

## SCALAR CURVATURE DECREASE FROM A HYPERBOLIC METRIC

YUTAE KANG<sup>a</sup> AND JONGSU KIM<sup>b,\*</sup>

ABSTRACT. We find an explicit  $C^\infty$ -continuous path of Riemannian metrics  $g_t$  on the 4-d hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^4$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon$  for some number  $\varepsilon > 0$  with the following property:  $g_0$  is the hyperbolic metric on  $\mathbb{H}^4$ , the scalar curvatures of  $g_t$  are strictly decreasing in  $t$  in an open ball and  $g_t$  is isometric to the hyperbolic metric in the complement of the ball.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

For any Riemannian manifold  $(M^k, g_0)$ ,  $k \geq 3$  and a ball  $B \subset M$ , is there a  $C^\infty$ -continuous path of Riemannian metrics  $g_t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon$  on  $M$  such that the scalar curvatures of  $g_t$  are strictly decreasing in  $t$  on  $B$  and that  $g_t \equiv g_0$  on  $M \setminus B$ ? This family, if exists, may be called a *scalar curvature melting* of  $g_0$  in  $B$ . This question is actually a small step toward Lohkamp's conjecture on ricci curvature version [6, Section 10].

If there is a scalar curvature melting  $g_t$ , then the scalar curvatures satisfy

$$\frac{ds(g_t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \leq 0$$

on  $B$ . As  $g_t$  is deforming only inside a ball, it is more relevant to the linearization  $L_g$  of the scalar curvature functional on the space of Riemannian metrics restricted to a domain. According to Corvino [3, Theorem 4], a scalar curvature melting of  $g$  seems to exist when the formal adjoint  $L_g^*$  (as defined on the space of functions which are square integrable on each compact subset of  $B$ ) is injective. Although this

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\*Corresponding author.

injectivity condition holds for generic metrics by Theorem 6.1 and Theorem 7.4 in [1], it is not easy to check which metrics satisfy this.

In the previous works we have studied explicit scalar curvature meltings of Euclidean metrics and one positive Einstein metric [4, 5]. In this article we study the hyperbolic metric  $g_h$ , i.e. the metric with constant curvature  $-1$ . The derivative of the scalar curvature functional  $ds_{g_h}$  (defined on a whole manifold  $M$ ) is surjective, but we do not know whether the above (locally defined)  $L_g^*$  is injective or not. In any case, a merit of our construction is that it is explicit and provides a large scale melting.

We shall first construct a family of Riemannian metrics on the 4-dimensional hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^4$  whose scalar curvatures decrease on a precompact open subset and are hyperbolic away from it. Then by conformal change of the metrics, we spread the negativity inside the subset over to a larger ball. In the process, we find a natural choice of parameter  $t$  to get  $g_t$ . In this way we get a scalar curvature melting;

**Theorem 1.1.** *There exists a  $C^\infty$ -continuous path of Riemannian metrics  $g_t$  on  $\mathbb{H}^4$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon$  for some number  $\varepsilon > 0$  with the following property:  $g_0$  is the hyperbolic metric on  $\mathbb{H}^4$ , the scalar curvatures of  $g_t$  are strictly decreasing in  $t$  in an open ball and  $g_t$  is isometric to  $g_0$  in the complement of the ball.*

## 2. METRICS ON THE 4-D HYPERBOLIC SPACE

We start with a metric on  $\mathbb{R}^4$  of the form

$$g_0 = f^2 dr^2 + \frac{r^2}{f^2} d\theta^2 + h^2 d\rho^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{h^2} d\sigma^2,$$

where  $(r, \theta), (\rho, \sigma)$  are the polar coordinates for each summand of  $\mathbb{R}^4 := \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$  respectively, and  $f, h$  are smooth positive functions on  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , which are functions of  $r$  and  $\rho$  only. Then by a straightforward computation one gets the scalar curvature:

$$\begin{aligned} s_{g_0} &= 2(R_{2112} + R_{3113} + R_{4114} + R_{3223} + R_{4224} + R_{4334}) \\ &= 2\left(\frac{f_{rr}}{f^3} + \frac{3f_r}{rf^3} - \frac{3f_r^2}{f^4} - \frac{f_\rho^2}{h^2 f^2} + \frac{h_{\rho\rho}}{h^3} + \frac{3h_\rho}{\rho h^3} - \frac{3h_\rho^2}{h^4} - \frac{h_r^2}{h^2 f^2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_r = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r}, f_{rr} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial r \partial r}$ , etc..

