

# Global Analysis of Locally Symmetric Spaces with Indefinite-Metric

## Lecture 1 Local to Global in Non-Riemannian Geometry

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# Global Analysis of Locally Symmetric Spaces with Indefinite Metric

## Plan

### Lecture 1

Local to Global in Non-Riemannian Geometry (1/1)

### Lecture 2

Properness criterion and its quantification (1/2)

### Lecture 3

Global Analysis on Locally Symmetric Spaces  
Beyond the Riemannian Case (1/3)

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### Lecture 1

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- Introduction to pseudo-Riemannian space forms
- Construction/Obstruction of compact quotients  $\Gamma \backslash X$
- Digression

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## Local to global in Riemannian geometry

The study “from local to global in Riemannian geometry” has been a major trend in geometry since the 20th century with remarkable developments.

As a warming up, one may recall one of classic theorems by Bonnet and Myers:

Example (Myers 1941) A complete Riemannian manifold with Ricci curvature  $\geq c (> 0)$  is compact.

How about “local to global” in pseudo-Riemannian geometry such as Lorentzian geometry?

## Reminder : pseudo-Riemannian manifold

Definition A pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(X, g)$  is a manifold equipped with non-degenerate bilinear form

$$g_x: T_x X \times T_x X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (x \in X)$$

depending smoothly on  $x \in X$ .

The signature  $(p, q)$  of  $g_x$  is locally constant.

$(X, g)$  is a Riemannian manifold if  $q = 0$ ,  
a Lorentzian manifold if  $q = 1$ .

- The Laplacian  $\Delta$  is a second-order differential operator on  $X$  defined by

$$\Delta = \operatorname{div} \circ \operatorname{grad}.$$

This is not an elliptic differential operator if  $g$  is indefinite.

## Homogeneous pseudo-Riemannian manifold

Proposition 1 Let  $G \supset H$  be a pair of real reductive Lie groups.

$\rightsquigarrow$   $X = G/H$  carries a pseudo-Riemannian structure

such that  $G$  acts **isometrically** on  $G/H$ .

Sketch of Proof For simplicity, suppose  $G$  is semisimple. We write  $\mathfrak{g} \supset \mathfrak{h}$  for the Lie algebras of  $G \supset H$ , respectively.

- $\rightsquigarrow$  The Killing form  $B$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is non-degenerate. Moreover, its restriction to  $\mathfrak{h}$  is also non-degenerate.
- $\rightsquigarrow$   $B$  induces an  $H$ -invariant non-degenerate bilinear form on the tangent space  $T_o(G/H) \simeq \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h}$ .
- $\rightsquigarrow$  Its  $G$ -translation gives the desired pseudo-Riemannian structure.

Example Let  $X = G/H$  with  $(G, H) = (O(p+1, q), O(p, q))$ .

The induced pseudo-Riemannian structure is of signature  $(q, p)$ .

## The Calabi–Markus phenomenon (1962)

In contrast to the Bonnet–Myers theorem in Riemannian geometry, global features of pseudo-Riemannian manifolds are quite mysterious:

Theorem A (Calabi–Markus, 1962\*)  
Any de Sitter manifold is non-compact.

de Sitter mfd = Lorentzian manifold with sectional curvature  $\equiv 1$

This is an example of **space form** (the  $q = 1$  case in the next slide) for pseudo-Riemannian geometry.

\* E. Calabi–L. Markus, Relativistic space forms, Ann. Math., 75, (1962), 63–76.

## Space forms in pseudo-Riemannian geometry (definition)

$(M, g)$  : pseudo-Riemannian manifold of signature  $(p, q)$ ,  
geodesically complete.

Definition\*  $(M, g)$  is a space form  
 $\iff$  sectional curvature  $\kappa$  is constant

Model space of space form

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_{p+q+1}) : \sum_{i=1}^{p+1} x_i^2 - \sum_{j=1}^q y_j^2 = 1\}$$

in  $\mathbb{R}^{p+1, q} = (\mathbb{R}^{p+q+1}, dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_{p+1}^2 - dy_1^2 - \dots - dy_q^2)$   
has a pseudo-Riemannian structure of signature  $(p, q)$  with  $\kappa \equiv 1$ .

The space is identified with  $O(p+1, q)/O(p, q)$ .

\* J. A. Wolf, Spaces of Constant Curvature, 6th ed. AMS, 2011



## Curvature in pseudo-Riemannian manifold

Remark The change of signature

|          |                        |                             |
|----------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
|          | $(M, g)$               | $\rightsquigarrow (M, -g)$  |
| switches | the signature $(p, q)$ | $\rightsquigarrow (q, p),$  |
|          | the curvature $\kappa$ | $\rightsquigarrow -\kappa.$ |

Example The space form

$$O(p+1, q)/O(p, q) \simeq \{(x_1, \dots, x_{p+q+1}) : \sum_{i=1}^p x_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^q y_i^2 = 1\}$$

has a pseudo-Riemannian structure of signature  $(p, q)$  with  $\kappa \equiv 1$



has a pseudo-Riemannian structure of signature  $(q, p)$  with  $\kappa \equiv -1$

## Space forms (examples)

Space form ...

