

Linear and nonlinear distributional Lorentzian geometry

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Intro: The use of distributions

Distributions are used to mathematically describe a wide range of idealized configurations in physics.

Ex: replace extended source of a field by an idealized one
(point charges, thin shells or layers of matter, ...)

This description works very well in linear field theories.

Two reasons:

- 1 mathematically sound formulation, rooted in functional analysis
- 2 physically reasonable since we have 'limit consistency'.
(Ex: charges close to a point charge produce fields close to the Coulomb field.)

The general theme

Distribution theory is deeply rooted in linear functional analysis.

- Existence of Green functions (Malgrange-Ehrenpreis)
- Schwartz kernel theorem (general integral operators)

*However, distribution theory is an inherently **linear** theory!*

- Non-existence of distributional solutions for PDEs with non-constant coefficients (Lewy example)
- No general product for arbitrary pairs of distributions

Quest

Mathematical description of concentrated sources in GR.

Challenges: nonlinearities and the geometric nature of GR

Need a nonlinear distributional geometry!

Outline

- 1 **Introduction**
- 2 **Linear distributional geometry**
 - Spaces and definitions
 - What can be done
- 3 **Interlude:**
What goes wrong with the product of distributions?
 - It really can go wrong
 - Basic impossibility
- 4 **Nonlinear distributional geometry**
 - Colombeau algebras: an outline
 - Basic Lorentzian geometry
 - Applications in GR
 - Compatibility

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Distributions: basic ideas and definitions

- *Key idea:* a function is a map taking points $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ to complex numbers but also taking 'test functions' to numbers

$$f : C_c^\infty \ni \varphi \mapsto \int f(x)\varphi(x) dx \quad \text{instead of} \quad f : \mathbb{R}^n \ni x \mapsto f(x) \in \mathbb{C}$$

- take all such maps \leadsto *dual space:* ($U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ open)

$$\mathcal{D}'(U) := \{u : C_c^\infty(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \text{linear and continuous}\}$$

This is a very big space: not just (locally integrable) functions!

- *Scalar distributions on manifolds:* here functions take 'test n -forms' to numbers

$$\mathcal{D}'(M) := \{u : \Omega_c^n(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \text{linear and continuous}\}$$

No metric structure needed!

Basic Distributional Geometry

[Schwartz, de Rham, ...]

- Scalar distributions on manifolds: $\mathcal{D}'(M) = [\Omega_c^n(M)]'$
Distributions localize over **open sets but not over points!**
- Distributional tensor fields (dual space as well but easier):

$$\mathcal{D}'^r_s(M) = \mathcal{D}'(M) \otimes T_s^r(M) = L_{C^\infty(M)}(\Omega^1(M)^r, \mathfrak{X}(M)^s; \mathcal{D}'(M))$$

- The usual local formulas work **but components are distributions!**

$$\text{e.g. } \mathcal{D}'^1_0 \ni X = \sum X^i \partial_i \text{ with } X^i \in \mathcal{D}'(M)$$

- Extend usual operations by continuity: $L_X, [,], \wedge, \iota_X, \{, \}, \dots$
but with only one \mathcal{D}' -factor!
- compare smooth case: $T_s^r(M) = L_{C^\infty(M)}(\Omega^1(M)^r, \mathfrak{X}(M)^s; C^\infty(M))$
- More general, distributional sections of a vector bundle $E \rightarrow M$

$$\mathcal{D}'(M, E) = \mathcal{D}'(M) \otimes \Gamma(M, E) = L_{C^\infty(M)}(\Gamma(M, E^*), \mathcal{D}'(M))$$

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Distributional Lorentzian Metrics

Definition ([Marsden 69], [Parker 79])

A distributional metric is a element

$g \in \mathcal{D}'_2{}^0(M)$ i.e., $g : \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}'(M)$, \mathcal{C}^∞ -bilinear that is symmetric, and non-degenerate.

Problems:

- Non-degeneracy cannot be defined pointwise! **Replacements:**
 - 1 $g(X, Y) = 0$ for all **smooth** vector fields $Y \Rightarrow X = 0$
 $\leadsto ds^2 = x^2 dx^2$ is **non-degenerate!**
 - 2 g is a smooth Lorentzian metric off its singular support.

