

Gravity and Probability

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Submitted: 2025, Apr 24; Accepted: 2026, Jan 15; Published: 2026, Feb 09

Citation: Dhormare, R. (2026). Gravity and Probability. *Ann Comp Phy Material Sci*, 3(1), 01-03.

Abstract

This work explores a novel conceptual and mathematical connection between gravity and probability. Inspired by the framework of general relativity, we investigate how the probability distribution of a physical or abstract system may deform under the influence of curvature, like how mass and energy influence the curvature of space-time. We propose the idea of a probabilistic manifold an abstract space equipped with geometric structure—upon which probability distributions are defined. Through this analogy, we argue that probability, often treated as a static or context-free quantity, can instead be viewed as a dynamic entity influenced by external factors. This viewpoint opens the door to new interpretations of probabilistic behavior in complex systems, with implications for fields ranging from quantum gravity to information theory. We integrate constructs from Riemannian geometry, such as the Ricci tensor, and explore the deformation of probability due to geometric stress. This geometric framework aims to deepen our understanding of context- dependent probabilities and shed light on the potential unity between geometry, physics, and statistical theory.

Keywords: Ricci Tensor, Energy-Momentum Tensor, Probability Theory, Gravitational Field, Geometric Probability, Gravity and Probability, Probabilistic Manifold, Information Geometry, Geometric Probability, Curved Space, Deformation, Statistical Physics, Quantum Gravity

1. Introduction

The general theory of relativity revolutionized our understanding of gravitation by interpreting it as the curvature of space-time due to mass and energy. In this elegant geometric picture, matter causes the fabric of space-time to curve, and objects follow geodesic paths in this curved geometry, which appear to us as gravitational attraction. This profound shift from force to geometry laid the foundation for modern gravitational physics and continues to influence theoretical physics today. In this work, we draw inspiration from general relativity to explore a conceptual extension into the domain of probability theory. We pose the idea that probability, like gravity, may not be an intrinsic or isolated quantity, but rather a property shaped by an underlying geometric structure. We postulate the existence of a probabilistic manifold an abstract configuration space where probability densities evolve and we examine how this space might deform under various conditions. Just as space-time can curve under the influence of energy and mass, we suggest that probability distributions can deform under analogous conditions, possibly reflecting the information flow, influence, or contextual weighting of different outcomes.

1.1. Probabilistic Manifold and Metric

Let us begin by defining a probabilistic manifold. M , which is a smooth, differentiable space of dimension n , Representing the set of possible configurations or states of a probabilistic system. Each point on this manifold corresponds to a particular outcome or a configuration vector $\{x^1, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n\}$. To introduce geometry to this space, we define a metric tensor. g_{ij} , which provides a way to measure distances and volumes within the manifold. This metric enables us to construct volume elements and determine the influence of curvature on probability flow. The metric can be context- dependent, reflecting how various dimensions of the probability space interact with one another.

We define a probability density function. $p(x)$ on M , which satisfies the following normalization condition:

$$\int_M P(x) \sqrt{|g^{(x)}|} d^n x = 1$$

Where $g(x)$ Is the determinant of the metric tensor at a point x , and $\sqrt{|g(x)|} d^n x$. It is the natural volume element in curved space. This ensures that the total probability across the entire manifold remains normalized in the absence of external curvature or deformation.

1.2. Curvature and Deformation of Probability

To model the effect of external influences on the probability distribution, we turn to the concept of curvature. In differential geometry, curvature quantifies how a space deviates from flatness. For our purposes, we use the Ricci tensor, R_{ij} . This summarizes how volumes change under geodesic flows and the Ricci scalar, R , this provides a scalar measure of curvature at each point.

Let Γ be a subregion of the manifold where external conditions, such as interaction with a field, energy input, or informational constraint, lead to deformation of the probability density. We posit a direct relation between curvature and deformation:

$$\delta P(\Gamma) \propto \int_{\Gamma} R(x) \sqrt{|g(x)|} d^n x$$

This equation implies that the total deformation of probability in a region is proportional to the integral of curvature across that region. High curvature corresponds to stronger concentration or dispersion of the probability density. In extreme cases, such deformation could violate classical probability laws, such as conservation or universality.

1.3. Information Geometry Perspective

Information geometry studies the differential-geometric structure of statistical models. In this framework, the space of probability distributions is treated as a Riemannian manifold, where the Fisher information metric provides a natural notion of distance. We extend this framework by identifying the Ricci curvature on our probabilistic manifold with informational curvature. This provides a richer, physically motivated geometric view of uncertainty. In particular, regions with high Ricci curvature may correspond to high sensitivity of the system to parameter changes, while flatter regions suggest robustness. By connecting our model to information geometry, we provide a bridge between physical and statistical interpretations of curvature and suggest that probability deformation due to geometry can mirror phenomena such as statistical dependence, informational bottlenecks, and even Bayesian learning dynamics.

1.4. Application and Examples

1.4.1. Gravitational Focusing of Probability

As an illustrative example, consider a Gaussian probability distribution defined in a flat space. When placed in a curved region, such as one near a massive object, the distribution may become narrower and more peaked, reflecting the focusing effect of curvature. This is analogous to gravitational lensing in general

relativity, where light rays bend and focus due to curvature

1.4.2. Breakdown of Classical Normalization

In high curvature regimes, the traditional normalization condition may no longer hold. We propose a generalized condition:

$$\int_M P(x) \sqrt{|g(x)|} d^n x + p(\Gamma) = 1$$

This represents a situation where curvature contributes to an effective increase in localized probability density, possibly modeling phenomena like quantum collapse, measurement, or information compression.

1.4.3. Probabilistic Thermodynamics

In thermodynamic systems, entropy measures the uncertainty or spread of microstates. If we interpret entropy as a function over a curved manifold, then the deformation of the manifold due to interaction with external systems could provide a geometric basis for entropy flow, diffusion, or localization.

2. Quantum and Cosmological Implications

The proposed framework opens the door to reinterpret probabilistic phenomena in quantum mechanics. If probability is influenced by geometry, then quantum uncertainty, collapse, and entanglement might be manifestations of underlying geometric fluctuations. This idea aligns with emergent gravity theories, where gravitational behavior arises from entropic or statistical principles. For instance, entanglement entropy across horizons can be understood as arising from the geometry of Hilbert space. Our probabilistic curvature model may provide a unifying view of quantum probabilities as emerging from deeper geometric substrates. In cosmology, space expansion and structure formation might be seen as large-scale deformations in the probabilistic fabric. Early universe inflation could represent rapid diffusion of probability, while gravitational clumping represents probability localization due to curvature.

3. Conclusion and Future Directions

This work proposes a new paradigm for interpreting probability: not as a purely abstract or axiomatic quantity, but as a geometric entity subject to deformation. Just as mass and energy curve space-time, external conditions may deform probability spaces, leading to new insights into the structure of statistical systems.

Future work should aim to formalize this framework further. Potential directions include:

- Deriving probabilistic field equations analogous to Einstein's field equations.
- Simulating probability distributions on curved manifolds with dynamic curvature.
- Exploring implications in black hole thermodynamics, quantum field theory, and artificial intelligence.

By embedding probability within a dynamic geometry, we may

move closer to a unified framework where physics, information, and uncertainty co-evolve on a common geometric foundation [1-5].

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