

Exploring non-linear gravitational waves in Horndeski gravity

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Compact objects in gravitational theories
Institut Pascal

Based on
J. BA, M. A. Gorji, H. Roussille [to appear '23]

Context and Motivations

Modified gravity:

- Parametrizing deviations w.r.t to GR
→ early and late cosmology (dark sector) / compact objects
- Scalar-tensor theories with $(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi)$: Horndeski → GLPV → DHOST theories
[Horndeski '74] → [Langlois, Noui '15]

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Impact on gravitational wave production and propagation ?

- Effect 1: new scalar polarization and mixing between scalar/tensor sectors
[Kobayashi, Yamaguchi, Yokoyama '11][Dalang, Fleury, Lombriser '19][Creminelli, Tambalo, Vernizzi, Yingcharoenrat '19][Kubota, Arai, Mukohyama '23]
→ Damped amplitude / change of the phase velocity on cosmological distance
→ Constraints from BBH mergers [Arai, Nishizawa '18] [Takeda, Morisaki, Nishizawa '22]
- Effect 2: Modified quasi-normal modes spectrum for black holes

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Studying the non-linear regime: two approaches

- 1) identify the symmetries at null-infinity in modified gravity and their flux-balance laws
In GR, Bondi mass loss: $\dot{M}(u) = \mathcal{F}$ → BMS flux-balance law
Extension to Brans-Dicke [Tahura, Nichols, Shaffer, Stein, Yagi '20][Hou, Zhu '20][Seraj '21]

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- 2) **construct exact non-perturbative radiative solutions** :
pp-waves, Kundt, Robinson-Trautman exact solutions in GR → useful laboratory

- Disformal solution-generating method and Petrov classification
- Exact non-perturbative radiative solution in Horndeski
- Polarizations at the non-perturbative level: Penrose limit

Disformal solution-generating method and Petrov classification

Disformal solution-generating map

- Disformal transformation (DT) :

$$(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi) \rightarrow (\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = Ag_{\mu\nu} + B\phi_\mu\phi_\nu, \phi) \quad (1)$$

with $A := A(\phi, X)$, $B := B(\phi, X)$ and $X = g^{\mu\nu}\phi_\mu\phi_\nu$.

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- Degenerate higher order scalar-tensor theories are organized into equivalent classes under DT [BA, Langlois, Noui '16]
- Provide a solution-generating map to explore the solution space [BA, Mukohyama, Liu '20]
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Petrov classification

- Classification from the 60's based on the algebraic properties (Petrov type) of the Weyl tensor
- Provide general theorems : Petrov type \leftrightarrow behavior of light rays [Goldberg, Sachs '62]
- Provide a guiding map to derive new exact solutions in GR (among which Kerr)

→ Can we keep under control how the Petrov type change under disformal transformation ?

Petrov classification in a nutshell

- Pick up a null tetrad E_A^μ

$$g_{\mu\nu} = E_\mu^A E_\nu^B \eta_{AB} \quad \eta_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

associated to four null vectors $\ell^\mu = E_0^\mu$, $n^\mu = E_1^\mu$, $m^\mu = E_2^\mu$, $\bar{m}^\mu = E_3^\mu$

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- Decompose the Weyl tensor into 5 complex scalars

$$\Psi_0 = C_{ABCD} \ell^A m^B \ell^C m^D \quad \Psi_2 = C_{ABCD} \ell^A m^B \bar{m}^C n^D \quad \Psi_4 = C_{ABCD} n^A \bar{m}^B n^C \bar{m}^D \quad (4)$$

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- Lorentz transformation parametrized by b a complex function

$$(\ell, n, m, \bar{m}) \rightarrow (\ell + b^* m + b \bar{m} + b b^* n, n, m + b n, \bar{m} + b^* n) \quad (5)$$

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- Multiplicity of the root b defines the Petrov type: four simple roots \rightarrow Petrov type I

Petrov classification: Lorentz invariant formulation

- Consider the Lorentz invariant spectral index:

$$I = \Psi_0\Psi_4 - 4\Psi_1\Psi_3 + 3\Psi_2^2 \quad J = \det \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_4 & \Psi_3 & \Psi_2 \\ \Psi_3 & \Psi_2 & \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 & \Psi_1 & \Psi_0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \boxed{S = I^3 - 27J^2}$$

If $S \neq 0$, then the geometry is not algebraically special: Petrov type I

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- The remaining types can be deduced from the quantities

$$K = \Psi_4^2\Psi_1 - 3\Psi_4\Psi_3\Psi_2 + 2\Psi_3^3 \quad L = \Psi_4\Psi_2 - \Psi_3^2 \quad N = 12L^2 - \Psi_4^2I \quad (7)$$

Type II: $S = 0$

Type III: $I = J = 0$

Type D: $S = K = N = 0$

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- How does the Petrov type change under a disformal transformation ?
- Can we get close formula to keep control on this change ?

