

1 Motion and curve

We shall deal with curves in the Euclidean plane and three dimensional space. Although we shall need only these two dimensions, we shall start with the general n -dimensional Euclidean space E_n .

1.1 **1.1.** Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval. We shall understand points of I as values of time t . A map $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ could be viewed as a motion whose trajectory is a curve in a “reasonable” case.

To employ calculus we shall need in particular differentiability of the map f . We recall the real function $\varphi : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is of the class C^r if it has continuous derivatives of the order $\leq r$ on I . Choosing cartesian coordinates on E_n , then $f(t) = (f_1(t), \dots, f_n(t))$ is n -tuple of real functions. We say f is of the class C^r if all functions f_1, \dots, f_n are of the class C^r .

One needs to show that this notion does not depend on the choice of the coordinate system. This is indeed true but a direct verification (based on a transformation from one coordinate system to another one) is difficult. It is much easier to control independence only on the choice of the origin of coordinates. The choice of the origin identifies E_n with its associated vector space $Z(E_n)$ which is an n -dimensional Euclidean vector space.

1.2 **1.2.** We shall therefore focus on the n -dimensional Euclidean vector space V first. We denote by $\|u\|$ the norm of the vector u and by (u, v) the vector product of vectors u and v .

Definition. A map $v : I \rightarrow V$ is called a *vector function* on the interval I .

1.3 **1.3.** Notion of the limit of a vector function is introduced analogously as the limit of a real function.

Definition. Vector function v has the *limit* v_0 at the point $t_0 \in I$ if for each $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that the following holds: if $t \neq t_0$ satisfies $|t - t_0| < \delta$ then $\|v(t) - v_0\| < \epsilon$.

We write $v_0 = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} v(t)$.

If $v(t_0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} v(t)$ we say the vector function v is continuous at the point t_0 .

de1.4 **1.4 Definition.** If the limit

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{v(t) - v(t_0)}{t - t_0} = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{1}{t - t_0} (v(t) - v(t_0)),$$

it is called *derivative of the vector function* $v(t)$ at the point t_0 .

We shall denote this derivative by $\frac{dv(t_0)}{dt}$ or $v'(t_0)$.

Higher order derivatives are defined by the usual iteration.

1.5 **1.5.** Let e_1, \dots, e_n is a basis of V . For each $t \in I$ we have

$$v(t) = v_1(t)e_1 + \dots + v_n(t)e_n.$$

Real functions $v_i(t)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ are called **components of the vector function** $v(t)$.

The following theorem has a simple proof which however belongs to calculus. Therefore we do not state it.

Theorem. A vector function is continuous if all its components are continuous. The vector function $v(t)$ has the derivative at the point t_0 if all components have derivative at the point t_0 . Then it holds

$$\frac{dv(t_0)}{dt} = \left(\frac{dv_1(t_0)}{dt}, \dots, \frac{dv_n(t_0)}{dt} \right).$$

A similar statement holds also for limits and higher order derivatives.

diffscalaf

1.6. Now we shall state an auxiliary result which we shall need later. Let $v(t)$ and $w(t)$ be two vector functions of the class C^1 on I . Their scalar product $(v(t), w(t))$ is a real function of the class C^1 on I . Also scalar products $(\frac{dv}{dt}, w)$ and $(v, \frac{dw}{dt})$ are real function on I .

Theorem. The following holds

$$\frac{d(v, w)}{dt} = \left(\frac{dv}{dt}, w \right) + \left(v, \frac{dw}{dt} \right).$$

Proof. In coordinates we have

$$(v(t), w(t)) = v_1(t)w_1(t) + \dots + v_n(t)w_n(t).$$

Thus using the chain rule we have

$$\frac{d(v(t), w(t))}{dt} = \frac{dv_1}{dt}w_1 + v_1 \frac{dw_1}{dt} + \dots + \frac{dv_n}{dt}w_n + v_n \frac{dw_n}{dt}.$$

This is the coordinate form of our statement. □

1.7 **1.7.** Let us consider E_n with its associated vector space V . Let us choose the origin $\vec{P} \in E_n$. Then the map $f : I \rightarrow E_n$ determines the vector function $\vec{P}\vec{f} : I \rightarrow V$, $\vec{P}\vec{f}(t) = \vec{P}f(t)$ which is called *radius* (or *radius vector*) of f .

Definition. The map $f : I \rightarrow E_n$ is called *motion* in the space E_n . We say f is motion of the class C^r , if \overrightarrow{Pf} is a vector function of the class C^r .

Beside the word “motion” we can equivalently say *path*. The terminology “motion” is more illustrative, “path” has a more technical nature.

The vector $\frac{d\overrightarrow{Pf}}{dt}$ does not depend on the choice of the origin. Indeed, for another point $Q \in E_n$ we have $\overrightarrow{Pf} = \overrightarrow{PQ} + \overrightarrow{Qf}$ where \overrightarrow{PQ} is a constant vector. Thus $\frac{d\overrightarrow{Pf}}{dt} = \frac{d\overrightarrow{Qf}}{dt}$.

de1.8 **1.8 Definition.** The vector $\frac{d(\overrightarrow{Pf})}{dt} =: \frac{df}{dt}$ is called the **velocity vector** of the motion f .

It will be also denoted by f' .

At the second order we put $f'' = (f')'$; here we already differentiate the vector function f' (and analogously in higher orders).

If $f(t) = (f_1(t), \dots, f_n(t))$ is the coordinate expression of the motion f , we have

$$\frac{d^k f(t)}{dt^k} = \left(\frac{d^k f_1(t)}{dt^k}, \dots, \frac{d^k f_n(t)}{dt^k} \right).$$

reg1a9 **1.9 Definition.** The motion $f : I \rightarrow E_n$ of the class is called **regular**, if $\frac{df(t)}{dt} \neq o$ for every $t \in I$. The point of the parameter t_0 at which $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt} = o$ is called a **singular point of the motion** f .

Here o denotes the zero vector of the space $V = Z(E_n)$.

We shall show two examples:

(i) In the case of constant motion $f(t) = Q \in E_n$, it holds for every $t \in I$ that $\frac{df(t)}{dt} = o$. Thus for every value of time $t \in I$ we obtain a singular point.

(ii) Consider motion $x = t^2$, $y = t^3$ in E_n , $t \in (-\infty, \infty)$. This moves along so called semicubic parabola $y^2 - x^3 = 0$. We have $f(t) = (t^2, t^3)$, $f'(t) = (2t, 3t^2)$ hence $f'(0) = o$. The singular point at $t = 0$ is so called **edge**, see the picture.

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rep10 **1.10.** Consider another open interval J with the variable τ and a bijective correspondence $\varphi : J \rightarrow I$ (i.e. a real function) of the class C^r such that $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau} \neq 0$ for every $\tau \in J$.

Lemma. If $f : I \rightarrow E_n$ is the regular motion of the class C^r then $f \circ \varphi : J \rightarrow E_n$ is also the regular motion of the class C^r .

Proof. We have $\frac{d(f \circ \varphi)}{d\tau} = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$ where $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$ is a scalar and $\frac{d(f \circ \varphi)}{d\tau}$ and $\frac{df}{dt}$ are vectors. Indeed, the coordinate expression of $f \circ \varphi$ is $f_1(\varphi(\tau)), \dots, f_n(\varphi(\tau))$. The differentiation with respect to τ means to differentiate, at every component, a composed function with the same inner factor $\varphi(\tau)$. Thus $\frac{d(f \circ \varphi)}{d\tau} = \left(\frac{df_1}{dt} \frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}, \dots, \frac{df_n}{dt} \frac{d\varphi}{d\tau} \right) = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$. Since $\frac{df}{dt}$ is a nonzero vector and each $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$ is a nonzero scalar, also every $\frac{d(f \circ \varphi)}{d\tau}$ is a nonzero vector. \square

de1.11 **1.11 Definition.** Motion $f: I \rightarrow E_n$ is called **simple**, if f is an injective mapping, i.e. for $t_1, t_2 \in I, t_1 \neq t_2$ we have $f(t_1) \neq f(t_2)$.

From the geometric point of view, f is a motion without self-intersections.

simple curve **1.12 Definition.** The set $C \subset E_n$ is called a **simple curve of the class** C^r , if there is a simple regular motion $f: I \rightarrow E_n$ of the class C^r , such that $C = f(I)$.

The map $f: I \rightarrow E_n$ is called **parametrization of the simple curve** C . and the map φ from 1.10 is called **reparametrization** of the curve C .

1.13 **1.13.** Let J be another interval with the variable τ and $g: J \rightarrow E_n$ be another parametrization of the curve C of the class C^r . The rule $f(\varphi(\tau)) = g(\tau)$ determines a map $\varphi: J \rightarrow I, t = \varphi(\tau)$, see the picture.

Theorem. φ je funkce tdy C^r a plat $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau} \neq 0$ pro vechna $\tau \in J$.

Proof. Considering coordinate expressions $f(t) = (f_1(t), \dots, f_n(t)), g(\tau) = (g_1(\tau), \dots, g_n(\tau))$, the function φ is determined by relations

e1 (1)
$$f_i(t) = g_i(\tau), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Consider an arbitrary point $\tau_0 \in J$ and put $t_0 = \varphi(\tau_0) \in I$. Since $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt} \neq 0$, at least one of components, say k , of this vector is nonzero. Let us write the relation $f_k(t) = g_k(\tau)$ as

e2 (2)
$$f_k(t) - g_k(\tau) = 0.$$

The left hand side is a function of two variables t a τ of the class C^r on the product $I \times J$. We have $\frac{df_k(t_0)}{dt} \neq 0$ hence we can apply the implicit function theorem to the equation (2) Therefore, t is determined as a function of the class C^r with the variable τ on an open neighbourhood of the point t_0 . At every point we find that $t = \varphi(\tau)$ is a function of the class C^r . According

to the geometric situation, this function satisfies all equations in (1), i.e. $g(\tau) = f(\varphi(\tau))$. By differentiation we find equality of vectors $\frac{dg}{d\tau} = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$, where $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$ is a scalar. Here $\frac{d\varphi(t_0)}{d\tau} = 0$ at some point would mean $\frac{dg(\tau_0)}{d\tau} = 0$, which is a contradiction with our assumptions. \square

We have shown that every two of parametrizations of of the class C^r a simple curve differ by a reparametrization in the sense of 1.10 and 1.12.

global curve

1.14. Now we shall introduce the notion of a global curve.

Definition. A subset $C \subset E_n$ is called **curve of the class C^r** , if at each point $p \in C$ there is its neighbourhood U such that $C \cap U$ is a simple curve of the class C^r .

A parametrization of the intersection is called **local parametrization of the curve C** .

1.15. **1.15. Agreement.** Henceforth we shall assume the class r of the curve we consider is sufficiently high for all performed operations. This will not be usually explicitly stated.

1.16. We shall she several example in the plane E_2 .

a) Parabola is a global simple curve. b) Circle is a curve but not a simple curve. c) This shape “quarterfoil” is a curve in our (i.e. differential geometric) definition. d) Two circles with the same center can be considered as one curve (connectivity is not assumed in the definition 1.14. It is in fact often useful to say that the border of the annulus determined by these two circles is one curve.

JS: fix translation

On the other hand, the whole semicubuc parabola from 1.9, the Descart curve from in e) or the lemniscata in f) are not curves in our sense.

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de1.17 **1.17 Definition.** Two **parametrizations** $f(t)$ and $g(\tau)$ of a simple curve C are called **corresponding each other**, if $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau} > 0$ where φ is the function from 1.10.

Two congruent parametrizations determine the same orientation of a simple curve C . The choice of an orientation of C thus means to determine the “direction of motion”. This is possible to do in two ways.

de1.18 **1.18 Definition.** Let $f: I \rightarrow E_n$ be a local parametrization of the curve $C \subset E_n$. The line determined by the point $f(t_0)$, $t_0 \in I$ and the vector $f'(t_0)$ is called **tangent line of C** at the point $f(t_0)$.

This definition is independent on the choice of parametrization, because according to 1.10, two different parametrizations determine colinear vectors. Thus the tangent line at the point $f(t_0)$ has a parametrization

$$f(t_0) + v, f'(t_0), \quad v \in \mathbb{R}.$$

de1.19 **1.19 Definition.** The **deviation of curves** C and \bar{C} at the intersection point p is the angle of their tangent lines at this point.

cdat1a20 **1.20 Definition.** We say two curves C and \bar{C} of the class C^r at the intersection point p have the **contact of the order** k , $k \leq r$, if there are local parametrizations $f(t)$ and $\bar{f}(t)$ of, respectively, of C and \bar{C} on the same interval I with $f(t_0) = \bar{f}(t_0) = p$, if

e3 (3)
$$\frac{d^i f(t_0)}{dt^i} = \frac{d^i \bar{f}(t_0)}{dt^i} \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, k.$$

That is, both curves “agree up to the order k ” in such parametrization at the given point.

contactpequ21 **1.21 Remark.** It is easy to verify that the “contact of the order k of two curves” is an equivalence relation.

ve1.22 **1.22 Theorem.** Two curves C and \bar{C} have, at the intersection point p , the contact of the first order, if and only if their tangent lines at the point p are equal.

Proof. If C and \bar{C} have the contact of the first order at the point p , there will exist parametrizations $f(t)$ and $\bar{f}(t)$, $f(t_0) = \bar{f}(t_0) = p$ such that $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt} = \frac{d\bar{f}(t_0)}{dt}$. Thus their tangent lines are equal. In the opposite direction, consider \bar{C} with an arbitrary parametrization $\bar{f}(\bar{t})$, $f(t_0) = \bar{f}(t_0)$. If both tangent lines are equal then $\frac{d\bar{f}(t_0)}{d\bar{t}} = k \frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$, $k \neq 0$. Let us perform the reparametrization $\bar{t} = t_0 + \frac{1}{k}(t - t_0)$ of \bar{C} . Then using the new parametrization $\bar{f}(t_0 + \frac{1}{k}(t - t_0))$ of the curve \bar{C} , we have $\frac{d\bar{f}(t_0)}{d\bar{t}} = \frac{d\bar{f}(t_0)}{d\bar{t}} \cdot \frac{d\bar{t}}{dt} = \frac{d\bar{f}(t_0)}{d\bar{t}} \frac{1}{k}$. This is equal to $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ according to the definition of k . Thus C and \bar{C} have the contact of the first order. \square

du1.23 **1.23 Corollary.** Tangent line is the only line which has the contact of the first order with the given curve.

de1.24 **1.24 Definition.** The point $p \in C$ is called **inflection point of the curve** C , if the tangent line at p has the contact of the 2nd order with the curve C .

inflection

1.25 Theorem. Let f be a local parametrization of the curve C . Then $p = f(t_0)$ is the inflection point if and only if the vector $\frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2}$ is colinear with the vector $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$.

Proof. Put $v = \frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$. An arbitrary motion along the tangent line has the form $g(t) = p + h(t)v$ where h is a real function. We have $\frac{dg(t_0)}{dt} = \frac{dh(t_0)}{dt}v$, $\frac{d^2 g(t_0)}{dt^2} = \frac{d^2 h(t_0)}{dt^2}v$ which are colinear vectors. If C and its tangent line have the contact of the 2nd order, also vectors $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ and $\frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2}$ are colinear. In the opposite direction, let $\frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2} = k\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$. Consider the parametrization of the tangent line

$$g(t) = p + \left[(t - t_0) + \frac{k}{2}(t - t_0)^2 \right] v.$$

Then $\frac{dg(t_0)}{dt} = v\frac{dh(t_0)}{dt}$, $\frac{d^2 g(t_0)}{dt^2} = kv = \frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2}$. Thus the curve C has the contact of the 2nd order with the tangent line. \square

arc-length

1.26 Definition. A parameter s of the parametrization $f: I \rightarrow E_n$ of the curve C is called **arc-length**, if $\left\| \frac{df}{ds} \right\| = 1$ for all $s \in I$.

Thus the arc-length denotes “motion with constant norm of the velocity” along the curve.

Let $f(t)$ be a parametrization of the curve C . We want to find a reparametrization $s = s(t)$ with the inverse function $t = t(s)$ such that s is the arc. That is,

$$1 = \left\| \frac{df}{ds} \right\| = \left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\| \left| \frac{dt}{ds} \right|.$$

Thus $\left| \frac{ds}{dt} \right| = \left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\|$. Assuming parameters s and t are corresponding each other, we have

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \left\| \frac{df}{ds} \right\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{df_1}{dt} \right)^2 + \cdots + \left(\frac{df_n}{dt} \right)^2}.$$

This means

e4 (4)
$$ds = \sqrt{(f'_1)^2 + \cdots + (f'_n)^2} dt.$$

Now we shall find the arc by integration. Thus the arc-length is given on every simple curve up to an additive constant.

The display (4) shows that our notion of the arc-length agrees with the length of the curve as introduced in calculus. It also agrees with the physical

meaning in the sense that if we move along a curve with the unique velocity then the length of the curve agrees with the length of the corresponding time interval.

arcinflecti07

1.27 Theorem. Assuming $f(s)$ is the arc-length parametrization, $f(s_0)$ is the inflection point if and only if $\frac{d^2 f(s_0)}{ds^2} = o$.

Proof. The vector $\frac{df}{ds}$ is unit which equivalently means

$$\left(\frac{df}{ds}, \frac{df}{ds}\right) = 1.$$

According to the theorem 1.6, the differentiation of this relation yields $2\left(\frac{df}{ds}, \frac{d^2 f}{ds^2}\right) = 0$. That is, the vector $\frac{d^2 f(s_0)}{ds^2}$ is perpendicular to the unit vector $\frac{df(s_0)}{ds}$. These two vectors must be colinear at inflection points according to the theorem 1.25. Thus $\frac{d^2 f(s_0)}{ds^2} = o$. \square

ve1.28

1.28 Theorem. The simple curve C where all points are inflection points is a part of a line.

Proof. Considering the arc-length parametrization $f(s)$ of the curve C , all points are inflection points if and only if $\frac{d^2 f}{ds^2} = o$. By integration we obtain $\frac{df}{ds} = a$ for a constant vector a . One more integration yields $f = as + b$ where b is another constant vector. This is a parametrization of a line. \square

2 Plane curves

2.1. Let us fix cartesian coordinates (x, y) in E_2 . Parametrization of curves has the form $f(t) = (f_1(t), f_2(t))$, $\frac{df}{dt} \neq o$. In particular the graph of the function $y = f(x)$, $x \in (a, b)$ of the class C^r is a curve of the class C^r . Its parametrization is $g(t) = (t, f(t))$, $t \in (a, b)$, thus $\frac{dg}{dt} = (1, \frac{df}{dt}) \neq o$. We term this an **explicit expression of a plane curve**.

2.2. Recall that a function $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of two variables defined on an open set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is of the class C^r if it has continuous partial derivatives on U of all orders $\leq r$.

Theorem. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be an open set and $F: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function of the class C^r . Assume the set C defined by $F(x, y) = 0$ is nonempty and satisfies $\partial F(x_0, y_0) = (\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y}) \neq o$ for all $(x_0, y_0) \in C$. Then the curve C is of the class C^r .

Proof. Let $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$ and assume that e.g. $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y} \neq 0$. Then according to the implicit function theorem, the set C can be locally expressed in the form $y = f(x)$ where $f(x)$ is a function of the class C^r . This is a local parametrization of the curve C . If $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial x} \neq 0$ we can (again using the implicit function theorem) express C locally in the form $x = g(y)$. \square

Definition. The point (x_0, y_0) such that $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$, $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial x} = 0$, $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y} = 0$ is called a **singular point** of the set $F(x, y) = 0$.

pr2.3 **2.3. Examples.** (i) Consider the set $x^2 + y^2 = a$, $a \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e. $F(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - a$. The set $F(x, y) = 0$ is empty for $a < 0$ and it is a single point for $a = 0$ where both partial derivatives $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 2x$, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 2y$ are zero. Of course, this point is not a curve. The case $a > 0$ corresponds to the circle with the center at the origin and the radius \sqrt{a} . The vector $\partial F = (2x, 2y)$ is then nonzero at all points.

(ii) Consider the Descartes list $F(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3axy = 0$. We have $\partial F = (3x^2 - 3ay, 3y^2 - 3ax)$. Assuming $a = 0$, $(0, 0)$ is the unique single point. Assuming $a \neq 0$, one easily verifies that the equation $\partial F = 0$ has two solutions: $(0, 0)$ and (a, a) . The point (a, a) is not on the curve thus $(0, 0)$ the unique singular point.

(iii) In the case of the semicubic parabola we have $F(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 = 0$ in which $\partial F = (-3x^2, 2y)$. Thus the origin is the unique singular point.

implicit_tangent

2.4 Theorem. The tangent line to the curve $F(x, y) = 0$ at the point (x_0, y_0) is given by the equation

$$(1) \quad \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial x}(x - x_0) + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y}(y - y_0) = 0.$$

Proof. Let $(f_1(t), f_2(t))$ be a parametrization of this curve with $(f_1(t_0), f_2(t_0)) = (x_0, y_0)$. Differentiating $F(f_1(t), f_2(t)) = 0$ and putting $t = t_0$ we obtain

$$\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial x} \frac{df_1(t_0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y} \frac{df_2(t_0)}{dt} = 0.$$

The vector $\partial F(x_0, y_0)$ is thus perpendicular to the vector $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$. The equation (2.4) describes the line through the point (x_0, y_0) which is perpendicular to the vector $\partial F(x_0, y_0)$, i.e. the tangent line. \square

The condition $\partial F(x_0, y_0) \neq 0$ for a curve given by the equation, thus guarantees existence of the tangent line similarly as the condition $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt} \neq 0$ for the parametrization of a curve. There might not be a unique tangent line at singular points.

