Extended Graph Manifolds, and Einstein Metrics II

Luca F. Di Cerbo



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to appear in Annales Mathématiques du Quebéc

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- Prove a Non-Existence Theorem for Einstein metrics on Extended Graph 4-Manifolds;
- Inspire you to find this Stuff Interesting, especially if I failed at this during Part I of this series of seminars.

Introduction: Metrics, Distance, and Geodesics

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Given a smooth path in a Riemannian manifold (M, g)

$$\alpha: [a, b] \to M$$
,

we define its length by setting

$$L(\alpha) = \int_a^b g(\alpha'(t), \alpha'(t))^{1/2} dt, \quad \alpha'(t) \in T_{\alpha(t)}M.$$

We then define the distance between $p_1, p_2 \in M$, denoted by $d(p_1, p_2)$, to be the infimum for L over all smooth paths joining p_1 and p_2 .

Following the geodesics starting at a point $p \in M$, we obtain the so-called **exponential map**:

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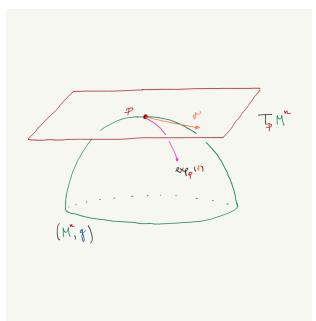
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It defines local coordinates around $p \in M$ known as Geodesic Normal Coordinates.

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Volumes, Ricci Curvature, and Einstein Metrics

The **expansion** of the **Volume Element** in Geodesic Normal Coordinates and is given by:

$$d\mu_{\mathbf{g}} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{6}Ric_{ij}x^{i}x^{j} + O(|x|^{3})\right)dx^{1} \wedge ... \wedge dx^{n}$$

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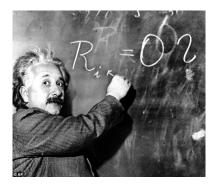
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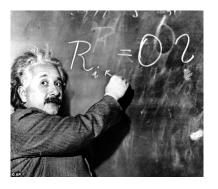
Definition

A Riemannian metric is said to be Einstein if its Ricci Tensor satisfies

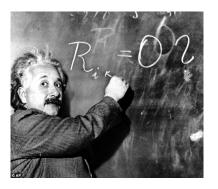
$$Ric_{\mathbf{g}} = \lambda_{\mathbf{g}},$$

where the constant $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ is known as the cosmological or Einstein constant.





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With that said, these examples of Einstein manifolds are all locally symmetric and as such a bit boring from a local geometry point of view! Indeed, around each point they look exactly the same...

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S.-T. Yau (1949 –), **Fields Medal** in 1982.

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- Hopefully many more to come in my life time!!

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M. T. Anderson, *Dehn filling and Einstein metrics in higher dimensions*, **J. Differential Geom. 73** (2006), no. 2, 219-261.

R. Bamler, Construction of Einstein metrics by generalized Dehn filling, J. Eur. Math. Soc. (JEMS) 14 (2012), no. 3, 887-909.

J. Fine, B. Premoselli, Examples of compact Einstein four-manifolds with negative curvature, J. Amer. Math. Soc. 33 (2020), no. 4, 991-1038.





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^{*} Picture courtesy of the Archives of the Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach

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Recall that the Euler characteristic is given by the alternating sum of **Betti numbers**

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Similarly, recall that the Signature $\sigma(M^4)$ of closed orientable 4-manifold is given as the signature of the natural bilinear form

$$Q_M: H_2(M; \mathbb{Z}) \times H_2(M; \mathbb{Z}) o \mathbb{Z}$$

defined by counting intersections with signs.

Let (M, g) be a closed orientable Einstein 4-manifold with signature σ and Euler characteristic χ . Then

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Combining these identities we obtain the desired inequality!



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• Blow ups of 4-dimensional tori : $T^4 \# \overline{\mathbb{P}^2_{\mathbb{C}}} \# ... \# \overline{\mathbb{P}^2_{\mathbb{C}}}$ (N. Hitchin) Notice that in this case

$$\chi = |\sigma| \Rightarrow \text{No Einstein Metrics!}$$

Many 4-Manifolds do NOT support Einstein Metrics!

