

• LEVI-CIVITA CONNECTION

Defⁿ: Let ∇ be a linear connection on (M, g) .

1) We say ∇ is compatible with the metric g if $\forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$,

$$Zg(X, Y) = g(\nabla_Z X, Y) + g(X, \nabla_Z Y).$$

$$(\Leftrightarrow dg(X, Y) = g(d_\nabla X, Y) + g(X, d_\nabla Y)).$$

2) We say ∇ is symmetric if $\forall X, Y \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$

$$\mathcal{T}(X, Y) := \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X - [X, Y] \equiv 0.$$

Rk 1) ∇ being metric compatible $\Leftrightarrow \nabla g \equiv 0$.

To see this, note that for any $X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$,

$$\nabla_Z g(X, Y) = Zg(X, Y) - g(\nabla_Z X, Y) - g(X, \nabla_Z Y).$$

2) \mathcal{T} defines a tensor. i.e. $\mathcal{T}: \mathcal{T}'(M) \times \mathcal{T}'(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}'(M)$ is $C^\infty(M)$ -bilinear. We can interpret $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} \in \mathcal{T}'_2(M)$

by setting

$$\tilde{\mathcal{T}}(X_1, X_2, \omega') = \omega'(\mathcal{T}(X_1, X_2))$$

Th^m 6.1 / Defⁿ (Fundamental Theorem of Riemannian geom). On any (M, g) , \exists a unique symmetric metric compatible connection ∇ , called the Levi-Civita connection.

Pf. Uniqueness Sp. \exists such a connection ∇ ⁽²⁾

Then $\nabla g = 0 \Rightarrow \forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$,

$$Xg(Y, Z) = g(\nabla_X Y, Z) + g(Y, \nabla_X Z) \quad (1)$$

$$Yg(Z, X) = g(\nabla_Y Z, X) + g(Z, \nabla_Y X) \quad (2)$$

$$Zg(X, Y) = g(\nabla_Z X, Y) + g(X, \nabla_Z Y) \quad (3)$$

Adding (1) + (2) - (3), & using symmetry of ∇ & g .

$$\begin{aligned} Xg(Y, Z) + Yg(Z, X) - Zg(X, Y) \\ = 2g(\nabla_X Y, Z) - g([X, Y], Z) + g([X, Z], Y) \\ + g([Y, Z], X). \end{aligned}$$

So $2g(\nabla_X Y, Z) = Xg(Y, Z) + Yg(X, Z) - Zg(X, Y) - g(Y, [X, Z]) - g(X, [Y, Z]) + g(Z, [X, Y])$

Koszul-formula.

Since g is non-degenerate if ∇' is another such connection, then $\nabla_X Y = \nabla'_X Y \forall X, Y$.

Existence: Given $X, Y \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$, define

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \cdot \omega_{X, Y}(Z) = Xg(Y, Z) + Yg(X, Z) - Zg(X, Y) \\ - g(Y, [X, Z]) - g(X, [Y, Z]) + g(Z, [X, Y]) \end{aligned}$$

Claim: $\omega_{X, Y} \in \mathcal{T}_1(M) (\Leftrightarrow \omega_{X, Y}(f \cdot Z) = f \cdot \omega_{X, Y}(Z))$

Pf: Follows from the fact that

$$[X, fZ] = X(f) \cdot Z + f \cdot [X, Z]$$

$$[Y, fZ] = Y(f) \cdot Z + f \cdot [Y, Z]$$

$$Xg(Y, fZ) = X(f) \cdot g(Y, Z) + f \cdot Xg(Y, Z) \quad (3)$$

$$Yg(X, fZ) = Y(f) \cdot g(X, Z) + f \cdot Yg(X, Z)$$

and a simple calculation

We then define $\nabla_X Y \equiv \omega_{X,Y}^\#$. Note that ∇ satisfies the Koszul formula (as it must)

In particular if $f \in C^\infty(M)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 2g(\nabla_X fY, Z) &= X(f) \cdot g(Y, Z) + f Xg(Y, Z) \\ &\quad + f Yg(X, Z) - \cancel{Z(f)g(X, Y)} - f Zg(X, Y) \\ &\quad - f g(Y, [X, Z]) - f g(X, [Y, Z]) \\ &\quad + \cancel{Z(f)g(X, Y)} + X(f)g(Z, Y) + f g(Z, [X, Y]) \\ &= 2X(f)g(Y, Z) + 2f g(\nabla_X Y, Z) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } 2g(\nabla_X fY - X(f)Y - f \nabla_X Y, Z) = 0 \quad \forall Z$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_X(fY) = X(f)Y + f \nabla_X Y$$

Properties C1, C2 are similarly proved. So ∇ defines a linear connection on M . Metric compatibility & symmetry are also similarly verified using Koszul formula.