Consider the unit ball centered at the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Then the hyperbolic metric corresponds to  $g_h = \frac{4}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2}(dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + d\rho^2 + \rho^2 d\sigma^2)$  in the unit ball

$\{(r, \theta, \rho, \sigma) \mid r^2 + \rho^2 < 1\}$ . Note that  $g_h = \frac{4}{(1-|x|^2)^2}(dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 + dx_4^2)$  in the rectangular coordinates. If we consider the deformation

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{4}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} (f^2 dr^2 + \frac{r^2}{f^2} d\theta^2 + h^2 d\rho^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{h^2} d\sigma^2) = \psi^2 g_0,$$

where  $\psi = \frac{2}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)}$ , the scalar curvature is given [2, p.59] by

$$s(\tilde{g}) = \psi^{-3} \{6\Delta_{g_0}\psi + s(g_0)\psi\}.$$

Substituting  $\Delta_{g_0}\psi = -\frac{\psi_r}{rf^2} + \frac{2f_r\psi_r}{f^3} - \frac{\psi_{rr}}{f^2} - \frac{\psi_\rho}{\rho h^2} + \frac{2h_\rho\psi_\rho}{h^3} - \frac{\psi_{\rho\rho}}{h^2}$ ,  $\psi_r = \frac{4r}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2}$ ,  $\psi_{rr} = \frac{12r^2-4\rho^2+4}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}$ ,  $\psi_\rho = \frac{4\rho}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2}$  and  $\psi_{\rho\rho} = \frac{12\rho^2-4r^2+4}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}$ , we get;

$$\begin{aligned} s(\tilde{g}) = & 3(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2 \left\{ \frac{(-2-2r^2+2\rho^2)}{f^2(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} + \frac{(-2+2r^2-2\rho^2)}{h^2(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} \right. \\ & + \frac{f_r}{f^3} \cdot \frac{2r}{1-r^2-\rho^2} + \frac{h_\rho}{h^3} \cdot \frac{2\rho}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{f_{rr}}{f^3} + \frac{3f_r}{rf^3} - \frac{3f_r^2}{f^4} - \frac{f_\rho^2}{f^2 h^2} + \frac{h_{\rho\rho}}{h^3} + \frac{3h_\rho}{\rho h^3} - \frac{3h_\rho^2}{h^4} - \frac{h_r^2}{f^2 h^2} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $F + 1 = \frac{1}{f^2}$  and  $H + 1 = \frac{1}{h^2}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{s(\tilde{g}) + 12}{6(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} = & -\frac{1}{24} \left\{ F_{rr} + \left( \frac{3}{r} + \frac{12r}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right) F_r - \frac{24(-1-r^2+\rho^2)}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} F \right. \\ & \left. + H_{\rho\rho} + \left( \frac{3}{\rho} + \frac{12\rho}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right) H_\rho - \frac{24(-1+r^2-\rho^2)}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} H \right\} - \frac{f_\rho^2 + h_r^2}{12f^2 h^2}. \end{aligned}$$

We shall find  $F$  and  $H$  which satisfy

$$F_{rr} + \left( \frac{3}{r} + \frac{12r}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right) F_r - \frac{24(-1-r^2+\rho^2)}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} F = \alpha(r, \rho)$$

and

$$H_{\rho\rho} + \left( \frac{3}{\rho} + \frac{12\rho}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right) H_\rho - \frac{24(-1+r^2-\rho^2)}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} H = -\alpha(r, \rho)$$

for some function  $\alpha(r, \rho)$ . For convenience we denote  $F_r = F'$ ,  $F_{rr} = F''$ ,  $C = \left( \frac{3}{r} + \frac{12r}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right)$  and  $D = -\frac{24(-1-r^2+\rho^2)}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2}$ , hence the equation is  $F'' + CF' + DF = \alpha$ . If we assume the solution is of the form  $F(r, \rho) = u(r, \rho)v(r, \rho)$ , the equation becomes

$$(2.1) \quad v'' + \left( \frac{2}{u} u' + C \right) v' + \left( \frac{1}{u} u'' + \frac{C}{u} u' + D \right) v = \frac{\alpha}{u}.$$

