

# Stability of Schwarzschild for the spherically symmetric Einstein–massless Vlasov system

Renato Velozo Ruiz

University of Cambridge

GR and Hyperbolic PDE Seminar  
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# Outline of the talk

- 1 The main result
- 2 The linear problem
- 3 The nonlinear difficulties

# General Relativity

*General relativity* is a geometric theory of *gravitation* whose main object of study are the *Lorentzian manifolds*  $(\mathcal{M}^{1+n}, g)$  for which the *Einstein field equations*

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu} \quad (1)$$

are satisfied, where  $T_{\mu\nu}$  is the *energy momentum tensor of matter*.<sup>\*Ex</sup>

Naturally, we are interested in the *Einstein vacuum equations* (EVE)

$$R_{\mu\nu} = 0. \quad (2)$$

Minkowski

Schwarzschild

Kerr

$$g_m = -\left(1-\frac{2m}{r}\right)dt^2 + \left(\frac{1-2m}{r}\right)^{-1}dr^2 + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2)$$

# The stability problem in GR

The dynamic nature of the EVE become apparent when the system is formulated as a *Cauchy problem*.

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*The Einstein vacuum equations are well-posed in Sobolev regularity.*

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**Question:** Is Minkowski/Schwarzschild/Kerr *stable* as solution of the EVE?

Minkowski

C-K, L-R

Schwarzschild

K-S, DHRT

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**Conjecture:** The subextremal family of Kerr black holes is stable as solution of the EVE?  
*\* Matter and stat solvd.*

# The massless Vlasov equation

Let  $(\mathcal{M}^{1+n}, g)$  be a Lorentzian manifold. We introduce a non-negative *distribution function*  $f : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  which is defined in the manifold

$$\mathcal{P} := \left\{ (x, p) \in T\mathcal{M} : g_x(p, p) = 0, p_0 > 0 \text{ for every } x \in \mathcal{M} \right\}. \quad (3)$$

\* of matter  
\* pick dst

Note that the distribution function is only\* supported on *null vectors*. We call  $\mathcal{P}$  the *mass-shell*.

$$T_{(x,p)} T\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{V}_{(x,p)} \oplus \mathcal{U}_{(x,p)}$$

$$Z = Z^\mu e_\mu$$

$$Z^\nu = Z^\mu \partial_\mu^\nu$$

$$Z^h = Z^\mu e_\mu - Z^\mu p^\nu \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \partial_\lambda$$

$$\bar{g}(X^h, Y^h) = g(X, Y)$$

$$g(X^h, Y^\nu) = 0$$

$$g(X^\nu, Y^\nu) = g(X, Y)$$

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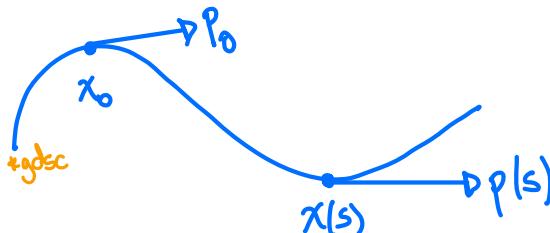
$$\mathcal{P} := \left\{ (x, p) \in T\mathcal{M} : g_x(p, p) = 0, p_0 > 0 \text{ for every } x \in \mathcal{M} \right\}. \quad (3)$$

Note that the distribution function is only supported on *null vectors*. We call  $\mathcal{P}$  the *mass-shell*. Naturally, we introduce the *massless Vlasov equation* given by

$$p^\alpha \partial_{x^\alpha} f - p^\alpha p^\beta \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \partial_{p^\gamma} f = 0. \quad (4)$$

