The Index of a Vector Field on an Orbifold with Boundary

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Abstract
A Poincaré-Hopf theorem in the spirit of Pugh is proven for compact orbifolds with boundary. The theorem relates the index sum of a smooth vector field in generic contact with the boundary orbifold to the Euler-Satake characteristic of the orbifold and a boundary term. The boundary term is expressed as a sum of Euler characteristics of tangency and exit-region orbifolds. As a corollary, we express the index sum of the vector field induced on the inertia orbifold to the Euler characteristics of the associated underlying topological spaces.

1 Introduction
Pugh gave a generalization (see [9]) of the Poincaré-Hopf Theorem for manifolds with boundary for continuous vector fields in generic contact with the boundary.

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This generalization bears the elegance of associating the index sum with a sum of Euler characteristics only. Here, we will show that, in the case of a compact orbifold with boundary and a smooth vector field in generic contact with the boundary, Pugh’s result extends naturally. A proper introduction to orbifolds and the precise definition we will use are available as an appendix in [1]. Note that this definition of an orbifold requires group actions to have fixed-point sets of codimension 2 as opposed to, e.g., [13]; we make this requirement as well. By “smooth,” we will always mean $C^\infty$.

The main result we will prove is as follows.

**Theorem 1.1** Let $Q$ be an $n$-dimensional smooth, compact orbifold with boundary. Let $Y$ be a smooth vector field on $Q$ that is in generic contact with $\partial Q$, and then

$$\text{Ind}_\text{orb}(Y; Q) = \chi_\text{orb}(Q, \partial Q) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_\text{orb}(R^i_+, \Gamma^i).$$

(1.1)

The expressions $\text{Ind}_\text{orb}$ and $\chi_\text{orb}$ are the orbifold analogues of the manifold notions of the topological index of a vector field and the Euler characteristic, respectively. The definitions of both of these, along with the orbifolds $R^i_+, \Gamma^i$, and generic contact, will be reviewed in Section 2.

In this paper, we will follow a procedure resembling Pugh’s original technique, and we will show that many of the same techniques applicable to manifolds can be applied to orbifolds as well. In Section 2 we will explain our notation and review the result of Satake’s which relates the orbifold index to the Euler-Satake characteristic for closed orbifolds. We give the definition of each of these terms. In Section 4 we will show that a neighborhood of the boundary of an orbifold may be decomposed as a product $\partial Q \times [0, \epsilon)$. We will then construct the double of $Q$ and charts near the boundary respecting this product structure. This will generalize well-known results and constructions for manifolds with boundary. Section 4 provides elementary results relating the topological index of an orbifold vector field to an orbifold Morse Index. The orbifold Morse Index is defined in terms of the Morse Index on a manifold in a manner analogous Satake’s definition of the topological vector field index. These results generalize corresponding results for manifolds. In Section 5 we will use the above constructions to show that a smooth vector field on $Q$ may perturbed near the boundary to form a smooth vector field on the the double whose index can be computed in terms of the data given by the original vector field. We use this to prove Theorem 1.1. We also prove Corollary 5.2 which gives a similar formula where the left-hand side is the orbifold index of the induced vector field on the inertia orbifold and on the right-hand side, the Euler-Satake characteristics are replaced with the Euler characteristics of the underlying topological spaces.

Another generalization of the Poincaré-Hopf Theorem to orbifolds with boundary follows as a corollary to Satake’s Gauss-Bonnet Theorem for orbifold with boundary in [11]; this and related results are explored in [12]. In each of these cases, the boundary term is expressed by evaluation of an auxiliary differential
form representing a global topological invariant of the boundary pulled back via the vector field. The generalization given here expresses the boundary term in terms of Euler-Satake characteristics of suborbifolds determined by the vector field.

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2 Preliminaries and Definitions

Satake proved a Poincaré-Hopf Theorem for closed orbifolds; however, he worked with a slightly different definition of orbifold, the so-called $V$-manifold (see [10] and [11]). A $V$-manifold corresponds to modern day effective or reduced (codimension-2) orbifold. An effective orbifold is such that the group in each chart acts effectively (see [1]). We will adapt the language of his result and use it here.

**Theorem 2.1 (Satake’s Poincaré-Hopf Theorem for Closed Orbifolds)**

Let $Q$ be an effective, closed orbifold, and let $X$ be a vector field on $Q$ that has isolated zeroes. Then the following relationship holds.

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \chi_{\text{orb}}(Q)$$

Note that the requirement that $Q$ is effective is unnecessary; as mentioned in [1], an ineffective orbifold can be replaced with an effective orbifold $Q_{\text{red}}$, and the differential geometry of the tangent bundle (or any other good orbifold vector bundle) is unchanged.

