

Cauchy problems for Einstein equations in three-dimensional spacetimes

Piotr T Chruściel^{1,*} , Wan Cong¹ , Théophile Quéau² 
and Raphaela Wutte³ 

¹ University of Vienna, Faculty of Physics, Vienna, Austria

² Université Paris-Saclay, ENS Paris-Saclay, DER de Physique, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

³ Department of Physics and Beyond: Center for Fundamental Concepts in Science, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, United States of America

E-mail: piotr.chrusciel@univie.ac.at, wan.cong@univie.ac.at,
theophile.queau@ens-paris-saclay.fr and rwutte@hep.itp.tuwien.ac.at

Received 13 November 2024; revised 18 February 2025

Accepted for publication 24 March 2025

Published 11 April 2025



CrossMark

Abstract

We analyze existence and properties of solutions of two-dimensional general relativistic initial data sets with a negative cosmological constant, both on spacelike and characteristic surfaces. A new family of such vacuum spacelike data parameterised by poles at the conformal boundary at infinity is constructed. We review the notions of global Hamiltonian charges, emphasizing the difficulties arising in this dimension, both in a spacelike and characteristic setting. One or two, depending upon the topology, lower bounds for energy in terms of angular momentum, linear momentum, and center of mass are established.

Keywords: Cauchy problem, energy in general relativity, positive energy theorems, three-dimensional spacetimes

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. All conformally smooth spacetimes which are vacuum near the conformal boundary	4

* Author to whom any correspondence should be addressed.



Original Content from this work may be used under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). Any further distribution of this work must maintain attribution to the author(s) and the title of the work, journal citation and DOI.

2.1. Vacuum time-symmetric geometrically finite initial data sets	5
3. Spacelike general relativistic initial data	7
3.1. Vacuum time symmetric data	7
3.2. The vector constraint equation and conformal transformations	8
3.3. The vacuum vector constraint equation and Airy functions	9
3.4. The vacuum vector constraint equation and holomorphic functions	10
3.5. Poles at the conformal boundary	11
3.6. Matter currents and the conformal vector Laplacian	11
3.7. A ‘finite-mass’ condition?	12
3.8. The Lichnerowicz equation	12
3.9. Boundary regularity	13
3.10. Explicit solutions of the vacuum Cauchy problem	14
4. Angular momentum and mass	15
4.1. Bañados metrics	16
4.1.1. Example: BTZ black holes.	18
4.2. Asymptotic symmetries	18
4.3. Small perturbations of hyperbolic space	23
4.4. A Witten-type argument	30
5. Some matter models	34
5.1. Maxwell fields in vacuum	34
5.2. Scalar field	37
5.3. Existence and regularity in the non-vacuum case	38
6. Maskit-type gluing of ALH spacelike initial data	40
7. Characteristic Cauchy problem	42
7.1. Global charges, asymptotic symmetries	46
7.1.1. $\Lambda < 0$.	46
7.1.2. $\Lambda > 0$.	47
Data availability statement	48
Acknowledgment	48
Appendix A. Poles at the boundary of hyperbolic space	49
Appendix B. The Lichnerowicz equation: existence, uniqueness, boundary regularity	50
Appendix C. The Lichnerowicz equation with poles on the conformal boundary	51
Appendix D. Maximal hypersurfaces	54
Appendix E. An ODE result	55
Appendix F. Imaginary Killing spinors	58
References	62

1. Introduction

Most of the literature on the general relativistic constraint equations assumes from the outset that the space-dimension n is larger than or equal to three (see, e.g. [12, 19] and references therein). This is presumably based on the preconception, that all three-dimensional vacuum spacetimes are locally isometric, so that no new insights into the theory can be gained when $n = 2$. Another reason might be, that the conformal transformation properties in space-dimension two do not follow the same pattern as these with $n \geq 3$. Since the conformal method remains the best tool to construct general classes of spacetimes, $n = 2$ does not fit into the flow of the arguments.

Now, while three-dimensional vacuum spacetimes are all indeed locally isometric, spacetimes with matter are not. Moreover, the global structure matters even in vacuum, and deserves to be understood. Finally, the total mass in two space-dimensions has properties completely different from these of the higher-dimensional models [33], with a behavior which is perplexing enough to deserve further investigation.

For all these reasons we have undertaken to analyze the usual constructions of general relativistic initial data sets with a negative cosmological constant in space-dimension two. The results are presented here. It must be admitted that the bottom line is somewhat disappointing: those known methods which we looked at work without further due when $n=2$. But, while this work has mainly a review character, dotting previously-undotted i's at some places, we also present here a seemingly new result, namely the existence of a family of solutions of two-dimensional vacuum constraint equations, and hence of three-dimensional spacetimes, with non-conformally-smooth behavior at infinity, with controlled asymptotics, and with finite total energy. One hence obtains an interesting extension of the usual phase space of $(2+1)$ -dimensional gravitational initial data sets. Another new result in this work is the proof that a unique definition of mass can be obtained by minimization for asymptotically locally hyperbolic initial data on complete manifolds with matter fields satisfying the dominant energy condition. This is done by proving a lower bound for the mass using the Witten positivity argument. While this result is essentially already contained in [20, 29, 31], the ambiguities related both to the definition of mass and to the existence of inequivalent spin structures do not seem to have been neither addressed (ambiguities) nor exploited (inequivalent spin structures) in previous works.

This paper is organized as follows: in section 2 we review the general form of metrics with a smooth conformal compactification at infinity, either $(2+1)$ -dimensional Lorentzian and vacuum near the conformal boundary, or 2-dimensional Riemannian with constant scalar curvature near the conformal boundary. In section 3 we pass to an analysis of the constraint equations. After some preliminary results in sections 3.1 and 3.2, in section 3.3 we point out that Airy functions can be used to obtain symmetric two-tensors with vanishing divergence. In section 3.4 we recall that constant mean curvature (CMC) solutions of the vacuum vector constraint equation can be parameterized by holomorphic functions. In section 3.5 we point out that meromorphic functions with poles on the conformal boundary lead to a class of solutions, with finite energy, which does not seem to have been noticed so far. In section 3.9 we analyze the regularity at the conformal boundary of general relativistic initial data constructed by the conformal method. In section 3.10 we point out a formula, essentially due to Uhlenbeck [60], for the explicit form of solutions of the vacuum Cauchy problem in a neighborhood of the initial data surface. We expect that many of these metrics provide explicit examples of dynamical black holes. In section 4 we review the notion of angular momentum and mass for asymptotically locally hyperbolic initial data sets. We point out ambiguities in the definition of total mass resulting from asymptotic symmetries, and show that these can be resolved for complete initial data sets by minimization. This is done by proving lower bounds for the total mass for a class of small perturbations of anti-de Sitter spacetime in section 4.3, and for general asymptotically locally hyperbolic data on complete manifolds with matter fields satisfying the dominant energy condition in section 4.4. In section 5 we discuss some specific matter models: in section 5.1 Einstein–Maxwell initial data are considered, while scalar fields are discussed in section 5.2. Existence of associated initial data is addressed in section 5.3. In section 6 we point out that the known gluing results for spacelike initial data sets also apply to space-dimension $n=2$. In section 7 we review the characteristic Cauchy

problem in Bondi coordinates, point-out that the vacuum characteristic-gluing is all-radial-conservation laws, and note that the difficulties with the definition of total mass, identical to those already encountered in the spacelike case, arise both for the Trautman–Bondi mass and for angular momentum at null infinity. In appendix A a formula for transformation of poles between the Poincaré-disc model of hyperbolic space and the half-space model is worked-out. In appendix B the problem of regularity at the conformal boundary at infinity of solutions of the Lichnerowicz equation is reviewed. In appendix C we establish the leading-order behavior of the solutions with poles at the conformal boundary and we provide a full formal asymptotic expansion of these solutions. In appendix D existence results for, and asymptotic behavior of, maximal surfaces in 3-dimensional asymptotically locally AdS spacetimes are reviewed. In appendix E an ODE result relevant for the asymptotics of the initial data sets with poles-at-the-boundary is established. Explicit formulae for imaginary Killing spinors in various coordinate systems on ALH manifolds are given in appendix F.

We will mostly assume that $\Lambda = -1$ without explicitly saying so. While we are mainly interested in a negative cosmological constant here, in some rare cases, namely in sections 3.10 and 7, a positive cosmological constant is also considered.

2. All conformally smooth spacetimes which are vacuum near the conformal boundary

A pseudo-Riemannian manifold $(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{g})$ will be said to be *conformally smooth* if there exists a manifold with boundary $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$, an embedding $i: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{M}}$ of \mathcal{M} into the interior of $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$, a defining function Ω for the boundary of $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$ (by definition: Ω vanishes precisely on the boundary and has non-vanishing gradient there) and a metric field $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}$ which extends smoothly, as a metric, across the boundary, such that

$$\mathbf{g} = i^* (\Omega^{-2} \tilde{\mathbf{g}}). \quad (2.1)$$

Equivalently, if one thinks of \mathcal{M} as a subset of $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$, then the metric $\Omega^2 \mathbf{g}$ extends smoothly, as a metric, to the boundary of $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$.

It turns out that one can write explicitly all conformally smooth vacuum three-dimensional metrics [6, 11]. For this, consider three-dimensional metrics of the form

$$\mathbf{g} = \frac{dr^2}{r^2} + \underbrace{g_{AB}(r, x^C) dx^A dx^B}_{=:g} \quad (2.2)$$

with

$$g(r, x^C) = r^2 \eta + O(1), \quad (2.3)$$

where η is the Minkowski metric $\eta = -dt^2 + d\varphi^2$ and $(x^A) = (t, \varphi)$. The conformal completion is obtained by changing r to a new coordinate $x = 1/r$ and setting $\Omega = x$, with the conformal boundary at $x = 0$.

Barnich and Trossaert have shown [11] that three-dimensional Lorentzian metrics which are vacuum and have a smooth conformal completion as $r \rightarrow \infty$ can be written in the Bañados

form [6], for small $r \neq 0^4$,

$$\mathbf{g} = \frac{dr^2}{r^2} - \left(r dx^+ - \frac{\mathcal{L}_-(x^-)}{r} dx^- \right) \left(r dx^- - \frac{\mathcal{L}_+(x^+)}{r} dx^+ \right), \quad (2.4)$$

where $x^\pm = t \pm \varphi$, with arbitrary functions \mathcal{L}_\pm . Here one needs

$$\mathcal{L}_+ \mathcal{L}_- \neq r^4, \quad (2.5)$$

to avoid a vanishing determinant of the tensor field (2.4).

If the functions \mathcal{L}_\pm are constants (or can be transformed to constants by a change of coordinates preserving the above form of the metric) one obtains the Bañados–Teitelboim–Zanelli (BTZ) black holes [8]:

$$\mathbf{g} = \frac{dr^2}{r^2} - \left(r dx^+ - \frac{M+J}{4r} dx^- \right) \left(r dx^- - \frac{M-J}{4r} dx^+ \right), \quad (2.6)$$

thus

$$\mathcal{L}_+ = \frac{M-J}{4}, \quad \mathcal{L}_- = \frac{M+J}{4}. \quad (2.7)$$

Otherwise, in vacuum the metrics are expected to be singular (see [33] for some results on the time-symmetric case). Note that the character of the singularities cannot be probed with the curvature tensor, as all these metrics are locally isometric to the anti-de Sitter metric.

2.1. Vacuum time-symmetric geometrically finite initial data sets

Spacelike general relativistic initial data consist of a set (M, g, K) , where (M, g) is an n -dimensional Riemannian manifold and K is a symmetric two-tensor on M . In vacuum ($\rho = 0$) and under time-symmetry ($K_{ij} = 0$) the scalar constraint equation, namely

$$R_g = 2\rho + 2\Lambda + |K|_g^2 - (\text{tr}_g K)^2,$$

where R_g is the scalar curvature of the metric g , becomes the requirement that (M, g) has constant scalar curvature (CSC).

In this work we will mostly be interested in the case $n = 2$. Recall that a two-dimensional manifold is called *geometrically finite* if it has finite Euler characteristic. Equivalently, for non-compact manifolds, M is diffeomorphic to a compact manifold from which a finite number of points, say $\{p_i\}_{i=1}^N$, $N \geq 1$, has been removed.

Remark 2.1. On such a manifold, complete metrics with constant negative scalar curvature can be constructed by solving the two-dimensional Yamabe equation, i.e.

$$2\Delta_{\hat{g}} \hat{u} = R_g - e^{2\hat{u}} R_{\hat{g}}, \quad (2.8)$$

with $g = e^{-2\hat{u}} \hat{g}$, as follows: let \hat{g} be any metric on M which, in local polar coordinates near each of the p_i 's equals

$$\frac{dr^2}{r^2} + r^2 d\varphi^2. \quad (2.9)$$

⁴ The proof of this result makes use of the freedom of conformal transformations at the boundary at infinity. Similar expansions which do not exploit this freedom have been derived in [59].

The analysis in [2], reviewed in appendix B, applies to provide existence, uniqueness, and polyhomogeneity at the conformal boundary of a conformal factor \hat{u} such that the metric $g = e^{\hat{u}} \hat{g}$ has constant scalar curvature equal to -2 (cf also [41] for existence). Since $R_{\hat{g}} = -2$ near the conformal boundary, defined as

$$\{0 = x := 1/r\},$$

expanding both sides of (2.8) in terms of the functions $x^i \ln^j x$ and comparing terms one finds an expansion with no log terms and only even powers of x :

$$\hat{u} = u_2(\varphi)x^2 + \frac{1}{10} \left(2u_2(\varphi)^2 - u_2''(\varphi) \right) x^4 + \dots, \tag{2.10}$$

where u_2 is an arbitrary function on S^1 . One can now transform to the coordinates (3.3) below to obtain an asymptotic expansion with a finite number of terms.

Assuming geometric finiteness and completeness, it follows from theorem 2.2 below and the results in [33] that there exists a coordinate transformation which transforms the function $u_2(\varphi)$ to a constant $m \geq 0$. \square

The classification of two-dimensional, non-compact, geometrically finite, negatively curved CSC metrics is well understood; a pedagogical presentation can be found in [18]. We review these models, following [33].

Elementary hyperbolic manifolds are the hyperbolic space and the (complete) manifold $\mathbb{R} \times S^1$ with the metric

$$\frac{dr^2}{r^2} + r^2 d\varphi^2, \quad e^{i\lambda\varphi} \in S^1, \quad \lambda \in (0, \infty). \tag{2.11}$$

We will refer to this surface as the *hyperbolic trumpet* (compare [40]). Rescaling φ and r , without loss of generality one can assume $\lambda = 1$, but then the angle φ will range over $[0, 2\pi/\lambda]$.

Given $r_0 \in \mathbb{R}$, the region $r \leq r_0$ with a metric (2.11) will be referred to as a *hyperbolic cusp*, and the region $r \geq r_0$ will be called a *hyperbolic end*. Further *hyperbolic ends* are defined as the manifolds $[r_0, \infty) \times S^1$ with metrics of the form

$$\frac{dr^2}{r^2 - m_c} + r^2 d\varphi^2, \quad e^{i\lambda\varphi} \in S^1, \quad \lambda \in (0, \infty), \tag{2.12}$$

where $m_c \in \mathbb{R}$, with $r_0 > 0$, with $r \geq \sqrt{m_c}$ when $m_c > 0$. Note that a rescaling of r , m_c and φ leads again to $\lambda = 1$. When $m_c > 0$ one can indeed allow $r_0 = \sqrt{m_c}$ because we have

$$g = \frac{dr^2}{r^2 - m_c} + r^2 d\varphi^2 = du^2 + m_c \cosh^2(u) d\varphi^2, \quad \text{where } e^{i\varphi} \in S^1. \tag{2.13}$$

This further shows that in this case the submanifold $r = r_0$ minimizes length, hence forms a closed geodesic.

A *funnel* is defined as $[r_0, \infty) \times S^1$ with a metric (2.12) with $m_c > 0$, $r_0 = \sqrt{m_c}$, and $\lambda \geq 1$. Note that a rescaling of r , m_c and φ leads to $\lambda = 1$. The boundary $\{r = \sqrt{m_c}\}$ is the shortest closed geodesic within the funnel. In the physics literature funnels are known as *non-rotating BTZ black holes*; more precisely, time-symmetric slices of non-rotating BTZ black holes. The geodesic $\{r = \sqrt{m_c}\}$ is referred to as *event horizon*, or *apparent horizon*, or *outermost apparent horizon*. In the associated vacuum spacetime, the surface $r = \sqrt{m_c}$ becomes the bifurcation surface of a bifurcate Killing horizon.

A *hyperbolic bridge* is defined as the doubling of a funnel across its minimal boundary; equivalently, this is the rightmost metric (2.13) defined on $\{u \in \mathbb{R}, e^{i\varphi} \in S^2\}$.

The fundamental result is (cf e.g. [18, theorem 2.23]):

Theorem 2.2. *Consider a complete non-compact two-dimensional hyperbolic manifold (M, g) with finite Euler characteristic. Then either (M, g) is hyperbolic space, or a hyperbolic trumpet, or it is the union of a compact set with a finite number of cusps and a finite number of funnels.*

3. Spacelike general relativistic initial data

Some definitions are in order. As already mentioned, a spacelike general relativistic initial data set is a triple (M, g, K) , where M a smooth n -dimensional manifold, g a Riemannian metric on M , and K a symmetric tensor field on M . These fields are moreover required to satisfy a set of constraint equations:

$$D_j (K^{ij} - \text{tr}_g(K) g^{ij}) = J^i, \quad (3.1)$$

$$R_g - |K|_g^2 + (\text{tr}_g(K))^2 = 2\rho + 2\Lambda, \quad (3.2)$$

with (ρ, J^i) the mass density and current, which vanish in the vacuum case. D is the Levi-Civita covariant derivative of the metric g , and R_g the Ricci scalar of g . Equation (3.1) is known as the vector constraint equation, while (3.2) is the scalar constraint equation. The coefficient 2 in front of ρ is sometimes replaced by 1 (or by 16π), in which case a coefficient $1/2$ (or 8π) has to be inserted in front of J^i . A negative sign, which can often be found in front of J^i , can be achieved by changing K to its negative. See [12, 19] for an exhaustive discussion, where however space-dimension two is mostly ignored.

It may be convenient, e.g. for gluing purposes, to have compactly supported tensors K^{ij} at our disposal, or metrics which are compactly supported deformations of fiducial ones. We will therefore make remarks on this as we go along.

A data set (M, g, K) is said to be *asymptotically locally hyperbolic* (short ALH), or is said to have a *smooth conformal completion at infinity*, if there exists a smooth defining function $\omega \in C^\infty(\bar{M})$ such as $\omega^2 g$ extends to a smooth metric on \bar{M} with

$$\begin{cases} \omega = 0 \text{ on } M, \\ \omega|_{\partial M} = 0, \\ |d\omega|_g = 1 \text{ on } \partial M. \end{cases}$$

Note that ∂M represents the conformal boundary at infinity, and the sectional curvatures of g approach -1 when ∂M is approached. We will further require that the tensor field $K_{ij} dx^i dx^j$ extends smoothly across ∂M ; this is the case for metrics of the Bañados form (2.4).

3.1. Vacuum time symmetric data

The induced metric, together with the extrinsic curvature of a hypersurface in a vacuum space-time, provide general relativistic vacuum initial data. Hence, large families of conformally smooth examples can be obtained from data induced on hypersurfaces by the metrics (2.4). In particular one thus obtains the following family of constant-scalar-curvature metrics

$$g = r^{-2} dr^2 + \left(r^2 + f_2(\varphi) + \frac{f_2(\varphi)^2}{4r^2} \right) d\varphi^2, \quad (3.3)$$

where f_2 is an arbitrary function of φ . This, together with $K_{ij} \equiv 0$, provides a large family of conformally smooth initial data which are vacuum and time symmetric near the conformal boundary at infinity.

Given a point φ_0 on S^1 , the function f_2 can always be transformed, by a coordinate transformation preserving this form of the metric, to *any* desired function *near* φ_0 , e.g. $f_2 = 0$. The question, if and when this can be done globally, is non-trivial; see [33] and references therein. More on this in section 4.2 below.

One can now use compactly supported deformations of the hypersurface $\{t = 0\}$ in the associated spacetime to obtain vacuum initial data with, if desired, a compactly supported extrinsic curvature tensor.

3.2. The vector constraint equation and conformal transformations

We will use the conformal method to study properties of asymptotically hyperbolic (AH) solutions of the constraint equations (3.1) and (3.2). This is particularly natural in space-dimension $n = 2$ in view of the uniformization theorem (cf e.g. [18, 41, 51]). Hence, we will look for g of the form

$$g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}. \quad (3.4)$$

It will sometimes be convenient to work with the Euclidean metric

$$\check{g} \equiv \delta,$$

therefore we also introduce the (possibly local) rescaling

$$g_{ij} = e^{-2\check{\phi}} \check{g}_{ij}, \quad \check{g}_{ij} = \delta_{ij}. \quad (3.5)$$

Unless explicitly indicated otherwise, we will assume that both u and $\check{\phi}$ are smooth.

In the conformal method one typically assumes

$$D_i (\text{tr}_g K) = 0, \quad (3.6)$$

which will be sometimes done in what follows. Under (3.6) the analysis of the vacuum vector constraint equation, in space-dimension n , reduces to the study of the trace-free part of the extrinsic curvature tensor K^{ij} ,

$$L^{ij} = K^{ij} - \frac{\text{tr} K}{n} g^{ij}, \quad (3.7)$$

so that

$$D_i K^{ij} = 0 \iff D_i L^{ij} = 0.$$

Let us recall the formula for the behavior of the divergence of a tensor under conformal rescalings. Regardless of the metric \tilde{g} , under the rescaling $g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}$ the Christoffel symbols transform as

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{jk}^i + \delta_{jk}^i u_{,k} + \delta_k^i u_{,j} - g^{il} g_{jk} u_{,l}. \quad (3.8)$$

Hence, in dimension n , for a \check{g} -traceless symmetric tensor \tilde{L}^{ij} ,

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} &= D_i \tilde{L}^{ij} + nu_{,k} \tilde{L}^{kj} + \left(\delta_i^j u_{,k} + \delta_k^j u_{,i} - g^{jl} g_{ik} u_{,l} \right) \tilde{L}^{ik} \\ &= D_i \tilde{L}^{ij} + (n+2) u_{,k} \tilde{L}^{kj} \\ &= D_i \left(e^{(n+2)u} \tilde{L}^{ij} \right) e^{-(n+2)u}.\end{aligned}$$

For $n = 2$ one obtains

$$D_i L^{ij} = 0 \iff \tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} = 0, \quad (3.9)$$

provided that

$$L^{ij} = \tilde{L}^{ij} e^{4u}. \quad (3.10)$$

There is an obvious corresponding formula with matter fields. Writing again

$$g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}. \quad (3.11)$$

and setting

$$L^{ij} = \tilde{L}^{ij} e^{4u}, \quad J^i = \tilde{J}^i e^{-4u}, \quad (3.12)$$

we find

$$D_i L^{ij} = J^j \iff \tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{J}^j. \quad (3.13)$$

3.3. The vacuum vector constraint equation and Airy functions

In two dimensions, symmetric tensors which are divergence-free with respect to the flat metric can be obtained from an *Airy function* α . Indeed, and in any dimension, given any function α the tensor field

$$k_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \Delta \alpha - \partial_i \partial_j \alpha \quad (3.14)$$

obviously satisfies

$$\partial_i k^{ij} = 0, \quad (3.15)$$

where the indices have been raised with the flat metric. Conversely, in two space dimensions any symmetric tensor field satisfying (3.15) can be written in the form (3.14)⁵.

We have

$$k^{ii} = 0 \iff \Delta_\delta \alpha = 0. \quad (3.16)$$

Hence any harmonic function α provides a trace-free solution \check{L}^{ij} of the vacuum vector constraint equation in the flat metric. Using (3.10) one can thus obtain all trace-free and divergence-free tensors for any metric conformal to the flat metric, e.g. the hyperbolic metric in the half-space model or in the Poincaré-disc model.

