

Retiring the third law of black hole thermodynamics

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Classical thermodynamics

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Zeroth	T constant throughout body in thermal equilibrium

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First	$dE = TdS + \text{work terms } (PdV)$
Second	$\delta S \geq 0$ in any process
Third	Impossible to achieve $T = 0$ in finite time

Black hole thermodynamics

Commun. math. Phys. 31, 161–170 (1973)
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The Four Laws of Black Hole Mechanics

J. M. Bardeen*

Department of Physics, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

B. Carter and S. W. Hawking

Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge, England

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- ▶ What is a black hole?
- ▶ What is the analogue of temperature T ?
- ▶ What is the analogue of entropy S ?

Crash course on black holes: Spacetimes and Einstein's equations

The setting is Einstein's theory of general relativity. A **spacetime** consists of a 4-manifold \mathcal{M}^{3+1} and a Lorentzian metric g satisfying the **Einstein field equations**

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Example: Minkowski space. $\mathcal{M}^{3+1} = \mathbb{R}_{t,x,y,z}^{3+1}$ and

$$g = -dt^2 + dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

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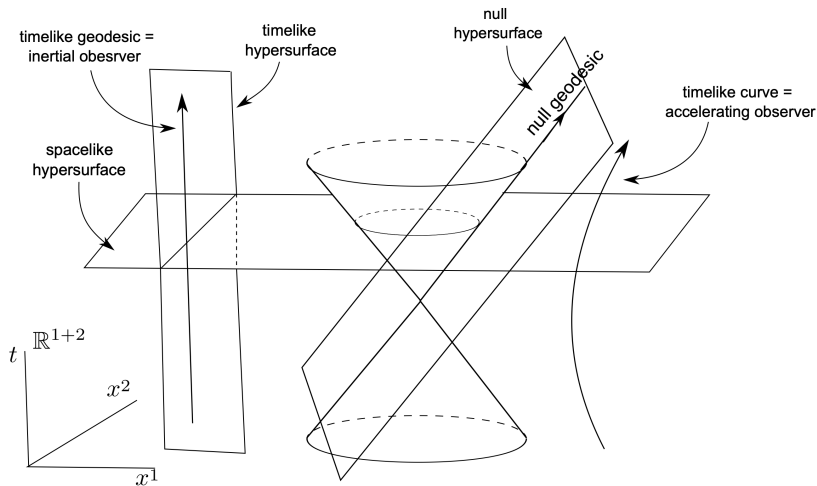
This metric describes the geometry of special relativity with speed of light $c = 1$.

Given a vector $v \in T_p\mathcal{M}$:

- ▶ $g(v, v) < 0$, v is *timelike*
- ▶ $g(v, v) = 0$, v is *null*
- ▶ $g(v, v) > 0$, v is *spacelike*

Curves with null or timelike tangent vector let us define **causality** on a spacetime.

Crash course on black holes: Geometry of Minkowski space



Crash course on black holes: What is a black hole?

Asymptotic flatness: g approaches the Minkowski metric “at infinity.”

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$$\mathcal{BH} \subset \mathcal{M}$$

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- ▶ Dynamics in general relativity is properly phrased in terms of the *Cauchy problem*
- ▶ *Cauchy data*: induced (Riemannian) geometry on a spacelike hypersurface (Σ^3, g_0, k_0) together with initial data for matter fields

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Theorem (Choquet-Bruhat '52, Choquet-Bruhat–Geroch '69).

Any Cauchy data $(\Sigma^3, g_0, k_0, \text{matter})$ for the Einstein equations coupled to a suitable matter model admits a unique maximal globally hyperbolic development which solves the Einstein field equations

$$\text{Ric}(g) - \frac{1}{2}R(g)g = 2T.$$

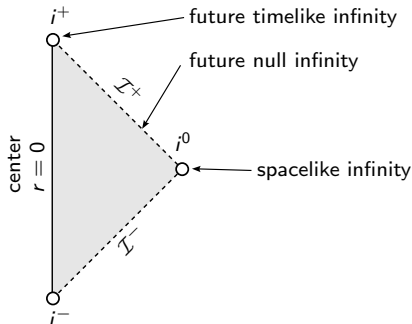
Crash course on black holes: Penrose diagrams

Penrose diagrams: A $(1 + 1)$ -dimensional diagrammatic representation of spacetimes. This is particularly useful for visualizing causality.

