

Conformal classes of asymptotically flat, static vacuum data

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Abstract

We show that time-reflection symmetric, asymptotically flat, static vacuum data which admit a non-trivial conformal rescaling which leads again to such data must be axi-symmetric and admit a conformal Killing field. Moreover, it is shown that there exists a 3-parameter family of such data.

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1. Introduction

The metric of a static spacetime assumes in suitable local coordinates t, \tilde{x}^a , $a = 1, 2, 3$, the form

$$\tilde{g} = v^2 dt^2 + \tilde{h}, \quad v = v(\tilde{x}^c) > 0, \quad \tilde{h} = \tilde{h}_{ab}(\tilde{x}^c) d\tilde{x}^a d\tilde{x}^b, \quad (1.1)$$

where \tilde{h} denotes a negative definite metric on the time slices $\tilde{S}_c = \{t = c = \text{const.}\}$. The hypersurface orthogonal, time-like Killing vector field is then given by ∂_t . We refer to \tilde{h} as the static metric and to v as the potential. Einstein's vacuum field equations reduce here to the static vacuum field equations

$$R_{ab}[\tilde{h}] = \frac{1}{v} \tilde{D}_a \tilde{D}_b v, \quad \Delta_{\tilde{h}} v = 0, \quad (1.2)$$

where \tilde{D} denotes the covariant derivative defined by \tilde{h} . It suffices to consider these equations on $\tilde{S} \equiv \tilde{S}_0$.

In the following, we study solutions which are asymptotically flat so that the coordinates \tilde{x}^a can be required, for suitable \tilde{S} , to map the set \tilde{S} diffeomorphically onto the complement of a closed ball $B_R(0)$ in \mathbb{R}^3 so that the fields \tilde{h}, v satisfy, with some $\epsilon > 0$ and $k \geq 2$, the asymptotic flatness condition¹

$$\tilde{h}_{ac} = - \left(1 + \frac{2m}{|\tilde{x}|} \right) \delta_{ac} + O_k(|\tilde{x}|^{-(1+\epsilon)}), \quad v = 1 - \frac{m}{|\tilde{x}|} + O_k(|\tilde{x}|^{-(1+\epsilon)}) \quad \text{as } |\tilde{x}| \rightarrow \infty, \quad (1.3)$$

¹ The terms $O_k(|\tilde{x}|^{-(1+\epsilon)})$ behave like $O(|\tilde{x}|^{-(1+\epsilon+j)})$ under differentiations of order $j \leq k$.

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the standard Euclidean norm. We refer to $(\tilde{S}, \tilde{h}, v)$ as static vacuum data. The coefficient m represents its ADM mass. In this paper we shall only be interested in data with mass $m \neq 0$.

The pair (\tilde{S}, \tilde{h}) defines a particular type of time-reflection symmetric initial data for Einstein's vacuum field equations. Our interest in such initial data is motivated by observations which suggest that evolutions in time of time-reflection symmetric, asymptotically flat vacuum data admit at null infinity conformal extensions of prescribed smoothness if and only if the data behave in terms of a certain type of expansion at spacelike infinity up to a certain order like static data (cf [4] for a detailed discussion).

The full analysis of this relation requires detailed information on the asymptotic behaviour of static data and their conformal structures at spacelike infinity. In previous work [5] we have given a complete characterization of static vacuum data in terms of a minimal set of symmetric trace free tensors at spacelike infinity, referred to as null data. That paper clarifies, in particular, the convergence problem. In the present paper, we take a first step towards characterizing conformal structures of static data. Obviously, such a characterization should be more easy if static data are related in a one-to-one fashion to their conformal structures. It will be shown that the relation is, in fact, more complicated.

A precise description of our result requires technical details. To keep the discussion short we refer the reader to [5] for further details. Beig and Simon [2] showed under certain assumptions, weakened later by Kennefick and O'Murchadha [7], that static data with $m \neq 0$ admit conformal rescalings

$$\tilde{h}_{ab} \rightarrow h_{ab} = \Omega^2 \tilde{h}_{ab}, \quad (1.4)$$

with positive conformal factors Ω so that the set $S = \tilde{S} \cup \{i\}$, obtained by adjoining to \tilde{S} a point i representing spacelike infinity, acquires a real analytic differentiable structure in which the conformal metric h extends to a real analytic metric on S and Ω extends to a function in $C^2(S) \cap C^\omega(\tilde{S})$ so that

$$\Omega > 0 \text{ on } \tilde{S}, \quad \Omega = 0, \quad d\Omega = 0, \quad \text{Hess}_i \Omega = -2h \text{ at } i. \quad (1.5)$$

A particular example of such a conformal factor, determined by the static data themselves, is given by

$$\Omega = \left(\frac{1-v}{m} \right)^2. \quad (1.6)$$

Let $(\tilde{S}, \tilde{h}, v)$ be a static vacuum data set with $m \neq 0$ and the fields h, Ω on S related to it by (1.4), (1.6). We say that this set admits a non-trivial conformal rescaling if there exists another static vacuum data set $(\tilde{S}', \tilde{h}', v')$ with associated fields h', Ω' on S' so that the following holds. Some neighbourhood U' of i' in S' can be identified diffeomorphically with some neighbourhood U of i in S , identifying i' with i , so that after identification there exists a non-constant smooth function $\vartheta > 0$ on U with

$$h' = \vartheta^4 h. \quad (1.7)$$

In other words, we require the existence of a conformal diffeomorphism which maps a neighbourhood of spacelike infinity with respect to \tilde{h} onto such a neighbourhood with respect to \tilde{h}' so that it extends in our gauge smoothly to a conformal map which maps i onto i' . The metrics \tilde{h}, \tilde{h}' are then related by

$$\tilde{h}' = \theta^4 \tilde{h} \quad \text{with} \quad \theta = \left(\frac{1-v'}{m'} \right)^{-1} \vartheta \frac{1-v}{m}. \quad (1.8)$$

In this paper we investigate the question of whether there exist static vacuum data sets which admit non-trivial conformal rescalings.

The following general transformations map static vacuum data sets onto such sets:

Trivial rescalings.

$$\tilde{h} \rightarrow \tilde{h}' = \theta^4 \tilde{h}, \quad v \rightarrow v' = v \quad \text{with} \quad \theta = \text{const.} > 0. \quad (1.9)$$

Asymptotic flatness of \tilde{h}' follows with the coordinate transformation $\tilde{x}^a \rightarrow \tilde{x}'^a = \theta^2 \tilde{x}^a$ in (1.3), which shows that the mass transforms as $m \rightarrow m' = \theta^2 m$. The corresponding conformal factor ϑ in (1.7) is given by $\vartheta = \frac{1-v}{m'} \theta \left(\frac{1-v}{m}\right)^{-1} = \theta^{-1}$.

The transitions.

$$(\tilde{S}, \tilde{h}, v) \rightarrow (\tilde{S}', \tilde{h}' = v^4 \tilde{h}, v^{-1}), \quad (1.10)$$

under which the sign of the mass changes, $m \rightarrow m' = -m$, and (1.7) holds with $\vartheta = 1$. These transitions are suggested by the conformal static field equations studied below (cf the remark following (2.8)). Without loss of generality it is therefore sufficient to consider the case

$$m, m' > 0. \quad (1.11)$$

If the metric \tilde{h} is conformally flat with non-vanishing mass it is necessarily induced by a Schwarzschild solution [4]. In isotropic coordinates \tilde{x}^a the data are

$$\tilde{h} = - \left(1 + \frac{m}{2|\tilde{x}|}\right)^4 \delta_{ab} d\tilde{x}^a d\tilde{x}^b, \quad v = \frac{1 - \frac{m}{2|\tilde{x}|}}{1 + \frac{m}{2|\tilde{x}|}},$$

and (1.6) gives in the coordinates $x^a = |\tilde{x}|^{-2} \tilde{x}^a$, which are h -normal coordinates centered at i ,

$$h = -\delta_{ab} dx^a dx^b, \quad \Omega = \left(\frac{|x|}{1 + \frac{m}{2}|x|}\right)^2.$$

The transition $\tilde{h} \rightarrow \theta^4 \tilde{h}$, $v \rightarrow v'$ with $\theta = \frac{1+\frac{m'}{2|\tilde{x}|}}{1+\frac{m}{2|\tilde{x}|}}$, $v' = \frac{1-\frac{m'}{2|\tilde{x}|}}{1+\frac{m'}{2|\tilde{x}|}}$, which maps a Schwarzschild metric \tilde{h} with mass m onto such a metric with mass m' , corresponds to a trivial rescaling combined with a coordinate transformation. In terms of h this rescaling is given by (1.8) with $\vartheta = 1$ and the information on the difference between the solutions is encoded in the conformal factors Ω and Ω' . The conformally flat case is special in admitting the 3-parameter group of special conformal transformations

$$x^a \rightarrow \frac{x^a + d^a x_c x^c}{1 + 2d_c x^c + d_c d^c x_e x^e}, \quad d^a = \text{const.} \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

as local, non-trivial, conformal maps of h which leave i fixed. In terms of the coordinates \tilde{x}^a the map above is given by the simple translation $\tilde{x}^a \rightarrow \tilde{x}^a + d^a$. Conversely, the translations $x^a \rightarrow x^a + d^a$ is represented in terms of the coordinates \tilde{x}^a by a special conformal transformation which maps a neighbourhood of infinity onto a punctured neighbourhood of the point $|d|^{-2} d^a$. In the following we shall be interested in static data which are not conformally flat.

