Sub-Riemannian structures on Lie groups *(Lecture 8)*

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«Geometric control theory, nonholonomic geometry, and their applications» Lecture course in Dept. of Mathematics and Mechanics Lomonosov Moscow State University 20 November 2024 7. The Ox Forgotten, Leaving the Man Alone:
Riding on the animal, he is at last back in his home,
Where lo! the ox is no more; the man alone sits serenely.
Though the red sun is high up in the sky, he is still quietly dreaming,
Under a straw-thatched roof are his whip and rope idly lying.
Pu-ming, "The Ten Oxherding Pictures"



Reminder: Plan of the previous lecture

1. Proof of Pontryagin maximum principle for sub-Riemannian problems

Outline of this lecture

- 1. Sub-Riemannian structures, minimizers, spheres
- 2. Sub-Riemannian problem on the group of Euclidean plane motions SE(2)
- 3. Sub-Riemannian problem on the group of hyperbolic plane motions SH(2)

Basic definitions

- a smooth manifold *M*,
- distribution $\Delta = \{\Delta_q \subset T_q M \mid q \in M\}$, dim $\Delta_q \equiv$ const,
- scalar product in Δ :

 $g = \{g_q - ext{scalar product in } \Delta_q \mid q \in M\}$

- SR manifold (M,Δ,g) , SR structure (Δ,g) on M
- horizontal (admissible) curve $q \in \text{Lip}([0, t_1], M)$:

$$\dot{q}(t)\in \Delta_{q(t)}$$
 for a.e. $t\in [0,t_1],$

- length $I(q(\cdot)) = \int_0^{t_1} (g(\dot{q}(t), \dot{q}(t))^{1/2} dt)$
- SR distance $d(q_0,q_1) = \inf\{l(q(\cdot)) \mid q(\cdot) \text{ horizontal curve},$

$$q(0) = q_0, \ q(t_1) = q_1\},$$

• SR minimizer q(t), $t \in [0, t_1]$: horizontal curve s.t. $l(q(\cdot)) = d(q(0), q(t_1))$,

• sphere
$$S_R(q_0) = \{q \in M \mid d(q, q_0) = R\}$$
,
ball $B_R(q_0) = \{q \in M \mid d(q, q_0) \le R\}$,

- geodesic: horizontal curve whose short arcs are minimizers,
- cut time along geodesic q(t):

$$t_{ ext{cut}}(q(\cdot)) = \sup\{t > 0 \mid q(s), s \in [0, t], ext{ minimizer }\},$$

• cut point
$$q(t_1)$$
, $t_1 = t_{\mathsf{cut}}(q(\cdot))$,

cut locus

 $\operatorname{Cut}_{q_0} = \{q_1 \in M \mid q_1 \text{ cut point for some geodesic } q(\cdot), \ q(0) = q_0\}$

• first conjugate time along geodesic q(t):

 $t^1_{\operatorname{conj}}(q(\cdot)) = \sup\{t > 0 \mid q(s), \ s \in [0, t], \ ext{locally optimal} \},$

- $q(\cdot)$ locally optimal if \exists a neighborhood of $O \supset \{q(t)\}$ including $q(\cdot)$ is the minimizer on $(O, \Delta|_O, g|_O)$,
- the first conjugate point along the geodesic q(t): $q(t_1)$, $t_1 = t_{ ext{conj}}^1(q(\cdot))$,
- the first caustic:

$$ext{Conj}_{q_0} = \{q_1 \in M \mid q_1 ext{ the first conjugate point for some geodesic } q(\cdot),$$
 $q(0) = q_0\}.$

Example: Heisenberg Group



Optimal control problem

- SR manifold (M, Δ, g)
- Orthonormal frame:

 $\Delta_q = \operatorname{span}(X_1(q), \ldots, X_k(q)), \quad g(X_i, X_j) = \delta_{ij}, \ i, k = 1, \ldots, k,$

