

# 不定値計量と接触構造の双対性と特異性

## Duality-singularity of indefinite metrics and contact structures

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and M. Takahashi



Let  $(X, g)$  be a  $C^\infty$  Lorentz 3-manifold (of signature  $(1, 2)$ ).

**Example** (Minkowskii space):

$$X = \mathbf{R}^3, \quad g : ds^2 = dx_1^2 - dx_2^2 - dx_3^2.$$

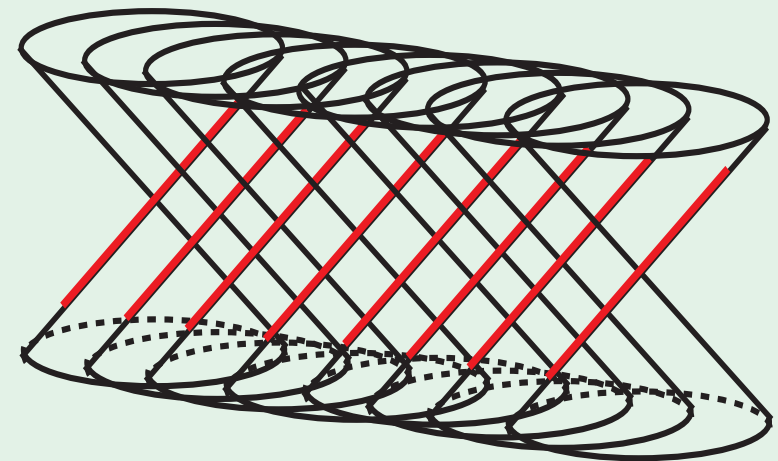
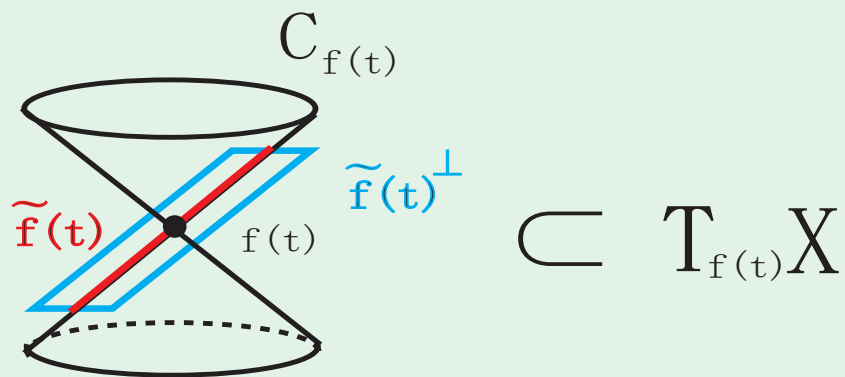
**Definition.** A  $C^\infty$  immersion  $f : U(\subset \mathbf{R}^2) \rightarrow (X, g)$  is called **null** (or **lightlike**) if the pull-back metric  $f^*g$  is **degenerate** everywhere on  $U$ .

Let  $C := \{v \in TX \mid g(v, v) = 0\}$  be the **null quadratic cone field** associated to the indefinite metric  $g$ .

It is easy to see that an immersion  $f : U \rightarrow X$  is **null** if and only if  $f_*(T_tU)$  is tangent to the cone  $C_{f(t)}$  for any  $t \in U$ .

Then  $U$  is foliated by **null curves**.

(A curve is called **null** if its velocity vectors belong to  $C \subset TX$ .)



Let  $Z := PC = \{(x, \ell) \mid x \in X, \ell \text{ is a null line in } T_x X\} \subset P(TX)$ ,  
 the space of null directions,  $\dim(Z) = 4$ .

Denote by  $\pi_X : Z \rightarrow X$  the natural projection,  $\pi_X(x, \ell) = x$ .

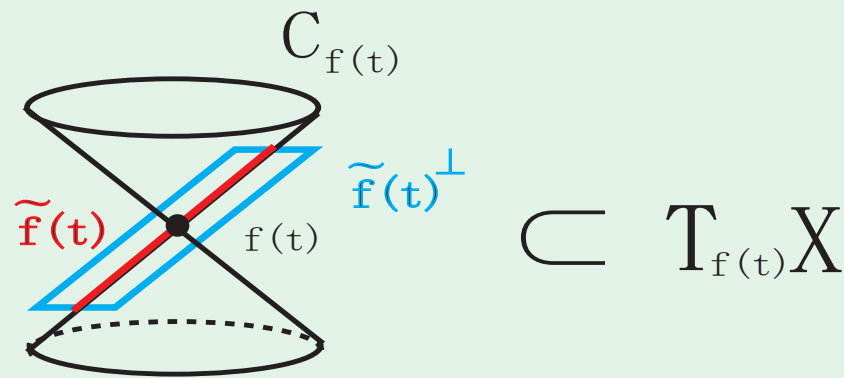
**Lemma.** Let  $f : U \rightarrow X$  be a null immersion. Then there exists a unique  $C^\infty$  map  $\tilde{f} : U \rightarrow Z$  such that  $\pi_X \tilde{f} = f$  and that  $f_*(T_t U) = \tilde{f}(t)^\perp$ , for any  $t \in U$ .