The line through a point on the curve which is perpendicular to the tangent line at this point is called **normal line**. The vector $\partial F(x_0, y_0)$ thus yields the direction of the normal line.

implparcont

2.5. According to 1.20, two plane curves C and \bar{C} have, at a intersection point p , the contact of the k th order if there exist local parametrizations $(f_1(t), f_2(t))$ and $(\bar{f}_1(t), \bar{f}_2(t))$ of, respectively, C and \bar{C} on the same interval I such that

parcontact (2)
$$\frac{d^i f_1(t_0)}{dt^i} = \frac{d^i \bar{f}_1(t_0)}{dt^i}, \quad \frac{d^i f_2(t_0)}{dt^i} = \frac{d^i \bar{f}_2(t_0)}{dt^i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k,$$

where t_0 is the parametr of the intersection point p . The direct approach to the question whether such parametrizations do or do not exist is rather complicated in general. However, there is a very simple answer if \bar{C} is given by the equation $F(x, y) = 0$. In this case we can form the one variable function

$$(3) \quad \Phi(t) = F(f_1(t), f_2(t)).$$

Theorem. Curves $C \equiv (f_1(t), f_2(t))$ and $\bar{C} \equiv F(x, y) = 0$ have, at a intersection point $(x_0, y_0) = (f_1(t_0), f_2(t_0))$ the contact of the k th order if and only if

implcontact (4)
$$\frac{d^i \Phi(t_0)}{dt^i} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Proof. Let $(\bar{f}_1(t), \bar{f}_2(t))$ be a local parametrization of the curve \bar{C} such that the condition (2) for the contact is satisfied. Then

$$(5) \quad F(\bar{f}_1(t), \bar{f}_2(t)) = 0$$

for all t , i.e. all derivatives of the composed function of the left hand side are zero. Also the function Φ is composed with outer factor $F(x, y)$ and inner factors $f_1(t)$ and $f_2(t)$. According to our assumption about the contact, the derivatives up to the order k of inner factors at the point t_0 are the same for both $\bar{f}_1(t)$ and $\bar{f}_2(t)$. Thus (4) holds.

In the opposite direct, assume (4) holds. Further assume $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y} \neq 0$. We shall locally parametrize the curve \bar{C} in the form $(f_1(t), g(t))$ where the function $g(t)$ is determined by

$$(6) \quad F(f_1(t), g(t)) = 0.$$

This is always possible. Indeed, consider

$$G(t, y) = F(f_1(t), y),$$

which is well defined on some neighbourhood V of the point (t_0, y_0) . We have

$$\frac{\partial G(t_0, y_0)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0)}{\partial y} \neq 0,$$

thus we can use the implicit function theorem for the function $G(t, y) = 0$. We need to show that

f2gcontact

$$(7) \quad \frac{d^i f_2(t_0)}{dt^i} = \frac{d^i g(t_0)}{dt^i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

On $V \times \mathbb{R}$ we shall consider the function H of three variables,

$$H(t, y, z) = G(t, y) - z.$$

It satisfies $H(t_0, y_0, 0) = 0$ and $\frac{\partial H(t_0, y_0, 0)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial G(t_0, y_0)}{\partial y} \neq 0$. Hence using the implicit function theorem once more, from $H = 0$ we can locally (and uniquely) compute $y = K(t, z)$. Since $G(t, g(t)) = 0$ and $G(t, f_2(t)) = \Phi(t)$, we have

$$g(t) = K(t, 0) \quad \text{a} \quad f_2(t) = K(t, \Phi(t)).$$

Similarly as in the first part of the proof, we have the same outer factor $K(t, z)$. Derivations of the constant function $t \mapsto 0$ and the function $\Phi(t)$ up to the order k at the point t_0 agree (because they are zero). According to the chain rule, (7) implies (4) □

2.6. Now we shall discuss how to approximate an arbitrary plane curve C at a given point p using circles.

Definition. A circle which has the 2nd order contact with the curve C at the point $p \in C$, is called **osculating circle** at the point p .

2.7 Theorem. Assume $p \in C$ is not an inflection point. Then there is exactly one osculating curve at p .

Proof. Denote by (a, b) the center and by r the radius of the circle, i.e. its equation is

$$(8) \quad (x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 - r^2 = 0.$$

Using the theorem 2.5 we shall find a condition for (8) to have the 2nd order contact with the curve given by the parametrization $(f_1(t), f_2(t))$ at the point t_0 . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(t) &= (f_1(t) - a)^2 + (f_2(t) - b)^2 - r^2, \\ \Phi'(t) &= 2(f_1 - a)f_1' + 2(f_2 - b)f_2', \\ \Phi''(t) &= 2(f_1')^2 + 2(f_1 - a)f_1'' + 2(f_2')^2 + 2(f_2 - b)f_2''. \end{aligned}$$

Coordinates a, b are solutions of the equation $\Phi' = 0, \Phi'' = 0$ which are equivalent to

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} af_1' + bf_2' &= f_1f_1' + f_2f_2', \\ af_1'' + bf_2'' &= f_1f_1'' + f_2f_2'' + f_1'^2 + f_2'^2. \end{aligned}$$

Away from inflection points, vectors (f_1', f_2') and (f_1'', f_2'') are linearly independent. Hence the determinant of the system (9) is nonzero and these equations determine the unique pair (a, b) . The radius r is then given by the equation $\Phi = 0$. \square

2.8 Theorem. The radius r of the osculating curve satisfies

$$(10) \quad r^2 = \frac{(f_1'^2 + f_2'^2)^3}{(f_1'f_2'' - f_2'f_1'')^2}$$

Proof. One computes (using e.g. the Cramer's rule) from (9) that

$$a = f_1 - \frac{f_2'(f_1'^2 + f_2'^2)}{\begin{vmatrix} f_1' & f_2' \\ f_1'' & f_2'' \end{vmatrix}}, \quad b = f_2 + \frac{f_1'(f_1'^2 + f_2'^2)}{\begin{vmatrix} f_1' & f_2' \\ f_1'' & f_2'' \end{vmatrix}}.$$

The relation $r^2 = (f_1 - a)^2 + (f_2 - b)^2$ then yields (10). \square

2.9. Osculating curves do not exist at inflection points. The tangent line has the 2nd order contact with the curve hence this curve would have to have the contact of the 2nd order with the osculating curve according to 1.21. However, a simple computation reveals that a circle has the contact of the 1st order with its tangent line.

Indeed, we can choose such coordinate system such that the circle is given by the parametrization $x = r \cos t$, $y = r \sin t$. Its tangent line at the point $t = 0$ has the equation $x - r = 0$. We have $\Phi(t) = r \cos t - r$ thus $\Phi(0) = 0$, $\Phi'(0) = -r \sin 0 = 0$ but $\Phi''(0) = r \cos 0 \neq 0$.

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planecurvature

2.10 Definition. Let r be the radius of the osculating curve at the point $p \in C$ (away from inflection points). The number $\varkappa = \frac{1}{r}$ is called **curvature of the curve** C at the point p . We define $\varkappa = 0$ at inflection points.

This terminology is motivated by the observation that a smaller radius of the osculating curve means the curve is more “curved”.

The center of the osculating curve is called **center of the curvature** of the curve C at the given point.

de2.11

2.11 Definition. Assume $p \in C$ is not the inflection point. If the osculating curve at $p \in C$ has the contact of the 3rd order with C the p is called **vertex of the curve**.

We shall show in 2.16 that in the case of an ellipse, our general notion of vertices agrees with the usual definition of vertices of ellipses.

The osculating curve at vertex of a curve is called **hyperosculating**.

arccurvature

2.12. Consider the arc-length parameter s . Then the vector $e_1 = \frac{df}{ds}$ is unit and perpendicular to the vector $\frac{de_1}{ds} = \frac{d^2f}{ds^2}$ according to 1.26 and the proof of the theorem 1.27. Here the inflection point $f(s_0)$ is characterized by $\frac{de_1(s_0)}{ds} = o$.

At the point $f(s_0)$ (away from inflection points) we denote by $e_2(s_0)$ the unit vector parallel with $\frac{de_1(s_0)}{ds}$ in the same direction. Thus $e_1(s_0)$ and $e_2(s_0)$ is a pair of orthonormal vectors.

Theorem. We have $\left\| \frac{de_1(s_0)}{ds} \right\| = \varkappa(s_0)$ and the center of the osculating circle lies on the halfline given by the point $f(s_0)$ and the vector $e_2(s_0)$.

Proof. One can derive this from the expression for the center of the osculating curve in (10). But it will be useful for later considerations to perform

the whole computation once more (with some simplifications). Since the osculating circle has the contact of the 1st order with the tangent line, its center lies on the normal line. Thus this center is of the form $f(s_0) + re_2(s_0)$ for some $r \in \mathbb{R}$. The equation of the circle with this center and the radius r can be written using the scalar product as

$$(z - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0), z - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0)) - r^2 = 0,$$

where $z = (x, y)$ is an arbitrary point of the plane. For the computation of the contact we shall therefore use the function

$$\Phi(s) = (f(s) - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0), f(s) - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0)) - r^2.$$

By the differentiation and using 1.6 we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d\Phi}{ds} = (e_1(s), f(s) - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0)).$$

Conditions $\Phi(s_0) = 0$ and $\frac{d\Phi(s_0)}{ds} = 0$ are satisfied; geometrically this follows from the fact that we chose the center on the normal line. One more differentiaion yields

$$\boxed{\text{e2.11}} \quad (11) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2\Phi}{ds^2} = \left(\frac{de_1(s)}{ds}, f(s) - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0) \right) + (e_1(s), e_1(s)).$$

This must be zero at the point s_0 hence

$$\boxed{\text{e2.12}} \quad (12) \quad r \left(\frac{de_1(s_0)}{ds}, e_2(s_0) \right) = 1.$$

Since the vector $\frac{de_1(s_0)}{ds}$ is congruently parallel with the vector $e_2(s_0)$, the scalar product (12) is equal to the norm of this vector. Our statement is thus a direct consequence of the definition 2.10. \square

2.13 Corollary. We have $\frac{de_1(s)}{ds} = \varkappa(s)e_2(s)$.

Proof. It follows from the theorem 2.12 away from inflection points and from the theorem 1.27 in inflection points. \square

2.14 Theorem. We have $\frac{de_2(s)}{ds} = -\varkappa(s)e_1(s)$.

Proof. Since e_2 is a unit vector, we have $(e_2, e_2) = 1$. By differentiation we obtain $(e_2, \frac{de_2}{ds}) = 0$. Thus the vector $\frac{de_2}{ds}$ is perpendicular to e_2 , i.e.

$\frac{de_2}{ds} = ce_1$. Since vectors e_1 and e_2 are perpendicular, we have $(e_1, e_2) = 0$. By differentiation we obtain

$$0 = \left(\frac{de_1}{ds}, e_2 \right) + \left(e_1, \frac{de_2}{ds} \right) = \varkappa + c.$$

□

ve2.15 **2.15 Theorem.** The point $f(s_0)$ is the vertex if and only if $\frac{d\varkappa(s_0)}{ds} = 0$.

Proof. We shall continue in the proof of the theorem 2.12 and use also the corollary 2.13. We obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2\phi}{ds^2} = \varkappa(s)(e_2(s), f(s) - f(s_0) - re_2(s_0)) + 1.$$

Further differentiation yields the condition of the contact of the 3rd order

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^3\phi(s_0)}{ds^3} = \frac{d\varkappa(s_0)}{ds} \cdot (-r) + \varkappa(s_0) [(-\varkappa(s_0)e_1(s_0), -re_2(s_0))].$$

Our statement now follows from $e_1(s_0) \perp e_2(s_0)$ and $r \neq 0$. □

vt2h46 **2.16 Corollary.** Consider an arbitrary parametrization $f(t)$ of the curve C . Then away from inflection points, the point $f(t_0)$ is vertex if and only if $\frac{d\varkappa(t_0)}{dt} = 0$.

Proof. The transformation from t to s is realized using a reparametrization $t = \varphi(s)$, $t_0 = \varphi(s_0)$. It follows from the chain rule that

$$\frac{d\varkappa(\varphi(s_0))}{ds} = \frac{d\varkappa(t_0)}{dt} \frac{d\varphi(s_0)}{ds}.$$

Here $\frac{d\varphi(s_0)}{ds} \neq 0$ since φ is a reparametrization. □

From this in particular follows that vertex of an ellipse in the differential geometric sense are vertices of an ellipse in the classical sense since the curvature at these points achieves maximum of minimum.

onlyvert2c47 **2.17 Theorem.** A simple curve whose every point is vertex, is a part of the circle.

Proof. The center of the osculating circle is $c(s) = f(s) + \frac{1}{\varkappa}e_2(s)$. If every point is vertex, \varkappa will be a constant. Thus by differentiation and using 2.13, we obtain

$$\frac{dc(s)}{ds} = e_1(s) - \frac{1}{\varkappa} \varkappa e_1(s) = o.$$

Thus $c(s)$ is a fixed point and also the radius $\frac{1}{\varkappa}$ is constant. All osculating curves thus coincide and the curve lies on a circle. □

2.18 Definition. Relations

$$\boxed{\text{e2.13}} \quad (13) \quad \frac{df}{ds} = e_1, \quad \frac{de_1}{ds} = \varkappa e_2, \quad \frac{de_2}{ds} = -\varkappa e_1$$

are called **Frenet formulae** of the plane curve C without inflection points. “Moving” frame $(f(s), e_1(s), e_2(s))$ is called **Frenet frame** of the curve C .

$\boxed{\text{2.19}}$ **2.19.** Now we shall show how to use relations (13) in order to characterize congruence of plane curves.

Definition. Curves C and $\bar{C} \subset E_2$ are called **congruent** if there is an Euclidean transformation $\varphi: E_2 \rightarrow E_2$ such that $\varphi(C) = \bar{C}$.

$\boxed{\text{ve2.20}}$ **2.20 Theorem.** Let C, \bar{C} be curves without inflection points, $f: I \rightarrow E_2, \bar{f}: I \rightarrow E_2$, respectively their arc-length parametrizations on the same interval I and $\varkappa(s), \bar{\varkappa}(s)$, respectively be their curvatures. Then curves C and \bar{C} are congruent if and only if $\varkappa = \bar{\varkappa}$ on I .

Proof. One direction is obvious: an Euclidean transformation maps arc-length to arc-length and preserves the contact thus radii of osculating circles at corresponding points must be the same. In the opposite direction, consider C resp. \bar{C} with Frenet frame $(f(s), e_1(s), e_2(s))$ resp. $(\bar{f}(s), \bar{e}_1(s), \bar{e}_2(s))$. Thus beside (13) we have also

$$\boxed{\text{e2.14}} \quad (14) \quad \frac{d\bar{f}}{ds} = \bar{e}_1, \quad \frac{d\bar{e}_1}{ds} = \varkappa \bar{e}_2, \quad \frac{d\bar{e}_2}{ds} = -\varkappa \bar{e}_1$$

with the same \varkappa . Thus (13) and (14) is the same system of differential equations for the 6-tuple of real functions which are components of f, e_1 and e_2 . Given $s_0 \in I$, the triple of vectors $f(s_0), e_1(s_0), e_2(s_0)$ as well as the triple $\bar{f}(s_0), \bar{e}_1(s_0), \bar{e}_2(s_0)$ is formed by the point and the pair of orthonormal vectors. Hence there exists a unique Euclidean transformation $\varphi: E_2 \rightarrow E_2$ which transforms $f(s_0)$ to $\bar{f}(s_0)$, $e_1(s_0)$ to $\bar{e}_1(s_0)$ and $e_2(s_0)$ to $\bar{e}_2(s_0)$. Thus the parametrization $\bar{f}: I \rightarrow E_2$ of the curve \bar{C} together with vector functions $\bar{e}_1(s), \bar{e}_2(s)$ and the parametrization $\varphi \circ f: I \rightarrow E_2$ of the curve $\varphi(C)$ together with vector functions $\varphi \circ e_1, \varphi \circ e_2$ satisfy the same system of differential equations with the same initial conditions. According to the theorem of the unique existence of a solution of a system of differential equations, we have $\bar{f} = \varphi \circ f, \bar{e}_1 = \varphi \circ e_1, \bar{e}_2 = \varphi \circ e_2$. The first relation $\bar{f} = \varphi \circ f$ implies $\bar{C} = \varphi(C)$. \square

$\boxed{\text{pr2.21}}$ **2.21 Example.** The assumption that curves C and \bar{C} are without inflection points, is essential. Consider curves given explicitly as $y = x^3$ and

$y = |x|^3, x \in (-\infty, \infty)$. Both curves are of the class C^2 and have the same curvature as a function of the arc-length. But they are not congruent.

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2.22. The next statement can be briefly rephrased as that we can prescribe the curvature arbitrarily.

Theorem. Let $\varkappa: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a positive function. Then locally there exists a curve C parametrized by arc-length on I such that \varkappa is its curvature.

Idea of the proof: We solve the system of equations (13). □

Remark. Globally, this curve might not be simple. For example, if $\varkappa = \frac{1}{r}$ is a constant, the solution of the corresponding system of differential equations is the circle $x = r \cos \frac{s}{r}, y = r \sin \frac{s}{r}$. Then for $s \in (-\infty, \infty)$ one goes along the circle repeatedly.

2.23. We shall finish this section with a global result about plane curves. Recall the subset in E_2 is called bounded if it lies inside a circle.

Definition. The plane curve C of the class C^r is called **oval** of the class C^r if it is the border of a bounded convex set in E_2 .

Examples: (i) (ii)

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ve2.24 2.24. Four vertex theorem. Each oval of the class C^3 without points of inflection, has at least four vertices.

Proof. Consider C parametrized by the arc-length $f(s) = (f_1(s), f_2(s))$ on the interval $s \in [0, a]$ such that for $s = a$ the oval closes, i.e. $f(0) = f(a)$. Thus the curvature \varkappa is in fact defined on the closed interval hence it reaches its maximum and minimum. This yields two vertices of the oval C . We can assume that \varkappa has minimum at $s = 0$ and it has maximum at some point $b \in (0, a)$. Choose $f(0)$ to be the origin, $f(b)$ on the x -axis and the orientation of the y -axis such that $f_2(s) > 0$ for $s \in (0, b)$. (If this holds for one point, it holds for all points by the convexity). Then $f_2(s) < 0$ for $s \in (b, a)$ again using the convexity. The case $\varkappa(0) = \varkappa(b)$ i.e. \varkappa equal to a constant, is the circle (according to Theorem 2.17) and we can exclude this case.

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Assume now that $f(0)$ and $f(b)$ are unique vertices. Then $\frac{d\varkappa}{ds} > 0$ on $(0, b)$ and $\frac{d\varkappa}{ds} < 0$ on (b, a) . The integration by parts now yields

$$0 < \int_0^a \frac{d\varkappa}{ds} f_2 ds = [\varkappa f_2]_0^a - \int_0^a \varkappa \frac{df_2}{ds} ds.$$

But $[\varkappa f_2]_0^a = 0$ because $f(0) = f(a)$ and $\varkappa(0) = \varkappa(a)$.

Let us expand the relation $\frac{de_1}{ds} = \varkappa e_2$. We have $e_1 = \left(\frac{df_1}{ds}, \frac{df_2}{ds}\right)$. Since e_2 is the unit vector perpendicular to e_1 , we have $e_2 = \pm\left(\frac{df_2}{ds}, -\frac{df_1}{ds}\right)$ hence $\frac{d^2 f_1}{ds^2} = \pm \varkappa \frac{df_2}{ds}$. Thus

$$0 < -\int_0^a \varkappa \frac{df_2}{ds} ds = \pm \int_0^a \frac{d^2 f_1}{ds^2} ds = \pm \left[\frac{df_1}{ds}\right]_0^a = 0,$$

because $\frac{df_1(0)}{ds} = \frac{df_1(a)}{ds}$ according to the periodicity of the parametrization of the oval. This is a contradiction.

In fact we have shown there exists another point where $\frac{d\varkappa}{ds}$ changes the sign, i.e. \varkappa has either minimum or maximum at this point. But minima and maxima appear in pairs. Thus the existence of the fourth vertex follows. \square

3 Envelope of a family of plane curves

3.1 **3.1.** Consider the one-parameter family of plane curves given by the equations

e3.1 (1)
$$F(x, y, t) = 0,$$

$t \in I$ where $F(x, y, t)$ is a function of the class C^1 defined on an open set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Let us denote by C_{t_0} , $t_0 \in I$ the curve of the equation $F(x, y, t_0) = 0$, i.e. we consider (1) as the system of plane curves (C_t) .

3.2 **3.2.** Intersection points of curves C_t and C_s , $t \neq s$ are determined by the pair of equations

$$F(x, y, t) = 0, \quad F(x, y, s) = 0.$$

This system of equations is obviously equivalent with the system

$$F(x, y, t) = 0, \quad \frac{F(x, y, s) - F(x, y, t)}{s - t} = 0.$$

Considering a fixed t , we obtain the following equation in the limit $s \rightarrow t$,

e3.2 (2)
$$F(x, y, t) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial F(x, y, t)}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Definition. Points determined by the equation (2) are called **characteristic points on the curve C_t** . The set of such points for all $t \in I$ is called **characteristic set of the system (C_t)** .

From the computational point of view, we have two basic possibilities how to express the characteristic set. If we eliminate the parameter t from (2), we express the characteristic set in the form of an equation $G(x, y) = 0$. If we compute x and y from (2) as function of t , we obtain a parametrization of the characteristic set.

3.3 **3.3.** We say **two curves touch each other in the intersection point** if they have the contact of the 1st order, i.e. the same tangent line.

Definition. The curve D with a parametrization $f(t)$, $t \in (a, b) \subset I$ is called **envelope** of the family (C_t) if D touches the curve C_{t_0} at the point $f(t_0)$ for all $t_0 \in (a, b)$.

ve3.4 **3.4 Theorem.** Each envelope of the family (C_t) is a subset of its characteristic set.

Proof. The condition that each point of the envelope $f(t) = (f_1(t), f_2(t))$ lies on the curve C_t , is

e3.3 (3)
$$F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t) = 0.$$

The condition that tangent lines for D and C_t coincide at the point $f(t)$, has the form

e3.4 (4)
$$\frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial x} \frac{df_1(t)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial y} \frac{df_2(t)}{dt} = 0.$$

By differentiation of (3) we obtain

e3.5 (5)
$$\frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial x} \frac{df_1(t)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial y} \frac{df_2(t)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Subtracting (4) from (5) yields

e3.6 (6)
$$\frac{\partial F(f_1(t), f_2(t), t)}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Thus every envelope is a part of the characteristic set. □

3.5 **3.5.** Consider a very simple case of the family of circles centered on the x -axis and the constant radius r . That is, $F(x, y, t) = (x - t)^2 + y^2 - r^2 = 0$. Then $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = -2(x - t) = 0$. Putting $x = t$ to the first equation, we get $y = \pm r$. Of course, both these lines are envelopes.

3.6 **3.6.** In the opposite direction, we have the following:

Theorem. If the curve $f(t)$ is a solution of (2), it is an envelope of the family (C_t) .

