

Higher
symmetries of
the conformal
Laplacian

J.-P. Michel, J.
Silhan, R.

Second order
conformal
symmetries of
 Δ_Y
Conformal Killing
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Natural and
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Structure of the
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DiPirro system
Taub-NUT metric

Application to
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Corfu, May 2013

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- On (\mathbb{R}^2, g_0) , we consider the Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta\phi = E\phi,$$

where

$$\Delta = \partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2, \quad E \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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- Coordinates (u, v) separate this equation $\iff \exists$ solution of the form $f(u)g(v)$
- Coordinates (u, v) orthogonal $\iff g_0(\partial_u, \partial_v) = 0$

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- There exist 4 families of orthogonal separating coordinates systems :

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- There exist 4 families of orthogonal separating coordinates systems :

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$$\begin{cases} x &= \xi\eta \\ y &= \frac{1}{2}(\xi^2 - \eta^2) \end{cases}$$

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4 Elliptic coordinates (α, β) :

$$\begin{cases} x &= \sqrt{d} \cos(\alpha) \cosh(\beta) \\ y &= \sqrt{d} \sin(\alpha) \sinh(\beta) \end{cases}$$

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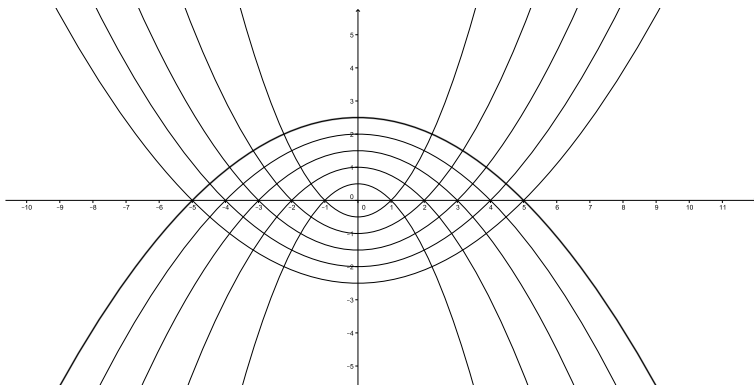


Figure: Coordinates lines corresponding to the parabolic coordinates system

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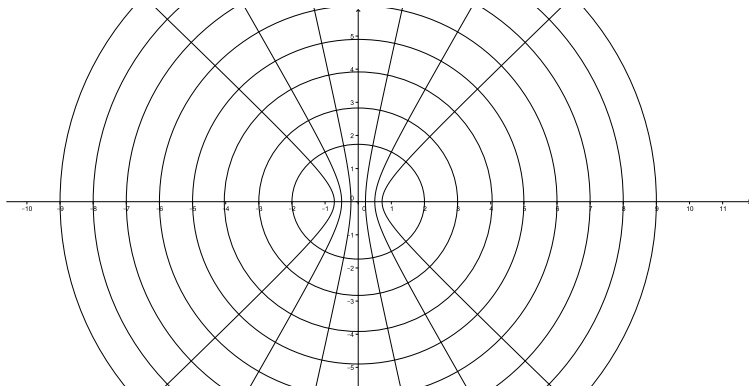


Figure: Coordinates lines corresponding to the elliptic coordinates system

■ Bijective correspondence

$\{\text{Separating coordinates systems}\}$



$\{\text{Second order symmetries of } \Delta : \text{second order}$
differential operators D such that $[\Delta, D] = 0\}$

■ Bijective correspondence

{Separating coordinates systems}

\longleftrightarrow

{Second order symmetries of Δ : second order differential operators D such that $[\Delta, D] = 0$ }

Coordinates system	Symmetry
(x, y)	∂_x^2
(r, θ)	L_θ^2
(ξ, η)	$\frac{1}{2}(\partial_x L_\theta + L_\theta \partial_x)$
(α, β)	$L_\theta^2 + d\partial_x^2$

with $L_\theta = x\partial_y - y\partial_x$

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- Link between the symmetry and the coordinates system : if the second-order part of D reads as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial_x & \partial_y \end{pmatrix} A \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \end{pmatrix},$$

the eigenvectors of A are tangent to the coordinates lines.

