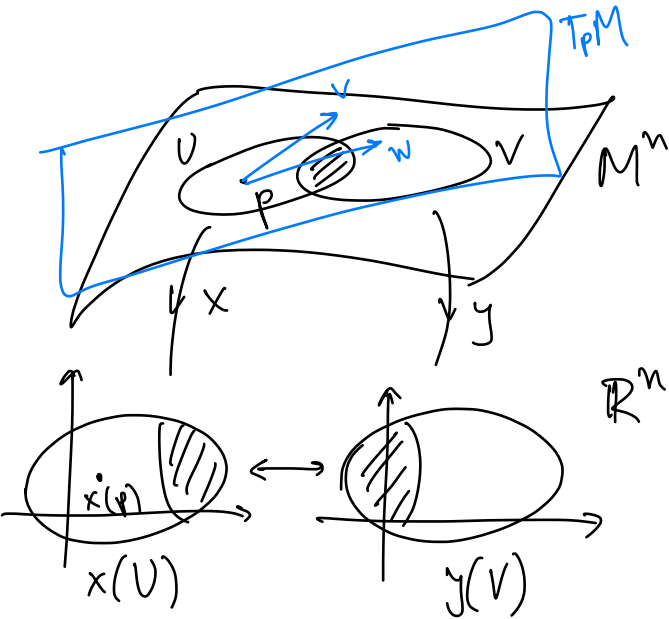


LECTURE NOTES FOR MATH 82000 COMPARISON GEOMETRY

Lecture 1 Review of Riemannian Geometry 1/26/2023



Def: A Riemannian metric g on a smooth manifold M^n is a (smoothly varying) inner product on the tangent spaces of M :

$$\forall p \in M, \quad g_p: T_p M \times T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$g_p(v, w) = g_p(w, v) \quad \forall v, w \in T_p M$$

$$g_p(v, v) \geq 0 \quad \forall v \in T_p M$$

$$g_p(v, v) = 0 \iff v = 0$$

and if X_p, Y_p are smooth vector fields, $p \mapsto g_p(X_p, Y_p)$ is smooth,
($X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ sections of $TM \rightarrow M$)

i.e., g is a section of the bundle $\text{Sym}^2 TM \rightarrow M$ whose image is contained in the open subset $\text{Sym}_{>0}^2 TM \subset \text{Sym}^2 TM$ of positive-definite symmetric bilinear forms. We call (M^n, g) a Riemannian manifold.

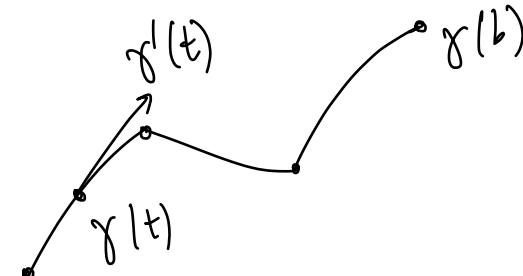
Prop: Every smooth manifold admits (many) Riemannian metrics.

Pf: Choose an atlas $\{x_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow x_\alpha(U_\alpha)\}$ and a subordinate partition of unity $\rho_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow [0,1]$. On each $x_\alpha(U_\alpha)$, use either the Euclidean inner product $g^{(\alpha)}$, or, more generally, any inner product $g^{(\alpha)}(e_i, e_j) = \delta_{ij} + \underline{f_{ij}}$, where f_{ij} are sufficiently small and $f_{ij} = f_{ji}$. Then set $\left\{ \begin{matrix} f_{ij}: x_\alpha(U_\alpha) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ 1 \leq i, j \leq n \end{matrix} \right\}$

$$g(v, w) = \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha g^{(\alpha)}(dx_\alpha(v), dx_\alpha(w)). \quad \square$$

Def: Let $\gamma: [a, b] \rightarrow (M^n, g)$ be a piecewise smooth curve.

The length of γ (w.r.t. g) is defined as



$$L_g(\gamma) = \int_a^b \underbrace{g_{\gamma(t)}(\gamma'(t), \gamma'(t))}^{= \|\gamma'(t)\|} dt$$

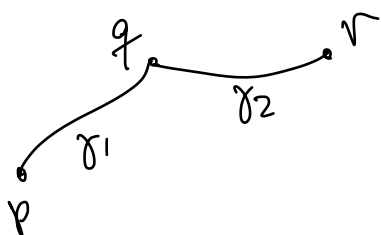
Given points $p, q \in M$, the distance (w.r.t. g) between p and q is defined as

$$\text{dist}_g(p, q) = \inf \left\{ L_g(\gamma) : \begin{matrix} \gamma: [a, b] \rightarrow M \text{ piecewise smooth} \\ \text{w/ } \gamma(a) = p, \gamma(b) = q \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

Prop. If (M^n, g) is a Riemannian manifold, then (M^n, dist_g) is a metric space, and the metric topology agrees with the manifold topology.

Pr: Clearly dist_g is nonnegative and symmetric.

For the triangle inequality, if γ_1 and γ_2 are curves with endpoints p, q and q, r , then define $\gamma_1 * \gamma_2$ by concatenating.



Clearly, $L_g(\gamma_1 * \gamma_2) = L_g(\gamma_1) + L_g(\gamma_2)$.

Suppose now γ_1 and γ_2 are such that

$$L_g(\gamma_1) < \text{dist}_g(p, q) + \varepsilon$$

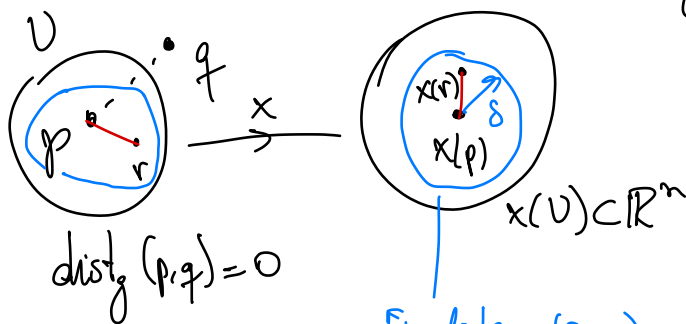
$$L_g(\gamma_2) < \text{dist}_g(q, r) + \varepsilon$$

Then

$$\text{dist}_g(p, r) \leq L_g(\gamma_1 * \gamma_2) = L_g(\gamma_1) + L_g(\gamma_2) < \text{dist}_g(p, q) + \text{dist}_g(q, r) + 2\varepsilon.$$

Letting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ gives the triangle inequality.

Suppose $p, q \in M$ have $\text{dist}_g(p, q) = 0$ but $p \neq q$. Then choose a chart $x: U \rightarrow x(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ around $p \in M$. There exist



$\delta > 0$ and $C > 0$ s.t.

$$B_\delta(x(p)) \subset x(U) \quad \text{and}$$

$$g(v, v) \geq C^2 \|dx(v)\|^2,$$

for all $v \in T_r M$, $r \in x^{-1}(B_\delta(x(p)))$. Thus, for all such r ,

$$\text{dist}_g(p, r) \geq C \|x(p) - x(r)\|.$$

So $q \notin x^{-1}(B_\delta(x(p)))$ and hence any curve from p to q must cross $x^{-1}(\partial B_\delta(x(p)))$ and thus have length $\geq C \cdot \delta$, contradicting $\text{dist}_g(p, q) = 0$.

Similarly, the topologies agree: because dist_g restricted to small charts is comparable to the Euclidean distance, open (metric) balls

$$B_\delta(p) = \{r \in M : \text{dist}_g(p, r) < \delta\}$$

form a base for the (manifold) topology of M . \square

Natural questions: How does the Riemannian structure of (M^m, g)

capture completeness of the metric space (M, dist_g) ?
When is the inf in $L_g(\gamma)$ attained by a curve?

A: Hopf-Rinow Theorem, coming soon.

Levi-Civita connection

Def: A connection (or covariant derivative) on the tangent bundle TM of a smooth manifold M is a map

$\nabla : \mathcal{X}(M) \times \mathcal{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(M)$ satisfying

$$1) \nabla_{\varphi X + \psi Y} Z = \varphi \nabla_X Z + \psi \nabla_Y Z \quad (C^\infty\text{-bilinear in } \nabla(\cdot))$$

$$2) \nabla_X (\varphi Y + \psi Z) = \underbrace{X(\varphi)}_{X(\varphi) = d\varphi(x)} Y + \varphi \nabla_X Y + X(\psi) Z + \psi \nabla_X Z$$

$(\mathbb{R}\text{-bilinear in } \nabla(\cdot) \text{ \& Leibniz rule})$

Theorem (Levi-Civita). Given a Riemannian manifold (M^n, g) , there exists a unique connection on TM such that

$$(3) \quad \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X = [X, Y] \quad (\text{torsion-free})$$

← Lie bracket: $[X, Y]p = X(Y(p)) - Y(X(p))$

$$(4) \quad X g(Y, Z) = g(\nabla_X Y, Z) + g(Y, \nabla_X Z) \quad (\text{compatible with } g, \text{ or } \nabla g = 0)$$

Proof: First, using partitions of unity, show that there exist connections on TM for any smooth manifold M .

Suppose ∇ is a connection on TM satisfying (3), (4).

Then

$$X g(Y, Z) = g(\nabla_X Y, Z) + \underline{g(Y, \nabla_X Z)}$$

$$Y g(Z, X) = \underline{g(\nabla_Y Z, X)} + g(Z, \nabla_Y X)$$

$$Z g(X, Y) = \underline{g(\nabla_Z X, Y)} + \underline{g(X, \nabla_Z Y)}$$

So

$$X g(Y, Z) + Y g(Z, X) - Z g(X, Y) = \underline{g([X, Z], Y)} + \underline{g([Y, Z], X)} + g([X, Y], Z) + 2g(\nabla_Y X, Z)$$

Thus

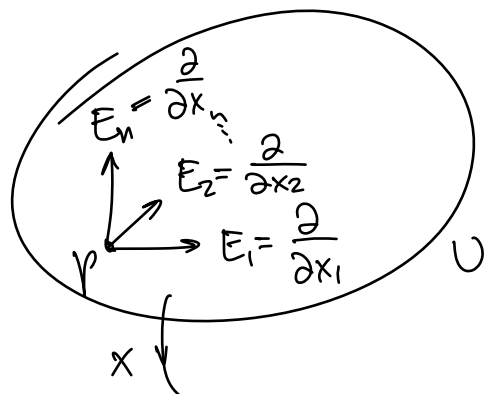
$$g(\nabla_Y X, Z) = \frac{1}{2} \left(X g(Y, Z) + Y g(Z, X) - Z g(X, Y) - g([X, Z], Y) - g([Y, Z], X) - g([X, Y], Z) \right).$$

"Koszul Formula"

The above uniquely defines ∇ . □

Christoffel Symbols

We'll try to avoid using them, but good to know what they are...



On a chart $x: U \rightarrow x(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$,
we have coordinate functions
 $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n): U \rightarrow x(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$
and coordinate vector fields $E_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$

Recall:

$$T_p M = \text{span} \{ E_i(p), i=1, \dots, n \}.$$

$$\nabla_{E_i} E_j = \sum_k \Gamma_{ij}^k E_k$$

$\Gamma_{ij}^k: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are called Christoffel symbols of ∇ .

Setting $Y = E_i$ and $X = E_j$ in Koszul formula and solving for each $Z = E_k$, we find:

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_k \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} g_{jk} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} g_{ki} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} g_{ij} \right) g^{km}$$

where $g_{ij} = g(E_i, E_j)$, and

(g^{km}) is the inverse matrix to (g_{ij})

Note: $[E_i, E_j] = 0$, $\forall i, j$ so last 3 terms vanish.

Clearly, ∇ determines Γ_{ij}^k and also vice-versa:

$$X = \sum_i a_i E_i, \quad Y = \sum_j b_j E_j \quad \text{on a chart } U \ni p$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X Y &= \sum_{i,j} a_i \nabla_{E_i} (b_j E_j) = \sum_{i,j} a_i E_i(b_j) E_j + a_i b_j \nabla_{E_i} E_j \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \underline{a_i} \underline{\frac{\partial b_j}{\partial x_i}} E_j + \underline{a_i b_j} \sum_k \Gamma_{ij}^k E_k \end{aligned}$$

only need values at the point ("tensorial" in this entry)

need to know nearby values to compute derivative!

Note: The above depends on values of X only at p , but of Y on a neighborhood of p .

Vector fields along a curve

$$\gamma: [a,b] \rightarrow M$$

$$V: [a,b] \rightarrow TM$$

such that

$$V_{\gamma(t)} \in T_{\gamma(t)} M, \quad \forall t \in [a,b]; \quad \text{i.e., } V \text{ is a section of } \gamma^* TM.$$

$$V' := \nabla_{\gamma'} V \quad \text{is defined locally extending } V.$$

often we write $\frac{DV}{dt}$

e.g., in coordinates:

formally, ∇ induces a connection on $\gamma^* TM$.

No need to extend γ' b/c of note above!

$$V = \sum_j V_j(t) E_j, \quad \dot{\gamma}(t) = \sum_i \dot{\gamma}_i(t) E_i$$

$$V' := \sum_j \frac{dV_j}{dt} E_j + \sum_{i,j,k} \dot{\gamma}_i(t) V_j(t) \Gamma_{ij}^k(\gamma(t)) E_k.$$

Def: The vector field V along $\gamma(t)$ is parallel if $V'(t) = 0$.

Def: A geodesic is a curve $\gamma(t)$ such that $\dot{\gamma}(t)$ is parallel;
equivalently, if $\dot{\gamma} = \sum_i \dot{\gamma}_i(t) E_i$,

$$\frac{D\dot{\gamma}}{dt} = \sum_i \ddot{\gamma}_i(t) E_i + \sum_{j,k} \dot{\gamma}_j(t) \dot{\gamma}_k(t) \Gamma_{ij}^k(\gamma(t)) E_k = 0.$$

i.e., $\forall i, \quad \ddot{\gamma}_i + \sum_{j,k} \dot{\gamma}_j \dot{\gamma}_k \Gamma_{jk}^i = 0.$ "Geodesic ODE"
(System of n coupled
2nd order nonlinear ODEs)

Immediate consequence of basic ODE theory:

Thm. On a Riemannian manifold (M^n, g) , given $p \in M$ and $v \in T_p M$, there exists a unique maximal geodesic $\gamma: (T_-, T_+) \rightarrow M$ with $\gamma(0) = p$ and $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$. Moreover, such γ depends smoothly on its initial conditions $(p, v) \in TM$.

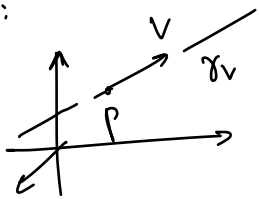
Prop: If $\gamma: I \rightarrow M$ is a geodesic, then $\|\dot{\gamma}\| = \text{const.}$

Pf: $\frac{d}{dt} \|\dot{\gamma}(t)\|^2 = \frac{d}{dt} \langle \dot{\gamma}(t), \dot{\gamma}(t) \rangle = 2 \langle \underbrace{\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma}}_{=0}, \dot{\gamma} \rangle = 0.$

Examples of geodesics:

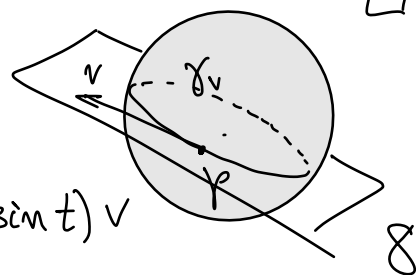
\mathbb{R}^n straight lines

$$\gamma_v(t) = p + tv$$



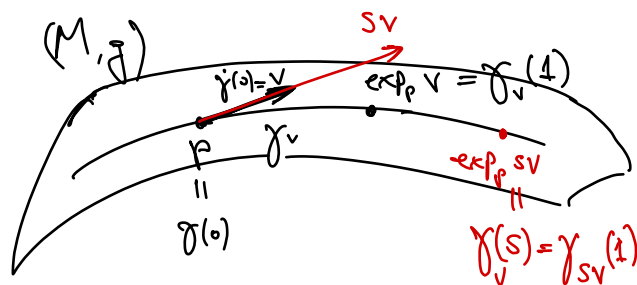
S^n great circles

$$\gamma_v(t) = (\cos t)p + (\sin t)v$$



Let (M, g) be a Riem. mfd; for every $v \in T_p M$, let $\gamma_v: (T_-, T_+) \rightarrow M$ be the unique max. geodesic on M with $\gamma_v(0) = p$ and $\dot{\gamma}_v(0) = v$.

Note: By uniqueness, for $|t|, |s|$ small,
 $\gamma_{sv}(t) = \gamma_v(st)$



Def: The (Riem.) exponential map at $p \in M$ is

$$\exp_p: \mathcal{D}_p \subset T_p M \rightarrow M$$

$$v \mapsto \gamma_v(1)$$

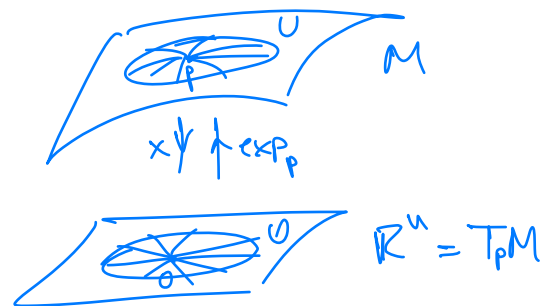
where \mathcal{D}_p is the open neighborhood of $0 \in T_p M$ s.t. $\gamma_v(t)$ is defined up to $t=1$ whenever $v \in \mathcal{D}_p$.

Prop: $d(\exp_p)_0 v = v$ for all $v \in T_p M = T_0(T_p M)$, or, in short, $d(\exp_p)_0 = \text{id}$.

By the Inverse Function Theorem.

In particular, there are open subsets $\mathcal{O} \subset T_p M$ and $U \subset M$, with $0 \in \mathcal{O}$ and $p \in U$, s.t. $\exp_p|_{\mathcal{O}}: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow U$ is a diffeomorphism.

So $(\exp_p|_{\mathcal{O}})^{-1}: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ defines a local chart, call these "geodesic normal coordinates"



Pf: $d(\exp_p)_0 v = \frac{d}{dt} (\exp_p)(tv) \Big|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_{tv}(t) \Big|_{t=0}$

Chain rule;

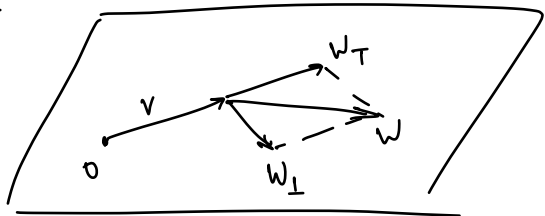
$$d f_p v = \frac{d}{dt} f(\gamma_v(t)) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$= \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_v(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \dot{\gamma}_v(0) = v. \quad \square$$

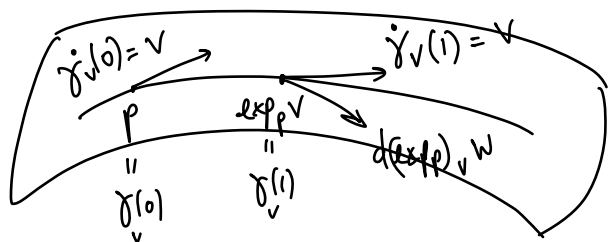
Gauss Lemma: \exp_p is a radial isometry; more precisely

$$\langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w \rangle = \langle v, w \rangle, \quad \forall v, w \in T_p M = T_v T_p M$$

Pf:



$$\exp_p \downarrow T_p M = T_v T_p M$$



Write $w = w_T + w_\perp$, where $\begin{cases} w_T = \alpha v \\ \langle w_\perp, v \rangle = 0 \end{cases}$

Clearly,

$$d(\exp_p)_v v = \frac{d}{dt} (\exp_p)((t+1)v) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$= \frac{d}{dt} (\exp_p)(tv) \Big|_{t=1}$$

$$= \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_v(t) \Big|_{t=1} = \dot{\gamma}_v(1) = P_\gamma^{v(i)}(v).$$

parallel transport of $v \in T_p M$ along γ_v to $\gamma_v(1)$.

