

Symplectic geometry: Final report

2024 autumn

1. Basic definitions

Definition 1.1 (symplectic form & symplectic manifold). *Let M be a C^∞ manifold,*

(1) $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$ *is called a symplectic form if*

(a) ω *is closed;*

(b) ω *is non-degenerate;*

(2) *a pair (M, ω) is called a symplectic manifold.*

Remark 1.2. (1)a means $d\omega = 0$, and (1)b means the matrix of ω w.r.t. some basis of $T^*M \otimes T^*M$ is invertible, or equivalently, $\iota_X \omega \neq 0 \in \Omega^1(M)$ for $X \neq 0$.

There are 2 quick observations:

(1) the existence of such ω implies that $\dim M = 2n$ is even (since the matrix of M is anti-symmetric & invertible);

(2) $\omega^n \neq 0 \in \Omega^{2n}(M)$ (by taking a basis of $\Omega^2(M)$), and is thus a non-zero top form.

Example 1.3 (2 canonical models for symplectic manifolds).

(1) Take $M = \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ with coordinates $(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)$, then $\omega_{std} = \sum_i dx_i \wedge dy_i$ is a symplectic form (since the matrix w.r.t. such basis is $J_0 = \begin{pmatrix} & I \\ -I & \end{pmatrix} \in GL(2n, \mathbb{R})$, which is invertible);

(2) Take $M = T^*X$, for $\dim X = n$, with coordinates (q_1, \dots, q_n) on X and (p_1, \dots, p_n) on T_q^*X . Then $\omega_{can} = \sum_i dq_i \wedge dp_i$ is a symplectic form. (ω_{can} is well-defined since $\lambda_{can} = \sum_i p_i \wedge dq_i$ is globally defined and $\omega_{can} = d\lambda_{can}$).

Remark 1.4. (1) The example (2) is related to classical mechanics, where q means position and p means momentum.

(2) The Darboux's theorem shows that a symplectic manifold is locally diffeomorphic to $(\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \omega_{std})$. And the Weinstein's neighborhood theorem shows for a compact Lagrangian submanifold L , there exists

some neighborhood which is diffeomorphic to (T^*L, ω_{can}) .

Thus we say: **Symplectic** geometry does not have any local deformations, which is in sharp contrast to **Riemannian** geometry.

(These results can be proved with Moser's trick, which we omit)

- (3) There are **contact** analogous of these theorems. A contact manifold (roughly speaking, the boundary of a symplectic manifold) is locally diffeomorphic to $(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}, \xi = \ker(dz - \sum y_i dx_i))$, and for a Legendrian submanifold Λ , there exists some neighborhood which is diffeomorphic to $(J^1\Lambda = T^*\Lambda \times \mathbb{R}_z, \xi = \ker(dz - \lambda_{can}))$. There are abundant materials on Legendrian submanifold, especially Legendrian knots.

2. Symplectic linear algebra

Definition 2.1. $Sp(2n) := \{A \in GL(2n, \mathbb{R}) \mid A^T J A = J\}$.

Lemma 2.2. $U(n) = Sp(2n) \cap GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \cap O(2n)$, and the intersection of any 2 terms is $U(n)$.

$(A \in GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \iff A J_0 = J_0 A, A \in Sp(2n) \iff A^T J_0 A = J_0, A \in O(2n) \iff A^T A = I)$, so 2 of them implies the other. By calculation, we can see $A \in U(n) \iff A \in Sp(2n) \& A \in O(2n)$.

Lemma 2.3. \exists a homotopy equivalence between $Sp(2n) \& U(n)$.

(The map $f : [0, 1] \times Sp(2n) \rightarrow Sp(2n), (t, A) \rightarrow A(A^T A)^{-t/2}$ gives a such equivalence. Now that we have $f_1 : Sp(2n) \rightarrow U(n)$).

Lemma 2.4. $U(n)$ is a maximal compact subgroup of $Sp(2n)$.