2k: The Christoffel symbols of a Levi-Civita connection are denoted by $\Gamma_{ij}^k = \langle dx^k, \nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_j \rangle$.

i.e.

$$\nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_j = \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k$$

Symmetry $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma_{ij}^k = \Gamma_{ji}^k$ (since $[\partial_i, \partial_j] = 0$) ⁽⁴⁾

Applying the Koszul formula to $X = \partial_i, Y = \partial_j, Z = \partial_e$, and setting $\partial_i g_{je} = g_{je;i}$ etc,

$$2 \Gamma_{ij}^k g_{ke} = g_{je;i} + g_{ie;j} - g_{ij;e}.$$

So
$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{ke} (g_{je;i} + g_{ie;j} - g_{ij;e}).$$

Example On \mathbb{R}^n , we have the trivial connection

$$\bar{\nabla}_X Y = X^i \partial_i Y^j \cdot \hat{e}_j$$

where $\{\hat{e}_j\}$ are the st. basis vector of \mathbb{R}^n

Clearly $\bar{\nabla}$ is $g_{\mathbb{R}^n}$ -compatible & symmetric.

So $\bar{\nabla}$ is the Levi-Civita connection on $(\mathbb{R}^n, g_{\mathbb{R}^n})$

Prop 6.2: Let (M, g) be a Riemannian sub-mfld. of (N, h) . Let ∇_N, ∇_M be the Levi-Civita connections on M & N . Let X, Y be vector fields on M & let \tilde{X}, \tilde{Y} be any extensions to vector fields on N . Then for any $p \in M$,

$$((\nabla_M)_X Y)_p = ((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{X}} \tilde{Y})_p^T$$

where for any $v \in T_p N$, v^T is the orthogonal projection to $T_p M$.

Pf: Define $(\nabla^T)_x Y = ((\nabla_N)_x \tilde{Y})^T$. We have seen ③
 earlier that ∇^T is a connection on M , (in fact
 this works for any projection, not necessarily
 orthogonal).

Claim 1 ∇^T is symmetric

Pf: $\mathcal{T}_{\nabla^T}(X, Y) = (\nabla^T)_X Y - \nabla^T_Y X - [X, Y]$
 $= ((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{X}} \tilde{Y} - (\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Y}} \tilde{X} - [\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}])^T$
 $= 0$ since $[X, Y] = [\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ & ∇_N
 is symmetric.

Claim 2: $\nabla^T g \equiv 0$

Pf: let $X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{T}^1(M)$ & $\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}, \tilde{Z}$ their extension
 At $p \in M$,
 $\mathcal{L} g(X, Y) = g(\nabla_Z^T X, Y) - g(X, \nabla_Z^T Y)$
 $= \tilde{Z} h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) - g((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} \tilde{X})^T, Y) - g(X, ((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} \tilde{Y})^T)$

At p , since T is an orthogonal projection,

$$g_p((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} \tilde{X})_p^T, Y_p) = h_p((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}_p} \tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})$$

$$g_p(X_p, ((\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} \tilde{Y})_p^T) = h(\tilde{X}, (\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} \tilde{Y})$$

So $\nabla_Z^T g(X, Y) = (\nabla_N)_{\tilde{Z}} h(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}) = 0$

since ∇_N is h -compatible.

So ∇^T is the Levi-Civita connection on (M, g) .

Uniqueness $\implies \nabla^T \equiv \nabla_M$.

