

# Black Hole Excision Using Pseudospectral Collocation Methods

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Outline:

- A Pseudospectral Evolution Algorithm
- Boundary Conditions
- Excision
- Our Primary Difficulty

# Introduction: Spectral methods

- Finite difference approach:

$$\overset{\bullet}{\mathbf{X}}_{i-1} \quad \overset{\bullet}{\mathbf{X}}_i \quad \overset{\bullet}{\mathbf{X}}_{i+1}$$

- ★ Compute solution on a grid

- ★ Derivatives  $\rightarrow$  finite differences:  $\partial_x u \approx \frac{u(x_{i+1}) - u(x_{i-1}))}{2\delta x}$

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$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{u}_k(t) \phi_k(x).$$

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- ★ Compute derivatives analytically.

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# Why Spectral Methods for Black Holes?

- Exponential convergence for smooth solutions.  
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Common side effects include. . .

- More restrictive CFL condition  
(for Chebyshev basis, CPU  $\sim N^{D+2}$  vs  $N^{D+1}$  for FD)
- Adding/removing “grid points” changes entire grid.
- . . .

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and define  $u_n(t) \equiv u^{(N)}(x_n, t)$ .

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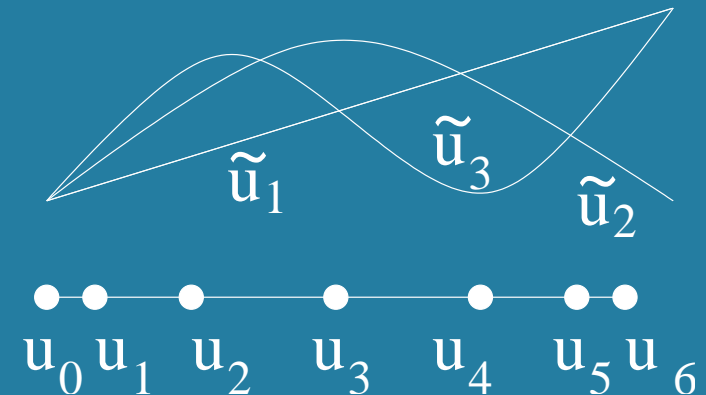
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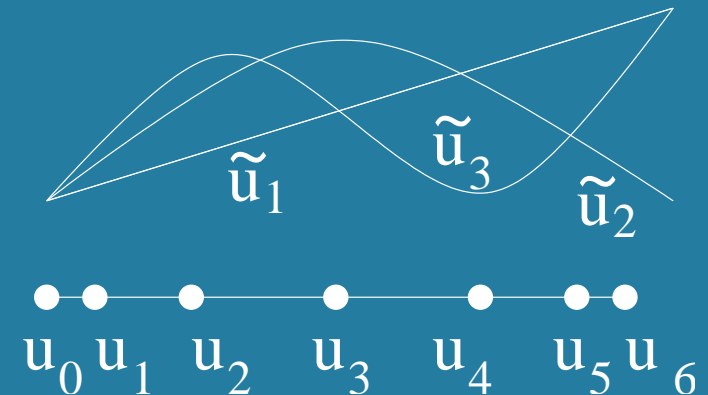
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- ★ Write (1) as ODEs for each  $u_n(t)$ : 
$$\partial_t u_n(t) = F_n(\{u_n\}, t)$$
- \* Evaluate spatial derivatives analytically.
  - \* Evaluate nonlinear terms by multiplying  $u_n(t)$ .

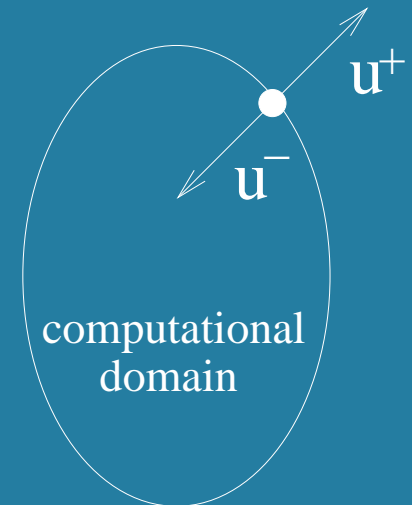
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- Define projection operators  $P^+$ ,  $P^-$  such that