Choose  $u$  so that  $\frac{2}{u} u' + C = 0$ , i.e.,

$$u = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int C dr} = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int \left( \frac{3}{r} + \frac{12r}{1-r^2-\rho^2} \right) dr} = r^{-\frac{3}{2}} (1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \tilde{c}(\rho).$$

Then  $\frac{1}{u}u'' + \frac{C}{u}u' + D = -\frac{3}{4}\frac{1}{r^2}$ . Therefore the equation (2.1) becomes

$$v'' - \frac{3}{4r^2}v = \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha,$$

which is a well-known Euler-Cauchy equation. The general solution of this equation is

$$v = c_1(\rho)r^{\frac{3}{2}} + c_2(\rho)r^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2}r^{\frac{3}{2}} \int \frac{r}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha dr - \frac{1}{2}r^{-\frac{1}{2}} \int \frac{r^3}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha dr.$$

Hence we have the solution

$$\begin{aligned} F = u(r, \rho)v(r, \rho) &= c_1(\rho)\tilde{c}(\rho)(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 + c_2(\rho)\tilde{c}(\rho)r^{-2}(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\tilde{c}(\rho)(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \int \frac{r}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha dr \\ &- \frac{1}{2}\tilde{c}(\rho)r^{-2}(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \int \frac{r^3}{(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha dr. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $c_1(\rho) = c_2(\rho) = 0$  and  $\tilde{c}(\rho) = 1$  we have a solution

$$F = \frac{1}{2}(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \left\{ \int_0^r \frac{t}{(1-t^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha(t, \rho)dt - \frac{1}{r^2} \int_0^r \frac{t^3}{(1-t^2-\rho^2)^3}\alpha(t, \rho)dt \right\}.$$

Similarly we have

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3 \left\{ \int_0^\rho \frac{s}{(1-r^2-s^2)^3}\alpha(r, s)ds - \frac{1}{\rho^2} \int_0^\rho \frac{s^3}{(1-r^2-s^2)^3}\alpha(r, s)ds \right\}.$$

Hence

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{s(\tilde{g}) + 12}{6(1-r^2-\rho^2)^2} = -\frac{f_\rho^2 + h_r^2}{12f^2h^2} = -\frac{1}{48} \left\{ \frac{H+1}{(F+1)^2}F_\rho^2 + \frac{F+1}{(H+1)^2}H_r^2 \right\}.$$

We choose  $\alpha(r, \rho) = a(r)b(\rho)(1-r^2-\rho^2)^3$  where  $a(r)$  and  $b(\rho)$  are smooth functions satisfying

- 1)  $a(r) = 0, r \leq 0, r \geq \frac{1}{2}$
- 2)  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} (t - 4t^3)a(t)dt = 0$
- 3)  $b(\rho) = 0, \rho \leq 0, \rho \geq \frac{1}{2}$
- 4)  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} (s - 4s^3)b(s)ds = 0.$

Note that this will make  $F(r, \rho) = 0$  and  $H(r, \rho) = 0$  when  $r \geq \frac{1}{2}$  or  $\rho \geq \frac{1}{2}$ .

A graph of a typical such function  $a$  (or  $b$ ) is given in the picture below:

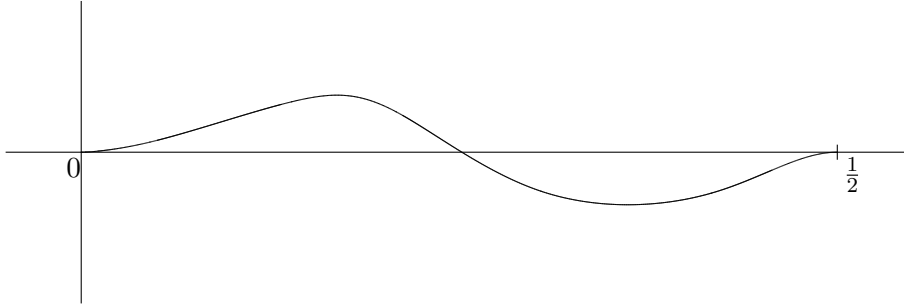


Fig.1. The graph of  $a$ .

