# Cut Locus of Submanifolds: A Geometric Viewpoint 

## Seminar GANIT

## IIT Gandhinagar

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## Outline of the talk

(1) Background
(2) Deformation of complement of the cut locus
(3) Equivariant cut locus theorem
(4) Idea of the proof
(5) Geodesics on $M$ and $M / G$
(6) Proof of the main theorem
(7) Applications

## Background

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$0$
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Examples: $\mathbb{S}^{2}$


## Examples: Torus






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Theorem (Basu, S. and Prasad, S. [1])
For a complete Riemannian manifold $M$ and a compact submanifold $N$ of $M$,

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\overline{\operatorname{Se}(N)}=\operatorname{Cu}(N)
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## Deformation of complement of the cut locus

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The cut locus $\mathrm{Cu}(N)$ is a strong deformation retract of $M-N$. In particular, $(M, \mathrm{Cu}(N))$ is a good pair and the number of path components of $\mathrm{Cu}(N)$ equals that of $M-N$.

## Outline of the proof of the deformation

Define

$$
\mathbf{s}: S(v) \rightarrow[0, \infty], \mathbf{s}(v):=\sup \left\{t \in[0, \infty)\left|\gamma_{v}\right|_{[0, t]} \text { is an } N \text {-geodesic }\right\},
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Note that $\exp _{v}$ is a diffeomorphism on $U_{0}(N)$ and set $U(N)=\exp _{v}\left(U_{0}(N)\right)=M-\mathrm{Cu}(N)$.








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$$
H: U_{0}(N) \times[0,1] \rightarrow U_{0}(N),((p, a v), t) \mapsto(p, t a v) .
$$

Now consider the following diagram:

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U_{0}(N) \times[0,1] \xrightarrow{H} U_{0}(N) \\
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The map $F$ can be defined by taking the compositions

$$
F=\exp _{v} \circ H \circ \exp _{v}^{-1}
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## Equivariant cut locus theorem

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\mathrm{Cu}(N / G) \cong \mathrm{Cu}(N) / G
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## Idea of the proof

Idea of the proof
M

$p$.

$M / G$

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M

$p$ •


## Idea of the proof


$M / G$
$\tilde{p} \bullet$

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M


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## Problems in the approach



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(1) Why is $(\pi \circ \gamma)$ a distance minimal geodesic?

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(3) The same for the lifts.

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- $d g$ maps $\mathscr{H}_{p}$ to $\mathscr{H}_{g . p}$.


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## Proposition (Uniqueness of horizontal lift)

If $\gamma:[-1,1] \rightarrow B$ is a smooth curve such that $\gamma(0)=b$ and $e_{0} \in \pi^{-1}(b)$, then there is a unique horizontal lift $\tilde{\gamma}$ through $e_{0} \in E$.

## Geodesics on $M$ and $M / G$

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## Theorem

There is a one-to-one correspondence between the geodesics on $M / G$ and geodesics on $M$ which are horizontal.

## Proof of the main theorem

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## $\tilde{p}$. <br> 

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## $\tilde{p}_{n}^{\tilde{p}_{0}} \overbrace{}^{\tilde{\gamma}} /\left(\|^{N}\right.$

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$N / G$


## Lemma (O'Neil)

If $\tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic on $E$ and $\tilde{\gamma}^{\prime}(0) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(0)}$, then for all t, $\tilde{\gamma}^{\prime}(t) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(t)}$ and $\pi \circ \tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic on B. Moreover, the length is preserved.

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\Longrightarrow \tilde{\gamma}^{\prime}(1) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(1)} \Longrightarrow \tilde{\gamma}^{(t) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}}(t)}
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## Applications

## Cut locus of projective planes

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- $\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathbb{R P}_{i}^{k}\right)=\mathbb{R}_{f}^{n-k-1}$.
- $\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathbb{C P}_{i}^{k}\right)=\mathbb{C P}_{f}^{n-k-1}$.


## Cut locus of complex hypersurface

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Theorem (Basu, S. and Prasad, S.)
The cut locus of $\tilde{X}(d) \subseteq \mathbb{S}^{2 n+1}$ is $\mathbb{Z}_{d}^{\star(n+1)} \times_{\mathbb{Z}_{d}} \mathbb{S}^{1}$.
S. Basu and S. Prasad, A connection between cut locus, Thom space and Morse-Bott functions. https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.02972 accepted in Algebraic \& Geometric Topology.

國 R. S. Kulkarni and J. W. Wood, Topology of nonsingular complex hypersurfaces, Adv. in Math., 35 (1980), pp. 239-263.

Thank you for your attention!

