

Towards Celestial Holography



René Magritte, *La page blanche* (1967)

Laura Donnay (TU Wien & SISSA)

7th INFN meeting – Theories of the Fundamental Interactions 2022

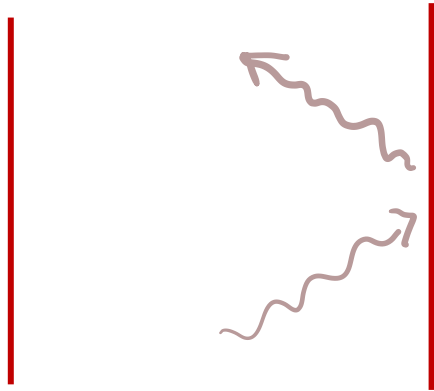
15.06.2022

Intro and motivations

- **Jan de Boer's** talk

Quantum gravity in a **box**

AdS

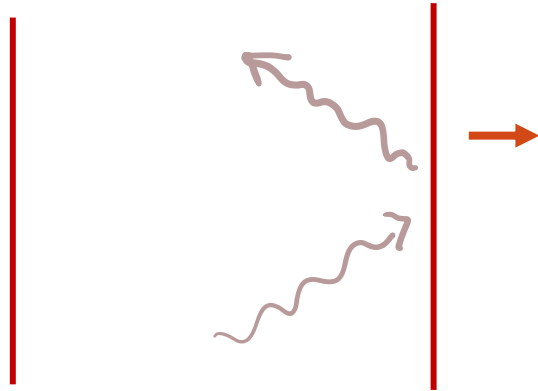


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The holographic principle

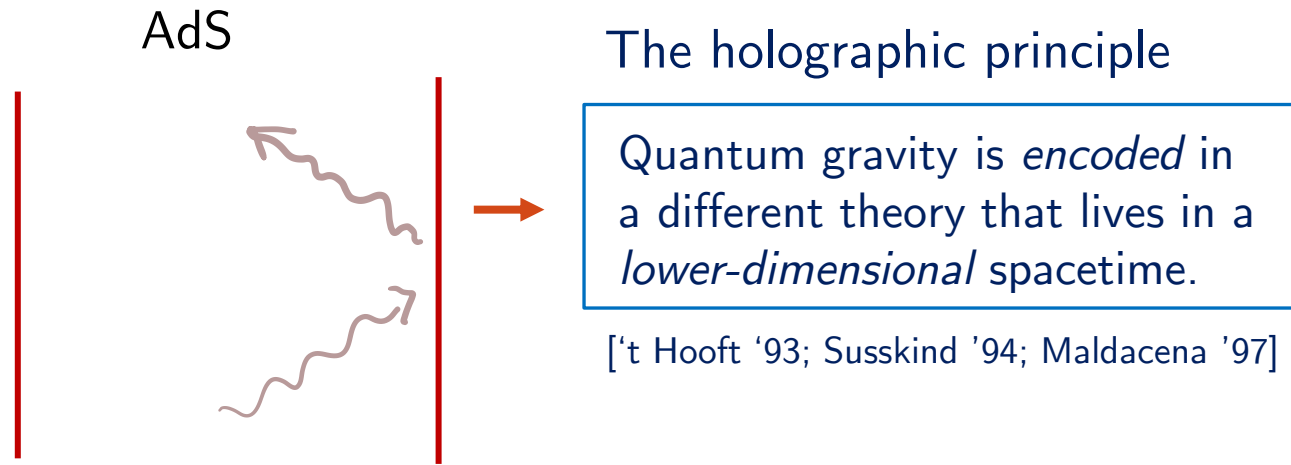
Quantum gravity is *encoded* in a different theory that lives in a *lower-dimensional* spacetime.

['t Hooft '93; Susskind '94; Maldacena '97]

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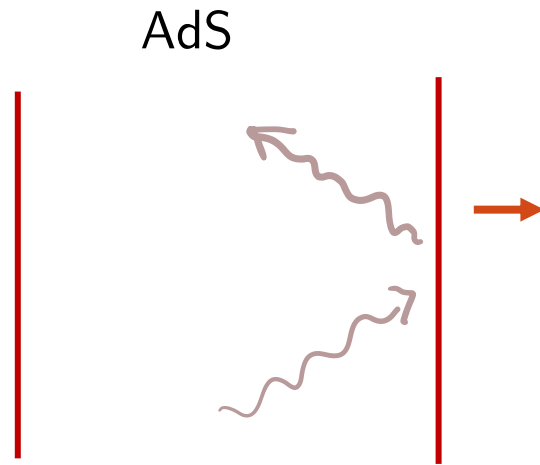
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Gravitational waves!

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The holographic principle

→ **How general is it?**

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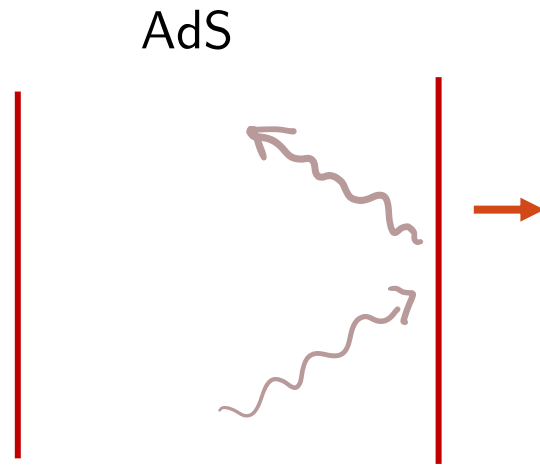
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→ **How general is it?**

Go beyond the canonical cases!

Anti-de Sitter vs **Flat**

$$\Lambda < 0$$

$$\Lambda = 0$$

CFT

??

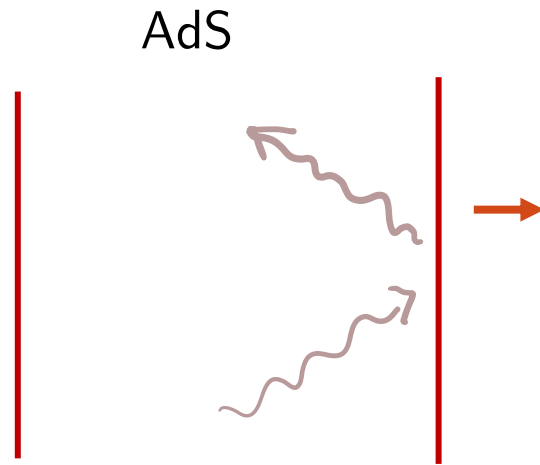
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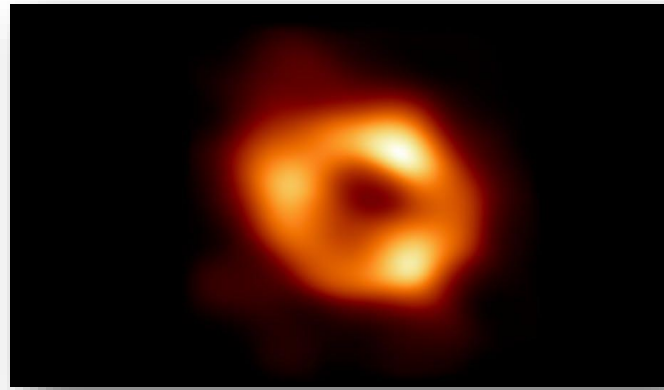
this talk

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(Image credit: EHT Collaboration, CC BY-SA)



Intro and motivations

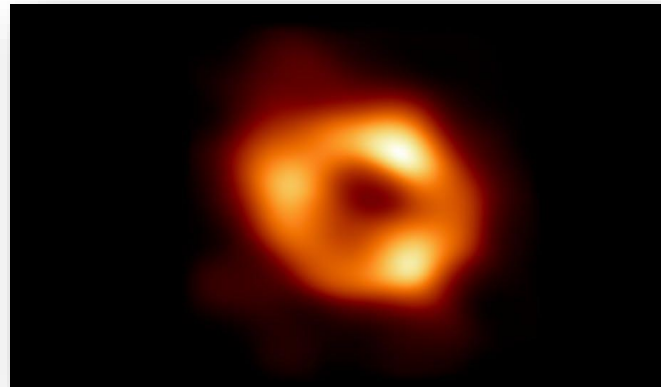
Black holes

$$S_{BH} = \frac{Ac^3}{4G\hbar}$$

[Bekenstein][Hawking]

“Primordial holographic relationship”

(Image credit: EHT Collaboration, CC BY-SA)



Intro and motivations

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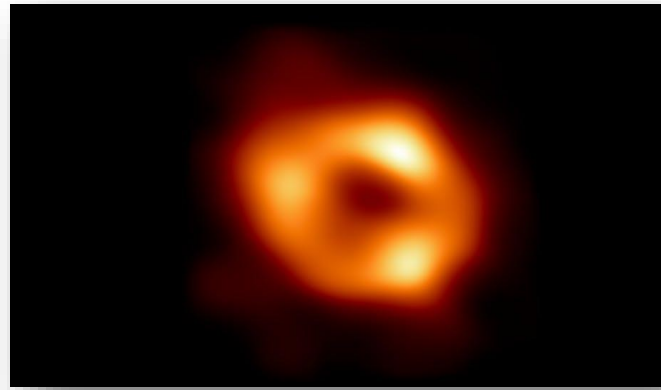
[Bekenstein][Hawking]

“Primordial holographic relationship”

Realistic black holes (e.g. Kerr solution) do not possess an AdS geometry.

→ need to develop a **holographic correspondence** for **asymptotically flat spacetimes**

(Image credit: EHT Collaboration, CC BY-SA)

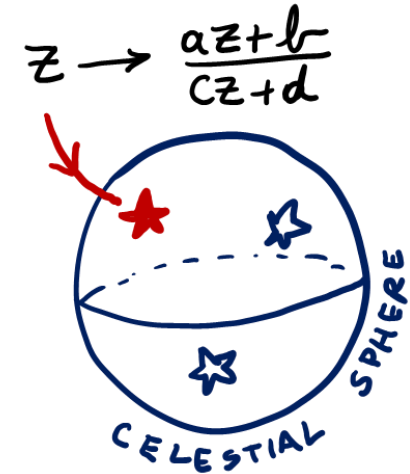


The aim of this review talk is to present :

Recent advances in the holographic formulation of **quantum gravity** in 4-dimensional asymptotically **flat** spacetimes called

“celestial holography”

This proposal is motivated by recent surprising discoveries about the **infrared structure** of **gravity** (and **gauge theories**)...



Outline of the talk

1. Infrared structure of gravity

2. Celestial holography

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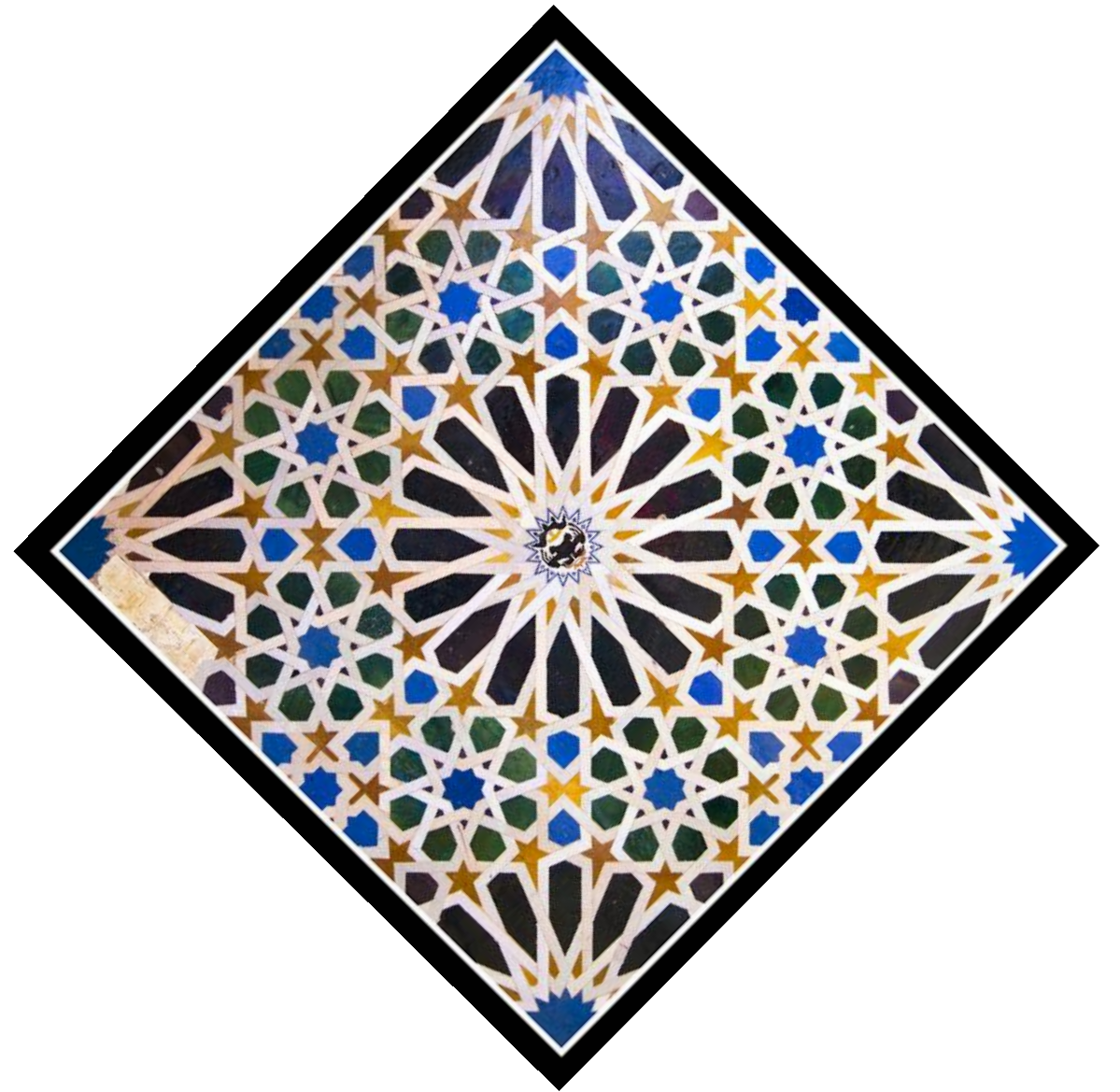
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Road map: symmetries.