The question posed above has been considered by Beig [1]. He defines a certain quantity Q , quadratic in the Cotton tensor and its covariant derivatives up to second order, and shows that h cannot admit non-trivial rescalings if $Q \neq 0$ at i . As also pointed out in [1], this condition excludes axi-symmetric static data. Unfortunately it is not clear what else is excluded. We wish to control the situation without imposing conditions and want to decide whether there do exist static, conformally non-flat vacuum data that admit non-trivial conformal rescalings. The lemmas proven in this paper imply the following.

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose $(\tilde{S}, \tilde{h}, v)$ are static vacuum data with ADM mass $m \neq 0$. If they admit a non-trivial conformal rescaling, then \tilde{h} admits a conformal Killing field Y which is neither homothetic nor a Killing field for \tilde{h} and, in addition, a Killing field X which defines an infinitesimal axis-symmetry. The fields Y and X commute, are orthogonal to each other, and Y is tangent to the axis defined by X which passes through the point representing spacelike infinity. Furthermore, if \tilde{h} is not conformally flat it has a non-vanishing quadrupole moment.*

There exists a 3-parameter family of static vacuum data with $m \neq 0$ which are not conformally flat and which do admit non-trivial conformal rescalings. The associated spacetime metrics are of Petrov type D along the axis and of Petrov type I on an open neighbourhood surrounding the axis.

This result would provide complete information about the non-conformally flat static data with non-vanishing mass which admit non-trivial rescalings, were it not for an unanswered question. As discussed below, it is left open whether there exist data with non-vanishing quadrupole moment which admit non-trivial rescalings with $d\vartheta = 0$ at i .

Apart from this omission the result above represents a three-dimensional analogue of Brinkmann's theorem. Brinkmann studied the solutions of Einstein's vacuum field equations in four spacetime dimensions which admit non-trivial conformal rescalings that yield new vacuum fields (asymptotic behaviour, however, played no role in these studies). He found them to be given by the solutions which have later been named vacuum pp-waves [3, 8]. These solutions are of Petrov type N . We note that the rescalings of the static data considered in this paper do not extend to conformal rescalings of the corresponding static vacuum spacetimes.

Details of the static data whose existence has been shown here will be discussed elsewhere.

2. Conformal static vacuum field equations

The derivation of the following equations has been discussed (in terms of h and $\zeta = \rho/\mu$) in detail in [5]. Using the conformal metric h defined by (1.4), (1.6) and the function

$$\rho = \left(\frac{1-v}{1+v} \right)^2, \quad (2.1)$$

one obtains the static vacuum equations (1.2) in the form

$$0 = \Sigma_{ab}[h, \mu] \equiv D_a D_b \rho - s h_{ab} + \rho(1-\rho) s_{ab} \quad \text{with} \quad s = \frac{1}{3} \Delta_h \rho, \quad (2.2)$$

$$\left(\Delta_h - \frac{1}{8} R[h] \right) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \right] = \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{\mu}} \delta_i. \quad (2.3)$$

Here D denotes the covariant derivative defined by h , and the tensor

$$s_{ab} = R_{ab}[h]$$

is the Ricci tensor of h . It is trace free because the Ricci scalar of h satisfies in the conformal gauge defined by (1.6)

$$R[h] = 0. \quad (2.4)$$

We note that the tensor $\frac{m}{2} s_{ab}(i)$ at spacelike infinity represents the quadrupole moment of the static metric \tilde{h} . We set

$$\mu = \frac{m^2}{4} \quad (2.5)$$

and denote by δ_i the Dirac measure with weight one and support $\{i\}$, given by the standard Dirac measure δ_0 in h -normal coordinates x^a centered at i . In such coordinates the fields h and ρ are real analytic and satisfy

$$\rho = 0, \quad D_a \rho = 0, \quad D_a D_b \rho = -2\mu h_{ab} \quad \text{at } i. \quad (2.6)$$

The function ρ can be characterized as the unique real analytic solution of (2.3), (2.6) or as the unique real analytic function satisfying (2.6) and

$$2\rho s = D_a \rho D^a \rho, \quad (2.7)$$

which is a rewrite of (2.3). This equation can be shown [4] to be, in fact, a consequence of (2.2) and (2.6) so that the essential information on the static field equations is encoded in (2.2) and (2.6).

In going from h, ρ back to \tilde{h} and v , one has to choose the sign of the square root. In the case of positive mass the correct formulae are

$$\Omega = \frac{\rho}{\mu(1 + \sqrt{\rho})^2}, \quad v = \frac{1 - \sqrt{\rho}}{1 + \sqrt{\rho}}. \quad (2.8)$$

Replacing here the square root by its negative amounts to the transition (1.10).

The system (2.2) implies the integrability conditions

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} D^e \Sigma_{ea} = D_a s + (1 - \rho) s_{ab} D^b \rho, \quad (2.9)$$

and

$$0 = \frac{1}{\rho} \left(D_{[c} \Sigma_{a]b} + \frac{1}{2} D^e \Sigma_{e[c} h_{a]b} \right) = (1 - \rho) D_{[c} s_{a]b} - 2D_{[c} \rho s_{a]b} - D^d \rho s_{d[c} h_{a]b}, \quad (2.10)$$

which extends by analyticity also to i .

While the static vacuum data are subject to a rescaling (1.7), the transformation of the potential was left unspecified. As pointed out above, the potential, represented by the function ρ , is determined in the asymptotically flat case uniquely by μ and h . The new potential should thus be given in terms of ρ , the conformal factor ϑ and the new mass term μ' .

Lemma 2.1. *Assume that (S, h, ρ) is derived from a static vacuum data set with mass $m > 0$ as discussed above and $\vartheta > 0$ is a C^2 function so that $h' = \vartheta^4 h$ is the conformal metric associated with static vacuum data \tilde{h}', v' on $S \setminus \{i\}$ with mass $m' > 0$. Set*

$$v = \frac{m^2}{m'^2 \vartheta(i)^4}. \quad (2.11)$$

Then the function

$$\rho' = \frac{1}{v} \left(\frac{\vartheta}{\vartheta(i)} \right)^2 \rho \quad (2.12)$$

satisfies

$$\left(\Delta_{h'} - \frac{1}{8} R[h'] \right) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho'}} \right] = \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{\mu'}} \delta_i, \quad (2.13)$$

and relations (2.6) with ρ, μ, D replaced by ρ', μ' and the covariant derivative operator D' defined by h' . The function ρ' agrees with the one given by (2.1) with v replaced by v' .

