

# QUASI—LOCAL MASS, THE PENROSE PROPERTY OF SCRI, AND CAUSALITY.

Maciej Dunajski

Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics  
University of Cambridge

# MASS IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

- No local energy density.
- At space-like/null infinities: ADM/Trautman-Bondi.
- Quasi-local, for a closed space-like 2-surface  $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ .
- Properties? (positivity, . . . ). Lots of possibilities.

# MASS IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

- No local energy density.
- At space-like/null infinities: ADM/Trautman-Bondi.
- Quasi-local, for a closed space-like 2-surface  $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ .
- Properties? (positivity, . . .). Lots of possibilities.
- This talk:
  - ① Quasi-local mass of Kerr black hole horizon using isometric embedding.

Dunajski, M. and Tod, P. (2021) *The Kijowski–Liu–Yau quasi-local mass of the Kerr black hole horizon*. CQG, **38**. arXiv:2107.12400.

# MASS IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

- No local energy density.
- At space-like/null infinities: ADM/Trautman-Bondi.
- Quasi-local, for a closed space-like 2-surface  $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ .
- Properties? (positivity, . . .). Lots of possibilities.
- This talk:
  - ① Quasi-local mass of Kerr black hole horizon using isometric embedding.  
Dunajski, M. and Tod, P. (2021) *The Kijowski–Liu–Yau quasi-local mass of the Kerr black hole horizon*. CQG, **38**. arXiv:2107.12400.
  - ② Relation between mass, and global/causal properties of space-times.  
Cameron, P. and Dunajski M (2020) *On Schwarzschild causality in higher dimensions*. CQG **37**. arXiv:2004.00086.  
Cameron, P. (2023) *Positivity of mass in higher dimensions*. Annales Henri Poincaré **24**. arXiv:2010.05086.

# QUASI-LOCAL MASS FROM ISOMETRIC EMBEDDINGS

- Brown–York (1983), . . . , Kijowski (1997), . . . , Liu+Yau (2003), . . .

# QUASI-LOCAL MASS FROM ISOMETRIC EMBEDDINGS

- Brown–York (1983), . . . , Kijowski (1997), . . . , Liu+Yau (2003), . . .
- $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ , closed, non-negative Gaussian curvature  $K$ , global isometric embedding  $\iota : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .

# QUASI-LOCAL MASS FROM ISOMETRIC EMBEDDINGS

- Brown–York (1983), . . . , Kijowski (1997), . . . , Liu+Yau (2003), . . .
- $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ , closed, non-negative Gaussian curvature  $K$ , global isometric embedding  $\iota : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Kijowski–Liu–Yau energy

$$E_{KLY} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\Sigma} (H - |\hat{H}|) \text{vol}_{\Sigma}, \quad \text{where}$$

$H$  = mean curvature of  $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\hat{H}$  = mean curvature vector of  $\Sigma \subset M$ .

# QUASI-LOCAL MASS FROM ISOMETRIC EMBEDDINGS

- Brown–York (1983), …, Kijowski (1997), …, Liu+Yau (2003), …
- $(\Sigma, h) \subset (M, g)$ , closed, non-negative Gaussian curvature  $K$ , global isometric embedding  $\iota : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Kijowski–Liu–Yau energy

$$E_{KLY} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\Sigma} (H - |\hat{H}|) \text{vol}_{\Sigma}, \quad \text{where}$$

$H$  = mean curvature of  $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\hat{H}$  = mean curvature vector of  $\Sigma \subset M$ .

- Pros: Amenable to computations (formula!), positive (Liu–Yau 2003).  
Cons: ‘too positive’ (Murchadha, Szabados, Tod 2004), excludes  $\Sigma$  with  $K < 0$  (e.g. extreme Kerr horizon).

