

Teukolsky formalism for nonlinear Kerr perturbations

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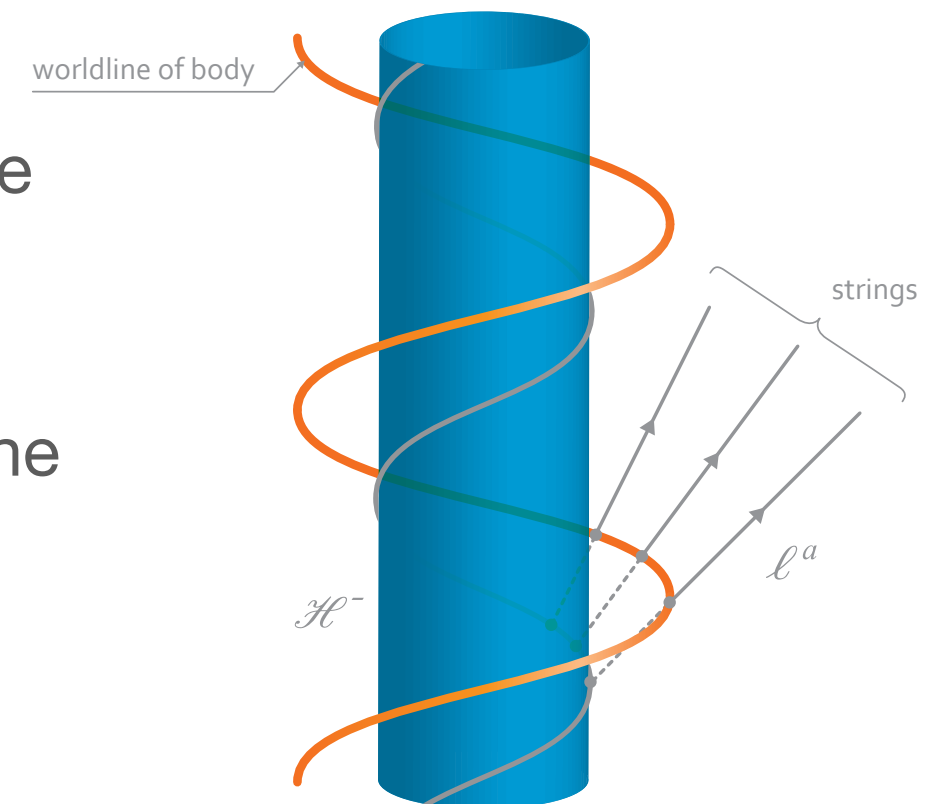
based on Class. Quantum Grav. **37** (2020) 075001 (arXiv:1908.09095)
with S. Hollands and P. Zimmerman

“23rd Capra Meeting on Radiation Reaction in General Relativity”
University of Texas at Austin / Internet
June 24, 2020

