PERFECT-FLUID, GENERALIZED ROBERTSON-WALKER SPACE-TIMES, AND GRAY’S DECOMPOSITION

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Abstract. We give new necessary and sufficient conditions on the Weyl tensor for generalized Robertson-Walker (GRW) space-times to be perfect-fluid space-times. For GRW space-times, we determine the form of the Ricci tensor in all the $O(n)$-invariant subspaces provided by Gray’s decomposition of the gradient of the Ricci tensor. In all but one, the Ricci tensor is Einstein or has the form of perfect fluid. We discuss the corresponding equations of state that result from the Einstein equation in dimension 4, where perfect-fluid GRW space-times are Robertson-Walker.

1. Introduction

Generalized Robertson-Walker (GRW) space-times are a natural and wide extension of RW spacetimes, where large scale cosmology is staged. They are Lorentzian manifolds of dimension $n$ characterized by the metric

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) g^*_{\mu\nu}(\vec{x}) \, dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

where $g^*_{\mu\nu}(\vec{x})$ is the metric tensor of a Riemannian submanifold. A GRW space-time is thus the warped product $-I \times_a M^*$ where $I$ is an interval of the real line, $(M^*, g^*)$ is a Riemannian manifold and $a > 0$ is a smooth warping, or scale function. They have been deeply studied in the last years by several authors [1]-[8] (see the review [9]). Few years ago, Bang-Yen Chen [10, 11] characterized them by the presence of a time-like concircular vector in the sense of Fialkow [12]:

**Theorem 1.1** (Chen, 2014). A Lorentzian manifold of dimension $n > 3$ is a GRW space-time if and only if it admits a time-like concircular vector $X_j: X_j X^j < 0$ and $\nabla_k X_j = \rho g_{kj}$, where $\rho$ a scalar function.

The associated unit time-like vector field $u_j = X_j/\sqrt{-X^j X_j}$ turns out to be torse-forming [13]:

$$\nabla_j u_k = \varphi (g_{jk} + u_j u_k)$$

with $\varphi = \rho/\sqrt{-X^j X_j}$. In other words, $u_j$ is a velocity field without shear, vorticity and acceleration. The field $\varphi$, in the comoving frame, coincides with Hubble’s parameter: $\varphi = \dot{a}/a$.

The alternative characterization was obtained:
Theorem 1.2 (Mantica & Molinari, [9]). A Lorentzian manifold of dimension $n > 3$ is a GRW space-time if and only if it admits a unit time-like torse-forming vector that is also eigenvector of the Ricci tensor.

A further extension are the twisted space-times, where the scale function $a$ may depend on all coordinates. They were introduced by B.-Y. Chen in 1979 [14], and later characterized by the existence of a time-like ‘torqued’ vector [15].

Theorem 1.3 (Mantica & Molinari, [16]). A Lorentzian manifold of dimension $n > 3$ is a twisted space-time if and only if it admits a unit time-like torse-forming vector.

A Lorentzian manifold whose Ricci tensor has the form $R_{kl} = A g_{kl} + B v_k v_l$ with scalar fields $A$, $B$, and a time-like ‘velocity field’, $v_j v^j = -1$, is named ‘perfect fluid’ space-time [14] (a Robertson-Walker space-time is perfect-fluid). In the geometric literature it is known as quasi-Einstein manifold [17, 18, 19] (without restriction on $v$). It is an Einstein space-time if $R_{ij} = (R/n) g_{ij}$. As $v_j$ is an eigenvector, the Ricci tensor can be parameterized in terms of the scalar curvature $R$ and the eigenvalue $\eta$ as follows:

\[ R_{kl} = R - \frac{n \eta}{n - 1} v_k v_l + \frac{R - \eta}{n - 1} g_{kl} \]  (3)

In section 2, new necessary and sufficient conditions for a GRW space-time to be a perfect fluid, and for a perfect fluid to be a GRW space-time, will be given. They are based on the Weyl tensor, and extend our result in [3]. Theorems where the Weyl tensor is replaced by other curvature tensors are found in [20].

In section 3 we introduce Gray’s decomposition [21] of the tensor $\nabla_i R_{jk}$ into $O(n)$ invariant subspaces, and discuss the special forms of the Ricci tensor of GRW space-times in each subspace. In all subspaces but one, the Ricci tensor is Einstein or perfect-fluid, with different restrictions on the scalar curvature and the eigenvalue. They reflect in the equations of state for the cosmological fluid’s pressure and energy density, determined by the Einstein equations, discussed in section 4 for dimension $n = 4$. In $n = 4$ the perfect fluid GRW space-times coincide with RW space-times.

