

Generic Properties of Lengths Spaces

Work in progress

Joël Rouyer

September 2017

Baire Categories in Geometry

Generic
Lengths
Spaces

Joël Rouyer

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Meaning of
generic

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spaces

Tangency

Cusps

Dimension

Farthest
points

Imbedded
in \mathbb{R}^n

Convex
(hyper)surfaces

Abstract

- 1959: V. Klee, A generic C.S. is C^1 and strictly convex.
- 1977: P. Gruber, ... and not C^2 .
- 1979: R. Schneider, 1980,1988: T. Zamfirescu, 2012: K. Adiprasito and T. Zamfirescu, 2015: Schneider 2015.
Study of directional curvature. (extrinsic property)
- 1982: T. Zamfirescu, A generic point is an *endpoint*.
- 1995: T. Zamfirescu, A generic point has a single farthest point, to whom it is joined by exactly 3 segments.
- 1988,91: P. Gruber, A generic C.S. has no (simple) closed geodesic.

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Continua

Compacta

Abstract

- 1988: J. A. Wieaker, Most compacta are homeomorphic to a cantor set.
- 1989: P. Gruber, generic dimension of compacta and continua.
- 1997: A. V. Kuz'minykh, Most compacta are totally anisometric : $d(a, b) = d(a', b') > 0 \Rightarrow \{a, b\} = \{a', b'\}$
- 1989–2005: Results on the embedding: E.S. De Blasi, P. Gruber, J. Myjak & R. Rudnick, J. A. Wieaker, T. Zamfirescu, N.V. Zhivkov.

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- 2011: J. Rouyer.

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Alexandrov
Surface

compact
metric spaces

- 2012: K. Adiprazito and T. Zamfirecu, Most points are endpoints.
- 2015: J.-I. Itoh, J. R. , C. Vîlcu, No conical points, but no Gaussian curvature.
- 2016: J. R. , C. Vîlcu, No/infinitely many simple closed geodesic, depending on the curvature bound and the connected component of the space.

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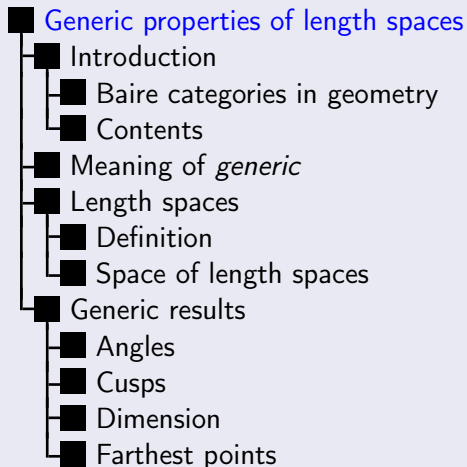
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Let X be a topological space.

- $R \subset X$ is **rare** or **nowhere dense** iff $\text{int}(\text{cl}(R)) = \emptyset$.
- $M \subset X$ is **meager** or of **first category** iff it is included in a countable union of rare sets.
- X is a **Baire space** iff any meager set have empty interior.
- The **Baire's theorem** states that any complete metric space is a Baire space.

Convention

We say that

- most $x \in X$ are ...
- or that a generic $x \in X$ is ...

to express that the set of those $x \in X$ which are not ... form a meager set in X .

Length spaces I

Generic Lengths Spaces

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Preliminary Remark

During this talk, a *length space* is supposed to be compact.
(unlike most authors)

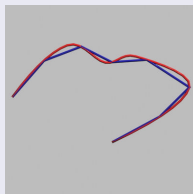
Definition

Let $\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow X$. The length of γ is

$$L(\gamma) = \sup_{(t_0, \dots, t_n) \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{i=1}^n d(\gamma(t_{i-1}), \gamma(t_i)),$$

where

$$\mathcal{S} = \{(t_0, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = b\}$$



Length spaces II

Theorem

Let X be a compact metric space. Denote by $\Gamma(x, y)$ the set of curves from x to y . The following statements are equivalent:

- **existence of segments:** $\forall x, y \in X \exists \gamma \in \Gamma(x, y)$ s.t.
 $d(x, y) = L(\gamma)$.
- **existence of midpoints:** $\forall x, y \in X \exists z \in X$ s.t.

$$d(x, z) = d(z, y) = \frac{1}{2}d(x, y).$$

- **intrinsic metric:** $\forall x, y \in X, d(x, y) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma(x, y)} L(\gamma)$.