Best choice: demand 1 and 2

- can't insert \mathcal{D}' -vector fields into \mathcal{D}' -metric
- g gives **no isomorphism** $\mathcal{D}'_0{}^1 \ni X \mapsto X^b := g(X, \cdot) \in \mathcal{D}'_1{}^0$
- index, geodesics, etc. of a distributional metric?

Distributional Connections

Definition ([Marsden 69]?, [LeFloch, Mardare 07])

A distr. connection is a map

$$\nabla : \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}'_0(M)$$

with the usual properties.

- extends to entire (smooth!) tensor-algebra
- standard formulas hold, e.g.

$$\nabla_{\partial_i}(Y^j \partial_j) = (\partial_i Y^k + \Gamma_{ij}^k Y^j) \partial_k \quad (\Gamma_{ij}^k \in \mathcal{D}')$$

- Fundamental lemma in a weak form [LeFM, 07]:
Every distributional metric has a unique 'Levi-Civita connection'

$$\begin{aligned} 2\nabla_X^b Y(Z) &:= X(g(Y, Z)) + Y(g(Z, X)) - Z(g(X, Y)) \\ &\quad - g(X, [Y, Z]) + g(Y, [Z, X]) + g(Z, [X, Y]) \end{aligned}$$

Only if g more regular (e.g. L_{loc}^2): $\Rightarrow \nabla_X^b Y = (\nabla_X Y)^b$

Curvature from a Distributional Connection?

- Coordinate-free analysis [LeFM, 07]
- Coordinate approach [Geroch, Traschen, 87]

$$R^i_{jkl} = \Gamma^i_{lj,k} - \Gamma^i_{kj,l} + \Gamma^i_{km}\Gamma^m_{lj} - \Gamma^i_{lm}\Gamma^m_{kj}$$

Look for special distributional connections for which the formula makes sense in \mathcal{D}' .

- A good choice is $\Gamma^i_{jk} \in L^2_{loc}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^i_{lj} \in L^2_{loc} \subseteq L^1_{loc} \subseteq \mathcal{D}' &\quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma^i_{lj,k} \in \mathcal{D}' \\ \Gamma^i_{km} \in L^2_{loc} &\quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma^i_{km}\Gamma^m_{lj} \in L^1_{loc} \subseteq \mathcal{D}' \end{aligned}$$

- Observe:

$$\Gamma^i_{jk} \in L^2_{loc} \Leftrightarrow \nabla_X Y \in L^2_{loc} \text{ for all smooth vector fields } X, Y$$

Curvature from a Distributional Connection

Definition ([LeFM, 07], [GT, 87])

- (i) A distr. connection ∇ is called L_{loc}^2 -connection if $\nabla_X Y \in L_{loc}^2$.
- (ii) The Riemannian curvature tensor $R \in \mathcal{D}'_3^1(M)$ for an L_{loc}^2 -connection is defined by the usual formula, i.e.,

$$R_{XY}Z := \nabla_{[X, Y]}Z - [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y]Z.$$
- (iii) Ricci, Weyl, and scalar curvature defined as usual.

Observation (L_{loc}^2 -stability)

Assume for a sequence of L_{loc}^2 -connections

$$\nabla_X^{(n)} Y \rightarrow \nabla_X Y \quad \text{in } L_{loc}^2.$$

Then

$$R_{XY}^{(n)} Z \rightarrow R_{XY} Z \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'_0^1(M).$$

The analogue holds true for the Ricci, Weyl, and scalar curvature.

Curvature from a Distributional Metric

- by the above: want induced connection to be in L^2_{loc}
- in local coordinates: $2\Gamma^i_{jk} = g^{il}(g_{lj,k} + g_{kl,j} - g_{jk,l})$

Observation ([GT, 87])

The curvature is defined if the metric g belongs to $H^1_{\text{loc}} \cap L^\infty_{\text{loc}}$.

Recall: $H^1_{\text{loc}} := \{u \in \mathcal{D}' : u, \partial_j u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}\}$

Indeed:

$$g_{ij} \in H^1_{\text{loc}} \Rightarrow g_{ij,l} \in L^2_{\text{loc}}; \quad g_{ij} \in L^\infty_{\text{loc}} \Rightarrow \Gamma^i_{jk} \in L^2_{\text{loc}}$$

$H^1_{\text{loc}} \cap L^\infty_{\text{loc}}$ is an algebra with a good notion of invertibility.

