

CONNECTIONS IN K-VECTOR BUNDLES

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Abstract: In the paper the affine theory of areal spaces is investigated. There is given a relationship between the positively homogeneous connections of the Grassmann cone bundle $Z^k \tau_M$ and those of the Whitney sum $\bigoplus^k \tau_M$ of order k . This method leads to a characterization of Riemannian metrizability of linear connections on a manifold.

1. Introduction: Area and areal spaces

In the usual differential geometric spaces the basic metrical notion is the arclength and the area of different dimensional submanifolds is a deduced concept only. (Differently from this, in an areal space [5, 6] the starting point is the area.) This is well known in Riemannian spaces V_n . In a Finsler space $F_n = (M, L)$ with an n dimensional base manifold and fundamental function L the area can be deduced in the following way [10, 13]. Let x^i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ be local coordinates on

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$U \subset M$ and y^i in the tangent space $T_{x_0}M$. Then $L(x_0, y) = 1$ is the indicatrix $I(x_0)$. $I(x)$, playing the role of the unit sphere, determines the norms of the vectors of T_xM , and thus makes T_xM into a finite dimensional Banach space, i.e. into a Minkowski space M_n . The solid body determined by I will be denoted by \mathcal{B} . Let $\Phi \subset M$ be a k -dimensional ($k < n$) submanifold of M given in local coordinates by $x^i = x^i(u^1, \dots, u^n)$ (u is taken from a parameter domain B) and $p(u)$ an infinitesimal surface element of Φ laying in the tangent space $\sigma \subset T_{x(u)}M$. Since Minkowski areas of domains D_1 and D_2 of the same dimension and laying in the same linear subspace of T_xM are related as their euclidean areas: $\|D_1\|_M : \|D_2\|_M = \|D_1\|_E : \|D_2\|_E$, where $\|\cdot\|_E$ is the euclidean area-measure in an arbitrary euclidean metric of T_xM [3], we have

$$(1) \quad \|p(u)\|_M : \|\mathcal{B} \cap \sigma\|_M = \|p(u)\|_E : \|\mathcal{B} \cap \sigma\|_E.$$

Since \mathcal{B} plays the role of the solid unit sphere (n -dimensional disk), it is quite natural to define $\|\mathcal{B} \cap \sigma\|$ as the value of the area of the k -dimensional sphere which will be denoted by $\omega^{(k)}$. Thus (1) can be considered as the definition of $\|p(u)\|_M$, for in (1) everything is defined except $\|p(u)\|_M$. Furthermore an F_n is infinitesimally an M_n . Hence the Finsler measure $\|p(u)\|_F$ of the infinitesimal $p(u)$ equals $\|p(u)\|_M$. Thus one can define for the Finsler measure of Φ

$$(2) \quad \|\Phi\|_F = \int_B \|p(u)\|_F du.$$

Other recent investigations touching upon Finsler area can be found in [1]. $\|p(u)\|_F$ depends on $I(x(u))$ and thus indirectly on the given fundamental function L . Hence the integrand in (2) can be expressed as $\bar{F}(x, p)$:

$$\|\Phi\|_F = \int_B \bar{F}(x(u), p(u)) du.$$

Finally it is clear that the function \bar{F} must be positively homogeneous of order one in p . We mean by λp a k -dimensional domain in σ such that $\|\lambda p\|_E = |\lambda| \cdot \|p\|_E$. Then as a consequence of (1) we obtain $\bar{F}(x, \lambda p) = |\lambda| \bar{F}(x, p)$.

