

Robert Kiehn's ideas about Falaco solitons and generation of turbulent wake from TGD perspective

M. Pitkänen

Email: matpitka@luukku.com.

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Abstract

I have been reading two highly interesting articles by Robert Kiehn. There are very many contacts on TGD inspired vision and its open interpretational problems.

The notion of Falaco soliton has surprisingly close resemblance with Kähler magnetic flux tubes defining fundamental structures in TGD Universe. Fermionic strings are also fundamental structures of TGD accompanying magnetic flux tubes and this supports the vision that these string like objects could allow reduction of various condensed matter phenomena such as sound waves -usually regarded as emergent phenomena allowing only highly phenomenological description - to the fundamental microscopic level in TGD framework. This can be seen as the basic outcome of this article.

Kiehn proposed a new description for the generation of various instability patterns of hydrodynamics flows (Kelvin-Helmholtz and Rayleigh-Taylor instabilities) in terms of hyperbolic dynamics so that a connection with wave phenomena like interference and diffraction would emerge. The role of characteristic surfaces as surfaces of tangential and also normal discontinuities is central for the approach. In TGD framework the characteristic surfaces have as analogs light-like wormhole throats at which the signature of the induced 4-metric changes and these surfaces indeed define boundaries of two phases and of material objects in general. This inspires a more detailed comparison of Kiehn's approach with TGD.

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1 Introduction

I have been reading two highly interesting articles by Robert Kiehn. The first article has the title "Hydrodynamics wakes and minimal surfaces with fractal boundaries" [B2]. Second article is titled "Instability patterns, wakes and topological limit sets" [B3]. There are very many contacts on TGD inspired vision and its open interpretational problems.

The notion of Falaco soliton has surprisingly close resemblance with Kähler magnetic flux tubes defining fundamental structures in TGD Universe. Fermionic strings are also fundamental structures of TGD accompanying magnetic flux tubes and this supports the vision that these string like objects could allow reduction of various condensed matter phenomena such as sound waves -usually regarded

as emergent phenomena allowing only highly phenomenological description - to the fundamental microscopic level in TGD framework. This can be seen as the basic outcome of this article.

Kiehn proposed a new description for the generation of various instability patterns of hydrodynamics flows (Kelvin-Helmholtz and Rayleigh-Taylor instabilities) in terms of hyperbolic dynamics so that a connection with wave phenomena like interference and diffraction would emerge. The role of characteristic surfaces as surfaces of tangential and also normal discontinuities is central for the approach. In TGD framework the characteristic surfaces have as analogs light-like wormhole throats at which the signature of the induced 4-metric changes and these surfaces indeed define boundaries of two phases and of material objects in general. This inspires a more detailed comparison of Kiehn's approach with TGD.

2 Falaco solitons and TGD

In the first article [B2] Kiehn tells about his basic motivations. The first motivating observations were related to so called Falaco solitons. Second observation was related to the so called mushroom pattern associated with RayleighTaylor instability or fingering instability [B1], which appears in very many contexts, the most familiar being perhaps the mushroom shaped cloud created by a nuclear explosion. The idea was that both structures whose stability is not easy to understand in standard hydrodynamics, could have topological description.

Falaco solitons are very fascinating objects. Kiehn describes in detail the formation and properties in [B2]: anyone possessing swimming pool can repeat these elegant and simple experiments. The vortex string connecting the end singularities - dimpled indentations at the surface of water - is the basic notion. Kiehn asks whether there might be a deeper connection with a model of mesons in which strings connecting quark and antiquark appear. The formation of spiral structures around the end gaps in the initial formative states of Falaco soliton is emphasized and compared to the structure of spiral galaxies. The suggestion is that galaxies could appear as pairs connected by strings.

Kähler magnetic tubes carrying monopole flux are central in TGD and have several interesting resemblances with Falaco solutions.