# KERR HORIZON

- Fix  $(t, r = r_+)$  in the Boyer–Lindquist coordinates. Set  $x = \cos \theta$

$$g = \rho^2(B^{-1}dx^2 + Bd\phi^2), \quad \text{where} \quad B = \frac{(1+c^2)(1-x^2)}{1+c^2x^2}, \quad \text{and}$$

$$\rho^2 = 2m(m + \sqrt{m^2 - J^2/m^2}), \quad c = \frac{2J}{\rho^2} \in [0, 1], \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

# KERR HORIZON

- Fix  $(t, r = r_+)$  in the Boyer–Lindquist coordinates. Set  $x = \cos \theta$

$$g = \rho^2(B^{-1}dx^2 + Bd\phi^2), \quad \text{where} \quad B = \frac{(1+c^2)(1-x^2)}{1+c^2x^2}, \quad \text{and}$$
$$\rho^2 = 2m(m + \sqrt{m^2 - J^2/m^2}), \quad c = \frac{2J}{\rho^2} \in [0, 1], \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

- Gaussian curvature

$$K = \frac{(c^2 + 1)^2(1 - 3c^2x^2)}{\rho^2(1 + c^2x^2)^2} \geq \frac{(1 - 3c^2)}{\rho^2(c^2 + 1)} = K_{min}$$

Negative near antipodal points if  $c \in (\sqrt{3}^{-1}, 1]$ .

# KERR HORIZON

- Fix  $(t, r = r_+)$  in the Boyer–Lindquist coordinates. Set  $x = \cos \theta$

$$g = \rho^2(B^{-1}dx^2 + Bd\phi^2), \quad \text{where } B = \frac{(1+c^2)(1-x^2)}{1+c^2x^2}, \quad \text{and}$$
$$\rho^2 = 2m(m + \sqrt{m^2 - J^2/m^2}), \quad c = \frac{2J}{\rho^2} \in [0, 1], \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

- Gaussian curvature

$$K = \frac{(c^2 + 1)^2(1 - 3c^2x^2)}{\rho^2(1 + c^2x^2)^2} \geq \frac{(1 - 3c^2)}{\rho^2(c^2 + 1)} = K_{min}$$

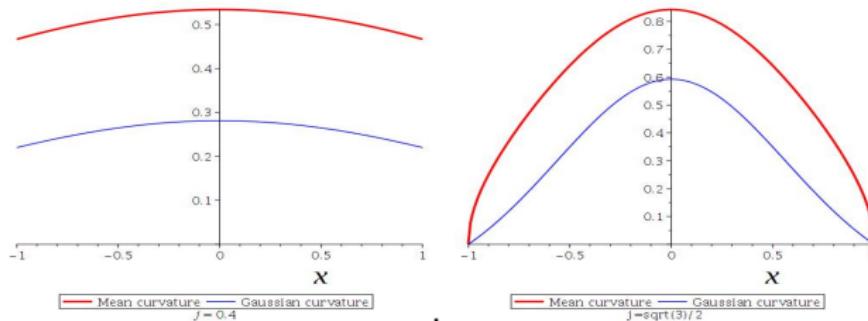
Negative near antipodal points if  $c \in (\sqrt{3}^{-1}, 1]$ .

- Idea: Use an embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  for  $c \in [0, \sqrt{3}^{-1}]$ , and an embedding in  $\mathbb{H}^3$  with maximal hyperbolic radius for  $c \in (\sqrt{3}^{-1}, 1]$ .

# SLOW ROTATING HORIZONS

$$G = d\zeta^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2, \quad \zeta = \pm \frac{\rho}{2} \int \frac{\sqrt{B(4 - (B')^2)}}{B} dx, \quad r = \rho\sqrt{B}.$$

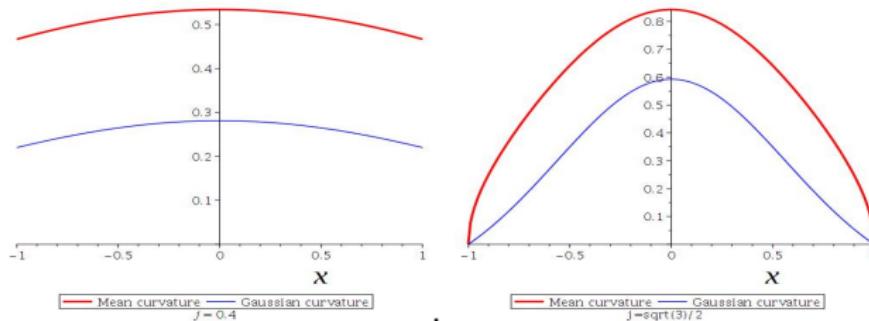
- Gaussian and mean curvatures,  $c = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - j^2}}{j}, j \equiv J/m^2$ .



