

# Nearly Kähler geometry and totally geodesic submanifolds

Juan Manuel Lorenzo Naveiro

CITMAGA, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

Symmetry and Shape, 24 September 2024

Joint work with Alberto Rodríguez-Vázquez (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

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DE SANTIAGO  
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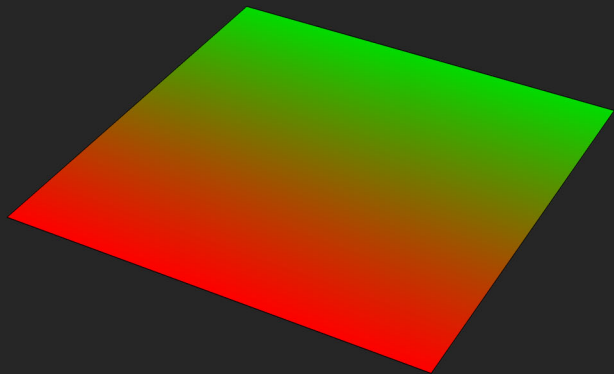
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- $M$  real analytic Riemannian manifold,  $f: \Sigma \rightarrow M$  isometric immersion.

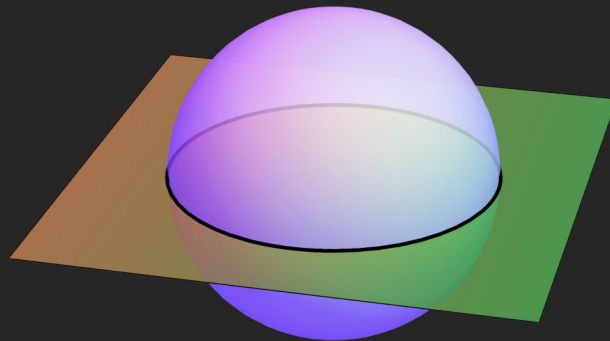
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- $f$  is *totally geodesic* if:

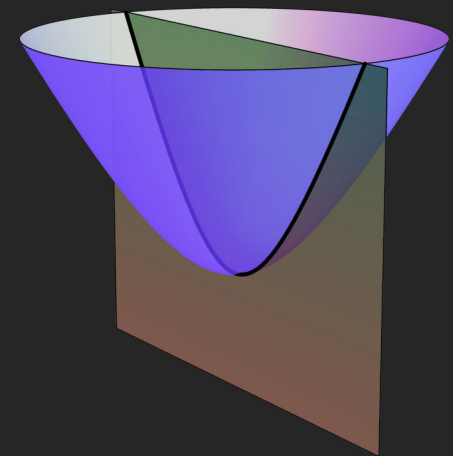
$$\gamma: I \rightarrow \Sigma \text{ geodesic} \Rightarrow f \circ \gamma: I \rightarrow M \text{ geodesic.}$$



$$\mathbb{R}^k \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$



$$\mathbb{S}^k \subseteq \mathbb{S}^n$$



$$\mathbb{RH}^k \subseteq \mathbb{RH}^n$$

# General problem

- $f: \Sigma^k \rightarrow M^n$  is compatible if  $\tilde{f}: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_k(TM)$  given by

$$\tilde{f}(x) = df_x(T_x\Sigma)$$

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- $f_i: \Sigma_i \rightarrow M$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are *equivalent* (and we write  $f_1 \simeq f_2$ ) if there exists an isometry  $\phi: \Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$  with  $f_1 = f_2 \circ \phi$ .

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Given  $M$ , classify (equivalence classes of) inextendable compatible totally geodesic immersions to  $M$  up to congruence.

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- Butruille ('06): Classification of homogeneous nearly Kähler manifolds  $G/K$  in dimension six:

| $M$               | $G$       | $K$                 |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| $S^6$             | $G_2$     | $SU(3)$             |
| $F(\mathbb{C}^3)$ | $SU(3)$   | $T^2$               |
| $\mathbb{C}P^3$   | $Sp(2)$   | $U(1) \times Sp(1)$ |
| $S^3 \times S^3$  | $SU(2)^3$ | $\Delta SU(2)$      |

# Previously known results

- $\mathbb{C}P^3$  :
  - Totally geodesic + Lagrangian (Aslan '23, Liefsoens '22).
  - Totally geodesic +  $J$ -holomorphic curve (Cwiklinski, Vrancken '22).
- $F(\mathbb{C}^3)$  :
  - Totally geodesic + Lagrangian (Storm '20).
- $S^3 \times S^3$  :
  - Totally geodesic + Lagrangian (Zhang, Dioos, Hu, Vrancken, Wang '16).
  - Totally geodesic +  $J$ -holomorphic curve (Bolton, Dillen, Dioos, Vrancken '22).