The orbifold index $\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(X; p)$ at a zero $p$ of the vector field $X$ is defined in terms of the topological index of a vector field on a manifold. Let a neighborhood of $p$ be uniformized by the chart $\{V, G, \pi\}$ and choose $x \in V$ with $\pi(x) = p$. Let $G_x \leq G$ denote the isotropy group of $x$. Then $\pi^*X$ is a $G$-equivariant vector field on $V$ with a zero at $x$. The orbifold index at $p$ is then defined as

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(X; p) = \frac{1}{|G_x|} \text{Ind}(\pi^*X; x),$$

where $\text{Ind}(\pi^*X; x)$ is the usual topological index of the vector field $\pi^*X$ on the manifold $V$ at $x$ (see [3] or [6]). Note that this definition does not depend on the chart, nor on the choice of $x$. We use the notation

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \sum_{p \in Q, X(p) = 0} \text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(X; p).$$

The Euler-Satake characteristic $\chi_{\text{orb}}(Q)$ is most easily defined in terms of an appropriate simplicial decomposition of $Q$. In particular, let $\mathcal{T}$ be a simplicial decomposition of $Q$ so that that the isomorphism class of the isotropy group is
constant on the interior of each simplex (such a simplicial decomposition always
equals; see [7]). For the simplex \( \sigma \), the (isomorphism class of the) isotropy group
on the interior of \( \sigma \) will be denoted \( G_\sigma \). The Euler-Satake characteristic of \( Q \) is
\[
\chi_{orb}(Q) = \sum_{\sigma \in T} (-1)^{\dim \sigma} \frac{1}{|G_\sigma|}.
\]
This coincides with Satake’s Euler characteristic of \( Q \) as a \( V \)-manifold. Note
that it follows from this definition that if \( Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2 \) for orbifolds \( Q_1 \) and \( Q_2 \)
with \( Q_1 \cap Q_2 \) a suborbifold, then
\[
\chi_{orb}(Q) = \chi_{orb}(Q_1) + \chi_{orb}(Q_2) - \chi_{orb}(Q_1 \cap Q_2). \tag{2.1}
\]
In the case that \( Q \) has boundary, \( \chi_{orb}(Q) \) is defined in the same way. We let
\[
\chi_{orb}(Q, \partial Q) = \chi_{orb}(Q) - \chi_{orb}(\partial Q).
\]
This coincides with Satake’s inner Euler characteristic of \( Q \) as a \( V \)-manifold
with boundaries. The reader is warned that there are many different Euler
characteristics defined for orbifolds; both the topological index of a vector field
and Euler-Satake characteristic used here are generally rational numbers.

Vector fields in generic contact have orbifold exit regions, which we will
now describe. Let \( Q \) be a compact \( n \)-dimensional orbifold with boundary. In
Section 3 Lemma 3.1, we will show that, as with the case of manifolds, there
is a neighborhood of \( \partial Q \) in \( Q \) diffeomorphic to \( \partial Q \times [0, \epsilon) \). Given a metric, the
tangent bundle of \( Q \) on the boundary decomposes with respect to this product
so that there is a well-defined normal direction at the boundary. Let \( R_1^- \) be the
closure of the subset of \( \partial Q \) where the vector field points out of \( Q \). Analogously,
let \( R_1^+ \) be the closure of the subset of \( \partial Q \) where the vector field points into \( Q \).
We require that \( R_1^- \) and \( R_1^+ \) are orbifolds with boundary of dimension \( n - 1 \). The
subset of \( \partial Q \) where the vector field is tangent to \( \partial Q \) is denoted \( \Gamma_1 \); we require
that \( \Gamma_1 \) is a suborbifold of \( \partial Q \) of codimension 1. Note that, by the continuity
of the vector field, the component of the vector field pointing outward must
approach zero near the boundary of \( R_1^- \) and \( R_1^+ \). Hence \( \Gamma_1 = \partial R_1^- = \partial R_1^+ \).

The vector field is tangent to \( \Gamma_1 \), and so it may be considered a vector field on
the orbifold \( \Gamma^1 \). We again require this vector field to have orbifold exit regions.
Call \( R_2^- \) the closure of the subset of \( \partial \Gamma^1 \) where the vector field points out of \( R_1^- \), and \( R_2^+ \) the closure of the subset where it points into \( R_1^+ \). The subset of \( \Gamma^1 \) where the vector field is tangent to \( \Gamma^1 \) is denoted \( \Gamma^2 \), and is required to be a codimension-1 suborbifold of \( \Gamma^1 \).

In the same way, we define \( \Gamma^n, R_i^-, R_i^+ \), requiring that these sets form a chain
of closed suborbifolds \( \{\Gamma^i\}_{i=1}^n \) and compact orbifolds with boundary \( \{R_i^\}^n \).
We require that that \( \dim R_i^- = \dim R_i^+ = n - i \) and \( \dim \Gamma^i = n - i - 1 \). Since
each successive \( \Gamma^i \) will have strictly smaller dimension, we eventually run out of
space, and so both of these sequences terminate. The last entry in the sequence
of \( \Gamma^i \) will be \( \Gamma^n \), which is necessarily the empty set.
3 Formation of the Double Orbifold

In the proof of Theorem 1.1, we will pass from an orbifold with boundary to a closed orbifold in order to employ Theorem 2.1. In this section we will construct the double of an orbifold with boundary. In the process, we will develop charts near the boundary of a specific form which will be required in the sequel. The construction of the double is similar to the case of a manifold; see [8].