{ Signature  $(n - q, q)$  of pseudo-Riemannian metric  
{ Curvature  $\kappa \in \{+, 0, -\}$

Example  $q = 0$  (Riemannian manifold)

sphere  $S^n$

$\mathbb{R}^n$

hyperbolic sp

$\kappa > 0$

$\kappa = 0$

$\kappa < 0$

$O(n + 1)/O(n)$

$O(n, 1)/O(n)$

Example  $q = 1$  (Lorentzian manifold)

de Sitter sp

Minkowski sp

anti-de Sitter sp

$\kappa > 0$

$\kappa = 0$

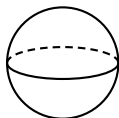
$\kappa < 0$

$O(n, 1)/O(n - 1, 1)$   $\mathbb{R}^{n-1,1}$

$O(n - 1, 2)/O(n - 1, 1)$

## 2-dim'l compact space forms

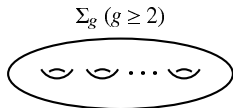
Riemannian case ( $\iff$  signature  $(2, 0)$ )



$\kappa > 0$



$\kappa = 0$



$\kappa < 0$

curvature

Lorentzian case ( $\iff$  signature  $(1, 1)$ )

—



—

curvature

$\kappa > 0$

$\kappa = 0$

$\kappa < 0$

There does NOT exist a compact form if  $\kappa > 0$  and  $\kappa < 0$

# Local to global problem in pseudo-Riemannian geometry

General Problem 1 (Space form problem\* for pseudo-Riemannian manifolds)

## Local Assumption

signature  $(p, q)$ , curvature  $\kappa \in \{+, 0, -\}$



## Global Results

- Do compact forms exist?
- What groups can arise as their fundamental groups?

\* T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces. Mathematics Unlimited — 2001 and Beyond, pages 723–747. Springer-Verlag, 2001;

TK, Conjectures on reductive homogeneous spaces, Lect. Notes in Math. **2313**, 217–231, Springer, 2023.

## Formulation in group language (special case)

Uniformization theorem\*: Any complete pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $M$  of signature  $(q, p)$  with  $\kappa \equiv -1$  and  $p \neq 1$  is of the form

$$\Gamma \backslash G/H$$

where  $G = O(p+1, q)$ ,  $H = O(p, q)$ , and  $\Gamma$  is a discrete subgroup of  $G$  such that  $\Gamma$  acts properly discontinuously and freely on  $G/H$ .

Example (Klein–Poincaré–Koebe)

$(p, q) = (0, 2)$ . Set  $\Gamma := \pi_1(\Sigma_g)$ .

$$\mathbb{H} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im } z > 0\} \simeq SO(1, 2)/O(2)$$

↓ covering

$$\Sigma_g = \left( \text{Diagram of a genus } g \text{ surface} \right) (g \geq 2) \simeq \frac{\pi_1(\Sigma_g) \backslash \mathbb{H}}{\text{surface group}}$$

\* J. A. Wolf, Spaces of Constant Curvature, 6th ed. AMS, 2011

## Generalities: Proper action & properly discontinuous action

We recall a continuous action  $L \curvearrowright X$  is called proper if

$$L \times X \rightarrow X \times X. \quad (g, x) \mapsto (x, gx)$$

is a proper map, *i.e.*, the full inverse of a compact set is compact.

A properly discontinuous action is a proper action if  $L$  is a discrete group.

General Problem 2 Find a (useful) properness criterion for the action of a subgroup  $L$  on  $X = G/H$ .

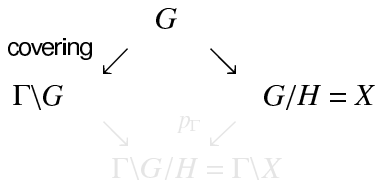
We shall discuss this problem in the second lecture (Jan. 2nd).

**Definition: Discontinuous group  $\Gamma$  for  $X = G/H$**

Setting       $\Gamma$     $\subset$     $G$     $\supset$     $H$   
discrete      Lie group      closed subgroup

## Definition: Discontinuous group $\Gamma$ for $X = G/H$

Setting      $\Gamma$  discrete      $\subset$       $G$  Lie group      $\supset$       $H$  closed subgroup

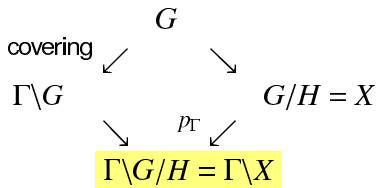


- $\Gamma \backslash G$  and  $X = G/H$  are  $C^\infty$  manifolds.



## Definition: Discontinuous group $\Gamma$ for $X = G/H$

Setting     $\Gamma$  discrete  $\subset$   $G$  Lie group  $\supset$   $H$  closed subgroup

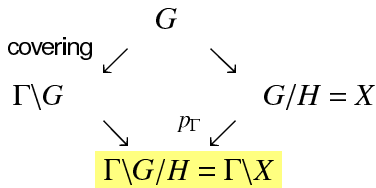


- $\Gamma \backslash G$  and  $X = G/H$  are  $C^\infty$  manifolds.
- The quotient  $\Gamma \backslash X = \Gamma \backslash G/H$  is not necessarily Hausdorff.

**It** becomes a Hausdorff  $C^\infty$  manifold with  $p_\Gamma$  being a covering, if  $\Gamma$  acts properly discontinuously and freely on  $X$ .

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Definition    Such  $\Gamma$  is called a discontinuous group for  $X$ .

## Global properties of space forms $\kappa \equiv -1$ , signature $(q, p)$

Theorem A'<sup>\*,\*\*</sup> Let  $G/H = O(p+1, q)/O(p, q)$ .

- (1) (Calabi–Markus phenomenon)  $G/H$  admits an infinite discontinuous group if and only if  $p < q$ .
- (2) If  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group, then either  $pq = 0$  or “ $p < q$  and  $q$  is even”.
- (3)  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group for  $(p, q)$  below.

|     |              |              |               |               |   |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| $p$ | $\mathbb{N}$ | 0            | 1             | 3             | 7 |
| $q$ | 0            | $\mathbb{N}$ | $2\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | 8 |

\* Calabi–Markus (1962), Wolf (1962), Kulkarni (1981), Kobayashi (1996), Tholozan (2015), Morita (2017).

\*\* T. Kobayashi, Conjectures on reductive homogeneous spaces, Lect. Notes Math. **2313**, 217–231, Springer, 2023.

## Basic question on discontinuous groups for $G/H$

Let  $G \supset H$  be a pair of real reductive (linear) groups

$\rightsquigarrow X = G/H$  has a  $G$ -invariant (pseudo-) Riemannian structure.

