

Cartan Geometries modeled on the lightlike cone in Minkowski space-time

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Some personal remarks

- My original motivation was the intrinsic geometry of **lightlike hypersurfaces** in Lorentzian manifolds.
- On the contrary to semi-Riemannian geometry, there is **no linear connection, there is no notion of curvature ... and no differential operators...**
- I bought the Sharpe book here in Paris several years ago. **Sharpe constructed Riemannian, conformal and projective geometries à la Cartan.** That is, starting from a homogeneous model and a Cartan connection.
- The concept of a **generalized space** was introduced by **Élie Cartan** in order to build a bridge between geometry in the sense of **Felix's Klein Erlangen program** and **Differential Geometry¹ (Riemann)**.
- Is it possible to apply these ideas to lightlike manifolds?

My approach contains open questions and, it is still far from being final.

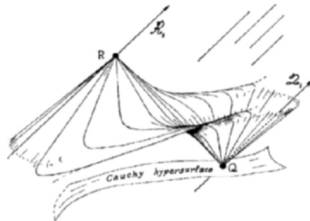
¹A. Čap and J. Slovák, Parabolic Geometries I. Background and General Theory, Mathematical Surveys and Monographs **154**, AMS 2009.

OUTLINE

- 1 Definitions, examples and more ...
- 2 The lightlike cone in Minkowski spacetime: the model
- 3 Cartan geometries
- 4 Cartan geometries with model the lightlike cone

1. Definitions, examples and more ...

- 1 Lightlike manifolds
- 2 Carrollian geometries
- 3 Examples



Lightlike manifolds (intrinsic definition)

A **lightlike manifold** is a triple (N^{m+1}, h, Z) where

- 1 h is a symmetric $(0, 2)$ -tensor on the manifold N^{m+1} which is positive but non-definite and whose radical

$$\text{Rad } h = \{v \in TN : h(v, -) = 0\}$$

defines a 1-dimensional distribution on N^{m+1} .

- 2 $Z \in \Gamma(\text{Rad } h) \subset \mathfrak{X}(N)$ spans the radical distribution at every point.

$\text{Aut}(N^{m+1}, h, Z)$ may be infinite dimensional.

Examples of lightlike manifolds

- Lightlike hypersurfaces of time-oriented Lorentzian manifolds.
- In General Relativity a space-time (\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) is called asymptotically simple, if there is another Lorentzian manifold (M, g) such that
 - ① \tilde{M} is an open subset of M with smooth boundary $\partial\tilde{M} = \mathcal{I}$.
 - ② There is $\Omega \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$ such that $g = \Omega^2 \tilde{g}$ on \tilde{M} and $\Omega|_{\mathcal{I}} = 0$ but $d\Omega \neq 0$ on \mathcal{I} .
 - ③ Every inextendible future (past) lightlike geodesic of (\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) has future (past) endpoint on \mathcal{I} .

Then,

$(\mathcal{I}, g|_{\mathcal{I}}, Z := (d\Omega)^\sharp)$ is a lightlike manifold.

Carrollian geometries (Levy-Leblond, 1965)

A **lightlike manifold** (N^{m+1}, h, Z) is a **Carrollian geometry** when the space of lines N^{m+1}/Z is a manifold Σ^m and the projection

$$\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m$$

is a fiber bundle. We write $(\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m, h, Z)$.



The mathematician Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll, wrote Alice's adventures in Wonderland in 1865.

Example of Carrollian geometry

The bundle of scales of a conformal Riemannian manifold (M, c)

1

$$\pi: \mathcal{L} = \{g_x : g \in c, x \in M\} \rightarrow M$$

is a principal fiber bundle with structure group \mathbb{R}_+ ($g_x \bullet t := t^2 g_x$).

2

The tautological metric

$$h(\xi, \eta) = g_x(T_{g_x}\pi \cdot \xi, T_{g_x}\pi \cdot \eta), \quad \xi, \eta \in T_{g_x}\mathcal{L},$$

3

$$Z_{g_x} = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} (e^{2t} g_x).$$

$(\pi: \mathcal{L} \rightarrow M, h, Z)$ is a Carrollian geometry.

