



David Fisher · Jean-François Lafont · Nicholas Miller · Matthew Stover

Corrigendum to “Finiteness of maximal geodesic submanifolds in hyperbolic hybrids”

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Abstract. This corrigendum points out an issue with our Angle Rigidity theorem, Theorem 4.1 in [J. Eur. Math. Soc. (JEMS) **23**, 3591–3623 (2021)], in certain codimensions. This effects the proof of our main result on finiteness of maximal totally geodesic submanifolds of n -dimensional hyperbolic hybrids, Theorem 1.4 loc. cit., in codimension at least $\frac{n}{2}$. Theorem 1.4 was later proved in greater generality by different methods, and thus holds in the full generality stated in our paper.

Keywords: hyperbolic geometry, totally geodesic submanifold, arithmeticity.

This corrigendum freely uses definitions and notation from [3]. Our primary purpose is to point out a gap in the proof of the following, which is stated as [3, Theorem 4.1].

Angle Rigidity: Fix a non-arithmetic hyperbolic manifold M that is built from building blocks, and suppose that two adjacent building blocks N_1 and N_2 are arithmetic and dissimilar. Let $A \subset M$ be a connected finite-volume immersed totally geodesic submanifold of dimension at least 2 such that A intersects the interior of N_1 and N_2 , i.e., crosses a cutting hypersurface Σ . Then A meets Σ orthogonally.

The proof of this result is not complete if the codimension of A in M is at least $\frac{n}{2}$, where $n = \dim(M)$, and this effects the proof of [3, Theorem 1.4] in this case. It should be emphasized that [3, Theorem 1.4] is correct as stated, since it follows from the (far more general) [1, Theorem 1.1].

The issue with the proof of Angle Rigidity stems from the reliance on the enumeration of totally geodesic subspaces given in [4], which is not complete if $\dim(A) = 3$ or if A has

David Fisher: Department of Mathematics, Rice University, 6100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005, USA; df32@rice.edu

Jean-François Lafont: Department of Mathematics, The Ohio State University, 100 Math Tower, Columbus, OH 43210-1174, USA; jlafont@math.ohio-state.edu

Nicholas Miller (corresponding author): Department of Mathematics, University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm Avenue, Norman, OK 73019-3103, USA; nickmbmiller@ou.edu

Matthew Stover: Department of Mathematics, Temple University, 1805 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122, USA; mstover@temple.edu

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codimension at least $\frac{n}{2}$ in M . For a correct classification, see [2, §4]. Angle Rigidity holds, with the given proof, when *all* components of A in each $N_j \cap A$ come from those geodesic subspaces enumerated in [4], but Angle Rigidity may in fact fail for the subspaces that [4] omits. Our proof of [3, Theorem 1.2] when $n = 4$ and $\dim(A) = 3$ remains correct; see the paragraph following [2, Theorem 1.2].

Specifically, recall that the arithmetic lattices under consideration arise from the group $\mathrm{SO}(q, F)$, where F is a totally real number field and q is a quadratic form on an F -vector space V of dimension $n + 1$. Following [4], in [3] we only considered *subform subspaces*, which arise from decompositions $q_1 \oplus q_2$ associated with q -orthogonal subspaces $V_1, V_2 \subset V$. The proof of Angle Rigidity for subspaces of this kind is correct in all codimensions. By [2, Corollary 5.12], all totally geodesic submanifolds of codimension at most $\frac{n-1}{2}$ come from this construction.

In higher codimension, there are other totally geodesic subspaces, namely the *Weil restriction* subspaces. The local arithmetic obstruction that leads to Angle Rigidity does not hold for these subspaces, hence the argument for Angle Rigidity in [3] cannot handle them.

Remark 1. The argument given in [3] for Closure Rigidity (Theorem 3.3) also uses [4] in a way that renders the argument incomplete, but that result is still true. We briefly give the argument, replacing N_1 there by N' to avoid confusion with the different use of N_1 in this corrigendum.

Using the notation from [3], first consider the case where $m \geq 3$, so that $N \cap \Sigma$ is not a union of closed geodesics and cusp-to-cusp geodesics. Before any mention of [4], what is (correctly) proved is that $\Delta = \pi_1(N)$ contains an element g that is not conjugate into the fundamental group $\pi_1(N')$ of the component N' of $N \cap \Sigma$. By hypothesis, $\pi_1(N')$ is a lattice in the stabilizer of the appropriate embedding of $\mathbb{H}^{m-1}$ into $\mathbb{H}^n$. The action of $\pi_1(N)$ on $\mathbb{H}^n$ also stabilizes an embedding of $\mathbb{H}^m$ in $\mathbb{H}^n$ containing this embedded $\mathbb{H}^{m-1}$, since the lift to a map on universal coverings embeds $\tilde{N}$ as the complement in $\mathbb{H}^m$ of a union of disjoint half-spaces.

The $\mathbb{R}$ -Zariski closure L of $\pi_1(N)$ in $\mathrm{SO}(n, 1)$ is then contained in an embedding of $\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{O}(m, 1) \times \mathrm{O}(n - m))$ in $\mathrm{SO}(n, 1)$. Moreover, L contains the lattice $\pi_1(N')$ in a conjugate W of the standard $\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{O}(m - 1, 1) \times \mathrm{O}(n - m + 1))$ and an element g that is not in W . In particular, $\pi_1(N')$ is actually contained in the appropriate conjugate of $\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{O}(m - 1, 1) \times \mathrm{O}(n - m))$ that additionally fixes $\mathbb{H}^m$. Therefore,

$$\mathrm{SO}(m, 1) \leq L \leq \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{O}(m, 1) \times \mathrm{O}(n - m)). \quad (1)$$

Taking the $\mathbb{Q}$ -Zariski closure $\mathbf{H}$ of $\pi_1(N)$ in the associated $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebraic group $\mathbf{G}$ for $\pi_1(M)$ (i.e., the restriction of scalars of the K -algebraic group defined in [3]) produces $\mathbf{H}(\mathbb{Z})$ which, after a suitable projection, is the desired lattice in $\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{O}(m, 1) \times \mathrm{O}(n - m))$ containing $\pi_1(N)$.

Now suppose that $m = 2$ and that $N \cap \Sigma$ is a union of closed geodesics and cusp-to-cusp geodesics. The proof in the case where there are only cusp-to-cusp geodesics is correct and does not cite [4]. Indeed, in the language of [2] one explicitly builds a subform

subspace of dimension three using a triple of linearly independent isotropic lines associated with endpoints of some pair of cusp-to-cusp geodesics.

Lemma 3.2 in [3] reduces the proof of Closure Rigidity to the case where there is exactly one closed geodesic in the union and the remaining components are cusp-to-cusp geodesics. Then the fundamental group of $\pi_1(N)$ is not cyclic, since otherwise N would deformation retract to that immersed circle and this is ruled out by hypothesis on N . It follows that the restriction of $\pi_1(N)$ to the appropriate embedding of $\mathbb{H}^2$ in $\mathbb{H}^n$ is a nonelementary Fuchsian group. Thus, standard results on Fuchsian groups again imply that the $\mathbb{R}$ -Zariski closure L of $\pi_1(N)$ satisfies equation (1) with $m = 2$, and the proof of Theorem 3.3 from [3] concludes exactly as before.

Remark 2. We also note that [1, §3.1] corrects a base-point shift error for some arguments in [3, §5].

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