

2 - Foliations

giovedì 26 ottobre 2023

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Regular foliations

X regular manifold of dimension d

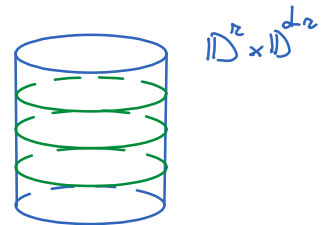
locally looks like an open subset of \mathbb{C}^d .

A (regular) foliation \mathcal{F} on X (of dimension r)

locally looks like the decomposition of \mathbb{D}^d into

$$\mathbb{D}^d = \bigsqcup_{y \in \mathbb{D}^q} \mathbb{D}^r \times \{y\} \quad (q = d - r)$$

standard foliation, denoted $\mathcal{F}_{st}^{[r, q]}$.



The sets $\mathbb{D}^r \times \{y\}$ are called plaques (or local leaves).

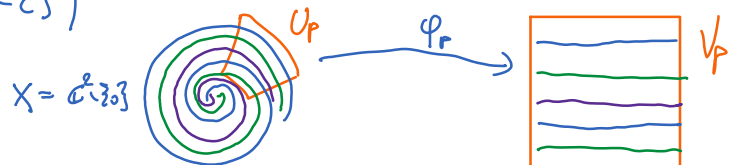
We formalise the definition of regular foliation in three equivalent ways:

• by **local model**: a foliation \mathcal{F} on X is a decomposition

$X = \bigsqcup_{\omega \in \Omega} L_\omega$ of X into immersed submanifolds L_ω of dimension r , and

that $\forall p \in X \exists U_p \ni p$ open set and $\varphi_p: U_p \rightarrow V_p \cong \mathbb{D}^d$ diffeomorphism

such that $L_\omega \cap U_p = \varphi_p^{-1}(\bigsqcup_{c \in S_\omega} \{y=c\})$



• by **foliation charts**: \mathcal{F} is (the equivalence class of) an atlas $\mathcal{A} = \{(U_\alpha, \varphi_\alpha)\}$ of X , with $\varphi_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha \in \mathbb{D}^d = \mathbb{D}^r \times \mathbb{D}^q$ such that the transition maps are

skew-products: $\varphi_{\alpha\beta} := \varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}: \varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow \varphi_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$

$$\varphi_{\alpha\beta}(x, y) = (f(x, y), g(y)) \quad \leftarrow \text{diffeomorphism}$$

With this description, the plaques $\varphi_\alpha^{-1}(y=c)$ glue together to give the leaves of the foliation \mathcal{F} .

Rem: more precisely, the leaves of \mathcal{F} are equivalence classes for the equivalence relation \sim on X generated by $\varphi_\alpha^{-1}(x, y_0) \sim \varphi_\alpha^{-1}(x', y_0) \quad \forall \alpha, \forall y_0 \in \mathbb{D}^q \quad \forall x, x' \in \mathbb{D}^r$

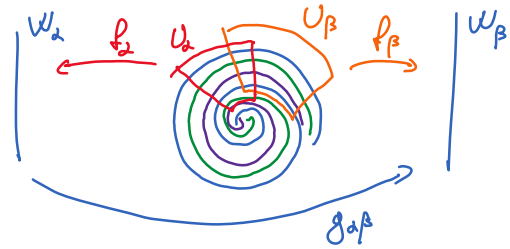
As for atlases on manifolds, one says that two foliation atlases are equivalent if their union is a foliation atlas, and equivalence classes of atlases are uniquely represented by maximal foliation atlases.

• by local submersions. \mathcal{F} is (the equivalence class of) a family $\mathcal{S} = (U_\alpha, f_\alpha)$ of submersions $f_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow W_\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{C}^q$ such that

(df_α surjective)

$\exists g_{\alpha\beta}: f_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow f_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$ s.t.

$$f_\beta \equiv g_{\alpha\beta} \circ f_\alpha$$



As before, two submersion atlases are equivalent if their union is a submersion atlas, and their equivalence classes are represented by maximal atlases.

In this case, plaques are given by $f_\alpha^{-1}(c)$, and the cocycle condition ensures that they glue together into leaves.

