

# Pushing the Limits of General Relativity:

Curved Space-Time Quantum Field Theory, Analogues, and Exotica

**Sebastian Schuster**

together with **Ana Alonso Serrano, Pavel Krtouš, Christian Pfeifer, Jessica Santiago, Matt Visser, [...]**

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Univerzita Karlova

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- 1 Introduction: Notation & Context
  - Conventions & A Word of Warning
  - General Relativity in Two Slides
  - Physics of GR
- 2 Quantum Field Theory: Flat, Curved, and In-Between
- 3 Analogues
- 4 Exotica
  - Preliminary: Integration Is an Art—Differentiation a Skill
  - Classics
  - Energy Conditions
- 5 Conclusion

# Introduction: Notation & Context

Goal: Don't leave anyone behind!

# My Troubles to Come

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## What I read:

QUANTUM ENERGY INEQUALITIES IN PREMETRIC ... PHYS. REV. D 97, 025019 (2018)

**Linearity:**  $\hat{A}(a\psi + \beta\phi) = a\hat{A}(\psi) + \beta\hat{A}(\phi)$  for all  $a, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ .

**Hermiticity:**  $\hat{A}(\psi) = \overline{\hat{A}(\psi)}$ .

**Field equation:**  $\hat{A}(PA) = 0$ .

**Canonical commutation relations (CCR):**  $[\hat{A}(j), \hat{A}(f)] = i\omega(j, f)$ ;

here, we denote the unit element of  $\mathfrak{H}$  by 1 and make use of our standing conventions on  $f$ 's and  $\hat{A}$ 's.

The algebra element  $\hat{A}(j)$  can be interpreted as a smeared field  $\int \hat{A}_\mu f^\mu$  (recall that  $j$  is a vector density of weight 1, so no volume element appears); later, we will discuss Hilbert space representations in which this can be taken literally, with  $\hat{A}_\mu$  understood as an operator-valued distribution.

It is convenient to identify elements of  $\mathfrak{H}$  corresponding to smeared field strengths: for any smooth compactly supported second rank contravariant tensor density  $\iota$ , we define

$$\hat{F}(\iota) = 2\hat{A}(\text{div } \iota), \quad (13)$$

where  $(\text{div } \iota)^\mu = \partial_\nu \iota^{\mu\nu}$  is clearly a conserved vector density;  $\hat{F}(\iota)$  can be interpreted as a smeared field  $\int \hat{F}_\mu \iota^\mu$ .

The normalized positive functionals on  $\mathfrak{H}$  are called (quasi-)states. That means,  $\Lambda$  is a state on the field algebra  $\mathfrak{H}$  if

**Normalization:**  $\Lambda(1) = 1$ ,

**Positivity:**  $\Lambda(a^*a) \geq 0$ ,

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In the framework developed in [12], physical states in premetric electrodynamics are required to obey the microlocal spectrum condition ( $\mu$ SC), a generalization of the Hadamard condition used for QFT in curved spacetimes [30,31]:

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$$\text{WF}(\Lambda_2) \subset \mathcal{N}^+ \times \mathcal{N}^- \subset T^*M \times T^*M \quad (14)$$

with  $\mathcal{N}^\pm$  as defined in (7) or equivalently (II B), and whose antisymmetric part is fixed up to smooth terms by the generalized CCR<sup>8</sup>

$$\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_2^t = i\omega \pmod{\mathcal{C}^\infty},$$

where the transposed distribution is defined by  $\Lambda_2^t(f, f') = \Lambda_2(f', f)$  for general compactly supported vector densities  $f, f'$ .

The wave-front set encodes details about the singular structure of a distribution in both configuration and momentum space.<sup>9</sup> The theory of the wave-front set is developed, e.g., in [34]; see also [35,36] for an introduction to the subject. The condition (14) asserts that the wave-front set of  $\Lambda_2$  consists of pairs  $([k_1, k_2], [k_2, -k_1]) \in T^*M \times T^*M$

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## What I publish:

Class. Quantum Grav. 38 (2021) 047002

Note

$$\int_0^\infty \exp(-\beta \cosh x) \sinh^{2\nu} x dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{2}{\beta}\right)^\nu \Gamma\left(\frac{2\nu+1}{2}\right) K_\nu(\beta), \quad (19)$$

valid for  $\text{Re}(\beta) > 0, \text{Re}(\nu) > -1/2$ . Applying these steps to (4) and (5)—for our chosen sparsities—results in the following sums of modified Bessel functions of the second kind  $K_\nu(x)$ :

$$\eta_{\text{weak}, E, \Lambda/E} = \frac{(D-1)}{\sqrt{\pi} z^{D-2} 2^{D+3/2}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{D-1}{2}\right) \omega_{\text{weak}, E, \Lambda/E}}{z^{\frac{D-1}{2}}} \times \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-s)^\nu e^{i(n+1)\hat{\omega}}}{(n+1)^{\frac{D-1}{2}}} K_{D+1/2}((n+1)z) \right]^{-1} \frac{\lambda_{\text{thermal}}^{D-1}}{g(D)_{\text{crit}} A_{\text{H}}} \quad (20a)$$

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Let's see how it goes—I'll aim for pictures! 😊😊

**Warning!** Mostly for later convenience

**Signature:**  $-+++$  (more in a moment!)

**Units:**  $G = c = \hbar = 1$  (often)

**Space-time indices:**  $abcd \dots \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$

**Spatial indices:**  $ijkl \dots \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

**Hatted indices:** 'Frame indices' (undoes curvilinear messes—somewhat)

**Einstein sum convention:** Same index up, same index down = sum over this index

- Slides err on the side of verbosity in case of connection problems/distractions

# Introduction: General Relativity in Two Slides

# Special Relativity

Special relativity:

- Distinguish past and present by the speed of light:
  - **Relativity Principle:** All uniformly moving frames ('inertial frames') see the same physics
  - **Constancy of  $c$ :** In all inertial frames, the speed of light (in vacuum)  $c$  is the same. It's 1.

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- $(\mathbb{R}^4, \eta)$  is **Minkowski space**
- We call two events'  $X$  and  $Y$  separation:
  - **space-like** if  $\eta(X - Y, X - Y) =: \eta_{ab}(X - Y)^a(X - Y)^b > 0$
  - **null/light-like** if  $\eta(X - Y, X - Y) =: \eta_{ab}(X - Y)^a(X - Y)^b = 0$
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- $\implies$  Relativity of simultaneity,  
Lorentz boosts instead of Galileo 'boosts'



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- Here it is as a PDE:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \partial_c g^{cf} [\partial_a g_{bf} + \partial_b g_{af} - \partial_f g_{ab}] - \frac{1}{2} \partial_b g^{cf} [\partial_a g_{cf}] + \frac{1}{4} g^{cg} [\partial_m g_{cg} + \partial_c g_{mg} - \\ & \partial_g g_{mc}] g^{mf} [\partial_a g_{bf} + \partial_b g_{af} - \partial_f g_{ab}] - \frac{1}{4} g^{cg} [\partial_m g_{bg} + \partial_b g_{mg} - \partial_g g_{mb}] g^{mf} [\partial_a g_{cf} + \\ & \partial_c g_{af} - \partial_f g_{ac}] - \frac{1}{2} g_{ab} g^{de} (\frac{1}{2} \partial_c g^{cf} [\partial_e g_{df} + \partial_d g_{ef} - \partial_f g_{ed}] - \frac{1}{2} \partial_d g^{cf} [\partial_e g_{cf} + \partial_c g_{ef} - \\ & \partial_f g_{ec}] + \frac{1}{4} g^{cf} [\partial_m g_{cf} + \partial_c g_{mf} - \partial_f g_{mc}] g^{mg} [\partial_e g_{dg} + \partial_d g_{eg} - \partial_g g_{ed}] - \frac{1}{4} g^{cf} [\partial_m g_{df} + \\ & \partial_d g_{mf} - \partial_f g_{md}] g^{mg} [\partial_e g_{cg} + \partial_c g_{eg} - \partial_g g_{ec}]) + \Lambda g_{ab} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

- Localize the lightcone! Allow it to change direction!
- The metric becomes a function of the space-time coordinates
- The metric has to fulfil the Einstein equation:

$$G_{ab}(g) + \Lambda g_{ab} = 8\pi T_{ab} \frac{G}{c^4}$$

- This only *looks* simple. It's only quasi-linear, and a coupled system for the ten components of  $g_{ab}$  with 2 physical d.o.f.
- A moment of silence for numerical relativists. They need to discretize this. And then code the discretization. . .

