

## EQUATION GEODESIC IN A TWO-DIMENSIONAL FINSLER SPACE WITH SPECIAL $(\alpha, \beta)$ -METRIC

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### Abstract

In the year 1997 and 1998 Matsumoto And Park obtained the equations of geodesic in a two-dimensional Randers, Kropina and Matsumoto space. In 2011, Chaubey, Prasad and Tripathi obtained the equation of geodesic for a more general  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric as compared to Randers, Kropina and Matsumoto metric. In the continuation of the above paper, here we have found out the equation of geodesic for the well known metric  $L = \alpha + \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha}$ ,  $L = \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha}$  and special Matsumoto metric  $L = L = \frac{\beta^2}{(\beta-\alpha)}$ . The main results are illustrated in the different figures.

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## 1 Introduction

In 1997 Matsumoto and Park [6] obtained the equation of geodesic in two-dimensional Finsler spaces with the Randers metric ( $L = \alpha + \beta$ ) and the Kropina metric ( $L = \frac{\alpha^2}{\beta}$ ) whereas in 1998 they [7] obtained the equation of geodesic in two-dimensional Finsler space with the slope metrics, i.e. Matsumoto metric given by ( $L = \frac{\alpha^2}{\alpha-\beta}$ ). In 2011 Chaubey, Prasad and Tripathi [2] obtained the equation of geodesic for a more general  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric ( $L = \frac{k_1\alpha^2+k_2\alpha\beta+k_3\beta^2}{a_1\alpha+a_2\beta}$  where  $a$ 's and  $k$ 's are constants) by considering  $\beta$  as an infinitesimal of degree one and neglecting infinitesimals of degree more or equal to two they obtained the geodesics of two-dimensional Finsler space in the form  $y'' = f(x, y, y')$ , where  $(x, y)$  are co-ordinate of two-dimensional Finsler space.

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In the present paper we have shown that under the same conditions, the geodesic of the two-dimensional space with following metrics:

$$L = \alpha + \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha} \quad (1)$$

$$L = \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha} \quad (2)$$

and

$$L = \frac{\beta^2}{(\beta - \alpha)} \quad (3)$$

All the above three metrics are studied in detail by the authors of the papers [1, 3, 4, 5].

## 2 Preliminaries

We consider a two-dimensional Finsler space  $F^2 = (M^2, L(x, y))$  with the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric [6, 7] where  $\alpha = \sqrt{a_{ij}(x)x^i x^j}$  is a Riemannian metric and  $\beta = b_i(x)y^i$  is one form on  $M^2$ . The space  $F^2 = (M^2, \alpha)$  is said to be a Riemannian space associated to  $F^2$ .

Matsumoto and Park [6, 7] constructed the problem on the following consideration :

**(I).** The underlying manifold  $M^2$  is thought of as a surface S of the ordinary 3-space with an orthonormal co-ordinate system  $X^\alpha, \alpha = 1, 2, 3$ , which by the parametric equation  $X^\alpha = X^\alpha(x^1, x^2)$ . Then S is equipped with the induced Riemannian metric  $\alpha$ . Thus two tangent vector fields  $B_i, i = 1, 2$ , are given with the components  $B_i^\alpha = \frac{\partial X^\alpha}{\partial x^i}$  and then  $a_{ij} = \sum_\alpha B_i^\alpha B_j^\alpha$ . Let  $N = N^\alpha$  be the unit normal vector to S.

An isothermal co-ordinate system  $x^i = (x, y)$  in S may be referred in which  $\alpha$  is of the form  $\alpha = aE$ , where  $a = a(x, y)$  is a positive-valued function and  $E = \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2}$ . Then the Christoffel symbols  $\gamma_{jk}^i(x, y)$  of S in  $x^i$  are given by  $(\gamma_{11}^1, \gamma_{12}^1, \gamma_{22}^1; \gamma_{11}^2, \gamma_{12}^2, \gamma_{22}^2) = (\frac{a_x}{a}, \frac{a_y}{a}, -\frac{a_x}{a}, -\frac{a_y}{a}, \frac{a_x}{a}, \frac{a_y}{a})$ . We shall denote by  $(;)$  the covariant differentiation with respect to Christoffel symbols in  $R^2$ .

