

# Centro-affine differential geometry, Lagrangian submanifolds of the reduced paracomplex projective space, and conic optimization

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# Outline

- 1 Conic optimization and barriers
  - Convex programs
  - Barriers on convex sets
  - Conic programs
  - Logarithmically homogeneous barriers
- 2 Barriers and centro-affine geometry
  - Splitting theorem
  - Centro-affine equivalents of barriers
  - Applications
- 3 Lagrangian submanifolds in para-Kähler space
  - Cross-ratio manifold
  - Objects defined by cones
  - Barriers and Lagrangian submanifolds
  - Applications

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# Convex optimization problems

minimize linear objective function with respect to convex constraints

$$\min_{x \in X} f(x)$$

$$f = \langle c, x \rangle, X \text{ convex}$$

$X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called the **feasible set**

# Regular convex sets

## Definition

A **regular** convex set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a closed convex set having nonempty interior and containing no lines.

can assume the feasible set to be regular

# Definition of barriers

## Definition

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex set. A  $\nu$ -self-concordant barrier for  $X$  is a smooth function  $F : X^\circ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

- $F''(x) \succ 0$  (convexity)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow \partial X} F(x) = +\infty$  (boundary behaviour)
- $|F_{,i} h^i|^2 \leq \nu F_{,ij} h^i h^j$  for all  $h \in T_x \mathbb{R}^n$  (gradient inequality)
- $|F_{,ijk} h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2(F_{,ij} h^i h^j)^{3/2}$  for all  $h \in T_x \mathbb{R}^n$  (self-concordance)

- $F''$  defines a Hessian metric on  $X^\circ$
- uses only the affine connection on  $\mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow$  affine invariance

# Interior-point methods using barriers

$$\min_{x \in X} \langle c, x \rangle$$

**constrained** convex program

let  $F(x) = +\infty$  for all  $x \notin X^\circ$

$$\min_x \tau \langle c, x \rangle + F(x)$$

**unconstrained** program,  $\tau > 0$  a parameter

by convexity and boundary behaviour of  $F$  this program is

**convex**

the minimizer  $x_\tau^*$  of the unconstrained program tends to the  
minimizer  $x^*$  of the constrained program as  $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$



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# Purpose of self-concordance

$|F_{,i}h^i|^2 \leq \nu F_{,ij}h^i h^j$  for all  $h \in T_x \mathbb{R}^n$  (gradient inequality)

$|F_{,ijk}h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2(F_{,ij}h^i h^j)^{3/2}$  for all  $h \in T_x \mathbb{R}^n$  (self-concordance)

**self-concordance** ensures good behaviour of the **Newton method** for computing  $x_\tau^*$  [Nesterov, Nemirovski 1994]

the **smaller**  $\nu$ , the **faster** the algorithm

# Regular convex cones

now specializing to cones ...

## Definition

A **regular** convex cone  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a convex cone which is regular as a set.

**dual** cone

$$K^* = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \langle x, y \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in K\}$$

is also regular

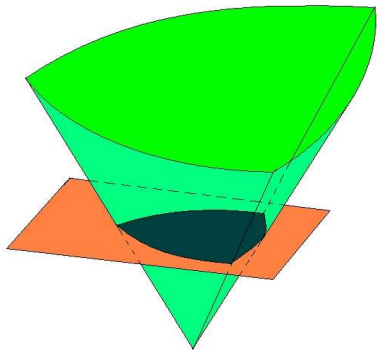
# Conic programs

## Definition

A **conic program** over a regular convex cone  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an optimization problem of the form

$$\min_{x \in K} \langle c, x \rangle : Ax = b.$$

# Geometric interpretation



the feasible set is the  
intersection of  $K$  with an  
affine subspace

# Symmetric cones

A regular convex cone  $K$  is called **self-dual** if it is linearly isomorphic to its dual  $K^*$ .

A regular convex cone  $K$  is called **homogeneous** if its automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(K)$  acts transitively on it.