# Introduction: Physics of GR

# A Small Feature List of GR

- **New features!** Black holes! Gravitational waves! Big bangs!



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- Black holes:
  - **Schwarzschild:** Spherically symmetric, mass
  - **Reissner–Nordström:** Spherically symmetric, mass, charge
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  - **Kerr–Newman:** Cylindrically symmetric, mass, charge & angular momentum, **tricky**

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## Chandrasekhar on the Kerr metric, [Cha83, p.529]

The treatment of the perturbations of the Kerr space-time in this chapter has been prolixious in its complexity. Perhaps, at a later time, the complexity will be unravelled by deeper insights. But mean time, the analysis has led us into a realm of the rococo: splendidous, joyful, and immensely ornate.

# We Earned Us Some Illustration!

## Shadow Silhouette of Black Hole M87

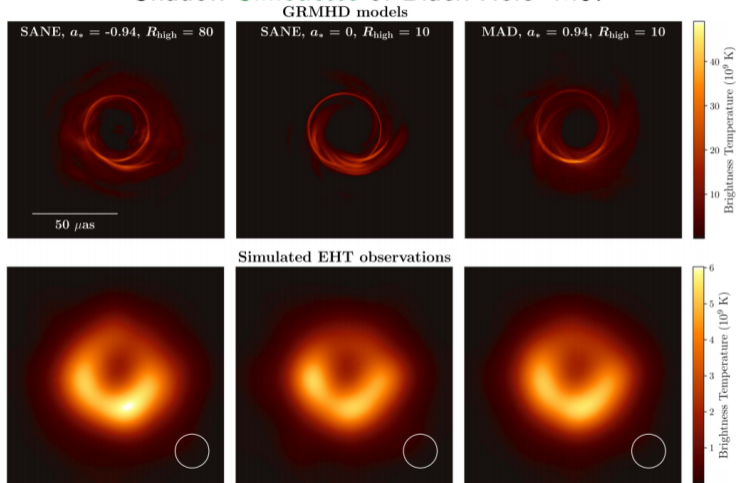


Image source: [arXiv:1906.11238](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.11238)

# We Earned Us Some Illustration!

## Tipping Light-Cone Example (More Later)

NUT region

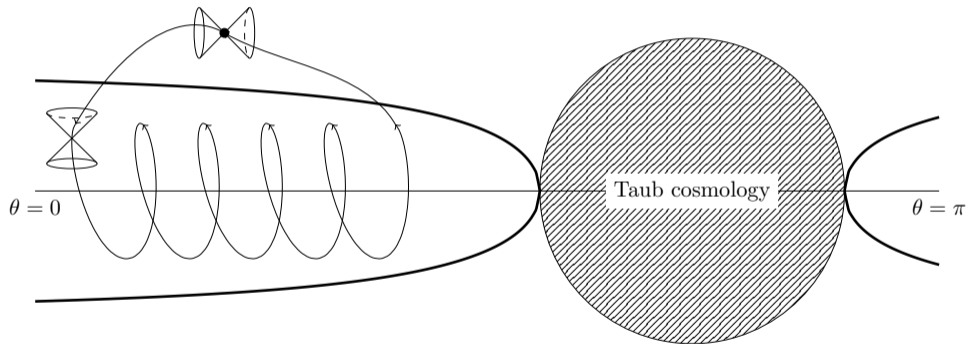


Image source: [arXiv:1610.06135](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.06135)

# We Earned Us Some Illustration!

## Hollywood's visualization

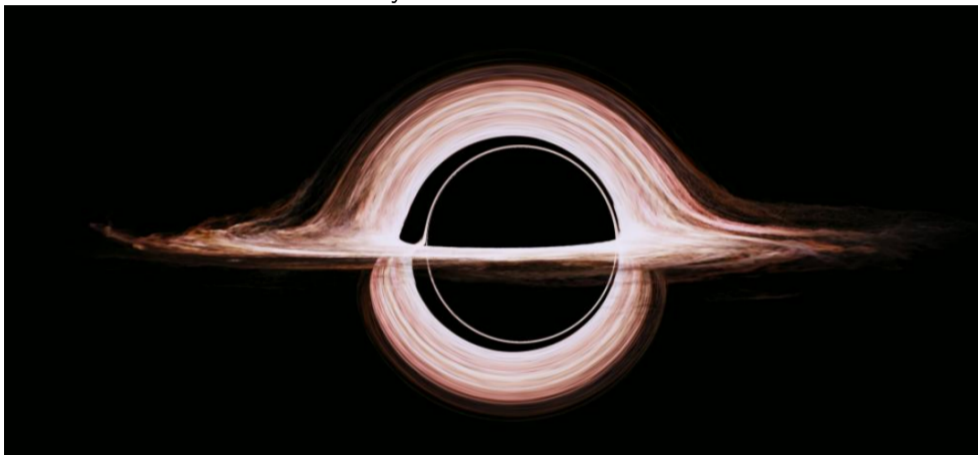


Image source: [arXiv:1502.03808](https://arxiv.org/abs/1502.03808)

# We Earned Us Some Illustration!

Hollywood's visualization w/ grav. red/blueshift, Doppler shift, brightness as in Liouville's law

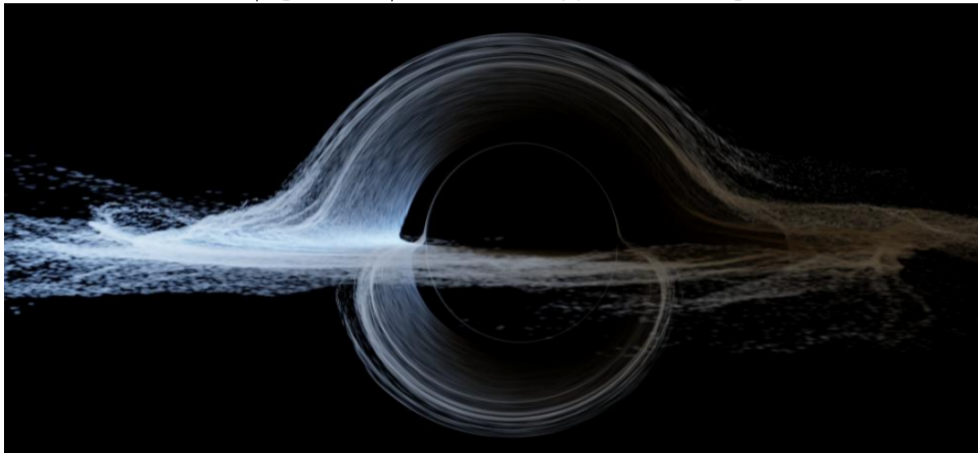


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# Whence and Whither

- For various reasons, we expect things to be quite different at energies  $\simeq 1.9561 \times 10^9 \text{ J} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar c^5}{G}} = E_{\text{Planck}} \text{ '} = 1 \text{'}$
- Handwavingly:<sup>1</sup> Uncertainty relation  $E_{\text{Planck}}$  collapses probe to black holes

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  - Wick rotation has ... issues with curvature, e.g., the Kerr metric (arXiv:[1509.07683](#), arXiv:[1702.05572](#))

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- Best hint so far? The **Hawking effect**.