An areal space $\mathcal{A}_n^{(k)}$ [5, 6] is locally a couple (M, F) of a manifold and a function

$$F: U \times GK_{n,k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+, \quad (x, p) \mapsto F(x, p), \quad U \subset M$$

positively homogeneous of order one in p , where $GK_{n,k}$ means the Grassmann cone [2, 9], whose elements can be represented as paral-
lelotops \mathcal{P} spanned by k vectors $v^1, \dots, v^k \in \sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, where σ is a
 k -dimensional linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . p can be expressed in form of a
 k -vektor as $p = v^1 \wedge \dots \wedge v^k$. $\{\sigma\}$ is the total space of the Grassmann
manifold $G_{n,k}$ [14, 2]. – Then the areal measure $\|\Phi\|_A$ of Φ is defined
by [5, 6, 12]

$$\|\Phi\|_A = \int_B F(x(u), p(u)) du,$$

where $p = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u^1} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{\partial x}{\partial u^k}$. We remark that $F(x, p)$, and thus the area
measure of an $\mathcal{A}_n^{(k)}$ cannot be deduced in general from a Finsler space
 F_n ([11]). This means that areal spaces are more general than Finsler
spaces with respect to area measuring.

2. Connections in $\mathcal{A}_n^{(k)}$ and in vector bundles

1. The role of the vectors of a Riemannian or Finsler geometry
is taken over in an $\mathcal{A}_n^{(k)}$ by the elements of $GK_{n,k}$. Thus connections
of areal spaces can and must be defined in the fibre bundle, called the
Grassmann cone bundle of M

$$Z^k \tau_M = (Z^k TM, \bar{\pi}, GK_{n,k}, M)$$

where $Z^k TM$ is the total space, $\bar{\pi}$ is the projection operator, $GK_{n,k}$ is
the typical fibre and M is the base manifold.

Unfortunately, $GK_{n,k}$ is no vector space and this can make much
inconvenience. We want to show that a homogeneous nonlinear con-
nection $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ of $Z^k \tau_M$ [4, 8] can be identified with a certain special
homogeneous nonlinear connection H_k on a vector bundle, the k -
Whitney sum of the tangent bundle τ_M

$${}^k \oplus \tau_M = ({}^k \oplus TM, \pi, \mathbb{R}^{kn}, M)$$

with a $k \cdot n$ dimensional vector space as fibre over the same base manifold
 M as $Z^k \tau_M$, and conversely, every such special H_k determines a
 $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$: $H_{Z^k \tau_M} \iff \text{spec } H_k$

$$H_{Z^k \tau_M} \iff \text{spec } H_k$$

A nonlinear connection H_k in ${}^k \oplus \tau_M$ is given by the splitting

$T_z E = V_z E \oplus H_z E$, $\bigoplus^k TM = E$, $z \in E$. Let x^i be local coordinates in $U \subset M$, then (x^i, y^a) , $i = 1, \dots, n$, $a = 1, \dots, kn$ are local coordinates of $z \in \pi^{-1}(U) \subset E$. Then $H_z E$ is spanned by

$$\delta_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} - N_i^a(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a}$$

where $N_i^a(x, y)$ are the connection coefficients. Positive homogeneity means that for $\mu_t: (x^i, y^a) \mapsto (x^i, ty^a)$

$$(d\mu_t)\delta_i(x, y) = \delta_i(x, ty)$$

which is equivalent with $N_i^a(x, ty) = tN_i^a(x, y)$.

2. Now let y be an element of $\pi^{-1}(x) \cong \mathbb{R}^{kn}$ with the components y^a , $a = 1, \dots, kn$ and let $\overset{\alpha}{v} \alpha = 1, \dots, k$ be k vectors in \mathbb{R}^n with components $\overset{\alpha}{v}^i = y^{(\alpha-1)n+i}$. Thus $y \leftrightarrow (\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{k}{v}) = \mathcal{P}$ which \mathcal{P} is a representation of a $p \in GK_{n,k}$. This representation can be considered as a mapping $\varrho: GK_{n,k} \rightarrow \{\mathcal{P}\}$. ϱ is multivalent and onto, while ϱ^{-1} is univalent. \mathcal{P}_1 and \mathcal{P}_2 are two representations of p , in signs: $\mathcal{P}_1 \sim \mathcal{P}_2$, iff A) they lay in the same k -dimensional linear subspace σ , and B) they have the same volume with the same sign. \sim is an equivalence relation. Thus each p can be identified with its equivalence class. The other elements of the equivalence class of a $y_0 = (\overset{1}{v}_0, \dots, \overset{k}{v}_0)$ are, because of A), $y = (\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{k}{v})$ with

