King Abdullah University of Science and Technology KAUST

CS 247 – Scientific Visualization
Lecture 13: Scalar Field Visualization, Pt. 7

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Reading Assignment #7 (until Mar 19)

Read (required):

- Real-Time Volume Graphics, Chapter 1 (*Theoretical Background and Basic Approaches*), from beginning to 1.4.4 (inclusive)

Read (optional):

- Paper:
  Nelson Max, Optical Models for Direct Volume Rendering,
  IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 1995
  http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/2945.468400

Gradients as Differential Forms
(1-Forms)

Interlude: Tensor Calculus

Tensors are multi-linear functions transforming contra- or covariantly

- *Contravariant* first-order tensor (*vector*) $\mathbf{v} = v^i \, \mathbf{e}_i$
- *Covariant* first-order tensor (*covector*) $\boldsymbol{\omega} = v_i \, \boldsymbol{\omega}^i$

The gradient vector is a contravariant vector $\mathbf{v} = v^i \, \boldsymbol{\partial}_i$

The gradient 1-form is a covariant vector (a covector) $df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i$

Very powerful; necessary for non-Cartesian coordinate systems / grids

On (intrinsically) curved manifolds (sphere, ...):
Cartesian coordinates not even possible

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indexes! not exponents

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This is also the fundamental reason why in graphics a normal vector transforms differently: as a covector, not as a vector!

(typical graphics rule: **n** transforms with transpose of inverse matrix)

The Gradient as a Differential Form

The gradient as a *differential* (differential 1-form) is the "primary" concept (also "total differential" or "total derivative")

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\,dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\,dy + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\,dz$$

A differential 1-form is a scalar-valued linear function that takes a (direction) vector as input, and gives a scalar as output

Each of the 1-forms df, dx, dy, dz takes direction vector as input, gives scalar output

In the expression of the gradient df above, all 1-forms on the right-hand side get the same vector as input

df is simply a linear combination of the coordinate differentials dx, dy, dz

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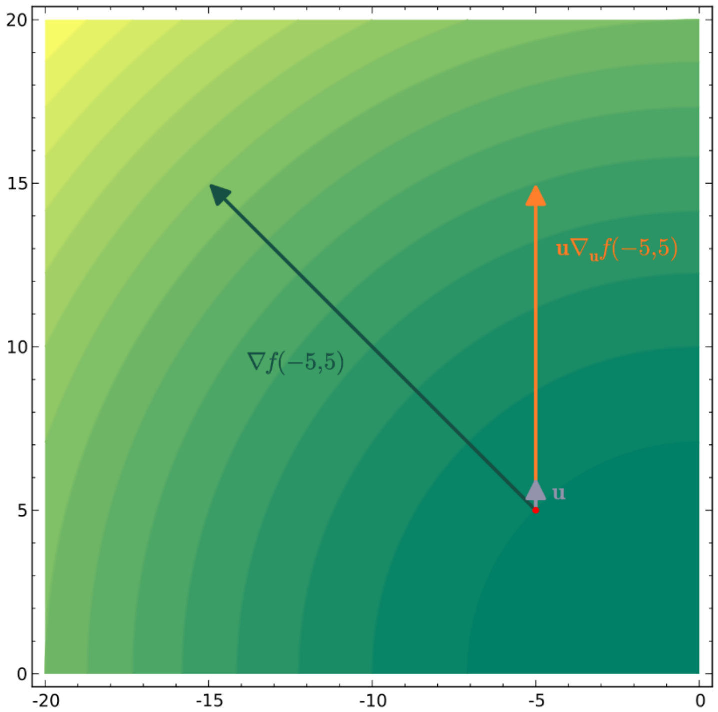
The directional derivative and the gradient vector

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f = df(\mathbf{u})$$
$$df(\mathbf{u}) = \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

