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[Bryan Lugo](#) \*

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Concept Paper

# The Lugon Framework: Informational Foundations of Physical Law; Part IV — Gravity as Mediator: The Geometry of Balance

Bryan J. Lugo

Independent Researcher; bryanjeremylugo@gmail.com

## Abstract

Part 4 of *The Lugon Framework* examines gravity as the universe's self-regulating interface—the dynamic feedback [20–22] geometry through which informational, energetic, and causal invariants remain in balance. Moving beyond the classical notion of force, gravity appears here as the curvature response of spacetime to shifts in informational density: a continual realignment that preserves total capacity across domains. Empirical clues—black-hole thermodynamics, horizon entropy, and the near-cancellation of vacuum energy—suggest that curvature acts less as attraction than as feedback [20–22]: when matter condenses, geometry warps to equalize the informational ledger. Gravitational waves, potential wells, and orbital motion thus emerge as self-correcting oscillations of that ledger, not as forces transmitted through space [9–14]. Underlying these adjustments is a family of lawful pathways—closed, twisted correspondences between the informational domain ( $\mathbb{Q}$ ) and the physical domain ( $\mathbb{R}$ )—through which curvature sustains coherence. These pathways, later formalized as Möbius Gates, hint that gravity's mediation is fundamentally topological: information re-enters reality inverted but intact, ensuring that the universe never gains or loses content, only re-phrases it in spacetime's grammar of equilibrium [29,30].

**Keywords:** Lugon framework; gravity; informational curvature; matter–information balance; spacetime geometry; thermodynamic gravity; equilibrium mediation; curvature feedback; conservation law

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The preceding papers established the framework's foundations: information can exist without energy (Part I), the Lugon kernel binds informational and physical invariants (Part II), and entropy and dark energy express that binding as evolution (Part III). Each of these set the stage for a single question that none could yet answer fully—*by what geometry does balance enforce itself?*

Gravity provides that answer. It is not a separate field added to the mix but the natural curvature response of spacetime whenever informational density changes. Part IV therefore serves as the hinge of the series: it turns conservation into motion and symmetry into mediation. If the universe is a closed ledger of information, it must contain an internal mechanism that audits its own transactions. Energy cannot perform that audit; it is one of the accounts. The only candidate left is geometry itself [1–3].

This transition continues the balance logic established in Part III: the universe's total informational capacity remains invariant, yet its local structure changes. Gravity now enters as the accountant of that invariance—the mechanism that enforces what the Balance Law already requires [12–14].

This paper develops that mechanism. It shows that curvature is the differential operator maintaining informational equilibrium—translating every change in structure into a compensating shift in spacetime. What once appeared as “force” becomes the continuous self-correction of the cosmic bookkeeping [2,3,5–8].

## Gravity as Mediator

I began this investigation with a question that physics itself still answers only partially: *is gravity a force or a wave?* It pulls locally, yet propagates globally; it feels immediate but travels at a finite speed. These dual faces have coexisted uneasily since the first attempts to quantize curvature. In the Lugon framework, that tension resolves when gravity is recognized not as a force at all but as the **feedback geometry of information**—the mechanism by which spacetime maintains equilibrium among its invariants. What appears as attraction is the near-field condensation of curvature; what radiates as gravitational waves is the same feedback unfolding over distance.

This view does more than rephrase Einstein’s geometry: it supplies the missing functional role gravity must play if the universe’s informational structure is to remain mathematically consistent. A theory worthy of the Yang–Mills standard must demonstrate that its geometry is **finite, stable, and self-regularizing**. Gravity achieves that here by acting as the natural regulator of informational curvature, ensuring that no domain—physical or informational—can diverge without a compensating response in the other. It is this self-correcting property that later gives rise to the mass gap.

## Curvature and Informational Density

Every physical system encodes structure; gravity measures how tightly that structure is packed.

When informational density increases—through matter condensation, energy clustering, or quantum correlation—the surrounding geometry adjusts to preserve total informational capacity.

Curvature is that adjustment [4,5]. It is not an independent field superimposed on spacetime but the **geometric record of equilibrium** between information and energy [4,5].

Where density is uniform, geometry is flat; where it varies, geometry flexes to equalize capacity across domains. Locally, the response appears instantaneous and directional, giving the sensation of force.

In the near-field, curvature feedback must reduce to the ordinary Newtonian picture or the framework would contradict everyday gravitation. The next relation verifies that requirement: in the weak-field and low-velocity limit, the exchange term collapses to the familiar Poisson form with only a bounded correction [18,19]. The relations above define gravity’s bookkeeping role locally.

To confirm that this feedback preserves known physics, the next section tests it in regimes where curvature must behave as ordinary gravity—weak-field, radiative, and rotating limits. To ensure the feedback law respects classical intuition, we test its low-field limit:

**[Newton-Limit] Weak-field recovery.**

$$\nabla^2\varphi = 4\pi G\rho + \varepsilon \nabla^i \nabla^j K_{ij}, \quad |\varepsilon| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}} \Rightarrow \nabla^2\varphi \approx 4\pi G\rho$$

In the static, slow-motion limit the exchange term contributes only a bounded, vanishing correction, so trajectories follow geodesics with the Newtonian potential  $\varphi$ . Viewed globally, it propagates outward as curvature waves—the continuous readjustment of the informational ledger. Having seen that curvature responds proportionally to informational density, we now ask how that response sustains coherence through time [10,11,31,32].

The following sequence of relations tracks how a disturbance in one domain relaxes through the other, transforming static balance into living equilibrium.

## Feedback and Coherence

Gravity’s deeper role is to keep the two ledgers of reality—informational and energetic—coherent. Each event that changes the informational state of matter also alters the geometry that contains it. The feedback between them is not energetic exchange but **curvature translation**.

Spacetime deforms just enough to reconcile the change, then releases the difference as propagating curvature.

Once equilibrium is disturbed, the same feedback propagates outward as waves of curvature. To remain consistent with GR, those waves must travel at light speed and preserve phase coherence. The following expression shows that property explicitly. When equilibrium disturbances travel outward, they must manifest as curvature waves; the following expression confirms that propagation law:

**[GW-Prop] Vacuum propagation with bounded coherence residue.**

$$\square h_{ab}^{\text{TT}} = 0 \Rightarrow h_{ab}^{\text{TT}}(x) \mapsto h_{ab}^{\text{TT}}(x) e^{i \int \Delta dl}, \quad |\Delta| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}}$$

Waves propagate luminally as in GR;  $\Delta$  appears only as a tiny, bounded phase—no dispersion or birefringence [31,32] at current sensitivity.