*Cauchy problem*

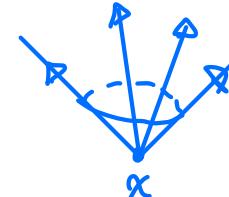
$$f|_{\Sigma} = f_0$$



$$f(x(s), p(s)) = f(x_0, p_0)$$

# The Einstein–massless Vlasov system

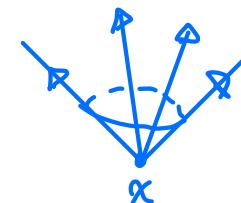
Motivated by the study of *collisionless*\* many particle systems in general relativity, we research the Einstein equations coupled to a matter model coming from *kinetic theory*. We define the *energy momentum tensor* for massless Vlasov as

$$T_{\mu\nu}(x) := \int_{\mathcal{P}_x} f p_\mu p_\nu \, d\text{vol}_{\mathcal{P}_x} . \quad (5)$$


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Finally, the *Einstein–massless Vlasov system* (EV) is defined by

\*Syng, Jeans  
\*Collisionless Boltz, Galactic dynam.

$$\begin{cases} R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}, \\ X(f) := p^\alpha \partial_{x^\alpha} f - p^\alpha p^\beta \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \partial_{p^\gamma} f = 0, \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

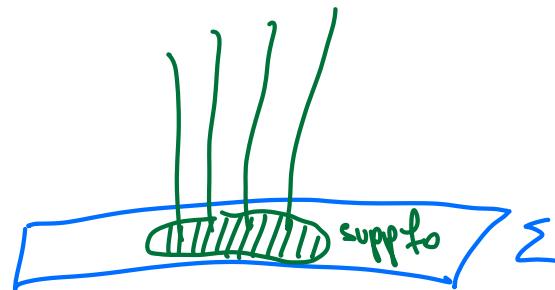
where the initial data is given by  $S = (\Sigma, g_0, k_0, f_0)$ .

# The Einstein–massless Vlasov system II

The Cauchy problem for this matter model defines a mixed hyperbolic–transport type system of nonlinear PDEs.

Theorem (Choquet-Bruhat)

*The Einstein–Vlasov system is well-posed in Sobolev regularity.*

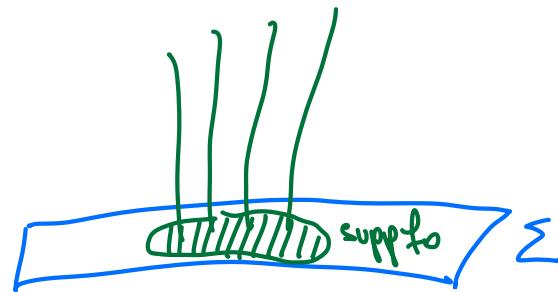


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# Literature review

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 $\times$  gauge, Jcb.       $\times$  set, gauge  
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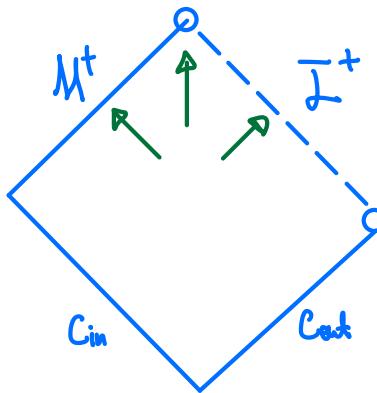
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- ③ Integrated energy decay for the massless Vlasov equation in slowly rotating Kerr (Andersson-Blue-Joudoux).  
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- ③ Integrated energy decay for the massless Vlasov equation in slowly rotating Kerr (Andersson-Blue-Joudoux).
- ④ Superpolynomial decay for the massless Vlasov equation in Schwarzschild (Bigorgne).  
↑ rPmth, no ap

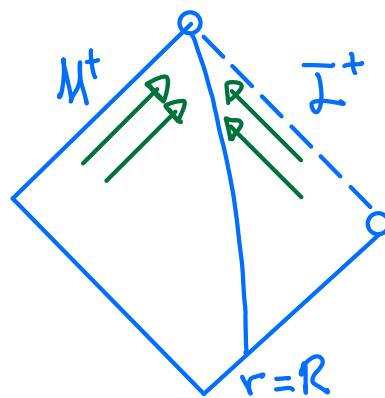
# Asymptotic stability of Schwarzschild



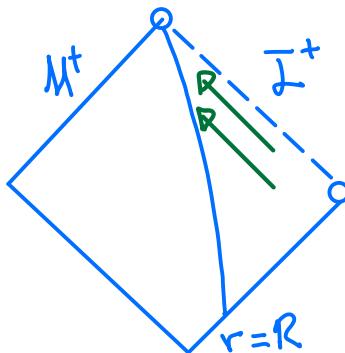
## Theorem (V.)