⁵ We are grateful to Bobby Beig for pointing this out. Equation (3.14) can be viewed as the two-dimensional version of the constructions in [15, 16].

Note that nontrivial compactly supported divergence-free symmetric tensors can be obtained in this way, by taking α to be compactly supported. But no such tensors will have constant trace. Indeed, it follows from (3.14) that $\alpha - k^{ii}(x^2 + y^2)/2$ would then be a compactly supported harmonic function, hence zero by the maximum principle, or by Liouville’s theorem, or by unique continuation in more general settings. This means that one cannot use the conformal covariance (3.13) to obtain compactly supported transverse-traceless (TT) tensors.

3.4. The vacuum vector constraint equation and holomorphic functions

We first consider open subsets of the Euclidean plane, writing as before

$$\check{g}_{ij} = \delta_{ij}.$$

Any \check{g} -traceless symmetric tensor takes the form

$$\check{L} = \check{L}_{xx}dx^2 + 2\check{L}_{xy}dxdy - \check{L}_{xx}dy^2.$$

Using the Euclidean metric and Euclidean coordinates to raise and lower indices on \check{L} , we have $\check{L}^{ij} = \check{L}_{ij}$. The condition that \check{L} be divergence-free reads

$$\begin{cases} \partial_x \check{L}_{xx} + \partial_y \check{L}_{xy} = 0 \\ \partial_x \check{L}_{xy} - \partial_y \check{L}_{xx} = 0 \end{cases} \iff (\partial_x + i\partial_y) (\check{L}_{xy} + i\check{L}_{xx}) = 0.$$

Thus \check{L} satisfies the vector constraint equation if and only if the function

$$\check{f}(x, y) := \check{L}_{xy} + i\check{L}_{xx} \tag{3.17}$$

is holomorphic on its domain of definition. So holomorphic functions immediately provide a wealth of solutions of the vacuum vector constraint equation. We will say that \check{L} derives from a holomorphic function \check{f} .

The calculation

$$\check{L} = \check{L}_{xx} (dx^2 - dy^2) + 2\check{L}_{xy}dxdy = \frac{1}{2i} (\check{f}dz^2 - \bar{\check{f}}d\bar{z}^2) = \Im (\check{f}dz^2), \tag{3.18}$$

relates \check{L} to so-called ‘quadratic differentials’.

In view of what has been said so far, we find: a traceless symmetric tensor L^{ij} satisfies $D_i L^{ij} = 0$ in the metric $g_{ij} = e^{-2\check{\phi}}\delta_{ij} \iff e^{-4\check{\phi}}L^{ij}$ derives from a holomorphic function \check{f} .

A tensor field t^{ij} is called transverse if $D_i t^{ij} = 0$; TT if moreover its trace vanishes.

We have:

Proposition 3.1. *On non-compact two-dimensional manifolds there are no non-trivial compactly supported symmetric TT tensors.*

Proof. In local coordinates in which the metric is conformally flat, the tensor \check{L}^{ij} vanishes if and only if \check{f} vanishes. On hyperbolic space our claim is simply the statement that the only holomorphic functions on the unit disc which are constant near the unit circle are constants. More generally, the result follows from unique continuation for holomorphic functions in local coordinates and a simple covering argument. \square

For further use we note

$$|\check{L}|_\delta^2 = \delta^{ik}\delta^{jl}\check{L}_{ij}\check{L}_{kl} = 2\check{L}_{xx}^2 + 2\check{L}_{xy}^2 = 2|\check{f}|^2. \tag{3.19}$$

From (3.5), (3.10) and (3.19) we conclude that

$$|L|_g^2 = 2e^{4\check{\phi}}|\check{f}|^2. \quad (3.20)$$

3.5. Poles at the conformal boundary

An interesting class of solutions arises from functions \check{f} which are meromorphic near the unit disc with poles exactly on the unit circle. Thus, given a finite number of points $e^{i\theta_j}, j = 1, \dots, N$, lying on the unit circle, together with nonzero numbers $a_j \in \mathbb{C}$, and a function f which is holomorphic in a neighborhood of the unit disc $D(0, 1)$, we set

$$\check{L} = \Im(\check{f}dz^2) \quad (3.21)$$

with

$$\check{f}(z) = f(z) + \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{a_j}{z - e^{i\theta_j}}. \quad (3.22)$$

We show in appendix C that such tensors \check{L} lead, through the conformal method, to initial data sets with a conformal completion where the conformal factor extends in C^1 across the conformal boundary (cf proposition C.1).

We check in section 3.7 below that the finite-mass condition (3.27) is satisfied by the functions (3.22).

We provide a formal asymptotic expansion of the associated solutions of the Lichnerowicz equation near each pole in appendix C as well. For this, it is convenient to work in the half-plane model of hyperbolic space; a formula how poles transform when passing to the half-plane model can be found in appendix A.

3.6. Matter currents and the conformal vector Laplacian

Consider the vector constraint equation with sources,

$$D_i L^{ij} = J^j. \quad (3.23)$$

The standard way to solve this equation, usually in dimensions $n \geq 3$, appeals to the conformal vector Laplacian: One writes

$$L^{ij} = D^i X^j + D^j X^i - \frac{2}{n} D^k X_k g^{ij}. \quad (3.24)$$

The method can also be used in dimension $n = 2$, leading to an elliptic equation for the vector field X :

$$D_i (D^i X^j + D^j X^i - D^k X_k g^{ij}) = J^j. \quad (3.25)$$

Commuting derivatives and using $R_{ij} = Rg_{ij}/2$, this can be rewritten as a Laplace equation

$$D_i D^i X^j + \frac{R}{2} X^j = J^j. \quad (3.26)$$

Integration by parts shows that when $R \leq 0$, the operator at the left-hand side has no kernel on fields which decay sufficiently fast as a conformal boundary at infinity is approached, or when solving the equation on a bounded set with zero Dirichlet data on the boundary. This further guarantees that there are no conformal Killing vector fields on negatively curved manifolds with appropriate asymptotic or boundary conditions, and finally implies unique solvability for compactly supported or rapidly decaying sources.

3.7. A ‘finite-mass’ condition?

Typical physically-relevant solutions have finite mass. In space-dimensions $n \geq 3$, the usual Hamiltonian analysis of the notion of mass (cf e.g. [30]) leads to the condition that the trace-free part L of the extrinsic curvature satisfies

$$\int_M |L|_g^2 d\mu_g < \infty. \tag{3.27}$$

Now, when $n = 2$ the question of a well-defined Hamiltonian mass is less clear-cut [33]; we review this in section 4 below. It seems nevertheless natural to impose this condition also in the two-dimensional case; we will do it in what follows.

Given the above let us assume, in vacuum, the existence of a coordinate neighborhood $[r_1, 1] \times S^1$ of the conformal boundary, which we assume to be located at $\{1\} \times S^1$, on which the metric is conformally flat as in (3.5). Then, for TT tensors arising from a holomorphic function \check{f} one finds

$$\int_M |L|_g^2 d\mu_g = \int_M e^{2\check{\phi}} |\check{L}|_\delta^2 d\mu_\delta \geq \int_{[r_1, 1] \times S^1} 2e^{2\check{\phi}} |\check{f}|^2 d\mu_\delta.$$

In the unit-disc Poincaré model the conformal factor $e^{-\check{\phi}}$ behaves as $1/(1-r)$ for r near to 1, which leads to the condition

$$\int_{r_1}^1 \oint (1-r)^2 |\check{L}|_\delta^2 dr d\varphi = 2 \int_{r_1}^1 \oint (1-r)^2 |\check{f}|^2 dr d\varphi < \infty.$$

This will be satisfied if

$$|\check{f}| = O\left((1-r)^{-\alpha}\right) \text{ with } \alpha < 3/2. \tag{3.28}$$

In particular, for functions \check{f} which are meromorphic in a \mathbb{C} -neighborhood of S^1 , the condition allows \check{f} to have poles of order one on the unit circle, but not higher.

3.8. The Lichnerowicz equation

With the scaling (3.4), the scalar curvature becomes

$$R_{\check{g}} = e^{-2u} (R_g - 2\Delta_g u), \tag{3.29}$$

where

$$\Delta_g v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det g}} \partial_k \left(\sqrt{\det g} g^{kl} \partial_l v \right)$$

is the Beltrami–Laplace operator, which under conformal rescalings $g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}$ transforms as

$$\Delta_g = e^{2u} \Delta_{\tilde{g}}. \tag{3.30}$$

We set

$$L^{ij} = K^{ij} - \frac{\text{tr} K}{2} g^{ij}, \tag{3.31}$$

without necessarily assuming that $\text{tr} K$ is constant. Then

$$|K|_g^2 = |L|_g^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr}_g K)^2, \tag{3.32}$$

which leads to the following form of the scalar constraint equation:

$$2\Delta_{\tilde{g}} u = -R_{\tilde{g}} + e^{2u} |\tilde{L}|_{\tilde{g}}^2 + e^{-2u} (2\Lambda_\tau + \rho), \tag{3.33}$$

with

$$\Lambda_\tau = \Lambda - \frac{1}{4} (\text{tr}_g K)^2.$$

To avoid ambiguities: \tilde{g} is a seed metric, which can be prescribed arbitrarily, and the conformally rescaled metric g is the initial data metric which is required to satisfy the scalar constraint equation.

In what follows, unless explicitly specified otherwise we will assume that

$$\Lambda_\tau < 0. \tag{3.34}$$

3.9. Boundary regularity

We first consider the vacuum case, $\rho = 0 = J^i$. We assume that $\text{tr} K$ approaches a constant as the conformal boundary at infinity, say $\{x = 0\}$, is approached; otherwise, the metric is unlikely to be locally asymptotically hyperbolic (ALH). Redefining Λ as

$$\Lambda \mapsto \Lambda - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\text{tr} K)^2}{4} < 0, \tag{3.35}$$

shifting K_{ij} by its asymptotic trace, and rescaling the metric by a constant, we can without loss of generality assume that

$$\Lambda = -2, \quad \text{tr} K \rightarrow_{x \rightarrow 0} 0. \tag{3.36}$$

Let us assume further that $R_{\tilde{g}} = -2$ near the conformal boundary (compare remark 2.1). Near every point at the conformal boundary, we can then find *local* coordinates so that \tilde{g} takes the form (3.3) with $f_2 = 0$

$$\tilde{g} = x^{-2} (dx^2 + dy^2). \tag{3.37}$$

Since $\text{tr} K = O(x)$, we have the following asymptotics

$$\frac{1}{4} (\text{tr} K)^2 = k_2(y)x^2 + k_3(y)x^3 + \dots \tag{3.38}$$

Let us further assume that \check{L}^{ij} extends smoothly to $\{x = 0\}$ in these coordinates; recall that this will be the case for TT tensors \check{L} arising from a function \check{f} which is holomorphic near $\{x = 0\}$, as in section 3.4. Then

$$\check{L}^{ij} = O(1), \tag{3.39}$$

$$\tilde{L}^{ij} = x^4 \check{L}^{ij} = O(x^4), \tag{3.40}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\tilde{L}|_{\check{g}}^2 &= x^{-4} \tilde{L}^{ij} \tilde{L}^{ij} \\ &= \ell_4(y) x^4 + \ell_5(y) x^5 + \dots \end{aligned} \tag{3.41}$$

Appendix B guarantees existence, uniqueness, and polyhomogeneity of solutions of the associated solutions of constraint equations when $\text{tr} K \equiv 0$. A similar result can be obtained by perturbation methods for small non-constant $\text{tr} K$ which extend smoothly across the conformal boundary.

Inserting the asymptotic expansions above in the Lichnerowicz equation (3.33) one finds the following polyhomogeneous expansion of u , for small x :

$$u(x, y) = -\frac{k_2(y)}{3} x^2 \log(x) + u_2(y) x^2 - \frac{k_3(y)}{4} x^3 + O(x^4 \log^2(x)), \tag{3.42}$$

with a function u_2 which is uniquely defined by (M, \check{g}) up to asymptotic symmetries [33].

If $k_2 \equiv 0$, an identical calculation gives instead

$$\frac{1}{4} (\text{tr} K)^2 = k_4(y) x^4 + k_5(y) x^5 + \dots \tag{3.43}$$

It follows from [2] (compare appendix B below) that the solutions are then conformally smooth, with

$$u(x, y) = u_2(y) x^2 + \frac{1}{20} \left(-2k_4(y) + \ell_4(y) - 2u_2''(y) - 4u_2(y)^2 \right) x^4 + O(x^5). \tag{3.44}$$

In particular, in the CMC case the solutions are conformally smooth.

3.10. Explicit solutions of the vacuum Cauchy problem

Let (Σ, γ) be a two-dimensional Riemannian manifold and suppose that the Ricci scalar $R(\gamma)$ of γ satisfies

$$R(\gamma) = -2\sigma^2 + |K|_{\gamma}^2 - (\text{tr}_{\gamma} K)^2, \tag{3.45}$$

where $\sigma > 0$ is a constant, and where the symmetric tensor field K_{ab} satisfies the two-dimensional vacuum vector constraint equation,

$$D_a (K^{ab} - \text{tr}_{\gamma} K \gamma^{ab}) = 0.$$

Then the metrics (cf e.g. [42])

$$\begin{aligned} g &= -dt^2 + \gamma^{ab} (\cos(\sigma t) \gamma_{ac} + \sigma^{-1} \sin(\sigma t) K_{ac}) \\ &\quad \times (\cos(\sigma t) \gamma_{bd} + \sigma^{-1} \sin(\sigma t) K_{bd}) dx^c dx^d \end{aligned} \tag{3.46}$$

satisfy the vacuum Einstein equations with a negative cosmological constant. The extrinsic curvature tensor of $\{t=0\}$ equals K . The hypersurface $\{t=0\} \approx \Sigma$ has CMC if the γ -trace of K is constant, vanishing if the trace of K vanishes.

The tensor fields (3.46) are globally defined on $\mathbb{R} \times \Sigma$ but the signature always drops down at the non-empty set of spacetime points at which $\cos(\sigma t)\gamma_{ac} + \sigma^{-1}\sin(\sigma t)K_{ac}$ degenerates. The nature of the boundaries that so arise requires careful analysis, we will return to this elsewhere. When $K \equiv 0$ one obtains a subset of the anti-de Sitter spacetime; cf e.g. [39, chapter 5].

One can take (γ, K) to be ALH, in which case (3.46) provides an explicit evolution of the vacuum data discussed in the previous sections. In such a case the initial data manifold (Σ, γ) has a smooth conformal completion at infinity. Whether or not the spacetime obtained by evolution of the data (Σ, γ, K) has such a completion requires further analysis.

Configurations where γ_{ab} has several ALH ends, with non-zero K_{ab} vanishing at large distances, contain compact marginally outer trapped surfaces [3, 37]. Such surfaces are often accompanied by event horizons, and if so the associated spacetimes would describe dynamical black holes. But note that the usual notion of event horizon requires a conformal completion at infinity, the existence of which will be analysed elsewhere.

When Σ is compact one obtains an explicit form of the spacetimes considered in e.g. [54, 55, 61], but not in a CMC time-slicing.

A complete description of $(2+1)$ -dimensional maximal globally hyperbolic vacuum spacetimes with a negative or vanishing cosmological constant can be found in [1, 9, 17, 52], and in [58] with positive Λ .

We finally note the positive-cosmological-constant counterpart of the metrics (3.46):

$$g = -dt^2 + \gamma^{ab} (\cosh(\sigma t)\gamma_{ac} + \sigma^{-1}\sinh(\sigma t)K_{ac}) \\ \times (\cosh(\sigma t)\gamma_{bd} + \sigma^{-1}\sinh(\sigma t)K_{bd}) dx^c dx^d. \quad (3.47)$$

These will satisfy the Einstein equations with a positive cosmological constant if K satisfies again the vacuum vector constraint equation and if

$$R(\gamma) = 2\sigma^2 + |K|_\gamma^2 - (\text{tr}_\gamma K)^2. \quad (3.48)$$

The metrics in this section are the Lorentzian counterpart of the Riemannian metrics written-down by Uhlenbeck in [60]⁶. The fact that they solve the Einstein equations follow from the calculations there, together with a straightforward variation of the usual constraint-propagations argument.

4. Angular momentum and mass

Global invariants such as energy, momentum, and angular momentum, provide useful information about three-dimensional general relativistic initial data sets. For example, suitably regular, say vacuum, AH initial data sets with vanishing *mass* can be embedded in Anti-de Sitter spacetime. Another example is provided by the statement that stationary, again suitably regular, asymptotically flat vacuum spacetimes with vanishing *angular momentum* are static. Therefore it is of interest to reexamine these invariants in the context of two-dimensional initial data sets.

⁶ We are grateful to Andre Neves for bringing this paper to our attention, and to Lan-Hsuan Huang for sharing her notes on the Uhlenbeck metrics.

Consider then an $(n + 1)$ -dimensional spacetime containing a spacelike hypersurface \mathcal{S} . On \mathcal{S} consider the collection of general relativistic initial data sets (g, K) which asymptote to background fields $(\mathring{g}, \mathring{K})$ induced by a spacetime background metric \mathring{g} . Let \mathring{X} be a Killing vector field of \mathring{g} , let \mathring{Y} denote the part of \mathring{X} tangent to \mathcal{S} , as decomposed with respect to \mathring{g} , and let \mathring{V} denote its component along the \mathring{g} -unit normal to \mathcal{S} . Suppose that the spacetime contains a region $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext}} \subset \mathcal{M}$ together with a diffeomorphism

$$\Phi^{-1} : \mathcal{M}_{\text{ext}} \rightarrow [R_0, \infty) \times N^{n-1}, \quad (4.1)$$

for some $R_0 \in \mathbb{R}$, where N^{n-1} is a compact $(n - 1)$ -dimensional manifold. It was shown in [30] that the Hamiltonian charge associated with the flow of \mathring{X} equals

$$H(\mathring{V}, \mathring{Y}) := c_n \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r \circ \Phi^{-1} = R} \left(\mathbb{U}^i(\mathring{V}) + \mathbb{V}^i(\mathring{Y}) \right) dS_i, \quad (4.2)$$

with dS_i being the hypersurface form $\partial_i | dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$, and where

$$\mathbb{U}^i(\mathring{V}) := 2\sqrt{\det g} \left(\mathring{V} g^{i[k} g^{j]l} \mathring{D}_j g_{kl} + D^{[i} \mathring{V} g^{j]k} e_{jk} \right), \quad (4.3)$$

$$\mathbb{V}^i(\mathring{Y}) := 2\sqrt{\det g} \left[\left(P^l_k - \mathring{P}^l_k \right) \mathring{Y}^k - \frac{1}{2} \mathring{Y}^l \mathring{P}^{mn} e_{mn} + \frac{1}{2} \mathring{Y}^k \mathring{P}^l_k \mathring{g}^{mn} e_{mn} \right], \quad (4.4)$$

with

$$P^{kl} := g^{kl} \text{tr}_g K - K^{kl}, \quad \text{tr}_g K := g^{kl} K_{kl}, \quad (4.5)$$

$$e_{ij} := g_{ij} - \mathring{g}_{ij},$$

and with \mathring{D} denoting the Levi–Civita covariant derivative of \mathring{g} . Similar relations for \mathring{K} and \mathring{P} . Indices on K and P are moved with g while those on \mathring{K} and \mathring{P} with \mathring{g} . Here, (anti)symmetrization of two-tensors is defined with a factor $1/2$. The formulae apply in all space-dimensions $n \geq 2$, and we choose the dimension-dependent multiplicative constant c_n in (4.2) to be equal $1/(2\pi)$ when $n = 2$.

It follows from the Killing equations that the function \mathring{V} and the vector field \mathring{Y} are solutions of the *background Killing initial data (KID) equations* [14, 30]. So, an equivalent perspective is to consider the Hamiltonian charges as being associated with the solutions $(\mathring{V}, \mathring{Y})$ of these equations, called KIDs.

4.1. Bañados metrics

Let us choose the background spacetime metric to be

$$\mathring{g} = -r^2 dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{r^2} + r^2 d\varphi^2. \quad (4.6)$$

The Riemannian background metric \mathring{g} induced on the level sets of t , and the background extrinsic curvature \mathring{K} of these level sets read

$$\mathring{g} = (\theta^2)^2 + (\theta^1)^2, \quad \mathring{K}_{ij} = 0, \quad (4.7)$$

where we use the following $\mathring{\mathbf{g}}$ -orthonormal frame

$$\left\{ \theta^2 = \frac{dr}{r}, \theta^1 = rd\varphi, \theta^0 = rdt \right\}. \quad (4.8)$$

The Cauchy data (g, K) induced on the level sets of t by \mathbf{g} , given by (2.4), are found to be

$$g = \theta^2\theta^2 + (1 + (\mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi) + \mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi))r^{-2} + \mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi)\mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi)r^{-4})\theta^1\theta^1 \\ =: \mathring{g} + r^{-2}\mu_{ij}\theta^i\theta^j + O(r^{-4}), \quad (4.9)$$

$$K = \left(\frac{2(\mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi) - \mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi))}{r^2} + O(r^{-4}) \right) \theta^1\theta^2 \\ - \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}'_-(t-\varphi) + \mathcal{L}'_+(t+\varphi)}{2r^3} + O(r^{-5}) \right) \theta^1\theta^1, \quad (4.10)$$

where $f'(x) = df(x)/dx$, and where K is defined using the future pointing normal.

We define the total Hamiltonian mass H , respectively the total angular momentum J , as the Hamiltonian associated with time translations, respectively with rotations. One has (see [33] and references therein for an analysis of H)

$$H := H(\mathring{\mathbf{V}} = r, 0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} (\mu_{22} + 2\mu_{11}) d\varphi, \quad (4.11)$$

$$J := H(0, \partial_\varphi) = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{r=R} P^r_\varphi \sqrt{\det g} d\varphi. \quad (4.12)$$

The integrand of the $1/(2\pi)$ -normalized total mass integral will be called the *mass aspect function*, denoted by μ , and reads

$$\mu := \mu_{22} + 2\mu_{11} = 2(\mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi) + \mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi)). \quad (4.13)$$

The integrand, say j , of the limit, as r tends to infinity, of $1/(2\pi)$ -normalized total angular momentum integral on circles of constant t and r , equals

$$j = 2(\mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi) - \mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi)). \quad (4.14)$$

We will refer to j as the *angular-momentum aspect function*.

We note that for the metrics under consideration we have

$$(\partial_t + \partial_\varphi)(\mu + j) = 0, \quad (\partial_t - \partial_\varphi)(\mu - j) = 0, \quad (4.15)$$

in particular both μ and j satisfy the two-dimensional wave equation.

Upon imposing

$$\mathcal{L}_-(t-\varphi) - \mathcal{L}_+(t+\varphi) = 0 \text{ and } \mathcal{L}'_-(t-\varphi) + \mathcal{L}'_+(t+\varphi) = 0 \quad (4.16)$$

the extrinsic curvature tensor of the level sets of t vanishes.

4.1.1. *Example: BTZ black holes.* As an example, in the case of BTZ black holes (2.6) the spacetime metric can be written as

$$\mathbf{g} = -(\bar{r}^2 - M) dt^2 + \frac{4\bar{r}^2 d\bar{r}^2}{J^2 - 4M\bar{r}^2 + 4\bar{r}^4} - J d\bar{r} d\varphi + \bar{r}^2 d\varphi^2, \quad (4.17)$$

for some constants M and J , where the radial coordinates in (2.6) and (4.17) are related by

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{\frac{J^2}{4} - M\bar{r}^2 + \bar{r}^4} - \frac{M}{2} + \bar{r}^2}{\sqrt{2}}} \quad (4.18)$$

outside the outer horizon, i.e. $\bar{r} > \bar{r}_+$, where $\bar{r}_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(M \pm \sqrt{M^2 - J^2})}$. This gives

$$g = \bar{\theta}^1 \bar{\theta}^1 + \left(1 + \frac{M}{\bar{r}^2} + \frac{M^2 - J^2/4}{\bar{r}^4} + O(\bar{r}^{-6})\right) \bar{\theta}^2 \bar{\theta}^2, \quad (4.19)$$

$$K = -\left(\frac{J}{\bar{r}^2} + O(\bar{r}^{-4})\right) \bar{\theta}^1 \bar{\theta}^2, \quad (4.20)$$

where

$$\bar{\theta}^2 = \frac{d\bar{r}}{\bar{r}}, \quad \bar{\theta}^1 = \bar{r} d\varphi, \quad \bar{\theta}^0 = \bar{r} dt. \quad (4.21)$$

Evaluating the integral (4.11) one finds $H = M$, with the angular-momentum integral (4.12) reproducing the parameter J appearing in (4.17).