## Definition

A self-dual, homogeneous convex cone is called **symmetric**.

theory of conic programs over symmetric cones particularly well developed

# Logarithmically homogeneous functions

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone

a **logarithmically homogeneous** function  $F : K^\circ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  satisfies

$$F(\alpha x) = -\nu \log \alpha + F(x) \quad \forall \alpha > 0, x \in K^\circ$$

$\nu > 0$  is called **homogeneity parameter**

- $F \mapsto cF \Rightarrow \nu \mapsto c\nu$
- $F_{,i} x^i = -\nu$
- $F_{,ij} x^j = -F_{,i}$
- $F_{,ij} x^i x^j = \nu$
- $F^{,ij} F_{,i} F_{,j} = \nu$

for  $F$  locally strongly convex the gradient inequality

$$|F_{,i} h^i|^2 \leq \nu F_{,ij} h^i h^j \text{ is satisfied}$$



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$|F_{,i} h^i|^2 \leq \nu F_{,ij} h^i h^j$  is satisfied

# Logarithmically homogeneous barriers

## Definition (Nesterov, Nemirovski 1994)

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone. A **self-concordant logarithmically homogeneous barrier** on  $K$  is a self-concordant barrier which at the same time is a logarithmically homogeneous function. The homogeneity parameter  $\nu$  is called the **barrier parameter**.

- $F(\alpha x) = -\nu \log \alpha + F(x)$  (logarithmic homogeneity)
- $F''(x) \succ 0$  (convexity)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow \partial K} F(x) = +\infty$  (boundary behaviour)
- $|F_{,ijk} h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2(F_{,ij} h^i h^j)^{3/2}$  (self-concordance)

invariant with respect to linear transformations

# Duality

## Theorem (Nesterov, Nemirovski 1994)

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone and  $F : K^\circ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a self-concordant logarithmically homogeneous barrier on  $K$  with parameter  $\nu$ . Then the **Legendre transform**  $F^*$  is a self-concordant logarithmically homogeneous barrier on  $-K^*$  with parameter  $\nu$ .

the map  $x \mapsto F'(x)$  takes the level surfaces of  $F$  to the level surfaces of  $F^*$

# Examples

cone $K$	barrier $F(x)$	parameter $\nu$
$\mathbb{R}_+^n$	$-\sum_{i=1}^n \log x_i$	$n$
$L_n$	$-\log(x_0^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i^2)$	$2$
$S_+(n)$	$-\log \det X$	$n$
$H_+(n)$		
$Q_+(n)$		



- level surfaces of barrier  $F$  are centro-affine embeddings
- centro-affine embeddings define logarithmically homogeneous functions up to affine scaling  $F \mapsto cF + b$

# Normalization

$F$  logarithmically homogeneous function with parameter  $\nu$

$$F \mapsto cF + b \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nu \mapsto c\nu$$

$$|F_{,ijk} h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2(F_{,ij} h^i h^j)^{3/2} \Leftrightarrow |cF_{,ijk} h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2c^{-1/2} (cF_{,ij} h^i h^j)^{3/2}$$

**Convention:** We divide the barriers by their parameter  $\nu$  and consider functions with homogeneity parameter **1**. The barrier parameter then appears in the self-concordance inequality

$$|F_{,ijk} h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2\sqrt{\nu} (F_{,ij} h^i h^j)^{3/2}$$

# Splitting theorem

## Theorem (Tsuji 1982; Loftin 2002)

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone, and  $F : K^\circ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a locally strongly convex logarithmically homogeneous function with homogeneity parameter 1.

Then the Hessian manifold  $(K^\circ, F_{,ij})$  splits into a **direct product** of a radial 1-dimensional part and a **transversal  $n$ -dimensional** part. The submanifolds corresponding to the radial part are rays, the submanifolds corresponding to the transversal part are **level surfaces** of  $F$ . The metric on the level surfaces is the **centro-affine metric**.

# Centro-affine objects on $K$

let  $M \subset K^o \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a level surface of  $F$

consider  $M$  as centro-affine embedding

extend forms on  $T_x M$  to  $T_x K^o$  by putting them equal to zero on the radial part

$g_{ij}$	$F_{,ij} - F_{,i}F_{,j}$
$C_{ijk}$	$F_{,ijk} - 2F_{,ij}F_{,k} - 2F_{,ik}F_{,j} - 2F_{,jk}F_{,i} + 4F_{,i}F_{,j}F_{,k}$
$T_i = C_{ijk}g^{jk}$	$F_{,ijk}F^{,jk} - \frac{2}{n+1}F_{,i}$
$\nabla_l C_{ijk}$	$F_{,ijkl} - \frac{1}{2}F^{,rs}(F_{,ijr}F_{,kls} + F_{,ikr}F_{,jls} + F_{,ilr}F_{,jks})$



