



## Symplectic Geometry seminar.

### § Reeb vector fields.

Let  $(M, \eta)$  be a contact manifold.  $\alpha$  is a contact form.

Recall:  $\ker \alpha \subset TM$  is a codim 1 hyperplanes



②  $H_p = \ker \alpha_p$ .  $d\alpha|_H$  is symplectic

$\Rightarrow$  ③ contact manifold has odd dimension

④  $\alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^n$  is a volume form on  $M$ .

now we want consider the dynamic system on  $M$

$\rightsquigarrow$  a special vector field.

**Claim**: there  $\exists!$   $R \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ . s.t.

$$\begin{cases} i_R d\alpha = 0 \\ i_R \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} d\alpha(R, \cdot) = 0 \quad (1) \\ \alpha(R) = 1 \end{cases}$$

(1) always holds solution  $\ker d\alpha$  is a line bundle.

one can easily find a global section

(2)  $\ker d\alpha \cap \ker \alpha = \{0\}$ . (from P19)

$\Rightarrow$  we can normalize  $R$ .

(Def 1) we call  $R$  is the Reeb vector field determined by  $\alpha$ .



**Prop 2** the flow of  $R$  preserves the contact form.

i.e.  $P_t = \exp tR$ . then  $P_t^* \alpha = \alpha$ .  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}$

Proof:  $\frac{d}{dt} P_t^* \alpha = P_t^* d_P \alpha$        $(\frac{d}{ds} P_s^* \alpha)|_{s=t} = \frac{d}{ds} P_s^* P_t^* \alpha$

$= P_t^* \frac{d}{ds} P_s^* \alpha|_{s=0} = P_t^* d_P \alpha$

Recall Cartan magic formula:

$$L_R \alpha = d(i_R \alpha) + i_R d\alpha = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} P_t^* \alpha = 0 \Rightarrow P_t^* \alpha = P_0^* \alpha = \alpha$$

**Def 3**

contactomorphism  
 $f^* \alpha = \alpha \Leftrightarrow f^* \alpha = \alpha$



**Example 4**  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$  with contact form  $\alpha = \sum x_i dy_i + dz$ .

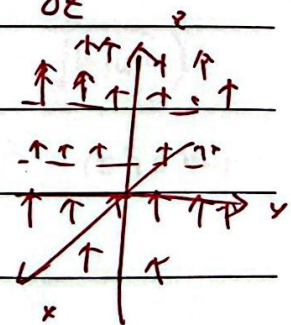
(we have seen  $H$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ).

• determine the Reeb vector field.

$$i_R (\sum dx_i \wedge dy_i) = 0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} i_R (\sum dx_i \wedge dy_i + dz) = 1 \\ \rightarrow \text{observation: } R = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \end{array} \right.$$

is a solution. and from uniqueness!



$\Rightarrow$  the contactomorphisms generated by  $R$  is

$$P_t(x^1, \dots, y^n, z) = (x^1, y^1, \dots, y^n, z+tt).$$



**Examples** consider  $S^{2n-1} \xrightarrow{i} \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .

$$\sigma \in \mathcal{A}^1(\mathbb{R}^{2n}). \sigma = \frac{1}{2} \sum (x^i dy^i - y^i dx^i)$$

**claim:**  $\alpha = i^* \sigma$  is a contact form on  $S^{2n-1}$ .

**proof:** only need to check:

$$\alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^{n-1} = i^* \alpha \wedge (d i^* \sigma)^{n-1} = i^* (\sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1}) \neq 0$$

•  $d\sigma = \sum dx^i \wedge dy^i$

$$\Rightarrow (d\sigma)^{n-1} = \frac{(n-1)!}{j} \sum (dx^i \wedge dy^i) \wedge \dots \wedge \widehat{dx^i \wedge dy^i} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^i \wedge dy^i$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1} =$$

$$\sum_j (x^j dy^j - y^j dx^j) \wedge (dx^i \wedge dy^i) \wedge \dots \wedge \widehat{dx^i \wedge dy^i} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^i \wedge dy^i$$