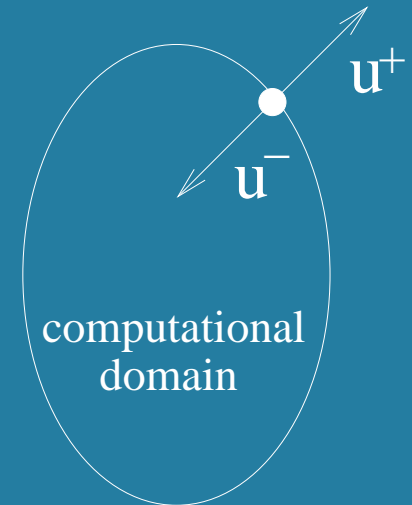
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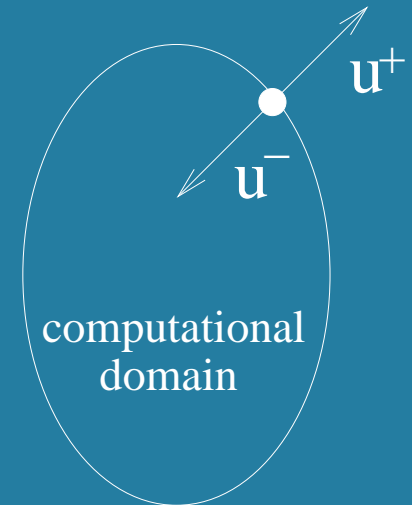
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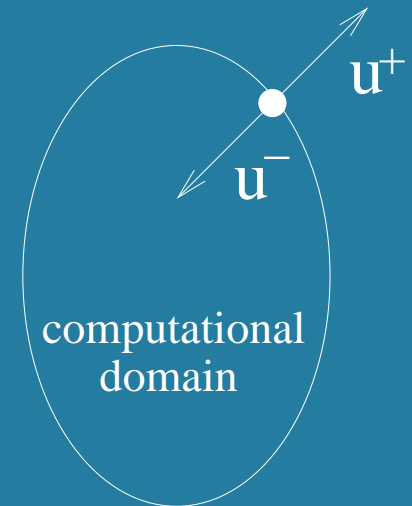
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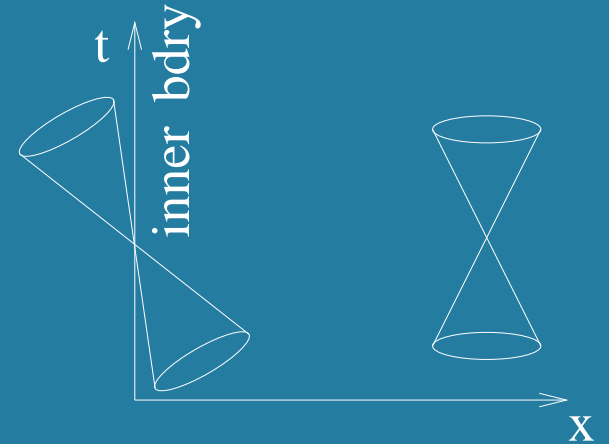
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Specify ingoing fields

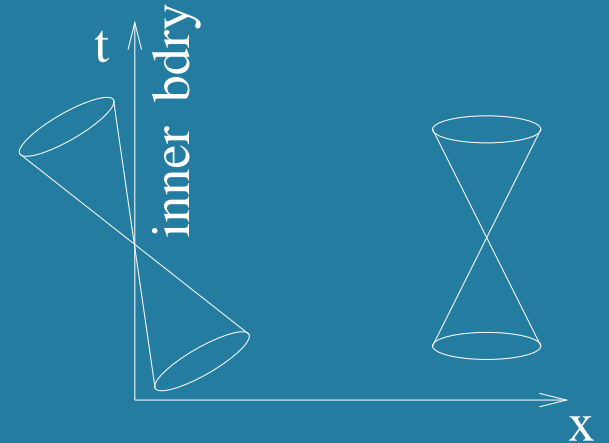
## (Simpler) Excision

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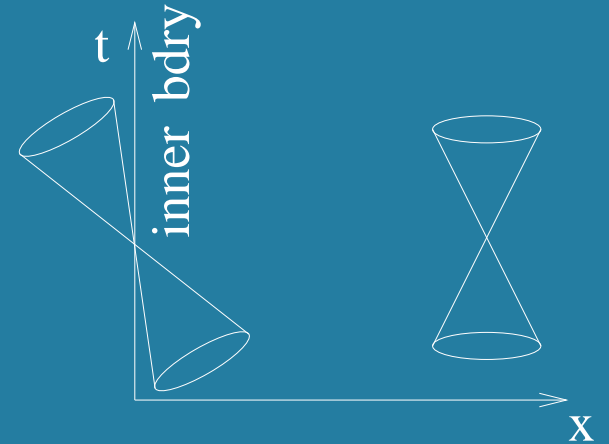
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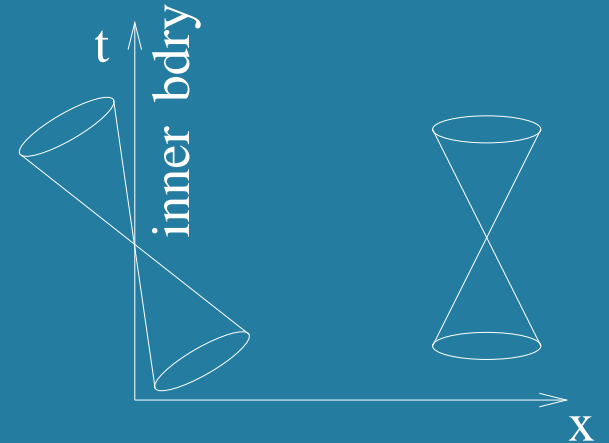
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Recall the situation for finite differencing:

- Points at inner boundary need to be updated somehow, so something special needs to be done.

