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-Rigidity and applications to Fixed-point Theory

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We show that Bieberbach's rigidity theorem for flat manifolds still holds true for any continuous maps on infra-nilmanifolds. Namely, every endomorphism of an almost crystallographic group is semi-conjugate to an affine endomorphism. Applying this result to Fixed-point theory, we obtain a criterion for the Lefschetz number and Nielsen number for a map on infra-nilmanifolds to be equal.

0. Infra-nilmanifolds. Let G be a connected Lie group. Consider the semi-group $\operatorname{Endo}(G)$, the set of all endomorphisms of G, under the composition as operation. We form the semi-direct product $G \rtimes \operatorname{Endo}(G)$ and call it $\operatorname{aff}(G)$. With the binary operation

$$(a, A)(b, B) = (a \cdot Ab, AB),$$

the set $\operatorname{aff}(G)$ forms a semi-group with identity (e, 1), where $e \in G$ and $1 \in \operatorname{Endo}(G)$ are the identity elements. The semi-group $\operatorname{aff}(G)$ "acts" on G by

$$(a,A)\cdot x = a\cdot Ax.$$

Note that (a, A) is not a homeomorphism unless $A \in Aut(G)$. Clearly, aff(G) is a subsemi-group of the semi-group of all continuous maps of G into itself, for ((a, A)(b, B))x = (a, A)((b, B)x) for all $x \in G$. We call elements of aff(G) affine endomorphisms.

Suppose G is a connected, simply connected, nilpotent Lie group; $\operatorname{Aff}(G) = G \rtimes \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ is called the group of affine automorphisms of G. Let $\pi \subset \operatorname{Aff}(G)$ be a discrete subgroup such that $\Gamma = \pi \cap G$ has finite index in π . Then $\pi \setminus G$ is compact if and only if Γ is a lattice of G. In this case, π is called an *almost crystallographic group*. If moreover, π is torsion-free, π is an *almost Bieberbach group*. Such a group is the fundamental group of an infra-nilmanifold. According to Gromov and Farrell-Hsiang, the class of infra-nilmanifolds coincides with the class of almost flat manifolds. 1. Generalization of Bieberbach's Theorem. In 1911, Bieberbach proved that any automorphism of a crystallographic group is conjugation by an element of $\operatorname{Aff}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbb{R}^n \rtimes \operatorname{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$. Recently this was generalized to almost crystallographic groups, see [1], [3] and [4].

We shall generalize this result to all homomorphisms (not necessarily isomorphisms). Topologically, this implies that every continuous map on an infra-nilmanifold is homotopic to a map induced by an affine endomorphism on the Lie group level. It can be stated as: every endomorphism of an almost crystallographic group is semiconjugate to an affine endomorphism.

THEOREM 1.1. Let $\pi, \pi' \subset \operatorname{Aff}(G)$ be two almost crystallographic groups. Then for any homomorphism $\theta : \pi \to \pi'$, there exists $g = (d, D) \in \operatorname{aff}(G)$ such that $\theta(\alpha) \cdot g = g \cdot \alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \pi$.

COROLLARY 1.2. Let $M = \pi \setminus G$ be an infra-nilmanifold, and $h: M \to M$ be any map. Then h is homotopic to a map induced from an affine endomorphism $G \to G$.

COROLLARY 1.3 [3, 4]. Homotopy equivalent infra-nilmanifolds are affinely diffeomorphic.

Now we consider the uniqueness problem: How many g's are there? Let $\Phi = \pi/(G \cap \pi) \subset \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ and $\Phi' = \pi'/(G \cap \pi') \subset \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ be the holonomy groups of π and π' . Let Ψ' be the image of $\theta(\pi)$ in Φ' . So $\Phi' \subset \operatorname{Aut}(G)$. Let $G^{\Psi'}$ denote the fixed point set of the action. For $c \in G$, $\mu(c)$ denotes conjugation by c. Therefore, $\mu(c)(x) = cxc^{-1}$ for all $x \in G$. The group of all inner automorphisms is denoted by $\operatorname{Inn}(G)$.

PROPOSITION 1.4 (Uniqueness). With the same notation as above, suppose $\theta(\alpha) \cdot g = g \cdot \alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \pi$. Then $\theta(\alpha) \cdot \gamma = \gamma \cdot \alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \pi$ if and only if $\gamma = \xi \cdot g$, where $\xi = (c, \mu(c^{-1}))$, for $c \in G^{\Psi'}$. Therefore, D is unique up to Inn(G). If θ is an isomorphism, then $c \in G^{\Phi'}$. In particular, if π is a Bieberbach group with $H^1(\pi; \mathbb{R}) = 0$ and θ is an isomorphism, then such a g is unique.

