

GEOMETRY OF ORTHONORMAL FRAME BUNDLES

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ABSTRACT. On \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1} with the non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form F of type $(p, q + 1)$, the pseudo-sphere is defined by $S^{p,q} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1} : F(x, x) = 1\} \approx \mathbb{R}^p \times S^q \subset \mathbb{R}^{p,q+1}$. In this paper, we shall study the geometries modelled on the orthonormal frame bundle $\text{SO}(S^{p,q})$ of the pseudo-sphere $S^{p,q}$. This is a principal $G = \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ -bundle over $S^{p,q}$. With respect to a natural pseudo-Riemannian metric, the group of weakly G -equivariant isometries of $\text{SO}(S^{p,q})$ turns out to be $\text{Isom}_G^0(\text{SO}(S^{p,q})) = \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1) \times \text{SO}_0(p, q)$.

Let W be a connected, pseudo-Riemannian manifold of type (p, q) , and let $\text{SO}(W)$ be time-space orientation-preserving orthonormal frame bundle of W . That is, $\text{SO}(W)$ is a sub-bundle of the bundle of frames $L(W)$ with structural group $G = \text{SO}_0(p, q) = O^{++}(p, q)$. We shall equip $\text{SO}(W)$ with a pseudo-Riemannian metric using the Levi-Civita connection. More precisely, the horizontal spaces have the same metric as the base space W , and are orthogonal to the fiber which has the $-\frac{1}{2(p+q-1)}$ times the Killing-Cartan form. The space $\text{SO}(W)$ with such a metric appears naturally. For example, if W is a 2-dimensional manifold, then $\text{SO}(W)$ is its unit tangent bundle. Thus,

$$\text{SO}(\mathbb{H}^2) = \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}), \quad \text{SO}(S^2) = \text{SO}(3), \quad \text{SO}(\mathbb{R}^2) = \text{SO}(2) \times \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Note that $\widetilde{\text{SO}}(W)$ for these are model spaces for 3-dimensional geometries.

The main concern of this paper is to study the group $\text{Isom}_G(\text{SO}(W))$ of fiber-preserving isometries of $\text{SO}(W)$. To describe the results, let $\text{Isom}(W)$ denote the group of isometries of W , $\Phi(u)$ the homogeneous holonomy of W through a frame $u \in \text{SO}(W)$, and let $C(u)$ be its centralizer in $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$. Let $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ be the group of *time-space orientation-preserving* isometries of W . For a group G , $\ell(G)$ and $r(G)$ denote the left and right translations, respectively. The preimage of $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ under

Received October 16, 2000.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: Primary 53C50; Secondary 53C50.

Key words and phrases: frame bundle, indefinite metric, isometry group.

the natural homomorphism $\text{Isom}_G(\text{SO}(W)) \rightarrow \text{Isom}(W)$ is denoted by $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W))$. The main results are

- A. There is an isometric action of $C(u)$ on $\text{SO}(W)$ as “left translations” on each fiber.
- B. $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W))$ is naturally isomorphic to $(C(u) \cdot \text{SO}_0(p, q)) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$.
- C. If W is a pseudo-Riemannian homogeneous manifold, then $\text{SO}(W)$ contains a sub-bundle which is isometric to the Lie group $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ with a natural left invariant metric.
- D. When $W = S^{p,q} \approx \mathbb{R}^p \times S^q$, the pseudo-sphere in $\mathbb{R}^{p,q+1}$, $\text{SO}(S^{p,q})$ is a principal $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ bundle over $S^{p,q}$, and $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) = \text{SO}_0(p, q) \times \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$.
- E. The pseudo-sphere $S^{p,q}$ does not have a compact space form if $1 \leq p \leq q$.

Some of the results for Riemannian case can be found in [1].

1. Pseudo-Riemannian metric

1.1. In \mathbb{R}^n with the natural basis, we consider a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form

$$F(x, y) = - \sum_{i=1}^p x_i y_i + \sum_{j=p+1}^{p+q} x_j y_j$$

for $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $n = p + q, n \geq 2$. We say the bilinear form F has type (p, q) . The space \mathbb{R}^n with the bilinear form F is written as $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$. Let

$$I_{p,q} = \begin{bmatrix} -I_p & O \\ O & I_q \end{bmatrix} \in \text{GL}(p, \mathbb{R}) \times \text{GL}(q, \mathbb{R}),$$

and let

$$O(p, q) = \{A \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}) : {}^t A I_{p,q} A = I_{p,q}\}.$$

Then $O(p, q)$ is the *orthogonal group* of the bilinear form F . Note that $O(p, q)$ has 4 components for $p, q \geq 1$, denoted by $O^{++}(p, q), O^{--}(p, q), O^{+-}(p, q), O^{-+}(p, q)$; $O(p, q)$ has two components for $p = 0$ or $q = 0$. We shall denote $O^{++}(p, q)$ by $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$. This is the connected component containing the identity. An automorphism of $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ in $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is called a *time-space orientation-preserving* isometry. For a matrix $A = (a_{ij}), A \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ if and only if the column vector \mathbf{a}_i 's satisfy

$$F(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{a}_i) = -1, \quad F(\mathbf{a}_j, \mathbf{a}_j) = +1, \quad F(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{a}_j) = 0,$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq p$ and $p+1 \leq j \leq p+q$. From ${}^tAI_{p,q}A = I_{p,q}$, $\det(A) = \pm 1$. If $A \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$, then $\det(A) = 1$ but note that same is true for elements of $O^{--}(p, q)$.