# Centro-affine pendants of barriers

let  $F$  be a logarithmically homogeneous function on  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$   
and  $M$  a level surface of  $F$

**Question:** Which conditions has the centro-affine immersion to satisfy in order for  $F$  to be a self-concordant barrier?

convexity:  $F_{,ij} \succ 0 \Leftrightarrow g_{ij} \succ 0$

boundary behaviour:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \partial K} F(x) = \infty \Leftrightarrow M$  asymptotic to  $\partial K$

## Pendant of self-concordance

### Lemma

*The self-concordance concordance condition*

*$|F_{,ijk}h^i h^j h^k| \leq 2\sqrt{\nu}(F_{,ij}h^i h^j)^{3/2}$  for all tangent vectors  $h \in T_x K^0$  is equivalent to the condition*

$$|C_{ijk}u^i u^j u^k| \leq 2\gamma(g_{ij}u^i u^j)^{3/2}$$

*for all tangent vectors  $u \in T_x M$ , where*

$$\gamma = \frac{\nu - 2}{\sqrt{\nu - 1}}.$$

**self-concordant** functions correspond to centro-affine hypersurfaces with **bounded cubic form**

# Summary

## Theorem

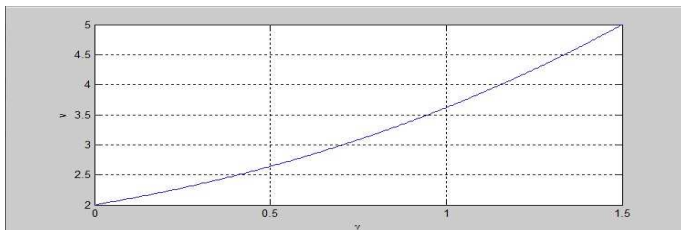
*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone.*

*Every barrier  $F$  on  $K$  with parameter  $\nu$  defines by its level surfaces a homothetic family of locally strongly convex centro-affine hypersurface embeddings of hyperbolic type, asymptotic to  $\partial K$ , with cubic form bounded by  $\gamma$  on the unit sphere.*

*Conversely, every locally strongly convex centro-affine hypersurface embedding  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  of hyperbolic type, asymptotic to  $\partial K$ , with cubic form bounded by  $\gamma$  on the unit sphere, defines up to an additive constant a unique barrier with parameter  $\nu$  on  $K$  which is constant on  $M$ .*

*The bound  $\gamma$  and the parameter  $\nu$  are related by  $\gamma = \frac{\nu-2}{\sqrt{\nu-1}}$ .*

# Dependence between $\gamma$ and $\nu$



## Corollary

*On cones  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , there exist no logarithmically homogeneous self-concordant barriers with parameter  $\nu < 2$ .*

# Distinguished role of second-order cones

$$\gamma = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \nu = 2$$

## Theorem (Pick, Berwald)

*Let  $M$  be an equiaffine hypersurface immersion with vanishing cubic form. Then  $M$  is a quadric.*

## Corollary

*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone and  $F$  a barrier on  $K$  with parameter  $\nu$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- 1)  $\nu = 2$ .
- 2)  $K$  is a second-order cone and  $F$  is the canonical barrier on it.

# Affine hyperspheres

## Lemma (Schneider 1967)

*Let  $M$  be a complete  $n$ -dimensional hyperbolic affine hypersphere with mean curvature  $-H$ . Then the length  $C_{ijk}C^{ijk}$  of the cubic form on  $M$  is bounded from above by  $4n(n-1)H$ .*

## Lemma

*The cubic form of  $M$  is bounded by*

$$|C_{ijk}u^i u^j u^k| \leq \frac{2(n-1)\sqrt{-H}}{\sqrt{n}} \quad \forall u \in T_x M : \|u\| = 1$$

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# Einstein-Hessian barriers

affine hyperspheres with  $H = -1$  are centro-affine embeddings

## Corollary

*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone. The barrier  $F$  on  $K$  which has as its level surfaces the complete hyperbolic affine hyperspheres asymptotic to  $\partial K$  has barrier parameter  $\nu \leq n$ .*

call this barrier the **Einstein-Hessian barrier**



# Calabi product

## Lemma (Sasaki 1980)

*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $K' \subset \mathbb{R}^{n'}$  be regular convex cones and  $F, F'$  the Einstein-Hessian barriers on them. Then  $\frac{nF+n'F'}{n+n'}$  is the Einstein-Hessian barrier on  $K \times K'$ . Its level surfaces are the Calabi product of the level surfaces of  $F$  and  $F'$ .*