4.2. Asymptotic symmetries

We consider coordinate transformations of the form

$$\begin{aligned} x^+ &= v_+(\bar{x}^+) + \frac{v'_+(\bar{x}^+)v''_-(\bar{x}^-)}{2\bar{r}^2v'_-(\bar{x}^-)} \\ &\quad + \frac{v''_+(\bar{x}^+)(4\mathcal{L}_-(v_-(\bar{x}^-))v'_-(\bar{x}^-)^4 + v''_-(\bar{x}^-)^2)}{8\bar{r}^4v'_-(\bar{x}^-)^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{\bar{r}^6}\right), \\ x^- &= v_-(\bar{x}^-) + \frac{v'_-(\bar{x}^-)v''_+(\bar{x}^+)}{2\bar{r}^2v'_+(\bar{x}^+)} \\ &\quad + \frac{v''_-(\bar{x}^-)(4\mathcal{L}_+(v_+(\bar{x}^+))v'_+(\bar{x}^+)^4 + v''_+(\bar{x}^+)^2)}{8\bar{r}^4v'_+(\bar{x}^+)^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{\bar{r}^6}\right), \\ r &= \frac{\bar{r}}{\sqrt{v'_+(\bar{x}^+)v'_-(\bar{x}^-)}} - \frac{v''_-(\bar{x}^-)v''_+(\bar{x}^+)}{4\bar{r}\sqrt{v'_-(\bar{x}^-)v'_+(\bar{x}^+)}} + O\left(\frac{1}{\bar{r}^3}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (4.22)$$

where v_{\pm} are, say smooth, functions satisfying

$$v_-(\bar{x}^- + 2\pi) = v_-(\bar{x}^-) + 2\pi, \quad v_+(\bar{x}^+ + 2\pi) = v_+(\bar{x}^+) + 2\pi.$$

These transformations preserve the precise form (2.4) of the metric, to the order induced by (4.22), with \mathcal{L}_\pm replaced by new functions $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_\pm$ given by

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_+(\bar{x}^+) = \mathcal{L}_+(v_+(\bar{x}^+)) v_+^{\prime 2}(\bar{x}^+) - \frac{1}{2} \hat{S}[v_+'](\bar{x}^+), \quad (4.23a)$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_-(\bar{x}^-) = \mathcal{L}_-(v_-(\bar{x}^-)) v_-^{\prime 2}(\bar{x}^-) - \frac{1}{2} \hat{S}[v_-'](\bar{x}^-), \quad (4.23b)$$

where

$$\hat{S}[f'](x) \equiv S[f](x) := \frac{f^{(3)}(x)}{f'(x)} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{f''(x)}{f'(x)} \right)^2, \quad (4.24)$$

and where $S[f](x)$ denotes the Schwarzian derivative.

Let us write the coordinate transformation (4.22) as

$$t + \varphi = v_+(\bar{t} + \bar{\varphi}) + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}), \quad t - \varphi = v_-(\bar{t} - \bar{\varphi}) + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}), \quad (4.25)$$

$$r = f(\bar{t} + \bar{\varphi}, \bar{t} - \bar{\varphi}, \bar{r}). \quad (4.26)$$

Equivalently, and in more detail as needed later,

$$t = \frac{1}{2}(v_+ + v_-) + \frac{(v_+')^2 v_-'' + (v_-')^2 v_+''}{4\bar{r}^2 v_-' v_+'} + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-4}), \quad (4.27)$$

$$\varphi = \frac{1}{2}(v_+ - v_-) + \frac{(v_+')^2 v_-'' - (v_-')^2 v_+''}{4\bar{r}^2 v_-' v_+'} + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-4}), \quad (4.28)$$

$$r = \frac{\bar{r}}{\sqrt{v_+' v_-'}} + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-1}). \quad (4.29)$$

It holds that

$$(\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t = (v_+)' + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}), \quad (\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t = (v_-)' + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}), \quad (4.30)$$

$$(\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})\varphi = (v_+)' + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}), \quad (\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})\varphi = -(v_-)' + \mathcal{O}(\bar{r}^{-2}). \quad (4.31)$$

This leads to the following transformation law of the mass aspect and of the angular momentum aspect:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \mapsto \bar{\mu} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[(\mu - j) ((\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 + (\mu + j) ((\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 \right] \\ &\quad - \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t] - \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t] \end{aligned} \quad (4.32)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mu \left((\partial_{\bar{\varphi}}t)^2 + (\partial_{\bar{t}}t)^2 \right) - 2j \partial_{\bar{\varphi}}t \partial_{\bar{t}}t - \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t] \\ &\quad - \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t], \end{aligned} \quad (4.33)$$

$$\begin{aligned} j \mapsto \bar{j} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[(\mu + j) ((\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 - (\mu - j) ((\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 \right] \\ &\quad - \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t] + \hat{S}[(\partial_{\bar{t}} + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t] \end{aligned} \quad (4.34)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= j \left((\partial_{\bar{\varphi}} t)^2 + (\partial_t t)^2 \right) - 2\mu \partial_{\bar{\varphi}} t \partial_t t - \hat{S} [(\partial_t - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}}) t] \\
&\quad + \hat{S} [(\partial_t + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}}) t].
\end{aligned} \tag{4.35}$$

A comment is in order here. It follows from (4.30) and (4.31) that the limits, as \bar{r} tends to infinity, of $(\partial_t \pm \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t$ are functions of one variable only. The operator \hat{S} appearing in the last set of equations and which, by definition, acts on functions of one variable, has to be understood as acting on these limits. To be precise: all occurrences of $\hat{S}[(\partial_t + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t]$ are functions of $(\bar{t} + \bar{\varphi})$, and all occurrences of $\hat{S}[(\partial_t - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t]$ are functions of $(\bar{t} - \bar{\varphi})$.

We see that both aspect functions have a rather complicated transformation law, with $\mu \pm j = 4\mathcal{L}_{\mp}$ transforming independently:

$$\mu + j \mapsto \bar{\mu} + \bar{j} = (\mu + j) ((\partial_t - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 - 2\hat{S}[(\partial_t - \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t], \tag{4.36}$$

$$\mu - j \mapsto \bar{\mu} - \bar{j} = (\mu - j) ((\partial_t + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t)^2 - 2\hat{S}[(\partial_t + \partial_{\bar{\varphi}})t]. \tag{4.37}$$

It follows from the analysis in [33], based on [5, 56], that:

1. Both H and each of the integrals

$$H \pm J = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} (\mu \pm j) d\varphi \tag{4.38}$$

can be made arbitrarily large using asymptotic symmetries.

2. A sufficient, but not necessary, condition for $H + J$ to be bounded from below is $\mu + j \geq -1$; similarly for $H - J$.
3. Each of the functions $\mu \pm j$ can be assigned a *monodromy type*. The type allows one to find a canonical form of $\mu \pm j$ which is achievable by applying an asymptotic symmetry. A constant value of $\mu + j$ can be attained if and only if $\mu + j$ is either of hyperbolic type \mathcal{H}_0 , or of elliptic type \mathcal{E}_m , $m \in \mathbb{R}_{<0}$, or of parabolic type \mathcal{P}_0 ; similarly for $\mu - j$.
4. Suppose that $\mu + j$ is of hyperbolic type \mathcal{H}_0 , or of parabolic type \mathcal{P}_0 , or of elliptic type \mathcal{E}_m with $m \geq -1$. We will refer to such functions as *good type*. For such functions the integral $H + J$ is bounded from below, and a unique value of $H + J$ can be obtained by minimizing over asymptotic symmetries. The minimum value is achieved by an asymptotic symmetry which renders $\mu + j$ constant.

It follows from (4.23) that, in the class of metrics (2.4) the value of $H + J$ can be changed while leaving $H - J$ unchanged.

For the remaining types, namely \mathcal{H}_n , \mathcal{P}_n^q , with $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, $q \in \{\pm 1\}$, and \mathcal{E}_m with $m < -1$, which we will refer to as *bad*, the integral $H + J$ can achieve arbitrary values (both positive and negative) by applying an asymptotic symmetry [5] (compare [33]), with one exception. Namely $H + J$ is bounded from below by -1 for the type \mathcal{P}_1^{-1} , can be made arbitrarily close to -1 by a choice of asymptotic gauge, but -1 is never attained by a choice of gauge. We will refer to the \mathcal{P}_1^{-1} type as *marginal*.

Similarly there exist ‘bad’ functions $\mu - j$ such that the integral $H - J$ can achieve arbitrary values by applying an asymptotic symmetry, while leaving $H + J$ unchanged.

5. Let $(M, g, K = 0)$ be obtained by a Maskit-gluing, reviewed in section 6 below, of two ALH time symmetric initial data sets. In [33] explicit formulae have been given for the aspect function μ of the glued metrics, and the type of μ , in terms of the original ones.

Since

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(H+J) + \frac{1}{2}(H-J), \quad (4.39)$$

with each part transforming independently, whenever either of the functions $\mu \pm j$ is in the ‘bad’ class, H can achieve arbitrary values.

So, a meaningful value of mass can only be assigned to a spacetime when both functions $\mu \pm j$ belong to a class where the associated integrals $H \pm J$ are bounded from below. In such cases a unique number, larger than or equal to -1 , can be assigned by minimization to each of $H \pm J$.

Alternatively, one may want to assign mass and angular momentum to a given Cauchy surface. In such a case only those asymptotic symmetries which preserve the initial data hypersurface are relevant. Assuming that this hypersurface is given by $\{t=0\}$, a necessary and sufficient condition for this is (cf (4.27) with the error-terms set to zero there)

$$v_+(\bar{\varphi}) = -v_-(-\bar{\varphi}). \quad (4.40)$$

Under such transformations the mass aspect μ transforms as

$$\mu \mapsto \bar{\mu}(\bar{\varphi}) = (\mu \circ v_+)(\bar{\varphi}) (v'_+(\bar{\varphi}))^2 - 2\hat{S}[v'_+(\bar{\varphi})]. \quad (4.41)$$

We can associate a number $\underline{H} \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ to the section $\{t=0\}$ of the conformal boundary at infinity by setting

$$\underline{H} = \inf H, \quad (4.42)$$

where the infimum is taken over asymptotic symmetries satisfying (4.40).

For the angular momentum aspect we find

$$j \mapsto \bar{j}(\bar{\varphi}) = (j \circ v_+)(\bar{\varphi}) (v'_+(\bar{\varphi}))^2. \quad (4.43)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{J} &:= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\bar{r}=R} P_{\bar{\varphi}}^{\bar{r}} \sqrt{\det g} d\bar{\varphi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} j(v_+(\bar{\varphi})) (v'_+(\bar{\varphi}))^2 d\bar{\varphi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} j(\varphi) (v'_+ \circ v_+^{-1})(\varphi) d\varphi \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \frac{j(\varphi)}{(v_+^{-1})'(\varphi)} d\varphi. \end{aligned} \quad (4.44)$$

We conclude that a choice of a section of the conformal boundary does not resolve the ambiguities in the definition of J either.

Note that on a given Cauchy surface both $\mu + j$ and $\mu - j$ transform in the same way as μ ;

$$\mu \pm j \mapsto (\bar{\mu} \pm \bar{j})(\bar{\varphi}) = ((\bar{\mu} \pm \bar{j}) \circ v_+)(\bar{\varphi}) (v'_+(\bar{\varphi}))^2 - 2\hat{S}[v'_+(\bar{\varphi})]. \quad (4.45)$$

Now, if a mass $\underline{H} > -\infty$ can be defined by minimizing H , and a gauge minimizing \underline{H} exists, we set

$$\underline{J} = J,$$

where the integral defining J is calculated in the gauge which minimizes H .

When the mass aspect function μ is marginal, in the context of theorem 4.1 we set

$$\underline{J} = 0. \tag{4.46}$$

The reason for this will be made clear below.

In fact, we conjecture that a marginal mass aspect cannot occur under the hypotheses of the theorems that follow, but we have not been able to exclude this possibility.

For definiteness, we will say that an initial data set (M, g, K) is ALH if the fields (g, K) have asymptotic expansions in the spirit of in (4.9) and (4.10), with M viewed as the hypersurface $\{t = 0\}$:

$$g = \mathring{g} + (\mu_{ij}r^{-2} + o(r^{-2})) \theta^i \theta^j, \tag{4.47}$$

$$K = -j r^{-2} \theta^1 \theta^2 + o(r^{-2}) \theta^i \theta^j, \tag{4.48}$$

and with the error terms behaving in the obvious way under differentiation.

Let $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$. We say that a boundary ∂M of M is *weakly future γ -trapped* if the null expansion scalar θ of ∂M , defined with respect to a null normal which points to the future and towards M , satisfies

$$\theta \leq \gamma.$$

We will say that ∂M is weakly γ -trapped if a time orientation can be chosen so that it is weakly future γ -trapped.

In section 4.4 we will show:

Theorem 4.1. *Let (M, g) be a smooth, complete Riemannian manifold, possibly with a compact weakly 1-trapped boundary, and suppose that (M, g, K) satisfies the dominant energy condition. If (M, g, K) contains a ALH end, then both $\mu + j$ and $\mu - j$ are of good or marginal type and*

$$\underline{H} + 1 \geq |\underline{J}| + \sqrt{|\vec{\underline{C}}|^2 + |\vec{\underline{H}}|^2 + 2|\star(\vec{\underline{H}} \wedge \vec{\underline{C}})|}, \tag{4.49}$$

where $\vec{\underline{C}}$ and $\vec{\underline{H}}$ are defined in section 4.3 below.

Equality in (4.49) is achieved on hyperbolic space.

The inequality (4.49) is complemented by a second inequality if M has a weakly 1-trapped compact boundary, or if more is known about the geometry of M :

Theorem 4.2. *Under the remaining conditions of theorem 4.1, suppose that (M, g) has either a non-empty weakly 1-trapped compact boundary or at least two ALH ends. Then, in addition to (4.49) we have*

$$\underline{H} \geq |\underline{J}|. \tag{4.50}$$

The equality in (4.50) is attained on extremal BTZ black holes.

Remark 4.3. From what has been said it follows that if $\underline{H} > -1$, then there exists an asymptotic symmetry which preserves the initial data surface and renders the mass aspect function constant, equal to \underline{H} .

Both the angular momentum aspect and the mass aspect can be rendered constant if the associated spacetime has a sufficiently large conformal completion at infinity, as making both these functions constant simultaneously typically requires passing to another hypersurface in spacetime. \square

In the presence of boundaries with $\theta = 0$ one expects a Penrose-type inequality

$$\underline{H} \geq \left(\frac{\ell}{2\pi}\right)^2, \tag{4.51}$$

where ℓ is the length of ∂M , with the lower bound attained for all BTZ black holes. Some evidence towards this has been given in [33].

4.3. Small perturbations of hyperbolic space

In this section we shall prove theorem 4.1 for a large class of small perturbations of hyperbolic space with scalar curvature bounded from below by -2 . The result applies to general relativistic data sets satisfying the dominant energy condition on maximal surfaces, $\text{tr}_g K = 0$. From the perspective of theorem 4.1 the calculations here are made obsolete by the arguments in section 4.4, but we believe they have some interest of their own.

A comment on the choice of normalization of the Hamiltonian mass is in order. In (4.49) the zero-point of the mass has been chosen so that the mass is positive for all BTZ black holes, which leads to $H = -1$ for hyperbolic space. This normalization is not natural for perturbations of hyperbolic space, where further Hamiltonian charges are present. Indeed, recall that Hamiltonian charges are associated with Killing vector fields of the Lorentzian background. For static ALH metrics *other than Anti-de Sitter spacetime*, the space of such Killing vectors splits into a *one-dimensional* space of vector fields normal to the time-symmetric slices, say \mathcal{S}_t , and into tangential Killing vector fields, if any. On the other hand, the $(n + 1)$ -dimensional Anti-de Sitter spacetime itself has an $(n + 1)$ -dimensional space of Killing vectors normal to \mathcal{S}_t . In the coordinate system in which the hyperbolic metric \bar{g} takes the form

$$\bar{g} = \frac{dr^2}{1+r^2} + r^2 d\Omega^2, \tag{4.52}$$

where $d\Omega^2$ is the round metric on S^{n-1} , the space of \bar{g} -normal Killing vectors of \bar{g} is spanned by vector fields whose normal components are

$$V^0 = \sqrt{1+r^2}, \quad V^i = x^i. \tag{4.53}$$

One sets

$$H^\mu := H(V^\mu, 0), \tag{4.54}$$

where H is given by (4.2). Under the usual decay conditions for a well-defined mass, under isometries of hyperbolic space the ‘three-vector’

$$(H^\mu) \equiv (H^0, \vec{H})$$

transforms as a Lorentz vector. The remaining KIDs are linear combinations of the fields (cf equation (3.6) in [31] for the formulae in the Poincaré ball model)

$$\Omega_{ki} = x^k \partial_i - x^i \partial_k, \tag{4.55}$$

where $1 \leq k < i \leq n$, and

$$\mathcal{C}_k = \sqrt{1+r^2} \partial_k. \tag{4.56}$$

The charge associated to \mathcal{C}_k will be referred to as *center of mass*

$$\vec{C} := H(0, \vec{\mathcal{C}}), \tag{4.57}$$

whereas the charge associated to Ω_{ki} will be referred to as *angular momentum*

$$\mathcal{J}_{ki} := H(0, \Omega_{ki}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & J_i \\ -J_i & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{4.58}$$

A natural class of metrics associated with the background (4.52) is provided by the ALH metrics (4.47), which can be rewritten in the form

$$g = \bar{g} + \left(\frac{\bar{\mu}_{ij}}{r^n} + o(r^{-n}) \right) \bar{\theta}^i \bar{\theta}^j, \quad \bar{\theta}^n = \frac{dr}{\sqrt{1+r^2}}, \quad \bar{\theta}^a = r\psi^a, \tag{4.59}$$

where $\{\psi^a\}_{a=1}^{n-1}$ is an orthonormal frame for the metric $d\Omega^2$, with $\partial_r \bar{\mu}_{ij} = 0$. In space-dimension $n = 2$ a calculation gives

$$H^0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \underbrace{(\bar{\mu}_{22} + 2\bar{\mu}_{11})}_{=: \bar{\mu}} d\varphi, \tag{4.60}$$

$$H^1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \cos(\varphi) \bar{\mu} d\varphi, \tag{4.61}$$

$$H^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \sin(\varphi) \bar{\mu} d\varphi, \tag{4.62}$$

and for ALH initial data as in (4.47) and (4.48) we further have

$$C^1 = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \sin(\varphi) j d\varphi, \tag{4.63}$$

$$C^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \cos(\varphi) j d\varphi. \tag{4.64}$$

Remark 4.4. Still in dimension $n = 2$, consider metrics of the form

$$g = \hat{g} + \left(\hat{x}^2 \hat{\mu}_{ij} + o(\hat{x}^2) \right) \hat{\theta}^i \hat{\theta}^j, \quad \text{with } \hat{\theta}^1 := \frac{d\hat{y}}{\hat{x}}, \quad \hat{\theta}^2 := \frac{d\hat{x}}{\hat{x}}, \tag{4.65}$$

with $\partial_{\hat{x}} \hat{\mu}_{ij} = 0$, where

$$\hat{g} = \frac{d\hat{x}^2 + d\hat{y}^2}{\hat{x}^2}. \tag{4.66}$$

For such metrics a *mass aspect function* $\hat{\mu}$ can be defined as in (4.13) or in (4.60):

$$\hat{\mu} := \hat{\mu}_{22} + 2\hat{\mu}_{11}. \tag{4.67}$$

There is a simple relation between $\hat{\mu}$ and $\bar{\mu}$. Indeed, the metrics (4.59) can be rewritten in the form (4.65) by setting $\hat{x} = 1/r, \hat{y} = \varphi$, which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{g} &= \frac{dr^2}{1+r^2} + r^2 d\varphi^2 + \left(\frac{\bar{\mu}_{ij}}{r^2} + o(r^{-2})\right) \bar{\theta}^i \bar{\theta}^j \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{r^2} + O(r^{-4})\right) \frac{dr^2}{r^2} + r^{-2} d\varphi^2 + \left(\frac{\bar{\mu}_{ij}}{r^2} + o(r^{-2})\right) \bar{\theta}^i \bar{\theta}^j \\ &= \hat{g} + (\bar{\mu}_{22} - 1 + o(1)) \hat{\theta}^2 \hat{\theta}^2 + \sum_{ij \neq 22} (\bar{\mu}_{ij} + o(1)) \hat{\theta}^i \hat{\theta}^j. \end{aligned} \tag{4.68}$$

It follows that $\hat{\mu} = \bar{\mu} - 1$ and

$$H^0 = H + 1, \tag{4.69}$$

with H defined as in (4.7)–(4.11). Note that

$$H^1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \cos(\varphi) \bar{\mu} d\varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \cos(\varphi) \mu d\varphi, \tag{4.70}$$

$$H^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \sin(\varphi) \bar{\mu} d\varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \sin(\varphi) \mu d\varphi, \tag{4.71}$$

where $\mu = \mu_{22} + 2\mu_{11}$, with μ_{ij} as in (4.47). □

Remark 4.5. In remark 4.4 we assumed implicitly that φ is a coordinate on S^1 , hence defined mod 2π , and so would therefore be the new coordinate \hat{y} . But one can instead map directly the metric (4.52) into the form (4.66) by the coordinate transformation (A.9) of appendix A below, in which case the initial range of $\varphi \in (0, 2\pi)$ corresponds to $\hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}$. A calculation shows that the mass aspect function transforms as

$$\bar{\mu}(\varphi) = \frac{(\hat{\mu} \circ \tan)(\varphi/2)}{(1 + \cos(\varphi))^2} = \frac{1}{4} (1 + \hat{y}^2)^2 \hat{\mu}(\hat{y}). \tag{4.72}$$

For bounded functions $\bar{\mu}$ the function $\hat{\mu}$ decays as \hat{y}^{-4} when $\hat{y} \rightarrow \pm\infty$, and is *not* periodic in \hat{y} , whether or not it was in φ , unless equal to zero.