$\tilde{f}(t)^\perp := \{v \in T_{f(t)} X \mid g(v, u) = 0, \text{ for any } u \in \tilde{f}(t)\}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & Z & \hookrightarrow & PT^* X \\
 & \tilde{f} \nearrow & \downarrow \pi_X & \swarrow & \\
 U & \xrightarrow{f} & X & & 
 \end{array}$$

**Definition.** A (possibly non-immersive)  $C^\infty$  map-germ  $f : (\mathbf{R}^2, p) \rightarrow X$  is called a **null frontal surface** or a **lightlike frontal surface** if there exists a  $C^\infty$  map-germ  $\tilde{f} : (\mathbf{R}^2, p) \rightarrow Z$  such that  $\pi_X \tilde{f} = f$  and that  $f_*(T_t \mathbf{R}^2) \subset \tilde{f}(t)^\perp$ , for any  $t \in \mathbf{R}^2$  nearby  $p$ .

$$\tilde{f}(t)^\perp := \{v \in T_{f(t)}X \mid g(v, u) = 0, \text{ for any } u \in \tilde{f}(t)\}.$$

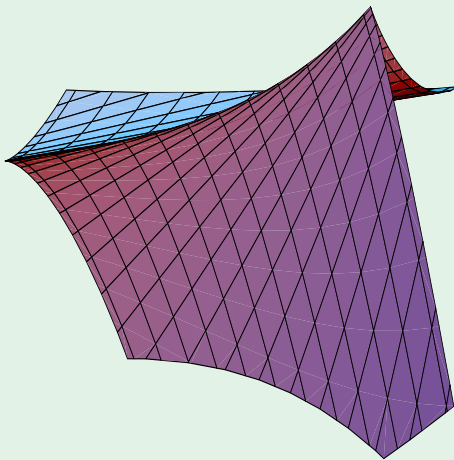


**Problem.** Classify “generic” singularities of null frontal surfaces up to local diffeomorphisms.

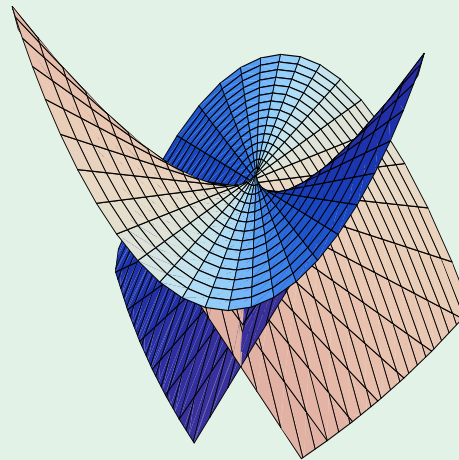
- Minkowskii case: [Chino-Izumiya 2010](#) (lightlike developables).
- $\text{Sp}(\mathbf{R}^4)$ -homogeneous case: [Machida-Takahashi-I 2011](#) (tangent surfaces of directed null curves).

We show that any null frontal surface is a **null tangent surface** of a directed null curves (in a wider sense) and we give the generic classification of singularities of null frontal surfaces for general Lorentz 3-manifolds, moreover for arbitrary non-degenerate (strictly convex) cone fields on 3-manifolds.

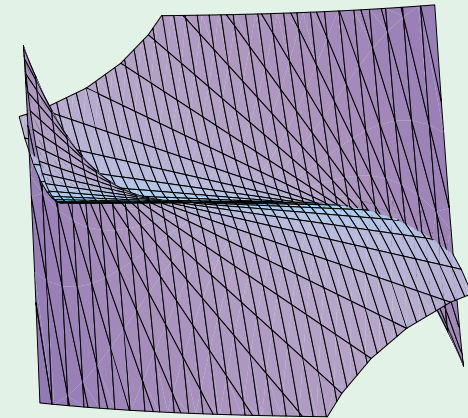
**Solution.** The list of generic singularities consists of three local diffeomorphism classes, **cuspidal edge** (CE), **swallowtail** (SW) and **Shcherbak surface** (SB).



Cuspidal Edge



SWallowtail



ShcherBak surface

We observe the “**stability**” or, in other words, “**robustness**” of the classification of singularities.

Any **parturbation** of the metric **does not affect** essentially on the classification of the singularities of null frontal surfaces.

**Query.** What are the **geometric structures** behind, which dominate the appearance of singularities of null frontals.



## 【 Pseudo-product Engel structure 】

Define a distribution

$$E = \bigcup_{(x,\ell) \in Z} (\pi_X)_*^{-1}(\ell) \subset TZ,$$

over  $Z$ , where  $\pi_{X*} : TZ \rightarrow TX$  is the differential map of  $\pi_X$ .

Then  $E$  is of rank 2 with the growth  $(2, 3, 4)$ , i.e.

$\mathcal{E}^2 := \mathcal{E} + [\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}]$  is generated by a subbunde  $E^2$  of rank 3 and  $\mathcal{E}^2 + [\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}^2] = \mathcal{TZ}$ , in other words,  $E$  is an **Engel structure** on the 4-manifold  $Z$ .

Define other distributions

$$E_1 := \text{Ker}(\pi_{X*}) \subset E \subset TZ, \quad E_2 := \text{ch}(E^2) \subset E \subset TZ,$$

Cauchy characteristic of  $E^2$ .

Then both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are of rank 1, and we have the decomposition

$$E = E_1 \oplus E_2,$$

a pseudo-product Engel structure (in the sense of Noboru Tanaka). Moreover we have

$$\mathcal{E} + [\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}] = \mathcal{E}^2, \quad \mathcal{E}^2 + [\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}^2] = \mathcal{TZ}, \quad [\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}^2] \subset \mathcal{E}^2.$$

Let  $Y$  denote the leaf space of  $E_2$ , which is regarded as **the space of null geodesics**.

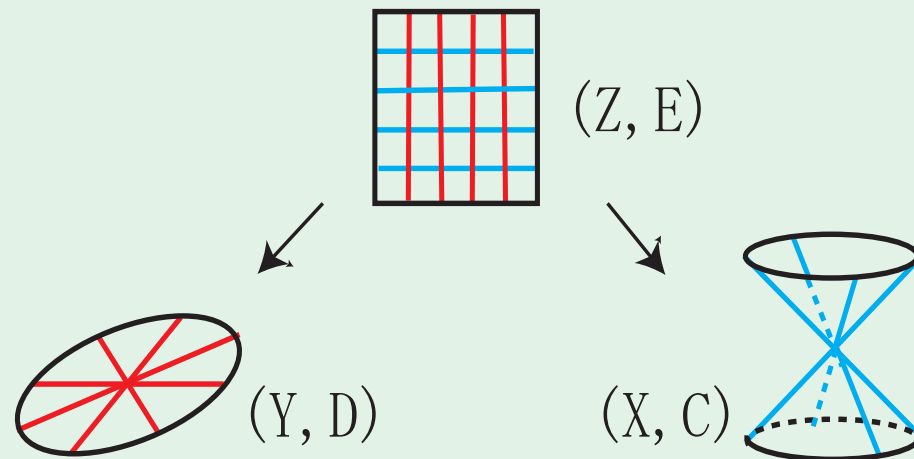
Denote by  $\pi_Y : Z \rightarrow Y$  be the natural projection.

