
Geodesics in Schwarzschild metric

using Black Hole Perturbation Toolkit

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Load the metric

There are built-in metric for most of the well known metrics but one can also manually set any metric. For working in Schwarzschild metric we need to do the following

```
In[1]:= << GeneralRelativityTensors`
```

```
In[2]:= g = ToMetric["Schwarzschild"]
```

```
Out[2]=  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ 
```

Then one can view the metric elements using TensorValues

```
In[3]:= g // TensorValues // MatrixForm
```

```
Out[3]/MatrixForm=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 + \frac{2M}{r} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r^2 \sin[\theta]^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

And access the metric elements

```
In[4]:= g[-t, -t]
```

```
Out[4]=  $-1 + \frac{2M}{r}$ 
```

Metric can also be set in the following way

```
In[5]:= k = ToMetric[{"my-metric", "k"}, {t, r,  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ },
  DiagonalMatrix[{- (1 -  $\frac{2M}{r}$ ),  $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}$ ,  $r^2$ ,  $r^2 \sin[\theta]^2$ }], "Greek"]
```

```
Out[5]=  $k_{\alpha\beta}$ 
```

```
In[6]:= k // TensorValues // MatrixForm
```

```
Out[6]//MatrixForm=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 + \frac{2M}{r} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r^2 \sin[\theta]^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We get the same metric as the built-in one.

Christoffel Symbols, Riemann Tensor, Ricci Tensor and Ricci Scalar

Once we have our metric we can easily compute the other qualities using built-in functions

```
In[7]:= Gammas = ChristoffelSymbol[g, ActWith → Simplify]
```

```
Out[7]=  $\Gamma^{\alpha}_{\beta\gamma}$ 
```

```
In[8]:= Gammas // TensorValues
```

```
Out[8]= {{ {0, - $\frac{M}{2Mr - r^2}$ , 0, 0}, {- $\frac{M}{2Mr - r^2}$ , 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, 0}},
  { { $\frac{M(-2M + r)}{r^3}$ , 0, 0, 0}, {0,  $\frac{M}{2Mr - r^2}$ , 0, 0},
    {0, 0, 2M - r, 0}, {0, 0, 0, (2M - r) Sin[ $\theta$ ]^2}},
  { {0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0,  $\frac{1}{r}$ , 0}, {0,  $\frac{1}{r}$ , 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0, -Cos[ $\theta$ ] Sin[ $\theta$ ]}}},
  { {0, 0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 0,  $\frac{1}{r}$ }, {0, 0, 0, Cot[ $\theta$ ]}, {0,  $\frac{1}{r}$ , Cot[ $\theta$ ], 0}}}
```

```
In[9]:= Gammas[t, t, r]
```

```
Out[9]= - $\frac{M \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) r}{(2M - r) (2Mr - r^2)}$ 
```

In[10]:=

Riemann = RiemannTensor[g, ActWith → Simplify]

Out[10]=

 $R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$

In[11]:=

Riemann // TensorValues

Out[11]=

$$\left\{ \left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\}, \right.$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, -\frac{2M}{r^3}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ \frac{2M}{r^3}, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, \frac{M(-2M+r)}{r^2}, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ -\frac{M(-2M+r)}{r^2}, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, -\frac{M(2M-r)\sin[\theta]^2}{r^2} \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \right.$$

$$\left. \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ \frac{M(2M-r)\sin[\theta]^2}{r^2}, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ \left\{ 0, \frac{2M}{r^3}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ -\frac{2M}{r^3}, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\}, \right.$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, \frac{M}{2M-r}, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, -\frac{M}{2M-r}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, \frac{M\sin[\theta]^2}{2M-r} \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, -\frac{M\sin[\theta]^2}{2M-r}, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, -\frac{M(-2M+r)}{r^2}, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ \frac{M(-2M+r)}{r^2}, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\}, \right.$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, -\frac{M}{2M-r}, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, \frac{M}{2M-r}, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 2Mr\sin[\theta]^2 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, -2Mr\sin[\theta]^2, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, \frac{M(2M-r)\sin[\theta]^2}{r^2} \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \right.$$

$$\left. \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ -\frac{M(2M-r)\sin[\theta]^2}{r^2}, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, -\frac{M\sin[\theta]^2}{2M-r} \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, \frac{M\sin[\theta]^2}{2M-r}, 0, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, -2Mr\sin[\theta]^2 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 2Mr\sin[\theta]^2, 0 \right\} \right\},$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\}, \left\{ 0, 0, 0, 0 \right\} \right\} \right\}$$

In[12]:=

Riemann[t, -r, -t, -r]