The gradient vector is then *defined*, such that:

$$\nabla f \cdot \mathbf{u} := df(\mathbf{u})$$

Gradient Vectors and Differential 1-Forms



from Wikipedia (for **u** a unit vector),

the function here is $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$

$$\nabla f(x,y) = 2x\,\mathbf{i} + 2y\,\mathbf{j}$$

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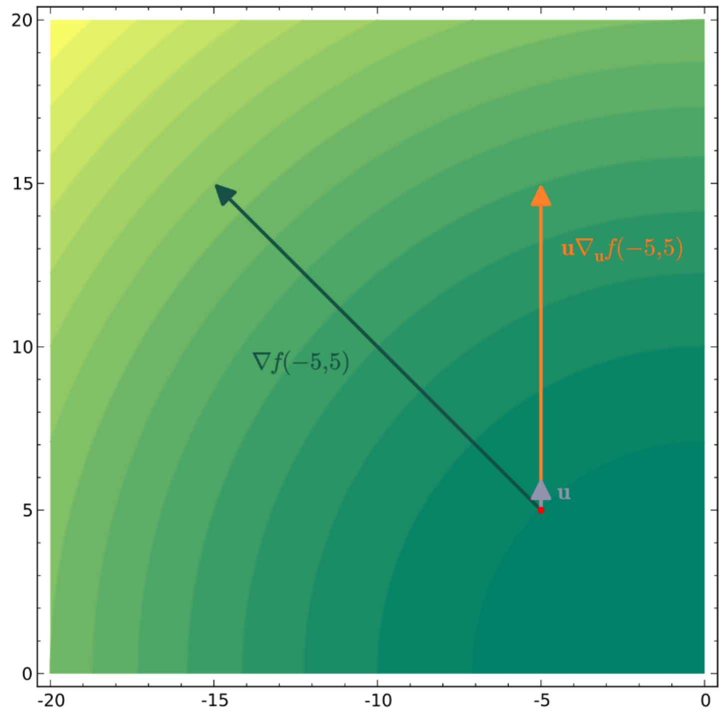

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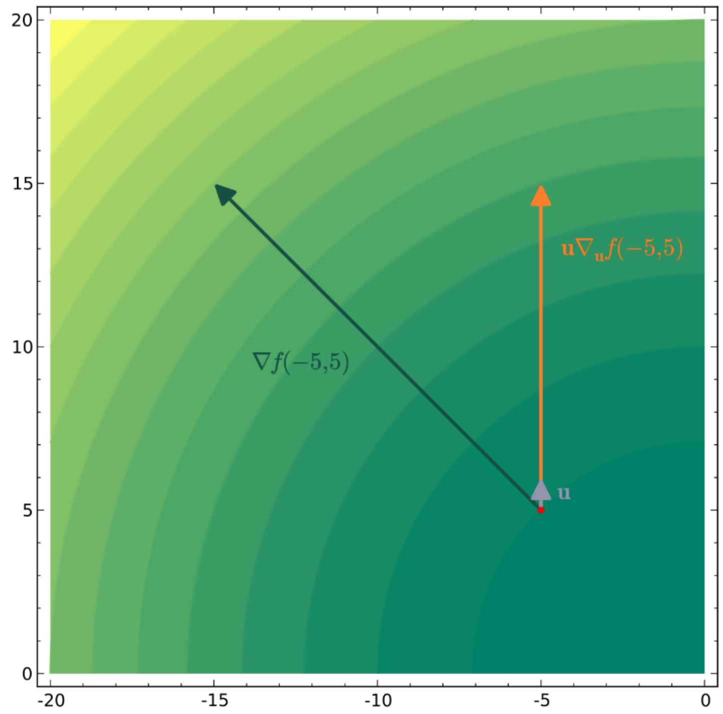