The exterior of the Schwarzschild family is asymptotically stable as a solution of the spherically symmetric Einstein–massless Vlasov system. More precisely, for every initial data sufficiently close to Schwarzschild, the resulting solution asymptotes exponentially to another member of the Schwarzschild family.

# The main result: linear version



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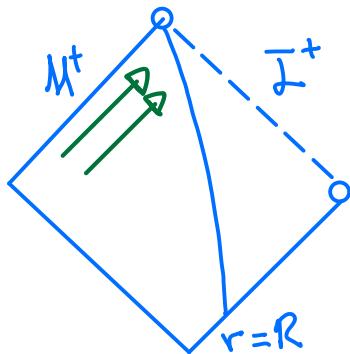
## Theorem (Decay of the stress energy momentum tensor)

Let  $f_0$  be a compactly supported initial data for the massless Vlasov equation in Schwarzschild. There exists a positive constant  $R > 2M$  such that the solution  $f$  of the massless Vlasov equation in Schwarzschild satisfies

$$T_{vv} \leq \frac{C_1}{r_*^6 \exp(C_2 u)}, \quad T_{uv} \leq \frac{C_1}{r^4 \exp(C_2 u)}, \quad T_{uu} \leq \frac{C_1}{r^2 \exp(C_2 u)}, \quad (7)$$

for all  $(u, v) \in \{r \geq R\}$ , where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are two positive constants depending on  $f_0$ ,  $M$  and  $R$ .  
\* $\partial T$  dcy, weights \* Rlt cmpts

# The main result: linear version



## Theorem (Decay of the stress energy momentum tensor)

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$$T_{vv} \leq \frac{C_1}{\exp(C_2 v)}, \quad T_{uv} \leq \frac{C_1(1 - \frac{2M}{r})^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\exp(C_2 v)}, \quad T_{uu} \leq \frac{C_1(1 - \frac{2M}{r})^2}{\exp(C_2 v)}, \quad (8)$$

for all  $(u, v) \in \{r \leq R\}$ , where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are two positive constants depending on  $f_0$ ,  $M$  and  $R$ .

# The Einstein equations under spherical symmetry

Let  $(\mathcal{M}^{3+1}, g)$  be a spherically symmetric spacetime in *double null coordinates* given by

$$g = -\frac{\Omega^2}{2}(du \otimes dv + dv \otimes du) + r^2(u, v)d\gamma_{\mathbb{S}^2}, \quad (9)$$

where  $\Omega$  and  $r$  are two positive functions and  $\gamma$  is the standard metric of  $\mathbb{S}^2$  in polar coordinates.

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where  $\Omega$  and  $r$  are two positive functions and  $\gamma$  is the standard metric of  $\mathbb{S}^2$  in polar coordinates. We introduce the *spherically symmetric Einstein–massless Vlasov system* by

$$\begin{cases} \partial_u \partial_v r &= -\frac{\Omega^2}{4r} - \frac{\partial_u r \partial_v r}{r} + 4\pi r T_{uv}, \\ \partial_u \partial_v \log \Omega &= \frac{\Omega^2}{4r^2} + \frac{\partial_u r \partial_v r}{r^2} - 4\pi T_{uv} - \pi \Omega^2 g^{AB} T_{AB}, \\ \partial_u (\Omega^{-2} \partial_u r) &= -4\pi r T_{uu} \Omega^{-2}, \\ \partial_v (\Omega^{-2} \partial_v r) &= -4\pi r T_{vv} \Omega^{-2}, \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where  $T_{uu}$ ,  $T_{uv}$  and  $T_{vv}$  are components of the energy momentum tensor.