$f \in H^1_{\text{loc}} \cap L^\infty_{\text{loc}}$ invertible $:\Leftrightarrow$ loc. uniformly bounded away from 0,

$$\forall K \text{ compact } \exists C : |f(x)| \geq C > 0 \text{ a.e. on } K$$

then f^{-1} is again loc. unif. bded away from 0

The gt-class of metrics

Definition ([GT, 87], add on by [LeFM, 07], [S,Vickers, 09])

A distributional metric g is called gt-regular if

- $g \in H_{loc}^1 \cap L_{loc}^\infty$,
- g is a Lorentzian metric almost everywhere, and
- g is non-degenerate, i.e., $\det(g)$ is invertible in $H_{loc}^1 \cap L_{loc}^\infty$.

Theorem (Properties of gt-regular metrics, [G&T,87])

- The Levi-Civita connection of g is an L_{loc}^2 -connection.*
- The Riemann, Ricci, Weyl, and scalar curvature of g is defined.*
- We have H_{loc}^1 -stability.*
- The Bianchi identities cannot be formulated in \mathcal{D}' .*
- $\dim(\text{supp}(\text{Riem}[g])) \geq 3$*

Summary: Linear distributions for GR

The 'maximally reasonable' distributional setting essentially due to Geroch and Traschen uses Sobolev regularity

$$g \in H_{loc}^1 \cap L_{loc}^\infty.$$

Pros:

- Allows to define curvature $\text{Riem}[g]$, $\text{Ric}[g]$, $W[g]$, $R[g]$ in distributions.
- Has 'limit consistency' in H_{loc}^1 .

Cons:

- Energy conservation cannot be formulated.
- Allows for only mild concentration of sources:
thin shells of matter are okay but strings are out.

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Warning: It really can go wrong!**[GT, 87]****Example (Regularising a string (1))**

$$ds_I^2 = -dt^2 + dz^2 + dr^2 + \beta_I(r)^2 d\phi^2$$

$$\beta_I(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\gamma} \sin\left(\frac{\gamma r}{l}\right) & (r \leq l) \\ (r - l + \frac{1}{\gamma} \tan \gamma) \cos \gamma & (r > l) \end{cases} \quad (l > 0, \gamma \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2}])$$

Outside ($r > l$): standard cone via $R = r - l + (l/\gamma) \tan \gamma$

Inside ($r < l$): mass density $\mu = 2\pi(1 - \cos \gamma) = \Delta$

Limit ($l \rightarrow 0$):

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dz^2 + dr^2 + r^2 \cos^2 \gamma d\phi^2, \quad \mu = \Delta$$

It is tempting to assign to the string the mass density

$$\rho_s = \mu \delta^{(2)}(r) = 2\pi(1 - \cos \gamma) \delta^{(2)}(r) = \Delta \delta^{(2)}(r).$$

Warning: It really can go wrong!**[GT, 87]****Example (Regularising a string (2))**

$$d\bar{s}_l^2 = e^{2\lambda f(r/l)} ds_l^2, \quad \lambda > 0, f \geq 0, \text{supp}(f) \subset\subset [1/2, 1]$$

$$\bar{\mu} = 2\pi(1 - \cos \gamma) - 2\pi \int_0^1 \frac{e^{2\lambda f(x)}}{\gamma} (\lambda^2 f'^2(x) \sin(\gamma x)) dx < \mu$$

Limit ($l \rightarrow 0$):

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dz^2 + dr^2 + r^2 \cos^2 \gamma d\phi^2, \quad \bar{\mu} \neq \Delta$$

So we run into an inconsistency:

$$\bar{\rho}_s = \bar{\mu} \delta^{(2)}(r) \neq 2\pi(1 - \cos \gamma) \delta^{(2)}(r) = \rho_s$$

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Products of distributions?

A multitude of examples show that there is no reasonable product

$$\mathcal{D}' \times \mathcal{D}' \rightarrow \mathcal{D}'.$$

Alternatives

- 1 *Regular intrinsic products*
Classical algebras L^∞ , H^s ($s > n/2$), but **not for all of \mathcal{D}'**
- 2 *Irregular intrinsic products*
Products of singular distributions by ad hoc-methods (e.g. special regularisation,...). This leads to **ambiguities**, e.g.

$$\delta^2 = 0, \quad c\delta, \quad c\delta + c' \frac{1}{2\pi i} \delta, \quad c\delta + c' \delta', \quad \dots$$

- 3 *Extrinsic products, algebras containing \mathcal{D}'*
Consistently assign a product to each pair of distributions, which no longer is a distribution.
Only **limited consistency with classical analysis** possible.

