

# Propagators

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Defn :- The unit normal bundle of a submanifold  $C$  in a smooth manifold  $A$  is the fiber bundle whose fiber over  $x \in C$  is  $SN_x = (N_x(C) \setminus \{0\}) / \mathbb{R}^{++}$  where  $\mathbb{R}^{++}$  acts by scalar multiplication.

Blowing up a submanifold  $C$  in a smooth manifold  $A$  transforms  $A$  into a smooth manifold  $B(A, C)$  by replacing  $C$  by the total space of its unit normal bundle.

Unlike  $A_n$  blow-ups, the  $D_n$  blow-up amounts to remove an open tubular nbd of  $C$  which topologically creates boundaries.

Defn :- A smooth submanifold transverse to the ridges of a smooth manifold  $A$  is a subset of  $C$  of  $A$

st for any point  $\underline{x} \in C$  is an smooth  
open embedding

$$\phi : \mathbb{R}^c \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1)^d \hookrightarrow A$$

$$\text{st } \phi(0) = \underline{x}$$

and  $\text{Im } \phi$  intersects  $C$  along

$$\phi(0 \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1)^d)$$

$$c, d, e \in \mathbb{Z}$$

↑ codomain of  $C$

and  $d$  and  $e$  depends on  $\underline{x}$ .

Defn:- Let  $C$  be smooth manifold  
transverse to the ridges of a  
smooth manifold  $A$ . The blow up  
 $\text{Bl}(A, C)$  is the unique smooth  
manifold  $\text{Bl}(A, C)$  (with possible  
ridges) equipped with a  
canonical smooth projection

$$p_b : \text{Bl}(A, C) \rightarrow A$$

called the blowdown map st

- a, the restriction of  $p_b$  to  $p_b^{-1}(A \setminus C)$  is a canonical diffeo on  $A \setminus C$  which identifies  $p_b^{-1}(A \setminus C)$  with  $A \setminus C$ .
- b, there is a canonical identification of  $p_b^{-1}(C)$  with the total space  $SN(C)$  of the unit normal bundle to  $C$  in  $A$ .
- c, the restriction of  $p_b$  to  $p_b^{-1}(C) = SN(C)$  is the bundle projection from  $SN(C)$  to  $C$ .
- d, any smooth diffeomorphism  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^e \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1)^d$  onto an open subset  $\phi(\mathbb{R}^e \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1)^d) \subset A$  whose image intersects  $C$  exactly along  $\phi(0 \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1)^d)$  where  $e, d, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  provides a smooth embedding  $\hookrightarrow$

$$[0, \infty) \times S^{e-1} \times (\mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1]^d) \xrightarrow{\phi} \text{Bl}(A, C)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \nearrow \\ (\lambda, v, \alpha) & \longmapsto & \phi(\lambda v, \alpha) \end{matrix}$$

$$(0, v, \alpha) \longmapsto T\phi(0, \alpha)(v) \in \text{SN}_A(C)$$

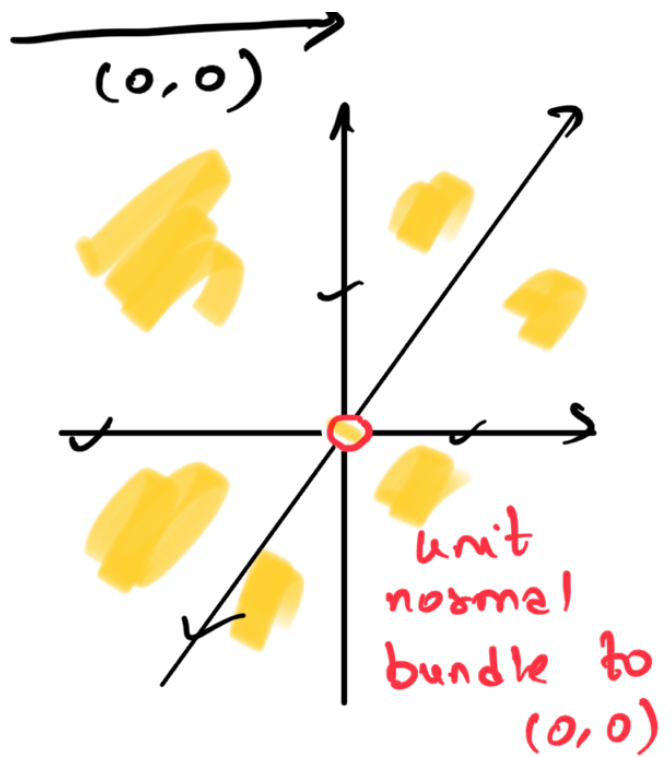
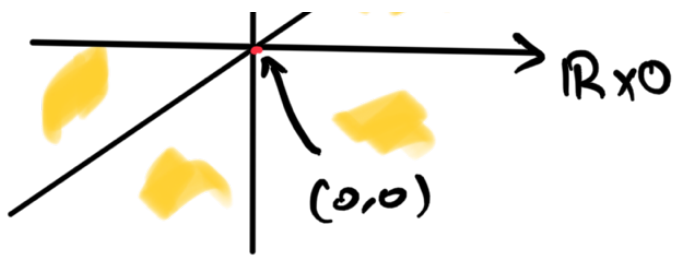
with open image in  $\text{Bl}(A, C)$ .

