Symmetries and non-negative curvature of vector bundles

Symmetry and shape, Santiago de Compostela

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29.10.2019

Based on joint work with Manuel Amann and Marcus Zibrowius

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Problem: Classify manifolds admitting a metric of $sec \ge 0$.

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 \mathbb{R}^n , non-compact (open)

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Goal: give (new) examples of open mfds with $sec \ge 0$.

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- 1. Methods to construct metrics (geometrical part)

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Goal: give (new) examples of open mfds with $sec \ge 0$.

- 0. Motivation
- 1. Methods to construct metrics (geometrical part)
- 2. Apply the methods (topological part)

Let (X, g) be an **open** manifold with $sec(X) \ge 0$.

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• Every $E \to \mathbb{S}^n$, for $n \le 5$ admits $sec \ge 0$ (n = 4 by Grove-Ziller, 2000).

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Goal: Extend Rigas' result to other base manifolds (with a lot of symmetries).

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- Homogeneous spaces: dim M/G = 0
 - M = G/H admits a *G*-invariant metric of sec ≥ 0 .

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- Homogeneous spaces: dim M/G = 0
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- Cohomogeneity one manifolds: dim M/G = 1

Let G be a compact Lie group acting on a closed manifold M.

• Homogeneous spaces: dim M/G = 0

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- Cohomogeneity one manifolds: dim M/G = 1
 - (Grove-Ziller, 2000) If M/G = [−1, 1] and the singular orbits
 have codim 2 then M admits a G-invariant metric of sec ≥ 0.

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- Homogeneous spaces: dim M/G = 0
 - M = G/H admits a *G*-invariant metric of sec ≥ 0 .
- Cohomogeneity one manifolds: dim M/G = 1

► (Grove-Ziller, 2000) If M/G = [-1, 1] and the singular orbits have codim 2 then M admits a G-invariant metric of sec ≥ 0.

A **G-vector bundle** over a G-manifold is a v.b. $\pi : E \to M$, where E is a G-manifold, π is G-equivariant and $g : E_x \to E_{gx}$ is linear.

Let *M* be a *G*-manifold with M/G = [-1, 1].

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• A cohomogeneity one mfd M is determined by (G, H, K_{-}, K_{+}) .

• Conversely, any diagram (G, H, K_-, K_+) with $K_{\pm}/H = \mathbb{S}^{\ell_{\pm}}$ determines a cohomogeneity one space.

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Examples with codimension 2 singular orbits (i.e. $K_{\pm}/H = S^1$) and hence $sec \ge 0$ (by Grove-Ziller):

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 \mathbb{S}^4 , \mathbb{CP}^2 , $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^2$, $\mathbb{CP}^2 \sharp \overline{\mathbb{CP}^2}$, every homotopy \mathbb{RP}^5 , every SO(4)-principal bundle over \mathbb{S}^4 ,...

Using known techniques (bi-invariant metrics on compact Lie groups, Riemannian submersions, special gluings by Grove-Ziller):

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Theorem 1

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Question:

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• There exist *G*-manifolds *M* satisfying the following:

for every **complex** vector bundle $E \to M$, there is an integer k such that $E \oplus \mathbb{C}^k$ is a **G**-vector bundle.

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- If M has a G-action one can define $K_G(M)$ in a similar way.
- There is a natural (FORGETFUL) map

$$F: K_G(M) \to K(M)$$

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• Examples: all homogenous spaces with sec > 0 (\mathbb{S}^n , \mathbb{CP}^n , \mathbb{HP}^n , ...)

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• Examples: there is a cohomo 1 action by $SU(2)^{n+1}$ on

$$(\mathbb{CP}^2 \sharp \overline{\mathbb{CP}^2}) \times (\mathbb{S}^2)^n, \qquad n \ge 0$$

satisfying the hypotheses in Theorem 3. This manifold is not even homotopy equivalent to a homogeneous space.

(AGZ, 2019) The map

$$K_G(M)\otimes \mathbb{Q} \to K(M)\otimes \mathbb{Q}$$

is surjective if $\operatorname{rk} G - \operatorname{rk} K_{\pm} \leq 1$ and $\dim K_{\pm}/H$ is odd.



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Suppose $K_{\pm}/H \cong S^1$
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• Examples: the hypotheses now allow *M*'s with $\chi(M) = 0$.

THANK YOU!

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