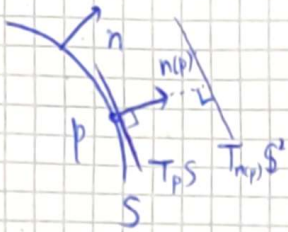


# Differential Geometry I Week 11

Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be a  $C^2$  surface with a coorientation  $n$ .



• Gauss map:  $n: S \rightarrow S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$

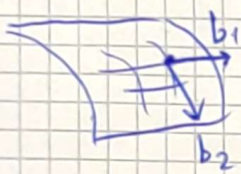
• Since we can identify  $T_p S$  with  $T_{n(p)} S^2$ :

Shape operator:  $dn_p: T_p S \rightarrow T_p S$   
(also  $L_p$ )

• Second fundamental form:

$$h_p: T_p S \times T_p S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h_p(v, w) = - \langle L_p(v), w \rangle$$

Proposition: Let  $\psi: \Omega \rightarrow S$  be a  $C^2$  parametrization and let



$b_i = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_i}$ ,  $i=1,2$ , be the corresponding basis vectors of  $T_p S$  at  $p = \psi(u)$ . Then in this basis, the matrix  $[h_{ij}] = [h(b_i, b_j)]$  of  $h_p$

satisfies) 
$$h_{ij}(u) = \left\langle n(\psi(u)), \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial u_i \partial u_j}(u) \right\rangle = - \left\langle \frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial u_i \partial u_j}(n(\psi(u))), \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_j} \right\rangle$$

Corollary:  $h$  is symmetric:  $h_p(v, w) = h_p(w, v)$  (since  $h_p(v, w) = \sum_{i,j} h_{ij}(u) v^i w^j$  and  $h_{ij} = h_{ji}$ )

Moreover:  $\langle L_p(v), w \rangle = \langle v, L_p(w) \rangle$ ,

so  $L_p$  is self-adjoint.

Proof: Denote  $n(u) := n(\psi(u))$ . Then, since  $\langle n, b_i \rangle = 0$ ,

by differentiating:  $\left\langle \frac{\partial n}{\partial u_i}, b_j \right\rangle + \left\langle n, \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial u_i} \right\rangle = 0$  ①

Note:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} n(u) := \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} (n(\psi(u))) = dn_{\psi(u)} \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_i}(u) \right) = dn_{\psi(u)}(b_i)$

So ①  $\Rightarrow \langle dn_{\psi(u)}(b_i), b_j \rangle + \left\langle n, \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial u_i} \right\rangle = 0$

So:  $h_p(b_i, b_j) = - \langle L_p(b_i), b_j \rangle = - \langle dn_{\psi(u)}(b_i), b_j \rangle = \left\langle n, \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial u_i} \right\rangle =$

$$= \langle \eta, \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j} \psi \rangle. \quad \square$$

Proposition: In the basis  $\{b_1, b_2\}$  of  $T_p S$  (for any  $p \in S$ ),  
Let  $H$  be the matrix of  $h$ ,  $G$  the first fundamental form and  
 $L$  the matrix of  $L_p$ . Then

$$H = -GL = -L^T G$$

$$(\Leftrightarrow L = -G^{-1}H)$$

Proof:

For any  $\xi, \eta \in T_p S$ : If  $\xi = \xi_1 b_1 + \xi_2 b_2$  (so  $\xi = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \end{bmatrix}$ ) and  
 $\eta = \eta_1 b_1 + \eta_2 b_2$ , then  $h(\xi, \eta) = \xi^T H \eta$ ,  $\langle \xi, \eta \rangle = \xi^T G \eta$ .

(since  $h(\xi, \eta) = h(\sum_{i=1}^2 \xi_i b_i, \sum_{j=1}^2 \eta_j b_j) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 h(b_i, b_j) \xi_i \eta_j$ .)

$$\text{So: } \xi^T H \eta = h(\xi, \eta) = -\langle L(\xi), \eta \rangle = -(L\xi)^T G \eta = -\xi^T L^T G \eta$$

True for any  $\xi, \eta \Rightarrow H = -L^T G$ . Since  $h$  symmetric:

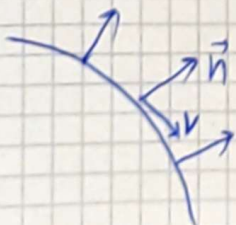
$$H^T = H^T = (-L^T G)^T = -G^T L = -GL \quad (G^T = G) \quad \square$$

### Curvature of a surface:

Let  $S$  be a  $C^2$  co-oriented surface and  $p \in S$ .