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- Difference tensor  $\alpha = \nabla - \nabla^c: \mathfrak{p} \times \mathfrak{p} \rightarrow \mathfrak{p}$ .

$$\alpha(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2}[X, Y]_{\mathfrak{p}}.$$



# Totally geodesic subspaces

- $f: \Sigma \rightarrow M$  totally geodesic. Then  $f$  is determined by any tangent subspace  $V \in \widetilde{f}(\Sigma)$  :

$$f_i: \Sigma_i \rightarrow M, \quad \widetilde{f}_1(\Sigma_1) \cap \widetilde{f}_2(\Sigma_2) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow f_1 \simeq f_2.$$

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**Tojo's criterion.**  $M$  naturally reductive,  $\mathfrak{v} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ . The following are equivalent:

1.  $\mathfrak{v}$  is a totally geodesic subspace.
2. The subspace  $e^{\nabla X^*} \mathfrak{v}$  is  $R$ -invariant for all  $X \in \mathfrak{v}$ .

# $\alpha$ -invariant totally geodesic submanifolds

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**Theorem.**  $\mathfrak{v} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$  invariant under  $R$  and  $\alpha$ . Then:

1.  $\mathfrak{s} = [\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}] + \mathfrak{v} = [\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}]_{\mathfrak{k}} \oplus \mathfrak{v}$  is a subalgebra.
2.  $\Sigma = S \cdot o$  is totally geodesic and  $\alpha$ -invariant with  $T_o \Sigma = \mathfrak{v}$ .

$$\mathbb{C}P^3 = \mathbf{Sp}(2)/(\mathbf{U}(1) \times \mathbf{Sp}(1))$$

| Submanifold                                | Orbit of                     | Relationship with $J$ |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| $\mathbb{R}P^3_{\mathbb{C},1/2}(\sqrt{2})$ | $\mathbf{SU}(2)$             | Lagrangian            |
| $S^2(1/\sqrt{2})$                          | $\mathbf{Sp}(1)_f$           | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $S^2(1)$                                   | $\mathbf{SU}(2)$             | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $S^2(\sqrt{5})$                            | $\mathbf{SU}(2)_{\Lambda_3}$ | $J$ -holomorphic      |

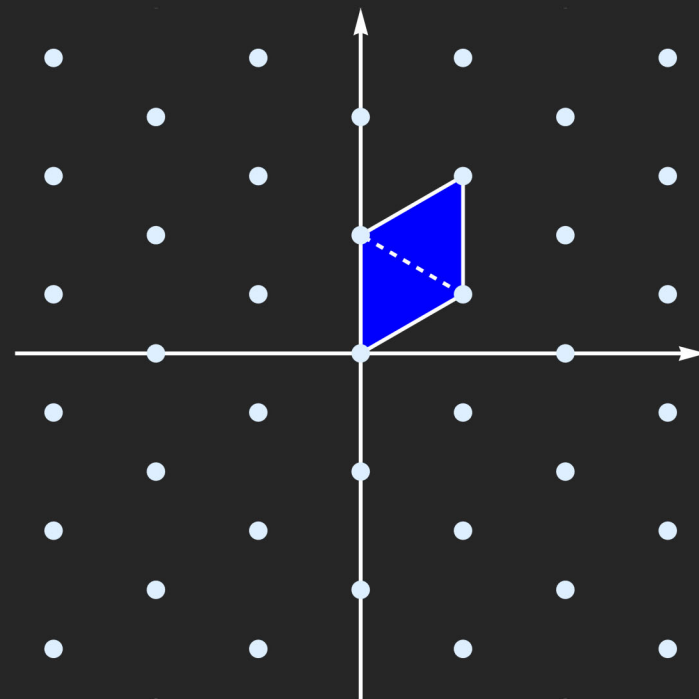
$\Lambda_3 = S^3(\mathbb{C}^2)$  is the four-dimensional irrep. of  $\mathbf{SU}(2)$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & -\bar{b} \\ b & \bar{a} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a(|a|^2 - 2|b|^2) & -\sqrt{3}a^2\bar{b} \\ \sqrt{3}a^2\bar{b} & a^3 \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{j} \begin{pmatrix} b(2|a|^2 - |b|^2) & -\sqrt{3}ab^2 \\ \sqrt{3}\bar{a}b^2 & -b^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F(\mathbb{C}^3) = \text{SU}(3)/\text{T}^2$$

| Submanifold  | Orbit of       | Relationship with $J$ |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|
| $F(\mathbb{R}^3) = \text{S}^3(2\sqrt{2})/\text{Q}_8$ | $\text{SO}(3)$ | Lagrangian            |
| $\text{S}_{\mathbb{C},1/4}^3(2)$                     | $\text{SU}(2)$ | Lagrangian            |
| $\text{T}_\Lambda$                                   | $\text{T}^2$   | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $\text{S}^2(1/\sqrt{2})$                             | $\text{U}(2)$  | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $\text{S}^2(\sqrt{2})$                               | $\text{SO}(3)$ | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $\mathbb{R}\text{P}^2(2\sqrt{2})$                    | Inhomogeneous  | Totally real          |

