

# asymptotic Memory effect, supertranslations and symmetries at null infinity

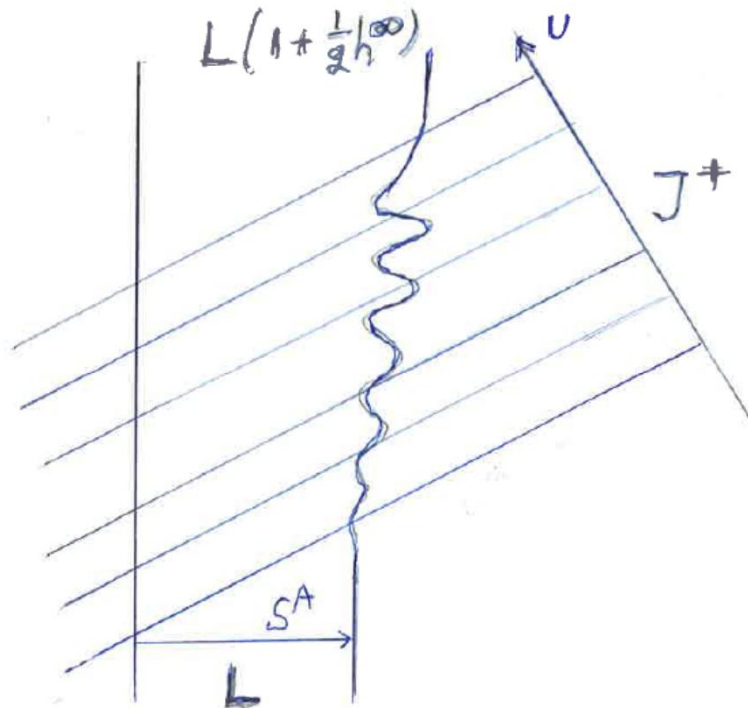
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Project (Jokela-Kajantie-Sarkkinen): How do you measure supertranslations which in Hawking-Perry-Strominger 1601.00921 are said to be physically important for black hole physics?

**Memory effect:** a burst of gravitational waves causes a permanent relative displacement of free falling detectors



$u = t - r =$  retarded time

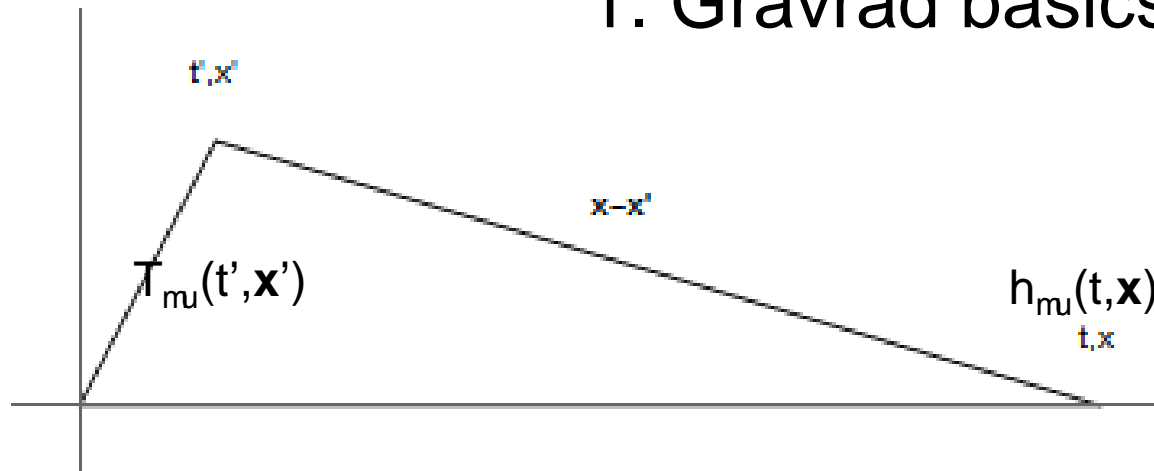
$$\theta^A = (\theta, \phi) = (z, \bar{z})$$

$$\partial_u^2 S^A = R^A_{uuB} S^B$$

Gravrad ends up in **null infinity**  $I^+$ . Memory effect is related to the **supertranslation symmetry** of null infinity, adding Lorentz you get **BMS group**.

Bondi-Metzner, Sachs 1960-62

# 1. Gravrad basics:



$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(h^2) \quad (\partial_t^2 - \nabla^2)h_{\mu\nu}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 16\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$h_{\mu\nu}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 4G \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{x}'}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} T_{\mu\nu}(t - |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|, \mathbf{x}') = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h_{11} & h_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & h_{12} & -h_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

