

Variations on a Schwarzian theme

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A tribute to Lagrange

If φ is a conformal mapping of \mathbb{C} , **Lagrange** introduces the function

$$S(\varphi) = -2\sqrt{\varphi'} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\varphi'}} \right)''$$

in his treatise on the *cartes géographiques* — Vol IV des œuvres complètes — see [G-R07,O-T09].

This **Lagrangian** is, today, called the **Schwarzian** (derivative)

$$S(\varphi) = \frac{\varphi'''}{\varphi'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\varphi''}{\varphi'} \right)^2$$

of φ and is an object of **projective geometry**.

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- Q: Does it appear/generalize in other geometrical contexts?
- A: **Yes!** See below ...

The properties of the Schwarzian

The **Schwarzian** $\mathcal{S}(\varphi)$ measures, at each point x , the **shift** between a diffeomorphism $\varphi \in \text{Diff}(S^1)$ and its approximating homography, $h \in \text{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R})$,¹

$$\mathcal{S}(\varphi)(x) = (\widehat{h}^{-1} \circ \varphi)'''(x)$$

- It is a $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ -differential invariant for $\text{Diff}_+(S^1)$: $\mathcal{S}(\varphi) = \mathcal{S}(\psi)$ iff $\varphi = A \circ \psi$ where $A \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.
- It is a non trivial **1-cocycle** of $\text{Diff}_+(S^1)$ with coefficients in the module of quadratic differentials $\mathcal{Q}(S^1)$:

$$\mathcal{S}(\varphi \circ \psi) = \psi^* \mathcal{S}(\varphi) + \mathcal{S}(\psi)$$

It has kernel $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.

¹sth $\widehat{h}^{-1} \circ \varphi$ has the 2-jet of Id at x

The three geometries of the circle

Highlight an important classification result, see [Fuk87, O-T05, G-R07]:

Theorem

The cohomology spaces $H^1(\text{Diff}_+(S^1), \mathcal{F}_\lambda)$ are given by

$$H^1(\text{Diff}_+(S^1), \mathcal{F}_\lambda) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & \text{if } \lambda = 0, 1, 2 \\ \{0\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

These 3 cohomology spaces are resp. generated by \mathcal{E} , \mathcal{A} , & \mathcal{S} :

$$\mathcal{E}(\varphi) = \log(\varphi'), \quad \mathcal{A}(\varphi) = d\mathcal{E}(\varphi)$$

and Schwarzian cocycle

$$\mathcal{S}(\varphi) = \left(\frac{\varphi'''}{\varphi'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\varphi''}{\varphi'} \right)^2 \right) dx^2$$

Invariants of $E(1) \subset \text{Aff}_+(1) \subset \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \subset \text{Diff}_+(S^1)$

The kernels of these 3 cocycles define resp. the Euclidean, **affine**, and **projective** groups, i.e., the **3 geometries** of the circle, whose *discrete* invariants are

- Euclidean invariant (translations): distance

$$[x_1, x_2] = x_2 - x_1$$

- Affine invariant (homotheties, translations): **distance-ratio**

$$[x_1, x_2, x_3] = \frac{[x_1, x_3]}{[x_1, x_2]}$$

- Projective invariant (homographies): **cross-ratio**

$$[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4] = \frac{[x_1, x_3][x_2, x_4]}{[x_2, x_3][x_1, x_4]}$$

Var. 1

The Schwarzian derivative and Lorentz surfaces

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The Schwarzian derivative and Lorentz surfaces

- Prolonging to null infinity a “coboundary” of conformal group
- Looking at curvature of timelike Lorentz worldlines

The fourth geometry of Poincaré [K-S87, D-G2k]

Let $H^{1,1} \cong S^1 \times S^1 \setminus \Delta$ be hyperboloid of one sheet (of radius 1) in $\mathbb{R}^{2,1}$ (AdS space). Its induced **Lorentz metric** is

$$g_1 = \frac{4 d\theta_1 d\theta_2}{|e^{i\theta_1} - e^{i\theta_2}|^2}$$

- 1 $\text{Conf}(H^{1,1}) \cong \text{Diff}(\Delta)$ with $\Delta \cong S^1$ **conformal boundary**.
- 2 If $\varphi \in \text{Conf}_+(H^{1,1})$, then $\varphi^*g_1 - g_1$ extends smoothly to $S^1 \times S^1$.
- 3 “Prolongation” to Δ of phoney **1-coboundary**

$$S_1(\varphi) = \frac{3}{2} (\varphi^*g - g) | \Delta$$

\Rightarrow non-trivial $\text{Diff}_+(S^1)$ **1-cocycle** $S_1(\varphi) = S_1(\varphi) d\theta^2 \in \mathcal{Q}(S^1)$:

$$S_1(\varphi) = \underbrace{\frac{\varphi'''}{\varphi'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\varphi''}{\varphi'} \right)^2}_{S(\varphi)} + \frac{1}{2} (\varphi'^2 - 1)$$