**step II** • now we calculate  $i^*$ . we chose

$$\varphi: (x^1, y^1, \dots, x^n, y^n) = (x^1, y^1, \dots, x^n)$$



$$\text{then } i: (u^1, \dots, u^{2n-1}) \mapsto (u^1, u^2, \dots, u^{2n-1}, \sqrt{1-u^2})$$

$$\Rightarrow i^* dx^j = du^{2j-1}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n. \quad i^* dy^j = du^{2j}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n-1$$

$$dy^{n \circ i} = d(\sqrt{1-u^2}).$$

$$\Rightarrow i^* (\sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1}) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (u^{2j-1} du^{2j} - u^{2j} du^{2j-1}) \wedge (du^1 \wedge du^2) \wedge \dots \wedge du^{2n-1} \wedge d(\sqrt{1-u^2}) \\ + (u^{2n-1} d(\sqrt{1-u^2}) - u^{2n} du^{2n-1}) \wedge du^1 \wedge \dots \wedge du^{2n-2}$$



$$u^{2j-1} du^{2j} - u^{2j} du^{2j-1}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (du^1 \wedge du^2) \wedge \dots \wedge \widehat{du^{2j-1}} \wedge \widehat{du^{2j}} \wedge \left( -\frac{u^{2j-1} du^{2j-1}}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} - \frac{u^{2j} du^{2j}}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \right) \wedge \dots$$

$$- \sqrt{1-u^2} dV + u^{2n-1} \frac{2u^{2n-1}}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} dV$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} -\frac{\lambda((u^{2j-1})^2 + (u^{2j})^2)}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} dV - \frac{1-u^2 + 2(u^{2n-1})^2}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} dV$$

$$= \Rightarrow -\frac{1-u^2 + 2(u^2)^2}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} dV = -\frac{1+u^2}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} dV \neq 0$$

□

Proof on the book:  $\nu \wedge \sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1} \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \nu \wedge \sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1} (n, X_1, \dots, X_{2n-1}) = \nu(u) (\sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1}) (X_1, \dots, X_{2n-1}) \neq 0$$

$\downarrow$  normal vectors       $\downarrow$  tangent vectors       $\neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma \wedge (d\sigma)^{n-1} (X_1, \dots, X_{2n-1}) \neq 0 \Rightarrow i^* \sigma \wedge i^* (d\sigma)^{n-1} \neq 0$$

□

we know  $(\mathbb{S}^{2n-1}, \sigma)$  is a contact Mfld.



step 2 • Now determine the Reeb vector field:

$\alpha = i^* \sigma$ . Find  $R: i^* R \rightarrow \text{in}(X^1, \dots, Y^n)$

$\begin{cases} d\alpha(R, \cdot) = 0 \implies d\sigma(i^* R, \cdot) = 0 \\ \alpha(R) = 1 \implies \sigma(i^* R) = 1 \end{cases}$

construct  $i^* R = 2 \sum (X^i \partial_{y_i} - Y^i \partial_{x_i})$ .  $\begin{cases} \in T_p S^n \perp (X^1, \dots, Y^n) \\ \sigma(i^* R) = 1 \\ d\sigma(i^* R, \cdot) = 0 \end{cases}$

$\sigma(i^* R) = \frac{1}{2} \sum (X^i \partial_{y_i} - Y^i \partial_{x_i}) (2 \sum X^i \partial_{y_i} - Y^i \partial_{x_i})$   
 $= \sum (X^i)^2 \partial_{y_i}(\partial_{y_i}) + (Y^i)^2 \partial_{x_i}(\partial_{x_i}) = \sum (X^i)^2 + (Y^i)^2 = 1$

$d\sigma = \sum dx^i \wedge dy^i \quad d\sigma(i^* R, X)$

$= \sum dx^i \wedge dy^i (X^j \partial_{y_j} - Y^j \partial_{x_j}, X)$

$= \sum_i \begin{vmatrix} dx^i(i^* R) & dx^i(X) \\ dy^i(i^* R) & dy^i(X) \end{vmatrix} = \sum_i \begin{vmatrix} -Y^i & dX^i(X) \\ X^i & dY^i(X) \end{vmatrix}$

$= - \sum X^i dX^i(X) + Y^i dY^i(X) = -\frac{1}{2} d((X^i)^2 + (Y^i)^2)(X) = 0$

Finally:  $R = 2 \sum X^i \partial_{y_i} - Y^i \partial_{x_i}$



step 3

Mue about Reeb vector field on  $S^{2n-1}$

Hopf fibration:

$$\pi: S^{2n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$$

$S^{2n-1}$  can be viewed as a  $S^1$  bundle over  $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$