$$(3) \quad \overset{\alpha}{v} = t_{\beta}^{\alpha} \overset{\beta}{v}_0, \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

and then, because of B)

$$\text{Det}|t_{\beta}^{\alpha}| = +1$$

Conversely, such transformations take an element of a class always into another element of the class. This means that any equivalence class is generated from one of its elements by special unimodular linear transformations sl . Their set is denoted by Sl , and by matrix multiplication Sl becomes a group. The whole class of y_0 is $Sl y_0$.

3. Our idea is the following. Given a linear connection H_k , $\oplus^k \tau_M$, it takes $y_0 \in \pi^{-1}(x)$ into a $\tilde{y}_0 \in \pi^{-1}(x + dx)$ and a $y \in Sl y_0$ into a \tilde{y} . If these \tilde{y} form also an equivalence class in $\pi^{-1}(x + dx)$, i.e. if also $\tilde{y} \in Sl \tilde{y}_0$ holds, then we obtain a $p(x) \rightarrow \tilde{p}(x + dx)$ and this determines a $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$. We want to obtain conditions for $\tilde{y} \in Sl \tilde{y}_0$.

Let $\gamma := x(t)$ be a curve in M , $z_0 = (x_0, y_0)$, $x_0 = x(t_0)$ an element of $\pi^{-1}(x_0)$ and $\tilde{z}_0(t) = (x(t), \tilde{y}_0(t))$ the parallel transport of z_0 along γ . If x_0 and $x_0 + dx$ are neighbouring points on γ , then $\tilde{y}^a - y_0^a = N_i^a(x_0, y_0) dx^i + o(dx)$ ($o(dx)$ means the terms of order higher than 1 in dx), i.e.

$$(4) \quad dy^a = N_i^a(x_0, y_0) dx^i$$

Conversely, if (5) holds everywhere along γ , then $\tilde{y}_0(t)$ is the parallel translated vector of y_0 .

Let be $y_0 = (\overset{1}{v}_0, \dots, \overset{k}{v}_0)$ and $y = (\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{k}{v}) \in Sl y_0$, moreover let $\tilde{y}_0 = (\overset{1}{\tilde{v}}_0, \dots, \overset{k}{\tilde{v}}_0)$ and $\tilde{y} = (\overset{1}{\tilde{v}}, \dots, \overset{k}{\tilde{v}})$ be their parallel translated from x_0 to $x_0 + dx$. Then in components

$$(5) \quad \overset{\alpha j}{\tilde{v}}_0 = \overset{\alpha j}{v}_0 + N_i^{(\alpha-1)n+j}(x_0, y_0) dx^i + o(dx)$$

$$(6) \quad \overset{\alpha j}{\tilde{v}} = \overset{\alpha j}{v} + N_i^{(\alpha-1)n+j}(x_0, y) dx^i + o(dx),$$

where $\overset{\alpha j}{\tilde{v}}_0$ is the j -th component of the vector $\overset{\alpha}{\tilde{v}}_0$.

Since $\tilde{y} \in Sl \tilde{y}_0$, we obtain $\overset{\alpha}{\tilde{v}} = s_{\beta}^{\alpha} \overset{\beta}{\tilde{v}}_0$ with $\text{Det}|t_{\beta}^{\alpha}| = 1$. s_{β}^{α} depends on x_0 and dx . Therefore

$$s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0 + dx) = s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0) + s_{\beta i}^{\alpha} dx^i + o(dx)$$

where $s_{\beta i}^{\alpha}$ are the partial derivatives of s_{β}^{α} at x_0 . In components

