

Info

This note, that [was found here](#), as a part of [a collection](#) is written (completely with human hands) by [Rupadarshi Ray](#), was created on November 20, 2025 2:06:22 PM, was last modified on August 28, 2026 3:08:37 PM, and was exported on September 7, 2026 3:31:21 PM.

Boundary of simply connected Hadamard manifolds

Definition. Boundary of CAT(0) spaces

Let X be a complete CAT(0) metric space. Then the set of *asymptotic* equivalence classes of geodesic rays

Definition. Asymptotic geodesic rays

Let X be a complete CAT(0) metric space. Two minimal geodesic rays c_1, c_2 are said to be **asymptotic** if there exists a $K > 0$ such that

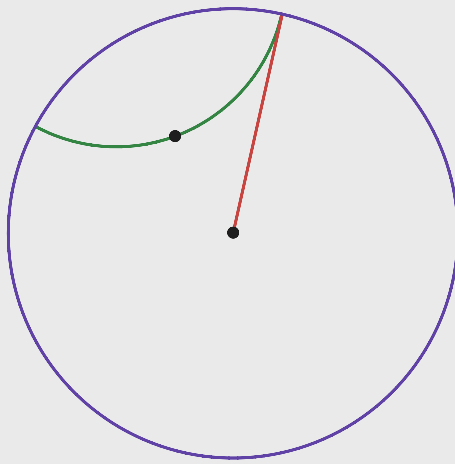
$$\forall t \geq 0, d(c_1(t), c_2(t)) \leq K$$

is called the **boundary of X**

$$\partial X := \frac{\{c : [0, \infty) \rightarrow X \text{ minimal geodesic rays}\}}{\text{asymptotic}}$$

By

Proposition: Let X be a complete CAT(0) space and $c : [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$ is a geodesic ray starting at $c(0) = x \in X$. Then for every point $x' \in X$ there **exists an unique** geodesic ray c' which starts at $c'(0) = x'$ and is **asymptotic** to c .



This geodesic ray c' shall be denoted $\overline{x'\xi}$ for $\xi := [c(0)] \in \partial X$.

there is a unique bijection

Definition.

$$\begin{aligned} T_x^u X &\rightarrow \partial X \\ v &\mapsto [\exp_x(tv)] \\ \overline{x\xi}'(0) &\leftarrow \xi \end{aligned}$$

angular metric

Definition. Let $x \in X, y, z \in \overline{X}$ then

$$\angle_x(y, z) := \angle_x(\overline{xy}'(0), \overline{xz}'(0))$$

Proposition: Let $x \in X$

$$\angle_x : \partial X \times \partial X \rightarrow [0, \pi]$$

is a metric.

💡 As the angle is a metric on $T_x^u X$, its push to ∂X is also a metric.

cone topology

Definition. Cone topology on $\overline{X}$

Let X be a simply connected Hadamard (CAT(0)) manifold. Let $x \in X, z \in \overline{X}$. For $\epsilon > 0$ then the **cone** at x is

$$c_x(z, \epsilon) := \left\{ y \in \overline{X} \mid y \neq x, \angle_x(z, y) < \epsilon \right\}$$

The **cone topology** on $\overline{X}$ is

$$\mathfrak{T}_{\overline{X}} := \left\langle \{B_\epsilon(x) \mid x \in X, \epsilon > 0\} \cup \{c_x(z, \epsilon) \mid x \in X, z \in \overline{X}\} \right\rangle$$

Proposition: The cone topology on X is Hausdorff.

Proposition: Fix $x \in X$, $\{q_i\}$ be a sequence in X , and $\xi \in \partial X$.

Then $q_i \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty, \mathfrak{T}_{\overline{X}}} \xi \iff$

$$d(x, q_i) \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty} \infty, \angle_x(z, q_i) \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

💡 ($\implies$) Let $q_i \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty, \mathfrak{T}_{\overline{X}}} x$

- Assume $d(x, z_i) \leq R$ (bounded)
- Then there is a sub-sequence

$$\exists i_k, r_0 \in \mathbb{R} : \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} d(x, q_{i_k}) = r_0$$

- But by continuity of $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ we have

$$d(x, \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} q_{i_k}) = r_0$$

which implies $d(x, z) < \infty \implies z \in X$.

