

Title: Canonical GR on Null Hypersurfaces

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Abstract:

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CANONICAL GR ON NULL HYPERSURFACES

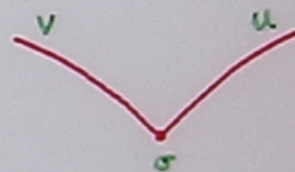
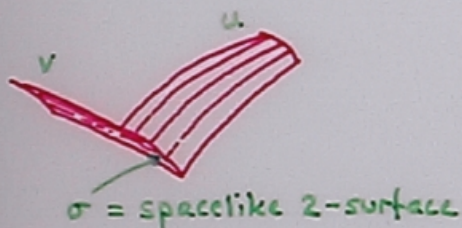
MICHAEL REISENBERGER

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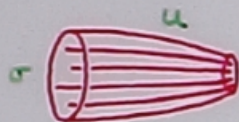
## WHAT IS IT ?

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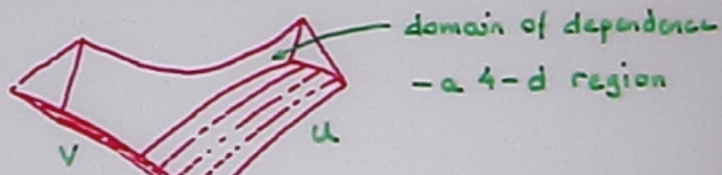
- Usually canonical GR formulated in terms of initial data on a spacelike hypersurface
- here we consider data on a piecewise null hypersurface (normal vector is lightlike)
  - specifically we consider two intersecting null hypersurfaces



$u, v =$  null 3-surfaces swept out by null rays emerging normally from two sides of  $\sigma$



- initial data specifies maximal Cauchy development  
= metric on domain of dependence



## WHY STUDY THIS?

③

### ① Technical simplification:

1962 Penrose, Sachs, Bondi, Van der Burgh, Dautcourt  
identify free initial data (no constraints!)

### ② Observables for mostly vacuum universe - like ours (?)

Ellis et al. 1985 → similar data on lightcone = results of  
idealized astronomical observations

### ③ Quasi-local formulation of GR similar to algebraic field theory

- any excitation of gravitational field causes null rays in  
 $u, v$  to cross (form cavities) ⇒  $u, v$  must be finite

- dynamics of GR encoded in relations  
between data for hypersurfaces with  
overlapping domains of dependence



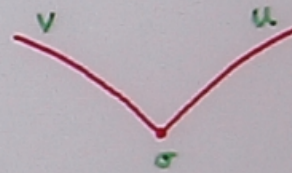
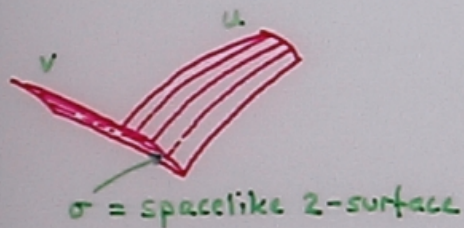
### ④ Entropy bounds - holographic principle

- possibility of a proof from first principles

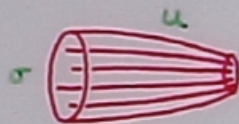
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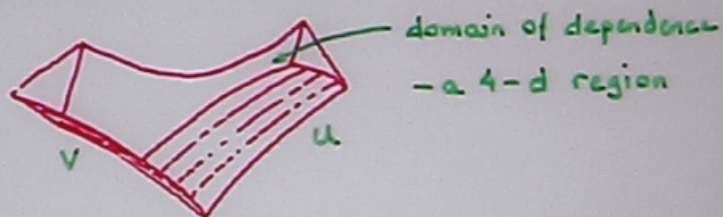
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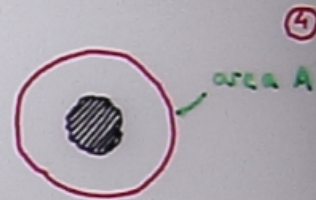
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## BECKENSTEIN BOUND



Object inside sphere of area  $A$  in stationary asymptotically flat spacetime

Claim: Entropy  $S \leq$  entropy of black hole of area  $A$   
 $= \frac{A}{4}$  (Planck units)

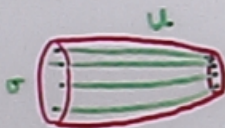
Argument: Can collapse a spherical shell of matter around object so it becomes a black hole of area  $A$  without increasing entropy of rest of universe.

2<sup>nd</sup> law thermodynamics  $\Rightarrow S_{\text{initial}} \leq S_{\text{final}} = \frac{A}{4}$

## BOUSSO BOUND - more general

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- null hypersurface  $\mathcal{U}$  swept out by null rays emerging normally from 2-surface  $\sigma$  of area  $A$



- null rays non-diverging at  $\sigma$  ( $\sigma$  not convex)
- $\mathcal{U}$  truncated before rays cross

Claim: "Entropy on  $\mathcal{U}$ "  $\leq \frac{A}{4}$

↑  
flux of entropy current - defined for matter in local equilibrium

Flanagan et. al. proved Bousso bound assuming inequality between  $T^{\mu\nu}$  and entropy current satisfied by known matter models

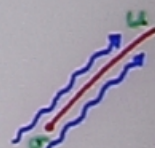
- Not fundamental law

**BUT**

$$S = \log \dim \mathcal{H}' \quad \mathcal{H}' \text{ subspace of Hilbert space } \mathcal{H} \\ \leq \log \dim \mathcal{H} \quad \text{compatible with macroscopic state}$$