Locally we have the double fibration

$$Y^3 \xleftarrow{\pi_Y} Z^4 \xrightarrow{\pi_X} X^3.$$

The distribution  $E^2$  on  $Z$  of rank 3 descends by  $\pi_Y$  to a contact structure  $D$  on  $Y$ :

$$(\pi_{Y*})(E^2) = D, \quad E^2 = (\pi_{Y*})^{-1}(D).$$

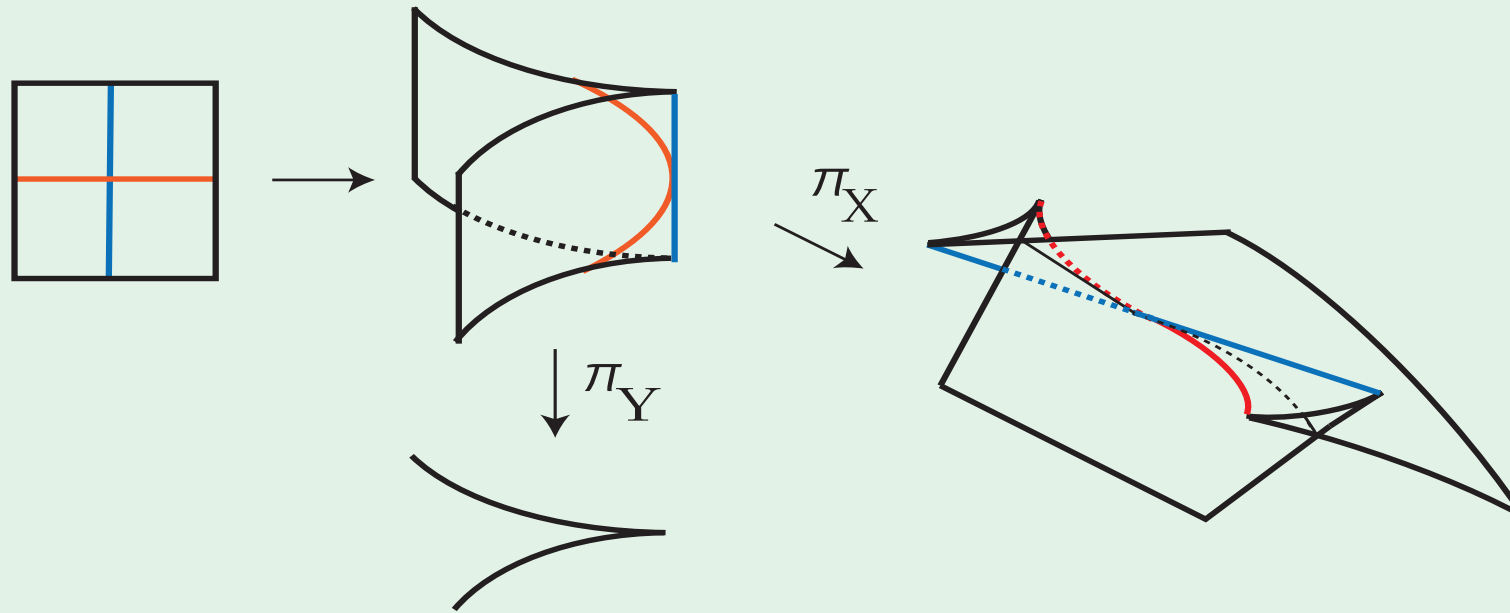


## 【 Singularities of null frontal surfaces 】

**Lemma.**  $f : (\mathbf{R}^2, p) \rightarrow X$  is a null frontal if and only if there exists an  $E^2$ -integral lift  $\tilde{f} : (\mathbf{R}^2, p) \rightarrow Z$  of  $f$ .  
 $(\tilde{f})_*(T_t\mathbf{R}^2) \subset (E^2)_{\tilde{f}(t)}$ , for any  $t \in \mathbf{R}^2$  nearby  $p$ .  
 Then  $\pi_Y \tilde{f}$  is  $D$ -integral and, therefore, of rank  $\leq 1$ .

Thus  $\tilde{f}$  collapses by  $\pi_Y$  to a  $D$ -integral curve, in other words, to a “Legendre curve”, and  $\tilde{f}$  is foliated by  $\pi_Y$ -fibres. Therefore  $f$  is ruled by a “Legendre family” of null geodesics.

The **singular locus** of  $f = \pi_X \tilde{f}$  consist of an  **$E$ -integral curve**  $\gamma$  and the  $\pi_Y$ -fibres of **singular points** of the Legendre curve.

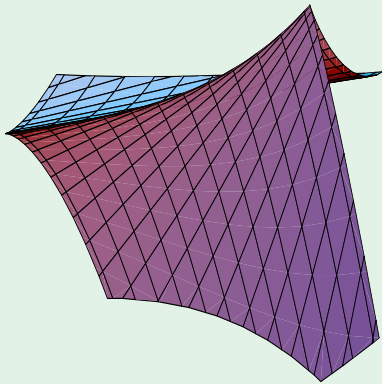


Thus the null frontal  $f$  is regarded as the **tangent surface** to a **(directed) null curve**  $\pi_X \gamma$ .