Calabi product of complete hyperbolic hyperspheres  
corresponds to direct product of convex cones

# Parallel cubic form

## Theorem (Hu, Li, Vrancken 2011)

*A locally strongly convex affine hypersurface of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ , equipped with the Blaschke metric, and with parallel cubic form, is a quadric or a Calabi product, with factors being hyperboloids and standard immersions of  $SL(m, \mathbb{R})/SO(m)$ ,  $SL(m, \mathbb{C})/SU(m)$ ,  $SU^*(2m)/Sp(m)$ , or  $E_{6(-26)}/F_4$ .*

# Classification of symmetric cones

## Theorem (Vinberg, 1960; Koecher, 1962)

*Every symmetric cone can be represented as a direct product of a finite number of the following irreducible symmetric cones:*

- *second-order cone*
- *matrix cones  $S_+(n)$ ,  $H_+(n)$ ,  $Q_+(n)$  of real, complex, or quaternionic hermitian positive semi-definite matrices*
- *Albert cone  $O_+(3)$  of octonionic hermitian positive semi-definite  $3 \times 3$  matrices*

# Simple characterization of $\hat{\nabla}C = 0$

## Corollary

*Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a locally strongly convex Blaschke hypersurface immersion with cubic form parallel with respect to the Levi-Civita connection.*

*Then either  $M$  is a quadric or  $M$  can be extended to a complete hyperbolic affine hypersphere which is asymptotic to a symmetric cone.*

*The determinant of the Jordan algebra generating the symmetric cone is constant on  $M$ .*

# Nonpositive sectional curvature

the affine hyperspheres asymptotic to second-order cones have nonpositive sectional curvature bounded away from zero

**Question:** How small must the cubic form of a centro-affine hypersurface immersion be to guarantee nonpositivity of the sectional curvature?

## Lemma

*Let  $M$  be a hyperbolic centro-affine hypersurface immersion with cubic form bounded by  $|C_{ijk}u^i u^j u^k| \leq \sqrt{2}$  for all unit length vectors  $u \in T_x M$ . Then  $M$  has nonpositive sectional curvature.*

saturated by affine hypersphere asymptotic to  $\mathbb{R}_+^3$



# Product of projective spaces

let  $\mathbb{R}P^n, \mathbb{R}P_n$  be the primal and dual real projective space  
no scalar product, but **orthogonality**

$$\mathcal{M} = \{(x, p) \in \mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n \mid x \not\perp p\}$$

is a dense subset of  $\mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$

para-Kähler space form isomorphic to reduced paracomplex  
projective space [Gadea, Amilibia 1992]

$$\partial\mathcal{M} = \{(x, p) \in \mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n \mid x \perp p\}$$

is a submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$  of codimension 1

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# Contact structure on $\partial\mathcal{M}$

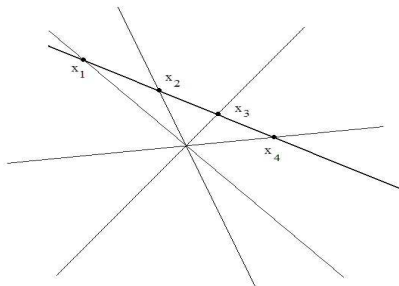
the projections  $\pi, \pi^*$  of  $\mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$  onto the factors define  $n$ -dimensional distributions  $J_{\pm}$  on  $\mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$

traces  $\tilde{J}_{\pm}$  on  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  are of dimension  $n - 1$

## Lemma

*The manifold  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  equipped with the distribution  $\tilde{J}_+ + \tilde{J}_-$  is a contact manifold.*

# Cross-ratio

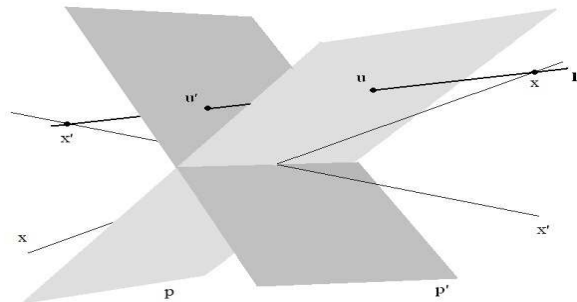


$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  points on the projective line  $\mathbb{R}P^1$

$$(x_1, x_2; x_3, x_4) = \frac{(x_1 - x_3)(x_2 - x_4)}{(x_2 - x_3)(x_1 - x_4)}$$

# Generalization to $n$ dimensions

[Ariyawansa, Davidon, McKennon 1999]: instead of 4 collinear points use 2 points and 2 dual points