What can be done

Reasonable requirements for an algebra $\mathcal{A}(+, \circ)$ containing \mathcal{D}' :

- (i) $\mathcal{D}' \hookrightarrow \mathcal{A}$ linear, $f \equiv 1$ unity in \mathcal{A}
- (ii) derivations $\partial_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$), linear and Leibniz rule
- (iii) $\partial_i|_{\mathcal{D}'}$ is the usual partial derivative ($i = 1, \dots, n$).
- (iv) $\circ|_{\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}}$ is the usual product

Theorem (Impossibility Result, [Schwartz, 54])

There is no associative, commutative algebra satisfying (i)–(iv).

(What is possible, [Colombeau, 84])

Construction of associative and commutative algebras satisfying (i)–(iii) and

- (iv') $\circ|_{\mathcal{C}^\infty \times \mathcal{C}^\infty}$ is the usual product.

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Colombeau Algebras: an overview

Algebras of generalised functions in the sense of J.F. Colombeau [Colombeau 84, 85] are differential algebras

- that contain the vector space of distributions and
- display maximal consistency with classical analysis (in the light of L. Schwartz' impossibility result).
In particular the construction preserves
 - the product of C^∞ -functions
 - (Lie) derivatives of distributions.

Main ideas of the construction are

- regularisation of distributions by nets of C^∞ -functions
- asymptotic estimates in terms of a regularisation parameter
(via a quotient construction)

Colombeau algebra on manifolds (1)

[Damsma, deRoever 91]

- $\mathcal{E}(M)$, the **basic space**: all sequences of smooth functions on M

$$\mathcal{E}(M) := \{(u_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon \in (0,1]} : u_\varepsilon \in C^\infty(M)\}$$

ε as regularisation parameter, $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} u_\varepsilon$ may or may not exist!

- $\mathcal{E}_M(M)$, **moderate sequences**: slow growth of all derivatives in ε

For all compact sets K , for any number of vector fields X_1, \dots, X_l

$$\sup_{x \in K} |L_{X_1} \dots L_{X_l} u_\varepsilon(x)| = O(\varepsilon^{-p}) \quad \text{for some } p, \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

- $\mathcal{N}(M)$, **negligible sequences**: fast vanishing of all derivatives in ε

For all compact sets K , for any number of vector fields X_1, \dots, X_l

$$\sup_{x \in K} |L_{X_1} \dots L_{X_l} u_\varepsilon(x)| = O(\varepsilon^q) \quad \text{for all } q, \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

Definition (The (special) Colombeau algebra)

$$\mathcal{G}(M) := \mathcal{E}_M(M) / \mathcal{N}(M)$$

Colombeau algebra on manifolds (2)

Sequences of smooth functions of moderate growth in ε , identify those that only differ by a fast vanishing sequence.

$$\mathcal{G}(M) := \mathcal{E}_M(M) / \mathcal{N}(M) \ni u = [(u_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$$

- Componentwise operations
 - products $uv = [(u_\varepsilon v_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$
 - Lie derivatives $L_X u = [(L_X u_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$
- Localises to open sets and to points
in fact, u is determined by its (generalised) point values
- Embedding of \mathcal{C}^∞ -functions: as trivial sequence

$$\sigma : \mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \ni u \mapsto (u)_\varepsilon \in \mathcal{G}(M)$$

- The product of smooth functions is preserved:

$$\sigma(uv) = \sigma(u)\sigma(v)$$

Embedding of distributions

In essence, locally via convolution

in a chart $\iota : \mathcal{D}'(U) \ni u \mapsto [(u * \rho_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon] \in \mathcal{G}(U)$ for a mollifier ρ

$\rho \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\int \rho = 1$, $\rho_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^n} \rho(\frac{x}{\varepsilon})$, $\int x^\alpha \rho(x) dx = 0$ for all $\alpha > 0$

$$\Rightarrow (\iota - \sigma)(\mathcal{C}^\infty) \subseteq \mathcal{N}$$

Warning: This depends on choice of mollifier and chart!