Crash course on black holes: Penrose diagrams

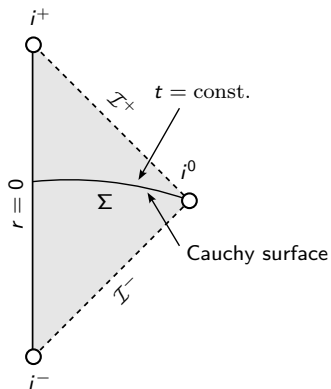
Penrose diagrams: A $(1 + 1)$ -dimensional diagrammatic representation of spacetimes. This is particularly useful for visualizing causality.

- ▶ 45 degree lines correspond to null hypersurfaces in $(3 + 1)$ dimensions
- ▶ steeper than 45: timelike
- ▶ shallower than 45: spacelike

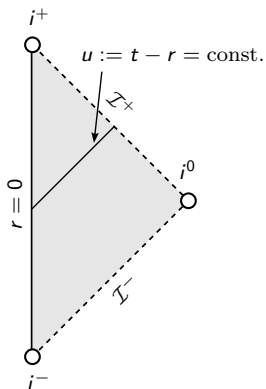


Penrose diagram of Minkowski space

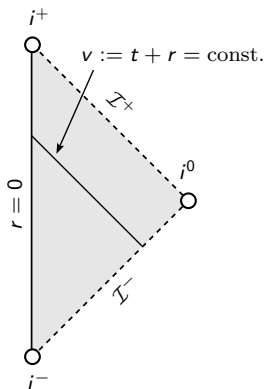
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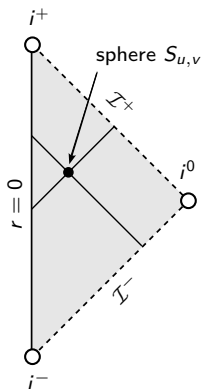
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Crash course on black holes: The Schwarzschild solution

- Mass $M > 0$

$$g_M = - \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

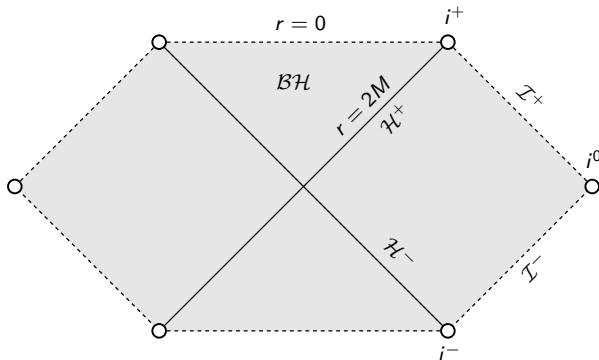
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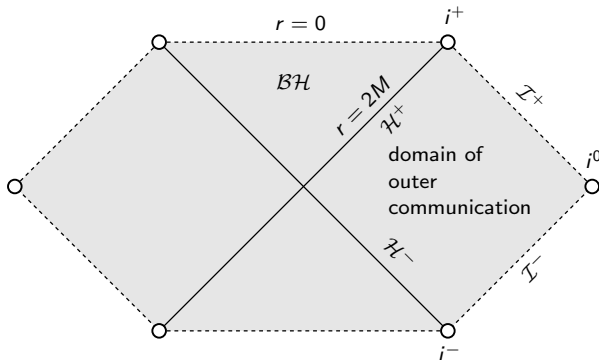


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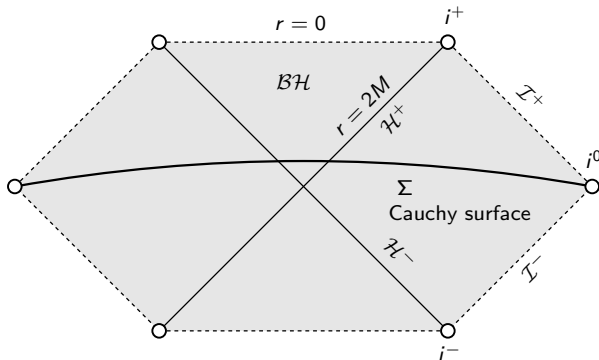