Proof. The curve $f(t)$ satisfies (3), hence $f(t) \in C_t$. By differentiation we obtain (5). Further we have (6) and subtracting (6) from (5), we obtain (4). Thus $f(t)$ touches the curve C_t . \square

3.7 **3.7.** Having a pair of functions $x = f_1(t)$, $y = f_2(t)$ which is a solution of (2), then it is an envelope of the family (C_t) assuming further that $f(t) = (f_1(t), f_2(t))$ is a curve. In particular $\frac{df}{dt} \neq 0$. The picture shows first the family of curves centered on a circle of the radius r with constant radius $\varrho < r$, where the inner and outer envelopes are circles. The second case is $\varrho = r$, where the inner envelopes “degenerates” to a point.

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3.8 **3.8.** Normal lines of an arbitrary plane curves C form a one-parametr family of curves.

Definition. The characteristic set of the family of normal lines of the curve C is called **evolute of the curve** C .

Theorem. Evolute of the curve C without inflection points coincides with the set of centers of their osculating curves.

Proof. Let $z = (x, y)$ be an arbitrary point in the plane. We shall parametrize C by the arc-length and consider its Frener frame $e_1(s)$, $e_2(s)$ at the point $f(s)$. The equation of the normal line at the point $f(s)$ then is

e3.7 (7)
$$F(x, y, s) = (e_1(s), z - f(s)) = 0.$$

Using Frenet formulae. we find the condition

e3.8 (8)
$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial s} = (\varkappa(s)e_2(s), z - f(s)) - (e_1(s), e_1(s)) = 0.$$

The characteristic set is solution of equations (7) and (8), which we shall find geometrically. It follows from (7) that plyne

$$z = f(s) + c(s)e_2(s).$$

Putting this into (8), we get $\varkappa(s)c(s) - 1 = 0$, thus $c(s) = \frac{1}{\varkappa(s)}$. This is the center of the osculating circle. \square

3.9. Above we found the parametric expression of the evolute,

$$z(s) = f(s) + \frac{1}{\varkappa(s)}e_2(s).$$

Thus $\frac{dz}{ds} = e_1(s) - \frac{\varkappa'(s)}{\varkappa(s)^2}e_2(s) - e_1(s)$. If $\varkappa'(s) \neq 0$, this vector is nonzero. This means, that in some neighbourhood of the point, which is not a vertex, is evolute a curve.

The picture shows the evolute of an ellipse. Their edges correspond to vertices of the ellipse.

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4 Spacial curves and surfaces

Beside a parametric expression, a spacial curve can be also given as an intersection of two surfaces. In the study of spacial curves, we shall use their contact with certain auxiliary surfaces. Now we shall give a general definition of surfaces in E_3 .

4.1. We shall need notion of vector functions of two variables. To simplify the representation, we shall work only with 3-dimensional Euclidean vector space V .

Coordinates of the point $u \in \mathbb{R}^2$ will be denoted by (u_1, u_2) . Let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be an open set. The mapping $w: D \rightarrow V$ will be called **vector function of two variables**. If e_1, e_2, e_3 is a basis of V , we have $w(u) = w(u_1, u_2) = w_1(u_1, u_2)e_1 + w_2(u_1, u_2)e_2 + w_3(u_1, u_2)e_3$. Real function w_1, w_2, w_3 are called **components of the vector function** w and we write

e4.1 (1) $w(u_1, u_2) = (w_1(u_1, u_2), w_2(u_1, u_2), w_3(u_1, u_2)).$

The limit and continuity of vector functions of the vector function w are defined similarly as in 1.3. We say w has the limit $v \in V$ at the point $u_0 = (u_1^0, u_2^0)$, if for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $\delta > 0$ such that $|u_1 - u_1^0| < \delta, |u_2 - u_2^0| < \delta, (u_1, u_2) \neq (u_1^0, u_2^0)$ implies $\|w(u_1, u_2) - v\| < \varepsilon$. We write $\lim_{u \rightarrow u_0} w(u) = v$. Further, w is continuous at the point u_0 if $\lim_{u \rightarrow u_0} w(u) = w(u_0)$.

4.2. Partial derivatives of the vector function w are defined by

$$\frac{\partial w(u_0)}{\partial u_1} = \lim_{u_1 \rightarrow u_1^0} \frac{w(u_1, u_2^0) - w(u_1^0, u_2^0)}{u_1 - u_1^0}, \quad \frac{\partial w(u_0)}{\partial u_2} = \lim_{u_2 \rightarrow u_2^0} \frac{w(u_1^0, u_2) - w(u_1^0, u_2^0)}{u_2 - u_2^0}$$

Higher order partial derivatives $\frac{\partial^k w}{\partial u_1^i \partial u_2^j}, i + j = k$, are defined by the usual iteration.

As in 1.5, a vector function is continuous if and only if all its components are continuous. An analogous statement holds also for limits and partial derivatives. In particular, following (1) we have

$$\partial_1 w := \frac{\partial w}{\partial u_1} = \left(\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_1}, \frac{\partial w_2}{\partial u_1}, \frac{\partial w_3}{\partial u_1} \right), \quad \partial_2 w := \frac{\partial w}{\partial u_2} = \left(\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_2}, \frac{\partial w_2}{\partial u_2}, \frac{\partial w_3}{\partial u_2} \right)$$

and similarly for higher order partial derivatives.

We say the function $w: D \rightarrow V$ is **of the class** C^r , if it has continuous partial derivatives of the order $\leq r$ at the point D .

4.3. Consider V as the associated vector space of E_3 . Choose an auxiliary origin $P \in E_3$. Then the mapping $f: D \rightarrow E_3$ determines **radius vector** which is the vector function $\overrightarrow{Pf}: D \rightarrow V$, $\overrightarrow{Pf}(u) = \overrightarrow{Pf(u)}$. We put

e4.2 (2)
$$\partial_1 f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1} = \frac{\partial(\overrightarrow{Pf})}{\partial u_1}, \quad \partial_2 f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2} = \frac{\partial(\overrightarrow{Pf})}{\partial u_2}.$$

Similarly as in 1.7, this does not depend on the choice of the origin P .

Here (2) are vector functions of two variables. By iteration we have

e4.3 (3)
$$\partial_{11} f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_1 \partial u_1}, \quad \partial_{12} f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2}, \quad \partial_{22} f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_2 \partial u_2}$$

and similarly for higher orders.

de4.4 **4.4 Definition.** The set $S \subset E_3$ is called **simple surface of the class** C^r , if there is an open set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and an injective mapping $f: D \rightarrow E_3$ of the class C^r such that $S = f(D)$ and vectors $\partial_1 f$ and $\partial_2 f$ are linearly independent at each point of the set D .

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We say f is **parametrization of the surface** S and D is **parameter space**.

The condition that vectors $\partial_1 f$ and $\partial_2 f$ are linearly independent shall be written in the form $\partial_1 f \times \partial_2 f \neq 0$ where \times denotes the vector product. We shall illustrate the meaning of this condition on a parametrization of the plane E_3 . Consider $D = \mathbb{R}^2$ and put

$$f = P + u_1 a + u_2 b, \quad P \in E_3, \quad a, b \in V, \quad u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

In coordinates (x, y, z) on E_3 we have

$$x = p_1 + u_1 a_1 + u_2 b_1, \quad y = p_2 + u_1 a_2 + u_2 b_2, \quad z = p_3 + u_1 a_3 + u_2 b_3.$$

Then $\partial_1 f = a$ and $\partial_2 f = b$. From the analytic geometry we know that f determines the plane if and only if vectors a and b are linearly independent. If these vectors are linearly dependent, we obtain only a line, and the case $a = b = 0$ yields only a point.

4.5. Given the function $z = f(x, y)$ and C^r of two variables on $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ then its graph $\bar{f}(x, y) = (x, y, f(x, y))$, $\bar{f}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is a simple surface of the class C^r . The reason is that $\partial_1 \bar{f} = (1, 0, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x})$, $\partial_2 \bar{f} = (0, 1, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y})$ and these vectors are linearly independent everywhere. We say that $f(x, y)$ is an explicit description of the surface.

de4.6 4.6 Definition. The subset $S \subset E_3$ is called **surface of the class C^r** if for each $p \in S$ there is its neighbourhood U such that $U \cap S$ is a simple surface of the class C^r .

Examples.

- a) Rotational paraboloid is globally a simple surface.
- b) The sphere is a surface which is not simple.
- c) Anuloid is the surface given by the rotation of the circle around the axis which lies in the same plane and has empty intersection with the circle. The physical model is “pneumatika”.
- d) Also “an v lec” is an interesting global example of a surface.

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4.7 4.7. Agreement. Further we shall assume that the class r of the the surface or function under consideration is high enough for required constructions and this will not be usually explicitly stated.

4.8 4.8. A curve on a surface will be usually given in the parameter space D , i.e. $u = u(t)$, tj. $u_1 = u_1(t)$, $u_2 = u_2(t)$, $t \in I$. On the surface $S = f(D)$ then we have the curve $f(u(t)) = f(u_1(t), u_2(t))$.

Theorem. Tangent lines of all curves on the surface S at the point $p \in S$ fill the plane which is called **tangent plane of the surface S** at the point p .

Proof. Let $p = f(u_0)$. The velocity vector of the motion $f(u(t))$, $u(t_0) = u_0$ is given by the differentiation of the composed function

e4.4 (4)
$$\frac{df(u_1(t_0), u_2(t_0))}{dt} = \frac{\partial f(u_0)}{\partial u_1} \frac{du_1(t_0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial f(u_0)}{\partial u_2} \frac{du_2(t_0)}{dt}.$$

Hence this is a linear combination of vectors $\partial_1 f(u_0)$ and $\partial_2 f(u_0)$. In the opposite direction, for arbitrary vector $a = a_1 \partial_1 f(u_0) + a_2 \partial_2 f(u_0)$ we have the motion $u(t) = (u_1(t), u_2(t))$ such that $\frac{du_1(t_0)}{dt} = a_1$, $\frac{du_2(t_0)}{dt} = a_2$. Considered tangent lines this fill the whole plane given by the point p and vectors $\partial_1 f(u_0)$ and $\partial_2 f(u_0)$. □

The tangent plane of the surface S at the point p will be denoted by $\tau_p S$ and its associated vector space $T_p S$ is called **tangent vector space** of S at the point p .

The previous theorem shows the geometric meaning of the condition of linear independence of vectors $\partial_1 f$ and $\partial_2 f$ which guarantees existence of the tangent plane.

4.9 Henceforth we fix the coordinate system (x, y, z) , i.e. $E_3 \approx \mathbb{R}^3$.

Theorem. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be an open set and $F: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function of the class C^r such that the set S given by the equation $F(x, y, z) = 0$ is nonempty and

$$\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0) := \left(\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial z} \right) \neq o$$

for each $(x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S$. Then S is a surface of the class C^r .

Proof. Let $F(x_0, y_0, z_0) = 0$ and e.g. $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial z} \neq 0$. According to the implicit function theorem the equation $F(x, y, z) = 0$ locally yields $z = f(x, y)$ for a function f of the class C^r . Locally this is an explicit description of the surface S . If $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial y} \neq 0$ resp. $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial x} \neq 0$, one can locally compute $y = g(x, z)$ resp. $x = h(y, z)$. \square

The point (x_0, y_0, z_0) at which $\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0) = o$ is called **singular point of the set** $F(x, y, z) = 0$.

4.10 **4.10. Examples.** (i) The case $F(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - a$ is similar as in ???. The set $F(x, y, z) = 0$ is empty for $a < 0$. If $a = 0$, the equation is satisfied only by the origin which is the unique singular point. If $a > 0$, we have the sphere centered at the origin with the radius \sqrt{a} . The vector $\partial F = (2x, 2y, 2z)$ is nonzero at all points.

(ii) Consider "rotacni kuzel" $F(x, y, z) = z^2 - x^2 - y^2 = 0$. The point $(0, 0, 0)$ is the unique singular point. Observe the tangent plane does not exist at this point.

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ve4.11 **4.11 Theorem.** The equation of the tangent plane of the surface S given by the equation $F(x, y, z) = 0$ at $(x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S$ is

e4.5 (5)

$$\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial x}(x - x_0) + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial y}(y - y_0) + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial z}(z - z_0) = 0.$$

Proof. Let the curve $(f_1(t), f_2(t), f_3(t))$ lie on S and goes through the point $(x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S$ for $t = t_0$. Then

$$F(f_1(t), f_2(t), f_3(t)) = 0.$$

Differentiating of the composed function and putting $t = t_0$, we obtain

e4.6 (6)

$$\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial x} \frac{df_1(t_0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial y} \frac{df_2(t_0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial z} \frac{df_3(t_0)}{dt} = 0.$$

Thus the normal vector of the plane (5) is perpendicular to the tangent vector of any curve on S hence (5) is the tangent plane. \square

de4.12 **4.12 Definition.** Consider the surface S . The line $N_p S$ through the point $p \in S$ and perpendicular to the tangent plane $\tau_p S$, is called **normal line of the surface S** at the point p .

Thus the vector $\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ is the directional vector of the normal line of the surface $F(x, y, z) = 0$ at its point (x_0, y_0, z_0) . The condition $\partial F \neq o$ geometrically guarantees existence of the tangent plane as well as the condition $\partial_1 f \times \partial_2 f \neq o$ in the case of a parametric description of the surface.

4.13 **4.13.** We shall study the question when the intersection of two surfaces

e4.7 (7)

$$F(x, y, z) = 0, \quad G(x, y, z) = 0$$

is a curve

Theorem. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be an open set and $F, G: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be functions of the class C^r such that the set C given by the equation (7) is nonempty and vectors $\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ and $\partial G(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ are linearly independent for each $(x_0, y_0, z_0) \in C$. Then C is a curve of the class C^r .

Proof. Since vector ∂F and ∂G are linearly independent, there is at least one nonzero subdeterminant of the order 2 in the matrix

e4.8 (8)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} \end{pmatrix}.$$

If this is the subdeterminant

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix},$$

it follows from the generalized implicit function theorem that from (7) one can locally compute $y = f(x)$ and $z = g(x)$. Here f and g are again functions of the class C^r . (This theorem can be found at 2.6 of the textbook “Úvod do globální analýzy” which is stated as [5] in the list of references.) Thus $(t, f(t), g(t))$ is locally a parametrization of the curve given by equations $F = 0$ and $G = 0$. If another subdeterminant of the order 2 is nonzero, we can locally express x and z as functions of y or x and y as functions of z . \square

4.14 We shall illustrate the generalized implicit function theorem on the simplest example of two linear equations

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y, z) &= a_1x + a_2y + a_3z = 0, \\ G(x, y, z) &= b_1x + b_2y + b_3z = 0. \end{aligned}$$

In this case we have

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

and if this determinant is nonzero, one can use the Cramer’s rule to compute y and z .

4.15 Geometrically, the theorem 4.13 says that the intersection of two surfaces S_1 and S_2 is locally a curve in a neighbourhood of a point $p \in S_1 \cap S_2$ where the tangent planes $\tau_p S_1$ and $\tau_p S_2$ are different.

A simple example of two touching spheres (which intersect in a single point) shows that this condition is necessary.

An interesting example is so called Viviani curve which is the intersection of the sphere and “válce” with half radius which goes through the center of the sphere, see the view “from above” in a). The tangent planes of both surfaces are different surfaces with the exception of the point A . Indeed, here the intersection of both surfaces is not locally a curve in our sense, see the “front” point of view in b) and the general picture in c).

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4.16 The definition of the contact of a curve with a plane reduces to contact of two curves.

Definition. We say the curve C and the surface S have the **contact** of the k -th order at the intersection point p , if there exists a curve \bar{C} on S such that C and \bar{C} have the contact of the k th order at the point p .

One can easily see that C and S have the contact of the 1st order if and only if the tangent line of the curve lies in the tangent plane of the surface.

4.17 **4.17.** The following simple condition to determine the contact of a curve with a surface is similar to the theorem 2.5. Let S be given by the equation $F(x, y, z) = 0$ and C is given by the parametrization $(f_1(t), f_2(t), f_3(t))$.

Theorem. Let $f(t_0) = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ be an intersection point of the curve C and the surface S . Consider the function $\Phi(t) = F(f_1(t), f_2(t), f_3(t))$. Then C and S have the contact of the order k if and only if

e4.9 (9)
$$\frac{d^i \Phi(t_0)}{dt^i} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Proof. Let $\bar{f}(t)$ be a parametrization of the curve \bar{C} on the surface S such that derivatives of $f(t)$ and $\bar{f}(t)$ coincide up to the order k at $t = t_0$. Since \bar{C} lies on S , we have

e4.10 (10)
$$F(\bar{f}_1(t), \bar{f}_2(t), \bar{f}_3(t)) = 0,$$

hence all derivatives with respect to t of the left hand side are zero. The function $\Phi(t)$ and (10) have the same outer factor $F(x, y, z)$ and derivatives of inner factors up to the order k coincide according to the condition of contact. Thus (9) holds.

In the opposite direction, let e.g. $\frac{\partial F(x_0, y_0, z_0)}{\partial z} \neq 0$. According to the implicit function theorem, the equation

$$F(f_1(t), f_2(t), z) = 0$$

locally determines the function $z = g(t)$ and the curve $\bar{C} \equiv (f_1(t), f_2(t), g(t))$ lies on S . It is sufficient to show

e4.11 (11)
$$\frac{d^i f_3(t_0)}{dt^i} = \frac{d^i g(t_0)}{dt^i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Put $G(t, z) = F(f_1(t), f_2(t), z)$. This function is defined on some neighborhood V of the point (t_0, z_0) . Consider the function of three variables

e4.12 (12)
$$H(t, z, w) = G(t, z) - w.$$

on $V \times \mathbb{R}$. According to the implicit function theorem, the equation $H(t, z, w) = 0$ locally allows to compute $z = K(t, w)$. Since $G(t, g(t)) = 0$ and $G(t, f_3(t)) = \Phi(t)$, we have

$$g(t) = K(t, 0) \quad \text{a} \quad f_3(t) = K(t, \Phi(t)).$$

As in the proof of the theorem 2.5, we obtain (11). □

5 Frenet frame of spacial curves

Consider a curve $C \subset E_3$.

ve5.1 **5.1 Theorem.** There exists a unique plane ω at non-inflection $p \in C$ which has the contact of the 2nd order with C . Then ω is called **osculating plane** of the curve C at the point p .

Proof. Consider a parametrization $f(t) = (f_1(t), f_2(t), f_3(t))$ of the curve C and an arbitrary plane $ax + by + cz + d = 0$. According to 4.17 we consider the function

$$\Phi(t) = af_1(t) + bf_2(t) + cf_3(t) + d.$$

For the 2nd order contact we have conditions $\Phi(t_0) = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi(t_0)}{dt} &= a \frac{df_1(t_0)}{dt} + b \frac{df_2(t_0)}{dt} + c \frac{df_3(t_0)}{dt} = 0, \\ \frac{d^2\Phi(t_0)}{dt^2} &= a \frac{d^2f_1(t_0)}{dt^2} + b \frac{d^2f_2(t_0)}{dt^2} + c \frac{d^2f_3(t_0)}{dt^2} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

These conditions mean that the normal vector (a, b, c) of the required plane is tangent to vectors $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ and $\frac{d^2f(t_0)}{dt^2}$. Since these two vectors are linearly independent, the required plane is unique. \square

Similarly as the osculating circle of a plane curve, the condition of the 2nd order contact of the osculating plane with the spacial curve means that the osculating plane approximates the curve in the best way (among all possible planes).

du5.2 **5.2 Corollary.** At a non-inflection point $f(t_0)$, the associated vector space of the osculating plane is given by vectors $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ a $\frac{d^2f(t_0)}{dt^2}$.

Thus its equation can be expressed in the form

$$\begin{vmatrix} x - f_1(t_0), & y - f_2(t_0), & z - f_3(t_0) \\ f'_1(t_0), & f'_2(t_0), & f'_3(t_0) \\ f''_1(t_0), & f''_2(t_0), & f''_3(t_0) \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

5.3 **5.3.** Now we can define the following objects at a non-inflection points $p \in C$: objekty:

(i) The plane ν through the point p perpendicular to the tangent line is called **normal plane**.

(ii) The intersection $n = \nu \cap \omega$ of the normal and osculating planes is called **principal normal line**.

(iii) The line b through the point p perpendicular to the osculating plane is called **binormal line**.

(iv) The plane ρ determined by the tangent and binormal lines is called **rectifying plane**.

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de5.4 **5.4 Definition.** Non-inflection point $p \in C$ is called **planar point** if the osculating plane at this point has the 3rd order contact with the curve C .

ve5.5 **5.5 Theorem.** The non-inflection point $f(t_0)$ is planar if and only if the vector $\frac{d^3 f(t_0)}{dt^3}$ is linearly independent on vectors $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ and $\frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2}$.

Proof. Consider the function $\Phi(t)$ from the proof of the theorem 5.1 and two conditions in this proof for the first and second derivatives of $\Phi(t)$. Considering the 3rd order contact, we have moreover

e5.1 (1)
$$\frac{d^3 \Phi(t_0)}{dt^3} = a \frac{d^3 f_1(t_0)}{dt^3} + b \frac{d^3 f_2(t_0)}{dt^3} + c \frac{d^3 f_3(t_0)}{dt^3} = 0.$$

Thus the vector $\frac{d^3 f(t_0)}{dt^3}$ lies in the associated vector space of the osculating plane therefore it is linearly dependent on vectors $\frac{df(t_0)}{dt}$ and $\frac{d^2 f(t_0)}{dt^2}$. In the opposite direction, if this linear dependence holds then the equation (1) is a consequence of two equations from the proof of the theorem 5.1. Thus C has the 3rd order contact with the osculating plane. \square

5.6 **5.6.** Let us further consider the arc-length s . We have $e_1(s) = \frac{df(s)}{ds}$ which is the unit vector. Considering a non-inflection point $f(s)$, we denote by $e_2(s)$ the unit collinear with $\frac{de_1(s)}{ds}$ in the same direction. Thus

e5.2 (2)
$$\frac{de_1(s)}{ds} = \varkappa(s)e_2(s), \quad \varkappa(s) > 0.$$

and the vector $e_2(s)$ lies in the osculating plane. According to 1.26, the vector $e_2(s)$ is perpendicular to $e_1(s)$. Thus $e_2(s)$ yields the direction of the principal normal line at the point $f(s)$.

5.7 **5.7.** Assume further the space E_3 is oriented. By $e_3(s)$ we denote the unit vector perpendicular to $e_1(s)$ and $e_2(s)$ such that the basis $(e_1(s), e_2(s), e_3(s))$ is positive. Thus the vector $e_3(s)$ yields the direction of the binormal.

Definition. The frame $(f(s_0), e_1(s_0), e_2(s_0), e_3(s_0))$ is called **Frenet frame of the curve C** in the non-inflection point $f(s_0)$.

