

Homework 2. Solutions

1 Let (M, G) be 2-dimensional Riemannian manifold with Riemannian metric G such that in local coordinates (u, v) it has appearance

$$G = A(u, v)du^2 + 2B(u, v)dudv + C(u, v)dv^2, \quad \|g_{ik}\| = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider vector fields $\mathbf{A} = t \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + r \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$ and $\mathbf{B} = r \frac{\partial}{\partial u} - t \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$ where t, r are arbitrary coefficients.

- a) Calculate the scalar product $\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G$ in the case if u, v are conformal coordinates.
- b) Show that condition

$$\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G = 0, \quad \text{for arbitrary } t, r \in \mathbf{R}$$

implies that u, v are conformal coordinates.

- a) If coordinates u, v are conformal, then by definition

$$G = \sigma(u, v) (du^2 + dv^2), \quad \|g_{ik}\| = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G = \left\langle t \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + r \frac{\partial}{\partial v}, r \frac{\partial}{\partial u} - t \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right\rangle_G = \begin{pmatrix} t & r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r \\ -t \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

Now suppose $\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G = 0$. Thus

$$\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G = \left\langle t \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + r \frac{\partial}{\partial v}, r \frac{\partial}{\partial u} - t \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right\rangle_G = \begin{pmatrix} t & r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r \\ -t \end{pmatrix} = (A-C)tr + B(r^2 - t^2) = 0. \quad \blacksquare$$

Now condition $t = 0$ implies that $B = 0$, and condition implies $t = r$ that $A = C$, thus $G = A(du^2 + dv^2)$, i.e. u, v are conformal coordinates.

2 Write down the standard Euclidean metric on \mathbf{E}^2 in polar coordinates

$$dx^2 + dy^2 = d(r \cos \varphi)^2 + d(r \sin \varphi)^2 = (-r \sin \varphi d\varphi + \cos \varphi dr)^2 + (r \cos \varphi d\varphi + \sin \varphi dr)^2 = dr^2 + r^2 d\varphi^2. \quad \blacksquare$$

(See also lecture notes.)

3 Consider the Riemannian metric on the circle of the radius R induced by the Euclidean metric on the ambient plane.

- a) Express it using polar angle as a coordinate on the circle.
- b) Express the same metric using stereographic coordinate t obtained by stereographic projection of the circle on the line, passing through its centre.

a) using the angle: In this case parametric equation of circle is $\begin{cases} x = R \cos \varphi \\ y = R \sin \varphi \end{cases}$. Then

$$G = (dx^2 + dy^2)|_{x=R \cos \varphi, y=R \sin \varphi} = (d \cos \varphi)^2 + (d \sin \varphi)^2 = R^2 d\varphi^2.$$

b) Consider stereographic coordinate with respect to North pole. One can do it straightforwardly using results of Homework 0 (or lecture notes):

$$\begin{cases} x = \frac{2tR^2}{R^2+t^2} \\ y = R \frac{t^2-R^2}{t^2+R^2} = R \left(1 - \frac{2R^2}{t^2+R^2}\right) \end{cases}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} G = (dx^2 + dy^2)|_{x=x(t), y=y(t)} &= \left(d \left(\frac{2tR^2}{R^2+t^2}\right)\right)^2 + \left(d \left(\frac{t^2-R^2}{R^2+t^2} R\right)\right)^2 = \\ &= \left(\frac{2R^2 dt}{R^2+t^2} - \frac{4t^2 R^2 dt}{(R^2+t^2)^2}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{4R^2 t dt}{(t^2+R^2)^2}\right)^2 = \frac{4R^4 dt^2}{(R^2+t^2)^2} \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Much more efficient to use explicitly polar coordinates. Considering the triangle NOP where $N = (0, R)$ is North pole, $P = (t, 0)$ (see Homework 0) we come to

$$t = \tan \left(\frac{\varphi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \Rightarrow \varphi = 2 \arctan \left(\frac{t}{R} \right) - \frac{\pi}{2},$$

where φ is angular coordinate of the point on the circle. Hence

$$G = R^2 d\varphi^2 = R^2 \left[d \left(2 \arctan \left(\frac{t}{R} \right) - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right]^2 = 4R^2 \frac{\left(\frac{dt}{R}\right)^2}{\left(1 + \frac{t}{R}\right)^2} = \frac{4R^2 dt^2}{(R^2+t^2)^2}.$$