Definition

A compact metric space satisfying these properties is called a (compact) **length space**.

The set of length spaces is denoted by \mathcal{L} .

Length spaces III

Examples

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(Counter)example

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|x\| = 1\}$ endowed with the metric
 $d_0(x, y) = \|x - y\|$ is not a length space, but endowed with
 $d_1(x, y) = \arccos \langle x, y \rangle$ is a length space.

Example

$\mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2$ endowed with
$$d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = \min(|x_1 - x_2|, 1 - |x_1 - x_2|)$$
$$+ \min(|y_1 - y_2|, 1 - |y_1 - y_2|).$$

Example

More generally, any reversible (compact) Finsler manifold, and so any (compact) Riemannian manifold.

Length space IV

Finite metric graphs

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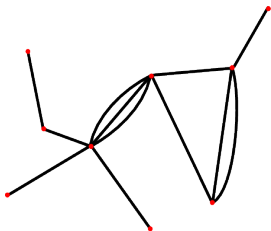
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- Start with a finite combinatorial graph: (V, E) , $E \subset \mathcal{P}_2(V) \times \mathbb{N}$
- Assign lengths to edges: choose $\lambda : E \rightarrow]0, +\infty[$

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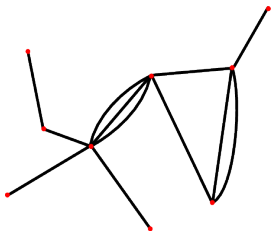
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- Start with a finite combinatorial graph: (V, E) , $E \subset \mathcal{P}_2(V) \times \mathbb{N}$
- Assign lengths to edges: choose $\lambda : E \rightarrow]0, +\infty[$
- The set of points is $G = V \cup]0, 1[\times E$

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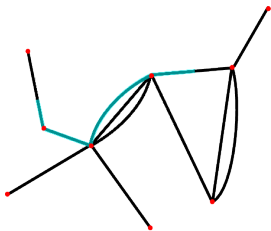
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- Start with a finite combinatorial graph: (V, E) , $E \subset \mathcal{P}_2(V) \times \mathbb{N}$
- Assign lengths to edges: choose $\lambda : E \rightarrow]0, +\infty[$
- The set of points is $G = V \cup]0, 1[\times E$
- Define the length of a simple path:
$$\ell_G(\gamma) = \sum_{\Delta \in E} \lambda(\delta) \ell_{]0, 1[}(\gamma_E), \text{ where } \gamma_E = \gamma \cap E.$$

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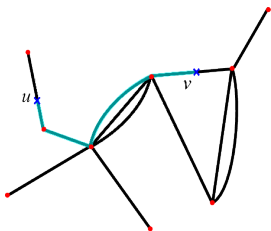
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- Start with a finite combinatorial graph: (V, E) , $E \subset \mathcal{P}_2(V) \times \mathbb{N}$
- Assign lengths to edges: choose $\lambda : E \rightarrow]0, +\infty[$
- The set of points is $G = V \cup]0, 1[\times E$

- Define the length of a simple path:
 $\ell_G(\gamma) = \sum_{\Delta \in E} \lambda(\delta) \ell_{]0,1[}(\gamma_E)$, where $\gamma_E = \gamma \cap E$.
- Define $d(u, v) = \inf_{\gamma} \ell(\gamma)$, where the infimum is taken over all the simple paths γ from u to v .

Any finite metric graph is a length space,
We denote by \mathcal{G} the set of finite metric graphs.