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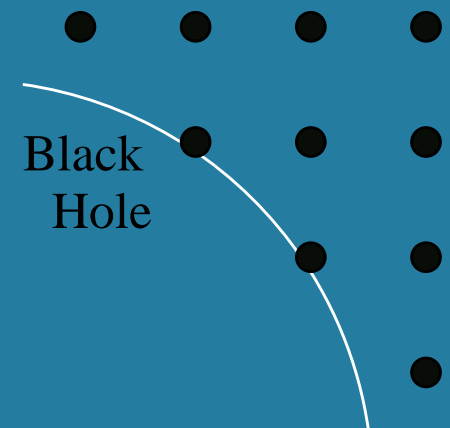
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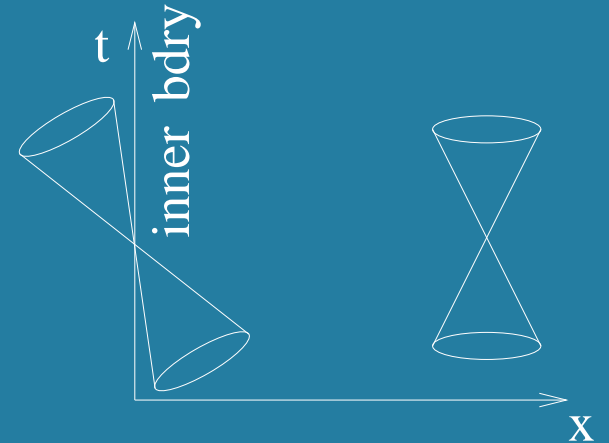
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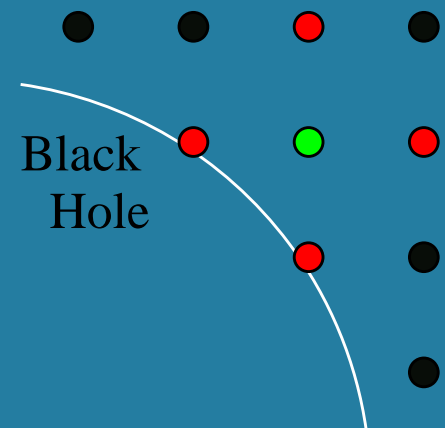
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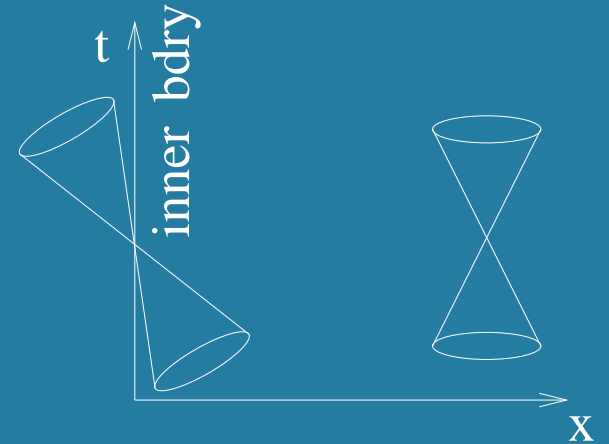
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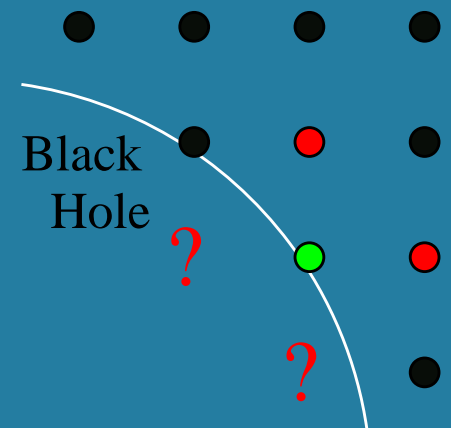
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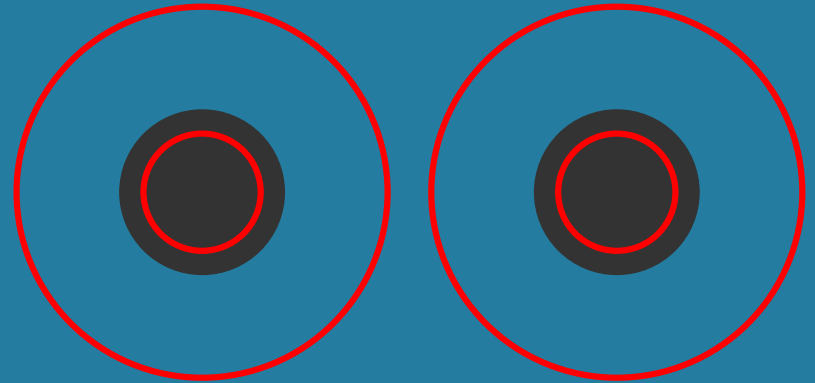
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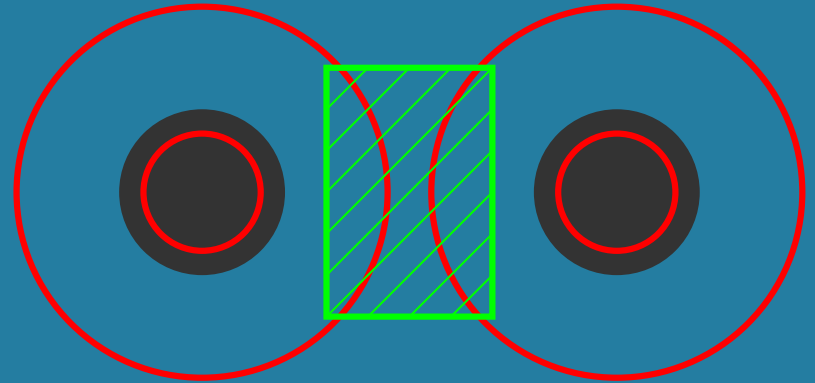
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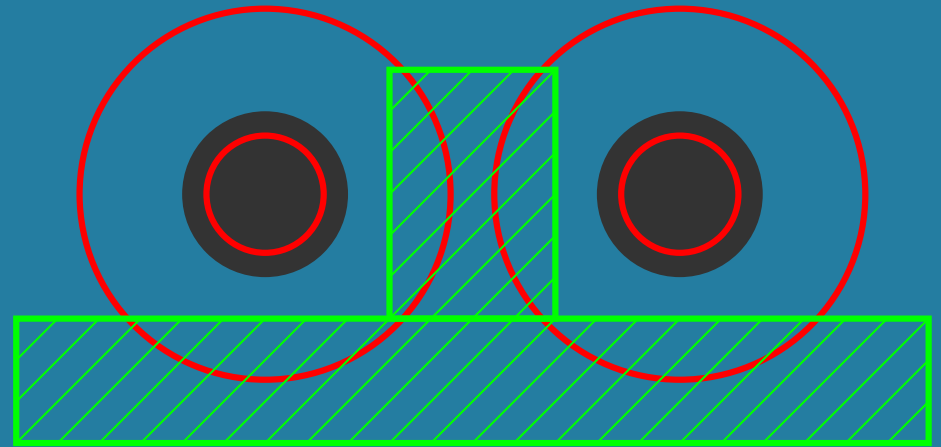
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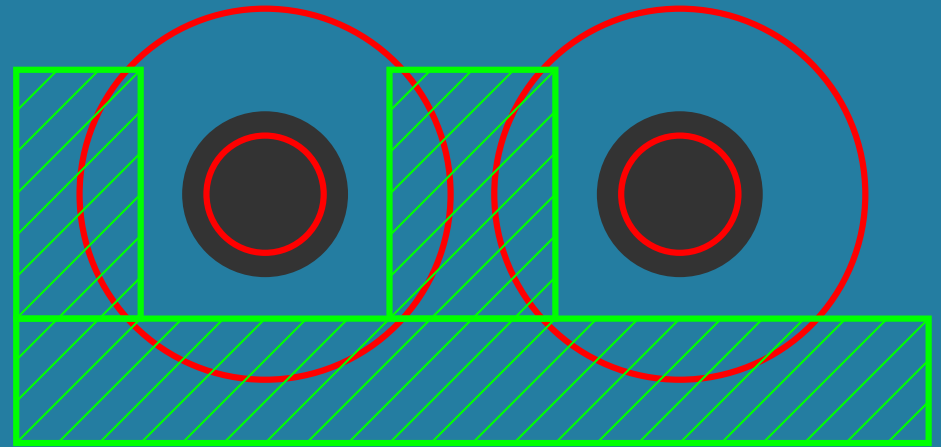
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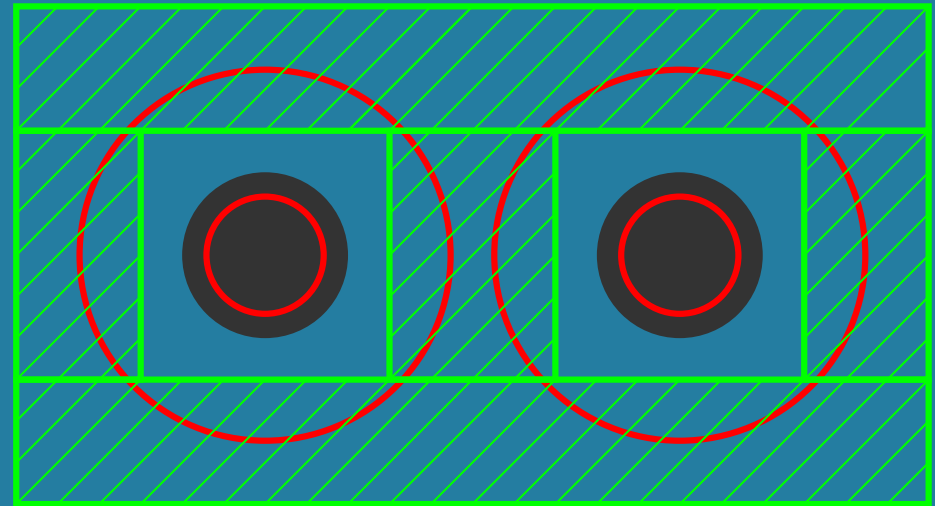
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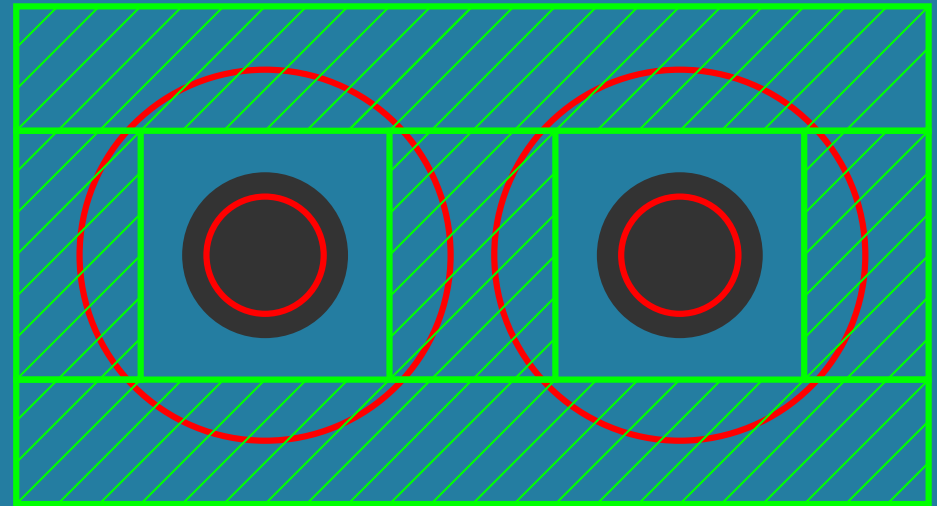
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- Subdomains evolve independently  
⇒ Natural parallelism
- Boundary conditions: ingoing characteristic fields filled with outgoing characteristic fields of neighbor.



