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# Characteristics of gravitational and electromagnetic radiation

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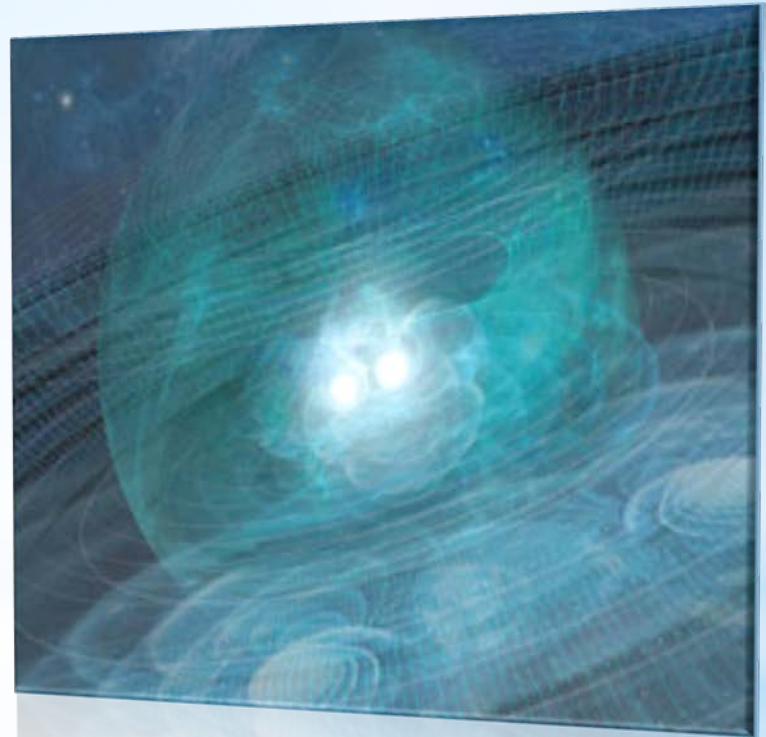
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# \* Characteristics of Gravitational and Electromagnetic Radiation

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MAS-APS Physics Meeting 2014, Oct 3-4, State College, PA

## \*The tale of the universe

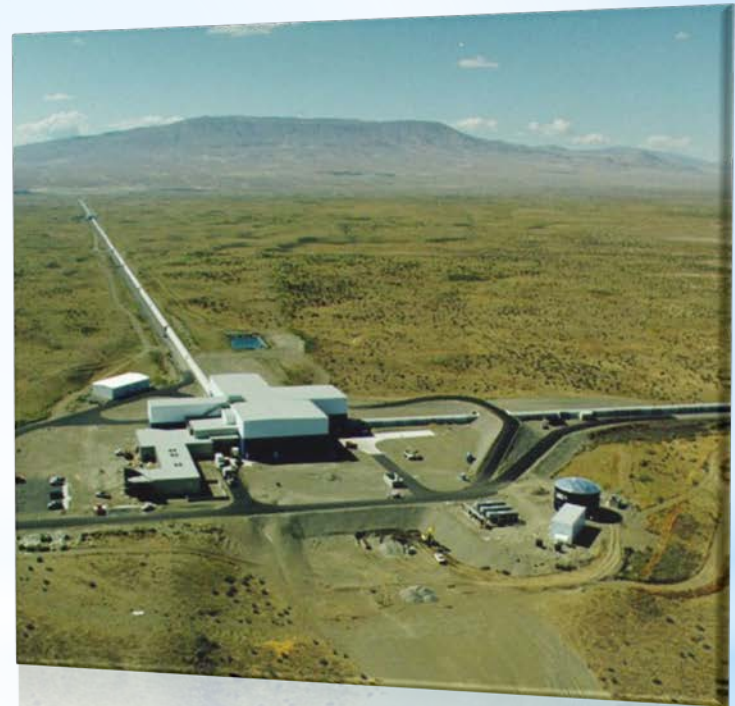
- Colliding black holes or even entire galaxies
- The birth of a black hole in a supernova explosion
- The beginning and growth pains of our universe
- The ultimate question of what is space and time.