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Crash course on black holes: Reissner–Nordström

- Mass $M > 0$ and charge $0 \leq |e| \leq M$

$$g_{M,e} = - \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \frac{e^2}{r^2} \right) dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \frac{e^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

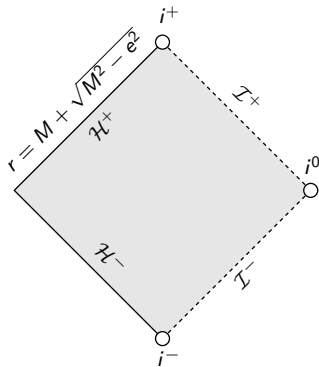
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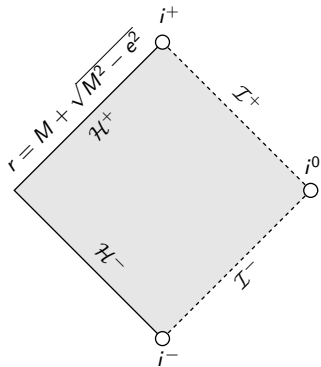
Subextremal $|e| < M$

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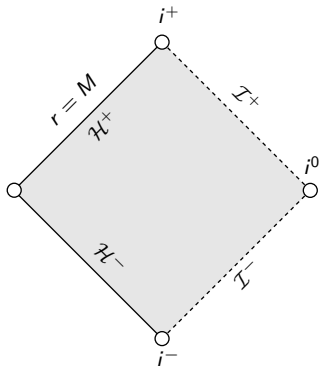
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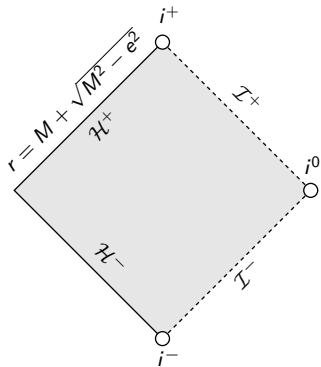
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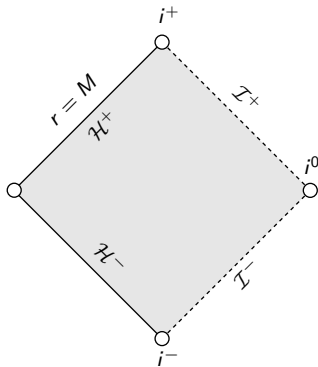
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Subextremal $|e| < M$



Extremal $|e| = M$

Superextremal $|e| > M$. Does not contain a black hole!

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- ▶ The celebrated **Kerr** family also has subextremal and extremal members

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- ▶ Hawking radiation—interpret $\kappa \propto T$
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- ▶ Laws 0, 1, and 2 proved (when suitably interpreted!) by Hawking, Carter, Bardeen–Carter–Hawking, Wald

Retiring the third law

Original formulation of Bardeen–Carter–Hawking:

Extending the analogy even further one would postulate:

The Third Law

It is impossible by any procedure, no matter how idealized, to reduce κ to zero by a finite sequence of operations.

Retiring the third law

Conjecture (The third law, BCH '73, Israel '86).

*A subextremal black hole cannot become extremal in finite time by any continuous process, no matter how idealized, in which the spacetime and matter fields remain **regular** and obey the **weak energy condition**.*

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Subextremal black holes can become extremal in finite time, evolving from regular initial data. In particular, the “third law of black hole thermodynamics” is false.

