

# Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces

## Abbreviated lecture notes

### 1. Curves

1. If  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an open set then a **smooth map** (or a **differentiable map**)  $\mathbf{F} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a  $C^\infty$  map. If  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is any set then  $\mathbf{F} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **smooth** if there exist an open set  $U \supset D$  and a smooth map  $\mathbf{G} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that  $\mathbf{G}|_D = \mathbf{F}$ .
2. A **curve** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a smooth map  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval. The curve is called **regular** if  $\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t) \neq \mathbf{0}$  for all  $t \in I$ .
3. If  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a curve and  $t_0 \in I$  then the **arclength** measured from  $t_0$  is

$$s(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(u)\| du.$$

If  $\mathbf{c}$  is regular then  $s(t)$  is invertible, and we write  $\mathbf{c}(s) = \mathbf{c}(t(s))$  (slightly abusing the notation). In this case we have  $\|\mathbf{c}'(s)\| = 1$ .

4. If  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a regular curve parameterized by arclength, we define the positive orthonormal frame  $\{\mathbf{e}_1(s), \mathbf{e}_2(s)\}$  by taking  $\mathbf{e}_1(s) = \mathbf{c}'(s)$  (tangent to the curve) and  $\mathbf{e}_2(s) = R_{\frac{\pi}{2}} \mathbf{e}_1(s)$ , where  $R_{\frac{\pi}{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is a rotation by  $90^\circ$  in the positive direction. The **curvature** of  $\mathbf{c}$  is the smooth function  $k : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mathbf{c}''(s) = k(s)\mathbf{e}_2(s)$ . We have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1'(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_2'(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & k(s) \\ -k(s) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_2(s) \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. If  $k(s_0) \neq 0$  then  $r(s_0) = \frac{1}{|k(s_0)|}$  is the radius of the circle that approximates  $\mathbf{c}(s)$  to second order at  $s_0$  (**radius of curvature**). We have

$$\ddot{\mathbf{c}}(t) = \ddot{s}(t)\mathbf{e}_1(s(t)) \pm \frac{\dot{s}^2(t)}{r(s(t))}\mathbf{e}_2(s(t))$$

6. A **positive isometry** of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is a map  $\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  of the form  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$ , where  $A \in SO(2)$  is a **rotation matrix**, that is,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix}$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .
7. Two regular plane curves parameterized by arclength are related by a positive isometry if and only if their curvatures coincide.

8. If  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a curve (not necessarily parameterized by its arclength) then its curvature is given by

$$k(t) = \frac{\dot{x}(t)\ddot{y}(t) - \dot{y}(t)\ddot{x}(t)}{\left[(\dot{x}(t))^2 + (\dot{y}(t))^2\right]^{\frac{3}{2}}},$$

where  $\mathbf{c}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ .

9. A regular plane curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is said to be **closed** if  $\mathbf{c}(a) = \mathbf{c}(b)$  and moreover  $\mathbf{c}^{(n)}(a) = \mathbf{c}^{(n)}(b)$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (so that it can be extended to a periodic curve  $\mathbf{c} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ). A closed curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is said to be **simple** if its restriction to the interval  $[a, b)$  is injective. A simple closed curve is said to be **convex** if it bounds a convex set. A **vertex** of a simple closed curve is a critical point (maximum, minimum or inflection point) of its curvature.
10. **Four Vertex Theorem:** Every simple closed plane curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  has at least four vertices on  $[a, b]$  (in fact, at least two minima and two maxima).
11. If  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a plane curve parameterized by arclength and we write its unit tangent vector as  $\mathbf{c}'(s) = (\cos(\theta(s)), \sin(\theta(s)))$  then its curvature is  $k(s) = \theta'(s)$ .
12. The **rotation index** of a closed plane curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , parameterized by its arclength, with curvature  $k : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is the integer

$$m = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_a^b k(s) ds.$$

13. A **(free) homotopy by closed regular curves** between two closed regular plane curves  $\mathbf{c}_0, \mathbf{c}_1 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a smooth map  $\mathbf{H} : [a, b] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  such that:
- (i)  $\mathbf{H}(t, 0) = \mathbf{c}_0(t)$  for all  $t \in [a, b]$ ;
  - (ii)  $\mathbf{H}(t, 1) = \mathbf{c}_1(t)$  for all  $t \in [a, b]$ ;
  - (iii)  $\mathbf{c}_u(t) = \mathbf{H}(t, u)$  is a closed regular curve for all  $u \in [0, 1]$ .
14. If two closed regular plane curves are homotopic by closed regular curves then they have the same rotation index.
15. The **total curvature** of a closed plane curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , parameterized by its arclength, with curvature  $k : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is