Another solution We can perform these calculations Using the fact that stereographic projection is restriction of inversion with the radius $R\sqrt{2}$

5 Consider the Riemannian metric on the sphere of the radius R induced by the Euclidean metric on the ambient 3-dimensional space.

a) Express it using spherical coordinates on the sphere.

b) Express the same metric using stereographic coordinates u, v obtained by stereographic projection of the sphere on the plane, passing through its centre.

Solution

Riemannian metric of Euclidean space is $G = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$.

a) using the spherical coordinates: In this case parametric equation of sphere is

$$\begin{cases} x = R \sin \theta \cos \varphi \\ y = R \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ z = R \cos \theta \end{cases}$$
 . Then

$$\begin{aligned} G &= (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)|_{x=R \sin \theta \cos \varphi, y=R \sin \theta \sin \varphi, z=R \cos \theta} = \\ &= R^2 ((d \sin \theta \cos \varphi)^2 + R^2 ((d \sin \theta \sin \varphi))^2 + R^2 ((d \cos \theta))^2 = \\ &= R^2 (\cos \theta \cos \varphi d\theta - \sin \theta \sin \varphi d\varphi)^2 + R^2 (\cos \theta \sin \varphi d\theta + \sin \theta \cos \varphi d\varphi)^2 + R^2 (-\sin \theta d\theta)^2 = \\ &= R^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2) . \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

b) in stereographic coordinates using stereographic coordinates u, v with respect to the North pole (see Homework 0) we have after explicit (but may be long) calculations:
 $G = (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)|_{x=x(u,v), y=y(u,v), z=z(u,v)} =$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(d \left(\frac{2uR^2}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} \right)\right)^2 + \left(d \left(\frac{2vR^2}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} \right)\right)^2 + \left(d \left(1 - \frac{2R^2}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} \right) R\right)^2 = \\ &R^4 \left(\frac{2du}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} - \frac{2u(2udu + 2vdv)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \right)^2 + R^4 \left(\frac{2dv}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} - \frac{2v(2udu + 2vdv)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \right)^2 + \frac{16R^6(udu + vdv)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} = \\ &\frac{4R^4}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \left[\left(du - \frac{2u(udu + vdv)}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} \right)^2 + \left(dv - \frac{2v(udu + vdv)}{R^2 + u^2 + v^2} \right)^2 + \frac{4R^2(udu + vdv)^2}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \right] = \\ &\frac{4R^4(du^2 + dv^2)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

It is more efficient to use expression for metric in spherical coordinates (see above). Indeed if θ, φ spherical coordinates, and u, v stereographic coordinates then one can see that

$$\begin{cases} u = \frac{Rx}{R-z} = \frac{R \sin \theta \cos \varphi}{1 - \cos \theta} = R \cos \varphi \frac{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}}{2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} = R \cotan \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \varphi \\ v = \frac{Ry}{R-z} = \frac{R \sin \theta \sin \varphi}{1 - \cos \theta} = R \sin \varphi \frac{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}}{2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} = R \cotan \frac{\theta}{2} \sin \varphi \end{cases}$$

i.e.

$$\begin{cases} \cotan \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{u^2 + v^2}}{R} \\ \tan \varphi = \frac{v}{u} \end{cases}$$