General Problem 3\* Which homogeneous space  $G/H$  admits ‘large’ discontinuous groups  $\Gamma$  with the following properties?

- 1)  $\#\Gamma = \infty$ ;
- 2) co-compact (or co-volume finite);
- 3) “deformable”/ “rigid”.

- The first problem (Calabi–Markus phenomenon 1962) is solved in the reductive case (K- 1989). We shall discuss the general idea together with the third problem in the second lecture.
- The second problem is open, but has fruitful progress over the decades.

\* **Problems A, B, C** in T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces. **Mathematics**

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## Existence problem for compact quotients $\Gamma \backslash X$ of $X = G/H$

- Arithmetic groups of  $G$  (remarks).
- Construction
  - standard quotients.
- Obstruction
  - various methods and examples.

## $\Gamma \backslash G/H$ is not Hausdorff if $\Gamma$ is an arithmetic subgp of $G$ .

- Borel–Harish-Chandra, Mostow–Tamagawa

For a linear semisimple Lie group  $G$ , one can define arithmetic subgroups  $\Gamma$  of  $G$  (e.g.,  $\Gamma = SL(n, \mathbb{Z})$  in  $G = SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ )

- $\text{vol}(\Gamma \backslash G) < \infty$  for any arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$ ,
  - $\exists \Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma \backslash G$  is compact (Borel 1962).
- 
- Suppose  $H$  is a non-compact subgroup of  $G$  and  $H \neq G$ .

One should remark that the quotient topology of  $\Gamma \backslash G/H$  never becomes Hausdorff if  $\Gamma$  is an arithmetic subgroup.

## Idea of “standard quotient” $\Gamma \backslash G/H$

$\Gamma$        $\subset$        $G$        $\supset$        $H$   
discrete    reductive Lie gp    reductive subgp

Difficulties  $\Gamma \backslash G/H$  is not always Hausdorff.



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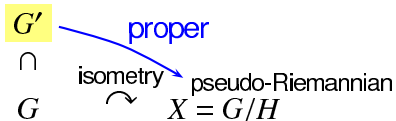
Difficulties  $\Gamma \backslash G/H$  is not always Hausdorff.

$G$       isometry      pseudo-Riemannian  
     $\curvearrowright$        $X = G/H$

## Idea of “standard quotient” $\Gamma \backslash G/H$

$\Gamma$        $\subset$        $G$        $\supset$        $H$   
 discrete      reductive Lie gp      reductive subgp

Difficulties  $\Gamma \backslash G/H$  is not always Hausdorff.



Idea 1 Find a reductive subgp  $G'$  acting properly on  $X$ .

Such  $G'$  can be detected by properness criterion\* (2nd lecture).

\* T. Kobayashi, Proper action on a homogeneous space of reductive type, Math. Ann. (1989).

## Idea of “standard quotient” $\Gamma \backslash G/H$

$\Gamma$      $\subset$      $G$      $\supset$      $H$   
 discrete    reductive Lie gp    reductive subgp

Difficulties  $\Gamma \backslash G/H$  is not always Hausdorff.

$\Gamma \subset G'$      $\searrow$  proper  
 $\cap$     isometry    pseudo-Riemannian  
 $G$      $\curvearrowright$      $X = G/H$

Idea 1 Find a reductive subgp  $G'$  acting properly on  $X$ .

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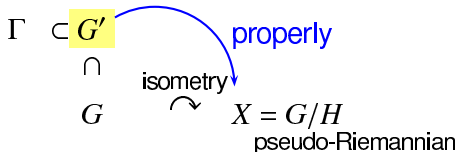
Idea 2 Take a torsion-free discrete subgp  $\Gamma$  inside  $G'$ .

Definition The resulting  $C^\infty$ -manifold  $\Gamma \backslash X = \Gamma \backslash G/H$  is called a standard quotient of  $X = G/H$ .

\* T. Kobayashi, Proper action on a homogeneous space of reductive type, Math. Ann. (1989).

## Construction: Standard quotients $\Gamma \backslash X = \Gamma \backslash G/H$

Let  $G \supset H$  be a pair of real reductive Lie groups, and  $X := G/H$ .



Theorem B (standard quotient)  $X = G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group if there exists a reductive subgroup  $G'$  acting properly and cocompactly on  $X$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  List\* of standard compact quotients  $\Gamma \backslash X$  (1989–2005\*).  
Some exhaustion results \*\* by Tojo, Bocheński–Tralle, . . . .

\* T. Kobayashi, Math. Ann. (1989); TK, Euro School, 1996; TK–Yoshino, PAMQ (2005) for the list;

\*\* Tojo (PJA 2019; preprint), Bocheński–Tralle, for classification.

## Examples of compact standard quotients

- By Theorem B, one finds **several families** of non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces  $G/H$  and finitely many sporadic ones that admit cocompact/co-volume finite discontinuous groups\*\*.

Example\* There exists a 15-dim'l compact manifold having pseudo-Riemannian signature  $(8,7)$  with sect. curvature  $-1$ .

Proof Take  $L := Spin(8, 1) \hookrightarrow G = O(8, 8) \curvearrowright X = O(8, 8)/O(8, 7)$ .  
 $L$  acts properly on  $X$ , and  $d(L) + d(H) = 8 + 56 = 64 = d(G)$ .  $\square$

Example\*\* There exists a 7-dimensional compact complex manifold modelled on  $SO(8, \mathbb{C})/SO(7, \mathbb{C})$ .

Proof. Take  $L := Spin(7, 1)$ .

\* T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups and Clifford-Klein forms ..., Academic Press 1966, pp. 99–165.

\*\* T. Kobayashi–T. Yoshino, PAMQ (2005) for the list; K. Tojo, PJA (2019), Bocheński–Tralle, for the exhaustion.

## Global properties of Space forms $\kappa \equiv -1$ , signature $(q, p)$

Theorem A'\* (reminder) Let  $G/H = O(p+1, q)/O(p, q)$ .

