

# Riemann-Finsler Geometry with Applications to Information Geometry

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## 1 Introduction

Information geometry has emerged from investigating the geometrical structure of a family of probability distributions, and has been applied successfully to various areas including statistical inference, control system theory and multi-terminal information theory [Am] [AmNa]. The purpose of this paper is to give a brief introduction to Information Geometry from a more general point of view using Riemann-Finsler geometry and spray geometry.

Consider a set  $\mathcal{F}$  of objects such as 2D/3D images, or probability distributions and etc. To measure the difference from one object to another in  $\mathcal{F}$ , one defines a function,  $\mathcal{D}$ , called a *divergence*, on the product space  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  with the following properties

$$\mathcal{D}(p, q) \geq 0, \quad \text{equality holds if and only if } p = q.$$

The number  $\mathcal{D}(p, q)$  measures the “divergence” of  $p$  from  $q$ . The pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$  is called a *divergence space*. To allow a great generality, the divergence  $\mathcal{D}$  is not required to satisfy the reversibility condition:  $\mathcal{D}(p, q) = \mathcal{D}(q, p)$ .

For a divergence space  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$ , the set  $\mathcal{F}$  is usually not finite-dimensional in any sense. In practice, one considers a family of objects in  $\mathcal{F}$ , parametrized in a domain of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Such a family is called a model of  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$ . More precisely, a *model* of a divergence space  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$  is an  $n$ -dimensional  $C^\infty$  manifold  $M$  as an embedded subset of  $\mathcal{F}$  with the induced divergence  $D = \mathcal{D}|_M$ . Thus, a model  $(M, D)$  itself is also a divergence space.

Below are several examples.

**Example 1.1** Let  $(\mathcal{M}, d)$  be a metric space. Then  $\mathcal{D} := \frac{1}{2}d^2$  is a divergence. This divergence is reversible, i.e.,  $\mathcal{D}(p, q) = \mathcal{D}(q, p)$ .

**Example 1.2** Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be an open subset and  $\psi = \psi(x)$  be a  $C^\infty$  function on  $\Omega$  with

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) > 0.$$

Then

$$\psi(z) - \psi(x) - (z - x)^i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x) \geq 0.$$

Define  $D : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by

$$D(x, z) := \psi(z) - \psi(x) - (z - x)^i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x). \quad (1)$$

$D$  is a divergence on  $\Omega$ .

More sophisticated examples are from other fields in natural science, such as mathematical psychology [DzCo1]-[DzCo3].

Our goal is to apply differential geometry to study *regular models* and the induced information structures. The regularity of divergence spaces and information structures will be defined in the following sections.

## 2 $f$ -divergences on probability distributions

An important class of divergence spaces come from Probability Theory.

Let  $\mathcal{X} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}, \nu)$  be a measure space, where  $\mathcal{X}$  is a set,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a completely additive class consisting  $\mathcal{X}$  and its subsets, and  $\nu$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B})$ . Let  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  be the space of probability distributions on  $\mathcal{X}$ .

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) := \left\{ p : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, \infty) \mid \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(r) dr = 1 \right\}.$$

The space  $\mathcal{P}$  is convex in the sense that

$$\lambda p + (1 - \lambda)q \in \mathcal{P}, \quad \text{if } p, q \in \mathcal{P}.$$

There is a special family of divergences on  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function with

$$f(1) = 0, \quad f''(1) = 1. \quad (2)$$

Define  $\mathcal{D}_f : \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\mathcal{D}_f(p, q) := \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(r) f\left(\frac{q(r)}{p(r)}\right) dr, \quad p = p(r), \quad q = q(r) \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (3)$$

By Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\mathcal{D}_f(p, q) \geq f\left(\int p(r) \frac{q(r)}{p(r)} dr\right) = f(1) = 0,$$

where the equality holds if and only if  $p = q$ . Thus  $\mathcal{D}_f$  is indeed a divergence on  $\mathcal{P}$ . We call  $\mathcal{D}_f$  the *f-divergence* following I. Csiszàr. The *f*-divergence plays an important role in statistics.

There is a more special family of  $f$ -divergences on  $\mathcal{P}$ . For  $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$ , let

$$f_\rho(t) := \begin{cases} \frac{4}{1-\rho^2} \left( \frac{1+t}{2} - t^{(1+\rho)/2} \right) & \text{if } \rho \neq \pm 1 \\ t \ln t & \text{if } \rho = 1 \\ \ln(1/t) & \text{if } \rho = -1. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

We have

$$f_\rho(1) = 0, \quad f'_\rho(1) = \frac{2}{\rho-1}, \quad f''_\rho(1) = 1, \quad f'''_\rho(1) = \frac{\rho-3}{2}.$$

For  $\rho = 0$ ,

$$f_0(t) = 4 \left( \frac{1+t}{2} - \sqrt{t} \right).$$

The divergence  $\mathcal{D}_0$  on  $\mathcal{P}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{D}_0(p, q) = 4 \left\{ 1 - \int \sqrt{p(r)q(r)} dr \right\} = 2 \int \left( \sqrt{p(r)} - \sqrt{q(r)} \right)^2 dr. \quad (5)$$

We see that  $d_0(p, q) := \sqrt{2\mathcal{D}_0(p, q)}$  is a distance function.  $d_0$  is called the *Hellinger distance* and  $\mathcal{D}_0 = \frac{1}{2}d_0^2$  the *Hellinger divergence*.

For  $\rho = -1$ ,

$$f_{-1}(t) = \ln(1/t).$$

The divergence  $\mathcal{D}_{-1}$  on  $\mathcal{P}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{D}_{-1}(p, q) = \int p(r) \ln \frac{p(r)}{q(r)} dr.$$

$\mathcal{D}_{-1}$  is called the *Kullback-Leibler divergence*.

### 3 Regular divergences

Before we discuss regular divergences, let us first introduce Finsler metrics and H-functions.

**Definition 3.1** *A Finsler metric on a manifold  $M$  is a scalar function  $L = L(x, y)$  on  $TM$  with the following properties:*

- (L1)  $L(x, y) \geq 0$ , and equality holds if and only if  $y = 0$ ;
- (L2)  $L(x, \lambda y) = \lambda^2 L(x, y)$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ;
- (L3)  $L(x, y)$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $TM \setminus \{0\}$ , and for any  $y \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}$ ,

$$g_{ij}(x, y) := \frac{1}{2} L_{y^i y^j}(x, y) > 0, \quad (6)$$

For a Finsler metric  $L$  on a manifold  $M$ , the function  $F_x := \sqrt{L}|_{T_x M}$  can be viewed as a norm on  $T_x M$ . Indeed, it satisfies the triangle inequality

$$F_x(u+v) \leq F_x(u) + F_x(v), \quad u, v \in T_x M.$$

But the reversibility ( $F_x(-u) = F_x(u)$ ) is not assumed.

Let  $g = g_{ij}(x)dx^i \otimes dx^j$  be a Riemannian metric as a tensor in the trational notation. Then we get a scalar function  $L$  on  $TM$

$$L = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j, \quad y = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_x.$$

By the above definition,  $L$  is a Finsler metric. Namely, Riemannian metrics are special Finsler metrics. Usually, we denote a Riemannian metric by the letter  $g = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$ . Riemannian metrics are the most important metrics and have been studied throughly in the last century.