Thus

$$\langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w \rangle = \langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v(\alpha v) \rangle$$

$$P_\gamma^{v(i)}: T_p M \rightarrow T_{\gamma_v(1)} M$$

$$+ \langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w_\perp \rangle$$

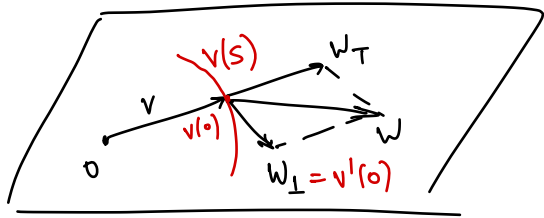
$$= \alpha \langle P_\gamma^{v(i)} v, P_\gamma^{v(i)} v \rangle$$

$$+ \langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w_\perp \rangle$$

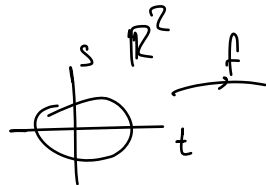
$$= \langle v, \underbrace{\alpha v}_{w_T} \rangle + \langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w_\perp \rangle$$

$$= \langle v, w \rangle + \langle d(\exp_p)_v v, d(\exp_p)_v w_\perp \rangle$$

So we must show $\langle d(\exp)_v v, d(\exp)_v w_\perp \rangle = 0$.

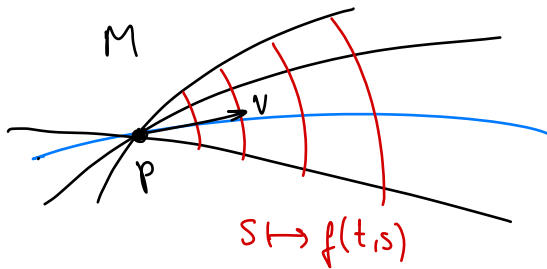


$$T_p M = T_v T_p M$$



Let $v(s) = (\cos s)v + (\sin s)w_\perp$ so $\begin{cases} v(0) = v \\ v'(0) = w_\perp \\ \|v(s)\| = \text{const.} \end{cases}$

and $f(t,s) = \exp_p(tv(s)) = \gamma_{v(s)}(t)$



$t \mapsto f(t,s)$ are geodesics $\gamma_{v(s)}(t)$

$f(t,0) = \gamma_v(t)$
original geod.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} d(\exp)_v v &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp_p(tv(s)) \Big|_{t=1, s=0} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(1,0) \\ d(\exp)_v w_\perp &= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \exp_p(tv(s)) \Big|_{t=1, s=0} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(1,0) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \langle d(\exp)_v v, d(\exp)_v w_\perp \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right\rangle(1,0).$$

Compute:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right\rangle = \left\langle \underbrace{\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}}_{=0}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \underbrace{\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}}_{\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \right] = 0} \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial s}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle$$

metric compatibility of ∇

$\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = 0$ b/c $t \mapsto f(t,s) = \gamma_{v(s)}(t)$ are geodesics.

and $\|\dot{\gamma}_{v(s)}(t)\| = \|\dot{\gamma}_{v(s)}(0)\| = \|v(s)\| = \text{const.}$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle = 0$$

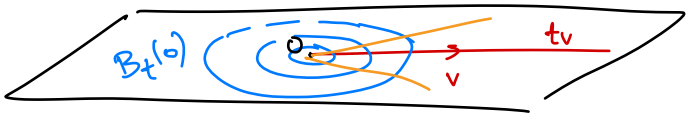
Therefore $t \mapsto \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right\rangle(t,0)$ is constant, and, computing at $t=0$:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(t,0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (\exp_p)(tv(s)) \Big|_{s=0} = d(\exp_p)_{tv(0)}(tv'(0)) = d(\exp_p)_{tv} tw_\perp$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(t,0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} d(\exp_p)_{tv} tw_\perp = 0; \text{ so } \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right\rangle(1,0) = 0.$$

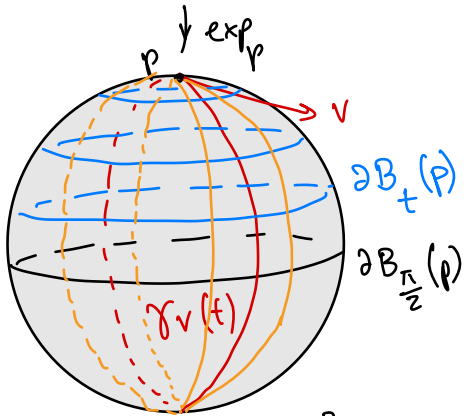
□ 11

Example: $S^n(1)$ unit round sphere, $\exp_p: T_p S^n \rightarrow S^n$



$$\exp_p(B_r(0)) = B_r(p), \forall r \in (0, \pi)$$

injectivity radius of $S^n(1)$ is π .



• $\exp_p|_{B_\pi(0)}: B_\pi(0) \rightarrow S^n \setminus \{p\}$ is a diffeomorphism

• Geodesic spheres / distance spheres have area distortion

$$g = dt^2 + \sin^2 t d\theta^2$$

i.e. $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2 t \end{pmatrix}$ on $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right\}$.

$\partial B_t(p)$ is a sphere of radius $\sin t$.

$\partial B_t(0)$ is a sphere of radius t .

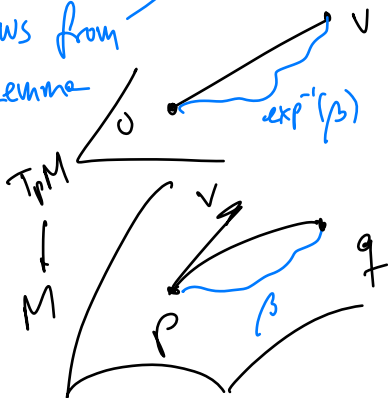
Rmk: In general, largest $r > 0$ s.t. $\exp_p|_{B_r(0)}: B_r(0) \rightarrow M$

is a diffeom. onto its image is called injectivity radius at p ; denoted $\text{inj}_p(M)$. Injectivity radius of (M, g) is $\text{inj}(M) = \inf_p \text{inj}_p(M)$.

If $r < \text{inj}_p(M)$, then $B_r(p) = \exp_p(B_r(0))$; and

for all $v \in B_r(0) \subset T_p M$, the geodesic $[0, 1] \ni t \mapsto \exp_p(tv) \in B_r(p)$ is the unique minimizing geodesic from p to $q = \exp_p v$.

Pf. follows from Gauss Lemma



i.e. $L_g(\gamma) = \text{dist}_g(p, q)$. "cut locus"

More generally, $\text{Cut}(p) \subset M$ is the image via \exp_p of the set of $v \in T_p M$ s.t. $\exp_p(tv)$ is minimizing for $t \in [0, 1]$ but not for $t = 1 + \epsilon$, for any $\epsilon > 0$.

So $\text{inj}_p(M) = \text{dist}_g(p, \text{Cut}(p))$. $\leftarrow \text{dist}(p, C) = \inf \{ \text{dist}(p, x) : x \in C \}$ as usual.

Also using Gauss Lemma, among other things, one proved:

published in *Comm. Math. Helvetica!*

Thm (Hopf-Rinow '1931). Let (M, g) be a connected Riem. mfd. TFAE:

- (i) $\exists p_0 \in M$ s.t. \exp_{p_0} is defined on all of $T_{p_0}M$
- (ii) $\forall p \in M$, \exp_p is defined on all of T_pM
- (iii) $K \subset M$ closed and bounded $\Rightarrow K$ compact ("Heine-Borel property")
- (iv) (M, dist_g) is a complete metric space (i.e. Cauchy seq. converge.)

M is "geodesically complete",
i.e. all geodesics can be extended to $(-\infty, \infty)$

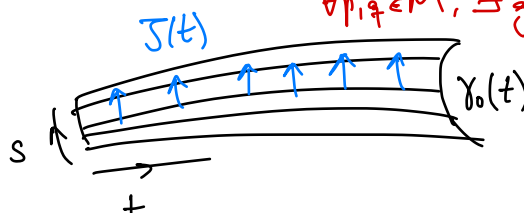
If any, hence all, of the above holds, then given any $p, q \in M$, there exists a minimizing geodesic γ from p to q , i.e., $L_g(\gamma) = \text{dist}_g(p, q)$.

Variations of geodesics & Jacobi fields

Consider a variation of geodesics

$$(-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (T_-, T_+) \ni (s, t) \mapsto \gamma(s, t) = \gamma_s(t) \in M$$

$$t \mapsto \gamma_s(t) \text{ is a geodesic, } \forall s \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon).$$



Q: Why isn't this also equivalent to (i)-(iv)?
A: Eg., $M = B_r(0) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is not complete, but $\forall p, q \in M, \exists \text{ geod. } \overline{pq}$.

Def: The variational field $J(t) = \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) \Big|_{s=0}$ along $\gamma_0(t)$ is called a Jacobi field.

Prop: A vector field J along a geodesic γ is a Jacobi field if and only if it satisfies the Jacobi equation

2nd order linear ODE $J'' + R(J, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0$, where R is the curvature tensor:
 $R(X, Y)Z = \nabla_X \nabla_Y Z - \nabla_Y \nabla_X Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]} Z$.
 more on this soon!

Pf: (\Rightarrow) If $J(t) = \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) \big|_{s=0}$ where $\gamma_s(t)$ is a variation by geodesics, then

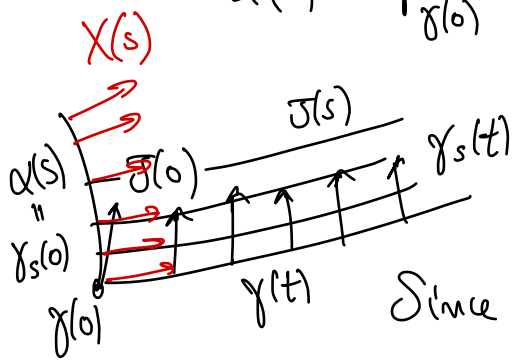
$$\begin{aligned} J''(t) &= \frac{D^2 J}{dt^2} = \frac{D}{dt} \frac{D}{dt} \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) = \frac{D}{dt} \frac{D}{ds} \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \gamma_s(t)}_{\dot{\gamma}_s(t)} \\ &= \frac{D}{ds} \underbrace{\frac{D}{dt} \dot{\gamma}_s(t)}_{=0 \text{ b/c } \gamma_s(t) \text{ is geod.}} + R(\dot{\gamma}, J)\dot{\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\text{indeed: } R(\dot{\gamma}, J)\dot{\gamma} = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \nabla_J \dot{\gamma} - \nabla_J \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} - \nabla_{[\dot{\gamma}, J]} \dot{\gamma} \right)$$

$$= \frac{D}{dt} \frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma} - \frac{D}{ds} \frac{D}{dt} \dot{\gamma} \quad \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right] = 0$$

so $J'' + R(J, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0$ b/c $R(X, Y)Z = -R(Y, X)Z$.

(\Leftarrow) If J satisfies $J'' + R(J, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0$, then let $\alpha(s) = \exp_{\gamma(0)} sJ(0)$ and let $X(s)$ be a vector field along $\alpha(s)$ with $X(0) = \dot{\gamma}(0)$, $X'(0) = J(0)$.



Set $\gamma_s(t) = \exp_{\alpha(s)} tX(s)$.

Since $t \mapsto \gamma_s(t)$ are geodesics, by (\Rightarrow), the vector field $\tilde{J}(t) = \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) \big|_{s=0}$ satisfies $\tilde{J}'' + R(\tilde{J}, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0$.

Moreover, $\tilde{J}(0) = \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(0) \big|_{s=0} = \alpha'(0) = J(0)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{J}'(0) &= \frac{D}{dt} \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) \Big|_{\substack{s=0 \\ t=0}} = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_s(t) \Big|_{\substack{s=0 \\ t=0}} = \frac{D}{ds} X(s) \Big|_{s=0} \\ &= X'(0) = J(0). \end{aligned}$$

So $J(t) = \tilde{J}(t) = \frac{d}{ds} \gamma_s(t) \Big|_{s=0}$ for all t by uniqueness of sol. to ODE w/ same initial conditions; hence J is the variational field of the family of geodesics $\gamma_s(t)$. \square

Rmk: The Jacobi field along $\gamma_v(t)$ with $J(0)=0$ and $J'(0)=w$ is given by $J(t) = d(\exp_p)_{tv} tw$, cf. end of Pf. of Gauss Lemma.

Next class: Comparison geometry via Jacobi fields (Rauch)

Before that, let's explore further the curvature tensor

$$R(X, Y)Z = \nabla_X \nabla_Y Z - \nabla_Y \nabla_X Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]} Z$$

No standardized sign convention ...
We'll use this one, opposite of do Carmo, same as Eschenburg, Petersen ...

Prop: $R : \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$ is a tensor, i.e.,

$(R(X, Y)Z)_p$ only depends on X_p, Y_p, Z_p ; and we

may thus consider R as a section of $TM^* \otimes TM^* \otimes TM^* \otimes TM$.
"(3,1)-tensor"

Pf: Follows from the claims:

$(X, Y) \mapsto R(X, Y)Z$ is $C^\infty(M)$ -bilinear (and skew-symmetric)

$Z \mapsto R(X, Y)Z$ is $C^\infty(M)$ -linear. \square

In (dreaded) coordinates

$$\begin{aligned}
 R\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} &= \nabla_{\partial_i} \nabla_{\partial_j} \partial_k - \nabla_{\partial_j} \nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_k \quad [\partial_i, \partial_j] = 0 \\
 &= \nabla_{\partial_i} \left(\sum_{\ell} \Gamma_{jk}^{\ell} \partial_{\ell} \right) - \nabla_{\partial_j} \left(\sum_{\ell} \Gamma_{ik}^{\ell} \partial_{\ell} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{\ell} \frac{\partial \Gamma_{jk}^{\ell}}{\partial x_i} \partial_{\ell} + \sum_{\substack{p \\ \ell \leftrightarrow p}} \Gamma_{jk}^{\ell} \Gamma_{i\ell}^p \partial_p \\
 &\quad - \sum_{\ell} \frac{\partial \Gamma_{ik}^{\ell}}{\partial x_j} \partial_{\ell} - \sum_{\substack{p \\ \ell \leftrightarrow p}} \Gamma_{ik}^{\ell} \Gamma_{j\ell}^p \partial_p \\
 &= \sum_{\ell} \left(\frac{\partial \Gamma_{jk}^{\ell}}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial \Gamma_{ik}^{\ell}}{\partial x_j} + \Gamma_{jk}^p \Gamma_{ip}^{\ell} - \Gamma_{ik}^p \Gamma_{jp}^{\ell} \right) \partial_{\ell} \\
 &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{R_{ijk}^{\ell}} \quad \leftarrow \text{these are functions!}
 \end{aligned}$$

So that $R(X, Y)Z = \sum R_{ijk}^{\ell} a_i b_j c_k \partial_{\ell}$

if $X = \sum a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$, $Y = \sum b_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$, $Z = \sum c_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$.

2/9/2023

Lecture 3.

Recall: Curvature tensor $R: \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$.

"Lowering indices", we get a $(4,0)$ -tensor

$$R: \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow C^{\infty}(M)$$

$$R(X, Y, Z, W) = \langle R(X, Y)Z, W \rangle = \langle \nabla_X \nabla_Y Z - \nabla_Y \nabla_X Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]} Z, W \rangle$$

$$\text{i.e. } R\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{\ell}}\right) = R_{ijkl} = \sum_p R_{ijk}^p g_{p\ell}$$

which has the following symmetries:

$$R(X, Y, Z, W)$$

$\xleftrightarrow{\text{Symm.}}$
 $\xleftrightarrow{\text{skew}} \quad \xleftrightarrow{\text{skew}}$

$$R(X, Y, Z, W) = R(Z, W, X, Y)$$

$$R(X, Y, Z, W) = -R(Y, X, Z, W) = R(Y, X, W, Z)$$

1st Bianchi identity: $R(X, Y)Z + R(Y, Z)X + R(Z, X)Y = 0$

Def (Curvature operator):

By the above we can also consider R as a symmetric bilinear map $R: \Lambda^2 TM \rightarrow \Lambda^2 TM$.

$$(X \wedge Y) \mapsto R(X \wedge Y)$$

Recall

$$\Lambda^2 V = V \otimes V / \sim$$

$$v \otimes w \sim -w \otimes v$$

$$v \wedge w := [v \otimes w]$$

$$\langle \underbrace{R(X \wedge Y)}_{\text{skew}}, \underbrace{Z \wedge W}_{\text{skew}} \rangle = - \langle R(X, Y)Z, W \rangle = \langle R(X, Y)W, Z \rangle$$

$\xleftarrow{\text{b/c of our sign conventions...}}$

Recall: $\langle X \wedge Y, Z \wedge W \rangle = \langle X, Z \rangle \langle Y, W \rangle - \langle X, W \rangle \langle Y, Z \rangle$

$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} \langle X, Z \rangle & \langle Y, Z \rangle \\ \langle X, W \rangle & \langle Y, W \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

In particular, $\|X \wedge Y\|^2 = \|X\|^2 \|Y\|^2 - \langle X, Y \rangle^2$

Def (Sectional curvature):

$$\text{sec}(X, Y) = \frac{\langle R(X, Y)Y, X \rangle}{\|X\|^2 \|Y\|^2 - \langle X, Y \rangle^2} = \frac{\langle R(X \wedge Y), X \wedge Y \rangle}{\|X \wedge Y\|^2} = \text{sec}(\sigma)$$

Prop: $\text{sec}(X, Y)$ only depends on $\sigma = \text{span}\{X, Y\} \subset T_p M$.

Pf: Any other basis is obtained by performing finitely many of the following operations:

a) $\{X, Y\} \rightarrow \{Y, X\}$

b) $\{X, Y\} \rightarrow \{\lambda X, Y\} \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

c) $\{X, Y\} \rightarrow \{X + \lambda Y, Y\} \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

All the above clearly preserve $\text{sec}(X, Y)$; e.g., (c):

$$\langle R(X + \lambda Y, Y)Y, X + \lambda Y \rangle = \langle R(X, Y)Y, X \rangle \text{ b/c } R(Y, Y) = 0$$

$$\langle R(\cdot, \cdot)Y, Y \rangle = 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|X + \lambda Y\|^2 \|Y\|^2 - \langle X + \lambda Y, Y \rangle^2 &= (\|X\|^2 + 2\lambda \langle X, Y \rangle + \lambda^2 \|Y\|^2) \|Y\|^2 - (\langle X, Y \rangle + \lambda \|Y\|^2)^2 \\ &= \|X\|^2 \|Y\|^2 - \langle X, Y \rangle^2 \end{aligned}$$

(or, more elegantly, note: $\|(X + \lambda Y) \wedge Y\|^2 = \|X \wedge Y + \lambda \underbrace{Y \wedge Y}_{=0}\|^2 = \|X \wedge Y\|^2$)

Rmk: Given $\sigma \subset T_p M$, let $\Sigma = \exp_p(\sigma)$. Then $\text{sec}(\sigma) = K_\Sigma$.
Gaussian curvature \nearrow

Prop: R_p is determined by $\text{sec} : G_{\mathbb{R}^2} T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Pf: "Polarization", using the symmetries of curvature tensor.

Suppose R' is st. $\frac{\langle R'(X, Y)Y, X \rangle}{\|X \wedge Y\|^2} = \frac{\langle R(X, Y)Y, X \rangle}{\|X \wedge Y\|^2} = \text{sec}(X \wedge Y)$

for all X, Y ; want to show $R' = R$.

