

## Parallel Translation:

We first describe  $\parallel$ -translation along geodesics

Defn:  $X = X^i \underline{x}_i$  is a vector field

on  $M$  if  $X^i = X^i(u^1, u^2)$  is a smooth function.

Defn: a vector field is parallel along a geodesic  $\gamma(s)$  if the length of  $X$  is constant along  $\gamma(s)$ , and

$X(\gamma'(s), \gamma''(s))$  maintains a constant angle with the tangent vector  $T$ .

Conclude  $\circ$   $T = \dot{\gamma}(s)$  is parallel along geodesic  $\gamma(s)$ .

$\circ$  Let  $\dot{X} = \frac{d}{ds} X(s) = \frac{d}{ds} [X^i(s) \underline{x}_i(s)]$  viewed as vector deriv in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

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Lemma ①:  $X$  is parallel along  $\gamma$  (a geodesic) iff  $\dot{X}$  is parallel to  $\vec{n}$  (no tangential change in  $X$  along  $\gamma$ ).

Proof: If  $X = T$  along  $\gamma(s)$ , then clearly

$$\dot{X} = \dot{T} = \kappa N = \kappa_n \vec{n} \quad (\gamma \text{ is geodesic}) \text{ so}$$

then  $\dot{X}$  is parallel to  $\vec{n}$ . Assume

$X \neq T$ . Then  $X \parallel$  along  $\gamma \Rightarrow$

$$\rightarrow (2) 0 = \frac{d}{ds} \langle X, T \rangle = \langle \dot{X}, T \rangle + \langle X, \dot{T} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{X} \perp T \text{ along } \gamma$$

$$\downarrow (1) 0 = \frac{d}{ds} \langle X, X \rangle = 2 \langle \dot{X}, X \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{X} \perp X \text{ along } \gamma$$

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$\therefore \dot{X}$  is parallel to  $\vec{n}$ .

(3)

Conversely: If  $\dot{X}$  is parallel to  $\vec{n}$ ,  
then

$$(1) 0 = 2 \langle \dot{X}, X \rangle = \frac{d}{ds} \langle X, X \rangle = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  length of  $X$  is constant

$$(2) 0 = \langle \dot{X}, T \rangle + \langle X, \dot{T} \rangle = \frac{d}{ds} \langle X, T \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle X, T \rangle = \|X\| \|T\| \cos \theta = \cos \theta = \text{const}$$

$\Rightarrow X$  maintains a const angle with  $\dot{\gamma} = T$ .

Defn:  $X$  is  $\parallel$  along an arbitrary  
curve  $\gamma(s)$  iff  $\dot{X}$  is parallel to  $\Omega$ .

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Note:  $X = X^k \underset{\sim}{x}_k$  so along  $\gamma(s)$ ,  $X = X^k(s) \underset{\sim}{x}_k(s) = X(\gamma(s))$ .

$$\text{Let } \dot{X} = \frac{d}{ds} (X^k \underset{\sim}{x}_k) = \dot{X}^k \underset{\sim}{x}_k + X^k \underset{\sim}{x}_{ke} \dot{\gamma}^e$$

where  $\dot{X}^k \equiv \frac{d}{ds} X^k(s)$  (derivative of the component!)

Theorem:  $X$  is parallel along ~~geodesic~~ <sup>Curve</sup>  $\gamma$  iff

$$\frac{dx^k}{dt} + \Gamma_{ij}^k \dot{\gamma}^i X^j = 0,$$

$$X = X^k \underline{x}_k$$

Proof:  $X$  is  $\parallel$  along  $\gamma(s)$  iff

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle \dot{X}, \underline{x}_i \rangle = \langle \dot{X}^j \underline{x}_j, \underline{x}_i \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle X^j \dot{\underline{x}}_j, \underline{x}_i \rangle \\ &= \dot{X}^j g_{ji} + X^j \langle \underline{x}_{je} \dot{\gamma}^e, \underline{x}_i \rangle \\ &= \dot{X}^j g_{ji} + X^j \dot{\gamma}^e \langle \underline{x}_{je}, \underline{x}_i \rangle \end{aligned}$$