Let  $(M, L)$  be a Finsler manifold. For a curve  $C$  parametrized by  $c = c(t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , the length of  $C$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}(C) = \int_0^1 \sqrt{L(c(t), c'(t))} dt.$$

Using the length structure, we can define a function  $d = d(p, q)$  on  $M \times M$  by

$$d(p, q) = \inf L(C),$$

where the infimum is taken over all curves from  $p$  to  $q$ . The distance function  $d$  satisfies

- (a)  $d(p, q) \geq 0$  with equality holds if and only if  $p = q$ ;
- (b)  $d(p, q) \leq d(p, r) + d(r, q)$ .

$d$  is called the *distance function* of  $L$ .

**Definition 3.2** A *H-function* on a manifold  $M$  is a scalar function  $H = H(x, y)$  on  $TM$  with the following properties:

- (H1)  $H(x, \lambda y) = \lambda^3 H(x, y)$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ .
- (H2)  $H(x, y)$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $TM \setminus \{0\}$ .

H-functions are positively homogeneous functions of degree three. There are lots of H-functions. If  $L = L(x, y)$  is a Finsler metric on a manifold  $M$ , then the following function

$$H := L(x, y)^{3/2}$$

is a H-function on  $M$ . If  $L = L(x, y)$  is a Finsler metric on an open subset  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$H := \frac{1}{2} L_{x^k}(x, y) y^k$$

is a H-function on  $\Omega$ .

Let  $d = d(p, q)$  be the distance function of a Finsler metric  $L$  on  $M$ . Let

$$D(p, q) := \frac{1}{2}d(p, q)^2, \quad p, q \in M.$$

$D$  is a divergence on  $M$ . In general, the divergence  $D$  is not  $C^\infty$  along the diagonal  $\Delta = \{(p, p) \in M \times M\}$  unless  $L$  is Riemannian. Nevertheless we have the following

**Lemma 3.3** *If  $D$  is the divergence of a Finsler metric  $L$  on a manifold  $M$ , then at any point  $p$ , there is a local coordinate system  $(U, \phi)$  in  $M$  such that*

$$2D\left(\phi^{-1}(x), \phi^{-1}(x+y)\right) = L(x, y) + \frac{1}{2}L_{x^k}(x, y)y^k + o(|y|^3). \quad (7)$$

Now we are ready to define regular divergences.

**Definition 3.4** Let  $M$  be a manifold. A divergence function  $D$  on  $M$  is said to be *regular* if in any local coordinate system  $(U, \phi)$  at any point in  $M$  (restricted to a smaller domain if necessary),

$$2D\left(\phi^{-1}(x), \phi^{-1}(x+y)\right) = L(x, y) + P(x, y) + o(|y|^3), \quad (8)$$

where  $L = L(x, y)$  is a Finsler metric on  $U$  and  $P = P(x, y)$  is a  $C^\infty$  function on  $TU \setminus \{0\}$  with

$$P(x, \lambda y) = \lambda^3 P(x, y), \quad \lambda > 0.$$

The Finsler metrics  $L$  in (8) form a global Finsler metric on  $M$ , while the functions  $P$  in (8) do not form a global scalar function on  $TM$ . However, one can use  $P$  to define a  $H$ -function on  $M$ .

**Lemma 3.5** *Let  $D$  be a regular divergence on  $M$ . Let  $L$  and  $P$  be the local functions defined by (8) in a local coordinate system  $(U, \phi)$ . Then*

$$H := P(x, y) - \frac{1}{2}L_{x^k}(x, y)y^k \quad (9)$$

*is a well-defined H-function on  $M$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $\bar{L} = \bar{L}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  and  $\bar{P} = \bar{P}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be the local functions defined by (8) in another local coordinate system  $(\bar{U}, \bar{\phi})$ . Let  $\bar{x} = \bar{\phi} \circ \phi^{-1}$ .

$$\bar{x}(x+y) = \bar{x} + \bar{y} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) y^i y^j + o(|y|^2),$$

where

$$\bar{y} = \frac{\partial \bar{x}}{\partial x^i} y^i.$$

By comparing the expansions (8) in both coordinate systems, we get

$$L(x, y) = \bar{L}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}). \quad (10)$$

$$P(x, y) = \bar{P}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{L}_{\bar{y}^k}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) y^i y^j. \quad (11)$$

Differentiating (10) yields

$$\frac{1}{2} L_{x^k}(x, y) y^k = \frac{1}{2} \bar{L}_{\bar{x}^k}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \bar{y}^k + \frac{1}{2} \bar{L}_{\bar{y}^k}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) y^i y^j.$$

Subtracting it from (11), we obtain

$$P(x, y) - \frac{1}{2} L_{x^k}(x, y) y^k = \bar{P}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{L}_{\bar{x}^k}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \bar{y}^k.$$

Therefore the above function  $H$  is well-defined on  $M$ .

Q.E.D.

Now for a regular divergence  $D$  we have the following local expansion

$$2D(\phi^{-1}(x), \phi^{-1}(x+y)) = L(x, y) + \frac{1}{2} L_{x^k}(x, y) y^k + H(x, y) + o(|y|^3). \quad (12)$$

By Lemma 3.3, we have the following

**Proposition 3.6** *If  $D$  is the divergence of a Finsler metric  $L$  on a manifold  $M$ , then it is regular with  $H = 0$ .*

**Example 3.7** Let  $\Omega$  be an open subset in a Minkowski space  $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|)$  and  $\psi(y) = a_{ijk} y^i y^j y^k$ . Let

$$D(x, x') := \frac{1}{2} \|x' - x\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi(x' - x), \quad x, x' \in \Omega.$$

Using the natural coordinate system  $\varphi(x) = x$ , we have

$$2D(x, x+y) = \|y\|^2 + \psi(y).$$

Thus  $D$  is a regular divergence with

$$L(x, y) = \|y\|^2, \quad H(x, y) = \psi(y).$$

## 4 Sprays of Finsler metrics

Every Finsler metric  $L$  on a manifold  $M$  induces a vector field on  $TM$ ,

$$\mathcal{G} := y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2\mathcal{G}^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i},$$

where

$$\mathcal{G}^i(x, y) := \frac{1}{4} g^{il}(x, y) \left\{ L_{x^k y^l}(x, y) y^k - L_{x^l}(x, y) \right\}, \quad (13)$$

where  $(g^{ij}(x, y)) := (g_{ij}(x, y))^{-1}$ . From (13), one can see that

$$\mathcal{G}^i(x, \lambda y) = \lambda^2 \mathcal{G}^i(x, y), \quad \lambda > 0.$$

$\mathcal{G}$  is a well-defined  $C^\infty$  vector field on  $TM \setminus \{0\}$ . We call  $\mathcal{G}$  the *spray* of  $L$ .

It is possible that two distinct Finsler metrics having the same spray. For example, if  $L$  is an arbitrary Finsler metric on a manifold, then the metric  $\tilde{L} := kL$  has the same spray as  $L$  for any positive constant  $k$ .

If  $L = g_{ij}(x) y^i y^j$  is a Riemannian metric, then

$$\mathcal{G}^i(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{jk}^i(x) y^j y^k, \quad \gamma_{jk}^i(x) = \gamma_{kj}^i(x),$$

where

$$\gamma_{jk}^i(x) = \frac{1}{2} g^{il}(x) \left\{ \frac{\partial g_{jl}}{\partial x^k}(x) + \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^j}(x) - \frac{\partial g_{jk}}{\partial x^l}(x) \right\}. \quad (14)$$

The local functions  $\gamma_{jk}^i(x)$  are called the *Christoffel symbols*. Note that  $\mathcal{G}^i$  are quadratic in  $y$ .