**(II).** Let  $B = B^\alpha$  be a constant vector field in the ambient 3-space and put

$$B = b^i B_i + b^0 N \quad (4)$$

along S. Then the tangential component of B gives the linear form

$$\beta = b_i \dot{x}^i, \quad b_i = a_{ij} b^j \quad (5)$$

The Gauss-Weingarten derivation formulae lead from (4) to

$$B_{;j} = (b^i_{;j}B_i + b^iH_{ij}N) + (b^0_{;j}N - b^0H^i_jB_i)$$

where  $H_{ij}$  is the second fundamental tensor of S and  $H_{ij} = a_{ik}H^k_j$ . From  $B_{;j} = 0$ , we get  $b^i_{;j} = b^0H^i_j$ , that is

$$b_{i;j} = b^0H_{ij} \quad (6)$$

Consequently we have  $b_{i;j} = b_{j;i}$  that is  $b_{1y} = b_{2x}$  and hence  $b_i$  is a gradient vector field in S.

**(III.)** The linear form  $\beta$  was originally to be induced one by the Finslerian surface  $S$  due to the earth's gravity [6]. Hence, it is assumed here that the constant vector field  $B$  is parallel to the  $X^3$ -axis, i.e.  $B^a = (0, 0, -G)$ ,  $G = \text{const.} > 0$ . Therefore (4) gives  $G^2 = a_{ij}b^ib^j + (b^0)^2$ . Since  $(a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{22}) = (a^2, 0, a^2)$ , we have

$$\left(\frac{G}{a}\right)^2 = (b^1)^2 + (b^2)^2 + \left(\frac{b^0}{a}\right)^2$$

We shall regard the quantity  $\frac{G}{a}$  as an infinitesimal of degree one, and neglect the infinitesimal of degree more or equal to two. It is natural from the above that  $b^1, b^2$  and  $\frac{b^0}{a}$  are also those of degree one. Further (6) shows that  $\frac{\beta_{;0}}{a} = \frac{b_{i;j}\dot{x}^i\dot{x}^j}{a}$  may be regarded as an infinitesimal of degree one. Consequently

$$\lambda = \frac{\beta}{a^2}, \quad \mu = \frac{\gamma}{a^2}, \quad \nu = \frac{\beta_{;0}}{a} \quad (7)$$

are infinitesimals of degree one where  $\gamma = b_1\dot{y} - b_2\dot{x}$ .

Thus we have summarized all the above three conditions as:

**I.**  $\alpha$  is the induced Riemannian metric in a surface S and, in particular  $\alpha = aE$ .

**II.**  $\beta$  is the linear form in  $\dot{x}^i$ , induced from a constant vector field  $(0, 0, -G)$  by (4) and (5).

**III.**  $\lambda, \mu$  and  $\nu$  of (7) are regarded as infinitesimals of degree one and infinitesimals of degree more or equal to two are neglected.

### 3 Geodesics of the special $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric

Matsumoto and Park [6] obtained the differential equation of the geodesic in an isothermal co-ordinate system  $(x^i) = (x, y)$  for the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -metric is as follows:

$$(L_\alpha + aEw\gamma^2)Ri(C) - \beta_{;0}a^2w\gamma - L_\beta(b_1y - b_2x) = 0 \quad (8)$$

where  $w = \frac{L_{\alpha\alpha}}{\beta^2} = -\frac{L_{\alpha\beta}}{\alpha\beta} = \frac{L_{\beta\beta}}{\alpha^2}$  and

$$Ri(C) = \frac{a(\dot{x}\ddot{y} - \dot{y}\ddot{x})}{E^3} + \frac{(a_x\dot{y} - a_y\dot{x})}{E}$$

It is remarked that the equation  $Ri(C)=0$  gives the geodesic of the associated Riemannian space.