$(u, x'; u', x)$  — **quadra-bracket** of  $x, p, x', p'$

## Two-point function on $\mathcal{M}$

let  $z = (x, p), z' = (x', p') \in \mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P^n$

$$(z; z') = (z'; z) := (u, x'; u', x)$$

defines a symmetric function  $(\cdot; \cdot) : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \partial \mathcal{M}} (z; z') = \pm \infty$$

# Cross-ratio and geodesic distance

## Theorem

Let  $z, z' \in \mathcal{M}$  be two points and  $d(z, z')$  their geodesic distance in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

- If the geodesic linking  $z, z'$  is of elliptic type, then  $(z; z') > 0$  and  $d(z, z') = \arcsin \sqrt{(z; z')}$ .
- If the geodesic linking  $z, z'$  is light-like, then  $(z; z') = 0$ .
- If the geodesic linking  $z, z'$  is of hyperbolic type, then  $(z; z') < 0$  and  $d(z, z') = \operatorname{arcsinh} \sqrt{-(z; z')}$ .

$(z; z')$  is the only projective invariant of a pair of points in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

call  $\mathcal{M}$  the **cross-ratio manifold**

# Projective images of cones

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone

the canonical projection  $\Pi : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^n$  maps  $K \setminus \{0\}$  to a compact convex subset  $C \subset \mathbb{R}P^n$

the canonical projection  $\Pi^* : \mathbb{R}_{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P_n$  maps  $K^* \setminus \{0\}$  to a compact convex subset  $C^* \subset \mathbb{R}P_n$

# Images of conic boundaries

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone

the canonical projection

$\Pi \times \Pi^* : (\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}) \times (\mathbb{R}_{n+1} \setminus \{0\}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$  maps the set

$$\Delta_K = \{(x, p) \in (\partial K \setminus \{0\}) \times (\partial K^* \setminus \{0\}) \mid x \perp p\}$$

to a set  $\delta_K \subset \partial \mathcal{M}$

## Lemma

The set  $\delta_K$  is **Legendrian** with respect to the contact structure on  $\partial \mathcal{M}$ .

The projections  $\pi, \pi^*$  of  $\mathbb{R}P^n \times \mathbb{R}P_n$  to the factors map  $\delta_K$  onto  $\partial C$  and  $\partial C^*$ , respectively.

If  $K$  is smooth, then  $\delta_K$  is homeomorphic to  $S^{n-1}$ .

# Images of barriers

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone and  $F : K^\circ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a barrier on  $K$

$$M = \Pi \times \Pi^* [\{(x, -F'(x)) \mid x \in K^\circ\}]$$

is a smooth nondegenerate **Lagrangian submanifold** of  $\mathcal{M}$  with **boundary**  $\delta_K$

invariant with respect to duality



# Bijection with level surfaces

there is a canonical bijection between a level surface of  $F$  (or  $F^*$ ) and the submanifold  $M$

## Lemma

*The canonical bijection between  $M$  and the level surfaces of  $F$  is an isometry.*

*The image of the cubic form under this bijection can be expressed through the second fundamental form  $II$  of  $M$  by*

$$C(X, Y, Z) = -2\omega(II(X, Y), Z).$$

# Equivalence to centro-affine geometry

applicable to any nondegenerate centro-affine immersion:  
project pair (position vector, image of conormal map)

## Theorem

Nondegenerate *Lagrangian submanifolds* of  $\mathcal{M}$  are in one-to-one correspondence with *homothetic families of nondegenerate centro-affine hypersurface immersions* in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ .  
The centro-affine metric on the immersion equals the metric on the submanifold inherited from  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The cubic form on the immersion  $C$  and the second fundamental form on the submanifold obey the relation

$$C(X, Y, Z) = -2\omega(II(X, Y), Z).$$

# Affine hyperspheres

Corollary (independently obtained by D. Fox)

A nondegenerate *Lagrangian submanifold*  $M \subset \mathcal{M}$  is *minimal* if and only if the corresponding family of centro-affine immersions are *affine hyperspheres*.

no convexity or completeness assumptions

# Equivalents of barriers

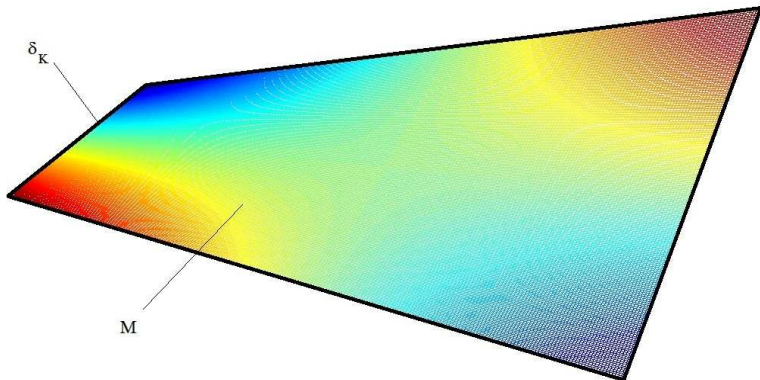
## Corollary

*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be a regular convex cone.*

*The barriers on  $K$  with parameter  $\nu$  correspond to positive definite Lagrangian submanifolds  $M$  of  $\mathcal{M}$  of hyperbolic type inscribed in  $\delta_K$ , with second fundamental form bounded by*

$$\gamma = \frac{\nu-2}{\sqrt{\nu-1}}.$$

# Geometric interpretation



# Local approximation

## Lemma

*Lagrangian geodesic submanifolds of  $\mathcal{M}$  are totally geodesic.*

let  $F : K^o \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a barrier with parameter  $\nu$  and  $M \subset \mathcal{M}$  the corresponding Lagrangian submanifold

at a given point  $z \in M$  the tangent totally geodesic Lagrangian submanifold to  $M$  approximates  $M$  up to 1st order

# Global approximation

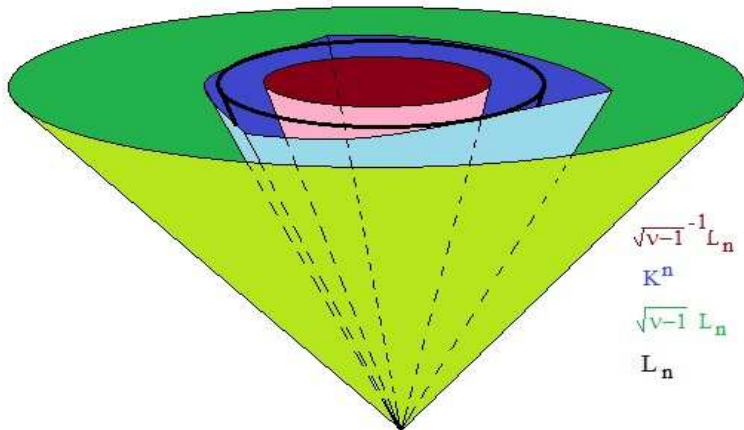
the tangent totally geodesic Lagrangian submanifold defines the barrier of a second-order cone  $L_{n+1}$

$L_{n+1}$  can be viewed as approximating  $K$  at the ray corresponding to  $z$

## Lemma

*Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone,  $F$  a barrier on  $K$  with parameter  $\nu$  and  $z \in M$  a point on the corresponding Lagrangian submanifold. Let  $L_n$  be the second-order cone defined by the tangent totally geodesic submanifold at  $z$ . If we pass to a coordinate system where  $L_n$  is centered and blow up (shrink) the horizontal affine section of  $L_n$  by a factor of  $\sqrt{\nu - 1}$ , we obtain an outer (inner) approximation of  $K$ .*

# Geometric interpretation





# Upper bound on geodesic distance

in a Riemannian manifold, geodesic distances on a submanifold are not shorter than in the ambient manifold  
not so in a pseudo-Riemannian manifold

## Theorem

*Let  $M \subset \mathcal{M}$  be a definite Lagrangian submanifold of hyperbolic type. Suppose that for every two points  $z, z' \in M$  there exists a path linking  $z, z'$  which projects bijectively to a line in the factor  $\mathbb{R}P^n$  (or  $\mathbb{R}P_n$ ).*

*Then the geodesic distance on  $M$  is bounded from **above** by the geodesic distance on  $\mathcal{M}$ , i.e., by  $\text{arc sinh } \sqrt{-(z; z')}$ .*

