

§ κ -solution

a κ -solution is a special type of ancient solution to the Ricci flow equation that arises in the study of singularities and the structure of Ricci flow ◦

Key properties of a κ -solution :

1. Ancient solution : A κ -solution is defined for all negative times $t \in (-\infty, 0]$ ◦ This means it exists infinitely far back in time ◦
2. Non-negative curvature
3. Bounded curvature
4. κ -noncollapsed

This means that for any point and any scale r , the volume of a geodesic ball of a given radius is bounded below by a constant κ times the radius raised to the power of the dimension ◦ This noncollapsing condition prevents the solution from developing "cigars" or other degenerate geometries ◦

5. Singularity model

κ -Solutions often arise as blow-up limits of Ricci flow near singularities ◦ When a Ricci flow develops a singularity, rescaling the flow near the singularity can produce a κ -solution as a limit ◦ This makes κ -solutions crucial for understanding the structure of singularities in Ricci flow ◦

Role in Ricci flow

1. Singularity analysis
2. Canonical neighborhood

In Perelman's work on the Ricci flow, κ -solutions are used to describe the geometry of regions where the curvature is large ◦ These regions are shown to have a structure similar to that of a κ -solution ◦

3. Compactness theorem

Examples

The most well-known example of a κ -solution is the shrinking round sphere, which is a solution to the Ricci flow that shrinks homothetically to a point in finite time ◦

Other examples include certain types of gradient shrinking solitons ◦