(The idea is: for $A \in Sp(2n) \setminus U(n), P = (A^T A) \in Sp(2n)$ and has an eigenvalue $\lambda \neq 1$, thus the iteration $\{P^i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ is divergent).

Lemma 2.5. $\pi_1(U(n)) = \mathbb{Z}$.

(Using the fibration $SU(n) \rightarrow U(n) \xrightarrow{\det_{\mathbb{C}}} S^1$, we get an exact sequence $\pi_1(SU(n)) \rightarrow \pi_1(U(n)) \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1) \rightarrow \pi_0(SU(n))$, since $\pi_1(SU(n)) = 0$, we have $\pi_1(U(n)) = \mathbb{Z}$).

We can thus define the Maslov index.

Definition 2.6 (Maslov index). The maslov index is a function $\mu : \pi_1(Sp(2n)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, i.e. $\mu : \Gamma : S^1 \rightarrow Sp(2n) \rightarrow \mu(\Gamma) \in \mathbb{Z}$, s.t.

- (1) if $\Gamma_1 \xrightarrow{\text{homotopy}} \Gamma_2$, then $\mu(\Gamma_1) = \mu(\Gamma_2)$;

$$(2) \mu(\Gamma_1 \cdot \Gamma_2) = \mu(\Gamma_1) + \mu(\Gamma_2);$$

$$(3) \text{ for } n = n' + n'', \text{ consider } Sp(2n') \oplus Sp(2n'') = Sp(2n), \text{ then } \mu(\Gamma_1 \oplus \Gamma_2) = \mu(\Gamma_1) + \mu(\Gamma_2);$$

$$(4) \text{ for } \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\pi t & \sin 2\pi t \\ -\sin 2\pi t & \cos 2\pi t \end{pmatrix}, \mu(\Gamma) = 1.$$

Proposition 2.7. *There exists uniquely a such function.*

(μ can be defined from $S^1 \xrightarrow{\Gamma} Sp(2n) \xrightarrow{f_1} U(n) \xrightarrow{\det_{\mathbb{C}}} S^1$, by $\mu = \deg(\det_{\mathbb{C}} \circ f_1 \circ \Gamma)$. It's well defined and satisfies all the conditions. The uniqueness follows from (4)).

Remark 2.8. (1) *We can define Maslov index for $LGr(n)$ (the Lagrangian Grassmannian, i.e. the space of Lagrangians in \mathbb{R}^{2n}) through a similar procedure;*

(2) *The Maslov index is used in the construction of Floer homology.*

3. Symplectic manifolds and its relation to Kähler manifolds

Definition 3.1 (exact symplectic manifold). *A symplectic manifold (M, ω) is called exact if $\omega = d\lambda$ for some $\lambda \in \Omega^1(M)$.*

Example 3.2. (1) *The examples in 1.3 are both exact.*

(2) *For some closed surface $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$, take $\omega_p(v_1, v_2) = \langle N_p, v_1 \times v_2 \rangle$, then (Σ, ω) is a non-exact symplectic manifold. This follows from the following proposition.*

Proposition 3.3. *If (M^{2n}, ω) is closed, then M can not be exact.*

(Using Poincaré duality, $H^{2n}(M) \neq 0$, thus ω^n can not be exact). The example (2) is critical, since we have the following result.

Proposition 3.4. *S^{2n} is not symplectic for $n > 1$.*

(Note that for closed (M^{2n}, ω) , ω^k is not exact for $k = 1, \dots, n$).

Definition 3.5 (Kähler manifold). *A Kähler manifold is a manifold with a symplectic form ω and an almost complex structure J , s.t.*

$$(1) \omega(Ju, Jv) = \omega(u, v);$$

$$(2) \omega(v, Jv) > 0 \text{ for } v \neq 0.$$

Remark 3.6. (1) The conditions in 3.5 can be replaced by the bilinear form $g(u, v) = \omega(u, Jv)$ is symmetric and positive definite.

(2) There are some direct results from the definition.