Then

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} F(r, \rho) &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^3 b(\rho) \left\{ \int_0^r ta(t)dt - \frac{1}{r^2} \int_0^r t^3 a(t)dt \right\}, \\ H(r, \rho) &= -\frac{1}{2}(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^3 a(r) \left\{ \int_0^\rho sb(s)ds - \frac{1}{\rho^2} \int_0^\rho s^3 b(s)ds \right\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F_\rho &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^2 \{-6\rho b(\rho) + (1 - r^2 - \rho^2)b'(\rho)\} \left( \int_0^r ta(t)dt - \frac{1}{r^2} \int_0^r t^3 a(t)dt \right), \\ H_r &= -\frac{1}{2}(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^2 \{-6ra(r) + (1 - r^2 - \rho^2)a'(r)\} \left( \int_0^\rho sb(s)ds - \frac{1}{\rho^2} \int_0^\rho s^3 b(s)ds \right). \end{aligned}$$

We set  $\mathcal{D} = \{(r, \theta, \rho, \phi) \mid 0 \leq r, \rho < \frac{1}{2}, 0 \leq \theta, \phi < 2\pi\}$ . Due to the conditions 1)–4) on  $a$  and  $b$ , the support of  $F$  and  $H$  lie in  $\mathcal{D}$ . So,  $\tilde{g} = g_h$  away from  $\mathcal{D}$  and from (2.2) its scalar curvature  $s_{\tilde{g}} < s(g_h)$  inside  $\mathcal{D}$  except the subset  $\mathfrak{I} := \{(r, \theta, \rho, \phi) \in \mathcal{D} \mid F_\rho = 0, H_r = 0\}$ . By choosing  $a$  and  $b$  properly,  $\mathfrak{I}$  becomes a thin subset in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

One can check that the region  $\mathcal{D}$  lies within the  $g_h$ -distance 4 from the origin  $(0, 0, 0, 0) \in \mathbb{H}^4$ .

**Proposition 1.** *There exist Riemannian metrics on  $\mathbb{H}^4$  such that their scalar curvatures are less than that of the hyperbolic metric on the subset  $\mathcal{D} \setminus \mathfrak{I}$  and they are hyperbolic away from  $\mathcal{D}$ .*

### 3. A SCALAR-CURVATURE-DECREASING FAMILY

We are going to show that there is a  $C^\infty$ -continuous path  $\tilde{g}_t$  among the metrics in the previous section such that its scalar curvature  $s(\tilde{g}_t)$  is decreasing in  $\mathcal{D} \setminus \mathfrak{I}$  and  $\tilde{g}_t$  is hyperbolic in the complement of  $\mathcal{D}$ .

We define a path of metrics:

$$(3.1) \quad \tilde{g}_t = \frac{4}{(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^2} (f_t^2 dr^2 + \frac{r^2}{f_t^2} dr^2 + h_t^2 d\rho^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{h_t^2} d\sigma^2),$$

where  $\frac{1}{f_t^2} = tF + 1$  and  $\frac{1}{h_t^2} = tH + 1$  for the functions  $F$  and  $H$  as in (2.3). Then  $\tilde{g}_0 = g_h$ .

From (2.2) the scalar curvature is as follows;

$$\frac{s(\tilde{g}_t) + 12}{6(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^2} = -\frac{1}{48} \left\{ \frac{tH + 1}{(tF + 1)^2} t^2 F_\rho^2 + \frac{tF + 1}{(tH + 1)^2} t^2 H_r^2 \right\}.$$

One can easily check  $\frac{d(s(\tilde{g}_t))}{dt}|_{t=0} = 0$  and

$$(3.2) \quad \frac{d^2(s(\tilde{g}_t))}{dt^2}|_{t=0} = -\frac{1}{4}(1 - r^2 - \rho^2)^2(F_\rho^2 + H_r^2) \leq 0.$$

Note that inside  $\mathcal{D}$  the set of points with  $\frac{d^2}{dt^2}(s(\tilde{g}_t))|_{t=0} = 0$  is identical to the set  $\mathfrak{X}$ . We see that  $s(\tilde{g}_t)$  is strictly decreasing only on  $\mathcal{D} \setminus \mathfrak{X}$ . In order to have the right decreasing property, we need to diffuse the negativity (of scalar curvature) onto a ball containing  $\mathcal{D} \setminus \mathfrak{X}$ .

