

# Local Structure of Singular Foliations

Pisa, 23 / Jan / 2007

Disclaimer: I know nothing about complex dynamics

Main Reference: Chapter 6 of a small monographie entitled  
"Poisson Structures and their normal forms", Progress in  
Math. / Vol 242, 2005. Joint Work with J-P DUFOR

1st Question: What is a linear singular foliation?

\* For a vector field  $X$  with a singular point  $O$ :  $X(O) = 0$ , one can talk about the linear part  $X^{(1)}$  of  $X$ .

If  $X = X^{(1)}$  ( $X \cong X^{(1)}$ ) then one says that  $X$  is linear (linearizable)

\* Now consider a singular foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  and assume that  $O$  is a sing. point of  $\mathcal{F}$ . What does it mean for  $\mathcal{F}$  to be linear in a neighborhood of  $O$ ?

Think about it .....  $\rightarrow$  (at least) 2 non-equivalent possible answers:

Answer 1  $\mathcal{F}$  is linear if it is generated by linear vector fields. In other words,  $\mathcal{F}$  is generated by a linear representation of a Lie algebra.

Answer 2  $\mathcal{F}$  is linear if it is generated by a linear integrable diff.  $P$ -form on a  $q$ -vector field or a linear integrable diff.  $P$ -form ( $q = \dim$ ,  $P = \text{codim of } \mathcal{F}$ )

Now, what's a quadratic singular foliation?

Answer 1' and problems, because if  $X, Y$  are quadratic vector fields then  $[X, Y]$  is cubic? (Quadratic vector fields don't form a Lie alg.; "quadratic action" does not make much sense in general)

Answer 2'  $\rightarrow$  no problems, one can talk about (quasi)homogeneous integrable  $q$ -vector fields /  $p$ -forms.

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Integrable  $q$ -vector fields =  $q$ -dim generalization of vector fields

- vector field  $\approx$  singular 1-dim foliation + contravariant leaf-wise volume forms
- integrable  $q$ -vector field  $\approx$  singular  $q$ -dim fol. + contravariant leaf-wise volume forms.

Def A  $q$ -vector field  $\Lambda$  is called integrable if  $\forall x$  s.t.  $\Lambda(x) \neq 0 \exists$  local coord. syst.  $(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  in which

$$\Lambda = f(z) \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z_q}$$

[locally, the leaves are spanned by  $\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial z_q} \right]$ ]

Remarks 1)  $\Lambda$  integrable  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\Lambda$  - associated (singular)

2) A sing. foliation can be essentially obtained from an integrable  $q$ -dim foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  &  $\mathcal{F}'$  are essentially the same if corresponding distributions coincide almost everywhere)

3) One can talk about commuting integrable multi-vector fields

$\Lambda$  - integrable  $k$ -vector field

$\Pi$  -  $l$ -vector field

$[\Lambda, \Pi] = 0$  (Schouten bracket)

$\leadsto$  notion of commuting foliations (to be studied?)

Lem  $\Lambda, \Pi$  commute and  $\Lambda \neq 0$  then  $\exists$   
local coord. syst.  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  in which

$$\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \Lambda \dots \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial z_k} \Lambda \dots \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{k+1}} \Lambda \dots \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{k+l}}$$

( simultaneous rectification )

Cor  $\Lambda, \Pi$  commute  $\Rightarrow \Lambda \Pi$  also integrable.

4) Integrable  $q$ -vector fields ( $q \neq 2$ ) are also called Nambu structure  
( this name is invented by Takhtajan in 1994 ).

Nambu (1970s):

volume forms in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  + 2 functions  $\Rightarrow$  vector field

( symplectic form + 1 function  $\Rightarrow$  vector field )

## Integrable p-forms

Idea: Annulator should be integrable distribution of corank  $p$ .  
(gives rise to foliation of codim  $p$ )

Def A  $p$ -form  $W$  is called integrable iff

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad i_A W \wedge W = 0 \\ \text{(ii)} \quad i_A W \wedge dW = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \forall \text{ (p-1)-vector } A$$

Remarks 1) When  $p=1$  then (i) is empty and (ii) means

$$W \wedge dW = 0$$

2)  $\Omega = dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$  volume form in a local coord system;  $\Lambda$  is a  $q$ -vector field,  $w = \Lambda \lrcorner \Omega$  a  $p$ -form ( $p + q = n$ ). Then

$\Lambda$  is integrable  $\iff w$  is integrable

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Linear Foliations  $\Lambda$  (or  $w$ ) is called linear if its coeff.