(a) ω is a $(1, 1)$ -form and $\partial\omega = 0, \bar{\partial}\omega = 0$;

(b) write $\omega = \frac{i}{2} \sum h_{jk} dz_j \wedge d\bar{z}_k$, then $(h_{jk})(p)$ is an Hermitian and positive definite (thus invertible) matrix at any point $p \in M$.

There are some examples of complex yet not symplectic manifolds, symplectic yet not complex manifolds, and symplectic & complex yet not Kähler manifolds. These gaps are of their own interests.

4. Morse homology and Floer homology

The Morse theory is about the critical point of smooth functions. A classical example is the flat torus with the height function.

Definition 4.1 (Morse function & index, pseudo-gradient vector field). Let $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a smooth function,

(1) f is a Morse function if all its critical points are non-degenerate.

(2) By a lemma of Morse, we can write $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(p) - (x_1)^2 - \dots - (x_i)^2 + (x_{i+1})^2 + \dots + (x_n)^2$ for some chart (x_1, \dots, x_n) around a critical point p , the number i is invariant under coordinate change. So we define the Morse index $\text{ind}(p) = i$.

(3) A vector field X is pseudo-gradient for some Morse function f if

(a) $df(X) \leq 0$ on M , and the equality holds for critical points;

(b) $X = \text{grad} f$ in the charts described as in (2).

Given a pseudo-gradient vector field, we can define the stable & unstable submanifolds for a critical point p , as we shall do for dynamic systems.

Definition 4.2. $M(p, q) := \{x \in M \mid \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^t(x) = q, \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \varphi^t(x) = p\}$, where φ^t is the flow of X , and p, q are critical points.

We assume Smale's condition, i.e. $W^u(p) \pitchfork W^s(q)$ for any 2 critical points p, q , which implies that $\dim(W^u(p) \cap W^s(q)) = \text{ind } p - \text{ind } q$. So directly, we have $\dim M(p, q) = \text{ind } p - \text{ind } q$. Let $M(p, q) = M(p, q)/\mathbb{R}$.

Thus we can define the Morse complex and (\mathbb{Z}_2) -homology:

$$\begin{aligned} CM.(f) &:= \text{span}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \{\text{crit}(f)\} \\ \partial(p) &:= \sum_{\substack{q \in \text{crit}(f), \\ \text{ind} p - \text{ind} q = 1}} |\widetilde{M}(p, q)| q \\ HM_k(f) &:= H_k(CM.(f), \partial) \end{aligned}$$

Remark 4.3. (1) $\partial^2 = 0$, since

$$\partial^2 p = \sum_q |\widetilde{M}(p, q)| \partial q = \sum_q \sum_r |\widetilde{M}(p, q)| |\widetilde{M}(q, r)| r$$

where $\text{ind} p = \text{ind} q + 1$, $\text{ind} q = \text{ind} r + 1$. In this case $\dim \widetilde{M}(p, r) = 1$ and $\partial \widetilde{M}(p, r)$ consists of an even number of points. Thus $\partial^2 p = \sum_{\substack{r \in \text{crit}(f), \\ \text{ind} p = \text{ind} r + 2}} |\partial \widetilde{M}(p, r)| r = 0 \pmod{2}$.

(2) Similar to mapping degree, if we take an orientation for $M(p, q)$, then we can elevate this complex to be over \mathbb{Z} .

Roughly speaking, Floer homology is infinite analogous of Morse homology, where the Morse index is replaced by Maslov index.

$$\begin{aligned} CF.(L_0, L_1) &:= \text{span}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \{\varphi^1(L_0) \cap L_1\} \\ d(p) &:= \sum_q |\widetilde{M}(p, q)| q \\ HF_k(f) &:= H_k(CF.(L_0, L_1), d) \end{aligned}$$

The function $M(p, q)$ here is obtained from the Floer's equations.