But:  $\underline{x}_{je} = h_{je} \underline{n} + \Gamma_{je}^k \underline{x}_k$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \underline{x}_{je}, \underline{x}_i \rangle = \Gamma_{je}^k \langle \underline{x}_k, \underline{x}_i \rangle = \Gamma_{je}^k g_{ki}$$

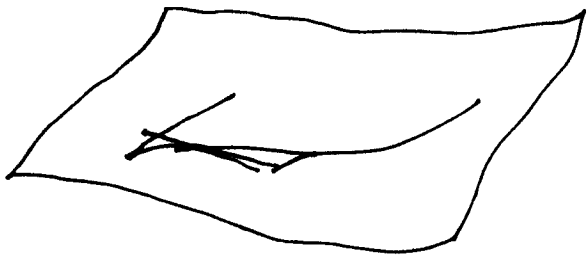
$$\Rightarrow 0 = \dot{X}^i g_{ji} + X^j \dot{\gamma}^l \Gamma_{jl}^k g_{ki}$$

$$0 = \left( \dot{X}^k + X^j \dot{\gamma}^l \Gamma_{jl}^k \right) g_{ki}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\dot{X}^k + \Gamma_{jl}^k X^j \dot{\gamma}^l = 0}$$

"geodesic equation"

Note:  $\parallel$  translation along an arbitrary curve does not ~~in general~~ preserve the ~~the~~  $\angle$  betw  $T$  and  $X$ .



"approx by geodesic  
&  $\parallel$  translate."

Eq. flat space

Proposition Let  $\gamma(s)$  be an arbitrary curve, ~~and assume  $X$  &  $Y$  are parallel along  $\gamma$ .~~ and assume  $X$  &  $Y$  are parallel along  $\gamma$ . Then

- ① ~~Length of  $X$  &  $Y$  are const.~~ Length of  $X$  &  $Y$  are const.
- ② ~~angle betw  $X$  and  $Y$  is const.~~ angle betw  $X$  and  $Y$  is const.

check:  $\frac{d}{ds} \langle X, X \rangle = 0$  ✓

$\frac{d}{ds} \langle X, Y \rangle = 0$  ✓

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{X} \parallel \vec{n} \Rightarrow \\ \langle \dot{X}, X \rangle = 0 = \langle \dot{X}, Y \rangle \end{array} \right.$

Proposition  $\triangleleft$   $\gamma(s)$  is a geodesic iff

$T$  is parallel along  $\gamma$ .

Pf:  $T = \dot{\gamma} \parallel$  along  $\gamma(s) \Leftrightarrow X = \dot{\gamma}^i \underline{x}_i$  is  $\parallel$  along  $\gamma$

$$\ddot{\gamma}^k + \Gamma_{ij}^k \dot{\gamma}^i \dot{\gamma}^j = 0$$

the geodesic equation!

Pf of Prop ① : (direct -)

$$\frac{d}{ds} \langle X, Y \rangle = \frac{d}{ds} \langle X^k \tilde{x}_k, Y^i \tilde{x}_i \rangle$$

$$= \underbrace{\langle \dot{X}^k \tilde{x}_k + X^k \dot{\tilde{x}}_k, Y^i \tilde{x}_i \rangle}_{\text{I}} + \underbrace{\langle X^k \tilde{x}_k, \dot{Y}^i \tilde{x}_i + Y^i \dot{\tilde{x}}_i \rangle}_{\text{II}}$$

$$\text{I} = \langle \dot{X}^k \tilde{x}_k + X^k \dot{\tilde{x}}_k, Y^i \tilde{x}_i \rangle$$