Disformal transformation on the tetrad field

- Usually, DT are written at the level of the metric

$$(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi) \rightarrow (\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = Ag_{\mu\nu} + B\phi_\mu\phi_\nu, \phi) \quad (8)$$

with $A := A(\phi, X)$, $B := B(\phi, X)$ and $X = g^{\mu\nu}\phi_\mu\phi_\nu$.

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- Close formula for the disformed optical scalars: expansion Θ , twist ω , shear σ

$$\tilde{\Theta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A}} \left[\Theta - \ell^\mu \nabla_\mu (\sqrt{A}/J) - \frac{\sqrt{A}}{J} \nabla_\mu \left(\frac{\beta J}{\sqrt{A}} \ell^\alpha \phi_\alpha \phi^\mu \right) \right] \quad (12)$$

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- To understand the change in the Newman-Penrose quantities, implement DT on the tetrad
- Introduce the J -map

$$J^A_B = \sqrt{A} \left(\delta^A_B + \frac{\beta}{1 - \beta X} \phi^A \phi_B \right) \quad \beta = \frac{1}{X} \left[1 - \frac{\sqrt{A}}{\sqrt{A + \beta X}} \right] \quad (9)$$

with $\phi_A = E^{\mu}_A \phi_\mu$ and $X = \phi_A \phi^A = \phi_\mu \phi^\mu$

- Allows one to implement DT in a local rest frame:

$$\tilde{E}^A_\mu = J^A_B E^B_\mu \quad \tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = (J^A_C E^C_\mu)(J^B_D E^D_\nu) \eta_{CD} = Ag_{\mu\nu} + B\phi_\mu\phi_\nu \quad (10)$$

- Close formula for the disformed null directions:

$$\ell^\mu = E^{\mu}_A \ell^A \quad \rightarrow \quad \tilde{\ell}^\mu = (J^B_A E^{\mu}_B)(J^A_C \ell^C) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A}} [\ell^\mu + \beta \ell^\alpha \phi_\alpha \phi^\mu] \quad (11)$$

- Close formula for the disformed optical scalars: expansion Θ , twist ω , shear σ

$$\tilde{\Theta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A}} \left[\Theta - \ell^\mu \nabla_\mu (\sqrt{A}/J) - \frac{\sqrt{A}}{J} \nabla_\mu \left(\frac{\beta J}{\sqrt{A}} \ell^\alpha \phi_\alpha \phi^\mu \right) \right] \quad (12)$$

- Formula for the change of Weyl scalars and thus of Petrov type :

→ guide for new exact solutions [BA, De Felice, Gorji, Mukohyama, Pookilath '22]

Applications

- Disformed static spherically symmetric spacetime : for example Schwarzschild

$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + g(r)dr^2 + r^2d\Omega^2 \quad \phi(t, r) \quad (13)$$

Seed is Petrov type D \rightarrow disformed geometry remains of Petrov type D

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- Disformed Kerr black hole

$$ds^2 = ds_{\text{Kerr}}^2 + B_0 \left(dt + \frac{\sqrt{2Mr(r^2 + a^2)}}{\Delta} dr \right)^2 \quad \phi(t, r) \quad (14)$$

Seed is Petrov type D \rightarrow Disformed spectral index is

$$S = I^3 - 27J^2 = B_0^2\chi + \mathcal{O}(B_0^3) \neq 0 \quad (15)$$

Disformed Kerr geometry becomes of Petrov type I

Loss of symmetry : Killing-Yano tensor only for type D and N

[BA, De Felice, Gorji, Mukohyama, Pookilath '22]

- Use disformal solution-generating method to construct exact radiative solutions

Constructing exact non-perturbative radiative solution in Horndeski

The seed

- We need to identify a seed solution: consider the Einstein-Scalar system

$$\mathcal{S} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} (\mathcal{R} - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi)$$

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- Exact radiative solution of this system [Tahamtan and Svitec '15 '16]

$$ds^2 = -\frac{r\partial_u F + K(x, y)}{F(u)} du^2 - 2dudr + \frac{r^2 F^2(u) - C_0^2}{F(u) P^2(x, y)} (dx^2 + dy^2)$$
$$\phi(u, r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \log \left[\frac{rF(u) - C_0}{rF(u) + C_0} \right]$$

where

$$F(u) = \gamma e^{\omega^2 u^2} \quad \Delta K(x, y) = 4C_0^2 \omega^2 = \alpha^2 \quad K(x, y) = P^2 (\partial_{xx}^2 + \partial_{yy}^2) \log P = \Delta \log P$$