Motivation

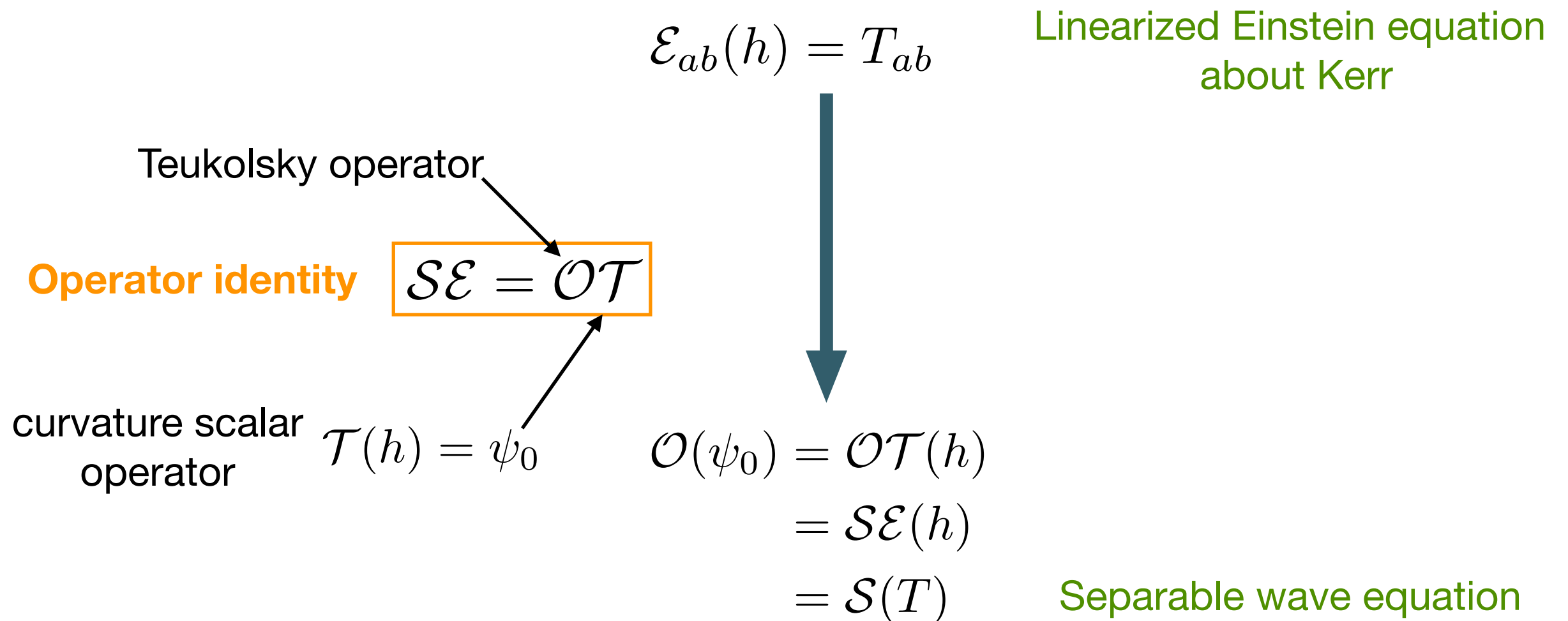
$$\mathcal{E}^{\text{Kerr}}(h_{ab}) = T_{ab}$$

- Calculate **metric perturbations** from point **sources** in Kerr in a **Teukolsky framework**.
- Standard CCK reconstruction fails in the presence of sources:
 - No first-order solution in the “shadow” of the source [Ori (2003)].
 - Second-order source nonvanishing everywhere \implies No solution anywhere.



Teukolsky operator formalism

- In Kerr, the linearized Einstein equation reduces to a separable wave equation for a curvature scalar



$$\mathcal{O}(\psi_0) = 2 \left[(\mathfrak{p} - 4\rho - \bar{\rho})(\mathfrak{p}' - \rho') - (\mathfrak{d} - 4\tau - \bar{\tau}')(\mathfrak{d}' - \tau') - 3\Psi_2 \right] \psi_0$$

Hertz potential

- Typically **need metric perturbation h_{ab}** , not just Weyl scalar ψ_0 .

- **Adjoint identity:**

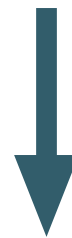
$$\mathcal{S}\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{O}\mathcal{T} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{E}\mathcal{S}^\dagger = \mathcal{T}^\dagger\mathcal{O}^\dagger$$

