

# DECOMPOSABILITY OF A POISSON TENSOR COULD BE A STABLE PHENOMENON

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## Abstract

In this paper, we develop one of the questions raised by the author in the mini-course he gave at the conference Geometry and Physics V held at the University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar in May 2007). Let  $\Pi$  be a Poisson tensor on a manifold  $M$ . We suppose that it is decomposable in a neighborhood  $U$  of a point  $m$ , i.e. we have  $\Pi = X \wedge Y$  on  $U$  where  $X$  and  $Y$  are two vector fields. We will exhibit examples where every Poisson tensor near enough  $\Pi$  seems to be also decomposable in a neighborhood of a point which can be chosen arbitrarily near  $m$ ; and this works even if  $M$  has a big dimension. This idea is a consequence of a cohomology calculation which can be interesting by itself.

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $\Pi$  be an homogeneous Poisson tensor of degree  $k$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We attach to it the *homogeneous Lichnerowicz-Poisson cohomology complexes*: by definition, they are given, for every  $s$ ,

$$\mathcal{V}_1^{(s-k+1)} \xrightarrow{\partial_1^{s-k+1}(\Pi)} \mathcal{V}_2^{(s)} \xrightarrow{\partial_2^s(\Pi)} \mathcal{V}_3^{(s+k-1)} \dots$$

where  $\mathcal{V}_r^{(s)}$  is the space of  $s$ -homogeneous  $r$ -vector fields on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (chosen to be  $\{0\}$  for  $s < 0$ ), and the operators  $\partial_r^\ell(\Pi)$  are defined by

$$\partial_r^\ell(\Pi)(A) = [\Pi, A],$$

for all homogeneous multi-vector field  $A$ . The associated second cohomology space is

$$H^{2,s}(\Pi) = \frac{\text{Ker}(\partial_2^s(\Pi))}{\text{Im}(\partial_1^{s-k+1}(\Pi))}.$$

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For any  $r$ -vector  $A$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we denote by  $DA$  its “curl” relatively to the volume  $\Omega = dx_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_n$ : we recall that  $D: \mathcal{V}_r^{(s)} \longrightarrow \mathcal{V}_{r-1}^{(s-1)}$  is the operator  $(\Omega^\flat)^{-1} \circ d \circ \Omega^\flat$ , where  $\Omega^\flat$  is the contraction with  $\Omega$ . We will use notations and sign conventions of [DZ05]. Our principal result is the following.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\Pi$  a  $k$ -homogeneous Poisson tensor on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $k > 2$ . We suppose that its maximal rank is 2 and that its curl  $D\Pi$  has an isolated zero at the origin. Then we have*

$$H^{2,s}(\Pi) = 0$$

for any  $s$  different from 2,  $k$  and  $2k - 2$ . For  $s = k$  the cocycles which are not coboundary have the form  $I \wedge V$ , where  $V$  is a vector field. For  $s = 2k - 2$  cocycle which are not coboundary are multiples of  $\Pi$ .

The next section is dedicated to the proof of this theorem. It will use the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.2.** *Under the hypothesis of Theorem 1.1 we have*

$$\Pi = \frac{1}{2 - n - k} I \wedge X$$

with  $X = D\Pi$ .

In the last section we will try to show that a consequence of Theorem 1.1 should be the following conjecture.

**Conjecture 1.3.** *Let  $\Pi$  a Poisson structure satisfying Theorem 1.1 hypothesis. Every Poisson structure  $\Pi'$ , near enough  $\Pi$  in the  $C^{2k}$  compact open topology, is decomposable (i.e.  $\Pi' = U \wedge V$ ) on a neighborhood of a point  $m$  which can be chosen as near as we want from the origin.*

If true, this result is a little surprising because, when dimension of the ambient space is big, it is very easy to perturb a decomposable bi-vector in a non decomposable one.

## 2 Proof of Theorem 1.1

**Definition 2.1.** *We say that an analytic vector field  $V$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has the analytic division property if for any analytic  $p$ -vector  $A$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with  $p < n$ , the relation*

$$V \wedge A = 0$$

implies

$$A = B \wedge V$$

for some analytic  $(p - 1)$ -vector  $B$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *Any polynomial vector field  $Z$  which have an isolated zero at the origin has the analytic division property.*

See section 2 of [M76] for a proof of this last lemma. We will use also the following evident lemma.