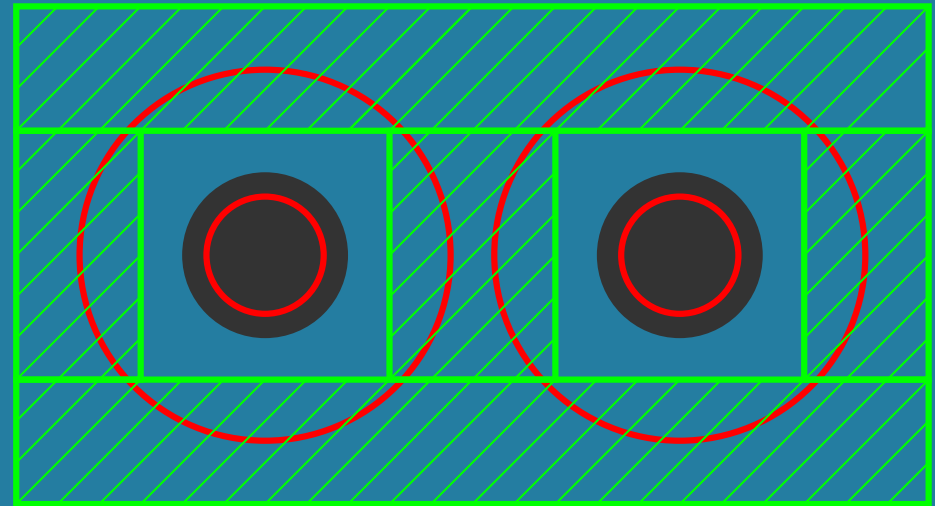
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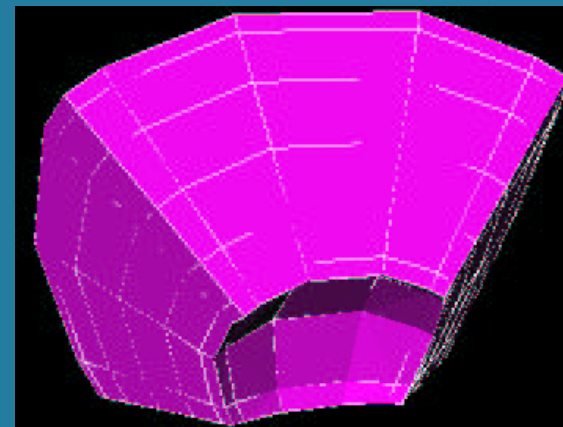
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- Can use more complicated domains