- Thus, a **contradiction**.

Proposition: (Boundary of Hadamard manifolds) Fix $x \in X$ then

Definition.

$$\begin{aligned} T_x^u X &\rightarrow \partial X \\ v &\mapsto [\exp_x(tv)] \\ \overline{x\xi}'(0) &\leftarrow \xi \end{aligned}$$

is a homeomorphism.

boundary via horofunctions

Proposition: Consider the embedding

$$X \hookrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{C}(X)}{\mathbb{R}}$$

Then let $h \in \mathcal{C}(X)$

- h is a Busemann function
- h is a horofunction
- h satisfies the following
 - h is convex
 - h is 1-Lipchitz
 - for $x \in X, r > 0$ then
$$\exists x_1, x_2 \in \partial B_r(x) : |h(x_1) - h(x_2)| = 2r$$
- h is a $\mathcal{C}^1$ convex function with $\|\text{grad}_g(h)\| = 1$

Proposition?: Let c be any curve, and

$$\mathcal{E}_x := \overline{zc(s)}'(0)$$

Then

$$\left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} d(c(s), z) = \langle c'(0), \mathcal{E}_x \rangle$$

💡 (4 $\implies$ 1) Let $h \in \mathcal{C}^1(X)$ such that $\|\text{grad}_g(h)\|_g = 1$.

- For $x \in X$ let c_x be the integral curve

$$c'_x(t) = \text{grad}(h)_{c_x(t)}, c_x(0) = x$$

- This means

$$h(c_x(t)) = t + h(x)$$

- c_x is a geodesic
- $c_x(-\infty) = c_y(\infty)$
- By

Proposition: Fix $x \in X$, $\{q_i\}$ be a sequence in X , and $\xi \in \partial X$.
Then $q_i \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty, \mathfrak{I}_{\overline{X}}} \xi \iff$

$$d(x, q_i) \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty} \infty, \angle_x(z, q_i) \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

we have

$$-\gamma'_t(0) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} c'_y(0)$$

- Thus

$$\text{grad}(B_{c_x})_y = c'_y(0) = \text{grad}(h)_y$$

Proposition: Let B_{c_1} and B_{c_2} be Busemann functions. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{B_{c_1}} = \overline{B_{c_2}} &\iff \exists x_0 \in X : \text{grad}(B_{c_1})_{x_0} = \text{grad}(B)_{x_0} \\ &\iff c_1(\infty) = c_2(\infty) \end{aligned}$$

Proposition: Let $\{B_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an open cover of X and

$$f_i : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

be convex $\mathcal{C}^1(X)$ functions...

 The map

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{X} &\rightarrow \text{Cl}(X) \\ x &\mapsto \overline{d_x} \\ c(\infty) \in \partial X &\mapsto \overline{B_x} \end{aligned}$$

is a homeomorphism.

💡 By

Proposition: Let B_{c_1} and B_{c_2} be Busemann functions. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{B_{c_1}} = \overline{B_{c_2}} &\iff \exists x_0 \in X : \text{grad}(B_{c_1})_{x_0} = \text{grad}(B)_{x_0} \\ &\iff c_1(\infty) = c_2(\infty) \end{aligned}$$

it is well-defined and injective.

- By

Proposition: Consider the embedding

$$X \hookrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{C}(X)}{\mathbb{R}}$$

Then let $h \in \mathcal{C}(X)$

1. h is a Busemann function
2. h is a horofunction
3. h satisfies the following
 - h is convex
 - h is 1-Lipchitz
 - for $x \in X, r > 0$ then

$$\exists x_1, x_2 \in \partial B_r(x) : |h(x_1) - h(x_2)| = 2r$$

4. h is a $\mathcal{C}^1$ convex function with $\|\text{grad}_g(h)\| = 1$

it is surjective.

maximal metrics

Definition.

$$\angle(\xi, \eta) := \sup_{x \in X} \angle_x(\xi, \eta) : \partial X \times \partial X \rightarrow [0, \pi]$$

Proposition:

$$\angle(X) := (\partial X, \angle)$$

is a metric space.