Now according to the above contribution, equation (8) may be written for the metric  $L = \alpha + \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha}$  in the form

$$(1 - \frac{a^2\lambda^2}{E^2} + \frac{2a^2\mu^2}{E^2})Ri(C) = \frac{2a^2\mu\nu}{E^3}$$

Let us neglect the infinitesimals of degree more or equal to two. Then we have

$$Ri(C) = \frac{2a^2\mu\nu}{E^3} \quad (9)$$

Therefore, on our construction, we obtain the approximate equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \frac{2\beta_{;0}^*\gamma^*}{a^2} - \frac{E^{*2}(a_x y' - a_y)}{a} \quad (10)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= \frac{dy}{dx}, & E^* &= \sqrt{1 + y'^2}, & \gamma^* &= b_1 y' - b_2 \\ \beta_{;0}^* &= b_{1;1} + (b_{1;2} + b_{2;1})y' + b_{2;2}(y')^2 \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Next, if we take the metric (2) then the differential equation (8) of geodesic is written as

$$(-\frac{a^2\lambda^2}{E^2} + \frac{2a^2\mu^2}{E^2})Ri(C) = \frac{a^2\mu\nu}{E^3}$$

Let us neglect the infinitesimals of degree more or equal to two. Then we have

$$Ri(C) = \frac{\mu\nu}{E(2\mu^2 - \lambda^2)} \quad (12)$$

Therefore on our construction, we obtain the approximate equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \frac{\beta_{;0}^*\gamma^*E^{*2}}{(2b_1^2 - b_2^2)(y')^2 + (2b_2^2 - b_1^2) - 6b_1b_2y'} - \frac{E^{*2}(a_x y' - a_y)}{a} \quad (13)$$

where  $\beta_{;0}^*, \gamma^*, E^*$  and  $y'$  are given in 11.

Next, if we take the metric (3) then the differential equation (8) of geodesic is written as

$$(\lambda^2(1 - \frac{a\lambda}{E}) + 2\mu^2)Ri(C) = \frac{\mu\nu}{E}$$

Let us neglect the infinitesimals of degree more than two. Then we have

$$Ri(C) = \frac{\mu\nu}{E(2\mu^2 + \lambda^2)} \quad (14)$$

Therefore on our construction, we obtain the approximate equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \frac{\beta_{;0}^*\gamma^*E^{*2}}{(2b_1^2 + b_2^2)(y')^2 + (2b_2^2 + b_1^2) - 2b_1b_2y'} - \frac{E^{*2}(a_x y' - a_y)}{a} \quad (15)$$

where  $\beta_{;0}^*, \gamma^*, E^*$  and  $y'$  are given in 11.

## 4 Some Examples

In the following we shall use the notation as follows:

$$(X^a) = (X, Y, Z), \quad (x^i) = (x, y)$$

**Example 1:** We consider the circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1, \quad Y = y$ , which is also written as

$$S : X = \cos x, \quad Y = y, \quad Z = \sin x$$

Then we get

$$B_1 = (-\sin x, 0, \cos x), \quad B_2 = (0, 1, 0), \quad N = (\cos x, 0, \sin x)$$

$$(a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{22}) = (1, 0, 1), \quad (b^1, b^2, b^0) = (G \cos x, 0, G \sin x)$$

Consequently we have

$$\alpha^2 = dx^2 + dy^2, \quad \beta = -G \cos x \, dx$$

Therefore (10) gives the approximate differential equation of geodesic for the metric (1) in the given condition of above example as

$$y'' + \tan x \, y' = 0 \quad (16)$$

which has the solution

$$y = A \sin x + B \quad (17)$$

where A and B are constants of integration.

Further from (13) the approximate differential equation of geodesic for the metric (2) in the given condition of Example 1 is given by

$$y'' + \tan x \frac{(1 + y'^2)}{2y'^2 - 1} = 0 \quad (18)$$

solving the above equation with the help of Mathematica software we have

$$y = \int_1^x [f_1^{-1}\{A + \log(\cos u)\}] du + B \quad (19)$$

where  $f_1(t) = 2t - 3 \tan^{-1} t$ .