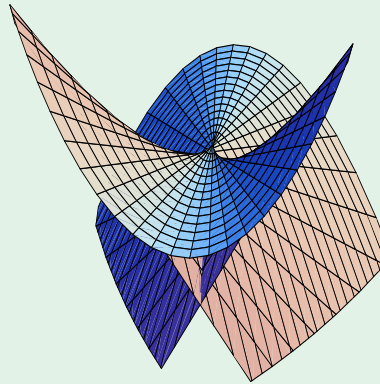
Avoiding very degenerate cases, we start with a germ of  $E$ -integral curve  $\gamma : (\mathbf{R}, t_0) \rightarrow Z$  so that  $\pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$  is right equivalent to  $\tilde{f}$ , and  $f$  is right equivalent to  $\pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$ .

**Theorem 1.** (Machda-Takahashi-I)

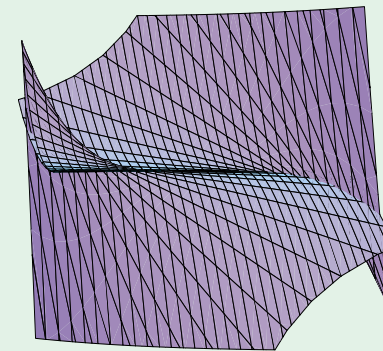
For a generic  $E$ -integral curve  $\gamma : I \rightarrow Z$ , the induced null frontal  $\pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$  is diffeomorphic (right-left equivalent) along  $\gamma$  to **cuspidal edge**, **swallowtail** or **Shcherbak surface**. The same classification result holds for arbitrary non-degenerate (strictly convex) cone structure  $C \subset TX$ .



Cuspidal Edge



SWallowtail



ShcherBak surface

$$(Z, E = E_1 \oplus E_2)$$

pseudo-product Engel structure

3rd order ODE ↙



$$(Y, D)$$

projective contact structure

$$(X, C)$$

non-degenerate (strictly convex)

cone structure

Classification of geometric structures, **contact geometry of 3rd order ODE**, by E. Cartan, S.-S. Chern(1940), N. Tanaka, ...

“Wünschmann invariant” = 0  $\iff$   $C$ : metric cone.

Some details of the classification.



Let  $C \subset TX$  be a non-degenerate cone structure of  $X$ .

Then  $\exists$  local.coord.  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \theta$  of  $Z$  such that

$$\pi_X : (x_1, x_2, x_3, \theta) \mapsto (x_1, x_2, x_3),$$

$$E_1 = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right\rangle, E_2 = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + a(x, \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} + e(x, \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right\rangle,$$

( $e$  is determined from  $a$ ,  $C$  non-degenerate  $\Leftrightarrow a_{\theta\theta} \neq 0$ .)

If  $a = \frac{1}{2}\theta^2$ , then  $e = 0$  and  $C$  is flat.)

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\gamma : (\mathbf{R}, t_0) \rightarrow Z$  be an  $E$ -integral curve,  
 $f = \pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma : (\mathbf{R}^2, (t_0, 0)) \rightarrow X$  the null frontal generated  
 by  $\pi_Y \gamma$ . Set  $\varphi(t) := \theta'(t) - (e \circ \gamma)(t)x_1'(t)$ . Then

$$f \sim CE \iff x_1'(t_0) \neq 0, \varphi(t_0) \neq 0$$

$$f \sim SW \iff x_1'(t_0) = 0, \varphi(t_0) \neq 0, x_1''(t_0) \neq 0$$

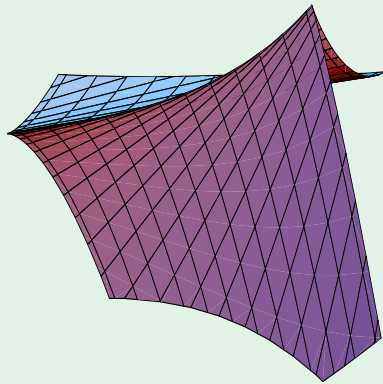
$$f \sim SB \iff x_1'(t_0) \neq 0, \varphi(t_0) = 0, \varphi'(t_0) \neq 0$$

Here  $\gamma(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), x_3(t), \theta(t))$ .

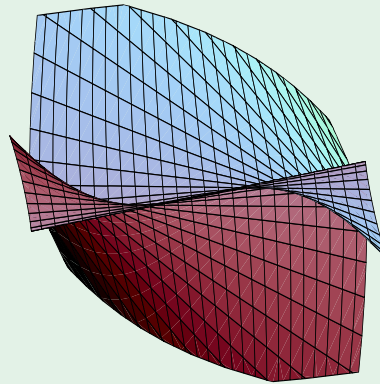
Note that  $\pi_X \gamma$  is a null geodesic  $\iff \varphi(t) \equiv 0$ .

The dual objects to null frontals are given by tangent surfaces  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$  of Legendre curves  $\pi_Y \gamma$  ruled by tangential “Legendre geodesics” (Legendre lines)  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1}(x)$ , ( $x \in X$ ).

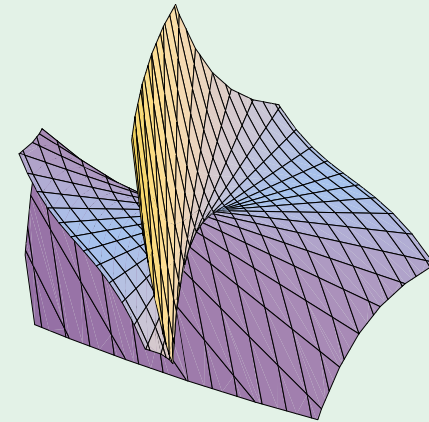
**Theorem 3.** For a generic  $E$ -integral curve  $\gamma : I \rightarrow Z$ ,  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$  is diffeomorphic to cuspidal edge (CE), Mond surface (MD), or generic folded pleat (GFP).



cuspidal edge



Mond surface



generic folded pleat

$\exists$  local coordinates  $x, y, p, q$  of  $Z$  such that

$$\pi_Y : (x, y, p, q) \mapsto (x, y, p)$$

$$E_1 = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + p \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + q \frac{\partial}{\partial p} + f(x, y, p, q) \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \right\rangle, \quad E_2 = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \right\rangle.$$

For an  $E$ -integral curve  $\gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t), p(t), q(t))$ , we put  $\psi(t) := q'(t) - (f \circ \gamma)(t)x'(t)$ .