2. Orthonormal frame bundle of a pseudo-Riemannian manifold

2.1. Let M be a differentiable manifold. A *pseudo-Riemannian metric* on M is a differentiable field $g = \{g_x\}_{x \in M}$ of non-degenerate symmetric bilinear forms g_x on the tangent spaces M_x of M . The g_x are the inner products on the tangent spaces. The metric is *Riemannian metric* if each g_x is positive definite. If the bilinear forms g_x have type (p, q) , M is called a pseudo-Riemannian manifold of *type* (p, q) .

We define a metric on $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$. For $p + q \leq 2$, $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is abelian and has an obvious bi-invariant metric. For $p + q > 2$, $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is semi-simple. We define a symmetric bilinear, $\text{ad}(G)$ invariant form on the tangent space of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ at the identity:

$$\langle A, B \rangle = -\frac{1}{2(p + q - 1)}\phi(A, B)$$

where $\phi(A, B) = (p + q - 1)\text{trace}(\text{ad}(A)\text{ad}(B))$ is the Killing-Cartan form on the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{o}(p, q)$ of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$. This is a bi-invariant pseudo-Riemannian metric of type $(pq, \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2 - p - q))$ and is unique up to scale factor.

EXAMPLE 2.2 (*Killing-Cartan form of $\text{SO}_0(1, 2)$*). Choose a basis for $\mathfrak{o}(1, 2)$ as follows:

$$e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Their exp are

$$\exp(te_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos t & \sin t \\ 0 & -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}, \quad \exp(te_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \cosh t & \sinh t & 0 \\ \sinh t & \cosh t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\exp(te_3) = \begin{bmatrix} \cosh t & 0 & \sinh t \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sinh t & 0 & \cosh t \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then, with respect to the basis $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$,

$$\text{ad}(e_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{ad}(e_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{ad}(e_3) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus the Killing-Cartan form is defined by

$$[\phi(e_i, e_j)] = 2[\text{trace}(\text{ad}(e_i))(\text{ad}(e_j))] = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that $\text{SO}_0(1, 2)$ is isomorphic to $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.

2.3. Let W be a pseudo-Riemannian manifold of type (p, q) . Let $\text{SO}(W)$ be the *time-space orientation-preserving orthonormal frame bundle* of W . That is, $\text{SO}(W)$ is a sub-bundle of the bundle of frames $L(W)$ with fiber (and structural group) $\text{SO}_0(p, q) = O^{++}(p, q)$. We shall equip $\text{SO}(W)$ with a pseudo-Riemannian metric using the Levi-Civita connection. More precisely, the horizontal spaces have the same metric as the base space W , and are orthogonal to the fiber. Such a metric is of type $(p + pq, \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2 - p + q))$. The universal covering space $\widetilde{\text{SO}}(W)$ has a pseudo-Riemannian metric induced from $\text{SO}(W)$.

2.4. Let $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ be the group of *time-space orientation-preserving isometries* of W . Therefore, $f \in \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ if and only if the induced map $f_* : L(W) \rightarrow L(W)$ (on the frame bundle) preserves the sub-bundle $\text{SO}(W)$.

Each point $u \in \text{SO}(W)$ is considered as an isomorphism

$$u : \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rightarrow T_{\pi(u)}(W)$$

where $\pi : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow W$ is the projection. The group $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ acts on $\text{SO}(W)$ from the right naturally, by composition.

$$\text{SO}(W) \times \text{SO}_0(p, q) \rightarrow \text{SO}(W), \quad (u, a) \mapsto u \circ a;$$

namely, for $a \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ and $u \in \text{SO}(W)$,

$$u \circ a : \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \xrightarrow{a} \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \xrightarrow{u} T_{\pi(u)}(W)$$

is a new isomorphism so that $u \circ a \in \text{SO}(W)$. With this right $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ -action, $\text{SO}(W)$ is a principal $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ -bundle.

LEMMA 2.5. *The principal $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ -action on $\text{SO}(W)$ is isometries.*

Proof. Let $a \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$. Let $X \in T_v(\text{SO}(W))$ be a horizontal vector, and let $\gamma(t)$ be a horizontal curve in $\text{SO}(W)$ fitting X . Then,

$$(r_a)_*(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (\gamma(t) \circ a) = X \circ a.$$

Since $a \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is an isometry of W , the homomorphism

$$(r_a)_* : \begin{array}{ccc} T_v(\text{SO}(W))_H & \longrightarrow & T_{v \circ a}(\text{SO}(W))_H \quad (\text{horizontal spaces}) \\ X & \mapsto & X \circ a \end{array}$$

is an isometry.