(in a given coord, syst.) are linear.

Thm (Dufour-Zi de Medeiros) <sup>1999</sup> <sub>2000</sub> Classification of linear integrable

$\mathbb{R}$ -forms /  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector fields: They are of 2 types:

$$\boxed{\Lambda \lrcorner (dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n) = w}$$

$\Lambda$  linear  $\iff w$  linear

Type I  $w = dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge d_{-p-1} \wedge dQ$   $n = p+q$

where

$$Q = \sum_{p+r}^s \pm z_i^2/d_i + \sum_{i=1}^s z_i z_{p+r+i}$$

$q \geq r \geq -1$   
 $q-r \geq s \geq 0$

(  $\Lambda$  is such that  $\Lambda \lrcorner (dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n) = w$  )

Type II  $\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{q-1}} \wedge \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} z_i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \right)$

$w = \Lambda \lrcorner (dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n)$   $a_{ij}$  - constant

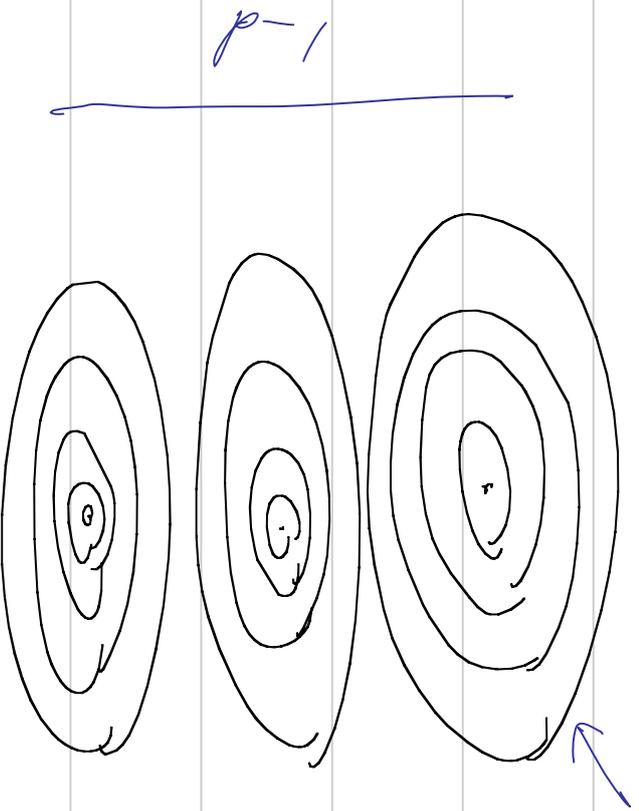
$X$  - linear v.f.

Remark A curious duality between Type I & Type II

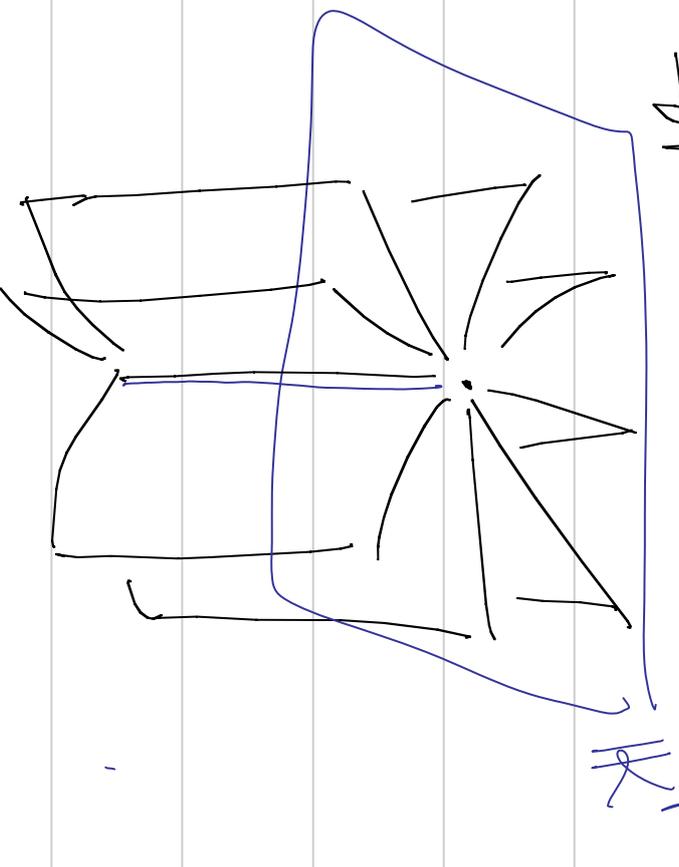
Proof Linear algebra.