- (1) (Calabi–Markus phenomenon, Thm. A)  $G/H$  admits an infinite discontinuous group if and only if  $p < q$ .
- (2) If  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group, then either  $pq = 0$  or “ $p < q$  and  $q$  is even”.
- (3)  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group for  $(p, q)$  below.

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Conjecture ([K01, Conj. 2.6]\*\*) The converse of (3) holds.

\* Calabi–Markus (1962), Wolf (1962), Kulkarni (1981), Kobayashi (1996), Tholozan (2015), Morita (2017).

\*\* T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces, Mathematics Unlimited — 2001 and Beyond, pages 723–747, Springer-Verlag, 2001.

## Existence problem for cocompact $\Gamma \curvearrowright G/H$

For more general geometry, we ask which homogeneous space  $G/H$  admits a “large” discontinuous group  $\Gamma$ .

$$\underset{\text{local}}{G/H} \rightarrow \underset{\text{global}}{\Gamma \backslash G/H}.$$

- Standard construction for compact quotients (Theorem B),
- Obstructions for the existence of compact quotients  
Various approaches including
  - properness criterion, sharpness (2nd lecture).
  - cohomological obstructions (e.g., characteristic classes)\*,
  - cohomological dimension (today),
  - unitary representation, (today),
  - ergodic theory,
  - geometric group theory,  $G/H \supset K/H \cap K, \dots$ , (Morita’s talk).

\* T. Kobayashi–Ono, Hirzebruch’s proportionality principle (1990); Morita, (Ph.D. thesis, 2017), Tholozan, ....

## Naïve ideas for finding obstructions for compact quotients

- Numerical formulation of “non-compactness”?
  - Using cohomologies  $\rightsquigarrow$  Theorem C
    - ... e.g., ‘non-compactness dimension’ of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  or  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - Using unitary representations  $\rightsquigarrow$  Theorem D
    - ... topology  $\rightsquigarrow$  measure theory
    - e.g., volume estimates rather than compactness, etc.



## Cohomological dimension $\text{cd}(\Gamma)$

Consider  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^k \curvearrowright X = \mathbb{R}^n$       affine action

### Elementary observation

- (1) If  $\mathbb{Z}^k$  acts properly discontinuously on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $k \leq n$ .
- (2) Furthermore,  $\mathbb{Z}^k$  acts cocompactly on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if  $k = n$ .

- What does  $k$  mean in  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^k$ ? Use cohomology of groups.
- What does  $n$  mean in  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ ? (next slide)

### Definition (cohomological dimension of group)

For an abstract group  $\Gamma$ , one defines

$\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma) :=$  the projective dimension of  $\mathbb{R}$  as the trivial  $\mathbb{R}[\Gamma]$ -module  
 $= \sup\{n \in \mathbb{N} : H^n(\Gamma; A) \neq 0 \text{ for some left } \mathbb{R}[\Gamma]\text{-module } A\}.$

Example     $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbb{Z}^k) = k,$   
                   $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\pi_1(\Sigma_g)) = 2.$

## Cocompactness criterion for $\Gamma \curvearrowright G/H$

$K$  : maximal compact subgroup of a connected reductive Lie group  $G$ .

$d(G) := \dim G - \dim K$  (“non-compactness dimension”).

$d(G) - d(H) \cdots$  “non-compactness dimension”<sup>\*\*</sup> of  $G/H$

**Theorem C<sup>\*\*</sup>** Let  $H$  be a reductive subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose  $\Gamma$  is a discontinuous group for  $G/H$ . Then one has

- (1)  $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma) \leq d(G) - d(H)$ .
- (2)  $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma) = d(G) - d(H) \iff \Gamma \backslash G/H$  is compact.

Use Serre's spectral sequence\* for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G/H \simeq K \times_{H \cap K} \mathbb{R}^{d(G)-d(H)} & \approx & K/H \cap K \\ \downarrow & & \text{homotopic} \\ \Gamma \backslash G/H & & \end{array}$$

where  $K$  is chosen s.t.  $H \cap K$  is a maximal compact subgp in  $H$ .

\* J. P. Serre, Cohomologie des groupes discretes, Annals of Math. Studies, 1971;

\*\* Kobayashi, Proper action on homogeneous spaces of reductive type, Math. Ann. (1989), 249–263.

## Cocompactness criterion for $L \curvearrowright G/H$ (continuous analog)

$d(G) := \dim G - \dim K$  (“non-compactness dimension” of  $G$ ).

$d(G) - d(H) \cdots$  “non-compactness dimension” of  $G/H$ .

Theorem 2 Let  $H$  be a reductive subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose  $\Gamma$  is

a torsion-free discontinuous gp for  $G/H$ .

(1)  $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma) \leq d(G) - d(H)$ .

(2)  $\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma) = d(G) - d(H) \iff \Gamma \backslash G/H$  is compact.

⋈ discrete  $\Gamma \rightsquigarrow$  continuous  $L$

Theorem C’\* Let  $H$  be a reductive subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose  $L$  is a reductive subgroup of  $G$  acting properly on  $G/H$ . Then one has

(1)  $d(L) \leq d(G) - d(H)$ .

(2)  $d(L) = d(G) - d(H) \iff L \backslash G/H$  is compact.

\* Kobayashi, Proper action on homogeneous spaces of reductive type, Math. Ann. (1989).

## Cohomological obstruction to cocompact discount gp

Let  $H \sim H' \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} H \subset SH'S$  and  $H' \subset SHS$  ( $\exists$  compact set  $S \subset G$ )

**Theorem D\*** (non-existence) If there exists  $H' \subset G$  such that  
 $H \sim H'$  and  $d(H) < d(H')$ ,  
then  $G/H$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous group  $\Gamma$ .