# The Hawking mass

We introduce a key pointwise quantity for the spherically symmetric Einstein equations: *the Hawking mass*. We define the Hawking mass as the real-valued function

$$m(u, v) := \frac{r}{2} \left( 1 - g(\nabla r, \nabla r) \right) = \frac{r}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{4\partial_u r \partial_v r}{\Omega^2} \right), \quad (11)$$

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which coincides with the parameter  $M$  in Schwarzschild. Remarkably, the derivatives

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_u m &= 8\pi r^2 \left( T_{uv} \frac{\partial_u r}{\Omega^2} - T_{uu} \frac{\partial_v r}{\Omega^2} \right), \\ \partial_v m &= 8\pi r^2 \left( T_{uv} \frac{\partial_v r}{\Omega^2} - T_{vv} \frac{\partial_u r}{\Omega^2} \right),\end{aligned}$$

*mitut  
\* dey*

are directly controlled in terms of the energy momentum tensor.

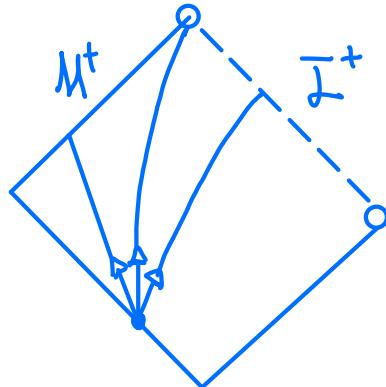
# The geodesic flow in Schwarzschild I

The geodesic equations for the null momentum coordinates are given by

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dp^u}{ds} &= \frac{2M}{r^2}(p^u)^2 - \frac{l^2}{2r^3}, \\ \frac{dp^v}{ds} &= -\frac{2M}{r^2}(p^v)^2 + \frac{l^2}{2r^3}, \\ \frac{dl}{ds} &= 0, \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

where  $l^2 := r^4 \gamma_{AB} p^A p^B$  is a conserved quantity along the flow, the so-called *angular momentum*. We obtain another conserved quantity along the flow given by the *energy*  $E := (1 - \frac{2M}{r})(p^u + p^v)$  since Schwarzschild is stationary.

$$p = \int_{p_x}^p \delta u dp_x$$



$$\frac{l^2}{E^2} - 27\mu^2$$

# The geodesic flow in Schwarzschild II

The geodesic equation for the radial coordinate is given by

$$\begin{cases} \dot{r} &= p^r, \\ \dot{p}^r &= \frac{l^2}{r^4}(r - 3M), \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

which admits a fixed point corresponding to the unique sphere where null geodesics can orbit, the so-called photon sphere.<sup>\*and bopp</sup>

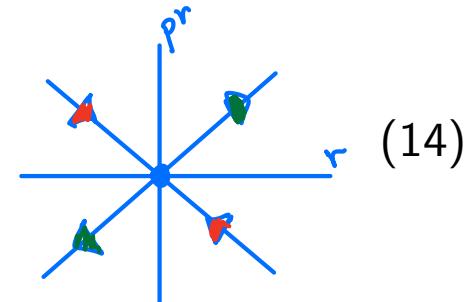
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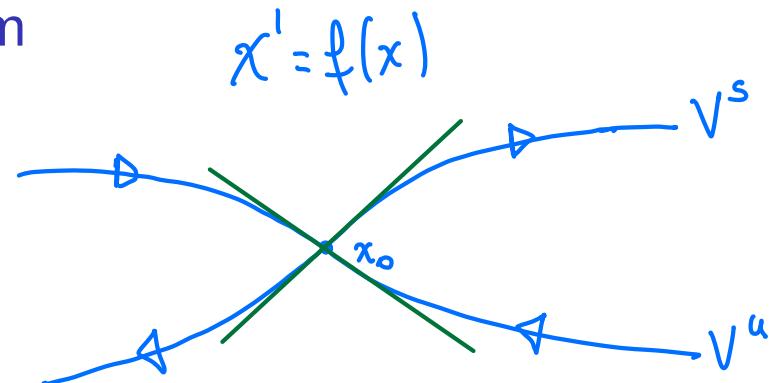
which admits a fixed point corresponding to the unique sphere where null geodesics can orbit, the so-called photon sphere. Linearizing around the fixed point, we obtain the system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{r} = p^r, \\ \dot{p}^r = \frac{l^2}{81M^4}(r - 3M), \end{cases}$$



which admits an hyperbolic fixed point.