Alternatives:

- use a geometrically preferred embedding
(geometric flows [Dave and coworkers 07–])
- use an embedding suitable to the application (special modelling)
- use a more involved construction of the algebra, which allows for a canonically embedding of distributions \rightsquigarrow full algebras

In any case: $L_X \circ \iota = \iota \circ L_X$

Association: Connecting back to \mathcal{D}'

coarse-grain the algebra to implement distributional equality

- $u, v \in \mathcal{G}$ are associated with each other, $u \approx v$, if for all $\omega \in \Omega_c^n$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int (u_\varepsilon - v_\varepsilon) \omega = 0 \quad (\text{for one/any pair of representatives})$$

- $u \in \mathcal{G}$ is associated to $v \in \mathcal{D}'$, $u \approx v$, if for all $\omega \in \Omega_c^n$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int u_\varepsilon \omega = \langle v, \omega \rangle \quad (\text{for one/any representative})$$

Then v is called the **distributional shadow** of u .

If a shadow exists at all it is unique.

Example

- $\theta^2 (= \iota(\theta)^2) \approx \theta$
- $\delta^2 (= \iota(\delta)^2)$ has no distributional shadow

Colombeau tensor fields

Definition (Generalised sections)

$$\mathcal{G}_s^r(M) := \mathcal{E}_M^r(M) / \mathcal{N}_s^r(M),$$

where moderateness and negligibility are defined analogously.

Theorem (Characterising sections, [Kunzinger, S, 01])

$\mathcal{G}_s^r(M)$ is a finitely generated, projective $\mathcal{G}(M)$ -module and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_s^r(M) &= \mathcal{G}(M) \otimes \mathcal{T}_s^r(M) = L_{C^\infty(M)}(\Omega^1(M)^r, \mathfrak{X}(M)^s; \mathcal{G}(M)) \\ &= L_{\mathcal{G}(M)}(\mathcal{G}_1^0(M)^r, \mathcal{G}_0^1(M)^s; \mathcal{G}(M)). \end{aligned}$$

- compare to

$$\mathcal{D}'_s^r(M) = \mathcal{D}'(M) \otimes \mathcal{T}_s^r(M) = L_{C^\infty(M)}(\Omega_1(M)^r, \mathfrak{X}(M)^s; \mathcal{D}'(M))$$

- Similarly for sections of a vector bundle $E \rightarrow M$: $\Gamma_{\mathcal{G}}(M, E)$

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Generalised metrics

Definition (Generalised metrics [KS, 02])

We define a symmetric $g \in \mathcal{G}_2^0(M)$ to be a generalised metric by one of the following equivalent non-degeneracy conditions

- (i) $\det(g)$ is invertible in $\mathcal{G}(M)$ (generalised non-degeneracy)
- (ii) for all generalised points $g(\tilde{x})$ is nondegenerate as map
 $\tilde{\mathbb{R}}^n \times \tilde{\mathbb{R}}^n \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{R}}$
 (pointwise generalised non-degeneracy)
- (iii) there exists a representative g_ε consisting of smooth metrics and $\det(g)$ invertible in $\mathcal{G}(M)$
 (idea of smoothing)

- technicalities on the index skipped
- g induces an isomorphism $\mathcal{G}_0^1(M) \ni X \mapsto X^b := g(X, \cdot) \in \mathcal{G}_1^0(M)$
- g has a unique (generalised) Levi-Civita connection

Levi-Civita connection

Definition

A gen. connection is a map $\nabla : \mathcal{G}_0^1(M) \times \mathcal{G}_0^1(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_0^1(M)$ satisfying the usual conditions.

- extends to entire generalised(!) tensor-algebra
- standard formulas hold, e.g.

$$\nabla_{\partial_i}(Y^j \partial_j) = (\partial_i Y^k + \Gamma_{ij}^k Y^j) \partial_k \quad (Y^j, \Gamma_{ij}^k \in \mathcal{G}).$$

Theorem (Fundamental Lemma, [KS, 02])

For any generalised metric g there exists a unique generalised connection ∇ that is ($X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{G}_0^1(M)$)

$$(\nabla_3) \text{ torsion-free i.e., } T(X, Y) := \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X - [X, Y] = 0$$

$$(\nabla_4) \text{ metric, i.e., } \nabla_X g = 0 \Leftrightarrow X(g(X, Z)) = g(\nabla_X Y, Z) + g(Y, \nabla_X Z).$$

It is called *Levi-Civita connection* and given by *Koszul's formula*.