# The “constraint-violation problem”

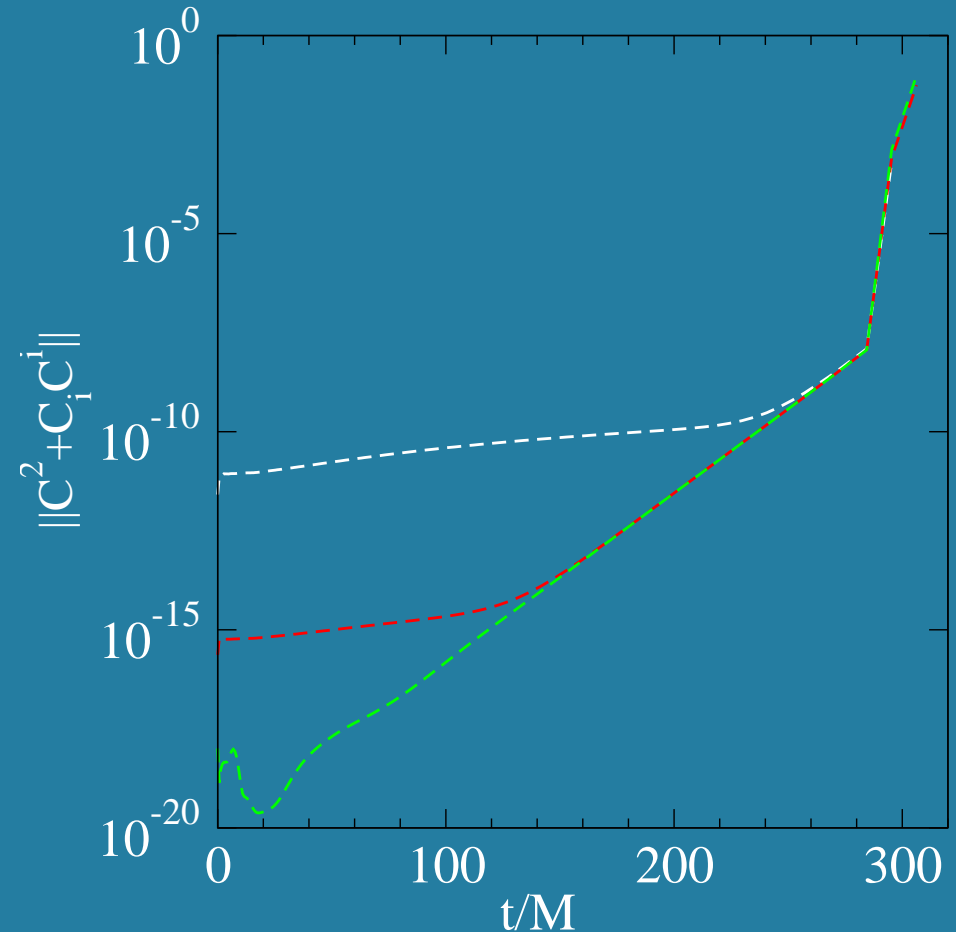
(one of *many* problems that must be dealt with. . . )

- Einstein’s equations  $\Rightarrow$  constraints + evolution.  
(EM analogue:  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho, \quad \partial_t \vec{E} = \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) - 4\pi\vec{J}$ )
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# Parameterized evolution equations