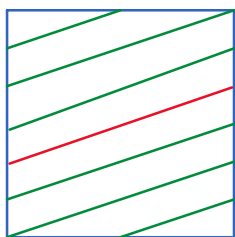
Rem: if we replace $\mathbb{D} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ with $(-1, 1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, we get the real analog concept.

One can also relax the regularity of the homeomorphisms φ_α , of the transition maps $\psi_{\alpha\beta}$, or of the cocycle maps $g_{\alpha\beta}$, and get foliations of regularity C^k, C^∞, C^ω ($k \geq 0, k \geq 1$ when working with submersions).

Examples

1) On \mathbb{C}^d , $V =$ linear subspace of dimension r .

Then we get a foliation \mathcal{F}_V whose leaves are exactly the elements in \mathbb{C}^d/V



\mathbb{C}^d Fix $(v_1, \dots, v_r, w_1, \dots, w_q)$ basis of \mathbb{C}^d
 V spans $W, \mathbb{C}^d = V \oplus W$

$\forall z \in \mathbb{C}^d, \exists! (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^r \times \mathbb{C}^q$ s.t. $z = \sum_i x_i v_i + \sum_j y_j w_j$

Set $\varphi(z) = (x, y), U = \varphi^{-1}(\mathbb{D}^r \times \mathbb{D}^q)$

- local models: $\forall p \in \mathbb{C}^d, U_p = p+U, \varphi_p: U_p \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^r \times \mathbb{D}^q, \varphi_p(p+z) := \varphi(z)$
- transition maps $\varphi_{\alpha\beta}(x,y) = (x + z_x, y + z_y), (z_x, z_y) = \varphi(\alpha - \beta)$.
- submersion: $f: \mathbb{C}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q, f(z) = y = p_{r_2} \circ \varphi(z)$.

Let $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{C}^d$ be a lattice, and $X = \mathbb{C}^d / \Lambda$. Then F_V induces a foliation. Since the deck transformations (the automorphisms of the covering $\pi: \mathbb{C}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d / \Lambda$) leave F_V invariant, we get a foliation F on X .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 U_\alpha \subset \mathbb{C}^d & \xrightarrow{\varphi_\alpha} & \mathbb{D}^r \times \mathbb{D}^q \text{ local models: } \tilde{\varphi}_{\alpha\beta} = \varphi_\alpha \circ \pi_\beta^{-1} \\
 \downarrow \pi_\alpha & \searrow & \downarrow p_{r_2} \\
 X & & \mathbb{D}^q \text{ local submersions: } \tilde{f}_\beta = f \circ \pi_\beta^{-1}
 \end{array}$$

$\pi_\beta = \pi|_{U_\beta}, U_\beta = \text{connected component of } \pi^{-1}(U), U \in X \text{ well covered.}$

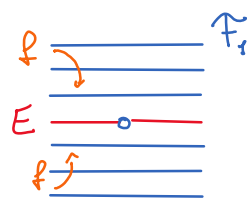
The leaves of F can be closed, or accumulate to submanifolds of dimension from r to d , depending on V and Λ .

2) Consider the foliation $F_r: \{y = \text{const}\}$ on $\mathbb{C}^d \setminus \{0\}$ ($\ni \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{C}^r \\ \cup \\ \mathbb{C}^q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$)

The map $f(x,y) = (\lambda x, \mu y)$, with $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r), \mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_q)$ with $0 < |\lambda_j|, |\mu_j| < 1$, leaves F_r invariant, hence it induces a foliation F on the (primary) Hopf manifold $X = \mathbb{C}^d \setminus \{0\} / \langle f \rangle$

In the example $d=2, r=q=1$, the leaf $y=0$ gives a closed leaf isomorphic to an elliptic curve E .

Other leaves are isomorphic to \mathbb{C}^* and accumulate to E



Singular foliations of dimension 1.

Set $r=1$. We can describe the standard foliation $F_{st}^{[1, d-1]}$ as the integral curves of $\chi_{st} = \partial_x$.