# The stable manifold theorem

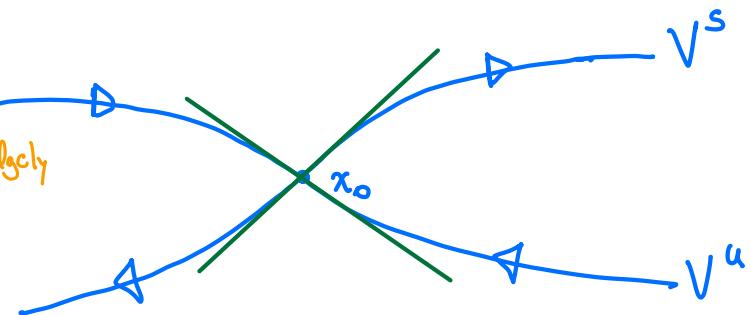


# The stable manifold theorem

$$V^s = \{x_0 \in B_1 : x(s) \in B_1 \ \forall s \geq 0\}$$

stably

$$V^u = \{x_0 \in B_1 : x(s) \in B_1 \ \forall s \leq 0\}$$



## Theorem (Hadamard-Perron)

Let  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a function of class  $C^k$ . Let  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be an hyperbolic fixed point for the equation

$$x' = f(x) \quad \text{stable} \quad (15)$$

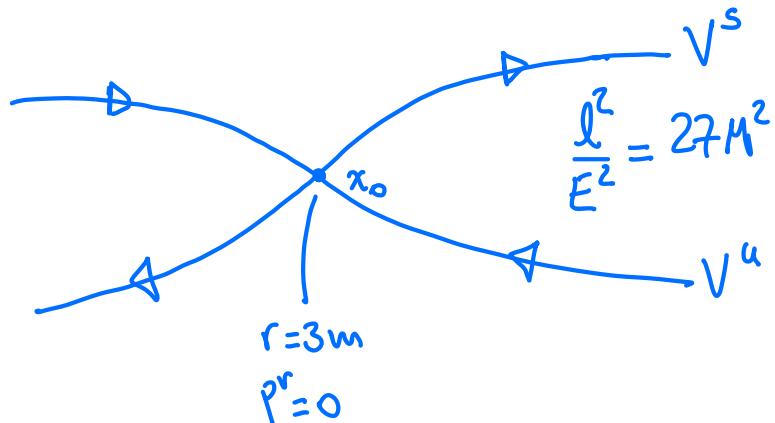
Then, there exists a neighbourhood  $B$  of  $x_0$  such that the sets  $V^s \cap B$  and  $V^u \cap B$  are manifolds of class  $C^k$  containing  $x_0$  and satisfying

$$T_{x_0}(V^s \cap B) = E^s \quad \text{and} \quad T_{x_0}(V^u \cap B) = E^u. \quad \text{stable} \quad (16)$$

# The stable manifold theorem

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{r} \\ \dot{p}_r \end{pmatrix} = f \begin{pmatrix} r \\ p_r \end{pmatrix}$$

- i)  $\text{codim}(B)$
- ii) Quant. good. control.