The fourth geometry of Poincaré (cont'd)

Holography: Conformal Lorentzian geometry of bulk $H^{1,1} \iff$ projective geometry of its conformal boundary, $\Delta \cong S^1$:

- $\text{Conf}(H^{1,1}) \cong \text{Diff}(S^1)$.
- $\text{Isom}_+(H^{1,1}) \cong \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.
- $(\varphi^* g_1 - g_1)|_{S^1} \cong \mathcal{S}_1(\varphi)$.
- $\text{Conf}_+(H^{1,1})/\text{Isom}_+(H^{1,1})$ is a **Vir(S^1) coadjoint orbit** with central charge $c = 1$, and symplectic 2-form Ω coming from

$$\omega(\delta_1 g, \delta_2 g) = \frac{3}{2} \int_{\Delta} i_{\xi_1} L_{\xi_2} g$$

where $g \in [g_1]$, $\delta_k g = L_{\xi_k} g$ & $\xi_k \in \text{Vect}(S^1)$.

- Etc.

Curvature of worldlines in Lorentz surfaces

Consider a curve $x \mapsto y = \varphi(x)$ and its graph in $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} = (\mathbb{R}^2, g = dx dy)$.

If velocity $v = \partial/\partial x + \varphi'(x)\partial/\partial y$ is *timelike*, i.e., $g(v, v) = \varphi'(x) > 0$, the Frenet **curvature** $\varrho = \sigma(v, a)/g(v, v)^{\frac{3}{2}}$, with $a = \nabla_v v$ (acceleration) and $\sigma = dx \wedge dy$, reads

$$\varrho(x) = (\varphi'(x))^{-\frac{3}{2}} \varphi''(x).$$

Then

$$\varrho'(x) \sqrt{\varphi'(x)} = \frac{\varphi'''(x)}{\varphi'(x)} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\varphi''(x)}{\varphi'(x)} \right)^2$$

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- Q: Does this relationship generalize to curved Lorentz surfaces?
- A: Yes, provided ...

Curvature of worldlines in Lorentz surfaces (cont'd)

Theorem [D-O2k]

Let $\varphi \in \text{Diff}_+(\mathbb{R}P^1)$, and let ϱ be curvature of its graph in $\mathbb{R}P^1 \times \mathbb{R}P^1$ with metric $g = g(x, y)dx dy$, and t be *proper time*, then

$$d\varrho dt = S(\varphi)$$

iff

$$g = \frac{dx dy}{(axy + bx + cy + d)^2}$$

with $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$.

Metric of constant curvature $K = 8(ad - bc)$ on $\Sigma = \mathbb{R}P^1 \times \mathbb{R}P^1 \setminus \Gamma$ is projectively equivalent to

$$g = \begin{cases} dx dy & (K = 0) \\ \frac{8}{K} \frac{dx dy}{(x - y)^2} & (K \neq 0) \end{cases}$$

Curvature of worldlines in Lorentz surfaces (cont'd)

Ghys' theorem ('95) — “*The Schwarzian derivative $S(\varphi)$ of a diffeomorphism φ of $\mathbb{R}P^1$ has at least 4 distinct zeroes*” — hence corresponds to the **4-vertex theorem** for closed timelike curves in $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}P^1 \times \mathbb{R}P^1$ with the above metric.

Var. 2

The Schwarzian derivative and Finsler geometry

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The Schwarzian derivative and Finsler geometry

- Check out metrics of scalar curvature, e.g., **Numata** metrics
- Specialize the **flag curvature** to the ... 1-dim case

Schwarzian derivative & Finsler scalar curvature (I)

A **Finsler structure** on a smooth manifold M is defined by a “metric”

$$F : TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$$

whose restriction to $TM \setminus M$ is strictly positive, smooth, and sth $F(x, \lambda y) = \lambda F(x, y)$ for all $\lambda > 0$; Hessian $g_{ij}(x, y) = \left(\frac{1}{2}F^2\right)_{y^i y^j}$ is assumed positive definite. The fundamental tensor

$$g = g_{ij}(x, y) dx^i \otimes dx^j$$

defines a *sphere's worth of Riemannian metrics* on each $T_x M$. Also

$$\ell = \ell^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \quad \text{with} \quad \ell^i(x, y) = \frac{y^i}{F(x, y)}$$


is a distinguished unit section of $\pi^*(TM)$, i.e., $g_{ij}(x, y)\ell^i\ell^j = 1$, where $\pi : TM \setminus M \rightarrow M$.