- Enables metric construction in vacuum

$$\mathcal{O}^\dagger\Phi = 0$$

s=-2 Teukolsky equation

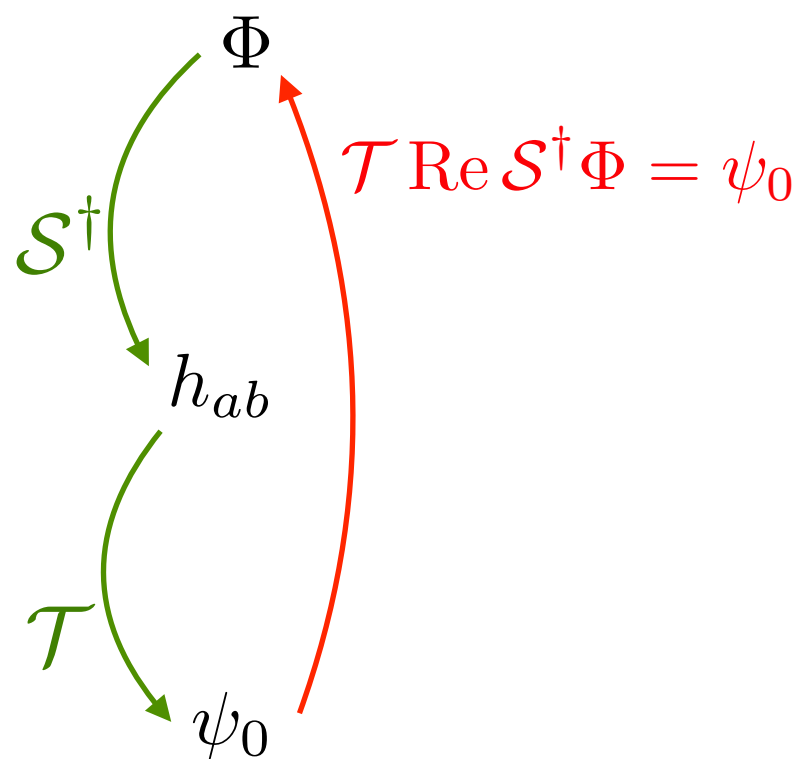
$\Phi =$ **Hertz potential**



$$\mathcal{E}_{ab}(h) = 0$$

$$h_{ab} = \text{Re } \mathcal{S}^\dagger\Phi$$

Two problems



Hertz potential: $\mathcal{O}^\dagger(\Phi) = 0$

metric perturbation: $\mathcal{E}_{ab}(h) = 0$

Weyl scalar: $\mathcal{O}(\psi_0) = 0$

1. **Inversion** $\psi_0 \rightarrow \Phi$ requires integration of 4th order ordinary differential equation, subject to adjoint Teukolsky for Φ .
2. **Vacuum only**: h_{ab} in **ingoing radiation gauge** (IRG), and $\mathcal{E}_{ll}(h^{\text{IRG}}) = 0$

Main result

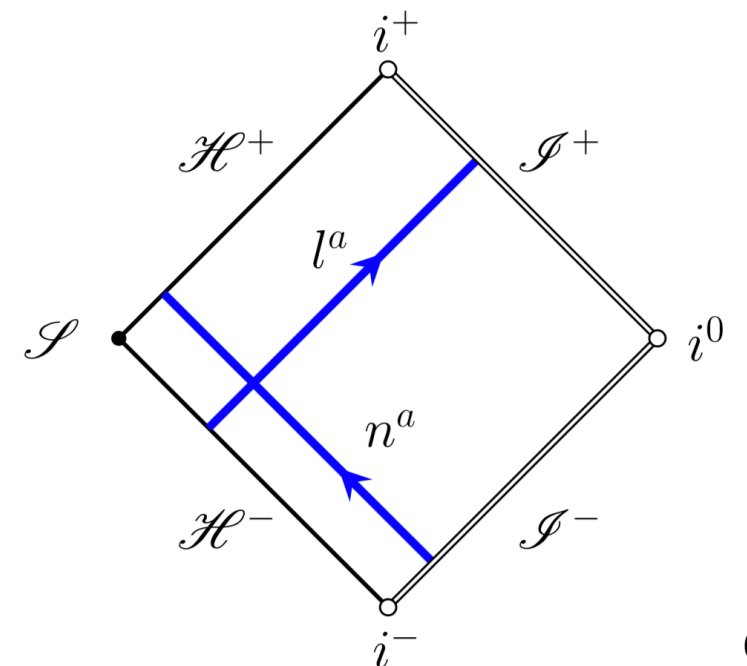
- We show that h_{ab} satisfying $\mathcal{E}_{ab}(h) = T_{ab}$ can be decomposed as

$$h_{ab} = \mathcal{L}_\xi g_{ab} + \dot{g}_{ab} + \boxed{x_{ab}} + \text{Re } \mathcal{S}_{ab}^\dagger \Phi$$

gauge \nearrow $\mathcal{L}_\xi g_{ab}$ \nwarrow zero mode \nearrow \dot{g}_{ab} \nwarrow $\boxed{x_{ab}}$ \nearrow Hertz potential satisfying Teukolsky equation **with source** \nwarrow $\mathcal{S}_{ab}^\dagger \Phi$

“corrector” tensor:

- obtained by integrating 3 decoupled ordinary differential equations along outgoing principal null directions



Sketch of proof

1. Make a gauge transformation to set $h_{ab}l^b = 0$ (always possible).
2. Pick x_{ab} to cancel off problematic components of T_{ab} ,