#### 4. DIFFUSION OF NEGATIVE SCALAR CURVATURE ONTO A BALL

Our argument in this section follows those in [4, Section 4] and [5, Section 4] with just a few differences in estimation.

We use the following functions;  $F_{t,m}^M(\rho) \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0})$  for  $m, M > 0, t \geq 0$  defined by  $F_{t,m}^M(\rho) = m \cdot t^2 \cdot \exp(-\frac{M}{\rho})$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{>0}$  and  $F_{t,m}^M = 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{\leq 0}$ . Also choose an  $H \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}, [0, 1])$  with  $H = 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 1}$ ,  $H = 1$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{\leq 0}$  and  $H_\epsilon^b(\rho) = H(\frac{1}{\epsilon}(\rho - b))$ , for  $b > 0, \epsilon > 0$ .

Let  $B_r(x)$  be the open ball of radius  $r$  with respect to  $\tilde{g}_0 = g_h$  centered at  $x$ . We may choose a point  $p$  and a number  $\epsilon_1 < 0.1$  so that  $B_{2\epsilon_1}(p) \subset \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathfrak{X}$  as  $\mathfrak{X}$  is a thin subset. Then  $s(\tilde{g}_t) < 0$  on  $B_{\epsilon_1}(p)$  when  $0 < t < c$  for some number  $c$ .

Let  $f_{t,m}^M \in C^\infty(\mathbb{H}^4, \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0})$  be  $f_{t,m}^M(q) = F_{t,m}^M(\varrho(q))$ , where  $\varrho(q)$  is the  $\tilde{g}_0$ -distance from  $p$  to  $q \in \mathbb{H}^4$  and let  $h_\epsilon^b \in C^\infty(\mathbb{H}^4, \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0})$  be  $h_\epsilon^b(q) = H_\epsilon^b(\varrho(q))$ . We choose  $b = 9$  and  $\epsilon = \epsilon_1$ . We consider the Riemannian metric  $e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t$ , where

$$\phi_t(\varrho) = f_{t,m}^M(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) \cdot h_{\epsilon_1}^9(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) = mt^2 e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} h_{\epsilon_1}^9(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho).$$

Here  $m$  and  $M$  will be determined below. The scalar curvature is as follows;

$$s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t) = e^{-2\phi_t} (s_{\tilde{g}_t} + 6\Delta_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t - 6|\nabla_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t|^2).$$

Setting  $B = s_{\tilde{g}_t} + 6\Delta_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t - 6|\nabla_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t|^2$ , we have

$$\frac{ds(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt} = -2 \frac{d\phi_t}{dt} e^{-2\phi_t} B + e^{-2\phi_t} \left( \frac{ds_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt} + 6 \frac{d\Delta_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t}{dt} - 6 \frac{d|\nabla_{\tilde{g}_t} \phi_t|^2}{dt} \right)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt^2} &= 4\left(\frac{d\phi_t}{dt}\right)^2 e^{-2\phi_t} B - 2\frac{d^2\phi_t}{dt^2} e^{-2\phi_t} B - 4\frac{d\phi}{dt} e^{-2\phi_t} \left(\frac{ds_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt} + 6\frac{d\Delta_{\tilde{g}_t}\phi_t}{dt}\right. \\ &\quad \left. - 6\frac{d|\nabla_{\tilde{g}_t}\phi_t|^2}{dt}\right) + e^{-2\phi_t} \left(\frac{d^2 s_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt^2} + 6\frac{d^2 \Delta_{\tilde{g}_t}\phi_t}{dt^2} - 6\frac{d^2 |\nabla_{\tilde{g}_t}\phi_t|^2}{dt^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

