

Remarks on the Black Hole Stability problem

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joint work with Thomas Bäckdahl, Pieter Blue, and Siyuan Ma

[arXiv:1903.03859](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.03859), [arXiv:2108.03148](https://arxiv.org/abs/2108.03148)



Introduction

Vacuum Einstein

- Einstein equations, 4D

$$\text{Action } S = \int R d\mu$$

$$\delta S = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_{ab} = 0$$

- Lorentz signature + - - -
 - ▶ hyperbolic (mod. gauge)
 - ▶ Cauchy problem: given Cauchy data, $\exists!$ maximal development



Introduction

Kerr

- Stationary, rotating, isolated, vacuum
- 2-parameter family: mass M , angular momentum per unit mass a
- Petrov D \rightsquigarrow separability, integrability, decoupling, conservation laws
subextreme $|a| < M \rightsquigarrow$ non-degenerate black hole



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Major conjectures \sim 1970

- Strong/Weak C. C.
- BH Uniqueness/Stability
- P.I., End State Conjecture



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Open

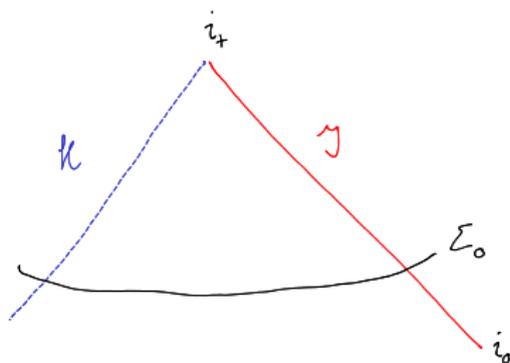


Introduction

Black hole stability

Black Hole Stability Conjecture

The maximal development of Cauchy data close to Kerr data is asymptotic (to the future) to a member of the Kerr family.



Introduction

Black hole stability

Much work on the problem: Chandrasekhar, Carter, Teukolski, Whiting, Dafermos, Holzegel, Rodnianski, Klainerman, Szeftel, Giorgi, Schlapentokh-Rothman, Teixeira da Costa, Angelopoulos, Aretakis, Gajic, L.A., Blue, Bäckdahl, Ma, Hafner, Hintz, Vasy, ...

- TME, mode stability
- Morawetz estimate, decay for TME ($|a| \ll M$)
- linearized stability ($|a| \ll M$)
- steps towards nonlinear stability ($|a| \ll M$)
- Schwarzschild stability
- Kerr-dS stability ($|a| \ll M$)



Introduction

Kerr parameters

M mass, J angular momentum, $a = J/M$

- BH \leftrightarrow spinning particle
- momentum in $\text{Lie}(P)^*$ (10-dim)
4-momentum p^a , angular momentum $\leftrightarrow J^a$, $J^a p_a = 0$.
- $M^2 = p^a p_a$, $W^2 = J^a J_a$ Casimirs — determine coadjoint orbit in $\text{Lie}(P)^*$



Introduction

Gauge

- Kerr metric in B-L, E-F, etc. coordinates represents BH in rest frame, with aligned rotation axis



Introduction

Gauge

- Kerr metric in B-L, E-F, etc. coordinates represents BH in rest frame, with aligned rotation axis
- Only scalars M, a are Lorentz invariant, but there are more “global” gauge d.o.f.
 \leadsto need to consider both “local” and “global” gauge
 - ▶ hyperbolicity — “local” gauge
 - ▶ alignment — “global” gauge

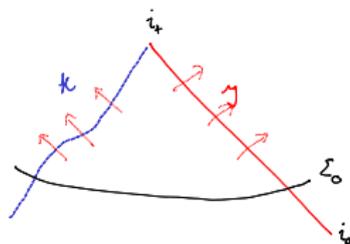


Introduction

Dynamical BH

- For linearized gravity, mass and angular momentum are quasi-locally conserved
- For nonlinear GR, mass and angular momentum radiate through \mathcal{J} and \mathcal{H}

- final BH parameters can't be directly determined from the initial data.
- (apparent) horizon evolves

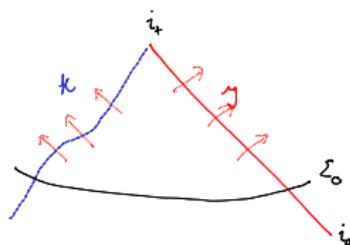


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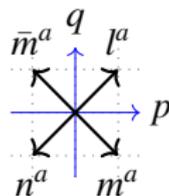


