# Volume entropy of harmonic Hadamard manifolds of hypergeometric type

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August 5, 2019
Differential Geometry and its Applications

#### Harmonic manifolds

#### Definition

A harmonic manifold is a complete Riemannian manifold (X,g) whose volume density function  $\sqrt{\det(g_{ij})}$  is a radial function, that is,  $\sqrt{\det(g_{ij})}(x)$  depends only on the distance d(o,x). Here  $g_{ij} = g\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}\right)$  are components of the Riemannian metric g with respect to a normal coordinate system  $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n\}$  at an arbitrary point  $o \in X$ 

#### Remark 1.1

- Every geodesic sphere S(p; r) in a harmonic manifold has constant mean curvature  $\sigma(r)$ .
- Harmonic manifolds are always Einstein, i.e.,  $\mathrm{Ric}_g = \kappa g$ .

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- In 1944, <u>Lichnerowicz</u> conjectured that harmonic 4-manifolds are flat or rank one symmetric spaces.
- In 1949, above conjecture was proved by Walker.
- Their work was generalized to the following conjecture;

#### Lichnerowicz Conjecture

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- In 1990, <u>Szabó</u> proved the Lichnerowicz conjecture for simply connected **compact** harmonic manifolds.
- In 1992, <u>Damek and Ricci</u> gave counter examples for the Lichnerowicz conjecture, which is a class of harmonic, homogeneous Hadamard manifolds, called the <u>Damek-Ricci</u> space, including rank one symmetric spaces of non-compact type (except RH<sup>n</sup>).
- In 2006, <u>Heber</u> proved that a simply connected, **homogeneous** harmonic manifold is isometric to a Euclidean spaces, a rank-one symmetric space, or a Damek-Ricci space.

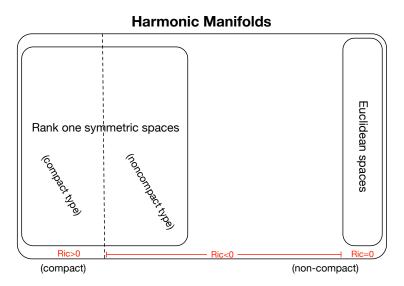
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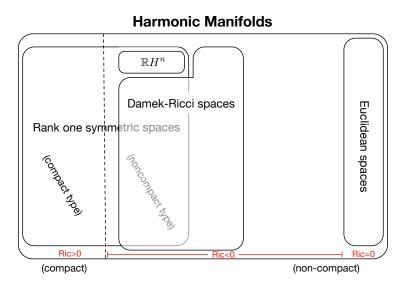
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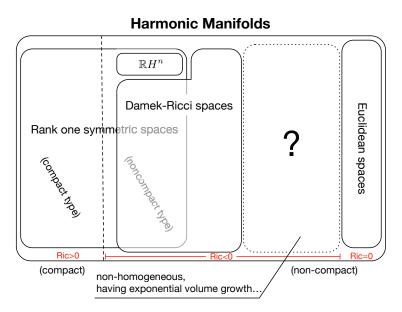
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#### The aim of this talk

- We define a new class of non-compact harmonic manifolds, including all Damek-Ricci spaces and rank-one symmetric spaces of non-compact type.
- We call such a space, harmonic manifold of hypergeometric type.
- It is motivated to develop the theory of the spherical Fourier transform on harmonic manifolds (cf. Itoh's talk on Monday).

We show the following fact;

#### Main Theorem (Itoh-S. in preparation)

Let (X,g) be an n-dimensional harmonic manifold of hypergeometric type whose metric g is normalized as  $\mathrm{Ric}_g = -(n-1)g$ . Then, the volume entropy  $Q_g$  of (X,g) satisfies

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3} \le Q_g \le n-1. \tag{1}$$

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Anker-Damek-Yacoub (1996), see also Rouvière (2003)

- They developed the spherical Fourier transform on a Damek-Ricci space by reducing it to a special case of the Jacobi transform of Jacobi functions.
- The spherical Fourier transform  $f \mapsto \hat{f}$  for a smooth radial function f(x) on a harmonic manifold is defined by

$$\hat{f}(\lambda) = \int_{x \in X} f(x) \, \varphi_{\lambda}(x) \, dv_{g} = \omega_{n-1} \int_{0}^{\infty} f(r) \, \varphi_{\lambda}(r) \, \Theta(r) \, dr,$$

where  $\Theta(r)$  is the volume density of a geodesic sphere S(o; r).