$$\mu = \int_a^b |k(s)| ds.$$

16. The total curvature  $\mu$  of a closed regular curve satisfies  $\mu \geq 2\pi$ , and  $\mu = 2\pi$  if and only if the curve is convex.
17. **Isoperimetric inequality:** If  $\mathbf{c}$  is a simple closed curve with of minimal length enclosing a region of fixed area  $A$  then  $\mathbf{c}$  parameterizes a circle of radius  $r = \sqrt{\frac{A}{\pi}}$ . Conversely, if  $\mathbf{c}$  is a simple closed curve of fixed length  $l$  enclosing a region of maximal area then  $\mathbf{c}$  parameterizes a circle of radius  $r = \frac{l}{2\pi}$ .
18. The **curvature** of a space curve  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  parameterized by arclength is

$$k(s) = \|\mathbf{c}''(s)\| \geq 0.$$

If  $k(s) \neq 0$  we define the **normal vector** as

$$\mathbf{e}_2(s) = \frac{1}{k(s)} \mathbf{c}''(s),$$

and the **binormal vector** as

$$\mathbf{e}_3(s) = \mathbf{e}_1(s) \times \mathbf{e}_2(s),$$

where

$$\mathbf{e}_1(s) = \mathbf{c}'(s)$$

is the unit tangent vector.

19. **Frenet-Serret formulas:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1'(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_2'(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_3'(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & k(s) & 0 \\ -k(s) & 0 & \tau(s) \\ 0 & -\tau(s) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_2(s) \\ \mathbf{e}_3(s) \end{bmatrix},$$

where the function  $\tau(s)$  is called the **torsion** of the curve.

20. A regular space curve  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  with nonvanishing curvature has zero torsion if and only if it lies on a plane.
21. A **positive isometry** of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a map  $\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  of the form  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$ , where  $A \in SO(3)$  is a **rotation matrix**, that is,  $A^t A = I$  and  $\det A = 1$ .
22. Two regular space curves with nonvanishing curvature are related by a positive isometry if and only if their curvatures and torsions coincide.
23. **Frenkel's Theorem:** Let  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a closed regular space curve parameterized by arclength, and let  $k(s) = \|\mathbf{c}''(s)\|$  be its curvature. Then

$$\int_a^b k(s) ds \geq 2\pi,$$

and the equality holds if and only if  $\mathbf{c}$  is a plane convex curve.

24. A simple closed regular curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is called a **knot**. Two knots are called **equivalent** if they are homotopic (up to reparameterization) by simple closed regular curves. A knot is called **trivial** if it is equivalent to the circle.
25. Let  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a nontrivial knot parameterized by arclength, and let  $k(s) = \|\mathbf{c}''(s)\|$  be its curvature. Then

$$\int_a^b k(s) ds \geq 4\pi.$$

## 2. Differentiable manifolds

1. A set  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be a **differentiable manifold of dimension**  $m \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$  if for any point  $\mathbf{a} \in M$  there exists an open neighborhood  $U \ni \mathbf{a}$  and a smooth function  $\mathbf{f} : V \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$  such that

$$M \cap U = \text{Graph}(\mathbf{f}) \cap U$$

for some ordering of the Cartesian coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We also define a manifold of dimension 0 as a set of isolated points, and a manifold of dimension  $n$  as an open set.