Corresponding foliations:

Type I: a pile of cabbage



Type II: a book



(1st integrals:  $z_1, \dots, z_{p-1}, Q$ )

they are "dual", "transversal" to each other ( $p \leftrightarrow q$ )

( $q$  commuting vector fields:  $\partial/\partial z_1, \dots, \partial/\partial z_{q-1}$ )  $X$ )

Joke Eat cabbage & read books?

## Linearization of Singular Foliation

Observation If  $w$  is an integrable  $p$ -form,  $w(0) = 0$ , write

$$w = \underbrace{w^{(1)}}_{(1)} + w^{(2)} + \dots$$

Then  $w^{(1)}$  is integrable. [Proof: Consider Taylor exp. of the conditions  $i_A w \wedge w = 0$  and  $i_A w \wedge dw = 0$ , where  $A$  is constant]

The same with  $A = A^{(1)} + A^{(2)} + \dots$

→ it makes sense to talk about the linear part & the linearization problem.

## Type I case

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= \omega^{(1)} + \dots \\ \omega^{(1)} &= dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_{p-1} \wedge dQ \end{aligned}$$

We say that  $\Lambda$  or  $\omega = \Lambda \lrcorner (dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n)$  is nondegenerate if  $Q = \sum_{i=1}^n \pm z_i^2/2$ . (In the real case, we say that it's an elliptic singularity if  $Q$  is definite positive)

Thm (Duferin - Z) Suppose that  $\omega^{(1)}$  is of Type I nondegen.

Then  $\omega$  is linearizable (formally if  $\omega$  is formal, analytically if  $\omega$  analytic, smoothly if  $\omega$  is smooth elliptic)  $\swarrow$  up to multiplication by a non-vanishing function

$$(\omega \text{ isom. to } \int dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_{q-1} \wedge dQ, \neq(0) \neq 0)$$

## Idea of Proof

◦ Step 1) de Rham lemma  $\rightarrow w$  is decomposable:

$$w = \gamma_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \gamma_{p-1} \wedge \alpha$$

where  $\gamma_i = dz_i + \dots$

◦ Step 2) Grobman - Veys algorithm  $\rightarrow$  formal linearization up to multiplication by a function

◦ Step 3) - Analytic case: Malgrange's Frobenius with sing.

$\rightarrow$  formal 1st integrals can be chosen analytic  
smooth case: blow-up

Remark cannot kill the multiplicative factor  $f$  in general, because  $w$  is not closed in general.

In terms of  $\Lambda$ :

Thm 1 Suppose  $\Lambda$  type I nondegenerate. Then it is formally linearizable in the formal case, and smoothly linearizable in the smooth elliptic case.

Remarks: 1) No need to multiply  $\Lambda$  by a non-vanishing function?  
2) Conjecture: it's true also in the analytic case

Proof Use the previous thm  $\Rightarrow$  can write

$$\Lambda = \neq \Lambda^{(1)}$$

Then try to kill  $\neq$   $\square$

## Type II case

$$\overline{\text{Thm}} \quad \Lambda^{(1)} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \Lambda \dots \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{q-1}} \Lambda \left( \sum_{i,j=q}^n b_j^i z_i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \right)$$

(Dufour-2)

If  $\text{trace}(b_j^i) := \sum_{i=q}^n b_j^i \neq 0$ , then  $\exists$  local  
(smooth / analytic / holom.) coord. syst.  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in which

$$\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \Lambda \dots \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{q-1}} \Lambda Y$$

with  $Y = \sum_{i=q}^n c_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$  ( $Y$  does not depend on  $x_1, \dots, x_{q-1}$ )

$\Rightarrow$  Reduce the problem to the linearization problem for  $Y$ .  
(apply Sternberg, Bruno, etc.)

