

50 Minute Glimpse into the
world of
Pseudoholomorphic curves

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Preliminaries

Definition 1 A **complex structure** J on a manifold, V , is an endomorphism of V with $J^2 = -\mathbf{1}$ (where $\mathbf{1}$ denotes the identity).

Definition 2 A **symplectic structure** on V is a non-degenerate, skew symmetric bilinear map $\omega : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Definition 3 An **almost complex structure**, J , and an **almost symplectic structure**, ω , on V is a complex structure and symplectic structure on $TV \rightarrow V$, respectively.

Lemma 1 A complex structure J is **ω -compatible** if and only if both of the following conditions hold:

(i) $\omega\langle v, Jv \rangle > 0$ for each $v \in V/\{0\}$

(ii) $\omega\langle Jv, Jw \rangle = \omega$ for every $v, w \in V$.

If only (i) is satisfied, then J is considered to be **ω -tame**.

Proposition 1 If (V, ω) is an almost symplectic manifold, then there exists an ω compatible complex structure, J on V .

Introduction

Definition 4 Consider an almost complex manifold, (V, J) . Then a smooth map $\phi : (V_1, J_1) \rightarrow (V_2, J_2)$ is called **pseudoholomorphic** (or $J_1 J_2$ holomorphic) if the differential $\mathcal{D}_\phi : T(V_1) \rightarrow T(V_2)$ is a complex linear map, i.e.

$$T\phi \circ J_1 = J_2 \circ T\phi$$

Definition 5 A **pseudoholomorphic curve** (or parameterized J -curve) is a pseudoholomorphic map $\phi : S \rightarrow (V, J)$ from a Riemann surface, S , to an almost complex manifold (V, J) .

If S has a nonempty boundary, then ϕ is a **pseudoholomorphic curve with boundary**.

The image of $C = \phi(S) \subseteq V$ called a **non-parameterized J -curve** in V . If C can be parameterized by a closed (compact) surface S , then C is **closed (compact)**. C is **regular** if there is a parameterization $\phi : S \rightarrow V$ which is a smooth proper embedding. A nonconstant pseudoholomorphic curve $\phi : S^2 \rightarrow (V, J)$ is called a **rational J -curve** (or just "rational").

Definition 6 Given an almost complex manifold, (V, J) , (V, J, μ) denotes an almost complex manifold with boundary.

Applications of Pseudoholomorphic curves

★ Gromov - Schwarz Lemma

Theorem 1 (Gromov-Schwarz Lemma) *Let (V, J, μ) be compact. Then there exists an $\epsilon > 0$ and constant $c > 0$ such that $\|T\phi\| \leq c$ for every pseudoholomorphic map $\phi : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow V$, whose image, $\phi(\mathbb{H})$ is contained in an ϵ -ball, $B_\epsilon(p)$ around some $p \in V$.*

Theorem 2 (Monotonicity Lemma) *Let (V, J, μ) be compact. Then there are constants $\epsilon, \lambda > 0$ such that the following holds:*

Assume that $\phi : S \rightarrow (V, J, \mu)$ is a compact pseudoholomorphic curve with boundary and $s_0 \in S/\partial S$ and $r \in (0, \epsilon)$ such that $\phi(\partial S)$ is contained in some r -ball, $B_r(\phi(s_0)) \subseteq V$. Then the area of ϕ in the $\overline{B_r(\phi(s_0))}$ satisfies:

$$A(\phi(S) \cap \overline{B_r(\phi(s_0))}) \geq \lambda \cdot r^2.$$

★ Higher Order Derivatives

Definition 7 Let $\phi : G \rightarrow V$ be a map from an open subset $G \subset S$ to V . The map $\phi^{(1)} : G \rightarrow [S, V]$ given by $s \mapsto T_s\phi \in [S, V]_{(s, f(s))}$ for $s \in G$ is called the **1-jet** of ϕ . It is a lift of the graph $\Gamma_\phi : G \rightarrow S \times V$ of ϕ to $[S, M]$, i.e., $\pi \circ \phi^{(1)} = \Gamma_\phi$.

Remark: Here,

$$[S, V] = \bigcup_{(s,p) \in S \times V} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(T_s S, T_p V)$$

is defined as the disjoint union of the complex vectorspaces of $T_s S \rightarrow T_p V$.

Theorem 3 Let S be a Riemann surface, (V, J) an almost complex manifold, $s_0 \in S$ an interior point and $\phi: S/\{s_0\} \rightarrow (V, J)$ a pseudoholomorphic map with relatively compact image in V . Assume that ϕ has one of the following properties with respect to some Hermetian metric μ on V .

- 1. There exists a neighborhood $N \subset S$ of s_0 such that $\phi|_{N/\{s_0\}}$ has finite area.*
- 2. There exists a neighborhood $N \subset S$ of s_0 and an open neighborhood $U \subset V$ of $\phi(N/\{s_0\})$ such that there exists a bounded 1-form α on U satisfying $d\alpha(v, Jv) \geq \mu(v, v)$ for each $v \in TU \subset TV$.*

Then ϕ can be extended to a pseudoholomorphic map on S .

★ Gromov's Compactness Theorem

*Definition 8 Consider a system of disjoint closed curves γ_i in a closed surface. Let S_0 be the surface obtained from $S/\cup \gamma_i$ by the one-point compactification. Let \bar{S} be the space obtained from S by shrinking every γ_i to a single point. The map $g: S_0 \rightarrow \bar{S}$ that glues pairs of points $s_{0,i}, s_{1,i} \in S_0$ such that $\bar{s}_i = g(s_{0,i}) = g(s_{1,i}) \in \bar{S}$ are the **cuspidal points** in \bar{S} . A continuous map $h: \bar{S} \rightarrow V$ is called a **parameterized pseudoholomorphic cusp curve** if the composition map $h \circ g$ is holomorphic.*

*Definition 9 A sequence of closed J -curves, $C_j \subset V$ are said to **weakly converge** to a cusp curve $\bar{C} \subset V$ if the following four conditions are satisfied:*

Theorem 4 (Compactness Theorem) Let C_j be a sequence of closed J -curves of a fixed genus in a compact manifold (V, J, μ) . If the areas of C_j are uniformly bounded, i.e.

$$A_\mu C_j \leq \mathcal{A}, \quad j \geq 1$$

then some subsequence weakly converges to a cusp-curve, \bar{C} , in V .

★ Gromov's (non)squeezing Lemma:

Theorem 5 ((non)Squeezing Lemma) *Let (V, ω) be closed symplectic manifold of dimension $2m - 2$ and assume that the 2^{nd} fundamental group is trivial. If there exists a symplectic embedding*

$$i : \overline{B}^{2m}(r) \hookrightarrow B^2(R) \times V$$

into the symplectic product $B^2(R) \times V$, then $r < R$.

★ Other cool applications:

- * Gromov Witten invariants
- * Adjunction formula
- * Intersection positivity for J-curves in symplectic 4 manifolds.
- * Applications to Hyperbolic Surfaces
- * Foliation of $S^2 \times S^2$ by J-curves.
- * Applications to Floer Theory

★ References

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