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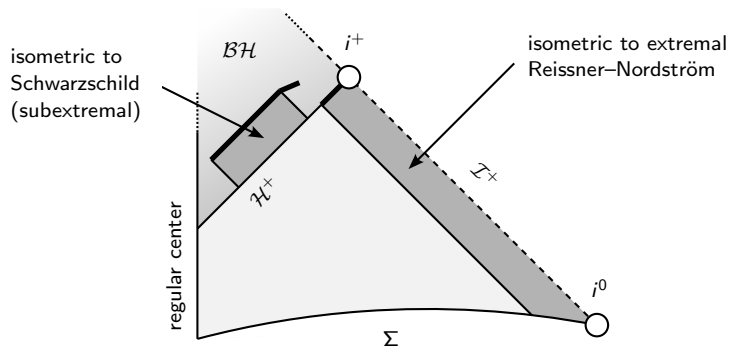
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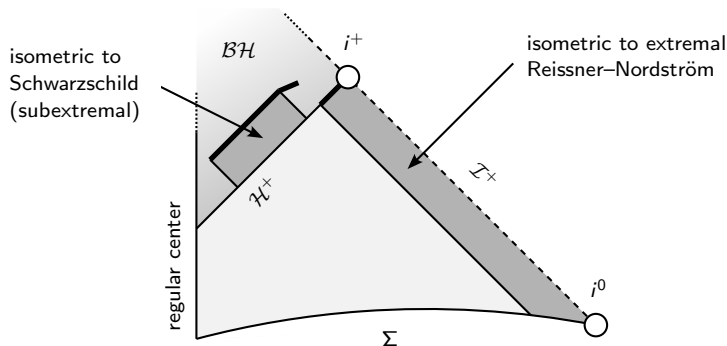
More precisely, there exist regular solutions of the Einstein–Maxwell-charged scalar field system with the following behavior:

Retiring the third law



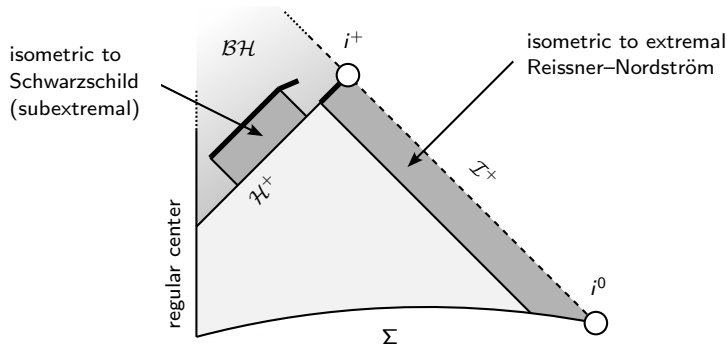
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- ▶ Forms an exactly Schwarzschild “apparent horizon”
- ▶ Forms an exactly extremal Reissner–Nordström event horizon at a later advanced time
- ▶ The solution is arbitrarily regular: for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a C^k example

The strategy

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The black hole region \mathcal{BH} and event horizon \mathcal{H}^+ of a spacetime are **teleological** notions—they can't be known to exist, much less be located, *without knowing the entire future of the spacetime*.

Einstein–Maxwell-charged scalar field system

- ▶ Lorentzian manifold (\mathcal{M}^{3+1}, g)
- ▶ 2-form $F = dA$ (electromagnetism)
- ▶ Charged (complex) scalar field ϕ

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- Equations:

$$R_{\mu\nu}(g) - \frac{1}{2}R(g)g_{\mu\nu} = 2 \left(T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{EM}} + T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{CSF}} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = 2\epsilon \operatorname{Im}(\phi \overline{D_\nu \phi}) \quad (2)$$

$$g^{\mu\nu} D_\mu D_\nu \phi = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{EM}} = g^{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\nu} F_{\beta\mu} - \frac{1}{4} F^{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} g_{\mu\nu} \quad (4)$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{CSF}} = \operatorname{Re}(D_\mu \phi \overline{D_\nu \phi}) - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} g^{\alpha\beta} D_\alpha \phi \overline{D_\beta \phi} \quad (5)$$

- In an appropriate gauge, this is a nonlinear hyperbolic system for (g, F, ϕ)