Proof. Let x^a resp. $x^{a'}$ denote h - resp. h' -normal coordinates centered at i . A calculation then shows that the system $x^{a'}$ satisfies, possibly after a rotation around the origin, the relation

$$x^{a'} = \delta^{a'}_a \left\{ \vartheta(i)^2 x^a - \vartheta(i) (\delta_{bc} \delta^{ad} - 2\delta^a_b \delta^d_c) \vartheta_{,d}(i) x^a x^c \right\} + O(|x^a|^3). \quad (2.14)$$

Writing the transformation $x^a = x^a(x^{c'})$ shortly $x = f(x')$, the transformation behaviour of Dirac distributions under coordinate transformations implies with the relation above $f^* \delta_0 = |\det \frac{\partial f}{\partial x'}(i)|^{-1} \delta_{0'} = \vartheta(i)^6 \delta_{0'}$ [6]. With the conformal covariance of the conformal Laplacian and (2.3) it thus follows

$$\begin{aligned} f^* \left(\left(\Delta_{h'} - \frac{1}{8} R_{h'} \right) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho'}} \right] \right) &= \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\mu'}} \vartheta(i)^{-1} f^* \left(\left(\Delta_{h'} - \frac{1}{8} R_{h'} \right) \left[\frac{1}{\vartheta \sqrt{\rho}} \right] \right) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\mu'}} \vartheta(i)^{-1} f^* \left(\vartheta^{-5} \left(\Delta_h - \frac{1}{8} R_h \right) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \right] \right) = \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{\mu'}} \delta_{0'}. \end{aligned}$$

The relations (2.6) are verified by a direct calculation and the last statement follows by the uniqueness property pointed out above. \square

The quantity ν is left unchanged under trivial conformal rescalings. It has the following meaning. The conformal factor θ has in the coordinates of (1.3) in general an expansion

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\vartheta(i)} \left(1 + \frac{a}{|\tilde{x}|} + O\left(\frac{1}{|\tilde{x}|^2}\right) \right),$$

with some coefficients $\vartheta(i) > 0$ and a . Rescaling the metric (1.3) with θ one finds that the rescaled metric $\theta^4 \tilde{h}$ acquires the mass $m' = \vartheta(i)^{-2}(2a + m)$. Using (2.8) and (2.12) in expression (1.8) for θ , expanding ρ using (1.5) and comparing with the expression for θ above, we find $2a = m(\nu^{-1/2} - 1)$ and thus again (2.11). A change of mass is thus generated purely by a trivial rescaling if $\nu = 1$, but is partly due to an independent contribution if $\nu \neq 1$. We finally note the expressions

$$\theta = \frac{\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) + \sqrt{\rho} \vartheta}{(1 + \sqrt{\rho}) \sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i)^2}, \quad \nu' = \frac{\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) - \vartheta + (\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) + \vartheta) \nu}{\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) + \vartheta + (\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) - \vartheta) \nu}, \quad (2.15)$$

for the conformal factor and the transformed potential. It follows that $\theta = 1$ if and only if $\nu = 1$ and $\vartheta = 1$, while $\nu' = \nu$ is equivalent to $(\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) - \vartheta) \nu^2 = (\sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i) - \vartheta)$. This can hold only if $\nu = 1$, which implies that \tilde{h}_{ab} is flat, or if $\vartheta = \sqrt{\nu} \vartheta(i)$, which implies that $\nu = 1$, $\vartheta = \vartheta(i)$ and $\theta = \vartheta(i)^{-1}$.

3. The equations for the rescaling factor

It will be convenient to replace ϑ by $\gamma \vartheta$ and assume

$$\vartheta(i) = 1, \quad \gamma = \text{const.} > 0, \quad \nu = \frac{\mu}{\mu' \gamma^4}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$h' = \gamma^4 \vartheta^4 h, \quad \rho' = \frac{1}{\nu} \vartheta^2 \rho. \quad (3.2)$$

To derive conditions on the scaling factors, we express

$$\Sigma_{ab}[h', \mu'] \equiv D'_a D'_b \rho' - s' h'_{ab} + \rho' (1 - \rho') s'_{ab},$$

in terms of h and ρ . With the general rescaling laws in three-dimensions

$$R_{ab}[\vartheta^4 h] = R_{ab}[h] - 2\vartheta^{-1} D_a D_b \vartheta + 6\vartheta^{-2} D_a \vartheta D_b \vartheta - 2h_{ab} \{ \vartheta^{-1} D_c D^c \vartheta + \vartheta^{-2} D_c \vartheta D^c \vartheta \}, \quad (3.3)$$

$$\frac{1}{8} R[\vartheta^4 h] \vartheta^5 = -\Delta_h \vartheta + \frac{1}{8} R[h] \vartheta, \quad (3.4)$$

where the right-hand sides are expressed in terms of quantities derived from h , a direct calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{ab}[h', \mu'] &= \gamma^4 \vartheta^2 \frac{\mu'}{\mu} \Sigma_{ab}[h, \mu] + \frac{8}{3} \gamma^4 \frac{\mu'}{\mu} \left(\frac{1}{v} \vartheta^3 \rho^2 - \vartheta \rho \right) \Delta_h \vartheta h_{ab} \\ &\quad - \gamma^4 \frac{\mu'}{\mu v^2} \vartheta^6 \rho^2 \left(D_a D_b u - \frac{1}{3} \Delta_h u h_{ab} + u(1-u) s_{ab} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where we set

$$u = v \vartheta^{-2}, \quad (3.5)$$

and used the resulting relation

$$2u \Delta_h u - 3 D_c u D^c u = -4v^2 \vartheta^{-5} \Delta_h \vartheta. \quad (3.6)$$

Equation (3.4) implies with $R[h] = 0$ and $R[h'] = 0$

$$\Delta_h \vartheta = 0. \quad (3.7)$$

From these relations we read off the following basic condition.

Lemma 3.1. *Suppose h and ρ satisfy (2.2) and (2.6) with some constant $\mu > 0$. If $\mu', \gamma > 0$ are constants and ϑ a positive function with $\vartheta(i) = 1$, then $h' = \gamma^4 \vartheta^4 h$ and $\rho' = \frac{1}{v} \vartheta^2 \rho$ with $v = \frac{\mu}{\mu' \gamma^4}$ satisfy $\Sigma_{ab}[h', \mu'] = 0$ if and only if $u = v \vartheta^{-2}$ satisfies the overdetermined system*

$$0 = \Pi[h, u] \equiv 2ut - D_{cu} D^c u \quad \text{with} \quad t = \frac{1}{3} \Delta_h u, \quad (3.8)$$

$$0 = \Pi_{ab}[h, u] \equiv D_a D_b u - t h_{ab} + u(1-u) s_{ab}. \quad (3.9)$$

Moreover, u must satisfy the initial condition

$$u(i) = v. \quad (3.10)$$

Using the Bianchi identity and the decomposition $R_{dbca} = 2(h_{d[c} s_{a]b} - h_{b[c} s_{a]d})$, which holds because $R[h] = 0$ and $\dim(S) = 3$, one obtains from (3.9) the integrability conditions

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} D^c \Pi_{ca} = D_a t + (1-u) D^c u s_{ca}, \quad (3.11)$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{u} \left(D_{[c} \Pi_{a]b} + \frac{1}{2} D^d \Pi_{d[c} h_{a]b} \right) = (1-u) D_{[c} s_{a]b} - 2 D_{[c} u s_{a]b} - D^d u s_{d[c} h_{a]b}. \quad (3.12)$$

The identity

$$D_a \Pi = u D^c \Pi_{ca} - 2 D^c u \Pi_{ca} \quad (3.13)$$

implies that (3.8) will be satisfied by a solution u of (3.9) if $\Pi(i) = 0$, i.e., if

$$u(i) = v > 0, \quad 2vt(i) = c_a c^a \quad \text{with} \quad c_a = D_a u(i). \quad (3.14)$$

Let $x(\tau)$ denote a geodesic through i with unit tangent vector $\dot{x}(\tau)$. Transvecting equations (3.9) and (3.11) suitably with \dot{x} , one obtains a system of ordinary differential equations (ODEs) for u , $D_a u$ and t along this curve, which shows that if a solution u of (3.9) and (3.11) exists, it must be analytic and uniquely determined by the data

$$u(i) = v > 0, \quad \dot{u}(i) = \dot{x}^a c_a, \quad t(i) = \frac{1}{2v} c_a c^a.$$

The function u so obtained will in general not satisfy the complete system (3.9). It will be shown that the existence of non-trivial solutions to equation (3.9) imposes strong restrictions

on the metric h . Because of the factor $1 - u$ in equations (3.9) and (3.11) it follows immediately that

$$u \equiv 1 \quad \text{if} \quad v = 1, \quad c_a = 0. \quad (3.15)$$

The following result will be useful later.