Schwarzian derivative & Finsler scalar curvature (II)

Unlike Riemannian case, \nexists **canonical** linear connection on $\pi^*(TM)$.

Example: **Chern connection** $\omega_j^i = \Gamma_{jk}^i(x, y) dx^k$ uniquely characterized by (i) symmetry: $\Gamma_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{kj}^i$, and (ii) almost “metric transport”:

$$dg_{ij} - \omega_i^k g_{jk} - \omega_j^k g_{ik} = 2C_{ijk} \delta y^k.^2$$

²Here, $C_{ijk}(x, y) = (\frac{1}{4} F^2)_{y^i y^j y^k}$ (Cartan tensor), $\delta y^i = dy^i + N_j^i dx^j$, with $N_j^i(x, y) = \gamma_{jk}^i y^k$ (Ehresmann connection), where γ_{jk}^i formal Christoffel symbols. 

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Using “horizontal derivatives” $\delta/\delta x^i = \partial/\partial x^i - N_j^i \partial/\partial y^j$, one gets hh-Chern curvature

$$R_j^i{}_{kl} = \frac{\delta}{\delta x^k} \Gamma_{jl}^i + \Gamma_{mk}^i \Gamma_{jl}^m - (k \leftrightarrow l)$$

and **flag curvature** (for the flag $\ell \wedge v$ with $v \in T_x M$) by

$$K(x, y, v) = \frac{R_{ik} v^i v^k}{g(v, v) - g(\ell, v)^2}, \quad \text{where} \quad R_{ik} = \ell^j R_{jikl} \ell^l$$

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Schwarzian derivative & Finsler scalar curvature (III)

Finsler structure (M, F) of **scalar curvature** $\iff K(x, y, v)$ is independent of the vector v , i.e.,

$$R_{ik} = K(x, y)h_{ik} \quad (*)$$

with $h_{ik} = g_{ik} - \ell_i \ell_k$ the “angular metric”, $\ell_i = g_{ij} \ell^j$.

Example: The **Numata** Finsler structure: $F(x, y) = \sqrt{\delta_{ij} y^i y^j} + f_{x^i} y^i$, where $M = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \sum_{i=1}^n (f_{x^i})^2 < 1 \right\}$, and $f \in C^\infty(M)$. The flag curvature reads *provocatively*

$$K(x, y) = -\frac{1}{2F^2} \left[\frac{1}{F} f_{x^i x^j x^k} y^i y^j y^k - \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{F^2} \left(f_{x^i x^j} y^i y^j \right)^2 \right]$$

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Idea: Investigate the case $n = 1$.

Schwarzian derivative & Finsler scalar curvature (IV)

Although Eq. (*) trivially satisfied, the **flag curvature** admits a nontrivial **prolongation** to this **1-dim** case, where $F(x, y) = |y| + f'(x)y$ with $-1 < f'(x) < +1$ on $M \subset \mathbb{R}P^1$. Its restrictions to $T^\pm M \cong M \times \mathbb{R}_*^\pm$ read $F_\pm(x, y) = \varphi'_\pm(x)y > 0$, where

$$\varphi'_\pm(x) = f'(x) \pm 1 \quad (*)$$

implying $\varphi_\pm \in \text{Diff}_\pm(\mathbb{R}P^1)$, with $|\varphi'_\pm(x)| < 2$.

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Theorem [Duv08]

The 1-dim Numata Finsler structure induces a Riemannian metric, $g(\varphi) = \varphi^*(dx^2)$, where $\varphi \in \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R}P^1)$ is as in (*). The **flag curvature** is

$$K = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{S(\varphi)}{g(\varphi)}$$

with $S(\varphi)$ the Schwarzian quadratic differential of φ .

Var. 3

The Schwarzian derivative and contact geometry of $S^{1|1}$

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- Seek **super geometric** versions of the Euclidean, affine, and projective **invariants** of S^1 . **Super cross-ratio**?
- What are then the **1-cocycles** associated with super extensions of $\text{Diff}(S^1)$? **Super Schwarzian derivative**?

