

Hidden symmetries and boundary data for asymptotically Kerr–de Sitter spacetimes

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What and Why?

Kerr-de Sitter spacetime: a solution of the vacuum Einstein field equations

$$R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{ab} + \Lambda g_{ab} = 0, \quad \Lambda > 0,$$

describing a rotating black hole.

Main properties:

- depends on three parameters: cosmological constant Λ , mass m and angular momentum J ,
- admits two Killing fields,

$$\nabla_{(a}K_{b)} = 0.$$

What and Why?

Conserved quantities for geodesic motion:

- energy E ,
- axial angular momentum L_ϕ ,
- Carter constant C .

Carter constant and hidden symmetry: Kerr-de Sitter metric also admits a Killing tensor K ,

$$\nabla_{(a} K_{bc)} = 0$$

such that $C := K_{ab} p^a p^b$, where p is the four-momentum.

What and Why?

Origin of the hidden symmetry:

closed Conformal Killing-Yano (cCKY) 2-form Q ,

$$\nabla_a Q_{bc} + \frac{2}{3} g_{a[b} \nabla^d Q_{c]d} = 0.$$

Killing tensor can be obtained by squaring $\star Q$.

Theorem¹

The most general solution of the vacuum Einstein field equations with cosmological constant that admits a non-degenerate cCKY tensor is the Kerr–NUT–(anti-)de Sitter metric.

(Not closed) Conformal Killing-Yano (CKY) equation

$$\nabla_a Q_{bc} - \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} g_{a[b} \nabla^d Q_{c]d} = 0.$$

CKY equation is conformally invariant under

$$g \longmapsto \Omega^2 g, \quad Q \longmapsto \Omega^3 Q$$

¹ P. Krtouš, V. P. Frolov, and D. Kubizňák, Hidden symmetries of higher dimensional black holes and uniqueness of the Kerr–NUT–(A)dS spacetime, Phys. Rev. D **78**, 2008.

What and Why?

Expected late-time behavior of black holes

Dynamical black holes settle down to a stationary final state described by the Kerr-de Sitter solution



Generic black hole is an asymptotically Kerr-de Sitter spacetime

Question 1

What necessary conditions must the spacetime satisfy to be asymptotically Kerr-de Sitter?

Question 1.1

Local characterization of Kerr-de Sitter spacetimes?

Closed conformal Killing-Yano (cCKY) tensor

Kerr-de Sitter metric admits a cCKY 2-form $\tilde{Q}$ satisfying

$$\tilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{Q}_{bc} + \frac{2}{3} \tilde{g}_{a[b} \tilde{\nabla}^d \tilde{Q}_{c]d} = 0$$

Asymptotically (local) Kerr-de Sitter spacetime

Let M be a compactification of a spacetime satisfying:

- conformal boundary Σ of M has the same local intrinsic conformal geometry as $\Sigma_{\text{Kerr-de Sitter}}$
- there exists an asymptotic solution of the cCKY equation Q such that

$$Q \stackrel{\Sigma}{=} Q_{\text{Kerr-de Sitter}}$$

where $\stackrel{\Sigma}{=}$ denotes equality on Σ .

- $\Lambda > 0$ and stress-energy tensor $\tilde{T}$ vanishes on Σ

What obstructs a spacetime from being locally asymptotically Kerr-de Sitter?

Compactification of a spacetime $(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g})$: $(M, \mathbf{g}, \sigma)$, where

- M is a compact manifold with boundary Σ
- $\mathbf{g} := [g]$ is a conformal class of metrics
- $\sigma := [\rho]$ is a conformal class of defining functions of the boundary Σ

Then

$$\tilde{g} = \sigma^{-2} \mathbf{g}$$

solves the Einstein field equations.

cCKY equations corresponding to the physical metric $\tilde{g}$:

$$\tilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{Q}_{bc} - \tilde{\nabla}_{[a} \tilde{Q}_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} \tilde{g}_{a[b} \tilde{\nabla}^d \tilde{Q}_{c]d} = 0, \quad \tilde{\nabla}_{[a} \tilde{Q}_{bc]} = 0.$$

Strategy

- Assume that the cCKY equations hold only asymptotically
- Write the system in terms of the unphysical conformal class of metrics and the conformal class of defining functions
- Couple it to the Einstein field equations with stress-energy tensor that vanishes on the conformal boundary
- Look at constraints for solving the Einstein-cCKY system

Conformal approach to Einstein-cCKY system

Let

$$\widetilde{T}_{ab} = \sigma \tau_{ab},$$

where τ_{ab} extends smoothly to Σ .

