

**INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY MIDTERM EXAM  
SOLUTION (VERSION 3)**

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- (1) (a) 20 pt Let  $S$  be smooth surface with unit normal vector  $\mathbf{N}$ . The Weingarten map  $\mathcal{W}$  can be defined as  $\mathcal{W}_{\sigma(u,v)}(a\sigma_u + b\sigma_v) = -a\mathbf{N}_u - b\mathbf{N}_v$ . Prove that

$$K = \frac{LN - M^2}{EG - F^2} \quad \text{and} \quad H = \frac{1}{2} \frac{LG - 2MF + NE}{EG - F^2}.$$

- (b) 25 pt The surface is parametrized by

$$\sigma(u, v) = (\operatorname{sech}(u) \cos(v), \operatorname{sech}(u) \sin(v), u - \tanh(u)).$$

Find the mean curvature, Gaussian curvature, principal curvature and principle direction of the pseudosphere.

**Solution:**

- (a) Let

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{W}(\sigma_u) = -d\mathbf{N}(\sigma_u) = -\mathbf{N}_u = a\sigma_u + b\sigma_v \\ \mathcal{W}(\sigma_v) = -d\mathbf{N}(\sigma_v) = -\mathbf{N}_v = c\sigma_u + d\sigma_v \end{cases}.$$

Rewrite in matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ -\mathbf{N}_u & -\mathbf{N}_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ \sigma_u & \sigma_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiply  $[\sigma_u \ \sigma_v]^T$  both side,

$$\begin{bmatrix} - & \sigma_u & - \\ - & \sigma_v & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ -\mathbf{N}_u & -\mathbf{N}_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} - & \sigma_u & - \\ - & \sigma_v & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ \sigma_u & \sigma_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}. \quad [14 \text{ pt}]$$

Hence,  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{F}_I^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{II}$ . [2 pt]

Now, it's sufficient to compute  $K$  and  $H$ .

$$K = \det \mathcal{W} = \frac{\det \mathcal{F}_{II}}{\det \mathcal{F}_I} = \frac{LN - M^2}{EG - F^2}, \quad [2 \text{ pt}]$$

and

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} \mathcal{W} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} \left( \frac{1}{EG - F^2} \begin{bmatrix} G & -F \\ -F & E \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{bmatrix} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{LG - 2MF + NE}{EG - F^2}. \quad [2 \text{ pt}]$$

(b) The following can be computed directly

$$\sigma_u = (-\operatorname{sech} u \tanh u \cos v, -\operatorname{sech} u \tanh u \sin v, \tanh^2 u)$$

$$\sigma_v = (-\operatorname{sech} u \sin v, \operatorname{sech} u \cos v, 0).$$

Hence,

$$E = \langle \sigma_u, \sigma_u \rangle = \tanh^2 u \quad L = \langle \sigma_{uu}, N \rangle = -\operatorname{sech} u \tanh u$$

$$F = \langle \sigma_u, \sigma_v \rangle = 0 \quad M = \langle \sigma_{uv}, N \rangle = 0$$

$$G = \langle \sigma_v, \sigma_v \rangle = \operatorname{sech}^2 u \quad N = \langle \sigma_{vv}, N \rangle = \operatorname{sech} u \tanh u.$$

Therefore, the first and second fundamental form is

$$\mathcal{F}_I = \begin{bmatrix} \tanh^2 u & 0 \\ 0 & \operatorname{sech}^2 u \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathcal{F}_{II} = \begin{bmatrix} -\operatorname{sech} u \tanh u & 0 \\ 0 & \operatorname{sech} u \tanh u \end{bmatrix}. \quad [9 \text{ pt}]$$

(i) **8 pt** It's sufficient to compute principal curvature and direction,  $\det(\mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II} - \kappa I) = \det(\mathcal{F}_{II} - \kappa\mathcal{F}_I) = 0$ . Thus, the principal curvature is

$$\kappa_1 = -\frac{\operatorname{sech} u}{\tanh u} = -\sinh u \quad \text{or} \quad \kappa_2 = \frac{\tanh u}{\operatorname{sech} u} = \operatorname{csch} u.$$