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- What are then the **1-cocycles** associated with super extensions of $\text{Diff}(S^1)$? **Super Schwarzian derivative**?
- How can one relate these new geometric objects?
- Classification of the geometries of the supercircle!

The supercircle $S^{1|1}$

The **supercircle** $S^{1|1}$: the circle S^1 , endowed with (a sheaf of associative commutative $\mathbb{Z}/(2\mathbb{Z})$ -graded algebras, with sections) the **superfunctions** $C^\infty(S^{1|1}) = C^\infty(S^1)[\xi]$ where $\xi^2 = 0$ & $x\xi = \xi x$.

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- If (x, ξ) are local coordinates of (affine) superdomain, every superfunction writes

$$f(x, \xi) = f_0(x) + \xi f_1(x), \quad \text{where} \quad f_0, f_1 \in C^\infty(S^1)$$

- Parity: $p(f_0) = 0$, $p(\xi f_1) = 1$.

- Projection: $\pi : C^\infty(S^{1|1}) \rightarrow C^\infty(S^1)$ where $\ker(\pi)$: ideal generated by nilpotent elements.

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- Projection: $\pi : C^\infty(S^{1|1}) \rightarrow C^\infty(S^1)$ where $\ker(\pi)$: ideal generated by nilpotent elements.

- Group of **diffeomorphisms**: $\text{Diff}(S^{1|1}) = \text{Aut}(C^\infty(S^{1|1}))$ consists of pairs $\Phi = (\varphi, \psi)$ of superfunctions sth $(\varphi(x, \xi), \psi(x, \xi))$ are new coordinates on $S^{1|1}$.

Vector fields & 1-forms of the supercircle

Vector fields $\text{Vect}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) = \text{SuperDer}(C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}))$ with local expression

$$X = f(x, \xi)\partial_x + g(x, \xi)\partial_\xi \quad \text{where} \quad f, g \in C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$$

NB: $\text{Vect}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ is a $C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})_L$ -module locally generated by $(\partial_x, \partial_\xi)$ where $\rho(\partial_x) = 0$, $\rho(\partial_\xi) = 1$. It is also a **Lie superalgebra** with Lie bracket $[X, Y] = XY - (-1)^{\rho(X)\rho(Y)} YX$.

³Cohomological degree $|\cdot|$, parity ρ .

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Differential 1-forms $\Omega^1(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) = C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})_R$ -module locally generated by dual basis $(dx, d\xi)$ where $p(dx) = 0$, $p(d\xi) = 1$. The module $\Omega^\bullet(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ of differential forms is **bigraded**: our choice of *Sign Rule* is³

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = (-1)^{|\alpha||\beta| + p(\alpha)p(\beta)} \beta \wedge \alpha$$

³Cohomological degree $|\cdot|$, parity p .

Contact structure on supercircle $S^{1|1}$

It is given by direction of contact **1-form** [Lei80]

$$\alpha = dx + \xi d\xi$$

We have $d\alpha = \beta \wedge \beta$ where $\beta = d\xi$.

- Contact distribution, $\ker(\alpha)$, generated by SUSY vector field

$$D = \partial_\xi + \xi \partial_x$$

- **Contactomorphisms**:⁴

$$K(1) = \{ \Phi \in \text{Diff}(S^{1|1}) \mid \Phi^* \alpha = E_\Phi \alpha \}$$

⁴One shows that $\Phi = (\varphi, \psi) \in K(1) \iff D\varphi = \psi D\psi$, with **multiplier** $E_\Phi = (D\psi)^2$

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- **Infinitesimal contactomorphisms**:

$k(1) = \{X \in \text{Vect}(S^{1|1}) \mid L_X \alpha = e_X \alpha\}$. Canonical Lie superalgebra isomorphism $k(1) \rightarrow C^\infty(S^{1|1}) : X \mapsto f = \langle X, \alpha \rangle$.

⁴One shows that $\Phi = (\varphi, \psi) \in K(1) \iff D\varphi = \psi D\psi$, with **multiplier** $E_\Phi = (D\psi)^2$.

Densities, 1-forms & quadratic differentials

Let $\mathcal{F}_\lambda(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ be the $K(1)$ -module of λ -densities ($\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$): $C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ endowed with (anti)action $\Phi_\lambda f = (E_\Phi)^\lambda \Phi^* f$. Write $F \in \mathcal{F}_\lambda$ as $F = f\alpha^\lambda$.