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} \overset{\alpha j}{\tilde{v}} &= \overset{\alpha j}{v} + N_i^{(\alpha-1)n+j}(x_0, y) dx^i + o(dx) = \\ &= s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0 + dx) \left(\overset{\beta j}{v}_0 + N_i^{(\beta-1)n+j}(x_0, y_0) dx^i + o(dx) \right) = \\ &= s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0 + dx) \overset{\beta j}{\tilde{v}}_0 \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} &(\overset{\alpha j}{v} - (s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0) + s_{\beta i}^{\alpha} dx^i) \overset{\beta j}{v}_0) + (N_i^{(\alpha-1)n+j}(x_0, y_0) - \\ &-(s_{\beta}^{\alpha}(x_0) + s_{\beta i}^{\alpha} dx^i) N_i^{(\beta-1)n+j}(x_0, y_0)) dx^i + o(dx) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

These must hold on any curve starting from x , i.e. (6)–(8) must hold for any dx . Then (8) yields $\overset{\alpha j}{v} = s_{\beta}^{\alpha} \overset{\beta j}{v}_0$. Comparing this with (3) we obtain

$$(9) \quad s_{\beta}^{\alpha} = t_{\beta}^{\alpha}.$$

In view of this we get from (8) that

$$(10) \quad N_i^{(\alpha-1)n+j}(x, y) = t_\beta^\alpha N_i^{(\beta-1)n+j}(x, y_0) + s_{\beta i}^\alpha v_0^{\beta j} \quad \forall x, \forall v^\alpha = t_\beta^\alpha v_0$$

We obtained that if H_k preserves equivalence classes then N_i^α must satisfy (10) with $\text{Det}|t_\beta^\alpha| = +1$ and with some $(s_{\beta i}^\alpha)$.

We show that (10) also suffices for this. First we recall that \tilde{v}_0^α and \tilde{v} are parallel translated vectors of v_0^α and v resp. iff (6) holds up to terms linear in dx (up to $o(dx)$). Therefore, concerning parallelity the last terms in (5–8) are unimportant if these equations hold otherwise for any x and dx . Now from (3), (9) and (10) follow (7) and (5) up to linear terms in dx , and this means that $\tilde{y} \in Sl\tilde{y}_0$. Thus we have obtained

Proposition. H_k preserves equivalence classes defined by Sl iff its connection coefficients $N^\alpha(x, y)$ satisfy (10).

Such H_k are called special and will be denoted by $\text{sp } H_k$. We show that any $\text{sp } H_k$ determines a homogeneous $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$, and conversely.

$p \in GK_{n,k}$ can be considered as a simple p -vector (see [9]) $p = \tilde{v}_0^1 \wedge \dots \wedge \tilde{v}_0^k = \tilde{v}^1 \wedge \dots \wedge \tilde{v}^k$. Then $p^{j_1 \dots j_k}$ is the value of the $k \times k$ determinant formed from the j_1 -th, ..., j_k -th columns of the $n \times k$ matrix (\tilde{v}^j) . These $p^{j_1 \dots j_k}$ are the components of the simple k -vector p and represent local coordinates for p over a neighborhood $U_p \subset GK_{n,k}$. $\tilde{p} = \tilde{v}_0^1 \wedge \dots \wedge \tilde{v}_0^k = \tilde{v}^1 \wedge \dots \wedge \tilde{v}^k = (\tilde{v}^1 + d\tilde{v}^1) \wedge \dots \wedge (\tilde{v}^k + d\tilde{v}^k) = p + dp(x, dx) + o(dx)$, where dp is linear in dx . $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ is defined by these dp which depend on $d\tilde{v}^\alpha$, and so on the given $\text{sp } H_k$. We also show that $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ determined by a $\text{sp } H_k$ is a homogeneous connection. This is true if $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ takes tp into $t\tilde{p}$ supposed that it takes p into \tilde{p} . We know that the representation ϱ is homogeneous, i.e. ty_0 is a representation of tp : $\varrho^{-1}(ty_0) = tp$ provided $\varrho^{-1}(y_0) = p$. Then $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ takes tp into $\varrho^{-1}(t\tilde{y}_0)$ which is $\varrho^{-1}(t\tilde{y}_0)$ because of the homogeneity of ϱ .