Conjecture:  $\dim \mathcal{H} \leq e^{A/4}$

- but what is Hilbert space of states on  $\mathcal{U}$ ?
- $\mathcal{U}$  by itself has no domain of dependence





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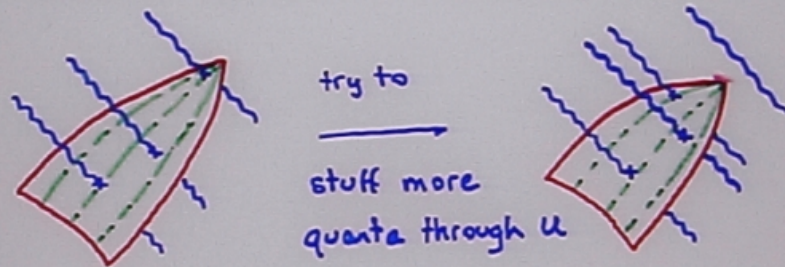
HOW COULD THIS CONJECTURE BE TRUE?

Vacuum GR - infinity of Fourier modes of data on  $\mathcal{U}$

$\Rightarrow$  quantization of linearized theory has  
 $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$

But if you include back reaction ...

- remember quantum for each mode has finite energy



$\rightarrow$  null generators focus more

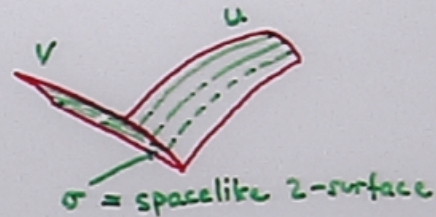
$\Rightarrow$  same number of quanta registered on  $\mathcal{U}$

Can one make a proof?

Perhaps with null canonical GR

## NULL CANONICAL GR

③



hypersurface null  $\Rightarrow$  metric of form  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_{ij} \end{bmatrix}$  <sup>← null direction</sup>

Sachs data: 1.  $e_{ij} = \frac{g_{ij}}{\sqrt{\det g}}$  on  $U$  and  $V$

2. some data on  $\sigma$

They are free and complete so they are good coordinates on phase space (set of Cauchy developments)

- need Poisson brackets of these coordinates

## PEIERLS BRACKET

(8)

$A, B$  - diffeo invariant functionals of metric such that

$$\frac{\delta A}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}, \frac{\delta B}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \text{ have compact support}$$

$g$  - metric satisfying Einstein's equation

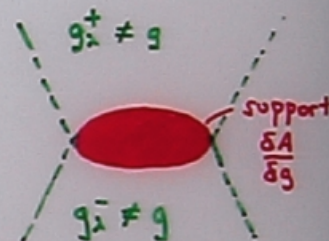
$I$  = action

$$I_\lambda = I + \lambda A \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$g_\lambda^+$  = "retarded modified solution"

= stationary point of  $I_\lambda$  which reduces to  $g$  in past

$g_\lambda^-$  = "advanced modified solution"



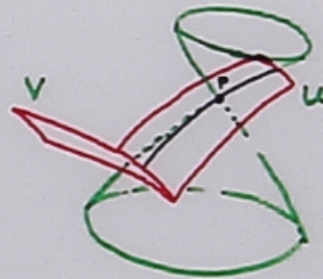
Definition

$$\{A, B\} = \frac{d}{d\lambda} B[g_\lambda^+] \Big|_{\lambda=0} - \frac{d}{d\lambda} B[g_\lambda^-] \Big|_{\lambda=0}$$

## SOME QUALITATIVE FEATURES OF THE BRACKET

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- $\{A, B\}$  non-zero only if  $A, B$  function of metric in causally related regions
- fields at spacelike separated points commute
- on  $U$  only points on same null generator are causally related



⇒ 1. variables on  $U$  almost all Poisson commute with those on  $V$

$$\stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow} \text{Hilbert space } \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_U \otimes \mathcal{H}_V$$

⇒ 2. if  $\dim \mathcal{H}_U$  finite then  $\log \dim \mathcal{H}_U \propto A$

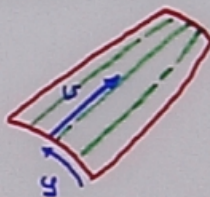
Bracket between  $e_{ij}$ 's

- change variables

$$ds^2 = g_{ij} dy^i dy^j = \frac{h}{1-|\mu|^2} (d\mathbb{z} + \mu d\bar{\mathbb{z}})(d\bar{\mathbb{z}} + \bar{\mu} d\mathbb{z})$$

$$\mathbb{z} = y^1 + iy^2 \quad h = \sqrt{\det g}$$

$\mu$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$  valued field that encodes  $e_{ij}$



Then

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \mu(x), \bar{\mu}(x') \} &= \frac{1}{8} \left[ \frac{1-|\mu|^2}{\sqrt{h}} \right]_x \left[ \frac{1-|\mu|^2}{\sqrt{h}} \right]_{x'} \\ &\quad \times e \int_v^{v'} \frac{1}{1-|\mu|^2} [ \bar{\mu} \partial_v \mu - \mu \partial_v \bar{\mu} ] dv \\ &= \delta^2(y'-y) \operatorname{sgn}(v'-v) \end{aligned}$$

$$\{ \mu(x), \mu(x') \} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \mu$  defines a complex polarisation

can represent quantum states by holomorphic functions of  $\mu$ .