EXAMPLE 1.5. The subgroup $\Gamma = \pi \cap G$ of of an almost crystallographic group π is characteristic, but not fully invariant. The

homomorphism θ in the Theorem 1.1 may not map the maximal normal nilpotent subgroup Γ of π into that of π' . This causes a lot of trouble. Let π be an orientable 4-dimensional Bieberbach group with holonomy group \mathbb{Z}_2 . More precisely, $\pi \subset \mathbb{R}^4 \rtimes O(4) =$ $E(4) \subset \operatorname{Aff}(\mathbb{R}^4)$ is generated by $(e_1, I), (e_2, I), (e_3, I), (e_4, I)$ and (a, A), where $a = (1/2, 0, 0, 0)^t$, and A is diagonal matrix with diagonal entries 1, -1, -1 and 1. Note that $(a, A)^2 = (e_1, I)$. The subgroup generated by $(e_1, I), (e_2, I), (e_3, I)$, and (a, A) forms a 3dimensional Bieberbach group \mathcal{G}_2 , and $\pi = \mathcal{G}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}$. Consider the endomorphism $\theta : \pi \to \pi$ which is the composite $\pi \to \mathbb{Z} \to \pi$, where the first map is the projection onto $\mathbb{Z} = \langle (e_4, I) \rangle$ and the second map sends (e_4, I) to (a, A). Thus the homomorphism θ does not map the maximal normal abelian subgroup \mathbb{Z}^4 (generated by the 4 translations) into itself. Such a \mathbb{Z}^4 is characteristic but not fully invariant in π . Let

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \qquad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and let g = (d, D). Then it is easy to see $\theta(\alpha) \cdot g = g \cdot \alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \pi$.

According to the Proposition 1.4, the element g = (d, D) is the most general form. The matrix D is uniquely determined and the translation part d can vary only in two dimensions.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let $\Gamma = \pi \cap G$, $\Gamma' = \pi' \cap G$. As the example shows, the characteristic subgroup Γ may not go into Γ' by the homomorphism θ . Let $\Lambda = \Gamma \cap \theta^{-1}(\Gamma')$. Then Λ is a normal subgroup of π and has a finite index. Let $Q = \pi/\Lambda$.

Consider the homomorphism $\Lambda \to \Gamma' \hookrightarrow G$, where the first map is the restriction of θ . Since Λ is a lattice of G, by Malćev's work, any such a homomorphism extends uniquely to a continuous homomorphism $C: G \to G$, cf. [5, 2.11]. Thus, $\theta|_{\Lambda} = C|_{\Lambda}$, where $C \in \text{Endo}(G)$; and hence, $\theta(z, 1) = (Cz, 1)$ for all $z \in \Lambda$ (more precisely, $(z, 1) \in \Lambda$).

Let us denote the composite homomorphism $\pi \to \pi' \to G \rtimes \operatorname{Aut}(G) \to \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ by $\overline{\theta}$; and define a map $f : \pi \to G$ by

(1)
$$\theta(w,K) = (Cw \cdot f(w,K), \overline{\theta}(w,K)).$$

For any $(z,1) \in \Lambda$ and $(w,K) \in \pi$, apply θ to both sides of $(w,K)(z,1)(w,K)^{-1} = (w \cdot Kz \cdot w^{-1},1)$ to get $Cw \cdot f(w,K) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w,K)(Cz) \cdot f(w,K)^{-1} \cdot (Cw)^{-1} = \theta(w \cdot Kz \cdot w^{-1})$. However, $w \cdot Kz \cdot w^{-1} \in \Lambda$ since Λ is normal in π , and the latter term equals to $C(w \cdot Kz \cdot w^{-1}) = Cw \cdot CKz \cdot (Cw)^{-1}$ since $C : G \to G$ is a homomorphism. From this we have

(2)
$$\overline{\theta}(w,K)(Cz) = f(w,K)^{-1} \cdot CKz \cdot f(w,K).$$

This is true for all $z \in \Lambda$. Note that $\overline{\theta}(w, K)$ and K are automorphisms of the Lie group G; and $C : G \to G$ is an endomorphism. By the uniqueness of extension of a homomorphism $\Lambda \to G$ to an endomorphism $G \to G$, as mentioned above, the equality (2) holds true for all $z \in G$. It is also easy to see that f(zw, K) = f(w, K) for all $z \in \Lambda$ so that $f : \pi \to G$ does not depend on Λ . Thus, f factors through $Q = \pi/\Lambda$. Moreover, $\overline{\theta} : \pi \to \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ also factors through $Q \to \operatorname{Aut}(G)$.