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- 2-form $F = dA$ (electromagnetism)
- Charged (complex) scalar field ϕ
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$$\nabla^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = 2e \operatorname{Im}(\phi \overline{D_\nu \phi}) \quad (2)$$

$$g^{\mu\nu} D_\mu D_\nu \phi = 0 \quad (3)$$

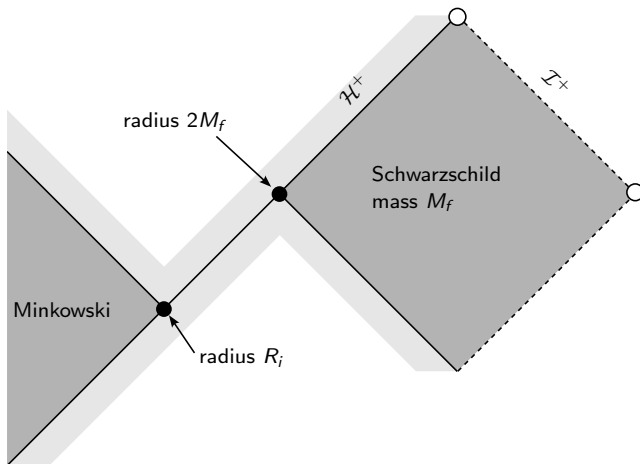
$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{EM}} = g^{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\nu} F_{\beta\mu} - \frac{1}{4} F^{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} g_{\mu\nu} \quad (4)$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{CSF}} = \operatorname{Re}(D_\mu \phi \overline{D_\nu \phi}) - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} g^{\alpha\beta} D_\alpha \phi \overline{D_\beta \phi} \quad (5)$$

- In an appropriate gauge, this is a nonlinear hyperbolic system for (g, F, ϕ)
- Spherical symmetry!

Prototype: Minkowski to Schwarzschild gluing

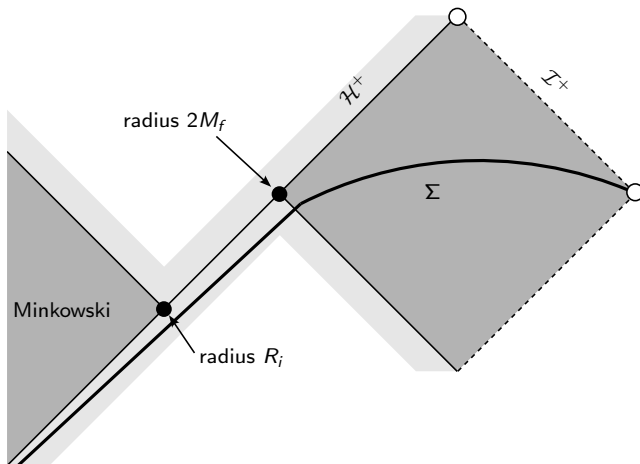
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We now fix a spacetime (\mathcal{M}^{3+1}, g) and consider the **linear wave equation**

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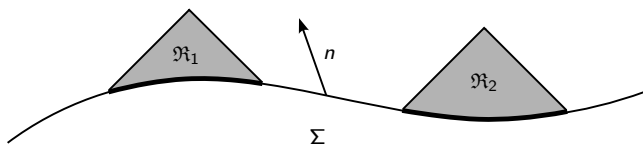
solving $(*)$, such that

$$\phi|_{\mathfrak{R}_1} = \phi_1$$

$$\phi|_{\mathfrak{R}_2} = \phi_2 ?$$

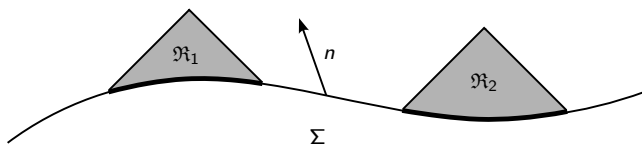
Spacelike gluing for the linear wave equation

