

Math 348 Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces

Lecture 2 Review of Pre-requisites

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Please do not hesitate to interrupt me if you have a question.

Pre-requisites to Classical Differential Geometry

Classical Differential Geometry

- **Objects to Study.**
 - Curves in \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3 ;
 - Surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 .
- **Ultimate Goal.** Understand curves and surfaces through quantities that can be calculated. Questions to answer:
 - When are two curves identical¹?
 - When are two surfaces identical?
 - When is a curve contained in a certain surface?
 - etc.
- **Idea.**
 - Calculate using calculus.
- **Procedure.**
 1. Represent curves and surfaces by functions;
 2. Study these functions by differentiation and integration;
 3. Interpret the results geometrically.

¹What do we mean by "identical"?

- **Multivariable Vector-valued Functions.**
 - Operations in the Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^n ;
 - Functions between two Euclidean spaces \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbb{R}^n ;
 - Geometric meanings of derivatives of these functions.
- **Linear Algebra.**
 - Efficient representations of \mathbb{R}^n .
 - Linear transformations and their matrix representations;
 - Properties of matrices and how to manipulate them.
- **Differential Equations².**
 - Solving simple ODEs;
 - Basic theory of differential equations.

²Geometry by algebra leads to algebraic equations; Geometry by calculus leads to differential equations.

Calculus of Multivariable Vector-valued Functions

The Euclidean Space \mathbb{R}^n

- **n D Euclidean Space.**
 - Represented by n -tuples of real numbers (coordinates) (x_1, \dots, x_n) .
 - Original motivation: The "ambient" space where particles live in.³
- **Two Interpretations of \mathbb{R}^n .**
 - Space for locations. (x_1, \dots, x_n) is a "point".
 - Space for velocities. (v_1, \dots, v_n) is a "vector".
 - Imagine at each point x in the location space \mathbb{R}^n , we could "overlay" a velocity space \mathbb{R}^n .
- **Understanding this distinction is crucial in DG.**

³Their trajectories are curves; They may be restricted to surfaces.

\mathbb{R}^n as a "Velocity" Space

- **Vectors.**

Its members are called "vectors". The following are basic operations on vectors.

- **Addition/Subtraction/Scalar Multiplication.**

$$u \pm v = (u_1 \pm v_1, \dots, u_n \pm v_n); \quad au = (au_1, \dots, au_n).$$

- **Norm.**

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + \dots + v_n^2}.$$

- **Inner Product.**

$$u \cdot v = u_1v_1 + \dots + u_nv_n.$$

- **Cross Product.** Let $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

$$u \times v = (u_2v_3 - u_3v_2, u_3v_1 - u_1v_3, u_1v_2 - u_2v_1).$$

Geometric Meanings of Vector Operations

- Addition/Subtraction/Scalar Multiplication.
- Norm.
- Inner Product.

$$\cos \theta = \frac{u \cdot v}{\|u\| \|v\|}.$$

- Cross Product.

$$u \times v \perp u, \quad u \times v \perp v.$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\|u \times v\|}{\|u\| \|v\|}.$$

$u \times v$ is a vector that is perpendicular to both u and v , its direction determined by the "right-hand-rule", with norm $\|u\| \|v\| \sin \theta$ where θ is the angle between u and v .

\mathbb{R}^n as a "Location" Space: Measurements

- Distance.

$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \cdots + (x_n - y_n)^2}.$$

- Area.

- Area is uniquely defined. If we agree on
 1. The unit square has area 1.
 2. The area of a disjoint union is the sum of the areas.
 3. Rigid movements does not change area
- Area of triangles in \mathbb{R}^3 .

The area of the triangle

$$(0, 0, 0) - (x_1, x_2, x_3) - (y_1, y_2, y_3) - (0, 0, 0)$$

is $\frac{1}{2} \|x \times y\|$.

- Volume.

- Volume is also uniquely defined.
- Volume of parallelopiped: $V = |(x \times y) \cdot z|$

- Moving with Velocity.

Functions

- Notation.

$$f: \mathbb{R}^m \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- Linear Transformations⁴.

- Definition: For all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$f(ax + by) = af(x) + bf(y)$$

- NO.1 Property: Can be represented by matrices.

$$f(x) = Ax.$$

- Bilinear Forms⁵. $f: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$.

