J. Sci. Tarbiat Moallem University Vol. 11, No. 2

(Autumn 2012)

# A Complete Linear Connection Induced by Berwald Connection

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## Abstract

By using Berwald connection, we show that there are linear connections $\nabla$ which are projectively equivalent and belong to the same projective structure on $TM$. We found a condition for the geodesics of the Berwald connection under which $\nabla$ is complete.

## Introduction

Two (torsion free) linear connections $D$ and $\overline{D}$ on a smooth manifold $M$ are said to be projectively equivalent if there exist a 1-form $\rho$ on $M$ such that

$$\overline{D} = D + \rho \otimes id + id \otimes \rho,$$

where id denotes the identity (1,1)-tensor on $M$. Projective equivalence is an equivalence relation on the set of torsion-free linear connections on $M$, and an equivalence class will be called a projective equivalence class [6]. Projective equivalence can be related to the concept of a projective structure. If $M$ has dimension $n$, then a projective structure on $M$ is a principal subbundle of the bundle of 2-frames over $M$ having as its structure group the isotropy subgroup of $PGL(n, R)$ at the origin of real projective space $RP^n$, [4].

According to this remark, we can introduce a projective structure on $TM$. Since the two (torsion free) linear connections on $TM$ belong to the same projective structure on $TM$ if and only if they are projectively equivalent, a projective equivalence class consists of those (torsion free) linear connections on $TM$ which belong to the same projective structure on $TM$.

**KeyWords.** Projective structure, Finsler structure, Finsler connection, Berwald connection.

**Mathematical Subject Elanification:** 53C05, 53C60.

Received: 19 Feb. 2011 Revised 18 July 2012



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In Finsler geometry, examples of important connections are proposed by L. Berwald [2], E. Cartan (1934), S. S. Chern [1] and Z. Shen [7]. Some of these connections are torsion free, for a list of almost all Finsler connections, one can refer to Bidabad and Tayebi [3]. So if we use a Finsler connection then we can show that there are many linear connections on $TM$ contained in the same projective equivalence class on $TM$ induced by this Finsler connection. For example in case of Berwald connection, we show that there is a linear connection $\nabla$ on $TM$ which is projectively equivalent to the Berwald connection and belong to the same projective structure on $TM$. We find a condition for the geodesics of the Berwald connection under which $\nabla$ is complete ( to see a similar problem in the Riemannian case, refer to Spivak [6]).

## Preliminaries

Let $M$ be an n-dimensional $C^\infty$ manifold. Denote by $T_x M$ the tangent space at $x \in M$, and by $TM := \cup_{x\in M} T_x M$ the tangent bundle of $M$. Each element of $TM$ has the form $(x, y)$, where $x \in M$ and $y \in T_x M$. Let $TM_0 = TM - \{0\}$. The natural projection $\pi: TM \to M$ is given by $\pi(x, y) := x$.

A (globally defined) Finsler structure [1] on a manifold $M$ is a function $F: TM \to [0, \infty)$

with the following properties:

(i) **Regularity**: $F$ is $C^\infty$ on the entire slit tangent bundle $TM_0$.

(ii) **Positive homogeneity**: $F(x, \lambda y) = \lambda F(x, y)$ for all $\lambda > 0$.

(iii) **Strong convexity**: The $n \times n$ Hessian matrix

$$(g_{ij}) := \left(\left[\frac{1}{2} F^2\right]_{y^i y^j}\right)$$

is positive-definite at every point of $TM_0$.

Given a manifold $M$ and a Finsler structure $F$ on $M$, the pair $(M, F)$ is called a Finsler manifold. $F$ is called Riemannian if $g_{ij}(x, y)$ are independent of $y \neq 0$.