Let \( B_x(r) \) denote the ball of radius \( r \) about \( x \) in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) where \( \mathbb{R}^n \) has basis \( \{ e_i \}_{i=1}^n \). For convenience, \( B_0 \) will denote the ball of radius 1 centered at the origin in \( \mathbb{R}^n \). We let \( \mathbb{R}^n_+ = \{ x_1, \ldots, x_n : x_n \geq 0 \} \) where the \( x_i \) are the coordinates with respect to the basis \( \{ e_i \} \). \( B_+^x(r) = B_x(r) \cap \mathbb{R}^n_+ \), and \( B_0^+ = B_0 \cap \mathbb{R}^n_+ \). Also \( B_0^+ \) will denote the ball of radius 1 about the origin in \( \mathbb{R}^k \).

Let \( Q \) be a compact orbifold with boundary. For each point \( p \in Q \), we choose an orbifold chart \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) where \( V_p \) is \( B_0 \) or \( B_0^+ \) and \( \pi_p(0) = p \). Let \( U_p \) denote \( \pi_p(V_p) \subseteq Q \) for each \( p \), and then the \( U_p \) form an open cover of \( Q \). Choose a finite subcover of the \( U_p \), and on each \( V_p \) corresponding to a \( U_p \) in the subcover, we put the standard Riemannian structure on \( V_p \) so that the \( \{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \} \) form an orthonormal basis. Endow \( Q \) with a Riemannian structure by patching these Riemannian metrics together using a partition of unity subordinate to the finite subcover of \( Q \) chosen above.

Now, let \( p \in Q \), and then there is a geodesic neighborhood \( U_p \) about \( p \) uniformized by \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) where \( V_p = B_0 \) or \( B_0^+ \) and \( \pi_p(0) = p \). Let \( G_p \) acts as a subgroup of \( O(n) \) (see [1]). Identifying \( V_p \) with a subset of \( T_0 V_p \) via the exponential map, we can assume as above that \( \{ e_i \} \) forms an orthonormal basis with respect to which coordinates will be denoted \( \{ x_i \} \). In the case with boundary, \( B_0^+ \) corresponds to points with \( x_n \geq 0 \). We call such a chart a geodesic chart of radius \( r \) at \( p \). Note that in such charts, the action of \( \gamma \) on \( V_p \) and the action of \( d\gamma = D(\gamma) \) on a neighborhood of 0 in \( T_0V_p \) (or in half-space in the case with boundary) are identified via the exponential map.

We may now introduce the following lemma.

Lemma 3.1 At every point \( p \in \partial Q \), there a geodesic chart at \( p \) of the form \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) where \( G_p \) fixes \( e_n \). On the boundary, the tangent space \( TQ|_{\partial Q} \) is decomposed orthogonally into \( (T\partial Q) \oplus \nu \) where \( \nu \) is a trivial 1-bundle on which each group acts trivially.

Proof: Let \( p \in \partial Q \), and let a neighborhood of \( p \) be uniformized by the geodesic chart \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) so that \( V_p = B_0^+ \). Let \( \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0 \) denote the inner product on \( T_0 V_p \). Let \( T_0^+ \) correspond to the half-space \( T_0^+ \) in \( T_0 V_p \) corresponding to vectors with non-negative \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \)-component. The exponential map identifies an open ball about 0 in \( T_0^+ \) with \( V_p \).

Suppose that \( \gamma \) is an arbitrary element of \( G_p \) so that \( d\gamma \) acts on \( T_0 V_p \). Any \( v \in T_0^+ \) satisfies \( \langle v, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \rangle_0 \geq 0 \). Furthermore, \( (d\gamma)v \in T_0^+ \), so \( \langle (d\gamma)v, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \rangle_0 \geq 0 \), or equivalently, \( \langle v, d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \rangle_0 \geq 0 \) for all \( v \in T_0^+ \).
It will be shown that this implies \( G_p \) fixes \( \xi_n \). Pick \( j \neq n \); since \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \in T_0^+ \), \( \left< \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right>_0 \geq 0 \). However, \( -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \) is also a vector in \( T_0^+ \), and so \( \left< -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right>_0 \geq 0 \). By the linearity of the inner product, this is only possible if \( \left< \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right>_0 = 0 \). Furthermore, since \( j \neq n \) was arbitrary, this implies that \( d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \) has no component in the direction of any \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, j \neq n \). Since \( d\gamma^{-1} \) is an isometry, \( d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} = \pm \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \), but because \( d\gamma^{-1}T_0^+ = T_0^+ \), it must be the case that \( d\gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \). As \( \gamma \in G_p \) was arbitrary, this implies \( G_p \) fixes \( \xi_n \).