Out[12]=

$$-\frac{2M}{(2M-r)r^2}$$

In[13]:= **Ricci = RicciTensor[g, ActWith → Simplify]**

Out[13]= $R_{\beta\gamma}$

In[14]:= **Ricci // TensorValues**

Out[14]= $\{\{0, 0, 0, 0\}, \{0, 0, 0, 0\}, \{0, 0, 0, 0\}, \{0, 0, 0, 0\}\}$

In[15]:= **RS = RicciScalar[g, ActWith → Simplify]**

Out[15]= R

In[16]:= **RS // TensorValues**

Out[16]= 0

Set up Geodesic Equation using Christoffel Symbols

We can now set up the Geodesic Equations. First we set the four-velocity tensor

In[17]:= **u = ToTensor["four-velocity", g, {vt[τ], vr[τ], vθ[τ], vφ[τ]}]**

Out[17]= $\text{four-velocity}^\alpha$

In[18]:= **geodesicEq = D[TensorValues[u[α]], τ] +
TensorValues[ContractIndices[Gammmas[α, -μ, -ν] u[μ] u[ν]]]**

Out[18]=
$$\left\{ -\frac{2 M v r[\tau] v t[\tau]}{2 M r - r^2} + v t'[\tau], \right. \\ \frac{M v r[\tau]^2}{2 M r - r^2} + \frac{M (-2 M + r) v t[\tau]^2}{r^3} + (2 M - r) v \theta[\tau]^2 + (2 M - r) \sin[\theta]^2 v \phi[\tau]^2 + v r'[\tau], \\ \frac{2 v r[\tau] v \theta[\tau]}{r} - \cos[\theta] \sin[\theta] v \phi[\tau]^2 + v \theta'[\tau], \\ \left. \frac{2 v r[\tau] v \phi[\tau]}{r} + 2 \cot[\theta] v \theta[\tau] v \phi[\tau] + v \phi'[\tau] \right\}$$

t-component is then given by

In[19]:= **geodesicEq[[1]]**

Out[19]=
$$-\frac{2 M v r[\tau] v t[\tau]}{2 M r - r^2} + v t'[\tau]$$

r-component could be obtained using

In[20]:=

geodesicEq[[2]]

Out[20]=

$$\frac{M v r[\tau]^2}{2 M r - r^2} + \frac{M (-2 M + r) v t[\tau]^2}{r^3} + (2 M - r) v \theta[\tau]^2 + (2 M - r) \text{Sin}[\theta]^2 v \phi[\tau]^2 + v r'[\tau]$$

and so on

Radial equation using Conserved quantities

In practice we don't need to start with setting up the geodesic equations to get the radial equation. In fact it is easier to start with conserved quantities, Energy and the Angular momentum and the normalization condition to set and solve the radial equation. We can get the conserved quantities using the two killing vectors

In[21]:=

 $\xi_t = \text{ToTensor}["t\text{-killing"}]$, g, {1, 0, 0, 0}

Out[21]=

 $t\text{-killing}^\alpha$

In[22]:=

 $\xi_\phi = \text{ToTensor}["\phi\text{-killing"}]$, g, {0, 0, 0, 1}

Out[22]=

 $\phi\text{-killing}^\alpha$

In[23]:=

ContractIndices[$\xi_t[-\mu] u[\mu]$] // TensorValues

Out[23]=

$$\left(-1 + \frac{2 M}{r}\right) v t[\tau]$$

In[24]:=

ContractIndices[$\xi_\phi[-\mu] u[\mu]$] // TensorValues

Out[24]=

$$r^2 \text{Sin}[\theta]^2 v \phi[\tau]$$

In[25]:=

norm = ContractIndices[$u[-\mu] u[\mu]$] // TensorValues

Out[25]=

$$\frac{v r[\tau]^2}{1 - \frac{2 M}{r}} + \left(-1 + \frac{2 M}{r}\right) v t[\tau]^2 + r^2 v \theta[\tau]^2 + r^2 \text{Sin}[\theta]^2 v \phi[\tau]^2$$

From the θ component of the geodesic equation we get

In[26]:=

 $\theta\text{Eq} = \text{geodesicEq}[[3]]$

Out[26]=

$$\frac{2 v r[\tau] v \theta[\tau]}{r} - \text{Cos}[\theta] \text{Sin}[\theta] v \phi[\tau]^2 + v \theta'[\tau]$$

Let's consider equatorial motion, i.e., $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

In[27]:= $\theta_{\text{EqEquatorial}} = \theta_{\text{Eq}} /. \{\theta \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}\}$

Out[27]:= $\frac{2 v r[\tau] v \theta[\tau]}{r} + v \theta'[\tau]$

Now if we take the initial $v\theta = 0$, then we get

In[28]:= $\theta_{\text{EqEquatorial}} /. \{v\theta[\tau] \rightarrow 0\}$

Out[28]:= $v \theta'[\tau]$

Which implies that the derivative of $v\theta$ also goes to zero and hence θ does not change and remains $\frac{\pi}{2}$.

