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Unit tangent bundle of a Riemannian manifold

Definition. Unit tangent bundle of a Riemannian manifold

Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold. Then

$$T^uM := \left\{ X_p \in TM \middle| \|X_p\|_g = 1 \right\}$$

is the **unit tangent bundle** of (M, g) .

contact form

Proposition: The 1-form

By the diffeomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} g : TM &\rightarrow T^*M \\ X_p &\mapsto g_p(X_p, -) \end{aligned}$$

we have the 1-form

$$\begin{aligned} T_uTM &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (V + H) &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ \alpha_u(v + w) &:= g_{\pi(u)}(u, v) \end{aligned}$$

on T^uM satisfies

$$\alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^{\dim M - 1} \neq 0 \qquad \text{on } M$$

[DGRBookCurrentv2510,_p.47](#)

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