- trapping
- superradiance

GHP formalism

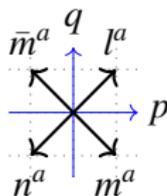
- null frame l^a, n^a, m^a, \bar{m}^a
- $l^a n_a = 1, m^a \bar{m}_a = -1$
- boost and spin rotations, properly weighted scalars

$$\eta \rightarrow \lambda^p \bar{\lambda}^q \eta, \quad \text{type } \{p, q\}$$



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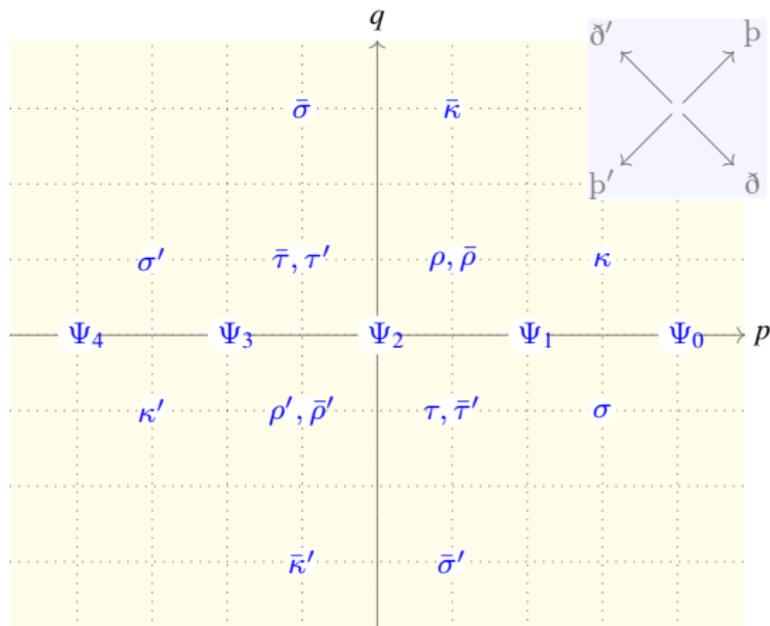
- ▶ boost weight: $b = \frac{1}{2}(p + q)$
- ▶ spin weight: $s = \frac{1}{2}(p - q)$
- ▶ de-boosting \leadsto spin-weighted scalars

$\bar{\eta}\eta$ is true scalar

- ▶ Necessary for estimates

GHP formalism

- operators $\flat, \flat', \delta, \delta'$
- Connection components (spin coefficients):
- connection \rightsquigarrow
8 spin coefficients $\rho, \kappa, \sigma, \tau + \prime$ versions
+ 4 not properly weighted
- curvature scalars Ψ_0, \dots, Ψ_4



Linearized gravity on Kerr

Special geometry

- Kerr is Petrov D $\Rightarrow \exists$ principal null frame
- only $\Psi_2, \rho, \tau, \rho', \tau' \neq 0$.
 \Rightarrow Carter Killing tensor, symmetries, decoupling, integrability etc.



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Linearized gravity on Kerr

- $D\text{Ric}.\dot{g}_{ab} = 0$
- gauge $\dot{g}_{ab} \rightarrow \dot{g}_{ab} + \nabla_{(a}\nu_{b)}$
- gauge invariants $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4, \mathbb{I}_\xi, \mathbb{I}_\zeta$ Aksteiner et al., 2018, 2021
- $\mathbb{I}_\xi, \mathbb{I}_\zeta \leftrightarrow$ type D parameters $\dot{M}, \dot{a}, \dot{N}, \dot{c}$.



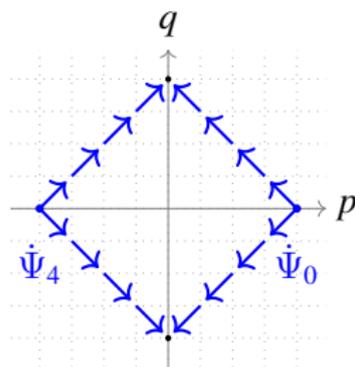
Linearized gravity on Kerr

- fields:
 - ▶ $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4,$
 - ▶ linearized spin coefficients & metric coefficients



Linearized gravity on Kerr

- fields:
 - ▶ $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4,$
 - ▶ linearized spin coefficients & metric coefficients
- $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4$ solve TME, TSI:
 - ▶ TME: spin, boost weighted wave eq.
 - ▶ Carter symmetry operator \leadsto separability
 - ▶ TSI: 4th order differential relation $\dot{\Psi}_0 \leftrightarrow \dot{\Psi}_4$