1. In TGD framework so called cosmic strings fundamental primordial objects. They have 2-D Minkowski space projection and 2-D CP_2 projection so that one can say that there is no space-time in ordinary sense present during the primordial phase. During cosmic evolution their time= constant M^4 projection gradually thickens from ideal string to a magnetic flux tube. Among other things this explains the presence of magnetic fields in all cosmic scale not easy to understand in standard view. The decay of cosmic strings generates visible and dark matter much in the same manner as the decay of inflaton field does in inflationary scenario. One however avoids the many problems of inflationary scenario.

Cosmic strings would contain ordinary matter and dark matter around them like necklace contains pearls along it. Cosmic strings carry Kähler magnetic monopole flux which stabilizes them. The magnetic field energy explains dark energy. Magnetic tension explains the negative "pressure" explaining accelerated expansion. The linear distribution of field energy along cosmic strings gives rise to logarithmic gravitational potential, which explains the constant velocity spectrum of distant stars around galaxy and therefore galactic dark matter.

2. Magnetic flux tubes form a fractal structure and the notion of Falaco soliton has also an analogy in TGD based description of elementary particles. In TGD framework the ends caps of vortices correspond to pairs of wormhole throats connected by short wormhole contact and there is a magnetic flux tube carrying monopole flux at both space-time sheets.

So called modified Dirac equation assigns with this flux tube 1-D closed string and to it string world sheets, which might be 2-D minimal surface of space-time surface [K2]. Rather surprisingly, string model in 4-D space-time emerges naturally in TGD framework and has also very special properties due to the knotting of strings as 1-knots and knotting of string world sheets as 2-knots. Braiding and linking of strings is also involved and make dimension $D=4$ for space-time completely unique.

Both elementary particles and hadron like state are describable in terms of these string like objects. Wormhole throats are the basic building brick of particles which are in the simplest

situation two-sheeted structure with wormhole contact structures connecting the sheets and giving rise to one or more closed flux tubes accompanied by closed strings.

3 Stringy description of condensed matter physics and chemistry?

What is important that magnetic flux tubes and associated string world sheets can also connect wormhole throats associated with different elementary particles in the sense that their boundaries are along light-like wormhole throats assignable to different elementary particles. These string worlds sheets therefore mediate interactions between elementary particles.

1. What these interactions are? Could *string world sheets* could provide a *microscopic first principle description of condensed matter phenomena* - in particular of sound waves and various waves analogs of sound waves usually regarded as emergent phenomena requiring phenomenological models of condensed matter?

The hypothesis that this is the case would allow to test basic assumptions of quantum TGD at the level of condensed matter physics. String model in 4-D space-time could describe concrete experimental everyday reality rather than esoteric Planck length scale physics! The phenomena of condensed matter physics often thought to be high level emergent phenomena would have first principle microscopic description at the level of space-time geometry.

2. The idea about stringy reductionism extends also to chemistry. One of the poorly understanding basic notions of molecular chemistry is the formation of valence bond as pairing of two valence electrons belonging to different atoms. Could this pairing correspond to a formation of a closed Kähler magnetic flux tube with two wormhole contacts carrying quantum numbers of electron? Could also Cooper pairs be regarded as this kind of structure with long connecting pair of flux tubes between electron carrying wormhole contacts as has been suggested already earlier?
3. The proposal indeed is that TGD inspired biochemistry and neuroscience indeed has magnetic flux tubes and flux sheets as a key element. For instance, the notion of magnetic body plays a key role in TGD inspired view about EEG and magnetic flux tubes represent braid strands in the model for DNA-cell membrane system as topological quantum computer [K1].

One can argue that this is not a totally new idea: basically one particular variant of holography¹ is in question and follows in TGD framework from general coordinate invariance alone: the geometry of world of classical worlds must assign to a given 3-surface a unique space-time surface.