Let $M$ be a real n-dimensional connected manifold of $C^\infty$-class and $(TM, \pi, M)$ its tangent bundle with zero section removed. Every local chart $(U, \varphi = (x^i))$ on $M$



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induces a local chart $(\varphi^{-1}(U), \varphi = (x^i, y^i))$ on $TM$. The kernel of linear mapp $\pi_*: TTM \to TM$ is called the vertical distribution and is denoted by $VTM$. For every $u \in TM, Ker\, \pi_{*,u} = V_u TM$ is spanned by $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}|_u\}$. By a nonlinear connection on $TM$ we mean a regular n-dimensional distribution $H: u \in TM \to H_u TM$ which is supplementary to the vertical distribution i.e.

$$T_u(TM) = H_u TM \oplus V_u TM, \qquad \forall\, u \in TM.$$

A basis for $T_u TM$ adapted to the above direct sum is $(\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}|_u, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}|_u)$, where

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}|_u = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{x}^\mathrm{i}} - \mathrm{N}_\mathrm{i}^\mathrm{j}(\mathrm{u})\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{y}^\mathrm{j}}\,|_\mathrm{u}$$

and $N_j^i$ are coefficients of the nonlinear connection. The dual basis of $\left(\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right)$ is given by $(dx^i,\ dy^i + N_j^i dx^j)$. These are the Berwald bases.

## A complete linear connection

Let $\nabla$ be a linear connection on a manifold $M$. A curve $c: (a, b) \to M$ is an inextendible geodesic of $\nabla$ iff $c$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$ and has no extension to $[0, b + \alpha)$ as a geodesic of $\nabla$ for any $\alpha > 0$. The connection $\nabla$ is complete iff every geodesic of $\nabla$ defined on a subinterval of $R$ extends to a geodesic of $\nabla$ defined on all of $R$.

In what follows, by using Berwald connection, we want to construct a linear connection $\nabla$ on $TM$ which are projectively equivalent and belong to the same projective structure on $TM$. We first define notion of Berwald connection.

Let $M$ be a real n-dimensional $C^\infty$ manifold and $VTM = \cup_{v \in TM} V_v TM$ its vertical vector bundle. Suppose that $HTM = \cup_{v \in TM} H_v TM$ is a non-linear connection on $TM$. The Berwald connection induced by a nonlinear connection with local coefficients $N_j^i$ is a linear connection with the local coefficients $\frac{\partial N_i^k}{\partial y^j}$, (see [5]).

For example, consider $S$ as a semispray with local coefficients $G^i$ and $N$ the induced nonlinear connection with local coefficients $N_j^i = \frac{\partial G^i}{\partial y^j}$. Since the nonlinear connection is symmetric then the Berwald connection $D$ induced by $N$ is a linear connection and has the expression



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$$D_{\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}} \frac{\delta}{\delta x^j} = \frac{\partial^2 G^k}{\partial y^i \partial y^j} \frac{\delta}{\delta x^k}, \quad D_{\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}} \frac{\delta}{\delta x^j} = 0,$$

$$D_{\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = \frac{\partial^2 G^k}{\partial y^i \partial y^j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}, D_{\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} = 0 .$$

**Theorem 3.1** Let $D$ be a Berwald connection induced by the nonlinear connection $N$ associated to a semispray and $F$ a nonzero Finsler metric. Then there is a linear connection $\nabla$ on $TM$ defined by

$$\nabla_X Y = D_X Y + \frac{1}{2F} dF(X)Y + \frac{1}{2F} dF(Y)X, \quad \forall X, Y \in \chi(TM). \tag{1}$$

**Proof.** With respect to the Berwald basis, $\nabla$ has the expression

$$\nabla_{\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}} \frac{\delta}{\delta x^j} = \frac{\partial N_i^k}{\partial y^j} \frac{\delta}{\delta x^k} + \frac{1}{2F}\left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta x^i}\frac{\delta}{\delta x^j} + \frac{\delta F}{\delta x^j}\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}\right)$$

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It is not difficult to show that the coefficients of $\nabla$ satisfy the transformation law for the coefficients of a linear connection on $TM$.

For the linear connection (1), we consider the torsion $T$, defined as usual

$$T(X,Y) = \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X - [X,Y], \quad \forall X, Y \in \chi(TM).$$

With respect to the Berwald basis we have

$$T\left(\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}, \frac{\delta}{\delta x^j}\right) = \left(\frac{\delta N_i^k}{\delta x^j} - \frac{\delta N_j^k}{\delta x^i}\right)\frac{\partial}{\partial y^k},$$

$$T\left(\frac{\delta}{\delta x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j}\right) = 0,$$

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**Theorem 3.2** Let $D$ be the Berwald connection and let $\nabla$ be the linear connection defined in theorem 3.1. If every inextendible geodesic of $D$, such as $c: [0, b) \to TM$, has an orientation preservation reparametrization $\sigma: [0, \infty) \to [0, b)$ such that $c\, o\sigma$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$, then $\nabla$ is complete.