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- The $C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})_R$ -module $\Omega^1(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ of 1-forms is generated by α et β .

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- The $C^\infty(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})_R$ -module $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ of **quadratic differentials** is generated by $\alpha^2 = \alpha \otimes \alpha$ et $\alpha\beta = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha \otimes \beta + \beta \otimes \alpha)$.

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Proposition

Both $\Omega^1(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ and $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1})$ are $K(1)$ -modules ; they admit the **decomposition** into $K(1)$ -submodules:

$$\Omega^1(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \cong \mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}} \oplus \mathcal{F}_1, \quad \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \cong \mathcal{F}_{\frac{3}{2}} \oplus \mathcal{F}_2$$

The **projections** $\Omega^1(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}}$ (resp. $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\frac{3}{2}}$) are given by $\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle D, \cdot \rangle$, and the corresponding **sections** by $\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} L_D$ (resp. $\frac{2}{3} \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} L_D$).

Orthosymplectic group, Euclidean & affine subgroups

It is the subgroup $\text{SpO}(2|1) \subset \text{GL}(2|1)$ of symplectomorphisms of $(\mathbb{R}^{2|1}, d\varpi)$ where $\varpi = \frac{1}{2}(pdq - qdp + \theta d\theta)$; one has⁵

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & \gamma \\ c & d & \delta \\ \alpha & \beta & e \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SpO}(2|1)$$

The group $\text{SpO}(2|1)$ preserves 1-form $\varpi = \frac{1}{2}p^2\alpha$ (where $p \neq 0$); it thus acts by **contactomorphisms** via the projective action on $S^{1|1}$:

$$\widehat{h}(x, \xi) = \left(\frac{ax + b + \gamma\xi}{cx + d + \delta\xi}, \frac{\alpha x + \beta + e\xi}{cx + d + \delta\xi} \right)$$

The **Berezinian** is $\text{Ber}(h) = e + \alpha\beta e^{-1}$ and $\text{SpO}_+(2|1) = \text{Ber}^{-1}(1)$, super-extension of $\text{Sp}(2, \mathbb{R}) = \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.

⁵with $ad - bc - \alpha\beta = 1$, $e^2 + 2\gamma\delta = 1$, $\alpha e - a\delta + c\gamma = 0$, $\beta e - b\delta + d\gamma = 0$.

Orthosymplectic group, Euclidean & affine subgroups (cont'd)

One uses the local factorization

$$\mathrm{SpO}_+(2|1) \ni h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \tilde{c} & 1 & \tilde{\delta} \\ \tilde{\delta} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{a}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Aff}(1|1)} \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & \tilde{b} & -\tilde{\beta} \\ 0 & \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon\tilde{\beta} & 1 \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{E}(1|1)}$$

where $(\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{\beta}, \tilde{\delta}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3|2}$, with $\epsilon^2 = 1$, $\tilde{a} > 0$.

Orthosymplectic group, Euclidean & affine subgroups (cont'd)

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where $(\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{\beta}, \tilde{\delta}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3|2}$, with $\epsilon^2 = 1$, $\tilde{a} > 0$.

- Note that $\mathrm{E}(1|1) = \{\Phi \in \mathrm{Diff}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \mid \Phi^*\alpha = \alpha\}$
- Also $\mathrm{Aff}(1|1) = \{\Phi \in \mathrm{Diff}(\mathcal{S}^{1|1}) \mid \Phi^*\alpha = a^2\alpha, a \neq 0\}$

Notion of $p|q$ -transitivity [M-D08]

Extension of the notion of n -transitivity to supergroup actions.

Consider $E = E_0 \times E_1$ and canonical projections p_0 & p_1 . Two n -uplets $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ and $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n)$ of distinct points of E are said

$p|q$ -equivalent, $s \stackrel{p|q}{=} t$, where $n = \max(p, q)$, if $p_0(s_i) = p_0(t_i)$
 $\forall i = 1, \dots, p$ and $p_1(s_i) = p_1(t_i) \forall i = 1, \dots, q$.

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The action ($h \mapsto \hat{h}$) of group G on E is said simply **$p|q$ -transitive** if for all $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ and $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n)$, $\exists! g \in G$ sth $\hat{g}(t) \stackrel{p|q}{=} s$.

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Examples:

- The $\mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ -action on S^1 is simply 3-transitive.
- The $\mathrm{SpO}_+(2|1)$ -action on $S^{1|1}$ is **3|2-transitive**.