• Minimizer q(t) — solution of the problem

$$\begin{split} \dot{q} &= \sum_{i=1}^{k} u_i X_1(q), \qquad q \in M, \quad u_i \in \mathbb{R}, \\ q(0) &= q_0, \qquad q(t_1) = q_1, \\ l &= \int_0^{t_1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k u_i^2(t) \right)^{1/2} dt \to \min \\ \Leftrightarrow \quad J &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{t_1} \sum_{i=1}^k u_i^2(t) dt \to \min. \end{split}$$

Existence of Solutions

Theorem 1 (Rashevskii-Chow)

Let M be connected and for all $q \in M$

$$span(X_i(q), [X_i, X_j](q), [[X_i, X_j], X_l](q), \ldots) = T_q M.$$
 (1)

Then for $\forall q_0, q_1 \in M \exists$ a horizontal curve q(t), $t \in [0, t_1]$, so $q(0) = q_0$, $q(t_1) = q_1$. Further, the condition of full rank (1) is assumed to be satisfied.

Theorem 2 (Filippov)

A minimizer connecting points $q_0, q_1 \in M$ exists if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- q_1 is sufficiently close to q_0 ,
- the balls $B_R(q_0)$ are compact,
- (Δ,g) is left-invariant on the Lie group M.

Pontryagin's Maximum Principle

• $h_i(\lambda) = \langle \lambda, X_i(q) \rangle, \ \lambda \in T^*M.$

Theorem 3 (Pontryagin)

If q(t), $t \in [0, t_1]$, is a length miminizer corresponding to control u(t), then $\exists \lambda \in \text{Lip}([0, t_1], T^*M)$, $\lambda(t) \in T^*_{q(t)}M$, s.t.:

(N) either
$$\dot{\lambda}(t) = \vec{H}(\lambda(t)), \ H(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{k} h_i^2(\lambda), \ u_i(t) = h_i(\lambda(t)),$$

(A) or $h_1(\lambda(t)) = \cdots = h_k(\lambda(t)) \equiv 0, \ \dot{\lambda}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} u_i(t) \vec{h}_i(\lambda(t)).$

 $(N) \Rightarrow \lambda(t)$ is a normal extremal, q(t) is a normal extremal trajectory, $(A) \Rightarrow \lambda(t)$ is an abnormal extremal, q(t) is an abnormal extremal trajectory.

Optimality of normal geodesics

- q(t) normal extremal trajectory \Rightarrow q(t) — geodesic (strong Legendre condition)
- $\lambda(t)$ normal extremal \Rightarrow $\lambda(t) = e^{t\vec{H}}(\lambda_0), \quad H(\lambda(t)) \equiv \text{const}$

•
$$\lambda_0 \in \mathcal{C} = \{H(\lambda) \equiv 1/2\} \cap T^*_{q_0}M$$

- Exponential map Exp : $\mathcal{C} imes \mathbb{R}_+ o M$, $\operatorname{Exp}(\lambda,t) = q(t) = \pi \circ e^{t \overline{H}}(\lambda)$.
- q_1 is a Maxwell point on q(t): $\exists \widetilde{q}(t) \neq q(t), \ \widetilde{q}(0) = q(0), \ \widetilde{q}(t_1) = q(t_1) = q_1.$

Theorem 4

Let $q(t) = \text{Exp}(\lambda, t)$ be a normal geodesic that does not contain abnormal arcs. If t_1 is the cut time, then $q(t_1)$ is the first Maxwell point or the first conjugate point.

Smoothness of Spheres

Theorem 5

If $\Delta_{q_0} \neq T_{q_0}M$, then any sphere $S_R(q_0)$ is not a smooth manifold (if $S_R(q_0) \neq \emptyset$).

Theorem 6

Let $q_1 \in S_R(q_0)$. Suppose that:

(1) q_1 is connected to q_0 by a unique normal minimizer q(t),

(2) q_1 is not a conjugate point along q(t).

Then $S_R(q_0)$ is a smooth manifold in the neighborhood of q_1 .

Corollary 1

Reasons for cut points and singularities of spheres:

- (1) abnormal shortest paths,
- (2) Maxwell points,
- (3) conjugate points.