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# Quantum Field Theory: Flat, Curved, and In-Between

# QFT—‘All a physicists needs is a harmonic oscillator.’

- At every event a harm. osci., Fourier expansion of a field  $\hat{\varphi}(x^a)$  using ladder operators  $\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}$ :

$$[\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger] = \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}'), \quad [\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger] = [\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}'}] = 0$$

- Vacuum  $|0\rangle$  a Lorentz-invariant state of ‘no particles’, *i.e.*:

$$\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}} |0\rangle = 0$$

- Multi-particle states:

$$\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger |\dots; N_{\mathbf{k}}; \dots\rangle = \sqrt{N_{\mathbf{k}} + 1} |\dots; N_{\mathbf{k}} + 1; \dots\rangle,$$

$$\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}} |\dots; N_{\mathbf{k}}; \dots\rangle = \sqrt{N_{\mathbf{k}}} |\dots; N_{\mathbf{k}} - 1; \dots\rangle$$

Summary: QFT for Particle Physics [Sch16a; PS95; Wei05a; Wei05b; Wei05c; Sre11]

Successful

[...]

relativistic

Special Relativity

many-particle quantum physics

A Fock space for each particle type

in inertial frames

SR, *i.e.*, Lorentz frames

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$$\hat{a}'_i = \int_j \alpha_{ji} \hat{a}_j + \beta_{ji}^* \hat{a}_j^\dagger \quad \iff \quad \hat{a}_i = \int_j \alpha_{ij}^* \hat{a}'_j - \beta_{ij}^* \hat{a}'_j^\dagger$$

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- In particular:

$$\langle 0' | \hat{N}_i | 0' \rangle = \sum_j |\beta_{ji}|^2, \quad \text{where } \hat{N}_i := \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_i$$

---

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# Curved Space-Time QFT without Curvature: The Unruh Effect

- Normally, Minkowski has time translations generated by

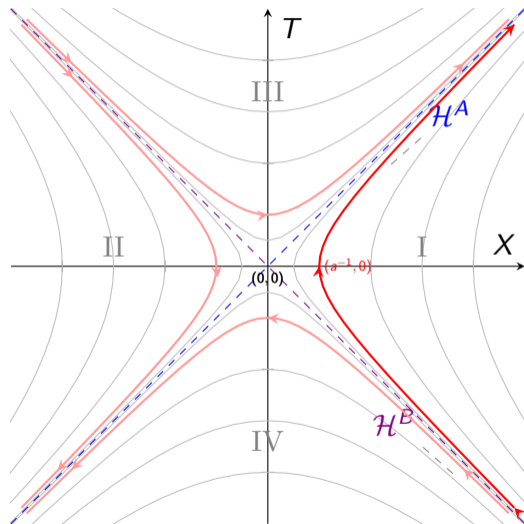
$$(\partial/\partial T)^a$$

- Take Minkowski space with different time-like (Killing) vector

$$b^a := a \left[ X \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \right)^a + T \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial X} \right)^a \right],$$

- This still defines time translations, but differently
- It also defines constant accelerated motion
- After long calculation [Tak86; Wal94; MW10], one gets

$$\text{Minkowski} \langle 0 | \hat{N}_i | 0 \rangle_{\text{Minkowski}} = \frac{1}{e^{\omega_i/T_{\text{Unruh}}} - 1}$$



- The quick and dirty way: Equivalence principle (gravity  $\leftrightarrow$  acceleration)  
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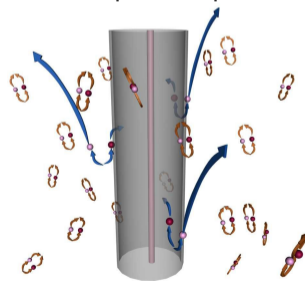
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Image source: <https://web.archive.org/web/20130626081937/https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~ulf/fibre.html>

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<sup>4</sup>arXiv:gr-qc/9406042, arXiv:gr-qc/9408003, arXiv:hep-th/9907001

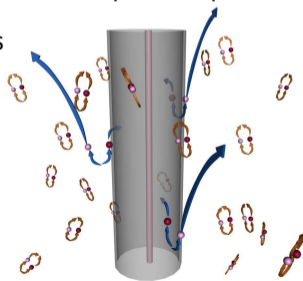
5

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- $\implies$  A static observer far away will see a freely falling observer's vacuum at the horizon at a temperature<sup>5</sup>

$$T_{\text{Hawking}} = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi M} \frac{\hbar c^3}{G k_B}$$



<sup>4</sup>arXiv:[gr-qc/9406042](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/9406042), arXiv:[gr-qc/9408003](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/9408003), arXiv:[hep-th/9907001](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9907001)

<sup>5</sup>A precise formulation takes much more technical effort.



- Even before Hawking's result<sup>6</sup>, similarities between thermodynamics and black holes were found<sup>7</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup>[doi:10.1007/BF02345020](https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02345020)

<sup>7</sup>[doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.7.2333](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.7.2333), [doi:10.1098/rspa.1977.0047](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1977.0047)

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- The laws of black hole thermodynamics:
  - 0<sup>th</sup> Surface gravity  $\kappa$  labels temperature, is constant across horizons
  - 1<sup>st</sup>  $dE = \frac{\kappa}{8\pi} dA + \Omega dJ + \Phi dQ$
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>  $\frac{dA_{\text{horizon}}}{dt} \geq 0$  (**Warning!** Requires Einstein equation),  $A \propto S_{\text{Bekenstein}}$
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> An extremal black hole ( $\kappa = 0$ ) cannot be reached in finite steps

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- **Warning!** Even temperature is tricky to define in GR <sup>8</sup>

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- Unruh temperature:

$$T_{\text{Unruh}} = \frac{a}{2\pi} \frac{\hbar}{ck_B} \approx a \frac{1 \text{ K}}{2.47 \times 10^{20} \text{ m s}^{-2}}$$

- Hawking temperature:

$$T_{\text{Hawking}} \approx 6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ K} \left( \frac{M_{\odot}}{M} \right)$$

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$$\tau_{\text{lifetime}} \approx 2.1 \times 10^{67} \text{ a} \left( \frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right)^3$$

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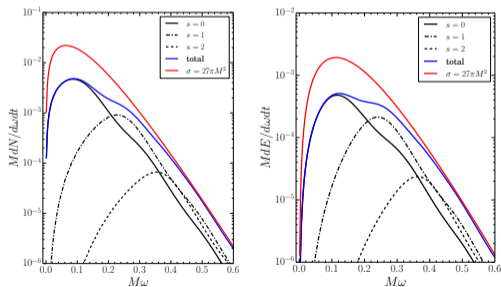
$$\tau_{\text{lifetime}} \approx 2.1 \times 10^{67} \text{ a} \left( \frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right)^3$$

- Alas, all quite inaccessible

# Caveats

Usually ignored:

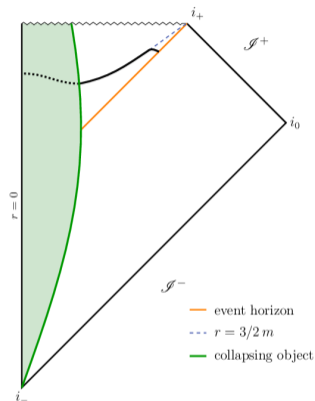
- UV cutoff/Backreaction: No particles emitted with  $m_{\text{particle}} \geq M_{\text{black hole}}$
- Backscattering: Ignore gray body factors
- Adiabaticity/Backreaction: Shouldn't be *too* dynamical
- $A \ll \lambda_{\text{thermal}}$  or  $\tau_{\text{emission gap}} \ll \tau_{\text{'thermal oscillation'}}$   $\rightarrow$  **sparsity**, different from 'normal' black body radiation<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</sup>arXiv:1506.03975, arXiv:1512.05018 (image source)

# Trouble

Purely classical, no CSTQFT

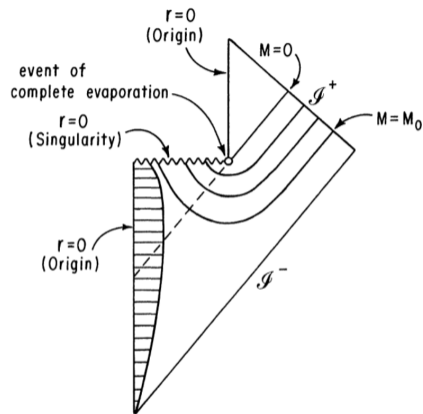


Source: [arXiv:1607.07222](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.07222)

For more zoology, see: [arXiv:2102.01105](https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.01105) and [arXiv:1911.11200](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.11200)



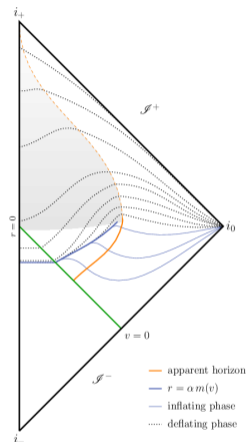
## Formation of Cauchy horizon



Source: [Wal94, p.178]

For more zoology, see: [arXiv:2102.01105](https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.01105) and [arXiv:1911.11200](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.11200)

Only apparent horizons



Source: [arXiv:1607.07222](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.07222)

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# What CSTQFT Needs and Doesn't

It needs:

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So: What can we do with just a metric besides astrophysical (C)ST(Q)FT?



# Analogues

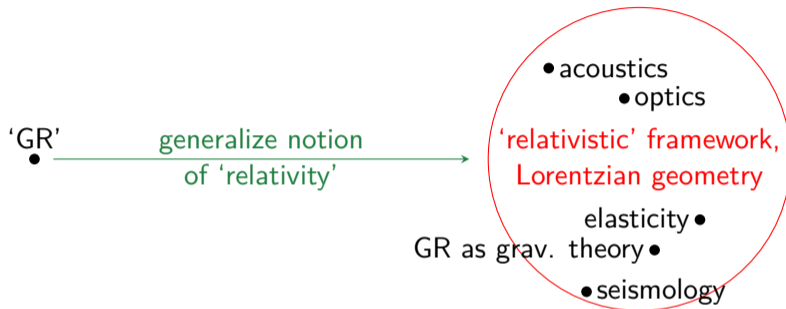
# The Physics of Metrics

Even classically, wave propagation on curved backgrounds is encountered elsewhere:



Image source: [arXiv:1203.3018](https://arxiv.org/abs/1203.3018)

# The Analogue Space-Time Framework<sup>10</sup>

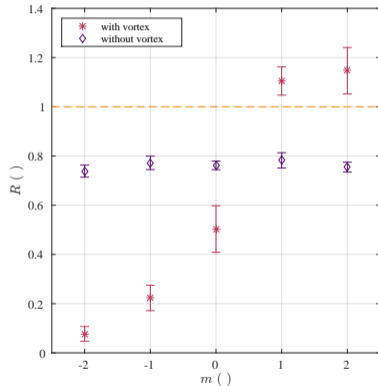
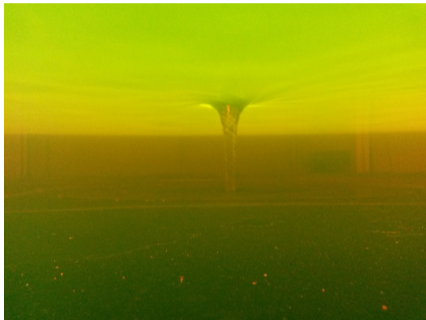


Relativity not just a 'theory' — it's a framework!

<sup>10</sup>[arXiv:gr-qc/0201053](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/0201053)

# Current Progress—Superradiance

Nottingham Group, Surface Waves in Water<sup>11</sup> Super-radiance:<sup>12</sup>



<sup>11</sup>Left picture by Jessica Santiago

<sup>12</sup>Right picture source, arXiv:[1612.06180](https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.06180),

# Current Progress—More Developments

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*a*

*b*

*c*

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- Starting point for more: [arXiv:gr-qc/0505065](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/0505065), ‘Living Reviews in Relativity: Analogue Gravity’

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# Exotica

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Usually:

- Integrate the Einstein equation for a given source stress-energy  $T_{ab}$
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Instead—Metric Engineering:

- Pick a metric you want
- Calculate its stress-tensor by differentiating, test if  $T_{ab}$  sensible
- Bonus: Can reinterpret many alternative/modified theories of gravity's field equations like this:

$$G_{ab} = 8\pi T_{ab}^{\text{eff}}$$

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Let's have a look at pathological/weird space-times—'exotica'!

---

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# Exotica: Classics

- Gödel (1949):<sup>14</sup> GR doesn't fulfil Mach's principle. Proof: His Universe.
  - Homogeneous
  - Base manifold  $\mathbb{R}^4$
  - At every point rotating about an axis

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For more, see [GP12; Ste+03; HE74]

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  - An early example of **metric engineering**

Since, furthermore,  $R$  is a constant, the relativistic field equations (with the  $x_0$ -lines as world lines of matter), i.e., the equations<sup>8</sup>

$$R_{ik} - \frac{1}{2}g_{ik}R = 8\pi\kappa\rho u_i u_k + \lambda g_{ik}$$

are satisfied (for a given value of  $\rho$ ), **if** we put

$$1/a^2 = 8\pi\kappa\rho, \quad \lambda = -R/2 = -1/2a^2 = -4\pi\kappa\rho.$$

Image source: [Göd49, p.448]

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  - An early example of **metric engineering**
  - Closed time-like curves (CTCs) everywhere

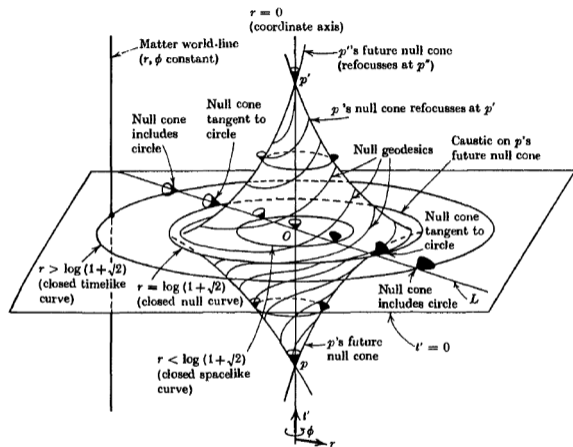


FIGURE 31. Gödel's universe with the irrelevant coordinate  $z$  suppressed. The space is rotationally symmetric about any point; the diagram represents correctly the rotational symmetry about the axis  $r = 0$ , and the time invariance. The light cone opens out and tips over as  $r$  increases (see line  $L$ ) resulting in closed timelike curves. The diagram does not correctly represent the fact that *all* points are in fact equivalent.