By hypothesis, $\langle R'(\underline{X+Z}, \underline{Y}) \underline{Y}, \underline{X+Z} \rangle = \langle R(\underline{X+Z}, \underline{Y}) \underline{Y}, \underline{X+Z} \rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } & \langle \underline{R'(X,Y)Y,X} \rangle + 2 \langle R'(X,Y)Y,Z \rangle + \langle \underline{R'(Z,Y)Y,Z} \rangle \\ & = \langle \underline{R(X,Y)Y,X} \rangle + 2 \langle R(X,Y)Y,Z \rangle + \langle \underline{R(Z,Y)Y,Z} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \langle \underline{R'(X,Y)Y,Z} \rangle = \langle \underline{R(X,Y)Y,Z} \rangle. \quad \forall X, Y, Z$$

$$\text{Thus, } \langle R'(X, Y+W)(Y+W), Z \rangle = \langle R(X, Y+W)(Y+W), Z \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } & \langle \underline{R'(X,Y)Y,Z} \rangle + \langle R'(X,Y)W,Z \rangle + \langle R'(X,W)Y,Z \rangle + \langle \underline{R'(X,W)W,Z} \rangle = \\ & = \langle \underline{R(X,Y)Y,Z} \rangle + \langle R(X,Y)W,Z \rangle + \langle R(X,W)Y,Z \rangle + \langle \underline{R(X,W)W,Z} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \langle R'(X,Y)W,Z \rangle + \langle R'(X,W)Y,Z \rangle = \langle R(X,Y)W,Z \rangle + \langle R(X,W)Y,Z \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. } & \langle \underline{R'(X,Y)W,Z} \rangle - \langle \underline{R(X,Y)W,Z} \rangle = \langle R(X,W)Y,Z \rangle - \langle R'(X,W)Y,Z \rangle \\ & = \langle \underline{R'(W,X)Y,Z} \rangle - \langle \underline{R(W,X)Y,Z} \rangle \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \forall X, Y, Z, W \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $R'(X,Y)W - R(X,Y)W$ is invariant under cyclic perm. of (X, Y, W) and hence, by the 1st Bianchi identity,

$$3(R'(X,Y)W - R(X,Y)W) = 0, \quad \forall X, Y, W$$

$$\text{So } R = R'. \quad \square$$

Cor: If $R: \Lambda^2 TM \rightarrow \Lambda^2 TM$ is s.t. $\sec(\sigma) = K$ for all σ , then $R = K \cdot \text{Id}$, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle R(X,Y)Z,W \rangle & = - \langle R(X \wedge Y), Z \wedge W \rangle = -K \langle X \wedge Y, Z \wedge W \rangle \\ & = -K (\langle X, Z \rangle \langle Y, W \rangle - \langle X, W \rangle \langle Y, Z \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

Pf: Check that RHS has $\text{sec} \equiv k$, then use uniqueness. \square

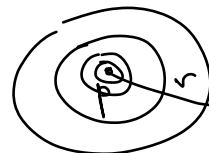
Examples of (complete) Riem. mflds w/ $\text{sec} \equiv k$:

	Simply-connected	their quotients:
• $k > 0$:	$S^n(1/\sqrt{k})$	\mathbb{RP}^n , Lens space...
• $k = 0$:	\mathbb{R}^n	T^n , Klein bottle...
• $k < 0$:	$\mathbb{H}^n(1/\sqrt{-k})$	Hyperbolic surface...

"Ball models"/"Warped product models":

Geometrically, in terms of distance spheres:

$$S(r) = \{x \in M : \text{dist}(p, x) = r\}$$



metric on n -dim mfld of constant curvature $\text{sec} \equiv k$

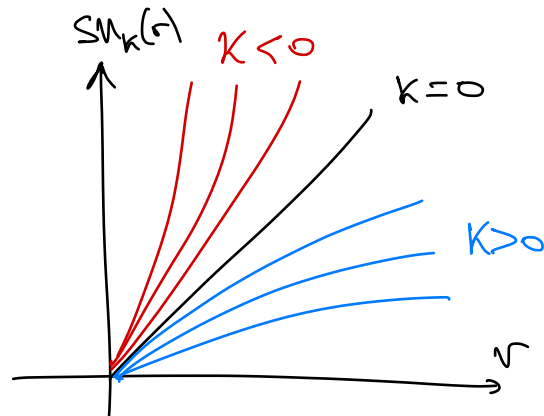
$$g = dr^2 + \text{sn}_k(r)^2 d\theta^2$$

metric of $S^{n-1}(1)$ unit round sphere

Where $\text{sn}_k(r) = \begin{cases} \sin(\sqrt{k} r) \\ r \\ \sinh(\sqrt{-k} r) \end{cases}$

is the solution to

the ODE
$$\begin{cases} \text{sn}_k'' + k \text{sn}_k = 0 \\ \text{sn}_k(0) = 0 \\ \text{sn}_k'(0) = 1 \end{cases}$$



(see course webpage!)

"Quadric models":

• $S^n(1/\sqrt{k}) = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2 + x_{n+1}^2 = \frac{1}{k} \right\} (k > 0)$

w/ metric induced from Euclidean metric $dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_{n+1}^2$

• $\mathbb{H}^n(1/\sqrt{-k}) = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2 - x_{n+1}^2 = \frac{1}{k} \right\} (k < 0)$

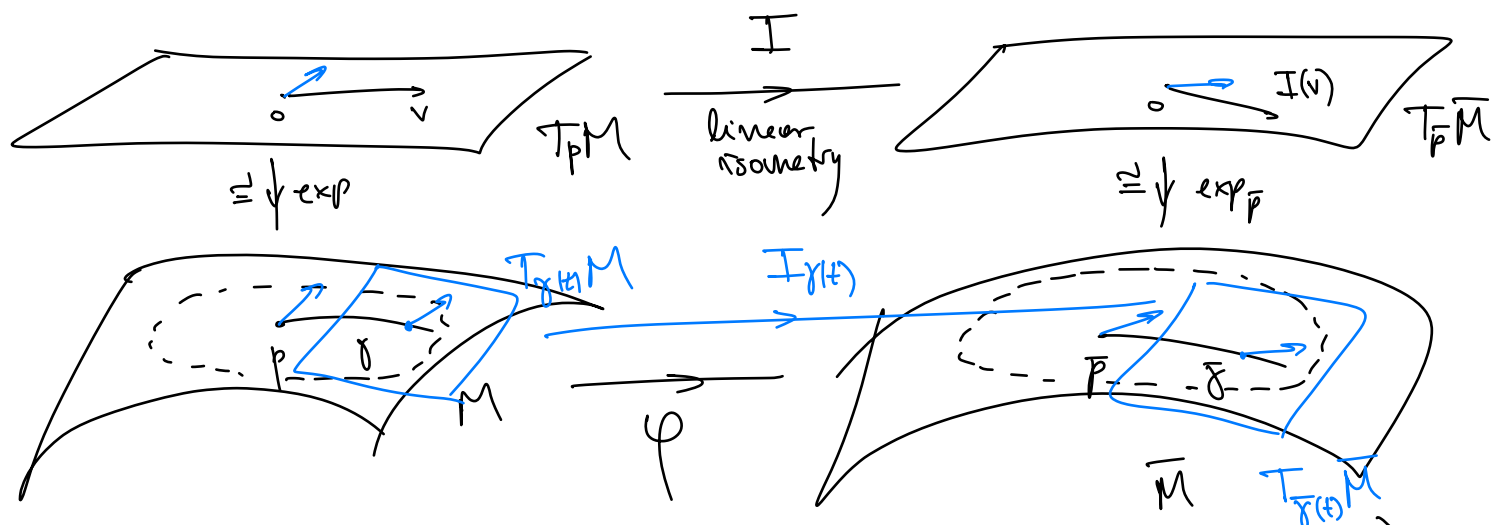
w/ metric induced from Lorentzian metric $dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_n^2 - dx_{n+1}^2$

"hyperboloid model"

Upper half-space model: ($k = -1$)

$H^n(1) = \{(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, +\infty)\}$ with metric induced from $\frac{dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_n^2 + dt^2}{t^2}$

Cartan: Curvature is the only local invariant of a Riem m.fld.



$\varphi = \exp_{\bar{p}} \circ I \circ \exp_p^{-1}$ is a diffeom. (on good. normal coord.)

Let $\bar{\gamma} = \varphi \circ \gamma$, $I_{\gamma(t)} : T_{\gamma(t)} M \rightarrow T_{\bar{\gamma}(t)} \bar{M}$ (Note: $I_{\gamma(t)}$ are linear isometries!)

$$I_{\gamma(t)} := P_{\bar{p}}^{\bar{\gamma}(t)} \circ I \circ P_{\gamma(t)}^p$$

parallel transport

Preserving curvature is the "Integrability condition" to become a local isometry.

Thm (Cartan). If for all geodesics $\gamma(t)$ starting at $p \in M$,

$$I_{\gamma(t)}(R(X, Y)Z) = \bar{R}(I_{\gamma(t)}X, I_{\gamma(t)}Y)I_{\gamma(t)}Z \quad \forall |t| \text{ small}$$

then φ is a local isometry, and $d\varphi_{\gamma(t)} = I_{\gamma(t)}$.

Pf. Given q near p , and $X \in T_q M$, let $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ be minimizing geodesic w/ $\gamma(0) = p$, $\gamma(L) = q$ and let $J: [0, L] \rightarrow TM$ be the Jacobi field along γ with $J(0) = 0$ and $J(L) = X$.

↑ see Lemma 2 later

Let $\bar{J}(t) = I_{\gamma(t)}(J(t))$. By hypothesis, $\bar{J}(t)$ is a Jacobi field along $\bar{\gamma}$:

$$\bar{J}''(t) + \bar{R}(\bar{J}(t), \bar{\gamma}'(t))\bar{\gamma}'(t) = I_{\gamma(t)}(J''(t) + R(J(t), \gamma'(t))\gamma'(t)) = 0.$$

$\bar{J}'' = I(J'')$ b/c defined w/ parallel transport...

Clearly, $\|J(t)\| = \|\bar{J}'(t)\|$ b/c $I_{\gamma(t)}$ are linear isometries.

Moreover,
$$\begin{cases} J(t) = d(\exp_p)_{t\gamma'(0)} t J'(0) \\ \bar{J}(t) = d(\exp_{\bar{p}})_{t\bar{\gamma}'(0)} t \bar{J}'(0) \end{cases}$$

see Lemma 1 later

so
$$\bar{J}(t) = d(\exp_{\bar{p}})_{t\bar{\gamma}'(0)} t \bar{J}'(0)$$

$$= d(\exp_{\bar{p}})_{t\bar{\gamma}'(0)} t I(J'(0))$$

$$= d(\exp_{\bar{p}})_{t\bar{\gamma}'(0)} \circ I \circ d(\exp_p^{-1})_{\gamma(t)} J(t)$$

$$= d(\underbrace{\exp_{\bar{p}} \circ I \circ \exp_p^{-1}}_{\varphi})_{\gamma(t)} J(t)$$

$$= d\varphi_{\gamma(t)} J(t)$$

Computing at $t=L$, we have $\bar{J}(L) = d\varphi_{\gamma(L)} J(L) = d\varphi_{\bar{q}} X$

and $\|d\varphi_{\bar{q}} X\| = \|\bar{J}(L)\| \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} \|J(L)\| = \|X\|$ so $d\varphi_{\bar{q}}$ is an

isometry. $(I_{\bar{q}}$ is linear isometry)

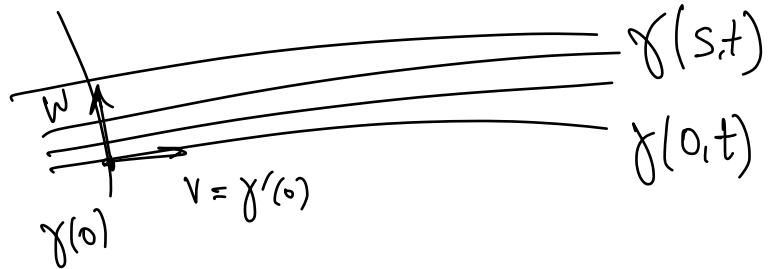
□

Lemma 1. The Jacobi field along $\gamma(t)$ with $J(0)=0$ and $J'(0)=w$ is $J(t) = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})_{t\gamma'(0)} t w$.

Pf: $J(t) = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})_{t\gamma'(0)} t w$ is the variational field of a variation of γ by geodesics, so it is a Jacobi field.

Indeed: if $v = \gamma'(0)$, then

$$\gamma(s, t) = \exp_{\gamma(0)}(t(v + sw))$$



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \gamma(s, t) \Big|_{s=0} = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})(tv)(tw) = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})_{tv} tw = J(t)$$

Moreover, $J(0)=0$ and

$$J'(0) = \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \gamma(s, t) \Big|_{\substack{t=0 \\ s=0}} = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t) \Big|_{\substack{t=0 \\ s=0}} = \frac{D}{ds} (v + sw) \Big|_{s=0} = w$$

So by uniqueness of sol. to ODE with some initial condition, $J(t)$ is the claimed Jacobi field. \square

Remark: There is a similar expression (using exp) for the unique Jacobi field along $\gamma(t)$ with arbitrary initial conditions

$J(0)$ and $J'(0)$; namely:

$$J(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \exp_{\alpha(s)} t w(s) \Big|_{s=0} \text{ where } \begin{cases} \alpha(s) \text{ is a curve s.t. } \alpha(0) = \gamma(0) \\ \alpha'(0) = J(0) \\ w(s) \text{ is a vector field along } \alpha(s) \\ \text{with } w(0) = \gamma'(0) \text{ and } w'(0) = J'(0). \end{cases}$$

Lemma 2. Let $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ be a geodesic, $v \in T_{\gamma(0)}M$, $w \in T_{\gamma(L)}M$.

If $L > 0$ is suff. small, there exists a unique Jacobi field J along γ with $J(0) = v$, $J(L) = w$.

Pf: Let $\mathcal{J} = \{J \text{ is a Jacobi field along } \gamma, J(0) = 0\}$,

$$\text{Lemma 1} \Rightarrow \{J(t) = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})_{t\gamma'(0)} t J'(0)\}$$

← this is a vector space
 $\dim \mathcal{J} = \dim T_p M$

$$\text{and } ev_t: \mathcal{J} \rightarrow T_{\gamma(t)}M$$

$$J \mapsto J(t)$$

If $t > 0$ is small, then ev_t is injective: otherwise

$J_1, J_2 \in \mathcal{J}$, $J_1(t) = J_2(t)$ but $J_1 \neq J_2$. Then $J_1 - J_2 \in \mathcal{J}$

$$\text{satisfies } 0 = (J_1 - J_2)(t) = d(\exp_{\gamma(0)})_{t\gamma'(0)} t (J_1 - J_2)'(0)$$

and for t small $d(\exp)_{t\gamma'(0)}$ is invertible, so $(J_1 - J_2)'(0) = 0$,

hence $(J_1 - J_2)(0) = 0$ and $(J_1 - J_2)'(0) = 0$ so $J_1 = J_2$.

Since $ev_t: \mathcal{J} \rightarrow T_{\gamma(t)}M$ is linear and $\dim \mathcal{J} = \dim T_{\gamma(t)}M$,

ev_t is bijective. So $\exists J_1 \in \mathcal{J}$ with $J_1(t) = w$.

By the same argument starting from $\gamma(0)$, $\exists J_2$ a Jacobi field along γ with $J_2(0) = v$ and $J_2(t) = 0$.

Thus $J = J_1 + J_2$ satisfies $J(0) = v$ and $J(t) = w$. \square

Rmk: In Lemma 2, can replace " $L > 0$ suff. small" with "there is no $0 < t_* \leq L$ s.t. $\gamma(t_*)$ is conjugate to $\gamma(0)$ along $\gamma(t)$ ".

Def: A point $q = \gamma(t_*)$ is conjugate to $p = \gamma(0)$ along $\gamma(t)$ if there exists a Jacobi field $J(t)$ along $\gamma(t)$ s.t. $J(0) = 0$ and $J(t_*) = 0$. Ex: Antipodal points on S^n .

Prop: $q = \exp_p(t_*v)$ is conjugate to p along $\gamma(t) = \exp_p tv$ iff t_*v is a critical point of $\exp_p: T_pM \rightarrow M$.

Global version of Cartan's Thm:

Thm (Cartan-Ambrose-Hicks). If M and \bar{M} are complete and M is simply-connected, can extend the above argument along piecewise geodesics to get $\rho: M \rightarrow \bar{M}$ which is a local isometry hence a covering map.

Pf. Essentially the same, using uniform continuity of homotopy between two paths (piecewise geodesics) in M with same endpoints.

Thm (Killing-Hopf). If M^n is simply-connected and has $\text{sec} \equiv k$, then

$$M^n \stackrel{\text{isom}}{=} \begin{cases} S^n(1/\sqrt{k}) & \text{if } k > 0 \\ \mathbb{R}^n & \text{if } k = 0 \\ H^n(1/\sqrt{-k}) & \text{if } k < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{"constant curvature model spaces"}$$

Pf: Combine the above with simple topological arguments.

\rightsquigarrow Spaceform problem: Which π act freely and isometrically on the above, so that M/π is a smooth manifold with $\text{sec} \equiv k$ and $\pi_1 \cong \pi$?

Prop: If $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ is a geodesic with $\gamma(0) = p$, $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$,
 $w \in T_v T_p M$ has $\|w\| = 1$ and $J(t)$ is the Jacobi field along $\gamma(t)$
 with $J(0) = 0$ and $J'(0) = w$, $\|w\| = 1$, (i.e., $J(t) = d(\exp_p)_{t_v} tw$),
 then $\|J(t)\|^2 = t^2 - \frac{1}{3} \langle R(v, w)w, v \rangle t^4 + O(t^6)$

Pl:

$$\langle J, J \rangle(0) = 0$$

$$\langle J, J \rangle'(0) = 2 \langle J, J' \rangle(0) = 0$$

$$\langle J, J \rangle''(0) = 2 \underbrace{\langle J', J' \rangle(0)}_{\|w\|^2 = 1} + 2 \langle J'', J \rangle(0) = 2$$

Also, $J''(0) = -R(\underbrace{J, \dot{\gamma}}_0) \dot{\gamma}(0) = 0$ so

$$\langle J, J \rangle'''(0) = 6 \langle J', J'' \rangle(0) + 2 \langle J''', J \rangle(0) = 0$$

Moreover, for any vector field W along γ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \frac{D}{dt} R(J(t), \dot{\gamma}(t)) \dot{\gamma}(t), W \right\rangle &= \frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{\langle R(J, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W \rangle}_{= \langle R(W, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, J \rangle} - \langle R(J, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W' \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{D}{dt} R(W, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, J \right\rangle + \underbrace{\langle R(W, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, J' \rangle}_{= \langle R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

So at $t=0$;

$$- \langle R(J, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W' \rangle \quad \underbrace{\langle R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W \rangle}_{= \langle R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}, W \rangle}$$

$$\frac{D}{dt} R(J, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma} = R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma} \quad (\text{all other terms are zero at } t=0.)$$

Thus:

$$\langle J, J \rangle'''(0) = 8 \langle J', J'' \rangle(0) + 6 \langle J'', J'' \rangle(0) + 2 \langle J''', J \rangle(0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -8 \langle J', R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma} \rangle(0) = -8 \langle R(w, v) v, w \rangle \\ &= -8 \langle R(v, w) w, v \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

$$J'' = -R(J, \dot{\gamma}) \dot{\gamma}$$

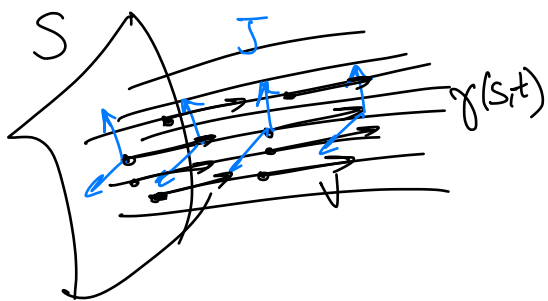
$$\text{so } J''' = -R(J', \dot{\gamma}) \ddot{\gamma}$$

□

Goal for our first comparison results (Ravelh) is to promote the geometric information

"curvature controls length of Jacobi fields"

from the above "infinitesimal at $t=0$ " version to the more global version "until the first conjugate point."



