

Claim: $\mathcal{N}(E, x)$ is a linear subspace:

$$\underbrace{e_1, e_2}_{\neq 0} \in \mathcal{N}(E, x) \stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow} e := e_1 + e_2 \in \mathcal{N}(E, x)$$

• "joining the cones"

• Fix $\eta > 0$ and let $\varepsilon := \frac{\eta}{2} \cdot \frac{\|e\|}{\|e_1\| + \|e_2\|}$.

• Let $\gamma \in \Gamma_{e, \eta}$. We can assume that $\gamma \in C^1$ and that $\|\gamma'(t)\| = 1$.

• $\langle \gamma'(t), e \rangle \geq \eta \|e\| \Leftrightarrow \langle \gamma'(t), e_1 \rangle + \langle \gamma'(t), e_2 \rangle = 2\varepsilon (\|e_1\| + \|e_2\|)$.

• Fix $t = t_0$. Then $\langle \gamma'(t_0), e_i \rangle \geq 2\varepsilon \|e_i\|$ for at least one index $i=1, 2$.

• Since e_1, e_2 are directions of nullness, $\exists r$ s.t. $w_{e_i, r}(E \cap B(x, r)) = 0$.

Moreover, $\langle \gamma'(t), e_i \rangle \geq \varepsilon \|e_i\|$ for all $|t - t_0| < \tau$.

• Finally, take a union over all neighborhoods.