

Physics 530-11
Penrose diagram of collapse

The Vaidya metric

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2M(v)}{r}\right)dv^2 - 2dvdr - r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin(\theta)^2 d\phi^2) \quad (1)$$

is the solution to Einstein's equations of a collapsing null dust (ie matter whose stress energy tensor is of the pressureless form

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \rho u^\mu u^\nu \quad (2)$$

where in this case the velocity u^μ is a null vector, rather than a timelike velocity. In our case, we can take u^μ to be the r coordinate axis, and ρ in that case is proportional to $\partial_v M(v)/r^2$.

If we choose $M(v)$ to be a step function $M(v) = 0 \quad v < 0$ and $M(v) = M_0 > 0 \quad v > 0$ then the infalling null matter is a shell like (delta function) sphere of matter. Thus we have

$$ds^2 = dv^2 - 2dvdr - r^2 d\Omega^2 \quad v < 0 \quad (3)$$

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2M_0}{r}\right)dv^2 - 2dvdr + r^2 d\Omega^2 \quad v > 0 \quad (4)$$

where $d\Omega^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin(\theta)^2 d\phi^2$. Going to null coordinates, we can define the coordinate u to be $v - 2r$ for $r \geq 0$. This gives the metric

$$ds^2 = dvdu - \left(\frac{v-u}{2}\right)^2 d\Omega^2 \quad (5)$$

For $v > 0$ we want the coordinate u to be continuous (which implies that $r(v, u)$ must be continuous as a function of v) This can be done by defining

$$f(u) = (v - 2(r + 2M_0 \ln(\frac{r}{2M_0} - 1))) \quad (6)$$

for some function f . Thus, we must have that

$$\left(-2\left(r + 2M_0 \ln\left(\frac{r}{2M_0} - 1\right)\right)\right) = f(-2r) \quad (7)$$

or

$$f(u) = u - 4M_0 \ln\left(\frac{-u}{4M_0} - 1\right) \quad (8)$$

Note that this works only for $u < -4M$. We then have for $v > 0$

$$ds^2 = \frac{2M_0}{r} \left(\frac{r}{2M_0} - 1 \right) f'(u) dv du - r^2 d\Omega^2 \quad (9)$$

where r is taken as a function of v, u defined by

$$r + 2M_0 \ln\left(\frac{r}{2M_0} - 1\right) = \frac{v - f(u)}{2} \quad (10)$$

The metric for $v > 0$ thus becomes

$$ds^2 = \frac{r}{2M_0} e^{(v-f(u))/4M-r/2M} \left(1 - \frac{4M_0}{-u-4M_0}\right) dudv - r(v, u)^2 d\Omega^2 \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{r(v, u)}{2M_0} e^{\frac{-r(v, u)}{2M_0}} e^{(v-u)/4M_0} dv du - r(v, u)^2 d\Omega^2 \quad (12)$$

$r(v, u)$ is a continuous function of v, u for all values of v, u , and thus this metric is a continuous non-degenerate, non-singular function of v, u .

The Penrose conformal transformation is obtained taking $v = \tan(V)$ and $u = \tan(U)$, and multiplying the resultant metric by $\cos^2(V) \cos^2(U)$ (ie making a conformal transformation). This gives us

$$d\hat{s}^2 = \frac{r(v, u)}{2M_0} e^{\frac{-r(v, u)}{2M_0}} e^{(v-u)/4M_0} dV dU - r(v, u)^2 \cos^2(V) \cos^2(U) d\Omega^2 \quad (13)$$

We have

$$r(v, u) + 2M_0 \ln\left(\frac{r}{2M_0} - 1\right) = \frac{v - f(u)}{2} = \frac{(v - u)}{2} - 2M_0 \ln(-1 - u/4M_0) \quad (14)$$

which implies that as $u \rightarrow -4M_0$,

$$r \approx 2M_0 + e^{v/2}(u + 4M_0) \quad (15)$$

while for large r

$$r \cos(V) \cos(U) \approx \sin(V - U) \quad (16)$$

Thus, the metric $d\hat{s}^2$ is a finite metric everywhere, with $-\frac{\pi}{2} < V < \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $-\frac{\pi}{2} < U < 0$

The conformal diagram is given in Figure 1. \mathcal{J}^+ and \mathcal{J}^- are future and past null infinity ($r = \infty$). I^+ is the singular (in the conformal space) future timelike infinity while I^- is past timelike infinity. I^0 is spacelike infinity. All of the I are singular points in the conformal metric $d\hat{s}^2$.

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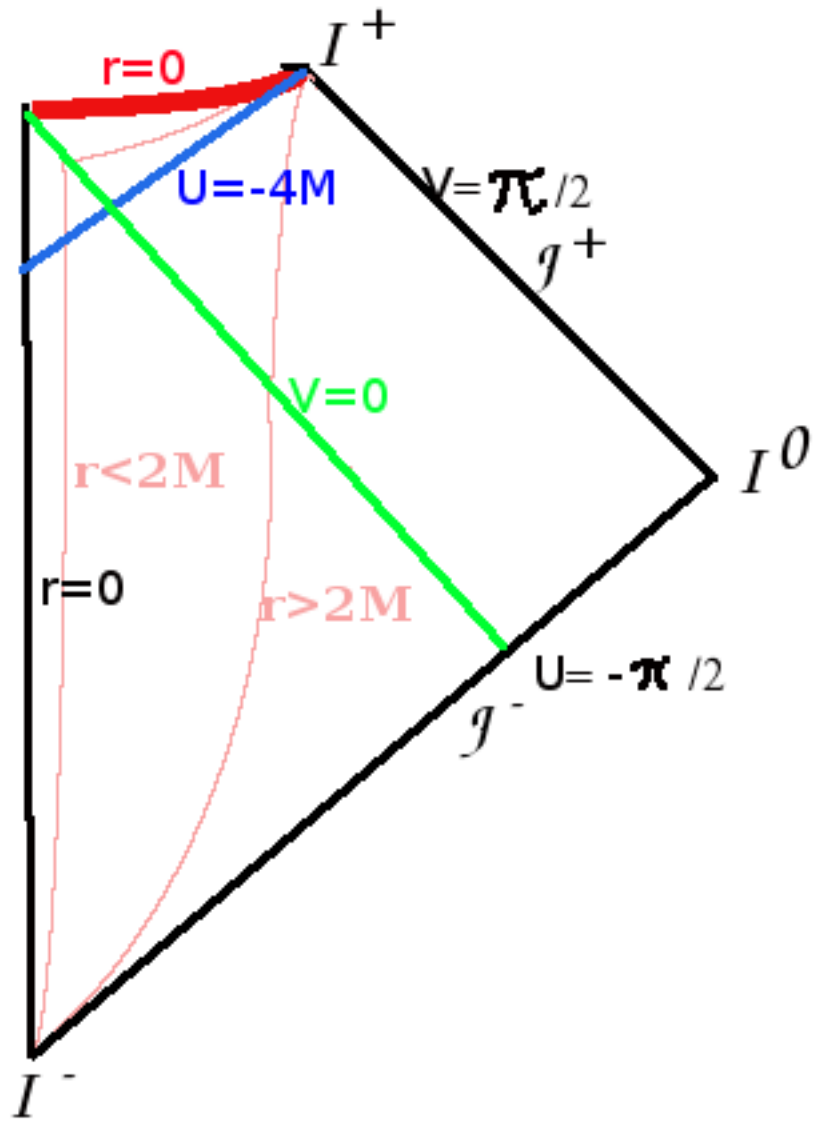


Figure 1: The Penrose conformal diagram for the black hole created by the collapse of a null shell of fluid.