**Theorem 4.**  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$  is diffeomorphic at  $(t_0, 0)$  to

cuspidal edge (CE)  $\iff x'(t_0) \neq 0, \psi(t_0) \neq 0,$

Mond surface (MD)  $\iff x'(t_0) \neq 0, \psi(t_0) = 0, \psi'(t_0) \neq 0,$

folded pleat (FP)  $\iff x'(t_0) = 0, \psi(t_0) \neq 0, x''(t_0) \neq 0.$

Note that  $\pi_Y \gamma$  is a solution of 3rd order ODE  $q' = f(x, y, p, q)$

$\iff \psi(t) \equiv 0.$

Thanks to Engel integral curves  $\gamma$  (“dancing on the heaven”),  
we have got the “asymmetric duality” of  
singularities of tangent surfaces.

| $Y$                             | $Z$   | $X$                             |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$ | $\gamma$  | $\pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$ |
| CE                              | (I) non-tangent to $E_1$<br>non-tangent to $E_2$      | CE                              |
| MD                              | (II) simply tangent to $E_1$<br>non-tangent to $E_2$  | SW                              |
| FP                              | (III) non-tangent to $E_1$<br>simply tangent to $E_2$ | SB                              |

Some generalizations of the classification.

Simple Lie algebras of rank 2 :



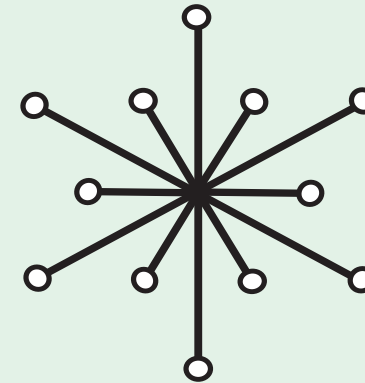
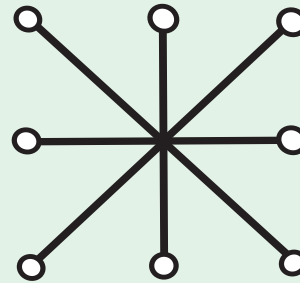
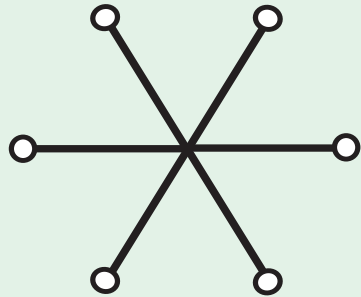
$A_2$



$B_2 = C_2$



$G_2$

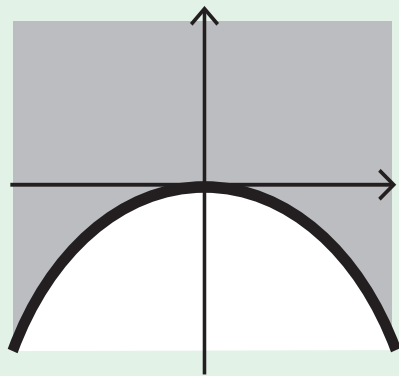


Root systems of types  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$  and  $G_2$

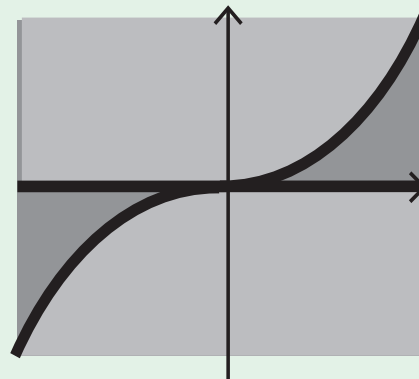
—  $A_2$  —

$$G = \mathrm{PGL}(\mathbf{R}^3)$$

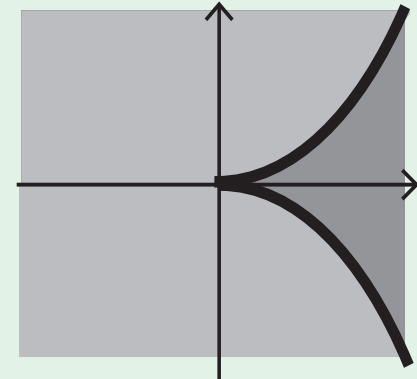
For a plane curve  $\gamma : I \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2 \subset P(\mathbf{R}^3)$  and its projective dual  $\gamma^* : I \rightarrow P(\mathbf{R}^{3*})$ , we define their “tangent maps”  $\mathrm{Tan}(\gamma) : I \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow P(\mathbf{R}^3)$  and  $\mathrm{Tan}(\gamma^*) : I \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow P(\mathbf{R}^{3*})$ , ruled by tangent lines.



convex point  
(fold map)



inflection point  
(beak-to-beak map)



cusp point  
(Whitney's cusp map)

We set the flag manifold (the incidence manifold):

$$Z(A_2) := \{(V_1, V_2) \mid V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \mathbf{R}^3, \dim(V_1) = 1, \dim(V_2) = 2\},$$

Then we have the double fibrations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y(A_2) := P(\mathbf{R}^3) & \xleftarrow{\pi_Y} & Z(A_2) & \xrightarrow{\pi_X} & X(A_2) := P(\mathbf{R}^{3*}). \\ & & V_1 \longleftarrow (V_1, V_2) \longrightarrow & & V_2 \end{array}$$

Note that  $\dim(Z) = 3$ ,  $\dim(Y) = \dim(X) = 2$ .