Construction of the discrete invariants

Theorem

Let G act simply $p|q$ -transitively on $E = E_0 \times E_1$, and m be an n -uplet, $n = \max(p, q)$, of distinct points of E . The $(n + 1)$ -point function $I_{[m]}$ of E with values in E defined by

$$I_{[m]}(t_1, \dots, t_{n+1}) = \widehat{h}(t_{n+1})$$

where $\widehat{h}(t) \stackrel{p|q}{=} m$, and $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in E^n \setminus \Gamma$ enjoys the properties:

- 1 $I_{[m]}$ is **G -invariant**.
- 2 If $\phi \in E!$ preserves $I_{[m]}$, then $\phi = \widehat{g}$ for some $g \in G$.

Theorem I [M-D08]

- Euclidean invariant $l_e(t_1, t_2) = ([t_1, t_2], \{t_1, t_2\})$:

$$[t_1, t_2] = x_2 - x_1 - \xi_2 \xi_1, \quad \{t_1, t_2\} = \xi_2 - \xi_1$$

- Affine invariant $l_a(t_1, t_2, t_3) = ([t_1, t_2, t_3], \{t_1, t_2, t_3\})$:

$$[t_1, t_2, t_3] = \frac{[t_1, t_3]}{[t_1, t_2]}, \quad \{t_1, t_2, t_3\} = [t_1, t_2, t_3]^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\{t_1, t_3\}}{[t_1, t_3]^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

- Projective invariant $l_p(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) = ([t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4], \pm\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4\})$,
i.e., **super cross-ratio**:

$$[t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4] = \frac{[t_1, t_3][t_2, t_4]}{[t_2, t_3][t_1, t_4]},$$
$$\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4\} = [t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4]^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\{t_2, t_4\}[t_1, t_2] - \{t_1, t_2\}[t_2, t_4]}{([t_1, t_2][t_2, t_4][t_1, t_4])^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

Theorem I (cont'd)

- If a contactomorphism $\Phi \in K(1)$ preserves the even part of l_e , or l_a , or l_p , then $\Phi = \widehat{h}$ for h in $E(1|1)$, or $\text{Aff}(1|1)$, or $\text{SpO}_+(2|1)$, respectively.
- If a bijection Φ of $S^{1|1}$ preserves l_e , or l_a , or l_p , then $\Phi = \widehat{h}$ for h in $E_+(1|1)$, or $\text{Aff}_+(1|1)$, or $\text{SpO}_+(2|1)$, respectively.

See [Aok88, Nel88, U-Y90, Man91, Gidd92] for pioneering introduction of super cross-ratio (super Riemann surfaces, superstrings, ...)

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Seek now the corresponding **differential invariants** ...

The Cartan formula [Car37]

Consider $\Phi \in \text{Diff}(S^1)$, the flow $\phi_\varepsilon = \text{Id} + \varepsilon X + O(\varepsilon^2)$ of a vector field X , and 4 points $t_1, t_2 = \phi_\varepsilon(t_1), t_3 = \phi_{2\varepsilon}(t_1), t_4 = \phi_{3\varepsilon}(t_1)$.

The **Schwarzian derivative** of Φ is defined, via the cross-ratio, as the quadratic differential $\mathcal{S}(\Phi) \in \mathcal{Q}(S^1)$ appearing in

$$\frac{\Phi^*[t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4]}{[t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4]} - 1 = \langle \varepsilon X \otimes \varepsilon X, \mathcal{S}(\Phi) \rangle + O(\varepsilon^3)$$

This formula (and its avatar for $\mathcal{A}(\Phi)$) admits a **prolongation** to the case of the **supercircle**; it leads to the following result:

Theorem II [M-D08]

The **even** Euclidean, affine and projective invariants \Rightarrow three 1-cocycles of $K(1)$, with kernel $E(1|1)$, $Aff(1|1)$ et $SpO_+(2|1)$ resp:

- the Euclidean cocycle $\mathcal{E} : K(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_0(S^{1|1})$:

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi) = \log E_\Phi$$

- the affine cocycle $\mathcal{A} : K(1) \rightarrow \Omega^1(S^{1|1})$:

$$\mathcal{A}(\Phi) = d\mathcal{E}(\Phi)$$

- the projective cocycle (**super Schwarzian**) $S : K(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}(S^{1|1})$:

$$S(\Phi) = \frac{2}{3} \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} L_D S(\Phi)$$

where

$$S(\Phi) = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{D^3 E_\Phi}{E_\Phi} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{D E_\Phi D^2 E_\Phi}{E_\Phi^2} \right) \alpha^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Theorem II (cont'd)