Conversely, also a positively homogeneous connection $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ in $Z^k \tau_M$ determines a special connection in $\oplus^k \tau_M$. Really, given a curve $\gamma : x(t) \subset M$ the $H_{Z^k \tau_M}$ determines the parallel translated $p(x(t)) =$

$= p(t)$ of a $p(t_0) \in \bar{\pi}^{-1}(x(t_0))$. Then $p(t) = \overset{1}{v}(t) \wedge \dots \wedge \overset{k}{v}(t)$, hence $\varrho(p(t)) = z(t) = (\overset{1}{v}(t), \dots, \overset{k}{v}(t))$ means curves in $\overset{k}{\oplus}TM$ through each $z_0 = (\overset{1}{v}(0), \dots, \overset{k}{v}(0)) \in \varrho(p(t_0))$. These $z(t)$ form an equivalence class in $\pi^{-1}(x(t))$. Considering n curves $\gamma_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ having linearly independent tangents $\dot{\gamma}_i(t_0)$, we get through any z_0 n curves $z_i(t)$. Their tangents are never vertical and span up a linear n -dimensional subspace in $T_{z_0}(\overset{k}{\oplus}TM)$ which can be considered as horizontal subspace of $T_{z_0}E$. Performing this for each x and z we obtain a positively homogeneous connection in $\overset{k}{\oplus}\tau_M$. This connection takes equivalence classes into equivalence classes. Hence it is a special connection $\text{sp } H_k$, $\overset{\oplus\tau_M}{}$ and thus its connection coefficients satisfy (9). Moreover this special connection of $\overset{k}{\oplus}\tau_M$ induces the given connection of $Z^k\tau_M$.

Theorem 1. *A positively homogeneous connection $H_{Z^k\tau_M}$ is equivalent in the considered representation of $GK_{n,k}$ with a special vector bundle connection H_k which satisfies (10) and so preserves certain equivalence classes.*

3. Riemannian metrizable of symmetrical linear connections

We apply the ideas of the previous section in order to investigate the Riemann-metrizability of a linear connection Γ without torsion.

A torsion free linear connection Γ on a manifold M is called *metrizable* if there is at least one covariant constant, symmetrical, positive definite 2-form g ; in local coordinates: there exists a $g_{ij}(x)$ such that $g_{ij}(x) = g_{ji}(x)$, $g_{ij}(x)\xi^i\xi^j > 0 \forall \xi \neq 0$, and $\nabla_k g_{ij} = 0$. This is equivalent with the existence of a field of ellipsoids $g_{ij}(x)\xi^i\xi^j = 1$ in the tangent spaces denoted by $I(x)$ and called indicatrices which are absolute parallel, i.e. the parallel translation of an $I(x_0)$ along any curve to x yields $I(x)$.

$I(x)$ is determined by n conjugate diameters which can be replaced by n linearly independent vectors $\overset{\alpha}{v} \alpha = 1, \dots, n$ showing from the origin to an endpoint of a diameter. The parallel displaced $\overset{\alpha}{v}(x, \gamma)$ of these $\overset{\alpha}{v}$ from x_0 to an arbitrary x along a curve γ form in general,

even in the case of a metrical Γ , no absolute parallel vector fields, but they always form conjugate axes of ellipsoids depending on γ and x . However in a metrical connection Γ these ellipsoids are the same at one point, they depend on the point x and are independent of the curve γ ; and conversely, if the ellipsoids determined by the parallel displaced of $\overset{\alpha}{v}$ depend on x alone, then Γ is metrizable, and the $g_{ik}(x)$ sought for are the coefficients in the equation $g_{ik}(x)\xi^i\xi^k = 1$.