***Proof.*** Let $c: [0, b) \to TM$ be the inextendible geodesic of $D$ with $c'(0) = (u, v)$. There is an orientation preserving reparametrization $\sigma: [0, \infty) \to [0, b)$ such that $\tilde{c} = c\, o\, \sigma$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$. So we have $\tilde{c}'(0) = \lambda\, c'(0)$ for some positive constant $\lambda$. Then $\hat{c}: [0, \infty) \to TM$ given by $\hat{c}(t) = \tilde{c}(\frac{t}{\lambda})$ is also a geodesic of $\nabla$ and $\hat{c}'(0) = (u, v)$. Thus $\nabla$ is complete.

Let the hypotheses of 3.2 hold. If $c: (a, b) \to TM$ is a geodesic of $D$ and $\sigma: (\alpha, \beta) \to (a, b)$ an orientation preserving reparametrization of $c$ such that $\tilde{c} = c\, o\, \sigma$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$, then $\overline{\nabla}_{c'(t)}\, c'(t) = 0$. Let $t = \sigma(s)$ for $s \in (\alpha, \beta)$. So $\tilde{c}'(s) = \sigma'(s) c'(\sigma(s)) = \frac{dt}{ds}\frac{dc}{dt}|_{t=\sigma(s)}$. Since

$$\nabla_{\frac{dc}{ds}} \frac{dc}{ds} = D_{\frac{dc}{ds}} \frac{dc}{ds} + \frac{1}{F} dF(\frac{dc}{ds}) \frac{dc}{ds}$$

thus

$$\frac{dt}{ds}\left(\left(\frac{dt}{ds}\right)^{-1} \frac{d^2t}{ds^2} + \frac{d(\ln(F))}{ds}\right)\frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{dt}{ds}\left(\frac{d}{ds}\ln\left(F\frac{dt}{ds}\right)\right)\frac{dc}{dt} = 0\,.$$

This shows that $F\frac{dt}{ds}$ is constant. As Finsler metric is positive function, so there is a constant $C_1 > 0$ such that $F\frac{dt}{ds} = \frac{1}{C_1}$. This differential equation can be integrated to give

$$s(t) = \sigma^{-1}(t) = C_0 + C_1 \int_{t_0}^{t} F(c(\theta))d\theta \qquad (2)$$

where $t_0 \in (a, b), C_0 \in R$ .

**Theorem 3.3** Let $F(x, y)$ be a nonzero Finsler metric, If for each inextendible geodesic of $D$, such as $c: [0, b) \to TM$, we have

$$\int_0^b F(c(t))dt = \infty \qquad (3)$$

then the connection $\nabla$ defined by (1) is complete.

***Proof.*** Suppose that the condition (3) holds. Let $c: [0, b) \to TM$ be such a curve and let $\sigma: [0, \beta) \to [0, b)$ be an orientation preserving reparametrization of $c$ such that $\tilde{c} = c\ o\ \sigma$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$. From (2), $\sigma^{-1}(t)$ is given by



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$$\sigma^{-1}(t) = C_1 \int_{t_0}^{t} F\big(c(\theta)\big)d\theta$$

with $C_1 > 0$. But $\beta = C_1 \int_{t_0}^{b} F\big(c(\theta)\big)d\theta = \infty$, so inextendible D-geodesic $c$ has an orientation preserving reparametrization $\sigma: [0,\infty) \to [0,b)$ such that $c \ o \ \sigma$ is a geodesic of $\nabla$ and so $\nabla$ is complete.

We showed that two linear connections introduced in this paper, the Berwald connection $D$ and the linear connection $\nabla$ defined in theorem 3.1, are projectively equivalent and belong to the same projective structure on $TM$. We have also proved that for each inextendible geodesic of the Berwald connection such that the condition (3) holds then the connection $\nabla$ is complete.

For example, let $M = R^n - \{0\}$ and let $F$ be a nonzero Finsler metric such that for each $x \in M, f_{|T_xM}$ is a Minkowski norm on $T_xM$. Consider the curve $c: [0,b) \mapsto TM$ given by $c(t) = p + t(x,y)$ where $y \neq 0$ and $b = \infty$. With respect to this curve, it can be easily shown that the equation (3) is established.

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