**Lemma 2.3.** *For any  $s$ -homogeneous  $r$ -vector  $A$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we have*

$$[I, A] = (s - r)A.$$

**Lemma 2.4.** *Koszul formula. We have the formula*

$$[A, B] = (-1)^b D(A \wedge B) - DA \wedge B - (-1)^b A \wedge DB, \quad (2.1)$$

for any  $r$ -vector ( $r$  arbitrary)  $A$  and any  $b$ -vector  $B$ .

See [DZ05], Formula (2.91).

**Lemma 2.5.** *Camacho Lins Neto Lemma. Let  $Z$  be an homogeneous vector field of degree greater or equal than 2 on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which has an isolated zero at the origin. If  $L$  is a linear vector field on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that*

$$[Z, L] = 0, \quad (2.2)$$

then  $L$  vanishes identically.

See [CN82], Lemma 1.

*Proof of Lemma 1.2.* Koszul formula gives

$$0 = [\Pi, \Pi] = D(\Pi \wedge \Pi) - 2D\Pi \wedge \Pi.$$

The rank condition gives  $\Pi \wedge \Pi = 0$  and so we have

$$X \wedge \Pi = 0$$

( $X = D\Pi$ ). By the division property we get

$$\Pi = U \wedge X,$$

for a linear vector field  $U$ . But Koszul formula gives

$$X = D(U \wedge X) = -[U, X] - D(U)X$$

so

$$(1 + D(U))X = [X, U].$$

But, by Lemma 2.3, we have

$$(2 - k)X = [X, I]$$

so we get

$$[X, U] = \frac{1 + D(U)}{2 - k} [X, I]$$

which can be rewritten

$$[X, L] = 0$$

with the linear vector field

$$L = U - \frac{1 + D(U)}{2 - k} I.$$

Now Camacho Lins Neto Lemma implies

$$L = 0,$$

so

$$U = \frac{1 + D(U)}{2 - k} I.$$

Now we apply the operator  $D$  to the members of the last equation to get

$$D(U) = \frac{n}{2 - k - n}.$$

Putting this in the last expression of  $U$  we fall on

$$U = \frac{1}{2 - k - n} I$$

which proves Lemma 1.2 □

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.*

To simplify notations we will write  $\Pi = I \wedge Z$  with

$$Z = \frac{1}{2 - n - k} X.$$

*A- We suppose that  $s$  is different from 2,  $k$  and  $2k - 2$ .*

Let  $A$  a  $s$ -homogeneous 2-vector; it is a cocycle if we have relation

$$0 = [A, \Pi] = [A, I \wedge Z] = [A, I] \wedge Z - I \wedge [A, Z]. \quad (2.3)$$

So, using Lemma 2.3, this is equivalent to

$$(2 - s)A \wedge Z = I \wedge [A, Z]. \quad (2.4)$$

We apply the curl operator  $D$  to the two members of cocycle Equation (2.4) to get

$$(2 - s)D(A \wedge Z) = D(I \wedge [A, Z]). \quad (2.5)$$

Using Koszul formula two times this becomes

$$(2 - s)\{-[A, Z] - DA \wedge Z\} = [I, [A, Z]] + DI \wedge [A, Z] + I \wedge D[A, Z], \quad (2.6)$$

which leads to

$$[A, Z] = \frac{2 - s}{2 - k - n} DA \wedge Z + \frac{1}{2 - k - n} I \wedge D[A, Z]. \quad (2.7)$$

When we replace  $[A, Z]$  in (2.4) according to the above formula we get

$$A \wedge Z = \frac{1}{2 - k - n} I \wedge DA \wedge Z; \quad (2.8)$$

which can be written in the form

$$\{A + \frac{1}{k+n-2}I \wedge DA\} \wedge Z = 0 . \quad (2.9)$$

Using division property of  $Z$  and checking homogeneity degrees this gives

$$A + \frac{1}{k+n-2}I \wedge DA = U \wedge Z. \quad (2.10)$$

where  $U \equiv 0$  if  $s < k-1$  and is a  $(s-k+1)$ -homogeneous vector field for  $s \geq k-1$ .

