

# Advanced Topics in Geometry F (MTH.B502)

Sectional Curvature

Kotaro Yamada

`kotaro@math.titech.ac.jp`

<http://www.math.titech.ac.jp/~kotaro/class/2022/geom-f/>

Tokyo Institute of Technology

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# Sectional Curvature

## Definition (Definition 4.5)

Let  $\Pi_p \subset T_p M$  be a 2-dimensional linear subspace in  $T_p M$ . The sectional curvature of  $(M, g)$  with respect to the plane  $\Pi_p$  is a number

$$K(\Pi_p) := \underbrace{K(v \wedge w, v \wedge w)}_{\text{sectional curvature}},$$

where  $\{v, w\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\Pi_p$

$$K: \bigcup_p \underbrace{(2\text{-dim subspace of } T_p M)}_{\substack{\bigcup_p \text{Gr}_2(T_p M) \\ \parallel \\ \text{Gr}_2(TM)}}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

← 2-Grassmannian curvature

dim  $M = 2$

1 point       $K: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Gaussian curvature

# Curvature forms

- ▶  $(M, g)$ : a Riemannian  $n$ -manifold.
- ▶  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]$ : an orthonormal frame on  $U \subset M$ .
- ▶  $(\omega^j)$ : the dual frame  $\omega^i(e_k) = \delta_k^i$
- ▶  $\Omega = (\omega_i^j)$ : the connection form.
- ▶  $K = (\kappa_i^j) = d\Omega + \Omega \wedge \Omega$ : the curvature form.

$$d\omega^i = \sum_s \omega^s \wedge \omega_s^i,$$

$$\kappa_j^i = d\omega_j^i + \sum_s \omega_s^i \wedge \omega_j^s$$

# A bilinear form induced from the curvature form

$p \in U$ : fix

$$\mathbb{R}^k = \mathbb{R}_c(p)$$

$$K(\xi, \eta) := \sum_{i < j, k < l} \underbrace{\kappa_{ij}^j}_{\text{circled}} \underbrace{e_k, e_l}_{\text{wavy}} \underbrace{\xi^{kl}}_{\text{circled}} \underbrace{\eta^{ij}}_{\text{circled}} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\xi = \sum_{k < l} \xi^{kl} \underline{e_k \wedge e_l}, \quad \eta = \sum_{i < j} \eta^{ij} \underline{e_i \wedge e_j}.$$

$$\in \Lambda^2(T_p M)$$

►  $K$  is a bilinear form on  $\Lambda^2 T_p M$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j^i \theta_i^k = \delta^{jk}$$

independent of choice of  $[\theta_j^i]$

$$[e_1 \dots e_n] = [v_1 \dots v_n] \mathbb{A}$$

$$\mathbb{A} = (\theta_j^i) \in O(n) \quad ({}^t \mathbb{A} = \mathbb{A}^{-1})$$

# A bilinear form induced from the curvature form

$p \in U$ : fix

$$K(\xi, \eta) := \sum_{i < j, k < l} \kappa_i^j(e_k, e_l) \xi^{kl} \eta^{ij},$$

$$\xi = \sum_{k < l} \xi^{kl} e_k \wedge e_l, \quad \eta = \sum_{i < j} \eta^{ij} e_i \wedge e_j$$

Lemma (Lemma 4.4)

$K$  is symmetric.

$$K(\xi, \eta) = K(\eta, \xi)$$

$\Rightarrow K(\xi, \xi)$  determines  $K$   
diagonal components

$$\begin{aligned} & 2K(\xi, \eta) \\ &= K(\xi + \eta, \xi + \eta) \\ &\quad - K(\xi, \xi) - K(\eta, \eta) \end{aligned}$$

# Proof of Lemma 4.4 (1)

$$\kappa_s^i = d\omega_s^i + \sum_t \omega_t^i \wedge \omega_s^t$$

Proposition (The first Bianchi identity; Prop. 4.2)

$$\kappa_j^i(e_k, e_l) + \kappa_k^i(e_l, e_j) + \kappa_l^i(e_j, e_k) = 0.$$

$$d\omega^i = \sum_{s=1}^n \omega^s \wedge \omega_s^i$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= d d\omega^i = \sum (d\omega^s \wedge \omega_s^i - \omega^s \wedge d\omega_s^i) \\ &= \sum_{s,t} (\omega^t \wedge \omega_s^i - \omega^s \wedge \omega_t^i + \omega^s \wedge \omega_t^i - \omega_t^i \wedge \omega_s^i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_s \omega^s \wedge \kappa_s^i = 0$$