Let $S \subset M$ be a submanifold, and $\gamma: S \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow M$

a family of geodesics:

$\forall s \in S, t \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$ is a geod.

Let $V = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t) = d\gamma_{(s, t)} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right)$ be the tangent field to the geodesics

$J = d\gamma_{(s, t)}(w)$ for any given $w \in T_s S$,

which is a Jacobi field along $t \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$.

Let $A : \mathcal{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(M)$ be the tensor $A = \nabla V$, i.e. $A(X) = \nabla_X V$.
 and $R_V : \mathcal{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(M)$ be the tensor $R_V(X) = R(X, V)V$.

Note: $[J, V] = 0$ hence $\nabla_V J = \nabla_J V = A \cdot J$

Reduce Jacobi equation from 2nd order ODE to system of 1st order ODEs

$$J'' + \underbrace{R(J, V)V}_{=R_V(J)} = 0 \iff \begin{cases} J' = A \cdot J \\ A' + A^2 + R_V = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_V A)X &= \nabla_V (AX) - A \nabla_V X \\ &= \nabla_V \nabla_X V - A(\nabla_X V + [V, X]) \\ &= \underbrace{\nabla_X \nabla_V V}_{=0} + R(V, X)V + \nabla_{[V, X]}V - \nabla_{\nabla_X V + [V, X]}V \\ &= -R_V(X) - A(A(X)) \end{aligned}$$

So: $A' = -R_V - A^2$ i.e. $\boxed{A' + A^2 + R_V = 0}$ "Riccati equation"

$\nabla V : \mathcal{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(M)$ is the tensor $\nabla V(X) = \nabla_X V$.
 This is the case e.g. if $\dim S+1 = \dim M$, $v(s) \in T_s S^\perp$ and $\gamma(s, t) = \exp_s^+ tv(s)$.
Note: This equation can be solved independently of the first $J' = A \cdot J$.

• Suppose ∇V is self-adjoint; i.e. $\forall X, Y, \langle \nabla_X V, Y \rangle = \langle X, \nabla_Y V \rangle$

Then $V = \nabla f$ locally, because setting $\xi(X) = \langle X, V \rangle$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d\xi(X, Y) &= X\xi(Y) - Y\xi(X) - \xi([X, Y]) \\ &= \langle \nabla_X Y, V \rangle + \langle Y, \nabla_X V \rangle - \langle \nabla_Y X, V \rangle - \langle X, \nabla_Y V \rangle - \langle [X, Y], V \rangle \\ &= \langle \nabla_X V, Y \rangle - \langle X, \nabla_Y V \rangle = 0 \quad \text{so } d\xi \text{ is closed.} \end{aligned}$$

Locally, every closed 1-form ζ is locally exact: $\zeta = df$, i.e. $V = \nabla f$.

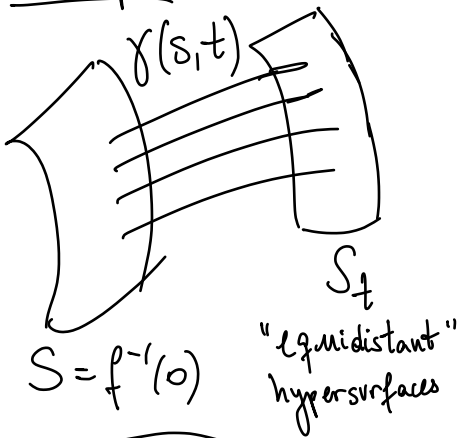
• Thus $\|V\|^2 = \langle V, V \rangle$ is constant, b/c

$$X \langle V, V \rangle = 2 \langle \nabla_X V, V \rangle \stackrel{\nabla V \text{ self adjoint}}{=} 2 \langle X, \underbrace{\nabla_V V}_{=0} \rangle = 0$$

$V = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t)$ is velocity field of geodesics.

Assume WLOG $\|V\| = 1$, so, up to an additive constant, $f(x) = s\text{-dist}(x, S)$. "signed distance function"

Examples:



Levelsets are equidistant hypersurfaces: b/c $\nabla f = V \neq 0$, these are smooth subm.fds!

$$S_t = f^{-1}(t) = \{x \in M : \text{dist}(x, S) = t\}$$

with normal vector $\vec{n} = \nabla f = V$; $T_p S_t = \text{Ker } df(p) = V^\perp$

and $\gamma(s, t) = \exp_t v(s)$, $f(\gamma(s, t)) = t$.

Actual distance function to $S = S_0$, locally, is:

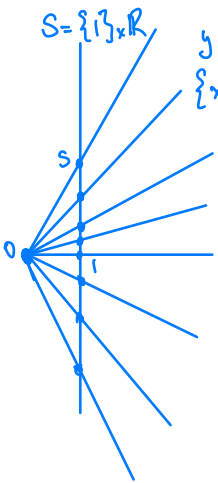
$$\text{dist}(\cdot, S) = |f(\cdot)| \quad (\text{by Gauss Lemma})$$

Def: $A = \nabla V$ is called the shape operator of S_t its eigenvalues are called principal curvatures, and its trace $H = \text{tr } A$ is called mean curvature.

Remark: 1) $\frac{\|J(t)\|}{\|J(0)\|}$ measures the length-distortion between S_0 and S_t .

2) The equation $A' + A + R_V = 0$ is nonlinear and may develop singularities, called focal points of S.

Non-example in \mathbb{R}^2



$S = \{1\} \times \mathbb{R}$
 $y = sx$
 $\{x(t, s) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

For each $s \in \mathbb{R}$, the curve $t \mapsto \gamma(t, s) = (t, ts)$ is a geodesic in \mathbb{R}^2 , with tangent vector

$$V = df\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) = \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = (1, s) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + s \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{y}{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

and $\frac{DV}{dt} = 0$, but $\|V\|^2 = 1 + s^2$ is not constant...

∇V is not self-adjoint:

$$\nabla V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -y/x^2 \\ 0 & 1/x \end{pmatrix} \text{ not symm.}$$

Not a Hessian

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \left(\frac{1}{t} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} = x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - \frac{x^2}{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = t \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - \frac{t}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

Examples:

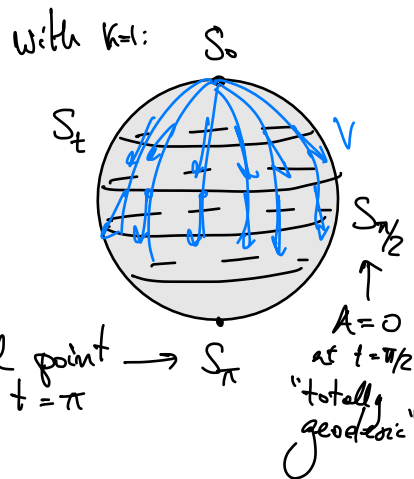
1. On any (M, g) , let $S_t = \partial B_t(p) = \{x \in M : \text{dist}(x, p) = t\}$. Then $A \sim \frac{1}{t} \text{Id}$ as $t \downarrow 0$ b/c M is infinitesimally Euclidean at p .

Note: If $(M, g) = \mathbb{R}^n$, then $A = \frac{1}{t} \text{Id}$; by next example.

2. If (M, g) has constant curvature $\text{sec} \equiv \kappa$, then $R_V = \kappa \text{Id}$ and we can solve the Riccati equation explicitly when S_t are so-called "umbilical" surfaces, i.e., $A = a \text{Id}$.

$$A' + A^2 + R_V = 0 \quad A = a \text{Id} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad a' + a^2 + \kappa = 0$$

$\boxed{\kappa > 0}$: $a(t) = \sqrt{\kappa} \cot(\sqrt{\kappa} \cdot t) \approx \frac{1}{t}$ concentric circles

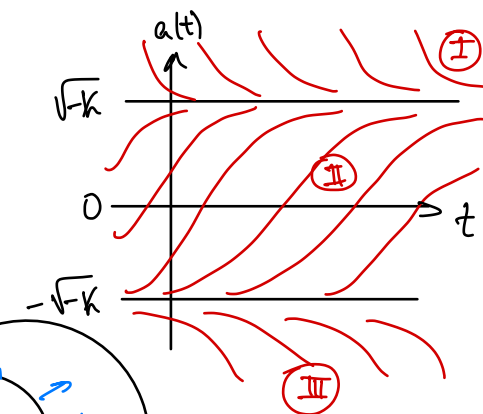


$\boxed{\kappa=0}$: $a(t) = \frac{1}{t-t_0}$ concentric spheres

Diagram of concentric spheres S_{t_0} , $t_0 \neq 0$.

or $a(t) \equiv 0$ parallel planes

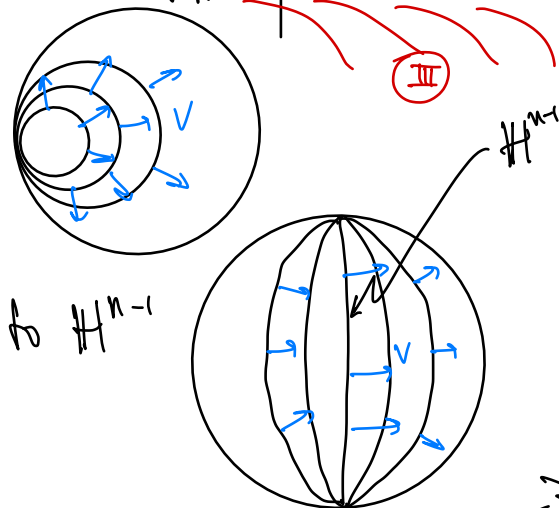
Diagram of parallel planes S_0 .



$\boxed{\kappa < 0}$:
 (I) $a(t) = \sqrt{-\kappa} \coth(\sqrt{-\kappa} t) \approx \frac{1}{t}$ as $t \rightarrow 0$ concentric spheres
 (II) $a(t) = \sqrt{-\kappa} \tanh(\sqrt{-\kappa} t) \approx t$ as $t \rightarrow 0$ hyperspheres

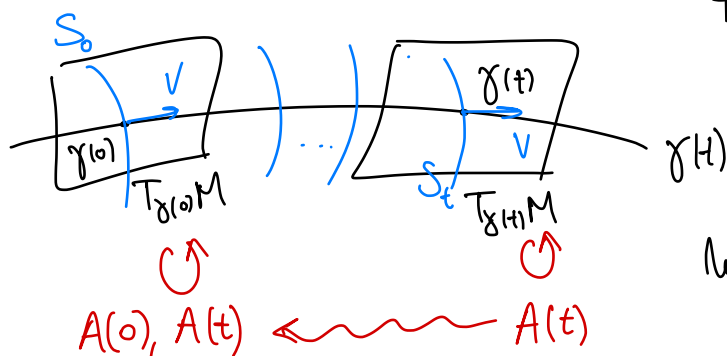
or (II) $a(t) = \sqrt{-\kappa} \tanh(\sqrt{-\kappa} t) \approx t$ as $t \rightarrow 0$ hyperspheres

or $a(t) \equiv \pm \sqrt{-\kappa}$ hypersurfaces parallel to \mathbb{H}^{n-1}



To facilitate comparison, identify $T_{\gamma(t)}M \cong T_{\gamma(0)}M$ via parallel transport

$$P_{\gamma(0)}^{\gamma(t)}: W \xrightarrow{\cong} W$$



fixed vector space $E = T_{\gamma(0)}M$

With this, $A(t) \in \text{Sym}^2(T_{\gamma(0)}M) \forall t$

Also, recall $\langle A, B \rangle = \text{tr } AB$ in $\text{Sym}^2 E$

and $A \leq B$ if $B - A \geq 0$ i.e. $\langle (B - A)x, x \rangle \geq 0, \forall x \in E$.

Thm. Let $R_1, R_2: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ be smooth curves with $R_1(t) \geq R_2(t), \forall t$
 Let $A_i: [t_0, t_i) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ be the maximal solutions to $A_i' + A_i^2 + R_i = 0$
 If $A_1(t_0) \leq A_2(t_0)$, then $t_1 \leq t_2$ and $A_1(t) \leq A_2(t)$ for all $t \in [t_0, t_1)$.

Pf. Let $U = A_2 - A_1$, so $U(t_0) \geq 0$.

$$U' = A_2' - A_1' = A_2^2 - A_1^2 + \underbrace{R_1 - R_2}_S$$

Define $S = R_1 - R_2$ and $X = -\frac{1}{2}(A_1 + A_2)$, so that

$$XU + UX = -\frac{1}{2}(A_1 + A_2)(A_2 - A_1) - \frac{1}{2}(A_2 - A_1)(A_1 + A_2) = A_1^2 - A_2^2$$

so $U' = XU + UX + S$, an inhomogeneous linear ODE we can solve by "variation of constants". Namely, let $g: (t_0, t') \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ be the solution to the homogeneous linear ODE $g' = Xg$, where $t' = \min\{t_1, t_2\}$. Then

$U = g V g^T$ is the desired solution, where V satisfies $V' = g^{-1} S (g^{-1})^T$.

Indeed:
$$U' = g' V g^T + g V' g^T + g V (g^T)'$$

$$= X g V g^T + \cancel{g g^{-1} S (g^{-1})^T} g^T + g V g^T X^T$$

$$= X U + S + U X.$$

Since $S = R_1 - R_2 \geq 0$, we have $V' = g^{-1} S (g^{-1})^T \geq 0$.

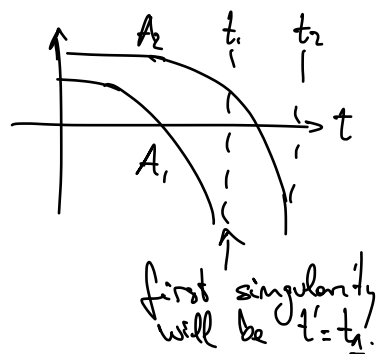
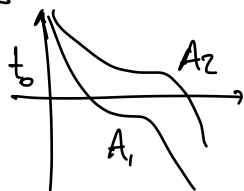
Since $U(t_0) = g(t_0) V(t_0) g(t_0)^T = A_2(t_0) - A_1(t_0) \geq 0$, we have $V(t_0) \geq 0$.

Thus $V(t) \geq 0$ for all $t \in (t_0, t')$ and hence also

$A_2(t) - A_1(t) = U(t) = g(t) V(t) g(t)^T \geq 0$ for all $t \in (t_0, t')$; i.e. $A_1(t) \leq A_2(t)$

for $t \in (t_0, t')$. Since A_i' is bounded from above ($A_i' \leq -A_i^2 - R_i \leq -R_i$) the only singularity possible is $-\infty$, so $A_1 \leq A_2$ implies $t' = t_1 \leq t_2$. \square

Rmk: The above still holds if A_1, A_2 are singular at t_0 , but $U = A_2 - A_1$ has a continuous extension to t_0 , with $U(t_0) \geq 0$.



Geometric interpretation: "Principal curvatures of equidistant hypersurfaces decrease faster on the space of larger curvature."

Thm: Let $A_1, A_2: (t_0, t') \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ be smooth curves with $A_1(t) \leq A_2(t)$.

Let $J_i: (t_0, t') \rightarrow E$ be nonzero sol. to $J_i' = A_i J_i$. Then $t \mapsto \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|}$ is nonincreasing. Moreover, if $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|} = 1$, then $\|J_1(t)\| \leq \|J_2(t)\|$

for all $t \in (t_0, t')$. Equality holds for some $t_* \in (t_0, t')$ if and only if

$J_i = j \cdot v_i$ on $[t_0, t']$ for some $v_i \in E$ with $A_i v_i = \lambda v_i$, $j' = \lambda j$, and $A_1 \leq \lambda \text{Id} \leq A_2$.

Pr.: Since $\|J_i(t)\|$ is smooth, we can differentiate:

$$\frac{\|J_i\|'}{\|J_i\|} = \frac{1}{\|J_i\|} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\langle J_i, J_i \rangle}} 2 \langle J_i', J_i \rangle = \frac{\langle J_i', J_i \rangle}{\|J_i\|^2} = \frac{\langle A_i J_i, J_i \rangle}{\|J_i\|^2}$$

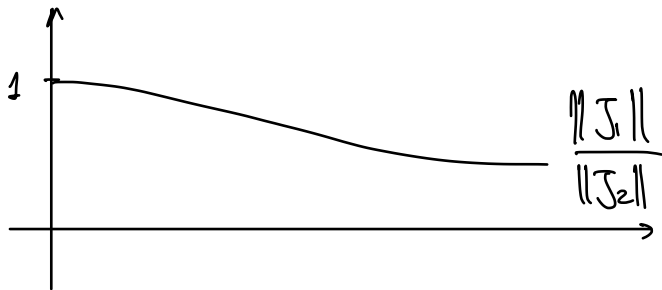
$$\in [\lambda_{\min}(A_i), \lambda_{\max}(A_i)]$$

min. and max eigenvalues of $A_i \in \text{Sym}^2 E$.

Thus $(\log \|J_1\|)' = \frac{\|J_1\|'}{\|J_1\|} \leq \lambda_{\max}(A_1) \leq \lambda_{\min}(A_2) \leq \frac{\|J_2\|'}{\|J_2\|} = (\log \|J_2\|)'$

i.e. $(\log \frac{\|J_1\|}{\|J_2\|})' \leq 0$ so $\frac{\|J_1\|}{\|J_2\|}$ is non-increasing.

By monotonicity, if $\|J_1\| = \|J_2\|$ at $t = t_0$, and $t = t_*$, then $\|J_1\| = \|J_2\|$, $\forall t \in (t_0, t_*)$ and hence $J_i' = A_i J_i = \lambda J_i$, from which the stated conclusion follows. \square



The following corollaries are originally due to Berger and Rauch:

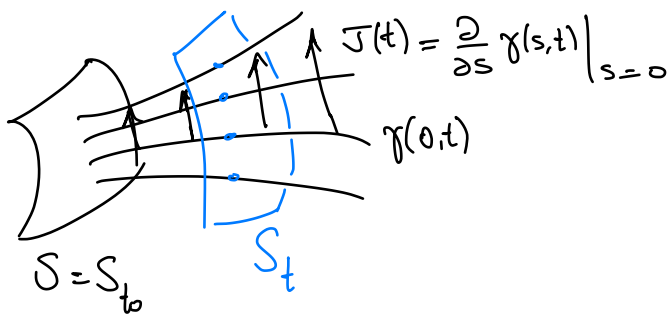
Thm (Rauch I). Suppose J_i are sol to $J_i'' + R_i J_i = 0$ with $R_1 \geq R_2$ and $J_i(0) = 0$, $\|J_1'(0)\| = \|J_2'(0)\|$. Then $\|J_1\| \leq \|J_2\|$ up to the first zero of J_1 .