Normalization: $\Lambda = 3$.

Conformal Einstein system coupled to σ

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_a \nabla_b \sigma + \sigma P_{ab} - \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{g}_{ab} (\Delta \sigma + P_c{}^c \sigma) &= \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \mathring{\tau}_{ab}, \\ (\nabla^a \sigma)(\nabla_a \sigma) - \frac{\sigma}{2} (\Delta \sigma + P_a{}^a \sigma) + 1 &= \frac{1}{12} \sigma^3 \tau,\end{aligned}$$

where $P_{ab} := R_{ab} - \frac{1}{4} R g_{ab}$ and $\mathring{\cdot}$ denotes a trace-free part.

cCKY system

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{Q}_{bc} - \tilde{\nabla}_{[a} \tilde{Q}_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} \tilde{g}_{a[b} \tilde{\nabla}^d \tilde{Q}_{c]d} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma), \\ \tilde{\nabla}_{[a} \tilde{Q}_{bc]} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma),\end{aligned}$$

Conformal version coupled to σ :

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_a Q_{bc} - \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{g}_{a[b} \nabla^d Q_{c]d} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma^4), \\ \sigma \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} - 3(\nabla_{[a} \sigma) Q_{bc]} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma^5).\end{aligned}$$

Constraints arising from Einstein-cCKY system

Conformally covariant Einstein-cCKY system coupled to σ

To be solved for σ and Q :

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{asymptotic} \\ \text{vacuum Einstein} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla_a \nabla_b \sigma + \sigma P_{ab} - \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{g}_{ab} (\Delta \sigma + P_c{}^c \sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \hat{\tau}_{ab}, \\ (\nabla^a \sigma)(\nabla_a \sigma) - \frac{\sigma}{2} (\Delta \sigma + P_a{}^a \sigma) + 1 = \frac{1}{12} \sigma^3 \tau \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{asymptotic} \\ \text{cCKY} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla_a Q_{bc} - \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{g}_{a[b} \nabla^d Q_{c]d} = \mathcal{O}(\sigma^4), \\ \sigma \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} - 3(\nabla_{[a} \sigma) Q_{bc]} = \mathcal{O}(\sigma^5) \end{array} \right.$$

subject to Kerr-de Sitter boundary conditions at Σ .

Schematically, each equation has the following form:

$$\mathcal{E}_{a..}(\sigma, Q) = \mathcal{O}(\sigma^k), \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Constraints on Σ : Apply a conformally covariant normal derivative operator of normal order $< k$, evaluate on Σ :

$$(\nabla_{\hat{n}}^i + \dots) \circ \mathcal{E}_{a..}(\sigma, Q) \stackrel{\Sigma}{=} 0, \quad i < k,$$

where $\hat{n}$ is the unit normal vector to Σ .

Conformal fundamental forms of Σ

Asymptotic vacuum Einstein system:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_a \nabla_b \sigma + \sigma P_{ab} - \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{g}_{ab} (\Delta \sigma + P_c{}^c \sigma) &= \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \overset{\circ}{\tau}_{ab}, \\ (\nabla^a \sigma)(\nabla_a \sigma) - \frac{\sigma}{2} (\Delta \sigma + P_a{}^a \sigma) + 1 &= \frac{1}{12} \sigma^3 \tau\end{aligned}$$

Constraints on the conformal boundary Σ

Subcritical conformal fundamental forms of Σ vanish:

- trace-free extrinsic curvature: $\overset{\circ}{\Pi}_{ab}$,
- electric part of the Weyl tensor: $W_{\hat{n}a\hat{n}b}$.

