

CAUSAL STRUCTURE OF BLACK HOLES

(1)

By now, you'll be somewhat familiar with BH metric - for Schwarzschild. Let's do more to unearth the structure of this BH especially in terms of causality.

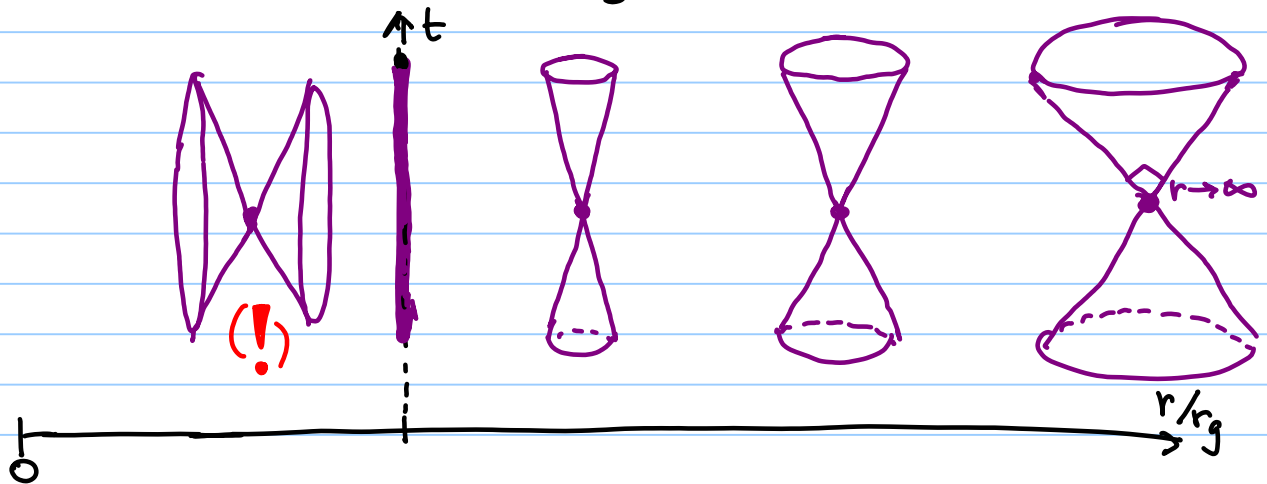
Light cones

A good place to start is the equation for a null trajectory for purely radial motion :-

$$(11) \quad ds^2 = 0 = -\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right) dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

$$(12) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dt}{dr} = \pm \left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right)^{-1} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \pm 1 & \text{at } r \rightarrow +\infty \\ \pm \infty & \text{as } r \rightarrow r_g \end{cases}$$

So the ticks of t time in this coord system go faster and faster as $r \rightarrow r_g$!



But if the photon does not seem to Go anywhere in (r, Ω) space as $r \rightarrow r_g$, does it ever fall into a BH?!

Actually, yes it does, but horizon-crossing does not occur in these coordinates! -because they break down at the horizon - we had nontrivial $R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}$ (tidal forces) even though $R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}$ is perfectly finite at $r=r_g$ (when $r_g \gg l_p$, that is!)

You wouldn't be able to discern this, though, unless you had a decent picture of the geometry and some other coordinate systems to play around with!

(2.1) We've got $\frac{dt}{dr} = \pm \frac{1}{(1-r_g/r)}$

(2.2) Defining $\frac{dt}{dr_*} = \pm 1$ gives

$$\frac{r_*}{r_g} = \pm \int \frac{dr}{(1-r_g/r)}$$

(2.3) $\therefore \boxed{\frac{r_*}{r_g} = \frac{r}{r_g} + \ln\left(\frac{r}{r_g} - 1\right)}$ $r \geq r_g$
"tortoise coordinates"

Then $r_* \rightarrow \infty$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

and $r_* \rightarrow -\infty$ as $r \rightarrow r_g$

(2.4) $\Rightarrow r_* \in (-\infty, +\infty)$ covers the region outside r_g only.