We apply the operator  $D$  to the two members of (2.10) to get

$$DA + \frac{1}{k+n-2}D(I \wedge DA) = D(U \wedge Z) . \quad (2.11)$$

But we have the Koszul formula

$$[I, DA] = -D(I \wedge DA) - DI \wedge DA , \quad (2.12)$$

which leads to

$$DA + \frac{1}{k+n-2}(-[I, DA] - nDA) = D(U \wedge Z) , \quad (2.13)$$

so to

$$DA(1 - \frac{1}{k+n-2}(s-2+n)) = D(U \wedge Z) , \quad (2.14)$$

and finally to

$$\frac{k-s}{k+n-2}DA = D(U \wedge Z) . \quad (2.15)$$

When we put Result (2.15) in Equation (2.10) we get

$$A = U \wedge Z + \frac{1}{s-k}I \wedge D(U \wedge Z) . \quad (2.16)$$

When it doesn't vanish,  $U$  can be put on the form

$$U = \lambda I + U_0 , \quad (2.17)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a  $(s-k)$ -homogeneous function and  $U_0$  is a  $(s-k+1)$ -homogeneous vector field such that  $DU_0 = 0$ . So the cocycle  $A$  decomposes in

$$A = A_1 + A_0 \quad (2.18)$$

where

$$A_1 = \lambda I \wedge Z + \frac{1}{s-k}I \wedge D(\lambda I \wedge Z) \quad (2.19)$$

and

$$A_0 = U_0 \wedge Z + \frac{1}{s-k}I \wedge D(U_0 \wedge Z) . \quad (2.20)$$

But Koszul formula gives

$$[I, \lambda I \wedge Z] = -DI \wedge \lambda I \wedge Z - I \wedge D(\lambda I \wedge Z) \quad (2.21)$$

and this leads to

$$I \wedge D(\lambda I \wedge Z) = (-s - n + 2)\lambda \Pi . \quad (2.22)$$

This gives

$$A_1 = \frac{-k - n + 2}{s - k} \lambda \Pi . \quad (2.23)$$

Now, for any  $(s - k)$ -homogeneous function  $\mu$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} [\mu I, \Pi] &= [\mu I, I] \wedge Z + I \wedge [\mu I, Z] = -I(\mu)I \wedge Z + I \wedge \mu[I, Z] \\ &= (2k - s - 2)\mu \Pi. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

and this shows that (for  $s$  different from  $2k - 2$ )  $A_1$  is a coboundary.

Now  $A_0$  can be rewritten as

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{k - s} \{ (k - s)U_0 \wedge Z - I \wedge D(U_0 \wedge Z) \} = \frac{1}{k - s} \{ [U_0, I] \wedge Z + I \wedge [U_0, Z] \} , \quad (2.25)$$

so we have

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{k - s} [U_0, I \wedge Z] = [\frac{1}{k - s} U_0, \Pi] \quad (2.26)$$

which shows that  $A_0$  is also a coboundary.

*B- We suppose  $s = k$ .*

In that case we can perform the same calculations as in the case A until Formula (2.15): we get that  $U$  is a linear vector field and this last formula gives that  $D(U \wedge Z)$  vanishes. So Koszul formula gives

$$[U, Z] + D(U)Z = 0 , \quad (2.27)$$

where  $D(U)$  is a constant. But we have also

$$D(U)Z = [\frac{D(U)}{k - 2} I, Z] ; \quad (2.28)$$

So we get

$$[U - \frac{D(U)}{k - 2} I, Z] = 0 , \quad (2.29)$$

which, by Camacho Lins Neto Lemma, gives

$$U = \frac{D(U)}{k - 2} I . \quad (2.30)$$

When we put this in Formula (2.10) we get

$$A = I \wedge V , \quad (2.31)$$

proving the theorem in that case.

