

MORAWETZ ESTIMATE ON SCHWARZSCHILD

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We follow [HMR24] to derive an integrated local energy decay statement for solutions to the wave equation on the Schwarzschild spacetime (of dimension $(3+1)$).

1. TWISTED CURRENTS

Let φ solve $\square\varphi = F$ and define $\psi := \beta^{-1}\varphi$. Define the twisted energy momentum tensor

$$\tilde{T}_{\mu\nu} := \beta^2 \left[\nabla_\mu \psi \nabla_\nu \psi - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\nabla^\alpha \psi \nabla_\alpha \psi + U \psi^2) \right], \quad (1)$$

where

$$U = -\beta^{-1} \square \beta. \quad (2)$$

Introduce

$$\tilde{J}_\mu^X := \tilde{T}_{\mu\nu} X^\nu \quad (3)$$

and

$$\tilde{K}^X := {}^{(X)}\pi^{\mu\nu} \tilde{T}_{\mu\nu} + X^\nu \tilde{S}_\nu \quad (4)$$

and

$$S_\mu := -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_\mu (\beta^2 U) \psi^2 - \beta \nabla_\mu \beta \nabla^\nu \psi \nabla_\nu \psi. \quad (5)$$

and

$$\tilde{\mathcal{E}}^X := \beta F X \psi. \quad (6)$$

Then

$$\nabla^\mu \tilde{J}_\mu^X = \tilde{K}^X + \tilde{\mathcal{E}}^X. \quad (7)$$

Define also

$$\tilde{J}^{\text{aux},w} := \beta^2 \left[w \psi \nabla_\mu \psi - \frac{1}{2} \psi^2 \nabla_\mu w \right]. \quad (8)$$

Then

$$\nabla^\mu \tilde{J}_\mu^{\text{aux},w} = \tilde{K}^{\text{aux},w} + \tilde{\mathcal{E}}^{\text{aux},w} \quad (9)$$

for

$$\tilde{K}^{\text{aux},w} := \beta^2 (w U \psi^2 + w \nabla^\mu \psi \nabla_\mu \psi) - \frac{1}{2} \nabla^\mu (\beta^2 \nabla_\mu w) \psi^2 \quad (10)$$

and

$$\tilde{\mathcal{E}}^{\text{aux},w} := \beta w \psi \square \varphi \quad (11)$$

Expanding out the definitions, we have

$$\tilde{K}^X = \beta^2 \left[{}^{(X)}\pi(\mathrm{d}\psi, \mathrm{d}\psi) + \left(-\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} {}^{(X)}\pi - \beta^{-1} X \beta \right) |\nabla \psi|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(-\operatorname{tr} {}^{(X)}\pi U - \beta^{-2} X(\beta^2 U) \right) \psi^2 \right] \quad (12)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{K}^X + \tilde{K}^{\text{aux},w} = & \beta^2 \left[{}^{(X)}\pi(\mathrm{d}\psi, \mathrm{d}\psi) + \left(w - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} {}^{(X)}\pi - \beta^{-1} X \beta \right) |\nabla \psi|^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \left(w U - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} {}^{(X)}\pi U - \frac{1}{2} \beta^{-2} X(\beta^2 U) - \frac{1}{2} \beta^{-2} \nabla^\mu (\beta^2 \nabla_\mu w) \right) \psi^2 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

2. MORAWETZ ESTIMATE

The goal of this section is to show the following estimate.

Proposition 2.1. *For $M > 0$ we have*

$$\int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \left[\frac{1}{r^2} (\partial_{r^*} \psi)^2 + \frac{1}{r^3} \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r} \right)^2 |r \nabla \psi|^2 + \frac{\psi^2}{r^4} \right] r^{-2} \, \text{dvol} \lesssim_M \int_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}} \tilde{J}^T \cdot n_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}} \, \text{dvol}_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}}. \quad (14)$$

2.1. Deformation tensor computations.

Lemma 2.2. *Let Y be a vector field and set $X = f(r)Y$. Then*

$${}^{(X)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} = f {}^{(Y)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_\alpha f Y_\beta + \nabla_\beta f Y_\alpha). \quad (15)$$

and

$$\text{tr } {}^{(X)}\pi = f \text{tr } {}^{(Y)}\pi + Y f. \quad (16)$$

If Y is a coordinate vector field, then

$${}^{(Y)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} Y g_{\alpha\beta}. \quad (17)$$