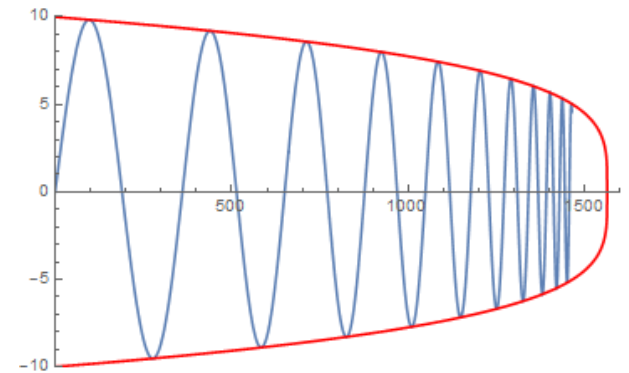
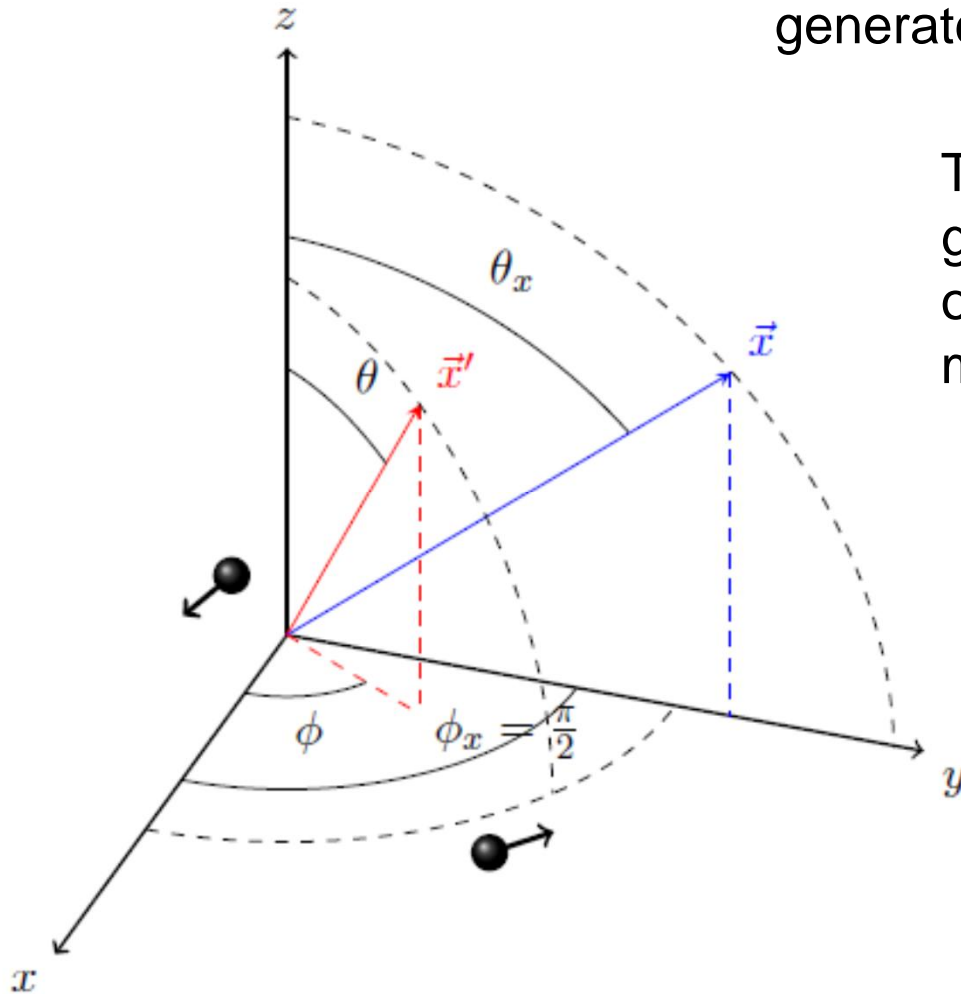
$$t_{03} = \frac{c^2}{16\pi G} (\dot{h}_{11}^2 + \dot{h}_{12}^2)$$

*TT=Transverse traceless gauge,  $\mathbf{x}=(0,0,x)$*

# Merging BH binary: radiation from radiation

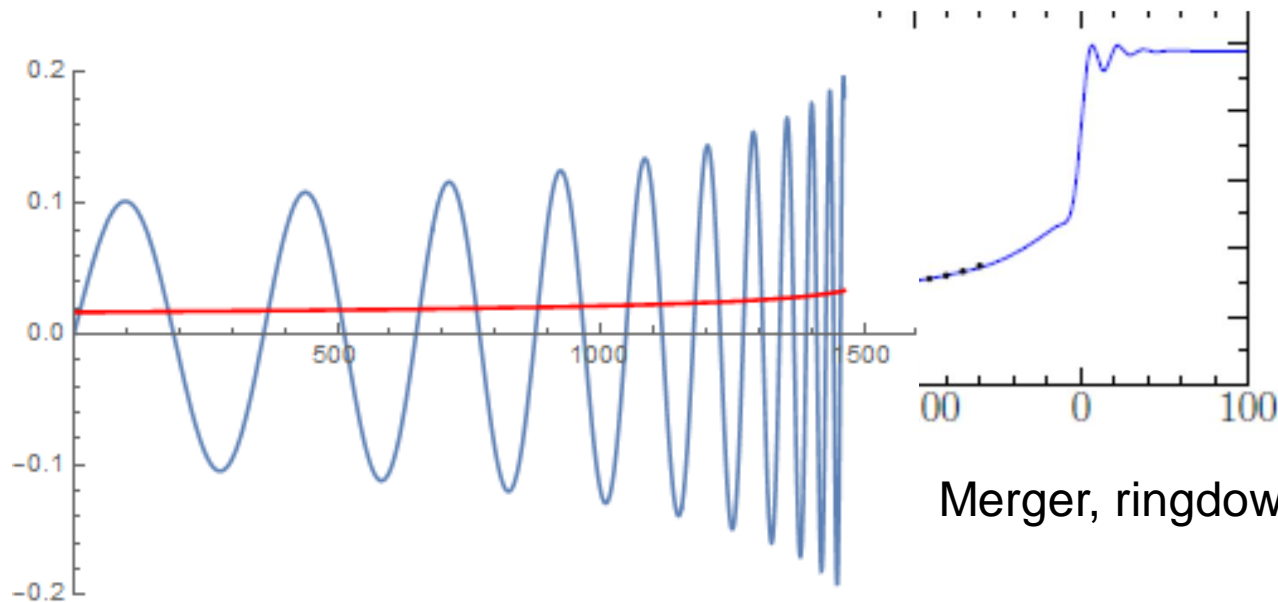
Binary M+M on circular orbit, radius  $R$ , generates gravrad at  $\mathbf{x}'$ ,  $R$  decays