Idea of proof: We generalized "Kupka's phenomenon"

Kupka phenomenon

< Reduction of Dimension >

Kupka's Theorem  $\omega$  - integrable 1-form s.t.  $d\omega(0) \neq 0$

Then  $\omega$  can be written as

$$\omega = a(z_1, z_2) dz_1 + b(z_1, z_2) dz_2$$

( $\omega$  = pull back of an 1-form on  $\mathbb{K}^2$  by a submersion)

In terms of multi-vector fields

$$\Omega = dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$$

$$\omega = \Lambda \lrcorner \Omega$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda & \longleftrightarrow & \omega \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ D\Lambda & \longleftrightarrow & d\omega \end{array}$$

$$D\Omega \wedge \lrcorner \Omega = d\omega$$

$D_\Omega$  is called the modular operator (or curl operator) w.r.t.  $\Omega$

Thm (Dugow-Z) Let  $\Lambda$  be an integrable  $q$ -vector field s.t.

$D_\Omega \Lambda(0) \neq 0$  w.r.t. some volume form  $\Omega$ . Then  $\exists$  local coord. syst.  $(x_1, \dots, x_{q-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{p+1})$  in which

$$\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{q-1}} \wedge X$$

where  $X$  is a vector field which depends only on  $y_1, \dots, y_{p+1}$   
( $X$  may be viewed as a vector field in  $\mathbb{R}^{p+1}$ )

Remark Linearization <sup>Thm</sup> for Type II singularities is a consequence of the above thm.

The proof is quite simple:

$\Lambda$  integrable  $\Rightarrow D_{\Omega} \Lambda$  also integrable +  $D_{\Omega} \Lambda(0) \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow D_{\Omega} \Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \Lambda \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{q-1}} \Lambda$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \Lambda \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{q-1}} \Lambda X$$

Translating the above Thom back to integrable  $p$ -forms  $\Rightarrow$

Thm (de Medeiros)  $\omega$  integrable  $p$ -form s.t.  $d\omega(0) \neq 0$ .

Then  $\omega =$  pull back of a  $p$ -form on  $K^{p+1}$  by a submersion.

Further generalization of Kupka phenomenon:

Def  $\Lambda$  is called of Type II<sub>r</sub>, if it can be written  
(locally) as

$$\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z_r} \wedge \Pi$$

where  $\Pi$  is a  $(q-r)$ -vector field in  $\mathbb{K}^{n-r}$  (it does not depend on  $z_1, \dots, z_r$ )

Thm (Dupont-Z) Let  $\Lambda$  be an integrable multi-vector field &

$\Omega$  a volume form. If  $D_{\Omega} \Lambda$  is of type II<sub>r</sub> then so is  $\Lambda$ .

Thm'  $\omega$ -integrable  $p$ -form on  $\mathbb{K}^n$ ,  $s \leq n$ . If  $d\omega \neq 0$

and depends on only  $s$  coordinates (in a neighborhood of  $0$ ) then the same holds true for  $\omega$ .

Thm (de Meleiros) Let  $w$  be an integrable holomorphic  $p$ -form in  $(\mathbb{C}^n, 0)$  with coordinates  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $2 \leq p \leq n-1$

i) If  $\text{codim } \pi^{-1} w = 0$  where  $\pi = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{p-1}}$  then  $w$  can be written as

$$\rightarrow w = f \, dy_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy_{p-1} \quad f(0) \neq 0$$

ii) If  $\text{codim } V \setminus w|_V = 0$  where  $V = \{x_{p+2} = \dots = x_n = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$

(dim  $V = p+1$ ) then the dual integrable  $q$ -vector field  $\Lambda$

$(w = \Lambda \lrcorner (dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n))$  is of type II,  $(q-1)$  at  $0$ , i.e

$$\Lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y_{q-1}} \quad \wedge \quad \gamma \quad p+q = n$$

Remark: Proof becomes simpler when using multi-vector fields.

Corollary of the 2nd part of the above Thm:

Thm (Carracho-Lima Neto, Medeiros) Assume that  $\omega$  is an  
integrable  $p$ -form s.t.

$$\dim W \mid d\omega|_W = 0 \} \geq 3$$

$$1 \leq p \leq n-2$$

where  $W = \{x_{p+3} = \dots = x_n = 0\}$ . Then  $\omega =$  pull-back  
of a  $p$ -form on  $\mathbb{C}^{p+2}$  by a submersion.

A few open questions?

- Classifying / studying homogeneous singular foliations?  
(quadratic, cubic, ...)
- A more general version of Frobenius with singularities?  
(for isotropic  $k$ -vector fields /  $p$ -forms:  $\exists$ ? <sup>local</sup> 1st integrals)
- Studying commuting foliations?
- "Complete integrability"?