# \*A New Astronomy

## \* Detection challenges

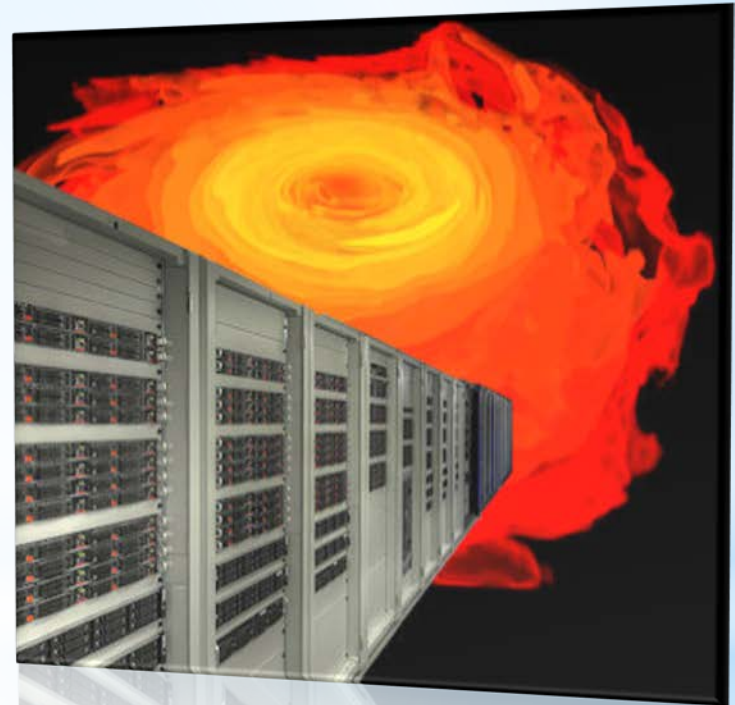
- The strain is extremely small of magnitude:  $10^{-3}$  the width of a proton
- The detectors are swamped in noise
- The need for accurate waveform templates



# \* Reality Check 1

## \* Computational challenges

- Numerical algorithms, approximations, and supercomputers are needed to simulate Einstein equations.
- Boundary conditions and truncations are imposed.



# \* Reality Check 2

- \* Bondi (1962) proved mathematically the existence of gravitational waves at null infinity.
- \* He found an exact solution of Einstein equations:

$$ds^2 = -e^{2\beta} \frac{V}{r} du^2 - 2e^{2\beta} du dr + r^2 h_{AB} (dx^A - U^A du)(dx^B - U^B du)$$

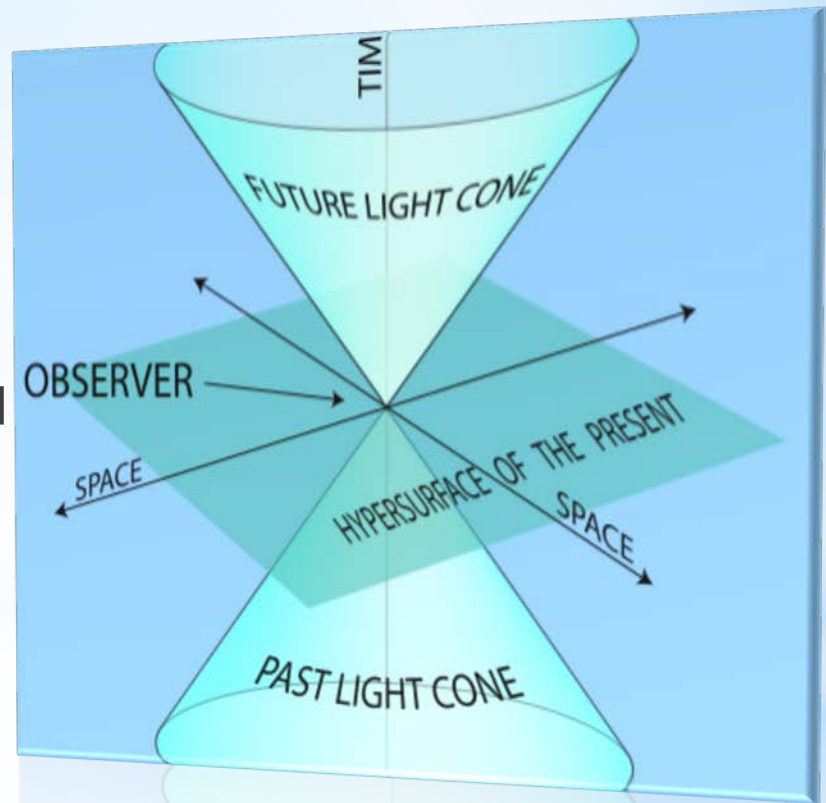
- \* Within this metric, he calculates the loss of mass due to the emission of gravitational waves

$$N = N_+ + iN_x = \partial_t h_+ + \partial_t h_x$$

## \* Bondi Makes the News

*The mass of a system is constant if and only if there is no news. If there is news, the mass decreases as long as there are news.*

- \* Light rays are *principal null directions* in space-time for both gravitational and electromagnetic radiation.
- \* They are *characteristic surfaces* of both Einstein and Maxwell field equations.
- \* In characteristic coordinates, the equations split into time evolution and hypersurface integration equations.