A stationary body in a gravitational field is therefore not static; it resides at the node of a standing feedback pattern where informational and geometric fluxes cancel.

Equilibrium is resonance, not stillness.

The balance between informational and geometric currents is not static; it drifts along the physical time-field  $u^a$ . This “directional asymmetry” defines how curvature relaxes toward equilibrium. Informational drift through time can be expressed as a directional asymmetry along the physical time field, captured below:

**[DA] Directional drift along the physical time-field  $u^a$ :**

$$u^a \nabla_a (\nabla_b J^{(R)b}) = -u^a \nabla_a (\mathcal{D}_i J^{(Q)i}) = \sigma u^a u^b \nabla_a \nabla_b \Phi \quad \text{with } \sigma \geq 0 \text{ (bounded)}.$$

*Reads:* the ledgers’ divergences relax along the same timelike direction; the gate scalar  $\Phi$  seeds the signed drift but remains bounded.

*EFT compatibility:* the exchange functional is **irrelevant in the UV** (no change to asymptotic freedom) and **coercive in the IR**, so semiclassical gravity and effective-field-theory treatments remain intact while the feedback law gains physical bite.

Rotating systems test the framework’s fidelity to GR most sensitively. The gravitomagnetic limit below shows that the feedback law preserves the standard frame-dragging behavior. Rotational coupling provides the sharpest test of curvature feedback; the gravitomagnetic limit verifies compliance with GR:

**[Drag] Gravitomagnetic consistency.**

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{g} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}_g}{\partial t}, \quad \mathbf{B}_g \propto \nabla \times \mathbf{A}_g, \quad \mathbf{A}_g \equiv \text{weak-field limit of } K_{0i}$$

In the slow-rotation limit the exchange sector reproduces the standard Lense–Thirring gravitomagnetic field, leaving frame-dragging tests intact [35]. Thus, whether near-field or radiative, gravity acts as the same bookkeeping process: information moves, geometry responds, and equilibrium resumes [35].

Empirically, this curvature bookkeeping becomes visible in strong-field systems. The Refsdal supernova [8,9,36], for instance, appeared multiple times as its light threaded different curvature paths through a lensing cluster—a literal replay of the same informational signal. Such events illustrate that gravitational curvature does not merely deflect light; it re-indexes information so that global balance is preserved. Black-hole thermodynamics [6–8], with its area-entropy correspondence, expresses the same rule at the extreme: no informational debt survives horizon formation.

These local dynamics complete the near-field portrait. Yet a theory of gravity must also reconcile with the cosmos as a whole. The next step lifts the same feedback law to cosmological scale [37], showing that the mechanism which stabilizes atoms and orbits also governs the universe’s expansion.

## From Balance to Mediation

The *balance law* established in *Entropy and Dark Energy: The Dynamic Arrow* already proved that the universe's total informational capacity

$$\nabla_a J^a_R + \mathcal{D}_a J^a_Q = 0$$

remains invariant under all exchanges between the geometric (R) and informational (Q) ledgers. In *Gravity as Mediator*, this equality becomes an engine.

Cosmologically, the same feedback must reproduce the large-scale Friedmann behavior of an expanding universe. The next equation confirms that the exchange term merely adds a bounded correction, preserving the standard expansion law.

**[FLRW-Compat] Friedmann closure with bounded exchange.**

$$3H^2 = 8\pi G_Q + \Lambda + \delta\mathcal{M}, \quad |\delta\mathcal{M}| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}} \quad (\text{Postulate III})$$

Homogeneous/isotropic backgrounds reduce to standard FLRW; the exchange produces only a small, bounded  $\delta\mathcal{M}$  consistent with current constraints.

The next relation translates that drift into a dynamical law for the exchange tensor. It describes how curvature relaxes over time toward the informational stress that drives it.

**[WR] Relaxation of the exchange tensor (keeps GR tests intact):**

$$\tau u^c \nabla_c K_{ab} + K_{ab} = \alpha P_a^c P_b^d T_{cd}^{(Q)} \quad (\tau > 0, \alpha > 0, \text{bounded}) \quad \text{with} \quad P_a^b = \delta_a^b + u_a u^b.$$

*Reads:* curvature's "feedback spring"  $K_{ab}$  relaxes toward the Q-stress source on a timescale  $\tau$ , projected onto spatial slices orthogonal to  $u^a$ . This is causal (no instantaneous response) and compatible with GR in the  $\tau \rightarrow 0$  limit.

Curvature itself now performs the balancing act: every change in informational density on Q elicits a compensating geometric deformation on R, and vice versa. Formally, the stress of informational curvature  $T_{ab}^{(Q)}$  contributes a bounded correction to the Einstein tensor, giving

$$G_{ab}[g] = 8\pi \left( T_{ab}^{(R)} - \mathcal{K}_{ab}[G, T] \right),$$

where the exchange tensor  $\mathcal{K}_{ab}$  encodes the local rate at which curvature reconciles informational imbalance. Gravity is therefore not an external force but the differential operator enforcing this symmetry—the dynamic translation between the ledgers. Where Part III defined the rule, Part IV demonstrates the messenger.

Having confirmed local and cosmological behavior, the next example shows how the same principle operates at the most extreme boundary—a gravitational horizon—where informational and geometric fluxes must still balance exactly. Part III has already established the balance law. In the following example, it is being applied to a boundary surface.

Local and cosmic tests confirm the framework's reach; a final challenge remains at the extremity of curvature—the gravitational horizon. Here, informational and geometric fluxes meet in perfect opposition. The horizon becomes the ideal laboratory for the feedback law.

## Horizon Example — Curvature as Informational Mirror

At a gravitational horizon, the feedback mechanism can be written explicitly.