Again from (15) the approximate differential equation of geodesic for the metric (3) in the given condition of Example 1 is given by

$$y'' + \tan x \frac{(1 + y'^2)}{2y'^2 + 1} = 0 \quad (20)$$

solving the above equation with the help of Mathematica software we have

$$y = \int_1^x [f_2^{-1}\{A + \log(\sec u)\}]du + B \quad (21)$$

where  $f_2(t) = 2t - \tan^{-1} t$ .

Next we are interested in revolution surfaces the axis of which is parallel to the constant vector field B. Such a surface S is given by,

$$X = g(u) \cos y, \quad Y = g(u) \sin y, \quad Z = f(u)$$

Denoting  $(u, y)$  by  $(x^i)$ , we have

$$B_1 = (g' \cos y, g' \sin y, f'), \quad B_2 = (-g \sin y, g \cos y, 0)$$

$$N = \frac{(-f' \cos y, -f' \sin y, g')}{F}, \quad F = \sqrt{f'^2 + g'^2}$$

$$(a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{22}) = (F^2, 0, G^2), \quad (b^1, b^2, b^0) = \left(-\frac{Gf'}{F}, 0, -\frac{Gg'}{F}\right),$$

$$(b_1, b_2) = (Gf', 0)$$

Consequently we get

$$\alpha^2 = F^2 du^2 + g^2 dy^2, \quad \beta = -Gf' du$$

We need an isothermal co-ordinate system, if we take

$$x = \int \frac{F}{g} du \quad (22)$$

Then we obtain

$$\alpha^2 = g(u)^2(dx^2 + dy^2), \quad \beta = -G\frac{f'g}{F} \quad (23)$$

**Example 2:** We shall deal with the sphere, surface of constant curvature +1 :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$ . Then  $F = 1$  and (22) gives

$$x = \int \frac{1}{\cos u} du = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1+\sin u}{1-\sin u}$$

Then  $\frac{1+\sin u}{1-\sin u} = e^{2x}$  implies  $\frac{1}{\cos u} = \cosh u$ , hence  $du = \frac{dx}{\cosh x}$ . Consequently (23) leads to

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 x}(dx^2 + dy^2), \quad \beta = -\frac{G}{\cosh^2 x} dx$$

Therefore (1) gives the approximate differential equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \tanh x \left(1 - \frac{2G^2}{\cosh^2 x}\right)(y' + (y')^3) \quad (24)$$

The solution of the above equation with the help of Mathematica software is given by

$$y = \int_1^x \frac{e^{\frac{4e^{2t}}{(1+e^{2t})^2} + A - t} (1 + e^{2t})}{\sqrt{1 - e^{2\{\frac{4e^{2t}}{(1+e^{2t})^2} + A - t + \log(1+e^{2t})\}}}} dt \quad (25)$$

Again (2) gives the approximate differential equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \tanh x \frac{(y' - 1)(2y' + 1)(y'^2 + 1)}{2y'^2 - 1} \quad (26)$$

The solution of the above equation with the help of Mathematica software is given by

$$y = \int_1^x [f_4^{-1}\{A + \log(\cosh t)\}] du + B \quad (27)$$

where  $f_4(t) = \frac{2 \tan^{-1} u}{10} + \frac{1}{6}(\log(1 - u)) + \frac{2}{15} \log(1 + 2u) - \frac{3}{20} \log(1 + u^2)$ .

Again (3) gives the approximate differential equation of geodesics in the form

$$y'' = \tanh x \frac{(y' - 1)(2y' + 1)(y'^2 + 1)}{2y'^2 + 1} \quad (28)$$

The solution of the above equation with the help of Mathematica software is given by

$$y = \int_1^x [f_5^{-1}\{A + \log(\cosh t)\}] du + B \quad (29)$$

where  $f_5(t) = \frac{3 \tan^{-1} u}{10} + \frac{1}{2}(\log(1 - u)) + \frac{2}{5} \log(1 + 2u) - \frac{1}{20} \log(1 + u^2)$ .

