Gravitational Instantons,

Weyl Curvature, &

Conformally Kähler Geometry

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Olivier Biquard

Olivier Biquard Sorbonne Université

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and

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and

Paul Gauduchon

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and

Paul Gauduchon École Polytechnique **Definition.** A gravitational instanton is a

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Data: ℓ points in \mathbb{R}^3 and κ^2



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$$F = \star dV \text{ closed 2-form, } [\frac{1}{2\pi}F] \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^3 - \{p_j\}, \mathbb{Z}).$$



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$$F = \star dV \text{ curvature } \theta \text{ on } P \to \mathbb{R}^3 - \{\text{pts}\}.$$



$$g = Vh + V^{-1}\theta^2$$

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Plumb together k copies of T^*S^2 according to diagram.

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 $M \to \mathbb{R}^3$ hyper-Kähler moment map of S^1 action.

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Gibbons and Hawking were unaware of all this!

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cf. Bishop-Gromov inequality!
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But when $\kappa \neq 0$, they are instead ALF:

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This last property distinguishes the ALF spaces from other classes of gravitational instantons:

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ALG, ALH, ALG*, ALH*, \ldots
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Example.

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This J determines opposite orientation from the hyper-Kähler complex structures.

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for left-invariant coframe $\{\sigma_j\}$ on $S^3 = \mathbf{SU}(2)$. Taub-NUT becomes Hermitian metric on \mathbb{C}^2 . Non-Kähler, but conformally Kähler! Hawking also explored non-hyper-Kähler examples...

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Andrzej Derdziński '83: Bach-flat Kähler metrics are extremal!

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Hawking: set $t = 4m\theta$ and $\varrho = 2m + \frac{r^2}{8m}$.

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$$g = dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + 4m^2 g_{S^2} + O(r^2)$$

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Hawking: set $t = 4m\theta$ and $\varrho = 2m + \frac{r^2}{8m}$. This makes g into a Ricci-flat metric on $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^2$. Makes h into extremal Kähler metric on $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{CP}_1$.



 $\mathbb{R}\times S^2\subset \mathbb{R}^2\times S^2$

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Hitchin, Kronheimer, Cherkis-Hitchin, Minerbe, Hein, Chen-Chen, Hein-Sun-Viaclovsky-Zhang...

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This might lend some credence to the aphorism...

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"Mathematicians are like Frenchmen: you tell them something, they translate it into their own language, and before you know it, it's something else entirely."

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But now my French collaborators Biquard and Gauduchon have fortunately done us all the favor of reminding us that the hyper-Kähler gravitons are only one small part of the story! **Theorem** (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat,

Theorem (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat

 \mathbb{T}^2 acts effectively and isometrically

$$g = d\varrho^2 + \varrho^2 \gamma + \eta^2 + \mho$$

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$$\mho = O(\varrho^{-1}), \quad \nabla \mho = O(\varrho^{-2}), \quad \dots \quad \nabla^3 \mho = O(\varrho^{-4})$$

$$\implies \operatorname{Vol}(B_{\rho}) \sim \operatorname{const} \cdot \rho^3$$

Theorem (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat 4-manifold that is toric, ALF, and Hermitian with respect to some integrable complex structure J. **Theorem** (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat 4-manifold that is toric, ALF, and Hermitian with respect to some integrable complex structure J.

$$g(J\cdot,J\cdot)=g$$

Theorem (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat 4-manifold that is toric, ALF, and Hermitian with respect to some integrable complex structure J. **Theorem** (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat 4-manifold that is toric, ALF, and Hermitian with respect to some integrable complex structure J. Also assume that (M, g, J) is not Kähler.

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Diffeomorphic to $S^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$

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Y. Chen & E. Teo, 2011

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- the Taub-bolt metric;
- a metric of the Kerr family; or
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By the Riemannian Goldberg-Sachs Theorem, the Hermitian assumption is equivalent to assuming that the Ricci-flat g is conformally Kähler.

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This assertion is peculiar to dimension 4. It is false in all higher dimensions!
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Only depends on the conformal class

$$[g] := \{ u^2 g \mid u : M \to \mathbb{R}^+ \}.$$

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Reversing orientation interchanges $\Lambda^+ \nleftrightarrow \Lambda^-$.

Riemann curvature of g $\mathcal{R}:\Lambda^2\to\Lambda^2$

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splits into 4 irreducible pieces:

$$\mathcal{R} = \begin{pmatrix} W_+ + \frac{s}{12} & \mathring{r} \\ \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & W_- + \frac{s}{12} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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s = scalar curvature

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 $W_+ =$ self-dual Weyl curvature (conformally invariant) $W_- =$ anti-self-dual Weyl curvature " **Theorem** (Biquard-Gauduchon '23). Let (M^4, g) be a smooth, complete, non-flat, Ricci-flat 4-manifold that is toric, ALF, and Hermitian with respect to some integrable complex structure J. Also assume that (M, g, J) is not Kähler. Then (M, g)is one of the following explicit examples:

- the (reverse-oriented) Taub-NUT metric;
- the Taub-bolt metric;
- a metric of the Kerr family; or
- a metric in the Chen-Teo family.

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Theorem A.

Theorem A. Let (M, g) be a complete, oriented, simply connected Ricci-flat

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 $|\mho|_{g_0} = O(\varrho^{-1}), \quad |\nabla \mho|_{g_0} = O(\varrho^{-2}), \quad \dots$

Theorem B. Let (M, g_0) be one of the ALF toric Hermitian gravitational instantons featured in Biquard-Gauduchon classification. Then any other Ricci-flat Riemannian metric g on M which is sufficiently C_1^3 -close to g **Theorem B.** Let (M, g_0) be one of the ALF toric Hermitian gravitational instantons featured in Biquard-Gauduchon classification. Then any other Ricci-flat Riemannian metric g on M which is sufficiently C_1^3 -close to g is conformal to some strictly extremal Kähler metric h, **Theorem B.** Let (M, g_0) be one of the ALF toric Hermitian gravitational instantons featured in Biquard-Gauduchon classification. Then any other Ricci-flat Riemannian metric g on M which is sufficiently C_1^3 -close to g is conformal to some strictly extremal Kähler metric h, and so is, in particular, Hermitian. **Theorem B.** Let (M, g_0) be one of the ALF toric Hermitian gravitational instantons featured in Biquard-Gauduchon classification. Then any other Ricci-flat Riemannian metric g on M which is sufficiently C_1^3 -close to g is conformal to some strictly extremal Kähler metric h, and so is, in particular, Hermitian. Moreover, every such gcarries at least one Killing field.

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Proposition. In the setting of Theorem B, the identity component $Iso_0(M, g)$ of the isometry group is a compact connected Lie group, and the closure of the exponential of the extremal vector field defines a sub-torus $\mathbb{T} \subset Iso_0(M, g)$. Thus, if the extremal vector field is non-periodic,

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However, if g_0 is Kerr or Taub-bolt, we can deduce definitive regidity result by combining our work with recent results of Aksteiner, Andersson, et al.

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We next hope to be able to show that the existence of a 2-torus $\mathbb{T}^2 \subset \operatorname{Iso}_0(M,g)$ is robust for complex-geometric reasons.





Merci de m'avoir invité!











C'est un grand plaisir d'être ici!