Recall:

$$R_v(X) = R(X, v)v$$

$$J'' + R_v(J) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{cases} J' = A \cdot J \\ A' + A^2 + R_v = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{"Riccati equation"}$$

(Jacobi equation)



If ∇A is self-adjoint, then locally $V = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t) = \nabla f$ and so

- $S_t = f^{-1}(t)$ are equidistant hypersurfaces
- A is the shape operator
- Eigenvalues of A are principal curvatures
- Eigenvectors of A are principal directions
- $H = \text{tr } A$ is the mean curvature
- Singularities of A are focal points

Family of Jacobi fields corresponding to variations by geodesics starting from S

Comparison results:

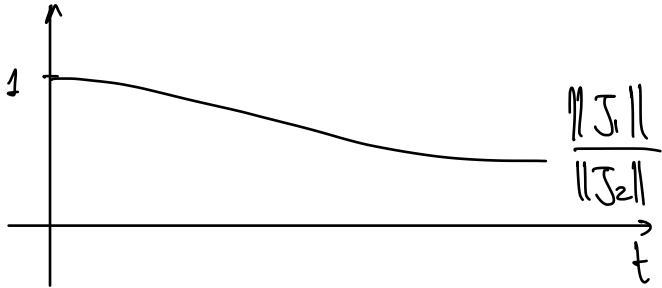
Recall: $R_1 - R_2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle (R_1 - R_2)v, v \rangle \geq 0, \forall v$

Thm 1. If $R_1, R_2: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ satisfy $R_1 \geq R_2$ and $A_i: [t_0, t_i] \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 E$ satisfy $A_i' + A_i^2 + R_i = 0$, then $A_1(t) \leq A_2(t)$ for all $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1 \leq t_2$.

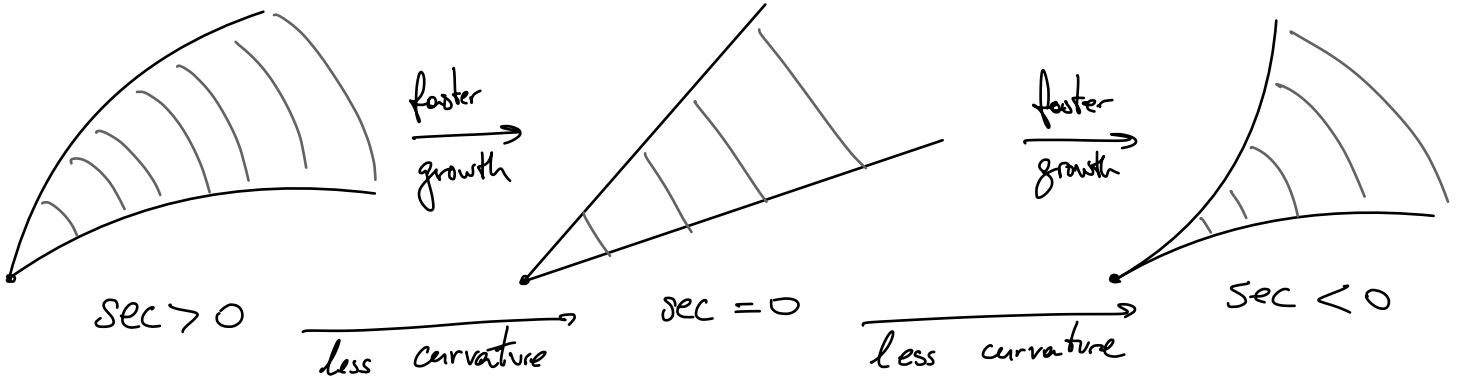
Thm 2. If $A_1(t) \leq A_2(t)$ and $J_i: [t_0, t'] \rightarrow E$ satisfy $J_i' = A_i \cdot J_i$, then $t \mapsto \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|}$ is non-increasing. (So if $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|} = 1$, then

$\|J_1(t)\| \leq \|J_2(t)\|$ for all $t \in (t_0, t')$.) Equality holds for some $t_* \in (t_0, t')$ if and only if $J_i = j \cdot v_i$ on $[t_0, t']$ for some $v_i \in E$ with $A_i v_i = \lambda v_i$, $j' = \lambda j$, and $A_1 \leq \lambda \text{Id} \leq A_2$.

Thm (Rauch I). Suppose J_i are sol to $J_i'' + R_i J_i = 0$ with $R_1 \geq R_2$ and $J_i(0) = 0$, $\|J_1'(0)\| = \|J_2'(0)\|$. Then $\|J_1\| \leq \|J_2\|$ up to the first zero of J_1 .



Rmk: We knew an infinitesimal version:
 $\|J\| = t - \frac{1}{6} \langle R(J), J \rangle t^2 + O(t^3)$
 so $R_1 \geq R_2 \Rightarrow \|J_1\| \leq \|J_2\|$ for $t \approx 0$.



Thm (Rauch II). Suppose J_i are sol to $J_i'' + R_i J_i = 0$ with $R_1 \geq R_2$ and $J_i'(0) = 0$, $\|J_1(0)\| = \|J_2(0)\|$. Then $\|J_1\| \leq \|J_2\|$ up to the first zero of J_1 .

Both Rauch I and II follow from comparison theorems above.

Rauch I: $A_i(t) \sim \frac{1}{t} \text{Id}$ as $t \downarrow 0$, i.e. use initial condition " $A_i(0) = \infty$ "

$$J_i' = A_i J_i \Rightarrow t J_i' \sim J_i \text{ as } t \downarrow 0 \Rightarrow J_i(0) = 0$$

$$\|J_1'(0)\| = \|J_2'(0)\| \Rightarrow \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|} = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{t \|J_1'(t)\|}{t \|J_2'(t)\|} = 1$$

Rauch II: use initial condition $A_i(0) = 0$

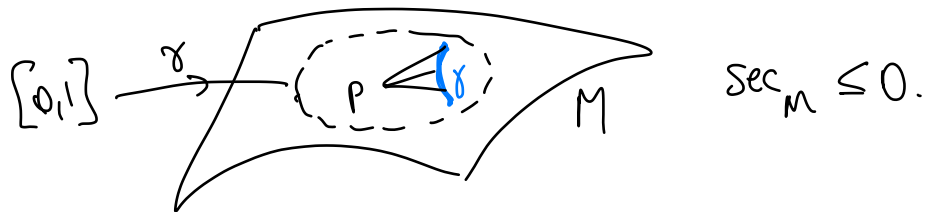
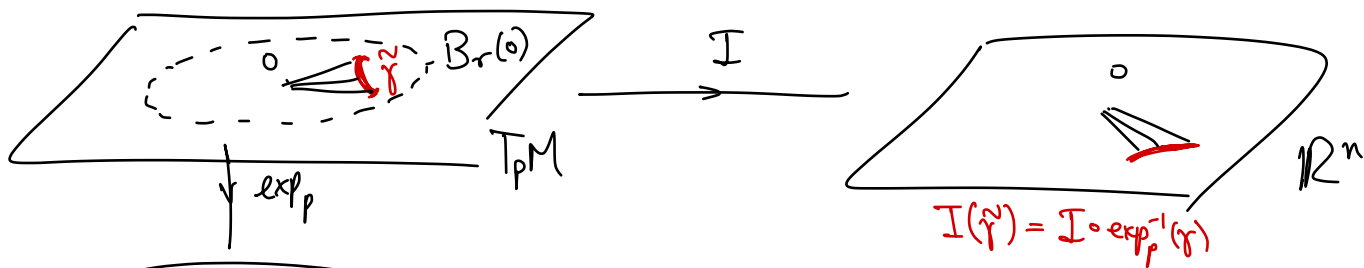
$$J_i' = A_i J_i \Rightarrow J_i'(0) = 0$$

$$\|J_1(0)\| = \|J_2(0)\| \Rightarrow \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{\|J_1(t)\|}{\|J_2(t)\|} = 1$$

Application of Rauch I:

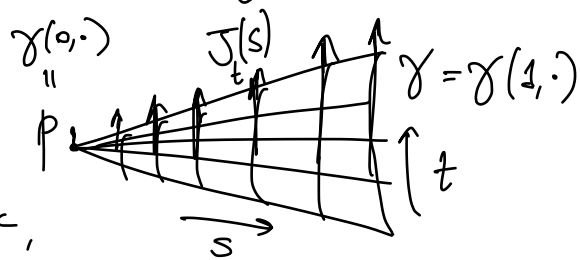
Cor: Let (M^n, g) be a complete Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} \leq 0$, and $r > 0$ s.t. $\exp_p : B_r(0) \rightarrow M$ is a diffeom. onto its image. Fix a linear isometry $I : T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. Given $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \exp_p(B_r(0))$, we have

$$\text{length}_g(\gamma) \geq \text{length}_{\mathbb{R}^n}(I \circ \exp_p^{-1}(\gamma)).$$



Pf: Let $\tilde{\gamma} = \exp_p^{-1} \gamma$, and consider the "rectangle"

$$\gamma(s, t) = \exp_p s \tilde{\gamma}(t)$$



For fixed t , $s \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$ is a geodesic,

and $J_t(s) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t)$ is a Jacobi field along $s \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$; with

$J_t(0) = 0$ and $J_t(1) = \dot{\gamma}(t)$. Since $\text{sec}_M \leq 0$, by Rauch I,

$$\|J_t(s)\| \geq s \|J_t'(0)\| \text{ so } \text{length}_g(\gamma) = \int_0^1 \|\dot{\gamma}(t)\| dt = \int_0^1 \|J_t(1)\| dt$$


$$\geq \int_0^1 \|J_t'(0)\| dt = \text{length}_{\mathbb{R}^n}(I \circ \exp_p^{-1} \gamma)$$

⊗ length of comparison Jacobi field in \mathbb{R}^n

Indeed,
$$J_t'(0) = \frac{D}{ds} J_t(s) \Big|_{s=0} = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp_p \vec{s} \dot{\gamma}(t) \Big|_{s=0}$$

$$= \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \exp_p \vec{s} \dot{\gamma}(t) \Big|_{s=0} = \frac{D}{dt} \underbrace{d(\exp_p)_0}_{\text{id}} \dot{\gamma}(t) = \dot{\gamma}'(t)$$

and so
$$\text{length}_{\mathbb{R}^n} (I \circ \exp_p^{-1} \gamma) = \int_0^1 \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underbrace{I \circ \exp_p^{-1}(\gamma)}_{\tilde{\gamma}} \right\| dt = \int_0^1 \| J_t'(0) \| dt. \quad \square$$

⊛ In \mathbb{R}^n , the Jacobi equation $J''=0$ has solutions $J(s) = J(0) + s J'(0)$,
 so Jacobi fields with $J(0)=0$ are given by $J(s) = s J'(0)$. 

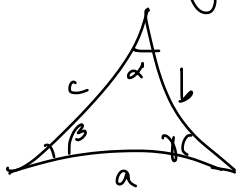
Thm (Cartan-Hadamard). Let (M^n, g) be a complete Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} \leq 0$.
 Then for any $p \in M$, $\exp_p: T_p M \rightarrow M$ is a covering map, so $\pi_k M = \{1\}$
 for all $k \geq 2$. In particular, if $\pi_1 M = \{1\}$, then $M^n \stackrel{\text{diff.}}{\cong} \mathbb{R}^n$.

Pf. By Rauch I, given any geodesic $\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M$ and a Jacobi field $J: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M$ along γ with $J(0)=0$, we have $\|J(t)\| \geq t \|J'(0)\| > 0$
 so there are no conjugate points along γ . Thus, $\exp_p: T_p M \rightarrow M$
 has non singular differential everywhere, i.e. $d(\exp_p)_v: T_v T_p M \rightarrow T_{\exp_p v} M$
 is invertible for all $v \in T_p M$ (because $0 \neq J(t) = d(\exp_p)_{\underbrace{t \dot{\gamma}(0)}_v} t J'(0), \forall t \neq 0$).

Since $\exp_p: T_p M \rightarrow M$ is a local diffeom., it is a covering map.

If $\pi_1 M = \{1\}$, then \exp_p is a homeomorphism (by Topology), and
 since it is smooth and nonsingular, it is a diffeomorphism. \square

Cor: A geodesic triangle on a complete manifold with $\text{sec} \leq 0$ satisfies

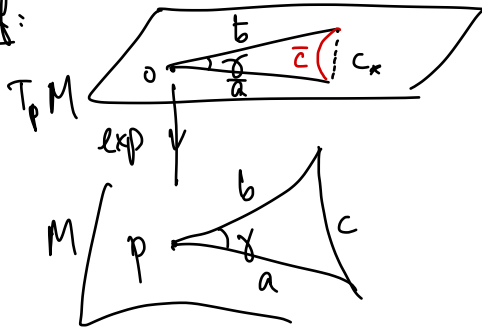


(i) $l(c)^2 \geq l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma$ ($l = \text{length}$)

(ii) $\alpha + \beta + \gamma \leq \pi$

If $\text{sec} < 0$, then get strict inequalities.

Pf:



Let $\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c}$ in T_pM be such that

$a = \exp_p \bar{a}, \quad b = \exp_p \bar{b}, \quad c = \exp_p \bar{c}$

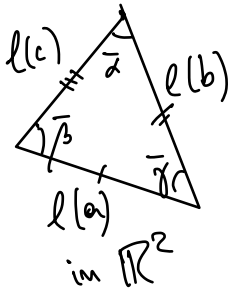
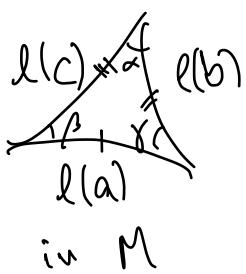
Note that \bar{a} and \bar{b} are straight line segments (\exp_p is radial isometry); with $l(\bar{a}) = l(a)$ and $l(\bar{b}) = l(b)$. Let c_* be the straight line segment with same endpoints as \bar{c} , so $l(\bar{c}) \geq l(c_*)$. By the Application of Rauch I, $l(c) \geq l(\bar{c}) \geq l(c_*)$. Thus, altogether:

Law of cosines in $T_pM \cong \mathbb{R}^n$

$l(c)^2 \geq l(c_*)^2 \geq l(\bar{a})^2 + l(\bar{b})^2 - 2l(\bar{a})l(\bar{b})\cos\gamma$

Gauss Lemma $\Rightarrow l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma$.

To compare angles, since $l(a), l(b), l(c)$ satisfy the triangle inequalities (b/c every geodesic is minimizing in $\text{sec} \leq 0$, i.e., $l(a), l(b), l(c)$ achieve distances) we can build a comparison triangle in \mathbb{R}^2 , with same side lengths, but possibly different angles, say $\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\gamma}$. Then from l



$l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma \leq l(c)^2$
 $= l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\bar{\gamma}$

$\Rightarrow \cos\gamma \geq \cos\bar{\gamma} \Rightarrow \gamma \leq \bar{\gamma}$

Same for α, β and get $\alpha + \beta + \gamma \leq \bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} + \bar{\gamma} = \pi$. \square

Rmk: By Preismann's Theorem, if M is closed, $\Gamma < \pi_1 M$ is Abelian, and $\text{sec}_M < 0$, then $\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}$. 38

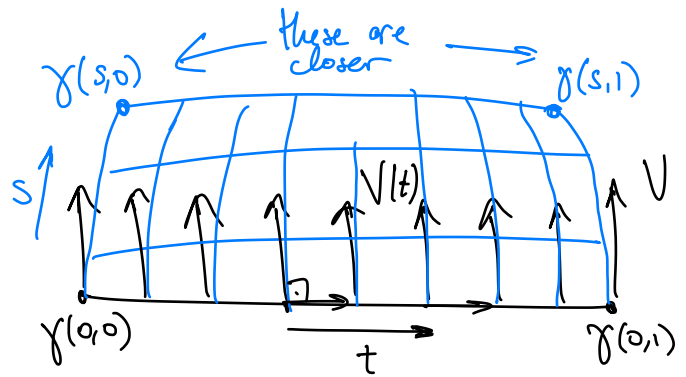
Application of Rauch II:

Corollary: Let (M, g) be a complete Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} \geq 0$, $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ min. geodesic, $V: [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ a parallel vector field along γ with $g(\dot{\gamma}, V) = 0$. Consider the rectangle $\gamma(s, t) = \exp_{\gamma(t)} sV(t)$. Then

$$\text{dist}_g(\gamma(s, 0), \gamma(s, 1)) \leq \text{dist}_g(\gamma(0, 0), \gamma(0, 1))$$

If $\text{sec} > 0$, then get strict inequality.

with equality if and only if $\gamma([0, 1] \times [0, 1]) \subset M$ is a totally geodesic flat rectangle.



Pf: Since both $t \mapsto \gamma(0, t)$ and $t \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$ are parametrized with $t \in [0, 1]$, it suffices to show that $\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t) \right\| \leq \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(0, t) \right\|$. The Jacobi field $J_t(s) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t)$ along the geodesic $s \mapsto \gamma(s, t)$ satisfies

$$J_t(0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(0, t) = \dot{\gamma}(t) \text{ and } J_t'(0) = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp_{\gamma(t)} sV(t) \Big|_{s=0} = \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \exp_{\gamma(t)} sV(t) \Big|_{s=0}$$

$$= \frac{D}{dt} \underbrace{d(\exp_{\gamma(t)})_0}_{\text{id}} V(t) = \frac{D}{dt} V \stackrel{V \text{ parallel}}{=} 0.$$

By Rauch II, $\|J_t(s)\| \leq \|J_t(0)\|$

So $\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(s, t) \right\| = \|J_t(s)\| \leq \|J_t(0)\| = \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma(0, t) \right\|$. ⊗ length of comparison Jacobi field in \mathbb{R}^n □

⊗ $J(s) = J(0)$ is constant length. ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ $J(s)$

Rigidity statement: Exercise (using rigidity in comparison thm).

Cor. Let (M^n, g) be a complete Riem. mfd with $0 < \kappa \leq \text{sec} \leq K$. Then the distance d between consecutive conjugate points along geodesics in (M^n, g) is $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} \leq d \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$.

Pf. Let $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ be a geodesic, $J: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ a Jacobi field with $J(0) = 0$. Let \tilde{J} be a Jacobi field on $S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K}})$ with $\tilde{J}(0) = 0$ and $\|\tilde{J}'(0)\| = \|J'(0)\|$. Then, by Rauch II, $\|J(t)\| \geq \|\tilde{J}(t)\| > 0$ for all $t \in (0, \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}})$, b/c $\tilde{J}(t) = \tilde{J}'(0) \cdot \frac{\sin(t\sqrt{K})}{\sqrt{K}}$, so $d \geq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}}$.

Similarly, if $d > \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$, then by Rauch II, the round sphere $S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa}})$ would only have conjugate points after distance $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$, a contradiction.
 Later will relax this to Ric \square

Thm (Myers, 1941). If (M, g) is a complete Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} \geq \kappa > 0$, then $\text{diam}(M, g) \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$. In particular, M is compact and $\pi_1 M$ is finite.

Pf. Let $p, q \in M$ and $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ be a minimizing geodesic with $\gamma(0) = p$ and $\gamma(L) = q$. It suffices to show $\text{length}(\gamma) = L \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$. Suppose $L > \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$, and let $J(t)$ be a Jacobi field along $\gamma(t)$ with $J(0) = 0$. Then by Rauch I, $\|J(t)\| \leq \|J'(0)\| \cdot \frac{\sin t\sqrt{\kappa}}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$ for all $t \in (0, \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}})$, and the first conjugate point along γ happens before distance $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$. Therefore the geodesic γ is not minimizing from $\gamma(0) = p$ to $\gamma(L) = q$, which is the desired contradiction. Thus $\text{diam}(M, g) = \sup_{p, q} \text{dist}(p, q) \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$; and M is compact. Applying the same argument on (\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) , we find that \tilde{M} is also compact, so $\pi_1 M$ is finite $\pi_1 M \rightarrow \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$. \square

⑤ γ is not minimizing from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(L)$, i.e., $L > \text{dist}(\gamma(0), \gamma(L))$,
 if and only if $\exists t_* \in (0, L)$ s.t. $\gamma(t_*) \in \text{Cut}(\gamma(0))$: so either

- $\gamma(0)$ is conjugate to $\gamma(t_*)$; or
- $\exists \alpha \neq \gamma$ geodesic with $\alpha(0) = \gamma(0)$ and $\alpha(t_*) = \gamma(t_*)$.

Thm (Synge, 1936). Let (M^n, g) be a closed Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} > 0$.
 If n is even, then M orientable $\Rightarrow \pi_1 M \cong \{1\}$
 M non-orientable $\Rightarrow \pi_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$
 If n is odd, then M is orientable.