• Here  $\varphi_{\lambda}$  is an eigenfunction of the radial part of the Laplace operator  $\Delta$  with eigenvalue  $\frac{Q_g^2}{4} + \lambda^2$ .

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- They developed the spherical Fourier transform on a Damek-Ricci space by reducing it to a special case of the Jacobi transform of Jacobi functions.
- The essence of their method is that the eigenfunction equation of the Laplace operator is transformed into a **hypergeometric differential** equation by a variable transformation  $z = -\sinh^2(r/2)$ ;

$$\frac{d^2f}{dr^2}(r) + \sigma(r) \cdot \frac{df}{dr}(r) + \left(\frac{Q_g^2}{4} + \lambda^2\right)f(r) = 0$$
 (2)

$$z(1-z)u''(z) + \{c - (a+b+1)z\}u'(z) - abu(z) = 0$$
 (3)

• Therefore,  $\varphi_{\lambda}$  is described by using the hypergeometric function  ${}_{2}F_{1}(a,b,c;z)$ .

#### Definition (Itoh's talk)

Let (X,g) be a non-compact harmonic manifold. When the equation (2) turns into (3) by a variable transformation  $z = -\sinh^2(r/2)$ , we call (X,g) a harmonic manifold of **hypergeometric type**.

#### Theorem A

Let (X,g) be a non-compact harmonic manifold. If for a variable transformation z=z(r) the equation (2) turns into (3), then it holds only for  $z(r)=-\sinh^2(\ell r)$  for some  $\ell>0$ .

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#### Why change the definition?

- The main subject of this talk is the volume entropy  $Q_g$  which is not scale invariant.
- Since we want to normalize the metric and discuss estimates of  $Q_g$ , we modify the definition as above (these are essentially the same).

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# Characterization of "hypergeometric type"

#### Theorem B

A non-compact harmonic manifold (X,g) is of hypergeometric type, if and only if its volume density function  $\Theta(r)$  of a geodesic sphere S(o;r) is given by

$$\Theta(r) = K_g \sinh^{n-1}(\ell r) \cosh^{Q_g/\ell - (n-1)}(\ell r). \tag{4}$$

#### Theorem C

If the volume density function of a geodesic sphere S(o;r) in a harmonic manifold is expressed by (4), then the constant  $K_g$  is given by

$$K_g = -\frac{1}{\ell^n} \cdot \frac{\operatorname{Ric}_g}{3Q_g - 2(n-1)\ell}.$$

#### Remark 2.1

In 2005, Nikolayevsky proved that the volume density function  $\Theta(r)$  of S(o;r) in a harmonic manifold is an exponential polynomial.

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## Tools to prove Theorem A, B and C

Let (X,g) be a non-compact harmonic manifold. Let  $\Theta(r)$  and  $\sigma(r)$  be the volume density function and the mean curvature of S(o;r), respectively.

#### Lemma 2.2

- $\lim_{r\to\infty}\sigma(r)=Q_g$
- $\circ$   $\sigma(r)$  is non-negative.
- $\lim_{r\to 0} r\,\sigma(r) = n-1$

#### Lemma 2.3 (Ledger formula)

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dr^2} \left( \frac{\Theta(r)}{r^{n-1}} \right) \right|_{r=0} = -\frac{1}{3} \mathrm{Ric}_g$$

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## Bishop volume comparison theorem

# Theorem 3.1 (see [Sakai, Theorem 3.1(2), IV])

Let (X,g) be an n-dimensional complete Riemannian manifold satisfying  $\mathrm{Ric}_g \geq (n-1)\delta$  and  $\gamma:[0,\infty] \to X$  be a geodesic satisfying  $\gamma(0)=p\in X$  and  $\gamma'(0)=u\in T_pX, |u|=1$ .