The  $T_{ij}$  of this gravrad sources further gravrad observed at  $\mathbf{x}$ . Integrating over lifetime of binary gives rise to memory effect at  $\mathbf{x}$



$$h_{\theta\theta}^{TT}(t, \mathbf{x}) = -h_{\phi\phi}^{TT} = \frac{GE_{\text{kin}}}{c^4 r} \cdot \frac{1}{24} (17 + \cos^2 \theta_x) \sin^2 \theta_x + \text{oscill}$$

Memory, like Newtonian 1/r-potential



Merger, ringdown numerically

Inspiral computed analytically

How do you observe the red curve from the sum?

## 2. Null infinity: where photons and gravitons end up

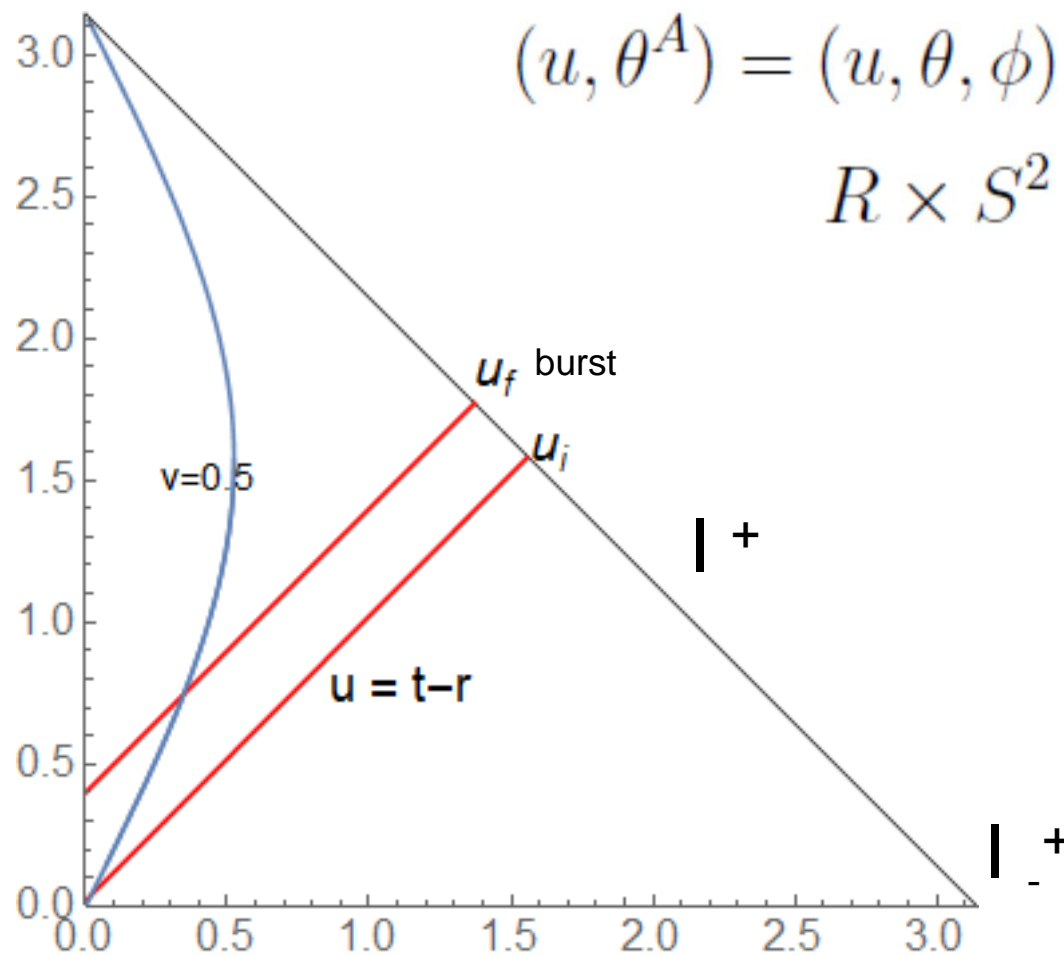
Gluons?  
Dress to  
massive  
glueballs