Kidder, Scheel, Teukolsky Phys.Rev. D64 (2001) 064017

- Take “1st order ADM” version of Einstein’s equations

$$\partial_t g_{ij} = \dots$$

$$\partial_t K_{ij} = \dots$$

$$\partial_t d_{kij} = \dots$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \bar{R} + K^2 - K_{ij}K^{ij} = 0$$

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⇒ Total of 12 parameters

(9 for symmetric hyperbolic system with physical characteristic speeds)

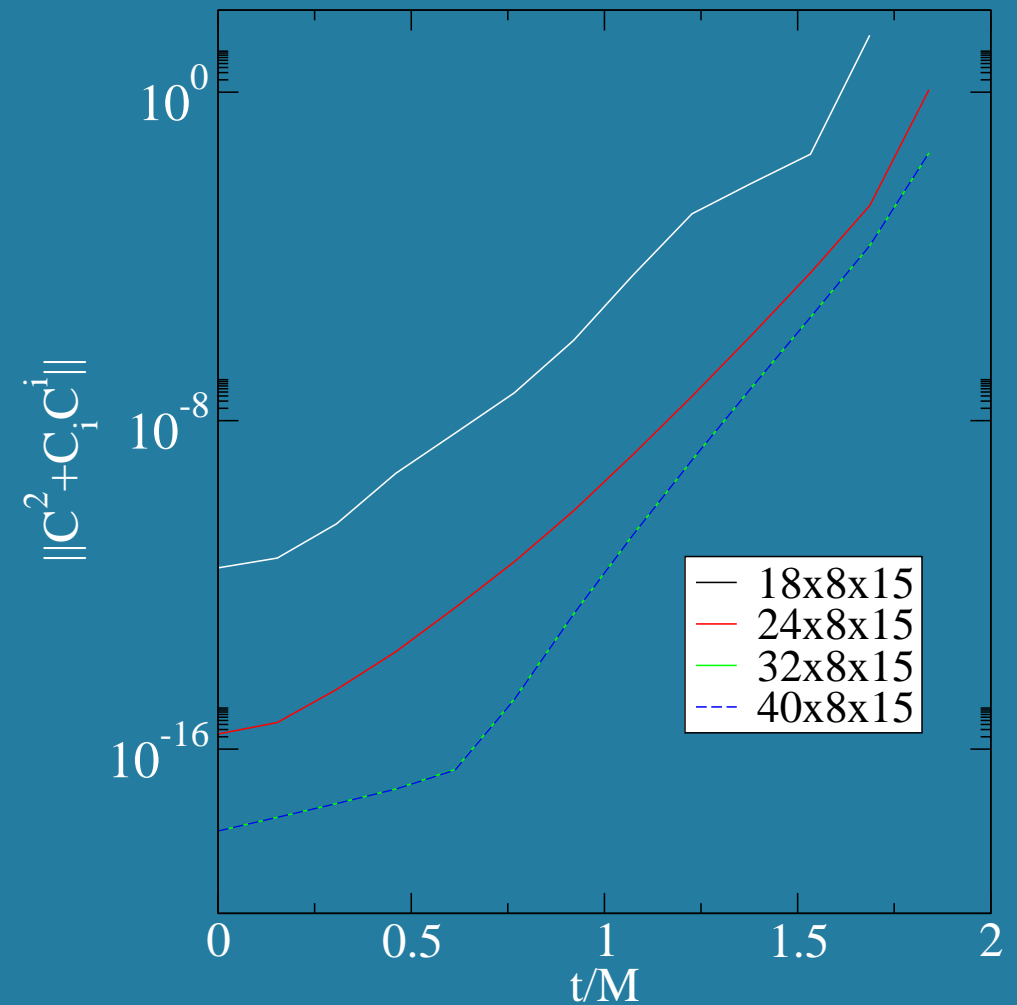
⇒ Fix 10 params for simplicity. Vary params  $\gamma$  and  $\hat{z}$ .

# Results of varying parameters

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- 3D numerical evolution of Schwarzschild BH
  - ★ Pseudospectral method
  - ★ Horizon excision
  - ★ 3 different resolutions
  - ★ 3D spherical shell domain