In the paper the Lorentzian manifolds (space-times) have dimension $n > 3$, and are smooth. When used, a dot means the directional derivative $u^k \nabla_k$.  

2. Perfect-fluid and GRW space-times

We give new sufficient conditions for a GRW space-time to be perfect-fluid, and for the opposite occurrence. According to Prop.1.2, a GRW space-time is endowed with the special vector $u_j$ (2) that is eigenvector of the Ricci tensor. In Ref.[5] the following general structure of the Ricci tensor was obtained:

\[ R_{kl} = \frac{R - n \xi}{n - 1} u_k u_l + \frac{R - \xi}{n - 1} g_{kl} - (n - 2) C_{jklm} u^j u^m \]  (4)

where $R = R^k_k$ denotes the scalar curvature, $C_{jklm}$ is the Weyl tensor and $\xi$ is the eigenvalue.

Remark 2.1. Suppose that the GRW space-time is also perfect-fluid, i.e. there is a vector $v_j$ such that the Ricci tensor has the form (3). Then the condition $R_{ij} v^j = \xi u_i$ gives

\[ \left( \xi - \frac{R - \eta}{n - 1} \right) u_k = \frac{R - n \eta}{n - 1} (u^l v_l) v_k \]
Since both $u_k$ and $v_k$ are time-like, it cannot be $u^k v_k = 0$. Then, unless the space-time is Einstein, it must be $v_k = \pm u_k$ and $\xi = \eta$.

We now recall the properties of GRW space-times that are necessary for the discussion. They are mainly taken from Ref. [5].

- Unit torse-forming vectors have the property named Weyl compatibility [22, 23]:
  \[ (u_i C_{jklm} + u_j C_{kilm} + u_k C_{ijlm})u^m = 0. \]  \(5\)
- The eigenvalue is $\xi = (n - 1)(\varphi^2 + u^k \nabla_k \varphi)$, and $\nabla_k \xi = -u_k (u^j \nabla_j \xi)$.  \(6\)
- The contracted Weyl tensor $C_{kl} = u^j u^m C_{jklm}$ has the properties [5, eqs.14,15]
  \[ \nabla_k C_{jl} = -\frac{n - 3}{2(n - 1)}(\nabla_l R + u_l u^k \nabla_k R) \]
  \[ u^k \nabla_k C_{jl} = -2\varphi C_{jl} \]

The following proposition contains the new statement (11):

**Proposition 2.2.** In a GRW space-time, the following statements are equivalent:

1. $\nabla^m C_{jklm} = 0$  \(8\)
2. $u^m C_{jklm} = 0$  \(9\)
3. $C_{kl} = 0$  \(10\)
4. $u^j \nabla^m C_{jklm} = 0$  \(11\)

**Proof.** The equivalence of (8) with (9) is theorem 3.4 in [5]. The equivalence of (9) with (10) follows from the identity 
\[ u^m C_{jklm} = u_k C_{jl} - u_j C_{kl} \]
which is obtained by contracting (5) with $u^j$. Now, (10) is equivalent to (8) that implies (11). Let us show that (11) implies (10).

The covariant divergence of (12) \(\nabla^j u^m \) $C_{jklm} + u^m \nabla^j C_{jklm} = (\nabla^j u_k) C_{jl} + u_k \nabla^j C_{jl} - (\nabla^j u_j) C_{kl} - u^j \nabla_j C_{kl}$ gives: 
\[ u^m \nabla^j C_{jklm} = -\varphi(n - 1) C_{kl} + u_k \nabla^j C_{jl} - u^j \nabla_j C_{kl}. \]
Next use (7):
\[ u^m \nabla^j C_{jklm} = -\varphi(n - 3) C_{kl} + u_k \nabla^j C_{jl} \]
If $u^m \nabla^j C_{jklm} = 0$ then $\varphi(n - 3) C_{kl} = u_k \nabla^j C_{jl}$. Contraction with $u^k$ gives $\nabla^j C_{jl} = 0$, but then also $C_{kl} = 0$. \(\square\)

In consideration of the general form (4) and of the Remark 2.1, we conclude:

**Theorem 2.3.** A GRW space-time is perfect fluid if and only if $C_{kl} = 0$, or any of the equivalent conditions in Prop. 2.2.