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- Better described in another coordinate system: $(u, r, x, y) \rightarrow (w, \rho, x, y)$

$$ds^2 = -K(x, y)dw^2 - 2dw d\rho + \frac{\rho^2 - \chi^2(w)}{P^2(x, y)}(dx^2 + dy^2)$$

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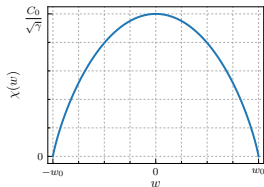
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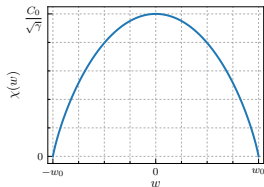
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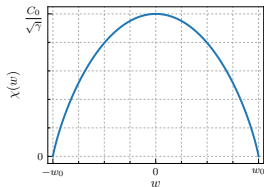
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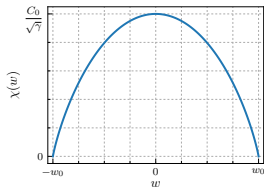
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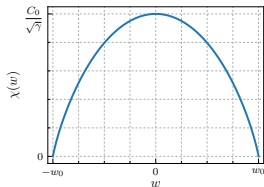
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[BA, Gorji, Roussille '23]

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- What type of gravitational wave propagate in this geometry ?

Scalar pulse and longitudinal mode

- Null directions and optical scalars:

$$\ell^\mu \partial_\mu = \partial_\rho \quad n^\mu \partial_\mu = \partial_w - K(x, y) \partial_\rho \quad m^\mu \partial_\mu = \frac{P(x, y)}{\sqrt{2(\rho^2 - \chi^2(w))}} (\partial_x + i\partial_y) \quad (19)$$

and

$$\Theta(\rho, w) = -\frac{\rho}{\rho^2 - \chi^2(w)} \quad \omega = 0 \quad \sigma = 0 \quad (20)$$

→ purely expanding null congruence: no twist and no shear

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→ compute the gaussian curvature \mathcal{K} of the topological 2-sphere

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- Expected from a pure monopole scalar source ! $\phi(w, \rho) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \log \left[\frac{\rho - \chi(w)}{\rho + \chi(w)} \right]$

- What radiative gravitational field can be sourced by the same scalar pulse in Horndeski ?
- How does the mixing from higher order terms manifest at the fully non-linear level ?
- Accessible by a disformal transformation

Scalar pulse in Horndeski theory

Disformal map

- Consider the simplest disformal transformation of the Einstein-Scalar system

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$$\tilde{S}[\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu}, \phi] = \int d^4x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}|} [G_2(\tilde{X}) + G_4(\tilde{X})\mathcal{R} - 2G_{4X}(\tilde{X})((\square\phi)^2 - \phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\mu\nu})] \quad (23)$$

and the two functions (G_2, G_4) :

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- New physics show up by (implicitly) assuming that test fields couple to $\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu}$
 - different causal structure
 - different principal null directions
 - different Petrov type
 - different geodesics

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 - different causal structure
 - different principal null directions
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 - different geodesics
- Disformal transformation of the seed solution reveals the effects of the higher order terms (controlled by B_0) in the presence of a monopole scalar source

The new exact solution

- The scalar profile remains unchanged: scalar monopole

$$\phi(w, \rho) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \log \left[\frac{\rho - \chi(w)}{\rho + \chi(w)} \right] \quad \rightarrow \quad \phi_\rho = \frac{2\chi(w)}{\rho^2 - \chi^2} \quad \phi_w = \frac{-2\rho\chi'(w)}{\rho^2 - \chi^2} \quad (25)$$

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$$ds^2 = -K(x, y)dw^2 - 2dw d\rho + \frac{\rho^2 - \chi^2(w)}{P^2(x, y)}(dx^2 + dy^2) \\ + B_0 [\phi_w^2 dw^2 + 2\phi_w \phi_\rho dw d\rho + \phi_\rho^2 d\rho^2] \quad (26)$$

where the functions $\chi(w)$, $K(x, y)$ and $P(x, y)$ remain unchanged

$$\chi(w) = \frac{C_0}{\sqrt{U(w)}} \quad K(x, y) = \Delta \log P \quad \Delta K(x, y) = 4C_0^2 \omega^2 = \alpha^2 \quad (27)$$

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- What are the properties of this solution ? How does it deviate from the seed one ?