1. The fashionable manner to realize holography is by replacing 4-D space-time with 10-D one. String world sheets in 10-D space-time $AdS_5 - S_5$ connecting the points of 4+5-D boundary of $AdS_5 - S_5$ are hoped to provide a dual description of even condensed matter phenomena in the case that the system is described by a theory enjoying conformal invariance in 4-D sense.
2. In TGD framework holography is much more concrete: 3-D light-like 3-surfaces (giving rise to generalized conformal invariance by their metric 2-dimensionality) are enough. One has actually a strong form of holography stating that 2-D partonic 2-surfaces plus their 4-D tangent space data are enough. Partonic 2-surfaces define the ends of light-like 3-surfaces at the ends of space-time surface at the light-like 7-D boundaries of causal diamonds. 10-D space is replaced with the familiar 4-D space-time and 4+5-D boundary with end 2-D ends of 3-D light-like wormhole orbits (plus 4-D tangent space data). These partonic 2-surfaces are highly analogous to the 2-D sections of your characteristic surfaces.

Consider now how sound waves as and various oscillations of this kind could be understood in terms of string world sheets. String world sheets have both geometric and fermionic degrees of freedom.

¹The equivalent of holography emerged from the construction of the Kähler geometry of "world of classical worlds" as an implication of general coordinate invariance around 1990, about five years before it was introduced by t'Hooft and Susskind.

1. A good first guess is that string world sheet is minimal surface in space-time - this does not mean minimal surface property in imbedding space and the non-vanishing second fundamental form - in particular its CP_2 part should have physical meaning - maybe the parameter that would be called Higgs vacuum expectation in QFT limit of TGD could relate to it.
2. Another possibility that I have proposed is that a minimal surface of imbedding space (not the minimal surface is geometric analog for a solution of massless wave equation) but in the effective metric defined by the anti-commutators of modified gamma matrices defined by the canonical momentum densities of Kähler action is in question: in this case one might even dream about the possibility that the analog of light-velocity defined by the effective metric has interpretation as sound velocity.

For string world sheets as minimal surfaces of X^4 (the first option) oscillations would propagate with light-velocity but as one adds massive particle momenta at wormhole throats defining their ends the situation changes due to the additional inertia making impossible propagation with light-velocity. Consideration of the situation for ordinary non-relativistic condensed matter string with masses at ends as a simple example, the velocity of propagation is in the first naive estimate just square root of the ratio of the magnetic energy of string portion to its total energy which also concludes the mass at its ends. Kähler magnetic energy is given by string tension which has a spectrum determined by p-adic length scale hypothesis so that one ends up with a rough quantitative picture and coil understand the dependence of the sound velocity on temperature.

In TGD framework massless quanta moving in different directions correspond to different space-time sheets: linear superposition for fields is replaced with a set theoretic union and effects superpose instead of fields. This would hold true also for sound waves which would always be restricted at stringy world sheets: superposition can make sense only for wave moving in exactly the same direction. This of course conforms with the properties of phonons so that Bohr orbitology would be realized for sound waves and ordinary description of sound waves would be only an approximation. The fundamental difference between light and sound defining fundamental qualia would be the dimension of the quanta as geometric structures.

4 New manner to understand the generation of turbulent wake

Kiehn proposes a new manner to understand the generation of turbulent wake [B3]. The dynamics generating it would be that of hyperbolic wave equation rather than diffusive parabolic or elliptic dynamics. The decay of the turbulence would however obey the diffusive parabolic dynamics. Therefore sound velocity and supersonic velocities would be involved with the generation of the turbulence.

Kiehn considers Landau's nonlinear model for a scalar potential of velocity in the case of 2-D compressible isentropic fluid as an example. The wave equation is given by

$$(c^2 - \Phi_x^2)\Phi_{xx} + (c^2 - \Phi_y^2)\Phi_{yy} - 2\Phi_x\Phi_y\Phi_{xy} = 0 . \quad (4.1)$$

Here c denotes sound velocity and velocity is given by $v = \nabla\Phi$. 3-D generalization is obvious. This partial differential equation for the velocity potential is quasi-linear equation of the form

$$A\Phi_{\eta\eta} + 2B\Phi_{\eta\xi} + C\Phi_{\xi\xi} = 0 . \quad (4.2)$$

The characteristic surfaces contain imbedded curves which are given by solutions to ordinary differential equations

$$\frac{d\eta}{d\xi} = \frac{B \pm (B^2AC)^{1/2}}{C} . \quad (4.3)$$

Real solutions are possible when the argument of the square root is positive. This is true when the local velocity exceeds the local characteristic speed c . These characteristic lines combine to form characteristic surfaces.