Equation (4.72) leads to

$$\begin{aligned} H^0 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \bar{\mu}(\varphi) d\varphi \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\mu}(\hat{y}) \frac{1 + \hat{y}^2}{2} d\hat{y}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.73}$$

We emphasize that we are *not* using this correspondence in what follows, but that of remark 4.4. □

Let us pass now to our main argument. In [13] the following identity has been derived for small perturbations of the hyperbolic space metric \bar{g} , in space-dimension n :

$$\begin{aligned}
H(V, 0) &= \int_M \left[R - \bar{R} + \frac{n+2}{8n} |\bar{D}\phi|_{\bar{g}}^2 + \frac{n-2}{4n} |\bar{D}\hat{h}|_{\bar{g}}^2 + \frac{n^2-4}{8n} \phi^2 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2n} \left(|\bar{D}\hat{h}|_{\bar{g}}^2 + |\operatorname{div}\hat{h} - \hat{h}_{dV}|_{\bar{g}}^2 \right) \right] V d\mu_{\bar{g}} \\
&\quad - \int_M \left(\frac{1}{2} (|\check{\psi}|_{\bar{g}}^2 - \check{\psi}^i \bar{D}_i \phi) V - \left(h^k_i \check{\psi}^i + \frac{1}{2} \phi \check{\psi}^k \right) \bar{D}_k V \right. \\
&\quad \left. + O(|h|_{\bar{g}}^3) V + O(|h|_{\bar{g}} |\bar{D}h|_{\bar{g}}^2) V + O(|h|_{\bar{g}}^2 |\bar{D}h|_{\bar{g}}) |\bar{D}V|_{\bar{g}} \right) d\mu_{\bar{g}}, \tag{4.74}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$h_{ij} := g_{ij} - \bar{g}_{ij}, \tag{4.75}$$

$$\psi^j := \bar{D}_i g^{ij} \iff g^{ij} \bar{D}_i h_{j\ell} = -g_{\ell j} \psi^j, \tag{4.76}$$

$$\phi := g^{ij} h_{ij}, \quad \bar{\phi} := \bar{g}^{ij} h_{ij} = \phi + O(|h|_{\bar{g}}^2), \tag{4.77}$$

$$\check{\psi}^i := \psi^i + \frac{1}{2} g^{ik} \bar{D}_k \phi, \tag{4.78}$$

$$\check{h}_{ij} := h_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \phi g_{ij}, \quad \hat{h}_{ij} := h_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \bar{\phi} \bar{g}_{ij}. \tag{4.79}$$

Actually in [13] it was assumed that $n \geq 3$ but one readily checks that the calculations also apply with $n = 2$.

When $R \geq \bar{R}$ the Hamiltonian $H^0 \equiv H(V^0, 0)$ is manifestly positive if the *harmonicity vector* $\check{\psi}$ can be made to vanish (which is a gauge choice) or made small enough, and if the tensor field h is sufficiently small in a weighted C^1 topology, with a weight chosen so that the integrals involving the error terms converge and remain small. It has been pointed out in [13] that the gauge-choice $\check{\psi}$ can always be made when the requirements of a well-defined H^μ are met and when $n \geq 3$. So, to verify positivity of H^0 , for h small enough, when $n = 2$ it remains to check the vanishing of $\check{\psi}$ in this dimension.

Suppose thus that

$$|h| + |\bar{D}h| \leq \epsilon,$$

for some small $\epsilon > 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\check{\psi}^i &= \psi^i + \frac{1}{2} g^{ik} \bar{D}_k \phi \\
&= \bar{D}_j g^{ij} + \frac{1}{2} g^{ik} \bar{D}_k (\bar{g}^{j\ell} h_{j\ell}) + O(|h| |Dh|) \\
&= -\bar{D}^j h^i_j + O(|h| |Dh|) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}^{ik} \bar{D}_k (\bar{g}^{j\ell} h_{j\ell}) + O(|h| |Dh|). \tag{4.80}
\end{aligned}$$

Consider a vector field X satisfying

$$|X| + |\bar{D}X| + |\bar{D}\bar{D}X| \leq \epsilon. \tag{4.81}$$

Under the time-one-flow of X the tensor field g_{ij} transforms as

$$g_{ij} = \bar{g}_{ij} + h_{ij} \mapsto \bar{g}_{ij} + h_{ij} + \mathcal{L}_X \bar{g}_{ij} + O(\epsilon^2). \tag{4.82}$$

Applying the associated diffeomorphism to the metric redefines $g_{ij} - \bar{g}_{ij}$, with the leading order contribution of X to (4.80) arising from the terms

$$-\bar{D}^i (h^i_j + \mathcal{L}_X \bar{g}^i_j) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}^{ik} \bar{g}^{j\ell} \bar{D}_k (h_{j\ell} + \mathcal{L}_X \bar{g}_{j\ell}) . \tag{4.83}$$

Choosing X as the solution of the equation

$$-\bar{D}^i (\bar{D}_i X_j + \bar{D}_j X_i) + \bar{D}_i \bar{D}^j X_j = -\check{\psi}_i \tag{4.84}$$

will lead to a gauge-transformed field $\check{\psi}$ satisfying

$$\check{\psi}^i = O(\epsilon^2) , \tag{4.85}$$

which is good enough for positivity of H^0 when ϵ is small enough, provided that the relevant terms in (4.74) decay fast enough so that their order, namely $O(\epsilon^4)$, is not affected by integration.

Commuting derivatives, (4.84) can be rewritten as

$$LX^i := \Delta_{\bar{g}} X^i + \underbrace{\bar{R}^i_j X^j}_{=-(n-1)X^i} = \check{\psi}^i . \tag{4.86}$$

Since the Laplacian is negative, one readily checks that this equation has unique solutions decaying to infinity for all sources decaying sufficiently fast. In fact, from what has been said together with the implicit function theorem, we find that the gauge $\check{\psi}^i = 0$ can be achieved whatever $n \geq 2$ by a suitable coordinate transformation when ϵ is small enough.

In order to analyze the relevant decay thresholds, and the asymptotic behavior of the solutions, let us denote by x^n the defining coordinate for the conformal boundary at infinity. Near $\{x^n = 0\}$ we use Fefferman–Graham coordinates, so that \bar{g} takes there the form

$$\bar{g} = \frac{1}{(x^n)^2} \left(\underbrace{(dx^n)^2 + \exp(2\phi(x^n)) h}_{=: \hat{h}} \right) =: \exp(2\Omega) \hat{h} , \tag{4.87}$$

where for definiteness we assume that ϕ is a smooth function of its arguments near $\{x^n = 0\}$, and where h is a metric on the conformal boundary that we momentarily leave unspecified; if h is the round metric on S^{n-1} then, for $0 \leq x^n < 1$,

$$\phi(x^n) = \log \left(\frac{1 - (x^n)^2}{2} \right) . \tag{4.88}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\bar{g}} X^i &= e^{-2\Omega} \left(\Delta_{\hat{h}} X^i + X^i \Delta_{\hat{h}} \Omega - \left(\nabla_{\hat{h}}^i \Omega \right) \left(2\nabla_{\hat{h}}^j X^j + (n-2) X^j \partial_j \Omega \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (\partial_j \Omega) \left(2\nabla_{\hat{h}}^i X^j + n \nabla_{\hat{h}}^j X^i + (n-2) X^i \partial^j \Omega \right) \right) \end{aligned} \tag{4.89}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (x^n)^2 \Delta_{\hat{h}} X^i + X^i \left(1 + \frac{2(n-1)(x^n)^2}{1 - (x^n)^2} \right) + \hat{h}^{i1} \left(x^n 2\nabla_{\hat{h}}^j X^j - (n-2) X^1 \right) \\ &\quad - x^n \left(2\nabla_{\hat{h}}^i X^1 + n \nabla_{\hat{h}}^1 X^i \right) + (n-2) X^i , \end{aligned} \tag{4.90}$$

where the second equality assumes (4.88). The indicial exponents of L can be found by setting $X^i = (x^n)^\sigma A^i$, for a vector A^i with constant entries and a number $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$, and finding the zeros of the determinant of the linear map $A^i \mapsto W^i[A](\sigma) \equiv W^i_j(\sigma)A^j$, determined from the equation

$$L((x^n)^\sigma A^i) \equiv \Delta_{\bar{g}}((x^n)^\sigma A^i) - (n-1)(x^n)^\sigma A^i =: (x^n)^\sigma W^i[A](\sigma) + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{\sigma+1}\right). \quad (4.91)$$

One finds that W is diagonal, with $W^1_1(\sigma) = \sigma^2 - (n+1)\sigma + 2 - n$, and with the remaining eigenvalues $\sigma^2 - (n+1)\sigma$. This leads to the characteristic exponents

$$\left\{0, n+1, \frac{1}{2} \left(n+1 \pm \sqrt{(n+1)^2 + 4(n-2)} \right) \right\} = {}_{|n=2} \{0, 3\}.$$

For an n -dimensional metric of the form

$$g = \bar{g} + \left((x^n)^n \bar{\mu}_{ij} + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+1} \right) \right) \bar{\theta}^i \bar{\theta}^j, \quad \text{with } \bar{\theta}^i := \frac{dx^i}{x^n}, \quad (4.92)$$

where the $\bar{\mu}_{ij}$'s are x^n -independent, the harmonicity vector $\check{\psi}$ is $\mathcal{O}((x^n)^n)$ in norm. More precisely, in dimensions $n \geq 2$, and continuing to use the coordinate system of (4.87), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{D}_i g^{i1} &= -\bar{\mu}^j_j (x^n)^{n+1} + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+2} \right), & \bar{D}_i g^{ip} &= \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+2} \right), \\ \bar{g}^{ik} \bar{D}_k (\bar{g}^{j\ell} h_{j\ell}) &= n \bar{\mu}^j_j \delta_1^i (x^n)^{n+1} + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+2} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (4.93)$$

where $\bar{\mu}^j_j = \delta^{kj} \bar{\mu}_{kj}$, so that

$$\check{\psi} = \left(\frac{n-2}{2} (x^n)^{n+1} \bar{\mu}^j_j + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+2} \right) \right) \partial_n + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^{n+2} \right) \partial_a. \quad (4.94)$$

For $n > 2$ we are in a resonant case, where the smallest strictly positive indicial exponent coincides with the decay rate of the source term. This leads to logarithmic terms in the transformed metric, which do not change the mass when $n \geq 3$, so that the positivity calculation applies. However, such terms would create annoying (though perhaps not essential) problems when $n = 2$, as the total mass is already ill-defined without logarithmic terms in the metric.

As such, given that the offending, dominant term in x^n , vanishes when $n = 2$, in this dimension it follows from [2, 44] that there exists a vector field \check{X} , globally defined by the data at hand, satisfying

$$\partial_n \check{X} = 0$$

such that the (unique) solution of (4.86) takes the form

$$X^i = (x^n)^3 \check{X}^i + \mathcal{O}\left((x^n)^4 \right). \quad (4.95)$$

This leads to a new transformed metric

$$g = \bar{g} + \underbrace{\left(\bar{\mu}_{ij} - 2\check{X}^1 \delta_{ij} + 3\check{X}_i \delta_j + 3\check{X}_j \delta_i \right)}_{=: \bar{\mu}_{ij}} + \mathcal{O}(x^n) \bar{\theta}^i \bar{\theta}^j, \quad (4.96)$$

with new mass aspect tensor $\bar{\bar{\mu}}_{ij}$. Interestingly enough, this does not change the mass aspect function $\bar{\mu}$,

$$\bar{\mu} = \bar{\mu}_{11} + 2\bar{\mu}_{22} \mapsto \bar{\bar{\mu}} = \underbrace{\bar{\mu}_{11}}_{\bar{\mu}_{11} + 4\dot{X}^1} + 2 \underbrace{\bar{\mu}_{22}}_{\bar{\mu}_{22} - 2\dot{X}^1} = \bar{\mu},$$

and hence (cf (4.60)) the total energy-momentum vector H^μ .

Remark 4.6. One could wonder, how is it possible that the left-hand side of (4.74) depends upon the asymptotic gauge, since the right-hand side is uniquely defined by the background and by the metric. The answer is that every choice of asymptotic gauge defines a different background. \square

The above considerations lead to:

Theorem 4.7. *Let (M, \bar{g}) denote the hyperbolic space. Consider a metric g of the form*

$$g = \bar{g} + h, \text{ with } |h| + |\bar{D}h| \leq \epsilon,$$

with well-defined total energy-momentum, and with

$$R(g) \geq -2.$$

There exists $\epsilon_0 > 0$ such that for all $0 < \epsilon \leq \epsilon_0$ the energy-momentum vector is timelike future pointing,

$$H^0 > |\vec{H}|, \tag{4.97}$$

except if $g = \bar{g}$.

Proof. As already emphasized, we can transform the metric to the gauge $\check{\psi}^i = 0$ without changing the mass aspect function. The result follows then from (4.74) as in [13]. \square

We can use the above to prove a version of theorem 4.1. The argument that follows requires that the spacetime be sufficiently large to contain enough families, as described in the proof, of maximal surfaces spanned on cuts of a conformal completion at infinity, which we denote by \mathcal{S} .

For this, consider a metric \mathbf{g} defined on a neighborhood of a static slice $\{t = 0\}$ of $(2 + 1)$ -dimensional anti-de Sitter space $(\mathcal{M}, \hat{\mathbf{g}})$, with

$$\|\mathbf{g} - \hat{\mathbf{g}}\| \leq \epsilon, \tag{4.98}$$

for some small number $\epsilon > 0$. The norm $\|\cdot\|$ here, which we leave unspecified,

involves a finite number of weighted derivatives of the metric, and can be made precise by the requirement of existence of maximal surfaces as guaranteed by [46] or [28], with moreover enough regularity of the metric induced on these to define the Hamiltonian charges; the chasing through these references of the weights and of the number of derivatives is left to the reader.

We further assume that matter fields, if any, satisfy the positivity condition

$$T_{\mu\nu}X^\mu X^\nu \geq 0 \text{ for timelike vectors } X^\mu. \tag{4.99}$$

We require the matter fields to decay sufficiently fast, so that there exists a smooth conformal completion at infinity with leading-order asymptotics as in section 2. More precisely we assume that $(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{g})$ contains a region which can be covered by coordinates as in section 2 for an interval of time $t \in [-C\epsilon, C\epsilon]$, where C is a large constant which can in principle be

determined by the constructions in the proof of theorem 4.7. Note that this would be easy to satisfy for weak fields which have a well posed initial value problem with boundary at infinity with the asymptotic behavior just described; whether or not this is the case for Einstein equations in $2 + 1$ dimensions, be it in vacuum or with sources, is however not clear.

Assuming the above, we have:

Theorem 4.8. *There exists $\epsilon_0 > 0$ such that for metrics satisfying (4.98) with $0 \leq \epsilon \leq \epsilon_0$, on each slice of constant time the following holds:*

1. Both $\mu \pm j$ are of monodromy type \mathcal{H}_0 , or \mathcal{P}_0 , or \mathcal{P}_1^{-1} , or \mathcal{E}_m with $m \geq -1$, and in each asymptotic gauge we have

$$H^0 - |J| \geq 0. \quad (4.100)$$

2. The mass aspect function μ is of hyperbolic type \mathcal{H}_0 , or elliptic type \mathcal{E}_m with $m \geq -1$.
3. In each asymptotic gauge the energy-momentum vector is timelike future pointing,

$$H^0 > |\vec{H}|, \quad (4.101)$$

except if $\mathbf{g} = \mathring{\mathbf{g}}$.

Proof. Our aim here is to sketch how to obtain the result from the small-data analysis above. A complete proof in the current setting would require working out analytical estimates, and formulating more precise assumptions on the spacetime, which would be a wasteful effort as these can be avoided using theorem 4.1.

So, suppose that one of $\mu \pm j$ is of a bad monodromy type. It follows from (4.39) that one can then apply an asymptotic symmetry, of size $O(\epsilon)$, to the metric so that $H^0 < 0$ on the new hypersurface, say $\{\bar{t} = 0\}$. By e.g. [28] there exists a maximal hypersurface spanned on the new section $\{\bar{t} = 0\}$ of \mathcal{S} (which will in general be different from the original section $\{t = 0\} \cap \mathcal{S}$). We show in appendix D that the metric induced on the maximal hypersurface has the same mass aspect function as the one on $\{\bar{t} = 0\}$. From what has been said one can transform the metric induced on the maximal surface to the gauge $\psi^i = 0$, again without changing the mass aspect function, and hence maintaining $H^0 < 0$. This contradicts the identity (4.74) when ϵ_0 is chosen small enough.

Strict positivity of H^0 if $\mathbf{g} \neq \mathring{\mathbf{g}}$ excludes the type \mathcal{P}_0 which has zero mass, and we expect that the marginal \mathcal{P}_1^{-1} case can also be excluded by a careful analysis of the sequence of gauges along which the mass tends to zero.

This establishes points 1. and 2.

Point 3. is obtained by applying theorem 4.7 to the metric induced on the maximal surface spanned on $\{t = 0\} \cap \mathcal{S}$. \square

4.4. A Witten-type argument

Recall that in dimensions $n \geq 3$ inequalities in the spirit of (4.100) have been established in [31, 48] (compare [32]) when $\Lambda < 0$ using a Witten-type argument. The standard approach to this, and which we will follow, requires the existence of a spin bundle which carries imaginary Killing spinors for a background metric in the asymptotic region; see, however, [20] for an alternative approach.

Remark 4.9. Some preliminary comments about spin structures are in order⁷. First, every two-dimensional manifold M carries exactly one spin structure if it is simply connected, and at least two distinct spin structures when $\pi^1(M)$ is nontrivial. Next, assume that M has a nonempty boundary ∂M and let $A \subset M$ be a closed annulus with one boundary coinciding with a connected component of ∂M . Then A carries exactly two distinct spin structures when A is viewed as a manifold on its own, with two boundary components. Let us call *canonical* the spin structure induced on A by restriction when A is viewed as a subset of a disc, and let us call *twisted* the remaining one. If M is conformally compact and ∂M is connected, then M induces on A the canonical spin structure. If M is non-compact with compact conformal infinity, or if the boundary of the conformally completed manifold has more than one component (whether at finite distance or at infinity), then M carries at least two spin structures, with one of them inducing on A the canonical structure, and another inducing the twisted one. \square

We are ready now to pass to our first proof of positivity.

Proof of theorem 4.1. Consider a complete two-dimensional ALH initial data set (M, g, K) equipped with the canonical spin structure on an annular neighborhood of a connected component of the conformal boundary at infinity ∂M . As in section 4.3 the mass aspect is defined by writing g as (compare remark 4.4)

$$g = \frac{dr^2}{r^2 + 1} + r^2 d\varphi^2 + (\bar{\mu}_{ab}(\varphi) + o(r^{-2})) \theta^a \theta^b. \tag{4.102}$$

We thus choose the background as

$$\frac{dr^2}{r^2 + 1} + r^2 d\varphi^2. \tag{4.103}$$

For this background, in addition to the static KIDs already mentioned, and to the rotational Killing vector of \mathring{g} , we have two Killing vector fields \vec{C} of (4.56), with associated Hamiltonian charges \vec{C} defined in (4.57).

The full set of imaginary Killing spinors for the background (4.103), in a spin frame which avoids the coordinate singularity at $r = 0$, can be found in appendix F.

We wish to show that the Witten-type positivity proof as in [29, 31, 38] leads to

$$H^0 \geq |J| + \sqrt{|\vec{C}|^2 + |\vec{H}|^2 + 2|\star(\vec{H} \wedge \vec{C})|}, \tag{4.104}$$

where

$$\star(\vec{H} \wedge \vec{C}) = H^1 C^2 - H^2 C^1.$$

Indeed, using two-component spinors, the analysis in [31] shows that the quadratic polynomial

$$\mathbb{C}^2 \ni u \mapsto \bar{u}^t Q u, \tag{4.105}$$

⁷ We are very grateful to Nikolai Saveliev and Rudolph Zeidler for providing us with this description. The results summarized here can be inferred from e.g. [53].

with the matrix Q given by

$$Q = H^0 + i\gamma^k H_k + \gamma^0 \gamma^k C_k + \frac{1}{2} i\gamma^0 \gamma^{kj} J_{kj}, \quad (4.106)$$

with

$$\gamma^{kj} := \frac{1}{2} (\gamma^k \gamma^j - \gamma^j \gamma^k), \quad (4.107)$$

$$J_{kj} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & J \\ -J & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.108)$$

takes values in $[0, \infty)$ (see the unnumbered equation above [31, equation (3.12)]).

If we use the following representation of the γ -matrices,

$$\gamma^1 = i\sigma^1, \quad \gamma^2 = i\sigma^2, \quad \gamma^0 = \sigma^3, \quad (4.109)$$

where the σ^i 's are the Pauli matrices, one finds

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} H^0 + J & iC^1 + C^2 - H^1 + iH^2 \\ -iC^1 + C^2 - H^1 - iH^2 & H^0 + J \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.110)$$

(We use the convention where the γ -matrices satisfy

$$\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu + \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu = -2\eta^{\mu\nu}, \quad (4.111)$$

with $\eta^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-, +, +)$.) The eigenvalues of Q are

$$H^0 + J \pm \sqrt{(C^2 - H^1)^2 + (C^1 + H^2)^2}, \quad (4.112)$$

and positivity of (4.105) shows that

$$H^0 + J \geq \sqrt{(C^2 - H^1)^2 + (C^1 + H^2)^2} \equiv \sqrt{|C|^2 + |\vec{H}|^2 - 2\star(\vec{H} \wedge \vec{C})}. \quad (4.113)$$

Choosing instead $\gamma'^\mu = -\gamma^\mu$ one finds

$$Q' = \begin{pmatrix} H^0 - J & iC^1 + C^2 + H^1 - iH^2 \\ -iC^1 + C^2 + H^1 + iH^2 & H^0 - J \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.114)$$

and positivity gives

$$H^0 - J \geq \sqrt{|C|^2 + |\vec{H}|^2 + 2\star(\vec{H} \wedge \vec{C})}. \quad (4.115)$$

Applying the argument to the same initial data set endowed with the opposite space-orientation (equivalently, exchanging the previous γ^1 and γ^2) leads to two inequalities where \vec{H} and \vec{C} are interchanged, and (4.104) follows.

Now, since (4.104) holds in all asymptotic gauges, the mass aspect function μ can only be of good or of marginal type.

In the marginal case there exists a sequence of gauges in which the integrals of μ , say H_n^0 , tend to zero as n tends to infinity. It follows from (4.104) that the values of momentum, center

of mass, and angular momentum in these gauges, say \vec{H}_n , \vec{C}_n , and J_n , also tend to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$. This gives a clear motivation for the following definition in the marginal case:

$$\vec{H} = 0 = \vec{C} = J. \tag{4.116}$$

In all remaining cases the H^0 -minimizing gauge is attained, and we obtain

$$H^0 \geq |J| + \sqrt{|\vec{C}|^2 + |\vec{H}|^2 + 2|\star(\vec{H} \wedge \vec{C})|}, \tag{4.117}$$

where \vec{C} and \vec{H} and J are the values of the charges calculated in the minimizing gauge.

Clearly (4.117) holds both in the good and in the marginal cases, so that the claimed inequality (4.49) holds. \square

Remark 4.10. The vanishing of any of the four eigenvalues listed above implies the existence of an imaginary Killing spinor. The Witten identity shows then that matter must be lightlike, in the sense that the length of the momentum density vector $|\vec{J}|$ equals the energy density ρ . Metrics with such spinors have been listed in e.g. [45, theorem 5.3]. It would be of interest to determine which of these metrics are ALH. It follows from [45, proposition 2.1] that if the space of imaginary Killing spinors has dimension larger than one, which occurs when either of the matrices Q of (4.110) or Q' of (4.114) vanish, then the initial data set is vacuum. \square

Proof of theorem 4.2. We define the mass aspect using a mass-aspect tensor μ_{ab} obtained by writing g as

$$g = \frac{dr^2}{r^2} + r^2 d\varphi^2 + (\mu_{ab}(\varphi) + o(r^{-2})) \theta^a \theta^b. \tag{4.118}$$

We start by noting that when (M, g) has more than one ALH end, the null expansion θ of the level sets of r , when determined with respect to the normal pointing towards the manifold, tends to -1 when r tends to infinity. Hence, we can cut-off the manifold M at some large r near one of the remaining ALH ends to obtain a manifold with trapped boundary. This reduces the problem to one where (M, g) has a non-empty trapped or weakly trapped boundary.