A Finsler metric  $L$  is called a *Berwald metric* if its spray coefficients  $\mathcal{G}^i = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{jk}^i(x) y^j y^k$  are quadratic in  $y$ . There are many non-Riemannian Berwald metrics. An important fact is that every Berwald metric has the same spray as a Riemannian metric. This is due to Z.I. Szabo.

If  $c = c(t)$  is an integral curve of  $\mathcal{G}$  in  $TM \setminus \{0\}$ , then the local coordinates  $(x(t), y(t))$  of  $c(t)$  satisfy

$$\dot{x}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_{c(t)} + \dot{y}^i(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \Big|_{c(t)} = y^i(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_{c(t)} - 2\mathcal{G}^i(x(t), y(t)) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \Big|_{c(t)}. \quad (15)$$

We obtain that  $y^i(t) = \dot{x}^i(t)$  and

$$\ddot{x}^i(t) + 2\mathcal{G}^i(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = 0. \quad (16)$$

Let  $\sigma(t) := \pi(c(t))$  be the projection of  $c = c(t)$  by  $\pi : TM \rightarrow M$ . The local coordinates of  $\sigma(t)$  are  $x(t) = (x^i(t))$ , which satisfy (16). Conversely, if a curve  $\sigma = \sigma(t)$  satisfies (16), then the canonical lift  $c(t) = \dot{\sigma}(t)$  in  $TM$  is an integral curve of  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $\sigma(t) = \pi(c(t))$ .

**Definition 4.1** A curve  $\sigma$  in a Finsler manifold  $(M, L)$  is called a *geodesic* if its canonical lift  $c := \dot{\sigma}$  in  $TM \setminus \{0\}$  is an integral curve of the induced spray  $\mathcal{G}$  by  $L$ .

## 5 Sprays

The notion of sprays induced by a Finsler metric can be generalized.

**Definition 5.1** Let  $M$  be a manifold. A *spray*  $G$  on  $M$  is a vector field on the tangent bundle  $TM$  such that in any standard local coordinate system  $(x^i, y^i)$  in  $TM$ , it can be expressed in the following form:

$$G = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2G^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i},$$

where  $G^i(x, y)$  are  $C^\infty$  functions of  $(x^i, y^i)$  with  $y \neq 0$  and

$$G^i(x, \lambda y) = \lambda^2 G^i(x, y), \quad \lambda > 0.$$

The notion of geodesics can also be extended to sprays. A curve  $\sigma(t)$  is called a *geodesic* of  $G := y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2G^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  on a manifold  $M$  if it satisfies the following system of equations:

$$\ddot{x}^i(t) + 2G^i(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = 0,$$

where  $x(t) = (x^i(t))$  denotes the coordinates of  $\sigma(t)$ . Geodesics are also called *paths*. The collection of all paths of a spray is called a *path structure*.

A spray  $G = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2G^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  is said to be *affine*, if in any local coordinate system,

$$G^i(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) y^j y^k, \quad \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) = \Gamma_{kj}^i(x). \quad (17)$$

By definition, a Finsler metric is a Berwald metric if and only if its spray is affine.

Every affine spray  $G$  with coefficients  $G^i(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) y^j y^k$ ,  $\Gamma_{jk}^i(x) = \Gamma_{kj}^i(x)$ , defines a *connection*  $\nabla$  on  $TM$ ,

$$\nabla_y X := \left\{ dX^i(y) + X^j \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) y^k \right\} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_x, \quad (18)$$

where  $X = X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \in C^\infty(TM)$  and  $y = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_x \in T_x M$ .  $\nabla$  is *linear* in the following sense:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\lambda y + \mu v} X &= \lambda \nabla_y X + \mu \nabla_v X, \\ \nabla_y (X + Y) &= \nabla_y X + \nabla_y Y, \\ \nabla_y (fX) &= df_x(y)X + f(x) \nabla_y X, \end{aligned}$$

where  $y, v \in T_x M$ ,  $f \in C^\infty(M)$  and  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ . It is *torsion-free* in the following sense:

$$\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X = [X, Y],$$

where  $X, Y \in C^\infty(TM)$ . Torsion-free linear connections are also called *affine connections*.

Every affine spray defines an affine connection by (18). Conversely, every affine connection  $\nabla$  on  $TM$  defines a spray by (17). Thus affine connections one-to-one correspond to affine sprays.

$$\{\text{affine connections}\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{affine sprays}\}.$$

**Definition 5.2** A spray  $G$  on a manifold is said to be *flat* if at every point, there is a standard local coordinate system  $(x^i, y^i)$  in  $TM$  such that  $G = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ , i.e.,  $G^i = 0$ . In this case,  $(x^i, y^i)$  is called an *adapted coordinate system*.

Flat sprays are very special affine sprays. If  $G$  is flat, then in an adapted coordinate system, the geodesics of  $G$  are linear, i.e., the coordinates  $(x^i(t))$  of every geodesic  $\sigma(t)$  are in the following linear form:

$$x^i(t) = a^i t + b^i.$$

## 6 Information structures

By definition, any regular divergence  $D$  on a manifold  $M$  induces a Finsler metric  $L$  and a  $H$ -function. They can be obtained by the following formulas:

$$L(x, y) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{2D(c(0), c(\epsilon))}{\epsilon^2}, \quad (19)$$

where  $c(t)$  is an arbitrary  $C^1$  curve in  $M$  with  $c(0) = x$  and  $c'(0) = y$ ;

$$H(x, y) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{2D(\sigma(0), \sigma(\epsilon)) - L(x, y)\epsilon^2}{\epsilon^3}, \quad (20)$$

where  $\sigma = \sigma(t)$  is the geodesic with  $\sigma(0) = x$  and  $\dot{\sigma}(0) = y$ .

**Definition 6.1** An information structure on a manifold  $M$  is a pair  $\{L, H\}$ , where  $L = L(x, y)$  is a Finsler metric on  $M$  and  $H = H(x, y)$  is a  $H$ -function.

Every regular divergence induces an information structure. Conversely, every information structure is induced by a regular divergence as shown below.

**Proposition 6.2** Let  $(L, H)$  be an information structure on a manifold  $M$ . There is a regular divergence  $D$  on  $M$  such that the induced structure by  $D$  is  $\{L, H\}$ .

*Proof:* Let  $d$  denote the distance function of  $L$  on  $M$ . For  $p, q \in M$ , define

$$D(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}d(p, q)^2 + \inf_{c(0)=p, c(1)=q} \int_0^1 H(c(t), c'(t))dt,$$

where the infimum is taken over all minimizing geodesic  $c$  from  $p$  to  $q$ . Then it is easy to verify that  $D$  induces  $\{L, H\}$ . Q.E.D.

## 7 The $\alpha$ -sprays of an information structure

Let  $(L, H)$  be an information structure on a manifold  $M$ . Let  $\mathcal{G} = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2\mathcal{G}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  be the spray of  $L$ . Using  $H$ , we can define a family of sprays  $G_\alpha = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2G_\alpha^i(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  by

$$G_\alpha^i(x, y) := \mathcal{G}^i(x, y) + \frac{\alpha}{2} g^{ij}(x, y) H_{y^j}(x, y). \quad (21)$$

$G_\alpha$  is called the  $\alpha$ -spray of  $(L, H)$ . Our motivation to find a spray better than  $\mathcal{G}$  so that the geodesics of the spray are simple. However, the rate of change of the divergence along any geodesic of the  $\alpha$ -spray is not sensitive to  $\alpha$ .