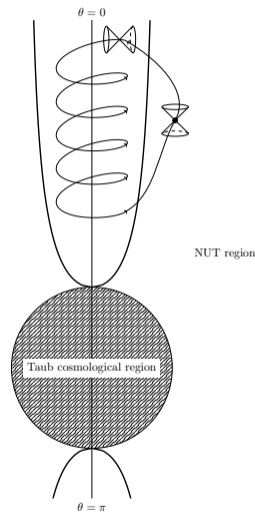
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# Classic Exotica I: Gödel & Taub–NUT

- Taub–NUT:
  - Vacuum(!) solution with
    - NUT parameter
    - Mass
    - Discrete  $\varepsilon \in \{0, \pm 1\}$
  - 2 BHs connected by cosmology
  - BHs have string deficit, not asymptotically flat
  - *No curvature singularities!*



<sup>14</sup>doi:10.1103/RevModPhys.21.447

For more, see [GP12; Ste+03; HE74]

Image source: arXiv:1610.06135

# Classic Exotica II: Wormholes & Warp Drives

- Morris & Thorne, doi:10.1119/1.15620 and Morris, Thorne & Yurtsever, doi:10.1103/PhysRevLett.61.1446: Spherically symmetric, (possibly) traversible wormholes

with  $l \in (-\infty, \infty)$  :

$$ds^2 = -e^{2\phi(l)} dt^2 + dl^2 + r^2(l)(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2),$$

with 2 patches, glued at throat:

$$= -e^{2\phi_{\pm}(r)} dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - b_{\pm}(r)/r} + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2),$$

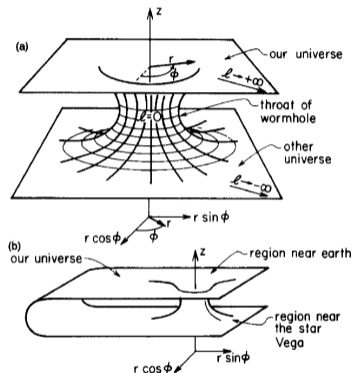


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- *Modified* theories of gravity can easily accommodate various wormholes
- Again visualized for Interstellar

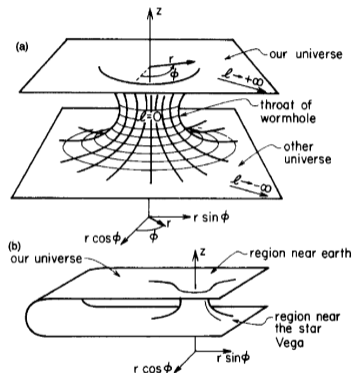


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# Classic Exotica II: Wormholes & Warp Drives

- Warp drives: Alcubierre (1994) (arXiv:[gr-qc/0009013](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/0009013)) and Natário (2002) (gr-qc/0110086)

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + \delta_{ij} (dx^i - v^i(x, y, z, t) dt) (dx^j - v^j(x, y, z, t) dt)$$

Here:

- $v_x = v_y = 0, v_z = \frac{dz_s(t)}{dt} f(r_s(t))$

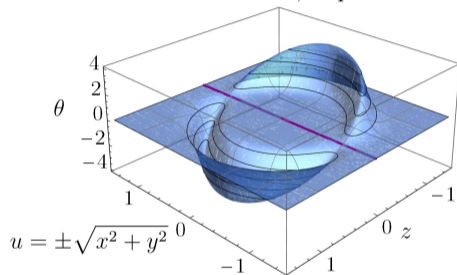
- $r_s = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z - z_s(t))^2}$

- $f(r_s) = \frac{\tanh(\sigma(r_s + R)) - \tanh(\sigma(r_s - R))}{2 \tanh(\sigma R)}$

- Pull & push an empty, flat bubble through empty, flat space

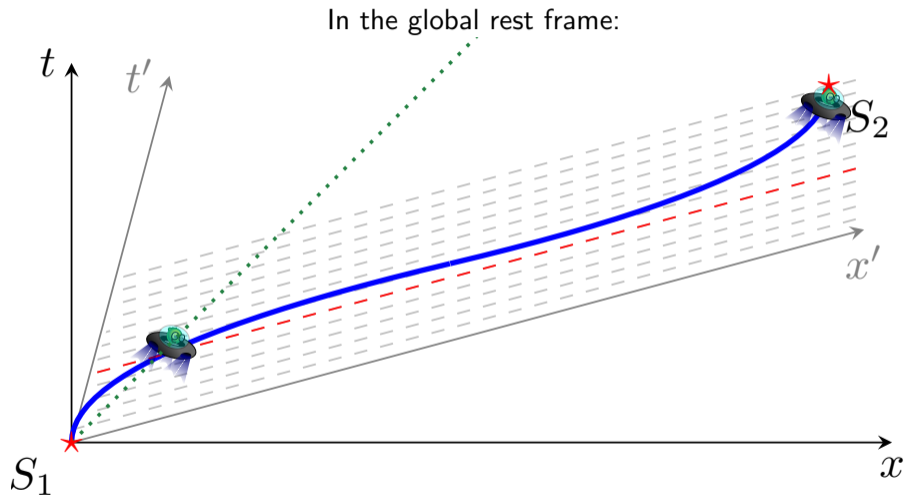
Expansion of time-like curves:

Alcubierre Drive, Expansion  $\theta$



where  $\sigma = 8$  and  $\frac{dz_s(t)}{dt} = R = 1$

# Visualizing a Warp Drive



# Visualizing a Warp Drive

In a boosted frame:

# Warp Drives for Time Travel<sup>15</sup>

- Take two bubbles, sufficiently separated, travelling in opposite direction b/w  $S_1$  &  $S_2$
- The bubble starting at  $S_2$  is in a frame boosted towards  $S_1$

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- Boost to rest frame

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- Boost into the other bubbles frame
- Travel back to  $S_1$
- Boost to rest frame
- Arrive before you left 🏁

---

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## Recent: Tractor Beams

There is more one can do.<sup>16</sup>

- Slightly modify the metric to:<sup>17</sup>

$$v_x(t, x, y, z) = k(t, z) x h(x^2 + y^2),$$

$$v_y(t, x, y, z) = k(t, z) y h(x^2 + y^2),$$

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- Make this into a beam along the  $z$ -axis
- Assume a ~~spherical cow in a vacuum~~ flat cow in this space-time perpendicular to the beam, such that the beam hits from the left

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- **Warning!** This still violates the energy conditions, despite being relatively benign! (More below)

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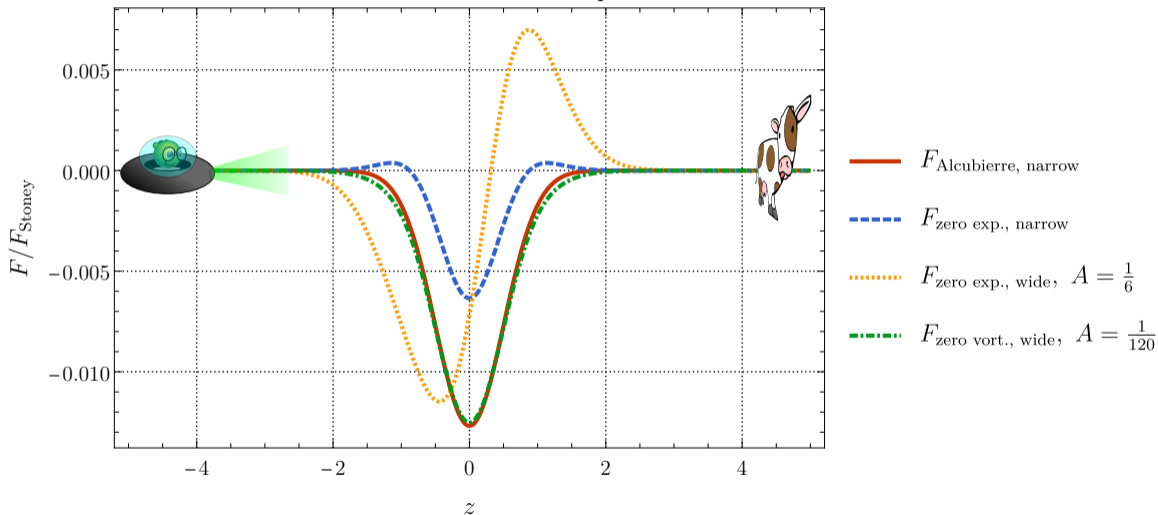
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# Tractor Beams: A Visualization

Gaussian Profiles & Envelopes



# Exotica: Energy Conditions

# Classifying Weirdness: Energy Conditions

As the time travel suggests, there' issues.