Now let $X \in T_v(\text{SO}(W))$ be a vertical vector, and let $\gamma(t)$ be a curve in $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ starting at the identity so that $v \circ \gamma(t)$ fits X . Then,

$$(r_a)_*(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (v \circ \gamma(t) \circ a) = \left(\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (v \circ \gamma(t)) \right) \circ a = X \circ a.$$

Since $a \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ and the metric on the fiber $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is bi-invariant, the homomorphism

$$(r_a)_* : \begin{array}{ccc} T_v(\text{SO}(W))_V & \longrightarrow & T_{v \circ a}(\text{SO}(W))_V \quad (\text{vertical spaces}) \\ X & \mapsto & X \circ a \end{array}$$

is an isometry. □

2.6. Let us write $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ by G . We denote the *weakly G -equivariant* (with respect to the principal right G -action) isometries of $\text{SO}(W)$ by $\text{Isom}_G(\text{SO}(W))$. More precisely, $h \in \text{Isom}_G(\text{SO}(W))$ if there is an automorphism α of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ such that $h(u \circ x) = h(u) \circ \alpha(x)$ for all $u \in \text{SO}(W)$ and $x \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$.

A weakly G -equivariant isometry of $\text{SO}(W)$ induces an isometry of W , giving rise to a natural homomorphism

$$\tilde{\pi} : \text{Isom}_G(\text{SO}(W)) \rightarrow \text{Isom}(W).$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K} &= \ker(\tilde{\pi}), \\ \text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) &= \tilde{\pi}^{-1}(\text{Isom}^{++}(W)). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$1 \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) \rightarrow \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \rightarrow 1$$

is exact.

LEMMA 2.7. *The homomorphism $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) \rightarrow \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ naturally splits. Furthermore, $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ commutes with the right action of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ on $\text{SO}(W)$.*

Proof. Let $f \in \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$. Then f naturally induces a map $\tilde{f} : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ defined by

$$\tilde{f}(u) = f_* \circ u : \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \xrightarrow{u} T_{\pi(u)}(W) \xrightarrow{f_*} T_{f(\pi(u))}(W).$$

Since f is an isometry of W , the induced map \tilde{f} of $\text{SO}(W)$ leaves the connection form invariant [3, p. 226, Theorem 1.3]. This means that, for each $u \in \text{SO}(W)$, \tilde{f} maps the horizontal subspace of $T_u(\text{SO}(W))$ to the horizontal subspace of $T_{\tilde{f}(u)}(\text{SO}(W))$. However, the metric on $\text{SO}(W)$ is defined so that the horizontal subspaces are isometric to the base space. Since f was an isometry of the base space, \tilde{f} induces an isometry on the horizontal spaces.

The map \tilde{f} commutes with the right action of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ on $\text{SO}(W)$. That is, $\tilde{f}(u \circ a) = f_* \circ (u \circ a) = (f_* \circ u) \circ a = \tilde{f}(u) \circ a$ for $u \in \text{SO}(W)$ and $a \in \text{SO}_0(p, q)$. Let $\sigma : \mathfrak{o}(p, q) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(\text{SO}(W))$ be the fundamental vector field defined by $\sigma(A)_u = \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0}(u \cdot \exp tA)$. Then $(\tilde{f})_*(\sigma(A)_u) = \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} f_* \circ (u \cdot \exp tA) = \frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0} (f_* \circ u) \cdot \exp tA = \sigma(A)_{\tilde{f}(u)}$ for each $A \in \mathfrak{o}(p, q)$. This shows that $(\tilde{f})_*$ preserves the metric on the vertical subspaces as well. Consequently, \tilde{f} is an isometry of $\text{SO}(W)$. Clearly $f \mapsto \tilde{f}$ is a group homomorphism. \square

2.8. Fix a point $u \in \text{SO}(W)$. Let $\Phi(u) \subset G$ be the holonomy group of the metric connection with reference point u . See [3, p. 72]. Let $C_G(\Phi(u))$ be the centralizer of $\Phi(u)$ in G and let $Z(G)$, the center of G .

LEMMA 2.9. *Let $g \in \mathcal{K}$. Then the restriction of g to each holonomy bundle $P(u)$ is a right translation by an element of $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$.*

Proof. Define a map $\lambda : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ by

$$g(w) = w \circ \lambda(w).$$

We claim that λ is constant on each $P(u)$. Let γ be a horizontal curve in $\text{SO}(W)$. Then by Leibniz rule,

$$\begin{aligned} g_*(\gamma'(t_0)) &= \frac{d}{dt}(\gamma(t) \circ \lambda(\gamma(t)))|_{t_0} \\ &= \frac{d}{dt}(\gamma(t_0) \circ \lambda(\gamma(t)))|_{t_0} + \gamma_{\lambda(\gamma(t_0))}*(\gamma'(t_0)). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the first summand is vertical and the second is horizontal. Since g is an isometry, g_* maps the horizontal vector $\gamma'(t_0)$ to a horizontal vector. Thus

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\gamma(t_0) \circ \lambda(\gamma(t)))|_{t_0} = 0 \text{ for all } t_0.$$

This shows that λ is constant along γ . Since any two points in $P(u)$ can be connected via a horizontal path, the conclusion of the lemma follows. \square

The right action of $G = SO_0(p, q)$ on $SO(W)$, $r(G)$ belongs to \mathcal{K} by Lemma 2.8, and is transitive on the fiber. Therefore, to understand the isometry group of $SO(W)$, it is enough to understand the stabilizer of the action of \mathcal{K} .

