

# Hilbert geometries with Riemannian points

## Definitive points of Hilbert geometries

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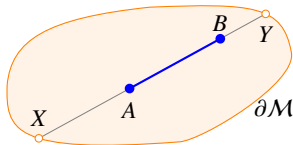
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# Points of a Hilbert geometry

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an open convex domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The function  $d_{\mathcal{M}}: \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$d_{\mathcal{M}}(A, B) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } A = B, \\ |\ln(A, B; X, Y)|/2, & \text{if } A \neq B, \end{cases}$$

where  $\overline{XY} = \mathcal{M} \cap AB$ , is a metric, the *Hilbert metric*.



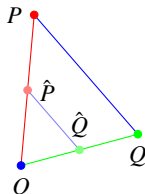
A *Hilbert geometry*  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$  is a Finsler manifold [2, (29.6)], and it is a *Cayley–Klein model* of the hyperbolic geometry if and only if  $\mathcal{M}$  is the interior of an ellipsoid [2, (29.3)].

- 1 **Metric center**: Is there a point such that the metric reflection in the point is an isometry? What if the metric reflection in every point is an isometry?
- 2 **Point of curvature**: Is there a point where the Busemann curvature is non-negative? What if all the points have non-positive Busemann curvature? [3, 34th on p. 406]
- 3 **Radon point**: Is there a point such that the Birkhoff orthogonality is symmetric? What if the Birkhoff orthogonality is symmetric at all the points?
- 4 **Riemannian point**: Is there a point where the infinitesimal sphere is an ellipsoid? What if the infinitesimal sphere is an ellipsoid at all the points?

In a *Cayley–Klein model* the metric reflection is an isometry, the Busemann curvature is of non-positive, the Birkhoff orthogonality is symmetric, and the infinitesimal sphere is an ellipsoid at every point.

# The Busemann curvature and the metric centers

A Hilbert geometry at a point  $O$  has *positive*, *non-negative*, *non-positive* and *negative curvature in the sense of Busemann* [3, (36.1) on p. 237] if there exists a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $O$  such that for every pair of points  $P, Q \in \mathcal{U}$  and their respective  $d_{\mathcal{M}}$ -midpoints  $\hat{P}, \hat{Q}$  of the geodesic segments  $\overline{OP}$  and  $\overline{OQ}$  we have  $2d_{\mathcal{M}}(\hat{P}, \hat{Q}) - d_{\mathcal{M}}(P, Q)$  is positive, non-negative, non-positive and negative, respectively. Otherwise the curvature is called *indeterminate* [9, Definition 1].



No Hilbert geometry has positive or non-negative curvature at any point [12, Theorem 4.1]. A point  $O$  is a *projective center* of the set  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ , if there is a projectivity  $\varpi$  such that  $\varpi(O)$  is the affine center of  $\varpi(\mathcal{M})$  [15, p. 64].

A point  $O \in \mathcal{M}$  is a metric center of  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$  if and only if it is a projective center of  $\mathcal{M}$ . (Kelly & Strauss [10, Theorem XXXX])

A point in a Hilbert geometry is of non-positive curvature if and only if it is a projective center. (KÁ [12, Theorem 4.2]),

If the border of a Hilbert geometry is twice differentiable and has two metric centers, then it is a Cayley–Klein model of the hyperbolic geometry. (Kelly & Strauss [10, Theorem 3])

# Radon points and Riemannian points

In a Hilbert geometry *perpendicularity is reversible* for every pair of lines through a point  $O$  if and only if the perpendicularity is reversible with respect to the local Minkowski geometry at  $O$  (Kay [7, Theorem 2]). This means that the infinitesimal circle at  $O$  is a *Radon curve* [14], so we call such a point a *Radon point* (K.Á. [13, (5.1)]).

If every point of a Hilbert geometry is a Radon point, then the Hilbert geometry is a Cayley–Klein model of the hyperbolic geometry. (Kelly & Paige [8])

A point of a Hilbert geometry is a *Riemannian point*, if its local Minkowski geometry is Euclidean (K.Á. [13]). Every point of a Cayley–Klein model is Riemannian.

By Beltrami's (more general) theorem [1] a Riemannian Hilbert metric has constant curvature, hence it is a Cayley–Klein model of the hyperbolic geometry, i.e., its domain is the interior of an ellipsoid.