Lemma 3.2. *Let u be a solution to (3.9) and (3.14) on a neighbourhood of i on which $\rho < a$ for some $a > 0$. If $u = F(\rho)$ with some function $F \in C^2([0, a[)$, then u is the trivial solution $u = v$. Moreover, h is flat unless $v = 1$.*

Proof. Observing (2.7) one gets

$$2ut - D_c u D^c u = \frac{1}{3} D_a \rho D^a \rho \left(\frac{3}{\rho} F F' + 2 F F'' - 3(F')^2 \right),$$

so that (3.8) is equivalent to the ODE

$$\frac{3}{\rho} F F' + 2 F F'' - 3(F')^2 = 0.$$

If $F' = 0$ at a point where $F > 0$ it follows that $u = F = \text{const.} = v$ which implies with (3.9) that $s_{ab} = 0$ unless $v = 1$. Near a point where $F > 0$ and $F' \neq 0$, the above equation implies $0 = \frac{3}{\rho} + 2 \frac{F''}{F'} - 3 \frac{F'}{F} = \left(\log \frac{\rho^3 (F')^2}{F^3} \right)'$ whence $F = \frac{\rho}{(b+d\sqrt{\rho})^2}$ with $b, d = \text{const.} > 0, b \neq 0$. But then $u(p) = F(\rho(p)) \rightarrow 0 \neq v$ as $p \rightarrow i$, which contradicts our assumptions. \square

4. Implications for h

Let \tilde{h}, v be static data and h, ρ the associated conformal fields. We shall now discuss the properties of \tilde{h} and h which are implied by the existence of a non-trivial solution u to (3.8), (3.9) and (3.10). Assume that

$$U \text{ is an } i\text{-centered, convex } h\text{-normal nbhd so that } 0 < \rho < 1, \quad D_a \rho \neq 0 \quad \text{on } U \setminus \{i\}, \quad (4.1)$$

and set with a given function u

$$\rho_a = D_a \rho, \quad u_a = D_a u, \quad w = \frac{1-u}{1-\rho}, \quad w_a = D_a w, \quad U^* = \{p \in U \mid w_a(p) \neq 0\}, \quad (4.2)$$

so that $i \in U^*$ if and only if $u_a(i) \neq 0$. We recall that h is conformally non-flat if and only if the set $\{p \in U \mid s_{ab}(p) \neq 0\}$ is dense in U [4].

Lemma 4.1. *Let h and ρ denote a solution to (2.2) and (2.6) which is not conformally flat. Suppose u is a non-constant, positive solution to (3.8), (3.9) and (3.10) on a set U satisfying (3.5) and define w as in (4.2). Then the set U^* is dense in U and there exists a smooth function β on U^* so that*

$$s_{ab} = \beta \left(w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} w_c w^c \right). \quad (4.3)$$

If $V \subset U^$ is a connected, simply connected neighbourhood of a point $p \in U^*$, there exist a constant $\beta_* \neq 0$ and a function $H = H(w)$ defined on V with $H(w(p)) = 0$ so that the Ricci tensor on V has the representation*

$$s_{ab} = \frac{\beta_*}{1-\rho} e^H \left(w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} w_c w^c \right). \quad (4.4)$$

If $u_a(i) \neq 0$ we can choose $p = i$.

Proof. If w_a vanished on an open subset of U , w would be constant on U because u and ρ are analytic. It would follow that $u = v + \rho(1 - v)$, whence $u = \text{const.}$ by lemma 3.2, in conflict with our assumptions. It follows that U^* is dense in U . Because

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{u(1-\rho)} \left(D_{[c}\Pi_{a]b} + \frac{1}{2}D^d\Pi_{d[c}h_{a]b} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{u(1-\rho)} \left(D_{[c}\Pi_{a]b} + \frac{1}{2}D^d\Pi_{d[c}h_{a]b} \right) - \frac{1-u}{\rho(1-\rho)^2} \left(D_{[c}\Sigma_{a]b}^* + \frac{1}{2}D^e\Sigma_{e[c}^*h_{a]b} \right) \\ &= 2w_{[c}S_{a]b} + w^d s_{d[c}h_{a]b}, \end{aligned}$$

equation (3.12) holds on U^* if and only if

$$2w_{[c}S_{a]b} + w^d s_{d[c}h_{a]b} = 0. \quad (4.5)$$

Contraction with $2w^c$ gives

$$2w_c w^c S_{ab} - 2w_a S_{cb} w^c + w^d s_{dc} w^c h_{ab} - w^d s_{da} w_b = 0.$$

The antisymmetric part of this equation reads $w^d s_{d[a} w_{b]} = 0$, which implies on U^*

$$w^d s_{da} = \alpha w_a, \quad (4.6)$$

with some function α . Using this in the equation above, we obtain (4.3), which satisfies (4.5) without restriction on β .

With (2.2) and (3.9) one obtains

$$D_a w_b = J h_{ab} + (1-u)(1-w)S_{ab} + \frac{1}{1-\rho}(w_a \rho_b + w_b \rho_a) \quad \text{with} \quad J = \frac{ws-t}{1-\rho}. \quad (4.7)$$

It follows with (4.3)

$$\begin{aligned} D_a w^a &= 3J + \frac{2}{1-\rho}\rho_a w^a, \\ w^a D_b w_a &= J w_b + \frac{2}{3}(1-u)(1-w)\beta w_c w^c w_b + \frac{1}{1-\rho}(w_a w^a \rho_b + w_b \rho_a w^a), \\ w^b w^a D_b w_a &= \left\{ J + \frac{2}{3}(1-u)(1-w)\beta w_c w^c + \frac{2}{1-\rho}\rho_a w^a \right\} w_c w^c. \end{aligned}$$

On U^* the Bianchi identity and the gauge condition $R[h] = 0$ imply with (4.3)

$$0 = D^a s_{ab} = w^a D_a \beta w_b - \frac{1}{3}D_b \beta w_c w^c + \beta \left(D_a w^a w_b + \frac{1}{3}w^c D_b w_c \right).$$

After contraction with w^b this can be solved for $w^a D_a \beta$. Inserting the resulting expression again into the equation gives

$$\begin{aligned} w_c w^c D_a \beta &= \beta \left\{ -\frac{3}{2} \left(D_c w^c + \frac{w^b w^c D_b w_c}{w_c w^c} \right) w_a + w^c D_a w_c \right\} \\ &= \beta \left\{ -5J w_a - \frac{5}{1-\rho}\rho_c w^c w_a - \frac{1}{3}(1-u)(1-w)\beta w_c w^c w_a + \frac{1}{1-\rho}w_c w^c \rho_a \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

and thus finally

$$D_a \beta = \beta \left\{ \frac{1}{1-\rho}\rho_a + K w_a \right\}, \quad (4.9)$$

with

$$w_c w^c K = -5J - \frac{5}{1-\rho}\rho_c w^c - \frac{1}{3}(1-u)(1-w)w_c w^c \beta.$$

The relation $\beta(p) = 0$ would imply with (4.9) that $\beta = 0$, whence $s_{ab} = 0$ on a neighbourhood of p in U^* and thus $s_{ab} = 0$ on U by analyticity, contradicting conformal non-flatness. Thus $\beta(p) \neq 0$, whence $\beta \neq 0$ on V and equation (4.9) can be written there in the form $D_a \log |(1 - \rho)\beta| = K D_a w$. This implies that $D_{[a} K D_{b]} w = 0$, K can be written as a function of w on V , and there exists a function $H = H(w)$ with $H(w(p)) = 0$ so that $D_a(\log |(1 - \rho)\beta| - H) = 0$, whence with $\beta_* = (1 - \rho)\beta|_p \neq 0$,

$$\beta = \frac{\beta_*}{1 - \rho} e^H \quad \text{on } V. \quad (4.10) \quad \square$$

To state the following result, we note that lemma 3.2 implies under the assumptions of lemma 4.1 that $\epsilon^{abc} u_b \rho_c \neq 0$ on a dense open subset of U .

Lemma 4.2. *Assume the notation and the assumptions of lemma 4.1. If V is chosen so that $\epsilon^{abc} u_b \rho_c \neq 0$ on V , there exists a function $l = l(w)$ on V so that*

$$X^a = l \epsilon^{abc} u_b \rho_c, \quad (4.11)$$

defines a non-trivial Killing field for h on V . It extends to an analytic, hypersurface orthogonal Killing field X on U which satisfies the relations

$$X^a \rho_a = 0, \quad X^a u_a = 0, \quad (4.12)$$

and is a Killing field for \tilde{h} on $U \setminus \{i\}$. Independent of the choice of V it is determined uniquely up to a constant real factor. It vanishes at i and defines an infinitesimal axi-symmetry with closed integral curves near i . If $u_a(i) \neq 0$ its axis is given by the h -geodesic $\gamma(\tau)$ with tangent vector $u^a(i)$ at i .