- Definition: For all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $u, v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$B(au + bw, v) = aB(u, v) + bB(w, v); \quad B(u, aw + bv) = aB(u, w) + bB(u, v).$$

- NO.1 Property: Can be represented by matrices.

$$B(u, v) = u \cdot Av.$$

⁴The most important function.

⁵The second most important function.

Differentiate $f: \mathbb{R}^m \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ at a point $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$

- Recall definition.

$Df(x_0)$ is a linear transformation!

- $Df(x_0)$.
 - A linear transformation from \mathbb{R}^m to \mathbb{R}^n ;
 - Not the original "location" \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbb{R}^n , but a pair of "velocity" \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbb{R}^n , attached to the two locations spaces at x_0 and $f(x_0)$, respectively;
 - The "Jacobian matrix" is its matrix representation.
 - Directional derivative:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}(x) = Df(x)(v).$$

More on Differentiation

- Chain Rule.

$$\frac{\partial(g \circ f)_i}{\partial x_j} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial y_k}(f(x)) \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial x_j}(x).$$

- Second Order Derivative.
 - A bilinear form.
 - Represented by the Hessian matrix.
- Taylor Expansion.

$$f(x + v) = f(x) + Df(x)(v) + \frac{1}{2}D^2f(x)(v, v) + R.$$

Example

Let $f(x, y) = e^{xy}$. Its Taylor expansion at $(0, 0)$ to second order is

$$f(u, v) = 1 + uv + R.$$

Linear Algebra

Linear (In)dependence

- Representation of the velocity space.

Through a basis v_1, \dots, v_k : $v = a_1v_1 + \dots + a_kv_k$.

- Represent the whole space.

$$k \geq n.$$

- No redundancy. :

Each v_i is "independent" from all other v_j 's.

- Linear dependence/independence.

- Linear dependence of v_1, \dots, v_k : There are $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{R}$, not all zero, such that

$$a_1v_1 + \dots + a_kv_k = 0.$$

- Let v_1, \dots, v_k be linearly dependent. Then there is a v_i that is a linear combination of the other v_j 's.
- Linearly independent = Not linearly dependent.
- Linear independence of $v_1, \dots, v_k \implies k \leq n$.

- **The unique function on $n \times n$ matrices such that**
 1. Takes value 1 for the identity matrix;
 2. Changes sign when two columns are switched;
 3. Is a linear function for each column.
- **Formulas** for 2×2 and 3×3 matrices.
- **Geometric meaning.** Volume of parallelepiped.
- **Relation to linear (in)dependence.**

Let $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Let V be the matrix with v_1, \dots, v_n as columns. Then the vectors are linearly dependent if and only if $\det V = 0$.

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Most properties of an $n \times n$ matrix A are revealed through its eigenvalues.

Most of the remaining properties can be studied through also looking at its eigenvectors.

- **Calculation of eigenvalues.**

Solve $\det \lambda I - A = 0$.

- **Eigenvectors.** There are one or more eigenvectors associated with each eigenvalue. To calculate, solve

$$(\lambda I - A)v = 0$$

where λ is an eigenvalue.

- **Diagonalization.** If there are n linearly independent eigenvectors v_1, \dots, v_n , then $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$. V : Matrix with columns v_i . Λ : Diagonal matrix of the eigenvalues.

Differential Equations

The Simplest ODEs

Example

The solution to

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t), \quad x(t_0) = x_0$$

is $x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s)ds$.

Example

The solution to

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) + cx(t) = f(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

is

$$x(t) = e^{-ct}x_0 + \int_0^t e^{c(s-t)}f(s)ds.$$

- ODE System.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= f_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), & x_1(0) &= x_{01} \\ &\vdots & & \\ \frac{dx_n}{dt} &= f_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), & x_n(0) &= x_{0n}\end{aligned}$$

- Existence and Uniqueness.

The solution exists and is unique if f is differentiable with continuous derivatives.

- Explicit solution when f is linear.

Curves in Calculus

- Mathematical representations of curves;
- Tangent vectors;
- Measuring arc length for curves;
- Arc length parametrization.