Velocity field would be compressible ($\nabla \cdot v \neq 0$) but irrotational ($\nabla \times v = 0$) in this approach whereas in standard approach velocity field would be incompressible ($\nabla \cdot v = 0$) but irrotational ($\nabla \times v \neq 0$). There would be two phases in which these two different options would be realized and at the boundary the dynamics would be both in-compressible and irrotational and these boundaries would correspond to characteristic surfaces which are minimal surfaces which evolve with time somehow. The presence of scalar function satisfying Laplace equation ($\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$) would serve as a signature of this.

The emergence of this hyperbolic dynamics would explain the sharpness and long-lived character of the singular structures. Kiehn also proposes that the formation of wake could have analogies with diffraction and interference - basic aspects of wave motion. This picture does not conform with standard view which assumes diffusive parabolic or elliptic dynamics as the origin of the wake turbulence.

4.1 Characteristic surfaces and light-like wormhole throat orbits

Characteristic surface is key notion in Kiehn's approach and he suggests that the creation of wakes relies on hyperbolic dynamics in restricted regions [B3]. If I have understood correctly, the boundaries of vortices created in the process could be seen as this kind of characteristic surfaces: some physical quantities would have tangential discontinuities at them since a boundary between different phases (fluid and air) would be in question.

Another situation corresponds to a shock wave in which case there is a flow of matter through the characteristic surface. Also boundary patterns associated with Kelvin-Helmholtz instability (formation of waves due to wind and their breaking) and Rayleigh-Taylor instability (the formation of mushroom like fingers of heavier substance resting above lighter one).

The proposal of Kiehn is that the characteristic minimal surfaces have the following general form:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{d\eta}{ds} = A(\rho) \times \sin(Q(s)) \quad , \quad v = \frac{d\eta}{ds} = -A(\rho) \times \cos(Q(s)) \quad , \\ w &= F(u, v) = Q(u/v = s) \text{ per,} \quad Q(s) = \arctan(s) \quad . \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

If $F(u, v)$ satisfies the equation

$$(1 + F_v^2)F_{uu} + (1 + F_u^2)F_{vv} - 2F_u F_v F_{uv} = 0 \quad . \quad (4.5)$$

This expresses the vanishing of the trace of the second fundamental form, actually the component corresponding to the coordinate w . The minimal surface in question is known as right helicoid.

In TGD framework light-like 3-surfaces defined by wormhole throats are the counterparts of characteristic surfaces.

1. By their light-likeness the light-like wormhole throats are analogous to characteristic surfaces (In TGD context light-velocity of course replace local sound velocity). Since the signature of the metric changes at wormhole throats, the 4-D tangent space reduces to 3-D in metric sense at them so that they indeed are singular in a unique sense. Gravitational effects imply that they need not look expanding in Minkowski coordinates. The light-velocity in the induced metric is in general smaller than maximal signal velocity in Minkowski space and can be arbitrarily small.
2. In TGD framework light-like 3-surfaces would be naturally associated with phase boundaries defining boundaries of physical objects. They would be light-like metrically degenerate 3-surfaces in space-time along which the space-time sheet assignable to fluid flow meets the space-time sheet assignable to say air. The generation of wake turbulence would in TGD framework mean the decay of a large 3-surface representing a laminar flow to sheet of separate cylindrical 3-surfaces representing vortex sheet. Also the amalgamation of vortices can be considered as a reverse process.
3. Interesting question related to the time evolution of these 2-D boundaries. In TGD framework it should give rise to 3-D light-like surface. The simulations for the evolution of Kelvin-Helmholtz instability and Rayleigh-Taylor mushroom pattern in Wikipedia and it seems that at the initial stages there is period of growth bringing in mind expanding light-front: the velocity of expansion is not its value in Minkowski space but corresponds to that assignable to the induced metric and

can be much smaller. Recall also that in TGD framework gravitational effects are large near the singularity so that growth is not with the light-velocity in vacuum.