Moreover we obtain the contact structure

$$E := \text{Ker}(\pi_{Y*}) \oplus \text{Ker}(\pi_{X*}) \subset TZ$$

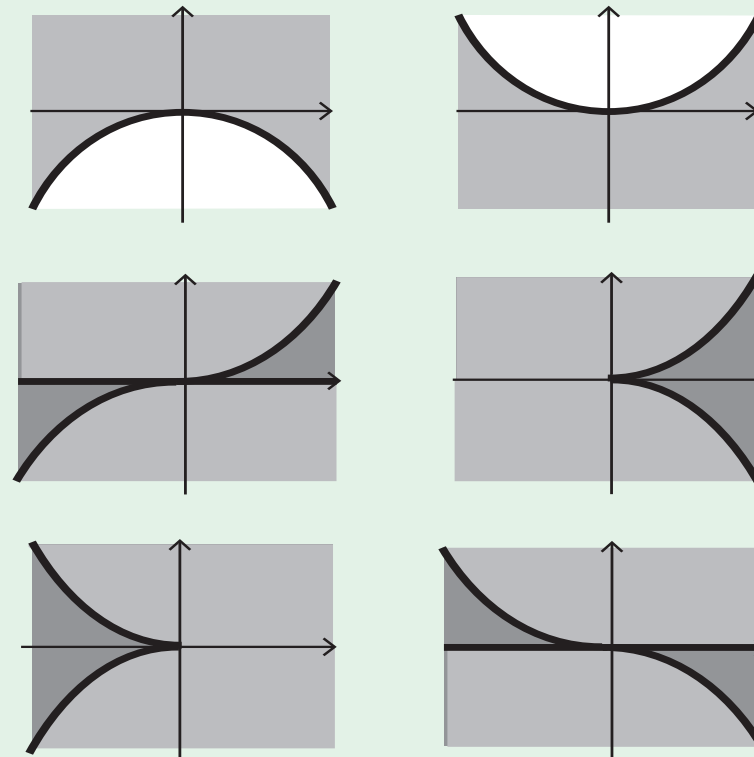
on  $Z$  from the double fibration.

–Note that  $\pi_Y$ -fibers project by  $\pi_X$  to projective lines in  $P(\mathbf{R}^{3*})$ , and  $\pi_X$ -fibers project by  $\pi_Y$  to projective lines in  $P(\mathbf{R}^3)$ .



**Theorem ( $A_2$ ):** For a generic Legendre curve  $\gamma : I \rightarrow Z(A_2)$ , the pair of diffeomorphism classes of tangent mappings to  $\pi_Y \gamma, \pi_X \gamma$  at any point  $t_0 \in I$  is given by one of

- I : (fold, fold),
- II : (beak-to-beak, Whitney's cusp),
- III : (Whitney's cusp, beak-to-beak).



—  $B_2$  —

Consider  $G = O(2, 3)$  acting on  $V = \mathbf{R}^{2,3}$ .

$Z := \{V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \mathbf{R}^{2,3}\}$ , the space of null flags,  $\dim(Z) = 4$ ,

$X := \{V_1 \subset \mathbf{R}^{2,3}\}$ , the space of null lines,  $\dim(X) = 3$ ,

$Y := \{V_2 \subset \mathbf{R}^{2,3}\}$ , the space of null planes,  $\dim(Y) = 3$ ,

$$Y(B_2) \xleftarrow{\pi_Y} Z(B_2) \xrightarrow{\pi_X} X(B_2),$$

Just from the double fibration, we obtain an Engel structure

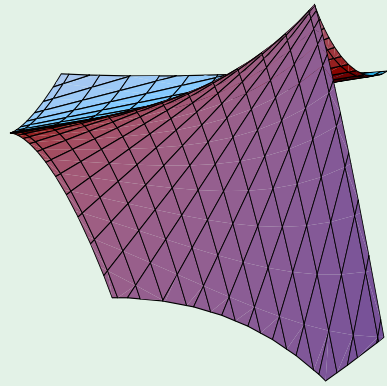
$E := \text{Ker}(\pi_{Y*}) \oplus \text{Ker}(\pi_{X*}) \subset TZ$ , a contact structure  $D \subset$

$TY$  and a quadratic cone field (conformally flat  $(1, 2)$ -metric

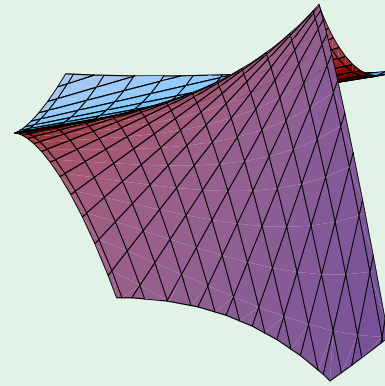
cone)  $C \subset TX$ .

—  $\pi_Y$ -fibers project by  $\pi_X$  to “null lines” in  $X$ , and  $\pi_X$ -fibers

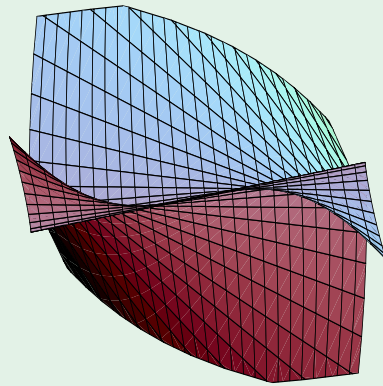
project by  $\pi_Y$  to “Legendre lines” in  $Y$ .