• If  $\delta < 0$ , then we have

$$\Theta_p(r,u) \leq \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\delta|}}\sinh\left(\sqrt{|\delta|}r\right)\right)^{n-1}, \quad 0 < r < t_0(\gamma),$$

where  $\Theta_p(r, u)$  is volume density of S(p; r) at  $\exp_p(ru)$  and  $t_0(\gamma)$  attains the first conjugate point of p along  $\gamma$ .

• If equality holds at  $T \le t_0(\gamma)$ , then the equality holds for any  $0 \le r \le T$  and the sectional curvature of any plane spanned by  $\gamma'(r)$  and a unit vector perpendicular to  $\gamma(r)$  is constant  $\delta$ .

- Let (X,g) be a harmonic manifold of hypergeometric type and  $\mathrm{Ric}_g = (n-1)\delta$ ,  $\delta < 0$ .
- From the Bishop volume comparison theorem, we have

$$\Theta(r) = K_g \sinh^{n-1}(\ell r) \, \cosh^{\frac{Q_g}{\ell} - (n-1)}(\ell r) \leq \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\delta|}} \sinh\left(\sqrt{|\delta|}r\right)\right)^{n-1}.$$

Expanding above inequality into power-series, we have

$$K_g\left\{\ell^{n-1} + \left(\frac{Q_g}{2\ell} - \frac{n-1}{3}\right)\ell^{n+1}r^2 + O(r^4)\right\} \le 1 + \frac{n-1}{3!}|\delta|r^2 + O(r^4).$$

- When  $r \to 0$ , we have  $K_g \ell^{n-1} \le 1$ .
- From Theorem C, we have

$$\frac{n-1}{3}\left(\frac{|\delta|}{\ell}+2\ell\right)\leq Q_{\mathsf{g}}.$$

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On the other hand, from the definition of volume entropy, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_g &= \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{\log \operatorname{Vol} B(o; r)}{r} = \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{\log \int_0^r \Theta(r) \, dr}{r} \\ &\leq \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{\log \int_0^r \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\delta|}} \sinh \left(\sqrt{|\delta|}r\right)\right)^{n-1} \, dr}{r} = \dots = (n-1)\sqrt{|\delta|}. \end{aligned}$$

• Remark: above inequality holds for any harmonic manifolds.

Hence, we obtain

$$rac{n-1}{3}\left(rac{|\delta|}{\ell}+2\ell
ight) \leq Q_{\mathsf{g}} \leq (n-1)\sqrt{|\delta|}$$

 From the famous theorem of the arithmetic and geometric means, we have

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2|\delta|}(n-1)}{3} \leq Q_{\mathsf{g}} \leq (n-1)\sqrt{|\delta|}$$

• We normalize the metric g satisfying  $\mathrm{Ric}_g = -(n-1)g$ , i.e.,  $\delta = -1$ , we have

$$\therefore \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3} \leq Q_g \leq (n-1).$$

Q.E.D

# Harmonic manifolds that attain the maximum or minimum value of $Q_{\rm g}$

- In the case of  $Q_g = (n-1)$ , we have  $\Theta(r) = \sinh^{n-1} r$ .
- From the Bishop volume comparison theorem, we find that (X, g) is an n-dimensional **real hyperbolic space** of constant sectional curvature -1.

- In the case of  $Q_g=\frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ , it is not clear what properties such a harmonic manifold generally carries.
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## Damek-Ricci spaces

- A Damek-Ricci space S = AN is a solvable Lie group which is a one-dimensional extension of a generalized Heisenberg group N having a certain left-invariant metric g.
- A generalized Heisenberg group is a 2-step nilpotent group which satisfies a certain condition.
- Let  $\mathfrak{z}$  be the center of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{n}$  of N and  $\mathfrak{v}$  is the orthogonal complement of  $\mathfrak{z}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$  ( $m_{\mathfrak{v}} = \dim \mathfrak{v}$ ,  $m_{\mathfrak{z}} = \dim \mathfrak{z}$ ).
- $S \simeq \mathbb{R} \times \mathfrak{v} \times \mathfrak{z} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{m_{\mathfrak{v}}+m_{\mathfrak{z}}+1}$
- It is known that for each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exit an infinite number of non-isomorphic generalized Heisenberg groups with  $m_3 = m$ .
- Moreover, the Ricci curvature tensor  $\mathrm{Ric}_g$  and the volume entropy  $Q_g$  of a Damek-Ricci space (S,g) are given by

$$\mathrm{Ric}_g = -\left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + \frac{m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{4}\right)g, \quad Q_g = m_{\mathfrak{z}} + \frac{m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{2}.$$