Then,

$$(\mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II} - \kappa_1 I) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II} - \kappa_2 I) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence,

principal curvature  $\kappa_1 = -\sinh u$  corresponding to principal vector  $\sigma_u$  [4 pt]

principal curvature  $\kappa_2 = \operatorname{csch} u$  corresponding to principal vector  $\sigma_v$ . [4 pt]

(ii) **8 pt** Moreover, the

$$K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 \quad [1 \text{ pt}]$$

$$= -1 \quad [3 \text{ pt}]$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2) \quad [1 \text{ pt}]$$

$$= \frac{\operatorname{sech}^2 u - \tanh^2 u}{2 \operatorname{sech} u \tanh u} = \frac{1}{2}(-\sinh u + \operatorname{csch} u). \quad [3 \text{ pt}]$$

- (2) (a) 5 pt Let  $S$  be a compact surface without boundary and unit vector  $A \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $f(p) = \langle p, A \rangle$  for  $p \in S$ . Prove that a point  $p^* \in S$  is a critical point of  $f$  if and only if the normal line of  $S$  at  $p^*$  parallel to  $A$ .
- (b) 5 pt Show that there is a critical point of  $S$  whose normal line is parallel to vector  $A$ .
- (c) 5 pt  $p^*$  is global maximum of the function  $f$ . Determine the sign of the Gaussian curvature.
- (d) 5 pt Is it possible to have a compact surface whose Gaussian curvature is negative?

**Solution:**

(a)  $\Rightarrow$ ) Given any  $v \in T_{p^*}S$ , define a curve  $\gamma(t)$  on  $S$  with  $\gamma(0) = p^*$  and  $\gamma'(0) = v$ . Since

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(\gamma(t)) \right|_{t=0} = Df_{p^*}(v),$$

$$Df_{p^*}(v) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \langle \gamma(t), A \rangle \right|_{t=0} = \langle \gamma'(0), A \rangle = \langle v, A \rangle.$$

Now  $p^*$  is a critical point. It implies  $\langle v, A \rangle = 0$  for all  $v \in T_{p^*}S$  and  $A$  is parallel to normal vector at  $p^*$ . So the normal line thru  $p^*$  is parallel to the vector  $A$ .

$\Leftarrow$ ) Since the normal line of  $S$  at  $p^*$  parallel to  $A$ , then  $\langle v, A \rangle = 0$ . This implies

$$Df_{p^*}(v) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \langle \gamma(t), A \rangle \right|_{t=0} = \langle v, A \rangle = 0.$$

Thus,  $p^*$  is critical point.

(b) Since  $S$  is compact surface without boundary,  $f$  can attain maximum and minimum value on  $S$ . By Problem (2)(a)( $\Rightarrow$ ), exist a critical point  $p^*$  such that the normal line at  $p^*$  parallel to  $A$ .

(c) Let the curve  $\gamma$  be a unit speed curve with  $\gamma'(0) = v$ . Since  $f$  has global maximum at  $p^*$ , then  $p^*$  is a critical point of  $f$  and  $\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(\gamma(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \langle A, \gamma''(p^*) \rangle \leq 0$ . Since  $p^*$  is critical point, a vector  $A$  is parallel to normal vector  $\mathbf{N}$  such that  $A = \mathbf{N}(p^*)$  or  $A = -\mathbf{N}(p^*)$ . Hence, either  $\langle \mathbf{N}(p^*), \gamma''(p^*) \rangle \leq 0$  or  $\langle \mathbf{N}(p^*), \gamma''(p^*) \rangle \geq 0$  will happen. Let principal curvature  $\kappa_1 \geq \kappa_2$  at  $p^*$ , with principal direction  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ .

First consider  $\langle \mathbf{N}(p^*), \gamma''(p^*) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \leq 0$ . By the definition of principal curvature,

$$\kappa_1 = \max_{\|v\|=1} \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_2 = \min_{\|v\|=1} \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \leq 0$$

Hence, Gaussian curvature  $K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 \geq 0$ . Similarly, consider  $\langle \mathbf{N}(p^*), \gamma''(p^*) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \geq 0$ . By the definition of principal curvature,

$$\kappa_1 = \max_{\|v\|=1} \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_2 = \min_{\|v\|=1} \langle \mathcal{W}_{p^*}(v), v \rangle \geq 0$$

Hence, Gaussian curvature  $K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 \geq 0$ . Therefore, Gaussian curvature  $K \geq 0$  at global maximum point  $p^*$ .

(d) Since a compact surface  $S$  without boundary always can be attained critical point of  $f$  on  $S$ . By Problem (2)(c), the argument of minimum point is similar. Hence, exist at least a point such that Gaussian curvature is non-negative.

(3) Define the third fundamental form of Gauss map  $\mathbf{N}$  by

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{III}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{N}_u \cdot \mathbf{N}_u & \mathbf{N}_u \cdot \mathbf{N}_v \\ \mathbf{N}_v \cdot \mathbf{N}_u & \mathbf{N}_v \cdot \mathbf{N}_v \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) 10 pt Prove that  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{III}} = \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}}$ .
- (b) 10 pt Prove that  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{III}} - 2H\mathcal{F}_{\text{II}} + K\mathcal{F}_{\text{I}} = 0$ .

**Solution:**

(a) By the similar work in Problem 1(a),

$$\begin{cases} -\mathbf{N}_u &= a\sigma_u + b\sigma_v \\ -\mathbf{N}_v &= c\sigma_u + d\sigma_v \end{cases}$$

Hence,  $\langle \mathbf{N}_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle = \langle -a\sigma_u - b\sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle = -a\langle \sigma_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle - b\langle \sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle = aL + bM$ . Doing it by yourself, the result

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{III}} = \begin{bmatrix} L & M \\ M & N \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}}$$

can be follows.

**Another Method 1.** According to Problem (1),

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ -\mathbf{N}_u & -\mathbf{N}_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ \sigma_u & \sigma_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \mathcal{F}_{\text{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{\text{III}} &= \begin{bmatrix} - & -\mathbf{N}_u & - \\ - & -\mathbf{N}_v & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ -\mathbf{N}_u & -\mathbf{N}_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} - & -\mathbf{N}_u & - \\ - & -\mathbf{N}_v & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ \sigma_u & \sigma_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \mathcal{F}_{\text{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}} = \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{II}}. \end{aligned}$$

(a) **Another Method 2.** Push the vector to  $sp(\sigma_u, \sigma_v)$ . Write  $-N_u = a\sigma_u + b\sigma_v$  and  $-N_v = c\sigma_u + d\sigma_v$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} - & -\mathbf{N}_u & - \\ - & -\mathbf{N}_v & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ -\mathbf{N}_u & -\mathbf{N}_v \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}}.$$

**Another Method 3.** Similar to method 2 and **note the  $\mathbf{N}_u$  and  $\mathbf{N}_u$  decomposition.**

Compute directly first,

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}} = \frac{1}{EG - F^2} \begin{bmatrix} L^2G - LMF + M^2E & \spadesuit \\ \star & \clubsuit \end{bmatrix} \quad [2 \text{ pt}]$$

Then,

$$L^2G - LMF + M^2E = \langle \sigma_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle^2 G - 2\langle \sigma_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle \langle \sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle F + \langle \sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle^2 E. \quad [2 \text{ pt}]$$

Since  $\mathbf{N}_u = \langle \frac{\sigma_u}{\|\sigma_u\|}, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle \frac{\sigma_u}{\|\sigma_u\|}$ , then

$$\langle \mathbf{N}_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle = \left( \langle \sigma_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle^2 \frac{1}{E} + 2\langle \sigma_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle \langle \sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle \frac{F}{EG} + \langle \sigma_v, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle^2 \frac{1}{G} \right) \quad [5 \text{ pt}]$$

Hence,

$$(EG - F^2) \langle \mathbf{N}_u, \mathbf{N}_u \rangle = L^2G - LMF + M^2E.$$

Doing it by yourself,  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{III}} = \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{II}}$  can be follows. [1 pt]

(b) **Method 1.** Recall Cayley-Hamilton theorem, the matrix  $A$  is satisfied its characteristic polynomial  $p(A) = 0$ , where  $p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A)$  in  $2 \times 2$  case.

Hence, the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathcal{W}$  is  $p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2H\lambda + K$ . Plug  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II}$  into  $p$ . Thus,

$$p(\mathcal{W}) = \mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II}\mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II} - 2H\mathcal{F}_I^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{II} + K = 0.$$

Multiply  $\mathcal{F}_I$  on both side from left,

$$\mathcal{F}_{III} - 2H\mathcal{F}_{II} + K\mathcal{F}_I = 0.$$

**Method 2.** Similar to method I. Since  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$  is eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{W}$ , consider

$$(\mathcal{W} - \kappa_1 I)(\mathcal{W} - \kappa_2 I) = \mathbf{O}$$

Then,  $\mathcal{W}^2 - (\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)\mathcal{W} + \kappa_1\kappa_2 = \mathbf{O}$ . By the same work in method I,  $\mathcal{F}_{III} - 2H\mathcal{F}_{II} + K\mathcal{F}_I = 0$  can be gotten.

**Method 3.** Compute directly. Plug  $K = \frac{LN-M^2}{EG-F^2}$  and  $H = \frac{1}{2} \frac{LG-2MF+NE}{EG-F^2}$  into equation,

$$2H\mathcal{F}_I - K\mathcal{F}_I = \frac{1}{EG-F^2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} L^2G - 2LME + LNF - LNE + M^2E & \spadesuit' & \\ & \star' & \\ & & \clubsuit' \end{array} \right] \quad [4 \text{ pt}]$$

Doing it by yourself, then  $\mathcal{F}_{III} - 2H\mathcal{F}_{II} + K\mathcal{F}_I = 0$  can be gotten. [6 pt]

- (4) 15 pt Let  $\gamma$  is a curve with unit speed. The normal line to  $\gamma$  with direction  $\gamma''$ . Suppose all normal line to  $\gamma$  pass through a fixed point. What can you say about the curve?

**Solution:** Let  $\{t, n, b\}$  be Frenet frame. Define the normal line as  $\gamma(s) + \bar{\lambda}(s)\gamma''(s) = p_0$ , which passes the fixed point  $p_0$ . Since  $\gamma'' = t' = \kappa n$ , above equation can be rewritten as

$$\gamma(s) + \lambda(s)n(s) = p_0.$$

Note that  $n$  is a vector between  $p_0$  and  $\gamma(s)$  and  $|\lambda|$  is distance between  $p_0$  and  $\gamma(s)$ . Before calculation, claim  $\lambda$  is smooth. Clearly,  $\lambda$  can be written as  $\lambda = \langle \gamma - p_0, n \rangle$ . Since  $\gamma$  is smooth,  $n = \frac{1}{\kappa}t$  is smooth where  $\kappa = \|\gamma''(s)\|$  is smooth. Derivative both side,

$$t + \lambda'n + \lambda n' = 0,$$

so  $t + \lambda'n + \lambda(-\kappa t + \tau b) = 0$ . Since  $\{t, n, b\}$  is linear independent,

$$\begin{cases} \tau = 0 \\ \lambda' = 0 \\ 1 - \lambda\kappa = 0 \end{cases}$$

Thus, since  $\tau = 0$ , the curve lies on plane. Since  $\lambda' = 0$ , the distance between curve and fixed point  $p_0$  is constant. Moreover,  $\kappa = \frac{1}{\lambda}$  is constant. Therefore, the curve  $\gamma$  is lie on a circle  $S^1$ .