &= 0 \\
 H^{(1)\alpha}_\beta &= \delta^\alpha_\beta \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 - 2 \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) (\theta H_\alpha + \dot{H}_\alpha) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + 4(\theta - H_\alpha) \left( \dot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) + 4 \left( \ddot{\theta} + \dot{\theta}^2 + \theta\ddot{\theta} + \ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + \dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

the spatial trace of which,  $H^{(1)\alpha}_\alpha = H^{(1)1}_1 + H^{(1)2}_2 + H^{(1)3}_3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 H^{(1)\alpha}_\alpha &= \frac{3}{2} \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + 12\ddot{\theta} + 8\dot{\theta}^2 + 20\theta\ddot{\theta} + 2\theta^2\dot{\theta} - 2\theta^4 \\
 &\quad - 2H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \left( \theta^2 + \dot{\theta} \right) + 8\theta\dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 12\ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 12\dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu}.
 \end{aligned}$$

And the contribution from the  $R_{ab}R^{ab}$  term

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{00}^{(2)} &= -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + \sum_\nu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right)^2 \right] + \dot{\theta}^2 - \ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \\
 &\quad - \dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 2H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\rho H_\tau \delta^{\rho\tau} \right) + 2\dot{H}_\mu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right) \delta^{\mu\nu} \\
 &\quad - \theta \left( \ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + 3\dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \\
 H_{0\alpha}^{(2)} &= 0 \\
 H^{(2)\alpha}_\beta &= \delta^\alpha_\beta \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + \sum_\nu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right)^2 \right] \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + 2(H_\alpha)^2 \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) + \left( \ddot{\theta} H_\alpha + 2\dot{\theta} \dot{H}_\alpha + \theta \ddot{H}_\alpha + \ddot{H}_\alpha \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - 2H_\alpha \left( \ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) + \left[ \left( \ddot{\theta} + \dot{\theta}^2 + \theta\ddot{\theta} + \ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + \dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \theta \left( \ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right] - 2 \left[ H_\alpha \delta^{\mu\nu} H_\nu \left( \theta H_\mu + \dot{H}_\mu \right) \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \left( \dot{H}_\alpha + (H_\alpha)^2 \right) \right] + \theta \left( \dot{\theta} H_\alpha + \theta \dot{H}_\alpha + \ddot{H}_\alpha \right) \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

with spatial trace

$$\begin{aligned}
 H^{(2)\alpha}_\alpha &= \frac{3}{2} \left[ \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + \sum_\nu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right)^2 \right] + 7\theta\ddot{\theta} + 3\theta^2\dot{\theta} \\
 &\quad + 3\dot{\theta}^2 + 4\ddot{\theta} + 3\ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} - \theta\dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} - 2H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \left( \dot{\theta} + \theta^2 \right) + 3\dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we can use the sum of the spatial part of field equations (2) to obtain the higher

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derivative of the expansion  $\theta$ , giving the equivalent of Raychaudhuri's equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ddot{\theta} = & \frac{1}{12\beta} \left\{ -2\dot{\theta} - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2 - \frac{3}{2}H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + \frac{3}{2}\Lambda \right. \\
 & - \left( \beta - \frac{\alpha}{3} \right) \left[ \frac{3}{2} \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + 8\dot{\theta}^2 + 20\theta\ddot{\theta} + 2\theta^2\dot{\theta} - 2\theta^4 \right. \\
 & \left. \left. - 2H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \left( \theta^2 + \dot{\theta} \right) + 8\theta\dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 12\ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 12\dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right] \right. \\
 & - \alpha \left[ \frac{3}{2} \left( \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + \sum_\nu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right)^2 \right) + 7\theta\ddot{\theta} + 3\theta^2\dot{\theta} \right. \\
 & \left. \left. + 3\dot{\theta}^2 + 3\ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} - \theta\dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} - 2H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \left( \dot{\theta} + \theta^2 \right) + 3\dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right] \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Again, using the field equations (2) the higher derivatives  $\ddot{H}_\alpha$  can be isolated, and  $\ddot{\theta}$  can be substituted in the following expression yielding a consistent dynamical system