Def:  $\forall v \in T_p S \setminus \{0\}$ : Normal curvature in the direction of  $v$ :

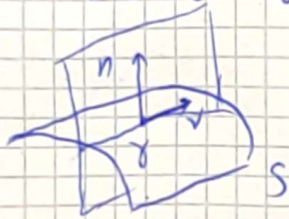
$$k_n(v) = \frac{h_p(v, v)}{\langle v, v \rangle} = - \frac{\langle L_p(v), v \rangle}{\langle v, v \rangle}$$



← In other case:  $k_n(v) < 0$   
(Different authors: Different sign convention)

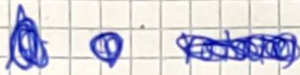
Note: From Meusnier's theorem: If  $\gamma: I \rightarrow S$  is any curve on  $S$  such that  $\gamma(t) = p$ , then the normal curvature of  $\gamma$  at  $\gamma(t)$  is equal to the normal curvature of  $S$  at  $p$  in the direction  $\dot{\gamma}(t)$ . Hence we use the same symbol.

We can always choose as the curve  $\gamma$ :



The intersection of  $S$  with the plane spanned by  $\{n, v\}$  (normal section)

Then  $k_n(p) =$  curvature of that planar curve



Let us consider the Weingarten map (or shape operator)

$$L_p: T_p S \rightarrow T_p S.$$

It is a self-adjoint operator ( $\langle L_p(\xi), \eta \rangle = \langle \xi, L_p(\eta) \rangle \forall \xi, \eta \in T_p S$ )

therefore from the spectral theorem:

- It has orthonormal eigenvectors  $\{e_1, e_2\}$
- The corresponding eigenvalues  $-k_1, -k_2$  are real.

Definition: The eigenvalues  $k_1, k_2$  of  $-L_p$ : Principal curvatures (ordered so that  $k_1 \leq k_2$ ). So  $k_1, k_2: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Definition: Gauss curvature of  $S$  at  $p$ :

$$K(p) = \det(L_p) = k_1(p) k_2(p).$$

We use the following terminology:

Def: The point  $p$  of the surface  $S$  is

- Elliptic, if  $K(p) > 0$  (so  $k_1, k_2$ : same sign;  $h$  is either positive definite or negative definite)
- Hyperbolic if  $K(p) < 0$  (so  $k_1, k_2$ : opposite sign)
- Parabolic if  $k_1 = 0$  or  $k_2 = 0$
- Planar if  $k_1 = k_2 = 0$
- Umbilic if  $k_1 = k_2$  (in this case:  $L_p = \lambda \cdot \mathbb{I}$ )

Note: If we flip the co-orientation:  $\nu \rightarrow -\nu$  then we have  $L_p \rightarrow -L_p$ ,  $h_p \rightarrow -h_p$  (so the signs of  $k_1, k_2$  change). but  $K(p)$  stays the same, and similarly the classification of a point  $p$  as above stays the same.

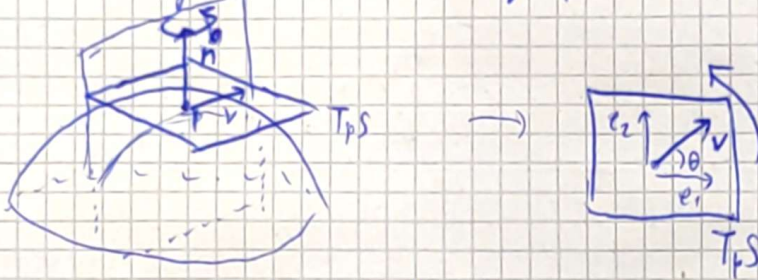
Def: • Mean curvature at  $p$ :  $H = \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2)$  (so changes sign when flipping co-orientation)

- If  $p$  is not umbilic: Principal direction: The unique eigenvectors of  $L_p$ ,  $e_1, e_2$  normalized to have unit length. (If  $p$  is umbilic: Any ~~arbitrary~~ vector in  $T_p S$  is an eigenvector.)
- A curve  $\gamma$  on  $S$  is a line of curvature if  $\dot{\gamma}(t)$  is parallel to a principal direction at every point.