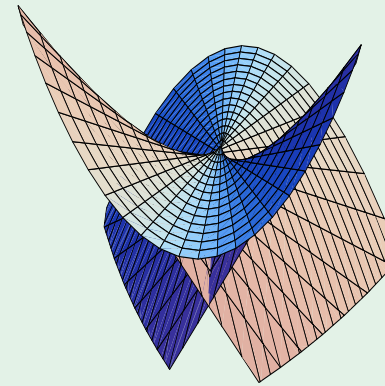
CE



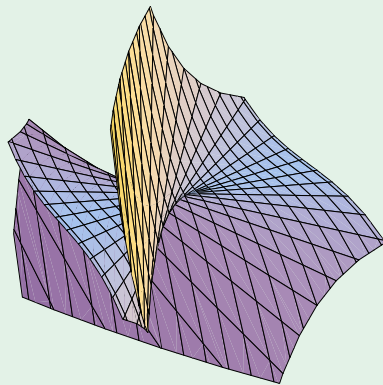
CE



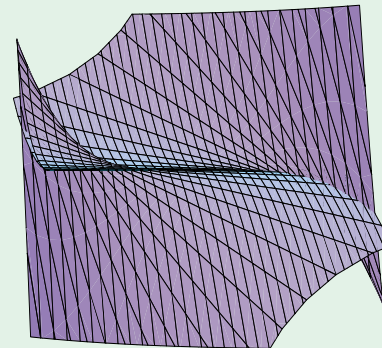
MD



SW



FP



SB

—  $G_2$  —

$G = \text{Aut}(\mathbf{O}')$ , the split  $G_2$ .  $\mathbf{O}'$  the split octonions.

Let  $\mathbf{H} = \{a = x + yi + zj + wk \mid x, y, z, w \in \mathbf{R}\}$  be

Hamilton's quaternion algebra and

define the split octonions by  $\mathbf{O}' = \mathbf{H} \oplus \mathbf{H}$  with the multiplication as

$$(a, b)(c, d) := (ac \mp \bar{d}b, da + b\bar{c}).$$

Note that  $\mathbf{O}'$  is a non-associative algebra.

We set  $V := \text{Im}(\mathbf{O}')$ , the imaginary part,  $\dim(V) = 7$ .

Then  $G = \text{Aut}(\mathbf{O}')$  acts on  $V$  irreducibly.

Consider the split  $G_2$  flag manifold

$$Z(G_2) := \{(V_1, V_2) \mid V_1 \subset V_2 \subset V, V_1, V_2 \text{ are null subalgebras}\},$$

where an  $\mathbf{R}$ -subspace  $W \subset V$  is called a **null subalgebra** if  $ww' = 0$ , for any  $w, w' \in W$ .

Set  $Y(G_2) := \{V_1 \mid V_1 \subset V, \text{ 1-dimensional null subalgebra}\},$

$X(G_2) := \{V_2 \mid V_2 \subset V, \text{ 2-dimensional null subalgebra}\},$

and consider the double fibrations:

$$Y(G_2) \xleftarrow{\pi_Y} Z(G_2) \xrightarrow{\pi_X} X(G_2),$$

$$\dim(Z(G_2)) = 6, \dim(Y(G_2)) = \dim(X(G_2)) = 5.$$

Set  $E := \text{Ker}(\Pi_{Y*}) \oplus \text{Ker}(\Pi_{X*}) \subset TZ.$

We called  $E$  the (split  $G_2$ ) **Engel distribution**.

$E$  is of rank 2 and with the **small** growth vector  $(2, 3, 4, 5, 6)$

and the **big** growth vector  $(2, 3, 4, 6)$ .

Just from the split  $G_2$  double fibrations, we obtain:

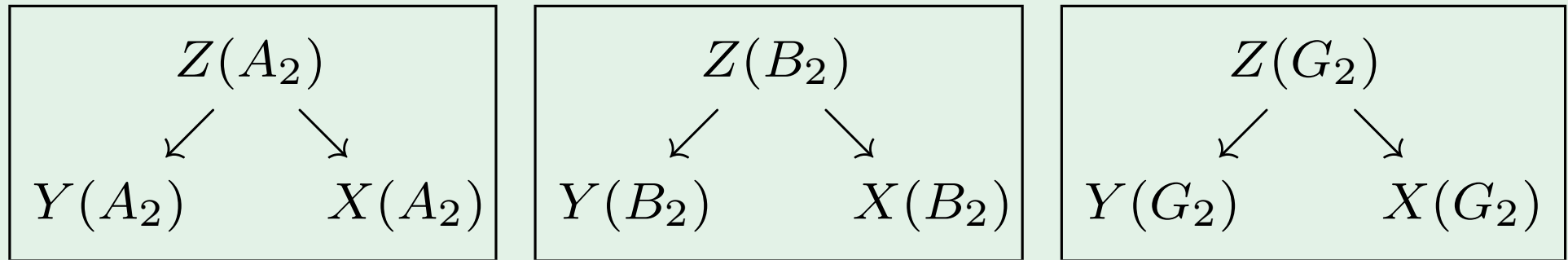
On the space  $Y$ , the **Cartan structure**  $D \subset TY$  with the (small and big) growth vector  $(2, 3, 5)$

On the space  $X$ , the Lagrange **cubic cone field**  $C \subset D' \subset TX$  contained **in a contact distribution**  $D'$ . Such a structure is called a **Monge structure**.

$\pi_Y$ -fibers project by  $\pi_X$  to “**Monge lines**” in  $X$ , which are tangent to the cubic cone  $C$ ,

$\pi_X$ -fibers project by  $\pi_Y$  to “**Cartan lines**” in  $Y$ , which are “abnormal” curves of the Cartan distribution  $D$ .

We have three types of double fibrations:



—  $X(A_2)$  has the two-dimensional **linear** cone structure  $TX$ ,  $Y(A_2)$  has the two-dimensional distribution  $TY$ , and  $Z(A_2)$  has the contact structure.

