

# gradient field/geodesics

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Is there anyone who could give me please help on the question:

Let  $M$  be a Riemannian manifold and let  $f$  be a smooth function on  $M$  whose gradient vector field  $G = \text{grad}(f)$  has  $|G|=1$  everywhere. Show that the integral curves of  $G$  are geodesics.

This is easy to prove in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the standard metric, because there the equation  $\langle G, G \rangle = 1$  is equivalent

$\sum f_{x_i}^2 = 1$ , (where  $f_{x_i}$  denotes the  $i$ th partial derivative)

and we differentiate this equation with respect to each variable respectively to see that the covariant derivative of  $G$  with respect to itself is zero.

However in more general settings I cannot see how to do it; the same method hasn't worked for me.

Some help would really make my day.

Thanks

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