If $\varphi_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D}^{d-1}$ is a foliation chart, χ_{st} pulls back to

$$\chi_\alpha := \varphi_\alpha^* \chi_{st} (= (\varphi_\alpha^{-1})_* \chi_{st}), \text{ which is a nowhere vanishing vector field}$$

Notice that any horizontal non-vanishing vector field $\tilde{\chi}_{st}$ would give the same integral curves ($y = \text{const}$), hence we identify vector fields χ_α and $\tilde{\chi}_\alpha$ if $\exists U_\alpha \in \mathcal{O}^*(U_\alpha)$ s.t. $\tilde{\chi}_\alpha = U_\alpha \chi_\alpha$.

If (U_α, χ_α) and (U_β, χ_β) are nowhere vanishing vector fields defined on intersecting open sets U_α, U_β , then the local foliations glue together to a foliation on $U_\alpha \cup U_\beta$ as long as $\exists U_{\alpha\beta} \in \mathcal{O}^*(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$ s.t. $\chi_\beta = U_{\alpha\beta} \chi_\alpha$.
By dropping the nowhere vanishing condition, we get singular foliations.

Def: A singular foliation \mathcal{F} of dimension 1 (or by curves) on X is given by a collection $\{(U_\alpha, \chi_\alpha)\}$ of vector fields χ_α such that $\forall \alpha, \beta \exists U_{\alpha\beta} \in \mathcal{O}^*(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$ s.t. $\chi_\beta = U_{\alpha\beta} \chi_\alpha$.

The set $\text{Sing}(\mathcal{F}) := \{p \in X \mid \exists \alpha, \chi_\alpha(p) = 0\}$ is an analytic subset of X , called the singular locus of \mathcal{F} .

We will also assume that χ_α are not identically vanishing, ($\Rightarrow \text{Sing}(\mathcal{F})$ is a proper analytic subvariety of X (assume X connected))

Rem: \mathcal{F} defines a regular foliation \mathcal{F}_{reg} on $X_{\text{reg}} = X \setminus \text{Sing}(\mathcal{F})$.
Leaves and plaques of \mathcal{F} are the ones of \mathcal{F}_{reg} .

Suppose now that $\text{codim}(\overbrace{\text{Sing}(\mathcal{F}) \cap U_\alpha}^{\Sigma_\alpha}) = 1$:

$$\chi_\alpha = \phi_\alpha^m \cdot \hat{\chi}_\alpha, \text{ where } \Sigma_\alpha = \{\phi_\alpha = 0\}, m \in \mathbb{N}^+, \text{codim}(\text{sing } \hat{\chi}_\alpha) \geq 2.$$

In particular, $\mathcal{F}_\alpha := \mathcal{F}|_{U_\alpha}$ extends to $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_\alpha$ foliation with $\text{codim} \text{sing}(\hat{\mathcal{F}}_\alpha) \geq 2$, called the saturation of \mathcal{F}_α .

If (U_β, χ_β) is another chart, $\chi_\beta = g_{\alpha\beta} \chi_\alpha$, and $\chi_\beta = \phi_\beta^m \hat{\chi}_\beta$ with $\text{codim}(\text{sing } \hat{\chi}_\beta) \geq 2$.

Here $m_\alpha = m_\beta = m$ because the vanishing orders coincide on $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$.

We deduce that the saturation process globalises.

Rem: Suppose X is a manifold of dimension d , Σ is an analytic subset of codimension ≥ 2 . Let \mathcal{F}_0 be a regular foliation on $X \setminus \Sigma$. Let $p \in \Sigma$, $U \ni p$ open neighborhood in X , and cover $U \setminus \Sigma$ by charts (U_α, χ_α) . Up to shrinking U if necessary, we may assume that U is covered by a single chart of X , so that we may suppose $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}^d$. Each χ_α can be written as $\chi_\alpha = f_\alpha^j \partial_{x_j}$ (x^1, \dots, x^d) coordinates.

We may assume (up to changing coordinates linearly) that $f_\alpha^d \neq 0 \forall \alpha$. Then $\frac{f_\alpha^j}{f_\alpha^d}$ are meromorphic functions defined on U_α . Moreover, $\chi_\beta = u_{\alpha\beta} \chi_\alpha$ for some $u_{\alpha\beta} \in \mathcal{O}^*(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$, and $\frac{f_\alpha^j}{f_\alpha^d} \equiv \frac{f_\beta^j}{f_\beta^d}$ on $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$ ($\forall j=1, \dots, d-1$). We deduce that $\left\{ \frac{f_\alpha^j}{f_\alpha^d}, \alpha \right\}$ glue together to meromorphic functions $\frac{f^j}{f^d} \in \mathcal{M}(U \setminus \Sigma)$.