Curvature from a generalised connection

Definition (Generalised curvature)

- (i) Let g be a generalised metric with generalised Levi-Civita connection ∇ . We define the generalised Riemannian curvature tensor $R \in \mathcal{G}_3^1(M)$ of g by the usual formula, i.e.,

$$R_{XY}Z := \nabla_{[X, Y]}Z - [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y]Z.$$

- (ii) Ricci, Weyl, and scalar curvature defined as usual.

Observation (Basic compatibility)

Let g be a generalised metric with representative g_ε such that $g_\varepsilon \rightarrow \tilde{g}$ locally in \mathcal{C}^k .

Then any representative R_ε of the Riemann tensor R of g converges to the Riemann tensor \tilde{R} of \tilde{g} locally in \mathcal{C}^{k-2} .

The analogue holds true for the Ricci, Weyl, scalar curvature.

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Applications in GR: an overview

- Curvature of cosmic strings
[Clarke, Vickers, Wilson, 96], [Vickers and Coworkers, 99–01]
- Geometry of impulsive pp-waves
[Balasin, 96], [KS, 98–04]
- (Ultrarelativistic) Kerr-Newman geometries
[Balasin, 96–03], [S, 98], [Heinzle, S, 02]
- Singular Yang-Mills theory [KSV, 05]
- Linear distributional geometry renewed [LeFM, 07],
applications [LeFloch and Coworkers 07–]
- Compatibility of \mathcal{G} - with the gt-setting [SV, 09]
- Wave equations in singular space times
[VW, 00], [Grant, Mayerhofer, S, 09], [Hanel, 11]
~> afternoon talk

Geometry of impulsive pp-waves (1)

Penrose cut&paste approach \leadsto distributional form of the metric

$$ds^2 = f(x^A)\delta(u)du^2 + dudv - \delta_{AB}dx^A dx^B$$

Model in \mathcal{G} :

$$\hat{d}s^2 = f(x^A)D(u)du^2 + dudv - \delta_{AB}dx^A dx^B$$

with $D = [(\rho_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$ and ρ_ε a strict- δ -net:

$$\text{supp}(\rho_\varepsilon) \rightarrow \{0\}, \int \rho_\varepsilon \rightarrow 1 \text{ and } \|\rho_\varepsilon\|_{L^1} \leq C$$

Results (Geodesics)

- *The geodesic equation is uniquely solvable in $\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{R}; M)$.*
- *These generalised geodesics have associated distributions which are refracted, broken straight lines.*
- *The geodesic deviation equation is uniquely solvable in $\mathcal{G}_0^1(M)$.*

Geometry of impulsive pp-waves (2)

Rosen form of the metric

$$ds^2 = dudv - (\delta_{AB} + \frac{1}{2}u\theta(u)\partial_A\partial_B f)^2 dX^A dX^B$$

continuous! achieved via a discontinuous transformation.

Results (Interpretation in \mathcal{G})

There is a generalised coordinate transform $[(T_\epsilon)_\epsilon]$ (implicitly defined using the generalised geodesics) such that:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{distr. metric} & \xrightarrow{\delta \mapsto D} & f(x^A)\rho_\epsilon(u)du^2 + dudv - \delta_{AB}dX^A dX^B \\
 ? \downarrow & & \downarrow T_\epsilon \\
 \text{cont. metric} & \xleftarrow{\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0}} & dudv + 2(\dot{x}_\epsilon^A \partial_B x_\epsilon^A - \partial_B v_\epsilon)dudX^B \\
 & & + (\partial_B(x_\epsilon^1 + x_\epsilon^2)(dX^B))^2
 \end{array}$$

Further theoretical work by [\[Erlacher, Grosse 08–10\]](#)

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Compatibility with the gt-setting

- $g \in H_{\text{loc}}^1 \cap L_{\text{loc}}^\infty \rightsquigarrow$ two ways to calculate the curvature
 - (i) gt-setting: coordinate formulas in \mathcal{D}' resp. $W_{\text{loc}}^{m,p}$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Riem}[g] \in \mathcal{D}'_3$
 - (ii) \mathcal{G} -setting: embed g via convolution with a mollifier
 usual formulas for fixed ε
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Riem}[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon] \in \mathcal{G}_3^1$
- Do we get the same answer?