Now, for each \( p \in \partial Q \), pick a geodesic chart \( \{V_p, G_p, \pi_p\} \) at \( p \), and let \( N_p \) denote the constant vector field \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \) on \( V_p \). Recall from 11 that \( T_0V_p \) denotes the \( dG_p \)-invariant tangent space of \( T_0V_p \) on which the differential of \( \pi_p \) is invertible. If \( q \in \pi_p(V_p) \subset Q \) with geodesic chart \( \{V_q, G_q, \pi_q\} \) at \( q \), then the fact that \( D(\pi_q)^{-1} \circ D(\pi_p) : T_0V_p \rightarrow T_0V_q \) maps \( T_0\partial V_p \) to \( T_0\partial V_q \) and preserves the metric ensures that the value of \( N_q(0) \) coincides with that of \( D(\pi_q)^{-1} \circ D(\pi_p)0[N_p(0)] \) up to a sign. The sign is characterized by the property that for any curve \( c : (-1, 1) \rightarrow V_p \) with derivative \( c'(t) = N_p \), there is an \( \epsilon > 0 \) such that \( c(t) \) is in the interior of \( V_p \) for \( t \in (0, \epsilon) \); a curve in \( V_q \) with derivative \( D(\pi_q)^{-1} \circ D(\pi_p)0[N_p(0)] \) has the same property. With this, we see that the \( N_p \) patch together to form a nonvanishing section of \( TQ|_{\partial Q} \) that is orthogonal to \( T\partial Q \) at every point; hence, it defines a trivial subbundle \( \nu \) orthogonal to \( T\partial Q \). Clearly, \( TQ = (T\partial Q) \oplus \nu \).

Let \( Q' \) be an identical copy of \( Q \). In order to form a closed orbifold from the two, the boundaries of these two orbifolds will be identified via

\[
\partial Q \ni x \longleftrightarrow x' \in \partial Q' \tag{3.1}
\]

The resulting space inherits the structure of a smooth orbifold from \( Q \) as will be demonstrated below.

First, note that for each point \( p \in \partial Q \), by Lemma 3.1 a geodesic chart \( \{V_p, G_p, \pi_p\} \) can be restricted to a chart \( \{C^+_p, G_p, \phi_p\} \) where \( C^+_p = B_0^{n-1}(r/2) \times [0, \epsilon_0) \), \( \phi_p \) is the restriction of \( \pi_p \) to \( C^+_p \), and \( \phi_p (B_0^{n-1} \times \{0\}) = d\phi_p(C^+_p) \). We will refer to such a chart as a boundary product chart for \( Q \).

It follows, in particular, that there is a neighborhood of \( \partial Q \) in \( Q \) that is diffeomorphic to \( \partial Q \times [0, \epsilon) \) for some \( \epsilon > 0 \) and that the metric respects the product structure. This can be shown by forming a cover of \( \partial Q \) of sets uniformized by charts of the form \( \{C^+, G_p, \psi_p\} \), choosing a finite subcover, and setting \( \epsilon = \min \{\epsilon_p/2\} \).

**Lemma 3.2** The glued set \( \hat{Q} \), i.e. the set of equivalence classes under the identification made by Equation 3.1, may be made into a smooth orbifold containing diffeomorphic copies of both \( Q \) and \( Q' \) such that \( Q \cap Q' = \partial Q = \partial Q' \).

**Proof:** For each point \( p \in \partial Q \), form a boundary product chart \( \{C^+_p, G_p, \phi_p\} \). Then glue each chart of the boundary of \( Q \) to its corresponding chart of \( Q' \) in
the following way. Let \( \alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \) be the reflection that sends \( e_n \mapsto -e_n \) and fixes all other coordinates. A point \( p \) in the boundary is uniformized by two corresponding boundary product charts on either side of \( \partial Q \), \( \{ C_p^+, G_p, \phi_p \} \) and \( \{ C_p^+, G'_p, \phi'_p \} \). From these two charts, a new chart \( \{ C_p, G_p, \psi_p \} \) for a neighborhood of \( p \) in \( \hat{Q} \) is constructed where \( C_p = B^{n-1}_0(r/2) \times (-\epsilon_p, \epsilon_p) \), and

\[
\psi_p(x) = \begin{cases} 
\phi_p(x), & x_n \geq 0, \\
\phi'_p \circ \alpha(x), & x_n < 0.
\end{cases}
\]

These charts cover a neighborhood of \( \partial Q = \partial Q' \) in \( \hat{Q} \). By taking a geodesic chart at each point on the interiors of \( Q \) and \( Q' \) together with these new charts, the entire set \( \hat{Q} \) is covered. Injections of charts at points in the interior of \( Q \) or \( Q' \) into charts of the form \( \{ C^+_p, G_p, \phi^*_p \} \) induce injections into charts \( \{ C_p, G_p, \psi_p \} \). Hence, \( \hat{Q} \) is given the structure of a smooth orbifold with the desired properties. □

Again, it follows that a neighborhood of \( \partial Q \subset \hat{Q} \) admits a tubular neighborhood diffeomorphic to \( \partial Q \times [-\epsilon, \epsilon] \) such that the metric respects this product structure.

### 4 The Morse Index of a Vector Field on an Orbifold

The definitions of Morse Index and relation to the topological index of a vector field extend readily to orbifolds, which we now describe.