Now we investigate the problem of a perfect-fluid space-time to be GRW. Namely, given
\[ R_{kl} = \frac{R - n \xi}{n - 1} u_k u_l + \frac{R - \xi}{n - 1} g_{kl} \]
we give conditions for the unit time-like vector $u_j$ to be torse-forming. An answer was given with Th 2.1 in [5]. Now we extend the result:

**Theorem 2.4.** A perfect-fluid space-time is GRW if the vector field $u_j$ has the properties: $u^j \nabla^m C_{jklm} = 0$ and $u^k \nabla_k u_j = 0$. 

Proof. The general formula for the divergence of the Weyl tensor is [24]:
\begin{equation}
\nabla_m C_{ijkl} = \frac{a-3}{n-2} \left[ \nabla_k R_{jl} - \nabla_j R_{kl} - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (g_{jl} \nabla_k R - g_{kl} \nabla_j R) \right]
\end{equation}

Contraction with \( u^j \) and use of (14) give:
\begin{align*}
0 &= u^j (\nabla_k R_{jl} - \nabla_j R_{kl}) - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (u_l \nabla_k R - g_{kl} u^l \nabla_j R) \\
&= \nabla_k (\xi u_l) - R_{jl} (\nabla_k u^l) - u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (u_l \nabla_k R - g_{kl} u^l \nabla_j R) \\
&= \nabla_k (\xi u_l) - \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} u_j u_l \nabla_k u^l - \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u_l) - u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (u_l \nabla_k R - g_{kl} u^l \nabla_j R) \\
&= u_l \nabla_k \xi - \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u_l) - u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (u_l \nabla_k R - g_{kl} u^l \nabla_j R)
\end{align*}

Contraction with \( u^j \nabla_k u_l = 0 \) and \( u^j \nabla_j u^l = 0 \) give:
\begin{align*}
0 &= -\nabla_k \xi - u^j \nabla_j (\xi u_l) + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (\nabla_k R + u_k u^l \nabla_j R) \\
&= -\nabla_k \xi - u^j \nabla_j (\xi u_l) + R_{kl} u^l \nabla_j u^l + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (\nabla_k R + u_k u^l \nabla_j R) \\
&= -\nabla_k \xi + u^l \nabla_j \xi + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (\nabla_k R + u_k u^l \nabla_j R)
\end{align*}

The relation \( \nabla_k \xi = \frac{1}{2(n-1)} \nabla_k R = -u_k u^l \nabla_j (\xi - \frac{1}{2(n-1)} R) \) is inserted back:
\begin{align*}
0 &= -u_l u_k (u^j \nabla_j \xi) - \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u_l) - u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (g_{kl} + u_k u_l) \\
&= -u_l u_k (u^j \nabla_j \xi) - \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u_l) - g_{kl} u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} - u_k u_l u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (g_{kl} + u_k u_l) \\
&= -\frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u_l) - (g_{kl} + u_k u_l) u^j \nabla_j \frac{R - 2 \xi}{2(n-1)}
\end{align*}

Contraction with \( g^{kl} \) gives \( \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (\nabla_k u^k) = -\frac{1}{2} u^k \nabla_k (R - 2 \xi) \). Then, if \( R - n \xi \neq 0 \), \( \nabla_k u_l = \frac{1}{n-1} (g_{kl} + u_k u_l) \), i.e. the unit time-like vector is torse-forming. \( \square \)

The case \( \xi = R/n \) corresponds to an Einstein space-time: \( R_{ij} = (R/n) g_{ij} \). The case \( u^j \nabla_k (R - 2 \xi) = 0 \) with \( \xi \neq R/n \), corresponds to \( \nabla_k u_l = 0 \). The space-time now factors, as the scale factor in (1) is trivial (\( a = 1 \)).