Group of Euclidean plane motions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{SE}(2) &= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & x\\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & y\\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \ \theta \in S^1 \right\} \\ X_1(q) &= \cos\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \qquad X_2(q) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}. \\ M &= \mathsf{SE}(2), \qquad \Delta = \mathsf{span}(X_1, X_2), \qquad g(X_i, X_j) = \delta_{ij}. \\ \dot{q} &= u_1 X_1 + u_2 X_2, \qquad q = (x, y, \theta) \in \mathsf{SE}(2), \quad (u_1, u_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \\ q(0) &= q_0 = \mathsf{Id} = (0, 0, 0), \qquad q(t_1) = q_1, \\ l &= \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{\theta}^2} \, dt = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2} \, dt \to \mathsf{min} \, . \end{aligned}$$

Contact sub-Riemannian structure on SE(2)

•
$$X_3 = [X_1, X_2] = \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

- $\mathsf{span}(X_1(q), X_2(q), X_3(q)) = T_q M \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathsf{complete \ controllability}$
- Growth vector $(2,3) \Rightarrow$ contact distribution
- A.A. Agrachev's invariants: $\kappa = \chi$
- The only left-invariant contact sub-Riemannian structure on SE(2), up to dilations and local isometries

Problem on optimal motion of a mobile robot on a plane y $q_1 = (x_1, y_1, \theta_1)$ $q_0 = (x_0, y_0, \theta_0)$ x $I = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{\theta}^2} \, dt \rightarrow \min$

Pontryagin's maximum principle

- Abnormal extremal trajectories are constant.
- Normal extremals:

$$\dot{\gamma} = c, \quad \dot{c} = -\sin\gamma, \qquad (\gamma, c) \in C \cong (2S_{\gamma}^{1}) \times \mathbb{R}_{c}, \\ \dot{x} = \sin\frac{\gamma}{2}\cos\theta, \quad \dot{y} = \sin\frac{\gamma}{2}\sin\theta, \quad \dot{\theta} = -\cos\frac{\gamma}{2}.$$

- The energy integral $E=rac{c^2}{2}-\cos\gamma\in[-1,+\infty)$
- $\gamma(t)$, c(t), q(t): parameterization by Jacobi functions sn, cn, dn, E.

Partition of the pendulum phase cylinder $C = \bigcup_{i=1}^{5} C_i$ • $C_1 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E \in (-1, 1)\} \Rightarrow$ pendulum oscillations, • $C_2 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E \in (1, +\infty)\} \Rightarrow \text{pendulum rotations},$ • $C_3 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = 1, c \neq 0\} \Rightarrow$ critical motion, • $C_4 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = -1\} \Rightarrow \text{ stable equilibrium},$ • $C_5 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = 1, c = 0\} \Rightarrow$ unstable equilibrium. 3 C_2^+ C_{1}^{0} C^1_1 C^1_{τ} $\overline{3}\pi^{\gamma}$ 2π -2 8 6 C_{3}^{-}

Reflections of ε^i in the phase cylinder of a pendulum $\ddot{\gamma}=-\sin\gamma$

• ε^{i} : $C \to C$, $\varepsilon^{i}_{*}\vec{H}_{v} = \pm \vec{H}_{v}$, $\vec{H}_{v} = c \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} - \sin \gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial c} \in \text{Vec } C$,

• Symmetry group of a parallelepiped

$$G = { \mathsf{Id}, \varepsilon^1, \dots, \varepsilon^7 } = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

• Action of reflections ε^i : $\delta \mapsto \delta^i$ on the pendulum trajectory:



First Maxwell time corresponding to symmetries Symmetries of the exponential map:

$$\mathsf{Exp} \circ arepsilon^i(\lambda,t) = arepsilon^i \circ \mathsf{Exp}(\lambda,t), \qquad (\lambda,t) \in \mathcal{C} imes \mathbb{R}_+, \quad arepsilon^i \in \mathcal{G}.$$

$$t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda) = \min\{t > \mathsf{0} \mid \exists arepsilon^i \in \mathcal{G} \; : \; arepsilon^i(\lambda,t)
eq (\lambda,t), \; \; \mathsf{Exp} \circ arepsilon^i(\lambda,t) = \mathsf{Exp}(\lambda,t) \}$$

Theorem 7

•
$$E = -1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = \pi$$
,
• $E \in (-1, 1) \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = 2K(k), \ k = \sqrt{(E+1)/2}$,
• $E = 1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = +\infty$,
• $E > 1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = 2kp_1(k), \ k = \sqrt{2/(E+1)}$,
 $p_1(k) = \min\{p > 0 \mid cn(p,k)) - p) - dn(p,k)sn(p,k) = 0\}$.

