

Sam Blitz

Background

Riemannian

Conformal

A Holographic Approach to Submanifold Geometry

S. Blitz

Joint work with Josef Šilhan

Masaryk University

Srní, 44th Winter School, January 2024

Story

What **not** to do

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Motivation:

- Conformal hypersurface geometry can be understood with holography.

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Roadblocks:

- Lacking uniqueness of normal frame
- Representation theory obstructions
- Combinatorial growth of cancellations required

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Roadblocks:

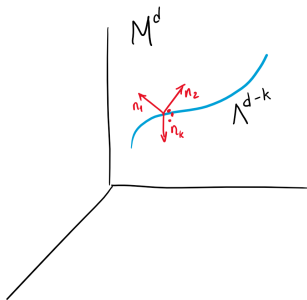
- Lacking uniqueness of normal frame
- Representation theory obstructions
- Combinatorial growth of cancellations required

Q: Can we find any new invariants this way?

Context

Smooth manifolds

$$\iota : \Lambda^{d-k} \hookrightarrow M^d \text{ smooth}$$



(Always working locally, so assume triviality)

Riemannian Submanifolds

Basic Structure

Attach a metric: $\Lambda^{d-k} \hookrightarrow (M^d, g)$
($\Rightarrow TM|_{\Lambda} \cong T\Lambda \oplus N\Lambda$, similarly $T^*M|_{\Lambda}$.)

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Levi-Civita connection $\nabla \Rightarrow$ Normal connection:

$$\begin{aligned} D : \Gamma(T\Lambda) \times \Gamma(N\Lambda) &\rightarrow \Gamma(N\Lambda) \\ (v, n) &\mapsto D_v n := \perp (\nabla_{L_* v} n). \end{aligned}$$

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Connection coefficients: $\langle n_\alpha, D_v n_\beta \rangle = v^a \beta_{a\alpha\beta}$

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“Normal fundamental forms”

Curvature: $\mathcal{R}(u, v)n := D_u(D_v n) - D_v(D_u n) - D_{[u, v]}n$

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An Orthonormal Frame?

Goal: Study “canonical extension” of orthonormal frame $\{n_\alpha\}_{\alpha=1}^k$ away from Λ .

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For $k = 1$, $\exists!$ unit normal vector (up to orientation).

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For $m_{\alpha\beta} \in SO(k)$,

$$\{n_\alpha\} \mapsto \{m_{\alpha\beta}n_\beta\}$$

is just as good.

Can we find a geometric condition that fixes $\{n_\alpha\}$?

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\Rightarrow “Gauge Fixing”

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Gauge Fixing

Simplest case:

Theorem

If $\Lambda^{d-k} \hookrightarrow (M, g)$ has $\mathcal{R} = 0$, then $\{n_\alpha\}$ is uniquely fixed (up to constant sections of $O(k)$) by fixing $\beta = 0$.

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These are *rotation minimizing frames* (RMFs), by analogy with spacecurves:

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For $\mathcal{R} \neq 0$: **impossible?** \Rightarrow Assume some $\{n_\alpha\}$ going forward.

Riemannian Submanifolds

Holography

Submanifolds: Extend $\{n_\alpha\}$ off Λ by solving
 $G_{\alpha\beta} := g(n_\alpha, n_\beta) = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$.

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Order 0: Pick s_α s.t. $ds_\alpha|_\Lambda = n_\alpha$.

$\Rightarrow G_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(1)} s_\gamma$. (orthonormality)

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$$\Rightarrow \tilde{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{(2)} \tilde{s}_{\gamma_1} \tilde{s}_{\gamma_2}.$$

Riemannian Submanifolds

Interlude: An Extension Problem

Problem

Let $\bar{f} \in C^\infty \Lambda$ and $\Lambda \hookrightarrow (M, g)$ have defining map with $G_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{O}(s^m)$. Find a formal power series for $f \in C^\infty M$ solving

$$\nabla_{n_\alpha} f = \mathcal{O}(s^n), \quad f|_\Lambda = \bar{f}.$$

Label the problem parametrized by (m, n) by $P(m, n)$.

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- $\mathcal{R} = 0 \Rightarrow P(2, 2)$ has a solution (in RMF).

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Results:

- $P(2, 1)$ always has a solution.
- $\mathcal{R} = 0 \Rightarrow P(2, 2)$ has a solution (in RMF).
- $\mathcal{R} = 0$ and (M, g) flat \Rightarrow For $m \geq 3$, $P(m, m)$ has a solution (in RMF).