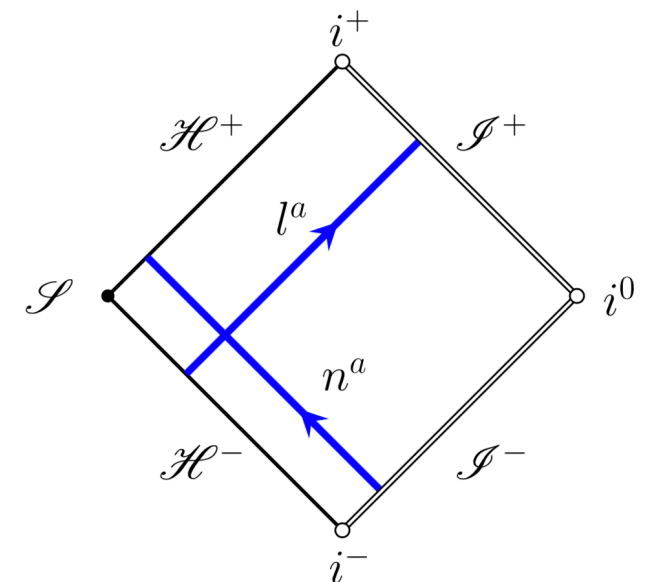
$$(T_{ab} - \mathcal{E}_{ab}(x)) l^b = 0$$

- Ansatz $x_{ab} = 2m_{(a}\bar{m}_{b)}x_{m\bar{m}} - 2l_{(a}\bar{m}_{b)}x_{nm} - 2l_{(a}m_{b)}x_{n\bar{m}} + l_al_bx_{nn}$

- Obtain nested set of ODEs along l^a :

$$(i) \quad \{b(b - \rho - \bar{\rho}) + 2\rho\bar{\rho}\}x_{m\bar{m}} = T_{ll}$$

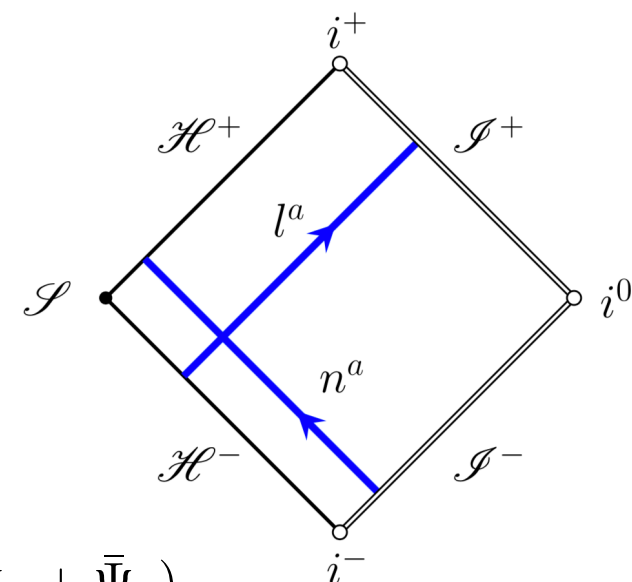
→ obtain $x_{m\bar{m}}$



Sketch of proof

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(ii)} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \{ \mathfrak{p}(\mathfrak{p} - 2\rho) + 2\bar{\rho}(\rho - \bar{\rho}) \} x_{nm} \\
 & = T_{lm} - \frac{1}{2} \{ (\mathfrak{p} + \rho - \bar{\rho})(\eth + \bar{\tau}' - \tau) + 2\bar{\tau}'(\mathfrak{p} - 2\rho) - (\eth - \tau - \bar{\tau}')\bar{\rho} + 2\rho\tau \} x_{m\bar{m}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

→ obtain x_{nm}



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(iii)} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \{ \rho(\mathfrak{p} - \rho) + \bar{\rho}(\mathfrak{p} - \bar{\rho}) \} x_{nn} \\
 & = T_{ln} - \frac{1}{2} \{ (\eth' + \tau' - \bar{\tau})(\eth - \tau + \bar{\tau}') + (\eth' \eth - \tau\tau' - \bar{\tau}\bar{\tau}' + \tau\bar{\tau}) - (\Psi_2 + \bar{\Psi}_2) \\
 & \quad + (\mathfrak{p}' - 2\rho')\bar{\rho} + (\mathfrak{p} - 2\bar{\rho})\rho' + \rho(3\mathfrak{p}' - 2\bar{\rho}') + \bar{\rho}'(3\mathfrak{p} - 2\rho) \\
 & \quad - 2\mathfrak{p}'\mathfrak{p} + 2\rho\bar{\rho}' + 2\eth'(\tau) - \tau\bar{\tau} \} x_{m\bar{m}} \\
 & \quad - \frac{1}{2} \{ (\mathfrak{p} - 2\rho)(\eth' - \bar{\tau}) + (\tau' + \bar{\tau})(\mathfrak{p} + \bar{\rho}) - 2(\eth' - \tau')\rho - 2\bar{\tau}\mathfrak{p} \} x_{nm} \\
 & \quad - \frac{1}{2} \{ (\mathfrak{p} - 2\bar{\rho})(\eth - \tau) + (\bar{\tau}' + \tau)(\mathfrak{p} + \rho) - 2(\eth - \bar{\tau}')\bar{\rho} - 2\tau\mathfrak{p} \} x_{n\bar{m}}
 \end{aligned}$$