Immediate Proposition:- The blow-up manifold  $\text{Bl}(A, C)$  is homeomorphic to the complement of  $A$  of an open tubular nbd of  $C$ .  
In particular  $\text{Bl}(A, C)$  is homotopy equiv to  $A \setminus C$ .

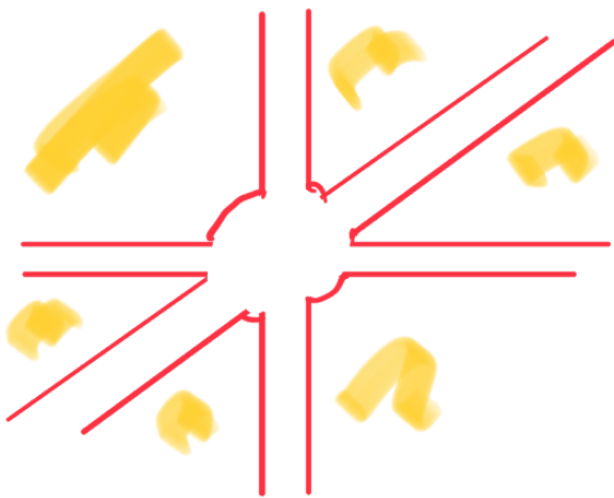
If  $C$  and  $A$  are compact  
 $\Rightarrow \text{Bl}(A, C)$  is compact,  
it is a smooth compactification  
of  $A \setminus C$ .



Blow up ↖



Blow up  
the lines



Proposition:- Let  $B$  and  $C$  be two smooth manifolds transverse to the ridges of a smooth manifold  $A$ . Assume that  $C$  is a smooth manifold of  $B$  transverse to the ridges of  $B$ .

a) The closure  $\overline{B \cap C}$  of  $B \cap C$  in  $B \cup (A, C)$  is a submanifold of  $\partial \cap (A, C)$  which intersects

192

$$\text{SN}(C) \subseteq \partial \text{Bl}(A, C)$$

as the unit normal bundle  $\text{SN}_B(C)$  to  $C$  in  $B$ .

It is canonically diffeomorphic to  $\text{Bl}(B, C)$

b, The blow-up  $\text{Bl}(\text{Bl}(A, C), \overline{B \cap C})$  of  $\text{Bl}(A, C)$  along  $\overline{B \cap C}$  has a canonical diff. structure of a manifold with corners and the pre-image of  $\overline{B \cap C} \subset \text{Bl}(A, C)$  in  $\text{Bl}(\text{Bl}(A, C) \setminus \overline{B \cap C})$  under the canonical projection

$$\text{Bl}(\text{Bl}(A, C), \overline{B \cap C}) \rightarrow \text{Bl}(A, C)$$

is the pullback via blowdown projection  $(\overline{B \cap C} \rightarrow B)$  of unit normal bundle to  $B$  in  $A$ .