The argument s will be further usually omitted.

5.8. Since the vector e_2 is unit, by differentiating of the relation $(e_2, e_2) = 1$ we obtain $(e_2, \frac{de_2}{ds}) = 0$. Thus

$$\frac{de_2}{ds} = ce_1 + \tau e_3.$$

Similarly by differentiating $(e_1, e_2) = 0$ we get $(\frac{de_1}{ds}, e_2) + (e_1, \frac{de_2}{ds}) = 0$ i.e. $\varkappa + c = 0$. Thus

e5.3 (3)
$$\frac{de_2(s)}{ds} = -\varkappa(s)e_1(s) + \tau(s)e_3(s).$$

By differentiating $(e_3, e_3) = 1$ we see the vector $\frac{de_3}{ds}$ is perpendicular to e_3 . By differentiating of the relation $(e_1, e_3) = 0$ we obtain

$$\left(\frac{de_1}{ds}, e_3\right) + \left(e_1, \frac{de_3}{ds}\right) = 0.$$

But $\frac{de_1}{ds} = \varkappa e_2$ thus the first scalar product is zero, i.e. $\frac{de_3}{ds} = k e_2$. Finally by differentiating $(e_2, e_3) = 0$ we get $(\frac{de_2}{ds}, e_3) + (e_2, \frac{de_3}{ds}) = 0$. From this it follows $\tau + k = 0$ hence

e5.4 (4)
$$\frac{de_3(s)}{ds} = -\tau(s)e_2(s).$$

We have shown

Theorem (Frenet formulae). The curve $f(s)$ without inflection points satisfies

e5.5 (5)
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df}{ds} &= e_1, \\ \frac{de_1}{ds} &= \varkappa e_2, \\ \frac{de_2}{ds} &= -\varkappa e_1 + \tau e_3, \\ \frac{de_3}{ds} &= -\tau e_2. \end{aligned}$$

de5.9 5.9 Definition. The number $\varkappa(s_0) > 0$ is called **curvature** and the number $\tau(s_0)$ is called **torsion** of the spacial curve $f(s)$ in the non-inflection point $f(s_0)$.

5.10 **5.10.** Frenet formulae of the curve $f(s)$ yield

e5.6 (6)
$$\frac{df}{ds} = e_1, \quad \frac{d^2 f}{ds^2} = \varkappa e_2, \quad \frac{d^3 f}{ds^3} = \frac{d\varkappa}{ds} e_2 + \varkappa(-\varkappa e_1 + \tau e_3).$$

Assume $0 \in I$ for the curve $f(s)$, $f : I \rightarrow E_3$. Thus at $s = 0$ we have the Taylor expansion

$$\boxed{\text{e5.7}} \quad (7) \quad f(s) = f(0) + s e_1(0) + \frac{\varkappa(0)s^2}{2} e_2(0) + \frac{s^3}{6} \left[\frac{d\varkappa(0)}{ds} e_2(0) - \varkappa^2(0) e_1(0) + \varkappa(0) \tau(0) e_3(0) \right] + \nu(s),$$

where $\nu(s)$ is the vector function whose value and first three derivatives are zero at the origin. In the other words, we have:

Theorem. Let x, y, z be coordinates with respect to the Frenet frame $(f(0), e_1(0), e_2(0), e_3(0))$. Then the curve $f(s)$ in a neighbourhood of the point $f(0)$ is given by

$$\boxed{\text{e5.8}} \quad (8) \quad \begin{aligned} x &= s - \frac{\varkappa^2(0)}{6} s^3 + \xi(s), \\ y &= \frac{\varkappa(0)}{2} s^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{d\varkappa(0)}{ds} s^3 + \eta(s), \\ z &= \frac{\varkappa(0)\tau(0)}{6} s^3 + \zeta(s), \end{aligned}$$

where real functions $\xi(s)$, $\eta(s)$ and $\zeta(s)$ have zero value and first three derivatives at the origin.

Relations (8) yield so called **local expansion of the curve $f(s)$ with respect to its Frenet frame**. Using this, we shall study orthogonal projections of the curve to its three basic planes of the Frenet frame.

5.11. A geometric meaning of the curvature of a plane curve is given by the definition 2.10. The curve $C \equiv f(s)$ in E_3 satisfies

Theorem. Considering a non-inflection point $p \in C$, the curvature of the curve C is equal to the curvature of its orthogonal projections C_p to the osculating plane.

Proof. We can assume $p = f(0)$. According to (7), C_p has parametrization (or rather its Taylor expansion)

$$\boxed{\text{e5.9}} \quad (9) \quad x = s + \alpha(s), \quad y = \frac{\varkappa(0)}{2} s^2 + \beta(s),$$

where $\alpha(s)$ and $\beta(s)$ have zero values and first two derivatives at the origin. The circle

$$\boxed{\text{e5.10}} \quad (10) \quad x^2 + \left(y - \frac{1}{\varkappa(0)} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\varkappa(0)} \right)^2, \quad \text{tj.} \quad x^2 + y^2 - \frac{2}{\varkappa(0)} y = 0$$

has the second order contact with C_p at the origin. Indeed, putting (9) into (10) we get

$$s^2 - s^2 + \gamma(s) = 0,$$

where $\gamma(s)$ is a function which has zero value and first two derivatives at the origin. \square

5.12. Similarly, a parametrization of the orthogonal projection of the curve C to the normal plane is

$$y = \frac{\varkappa(0)}{2}s^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{d\varkappa(0)}{ds} s^3 + \eta(s), \quad z = \frac{\varkappa(0)\tau(0)}{6} s^3 + \zeta(s).$$

Denoting this vector valued function by $g(s)$, we have $\frac{dg(0)}{ds} = o$. Thus in a sense, the origin is an edge of the type of semicubic parabola.

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5.13. The orthogonal projection of C to its rectifying plane is

$$x = s - \frac{\varkappa^2(0)}{6} s^3 + \xi(s), \quad z = \frac{\varkappa(0)\tau(0)}{6} s^3 + \zeta(s).$$

Denoting by $h(s)$ this vector valued function, we have $\frac{dh(0)}{ds} = (1, 0)$, $\frac{d^2h(0)}{ds^2} = (0, 0)$. Hence the origin is an inflection point.

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Comparison of all three projections yields a better understanding how the curve C moves “through” its Frenet frame.

5.14. It follows from Frenet formulae that planar points of the spacial curve C are easily characterized in terms of the torsion.

Theorem. The point $f(s_0)$ is planar if and only if $\tau(s_0) = 0$.

Proof. It follows from (6) that the vector $\frac{d^3f(s_0)}{ds^3}$ is a linear combination of $e_1(s_0)$ and $e_2(s_0)$ if and only if $\tau(s_0) = 0$. \square

5.15. The curve $C \subset E_3$ is called **planar** if it lies in some plane $\varrho \subset E_3$. Since C lies in ϱ , every point of C is planar hence the torsion of a plane curve is zero. The opposite direction follows from Frenet formulae.

Theorem. A simple curve where all points are planar, is a part of a plane.

Proof. The condition $\tau = 0$ yields $\frac{de_3}{ds} = 0$ i.e. e_3 is a constant vector. Consider the plane through the point $f(s_0)$ perpendicular the vector $e_3(s_0)$. Its equation is $(e_3(s_0), w - f(s_0)) = 0$ where $w = (x, y, z)$ is an arbitrary point in E_3 . Consider the function $\varphi(s) = (e_3(s_0), f(s) - f(s_0))$. We have $\frac{d\varphi}{ds} = (e_3(s_0), e_1(s)) = 0$ since $e_3(s_0) = e_3(s)$. Thus φ is a constant function. Further $\varphi(s_0) = 0$ thus the function φ is identically zero. The whole curve lies in the considered plane. \square

5.16. The basic geometrical meaning of the torsion follows directly from (5).

Theorem. It holds $|\tau| = \left\| \frac{de_3}{ds} \right\|$. \square

Therefore we can say that torsion is the velocity of rotation of the binormal vector. Zero rotation of course indicates plane curves. Generally one can say that greater absolute value of torsion, more the curve diverges from a plane curve.

5.17. We shall find a formula for the curvature \varkappa with respect to an arbitrary parametrization $f(t)$ of the curve C . It follows from (6) that $\varkappa = \left\| \frac{df}{ds} \times \frac{d^2f}{ds^2} \right\|$. Put $t = t(s)$. The chain rule yields

e5.11 (11)
$$\frac{df}{ds} = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}, \quad \frac{d^2f}{ds^2} = \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^2 + \frac{df}{dt} \frac{d^2t}{ds^2}.$$

Further we know $\left| \frac{dt}{ds} \right| = 1 / \left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\|$. Since the vector product of two colinear vectors is zero, we have

$$\frac{df}{ds} \times \frac{d^2f}{ds^2} = \left(\frac{df}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds} \right) \times \left(\frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^2 + \frac{df}{dt} \frac{d^2t}{ds^2} \right) = \left(\frac{df}{dt} \times \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \right) \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^3.$$

Thus we have proved

Theorem. It holds

e5.12 (12)
$$\varkappa = \frac{\left\| \frac{df}{dt} \times \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \right\|}{\left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\|^3}$$

5.18. We shall derive a formula for torsion τ with respect to an arbitrary parametrization $f(t)$ of the curve C . Recall three vectors $u = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$, $v = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$, $w = (w_1, w_2, w_3)$ in the oriented three-dimensional Euclidean vector space determine the exterior product

$$[u, v, w] = \begin{vmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}.$$

Theorem. It holds

$$\boxed{\text{e5.13}} \quad (13) \quad \tau = \frac{\left[\frac{df}{dt}, \frac{d^2f}{dt^2}, \frac{d^3f}{dt^3} \right]}{\left\| \frac{df}{dt} \times \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \right\|^2}.$$

Proof. First we observe the exterior product satisfies

$$[u, v + au, w + bu + cv] = [u, v, w].$$

It follows from (6) that

$$\left[\frac{df}{ds}, \frac{d^2f}{ds^2}, \frac{d^3f}{ds^3} \right] = \varkappa^2 \tau [e_1, e_2, e_3] = \varkappa^2 \tau,$$

as e_1, e_2, e_3 is a positive basis. We shall rewrite (11) (obtained in the proof of the theorem 5.17) in the form

$$\boxed{\text{e5.14}} \quad (14) \quad \frac{df}{ds} = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}, \quad \frac{d^2f}{ds^2} = \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^2 + g \frac{df}{dt},$$

where $g = \frac{d^2t}{ds^2}$ but we shall not need this fact. Further differentiation yields

$$\boxed{\text{e5.15}} \quad (15) \quad \frac{d^3f}{ds^3} = \frac{d^3f}{dt^3} \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^3 + h \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} + k \frac{df}{dt},$$

where we shall not need coefficients h and k explicitly. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varkappa^2 \tau &= \left[\frac{df}{ds}, \frac{d^2f}{ds^2}, \frac{d^3f}{ds^3} \right] = \left[\frac{dt}{ds} \frac{df}{dt}, \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^2 \frac{d^2f}{dt^2}, \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^3 \frac{d^3f}{dt^3} \right] = \\ &= \left(\frac{dt}{ds} \right)^6 \left[\frac{df}{dt}, \frac{d^2f}{dt^2}, \frac{d^3f}{dt^3} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Using (12) for \varkappa and the relation $\left| \frac{dt}{ds} \right| = 1 / \left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\|$, (13) follows. \square

5.19 Example. We shall find curvature and torsion of the screw line. This curve is given by the trajectory of the uniform screw motion. Its parametrization therefore is

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$$f(t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, bt), \quad t \in (-\infty, \infty), \quad a > 0.$$

The number a is the radius of the circular cylinder on which the screw line lies. The number b is called **slope** of the **screw line**.

Consecutive differentiation yields

$$\begin{aligned} f' &= (-a \sin t, a \cos t, b), \\ f'' &= (-a \cos t, -a \sin t, 0), \\ f''' &= (a \sin t, -a \cos t, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $f' \times f'' = (ab \sin t, -ab \cos t, a^2)$, $\|f' \times f''\| = a\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$. Further $\|f'\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$. Podle (12) m me $\kappa = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}$. To determine torsion we compute the determinant

$$[f', f'', f'''] = \begin{vmatrix} -a \sin t & a \cos t & b \\ -a \cos t & -a \sin t & 0 \\ a \sin t & -a \cos t & 0 \end{vmatrix} = ba^2.$$

According (13) we have $\tau = \frac{ba^2}{a^2(a^2 + b^2)} = \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}$.

Thus the screw line has constant curvature and torsion.

5.20. Recall **proper Euclidean transformation in an oriented space** E_3 is such Euclidean transformation $\varphi: E_3 \rightarrow E_3$ which preserves orientation. Similarly as in a plane, we call two curves $C, \bar{C} \subset E_3$ congruent if there exists such proper Euclidean transformation φ such that $\varphi(C) = \bar{C}$. As in the plane, we shall assume that C and \bar{C} are simple and both are parametrized by the arc-length on the same interval I .

Theorem. Let curves C and \bar{C} are without inflection points, $f: I \rightarrow E_3$ and $\bar{f}: I \rightarrow E_3$ are their arc-length parametrizations on the same interval I and $\kappa(s), \bar{\kappa}(s)$ and $\tau(s), \bar{\tau}(s)$ are their curvatures and torsions, respectively. Then curves C and \bar{C} are congruent if and only if $\kappa = \bar{\kappa}$ and $\tau = \bar{\tau}$ on I .

Proof. On one side, it directly follows from the geometric construction of the Frenet frame that given two congruent curves, their curvatures and torsions are the same functions of the arc-length. In the opposite direction, consider C and \bar{C} with Frenet frames $(f(s), e_1(s), e_2(s), e_3(s))$ and $(\bar{f}(s), \bar{e}_1(s), \bar{e}_2(s), \bar{e}_3(s))$, respectively. Beside (5), we have also

e5.16 (16) $\frac{d\bar{f}}{ds} = \bar{e}_1, \quad \frac{d\bar{e}_1}{ds} = \kappa\bar{e}_2, \quad \frac{d\bar{e}_2}{ds} = -\kappa\bar{e}_1 + \tau\bar{e}_3, \quad \frac{d\bar{e}_3}{ds} = -\tau\bar{e}_2$

with the same κ and τ . Thus (5) and (16) is the same system of differential equations for twelve real functions which are components of f, e_1, e_2 and e_3 . Given $s_0 \in I$, both $f(s_0), e_1(s_0), e_2(s_0), e_3(s_0)$ as well as $\bar{f}(s_0), \bar{e}_1(s_0),$

$\bar{e}_2(s_0), \bar{e}_3(s_0)$ are the point and a positive orthonormal frame. Hence there is a unique proper Euclidean motion $\varphi: E_3 \rightarrow E_3$ which transforms the first of these 4-tuples to the second one. Then parametrization $\bar{f}: I \rightarrow E_3$ of the curve \bar{C} together with vector functions \bar{e}_1, \bar{e}_2 and \bar{e}_3 and parametrizations $\varphi \circ f: I \rightarrow E_3$ of the curve $\varphi(C)$ together with vector functions $\varphi \circ e_1, \varphi \circ e_2$ and $\varphi \circ e_3$ satisfy the same system of differential equations with the same initial conditions. According to the theorem about unique existence of solution of a system of differential equations, we in particular have $\bar{f} = \varphi \circ f$. Thus $\bar{C} = \varphi(C)$. \square

5.21 Similarly as in the plane we also have the opposite direction.

Theorem. Let $\varkappa, \tau: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be real functions, $\varkappa > 0$. Then locally there exists a curve C parametrized by the arc-length on I such that \varkappa is its curvature and τ is its torsion,

5.22 Example. We shall show the screw lines are unique curves with constant curvature and torsion (Zero torsion corresponds to a circle as the screw line with zero slope.) Indeed, we computed in (19) that

e5.17 (17)
$$\varkappa = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}, \quad \tau = \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}.$$

for screw lines. Let $\varkappa > 0$ and τ be given. Then we compute from (17) that $\frac{\tau}{\varkappa} = \frac{b}{a}$ thus $a = k\varkappa, b = k\tau$ for some $k > 0$. Putting this to the formula for \varkappa we get $\varkappa = \frac{k\varkappa}{k^2(\varkappa^2 + \tau^2)}$, i.e. $k = \frac{1}{\varkappa^2 + \tau^2}$. It follows from theorems 5.20 and 5.21 that parts of the screw lines with values $a = \frac{\varkappa}{\varkappa^2 + \tau^2}$ and $b = \frac{\tau}{\varkappa^2 + \tau^2}$ are unique curves with given constant \varkappa and τ .

5.23 Remark. Another interesting (however less important in practice) geometrical object determined by the curve $C \equiv f(s)$ is its **osculating sphere**. Assuming $f(s_0)$ is a non-planar point then there exists a unique sphere S which has the 3rd order contact with the curve C at $f(s_0)$. We shall only sketch its construction. It follows from the 1st order contact that the tangent line of the curve at the point $f(s_0)$ is also tangent to S hence the center of the osculating sphere lies on the normal line. Let $f(s_0) + ae_2(s_0) + be_3(s_0)$ is this center. We shall write the equation of the sphere S in the form of scalar product

$$(w - f(s_0) - ae_2(s_0) - be_3(s_0), w - f(s_0) - ae_2(s_0) + be_3(s_0)) = a^2 + b^2$$

where $w = (x, y, z)$ is an arbitrary point in E_3 . To determine the contact of C and S we use the function

$$\Phi(s) = (f(s) - f(s_0) - ae_2(s_0) - be_3(s_0), f(s) - f(s_0) - ae_2(s_0) - be_3(s_0) - a^2 - b^2).$$

Relations $\Phi(s_0) = 0$ and $\frac{d\Phi(s_0)}{ds} = 0$ hold by construction. Conditions $\frac{d^2\Phi(s_0)}{ds^2} = 0$ and $\frac{d^3\Phi(s_0)}{ds^3} = 0$ yield

$$\boxed{\text{e5.18}} \quad (18) \quad a = \frac{1}{\varkappa(s_0)}, \quad b = -\frac{\varkappa'(s_0)}{\varkappa^2(s_0)\tau(s_0)}, \quad \varkappa'(s) = \frac{d\varkappa}{ds}.$$

The radius $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ of the osculating sphere thus is

$$\boxed{\text{e5.19}} \quad (19) \quad r = \frac{1}{\varkappa^2|\tau|} \sqrt{\varkappa^2\tau^2 + \left(\frac{d\varkappa}{ds}\right)^2}.$$

Display relations (18) and (19) illustrate an interesting general akt. According to theorems 5.20 and 5.21, the curve C is geometrically determined by its curvature and torsion. Thus also other geometrical objects determined by the curve and its invariants are expressed using \varkappa and τ and their derivatives with respect to the arc-length.

6 The first fundamental form of the surface

Now we start a systematic study of surfaces in E_3 .

6.1. Consider a surface S with a local parametric expression $f(u_1, u_2)$, $(u_1, u_2) \in D$, see 4.4. We shall use the abbreviated notation $f_1 = \partial_1 f$, $f_2 = \partial_2 f$. Thus $f_1(u_0)$, $f_2(u_0)$ form a basis of the tangent space $T_p S$ of the surface S at the point $p = f(u_0)$.

Consider vectors $A, B \in T_p S$, $A = a_1 f_1 + a_2 f_2$, $B = b_1 f_1 + b_2 f_2$. Their scalar product is given by

e6.1 (1) $(A, B) = (a_1 f_1 + a_2 f_2, b_1 f_1 + b_2 f_2).$

Put

e6.2 (2) $g_{11} = (f_1, f_1), \quad g_{12} = (f_1, f_2), \quad g_{22} = (f_2, f_2).$

That is, g_{ij} , $i, j = 1, 2$ are functions on D . Then (1) can be written in the form

e6.3 (3) $(A, B) = g_{11} a_1 b_1 + g_{12} (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) + g_{22} a_2 b_2.$

This is a bilinear form on $T_p S$. The corresponding quadratic form determines the length of the vector A ,

$$\|A\| = \sqrt{g_{11} a_1^2 + 2g_{12} a_1 a_2 + g_{22} a_2^2}.$$

The angle φ of vector A, B satisfies

$$(4) \quad \cos \varphi = \frac{g_{11} a_1 b_1 + g_{12} (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) + g_{22} a_2 b_2}{\sqrt{g_{11} a_1^2 + 2g_{12} a_1 a_2 + g_{22} a_2^2} \sqrt{g_{11} b_1^2 + 2g_{12} b_1 b_2 + g_{22} b_2^2}}$$

6.2. Consider a curve $u(t) = (u_1(t), u_2(t))$ on S . We have $\frac{df}{dt} = f_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + f_2 \frac{du_2}{dt}$ hence

$$\left\| \frac{df}{dt} \right\| = \sqrt{g_{11} \left(\frac{du_1}{dt} \right)^2 + 2g_{12} \frac{du_1}{dt} \frac{du_2}{dt} + g_{22} \left(\frac{du_2}{dt} \right)^2}$$

From the formula for length of an arc of a space curve we have

Theorem. Length s of the arc of the curve $u(t)$ on the surface $f(u)$ between points with parameters t_1 and t_2 is

$$(5) \quad s = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \sqrt{g_{11} \left(\frac{du_1}{dt} \right)^2 + 2g_{12} \frac{du_1}{dt} \frac{du_2}{dt} + g_{22} \left(\frac{du_2}{dt} \right)^2} dt.$$

Thus the differential ds is given by the expression which follows the symbol of integral. Its square

$$\boxed{\text{e6.6}} \quad (6) \quad (ds)^2 = g_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2g_{12}du_1du_2 + g_{22}(du_2)^2$$

is a quadratic form corresponding to the bilinear form (3).

6.3 Definition. The quadratic form (6) is called **first fundamental form of the surface**. It is denoted by Φ_1 or $(ds)^2$.

We shall use the same symbol Φ_1 also for the bilinear form determined by this quadratic form.

$\boxed{6.4}$ **6.4 Example.** Consider the sphere S centered at the origin with the radius r . Given a point $p \in S$ away from the z -axis, consider its projection q to the plane (x, y) . We shall denote by u_1 the angle of the radius vector of the point q with the positive half x -axis, i.e. $u_1 \in [0, 2\pi)$. We denote by u_2 the angle of the radius vector of the point p with the plane (x, y) , i.e. $u_2 \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$. Thus $z = r \sin u_2$ and length of the radius vector of q is $r \cos u_2$. Situation in the plane (x, y) corresponds to polar coordinates, i.e. $x = r \cos u_2 \cos u_1$, $y = r \cos u_2 \sin u_1$. Summarizing, we have

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$$(7) \quad f(u_1, u_2) = (r \cos u_1 \cos u_2, r \sin u_1 \cos u_2, r \sin u_2), \\ u_1 \in (0, 2\pi), \quad u_2 \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}).$$

The sphere is not a simple surface hence our parametrization does not cover half-circle which is intersection of the sphere with the half-plane $x \geq 0$ in the (x, z) -plane. However, this incompleteness is usually not a problem.