PROPOSITION 2.10. *For $u \in SO(W)$, let \mathcal{K}_u be the stabilizer of the \mathcal{K} -action on $SO(W)$. Then*

1. \mathcal{K}_u fixes the whole sub-bundle $P(u)$.
2. \mathcal{K}_u is naturally isomorphic to $C_G(\Phi(u))/\mathcal{Z}(G) \subset \text{Inn}(G)$, where $C_G(\Phi(u))$ is the centralizer of $\Phi(u)$ in G .

Proof. Statement (1) follows directly from the preceding Lemma.

(2) We identify the fiber $\pi^{-1}(\pi(u))$ with G via $u \longleftarrow e$. Since elements of $\text{Isom}_G(SO(W))$ are weakly G -equivariant, $r(G)$ is normal in $\text{Isom}_G(SO(W))$, and hence in \mathcal{K} .

Let $M_G(SO(W), G)$ denote the group of all G -equivariant maps from $SO(W)$ to G . That is, $\lambda : SO(W) \rightarrow G$ is an element of $M_G(SO(W), G)$ if and only if

$$\lambda(v \circ a) = a^{-1} \circ \lambda(v) \circ a$$

for all $a \in G$. Such a map λ induces a map $\tilde{\lambda} : SO(W) \rightarrow SO(W)$ by

$$\tilde{\lambda}(v) = v \circ \lambda(v).$$

At a general point,

$$\tilde{\lambda}(v \circ a) = (v \circ a) \circ \lambda(v \circ a) = (v \circ a) \circ (a^{-1} \lambda(v) \circ a) = v \circ \lambda(v) \circ a = \tilde{\lambda}(v) \circ a,$$

showing that $\tilde{\lambda}$ is G -equivariant. It is well known [5] that

$$M_G(SO(W), G) \cdot r(G) = r(G) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} M_G(SO(W), G)$$

is the full group of weakly G -equivariant maps of $SO(W)$ inducing the identity on W . Thus,

$$\mathcal{K} \subset M_G(SO(W), G) \cdot r(G).$$

Let $g \in \mathcal{K}_u$. Then g is of the form $g = \tilde{\lambda} \circ r(c^{-1})$. Now $g(u) = u$ yields

$$u \circ \lambda(u) \circ c^{-1} = u$$

so that $\lambda(u) = c$. Then, for any $k \in G$,

$$g(u \cdot k) = (\tilde{\lambda} \circ r(c^{-1}))(u \cdot k) = \tilde{\lambda}(u \cdot kc^{-1}) = \tilde{\lambda}(u) \cdot kc^{-1} = u \cdot ckc^{-1}.$$

Thus g gives rise to a unique element of $\text{Inn}(G)$, defining an injective homomorphism $\mathcal{K}_u \rightarrow \text{Inn}(G)$.

By (1), g fixes $P(u)$, hence it also fixes $u \cdot \Phi(u)$. Therefore, g is an inner automorphism of G leaving the subgroup $\Phi(u)$ fixed. Thus $\mathcal{K}_u \subset C_G(\Phi(u))/\mathcal{Z}(G)$.

Conversely, let $c \in C_G(\Phi(u))$. Choose any “cross section” to the holonomy bundle $P(u) \rightarrow W$; that is, a map $s : W \rightarrow P(u)$ which is not necessarily continuous, satisfying $\pi \circ s = \text{id}$. Then every point of $\text{SO}(W)$ is of the form $s(x) \cdot k$ for some $x \in W$ and $k \in G$. Now define a map $\hat{c} : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ by

$$\hat{c}(s(x) \cdot k) = s(x) \cdot ckc^{-1}.$$

This is well defined because, if $t : W \rightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ is another cross section, then s and t are related by elements of $P(u)$. More precisely, let $s(x) \cdot k = t(x) \cdot k'$. Then $t(x) = s(x) \cdot h$ for some $h \in \Phi(u)$, and hence $k' = h^{-1}k$. Therefore,

$$t(x) \cdot ck'c^{-1} = s(x) \cdot hch^{-1}kc^{-1} = s(x) \cdot ckc^{-1},$$

since c commutes with $\Phi(u)$. We could have used a local smooth section for s . This implies that \hat{c} is smooth. We claim that \hat{c} is in fact an isometry. Let $s(x) \cdot k \in \text{SO}(W)$ be an arbitrary point. On a horizontal neighborhood (i.e., k fixed, and x varying),

$$\hat{c}(s(x) \cdot k) = s(x) \cdot ckc^{-1} = (s(x) \cdot k) \cdot (k^{-1}ckc^{-1})$$

so that $\hat{c} = r_{k^{-1}ckc^{-1}}$. Thus, for a horizontal vectors X , $\hat{c}_*(X) = r_{k^{-1}ckc^{-1}*}(X)$. On the vertical vectors, recall that G has a bi-invariant metric and so the conjugation by c is already an isometry. Consequently, \hat{c} is an isometry of $\text{SO}(W)$ inducing the identity on W . Thus we have shown that the homomorphism $\mathcal{K}_u \rightarrow C_G(\Phi(u))/\mathcal{Z}(G)$ is an isomorphism. □