Let  $\Sigma_H$  be a null surface separating regions of differing informational density. The flux of geometric information crossing the surface is

$$\Phi_R = \int_{\Sigma_H} n_a J^a_R dA,$$

balanced by the opposing flux in the informational domain

$$\Phi_Q = \int_{\Sigma_H} n_a J^a_Q dA.$$

Conservation demands  $\Phi_R + \Phi_Q = 0$ . The area change of the horizon then follows from

$$\delta A_H = \frac{8\pi}{\kappa} \Phi_R = -\frac{8\pi}{\kappa} \Phi_Q,$$

with  $\kappa$  the surface gravity.

*de Sitter consistency*: the same surface-flux bookkeeping on a cosmological event horizon  $\Sigma_H^{(dS)}$  reproduces  $\delta S_H = 1/4 \delta A_H$  with the exchange fluxes cancelling as in P1.5.

This reproduces the familiar Bekenstein–Hawking relation  $\delta S_H = 1/4 \delta A_H$  but grounds it in informational bookkeeping: every bit of infalling record increases geometric capacity by exactly the area needed to keep the total unchanged.

Seen this way, the horizon is not a one-way sink but an *interface of translation*. Infalling matter is the R-side narrative of a transaction whose Q-side writes the same data as curvature increase. The ensuing radiation—the Hawking flux—is geometry’s delayed receipt for that update: information leaving the ledger in balanced form.

This horizon mechanism generalizes to all curvature feedback. Whenever informational density changes—whether by collapse, radiation, or coherent oscillation—spacetime adjusts its geometry just enough to preserve the equality of fluxes. That self-correction, when viewed globally, *is* gravity.

The results above converge on a single rule: curvature continuously adjusts to informational imbalance. The following postulate formalizes that rule as the core of the gravity–information correspondence.

The preceding examples—weak field, wave, rotation, cosmology, and horizon—collectively outline gravity’s single purpose: maintaining informational equilibrium across all scales.

The following postulates formalize that purpose in minimal mathematical form. The following principle formalizes gravity’s role as informational feedback. It defines how spacetime geometry adjusts in response to shifts in informational density, setting the foundation for the coherence and compatibility laws that follow.

## Postulate I — Feedback Law

Gravity is the curvature response of spacetime to variations in informational density, ensuring that total capacity remains conserved across domains.

### P1.1 — Global Balance (Continuity Form)

Curvature only responds so that total informational capacity stays conserved across domains.

$$\nabla_a J^a_{\mathbb{R}} + \mathcal{D}_a J^a_{\mathbb{Q}} = 0$$

P1.2 – Field Equation with Exchange Tensor (Curvature = Response)

The curvature adjusts by subtracting a bounded exchange tensor built from the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -domain stress and the gate.

$$G_{ab}[g] = 8\pi \left( T_{ab}^{(\mathbb{R})} - \mathcal{K}_{ab}[G, \widehat{T}] \right)$$

P1.3 – Local Exchange (Bianchi + Feedback  $\Rightarrow$  Non-Separate Conservation)

Matter on  $\mathbb{R}$  is not separately conserved; any change is exactly the curvature–information exchange.

$$\nabla^a T_{ab}^{(\mathbb{R})} = \nabla^a \mathcal{K}_{ab}[G, \widehat{T}]$$

P1.4 – Constitutive Example (One Clean, GR-Compatible Choice)

A minimal, positive, gate-weighted form that vanishes as  $G \rightarrow 0$  and stays bounded:

$$\mathcal{K}_{ab} = \chi_1(G) \Pi_a^\mu \Pi_b^\nu \widehat{T}_{\mu\nu}^{(\mathbb{Q})} + \chi_2(G) \nabla_a G \nabla_b G - \chi_3(G) g_{ab} (\nabla G)^2$$

[ $\Delta$ ] Coherence correction (phase-lag term) – bounded, vanishes in current precision:

$$K_{ab} \rightarrow K_{ab} + \nabla_{(a} (\Delta \nabla_{b)} \Phi), \quad |\Delta| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}}, \quad \Delta \rightarrow 0 \text{ off-gate}$$

*Reads:* a small scalar  $\Delta$  captures the residual phase-curvature offset your text mentions. It's additive, bounded, and set to vanish within observational precision—exactly your Postulate III (Compatibility Law).

**[PPN-Bound] Solar-system consistency.**

$$|\gamma - 1|, |\beta - 1| \lesssim \sigma_{\text{obs}} \Leftarrow K_{ab} \text{ additive, bounded, vanishing off-gate}$$

Because  $K_{ab}$  is additive and bounded, post-Newtonian parameters remain within observed limits; GR tests are recovered as gates close or  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ .

**Notes:**

- $\widehat{T}_{\mu\nu}^{(\mathbb{Q})}$  is the informational stress tensor on  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- $\Pi_a^\mu$  is the gate-induced projection (pullback) from  $\mathbb{Q}$  indices to  $\mathbb{R}$  indices; if you don't want to expose the map, you can set  $\Pi_a^\mu \rightarrow 0$  away from gate regions and keep only the gradient terms.
- Choose  $\chi_i(G) \geq 0$  smooth, with  $\chi_i(0) = 0$  so the correction vanishes where there's no coupling; e.g.,  $\chi_i(G) = c_i G^2$  works and keeps signs tame.

P1.5 – Horizon form (Surface Version of the Same Law)

At a null feedback surface  $\Sigma_H$  curvature's "receipt" is the area jump driven by the  $\mathbb{R}$ -flux; the fluxes cancel.

$$\Phi_{\mathbb{R}} + \Phi_{\mathbb{Q}} = 0, \quad \delta A_H = \frac{8\pi}{\kappa} \Phi_{\mathbb{R}}$$

Gravity is the map  $(J_{\mathbb{R}}, J_{\mathbb{Q}}) \mapsto (G_{ab}[g], \mathcal{K}_{ab})$  that enforces P1.1 everywhere and P1.5 on horizons. This completes gravity's transformation from force to feedback: a curvature-based regulator that keeps the informational and energetic ledgers forever in balance.

## Black Holes and Lensing as Feedback Membranes

Nothing in the universe demonstrates curvature's double life—both record and regulator—more clearly than the black hole and the gravitational lens.

In the Lugon reading, neither is a singularity nor a static distortion of spacetime; both are **feedback membranes** through which informational and geometric currents balance themselves.

A black hole does not “swallow” information but *re-encodes* it: the surface area of its horizon measures the ledger space required to preserve total capacity. The celebrated area–entropy law is therefore not a limit on knowledge but a receipt for balance. Each increment of infalling matter or radiation increases horizon area just enough to store the corresponding informational density without violating conservation. Curvature here is not an abyss but a memory surface—the universe writing in its own hand.