Proof:- (a) Choose an embedding  $\phi$  into  $A$  s.t.  $\phi(\mathbb{R}^c \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0, 1]^d)$

intersects  $C$  exactly along  $\phi(0 \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0,1]^d)$  and intersects  $B$  exactly along  $\phi(0 \times \mathbb{R}^k \times [0,1]^d)$   $k > e$

The induced chart  $\tilde{\phi}$  of  $B \setminus C$  near a point of  $\partial B \setminus C$ .

The intersection of  $(B \setminus C)$  with the image of  $\tilde{\phi}$  is

$$\tilde{\phi}((0, \infty) \times (0 \times S^{k-e-1} \subset S^{e-1}) \times \mathbb{R}^e \times [0,1]^d)$$

Thus, the closure of  $(B \setminus C)$  intersects the image of  $\tilde{\phi}$  as

$$\tilde{\phi}([0, \infty) \times (0 \times S^{k-e-1} \subset S^{e-1}) \times [0,1]^d)$$

b) Along with the charts in (a) of  $\overline{B \setminus C}$ , the smooth injective map

$$\mathbb{R}^{e-k+e} \times S^{k-e-1} \longrightarrow S^{e-1}$$

$$(u, y) \longmapsto \frac{(u, y)}{\|(u, y)\|}$$

identifies  $\mathbb{R}^{e-k+e}$  with fibres of

the normal bundle  $\overline{B \setminus C}$  in  $B \setminus (A \setminus C)$ .  
 The blow-up process replaces  $(\overline{B \setminus C})$   
 by the quotient of  $(\mathbb{R}^{c-k+e} \setminus \{0\})$   
 bundle by  $(0, \infty)$ , which is the  
 pull back under the blow down  
 projection  $(\overline{B \setminus C} \rightarrow B)$  of the  
 unit normal bundle to  $B$  in  $A$ .

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 The fiber  $SN_c(C) = (N_c(C) \setminus \{0\}) / \mathbb{R}^{+*}$   
 is oriented as the boundary of a  
 unit ball of  $N_c(C)$ .

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 $\mathbb{R}$  is the rational homology sphere.  
 $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$

Defn:- The configuration space  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$   
 is the compact  $G$ -manifold with  
 boundary and ridges obtained from  
 $\mathbb{R}^2$  by blowing up  $(\infty, \infty)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$   
 and the closure of  $\{ \infty \} \times \mathbb{R}$ ,



$\mathbb{R} \times \{0\}$  and the diagonal of  $\check{\mathbb{R}}^2$  in  $Bd(\mathbb{R}^2, (\infty, \infty))$  successively.

$\Rightarrow \partial C_2(\mathbb{R})$  contains unit normal bundle  $(\frac{T\check{\mathbb{R}}^2}{\Delta(T\check{\mathbb{R}}^2)} \setminus \{0\}) / \mathbb{R}^{+*}$  to the diagonal of  $\check{\mathbb{R}}^2$ .

This bundle is canonically isomorphic to the unit tangent bundle  $U\check{\mathbb{R}}$  to  $\check{\mathbb{R}}$  via  $[x, y] \mapsto [y - x]$ .

Lemma: - Let  $\check{C}_2(\mathbb{R}) = \check{\mathbb{R}}^2 \setminus \Delta(\check{\mathbb{R}}^2)$ .  
The open manifold  $C_2(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \partial C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is  $\check{C}_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\check{C}_2(\mathbb{R}) \hookrightarrow C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a homotopy equivalence.

In particular,  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a compactification of  $\check{C}_2(\mathbb{R})$  homotopy equiv to  $\check{C}_2(\mathbb{R})$  and it has the same rational homology as a sphere  $S^2$ .

The manifold  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a smooth compact 6-manifold with boundaries and ridges. There is a canonical smooth proj.

$$p_{\mathbb{R}^2}: C_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\partial C_2(\mathbb{R}) = p_{\mathbb{R}^2}^{-1}(\infty, \infty) \cup (S_{\infty}^2 \times \mathbb{R}) \cup (-\mathbb{R} \times S_{\infty}^2) \cup \cup \mathbb{R}$$

Proof Let  $B_{1,\infty}$  be the complement of open ball of radius 1 of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  in  $S^3$ . Blowing up  $(\infty, \infty)$  in  $B_{1,\infty}$  transforms a nbd of  $(\infty, \infty)$  into a product  $[0,1) \times S^5$ .