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# In the case of $Q_g = \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ on Damek-Ricci spaces

• Since  $n = \dim S = m_3 + m_v + 1$ , we have

$$\mathrm{Ric}_g = -\left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + \frac{m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{4}\right)g = -(n-1)\cdot \frac{\left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}/4\right)}{m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}}g.$$

• By constant rescaling g as  $k^2g$  where  $k=\sqrt{\frac{(m_3+m_v/4)}{m_3+m_v}}$ , we obtain  $\mathrm{Ric}_{k^2g}=-(n-1)(k^2g)$  and

$$Q_{k^2g} = \frac{Q_g}{k} = \left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + \frac{m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{\left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}/4\right)}}.$$

Solving the equation

$$\left(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + \frac{m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{2}\right)\sqrt{\frac{m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}}{(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}}/4)}} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}(m_{\mathfrak{z}} + m_{\mathfrak{v}})}{3},$$

we have  $m_{\rm p}=2m_{\rm s}$ .

In the case of 
$$Q_g = \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$$
 on Damek-Ricci spaces

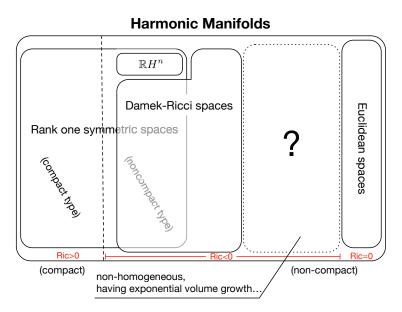
From the classification of generalized Heisenberg groups, we find that Damek-Ricci spaces satisfying  $m_v = 2m_{\tilde{g}}$  are only in the following 4 cases;

- $m_3 = 1 (n = 4)$
- $m_3 = 2 (n = 7)$
- $m_3 = 4 (n = 13)$
- $m_3 = 8 \ (n = 25)$

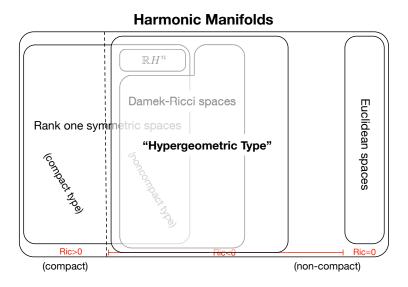
#### Remark 3.2

In the case of i), S is isometric to a 4-dimensional complex hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{C}H^2$ . In the case of ii), S has 7-dimension which is smallest dimension among non-symmetric Damek-Ricci spaces.

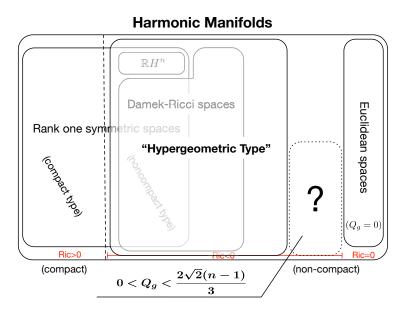
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#### Future work

- Characterize harmonic manifolds of hypergeometric type whose volume entropy satisfies  $Q_g=\frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ .
- Find a harmonic manifold of hypergeometric type which is not a Damek-Ricci space.
- Show the existence of a non-compact harmonic manifold whose volume entropy satisfies  $0 < Q_g < \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ .

Thank you for your attention.

#### Future work

- Characterize harmonic manifolds of hypergeometric type whose volume entropy satisfies  $Q_g=rac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ .
- Find a harmonic manifold of hypergeometric type which is not a Damek-Ricci space.
- Show the existence of a non-compact harmonic manifold whose volume entropy satisfies  $0 < Q_g < \frac{2\sqrt{2}(n-1)}{3}$ .

### Thank you for your attention.

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