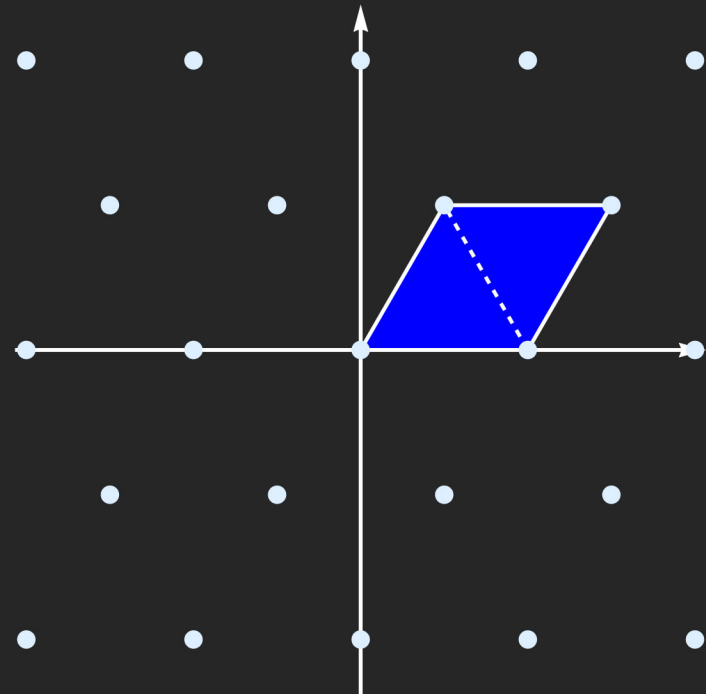
$$\Lambda = \left\langle \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\pi (0, 2), \sqrt{2}\pi \left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) \right\rangle$$



$$S^3 \times S^3 = SU(2)^3 / \Delta SU(2)$$

| Submanifold               | Orbit of                   | Relationship with $J$ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| $S^3(2/\sqrt{3})$         | $SU(2)_2$                  | Lagrangian            |
| $S^3_{\mathbb{C},1/3}(2)$ | $SU(2)_{13,2}$             | Lagrangian            |
| $T_\Gamma$                | $T \subseteq U(1)^3$       | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $S^2(\sqrt{3}/2)$         | $\Delta SU(2)$             | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $S^2(2/\sqrt{3})$         | $H \subseteq SU(2)_{13,2}$ | Totally real          |

$$\Gamma = \left\langle \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{3}}(1, 0), \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}}(1, \sqrt{3}) \right\rangle$$





