

**Three hours**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER**

**RIEMANNIAN GEOMETRY**

15-th May/June 2014  
09:45—12:45

ANSWER ANY THREE OF QUESTIONS 1—4 AND QUESTION 5  
All questions are worth 20 marks

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Electronic calculators may not be used

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P.T.O.

**1.**

**(a)** Explain what is meant by saying that  $G$  is a Riemannian metric on a manifold  $M$ .

Consider the upper half plane ( $y > 0$ ) in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  equipped with the Riemannian metric  $G = \sigma(x, y)(dx^2 + dy^2)$ .

Explain why  $\sigma(x, y) > 0$ .

Consider in this Riemannian manifold a curve  $C$  such that

$$C: \begin{cases} x = 1 \\ y = a + t \end{cases}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1, \quad (a > 0).$$

Find the length of this curve in the case  $\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1}{y^2}$  (the Lobachevsky metric).

[6 marks]

**(b)** Consider a surface (the upper sheet of a cone) in  $\mathbf{E}^3$

$$\mathbf{r}(h, \varphi): \begin{cases} x = 2h \cos \varphi \\ y = 2h \sin \varphi \\ z = h \end{cases}, \quad h > 0, 0 \leq \varphi < 2\pi.$$

Calculate the Riemannian metric on this surface induced by the canonical metric on Euclidean space  $\mathbf{E}^3$ .

Show that this surface is locally Euclidean.

[6 marks]

**(c)** Consider a Riemannian manifold  $M^n$  with a metric  $G = g_{ik}dx^i dx^k$ .

Write down the formula for the volume element on  $M^n$  (area element for  $n = 2$ ).

Find the volume of a domain  $0 < h < H$  of the cone considered in the part **(b)**.

It is well-known that the metric  $G = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}$  of the Lobachevsky plane is not locally Euclidean. However show that there exist coordinates  $u = u(x, y)$ ,  $v = v(x, y)$  such that in these coordinates the area element is equal to  $du dv$ .

[8 marks]

P.T.O.

2.

(a) Explain what is meant by an affine connection on a manifold.

Let  $\nabla$  be an affine connection on a 2-dimensional manifold  $M$  such that in local coordinates  $(u, v)$  all Christoffel symbols vanish except  $\Gamma_{vv}^u = u$  and  $\Gamma_{uu}^v = v$ . Calculate the vector field  $\nabla_{\mathbf{X}}\mathbf{X}$ , where  $\mathbf{X} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + u\frac{\partial}{\partial v}$ .

[5 marks]

(b) Explain what is meant by the induced connection on a surface in Euclidean space.

Calculate the induced connection on the cylindrical surface in  $\mathbf{E}^3$

$$\mathbf{r}(h, \varphi): \begin{cases} x = a \cos \varphi \\ y = a \sin \varphi \\ z = h \end{cases}.$$

[6 marks]

(c) Give a detailed formulation of the Levi-Civita Theorem. In particular write down the expression for the Christoffel symbols  $\Gamma_{km}^i$  of the Levi-Civita connection in terms of the Riemannian metric  $G = g_{ik}(x)dx^i dx^k$ .

Prove that the induced connection on a surface  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}(u, v)$  in  $\mathbf{E}^3$  is equal to the Levi-Civita connection of the Riemannian metric induced by the canonical metric on Euclidean space  $\mathbf{E}^3$ .

A Riemannian metric in local coordinates  $u, v$  is equal to  $G = e^{-u^2-v^2}(du^2 + dv^2)$ .

Calculate the Christoffel symbols of the Levi-Civita connection at the point  $u = v = 0$ .

[9 marks]

P.T.O.

**3.**

(a) Define a geodesic on a Riemannian manifold as a parameterised curve.

Write down the differential equations for geodesics in terms of the Christoffel symbols.

Explain why the great circles are the geodesics on the sphere.

[7 marks]

(b) Explain what is meant by the Lagrangian of a “free” particle on a Riemannian manifold.

Explain what is the relation between the Lagrangian of a free particle and the differential equations for geodesics.

Calculate the Christoffel symbols on the Lobachevsky plane.

(You may use the Lagrangian of a ”free” particle on this plane  $L = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2}{y^2}$ . )

Consider an arbitrary geodesic  $\mathbf{r} = (x(t), y(t))$  on the Lobachevsky plane.

Show that the magnitude  $I(t) = \frac{\dot{x}(t)}{y^2(t)}$  is preserved along the geodesic.