2.  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a differentiable manifold of dimension  $m$  if and only if for each point  $\mathbf{a} \in M$  there exists an open set  $U \ni \mathbf{a}$  and a smooth function  $\mathbf{F} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$  such that:
  - (i)  $M \cap U = \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}\}$ ;
  - (ii)  $\text{rank } D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{a}) = n - m$ .
3. A vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be **tangent** to a set  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  at the point  $\mathbf{a} \in M$  if there exists a smooth curve  $\mathbf{c} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M$  such that  $\mathbf{c}(0) = \mathbf{a}$  and  $\dot{\mathbf{c}}(0) = \mathbf{v}$ . A vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be **orthogonal** to  $M$  at the point  $\mathbf{a}$  if it is orthogonal to all vectors tangent to  $M$  at  $\mathbf{a}$ .
4. If  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a manifold of dimension  $m$  then the set  $T_{\mathbf{a}}M$  of all vectors tangent to  $M$  at the point  $\mathbf{a} \in M$  is a vector space of dimension  $m$ , called the **tangent space** to  $M$  at  $\mathbf{a}$ . Its orthogonal complement  $T_{\mathbf{a}}^{\perp}M$  is a vector space of dimension  $(n - m)$ , called the **normal space** to  $M$  at  $\mathbf{a}$ .
5. Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be an  $m$ -manifold,  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ ,  $U \ni \mathbf{a}$  an open set and  $\mathbf{F} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$  such that  $M \cap U = \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}\}$  with  $\text{rank } D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{a}) = n - m$ . Then  $T_{\mathbf{a}}M = \ker D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{a})$ .
6. A **parameterization** of a given  $m$ -manifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a smooth injective map  $\mathbf{g} : U \rightarrow M$ , with  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  open, such that  $\text{rank } D\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{t}) = m$  for all  $\mathbf{t} \in U$ . We have

$$T_{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{t})}M = \text{span} \left\{ \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t^1}(\mathbf{t}), \dots, \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t^m}(\mathbf{t}) \right\}.$$

7. Given a smooth map  $\mathbf{g} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , with  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  open, such that  $\text{rank } D\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{t}) = m$  for all  $\mathbf{t} \in U$ , and given any point  $\mathbf{t}_0 \in U$ , there exists an open set  $U_0 \subset U$  with  $\mathbf{t}_0 \in U_0$  such that  $\mathbf{g}(U_0)$  is an  $m$ -manifold.

### 3. Differential forms

1. The **dual vector space** to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is

$$(\mathbb{R}^n)^* = \{\alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \alpha \text{ is linear}\}.$$

The elements of  $(\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  are called **covectors**.

2. The covectors  $dx^1, \dots, dx^n \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  defined through

$$dx^i(\mathbf{e}_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

form a basis for  $(\mathbb{R}^n)^*$ , whose dimension is then  $n$ .

3. A (covariant)  **$k$ -tensor**  $T$  is a multilinear map  $T : (\mathbb{R}^n)^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , i.e.
  - (i)  $T(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i + \mathbf{w}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) = T(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) + T(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k)$ ;
  - (ii)  $T(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \lambda \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) = \lambda T(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k)$ .
4. A  $k$ -tensor  $\alpha$  is said to be **alternating**, or a  **$k$ -covector**, if

$$\alpha(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_j, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) = -\alpha(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_j, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k).$$

We denote by  $\Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the vector space of all  $k$ -covectors.

5. Given  $i_1, \dots, i_k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we define  $dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k} \in \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$  as

$$dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) = \det \begin{bmatrix} dx^{i_1}(\mathbf{v}_1) & \dots & dx^{i_1}(\mathbf{v}_k) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ dx^{i_k}(\mathbf{v}_1) & \dots & dx^{i_k}(\mathbf{v}_k) \end{bmatrix}.$$

The set  $\{dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}\}_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n}$  is a basis for  $\Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , whose dimension is then  $\binom{n}{k}$ . Since  $\binom{n}{0} = 1$ , we define  $\Lambda^0(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbb{R}$ .

6. If  $\alpha \in \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\beta \in \Lambda^l(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,

$$\alpha = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}, \quad \beta = \sum_{j_1 < \dots < j_l} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_l} dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_l},$$

we define their **wedge product**  $\alpha \wedge \beta \in \Lambda^{k+l}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  as

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = \sum_{\substack{i_1 < \dots < i_k \\ j_1 < \dots < j_l}} \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_k} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_l} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k} \wedge dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_l}.$$

If  $\alpha$  is a 0-covector (real number), its wedge product by  $\alpha$  is simply the product by a scalar.

7. **Properties of the wedge product:**

- (i)  $\alpha \wedge (\beta + \gamma) = \alpha \wedge \beta + \alpha \wedge \gamma$ ;
- (ii)  $\alpha \wedge \beta = (-1)^{kl} \beta \wedge \alpha$  if  $\alpha \in \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n), \beta \in \Lambda^l(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ;
- (iii)  $\alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma) = (\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma$ .

8. A **differential form of degree  $k$**  on  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a smooth function  $\omega : U \rightarrow \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . We denote by  $\Omega^k(U)$  the set of  $k$ -forms on  $U$ .

