

Stability issues for the conformal method in the focusing case

Three days workshop in Mathematical General Relativity – Lyon

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April 16, 2019

Contents

- 1 The initial-value formulation of the Einstein equations
 - Initial-data sets and well-posedness
 - The conformal method
 - The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system
- 2 The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system in a scalar-field theory
 - The setting
 - Existence theory
 - Definition of Elliptic stability
- 3 Elliptic Stability: the results
 - The defocusing case
 - Elliptic stability in the focusing case
 - The proof in the focusing case

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$$T_{\alpha\beta}X^\alpha X^\beta \geq 0 \quad \text{for any timelike field } X,$$

which says that the observed local matter density is always nonnegative.

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- Klein-Gordon fields: $V(\Psi) = \frac{1}{2}m\Psi^2$, $m > 0$

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Question: is any choice (g, K) on $M^n \times \{0\}$ admissible to be induced by a solution of the Einstein equations?

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where α, β run on space-time indices, k, l run on space indices, $g = h|_{M^n}$ and K is the second fundamental form of $M^n \times \{0\} \subset \mathcal{M}^n$. This is just [the Codazzi equation](#).

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Our approach: parameterizing the initial-data sets

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We won't dwell on other techniques, e.g. **glueing methods**, which proved extremely useful to construct solutions of (\mathcal{C}) in a variety of geometric settings (see e.g. Chruściel-Isenberg-Pollack '05, Corvino-Schoen '06, Carlotto-Schoen '15, Chruściel-Delay '18, etc...).

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Transforming in the same way the vector equation shows that an initial-data set

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solves the constraint equations in M^n if and only if (u, W) satisfy the so-called Einstein-Lichnerowicz system in M^n :

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where in (??) we have let $2^* = \frac{2n}{n-2}$, $\Delta_{g_0} = -\operatorname{div}_{g_0}(\nabla \cdot)$, $\vec{\Delta}_{g_0} W = -\operatorname{div}_{g_0}(\mathcal{L}_{g_0} W)$, and where the coefficient functions h and f depend on the physics data (τ, ψ, π, V) that we arbitrarily chose in the conformal method:

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Contents

- 1 The initial-value formulation of the Einstein equations
 - Initial-data sets and well-posedness
 - The conformal method
 - The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system
- 2 The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system in a scalar-field theory
 - The setting
 - Existence theory
 - Definition of Elliptic stability
- 3 Elliptic Stability: the results
 - The defocusing case
 - Elliptic stability in the focusing case
 - The proof in the focusing case

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These two regimes exhibit a very different behavior analytically speaking.

An illustration: existence theory in the decoupled case

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Is it compact in some **strong** topology, say $C^2(M)$?

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The situation remains bad in general: in the fully coupled case $\nabla\tau \neq 0$ one loses uniqueness even in the defocusing case (Dilts-Holst-Kozareva-Maxwell, '18).

When multiple solutions exist, it is often impossible to choose a preferred “physical solution”. In order to understand the solutions produced by the conformal method we therefore ask the following questions:

What can we say about **the set of solutions** of the Einstein-Lichnerowicz system?

Is it compact in some **strong** topology, say $C^2(M)$?

How does it behave with respect to perturbations of the physics data?

Existence theory in the decoupled case II

In the coupled case $\nabla\tau \neq 0$, existence results are for instance:

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We now introduce a notion of **stability** to answer these questions and investigate the “well-posedness” of the conformal method.

Elliptic stability: definition

Recall that if $\mathcal{D} = (V, \psi, \pi, \tau, \sigma)$ are physics data, the Einstein-Lichnerowicz system with physics data \mathcal{D} is:

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In the second lecture we will state and prove some stability results.

Thank you for your attention!
(End of Lecture 1 and coffe break for everyone)

Contents

- 1 The initial-value formulation of the Einstein equations
 - Initial-data sets and well-posedness
 - The conformal method
 - The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system
- 2 The Einstein-Lichnerowicz system in a scalar-field theory
 - The setting
 - Existence theory
 - Definition of Elliptic stability
- 3 Elliptic Stability: the results
 - The defocusing case
 - Elliptic stability in the focusing case
 - The proof in the focusing case

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The statement of the stability results (and their proofs) again heavily depend on the **focusing** or **defocusing** setting.

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Then the set of solutions of the **vacuum** Einstein-Lichnerowicz system is non-empty and compact in $C^2(M)$.

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If x_α is the point where this maximum is attained, we let, for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$v_\alpha(x) = \mu_\alpha^{\frac{n-2}{2}} \exp_{x_\alpha}^* u_\alpha(\mu_\alpha x) \quad \text{and} \quad X_\alpha(x) = \mu_\alpha^{n-1} \exp_{x_\alpha}^* W_\alpha(\mu_\alpha x)$$

be the rescalings of u_α and W_α at distances comparable to μ_α to x_α .

We can then prove that v_α and X_α converge in $C_{loc}^{1,\eta}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, towards non-zero solutions (U, X) of

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The proof then consists in understanding the mutual interactions of the different concentration points.

Step 1: Detection of blow-up points

Proposition

There exists a sequence $(N_\alpha)_\alpha$, $N_\alpha \geq 2$ and sequences of points $(x_{1,\alpha}, \dots, x_{N_\alpha,\alpha})_\alpha$ in M such that:

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The number N_α can *a priori* go to $+\infty$ since we did not assume anything on the energy of (u_α, W_α) . We expect $(x_{1,\alpha}, \dots, x_{N_\alpha,\alpha})$ to exhaust the set of concentration points.

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- $|\mathcal{L}_g W_\alpha|_g \sim \mu_{i,\alpha}^{n-1} \rho_\alpha^{-n} \left(\mu_{i,\alpha}^2 + d_g(x_{i,\alpha}, x)^2 \right)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}$ in $C^0(B_{x_{i,\alpha}}(\rho_{i,\alpha}))$.

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- It has very recently been used to prove involved existence results in the non-variational setting of the so-called [volumetric drift method](#) (Vâlcu, '19). There elliptic stability is required in order to apply topological methods.

Thank you for your attention!