Thus, without loss of generality, we can assume that we have two spin structures at disposal near that conformal boundary at infinity where we measure the mass. If we choose the canonical spin structure, we can repeat the argument of theorem 4.1, which applies in the presence of weakly trapped compact boundaries, leading to (4.117). But we can choose instead the twisted spin structure. Then, using the imaginary Killing spinors (F.6) and (F.7) with $a_2 = 0 = b_2$, the Q matrix of (4.110) becomes

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} H - \epsilon J & 0 \\ 0 & H - \epsilon J \end{pmatrix}, \tag{4.119}$$

keeping in mind that H^0 in (4.110) needs now to be replaced by H . Positivity of Q leads therefore to

$$H = H^0 - 1 \geq |J|. \tag{4.120}$$

Minimizing over asymptotic gauges gives the result. \square

Remark 4.11. Repeating the last proof using instead the imaginary Killing spinors of the extreme BTZ black hole leads to the same inequality, with saturation if (M, g, K) are initial data for an extreme BTZ black hole. We expect that the ‘if’ of the last sentence is ‘if and only if’, with a proof which should follow from [45], or from calculations mimicking [31, section 3.1]. \square

5. Some matter models

The aim of this section is to include some matter field models in the problem at hand. For this it is convenient to use the ADM notation:

$$\mathbf{g} = -N^2 dt^2 + g_{ij} (dx^i + N^i dt) (dx^j + N^j dt), \tag{5.1}$$

so that in particular

$$\mathbf{g}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu = -N^{-2} (\partial_t - N^i \partial_i)^2 + g^{ij} \partial_i \partial_j, \tag{5.2}$$

and

$$\det \mathbf{g}_{\mu\nu} = -N^2 \det g_{ij}. \tag{5.3}$$

We will denote by n the field of future-oriented unit-normals to the spacelike hypersurfaces $\{t = \text{const}\}$:

$$n^\mu \partial_\mu = N^{-1} (\partial_t - N^i \partial_i), \quad n_\mu dx^\mu = -N dt. \tag{5.4}$$

A non-vanishing energy–momentum tensor T affects the constraint equations through the energy density

$$\rho = n^\mu n^\nu T_{\mu\nu}$$

and the matter current

$$J^i = n^\mu g^{ij} T_{\mu j}.$$

As such, there is some freedom in the conformal method to prescribe the conformal transformation properties of the fields at hand, which will be exploited below.

5.1. Maxwell fields in vacuum

Let us consider an electromagnetic field

$$F = dA, \tag{5.5}$$

satisfying Maxwell’s equations

$$\nabla_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = 4\pi j^\mu, \tag{5.6}$$

$$\nabla_\mu *F^\mu = 0, \tag{5.7}$$

where ∇ is the connection of the spacetime metric \mathbf{g} , j^ν is the charge-current three-vector, and $*F$ is the dual of F defined by

$$*F^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} F_{\nu\lambda}, \tag{5.8}$$

where $\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda}$ is the Levi–Civita tensor satisfying

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} = \frac{\hat{\epsilon}^{\mu\nu\lambda}}{\sqrt{-g}}, \quad \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} = \sqrt{-g} \hat{\epsilon}_{\mu\nu\lambda}, \quad (5.9)$$

with $\hat{\epsilon}^{\mu\nu\lambda}$ the flat Levi–Civita symbol such that $\hat{\epsilon}_{012} = 1$ and $\hat{\epsilon}^{012} = -1$.

In 2 + 1 dimensions we define the electric and magnetic fields as

$$E^i := -n_\nu F^{\nu i} \equiv N F^{0i}, \quad E^0 := 0, \quad (5.10)$$

$$B := n_\nu *F^\nu \equiv \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{ij} F_{ij}, \quad (5.11)$$

where

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu} := n_\rho \epsilon^{\rho\mu\nu}.$$

This leads to the following decomposition of F :

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} B + n^\mu E^\nu - E^\mu n^\nu, \quad *F^\mu = n^\mu B - \epsilon^{\mu\nu} E_\nu. \quad (5.12)$$

In this notation the Gauss constraint equation reads

$$D_i E^i = 4\pi \rho_Q, \quad (5.13)$$

where D is the covariant derivative of the metric $g_{ij} dx^i dx^j$, and where $\rho_Q = N j^0$ is the charge density.

In the absence of charges and currents the equations can be derived from the (randomly-normalized) Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{-\det g} F^{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta}, \quad (5.14)$$

leading to an energy–momentum tensor

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\mu\nu} &= F_{\mu\lambda} F_\nu^\lambda - \frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\lambda} F^{\rho\lambda} \\ &= \frac{B^2 + |E|_g^2}{2} (g_{\mu\nu} + 2n_\mu n_\nu) - E_\mu E_\nu + (\epsilon_{\mu\alpha} n_\nu + \epsilon_{\nu\alpha} n_\mu) E^\alpha B. \end{aligned} \quad (5.15)$$

Hence,

$$\rho = \frac{B^2 + |E|_g^2}{2}, \quad (5.16)$$

$$J^i = \epsilon^{ij} E_j B. \quad (5.17)$$

The question arises, how should the fields above transform under the conformal rescaling $g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}$. One finds that (5.13) will have convenient transformation properties if we require that under this conformal scaling the electric field transforms as

$$\tilde{E}^i = e^{-2u} E^i; \quad (5.18)$$

in particular if g is asymptotic to $x^{-2}(dx^2 + dy^2)$ then the coordinate components of E transform as

$$\tilde{E}^i = x^{-2}E^i. \quad (5.19)$$

Since the left-hand side of the vector constraint equation transforms as

$$\tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} = e^{-4u} D_i L^{ij},$$

it is convenient to choose

$$\tilde{B} = e^{-2u} B, \quad (5.20)$$

so that, using (5.17) and (5.9),

$$\tilde{J}^i = e^{-4u} J^i,$$

hence,

$$D_i L^{ij} = J^j \iff \tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{J}^j.$$

As a consequence the energy density ρ of the Maxwell field equals

$$\rho = \rho_B + \rho_E = e^{4u} \tilde{\rho}_B + e^{2u} \tilde{\rho}_E, \quad (5.21)$$

where

$$\rho_B := \frac{B^2}{2}, \quad \rho_E := \frac{|E|_g^2}{2}, \quad \tilde{\rho}_B := \frac{\tilde{B}^2}{2}, \quad \tilde{\rho}_E := \frac{|\tilde{E}|_{\tilde{g}}^2}{2}.$$

In coordinates in which g is asymptotic to $x^{-2}(dx^2 + dy^2)$, with $\tilde{g} = dx^2 + dy^2$ so that $e^u \sim x$, the finite mass condition imposes

$$\tilde{B} = O\left(x^{-\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon}\right), \quad \left(\tilde{E}^i = O\left(x^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}\right) \iff |E|_g = O\left(x^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}\right)\right), \quad (5.22)$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$, where \tilde{B} is the magnetic field and the \tilde{E}^i 's are the coordinate components of the electric field, both rescaled to the Euclidean metric.

Finally, the conformally-rescaled constraint equations written with respect to the hyperbolic metric \tilde{g} become

$$\tilde{D}_i \tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{J}^j, \quad (5.23)$$

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}} u = a e^{2u} + b - e^{-2u}, \quad (5.24)$$

where

$$a = \frac{1}{2} |\tilde{L}|_{\tilde{g}}^2 + \tilde{\rho}_B, \quad b = 1 + \tilde{\rho}_E, \quad (5.25)$$

with $a, b \geq 0$,

5.2. Scalar field

Another field, relevant e.g. for cosmology, is the scalar field, studied for $n=3$ in [21] on asymptotically Euclidean manifolds and in [22] on compact ones. Following these authors we consider a scalar field ϕ satisfying

$$\nabla_\mu \nabla^\mu \phi = V'(\phi), \quad (5.26)$$

where $V = V(\phi)$ is the potential. The energy–momentum tensor reads

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - g_{\mu\nu} \left(\frac{1}{2} g^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \phi \partial_\beta \phi + V(\phi) \right). \quad (5.27)$$

We will only consider field configurations where ϕ approaches a constant at the conformal boundary. Without loss of generality we can then assume that

$$\phi \rightarrow 0$$

as the conformal boundary at infinity is approached. Redefining the cosmological constant if necessary, and assuming that the redefined cosmological constant remains negative, we can without loss of generality assume that

$$V(0) = 0. \quad (5.28)$$

We use again the ADM notation and continue to use the symbol ϕ for the restriction of ϕ to the initial data surface. Another relevant quantity is the field

$$\pi := N^{-1} (\partial_t - N^i \partial_i) \phi. \quad (5.29)$$

Using this notation, one has

$$2\rho = \pi^2 + |\mathrm{d}\phi|_g^2 + 2V(\phi), \quad \mathcal{J}^i = \pi g^{ij} \partial_j \phi. \quad (5.30)$$

We will use the conformal method, with a rescaling as in (3.4), i.e. $g_{ij} = e^{-2u} \tilde{g}_{ij}$. There is no constraint on the conformal transformation of ϕ , we choose

$$\tilde{\phi} = \phi, \quad (5.31)$$

and therefore we will interchangeably use the symbols $\tilde{\phi}$ and ϕ in what follows. However, following [21], π is defined with the lapse function N that we require to behave under conformal scalings as a density:

$$\frac{N}{\sqrt{\det g}} = \frac{\tilde{N}}{\sqrt{\det \tilde{g}}}. \quad (5.32)$$

Hence

$$N = e^{-2u} \tilde{N}, \quad (5.33)$$

and, choosing N^i to be invariant under conformal transformations, we obtain

$$\pi = e^{2u} \tilde{\pi}. \quad (5.34)$$

Finally,

$$2\rho = e^{4u}|\tilde{\pi}|^2 + e^{2u}|\mathrm{d}\phi|_{\tilde{g}}^2 + 2V(\phi), \quad \mathcal{J}^i = -e^{4u}\tilde{\pi}\tilde{g}^{ij}\partial_j\phi =: e^{4u}\tilde{\mathcal{J}}^i, \quad (5.35)$$

so that the constraint equations become

$$\tilde{D}_i\tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{\mathcal{J}}^j, \quad (5.36)$$

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}}u = ae^{2u} + b - ce^{-2u}, \quad (5.37)$$

with

$$a = \frac{1}{2}|\tilde{L}|_{\tilde{g}}^2 + |\tilde{\pi}|_{\tilde{g}}^2, \quad b = 1 + |\mathrm{d}\phi|_{\tilde{g}}^2, \quad c = 1 - 2V(\phi). \quad (5.38)$$

Note that the finite-mass condition imposes the asymptotic behaviors

$$\tilde{\pi} = O(\omega^{-\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon}), \quad |\mathrm{D}\check{\phi}| = O(\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}), \quad V(\check{\phi}) = O(\omega^{1+\varepsilon}), \quad (5.39)$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$ as the conformal boundary at infinity $\{\omega = 0\}$ is approached, with $\check{\phi} \equiv \phi$ and $\tilde{\pi}$ denoting the fields scaled as relevant for the Euclidean metric.

Using the notation (3.17), the vector constraint equation reads⁸

$$\partial_{\check{z}}\check{f} = -i\tilde{\pi}\partial_{\check{z}}\check{\phi}.$$

The function \check{f} will be holomorphic only if $\check{\phi}$ is constant, so complex analysis does not seem to be useful here. However, we show in section 5.3 that one can always find a solution.

As for the existence and uniqueness of u , in order to be able to apply the analysis that follows without further due, we will only consider initial data sets for which

$$V(\phi) \leq \frac{1}{2}. \quad (5.40)$$

5.3. Existence and regularity in the non-vacuum case

We start with the problem

$$\tilde{D}_i\tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{\mathcal{J}}^j, \quad (5.41)$$

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}}u = ae^{2u} + b - ce^{-2u}, \quad (5.42)$$

and consider the question of existence and uniqueness of solutions.

Using the York decomposition

$$\tilde{L}^{ij} = \tilde{D}^i\tilde{Y}^j + \tilde{D}^j\tilde{Y}^i - (\tilde{D}^k\tilde{Y}_k)\delta^{ij}, \quad (5.43)$$

the vector constraint equation (5.41) becomes

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}}\tilde{Y}^j + \tilde{R}^j_k\tilde{Y}^k = \tilde{\mathcal{J}}^j, \quad (5.44)$$

for which we can always find a solution with $\tilde{Y}^i|_{\partial D(0,1)} = 0$ when the Ricci tensor \tilde{R}_{ij} of \tilde{g} is non-positive, as is the case of the hyperbolic metric.

⁸ While the complex notation $\partial_{\check{z}}\check{\phi}$ applies, it might be somewhat misleading in that we assume that ϕ is real-valued.

Smoothness of \tilde{Y}^j at the conformal boundary follows from standard elliptic theory when the conformally rescaled field \tilde{J}^j extends smoothly through the boundary. More generally, a polyhomogeneous expansion of \tilde{J}^j at the conformal boundary at infinity leads to a polyhomogeneous expansion of \tilde{Y}^j , with coefficients which can be obtained by matching polyhomogeneous expansions of both sides of the equation.

For the scalar constraint (5.42), the arguments presented in appendix B provide existence and uniqueness of solutions on Riemannian manifolds which are the union of a compact set and a finite number of ALH ends whenever the functions $a > 0$, b and $c > 0$ are uniformly bounded.

Concerning regularity near the boundary, let us for simplicity assume that the functions a , b and c in (5.42) extend smoothly across the conformal boundary. Rewriting the Lichnerowicz equation as

$$Lu := \hat{F}(\cdot, u) + S(\cdot),$$

where \cdot stands for the coordinates (x, y) in the half-space model, so that

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{x^2}$$

with

$$L := \Delta_{\tilde{g}} - 2(a + c), \quad S := a + b - c, \quad \hat{F}(\cdot, u) := a(e^{2u} - 1 - 2u) - c(e^{-2u} - 1 + 2u);$$

we can apply [2, theorem 7.4.5] to obtain a polyhomogeneous expansion of u . Writing

$$a(x, y) = a_1(y)x + \dots, \quad b(x, y) = 1 + b_1(y)x + \dots, \quad c(x, y) = 1 + c_1(y)x + \dots, \quad (5.45)$$

where we have assumed that a vanishes at the boundary (as is the case under the finite mass condition), we find

$$u = \frac{(c_1 - b_1 - a_1)}{2}x + \frac{1}{6}(a_1(2c_1 - 4b_1) - 3a_1^2 + 2a_2 - b_1^2 + 2b_2 + c_1^2 - 2c_2)x^2 \log x + O(x^2). \quad (5.46)$$

In particular if

$$a = O(x^3), \quad b = 1 + O(x^3), \quad c = 1 + O(x^3), \quad (5.47)$$

the solution u will be smooth at (and near) $\{x = 0\}$, with

$$u(x, y) = u_2(y)x^2 + \frac{(a_3 + b_3 - c_3)(y)}{4}x^3 + \dots, \quad (5.48)$$

with a function $u_2(y)$ which is defined globally by the initial data.

For instance, if the scalar field is smooth at the conformal boundary, equation (5.47) will hold for initial data satisfying

$$V(\phi) = O(x^3), \quad \partial\phi = O(x), \quad |\tilde{\pi}|_{\tilde{g}}^2 = O(x^3), \quad (5.49)$$

which also (more than) guarantees that our finite total energy condition is satisfied. Similarly, in the case of Maxwell fields which are smooth at the conformal boundary, we will need

$$\tilde{B} = O(x^2), \quad |E^i| = O(x^3), \quad (5.50)$$

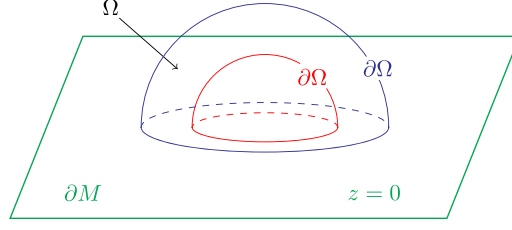


Figure 1. The set Ω and its boundaries. In this section the boundary ∂M is given by $\{z = 0\}$. The boundary of Ω has three components, one is a subset of ∂M . The function x vanishes precisely on both the blue and red components of the boundary of Ω .

where E^i are the components of the electric field in local coordinates near the conformal boundary.

6. Maskit-type gluing of ALH spacelike initial data

In [26], ‘Maskit-type’ gluing results are proved for AH data sets in dimension $n \geq 3$. We check here that the main results there continue to hold when $n = 2$.

We start with reviewing some notation from [26], and refer to this last reference for definitions of function spaces.

We consider a smooth two-dimensional manifold \bar{M} with boundary ∂M and an open subset $\Omega \subset M$ such that $\partial\Omega \cap M$ is the union of two disjoint smooth hypersurfaces Σ_0, Σ_1 , see figure 1. We denote by z , resp. by x , the defining functions for ∂M , resp. $\partial\Omega \cap \partial\bar{M}$. (In order to ease comparison with [26] we thus use z for a coordinate which is denoted by x or \hat{x} at some other places in this paper.) We set

$$\rho := \sqrt{x^2 + z^2},$$

hence the inequalities on Ω

$$0 < \frac{x}{\rho} \leq 1, \quad 0 < \frac{z}{\rho} \leq 1. \quad (6.1)$$

Finally, we will denote again by \tilde{g} the hyperbolic model metric on M .

Let us define the constraint operator

$$\mathcal{C}[(K, g)] := \begin{pmatrix} 2(D_j(K^{ij} - \text{tr}_g(K)g^{ij})) \\ R_g - |K|_g^2 + (\text{tr}_g(K))^2 - 2\Lambda \end{pmatrix}. \quad (6.2)$$

We also introduce $P_{(K, g)}$ as the linearization of $\mathcal{C}[(K, g)]$ along with its adjoint $P_{(K, g)}^*$; and the operator $\Phi : (A, B) \mapsto (\phi A, \phi^2 B)$. We remind the reader that elements of the kernel of $P_{(K, g)}^*$ are known as ‘KIDs’. From two AH data sets (K_0, g_0) and (K_1, g_1) close on Ω , we build the interpolated couple

$$(K, g)_\chi \equiv (K_\chi, g_\chi) := (1 - \chi)(K_0, g_0) + \chi(K_1, g_1), \quad (6.3)$$

where χ is a smooth cut-off function with values in $[0, 1]$, with χ equal to zero near Σ_0 and equal to one near Σ_1 . We would like to build glued Einstein initial data sets, i.e. find data sets

(K, g) such as $\mathcal{C}[(K, g)]$ interpolates between $\mathcal{C}[(K_0, g_0)]$ and $\mathcal{C}[(K_1, g_1)]$. For this we set

$$\mathcal{C}_\chi := (1 - \chi)\mathcal{C}[(K_0, g_0)] + \chi\mathcal{C}[(K_1, g_1)], \tag{6.4}$$

$$\delta\mathcal{C}_\chi := \mathcal{C}_\chi - \mathcal{C}[(K_\chi, g_\chi)]. \tag{6.5}$$

The following theorem, proved in [26] assuming $n \geq 3$, generalizes without further due to $n = 2$ to show that such data sets can be found in a neighborhood of $(K, g)_\chi$.

Theorem 6.1 [26, theorem 3.10]. *Let $2 \leq k \in \mathbb{N}$, $b \in [0, 1]$, $\sigma > b + \frac{1}{2}$, and*

$$\phi = x/\rho, \psi = x^a z^b \rho^c, \tau \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Suppose that $(g_0 - \tilde{g}) \in C^{k+4}_{1,z^{-1}}$ and $(K_0 - \tau\tilde{g}) \in C^{k+3}_{1,z^{-1}}$. For all real numbers a and c large enough and all (K_1, g_1) close enough to (K_0, g_0) in $C^{k+3}_{1,z^{-\sigma}}(\Omega) \times C^{k+4}_{1,z^{-\sigma}}(\Omega)$ there exists a unique couple of two-covariant symmetric tensor fields of the form

$$(\delta K, \delta g) = \Phi\psi^2\Phi P^*_{(K,g)_\chi}(\delta Y, \delta N) \in \psi^2 \left(\phi \mathring{H}^{k+2}_{\phi,\psi}(g_\chi) \times \phi^2 \mathring{H}^{k+2}_{\phi,\psi}(g_\chi) \right)$$

such that $(K_\chi + \delta K, g_\chi + \delta g)$ solve

$$\mathcal{C} \left[(K, g)_\chi + (\delta K, \delta g) \right] - \mathcal{C} \left[(K, g)_\chi \right] = \delta\mathcal{C}_\chi. \tag{6.6}$$

Furthermore, there exists a constant C such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(\delta K, \delta g)\|_{\psi^2(\phi \mathring{H}^{k+2}_{\phi,\psi}(g_\chi) \times \phi^2 \mathring{H}^{k+2}_{\phi,\psi}(g_\chi))} \\ & \leq C \| \mathcal{C} (K_1, g_1) - \mathcal{C} (K_0, g_0) \|_{\mathring{H}^{k+1}_{1,z^{-b}}(g_\chi) \times \mathring{H}^k_{1,z^{-b}}(g_\chi)}. \end{aligned} \tag{6.7}$$

The tensor fields $(\delta K, \delta g)$ vanish at $\partial\Omega$ and can be C^{k+1} -extended by zero across $\partial\Omega$. \square

From the previous theorem, we deduce the following generalization of [26, theorem 3.12] to $n = 2$, where we consider initial data set which are vacuum near the conformal boundary:

Theorem 6.2. *Let (M_a, K_a, g_a) , $a = 1, 2$ be two asymptotically locally hyperbolic and asymptotically CMC two-dimensional initial data sets satisfying the Einstein (vacuum) constraint Equations, with the same constant asymptotic values of $\text{tr}_{g_1} K_1$ and $\text{tr}_{g_2} K_2$ as ∂M is approached and with locally conformally flat boundaries at infinity $\partial\bar{M}_a$. Let $p_a \in \partial M_a$ be points on the conformal boundaries. Then for all ε sufficiently small there exist asymptotically locally hyperbolic and asymptotically CMC vacuum initial data sets $(M_\varepsilon, K_\varepsilon, G_\varepsilon)$ such that*

1. M_ε is diffeomorphic to the interior of a boundary connected sum of the M_a 's, obtained by excising small half-balls B_1 around p_1 and B_2 around p_2 , and identifying their boundaries.
2. On the complement of coordinate half-balls of radius ε surrounding p_1 and p_2 , and away from the corresponding neck region in M_ε , the data $(K_\varepsilon, g_\varepsilon)$ coincide with the original ones on each of the M_a 's.

We note that the new approach to gluing of Mao *et al* [49, 50], based on Bogovskiĭ-type operators which control well the support of the solutions, allows one to produce gluings as above in dimensions $n \geq 3$ with better control of the data and lower differentiability requirements. The method generalizes to the time-symmetric case $K_{ij} = 0$ in $n = 2$ [23, 27], but does not apply as is to the whole system of the constraints because in space-dimension two the divergence operator acting on trace-free tensors is elliptic, which prevents one to localize the support of the solutions of the vector constraint equation.

7. Characteristic Cauchy problem

An alternative to the spacelike Cauchy problem, which plays a prominent role in current mathematical studies of the Einstein equations, is the characteristic Cauchy problem. Here we consider the $(2 + 1)$ -dimensional vacuum characteristic Cauchy problem in Bondi gauge. In this section we exceptionally consider both cases $\Lambda < 0$ and $\Lambda > 0$.

Let thus \mathcal{N} be a null hypersurface in a 3-dimensional spacetime, with all its generators meeting a circle S^1 transversally. If the divergence scalar of \mathcal{N} has no zeros one can construct on \mathcal{N} Bondi-type coordinates (u, r, φ) , with

$$\mathcal{N} = \{u = 0\},$$

and where φ is a local coordinate on S^1 , in which the metric takes the form (see [47] or [24, appendix B])

$$g_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dx^\beta = -\frac{V}{r} e^{2\beta} du^2 - 2e^{2\beta} du dr + r^2 \gamma_{\varphi\varphi} (d\varphi - U^\varphi du) (d\varphi - U^\varphi du), \quad (7.1)$$

with $\gamma_{\varphi\varphi} = \gamma_{\varphi\varphi}(\varphi)$, and with $\int_{S^1} \sqrt{\gamma_{\varphi\varphi}} d\varphi = 2\pi$. The inverse metric reads

$$g^\sharp = e^{-2\beta} \frac{V}{r} \partial_r^2 - 2e^{-2\beta} \partial_u \partial_r - 2e^{-2\beta} U^\varphi \partial_r \partial_\varphi + \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma^{\varphi\varphi} \partial_\varphi \partial_\varphi. \quad (7.2)$$

By a redefinition of φ one can always achieve

$$\gamma_{\varphi\varphi} \equiv 1. \quad (7.3)$$

The characteristic Cauchy problem is usually formulated in terms of two null hypersurfaces intersecting transversally on a spacelike submanifold S . If \mathcal{N} is one of these hypersurfaces, then in the Bondi coordinates associated with \mathcal{N} the free characteristic data are

1. the tensor field $\gamma_{\varphi\varphi} d\varphi^2$ on \mathcal{N} ,
2. and the collection of fields $(\beta, U^\varphi, \partial_r U^\varphi, \partial_u U^\varphi, V)$ on S .