3. Gray’s decomposition and GRW space-times

A. Gray [21] (see also [25][26, Ch.16]) found that the gradient of the Ricci tensor \( \nabla_j R_{kl} \) can be decomposed into \( O(n) \) invariant terms (see [27, 28]):
\begin{equation}
\nabla_j R_{kl} = \hat{R}_{jkl} + a_j g_{kl} + b_k g_{jl} + b_l g_{jk}
\end{equation}

where \( \hat{R}_{jkl} = \hat{R}_{jlk} \) is trace-less i.e. \( \hat{R}^{ikl} = \hat{R}_{jkl} = 0 \) and
\begin{equation}
a_j = \frac{n}{(n-1)(n+2)} \nabla_j R, \quad b_j = \frac{n-2}{2(n-1)(n+2)} \nabla_j R
\end{equation}

The trace-less tensor can be decomposed as a sum of orthogonal components
\begin{equation}
\hat{R}_{jkl} = \frac{1}{3} \left( \hat{R}_{jkl} + \hat{R}_{kjl} + \hat{R}_{ljk} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left( \hat{R}_{jkl} - \hat{R}_{kjl} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left( \hat{R}_{jkl} - \hat{R}_{ljk} \right)
\end{equation}

The decomposition (16), (18) provides \( O(n) \) invariant subspaces, characterized by invariant equations that are linear in \( \nabla_j R_{kl} \). In Gray’s notation:
• The trivial subspace $\nabla_j R_{kl} = 0$.

• The subspace $\mathcal{I}$ where $\mathring{R}_{jkl} = 0$, i.e.

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} = a_j g_{kl} + b_k g_{lj} + b_l g_{jk}.$$  

(19)

Manifolds satisfying this condition are called Sinyukov manifolds [29].

• The orthogonal complement $\mathcal{I}^\perp$ where $\nabla_j R_{kl} = \mathring{R}_{jkl}$ or, equivalently, $a_j g_{kl} + b_k g_{lj} + b_l g_{jk} = 0$. Then $\mathcal{I}^\perp$ is only characterized by the equation $\nabla_j R = 0$.

The decomposition (18) of $\mathring{R}_{jkl}$ specifies orthogonal subspaces, and $\mathcal{I}^\perp = A \oplus B \oplus B'$, where $B'$ is a copy of $B$ with indices exchanged.

In $A$ it is $\mathring{R}_{jkl} + \mathring{R}_{klj} + \mathring{R}_{ljk} = 0$ and $\nabla_j R = 0$, i.e. the Ricci tensor is a Killing tensor [30]:

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} + \nabla_k R_{lj} + \nabla_l R_{jk} = 0.$$  

(20)

In $B$ and $B'$ it is $\mathring{R}_{jkl} - \mathring{R}_{kjl} = 0$ and $\nabla_j R = 0$, i.e. the Ricci tensor is a Codazzi tensor:

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} = \nabla_k R_{jl}$$  

(21)

In all cases the condition $\nabla_j R = 0$ is a consequence. Now, we consider two composite subspaces.

The subspace $\mathcal{I} \oplus A$ contains tensors that satisfy the cyclic condition

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} + \nabla_k R_{lj} + \nabla_l R_{jk} = \frac{2\nabla_j R}{n+2} g_{kl} + \frac{2\nabla_k R}{n+2} g_{lj} + \frac{2\nabla_l R}{n+2} g_{jk},$$  

i.e. the Ricci tensor is a conformal Killing tensor [30]. Note that the cyclic sum of (19) gives (22) (the Ricci tensor of a Sinyukov manifold is conformal Killing).

The subspace $\mathcal{I} \oplus B$ contains tensors that satisfy the Codazzi condition

$$\nabla_j \left[ R_{kl} - \frac{R}{2(n-1)} g_{kl} \right] = \nabla_k \left[ R_{lj} - \frac{R}{2(n-1)} g_{lj} \right].$$  

(23)

Manifolds satisfying conditions (19)-(23) are also called “Einstein-like manifolds” (see [31] and references therein).

It is interesting to find the form of the Ricci tensor of GRW space-times in Gray’s subspaces. The gradient of the Ricci tensor and the divergence of the Weyl tensor are linked by the identity (15), which becomes:

$$\nabla_m C_{jkl}^m = -\frac{n-3}{n-2} \mathring{R}_{jkl} - \mathring{R}_{kjl}.$$  

(24)

3.1. Ricci tensor in the trivial subspace. If $\nabla_j R_{kl} = 0$ the gradient of $R_{kl} u^l = \xi u_k$ gives $R_{kl} = \xi g_{kl}$: the GRW space-time is Einstein.

3.2. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{I}$. The Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{I}$ satisfies the condition $\mathring{R}_{jkl} = 0$ or (19). Eq.(24) shows that a Sinyukov manifolds is perfect fluid (quasi-Einstein).