Symmetries control universal phenomena, simplify the analysis and render otherwise intractable calculations feasible.

What are the symmetries of asymptotically flat spacetimes?

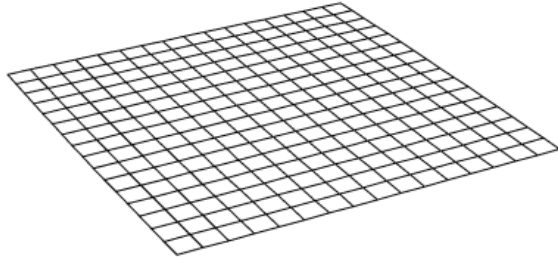


Alhambra الحَمراء tile (13th century)

A surprise in flat spacetimes

The BMS symmetries [Bondi-Metzner-van der Burg; Sachs, '62]

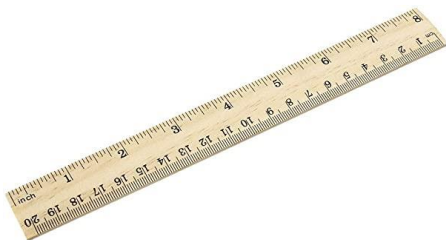
Minkowski metric (flat spacetime) in 4D



The geometry is described by the line element

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2$$

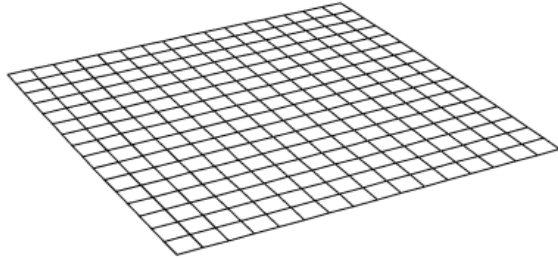
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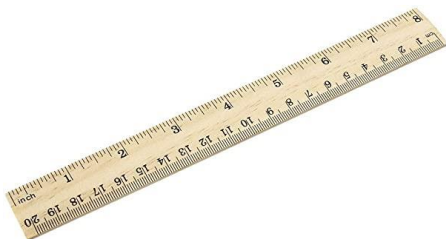


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$$ds^2 = -du^2 - 2dudr + 2r^2\gamma_{z\bar{z}} dzd\bar{z}$$



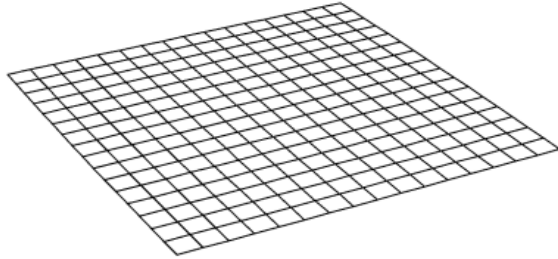
Change to *Bondi coordinates* (u, r, z, \bar{z})

$$t = u + r, \quad x_1 = \frac{r(z + \bar{z})}{1 + z\bar{z}}$$
$$x_2 = \frac{-ir(z - \bar{z})}{1 + z\bar{z}}, \quad x_3 = \frac{r(1 - z\bar{z})}{1 + z\bar{z}}$$

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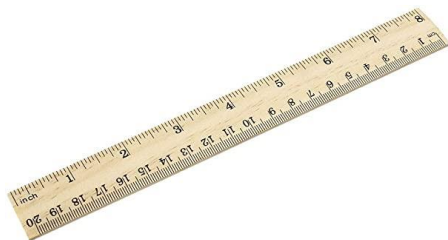


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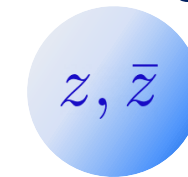
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$$z = e^{i\phi} \cot \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\bar{z} = e^{-i\phi} \cot \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\gamma_{z\bar{z}} = \frac{2}{(1 + z\bar{z})^2}$$

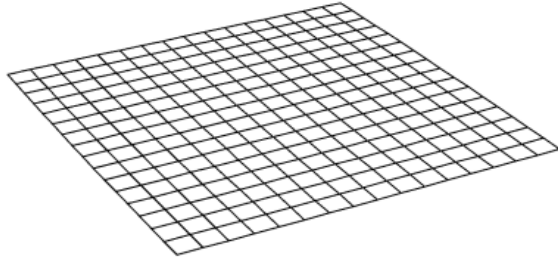
sphere angles



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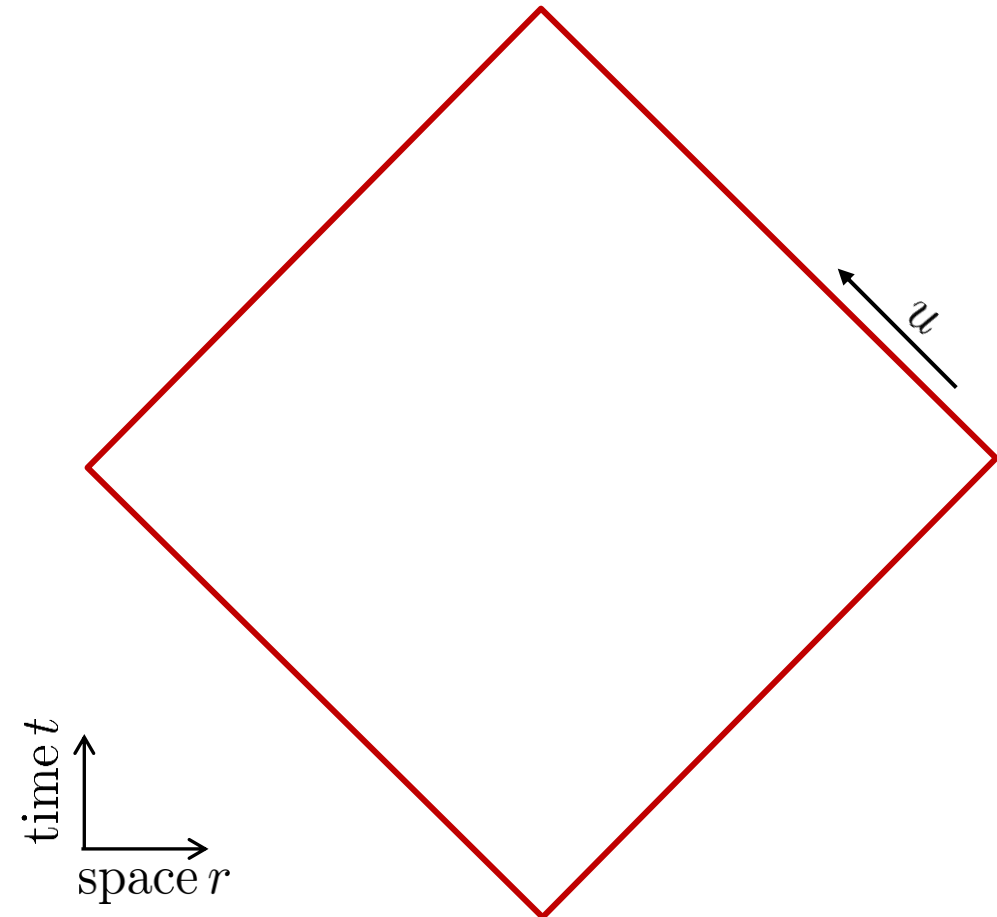
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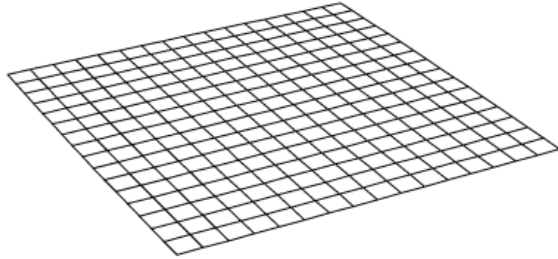


Penrose diagram of Minkowski

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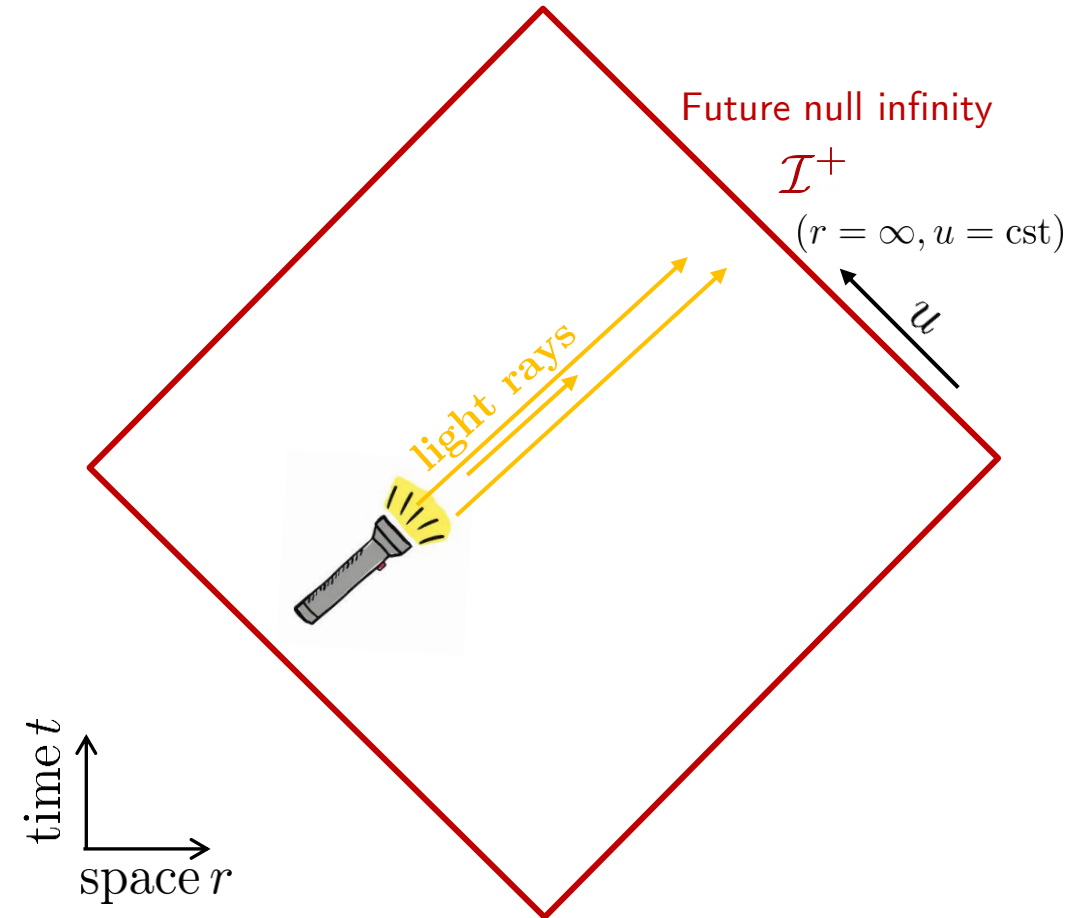
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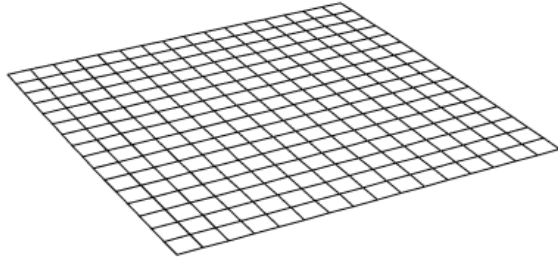


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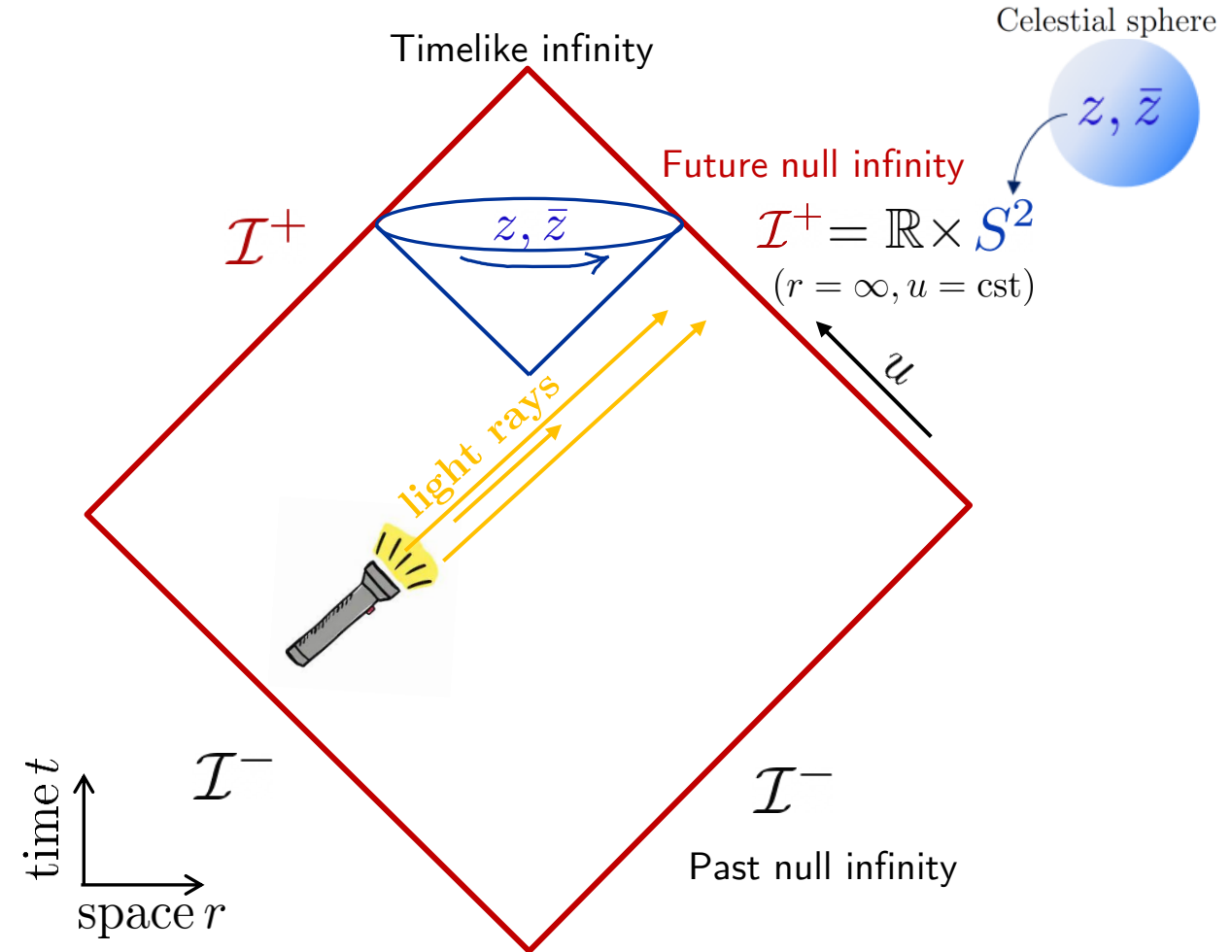
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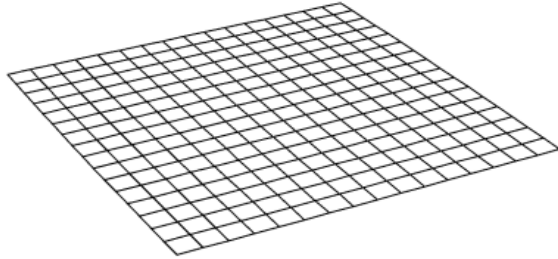