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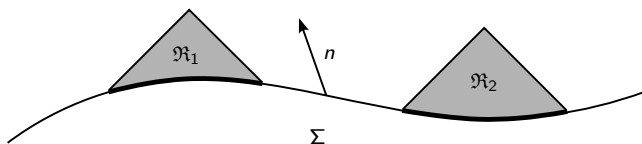
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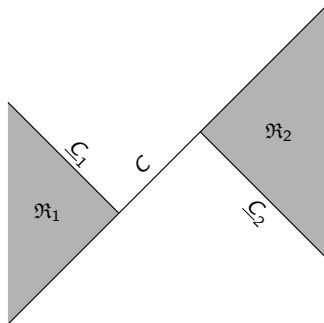
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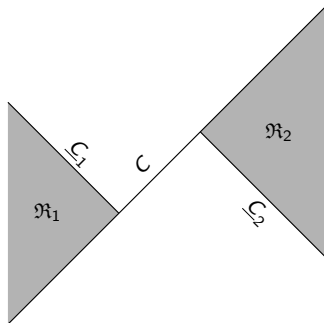
Analogue for the Einstein equations is a highly nontrivial problem in elliptic PDE!

(Corvino–Schoen, Chruściel–Delay, Li–Yu, Carlotto–Schoen, Li–Mei, Hintz, ...)

Characteristic/null gluing for the linear wave equation



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Analogy:

- ▶ \mathfrak{R}_1 is Minkowski
- ▶ \mathfrak{R}_2 is Schwarzschild
- ▶ C will be the event horizon \mathcal{H}^+

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Bifurcate null hypersurface: $C \cup \underline{C}$ where C and \underline{C} meet transversally, $C \cap \underline{C} \approx S^2$

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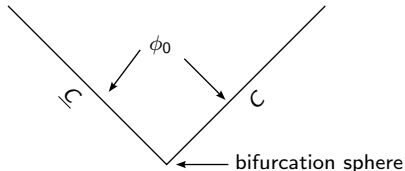
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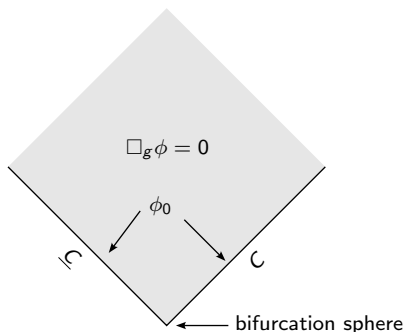
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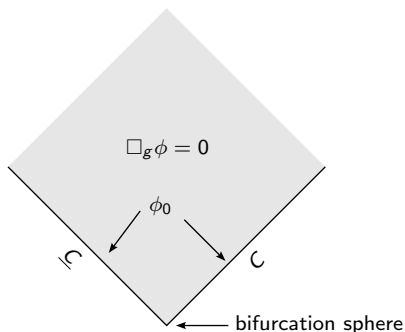
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Characteristic data for the wave equation does not involve derivatives.

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- ▶ $(*)$ lets us compute ϕ to arbitrarily high order on C

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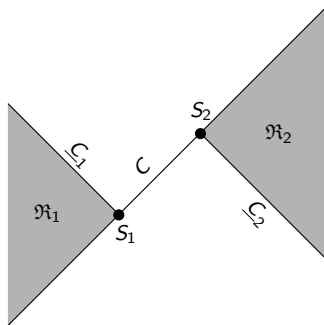
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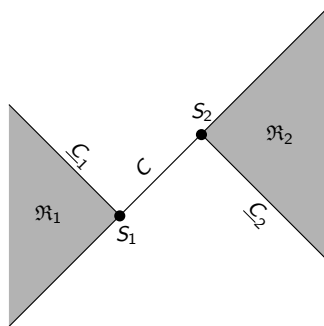
These equations have become known as the *null “constraints”* and are very distinct from the “usual” constraint equations for Einstein. (The Einstein equations in double null gauge also have true constraints which are more reminiscent of the spacelike constraints.)