**Lemma 3.1.** If the tensor $\alpha_j g_{kl} + \beta_k g_{lj} + \gamma_l g_{jk} + \delta_j v_k v_l$, with $v^2 = v^k v_k \neq 0$, is zero, then the vector coefficients are zero, $\alpha_i = \beta_i = \gamma_i = \delta_i = 0$. 


Proof. Contraction with $v^k$ gives $\alpha_j v^i + (\beta_k v^k) g_{ij} + \gamma_l v_j + v^2 \delta_j v_l = 0$. Contraction with $\tau^i \tau^j$, with $\tau^k v_k = 0$ and $\tau^2 \neq 0$ gives $\beta_k v^k = 0$. Then $(\alpha_j + \delta_j v^2) v_i + \gamma_l v_j + v^2 \delta_j v_l = 0$ i.e. both $\gamma_l$ and $(\alpha_j + \delta_j v^2)$ are parallel to $v_l$.

Similarly, contraction with $v^l$ and then with $\tau^j \tau^k$ gives $\gamma_l v^l = 0$ and both $\beta_i$ and $(\alpha_j + \delta_j v^2)$ parallel to $v_i$, and the same for $\gamma_l$. Then $\beta_l = \gamma_l = 0$. Next, consider $\alpha_j g_{kl} + \delta_j v_k v_l = 0$. Contraction with $\tau^k$ gives $\alpha_j = 0$, and then $\delta_j = 0$. \hfill $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** The Ricci tensor of a GRW space-time belongs to $\mathcal{I}$ if and only if the space-time is perfect fluid and $(n+2)\xi = 2\bar{R}$. In the comoving frame it is

$$R(t) = \alpha - \beta \frac{n+2}{n-2} a(t)^2, \quad \xi(t) = \frac{\alpha}{n} - \beta \frac{2}{n-2} a(t)^2$$

where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are constants and $a(t)$ is the warping function.

Proof. If the Ricci tensor belongs to $\mathcal{I}$, then (19) and (17) give $\nabla_m C_{ijkl}^m = 0$, the Ricci tensor has the perfect fluid form (14), and $\nabla_j R = -u_j R$. Now, evaluate:

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} = u_k u_l (2 \varphi u_j + \nabla_j \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} + g_{kl} \nabla_j \frac{R - \xi}{n-1} + \varphi \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} (u_l g_{jk} + u_k g_{jl})$$

By subtracting (19) one obtains a null tensor which, by the previous lemma, implies the constraints:

$$\nabla_j (R - n \xi) = -2 \varphi u_j (R - n \xi)$$

$$(n+2) \nabla_j (R - \xi) = n \nabla_j R$$

2$(n+2) \varphi (R - n \xi) u_j = (n-2) \nabla_j R$

The system is supplied with the equation resulting from the covariant derivative of $R_{kl} v^l = \xi u_k$:

$$\dot{R} - 2 \dot{\xi} = -2 \varphi (R - n \xi)$$. The system is degenerate and has solution

$$\dot{R} = \frac{n+2}{2} \xi, \quad \dot{R} - n \dot{\xi} = 2 \varphi (R - n \xi)$$. The equations (27) can be integrated. In the comoving frame it is $\varphi = \dot{a}/a$, then the second equation yields $R - n \xi = \beta a(t)^2$, where $\beta$ is a constant an $a(t)$ is the warping function. The first equation is now used: $\ddot{R} = -\frac{2 \beta n+2}{n-2} \dot{a} \ddot{a}$, and the results are obtained.

On the other hand, suppose that the GRW space-time is perfect fluid, and that $(n + 2) \xi = 2 \bar{R}$ holds. The gradient of the Ricci tensor (14) is

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} = \frac{1}{n-1} [\nabla_j (R - n \xi) + 2 \varphi u_j (R - n \xi)] u_k u_l$$

$$+ \frac{1}{n-1} [\nabla_j (R - \xi) g_{kl} + \varphi (R - n \xi) (u_k g_{jl} + u_l g_{jk})]$$

