

PS 24: Problem 2.54

- (a) The radius of a black hole depends on the following:

$$F_G = G \frac{M}{R^2} = \left[\frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^2} \right] \left[\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^2} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$c = \text{constant} = \left[\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right] \quad (2)$$

$$M = \text{constant} = [\text{kg}] \quad (3)$$

We can estimate the radius R of the black hole by dimensional analysis of (1)-(3). We have

$$R \approx \frac{GM}{c^2} = \frac{\left[\frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^2} \right] [\text{kg}]}{\left[\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right]^2} = [\text{m}] \quad (4)$$

Therefore, the radius of a black hole is

$$\boxed{R \approx \frac{GM}{c^2}} \quad (5)$$

- (b) Taking photons with wavelength λ

$$\lambda = 2R = 2 \frac{GM}{c^2} \quad (6)$$

whose energy E_γ is

$$E_\gamma = \frac{hc}{\lambda} \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{hc^3}{2GM} \quad (8)$$

and the black hole's total energy E

$$E = Mc^2 \quad (9)$$

The momentum of a photon is given by

$$p_\gamma = \frac{h}{\lambda} \quad (10)$$

If we consider the system to behave classically and non-relativistically, then we can recall the classical momentum

$$p = mv \quad (11)$$

and from this, we see that we can divide (10) by the photon's velocity c to get its mass

$$m_\gamma = \frac{h}{c\lambda} \quad (12)$$

If we assume that the entropy of the black hole is of order Nk , where N is the number of particles in the black hole, and that all the particles are photons, we can estimate this entropy to be

$$S \approx Nk_B \quad (13)$$

where k_B is Boltzmann's constant. If the total energy of the black hole is given by (9), the number of photons is

$$N = \frac{E}{E_\gamma} = \frac{2GM^2}{hc} \quad (14)$$

Plugging this into (13),

$$\boxed{S = k_B \frac{2GM^2}{hc}} \quad (15)$$

The entropy for a black hole of one solar mass is $\boxed{S \approx 4 \times 10^{52} \text{ J} \cdot \text{K}}$.

- (c) Recall the surface area of a sphere:

$$A = 4\pi R^2 \quad (16)$$

Plugging in (5) into this,

$$A = \frac{4\pi M^2}{c^4} \quad (17)$$

Plugging this into (15),

$$\boxed{S = k_B \frac{\pi G c^3}{2h} A} \quad (18)$$

Thus, entropy increases when black holes coalesce.

(d) Using (9) to express (15) in terms of E ,

$$S = k_B \frac{2GE^2}{hc^5} \quad (19)$$

From the equation of state of S ,

$$dE = T dS - P dV + \mu dN \quad (20)$$

we see that the natural variable T can be expressed as

$$T = \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial E} \right)^{-1} \quad (21)$$

Performing the differentiation on (19),

$$T = \left(k_B \frac{4GE}{hc^5} \right)^{-1} \quad (22)$$

We express (22) once again in terms of M so that

$$T = \frac{hc^3}{4k_B GM} \quad (23)$$

So the temperature for a black hole of one solar mass is $T \approx 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}$.

Expressing (23) in terms of R in (5),

$$T = \frac{hc}{4k_B R} \quad (24)$$