

Math 348 Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces

Lecture 13 Curvatures

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

Review

The second fundamental form

- **The second fundamental form.**

$$\langle\langle v, w \rangle\rangle_{p,S} = \mathbb{L}v_1w_1 + \mathbb{M}(v_1w_2 + v_2w_1) + \mathbb{N}v_2w_2.$$

$$\mathbb{L} = \sigma_{uu} \cdot N = -N_u \cdot \sigma_u, \quad \mathbb{M} = \sigma_{uv} \cdot N = -N_u \cdot \sigma_v = -N_v \cdot \sigma_u,$$

$$\mathbb{N} = \sigma_{vv} \cdot N = -N_v \cdot \sigma_v.$$

- **The Weingarten map.** $\mathcal{W}_{p,S} := -D_p\mathcal{G}$

$$\mathcal{W}_{p,S}(a\sigma_u + b\sigma_v) = \tilde{a}\sigma_u + \tilde{b}\sigma_v, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a} \\ \tilde{b} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E} & \mathbb{F} \\ \mathbb{F} & \mathbb{G} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{L} & \mathbb{M} \\ \mathbb{M} & \mathbb{N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Relation between the first and second fundamental forms.**

$$\langle\langle v, w \rangle\rangle_{p,S} = \langle \mathcal{W}_{p,S}(v), w \rangle_{p,S} = \langle v, \mathcal{W}_{p,S}(w) \rangle_{p,S}.$$

- **Normal curvature and geodesic curvature.**

- When $\|w\| = 1$, $\kappa_n(p, w) = \mathbb{L}w_1^2 + 2\mathbb{M}w_1w_2 + \mathbb{N}w_2^2$.

- $\kappa N = \kappa_n N_S + \kappa_g(N_S \times T)$, $\kappa^2 = \kappa_n^2 + \kappa_g^2$.

- **Geodesic equations.**

Curvatures

Mean curvature.

$$p \in S. w_0 \in T_p S, \text{ unit vector.}$$

- $w \in T_p S$, unit vector;
- Normal curvature $\kappa_n(p, w)$ can be seen as a function of the angle θ from w_0 to w . $\kappa_n = \kappa_n(\theta)$.
- Taking average \Rightarrow "mean" curvature:

$$H := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \kappa_n(\theta) d\theta.$$

- H is independent of the choice of w_0 .
- H is a property of S at the point p .

Gaussian curvature.

$p \in S$. \mathcal{G} : Gauss map.

- Let σ be a surface patch for S ;
- $N = \mathcal{G} \circ \sigma$ is a surface patch for \mathbb{S}^2 ;
- Let $\Omega = \sigma(U)$ be a region in S . Then

$$\text{Area of } \Omega = \int_U \|\sigma_u \times \sigma_v\| \, du \, dv,$$

$$\text{Area of } \mathcal{G}(\Omega) = \int_U \|N_u \times N_v\| \, du \, dv.$$

- Define the Gaussian curvature $K = \frac{LN - M^2}{EG - F^2}$. Then

$$\|N_u \times N_v\| = |K| \|\sigma_u \times \sigma_v\|.$$

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$$|K(p)| = \lim_{U \rightarrow \{p\}} \frac{\text{Area of } \mathcal{G}(\Omega)}{\text{Area of } \Omega}.$$

Principal curvatures and principal vectors.

$p \in S$. $\kappa_n(\theta)$: normal curvatures of p .

- Let e_1, e_2 be an orthonormal basis for $T_p S$;
- Can assume $\theta =$ angle from e_1 ;
- Formula for normal curvatures.

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa_n(\theta) &= \kappa_n(\cos \theta e_1 + \sin \theta e_2) \\ &= \langle\langle e_1, e_1 \rangle\rangle \cos^2 \theta + 2\langle\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle\rangle \cos \theta \sin \theta + \langle\langle e_2, e_2 \rangle\rangle \sin^2 \theta.\end{aligned}$$

- Four critical points: $\theta_0, \theta_0 + \pi/2, \theta_0 + \pi, \theta_0 + 3\pi/2$.
- Two (equal) maxima κ_1 and two (equal) minima κ_2 . Call them the "principal curvatures".
- Two "principal directions": $\kappa(\pm t_1) = \kappa_1, \kappa(\pm t_2) = \kappa_2$.
- t_1, t_2 are orthogonal. Thus $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2}$.