Example 4.4 (easy example, cylinder). Let $M = T^*S^1$, $\omega = \omega_{\text{can}} = d\theta \wedge d\xi$, take $L_0 = L_1 = T_0^*S^1$, and $H(\theta, \xi) = \frac{\xi^2}{2}$. Then the flow of H is $\varphi^t(\theta, \xi) = (\theta + t\xi, \xi)$, so $\varphi^1(L_0) \cap L_1 = \{(0, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. As a result, $CF(L_0, L_1) = \mathbb{Z}_2[x, \frac{1}{x}]$ (consider the degree). In this case there's no complicated intersection relation, in fact $d = 0$, and $HF(L_0, L_1) = \mathbb{Z}_2[x, \frac{1}{x}]$.

5. A_∞ algebra

Definition 5.1 (A_∞ algebra). An A_∞ algebra over a field k is a graded vector space $V = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} V^p$ with homogeneous k -linear maps: $\mu^n : V^{\otimes n} \rightarrow$

$V^{2-n}, n \geq 1, s.t.$

$$\sum_{\substack{r+s+t=n \\ r+1+t=d}} (-1)^{r+st} \mu^d(\text{id}^{\otimes r} \otimes \mu^s \otimes \text{id}^{\otimes t}) = 0$$

Remark 5.2. (1) If $\text{char} k = 2$, we can ignore the sign $(-1)^{r+st}$;

(2) Take $n = 1$, $(\mu^1)^2 = 0$, so (V, μ^1) becomes a complex;

(3) Take $n = 2$, $\mu^1 \circ \mu^2 = \mu^2 \circ (\text{id} \otimes \mu^1) + \mu^2 \circ (\mu^1 \otimes \text{id})$, so μ^2 can be understood as a multiplication, with μ^1 as a derivation;

(4) Take $n = 3$, $\mu^2 \circ (\text{id} \otimes \mu^2) - \mu^2 \circ (\mu^2 \otimes \text{id}) = \mu^1 \circ \mu^3 + \mu^3 \circ (\text{id}^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mu^1 + \text{id} \otimes \mu^1 \otimes \text{id} + \mu^1 \otimes \text{id}^{\otimes 2})$, so μ^3 compensates for the associativity;

(5) If $V^p = 0$ for $p \neq 0$, then it reduces to an associate algebra.

For an exact symplectic manifold (M, ω) , the Fukaya category is an A_∞ -category, where the objects are exact Lagrangian submanifolds, and the morphisms are given by Floer complex via intersection.

6. Legendrian knots

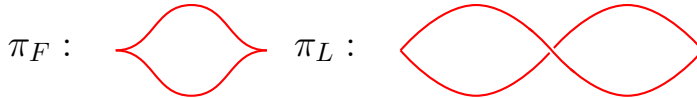
Take a Legendrian $\Lambda \subset (\mathbb{R}^3_{xyz}, \alpha = dz - ydx)$, we can take two different projections

(1) front projection: $\pi_F : \mathbb{R}^3_{xyz} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2_{xz}$;

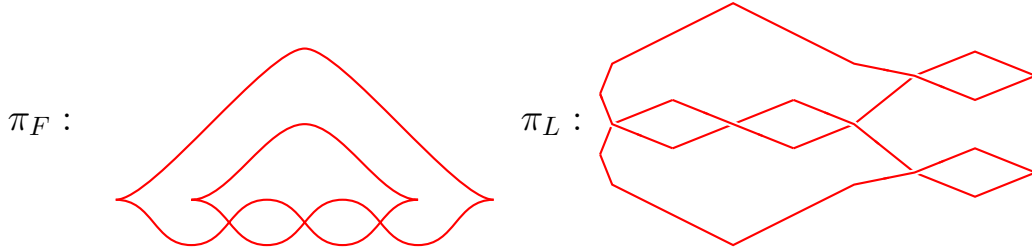
(2) Lagrangian projection: $\pi_L : \mathbb{R}^3_{xyz} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2_{xy}$.

Example 6.1 (2 kinds of projections).