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ddot{H}_\alpha = & \frac{1}{\alpha} \left\{ \theta H_\alpha + \dot{H}_\alpha - \dot{\theta} - \frac{\theta^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2}H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\Lambda \right. \\
 & - \left( \beta - \frac{1}{3}\alpha \right) \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 - 2 \left( 2\dot{\theta} + \theta^2 + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \left( \theta H_\alpha + \dot{H}_\alpha \right) \right. \\
 & \left. + 4 \left( \theta - H_\alpha \right) \left( \dot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) + 4 \left( \ddot{\theta} + \dot{\theta}^2 + \theta\ddot{\theta} + \ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + 2\dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right] \\
 & - \alpha \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right)^2 + \sum_\nu \left( \theta H_\nu + \dot{H}_\nu \right)^2 \right] + 2 \left( H_\alpha \right)^2 \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right. \\
 & + \left( \ddot{\theta} H_\alpha + 2\dot{\theta}\dot{H}_\alpha + \theta\ddot{H}_\alpha \right) - 2H_\alpha \left( \ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) + \left[ \theta \left( \ddot{\theta} + \theta\dot{\theta} + \dot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right. \\
 & \left. + \left( \ddot{\theta} + \dot{\theta}^2 + \theta\ddot{\theta} + \ddot{H}_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} + \dot{H}_\mu \dot{H}_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \right] - 2 \left[ \left( \dot{\theta} + H_\mu H_\nu \delta^{\mu\nu} \right) \left( \dot{H}_\alpha + \left( H_\alpha \right)^2 \right) \right. \\
 & \left. \left. + H_\alpha \delta^{\mu\nu} H_\nu \left( \theta H_\mu + \dot{H}_\mu \right) \right] + \theta \left( \dot{\theta} H_\alpha + \theta\dot{H}_\alpha + \ddot{H}_\alpha \right) \right] \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

In the above expressions only the spatial part of (2) is used, while not shown here is the 00 component of  $E_{ab}$  which acts as a hamiltonian constraint. Let us emphasize that  $\ddot{\theta} = \ddot{H}_1 + \ddot{H}_2 + \ddot{H}_3$ , thus this last two equations are not independent.

## 5. Conclusions

The semi-classical theory consider the back reaction of quantum fields in a classical geometric background. It began about forty years ago with De Witt Ref. 1, and since then, its consequences and applications are still under research, see for example Ref. 2.

Different from the usual Einstein-Hilbert action, the one loop effective gravitational action surmounts to quadratic theories in curvature, see for example Refs. 1, 3. It is the gravitational version of the Heisenberg-Euler electromagnetism. As it



is well known, vacuum polarization introduces non linear corrections into Maxwell electrodynamics,<sup>4</sup> first obtained by Heisenberg- Euler.<sup>5</sup>

In this article we present the decomposition 3+1 for arbitrary spatially homogeneous space times for this particular effective quadratic theory. It turns out that for this particular gravitational theory (1), every Einstein space satisfying  $R_{ab} = g_{ab}\Lambda/2$  is an exact solution, this includes of course the vacuum case  $\Lambda = 0$ . Anyway the most interesting is the BKL oscillatory approach to the singularity which occurs for vacuum in Einstein's context.<sup>26</sup> Since the mixmaster solution is a vacuum  $R_{ab} = 0$  solution for the Bianchi *IX* case it will occur exactly the same in the effective theory considered in (1).

In this sense a better understanding of the Bianchi *I* case for the quadratic theories seems attractive. The 3 curvature also can be understood as a potential and while approaching the singularity its influence in the dynamics can decrease almost to zero. Thus, an arbitrary Bianchi solution of the quadratic gravity can approach very much the Bianchi *I* case. We intend to use this 3+1 decomposition, numerically, in future works. Particular Bianchi *I* analytic exact solutions for a quadratic theory identical to this one were already found by Ref. 11. Also for  $f(R)$  gravity models including the  $R + R^2$  case, Bianchi *I* space-times were studied in Ref. 27, where it was shown that equations for the anisotropic part of the metric can be integrated.

We emphasize that the approach of this present work is facing the theory (1) as an effective, and classical theory. While considering it as a candidate for a quantized gravity does introduces ghosts. Which together with tachyons and the additional degrees of freedom in contrast to Einstein's theory, makes it improbable that the BKL solution will be the generic one in this case.

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