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On a Large Class of 4-Manifolds

That satisfies the **Hitchin-Thorpe** Inequality

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Generalizes the Class of **Geometric Aspherical** 3-Manifolds

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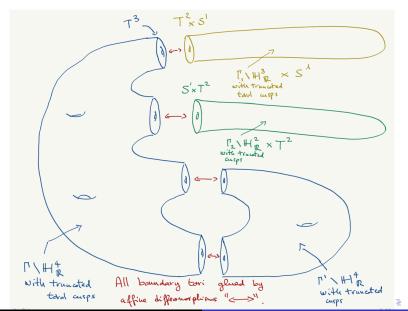
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Extended Graph 4-Manifolds



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Notice we always have more than one piece!

Theorem (DC, 2021)

Closed Extended graph 4-manifolds do not support Einstein metrics.

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- Notice that Closed Extended graph 3-manifolds do NOT support Einstein metrics
- Indeed, Ric_g = λg implies constant sectional curvature in dimension n = 3!
- This theorem then shows that graph-like manifolds carry over their aversion to Einstein metrics from dimension three to four.

Question

Do extended graph n-manifolds with $n \ge 5$ support Einstein metrics?

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- The study of Einstein metrics on manifolds of dimension $n \ge 5$ remains rather obscure when compared to dimension n = 4.
- In fact, **no uniqueness or non-existence results** are currently known in higher dimensions!
- Maybe someone in the audience, perhaps a student, will take on the challenge!

Sketch of the Proof

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Lemma (Improved Hithin-Thorpe Inequality due to LeBrun, 1999)

Let (M,g) be a closed orientable Einstein 4-manifold with signature σ , Euler characteristic χ , and $\lambda < 0$. Then

$$2\chi(M) - 3|\sigma(M)| \ge \frac{3}{2\pi^2} Vol_{Ric}(M)$$

where the minimal Ricci volume $Vol_{Ric}(M)$ is defined as

$$Vol_{Ric}(M) := inf_{\mathbf{g}}\{Vol_{\mathbf{g}}(M) \mid Ric_{\mathbf{g}} \geq -3\mathbf{g}\}.$$

Moreover, equality occurs if and only if g is half-conformally flat and it realizes the minimal Ricci volume (up to scaling). Finally, if $\sigma(M) = 0$ and the equality is achieved, then M is real-hyperbolic.

Lemma

Let M be an extended graph 4-manifold without pure pieces. We have $\chi(M) = \sigma(M) = 0$. If M has $k \geq 1$ pure real-hyperbolic pieces say $(V_i := \Gamma_i \backslash \mathbb{H}^4_{\mathbb{R}}, g_{-1})_{i=1}^k$, we then have

$$\chi(M) = \sum_{i=1}^k \chi(V_i) > 0, \quad \sigma(M) = 0.$$

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Lemma (Connell-Suaréz-Serrato, 2019)

Let M be an extended graph 4-manifold with $k \ge 1$ pure real-hyperbolic pieces say $(V_i, g_{-1})_{i=1}^k$, we then have

$$Vol_{Ric}(M) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} Vol_{g_{-1}}(V_i) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \chi(V_i) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \chi(M).$$

• If *M* has no pure real-hyperbolic pieces, then *M* saturates the **Hitchin-Thorpe** Inequality.

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- $Vol_{Ric}(M) > 0$. In this case, M has at least one pure real-hyperbolic piece and M saturates the improved **Hitchin-Thorpe** Inequality. Thus, the Einstein metric on M has to be real-hyperbolic! $\pi_1(M)$ now provides an obstruction as it contains at least a subgroup isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}^3 .

Here are the relevant papers for some of the lemmas:

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- C. LeBrun, Four-dimensional Einstein Manifolds, and Beyond, Surveys in differential geometry: essays on Einstein manifolds 247-285, Surv. Differ. Geom., 6, Int. Press, Boston, MA, (1999).
- C. Connell, P. Suaréz-Serrato, *On higher graph manifolds*, Int. Math. Res. Not. (2019), no. 5, 1281-1311.
- G. Besson, G. Coutois, S. Gallot, Entropies and rigidités des espaces localment symétriques de curbure strictment négative, **Geom. Func.** Anal. 5 (1995), 731-799.

Thanks for listening!

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Go Gators!