$$= Y^i \dot{X}^k \underbrace{\langle \tilde{x}_k, \tilde{x}_i \rangle}_{g_{ki}} + X^k \dot{\tilde{x}}_k^j Y^i \underbrace{\langle \tilde{x}_k, \tilde{x}_i \rangle}_{\Gamma_{jl}^k g_{ki}}$$

$$= Y^i g_{ki} \left\{ \dot{X}^k + \Gamma_{jl}^k X^j \dot{\tilde{x}}^l \right\} = 0$$

$$\text{II} = 0 \quad (\text{interchange } X \text{ \& } Y!)$$

Q Covariant Derivative. Given vector field  $X$  and curve  $\gamma(s)$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = Y$ . Then  $X$  is  $\parallel$  along  $\gamma$  iff

$$\dot{X}^k + \Gamma_{j\ell}^k X^j \dot{\gamma}^\ell = 0.$$

Thus:  $\dot{X}^k + \Gamma_{j\ell}^k X^j \dot{\gamma}^\ell$  measures the rate at which  $X$  deviates from the vector  $X_{\parallel}$  which is  $\parallel$  along  $\gamma$ .

Defn:

$$\nabla_Y X = \dot{X}^k + \Gamma_{j\ell}^k X^j \dot{\gamma}^\ell$$

"Covariant Derivative of  $X$  in direction  $Y$ "  
= "rate at which  $X$  diverges from  $X_{\parallel}$  in direction  $Y$ "



Theorem:  $\nabla_Y X$  transforms like a  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ -<sup>(7)</sup> tensor, i.e. like a vector @ each point  $P \in M$

Pf  $X^k = \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} X^\alpha$  .  $Y^\beta = \frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial y^B} Y^B$  so

$$\nabla_Y X = \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} X^\alpha \right) + \Gamma_{ij}^k \left( \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} X^\alpha \right) \left( \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^B} Y^B \right)$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial y^B} \left( \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} \right) X^\alpha Y^B}_{\text{I}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} \dot{X}^\alpha + \Gamma_{ij}^k ( ) ( )}_{\text{II}}$$

$$\text{II} = \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} \left\{ \dot{X}^\alpha + \frac{\partial y^r}{\partial x^m} \Gamma_{ij}^m \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^B} X^\alpha Y^B \right\}$$

$$\text{I} = \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^\alpha} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial y^B} \left( \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} \right) X^\alpha Y^B \right\}$$

which gives

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$$\nabla_Y X = \frac{\partial X^k}{\partial y^r} \left\{ \dot{X}^r + \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^r X^\alpha Y^\beta \right\}$$

with

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^r = \underbrace{\frac{\partial y^r}{\partial x^k} \Gamma_{ij}^k \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^\beta}}_{\binom{1}{2}\text{-tensor}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial y^r}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\beta}}_{\text{2nd deriv correction}}$$

Lemma: this is exactly how  $\Gamma$  transforms!

(omit)

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Geodesics as curves that minimize length on  $M$ .

Thm: a curve  $\gamma(s)$  that minimizes the distance between two points on  $M$  satisfies

$$\ddot{\gamma}^{\ell} + \Gamma_{ij}^{\ell} \dot{\gamma}^i \dot{\gamma}^j = 0$$

$$\Gamma_{ij}^{\ell} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\ell\sigma} \{ g_{\sigma i, j} + g_{\sigma j, i} - g_{i j, \sigma} \}$$

Theorem (Euler-Lagrange) Let  $L(\dot{q}, q)$

be a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $q = (q^1, \dots, q^n)$ .