The part of the data associated purely with \mathcal{N} is therefore trivial, since $\gamma_{\varphi\varphi} d\varphi^2$ can always be transformed to $d\varphi^2$. Note that this renders the S^1 -coordinate φ unique up to a rotation of the circle. Given the free characteristic data, the Einstein equations can be used to solve for all components of the metric on \mathcal{N} .

Let us pass to an analysis of the vacuum Einstein equations,

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad (7.4)$$

in this setting in the gauge (7.3). First, the vanishing of the rr component of the Einstein tensor provides an equation restricting β to a r -independent function:

$$0 \equiv \frac{r}{2} G_{rr} = \partial_r \beta \implies \beta = \beta(u, \varphi). \quad (7.5)$$

Next, the rA -component of the Einstein equations can be written as

$$0 \equiv 2r e^{2\beta} G_{rA} = \partial_r [r^3 (\partial_r U^\varphi) + r \partial_\varphi e^{2\beta}]. \quad (7.6)$$

This can be integrated in the variable r to give

$$U^\varphi = \check{U}(u, \varphi) r^{-2} + \mathring{U}(u, \varphi) + \frac{\partial_\varphi e^{2\beta(u, \varphi)}}{r}, \quad (7.7)$$

for some arbitrary S^1 -vector fields \check{U} and \mathring{U} .

The metric function V can now be determined from the equation

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\equiv 2\Lambda r^2 - r^2 g^{AB} R_{AB} \\ &= 2\Lambda r^2 + 2[\partial_\varphi^2 \beta + (\partial_\varphi \beta)(\partial_\varphi \beta)] - e^{-2\beta} \partial_\varphi [\partial_r (r^2 U^\varphi)] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} r^4 e^{-4\beta} (\partial_r U^\varphi)(\partial_r U^\varphi) + r e^{-2\beta} \partial_r (V/r). \end{aligned} \quad (7.8)$$

Using the solution for U^φ gives:

$$\frac{V}{r} = \frac{e^{-2\beta} \check{U}^2}{r^2} + 2r \partial_\varphi \mathring{U} - e^{2\beta} \Lambda r^2 + \frac{4\check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta}{r} + c(u, \varphi), \quad (7.9)$$

where the *Trautman–Bondi mass-aspect function* c is determined globally from the initial data.

We continue with the equation $G_{u\varphi} = \Lambda r^2 U^\varphi$,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\equiv r e^{2\beta} (G_{u\varphi} - \Lambda r^2 U^\varphi) \\ &= -2\check{U} \partial_u \beta + \partial_u \check{U} - 2\mathring{U} \check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta - e^{2\beta} c \partial_\varphi \beta + 8e^{4\beta} (\partial_\varphi \beta)^3 \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi c + 2\check{U} \partial_\varphi \mathring{U} + \mathring{U} \partial_\varphi \check{U} + 4e^{4\beta} \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi^2 \beta, \end{aligned} \quad (7.10)$$

which can be thought-of as a ∂_u -evolution equation for \check{U} .

The equation

$$G_{uu} = -\Lambda \left(-\frac{V e^{2\beta}}{r} + r^2 (U^\varphi)^2 \right)$$

provides a ∂_u -evolution equation for c :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\equiv r(G_{uu} + \Lambda g_{uu}) \\ &= -c \partial_u \beta + \frac{\partial_u c}{2} + 2e^{2\beta} \Lambda \check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta - \mathring{U} c \partial_\varphi \beta - 8e^{2\beta} (\partial_\varphi \beta)^2 \partial_\varphi \mathring{U} + c \partial_\varphi \mathring{U} \\ &\quad + \frac{\mathring{U} \partial_\varphi c}{2} + e^{2\beta} \Lambda \partial_\varphi \check{U} - 8e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi \partial_u \beta - 8e^{2\beta} \mathring{U} \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi^2 \beta \\ &\quad - 4e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi \mathring{U} \partial_\varphi^2 \beta - 2e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi^2 \partial_u \beta - 2e^{2\beta} \mathring{U} \partial_\varphi^3 \beta + e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi^3 \mathring{U}. \end{aligned} \quad (7.11)$$

The G'_A -equation turns out to be identical to (7.10).

Similarly, the G'_u -equation turns out to coincide with (7.11).

We end the list by noting that the only remaining equation, out of the whole set of vacuum Einstein equations, namely $R = 6\Lambda$, reads, after making use of (7.5), (7.7) and (7.9),

$$6\Lambda + 4 \underbrace{\partial_r \partial_u \beta}_{=0} = 6\Lambda, \quad (7.12)$$

and is therefore trivially satisfied with the fields determined so far.

Remark 7.1. A recent addition to the study of the Cauchy problem in general relativity is the gluing method for characteristic initial data of Aretakis, Czimek and Rodnianski, see [4, 36] and references therein. The question is, whether characteristic initial data on a null hypersurface $(r_0, r_1] \times S$ can be glued, together with a number of transverse derivatives of the metric, with initial data on $[r_2, r_3) \times S$, using an intermediate set of data on $[r_1, r_2] \times S$. Here $r_0 < r_1 < r_2 < r_3$. The construction is based on the possibility to manipulate, in the interpolating region $[r_1, r_2] \times S$, both the free gravitational data and the gauge freedom of the data. The gluing is obstructed by a collection of radial charges in several cases of interest.

In D -dimensional spacetimes with $D \geq 4$, the free gravitational data is provided by the field γ_{AB} [34]. It follows from (7.3) that there are no free gravitational data in two dimensions which could be used for gluing, thus only gauge freedom and obstructions remain. In the linearized vacuum case, gauge freedom is parametrized by two functions, $\xi^u(u, \varphi)$ and $\xi^\varphi(u, \varphi)$, on S . As analyzed in [34, section 3.2] the field $\delta\beta$ can be gauged to zero by setting (cf equation (3.23) there)

$$\partial_u \xi^u - \partial_\varphi \xi^\varphi = -2\delta\beta,$$

where $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$ denotes the linearized perturbation of the metric. In the gauge $\delta\beta = 0$, the field $\delta\dot{U} = -\frac{1}{2r}\partial_r \delta g_{uA}$ can also be gauged to zero, by setting (cf [34, equation (3.29)])

$$\partial_u \xi^\varphi + \left(\alpha^2 + \frac{2m}{r^2} \right) \partial_\varphi \xi^u = -\frac{1}{2r} \partial_r \delta g_{uA}.$$

The obstructions are provided by the fields δc and $\delta\check{U}$, which does not leave any freedom for the gluing. We believe that this statement carries over to the small-perturbation regime of nonlinear gluing as in [4, 25, 36], but we have not attempted to work-out all the details of this.

Summarizing, the $2+1$ vacuum characteristic gluing appears to be completely rigid, in the sense just explained.

Adding matter fields renders the problem more flexible, in that one can use the freedom in the matter fields data to carry out the gluing. \square

Returning to our main line of thought, we conclude that for any freely-prescribable pair of functions

$$\left(\beta(u, \varphi), \check{U}(u, \varphi) \right)$$

the vacuum Einstein equations (7.10) and (7.11) are equivalent to the following system of PDEs for (c, \check{U}) :

$$\begin{aligned} -\partial_u \check{U} - \check{U} \partial_\varphi \check{U} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\beta} \partial_\varphi c &= \left(2\partial_\varphi \check{U} - 2\partial_u \beta - 2\check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta \right) \check{U} - e^{2\beta} c \partial_\varphi \beta \\ &+ 8e^{4\beta} (\partial_\varphi \beta)^3 + 4e^{4\beta} \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi^2 \beta, \end{aligned} \quad (7.13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial_u c}{2} - \frac{\check{U} \partial_\varphi c}{2} - e^{2\beta} \Lambda \partial_\varphi \check{U} &= \left(\partial_\varphi \check{U} - \partial_u \beta - \check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta \right) c + 2e^{2\beta} \Lambda \check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta \\ &- 8e^{2\beta} \left((\partial_\varphi \beta)^2 \partial_\varphi \check{U} + \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi \partial_u \beta + \check{U} \partial_\varphi \beta \partial_\varphi^2 \beta \right) \\ &- 2e^{2\beta} \left(2\partial_\varphi \check{U} \partial_\varphi^2 \beta + \partial_\varphi^2 \partial_u \beta + \check{U} \partial_\varphi^3 \beta - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\varphi^3 \check{U} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (7.14)$$

Letting

$$\check{c} := c/2,$$

this can be rewritten as

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \partial_u + \begin{pmatrix} \dot{U} & -e^{2\beta} \\ \Lambda e^{2\beta} & \dot{U} \end{pmatrix} \partial_\varphi \right] \begin{pmatrix} \check{U} \\ \check{c} \end{pmatrix} = F(\check{U}, \check{c}), \quad (7.15)$$

with an affine function F . Rather surprisingly, the system is

1. manifestly symmetric hyperbolic if and only if $\Lambda = -1$.
2. Recall (cf e.g. [57]) that a system with principal part of the form $\partial_u + A^\varphi \partial_\varphi$ is hyperbolic if all the roots of the polynomial

$$P(\tau) := \det(\tau + A^\varphi p_\varphi)$$

are real; strictly hyperbolic if the roots are real and distinct. One readily checks that (7.15) is hyperbolic if and only if $\Lambda \leq 0$, strictly hyperbolic if $\Lambda < 0$.

3. The system (7.15) is elliptic when $\Lambda > 0$.

It follows that:

1. When $\Lambda < 0$ the system has unique global smooth solutions for any smooth initial data $(\check{U}, c)|_{u=u_0}$ (cf e.g. [43]).
2. When $\Lambda = -1$ the system also has unique global solutions for any initial data $(\check{U}, c)|_{u=u_0}$ in Sobolev spaces.
3. When $\Lambda > 0$ the description of the set of solutions does not seem to be obvious in general. In the simplest case $\beta \equiv 0 \equiv \dot{U}$ and $\Lambda = 1$, equation (7.15) is the requirement (cf (7.19) below) that the function $\check{U} - ic/2$ be holomorphic in $u + i\varphi$.

It is natural to raise the question, which of the functions appearing above are gauge. As such, locally and in vacuum, all the functions are gauge, since the metric can always locally be brought to the (anti-)de Sitter or Minkowski form depending upon the value of Λ . Whether or not this can be done globally is a more delicate issue. In order to make contact with the analysis of section 2, following [10]⁹ we consider metrics in which only β and \dot{U} are gauged-away to zero. In order to make the comparison with the formulae of section 4.2 easier, we change notation and make the replacement

$$c \mapsto -\mu, \quad \check{U} \mapsto \frac{j}{2}, \quad (7.16)$$

so that the metric reads

$$\begin{aligned} g &= - \left(\frac{j^2}{4r^2} - \Lambda r^2 - \mu \right) du^2 - 2du dr + r^2 \left(d\varphi - \frac{j}{2r^2} du \right) \left(d\varphi - \frac{j}{2r^2} du \right) \\ &= - (-\Lambda r^2 - \mu) du^2 - 2du dr - j d\varphi dr + r^2 d\varphi^2. \end{aligned} \quad (7.17)$$

The vacuum Einstein equations (7.15) reduce now to

$$\partial_u \mu = -\Lambda \partial_\varphi j, \quad \partial_\varphi \mu = \partial_u j. \quad (7.18)$$

Hence μ and j are solutions of the second-order equations

$$(\partial_u^2 + \Lambda \partial_\varphi^2) \mu = 0 = (\partial_u^2 + \Lambda \partial_\varphi^2) j. \quad (7.19)$$

⁹ See [11] for a complementing analysis when $\Lambda = 0$.

7.1. Global charges, asymptotic symmetries

The Trautman–Bondi mass, defined as

$$m_{\text{TB}} := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \mu \, d\varphi, \quad (7.20)$$

is u -independent,

$$\frac{dm_{\text{TB}}}{du} = \frac{\Lambda}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} \partial_\varphi j \, d\varphi = 0, \quad (7.21)$$

regardless of the value of Λ ; similarly for the total angular momentum

$$J := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} j \, d\varphi, \quad \frac{dJ}{du} = 0. \quad (7.22)$$

However, these quantities suffer from the same problems as their spacelike counterparts of section 4. This requires an analysis of asymptotic symmetries, which proceeds as follows:

Note first that to preserve the dominant terms in the metric,

$$r^2 h := r^2 (\Lambda du^2 + d\varphi^2),$$

the leading order of a coordinate transformation which preserves the asymptotic form of the metric, say $(u, \varphi) \mapsto (\check{u}, \check{\varphi})$, must be a conformal map from the Euclidean ($\Lambda > 0$) or Minkowskian ($\Lambda < 0$) plane $\Lambda du^2 + d\varphi^2$ to itself:

$$\Lambda du^2 + d\varphi^2 = \psi^2 (\Lambda d\check{u}^2 + d\check{\varphi}^2), \quad (7.23)$$

for some function $\psi > 0$. As is well known, both functions $(u, \varphi) \mapsto (\check{u}, \check{\varphi})$ are then solutions of the wave equation when $\Lambda < 0$, or are harmonic when $\Lambda > 0$.

To continue, it is convenient to treat the cases of positive and negative cosmological constant separately.

7.1.1. $\Lambda < 0$. When $\Lambda < 0$ there exist functions v_\pm such that

$$\check{u} = \frac{v_+(\bar{x}^+) + v_-(\bar{x}^-)}{2}, \quad \check{\varphi} = \frac{v_+(\bar{x}^+) - v_-(\bar{x}^-)}{2}, \quad \text{where } x^\pm = \sqrt{-\Lambda}u \pm \varphi. \quad (7.24)$$

In order to maintain orientation, we assume that $v'_\pm > 0$. To preserve the asymptotic form of the metric we must have

$$\bar{u} = \frac{v_+(\bar{x}^+) + v_-(\bar{x}^-)}{2\sqrt{-\Lambda}} + \frac{(\sqrt{v'_+(\bar{x}^+)} - \sqrt{v'_-(\bar{x}^-)})^2}{2r\Lambda} + \mathcal{O}(r^{-2}) \quad (7.25)$$

$$\bar{\varphi} = \frac{v_+(\bar{x}^+) - v_-(\bar{x}^-)}{2} + \frac{(v'_-(\bar{x}^-) - v'_+(\bar{x}^+))}{2r\sqrt{-\Lambda}} + \mathcal{O}(r^{-2}), \quad (7.26)$$

$$\bar{r} = \frac{r}{\sqrt{v'_+(\bar{x}^+)v'_-(\bar{x}^-)}} + \mathcal{O}(1), \quad (7.27)$$

where $x^\pm = \sqrt{-\Lambda}u \pm \varphi$. One thus obtains the following formulae for the transformation of the mass-aspect and angular-momentum aspect under asymptotic symmetries:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(u, \varphi) &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\bar{\mu} - \sqrt{-\Lambda} \bar{j} \right) \left(v'_+ (\bar{x}^+) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\bar{\mu} + \sqrt{-\Lambda} \bar{j} \right) \left(v'_- (\bar{x}^-) \right)^2 \\ &\quad - \hat{S} [v'_-] (x^-) - \hat{S} [v'_+] (x^+) \end{aligned} \quad (7.28)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{-\Lambda} j(u, \varphi) &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\bar{\mu} - \sqrt{-\Lambda} \bar{j} \right) \left(v'_+ (\bar{x}^+) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\bar{\mu} + \sqrt{-\Lambda} \bar{j} \right) \left(v'_- (\bar{x}^-) \right)^2 \\ &\quad - \hat{S} [v'_-] (x^-) + \hat{S} [v'_+] (x^+) , \end{aligned} \quad (7.29)$$

with

$$\bar{\mu} = \bar{\mu} \left(\frac{v_+ (\bar{x}^+) + v_- (\bar{x}^-)}{2\sqrt{-\Lambda}}, \frac{v_+ (\bar{x}^+) - v_- (\bar{x}^-)}{2} \right) , \quad (7.30)$$

$$\bar{j} = \bar{j} \left(\frac{v_+ (x^+) + v'_- (\bar{x}^-)}{2\sqrt{-\Lambda}}, \frac{v_+ (x^+) - v_- (\bar{x}^-)}{2} \right) , \quad (7.31)$$

where $\hat{S}[v'_\pm](x)$ is defined in (4.24). This is formally identical with (4.32) and (4.34), though the context is somewhat different. (To obtain these equations one needs the next order terms in the expansions (7.25)–(7.27), which we have not included here as they are lengthy and not very illuminating.)

7.1.2. $\Lambda > 0$. Returning to (7.23), when the cosmological constant is positive, we find instead

$$\bar{u} = \check{u} + \frac{(\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} - |d\check{\varphi}|_h)}{r\Lambda} + O(r^{-2}) \quad (7.32)$$

$$\bar{\varphi} = \check{\varphi} + \frac{\partial_u \check{\varphi}}{r\Lambda} + O(r^{-2}) , \quad (7.33)$$

$$\bar{r} = \frac{r}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h} + O(1) , \quad (7.34)$$

where $|d\check{\varphi}|_h = \sqrt{(\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi})^2 + (\partial_u \check{\varphi})^2/\Lambda}$, and where $\check{u} = \check{u}(u\sqrt{\Lambda}, \varphi)$ and $\check{\varphi} = \check{\varphi}(u\sqrt{\Lambda}, \varphi)$, with

$$\partial_u \check{u} = \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} , \quad \partial_\varphi \check{u} = -\frac{\partial_u \check{\varphi}}{\Lambda} . \quad (7.35)$$

For ease of notation, in what follows we normalize Λ to $\Lambda = 1$. Equivalently, instead of parameterizing the asymptotic change of coordinates (7.32) in terms of real functions $\check{u}, \check{\varphi}$ satisfying (7.35), we can introduce a function w_\pm holomorphic in $z = u + i\varphi$:

$$w_+(z) = \check{u} + i\check{\varphi} , \quad (7.36)$$

yielding

$$\check{u} = \frac{1}{2} \left(w_+(z) + \overline{w_+(z)} \right) . \quad (7.37)$$

Under the above, the mass aspect function μ transforms as,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(u, \varphi) &= \left((\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi})^2 - (\partial_u \check{\varphi})^2 \right) \bar{\mu}(\check{u}, \check{\varphi}) - 2\bar{j}(\check{u}, \check{\varphi}) \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \check{\varphi} \\ &\quad + \frac{2 \left(\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u^2 \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} + \partial_u \check{\varphi} \partial_u^3 \check{\varphi} \right)}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h^2} \\ &\quad - \frac{3 \left((\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi})^2 - (\partial_u \check{\varphi})^2 \right) \left((\partial_u \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi})^2 - (\partial_u \partial_u \check{\varphi})^2 \right)}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h^4} \\ &\quad - \frac{12 \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \check{\varphi} \partial_u \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \partial_u \check{\varphi}}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h^4} \end{aligned} \tag{7.38}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2} (\bar{\mu} + i\bar{j}) (w'_+(z))^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\bar{\mu} - i\bar{j}) \overline{(w'_+(z))^2} \\ &\quad + \widehat{S}[\overline{w'_+}](z) + \widehat{S}[w'_+](z) \end{aligned} \tag{7.39}$$

$$= \Re \left((\bar{\mu} + i\bar{j}) (w'_+(z))^2 + 2\widehat{S}[w'_+](z) \right), \tag{7.40}$$

where in the second equality $\bar{\mu}$ and \bar{j} are understood as functions of $(\check{u}, \check{\varphi}) = (\Re w_+, \Im w_+)$. As for the angular aspect function j we find

$$\begin{aligned} j(u, \varphi) &= \left((\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi})^2 - (\partial_u \check{\varphi})^2 \right) \bar{j}(\check{u}, \check{\varphi}) + 2\bar{\mu}(\check{u}, \check{\varphi}) \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \check{\varphi} \\ &\quad + 2 \frac{\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \partial_\varphi^2 \check{\varphi} + \partial_u \check{\varphi} \partial_u^2 \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi}}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{6 \left(\partial_u \check{\varphi} \partial_u \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} - \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u^2 \check{\varphi} \right) \left(\partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} \partial_u \partial_\varphi \check{\varphi} + \partial_u \check{\varphi} \partial_u^2 \check{\varphi} \right)}{|d\check{\varphi}|_h^4} \end{aligned} \tag{7.41}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\frac{i}{2} (\bar{\mu} + i\bar{j}) (w'_+(z))^2 + \frac{i}{2} (\bar{\mu} - i\bar{j}) \overline{(w'_+(z))^2} \\ &\quad + i\widehat{S}[\overline{w'_+}](z) - i\widehat{S}[w'_+](z) \end{aligned} \tag{7.42}$$

$$= \Im \left((\bar{\mu} + i\bar{j}) (w'_+(z))^2 + 2\widehat{S}[w'_+](z) \right), \tag{7.43}$$

which can be compared with (4.34) and (4.35).

Data availability statement

All data that support the findings of this study are included within the article (and any supplementary files).

Acknowledgment

PTC acknowledges the hospitality of the Beijing Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Applications in Huairou and the Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut in Oberwolfach during part of work on this paper. His research was further supported in part by the NSF under Grant No. DMS-1928930 while he was in residence at the Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute (formerly MSRI) in Berkeley during the Fall 2024 semester. We are grateful to Ilka Agrikola, Bobby Beig, Lan-Hsuan Huang, Ines Kath, Rafe Mazzeo, Andre Neves, Nikolai Saveliev, Georg Stettinger, Erik Verlinde and Rudolph Zeidler for useful discussions or bibliographical advice. TQ and RW are grateful to the University of Vienna for hospitality. RW

acknowledges support by the Heising-Simons Foundation under the ‘Observational Signatures of Quantum Gravity’ collaboration grant 2021-2818 and the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of High Energy Physics, under Award No. DE-SC0019470.

Appendix A. Poles at the boundary of hyperbolic space

Let $n \geq 2$, and let $B(0, 1)$ denote the open unit ball centered at the origin

$$B(0, 1) := \left\{ (x^1, \dots, x^n), |\vec{x}|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (x^i)^2 < 1 \right\},$$

with boundary $\partial B(0, 1) = \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$. We will write $B(p, r)$ for a ball ($D(p, r)$ for a disc, in dimension two), and $S(p, r)$ for a sphere (circle, in dimension two) of radius $r > 0$ centered at p . The ball underlies the Poincaré disc model $(B(0, 1), \tilde{g})$ for hyperbolic space, with the hyperbolic metric taking the form

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{4}{(1 - |\vec{x}|^2)^2} \left((dx^1)^2 + \dots + (dx^n)^2 \right) \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$= |_{n=2} \frac{4}{(1 - x^2 - y^2)^2} (dx^2 + dy^2). \quad (\text{A.2})$$

An alternative useful model of two-dimensional hyperbolic space is the Poincaré half-plane

$$\mathcal{H} := \{(\hat{x}, \hat{y}), \hat{x} > 0\}$$

with metric

$$\hat{g} = \frac{d\hat{x}^2 + d\hat{y}^2}{\hat{x}^2} = \frac{d\hat{z}d\bar{\hat{z}}}{(\Re \hat{z})^2}, \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where the complex notation $\hat{z} = \hat{x} + i\hat{y}$ has been used.

The half-plane model is linked to the Poincaré-disc model by the transformation

$$\hat{x} = \frac{2(x+1)}{y^2 + (x+1)^2} - 1 = \frac{1 - x^2 - y^2}{y^2 + (x+1)^2}, \quad \hat{y} = \frac{2y}{y^2 + (x+1)^2}, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

and its inverted version

$$x = \frac{1 - \hat{x}^2 - \hat{y}^2}{\hat{y}^2 + (\hat{x} + 1)^2}, \quad y = \frac{2\hat{y}}{\hat{y}^2 + (\hat{x} + 1)^2}. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Note that we can write

$$\bar{z} = \frac{1 - \hat{z}}{1 + \hat{z}}, \quad \hat{z} = \frac{1 - z}{1 + z}, \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where a bar denotes complex conjugation.