We shall find the first fundamental form of the sphere. We have

$$f_1 = r(-\sin u_1 \cos u_2, \cos u_1 \cos u_2, 0), \\ f_2 = r(-\cos u_1 \sin u_2, -\sin u_1 \sin u_2, \cos u_2).$$

Thus $g_{11} = (f_1, f_1) = r^2 \cos^2 u_2$, $g_{12} = (f_1, f_2) = 0$, $g_{22} = r^2$. The first fundamental form of the sphere is of the form

$$(8) \quad \Phi_1 = r^2[\cos^2 u_2(du_1)^2 + (du_2)^2].$$

$\boxed{6.5}$ **6.5.** We shall compute the first fundamental form of an explicitly given surface $z = f(x, y)$, $(x, y) \in D$, see 4.5. Its parametrization is given by $\bar{f}(x, y) = (x, y, f(x, y))$. Hence $\bar{f}_1 = (1, 0, f_x)$, $\bar{f}_2 = (0, 1, f_y)$ where f_x and f_y are partial derivatives of f with respect to x and y , respectively. Computing scalar products (2), we obtain

$$(9) \quad \Phi_1 = (1 + f_x^2)(dx)^2 + 2f_x f_y dx dy + (1 + f_y^2)(dy)^2.$$

6.6 Definition. System of curves on a simple surface S is a 1-parameter family \mathcal{L} of curves on S such that there is a unique curve from \mathcal{L} through every point of the surface S .

First consider system \mathcal{L} in the parameter space D of the plane (u_1, u_2) . Assume that tangent lines of curves of the system are not parallel with the u_2 -axis. Then system $L(u_1, u_2)$ of tangent lines of the system \mathcal{L} satisfy

$$\boxed{\text{e6.10}} \quad (10) \quad \frac{du_2}{du_1} = L(u_1, u_2).$$

We say (10) is **differential equation of the system \mathcal{L}** .

Vector field on the space D is the rule which assigns a vector in the tangent space $T_p D$ for every point $p \in D$. Having a nowhere vanishing vector field $(F_1(u_1, u_2), F_2(u_1, u_2))$ on D tangent to the system \mathcal{L} , non-parallelity with the u_2 -axis mean $F_1(u_1, u_2) \neq 0$. Then the differential equation of the system \mathcal{L} is

$$(11) \quad \frac{du_2}{du_1} = \frac{F_2(u_1, u_2)}{F_1(u_1, u_2)}.$$

The system \mathcal{L} on a surface S is usually given on the parameter space. **Vector field on the surface S** is a rule which assigns a vector in the tangent space $T_p S$ to every point $p \in S$.

6.7 Definition. Orthogonal trajectories of the system \mathcal{L} on the surface S is a system \mathcal{L}' on S such that curves of \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{L}' are perpendicular at every point.

Theorem. If $(F_1(u_1, u_2), F_2(u, u_2))$ is a coordinate expression of a vector field tangent to the system \mathcal{L} then the differential system of its orthogonal trajectories is

$$\boxed{\text{e6.12}} \quad (12) \quad \frac{du_2}{du_1} = -\frac{g_{11}F_1 + g_{12}F_2}{g_{12}F_1 + g_{22}F_2}.$$

Proof. Let (du_1, du_2) is a tangent vector to the required system \mathcal{L}' . Following (3), the orthogonality of both systems means

$$g_{11}F_1 du_1 + g_{12}(F_1 du_2 + F_2 du_1) + g_{22}F_2 du_2 = 0.$$

Now (12) follows by an algebraic manipulation. □

Remark. If there zero in the denominator of the right hand side of (12) at some point of the surface, it means orthogonal trajectories through this point are, considered at the parameter space, tangent to the axis u_2 . Then we should consider the differential equation of the system with interchanged axes u_1 and u_2 .

6.8 Example. We shall find orthogonal trajectories for the system $u_1 + u_2 = \text{konst}$ on the sphere from 6.4. By differentiation we find $du_1 + du_2 = 0$, i.e. the differential equation of this system is $\frac{du_2}{du_1} = -1$. Thus we can put $F_1 = 1$ and $F_2 = -1$. We found $g_{11} = r^2 \cos^2 u_2$, $g_{12} = 0$, $g_{22} = r^2$ in 6.4. Following (2), the differential equation of orthogonal trajectories is

$$\boxed{\text{e6.13}} \quad (13) \quad \frac{du_2}{du_1} = \cos^2 u_2.$$

Separating variables in (13) and integrating, we obtain the equation of orthogonal trajectories in the form

$$\text{tg } u_2 = u_1 + \text{konst.}$$

6.9 Definition. Net on the surface S are two systems $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ whose curves have nonzero angle at every point. The net is called **orthogonal** if this is the right angle at every point.

A simple example is the parametric coordinate net formed by curves $u_1 = \text{konst.}$ and $u_2 = \text{konst.}$ given by the parametrization $f(u_1, u_2)$ of the surface S . The condition $f_1 \times f_2 \neq 0$ guarantees that angle of curves of two parametric systems is nonzero.

The following statement will be useful in many specific cases.

Theorem. The parametric net is orthogonal if and only if $g_{12} = 0$.

Proof. Vectors f_1 and f_2 are tangent to parametric systems and $g_{12} = (f_1, f_2)$. \square

$\boxed{6.10}$ **6.10 Lemma.** It holds $g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2 > 0$.

Proof. The Cauchy inequality says that vectors a, b satisfy $|(a, b)| \leq \|a\| \|b\|$, i.e. $(a, b)^2 \leq \|a\|^2 \|b\|^2$. Here the equality holds only if these vectors are collinear. Putting $a = f_1$, $b = f_2$, we have $\|a\|^2 = g_{11}$, $\|b\|^2 = g_{22}$, $(a, b) = g_{12}$. Since vectors f_1 and f_2 are not collinear, the lemma follows. \square

6.11. A standard result in calculus shows that the area of the surface given explicitly as $z = f(x, y)$, $(x, y) \in D$ (where f is a bounded function on a bounded space D) is given by the double integral

$$\boxed{\text{e6.14}} \quad (14) \quad \iint_D \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2} \, dx \, dy$$

6.12. The map $f: D \rightarrow E_3$ is **bounded** if the set $f(D)$ lies in some ball.

Theorem. Let the surface S is given by a bounded map $f(u_1, u_2)$ on a bounded space $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$. Then its area is given by

$$\boxed{\text{e6.15}} \quad (15) \quad \iint_D \sqrt{g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2} \, du_1 \, du_2.$$

Proof. We know every surface can be given explicitly in a neighbourhood of every point and let $z = f(x, y)$ be such parametrization. We have shown $g_{11} = 1 + f_x^2$, $g_{12} = f_x f_y$, $g_{22} = 1 + f_y^2$ in 6.5, hence $g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2 = 1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2$. Then (15) locally reduces to the usual expression redukuje to the usual expression (14). The global version follows from the additivity of area of the surface. \square

The expression $dV = \sqrt{g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2} \, du_1 \, du_2$ is also called **volume element of the surface** S . The formula of the area of the surface thus has the form $V = \iint_D dV$.

6.13 Example. We shall find area V of the so called spherical cap on the surface with the radius r with the angle α , see the picture. Thus $D = (0, 2\pi) \times (\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha, \frac{\pi}{2})$. We found $g_{11} = r^2 \cos^2 u_2$, $g_{12} = r^2$ in 6.4. Thus

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$$\begin{aligned} V &= \iint_D r^2 \cos u_2 \, du_1 \, du_2 = r^2 \int_0^{2\pi} du_1 \int_{\pi/2 - \alpha}^{\pi/2} \cos u_2 \, du_2 \\ &= 2\pi r^2 [\sin u_2]_{\pi/2 - \alpha}^{\pi/2} = 2\pi r^2 (1 - \cos \alpha). \end{aligned}$$

The case $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}$ gives the area $2\pi r^2$ of the half of the sphere.

6.14. Summarizing, the first fundamental form Φ_1 , determined by scalar products at each tangent space of the surface, is used mainly for computation of length of curves on surfaces, angle of these curves and area of the surface. A fundamental theoretical meaning of Φ_1 will be discussed later.

7 The second fundamental form of the surface

2fundamental

7.1

7.1. Consider the normal line $N_p S$ of the surface S at the point p . We have two unit vectors on the normal line, a choice of one of them yields orientation of the line $N_p S$.

Definition. Orientation of the surface S is a choice of orientation of every normal line in a continuous way.

One can orient every simple surface. Given a parametrization $f(u_1, u_2)$, we can choose the direction of the normal as the direction of the vector product $f_1 \times f_2$.

7.2. The case of Möbius strip shows that there surface which cannot be oriented.

Definition. The surface S , which can be oriented, is called **orientable**. An orientable surface together with a choice of orientation is called **oriented**.

We shall denote the unit vector of the oriented normal line by n . Dependence on parameters is expressed if we write $n(u_1, u_2)$. In the case of orientation determined by the parametrization $f(u)$, we have

$$\text{e7.1} \quad (1) \quad n = \frac{f_1 \times f_2}{\|f_1 \times f_2\|}.$$

The orthogonality of the normal line and the surface is expressed by equations

$$\text{e7.2} \quad (2) \quad (n, f_1) = 0, \quad (n, f_2) = 0.$$

7.3

7.3. Further we assume the surface S is oriented.

Given an arbitrary motion $\gamma(t)$ in the space E_3 , the vector $\frac{d^2\gamma}{dt^2}$ is called acceleration. Consider a motion on the surface S with a local parametrization $f(u)$ given by $(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ in the parameter space D . This is the motion $\gamma(t) = f(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ in E_3 . Let us compute the acceleration. The first derivative of the composed function is given by the expression

$$\frac{d\gamma}{dt} = f_1(u_1(t), u_2(t)) \frac{du_1}{dt} + f_2(u_1(t), u_2(t)) \frac{du_2}{dt}.$$

We shall use an abbreviation

$$\text{e7.3} \quad (3) \quad f_{11} = \partial_{11} f, \quad f_{12} = \partial_{12} f, \quad f_{22} = \partial_{22} f.$$

to compute the second derivative. We obtain

$$\boxed{\text{e7.4}} \quad (4) \quad \frac{d^2\gamma}{dt^2} = f_{11} \left(\frac{du_1}{dt} \right)^2 + 2f_{12} \frac{du_1}{dt} \frac{du_2}{dt} + f_{22} \left(\frac{du_2}{dt} \right)^2 + f_1 \frac{d^2u_1}{dt^2} + f_2 \frac{d^2u_2}{dt^2}.$$

Following (2), the scalar product of n and $\frac{d^2\gamma}{dt^2}$ depends only on $\frac{d\gamma}{dt}$.

Definition. The scalar product $(n, \frac{d^2\gamma}{dt^2})$ is called **normal acceleration** corresponding to the vector $\frac{d\gamma}{dt} \in T_pS$. In the case of $\|\frac{d\gamma}{dt}\|=1$, this is termed **normal curvature of the oriented surface S** in the direction of this vector.

That is, the sign of the normal acceleration depends on orientation for the surface.

7.4 **7.4.** Consider scalar products

$$\boxed{\text{e7.5}} \quad (5) \quad h_{11} = (n, f_{11}), \quad h_{12} = (n, f_{12}), \quad h_{22} = (n, f_{22}),$$

which are functions on the space D . Following (4), we obtain the rule which associates the normal acceleration to every tangent vector $(du_1, du_2) \in T_pS$. This is the quadratic form on T_pS on the space

$$\boxed{\text{e7.6}} \quad (6) \quad h_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2h_{12}du_1 du_2 + h_{22}(du_2)^2.$$

Definition. The quadratic form (6) is called **second fundamental form of the surface S** and will be denoted by Φ_2 .

That is, the second fundamental form of the oriented surface S is a rule which maps every vector $A \in T_pS$ to the number $\Phi_2(A)$ which he obtained as follows. We consider a motion $\gamma(t)$ on the surface S such that $A = \frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}$. We compute its acceleration $\frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2}$. The number $\Phi_2(A)$ is then equal to the scalar product $(n(\gamma(t_0)), \frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2})$ where $n(\gamma(t_0))$ is the oriented vector of the normal line at the point $\gamma(t_0)$.

7.5 **7.5.** Consider the direction of the nonzero vector A in the tangent space T_pS . The section of the surface S by the plane determined by the normal line N_pS and the direction A is the curve which we call **normal section of the surface in direction A** .

The basic geometrical meaning of the form Φ_2 is given by

Theorem. The absolute value of the normal curvature in the direction of the vector A is equal to the curvature of the normal section in this direction.

Proof. Consider the parametrization $\gamma(s)$ of this section by the arc-length, $\gamma(s_0) = p$. Then $\frac{d\gamma}{ds}$ is a unit vector and $\frac{d^2\gamma(s_0)}{ds^2}$ is perpendicular to this vector. We know (from theory of curves) that the norm of $\frac{d^2\gamma(s_0)}{ds^2}$ is equal to the curvature of the normal section. Vectors $n(p)$ and $\frac{d^2\gamma(s_0)}{ds^2}$ are thus colinear. Since $n(p)$ is a unit vector, the absolute value of the scalar product $(n(p), \frac{d^2\gamma(s_0)}{ds^2})$ is equal to the norm of the second vector. \square

7.6. The normal curvature \varkappa in the direction of the vector $A = (du_1, du_2)$ satisfies

$$\boxed{\text{e7.7}} \quad (7) \quad \varkappa = \frac{h_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2h_{12}du_1 du_2 + h_{22}(du_2)^2}{g_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2g_{12}du_1 du_2 + g_{22}(du_2)^2}.$$

Indeed, the unit vector in this direction is $\frac{1}{\|A\|}(du_1, du_2)$ where $\|A\|^2 = g_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2g_{12}du_1 du_2 + g_{22}(du_2)^2$. Substituting this into (6), the display (7) follows.

7.7 Definition. The point $f(u_0) \in S$ is called **planar point** if the form $\Phi_2(u_0)$ is nonzero, i.e. $h_{11}(u_0) = 0$, $h_{12}(u_0) = 0$, $h_{22}(u_0) = 0$.

7.8 Definition. The surface S is called **connected** if every two its point can be connected by a motion which lies in S .

$\boxed{7.9}$ **7.9 Theorem.** A simple connected surface S with all points planar is a part of a plane.

Proof. Put $n_1 = \partial_1 n$, $n_2 = \partial_2 n$. Differentiating (2) with respect to u_1 and u_2 yields

$$\boxed{\text{e7.8}} \quad (8) \quad \begin{aligned} (n_1, f_1) + (n, f_{11}) &= 0, & (n_1, f_2) + (n, f_{12}) &= 0, \\ (n_2, f_1) + (n, f_{12}) &= 0, & (n_2, f_2) + (n, f_{22}) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, this shows that all points on a plane (with constant normal vector) are planar. Further we use the fact that n is a unit vector. By differentiating the relation $(n, n) = 1$, we obtain

$$\boxed{\text{e7.9}} \quad (9) \quad (n, n_1) = 0, \quad (n, n_2) = 0.$$

If every point of the surface S is planar, the second term in every relation of (8) is zero, cf. (5). Then first two equations of (8) and the first equation in (9) mean the vector n_1 is perpendicular to three linearly independent vectors n, f_1, f_2 . Thus n_1 is the zero vector. Analogously, it follows from

remaining equations of (8) and (9) that n_2 is the zero vector. Thus the normal vector is constant, $n = a$. Consider the function

$$\varphi(u_1, u_2) = (a, f(u_1, u_2) - f(u_1^0, u_2^0)).$$

We have $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial u_1} = (a, f_1) = 0$, $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial u_2} = (a, f_2) = 0$ hence φ is a constant function. Moreover, $\varphi(u_1^0, u_2^0) = 0$, i.e. $\varphi(u) = 0$ for all u . This means that the whole surface S lies on its tangent plane through the point $f(u_0)$. \square

7.10 Definition. The point $f(u_0) \in S$ is called **spherical point** if the form $\Phi_2(u_0)$ is a constant multiple of the form $\Phi_1(u_0)$.

Thus the spherical point $f(u_0)$ is characterized by the condition

$$\boxed{\text{e7.10}} \quad (10) \quad h_{11}(u_0) = cg_{11}(u_0), \quad h_{12}(u_0) = cg_{12}(u_0), \quad h_{22}(u_0) = cg_{22}(u_0), \quad 0 \neq c \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The normal vector $n(u)$ of the sphere centered at the origin with radius r satisfies $n(u) = \frac{1}{r} f(u)$. Equations (8) show that all points on the sphere are spherical.

7.11 Theorem. A simple connected surface S where all points are spherical, is a part of a sphere.

Proof. Assume (10) holds. That is,

$$\boxed{\text{e7.11}} \quad (11) \quad (n, f_{11}) = c(f_1, f_1), \quad (n, f_{12}) = c(f_1, f_2), \quad (n, f_{22}) = c(f_2, f_2).$$

It follows from (8) and (11) that

$$\boxed{\text{e7.12}} \quad (12) \quad (f_1, n_1 + cf_1) = 0, \quad (f_1, n_2 + cf_1) = 0, \quad (f_2, n_1 + cf_2) = 0, \quad (f_2, n_2 + cf_2) = 0.$$

Further, it follows from (2) and (9) that

$$\boxed{\text{e7.13}} \quad (13) \quad (n, n_1 + cf_1) = 0, \quad (n, n_2 + cf_2) = 0.$$

Analogously as in the proof of theorem 7.9, it follows from these relations that

$$\boxed{\text{e7.14}} \quad (14) \quad n_1 + cf_1 = 0, \quad n_2 + cf_2 = 0.$$

By differentiation of the first equation with respect to u_2 and the second equation with respect to u_1 , we obtain

$$(15) \quad n_{12} + \frac{\partial c}{\partial u_2} f_1 + cf_{12} = 0, \quad n_{12} + \frac{\partial c}{\partial u_1} f_2 + cf_{12} = 0,$$

where $n_{12} = \frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2}$. Thus we have the difference

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial u_2} f_1 - \frac{\partial c}{\partial u_1} f_2 = o.$$

Since vectors f_1 and f_2 are linearly independent, we have $\frac{\partial c}{\partial u_1} = 0$, $\frac{\partial c}{\partial u_2} = 0$, i.e. c is a constant. Following (14), the point $f + \frac{1}{c} n$ is fixed. The distance of every point on the surface from this point is constant and equal to $\frac{1}{|c|}$, i.e. S is a part of the corresponding sphere. \square

de7.12 **7.12 Definition.** A direction in the tangent plane of the surface is called **asymptotic direction**, if its normal curvature is zero. The tangent line in this direction is called **asymptotic tangent line**.

Thus the equation of asymptotic directions is

$$\text{e7.16} \quad (16) \quad h_{11}(du_1)^2 + 2h_{12}du_1 du_2 + h_{22}(du_2)^2 = 0$$

Every direction is asymptotic in planar points.

Assuming the direction $du_2 = 0$ is not asymptotic, i.e. $h_{11} \neq 0$, put $\varrho = \frac{du_1}{du_2}$. Then (16) yields the quadratic equation for asymptotic directions

$$\text{e17} \quad (17) \quad h_{11}\varrho^2 + 2h_{12}\varrho + h_{22} = 0.$$

Its roots satisfy $\varrho_{1,2} = \frac{-h_{12} \pm \sqrt{h_{12}^2 - h_{11}h_{22}}}{h_{11}}$. Put

$$\text{e7.18} \quad (18) \quad h = \begin{vmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} \\ h_{12} & h_{22} \end{vmatrix} = h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2.$$

Thus there are two (real) asymptotic directions for $h < 0$, both directions coincide for $h = 0$ and there are imaginary roots for $h > 0$. If $h_{11} = 0$ and $h_{22} \neq 0$, (16) yields the quadratic equation for the fraction $\frac{du_2}{du_1}$ and the situation is similar. If $h_{11} = 0$ and $h_{22} = 0$, we have $h_{12} \neq 0$ in a non-planar point, i.e. asymptotic directions are $du_1 = 0$ and $du_2 = 0$.

de7.13 **7.13 Definition.** The non-planar point is called **hyperbolic** or **parabolic** or **elliptic**, if $h < 0$ or $h = 0$ or $h > 0$, respectively.

In spherical points, the inequality 6.10 means $h > 0$ hence this is a special case of an elliptic point.

7.14 Definition. The curve C on the surface S is called **asymptotic** if its tangent line at every point is asymptotic tangent line.

Thus we have two systems of asymptotic curves on surfaces with only hyperbolic points, one system of asymptotic curves on surfaces with only parabolic points and there is no system of asymptotic curves on surfaces with only elliptic points.

7.15 Theorem. A line in the tangent plane $\tau_p S$ is an asymptotic line if and only if it has contact of the second order with the surface.

Proof. If a direction is asymptotic then the normal section in this direction has zero curvature at the point p . Thus p is inflection point of the normal section, i.e. the its tangent line has contact of the second order with this section. In the opposite direction, if a tangent line at the point $p \in S$ has contact of the 2nd order with some curve $\gamma(t)$ on S , $\gamma(t_0) = p$, it is the inflection point of this curve. Thus the vector $\frac{d^2\gamma(t)}{dt^2}$ is colinear with vector $\frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}$ which is perpendicular to the normal vector $n(p)$, i.e.

$$\boxed{\text{e7.19}} \quad (19) \quad \left(n(p), \frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2} \right) = 0.$$

□

7.16. Recall the osculating plane of a spacial curve is not determined in its inflection points,

Theorem. A curve C on the surface S is asymptotic if and only if, at each its point, the osculating plane coincides with the tangent plane of the surface or is not determined.