Prop 6.3 (Naturality) Sp. $\varphi: (M, g) \rightarrow (\tilde{M}, \tilde{g})$ is an isometry. If ∇ and $\tilde{\nabla}$ are the resp. Levi-Civita connections, then for any $X, Y \in \mathcal{T}'(M)$

$$\varphi_*(\nabla_X Y) = \tilde{\nabla}_{\varphi_* X} \varphi_* Y.$$

In particular if $r: I \rightarrow M$ is a C^1 -curve & X is a v.f. along r , then

$$\varphi_* D_t X = \tilde{D}_t (\varphi_* X).$$

Pf: Check that $\varphi_*^{-1} \tilde{\nabla}_{\varphi_* X} \varphi_* Y$ is a Levi-Civita connection on M , and hence must be ∇ .

PARALLEL TRANSPORT WITH LEVI-CIVITA CONNECTION

Prop 6.4 Let (M, g) be a Riemannian mfd, & ∇ be the Levi-Civita connection. If $r: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a C^1 -curve, then $P_{r(t_0), t}: T_{r(t_0)} M \rightarrow T_{r(t)} M$ the \parallel -transport map, is an isometry.

Pf: Let $v, w \in T_{r(t_0)} M$ & $v(t) = P_{r(t_0), t} v$,

$w(t) = P_{r(t_0), t} w$. Since $\nabla g \equiv 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle v(t), w(t) \rangle = \langle D_t v, w \rangle + \langle v, D_t w \rangle$$

Since $v(t), w(t)$ are \parallel -along r , $D_t v, D_t w = 0$.

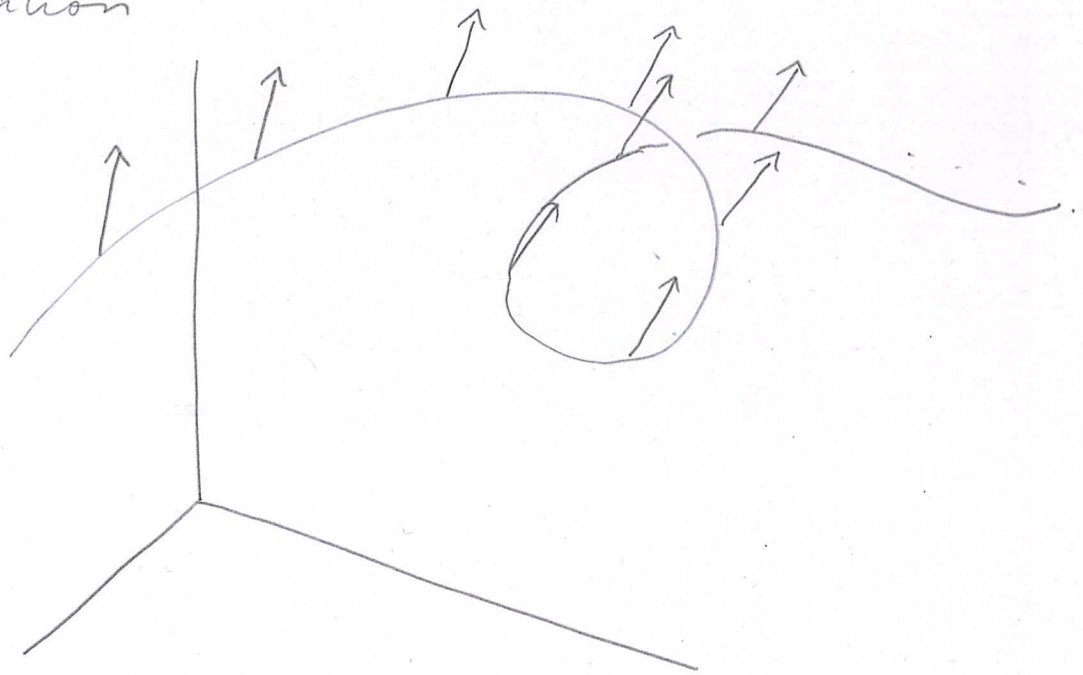
So $\langle v(t), w(t) \rangle = \text{constant}$. In particular

$$\langle P_{r(t_0), t} v, P_{r(t_0), t} w \rangle_{r(t)} = \langle v, w \rangle_{r(t_0)}.$$