- Time travel also easily doable with wormholes
- $\implies$  Issues with causality, stability, ...

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Interpretation	WEC	SEC	NEC
'geometric' <sup>a</sup>	$\forall$ timelike $V: G_{ab}V^aV^b \geq 0$	$\forall$ timelike $V: R_{ab}V^aV^b \geq 0$	$\forall$ null $k: R_{ab}k^ak^b \geq 0$
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effective	$\rho \geq 0$ & $\forall \hat{a}: \rho + p_{\hat{a}} \geq 0$	$\rho + \sum_{\hat{a}} p_{\hat{a}} \geq 0$ & $\forall \hat{a}: \rho + p_{\hat{a}} \geq 0$	$\forall \hat{a}: \rho + p_{\hat{a}} \geq 0$
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<sup>a</sup>A.k.a. 'convergence conditions' (CC)

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As the name suggests—the NEC is the weakest. 😊

# Uses & Caveats

- Positive mass theorems
- Singularity theorems (cosmological and black holes)
- Cosmic no-hair theorem ( $\Lambda > 0$  approaches de Sitter)
- *'Ruling out' exotic space-times*

There is an increasing list of physically viable violations of various kinds:

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# Conclusion

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- Violation of ECs at best a warning sign
- Quantum gravity may play merry hell with our expectations

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- There is an exciting sub-community, [relativistic quantum information](#), trying to make relativity meet quantum foundations<sup>18</sup>

---

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- More fun with warp drives

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- Detector models in astrophysical and analogue CSTQFT

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- More fun with warp drives
- Detector models in astrophysical and analogue CSTQFT
- Differential geometry in analogues
- Classical and semi-classical effects in pathological/exotic space-times

Kia Kaha!



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For slides, see: <https://utf.mff.cuni.cz/~sschuster/>

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# Black Hole Lifetime

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$$\frac{dM}{dt} \sim \frac{\hbar c^4}{G^2 M^2}$$

- Solve:

$$\tau_{\text{lifetime}} \sim \frac{G^2}{\hbar c^4} M^3$$

✓ Detector:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \left[ \mu(\tau) \hat{\phi}(X(\tau)) + \mu^\dagger(\tau) \hat{\phi}^\dagger(\tau) \right] e^{-s|\tau|}$$

✗ Not a detector:

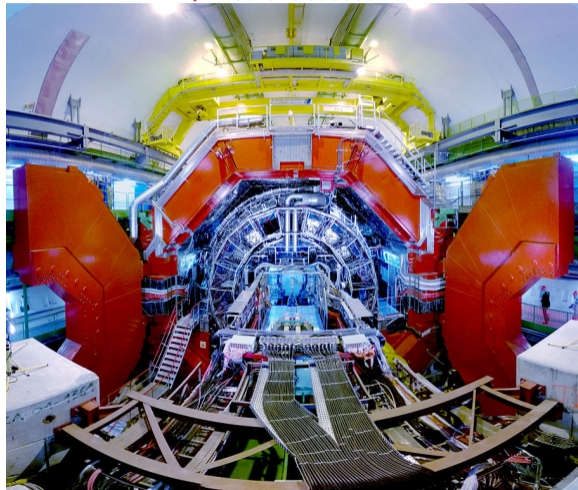


Image source: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:CERN\\_ALICE\\_Experiment.jpg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:CERN_ALICE_Experiment.jpg)

- In a given orthonormal frame, the components have an interpretation:

$$(T_{\hat{a}\hat{b}})_{\hat{a},\hat{b}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & \mathbf{S}^t \\ \mathbf{S} & \begin{pmatrix} p_{\hat{1}} & T_{\hat{1}\hat{2}} & T_{\hat{1}\hat{3}} \\ T_{\hat{1}\hat{2}} & p_{\hat{2}} & T_{\hat{2}\hat{3}} \\ T_{\hat{1}\hat{3}} & T_{\hat{2}\hat{3}} & p_{\hat{3}} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\rho$  energy density,  $\mathbf{S}$  energy flux,  $p_i$  pressures,  $T_{ij}$  shear<sup>19</sup>

- In many contexts, one has relations between these components; 'equations of state'

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- In many contexts, one has relations between these components; ‘equations of state’—but GR does not have a lot

---

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## A Word of **Warning!**

- There is some reliance on the Hawking–Ellis classification of stress-energy tensors<sup>20</sup>
- This is based on eigenvectors of  $T^{\hat{a}}_{\hat{b}}$
- $T^{\hat{a}}_{\hat{b}}$  is *not* necessarily symmetric, even in GR!
- Care is needed if diagonalizability of  $T^{\hat{a}}_{\hat{b}}$  is assumed

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- Much.

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# Why the $\forall$ Is Important

Focus for a second on  $\rho > 0$ —this is *not* a full EC!

- For  $\rho > 0$  and  $\Gamma > 1$ , fix a  $T$  to be

$$T_{\hat{a}\hat{b}} = \rho_0 \left[ \begin{array}{c|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & -\Gamma^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\Gamma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\Gamma^2 \end{array} \right]_{\hat{a}\hat{b}}$$

- In the rest frame  $V^{\hat{a}} = (1; 0, 0, 0)^{\hat{a}}$  we have:

$$\rho = T_{\hat{a}\hat{b}} V^{\hat{a}} V^{\hat{b}} = \rho_0 > 0$$

- Now pick observer in this frame with  $\tilde{V}^{\hat{a}} = \gamma(1; v n^i)^{\hat{a}}$ , where  $n^i$  any 3-direction
- Then:

$$\rho = T_{\hat{a}\hat{b}} \tilde{V}^{\hat{a}} \tilde{V}^{\hat{b}} = \rho_0 \gamma^2 (1 - \Gamma^2 v^2).$$

- If  $|v| > 1/\Gamma$ , the energy density for this observer will be **negative**

# Extensions, Part I: Averaged Energy Conditions

Maybe, the issue is the 'pointwise'. Instead average over various things:

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Still, especially (plausible) quantum matter can violate them.

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Still, especially (plausible) quantum matter can violate them.

Especially ANEC and AANEC found use, e.g., in the topological censorship theorem, see [arXiv:gr-qc/9305017](https://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/9305017)

- Instead of trying to guess the conditions, start from first principles.