Estimates of the first conjugate time

Theorem 8

• $E\in [-1,1]$ \Rightarrow $t^1_{\operatorname{conj}}(\lambda)=+\infty$,

•
$$E>1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t^1_{\mathsf{conj}}(\lambda) \in [t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda), 4kK],$$

•
$$\forall \lambda \in \mathcal{C} \quad t^1_{\mathsf{conj}}(\lambda) \geq t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda).$$

Proof method:

Homotopy invariance of the Maslov index (number of conjugate points)

Global structure of the exponential map

• Exp :
$$C imes \mathbb{R}_+ = \textit{N} o \textit{M}$$
: non-opt. geodes. for $t > t_{\sf Max}(\lambda)$,

•
$$\widehat{N} = \{(\lambda, t) \in C \times \mathbb{R}_+ \mid t \leq t_{Max}(\lambda)\}, \qquad \widehat{M} = M \setminus \{q_0\},$$

Exp : $\widehat{N} \to \widehat{M}$ surjective, not injective (Maxwell points),

•
$$\widetilde{M} = \{q \in M \mid \varepsilon^{i}(q) \neq q\} =$$

 $= \{q \in M \mid \sin \theta \neq 0, \ R_{i}(q) \neq 0\} = \cup_{i=1}^{8} M_{i},$
 $\widetilde{N} = \operatorname{Exp}^{-1}(\widetilde{M}) =$
 $= \{(\lambda, t) \in N \mid t < t_{\operatorname{Max}}(\lambda), \ \sin(\gamma_{t/2}/2) \neq 0\} = \cup_{i=1}^{8} D_{i},$
 $\operatorname{Exp} : \widetilde{N} \to \widetilde{M}$: neither Maxwell point nor conjugate points.

Theorem 9

Exp :
$$D_i \rightarrow M_i$$
 — diffeomorphism, $i = 1, ..., 8$.
Exp : $\widetilde{N} \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$ — diffeomorphism.

Diffeomorphic stratifications and the cut set

- Cut, $\operatorname{Max} \subset M' = \widehat{M} \setminus \widetilde{M} = \{q \in M \mid \sin \theta R_1(q) R_2(q) = 0\},$
- $N' = \widehat{N} \setminus \widetilde{N}$,
- Exp : $N' \to M'$,
- Stratifications: $N' = \bigcup_{i=1}^{58} N'_i$, $M' = \bigcup_{i=1}^{58} M'_i$,
- Exp : $N_i' \rightarrow M_i'$ diffeomorphism, $i = 1, \dots, 58$
- Max = $\cup \{M'_i \mid \exists M'_j = M'_i, j \neq i\},\$
- $Cut = Max \cup (Cut \cap Conj),$
- $Cut = Cut_{loc} \cup Cut_{glob}$,

•
$$\mathsf{Cut}_{\mathsf{glob}} = \{ q \in M \mid \theta = \pi \}$$
, $d(q_0, \mathsf{Cut}_{\mathsf{glob}}) = \pi$,

• $\operatorname{Cut}_{\operatorname{loc}} \subset \{R_2 = 0\}, \operatorname{cl}(\operatorname{Cut}_{\operatorname{loc}}) \ni q_0,$

•
$$\operatorname{Cut}_{\operatorname{loc}} = \{ q \in M \mid \theta \in (-\pi, \pi), R_2 = 0, |R_1| > R_1^1(|\theta|) \}$$

 $R_1 = y \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - x \sin \frac{\theta}{2}, R_2 = x \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + x \sin \frac{\theta}{2},$
 $R_1^1(\theta) = 2(p_1(k) - \mathbb{E}(p_1(k), k)),$
 $k = k_1(\theta)$ — inverse function to $\theta = k \operatorname{sn}(p_1(k), k).$