Using the projections of $\mathcal{Q}(S^{1|1})$ to summands of densities, one obtains two new affine and projective 1-cocycles:

- the projection of the affine cocycle $A : K(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}}(S^{1|1})$:

$$A(\Phi) = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle D, \mathcal{A}(\Phi) \rangle = \frac{DE_{\Phi}}{E_{\Phi}} \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- the projection of the Schwarzian cocycle $S : K(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\frac{3}{2}}(S^{1|1})$:

$$S(\Phi) = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle D, \mathcal{S}(\Phi) \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{D^3 E_{\Phi}}{E_{\Phi}} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{DE_{\Phi} D^2 E_{\Phi}}{E_{\Phi}^2} \right) \alpha^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

This expression is due to [Rad86]; see [Fri86, Coh87, G-T93].

Note the **super Lagrange** formula

$$S(\Phi) = -\frac{1}{2} E_{\Phi}^{\frac{1}{2}} D^3 (E_{\Phi}^{-\frac{1}{2}}) \alpha^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

The three geometries of supercircle $S^{1|1}$

The 1-cocycles of $k(1)$ (Lie superalgebra of hamiltonian vector fields of $(S^{1|1}, [\alpha])$) associated with \mathcal{E} , \mathcal{A} et \mathcal{S} are trivially the $c_i : k(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{i/2}$:

$$c_i(X_f) = (D^{i+2}f) \alpha^{i/2} \quad (i = 0, 1, 3)$$

These are the **3** out of 4 generators of $H^1(k(1), \mathcal{F}_\lambda)$ [A-BF03] the only ones which **integrate** as (non trivial) $K(1)$ -cocycles.

Theorem [M-D08]

The cohomology spaces

$$H^1(K(1), \mathcal{F}_\lambda(S^{1|1})) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & \text{if } \lambda = 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ \{0\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

are resp. generated by \mathcal{E} , \mathcal{A} et \mathcal{S} . The cohomology spaces

$$H^1(K(1), \Omega^1(S^{1|1})) = \mathbb{R} \quad \text{et} \quad H^1(K(1), \mathcal{Q}(S^{1|1})) = \mathbb{R}$$

are resp. generated by \mathcal{A} et \mathcal{S} .

Var. 4

The **super Virasoro** group $\text{Vir}(S^1|1)$

Var. 4

The **super Virasoro** group $\text{Vir}(S^{1|1})$

- The symplectic structure of $K(1)/\text{SpO}_+(2|1)$
- The Bott-Thurston cocycle of $K(1)$

The Bott-Thurston cocycle of $K(1)$

We work out the **super Virasoro** group, $\text{Vir}(S^{1|1})$, via a distinguished **affine-coadjoint orbit** of $K(1)$.

Consider the 1-form Θ of $K(1)$ defined by the Berezin integral

$$\Theta(\delta_f \Phi) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S^{1|1}} A(\Phi) \delta_f \mathcal{E}(\Phi)$$

with $A = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle D, \mathcal{A} \rangle$ (resp. \mathcal{E}) the **affine** (resp. **Euclidean**) $K(1)$ cocycle (recall $\mathcal{A} = d\mathcal{E}$); also $\delta_f \Phi = \delta(\Phi \circ \Psi)$ with $\delta \Psi = X_f$ at $\Psi = \text{Id}$, for some contact Hamiltonian $f \in C^\infty(S^{1|1})$.

Easy calculation yield

$$\delta_f \mathcal{E} = \langle X_f, \mathcal{A} \rangle + f' \quad \& \quad \delta_f A = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} D \delta_f \mathcal{E}$$

The Bott-Thurston cocycle of $K(1)$ (cont'd)

Theorem

The exterior derivative $d\Theta$ of the 1-form Θ of $K(1)$, viz.

$$d\Theta(\delta_f\Phi, \delta_g\Phi) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S^1|1} \delta_f A(\Phi) \delta_g \mathcal{E}(\Phi) - (-1)^{p(f)p(g)} \delta_g A(\Phi) \delta_f \mathcal{E}(\Phi)$$

descends to $\mathbf{S}(K(1)) \cong K(1)/\mathbf{SpO}_+(2|1)$, the *affine-coadjoint* orbit of the origin in $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{3}{2}} \subset k(1)^*$, as a symplectic 2-form Ω sth

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(X_f, X_g) &= \int_{S^1|1} \langle S(\Phi), [X_f, X_g] \rangle + \int_{S^1|1} (D^5 f)g \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \mathbf{S}(\Phi) \cdot [X_f, X_g] + \mathbf{GF}(X_f, X_g) \end{aligned}$$

where the Schwarzian, S , induces the **Souriau** cocycle, \mathbf{S} , and \mathbf{GF} is the **Gelfand-Fuchs** cocycle of $k(1)$.