9. If  $\mathbf{f} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow V \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is smooth and  $\omega \in \Omega^k(V)$  then the **pull-back** of  $\omega$  by  $\mathbf{f}$  is the  $k$ -form  $\mathbf{f}^*\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$  defined by

$$(\mathbf{f}^*\omega)(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k) = \omega(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}))(D\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, D\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{v}_k).$$

10. **Properties of the pull-back:**

- (i)  $\mathbf{f}^*(\omega + \eta) = \mathbf{f}^*\omega + \mathbf{f}^*\eta$ ;
- (ii)  $\mathbf{f}^*(\omega \wedge \eta) = \mathbf{f}^*\omega \wedge \mathbf{f}^*\eta$ ;
- (iii)  $(\mathbf{g} \circ \mathbf{f})^*(\omega) = \mathbf{f}^*(\mathbf{g}^*\omega)$ .

11. If  $\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$  with  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \omega_{i_1 \dots i_k}(\mathbf{x}) dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k},$$

then its **exterior derivative** is the  $(k+1)$ -form  $d\omega \in \Omega^{k+1}(U)$  defined by

$$d\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \omega_{i_1 \dots i_k}}{\partial x^i} dx^i \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}.$$

12. **Properties of the exterior derivative:**

- (i)  $d(\omega + \eta) = d\omega + d\eta$ ;
- (ii)  $d(\omega \wedge \eta) = d\omega \wedge \eta + (-1)^k \omega \wedge d\eta$  if  $\omega$  has degree  $k$ ;
- (iii)  $d(d\omega) = 0$ ;
- (iv)  $\mathbf{f}^*(d\omega) = d(\mathbf{f}^*\omega)$ .

13. We say that  $\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$  is:

- (i) **closed** if  $d\omega = 0$ ;
- (ii) **exact** if  $\omega = d\eta$  for some  $\eta \in \Omega^{k-1}(U)$  (called a **potential** for  $\omega$ ).

14. If  $\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$  is exact then  $\omega$  is closed.

15. **Poincaré Lemma:** If  $\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$  is closed and the open set  $U$  is star-shaped then  $\omega$  is exact.

16. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$  and  $\mathbf{h} : V \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$  are parameterizations of the  $m$ -manifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $\mathbf{h}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{g}$  is a **diffeomorphism** (smooth bijection with smooth inverse).

17. We say that two parameterizations  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$  and  $\mathbf{h} : V \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$  of the  $m$ -manifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  induce the **same orientation** if  $\det D(\mathbf{h}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{g}) > 0$ , and **opposite orientations** if  $\det D(\mathbf{h}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{g}) < 0$ . The manifold  $M$  is called **orientable** if it is possible to choose parameterizations whose images cover  $M$  and induce the same orientation. An **orientation** on an orientable manifold is a choice of a maximal family of parameterizations under these conditions, which are said to be **positive**. An orientable manifold with a choice of orientation is said to be **oriented**.

18. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$  is a positive parameterization of the oriented  $m$ -manifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\omega \in \Omega^m(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we define the **integral** of  $\omega$  along  $\mathbf{g}(U)$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{g}(U)} \omega &= \int_U \omega(\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{t})) \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t^m} \right) dt^1 \dots dt^m \\ &= \int_U \mathbf{g}^* \omega(\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m) dt^1 \dots dt^m. \end{aligned}$$

19. If we think of an open set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  as an  $n$ -manifold parameterized by the identity map (which we take to be positive), then

$$\int_U f(\mathbf{x}) dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n = \int_U f(\mathbf{x}) dx^1 \dots dx^n,$$

and so

$$\int_{\mathbf{g}(U)} \omega = \int_U \mathbf{g}^* \omega.$$

20. The integral of a  $m$ -form on the image of a positive parameterization of an  $m$ -manifold is well defined, that is, it is independent of the choice of parameterization.

21. If  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an oriented  $m$ -manifold and  $\omega \in \Omega^m(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we define

$$\int_M \omega = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathbf{g}_i(U_i)} \omega,$$

where  $\mathbf{g}_i : U_i \rightarrow M$  are positive parameterizations whose images are disjoint and cover  $M$  except for a finite number of manifolds of dimension smaller than  $m$ . It can be shown that it is always possible to obtain a finite number of parameterizations of this kind, and that the definition above does not depend on the choice of these parameterizations.