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$$T_{x_0}(V^s \cap B) = E^s \quad \text{and} \quad T_{x_0}(V^u \cap B) = E^u. \tag{16}$$

# Decay of the energy momentum tensor

Let us consider a fixed component of the stress energy momentum tensor of matter given by

$$T_{uv}(u, v) = \frac{\pi}{2r^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} (\Omega^2 p^u)(\Omega^2 p^v) f \frac{dp^v}{p^v} l dl. \quad (17)$$

The decay estimates for  $T_{uv}$  come from several features of the geodesic flow in Schwarzschild:

- ① The red-shift

$$\frac{dp^v}{ds} + \frac{2M}{r^2} (\rho^v)^2 = \frac{l^2}{2r^3}$$

- ② Future trapped geodesics

$$p^r$$

- ③ Decay towards null infinity

$$4 \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) p^u p^v = \frac{l^2}{r^2}$$

# Derivatives of the energy momentum tensor I

To estimate radial derivatives of the energy momentum tensor like

$$\partial_r T_{uv} = \frac{\pi}{2r^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} (\Omega^2 p^u)(\Omega^2 p^v) \partial_r f \frac{dp^v}{p^v} l dl + Err,$$

we require bounds for  $\partial_r f$ . For this purpose we estimate Jacobi fields on the mass-shell.

$$J(t) = \left. \frac{\partial \gamma_T(t)}{\partial T} \right|_{T=0}, \quad \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} J = R(\dot{\gamma}, J) \dot{\gamma}$$

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$$J(t) = \left. \frac{\partial \gamma_T(t)}{\partial T} \right|_{T=0}, \quad \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} J = R(\dot{\gamma}, J) \dot{\gamma}$$

Let  $V \in T\mathcal{P}$  be an arbitrary vector field on the mass-shell. By the Vlasov equation, we have

$$f(x_0, p_0) = f(x_s, p_s) =: f(\phi_s(x_0, p_0)) \quad (18)$$

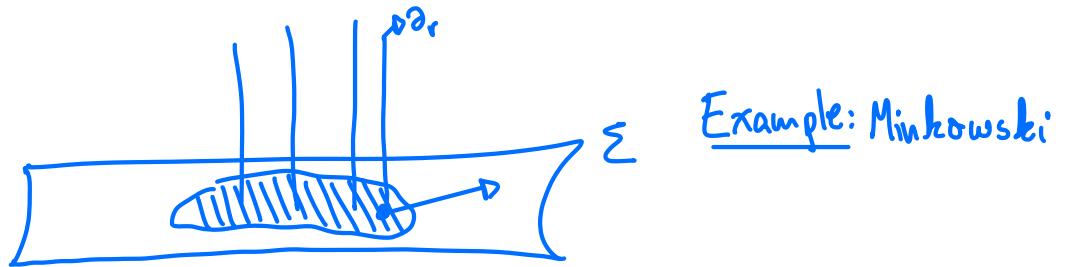
for every point  $(x_0, p_0)$  contained on the initial data.

# Derivatives of the energy momentum tensor II

As a result, we have

$$V(f)(x_s, p_s) = J(f)(x_0, p_0), \quad \text{J grow} \Rightarrow \partial f \text{ decay} \quad (19)$$

where  $J := d\phi_{-s}|_{(x_s, p_s)}(V)$  is a *Jacobi field on the mass shell* along a fixed geodesic  $\gamma$ .

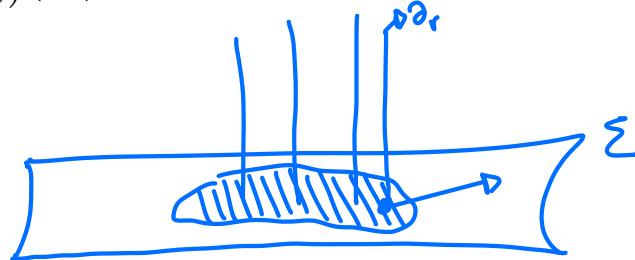


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A *Jacobi field on the mass shell* is a vector field along a geodesic which satisfies the so-called *Jacobi equation* given by

$$\widehat{\nabla}_{X_*} \widehat{\nabla}_X J = \widehat{R}(X, J)X, \quad (20)$$

where  $\widehat{\nabla}_X$  is the connection over the mass-shell. <sup>\*geo,Jcb.</sup>

# Jacobi fields along the photon sphere

Let  $\gamma$  be a null geodesic contained in the equatorial plane of the photon sphere. Then,

$$\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \partial_r = \frac{1}{3M} \dot{\gamma}. \quad (21)$$

We are interested in Jacobi fields transversal to the flow so we work in the quotient of the mass-shell  $\mathcal{P}$  by  $\text{span}\{\dot{\gamma}\}$ .