## 5 Results and Discussions

On the basis of the above calculations we have following important propositions:

**Proposition 1.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (1) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  is given by equation (17).*

**Proposition 2.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (2) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  is given by equation (19).*

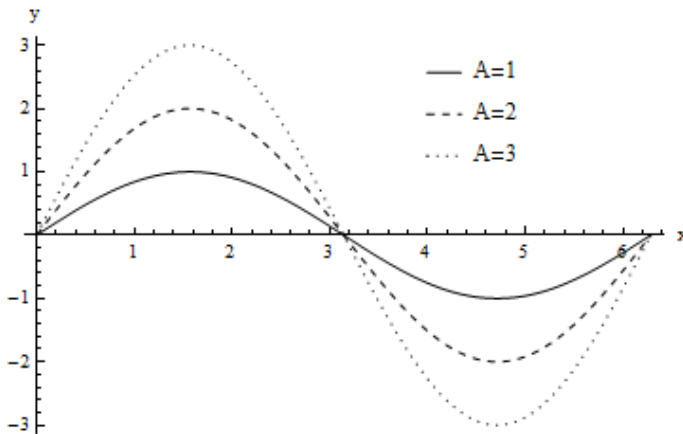
**Proposition 3.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (3) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  is given by equation (21).*

**Proposition 4.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (1) in a sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  is given by equation (25).*

**Proposition 5.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (2) in a sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  is given by equation (27).*

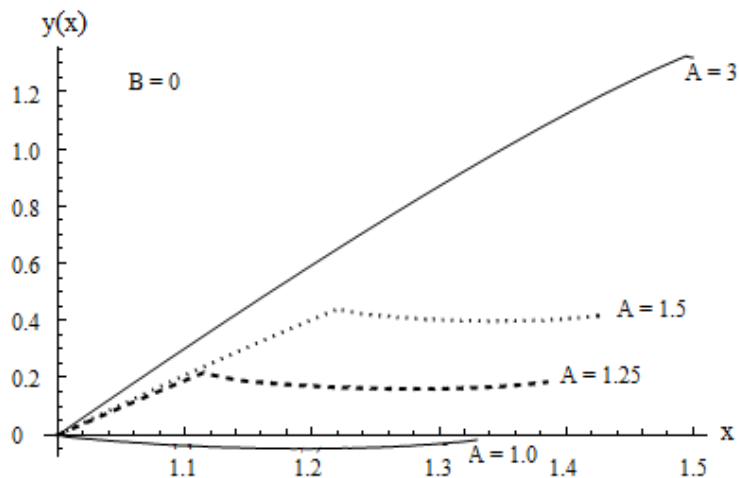
**Proposition 6.** *The solution of equation of the geodesic for the Finsler metric (3) in a sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  is given by equation (29).*

As it can be observed from all of the above solutions of equation of geodesics in Propositions 5.1 to 5.6, the nature of the solution is governed a lot by the first constant of integration A, whereas the second constant of integration B is just a shifting parameter. Therefore, the behavior of the curves has been plotted for different values of A and taking  $B=0$  without a loss of generality. As the analytic solutions in Propositions 5.1 to 5.6 are complex in nature, the plots have been drawn using Mathematica 7.0.

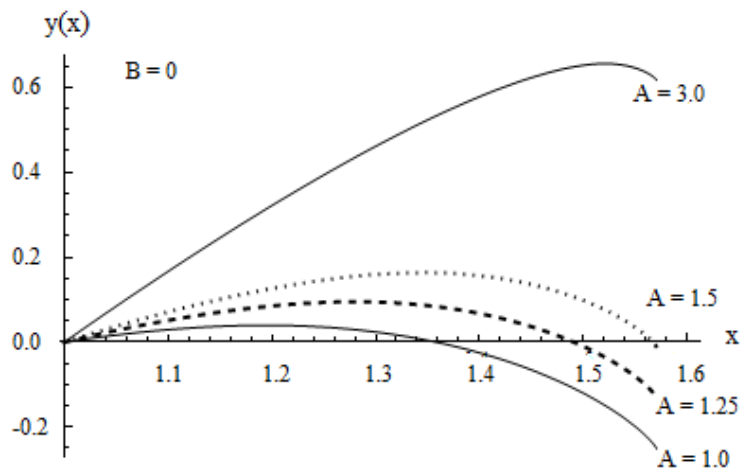


**Fig. 1** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (1) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  behaves like sine curve.