Every section $s \in \Gamma(\pi)$ gives by pull-back of h a Riemannian metric in the conformal class c and conversely.

Lightlike manifolds typically provide Carrollian geometries

- Let (N^{m+1}, h, Z) be a lightlike manifold.
- The space of orbits N^{m+1}/Z is typically a manifold Σ^m (the **absolute space**)

$$\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m := N^{m+1}/Z.$$

- The vector field Z can be assumed to be complete and then we have the action (suppose that integral curves of Z are lines)

$$N^{m+1} \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow N^{m+1}, \quad (y, t) \mapsto y \cdot t = \text{Fl}_{\log t}^Z(y)$$

and $\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m$ becomes an \mathbb{R}_+ -**principal fiber bundle**.

- $(\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m, h, Z)$ is a Carrollian geometry.

Carroll geometries as generalized bundles of scales

Assume $\pi: N^{m+1} \rightarrow \Sigma^m$.

$$\left(\underbrace{T_y N / \text{Rad}(h_y)}_{\mathcal{E}_y}, h_y \right) \xrightarrow{T_y \pi} \left(T_{\pi(y)} \Sigma, c(y) \right) \implies c(y) \in \text{Sym}^+(T_{\pi(y)} \Sigma)$$

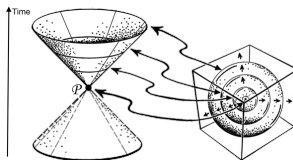
$$\begin{array}{ccc} N & \xrightarrow{c} & \text{Sym}^+(T\Sigma) \\ \pi \searrow & & \swarrow \\ & \Sigma & \end{array}$$

Every section s of π gives the Riemannian metric $s^*h = c \circ h$ on Σ .

- $\mathcal{L}_Z h = 0 \implies h$ induces a Riemannian metric on Σ .
- $\mathcal{L}_Z h = 2\rho h (\rho \neq 0) \implies h$ induces a Riemannian conformal structure on Σ .

2. The lightlike cone in Minkowski spacetime: the model

- 1 The lightlike cone as homogeneous space
- 2 The lightlike cone as Carrollian geometry
- 3 The Lie algebras level description
- 4 Why the lightlike cone?



R. Penrose

Our model space ...

Let \mathbb{L}^{m+2} be the Minkowski space-time with basis $(\ell, e_1, \dots, e_m, \eta)$ such that the Lorentzian metric $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ corresponds to the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & I_m & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The **lightlike cone** is the hypersurface

$$C^{m+1} := \left\{ v \in \mathbb{L}^{m+2} : \langle v, v \rangle = 0, \quad v \neq 0 \right\}$$

- C^{m+1} is a lightlike manifold with $h = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and Z the restriction of the position vector field.
- C^{m+1} is also a Carrollian geometry

$$\pi: C^{m+1} \rightarrow C^{m+1}/Z \simeq \mathbb{S}^m$$

... a refinement of the model space.

- The Lorentz group $O(m+1, 1)$ acts transitively on C^{m+1} and preserves h .
- $O(m+1, 1)$ also acts on $\mathbb{S}^m = C^{m+1}/Z$

$$O(m+1, 1) \times \mathbb{S}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^m, \quad (g, [x]) \mapsto [g \cdot x]$$

preserving the conformal class of the round metric. This action is not effective.

- In order to get an effective action, we replace the Lorentz group with the Möbius group :

$$G = PO(m+1, 1) := O(m+1, 1)/\{\pm \text{Id}\}$$

and C^{m+1} with $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} := C^{m+1}/\mathbb{Z}_2$.

- We identify antipodal points in C^{m+1} and then, h and Z induce a lightlike metric and a vector field which spans its radical.

\mathcal{N}^{m+1} as homogeneous space of Möbius group

The action of the Lorentz group descends to an action of the Möbius group

$$G \times \mathcal{N}^{m+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}^{m+1}, \quad [\sigma] \cdot [v] := [\sigma \cdot v]$$

which is also transitive and preserves h and Z .

