

## On infinitesimal orbit type theorems

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It is known, that the Principal Orbit Type (POT) Theorem is not true in the Lorentzian case, i.e. if  $\alpha : G \times M \rightarrow M$  is a smooth isometric action of a Lie-group on a smooth Lorentzian manifold, then there is not necessarily a maximal orbit type. (Consider MSO (3) on the 3-dimensional Minkowski-space  $R_{2,1}$ ). This inspired D. Alekseevsky and J. Szenthe to introduce the infinitesimal type of an orbit, where they changed the isotropy subgroups to their Lie-algebras in the definitions, thus:

**Definition 1** *The orbit  $G(x)$  has greater or equal infinitesimal orbit type as  $G(y)$  (in notion  $G(x) \geq G(y)$ ), if there are orbit points  $x_0 \in G(x)$ ,  $y_0 \in G(y)$ , such that  $\mathfrak{g}_{x_0} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}_{y_0}$ , where  $\mathfrak{g}_{x_0}$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_{y_0}$  are the Lie-algebras of the isotropy subgroups  $G_{x_0}$ ,  $G_{y_0}$ .*

This definition allows us to prove the Infinitesimal Principal Orbit Type (IPOT) Theorem, where we do not need that the action is proper, which is used in (POT).

**Theorem 2 (IPOT Riemann)** *Let  $\alpha : G \times M \rightarrow M$  be a smooth isometric action of a Lie-group  $G$  on a Riemannian manifold  $M$ , then there is a unique maximal infinitesimal orbit type (called principal), and the orbits which have the infinitesimal principal orbit type build an open, dense and connected set in  $M$ .*

**Definition 3** *An orbit  $G(x)$  is normalizable, if there is a bundle  $\widetilde{NG}(x) \subset TM$  over  $G(x)$  such that  $NG(x)$  is  $G$ -invariant (under  $\alpha$ ), and for every  $z \in G(x)$   $T_zM = T_zG(x) + \widetilde{N}_zG(x)$ . The action  $\alpha$  is normalizable if every orbit is normalizable.*

In the Lorentzian case an orbit with spacelike or timelike tangent spaces is always normalizable.

**Theorem 4 (IPOT Lorentz)** *Let  $\alpha : G \times M \rightarrow M$  be a smooth normalizable isometric action of a Lie-group  $G$  on a Lorentz manifold  $M$ , then there is a maximal infinitesimal principal orbit type (called principal), and the orbits which have the infinitesimal principal orbit type build an open dense set in  $M$ .*

An example shows, that connectedness is not always true. So there can be more maximal infinitesimal orbit types if and only if there are orbits which are not normalizable.

**Theorem 5** *An orbit in the Lorentz case which is not normalizable, has lightlike tangent spaces, and the lightlike integral curves of the orbit are lightlike geodesics.*