**Lemma 7.1** *Let  $D$  be a regular divergence on a manifold  $M$  and  $(L, H)$  be the induced information structure and  $G_\alpha$  be the  $\alpha$ -spray of  $(L, H)$ . Let  $\sigma = \sigma(t)$  be a geodesic. Then for any geodesic  $\sigma$  of  $G_\alpha$ ,*

$$\frac{2D(\sigma(t_o), \sigma(t_o + \epsilon))}{d(\sigma(t_o), \sigma(t_o + \epsilon))^2} = 1 + \frac{H(x, y)}{3L(x, y)}\epsilon + o(\epsilon). \quad (22)$$

where  $x = \sigma(t_o)$  and  $y = \dot{\sigma}(t_o)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $\phi = (x^i)$  be a local coordinate system in  $M$ . Let  $x(t) := \phi(\sigma(t))$  and  $\Delta x := x(t_o + \epsilon) - x(t_o)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta x^i &= \dot{x}^i(t_o)\epsilon + \frac{1}{2}\ddot{x}^i(t_o)\epsilon^2 + o(\epsilon^2) \\ &= y^i\epsilon - G_\alpha^i(x, y)\epsilon^2 + o(\epsilon^2). \end{aligned}$$

By the above identity, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L(x, \Delta x) &= L\epsilon^2 - L_{y^k}G_\alpha^k\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3) \\ L_{x^k}(x, \Delta x)\Delta x^k &= L_{x^k}y^k\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3) \\ H(x, \Delta x) &= H(x, y)\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (13) that

$$L_{y^k}G_\alpha^k = \frac{1}{2}L_{x^k}y^k. \quad (23)$$

Then by (23) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2D(\sigma(t_o), \sigma(t_o + \epsilon)) &= 2D(\phi^{-1}(x), \phi^{-1}(x + \Delta x)) \\ &= L(x, \Delta x) + \frac{1}{2}L_{x^k}(x, \Delta x)\Delta x^k \\ &\quad + H(x, \Delta x) + o(\Delta x^3) \\ &= L\epsilon^2 - L_{y^k}G_\alpha^k\epsilon^3 + \frac{1}{2}L_{x^k}y^k\epsilon^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& +H\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3) \\
= & L\epsilon^2 - L_{y^k}G_\alpha^k\epsilon^3 + L_{y^k}\mathcal{G}^k\epsilon^3 \\
& +H\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3) \\
= & L\epsilon^2 + (1 - 3\alpha)H\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3).
\end{aligned}$$

By a similar argument, we have

$$d\left(\sigma(t_o), \sigma(t_o + \epsilon)\right)^2 = L\epsilon^2 - 3\alpha H\epsilon^3 + o(\epsilon^3).$$

Combining the above two expansions, we obtain (22).

Q.E.D.

**Definition 7.2** An information structure  $(L, H)$  on a manifold is said to be  $\alpha$ -flat for some  $\alpha$  if the  $\alpha$ -spray  $G_\alpha$  of  $(L, H)$  is flat.  $(L, H)$  is said to be flat if it is 1-flat.

Let  $(L, H)$  be an information structure on  $M$ . Let

$$L^*(x, y) := L(x, -y), \quad H^*(x, y) := H(x, -y).$$

Then  $(L^*, H^*)$  is an information structure on  $M$  too. We call  $(L^*, H^*)$  the dual information structure of  $(L, H)$ . The following lemma is trivial.

**Lemma 7.3** Let  $(L, H)$  be an information structure on a manifold  $M$ . Then

- (i)  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if  $(L, \alpha H)$  is 1-flat.
- (ii)  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if the dual  $(L^*, H^*)$  is  $(-\alpha)$ -flat.

*Proof:* We only prove (ii). Let  $(L^*, H^*)$  be its dual structure of  $(L, H)$ . Let  $G_\alpha$  and  $G_\alpha^*$  denote the  $\alpha$ -sprays of  $(L, H)$  and  $(L^*, H^*)$ , respectively. First we have

$$\mathcal{G}^{*i}(x, y) = \mathcal{G}^i(x, -y).$$

$$H_{y^j}^*(x, y) = -H_{y^j}(x, -y).$$

Thus

$$G_{-\alpha}^i(x, y) = G_\alpha^i(x, -y).$$

By this, it is easy to see that  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if  $(L^*, H^*)$  is  $(-\alpha)$ -flat. Q.E.D.

**Lemma 7.4** Let  $(L, H)$  be an information structure on an manifold  $M$ . For some  $\alpha \neq 0$ ,  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if at any point there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  such that

$$L_{x^k}y^i y^k = 2L_{x^i}, \tag{24}$$

$$\alpha H = -\frac{1}{6}L_{x^k}y^k. \tag{25}$$

*Proof:* Suppose that  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat. By assumption, there is a standard coordinate system  $(x^i, y^i)$  in which  $G_\alpha^i(x, y) = 0$  hold. It follows from (23) and (21) that

$$H(x, y) = -\frac{1}{3\alpha}L_{y^k}(x, y)\mathcal{G}^k(x, y) = -\frac{1}{6\alpha}L_{x^k}(x, y)y^k.$$

Thus

$$\mathcal{G}^i(x, y) = -\frac{\alpha}{2}g^{il}(x, y)H_{y^l}(x, y) = \frac{1}{12}g^{il}(x, y)\left[L_{x^k}(x, y)y^k\right]_{y^l}.$$

Comparing it with (13), we obtain (24).

Conversely, if  $L$  satisfies (24), then the spray coefficients of  $L$  are given by

$$\mathcal{G}^i(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}g^{il}(x, y)L_{x^l}(x, y).$$

By (24) and (25), we have

$$\frac{\alpha}{2}g^{il}(x, y)H_{y^l}(x, y) = -\frac{1}{12}g^{il}(x, y)\left[L_{x^k}(x, y)y^k\right]_{y^l} = -\frac{1}{4}g^{il}(x, y)L_{x^l}(x, y).$$

Thus

$$G_\alpha^i(x, y) = \mathcal{G}^i(x, y) + \frac{\alpha}{2}g^{il}(x, y)H_{y^l}(x, y) = 0.$$

Thus the  $\alpha$ -spray  $G_\alpha$  is flat.

Q.E.D.

## 8 Dually flat Finsler metrics

In virtue of Lemma 7.4, we make the following

**Definition 8.1** A Finsler metric  $L$  on a manifold  $M$  is said to be *locally dually flat* if at any point, there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  in which  $L = L(x, y)$  satisfies (24), i.e.,

$$L_{x^k}y^l y^k = 2L_{x^l}. \quad (26)$$

Such a local system is called an *adapted local system*.  $L$  is said to be *(globally) dually flat* if there is a H-function  $H$  such that  $(L, H)$  is 1-flat, that is, at every point there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  in which  $L = L(x, y)$  satisfies (26) and the following equation:

$$L_{x^k}y^k = -6H. \quad (27)$$

If  $L$  is a locally dually flat Finsler metric on a manifold  $M$ , then at any point, there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  in which the spray coefficients  $\mathcal{G}^i$  of  $L$  satisfy

$$\mathcal{G}^i + \frac{1}{2}g^{ij}H_{y^j} = 0, \quad (28)$$

where  $H := -\frac{1}{6}L_{x^k}y^k$ .