Set $M' \supset Cut \supset Max$



Cut locus: global location



Stratification of the Mobius strip $R_2(q) = 0$



Cut locus in straightening coordinates (R_1, R_2, θ)





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Optimal synthesis in a problem $q(0) = q_1, \ q(t_1) = q_0 = (0, 0, 0)$ • $q_1 \in \widehat{M} = M \setminus \{q_0\}$

• Exp : $\widehat{N} \to \widehat{M}$ surjective

•
$$\operatorname{Exp}^{-1}(q) = egin{cases} \{(\lambda,t)\}, & ext{if } q \in \widehat{M} \setminus \operatorname{Max}, \ \{(\lambda',t)
eq (\lambda'',t)\}, & ext{if } q \in \operatorname{Max} \end{cases}$$

• $\mathsf{Exp}^{-1}(q_1) = (\lambda, t), \qquad \lambda = (\gamma, c) \in (2S^1) imes \mathbb{R}, \ t > 0$

•
$$\ddot{\gamma}_{s}=-\sin\gamma_{s}$$
, $(\gamma_{0},\dot{\gamma}_{0})=(\gamma,c)$, $s\in[0,t]$

•
$$u_1(q_1) = -\sin(\gamma_t/2), \ u_2(q_1) = \cos(\gamma_t/2)$$

• the optimal synthesis $q_1\mapsto (u_1,u_2)$ is two-valued on Max, single-valued on $\widehat{M}\setminus$ Max.

Cut time

Theorem 10

- $t_{\mathsf{cut}}(\lambda) = t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda)$, $\lambda \in \mathcal{C}$,
- $t_{\text{cut}} \circ \varepsilon^i = t_{\text{cut}}, \quad \varepsilon^i \in G,$
- $\vec{H}_v t_{cut} = 0$,

• t_{cut} : $C o (0, +\infty]$ is continuous, $t_{\mathsf{cut}}|_{E
eq \pm 1}$ is smooth.



Sub-Riemannian spheres

- $R\in (0,\pi)$ \Rightarrow $S_R\cong S^2$,
- $R = \pi \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_R \cong S^2 / \{N = S\},$
- $R > \pi \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_R \cong T^2$.

Singularities of spheres:

$$S_R \cap \mathsf{Cut} = (S_R \cap \mathsf{Max}) \cup (S_R \cap \mathsf{Cut} \cap \mathsf{Conj}).$$

Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $< \pi$ in the original coordinates (x, y, θ)



Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $< \pi$ in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, θ)









Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius π in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, θ)











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Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $> \pi$ in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, θ)







Matryoshka of radius spheres π and $>\pi$



Matryoshka of hemispheres of radius $<\pi$, π and $>\pi$



Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $<\pi$ and the set locus



Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius π and cut locus



Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $>\pi$ and the cut locus



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Group of hyperbolic motions of the plane: Statement of the problem

$$\mathsf{SH}(2) = \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{ch} z & \operatorname{sh} z & x \\ \operatorname{sh} z & \operatorname{ch} z & y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \mid (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \right\}$$

Left-invariant frame:

$$X_1(q) = \operatorname{ch} z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \operatorname{sh} z \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \qquad X_2(q) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

$$M = \operatorname{SH}(2), \qquad \Delta = \operatorname{span}(X_1, X_2), \qquad g(X_i, X_j) = \delta_{ij}.$$

$$\dot{q} = u_1 X_1 + u_2 X_2, \qquad q = (x, y, \theta) \in \operatorname{SH}(2), \quad (u_1, u_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$q(0) = q_0 = \operatorname{Id} = (0, 0, 0), \qquad q(t_1) = q_1,$$

$$l = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{\theta}^2} \, dt = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2} \, dt \to \min.$$

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Contact sub-Riemannian structure on SH(2)

•
$$X_3 = [X_1, X_2] = -\operatorname{sh} z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \operatorname{ch} z \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

- $\mathsf{span}(X_1(q), X_2(q), X_3(q)) = T_q M \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathsf{complete \ controllability}$
- Growth vector $(2,3) \Rightarrow$ contact distribution
- A.A. Agrachev invariants: $\kappa = -\chi$
- The only left-invariant contact sub-Riemannian structure on SH(2), up to dilations and local isometries