$$T = \arctan(t + r) + \arctan(t - r)$$

$$r = \infty$$

$$(u, \theta^A) = (u, \theta, \phi) = (u, z, \bar{z})$$

$$R \times S^2$$



$$R = \arctan(t + r) - \arctan(t - r)$$



# Celestial sphere $S^2$

Coordinates  $q^A$ ,  $A=1,2$

$$\theta^A = (\theta, \phi) = (z, \bar{z}) \quad z = \frac{1}{\tan \frac{1}{2}\theta} e^{i\phi} :$$

$$ds^2 = h_{AB} d\theta^A d\theta^B = d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 = \frac{4}{(1 + z\bar{z})^2} dz d\bar{z}$$

$$h_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \gamma \\ \gamma & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Covariant derivative  $D_A$ ,  $D^2 = D_A D^A = -\mathbf{L}^2$

### 3. Photons at null infy: U(1) memory is a kick

Bieri-Garfinkle 1307.5098

[Sarkkinen helda.helsinki.fi/handle/10138/231490](https://hdl.handle.net/10138/231490)

Gauss  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho \Rightarrow$

$$-\partial_u E_r + D_A E^A = \rho(u, \theta^A)$$

Time integral over  
pulse gives a kick:

$$\ddot{x} = eE \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta \dot{x} = e \int dt E$$

U(1) memory = kick  $eM^B(q^A)$  can be solved from

$$D_B \underbrace{\int_{u_i}^{u_f} du E^B}_{=M^B(\theta^A)} = \underbrace{\int_{u_i}^{u_f} du \rho(u, \theta^A)}_{\text{charge flux in } \theta^A}$$

Need massless  
charged ples!

U(1) covariant discussion, only  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$ , no potentials  $A_m$



What happens if we use potentials  $A_m$  and fix the gauge?

Choose  $A_r=0$  everywhere and  $A_u=0$  at  $r=\infty$ .  $A_B$  remains with gauge invariance  $A_B \rightarrow A_B + \partial_B \chi$

$$M_B = \int du E_B = \int du F_{uB} = \int du \partial_u A_B = A_B(u_f) - A_B(u_i) \quad \sim \text{super-translation!}$$

A physical measurement fixes a gauge transformation.

Proclamation: these "large" (=nonzero!) gauge trafos at null infinity are not redundancies but form a new symmetry of ED vacuum at null infty. I see no new physics, only gauge choice

Abhorrent to a lattice QCD person

Symmetry built in a trivially cons current

$$J^\mu = \nabla_\nu (F^{\nu\mu} \chi(\theta^A)) \quad Q_\chi = \int d\Omega r^2 F^{r0} \chi$$

Gives a way of rederiving soft photon emission amplitudes.

Past null to future null infty.

## 4. Gravitons at null infinity

The memory effect can be computed in analogy with U(1) case by replacing Lorentz force by the geodetic dev eq

$$\partial_u^2 S^A = R^A_{uuB} S^B \quad \text{Bieri-Garfinkle 1312.6871}$$

and Maxwell by (C=Weyl)

$$\nabla^\mu C_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = 4\pi G (\nabla_\alpha T_{\nu\beta} - \nabla_\beta T_{\nu\alpha}).$$

Entirely covariant, no "gauge choice". Supertranslations never mentioned.

Where is the symmetry group at null infinity and what are its gauge transformations?

## 5. Gravity near spatial infinity

Vacuum  $T_{mn}=0$      $R_{mn}=0$

Schwarzschild in  $u, r, q^A$

$$ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)du^2 - 2du\,dr + r^2 h_{AB}d\theta^A d\theta^B$$

$$d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2 = \frac{4}{(1+z\bar{z})^2} dz d\bar{z}$$

$R_{mn}=0$  but  $R_{mab}$  is nonzero = Weyl tensor  $C_{mab}$

DoF counting: 10 comps of  $g_{mn}$  are determined by 10 Einstein eqs  $R_{mn}=8\pi G T_{mn}$   
(6 dynamical, 4 gauge) The extra 10 comps of Riemann are hidden in Weyl

## 6. Gravity near null infinity

$r$  to infty at constant  $u = t-r$

How do you modify Minkowski to exhibit effects of gravrad?

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} \overset{u}{-1} & \overset{r}{-1} & \overset{q^A}{0} \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & h_{AB} \end{pmatrix}, \quad g^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & h^{AB} \end{pmatrix}$$

Bondi gauge: choose 4 gauge conds  $g_{rr} = g_{rA} = \partial_r \det h_{AB} = 0$

Sachs, PR 128, 2851 (1962)

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} g_{uu} & g_{ur} & g_{uA} \\ g_{ur} & 0 & 0 \\ g_{uA} & 0 & r^2 h_{AB} \end{pmatrix}$$

Zeros imply that  
null geodesics are  
 $u = \text{const}, q^A = \text{const}$

Complete gauge fixing, only 6 dynamical dofs remain!