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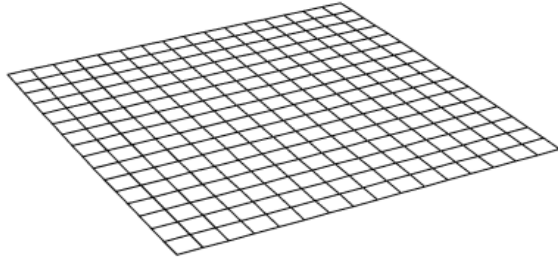
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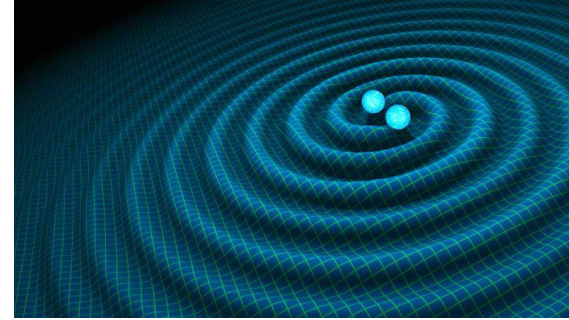
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Asymptotically flat spacetime (as $r \rightarrow \infty$)

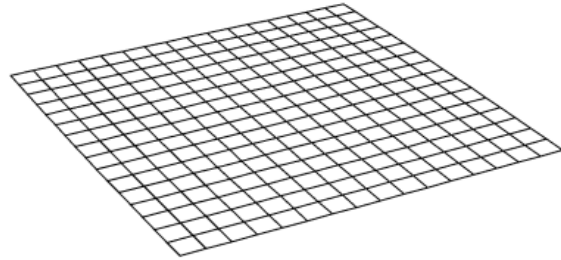


Curved spacetime that looks flat seen from a far distance. The deviation from Minkowski is dictated by **boundary conditions** for the metric.

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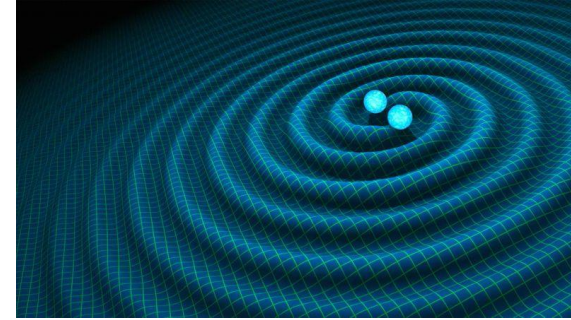
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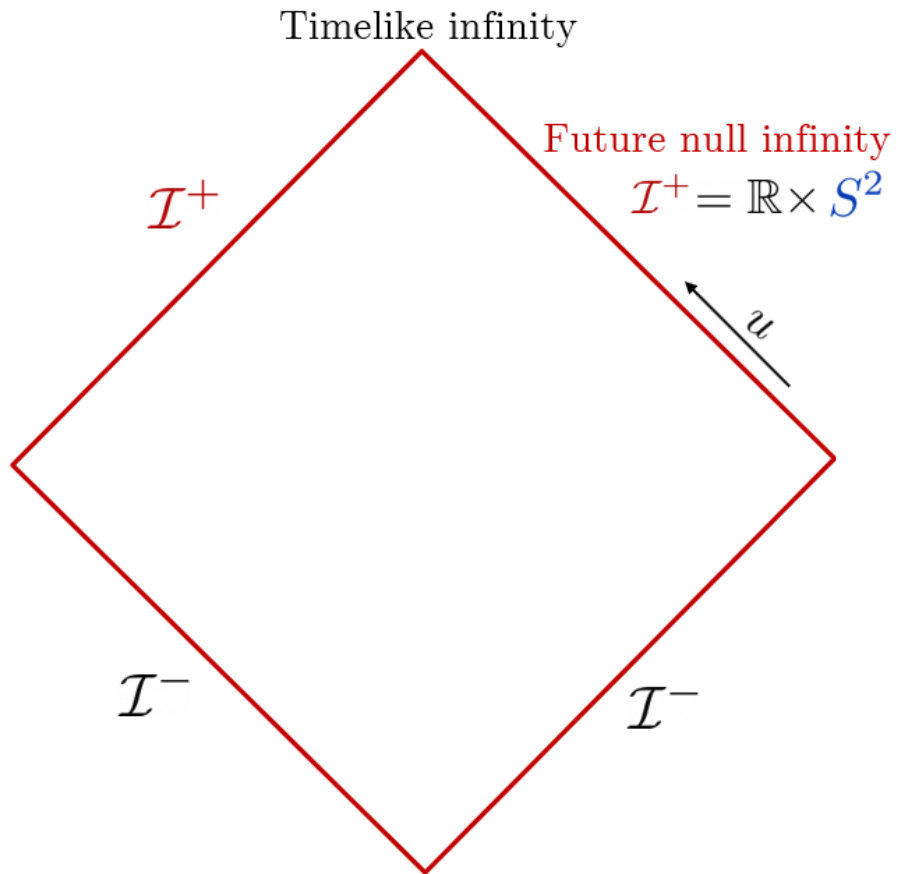


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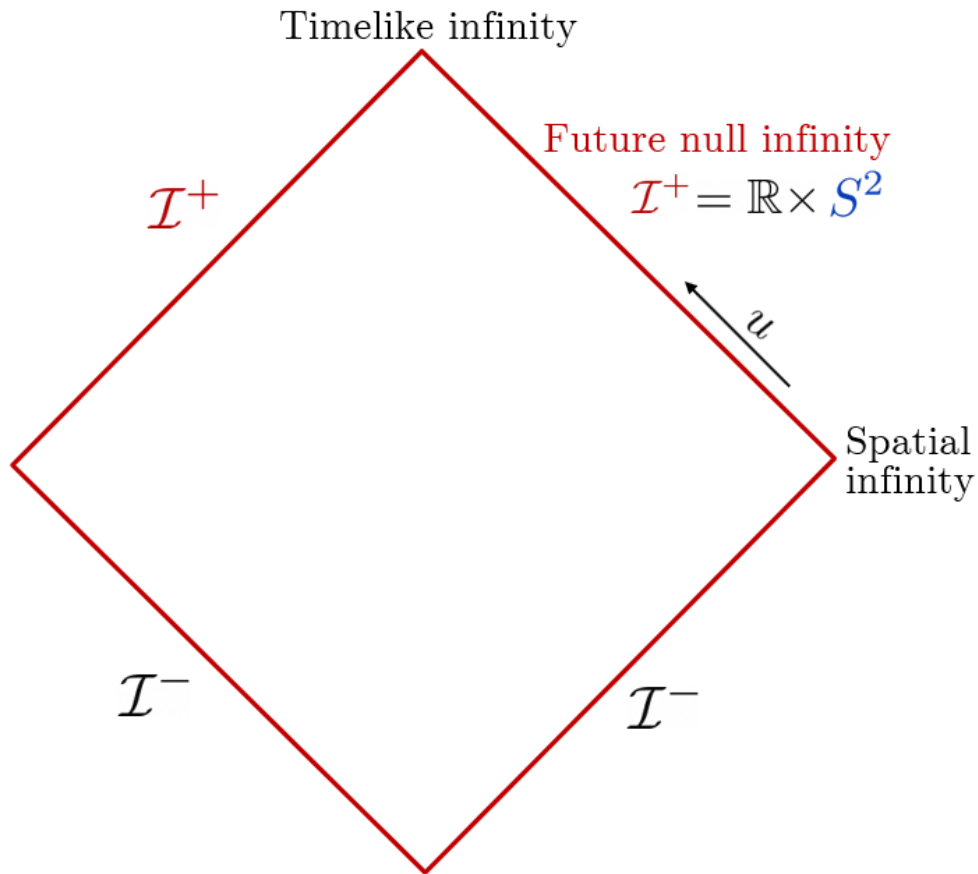


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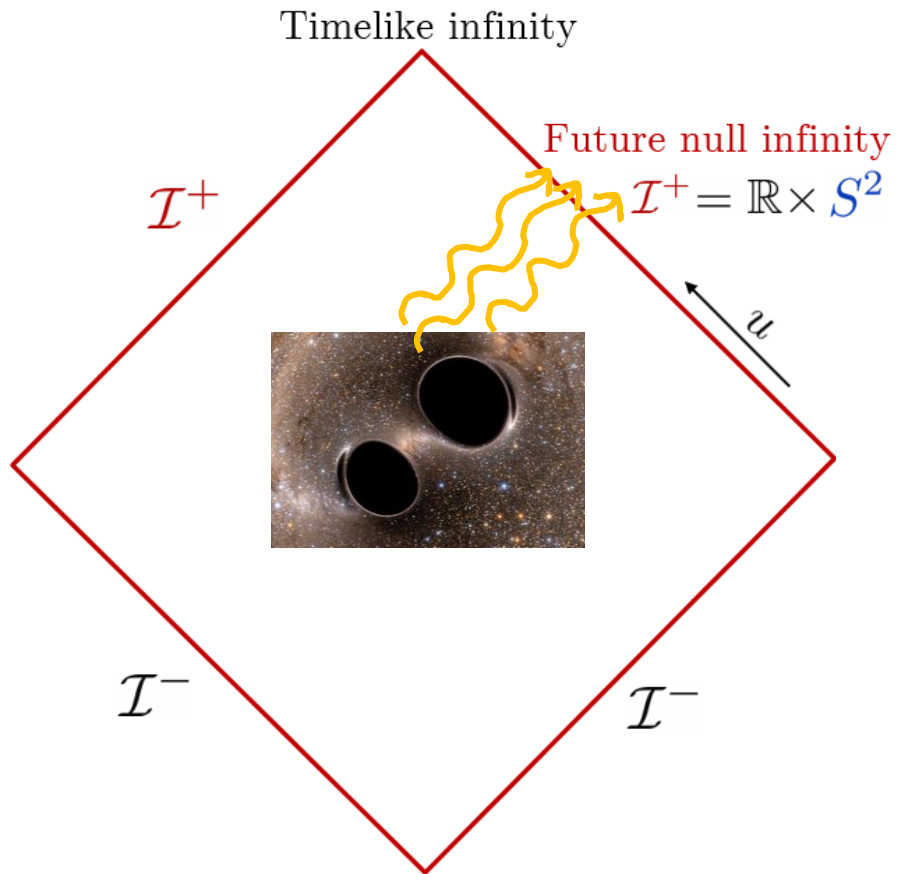
$M(u, z, \bar{z})$ gives the *energy* (e.g. *black hole mass*)

$N_z(u, z, \bar{z})$ gives the *angular momentum*

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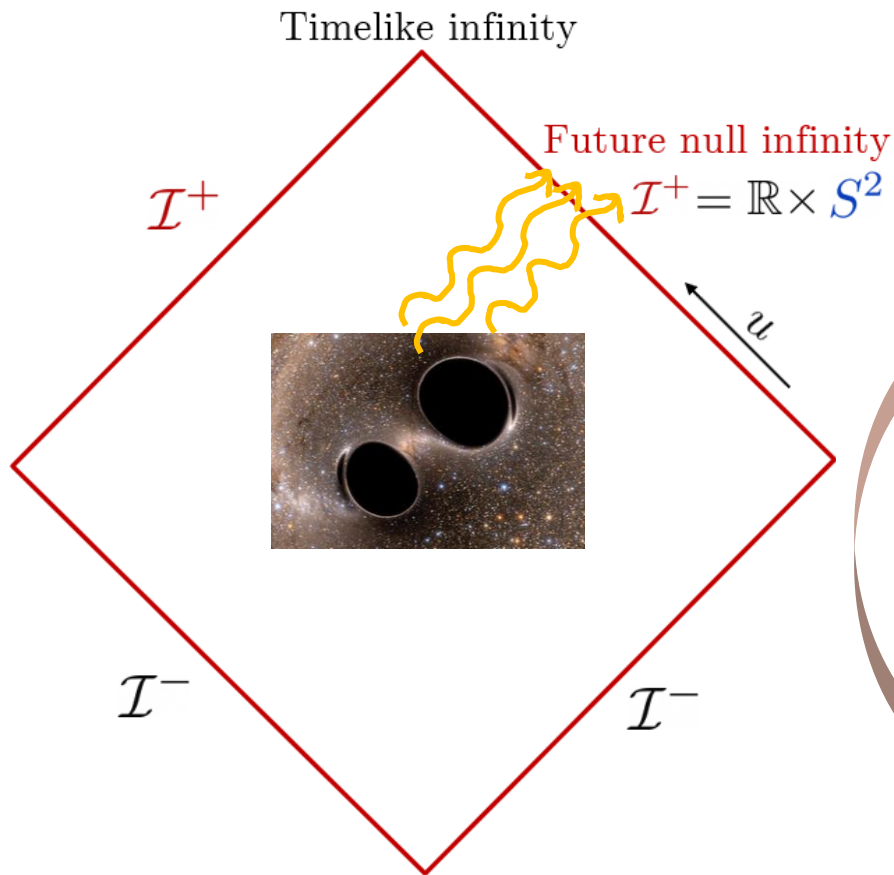
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$$\partial_u C_{zz} \neq 0$$

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Mathematical description of a **radiating spacetime**

What are the symmetries of asymptotically flat spacetimes?