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Higher Orders

Order 2:

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- Fix $A^{(1)}$ using $P(2, 1)$

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- Fix $A^{(1)}$ using $P(2, 1)$
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Representations:

$$F^{(2)} \in \boxplus \oplus \boxplus \oplus \boxtimes \boxtimes \quad \text{vs.} \quad A^{(2)} \in \boxplus \oplus \boxtimes \boxtimes$$

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Order ∞ : If $\mathcal{R} = R = 0$, no obstructions, $\exists s_\alpha$ s.t.

$$G_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{O}(s^\infty).$$

Conformal Submanifolds

Conformal Geometry Review

Attach a conformal class of metrics $\Lambda \leftrightarrow (M, \mathbf{c})$
($\mathbf{c} = [g] = [\Omega^2 g]$)

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Lightning review of conformal geometry:

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“Conformal densities”
- e.g. Conformal metric: $\mathbf{g} = [g; g] \in \Gamma(\odot^2 T^* M[2])$

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Write: $I = [g; i^g] = [\Omega^2 g; \Omega^w i^g] \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E}M[w])$.
“Conformal densities”
- e.g. Conformal metric: $\mathbf{g} = [g; g] \in \Gamma(\odot^2 T^* M[2])$
- Need a conformal calculus in analogy with Ricci calculus: “Tractor calculus.”

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Conformal Geometry Review

Attach a conformal class of metrics $\Lambda \hookrightarrow (M, \mathbf{c})$
($\mathbf{c} = [g] = [\Omega^2 g]$)

Lightning review of conformal geometry:

- “Conformally invariant” = Riemannian invariant $I[g]$ with the property that $I[\Omega^2 g] = \Omega^w I[g]$
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- e.g. Conformal metric: $\mathbf{g} = [g; g] \in \Gamma(\odot^2 T^*M[2])$
- Need a conformal calculus in analogy with Ricci calculus: “Tractor calculus.”
- For $g \in \mathbf{c}$, define “tractor bundle”:
 $\mathcal{T}M \cong \overset{g}{\mathcal{E}M}[1] \oplus TM[-1] \oplus \mathcal{E}M[-1]$ with $g \mapsto \Omega^2 g$ transformation law.

Conformal Submanifolds

Conformal Geometry Review, Continued

- Tractor metric: $h_{AB} \stackrel{g}{=} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \mathbf{g}_{ab} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

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$$\nabla^{\mathcal{T}} : \Gamma(\mathcal{T}M) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M \otimes \mathcal{T}M)$$

$$T^B \mapsto \nabla_a^{\mathcal{T}} T^B \stackrel{g}{=} \begin{pmatrix} \nabla_a \tau^+ - \tau_a \\ \nabla_a \tau^b + \mathbf{g}_a^b \tau^- + (P^g)_a^b \tau^+ \\ \nabla_a \tau^- - P_{ab}^g \tau^b \end{pmatrix}.$$

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- Thomas-D operator:

$$D_A : \Gamma(\mathcal{T}^{\Phi}M[w]) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M \otimes \mathcal{T}^{\Phi}M[w-1])$$

$$T^{\Phi} \mapsto D_A T^{\Phi} \stackrel{g}{=} \begin{pmatrix} (d+2w-2)wT^{\Phi} \\ (d+2w-2)\nabla_a^{\mathcal{T}} T^{\Phi} \\ -(\Delta^{\mathcal{T}} + wJ^g)T^{\Phi} \end{pmatrix},$$

Conformal Submanifolds

Frame-valued density

Conformal structure preserves directions

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Frame-valued density

Conformal structure preserves directions \Rightarrow for $g \in \mathfrak{c}$, pick $\{n_\alpha\}$ and promote to density:
 $\mathbf{n}_\alpha^a := [g; (n^g)_\alpha^a] \in \Gamma(TM[-1])|_\Lambda$

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Observe: $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{n}_\alpha, \mathbf{n}_\beta)|_\Lambda = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$ and $\beta_{a\alpha\beta} \in \Gamma(T^*\Sigma[0] \otimes \mathfrak{H})$

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Assume a frame is chosen going forward.

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Holography

Note: For $g \in \mathfrak{c}$ and $\sigma_\alpha = [g; s_\alpha] \in \Gamma(\mathcal{EM}[1])$,

$$g(ds_\alpha, ds_\beta) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} h_{AB}(\hat{D}\sigma_\alpha, \hat{D}\sigma_\beta).$$

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 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(1)}\sigma_\gamma$. (orthonormality)

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Order 1

Order 1:

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If $\tilde{\sigma}_\alpha = \sigma_\alpha + A_{\alpha\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{(1)}\sigma_{\gamma_1}\sigma_{\gamma_2}$, then

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$$\begin{aligned}F_{\alpha\alpha\omega}^{(1)} + 4A_{\alpha\alpha\omega}^{(1)} - \frac{4}{d}A_{\omega\alpha\alpha}^{(1)} &= 0 \\F_{\omega\alpha\alpha}^{(1)} + 2A_{\alpha\alpha\omega}^{(1)} + \frac{2(d-k-1)}{d}A_{\omega\alpha\alpha}^{(1)} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

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Conformal Submanifolds

Interlude: An Extension Problem

Problem

Let $\bar{f} \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E}\Lambda[w])$ and let $\Lambda \hookrightarrow (M, \mathbf{c})$ have defining densities satisfying $\mathbf{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^2)$. Find a formal power series for $f \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E}M[w])$ solving $N_\alpha \cdot \hat{D}f = 0$ and $f|_\Lambda = \bar{f}$.