Proof. Using $X = fY$, compute

$${}^{(X)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} = f {}^{(Y)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_\alpha f Y_\beta + \nabla_\beta f Y_\alpha). \quad (18)$$

From (15) we obtain

$$\text{tr } {}^{(X)}\pi = f \text{tr } {}^{(Y)}\pi + Y f. \quad (19)$$

Using the definition ${}^{(Y)}\pi = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_Y g$, we compute (assuming Y is a coordinate vector field so that $\mathcal{L}_Y \partial_\alpha = 0$)

$$2 {}^{(Y)}\pi_{\alpha\beta} = (\mathcal{L}_Y g)(\partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta) = Y g(\partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta) - g(\mathcal{L}_Y \partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta) - g(\partial_\alpha, \mathcal{L}_Y \partial_\beta) = Y g_{\alpha\beta} \quad (20)$$

□

Lemma 2.3. *Write $Y = \partial_{r^*}$ and set $X = f(r)\partial_{r^*} = f(r)Y$. Write $f' = \partial_{r^*} f$. We have*

$$\text{tr } {}^{(X)}\pi = \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{2M}{r^2} \right) f + f'. \quad (21)$$

and

$${}^{(X)}\pi(d\varphi, d\varphi) = \frac{f'}{1-\mu} (\partial_{r^*} \varphi)^2 + \frac{f}{r} \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r} \right) |\nabla \varphi|^2 + \frac{fM}{r^2} |\nabla \varphi|^2. \quad (22)$$

Proof. Using (17) and the form of the Schwarzschild metric, compute that the non-zero components of ${}^{(Y)}\pi$ are

$$-{}^{(Y)}\pi_{tt} = {}^{(Y)}\pi_{r^*r^*} = \frac{M}{r^2} (1-\mu) \quad {}^{(Y)}\pi_{ab} = \frac{1}{r} (1-\mu) \not{g}_{ab}. \quad (23)$$

It follows immediately that

$$\text{tr } {}^{(Y)}\pi = \frac{2M}{r^2} + \frac{2}{r} (1-\mu) = \frac{2}{r} - \frac{2M}{r^2} \quad (24)$$

and hence

$$\text{tr } {}^{(X)}\pi = \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{2M}{r^2} \right) f + f'. \quad (25)$$

Since the only non-zero component of Y with down indices is $Y_{r^*} = g_{r^*r^*} Y^{r^*} = g_{r^*r^*} = (1-\mu)$, and f is a function only of r , the second term in (15) contributes only when $\alpha = \beta = r^*$. It follows that

$${}^{(X)}\pi_{tt} = -\frac{fM}{r^2} (1-\mu) \quad {}^{(X)}\pi_{r^*r^*} = \left[\frac{fM}{r^2} + f' \right] (1-\mu) \quad {}^{(X)}\pi_{ab} = \frac{f}{r} (1-\mu) \not{g}_{ab}. \quad (26)$$

We now compute

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{(X)}\pi(d\varphi, d\varphi) &= {}^{(X)}\pi^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta \varphi = {}^{(X)}\pi_\beta^\alpha \partial^\alpha \varphi \partial_\beta \varphi = \frac{fM}{r^2} \partial^t \varphi \partial_t \varphi + \left[\frac{fM}{r^2} + f' \right] \partial^{r^*} \varphi \partial_{r^*} \varphi + \frac{f}{r} (1-\mu) |\nabla \varphi|^2 \\ &= f' \partial^{r^*} \varphi \partial_{r^*} \varphi + \left[\frac{f}{r} (1-\mu) - \frac{fM}{r^2} \right] |\nabla \varphi|^2 + \frac{fM}{r^2} |\nabla \varphi|^2 \\ &= \frac{f'}{1-\mu} (\partial_{r^*} \varphi)^2 + \frac{f}{r} \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r} \right) |\nabla \varphi|^2 + \frac{fM}{r^2} |\nabla \varphi|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

□

2.2. **Computing \tilde{K}^f .** Define

$$\tilde{K}^f[\psi] := \tilde{K}^{f(r)\partial_{r^*}}[\psi] + \tilde{K}^{\text{aux}, f'/2}[\psi]. \quad (28)$$