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H_{\text{loc}}^1 \cap L_{\text{loc}}^\infty \ni g & \xrightarrow{* \rho_\varepsilon} & [(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon] \in \mathcal{G} \\
 \text{gt-setting} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathcal{G}\text{-setting} \\
 \text{Riem}[g] & \xleftarrow{\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0}} & \text{Riem}[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]
 \end{array}$$

Regularising gt-metrics

- To preserve positivity need **admissible mollifiers**:
special strict δ -nets, which are moderate and have
 - asymptotically vanishing moments:
 $\forall j \in \mathbb{N} \exists \varepsilon_0 : \int x^\alpha \rho_\varepsilon(x) dx = 0$ for all $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq j$ and all $\varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$
 - arbitrarily small L^1 -norms of their negative parts:
 $\forall \eta > 0 \exists \varepsilon_0 : \int |\rho_\varepsilon(x)| dx \leq 1 + \eta$ for all $\varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$
- $g \in H_{\text{loc}}^1 \cap L_{\text{loc}}^\infty : g_{ij}^\varepsilon := g_{ij} * \rho_\varepsilon, \rightsquigarrow$ metric $g_\varepsilon, \iota(g) = [(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$
- Basic convergence result:
 $f \in W_{\text{loc}}^{m,p} \Rightarrow f_\varepsilon := f * \rho_\varepsilon \rightarrow f$ in $W_{\text{loc}}^{m,p}$ ($m \geq 0, 1 \leq p < \infty$)

Lemma (Stability of the determinant)

For gt-regular g : $\det(g_\varepsilon) \rightarrow \det g$ in $H_{\text{loc}}^1 \cap L_{\text{loc}}^p$ for all $p < \infty$.

But non-degeneracy of g ($|\det(g)| \geq C > 0$ a.e. on cp. sets)
 $\not\Rightarrow$ non-degeneracy of g_ε ($|\det(g_\varepsilon)| \geq C > 0$ on cp. sets).

Preserving non-degeneracy

problem: preserving non-degeneracy for gt-metrics

- want: $\forall K$ compact, $\exists C : |\det(g_\varepsilon)| \geq C_K > 0$ on K (N_ε)

Definition (Stability condition)

Let g be a gt-regular metric and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ its eigenvalues.

- (i) For any compact K we set $\mu_K := \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{x \in K} |\lambda^i(x)|$.

- (ii) We call g stable if on K there is A^K continuous, such that

$$\max_{i,j} \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in K} |g_{ij}(x) - A_{ij}^K(x)| \leq C < \frac{\mu_K}{2n}.$$

Lemma (Non-degeneracy of smoothed gt-regular metrics)

Let g be a stable gt-regular metric and let g_ε be a smoothing of g with an admissible mollifier $(\rho_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon$.

Then (N_ε) holds, and the embedding $\iota_\rho(g)$ is a gen. metric.

Compatibility results

Theorem (Compatibility of the gt- with the \mathcal{G} -setting)

Let g be stable, gt-regular with Riemann tensor $\text{Riem}[g]$.
 Let g_ε be a smoothing of g with an admissible mollifier $(\rho_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon$.
 Then we have for the Riemann tensor $\text{Riem}[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$ of $[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]$

$$\text{Riem}[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon] \rightarrow \text{Riem}[g] \text{ in } \mathcal{D}'_3^1 \quad (\varepsilon \rightarrow 0).$$

Hence for any embedding ι_ρ we have $\text{Riem}[\iota_\rho(g)] \approx \text{Riem}[g]$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H_{\text{loc}}^1 \cap L_{\text{loc}}^\infty & \ni g & \xrightarrow{* \iota_\rho \text{ admissible}} [(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon] \in \mathcal{G} \\
 \text{stable} & & \\
 \text{gt-setting} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathcal{G}\text{-setting} \\
 \text{Riem}[g] & \xleftarrow{\approx} & \text{Riem}[(g_\varepsilon)_\varepsilon]
 \end{array}$$

Similar results hold for other curvature quantities.

Děkuji
vám za pozornost

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