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- Can always solve $N_\alpha \cdot \hat{D}f = \mathcal{O}(\sigma)$.

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- If $w \neq 1 - (d - k)/2$, $\beta = 0$, and $F_{\alpha[\beta\gamma_1]\gamma_2}^{(2)} = 0$, can solve $N_\alpha \cdot \hat{D}f = \mathcal{O}(\sigma^2)$.

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- Any more requires trivial embeddings in conformally-flat spaces.

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This spells the end....

Conformal Submanifolds

Order 2

Have $\mathbf{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{(2)} \sigma_{\gamma_1} \sigma_{\gamma_2}$

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Have $\mathbf{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{(2)} \sigma_{\gamma_1} \sigma_{\gamma_2}$

$$F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 3 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 2.$$

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For $k \neq d - 2$, can find $F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 1.$

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Obstructions take the form $a\mathring{\Pi}^2 + b\beta^2 + cW$.

Conformal Submanifolds

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If $\tilde{\sigma}_\alpha = \sigma_\alpha + A_{\alpha\gamma_1\gamma_2\gamma_3}^{(2)} \sigma_{\gamma_1} \sigma_{\gamma_2} \sigma_{\gamma_3}$, then

$$A^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 2 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 1.$$

For $k \neq d - 2$, can find $F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 1.$

Obstructions take the form $a\mathring{\Pi}^2 + b\beta^2 + cW$.

For $k = d - 2$, can find $F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 1.$

Conformal Submanifolds

Order 2

Have $\mathbf{G}_{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} + F_{\alpha\beta\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{(2)} \sigma_{\gamma_1} \sigma_{\gamma_2}$

$$F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 3 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 2.$$

If $\tilde{\sigma}_\alpha = \sigma_\alpha + A_{\alpha\gamma_1\gamma_2\gamma_3}^{(2)} \sigma_{\gamma_1} \sigma_{\gamma_2} \sigma_{\gamma_3}$, then

$$A^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 2 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 1.$$

For $k \neq d - 2$, can find $F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus 1.$

Obstructions take the form $a\mathring{\Pi}^2 + b\beta^2 + cW$.

For $k = d - 2$, can find $F^{(2)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \circ \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus 1.$

Unique invariant: $F_{\gamma[\alpha\beta]\gamma}^{(2)} = \bar{\nabla}^a \beta_{a\alpha\beta}$.

Conformal Submanifolds

Order 3 and the Willmore Invariant

Extension problem: require $\beta = 0$ ($\Rightarrow F_{\alpha[\beta\gamma_1]\gamma_2}^{(2)} = 0$)

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If $d - k = 4$: Halt (with one exception).

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For $k \neq d - 2$, cannot remove all traces from $F^{(3)}$: can only remove $F_{\gamma\gamma\rho\rho\alpha}^{(3)}$ and $F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)}$.

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For $k = d - 2$, cannot remove $F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)}$ \leftarrow **True obstruction:**

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For $k = d - 2$, cannot remove $F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)}$ \leftarrow **True obstruction:**

$$F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} -\frac{d-2}{6}L_{ab}\mathring{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{ab} - \frac{1}{3}\mathring{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{bc}\bar{g}^{ad}W_{abcd} - \frac{d-2}{6}\text{IV}_{\alpha}.$$

$$[\text{IV}_{\alpha} = C_{\alpha\beta\beta} + H_{\rho}W_{\alpha\beta\beta\rho} + \frac{1}{d-k-3}\bar{\nabla}^c W_{c\beta\beta\alpha}^{\top} \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E}\Lambda[-3])]$$

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For $k \neq d - 2$, cannot remove all traces from $F^{(3)}$: can only remove $F_{\gamma\gamma\rho\rho\alpha}^{(3)}$ and $F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)}$.

For $k = d - 2$, cannot remove $F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)} \leftarrow$ **True obstruction:**

$$F_{\alpha\gamma\gamma\rho\rho}^{(3)} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} -\frac{d-2}{6}L_{ab}\mathring{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{ab} - \frac{1}{3}\mathring{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{bc}\bar{g}^{ad}W_{abcd} - \frac{d-2}{6}\text{IV}_{\alpha}.$$

$$[\text{IV}_{\alpha} = C_{\alpha\beta\beta} + H_{\rho}W_{\alpha\beta\beta\rho} + \frac{1}{d-k-3}\bar{\nabla}^c W_{c\beta\beta\alpha}^{\top} \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E}\Lambda[-3])]$$

This differs from the Willmore invariant by a factor of 1/2.

Thank you

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Thank you!