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what was expected



Poincaré **4** spacetime translations
6 Lorentz transformations

what was found



Bondi-Metzner-Sachs (BMS) ('62)
Infinite-dimensional extension!

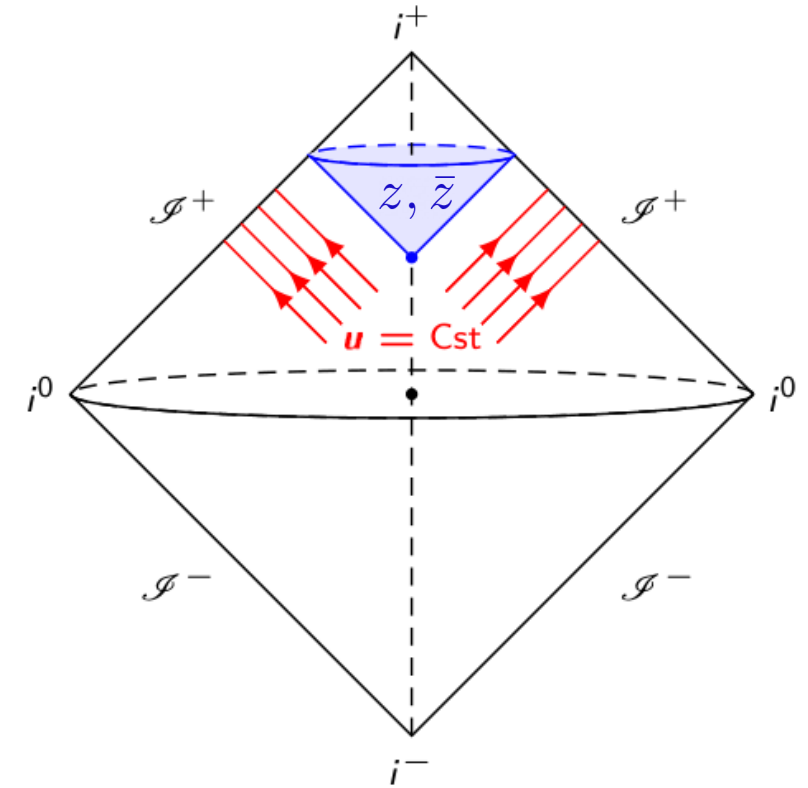
Supertranslations

[Bondi, van der Burg, Metzner '62] [Sachs '62]
[Barnich, Troessaert '10]

Asymptotically flat spacetimes in Bondi gauge:

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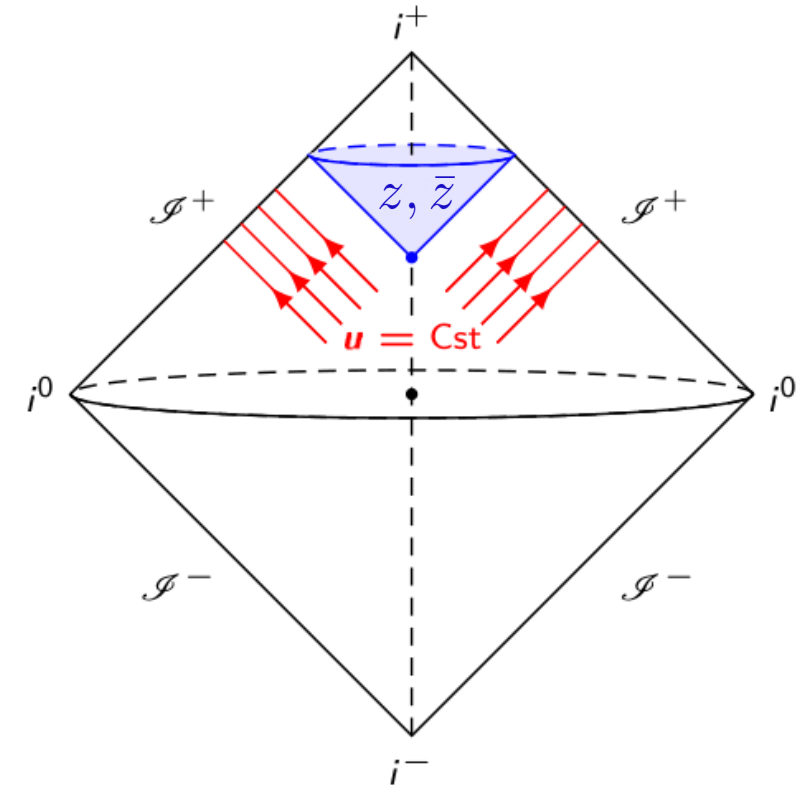
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BMS **supertranslation** symmetries:

$$\xi = \mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z})\partial_u + \dots$$

arbitrary function
on the celestial sphere



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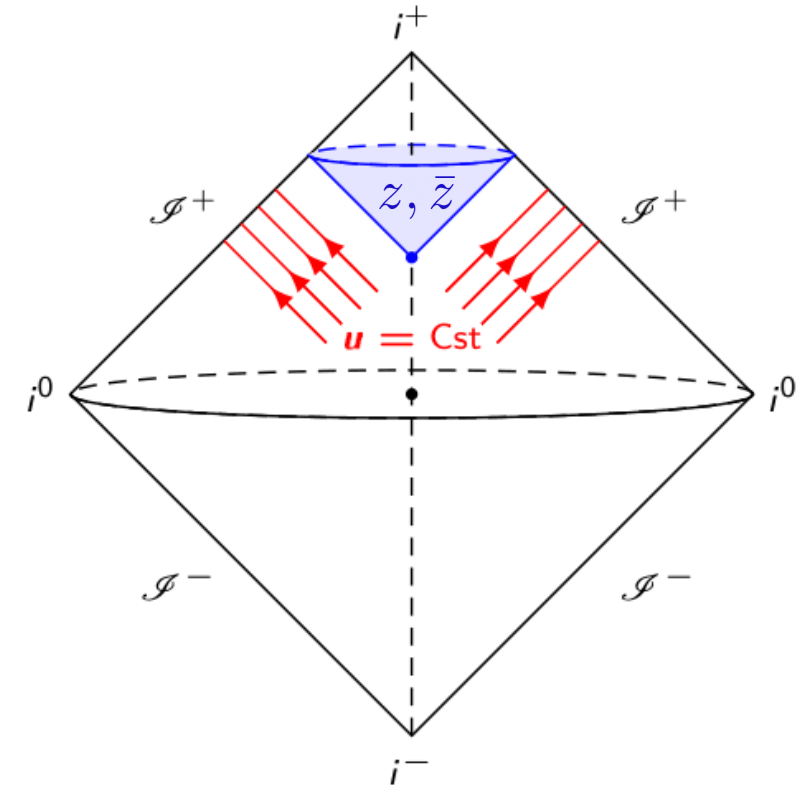
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4 Poincaré translations

↓ Symmetry
enhancement

∞ BMS *supertranslations*

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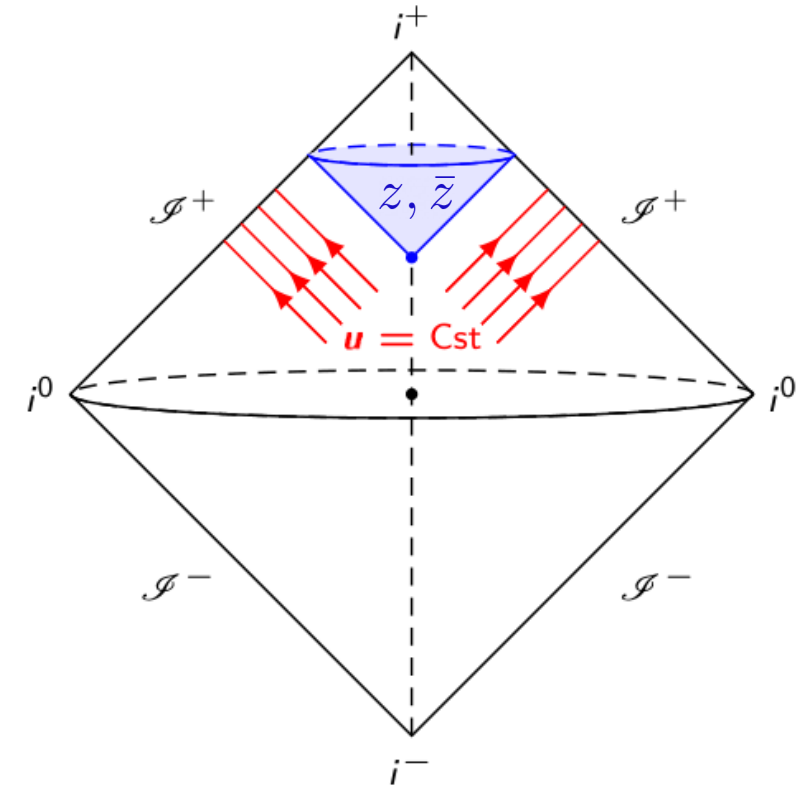
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act non-trivially on the gravitational solution space

$$\delta_\xi M = \dots \quad \delta_\xi C_{zz} = (\dots)C_{zz} - 2D_z^2 \mathcal{T}$$



4 Poincaré translations

↓ *Symmetry
enhancement*

∞ BMS *supertranslations*

BMS symmetries were originally disregarded.

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The fact that α is an arbitrary function of its arguments is quite annoying in some respects.

$$\xi = \mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z})\partial_u + \dots$$

tained during the course of time. Several other attempts to restrict or eliminate α by changing the co-ordinate and/or boundary conditions have also failed.

[Sachs '62]

BMS symmetries were originally disregarded.

The fact that α is an arbitrary function of its arguments is quite annoying in some respects.

$$\xi = \mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z})\partial_u + \dots$$

tained during the course of time. Several other attempts to restrict or eliminate α by changing the co-ordinate and/or boundary conditions have also failed.

[Sachs '62]

But...

Conceivably α is a blessing in disguise and the representations of the group (3.12) are more interesting than the representations of the Lorentz group.

BMS and the scattering problem

Seminal observation: BMS symmetries constrain the gravitational scattering problem! [Strominger '14]

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- ① Noether charges for BMS symmetries
[Barnich, Troessaert '10]

$$Q_{\mathcal{T}} = \frac{1}{4\pi G} \int d^2z \sqrt{\gamma} \mathcal{T} M$$

BMS and the scattering problem

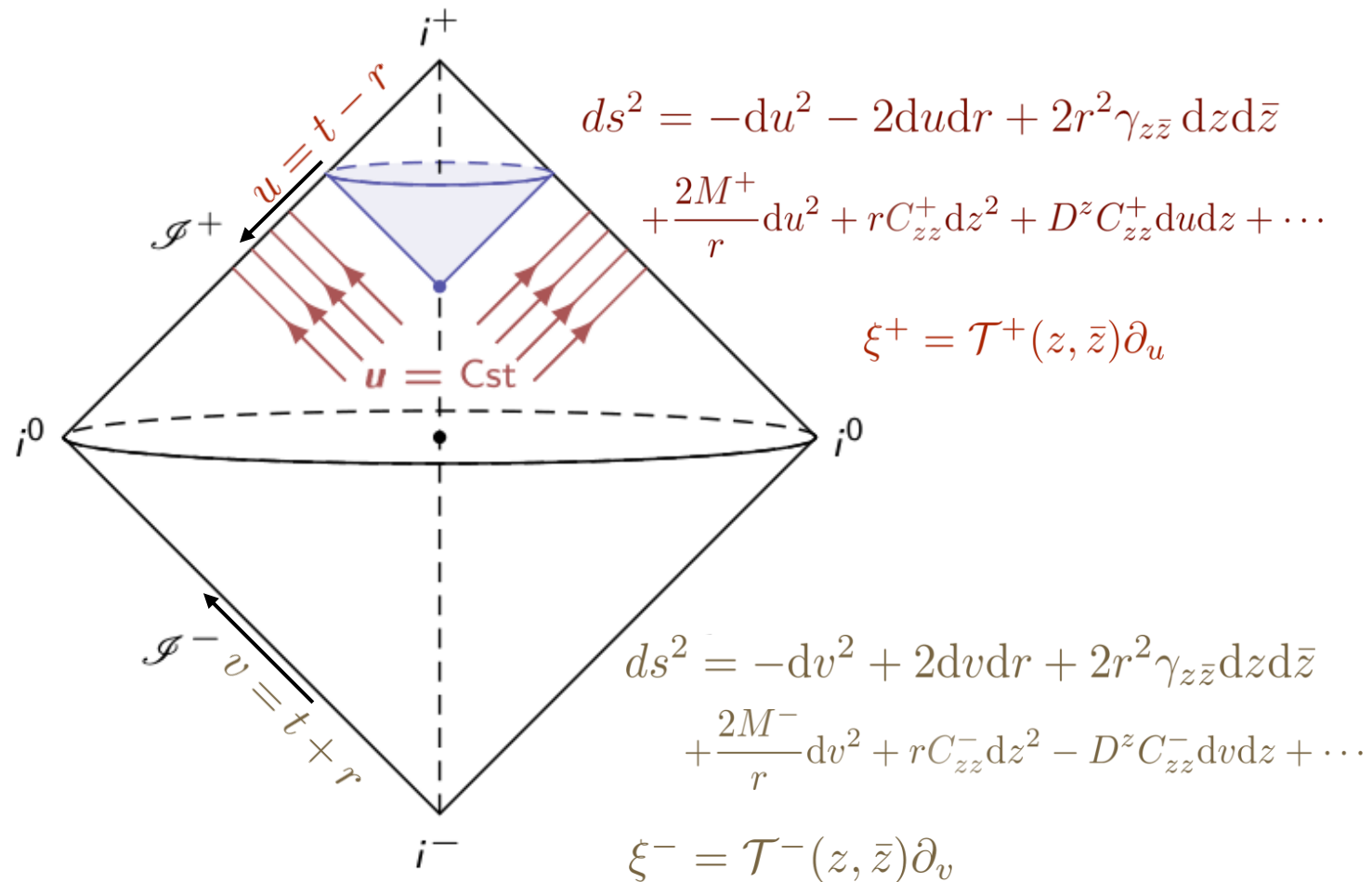
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- 2 Relating the *past* and the *future*