3 form

$(e_j, e_k, e_l)$

Rem

$$\kappa_j^i(e_k, e_l)$$

$$= \langle R(e_k, e_l)e_j, e^i \rangle$$

↑  
the Riemann curvature tensor

# Proof of Lemma 4.4 (2)

Corollary (Cor. 4.3)

$$\kappa_j^i(e_k, e_l) = \kappa_l^k(e_i, e_j).$$

$$\kappa_j^i = -\kappa_i^j$$

$$\kappa_j^i(e_k, e_l) + \kappa_k^i(e_l, e_j) + \kappa_l^i(e_j, e_k) = 0.$$

$$\kappa_k^i(e_i, e_l) + \kappa_l^i(e_l, e_k) + \kappa_l^i(e_k, e_i) = 0$$

$$+ \kappa_i^k(e_j, e_l) + \kappa_j^k(e_l, e_i) + \kappa_j^k(e_i, e_l) = 0$$

$$\kappa_j^k(e_k, e_l) + \kappa_l^k(e_l, e_j) + \kappa_l^k(e_j, e_k) = 0$$

... etc

## Proof of Lemma 4.4 (3)

$$K(\xi, \eta) := \sum_{i < j, k < l} \kappa_i^j(e_k, e_l) \xi^{kl} \eta^{ij}$$

Corollary (Cor. 4.3 )

$$\kappa_j^i(e_k, e_l) = \kappa_l^k(e_i, e_j).$$

Lemma (Lemma 4.4)

*K is symmetric.* }  
}

# Sectional Curvature

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where  $\{v, w\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\Pi_p$

## Exercise 4-1

### Problem (Ex. 4-1)

Consider a Riemannian metric

$$g = dr^2 + \{\varphi(r)\}^2 d\theta^2 \text{ on } U := \{(r, \theta); 0 < r < r_0, -\pi < \theta < \pi\},$$

where  $r_0 \in (0, +\infty]$  and  $\varphi$  is a positive smooth function defined on  $(0, r_0)$  with

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow +0} \varphi(r) = 0, \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow +0} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = 1.$$

Classify the function  $\varphi$  so that  $g$  is of constant sectional curvature.

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} K_1^2 = K \omega^1 \wedge \omega^2 \\ K_2^2? \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{sectional curvature} \end{array} \right)$$

## Exercise 4-2

### Problem (Ex. 4-2)

Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  be an embedded submanifold with the Riemannian metric induced from the canonical Euclidean metric of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Then the position vector  $\mathbf{x}(p)$  of  $p \in M$  induces a smooth map

$$\mathbf{x}: M \ni p \longmapsto \mathbf{x}(p) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1},$$

which is an  $(n+1)$ -tuple of  $C^\infty$ -functions. Let  $[e_1, \dots, e_n]$  be an orthonormal frame defined on a domain  $U \subset M$ . Since  $T_p M \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ , we can consider that  $e_j$  is a smooth map from  $U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Take a dual basis  $(\omega^j)$  to  $[e_j]$ . Prove that

$$d\mathbf{x} = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j \omega^j$$

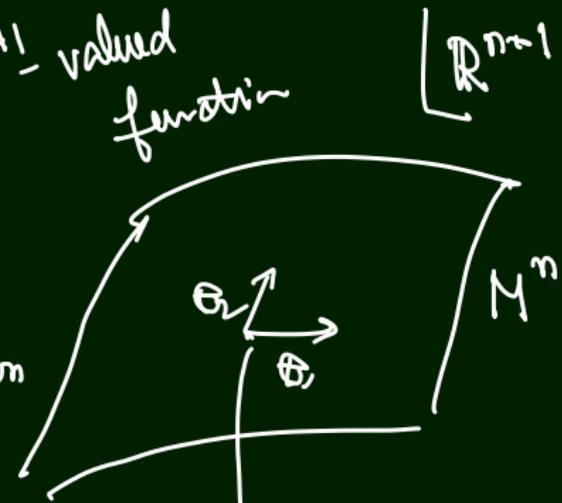
holds on  $U$ .



$\uparrow$   
 $(\omega^i \text{ dual basis})$

$\mathcal{X}$   
 immersion

$\checkmark$   $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ -valued function



$\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ -valued function on  $M$

$\checkmark$   $d\mathcal{X} = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega^i \Theta_i$

$\uparrow$   
 $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ -valued 1-form