(1) unknot;



(2) right trefoil.



Reidemeister's theorem tells us, the isotopy of Legendrian knots are given by Reidemeister's moves of knots.

There are several invariants for the Legendrian knots, like Thurston-Bennequin number, rotation number and Chekanov's dg algebra $(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda), \partial)$. $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda)$ is generated by $\langle a_1, \dots, a_n, t^{\pm 1} \rangle$, where a_i represent the Reeb chords for the knot, t represent the base point we choose, and t^{-1} is the formal inverse of t . The grading is obtained from rotation number, and it varies as the crossings  ,  changes.

7. Microlocal sheaves

Definition 7.1 (presheaves & sheaves). *Let X be a topological space,*

- (1) *a presheaf \mathcal{F} on X is a contravariant functor from $\text{Open}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$;*
- (2) *a sheaf \mathcal{F} on X is a presheaf, s.t. if $U, V_i \in \text{Open}(X), U = \cup_i V_i$,*
 - (a) *(factorizing) if $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ s.t. $s|_{V_i} = 0, \forall i$, then $s = 0$;*
 - (b) *(glueing) if $s_i \in \mathcal{F}(V_i)$, $s_i = s_j$ on $V_i \cap V_j, \forall i, j$, then $\exists s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$, $s|_{V_i} = s_i, \forall i$.*

The definition of micro-support is not easy.

Definition 7.2 (micro-support). *For a sheaf \mathcal{F} on X ,*

- (1) *we say \mathcal{F} propagates at $(x, p) \in T^*X$, if $\forall \varphi \in C^1(X), \varphi(x) = 0, d\varphi(x) = p$, we have $\varinjlim_{x \in U} H^j(U; \mathcal{F}) \cong \varinjlim_{x \in U} H^j(U \cap \{\varphi < 0\}; \mathcal{F}), \forall j$;*
- (2) *$\mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$ is the closure of all $(x, p) \in T^*X$, at where \mathcal{F} does not propagate;*
- (3) *for a Legendrian Λ , $\text{Sh}_\Lambda(X) := \{\mathcal{F} \in \text{Sh}(X) \mid \mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F}) \cap \partial_\infty T^*X \subset \Lambda\}$.*

Remark 7.3. (1) $\mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$ is conical for p ;

(2) $(x, p) \in \mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$ means that (x, p) is singular for \mathcal{F} in some sense;

(3) $\text{Sh}_\Lambda(X)$ is a **Legendrian isotopy invariant**, by Guillermou-Kashiwara-Schapira.

Example 7.4. Let $X = \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{C}_{[0,\infty)}$ on X . Obviously, $(x, 0) \in \mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$ only for $x \geq 0$. Take $f(x) = x$, then $f(0) = 0$, $df_0 = dx_0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} R\Gamma(\{f < \delta\}; \mathcal{F}) &= \varinjlim \Gamma((-\varepsilon, \delta), \mathcal{F}) = \mathbb{C}, \\ R\Gamma(\{f < -\delta\}; \mathcal{F}) &= \varinjlim \Gamma((-\varepsilon, -\delta), \mathcal{F}) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $R(\Gamma)$ is the right derived functor of Γ . So $(0, dx) \in \mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$, similarly, $(0, -dx) \notin \mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$. Thus $\mu\text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$ looks like $\textcolor{red}{\llcorner}$. In the same way, we have

$$\mathbb{C}_{[0,\infty)} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{\llcorner} \quad \mathbb{C}_{(0,\infty)} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{\lrcorner} \quad \mathbb{C}_{(-\infty,0]} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{\lrcorner} \quad \mathbb{C}_{(-\infty,0)} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{\llcorner}$$

In general, we consider the constructible objects in the derived category of $\text{Sh}(X)$. A theorem of Nadler-Zaslow gives an equivalence between such category of constructible objects and the derived Fukaya category, which builds the bridge between Lagrangian intersection theory and microlocal sheaf theory.