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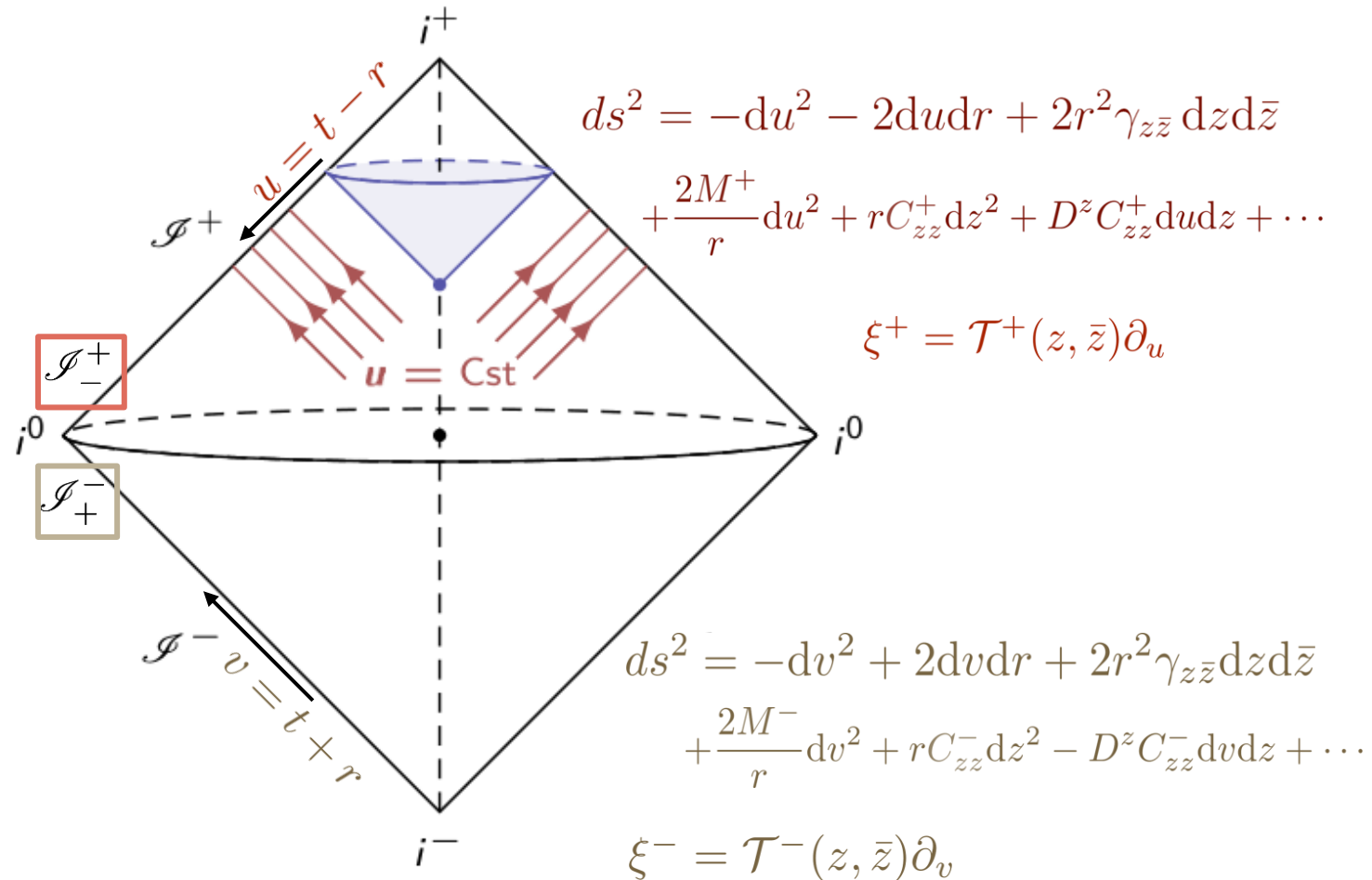
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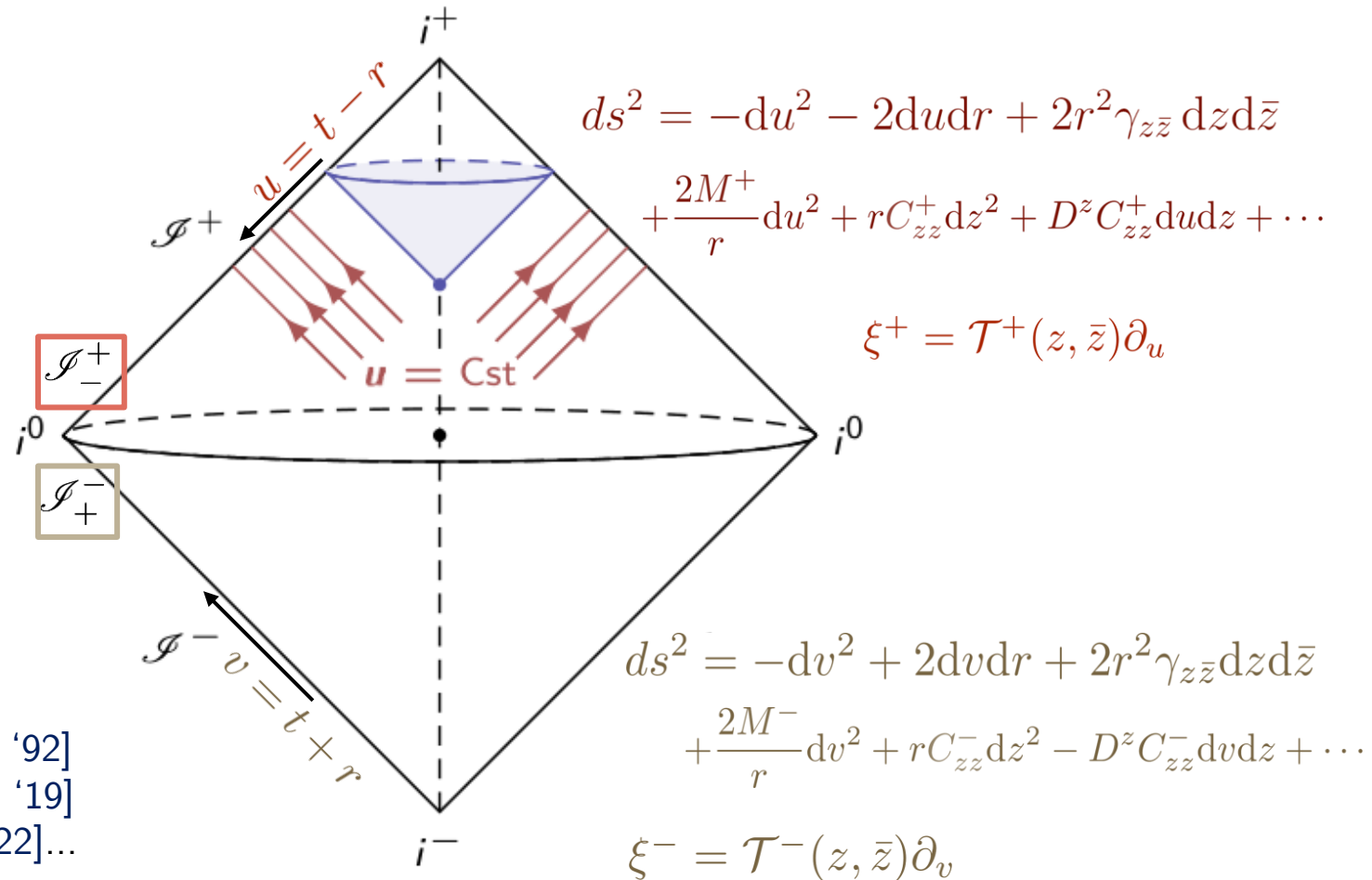
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Antipodal matching conditions

$$M^-(v, z, \bar{z})|_{\mathcal{I}_+^-} = M^+(u, z, \bar{z})|_{\mathcal{I}_+^+}$$

$$\mathcal{T}^-(z, \bar{z})|_{\mathcal{I}_+^-} = \mathcal{T}^+(z, \bar{z})|_{\mathcal{I}_+^+}$$

[Strominger '14]; see also [Herberthson, Ludvigsen '92]
[Troessaert '18][Henneaux, Troessaert '18][Prabhu '19]
[Kroon, Mohamed '21][Capone, Nguyen, Parisini '22]...



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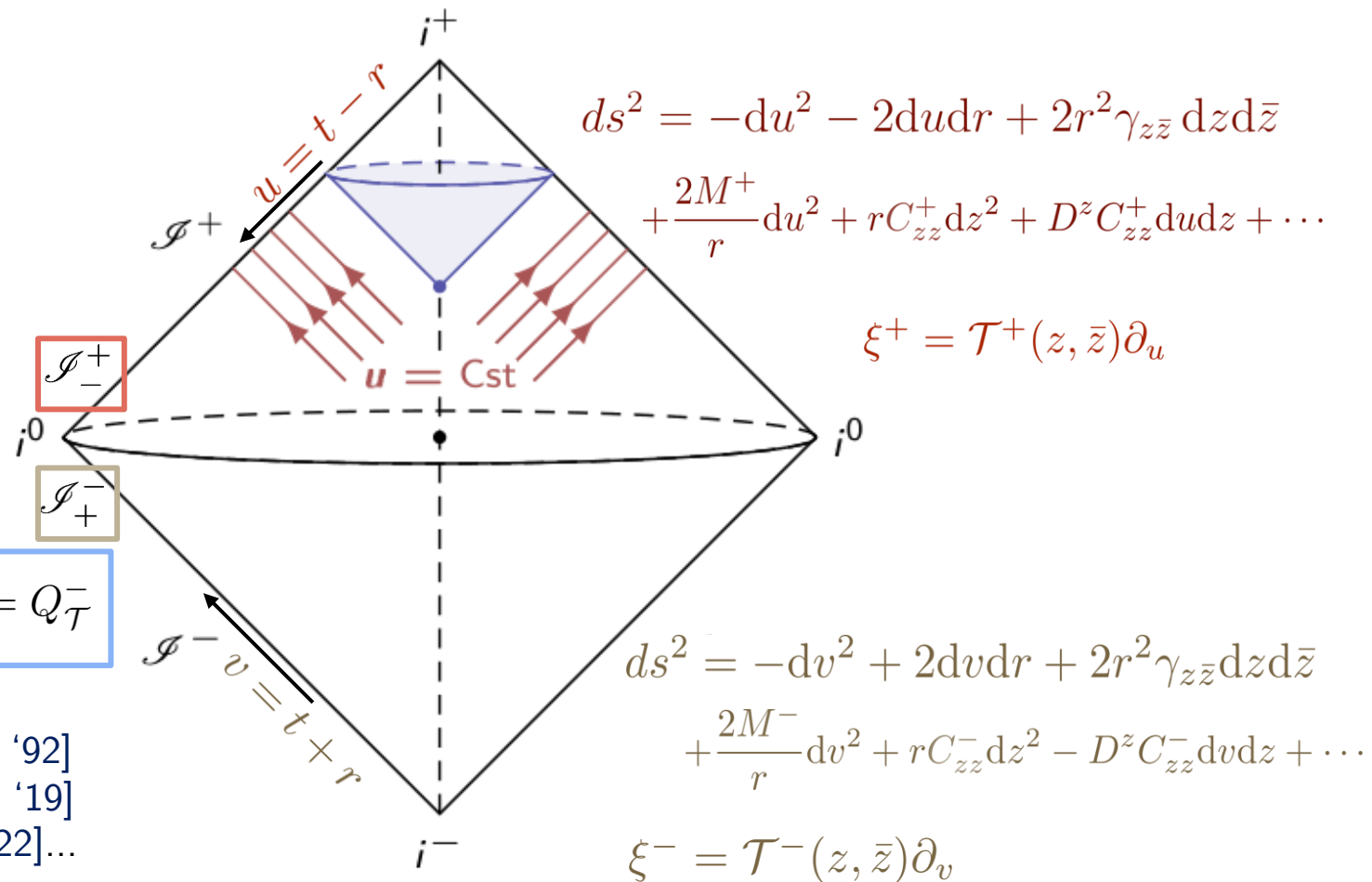
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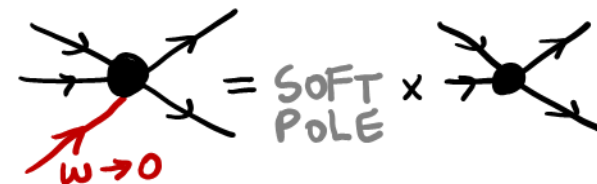
BMS and the scattering problem

Prime example:

The **leading soft graviton theorem** [Weinberg '65]

$$A_m = \langle \text{out} | S | \text{in} \rangle$$

+ soft particle (energy $\omega \rightarrow 0$)



BMS and the scattering problem

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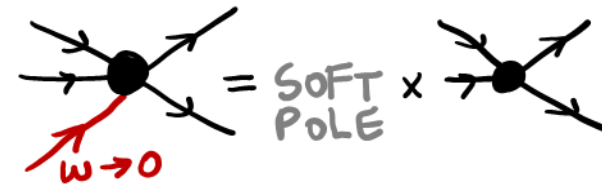
n hard particles (p_k) + external graviton (q)

$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{A}_{n+1}(q) = S^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_n + \mathcal{O}(q^0)$$

$$S^{(0)} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{p_k^\mu p_k^\nu \varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(q)}{p_k \cdot q}$$

