Cut Locus of Submanifolds: A Geometric Viewpoint Seminar GANIT IIT Gandhinagar

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- 2 Deformation of complement of the cut locus
 - 3 Equivariant cut locus theorem
- 4 Idea of the proof
- S Geodesics on M and M/G
- O Proof of the main theorem

Applications

Background

Cut locus of a point

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Let *M* be a Riemannian manifold and *p* be any point in *M*. If Cu(p) denotes the *cut locus of p*, then we say that $q \in Cu(p)$ if there exists a distance minimal geodesic joining *p* to *q* such that any extension of it beyond *q* is not a distance minimal geodesic.































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Relation between separating set and cut locus



Theorem (Basu, S. and Prasad, S. [1])

For a complete Riemannian manifold M and a compact submanifold N of M,

 $\overline{\operatorname{Se}(N)} = \operatorname{Cu}(N).$

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Theorem (Basu, S. and Prasad, S. [1])

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

Outline of the proof of the deformation

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Define

$$\mathbf{s}: S(\mathbf{v}) \to [0,\infty], \, \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{v}) := \sup\{t \in [0,\infty) \mid \gamma_{\mathbf{v}}|_{[0,t]} \text{ is an } N \text{-geodesic}\},\$$

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Note that \exp_{v} is a diffeomorphism on $U_{0}(N)$ and set $U(N) = \exp_{v}(U_{0}(N)) = M - \operatorname{Cu}(N)$.













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 $H: U_0(N) \times [0,1] \to U_0(N), ((p,av),t) \mapsto (p,tav).$

Now consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{c} U_0(N) \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{H} & U_0(N) \\ \stackrel{\exp_{\nu}^{-1}}{} & \downarrow^{exp_{\nu}} \\ U \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{F} & U \cong M - \operatorname{Cu}(N) \end{array}$$

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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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Problems in the approach

- Why is $(\pi \circ \gamma)$ a distance minimal geodesic?
- Why are $(\pi \circ \gamma)$ and $(\pi \circ \eta)$ distinct?
- The same for the lifts.

Idea of the proof Connection on principal bundle

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Proposition (Uniqueness of horizontal lift)

If $\gamma: [-1,1] \to B$ 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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$\operatorname{Se}(N)/G \subseteq \operatorname{Se}(N/G)$

 \tilde{p}





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• $\tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic and $l(\tilde{\gamma}) = d(\tilde{p}, N)$





$\operatorname{Se}(N)/G \subseteq \operatorname{Se}(N/G)$

Lemma (O'Neil)

If $\tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic on E and $\tilde{\gamma}'(0) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(0)}$, then for all t, $\tilde{\gamma}'(t) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(t)}$ and $\pi \circ \tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic on B. Moreover, the length is preserved.

• $\tilde{\gamma}$ is a geodesic and $l(\tilde{\gamma}) = d(\tilde{p}, N)$ $\implies \tilde{\gamma}'(1) \in \mathscr{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}(1)}$









γ̃ is a geodesic and l(γ̃) = d(p̃,N)
⇒ γ̃'(1) ∈ ℋ_{γ̃(1)} ⇒ γ̃'(t) ∈ ℋ_{γ̃(t)}
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- If *p̃* ∈ Se(N), then there exists two N-geodesic, say *γ̃* and *η̃*.



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• If $\tilde{p} \in \text{Se}(N)$, then there exists two *N*-geodesic, say $\tilde{\gamma}$ and $\tilde{\eta}$. Due to uniqueness of horizontal lift, both will project to distinct geodesic and lengths are same.





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Applications

Cut locus of projective planes

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Theorem (Basu, S. and Prasad, S.)

The cut locus of
$$ilde{X}(d) \subseteq \mathbb{S}^{2n+1}$$
 is $\mathbb{Z}_d^{\star(n+1)} imes_{\mathbb{Z}_d} \mathbb{S}^1$.

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.

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!