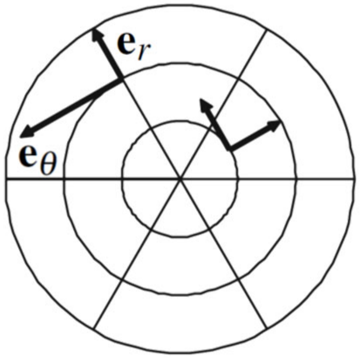
from Wikipedia (for **u** a unit vector),

the function here is $f(r,\theta) = r^2$

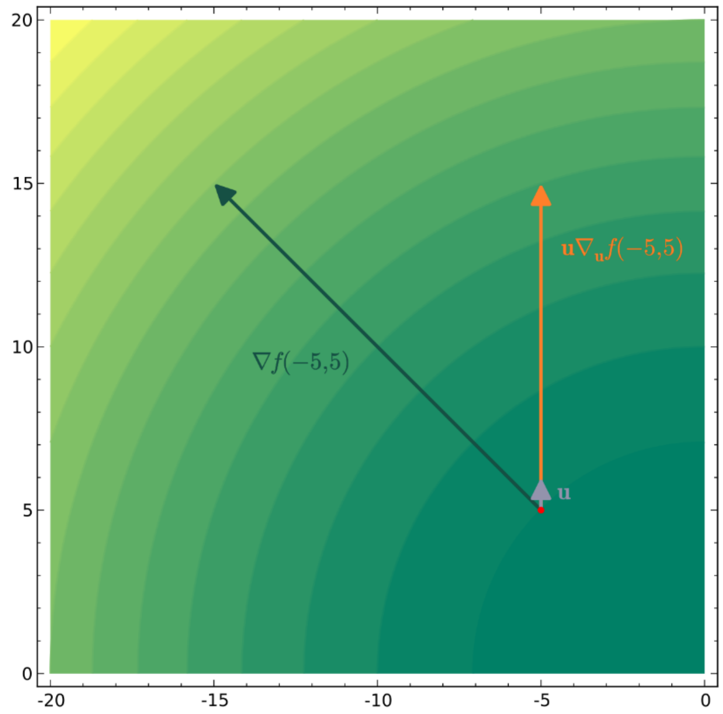
$$\nabla f(r,\theta) = 2r\,\mathbf{e}_r + 0\frac{1}{r^2}\,\mathbf{e}_\theta = 2r\,\mathbf{e}_r$$

$$df(r,\theta) = 2r\,dr + 0\,d\theta = 2r\,dr$$

how about in polar coordinates?



Gradient Vectors and Differential 1-Forms



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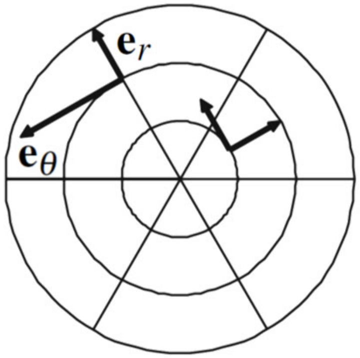