Since $\text{codim } \Sigma \geq 2$, by LEVI'S EXTENSION THEOREM ([GRIFFITHS-HARRIS, p.396]), these meromorphic maps extend to U . (holomorphic, possibly vanishing)

But then the data (U_α, χ_α) is induced by $(U, \chi := f^1 \partial_{x_1} + \dots + f^d \partial_{x_d})$. In other terms, we can define saturated singular holomorphic foliations (of dimension 1) on X as $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{F}_{\text{reg}}, \Sigma)$, where $\text{codim } \Sigma \geq 2$ and \mathcal{F}_{reg} is a regular foliation on $X \setminus \Sigma$.

Ex: Consider $\chi = \partial_x + e^{\frac{1}{x}} \partial_y$. This vector field defines a regular foliation \mathcal{F}_0 on $\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \Sigma$ $\Sigma = \{x=0\}$.

\mathcal{F}_0 does not extend to a singular foliation \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{C}^2 , due to the fact that $x \mapsto e^{\frac{1}{x}}$ has an essential singularity at 0.

If \mathcal{F}_0 extends, $\exists U$ open neighborhood of $p=(0,0)$, ξ vector field on U , and $u \in \mathcal{O}^*(U)$ such that $\xi = u\chi$. But on U χ takes the value $\partial_x + c \partial_y$ ∞ -many times $\forall c$ (but of most 1 value).

This is a contradiction, since $\xi = f(x,y) \partial_x + g(x,y) \partial_y$, with f, g holomorphic.

Singular foliations of codimension 1.

Here we try to replace vector fields with 1-forms:

when $q=1$, we can describe $\mathbb{D}^d = \bigcup_{y \in \mathbb{C}} \mathbb{D}^{d-1} \times \{y\}$ as the family of hypersurfaces tangent to $\ker \omega$, where $\omega = dy$

Since $\ker \omega$ stays invariant by multiplication by non-vanishing function, we get:

Def: A singular foliation \mathcal{F} of codimension 1 (or by hypersurfaces) on X is given by a collection $\{(U_\alpha, \omega_\alpha)\}$ of 1-forms ω_α such that $\forall \alpha, \beta \exists \nu_{\alpha\beta} \in \mathcal{O}^*(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$ s.t. $\omega_\beta = \nu_{\alpha\beta} \omega_\alpha$. integrable

The set $\text{Sing}(\mathcal{F}) := \{p \in X \mid \exists \alpha, \omega_\alpha(p) = 0\}$ is an analytic subset of X , called the singular locus of \mathcal{F} .

Problem: not all distribution of hyperplanes are integrable!

Thm (FROBENIUS): A distribution \mathcal{H} of planes is integrable if and only if it is involutive: $\forall \chi_1, \chi_2 \in \mathcal{H}, [\chi_1, \chi_2] \in \mathcal{H}$.

When $\mathcal{H} = \ker \omega$ is a distribution of hyperplanes, it is involutive $\Leftrightarrow \omega \wedge d\omega = 0$.

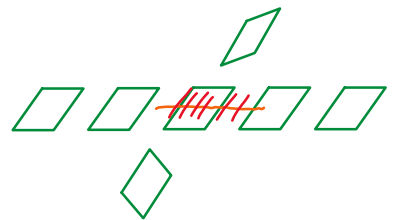
Ex: [LEE2, Ex. 13.2d] in \mathbb{C}^3 , $\omega = dz + x dy$ $\omega \wedge d\omega = dz \wedge dx \wedge dy \neq 0$.

$\ker \omega$ is nowhere integrable:

An integral surface S at $(0,0,0)$ should have to contain $\{0\} \times \mathbb{D}_\varepsilon \times \{0\}$ for $\varepsilon \ll 1$ because $\partial_y|_{x=0} \in \ker \omega$, and $\mathbb{D}_\delta \times \{y\} \times \{0\}$ for $|y| < \varepsilon$, $\delta \ll 1$, because $\partial_x \in \ker \omega$.

Hence we must have $S = \{z=0\}$ locally at the origin, a contradiction.