Lemma 2.4. *We have*

$$\tilde{K}^f[\psi] = r^{-2} \frac{1}{1-\mu} \left[f'(\partial_{r^*}\psi)^2 + \frac{f}{r^3}(1-\mu) \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) |\nabla_{S^2}\psi|^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}f[U(1-\mu)]' + \frac{1}{4}f'''\right) \psi^2 \right]. \quad (29)$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{K}^X + \tilde{K}^{\text{aux}, w} &= r^{-2} \left[\frac{f'}{1-\mu} (\partial_{r^*}\psi)^2 + \frac{f}{r^3} \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) |\nabla_{S^2}\psi|^2 + \left(w - \frac{f'}{2}\right) |\nabla\psi|^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left(wU - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}^{(X)}\pi U - \frac{1}{2}\beta^{-2}X(\beta^2U) - \frac{1}{2}\beta^{-2}\nabla^\mu(\beta^2\nabla_\mu w)\right) \psi^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Note that $|\nabla\psi| = r^{-1}|\nabla_{S^2}\psi|$. Take $w = f'/2$ to make the $|\nabla\psi|$ term vanish, and compute

$$wU = \frac{f'}{2}U \quad (31)$$

and

$$-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}^{(X)}\pi U = -\left(1 - \frac{M}{r}\right) \frac{f}{r}U - \frac{f'}{2}U. \quad (32)$$

and

$$-\frac{1}{2}\beta^{-2}X(\beta^2U) = -\frac{1}{2}XU - \beta^{-1}X\beta U = -\frac{1}{2}fU' + \frac{f}{r}(1-\mu)U \quad (33)$$

and

$$\square w = \frac{1}{(1-\mu)r^2} \partial_{r^*}(r^2 \partial_{r^*} w) = \frac{1}{1-\mu} \partial_{r^*}^2 w + \frac{2}{r} \partial_{r^*} w = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1-\mu} f''' + \frac{1}{r} f'', \quad (34)$$

and

$$-\beta^{-1}\nabla^\mu\beta\nabla_\mu w = -r\nabla^{r^*}r^{-1}\nabla_{r^*}w = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{r} f'', \quad (35)$$

so that

$$-\frac{1}{2}\beta^{-2}\nabla^\mu(\beta^2\nabla_\mu w) = -\beta^{-1}\nabla^\mu\beta\nabla_\mu w - \frac{1}{2}\square w = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{1-\mu} f'''. \quad (36)$$

□

2.3. **Obtaining the reduced estimate.** Split ψ into ψ_0 and $\psi_{\geq 1} := \psi - \psi_0$, where ψ_0 is the spherical mean of ψ (the zeroth spherical mode). By the orthogonality of $\psi_{\geq 1}$ and ψ_0 on S^2 , we have

$$\int_{S^2} \tilde{K}^f[\psi] d\sigma = \int_{S^2} \tilde{K}^f[\psi_{\geq 1}] + \tilde{K}^f[\psi_0] d\sigma. \quad (37)$$

2.3.1. *Estimates for $\tilde{K}^f[\psi_{\geq 1}]$.* The smallest non-zero eigenvalue of $-\Delta_{S^2}$ is 2, so

$$\int_{S^2} \tilde{K}^f[\psi_{\geq 1}] d\sigma \geq r^{-2} \frac{1}{1-\mu} \left[f'(\partial_{r^*}\psi_{\geq 1})^2 + \left(f \left[\frac{2}{r^3}(1-\mu) \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) - \frac{1}{2}[U(1-\mu)]' \right] - \frac{1}{4}f''' \right) \psi_{\geq 1}^2 \right]. \quad (38)$$

It follows from the next two lemmas that

$$\int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \tilde{K}^f[\psi_{\geq 1}] d\text{vol} \geq c(M) \int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \left[\frac{1}{r^3} (\partial_{r^*}\psi_{\geq 1})^2 + \frac{1}{r^3} |\psi_{\geq 1}|^2 \right] r^{-2} d\text{vol}. \quad (39)$$