Let \( Q \) be a compact orbifold with or without boundary, and let \( X \) be a vector field on \( Q \) that does not vanish on the boundary. If \( X(p) = 0 \) for \( p \in Q \), then we say that \( p \) is a non-degenerate zero of \( X \) if there is a chart \( \{ V, G, \pi \} \) for a neighborhood \( U_p \) of \( p \) and an \( x \in V \) with \( \pi(x) = p \) such that \( \pi^*X \) has a non-degenerate zero at \( x \); i.e. \( D(\pi^*X)_x \) has trivial kernel. As in the manifold case, non-degenerate zeros are isolated in charts and hence isolated on \( Q \). The Morse Index \( \lambda(\pi^*X; x) \) of \( \pi^*X \) at \( x \) is defined to be the number of negative eigenvalues of \( D(\pi^*X)_x \) (see \[5\]). Since the Morse Index is a diffeomorphism invariant, this index does not depend on the choice of chart nor on the choice of \( x \). Since the isomorphism-class of the isotropy group does not depend on the choice of \( x \), the expression \(|G_p|\) is well-defined. Hence, for simplicity, we may restrict to charts of the form \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) where \( \pi_p(0) = p \) and \( G_p \) acts linearly. We define the orbifold Morse Index of \( X \) at \( p \) to be

\[
\lambda^{orib}(X; p) = \frac{1}{|G_p|} \lambda(\pi^*_pX; 0).
\]

Note that this index differs from that recently defined in \[4\]; however, it is sufficient for our purposes. We have

\[
\text{Ind}^{orib}(X; p) = \frac{1}{|G_p|} \text{Ind}(\pi^*X; 0)
= \frac{1}{|G_p|} (-1)^{\lambda(\pi^*X; 0)}.
\]
Suppose \( X \) has only non-degenerate zeros on \( Q \). For each \( \lambda \in \{0, 1, \ldots, n\} \), we let \( \{p_i : i = 1, \ldots, k_\lambda\} \) denote the points in \( Q \) at which the pullback of \( X \) in a chart has Morse Index \( \lambda \). Then we let

\[
C_\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{k_\lambda} \frac{1}{|G_{p_i}|}
\]

count these points, where the orbifold-contribution of each zero \( p_i \) is \( \frac{1}{|G_{p_i}|} \). Note that as non-degenerate zeros are isolated, there is a finite number on \( Q \).

Then, as in the manifold case, if we define

\[
\Sigma^{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \sum_{\lambda=0}^{n} (-1)^\lambda C_\lambda,
\]

we have

\[
\Sigma^{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \sum_{\lambda=0}^{n} (-1)^\lambda \frac{1}{|G_{p_i}|} \sum_{i=1}^{k_\lambda} \frac{1}{|G_{p_i}|} (\pi^* X; 0)
\]

\[
= \sum_{p \in Q, X(p) = 0} \text{Ind}^{\text{orb}}(X; p)
\]

\[
= \text{Ind}^{\text{orb}}(X; Q).
\]

In the case that \( Q \) is closed, this quantity is equal to \( \chi^{\text{orb}}(Q) \) by Theorem 2.1.

We summarize these results as follows.

**Proposition 4.1** Let \( X \) be a smooth vector field on the compact orbifold \( Q \) that has non-degenerate zeros only, none of which occurring on \( \partial Q \). Then

\[
\Sigma^{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \text{Ind}^{\text{orb}}(X; Q).
\]

If \( \partial Q = \emptyset \), then

\[
\Sigma^{\text{orb}}(X; Q) = \chi^{\text{orb}}(Q).
\]

**Remark 4.2** If \( Q \) is a compact orbifold (with or without boundary) and \( X \) a smooth vector field on \( Q \) that is nonzero on some compact subset \( \Gamma \) of the interior of \( Q \), then \( X \) may be perturbed smoothly outside of a neighborhood of \( \Gamma \) so that it has only isolated, nondegenerate zeros. This is shown in [14] for the case of a smooth global quotient \( M/G \) using local arguments, and so it extends readily to the case of a general orbifold by working in charts.

**5 Proof of Theorem 1.1**

Let \( Y \) be a vector field in generic contact with \( \partial Q \) that has isolated zeroes on the interior of \( Q \). Define \( \hat{Y} \) on \( \hat{Q} \) by letting \( \hat{Y} \) be \( Y \) on each copy of \( Q \). Unfortunately,
\( \hat{Y} \) has conflicting definitions along the old boundary \( \partial Q \). However, as in the manifold case treated in [9], the vector field may be perturbed near the boundary to form a well-defined vector field using the product structure. We give an adaptation of Pugh’s result to orbifolds.

**Proposition 5.1** Given a smooth vector field \( Y \) in generic contact with \( \partial Q \) and with isolated zeros, none of which lie on \( \partial Q \), there is a smooth vector field \( X \) on the double \( \hat{Q} \) such that

- Outside of a tubular neighborhood \( P_{\epsilon} \) of \( \partial Q \) containing none of the zeros of \( Y \), \( X \) coincides with \( Y \) on \( Q \) and \( Q' \);

- \( X \mid_{\partial Q} \) is tangent to \( \partial Q \);

- On \( \Gamma^{1} \), \( X \) coincides with \( Y \) and in particular, defines the same \( \Gamma^{i}, R_{-}^{i} \), and \( R_{+}^{i} \) for \( i > 1 \); and

- The zeros of \( X \) are those of \( Y \) on the interior of \( Q \) and \( Q' \) and a collection of isolated zeros on \( \partial Q \) which are non-degenerate as zeros of \( X \mid_{\partial Q} \).