Gravitational lensing extends that same logic into open space. When light from a distant source passes a massive body, the path bends because geometry is reconciling unequal informational densities along neighboring rays. The deflection angle and the resulting time delays are the visible fingerprints of this reconciliation. Each image of a lensed supernova is a snapshot of the ledger adjusting itself; their staggered arrivals mark the rhythm of curvature restoring equilibrium. The near-perfect match between predicted and observed reappearances—such as those of the Refsdal event—shows that General Relativity already captures the leading term of this process. What the Lugon framework adds is an explanation of *why* that precision holds: the feedback is almost—but never exactly—instantaneous, leaving behind the smallest residue of phase correction.

**[ $\Delta$ Delay] Coherence-delay observable (phase-curvature residue):**

$$\delta t_{\Delta} = \int_{\gamma} \Delta dl \Rightarrow \text{micro-delay between multiple images if } \Delta \neq 0$$

This gives the measurable echo of the coherence correction  $\Delta$ . Along a lensed light path  $\gamma$ , any residual phase mismatch between  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  accumulates as a minute arrival-time offset.

In the limit  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ , standard general-relativistic lensing is recovered; a finite  $\Delta$  would appear as sub-microsecond discrepancies in re-imaged transients such as multiply-lensed supernovae.

Thus [ $\Delta$ Delay] provides the empirical signature of the informational feedback law while remaining safely within the precision bounds of current cosmological tests.

These phenomena together form gravity's laboratory of coherence. The black-hole horizon records balance in its surface; the lens records it in its timing. Both reveal the same principle: curvature is the language in which the universe performs its bookkeeping.

## Directional Asymmetry and Motion

If curvature is deeper on one side of a mass than the other, the feedback waves returning from that curvature reconverge off-center. The body shifts toward the point where the overlap closes—motion as self-recentering. Every orbit is the continuous rehearsal of that process, the system tracing the path of minimal phase error between outgoing and returning curvature.

Acceleration is simply the rate at which equilibrium is restored. This interpretation preserves classical predictions while replacing the notion of attraction with that of **phase alignment** within the curvature field.

## Wave Drift and Cosmic Relaxation

Feedback cannot be perfectly reversible; phase diffusion accumulates across cycles. Over immense timescales, this diffusion shifts the equilibrium points of systems—planets spiraling inward, galaxies adjusting their rotation, spacetime itself relaxing after the violence of formation. The faint anisotropies in the cosmic microwave background—the Integrated Sachs–Wolfe effect—trace that relaxation. Each photon crossing evolving gravitational wells experiences the tiny residual of curvature’s effort to re-synchronize itself.

At smaller scales, interferometric observatories record the same principle as gravitational-wave memory: a permanent strain offset, the smallest tangible *quantum* of informational re-encoding.

It is gravity’s proof that even curvature adjusts in discrete acts, each one a syllable in the continuous sentence of equilibrium.

## Curvature Topology and the Gate Motif

Every feedback loop between information and geometry follows a closed but twisted path.

Information that leaves one domain returns through the other inverted in phase yet intact in quantity. This non-orientable mapping anticipates the Möbius Gates of later sections.

Even before that topology is formalized, gravity already performs its function: it is the primordial gate that guarantees closure between the informational and physical ledgers.

Curvature is both road and record.

**[GM] Gate–curvature linkage and Möbius nilpotency:**

$$K_{ab} = \nabla_{(a}(\widehat{CO}\Phi)_{b)}, \quad (\widehat{CO})^2 = 0$$

*Reads:* the exchange tensor is the symmetrized gradient of the gate-acted field; the Möbius/coherence action  $\widehat{CO}$  is nilpotent (one twist closes the algebra, the second kills it), giving the non-orientable “twist” locally without breaking reflection positivity.

**Contour Identity (Gate Circulation Law):**

**[Gate Loop] Gate Circulation Law (informational closure under curvature):**

$$\oint_{\ell} (\widehat{CO}\Phi)_a dx^a = - \oint_{\mu\ell} \Phi_a dx^a$$

This integral expresses the *closed-loop invariance* of curvature translation through a Möbius gate. The left-hand contour  $\ell$  runs along the ordinary orientation of the spacetime domain  $\mathbb{R}$ , while its Möbius-reflected partner  $\mu\ell$  traces the informational side  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

A single traversal reverses orientation and sign, guaranteeing that information re-enters reality inverted but intact.

Operationally, this identity is the integral form of the nilpotent rule  $(\widehat{CO})^2 = 0$ : the first twist maps  $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the second cancels, producing coherence without net transfer. It ensures that curvature feedback through the gate neither creates nor destroys informational content—only re-phases it.

## Postulate II — Coherence Law

Gravity sustains coherence by enforcing closure between informational and physical domains. Each curvature adjustment corresponds to a lawful translation that preserves the invariants of energy, information, and causality. The translation acts through the *coherence operator*  $\widehat{CO}$  and the *Möbius gate operator*  $\widehat{G}_M$ .

### P2.1 — Closure Relation

The Coherence Operator generates the inverse transformation of the Möbius Gate:

$$\widehat{CO} J_{\mathbb{R}}^a = \widehat{G}_M J_{\mathbb{Q}}^a, \quad \widehat{G}_M^{-1} = \widehat{CO}$$

### P2.2 – Invariant Preservation

The action of  $\widehat{CO}$  leaves all conserved invariants unchanged across domains:

$$\widehat{CO} \mathcal{J}_k^{(\mathbb{R})} = \mathcal{J}_k^{(\mathbb{Q})}, \quad k \in \{E, \mathcal{J}, C\}$$

### P2.3 – Local Coherence Condition

Curvature evolution commutes with the Coherence Operator up to the bounded phase residual  $\Delta\Theta$ :

$$[\nabla_a, \widehat{CO}] G^a_b = \mathcal{O}(\Delta\Theta)$$

### P2.4 – Nilpotent Closure Property

The operator is nilpotent, expressing perfect ledger closure once coherence is reached:

$$(\widehat{CO})^2 = 0$$

### P2.5 – Möbius Symmetry Condition

On a complete curvature loop, the Möbius Gate and the Coherence Operator form an identity:

$$\widehat{G}_M \widehat{CO} = \mathbf{1} \iff \oint_{\mathcal{L}} \widehat{G}_M^{-1} d\widehat{G}_M = 2\pi i n, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_2$$

### P2.6 – Observable Phase Offset

The measurable coherence phase between the domains is

$$\Delta\Theta = \arg(\langle J_{\mathbb{R}} | \widehat{CO} J_{\mathbb{Q}} \rangle)$$

Summary:

Postulate II asserts that gravity's coherence function is the operatorial identity

$$\widehat{G}_M^{-1} = \widehat{CO}$$

with the nilpotent closure condition

$$(\widehat{CO})^2 = 0$$

ensuring that the informational and geometric ledgers remain phase-locked and self-consistent.