Lemma 2.5. *For*

$$f = \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) \left(1 + \frac{M}{r}\right), \quad (40)$$

we have

$$f \left[\frac{2}{r^3}(1-\mu) \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) - \frac{1}{2}[U(1-\mu)]' \right] - \frac{1}{4}f''' = \frac{2}{r^7} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) P(r) \quad (41)$$

for

$$P(r) = r^4 - 5Mr^3 - 3M^2r^2 + 50M^3r - 60M^4 \quad (42)$$

Proof. Here are the intermediate steps in this computation. We have

$$f' = \frac{2M}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) \left(1 + \frac{3M}{r}\right) \quad (43)$$

and

$$f'' = \frac{2M}{r^5} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (24M^2 - 3Mr - 2r^2) \quad (44)$$

and

$$f''' = \frac{4M}{r^7} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (144M^3 - 75M^2r - 2Mr^2 + 3r^3). \quad (45)$$

Compute

$$f \frac{2}{r^3} (1 - \mu) \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) = \frac{1}{r^7} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (2r^4 - 10Mr^3 + 6M^2r^2 + 18M^3r) \quad (46)$$

and

$$-\frac{1}{2} f[U(1 - \mu)]' = \frac{1}{r^7} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (3Mr^3 - 14M^2r^2 + 7M^3r + 24M^4) \quad (47)$$

and

$$-\frac{1}{4} f''' = \frac{1}{r^7} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (-3Mr^3 + 2M^2r^2 + 75M^3r - 144M^4). \quad (48)$$

Add the previous three equations to conclude. \square

Lemma 2.6. For $r \geq 2M$ we have $P(x) > 0$.

Proof. By scaling we need to show that

$$\tilde{P}(r) = r^4 - 5r^3 - 3r^2 + 50r - 60 \quad (49)$$

is positive for $r \geq 2$. Since $\tilde{P}(2) = 4 \geq 0$, it is enough to show that

$$\tilde{P}'(r) = 4r^3 - 15r^2 - 6r + 50 \quad (50)$$

is positive for $r \geq 2$. Note that $\tilde{P}'(2) = 10$ and \tilde{P}' is positive at the largest root of

$$\tilde{P}''(r) = 12r^2 - 30r - 6. \quad (51)$$

This shows that $\tilde{P}'(r) > 0$ in $r \geq 2$, as desired. \square

2.3.2. *Estimates for $\tilde{K}^f[\psi_0]$.* Let $g = g(r)$ be a function. Note that

$$\tilde{K}^f[\psi_0] = r^{-2} \frac{1}{1 - \mu} \left[f' |\psi_0'|^2 - \left(\frac{f}{2} [U(1 - \mu)]' + \frac{1}{4} f''' \right) |\psi_0|^2 \right]. \quad (52)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} & f' |\psi_0'|^2 - \left(\frac{f}{2} [U(1 - \mu)]' + \frac{1}{4} f''' \right) |\psi_0|^2 \\ &= f' |\psi_0'|^2 - g |\psi_0|^2 + 2f' g \psi_0' \psi_0 - \left(f' g^2 + \frac{f}{2} [U(1 - \mu)]' + \frac{1}{4} f''' \right) |\psi_0|^2 \\ &= f' |\psi_0'|^2 - g |\psi_0|^2 + (f' g |\psi_0|^2)' - \left(f' g^2 + (f' g)' + \frac{f}{2} [U(1 - \mu)]' + \frac{1}{4} f''' \right) |\psi_0|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

Lemma 2.7. There is a function $g(r)$ such that

$$-\left(f' g^2 + (f' g)' + \frac{f}{2} [U(1 - \mu)]' + \frac{1}{4} f''' \right) > \frac{c(M)}{r^4} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right). \quad (54)$$

Proof. With

$$g(r) = \frac{1}{2r} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r} - \frac{M^2}{r^2}\right), \quad (55)$$

we compute

$$f' g^2 = \frac{1}{2r^9} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (3M^6 + 13M^5r + 10M^4r^2 - 10M^3r^3 - M^2r^4 + Mr^5). \quad (56)$$

and

$$(f' g)' = \frac{1}{2r^9} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (-84M^5r - 132M^4r^2 + 90M^3r^3 + 8M^2r^4 - 6Mr^5) \quad (57)$$

and

$$\frac{f}{2}[U(1-\mu)]' = \frac{1}{2r^9} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (-48M^4r^2 - 14M^3r^3 + 28M^2r^4 - 6Mr^5) \quad (58)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{4}f''' = \frac{1}{2r^9} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) (288M^4r^2 - 150M^3r^3 - 4M^2r^4 + 6Mr^5). \quad (59)$$

