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Kodama-like Vector Fields in Axisymmetric Spacetimes

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based on [[PD & R. Verch, arXiv:2402.18993](#)]

Motivation from Spherical Symmetry



The Kodama Vector Field

For a **spherically symmetric spacetime**

$$ds^2 = g_{ij}(x^1, x^2) dx^i dx^j + R^2(x^1, x^2) (d\vartheta^2 + \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2)$$

there exists a **timelike vector field**

$$k^a = \epsilon^{ab} \nabla_b R(x^1, x^2),$$

which gives rise to a **covariantly conserved current**, i.e.,

$$\nabla_a j^a := \nabla_a (G^{ab} k_b) = 0.$$

[H. Kodama, *Prog. Theor. Phys.* **63**, 1217–1228 (1980)]



Properties of the Kodama Vector Field

- k^a is **divergence-free**, i.e.,

$$\nabla_a k^a = 0.$$

- k^a is **tangent to constant- R -surfaces**, i.e.,

$$k^a \nabla_a R = 0.$$

- The **Noether charge of j^a is the gravitational energy of the spacetime**, i.e.,

$$Q_k = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{\Sigma_R} j^a n_a \, d\text{vol}_{\Sigma_R} = M_{\text{MSH}}.$$

[S. A. Hayward, *Phys. Rev. D* **53**, 1938–1949 (1996)]



Applications of the Kodama Vector Field

- k^a provides a **geometrically preferred direction of time** in non-stationary spherically symmetric spacetimes. [G. Abreu, M. Visser, *Phys. Rev. D* **82**, 044027 (2010)]
- k^a generates the **preferred time evolution** for the wave equation. [I. Rácz, *Class. Quantum Grav.* **23**, 115–123 (2006)]
- In QFT on evaporating black hole backgrounds, **thermal quantum states** are defined w.r.t. the Kodama flow. [F. Kurpicz *et al.*, *Lett. Math. Phys.* **111** (2021)]

k^a takes the role of the timelike Killing vector field in non-stationary spacetimes.



Example: Vaidya-Bonnor Spacetime

Charged & radiating dynamical black hole metric

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 - \frac{2M(u)}{R} + \frac{Q(u)^2}{R^2} \right) du^2 - 2dudR + R^2 (d\vartheta^2 + \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2)$$

[W. B. Bonnor, P. C. Vaidya, *Gen. Rel. Grav.* **1**, 127–130 (1970)]

- “null dust” solution to the Einstein-Maxwell equations.

[V. Husain, *Phys. Rev. D* **53** (1996)]

- $M(u)$ is the Brown-York quasi-local mass and the ADM mass.

- $M_{\text{MSH}} := \frac{R}{2} (1 - \nabla^a R \nabla_a R) = M(u) - \frac{Q(u)^2}{2R}$



Example: Vaidya-Bonnor Spacetime

- In Vaidya-Bonnor, the **Kodama vector field** takes the form

$$k^a = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \right)^a.$$

- The corresponding current is **covariantly conserved**, i.e.,

$$\nabla_a j^a = \nabla_a \left(G^{ab} k_b \right) = 0.$$

- j^a carries the **Noether charge**

$$Q_k = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{\Sigma_R} j^a n_a \, d\text{vol}_{\Sigma_R} = M(u) - \frac{Q(u)^2}{2R} = M_{\text{MSH}}.$$



Is there a Kodama-like Symmetry in Axisymmetry?



Kerr-Vaidya Spacetime

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 - \frac{2M(v)r}{\rho^2} \right) dv^2 + 2dvdr - \frac{4M(v)ar \sin^2 \vartheta}{\rho^2} dv d\psi \\ - 2a \sin^2 \vartheta dr d\psi + \rho^2 d\vartheta^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2 - \Delta a^2 \sin^2 \vartheta}{\rho^2} \sin^2 \vartheta d\psi^2$$

$$\rho^2 = r^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \vartheta, \quad \Delta = r^2 - 2M(v)r + a^2, \quad \Gamma = r^2 + a^2$$

- sourced by a **type-III** energy momentum tensor.

[P. K. Dahal, D. R. Terno, *Phys. Rev. D* **102** (2020)]

- $M(v)$ is the **Brown-York quasi-local mass** and the **ADM mass**.



Horizons in Kerr-Vaidya

- Characterize horizons of dynamical spacetimes by **trapping of light** [V. Faraoni, Springer, 2015]
- Trapping horizons of Kerr-Vaidya spacetime **do not coincide with $\Delta = 0$** , i.e.,

$$r_{\pm} = M(v) \pm \sqrt{M(v)^2 - a^2}.$$

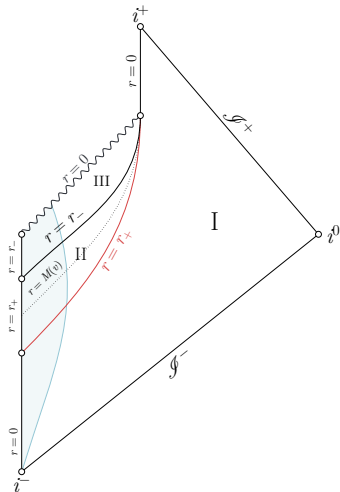
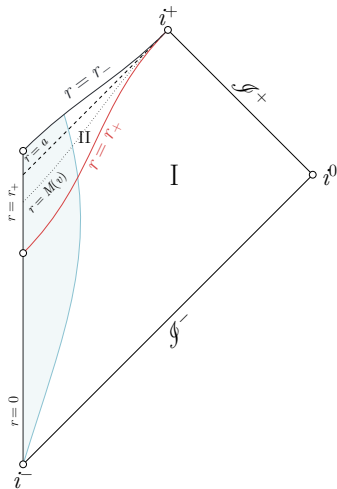
- Future outer trapping horizon can be **approximated** by

$$r_{\text{foth}} = M(v) + \sqrt{M(v)^2 - a^2} + M'(v)f(v, \vartheta) + \mathcal{O}(M'^2, M'')$$

