

**Small time heat kernel asymptotics for
(sub-)Riemannian manifolds at the cut locus**

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We provide the small-time heat kernel asymptotics at the cut locus for low-dimensional Riemannian manifolds and, close to the starting point, for generic 3D contact and 4D quasi-contact sub-Riemannian manifolds. Singularities A3 and A5 happen to play a central role.