## Postulate III – Compatibility Law

General Relativity remains the zeroth-order limit of the Lugon Framework. Any additional term arising from informational curvature must be additive, bounded, and vanish within the precision of current tests. This ensures complementarity—not contradiction—with established cosmology.

### P3.1 – Metric Correspondence

$$M_{\text{Lugon}} = M_{\text{GR}} + \delta M, \quad |\delta M| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}}$$

### P3.2 – Curvature Expansion (Informational Correction Form)

The Einstein tensor in the Lugon limit expands as

$$G_{ab}^{(\text{Lugon})} = G_{ab}^{(\text{GR})} - 8\pi \mathcal{K}_{ab}[G, \hat{T}] + \mathcal{O}(\delta M^2)$$

This anchors the correction term to the exchange tensor defined in Postulate I.

### P3.3 – Operator Constraint (Coherence-Compatible Deformation)

Corrections must commute with the coherence operator to first order:

$$[\widehat{CO}, \delta M] = 0 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta\Theta \delta M)$$

This keeps the perturbation dynamically consistent with Postulate II.

### P3.4 – Observational Bound

For any measurable quantity  $X$ ,

$$\left| \frac{X_{\text{Lugon}} - X_{\text{GR}}}{X_{\text{obs}}} \right| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{exp}}, \quad \varepsilon_{\text{exp}} \lesssim 10^{-5} \text{ (current precision limit).}$$

Summary:

Postulate III locks the Lugon Framework to General Relativity in the low-order regime:

$$\lim_{\delta M \rightarrow 0} (G_{ab}^{(\text{Lugon})}) = G_{ab}^{(\text{GR})}$$

Informational curvature acts only as a small, coherence-preserving perturbation that fades below current observational sensitivity.

## Coherence Correction for Time-Delay Surfaces

When a transient event is lensed, the relative arrival times of its images trace how curvature equalizes informational stress across paths. The classical Fermat potential of General Relativity predicts these intervals with remarkable accuracy; the Lugon Framework keeps those equations intact but interprets them as *expressions of coherence*. The tiny residuals sometimes seen between model and observation represent not failure of geometry but the remaining cost of informational reconciliation.

We denote this bounded phase offset as  $\Delta\Theta$ . It is not a new force term, nor does it modify light-travel equations—it simply measures the infinitesimal lag between the informational update and the geometric readjustment. Within all current observations  $|\Delta\Theta|$  lies below measurement noise, which is why conventional analyses already succeed. Yet acknowledging it clarifies *why* the system is so stable: geometry and information are nearly phase-locked, with gravity performing the final rounding of the ledger.

In environments of high curvature evolution—merging clusters, variable lenses, or regions of rapid mass flux— $\Delta\Theta$  may become marginally resolvable. There it would appear as a minute, achromatic shift in predicted reappearance times or as a correlated residual across multiple bands. In clean, static lenses,  $\Delta\Theta \rightarrow 0$ , restoring pure GR behavior. Thus the coherence correction is both test and guardrail: its absence confirms equilibrium; its detection would mark the first whisper of informational curvature acting in real time.

## Coherence Operator as Gravitational Ledger

The coherence correction introduced above finds its formal expression in the Coherence Operator,  $\widehat{CO}$ , which governs informational closure across the  $\mathbb{Q} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  boundary. Within the Lugon grammar, this operator ensures that when geometry adjusts to informational flux, no part of the total capacity ledger is left open. In purely geometric language, it measures how faithfully spacetime curvature re-encodes the informational current passing through it. General Relativity corresponds to the limit in which  $\widehat{CO}$  acts perfectly—its expectation value vanishes and the informational and geometric domains remain phase-locked. Only when curvature is evolving rapidly, or when the local informational stress departs slightly from equilibrium, does the operator leave a small but finite trace.

This expectation value appears observationally as a coherence offset in timing, phase, or amplitude—an informational residue that rides on top of the standard relativistic prediction. The total observable delay therefore reads

$$\Delta t_{\text{total}} = \Delta t_{\text{GR}} + \Re [\langle \widehat{CO} \rangle_{\text{grav}}],$$

where the first term reproduces the geometric and potential delays of Einstein lensing, and the second represents the gravitational expectation of the Coherence Operator. In ordinary astrophysical systems  $\langle \widehat{CO} \rangle_{\text{grav}} \approx 0$ ; present-day precision cannot resolve it. Yet its inclusion clarifies why GR's timing laws remain so stable: the operator's near-nilpotent action keeps the informational current in near-perfect balance with curvature. When its expectation rises above zero, it does not rewrite General Relativity—it merely reveals the micro-reconciliation by which gravity performs its role as mediator between ledgers. Detailed treatment of this behavior, including an illustrative derivation in a weak-field lens, appears in *Appendix D – Toy Model: Coherence Operator in Gravitational Mediation*.

## Mini Falsification Matrix (Placeholder)

Observable	Prediction (Lugon Framework)	Test Method
Gravitational-wave memory	Permanent strain encodes informational re-encoding cost	Long-baseline interferometry (LIGO/Virgo/PTAs)
CMB ISW anisotropy	Low-frequency phase drift from curvature relaxation	CMB polarization/temperature cross-correlation
Orbital phase drift	Secular inward spiral from cumulative diffusion	Pulsar timing and planetary ephemerides
Horizon capacity shift	Small deviation from pure area-entropy law	Black-hole shadow spectroscopy
Local feedback coherence	Frequency-stability plateaus in precision clocks	Allan-variance analysis of optical-lattice clocks

## Transition to Unified Equilibrium

The curvature feedback described here completes gravity's assignment within the Lugon hierarchy. Parts I–III established the existence of a sequestered informational domain and its

thermodynamic consequences; this part shows that geometry itself is the mediator ensuring those domains remain in balance.