Fourth conformal fundamental form $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{V}}$ satisfies,

$$\overline{\nabla}^b \overset{\circ}{\mathbb{V}}_{ab} \overset{\Sigma}{=} \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \left(\sigma^{-1} \tau_{\hat{n}a}^\top \right) - \frac{1}{3} \overline{\nabla}_a \tau,$$

where $\top$ is the projection onto Σ , and is otherwise undetermined.

Boundary data for vacuum conformal Einstein system:

$$\overline{\mathbf{g}} \quad \text{and} \quad \overset{\circ}{\mathbb{V}}$$

Constraints arising from Einstein-cCKY system

Asymptotic cCKY equations

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_a Q_{bc} - \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{g}_{a[b} \nabla^d Q_{c]d} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma^4), \\ \sigma \nabla_{[a} Q_{bc]} - 3(\nabla_{[a} \sigma) Q_{bc]} &= \mathcal{O}(\sigma^5).\end{aligned}$$

At the second normal order,

$$2\mathring{\mathbf{I}}\mathbf{V}_{a[b} Q_{|\hat{n}|c]}^\top + \bar{\mathbf{g}}_{a[b} \mathring{\mathbf{I}}\mathbf{V}_{c]}^d Q_{\hat{n}d}^\top \stackrel{\Sigma}{=} 0,$$

Algebraic constraint on the boundary data $\mathring{\mathbf{I}}\mathbf{V}$.

Determining $\mathring{IV}$

Given

$$Q \stackrel{\Sigma}{=} Q_{\text{Kerr-de Sitter}}$$

we can solve the algebraic constraint on $\mathring{IV}$ to obtain

$$\mathring{IV}_{ab} = F \mathring{A}_{ab}^{\text{KdS}},$$

where $\mathring{A}^{\text{KdS}}$ is a trace-free tensor determined by the geometry of Σ and F is a function constrained by

$$\bar{\nabla}^b \mathring{IV}_{ab} \stackrel{\Sigma}{=} \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} (\sigma^{-1} \tau_{\hat{n}a}) - \frac{1}{3} \bar{\nabla}_a \tau.$$

Vacuum solution. If $\tau_{ab} = 0$, then F is constant,

$$F = 2m \left(1 + \frac{J^2}{m^2} \right)^{-2}.$$

Relation to quasi-local charges

Quasi-local charge ²

$$C_{\xi}[N] := \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_N \left(\dot{V}_{ab} + \frac{1}{3} \tau \bar{g}_{ab} \right) \xi^a \hat{r}^b dN,$$

where ξ is a conformal Killing vector, N a closed surface of Σ and $\hat{r}$ is the unit normal to N in Σ .

Boyer-Lindquist chart (t, r, θ, ϕ) : Charges corresponding to ∂_t and ∂_ϕ evaluated on $t = \text{const.}$ spheres S_t can be written as

$$\text{quasi-local mass} := C_{\partial_t}[S_t] = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{S^2} \left(F + \frac{\tau}{3} \left(1 + \frac{J^2}{m^2} \right)^{-2} \right) dS^2,$$

$$\text{quasi-local angular momentum} := C_{\partial_\phi}[S_t] = -\frac{3J}{16m\pi} \int_{S^2} F \sin^2 \theta dS^2,$$

where dS^2 is the volume element of the unit sphere.

²A. Ashtekar, B. Bonga and A. Kesavan, Asymptotics with a positive cosmological constant: I. Basic framework, Class. Quant. Grav. 32, 025004, 2015.

Summary:

- In asymptotically locally Kerr–de Sitter spacetimes, the asymptotic cCKY equations impose an algebraic constraint on the boundary-data tensor $\overset{\circ}{V}$,
- This constraint reduces $\overset{\circ}{V}$ to a single scalar function that enters the definitions of the quasi-local mass and angular momentum.

Based on:

Samuel Blitz and JK, *Asymptotia of Kerr-de Sitter Black Holes*, Class. Quantum Grav. 42 20LT02, 2025.

Thank you!