

Mathematical problems of General Relativity

Problem sheet 4

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1. Verify that given the conformal rescaling $h_{ij} = \vartheta^4 \bar{h}_{ij}$, the associated Christoffels symbols are related to each other via

$$\Gamma^i{}_{jk} = \bar{\Gamma}^i{}_{jk} + 2(\delta_j{}^i \partial_k \ln \vartheta + \delta_k{}^i \partial_j \ln \vartheta - \bar{h}_{jk} \bar{h}^{il} \partial_l \ln \vartheta).$$

2. Verify that from the transformation rule for the Ricci tensor under conformal rescalings

$$r_{ij} = \bar{r}_{ij} - 2(\bar{D}_i \bar{D}_j \ln \vartheta + \bar{h}_{ij} \bar{h}^{lm} \bar{D}_l \bar{D}_m \ln \vartheta) + 4(\bar{D}_i \ln \vartheta \bar{D}_j \ln \vartheta - \bar{h}_{ij} \bar{h}^{lm} \bar{D}_l \ln \vartheta \bar{D}_m \ln \vartheta).$$

it follows that the Ricci scalar transforms as

$$r = \vartheta^{-4} \bar{r} - 8\bar{\theta}^{-5} \bar{D}_k \bar{D}^k \vartheta.$$

3. Verify that under the conformal rescaling $h_{ij} = \vartheta^4 \bar{h}_{ij}$ the time symmetric Hamiltonian constraint $r = 0$ implies the Yamabe equation

$$\bar{D}_k \bar{D}^k \vartheta - \frac{1}{8} \bar{r} \vartheta = 0$$

What is the corresponding expression in the case of non-vanishing extrinsic curvature?

4. Verify that the conformal factor of the Brill-Lindquist initial data is indeed a solution to the Yamabe equation.
5. Let n_a denote the unit normal of an hypersurface \mathcal{S} , and let ξ^a denote a Killing vector on the spacetime (\mathcal{M}, g_{ab}) . If $\xi^a n_a = 0$ (i.e. the Killing vector is orthogonal to \mathcal{S}) show that the Frobenius condition

$$\xi_{[a} \nabla_b \xi_{c]} = 0$$

is satisfied.

6. Show that in a stationary spacetime, and using adapted coordinates such that $\xi^a \partial_a = \partial_t$, the Killing vector condition $\mathcal{L}_\xi g_{ab} = 0$ together with the definitions of h_{ij} and K_{ij} imply that

$$\partial_t h_{ij} = \partial_t K_{ij} = 0.$$

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