In terms of "further variables" 😊 we can solve (2.1) as

(2.5) $\boxed{t = \pm r_* + C}$ (null radial motion)

In these variables

(2.6) $ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right) (-dt^2 + dr_*^2) + r^2(r_*) d\Omega_2^2$

We can next try adapting our coords to null radial motion. Define

(2.7) $\boxed{\begin{matrix} u \equiv t - r_* \\ v \equiv t + r_* \end{matrix}}$

and then

(2.8) $\boxed{ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right) dv^2 + (dvdr + drdv) + r^2 d\Omega_2^2}$

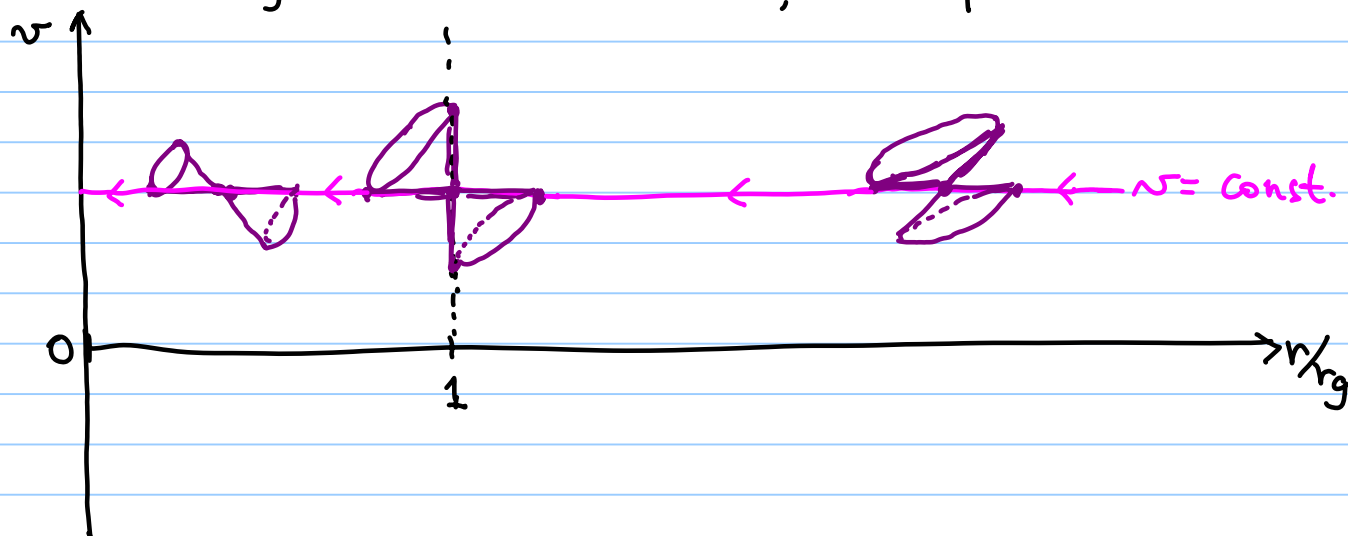
Eddington-Finkelstein Coords

which has $\det \neq 0$ at $r=r_g$, unlike (t, r, Ω) coords.
 $\uparrow (-g)_{EF} = -r^4 \sin^2 \theta$

(2.9) Then for radial null motion the equations can be written in terms of $\frac{dr}{dr} = \frac{dt}{dr} + \frac{dr_*}{dr}$; therefore

(3.1)
$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{infalling} \\ 2\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right)^{-1}, & \text{outgoing} \end{cases}$$

In this system of coordinates, the picture is



So the light-cones in Eddington-Finkelstein coords do NOT get squished but they do turn over inside $r < r_g$.

- These E-F coords are nice, but ... are there other coords that restore the "symmetry" between u and v ?

We could start by finding the coords (u, r) adapted to outgoing motion: we have

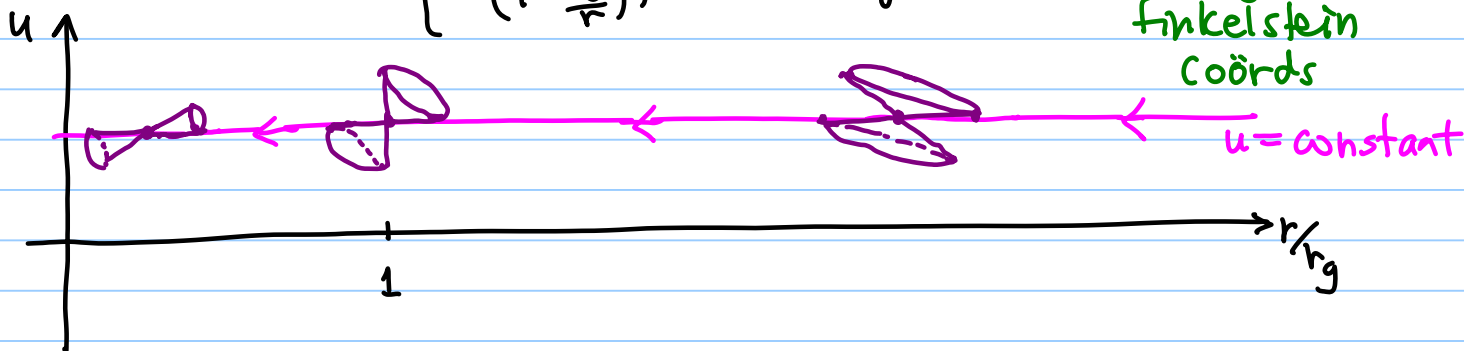
(3.2)
$$ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right) du^2 - (du dr + dr du) + r^2 d\Omega_2^2$$