Length space V

Geodesics in length spaces

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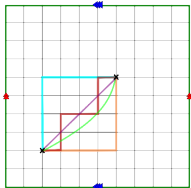
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Definition

A geodesic is a path which is locally a segment.



Finsler torus $\mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2$ endowed with
 $\| \cdot \|_1$.

- Geodesics may branch.
- No injectivity radius.

Length space V

Geodesics in length spaces

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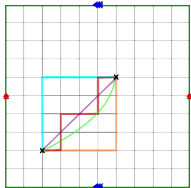
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Definition

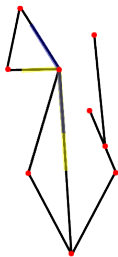
A *geodesic* is a path which is locally a segment.



Finsler torus $\mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2$ endowed with $\|\cdot\|_1$.

A metric graph.

- Geodesics may branch.
- No injectivity radius.
- Geodesics may stop.
- Existence of *endpoints*.



Length space VI

Angles in length spaces 1

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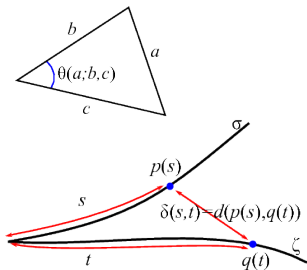
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One can define *lower* and *upper* angles between segments.

$$\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \zeta) = \liminf_{s, t \rightarrow 0} \theta(\delta(s, t); s, t)$$

$$\overline{\angle}(\sigma, \zeta) = \limsup_{s, t \rightarrow 0} \theta(\delta(s, t); s, t)$$

- When the two angles agree, we say that the segments make a well-defined angle.
- In Alexandrov spaces, all angles are well-defined.
- In Riemannian manifold, this notion of angles is equivalent to the usual one.

Length space VII

Angles in length spaces 2

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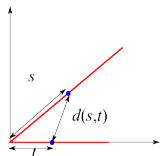
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For instance, in $(\mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2, \|\cdot\|_1)$, the angles between $\sigma : Y = 0$ and $\zeta : Y = aX$ are $\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \zeta) = 0$,

$$\overline{\angle}(\sigma, \zeta) = \arccos\left(\frac{1-a}{1+a}\right).$$



σ_1 ——— σ_2

In any length space, if σ_1 and σ_2 are two parts of a same segment then

$$\underline{\angle}(\sigma_1, \sigma_1) = \overline{\angle}(\sigma_1, \sigma_1) = 0,$$

$$\underline{\angle}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) = \overline{\angle}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) = \pi.$$

Space of length spaces I

The Gromov-Hausdorff metric

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Notation. Let Z be a metric space.

- $\mathcal{K}(Z)$ denotes the set of nonempty compact subsets of Z
- for $A \in \mathcal{K}(Z)$ and $\rho \in \mathbb{R}_+$,
 $A + \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{y \in Z \mid \exists x \in A \text{ s.t. } d(x, y) \leq \rho\}$

Definition

- for $A, B \in \mathcal{K}(Z)$, the *Pompeiu-Hausdorff* distance is:

$$d_{PH}^Z(A, B) = \inf \{ \varepsilon \mid A \subset B + \varepsilon, B \subset A + \varepsilon \}$$

- for X, Y compact metric spaces, the *Gromov-Hausdorff* distance is: $d_{GH}(X, Y) = \inf_{Z, f, g} d_{PH}^Z(f(X), g(Y))$,

where the infimum is taken over all metric spaces Z and all isometric embeddings $f : X \rightarrow Z, g : Y \rightarrow Z$.

Space of Length spaces II

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Theorem

The set \mathcal{GH} of all compact metric spaces, up to isometries, endowed with d_{GH} is a complete metric space.

Theorem

\mathcal{L} is closed in \mathcal{GH} and so, is a complete metric space.

Theorem

\mathcal{G} is dense in \mathcal{L} .

Theorem

The set of Riemannian surfaces is dense in \mathcal{L} .