The proposal of Kiehn that very special minimal surfaces (right helicoids) are in question would in TGD framework correspond to a light-like 3-surfaces representing light-like orbits of these minimal surfaces presumably expanding at least in the beginning of the time evolution.

4.2 Minkowskian hydrodynamics/Maxwellian dynamics as hyperbolic dynamics and Euclidian hydrodynamics as elliptic dynamics

In Kiehn's proposal both the hyperbolic wave dynamics (about which Maxwell's equations provide a simple linear example) and diffusive elliptic or parabolic dynamics are present. In TGD framework both aspects are present at the level of field equations and correspond to the hyperbolic dynamics in Minkowskian space-time regions and elliptic dynamics in Euclidian space-time regions.

The dynamics of preferred extremals can be seen in two manners. Either as hydrodynamics or as Maxwellian dynamics with Bohr rules expressing the decomposition of the field to quanta- magnetic flux quanta or massless radiation quanta.

1. Maxwellian hydrodynamics involves a considerable restriction: superposition of modes moving in different directions is not allowed: one has just left-movers or right-movers in given direction, not both. Preferred extremals are "Bohr orbit like" and resemble outcomes of state function reduction measuring polarization and wave vector. The linear superposition of fields is replaced with the superposition of effects. The test particle topologically condenses to several space-time sheets simultaneously and experiences the sum of the forces of classical fields associated with the space-time sheets. Therefore one avoids the worst objection against TGD that I have been able to invent. Only four primary field like variables would replace the multitude of primary fields encountered in a typical unification. Besides this one has second quantized induced spinor fields.
2. Field equations are hydrodynamical in the sense that the field equations state classical conservation laws of four-momentum and color charges. In fermionic sector conservation of electromagnetic charge (in quantum sense so that different charge states for spinor mode do not mix) requires the localization of solutions to 2-D string world sheets for all states except right-handed neutrino. This leads to 2-D conformal invariance. A possible identification of string world sheet is as 2-D minimal surface of space-time (rather than that of imbedding space).

What is remarkable that in Minkowskian space-time regions most preferred extremals (magnetic flux tube structures define an exception to this) are locally analogous to the modes of massless field with polarization direction and light-like momentum direction which in the general case can depend on position so that one has curvilinear light-like curve as analog of light-ray. The curvilinear light-like orbits results when two parallel preferred extremals with constant light-like direction form bound states via the formation of magnetically charged wormhole contact structures identifiable as elementary particles. Total momentum is conserved and is time-like for this kind of states, and the hypothesis is that the values of mass squared are given by p-adic thermodynamics. The conservation of Kähler current holds true as also its integrability in the sense of Frobenius giving $j = \Psi \nabla \Phi$. Besides this massless wave equations hold true for both Ψ and Φ . This looks like 4-D generalization of your equations at the characteristic defined by phase boundary.

3. In Euclidian regions one has naturally elliptic "hydrodynamics". Euclidian regions correspond for 4-D CP_2 projection to the 4-D "lines" of generalized Feynman diagrams. Their M^4 projections can be arbitrary large and the proposal is that the space-time sheet characterizing the macroscopic objects is actually Euclidian. In $AdS_5 - S^5$ correspondence the corresponding idea is that macroscopic object is described as a blackhole in 10-D space. Now blackhole interiors have Euclidian signature as lines of generalized Feynman diagrams and blackhole interior does not differ from the interior of any system in any dramatical manner. Whether the Euclidian and Minkowskian dynamics are dual of each other or whether both are necessary is an open question.

Theoretical Physics

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