Therefore

$$\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H,$$

where $H \subset G$ is the isotropy group of $[\ell] = \{\pm\ell\} \in \mathcal{N}^{m+1}$.

- Our *model* for lightlike manifolds

$$\left(\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H, h, Z \right)$$

The Carrollian geometry of \mathcal{N}^{m+1} . The absolute space for \mathcal{N}^{m+1}

- $\pi: \mathcal{N}^{m+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}^{m+1}/Z \simeq \mathbb{S}^m$, the space of lightlike lines in \mathcal{N}^{m+1} .
- $\mathbb{S}^m = G/P$ is the model for conformal geometry, $\text{Conf}(\mathbb{S}^m) = G$.
 $P \subset G$ is the isotropy group of $\pi[\ell] \in \mathbb{S}^m$ (Poincaré conformal group)

$$P = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & -\lambda w^t g & -\frac{\lambda}{2} \langle w, w \rangle \\ 0 & g & w \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{bmatrix} : \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, w \in \mathbb{R}^m, g \in O(m) \right\}$$

- The isotropy group of $[\ell] \in \mathcal{N}^{m+1}$ is

$$H = \{\sigma \in P : \lambda = \pm 1\} \cong \mathbb{R}^m \rtimes O(m) = \text{Euc}(\mathbb{R}^m)$$

$$G/H = \mathcal{N}^{m+1} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{S}^m = G/P, \quad gH \mapsto gP.$$

$\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$ at Lie algebras level

$$\mathfrak{g} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & Z & 0 \\ X & A & -Z^t \\ 0 & -X^t & -a \end{pmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{R}, X \in \mathbb{R}^m, Z \in (\mathbb{R}^m)^*, A \in \mathfrak{so}(m) \right\}$$

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$ is a \mathbb{Z} -grading, that is, $[\mathfrak{g}_i, \mathfrak{g}_j] \subset \mathfrak{g}_{i+j}$

$$\mathfrak{g} = \underbrace{\mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}_0)}_{\mathfrak{m}} \oplus \underbrace{[\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_0]}_{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{h} = \underbrace{[\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_0]}_{\mathfrak{so}(m)} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \quad \text{lightlike model}$$

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{m} \oplus \mathfrak{h}$ is not a reductive decomposition!!

Even more, the Lie algebra \mathfrak{h} does not admit any reductive complement in \mathfrak{g} .

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \quad \text{conformal model}$$

Why the lightlike cone?

- ① The relationship between lightlike manifolds and conformal geometry

$$G/H = \mathcal{N}^{m+1} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{S}^m = G/P.$$

\mathcal{N}^{m+1} is the bundle of scales of (\mathbb{S}^m, c) .

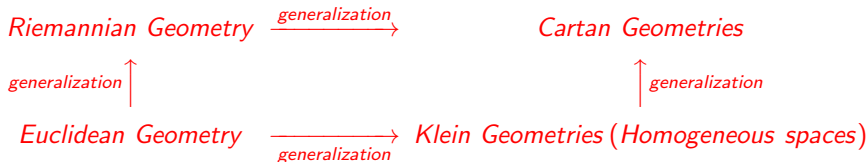
- ② $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}^{m+1}, h, Z)$ may be infinite dimensional but ...

Theorem^a

- For $m \geq 2$, $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}^{m+1}, h, Z) = G := PO(m+1, 1) = \text{Con}(\mathbb{S}^m)$.
- For $m \geq 3$, every automorphism between two connected open subsets of \mathcal{N}^{m+1} is the restriction of the left translation by an element of G . (Liouville type Theorem).
- If $m = 2$, the (global) automorphisms group of \mathcal{N}^3 is also isomorphic to $G = \text{Conf}(\mathbb{S}^2)$ but the group of local isometries of \mathcal{N}^3 is the group of local conformal transformations of \mathbb{S}^2 .

^aE. Bekkara, C. Frances and A. Zeghib, Actions of semisimple Lie groups preserving a degenerate Riemannian metric, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **362** (5), (2010), 2415-2434.

3. Cartan geometries



This diagram is taken from Sharpe's book.

Let $p : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M$ be an H -principal fiber bundle.

- For every $X \in \mathfrak{h}$, the fundamental vector field $\zeta_X \in \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{P})$ is $\zeta_X(u) := \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} (u \cdot \exp(tX))$.

Cartan geometry of type (G, H) on M (Charles Ehresmann, 1950)

- An H -principal fiber bundle $p : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M$.
- A one-form $\omega \in \Omega^1(\mathcal{P}, \mathfrak{g})$, called the **Cartan connection** such that
 - 1 $\omega(u)(\zeta_X(u)) = X$ for each $X \in \mathfrak{h}$.
 - 2 $(r^h)^*\omega = \text{Ad}(h^{-1}) \circ \omega$ for all $h \in H$.
 - 3 $\omega(u) : T_u\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ is a linear isomorphism for all $u \in \mathcal{P}$.

$$\dim(\mathcal{P}) = \dim(G), \quad \dim(M) = \dim(G/H)$$

The curvature form

- $K \in \Omega^2(\mathcal{P}, \mathfrak{g})$, $K = d\omega + \frac{1}{2}[\omega, \omega]$.
- $(G \rightarrow G/H, \omega_G)$ is called **the homogeneous model** for Cartan geometries of type (G, H) where ω_G is the Maurer-Cartan form of G given by

$$\omega_G(g) : T_g G \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}, \quad L_X(g) \mapsto X, \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

The Maurer-Cartan equation

$$d\omega_G + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_G, \omega_G] = 0$$

implies the homogeneous model has zero curvature.

- The converse is locally true. *The curvature measures how far is our Cartan geometry from being the homogeneous model.*

The group of automorphisms of $(p : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M, \omega)$

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{P}, \omega) = \left\{ (F, f) : \text{automorphism of } p : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M \text{ with } F^*\omega = \omega \right\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{P} & \xrightarrow{F} & \mathcal{P} \\
 p \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\
 M & \xrightarrow{f} & M
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left\{
 \begin{array}{l}
 F(u \cdot h) = F(u) \cdot h, \quad u \in \mathcal{P}, h \in H. \\
 F \text{ is a diffeomorphism} \\
 F^*\omega = \omega.
 \end{array}
 \right.$$

When M is a connected manifold,

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{P}, \omega) \text{ is a Lie group and } \dim \text{Aut}(\mathcal{P}, \omega) \leq \dim G.$$

The tangent bundle of a Cartan geometry of type (G, H)

For each $u \in \mathcal{P}$ with $p(u) = x \in M$, there is a canonical linear isomorphism ϕ_u such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T_u \mathcal{P} & \xrightarrow{\omega(u)} & \mathfrak{g} \\
 T_u p \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho \\
 T_x M & \xrightarrow[\phi_u \cong]{} & \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h} \\
 & & \updownarrow \\
 & & T_o(G/H)
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{with } \phi_{uh} = \underline{\text{Ad}}(h^{-1})\phi_u \text{ for all } h \in H.$$

where $\underline{\text{Ad}}$ is the representation of H given by

$$\underline{\text{Ad}} : H \rightarrow \text{Gl}(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h}), \quad h \mapsto \underline{\text{Ad}}(h)(X + \mathfrak{h}) = \text{Ad}(h)(X) + \mathfrak{h}.$$

Every *geometric structure* on $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h}$ invariant under $\underline{\text{Ad}}$ is carried to M .

Correspondence spaces

- Let G be a Lie group and let $H \subset P \subset G$ be closed subgroups.

For a Cartan geometry $(p : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M, \omega)$ with model (G, P) , we define the **correspondence space** $\mathcal{C}(M)$ of M for the closed subgroup $H \subset P$ to be the quotient space \mathcal{P}/H :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G & & \mathcal{P} \\
 \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 G/H & \longrightarrow & G/P \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}/H = \mathcal{C}(M) \longrightarrow M = \mathcal{P}/P
 \end{array}$$

The projection $\pi : \mathcal{C}(M) \rightarrow M$ is a fiber bundle with fiber P/H and

$(\pi : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(M), \omega)$ is a Cartan geometry of type (G, H) .