Back to characteristic gluing



The C^k characteristic gluing problem reduces to:

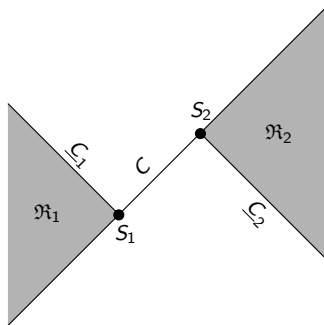
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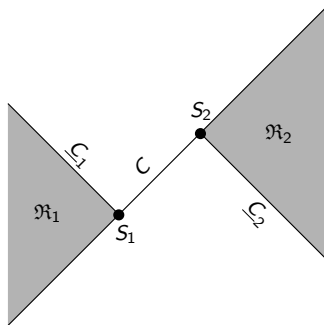
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- ▶ Initial/boundary value problem for a system of coupled ODEs where you are allowed to (almost) freely prescribe the potential

Previous work on characteristic gluing

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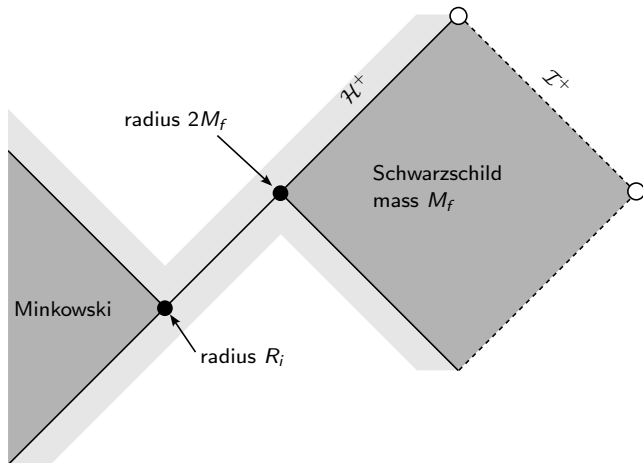
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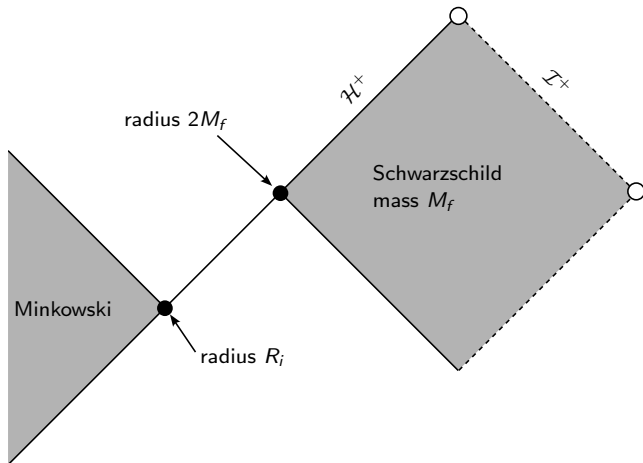
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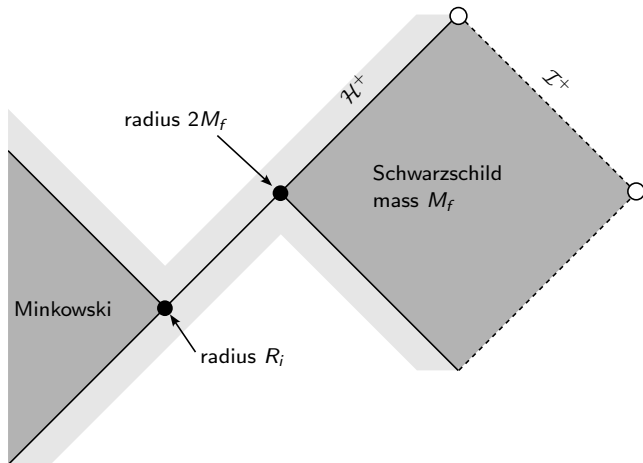
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Einstein-scalar field in spherical symmetry

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► Raychaudhuri's equations (constraints)

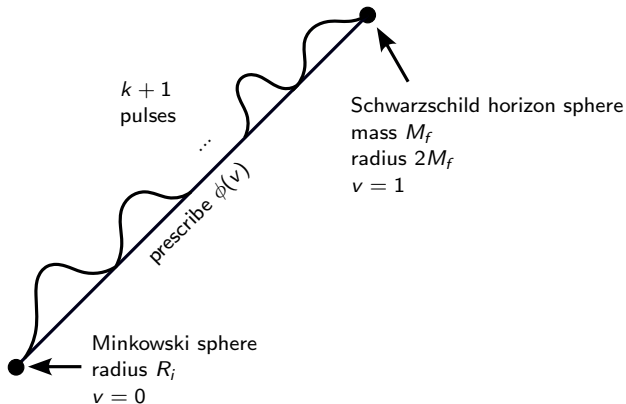
$$\partial_u \left(\frac{\partial_u r}{\Omega^2} \right) = -\frac{r}{\Omega^2} (\partial_u \phi)^2 \quad (9)$$

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Minkowski to Schwarzschild gluing

Theorem (Kehle–U. '22).

