

ON A THEOREM OF R. LANGEVIN ABOUT
CURVATURE AND COMPLEX SINGULARITIES

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A classical result due to R. Langevin asserts that for a given polynomial $p: (\mathbb{C}^n, o) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, o)$ with an isolated singularity at the origin, the following formula holds:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} K \omega_t = c_{n-1} (\mu^n + \mu^{n-1}) \quad (*)$$

where B_ϵ is a ball centered at the origin with radius ϵ , ω_t is the volume form of $M_t \equiv p^{-1}(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{C}$, $t \sim o$, induced by the usual hermitian inner product of \mathbb{C}^n , K is the Lipschitz-Killing curvature of M_t , μ^n is the Milnor number of M_o at o , μ^{n-1} the Milnor number at o of $M_o \cap H$ where H is a generic complex hyperplane through the origin of \mathbb{C}^n and $c_{n-1} = (1/2) \text{vol}(S^{2n-1})$.

Prof. Langevin commented that the above formula should be true in any complex manifold with a hermitian metric. We obtain here the following result:

Theorem 1. Let N be a 3-dimensional (over \mathbb{C}) complex manifold with an hermitian metric. Let $f: N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be an analytic map with an isolated singularity at p_0 with $f(p_0) = o$. Then, the following formula holds:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} K \omega_t = c_2 (\mu^3 + \mu^2) \quad (**)$$

where B_ϵ is a geodesic ball centered at p_0 with radius ϵ , ω_t is the volume form of $M_t \equiv f^{-1}(t)$ determined by the metric induced from N , K is the Lipschitz-Killing curvature of M_t , μ^3 the Milnor number of M_0 at p_0 and μ^2 the Milnor number of $M_0 \cap P$ where P is a complex generic hypersurface through p_0 of N .

To prove this result we introduce the concept of translation in a complex hermitian manifold N and we define the polar curve associated to an isolated singularity of a hypersurface of N . We also introduce the Gauss map of a complex hypersurface of N associated to a given translation, and then we apply similar techniques used for proving the above result in \mathbb{C}^n . Using this Gauss map we can define, as in \mathbb{C}^n , by taking the determinant of its derivative, another curvature which we call the *translation curvature* of the hypersurface. We prove then that formula (*) holds for the translation curvature (Corollary 2.2).

It follows from our results a generalization of a theorem of Linda Ness about the curvature of algebraic curves (see [N], Theorem 4.1 of this paper and Theorem of [L]).

I want to thank Marcos Sebastiani for his aid on the realization of this work.

1. Translations.

Let N be a complex n -dimensional manifold with an hermitian metric $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}$ and let us consider the complex orthonormal frame bundle $O_{\mathbb{C}}(N)$ of N , that is:

$O_{\mathbb{C}}(N) = \{(p, \beta) \mid p \in N, \beta \text{ is an orthonormal basis over } \mathbb{C} \text{ of } T_p(N)\}$
and let $\pi: O_{\mathbb{C}}(N) \rightarrow N$ be the projection $(p, \beta) \rightarrow p$.

A complex translation in an open set $U \subset N$ is obtained by taking a section of $O_{\mathbb{C}}(N)$ over U , that is, an analytic map $T_{\mathbb{C}}: U \rightarrow O_{\mathbb{C}}(N)$ such

that $\pi \circ T_c = \text{Id}_U$. Then, given $p \in U$ and $X \in T_p(N)$, we can define the translation X^\sim of X on U by setting:

$$X^\sim(q) = \langle X, X_1(p) \rangle_c X_1(q) + \dots + \langle X, X_n(p) \rangle_c X_n(q) \quad q \in U$$

where $T_c(q)$ is the orthonormal basis $\{X_1(q), \dots, X_n(q)\}$ of $T_q(N)$.

Similarly, we can define the translation H^\sim of any complex subspace $H \subset T_p(N)$.

Let us choose $p_0 \in N$ and assume that a translation is defined in a neighbourhood U of p_0 . Denote by $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ the complex projective space of complex lines of $T_{p_0}(N)$ and let M be a complex hypersurface of N

contained in U . Then, the Gauss map $\gamma_c: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ of M is defined by:

$$\gamma_c(p) = H \iff H^\sim(p) = (T_p(M))^\perp \quad (a)$$

where H^\sim is the translation of $H \subset T_{p_0}(M)$ on U .

Let $f: N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be an analytic map with an isolated singularity at $p_0 \in N$ such that $f(p_0) = 0$. Given $H \in \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$, it determines a polar curve Γ_H by the condition:

$$p \in \Gamma_H \iff T_p(f^{-1}(t)) = (H^\sim(p))^\perp \quad p \in U$$

where $t \in \mathbb{C}$ is such that $f(p) = t$.