Linearized gravity on Kerr

TME

- separated form of TME \leadsto confluent Heun equation
- mode stability [Whiting 1989](#), [Shlapentokh-Rothman 2015](#), [L.A. et al. 2017](#), [Teixeira da Costa 2020](#)
- Morawetz estimate (integrated local energy decay) [Ma 2017](#), [Dafermos & Holzegel & Rodnianski 2017](#) $|a| \ll M$
- Price law decay for $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4$ [Ma & Zhang 2021](#) $|a| \ll M$



Linearized gravity on Kerr

ORG Price & Shankar & Whiting 2006

Debye potential

- solution of $\text{TME}^\dagger \psi = 0 \rightsquigarrow$ solution of $DRic.\dot{g}_{ab} = 0$
- \dot{g}_{ab} in outgoing radiation gauge (ORG):

$$g^{ab}\dot{g}_{ab} = 0, \quad \dot{g}_{ab}n^b = 0$$



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- general solution of $DRic.\dot{g}_{ab} = 0$ on Kerr can be put in ORG
- 5 gauge conditions — requires special geometry
- $g^{ab}\dot{g}_{ab} = 0 \leftrightarrow$ residual gauge on Σ_0



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ORG

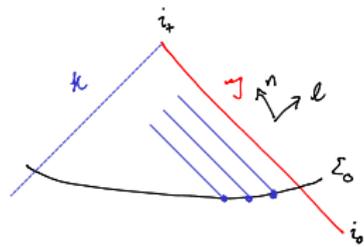
- kills 5 of 10 d.o.f. in \dot{g}_{ab}
- kills 3 of 12 spin coefficients

Linearized gravity on Kerr

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2019

$DRic.\dot{g}_{ab} = 0$ in ORG \Rightarrow

- TME for $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4$
- hierarchy of transport equation
 $\mathfrak{p}'\varphi = \psi$
- sourced by $\dot{\Psi}_4$



Linearized gravity on Kerr

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2019

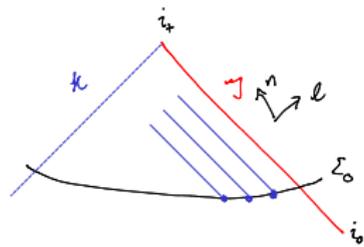
$DRic.\dot{g}_{ab} = 0$ in ORG \Rightarrow

- TME for $\dot{\Psi}_0, \dot{\Psi}_4$
- hierarchy of transport equation

$$b' \varphi = \psi$$

- sourced by $\dot{\Psi}_4$

- \dot{M}, \dot{a} decouple — represented by explicit solutions in ORG



Linearized gravity on Kerr

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2019

- Large PDE system
- use symbolic algebra to derive and manipulate the equations
- xAct for TMMathematica xact.es
- packages for xAct:
 - ▶ SpinFrames
Aksteiner&Bäckdahl 2015-2021,
 - ▶ SymManipulator
Bäckdahl 2011-2021