Key point: approach to flatness when  $r$  increases:

With order  $1/r$  corrections:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} u & r & z & \bar{z} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -1 + \frac{2Gm(u,z,\bar{z})}{r} & -1 & \partial^z c(u,z,\bar{z}) & \partial^{\bar{z}} \bar{c}(u,z,\bar{z}) \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \partial^z c(u,z,\bar{z}) & 0 & rc(u,z,\bar{z}) & r^2\gamma \\ \partial^{\bar{z}} \bar{c}(u,z,\bar{z}) & 0 & r^2\gamma & r\bar{c}(u,z,\bar{z}) \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Gravrad is built in the next-to-leading functions  $m(u, q^A)$  and symmetric traceless tensor  $C_{AB}(u, q^A)$  on  $S^2$

$$r^2 h_{AB} + r C_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} rc & r^2 \gamma \\ r^2 \gamma & r \bar{c} \end{pmatrix} \quad \gamma = \frac{2}{(1 + z\bar{z})^2}$$

$$C_{AB} = (D_A D_B - \frac{1}{2} D^2 h_{AB}) C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{zz} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_z^2 C & 0 \\ 0 & D_{\bar{z}}^2 C \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\psi_i = \partial_i S$$

So far only gauge fixing! But aiming at correct radiation zone physics

The analogue of U(1) invariance for ED  
is the set of diffeomorphisms leaving this invariant=the symmetry group at null infinity

$$x^\mu \rightarrow x'^\mu = x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x)$$

BMS group

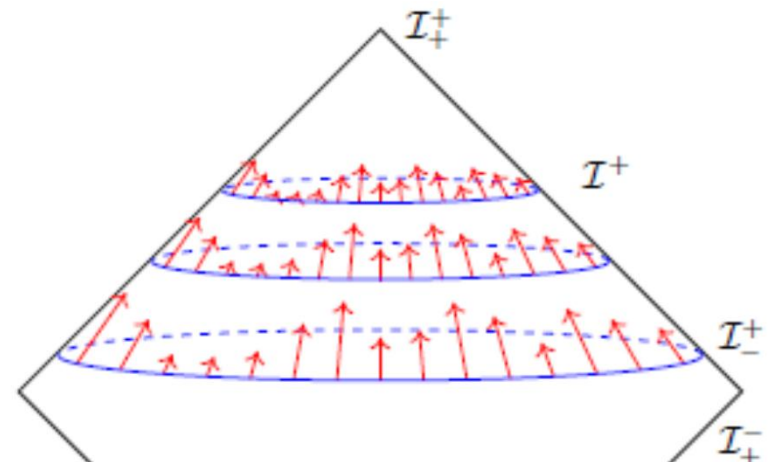
$$(u, r, \theta^B) \rightarrow \underbrace{(u + \alpha(\theta^A))}_{\text{supertranslation}}, r + \frac{1}{2} D^2 \alpha, \theta^B - \frac{1}{r} D^B \alpha$$

supertranslation

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi g_{rr} = 2g_{ur} \partial_r \xi^u = 0 \text{ etc}$$

u coordinate is shifted in each direction on  $S^2$  by a direction dependent amount: we are infinitely far and clocks cannot be synchronised (?)

Energy conserved at each  $q^A$



Strominger 1703.05448

Also  $m$  and  $C_{AB}$  are transformed under supertranslations:

$$C_{AB} \rightarrow C_{AB} - 2(D_A D_B - \frac{1}{2} h_{AB} D^2) \alpha(\theta^A) + ..$$

# Gravity memory after gauge fixing

Take geodesic deviation equation

$$r^2 \partial_u^2 S_A = R_{AuuB} S^B$$

compute for the Bondi gauge      Simple!

$$R_{uAuB} = -\frac{1}{2}r \partial_u^2 C_{AB} + \mathcal{O}(r^0)$$

integrate  $\partial_u^2 S_A = \frac{1}{2r} \partial_u^2 C_{AB} S^B$  over  $u_i < u < u_f$

and get the displacement memory  $\Delta S_A = \frac{1}{2r} \Delta C_{AB} S_i^B$

Physical measurement has fixed the "large" gauge trafo,  
supertranslation  $a(q^A)$

Crucial difference:  $U(1)$  holds in the bulk, BMS on the boundary

## 7. BMS group, symmetry group of null infity

**Poincare**: semidirect product of Lorentz and translations

$$(\Lambda_1, a_1)(\Lambda_2, a_2) = (\Lambda_1\Lambda_2, \Lambda_1 a_2 + a_1)$$

Wigner representations: massive, massless particles with discrete spins

Banerjee 1801.10171: little group of null momentum direction!

**BMS group**: semidirect product of Lorentz=SL(2,C) and supertranslations

$$\text{In } \Lambda_1 \alpha_2(z_2, \bar{z}_2) \quad L_1 \text{ also affects } z_2$$

Reps have been worked out but they do not have the interpretation of particles in the bulk since this is an asymptotic boundary symmetry

Pretty detail: 4 ordinary translations are  $\ell=0,1$  supertranslations  $\sim Y_l^m$



## 8. From null infinity to black holes

Hawking-Perry-Strominger  
1601.0092, 1611.09175  
Kolekar-Louko  
1703.10619, 1709.07355

