

Math 591 Lecture 11

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Tangent Vectors

Last time, we proved that for $p \in U \subseteq^{\text{open}} M$, $\phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ chart, $\phi = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$, that $\forall v \in T_p M$, we can write

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^n v([x^i]) \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right|_p$$

This is based on:

Thm: If $g : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, with $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ being the open ball centered at the origin, then there exist $g_{ij} \in C^\infty(B)$ s.t. $\forall r \in B$,

$$g(r) = g(0) + \sum_{j=1}^n r^j \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}(0) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n r^i r^j g_{ij}(r)$$

with $g_{ij}(0) = \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial r^i \partial r^j}(0)$.

Proof: Start with $g(r) = g(0) + \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} g(tr) dt$. Then by the fundamental theorem of calculus, this is equal to

$$= g(0) + \int_0^1 \sum_{j=1}^n r^j \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}(tr) dt = g(0) + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^n r^j \int_0^1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}(tr) dt}_{g_j(r) \in C^\infty} = g(0) + \sum_{j=1}^n r^j g_j(r)$$

We can then repeat this argument with each g_j , so for each j , there are some $g_{ji} \in C^\infty$ s.t.

$$g_j(r) = g_j(0) + \sum_{i=1}^n r^i g_{ji}(r)$$

(The exact computation may be off here by a factor of 2, due to symmetry.)

Observe that

$$g_j(0) = \int_0^1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}(0) dt = \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}(0)$$

Plugging the g_j 's back in, we get

$$g(r) = g(0) + \sum_{j=1}^n r^j g_j(0) + \sum_{j=1}^n r^j \sum_{i=1}^n r^i g_{ji}(r) = g(0) + \sum_{j=1}^n r^j g_j(0) + \sum_{i,j=1}^n r^j r^i g_{ji}(r)$$

□

Tangent Vectors and Curves

Let $p \in U \subseteq^{\text{open}} M$, $\phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ chart, $\phi = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$. Then let γ so that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & U \\ & \searrow \phi \circ \gamma & \downarrow \phi \\ & & \mathbb{R}^n \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \nearrow f \\ \xrightarrow{f_\phi} \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

Previously, we defined $\dot{\gamma}(0) \in T_p M$ so that $\dot{\gamma}(0)([f]) = \frac{d}{dt}(f \circ \gamma)|_{t=0}$, where $f \circ \gamma : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Computation of $\dot{\gamma}(0)$ in coordinates:

Lemma: Let $(\phi \circ \gamma)(t) = (x^1(t), \dots, x^n(t))$, defined by $x^i(t) : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\dot{\gamma}(0) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{dx^j(t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \Big|_p$$

Proof: Let $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then $f \circ \gamma = (f \circ \phi^{-1}) \circ (\phi \circ \gamma) = f_\phi \circ (\phi \circ \gamma)$. Use the chain rule on the right-hand side. Then

$$\dot{\gamma}(0)[f] = \frac{d}{dt}(f \circ \gamma)(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \sum_{j=1}^n \underbrace{\frac{\partial f_\phi}{\partial x^j}((\phi \circ \gamma)(t))}_{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j}(\gamma(t))} \frac{dx^j(t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0}$$

□

Cor: Any $v \in T_p M$ is equal to $\dot{\gamma}(0)$ for some curve γ .

Proof: Choose a chart (U, ϕ) so that $\phi(p) = 0$. Then $v = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \Big|_p$, with each $v_j \in \mathbb{R}$. Define γ by $x^j(t) = tv_j$, $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, and letting this define $\phi \circ \gamma$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & U \\ & \searrow \phi \circ \gamma & \downarrow \phi \\ & & \mathbb{R}^n \end{array}$$

Then $\gamma(p) = \phi^{-1}(tv_1, \dots, tv_n)$. □

Smooth Maps Between Manifolds and Tangent Spaces

Let $F : M \rightarrow N$ be a smooth map between smooth manifolds M and N . Let $p \in M$, with $q = F(p) \in N$.

Observe: Given any $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $q \in V \subseteq^{\text{open}} N$, we have

$$M \xrightarrow{F} V \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}$$

Defn: Consider $F^{-1}(V)$, an open neighborhood of p . $f \circ F : F^{-1}(V) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. This gives us a map

$$\begin{aligned} F^* : C_q^\infty(N) &\rightarrow C_p^\infty(M) \\ [f] &\mapsto [f \circ F] \end{aligned}$$

This is the pullback map on germs. Note that this is a ring morphism!

By duality, we can pushforward tangent vectors.

Defn: If $v \in T_p M$, we define the pushforward of v , $F_{*,p}(v) : C_q^\infty(N) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $F_{*,p}(v)([f]) = v(F^*([f])) \in \mathbb{R}$.

Claim: $F_{*,p}(v) \in T_q N$, i.e., $F_{*,p}(v)$ is also a derivation.

Rough proof: Recall that F^* is a ring morphism. This, combined with the fact that v is a derivation, implies that $F_{*,p}(v)$ is a derivation. □

Conclusion: We obtain $F_{*,p} : T_p M \rightarrow T_{F(p)} N$.

Defn: We can take its dual: $F_p^* : T_{F(p)}^* N \rightarrow T_p^* M$.

Lemma: F_p^* is linear.

Lemma: $F_{*,p}(\dot{\gamma}(0)) = \frac{d}{dt}(F \circ \gamma)|_{t=0}$.

This final lemma is very useful for computation!