$$\gamma = 10, \hat{\xi} = -1/4$$



# Results of varying parameters

- 3D numerical evolution of Schwarzschild BH

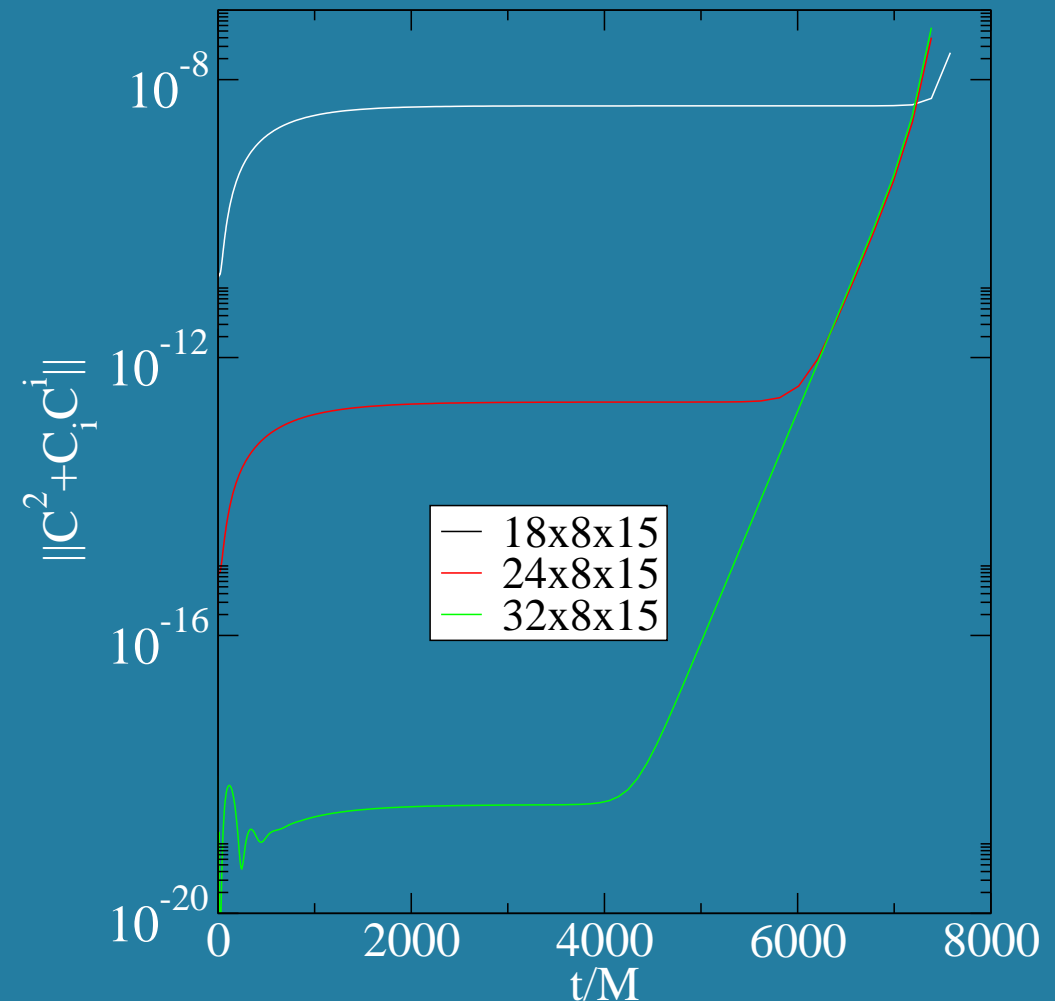
- ★ Pseudospectral method
- ★ Horizon excision
- ★ 3 different resolutions
- ★ 3D spherical shell domain

- Change only  $\gamma$  and  $\hat{z}$   
Choice guided by analytical estimate of growth rate of energy norm,  
(Lindbom and Scheel, [gr-qc/0206035](#))

- Do **not** change:

- ★ Numerical method
- ★ Initial data
- ★ Boundary conditions
- ★ Any terms with derivatives