# \* How Radiation Travels

- \* We consider the coupled Einstein-Maxwell system, together with Maxwell equation, on a Bondi metric.
- \* A null gauge field splits the coupled field equations into hypersurface, evolution and supplementary conditions.

$$R_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\alpha\beta}R = 8\pi T_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$T_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4\pi} (F_{\alpha\gamma}F_{\beta}^{\gamma} - \frac{1}{4}g_{\alpha\beta}F_{\gamma\delta}F^{\gamma\delta})$$

$$F_{\alpha\gamma} = 2D_{[\alpha}A_{\beta]}; A^u = A_r = 0$$

$$D_{\beta}F^{\alpha\beta} - 8\pi J^{\alpha} = 0$$

$$D^b E_{\alpha b} - 8\pi j_{\alpha} = 0$$

# \* Gravitation and Light



1. With  $A_B$  initial, we get  $A_u$  by integrating  $J^u$  along the ray.
2. With  $A_B$  and  $A_u$  we get  $\delta_u A_B$  by integrating  $J^B$
3. With  $\delta_u A_B$  known, we can obtain  $A_B$  on the next characteristic.

$$\begin{aligned}
 4\pi J^u &= -\frac{1}{r^2 e^{4\beta}} D_B (h^{BC} \partial_r A_C) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{e^{4\beta}} \left[ \partial_r (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) + \frac{2}{r} (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) (1 - r \partial_r \beta) \right] \\
 4\pi J^B &= \frac{1}{r^2 e^{2\beta}} \left[ \partial_u (h^{BC} \partial_r A_C) + \partial_r \left( h^{BC} (2\partial_{[u} A_{C]} - \frac{V}{r} \partial_r A_C) \right) \right] \\
 &+ \frac{2}{r^2 e^{2\beta}} \left[ \partial_r (U^D h^{BC} \partial_{[D} A_{C]}) + D_C (U^{[B} h^{C]D} \partial_r A_D) \right] \\
 &+ \frac{1}{e^{4\beta}} \left[ \frac{2U^B}{r} (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) (1 - r \partial_r \beta) + \partial_r (U^B (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C)) \right] \\
 &+ \frac{1}{r^4} \left[ 2D_C (h^{BE} h^{CD} \partial_{[E} A_{D]}) + 4\partial_C \beta (h^{BE} h^{CD} \partial_{[E} A_{D]}) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

## \* Main Equations for Light

\* The equation for  $J^r$  is a supplementary condition.

\* It provides the information on the electric and magnetic parts of the null radiation “memory” effect: change in relative separation of two test particles.

$$\begin{aligned}
 4\pi J^r &= -\frac{1}{e^{4\beta}} \left[ D_B \left( U^B (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) \right) \right] \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{e^{4\beta}} \left[ \partial_u (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) + 2(\partial_u \beta + \partial_C \beta) (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) \right] \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{r^2 e^{2\beta}} \left[ D_B \left( h^{BC} \left( 2\partial_{[u} A_{C]} - \frac{V}{r} \partial_r A_C \right) + 2D_B \left( h^{BD} U^C \partial_{[C} A_{D]} \right) \right) \right] \\
 &\quad D_B \left( h^{BC} E_C \right) + D_B \left( h^{BC} \left( \frac{V}{r} B_C - U^C B_r \right) \right) + \frac{1}{e^{2\beta}} D_B \left( U^B (E_r - U^C B_C) \right) \\
 &= 4\pi r^2 e^{2\beta} J^r + \frac{r^2}{e^{2\beta}} \left[ \partial_u (U^C B_C - E_r) + 2(\partial_u \beta + \partial_C \beta) (U^C B_C - E_r) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

# \* The “Memory” Effect

\* The terms  $T_{rr}$ ,  $T_{rB}$  and  $T_{BC}$  are added to the main Einstein equations and integrated on hypersurface

\* The potential  $(A_u, A_B, \delta_u A_B)$  is provided by Maxwell equations.