**Proof** If such  $\Gamma$  existed,  $\Gamma$  would be a discontinuous group also for  $G/H'$  because  $H \sim H'$ . This would be a contradiction since

$$\underbrace{\text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma)}_{\text{Thm C}'} = \underbrace{d(G) - d(H)}_{\text{Thm C}'} > \underbrace{d(G) - d(H')}_{\text{Thm C}} \geq \text{cd}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma).$$

□

**Example (1990)\*\***  $(G, H) = (SL(3, \mathbb{C}), SL(2, \mathbb{C}))$

Take  $H' = SU(2, 1)$ . Then  $H \sim H'$  and  $d(H') = 4 > d(H) = 3$ .

$\Rightarrow SL(3, \mathbb{C})/SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous gp.

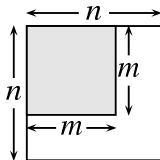
## Conjecture for non-existence of compact $\Gamma \backslash SL(n)/H$

Conjecture (K-)\* Let  $G = SL(n, \mathbb{F})$  ( $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ ), and  $H (\subsetneq G)$  be any non-compact reductive subgroup. Then  $G/H$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous group.

This is unsolved even when  $H$  is simple such as  $SL(m, \mathbb{F})$ .

Example  $H = \text{Image of a group hom } \tau: SL(m, \mathbb{F}) \rightarrow SL(n, \mathbb{F})$ .  
Among various choices of  $\tau$ , special cases include:

1)  $\tau$ : standard representation (not irreducible).

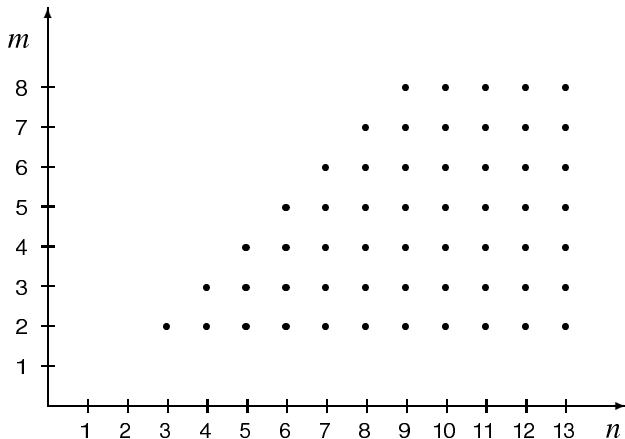


2)  $\tau$ :  $n$ -dimensional irreducible representation.

\* Special case of Conjecture 4.3 in T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces.

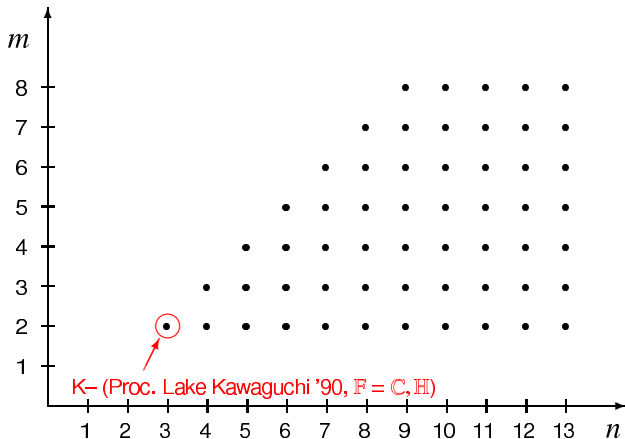
## Example 1. Nonexistence of Compact quotients for $SL(n)/SL(m)$

Conjecture has been proved for the standard rep  $\tau$ :



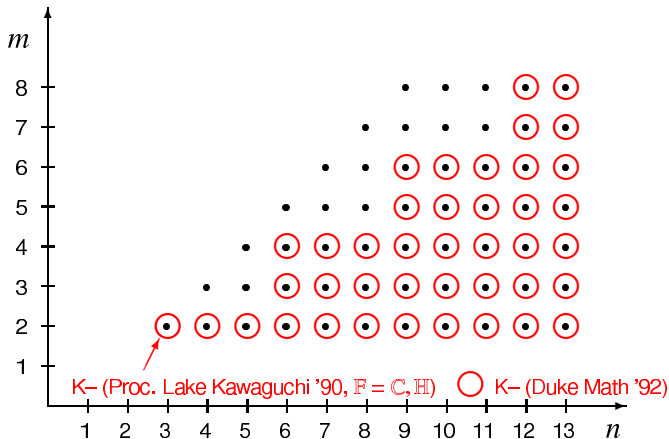
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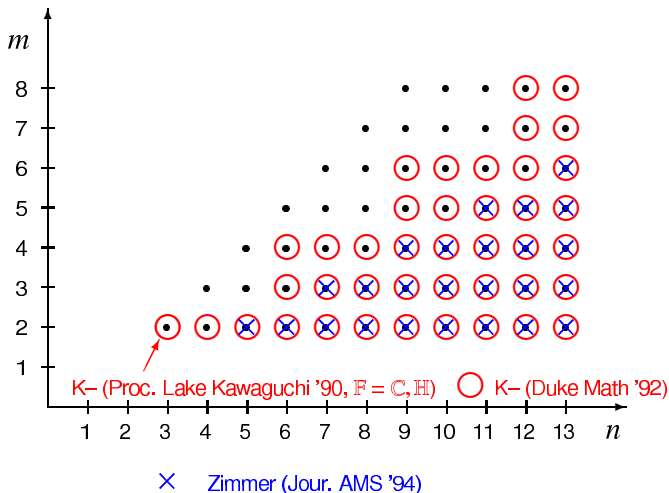
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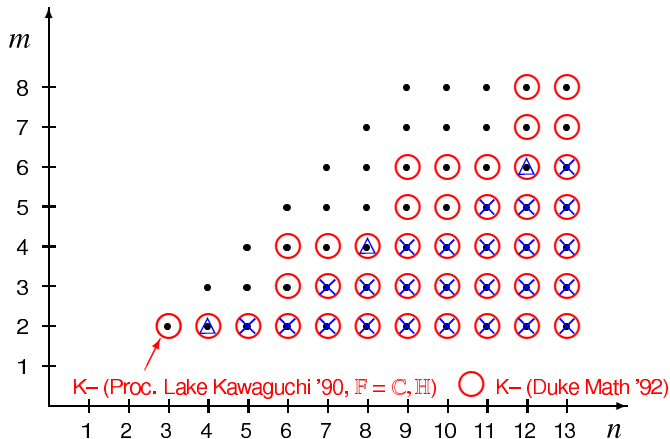
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## Example 1. Nonexistence of Compact quotients for $SL(n)/SL(m)$