Examples 1) parallel transport in \mathbb{R}^n : let $\gamma(t)$ be a C^1 curve in \mathbb{R}^n & $\vec{v} \in T_{\gamma(t)} \mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^n$. If $\dot{\vec{v}}(t) = P_{\gamma(t_0, t} \vec{v}$ then since $\Gamma_{ij}^k \equiv 0$, & $\vec{v}(t)$ is parallel \iff

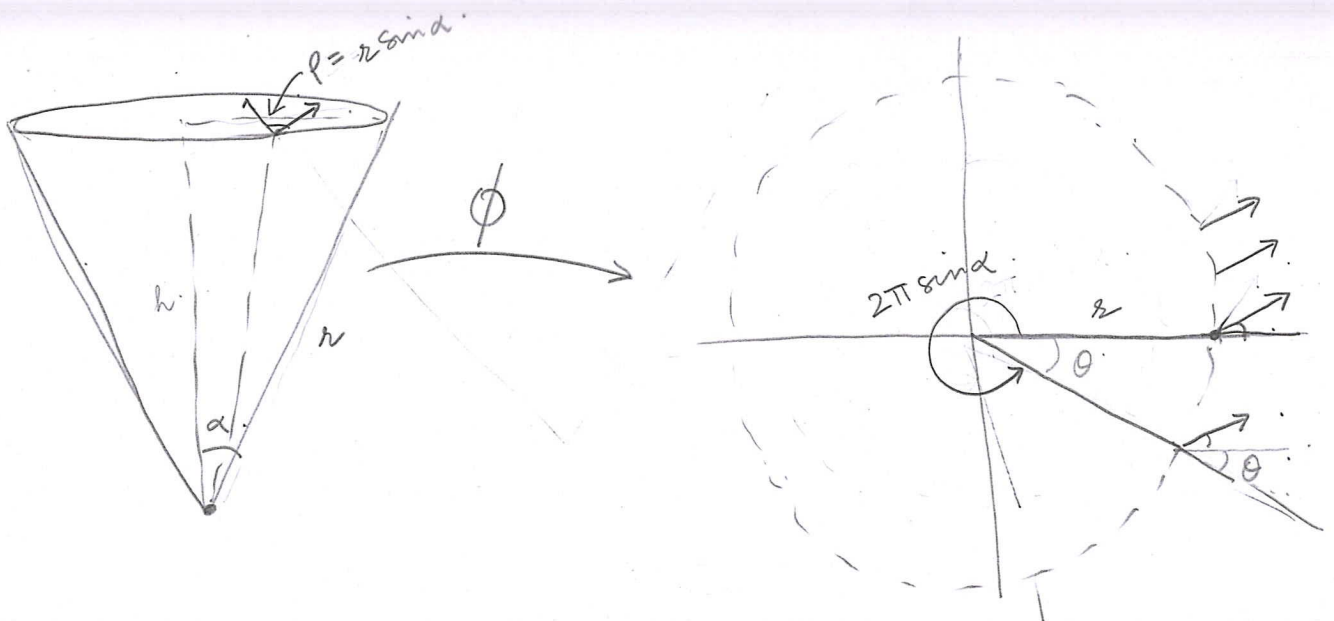
$$\dot{v}^k(t) = 0$$

So $v^k(t) = v^k \forall t$. i.e. parallel transport in \mathbb{R}^n is translation



2) parallel transport around cone. For $\alpha \in (0, \pi/2)$, define

$$C_\alpha = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 = z^2 \tan^2 \alpha, z > 0\}$$



The $C_\alpha \setminus \{(0,0,0)\}$ is isometric to a sector in \mathbb{R}^2 of angle $2\pi \sin \alpha$. The vector v at $r(t_0)$.

Let $r: [0,1] \rightarrow C_\alpha$ be a circle $z = h$ on C_α . If $v \in T_{r(t_0)} C_\alpha$.

Then, one can compute \parallel -transport by transporting the problem to \mathbb{R}^2 . If v makes angle β

w.r.t the radial line, then $P_{r,0,1}(v)$ makes

the angle $\beta - 2\pi\theta$ (see figure). So angle bet-

ween v & $P_{r,0,1}(v)$ is $2\pi\theta = 2\pi(1 - \sin \alpha)$.