THEOREM 2.11. *There is a left action of $C_G(\Phi(u))$ as left translations on each fiber, and $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) = \left(\ell(C_G(\Phi(u))) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} r(G) \right) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$.*

Proof. By the previous lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) &= \mathcal{K} \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \\ &= (r(G) \rtimes \mathcal{K}_u) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \\ &= (r(G) \rtimes (C_G(\Phi(u))/\mathcal{Z}(G))) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \\ &= \left(\ell(C_G(\Phi(u))) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} r(G) \right) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W). \end{aligned}$$

So, it only remains to understand how the inner automorphism group $C_G(\Phi(u))/\mathcal{Z}(G)$ gives rise to the left multiplication action $\ell(C_G(\Phi(u)))$. For any $c \in C_G(\Phi(u))$, define $\ell_c : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ by

$$\ell_c(s(x) \cdot k) = s(x) \cdot ck$$

so that $\ell_c = \hat{c} \circ r_{c^{-1}}$. (The map \hat{c} was defined in the proof of Lemma 2.10). This finishes the proof of theorem. □

COROLLARY 2.12. *For the two extreme cases, we have the following:*

1. *If $\Phi(u) = \text{SO}_0(p, q)$, then $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) = r(G) \times \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$.*
2. *If $\Phi(u)$ is trivial, then*

$$\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) = (\ell(G) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} r(G)) \rtimes \text{Isom}^{++}(W).$$

EXAMPLE 2.13. If $W = \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ with the indefinite metric of type (p, q) , then the bundle $\text{SO}(W)$ has trivial holonomy so that $C_G(\Phi(u)) = G$. Thus $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(\text{SO}(W)) = (G \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} G) \rtimes \{\mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rtimes O^{++}(p, q)\}$ since $\text{Isom}^{++}(W) = \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rtimes O^{++}(p, q)$.

A pseudo-Riemannian manifold is *homogeneous* if $\text{Isom}(W)$ acts on W transitively.

THEOREM 2.14. *If W is a pseudo-Riemannian homogeneous manifold, then $\text{SO}(W)$ contains a sub-bundle which is isometric to the Lie group $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ with a left invariant metric.*

Proof. Fix $u \in \text{SO}(W)$, and let $x = \pi(u) \in W$, where $\pi : \text{SO}(W) \rightarrow W$ is the projection. Let $H = \text{Isom}^{++}(W)_x$, the stabilizer at x .

We have two bundles over W :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H & & \text{SO}_0(p, q) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{Isom}^{++}(W) & \longrightarrow & \text{SO}(W) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 W & \xrightarrow{=} & W
 \end{array}$$

Both bundles are principal (with right actions). Define $\phi : H \rightarrow \text{SO}_0(p, q)$ by $\phi(h) = u^{-1} \circ h_* \circ u$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{R}^{p+q} & \xrightarrow{u} & T_x(W) \\
 \phi(h) \downarrow & & h_* \downarrow \\
 \mathbb{R}^{p+q} & \xleftarrow{u^{-1}} & T_x(W)
 \end{array}$$

Clearly ϕ is 1-1. Define $\psi : \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \rightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ by $\psi(f) = f_* \circ u$. Then $(\text{Isom}^{++}(W), H) \rightarrow (\text{SO}(W), \text{SO}_0(p, q))$ is weakly equivariant. That is, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \times H & \longrightarrow & \text{Isom}^{++}(W) & (f, h) & \longrightarrow & f \circ h & \\
 \psi \times \phi \downarrow & & \psi \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 \text{SO}(W) \times \text{SO}_0(p, q) & \longrightarrow & \text{SO}(W) & (\psi(f), \phi(h)) & \longrightarrow & \psi(f) \circ \phi(h) &
 \end{array}$$

is commutative, because $\psi(f \circ h) = (f \circ h)_* \circ u = (f_* \circ u) \circ (u^{-1} \circ h_* \circ u) = \psi(f) \circ (u^{-1} \circ h_* \circ u)$. Therefore, $\text{SO}(W)$ contains $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ with a natural left invariant metric. \square

COROLLARY 2.15. *Assume W is a pseudo-Riemannian homogeneous manifold with $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)_x \cong \text{SO}_0(p, q)$. Then $\text{Isom}^{++}(W) \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(W)$ is a bundle isomorphism.*

3. Orthonormal frame bundle of a pseudo-sphere

3.1. Now we specialize to the case when W is a pseudo-sphere. The quadric

$$S^{p,q} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{p,q+1} \mid F(x, x) = 1\}$$

is called a *pseudo-Riemannian sphere*. It is diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{R}^p \times S^q$ via $(x, y) \mapsto (x, \frac{y}{|y|})$. It is connected for $q > 0$, and has 2 components if $q = 0$.