Proof. The osculating plane of the curve $C \equiv \gamma(t)$ at the point $p = \gamma(t_0)$ is determined by vectors $\frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}$, $\frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2}$ if these are linearly independent. Here $\frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}$ lies in the tangent plane of the surface. Thus the tangent plane of S coincides with the osculating plane of the curve C if and only if the normal vector $n(s)$ is perpendicular to $\frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2}$, i.e. (19) holds. If this is an inflection point, the vector $\frac{d^2\gamma(t_0)}{dt^2}$ is colinear with $\frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}$ and (19) holds as well. In the opposite direction, if $\Phi_2\left(\frac{d\gamma(t_0)}{dt}\right) = 0$ then (19) holds and similarly as in the first part of the proof, one verifies this is one of two cases obtained above. □

7.17. We know from 1.28 that a (part of a) line is characterized by the fact that all its points are inflection. Thus if there is a (part of a) line on the surface, it is an asymptotic curve. This yields e.g. asymptotic directions and curves on regular ruled surfaces, i.e. on the hyperboloid of one sheet and hyperbolic paraboloid.

7.18. Considering hyperbolic points, asymptotic directions divide directions in the tangent plane to two parts. The sign of the normal curvature is positive in one of them and negative in the other one. Thus in the positive part, normal sections lie locally above the tangent plane in the direction of the oriented normal line and in the negative part, normal sections lie on the opposite part of the tangent plane. Thus the surface lies on both sides of the tangent plane. A prominent example is the surface $z = xy$. Axes x and y lie on this surface, i.e. they are asymptotic curves. The tangent plane at the origin is $z = 0$. Assuming $x > 0, y > 0$ or $x < 0, y < 0$, the surface lies above the tangent plane, assuming $x > 0, y < 0$ nebo $x < 0, y > 0$, the surface lies under the tangent plane.

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The sign of the curvature in an elliptic point is the same in all directions hence the whole surface locally lies on one side of the tangent plane. The simplest cases are sphere and ellipsoid.

Another interesting example is the anuloid. On the “out part of the tire”, the surface lies on one side of the tangent plane, i.e. all points are elliptic there. The whole inner part of the anuloid lies locally on both sides of the tangent plane, i.e. these are hyperbolic points. “Bottom and top” circles are formed by parabolic points.

7.19 Remark. Finally we shall show how one can characterize planar and spherical point using the notion of **contact of surfaces**.

Let p be a common point of S and \bar{S} . We say **surfaces S and \bar{S} have contact of the order k at the point p** if for every curve $C \subset S$ through the point p there exists a curve $\bar{C} \subset \bar{S}$ such that curves C and \bar{C} contact of the k th order at the point p . It is shown in [5] that this is an equivalence relation and also a computational criterion (similar to the case of curves and surfaces in 2.5 and 4.7) is derived.

Assuming the surface S is given by a parametrization $f(u)$ and the surface \bar{S} is given by an equation $F(x, y, z) = 0$ then we shall form a function of two variables

$$\Phi(u_1, u_2) = F(f_1(u_1, u_2), f_2(u_1, u_2), f_3(u_1, u_2)).$$

It holds that if surfaces S and \bar{S} have contact of the k th order at the joint point $p = f(u_0)$ if and only if all partial derivatives of the function Φ at the point $u_0 = (u_1^0, u_2^0)$ up to the order $\leq k$ are zero. The case $k = 1$ then means two surfaces have contact of the 1st order at a joint point if and only if they have the same tangent line at this point.

Considering the surface \bar{S} ,

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0,$$

we have

$$\Phi(u_1, u_2) = af_1(u_1, u_2), bf_2(u_1, u_2), cf_3(u_1, u_2) + d.$$

Conditions for the contact of the first order

$$a\partial_1 f_1(u_0) + b\partial_1 f_2(u_0) + c\partial_1 f_3(u_0) = 0, \quad a\partial_2 f_1(u_0) + b\partial_2 f_2(u_0) + c\partial_2 f_3(u_0) = 0$$

mean that the vector (a, b, c) is colinear with the normal vectorem $n(u_0)$ of the surface S at the point $f(u_0)$. The condition for contact of the 2nd order is

$$(n(u_0), \partial_{11} f(u_0)) = 0, \quad (n(u_0), \partial_{12} f(u_0)) = 0, \quad (n(u_0), \partial_{22} f(u_0)) = 0.$$

Thus the point $p \in S$ is planar if and only if the tangent plane at this point has contact of the 2nd with the surface.

A similar computation shows that the point $f(u_0) \in S$ is spherical if and only if there exists a sphere Q such that S and Q have contact of the 2nd order at the point $f(u_0)$.

8 Principal curves

principal

8.1. Values of the normal curvature of the surface $S \equiv f(u)$ at its non-planar point p can be visualize in the folloing way. We consider the segment of the length $\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\varkappa|}}$ on the tangent line (in both directions) in a nonasymptotical direction. Here $\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\varkappa|}}$ denotes the normal curvature in this direction. If $a_1 f_1(p) + a_2 f_2(p)$ is such a vector, square of its norm is $\frac{1}{|\varkappa|}$, i.e.

$$\text{e8.1} \quad (1) \quad g_{11}a_1^2 + 2g_{12}a_1a_2 + g_{22}a_2^2 = \frac{1}{|\varkappa|}.$$

But \varkappa is given by 7.(7) hence (1) is equivalent to rovnici

$$\text{e8.2} \quad (2) \quad |h_{11}a_1^2 + 2h_{12}a_1a_2 + h_{22}a_2^2| = 1.$$

Definition. The curve (2) is called **Dupin indikatrix** at a non-planar point of the surface.

8.2. The curve (2) is an ellipse in elliptic points. Considering the equation of the unit circle in our affine coordinates in our tangent plane is

$$g_{11}a_1^2 + 2g_{12}a_1a_2 + g_{22}a_2^2 = 1$$

then it follows from 7.(10) that the ellipse is a circle precisely in spherical points of the surface.

Considering a hyperbolic point and changing suitable coordinates, we can transform the equation $h_{11}a_1^2 + 2h_{12}a_1a_2 + h_{22}a_2^2 = 1$ to the form

$$\text{e8.3} \quad (3) \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1.$$

Thus (2) corresponds to a pair of so called conjugated hyperbolas which is formed by (3) and the hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{z^2}{b^2} = -1$.

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Considering a parabolic point, (2) is a pair of parallel lines in the tangent plane with the point of the surface in the middle. Indeed, we have $h_{11}h_{22} = h_{12}^2$ in this case. Considering $h_{11} > 0$, $h_{12} > 0$, we have $h_{12} = \pm\sqrt{h_{11}}\sqrt{h_{22}}$. Consider the case of the positive sign first. Then the equation (2) has the form

$$\text{e8.4} \quad (4) \quad 1 = h_{11}a_1^2 + 2\sqrt{h_{11}}\sqrt{h_{22}}a_1a_2 + h_{22}a_2^2 = (\sqrt{h_{11}}a_1 + \sqrt{h_{22}}a_2)^2.$$

This is an equation of the pair of parallel lines

$$(5) \quad 1 = \sqrt{h_{11}}a_1 + \sqrt{h_{22}}a_2, \quad -1 = \sqrt{h_{11}}a_1 + \sqrt{h_{22}}a_2$$

with the origin in the middle. The case of the negative sign yields the same result. A similar computation yields the same result for $h_{11} < 0, h_{22} < 0$.

8.3. Assuming a non-spherical point, we define **axes of the Dupin indicatrix** as axes of the ellipse or common axes of the pair of conjugated hyperbolas or as the axis of the pair of parallel lines together with the perpendicular line through the origin.

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Definition. Directions of the Dupin indicatrix are called **principal directions of the surface S** at a given point. A curve on S which touches a principal direction at every point is called **principal curve**.

Principal directions are not defined in planar and spherical points.

We thus have the net of principal curves on surfaces without planar and spherical points. This net is orthogonal.

8.4 **8.4.** Since Φ_2 is a quadratic form, it determines the polar bilinear form denoted by the same symbol. Given two vectors $A = (a_1, a_2), B = (b_1, b_2) \in T_p S$, we have

e8.6 (6)
$$\Phi_2(A, B) = h_{11}(p)a_1b_1 + h_{12}(p)(a_1b_2 + a_2b_1) + h_{22}(p)a_2b_2.$$

The condition $\Phi_2(A, B) = 0$ depends only on directions of the vectors A, B . This is the condition of polar conjugation with respect to $\Phi_2(p)$.

Definition. Directions in the tangent plane determined by nonzero vectors $A, B \in T_p S$ are called **conjugated** if they are polar conjugated with respect to $\Phi_2(p)$.

From the computational point of view, the condition of conjugation is given by (6) being zero.

ve8.5 **8.5 Theorem.** Principal directions of the surface are directions which are in the same time conjugated and perpendicular.

Proof. We know from analytic geometry that this characterizes axes ellipses and hyperbolas. The case of parallel lines can be computed analogously. \square

8.6 **8.6.** Beside (6) being zero, principal directions satisfy also the condition of orthogonality

e8.7 (7)
$$\Phi_1(A, B) = g_{11}a_1b_1 + g_{12}(a_1b_2 + a_2b_1) + g_{22}a_2b_2 = 0.$$

If (b_1, b_2) is a nonzero direction satisfying (7) and for which (6) is zero, we have a system of two homogeneous linear equations with a nonzero solution. The determinant of the system is zero,

$$\boxed{\text{e8.8}} \quad (8) \quad \begin{vmatrix} g_{11}a_1 + g_{12}a_2, & g_{12}a_1 + g_{22}a_2 \\ h_{11}a_1 + h_{12}a_2, & h_{12}a_1 + h_{22}a_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Passing to the differentials $du_1 = a_1$, $du_2 = a_2$, we get

Theorem. The differential equation of the net of principal curves is

$$\boxed{\text{e8.9}} \quad (9) \quad \begin{vmatrix} g_{11}du_1 + g_{12}du_2, & g_{12}du_1 + g_{22}du_2 \\ h_{11}du_1 + h_{12}du_2, & h_{12}du_1 + h_{22}du_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Since (9) is generally a quadratic equation for the fraction $\frac{du_2}{du_1}$. Its two solutions $\frac{du_2}{du_1} = F_1(u_1, u_2)$, $\frac{du_2}{du_1} = F_2(u_1, u_2)$ are differential equations of these two systems of principal curves.

de8.7 **8.7 Definition.** Normal curvatures \varkappa_1, \varkappa_2 in principal directions are called **principal curvatures of the surface**. The sum $H = \varkappa_1 + \varkappa_2$ of principal curvatures is called **mean curvature**, the product $K = \varkappa_1 \varkappa_2$ is called **Gauss** (or **total**) **curvature**.

Considering spherical points, the normal curvature has the same value \varkappa . Here we define $H = 2\varkappa$, $K = \varkappa^2$. Considering planar points, all normal curvatures are zero. Here we put $H = 0$, $K = 0$.

A change of orientation of the surface S changes the sign of the normal curvature. The sign of the mean curvature H thus depends on the orientation of the surface, however the sign of the Gauss curvature K is independent on the orientation of the surface.

8.8 **8.8.** The Dupin indicatrix shows that the normal curvature has extremals at principal directions. We shall use that to derive a formula for principal curvatures. The following computation concerns only the “generic” case but one can show that the result holds in all cases. Considering the direction $\varrho = \frac{du_1}{du_2}$ then according to 7.(7), the normal curvature $\varkappa(\varrho)$ in this direction satisfies

$$\varkappa(\varrho) = \frac{h_{11}\varrho^2 + 2h_{12}\varrho + h_{22}}{g_{11}\varrho^2 + 2g_{12}\varrho + g_{22}}.$$

To simplify the computation, we shall write this in the form

$$\boxed{\text{e8.10}} \quad (10) \quad \varkappa(g_{11}\varrho^2 + 2g_{12}\varrho + g_{22}) - (h_{11}\varrho^2 + 2h_{12}\varrho + h_{22}) = 0.$$

Differentiating this with respect to ϱ and using the condition for extremals $\frac{d\kappa}{d\varrho} = 0$, we get

$$\boxed{\text{e8.11}} \quad (11) \quad \kappa(g_{11}\varrho + g_{12}) - (h_{11}\varrho + h_{12}) = 0.$$

Multiplying this by $-\varrho$ and adding the result to (10), we obtain

$$\boxed{\text{e8.12}} \quad (12) \quad \kappa(g_{12}\varrho + g_{22}) - (h_{12}\varrho + h_{22}) = 0$$

Putting back $\varrho = \frac{du_1}{du_2}$ and using an algebraic manipulation, (11) and (12) have the form

$$\boxed{\text{e8.13}} \quad (13) \quad \begin{aligned} (\kappa g_{11} - h_{11}) du_1 + (\kappa g_{12} - h_{12}) du_2 &= 0 \\ (\kappa g_{12} - h_{12}) du_1 + (\kappa g_{22} - h_{22}) du_2 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Here (du_1, du_2) is a nonzero direction which realizes the extremal. Thus the determinant of the system of two linear equations (13) must be zero. Therefore

Theorem. Principal curvatures κ_1, κ_2 are roots of the quadratic equation

$$\boxed{\text{e8.14}} \quad (14) \quad \begin{vmatrix} \kappa g_{11} - h_{11} & \kappa g_{12} - h_{12} \\ \kappa g_{12} - h_{12} & \kappa g_{22} - h_{22} \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

8.9 **8.9.** A simple corollary of (14) is

Theorem. The mean and the Gauss curvature satisfy

$$\boxed{\text{e8.15}} \quad (15) \quad H = \frac{g_{11}h_{22} - 2g_{12}h_{12} + g_{22}h_{11}}{g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2}, \quad K = \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2}.$$

Proof. It follows from (14) that

$$\kappa^2(g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2) - \kappa(g_{11}h_{22} - 2g_{12}h_{12} + g_{22}h_{11}) + (h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2) = 0.$$

The sum $H = \kappa_1 + \kappa_2$ and the product $K = \kappa_1\kappa_2$ of roots have the form (15) using a well known properties of of quadratic equations. kvadratick rovnice. \square

Further we shall show that (15) holds also in spherical and planar points. According to 7.(7), a spherical point satisfies $h_{ij} = \kappa g_{ij}$, $i = 1, 2$ where κ is a common value of the normal curvature in all directions. Then (15) means $H = 2\kappa$, $K = \kappa^2$. We have $h_{ij} = 0$ in planar points, i.e. $H = 0$ and $K = 0$.

8.10. Since $g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2 > 0$ and $h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2$ is the expression used in the definition 7.13, we obtained a new insight in this definition.

Corollary. Elliptic, parabolic and hyperbolic points are characterized by the condition $K > 0$, $K = 0$ and $K < 0$, respectively.

Remark. Since $K = 0$ in planar points, planar points are sometimes considered as parabolic points.

pr8.11 8.11 Example. The Gauss curvature of the sphere with radius r is $\frac{1}{r^2}$. Indeed, all its points are spherical and the normal section in every direction is a circle with radius r . Thus $K = \frac{1}{r^2}$.

8.12. The following formula nicely describes the normal curvature in an arbitrary direction using principal curvatures.

Theorem (Euler formula). Let σ_1 and σ_2 be principal directions at the point p of the surface S , let \varkappa_1 and \varkappa_2 be corresponding principal curvatures and let s be the direction which has the angle σ_1 with φ . Then the normal curvature \varkappa_s in this direction satisfies

$$\text{e8.16} \quad (16) \quad \varkappa_s = \varkappa_1 \cos^2 \varphi + \varkappa_2 \sin^2 \varphi.$$

Proof. Let e_1, e_2 be unit vectors in directions σ_1, σ_2 , respectively. We can consider parameters u_1, u_2 on S such that e_1 and e_2 are tangent vectors of the parametric net, i.e. $e_1 = (du_1, 0)$, $e_2 = (0, du_2)$. Then $g_{11}(p) = g_{22}(p) = 1$, $g_{12}(p) = 0$ and conjugacy of directions σ_1 and σ_2 yields $h_{12}(p) = 0$. It follows from the general formula 7.(7) for \varkappa that $\varkappa_1 = h_{11}(p)$, $\varkappa_2 = h_{22}(p)$. The unit vector in the direction s has the form $e_1 \cos \varphi + e_2 \sin \varphi$. Putting this vector into 7.(7), we get $\varkappa_s = \varkappa_1 \cos^2 \varphi + \varkappa_2 \sin^2 \varphi$. \square

8.13. We shall discuss one more geometric property which directly characterizes principal curves. Given a curve $\gamma(t)$ on the surface S , we denote by n_γ the 1-parameter system of normal vectors along γ .

Theorem. The curve $\gamma(t)$ is a principal curve of the surface S if and only if the vector $\frac{dn_\gamma}{dt}$ is colinear with the vector $\frac{d\gamma}{dt}$ for all t .

Proof. Let S be given by the parametrization $f(u)$ and γ is given by $(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ in the parameter space. That is,

$$\text{e8.17} \quad (17) \quad \frac{d\gamma}{dt} = f_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + f_2 \frac{du_2}{dt}.$$

Assume the vector

$$\boxed{\text{e8.18}} \quad (18) \quad a_1 f_1 + a_2 f_2$$

is perpendicular to (17). Similarly we have $n_\gamma(t) = n(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ hence

$$\boxed{\text{e8.19}} \quad (19) \quad \frac{dn_\gamma}{dt} = n_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + n_2 \frac{du_2}{dt}.$$

This vector lies in the tangent plane since vectors n_1 and n_2 are perpendicular to n , see 7.(9). Vectors (17) and (19) are colinear if and only if vectors (18) and (19) are perpendicular. Using the formula 7.(8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \left(f_1 a_1 + f_2 a_2, n_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + n_2 \frac{du_2}{dt} \right) \\ \boxed{\text{e8.20}} \quad (20) \quad &= - \left[h_{11} a_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + h_{12} \left(a_2 \frac{du_1}{dt} + a_1 \frac{du_2}{dt} \right) + h_{22} a_2 \frac{du_2}{dt} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus directions $\left(\frac{du_1}{dt}, \frac{du_2}{dt} \right)$ and (a_1, a_2) are orthogonal and conjugate, i.e. they are principal directions. Thus $\gamma(t)$ is a principal curve. In the opposite direction, if $\gamma(t)$ is a principal curve then the vector $\frac{d\gamma}{dt}$ will be conjugated with the perpendicular vector, i.e. the second equation in (20) holds. Then the first equation (20) implies the vector $\frac{dn_\gamma}{dt}$ is colinear with the vector $\frac{d\gamma}{dt}$ for all t . \square

$\boxed{8.14}$ **8.14 Example.** Consider a **surface of revolution** S given by rotation of a planar curve C around an axis in the same plane and does not intersect the curve. Similarly as in the earth, **circles of latitude** on S are formed by rotation of a particular point of the curve C , whereas **meridians** on S are positions of the curve C in particular moments of the rotation. We shall show that circles of latitude and meridians are principal curves of the surface of revolution S . Consider an arbitrary meridian of the surface S which we identify with the curve C . Thus normal vectors $n_C(t)$ of the plane curve C are in the same time normal vectors of the surface. All vectors $n_C(t)$ are unit thus $(n_C(t), n_C(t)) = 1$ shows, by differentiation, that vectors $\frac{dn_C(t)}{dt}$ are perpendicular to $n_C(t)$. Thus vectors $\frac{dn_C(t)}{dt}$ are colinear with tangent vectors of the curve C . Thus meridians are principal curves according to the theorem 8.13. Circles of latitude are perpendicular to meridians hence they are also principal curves (because the net of principal curves is orthogonal).

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$\boxed{8.15}$ **8.15.** One can derive the previous result also by computation. We prescribe the curve C in the plane (x, z) locally by the parametrization $x = g(t)$,

$z = h(t)$, $t \in I$, i.e. the two dimensional vector $(g'(t), h'(t))$ is nonzero for each $t \in I$. We can assume values of the parameter t are positive. We shall rotate along the z -axis and the assumption that C does not intersect the axis of rotation, means that C lies in the half-plane $x > 0$, i.e. $g(t) > 0$ for all $t \in I$. We denote by v the angle between the projection of the rotation plane to the (x, y) -plane with the positive x -half-axis. The parameter space D can be viewed as the space between two circles in \mathbb{R}^2 which, in polar coordinates, is characterized by the length of the radius in the interval I with arbitrary polar angle. In this sense, we can write $v \in [0, 2\pi)$.

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The point with the x -coordinate $g(t)$ moves along the circle $x = g(t) \cos v$, $y = g(t) \sin v$ in the plane $z = h(t)$. Thus the parametric description of the surface of revolution is

$$f(t, v) = (g(t) \cos v, g(t) \sin v, h(t)), \quad t \in I, v \in [0, 2\pi).$$

From the point of view of the general theory, t and v play the role of parameters u_1 and u_2 , respectively.

Partial derivatives with respect to t and v are

$$f_1 = (g' \cos v, g' \sin v, h'), \quad f_2 = g(-\sin v, \cos v, 0).$$

Coefficients of the first fundamental form hence are

$$g_{11} = g'^2 + h'^2, \quad g_{12} = 0, \quad g_{22} = g^2.$$

Further we have

$$f_1 \times f_2 = g(-h' \cos v, -h' \sin v, g'), \quad n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g'^2 + h'^2}}(-h' \cos v, -h' \sin v, g').$$

In the second order we have partial derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} f_{11} &= (g'' \cos v, g'' \sin v, h'') \\ f_{12} &= g'(-\sin v, \cos v, 0), \\ f_{22} &= g(-\cos v, -\sin v, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Following 7. (5), coefficients of the second fundamenta form are

$$h_{11} = \frac{g'h'' - h'g''}{\sqrt{g'^2 + h'^2}}, \quad h_{12} = 0, \quad h_{22} = \frac{h'g}{\sqrt{g'^2 + h'^2}}.$$

Generally, already conditions $g_{12} = 0$, $h_{12} = 0$ simplify the differential equation of principal curves (9) to the form

$$\begin{vmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ h_{11} & h_{22} \end{vmatrix} du_1 du_2 = 0.$$

The determinant is zero if and only if $h_{11} = cg_{11}$, $h_{22} = cg_{22}$, i.e. this is a spherical or planar point which is excluded from consideration leading to spherical curves. The equation $du_1 du_2 = 0$ then characterizes the parametric net $u_1 = \text{konst.}$ and $u_2 = \text{konst.}$ In our case of the surface of revolution, these are meridians and circles of revolution.

8.16 **8.16.** We shall describe a relation between the curvature of an arbitrary plane section of the surface S and the curvature of the normal section in the same direction. Let ϱ be an arbitrary plane through the point $p \in S$ different from the tangent plane $\tau_p S$.