# SLOW ROTATING HORIZONS

$$G = d\zeta^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2, \quad \zeta = \pm \frac{\rho}{2} \int \frac{\sqrt{B(4 - (B')^2)}}{B} dx, \quad r = \rho\sqrt{B}.$$

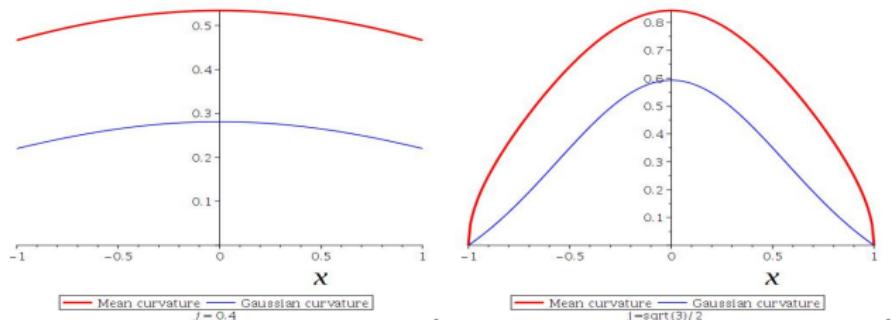
- Gaussian and mean curvatures,  $c = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - j^2}}{j}, j \equiv J/m^2$ .



# SLOW ROTATING HORIZONS

$$G = d\zeta^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2, \quad \zeta = \pm \frac{\rho}{2} \int \frac{\sqrt{B(4 - (B')^2)}}{B} dx, \quad r = \rho\sqrt{B}.$$

- Gaussian and mean curvatures,  $c = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - j^2}}{j}, j \equiv J/m^2$ .



$$\begin{aligned} E(m, j) &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \int_0^{2\pi} H(x)\rho^2 d\phi dx \\ &= m \left( 2 - \frac{1}{4}j^2 - \frac{17}{320}j^4 - \frac{407}{17920}j^6 - \dots \right). \end{aligned}$$

# RAPIDLY ROTATING HORIZONS

- **Theorem** (Pogorelov 1964). Any surface  $(\Sigma, h)$  with  $K \geq -L^2$  can be globally isometrically embedded in the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3$  with Ricci scalar less or equal to  $-6L^{-2}$ .

# RAPIDLY ROTATING HORIZONS

- **Theorem** (Pogorelov 1964). Any surface  $(\Sigma, h)$  with  $K \geq -L^2$  can be globally isometrically embedded in the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3$  with Ricci scalar less or equal to  $-6L^{-2}$ .
- Gibbons, Herdeiro, Rebelo (2009)

$$G = \frac{L^2}{z^2} \left( dz^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2 \right), \quad \text{where} \quad r(x) = \frac{\rho}{L} \sqrt{B(x)} z(x)$$
$$z(x) = \exp \left( \int \left( \frac{-\rho^2 BB' \pm \rho \sqrt{B(4\rho^2 B + 4L^2 - L^2(B')^2)}}{2B(\rho^2 B + L^2)} \right) dx \right)$$