With this pseudo-Riemannian metric, $S^{p,q}$ has constant sectional curvature +1, and $\text{Isom}(S^{p,q}) = O(p, q + 1)$ is the full group of isometries. The isotropy subgroup at $(0, 0, \dots, 1)$ is exactly $O(p, q)$. The connected component is $\text{Isom}^{++}(W) = O^{++}(p, q + 1) = \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$. By Corollary 2.15, they are equal and we have

$$\text{SO}(S^{p,q}) = \text{Isom}^{++}(S^{p,q}) = \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$$

as bundles over $S^{p,q}$.

3.2. *Geometry of $\text{SO}(S^{p,q})$.* We would like to understand the metric on $\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$ coming from the identification with $\text{SO}(S^{p,q})$. $\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$ acts on $S^{p,q}$ transitively with isotropy subgroup is $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ so that

$$\text{SO}_0(p, q) \rightarrow \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1) \rightarrow S^{p,q}$$

is a principal $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ -bundle.

Moreover, $S^{p,q}$ is a symmetric space with a symmetric structure $(\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1), \text{SO}_0(p, q), \sigma)$, where σ is conjugation by $\begin{bmatrix} I_{p+q} & O \\ O & -1 \end{bmatrix}$. Then $\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is the connected component of

$$(\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1))_\sigma = \text{Fix}(\sigma, \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)).$$

Thus $\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)/\text{SO}_0(p, q)$ is a symmetric space and the canonical decomposition of the Lie algebra is

$$\mathfrak{o}(p, q + 1) = \mathfrak{o}(p, q) + \mathfrak{m}$$

where $\mathfrak{o}(p, q)$ is considered as a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{o}(p, q + 1)$ and \mathfrak{m} is the subspace of all matrices of the following form

$$\mathfrak{o}(p, q) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} A & B & 0 \\ C & D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad \mathfrak{m} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} O & O & \xi \\ O & O & \eta \\ {}^t\xi & -{}^t\eta & 0 \end{bmatrix} : \xi \in \mathbb{R}^p, \eta \in \mathbb{R}^q \right\}$$

[These are +1 and -1 eigen spaces of σ , respectively]. The restriction of the Killing-Cartan form of $\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$ on \mathfrak{g} to \mathfrak{m} defines a $\text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$ -invariant (indefinite) Riemannian metric on the symmetric space $S^{p,q} = \text{SO}_0(p, q + 1)/\text{SO}_0(p, q)$. Furthermore, under the Killing-Cartan form, the factors \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{m} are orthogonal.

Thus our metric on $SO(W)$ and the metric on $SO_0(p, q + 1)$ have the following properties: With the bundle isomorphism,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 SO_0(p, q) & & SO_0(p, q) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 SO_0(p, q + 1) & \longrightarrow & SO(W) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 W & \xlongequal{\quad} & W
 \end{array}$$

1. the metrics on W are the same
2. the metrics on $SO_0(p, q)$ are the same
3. With the same holonomy bundle, the fiber is orthogonal to the base.

These are enough to conclude that the two spaces are isometric. See [3, p. 232, Theorem 3.4].

3.3 (Calculation of holonomy groups). Clearly $\mathfrak{o}(p, q + 1) = \mathfrak{o}(p, q) + \mathfrak{m}$ as vector spaces. Furthermore, one can show that $[\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}] = \mathfrak{o}(p, q)$. Now by [3, p.103, Theorem 11.1], the Lie algebra of the holonomy group is generated by $[\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}]_{\mathfrak{o}(p, q)}$, the $\mathfrak{o}(p, q)$ component of $[\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}]$. But since $[\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}] = \mathfrak{o}(p, q)$, $[\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}]_{\mathfrak{o}(p, q)} = \mathfrak{o}(p, q)$. Therefore, the holonomy group must be the whole group $SO_0(p, q)$. Now by Lemma 2.12, we have

THEOREM 3.4.
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Isom}_G^{++}(SO(W)) &= r(G) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \\
 &= SO_0(p, q) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} SO_0(p, q + 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that in this expression, the group G acts on $SO(W) = SO_0(p, q + 1)$ as right multiplication by inverse elements. The group $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ acts on $SO(W)$ as lift of the isometries of W . We have seen this can be identified as left multiplication of $\text{Isom}^{++}(W) = SO_0(p, q + 1)$ on $SO(W) = SO_0(p, q + 1)$. Thus $(b, a) \in G \times \text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ acts on $x \in SO_0(p, q)$ by $(b, a) \cdot x = axb^{-1}$. Therefore we write $\text{Isom}^{++}(W)$ first so that $\text{Isom}_G^{++}(SO(W)) = \text{Isom}^{++}(W) \times G$. Thus, $SO_0(p, q + 1) \times SO_0(p, q)$ acts on $SO(S^{p, q}) = SO_0(p, q + 1)$ by

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (SO_0(p, q + 1) \times_{\mathcal{Z}(G)} SO_0(p, q)) \times SO(S^{p, q}) & \longrightarrow & SO(S^{p, q}) \\
 ((a, b), x) & & \longrightarrow a \cdot x \cdot b^{-1}
 \end{array}$$

multiplication in the Lie group $SO_0(p, q + 1)$.