Let us first consider locally dually flat Riemannian metrics.

**Proposition 8.2** *A Riemannian metric  $g = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  on a manifold  $M$  is locally dually flat if and only if it can be locally expressed as*

$$g_{ij}(x) = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x), \quad (29)$$

where  $\psi = \psi(x)$  is a local scalar function on  $M$ .

*Proof:* Assume that  $g$  is locally dually flat. There is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  in which  $L := g$  satisfies (24).

$$\frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial x^k}(x) + \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^i}(x) = 2 \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^l}(x). \quad (30)$$

Permutating  $i$  and  $l$  yields

$$\frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial x^k}(x) + \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^l}(x) = 2 \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^i}(x). \quad (31)$$

Subtracting (30) from (31) yields

$$\frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^l}(x) = \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^i}(x).$$

Thus there is a function  $\psi(x)$  such that (29) holds. The converse is trivial. Q.E.D.

**Example 8.3** Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a strongly convex domain defined by a Minkowski norm  $\phi(y)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\Omega := \left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \phi(y) < 1 \right\}.$$

Define  $\Theta(x, y) > 0$ ,  $y \neq 0$ , by

$$\Theta(x, y) = \phi\left(y + \Theta(x, y) x\right), \quad y \in T_x \Omega = \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (32)$$

It is easy to verify that  $\Theta(x, y)$  satisfies

$$\Theta_{x^k}(x, y) = \Theta(x, y) \Theta_{y^k}(x, y). \quad (33)$$

Let

$$L(x, y) := \Theta(x, y)^2.$$

Using (33), one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} L_{x^k} &= 2\Theta^2 \Theta_{y^k}, \\ L_{x^k y^l} y^k &= [2\Theta^2 \Theta_{y^k}]_{y^l} y^k = \frac{4}{3} [\Theta^3]_{y^l} = 4\Theta^2 \Theta_{y^l}, \\ \frac{L_{x^k} y^k}{2L} L_{y^l} &= \frac{2\Theta^2}{2\Theta^2} \cdot 2\Theta \Theta_{y^l} = 2\Theta \Theta_{y^l}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $L$  satisfies (24). Namely,  $L$  is dually flat.

A Finsler metric  $L$  on an open domain  $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a Funk metric, if  $F := \sqrt{L}$  satisfies

$$F_{x^k} = FF_{y^k}.$$

Every Funk metric is projectively flat, i.e., the geodesics are straight lines, or equivalently,

$$F_{x^k y^l} y^k = F_{x^l}. \quad (34)$$

A Finsler metric  $L$  is mutually dually flat and projectively flat if  $F := \sqrt{L}$  satisfies (34) and  $L$  satisfies (26). It can be shown that every mutually dually flat and projectively flat Finsler metric must be a Funk metric up to a scaling [SY].

## 9 Affine divergences and affine information structures

In general, a regular divergence  $D : M \times M \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is not  $C^\infty$  along the diagonal  $\Delta := \{(x, x), x \in M\}$ .

**Definition 9.1** A regular divergence  $D$  on a manifold  $M$  is called an *affine divergence* if  $D$  is a  $C^\infty$  function on a neighborhood of the diagonal in  $M \times M$ .

**Lemma 9.2** Let  $D$  be a regular affine divergence on a manifold  $M$ . Then the induced information structure  $(L, H)$  has the following properties:

- (i)  $L = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  is Riemannian,
- (ii)  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$ .

*Proof:* Let

$$D(x, x') := D(\phi^{-1}(x), \phi^{-1}(x')).$$

By assumption  $D(x, x')$  is  $C^\infty$  in  $x, x'$ . Since  $D(x, x) = 0$ , we have the following Taylor expansion:

$$2D(x, x+y) = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j + \frac{1}{3}h_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k + o(|y|^3),$$

where

$$g_{ij}(x) := \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x'^i \partial x'^j}(x, x')|_{x'=x}, \quad h_{ijk}(x) = \frac{\partial^3 D}{\partial x'^i \partial x'^j \partial x'^k}(x, x')|_{x'=x}.$$

Let

$$H_{ijk}(x) := \frac{1}{3}h_{ijk}(x) - \frac{1}{6}\left\{\frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k}(x) + \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^j}(x) + \frac{\partial g_{jk}}{\partial x^i}(x)\right\}.$$

Then

$$2D(x, x+y) = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k}(x)y^i y^j y^k + H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k + o(|y|^3).$$

Thus  $L = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  and  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$  are the induced metric and H-function. Q.E.D.

**Remark 9.3** For an affine divergence,

$$\frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x, x')|_{x'=x} = \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x'^i \partial x'^j}(x, x')|_{x'=x}.$$

**Definition 9.4** An information structure  $\{L, H\}$  on a manifold  $M$  is said to be affine if (i)  $L = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  is Riemannian and (ii)  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$  is a homogeneous polynomial.

If  $\{L, H\}$  is an affine information structure, then  $(L^*, H^*) = (L, -H)$ .

**Lemma 9.5** For an affine divergence  $D$  on a manifold  $M$  and its dual  $D^*$ , the induced information structure  $\{L, H\}$  by  $D$  is dual to the induced information structure  $\{L^*, H^*\}$  by  $D^*$ .

*Proof:* It suffices to prove that the induced information structure of  $D^*$  is  $\{L, -H\}$ . Q.E.D.

## 10 $\alpha$ -flat affine information structures

We are particularly interested in  $\alpha$ -flat information structures. If an information structure is  $\alpha$ -flat, then the associated  $\alpha$ -spray is flat.

In this section we are going to study flat affine information structures, and show that an affine information structure  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if its dual  $(L^*, H^*)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat.

**Lemma 10.1** Let  $(L, H)$  be an affine information structure on a manifold  $M$  and  $\alpha \neq 0$ .  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  and a local function  $\psi = \psi(x)$  such that

$$L(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) y^i y^j, \quad (35)$$

$$H(x, y) = -\frac{1}{6\alpha} \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j y^k. \quad (36)$$

*Proof:* Assume that  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat. By Lemma 7.4, there is a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$  such that

$$L_{x^k y^i} y^k = 2L_{x^i}.$$

Plugging  $g_{ij}y^i y^j$  for  $L$  into the above equation, one can find a function  $\psi(x)$  such that

$$g_{ij}(x) = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x). \quad (37)$$

It follows from (25) that

$$H_{ijk}(x) = -\frac{1}{6\alpha} \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x). \quad (38)$$

Conversely, if  $L = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  and  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$  are given by (37) and (38) respectively, then  $L$  satisfies (24) and  $H$  satisfies (25). Thus  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat. Q.E.D.