- On a n -dimensional pseudo-Riemannian manifold (M, g) ,

$$\Delta_Y := \nabla_i g^{ij} \nabla_j - \frac{n-2}{4(n-1)} R,$$

where R is the scalar curvature of g .

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$$\Delta_Y := \nabla_i g^{ij} \nabla_j - \frac{n-2}{4(n-1)} R,$$

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- $\lambda_0 = \frac{n-2}{2n}$, $\mu_0 = \frac{n+2}{2n}$
- If Δ_Y acts between λ_0 - and μ_0 -densities, Δ_Y conformally invariant : $\Delta_Y(\tilde{g}) = \Delta_Y(g)$ if $\tilde{g} = e^{2\Upsilon} g$.

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- Conformal symmetry of Δ_Y : $D_1 \in \mathcal{D}_{\lambda_0, \lambda_0}(M)$ such that $\exists D_2 \in \mathcal{D}_{\mu_0, \mu_0}(M)$ such that $\Delta_Y \circ D_1 = D_2 \circ \Delta_Y$

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- (M, g) conformally flat : in a coordinates system, g is conformally equivalent to the canonical metric in \mathbb{R}^n

Conformal symmetries of Δ_Y known (M. Eastwood, J.-P. Michel)

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Conformal symmetries of Δ_Y known (M. Eastwood, J.-P. Michel)

- (M, g) Einstein : $\text{Ric} = f g$
Existence of a second order symmetry (B. Carter)

- 1 Second order conformal symmetries of Δ_Y
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- If $D \in \mathcal{D}_{\lambda_0, \lambda_0}^k(M)$ reads

$$\sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} D^\alpha \partial_{x_1}^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial_{x_n}^{\alpha_n},$$

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$$\sigma(D) = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} D^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_n^{\alpha_n},$$

where (x^i, p_i) are the canonical coordinates on T^*M

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- $\sigma(D)$ can be viewed as a contravariant symmetric tensor of degree k :

$$\sigma(D) = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} D^\alpha \partial_1^{\alpha_1} \vee \dots \vee \partial_n^{\alpha_n}$$

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- $\sigma(\Delta_Y) = H = g^{ij} p_i p_j$, then $\{H, \sigma(D)\} \in (H)$, i.e. $\sigma(D)$ is a conformal Killing tensor

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- Conformal Killing tensor K : trace-free part of $\nabla_{(i_0} K_{i_1 \dots i_k)}$ vanishes

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- The existence of a (conformal) Killing tensor is necessary to have the existence of a (conformal) symmetry of Δ_Y

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- Killing tensor K : $\nabla_{(i_0} K_{i_1 \dots i_k)} = 0$
- The existence of a (conformal) Killing tensor is necessary to have the existence of a (conformal) symmetry of Δ_Y
- Is this condition sufficient ?

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Definition

*A quantization on M is a linear bijection $Q_{\lambda,\lambda}^M$ from the space of symbols $\text{Pol}(T^*M)$ to the space of differential operators $\mathcal{D}_{\lambda,\lambda}(M)$ such that*

$$\sigma(Q_{\lambda,\lambda}^M(S)) = S, \quad \forall S \in \text{Pol}(T^*M)$$

Definition

A natural and conformally invariant quantization is the data for every manifold M of a quantization $\mathcal{Q}_{\lambda,\lambda}^M$ depending on a pseudo-Riemannian metric defined on M such that

- *If Φ is a local diffeomorphism from M to a manifold N , then one has*

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\lambda,\lambda}^M(\Phi^*g)(\Phi^*S) = \Phi^*(\mathcal{Q}_{\lambda,\lambda}^N(g)(S)),$$

*for all pseudo-Riemannian metric g on N and all $S \in \text{Pol}(T^*N)$*

- *$\mathcal{Q}_{\lambda,\lambda}^M(g) = \mathcal{Q}_{\lambda,\lambda}^M(\tilde{g})$ whenever g and \tilde{g} are conformally equivalent, i.e. whenever there exists a function Υ such that $\tilde{g} = e^{2\Upsilon}g$.*

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■ Proof of the existence of $Q_{\lambda,\lambda}^M$:

- 1 Work by A. Cap, J. Silhan
- 2 Work by P. Mathonet, R.