22. Informally, an  **$m$ -manifold with boundary** is a subset  $M \subset N$  of an  $m$ -manifold  $N \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  delimited by an  $(m-1)$ -manifold  $\partial M \subset M$ , called the **boundary** of  $M$ , such that  $M \setminus \partial M$  is again an  $m$ -manifold. We say that  $M$  is **orientable** if  $N$  is orientable. If  $M$  is oriented, the **induced orientation** on  $\partial M$  is defined as follows: if  $\mathbf{g} : U \cap \{t^1 \leq 0\} \rightarrow M$  is a positive parameterization of  $M$  such that  $\mathbf{h}(t^2, \dots, t^m) = \mathbf{g}(0, t^2, \dots, t^m)$  is a parameterization of  $\partial M$ , then  $\mathbf{h}$  is positive. Moreover, if  $\omega \in \Omega^m(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , we define

$$\int_M \omega = \int_{M \setminus \partial M} \omega.$$

23. **Stokes Theorem:** If  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a compact, oriented  $m$ -manifold with boundary and  $\omega \in \Omega^{m-1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  then

$$\int_M d\omega = \int_{\partial M} \omega,$$

where  $\partial M$  has the induced orientation.

24. If  $M$  is an oriented compact  $m$ -manifold (without boundary) and  $\omega \in \Omega^{m-1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  then

$$\oint_M d\omega = 0.$$

#### 4. Surfaces

1. A **surface** is a 2-dimensional differentiable manifold  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ .
2. The **first fundamental form** of a surface  $S$  parameterized by  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is the quadratic form

$$\mathbf{I} = d\mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{g} = Edu^2 + 2Fdu\,dv + Gdv^2,$$

where

$$\begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \end{bmatrix}$$

is a positive definite matrix of functions, called the **matrix of the metric**.

3. The squared length of a vector tangent to a surface  $S$  parameterized by  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is

$$\left\| v^1 \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + v^2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \right\|^2 = \mathbf{I}(v^1, v^2) = E(v^1)^2 + 2Fv^1v^2 + G(v^2)^2.$$

In particular, the length of a curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow S$  given by  $\mathbf{c}(t) = \mathbf{g}(u(t), v(t))$  is

$$\int_a^b \sqrt{\mathbf{I}(\dot{u}(t), \dot{v}(t))} dt = \int_a^b \sqrt{E\dot{u}^2 + 2F\dot{u}\dot{v} + G\dot{v}^2} dt$$

4. The **second fundamental form** of a surface  $S$  parameterized by  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is the quadratic form

$$\mathbf{II} = -d\mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{n} = Ldu^2 + 2Mdu\,dv + Ndv^2,$$

where

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v}}{\left\| \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \right\|}$$

is a unit normal vector to  $S$  and

$$\begin{bmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial u^2} \cdot \mathbf{n} & \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial u \partial v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial v \partial u} \cdot \mathbf{n} & \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial v^2} \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. At a point where the second fundamental form is definite ( $LN - M^2 > 0$ ) the surface is convex (i.e. it lies on the same side of the tangent plane); at a point where the second fundamental form is indefinite ( $LN - M^2 < 0$ ) the surface is not convex (i.e. it lies on both sides of the tangent plane).

6. **Gauss's equations:**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial u^2} &= \Gamma_{uu}^u \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \Gamma_{uu}^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} + L\mathbf{n}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial u \partial v} &= \Gamma_{uv}^u \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \Gamma_{uv}^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} + M\mathbf{n}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial v \partial u} &= \Gamma_{vu}^u \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \Gamma_{vu}^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} + M\mathbf{n}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}}{\partial v^2} &= \Gamma_{vv}^u \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \Gamma_{vv}^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} + N\mathbf{n}, \end{aligned}$$

where the functions  $\Gamma_{uu}^u, \Gamma_{uv}^u = \Gamma_{vu}^u, \Gamma_{vv}^u, \Gamma_{uu}^v, \Gamma_{uv}^v = \Gamma_{vu}^v, \Gamma_{vv}^v$  are called the **Christoffel symbols**.