[P. K. Dahal, *J. Astrophys. Astron.* **42** (2021)]



Kerr-Vaidya-type Black Holes



Kodama-like Symmetry in Kerr-Vaidya

- $K^a = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v}\right)^a$ fulfills the Kodama properties in Kerr-Vaidya.
- The current $J^a = G^{ab}K_b$ is covariantly conserved, i.e.,

$$\nabla_a J^a = G^{ab}\nabla_a K_b = 0.$$

- Given a timelike Killing vector field ξ^a in Kerr, it is Kodama-like in the entire exterior of Kerr-Vaidya, if and only if $\xi^a \propto K^a$.



Noether Charge: Gravitational Energy

The current J^a carries the **Noether charge**

$$\begin{aligned} Q_K &= \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{\Sigma_r} J^a n_a \, d\text{vol}_{\Sigma_r} \\ &= M(v) - M'(v) \left(\frac{r^2 + a^2}{2a} \arctan\left(\frac{a}{r}\right) - \frac{r}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

- For **evaporating black holes** ($M' < 0$), the additional term is **positive**.
- In the **asymptotically flat region**, we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} Q_K = M(v)$$



Noether Charge: Angular Momentum

Given the Killing vector field $\phi^a = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \psi}\right)^a$, we define the current $I^a = G^{ab}\phi_b$. It carries the **Noether charge**

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\phi &= \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{\Sigma_r} I^a n_a \, d\text{vol}_{\Sigma_r} \\ &= M(v)a - M'(v) \left(\frac{(r^2 + a^2)^2}{2a^2} \arctan\left(\frac{a}{r}\right) - \frac{r^3}{2a} - \frac{5ar}{6} \right). \end{aligned}$$

- Again, $Q_\phi > M(v)a$ for **evaporating black holes**.
- At **spatial infinity**, we find

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} Q_\phi = M(v)a \equiv L_{\text{Kerr}}.$$



Limitations for the Kodama-like Symmetry

- K^a becomes **spacelike in the ergoregion**.
 - The Killing vector field $\zeta^a = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v}\right)^a + \Omega_H \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \psi}\right)^a$ from stationary Kerr spacetime is **not Kodama-like in Kerr-Vaidya**.
 - For **dynamical** rotation parameters $a(v)$, the current J^a is **no longer conserved**.
- ⇒ Existence of Kodama-like vector fields in more general spacetimes is **rather unlikely**.



Kerr-Vaidya-de Sitter Spacetime

$$ds^2 = - \frac{\Delta_\Lambda - \Theta a^2 \sin^2 \vartheta}{\rho^2 Z^2} d\tilde{v}^2 + \frac{2}{Z} d\tilde{v} dr - \frac{2a \sin^2 \vartheta}{\rho^2 Z^2} (\Gamma \Theta - \Delta_\Lambda) d\tilde{v} d\tilde{\psi} \\ - \frac{2a \sin^2 \vartheta}{Z} dr d\tilde{\psi} + \frac{\rho^2}{\Theta} d\vartheta^2 + \frac{\sin^2 \vartheta}{\rho^2 Z^2} (\Gamma^2 \Theta - \Delta_\Lambda a^2 \sin^2 \vartheta) d\tilde{\psi}^2$$

$$\Delta_\Lambda(\tilde{v}) = \Delta(\tilde{v}) - \frac{\Gamma \Lambda r^2}{3}, \quad \Theta = 1 + \frac{\Lambda a^2 \cos^2 \vartheta}{3}, \quad Z = 1 + \frac{\Lambda a^2}{3}$$

- The cosmological horizon $r_C(\tilde{v})$ is **dynamical**.
- There exists an **ergoregion**, as before.



Kodama-like Symmetry in KVdS

- $\tilde{K}^a = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{v}}\right)^a$ is **Kodama-like** in Kerr-Vaidya-de Sitter.
- Properties are **analogous to the asymptotically flat case** with some open problems:
- Behaviour of the Kodama-like vector field **beyond the cosmological horizon?**
- Analytical computation of the Noether charge(s) is not necessarily possible.



Summary of Results

Kodama-like vector fields exist for a class of rotating dynamical black holes.

- In asymptotically flat Kerr-Vaidya spacetime, the **charge of the Kodama-like current** corresponds to the **gravitational energy**.
- The charge of the axial Killing current corresponds to the **angular momentum**.
- Extension to **de Sitter asymptotics** is possible but poses additional challenges.



Outlook

Obtain new results about **dynamical processes**:

- Black hole (thermo)dynamics
- quasi-local **conservation laws**
- Semi-classical **evaporation** of rotating black holes



Thank you very much!



Backup: Brown-York & ADM Masses

$$M_{\text{BY}} := \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_{S_r} (\mathcal{K}_0 - \mathcal{K}_g) \, d\text{vol}_{S_r}$$

- S_r are **closed 2-surfaces**.
- \mathcal{K}_i denotes the **trace of the extrinsic curvature** of S_r **isometrically embedded** in (M, g) and in (\mathbb{R}^4, η) .

The Arnowitt-Deser-Misner (ADM) mass is related to M_{BY} via

$$M_{\text{ADM}} = \lim_{S_r \rightarrow i^0} M_{\text{BY}}.$$

[E. Poisson, Cambridge University Press, 2004]