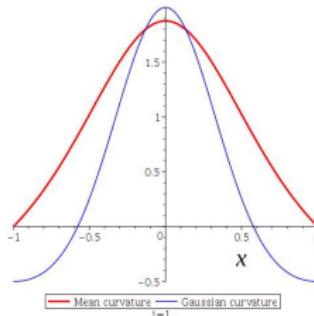
# RAPIDLY ROTATING HORIZONS

- **Theorem** (Pogorelov 1964). Any surface  $(\Sigma, h)$  with  $K \geq -L^2$  can be globally isometrically embedded in the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3$  with Ricci scalar less or equal to  $-6L^{-2}$ .
- Gibbons, Herdeiro, Rebelo (2009)

$$G = \frac{L^2}{z^2} (dz^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2), \quad \text{where} \quad r(x) = \frac{\rho}{L} \sqrt{B(x)} z(x)$$

$$z(x) = \exp \left( \int \left( \frac{-\rho^2 BB' \pm \rho \sqrt{B(4\rho^2 B + 4L^2 - L^2(B')^2)}}{2B(\rho^2 B + L^2)} \right) dx \right)$$

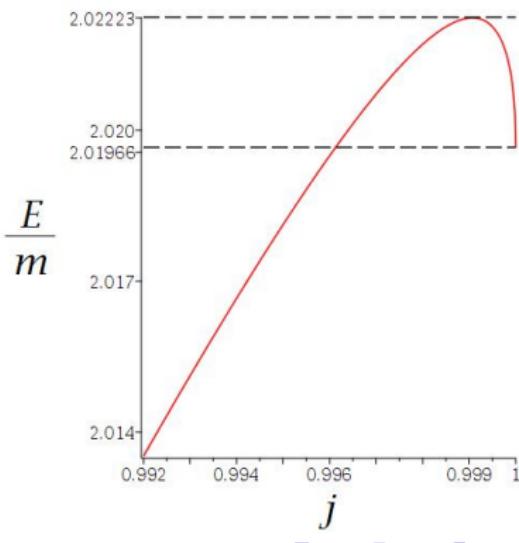
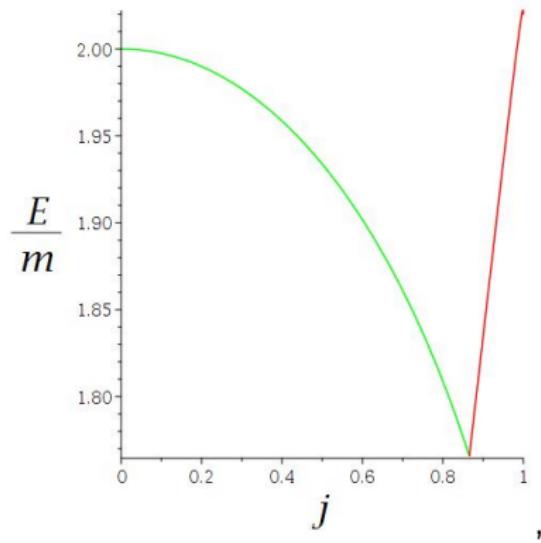
- Gaussian and mean curvatures



# QUASI-LOCAL ENERGY AS A FUNCTION OF $j = J/m^2$ .

$$H(x) = \frac{c\sqrt{1-x^2}(x^4(2c^4 - 5c^6) + x^2(-4c^6 - 12c^4 + 6c^2) + c^4 + 3c^2 + 9)}{\rho\sqrt{(1+c^2)(1+c^2x^2)^3}\sqrt{x^4(c^4 - 2c^6) + x^2(-c^6 - 4c^4 + 3c^2) + 3}}.$$

$$E(m, j) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \int_0^{2\pi} H(x) \rho^2 d\phi dx.$$



# NEAR-EXTREMAL KERR BLACK HOLES

- $E(m, j)$  attains a maximum at  $j \sim 0.99907$ .

# NEAR-EXTREMAL KERR BLACK HOLES

- $E(m, j)$  attains a maximum at  $j \sim 0.99907$ .
- Other things ‘happen’ near extremal  $j$ :

# NEAR-EXTREMAL KERR BLACK HOLES

- $E(m, j)$  attains a maximum at  $j \sim 0.99907$ .
- Other things ‘happen’ near extremal  $j$ :
- $j \sim 0.998$  for the equilibrium of a black hole absorbing matter and radiation from an accretion disk. (Kip Thorne 1974).