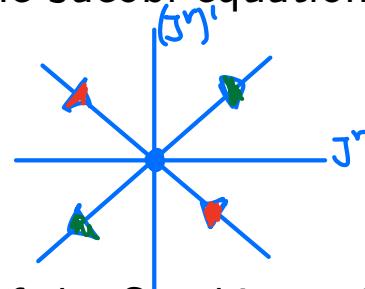
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$$\frac{d^2 J^r}{ds^2} = \frac{l^2}{81M^4} J^r(s).$$



A similar computation on the mass-shell in terms of the Sasaki metric shows the same equation for the components  $J^H$  and  $J^V$  of a radial Jacobi field  $J := J^H \text{Hor}(\partial_r) + J^V \text{Ver}(\partial_r)$ .

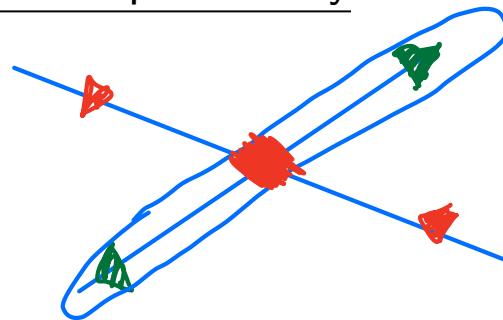
\*dr can grow!

# Derivatives of the energy momentum tensor II

Let us investigate the value along the photon sphere of the term

$$\frac{\pi}{2r^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} (\Omega^2 p^u)(\Omega^2 p^v) V f \frac{dp^v}{p^v} l dl \Big|_{r=3m} \quad (22)$$

contained in the derivative  $\partial_r T_{uv}$  of the energy momentum tensor. By the computation of Jacobi fields along the photon sphere, we know that Jacobi fields grow or shrink exponentially fast at  $\{r = 3m\}$ .

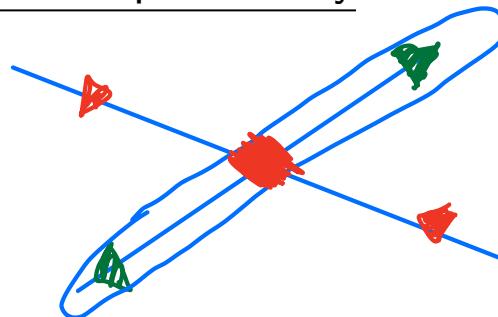


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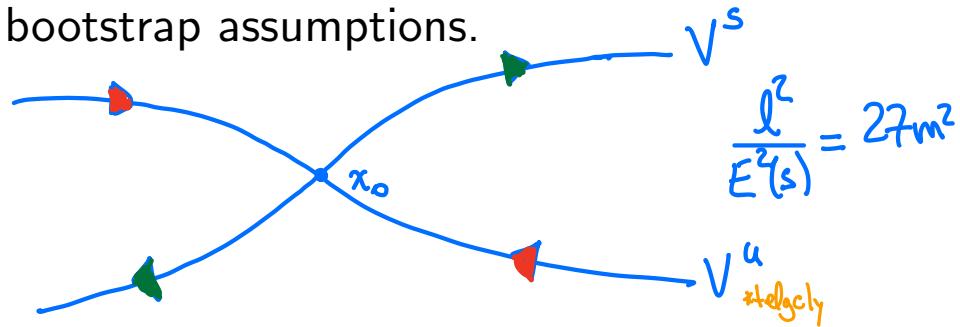
contained in the derivative  $\partial_r T_{uv}$  of the energy momentum tensor. By the computation of Jacobi fields along the photon sphere, we know that Jacobi fields grow or shrink exponentially fast at  $\{r = 3m\}$ .