Calculation of curvatures.

- **Gaussian curvature.** $K = \frac{LN-M^2}{EG-F^2}$.
- **Mean curvature and principal curvatures.**

1. Alternative calculation of the principal curvatures.

$$\max(\text{or min})\kappa(w) = \mathbb{L}w_1^2 + 2\mathbb{M}w_1w_2 + \mathbb{N}w_2^2 \text{ s. t. } \mathbb{E}w_1^2 + 2\mathbb{F}w_1w_2 + \mathbb{G}w_2^2 = 1.$$

2. Apply the theory of Lagrange multipliers.

$$L(a, b) = \left[\mathbb{L}w_1^2 + 2\mathbb{M}w_1w_2 + \mathbb{N}w_2^2 \right] - \lambda \left[\mathbb{E}w_1^2 + 2\mathbb{F}w_1w_2 + \mathbb{G}w_2^2 - 1 \right].$$

We have

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{L} & \mathbb{M} \\ \mathbb{M} & \mathbb{N} \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E} & \mathbb{F} \\ \mathbb{F} & \mathbb{G} \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. $\lambda = \frac{\langle\langle w, w \rangle\rangle}{\langle w, w \rangle} = \kappa_1, \kappa_2$, corresponding $w_1\sigma_u + w_2\sigma_v$ are t_1, t_2 .

Calculation of $H, K, \kappa_1, \kappa_2, t_1, t_2$.

Fundamental forms: $\mathbb{E}du^2 + 2\mathbb{F}dudv + \mathbb{G}dv^2, \mathbb{L}du^2 + 2\mathbb{M}dudv + \mathbb{N}dv^2$.

1. Mean curvature and Gaussian curvature.

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E} & \mathbb{F} \\ \mathbb{F} & \mathbb{G} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{L} & \mathbb{M} \\ \mathbb{M} & \mathbb{N} \end{pmatrix} \right], \quad K = \det \left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E} & \mathbb{F} \\ \mathbb{F} & \mathbb{G} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{L} & \mathbb{M} \\ \mathbb{M} & \mathbb{N} \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

2. Principal curvatures and principal vectors. Solve

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{L} & \mathbb{M} \\ \mathbb{M} & \mathbb{N} \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E} & \mathbb{F} \\ \mathbb{F} & \mathbb{G} \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solutions are $\kappa_1, a_1, b_1, \kappa_2, a_2, b_2$. Principal vectors are

$$t_i = a_i \sigma_u + b_i \sigma_v.$$

3. $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2}, K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$.

Examples

$$\sigma(u, v) = (u, v, f(u, v)).$$

$$K = \frac{f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2}{(1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2)^2}, H = \frac{(1 + f_y^2)f_{xx} - 2f_x f_y f_{xy} + (1 + f_x^2)f_{yy}}{2(1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2)^{3/2}}.$$

Looking Back and Forward

Required: §8.1,8.2; Optional: §8.3–8.6.

- **Properties.**

1. Gaussian curvature: Limiting ratio of areas;
2. Mean curvature: angular average of normal curvatures;
3. Principal curvatures: maximum and minimum of normal curvatures.
4. Principal vectors: Directions along which the normal curvature equals principal curvatures.

- **Formulas and procedures.**

1. Principal curvatures: $\det \begin{pmatrix} L - \kappa_j E & M - \kappa_j F \\ M - \kappa_j F & N - \kappa_j G \end{pmatrix} = 0;$

2. Principal vectors: $\left[\begin{pmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{pmatrix} - \kappa_j \begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} a_j \\ b_j \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} .,$
 $t_j = a_j \sigma_u + b_j \sigma_v.$

3. Mean curvature. $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[\begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{pmatrix} \right].$

4. Gaussian curvature. $K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 = \det \left[\begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{pmatrix} \right].$

Understanding surfaces through curvatures.

1. More examples.
2. Minimal surfaces.
3. Developable surfaces;