• Note: Since  $H = -GL$ , we have

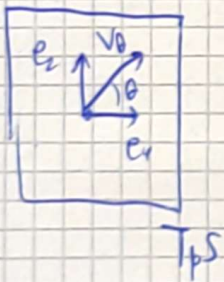
$$K(p) = \det(L_p) = \frac{\det(H(p))}{\det(G(p))}$$

Suppose that at  $p \in S$ , we look at the family of normal sections obtained by rotating the intersecting plane:



How does the curvature of the normal section change?

Theorem (Euler): Let  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  be the principal directions at  $T_p S$  (if  $p$  is non-umbilic), or any orthonormal basis of  $T_p M$  if  $p$  is umbilic. If  $v_0 = \cos\theta \cdot e_1 + \sin\theta \cdot e_2$ , then



$$k_n(v_0) = k_1 \cos^2\theta + k_2 \sin^2\theta$$

Corollaries: •  $k_1$  is the minimum value of  $k_n(v_0)$ ,  
 $k_2$  is the maximum value as we rotate  $v_0$

• If  $k_1, k_2 > 0$ ,  $k_n(v) > 0$  always.

Proof: Since  $\langle v_0, v_0 \rangle = 1$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} k_n(v_0) &= \frac{h_p(v_0, v_0)}{\langle v_0, v_0 \rangle} = h_p(\cos\theta \cdot e_1 + \sin\theta \cdot e_2, \cos\theta \cdot e_1 + \sin\theta \cdot e_2) \\ &= \cos^2\theta \cdot h(e_1, e_1) + 2\cos\theta \sin\theta \cdot h(e_1, e_2) + \sin^2\theta \cdot h(e_2, e_2) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $L_p(e_1) = -k_1 e_1$ ,  $L_p(e_2) = -k_2 e_2$ :

$$h_p(e_1, e_1) = -\langle L_p(e_1), e_1 \rangle = \bullet k_1 \langle e_1, e_1 \rangle = k_1$$

$$h_p(e_1, e_2) = -\langle L_p(e_1), e_2 \rangle = k_1 \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle = 0$$

$$h_p(e_2, e_2) = k_2 \quad \square$$

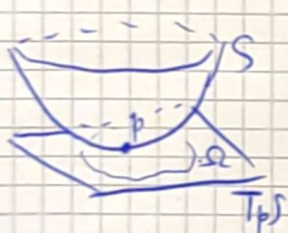
Proof of corollary:

$$k_n(v_0) = \cos^2 \theta \cdot k_1 + \sin^2 \theta \cdot k_2 = k_1 + (k_2 - k_1) \cdot \sin^2 \theta$$

since  $0 \leq \sin^2 \theta \leq 1$ : we get the result  $\square$

How does the shape of a surface look like around an elliptic/hyperbolic/parabolic point?

It is convenient to represent  $S$  as the graph of a function



if  $p \in S$ : I can always find Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y, z)$  so that

$$p = (0, 0, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad T_p S = \{z = 0\}$$

Then locally around  $p$ :  $S$  can be represented as the graph of a  $C^2$  function:

$$z = \phi(x, y) \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2 \cong T_p S$$

$$\bullet p = (0, 0, 0) \Rightarrow \phi(0, 0) = 0$$

$$\bullet T_p S = \{z = 0\} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}(0, 0) = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}(0, 0) = 0$$

Parametrization:  $\psi: \Omega \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3, \quad \psi(x, y) = (x, y, \phi(x, y))$

$$\text{and } b_1 = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}(0) = (1, 0, 0) = e_1$$

$$b_2 = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}(0) = (0, 1, 0) = e_2$$

Choose co-orientation:

$$n = b_1 \times b_2 = e_3 \text{ at } p.$$

• Metric tensor  $G_p = \begin{bmatrix} \langle b_1, b_1 \rangle_p & \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle_p \\ \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle_p & \langle b_2, b_2 \rangle_p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

• Second fundamental form:  $h_p$ :

$$h_{11} = \langle n, \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \rangle = \langle e_3, \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \rangle = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}(0)$$

$$h_{12} = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x \partial y}(0), \quad h_{22} = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2}(0)$$

So  $H_p = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{xx}(0) & \phi_{xy}(0) \\ \phi_{xy}(0) & \phi_{yy}(0) \end{bmatrix}$

• Shape operator:  $L_p = -G_p H_p = - \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{xx} & \phi_{xy} \\ \phi_{xy} & \phi_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$

• Gauss curvature:  $K = \det L = \phi_{xx}(0)\phi_{yy}(0) - (\phi_{xy}(0))^2$

• Mean curvature:  $H = -\frac{1}{2} \text{trace } L = \frac{1}{2} (\phi_{xx}(0) + \phi_{yy}(0))$

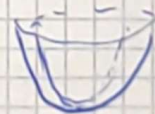
By rotating in the plane: I can make  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  be principal directions. Then  $L_p$  diagonal (so  $\phi_{xy} = 0$ ).

Taylor expansion for  $\phi$ : In this case (since  $\phi_{xy}(0) = 0$ )

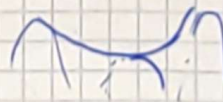
$$\phi(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} (ax^2 + by^2) + o(x^2 + y^2)$$

So  $k_1(0) = a, k_2(0) = b, K = a \cdot b$

• Elliptic point:  $a, b > 0$  (or both  $< 0$ ):



• Hyperbolic point:  $a < 0 < b$



• Parabolic point:  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ :



Note: Using our sign convention:



If  $S$  is convex and  $n$  points inwards, then  $h$  is positive definite.

(Sometimes different authors use the opposite sign convention, i.e.  $h(v,w) = + \langle L_p(v), w \rangle$ )

- On a sphere or on a plane: Every point is umbilic (we will show that's an if and only if statement).
- If  $S$  is contained in the boundary of a convex domain:  $K \geq 0$   
(locally, The converse also true) ~~and if  $S$  is convex,~~

Let's calculate the curvature for some explicit examples:

Let  $a(v) = (r(v), z(v))$  ( $v \in I$ ) be a  $C^2$  curve in the plane,  $r(v) > 0$ , and let  $S$  be the surface of revolution obtained



by rotating  $a$  around the  $z$  axis. Assume  $\|a'\| = 1$

So  $S$  parametrized by

$$\psi: [0, 2\pi) \times I \rightarrow S,$$

$$\psi(u, v) = (r(v) \cdot \cos u, r(v) \cdot \sin u, z(v))$$

Basis for  $T_{\psi(u,v)} S$ :  $b_1 = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u} = \begin{bmatrix} -r(v) \cdot \sin u \\ r(v) \cdot \cos u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $b_2 = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial v} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r}(v) \cdot \cos u \\ \dot{r}(v) \cdot \sin u \\ \dot{z}(v) \end{bmatrix}$

$$N = \frac{b_1 \times b_2}{\|b_1 \times b_2\|} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{z}(v) \cdot \cos u \\ \dot{z}(v) \cdot \sin u \\ -\dot{r}(v) \end{bmatrix}$$

(we used that  $\|a'\| = 1 \Leftrightarrow \dot{r}^2 + \dot{z}^2 = 1$ )

Then

• Metric tensor:  $G = \begin{bmatrix} r^2(v) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

•  $\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial u^2} = \begin{bmatrix} -r(v) \cdot \cos u \\ -r(v) \cdot \sin u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial u \partial v} = \begin{bmatrix} -\dot{r}(v) \cdot \sin u \\ \dot{r}(v) \cdot \cos u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial v^2} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{r}(v) \cdot \cos u \\ \ddot{r}(v) \cdot \sin u \\ \ddot{z}(v) \end{bmatrix}$

So  $h_{ij} = \langle n, \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} \rangle \Rightarrow H = \begin{bmatrix} -r(v) \cdot \ddot{z}(v) & 0 \\ 0 & \dot{r}(v) \cdot \ddot{z}(v) - \ddot{z}(v) \cdot \dot{r}(v) \end{bmatrix}$

• Gauss curvature:  $K = \frac{\det H}{\det G} = \frac{-r \cdot \ddot{z} (\dot{r} \cdot \ddot{z} - \ddot{z} \cdot \dot{r})}{r^2} = \frac{\ddot{z} \cdot \ddot{z} \cdot r - (\dot{z})^2 \cdot \ddot{r}}{r}$

Since  $\dot{r}^2 + \dot{z}^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \dot{r} \cdot \ddot{r} + \dot{z} \cdot \ddot{z} = 0$

We have  $\dot{z}^2 = 1 - \dot{r}^2$   
and  $\dot{z} \cdot \ddot{z} = -\dot{r} \cdot \ddot{r}$

$K = -\frac{1}{r(v)} \cdot \ddot{r}(v)$

(depends only on  $v$ !  
Rotation in  $u$  is isometry)

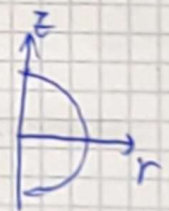
• Weingarten map:

$$L = -G^{-1}H = -\begin{bmatrix} r^{-2} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -r \cdot \ddot{z} & 0 \\ 0 & \dot{r} \cdot \ddot{z} - \ddot{z} \cdot \dot{r} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\ddot{z}}{r} & 0 \\ 0 & \ddot{z} \cdot r - \dot{r} \cdot \dot{z} \end{bmatrix}$$

So  $e_1, e_2$ : principal directions (so meridians and parallels are lines of curvature)

• For a sphere: Obtained by rotating the curve

$r(v) = R \cdot \cos(\frac{v}{R})$ ,  $z(v) = R \cdot \sin(\frac{v}{R})$ ,  $v \in (-\frac{\pi}{2R}, \frac{\pi}{2R})$



Then  $L = \begin{bmatrix} 1/R & 0 \\ 0 & 1/R \end{bmatrix}$

so every point is umbilic

and  $K = \frac{1}{R^2}$

What if a surface of revolution has constant curvature?

If  $K = \text{const}$ , then from  $K = -\frac{1}{r} \cdot \ddot{r} \Rightarrow \ddot{r} + Kr = 0$

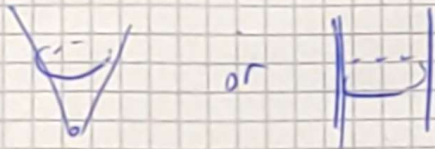
From unit speed:  $\dot{z} = \sqrt{1 - \dot{r}^2}$

So we can determine the curve  $\alpha$  (and hence the surface.)

• If  $K = +1$ :  $\ddot{r} + r = 0$  One solution:  $r(v) = \cos v$   
 $\Rightarrow z(v) = \sin v$

So: the sphere  
(any other solution would just give a rotated parametrization of the sphere)

• If  $K = 0$ :  $\ddot{r} = 0 \Rightarrow r(v) = a \cdot v$   
and  $z(v) = \sqrt{1 - a^2} \cdot v$



• If  $K = -1$ : One solution

$$r(v) = e^{-v}, \quad z(v) = \int_0^v \sqrt{1 - e^{-2s}} ds$$



(Even ~~without~~ without the assumption that  $S$  is rotationally symmetric:  $K = +1$  implies that each connected component of  $S$  is part of a sphere of radius 1)

Theorem: If all the points of  $S$  (assuming it's <sup>connected and</sup> of class  $C^1$ ) are umbilic, then  $S$  is contained in a sphere or in a plane

Proof: Assume that  $\forall p \in S$ ,  $L_p: T_p S \rightarrow T_p S$  is of the form  $L_p = \lambda(p) \cdot Id$  (i.e.  $p$  is umbilic).

Let  $\psi: \Omega \rightarrow S$  be a local parametrization of  $S$ , then

~~$$L_p = \lambda(p) \cdot Id$$~~

$\forall u \in \Omega$ : (denoting  $n(u) := n(\psi(u))$  and  $\lambda(u) := \lambda(\psi(u))$ )

$$L_{\psi(u)}(b_i) = \lambda(u) b_i \Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i}(n(u)) = \lambda(u) \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_i}$$

$$dn_{\psi(u)}(b_i)$$

So differentiating with  $\frac{\partial}{\partial u_j}$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} n(u) = \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial u_j} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_i} + \lambda \cdot \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial u_j \partial u_i}$$

Doing the same but with  $i \leftrightarrow j$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} n(u) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u_j \partial u_i} n(u) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial u_i} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_j} + \lambda \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} = \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial u_j} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_i} + \lambda \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial u_j \partial u_i}$$

$i=1, j=2$ : Since  $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_1}, \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial u_2}$  linearly independent  $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial u_1} = \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial u_2} = 0$

So  $\lambda = \text{const}$  on  $S$  (since  $S$  is connected)

• If  $\lambda = 0$ :  $L_p = 0 \Leftrightarrow \forall p \in S \Rightarrow dn_p = 0 \quad \forall p \Rightarrow n = \text{const}$

So  $S$  is contained in a plane □

• If  $\lambda \neq 0$ :  $\psi(u) - \frac{1}{\lambda} \cdot n(u)$  is constant on  $S$  so  $S$  inside the sphere centered at  $\psi - \frac{1}{\lambda} n$  of radius  $\frac{1}{|\lambda|}$ .