

GEODES ARE LOCALLY MINIMIZING, I

Last time: per. surfaces $f: A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2_{(s,t)} \rightarrow M$ ($df \neq 0$)

symmetry lemma: $\frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} = \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$

Gauss' Lemma: $\exp_p: B_\epsilon(0) \rightarrow B_\epsilon(p) \subseteq M$ normal ball



For $v \in B_\epsilon(0)$, $w \in T_v B_\epsilon(0) = T_p M$, then

$$g_{\exp_p v} (d_v \exp_p w, d_v \exp_p v) = g_p (w, v)$$

Pf: statement is linear in w . $w = w_1 + w_2$, $w_1 = \lambda v$, $w_2 \perp v$
 Enough to prove the statement for w_1 and w_2 separately.

• $w_1 = \lambda v$, enough to prove it for $w_1 = v$

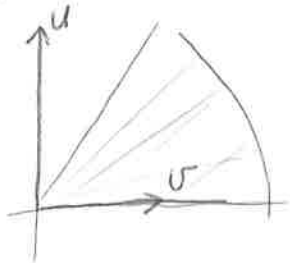
Recall: $\gamma(t) = \exp_p t v$ geod, and $\gamma'(t) = (d_{tv} \exp_p) v$

$$\Rightarrow g_{\exp_p v} (d_v \exp_p v, d_v \exp_p v) = \|\gamma'(1)\|^2 = \|\gamma'(0)\|^2 = g_p(v, v) \quad \checkmark$$

• $w_2 \perp v$, $w_2 = \lambda u$, $|u| = |v|$. Enough to prove statement for u :

$$g_{\exp_p v} (d_v \exp_p u, d_v \exp_p v) = 0$$

Take $T_p M$



$$f(s, t) = \exp_p^{t \cos s} (t(\cos s v + \sin s u))$$

$\rightarrow f(s, t)$ are all geodesics

$$d_v \exp_p u = \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(0, 1), \quad d_v \exp_p v = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(0, 1)$$

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle_{(0,t)} &= \left\langle \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}, \frac{D}{dt} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{D}{ds} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{ds} \underbrace{\left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\|^2}_{= \|v\|^2} = \nabla_{\gamma'} \gamma' = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \rangle (0, t) \equiv \text{cost}$. However

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \Big|_{(0, t)} = d_{(0, t)} \exp_p t u \Rightarrow \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right| \xrightarrow{t=0} 0 \Rightarrow \langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \rangle \xrightarrow{t=0} 0 \Rightarrow \text{cost} = 0. \quad \square$$

Prop. (geodesics locally minimize length)

$B = B_\varepsilon(p)$ geodesic ball $\gamma: \exp_p t u \leftrightarrow B: [0, 1] \rightarrow B$ geodesic btw $\gamma(0)=p$ and $\gamma(1)=q$.

$c: [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ curve w. $c(0)=p, c(1)=q$.

Then $l(\gamma) \leq l(c)$, with "=" iff $\text{Im}(c) = \text{Im}(\gamma)$.

Pf. Supp. first that $\text{Im}(c) \subseteq B$. $\bar{c}(t) = \exp_p^{-1} c(t)$

Can use "polar coordinates": $\bar{c}(t) = r(t) \cdot \nu(t)$,

$r(t) \in \mathbb{R}_+, \nu(t): [0, 1] \rightarrow S^{n-1} \quad (|\nu| = 1)$

$$c(t) = \exp_p r \cdot \nu \rightarrow c'(t) = d_{\bar{c}(t)} \exp(r' \cdot \nu + r \cdot \nu') = d_{r \cdot \nu} \exp(r' \nu + r \nu')$$

$$|c'(t)|^2 = \langle d_{r \cdot \nu} \exp r' \nu, d_{r \cdot \nu} \exp r' \nu \rangle + 2 \langle d_{r \cdot \nu} \exp r' \nu, d_{r \cdot \nu} \exp r \nu' \rangle + |d_{\exp_p} r \nu'|^2$$

$$= (r')^2 \cdot \langle \nu, \nu \rangle + 2 \langle r' \nu, r \nu' \rangle + |d_{\exp_p} r \nu'|^2$$

Grass: $\geq (r')^2$ with "=" iff $\nu \perp \nu'$

$$l(c) = \int_0^1 |c'(t)| dt \geq \int_0^1 r'(t) dt = r(1) - r(0) = r(1) = l(\gamma)$$

"=" iff $\nu'(t) \equiv 0 \Rightarrow \nu(t) \equiv \nu_0 \Rightarrow c(t) = \exp_p r(t) \cdot \nu_0$ and $r'(t) \geq 0 \forall t$

$$\Rightarrow c(t) = \gamma(r(t)) \Rightarrow \text{Im}(c) = \text{Im}(\gamma)$$

If $c(t)$ escapes B at $t=t_1 < 1 \Rightarrow l(c) > l(c|_{[0, t_1]}) \geq l(\gamma)$. \square

Recall: $U \ni p$ normal nbd for p , if $\exp_p: \exp_p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U$ is a diffeo.