*How many Radon points ensure that  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$  is a Cayley–Klein model?*

*How many Riemannian points ensure that  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$  is a Cayley–Klein model?*

# Preliminaries

*From now on, we only work in the plane unless explicitly said otherwise.*

Identifying the tangent spaces  $T_P \mathcal{M}$  of  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$  with  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by the map  $\iota_P: v \mapsto P + v$ , the Finsler function  $F_{\mathcal{M}}: \mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  associated with  $d_{\mathcal{M}}$  at a point  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  is determined by

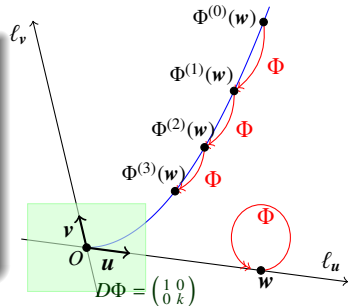
$$(2.1) \quad F_{\mathcal{M}}(P, v) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_v^-} + \frac{1}{\lambda_v^+} \right),$$

where  $v \in T_P \mathcal{M}$ , and  $\lambda_v^{\pm} \in (0, \infty]$  is such that  $P_v^{\pm} := P \pm \lambda_v^{\pm} v \in \partial \mathcal{M}$  [2, (50.4)]. The indicatrices of  $F_{\mathcal{M}}$  are called *infinitesimal circles*, and denoted by  $C_P^{\mathcal{M}}$ .

A point  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  is Riemannian if  $C_P^{\mathcal{M}}$  is an ellipse, that is, if the Finsler function is quadratic.

**Stable Manifold Theorem.** ([4, p. 114] and [5, Theorem 4.1]).

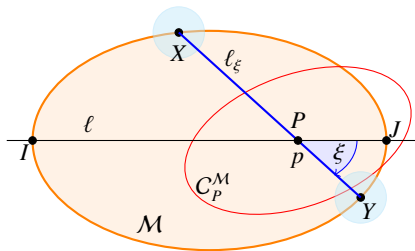
Let  $N_0 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be a neighborhood of the origin  $\mathbf{0}$ , and let the mapping  $\Phi: N_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be of class  $C^l$  ( $l \in [1, \infty]$ ). If there are linearly independent vectors  $u$  and  $v$  such that  $\Phi(w) = w$  for every  $w \in \ell_u \cap N_0$ , and  $D\Phi_{(0,0)}v = kv$  for some  $k \in (0, 1)$ , then in some neighborhood  $N \subseteq N_0$  of  $\mathbf{0}$ , the set  $\{w \in N : \Phi^r(w) \rightarrow \mathbf{0} \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty\}$  is the graph of a  $C^l$  function from  $\ell_v \cap N$  to  $\ell_u \cap N$ .



# Setup and tools

This presentation uses the following [setup](#):

$Q$  and  $P$  are Riemannian points of  $(M, d_M)$ ;  $\ell = PQ$  is a straight line that intersects  $\partial M$  in points  $I$  and  $J$ ; a coordinate system is fixed so that  $I = (-1, 0)$ ,  $J = (1, 0)$ ; then  $Q = (q, 0)$  and  $P = (p, 0)$ , where  $-1 < q < p < 1$ ; the Euclidean metric  $d_e$  is fixed so that  $\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$  is an orthonormal basis;  $\ell_\xi$  is the straight line through  $P$  with directional vector  $\mathbf{u}_\xi = (\cos \xi, \sin \xi)$ ;



Observe that (2.1) gives  $2F_M(P, X - P) - 1 = 1/\lambda_{X-P}^- > 0$  for  $X \in \partial M$ , so, as a continuous function takes its minimal value, there is a suitably small  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that the map

$$(2.2) \quad \Phi_P: Z \mapsto \Phi_P(Z) = P + (P - Z) \frac{1}{2F_M(P, Z - P) - 1}$$

is well defined on the Minkowski sum  $M^\varepsilon := \partial M + \varepsilon \mathcal{B}^2$ , where  $\mathcal{B}^2$  is the unit ball at  $(0, 0)$ .

Observe that the curve  $\partial M$  is invariant under  $\Phi_P$ , and  $\Phi_P^2$  is the identity on  $\partial M$ .

If not otherwise specified,  $X$  and  $Y$  are the points of  $\ell_\xi$  near at where  $\ell_\xi$  intersects  $\partial M$ .

We parameterize  $C_P^M$  in polar coordinates with center  $P$  by  $\mathbf{r}: [-\pi, \pi) \ni \xi \mapsto r(\xi)\mathbf{u}_\xi \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

Then

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{|XP|} + \frac{1}{|PY|} = \frac{2}{r(\xi)}, \quad \text{where } \{X, Y\} = \ell_\xi \cap \partial M.$$

# Approximation lemma

For points  $X, Y$  of  $\mathcal{M}^\varepsilon$  let  $(x, y) = X - I$  and  $(u, v) = J - Y$ .

Assume that  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is twice differentiable. Then (2.3) shows that the radius function  $r$  of  $C_P^M$  is *twice differentiable*.

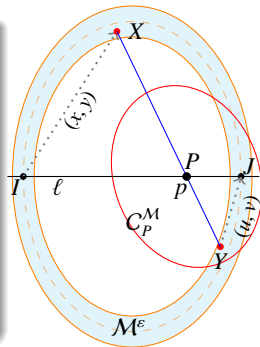
**Approximation lemma. (K.Á.: [13, Lemma 3.2]).**

If  $X \in I + \varepsilon\mathcal{B}^2$ , and  $Y = \Phi_P(X)$ , then

$$(2.4) \quad v \left( 1 + \frac{u}{1-p} + O(u^2) \right) = y \left( \frac{1-p}{1+p} + x \frac{1-p}{(1+p)^2} + O(x^2) \right),$$

and

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} -u = & x \frac{(1-p)^2}{(1+p)^2} - y \frac{2r'(0)}{(1+p)^3} + x^2 \frac{2(1-p)^2}{(1+p)^4} - xy \frac{r'(0)2(3-p)}{(1+p)^5} + \\ & + y^2 \frac{1}{(1+p)^3} \left( -(1-p) + \frac{2(r'(0))^2}{(1+p)^3} + \frac{r''(0)}{1+p} \right) + \\ & + O(x^3) + O(x^2y) + o(y^2). \end{aligned}$$



From now on, we assume that  $P$  and  $Q$  are Riemannian points of  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$ .

# Specializing the configuration

Let  $t_I$  and  $t_J$  be the tangents of  $M$  at  $I$  and  $J$ , respectively.

Let  $L = t_I \cap t_J$  (maybe ideal point).

Choose a straight line  $l$  through  $L$  that avoids  $M$ , and let

$\varpi$  be a *perspectivity* that takes  $l$  to the ideal line. Then its derivative  $\dot{\varpi}$  makes  $\dot{\varpi}(C_Q^M) \equiv C_{\varpi(Q)}^{\varpi(M)}$ , and  $\dot{\varpi}(C_P^M) \equiv C_{\varpi(P)}^{\varpi(M)}$ .

As  $\dot{\varpi}$  is an *affine map*, it keeps quadraticity,  $\varpi(Q)$  and  $\varpi(P)$  are Riemannian points in  $(\varpi(M), d_{\varpi(M)})$ .

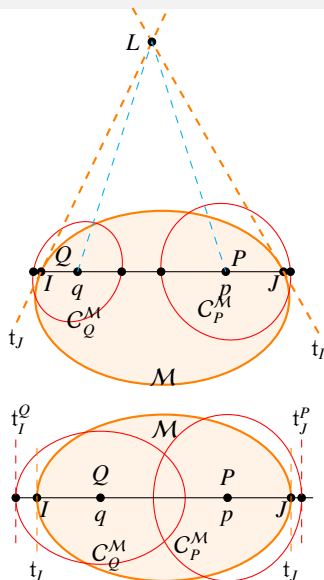
Thus  $t_I \parallel t_J$  can be assumed without loss of generality.

Let  $t_I^Q$  and  $t_J^P$  be the tangents of  $C_Q^M$  and  $C_P^M$ , respectively, where  $\ell$  intersects the infinitesimal circles. It is an easy *consequence of* [2, (28.11)], that the tangents  $t_I^Q$  and  $t_J^P$  are parallel to  $LQ$  and  $LP$ , respectively.

Thus  $t_I^Q \parallel t_I \parallel t_J \parallel t_J^P$ , and we choose  $d_e$  so that  $\ell \perp t_I$ .

So  $C_P^M$  and  $C_Q^M$  are ellipses with *polar equations* of the form  $\frac{1}{r^2(\varphi)} = \frac{\cos^2 \varphi}{a^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \varphi}{b^2}$  at centers  $P$  and  $Q$ , respectively. This implies

$$(2.6) \quad r'(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad r''(0) = r^3(0) \left( \frac{1}{r^2(0)} - \frac{1}{r^2(\pi/2)} \right).$$





# Finding the fitting ellipse

**Lemma.** If  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is twice differentiable at  $I$  and  $J$ , then there is a unique ellipse  $\mathcal{E}$  touching  $\mathcal{M}$  at  $I, J$  such that  $C_Q^{\bar{\mathcal{E}}} \equiv C_Q^{\mathcal{M}}$  and  $C_P^{\bar{\mathcal{E}}} \equiv C_P^{\mathcal{M}}$ .