The negative of the sum of the previous four equations is

$$-\left(f'g^2 + (f'g)' + \frac{f}{2}[U(1-\mu)]' + \frac{1}{4}f'''\right) = \frac{1}{2r^9} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) P(x) \quad (60)$$

for

$$P(r) = 5Mr^5 - 31M^2r^4 + 84M^3r^3 - 118M^4r^2 + 71M^5r - 3M^6. \quad (61)$$

It is now enough to show that $P(r) > 0$ for $r \geq 2M$. By scaling we can suppose $M = 1$. One easily checks that $P^{(i)}(2M)$ is positive for all $0 \leq i \leq 4$. \square

It follows that

$$\tilde{K}^f[\psi_0] \geq r^{-2} \frac{1}{1-\mu} \left[(f'g|\psi_0|^2)' + \frac{c(M)}{r^4} (1-\mu)|\psi_0|^2 \right]. \quad (62)$$

2.3.3. *Boundary terms.* We have

$$\tilde{J}^T \cdot T = \beta^2 \left[\frac{1}{2}(T\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{r^*}\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\psi|^2 + U\psi^2 \right], \quad (63)$$

and

$$\tilde{J}^T \cdot L = \beta^2 \left[\frac{1}{2}(L\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(1-\mu)(|\nabla\psi|^2 + U\psi^2) \right], \quad (64)$$

and

$$\tilde{J}^T \cdot \underline{L} = \beta^2 \left[\frac{1}{2}(\underline{L}\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(1-\mu)(|\nabla\psi|^2 + U\psi^2) \right], \quad (65)$$

Similarly, we compute

$$\tilde{J}^X \cdot T = |\beta^2 f X \psi T \psi| \lesssim \tilde{J}^T \cdot T \quad (66)$$

and

$$|\tilde{J}^X \cdot L| = \beta^2 f \left| \frac{1}{2}(L\psi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(1-\mu)(|\nabla\psi|^2 + U\psi^2) \right| \lesssim \tilde{J}^T \cdot L \quad (67)$$

and

$$|\tilde{J}^X \cdot \underline{L}| = \beta^2 f \left| \frac{1}{2}(\underline{L}\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(1-\mu)(|\nabla\psi|^2 + U\psi^2) \right| \lesssim \tilde{J}^T \cdot \underline{L}. \quad (68)$$

It follows that the boundary terms arising from \tilde{J}^X can be controlled by those arising from \tilde{J}^T . Moreover, we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \partial_r(f'g|\psi_0|^2)r^{-2} \, \text{dvol} = \int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \partial_r(f'g|\psi_0|^2) \, \text{dr} \, \text{d}\tau \, \text{d}\sigma, \quad (69)$$

which contributes boundary terms of size $f'g|\psi_0|^2 \lesssim r^{-3}(1-\mu)|\psi_0|^2$, which can evidently be controlled by the zeroth order term in \tilde{J}^T .

2.3.4. *Completing the estimate.* We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \left[\frac{1}{r^2}(\partial_{r^*}\psi)^2 + \frac{1}{r^3} \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right)^2 |r\nabla\psi|^2 + \frac{\psi^2}{r^4} \right] r^{-2} \, \text{dvol} \\ & \lesssim \int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \tilde{K}^f[\psi_0] \, \text{dvol} + \left| \int_{\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \partial_r(f'g|\psi_0|^2)r^{-2} \, \text{dvol} \right| \lesssim \int_{\partial\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \tilde{J}^T \cdot n \, \text{dvol}_{\partial\mathcal{R}(\tau_1, \tau_2)} \\ & \lesssim \int_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}} \tilde{J}^T \cdot n_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}} \, \text{dvol}_{\Sigma_{\tau_2}}, \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

where in the last line we have used the energy identity associated to \tilde{J}^T .

REFERENCES

- [HMR24] Gustav Holzegel, Georgios Mavrogianis, and Renato Velozo Ruiz. *A note on integrated local energy decay estimates for spherically symmetric black hole spacetimes*. 2024. arXiv: 2403.02533 [gr-qc].