Pr. Let $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ be a closed geodesic, i.e. $\gamma(0) = \gamma(L) = p$
 $\dot{\gamma}(0) = \dot{\gamma}(L)$.

Parallel transport along γ gives a linear isometry P of $T_p M$,
 with $P \dot{\gamma}(0) = \dot{\gamma}(L) = \dot{\gamma}(0)$. Moreover, P restricts to a linear
 isometry $P: E \rightarrow E$, where $E = \text{span}(\dot{\gamma}(0))^\perp \subset T_p M$.

If n is even and M^n is orientable, then $\dim E$ is odd and
 parallel transport along any loop preserves orientation, so $\det P|_E > 0$.
 Thus, $P|_E$ must have an eigenvector with eigenvalue 1, say $w \in E$,
 $\|w\| = 1$. Then let $w(t)$ be the parallel vector field along $\gamma(t)$
 with $w(0) = w(L) = w$, and set

$$\gamma(s, t) = \exp_{\gamma(t)} s w(t)$$

By Application of Rauch II, we know that

$$\text{length}_g(\gamma(s, t)) < \text{length}_g(\gamma(0, t))$$

\longleftarrow $\text{b/c } \text{sec} > 0$.

* In the appropriate
 basis of E , the orthogonal
 matrix representing P is:

$$P|_E = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \begin{matrix} R_{\theta_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & R_{\theta_k} \end{matrix} & \\ \hline & \begin{matrix} \pm 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \pm 1 \end{matrix} \end{array} \right]$$

\uparrow 2×2 rotation blocks \uparrow eigenvalues ± 1 .

Thus, if M^n is not simply-connected, let γ be a shortest curve in a nontrivial free homotopy class. Then γ is a closed geodesic of least length among curves in that homotopy class $[\gamma]$. However $\gamma_s = \gamma(s, \cdot)$ has smaller length and $\gamma_s \in [\gamma]$, contradiction.

If n is even and M^n is non-orientable, apply the above argument to its orientable double-cover (\tilde{M}^n, \tilde{g}) and find that \tilde{M} is simply-connected, so $\mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$ is the universal cover of M , i.e., $\pi_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$.

If n is odd and non-orientable, then $\dim E$ is even and there exists a closed geodesic γ (minimizing length among non contractible loops) such that $P: E \rightarrow E$ has $\det P|_E < 0$. Thus $P|_E$ must have an eigenvector with eigenvalue $+1$, say $w \in E$, $\|w\| = 1$. Reasoning as before, get a contradiction with γ being of shortest length among such loops, since $\gamma(s+t) = \exp_{\gamma(t)} s w(t)$ would be even shorter for $s \neq 0$ small. \square

Remark: Closed manifolds (M^n, g) with n odd and $\text{sec} > 0$ may have a large $\pi_1 M$; e.g., consider $\mathbb{Z}_p \curvearrowright S^3$ and Lens space S^3/\mathbb{Z}_p , which has $\text{sec} \equiv 1$ and $\pi_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$.

Chern Problem (1965): If (M^n, g) is a closed Riem. mfd with $\text{sec} > 0$ and

$\Gamma < \pi_1 M$ is an Abelian subgroup, is it true that Γ is cyclic?

A: (K. Shankar 1997) No, there exist examples with $n=7$ and $\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$.

Note: So far, we have shown T^n does not admit $\text{sec} < 0$ (Preissmann)
 nor $\text{sec} > 0$ (Myers/Synge). 42

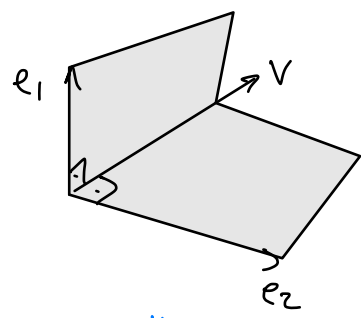
Average comparison Theorems

Def. The Ricci tensor of (M^n, g) is the bilinear symmetric tensor $Ric: \mathfrak{X}(M) \times \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow C^\infty(M)$ given by $Ric(X, Y)_p = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle R(e_i, X)Y, e_i \rangle$ where $\{e_i\}$ is an orthonormal basis of T_pM .

$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \langle R(e_i, X)Y, e_i \rangle}_{tr R(\cdot, X)Y}$

In particular, $Ric(V) = Ric(V, V) = tr R_V$, since $R_V: \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$
 $R_V(X) = R(X, V)V$

Geometrically, $Ric(V) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} Sec(V, e_i)$ is an "average" of sectional curvatures of planes that contain V .



Def. (M^n, g) is Einstein if $Ric_g = \lambda g$. ← "Constant Ricci curvature"
 ↑
 "Einstein constant" (cosmological const...)

Trace the Riccati equ. for self-adjoint A :

$$A' + A^2 + R_V = 0 \quad \text{(in } \text{Sym}^2 E)$$

$$\xrightarrow{tr} \quad tr A' + \underbrace{tr(A^2)}_{\substack{\text{this is} \\ \text{not a} \\ \text{function of} \\ tr A \dots}} + Ric(V) \stackrel{\otimes}{=} 0 \quad \text{(in } \mathbb{R})$$


Since $A(V) = \nabla_V V = 0$, can restrict A to V^\perp , $A: V^\perp \rightarrow V^\perp$, and $A \in \text{Sym}^2 V^\perp$. Let $a = \frac{tr A}{n-1}$, and note that

$$A = a Id + A_0, \quad \text{where } tr A_0 = 0. \quad \text{"trace-free part"}$$

So $\langle A_0, I \rangle = 0$. ← recall $\langle A, B \rangle = tr AB$

Then $tr(A^2) = \|A\|^2 = a^2 \|Id\|^2 + \|A_0\|^2 = (n-1)a^2 + \|A_0\|^2$ so \otimes

gives $a' + a^2 + r = 0$, where $r = \frac{1}{n-1} (\|A_0\|^2 + Ric(V)) \geq \frac{Ric(V)}{n-1}$

Geometrically, $a(t) = \frac{H}{n-1}$ where $H = \text{tr} A$ is the mean curvature of S_t . 

Thm. Suppose $A: [t_0, t_1) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 V^\perp$ is the maximal solution to $A' + A^2 + R = 0$, where $R: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 V^\perp$ is given. Suppose $\exists K \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

(i) $\text{tr} R \geq (n-1)K$

(ii) $\text{tr} A(t_0) \leq (n-1)\bar{a}(t_0)$

where $\bar{a}: [t_0, t_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the maximal solution to $\bar{a}' + \bar{a}^2 + K = 0$. Let $a = \frac{\text{tr} A}{n-1}$

Then $t_1 \leq t_2$ and $a(t) \leq \bar{a}(t)$ for all $t \in [t_0, t_1)$.

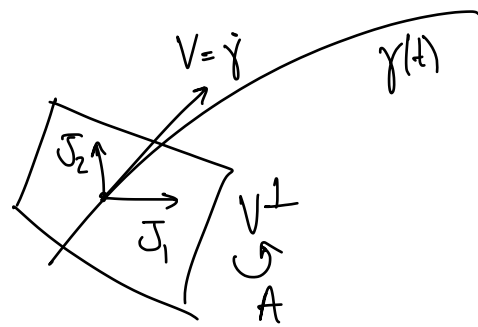
Pf: Apply ODE comparison from previous class! $A_1 \leq A_2 \Rightarrow \text{tr} A_1 \leq \text{tr} A_2$
 $\parallel \parallel \parallel \parallel$
 $A \quad \bar{A} \quad (n-1)a \quad (n-1)\bar{a}$

Remark: Above result remains true if \bar{a} has a pole at t_0 ; namely

$$A(t) \sim \frac{1}{t-t_0} \text{Id}, \quad \bar{a} = \frac{S_n'}{S_n} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} S_n'' + K S_n = 0 \\ S_n(t_0) = 0 \\ S_n'(t_0) = 1. \end{cases}$$

Let J_1, \dots, J_{n-1} be Jacobi fields along γ that form a basis of solutions to

$$J' = A J \quad (A: V^\perp \rightarrow V^\perp)$$



and set $j = \det(J_1, J_2, \dots, J_{n-1})$.

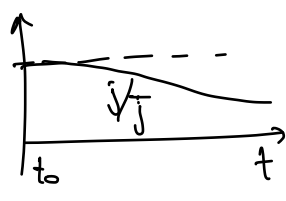
all identified via parallel transport

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } (J_1 \wedge \dots \wedge J_{n-1})' &= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} J_1 \wedge \dots \wedge J_k' \wedge \dots \wedge J_{n-1} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} J_1 \wedge \dots \wedge A J_k \wedge \dots \wedge J_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

we have $j' = (n-1)a j$; because $j = \langle J_1 \wedge \dots \wedge J_{n-1}, \text{vol} \rangle$.

Thm. Let $A: [t_0, t_1) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^2 V^\perp$ and $a = \frac{1}{n-1} \text{tr} A$ be s.t. $a \leq \bar{a}$, and $j' = (n-1)a_j$. Choose \bar{j} s.t. $\bar{j}' = (n-1)\bar{a}_j$. Then j/\bar{j} is nonincreasing.

Pf: Once again, apply ODE comparison from before!
 $(n-1)a \leq (n-1)\bar{a} \Rightarrow \left(\log \frac{j}{\bar{j}}\right)' \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{j}{\bar{j}}$ nonincreasing



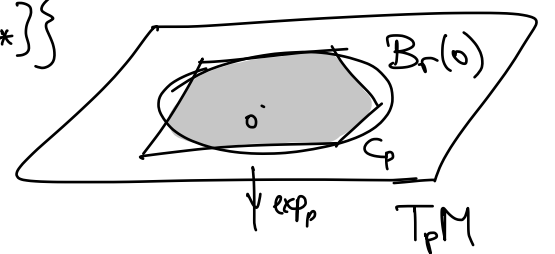
Lecture 7

3/9/2023

Thm (Bishop Volume Comparison). Let (M^n, g) be a Riem. mfd with $\text{Ric} \geq (n-1)k$ and \bar{M} be the simply-connected Riem. mfd with $\text{sec}_{\bar{M}} = k$. Then $\forall p \in M$, $\text{Vol}(B_r(p)) \leq \text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r)$, where $B_r(p) \subset M$ and $\bar{B}_r \subset \bar{M}$ are balls of radius r . Moreover, equality holds if and only if $B_r(p) \cong_{\text{isom}} \bar{B}_r$.

Pf: We will show that $r \mapsto \frac{\text{Vol}(B_r(p))}{\text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r)}$ is nonincreasing; the conclusion follows since $\lim_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\text{Vol}(B_r(p))}{\text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r)} = 1$ because both approach Euclidean balls as $r \downarrow 0$.

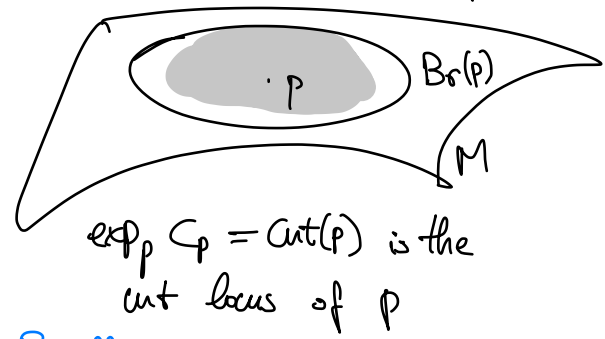
Let $\text{cut}(v) = \max\{t_* > 0 : \exp_p tv \text{ is min. geod. on } [0, t_*]\}$
 and $C_p = \{tv : t \leq \text{cut}(v), \|v\|=1\} \subset T_p M$. Then $\exp_p: C_p \rightarrow M$ is a diffeom. onto its image, so:



$$\text{Vol}(B_r(p)) = \int_{B_r(p)} 1 \, d\text{vol} = \int_{\exp_p(B_r(o) \cap C_p)} 1 \, d\text{vol}$$

Change of variables formula $\Rightarrow \int_{B_r(o) \cap C_p} \det(d(\exp_p)_u) \, du$

Polar coord. $\Rightarrow \int_{S^{n-1}(1)} \int_0^{r(v)} \det(d(\exp_p)_{tv}) t^{n-1} dt dv$



Recall:
 $B_r(p) = \exp_p(B_r(o)) = \exp_p(B_r(o) \cap C_p)$

where $r(v) = \min\{r, \text{cut}(v)\}$ for $v \in T_p M, \|v\|=1$, i.e. $v \in S^{n-1}(1) \subset T_p M$.

Since $d(\exp_p)_{tv} e_i = \frac{1}{t} (d(\exp_p)_{tv} t e_i) = \frac{1}{t} J_i(t)$ is the Jacobi field along $t \mapsto \exp_p tv$ with $J_i(0) = 0$ and $J_i'(0) = e_i$, it follows that

$$\det(d(\exp_p)_{tv}) = \frac{1}{t^{n-1}} \det(J_1(t), \dots, J_{n-1}(t)) \quad \text{and hence:}$$

$$\text{Vol}(B_r(p)) = \int_{S^{n-1}(1)} \int_0^{r(v)} \underbrace{\det(J_1(t), \dots, J_{n-1}(t))}_{j_v(t)} dt dv$$

if needed, extend $j_v(t)$ as $j_v(t) = 0$ for $t > \text{cut}(v)$.

By previous result, $j_v(t)/\bar{J}(t)$ is non-increasing on $[0, r]$ where

$$\bar{J}(t) = \det(\bar{J}_1, \dots, \bar{J}_{n-1}), \quad \text{for corresponding Jacobi fields } \bar{J}_i \text{ on } \bar{M}.$$

$$\text{Set } f(t) = \frac{1}{\text{Vol}(S^{n-1}(1))} \int_{S^{n-1}(1)} \frac{j_v(t)}{\bar{J}(t)} dv, \quad \text{which is also non-increasing}$$

(because it is an average of non-increasing quantities). As before, (space w/ sec $\equiv k$ is isotropic)

$$\text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r) = \int_{S^{n-1}(1)} \int_0^r \bar{J}(t) dt dv \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} \text{Vol}(S^{n-1}) \int_0^r \bar{J}(t) dt$$

Thus,

$$\frac{\text{Vol}(B_r(p))}{\text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r)} = \frac{\int_{S^{n-1}(1)} \int_0^r j_v(t) dt dv}{\text{Vol}(S^{n-1}(1)) \cdot \int_0^r \bar{J}(t) dt} \stackrel{\text{Fubini}}{=} \frac{\int_0^r f(t) \cdot \bar{J}(t) dt}{\int_0^r \bar{J}(t) dt}$$

is non-increasing, because RHS is the \bar{J} -weighted average of the non-increasing function $f(t)$ over growing intervals.

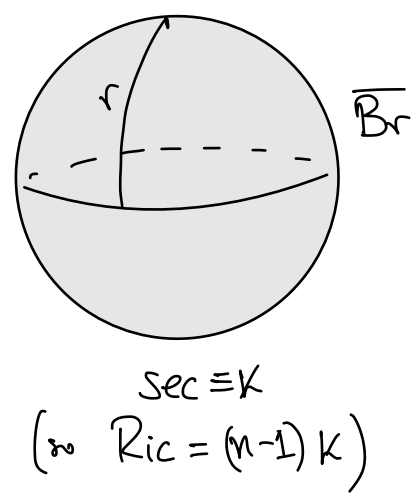
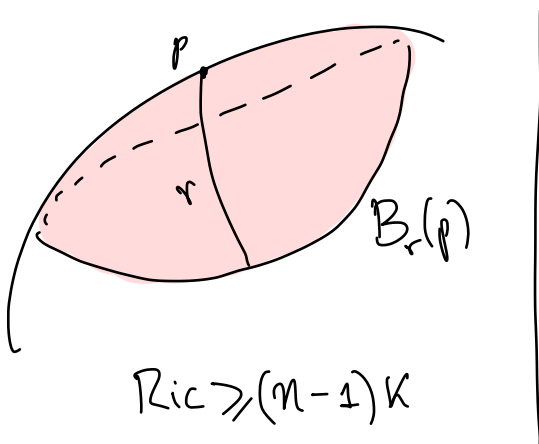
⊛ More explicitly: if $\phi, \psi > 0$, and $t \mapsto \frac{\phi(t)}{\psi(t)}$ is non increasing, then

$$r \mapsto \frac{\int_0^r \phi(t) dt}{\int_0^r \psi(t) dt} = \frac{\int_0^{\bar{r}} \frac{\phi(s)}{\psi(s)} ds}{\int_0^{\bar{r}} ds} \text{ is non increasing, where } \begin{cases} ds = \psi(t) dt \\ \bar{r} = s(r) \end{cases}$$

Rigidity statement follows from rigidity statements in ODE comparison:
 if $\forall v \in S^{n-1}(1), \forall 0 \leq t \leq r, j_v(t) = J(t)$, then $a(t) = \bar{a}(t)$, for all $0 \leq t \leq r$;
 so $R(t) = \bar{R}(t) = k \text{Id}$. Thus $B_r(p)$ has constant curvature $\text{sec} \equiv k$ and
 is hence isometric to \bar{B}_r . □

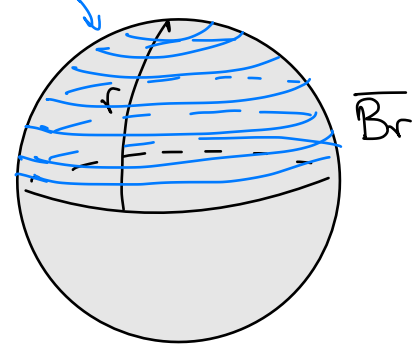
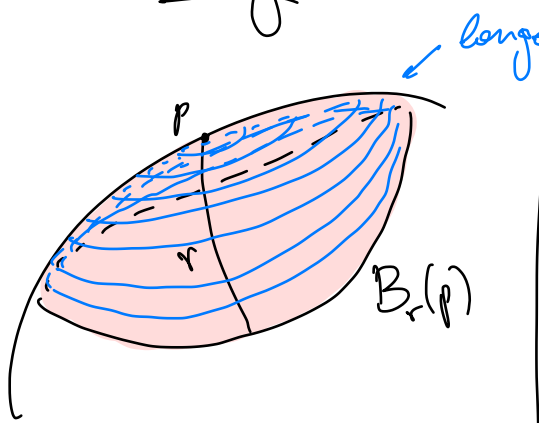
Remark: Similarly, one can prove $r \mapsto \frac{\text{Vol}(\partial B_r(p))}{\text{Vol}(\partial \bar{B}_r)}$ is non increasing.

Geometrically:



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vol}(B_r(p)) &\leq \text{Vol}(\bar{B}_r) \\ &= \\ &\updownarrow \\ B_r(p) &\stackrel{\text{isom}}{\cong} \bar{B}_r \end{aligned}$$

With stronger control on curvature $\text{sec} \geq k$ we know that:



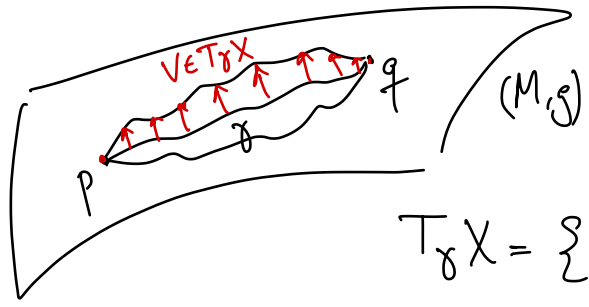
so "integrating" get the above.
 BUT
 $\text{Ric} \geq k(n-1)$ is enough for this "integral" control.

Another situation in which "integral" / "average" control is enough:
 Did this before w/ $\text{sec} \geq \kappa$

Thm (Myers, 1941). If (M^n, g) is a complete Riem. mfd w/ $\text{Ric} \geq \kappa(n-1)$, with $\kappa > 0$, then $\text{diam}(M^n, g) \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\kappa}}$. In particular, (M^n, g) is compact and $\pi_1 M$ is finite.