→ obtain x_{nn}

Sketch of proof

3. Redefine $h_{ab} \rightarrow h_{ab} - x_{ab}$

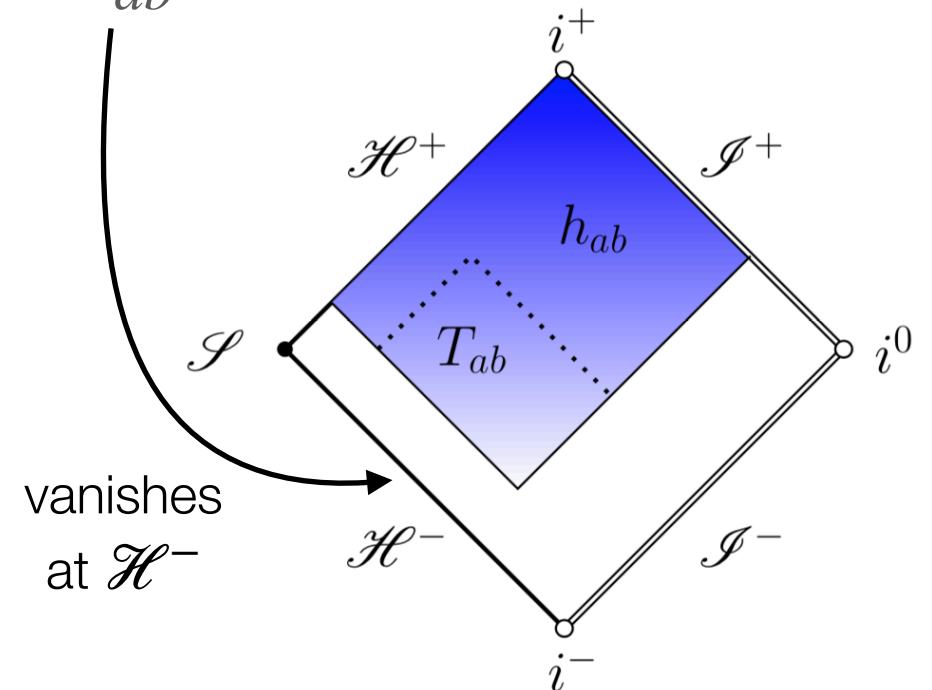
Then: $h_{ab}l^b = 0$ and $\mathcal{E}_{ab}(h) = S_{ab} \equiv T_{ab} - \mathcal{E}_{ab}(x)$

$$S_{ab}l^b = 0$$

4. Assume T_{ab} smooth with compact support, and h_{ab} retarded solution.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \mathcal{E}_{ll}(h) \\ &= (\mathfrak{p} - 2\rho)(\mathfrak{p} + \rho - \bar{\rho})h_{m\bar{m}} \\ &\implies h_{\bar{m}m} = 0 \text{ everywhere} \end{aligned}$$

Metric is in IRG automatically!



Sketch of proof

5. Finally, show

$$h_{ab} = \text{Re } \mathcal{S}_{ab}^\dagger \Phi$$

for some Hertz potential Φ .