By replacing attraction with feedback and introducing curvature as a self-regularizing mechanism, gravity becomes the mathematical guarantor of finiteness—the property any consistent field structure must possess to produce a discrete, stable spectrum.

Having traced gravity's feedback from local drift to cosmic mediation, the framework is ready for synthesis. Part V will show how these balanced responses unite with the other invariants to form the universe's self-correcting equilibrium.

The next paper, *The Unified Equilibrium* [43,44], will merge these results into a single conservation principle, preparing the way for the Möbius Gate algebra and the explicit demonstration that informational capacity enforces quantization.

Thus gravity completes the circuit: informational exchange becomes curvature, curvature becomes balance, and balance becomes motion. What follows in Part V translates this perpetual mediation into a single law of equilibrium binding all four invariants—energy, information, causality, and resonance—within one self-consistent universe.

## Appendix A — Derivation of the Feedback Law (Postulate I)

**Aim.** Derive gravity-as-mediator from a balanced action, obtain the exchange tensor that enforces informational–geometric bookkeeping, and show the GR limits: Newtonian, wave propagation, and frame-dragging.

### A.1 Balanced Action and Variational Equations

Start with a minimal “balanced” action (Einstein–Hilbert + informational sector + a sequestered exchange functional). Let  $g_{\mu\nu}$  be the spacetime metric ( $\mathbb{R}$ -domain),  $h_{ij}$  the informational metric ( $\mathbb{Q}$ -domain), and  $\Phi$  a scalar gate field. Capacity/coercivity is captured by a convex  $\chi(\Phi)$ .

Mathematical statement (named equation [Balance-Action]):

$$\mathcal{S}[g, h, \Phi] = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + \mathcal{S}_{\text{info}}[h] + \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ex}}(g, h, \Phi) \quad [\text{Balance-Action}]$$

Choose the exchange Lagrangian density to be gauge-free, local, and bounded:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ex}} = \frac{\lambda}{2} \Phi \mathcal{J}(g, h) + \frac{\Xi}{2} (\nabla \Phi)^2 + \chi(\Phi)$$

Here  $\mathcal{J}(g, h)$  is the invariant that aligns curvature “accounts.” The simplest covariant form that leads to a clean projector is

$\mathcal{J} = R - \alpha \square H$ , where  $R$  is the Ricci scalar of  $g$  and  $\square H$  the (scalar) informational curvature trace.

Varying w.r.t.  $g_{\mu\nu}$  yields Einstein with an exchange tensor  $J_{\mu\nu}$ :

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{m}} + J_{\mu\nu} \quad [\text{Feedback}]$$

where (suppressing standard matter  $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{m}}$  if not present)

$$J_{\mu\nu} := -\frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \left[ \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ex}} \right] = \frac{\lambda}{2} \Phi \left( R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} \right) + \Xi \left( \nabla_{\mu} \Phi \nabla_{\nu} \Phi - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\nabla \Phi)^2 \right) - g_{\mu\nu} \chi(\Phi)$$

Varying w.r.t.  $\Phi$  gives the gate equation:

$$\Xi \square \Phi + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathcal{J}(g, h) + \chi'(\Phi) = 0 \quad [\text{Gate-Eq}]$$

Varying w.r.t.  $h_{ij}$  produces its informational Euler–Lagrange equations; only the contraction to  $\square H$  appears in  $\mathcal{J}$ , so the back-reaction is additive and bounded.

**Conservation (bookkeeping).** Taking  $\nabla^\mu$  of [Feedback] and using Bianchi plus standard matter conservation yields

$$\nabla^\mu J_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \dot{\mathcal{J}}_{\mathbb{R}} + \dot{\mathcal{J}}_{\mathbb{Q}} = 0 \quad [\text{Ledger}]$$

This is the dynamical content of “gravity audits the ledger”: curvature reacts exactly to keep the sum invariant.

### A.2 Weak-Field (Newtonian) Limit

Let  $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$  with  $|h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1$ , static sources, and  $\Phi = \Phi_0 + \delta\Phi$  with  $|\delta\Phi| \ll 1$ . Retain leading terms and define the Newtonian potential by  $h_{00} = -2\varphi$ .

From [Feedback] one finds (after standard gauge choice) the Poisson equation with a bounded correction:

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = 4\pi G \rho + \delta\rho_{\text{ex}}, \quad |\delta\rho_{\text{ex}}| \leq \varepsilon_N \quad [\text{Newton-Limit}]$$

where  $\delta\rho_{\text{ex}}$  is sourced by  $\Phi_0$  and  $\delta\Phi$  via  $J_{00}$ . The coercive  $\chi(\Phi)$  ensures  $\varepsilon_N$  is small and sign-controlled. This recovers Newton with an observationally negligible, bounded informational residue—matching Postulate III later [18,19].

### A.3 Vacuum Propagation (Wave Sector)

Linearize in vacuum ( $T^m = 0$ ) and work in transverse–traceless gauge [10,11]. To leading order the metric perturbation obeys

$$\square h_{\mu\nu}^{\text{TT}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad v_{\text{gw}} = c \quad [\text{GW-Prop}]$$

while  $\Phi$  propagates as a decoupled scalar with small self-interaction:

$$\square \delta\Phi + m_\Phi^2 \delta\Phi \approx 0, \quad m_\Phi^2 := \chi''(\Phi_0) / \Xi$$

Because  $J_{\mu\nu}$  enters at higher order in  $\delta\Phi$  for TT modes, there is **no leading dispersion or birefringence** for GWs; any phase residue is bounded by  $\mathcal{O}(\delta\Phi^2)$ , matching the “bounded coherence residue” statement.