Conjecture has been proved for the standard rep  $\tau$ :











## Non-existence of compact quotient $\Gamma \backslash SL(n, \mathbb{F})/H$

Conjecture (K-)\* Let  $G = SL(n, \mathbb{F})$  ( $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ ), and  
 $H (\subseteq G)$  be any non-compact reductive subgroup. Then  
 $G/H$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous group.

Conjecture is true in the setting where  
 $H = SL(m, \mathbb{F})$  and  $\tau: H \hookrightarrow G$  is the standard embedding.

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| K-                                       | critereon of proper actions<br>+ cohomological dimension | $n > 3\lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil$<br>(Theorem C) |
| Zimmer                                   | orbit closure thm (Ratner)                               | $n > 2m$ (alternative proof)                    |
| Labourier–Mozes–Zimmer, Labourier–Zimmer | ergodic action   | $n \geq 2m \rightsquigarrow n \geq m + 3$       |
| Benoist                                  | critereon of proper actions                              | $n = m + 1, m$ even                             |
| Shalom                                   | unitary representation                                   | $n \geq 4, m = 2$ (alternative)                 |
| Kassel–Morita–Tholozan                   |  |   |
| Kassel–Tholozan                          |  | $n > m$   |

## Example 2: Non-existence of compact quotients for $SL(n)/H$

Conjecture (K-)\* Let  $G = SL(n, \mathbb{F})$  ( $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ ), and  $H (\subseteq G)$  be any non-compact reductive subgroup. Then  $G/H$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous group.

In another special setting where  $H$  acts irreducibly on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , Conjecture is open, but has found some evidence ([Theorem D](#), below).

The first example in this setting is due to Margulis (1997)\* for  $H = SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ . He used a concept “measurably proper action”, a weaker notion of “proper action”.

\* G. A. Margulis, Existence of compact quotients of homogeneous spaces, measurably proper actions, and decay of matrix coefficients, *Bull. Soc. Math. France* **125** (1997), 447–456.



## Compact-like geometric/linear actions

Geometric actions on topological space  $M$

$L \curvearrowright M$     proper actions  
 $L$  behaves nicely in  $\text{Homeo}(M)$   
as if it were a compact group.

Linear actions on Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$

$L \curvearrowright \mathcal{H}$     ?  
 $L$  behaves nicely in  $U(\mathcal{H})$  (unitary operators)  
as if it were a compact group.

How to capture a candidate for the property “?”

{ decay conditions of matrix coefficients (Margulis '97)    ... today  
{ discrete decomposability (TK- '94, '98, 2017)    ... 3rd lecture

**Finite-dim rep**  $\tau: \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \text{End}(V) \rightsquigarrow p_V > 0$

An approach to quantify “properness” of the linear action  $H \curvearrowright V$  is given by a number  $p_V > 0$  as below.

Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be a Lie algebra, and  $\mathfrak{a}$  its max split abelian subspace. For a finite-dimensional rep  $\tau: \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V)$ , we introduce\*

$$p_V := \max_{Y \in \mathfrak{a} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\sum |\text{eigenvalues of } \text{ad}(Y) \text{ in } \text{End}(\mathfrak{h})|}{\sum |\text{eigenvalues of } \tau(Y) \text{ in } \text{End}(V)|}$$

Some table of  $p_V$  can be found in Benoist–TK (2022)\*.

\* Y. Benoist–T. Kobayashi, Tempered homogeneous spaces III, J. Lie Theory **31** (2022), 833–869.

## Obstruction from unitary reps and $p_V$

Theorem D\* Let  $G := SL(n, \mathbb{R})$  and  $H$  a reductive subgroup. Then  $G/H$  does not admit a cocompact discontinuous group if  $p_V < 1$ .

Here  $p_V$  is defined for the natural rep of  $H$  on  $V := \mathbb{R}^n$  via  $H \hookrightarrow G$ . This gives an evidence for Conjecture in “generic cases”.

Sketch of Proof.

$p_V < 1 \stackrel{*,**}{\iff} H$  is a “ $G$ -tempered subgroup”.

$\implies$  Matrix coefficients of the unitary reps of  $G$  on  $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$  decay “fast” along the subgroup  $H$

$\implies \Gamma \backslash G/H$  cannot be compact.  
Margulis

\* (to appear),

\*\* Margulis, Bull. Math. France (1997). H. Oh (1998), Y. Benoist–TK (2015).

# Global Analysis of Locally Symmetric Spaces with Indefinite Metric

## Plan

### Lecture 1

Local to Global in Non-Riemannian Geometry (1/1)

- Introduction to pseudo-Riemannian space forms
- Construction/Obstruction of compact quotients  $\Gamma \backslash X$
- Digression: “Tangential homogeneous space  $X_\theta$ ”

### Lecture 2

Properness criterion and its quantification (1/2)

### Lecture 3

Global Analysis on Locally Symmetric Spaces  
Beyond the Riemannian Case (1/3)

## Digression: 150, 100, 60 years ago ...

100 years ago      Radon–Hurwitz number (1922-1923)

-----

150 years ago      Klein's Erlangen program (1872)

60 years ago      Calabi–Markus (Ann Math 1962)  
                          Any de Sitter manifold is non-compact.  
                          Adams (Ann Math 1962)  
                          Vector fields on spheres.