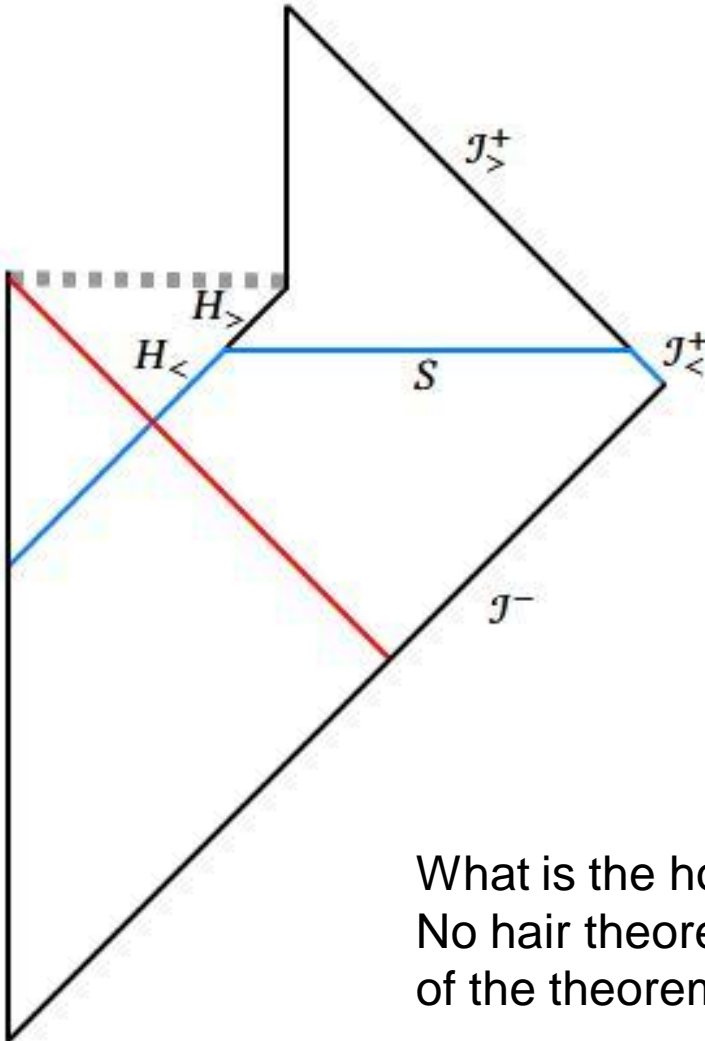
Idea:

$I^+$  and  $H$  are both null surfaces  
 $R \times S^2$  moving with  $c$

$I^+$  has an asympt BMS symmetry  
incl supertranslations

Could one extend the same symm  
to  $H$  and use sutras and its  
charges to characterise BHs?

What is the horizon measurement corresp to memory?  
No hair theorem tells no such exists – unless conditions  
of the theorem are violated.



# Conclusions

Memory effect as such is straightforward to analyse both for ED and GR

In ED it can be analysed in terms of  $U(1)$  gauge symmetry and the magnitude can be related to a gauge transformation. No breaking of gauge invariance.

In GR it can also be related to a carefully defined symmetry of null infinity and its symmetry transformations: Lorentz times supertranslations. A supertranslation is a "gauge transformation" and its magnitude can be determined by observing the memory effect

I find it hard to believe that this could have anything to do with understanding where info of what you threw to the BH is after the BH has disappeared

Leftovers

Memory1:  $\mathbf{v} = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{v}$  (of galaxy, graviton, whatever)

Weinberg, Gravitation 10.4 1972

$$h_{ij}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 4G \int \frac{d^3x'}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} \frac{p_j p_j}{E} \delta^3(\mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{v}(t - |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|))$$

$$= 4G \frac{p_i p_j}{E} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x}| - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = \frac{4GE}{r(1 - v_z)} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(v_x^2 - v_y^2) & v_x v_y & 0 \\ v_x v_y & -\frac{1}{2}(v_x^2 - v_y^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

TT projection

Magnitude:  $\frac{r_{\text{Schw}}}{r} \gamma v^2 \sim 10^{3-5-16-6} \sim 10^{-24} \dots$

Soft graviton emission  
amplitude from an outg  
graviton line of mom  $x$ :

$$h_{ij} = 4G \frac{p_i p_j}{p \cdot x}$$

Gravrad at the point  $x' = (q, f, r)$ :

Keplerian!

$$h^{TT} = \frac{r_s^2}{2rR} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \cos 2(\Omega u - \phi) & \cos \theta \sin 2(\Omega u - \phi) & 0 \\ \cos \theta \sin 2(\Omega u - \phi) & \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \cos 2(\Omega u - \phi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r_s = \frac{2GM}{c^2} \rightarrow 2M$$

has an energy flow

$$\frac{dL}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \frac{r_s^5}{(2R)^5} \left[ \frac{1}{2} + 3 \cos^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2} \cos^4 \theta - \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\Omega u - 4\phi) \right].$$

$$L = \int d\Omega \frac{dL}{d\Omega} = \frac{2}{5} \frac{M^5}{R(t)^5} = -\frac{dE}{dt} \rightarrow \frac{dR}{dt} = -\frac{8}{5} \frac{M^3}{R^3}$$

which sources a new grav wave

$$h_{ij}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 4G \int d^4x' \delta(t - t' - |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} \frac{dL}{r'^2 d\Omega'} n'_i n'_j.$$

$$T_{ij}(t', \mathbf{x}')$$

Conserved symm  
current

$$J^\mu = \nabla_\nu (F^{\nu\mu} \chi(\theta^A)) \qquad \nabla_\mu J^\mu = 0$$

With associated  
charge

$$Q_\chi = \int d\Omega \, r^2 F^{r0} \chi$$

One claims gauge inv of vacuum is broken -> Goldstone bosons

I see no breaking of U(1) gauge invariance, only gauge choice

Fundamental eq of gravrad: Einstein,  $R_{uu} = 0$ :

$$m'(u) = -\frac{1}{8G} (\partial_u C_{AB})(\partial_u C^{AB}) + \frac{1}{8G} D^2(D^2 + 2)\partial_u C$$