The first term is zero because for a GRW perfect fluid: $\nabla_j (R - n \xi) = -u_j (\dot{R} - n \dot{\xi}) = -2 \varphi u_j (R - n \xi)$ by (26) and $(n+2) \xi = 2 \bar{R}$. Then:

$$\nabla_j R_{kl} = \frac{1}{n-1} [-u_j (\dot{R} - \dot{\xi}) g_{kl} + \frac{1}{2} (R - n \xi) (u_k g_{jl} + u_l g_{jk})]$$

$$= - \frac{1}{(n-1)(n+2)} \ddot{R} [n u_j g_{kl} + \frac{n-2}{2} (u_k g_{jl} + u_l g_{jk})]$$

$$= \frac{n}{(n-1)(n+2)} g_{kl} \ddot{R} + \frac{n-2}{2(n-1)(n+2)} (g_{jl} \ddot{R} + g_{jk} \ddot{R})$$ (28)
3.3. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{A}$. The subspace $\mathcal{A}$ is characterized by the condition $\nabla_k R_{ij} + \nabla_i R_{kj} + \nabla_j R_{ki} = 0$, giving $\nabla_k R = 0$. We now show that (in a GRW space-time) it is $\nabla_k R_{ij} = 0$. The subspace is then empty, as the case is accounted for by the trivial subspace.

**Theorem 3.3.** In the subspace $\mathcal{A}$ the Ricci tensor is Einstein.

*Proof.* Contraction with $u^j$ of (20) gives:

$$0 = u^j \nabla_j R_{kl} + \nabla_k (R_{ij} u^j) - R_{ij} \nabla_k u^j + \nabla_i (R_{jk} u^j) - R_{jk} \nabla_i u^j = \dot{R}_{kl} + \nabla_k (\xi u^i) - \varphi R_{ij} (u_k u^j + \delta_k^j) + \nabla_i (\xi u^i) - \varphi R_{jk} (u_l u^j + \delta_l^j)$$

$$= \dot{R}_{kl} + (u_l \nabla_k \xi + u_k \nabla_l \xi) - 2\varphi (R_{kl} - \xi g_{kl})$$

Next, use $\nabla_k \xi = -u_k \dot{\xi}$ to obtain:

$$0 = u^p \nabla_p R_{kl} - 2u_l u_k \dot{\xi} - 2\varphi (R_{kl} - \xi g_{kl})$$

Contraction with $u^k$ gives: $0 = 3u_k \dot{\xi}$ i.e. $\dot{\xi} = 0$. On the other hand, contraction with $g^{kl}$ gives $\dot{R} + 2\dot{\xi} = 2\varphi (R - n\xi)$. Since $\dot{R} = 0$ and $\dot{\xi} = 0$, it is $R = n\xi$. Then:

$$R_{kl} = \frac{R}{n} g_{kl} - (n - 2) C_{kl}$$

If this is inserted in (29), we obtain $u^p \nabla_p C_{kl} = 2\varphi C_{kl}$. This is in contrast with (7), unless $C_{kl} = 0$. □

3.4. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{B}$. In this subspace the Ricci tensor is Codazzi, (21). A contraction with the metric tensor gives $\nabla_k R = 0$, and (15) gives $\nabla_m C_{jkl} = 0$. Therefore, the GRW space-time is perfect fluid. The equation $\dot{\xi} = \varphi (R - n\xi)$ can be integrated: in the comoving frame, where $\varphi = \dot{u}/u$, the eigenvalue depends on time through the warping function as $\xi(t) = \alpha_0 (t)^{-n} + R/n$, with constant $\alpha$.

3.5. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{I}^\perp$. In this case $\nabla_k R = 0$. The GRW space-time is not in general perfect-fluid, with the Ricci tensor having the form (4). However, the equation $\dot{\xi} = \varphi (R - n\xi)$ can be integrated and $\xi(t) = \alpha_0 (t)^{-n} + R/n$, with constant $\alpha$.

3.6. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{I} \oplus \mathcal{B}$. The Ricci tensor satisfies the Codazzi condition (23), which is necessary and sufficient for the divergence of the Weyl tensor (15) to vanish. Therefore, the Ricci tensor has the perfect fluid form (14).

3.7. Ricci tensor in the subspace $\mathcal{I} \oplus \mathcal{A}$. In this subspace the Ricci tensor is conformal Killing, (22) (see [32]). We now show that the subspaces $\mathcal{I} \oplus \mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{I}$ coincide.

**Theorem 3.4.** The Ricci tensor in a GRW space-time is conformal Killing if and only if it has the perfect fluid form and $(n + 2) \ddot{\xi} = 2\ddot{R}$, i.e. it belongs to $\mathcal{I}$.