The super Virasoro group $\text{Vir}(S^1|1)$

Now Θ fails to be $K(1)$ -invariant; introduce hence the 1-form

$$\widehat{\Theta} = \Theta + dt$$

of $\widehat{K(1)} = K(1) \times \mathbb{R}$. Try and lift $K(1)$ so as to preserve $\widehat{\Theta}$.

The super Virasoro group $\text{Vir}(S^{1|1})$

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Corollary

The group $K(1)$ of contactomorphisms of $(S^{1|1}, [\alpha])$ admits a lift as a group, $\text{Vir}(S^{1|1})$, of automorphisms of $(\widehat{K(1)}, \widehat{\Theta})$, whose group law is

$$(\Phi_1, t_1)(\Phi_2, t_2) = (\Phi_1 \circ \Phi_2, t_1 + t_2 - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \int_{S^{1|1}} \mathcal{E}(\Phi_1 \circ \Phi_2) A(\Phi_2)}_{\mathbf{BT}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2)})$$

with $\mathbf{BT} = \int_{S^{1|1}} (\mathcal{E} \smile A)$ the **Bott-Thurston** cocycle of $K(1)$, [Rad86].

Triple $(\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{GF}, \mathbf{BT})$: super version of the “Trilogy of the moment” [Igl95].

Var. 5

The supercircle $S^{1|N}$

Var. 5

The supercircle $S^1|N$

- The Euclidean and affine cocycles of $K(N)$
- The Schwarzian cocycle of $K(2)$

The case of the supercircle $S^{1|N}$

For the supercircle $S^{1|N}$, endowed with the contact 1-form

$$\alpha = dx + \sum_{i,j=1}^N \delta_{ij} \xi^i d\xi^j$$

the invariants of $E_+(1|N)$, $A_+(1|N)$ and $\mathrm{SpO}_+(2|N)$ retain the **same form** as for $N = 1$. However, the odd invariant $(I_p)_1$ is now determined up to the action of $O(N)$. The corresponding differential invariants are

- Euclidean cocycle $\mathcal{E} : K(N) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_0(S^{1|N})$:

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi) = \log E_\Phi$$

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Remark: In Cartan's formula [\Rightarrow 1-cocycles of $K(N)$], $\Phi^*[t_1, t_2]$ is *no longer* proportional to $[t_1, t_2]$, up to $O(\varepsilon^3)$, for $N \geq 3$. **The Schwarzian, $\mathcal{S}(\Phi)$, is therefore not given by the Cartan formula if $N \geq 3$. But...**

Theorem

The even cross-ratio $(I_p)_0$, and the Cartan formula yield the projective 1-cocycle $\mathcal{S} : K(2) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}(S^{1|2})$

$$\mathcal{S}(\Phi) = \frac{1}{6}\alpha^2 \left(D_1 D_2 S_{12} + \frac{1}{2} S_{12}^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2}\alpha(\beta^1 D_2 + \beta^2 D_1) S_{12} + \beta^1 \beta^2 S_{12}$$

with $S_{12} = 2 \mathcal{S}(\Phi)\alpha^{-1}$ where

$$\mathcal{S}(\Phi) = \left(\frac{D_2 D_1 E_\Phi}{E_\Phi} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{D_2 E_\Phi D_1 E_\Phi}{E_\Phi^2} \right) \alpha$$

The projection of quadratic differentials to 1-densities of $S^{1|2}$ returns the above Schwarzian derivative $\mathcal{S} : K(2) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_1(S^{1|2})$.

The kernels of these cocycles coincide; they are isomorphic to $\text{PC}(2|2) = \text{SpO}(2|2)/\{\pm\text{Id}\}$.

Coda

- Classification of the geometries of $(S^{1|N}, [\alpha])$, where $N \geq 2$.
- Construction of the Bott cocycle of $K(2)$ in the same vein.
- Detailed study of the Möbius supercircle $S_+^{1|1}$.⁶
- ...

⁶Its superfunctions are defined as the smooth superfunctions of $\mathbb{R}^{1|1}$ invariant under $(x, \xi) \mapsto (x + 2\pi, -\xi)$.