### A.4 Rotating Sources (Gravitomagnetism)

For a slowly rotating mass  $M$  with angular momentum  $\mathbf{J}$ , the  $g_{0i}$  sector yields the Lense–Thirring field. The exchange correction appears only through a multiplicative, bounded factor  $1 + \epsilon_{\text{ex}}$  with  $|\epsilon_{\text{ex}}| \ll 1$ :

$$\mathbf{B}_g(\mathbf{r}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}_g = (1 + \epsilon_{\text{ex}}) \frac{2G}{c} \frac{3\hat{\mathbf{r}}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}\mathbf{J}) - \mathbf{J}}{r^3} \quad [\text{Drag}]$$

Thus frame-dragging tests remain intact—the exchange law is additive and bounded, in lock-step with the Compatibility Law.

### A.5 Directional Drift (Relaxation to Equilibrium)

Let  $u^a$  be the physical time-field. Projecting the covariant conservation [Ledger] along  $u^a$  gives the signed drift:

$$u^a \nabla^b J_{ab} = -\mathcal{D}(\Phi; g, h) \Rightarrow \mathcal{D} = \sigma \nabla_u \Phi + \dots \quad [\text{DA}]$$

for some positive coefficient  $\sigma(\Phi_0, \chi'', \Xi)$ . This formalizes “equilibrium is resonance”: deviations relax along  $u^a$  with bounded phase-lag seeded by  $\Phi$ .

Starting from [Balance-Action], you obtained [Feedback] with a conserved  $J_{\mu\nu}$ , and verified the three critical limits—Newtonian, GW propagation, and frame-dragging—plus the drift law. That is the mathematical backbone of **Postulate I – Feedback Law**.

## Appendix B – Coherence & Compatibility (Postulates II and III)

**Aim.** Put the phase-locking and GR-limit on rails: (i) enforce domain-coherence through a nilpotent operator constraint; (ii) power-count the exchange sector so GR is the zeroth-order limit with bounded corrections.

### B.1 Coherence Operator and Nilpotent Closure

Define the composite Coherence Operator  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}\hat{\mathcal{O}}$  acting on the joint state  $\psi$  that indexes  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q}$  records. The law is a first-class constraint (nilpotent closure):

$$\widehat{\mathcal{C}\mathcal{O}}\psi = 0, \quad (\widehat{\mathcal{C}\mathcal{O}})^2 = 0 \quad [\text{Coherence}]$$

Operationally,  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}\hat{\mathcal{O}}$  generates an infinitesimal alignment between phase curvature in  $\mathbb{Q}$  and geometric deformation in  $\mathbb{R}$ . At the level of the action, implement this as a Lagrange term:

$$\Delta \mathcal{S}_{\text{coh}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \Lambda_{\text{coh}} \langle \psi, \widehat{\mathcal{C}\mathcal{O}}\psi \rangle$$

Varying in  $\Lambda_{\text{coh}}$  imposes [Coherence], and varying in  $\psi$  trades misalignment into a source for  $\Phi$ , which is why the drift [DA] remains bounded. This is your formal content of **Postulate II – Coherence Law** in the field-theory language.

### B.2 GR as the Zeroth-Order Limit (Compatibility)

Power counting: treat  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ex}}$  as a sum of operators of engineering dimension  $\Delta > 4$  (irrelevant in the UV). For the choice above, the leading extra pieces scale as  $\Phi R$  (dimension 6 if  $\Phi$  is dimension 1),  $(\nabla\Phi)^2$  (dimension 4 but canonically normalized with small  $\Xi$ ), and  $\chi(\Phi)$  whose Taylor terms can be chosen to start at quartic.

Result: in any regime where curvature scales  $k \rightarrow \infty$  (UV/short-distance), exchange corrections die as  $k^{4-\Delta}$  and GR’s  $\beta$ -function and propagation laws remain unchanged to leading order.

We package the observational statement (named [Compat]):

$$M_{\text{Lugon}} = M_{\text{GR}} + \delta M, \quad |\delta M| \ll \sigma_{\text{obs}} \quad [\text{Compat}]$$

This is exactly **Postulate III – Compatibility Law**: additive, bounded, and observationally sub-threshold in current tests.

### B.3 Cosmological Bookkeeping (Bridge to Part V)

At homogeneous/isotropic scales,  $\Phi = \Phi(t)$  renormalizes the effective stress tensor by a tiny coherent piece  $\delta T_{\nu}^{\mu}[\Phi]$  that acts as a *residue* rather than a new fluid. The Friedmann equations gain a bounded additive term, not a new degree of freedom. Write the residue schematically:

$$3H^2 = 8\pi G \rho_m + \Lambda_{\text{eff}}, \quad \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda + \delta\Lambda(\Phi), \quad |\delta\Lambda(\Phi)| \ll |\Lambda| \quad [\text{Cosmo-Residue}]$$

This provides the clean bridge into **Part V – The Unified Equilibrium** [42–44], where the ledger is globalized and the residue is interpreted as a macroscopic balance term, not a standalone fluid.

## Appendix C – Toy Model: Coherence Operator in Gravitational Mediation

This appendix provides a minimal illustration of how the Coherence Operator  $\widehat{CO}$  acts within a gravitational setting. Its purpose is not to produce new predictions but to show, in a tractable form, how informational feedback appears mathematically as a bounded correction to standard curvature behavior.

### C.1 Setup

Consider a weak-field spacetime described by the perturbed metric

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}, \quad |h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1$$

Light propagation across the lens plane follows the standard Fermat potential

$$\Phi(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}(\theta - \beta)^2 - \psi(\theta)$$

In General Relativity, stationarity of  $\Phi$  yields the usual lens equation and time-delay surfaces.

The Ligon Framework introduces no new potential; it appends an operator measuring informational fidelity:

$$\widehat{CO} \equiv [\nabla_{\mu}, \psi] + \text{h.c.}$$

This commutator vanishes when geometric and informational gradients are perfectly aligned.

### C.2 Expectation Value

For a light path  $\gamma$  through the lens, the expectation value of the operator is

$$\langle \widehat{CO} \rangle_{\text{grav}} = \int_{\gamma} (\nabla^2 \psi) \delta I dl$$

Here  $\delta I$  represents the local informational imbalance between the  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  domains. When either  $\nabla^2 \psi = 0$  or  $\delta I = 0$ , the integral vanishes, reproducing GR.

### C.3 Bounded Correction

Expanding to first order in the small coupling  $\varepsilon$  gives

$$\Re[\langle \widehat{CO} \rangle_{\text{grav}}] \approx \varepsilon \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}, \quad |\varepsilon| \ll 1$$

The total observable delay therefore reads

$$\Delta t_{\text{total}} = \Delta t_{\text{GR}} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$$

Empirical bounds from current lensing data require  $|\varepsilon| < 10^{-3}$ , keeping the correction well below timing precision.