Thus using expression (1) for metric in spherical coordinates we come to the same answer (2):

$$G = R^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2) = R^2 \left[\left(2d \left(\arccotan \frac{\sqrt{u^2 + v^2}}{R} \right) \right)^2 + \sin^2 \theta \left(d \left(\arctan \frac{v}{u} \right) \right)^2 \right] =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& R^2 \left[\left[2 \frac{d \left(\frac{\sqrt{u^2+v^2}}{R} \right)}{1 + \frac{u^2+v^2}{R^2}} \right]^2 + 4 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \left[\frac{udv - vdu}{u^2 + v^2} \right]^2 \right] = \\
& R^2 \left[\frac{4R^2(udu + vdv)^2}{(u^2 + v^2)(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)} + 4 \frac{1}{1 + \frac{u^2+v^2}{R^2}} \left[1 - \frac{1}{1 + \frac{u^2+v^2}{R^2}} \right] \left[\frac{udv - vdu}{u^2 + v^2} \right]^2 \right] = \\
& \frac{4R^4(udu + vdv)^2}{(u^2 + v^2)(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} + \frac{4R^4}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)} \frac{(udv - vdu)^2}{(u^2 + v^2)^2} = \frac{4R^4(du^2 + dv^2)}{(R^2 + u^2 + v^2)^2} \blacksquare
\end{aligned}$$

Another solution One can avoid this straightforward long calculations, just noting that stereographic projection is the restriction of inversion, of radius $\sqrt{2}R$. This immediately implies the answer.

4 a) Let (u, v) be local coordinates on 2-dimensional Riemannian manifold (M, G) such that Riemannian metric has an appearance $G = du^2 + u^2 dv^2$ in these coordinates. Show that there exist local coordinates x, y such that $G = dx^2 + dy^2$.

b) Let (u, v) be local coordinates on 2-dimensional Riemannian manifold (M, G) such that Riemannian metric has an appearance $G = du^2 + \sin^2 u dv^2$ in these coordinates.

Do there exist coordinates x, y such that $G = dx^2 + dy^2$?

a) Consider new coordinates x, y such that $\begin{cases} x = u \cos v \\ y = u \sin v \end{cases}$. We see (comparing with polar coordinates) that

$$dx^2 + dy^2 = [d(u \cos v)]^2 + [d(u \sin v)]^2 = du^2 + u^2 dv^2.$$

b) Answer: 'No'.

Suppose that there exist coordinates $\begin{cases} x = f(u, v) \\ y = g(u, v) \end{cases}$ such that $dx^2 + dy^2 = du^2 + \sin^2 u dv^2$. This implies that on the sphere of radius $R = 1$ there exist coordinates $\begin{cases} x = f(\theta, \varphi) \\ y = g(\theta, \varphi) \end{cases}$

$$dx^2 + dy^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2.$$

This contradicts to the fact that sphere has curvature.

5 Consider an upper half-plane ($y > 0$) in \mathbf{R}^2 equipped with Riemannian metric

$$G = \sigma(x, y)(dx^2 + dy^2), \quad (1)$$

a) Show that $\sigma > 0$,

Consider two vectors $\mathbf{A} = 2\partial_x$ and $\mathbf{B} = 12\partial_x + 5\partial_y$ attached at the point $(x, y) = (1, 2)$,

b) calculate the cosine of the angle between these vectors, and show that the answer does not depend on the choice of the function $\sigma(x, y)$.

c) Calculate the lengths of these vectors in the case if

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{y^2}, \quad (\text{hyperbolic (Lobachevsky) metric}) \quad (2),$$

d) Calculate the length of the segments $x = a+t, y = b$, and $x = a, y = b+t, 0 \leq t \leq 1$ if condition (2) is obeyed.

e) (exam question) Consider two curves L_1 and L_2 in upper half-plane (1) such that

$$L_1 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = f(t) \\ y = g(t) \end{array} \right\}, \quad \text{and } L_2 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = g(t) \\ y = f(t) \end{array} \right\}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

where $f(t), g(t)$ are arbitrary functions ($f(t) > 0, g(t) > 0$).

