

# Parabolic geometry of a car

Paweł Nurowski

I show that a car, viewed as a nonholonomic system, provides an example of a flat parabolic geometry of type  $(SO(2, 3), P12)$ , where  $P12$  is a Borel parabolic subgroup in  $SO(2, 3)$ . The plan is to discuss relations of this geometry of a car to the geometry of circles in the plane (a low dimensional Lie sphere geometry), the geometry of 3-dimensional conformal Minkowski spacetime, the geometry of 3-rd order ODEs, projective contact geometry in three dimensions, and the geometry of the corresponding twistor fibrations. I hope that time permits to talk about all of these topics.

**First Author:** Paweł Nurowski

**Affiliation:** *Center for Theoretical Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences  
02-668, Poland*

**e-mail:** nurowski@fuw.edu.pl