As  $\phi_t$  is of second degree in  $t$  and  $B|_{t=0} = -12$ , we readily get

$$\frac{ds(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} &= 48me^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} h_{\epsilon_1}^9 (9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) + \frac{d^2 s_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \\ &\quad + 12m\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0} e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} h_{\epsilon_1}^9 (9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho). \end{aligned}$$

On  $B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p) - B_{\epsilon_1}(p)$ , since  $h_{\epsilon_1}^9 (9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) = 1$  and  $\frac{d^2 s_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \leq 0$ ,

$$(4.1) \quad \frac{d^2 s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \leq 48me^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} + 12m\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0} e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}}.$$

As  $\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0} f = -f'' - \frac{3}{\varrho} f'$  for a function  $f := f(\varrho)$ , we compute

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0} e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} = -e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} \frac{M}{(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho)^4} \left\{ M - 2(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) - \frac{3}{\varrho}(9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho)^2 \right\}.$$

Then we can readily see in (4.1) that  $\frac{d^2 s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} < 0$  for some large  $M > 0$ .

On  $B_{\epsilon_1}(p)$ ,  $\frac{d^2 s_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} < 0$ , so choose  $m > 0$  small so that  $48me^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} h_{\epsilon_1}^9 (9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) + \frac{d^2 s_{\tilde{g}_t}}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} + 12m\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0} e^{-\frac{M}{9+\epsilon_1-\varrho}} h_{\epsilon_1}^9 (9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho) < 0$ .

In sum, we have  $\frac{ds(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = 0$  and  $\frac{d^2 s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} < 0$  on  $B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p)$  and  $e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t = \tilde{g}_0$  on  $\mathbb{H}^4 - B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p)$ .

We may have subtlety near the boundary  $\partial B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p)$ , so we add the following argument.

On  $\overline{B_9(p)}$ , there exists  $\tilde{\epsilon} > 0$  such that  $s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)$  is strictly decreasing for  $0 \leq t \leq \tilde{\epsilon}$ . For a moment we set  $\kappa = 9 + \epsilon_1 - \varrho$ ,  $\tilde{M} = M - 2\kappa - \frac{3}{\varrho}\kappa^2$  and  $E = e^{-\frac{M}{\kappa}}$ . On  $B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p) - \overline{B_9(p)}$ ,  $\tilde{g}_t = g_h$  and  $s_{\tilde{g}_t} = -12$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t) &= e^{-2\phi_t} (-12 + 6\Delta_{\tilde{g}_0}\phi_t - 6|\nabla_{\tilde{g}_0}\phi_t|^2) \\ &= e^{-2\phi_t} \left\{ -12 + t^2 \frac{6MmE}{\kappa^4} (-\tilde{M} - Mmt^2 E) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\frac{ds(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)}{dt} = 12te^{-2\phi_t} mE \left( 4 + 2\frac{t^2 M\tilde{M}mE}{\kappa^4} + 2\frac{t^4 M^2 m^2 E^2}{\kappa^4} - \frac{M\tilde{M}}{\kappa^4} - 2\frac{M^2 mt^2 E}{\kappa^4} \right).$$

As  $M$  is large and  $m$  small,  $4 + 2\frac{t^2 M \tilde{M} m E}{\kappa^4} + 2\frac{t^4 M^2 m^2 E^2}{\kappa^4} - \frac{M \tilde{M}}{\kappa^4} < 0$  for  $0 < t \leq t_0$  with some  $t_0 > 0$ . Hence  $s(e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t)$  is strictly decreasing for  $0 \leq t \leq t_0$  on  $B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p) - \overline{B_9(p)}$ . Setting  $\varepsilon = \min\{\tilde{\varepsilon}, t_0\}$ , we get a scalar-curvature melting  $g_t = e^{2\phi_t} \tilde{g}_t$  on  $B_{9+\epsilon_1}(p)$  for  $0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon$ . Theorem 1.1 is proved.

**Remark 1.** The argument in this article may be applicable to some other metrics. A more generalization, including spherical metrics, will appear later.

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<sup>a</sup>DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, SOGANG UNIVERSITY, SEOUL 121-742, REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
*Email address:* lubo@sogang.ac.kr

<sup>b</sup>DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, SOGANG UNIVERSITY, SEOUL 121-742, REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
*Email address:* jskim@sogang.ac.kr