4. Cartan geometries with model the lightlike cone

Theorem I (\mathcal{P}^* , 21)

Every Cartan geometry $(p : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow N^{m+1}, \omega)$ of type $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$ determines a lightlike geometry $(N^{m+1}, h^\omega, Z^\omega)$ and

$$\mathcal{G} \simeq \left\{ (Z_y^\omega, e_1, \dots, e_m) \in \mathcal{P}^1 N^{m+1} : h^\omega(e_i, e_j) = \delta_{ij} \right\}.$$

(\mathcal{G} gives a G -structure on N^{m+1} with structure group H .)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T_u \mathcal{G} & \xrightarrow{\omega(u)} & \mathfrak{g} \\ T_u p \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho \\ T_y N^{m+1} & \xrightarrow{\phi_u \cong} & \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^m \cong T_{[q]} \mathcal{N}^{m+1} \cong \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h}, \quad q\left(\begin{pmatrix} a \\ x \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b \\ y \end{pmatrix}\right) = \langle x, y \rangle, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{X}(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h})$$

$$\underline{\text{Ad}}(h) \begin{pmatrix} a \\ x \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a - \langle x, gw \rangle \\ gx \end{pmatrix}, \quad h \leftrightarrow (w, g) \in \mathbb{R}^m \rtimes O(m) = H.$$

Let $(p : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow N^{m+1}, \omega)$ be a Cartan geometry of type $N^{m+1} = G/H$.

$$\mathcal{H} := \omega^{-1}(\underbrace{\mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}_0)}_{\mathfrak{m}}) \subset T\mathcal{G}$$

defines **general connection (horizontal distribution)** on $p: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow N^{m+1}$.

Theorem II (P*, 21)

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}, \omega) = \left\{ f \in \text{Aut}(N^{m+1}, h^\omega, Z^\omega) : F = Tf \text{ preserves the distribution } \mathcal{H} \right\}.$$

That is, $T_u F \cdot \mathcal{H}(u) = \mathcal{H}(F(u))$.

$$F: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}, \quad u = (Z_y^\omega, e_1, \dots, e_m) \mapsto F(u) = (Z_{f(y)}^\omega, T_y f \cdot e_1, \dots, T_y f \cdot e_m)$$

The bundle of scales $(\pi: \mathcal{L} \rightarrow M^m, h, Z)$ of a conformal Riemannian structure (M^m, c)

- For $m \geq 3$, there is an equivalence between conformal Riemannian structures on M and **normal Cartan geometries** $(p: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M^m, \omega)$ of type (G, P) .

The correspondence space $\mathcal{C}(M)$ for $H \subset P$ is $\mathcal{C}(M) \simeq \mathcal{L}$ and there is a Cartan geometry

$$(\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}, \omega)$$

of type $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$ such that $h^\omega = h$ (the tautological metric) and $Z^\omega = Z$.

- For $m = 2$, there is an equivalence between **Möbius structures** $(M^2, c = [g], \rho)$

$$p: c \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{(0,2)}(M^2) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \rho(g) \text{ is symmetric .} \\ \text{trace}_g \rho(g) = K^g. \\ \rho(e^{2\sigma} g) = P^g - \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla^g \sigma\|_g^2 g - \text{Hess}^g(\sigma) + d\sigma \otimes d\sigma. \end{cases}$$

and Cartan geometries $(p: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow M^2, \omega_p)$ of type (G, P) .

The **Möbius structure** plays the role of the **Schouten tensor** for $m = 2$.

For every **Möbius structures** on M^2 there is a Cartan geometry

$$(\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}, \omega)$$

of type $\mathcal{N}^3 = G/H$ such that $h^\omega = h$ and $Z^\omega = Z$.