Theorem (Meusnierova). Let \varkappa_n be the normal curvature of the surface S in the direction of the line $\varrho \cap \tau_p S$ and $0 \leq \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2}$ be the angle between the normal line $N_p S$ and the plane ϱ . Then the curvature \varkappa_ϱ of the section of the surface S by the plane ϱ at the point p satisfies

$$\varkappa_n = \varkappa_\varrho \cos \alpha.$$

Proof. Let $\gamma(s)$ be the arc-length parametrization of the curve $\varrho \cap S$, $\gamma(0) = p$. Following the theorem 7.5, we have

$$\varkappa_n = \left| \left(n, \frac{d^2 \gamma(0)}{ds^2} \right) \right|.$$

It follows from the theory of planar curves that $\frac{d^2 \gamma(0)}{ds^2} = \varkappa_\varrho e_2$ where e_2 is a unit vector in the plane ϱ . in our case, we have $|(n, e_2)| = \cos \alpha$. \square

8.17 **8.17.** Consider a non-asymptotic direction A in the tangent plane. Denote by c_n the center of curvature of the normal section and by c_ϱ the center of curvature of the section by the plane ϱ , see the picture which shows the section by the plane perpendicular to the direction A . It follows from the Meusnier theorem that $\cos \alpha = \frac{\varkappa}{\varkappa_\varrho}$, hence the triangle $p c_n c_\varrho$ has the right angle at the vertex c_ϱ . Geometrically this means that centers of the curvature of all plane sections of the surface S in the direction A lie on a circle for which the segment $p c_n$ is the diameter. Therefore given a fixed A , the normal section has the smallest curvature and curvatures of all remaining plane sections increase in the way described in the Meusnier theorem. An example is the sphere where these sections are circles with the radius which decreases in this way.

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8.18 **8.18.** Finally we consider a a class of surfaces which is interested both geometrically and from a point if view of applications.

Definition. The surface S is called **minimal** if its mean curvature H is zero in all points.

A nontrivial example of a minimal surface is the **helicoid** which we shall study in sections 10.7 and 10.9.

The adjective “minimal” is based on the variational calculus. One of important variational problems is the problem to “span” a surface with a minimal are to the given curve in E_3 . Under rather general conditions, solutions of this problem are surfaces with minimal mean curvature.

9 Envelope of a family of surfaces

10 Ruled surfaces

10.1. One-parameter system of lines in E_3 is a mapping which each $t \in I$ maps to a line $p(t)$ where I is an open interval. The line $p(t)$ is called **generating line of the surface**. This line can be described using a point $g(t) \in p(t)$ and a nonzero vector $h(t)$ in the direction of $p(t)$. An arbitrary point of the line $p(t)$ then has the form

$$\boxed{\text{e10.1}} \quad (1) \quad f(t, v) = g(t) + vh(t), \quad v \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Similarly as in agreement 1.15 or 4.7, we shall further assume $g(t)$ and $h(t)$ are functions of the class C^r where r is big enough for our consideration. Then $f: I \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E_3$ is map of the class C^r . Thus, in a sense, this is a two parametric movement. The condition from the definition of surfaces requires, beside injectivity of f , also vectors $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} := f_t = g' + vh'$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} := f_v = h$ to be linearly independent at every point. We shall illustrate this on examples.

$\boxed{10.2}$ **10.2.** Let the point $g(t) = a$ be fixed. Then we have **generalized cone**

$$\boxed{\text{e10.2}} \quad (2) \quad f(t, v) = a + vh(t).$$

Therefore $f_t = vh'$, $f_v = h$, $f_t \times f_v = v(h' \times h)$. The value $v = 0$ corresponds to the vertex of the cone which is obviously a singular point. Given $v \neq 0$, we need $h' \times h \neq o$ for all $t \in I$. If this is satisfied then, assuming injectivity of f , we get a surface. If $h' \times h = 0$ everywhere, we have

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$$\boxed{\text{e10.3}} \quad (3) \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = k(t)h(t)$$

where $k(t)$ is a real function. If we consider a real function $z(t)$ instead of $z(t)$ then our differential equation, by separation of variables, has the general solution $z = l(t)c$ where $l(t) = e^{\int k(t) dt}$. This holds for each component of our vector valued function $h(t)$ hence $h(t) = l(t)b$ where b is a constant vector. That is, this is the case of a two parametric movement along a line a not a surface.

$\boxed{10.3}$ **10.3.** Let $h(t) = a$ is a fixed nonzero vector. Then we get **generalized cylinder**

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$$\boxed{\text{e10.4}} \quad (4) \quad f(t, v) = g(t) + va, \quad t \in I, v \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Here $f_t = g'$, $f_v = a$. If $g'(t) \times a \neq o$ for all t and f is injective, it is a surface. If the tangent vector $g'(t)$ is colinear with the vector a at some point, this point is singular.

10.4 Consider a curve $C \equiv g(t)$ given parametrically and consider the tangent line at every point $g(t)$. This one parametric family of curves is called **tangent developable** of the curve C . Its parametric expression has the form

$$\text{e10.5} \quad (5) \quad f(t, v) = g(t) + v g'(t).$$

We have $f_t = g'(t) + v g''(t)$, $f_v = g'(t)$ hence

$$\text{e10.6} \quad (6) \quad f_t \times f_v = -v(g'(t) \times g''(t)).$$

Further we assume that C does not have inflection points Then the vector (6) is zero if and only if $v = 0$ which is the original point on the curve.

Consider the normal plane $\nu(t, v)$ at the point $g(t_0)$ of the curve C . Using scalar product, this is given by

$$\text{e10.7} \quad (7) \quad (g'(t_0), w - g(t_0)) = 0, \quad w(x, y, z) \in E_3.$$

The tangent line at $g(t)$ is given parametrically as

$$g(t) + v g'(t).$$

Denote by $v(t)$ the parameter of its intersection with $\nu(t_0)$. That is,

$$\text{e10.8} \quad (8) \quad (g'(t_0), g(t) + v(t) g'(t) - g(t_0)) = 0.$$

Such intersection is a movement in the normal plane $\nu(t_0, 0)$ given by the parametrization

$$\text{e10.9} \quad (9) \quad h(t) = g(t) + v(t)g'(t), \quad v(t_0) = 0.$$

We shall show that $h'(t_0) = 0$. We have

$$h'(t_0) = g'(t_0) + v'(t_0) g'(t_0) + v(t_0) g''(t_0).$$

Since $v(t_0) = 0$, it is enough to prove that $v'(t_0) = -1$. By differentiation of (8) we get

$$(g'(t_0), g'(t) + v'(t) g'(t) + v(t) g''(t)) = 0.$$

Putting $t = t_0$, we obtain

$$(g'(t_0), g'(t_0)) + v'(t_0)(g'(t_0), g'(t_0)) = 0.$$

Since $(g'(t_0), g'(t_0)) \neq 0$, we have $v'(t_0) = -1$.

Considering the movement $h(t)$, the condition $h'(t_0) = o$ means that $h(t_0)$ is a singular point. Generally, it is an edge, cf. 1.9. It is easier to think about the tangent developable of the screw line whose projection in the direction of the axes of the screw line is on the picture. This geometrically shows that the tangent developable is not a curve in the sense of the definition 4.6 in a neighbourhood of the generating curve.

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10.5. If one wants to obey the definition 4.6 also in the case of one-parameter systems of lines, the following approach should be used:

Definition. A surface $S \subset E_3$ is called **ruled surface** if S is a part of a one-parameter system of lines.

We shall talk about a generating line of the surface S in such case although it can be only a part of a line.

10.6. We shall further discuss two examples. First consider 3 skew lines q_1, q_2, q_3 (i.e. 3 lines in general position). We consider the transversal of skew lines q_1, q_2 through every point $a \in q_3$ (this is the intersection of planes given by the point p and either the line q_1 or q_2). It is shown in theory of the projective geometry that this construction gives rise to a regular ruled quadric. Starting with 3 lines of the system of lines we have just constructed and repeating this construction, we obtain the second one-parameter system of lines on the same regular ruled quadric.

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10.7. Given a ruled surface which is neither a regular ruled quadric nor a part of a plane, we have shown there can be, beside generating lines, at most two more lines. This is related to the following general construction. Chose two skew lines q_1, q_2 and a curve C . We consider the transversal of skew lines q_1, q_2 through every point $a \in C$. This yields a one-parameter system of lines

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An important example (for technical applications) is the case when one of skew lines is an improper line of some plane ϱ . Thus we have the plane ϱ , a line q and a curve C . We consider lines intersecting q and C which are parallel with ϱ . This yields a one-parameter system of lines which is called **conoid**. If the line q is perpendicular to the plane ϱ , we obtain **right conoid**.

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Example. IF C is the screw line, q its axis and ϱ a plane perpendicular to q , then we obtain so called **right screw conoid** or **helicoid**. We mentioned

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this surface in 8.18. Consider q to be z -axis and C to lie on the cylinder with the unit radius around the z -axis. Parametric description of C then is $(\cos t, \sin t, bt)$, $b \neq 0$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$. The helicoid has the form

$$\boxed{\text{e10.10}} \quad (10) \quad f(t, v) = (v \cos t, v \sin t, bt), \quad b \neq 0, v \in \mathbb{R}.$$

It is easy to see that kinematically this surface is built by screwing a generating line perpendicular to and intersecting the axis q , in the direction of this axis.

$\boxed{\text{de10.8}}$ **10.8 Definition.** A ruled surface is called **developable** if tangent planes at all points of a fixed generating line are the same.

We say the tangent plane is tangent along generating lines.

Geometrically it is clear (and the related computation is easy) that this is a property of generalized cylinders and cones. We shall show that also in the case of tangent developable of the curve C , the tangent line of the surface is the same at all points of a generating line. Following 10.4, the tangent plane of the surface $g(t) + vg'(t)$ at the point $g(t_0) + v_0g'(t_0)$, $v_0 \neq 0$ is determined by this point and vectors $g'(t_0)$ and $g''(t_0)$. For a fixed t_0 and each $v_0 \neq 0$, this plane coincides with the osculating plane of the curve C at the point $g(t_0) + vg(t_0)$.

On the other hand, the tangent plane along a generating line of a regular quadric is not fixed. Here the tangent plane is determined by the given generating line and by a line of the other system through a given point. However, the other system is formed by transversal lines which cannot lie in a fixed plane. Thus considering the helicoid from 10.7, the tangent plane changes along a generating line. It follows from (10) that

$$\boxed{\text{e10.11}} \quad (11) \quad f_t = (-v \sin t, v \cos t, b), \quad f_v = (\cos t, \sin t, 0)$$

thus the unit normal vector is

$$\frac{f_t \times f_v}{\|f_t \times f_v\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v^2 + b^2}}(-b \sin t, b \cos t, -v)$$

which changes depending on v (for a fixed $t = t_0$).

$\boxed{10.9}$ **10.9.** Further we shall need **to express coefficients of the second fundamental form using the exterior product** We know the exterior product $[a, b, c]$ of three vectors in the euclidean oriented three-dimensional space is formed and equal to the scalar product of the vector product of first vectors with the third vector, i.e.

$$[a, b, c] = (a \times b, c).$$

Using this to formulae 7.(1) and 7.(5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} h_{11} &= \frac{1}{\|f_1 \times f_2\|} [f_1, f_2, f_{11}], \\ h_{12} &= \frac{1}{\|f_1 \times f_2\|} [f_1, f_2, f_{12}], \\ h_{22} &= \frac{1}{\|f_1 \times f_2\|} [f_1, f_2, f_{22}]. \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Example. We shall show the helicoid from (10) is a minimal surface in the sense of 8.18, i.e. that $H = 0$. Differentiating of (11) we obtain $f_{tt} = (-v \cos t, -v \sin t, 0)$, $f_{tv} = (-\sin t, \cos t, 0)$ and $f_{vv} = o$. Thus $h_{11} = 0$ and $h_{22} = 0$. Since also $g_{12} = 0$, the formula 8.(15) yields $H = 0$.

10.10. Since every line on a surface is asymptotic curve, all points on ruled surfaces are hyperbolic, parabolic or planar.

Theorem. A developable ruled surfaces S has zero Gaussian curvature.

Proof. Given a parametrization $f(t, v) = g(t) + v h(t)$ of the surface plochy S , we have $f_1 = g'(t) + v h'(t)$, $f_2 = h(t)$. For a fixed t , the vector $h(t)$ lies in the associated vector space of the tangent plane for all v if for the vectors $h(t)$ and $g'(t) + v_1 h'(t)$, $g'(t) + v_2 h'(t)$ are complanar for all $v_1 \neq v_2$. By a lienar combination of these vectors we obtain $g'(t)$ and $h'(t)$ hence the condition for a fixed tangent plane is

$$[g'(t), h(t), h'(t)] = 0. \tag{13}$$

A further computation yiedls $f_{11} = g''(t) + v h''(t)$ and $f_{12} = h'(t)$, $f_{22} = o$. Following (12) we obtain $h_{22} = 0$,

$$h_{12} = \frac{1}{\|f_1 \times f_2\|} [g'(t) + v h'(t), h(t), h'(t)]$$

and also $h_{12} = 0$ according to (13). It follows from 8.(15) that $K = 0$ independently on h_{11} . \square

10.11. In the opposite direction we have the following statement.

Theorem. If every point of the surface S is parabolic then S is locally a developable ruled surface.

Proof. Given a parabolic surface S , we chose local parametrization such that the net of asymptotic curves is given by $u_1 = \text{konst.}$. Then $0 = h_{12} = (n, f_{12})$ and $0 = h_{22} = (n, f_{22})$. We know that $(n, f_1) = 0$, $(n, f_2) = 0$, $(n, n) = 1$. Differentiating this with respect to u_2 yields – similarly as in 7.(8) – that

$$(n_2, f_1) = 0, \quad (n_2, f_2) = 0, \quad (n_2, n) = 0.$$

Thus $n_2 = o$, i.e.. the normal vector along the curve $u_1 = \text{konst.}$ is fixed. Followign Podle 7.(8), it follows from $h_{12} = 0$ that $(n_1, f_2) = 0$. Differentiating this with respect to u_2 and using $u_{12} = o$, we obtain $(n_1, f_{22}) = 0$. Hence vectors f_2 and f_{22} are perpendicular to vectors n and n_1 which are linearly independent. Indeed, the vector n_1 is perpendicular to n and is nonzero. Indeed, the first of equations in 7.(8) means $(n_1, f_1) + (n, f_{11}) = 0$. Thus $n_1 = o$ would mean $h_{11} = 0$ which, together with $h_{12} = 0$ and $h_{22} = 0$, would identify a planar point which we exclude. Since vectors f_2 and f_{22} are perpendicular to two linearly independent vectors, they are colinear. Hence every point of the curve $u_1 = \text{konst.}$ is inflection, i.e. this curve is a line. The tangent line along this generating line is constant thus S is locally a developable ruled surface. \square

de10.12 **10.12 Definition. Generating line** $g(t_0) + vh(t_0)$ of a ruled surface (1) is called **cylindric** if vectors $h'(t_0)$ and $h(t_0)$ are colinear.

Theorem. A ruled surface with all generating lines cylindric is a generalized cylinder.

Proof. We have shown in 10.2 that it follows from $\frac{dh}{dt} = k(t)h(t)$ that $h(t) = l(t)b$ where b is a constant vector. Thus we have

$$f(t, v) = g(t) + vl(t)b$$

which is a cylinder with a different parametrization of generating lines. \square

10.13 **10.13.** Similarly, we have a direct geometrical characterization of a cylindrical line. Given a parametrization $p(t) \equiv g(t) + v h(t)$, we can assume that the vector $h(t)$ is unit. Then $h(t)$ is a motion along a unit sphere which is called **spherical image of a ruled surface**.

Differentiating $(h, h) = 1$ we obtain $(h, h') = 0$ thus the vector $h'(t)$ is perpendicular to $h(t)$ for every t . Assuming further that $h'(t_0)$ is colinear with $h(t_0)$, we obtain $h'(t_0) = o$. Therefore

Theorem. Generating line $p(t_0)$ of a ruled surface S is cylindric if and only if t_0 is a singular point of the spherical image of the surface S .

10.14 **10.14.** The meaning of the word “generally” in the following statement is explained during the proof.

Theorem. A ruled surface without cylindrical lines is generally either a tangent developable or a cone.

Proof. □

10.15 **10.15.** Our results from 10.12 and 10.14 are sometimes summarized as **surface with zero Gaussian curvature is generally either a tangent developable or a generalized cylinder or a generalized cone.**

11 Isometric mappings

11.1. Let $D, \bar{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be open sets. A map $\varphi: D \rightarrow \bar{D}$ is given by a pair of functions $\varphi_1, \varphi_2: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which are called components of the map φ . Denoting u_1, u_2 coordinates in D and v_1, v_2 coordinates in \bar{D} , we have $v_1 = \varphi_1(u_1, u_2), v_2 = \varphi_2(u_1, u_2)$.

Definition. We say φ is **mapping of the class C^r** if φ_1 and φ_2 are functions of the class C^r .

Henceforth we assume φ is a mapping of the class $C^r, r \geq 1$.

de11.2 **11.2 Definition.** The determinant $J(\varphi) = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial u_2} \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial u_2} \end{vmatrix}$ is called **Jacobian of the mapping φ** .

11.3. We shall study mappings $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ between two simple surfaces of the class C^r . Assume S and \bar{S} are given by parametrizations $f(u_1, u_2), (u_1, u_2) \in D$ and $\bar{f}(v_1, v_2), (v_1, v_2) \in \bar{D}$. The map g determines a unique map $\psi: D \rightarrow \bar{D}$ such that $g \circ f = \bar{f} \circ \psi$. Thus ψ expresses g in the parameter space. In the opposite direction, ψ determines the mapping g .

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Definition. We say that $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ is **mapping of the class C^r** if the corresponding mapping $\psi: D \rightarrow \bar{D}$ is of the class C^r .

11.4 **11.4.** A choice of parametrizations of surfaces S and \bar{S} is used in the previous definition. We shall show that the class of differentiability of the mapping g is independent on the choice of parametrizations f and \bar{f} . First we discuss a change of the parametrization $f(u_1, u_2)$ of the surface $S, (u_1, u_2) \in D$.

Consider a bijective mapping $\varphi: \bar{D} \rightarrow D$ of the class C^r where $\varphi = (\varphi_1(v_1, v_2), \varphi_2(v_1, v_2)), (v_1, v_2) \in \bar{D}$. Then $\bar{f} = f \circ \varphi$ is also of the class C^r . In the case of parametrization of a surface we have further the condition $f_1 \times f_2 \neq o$. Using the notation $\bar{f}_1 = \partial_1(f \circ \varphi), \bar{f}_2 = \partial_2(f \circ \varphi)$ and using the chain rule, we obtain

e11.1 (1)
$$\bar{f}_1 = f_1 \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial v_1} + f_2 \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial v_1}, \quad \bar{f}_2 = f_1 \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial v_2} + f_2 \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial v_2}.$$

Thus

$$\bar{f}_1 \times \bar{f}_2 = \left(\frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial v_1} \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial v_2} - \frac{\partial \varphi_2}{\partial v_1} \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial v_2} \right) f_1 \times f_2 = J(\varphi) f_1 \times f_2.$$

Definition. A bijective map $\varphi: \bar{D} \rightarrow D$ of the class C^r is called **reparametrization** if $J(\varphi) \neq 0$ for all $(v_1, v_2) \in \bar{D}$.

11.5. Now it is clear that the definition 11.3 does not depend on the choice of parametrization. Consider a reparametrization $\varphi: D_1 \rightarrow D$ on S and a reparametrization $\bar{\varphi}: \bar{D}_1 \rightarrow \bar{D}$ on \bar{S} . Then $\bar{\varphi}^{-1}: \bar{D} \rightarrow \bar{D}_1$ is also a map of the class C^r (this follows immediately from the generalized implicit function theorem, cf. e.g. the textbook [5]). Thus we have $\bar{\varphi}^{-1} \circ \psi \circ \varphi$ instead of the mapping ψ in the definition 11.3 which is also of the class C^r .

11.6. Further we shall consider **motion** on surfaces.

First consider the map $\psi: D \rightarrow \bar{D}$, $v_1 = \psi_1(u_1, u_2)$, $v_2 = \psi_2(u_1, u_2)$. Then D itself is a surface (as a part of plane) hence we have the tangent plane $T_u D$ for every $u \in D$ which coincides with \mathbb{R}^2 . Its elements are tangent vectors to motions $h(t)$, $h: I \rightarrow D$ at the point $h(0) = u$ where we assume $0 \in I$. Coordinates of the tangent vector are $\frac{dh_1(0)}{dt}$, $\frac{dh_2(0)}{dt}$. Consider the motion $\psi \circ h: I \rightarrow \bar{D}$. Coordinates of its tangent vector at $t = 0$, which one finds applying the chain rule to $\psi_1(h_1(t), h_2(t))$ and $\psi_2(h_1(t), h_2(t))$, are

$$\text{e11.2} \quad (2) \quad \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial u_1} \frac{dh_1(0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial u_2} \frac{dh_2(0)}{dt}, \quad \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial u_1} \frac{dh_1(0)}{dt} + \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial u_2} \frac{dh_2(0)}{dt}.$$

That is, the tangent vector $\frac{d(\psi \circ h)(0)}{dt}$ is determined by the vector $\frac{dh(0)}{dt}$. Considering the linearity of (2), we have

Theorem. The rule $\frac{dh(0)}{dt} \mapsto \frac{d(\psi \circ h)(0)}{dt}$ determines a linear mapping $T_u \psi: T_u D \rightarrow T_{\psi(u)} \bar{D}$ for each $u \in D$.

Definition. This mapping is called tangent mapping ψ at the point u .

Denoting by (du_1, du_2) coordinates at $T_u D$ by (dv_1, dv_2) coordinates in $T_{\psi(u)} \bar{D}$ then (2) has the form

$$\text{e11.3} \quad (3) \quad dv_1 = \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial u_1} du_1 + \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial u_2} du_2, \quad dv_2 = \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial u_1} du_1 + \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial u_2} du_2.$$

Thus these are differentials of functions ψ_1 and ψ_2 .

11.7. Consider the original map $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ and put $p = f(u) \in S$. Consider the tangent space $T_p S$ and a vector $A \in T_p S$ which is tangent to the motion $\gamma(t)$ on S , $A = \frac{d\gamma(0)}{dt}$. Then $g \circ \gamma$ is a motion on \bar{S} and the tangent vector $\frac{d(g \circ \gamma)(0)}{dt}$ to this motion depends only on A . Indeed, it is given (2) in terms of the parametrization. Thus we have shown

Theorem. The rule $\frac{d\gamma(0)}{dt} \mapsto \frac{d(g\circ\gamma)(0)}{dt}$ determines a linear map $T_p g: T_p S \rightarrow T_{g(p)} \bar{S}$.