# Bound on centro-affine immersions

## Corollary

*Let  $x, x' \in M$  be two points on a locally strongly convex centro-affine hypersurface  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  of hyperbolic type that can be linked by a path on  $M$  that projects bijectively to a line segment in  $\mathbb{R}P^n$ . Let  $p, p'$  be the tangent spaces to  $M$  at  $x, x'$ . Then the geodesic distance  $d(x, x')$  in the centro-affine metric is bounded from above by  $\text{arc sinh } \sqrt{-Q}$ , where  $Q$  is the quadra-bracket of  $x, p, x', p'$ .*

# Einstein-Hessian metrics

## Theorem (Cheng, Yau 1980)

*Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex set. Then the boundary value problem*

$$\det G'' = e^{2G}, \quad G|_{\partial X} = +\infty$$

*has a unique locally strongly convex solution.*

**Question:** Is this solution or a multiple of it a barrier, i.e., is it self-concordant and does it satisfy the gradient inequality?

## Rational solutions

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone and  $F$  the Einstein-Hessian barrier on  $K$

**Question:** For which cones  $K$  the function  $e^{2F} = \det F''$  is the inverse of a polynomial? (symmetric cones?)

For which cones  $K$  is it a rational function? (homogeneous cones?)

## Optimal barrier parameter

let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a regular convex cone

**Question:** What is the smallest possible parameter of a barrier on  $K$ ?

What is the smallest possible bound on the second fundamental form of a Lagrangian submanifold of  $\mathcal{M}$  inscribed in  $\delta_K$ ?

partial answer: lower bounds available

## How small can the distance be?

let  $z, z' \in \mathcal{M}$  be such that the geodesic  $[z, z']$  is of hyperbolic type

with no further restrictions  $\inf d(z, z') = 0$  (choose a path close to the distributions  $J_{\pm}$ )

**Question:** Does an upper bound on the second fundamental form of  $M$  imply a lower bound on the geodesic distance  $d(z, z')$  on  $M$ ?

let  $p, q > 1$  such that  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$  and consider the cone

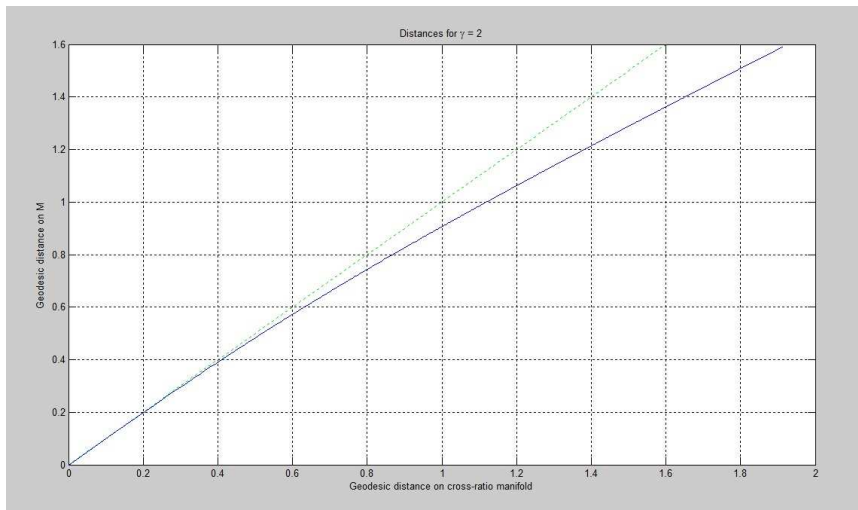
$$K = \left\{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \mid x \geq 0, y \geq 0, \|z\|^2 \leq x^{1/p} y^{1/q} \right\}$$

with  $s = \frac{q}{p}$  the affine hypersphere with mean curvature  $-1$  asymptotic to this cone has its cubic form bounded by

$$2\gamma = \frac{2(n-1)|s-1|}{\sqrt{(ns+1)(n+s)}},$$

for points  $z, z'$  on the geodesic corresponding to the 2-plane  $z = 0$  we have

$$d(z, z') = \left( \frac{\gamma^2}{4} + 1 \right)^{-1/2} \operatorname{arc} \sinh \left( \sqrt{\frac{\gamma^2}{4} + 1} \sqrt{-(z; z')} \right)$$





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# Thank you