$$T_{rr} = -\frac{h^{BC}}{4\pi r^2} \partial_r A_B \partial_r A_C$$

$$T_{rB} = -\frac{1}{4\pi e^{2\beta}} \partial_r A_B (\partial_r A_u + U^C \partial_r A_C) - \frac{2h^{CD}}{r^2} \partial_r A_C \partial_{[B} A_{D]}$$

$$T_{BC} = -\frac{1}{\pi e^{2\beta}} \partial_r A_C \partial_{[B} A_{u]} - \frac{U^D}{\pi e^{2\beta}} \partial_r A_C \partial_{[B} A_{D]}$$

$$-\frac{1}{4\pi e^{2\beta}} \frac{V}{r} \partial_r A_B \partial_r A_C - \frac{h^{DE}}{\pi r^2} \partial_{[B} A_{D]} \partial_{[C} A_{E]} - \dots$$

# \* The Maxwell Tensor

\* Express variables in terms of a complex dyad ( $q_A, q_B$ )

\* The unit metric is  $q_{BC} = q_{(B}q_{C)}$

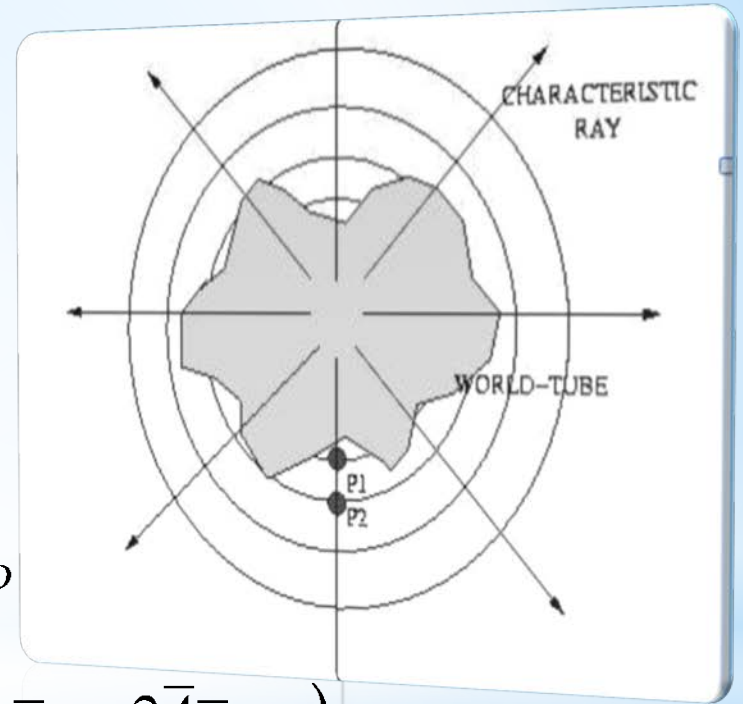
$$h_{BC} = \frac{J}{2} \bar{q}_B \bar{q}_C + \frac{\bar{J}}{2} q_B q_C + \frac{K}{2} q_{(B} \bar{q}_{C)}$$

$$\partial_C A_u = \frac{1}{2} (\partial A_u \bar{q}_C + \bar{\partial} A_u q_C); A = q^D A_D$$

$$D_C A_B = \frac{1}{4} (\partial A \bar{q}_C \bar{q}_B + \bar{\partial} \bar{A} q_C q_B + \bar{\partial} A q_C \bar{q}_B + \partial \bar{A} \bar{q}_C q_B)$$

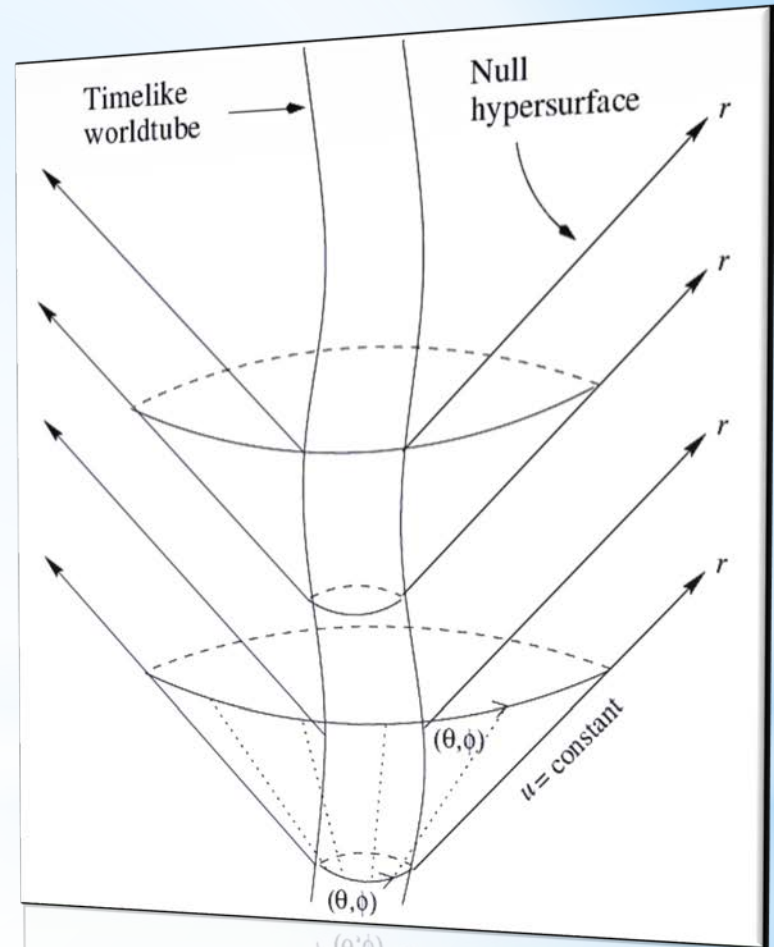
$$-\frac{1}{2} h^{DE} (\nabla_C h_{BE} + \nabla_B h_{CE} - \nabla_E h_{CB}) A_D$$