**Proof:** As above, \( \hat{Y} \) is defined everywhere on \( \hat{Q} \) except on the boundary. Let \( P_{\epsilon} \) be a normal tubular \( \epsilon \)-neighborhood of \( \partial Q \) in \( \hat{Q} \) of the form \( \partial Q \times [-\epsilon, \epsilon] \) which we parameterize as \( \{(x, v) : x \in \partial Q, v \in [-\epsilon, \epsilon]\} \). We assume that \( P_{\epsilon} \) is small enough so that it does not contain any of the zeros of \( \hat{Y} \). On \( P_{\epsilon} \), decompose \( \hat{Y} \) respecting the product structure of \( P_{\epsilon} \) into

\( \hat{Y} = \hat{Y}_{h} + \hat{Y}_{v} \)

These are the horizontal and vertical components of \( \hat{Y} \), respectively. The horizontal component \( \hat{Y}_{h} \) is well-defined, continuous, and smooth when restricted to the boundary. However, \( \hat{Y}_{v} \) has conflicting definitions on the boundary, although they only differ by a sign. Note that the restriction of \( \hat{Y}_{h} \) to \( \partial Q \) may not have isolated zeros. However, as \( Y \) does not have zeros on \( \partial Q \) and \( \hat{Y}_{h} \equiv Y \) on \( \Gamma^{1} \), none of the zeros of \( \hat{Y}_{h} \mid_{\partial Q} \) occur on \( \Gamma^{1} \).

Define \( Z_{h} \) to be a smooth vector field on \( \partial Q \) that coincides with \( \hat{Y}_{h} \) on an open subset of \( \partial Q \) containing \( \Gamma^{1} \) and has only non-degenerate zeros (see Remark 4.2). Let \( f(x, v) \) be the parallel transport of \( Z_{h}(x, 0) \) along the geodesic from \((x, 0)\) to \((x, v)\), and then \( Z_{h} \) is a horizontal vector field on \( P_{\epsilon} \). For \( s \in (0, \epsilon) \), let \( \phi_{s} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1] \) be a smooth bump function which is one on \([-s/2, s/2]\) and zero outside of \([s, s] \).

Define the vector field \( X_{s} \) to be \( \hat{Y} \) outside of \( P_{\epsilon} \) and

\[ X_{s}(x, v) = \phi_{s}(v) \left( f(x, v) + |v| \hat{Y}_{v}(x, v) \right) + (1 - \phi_{s}(v)) \hat{Y}(x, v) \]

on \( P_{\epsilon} \). Note that \( X_{s} \) is smooth. By picking \( s \) sufficiently small, it may be ensured that the zeroes of \( X \) are the zeroes of \( \hat{Y} \) and the zeroes of \( Z_{h} \mid_{\partial Q} \) only. We prove this as follows.
On points, \((x, v)\) where \(x \in \Gamma^1\) and \(|v| \leq s\), the horizontal component of \(X\) is \(\phi_s(v)f(x, v) + (1 - \phi_s(v))\hat{Y}_h(x, v)\). Note that \(f(x, 0) = \hat{Y}_h(x, 0)\) for \(x \in \Gamma^1\) and \(f(x, 0) \not= 0\) on \(\Gamma^1\). Let \(m > 0\) be the minimum value of \(\|f(x, 0)\|\) on the compact set \(\Gamma^1\), and then as \(\Gamma^1 \times [-\epsilon, \epsilon]\) is compact and \(\hat{Y}_h(x, v)\) continuous, there is an \(s_0\) such that

\[
\|\hat{Y}_h(x, 0) - \hat{Y}_h(x, v)\| = \|f(x, 0) - \hat{Y}_h(x, v)\| < m/2
\]

whenever \(|v| < s_0\). Hence, for such \(v\) and for any \(t \in [0, 1]\),

\[
\left\|tf(x, v) + (1 - t)\hat{Y}_h(x, v)\right\| = \left\|\hat{Y}_h(x, v) + t[f(x, v) - \hat{Y}_h(x, v)]\right\|
\geq \left\|\hat{Y}_h(x, v)\right\| - t \left\|f(x, v) - \hat{Y}_h(x, v)\right\|
> m - \frac{tm}{2}
\geq \frac{m}{2} > 0.
\]

Therefore, the horizontal component is nonvanishing, implying that \(X_s(v, h)\) does not vanish here.

Now let \(\{x_i : i = 1, \ldots, k\}\) be the zeros of \(Z_h\) on \(\partial Q\). Each \(x_i\) is contained in a ball \(B_{\epsilon_i} \subset \partial Q\) whose closure does not intersect \(\Gamma^1\). Hence, \(\hat{Y}_h(x, 0) \not= 0\) on each \(B_{\epsilon_i}\). Therefore, for each \(i\), there is an \(s_i\) such that \(\hat{Y}_h(x, v) \not= 0\) on \(B_{\epsilon_i} \times (-s_i, s_i)\). This implies that the vertical component of \(X_s(x, v)\), and hence \(X_s(x, v)\) itself, does not vanish on \(B_{\epsilon_i} \times (-s_i, s_i)\) except where \(v = 0\); i.e. on \(\partial Q\).