*Proof.* Suppose that the Ricci tensor is conformal Killing. On multiplying (22) by $u^j u^k$ we get

$$2u^j \nabla_j (u^k R_{kl}) + u^j u^k \nabla_i R_{kj} = \frac{4}{n + 2} \ddot{R} u_l - \frac{2}{n + 2} \nabla_i R.$$
It is \( u^i u^k \nabla_i R_{kj} = u^i \nabla_i (\xi u_j) - u^j R_{kj} \nabla_i u^k = -\nabla_i \xi - \xi u_k \nabla_i u^k = -\nabla_i \xi = u_i \dot{\xi} \).

Then:
\[
3 u_i \dot{\xi} = \frac{4}{n+2} \ddot{R} u_i - \frac{2}{n+2} \nabla_i \dot{R}.
\]

Contraction with \( u^i \) gives \( (n+2) \dot{\xi} = 2 \ddot{R} \). This, when inserted back, gives \( \nabla_i R = -\ddot{R} u_k \) and, because of (6): \( \nabla_k C_i^k = 0 \). The general property (26), \( \ddot{R} - 2 \dot{\xi} = -2 \dot{\rho} (R - n \xi) \).

(30) \( \ddot{R} - n \dot{\xi} = 2 \dot{\rho} (R - n \xi) \).

Transvect (22) by \( u^i \) and simplify with \( \nabla_i R = -\ddot{R} u_k \) and the identity \( u^i \nabla_i R_{ji} = \nabla_i (\xi u_i) - R_{ji} \nabla_k u^i = -\dot{\xi} u_k u_i + \dot{\varphi} g_{kl} - \varphi R_{kl} \):
\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{u}^i \nabla_j R_{kl} &= \dot{u}^i \nabla_j R_{kl} - \dot{u}^j \nabla_i R_{kj} + \frac{2}{n+2} \dot{R} (g_{kl} - 2 u_k u_l) \\
&= 2 \dot{\xi} u_k u_l - 2 \dot{\varphi} g_{kl} + 2 \varphi R_{kl} + \frac{2}{n+2} \dot{R} (g_{kl} - 2 u_k u_l).
\end{align*}
\]

Now use \( (n+2) \dot{\xi} = 2 \ddot{R} \) and obtain: \( \dot{u}^i \nabla_j R_{kl} = 2 \ddot{R} R_{kl} - 2 \dot{\varphi} g_{kl} + \dot{\xi} g_{kl} \). The left-hand side of the equation is now evaluated with (4), with the aid of (7):
\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{u}^i \nabla_j R_{kl} &= \ddot{R} R_{kl} - \frac{n-1}{n-1} u_k u_l + \ddot{R} - \frac{2}{n-1} g_{kl} - (n-2) u^i \nabla_j C_{kl} \\
&= 2 \ddot{\varphi} R \frac{n-1}{n-1} u_k u_l + 2 \ddot{\varphi} \frac{R - n \xi}{n-1} g_{kl} + \dot{\xi} g_{kl} + 2 \ddot{\rho} (n-2) C_{kl} \\
&= 2 \ddot{\varphi} R_{kl} - 2 \dot{\varphi} g_{kl} + \dot{\xi} g_{kl} + 4 \ddot{\rho} (n-2) C_{kl}.
\end{align*}
\]

This and the previous equation imply \( C_{kl} = 0 \). Then the GRW space-time is perfect-fluid with \( (n+2) \dot{\xi} = 2 \ddot{R} \).

The proof of the opposite statement runs as for theorem 3.2, and obtains (28). A cyclic summation gives that the Ricci tensor is conformal Killing. \( \square \)

4. Perfect-fluid equations of state

We examine the equations of state that arise from the perfect-fluid solutions in Gray’s subspaces. The perfect-fluid form of the Ricci tensor corresponds, via the Einstein equations \( R_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} R g_{ij} = \kappa T_{ij} \) to a perfect fluid energy-momentum tensor \( T_{ij} = (p + \mu) u_i u_j + p g_{ij} \). By assuming the expression (14) for the Ricci tensor, the Einstein equation gives the pressure and the energy-density in terms of \( R \) and \( \xi \):
\[
\kappa p = \frac{1}{n-1} (R - \xi) - \frac{1}{2} R, \quad \kappa \mu = \frac{1}{2} R - \xi
\]

We recall Proposition 3.1 in [3]: a perfect fluid space-time in dimension \( n \geq 4 \) with differentiable state equation \( p = p(\mu), p + \mu \neq 0 \) and with null divergence of the Weyl tensor \( \nabla_m C_{ijkl} = 0 \) is a GRW space-time. Null divergence implies that the Ricci tensor belongs to the subspace \( \mathcal{I} \oplus \mathcal{B} \). On the other hand, consider a perfect fluid GRW space-time with state equation \( p = -\frac{\mu}{n+1} + \text{constant} \): it follows that \( \nabla_i R = 0 \). This and \( \nabla_m C_{ijkl} = 0 \) give that the Ricci tensor is Codazzi, i.e. it belongs to \( \mathcal{B} \). Then a perfect fluid GRW space-time with a state equation different from \( p = -\frac{\mu}{n+1} + \text{constant} \) belongs to \( \mathcal{I} \oplus \mathcal{B} \) and not to \( \mathcal{B} \).