A pole on $\partial D(0, 1)$ corresponds to a pole on $\partial \mathcal{H}$ (and reciprocally), which can also be seen from the explicit formula, for $\theta \in (-\pi, \pi)$,

$$\frac{1}{z - e^{i\theta}} = \frac{1}{\bar{z} + i \tan(\frac{\theta}{2})} \left[\frac{-(1 + i \tan(\frac{\theta}{2}))}{1 + e^{i\theta}} \right] - \left[\frac{1}{1 + e^{i\theta}} \right]. \quad (\text{A.7})$$

Lastly, we will sometimes parameterize two-dimensional hyperbolic space as

$$\bar{g} = \frac{dr^2}{r^2 + 1} + r^2 d\varphi^2, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

where $r \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$ and $\varphi \in \mathbb{S}^1$. This model of hyperbolic space is connected to (A.3) by the transformation

$$\hat{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + 1} + r \cos(\varphi)}, \quad \hat{y} = \frac{r \sin(\varphi)}{\sqrt{r^2 + 1} + \cos(\varphi)}, \quad (\text{A.9})$$

where we assumed that $-\pi \leq \varphi < \pi$.

Appendix B. The Lichnerowicz equation: existence, uniqueness, boundary regularity

In space-dimension $n = 2$ the conformal method for solving the general relativistic constraint equations requires an understanding of equations of the form

$$\Delta_{\bar{g}} u(\cdot) = F(\cdot, u), \quad (\text{B.1})$$

on ALH manifolds (M, \bar{g}) . This problem has been addressed in detail in [2] assuming $n \geq 3$. However, the results there apply without further due with $n = 2$. For instance:

1. The monotone iteration scheme on a sequence of exhausting sets, together with a diagonalization argument, provides existence of bounded solutions of (B.1) whenever F is continuous in u , and if there exists constants $c_1 \leq c_2$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{y}, c_1) \leq 0, \quad F(\mathbf{y}, c_2) \geq 0. \quad (\text{B.2})$$

We emphasize that no further assumptions on the geometry of (M, \bar{g}) are necessary whenever (B.2) holds. In particular, for the Lichnerowicz equation on a maximal hypersurface,

$$2\Delta_{\bar{g}} u = -R_{\bar{g}} + e^{2u} |\tilde{L}|_{\bar{g}}^2 + e^{-2u} (-2 + \rho) =: 2F(\cdot, u) \quad (\text{B.3})$$

with $0 \leq \rho < 2 - \epsilon$ for some $\epsilon > 0$, existence holds for manifolds (M, \bar{g}) with an arbitrary number of cusps and ALH ends if we assume that $|\tilde{L}|_{\bar{g}}^2$ is uniformly bounded and that the Ricci scalar $R_{\bar{g}}$ is sandwiched between two negative constants.

2. Uniqueness of the above solutions on, e.g. geometrically finite manifolds with ALH ends, with u vanishing asymptotically in the ends, will hold when F is monotonous in u , which is the case for the Lichnerowicz equation of the form just described.

In order to obtain asymptotic information on u for ALH metrics \bar{g} , let us write (B.1) in the form assumed in [2, theorem 7.2.1],

$$Lu = \hat{F}(\mathbf{y}, u) + S(\mathbf{y}), \quad (\text{B.4})$$

with $\hat{F}(\mathbf{y}, 0) = \partial_s \hat{F}(\mathbf{y}, s)|_{s=0} = 0$. In half-space coordinates where $\tilde{g} = x^{-2}(dx^2 + dy^2)$ the Lichnerowicz equation for vacuum CMC data (and so, in particular, the Yamabe equation) takes the form (B.4) with

$$L := \Delta_{\tilde{g}} - 2(h + 1), \quad \Delta_{\tilde{g}} = x^2(\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2); \tag{B.5}$$

$$S := h; \tag{B.6}$$

$$\hat{F}(\mathbf{y}, u) := 1 + he^{2u} - e^{-2u} - h - 2(h + 1)u, \tag{B.7}$$

with

$$h = x^4 |\check{f}|^2 \tag{B.8}$$

in the holomorphic-function representation of TT tensors. When the metric \tilde{g} is conformally smooth at a conformal boundary $\{x = 0\}$ and \check{f} is holomorphic in a neighborhood of the conformal boundary, the solutions have a full asymptotic expansion in terms of functions $x^i \ln^j x$ for small x . To justify this, we start by noting that L is an elliptic operator which can be defined as in [2, (4.2.1)–(4.2.4)] with indicial roots $\mu_- = -1$, $\mu_+ = 2$. Using [2, theorem 7.2.1], we have $\mu_{\pm} = \alpha_{\pm}$ so that $(\mu_-, \mu_+) = (-1, 2)$ is a strong regularity interval for $C_{0+\lambda}^{\alpha}(D(0, 1))$ for L . Assuming h of the form (B.8) with a function \check{f} holomorphic near the unit disc gives

$$S \equiv h \in x^4 C^{k+\lambda}(\overline{D(0, 1)}) \subset x^2 C^{k+\lambda}(\overline{D(0, 1)}).$$

Applying [2, theorem 7.4.5] with $\alpha = 2$, a polyhomogeneous expansion follows. Smoothness at the boundary follows now by inspection of the coefficients in the equation.

Appendix C. The Lichnerowicz equation with poles on the conformal boundary

Our aim is to obtain some insight in the boundary behavior of solutions of the Lichnerowicz equation when the extrinsic curvature arises from a pole at the conformal boundary. We use the notations of [2] for the function spaces that appear here.

In the Poincaré-disc model we can use, e.g.

$$\omega := \frac{1 - |\vec{x}|^2}{2}$$

as the defining function for the conformal boundary at infinity.

When the extrinsic curvature tensor arises from a function which is holomorphic near the circle at conformal infinity, smoothness at that circle of the solutions of the Lichnerowicz equation has been pointed out in appendix B below. In the case of poles at the boundary, the analysis in [2] provides some partial information:

Proposition C.1. *Let us assume that the function h of (B.8) satisfies $h = \omega^4 |\check{f}|^2 \in \omega C^{k+\lambda}(\overline{D(0, 1)})$ for some $k \geq 1$, $\lambda \in (0, 1)$. Then, there exists $\sigma \in (0, 1)$ such as the solution u of (B.4)–(B.7) verifies*

$$u \in \bigcap_{i=0}^2 \omega^{1-i} C^{i+\sigma|k}(\overline{D(0, 1)}). \tag{C.1}$$

Moreover, in the case $k > 1$, there exist functions $u_j \in \omega^{2j} C^{k-1+\lambda}(\overline{D(0,1)}) \cap \omega^{2j-1} C^{k+\lambda}(\overline{D(0,1)})$ for $1 \leq j \leq N$ such as

$$u - \sum_{j=0}^N u_j \log^j(\omega) \in C^{k+1+\sigma}(\overline{D(0,1)}), \tag{C.2}$$

where N is the smallest integer such as $N > \frac{k}{2} + 1$. Finally, if $u_1|_{\partial D(0,1)} = 0$,

$$u \in C^{k+1+\sigma}(\overline{D(0,1)}). \tag{C.3}$$

Proof. The result follows by the same arguments as in appendix B, but this time we only have $S \equiv h \in \omega C^{k+\lambda}$, in which case [2, theorem 7.4.5] with $\alpha = 1$ provides the regularity above. \square

Let us now consider the half-plane model \mathcal{H} near its boundary $\partial\mathcal{H} = \{\hat{x} = 0\}$. We consider a meromorphic function \check{f} satisfying the finite-mass condition, so that $|\check{f}|^2 \hat{x}^4 = \mathcal{O}(\hat{x})$. The Lichnerowicz equation, written with respect to the hyperbolic background, takes the form

$$Lu := \left[\hat{x}^2 (\partial_{\hat{x}\hat{x}}^2 + \partial_{\hat{y}\hat{y}}^2) \right] u = 2u + \hat{x}^4 |\check{f}|^2 + o(u) = 0, \tag{C.4}$$

so that the term containing \check{f} can now be seen as a source. Note that the operator L has again indicial roots $\alpha_{\pm} = 2, -1$. Now, let us choose

$$\check{f} = \frac{1}{\hat{z}}. \tag{C.5}$$

Thus \check{f} describes a pole sitting at the origin of the half-plane model. Neglecting the $o(u)$ term in (C.4) one obtains

$$\left[(\partial_{\hat{x}\hat{x}}^2 + \partial_{\hat{y}\hat{y}}^2) - \frac{2}{\hat{x}^2} \right] u = \frac{\hat{x}^2}{\hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2}. \tag{C.6}$$

Using polar coordinates $(\hat{r}, \hat{\varphi})$ centered at the pole this becomes

$$\left[\frac{1}{\hat{r}} \partial_{\hat{r}} (\hat{r} \partial_{\hat{r}}) + \frac{1}{\hat{r}^2} \partial_{\hat{\varphi}\hat{\varphi}}^2 - \frac{2}{\hat{r}^2 \cos^2 \hat{\varphi}} \right] u = \cos^2 \hat{\varphi}. \tag{C.7}$$

Searching for solutions as $u(\hat{r}, \hat{\varphi}) = h(\hat{r}) \cos^2 \hat{\varphi}$, one can find an approximate solution

$$\frac{1}{4} \hat{r}^2 \ln \hat{r} \cos^2 \hat{\varphi} = \frac{1}{8} \hat{x}^2 \ln(\hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2),$$

so that, close to the boundary, we expect

$$u = u_1 + o(\hat{x}^2), \tag{C.8}$$

where

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{8} \hat{x}^2 \ln(\hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2) + \hat{x}^2 (\lambda \hat{y} + \mu), \tag{C.9}$$

for some $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$.

While proposition C.1 guarantees an upper bound on the solution, the following only provides a formal development:

Proposition C.2. Consider the Lichnerowicz equation with a TT-extrinsic curvature tensor defined by the function f given by (C.5). There exists a formal asymptotic solution of the form, $\forall N \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{r}^{2n} |\ln \hat{r}|^k F_{n,k}(\hat{\varphi}) + o(\hat{r}^{2N}), \tag{C.10}$$

with $F_{n,k} \in C_0^\infty([-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$.

Proof. The result works for $N = 1$ by (C.8) and (C.9). Let us assume the result for some $N \geq 1$. We look for

$$v = O(\hat{r}^{2N+2} \ln^{N+1} \hat{r})$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{r}^{2n} |\ln \hat{r}|^k F_{n,k}(\hat{\varphi}) + v + o(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)}) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N u_n + v + o(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)}). \end{aligned} \tag{C.11}$$

Now, u verifies

$$\hat{x}^2 (\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2) u = 1 - e^{-2u} + \hat{x}^4 e^{2u} |f|^2,$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\hat{g}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N u_n + v \right) &= - \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{(-2)^k \left(\sum_{n=1}^N u_n + v \right)^k}{k!} + \frac{\hat{x}^4}{\hat{r}^2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \frac{2^k \left(\sum_{n=1}^N u_n + v \right)^k}{k!} \\ &\quad + O(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)} \ln^{N+1} \hat{r}). \end{aligned} \tag{C.12}$$

Using the equations of order n for $n \leq N$ and simplifying $o(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)})$ terms, only $\hat{r}^{2(N+1)} |\ln \hat{r}|^k, k \leq N + 1$ terms remain. We obtain

$$\Delta_{\hat{g}} v = 2v + \hat{r}^{2(N+1)} \sum_{k=0}^{N+1} |\ln \hat{r}|^k S_k(\hat{\varphi}) + o(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)}), \tag{C.13}$$

with $S_k \in C_0^\infty([-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$. We look for solutions of the form

$$v = \hat{r}^{2(N+1)} \sum_{k=0}^{N+1} F_k(\hat{\varphi}) |\ln \hat{r}|^k + o(\hat{r}^{2(N+1)}), \tag{C.14}$$

with $F_k \in C_0^\infty([-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$.

We consider first the most singular terms at the right-hand side of (C.13), namely those which are of order $\hat{r}^{2(N+1)} |\ln \hat{r}|^{N+1}$. Developing the Laplacian using

$$\Delta_{\hat{g}}(\hat{r}^\alpha |\ln \hat{r}|^\beta f(\hat{\varphi})) = \hat{r}^\alpha \cos^2 \hat{\varphi} \left[(\alpha^2 |\ln \hat{r}|^\beta - 2\alpha\beta |\ln \hat{r}|^{\beta-1} + \beta(\beta-1) |\ln \hat{r}|^{\beta-2}) f(\hat{\varphi}) + |\ln \hat{r}|^\beta \partial_{\hat{\varphi}\hat{\varphi}}^2 f \right], \quad (\text{C.15})$$

(C.13) becomes

$$(L[F_{N+1}] - S_{N+1} + o(1)) \hat{r}^{2(N+1)} |\ln \hat{r}|^{N+1} = 0, \quad (\text{C.16})$$

for a smooth function of $S_{N+1}(\hat{\varphi})$, where

$$L = \cos^2 \hat{\varphi} \left(4(N+1)^2 + \partial_{\hat{\varphi}\hat{\varphi}}^2 \right) - 2. \quad (\text{C.17})$$

We are thus led to study solutions of the problem

$$L[F_{N+1}] = S_{N+1} \quad (\text{C.18})$$

in $C_0^\infty([-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$. We show in appendix E that such a function F_{N+1} exists.

The remaining terms at the right-hand side of (C.13) can be handled by descending induction. For this, set $F_{N+2} \equiv 0$; recall that F_{N+1} has just been determined. Assume that for $k \in [[0; N]]$ the coefficients F_l with $l > k$ have been determined. Then, at order $\hat{r}^{2(N+1)} |\ln \hat{r}|^k$, equation (C.13) reads

$$L[F_k] = \tilde{S}_k, \quad (\text{C.19})$$

with

$$\tilde{S}_k = S_k + 2(N+1)(k+1)F_{k+1} - (k+1)(k+2)F_{k+2},$$

the source term taking into account the terms from derivatives of lower order (higher k). As before, this equation has a solution in $C_0^\infty([-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$. The iteration over k gives us the development we wanted for v , and the iteration over N gives proposition C.2. □

The proof of proposition C.2 can then be adapted to any pole on $\partial\mathcal{H}$. Using (A.7), the same formal polyhomogeneous development in the variable $\hat{r} = \frac{1-x^2+y^2}{\sqrt{(1+x^2)^2+y^2}}$ can be done for a pole on $D(0, 1)$ (just the angular part changes *a priori*).

Note that $\hat{r} \rightarrow 0$ on the pole but nowhere else on the unit circle, this development is very localized. Anywhere else, the previous development for holomorphic f should apply, but this remains to be established.

Appendix D. Maximal hypersurfaces

The aim of this section is to verify regularity at the conformal boundary at infinity of maximal surfaces, as needed for the Positivity theorem 4.7.

So let \mathcal{S} be the conformal boundary at infinity and S be a compact spacelike submanifold of \mathcal{S} which is a graph

$$t = \check{f}(\varphi). \quad (\text{D.1})$$

We can apply an asymptotic symmetry to obtain new Bañados coordinates $(\check{t}, \check{r}, \check{\varphi})$ on a neighborhood of S within \mathcal{S} so that

$$S = \{\check{t} = 0\}.$$

According to [46] (compare [28, theorem 9.3]), when \check{f} is close to 0 (in a norm made precise in these references) there exists a maximal hypersurface spanned on \mathcal{S} which is the graph of a function f over the hypersurface $\{\check{t} = 0\}$. The function f is smooth in the interior, polyhomogeneous at the conformal boundary, and, in general, only C^2 up-to-boundary. More regularity holds in specific situations, which is the case under our hypotheses. Indeed, one finds that the trace of the extrinsic curvature tensor, which we denote by \check{K} , of the level sets of \check{t} in coordinates $\check{r} = 1/\check{x}$ is given by

$$\text{tr}(\check{K}) = -\frac{\check{x}^3 \left(\check{\mathcal{L}}'_- (\check{t} - \check{\varphi}) \left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_+ (\check{t} + \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right) + \left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_- (\check{t} - \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right) \check{\mathcal{L}}'_+ (\check{t} + \check{\varphi}) \right)}{2 \left(\left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_- (\check{t} - \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right) \left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_+ (\check{t} + \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right) \right)^{3/2}} \quad (\text{D.2})$$

$$= -\frac{\check{\mathcal{L}}'_- (\check{t} - \check{\varphi}) + \check{\mathcal{L}}'_+ (\check{t} + \check{\varphi})}{2} \check{x}^3 + \mathcal{O}(\check{x}^5). \quad (\text{D.3})$$

It now follows by the arguments in [28] that f is smooth on the conformally rescaled manifold with

$$f(\check{x}, \check{\varphi}) = f_4(\check{\varphi}) \check{x}^4 + \dots \quad (\text{D.4})$$

where

$$f_4(\check{\varphi}) = \frac{1}{8} \left(\check{\mathcal{L}}'_- (-\check{\varphi}) + \check{\mathcal{L}}'_+ (\check{\varphi}) \right). \quad (\text{D.5})$$

(We note that \check{x}^2 -terms in \check{K} would have led to $\check{x}^3 \log \check{x}$ -terms in f , creating problems in an attempt to prove positivity.) The induced metric on the level sets of f reads

$$\check{g} = (\theta^2)^2 + \frac{\left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_- (\check{t} - \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right) \left(\check{x}^2 \check{\mathcal{L}}_+ (\check{t} + \check{\varphi}) + 1 \right)}{\check{x}^2} (\theta^1)^2 \quad (\text{D.6})$$

$$= (\theta^2)^2 + \left(1 + \left(\check{\mathcal{L}}_- (-\check{\varphi}) + \check{\mathcal{L}}_+ (\check{\varphi}) \right) \check{x}^2 \right) (\theta^1)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\check{x}^4), \quad (\text{D.7})$$

where $\theta^2 = d\check{x}/\check{x}$ and $\theta^1 = d\check{\varphi}/\check{x}$. We conclude that the mass aspect function of the maximal hypersurface is the same as that of the hypersurface $\{\check{t} = 0\}$, as desired.

Appendix E. An ODE result

In this appendix we prove existence of solutions of the boundary-value problem

$$\left[\cos^2 \varphi \left(\alpha^2 + \frac{d^2}{d\varphi^2} \right) - 2 \right] f(\varphi) = s(\varphi), \quad (\text{E.1})$$

$$f\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0, \quad (\text{E.2})$$

on $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$, for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, and a source s . The operator appearing at the left-hand side of (E.1) is the operator L of (C.17) with $\hat{\varphi}$ there replaced by φ here, and with

$$\alpha = 2(N+1) \geq 4.$$

We will thus justify existence of solutions of (C.18).

We use the scalar product

$$\langle f, g \rangle := \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} f(\varphi) g(\varphi) \, d\varphi, \quad (\text{E.3})$$

so that the formal adjoint L^\dagger is defined by the equation

$$\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \psi (L\phi) \, d\varphi = \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} (L^\dagger\psi) \phi \, d\varphi. \quad (\text{E.4})$$

The study of L^\dagger is of interest since we have:

$$\ker L^\dagger = \{0\} \quad \iff \quad \forall \xi \exists \phi : L\phi = \xi. \quad (\text{E.5})$$

It will be convenient to use a new variable $X = \sin \varphi$, so that

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(X) g(X) \frac{dX}{\sqrt{1-X^2}}. \quad (\text{E.6})$$

Equation (E.1) becomes

$$L = (1 - X^2) \left((1 - X^2) \partial_X^2 - X \partial_X + \alpha^2 \right) - 2. \quad (\text{E.7})$$

Since

$$d\varphi = \frac{dX}{\sqrt{1-X^2}}, \quad (\text{E.8})$$

we have

$$L^\dagger \psi = \sqrt{1-X^2} \left(\partial_X^2 \left((1-X^2)^{3/2} \psi \right) + \partial_X \left(X \sqrt{1-X^2} \psi \right) \right) + (\alpha^2 (1-X^2) - 2) \psi,$$

which simplifies to

$$L^\dagger = (1 - X^2) \left[(1 - X^2) \partial_X^2 - 5X \partial_X + (\alpha^2 - 4) \right]. \quad (\text{E.9})$$

Using a power series, one can find the general family of solutions as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(X) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\alpha/2} c_{2k} X^{2k} + X \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_{2k+1} X^{2k} \\ &=: c_0 P(X^2) + c_1 X Q(X^2), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E.10})$$

with $c_0, c_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and

$$\forall k \geq 0, \quad (k+1)(k+2)c_{k+2} = [k(k-1) + 5k - (\alpha^2 - 4)] c_k.$$

Equivalently,

$$\forall k \geq 2, \quad c_k = \frac{k^2 - \alpha^2}{k(k-1)} c_{k-2}. \quad (\text{E.11})$$

Since $\alpha = 2(N + 1)$ is even, we find

$$c_{2k} = (-4)^k \frac{N + 1 - k}{N + 1} \binom{N + 1 + k}{2k} c_0, \tag{E.12}$$

for $k \leq N$, and $c_{2k} = 0$ for $k > N$, hence the series (E.10).

We have:

Proposition E.1. $P(1) \neq 0$ and Q has a radius of convergence of 1 and diverges for $X = 1$.

Proof. First, using MATHEMATICA one checks the identity

$$P(1) = \frac{1}{c_0} \sum_{k=0}^{N+1} c_{2k} = \sum_{k=0}^{N+1} (-4)^k \frac{N + 1 - k}{N + 1} \binom{N + 1 + k}{2k} \tag{E.13}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{3} (-1)^{N+1} \left(-1 + 3(-1)^{N+1} + 4(N + 1)^2 \right). \tag{E.14}$$

Since $|P(1)| \geq \frac{1}{3}(4(N + 1)^2 - 4) > 0$ for $N > 0$, we obtain $P(1) \neq 0$ as desired.

Next, for all $k \geq 0$ let us define

$$u_k = c_{2k+1+\alpha}, \tag{E.15}$$

so that

$$\forall k > 0, \quad u_k = \frac{(2k + 1 + \alpha)^2 - \alpha^2}{(2k + 1 + \alpha)(2k + \alpha)} u_{k-1}. \tag{E.16}$$

We have

$$\frac{u_k}{u_{k-1}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2k} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k^2}\right), \tag{E.17}$$

hence for all $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$,

$$\ln(u_n) - \ln(u_0) = \sum_{k=1}^n [\ln(u_k) - \ln(u_{k-1})] = \sum_{k=1}^n \left[\frac{1}{2k} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k^2}\right) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \ln n + C + o(1), \tag{E.18}$$

with $C \in \mathbb{R}$. As a consequence, there exists $\tilde{C} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that, for large n ,

$$u_n \sim \tilde{C} \sqrt{n}, \tag{E.19}$$

so that $\sum u_n$ diverges. Therefore, $Q(X) = \sum c_{2p+1} X^{2p}$ has a radius of convergence of 1 and diverges for $X^2 = 1$. □

With these results, the constraint $\psi(-1) = \psi(1) = 0$ leads to $c_0 = c_1 = 0$ as the unique possibility. As a consequence,

$$\ker L^\dagger = \{0\}$$

and $Lf = s$ admits solutions that vanish on the boundary for any source s .