Let  $q(t) = (q_1(t), \dots, q_n(t))$  be a curve

st  $q(t_1) = q_1$ ,  $q(t_2) = q_2$  fixed. Then

if  $q(t)$  minimizes  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} L(\dot{q}(t), q(t)) dt$

among all curves taking  $q_1$  to  $q_2$ , then  $q(t)$  satisfies the Euler Lagrange equations:

$$(E-L) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

Ref: Spivak Vol  
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Cor: Let  $\gamma(t) = \underline{x}(\gamma^1(t), \gamma^2(t))$  be a curve on  $M$  that minimizes the distance

from  ~~$\underline{x}(\gamma^1(t), \gamma^2(t))$~~   $P_1 = \underline{x}(\gamma_1)$  to  $P_2 = \underline{x}(\gamma_2)$

Then  $(\gamma^1(t), \gamma^2(t)) = \underline{\gamma}(t)$  satisfies

$$\ddot{\gamma}^l + \Gamma_{ij}^l \dot{\gamma}^i \dot{\gamma}^j = 0$$

P.f. : A curve that minimizes the distance from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$ , minimizes the length

$$L_a^b = \int_{t_a}^{t_b} \sqrt{g_{ij}(x^1, x^2) \dot{x}^i \dot{x}^j} dt$$

It turns out that minimizers of  $L_a^b$  are exactly the minimizers of

$$E_a^b = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_a}^{t_b} g_{ij}(x^1, x^2) \dot{x}^i \dot{x}^j dt$$

(Spivak, Vol I p 440)

We show minimizers of  $E_a^b$  satisfy the geodesic equation. Here,  $q = (x^1, x^2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  
 $\dot{q} = (\dot{x}^1, \dot{x}^2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$L(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2} g_{ij} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j \quad q^i = y^i, \quad \dot{q}^i = \dot{y}^i \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q^k} = \frac{1}{2} g_{ij,k} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^k} = g_{ik} \dot{y}^i$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^k} = g_{il,k} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^l + g_{il} \ddot{y}^i$$

$$(E-L) \quad g_{il} \ddot{y}^i + g_{il,j} \dot{y}^j \dot{y}^i - \frac{1}{2} g_{ij,k} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow g_{il} \ddot{y}^i + \left\{ \frac{1}{2} g_{il,j} \dot{y}^j \dot{y}^i + \frac{1}{2} g_{ij,k} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j \right\}$$

mult by  $g^{kl}$  & sum on l:  $-\frac{1}{2} g_{ij,k} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j$

$$\ddot{y}^k + \frac{1}{2} g^{kl} \{ g_{il,j} + g_{jl,i} - g_{ij,k} \} \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j = 0$$

$$\ddot{y}^k + \Gamma_{ij}^k \dot{y}^i \dot{y}^j = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

Example: Let  $M$  be the 2-d plane  
 $ax + by + cz = d$ .

Consider the Monge patch  $x = u^1$   $y = u^2$

$$\underline{x}(u^1, u^2) = \left( u^1, u^2, \frac{d - au^1 - bu^2}{c} \right)$$

$$\underline{x}_1 = \left( 1, 0, -\frac{a}{c} \right)$$

$$\underline{x}_2 = \left( 0, 1, -\frac{b}{c} \right)$$

$$g_{ij} = \langle \underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_j \rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^2 & \frac{ab}{c^2} \\ \frac{ab}{c^2} & 1 + \left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^2 \end{bmatrix}_{ij}$$

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{\sigma k} \{ g_{i\sigma, j} + g_{j\sigma, i} - g_{ij, \sigma} \}$$

$$\equiv 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{geodesics: } \ddot{\gamma}^k = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \gamma^1(s) &= As + B_1 \\ \gamma^2(s) &= Bs + C_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma^1(s), \gamma^2(s)) = (A, B)s + (C_1, C_2) \text{ st line}$$

$$\gamma(s) = \underline{\gamma} (\gamma'(s), \gamma''(s))$$

$$= (As + C_1, Bs + C_2, \frac{d - a(As + C_1) - b(Bs + C_2)}{c})$$

$$= (A, B, \frac{-aA - bB}{c})s + (C_1, C_2, \frac{d - aC_1 - bC_2}{c})$$

a straight line ✓ (shortest dist betw two pts in plane is st. line.)