**Proof.** Fix the Euclidean metric  $d$  in which  $C_Q^{\mathcal{M}}$  is a circle. Assume that  $X \in \partial\mathcal{M}$ , hence also  $Y = \Phi_P(X) \in \partial\mathcal{M}$ .

Basic differential geometry gives that the respective curvatures of  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  at  $I$  and  $J$  are

$$(2.7) \quad \kappa_I := \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2x}{y^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_J := \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{2u}{v^2}.$$

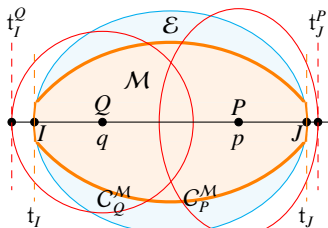
Using the formulas of the [Approximation Lemma](#) in conjunction with the quadraticity (2.6) leads to

$$\kappa_J = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{2u}{v^2} = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2x}{y^2} + \frac{2}{r(0)} - 2r(0) \left( \frac{1}{r^2(0)} - \frac{1}{r^2(\pi/2)} \right) = -\kappa_I + \frac{2r(0)}{r^2(\pi/2)}.$$

Repeating the same calculation for  $\Phi_Q$  gives  $\kappa_J = -\kappa_I + \frac{2}{1-q^2}$ , hence  $r(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \sqrt{1-q^2} \sqrt{1-p^2}$ .

Now easy calculation shows that  $(q, 0)$  is a focus of the ellipse  $x^2 + \frac{y^2}{1-q^2} = 1$ , and the infinitesimal circle at  $(p, 0)$  is the ellipse  $\frac{(x-p)^2}{(1-p^2)^2} + \frac{y^2}{(1-q^2)(1-p^2)} = 1$ . Thus choosing the ellipse

$x^2 + \frac{y^2}{1-q^2} = 1$  for  $\mathcal{E}$  proves the lemma. ■



# Coincidence in a neighborhood

**Lemma.** *If  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is  $C^2$  at  $I$  and  $J$ , then  $\mathcal{E}$  coincides with  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  in a neighborhood of  $I$  and  $J$ .*

**Proof.** According to the last formula in the proof of the previous lemma, the infinitesimal circles  $C_P^{\bar{\mathcal{E}}} \equiv C_P^{\mathcal{M}}$  and  $C_Q^{\bar{\mathcal{E}}} \equiv C_Q^{\mathcal{M}}$  can be represented by polar equations of form

$$\frac{1}{r^2(\varphi)} = \frac{\cos^2 \varphi}{a^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \varphi}{b^2}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{r_q^2(\varphi)} = \frac{1}{r_q^2(0)},$$

respectively. Substitution of these into (2.2) shows that  $\Phi_P$  and  $\Phi_Q$  are real analytic mappings on  $\mathcal{M}^{\varepsilon}$ .

Thus  $\Phi := \Phi_Q \circ \Phi_P : X \mapsto Y \mapsto Z$  is also a real analytic mapping.

The [Approximation Lemma](#) and a (long) calculation gives that

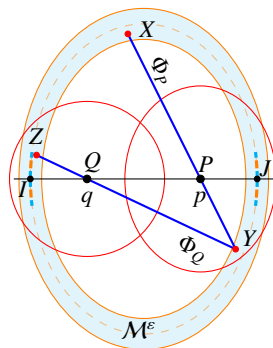
$$\Phi^{\Psi}(z, y) := \Psi^{-1} \circ \Phi \circ \Psi(z, y) = (z + o(1), yk + o(y^2)),$$

where  $\Psi : (z, y) \mapsto (zy^2, y)$ ,  $y \neq 0$ ,  $k = \frac{1-p}{1+p} \frac{1+q}{1-q} < 1$ , and  $z$  is close to