Definition of f -tangency I

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motivation

- No differential structure
- No angle

Definition

A *comparison function* is smooth increasing function $f :]0, \infty[\rightarrow]0, \infty[$ s.t. $f(x) = o(x)$ when x goes to 0 .

Notation

The set of segments emanating from a point x will be denoted by Σ_x .

Definition of f -tangency II

Definition

Let f be a comparison function, $\sigma, \gamma \in \Sigma_x$

- 1 σ, γ are said to be weakly f -tangent if there exists a sequence of positive numbers t_n tending to 0 such that $\sigma(t_n) \gamma(t_n) < f(t_n)$.
- 2 σ, γ are said to be f -tangent if there exists $\tau > 0$ such that for any $t \in [0, \tau]$ $\sigma(t) \gamma(t) \leq f(t)$.
- 3 σ, γ are said to be strongly f -tangent if there exists $\tau > 0$ such that for any $s, t \in [0, \tau]$ $\sigma(t) \gamma(s) \leq |s - t| + f(\min(s, t))$.

f -tangency and angles

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Proposition

For any comparison function f ,

- 1 If $\sigma, \gamma \in \Sigma_x$ are strongly f -tangent then $\overline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = 0$.
- 2 If $\sigma, \gamma \in \Sigma_x$ are weakly f -tangent then $\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = 0$.

Theorem

Let f be a comparison function. For most $X \in \mathcal{L}$, if $\sigma, \gamma \in \Sigma_x$ are f -tangent, then either $\sigma \subset \gamma$ or $\gamma \subset \sigma$.

Corollary

In a generic length space geodesics do not bifurcate.

A generic result about angles

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Theorem

In a generic length space, at any point x , any two segments $\sigma, \gamma \in \Sigma_x$ satisfy $\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = 0$ or $\overline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = \pi$.

Problem

- *How common/rare are the pairs $(\sigma, \gamma) \in \Sigma_x^2$ such that $\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = 0$ **and** $\underline{\angle}(\sigma, \gamma) = \pi$?*
- *How common/rare are the pairs of segments with a well-defined angle ?*

Definition of f -cusp

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Definition

Let f be a comparison function.

If $x \in X \in \mathcal{L}$ is such that any two segments σ, γ emanating from x are (resp. weakly, resp. strongly) tangent we call x a (resp. weak, resp. strong) f -cusp.

Example

If $X \in G$, its (weak/strong) f -cusp are exactly its endpoints.

Cusp properties

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Proposition

- 1 *A strong f -cusp is a f -cusp.*
- 2 *A f -cusp is a weak λf -cusp for any $\lambda > 1$.*

Proposition

A weak f -cusp is interior to no segment.

Theorem

Let f be a comparison function. In a generic length space,

- 1 *there is no f -cusp,*
- 2 *a generic point $x \in X$ is a weak f -cusps.*

Dimensions

The many names dimension

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Names are: *box dimension*, *box-counting* \sim , *capacity* \sim , *fractal* \sim , *Kolmogorov* \sim , *Minkowski* \sim , *Minkowski-Bouligand*, ...

Notation

- $N(X, \varepsilon) = \min \{ \text{card}(F) \mid F \subset X \ \forall x \in X \ d(x, F) \leq \varepsilon \}$
- $M(X, \varepsilon) = \max \left\{ \text{card}(F) \mid \begin{array}{l} F \subset X \text{ and} \\ \forall x, y \in F \ x \neq y \Rightarrow xy \geq \varepsilon \end{array} \right\}$,

Theorem and definition

The *upper* and *lower box dimension* of a compact metric space X are defined as

$$\dim^B(X) = \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log N(X, \varepsilon)}{-\log \varepsilon} = \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log M(X, \varepsilon)}{-\log \varepsilon}$$

$$\dim_B(X) = \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log N(X, \varepsilon)}{-\log \varepsilon} = \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log M(X, \varepsilon)}{-\log \varepsilon}.$$

Generic dimension

$$\dim_T \leq \dim_H \leq \dim_B \leq \dim^B$$

Theorem

Let X be a generic length space.