for which

(3.3)
$$\frac{du}{dr} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{outgoing} \\ -2\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right)^{-1}, & \text{infalling} \end{cases}$$

(need to go back in time to escape BH)

↑ Outgoing Eddington-Finkelstein coords



So... how about something like a hybrid?

Take

(4.1) $ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{r_g}{r}\right) \frac{1}{2} (du dv + dv du) + r^2(u, v) d\Omega_2^2$

but this was our starting point

(4.2) where $\frac{r}{r_g} + \ln\left(\frac{r}{r_g} - 1\right) = \frac{1}{2}(v - u)$

But we still have the problem that tortoise coords don't cover any part of spacetime for $r < r_g$... so define

66 Pull $r_g = -\infty$ out to finite place

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u} &= -\exp(-u/2r_g) \\ \tilde{v} &= +\exp(+v/2r_g) \end{aligned}$$

to avoid that problem. In these new Kruskal coords we get

(4.4) $ds^2 = \frac{1}{2} (d\tilde{u} d\tilde{v} + d\tilde{v} d\tilde{u}) \left[-\frac{2r_g^3}{r} e^{-r/r_g} \right] + r^2(\tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) d\Omega_2^2$

And we can of course make this a tad more familiar-looking by recombining

(4.5a) $\tilde{t} \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{u} + \tilde{v}) = \sqrt{r/r_g - 1} e^{r/2r_g} \sinh(t/2r_g)$

(4.5b) $\tilde{r} = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{v} - \tilde{u}) = \sqrt{r/r_g - 1} e^{r/2r_g} \cosh(t/2r_g)$

(4.6) $ds^2 = (-d\tilde{t}^2 + d\tilde{r}^2) \left(-\frac{2r_g^3}{r} e^{-r/r_g} \right) + r^2 d\Omega_2^2$

(4.7) with $\tilde{t}^2 - \tilde{r}^2 = \left(1 - \frac{r}{r_g}\right) e^{r/r_g}$ implicitly defining $r(\tilde{t}, \tilde{r})$.

Kruskal-Szekeres coordinates

Utility

- In Kruskal coords, horizon at $\tilde{t} = \pm \tilde{r}$
 - Radial null motion along $\tilde{t} = \pm \tilde{r} + (\text{const.})$
- } very simple and neat!

* In Kruskal coords, surfaces of constant r are at $\tilde{t}^2 - \tilde{r}^2 = \text{constant}$ (hyperbolae)

(4.10)