Change  
in  $m(u)$

gravrad flux at  $I^+$

$$T_{uu}^{\text{rad}} = \frac{1}{r^2 32\pi G} \partial_u C_{AB} \partial_u C^{AB}$$

and a change in  $C$   
which after pulse has  
passed adds up to a  
change in  $C_{AB}$ :

Integrating over pulse: magnitude of  $D^2(D^2+2)DC$  is computed from  
 $Dm$  (ordinary gravrad) and flux of gravrad to null infity

$C$  labels physically inequivalent (different memory) vacua at null infity

$D^2(D^2+2) = -l(l+1)(l+2)(l-1)$  so you cannot determine the  $Y_1^m(q,f)$  modes  
these are ordinary translations!!

In ED U(1) a kick was measured:

$$(*) \quad \Delta \dot{x} = e \int du E \equiv eM$$

and related to a gauge transformation:

$$(**) \quad M_B = \int du E_B = \int du F_{uB} = \int du \partial_u A_B = A_B(u_f) - A_B(u_i)$$

Now we have a "gauge transformation", supertranslation. It is measured via the memory effect

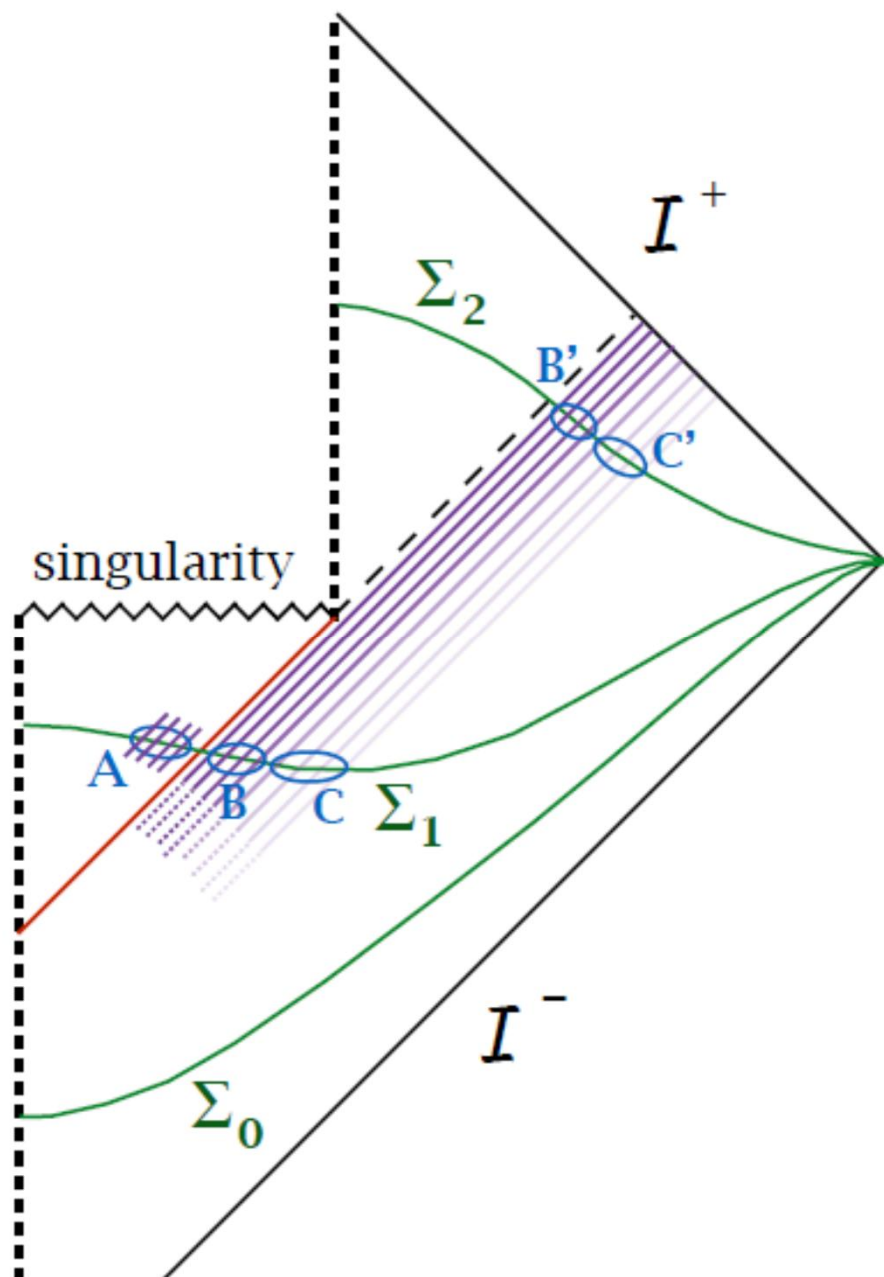
$$(\wedge) \quad h_{AB} \Delta S^B = \frac{1}{2r} \Delta C_{AB} S_i^B \quad \partial_u^2 S^A = R^A_{uuB} S^B$$

$$(**) \quad C_{AB} \rightarrow C_{AB} - 2(D_A D_B - \frac{1}{2} h_{AB} D^2) \alpha(z, \bar{z}) + \alpha \partial_u C_{AB}$$