Appendix F. Imaginary Killing spinors

We consider the imaginary Killing spinor equation,

$$D_j \psi = -\frac{i}{2} \gamma_j \psi, \quad (\text{F.1})$$

which we write as

$$D_j \psi = \frac{i\epsilon}{2} \gamma_j \psi, \quad (\text{F.2})$$

where, for reasons that will become clear shortly, the parameter $\epsilon = \pm 1$ allows one to treat simultaneously a representation of the Clifford algebra obtained by multiplying the γ -matrices by -1 . The anti-de Sitter metric can be written as

$$g = \frac{-dt^2 + dx^2 + dy^2}{\hat{x}^2}, \quad (\text{F.3})$$

where $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\hat{t}, \hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}$. While this coordinate system does not cover the whole Anti-de Sitter spacetime (cf e.g. [7, equation (3.11)]), it is good enough for our purposes as each level set of \hat{t} covers the whole two-dimensional hyperbolic space. Using a spin frame associated with the ON frame

$$e_0 = \hat{x} \partial_{\hat{t}}, \quad e_1 = \hat{x} \partial_{\hat{y}}, \quad e_2 = \hat{x} \partial_{\hat{x}}, \quad (\text{F.4})$$

and γ -matrices given by

$$\gamma^0 = \sigma^3, \quad \gamma^1 = i\sigma^1, \quad \gamma^2 = i\sigma^2, \quad (\text{F.5})$$

all imaginary Killing spinors are found to be

$$\psi|_{\epsilon=1} = \left(\frac{a_2(-i\hat{t} + i\hat{y} + \hat{x} + 1) - 2ia_1}{2\sqrt{\hat{x}}}, \frac{2a_1 + a_2(\tau - \hat{y} - i\hat{x} + i)}{2\sqrt{\hat{x}}} \right), \quad (\text{F.6})$$

$$\psi|_{\epsilon=-1} = \left(\frac{b_2(\hat{x} + 1 + i(\hat{t} + \hat{y})) + 2ib_1}{2\sqrt{\hat{x}}}, \frac{2b_1 + b_2(\hat{t} + \hat{y} + i\hat{x} - i)}{2\sqrt{\hat{x}}} \right), \quad (\text{F.7})$$

with a_1, a_2, b_1 and $b_2 \in \mathbb{C}$. The associated Killing vectors $X := \psi^\dagger \gamma^\mu \psi e_\mu$ have coordinate components given by

$$X^{\hat{t}} = 2|a_1|^2 + \frac{|a_2|^2}{2} (\hat{x}^2 + 1 + (\hat{y} - \hat{t})^2) - 2\Re(\bar{a}_1 a_2) (\hat{y} - \hat{t}) + 2\Im(a_1 \bar{a}_2), \quad (\text{F.8})$$

$$X^{\hat{x}} = 2\hat{x} (\Re(\bar{a}_1 a_2) - |a_2|^2 (\hat{y} - \hat{t})), \quad (\text{F.9})$$

$$X^{\hat{y}} = -2|a_1|^2 + \frac{|a_2|^2}{2} (\hat{x}^2 - 1 - (\hat{y} - \hat{t})^2) + 2\Re(\bar{a}_1 a_2) (\hat{y} - \hat{t}) - 2\Im(a_1 \bar{a}_2), \quad (\text{F.10})$$

when ψ is given by (F.6) and

$$X^{\hat{t}} = 2|b_1|^2 + \frac{|b_2|^2}{2} (1 + \hat{x}^2 + (\hat{y} + \hat{t})^2) + 2\Re(\bar{b}_1 b_2) (\hat{y} + \hat{t}) - 2\Im(b_1 \bar{b}_2), \quad (\text{F.11})$$

$$X^{\hat{x}} = 2\hat{x} (\Re(\bar{b}_1 b_2) + |b_2|^2 (\hat{y} + \hat{t})), \quad (\text{F.12})$$

$$X^{\hat{y}} = 2|b_1|^2 + \frac{|b_2|^2}{2} \left(1 - \hat{x}^2 + (\hat{y} + \hat{t})^2 \right) + 2\Re(\bar{b}_1 b_2) (\hat{y} + \hat{t}) - 2\Im(b_1 \bar{b}_2), \quad (\text{F.13})$$

when ψ is given by (F.7).

The above imaginary Killing spinors are all obviously well-defined throughout the whole coordinate range, in particular on the whole two-dimensional slice $\hat{t} = 0$. In particular they extend, as spinor fields (not necessarily imaginary Killing), to any manifold with spin structure inducing near the conformal boundary at infinity the canonical spin structure as defined in remark 4.9.

Recall that the hyperbolic cusp is obtained by choosing $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and identifying \hat{y} to a circle of period λ . On this manifold only the imaginary Killing spinors with $a_2 = 0 = b_2$ survive the identification, leading to Killing vectors colinear with

$$X = \partial_{\hat{t}} - \epsilon \partial_{\hat{y}}, \quad (\text{F.14})$$

with ϵ as in (F.2).

These imaginary Killing spinors extend, as spinor fields (but not Killing in general), both to manifolds equipped with the canonical spin structure of remark 4.9, using the diffeomorphism (A.4) between the half-space model and the disc model, or the twisted spin structure using the identification $\hat{y} \mapsto \hat{y} + 2\pi$, which provides a diffeomorphism between the periodically identified half-space model and a disc with the origin removed. Note that the latter identification leads to spinor fields which are periodic in the trivial intrinsic spin structure on the bounding circle, while the former to anti-periodic ones. Further comments on this can be found in remark F.1 below.

It has been pointed-out in [35] that extreme BTZ black holes provide another example where imaginary Killing spinors survive the transition to the quotient, and that this is the only remaining case in the BTZ family. This is far from apparent from (F.6) and (F.7) and so, to find the imaginary Killing spinors in the extremal BTZ case, it is useful to consider the coordinate system (4.17). For this we start by noting that the local coordinate transformation from the half-space model to the metric (4.20) with $M = J \neq 0$ is given by

$$\hat{t} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3M - 2r^2}{\sqrt{2M}(M - 2r^2)} - e^{\sqrt{2M}(\varphi - t)} + t + \varphi \right), \quad (\text{F.15})$$

$$\hat{x} = \frac{2^{3/4} e^{\frac{\sqrt{M}(\varphi - t)}{\sqrt{2}}}}{\sqrt{\frac{2r^2 - M}{\sqrt{M}}}}, \quad (\text{F.16})$$

$$\hat{y} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{M + 2r^2}{\sqrt{2M}(M - 2r^2)} + e^{\sqrt{2M}(\varphi - t)} + t + \varphi \right). \quad (\text{F.17})$$

Hence, the identification $(t, r, \varphi) \sim (t, r, \varphi + 2\pi)$ leads to the identification

$$\left(\hat{t} + \hat{y}, \hat{t} - \hat{y} - \left(\sqrt{2M} \right)^{-1}, \hat{x} \right) \sim \left(\hat{t} + \hat{y} + 2\pi, \left(\hat{t} - \hat{y} - \left(\sqrt{2M} \right)^{-1} \right) e^{2\pi\sqrt{2M}}, \hat{x} e^{\sqrt{2M}\pi} \right). \quad (\text{F.18})$$

Whether or not either of the spinors (F.6)-(F.7) survive (F.18) is not obvious, as the last identification requires an associated adjustment of the spin frame. There are two cases to consider, $M = J$ and $M = -J$. For $M = J$ the metric reads

$$\mathbf{g} = -(\bar{r}^2 - M) dt^2 + \frac{4\bar{r}^2 d\bar{r}^2}{M^2 - 4M\bar{r}^2 + 4\bar{r}^4} - M dt d\varphi + \bar{r}^2 d\varphi^2. \quad (\text{F.19})$$

This metric has one well-defined imaginary Killing spinor when $\epsilon = 1$. In a spin frame associated with the tetrad

$$e_0 = \frac{2r}{|M - 2r^2|} \partial_t + \frac{M}{r|M - 2r^2|} \partial_\varphi, \quad e_1 = \frac{1}{r} \partial_\varphi, \quad e_2 = \frac{|M - 2r^2|}{2r} \partial_r, \quad (\text{F.20})$$

the imaginary Killing spinor has components, for some complex constant c_1 ,

$$\psi = c_1 \left(\sqrt{r - \frac{M}{2r}}, -i \sqrt{r - \frac{M}{2r}} \right), \quad (\text{F.21})$$

where we have assumed that $r^2 > M/2$. The resulting Killing vector is

$$2|c_1|^2 (\partial_t + \partial_\varphi). \quad (\text{F.22})$$

For $M = -J$, the metric reads

$$\mathbf{g} = -(\bar{r}^2 - M) dt^2 + \frac{4\bar{r}^2 d\bar{r}^2}{M^2 - 4M\bar{r}^2 + 4\bar{r}^4} + M dt d\varphi + \bar{r}^2 d\varphi^2. \quad (\text{F.23})$$

It has one well-defined imaginary Killing spinor for $\epsilon = -1$. In the spin frame defined by the tetrad

$$e_0 = \frac{2r}{|M - 2r^2|} \partial_t - \frac{M}{r|M - 2r^2|} \partial_\varphi, \quad e_1 = \frac{1}{r} \partial_\varphi, \quad e_2 = \frac{|M - 2r^2|}{2r} \partial_r, \quad (\text{F.24})$$

it is given by

$$\psi = c_2 \left(\sqrt{r - \frac{M}{2r}}, i \sqrt{r - \frac{M}{2r}} \right), \quad (\text{F.25})$$

where we have again assumed that we are in the regime $r^2 > M/2$. The associated Killing vector reads

$$2|c_2|^2 (\partial_t - \partial_\varphi). \quad (\text{F.26})$$

For completeness, and in order to make clear the periodicity of spinor fields near the conformal boundary at infinity, we consider imaginary Killing spinors for anti-de Sitter in the global coordinate system

$$\mathbf{g} = -\frac{(x^2 + y^2 + 1)^2}{(x^2 + y^2 - 1)^2} dt^2 + 4 \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{(x^2 + y^2 - 1)^2}. \quad (\text{F.27})$$

This may be obtained by considering AdS in the coordinate system

$$\mathbf{g} = -(r^2 + 1) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{r^2 + 1} + r^2 d\varphi^2 \quad (\text{F.28})$$

and performing the change of coordinates

$$x = \frac{(\sqrt{r^2 + 1} + 1) \cos(\varphi)}{r}, \quad y = \frac{(\sqrt{r^2 + 1} + 1) \sin(\varphi)}{r}. \quad (\text{F.29})$$

We now calculate imaginary Killing spinors in a spin frame associated with

$$e_0 = \left(\frac{1-x^2-y^2}{1+x^2+y^2} \right) \partial_t, \quad e_1 = \frac{1}{2} (1-x^2-y^2) \partial_y, \quad (\text{F.30})$$

$$e_2 = \frac{1}{2} (1-x^2-y^2) \partial_x, \quad (\text{F.31})$$

and obtain

$$\psi|_{\epsilon=1} = \left(-\frac{ie^{-\frac{it}{2}} (\tilde{a}_1 + \tilde{a}_2 e^{it} (x+iy))}{\sqrt{1-x^2-y^2}}, -\frac{e^{-\frac{it}{2}} (\tilde{a}_1 (x-iy) + \tilde{a}_2 e^{it})}{\sqrt{1-x^2-y^2}} \right), \quad (\text{F.32})$$

$$\psi|_{\epsilon=-1} = \left(-\frac{ie^{-\frac{it}{2}} (\tilde{b}_2 (x+iy) + \tilde{b}_1 e^{it})}{\sqrt{1-x^2-y^2}}, \frac{e^{-\frac{it}{2}} (\tilde{b}_2 + \tilde{b}_1 e^{it} (x-iy))}{\sqrt{1-x^2-y^2}} \right). \quad (\text{F.33})$$

with $\tilde{a}_1, \tilde{a}_2, \tilde{b}_1$ and $\tilde{b}_2 \in \mathbb{C}$, with associated Killing vectors given by

$$X^t = |\tilde{a}_1|^2 + |\tilde{a}_2|^2 + \frac{4\Re(\tilde{a}_1 \tilde{a}_2 e^{-it} (x-iy))}{1+x^2+y^2}, \quad (\text{F.34})$$

$$X^x = -|\tilde{a}_1|^2 y - |\tilde{a}_2|^2 y + \Re\left(i \tilde{a}_1 \tilde{a}_2 e^{it} (-1 + (x+iy)^2)\right), \quad (\text{F.35})$$

$$X^y = |\tilde{a}_1|^2 x + |\tilde{a}_2|^2 x + \Re\left(\tilde{a}_1 \tilde{a}_2 e^{-it} (1 + (x-iy)^2)\right), \quad (\text{F.36})$$

when ψ is given by (F.32) and

$$X^t = |\tilde{b}_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}_2|^2 + \frac{4\Re(\tilde{b}_1 \tilde{b}_2 e^{it} (x-iy))}{1+x^2+y^2}, \quad (\text{F.37})$$

$$X^x = |\tilde{b}_1|^2 y + |\tilde{b}_2|^2 y + \Re\left(i \tilde{b}_1 \tilde{b}_2 e^{it} (-1 + (x-iy)^2)\right), \quad (\text{F.38})$$

$$X^y = -|\tilde{b}_1|^2 x - |\tilde{b}_2|^2 x - \Re\left(\tilde{b}_1 \tilde{b}_2 e^{it} (1 + (x-iy)^2)\right), \quad (\text{F.39})$$

when ψ is given by (F.33).

Remark F.1. The imaginary Killing spinor fields (F.32) and (F.33) are manifestly periodic on any circle S^1 in the spin frame underlying these equations. Under the identification (A.9) of the half-space with \mathbb{R}^2 , the orthonormal frame $\{\hat{x}\partial_{\hat{x}}, \hat{x}\partial_{\hat{y}}\}$ rotates by 2π with respect to the frame $\{\sqrt{1+r^2}\partial_r, r^{-1}\partial_\varphi\}$ when going around a circle of constant r . In the spin frame associated to $\{\sqrt{1+r^2}\partial_r, r^{-1}\partial_\varphi\}$ the spinor fields change sign after such a trip. This is made explicit by the formulae for the imaginary Killing spinors in [35]. \square

ORCID iDs

Piotr T Chruściel  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8362-7340>

Wan Cong  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3107-6986>

Théophile Quéau  <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-9133-7367>

Raphaëla Wutte  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1346-1047>

References

- [1] Andersson L, Barbot T, Benedetti R, Bonsante F, Goldman W M, Labourie F, Scannell K P and Schlenker J-M 2007 Notes on: “Lorentz spacetimes of constant curvature” [Geom. Dedicata 126 (2007), 3–45; mr2328921] by G. Mess *Geom. Dedicata* **126** 47–70
- [2] Andersson L and Chruściel P T 1996 Solutions of the constraint equations in general relativity satisfying “hyperboloidal boundary conditions” *Dissert. Math.* **355** 1–100 (English)
- [3] Andersson L, Eichmair M and Metzger J 2011 Jang’s equation and its applications to marginally trapped surfaces *Complex Analysis and Dynamical Systems IV. Part 2 (Contemp. Math.)* vol 554 (American Mathematical Society) (arXiv:1006.4601 [gr-qc]) pp 13–45
- [4] Aretakis S, Czimek S and Rodnianski I 2023 Characteristic gluing to the Kerr family and application to spacelike gluing *Commun. Math. Phys.* **403** 275–327
- [5] Balog J, Feher L and Palla L 1998 Coadjoint orbits of the Virasoro algebra and the global Liouville equation *Int. J. Mod. Phys. A* **13** 315–62
- [6] Bañados M 1999 Three-dimensional quantum geometry and black holes *AIP Conf. Proc.* **484** 147–69
- [7] Bañados M, Henneaux M, Teitelboim C and Zanelli J 1993 Geometry of the (2+1) black hole *Phys. Rev. D* **48** 1506–25
- [8] Bañados M, Teitelboim C and Zanelli J 1992 The black hole in three-dimensional spacetime *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **69** 1849–51
- [9] Barbot T 2008 Causal properties of AdS-isometry groups. I. Causal actions and limit sets *Adv. Theor. Math. Phys.* **12** 1–66
- [10] Barnich G, Gomberoff A and Gonzalez H A 2012 The flat limit of three dimensional asymptotically anti-de Sitter spacetimes *Phys. Rev. D* **86** 024020
- [11] Barnich G and Troessaert C 2010 Aspects of the BMS/CFT correspondence *J. High Energy Phys.* **JHEP05(2010)062**
- [12] Bartnik R and Isenberg J 2004 *The Constraint Equations, The Einstein Equations and the Large Scale Behavior of Gravitational Fields* (Birkhäuser) pp 1–38
- [13] Barzegar H, Chruściel P T and Nguyen L 2019 On the total mass of asymptotically hyperbolic manifolds *Pure Appl. Math. Q.* **15** 683–706
- [14] Beig R and Chruściel P T 1997 Killing initial data *Class. Quantum Grav.* **14** A83–A92
- [15] Beig R and Chruściel P T 2017 Shielding linearized gravity *Phys. Rev. D* **95** 064063
- [16] Beig R and Chruściel P T 2020 On linearised vacuum constraint equations on Einstein manifolds *Class. Quantum Grav.* **37** 215012
- [17] Benedetti R and Bonsante F 2009 *Canonical Wick Rotations in 3-Dimensional Gravity* vol 198 (Memoirs of the American Mathematical Society) p viii+164
- [18] Borthwick D 2016 *Spectral Theory of Infinite-Area Hyperbolic Surfaces (Progress in Mathematics)* vol 318, 2nd edn (Springer)
- [19] Carlotto A 2021 The general relativistic constraint equations *Living Rev. Relativ.* **24** 2
- [20] Cheng M C N and Skenderis K 2005 Positivity of energy for asymptotically locally AdS spacetimes *J. High Energy Phys.* **JHEP08(2005)107**
- [21] Choquet-Bruhat Y, Isenberg J and Pollack D 2006 The Einstein-scalar field constraints on asymptotically Euclidean manifolds *Chin. Ann. Math. B* **27** 31–52
- [22] Choquet-Bruhat Y, Isenberg J and Pollack D 2007 The constraint equations for the Einstein-scalar field system on compact manifolds *Class. Quantum Grav.* **24** 809–28
- [23] Chruściel P T, Cogo A and Nützi A 2024 A Bogovskii-type operator for Corvino-Schoen hyperbolic gluing (arXiv:2409.07502 [gr-qc])
- [24] Chruściel P T and Cong W 2023 Gluing variations *Class. Quantum Grav.* **40** 165009

- [25] Chruściel P T, Cong W and Gray F 2024 Characteristic Gluing with Λ : III. High-differentiability nonlinear gluing (arXiv:2407.03903 [gr-qc])
- [26] Chruściel P T and Delay E 2018 Exotic hyperbolic gluings *J. Diff. Geom.* **108** 243–93
- [27] Chruściel P T, Delay E and Nützi A 2024 in preparation
- [28] Chruściel P T and Galloway G J 2022 Maximal hypersurfaces in asymptotically Anti-de Sitter spacetime *Celebratio Mathematica* (arXiv:2208.09893) volume honoring Yvonne Choquet-Bruhat (available at: https://celebratio.org/ChoquetBruhat_Y/article/1107/)
- [29] Chruściel P T and Herzlich M 2003 The mass of asymptotically hyperbolic Riemannian manifolds *Pac. J. Math.* **212** 231–64
- [30] Chruściel P T, Jezierski J and Łęski S 2004 The Trautman-Bondi mass of hyperboloidal initial data sets *Adv. Theor. Math. Phys.* **8** 83–139
- [31] Chruściel P T, Maerten D and Tod K P 2006 Rigid upper bounds for the angular momentum and centre of mass of non-singular asymptotically anti-de Sitter space-times *J. High Energy Phys.* **JHEP11(2006)084**
- [32] Chruściel P T and Tod K P 2007 An angular momentum bound at null infinity (arXiv:0706.4057 [gr-qc])
- [33] Chruściel P T and Wutte R 2024 Gluing-at-infinity of two-dimensional asymptotically locally hyperbolic manifolds (arXiv:2401.04048 [gr-qc])
- [34] Cong W, Chruściel P T and Gray F 2024 Characteristic gluing with Λ : II. Linearised Einstein equations in higher dimension (arXiv:2401.04442 [gr-qc])
- [35] Coussaert O and Henneaux M 1994 Supersymmetry of the (2+1) black holes *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **72** 183–6
- [36] Czimek S and Rodnianski I 2022 Obstruction-free gluing for the Einstein equations (arXiv:2210.09663 [gr-qc])
- [37] Galloway G J, Schleich K and Witt D M 2012 Nonexistence of marginally trapped surfaces and geons in 2 + 1 gravity *Commun. Math. Phys.* **310** 285–98
- [38] Gibbons G W, Hull C M and Warner N P 1983 The stability of gauged supergravity *Nucl. Phys. B* **218** 173–90
- [39] Griffiths J B and Podolsky J 2009 *Exact Space-Times in Einstein's General Relativity* (Cambridge Monographs on Mathematical Physics) (Cambridge University Press)
- [40] Hannam M, Husa S and Murchadha N O 2009 Bowen-York trumpet data and black-hole simulations *Phys. Rev. D* **80** 124007
- [41] Hulin D and Troyanov M 1992 Prescribing curvature on open surfaces *Math. Ann.* **293** 277–315
- [42] Krasnov K and Schlenker J-M 2007 Minimal surfaces and particles in 3-manifolds *Geom. Dedicata* **126** 187–254
- [43] Kreiss H-O and Lorenz J S 2004 *Initial-Boundary Value Problems and the Navier-Stokes Equations* (Classics in Applied Mathematics) vol 47 (Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)) Reprint of the 1989 edn
- [44] Lee J M 2006 Fredholm operators and Einstein metrics on conformally compact manifolds *Mem. Am. Math. Soc.* **183** vi+83
- [45] Leitner F 2003 Imaginary Killing spinors in Lorentzian geometry *J. Math. Phys.* **44** 4795–806
- [46] Li Z and Shi Y 2008 Maximal slices in anti-de Sitter spaces *Tohoku Math. J.* **60** 253–65
- [47] Mädler T and Winicour J 2016 Bondi-Sachs formalism *Scholarpedia* **11** 33528
- [48] Maerten D 2006 Positive energy-momentum theorem in asymptotically anti-de Sitter spacetimes *Ann. Henri Poincaré* **7** 975–1011
- [49] Mao Y, Oh S J and Tao Z 2023 Initial data gluing in the asymptotically flat regime via solution operators with prescribed support properties (arXiv:2308.13031 [math.AP])
- [50] Mao Y and Tao Z 2022 Localized initial data for Einstein equations (arXiv:2210.09437 [math.AP])
- [51] Mazzeo R and Taylor M 2002 Curvature and uniformization *Isr. J. Math.* **130** 323–46
- [52] Mess G 2007 Lorentz spacetimes of constant curvature *Geom. Dedicata* **126** 3–45
- [53] Milnor J 1963 Spin structures on manifolds *Enseign. Math.* **9** 198–203
- [54] Moncrief V 1989 Reduction of the Einstein equations in 2 + 1 dimensions to a Hamiltonian system over Teichmüller space *J. Math. Phys.* **30** 2907–14
- [55] Moncrief V 2008 Relativistic Teichmüller theory—a Hamilton-Jacobi approach to 2 + 1-dimensional Einstein gravity *Surveys in Differential Geometry. Vol. XII. Geometric Flows* (Surveys in Differential Geometry) vol 12 (International Press) pp 203–49
- [56] Oblak B 2016 BMS particles in three dimensions *PhD Thesis* U. Brussels Doctoral thesis accepted by Free University of Brussels, Belgium (arXiv:1610.08526 [hep-th]) xxiv+450

- [57] Rauch J 2005 Precise finite speed with bare hands *Methods Appl. Anal.* **12** 267–77
- [58] Scannell K P 1999 Flat conformal structures and the classification of de Sitter manifolds *Commun. Anal. Geom.* **7** 325–45
- [59] Skenderis K and Solodukhin S N 2000 Quantum effective action from the AdS/CFT correspondence *Phys. Lett. B* **472** 316–22
- [60] Uhlenbeck K K 1983 Closed minimal surfaces in hyperbolic 3-manifolds *Seminar on Minimal Submanifolds (Annals of Mathematics Studies)* vol 103 (Princeton University Press) pp 147–68
- [61] Witten E 1988/89 2 + 1-dimensional gravity as an exactly soluble system *Nucl. Phys. B* **311** 46–78