3.5. On the other hand, the group $SO_0(p, q + 1)$ is semi-simple, the Killing-Cartan form defines a bi-invariant pseudo-Riemannian metric on $SO_0(p, q + 1)$. Thus

$$r(G) \subset r(SO_0(p, q + 1)) \subset \text{Isom}(SO_0(p, q + 1)).$$

One can prove that then weakly G -equivariant isometries of $SO_0(p, q + 1)$ is the normalizer of $r(G)$ in $\ell(SO_0(p, q + 1)) \cdot r(SO_0(p, q + 1))$, which becomes

$$r(G) \times_{Z(G)} \ell(SO_0(p, q + 1)).$$

Consequently, we get

$$\text{Isom}_G^{++}(SO_0(p, q + 1)) = SO_0(p, q) \times_{Z(G)} SO_0(p, q + 1).$$

3.6. Let $\widetilde{SO}_0(p, q + 1)$ be the universal covering group of $SO_0(p, q + 1)$; and let $\widehat{SO}(p, q)$ be the covering group of $SO_0(p, q)$ induced by the universal covering $\widetilde{SO}_0(p, q + 1) \rightarrow SO_0(p, q + 1)$; that is, $\widehat{SO}(p, q)$ is the preimage of $SO_0(p, q)$ under this map. The principal fibering is

$$\widehat{SO}(p, q) \rightarrow \widetilde{SO}_0(p, q + 1) \rightarrow SO_0(p, q + 1).$$

The isometry group is then

$$(\text{Isom}_G)_0(\widehat{SO}(S^{p,q})) = \widetilde{SO}_0(p, q + 1) \times_Z \widehat{SO}(p, q)$$

where Z is the diagonal subgroup which is the center of $SO_0(p, q + 1)$. Thus we have a short exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \widehat{SO}(p, q) \rightarrow (\text{Isom}_G)_0(\widehat{SO}(S^{p,q})) \rightarrow SO_0(p, q + 1) \rightarrow 1.$$

4. Spaces modelled on $SO(S^{p,q})$

We shall describe the geometries of orthonormal frame bundles of some low dimensional pseudo-spheres $S^{p,q}$. The discreteness of a group Q in $SO_0(p, q + 1)$ does not necessarily imply that Q acts properly on $S^{p,q}$, and in fact, such proper actions $(Q, S^{p,q})$ are quite rare. We give two examples: $S^{2,0}$ and $S^{1,2}$. The pseudo-sphere $S^{2,0}$ admits compact forms but $S^{1,2}$ does not.

THEOREM 4.1. (cf. [9, Theorem 11.1.7]) *Suppose a discrete group Q acts on $S^{p,q}$ effectively and properly. If $p \leq q$, then Q is finite.*

Proof. Let V be the subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{p,q+1}$ given by $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_p = 0$, so $V \cap S^{p,q}$ is the equatorial sphere S^q . If $g \in \text{GL}(p+q+1, \mathbb{R})$, then $p \leq q < q+1$ implies

$$\dim(V \cap g(V)) \geq 2 \dim(V) - (p+q+1) > 0.$$

Thus, for every $\alpha \in Q$, $\alpha(S^q)$ meets S^q .

If Q were infinite, then compactness of S^q would give us a point $x \in S^q$, a sequence $\{\alpha_i\} \subset Q$ of distinct elements, and a sequence $\{x_i\} \subset S^q$, such that $\alpha_i(x_i) \in S^q$ and $\{\alpha_i(x_i)\} \rightarrow x$. Passing to a subsequence, $\{x_i\} \rightarrow x' \in S^q$. As Q has closed orbits, this says $\alpha(x') = x$ for some $\alpha \in Q$. Then $\{\alpha^{-1}\alpha_i(x_i)\} \rightarrow \alpha^{-1}(x) = x'$, contradicting discontinuity of Q at x' . Thus Q is finite. \square

EXAMPLE 4.2 ($\text{SO}(S^{2,0})$). For $W = S^{2,0}$, $\text{SO}(S^{2,0}) = \text{SO}_0(2, 1)$ has a principal $\text{SO}_0(2, 0)$ -fibering structure:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{SO}_0(2, 0) & \longrightarrow & \text{SO}_0(2, 1) & \longrightarrow & S^{2,0} \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ \text{SO}(2) & \longrightarrow & \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{H}^2 \end{array}$$

The pseudo-sphere $S^{2,0}$ has an indefinite metric of type $(2, 0)$, which is the negative of the ordinary Poincaré metric. Thus the space $\text{SO}_0(2, 1)$ has an indefinite metric of type $(2, 1)$, negative of the Lorenz metric, (cf. [4]). The group of weakly $\text{SO}_0(2, 0)$ -equivariant isometries is $(\text{Isom}_{\text{SO}(2,0)})_0(\text{SO}(2, 1)) = \text{SO}(2, 1) \times \text{SO}(2)$.