We have the following result:

Theorem 1.1 Let N be a n -dimensional complex manifold with a hermitian metric. Let $f: N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be an analytic map with an isolated singularity at p_0 with $f(p_0) = 0$. Then, the following formula holds:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} \gamma_c^*(\lambda) = c_{n-1}(\mu^n + \mu^{n-1}) \quad (***)$$

where $\gamma_c: M_t \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ is the Gauss map of M_t and λ the usual volume form of $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$.

Proof.

We will prove that the limit above equals to $c_{n-1} I(\Gamma_H, M_o)_{p_o}$ = intersection index between Γ_H and M_o at p_o . Theorem 1.1 follows then from a result of Teissier (see Theorem 2 of [L]).

As in the Lemma of [L], one has:

$$\int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} \gamma_o^*(\lambda) = \int_{\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}} \tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H) \lambda(H^\perp)$$

where

$$\tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H) = \sum_{p \in B_\epsilon} I(M_t, \Gamma_H)_p$$

so that in order to compute the limite for $t \rightarrow 0$ and $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ as in [L] we have just to assure that the function $t \rightarrow \tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H)$ is bounded.

Clearly, $\tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H)$ is finite for $t \neq 0$ and, since t goes to 0, we have just to see that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H)$ is finite. To do this, let us consider the Nash Transformation $N_f \subset B_\epsilon \times \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ of f restrict to B_ϵ . Let $\pi: N_f \rightarrow B_\epsilon$ and $\gamma: N_f \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ be the projections $(x, H) \rightarrow x$ and $(x, H) \rightarrow H^\perp$, respectively. Therefore, it is easy to see that

$$\tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H) = \text{card}(\pi^{-1}(M_t) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp)) \quad t \neq 0$$

so that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \tau(M_t \cap B_\epsilon, H) = \text{card}(\pi^{-1}(M_o) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp)).$$

But

$$\pi(\pi^{-1}(M_o) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp)) = \{p \in M_o \cap B_\epsilon \mid p \neq o \text{ and } T_p(M_o) = H\} \cup \{o\}$$

is analytic and compact and hence finite.

It follows that $\pi^{-1}(\pi(\pi^{-1}(M_o) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp)))$ is finite since

$$\pi^{-1}(\pi(\pi^{-1}(M_o) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp))) \rightarrow \pi(\pi^{-1}(M_o) \cap \gamma^{-1}(H^\perp))$$

is bijective. \square

We will prove that the integrals in (***) and (***) coincide for $n = 3$. For, we have to relate the differential form $\gamma_c^*(\sigma)$ with geometric invariants of M .

2. *The real Gauss map associated to a translation.*

In this section, N will be a n -dimensional (over \mathbb{R}) Riemannian manifold with a Riemannian metric $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. Let U be an open set of N with a translation determined by a section of $O_r(N)$ over U , where $O_r(N)$ is the real orthonormal frame bundle of N .

Let M be a m -dimensional Riemannian manifold isometrically embedded in N . Let us assume that $M \subset U$. Let $p \in M$ and let $\eta \in T_p(N)$ be an unitary normal vector to $T_p(M)$.

We recall that the 2^{nd} fundamental form at p defined by η is given by :

$$A_p(\eta)(X, Y) = \langle \nabla_X \tilde{Y}, \eta \rangle \quad X, Y \in T_p(M)$$

where \tilde{Y} is a vector field in a neighbourhood of p tangent to M such that $\tilde{Y}(p) = Y$, and ∇ is the Riemannian connection of N determined by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.

Let $K_p(\eta) = \det A_p(\eta)$. Therefore, if the normal vector bundle $N(M)$ of M is orientable,

$$K_p = \frac{1}{c_{k-1}} \int_{SN_p(M)} K_p(\eta) d\theta(\eta)$$

is the Lipschitz-Killing curvature of the embedding $M \subset N$, where $SN(M)$ is the bundle of spheres correspondent to $N(M)$, θ the volume form of $SN_p(M)$ and c_{k-1} the volume of S^{k-1} , $k = n - m$.

We introduce now the 2^{nd} fundamental form \hat{A} associated to the given translation by setting:

$$\hat{A}_p(\eta)(X, Y) = \langle \nabla_X \tilde{Y}, \eta \rangle \quad X, Y \in T_p(M)$$

where Y^\sim is the translation of Y on U .

Set

$$K^\sim_p(\eta) = \det(A_p(\eta) - \hat{A}_p(\eta))$$

and

$$K^\sim_p = \int_{SN_p(M)} K^\sim_p(\eta) \theta(\eta).$$

We will call K^\sim the translation curvature of M .

The map:

$$\gamma_r: SN(M) \longrightarrow S^{n-1}, \gamma_r((p, \eta)) = (\eta^\sim)(p_0) \quad (b)$$

is the "(real) Gauss map" of M associated to the given translation.

The result that follows relates the Gauss map associated to a translation and the translation curvature. It generalizes a well known theorem in Euclidean spaces relating the usual Gauss map in \mathbb{R}^n and the Lipschitz-Killing curvature.