---

<sup>21</sup>See [arXiv:1208.5399](https://arxiv.org/abs/1208.5399)

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- Choose a quantum field, compare possible (Hadamard) states with a reference state (e.g., normal-ordered, ...)
- Get a lower (negative) bound that cannot be broken
- Some averaged energy conditions can be regained sometimes
- Finally a definitive application of algebraic QFT

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# Violation of the NEC in the Generic Case, Part I

- We have:  $\text{NEC} \implies \rho + \bar{p} > 0$

- After some calculation in ADM decomposition:

$$\rho + \bar{p} = \frac{1}{24\pi} \left( -2\mathcal{L}_n K + K^2 - 3\text{tr}(K^2) \right)$$

- Then, using  $\text{tr}(K^2) = \text{tr}([K^{\text{tf}}]^2) + \frac{1}{3}K^2$ ,

$$2\mathcal{L}_n K - K^2 + 3\text{tr}(K^2) \leq 0$$

- With  $\mathcal{L}_n K = dK/d\tau$ , rearrange this several times

## Violation of the NEC in the Generic Case, Part II

- Now have:

$$\text{NEC} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad 7\mathcal{L}_n K + 6\text{tr}K^2 \leq 0$$

- Hence:

$$\text{NEC} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad 7\frac{dK}{d\tau} + 2K^2 \leq 0$$

- Integrate back and forth in time
- Get finite-time singularities if NEC is fulfilled

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- Integrate back and forth in time
- Get finite-time singularities if NEC is fulfilled
- NEC has to be violated

# Warp Variations—And Recent Publicity

- Natário, a.k.a., zero expansion: Demand

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

- Zero vorticity (arXiv:[2006.07125](#)):

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0 \quad \implies \quad \mathbf{v} = \nabla \cdot \Phi$$

- **Warning!**

- arXiv:[2006.07125](#) does not provide an explicit example that can be checked; but zero-vorticity warp drives in general violate the NEC
- arXiv:[2104.06488](#) only uses metrics not fulfilling junction conditions
- arXiv:[2102.06824](#) only provides static, spherically symmetric metrics, no warp drives
- arXiv:[2102.05119](#), arXiv:[2101.11467](#), arXiv:[2008.06560](#) require conflicting assumptions, giving empty space, or use wrong index-placement
- All six (and others before them) claim fulfilment of the energy conditions by finding one(!) observer, usually the Eulerian, to fulfil the necessary inequalities.
- The ‘ $\forall$ ’ in the EC is not, and cannot be shown.

# Engineering Metrics Violating Energy Conditions: A List

- Wormholes<sup>22</sup>
- Warp Drives<sup>23</sup> (recent publicity)
- **New!New!New!** Tractor Beams **New!New!New!**
- Krasnikov Hypertubes<sup>24</sup>
- [...]

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<sup>22</sup>doi:10.1119/1.15620

<sup>23</sup>arXiv:[gr-qc/0009013](#), arXiv:[gr-qc/0110086](#)

<sup>24</sup>arXiv:[gr-qc/9511068](#)

# Stress-Energy Components and the ADM Split, Part I

- Energy density:  $\rho = \frac{G_{nn}}{8\pi} = \frac{1}{16\pi} (K^2 - \text{tr}(K^2))$

- $\iff \rho = \frac{1}{16\pi} \left\{ \partial_i (v_i v_{j,j} - v_j v_{i,j}) - v_{[i,j]} v_{[i,j]} \right\}$

- In terms of  $\omega_i = \epsilon_{ijk} v_{[j,k]}$ :

$$\iff \rho = \frac{1}{16\pi} \left\{ \nabla \cdot \{ \vec{v} K - (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} \} - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{\omega}) \right\}$$

- Flux:  $f_i = \frac{1}{16\pi} (\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{v}))_i$

- Lastly,

$$T_{ij} = \frac{G_{ij}}{8\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left( \mathcal{L}_n K_{ij} + K K_{ij} - 2(K^2)_{ij} - \left( \mathcal{L}_n K + \frac{1}{2} K^2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(K^2) \right) \delta_{ij} \right)$$

- Lastly,

$$T_{ij} = \frac{G_{ij}}{8\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left( \mathcal{L}_n K_{ij} + K K_{ij} - 2(K^2)_{ij} - \left( \mathcal{L}_n K + \frac{1}{2} K^2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(K^2) \right) \delta_{ij} \right)$$

- This is why knowledge of the Hawking–Ellis type helps



- Lastly,

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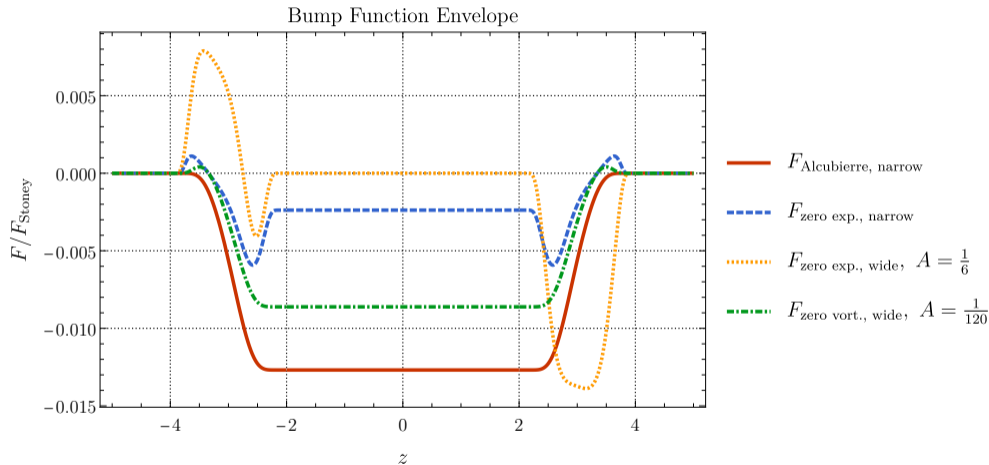
- This is why knowledge of the Hawking–Ellis type helps

- Define  $\bar{\rho} = \frac{1}{3} T_{ij} \delta^{ij} = \frac{1}{24\pi} \left( -2\mathcal{L}_n K - \frac{1}{2} K^2 - \frac{3}{2} \text{tr}(K^2) \right)$

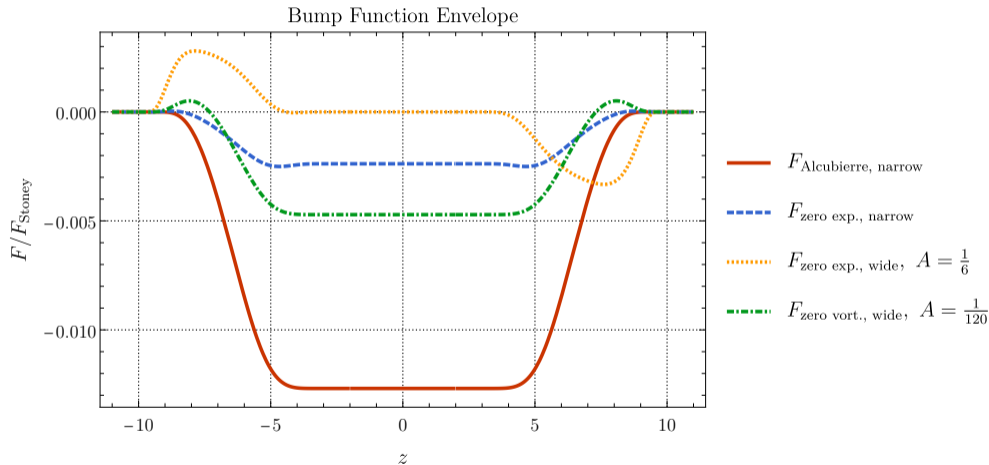
- Then

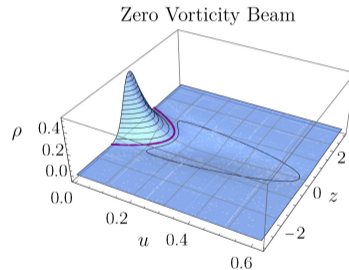
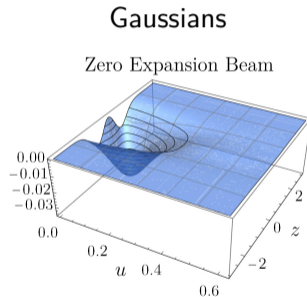
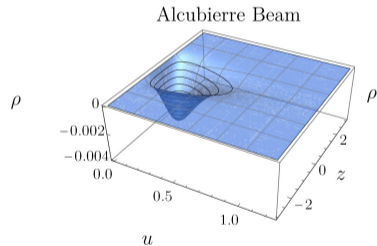
$$\rho + \bar{\rho} = \frac{1}{24\pi} \left( -2\mathcal{L}_n K + K^2 - 3\text{tr}(K^2) \right)$$
$$\rho + 3\bar{\rho} = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \mathcal{L}_n K + \text{tr}(K^2) \right)$$