Proof. With expression (4.11) a direct calculation using (2.2), (3.9), (4.3) and (4.10) gives on V

$$D_a X_b = \epsilon_{ab}{}^c \eta_c + l^{-1} \{D_b l + l \beta_* e^H (w - w^2) w_b\} X_a,$$

where

$$\eta_c = \frac{1}{3} l \{(\Delta_h \rho + \rho(1 - \rho)\beta w_d w^d) u_c - (\Delta_h u + u(1 - u)\beta w_d w^d) \rho_c\}. \quad (4.13)$$

With the choice

$$l = l_* e^{L(w)} \quad \text{where } L \text{ satisfies } L'(w) = -\beta_* e^H (w - w^2) \quad \text{and } l_* = \text{const.} > 0, \quad (4.14)$$

this implies

$$D_a X_b = \epsilon_{ab}{}^c \eta_c. \quad (4.15)$$

It follows

$$D_{(a} X_{b)} = 0, \quad \epsilon^{abc} X_a D_b X_c = 0. \quad (4.16)$$

Equations (4.12) are an immediate consequence of the definition of X . Since then $X^a D_a \Omega = 0$ by (2.8), X is also a Killing field for the metric \tilde{h} .

To construct the extension of X to U we use the integrability condition for the Killing equation,

$$D_a D_b X_c = X_d R^d{}_{abc}, \quad (4.17)$$

which is satisfied by X on V and to be satisfied on U . Fix $p \in V$. The geodesics $\gamma(\tau)$ with $\gamma(0) = p$ cover the convex normal neighbourhood U . The ODEs

$$D_{\dot{\gamma}}^2 X_c = X_d R^d{}_{abc} \dot{\gamma}^a \dot{\gamma}^b, \quad (4.18)$$

along these geodesics determine a unique analytic extension of X to U . The Killing and the hypersurface orthogonality conditions (4.16) as well as relations (4.12) extend to U by analyticity. As above it follows that the extended field is also a Killing field for \tilde{h} .

The relation $X^{[a}\epsilon^{b]cd}u_c\rho_d = 0$, which holds on V , extends to U by analyticity so that

$$X^a \sim \epsilon^{acd}u_c\rho_d \quad \text{on } U. \quad (4.19)$$

The factor l which relates these fields on V needs *a priori* not to be bounded on U but up to a constant factor the Killing field X^a is determined uniquely.

The relation $\mathcal{L}_X\rho = 0$ on U implies

$$0 = D_a\mathcal{L}_X\rho = \mathcal{L}_XD_a\rho = X^bD_bD_a\rho + D_aX^bD_b\rho, \quad (4.20)$$

which reduces at i to

$$0 = -2\mu X_a(i).$$

It follows that $D_aX_b \neq 0$ at i , otherwise X would vanish identically. Any geodesic through i is mapped by the flow of X onto such a geodesic because i is a fixed point of the flow. Because $\dim(S) = 3$ and D_aX_b is anti-symmetric there exists a tangent vector $t^a \neq 0$ at i with $t^aD_aX_b = 0$. This vector is invariant under the flow of X . The geodesic $\gamma(\tau)$ satisfying $\gamma(0) = i$ and $\dot{\gamma}(0) = t$ is thus pointwise invariant under the flow so that $X|_{\gamma(\tau)} = 0$ and the points of $\gamma(\tau)$ represent the axis of X . Because the flow of X preserves orthogonality and maps the geodesics onto such, it maps any geodesic orthogonal to γ onto another such geodesic. Since it preserves affine parameters, it follows that the flow lines of X are closed near i .

If $u_a(i) \neq 0$ the function β given by (4.10) and thus the function l can be given on a neighbourhood of i so that $l = l_*$ and $e^H = 1$ at i and the expressions (4.11) and (4.15) with (4.13) can be assumed to hold on this neighbourhood. While then $X^a = 0$ at i , we have $\eta_c(i) = -2l_*u_c$, so that $D_aX_b|_i = -2l_*\epsilon_{ab}{}^c u_c(i) \neq 0$ and $u^aD_aX_b|_i = 0$. It follows that the axis is given by the geodesic with tangent vector u^a at i . \square

If $u_a(i) \neq 0$ we normalize X by setting

$$l_* = \frac{1}{2c} \quad \text{with } c = \sqrt{-u_c u^c}|_i > 0 \quad \text{so that } \eta_a \eta^a|_i = -1. \quad (4.21)$$

It follows with (4.17) that $\eta_a \eta^a = D_aX_b D^aX^b/2 = \text{const.} = -1$ along the the axis, where X vanishes. The flow of X then induces rotations of the tangent space T_iS with period 2π and not smaller. If ϕ denotes the natural parameter on the integral curves of X which vanishes on a hypersurface orthogonal to X which approaches the axis from one side, it defines a coordinate with hypersurfaces $\{\phi = \text{const.}\} \perp X$ and the integral curves of X close exactly if $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$.

Lemma 4.3. *Assume the notation and the assumptions of lemmas 4.1 and 4.2. The field*

$$Y^a = f w^a, \quad \text{with } f = \frac{l}{l_*}(1 - \rho)^2, \quad (4.22)$$

satisfies on V

$$D_aY_b = \omega h_{ab} + \frac{1}{l_*}\epsilon_{ab}{}^c X_c \quad \text{with } \omega = f \left(J - \frac{1}{3}(w - w^2)w_c w^c \beta_* e^H \right). \quad (4.23)$$

It extends to an analytic, hypersurface orthogonal field Y on U satisfying the conformal Killing equation

$$D_aY_b + D_bY_a = 2\omega h_{ab}, \quad (4.24)$$

and the relations

$$X_a Y^a = 0, \quad [X, Y] = 0. \quad (4.25)$$

It is tangential to the axis through i defined by X , where it does not vanish. It is a conformal Killing field but neither homothetic nor a Killing field for \tilde{h} . Independent of the choice of V the extended field is unique up to a non-vanishing constant real factor:

Proof. With (4.7) we obtain on V

$$\begin{aligned} D_a Y_b &= e^L ((1-\rho)^2 L' w_a - 2(1-\rho)\rho_a) w_b \\ &\quad + f \left(J h_{ab} + (1-u)(1-w)\beta \left(w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} w_c w^c \right) + \frac{1}{1-\rho} (w_a \rho_b + w_b \rho_a) \right) \\ &= f \left(J - \frac{1}{3} (w-w^2) w_c w^c \beta_* e^H \right) h_{ab} + (1-\rho) e^L (w_a \rho_b - w_b \rho_a), \\ &= \omega h_{ab} - e^L (u_a \rho_b - u_b \rho_a) = \omega h_{ab} + \frac{1}{l_*} \epsilon_{ab}{}^c X_c, \end{aligned}$$

which implies (4.23) and (4.24) on V . Hypersurface orthogonality and orthogonality to X follow immediately from the definitions of X and Y . The second of relations (4.25) follows by a direct calculation from

$$\begin{aligned} [X, Y]_a &= X^c D_c Y_a - Y^c D_c X_a = \omega X_a - f w^c \epsilon_{cad} \eta^d \\ &= \omega X_a - f \frac{1}{3} \left[(\Delta_h \rho + \rho w_d w^d \beta_* e^H) \frac{1-u}{(1-\rho)^2} - (\Delta_h u + u w w_d w^d \beta_* e^H) \frac{1}{1-\rho} \right] X_a \\ &= \omega X_a - f \left[J - \frac{1}{3} \frac{u-\rho}{1-\rho} w w_d w^d \beta_* e^H \right] X_a = 0. \end{aligned}$$

To extend Y to U we consider the integrability conditions for the conformal Killing equations [9],

$$D_a D_b Y_c = Y_d R^d{}_{abc} + \omega_a h_{bc} + \omega_b h_{ac} - \omega_c h_{ab}, \quad (4.26)$$

with

$$D_a \omega = \omega_a, \quad (4.27)$$

and

$$D_a \omega_b = -\mathcal{L}_Y s_{ab} = -(Y^c D_c s_{ab} + D_a Y^c s_{cb} + D_b Y^c s_{ac}), \quad (4.28)$$

satisfied in our conformal gauge by Y on V and to be satisfied on U . Fix $p \in V$ and consider the geodesics through p . The equations above imply a linear system of ODEs for Y_a , $D_a Y_b$, ω , ω_a along the geodesics which determine a unique analytic extension of Y to U . Equations (4.24) and (4.25) extend to U by analyticity.