**Lemma 10.2** *Let  $(L, H)$  be an affine information structure on a manifold  $M$  and  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Assume that in a local coordinate system  $(x^i)$ ,  $(L, H)$  is given by (35) and (36) respectively. Let  $x_i^* := \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x)$  and*

$$\psi^*(x^*) := -\psi(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^* x^i, \quad (39)$$

*Then in the new coordinate system  $(x^{*i})$ , the dual information structure  $(L^*, H^*) = (L, -H)$  is given by*

$$L^*(x^*, y^*) = \frac{\partial^2 \psi^*}{\partial x_i^* \partial x_j^*}(x^*) y_i^* y_j^*, \quad (40)$$

$$H^*(x^*, y^*) = -\frac{1}{6\alpha} \frac{\partial^3 \psi^*}{\partial x_i^* \partial x_j^* \partial x_k^*}(x^*) y_i^* y_j^* y_k^*. \quad (41)$$

*Thus  $(L^*, H^*)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat.*

*Proof:* First by (35), we have

$$\mathcal{G}^i = \frac{1}{4} g^{ik}(x) \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j.$$

By definition,

$$g_{ij}^*(x) = g_{ij}(x), \quad H_{ijk}^*(x) = -H_{ijk}(x).$$

The  $\alpha$ -spray  $G_\alpha^*$  of  $(L^*, H^*)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} G_\alpha^{*i}(x, y) &= \mathcal{G}^i(x, y) - \frac{\alpha}{2} g^{ik} H_{y^k}(x, y) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} g^{ik}(x) \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(g^{ij}(x)) := (g_{ij}(x))^{-1}$ . That is, the Christoffel symbols  $(\Gamma_\alpha)_{jk}^{*i}$  of  $G_\alpha^*$  are given by

$$(\Gamma_\alpha)_{jk}^{*i}(x) = g^{il}(x) \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^j \partial x^k \partial x^l}(x).$$

Our goal is to find another local coordinate system  $(x_i^*)$  in which  $G^*$  is trivial. Consider the following map

$$x_i^* := \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x).$$

Since the Jacobian of  $x^* = x^*(x)$  is just  $(g_{ij}(x))$ , this map is a local diffeomorphism which can serve as a coordinate transformation. Define  $\psi^*$  in  $(x_i^*)$  by (39). By a direct computation, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial \psi^*}{\partial x_k^*}(x^*) = x^k,$$

Since  $(L^*, H^*)$  is affine, we can express  $L^*$  and  $H^*$  in the new coordinate system  $(X^{*i})$  by  $L^* = g^{*kl}(x^*)y_k^*y_l^*$  and  $H^* = H^{*ijk}(x^*)y_i^*y_j^*y_k^*$ . It is easy to show that

$$g^{*kl}(x^*) = \frac{\partial^2 \psi^*}{\partial x_k^* \partial x_l^*}(x^*),$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 x_i^*}{\partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) - \frac{\partial x_i^*}{\partial x^l}(x)(\Gamma_\alpha)^{*l}_{jk}(x) = 0.$$

Thus, in the local coordinate system  $(x_i^*)$ , the spray coefficients of  $G_\alpha^*$  vanish. This implies that

$$H^{*ijk}(x^*) = -\frac{1}{6\alpha} \frac{\partial^3 \psi^*}{\partial x_i^* \partial x_j^* \partial x_k^*}(x^*).$$

Q.E.D.

By the above lemmas, we get the following

**Theorem 10.3** *Let  $\alpha \neq 0$ . An affine information structure  $(L, H)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if its dual  $(L^*, H^*)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat.*

## 11 Dualistic affine connections

We know that affine connections one-to-one correspond to affine sprays. An affine connection on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  is said to be *dualistic* if the dual linear connection  $\nabla^*$  with respect to  $g$  is also affine. In this section we are going to characterize dualistic affine connections.

Let  $L = g_{ij}y^i y^j$  be a Riemannian metric on a manifold  $M$  and  $g = g_{ij}dx^i \otimes dx^j$  the associated inner product on tangent spaces. For a linear connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$ , define  $\nabla^*$

$$g(\nabla_Z^* X, Y) + g(X, \nabla_Z Y) = Z[g(X, Y)], \quad (42)$$

where  $X, Y, Z \in C^\infty(TM)$ . It is easy to see that  $\nabla^*$  is a linear connection too.  $\nabla^*$  is called the *dual connection* of  $\nabla$  with respect to  $g$ . The concept of duality between two linear connections on a Riemannian manifold is introduced by S.-I. Amari and H. Nagaoka [AmNa].

An important phenomenon is that if a linear connection  $\nabla$  is affine, the dual linear connection  $\nabla^*$  (with respect to  $g$ ) is not necessarily affine (i.e., it might not be torsion-free).

**Theorem 11.1** *Let  $g$  be a Riemannian metric on a manifold  $M$ . Every polynomial  $H$ -function on  $(M, g)$  determines a dualistic affine connection. Conversely, every dualistic affine connection  $\nabla$  determines a polynomial  $H$ -function. The correspondence is canonical,*

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i(x) = \gamma_{jk}^i(x) + 3g^{il}H_{jkl}(x), \quad (43)$$

where  $\Gamma_{jk}^i$  denote the Christoffel symbols of  $\nabla$  and  $\gamma_{jk}^i$  denote the Christoffel symbols of  $g$ .

*Proof:* Let  $H$  be a polynomial H-function on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ . Let  $\nabla$  and  $\bar{\nabla}$  be the affine connections corresponding to the associated 1-sprays  $G_1$  and  $\bar{G}_1$  of  $(g, H)$  and  $(g, -H)$ , respectively. Note that  $(g, -H)$  is dual to  $(g, H)$ . We claim that  $\nabla$  and  $\bar{\nabla}$  satisfy

$$g(\bar{\nabla}_Z X, Y) + g(X, \nabla_Z Y) = Z[g(X, Y)], \quad (44)$$

Namely,  $\bar{\nabla}$  is dual to  $\nabla$  with respect to  $g$ .

Let  $g = g_{ij}(x)y^i y^j$  and  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$ . Let  $\Gamma_{jk}^i(x)$  and  $\bar{\Gamma}_{jk}^i(x)$  denote the Christoffel symbols of  $G_1$  and  $\bar{G}_1$  respectively. Let  $\Gamma_{jk,i}(x) := g_{il}(x)\Gamma_{jk}^l(x)$ ,  $\bar{\Gamma}_{jk,i}(x) := g_{il}(x)\bar{\Gamma}_{jk}^l(x)$ , and etc. From (21), we have

$$\Gamma_{jk,i}(x) = \gamma_{jk,i}(x) + 3H_{ijk}(x), \quad (45)$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ik,j}(x) = \gamma_{ik,j}(x) - 3H_{ijk}(x). \quad (46)$$

Adding (45) and (46) yields

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ik,j}(x) + \Gamma_{jk,i}(x) = \gamma_{ik,j}(x) + \gamma_{jk,i}(x) = \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k}(x). \quad (47)$$

(47) can be written as (44). That is  $\bar{\nabla} = \nabla^*$  is the dual linear connection of  $\nabla$  on  $(M, g)$ . By definition,  $\nabla$  is dualistic.

Let  $\nabla$  be a affine connection on  $(M, g)$ . Define  $H_{ijk}$  by (45). Clearly,

$$H_{ijk} = H_{ikj}.$$

Let  $\nabla^*$  be the dual linear connection. Let  $\Gamma_{jk}^{*i}$  denote the Christoffel symbols of  $\nabla^*$  and  $\Gamma_{jk,l}^* = g_{il}\Gamma_{jk}^{*i}$ . Then

$$\Gamma_{ik,j}^*(x) + \Gamma_{jk,i}(x) = \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k}(x) = \gamma_{ik,j}(x) + \gamma_{jk,i}(x). \quad (48)$$

It follows from (45) and (48) that

$$\Gamma_{ik,j}^*(x) = \gamma_{ik,j}(x) - 3H_{ijk}(x). \quad (49)$$

Suppose  $\nabla^*$  is affine, i.e,  $\Gamma_{jk}^{*i} = \Gamma_{kj}^{*i}$ . Then

$$H_{ijk} = H_{kji}.$$

Thus  $H_{ijk}$  is symmetric in  $i, j, k$ . We obtain a polynomial H-function  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$ . By (45), we see that  $H$  satisfies (43). Q.E.D.