The universal covering of $\text{SO}_0(2, 1)$ has a fibration

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(2, 0) & \longrightarrow & \widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(2, 1) & \longrightarrow & S^{2,0} \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ \mathbb{R} & \longrightarrow & \widetilde{\text{PSL}}(2, \mathbb{R}) & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{H}^2 \end{array}$$

The group of weakly $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(2, 0)$ -equivariant isometries is

$$(\text{Isom}_{\widetilde{\text{SO}}(2,0)})_0(\widetilde{\text{SO}}(2, 1)) = \mathbb{R} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \widetilde{\text{SO}}(2, 1).$$

Note that this is also the group of isometries for the $\widetilde{\text{PSL}}(2, \mathbb{R})$ -geometry.

Let $1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \Pi \rightarrow Q \rightarrow 1$ be an central extension of \mathbb{Z} by a Fuchsian group Q . If Q is cocompact, then $H^2(Q; \mathbb{Z}) \approx \mathbb{Z} \oplus \text{Torsion}$; if Q is finitely generated and not cocompact, then $H^2(Q; \mathbb{Z})$ is a direct sum of finite cyclic groups corresponding to the conjugacy classes of the maximal finite subgroups of Q .

(Structure Theorem) [4]. Let $1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \Pi \rightarrow Q \rightarrow 1$ be an central extension of \mathbb{Z} by a Fuchsian group Q . Then Π embeds into $(\text{Isom}_{\widetilde{\text{SO}}(2,0)})_0(\widetilde{\text{SO}}(2,1))$ if and only if $[\Pi] \in H^2(Q, \mathbb{Z})$ has infinite order.

This embedding yields $\Pi \backslash P$ as a Seifert orbifold with a complete Lorentz metric of constant curvature. The fibers are time-like geodesics. If $Q \backslash S^{2,0}$ is non-compact, then each $[\Pi]$ embeds. The same construction also yields embeddings of Π into $\text{Isom}(\widetilde{\text{PSL}}(2, \mathbb{R}))$ and $\Pi \backslash P$ is a Seifert orbifold with the 3-dimensional $\widetilde{\text{PSL}}(2, \mathbb{R})$ -geometry. See [6] and [4] for the embeddings.

EXAMPLE 4.3 ($\text{SO}(S^{1,2})$). For $W = S^{1,2}$, $\text{SO}(S^{1,2}) = \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$ has a principal $\text{SO}_0(1, 2)$ -fibering structure:

$$\text{SO}_0(1, 2) \longrightarrow \text{SO}_0(1, 3) \longrightarrow S^{1,2}.$$

Since $\pi_1(\text{SO}_0(1, 3)) = \mathbb{Z}_2$ and $\pi_1(\text{SO}_0(1, 2)) = \mathbb{Z}$, the bundle is non-trivial. Then $(\text{Isom}_{\text{SO}(1,2)})_0(\text{SO}(S^{1,2})) = \text{SO}_0(1, 2) \times \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$ and the action on $\text{SO}(S^{1,2}) \approx \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$ is given by

$$(a, b)x = b \cdot x \cdot a^{-1}$$

for $(a, b) \in \text{SO}_0(1, 2) \times \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$ and $x \in \text{SO}(S^{1,2})$.

Suppose there exists a compact space form $\Pi \backslash \text{SO}(S^{1,2})$. That is, Π is a discrete subgroup of $\text{SO}_0(1, 2) \times \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$ which acts on $\text{SO}(S^{1,2})$ properly with $\Pi \backslash \text{SO}(S^{1,2})$ compact. [Such a Π exists]. Then $\Gamma = \Pi \cap \text{SO}_0(1, 2)$ is never cocompact in $\text{SO}_0(1, 2)$. If it were, the quotient $Q = \Pi/\Gamma$ will act on $S^{1,2}$ properly. By Theorem 4.1, Q must be finite. This implies that $\Pi \backslash \text{SO}(S^{1,2})$ is not compact, a contradiction.

Our model space for the geometry must be simply connected. Therefore, we take the universal covering space of $\text{SO}(S^{1,2})$ as our model space. Since $\pi_1(\text{SO}_0(1, 3)) = \mathbb{Z}_2$, $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 3)$ is a double covering of $\text{SO}_0(1, 3)$. Let $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2)$ be the corresponding double covering of $\text{SO}_0(1, 2)$. Then $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 3)$ is a principal $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2)$ -bundle,

$$\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2) \longrightarrow \widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 3) \longrightarrow S^{1,2}.$$

Note that $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2)$ is "level 2" group in [4], and is isomorphic to $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$, since $\pi_1(\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2)) = \mathbb{Z}_2$. Therefore, $\widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 3)$ is diffeomorphic to $S^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$. From $(\text{Isom}_{\text{SO}(1,2)})_0(\text{SO}(S^{1,2})) = \text{SO}_0(1, 2) \times \text{SO}_0(1, 3)$, we have

$$(\text{Isom}_{\widetilde{\text{SO}}(1,2)})_0(\widetilde{\text{SO}}(S^{1,2})) = \widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 2) \times_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \widetilde{\text{SO}}_0(1, 3),$$

where \mathbb{Z}_2 is the diagonal center.

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