Because

$$X^a = -\frac{l_*}{1-\rho} \epsilon^{abc} Y_b \rho_c,$$

the relation $D_a X_b(i) \neq 0$ implies that $Y^a \neq 0$ at i and thus also on the axis near i . The restriction of

$$0 = [X, Y]_a = X^c D_c Y_a - Y^c D_c X_a$$

to the axis implies that Y is the tangent to the axis, the conformal Killing equation implies that $Y \neq 0$ there.

It holds $\mathcal{L}_Y \tilde{h} = \mathcal{L}_Y (\Omega^{-2} h) = 2\tilde{\omega} \tilde{h}$ with $\tilde{\omega} = \omega - \Omega^{-1} Y^a D_a \Omega$. Because $D_a (Y^c \rho_c)|_i = -2\mu Y_a(i) \neq 0$, it follows with (2.8) that $\Omega^{-1} Y^a D_a \Omega$ diverges at i . Thus $\tilde{\omega}$ can neither be constant nor vanish. \square

On V , which can be chosen to contain i if $u_a(i) \neq 0$, the dualized version of the Cotton tensor $B_{bca} = D_{[c}R_{a]b}$ acquires by (2.10), (4.4), (4.11) and (4.22) the concise form

$$B_{ab} = \frac{1}{2}B_{acd}\epsilon_b{}^{cd} = \frac{1}{1-\rho}S_{d(a}\epsilon_b)^{cd}\rho_c = \frac{\beta_*e^{H-2L}}{l_*(1-\rho)^5}X_{(a}Y_{b)}. \tag{4.29}$$

The conformal factor (2.8) and the transformation laws under conformal rescalings give

$$R_{ab}[\tilde{h}] = \sqrt{\rho}\beta \left(w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3}h_{ab}w_c w^c \right) - \frac{3}{2\sqrt{\rho}^3(1+\sqrt{\rho})^2} \left(\rho_a \rho_b - \frac{1}{3}\rho_c \rho^c h_{ab} \right).$$

At i holds $w_a \rho^a = 0$ and $D_c(w_a \rho^a) = 2\mu u_c(i) \neq 0$ if $u_c(i) \neq 0$. Thus, if $u_c(i) \neq 0$, there exists a smooth hypersurface H through i on which $w_a \rho^a = 0$. With $X_a \rho^a = 0$, $X_a w^a = 0$ it follows that the vector fields w^a, ρ^a, X^a define on $H \setminus \{i\}$ an orthogonal set of eigenvectors of $R_{ab}[\tilde{h}]$. The direct calculation shows that the three eigenvalues are different from each other. It follows that \tilde{g} is of Petrov type I near $H \setminus \{i\}$. The fields ρ^a and w^a are proportional to u^a on the axis because $X = 0$ there. It follows that $R_{ab}[\tilde{h}] \sim \rho_a \rho_b - \frac{1}{3}\rho_c \rho^c h_{ab}$ so that \tilde{g} is of Petrov type D along the axis (cf [8]).

5. Existence and non-existence results

In spite of the simple conclusion (3.15) the case where $u_a(i) = 0$ is not easily discussed in general. The function $\beta = \frac{3}{2} \frac{s_{ab}w^a w^b}{(w_c w^c)^2}$ in (4.3) may become, along with the quantities H and L , singular at i if $w_a(i) = 0$. In fact, if s_{ab} does not vanish at i , it is there due to axi-symmetry of the form

$$s_{ab}(i) = \xi \left(n_a n_b + \frac{1}{3}h_{ab} \right), \quad \xi \neq 0, \tag{5.1}$$

with a unit vector n^a pointing in the direction of the axis. With this one finds that $\beta = -\text{sign}(\xi)\sqrt{3}/2s_{ed}s^{ed}(w_c w^c)^{-1}$ is unbounded near i . If D_d is applied to equations (2.10) and (3.12), the resulting equations are subtracted from each other and the difference is restricted to i , one obtains with $u_a(i) = 0$ and (2.2), (2.6), (3.8), (3.9) at i the relation

$$\nu\{2s_{d[c}s_{a]b} + s_d{}^f s_{f[c}h_{a]b}\} = 2\mu\{2h_{d[c}s_{a]b} + s_{d[c}h_{a]b}\}.$$

It restricts the parameter in (5.1) by $\xi = \frac{6\mu}{\nu}$ but it does not exclude (5.1). We shall leave the case $D_a u(i) = 0, s_{ab}(i) \neq 0$ open in this paper. If the second of these conditions is dropped we obtain with (3.15) a complete, though negative answer.

Lemma 5.1. *Suppose h, ρ are a solution to the conformal static vacuum equations (2.2), (2.6) such that $s_{ab}(i) = 0$. Then a positive solution u to equations (3.8), (3.9), (3.10) near i which satisfies $u(i) = \nu \neq 1$ and $D_a u(i) = 0$ is the constant solution $u = \nu$ and h is flat.*

Proof. We assume that u is not a constant and show that this leads to a contradiction. In the following results of [5] will be used. For the notions set below in quotation marks and statements relating to them we refer the reader to that paper.

Let x^a denote h -normal coordinates centered at i , so that $h_{ab}^* \equiv h_{ab}(i) = -\delta_{ab}$. Equation (2.10) implies with (2.6) that $D_a s_{bc}(i)$ is totally symmetric. More generally, if

$$s_{ab} = O(|x|^k) \quad \text{for some } k \geq 1,$$

the ‘exact set of equations argument’ implies with (2.10) that the tensor

$$\psi_{a_1 \dots a_k ab} \equiv D_{a_1} \dots D_{a_k} s_{ab}(i),$$

is given in space spinor notation by a completely symmetric spinor $\psi_{A_1 B_1 \dots A_{k+2} B_{k+2}}$ because it either vanishes or defines the non-vanishing ‘null datum’ of lowest order for the solution h . We shall show that it vanishes so that in fact $s_{ab} = O(|x|^{k+1})$.

Equations (3.8), (3.9) and (3.11) imply, with the assumption above,

$$u = v + O(|x|^{k+2}), \quad D_{a_1} \dots D_{a_{k+2}} u(i) = -v(1-v)\psi_{a_1 \dots a_{k+2}},$$

so that one obtains at i ‘normal expansions’

$$s_{ab} = \frac{1}{k!} \psi_{a_1 \dots a_k ab} x^{a_1} \dots x^{a_k} + O(|x|^{k+1}),$$

$$u = v - v(1-v) \frac{1}{(k+2)!} \psi_{a_1 \dots a_{k+2}} x^{a_1} \dots x^{a_{k+2}} + O(|x|^{k+3}),$$

$$D_a u = -v(1-v) \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \psi_{a_1 \dots a_{k+1} a} x^{a_1} \dots x^{a_{k+1}} + O(|x|^{k+2}),$$

$$\rho = -\mu h_{ab}^* x^a x^b + O(|x|^{k+4}), \quad D_a \rho = -2\mu h_{ab}^* x^b + O(|x|^{k+3}),$$

whence

$$w_a = \frac{-2\mu(1-v)h_{ab}^* x^b}{(1+\mu h_{ab}^* x^a x^b)^2} + O(|x|^{k+1}), \quad w_a w^a = \frac{(2\mu(1-v))^2 h_{ab}^* x^a x^b}{(1+\mu h_{ab}^* x^a x^b)^4} + O(|x|^{k+2}).$$

It follows that $w_a \neq 0$ on a punctured neighbourhood of i . Consider near i the real analytic field

$$f_{ab} = 2(w_c w^c)^2 s_{ab} - 3w^c w^d s_{cd} (w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} w_e w^e).$$

Lemma 4.1 implies with the assumption that u is not constant that the field f_{ab} vanishes on the open set where $w_a \neq 0$ and thus, by analyticity, everywhere. In the normal coordinates x^a we extend near i now all real analytic fields holomorphically into the complex domain and consider a complex null geodesic $x^a(\tau) = \tau l^a$ with $l^a = \text{const.} \neq 0, l_a l^a = 0$.