$$\begin{aligned} \delta' G_{00} &= -4\tilde{\epsilon} + 2\tilde{\rho} - 2\tilde{\sigma} - 2G_{10}\tau - 2G_{01}\tau + G_{01}\tau' + G_{10}\tau', \\ (\delta' - \rho')G_{01} &= -G_{02}\tau + 2\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' - \rho')G_{02} &= 2\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' - \rho')G_{10} &= -G_{20}\tau + 2\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' - \rho')G_{20} &= 2\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' - \rho' + \beta')\tilde{\tau}' &= 2\tilde{\beta}'\rho' + (\delta - \tau + \tau')\tilde{\sigma}', \\ (\delta' - 2\rho' - \beta')\tilde{\sigma}' &= \rho'\tilde{\tau}' - \beta'\tilde{\tau}' + (\delta - \tau)\tilde{\sigma}', \\ (\delta' - \beta')\tilde{\sigma}' &= \partial\Phi_4, \\ (\delta' - \rho' - \beta')\tilde{\rho} &= \tilde{\epsilon}\rho' + \tilde{\tau}'\rho' + \frac{1}{2}G_{00}\rho'\rho' + 2\tilde{\beta}'\tau + \frac{1}{2}G_{10}\rho'\tau - G_{01}\rho'\tau' - \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\tau\tau' + \tau'\tilde{\tau}' \\ &\quad - (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' + \rho')\tilde{\kappa} &= \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\Psi_2 + \frac{G_{01}\Psi_2\tilde{\kappa}_1'}{4\kappa_1} - 2\tilde{\beta}\rho - \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\rho\tilde{\rho}' - 2\tilde{\epsilon}\tau - \frac{1}{2}G_{00}\rho'\tau + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\rho\tau' \\ &\quad + G_{02}\rho\tau' + \frac{1}{2}\tau'(\delta - \tau)G_{01} + (\delta - \tau + \tau')\tilde{\rho} - (\delta' + \tau - 2\tau')\tilde{\sigma} - \frac{1}{2}\rho'\partial G_{00}, \\ (\delta' - 2\rho')\tilde{\gamma} &= \tilde{\beta}'\tau - \tilde{\beta}\tau - \tilde{\beta}'\tau' - \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\rho'\tau' + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\tau^2 - \tilde{\beta}'\tau' - (\delta - \tau - \tau')\tilde{\tau}', \\ (\delta' - \rho')\tilde{\beta} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{00}\rho^2 + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\rho'\tau', \\ (\delta' - \rho')\tilde{\sigma} &= \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\Psi_2 - \frac{G_{02}\Psi_2\tilde{\kappa}_1'}{4\kappa_1} + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\rho\rho' - \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\rho\tilde{\rho}' - 2\tilde{\beta}'\tau - \frac{1}{2}\rho'(\delta + \tau)G_{01} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}\tau'\partial G_{02}, \\ (\delta' - 4\rho')\partial\Phi_3 &= (\delta - \tau)\partial\Phi_4, \\ (\delta' - 3\rho')\partial\Phi_2 &= (\delta - 2\tau)\partial\Phi_3, \\ (\delta' - 2\rho')\partial\Phi_1 &= (\delta - 3\tau)\partial\Phi_2, \\ (\delta' - \rho')\partial\Phi_0 &= \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\Psi_2\rho + 3\Phi_2\tilde{\sigma} - \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\Psi_2\tau + (\delta - 4\tau)\partial\Phi_1 \\ \tilde{\beta} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{01}\rho' + \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\rho\tilde{\rho}' - \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\tau}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\delta' + \tau')G_{02}, \\ \tilde{\beta}' &= \frac{1}{2}G_{10}\rho' + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\tau}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\delta - \tau')G_{20}, \\ \tilde{\kappa} &= \frac{1}{2}(\delta - 2\rho)G_{01} - \frac{1}{2}(\delta - \tau')G_{00}, \\ \tilde{\rho} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{00}\rho' + \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\tau' - \frac{1}{2}(\delta - \tau')G_{10}, \\ \tilde{\sigma} &= \frac{1}{2}(\delta - \rho)G_{00} - \frac{1}{2}(\delta - 2\tau')G_{01}, \\ \tilde{\tau} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{01}\rho' + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}\tau', \\ (\delta - \rho)\tilde{\rho} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{00}\Psi_2 + 2\tilde{\epsilon}\rho + (\delta' - \tau')\tilde{\kappa}, \\ (\delta - 2\rho - \beta)\tilde{\beta} &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{01}(\Psi_2 + \rho\rho' - \rho\tilde{\rho}') + \tilde{\kappa}\rho' + \frac{1}{2}G_{02}(\rho - \beta)\tau' + (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\epsilon} + (\delta' - \tau')\tilde{\sigma} - \delta\tilde{\rho}, \\ (\delta - \rho)\tilde{\sigma}' &= -G_{10}\Psi_2 + \tilde{\rho}\tau' + \rho\tilde{\tau}' - (\delta' - \tau')\tilde{\kappa}, \\ (\delta - \rho)\tilde{\sigma} &= \frac{1}{2}G_{00}\Psi_2 - 2\tilde{\beta}'\tau' + (\delta' - \tau')\tilde{\tau}', \\ 0 &= \tilde{\epsilon}(\rho' + \tilde{\rho}) - \rho'\tilde{\rho} - (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\tau}' + (\delta' - 2\tau')\tilde{\beta} + \delta\tilde{\beta}', \\ \partial\Phi_0 &= (\delta - \rho)\tilde{\sigma} - (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\kappa}, \\ \partial\Phi_1 &= -\tilde{\kappa}\rho' + \tilde{\sigma}\tau' + (\delta - \rho)\tilde{\beta} - (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\kappa}, \\ \partial\Phi_2 &= -2\tilde{\epsilon}\rho' + 2\tilde{\beta}'\tau' + (\delta - \tau')\tilde{\tau}', \\ \partial\Phi_3 &= 2\tilde{\beta}'\rho' + (\rho' - \tilde{\rho}')\tilde{\tau}' + \delta\tilde{\sigma}', \\ 0 &= 3\Phi_2\tilde{\kappa} + \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\Psi_2\rho - \frac{1}{2}G_{00}\Psi_2\tau + (\delta - 4\rho)\partial\Phi_1 - (\delta' - \tau')\partial\Phi_0, \\ 0 &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{00}\Psi_2\rho' - 3\Phi_2\tilde{\rho} + 3G_{10}\Psi_2\tau + \frac{1}{2}G_{01}\Psi_2\tau' + (\delta - 3\rho)\partial\Phi_2 - (\delta' - 2\tau')\partial\Phi_1, \\ 0 &= 3G_{10}\Psi_2\rho' - \frac{1}{2}G_{00}\Psi_2\tau + 3\Phi_2\tilde{\tau}' + (\delta - 2\rho)\partial\Phi_2 - (\delta' - 3\tau')\partial\Phi_2, \\ 0 &= -\frac{1}{2}G_{20}\Psi_2\rho' - 3\Phi_2\tilde{\sigma}' + (\delta - \rho)\partial\Phi_4 - (\delta' - 4\tau')\partial\Phi_3. \end{aligned}$$