## Multiplication of two quadratic forms

One has the following identities:

$$(a^2 + b^2)(x^2 + y^2) = (ax - by)^2 + (ay + bx)^2$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2) = (ay + bz)^2 + (ax + bw)^2 + (-aw + bx)^2 + (az - by)^2$$

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2) = (ay + bz + cw)^2 + (ax + bw - cz)^2 + (-aw + bx + cy)^2 + (az - by + cx)^2$$

However, no such identity exists for

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = (\text{---})^2 + (\text{---})^2 + (\text{---})^2$$

bilinear forms on  $\{(a, b, c, \dots)\} \times \{(x, y, z, w, \dots)\}$

## Radon–Hurwitz number (1922-1923)

$$(a^2 + b^2)(x^2 + y^2) = (ax - by)^2 + (ay + bx)^2$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2) = (ay + bz)^2 + (ax + bw)^2 + (-aw + bx)^2 + (az - by)^2$$

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2) = (ay + bz + cw)^2 + (ax + bw - cz)^2 + (-aw + bx + cy)^2 + (az - by + cx)^2$$

bilinear forms on  $\{(a, b, c, \dots)\} \times \{(x, y, z, w, \dots)\}$

Question For which pairs  $(p, q)$ , does there exist a bilinear map  $f: \mathbb{R}^{p+1} \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  such that

$$\|v\| \cdot \|w\| = \|f(v, w)\| \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^{p+1}, \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^q.$$

Example Yes for  $(p, q) = (1, 2), (1, 4), (2, 4), (3, 4)$ .  
No for  $(p, q) = (2, 3)$ .

Example  $p + 1 = q \in \{1, 2, 4, 8\}$  corresponding to  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}, \mathbb{O}$ .

Observation  $(p, q)$  OK  $\Rightarrow (p', q)$  OK  $\quad \forall p' \leq p$

## Radon–Hurwitz number (1922-1923) and Adams (1962)

Definition We set

$$\varphi(p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor + \begin{cases} 0 & (p \equiv 0, 6, 7 \pmod{8}), \\ 1 & (p \equiv 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \pmod{8}). \end{cases}$$

Theorem E (Radon\* (1922), Hurwitz\* (1923), Adams\*\*\* (1962))

The following three conditions on  $(p, q)$  are equivalent:

- (i)  $\exists$  bilinear map  $f: \mathbb{R}^{p+1} \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  such that
 
$$\|v\| \cdot \|w\| = \|f(v, w)\| \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^{p+1}, \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^q.$$
- (ii)  $\exists$  bilinear map  $f: \mathbb{R}^{p+1} \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  such that
 
$$f(v, w) = 0 \text{ only if } v = 0 \text{ or } w = 0.$$
- (iii)  $q$  is a multiple of  $2^{\varphi(p)}$ .

|              |              |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |                |                |     |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|
| $p$          | 0            | 1             | 2             | 3             | 4             | 5             | 6             | 7             | 8              | 9              | 10             | ... |
| $\varphi(p)$ | 0            | 1             | 2             | 2             | 3             | 3             | 3             | 3             | 4              | 5              | 6              | ... |
| $q$          | $\mathbb{N}$ | $2\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $16\mathbb{N}$ | $32\mathbb{N}$ | $64\mathbb{N}$ | ... |

(i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii) by Radon and Hurwitz.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is a reformulation of Adams (1962).

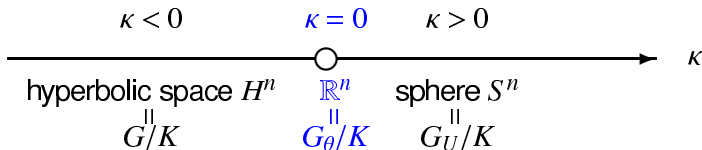
\* J. Radon, Abh. math. Sem. Hamburg **1** (1922); \*\* A. Hurwitz, Math. Ann. (1923), J. F. Adams, Ann. Math. (1962).



## Mackey analogy — from geometric viewpoints

$$G = K \exp \mathfrak{p} \rightsquigarrow G_\theta = K \ltimes \mathfrak{p} \quad (\text{Cartan motion group})$$

Example Riemannian manifold with constant sectional curvature  $\kappa$



$$G = \text{Isom}(H^n)_0 = K \exp \mathfrak{p} \simeq SO_0(n, 1)$$

change ↙

$$G_\theta = \text{Isom}(\mathbb{R}^n)_0 = K \ltimes \mathfrak{p} \simeq SO(n) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^n$$

change ↗

$$G_U = \text{Isom}(S^n)_0 = K \exp(\sqrt{-1}\mathfrak{p}) \simeq SO(n+1)$$

## Tangential homogeneous spaces $G_\theta/H_\theta$

$G \supset H$  real reductive Lie groups

$$G/H \rightsquigarrow G_\theta/H_\theta$$

easier

$G$  : real reductive linear Lie group

$\theta$  : Cartan involution,  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{p}$

$K = \{g \in G : \theta g = g\}$  maximal compact subgroup of  $G$

$G = K \exp \mathfrak{p}$

Definition (Cartan motion group  $G_\theta$ )

$$G_\theta := K \ltimes \mathfrak{p}$$

$$(k_1, X_1) \cdot (k_2, X_2) := (k_1 k_2, X_1 + \text{Ad}(k_1)X_2)$$

$\mathfrak{g}_\theta = \mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{p}$  with  $\mathfrak{p}$  abelian subalgebra.

