

Question 1:

Prop 1. *Let M be a riemanian manifold with sectional curvature identically zero. Then for every $p \in M$ the mapping*

$$\exp_p : B_\epsilon(0) \subseteq T_p M \rightarrow B_\epsilon(p)$$

is an isometry where $B_\epsilon(p)$ is a normal ball.

Proof. The idea is to establish an isometry by calculating solutions to a jacobi field satisfying $\frac{d^2 J}{dt^2}$ via 0 sectional curvature.

Let arbitrary $p \in M$. We show \exp_p is an isometry. This is clearly a diffeomorphism so suffices to show riemannian metric is preserved.

Consider $v \in B_\epsilon(0)$ with $\hat{v} \in T_v T_p M$. Set

$$\gamma_s(t) = \exp_p(t(v + s\hat{v}))$$

Then $J(t) = \frac{d\gamma_s}{ds}|_{s=0}$ is a jacobi field s.t. $J(t) = (d\exp_p)(t\hat{v})$

Because we have 0 sectional curvature we know a jacobi field satisfies $\frac{d^2 J}{dt^2} = 0$ via the jacobi equation.

Set an ON frame E_i an ON frame at $T_p M$ extended via parallel transport. Write $J(t) = a^i E_i$ and $\hat{v} = \hat{v}^i E_i$ where we identify tangent spaces of tangent spaces with the tangent space. Then since $\frac{d^2 J}{dt^2} = 0$ we know $J(t) = (\hat{v}^i t) E_i(t)$ because $\frac{d^2 J}{dt^2} = (a^i)''(t) E_i(t)$ with $\frac{DJ}{dt}(0) = \hat{v}$. Then $\hat{v}^i E_i(1) = (d\exp_p)(\hat{v})$. This allows us to compute for additional $\hat{u} \in T_v T_p M$

$$\langle (d\exp_p)(\hat{u}), (d\exp_p)(\hat{v}) \rangle = \hat{u}^i \hat{v}^j \langle E_i(1), E_j(1) \rangle = \langle \hat{u}, \hat{v} \rangle$$

which establishes an isometry. □

Question 2:

Prop 2. *Let M be a Riemannian manifold, $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ a geodesic, and J a jacobi field along γ . Then there exists a parameterized surface $f(t, s)$ where $f(t, 0) = \gamma(t)$ and curves $t \rightarrow f(t, s)$ are geodesics s.t. $J(t) = \frac{df}{ds}(t, 0)$*

Proof. The idea is to construct f by flowing geodesics out along a "vertical" strip.

Choose curve $\lambda(s)$ in M s.t. $\lambda(0) = \gamma(0)$ with $\lambda'(0) = J(0)$. Along λ choose vector field $W(s)$ with $W(0) = \gamma'(0)$, $\frac{DW}{ds}(0) = \frac{DJ}{dt}(0)$. We set $f(s, t) = \exp_{\lambda(s)} tW(s)$. This defines a parameterized surface. We show the curves are geodesics on it.

We know $\frac{d\lambda}{ds} = \lambda'(0) = J(0)$. Further we also have $\frac{df}{ds}(0, 0) = \lambda'(0)$ since $\frac{df}{ds}(0, 0) = \frac{d}{ds}|_{s=0} \exp_{\lambda(s)}(0) = \frac{d}{ds}|_{s=0} \lambda(s) = \lambda'(s)$.

We also show

$$\frac{D}{dt} \frac{df}{ds}(0, 0) = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{df}{dt}(0, 0) = \frac{DW}{ds}(0) = \frac{DJ}{dt}(0)$$

We know by construction the third equality holds. The first equality holds by the symmetry lemma. Then we show the second holds.

Compute

$$\frac{D}{ds} \frac{df}{dt}(0, 0) = \frac{D}{ds} \Big|_{s=0} \left[\frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \exp_{\lambda(s)} tW(s) \right] = \frac{D}{ds} \Big|_{s=0} [W(s)] = \frac{DW}{ds}(0)$$

This establishes the interesting curves and further $J(t) = \frac{df}{ds}(t, 0)$ via the initial conditions we've shown. Thus we finish the proof. \square

Question 3:

Prop 3. *Let M be a Riemannian manifold with non-positive sectional curvature. Then for all p , the conjugate cut locus $C(p)$ is empty.*

Proof. Fix geodesic $\gamma : [0, a] \rightarrow M$ with $\gamma(0) = p \in M$. Suppose we have non-trivial J jacobi field on γ with $J(0) = J(a) = 0$. We have the jacobi equation:

$$0 = \frac{D^2 J}{dt^2} + R(\gamma', J)\gamma'$$

which tells us

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left\langle \frac{DJ}{dt}, J \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{D^2 J}{dt^2}, J \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{DJ}{dt}, \frac{DJ}{dt} \right\rangle \geq 0$$

since clearly the second term is nonnegative and the first term is equal to the negation of sectional curvature via the jacobi equation, where we know sectional curvature nonpositive.

