

Abstract Submitted
for the APR15 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Reflection Symmetry in Higher Dimensional Black Hole Spacetimes¹ ROBERT WALD, JOSHUA SCHIFFRIN, University of Chicago — It is well known that for any 4-dimensional asymptotically flat, stationary, and axisymmetric vacuum solution of Einstein's equation, there exists a t - ϕ reflection isometry that reverses the direction of the timelike Killing vector field and the direction of the axial Killing vector field. However the proof of this result does not generalize to higher spacetime dimensions. Here we consider asymptotically flat, stationary, and axisymmetric (i.e., having one or more commuting rotational isometries) black hole spacetimes in vacuum general relativity in $d \geq 4$ spacetime dimensions such that the action of the isometry group is trivial. We prove that there exists a t - ϕ reflection isometry that reverses the direction of the timelike Killing vector field and the direction of each axial Killing vector field. The proof relies in an essential way on the first law of black hole mechanics.

¹Supported in part by NSF grant PHY 12-02718 to the University of Chicago.

Robert Wald
University of Chicago

Date submitted: 08 Jan 2015

Electronic form version 1.4