Expanding $f_{ab}(x(\tau))$ at $\tau = 0$ and observing the expansions above gives

$$0 = f_{ab} = -3 \frac{(2\mu(1-v))^4}{k!} \psi_{a_1 \dots a_{k+2}} l^{a_1} \dots l^{a_{k+2}} l_a l_b \tau^{k+4} + O(|\tau|^{k+5}).$$

This shows that

$$0 = \psi_{a_1 \dots a_{k+2}} l^{a_1} \dots l^{a_{k+2}} = \psi_{A_1 B_1 \dots A_{k+2} B_{k+2}} \iota^{A_1} \dots \iota^{B_{k+2}},$$

where l^a is represented on the right-hand side by the spinor $\iota^A \iota^B$. Because l^a and thus the spinor ι^A is arbitrary here, the symmetric spinor $\psi_{A_1 B_1 \dots A_{k+2} B_{k+2}}$ must vanish, which implies $s_{ab} = O(|x|^{k+1})$ and $u = v + O(|x|^{k+3})$. In contradiction to our assumption it follows inductively that $u - v$ and s_{ab} vanish at i at all orders. \square

The existence result announced in the introduction will now be proven. In stating it we ignore trivial rescalings.

Lemma 5.2. *For given data $\mu, \nu, \beta_* \in \mathbb{R}$ and $c^a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ satisfying*

$$\mu > 0, \quad \nu > 0, \quad \beta_* \neq 0, \quad c^a \neq 0,$$

there exists a solution h to the conformal static field equations which admits a non-trivial conformal rescaling with conformal factor $\vartheta = \sqrt{\nu/u}$. The fields h and u are uniquely determined by the requirements that $m = 2\sqrt{\mu}$ is the ADM mass of the asymptotically flat

static metric associated with h , the Ricci tensor of h assumes in i -centered h -normal coordinates the value

$$s_{ab} = \beta_* (c_a c_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} c_d c^d) \neq 0 \quad \text{at } i,$$

and the positive function u satisfies

$$u = v, \quad D_a u = c_a \quad \text{at } i.$$

Proof. The result will be obtained by solving simultaneously the conformal field equations for h and the equations satisfied by u . Let e_a , $a = 1, 2, 3$, denote an h -orthonormal frame and denote the 1-forms dual to it by σ^a . The metric is then given by $h = h_{ab} \sigma^a \sigma^b$ with metric coefficients $h_{ab} = h(e_a, e_b) = -\delta_{ab}$. The connection coefficients, defined by $D_{e_a} e_b = \Gamma_{a \ b}^c e_c$, satisfy $\Gamma_{acb} = \Gamma_{a[cb]}$ with $\Gamma_{acb} = h_{cd} \Gamma_{a \ b}^d$. The connection form is then given by $\omega^a_b = \Gamma_{c \ b}^a \sigma^c$ so that $\omega_{ab} = \omega_{[ab]}$. This expansion in terms of the σ^a will be used only later, when we describe the solution procedure in detail.

The equations will be written as a differential system for the unknown

$$\mathbf{U} = (\rho, \rho_a, s, u, u_a, t, \beta, \sigma^a, \omega^a_b),$$

where the first seven components denote (vector-valued) 0-forms and the last two components are 1-forms. Until we introduce coordinates below all indices should be understood as frame indices. Consider the differential forms

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= d\rho - \rho_a \sigma^a, & \Gamma &= du - u_a \sigma^a, \\ \Sigma_a &= d\rho_a - \rho_c \omega^c_a - s h_{ab} \sigma^b + \rho(1 - \rho) s_{ab} \sigma^b, \\ \Pi_a &= du_a - u_c \omega^c_a - t h_{ab} \sigma^b + u(1 - u) s_{ab} \sigma^b, \\ S &= ds + (1 - \rho) \rho^a s_{ab} \sigma^b, & T &= dt + (1 - u) u^a s_{ab} \sigma^b, \\ B &= d\beta + \beta M_a \sigma^a, \\ \Theta^a &= d\sigma^a + \omega^a_b \wedge \sigma^b, & \Delta^a_b &= d\omega^a_b + \omega^a_c \wedge \omega^c_b - \Omega^a_b, \end{aligned}$$

denoted collectively by

$$\Psi = (\Lambda, \Gamma, \Sigma_a, \Pi_a, S, T, B, \Theta^a, \Delta^a_b),$$

or by Ψ^A if we need to bring out relations involving different components. In the differential forms above and in the forms derived below we consider functions of the components of \mathbf{U} which are given by

$$\begin{aligned} w &= \frac{1-u}{1-\rho}, & w_a &= \frac{1-u}{(1-\rho)^2} \rho_a - \frac{1}{1-\rho} u_a, & s_{ab} &= \beta \left(w_a w_b - \frac{1}{3} h_{ab} w_c w^c \right), \\ M_a &= Q w_a + \frac{1}{3} (1-u)(1-w) \beta w_a - \frac{1}{1-\rho} \rho_a, & Q &= \frac{5(ws - t + \rho_c w^c)}{w_e w^e (1-\rho)}, \\ \Omega^a_b &= \frac{1}{2} R^a_{bcd} \sigma^c \wedge \sigma^d = (h^a_c s_{bd} - h_{bc} s_d^a) \sigma^c \wedge \sigma^d. \end{aligned}$$

The equations we need to solve read now

$$\Psi = 0.$$

The first two of these equations ensure that ρ_a and u_a represent the differentials of ρ and u , the following five equations represent (2.2), (3.9), (2.9), (3.11), (4.9) and the remaining equations are the first and the second structural equation.

A lengthy but straightforward calculation shows that the differential forms comprised by Ψ satisfy the differential system

$$\begin{aligned}
d\Lambda &= -\Sigma_a \wedge \sigma^a - \rho_a \Theta^a, \\
d\Gamma &= -\Pi_a \wedge \sigma^a - u_a \Theta^a, \\
d\Sigma_a &= -\Sigma_b \wedge \omega^b{}_a - \rho_b \Delta^b{}_a - S \wedge \sigma_a - s \Theta_a + (1 - 2\rho)\Lambda \wedge s_{ab}\sigma^b \\
&\quad + \rho(1 - \rho)s_{ab}\Theta^b + \rho(1 - \rho)\mathcal{A}_a, \\
d\Pi_a &= -\Pi_b \wedge \omega^b{}_a - u_b \Delta^b{}_a - T \wedge \sigma_a - t \Theta_a + (1 - 2u)\Gamma \wedge s_{ab}\sigma^b \\
&\quad + u(1 - u)s_{ab}\Theta^b + u(1 - u)\mathcal{A}_a, \\
dT &= -\Lambda \wedge \rho^a s_{ab}\sigma^b + (1 - \rho)\Sigma_a \wedge s^a{}_b\sigma^b + (1 - \rho)\rho^a s_{ab}\Theta^b + (1 - \rho)\rho^a \mathcal{A}_a, \\
dS &= -\Gamma \wedge u^a s_{ab}\sigma^b + (1 - u)\Pi_a \wedge s^a{}_b\sigma^b + (1 - u)u^a s_{ab}\Theta^b + (1 - u)u^a \mathcal{A}_a, \\
dB &= B \wedge (M_a \sigma^a + \beta F w_a \sigma^a) + \beta \left\{ \frac{Q}{1 - \rho} \Lambda + \left(\frac{5\rho^c}{(1 - \rho)^3 w_b w^b} - \frac{2Qw^c}{(1 - \rho)^2 w_b w^b} \right) \right. \\
&\quad \times (-\rho_c \Gamma + w \rho_c \Lambda + (1 - \rho)(w_c \Lambda + w \Sigma_c - \Pi_c)) \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{5}{(1 - \rho)^2 w_b w^b} (s w \Lambda - s \Gamma + (1 - \rho)(w S - T + w^c \Sigma_c)) \right\} \wedge w_a \sigma^a \\
&\quad + \beta \left\{ \frac{Q + \beta F}{(1 - \rho)^2} (w \rho_a \Lambda - \rho_a \Gamma + (1 - \rho)(w_a \Lambda + w \Sigma_a - \Pi_a)) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1}{3} \beta ((1 - 2w)\Gamma + w^2 \Lambda) w_a - \frac{\rho_a}{(1 - \rho)^2} \Lambda - \frac{1}{1 - \rho} \Sigma_a \right\} \wedge \sigma^a + \beta M_a \Theta^a, \\
d\Theta^a &= \Delta^a{}_b \wedge \sigma^b - \omega^a{}_b \wedge \Theta^b, \\
d\Delta^a{}_b &= \Delta^a{}_c \wedge \omega^c{}_b - \omega^a{}_c \wedge \Delta^c{}_b - (h^a{}_c s_{bd} - h_{bc} s_d^a) (\Theta^c \wedge \sigma^d - \sigma^c \wedge \Theta^d) \\
&\quad + \sigma^a \wedge \mathcal{A}_b - \mathcal{A}^a \wedge \sigma_b,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_a = w_a B \wedge w_b \sigma^b - \frac{1}{3} w_b w^b B \wedge \sigma_a + \beta \left(\mathcal{B}_a \wedge w_b \sigma^b + w_a \mathcal{B}_b \wedge \sigma^b - \frac{2}{3} w^b \mathcal{B}_b \wedge \sigma_a \right),$$