[8 marks]

(c) Consider a plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  equipped with the Riemannian metric  $G = \frac{4R^4(du^2 + dv^2)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2}$ .

We know that it is isometric to the sphere of radius  $R$  in  $\mathbf{E}^3$  (without the North pole) in stereographic coordinates  $u = \frac{Rx}{R-z}$ ,  $v = \frac{Ry}{R-z}$ ,  $(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = R^2)$ .

Consider the parallel transport of the vector  $\mathbf{A} = \partial_u$  attached at the point  $u = R, v = 0$  along the circle  $u^2 + v^2 = R^2$  with respect to this Riemannian metric.

Show that during the parallel transport along this circle it will always be orthogonal to this circle.

[5 marks]

P.T.O.

4.

(a) Consider the sphere of radius  $R$  in Euclidean space  $\mathbf{E}^3$

$$\mathbf{r}(\theta, \varphi): \begin{cases} x = R \sin \theta \cos \varphi \\ y = R \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ z = R \cos \theta \end{cases}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{f}$  be unit vectors in the directions of the vectors  $\mathbf{r}_\theta = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \theta}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_\varphi = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \varphi}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  be a unit normal vector to the sphere.

Express these vectors explicitly.

For the obtained orthonormal basis  $\{\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{n}\}$  calculate the 1-forms  $a, b$  and  $c$  in the derivation formula

$$d \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ -a & 0 & c \\ -b & -c & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Deduce from these calculations the mean curvature and the Gaussian curvature of the sphere.

[7 marks]

(b) Give a definition of the curvature tensor for a manifold equipped with a connection.

On two-dimensional Riemannian manifold with coordinates  $x^1, x^2$  consider the vector fields  $\mathbf{A} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^2}$ ,  $\mathbf{X} = (1+x^1x^2)\frac{\partial}{\partial x^2}$ , and the vector field  $\mathbf{Y} = (\nabla_{\mathbf{A}}\nabla_{\mathbf{B}} - \nabla_{\mathbf{B}}\nabla_{\mathbf{A}})\mathbf{X}$ , where  $\nabla$  is a connection.

Calculate the value of the field  $\mathbf{Y}$  at the point  $x^1 = x^2 = 0$  if the curvature tensor of the connection  $\nabla$  is such that  $R^1_{212} = 1$  and  $R^2_{212} = 0$  at this point.

[5 marks]

(c) State the relation between the Riemann curvature tensor of the Levi-Civita connection of a surface in  $\mathbf{E}^3$  and its Gaussian curvature  $K$ .

Explain why the sphere is not a locally Euclidean Riemannian manifold.

On the sphere of radius  $R$  give an example of local coordinates in the vicinity of an arbitrary point  $\mathbf{p}$  such that in these coordinates standard Riemannian metric of the sphere is equal to  $du^2 + dv^2$  at this point  $\mathbf{p}$ .

[8 marks]

P.T.O.

The following question is compulsory.

5.

(a) Explain what is meant by saying that  $F$  is an isometry between two Riemannian manifolds.

Consider the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  with coordinates  $(x, y)$  and with the Riemannian metric

$$G_{(1)} = \frac{a(dx^2 + dy^2)}{(1 + x^2 + y^2)^2}, \quad (a > 0),$$

and the sphere of radius  $R$  (without the North pole) with standard metric  $G$  which in stereographic coordinates  $(u, v)$  has the appearance

$$G_{(2)} = \frac{4R^4(du^2 + dv^2)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2}.$$

Find an isometry  $F: \begin{cases} u = u(x, y) \\ v = v(x, y) \end{cases}$  between these two Riemannian manifolds in the case of  $a = 4R^2$ .

Explain why, in the case where  $a \neq 4R^2$ , there is no isometry between these Riemannian manifolds.

[10 marks]

(b) Describe all infinitesimal isometries (Killing vector fields) of the Lobachevsky plane (the upper half plane ( $y > 0$ ) with the metric  $G = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}$ ), and deduce equations for the geodesics.

You may use the fact that translations  $\begin{cases} x' = x + a \\ y' = y \end{cases}$ , homotheties  $\begin{cases} x' = \lambda x \\ y' = \lambda y \end{cases}$ , ( $\lambda > 0$ )

and inversion  $\begin{cases} x' = \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \\ y' = \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \end{cases}$  are isometries of the Lobachevsky plane.

[10 marks]