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- If K is a conformal Killing tensor of degree 2, there exists a conformal symmetry of Δ_Y with K as principal symbol iff $\text{Obs}(K)^b$ is an exact one-form, where

$$\text{Obs} = \frac{2(n-2)}{3(n+1)} p_i \partial_{p_j} \partial_{p_l} \left(C^k_{jl}{}^i \nabla_k - 3A_{jl}{}^i \right)$$

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- C : Weyl tensor :

$$C_{abcd} = R_{abcd} - \frac{2}{n-2} (g_{a[c} \text{Ric}_{d]b} - g_{b[c} \text{Ric}_{d]a}) \\ + \frac{2}{(n-1)(n-2)} R g_{a[c} g_{d]b}$$

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- A : Cotton-York tensor :

$$A_{ijk} = \nabla_k \text{Ric}_{ij} - \nabla_j \text{Ric}_{ik} + \frac{1}{2(n-1)} (\nabla_j R g_{ik} - \nabla_k R g_{ij})$$

- If $\text{Obs}(K)^b = 2df$, the conformal symmetries of Δ_Y whose the principal symbol is given by K are of the form

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\lambda_0, \lambda_0}(K) - f + L_X^{\lambda_0} + c,$$

where X is a conformal Killing vector field and where $c \in \mathbb{R}$

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■ Remarks :

- 1 If (M, g) is conformally flat, no condition on the (conformal) Killing tensor K

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- 1 If (M, g) is conformally flat, no condition on the (conformal) Killing tensor K
- 2 If $\text{Ric} = \frac{1}{n}Rg$ and if K is a Killing tensor of degree 2, then

$$\text{Obs}(K)^{\flat} = d \left(\frac{2-n}{2(n+1)} (\nabla_i \nabla_j K^{ij}) + \frac{2-n}{2n(n-1)} R g_{ij} K^{ij} \right)$$

and $\nabla_i K^{ij} \nabla_j$ is a symmetry of Δ_Y

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- On \mathbb{R}^3 , pairs of (local) diagonal metrics and (local) Killing tensors are classified :

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Hamiltonian $H = g^{ij}p_i p_j$:

$$\frac{1}{2(\gamma(x_1, x_2) + c(x_3))} (a(x_1, x_2)p_1^2 + b(x_1, x_2)p_2^2 + p_3^2),$$

- On \mathbb{R}^3 , pairs of (local) diagonal metrics and (local) Killing tensors are classified :
Hamiltonian $H = g^{ij}p_i p_j$:

$$\frac{1}{2(\gamma(x_1, x_2) + c(x_3))} (a(x_1, x_2)p_1^2 + b(x_1, x_2)p_2^2 + p_3^2),$$

Killing tensor K :

$$\frac{c(x_3)a(x_1, x_2)p_1^2 + c(x_3)b(x_1, x_2)p_2^2 - \gamma(x_1, x_2)p_3^2}{\gamma(x_1, x_2) + c(x_3)},$$

$$a, b, \gamma \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2), c \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}).$$

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■ If $\tilde{g} = \frac{1}{2(\gamma(x_1, x_2) + c(x_3))} g$, then

$$\text{Obs}(K)^b = d\left(-\frac{1}{8}(3\text{Ric}_{ij} - R\tilde{g}_{ij})K^{ij}\right)$$

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- Symmetry of Δ_Y :

$$\nabla_i K^{ij} \nabla_j - \frac{1}{16} (\nabla_i \nabla_j K^{ij}) - \frac{1}{8} \text{Ric}_{ij} K^{ij}$$