$\kappa_I/2$ . So defining  $\Phi^{\Psi}(z, 0) := (z, 0)$  extends  $\Phi^{\Psi}$  to a real analytic

mapping around  $(\kappa_I/2, 0)$ . As  $\Phi^{\Psi}$  fixes the points  $(z, 0)$  near  $(\kappa_I/2, 0)$ , and it has the derivative  $\dot{\Phi}^{\Psi}(\kappa_I/2, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$  at  $(\kappa_I/2, 0)$ , the [Stable Manifold Theorem](#) applies. Thus a neighborhood

$\mathcal{N}$  of  $(\kappa_I/2, 0)$  exists such that  $C = \{w \in \mathcal{N} : (\Phi^{\Psi})^{(r)}(w) \rightarrow (\kappa_I/2, 0) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty\}$  is the graph of a  $C^1$  function  $z \mapsto y$ . As  $\Phi$  fixes  $\partial\mathcal{M}$ , this proves the lemma. ■



# Full extension of the coincidence

**Lemma.** *If  $Q$  and  $P$  are common Riemannian points of the Hilbert geometries  $(\mathcal{L}, d_{\mathcal{L}})$  and  $(\mathcal{M}, d_{\mathcal{M}})$ , and the boundaries  $\partial\mathcal{L}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  coincide in a neighborhood of the line  $PQ$ , then  $\mathcal{L} \equiv \mathcal{M}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be a neighborhood of line  $PQ$  such that  $\partial\mathcal{L} \cap \mathcal{N} \equiv \mathcal{N} \cap \partial\mathcal{M}$ .

Observe that  $C_Q^{\mathcal{L}} \equiv C_Q^{\mathcal{M}}$  and  $C_P^{\mathcal{L}} \equiv C_P^{\mathcal{M}}$ , because the common arcs of  $\partial\mathcal{L}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  determine small common arcs of the quadratic infinitesimal circles near line  $QP$ .

Thus both  $\Phi_P$  and  $\Phi_Q$  map any common arc of  $\partial\mathcal{L}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  to a common arc of  $\partial\mathcal{L}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{M}$ .

See the [proof without words](#) on the right! ■

# The results

**Theorem. (K.Á.: [13, Theorem 4.4]).**

*If a Hilbert geometry has two Riemannian points, and its boundary is twice differentiable where it is intersected by the line joining those Riemannian points, then it is a Cayley–Klein model of the hyperbolic plane.*

The same in the language of geometric tomography [6] reads as:

**Theorem. (K.Á.: [13, Theorem 5.1]).**

*Let  $Q$  and  $P$  be two interior points of a convex compact domain  $\mathcal{M}$ . Assume that the boundary  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is twice differentiable where it intersects line  $QP$ . If the  $(-1)$ -chord function at  $Q$  and  $P$  are quadratic, then  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is an ellipse.*

This generalizes Falconer's [4, Theorem 3], where only circles were considered.

However, Falconer's [4, Theorem 4] gives that for any two fixed points  $P, Q$ , a bunch of strictly convex bounded open domains  $\mathcal{M}$  exist such that  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$  are equireciprocal, the boundary  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is differentiable at  $I, J \in PQ \cap \partial\mathcal{M}$  and twice differentiable everywhere in  $\partial\mathcal{M} \setminus \{I, J\}$ , BUT  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is not an ellipse.

Observe that in such an  $\mathcal{M}$  there can not exist a third inner point with quadratic  $(-1)$ -chord function, because then  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  should be an ellipse by the above theorem.

## Riemannian points in higher dimensions

Our results do not imply similar results for higher dimensions directly, so we still do not know

*How many Riemannian points are needed to deduce the hyperbolicity of a Hilbert geometry in dimension  $n > 2$ ?*

My *belief* is that  $n + 1$  Riemannian points in general position is enough. A braver tip would be that  $n$  is enough if the boundary is twice differentiable.

Although it was the real motivation behind this work, and I am indebted to *Tibor Ódor* for that discussion where the problem, now formulated with the notion of Radon point, arisen, no result for general Radon points was reached. So we still curious about:

How many Radon points are needed to deduce the hyperbolicity of a Hilbert geometry in dimension 2?

(Notice that in dimensions  $n \geq 3$  the Radon points are Riemannian points.)

However [13, Theorem 4.4] supports my *conjecture* that

**Conjecture.** The existence of two Radon points implies the hyperbolicity of a Hilbert geometry if the boundary is twice differentiable.

If twice differentiability fails, then we know that even two Riemannian points do not guarantee the hyperbolicity of the Hilbert geometry.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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# Structure of the talk

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- The Busemann curvature and the metric centers
- Radon points and Riemannian points

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- Preliminaries
- Preparations
- Proof
- Results

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