# NEAR-EXTREMAL KERR BLACK HOLES

- $E(m, j)$  attains a maximum at  $j \sim 0.99907$ .
- Other things ‘happen’ near extremal  $j$ :
- $j \sim 0.998$  for the equilibrium of a black hole absorbing matter and radiation from an accretion disk. (Kip Thorne 1974).
- Kerr boomerang at  $j \sim 0.99434$  (Don Page 2021  
[arXiv:2106.13262](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.13262)).

# OUTLOOK OF PART I

Work in progress with Alex Colling

- For certain range of  $(\Lambda, m)$  the extreme Kerr-dS horizon can be embedded in both  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ , and its Li-Yau mass can be computed.

# OUTLOOK OF PART I

Work in progress with Alex Colling

- For certain range of  $(\Lambda, m)$  the extreme Kerr-dS horizon can be embedded in both  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ , and its Li–Yau mass can be computed.

The Wang–Yau mass ([M. T. Wang, and S. T. Yau \(2009\) Quasi-local mass in general relativity, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102](#))

- Applicable to surfaces with negative Gaussian curvature.
- Solves the Minkowski rigidity problem
- Uses isometric embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ :

# OUTLOOK OF PART I

Work in progress with Alex Colling

- For certain range of  $(\Lambda, m)$  the extreme Kerr-dS horizon can be embedded in both  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ , and its Li–Yau mass can be computed.

The Wang–Yau mass ([M. T. Wang, and S. T. Yau \(2009\) Quasi-local mass in general relativity, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102](#))

- Applicable to surfaces with negative Gaussian curvature.
- Solves the Minkowski rigidity problem
- Uses isometric embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ :
  - Find a ‘time function’  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s. t.

$$\hat{g} = g + d\tau^2$$

has positive Gaussian curvature.

- Embedding of  $(\Sigma, \hat{g})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  gives an embedding  $X$  of  $(\Sigma, g)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ .

# OUTLOOK OF PART I

## Work in progress with Alex Colling

- For certain range of  $(\Lambda, m)$  the extreme Kerr-dS horizon can be embedded in both  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ , and its Li–Yau mass can be computed.

The Wang–Yau mass ([M. T. Wang, and S. T. Yau \(2009\) Quasi-local mass in general relativity, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102](#))

- Applicable to surfaces with negative Gaussian curvature.
- Solves the Minkowski rigidity problem
- Uses isometric embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ :
  - Find a ‘time function’  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s. t.

$$\hat{g} = g + d\tau^2$$

has positive Gaussian curvature.

- Embedding of  $(\Sigma, \hat{g})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  gives an embedding  $X$  of  $(\Sigma, g)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ .
- Compute a mass  $M(X, \tau)$ , and find an infimum of  $M$  over all  $\tau$ : a variational problem for  $\tau$ .
- Not applicable if the mean curvature of  $\Sigma$  in space–time vanishes (e.g. Kerr horizon) (but there exists a ‘limiting procedures’: Miller, Ray, Wang, Yau (2018) and Zhao, Andersson, Yau (2024)).



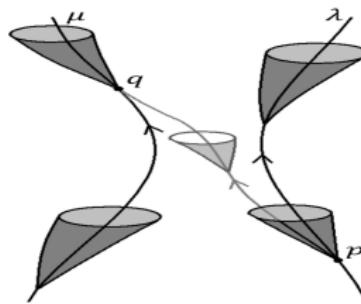
# MASS AND CAUSALITY

- Asymptotic properties of space-time near space-like infinity depend on a mass.
- Shapiro effect: light-rays passing near a positive mass source are delayed.
- Anti-Shapiro effect: light-rays passing infinitely far from a positive mass source are advanced.
- Penrose, Sorkin, Woolgar (1993) *A Positive Mass Theorem Based on the Focusing and Retardation of Null Geodesics* gr-qc/9301015v2.

# PENROSE PROPERTY

Roger Penrose (1980) *On Schwarzschild Causality - A Problem for 'Lorentz Covariant' General Relativity.* in Essays in General Relativity. 1-12.