Since on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ , dualistic affine connections one-to-one correspond to polynomial  $H$ -functions. We immediately obtain the following

**Theorem 11.2** (Amari) *Let  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla^*$  be dual affine connections on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ . Then  $\nabla$  is flat if and only if  $\nabla^*$  is flat*

*Proof:* Let  $H$  be the polynomial H-function corresponding to  $\nabla$ . Then  $H^* := -H$  is the polynomial H-function corresponding to  $\nabla^*$ . Note that the spray of  $(g, H)$  (resp.  $(g, H^*)$ ) is the spray defined by  $\nabla$  (resp.  $\nabla^*$ ). Thus  $\nabla$  is flat if and only if  $(g, H)$  is 1-flat.;  $(g, H)$  is 1-flat if and only if  $(g, H^*)$  is 1-flat by Theorem 10.3;  $(g, H^*)$  is 1-flat if and only if  $\nabla^*$  is flat. Q.E.D.

## 12 Statistical models

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a space of probability distributions on a measure space  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  a divergence on  $\mathcal{P}$ . A *statistical model* in  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{D})$  is a pair  $(M, D)$ , where  $M$  is a finite  $C^\infty$  manifold embedded in  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $D$  is the restriction of  $\mathcal{D}$  on  $M$ . If  $f$  is a function satisfying (2), then it defines the f-divergence  $\mathcal{D}_f$  on  $\mathcal{P}$  by (3).

In this section, we are going to prove that for any manifold  $M \subset \mathcal{P}$ , the induced divergence  $D_f = \mathcal{D}_f|_M$  is affine, namely, the induced metric  $L = g_{ij}(s)y^i y^j$  is Riemannian and the induced H-function  $H = H_{ijk}(x)y^i y^j y^k$  is a polynomial.

**Theorem 12.1** *Let  $f = f(t)$  be a function with  $f(1) = 0$  and  $f''(1) = 1$ . For any regular statistical model  $(M, D_f)$  of  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{D}_f)$ , the induced information structure on  $M$  is given by  $(L_f, H_f) = (L, \rho N)$ , where  $\rho := 3 + 2f'''(1)$ , and*

$$L = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 p dr \quad (50)$$

$$N = \frac{1}{6} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p dr. \quad (51)$$

The  $\alpha$ -spray  $G_{\alpha, \rho}$  of  $D_f$  is given by  $G_{\alpha, \rho}^i = \bar{G}^i + (\rho\alpha + 1)A^i$ , where

$$\bar{G}^i = \frac{g^{il}(x)}{2} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} p dr \quad (52)$$

$$A^i = \frac{g^{il}(x)}{4} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} p dr. \quad (53)$$

*Proof:* The natural embedding  $M \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$  is given by  $x \rightarrow p = p(r; x)$ . Let  $D(x, z) := D_f(p(r; x), p(r; z))$ , i.e.,

$$D(x, z) := \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(r; x) f\left(\frac{p(r; z)}{p(r; x)}\right) dr.$$

We have

$$2D(x, x + y) = \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial z^i \partial z^j} \Big|_{z=x} y^i y^j + \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial^3 D}{\partial z^i \partial z^j \partial z^k} \Big|_{z=x} y^i y^j y^k + o(|y|^3).$$

By a direct computation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
D|_{z=x} &= 0 \\
\frac{\partial D}{\partial z^i}|_{z=x} y^i &= 0 \\
\frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial z^i \partial z^j}|_{z=x} y^i y^j &= \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 p dr \\
\frac{\partial^3 D}{\partial z^i \partial z^j \partial z^k}|_{z=x} y^i y^j y^k &= \frac{\rho}{2} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p dr \\
&\quad + \frac{3}{2} \left\{ - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p + 2 \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} p \right] \left[ y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \ln p \right] \right\} dr,
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$L := \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 p dr.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
L_{x^k} y^k &= \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p dr \\
&\quad + 2 \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \ln p \right] \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&= - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left\{ \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 2 \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} p \right] \left[ y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \ln p \right] \right\} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$N := \frac{1}{6} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^3 p dr.$$

We obtain

$$2D(x, x+y) = L(x, y) + \frac{1}{2} L_{x^k}(x, y) y^k + \rho N(x, y) + o(|y|^3).$$

Thus  $D_f$  is regular and the induced information structure  $(L_f, H_f) = (L, \rho N)$  is affine.

Let  $\mathcal{G} = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2\mathcal{G}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  denote the induced spray of  $L$  and  $G_{\alpha, f} = y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - 2G_{\alpha, \rho}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$  be the  $\alpha$ -spray of  $D_f$ . Without much difficulty, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{\alpha, \rho}^i &= \mathcal{G}^i(x, y) + \frac{\rho\alpha}{2} g^{il}(x) N_{y^l}(x, y) \\
&= (\rho\alpha + 1) \frac{g^{il}(x)}{4} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} p(r; x) dr \\
&\quad + \frac{g^{il}(x)}{2} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p(r; x) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} p dr
\end{aligned}$$

This gives a formula for  $G_{\alpha,\rho}$ .

Q.E.D.

Now let us express  $L$  and  $N$  in a different form. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
L &= \int_{\mathcal{X}} y^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \left\{ \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right] p \right\} dr - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{X}} y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} p dr - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&= y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \int_{\mathcal{X}} p dr - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&= - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr.
\end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$L = - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \quad (54)$$

By a similar argument, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
6N &= y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right]^2 p dr \\
&\quad - 2 \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] \left[ y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} p \right] dr \\
&= y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \ln p \right] \left[ y^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} p \right] dr \\
&\quad - 2 y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&\quad + 2 \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j y^k \frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&= -3 y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&\quad + 2 \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j y^k \frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k} \ln p \right] p dr.
\end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
N &= \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j y^k \frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k} \ln p \right] p dr \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \ln p \right] p dr.
\end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

### 13 Exponential family of distributions

In this section, we will consider the exponential family of probability distributions, on which the  $\alpha$ -spray of  $D_f$  with  $\rho\alpha = -1$  is flat.

**Definition 13.1** A manifold  $M$  in  $\mathcal{P}$  is called an exponential manifold if it is covered by injections

$$\varpi : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow M,$$

such that  $p := \varpi(x) \in \mathcal{P}$  is in the following form

$$p(r; x) = \exp \left[ x^i f_i(r) + k(r) - \psi(x) \right], \quad r \in \mathcal{X}. \quad (56)$$

Observe that the integral

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x^i} dr = 0.$$

This implies that

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(r; x) f_i(r) dr.$$

The Kullback-Leibler divergence  $D_{KL}$  on  $M$  is the  $f$ -divergence with  $f(t) = \ln(1/t)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} D_{KL}(p(r; x), p(r; x')) &= \int p(r; x) \left[ \psi(x') - \psi(x) - (x' - x)^i f_i(r) \right] dr \\ &= \psi(x') - \psi(x) - (x' - x)^i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x). \end{aligned}$$

The pull-back of  $D_{KL}$  onto  $\Omega$  is given by

$$D_{KL}(x, x') = \psi(x') - \psi(x) - (x' - x)^i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i}(x).$$