We use this in the norm expression to get

In[29]:= $\text{normEq} = \text{norm} /. \{\theta \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}, v\theta[\tau] \rightarrow 0\}$

Out[29]:= $\frac{v r[\tau]^2}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}} + \left(-1 + \frac{2M}{r}\right) v t[\tau]^2 + r^2 v \phi[\tau]^2$

We now replace the $v\phi$ and vt using the conserved quantities

In[30]:= $\text{normEqnew} = \text{normEq} /. \{v t[\tau] \rightarrow \frac{EE}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}, v \phi[\tau] \rightarrow \frac{L}{r^2}\}$

Out[30]:= $\frac{EE^2 \left(-1 + \frac{2M}{r}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^2} + \frac{v r[\tau]^2}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}$

In[45]:= $\text{normCond} = (\text{normEqnew} + 1) /. \{EE^2 \rightarrow 2 E_{\text{new}} + 1\} // \text{Simplify}$

Out[45]:= $\frac{L^2}{r^2} - \frac{2(M + E_{\text{new}} r)}{-2M + r} + \frac{r v r[\tau]^2}{-2M + r}$

From the above Expression one can obtain the equation for vr in terms of the Energy and the angular momentum.

Effective potential

In[46]:= $\text{Eng} = \text{Solve}[\text{normCond} == 0, E_{\text{new}}] // \text{Values} // \text{Flatten}$

Out[46]:= $\left\{ \frac{-2 L^2 M + L^2 r - 2 M r^2 + r^3 v r[\tau]^2}{2 r^3} \right\}$

In[48]:=
$$\text{Veff} = \text{Eng}[[1]] - \frac{1}{2} \text{vr}[\tau]^2 // \text{Simplify}$$

Out[48]=
$$\frac{-2 M r^2 + L^2 (-2 M + r)}{2 r^3}$$

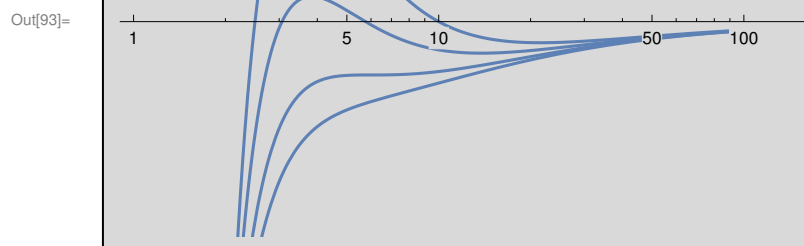
Plot Effective Potential vs radius

In[60]:=
$$\text{Veffnew} = \text{Veff} /. \{r \rightarrow r M, L \rightarrow \lambda M\} // \text{Simplify}$$

Out[60]=
$$\frac{-2 r^2 - 2 \lambda^2 + r \lambda^2}{2 r^3}$$

In[92]:=
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lvals} &= \{5, 4.2, 2 \sqrt{3}, 3\} \\ \text{Show}[\text{Table}[\text{LogLinearPlot}[\text{Veffnew} /. \{\lambda \rightarrow \text{Lvals}[[\text{idx}]]\}, \{r, 0, 100\}], \\ &\quad \{\text{idx}, 1, \text{Length}@\text{Lvals}\}], \text{PlotRange} \rightarrow \{\{0, 5\}, \{-0.2, 0.2\}\}] \end{aligned}$$

Out[92]=
$$\{5, 4.2, 2 \sqrt{3}, 3\}$$



ISCO

The inner most stable circular orbit (ISCO) is located at a place where V_{eff} has a point of inflection. Thus we find where the first derivative of V_{eff} is zero and second derivative is also zero.

In[103]:=
$$\text{Vdash} = \text{D}[\text{Veffnew}, r] // \text{Simplify}$$

Out[103]=
$$\frac{r^2 + 3 \lambda^2 - r \lambda^2}{r^4}$$

In[106]:=

Vddash = D[Vdash, r] // Simplify

Out[106]=

$$\frac{-2 r^2 - 12 \lambda^2 + 3 r \lambda^2}{r^5}$$

In[107]:=

Solve[{Vdash == 0, Vddash == 0}, {r, λ}]

Out[107]=

$$\left\{ \left\{ r \rightarrow 6, \lambda \rightarrow -2 \sqrt{3} \right\}, \left\{ r \rightarrow 6, \lambda \rightarrow 2 \sqrt{3} \right\} \right\}$$