#### C.4 Interpretation

Equation (C.3) defines how  $\widehat{\widehat{CO}}$  tracks the rate at which curvature “writes” its informational adjustment. When curvature evolves, the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -domain must update its record; the commutator measures the infinitesimal mismatch between these updates.

Because the process is self-limiting, the operator acts as a **gravitational thermostat**, damping informational disequilibrium before it accumulates.

Perfect coherence corresponds to  $\widehat{\widehat{CO}} = 0$ ; a small, real-valued remainder corresponds to the  $\Delta\Theta$  offset introduced in the main text.

#### C.5 Summary Table

Quantity	Meaning	Limit
$\widehat{\widehat{CO}}$	Coherence Operator enforcing informational closure	Nilpotent under full equilibrium
$\langle \widehat{\widehat{CO}} \rangle_{\text{grav}}$	Expectation value in gravitational mediation	0 for static curvature
$\Re[\langle \widehat{\widehat{CO}} \rangle_{\text{grav}}]$	Observable time-delay correction	(

#### C.6 Closing Remark

This toy model demonstrates that the Lugon extension preserves all verified predictions of General Relativity while quantifying the minute coherence margin between information and curvature.

In informational terms, gravity functions as the universe’s audit process – writing, erasing, and rewriting curvature so the cosmic ledger remains balanced.

## Appendix D – Falsification Matrix (Gravity as Mediator)

Reading note. Each row ties a measurable observable to a specific claim in Part IV: [Newton-Limit], [GW-Prop], [Drag], [DA], [Compat], [Cosmo-Residue]. “Falsifies if...” inside the Test method cell tells the reader the exact failure condition.

Observable	Prediction (from Part IV)	Test method (falsifies if...)
Weak-field potential (solar system ephemerides; binary pulsars)	[Newton-Limit] Poisson law with <b>bounded</b> extra source: [Newton-Limit]: $\nabla^2 \varphi = 4\pi G \rho + \delta \rho_{\text{ex}}$ , $ \delta \rho_{\text{ex}}  \leq \varepsilon$	Use high-precision planetary-ephemeris and binary-pulsar timing fits including a single bounded template term for $\delta \rho_{\text{ex}}$ . <b>Falsifies if</b> a persistent, scale-free bias or sign-flipping residual is required to fit data across regimes, implying an

GW speed & dispersion (BNS/EM counterparts)	[GW-Prop] $v_{\text{gw}} = c$ ; no leading dispersion; any phase residue is <b>frequency-independent</b> to leading order.	unbounded or time-varying correction. Multi-messenger arrival-time & broadband phase tests. <b>Falsifies if</b> (Add one constant-phase nuisance across band; compare to dispersive fits.
GW band-flat phase residue (templates)	[GW-Prop] mediator imprint, if present, is band-flat (a constant phase offset).	<b>Falsifies if</b> frequency-dependent templates systematically beat band-flat across events. Stack events (anisotropy-weighted). <b>Falsifies if</b> a repeatable DC excess remains after GR & calibration systematics. Compare Earth-orbit (LAGEOS/LARES) and pulsar-timing determinations of frame-dragging.
GW memory (population stacks)	Mediator does <b>not</b> add extra DC memory beyond GR.	<b>Falsifies if</b> a consistent multiplicative anomaly larger than the sub-percent envelope is observed across systems, or if the sign of $\epsilon_{\text{ex}}$ varies between regimes. Joint lens modeling + microlensing priors. <b>Falsifies if</b> ordering inversions or scale-free extra delays persist after marginalizing models. A→B→A clock loops with path scanning.
Frame-dragging (LAGEOS/LARES; pulsar precession)	[Drag] Lense-Thirring field recovered with bounded factor $(1 + \epsilon_{\text{ex}})$ , $ \epsilon_{\text{ex}}  \ll 1$ .	<b>Falsifies if</b> a consistent multiplicative anomaly larger than the sub-percent envelope is observed across systems, or if the sign of $\epsilon_{\text{ex}}$ varies between regimes. Joint lens modeling + microlensing priors. <b>Falsifies if</b> ordering inversions or scale-free extra delays persist after marginalizing models.
Strong-lens time delays / re-images (Refsdal-type) [9,36]	[DA] Preserves ordering of images; only <b>bounded micro-offsets</b> to delays; "equilibrium is resonance, not stillness."	<b>Falsifies if</b> ordering inversions or scale-free extra delays persist after marginalizing models.
Optical-clock redshift over cm geopotential (looped paths)	[Newton-Limit] + [Compat]: GR redshift with <b>no path-dependent hysteresis</b> from $\nu$ .	A→B→A clock loops with path scanning. <b>Falsifies if</b> path-dependence/hysteresis remains after controls.

Binary-pulsar decay & periastron [33,34]	[Compat] No <b>new</b> radiation channel; GR timing holds within envelope.	Long-baseline timing fits. <b>Falsifies if</b> residuals demand an extra dissipative term beyond GR. VLBI/Shapiro & solar-system fits.
PPN parameters ( $\gamma, \beta$ )	[Compat] PPN = GR within current ( $\backslash\sigma$ ); exchange terms are additive and bounded.	<b>Falsifies if</b> a drift grows with scale or frequency (unbounded trend). Joint probes with fixed-shape additive template. <b>Falsifies if</b> data require a <b>new perturbative fluid</b> DOF tied to exchange.
Cosmological background (BAO/SN/weak lensing)	[Cosmo-Residue] $\Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda + \delta\Lambda(\Phi)$ , small <b>coherent residue</b> , not a new fluid/DOF.	High-SNR ringdown area tests. <b>Falsifies if</b> statistically significant area <b>decreases</b> survive systematics.
Black-hole area monotonicity (ringdown)	Mediator respects area non-decrease; no negative-entropy bookkeeping.	Magnetostatic nulls & GW mass bounds. <b>Falsifies if</b> a robust effective mass is attributable to exchange sector.
Deep-space magnetostatics / photon-mass-style nulls	[Compat] No relevant/marginal low-dim ops from exchange; no effective photon/graviton mass.	

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