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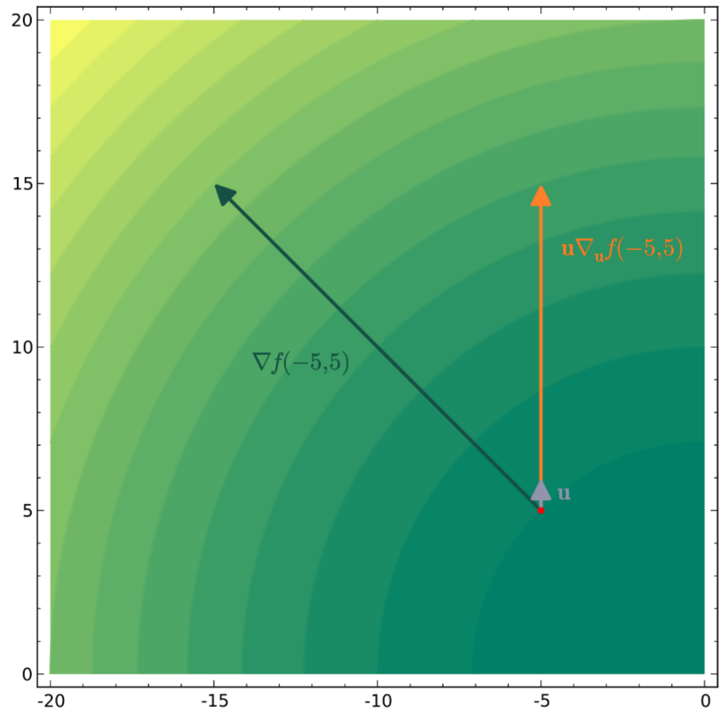
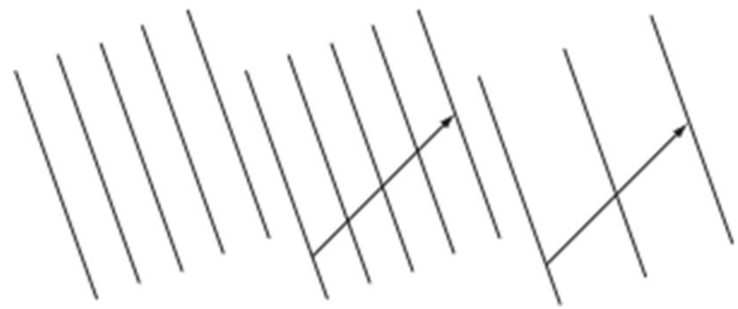
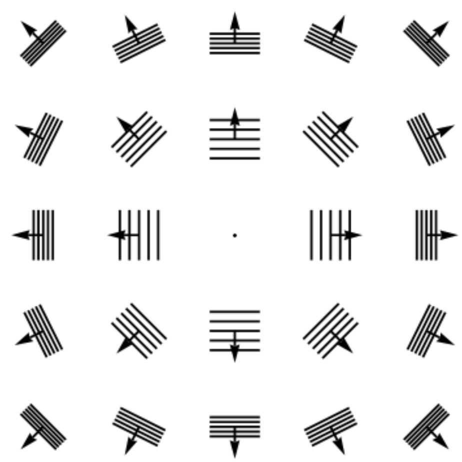


different 1-forms
evaluated in some direction



1-form (field) df



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Inner Products and Metric Tensor (Field)

Symmetric, covariant second-order tensor field:
defines inner product on manifold (in each tangent space)

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle := \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{v}\| \, \|\mathbf{w}\| \cos\theta$$

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$$g_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

(2D)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 &= \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \\ &= \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}) \\ &= g_{ij} v^i v^j \\ &= \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{g} \, \mathbf{v} \end{aligned}$$

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Cartesian coordinates: $g_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 = \begin{bmatrix} v^1 & v^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}$$

Inner Products and Metric Tensor (Field)

Components of metric referred to coordinates

$$g_{ij} := \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}_j \rangle$$

A second-order tensor field is bi-linear, i.e.,
linear in each (vector/covector) argument separately

From bi-linearity we immediately get:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle &= \mathbf{g}\left(v^i \mathbf{e}_i, w^j \mathbf{e}_j\right) \\ &= v^i w^j \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}_j \rangle \\ &= g_{ij} v^i w^j \end{aligned}$$

Gradient Vector from Differential 1-Form

The metric (and inverse metric) *lower* or *raise* indices
(i.e., convert between covariant and contravariant tensors)

$$v^i = g^{ij} v_j$$
$$v_i = g_{ij} v^j$$

$$v^i \mathbf{e}_i = g^{ij} v_j \mathbf{e}_i$$
$$v_i \boldsymbol{\omega}^i = g_{ij} v^j \boldsymbol{\omega}^i$$

Inverse metric (contravariant)

$$[g^{ij}] = [g_{ij}]^{-1}$$

$$g^{ik} g_{kj} = \delta^i_j$$

Kronecker delta behaves
like identity matrix

Gradient Vector from Differential 1-Form

So the gradient vector is

$$\nabla f = \left(g^{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j} \right) \mathbf{e}_i$$

Vector-valued 1-form

$$d\mathbf{r} = dx^i \, \mathbf{e}_i$$

$$d\mathbf{r}(\cdot) = dx^i(\cdot) \, \mathbf{e}_i$$

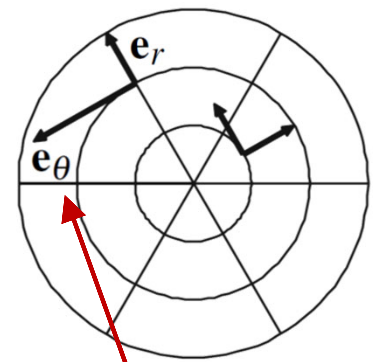
Directional derivative via inner product:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \nabla f, \cdot \rangle &= g_{kj} g^{ik} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^j(\cdot) \\ &= \delta^i{}_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^j(\cdot) \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i(\cdot) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= g_{kj} g^{ik} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^j \\ &= \delta^i{}_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^j \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i \end{aligned}$$