Rem: If $d=2$, $q=r=1$, the condition $\omega \wedge d\omega = 0$ is trivially satisfied $\hat{=}$ 3-form.



In this case, one can define locally singular foliations equivalently by a vector field χ or by a 1-form ω .

One goes from one to another by: $\chi = f\partial_x + g\partial_y \rightsquigarrow \omega = fdy - gdx$.

Tangent and (co)-normal sheaves

Let F be a regular foliation of dimension r (codimension q) on a manifold X of dimension $d = r + q$.

The kernel $\ker df_x$ of the local submersions f_x glue together to define a subbundle T_F of TX , called the tangent bundle of F .

The quotient $N_F := \frac{TX}{T_F}$ is called the normal bundle of F , and its dual N_F^* , called the conormal bundle of F , is a subbundle of Ω_X^1 , whose local sections consist of the 1-forms vanishing along the leaves of F .

Let now F_0 be a regular foliation on $X \setminus \Sigma$, where Σ is an analytic subset of X .

By following the case of dimension and codimension 1, when $\text{codim } \Sigma \geq 2$, we can define a stratified singular foliation F on X as a regular foliation F_0 on $X \setminus \Sigma$.

Rem: in doing so, it is not clear how to define the singular locus $\text{sing } F \subseteq \Sigma$. We would like a concept that does not depend on the choice of Σ . Or equivalently, we would like to pick Σ minimal, by extending F_0 wherever possible.

The tangent and conormal bundles of F_0 do not extend to X as bundles, but as subsheaves (sub \mathcal{O}_X -modules) of T_X and Ω_X^1 respectively.

These subspaces are coherent of rank r and q respectively.

Moreover, we have $T_F^\perp = N_F^*$, $(N_F^*)^\perp = T_F$ (saturation), and in particular T_F and N_F^* are reflexive.

By FROBENIUS' theorem, T_F must also be involutive.

The singularities of F are the points $x \in X$ where T_x/T_F , or equivalently Ω_x^1/N_F^* , are not locally free. ($\Rightarrow \text{codim Sing } F \geq 2$)

Notice that $\text{Sing}(T_F)$ and $\text{Sing}(N_F^*)$ have $\text{codim.} \geq 3$, being reflexive [FRIEDMAN].

Notice also that if $d=2$, T_F and N_F^* are automatically locally free.

Rem: this approach works also for X a normal variety, with $\Sigma \supseteq \text{Sing } X$.

First integrals and separatrices

Let F be a singular foliation on X . A first integral for F is a non-constant function s such that the leaves of F are contained in the level hypersurfaces of s ($s = \text{const}$).

Ex: If F is defined by a vector field χ , the condition is: $\chi(s) = 0$

If F is defined by a 1-form ω , the condition is: $\omega \wedge ds = 0$

Not all foliations admit first integrals. The ones that do are called integrable

Ex: $\chi = x\partial_x + 2y\partial_y$ take $s = yx^{-2}$. Then

$$\chi(s) = x(-2x^{-2-1}y) + 2yx^{-2} = 0$$

Hence s defines a first integral. This is a meromorphic first integral as long as $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$. If not, we get a "multivalued" first integral, that still helps to describe the leaves $y = cx^\alpha$, which are transcendental whenever $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}$ and $c \neq 0$.

A related concept is the one of (complex) separatrix.

Def: Let F be a singular foliation. A separatrix at a point $p \in X$ is a (germ of) analytic subvariety C of dimension $\alpha = \dim F$, with $p \in C$, and such that $C \setminus \text{Sing} F$ is a union of leaves of F . (Often C is irreducible at p)

Ex: the foliations above have separatrices $\{x=0\}$ and $\{y=0\}$.

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^*$, then $y = cx^\alpha$ are also separatrices $\forall c \in \mathbb{C}$

More generally, if $\alpha = \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$, then $\{y^q = cx^p\}$ are separatrices $\forall c \in \mathbb{C}$

If $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$, then $x=0$ and $y=0$ are the only separatrices.

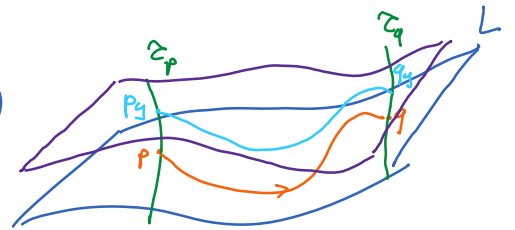
Holonomy

Let F be a regular foliation on X , L a leaf of F , and $p \in L$ a point.