+ analogue of Gauss = uu component of Einstein

$$\Delta C_{AB} = (D_A D_B - \frac{1}{2} h_{AB} D^2) \Delta C$$

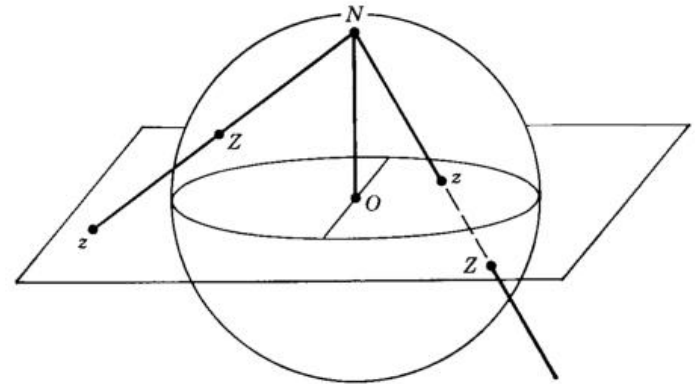
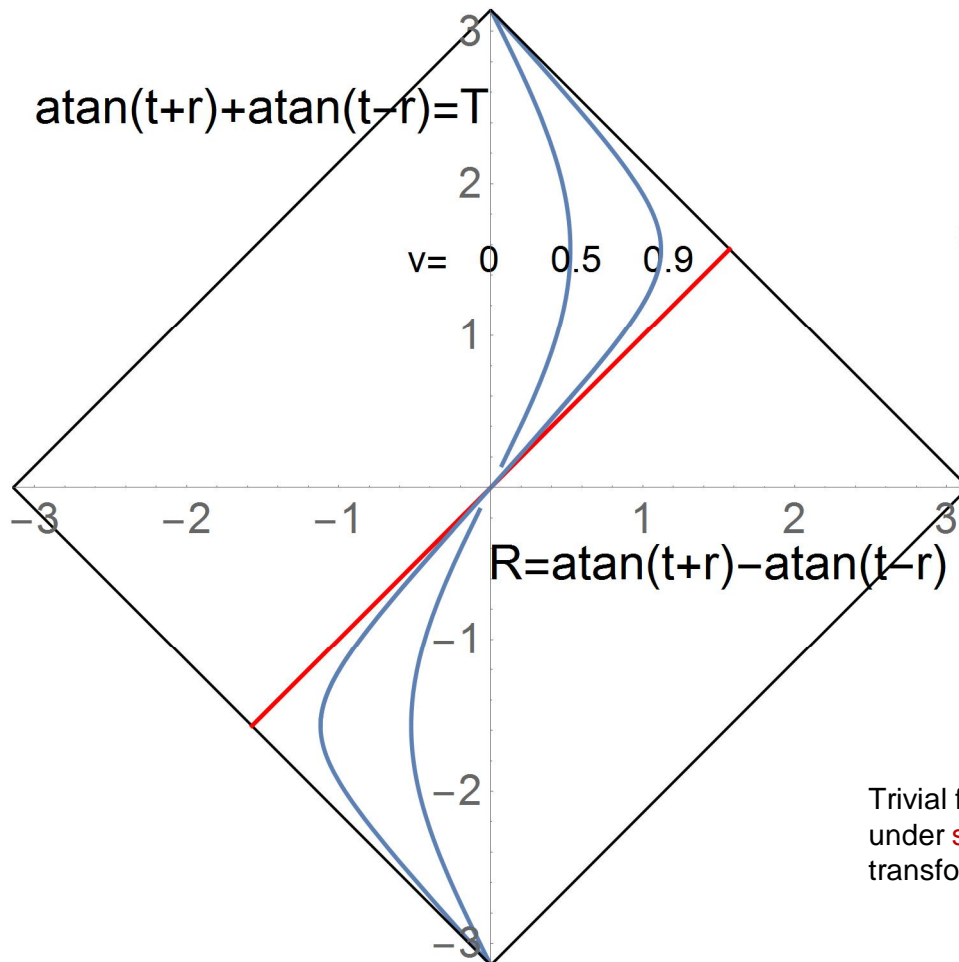




# Null infinity

$$-dt^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{(\cos T + \cos R)^2} \left( -dT^2 + dR^2 + \sin^2 R d\Omega^2 \right)$$



Trivial for  $U(1)$ . In gravity there will be a non-trivial symmetry under **supertranslations**  $u \rightarrow u + f(q^A)$  where also the "gauge transformation"  $f$  can be fixed by measuring memory.