Example: Polar Coordinates

Metric tensor and inverse metric for polar coordinates



$$g_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & r^2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad g^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{r^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Gradient vector from 1-form: raise index with inverse metric

not normalized!

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{r^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_r \\ \mathbf{e}_\theta \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \mathbf{e}_r + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{e}_\theta$$

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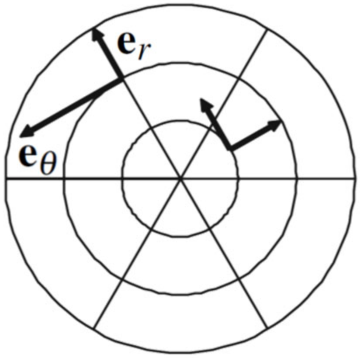

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Gradient vector from 1-form: raise index with inverse metric

$$\nabla f(r,\theta) = \frac{\partial f(r,\theta)}{\partial r}\mathbf{e}_r(r,\theta) + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial f(r,\theta)}{\partial \theta}\mathbf{e}_\theta(r,\theta)$$

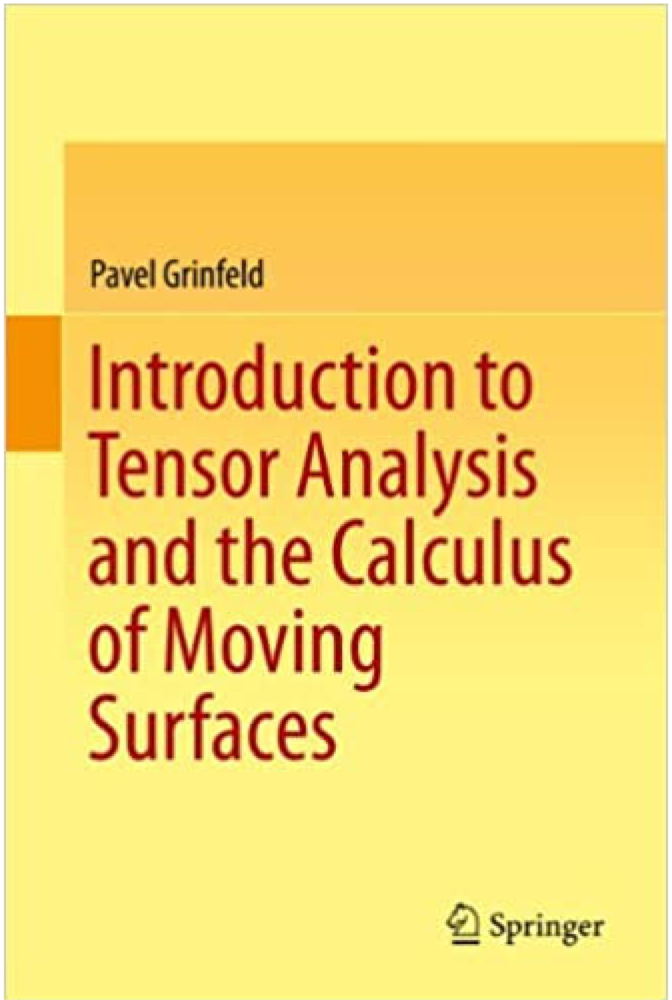
and don't forget that all of this is position-dependent!

Tensor Calculus

Highly recommended:

Very nice book,

complete lecture on Youtube!



Thank you.

Thanks for material

- Helwig Hauser
- Eduard Gröller
- Daniel Weiskopf
- Torsten Möller
- Ronny Peikert
- Philipp Muigg
- Christof Rezk-Salama