Given Γ , in a local coordinate system by $\Gamma_{jk}^i(x)$, consider the vector bundle $\overset{n}{\oplus}\tau_M = (\overset{n}{\oplus}TM, \pi, \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot n}, M)$ and the connection $H_{\overset{n}{\oplus}\tau_M}^n$ with local coefficients

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} N_i^a(x, y) &:= \Gamma_p^r{}_i(x)v^{kP} \quad a = 1, \dots, n^2 \\ a &= (k-1)n + r, \quad i, p, k, r = 1, \dots, n, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$N_i^r(x, y) = \Gamma_p^r{}_i(x)v^{1P}, \quad N_i^{n+r}(x, y) = \Gamma_p^r{}_i(x)v^{2P}, \dots$$

This $H_{\overset{n}{\oplus}\tau_M}^n$ is homogeneous, for the connection coefficients defined by

(11) are so. We form equivalence classes in the fibres of $\overset{n}{\oplus}\tau_M$. Let $a: (\overset{1}{e}, \dots, \overset{n}{e}) \mapsto (\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{n}{v}) = y_0$ be a linear transformation which takes an orthonormal base $\overset{1}{e}, \dots, \overset{n}{e}$ of \mathbb{R}^n endowed with a euclidean metric into the conjugate axis $\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{n}{v}$ of an ellipsoid. Let $f \in O^+(n, \mathbb{R})$ be an orientation preserving rotation of \mathbb{R}^n . We consider

$$a_f = a \circ f \circ a^{-1}: \overset{n}{\oplus}T_x M \rightarrow \overset{n}{\oplus}T_x M$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}_f = \{a_f \mid f \in O^+(n, \mathbb{R})\}$$

and we define the equivalence class of y_0 as $\mathcal{A}_f y_0 = Y$. Then the $(\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{n}{v}) = y \in Y$ form all conjugate-axis systems of the ellipsoid determined by the conjugate axis $(\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{n}{v})$.

We consider the set $\{Y\}$ whose elements represent ellipsoids. The set $\{Y\}$ can be given a (natural) manifold structure (each Y can be identified with an ellipsoid and this with the coefficients g_{ik} of its equation which correspond to a point of \mathbb{R}^{n^2}). Thus $\{Y\}$ becomes a manifold \mathcal{Y} , and we consider the fiber bundle $Z^n\tau_M = (Z^nTM, \pi, \mathcal{Y}, M)$.

According to (11) $H_{\overset{n}{\oplus}\tau_M}^n$ acts in case of parallel translation on the

components $\overset{\alpha}{v}$ of a $y = (\overset{1}{v}, \dots, \overset{n}{v})$ just as Γ . But Γ takes an ellipsoid by parallel translation into an ellipsoid again, and takes every conjugate axis system of the first ellipsoid into a conjugate axis system of the image ellipsoid. This means that $H_{\oplus_{\tau_M}^n}$ preserves equivalence classes. Hence it induces a connection $H_{Z^n \tau_M}$ in $Z^n \tau_M$.

If $H_{Z^n \tau_M}$ is integrable for one $Y(x_0)$ at least, then the parallel translated Y of $Y(x_0)$ by $H_{Z^n \tau_M}$ are independent of the route γ and depend on the point x alone. To such a Y corresponds in $\overset{n}{\oplus}_{\tau_M}$ an equivalence class which is represented by an ellipsoid, and then the parallel translated of such an ellipsoid by $H_{\oplus_{\tau_M}^n}$ corresponding to $H_{Z^n \tau_M}$ depend also on the point x alone. But this means that the coefficients $g_{ik}(x)$ of these ellipsoids are covariant constant and yield a metrization of Γ .

Thus we have obtained

Theorem 2. *A torsion free linear connection is metrizable iff the above determined $H_{Z^n \tau_M}$ is integrable for a $Y(x_0)$.*

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