Proof: Show Reeb vector field gives the Hopf fibration of  $S^{2n-1} = \{(z^1, \dots, z^n) \mid |z^1|^2 + \dots + |z^n|^2 = 1\}$

$$\pi: S^{2n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1} \quad (z^1, \dots, z^n) \mapsto [z^1, \dots, z^n]$$

$$(z^1, \dots, z^n) \sim (x^1, y^1, \dots, x^n, y^n)$$

Suppose from  $(x^1, y^1, \dots, x^n, y^n)$   $r(t) = (x^1(t), \dots, y^n(t))$

$$\dot{r}(t) = (\dot{x}^1(t), \dots, \dot{y}^n(t)) = (-y^1(t), x^1(t), \dots) \quad \text{Reeb vector field}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}^i(t) = -y^i(t) \\ \dot{y}^i(t) = x^i(t) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \ddot{x}^i(t) = x^i(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^i(t) = A^i \cos t + B^i \sin t$$

$$\Rightarrow r(t) = (x^1 \cos t - y^1 \sin t, x^1 \sin t + y^1 \cos t, \dots)$$

$$\rightarrow (z^1 e^{it}, z^2 e^{it}, \dots, z^n e^{it}) \xrightarrow{\pi} [z^1, \dots, z^n]$$

Hopf fibration!





## An interesting fact about Reeb

If  $M$  is a compact manifold,  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ , with only two critical points, both of which are non-degenerate, then  $M$  is homeomorphic to  $S^n$

- ① Morse theory
- ② not diffeomorphic ( $S^7$  exotic sphere)

## § 2 Symplectization

contact topology  $\leftrightarrow$  symplectic topology. 先讲 Prop 6

First of all let's see an example:  
next.

### Example 7 (Symplectization of $S^{2n-1}$ ).

(Goal) From a contact manifold to construct a symplectic manifold ( $\dim+1 \rightarrow \times \mathbb{R}$ ).

Consider  $M = S^{2n-1} \times \mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}^{2n} \setminus \{0\}$

$\downarrow$   $(p, \tau) \mapsto J e^{\tau} p$  (to avoid  $\tau=0$ ).

Goal: check  $(S^{2n-1} \times \mathbb{R}, d(e^{\tau} \alpha))$  is symplectomorphism to  $\mathbb{R}^{2n} \setminus \{0\}$ .



now:  $\pi: \mathbb{R}^{2n} - \{0\} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{S}^{2n-1}, d \xrightarrow{i} \mathbb{R}^{2n}, \sigma$   
 $(x^1, r^1, \dots, x^n, r^n) \mapsto \left(\frac{x^1}{\sqrt{e^r}}, \dots, \frac{r^1}{\sqrt{e^r}}\right) \quad (x^1, \dots, y^n)$   $\uparrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}, y$   
 where  $e^r = \sum (x^i)^2 + (r^i)^2$  consider the symplectic form on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n} - \{0\}$

**Construction**  $\omega = d(e^r \pi^* \sigma)$  is a symplectic form

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^* \sigma &= \pi^* i^* \sigma = (i \circ \pi)^* \frac{1}{2} (\sum x^j dy^j - y^j dx^j) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum (x^j \circ i \circ \pi) d(y^j \circ i \circ \pi) - (y^j \circ i \circ \pi) d(x^j \circ i \circ \pi) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum \left( \frac{x^j}{\sqrt{e^r}} \right) d\left( \frac{r^j}{\sqrt{e^r}} \right) - \frac{r^j}{\sqrt{e^r}} d\left( \frac{x^j}{\sqrt{e^r}} \right) \quad \left[ \frac{1}{2e^r} \sum x^j dy^j - r^j dx^j \right. \\ &= \frac{1}{2e^r} \sum x^j dr^j - r^j dx^j \quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \sum \frac{x^j r^j}{e^r} d\left(\frac{1}{e^r}\right) - \frac{r^j x^j}{e^r} d\left(\frac{1}{e^r}\right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow d\omega = \sum dx^i \wedge dr^i$  is the standard symplectic form. □

now we generalize to more general contact manifold.