# Different Profiles, Quite Different Forces

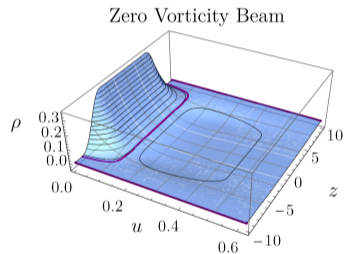
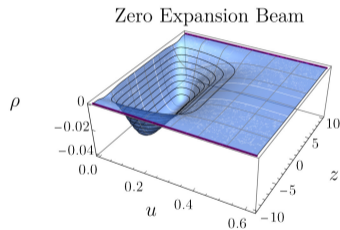
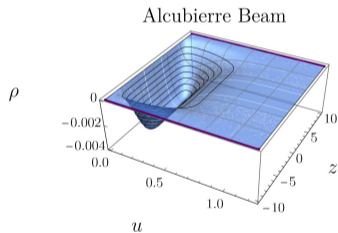


# Different Profiles, Quite Different Forces

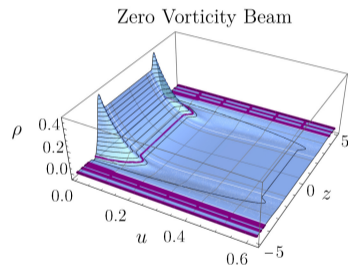
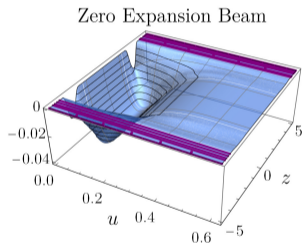
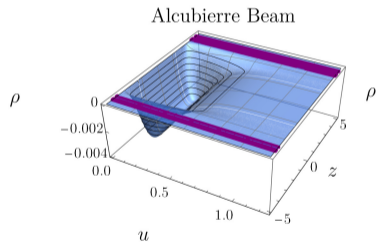




## Bump Functions 1

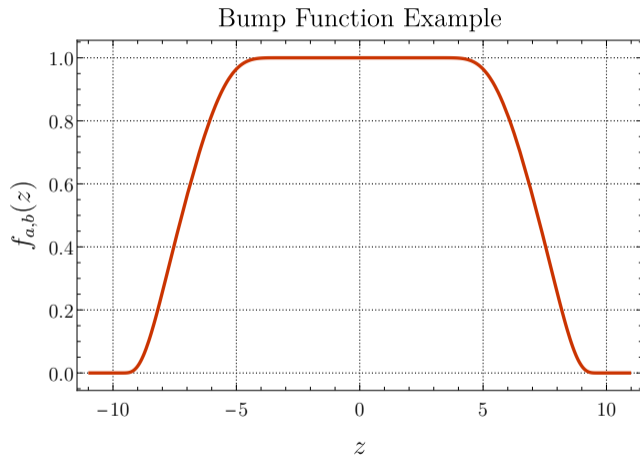


## Bump Functions 2



# Bump Functions

- $f_1(z) = \begin{cases} e^{-1/z} & z > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$
- $f_2(z) = \frac{f_1(z)}{f_1(z) + f_1(1-z)}$
- $f_{a,b}(z) = 1 - f_2\left(\frac{z^2 - a^2}{b^2 - a^2}\right)$
- This function is 0 for  $z \in (-\infty, -b) \cup (b, \infty)$ , is 1 in the interval  $(-a, a)$ , smoothly grows from 0 to 1 on  $[-b, -a]$  and decays smoothly from 1 to 0 on  $[a, b]$



Here:  $a = 2$  and  $b = 10$

# Form of Profile Functions

- For Gaussian plots:

- The functions:

$$f_{\text{Gauss, plot}} = h_{\text{Gauss, plot}} = e^{-u/A^2},$$

$$v_{\text{Gauss, plot}} = k_{\text{Gauss, plot}} = \Phi_{\text{Gauss, plot}} = e^{-z^2/B^2} e^{-t^2/C^2}$$

- Here,  $A = 0.5$ ,  $B = C = 1.0$ , and we evaluated the energy density and forces at  $t = 1$
- For the bump functions instead:
  - $f_{a,b}(z) e^{-t^2/D^2}$  for  $v$ ,  $k$ , or  $\Phi$ , respectively.
  - First plots:  $t = -1$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 10$ , and  $D = 1$
  - Second plots:  $t = -1$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 4$ , and  $D = 1$



- Gauss–Codazzi equations:

$$R_{\hat{i}\hat{j}\hat{k}\hat{l}} = {}^{(3)}R_{\hat{i}\hat{j}\hat{k}\hat{l}} + K_{\hat{i}\hat{k}}K_{\hat{j}\hat{l}} - K_{\hat{i}\hat{l}}K_{\hat{j}\hat{k}}$$
$$R_{ijkl} \stackrel{\text{warp drive}}{=} K_{ik}K_{jl} - K_{il}K_{jk}$$

- Gauss–Mainardi equations:

$$R_{nijk} = R_{aijk}n^a = K_{ij,k} - K_{ik,j} = v_{(i,j),k} - v_{(i,k),j} = v_{[j,k],i}$$

- Furthermore:

$$R_{ninj} = R_{aibj}n^a n^b = -\mathcal{L}_n K_{ij} + (K^2)_{ij}$$

- For the Ricci tensor we find

$$R_{nn} = -\mathcal{L}_n K - \text{tr}(K^2)$$

- Furthermore,

$$R_{ni} = K_{ij,j} - K_{,i}$$

- Finally,

$$R_{ij} = \mathcal{L}_n K_{ij} + K K_{ij} - 2(K^2)_{ij}.$$

- For the Ricci scalar

$$R = 2\mathcal{L}_n K + K^2 + \text{tr}(K^2).$$

where  $\text{tr}(K^2) = (K^2)_{ij} \delta^{ij} = K_{ij} \delta^{ik} \delta^{jl} K_{kl}$

# ADM-Decomposed Einstein Tensor

- $G_{nn} = \frac{1}{2}(K^2 - \text{tr}(K^2))$
- $G_{ni} = K_{ij,j} - K_{,i}$
- $G_{ij} = \mathcal{L}_n K_{ij} + KK_{ij} - 2(K^2)_{ij} - \left( \mathcal{L}_n K + \frac{1}{2}K^2 + \frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(K^2) \right) \delta_{ij}$
- See: M. Alcubierre. *Introduction to 3+1 Numerical Relativity*. *International Series of Monographs on Physics* **140**. ISBN: 978-0-19-920567-7 (Oxford University Press, June 2008); É.ourgoulhon. *3+1 Formalism and Bases of Numerical Relativity*. *Lect. Notes Phys.* **846**. ISBN: 978-3642245244. arXiv: gr-qc/0703035.  
<http://arxiv.org/abs/gr-qc/0703035> (Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg, 2012)