Explicitly,

$$\psi: [0,1) \times S^5 \longrightarrow \text{Bl}(B_{1,\infty}, (\infty, \infty))$$

$$(\lambda, (x \neq 0, y \neq 0) \in S^5 \subset (\mathbb{R}^3)^2) \mapsto \left( \lambda \frac{1}{\|x\|^2} x, \lambda \frac{1}{\|y\|^2} y \right)$$

$$(\lambda, (0, y \neq 0) \in S^5 \subset (\mathbb{R}^3)^2) \mapsto$$

$$\left( \infty, \frac{1}{\lambda \|y\|^2} \right)$$

$$\left( \lambda, (x \neq 0, 0) \right) \mapsto \left( \frac{1}{\lambda \|x\|^2} x, \infty \right)$$

which is a diffeomorphism onto its open image.

The explicit image of  $(\lambda \in (0, 1), (x \neq 0, y \neq 0) \in S^5 \subset (\mathbb{R}^3)^2)$  is written as  $(\overset{\circ}{B}_{1, \infty} \setminus \{ \infty \} )^2 \subset BL(\overset{\circ}{B}_{1, \infty}^2, (\infty, \infty))$  where  $(\overset{\circ}{B}_{1, \infty} \setminus \{ \infty \} ) \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ .

The image of  $\psi$  is a nbd of the preimage of  $(\infty, \infty)$  under the blowdown map  $BL(\mathbb{R}^2, (\infty, \infty)) \xrightarrow{p_1} \mathbb{R}^2$

This nbd respectively intersects  $\infty \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{R} \times \infty$  and  $\Delta(\check{\mathbb{R}}^2)$  as  $\psi((0, 1) \times 0 \times S^2)$ ,  $\psi((0, 1) \times S^2 \times 0)$  and  $\Delta(\check{\mathbb{R}}^2)$  in  $BL(\mathbb{R}^2, (\infty, \infty))$  intersect

the boundary  $\Psi(0 \times S^5)$  of  $BL(\mathbb{R}^1, (\infty, \infty))$  as the disjoint spheres in  $S^5$  and form  $\infty \times BL(\mathbb{R}, \infty)$ ,  $BL(\mathbb{R}, \infty) \times \infty$  and  $\Delta(BL(\mathbb{R}, \infty)^2)$ .

These blow ups preserves the product structure  $\Psi([0, 1) \times \_)$ .

Thus,  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a smooth compact 6-manifold with boundary, with 3 ridges  $S^2 \times S^2$  in  $pr_2^{-1}(\infty)$ .

A nbd of these ridges in  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a diffeomorphism to  $[0, 1)^2 \times S^2 \times S^2$ .

Defn Let  $\tau_S$  denote the standard parallelization of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

By a parallelization

$$\tau : \overset{\cup}{\mathbb{R}} \times \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow T\overset{\cup}{\mathbb{R}}$$

of  $\overset{\cup}{\mathbb{R}}$  that coincide with  $\tau_S$  on  $\overset{\circ}{B}_{2, \infty} \setminus \frac{1}{2} \infty \frac{1}{2}$  is asymptotically

standard.

Proposition:- For any asymptotically standard parallelization  $\rho$  of  $\check{\mathbb{R}}$

$\exists$  a smooth map  $p_2: \partial C_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow S^2$  st

$$p_2 = \begin{cases} p_{S^2} & \text{on } p_{p_2}^{-1}(\infty) \\ -p_\infty \circ p_1 & \text{on } S_\infty^2 \times \check{\mathbb{R}} \\ p_\infty \circ p_2 & \text{on } \check{\mathbb{R}} \times B_\infty^2 \\ p_2 & \text{on } \check{\mathbb{R}} \cup \mathbb{R} \times S^2. \end{cases}$$

where  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  denotes the first & second proj.

$\therefore C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is homotopy equiv to  $(\check{\mathbb{R}}^2 \setminus \Delta(\check{\mathbb{R}}^2))$

$\Rightarrow H_2(C_2(\mathbb{R}); \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}[S]$  where

the canonical generator  $[S]$  is the homology class of fiber of

$$u\mathbb{R} \subset \partial C_2(\mathbb{R}).$$

For two component links  $(J, K)$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , the homology class  $[J \times K]$  of  $J \times K$  in  $H_2(C_2(\mathbb{R}); \mathbb{Q})$  is  $lk(J, K)[S]$ .