For any $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 < R_i < 2M_f$, the Minkowski sphere of radius R_i can be characteristically glued to the Schwarzschild event horizon sphere with mass M_f to order C^k within the Einstein-scalar field model in spherical symmetry.



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- ▶ Initialize $r(v)$ teleologically at $v = 1$ ($\partial_v r(0)$ is a gauge choice, but $\partial_v r(1) = 0!$)
- ▶ For each α , generate $r(v)$, $\partial_u r(v)$, $\partial_u \phi_\alpha(v)$, etc.
- ▶ The antipodal map $\alpha \mapsto -\alpha$ leaves geometric quantities fixed (r , Ω^2 , and derivatives)
- ▶ The antipodal map $\alpha \mapsto -\alpha$ changes the sign of the scalar field and its derivatives
- ▶ In particular, the map

$$\alpha \mapsto \left(\partial_u \phi_\alpha(1), \dots, \partial_u^k \phi_\alpha(1) \right)$$

Idea of the proof

- ▶ Null constraint system becomes a coupled nonlinear system of ODEs sourced by $\phi(v)$
- ▶ Scalar field ansatz

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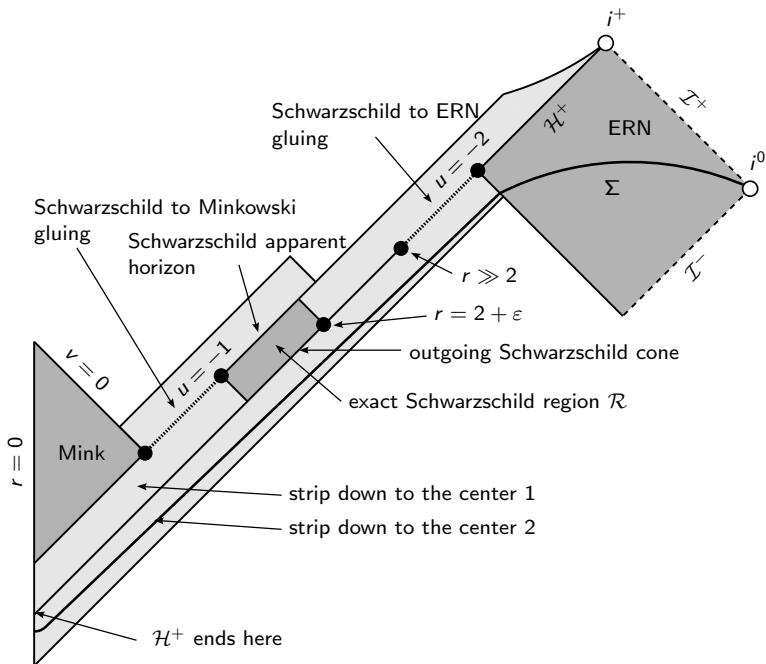
$$\alpha \mapsto \left(\partial_u \phi_\alpha(1), \dots, \partial_u^k \phi_\alpha(1) \right)$$

is odd

- ▶ **Borsuk–Ulam theorem:** there exists α_* such that

$$\left(\partial_u \phi_{\alpha_*}(1), \dots, \partial_u^k \phi_{\alpha_*}(1) \right) = 0.$$

Disproof of the third law



Future directions

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Conjecture.

There exist Cauchy data for the Einstein vacuum equations

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which undergo gravitational collapse and form an exactly Schwarzschild apparent horizon, only for the spacetime to form an exactly extremal Kerr event horizon at a later advanced time. In particular, already in vacuum, the “third law of black hole thermodynamics” is false.

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Thank you!