Show that these curves have the same length in the case if $\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1}{(1+x^2+y^2)^2}$.

a) $\sigma > 0$ since positive definiteness: e.g. $G(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}) = \sigma(x, y) > 0$ if $\mathbf{X} = \partial_x$.

b)

$$|\mathbf{A}| = \sqrt{G(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A})} = \sqrt{\frac{A_x^2 + A_y^2}{y^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2^2 + 0^2}{2^2}} = 1, \quad |\mathbf{B}| = \sqrt{G(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{B})} = \sqrt{\frac{B_x^2 + B_y^2}{y^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{12^2 + 5^2}{2^2}} = \frac{13}{2}.$$

c) Calculate the cosine for an arbitrary σ : $\cos(\angle(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B})) = \frac{G(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B})}{\sqrt{G(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A})}\sqrt{G(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{B})}} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle_G}{|\mathbf{A}||\mathbf{B}|} =$

$$\frac{\sigma(x, y)(A_x B_x + A_y B_y)}{\sqrt{\sigma(x, y)(A_x^2 + A_y^2)}\sqrt{\sigma(x, y)(B_x^2 + B_y^2)}} = \frac{(A_x B_x + A_y B_y)}{\sqrt{(A_x^2 + A_y^2)}\sqrt{(B_x^2 + B_y^2)}} = \frac{2 \cdot 12 + 0 \cdot 5}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 13} = \frac{12}{13}.$$

d) Length of the first curve is equal to

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{x_t^2 + y_t^2}{y^2(t)}} dt = \int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{1+0}{b^2}} dt = \frac{1}{b},$$

length of the second curve is equal to

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{x_t^2 + y_t^2}{y^2(t)}} dt = \int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{0+1}{(b+t)^2}} dt = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{b+t} dt = \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right).$$

e) If $x \leftrightarrow y$ then metric does not change since $\sigma(x, y) = \sigma(y, x)$: $\sigma(x, y)(dx^2 + dy^2) = \sigma(y, x)(dx^2 + dy^2)$, and $L_1 \leftrightarrow L_2$. Hence lengths of these curves coincide.

6 Consider half-plane model of 2-dimensional hyperbolic (Lobachevsky plane): metric

$$G = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}.$$

Coordinates x, y are conformal coordinates¹⁾. (see also questions 5c) and 5d) above).

a) Show that coordinates u, v such that

$$\begin{cases} x = u^2 - v^2 \\ y = 2uv \end{cases},$$

are conformal coordinates¹⁾.

b) Are polar coordinates r, φ , $\begin{cases} x = r \cos \varphi \\ y = r \sin \varphi \end{cases}$ conformal coordinates?

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2} &= \frac{[d(u^2 - v^2)]^2 + [d(2uv)]^2}{4u^2v^2} = \frac{(2udu - 2v dv)^2 + (2udv + 2v du)^2}{4u^2v^2} = \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{u^2} + \frac{1}{v^2} \right) (du^2 + dv^2), \end{aligned}$$

i.e. these coordinates are conformal. Another solution

$$x + iy = z = (u^2 - v^2) + 2iuv = (u + iv)^2 = w^2$$

This is a holomorphic function, hence new coordinates are conformal also:

$$G = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2} = \frac{4dzd\bar{z}}{(z - \bar{z})} =$$

hence for arbitrary holomorphic function $z = f(w)$

$$G = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2} = \frac{4dzd\bar{z}}{(z - \bar{z})} = \frac{4f_w \bar{f}_{\bar{w}} dw d\bar{w}}{(f(w) - \bar{f}(\bar{w}))}.$$

Now check straightforwardly that polar coordinates are not conformal:

$$\frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2} = \frac{(d(r \cos \varphi))^2 + (d(r \sin \varphi))^2}{r^2 \sin^2 \varphi} = \frac{dr^2 + r^2 d\varphi^2}{r^2 \sin^2 \varphi} = \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \varphi} dr^2 + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \varphi} d\varphi^2.$$

¹⁾ coordinates u, v are conformal (isothermic) if Riemannian metric has appearance $\sigma(u, v)(du^2 + dv^2)$ in these coordinates. E.g. coordinates in (1) are conformal coordinates.

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