Pontryagin's maximum principle

- Anormal extremal trajectories are constant.
- Normal extremals:

$$\dot{\gamma} = c, \quad \dot{c} = -\sin\gamma, \qquad (\gamma, c) \in C \cong (2S_{\gamma}^{1}) \times \mathbb{R}_{c},$$

 $\dot{x} = \cos\frac{\gamma}{2}\operatorname{ch} z, \quad \dot{y} = \cos\frac{\gamma}{2}\operatorname{sh} z, \quad \dot{z} = \sin\frac{\gamma}{2}.$

γ(t), c(t), q(t): parameterization by Jacobi functions sn, cn, dn, E
Symmetry group of Exp:

$$G = \{\mathsf{Id}, \varepsilon^1, \ldots, \varepsilon^7\}.$$

First Maxwell Time and Conjugate Times

Theorem 11

•
$$E = -1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = 2\pi$$
,
• $E \in (-1, 1) \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = 4K(k), \ k = \sqrt{(E+1)/2}$,
• $E = 1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = +\infty$,
• $E > 1 \Rightarrow t_{Max}(\lambda) = 4kK(k), \ k = \sqrt{2/(E+1)}$.
Theorem 12

- $t_{\mathsf{Max}}^n(\lambda) \leq t_{\mathrm{conj}}^n(\lambda) \leq t_{\mathsf{Max}}^{n+1}(\lambda)$ for any $\lambda \in C$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- A generalization of Rolle's theorem is valid: between successive Maxwell points there is one conjugate point.

Global structure of the exponential map

Diffeomorphic stratifications in the preimage and image of Exp:

•
$$\widehat{N} = \{(\lambda, t) \in C \times \mathbb{R}_+ \mid t \leq t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda)\} =$$

 $= \cup_{i=1}^2 D_i \cup (\cup_{i=1}^{40} N'_i),$
• $\widehat{M} = M \setminus \{q_0\} =$
 $= \cup_{i=1}^2 M_i \cup (\cup_{i=1}^{40} M'_i).$

Theorem 13

- Exp : $D_i \rightarrow M_i$ diffeomorphism, i = 1, 2.
- $\mathsf{Exp} : N'_i \to M'_i diffeomorphism, i = 1, \dots, 40.$



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Cut time

Theorem 14

- $t_{\mathsf{cut}}(\lambda) = t_{\mathsf{Max}}(\lambda), \ \lambda \in {\mathcal{C}}$,
- $t_{\mathsf{cut}} \circ \varepsilon^i = t_{\mathsf{cut}}, \, \varepsilon^i \in G$,
- $\vec{H}_v t_{cut} = 0$,
- t_{cut} : $C
 ightarrow (0, +\infty]$ is continuous, $t_{cut}|_{E
 eq \pm 1}$ is smooth



Cut locus

- $Cut = Max \cup (Cut \cap Conj) = Cut_{loc} \cup Cut_{glob}$,
- $\mathsf{cl}(\mathsf{Cut}_{\mathsf{loc}})
 i q_0, \ d(q_0,\mathsf{Cut}_{\mathsf{glob}}) = 2\pi$,
- Cut $\subset \{z = 0\}$.



Sub-Riemannian spheres

- $R > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_R \cong S^2$,
- Singularities of spheres:

 $S_R \cap Cut = (S_R \cap Max) \cup (S_R \cap Cut \cap Conj).$







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Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius 2π in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, z)



Sub-Riemannian sphere of radius $> 2\pi$ in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, z)





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Sphere of radius π and cut locus in original coordinates (x, y, z)







A sphere of radius 2π and the cut locus in straightening coordinates (R_1, R_2, z)



A half-sphere of radius 2π and the cut locus in straightening coordinates (R_1, R_2, z)



Sphere of radius 3π and the cut locus in straightening coordinates (R_1, R_2, z)







First caustic and the cut locus



Return edges of the first caustic



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First and second caustics



First and second caustics in section





1. Solve the sub-Riemannian problems on the groups SE(2) and SH(2) independently.