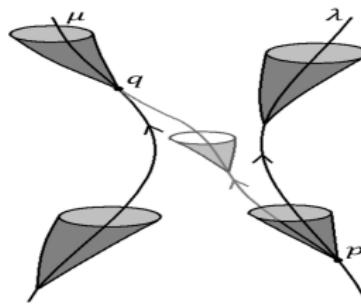
- An asymptotically flat space–time admits a Penrose Property (PP) if any pair of endless timelike curves can be connected by a timelike curve.



# PENROSE PROPERTY

Roger Penrose (1980) *On Schwarzschild Causality - A Problem for 'Lorentz Covariant' General Relativity.* in Essays in General Relativity. 1-12.

- An asymptotically flat space–time admits a Penrose Property (PP) if any pair of endless timelike curves can be connected by a timelike curve.

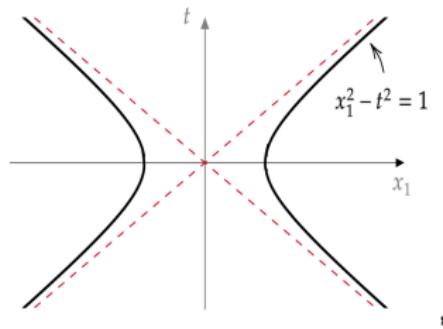


- Equivalent formulation: A weakly asymptotically simple Lorentzian manifold admits PP if and only if the timelike future of any point  $p \in \mathcal{I}^-$  contains the whole of  $\mathcal{I}^+$ .

MINKOWSKI, SCHWARZSCHILD AND KERR

- Minkowski space–time in  $(d + 1)$  dim: PP doesn't hold.

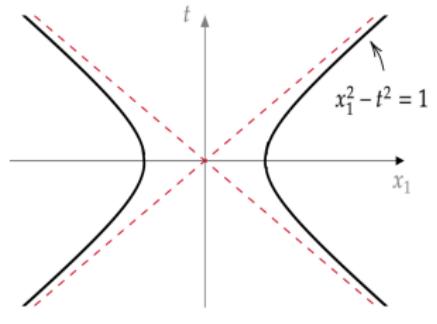
$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dx_1^2 - \cdots - dx_n^2, \quad x_1^2 - t^2 = 1, x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$$



# MINKOWSKI, SCHWARZSCHILD AND KERR

- Minkowski space–time in  $(d + 1)$  dim: PP doesn't hold.

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dx_1^2 - \cdots - dx_n^2, \quad x_1^2 - t^2 = 1, x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$$

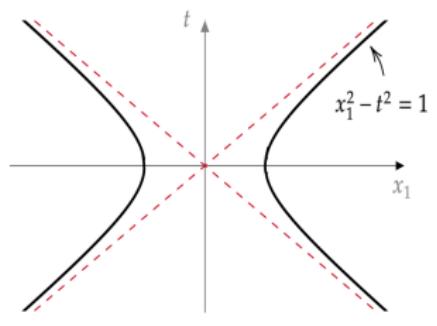


- **Theorem** (Penrose 1980) Schwarzschild in  $(3+1)$  dim: PP holds.

# MINKOWSKI, SCHWARZSCHILD AND KERR

- Minkowski space–time in  $(d + 1)$  dim: PP doesn't hold.

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dx_1^2 - \cdots - dx_n^2, \quad x_1^2 - t^2 = 1, x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$$



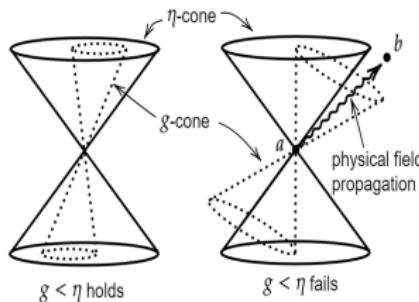
- **Theorem** (Penrose 1980) Schwarzschild in (3+1) dim: PP holds.
- **Theorem** (Cameron-D. 2020) Kerr in (3+1) dim: PP holds.