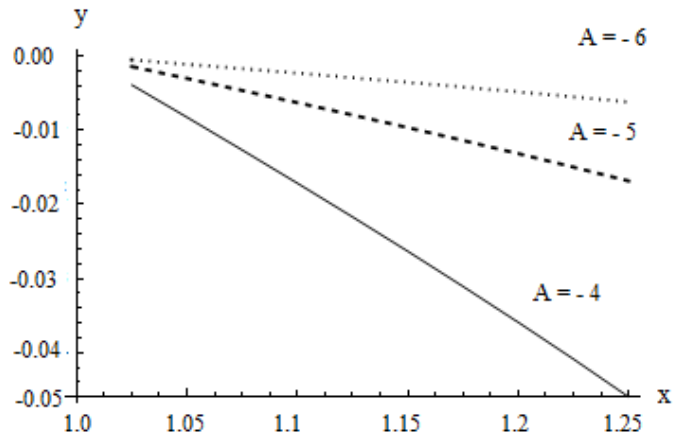




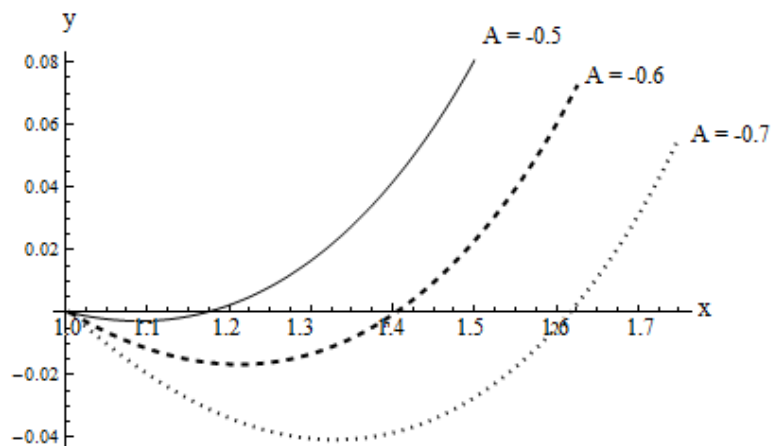
**Fig. 2** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (2) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  behaves like the above figure.



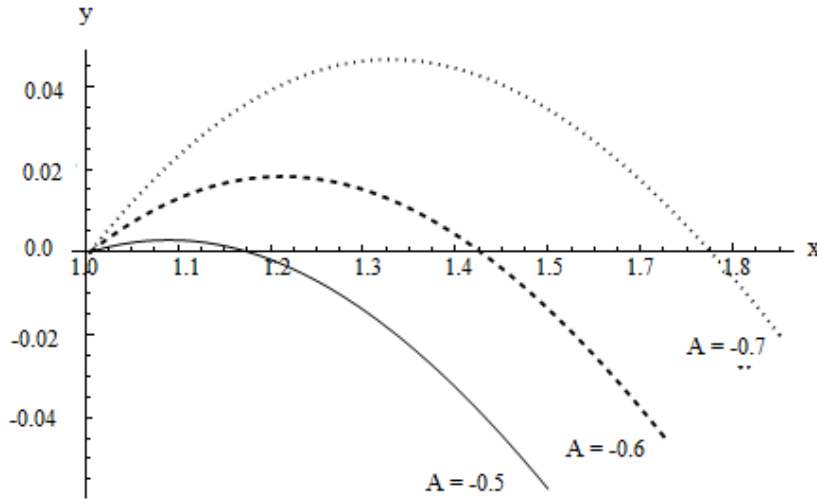
**Fig. 3** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (3) in a circular cylinder  $S : X^2 + Z^2 = 1$ ,  $Y = y$  behaves like the above figure.



**Fig. 4** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (1) in the sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  and at  $G=1$ , behaves like the above figure.



**Fig. 5** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (2) in the sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  behaves like the above figure.



**Fig. 6** The solution of the equation of geodesic for the Finsler metric (3) in the sphere, surface of constant curvature  $+1$  :  $g(u) = \cos u$  and  $f(u) = \sin u$  behaves like the above figure.

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