## Existence of cocompact discontinuous group for $G_\theta/H_\theta$

$$G/H = O(p, q+1)/O(p, q) \rightsquigarrow \begin{matrix} G_\theta/H_\theta \\ \text{tangential space} \end{matrix}$$

space form

### Theorem F (2005)\*

There exists a cocompact discontinuous group for  $G_\theta/H_\theta$   
 $\iff q$  is a multiple of  $2^{\varphi(p)}$ .

$$\text{Here, } \varphi(p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor + \begin{cases} 0 & (p \equiv 0, 6, 7 \pmod{8}) \\ 1 & (p \equiv 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \pmod{8}) \end{cases}$$

|              |              |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |                |                |     |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|
| $p$          | 0            | 1             | 2             | 3             | 4             | 5             | 6             | 7             | 8              | 9              | 10             | ... |
| $\varphi(p)$ | 0            | 1             | 2             | 2             | 3             | 3             | 3             | 3             | 4              | 5              | 6              | ... |
| $q$          | $\mathbb{N}$ | $2\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $8\mathbb{N}$ | $16\mathbb{N}$ | $32\mathbb{N}$ | $64\mathbb{N}$ | ... |

\* T. Kobayashi, T. Yoshino, Pure and Appl. Math. Quarterly **1**, (2005), 603–684. Special Issue: In Memory of A. Borel.

## Global properties of Space forms $\kappa \equiv -1$ , signature $(q, p)$

Theorem A'\* (reminder) Let  $G/H = O(p+1, q)/O(p, q)$ .

- (1) (Calabi–Markus phenomenon, Thm. A)  $G/H$  admits an infinite discontinuous group if and only if  $p < q$ .
- (2) If  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group, then either  $pq = 0$  or “ $p < q$  and  $q$  is even”.
- (3)  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group for  $(p, q)$  below.

|     |              |              |               |               |   |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| $p$ | $\mathbb{N}$ | 0            | 1             | 3             | 7 |
| $q$ | 0            | $\mathbb{N}$ | $2\mathbb{N}$ | $4\mathbb{N}$ | 8 |

Conjecture ([K01, Conj. 2.6]\*\*) The converse of (3) holds.

\* Calabi–Markus (1962), Wolf (1962), Kulkarni (1981), Kobayashi (1996), Tholozan (2015), Morita (2017).

\*\* T. Kobayashi, Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces, Mathematics Unlimited — 2001 and Beyond, pages 723–747, Springer-Verlag, 2001.

# Global Analysis of Locally Symmetric Spaces with Indefinite Metric

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## Open problem: Existence problem of compact $\Gamma \backslash G/H$

Conjecture\* A reductive homogeneous space  $G/H$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group iff  $G/H$  admits a compact standard quotient.

Example An irreducible complex symmetric space  $X_{\mathbb{C}}$  admits a cocompact discontinuous group iff  $X_{\mathbb{C}} \simeq S_{\mathbb{C}}^3$  or  $S_{\mathbb{C}}^7$ .

The general theory for compact standard quotients (e.g., criterion and basic properties) may be found in [K- '89]\*\*.

Remark Even if  $G/H$  admits cocompact discontinuous groups, there may exist “non-standard ones”, too. Deformation theory initiated by Goldman et al. will be discussed in Lecture 2.

\* T. Kobayashi, [Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces](#), Mathematics Unlimited — 2001 and Beyond, 723–747. Springer-Verlag, 2001.

\*\* T. Kobayashi, Proper action on homogeneous space of reductive type, Math. Ann., 1989.

## Some evidence of Conjecture for 1990–2024

We have seen that some recent results support the conjecture:

- Results for tangential spaces  $G_\theta/H_\theta$  (e.g., Theorem F, TK–Yoshino, 2005).
- $SL(n, \mathbb{F})/SL(m, \mathbb{F})$  (standard embedding) does not admit compact quotients. This is proved by TK- '90, TK-'92, Zimmer '94, Labourie–Mozes–Zimmer '95, Benoist '96, Shalom '00, Morita '07, and Kassel–Tholozan (in preparation) by various methods.
- $SL(n, \mathbb{F})/\varphi(SL(m, \mathbb{F}))$  via irreducible rep  $\varphi$ . Margulis '97, Oh '98, TK- (Theorem D, in preparation).
- Conjecture applied to  $O(p, q + 1)/O(p, q)$  implies the converse of Theorem A' (3) is also true (the space form conjecture). Recent progress:  $q$  must be a multiple of  $2^{\varphi(p)}$  exactly as in Theorem F for  $G_\theta/H_\theta$  (announced by Kassel, Morita–Tholozan).
- $O(p_1 + p_2, q_1 + q_2)/O(p_1, q_1) \times O(p_2, q_2)$  with  $p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2 > 0$  (TK, Duke 92)

# Expository Papers and Open Problems for Lecture 1

## Expository papers

- T. Kobayashi,  
[Discontinuous groups for non-Riemannian homogeneous spaces](#),  
Mathematics Unlimited — 2001 and Beyond, pp. 723–747.  
Springer-Verlag, 2001.
- T. Kobayashi.  
[On discontinuous group actions on non-Riemannian homo spaces](#),  
Sugaku Expositions, 22, pp.1–19, 2009. Amer. Math. Soc.,  
Translation by M. Reid of the original article (Math. Soc. Japan).

## Open Problems

- T. Kobayashi, Chapter 4 in  
[Conjectures on Reductive Homogeneous Spaces](#), Mathematics  
Going Forward, Lecture Notes in Mathematics **2313**, pp. 213–231  
(2023), Springer-Nature.



## Some references for Lecture 1

For the **first half** of Lecture 1,

- T. Kobayashi, Math Ann (1989), Proc. Lake Kawaguchi (1990), Duke Math (1992), J. Geom Physics (1993), European School Lecture 1994 (Academic Press 1996).

For a **measure theoretic approach**,

- Margulis, (Bull. Math. France, 1997). H. Oh (Duke, 1998), Y. Benoist–TK (J. Euro Math, 2015).

For compact quotients of **tangential spaces**  $G_\theta/H_\theta$ .

- T. Kobayashi, T. Yoshino, Pure and Appl. Math. Quarterly **1**, (2005), 603–684. Special Issue: In Memory of A. Borel.

For **Radon–Hurwitz numbers**,

- J. Radon, Abh. math. Sem. Hamburg **1** (1922); A. Hurwitz, Math. Ann. (1923); J. F. Adams, Ann. Math. (1962).

Thank you very much for your attention!