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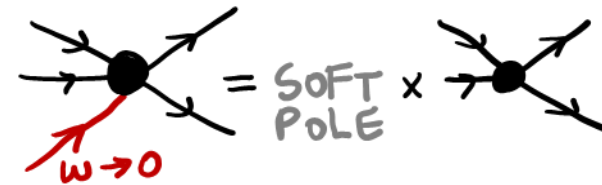
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is nothing but the **Ward identity** associated to **supertranslation** symmetry [He, Lysov, Mitra, Strominger '15]

$$\langle \text{out} | Q_{\mathcal{T}}^+ \mathcal{S} - \mathcal{S} Q_{\mathcal{T}}^- | \text{in} \rangle = 0$$



supertranslation charge

$$Q_{\mathcal{T}} = \frac{1}{4\pi G} \int d^2 z \sqrt{\gamma} \mathcal{T} M$$

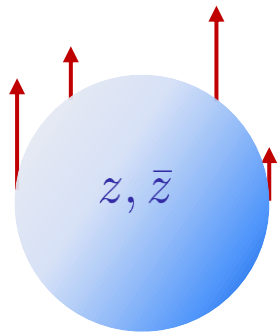
3 languages for the same IR physics [Strominger '18]

Asymptotic symmetries

General Relativity

supertranslations

[Bondi-Metzner-Sachs '62]



$$\Delta C_{AB} \neq 0$$

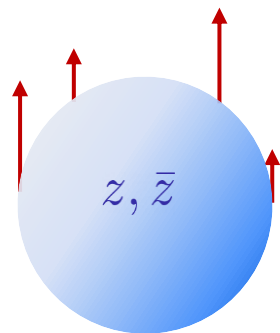
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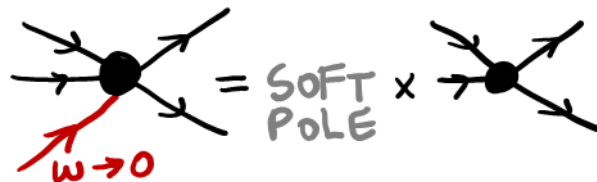
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Soft theorems

Quantum Field Theory

leading soft graviton theorem

[Weinberg '65]



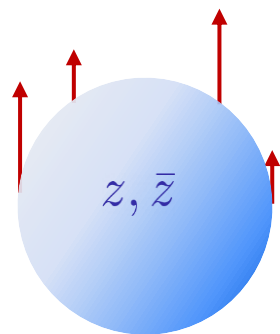
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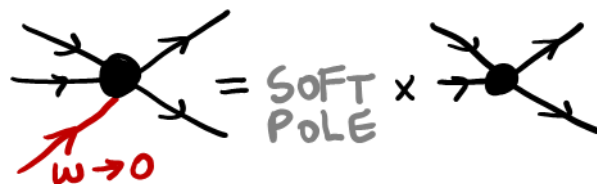
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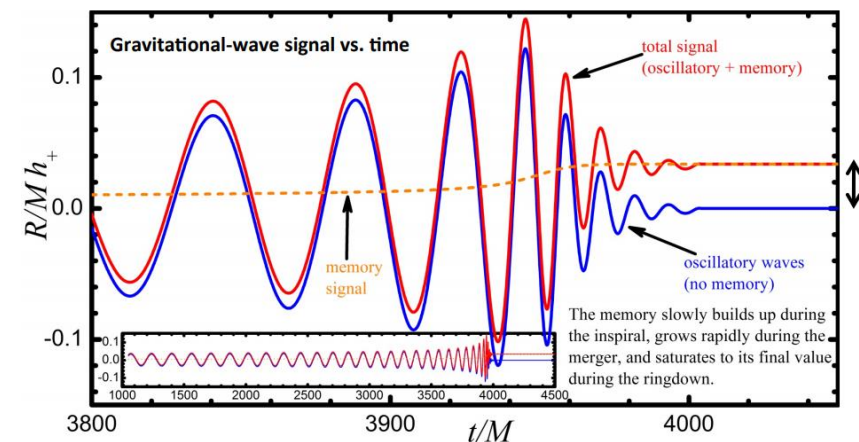


Memory effects

GW observation

displacement memory

[Zel'dovich, Polnarev, Braginskii, Thorne, Christodoulou] ... 70s – 90s



[Favata, '10]

Conclusions

Physics in the deep infrared is **much richer**, more subtle and **much less understood** than we previously thought.

The boundary of **flat space** exhibits an **infinite** amount of **symmetries** which constrain the scattering problem.

Outline of the talk

1. Infrared structure of gravity

2. Celestial holography

Flat space holography

Holographic description of quantum gravity in 4d **asymptotically flat** spacetimes?

Flat space holography

Holographic description of quantum gravity in 4d **asymptotically flat** spacetimes?

Early attempts:

[Susskind '99][Polchinski '99][Giddings '99]

[de Boer, Solodukhin '03][Arcioni, Dappiaggi '03 '04][Dappiaggi, Moretti, Pinamonti '06][Mann, Marolf '06]...

Flat space holography

Holographic description of quantum gravity in 4d **asymptotically flat** spacetimes?

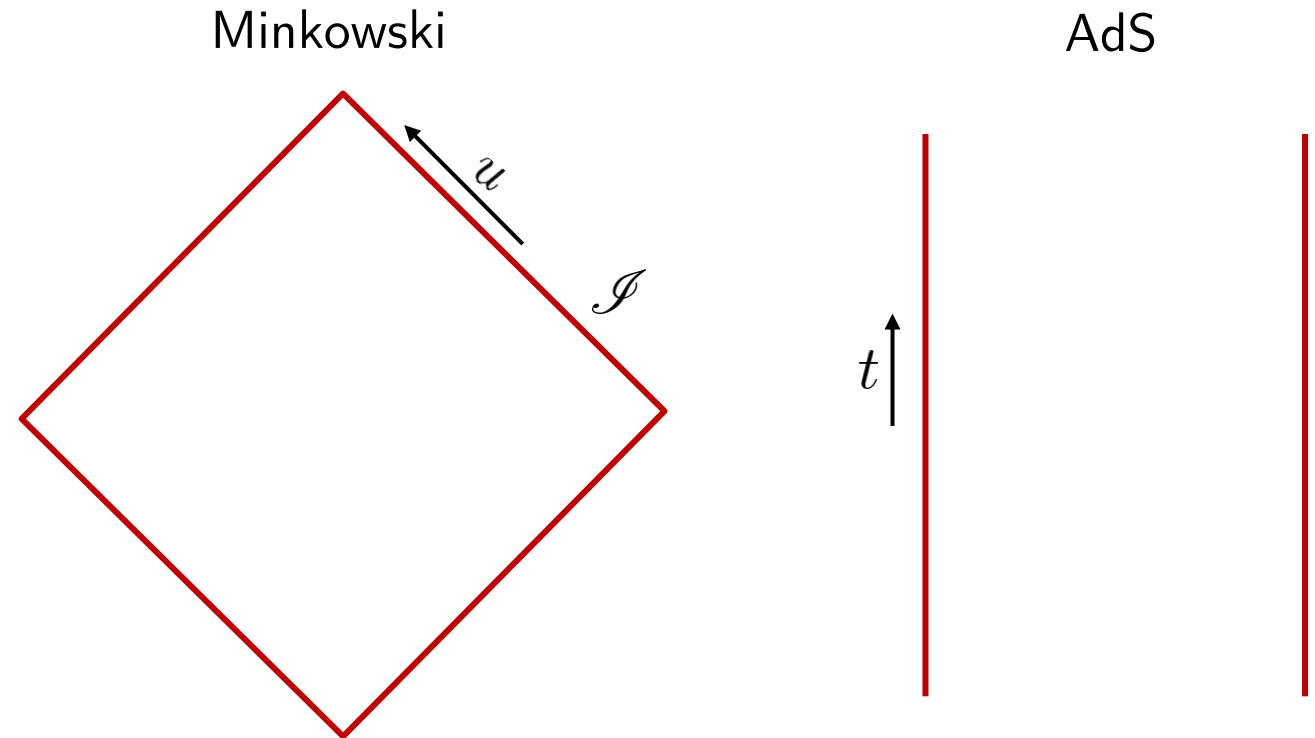
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- 1 The boundary is a **null** hypersurface



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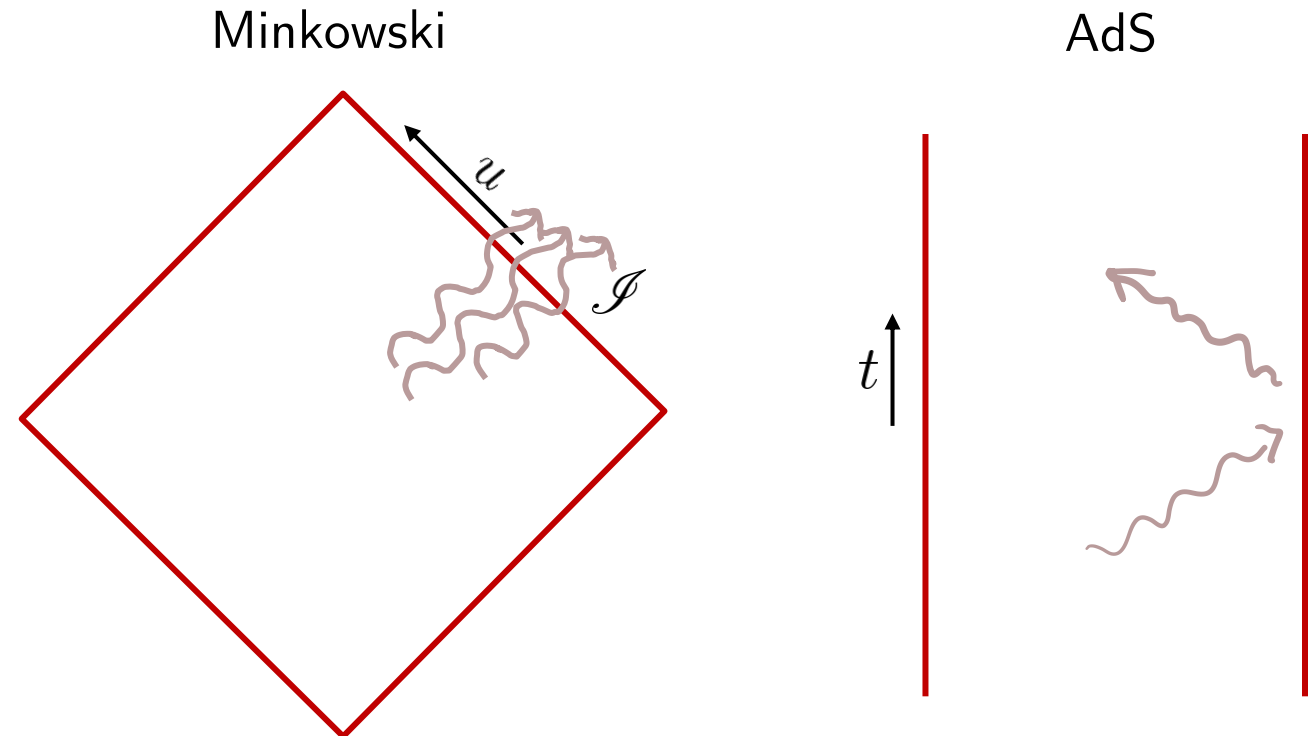
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Main obstructions/difficulties:

- 1 The boundary is a **null** hypersurface
- 2 There are **fluxes** leaking out the boundary



Flat space holography

Holographic description of quantum gravity in 4d **asymptotically flat** spacetimes

two natural boundaries/proposals



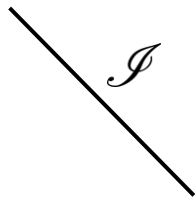
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null infinity

lighlike 3d hypersurface



4d bulk/3d holography

Dual: 3d 'BMS field theory'

[Arcioni, Dappiaggi '03 '04] [Dappiaggi, Moretti, Pinamonti '06][Mann, Marolf '06]
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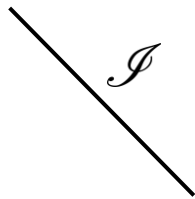
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celestial sphere

Euclidean 2-sphere



4d bulk/2d holography: 'celestial holography'

Dual: 2d 'celestial CFT'

[Strominger '17] [Pasterski, Shao, Strominger '17] [Pasterski, Shao '17] [...]