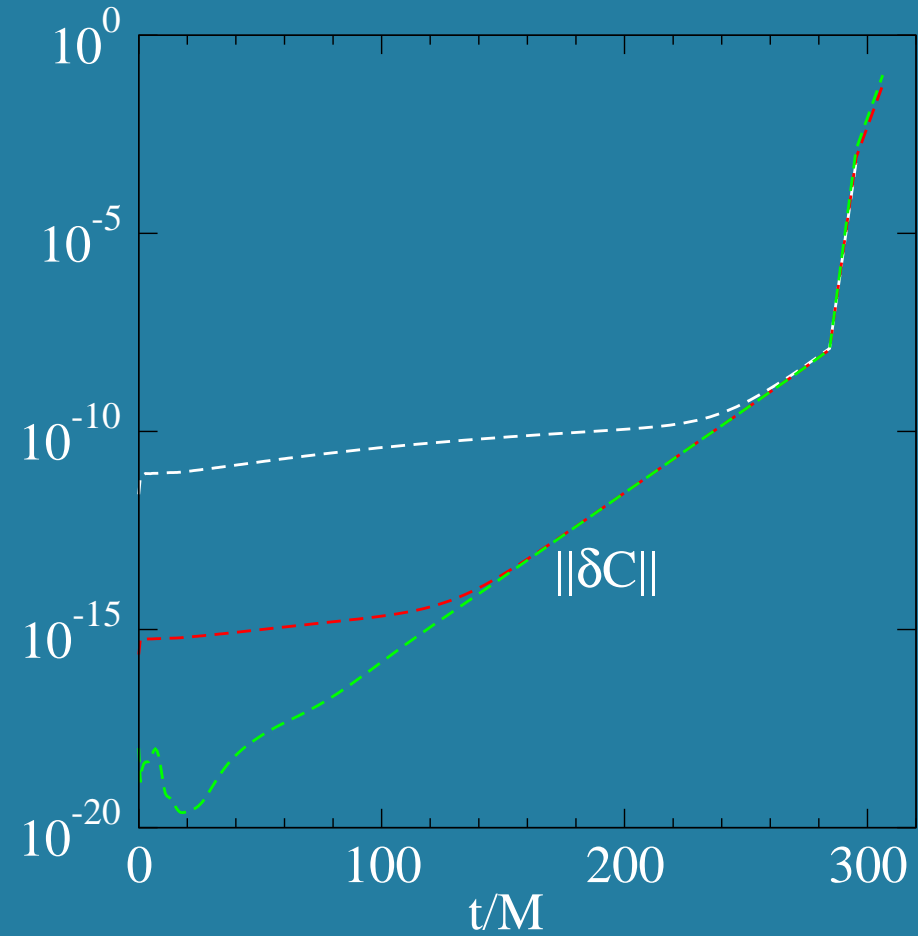
$$\gamma = -16, \hat{z} = -0.42$$



**Basic problem is not numerical**

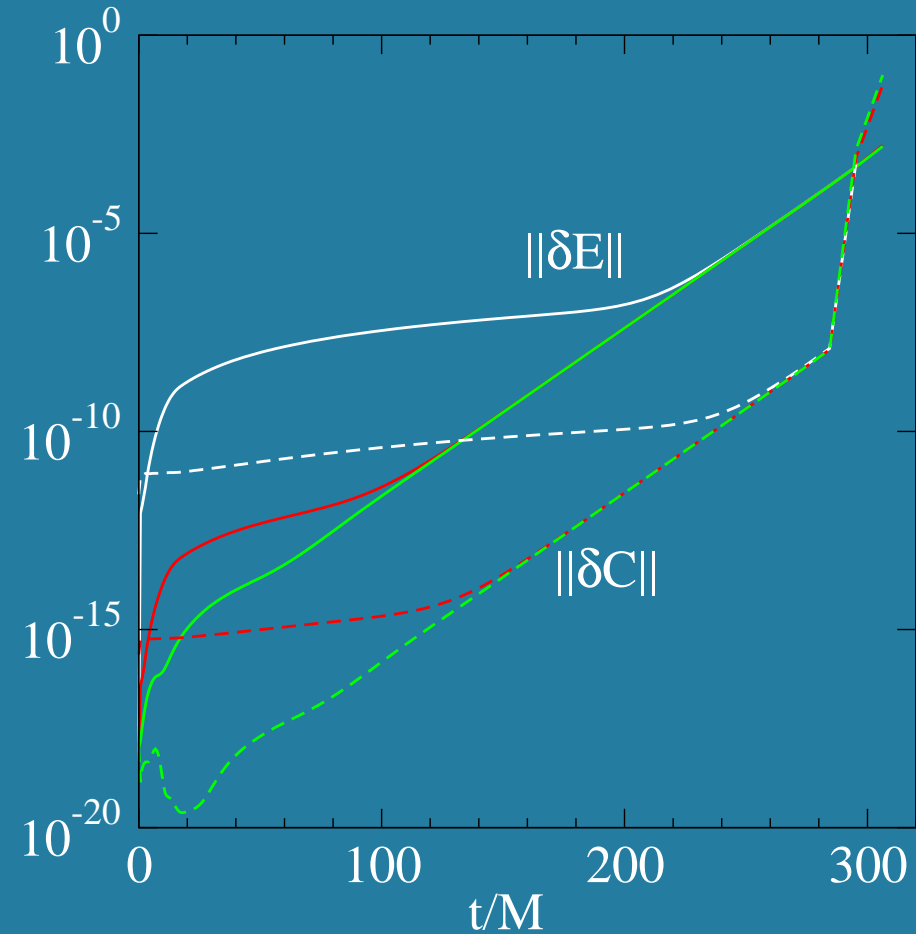
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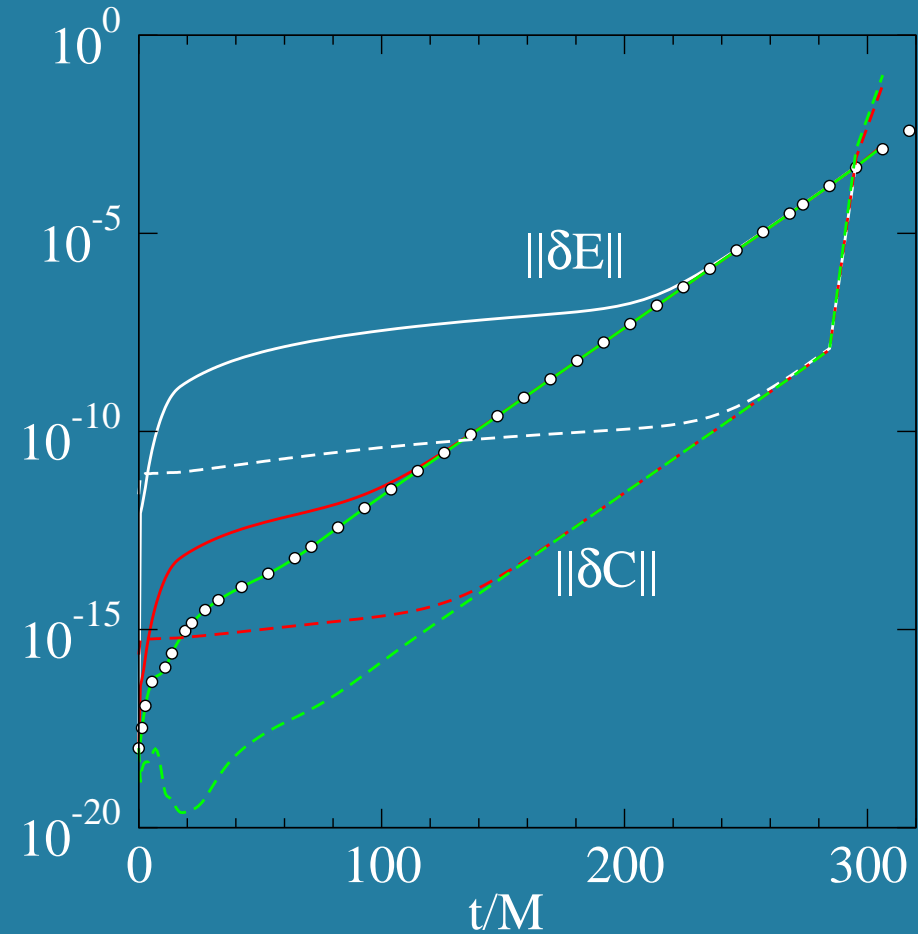
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- Exact expression for any  $\delta u$  solving evolution equations

$$1/\tau = \frac{\int (C_{\alpha\beta} \delta u^\alpha \delta u^\beta - \nabla_i \delta E^i) \sqrt{g} d^3x}{2 \int \delta E \sqrt{g} d^3x}$$

$$\lambda = 0.0489$$