- $\dim_B(X) = 1$ and $\dim^B(X) = \infty$.
- $\mathcal{H}^1(X) = \infty$

Theorem

In a generic compact length space,
 $\forall x \in X, \forall \rho > 0, \dim_B(S_x(\rho)) = 0$.

Question

What can one say (generically) of
 $\dim^B S_x(\rho)$?

Notation

For $x \in X \in \mathcal{L}$,
 $S_x(\rho)$ is the sphere
centred at x with
radius ρ , that is
 $\{y \in X \mid d(x, y) = \rho\}$

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Notation

$$\rho_x = \max_{y \in X} d(x, y)$$

$$F_x = S_x(\rho_x)$$

Theorem

For a generic $X \in \mathcal{L}$ and a generic $x \in X$, $\text{card}(F_x) = 1$.

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Notation

$$\rho_x = \max_{y \in X} d(x, y)$$

$$F_x = S_x(\rho_x)$$

Theorem

For a generic $X \in \mathcal{L}$ and a generic $x \in X$, $\text{card}(F_x) = 1$.

Embedded
in \mathbb{R}^n

**Convex
surfaces**

T.Z. (1995)

Continua

?

Compacta
Kuz'minykh
(1997)

Abstract

Alex. Surfaces
J.R & C.V.
(2018?)

**Length
spaces**
J.R.(2019?)

**compact
metric spaces**
J.R. (2011)

Theorem

On a compact manifold endowed with a generic Riemannian structure, a generic point has a single farthest point.

J. Rouyer (2003).

Lemma

The function F is upper semi-continuous, that is

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} F_x \subset F_{x_0}.$$

Proof II

Denote by $\delta(A)$ the diameter of A .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M} &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{X \mid \{x \in X \mid \#F_x > 1\} \text{ non meager}\} \\ &= \bigcup_p \{X \mid \text{int}\{x \in X \mid \delta(F_x) \geq 1/p\} \neq \emptyset\} \\ &= \bigcup_p \bigcup_q \left\{ X \mid \exists y \in X \bar{B}\left(y, \frac{1}{q}\right) \subset \{x \in X \mid \delta(F_x) \geq 1/p\} \right\} \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_p \bigcup_q \mathcal{M}_{pq}.\end{aligned}$$

- \mathcal{M}_{pq} has empty interior.
- It remains to prove that it is closed.

Proof III

$$\mathcal{M}_{pq} = \left\{ X \mid \exists y \in X \bar{B} \left(y, \frac{1}{q} \right) \subset \{x \in X \mid \delta(F_x) \geq 1/p\} \right\}$$

- $\mathcal{M}_{pq} \ni X_n \in \mathcal{M}_{pq} \xrightarrow{GH} X \in \mathcal{L}$.
- W.l.g., we can assume that $X_n, X \subset Z$ and $X_n \xrightarrow{PH} X$.
- Take $y_n \in X_n$ s.t. $\bar{B} \left(y_n, \frac{1}{q} \right) \subset \{x \in X_n \mid \delta(F_x) \geq 1/p\}$
- Take a converging sub-sequence; let $y \in X$ be the limit.
- We claim that $\bar{B} \left(y, \frac{1}{q} \right) \subset \{x \in X_n \mid \delta(F_x) \geq 1/p\}$, and so, $X \in \mathcal{M}_{pq}$.
 - $z \in \bar{B} \left(y, \frac{1}{q} \right) \leftarrow z_n \in \bar{B} \left(y_n, \frac{1}{q} \right) \subset \{x \in X_n \mid \delta(F_x) \geq \frac{1}{p}\}$
 - $\delta(F_{z_n}) \geq \frac{1}{p}$.
 - By semi-continuity of F , $\delta(F_z) \geq \frac{1}{q}$
 - $z \in \left\{ x \in X \mid \delta(F_x) \geq \frac{1}{p} \right\}$

Thank you very much for your attention !