**Proposition 13.2** Let  $M$  be the exponential family of distributions in the form (56). The induced information structure of  $D_f$  is given by  $(L_f, H_f) = (L, \rho N)$ ,  $\rho = 3 + 2f'''(1)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) y^i y^j \\ N &= \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j y^k. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof:* Note that

$$\ln p(r; x) = x^i f_i(r) + k(r) - \psi(x).$$

It follows from (54) that

$$L(x, y) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) \right] p(r; x) dr = y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x).$$

Then the spray coefficients of  $L$  are given by

$$\mathcal{G}^i = \frac{1}{4} g^{ik} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j.$$

It follows from (55) that

$$\begin{aligned}
N(x, y) &= -\frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j y^k \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) \right] p(r; x) dr \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left[ y^i y^j \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}(x) \right] p(r; x) dr \\
&= \frac{1}{6} y^i y^j y^k \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x).
\end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

By Lemma 10.1, we obtain the following

**Corollary 13.3** *Let  $M$  be the exponential family of distributions in the form (56). Let  $(L_f, H_f)$  be the information structure induced by the  $f$ -divergence. When  $\rho\alpha = -1$ ,  $(L_f, H_f)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat, namely, the  $\alpha$ -spray of  $(L_f, H_f)$  is flat.*

*Proof.* The  $\alpha$ -spray is given by

$$G_{\alpha, \rho}^i = \mathcal{G}^i + \frac{\rho\alpha}{2} g^{ik} N_{y^k} = \frac{\rho\alpha + 1}{4} g^{ik} \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j \partial x^k}(x) y^i y^j.$$

If  $\rho\alpha = -1$ , then the induced information structure  $(L_f, H_f)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat. Q.E.D.

**Example 13.4** Consider the family  $M$  of Gaussian probability distributions with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ :

$$p(r; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(r - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right].$$

We can reparametrize  $M$  by

$$p(r; x) = \exp \left[ x^1 f_1(r) + x^2 f_2(r) - \psi(x) \right],$$

where

$$x^1 = \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2}, \quad x^2 = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
f_1(r) &= r, & f_2(r) &= -r^2, \\
\psi(x) &= \frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma) = \frac{(x^1)^2}{4x^2} + \ln \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{x^2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $M$  is an exponential manifold in  $\mathcal{P}$ . The induced Riemannian metric  $L = g_{ij}(x) y^i y^j$  of an  $f$ -divergence on  $M$  is given by

$$g_{11} = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^1 \partial x^1}, \quad g_{12} = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^1 \partial x^2}, \quad g_{22} = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2 \partial x^2}.$$

The Gauss curvature of  $L$  is a negative constant  $K = -\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Example 13.5** Let  $M$  be the family of gamma distributions with event space  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^+$  and parameters  $\tau, \nu \in \mathbb{R}^+$  which are defined by

$$p(r; \tau, \nu) = \left(\frac{\nu}{\tau}\right)^\nu \frac{r^{\nu-1}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \exp\left[-\frac{r\nu}{\tau}\right], \quad (57)$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the gamma function defined by

$$\Gamma(\nu) = \int_0^\infty s^{\nu-1} e^{-s} ds.$$

Note that  $\tau = \langle r \rangle$  is the mean and  $\tau^2/\nu = \text{Var}(r)$  is the variance. Thus the coefficient of variation  $\sqrt{\text{Var}(r)}/\tau = 1/\sqrt{\nu}$  is independent of the mean.

Let  $\mu := \nu/\tau$ . Then gamma distributions can be expressed by

$$p(r; \mu, \nu) = \exp\left[-\mu r + \nu \ln r - \ln r - \psi(\mu, \nu)\right], \quad (58)$$

where

$$\psi(\mu, \nu) := \ln \Gamma(\nu) - \nu \ln \mu.$$

Thus  $M$  is an exponential manifold in  $\mathcal{P}$ . See [HH] for related discussion.

Let  $L$  be the induced Riemannian metric by any  $f$ -divergence. In the coordinate system  $(\tau, \nu)$ ,

$$g_{11} = \frac{\nu}{\tau^2}, \quad g_{12} = 0 = g_{21}, \quad g_{22} = \Psi'(\nu) - \frac{1}{\nu},$$

where  $\Psi(\nu) := \Gamma'(\nu)/\Gamma(\nu)$  is the logarithmic derivative of the gamma function. Since  $\Psi(\nu)$  satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2\nu^2} \leq \Psi'(\nu) - \frac{1}{\nu} \leq \frac{1}{\nu^2}.$$

We have

$$L_1 := \frac{\nu}{\tau^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{2\nu^2} v^2 < L < \frac{\nu}{\tau^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{2\nu^2} v^2 := L_2.$$

The Gauss curvature  $K_i$  of  $L_i$  and the Gauss curvature  $K$  of  $L$  are given

$$K_1 = -\frac{1}{2} < K = \frac{\Psi'(\nu) + \Psi''(\nu)\nu}{4\nu^2(\Psi'(\nu) - 1/\nu)^2} < -\frac{1}{4} = K_2.$$

The reader is referred to [DoMa] for the geometry of Gamma distributions and its applications.

## 14 Duality of $f$ -divergences

Let  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{D})$  be a divergence space  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{D})$ . By definition, the dual divergence  $\mathcal{D}^*$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{D}^*(p, q) := \mathcal{D}(q, p), \quad p, q \in \mathcal{P}.$$

Given a convex function  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $f(1) = 0$  and  $f''(1) = 1$ . Let

$$f^*(t) := tf\left(\frac{1}{t}\right), \quad t > 0.$$

Then  $f^*(t)$  satisfies that  $f^*(1) = 0$  and  $f^{*''}(1) = f''(1) = 1$ . Let  $\rho := 3 + 2f'''(1)$  and  $\rho^* := 3 + 2f^{*'''}(1)$ . We have

$$\rho + \rho^* = 0.$$

Note that

$$(D_f)^*(p, q) := D_f(q, p) = D_{f^*}(p, q).$$

Thus  $D_{f^*}$  is dual to  $D_f$ . By the above argument,  $(D_f)^* = D_{f^*}$  induces an information structure

$$(L_{f^*}, H_{f^*}) = (L, \rho^* N) = (L, -\rho N).$$

That is,  $L_{f^*}(x, y) = L_f(x, -y)$  and  $H_{f^*}(x, y) = H_f(x, -y)$ . The information structure of  $(D_f)^*$  is dual to that of  $D_f$ . In this sense,  $D_f$  is said to be *dualistic*.

According to Lemmas 10.1 and 10.2, we have the following

**Proposition 14.1** *The information structure  $(L_f, H_f)$  is  $\alpha$ -flat if and only if the dual structure  $(L_{f^*}, H_{f^*}) = (L_f(x, -y), H_f(x, -y))$  is  $\alpha$ -flat.*

Let  $f_\rho$  be the function defined in (4). Let  $D_\rho := D_{f_\rho}$ . It is easy to see that

$$(f_\rho)^*(t) = f_{-\rho}(t).$$

Thus

$$(D_\rho)^*(p, q) = D_\rho(q, p) = D_{-\rho}(p, q).$$

For  $\rho \neq \pm 1$ ,

$$D_\rho(p, q) = \frac{4}{1 - \rho^2} \left\{ 1 - \int p(r)^{(1-\rho)/2} q(r)^{(1+\rho)/2} dr \right\}, \quad (59)$$

for  $\rho = \pm 1$ ,

$$D_{-1}(p, q) = D_{+1}(q, p) = \int p(r) \ln \frac{p(r)}{q(r)} dr. \quad (60)$$

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