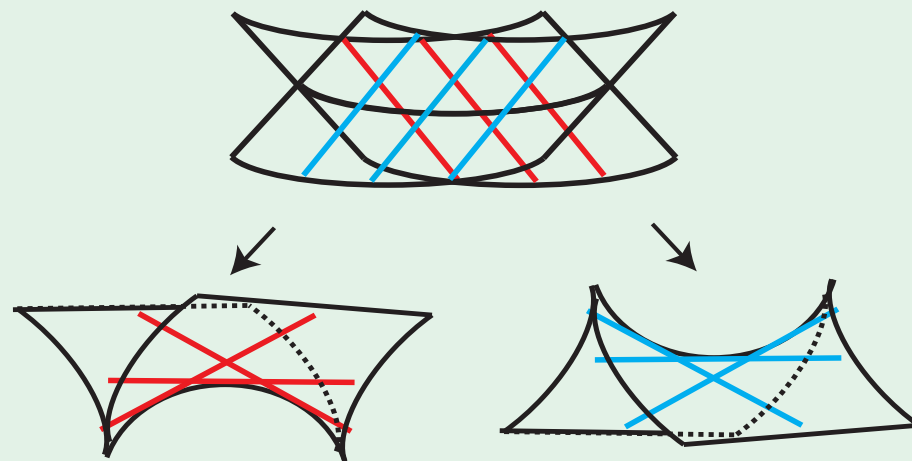
—  $X(B_2)$  has the two-dimensional **quadratic** cone structure  $C$ ,  $Y(B_2)$  has the contact distribution  $D$ , and  $Z(B_2)$  has the Engel structure.

—  $X(G_2)$  has the two-dimensional **cubic** cone structure  $C$  and the contact distribution  $D' \supset C$ ,  $Y(G_2)$  has the Cartan distribution  $D$ , and  $Z(G_2)$  has the generalized Engel structure  $E$ .

A curve  $\gamma : I \rightarrow (Z, E)$  from an open interval  $I$  is called a **Engel integral curve** if  $\gamma_*(TI) \subset E(\subset TZ)$ .

Then  $\pi_X \gamma$  is a **Monge integral curve** in  $(X, C)$ , and  $\pi_Y \gamma$  is a **Cartan integral curve** in  $(Y, D)$ .

The tangent surface  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$  of the **Cartan** integral curve  $\pi_Y \gamma$  is ruled by tangent **Cartan** lines in  $Y$ . The tangent surface  $\pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$  of the **Monge** integral curve  $\pi_X \gamma$  is ruled by tangent **Monge** lines in  $X$ .



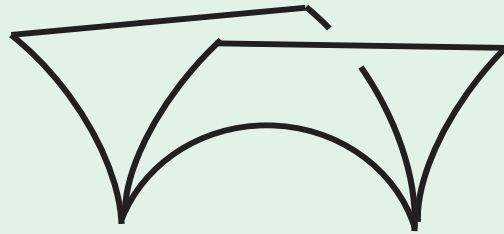


**Theorem ( $G_2$ )** For a generic **Engel** integral curve  $f : I \rightarrow (Z, E)$  in the split  $G_2$  flag manifold  $Z$ , generic in  $C^\infty$  topology, the pair of diffeomorphism classes of tangent surfaces  $\pi_Y \pi_X^{-1} \pi_X \gamma$  to **Cartan** curve  $\pi_Y \circ f$  and tangent surfaces  $\pi_X \pi_Y^{-1} \pi_Y \gamma$  to **Monge** curve  $\pi_X \circ f$  at any point  $t_0 \in I$  is given by one of

I : (cuspidal edge, cuspidal edge),

II : (open Mond surface, open swallowtail),

III : (generic open folded pleat, open Shcherbak surface).

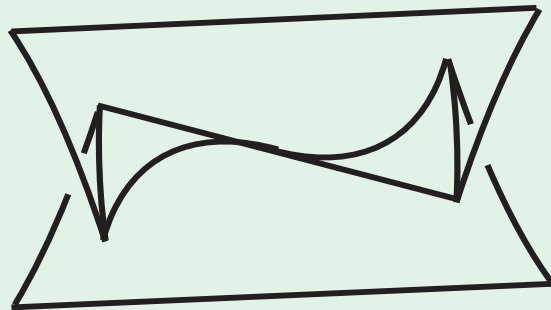


cuspidal edge

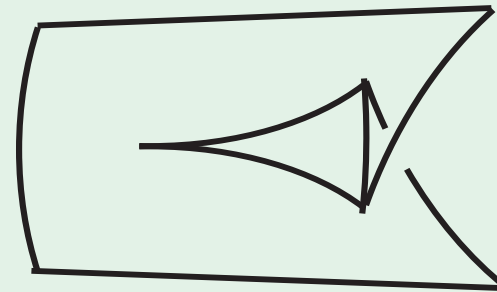


cuspidal edge

I

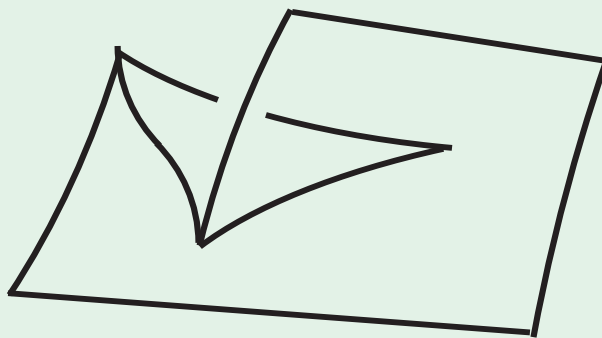


open Mond surface

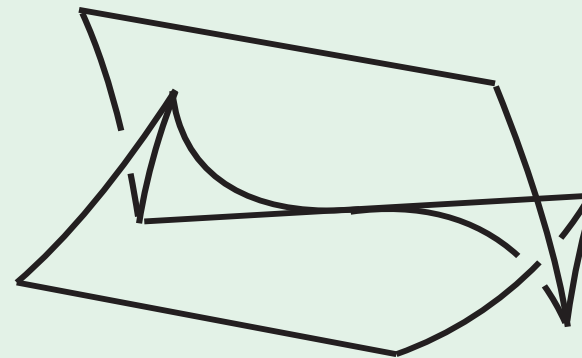


open swallowtail

II



open generic folded pleat



open Shcherbak surface

III

ご清聴ありがとうございます。

Thank you for your attention.