2.1 Theorem. *Let M and N be orientable and m odd. Let σ be the volume form of S^{n-1} and ω the one of M . Then, $K^\sim_p \omega(p)$, $p \in M$, is the integral along the fiber of $SN(M) \rightarrow M$ of $\gamma_r^*(\sigma)$ divided by c_{k-1} .*

In [S] Sebastiani proves this result for the case that N is a Lie group with a left invariant metric and the translation is the usual left translation defined with the group operation (see the Theorem of §3 of [S] and its Corollary). Since its proof is the same as in our case, we omit the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Now, let us come back to the complex case. Let N be a complex n -dimensional (over \mathbb{C}) manifold with an hermitian metric. Assume that a (complex) translation is given in an open set U of N , this translation being determined by a section $T_c: U \rightarrow O_c(N)$.

If \langle , \rangle_c denotes the hermitian metric of N , $\langle , \rangle_r \equiv \text{re}(\langle , \rangle_c)$

defines a Riemannian metric on N , and T_c induces a section T_r of $O_r(N)$ over U by setting $T_r(p) = \{X_1(p), iX_1(p), \dots, X_n(p), iX_n(p)\}$, where $T_c(p) = \{X_1(p), \dots, X_n(p)\}$, $p \in U$.

We can combine Theorems 1.1 and 2.1 to obtain the following corollary:

2.2 Corollary. *With the same notations and hypothesis above, the following formula holds:*

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} K^{\sim}_p \omega(p) = c_{n-1} (\mu^n + \mu^{n-1})$$

where K^{\sim} is the translation curvature of M_t .

Proof. Let $\gamma_r: SN(M_t) \rightarrow S^{2n-1}$ and $\gamma_c: M_t \rightarrow CP^{n-1}$ be the real Gauss map and the complex Gauss map of M_t associated to the given translation, defined by (b) and (a), respectively. It is not difficult to prove, therefore, that the following diagramme is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} SN(M_t) & \xrightarrow{\gamma_r} & S^{2n-1} \\ P \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ M_t & \xrightarrow{\gamma_c} & CP^{n-1} \end{array}$$

where π is the projection of the Hopf fiber. Hence, we obtain:

$$\int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} K^{\sim}_p \omega(p) = \frac{1}{c_2} \int_{SN(M_t \cap B_\epsilon)} \gamma_r^*(\sigma) = \frac{1}{c_2} \int_{SN(M_t \cap B_\epsilon)} (\gamma_c \circ P)^*(\lambda) = \int_{M_t \cap B_\epsilon} \gamma_c^*(\lambda)$$

which proves the corollary. \square

3. Proof of Theorem 1.

Theorem 1 follows easily from Corollary 2.2. In fact: since the

second member of the formula is distinct from zero, we have from Corollary 2.2 that $\lim_{p \rightarrow p_0} K_p^\sim = \infty$, where K_p^\sim is the translation curvature of M_t at $p \in M_t$. Furthermore, since

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow p_0} \inf \{ \det \tilde{A}_p(\eta) \mid \|\eta\| = 1 \} = \inf \{ \det \tilde{A}_{p_0}(\eta) \mid \|\eta\| = 1 \} < \infty$$

it follows from the definition of K^\sim and that $n = 3$ that $\lim_{p \rightarrow p_0} (K_p^\sim - K_p) = 0$, and this proves the Theorem. \square

4. Curvature of complex hypersurfaces.

In [L] Langevin reobtains, by using formula (*), a Theorem due to Linda Ness about the curvature of algebraic curves of CP^2 converging to algebraic curve with an isolated singularity (see Theorem §III of [L]). Using formula of Corollary 2.2 above, we prove here the following generalization, which also gives a simpler proof of Theorem §III of [L]:

4.1 Theorem. Let N be a complex n -dimensional manifold with an hermitian metric. Let M be a complex hypersurface of N with an isolated singularity at p . Let M_t be a family of complex hypersurfaces of N converging to M when t goes to infinity. Then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{M_t} K_I = -\infty$$

where K_I denotes the intrinsic sectional curvatures of M_t .

Proof. Let $p_t \in M_t$ be such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_t = p$. Then, it follows from formula of Corollary 2.2 and the definition of K^\sim that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_{p_t} = \infty$$

where $\lambda_t = \max \{ \lambda \mid \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue of } A_{p_t}(\eta) \text{ for some } \eta \in T_{p_t}(M_t)^\perp, \|\eta\| = 1 \}$. If X_t is an eigenvector associated to λ_t , then $-\lambda_t$ is an eigenvalue with eigenvector iX_t .

Denote by $K(P_t)$ and $\bar{K}(P_t)$ the sectional curvatures of M_t and N , respectively, at p_t , determined by the plane P_t generated by X_t and iX_t . Let $P \subset T_p(N)$ be such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P_t = P$. Then, from the Gauss Equation of an isometric immersion, one has:

hence

$$K(P_t) = \bar{K}(P_t) - \lambda_t^2$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} K(P_t) = \bar{K}(P) - \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_t^2 = -\infty. \quad \square$$

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