Proposition: Let $\xi, \eta \in \partial X$. Then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \angle_{\overline{y\xi(t)}}(\xi, \eta) = \angle(\xi, \eta)$$

4.3 Lemma. Let $z, w \in X(\infty)$, $x \in X$ and $c_i: [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$ be unit speed rays with $c_i(0) = x$, $i=1,2$ with $c_1(\infty) = z$ and $c_2(\infty) = w$. Set $\alpha_t = \angle_{c_1(t)}(x, c_2(t))$, $\beta_t = \angle_{c_2(t)}(x, c_1(t))$. Then $\angle(z, w) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (\pi - \alpha_t - \beta_t)$.

Proposition: Let $\xi, \eta \in \partial X$ and $x \in X$. Let c_1, c_2 be minimal geodesic rays from x to ξ, η respectively. Then

$$t \mapsto \frac{1}{t}d(c_1(t), c_2(t))$$

is monotone increasing and bounded by 2 with limit

$$l(\xi, \eta) := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t}d(c_1(t), c_2(t)) = 2 \sin \left(\frac{\angle(\xi, \eta)}{2} \right)$$

For $x \in X$ let c_1, c_2 be the minimal geodesic rays from x to ξ, η and let

$$f(t) := \frac{1}{t}d(c_1(t), c_2(t))$$

.

Definition. Definition

- $\angle(X)$

is the **maximal angular boundary**

- $l(X)$

is the **maximal visual boundary**

- $\text{Td}(X) := \text{length}(\angle X) = \text{length}(l(X))$

is the **Tits boundary**

Proposition: $\angle(X)$ and $l(X)$ are complete metric spaces.

Let ξ_i be a Cauchy sequence in $\angle(X)$.

- Because

$$\angle_x(\xi_n, \xi_m) \leq \angle(\xi_n, \xi_m)$$

for all $x \in X$.

- ...

Proposition: Let $\xi, \eta \in \text{Td}(X)$. If there is **no** geodesic $c: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ such that $c(-\infty) = \xi, c(\infty) = \eta$ then

$$\text{Td}(\xi, \eta) = \angle(\xi, \eta) \leq \pi$$

Werner Ballmann, Mikhael Gromov, Viktor Schroeder - Manifolds of Nonpositive Curvature (1985), p.40

Proposition:

$$\text{length}(\angle X) = \text{length}(l(X))$$

Werner Ballmann, Mikhael Gromov, Viktor Schroeder - Manifolds of Nonpositive Curvature (1985), p.43

global geometry of Tits boundary

Proposition:

- $\mathrm{Td}(\xi, \eta) > \pi$

$\implies$ there is a geodesic $c : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ with $c(-\infty) = \xi, c(\infty) = \eta$
- there is a geodesic $c : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ with $c(-\infty) = \xi, c(\infty) = \eta \implies$

$\mathrm{Td}(\xi, \eta) \geq \pi$
- $\mathrm{diam}(\mathrm{Td}(X)) \geq \pi$

with equality $\iff$ any geodesic in X bounds a flat half plane
- ...

Werner Ballmann, Mikhael Gromov, Viktor Schroeder - Manifolds of Nonpositive Curvature (1985), p.46

Current note has 0 direct children and 0 total descendants.

- structures based on sets
 - manifolds
 - $\mathbb{R}$ -manifold semi-Riemannian
 - Complete Riemannian manifolds
 - Riemannian manifolds with non-positive sectional curvature
 - Boundary of simply connected Hadamard manifolds

And it has 1 siblings.

- structures based on sets
 - manifolds
 - $\mathbb{R}$ -manifold semi-Riemannian
 - Complete Riemannian manifolds
 - Riemannian manifolds with non-positive sectional curvature
 - Boundary of simply connected Hadamard manifolds