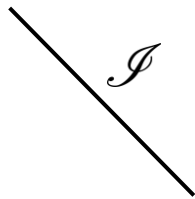
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Features: easier link to AdS/CFT ☺

treatment of fluxes ☹

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4d bulk/2d holography: 'celestial holography'

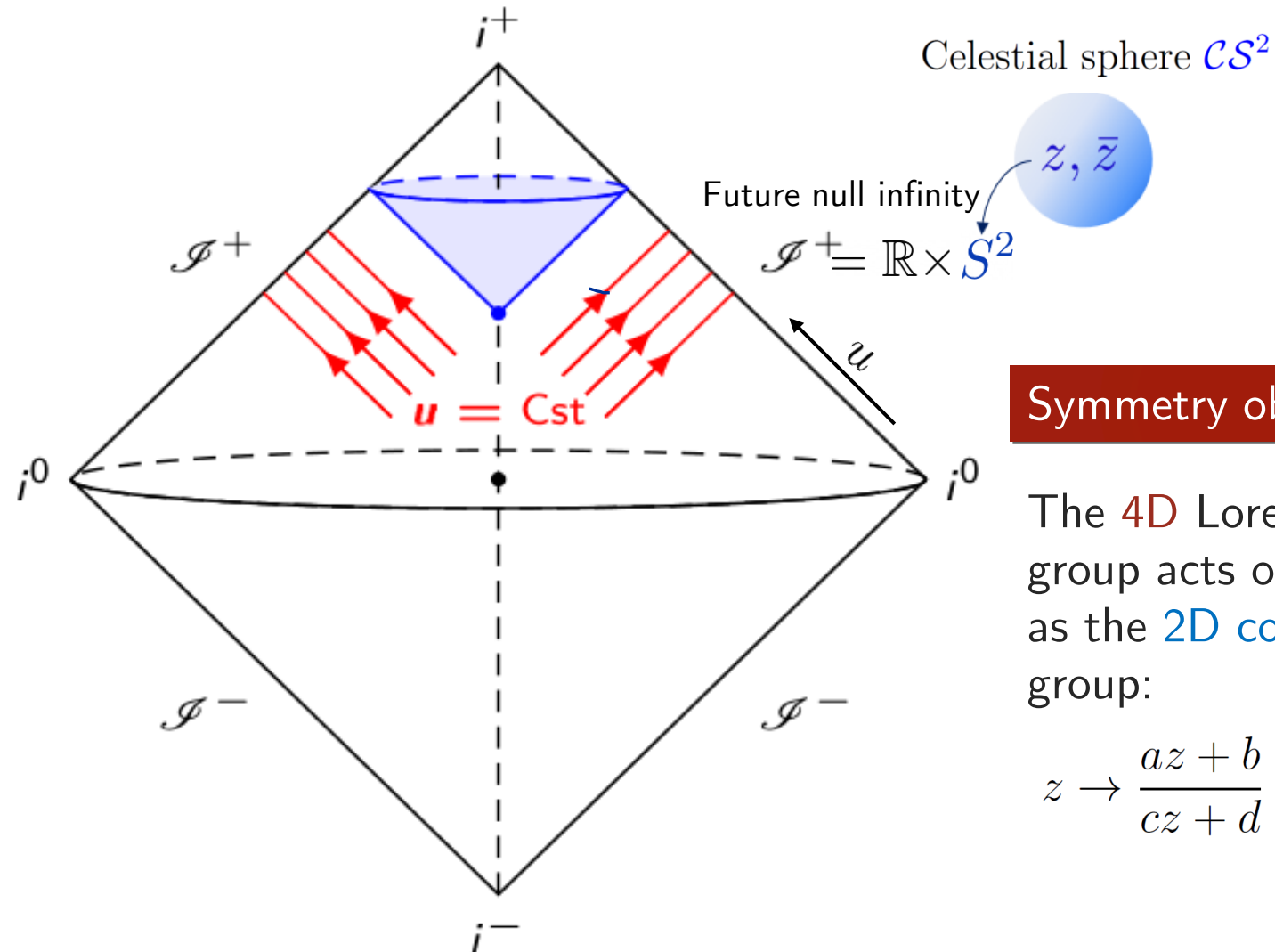
Dual: 2d 'celestial CFT'

[Strominger '17] [Pasterski, Shao, Strominger '17] [Pasterski, Shao '17] [...]

Features: powerful CFT techniques at hand ☺

role of translations obscured ☹

Towards *flat space* holography... 'celestial holography'



Symmetry observation

The 4D Lorentz group acts on CS^2 as the 2D conformal group:

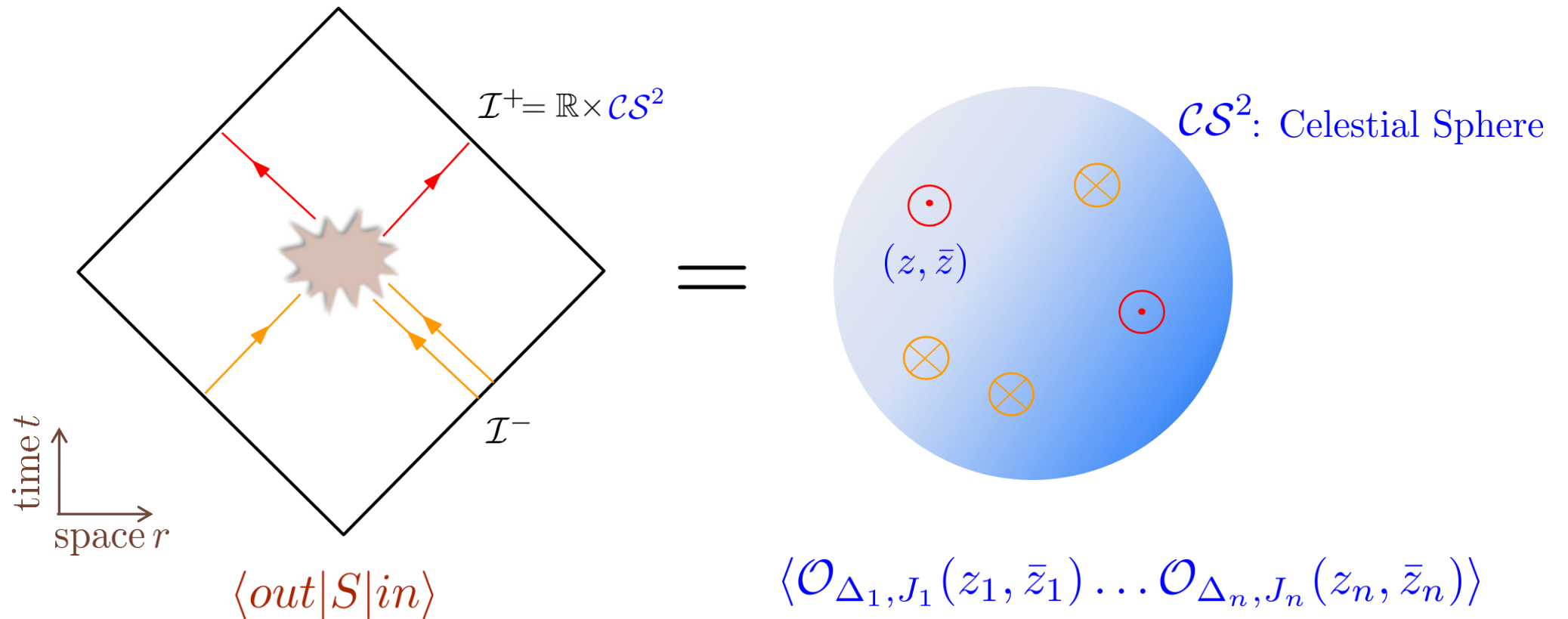
$$z \rightarrow \frac{az + b}{cz + d}, \quad ad - bc = 1$$

$SL(2, \mathbb{C})$

Celestial Holography

Towards a holographic description for quantum gravity in flat spacetimes

The 4D spacetime **S-matrix** is encoded in a 2D 'Celestial Conformal Field Theory'



Basis for celestial holography

standard formulation

energy-momentum basis

→ plane waves

$$e^{\pm ip \cdot X} \quad p^\mu = \omega q^\mu(z, \bar{z})$$

ω : energy

solutions labelled by

p^μ

4d helicity ℓ

'celestial basis' formulation

conformal basis

→ Mellin transform of plane waves

$$\Psi_\Delta(X; z, \bar{z}) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1} e^{\pm ip \cdot X}$$

$$z = \frac{p^1 + ip^2}{p^3 + p^0},$$

$\Delta = h + \bar{h}$: conformal dimension

(z, \bar{z}) : a point on \mathcal{CS}^2

2d spin $J = h - \bar{h}$

de Boer, Solodukhin
Cheung, de la Fuente, Sundrum
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Basis for celestial holography

- **Plane waves** (null momentum $p^\mu = \omega q^\mu(z, \bar{z})$) get mapped to

$$\Psi_\Delta(X; z, \bar{z}) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1} e^{\pm i p \cdot X}$$

'conformal primary wavefunctions' of weights $(h, \bar{h}) = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta + J, \Delta - J)$:

$$\Psi_{h, \bar{h}}(z, \bar{z}) \xrightarrow{SL(2, \mathbb{C})} (cz + d)^{2h} (\bar{c}\bar{z} + \bar{d})^{2\bar{h}} \Psi_{h, \bar{h}}(z, \bar{z})$$

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- Celestial operators

$$\mathcal{O}_\Delta(z, \bar{z}) = (\Phi(X), \Psi_\Delta(X; z, \bar{z})) \propto a_\Delta(z, \bar{z}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1} a(\omega, z, \bar{z})$$

bulk operator

conformal primary wavefunction

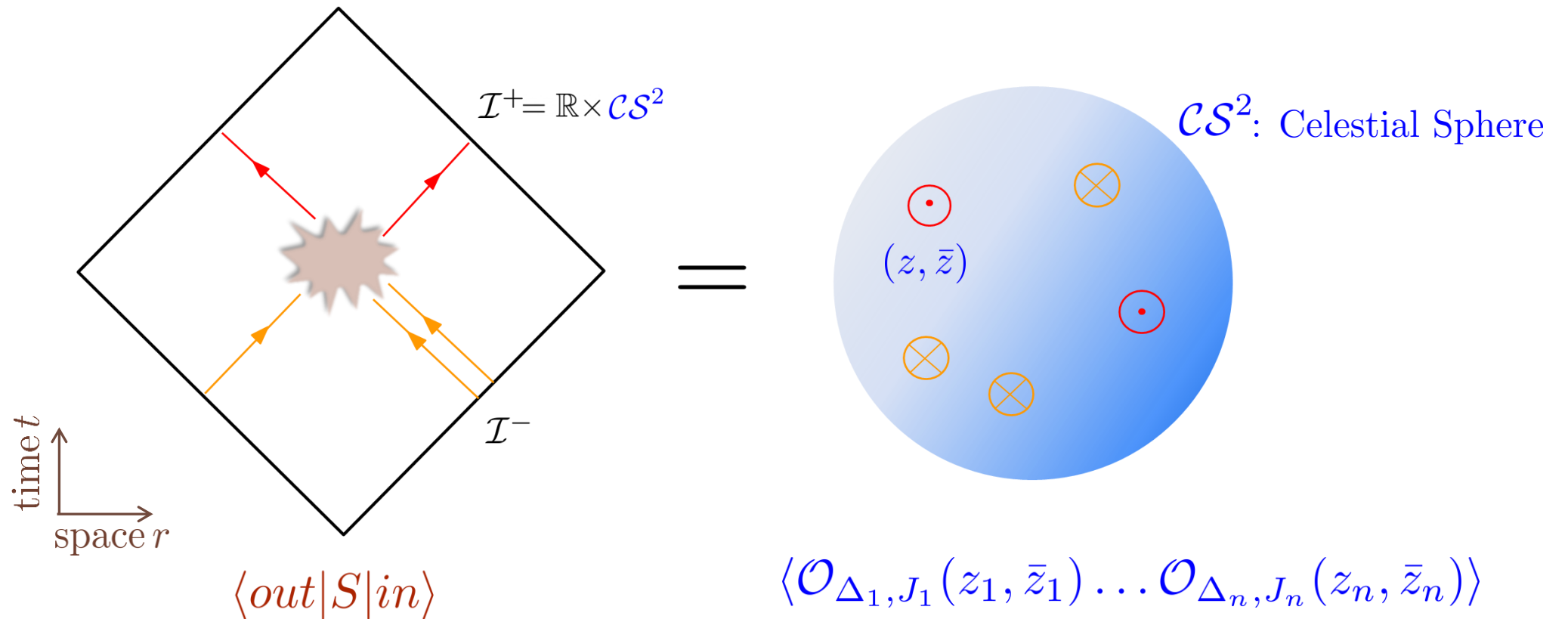
usual ladder operator

[LD, Pasterski, Puhm '20]

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The 4D spacetime **S-matrix** is encoded in a 2D 'Celestial Conformal Field Theory'



Celestial currents

$$(h, \bar{h}) = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta + J, \Delta - J)$$

weights of the celestial operators

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Celestial currents are obtained by taking ‘conformally soft’ limits $\Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ [LD, Puhm, Strominger]

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QED ($J = 1$):

$$\Delta \rightarrow 1$$

- U(1) Kac-Moody current

$$J(z) = \mathcal{O}_{\Delta=1, J=1} : (1, 0)$$

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Celestial version of Weinberg’s soft photon theorem!

cf. Ward identity in momentum basis of [He, Mitra, Porfyriadis, Strominger]

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Gravity ($J = 2$):

- Supertranslation current

$$P(z, \bar{z}) = \partial_{\bar{z}} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta=1, J=2}$$

$$\left(\frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} + 1\right) = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

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Celestial version of Weinberg’s (leading) soft graviton theorem!

[Strominger][He, Lysov, Mitra, Strominger]

[LD, Puhm, Strominger][Puhm][Stieberger, Taylor]

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 $\Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

Gravity ($J = 2$):

- 2D Stress-tensor

$$T(z) = \int d^2y \frac{1}{(z-y)^4} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta=0, J=-2}(y, \bar{y}) : \text{this is the } \textit{shadow transform} \text{ of a } \Delta = 0 \text{ primary}$$

[Kapec, Mitra, Raclariu, Strominger][Cheung, de la Fuente, Sundrum] [LD, Puhm, Strominger][Stieberger, Taylor]
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N.B.: Shadow transform

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{2-\Delta, -J}(z, \bar{z}) = \int d^2y \frac{1}{(z-y)^{2-\Delta-J}} \frac{1}{(\bar{z}-\bar{y})^{2-\Delta+J}} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta, J}(y, \bar{y})$$

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$$T(z)\mathcal{O}_{h, \bar{h}}(w, \bar{w}) \sim \frac{h}{(z-w)^2} \mathcal{O}_{h, \bar{h}}(w, \bar{w}) + \frac{\partial \mathcal{O}_{h, \bar{h}}(w, \bar{w})}{z-w}$$

[Kapec, Mitra, Raclariu, Strominger][Cheung, de la Fuente, Sundrum] [LD, Puhm, Strominger][Stieberger, Taylor]
[Fotopoulos, Stieberger, Taylor]

Summary: celestial currents

$$(J = 1)$$

Leading conformally soft photon operator

$$\Delta \rightarrow 1 \quad J(z) : (1, 0)$$

$$(J = 2)$$

Leading conformally soft graviton operator

$$\Delta \rightarrow 1 \quad P(z, \bar{z}) : \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Sub-leading conformally soft graviton operator

$$\Delta \rightarrow 0 \quad T(z) : (2, 0)$$

$$J(z)\mathcal{O}_{h,\bar{h}}(w,\bar{w}) \sim \frac{1}{(z-w)}\mathcal{O}_{h,\bar{h}}(w,\bar{w})$$