Hereafter, we restrict to dimension \( n = 4 \), where a GRW perfect-fluid space-time is exactly a Robertson-Walker (RW) space-time (this follows from \( u^m C_{ijklm} = 0 \) which, in \( n = 4 \), is equivalent to \( u_i C_{ijklm} + u_j C_{kilm} + u_k C_{ijlm} = 0 \) as shown in Lovelock and Rund, [33] page 128. Contraction with \( u^i \) gives \( C_{ijklm} = 0 \).
Subsp. | Condition on $\nabla_j R_{kl}$ | $p(\mu)$, $n = 4$
---|---|---
Trivial | $\nabla_j R_{kl} = 0$ | Ricci symmetric \ E\ E
$I$ | $\nabla_j R_{kl} = a_j g_{kl} + b_k g_{lj} + b_l g_{jk}$ | Sinyukov \ pf\ p = $-\frac{5}{3}\mu + c$
$A$ | $\nabla_{(j} R_{kl)} = 0$ | Killing \ $\emptyset$
$B$ | $\nabla_j R_{kl} = 0$ | Codazzi \ pf\ p = $\frac{1}{3}\mu + c$
$I \oplus A$ | $\nabla_{(j} R_{k)l} = \frac{2}{n+2} \nabla_{(j} R g_{kl)}$ | Conformal Killing \ pf\ p = $-\frac{1}{3}\mu + c$
$I \oplus B$ | $\nabla_j R_{kl} = \frac{1}{2(n+2)} \nabla_{(j} R g_{kl)}$ | $\kappa R_{jk} = \kappa R_{kj}$ \ pf\ unrestricted
$I^\perp$ | $\nabla_j R = 0$ | Const. scalar curv. \ $- -$

**Table 1.** GRW space-times in Gray’s decomposition (E=Einstein, pf=perfect fluid, $T_{[jk]} = T_{jk} - T_{kj}$, $T_{(jkl)} = T_{jkl} + T_{kjl} + T_{ljk}$, $c$ is a constant).

The cases are:

- **In the trivial subspace** the space-time is Einstein ($R = 4\xi$, $p = -\mu$).

- **In $B$** the Ricci tensor is Codazzi and the RW space-time is a “Yang’s Pure Space” [34]. Since $R$ is constant, eq.(31) gives the equation of state $p = \frac{1}{2}\mu - \frac{1}{2}\kappa R$. The RW spaces with constant $R$ are described, for example, [35]. In the expanding ones, the time evolution of the eigenvalue $\xi(t) = \alpha a(t)^{-4} + \frac{1}{2}\kappa R$ gives the space-time to an Einstein space-time with $\kappa\mu_\infty = R/4$ and negative pressure $\kappa p_\infty = -R/4$. Then, asymptotically in the future $p = -\mu$. The case with spatial curvature $R^* = 0$ and its cosmological implications are studied in [36].

- **In $I$** the solution (25) gives the dependence in the cosmological time of pressure and density, via the warping function:

$$\kappa p(t) = -\frac{1}{4}\alpha + \frac{3}{8}\beta a(t)^2 \quad \kappa\mu(t) = \frac{1}{4}\alpha - \frac{1}{2}\beta a(t)^2$$

Elimination of $\beta a(t)^2$ gives a phantom-type equation of state $p = -\frac{2}{3}\mu + \text{const}$, studied by Caldwell [37].

- **In $I \oplus B$** the RW space-time is unrestricted.

- **In $I^\perp$**, the Ricci tensor contains the Weyl term, then it is not perfect-fluid, and the GRW space-time is not RW. However, the condition $\nabla_k R = 0$ gives the time evolution of the eigenvalue of the Ricci tensor $\xi(t) = \alpha a(t)^{-4} + \frac{1}{2}\kappa R$.

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