i.e.,

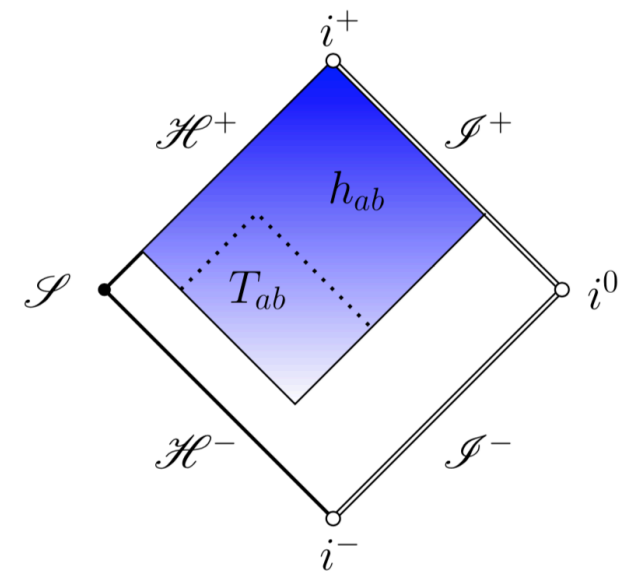
solve this ODE first for Φ

$$h_{\bar{m}\bar{m}} = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathfrak{p} - \rho)(\mathfrak{p} + 3\rho)\Phi,$$

$$h_{\bar{m}n} = -\frac{1}{4}\{(\mathfrak{p} - \rho + \bar{\rho})(\mathfrak{d} + 3\tau) + (\mathfrak{d} - \tau + \bar{\tau}')(\mathfrak{p} + 3\rho)\}\Phi,$$

$$h_{nn} = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathfrak{d} - \tau)(\mathfrak{d} + 3\tau)\Phi + \text{c.c.}$$

these hold near \mathcal{H}^- automatically, and everywhere by similar arguments to previous slide



Teukolsky equation for Φ

- We established the decomposition,

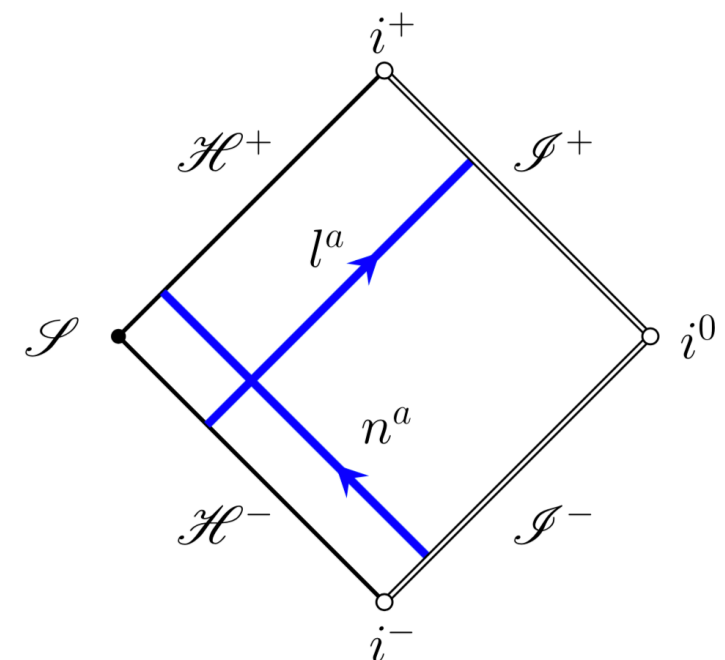
$$h_{ab} = \mathcal{L}_\xi g_{ab} + \dot{g}_{ab} + x_{ab} + \text{Re } \mathcal{S}_{ab}^\dagger \Phi$$

Apply Einstein operator and use operator identity,

$$\implies \text{Re } \mathcal{T}_{ab}^\dagger \mathcal{O}^\dagger \Phi = S_{ab}$$

- Thus $\mathcal{O}^\dagger \Phi = \eta$ with source satisfying $\text{Re } \mathcal{T}_{ab}^\dagger \eta = S_{ab}$
- Obtain η by integrating $\bar{m}\bar{m}$ component,

$$\frac{1}{4} (\mathfrak{p} - \rho)(\mathfrak{p} - \rho)\eta = S_{\bar{m}\bar{m}}$$