CLAIM. With the Q-structure on G via $\overline{\theta} : Q \to \operatorname{Aut}(G), f \in Z^1(Q;G)$; that is $f : Q \to G$ is a crossed homomorphism.

Proof. We shall show

$$f((w,K) \cdot (w',K')) = f(w,K) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w,K) f(w',K')$$

for all (w, K), $(w', K') \in \pi$. (Note that we are using the elements of π to denote the elements of Q.) Apply θ to both sides of $(w, K)(w', K') = (w \cdot Kw', KK')$ to get $Cw \cdot f(w, K) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)[Cw' \cdot f(w', K')] = C(w \cdot Kw') \cdot f((w, K)(w', K'))$. From this it follows that

$$f((w, K)(w', K')) = (CKw')^{-1} \cdot f(w, K)$$
$$\cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)(Cw') \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)f(w', K').$$

From (2) we have $\overline{\theta}(w, K)Cw' = f(w, K)^{-1} \cdot CKw' \cdot f(w, K)$ so that $f((w, K) \cdot (w', K')) = f(w, K) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)f(w', K').$

In [4], it was proved that $H^1(Q;G) = 0$ whenever Q is a finite group and G is a connected and simply connected nilpotent Lie

group. The proof uses induction on the nilpotency of G together with the fact that $H^1(Q;G) = 0$ for a finite group Q and a real vector group G. This means that any crossed homomorphism is "principal". In other words, there exists $d \in G$ such that

(3)
$$f(w,K) = d \cdot \overline{\theta}(w,K)(d^{-1}).$$

Let $D = \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C$ and $g = (d, D) \in \operatorname{aff}(G)$, and we check that θ is "conjugation" by g. Using (1), (2) and (3), one can show $\overline{\theta}(w, K) \circ \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C = \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C \circ K$. Thus, for any $(w, K) \in \pi$,

$$\begin{split} \theta(w, K) \cdot (d, D) \\ &= (Cw \cdot f(w, K), \ \overline{\theta}(w, K)) \cdot (d, \ \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C) \\ &= (Cw \cdot f(w, K) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)(d), \ \overline{\theta}(w, K) \circ \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C) \\ &= (Cw \cdot d \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)(d^{-1}) \cdot \overline{\theta}(w, K)(d), \ \overline{\theta}(w, K) \circ \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C) \\ &= (Cw \cdot d, \ \mu(d^{-1}) \circ C \circ K) \\ &= (d, D) \cdot (w, K). \end{split}$$

This finishes the proof of theorem.

Proof of Corollary 1.2. We start with the homomorphism $h_{\#}$: $\pi_1(M) \to \pi_1(M)$, induced from h, as our θ in the Theorem 1.1 and obtain $\tilde{g} = (d, D)$ satisfying

$$h_{\#}(\alpha) \circ \widetilde{g} = \widetilde{g} \circ \alpha.$$

Let $g: M \to M$ be the induced map. Then $h_{\#} = g_{\#}$. Since any two continuous maps on a closed aspherical manifold inducing the same homomorphism on the fundamental group (up to conjugation by an element of the fundamental group) are homotopic to each other, h is homotopic to g. This completes the proof of the corollary.

Proof of Proposition 1.4. Let g = (d, D), $\gamma = (c, C)$. Since $\theta(\alpha) \cdot g = g \cdot \alpha$ holds when $\alpha = (z, 1) \in \Lambda$, we have $Dz = d^{-1}z'd$, where $\theta(z, 1) = (z', 1)$. Similarly, $Cz = c^{-1}z'c$. Thus $Cz = \mu(c^{-1}d)Dz$ for all $z \in \Lambda$. Since Λ is a lattice, this equality holds on G. Consequently, $C = \mu(c^{-1}d)D$. Now $\gamma = (c, C) = (c, \mu(c^{-1}d)D) = (d^{-1}c, \mu(c^{-1}d))(d, D) = (h, \mu(h^{-1}))(d, D)$, if we

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let $h = d^{-1}c$. Set $\xi = (h, \mu(h^{-1}))$. Then $\gamma = \xi \cdot g$. Now we shall observe that $h \in G^{\Psi'}$. Let $\theta(\alpha) = (b, B)$. Then $\theta(\alpha)\xi g = \theta(\alpha)\gamma =$ $\gamma \alpha = \xi g \alpha = \xi \theta(\alpha)g$ yields Bh = h for all $(b, B) = \theta(\alpha)$. Clearly then $B \in \Psi'$ by definition. For a Bieberbach group π , note that rank $H^1(\pi; \mathbb{Z}) = \dim G^{\Phi}$.