Surfaces of constant t are at

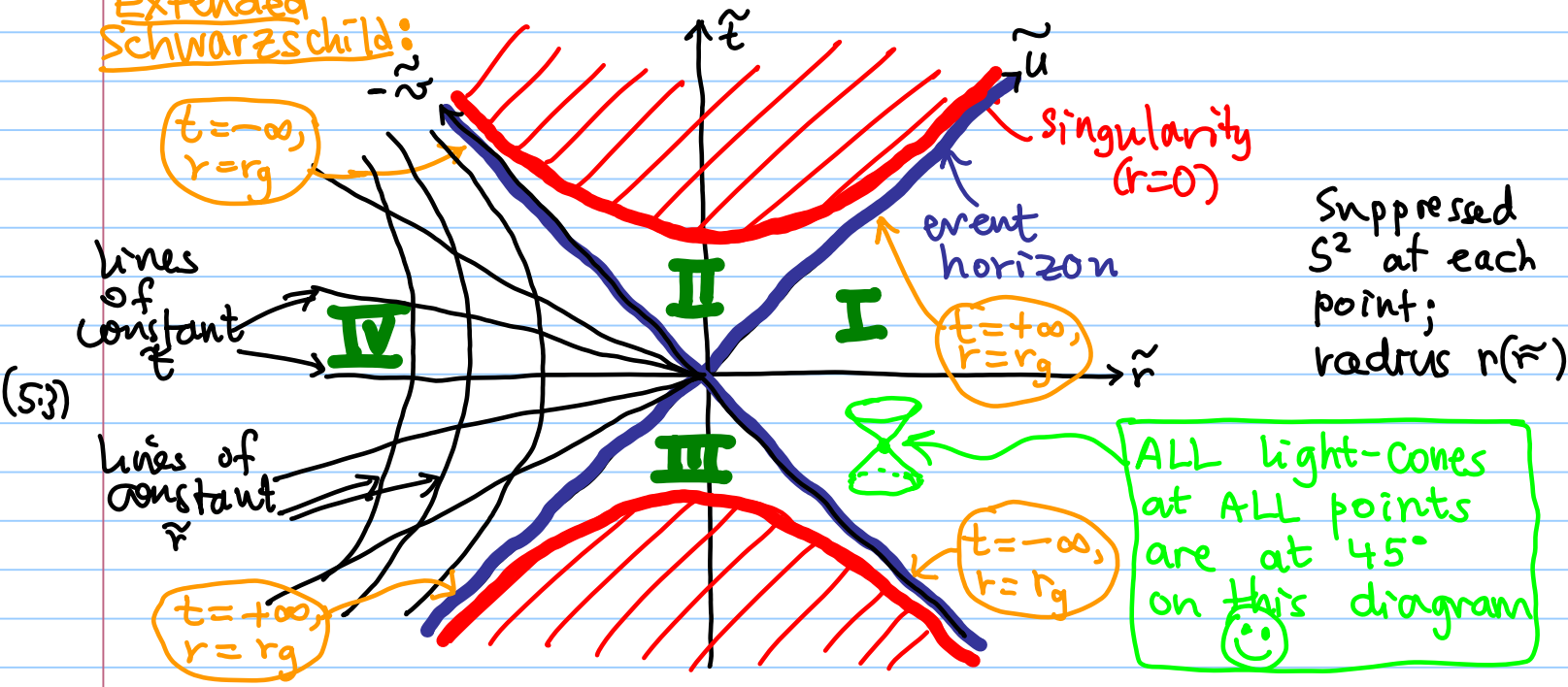
(5.1) $\frac{\tilde{t}}{\tilde{r}} = \tanh\left(\frac{t}{2r_g}\right)$

\Rightarrow in the (\tilde{t}, \tilde{r}) plane, these are straight lines with slope $\tanh(r/2r_g)$.

\triangleright Let (\tilde{t}, \tilde{r}) range over all possible values aside from where the curvature singularity occurs: i.e. let

(5.2) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\infty \leq \tilde{r} \leq +\infty \\ \tilde{t}^2 - \tilde{r}^2 < 1 \end{array} \right\}$

Maximally Extended Schwarzschild:



(5.3)

This diagram actually has EXTRA REGIONS by comparison to the original "r > r_g coordinates" (t, r, R)! They can be abbreviated II - IV.

- From region I we can, via future-directed null rays, go into region II. So it makes sense to interpret this part as the region behind the black hole event horizon - and you can see from the picture that the singularity — is in region II.
- Suppose, from region I, we followed a past-directed

null ray. Then what? According to our Kruskal diagram, we would cross a horizon to go into another region - III - with another singularity, the "mirror image" of the singularity in region II. The horizon is also a "mirror image". It is traditional to say that there is a white hole, the time-reverse of a black hole. This has its own horizon .

- By following future-directed null rays from III, or past directed ones from II, see a second asymptotically flat region! But we can never communicate with it. (Some people talk about Schwarzschild as if it is a "wormhole" connecting asymptotically flat regions, but it isn't physical in any sense to call it a wormhole because it's not traversible: it closes up too quickly for ANY physical observer to cross from I to IV, etc. See spacelike slicings $r = \text{const.}$ on p.228 of Carroll.)

→ Next time.
Conformal diagrams ("Carter-Penrose diagrams") (Appendix H)

There is a really cool idea that helps heaps when trying to picture a spacetime and especially its causal structure. Useful for grad+ research.

The basic idea is to bring infinity to a finite place so it can be drawn on the page, and to have null rays go at 45° in the (time, radius) plane. Suppress transverse s^2 .

Start with Minkowski space-time.

Next lecture, I will show how to construct its Penrose diagram. The result will look like this →