To prove this, need more about variational structure of geodesics:

Fix $p, q \in M$ and $X = \{ \gamma \in W^{1,2}([0, l], M) : \gamma(0) = p, \gamma(l) = q \}$



This is a Hilbert manifold locally modeled on Hilbert space $W^{1,2}([0, l], \mathbb{R}^n)$

Given $\gamma \in X$, can identify

$$T_\gamma X = \{ V \in W^{1,2}([0, l], TM) : \text{vector field along } \gamma \text{ with } V(0) = 0, V(l) = 0 \}$$

Define the energy functional $E: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

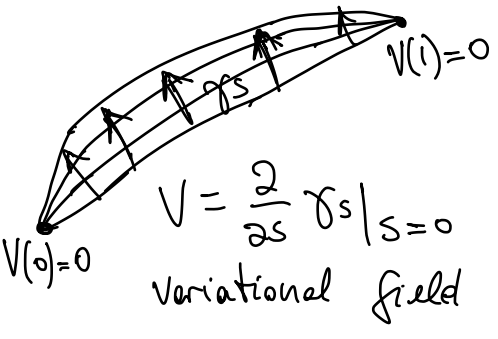
$$E(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l g(\dot{\gamma}, \dot{\gamma}) dt$$

← Alternatively, can consider the length functional $L(\gamma) = \int_0^l \|\dot{\gamma}\| dt$ on curves $\gamma \in W^{1,1}$ (more on this later!)

Then $\gamma \in X$ is a critical point, i.e. $\delta E(\gamma) = 0$, iff γ is a geodesic. Indeed:

$$\delta E(\gamma): T_\gamma X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

First Variation: $\delta E(\gamma)(V) = \frac{d}{ds} E(\gamma_s) \Big|_{s=0} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \frac{d}{ds} g(\dot{\gamma}_s, \dot{\gamma}_s) \Big|_{s=0} dt$



$$= \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma}_s \Big|_{s=0}, \dot{\gamma}\right) dt = \int_0^l g\left(\frac{DV}{dt}, \dot{\gamma}\right) dt$$

int. by parts \Downarrow

$$= \underbrace{g(V, \dot{\gamma}) \Big|_0^l}_{=0 \text{ b/c boundary conditions are } V(0)=0, V(l)=0} - \int_0^l g\left(V, \frac{D\dot{\gamma}}{dt}\right) dt$$

(e.g. $\gamma_s(t) = \exp_{\gamma_0(t)} \circ V(t)$)

= 0 b/c boundary conditions are $V(0) = 0, V(l) = 0$

so $\delta E(\gamma)(V) = \frac{d}{ds} E(\gamma_s) \Big|_{s=0} = 0$ for all variations γ_s if and only if

$\frac{D\dot{\gamma}}{dt} = 0$ i.e. γ is a geodesic.
(and hence $\|\dot{\gamma}\| = \text{const.}$)

Fundamental Lemma
of the Calculus of Variations:
 $\int \phi \psi = 0, \forall \psi \Leftrightarrow \phi = 0$
i.e. $\langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{L^2} = 0, \forall \psi \Leftrightarrow \phi = 0$
(being sloppy about regularity...
use test function $\psi \in C_c^\infty$ etc.)

Second Variation: Suppose γ is a geodesic.

Then the "Hessian" of E at γ is

$$\delta^2 E(\gamma)(V, V) = \frac{d^2}{ds^2} E(\gamma_s) \Big|_{s=0} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \frac{d^2}{ds^2} g(\dot{\gamma}_s, \dot{\gamma}_s) \Big|_{s=0} dt$$

$\delta^2 E(\gamma): T_\gamma X \times T_\gamma X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
symmetric bilinear form
called the "Index Form",

or $\delta^2 E(\gamma): T_\gamma X \rightarrow T_\gamma X$
symmetric endomorphism

$$= \int_0^l \frac{d}{ds} g\left(\frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma}_s, \dot{\gamma}_s\right) \Big|_{s=0} dt$$

$$= \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D^2}{ds^2} \dot{\gamma}_s \Big|_{s=0}, \dot{\gamma}\right) + g\left(\frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma}_s, \frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma}_s\right) \Big|_{s=0} dt$$

$$V = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \gamma_s \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D}{ds} V', \dot{\gamma}\right) + g(V', V') dt$$

$$V' = \frac{DV}{dt} = \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \gamma_s = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \gamma_s = \frac{D}{ds} \dot{\gamma}_s$$

$$= \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D}{dt} \frac{D}{ds} V + R(V, \dot{\gamma})V, \dot{\gamma}\right) + g(V', V') dt$$

$$= \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D}{dt} \frac{D}{ds} V, \dot{\gamma}\right) - g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V) + g(V', V') dt$$

int. by parts
(x2)

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{g\left(\frac{D}{ds} V, \dot{\gamma}\right) \Big|_0^l}_{=0 \text{ b/c } V(0)=0, V(l)=0} - \int_0^l g\left(\frac{D}{ds} V, \frac{D}{dt} \dot{\gamma}\right) dt$$

$$+ \underbrace{g(V', V) \Big|_0^l}_{=0 \text{ b/c } V(0)=0, V(l)=0} - \int_0^l g(V'', V) + g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V) dt$$

$$= - \int_0^l g(V'', V) + g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V) dt$$

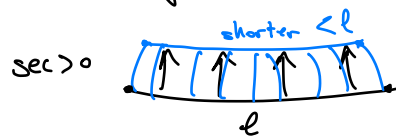
$$= - \int_0^l g(\underbrace{V'' + R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}}_{\leftarrow \text{This vanishes iff } V \text{ is a Jacobi field: } V'' + R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0}, V) dt$$

\leftarrow This vanishes iff V is a Jacobi field:
 $V'' + R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma} = 0$.

Note: If $\sec_M > 0$, then $g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V) > 0$, so using a parallel vector field V along a geodesic γ , get

$$\delta^2 E(\gamma)(V, V) = - \int_0^l \underbrace{g(V'', V) + g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V)}_{> 0} < 0$$

i.e. γ is unstable; small variations of γ decrease its energy (and its length). Recall/cf. application of Rauch II.



Remarks about Energy v. Length of curves:

- Critical points of E come parametrized w/ constant speed, i.e. $\delta E(\gamma) = 0$ implies $\|\dot{\gamma}\| = \text{const.}$, while the length functional is invariant under reparametrizations of γ ; in particular critical points need not have constant speed.

- Apply Cauchy-Schwartz inequality $(\int_0^l \phi \cdot \psi)^2 \leq \int_0^l \phi^2 \cdot \int_0^l \psi^2$ with $\phi \equiv 1$ to get $L(\gamma)^2 = (\int_0^l \|\dot{\gamma}\| dt)^2 \leq l \cdot \int_0^l \|\dot{\gamma}\|^2 dt = 2l E(\gamma)$ and " $=$ " iff $\|\dot{\gamma}\| \equiv 1$.

So if γ is a unit speed min. geod. from p to q , and β is a curve from p to q , then $E(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2l} L(\gamma)^2 \leq \frac{1}{2l} L(\beta)^2 \leq E(\beta)$, with $E(\gamma) = E(\beta)$ iff and only if β is unit speed and hence $L(\beta) = L(\gamma)$ so β is a unit speed min. geod. from p to q .

Upshot: γ is a critical point of $E \iff \gamma$ is a unit speed geodesic.
 γ is a minimizer of $E \iff \gamma$ is a unit speed min. geodesic \leftarrow realizes distance

w/ boundary conditions: $E: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $X = \{\gamma \in W^{1,2}([0, l], M), \gamma(0) = p, \gamma(l) = q\}$.

Useful for later: if $\gamma: [0, l] \rightarrow M$ is unit speed, then given any variation V , i.e. a vector field V along γ , we have:

$$\delta L(\gamma)(V) = \frac{1}{l} \delta E(\gamma)(V) = \frac{1}{l} \left(g(V, \dot{\gamma}) \Big|_0^l - \int_0^l g\left(V, \frac{D\dot{\gamma}}{dt}\right) dt \right)$$

If $\delta L(\gamma) = 0$ (equivalently $\delta E(\gamma) = 0$), then

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^2 L(\gamma)(V, V) &= \frac{1}{l} \delta^2 E(\gamma)(V, V) \\ &= \frac{1}{l} \left(g(\nabla_V V, \dot{\gamma}) \Big|_0^l + \int_0^l g(V', V') - g(R(V, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V) dt \right) \end{aligned}$$

Pf of Myers Thm: Suppose M has $\text{Ric} \geq K(n-1) > 0$, and

let $\gamma: [0, l] \rightarrow M$ be a unit speed geodesic, i.e. $\delta E(\gamma) = 0$.

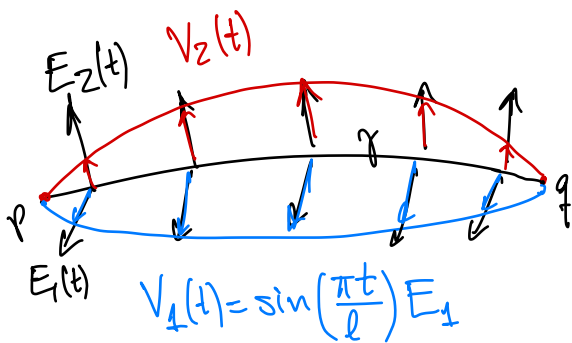
If γ is min., i.e. $\text{dist}_g(\gamma(0), \gamma(l)) = l$, then $\delta^2 E(\gamma)(V, V) \geq 0$

for all V along γ with $V(0) = 0$ and $V(l) = 0$. Let $\{E_i\}$ be a parallel

o.n.b. of vector fields along γ , i.e. $g(E_i, \dot{\gamma}) = 0$, $g(E_i, E_j) = \delta_{ij}$; and set

$$V_i(t) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) E_i(t), \text{ so } V_i(0) = 0 \text{ and } V_i(l) = 0$$

$$\delta^2 E(\gamma)(V_i, V_i) = - \int_0^l g(V_i'', V_i) + g(R(V_i, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, V_i) dt$$



$$V_1(t) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) E_1$$

$$V_i'(t) = \frac{\pi}{l} \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) E_i(t) + \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) \underbrace{E_i'(t)}_{=0}$$

$$V_i''(t) = -\frac{\pi^2}{l^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) E_i(t) + \frac{\pi}{l} \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right) \underbrace{E_i'(t)}_{=0}$$

$$= \int_0^l \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi^2}{l^2} - g(R(E_i, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, E_i) \right) dt$$

Thus, adding from $i=1$ to $i=n-1$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta^2 E(\gamma)(V_i, V_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \int_0^l \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi^2}{l^2} - g(R(E_i, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, E_i) \right) dt \\
 &= \int_0^l \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right)^2 \left((n-1) \frac{\pi^2}{l^2} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} g(R(E_i, \dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}, E_i)}_{\text{Ric}(\dot{\gamma}, \dot{\gamma}) \geq K(n-1)} \right) dt \\
 &\leq \int_0^l \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{l}\right)^2 (n-1) \underbrace{\left(\frac{\pi^2}{l^2} - K \right)}_{< 0 \text{ if } l > \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} \dots} dt
 \end{aligned}$$

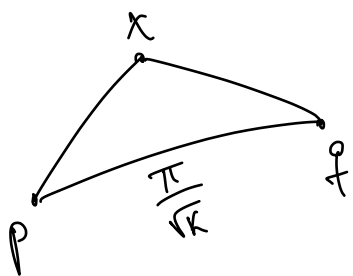
So such minimizing unit speed geod. $\gamma: [0, l] \rightarrow M$ must have length $l \leq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}}$, for otherwise we get a contradiction above. \square

Rigidity in Myers Theorem

(Originally by Shi-Yuen Cheng, with different proof)
 \hookrightarrow student of S.S. Chern

Thm. Let (M^n, g) be a complete Riem. mfd with $\text{Ric} \geq K \cdot (n-1) > 0$ and $\text{diam}(M^n, g) = \text{diam}(S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K}})) = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}}$. Then $(M^n, g) \stackrel{\text{isom.}}{\cong} S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K}})$.

Pf: Let $p, q \in M$ be points at maximal distance, i.e. $\text{dist}(p, q) = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}}$. Then, for all $r > 0$, the balls $B_r(p)$ and $B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} - r}(q)$ are disjoint: if $d(p, x) < r$ and $d(x, q) < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} - r$, then



$$\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} = d(p, q) \leq d(p, x) + d(x, q) < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}}$$

so no such x can exist. Thus,

$$M \supseteq B_r(p) \dot{\cup} B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K}} - r}(q) \text{ (disjoint union)}$$

hence $\text{Vol}(M) \geq \text{Vol}(B_r(p)) + \text{Vol}(B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}-r}(q))$. From Bishop Vol. Comp.,

$n \mapsto \frac{\text{Vol}(B_r(x))}{\text{Vol}(\overline{B_r})}$ is non increasing; in particular,

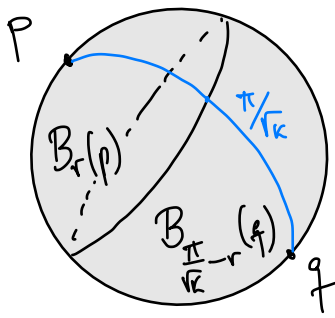
$$\frac{\text{Vol}(B_r(x))}{\text{Vol}(\overline{B_r})} \geq \frac{\text{Vol}(B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}}(x))}{\text{Vol}(\overline{B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}})} = \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{\text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))} \quad \text{b/c } \begin{cases} \overline{B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}}} = S^n(1/\sqrt{k}) \\ B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}}(x) = M \end{cases}$$

i.e. $\text{Vol}(B_r(x)) \geq \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{\text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))} \text{Vol}(\overline{B_r})$. Thus, applying this in $\textcircled{*}$:

$$\text{Vol}(M) \geq \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{\text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))} \left(\underbrace{\text{Vol}(\overline{B_r}) + \text{Vol}(\overline{B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}-r})}_{\text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))} \right) = \text{Vol}(M); \text{ so all}$$

the inequalities using Bishop Vol. Comp. above are equalities. Thus, from rigidity in the equality case of Bishop Vol. Comp., we have

$$B_r(p) \cong_{\text{isom}} \overline{B_r} \quad \text{and} \quad B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}-r}(q) \cong_{\text{isom}} \overline{B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}-r}}, \quad \text{thus} \quad M \cong_{\text{isom}} S^n(1/\sqrt{k}).$$



$$M \cong_{\text{isom}} S^n(1/\sqrt{k})$$

Indeed, there is no room for any $M \setminus (\overline{B_r(p)} \cup \overline{B_{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}-r}(q)})$ because that would increase the diameter. \square

Open problem:

If (M^n, g) has $\text{Ric} \geq (n-1)k > 0$ and $\text{Vol}(M, g) > \frac{1}{2} \text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))$, then $M \stackrel{?}{\cong} S^n$.
homeo? diffeo?

Exercise: a) Find counter-example with $\text{Vol}(M, g) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Vol}(S^n(1/\sqrt{k}))$.

b) Prove that (M^n, g) as above is simply-connected.

Hint: if M is not simply connected, take its universal cover.

Sol to Exercise

a) $\mathbb{R}P^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}) = S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}) / \mathbb{Z}_2$, where $\mathbb{Z}_2 \curvearrowright S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})$ has a metric $\pm 1 \cdot x = \pm x$ with $\text{sec} \equiv k$, hence $\text{Ric} = (n-1)k$, and $\text{Vol}(\mathbb{R}P^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Vol}(S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}))$. Clearly, $\pi_1 \mathbb{R}P^n = \mathbb{Z}_2$.



b) If (M^n, g) has $\text{Ric} \geq (n-1)k$, and $[\gamma] \in \pi_1 M$, let $\Gamma = \langle [\gamma] \rangle < \pi_1 M$ be the subgroup generated by $[\gamma]$, set $d = |\Gamma|$. Then let $\tilde{M}^n \rightarrow M^n$ be the covering space corresponding to Γ , recall it is a degree d covering. In particular, with the pullback metric, by Fubini, and our assumption,

$$\text{Vol}(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) = d \cdot \text{Vol}(M, g) \geq \frac{d}{2} \text{Vol}(S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})).$$

Since (\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) also has $\text{Ric} \geq (n-1)k$, by Bishop Volume Comparison,

$$\text{Vol}(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g}) \leq \text{Vol}(S^n(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}})), \text{ so } d \leq 2, \text{ i.e. } |\Gamma| = d = 1 \text{ so}$$

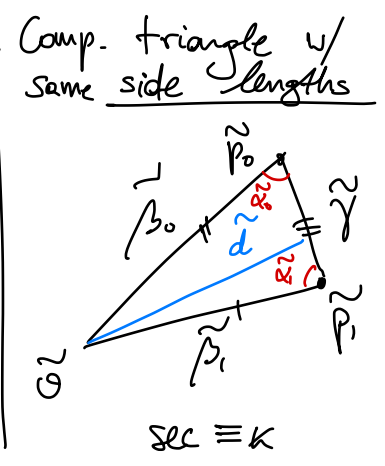
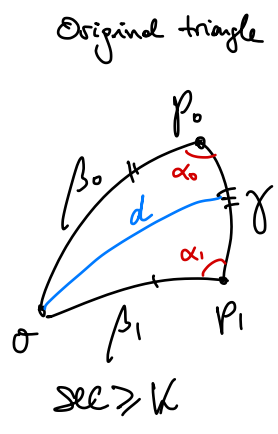
$[\gamma]$ is trivial, hence $\pi_1 M = \{1\}$. □

Toponogov Triangle Comparison

Here and throughout: if $k > 0$, then assume all lengths are $< \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{k}}$.

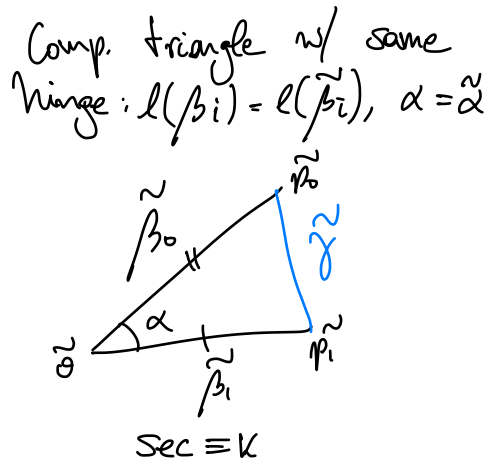
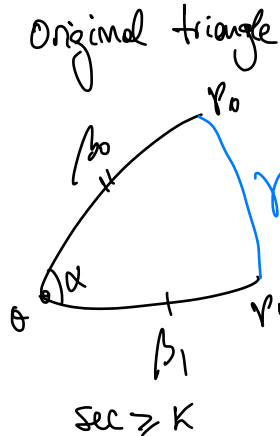
Triangle Version

If (M^M, g) has $\text{sec} \geq k$, $\sigma, p_0, p_1 \in M$, $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ geod from p_0 to p_1 , β_i min. geod from σ to p_i , then $d = \text{dist}_g(\sigma, \gamma(t)) \geq \tilde{d} = \text{dist}_{\tilde{g}}(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\gamma}(t))$ for all $t \in [0, L]$ and $\alpha_i \geq \tilde{\alpha}_i$.

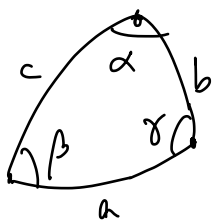


Hinge Version

If (M^m, g) has $\text{sec} \geq K$, $o, p_0, p_1 \in M$,
 β_i min. geod. from o to p_i ,
 Then $l(\gamma) \leq l(\tilde{\gamma})$; where $\gamma, \tilde{\gamma}$
 are the min. geod. that
 close the hinge: $l(\gamma) = \text{dist}_g(p_0, p_1)$
 $l(\tilde{\gamma}) = \text{dist}_{\tilde{g}}(\tilde{p}_0, \tilde{p}_1)$.