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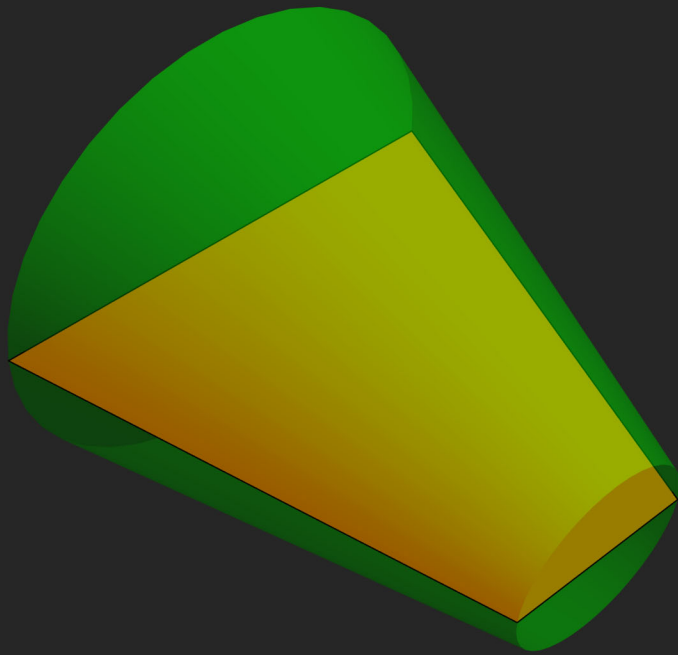
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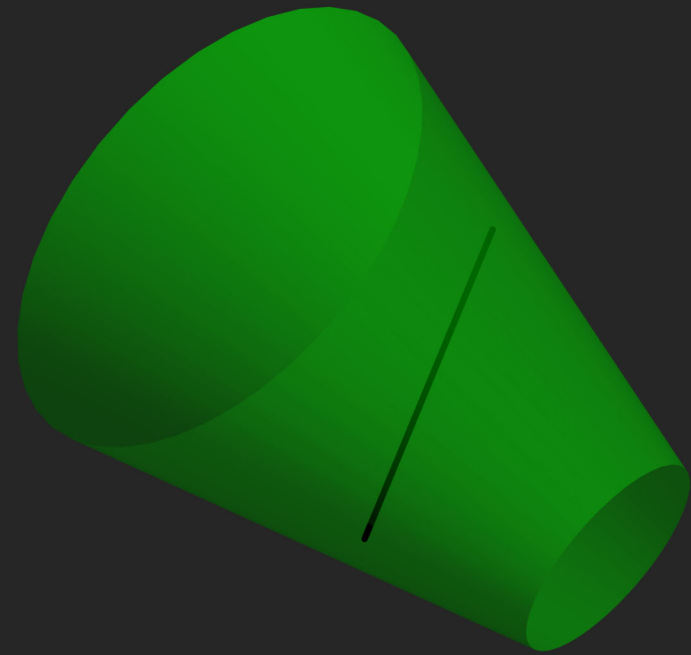
- If  $M \neq S^6$  and  $\pi_1(M) = 0$ , then  $\text{Hol}(\widehat{M}) = \mathbf{G}_2$ .

**Theorem (LN, Rodríguez-Vázquez).**  $\Sigma$  totally geodesic in  $\widehat{M}$ . Then one of the two holds:

- i.  $\Sigma = \widehat{S}$  for  $S \rightarrow M$  totally geodesic.
- ii.  $\Sigma$  is (up to surjective local isometry) a totally geodesic hypersurface in  $\widehat{S}$  for  $S \rightarrow M$  totally geodesic.



$$\Sigma = \widehat{S}$$



$$\Sigma \subseteq \widehat{S}$$

**Corollary.**  $\Sigma \rightarrow \widehat{M}$  maximal totally geodesic submanifold. Then one of the two holds:

- i.  $\Sigma = \widehat{S}$  for a maximal totally geodesic  $S \rightarrow M$ .
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The case ii. is not possible if  $\text{Hol}(\widehat{M}) = \mathbf{G}_2$  (Jentsch, Moroianu, Semmelmann, '13).



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**Theorem (LN, Rodríguez-Vázquez).** Let  $\widehat{M}$  be a cohomogeneity one  $\mathbf{G}_2$ -cone. Every maximal totally geodesic submanifold of  $\widehat{M}$  is

- i. Associative (i.e. calibrated by the  $\mathbf{G}_2$ -structure  $\phi$ ) if  $\dim \Sigma = 3$ .
- ii. Coassociative (i.e. calibrated by  $\star\phi$ ) if  $\dim \Sigma = 4$ .

| Ambient                  | Submanifold   | Orbit of                   | Relationship with $J$ |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3$ | $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C},1/2}^3(\sqrt{2})$ | $SU(2)^j$                  | Lagrangian            |
|                          | $S^2(1/\sqrt{2})$                                   | $Sp(1)_f$                  | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(1)$  | $SU(2)$                    | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(\sqrt{5})$                                     | $SU(2)_{\Lambda_3}$        | $J$ -holomorphic      |
| $F(\mathbb{C}^3)$        | $F(\mathbb{R}^3)$                                   | $SO(3)$                    | Lagrangian            |
|                          | $S_{\mathbb{C},1/4}^3(2)$                           | $SU(2)$                    | Lagrangian            |
|                          | $T_{\Lambda}$                                       | $T^2$                      | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(1/\sqrt{2})$                                   | $U(2)$                     | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(\sqrt{2})$                                     | $SO(3)$                    | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^2(2\sqrt{2})$                 | Inhomogeneous              | Totally real          |
| $S^3 \times S^3$         | $S^3(2/\sqrt{3})$                                   | $SU(2)_2$                  | Lagrangian            |
|                          | $S_{\mathbb{C},1/3}^3(2)$                           | $SU(2)_{13,2}$             | Lagrangian            |
|                          | $T_{\Gamma}$  | $T \subseteq U(1)^3$       | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(\sqrt{3/2})$                                   | $\Delta SU(2)$             | $J$ -holomorphic      |
|                          | $S^2(2/\sqrt{3})$                                   | $H \subseteq SU(2)_{13,2}$ | Totally real          |