The set of Jacobi fields growing exponentially are concentrated in a small region of  $\mathcal{P}_x$ ! outcome: JT

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$$\begin{cases} \dot{r} &= p^r, \\ \dot{p}^r &= \frac{l^2}{r^4}(r - 3m) - 4\pi r \left( T_{uu}(p^u)^2 - 2T_{uv}p^u p^v + T_{vv}(p^v)^2 \right), \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

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where  $l^2 := r^4 \gamma_{AB} p^A p^B$  is the angular momentum of a geodesic and  $m(u, v)$  is the Hawking mass. Although,  $T$  is not Killing anymore, we can still work with the *energy of a geodesic*  $\gamma$

$$E(s) := -g(T, \dot{\gamma}) = -\partial_u r p^u(s) + \partial_v r p^v(s). \quad (24)$$

# The nonlinear difficulties II

Remarkably, the derivative of the energy satisfies

$$\frac{dE}{ds} = 4\pi r \left( (p^u)^2 T_{uu} - (p^v)^2 T_{vv} \right). \quad (25)$$

# The nonlinear difficulties II

Remarkably, the derivative of the energy satisfies

$$\frac{dE}{ds} = 4\pi r \left( (p^u)^2 T_{uu} - (p^v)^2 T_{vv} \right). \quad (25)$$

However, we still need estimates for the Jacobi fields around  $\{r = 3m\}$ .

Mimicking the previous computation in Schwarzschild, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \partial_r &= \frac{\Omega^2 m}{2r^2} \left[ \frac{p^v}{(\partial_u r)^2} \partial_u + \frac{p^u}{(\partial_v r)^2} \partial_v \right] + \frac{2}{r} (p^\phi \partial_\phi + p^\theta \partial_\theta) \\ &\quad + 4\pi r \left[ \frac{p^u T_{uu} - p^v T_{uv}}{(\partial_u r)^2} \partial_u + \frac{p^v T_{vv} - p^u T_{uv}}{(\partial_v r)^2} \partial_v \right], \end{aligned}$$

which has many error terms. Several more error terms come out when studying Jacobi fields on the mass shell.

# The nonlinear difficulties III

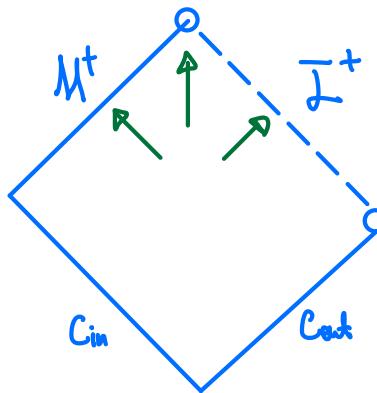
Furthermore, for every future trapped geodesic there are Jacobi fields for which

$$\frac{d^2 J^r}{ds^2} = \frac{l^2}{81m^4} J^r(s) + Err$$

around  $r = 3m$ . Similarly, for Jacobi fields on the mass shell.

We do not go into further details on the errors contained in the Jacobi equation, however, we find several terms involving  $T$  and  $\partial T$  where the bootstrap assumptions come into place.

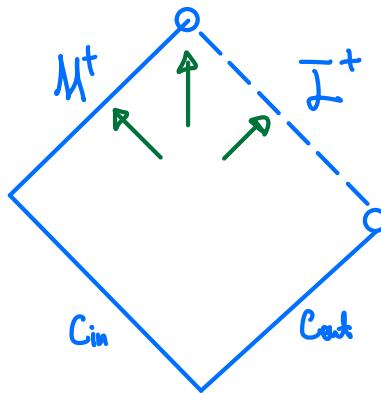
# Asymptotic stability of Schwarzschild



## Theorem (V.)

The exterior of the Schwarzschild family is asymptotically stable as a solution of the spherically symmetric Einstein–massless Vlasov system. More precisely, for every initial data sufficiently close to Schwarzschild, the resulting solution asymptotes exponentially to another member of the Schwarzschild family.

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Thank you for your attention!