Scalar pulse in Horndeski theory

Asymptotic regimes $w \rightarrow \pm w_0$

- In the remote past and far future: non-spherically symmetric.

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow \pm w_0} ds^2 = - \left[K(x, y) - \frac{Q}{\rho^2} \right] dw^2 - 2dw d\rho + \frac{\rho^2}{P^2(x, y)} (dx^2 + dy^2) \quad (28)$$

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow \pm w_0} \phi = \frac{\sqrt{2}\chi(w)}{\rho} \rightarrow 0 \quad (29)$$

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow \pm w_0} X = 0 \quad (30)$$

- Qualitative difference with the GR solution: electric-like charge Q

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Maximum of the pulse: $w = 0$

- The metric and the scalar profile become

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow 0} ds^2 = -K(x, y)dw^2 - 2dw d\rho + \frac{4B_0 C_0^2}{\gamma(\gamma\rho^2 - C_0^2)^2} d\rho^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{P^2(x, y)} (dx^2 + dy^2) \quad (31)$$

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow 0} \phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \log \left[\frac{\sqrt{\gamma}\rho - C_0}{\sqrt{\gamma}\rho + C_0} \right] \quad (32)$$

- The electric-like charge Q has disappeared but new contribution in $g_{\rho\rho}$
- Kinetic energy of the scalar:

$$X = \frac{4\gamma K(x, y)C_0^2}{(\rho^2 - C_0^2)^2 + 4B_0\gamma C_0^2 K(x, y)B_0} \neq 0 \quad (33)$$

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- What type of gravitational waves propagate ?

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- First step: construct a null tetrad. For simplicity, expand up to second order in B_0

$$E_A^\mu \partial_\mu = \left({}^{(0)}E_A^\mu + B_0 {}^{(1)}E_A^\mu + B_0^2 {}^{(2)}E_A^\mu \right) \partial_\mu$$

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- Spectral index : Petrov type II \rightarrow Petrov type I

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- The optical scalars reveal the non-linear superposition of breathing and shearing modes

$$\tilde{\Theta} = \Theta + B_0 \Theta_1 + B_0^2 \Theta_2$$

$$\tilde{\sigma} = B_0^2 \sigma_2$$

with

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{(\rho^2 - \chi^2)}{96\chi^7} \left[30\rho^5\chi - 80\rho^3\chi^3 + 66\rho\chi^5 + 15\sqrt{2}(\rho^2 - \chi^2)^3\phi \right] \Psi_0 \quad (34)$$

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- Does this effect survive a perturbative analysis ?

The non-perturbative origin of the shear

- Most natural set-up to perform a perturbative approach, take the scalar profile and consider a small pulse $\chi := \epsilon(w)$

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Further understanding the generation of the shear

- Newman-Penrose equations for optical scalars in GR:

$$D\Theta = \omega^2 - \Theta^2 - \sigma^2 - \Phi_{00} \quad \text{Raychaudhuri} \quad (37)$$

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- How are they modified in Horndeski theory ? In modified gravity ? [\[BA, Roussille - in progress\]](#)

Identifying the polarizations at the non-perturbative level: Penrose limit

A tool to identify the polarizations: Penrose limit

- In the linearized theory

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \quad (40)$$

After gauge-fixing, polarization can be read off from $h_{\mu\nu}$. Not available in the fully non-linear regime.

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- For a given geometry and a given geodesic $(g_{\mu\nu}, \gamma)$, the Penrose limit allows one to associate a pp-wave encoding the leading tidal forces (w.r.t the transverse distance to the observer geodesic worldline) experienced by the observer

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- Applied to a radiative geometry, it allows one to read the polarizations of the propagating wave inducing these non-linear tidal effects from (H_o, H_+, H_x)

- For our new radiative solution: get a pp-wave profile with (H_o, H_+, H_x) non-zero

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$$H_+ = \frac{1}{2}\text{Re}(\Psi_0) \quad H_x = \frac{1}{2}\text{Im}(\Psi_0) \quad (43)$$

with the Weyl scalar Ψ_0 given by

$$\Psi_0 = B_0^2 \frac{\chi^4 P (P \partial_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} K + 2 \partial_{\bar{z}} K \partial_{\bar{z}} P)}{(\rho^2 - \chi^2)^5} + \mathcal{O}(B_0^3) \quad (44)$$

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- Allow to compute and compare the memory effects in the GR and Horndeski solutions
[BA, Gorji, Roussille '23]

Conclusion and perspectives

- Exploring the non-perturbative radiative regime of modified gravity
 - i) construct exact solutions / ii) identify the modified flux-balance laws (symmetries)

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- Disformal solution generating : powerful trick to explore the DHOST solution space
[BA, Mukohyama, Liu '20]
- Disformal Petrov classification : guide to construct new solutions
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- A new non-perturbative exact radiative solution in Horndeski theory
→ a scalar pulse generating a non-linear superposition of breathing mode and shear
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- Apply the Newman-Penrose formalism to DHOST to further understand mixing between scalar/tensor sectors for GW [BA, Roussille - in progress]

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- Fluxes-balance laws by covariant phase space methods in modified gravity
Exist for Brans-Dicke [Tahura, Nichols, Shaffer, Stein, Yagi '20][Hou, Zhu '20][Seraj '21]
What about higher order modified gravity ?