*C- We suppose  $s = 2k - 2$ .*

In that case all the calculations of A- go through. The only difference is that the cocycles  $A_1 (= \frac{-k - n + 2}{s - k} \lambda \Pi)$  are not always coboundaries. But all other cocycles are coboundaries. So we have proved the Theorem 1.1  $\square$

### 3 Decomposability of certain Poisson tensors

Theorem 1.1 says nothing concerning  $H^{2,2}(\Pi)$ , the case where  $s = 2$ . But we conjecture that it vanishes. At least we know that it vanishes in all precise examples we have computed. For example we prove this result in [D07] for the particular case  $\Pi = I \wedge X^{(k-1)}$  with  $X^{(k-1)} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^{k-1} \partial / \partial x_i$  ( $k > 3$ ,  $n > 2$ ).

Also it is proven in [DW06] and [D07] that, when  $H^{2,s}(\Pi)$  vanishes for  $s = 0, \dots, k-1$  then the origin is a stable singular point. More precisely this means that: for any neighborhood  $U$  of the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a neighborhood  $W$  of  $\Pi$  in the  $C^{2k}$ -topology such that, any Poisson vector  $\Pi'$  in  $W$  vanishes at order  $k-1$  at a point  $m$  in  $U$ .

Now let  $\Pi'^{(k)}$  the  $k$ -order part of  $\Pi'$  at  $m$ . Up to a shrinking of  $W$  we can suppose that the curl  $X'$  of  $\Pi'^{(k)}$  is as near as we want from the curl  $X$  of  $\Pi$ . A consequence is that we can suppose that  $X'$  has, like  $X$ , an isolated zero at the origin (which corresponds now to  $m$ ). This is an evident exercise based on the fact that any homogeneous vector field which vanishes at a point different from the origin vanishes also on a line which passes by the origin.

The most conjectural part of this section is that, shrinking a little more  $W$ ,  $\Pi'^{(k)}$  should have at most rank 2. A first clue for this is the last part of Theorem 1.1 where we find that  $k$ -cocycles which are not coboundary have the form  $I \wedge V$ ; this gives the intuition that Poisson deformations of  $\Pi$  must have the form  $I \wedge Y$ . Another clue is based on the following, easy to prove, lemma.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Any  $k$ -homogeneous 2-vector  $A$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has a unique decomposition*

$$A = A_0 + \frac{1}{2-n-k} I \wedge A_1, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $A_0$  has a null curl and  $A_1$  is the curl of  $A$ . Moreover  $A$  is a Poisson tensor if and only if we have the equation

$$[A_0, A_0] = A_0 \wedge \frac{2k-4}{2-n-k} A_1. \quad (3.2)$$

Now we could probably use this lemma like this: if  $\Pi'^{(k)}$  is sufficiently near  $\Pi$  then its “zero curl” part  $\Pi_0'^{(k)}$  is near zero ( $\Pi_0 \equiv 0$ ). But, because  $\Pi'^{(k)}$  has a curl  $\Pi_1'^{(k)}$  which vanishes only at the origin, Equation (3.2) should give

$$\|\Pi_0'^{(k)}\|^2 \geq a \|\Pi_1'^{(k)}\|, \quad (3.3)$$

for a good norm  $\|\cdot\|$  and some strictly positive constant  $a$ . This must implies  $\Pi_0'^{(k)} = 0$  and so  $\Pi'^{(k)} = I \wedge V$ .

Under the above (conjectural) assumption, we can apply Lemma 1.2 and then Theorem 1.1 to  $\Pi'^{(k)}$ . This last theorem for  $s > k$  and classical techniques (see for example [DZ05] Proposition 2.2.1) show that, for any  $s > 2k-2$  there is a local polynomial diffeomorphism  $\phi$  which changes  $\Pi'$  into  $(1+f)\Pi'^{(k)}$ +terms of order more than  $s$ , near  $m$ ,  $f$  being an homogeneous  $(k-2)$ -polynomial. This can be used to show step by step that  $\Pi' \wedge \Pi'$  vanishes at any order at  $m$ . So, at least in the analytic case, it vanishes near  $m$ . This should prove that  $\Pi'$  has maximal rank 2 near  $m$ . Finally it should be easy to improve a little this to get  $\Pi' \wedge I = 0$  and so  $\Pi' = I \wedge V$  near  $m$ .

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