- Four-dimensional fiber bundle M over S^2 with coordinates (ψ, r, θ, ϕ)
- Taub-NUT metric g :

$$\left(1 + \frac{2m}{r}\right) (dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) + \frac{4m^2}{1 + \frac{2m}{r}} (d\psi + \cos \theta d\phi)^2$$

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- g hyperkähler : there exist three complex structures J_i which are covariantly constant and which satisfy the quaternion relations

$$J_1^2 = J_2^2 = J_3^2 = J_1 J_2 J_3 = -\text{Id}.$$

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- The skewsymmetric tensor Y of degree 2 is Killing-Yano
iff $\nabla_{(\lambda} Y_{\mu)\nu} = 0$

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$$2m^2 (d\psi + \cos\theta d\phi) \wedge dr + r(r+m)(r+2m) \sin\theta d\theta \wedge d\phi$$

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- $*Y$ conformal Killing-Yano tensor :

$$\nabla_{(\lambda} * Y_{\mu)\nu} = \frac{2}{3} (g_{\lambda\mu} \nabla_{\kappa} (*Y_{\nu}^{\kappa}) + \nabla_{\kappa} (*Y_{(\lambda}^{\kappa}) g_{\mu)\nu})$$

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$$K_i = p_{\mu} p_{\nu} \left(*Y_{\lambda}^{(\mu} J_i^{\nu)\lambda} \right)$$

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- $\text{Obs}(K_i)^{\flat}$ not exact, then there are no conformal symmetries whose principal symbols are the K_i

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- Laplace equation : $(\Delta_Y + V)\psi = 0$, $V \in C^\infty(M)$ is a fixed potential

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- Laplace equation : $(\Delta_Y + V)\psi = 0$, $V \in C^\infty(M)$ is a fixed potential
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- Helmholtz equation : $(\Delta_Y + V)\psi = E\psi$, $V \in C^\infty(M)$ is a fixed potential and $E \in \mathbb{R}$ a free parameter
- Solving Helmholtz equation : finding a solution for all E

- Laplace equation R -separable in an orthogonal coordinates system (x^i) ($g_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$)



$\exists n + 1$ functions $R, h_i \in C^\infty(M)$ and n differential operators $L_i := \partial_i^2 + l_i(x^i)\partial_i + m_i(x^i)$ such that

$$R^{-1}(\Delta_Y + V)R = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i L_i.$$

- Helmholtz equation R -separable in an orthogonal coordinates system (x^i)



$\forall E \in \mathbb{R}, \exists n + 1$ functions $R, h_i \in C^\infty(M)$ and n differential operators $L_i := \partial_i^2 + l_i(x^i)\partial_i + m_i(x^i)$ such that

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- $R \prod_{i=1}^n \phi_i(x^i)$ solution of the Laplace or Helmholtz equation



$$L_i \phi_i = 0 \quad \forall i$$

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Application to the R -separation

- Laplace equation R -separates in an orthogonal coordinate system if and only if :
 - (a) \exists a family of $n - 1$ conformal Killing tensors (K_i) , where $i = 2, \dots, n$, such that, together with $K_1 = g^{ij} p_i p_j$,
 - they Poisson commute : $\{K_i, K_j\} = 0$ for all i, j ,

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 - as endomorphisms of TM , K_1, \dots, K_n admit a basis of common eigenvectors.

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- (b) \exists second order conformal symmetries D_i , i.e.
 - $[\Delta_Y + V, D_i] \in (\Delta_Y + V)$, with principal symbols $\sigma_2(D_i) = K_i$, for all $i = 2, \dots, n$.

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- Link between the (conformal) symmetries and the R -separating coordinate systems :

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Application to the R -separation

- Link between the (conformal) symmetries and the R -separating coordinate systems :
- Eigenvectors of the $K_i \longleftrightarrow$ integrable distributions

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Application to the R -separation

- Link between the (conformal) symmetries and the R -separating coordinate systems :
- Eigenvectors of the $K_i \longleftrightarrow$ integrable distributions
- Leaves of the corresponding foliations \longleftrightarrow Coordinates lines of the R -separating coordinate systems