Singularity and horizons

- Singularity in the GR solution: $\rho = \chi(w)$
- Additional singularity in the Horndeski solution:

$$\rho^4 - 2(\rho^2 + B_0 K(x, y))\chi^2 + \chi^4 - 4B_0 \rho \chi \chi' = 0 \quad (45)$$

At $w = 0$, singularity located at

$$\rho_*^2 = 1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \frac{C_0^2}{\gamma^2} \left[2B_0 K(x, y) - \frac{C_0^2}{\gamma^2} \right]} \quad (46)$$

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- Null directions

$$\ell^\mu \partial_\mu = \partial_\rho \quad m^\mu \partial_\mu = \frac{P(x, y)}{\sqrt{2(\rho^2 - \chi^2(w))}} ((M_x + iM_y)\partial_\rho + \partial_x + i\partial_y) \quad (47)$$

$$n^\mu \partial_\mu = \partial_w + \frac{P(x, y)^2}{\rho^2 - \chi(w)^2} (M_x \partial_x + M_y \partial_y) - \left[\frac{K(x, y)}{2} - \frac{P(x, y)^2}{2(\rho^2 - \chi(w)^2)} (M_x^2 + M_y^2) \right] \partial_\rho \quad (48)$$

which is orthogonal to the surface $\rho = M(x, y)$ and satisfies the standard orthogonality relations

$$\ell^\mu n_\mu = -1, \quad m^\mu \bar{m}_\mu = 1 \quad (49)$$

while $l^\mu m_\mu = n^\mu \bar{m}_\mu = 0$.

- Expansions

$$\Theta_\ell = \frac{\rho}{\rho^2 - \chi(w)^2}, \quad \Theta_n = \frac{\Delta_S M - \rho k(x, y) - 2\chi(w)\chi'(w)}{2(\rho^2 - \chi(w)^2)} - \frac{\rho \|\nabla_S M\|^2}{2(\rho^2 - \chi(w)^2)^2} \quad (50)$$

- Equation for the dynamical apparent horizon $\Theta_n = 0$
- In general, very hard to solve even in GR

- Concretely, pick up a null geodesic γ and construct null Fermi coordinates $X^A = (U, V, X^i)$ with $i \in (1, 2)$ adapted to the region around the geodesic

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[Penrose '76][Blau '19]

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- Read the polarizations from the matrix $A_{ij}(U)$

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- Organize this expansion in x^a using conformal transformation of the transverse space: $(U, V, X^i) \rightarrow (U, \lambda^2 V, \lambda X^i)$
- Peeling behavior of the Weyl scalars

$$\Psi_i = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{4-i}) \quad \text{for } i \in (0, \dots, 4) \quad (53)$$

- Penrose limit amounts at selecting the leading contribution: coincides with a pp-wave

$$ds^2 = 2dUdV + A_{ij}(U) X^i X^j d\lambda^2 + \delta_{ij} dX^i dX^j \quad (54)$$

with

$$A_{ij}(U) = \bar{R}_{U_i U_j}(U) = \bar{R}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} E_U^\mu E_i^\nu E_U^\rho E_j^\sigma \quad (55)$$

[Penrose '76][Blau '19]

- Read the polarizations from the matrix $A_{ij}(U)$
- Full non-perturbative approach: we never ask that $A_{ij}(U)$ be "small"

Penrose limit

- Concretely, pick up a null geodesic γ and construct null Fermi coordinates $X^A = (U, V, X^i)$ with $i \in (1, 2)$ adapted to the region around the geodesic

$$X^A = E_a^A x^a + E_\mu^A \bar{\Gamma}^\mu{}_{ab} x^a x^b + \mathcal{O}((x^a)^3) \quad (51)$$

- In the region around the geodesic γ , the gravitational field can be described as

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[Penrose '76][Blau '19]

- Read the polarizations from the matrix $A_{ij}(U)$
- Full non-perturbative approach: we never ask that $A_{ij}(U)$ be "small"
- Also powerful to compute the memory effects explicitly