with

$$\mathcal{B}_a = -\frac{\rho_a}{(1 - \rho)^2} \Gamma + \left(\frac{w_a}{1 - \rho} + \frac{w \rho_a}{(1 - \rho)^2} \right) \Lambda + \frac{w}{1 - \rho} \Sigma_a - \frac{1}{1 - \rho} \Pi_a.$$

In deriving the last equation there arises the expression

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{N}^{ab} &= -w_d w^d \sigma^a \wedge \rho_c \sigma^c \wedge \sigma^b + \rho_c w^c \sigma^a \wedge w_d \sigma^d \wedge \sigma^b + \sigma^a \wedge \rho_c \sigma^c \wedge w_d \sigma^d w^b \\
&\quad - w^a \rho_c \sigma^c \wedge w_d \sigma^d \wedge \sigma^b.
\end{aligned}$$

By writing $\sigma^a \wedge \sigma^b \wedge \sigma^c = \epsilon^{abc} \mu_h$ with the volume form defined by h on the right-hand side and calculating $\mathcal{N}^{ab} \epsilon_{abc}$, the field \mathcal{N}^{ab} can be shown to vanish identically.

In short notation (the summation convention applying to all indices) the relations above take the form

$$d\Psi^A = f_{Bc}^A \sigma^c \wedge \Psi^B + f_{Bb}^{Aa} \omega^b{}_a \wedge \Psi^B + f_B^A \Psi^B, \quad (5.2)$$

with functions f_{Bc}^A , f_{Bb}^{Aa} , f_B^A of the 0-forms given by \mathbf{U} .

Because we assume that $D_a u(i) = c_a \neq 0$, all fields given by \mathbf{U} , in particular β (with the meaning given to it earlier), can be assumed to be smooth near i . The solutions to the equations

$\Psi = 0$ are obtained near i as follows. Assume that x^a denote i -centered, h -normal coordinates and e_a an h -orthonormal normal frame centered at i so that $e^a_b = \langle dx^a, e_b \rangle = \delta^a_b$ at i . Then $\hat{Y} = x^a \partial_a$ is smooth near i and so that $Y = \frac{1}{|x|} \hat{Y}$ is for $x^a \neq 0$ the geodesic unit vector field tangent to the geodesics through i , which has direction dependent limits as $|x| \rightarrow 0$. Writing $\sigma^a = \sigma^a_b dx^b$, we find the inner products

$$i_Y \sigma^a = \sigma^a_b(x) x^b = x^a, \quad i_Y \omega^a_b = x^c \Gamma^a_{c b}(x) = 0 \quad \text{near } x^a = 0. \quad (5.3)$$

Consider now a radial geodesic $\gamma : \tau \rightarrow \tau x^*_a$ with some x^*_a satisfying $\delta_{ab} x^*_a x^*_b = 1$. The equation

$$i_Y \Theta^a = 0,$$

implies then for the unknown $\hat{\sigma}^a_b = \sigma^a_b - \delta^a_b$, which is required to be smooth, the initial condition

$$\hat{\sigma}^a_b \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \tau \rightarrow 0, \quad (5.4)$$

and along γ the ODE

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \hat{\sigma}^a_b + \frac{1}{\tau} \hat{\sigma}^a_b = \Gamma^a_{c d} \hat{\sigma}^c_b x^*_d + \Gamma^a_{b d} x^*_d, \quad (5.5)$$

where we expressed the connection form in terms of the connection coefficients, which are considered now as unknowns. The equation

$$i_Y \Delta^a_b = 0,$$

similarly implies the initial condition and the ODE

$$\Gamma^a_{c b} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \tau \rightarrow 0, \quad (5.6)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \Gamma^a_{c b} + \frac{1}{\tau} (\delta^d_c - \hat{\sigma}^d_f e^f_c) \Gamma^a_{d b} = -\Gamma^a_{d b} \Gamma^d_{c e} x^*_e + R^a_{bdc} x^*_d, \quad (5.7)$$

where the frame coefficients e^a_b (by Cramer's rule rational functions of the σ^a_b) satisfy

$$\sigma^a_c e^c_b = \delta^a_b \quad \text{so that} \quad e^a_b = \delta^a_b - \hat{\sigma}^a_c e^c_b = \delta^a_b + O(|\tau|).$$

The equations

$$i_Y \Lambda = 0, \quad i_Y \Gamma = 0, \quad i_Y \Sigma_a = 0, \quad i_Y \Pi_a = 0, \quad i_Y S = 0, \quad i_Y T = 0, \quad i_Y B = 0, \quad (5.8)$$

imply regular ODE's along γ . The unknowns in these equations must satisfy the initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \rho = 0, \quad \rho_a = 0, \quad s = -2\mu, \quad u = v > 0, \quad u_a = c_a \neq 0, \\ t = \frac{c_a c^a}{2v}, \quad \beta = \beta_* \neq 0 \quad \text{at } \tau = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

There exists along γ a unique solution \mathbf{U} to the system consisting of (5.5), (5.7), and the ODEs implied by (5.8) which satisfies the conditions (5.3), (5.4), (5.6), (5.9). This solution is real analytic in the initial data (5.9) and τx^*_a . The fields given by \mathbf{U} are in fact analytic in the coordinates x^a and satisfy the equation $\Psi = 0$ near $x^a = 0$.

This result follows from the general properties of systems of ODEs. The only subtlety arises here from the singularity of equations (5.5), (5.7) at $\tau = 0$. It is such that the left-hand sides of these equations are of the form $\dot{x} + \tau^{-1} A x$ with a matrix A which approaches a diagonal matrix with positive entries as $\tau \rightarrow 0$. The existence of a unique analytic solution to the complete system then follows immediately with the methods used in [5], where ODEs of the same type have been discussed.

Once the solution U has been obtained, equations (5.5), (5.7) imply a system of ODEs for $x_*^a \delta^a_b$ and $x_*^a \Gamma^b_c$ along γ which allows one to conclude that these quantities vanish everywhere so that the relations (5.3) are indeed satisfied. Because $i_Y \Psi \rightarrow 0$ as $x^a \rightarrow 0$ along any geodesic passing through $x^a = 0$ it follows that $\Psi = 0$ at $x^a = 0$. From (5.2), (5.3), and $i_Y \Psi = 0$ one obtains

$$\mathcal{L}_Y \Psi^A = (d \circ i_Y + i_Y \circ d) \Psi^A = i_Y d \Psi^A = f_{Bc}^A \frac{x^c}{|x|} \Psi^B.$$

This equation implies for $|x| \neq 0$ along each geodesic γ passing through $x^a = 0$ a linear homogeneous system of ODEs for the coefficient functions defining the forms given by Ψ . It behaves regularly on γ as $|x| \rightarrow 0$. Since Ψ vanishes at $x^a = 0$, the asserted result follows. \square

In counting the free parameters in lemma 5.2, the vector c^a should be taken into account only in terms of the number $c = \sqrt{c_a c^a} > 0$ because of the freedom to rotate the normal coordinates around their origin. Ignoring the parameter μ , which can be changed by trivial rescalings, it follows that the solutions depend on three parameters.

6. Concluding remarks

The statements of theorem 1.1 represent an extract from the results proven in the lemmas and the subsequent remarks. The latter provide much more information on the various structures. This will become important in a sequel to this paper in which the properties of the solutions whose existence has been obtained in theorem 1.1 will be discussed in some detail.

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