Corollary: A geodesic triangle on a manifold with $\text{sec} \geq 0$ satisfies



(i) $l(c)^2 \leq l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma$ $l = \text{length}$

(ii) $\alpha + \beta + \gamma \geq \pi$ If $\text{sec} > 0$, then get strict inequalities.

Pf: (i) is immediate:

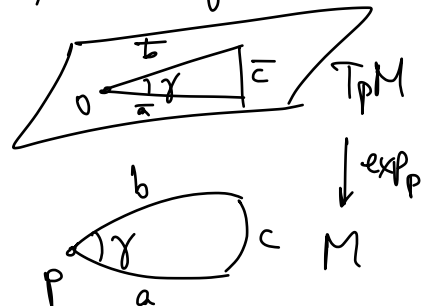
Gauss Lemma

$$l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} l(\bar{a})^2 + l(\bar{b})^2 - 2l(\bar{a})l(\bar{b})\cos\gamma$$

Law of Cosines in $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow l(\bar{c})^2$

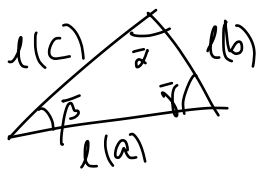
Toponogov (Hinge) $\rightarrow \geq l(c)^2$

where $a = \exp_p \bar{a}$, $b = \exp_p \bar{b}$, $c = \exp_p \bar{c}$.



(ii) Follows from (i) as in the $\text{sec} \leq 0$ case: build comparison triangle in \mathbb{R}^2 with side lengths $l(a)$, $l(b)$, $l(c)$, and angles $\bar{\alpha}$, $\bar{\beta}$, $\bar{\gamma}$.

Then $l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\gamma \geq l(c)^2 = l(a)^2 + l(b)^2 - 2l(a)l(b)\cos\bar{\gamma}$



So $\cos\gamma \leq \cos\bar{\gamma}$ hence

$\gamma \geq \bar{\gamma}$. Similarly for α, β and get

$\alpha + \beta + \gamma \geq \bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} + \bar{\gamma} = \pi$.

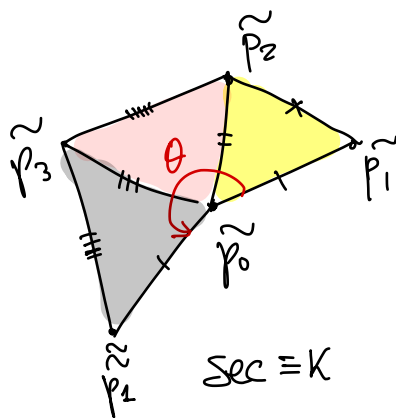
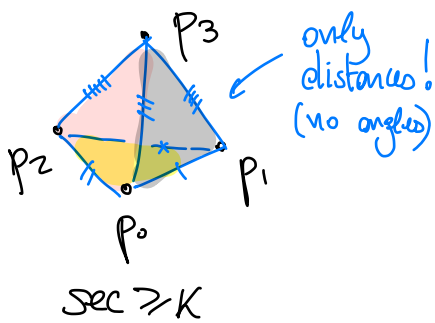
Combining above w/ earlier work on $\text{sec} \leq 0$

As before ...

□

Cor: (M^m, g) has $\text{sec} \geq 0$ (≤ 0) iff $\forall p \in M$, $\exp_p: C_p \subset T_p M \xrightarrow{\cong} M$ is distance non-increasing (non-decreasing).

Four point version



In \mathbb{R}^2 , build comparison triangles for each of the 3 triangles containing p_0 ; then sum of angles at \tilde{p}_0 is:

$$\theta \leq 2\pi$$

Thm. On a Riem mfl'd; each of the above characterizes $\text{sec} \geq K$:

$\text{sec} \geq K \iff \text{Triangle Version} \iff \text{Hinge Version} \iff \text{Four point Version.}$

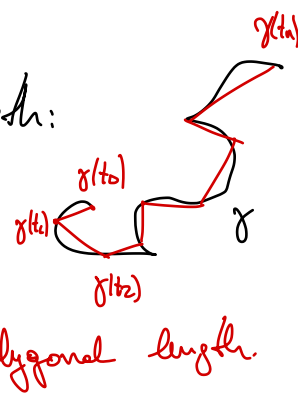
Metric space where distances are realized by lengths of curves

Note: The four point version makes sense on any length space (M, d) , and is sometimes written $\text{curv} \geq K$, if M is not a manifold. If M is a locally compact complete length space with $\text{curv} \geq K$ then it is called an Alexandrov space.
Very useful to study Riem. mfl'ds w/ $\text{sec} \geq K$ cf. "distributions" to study solutions to PDEs...

An aside about length spaces:

Def: $\gamma: [0, L] \rightarrow M$ is rectifiable if it has finite length:

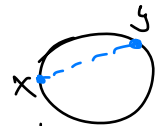
$$l(\gamma) = \sup_{0=t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n=L} \sum_{k=1}^n d(\gamma(t_k), \gamma(t_{k-1}))$$



Def: (M, d) is a length space if $\forall x, y \in M$,

$$d(x, y) = \inf \{ l(\gamma) : \gamma \text{ rectifiable curve joining } x \text{ and } y \}$$

It is complete if $\forall x, y \in M$ there exists a minimizing rectifiable curve realizing $d(x, y)$ i.e. achieving the above inf.

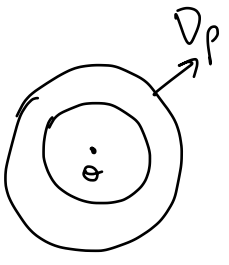


Example: Any Riem. mfl'd. / Non-example: $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ w/ chordal metric.

Proof of Toponogov Triangle Comparison (Triangle Version):

← Proof by Karcher, not the original Toponogov proof. Other proofs possible using Rauch.

Preliminaries: $\rho(x) = \text{dist}_g(x, \sigma)$ is C^∞ on $M \setminus (\sigma \cup \text{Cut}(\sigma))$



$\nabla \rho$ is the unit radial vector field, $\rho(\exp_\sigma(v)) = \|v\|$.

$S_r = \rho^{-1}(r) = \partial B_r(\sigma)$ are equidistant hypersurfaces.

If $\text{sec} \geq K$, then Riccati comparison gives $A \leq \tilde{A} = \frac{\text{sn}'_K}{\text{sn}_K} \text{Id}$, where

$A = \nabla(\nabla \rho) = \text{Hess } \rho$ and $\text{sn}''_K + K \text{sn}_K = 0$, $\text{sn}_K(0) = 0$, $\text{sn}'_K(0) = 1$.

So $A|_{\nabla \rho^\perp} \leq \frac{\text{sn}'_K}{\text{sn}_K} \text{Id}$ and $A|_{\nabla \rho} = 0$ b/c ρ grows linearly along integral curves of $\nabla \rho$. Moreover, $\tilde{A}|_{\nabla \rho^\perp} = \frac{\text{sn}'_K}{\text{sn}_K} \text{Id}$ and

$\tilde{A}|_{\nabla \rho} = 0$.

Very common trick in Geometric Analysis

Consider $f \circ \rho$, where f is to be chosen later. Then, by Chain Rule,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla(f \circ \rho) = f'(\rho) \nabla \rho &\Rightarrow \text{Hess}(f \circ \rho)(X, Y) = \langle \nabla_X \nabla(f \circ \rho), Y \rangle \\ &= \langle X(f'(\rho)) \nabla \rho + f'(\rho) \nabla_X \nabla \rho, Y \rangle \\ &= f''(\rho) d\rho(X) d\rho(Y) + f'(\rho) \text{Hess } \rho(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

So, on $\nabla \rho^\perp$, since first term vanishes, $\text{Hess}(f \circ \rho) = f'(\rho) \text{Hess } \rho \leq f'(\rho) \frac{\text{sn}'_K}{\text{sn}_K} \text{Id}$

and on $\text{span}\{\nabla \rho\}$, $\text{Hess}(f \circ \rho)(\nabla \rho, \nabla \rho) = f''(\rho) \underbrace{\|\nabla \rho\|^2}_{=1} + f'(\rho) \underbrace{\text{Hess } \rho(\nabla \rho, \nabla \rho)}_{=0} = f''(\rho)$.

Choose f so that $f' = \text{SN}_K$, so $\text{SN}_K'' + K \text{SN}_K = 0 \Rightarrow f''' + K f' = 0 \xrightarrow{\text{integrate}}$
 $f'' + K f = C$, so $f''(p) = -K f(p) + C$. Thus, *This choice makes both bounds on $\text{span}\{\nabla p\} \oplus \nabla p^\perp$ become the same, so get a bound on the whole space.*

$\text{Hess}(f \circ p) \leq \frac{f' \text{SN}_K'}{\text{SN}_K} \text{Id} = \text{SN}_K' \text{Id} = f''(p) \text{Id} = -K f(p) + C$ on ∇p^\perp
 $\text{Hess}(f \circ p) \leq f''(p) = -K f(p) + C$ on $\text{span}\{\nabla p\}$. *on comparison space with $\text{sec} = K$.*

Upshot: $\text{Hess}(f \circ p) \leq -K(f \circ p) \text{Id} + C$; analogously, $\text{Hess}(f \circ \tilde{p}) \leq -K(f \circ \tilde{p}) \text{Id} + C$

Let $\delta(t) := f(\text{dist}_g(\sigma, \gamma(t))) - f(\text{dist}_g(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\gamma}(t))) = (f \circ p \circ \gamma)(t) - (f \circ \tilde{p} \circ \tilde{\gamma})(t)$ (*bt $\text{SN} > 0$*)

We want to show that $\delta(t) \geq 0$ for all $t \in [0, L]$. *Note: f is increasing, so $\delta \geq 0$ is equiv. to $d \geq \tilde{d}$.*

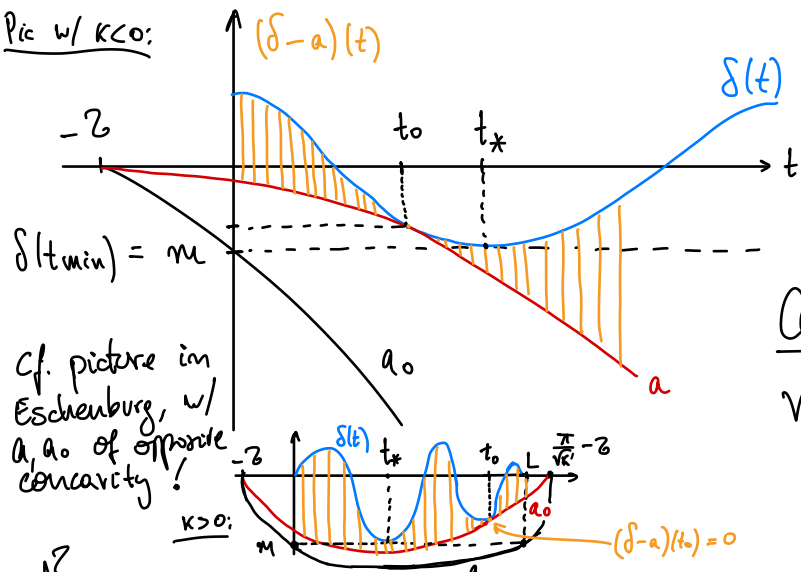
If not, $\exists t_* \in [0, L]$ with $\delta(t_*) < 0$, and $m = \min_{t \in [0, L]} \delta(t) < 0$.

If $K > 0$: Let $K' > K$ be suff. close and $\mathcal{Z} > 0$ s.t.
 $L < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{K'}} - \mathcal{Z}$ *so that the comp. triangle w/ length $L + \mathcal{Z}$ still exists in $\text{sec} = K'$. If $K \leq 0$, ignore.*

Let a_0 be sol. to $a_0'' + K' a_0 = 0$ s.t. $a_0(-\mathcal{Z}) = 0$, $a_0|_{[0, L]} \leq m$;

ie. $a_0(t) = -\mu \cdot \text{SN}_{K'}(t + \mathcal{Z})$. *suff. large constant $\mu > 0$* Then $\exists \lambda > 0$ s.t. $a = \lambda a_0$ satisfies

$a \leq \delta$ and $a(t_0) = \delta(t_0)$ for some $t_0 \in (0, L)$. *Note: we do not need $t_0 \in (0, L)$ to be s.t. $m = \delta(t_0)$. These are unrelated.*



Since $m = \delta(t_*) < 0$, we must have that $\delta(t_0) < 0$, otherwise $\lambda a_0 < \delta$ for arbitrarily small $\lambda \geq 0$ i.e. $\delta \geq 0$.

Case 1: $\gamma(t_0) \notin \text{cut}(\sigma)$, so δ is C^∞ near t_0 , hence

$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(\text{dist}(\sigma, \gamma(t))) = \text{Hess}(f \circ p \circ \gamma)(t) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right) \leq -K f(p(\gamma(t))) + C$

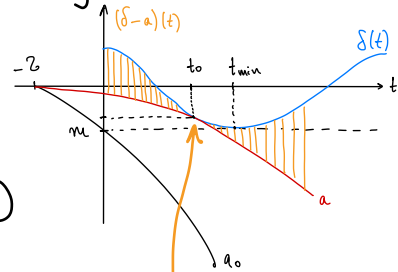
Similarly, on \tilde{M} with $\text{sec} \equiv K$, we have "Upshot" above

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(\text{dist}(\tilde{o}, \tilde{\gamma}(t))) = \text{Hess}(f \circ \tilde{\rho} \circ \tilde{\gamma})\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) \leq -K(f \circ \tilde{\rho} \circ \tilde{\gamma})(t) + C$$

Thus, $\delta'' = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (f \circ \rho \circ \gamma - f \circ \tilde{\rho} \circ \tilde{\gamma}) \leq -K[f \circ \rho \circ \gamma - f \circ \tilde{\rho} \circ \tilde{\gamma}] = -K\delta.$

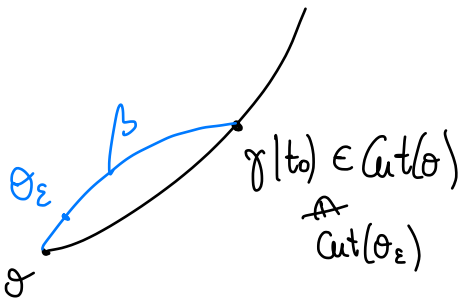
On the other hand, $a'' = -K'a$ and $\delta(t_0) = a(t_0) < 0$ so

$$(\delta - a)''(t_0) \leq -K\delta(t_0) + \underbrace{K'a(t_0)}_{=\delta(t_0)} = \underbrace{\delta(t_0)}_{<0} \cdot \underbrace{(K' - K)}_{>0} < 0$$



which contradicts the fact that t_0 is a minimum for $\delta(t) - a(t)$

Case 2: $\gamma(t_0) \in \text{Cut}(o)$. Let β be a min. geod. from o to $\gamma(t_0)$



Choose $\sigma_\varepsilon = \beta(\varepsilon)$, replace $\rho = \text{dist}(\cdot, o)$ with $\rho_\varepsilon = \text{dist}(\cdot, \sigma_\varepsilon) + \text{dist}(\sigma_\varepsilon, o)$. By the triangle inequality, $\rho_\varepsilon(\gamma(t_0)) \geq \rho(\gamma(t_0))$, and $\rho_\varepsilon(\gamma(t_0)) = \rho(\gamma(t_0))$, i.e. ρ_ε is "upper support function" for ρ at $\gamma(t_0)$.

Since β is min. from σ_ε to $\gamma(t_0)$, we have $\gamma(t_0) \notin \text{Cut}(\sigma_\varepsilon)$. Reasoning as before with $f \circ \rho_\varepsilon$, and sending $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$, get

$$(f \circ \rho_\varepsilon \circ \gamma)'' \leq -K(f \circ \rho_\varepsilon \circ \gamma) + C + \text{error}$$

Then $f \circ \rho_\varepsilon$ is upper support function for $f \circ \rho$ at $\gamma(t_0)$, and hence

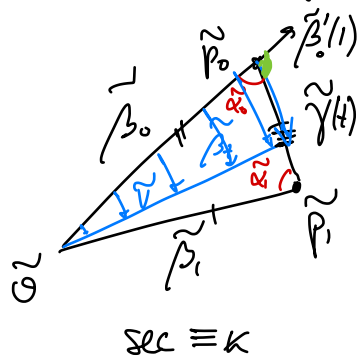
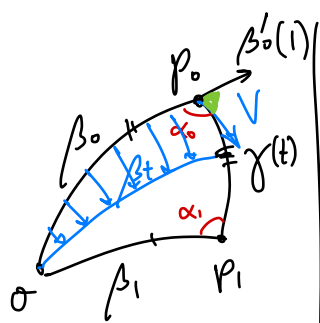
$$\delta_\varepsilon = f \circ \rho_\varepsilon \circ \gamma - f \circ \tilde{\rho} \circ \tilde{\gamma} \text{ is s.t. } \delta_\varepsilon - a \text{ is upper support function for } \delta \text{ at } t_0.$$

Thus, it also attains a minimum at t_0 , contradicting $(\delta_\varepsilon - a)''(t_0) < 0$.

Finally, in order to prove that $\alpha_i \geq \tilde{\alpha}_i$, we again argue by contradiction. Suppose $\alpha_0 = \text{angle between } \beta'_0 \text{ and } \gamma'(0)$
 $\tilde{\alpha}_0 = \text{angle between } \tilde{\beta}'_0 \text{ and } \tilde{\gamma}'(0)$

satisfy $\alpha_0 < \tilde{\alpha}_0$. Assume $p_0 \notin \text{Cut}(\sigma)$, so \exp_{p_0} is invertible near γ_0 .

Let β_t be the shortest curve joining σ to $\gamma(t)$, and similarly $\tilde{\beta}_t$. Assume $\beta_t: [0,1] \rightarrow M$ for each t ;



Then, Taylor series expansions give:

$$\text{dist}_g(\sigma, \gamma(t)) = L(\beta_t) = \text{dist}_g(\sigma, \gamma_0) + t \frac{d}{dt} L(\beta_t)|_{t=0} + O(t^2)$$

$$\tilde{\text{dist}}(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\gamma}(t)) = L(\tilde{\beta}_t) = \tilde{\text{dist}}(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\gamma}_0) + t \frac{d}{dt} L(\tilde{\beta}_t)|_{t=0} + O(t^2)$$

While, by first variation of length,

$$\delta L(\beta_0)(V) = \frac{d}{dt} L(\beta_t)|_{t=0} = - \underbrace{g(\gamma'(0), \beta'_0(1))}_{\pi - \alpha_0}$$

no contribution from σ nor $\tilde{\sigma}$ since endpoint is fixed there: $V(1) = 0$
 $\tilde{V}(1) = 0$

where V is a variational field along β_t w/ $V(1) = \gamma'(0)$

$$\delta L(\tilde{\beta}_0)(\tilde{V}) = \frac{d}{dt} L(\tilde{\beta}_t)|_{t=0} = - \underbrace{\tilde{g}(\tilde{\gamma}'(0), \tilde{\beta}'_0(1))}_{\pi - \tilde{\alpha}_0}$$

where \tilde{V} is a variational field along $\tilde{\beta}_t$ w/ $\tilde{V}(1) = \tilde{\gamma}'(0)$.

Since $\alpha_0 < \tilde{\alpha}_0$, for small t , we get from the above Taylor expansion $L(\beta_t) < L(\tilde{\beta}_t)$, contradicting the previous conclusion that $L(\beta_t) \geq L(\tilde{\beta}_t)$ i.e. $\delta(t) \geq 0$. If $p_0 \in \text{Cut}(\sigma)$, use $\Theta_\varepsilon = \beta_0(\varepsilon)$ instead...

similar to the above perturbation argument. \square 60