

Homework 6

Calculate Christoffel symbols $\Gamma_{r\varphi}^r, \Gamma_{r\varphi}^\varphi, \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^r, \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\varphi$ of the flat connection ∇ on \mathbb{R}^2 in polar coordinates. Here

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial r}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} &= \Gamma_{r\varphi}^r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \Gamma_{r\varphi}^\varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \\ \nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} &= \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}.\end{aligned}$$

Solution: We know from before that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} = \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} = -r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cdot) \nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial r}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} &= \nabla_{(\cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y})} (-r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y}) \\ &= \cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-r \sin \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-r \sin \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad + \cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (r \cos \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (r \cos \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \textcircled{*}\end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned}r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, & \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} &= \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{x}{r} = \cos \varphi, & \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} &= \frac{y}{r} = \sin \varphi \\ \varphi &= \arctan \frac{y}{x}, & \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} &= \frac{-y/x^2}{1 + y^2/x^2} = -\frac{r \sin \varphi}{r^2} = -\frac{\sin \varphi}{r}, & & \\ & & \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} &= \frac{1/x}{1 + y^2/x^2} = \frac{r \cos \varphi}{r^2} = \frac{\cos \varphi}{r}\end{aligned} \right\} x > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\textcircled{*} &= \left[\cos \varphi \left(-\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \sin \varphi - r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right) + \sin \varphi \left(-\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \sin \varphi - r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad + \left[\cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \cos \varphi - r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right) + \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \cos \varphi - r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ &= \left[\cos \varphi (-\cos \varphi \sin \varphi + \cos \varphi \sin \varphi) + \sin \varphi (-\sin^2 \varphi - \cos^2 \varphi) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad + \left[\cos \varphi (\cos^2 \varphi + \sin^2 \varphi) + \sin \varphi (\sin \varphi \cos \varphi - \sin \varphi \cos \varphi) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ &= -\sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma_{r\varphi}^\varphi = \frac{1}{r}, \quad \Gamma_{r\varphi}^r = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cdot) \nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} &= \nabla_{(-r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y})} (-r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y}) \\ &= -r \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-r \sin \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + r \cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-r \sin \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad - r \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (r \cos \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + r \cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (r \cos \varphi) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \textcircled{*} \\ &= \left[-r \sin \varphi \left(-\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \sin \varphi - r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right) + r \cos \varphi \left(-\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \sin \varphi - r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad + \left[-r \sin \varphi \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \cos \varphi - r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right) + r \cos \varphi \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \cos \varphi - r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ &= \left[-r \sin \varphi (-\cos \varphi \sin \varphi + \cos \varphi \sin \varphi) + r \cos \varphi (-\sin^2 \varphi - \cos^2 \varphi) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ &\quad + \left[-r \sin \varphi (\cos^2 \varphi + \sin^2 \varphi) + r \cos \varphi (\sin \varphi \cos \varphi - \sin \varphi \cos \varphi) \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ &= -r \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - r \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = -r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^r = -r, \quad \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\varphi = 0\end{aligned}$$