2. Application to Fixed-point theory. Let M be a closed manifold and let $f: M \to M$ be a continuous map. The Lefschetz number L(f) of f is defined by

$$L(f) := \sum_{k} \quad \operatorname{trace}\{(f_*)_k : H_k(M; \mathbb{Q}) \to H_k(M; \mathbb{Q})\}.$$

To define the Nielsen number N(f) of f, we define an equivalence relation on Fix(f) as follows: For $x_0, x_1 \in \text{Fix}(f), x_0 \sim x_1$ if and only if there exists a path c from x_0 to x_1 such that c is homotopic to $f \circ c$ relative to the end points. An equivalence class of this relation is called a *fixed point class* (=FPC) of f. To each FPC F, one can assign an integer ind(f, F). A FPC F is called *essential* if ind $(f, F) \neq 0$. Now,

N(f) := the number of essential fixed point classes.

These two numbers give information on the existence of fixed point sets. If $L(f) \neq 0$, every self-map g of M homotopic to f has a non-empty fixed point set. The Nielsen number is a lower bound for the number of components of the fixed point set of all maps homotopic to f. Even though N(f) gives more information than L(f) does, it is harder to calculate. If M is an infra-nilmanifold, and f is homotopically periodic, then it is known that L(f) = N(f).

LEMMA 2.1. Let $B \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ with a finite order. Then $det(I - B) \ge 0$.

Proof. Since B has finite order, it can be conjugated into the orthogonal group O(n). Since all eigenvalues are roots of unity, there exists $P \in \operatorname{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ such that PBP^{-1} is a block diagonal matrix, with each block being a 1×1 , or, a 2×2 -matrix. All 1×1 blocks must be $D = [\pm 1]$, and hence $\det(I - D) = 0$ or 2. For a

 2×2 block, it is of the form $\begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}$. Consequently, each 2×2 block D has the property that $\det(I - D) = (1 - \cos t)^2 + \sin^2 t = 2(1 - \cos t) \ge 0$.

THEOREM 2.2. Let $f: M \to M$ be a continuous map on an infra-nilmanifold $M = \pi \backslash G$. Let $g = (d, D) \in \operatorname{aff}(G)$ be a homotopy lift of f by Corollary 1.2. Then L(f) = N(f) (resp., L(f) =-N(f)) if and only if det $(I - D_*A_*) \ge 0$ (resp., det $(I - D_*A_*) \le 0$) for all $A \in \Phi$, the holonomy group of M.

Proof. Since L(f) and N(f) are homotopy invariants, we may assume that f = g. Let $\Gamma = \pi \cap G$, and let $\Lambda = \Gamma \cap f_{\#}^{-1} f_{\#}(\Gamma \cap f_{\#}^{-1}(\Gamma))$. Then Γ is a normal subgroup of π , of finite index. Moreover, $f_{\#} : \pi \to \pi$ maps Λ into itself. Therefore, f induces a map on the finite-sheeted regular covering space $\Lambda \setminus G$ of $\pi \setminus G$.

Let \tilde{f} be a lift of f to $\Gamma \backslash G$. Then

$$L(f) = \frac{1}{[\pi : \Lambda]} \Sigma \operatorname{ind}(f, p_{\Lambda} \operatorname{Fix}(\alpha \tilde{f}))$$
$$N(f) = \frac{1}{[\pi : \Lambda]} \Sigma |\operatorname{ind}(f, p_{\Lambda} \operatorname{Fix}(\alpha \tilde{f}))|$$

where the sum ranges over all $\alpha \in \pi/\Lambda$. See, [2, III 2.12]. However, each $\alpha \tilde{f}$ is a map on the nilmanifold $\Lambda \setminus G$, and hence $\operatorname{ind}(f, p_{\Lambda} \operatorname{Fix}(\alpha \tilde{f}))$ is determined by $\det(I - (\alpha f)_*)$. It is not hard to see that, for any $\alpha \in \operatorname{Inn}(G)$, α_* has eigenvalue only 1. Therefore, it is enough to look at elements with non-trivial holonomy. Now the hypothesis guarantees that $\det(I - (\alpha f)_*) = \det(I - D_*A_*) \geq 0$ or ≤ 0 always. Consequently, L(f) = N(f) or L(f) = -N(f).