Linearized gravity on Kerr

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2019

- Weighted Hardy estimates for transport equations:
decay estimate for TME \rightsquigarrow decay for fields
- due to scaling in transport equations, leading order terms at \mathcal{J} need to be treated separately
- Get decay at i_+ using TSI at \mathcal{J}



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- Proof is modular: Morawetz estimate for TME \leadsto stability for linearized gravity

\leadsto get linearized stability for $|a| < M$ given Morawetz estimate for TME for $|a| < M$



Linearized gravity on Kerr

Other approaches

- Harmonic gauge $g^{ab}\dot{\Gamma}_{ab}^c = 0 \rightsquigarrow$

$$\nabla^c \nabla_c \dot{g}_{ab} + 2R_{abcd} \dot{g}^{cd} = 0$$

- harmonic gauge + "robust Fredholm" [Hafner & Hintz & Vasy 2019](#) $|a| \ll M$
- Chandrasekhar transform, Regge-Wheeler type equation [Dafermos et al.](#), [Johnson](#), [Hung & Keller & Wang](#), ... $|a| \ll M$
- double null coordinates [Dafermos et al.](#), ...



Nonlinear Radiation Gauge

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2021

Spacetimes (M, g_{ab}) near Kerr (M, \mathring{g}_{ab})

- \mathring{g}_{ab} Kerr background
- n^a ingoing principal null direction (background)
- $\delta g_{ab} = g_{ab} - \mathring{g}_{ab}$



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- \mathring{g}_{ab} Kerr background
- n^a ingoing principal null direction (background)
- $\delta g_{ab} = g_{ab} - \mathring{g}_{ab}$
- Diffeomorphism gauge

$$n^a \delta g_{ab} = 0$$

$$g^{ab} \delta g_{ab} = O(\epsilon^2)$$



Nonlinear Radiation Gauge

L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2021

NLORG

- Bianchi \rightsquigarrow FOSH system for Ψ_i
- difference variables for metric, spin coefficients, curvature
- introduce frame gauge
 - \rightsquigarrow Bianchi + transport system $p' \varphi = \psi$
 - \rightsquigarrow FOSH system for EFE



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L.A. & Bäckdahl & Blue & Ma 2021

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- Bianchi \rightsquigarrow nonlinear TME for Ψ_4
- quadratic and higher order couplings
 - \rightsquigarrow coupled wave-transport system for EFE



Concluding remarks

Challenges in the black hole stability problem

- Dynamical background
- Coupled system \leadsto loss of regularity in the estimates
 \leadsto use tame (Nash-Moser) type estimates
- Fixed point problem: Kerr-dS stability [Hinz & Vasy 2016](#)
- Bootstrap: double null + TME + TSI + GCM sphere condition [Klainerman et al](#)



Concluding remarks

Challenges in the black hole stability problem

NLORG

- NLORG: TME + transport system
- TME is the origin of decay — use transport system to construct solution
- The reduced field equation depends on the unknown final Kerr parameters

 \leadsto coupled system — unknowns include final Kerr parameters
- Fixed point problem