7. **Weingarten's equations:**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial u} &= \frac{FM - GL}{EG - F^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \frac{FL - EM}{EG - F^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v}; \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial v} &= \frac{FN - GM}{EG - F^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + \frac{FM - EN}{EG - F^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v}. \end{aligned}$$

8. The **normal curvature** of a curve  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow S$  on a surface  $S$ , parameterized by arclength, is  $k_n(s) = \mathbf{c}''(s) \cdot \mathbf{n}$ , where  $\mathbf{n}$  is a unit normal vector to  $S$  at  $\mathbf{c}(s)$ . If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is a parameterization and  $\mathbf{c}(s) = \mathbf{g}(u(s), v(s))$  then  $k_n(s) = \mathbf{II}(u'(s), v'(s))$ .
9. The maximum and the minimum of  $\mathbf{II}(v^1, v^2)$  subject to the constraint  $\mathbf{I}(v^1, v^2) = 1$  are called the **principal curvatures** of  $S$  at the point under consideration. The directions of the corresponding unit tangent vectors are called the **principal directions** of  $S$  at that point. If the principal curvatures are different then the principal directions are orthogonal.
10. The **mean curvature** of a surface  $S$  at a given point is

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2) = \frac{EN + GL - 2FM}{2(EG - F^2)},$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are the principal curvatures at that point. The **Gauss curvature** of  $S$  at the same point is

$$K = k_1 k_2 = \frac{LN - M^2}{EG - F^2}.$$

$S$  is said to be **minimal** if  $H \equiv 0$ , and **flat** if  $K \equiv 0$ .



11. If  $k_1 = k_2$  at some point then that point is called **umbilic**. Moreover, we call the point **elliptic** if  $K > 0$ , **hyperbolic** if  $K < 0$ , and **parabolic** if  $K = 0$ . The surface is convex at elliptic points, and is not convex at hyperbolic points.
12. The principal direction corresponding to the principal curvature  $k_1$  is given by tangent vectors of the form

$$v^1 \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} + v^2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v}$$

such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \end{bmatrix} = k_1 \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

13. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is a parameterization then the **area** of  $\mathbf{g}(U) \subset S$  is

$$A = \iint_U \left\| \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v} \right\| du dv = \iint_U \sqrt{EG - F^2} du dv.$$

14. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is a parameterization then

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{n}}{\partial v} = K \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial v}.$$

In particular, if  $K(u_0, v_0) \neq 0$  then

$$|K(u_0, v_0)| = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{A'(\varepsilon)}{A(\varepsilon)},$$

where  $A(\varepsilon)$  is the area of  $\mathbf{g}(B_\varepsilon(u_0, v_0)) \subset S$  and  $A'(\varepsilon)$  is the area of  $\mathbf{n}(B_\varepsilon(u_0, v_0)) \subset S^2$ .

15. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is a parameterization,

$$\mathbf{g}_\varepsilon(u, v) = \mathbf{g}(u, v) + \varepsilon f(u, v) \mathbf{n}(u, v)$$

is a small deformation of  $\mathbf{g}$  and  $A(\varepsilon)$  is the area of  $\mathbf{g}_\varepsilon(U)$  then

$$\frac{dA}{d\varepsilon}(0) = -2 \iint_U f H \sqrt{EG - F^2} du dv.$$

In particular, if  $S$  has minimal area (for a fixed boundary) then  $H \equiv 0$ , and if  $S$  has minimal area while bounding a fixed volume then  $H$  is constant.

16. If  $\mathbf{g} : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S$  is a parameterization,  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3 = \mathbf{n}\}$  is an orthonormal frame and  $\theta^1, \theta^2 \in \Omega^1(U)$  are such that

$$d\mathbf{g} = \theta^1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \theta^2 \mathbf{e}_2$$

then the first fundamental form is

$$\mathbf{I} = (\theta^1)^2 + (\theta^2)^2.$$

Moreover, if  $\omega_i^j \in \Omega^1(U)$  are such that

$$d\mathbf{e}_i = \sum_{j=1}^3 \omega_i^j \mathbf{e}_j,$$

we have

$$\omega_i{}^j = -\omega_j{}^i.$$

Defining the symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $B$  through

$$\begin{cases} \omega_1{}^3 = b_{11}\theta^1 + b_{12}\theta^2 \\ \omega_2{}^3 = b_{21}\theta^1 + b_{22}\theta^2 \end{cases},$$

we have

$$\mathbf{II} = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 b_{ij}\theta^i\theta^j.$$

In particular,

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} B \quad \text{and} \quad K = \det B$$

(that is, the eigenvalues of  $B$  are  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ).