

LOCAL AND GLOBAL EQUIVALENCE FOR FLAT
AFFINE MANIFOLDS WITH PARALLEL
GEOMETRIC STRUCTURES*

0. INTRODUCTION

Euclidean space forms are usually studied under considerations of affine equivalence ([2], [3], [4], [8], [10]). In dimensions 2 and 3, one easily contrives *ad hoc* methods for refining the affine classification to an isometric classification [10, pp. 77–79 and pp. 123–124]. In this regard also see [5]. Here we give a general method for the isometric classification of complete flat riemannian manifolds in a fixed affine equivalence class. We then extend the method to a study of the similar question for complete flat affinely connected manifolds with parallel torsion tensor and an arbitrary family of parallel tensor fields. The latter could be a riemannian or pseudo-riemannian structure, a kaehler structure, a product structure, an absolute parallelism, or some combination.

1. EUCLIDEAN SPACE FORMS

Fix a connected n -dimensional complete flat riemannian manifold M . It has universal riemannian covering $p: \mathbf{E}^n \rightarrow M$ where \mathbf{E}^n is euclidean space, and this identifies M with $D \backslash \mathbf{E}^n$ where D is a properly discontinuous group of rigid motions acting freely on \mathbf{E}^n .

Identify \mathbf{E}^n with real number space \mathbf{R}^n by choice of an origin 0 and an orthonormal frame at 0. As usual, $\mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{R})$ denotes the group of all invertible linear transformations of \mathbf{R}^n , and $\mathbf{O}(n)$ is the orthogonal group. The *affine group* of \mathbf{R}^n is the group $\mathbf{A}(n) = \mathbf{R}^n \cdot \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{R})$ consisting of all

$$(t, g): x \rightarrow t + g(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^n; \quad \text{here } t \in \mathbf{R}^n \quad \text{and } g \in \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{R}).$$

The *euclidean group* is the subgroup $\mathbf{E}(n) = \mathbf{R}^n \cdot \mathbf{O}(n)$; it consists of all the rigid motions.

Recall $M = D \backslash \mathbf{E}^n$ and note $D \subset \mathbf{E}(n) \subset \mathbf{A}(n)$. We denote normalizer by $N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D) = \{\alpha \in \mathbf{A}(n) : \alpha D \alpha^{-1} = D\}$. For example, let \mathbf{Z}^n denote the integer lattice in \mathbf{R}^n and let $\mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{Z})$ denote the group of integral matrices of determinant ± 1 ; then $N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(\mathbf{Z}^n) = \mathbf{R}^n \cdot \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{Z})$.

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THEOREM 1. *The subset $\mathbf{E}(n) \setminus \{\gamma \in \mathbf{A}(n) : \gamma D \gamma^{-1} \subset \mathbf{E}(n)\} / N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$ of the double coset space $\mathbf{E}(n) \setminus \mathbf{A}(n) / N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$, is in bijective correspondence with the set of all isometry classes of riemannian manifolds that are affinely equivalent to $M = D \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$. The double coset $\mathbf{E}(n) \cdot \gamma \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$ corresponds to the isometry class of $(\gamma D \gamma^{-1}) \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$.*

Every flat riemannian n -torus is affinely equivalent to $\mathbf{Z}^n \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$. If $\gamma = (t, g) \in \mathbf{A}(n)$ then $\gamma \mathbf{Z}^n \gamma^{-1} = g(\mathbf{Z}^n) \subset \mathbf{E}(n)$. Thus the special case $D = \mathbf{Z}^n$ of Theorem 1 is as follows; this is equivalent to [10, Lemma 3.5.11].

COROLLARY. *The double coset space $\mathbf{O}(n) \setminus \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{R}) / \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{Z})$ is in bijective correspondence with the set of all isometry classes of flat riemannian n -tori. The double coset $\mathbf{O}(n) \cdot g \cdot \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{Z})$ corresponds to the class of $g(\mathbf{Z}^n) \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$.*

Proof. Let $\kappa \in \mathbf{E}(n)$, $\gamma \in \mathbf{A}(n)$ with $\gamma D \gamma^{-1} \subset \mathbf{E}(n)$, and $\delta \in N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$. Then the manifolds $(\gamma D \gamma^{-1}) \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$ and $(\kappa \gamma \delta D \delta^{-1} \gamma^{-1} \kappa^{-1}) \setminus \mathbf{E}^n$ inherit complete flat riemannian structure from \mathbf{E}^n , and κ induces an isometry of the first onto the second. Thus the correspondence of Theorem 1 is well defined.

Let M_1 be a riemannian manifold and $f: M \rightarrow M_1$ an affine equivalence (connection preserving diffeomorphism). Then M_1 is connected, flat and complete, so \mathbf{E}^n is its universal riemannian covering manifold. Let D_1 be the group of deck (covering) transformations. Then $D_1 \subset \mathbf{E}(n)$ because the covering is riemannian. Now f_1 lifts to an affine transformation $\gamma_1 \in \mathbf{A}(n)$ such that $\gamma_1 D \gamma_1^{-1} = D_1 \subset \mathbf{E}(n)$, so $\mathbf{E}(n) \cdot \gamma_1 \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$ corresponds to the isometry class of M_1 . Our correspondence is proved surjective.

Let M_2 be another riemannian manifold, $f_2: M \rightarrow M_2$ an affine equivalence, $D_2 \subset \mathbf{E}(n)$ the group of deck transformations of the universal riemannian covering $\mathbf{E}^n \rightarrow M_2$, and $\gamma_2 \in \mathbf{A}(n)$ a lift of f_2 . Now suppose that there is an isometry $k: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$. Then k lifts to a rigid motion $\kappa \in \mathbf{E}(n)$ with $\kappa D_1 \kappa^{-1} = D_2$. Thus $\gamma_2 D \gamma_2^{-1} = D_2 = \kappa \gamma_1 D \gamma_1^{-1} \kappa^{-1}$, so $\gamma_2 \in \kappa \gamma_1 \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$. Now $\mathbf{E}(n) \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D) = \mathbf{E}(n) \cdot \gamma_1 \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(n)}(D)$, so our correspondence is bijective.

Q.E.D.

2. FLAT AFFINE MANIFOLDS

Let G be a Lie group. We view its Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} as the set of all tangent vector fields on G invariant by all left translations $t: x \rightarrow tx$ ($t, x \in G$). There is a unique affine connection Γ_G of G such that the fields $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$ all are parallel. Γ_G is complete, is flat (curvature tensor zero,) and has parallel torsion tensor given by $T(\xi, \eta) = -[\xi, \eta]$. A tensor field S on G is Γ_G -parallel if and only if it is invariant by every left translation. We refer to Γ_G as the *left translation connection* on G . For example, $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}^n}$ is the euclidean connection.

Let $\mathbf{Aut}(G)$ denote the Lie group of all continuous automorphisms of G . The semidirect product $\mathbf{A}(G) = G \cdot \mathbf{Aut}(G)$ is the manifold $G \times \mathbf{Aut}(G)$ with the group law $(t, g)(u, h) = (t \cdot g(u), gh)$. $\mathbf{A}(G)$ acts on G by $(t, g): x \rightarrow t \cdot g(x)$. $\mathbf{A}(G)$ is the *affine group* of G in the sense that it consists of all connection-preserving diffeomorphisms of (G, Γ_G) . For example, $\mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{R}^n) = \mathbf{GL}(n, \mathbf{R})$ and $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{R}^n) = \mathbf{A}(n)$. Compare [1] and [9].

Let D be a subgroup of $\mathbf{A}(G)$. Suppose that D acts freely and properly discontinuously on G , i.e. that $G \rightarrow D \backslash G$ is a covering space. Then $D \backslash G$ inherits a connection $\Gamma_{D \backslash G}$ from Γ_G . Evidently $(D \backslash G, \Gamma_{D \backslash G})$ is a complete affinely connected manifold with vanishing curvature and parallel torsion.

Let (M, Γ) be any connected, complete flat affinely connected manifold with parallel torsion tensor. Using the Lie algebra structure obtained from the negative of the torsion tensor, one obtains a simply connected Lie group G , a subgroup $D \subset \mathbf{A}(G)$ that acts freely and properly discontinuously, and an affine equivalence $(M, \Gamma) \rightarrow D \backslash (G, \Gamma_G) = (D \backslash G, \Gamma_{D \backslash G})$. This follows directly from the Cartan-Ambrose-Hicks theorem ([6]; or see [10, §1.9]). A slightly complicated derivation is given in [7]. The method of [10, §1.9] also gives us

THEOREM 2. *Let $p_i: (G_i, \Gamma_{G_i}) \rightarrow D_i \backslash (G_i, \Gamma_{G_i}) = (M_i, \Gamma_i)$ be universal affine covering spaces where the G_i are simply connected Lie groups.*

(1) *Some open set in (M_1, Γ_1) is affinely equivalent to some open set in (M_2, Γ_2) if, and only if, $G_1 \cong G_2$.*

(2) *Let $x_i \in G_i, m_i = p_i(x_i)$, and $\phi: G_1 \cong G_2$. If U is a small connected neighborhood of 1 in G_1 then $f(p_1(x_1 \cdot z)) = p_2(x_2 \cdot \phi(z))$, $z \in U$, is an affine equivalence of a neighborhood of m_1 to a neighborhood of m_2 . Every affine equivalence $(U_1, m_1) \rightarrow (U_2, m_2)$ of connected neighborhoods is obtained this way. Finally f extends to an affine equivalence $(M_1, \Gamma_1) \rightarrow (M_2, \Gamma_2)$ if and only if, viewing $x_i = (x_i, 1) \in \mathbf{A}(G_i)$, $x_2^{-1} D_2 x_2 = \phi x_1^{-1} D_1 x_1 \phi^{-1}$.*

3. PARALLEL GEOMETRIC STRUCTURE

We are going to study triples (M, Γ, P) where

- (3.1) M is a connected manifold,
- (3.2) Γ is a flat complete connection with parallel torsion, and
- (3.3) P is a family $\{\pi_i\}_{i \in I}$ of Γ -parallel tensor fields on M .

Complete connected flat riemannian manifold is the case where P consists of a riemannian metric and Γ is Levi-Civita connection.

Let (M', Γ', P') and (M'', Γ'', P'') satisfy the conditions (3.1) through (3.3) with the same index set I . By *local equivalence* we mean an affine

equivalence

$$f: (U', \Gamma' |_{U'}) \rightarrow (U'', \Gamma'' |_{U''})$$

of open sets such that $f(\pi'_i |_{U'}) = \pi''_i |_{U''}$ for every $i \in I$. By *equivalence* or *global equivalence* we mean (of course) that, in addition, $U' = M'$ and $U'' = M'$.

Now fix a triple (M, Γ, P) that satisfies (3.1.) through (3.3). Express $(M, \Gamma) = D \setminus (G, \Gamma_G)$ as in §2, where G is simply connected Lie group and $D \subset \mathbf{A}(G)$. For $i \in I$ let $\tilde{\pi}_i$ denote the Γ_G -parallel (i.e., left-invariant) tensor field on G that projects to π_i ; denote $P_G = \{\tilde{\pi}_i; i \in I\}$. Now

$$(M, \Gamma, P) = D \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$$

with D contained in

$$\mathbf{A}(G:P) = \{\gamma \in \mathbf{A}(G) : \gamma(\tilde{\pi}_i) = \tilde{\pi}_i \text{ for all } i \in I\}.$$

In the flat riemannian case, $\mathbf{A}(G:P)$ is $\mathbf{E}(n)$.

THEOREM 3. *The subset $\mathbf{A}(G:P) \setminus \{\gamma \in \mathbf{A}(G) : \gamma D \gamma^{-1} \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)\} / N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$ of the double coset space $\mathbf{A}(G:P) \setminus \mathbf{A}(G) / N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$, is in bijective correspondence with the set of all equivalence classes of triples that (i) satisfy (3.1) through (3.3), (ii) are affinely equivalent to (M, Γ) , and (iii) are locally equivalent to (M, Γ, P) . The double coset $\mathbf{A}(G:P) \cdot \gamma \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$ corresponds to the equivalence class of $(\gamma D \gamma^{-1}) \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$.*

Proof. We imitate the proof of Theorem 1. Let $\kappa \in \mathbf{A}(G:P)$, $\gamma \in \mathbf{A}(G)$ with $\gamma D \gamma^{-1} \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)$, and $\delta \in N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$. Then $(\gamma D \gamma^{-1}) \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$ and $(\kappa \gamma \delta D \delta^{-1} \gamma^{-1} \kappa^{-1}) \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$ have the required structure and are equivalent by κ . Thus the correspondence is well defined.

Let (M', Γ', P') satisfy (3.1) through (3.3) and be locally equivalent to (M, Γ, P) . As (M', Γ') is complete, connected and locally affine equivalent to (M, Γ) , we have $(M', \Gamma') = D^* \setminus (G, \Gamma_G)$ for appropriate $D^* \subset \mathbf{A}(G)$. Define $P^* = \{\tilde{\pi}'_i; i \in I\}$ where $\tilde{\pi}'_i$ is the lift of π'_i from M' to G . According to Theorem 2, the local equivalence of (M', Γ', P') with (M, Γ, P) has lift $F \in \mathbf{A}(G)$ such that each $F(\tilde{\pi}'_i) = \tilde{\pi}_i$. Now F induces an equivalence of (M', Γ', P') with $(FD^*F^{-1}) \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$. Thus we have expressed $(M', \Gamma', P') = D' \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$ where, necessarily, $D' \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)$. Now let $f': (M, \Gamma) \rightarrow (M', \Gamma')$ affine equivalence. Then f' has lift $\gamma' \in \mathbf{A}(G)$ such that $\gamma' D \gamma'^{-1} = D' \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)$. Now $\mathbf{A}(G:P) \cdot \gamma' \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$ corresponds to the equivalence class of (M', Γ', P') . Our correspondence is proved surjective.

Let (M'', Γ'', P'') be another triple that satisfies (3.1) through (3.3), is affinely equivalent to (M, Γ) , and is locally equivalent to (M, Γ, P) . As

above, $(M'', \Gamma'', P'') = D'' \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$, and we have $\gamma'' \in \mathbf{A}(G)$, such that $\gamma'' D \gamma''^{-1} = D'' \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)$. Suppose that we have an equivalence

$$k: (M', \Gamma', P') \rightarrow (M'', \Gamma'', P'').$$

Then k lifts to an element $\kappa \in \mathbf{A}(G:P)$ such that $\kappa D' \kappa^{-1} = D''$. Now $\gamma'' D \gamma''^{-1} = D'' = \kappa \gamma' D \gamma'^{-1} \kappa^{-1}$, so $\gamma'' \in \kappa \gamma' \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$. Now $\mathbf{A}(G:P) \cdot \gamma'' \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D) = \mathbf{A}(G:P) \cdot \gamma' \cdot N_{\mathbf{A}(G)}(D)$, so our correspondence is bijective.

Q.E.D.

The flat connection Γ on $M = D \setminus G$ is derived from an absolute parallelism precisely when D acts by pure translations ([11, Proposition 2.5]; or see [6]). In that case $D \subset G \subset \mathbf{A}(G)$, we compute

$$\begin{aligned} (t, g) (d, 1) (t, g)^{-1} &= (t \cdot g (d), g) (g^{-1} (t^{-1}), g^{-1}) = \\ &= (t \cdot g (d) \cdot t^{-1}, 1) \end{aligned}$$

and see $(t, g) D (t, g)^{-1} = t \cdot g (D) \cdot t^{-1} \subset G \subset \mathbf{A}(G:P)$. Now define $\mathbf{Aut}(G:P) = \{g \in \mathbf{Aut}(G) : g(\tilde{\pi}_i) = \tilde{\pi}_i \text{ for every } i \in I\}$, so that $\mathbf{A}(G:P) = G \cdot \mathbf{Aut}(G:P)$ semi-direct product. Then Theorem 3 specializes as follows.

COROLLARY. *Suppose that Γ is the connection of an absolute parallelism on M . Then the double coset space $\mathbf{Aut}(G:P) \setminus \mathbf{Aut}(G) / N_{\mathbf{Aut}(G)}(D)$ is in bijective correspondence with the set of all equivalence classes of triples that (i) satisfy (3.1) through (3.3), (ii) are affinely equivalent to (M, Γ) , and (iii) are locally equivalent to (M, Γ, P) . The double coset $\mathbf{Aut}(G:P) \cdot g \cdot N_{\mathbf{Aut}(G)}(D)$ corresponds to the equivalence class of $g(D) \setminus (G, \Gamma_G, P_G)$.*

In case $G = \mathbf{R}^n$, Theorem 3 and its Corollary specialize to Theorem 1 and its Corollary.

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