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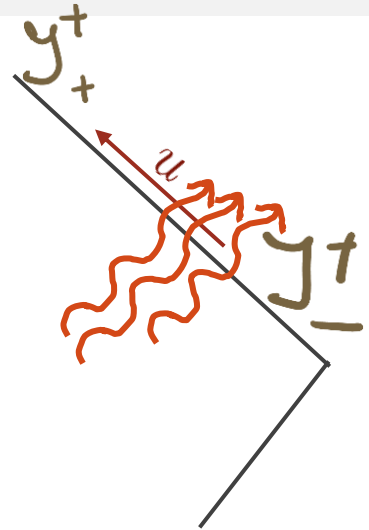
OPE: celestial encoding of soft theorems

Celestial currents

- Are naturally related to the objects of the gravitational solution space in terms of 'BMS fluxes' [LD, Ruzziconi '21]

$$\int_{\mathcal{I}^+} du \partial_u (\cdot) = (\cdot) \Big|_{\mathcal{I}^-}^{\mathcal{I}^+}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 = & -du^2 - 2dudr + 2r^2 \gamma_{z\bar{z}} dzd\bar{z} \\ & + \frac{2M}{r} du^2 + r C_{zz} dz^2 + D^z C_{zz} dudz \\ & + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{4}{3} (N_z + u \partial_z m_B) - \frac{1}{4} \partial_z (C_{zz} C^{zz}) \right) dudz + c.c. + \dots \end{aligned}$$

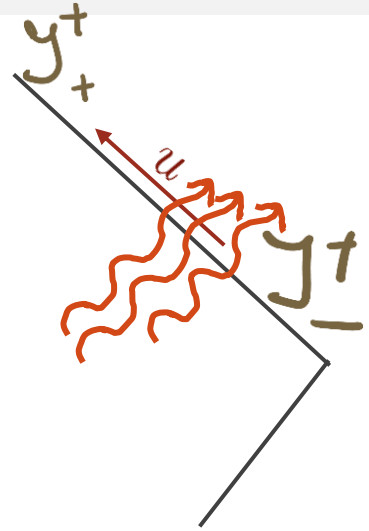


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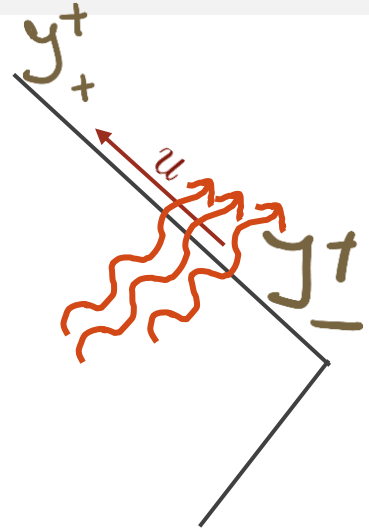
- Infinite tower of currents! $\Delta \rightarrow 2, 1, 0, -1, \dots$
reorganized in terms of a $w_{1+\infty}$ algebra (all positive helicity gravitons)
[Guevara, Himwich, Pate, Strominger '21] [Strominger '21][Himwich, Pate, Singh '21]

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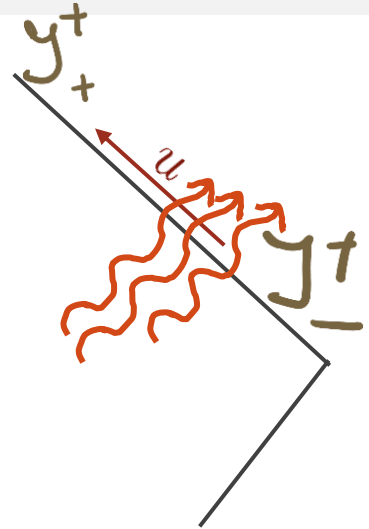
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→ Powerful organizing principle for the soft sector of the S-matrix

Celestial amplitudes

Mellin transformations of massless scattering amplitudes = celestial correlators

$$\prod_{k=1}^m \int_0^\infty d\omega_k \omega_k^{\Delta_k - 1} \mathcal{A}(\omega_1, z_1, \bar{z}_1, \dots, \omega_m, z_m, \bar{z}_m) = \langle \mathcal{O}_1(\Delta_1, z_1, \bar{z}_1, \dots, \Delta_m, z_m, \bar{z}_m) \rangle_{\text{CCFT}_2}$$

[Adamo, Arkani-Hamed, Atanasov, Banerjee, Cardona, Casali, Fan, Fotopoulos, Ghosh, Gonzalez, Huang, Mason, Melton, Lam, Law, Pasterski, Pate, Paul, Puhm, Raclariu, Rojas, Sharma, Sharma, Shao, Schreiber, Strominger, Stieberger, Taylor, Volovich, Yuan, Zhu, Zlotnikov,...]

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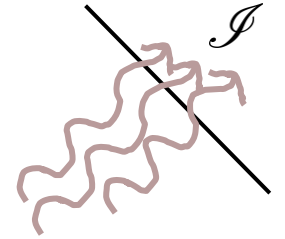
- **collinear limits** $p_1^\mu \parallel p_2^\mu$ of 4d amplitudes \leftrightarrow 2d **celestial OPEs** $z_1 - z_2 \rightarrow 0$
- **kinematic singularities** of low point celestial amplitudes (use of shadow or light transforms)
- **conformal block decomposition**
- **UV/IR mixing** (anti-Wilsonian paradigm), ...

[Adamo, Arkani-Hamed, Atanasov, Banerjee, Cardona, Casali, Fan, Fotopoulos, Ghosh, Gonzalez, Huang, Mason, Melton, Lam, Law, Pasterski, Pate, Paul, Puhm, Raclariu, Rojas, Sharma, Sharma, Shao, Schreiber, Strominger, Stieberger, Taylor, Volovich, Yuan, Zhu, Zlotnikov,...]

Conclusions

Celestial holography: beyond AdS holography

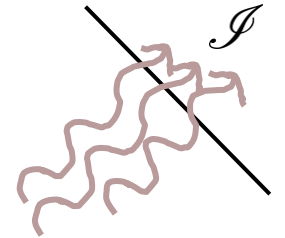
Holography in Anti-de Sitter: no escape of **radiation** (AdS acts like a box)!
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Celestial holography: beyond AdS holography

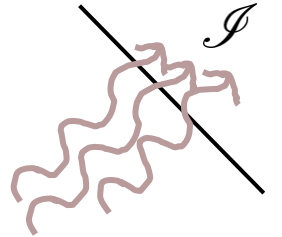
Holography in Anti-de Sitter: no escape of **radiation** (AdS acts like a box)!
Celestial holography allows for outgoing radiation.

Infinitely many **symmetry constraints** beyond conformal invariance.

e.g. Constraints coming from **supertranslation symmetry** have no analog in usual holography.

$$P(z)\mathcal{O}_\Delta(w, \bar{w}) \sim \frac{1}{z-w}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta+1}(w, \bar{w})$$

‘Celestial conformal field theories’ resemble/differ from usual CFTs
in ways that are yet to be fully understood!



Many things remain to be understood!

... we have to keep building up the celestial map.

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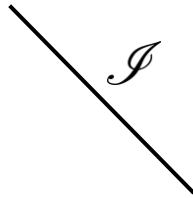
celestial holography & **black holes** ('soft hair', conservation laws...)

Another (mad) road to flat space holography...

two natural boundaries/proposals

null infinity

lighlike 3d hypersurface



4d bulk/3d holography

celestial sphere

Euclidean 2-sphere

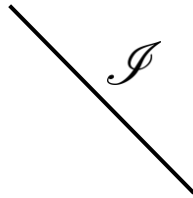


4d bulk/2d holography: 'celestial holography'

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4d bulk/3d holography

3d sourced conformal Carrollian field theory

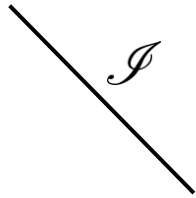
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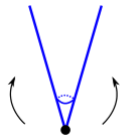
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A Carrollian spacetime is *acausal*
(time intervals are arbitrary)

[Levy-Leblond '65]



A mad tea party, Lewis Carroll (1865)

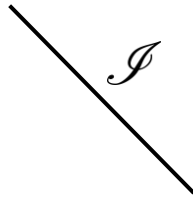


$c \rightarrow 0$

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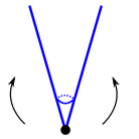
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$c \rightarrow 0$

Thank you for listening!



On the various extensions of BMS = $(\mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z}) + \frac{u}{2}(\partial\mathcal{Y} + \bar{\partial}\bar{\mathcal{Y}})) \partial_u + \mathcal{Y}\partial + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\bar{\partial} + \dots$

- Global BMS: $\mathfrak{bms}_4^{\text{glob}} = \mathfrak{so}(3, 1) \oplus \text{supertranslations}$ [Bondi, van der Burg, Metzner '62] [Sachs '62]

supertranslations needed to include radiation

- Extended BMS: $\mathfrak{bms}_4^{\text{ext}} = (\text{Witt} \oplus \text{Witt}) \oplus \text{supertranslations}^*$ [Barnich, Troessaert '10]

allows for non-globally well-defined transformations on the celestial sphere

- Generalized BMS: $\mathfrak{bms}_4^{\text{gen}} = \mathfrak{diff}(S^2) \oplus \text{supertranslations}$
[Campiglia, Laddha '14]

allows for fluctuations of the transverse boundary metric

- Weyl BMS: $\mathfrak{bms}_4^{\text{Weyl}} = [\mathfrak{diff}(S^2) \oplus \text{Weyl}] \oplus \text{supertranslations}$

[Barnich, Troessaert '10][Freidel, Oliveri, Pranzetti, Speziale '21]

includes (on top of the rest) Weyl rescalings



3 languages for the same IR physics [Strominger '18]

Asymptotic symmetries

General Relativity

supertranslations

[Bondi-Metzner-Sachs '62]

superrotations

[Barnich, Troessaert '10]

Soft theorems

Quantum Field Theory

leading soft graviton
theorem

[Weinberg '65]

new *subleading* soft
graviton theorem

[Cachazo-Strominger '14]

Memory effects

GW observation

displacement memory

[Zel'dovich, Polnarev, Braginskii,
Thorne, Christodoulou] ... 70s – 90s

spin memory

[Pasterski-Strominger-Zhiboedov '15]

... and many more!

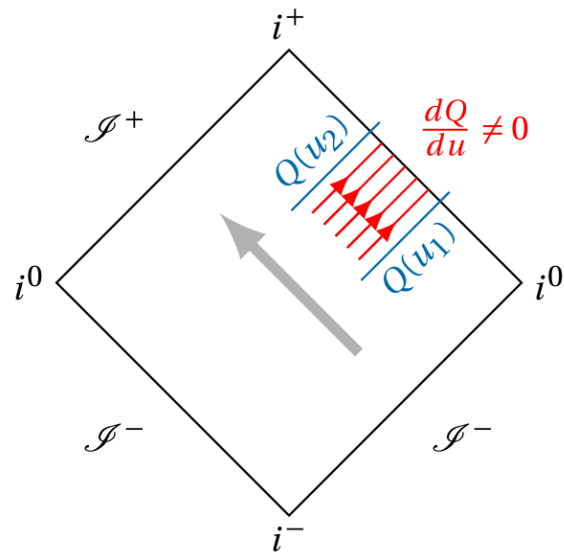
Two roads towards flat holography:

Evolution along \mathcal{I}

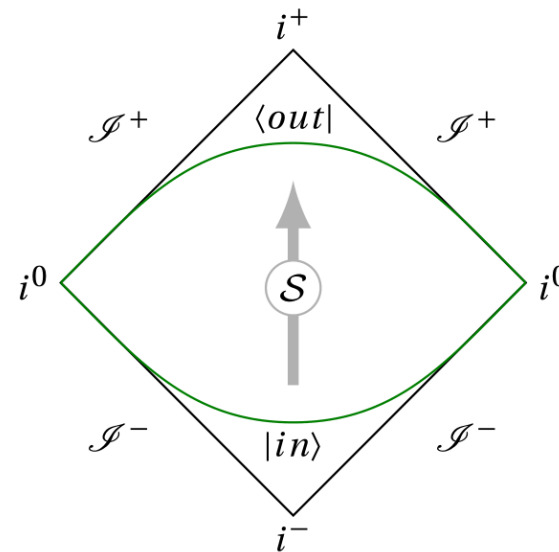
Complementary
points of view

Scattering data on \mathcal{I}

Carrollian holography



Celestial holography



3d CCarr FT

Carrollian fields
VS
Conformal fields

2d Celestial CFT

Basis for celestial holography

$$\int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1}$$

$$p^\mu = \omega q^\mu(z, \bar{z})$$

- The statement that **plane waves** form a delta-function normalizable basis

$$(e^{ip \cdot X}, e^{ip' \cdot X}) = 2(2\pi)^3 p^0 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')$$

translates into requiring the conformal dimension to lie on the **principal series** [Pasterski, Shao '17]

$$\Delta = 1 + i\lambda, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\Psi_{1+i\lambda}(X; z, \bar{z}), \Psi_{1+i\lambda'}(X; z', \bar{z}')) = (2\pi)^4 \delta(\lambda + \lambda') \delta^{(2)}(z - z')$$

- 2d celestial operators**

$$\mathcal{O}_\Delta(z, \bar{z}) = (\Phi(X), \Psi_\Delta(X; z, \bar{z})) \sim a_\Delta(z, \bar{z}) \equiv \int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1} a(\omega, z, \bar{z})$$

bulk operator conformal primary wavefunction usual ladder operator

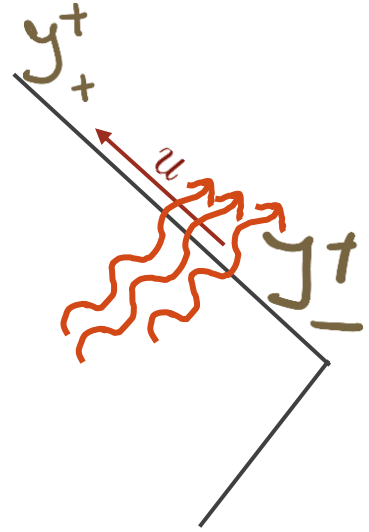
[LD, Pasterski, Puhm '20]

Celestial currents

- Can be organized with ‘celestial diamonds’ [Pasterski, Puhm, Trevisani ‘21]
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