Let

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{g}$$

be the **grading element** of $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{+1}$

Proposition

Let $(p : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow N^{m+1}, \omega)$ be a Cartan geometry of type $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$. Then $(N^{m+1}, h^\omega, Z^\omega)$ is locally isomorphic to the bundle of scales of a conformal Riemannian structure (M, c) if and only if the curvature of ω satisfies

$$K(\omega^{-1}(E), *) = 0.$$

Schwarzschild exterior and interior and Reissner-Nordström

Warped product space-times with Lorentzian two dimensional base

(B, g_B) a Lorentz surface, (F^m, g_F) a Riemann manifold and $0 < \lambda \in C^\infty(B, \mathbb{R})$.

$$(M^{m+2}, g) = (B \times_\lambda F, g := g_B + \lambda^2 g_F)$$

Assume $\xi \in \mathfrak{X}(B)$ is lightlike, then the distribution $\xi^\perp \subset TM^{m+2}$ is integrable

- M^{m+2} is foliated by lightlike manifolds.
- Let $\alpha: I \rightarrow B$ be an integral curve of ξ . Then

$$N^{m+1} = \left\{ (\alpha(s), x) : s \in I, x \in F \right\} \subset M^{m+2}$$

is one of these lightlike manifolds.

$(\pi_F: N^{m+1} \rightarrow F, h = g|_{N^{m+1}}, Z)$ is a Carrollian geometry.

- For every $y = (\alpha(s), x) \in N^{m+1}$,

$$\left(T_y N^{m+1} / \text{Rad}(h_y), h_y \right) \xrightarrow{T_y \pi_F} \left(T_x F^m, c(y) \right) \implies c(y) = \lambda(\alpha(s))^2 g_F$$

$$\implies \begin{array}{ccc} N^{m+1} & \xrightarrow{c} & \mathcal{L} \subset \text{Sym}^+(TF) \\ \pi_F \searrow & & \swarrow \\ & F^m & \end{array}$$

The pull-back by c of the tautological metric on \mathcal{L} is $h = g|_{N^{m+1}}$.
 Assume λ is injective along the curve α .

There is a Cartan geometry² on N^{m+1} of type $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$ such that $h^\omega = h$.

²for $m = 2$, we need a Möbius structure on F^2 .

4-dimensional exterior Schwarzschild space-time

1

$$g_B = -h(r)dt^2 + \frac{1}{h(r)}dr^2, \quad h(r) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2\mathbf{M}}{r}}$$

on the open subset $B = \{(t, r) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : r > 2\mathbf{M}\}$.

2

$(F^m, g_F) = (\mathbb{S}^2, g_{\mathbb{S}^2})$ and $\lambda(r) = r$.

3

$\xi = \frac{1}{h} \partial_t + \partial_r \in \mathfrak{X}(B)$ is a lightlike vector field.

$$\alpha(s) = \left(t_0 + s + 2\mathbf{M} \log \left(1 + \frac{s}{r_0 - 2\mathbf{M}} \right), r_0 + s \right), \quad s > 2\mathbf{M} - r_0.$$

4

$$\mathcal{N}^3 = \left\{ (\alpha(s), x) : s > 2\mathbf{M} - r_0, x \in \mathbb{S}^2 \right\} \subset M^4 \xrightarrow{c} \mathcal{N}^3$$

5

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{N}^3 \simeq \{t^2 g_{\mathbb{S}^2}(x) : x \in \mathbb{S}^2, t > 2\mathbf{M}\} \subset \mathcal{N}^3 \subset \mathbb{L}^4. \\ p(g_{\mathbb{S}^2}) = \frac{1}{2} g_{\mathbb{S}^2}. \end{cases}$$

Remaining questions





- 1 Study other examples in physically realistic space-times.
- 2 Describe $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}, \omega)$ in terms of the base manifold N^{m+1} .

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}, \omega) = \text{Aut}(N^{m+1}, h^\omega, Z^\omega, \underbrace{\dots\dots???}_{\text{additional tensors...}})$$

- 3 Is there an equivalence one-to one between a family of lightlike geometries and certain class of Cartan geometries with this model?
- 4 Develop the general theory of Cartan connections with model the lightlike cone $\mathcal{N}^{m+1} = G/H$.
 - Tractor bundles ...
 - Tractor connections ...
 - ...

Thank you very much for your attention!!

Some references

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