# A PROBLEM FOR PERTURBATIVE QUANTUM GRAVITY

- Lorentz covariant quantum gravity:

$$g \sim \eta + \epsilon h + \dots, \hat{O}_g(x) \sim \hat{O}_\eta^{(0)}(x) + \epsilon \hat{O}_\eta^{(1)}(x) + \dots$$

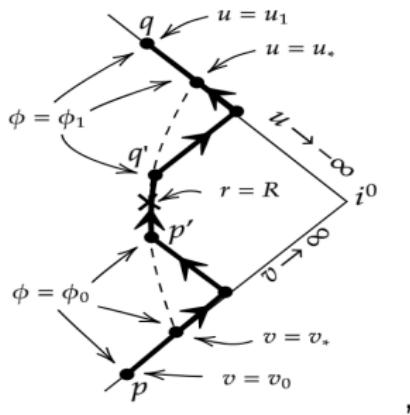
- Causality and QFT:  $[\hat{O}(a), \hat{O}(b)]$  must be zero if  $(a, b)$  space separated, and may be non-zero otherwise.
- Consistency: lightcones of  $g$  should be inside lightcones of  $\eta$ : Time like curves w.r.t  $g$  must be timelike w.r.t  $\eta$ . Write  $g < \eta$ .
- This fails for Schwarzschild and Kerr.



# SCHWARZSCHILD AND KERR

- Schwarzschild

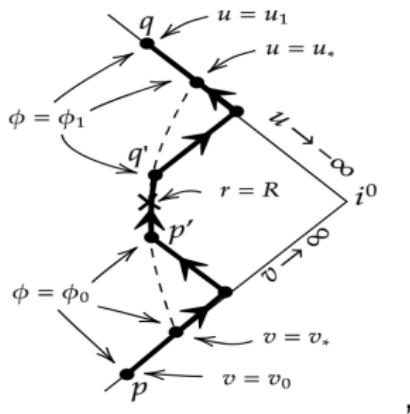
- ①  $\Delta\phi \geq (1 - r_s/r_{min})^{-1/2}\pi$  along a null geodesic  $\gamma$  between  $r = r_{min}$  and  $r = \infty$ .
- ② Connect  $p \in \mathcal{I}^-$  with  $(v_0, \phi_0)$  to  $q \in \mathcal{I}^+$  with  $(u_1, \phi_1)$  by 4 segments of radial null geodesics, and  $\gamma$  (used to adjust  $\phi$ ). Smooth the corners to obtain a time-like curve.



# SCHWARZSCHILD AND KERR

## • Schwarzschild

- ①  $\Delta\phi \geq (1 - r_s/r_{min})^{-1/2}\pi$  along a null geodesic  $\gamma$  between  $r = r_{min}$  and  $r = \infty$ .
- ② Connect  $p \in \mathcal{I}^-$  with  $(v_0, \phi_0)$  to  $q \in \mathcal{I}^+$  with  $(u_1, \phi_1)$  by 4 segments of radial null geodesics, and  $\gamma$  (used to adjust  $\phi$ ). Smooth the corners to obtain a time-like curve.



## • Kerr

- ① Use the Pretorius-Israel compactification gr-qc/9803080.
- ② Enclose Kerr light-cones by those of a *quasi-Schwarzschild* metric.

# PENROSE PROPERTY IN OTHER DIMENSIONS

- (2 + 1)-dimensional Schwarzschild and deficit angle

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dr^2 - r^2 d\phi^2, \quad 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi(1 - 4m).$$

# PENROSE PROPERTY IN OTHER DIMENSIONS

- (2 + 1)-dimensional Schwarzschild and deficit angle

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dr^2 - r^2 d\phi^2, \quad 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi(1 - 4m).$$

- Higher dimensional Schwarzschild.

$$ds^2 = V(r)dt^2 - V(r)^{-1}dr^2 - r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2, \quad V = 1 - (r_s/r)^{d-2}.$$