Conversely, suppose L(f) = N(f) (resp. L(f) = -N(f)). Let $\alpha = (a, A) \in \pi$. If $\operatorname{Fix}(g \circ \alpha) = \emptyset$, then clearly $\det(I - D_*A_*) = 0$. Otherwise, $\operatorname{Fix}(g \circ \alpha)$ is isolated, and the indices at these fixed points are $\det(I - D_*A_*)$. By the formula above relating L(f), N(f) with the ones on covering spaces, all $\det(I - D_*A_*)$ must have the same sign. This proves the theorem.

COROLLARY 2.3 [3]. Let $f : M \to M$ be a homotopically periodic map on an infra-nilmanifold. Then N(f) = L(f).

Proof. Here is an argument which is completely different from the one in [3]. Let $\Gamma = \pi \cap G$, and $\Phi = \pi/\Gamma$, the holonomy group.

Let $g = (d, D) \in G \rtimes \operatorname{Aut}(G)$ be a homotopy lift of f to G. Let E be the lifting group of the action of $\langle g \rangle$ to G. That is, E is generated by π and g. Then E/Γ is a finite group generated by Φ and D. For every $A \in \Phi$, DA lies in E/Γ , and has a finite order. By Lemma 2.1, $\det(I - DA) \ge 0$ for all $A \in \Phi$. By Theorem 2.2, L(f) = N(f).

Let S be a connected, simply connected solvable Lie group and H be a closed subgroup of S. The coset space $H \setminus S$ is called a solvmanifold.

COROLLARY 2.4 [7]. Let $f: M \to M$ be a homotopically periodic map on an infra-solvmanifold. Then N(f) = L(f).

Proof. In [5], the statement for solvmanifolds was proved. We needed a subgroup invariant under $f_{\#}$. To achieve this, a new model space M' which is homotopy equivalent to M, together with a map $f': M' \to M'$ corresponding to f was constructed. The new space M' is a fiber bundle over a torus with fiber a nilmanifold; and f' is fiber-preserving. Moreover, we found a fully invariant subgroup Λ of π of finite index (so, is invariant under $f'_{\#}$). Now we can apply the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 2.2.

EXAMPLE 2.5. Let π be an orientable 3-dimensional Bieberbach group with holonomy group \mathbb{Z}_2 . More precisely, $\pi \subset \mathbb{R}^3 \rtimes O(3) = E(3)$ is generated by $(e_1, I), (e_2, I), (e_3, I)$ and (a, A), where $a = (1/2, 0, 0)^t$, A is a diagonal matrix with diagonal entries 1, -1 and -1. Note that $(a, A)^2 = (e_1, I)$. Let $M = \mathbb{R}^3/\pi$ be the flat manifold. Consider the endomorphism $\theta : \pi \to \pi$ which is defined by the conjugation by g = (d, D), where

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $f: M \to M$ be the map induced from g. There are only two conjugacy classes of g; namely, g and αg . Fix $(g) = (0, 0, 0)^t$ and Fix $(\alpha g) = (1/4, 0, 0)^t$. Since det(I - D) = det(I - AD) = +2, L(f) = N(f) = 2.

The Lefschetz number can be calculated from homology groups also.

(1) $H_0(M; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}; f_*$ is the identity map.

- (2) $H_1(M; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}$, which is generated by the element (e_1, I) . f_* is multiplication by 3 (the (1,1)-entry of D).
- (3) $H_2(M; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}; f_* \text{ is multiplication by det } \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = -2.$

(4) $H_3(M; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}; f_*$ is multiplication by $\det(D) = -6$. Therefore, $L(f) = \Sigma(-1)^i \operatorname{trace} f_* = 1 - 3 + (-2) - (-6) = 2$. Note that f has infinite period, and this example is not covered by Corollary 2.3.

EXAMPLE 2.6. Let π be same as in Example 2.5. This time g = (d, D), is given by

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $f: M \to M$ be the map induced from g. There are six conjugacy classes of g; namely, g and αg , $\alpha t_1 g$, $\alpha t_1^2 g$, $\alpha t_1^3 g$, and $\alpha t_1^4 g$. Each class has exactly one fixed point. Clearly, det(I - D) = +2 and det(I - AD) = -10. Therefore, the first fixed point has index +1 and the rest have index -1. Consequently, L(f) = -4, while N(f) = 6.

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