Pick a foliation chart (U, φ) of F with $U \ni p$.

A (local) transverse section τ_p at p is a (germ of) q -dimensional manifold that is transverse to F .

It can be picked as $\varphi^{-1}(x=x_0)$ where $\varphi(p) = (x_0, y_0)$



Rem: in terms of local submersions, transversals are local sections of the submersion $f_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^q, y_0)$

Take now another point $q \in U \cap L$, and let τ_q be a transverse section at q .

Any plaque L_y with y close to y_0 intersects τ_p in a unique point p_y .

Up to taking y close to y_0 , L_y also intersects τ_q at a unique point q_y .

We set $h_{\tau_p}^{\tau_q}(p_y) := q_y$

Let now γ be a path in L joining two points p and q in L .

By compactness, we can find $t_0 = 0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = 1$ s.t. $\gamma|_{[t_j, t_{j+1}]}$ is contained in a foliation chart U_j .

Pick transverse sections $\tau_p = \tau_0, \tau_1, \dots, \tau_N = \tau_q$ at $\gamma(t_0), \dots, \gamma(t_N)$. We consider

$h_{\tau_{N-1}}^{\tau_N} \circ \dots \circ h_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} \circ h_{\tau_0}^{\tau_1}$, which does not depend on the choice of t_j ,

nor of τ_j , $j=1, \dots, N-1$. We denote it by $h_{\tau_p, \gamma}^{\tau_q} : (\tau_p, p) \rightarrow (\tau_q, q)$.

Notice that h_{z_p, z_q}^{γ} depends only on the homotopy class $[\gamma]$ of γ in L (relative to the endpoints p, q). To see this, cover $[0, 1]^2$ with finitely many small squares Q_j so that $\Gamma(Q_j)$ are in a foliation chart.

Finally, if we replace z_p by z_p' and z_q by z_q' , we get:

$$h_{z_p', z_q'}^{\gamma} = h_{z_q'}^{\gamma} \circ h_{z_p, z_q}^{\gamma} \circ h_{z_p, z_p'}^{\gamma} = (h_{z_p, z_p'}^{\gamma})^{-1}$$

In particular, if γ is a loop at $p=q$, and $z_p = z_q$, then h_{z_p, z_p}^{γ} determines a unique conjugacy class, denoted h_γ or $h_{[\gamma]}$, of (invertible) germ at $(\mathbb{C}^n, 0)$, and called the holonomy (with respect to the loop γ).

This defines a group homomorphism $h: \pi_1(L, p) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{C}^n, 0) / \cong$.

This construction applies to any leaf L of the foliation \mathcal{F} . We will focus mainly to the case of loops around the singularity of a separatrix.

Ex: $\chi = x\partial_x + 2y\partial_y$, $C = \{y=0\}$ separatrix, $\gamma = (e^{2\pi it}, 0)$.

Compute h_γ

It suffices to split γ at $\frac{1}{2}$ (to have determinations of the logs, then)

Take transverse sections $\tau_0: x=1$ and $\tau_1: x=-1$

at $t=0$, we have the point $(1, y_0)$.

At $t = \frac{1}{2}$, we have $L_{y_0} = \{y = y_0 x^2 = y_0 e^{2 \log_+ x}\}$, where

\log_+ is the determination of \log with image in $\{ \text{Im } z \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}) \}$.

We get $h_0^{\frac{1}{2}}(y_0) = (-1, y_0 e^{i\pi})$.

Similarly, by getting the determination \log_- of \log whose image is in $\{ \text{Im } z \in (\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{5\pi}{2}) \}$, we finally get $h_\gamma(y_0) = y_0 e^{2\pi i}$.

One can organise holonomies into the holonomy groupoid:

the objects are the points in $X \setminus \text{Sing } F$, and the morphisms are holonomies with respect to (homotopy classes) of paths joining points inside a common leaf. In order to do so, one can fix a field of transverse sections...

This groupoid differs from the monodromy groupoid, where the morphisms are the homotopy classes of paths tangent to F (i.e., inside leaves).