# PENROSE PROPERTY IN OTHER DIMENSIONS

- (2 + 1)-dimensional Schwarzschild and deficit angle

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dr^2 - r^2 d\phi^2, \quad 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi(1 - 4m).$$

- Higher dimensional Schwarzschild.

$$ds^2 = V(r)dt^2 - V(r)^{-1}dr^2 - r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2, \quad V = 1 - (r_s/r)^{d-2}.$$

- **Theorem.** (Cameron, D. 2020) The Penrose property is satisfied by Schwarzschild spacetime of mass  $m$  and varying spacetime dimension according to the following table

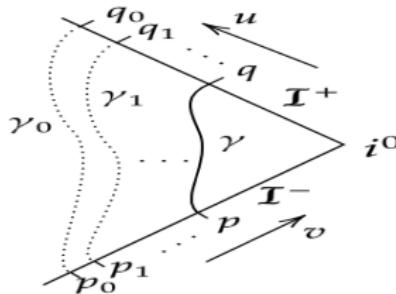
Spacetime dimension	$m > 0$	$m \leq 0$
3	Yes	No
4	Yes	No
$\geq 5$	No	No

# POSITIVITY OF MASS

- Assume that every endless null geodesic contains conjugate points (and more about asymptotics fall-off).

# POSITIVITY OF MASS

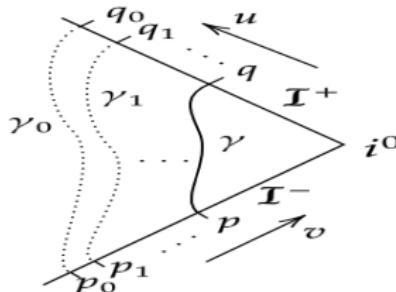
- Assume that every endless null geodesic contains conjugate points (and more about asymptotics fall-off).
- Fastest causal curve.



Note: if Penrose property holds, then no fastest causal curve exist (converse not true).

# POSITIVITY OF MASS

- Assume that every endless null geodesic contains conjugate points (and more about asymptotics fall-off).
- Fastest causal curve.

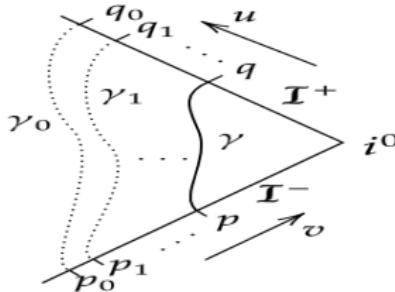


Note: if Penrose property holds, then no fastest causal curve exist (converse not true).

- (Penrose-Sorkin-Woolard (1993) in  $(3+1)$ , Chruściel–Galloway (2003), Cameron (2020) in  $(d+1)$ ) If ADM mass is negative, then a fastest causal curve exists.

# POSITIVITY OF MASS

- Assume that every endless null geodesic contains conjugate points (and more about asymptotics fall-off).
- Fastest causal curve.



Note: if Penrose property holds, then no fastest causal curve exist (converse not true).

- (Penrose-Sorkin-Woolard (1993) in  $(3+1)$ , Chruściel–Galloway (2003), Cameron (2020) in  $(d+1)$ ) If ADM mass is negative, then a fastest causal curve exists.
- ... But then it has to be a null geodesic with no-conjugate points. Contradiction.

# CONCLUSIONS

- Two approaches to mass:
- Quasi-local, based on isometric embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ .
- Global, based on causality and properties of space-times near  $i^0$ .
- Both applicable to Kerr: quasi-local mass of Kerr outer horizon, and Penrose property for Kerr space-time.
- Implications of Penrose property to celestial holography ?

# CONCLUSIONS

- Two approaches to mass:
- Quasi-local, based on isometric embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{H}^3$ .
- Global, based on causality and properties of space-times near  $i^0$ .
- Both applicable to Kerr: quasi-local mass of Kerr outer horizon, and Penrose property for Kerr space-time.
- Implications of Penrose property to celestial holography ?

Thank you!