Defn :- An asymptotic rational homology  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a pair  $(\check{R}, \alpha)$  where  $\check{R}$  is a 3-manifold which is the union of  $(1, 2] \times S^2$  of a rational homology ball  $B_R$  and the complement  $\mathring{B}_{1, \infty} \setminus \mathbb{R}^3$  of the unit ball of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\alpha$  is the asymptotical standard parallelization of  $\check{R}$ .

Defn :- A volume 1-form of  $S^2$  is a 2-form  $\omega_S$  of  $S^2$  st  $\int_S \omega_S = 1$

Defn :- A propagating chain of  $(C_2(\mathbb{R}), \mathcal{C})$  is a 4-chain  $P$  of  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  st  $\partial P = p_2^{-1}(a)$  for  $a \in S^2$ .

Defn :- A propagating form of  $(C_2(\mathbb{R}), \mathcal{C})$  is a closed 2-form  $\omega$  on  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  whose restriction to  $\partial C_2(\mathbb{R})$  is  $p_2^*(\omega_S)$  for some volume 1 form  $\omega_S$  of  $S^2$ .

Note :- Propagating chains & propagating forms will be called just propagators!

Lemma :- Let  $(\check{R}, \mathcal{C})$  be an asymptotic (rational) homology  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a 2-cycle of  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$ . For any propagating chains  $P$  of  $(C_2(\mathbb{R}), \mathcal{C})$  transverse to  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $n$

for any propagating forms  $\omega$  of  $(\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R}), \alpha)$

$$[\omega] = \int_C \omega = \langle C, P \rangle_{\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R})} [\omega]$$

in  $H_2(\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R}); \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}[\omega]$ .

In particular for any two component link  $(J, K)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$lk(J, K) = \int_{J \times K} \omega = \langle J \times K, P \rangle_{\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R})}$$

Proof:- Fix a propagating chain  $P$ , the algebraic intersection  $\langle C, P \rangle_{\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R})}$  only depends on the homology class  $[C]$  of  $C$  in  $\mathbb{C}_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

Similarly,  $\because \omega$  is closed,  $\int_C \omega$  only depends on  $[C]$ .

Further, the dependence on  $[C]$  is linear!

$m \dots 0$  then



$\therefore$  It suffices to check for the lemma for a chain that represents the canonical generator  $[e]$  of  $H_2(C_2(\mathbb{R}); \mathbb{Q})$ .

Any fiber  $U\tilde{R}$  is such a chain.

Defn :- A propagating form  $\omega$  of  $(C_2\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  is homogeneous if its restriction to  $\partial C_2\mathbb{R}$  is  $p_z^*(\omega_{S^2})$  for the homogeneous volume form  $\omega_{S^2}$  of  $S^2$  of total volume 1.

Let  $\tau$  be the involution of  $C_2(\mathbb{R})$  that exchanges two coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \Delta(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

Lemma:- If  $\omega_0$  is a propagating form of  $(C_2(\mathbb{R}), \mathbb{R})$ , then  $(-\tau^*(\omega_0))$  and  $\omega = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_0 - \tau^*(\omega_0))$  are propagating forms of  $(C_2(\mathbb{R}), \mathbb{R})$ . Further,  $\tau^*(\omega_0) = -\omega$  and if  $\omega_0$

is homogeneous  $\Rightarrow (-\iota^*(\omega_0))$  and  
 $\omega = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_0 - \iota^*(\omega_0))$  are homogeneous.

Proof: -

There is a volume 1-form of  $S^2$   
st  $\omega_0|_{\partial C_2(\mathbb{R})} = \iota_2^*(\omega_S)$

st  $(-\iota^*(\omega_0))|_{\partial C_2(\mathbb{R})} = \iota_2^*(-\iota_{S^2}^*(\omega_S))$

where  $\iota_{S^2}$  is the antipodal map

which sends  $x$  to  $\iota_{S^2}(x) = -x$

and  $(-\iota_{S^2}^*(\omega_S))$  is a volume 1-form  
0 12