Letting \(s\) be less than the minimum of \(\{s_0, s_1, \ldots, s_k\}\), we see that \(X_s\) does not vanish on \(P_{\epsilon}\) except on \(\partial Q\), where it coincides with \(Z_h\). Therefore, \(X = X_s\) is the vector field which was to be constructed.

\(\square\)

It follows that the index of the vector field \(X\) constructed in the proof of Proposition 5.1 is

\[
\text{Ind}^{orb}(X; Q) = 2\text{Ind}^{orb}(Y; Q) + \sum_{p \in \partial Q} \text{Ind}^{orb}(X; p)
\]

(5.1)

Let \(p\) be a zero of \(X\) on \(\partial Q\), i.e. it is a zero of \(Z_h\). We will write the index of \(X\) at \(p\) in terms of the index of \(Z_h\).

Because of Lemma 5.1, the isotropy group of \(p\) as an element of \(Q\) is the same as the isotropy group of \(p\) as an element of \(\partial Q\), and so we may refer to \(G_p\) without ambiguity. About a neighborhood of \(p\) in \(Q\) small enough to contain no other zeros of \(X\), choose a boundary product chart \(\{C^+_p, G_p, \phi_p\}\). Then, as in Lemma 5.2 \(\{C, G_p, \psi_p\}\) forms a chart about \(p\) in \(Q\). The product structure \((y, w)\) of \(C_p = B^n_{\epsilon_p}(r/2) \times (-\epsilon_p, \epsilon_p)\) coincides with that of \(P_{\epsilon}\) near the boundary, so within the preimage of \(\partial Q \times [-s/2, s/2]\) by \(\psi_p\), we have that

\[
\psi_p^*X = \psi_p^*f + |w|\psi_p^*\hat{Y}_h.
\]

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Note that $\psi_p(0, 0) = (p)$, and then

$$D(\psi_p^* X)(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} D(\psi_p^* Z_h) & 0 \\ 0 & D(\psi_p^* f) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} D(\psi_p^* Z_h) & 0 \\ 0 & \psi_p^* \hat{Y}_v(0, 0) \end{pmatrix}.$$ 

As $\psi_p^* \hat{Y}_v(0, 0)$ is positive if $p \in R^1_+$ and negative if $p \in R^1_-$, it is seen that

$$\lambda(\psi_p^* X; (0, 0)) = \begin{cases} \lambda(\psi_p^* X|_{\partial C_p}; 0), & p \in R_+ \\ \lambda(\psi_p^* X|_{\partial C_p}; 0) + 1, & p \in R_- \end{cases}.$$ 

Hence

$$\mathfrak{Ind}(\psi_p^* X; (0, 0)) = \begin{cases} \mathfrak{Ind}(\psi_p^* Z_h|_{\partial C_p}; 0), & p \in R_+ \\ -\mathfrak{Ind}(\psi_p^* Z_h|_{\partial C_p}; 0), & p \in R_- \end{cases}.$$ 

Therefore, for $p \in R_+$,

$$\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X, p) = \frac{1}{\chi_{orb}(\partial Q)} \mathfrak{Ind}(\psi_p^* X; 0)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\chi_{orb}(\partial Q)} \mathfrak{Ind}(\psi_p^* Z_h|_{\partial C_p}; 0)$$

$$= \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; p)$$

and similarly

$$\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; p) = -\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; p)$$

for $p \in R_-$. 

With this, Equation 5.1 becomes

$$\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; \hat{Q}) = 2\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Y; Q) + \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; R_+) - \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; R_-).$$ 

By Theorem 2.1 and Equation 2.1, $\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; \hat{Q}) = 2\chi_{orb}(Q) - \chi_{orb}(\partial Q)$, so that

$$2\chi_{orb}(Q) - \chi_{orb}(\partial Q) = 2\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Y; Q) + \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; R_+) - \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Z_h; R_-).$$

Note that $\partial Q$ is also a closed orbifold, so

$$\chi_{orb}(\partial Q) = \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; \partial Q)$$

$$= \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_+) - \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-).$$
Hence,

\[ \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(Y; Q) = \chi_{orb}(Q) + \frac{1}{2} \left( -\chi_{orb}(\partial Q) + 2\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-) \right) \]

\[ = \chi_{orb}(Q) + \frac{1}{2} \left( -2\chi_{orb}(\partial Q) + 2\mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-) \right) \]

\[ = \chi_{orb}(Q) - \chi_{orb}(\partial Q) + \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-) \]

\[ = \chi_{orb}(Q, \partial Q) + \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-) \]

(5.2)

Because \( X \) coincides with \( Y \) on \( \Gamma^1 \), it defines the same \( \Gamma^i \) that \( Y \) does. Since \( X \) is a smooth vector field defined on \( R^i_- \) that does not vanish on \( \partial R^i_- = \Gamma^1 \), we may recursively apply this formula to higher and higher orders of \( R^i_- \) until \( R^i_- \) is empty, and there will no longer be an index sum term. Hence,

\[ \mathfrak{Ind}^{orb}(X; R_-) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_{orb}(R^i_-, \Gamma^i). \]

Along with Equation 5.2, this completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Let \( \tilde{Q} \) denote the inertia orbifold of \( Q \) and \( \pi : \tilde{Q} \to Q \) the projection (see [2]). It is shown in [12] that a vector field \( Y \) on \( Q \) induces a vector field \( \tilde{Y} \) on \( \tilde{Q} \), and that \( \tilde{Y}(p, (g)) = 0 \) if and only if \( Y(p) = 0 \).