Summary

- To obtain metric perturbation solving $\mathcal{E}_{ab}(h) = T_{ab}$

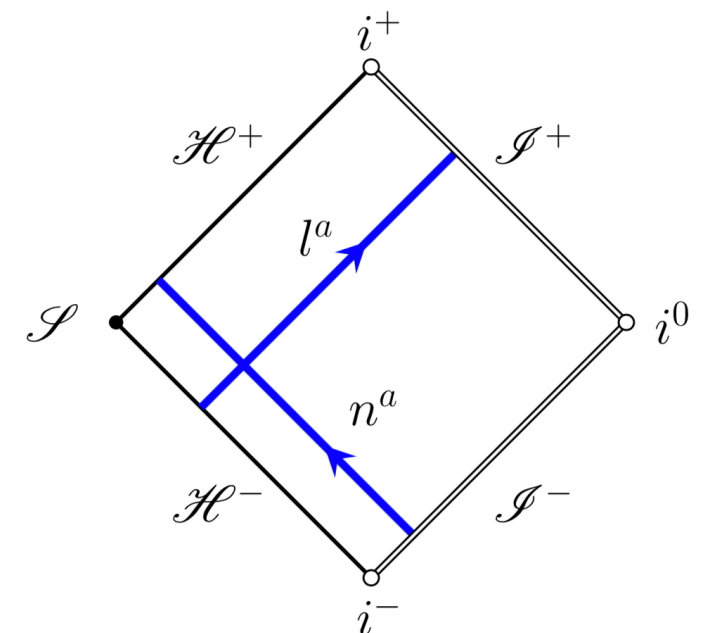
1. Integrate **3 ODEs** along outgoing null geodesics to obtain *corrector tensor* x_{ab} .

2. Integrate **1 ODE** along outgoing null geodesics to obtain source η .

3. Solve adjoint Teukolsky equation $\mathcal{O}^\dagger \Phi = \eta$

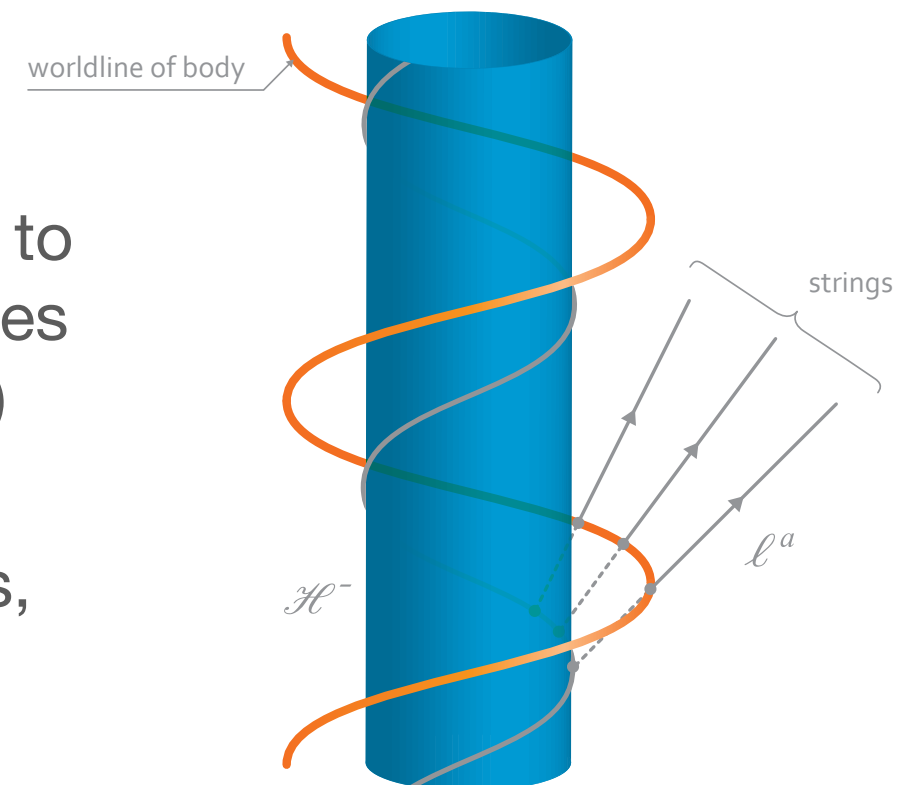
4. Set $h_{ab} = x_{ab} + \text{Re } \mathcal{S}_{ab}^\dagger \Phi$

- Alternatively, start with Teukolsky equation for Weyl scalar ψ_0 , obtain Φ by integrating radial ODE, and add corrector tensor at the end.



Comments

- Assumptions on T_{ab} :
 - Proof follows also for distributional T_{ab} (e.g., point particle).
 - Compact support can be relaxed to sufficiently fast decay at \mathcal{H}^- .
- Point particle: Algorithm gives distributional *solution* to linearized Einstein, in contrast to standard approaches that fail along distributional string. (Peter's talk, next)
- Other applications to quasinormal mode interactions, perturbative quantum gravity.



Thank you