# \* The Hypersurface



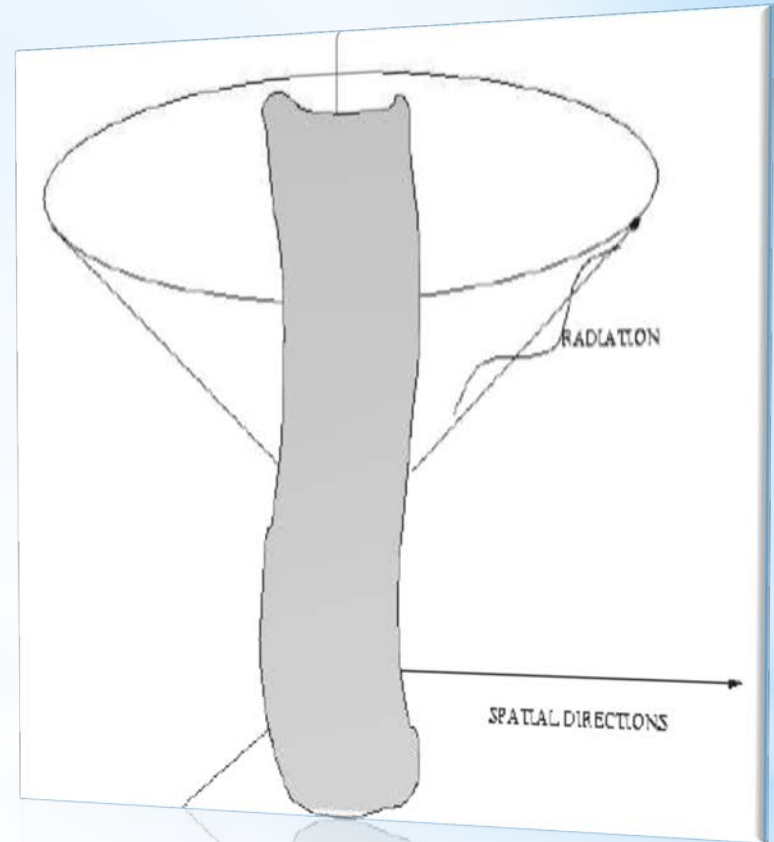
- \* Foliation of space & time by null rays  $u = t - r = \text{const}$ .
- \* The *messy physics* happens within a timelike worldtube.
- \* Spherical 2D cones  $(\theta, \phi) = x^A$  are front-waves of the rays
- \* The null grid  $(u, r, x^A)$  starts on the worldtube and transports the wave to positive null infinity.
- \* Penrose compactification:

$$x = \frac{r}{R+r}, r \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow x \rightarrow 1$$



# \* Characteristic Foliation

- \* Einstein equations are evolved along the light rays, by *marching* on the outgoing characteristics.
- \* *Errors at machine precision*
- \* The gravitational waveforms are computed at positive null infinity on inertial Bondi coordinates in terms of the *Bondi News* and Weyl  $\Psi_4$  scalar.



# \* The Characteristic Code

\*Next:

1. Code the coupled Einstein-Maxwell equations
2. Implement a characteristic code for the Maxwell field

\* Electromagnetic counterparts shed new light on the sources.

\* Other interesting phenomena:

- Gravitational and electromagnetic memory
- Formation of trapped surfaces and horizons

\* **Adding to the News**