For each point \( p \in Q \) and \( g \in G_p \), a chart \( \{ V_p, G_p, \pi_p \} \) induces a chart \( \{ V^g_p, C(g), \pi_{p,g} \} \) at \( (p, (g)) \in \tilde{Q} \) where \( V^g_p \) denotes the points in \( V_p \) fixed by \( g \) and \( C(g) \) denotes the centralizer of \( g \) in \( G_p \). Clearly, \( \partial V^g_p = (\partial V_p) \cap V^g_p \). An atlas for \( \tilde{Q} \) can be taken consisting of charts of this form, so it is clear that \( \partial \tilde{Q} = \partial Q \).

Let \( p \in \partial Q \) and pick a boundary product chart \( \{ C^+_p, G_p, \phi_p \} \). Then for \( g \in G_p \), there is a chart \( \{(C^+_p)^g, C(g), \phi_{p,g}\} \) for \( (p, (g)) \in \tilde{Q} \). As the normal component to the boundary of \( C^+_p \) is \( G_p \)-invariant,

\[ (C^+_p)^g = (B_{0}^{n-1}(r/2) \times [0, \epsilon_p))^g \]

\[ = (B_{0}^{n-1}(r/2))^g \times [0, \epsilon_p], \]

and so

\[ T_0(C^+_p)^g = T_0 (B_{0}^{n-1}(r/2))^g \times \mathbb{R}. \]
It follows that $\tilde{Y}$ points out of $\partial\tilde{Q}$ at $(p,(g))$ if and only if $Y$ points out of $\partial Q$ at $p$. With this, applying Theorem 1.1 to $\tilde{Y}$ yields

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{Y};\tilde{Q}) = \chi_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{Q},\partial\tilde{Q}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{R}_{i}, \tilde{\Gamma}_{i})$$

(5.3)

$$= \chi_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{Q}) - \chi_{\text{orb}}(\partial\tilde{Q}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{R}_{i}) - \chi_{\text{orb}}(\tilde{\Gamma}_{i}).$$

Each of the $\Gamma_{i}$ and $\partial Q$ are closed orbifolds, so it follows from the proof of Theorem 3.2 in [12] (note that the assumption of orientability is not used to establish this result) that

$$\chi_{\text{orb}}(\Gamma_{i}) = \chi(X_{\Gamma_{i}})$$

and

$$\chi_{\text{orb}}(\partial\tilde{Q}) = \chi_{\text{orb}}(\partial\tilde{Q}) = \chi(X_{\partial\tilde{Q}})$$

(5.4)

where $X_{\Gamma_{i}}$ and $X_{\partial\tilde{Q}}$ denote the underlying topological spaces of $\Gamma_{i}$ and $\partial Q$, respectively, and $\chi$ the usual Euler characteristic.

Letting $\hat{\tilde{Q}}$ denote, as above, the double of $\tilde{Q}$, it is easy to see that $\hat{\tilde{Q}} = \tilde{\hat{Q}}$. Hence, applying the same result to $\hat{\tilde{Q}}$ yields

$$\chi(X_{\hat{\tilde{Q}}}) = \chi_{\text{orb}}(\hat{\tilde{Q}})$$

$$= \chi_{\text{orb}}(\hat{\tilde{Q}})$$

(5.5)

$$= 2\chi_{\text{orb}}(\hat{\tilde{Q}}) - \chi_{\text{orb}}(\partial\hat{\tilde{Q}})$$

However, as

$$\chi(X_{\hat{\tilde{Q}}}) = 2\chi(X_{\tilde{Q}}) - \chi_{\text{orb}}(X_{\partial\tilde{Q}})$$

$$= 2\chi(X_{\tilde{Q}}) - \chi_{\text{orb}}(X_{\partial\tilde{Q}})$$

it follows from Equation (5.5) that $\chi_{\text{orb}}(\hat{\tilde{Q}}) = \chi(X_{\tilde{Q}})$. The same holds for each $R_{i}$ so that Equation (5.3) becomes the following.

**Corollary 5.2** Let $Q$ be an $n$-dimensional smooth, compact orbifold with boundary, and let $Y$ be a smooth vector field on $Q$. If $\hat{Y}$ denotes the induced vector field on $\hat{Q}$, then

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{orb}}(\hat{Y};\hat{Q}) = \chi(X_{\hat{Q}}, X_{\partial\hat{Q}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi(X_{\hat{R}_{i}}, X_{\hat{\Gamma}_{i}}).$$
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