**Prop 8**: Let  $(M, \eta)$  be a contact manifold with contact form  $\eta$ . Let  $\tilde{M} = M \times \mathbb{R}$ .

$\pi: \tilde{M} \rightarrow M, (p, \tau) \mapsto p$ . then  $\omega = d(e^\tau \pi^* \eta)$  is a symplectic form on  $\tilde{M}$  where  $\tau$  is a coordinate on  $\mathbb{R}$ .





PRWF: check: ① closed  $\checkmark$

② non degenerate

$\Leftrightarrow$  check  $\omega^n \neq 0$ .

$$\omega = e^\tau d\tau \wedge \pi^* d + e^\tau d(\pi^* d)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^n = \underbrace{e^{n\tau} (e^\tau d(\pi^* d))^n}_{\neq 0} + \binom{n}{i} e^\tau d\tau \wedge \pi^* d \wedge (e^\tau d(\pi^* d))^{n-1}$$

Since  $d$  at most

$2n-1$  coordinate

$\rightarrow$  form  $d$  is contact form  $\neq 0$ .

$$= n e^{n\tau} d\tau \wedge \pi^* (d \wedge (d\tau)^{n-1})$$

then we know  $\omega$  is really a symplectic form. □

Prmk. we call  $(\tilde{M}, \omega)$  is the symplectization of  $(M, d)$ .

Let's see the symplectization of  $S^{2n+1}$



## § 3 contact dynamics

Main problem: we concern about the dynamic systems  
on three- $M$ fld. (Sphere)  $\downarrow$   
the flow generated by  
nowhere vanishing vector  
field.

Prk 1: why 3-sphere. (2-sphere does not have nowhere  
vanishing vector field (max @lu thm).)

Question 1: (Seifert 1948)  $V \in \mathcal{X}(S^3)$ .  $V \neq 0$ .  
Does the flow  $V$  have any periodic orbits?

Example 2:  $S^3$ , and its Reeb vector field  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  the orbits of flow are the circles of  
the Hopf fibration.

Result 3: Not True!

- $C^1$  counterexample Schweitzer 1974
- $C^\infty$  counterexample K. Kupberg 1994.

Annals

(平多的人. 1993-1994)



### Question 4

consider some special vector fields

i.e. preserve some structure, geometrically (volume-preserving).

Remk: what is volume preserving? Suppose the flow generated by  $X$  is  $\varphi_t, \exp tX$ . then  $(\exp tX)^* \omega = \omega$ .  $\omega$  is the volume form. (exactly preserve volume).

### Direct result 5.

Kuperberg 1997.  $\exists C^1$  counterexample  
 $\infty$  is not known for now.

Now we see how they related.

Dynamic system  $\Leftrightarrow$  contact Geometry

• Hypothesis: If  $M = S^3$ .  $\gamma$  is a volume form

Goal: Find  $V \in \mathfrak{X}(S^3)$ .  $V \neq 0$ ,  $V$  is volume-preserving

What "V" looks like?

•• Volume preserving  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_V \gamma = 0 \Rightarrow (\text{div} + \text{ind}) \gamma = 0$



$$\Rightarrow d(i_V \gamma) = 0. \quad (\text{note } H^2(S^3) = 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \alpha \in \Omega^1(S^3). \quad i_V \gamma = d\alpha$$

• ~~Summary~~: If  $V$  preserve volume

$$\Rightarrow \exists \perp\text{-form } \alpha. \quad i_V \gamma = d\alpha.$$

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$$\text{note that } i_V i_V \gamma = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{i_V d\alpha = 0}}$$

↳ Recall: Reeb vector field

$$\begin{cases} i_R d\alpha = 0 \\ i_R \alpha = 1 \\ \alpha \wedge d\alpha \text{ is volume form} \end{cases}$$

Thus summary If on  $S^3$ , we can find a

contact form  $\alpha$  and Reeb vector field  $R$ .

then we can study Reifert conjecture.

Question 6 Weinstein 1978 | Berkeley student of Chern

Suppose that  $M$  is a 3-manifold with a contact form  $\alpha$ .  
 $V$  be the Reeb vector field of  $\alpha \Rightarrow V$  has a periodic orbit



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**Result 7** (Viterbo & Hofer)

If 1)  $M = S^3$

or 2)  $\pi_2(M) \neq 0$

or 3) the contact structure is overtwisted

$\Rightarrow M$  admits a contact form.

and  $V$  is the Reeb vector field of  $\alpha$

then  $V$  has a periodic orbit.