But then since $J(0) = J(a) = 0$ it must be $\langle DJ/dt, J \rangle = 0$. Then with $\frac{d}{dt} \langle J, J \rangle = 2 \langle DJ/dt, J \rangle = 0$ it must be J is 0. \square

Question 4:

Let M be a riemannian manifold of dimension two (so M is a surface). Let $B_\delta(p)$ be a normal ball around the point $p \in M$. Consider the parameterized surface

$$f(\rho, \theta) = \exp_p(\rho v(\theta))$$

where $v(\theta)$ is a circle of radius δ in $T_p M$ parameterized by the central angle θ

Prop 4. (ρ, θ) are coordinates in an open set U formed by open ball $B_\delta(p)$ minus ray $\exp_p(-\rho v(0))$ with $0 < \rho < \delta$. These are polar coordinates

Proof. Intuitively $v(\theta)$ gives the direction we flow and ρ gives the distance we flow (from p).

We know \exp_p diffeomorphic from ball in $T_p M$ around 0 to $B_\delta(p)$. The uniqueness of coordinates is given by the uniqueness of geodesics.

The ray $\exp_p(-\rho v(0))$ for $0 < \rho < \delta$ is not included because $-\pi, \pi$ are not valued. □

Prop 5. g_{ij} of the riemannian metric are $g_{12} = 0$, $g_{11} = |\frac{df}{d\rho}|^2 = |v(\theta)|^2 = 1$ and $g_{22} = |\frac{df}{d\theta}|^2$

Proof. Recall $g_{ij} = \langle \frac{d}{dx_i}, \frac{d}{dx_j} \rangle$. Gauss's lemma tells us

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

Use this to compute

$$g_{11} = \langle \frac{d}{d\rho}, \frac{d}{d\rho} \rangle = \langle \frac{df}{d\rho}, \frac{df}{d\rho} \rangle = |\frac{df}{d\rho}|^2$$

by definition. Similarly $g_{22} = |\frac{df}{d\theta}|^2$.

$$g_{12} = \langle \frac{d}{d\rho}, \frac{d}{d\theta} \rangle = 0$$

similarly and finally

$$|\frac{df}{d\rho}|^2 = |\frac{d}{dt}|_{t=0}(\exp_p)((\rho + t)v(\theta))|^2 = |v(\theta)|^2 = 1$$

□

Prop 6. Along the geodesic $f(\rho, 0)$ we have $(\sqrt{g_{22}})_{\rho\rho} = -K(p)\rho + R(\rho)$ where $\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \frac{R(\rho)}{\rho} = 0$ and $K(p)$ is the sectional curvature of M at p

Proof. Let $f(\rho, 0)$ be $\gamma(\rho)$. Note $\frac{df}{d\theta}$ is a jacobi field. $g_{22} = |\frac{df}{d\theta}|^2$ can be taylor expanded as $\rho^2 - (1/3)K(\rho, \sigma)\rho^4 + \dots G(\rho)$. But we need $\sqrt{g_{22}}$ so we taylor expand to get $\sqrt{g_{22}} = \rho - (1/6)K(\rho, \sigma)\rho^3 + \dots R(\rho)$ which we get by noting $\sqrt{g_{22}} * \sqrt{g_{22}} = g_{22}$ and collecting terms. Differentiating and noting $R''(\rho)$ is small gives the desired result.

Writing $\sqrt{g_{22}}_{\rho\rho}$ out for the next problem:

$$\sqrt{g_{22}}_{\rho\rho} = -K(\rho, \sigma)\rho + R''(\rho)$$

□

Prop 7. $\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{g_{22}}_{\rho\rho}}{\sqrt{g_{22}}} = -K(p)$

Proof. This follows directly from the above proposition and a taylor expansion for $\sqrt{g_{22}}$

□