Definition. The map $T_p g$ is called **tangent map to g at the point p** .

de11.8 **11.8 Definition.** We say the mapping $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ is **isometric** if each tangent map $T_p g: T_p S \rightarrow T_p \bar{S}$, $p \in S$ preserves the scalar product.

That is, $(A, B) = (T_p g(A), T_p g(B))$ for each $A, B \in T_p S$.

If g is bijective, it is **isometry** of S and \bar{S} .

11.9 **11.9.** The bijective map $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ can be realised in such a way we consider a common parameter space D and corresponding points $f(u_1, u_2) \in S$ and $\bar{f}(u_1, u_2) \in \bar{S}$. In this case we say the map g is **given by equality of parameters**.

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Theorem. The bijection $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ given by equality of parameters is isometry if and only if first fundamental forms Φ_1 and $\bar{\Phi}_1$ of surfaces S and \bar{S} , respectively are coincide.

Proof. Vectors f_1, f_2 form a basis in $T_p S$, vectors \bar{f}_1, \bar{f}_2 form a basis in $T_{g(p)} \bar{S}$ and the linear map $T_p g$ is given by $du_1 = d\bar{u}_1, du_2 = d\bar{u}_2$. Following 6.1, scalar products of tangent vectors to S and \bar{S} are given by the first fundamental form. \square

The condition $\Phi_1 = \bar{\Phi}_1$ explicitly means $g_{11} = \bar{g}_{11}, g_{12} = \bar{g}_{12}, g_{22} = \bar{g}_{22}$ where bared quantities are computed on the surface \bar{S} depending on the same parameters (u_1, u_2) .

11.10 **11.10.** The following statement justifies the terminology of isometry.

Theorem. The bijection $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ is isometry if and only if it preserves length of curves.

Proof. The bijection g can be given by equality of parameters. Since the length of the curve $(u_1(t), u_2(t)), t \in [a, b]$ is

e11.4 (4)
$$s = \int_a^b \sqrt{g_{11} \left(\frac{du_1}{dt}\right)^2 + 2g_{12} \frac{du_1}{dt} \frac{du_2}{dt} + g_{22} \left(\frac{du_2}{dt}\right)^2} dt,$$

it follows from the theorem 11.9 that length of curves corresponding to isometries are the same. In the opposite direction, if both curves with the same parametric expression have the same length, also their tangent vectors have the same length according to (4). Thus the linear map $T_p g$ for each $p \in S$ preserves length of vectors. Now it follows from linear algebra theory that such mapping preserves also the scalar product. \square

11.11. Geometrically it is obvious that the cylinder $f(u) = (r \cos u_1, r \sin u_1, u_2)$, $u_1 \in (0, 2\pi)$, $u_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ is isometric with a plane strip with the same coordinates. Physically, this isometry is given by unfolding the cylinder into the plane. We verify this also by computation using the theorem 11.9. We have $f_1 = (-r \sin u_1, r \cos u_1, 0)$, $f_2 = (0, 0, 1)$ hence $g_{11} = r^2$, $g_{12} = 0$, $g_{22} = 1$. The plane $z = 0$ can be parametrized as $\bar{f}(u) = (ru_1, u_2, 0)$. Thus $\bar{f}_1 = (r, 0, 0)$, $\bar{f}_2 = (0, 1, 0)$ and $\bar{g}_{11} = r^2$, $\bar{g}_{12} = 0$, $\bar{g}_{22} = 1$ which is the same as in the case of cylinder.

de11.12 **11.12 Definition.** By **inner geometry of the surface S** we mean properties preserved by isometries.

It follows from the theorem 11.9 that inner geometry of the surface is formed by properties which can be derived from the first fundamental form. We say that properties of S which essentially depend on the second fundamental form, belong to **outer geometry of the surface**.

11.13 **11.13.** The notion of inner geometry of the surface originates in Gauss' work. He derived the following its most important statement. It is a deep result which will be proved in the next section in 12.14. Gauss called this *Teorema egregium* in latin (the translation: remarkable theorem). Let K_S be the Gaussian curvature of the surface S $K_{\bar{S}}$ the Gaussian curvature of the surface \bar{S} .

Teorema egregium (Gauss). If $g: S \rightarrow \bar{S}$ is an isometry then $K_S(p) = K_{\bar{S}}(g(p))$ for all $p \in S$.

One should emphasize that both principal curvatures do not belong to inner geometry of the surface (the second fundamental form is essential for their computation) whereas their product does.

11.14 **11.14 Example.** An open set in the plane cannot be isometric to an open set on the sphere. Indeed, The Gaussian curvature of the plane is zero whereas the Gaussian curvature of the sphere of the radius r is $\frac{1}{r^2}$.

11.15 **11.15.** Recall by neighbourhood on the surface S of the point $p \in S$ we mean intersection of a neighbourhood of p in E_3 with the surface S .

Definition. The surface S is called **developable** if each point $p \in S$ has a neighbourhood isometric to an open set in the plane.

This isometry is understood as “unfoldability” of the corresponding part of the surface into the plane, see the example 11.11 which justifies this terminology. On the other hand, we introduced the notion of a developable

ruled surface at 10.8. The same terminology is based on the fact that both notions coincide as we shall show. If necessary to distinguish both definitions, the latter one will be referred as developability in a metric sense.

11.16 **11.16.** Consider a generalized cylinder. Assume the z -axis is parallel with generating lines and the curve g is the section of the cylinder by the plane $z = 0$ parametrized by the arc-length. The the cylinder is given by parametrization

$$f(s, v) = (g_1(s), g_2(s), v).$$

Thus $f_1 = (g'_1, g'_2, 0)$, $f_2 = (0, 0, 1)$, $g_{11} = 1$, $g_{12} = 0$, $g_{22} = 1$. Using the parametrization $\bar{f}(s, v) = (s, v, 0)$ of the plane, we obtain the same coefficients $\bar{g}_{11} = 1$, $\bar{g}_{12} = 0$, $\bar{g}_{22} = 1$. Hence equality of parameters yields an isometry of both surfaces.

11.17 **11.17.** Consider a generalized cone with the vertex at the origin. Thus $f(t, v) = g(t)v$. Here we can assume the curve g is parametrized by arc-length s and $\|g(s)\| = 1$ for all s . Then $f_1 = g'(s)v$, $f_2 = g(s)$, i.e. $g_{11} = v^2$, $g_{22} = 1$ and $g_{12} = 0$ since vectors $g(s)$ and $g'(s)$ are perpendicular. If we choose g as the unit circle $k(s)$ in the plane we can parametrized the plane locally in the form $\bar{f}(s, v) = k(s)v$. Hence $\bar{g}_{11} = v^2$, $\bar{g}_{12} = 0$, $\bar{g}_{22} = 1$ which shows a local isometry of the plane and the cone.

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11.18 **11.18.** Consider the tangent developable $g(t) + vg'(t)$ of the curve C . We assume C is parametrized by arc-length. Using Frenet formulae, we can parametrize the surface as

$$f(s, v) = g(s) + ve_1(s).$$

Thus $f_1 = e_1(s) + v\kappa(s)e_2(s)$, $f_2 = e_1(s)$, i.e. $g_{11} = 1 + v^2\kappa^2(s)$, $g_{12} = 1$, $g_{22} = 1$. Further consider a curve $\bar{g}(s)$ in the plane which has locally the same curvature as the spacial curve C and parametrize the plane locally as $\bar{f}(s, v) = \bar{g}(s) + v\bar{g}'(s)$. This can be written also in the form

$$\bar{f}(s, v) = \bar{g}(s) + v\bar{e}_1(s).$$

We have $\bar{f}_1 = \bar{e}_1(s) + v\kappa(s)\bar{e}_2(s)$, $\bar{f}_2 = \bar{e}_1(s)$. Also in this case we have $\bar{g}_{11} = 1 + v^2\kappa^2(s)$, $\bar{g}_{12} = 1$, $\bar{g}_{22} = 1$. Thus we obtained a local isometry of teh tangent developable with the plane.

11.19 **11.19.** We have shown in 10.11 that a surface with zero Gaussian curvature without planar points is locally a developable ruled surface. We know

from 10.15 that a developable ruled surface is generally either tangent developable or generalized cylinder or generalized cone. We have shown these surfaces are developable in the metric sense. Using an alternative approach (which we shall not discuss here) can be shown the following statement (cf. the theorem ??).

Theorem. A surface S is locally isometric to the plane if and only if it has zero Gaussian curvature.

12 Parallel transport of vectors on a surface

12transport

12.1

12.1. Consider a surface $S \subset E_3$ and a motion $\gamma: I \rightarrow S$. We denote by V the associated vector space of E_3 .

Definition. The mapping $A: I \rightarrow V$ is called **tangent vector field on S along the motion γ** if $A(t) \in T_{\gamma(t)}S$ for all $t \in I$.

Zero tangent vectors along γ form the field denoted by 0_γ . If A is a tangent vector field along γ and $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function then $g(t)A(t)$ is also a tangent vector field along γ . If A_1 and A_2 are two tangent vector fields along γ then also $A_1(t) + A_2(t)$ is a tangent vector field along γ .

12.2

12.2. Recall N_pS is the normal vector space of the surface S at the point p . The following definition is essential for the differential geometry of surfaces.

Definition. We say that **tangent vector field A along the motion γ is formed by vectors parallel on S** if $\frac{dA}{dt} \in N_{\gamma(t)}S$ for all $t \in I$.

12.3

12.3. The vector $\frac{dA}{dt}$ decomposes into a direction in the tangent plane $T_{\gamma(t)}S$ and the normal line $N_{\gamma(t)}S$ at each point of the motion $\gamma(t)$. Tangent components form again a tangent vector field on S along γ .

Definition. Tangent vector field $\frac{\nabla A}{dt}$ on S along γ formed by tangent components of vectors $\frac{dA}{dt}$ is called **covariant derivative of the tangent vector field A on S along the motion γ** .

Thus the field A is formed by vectors parallel on S if and only if $\frac{\nabla A}{dt}$ is the zero field along γ .

12.4

12.4. We shall find a parametric expression for $\frac{\nabla A}{dt}$. Since vectors f_1, f_2, n are linearly independent at each point of the surface, we can decompose second partial derivatives as

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{11} &= \Gamma_{11}^1(u_1, u_2) f_1 + \Gamma_{11}^2(u_1, u_2) f_2 + h_{11}(u_1, u_2) n, \\
 f_{12} &= \Gamma_{12}^1(u_1, u_2) f_1 + \Gamma_{12}^2(u_1, u_2) f_2 + h_{12}(u_1, u_2) n, \\
 f_{22} &= \Gamma_{22}^1(u_1, u_2) f_1 + \Gamma_{22}^2(u_1, u_2) f_2 + h_{22}(u_1, u_2) n.
 \end{aligned}$$

e12.1

(1)

Taking scalar product of each equation with the unit vector n perpendicular to f_1 and f_2 shows that coefficients at n are indeed coefficients of the second fundamental form as the notation indicates.

Definition. The function Γ_{jk}^i , $i, j, k = 1, 2$, $\Gamma_{21}^i = \Gamma_{12}^i$ are called **Christoffel symbols of the surface** S corresponding to the parametrization $f(u_1, u_2)$.

12.5 **12.5.** Let the motion $\gamma(t)$ is given by the parametrization $(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ and $A(t) = (U_1(t), U_2(t))$. Then

e12.2 (2)
$$A(t) = U_1(t) f_1(u_1(t), u_2(t)) + U_2(t) f_2(u_1(t), u_2(t)).$$

From this one directly computes using (1) that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dA}{dt} &= \frac{dU_1}{dt} f_1 + U_1 \left(f_{11} \frac{du_1}{dt} + f_{12} \frac{du_2}{dt} \right) + \frac{dU_2}{dt} f_2 + U_2 \left(f_{12} \frac{du_1}{dt} + f_{22} \frac{du_2}{dt} \right) \\ &= \left[\frac{dU_1}{dt} + \Gamma_{11}^1 U_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + \Gamma_{12}^1 \left(U_1 \frac{du_2}{dt} + U_2 \frac{du_1}{dt} \right) + \Gamma_{22}^1 U_2 \frac{du_2}{dt} \right] f_1 \\ &\quad + \left[\frac{dU_2}{dt} + \Gamma_{11}^2 U_1 \frac{du_1}{dt} + \Gamma_{12}^2 \left(U_1 \frac{du_2}{dt} + U_2 \frac{du_1}{dt} \right) + \Gamma_{22}^2 U_2 \frac{du_2}{dt} \right] f_2 + (\dots)n. \end{aligned}$$

where an expression at n is not important for us. Denoting $\frac{\nabla U_1}{dt}$, $\frac{\nabla U_2}{dt}$ coordinates of the vector field $\frac{\nabla A}{dt}$ along γ , we have

e12.3 (3)
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\nabla U_1}{dt} &= \frac{dU_1}{dt} + \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^1(u(t)) U_i \frac{du_j}{dt}, \\ \frac{\nabla U_2}{dt} &= \frac{dU_2}{dt} + \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^2(u(t)) U_i \frac{du_j}{dt}. \end{aligned}$$

12.6 **12.6.** As the first property of formulae (3) we shall derive the following:

Theorem. Tangent vector fields A, B on S along the motion γ and the function $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy

e12.5 (4)
$$\frac{\nabla(A+B)}{dt} = \frac{\nabla A}{dt} + \frac{\nabla B}{dt}, \quad \frac{\nabla(gA)}{dt} = \frac{dg}{dt} A + g \frac{\nabla A}{dt}.$$

Proof. This follows directly from (3). □

12.7 **12.7.** The following statement shows that the parallel transport along a given motion has similar properties as the parallel transport of vectors in the plane.

Theorem. For each motion $\gamma: I \rightarrow S$, each $t_0 \in I$ and each vector $A_0 \in T_{\gamma(t_0)} S$ exists unique vector field along γ satisfying $A(t_0) = A_0$ and formed by vectors parallel on S .

Proof. Given the motion γ , the condition that right hand sides of expressions of (3) forms a system of two ordinary differential equations. The value A_0 is the initial condition for this system. This determines the solution uniquely. \square

de12.8 **12.8 Definition.** We say the tangent vector field A from the theorem 12.7 provides **parallel transport of the vector A along the motion γ on S** .

Assume the motion $\gamma(t)$ is the parametrized simple curve C on S . A reparametrization $t = \varphi(\tau)$ of C yields another motion $\gamma \circ \varphi$. Inserting this reparametrization into (3), derivation with respect to t are multiplied by $\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau}$. Since expressions (3) are linear in $\frac{dU_i}{dt}$ and $\frac{du_i}{dt}$, $i = 1, 2$, differential equations $\frac{\nabla U_i}{dt} = 0$, $i = 1, 2$ for parallel transport are essentially the same as $\frac{\nabla(U_i \circ \varphi)}{d\tau} = 0$. Geometrically this means for different parametrizations of the curve C on S we get the same parallel transport of vectors. Thus we speak not only about parallel transport of vectors along a motion on S but also about **parallel transport of vectors along a curve on S** .

12.9 **12.9 Theorem.** If tangent vector fields A and B along the motion γ provide parallel transport of vectors $A_0 \in T_{\gamma(t_0)}S$ and $B_0 \in T_{\gamma(t_0)}S$, respectively, then the field $k_1A + k_2B$ provides the parallel transport of the vector $k_1A_0 + k_2B_0$, $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof. The theorem 12.6 for constant $g = k$ yields $\frac{\nabla(kA)}{dt} = k \frac{\nabla A}{dt}$. Thus $\frac{\nabla(k_1A + k_2B)}{dt} = k_1 \frac{\nabla A}{dt} + k_2 \frac{\nabla B}{dt}$. Since the right hand side is zero, the same holds for the left hand side. \square

Geometrically this means the parallel transport preserves linear combinations of vectors.

12.10 **12.10 Example.** Considering a plane ϱ as a surface in E_3 then for the tangent vector field $A(t) = (U_1(t), U_2(t))$ along an arbitrary motion $\gamma(t)$ in ϱ has zero normal component of the vector $\frac{dA}{dt}$. Thus $A(t)$ is parallel transport along γ if and only if $\frac{dA}{dt} = 0$, i.e. $U_1(t)$ and $U_2(t)$ are constants. This is the classical parallel transport in the plane. This transport does not depend on the motion.

Now we shall show that, however, parallel transport on the sphere S does depend on the motion. Consider one eighth of the sphere according to the picture. The great circle in the plane $z = 0$ has the parametric expression $f(t) = (r \cos t, r \sin t)$. Its tangent vector is $v(t) = \frac{df}{dt} =$

JS: missing picture

$(-r \sin t, r \cos t)$. Thus $\frac{dv}{dt} = (-r \cos t, -r \sin t)$. The normal vector of the sphere at the point $f(t)$ is $(\cos t, \sin t)$ hence $\frac{dv}{dt} \in N_{f(t)}S$. Therefore tangent vectors to the great circle provide transport parallelly along this circle. Denote by a the point with the parameter $t = 0$ and b the point with the parameter $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$.

Now let us transport this tangent vector $v = v(0)$ along the great circle in the plane perpendicular to v at the point c with the parameter $\frac{\pi}{2}$. The constant vector v is tangent along this curve, i.e. $\frac{dv}{dt} = 0$. Now let us continue with the parallel transport along the small arc of the great circle from the point c to b . Here we again transport the tangent vector of the circle along this circle hence the result is again tangent to this circle. Thus the resulting transport of the vector v from the point a to b along two different motions I and II give rise to two different vectors which are actually perpendicular. Although the second motion is not differentiable at one point, the “vertex” at the point c is not the reason of different parallel transports of the vector v along motions I and II.

12.11 **12.11.** Decompositions (12.1) can be used also to compute Christoffel symbols. This is particularly simple in the case when the parametric net is orthogonal, i.e. $g_{12} = (f_1, f_2) = 0$. Let us discuss the sphere $f(u_1, u_2) = r(\cos u_1 \cos u_2, \sin u_1 \cos u_2, \sin u_2)$ from 6.4. We found

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} f_1 &= r(-\sin u_1 \cos u_2, \cos u_1 \cos u_2, 0), \\ f_2 &= r(-\cos u_1 \sin u_2, -\sin u_1 \sin u_2, \cos u_2), \\ g_{11} &= (f_1, f_1) = r^2 \cos^2 u_2, \quad g_{12} = (f_1, f_2) = 0, \quad g_{22} = (f_2, f_2) = r^2. \end{aligned}$$

Further differentiation yields

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} f_{11} &= r(-\cos u_1 \cos u_2, -\sin u_1 \cos u_2, 0), \\ f_{12} &= r(\sin u_1 \sin u_2, -\cos u_1 \sin u_2, 0), \\ f_{22} &= r(-\cos u_1 \cos u_2, -\sin u_1 \cos u_2, -\sin u_2). \end{aligned}$$

We consider scalar product of equations (1) with vectors f_1 and f_2 where we need to compute scalar products on the left hand side. We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \Gamma_{11}^1 r^2 \cos^2 u_2, \quad r^2 \sin u_2 \cos u_2 = \Gamma_{11}^2 r^2, \quad -r^2 \sin u_2 \cos u_2 = \Gamma_{12}^1 r^2 \cos^2 u_2, \\ 0 &= \Gamma_{12}^2 r^2, \quad 0 = \Gamma_{22}^1 r^2 \cos u_2, \quad 0 = \Gamma_{22}^2 r^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\Gamma_{11}^1 = 0, \quad \Gamma_{11}^2 = \sin u_2 \cos u_2, \quad \Gamma_{12}^1 = -\tan u_2, \quad \Gamma_{12}^2 = 0, \quad \Gamma_{22}^1 = 0, \quad \Gamma_{22}^2 = 0.$$

12.12. The following theorem is an important theoretical result. Equations (12.7) show that Christoffel symbols can be expressed using coefficients of the first fundamental form. **THUS THE PARALLEL TRANSPORT OF VECTORS ON THE SURFACE BELONGS TO THE INNER GEOMETRY OF THE SURFACE.**

Since $g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2 > 0$, the square matrix (2×2) -matrix (g_{ij}) is regular. Denote by (\tilde{g}_{kl}) its inverse matrix.

Theorem. We have

$$\text{e12.7} \quad (7) \quad \Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^2 \tilde{g}_{kl} \left(\frac{\partial g_{jl}}{\partial u_i} + \frac{\partial g_{li}}{\partial u_j} - \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial u_l} \right).$$

Proof. Differentiating $(f_i, f_j) = g_{ij}$ with respect to u_l , we obtain

$$\text{e12.8} \quad (8) \quad \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial u_l} = (f_{il}, f_j) + (f_i, f_{jl}).$$

It follows from (1) that $f_{ij} = \sum_{m=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^m f_m + h_{ij}n$. By substitution we obtain

$$(f_{il}, f_j) = \sum_{m=1}^2 \Gamma_{il}^m g_{mj}.$$

Thus (8) can be written as

$$\text{e12.9} \quad (9) \quad \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial u_l} = \sum_{m=1}^2 (\Gamma_{il}^m g_{mj} + \Gamma_{jl}^m g_{mi}).$$

We obtain two more equations by a suitable change of indices, Dal? dv? rovnice z?sk me z m?nou index?

$$\text{e12.10} \quad (10) \quad \frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial u_j} = \sum_{m=1}^2 (\Gamma_{ij}^m g_{ml} + \Gamma_{lj}^m g_{mi}),$$

$$\text{e12.11} \quad (11) \quad \frac{\partial g_{lj}}{\partial u_i} = \sum_{m=1}^2 (\Gamma_{ji}^m g_{ml} + \Gamma_{li}^m g_{mj}).$$

Summing (10) + (11) - (9) and using symmetries of g_{ij} and Γ_{ij}^k at lower indices, we obtain

$$\text{e12.12} \quad (12) \quad \frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial u_j} + \frac{\partial g_{lj}}{\partial u_i} - \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial u_l} = 2 \sum_{m=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^m g_{ml}.$$

By division by 2 and for fixed i, j , we consider (Γ_{ij}^m) as rank two row vector. Then the matrix form of the right hand side of (12) is $(\Gamma_{ij}^m)(g_{ml})$. Now we compute the unknown Γ_{ij}^m by multiplication of the inverse matrix (\tilde{g}_{kl}) . This yields (7). \square

12.13 **12.13.** Of course, (7) can be used also as a formula to compute Christoffel symbols. A simple example is the generalized cylinder from 11.16. where we found $g_{11} = 1, g_{12} = 0, g_{22} = 1$. All partial derivatives in (7) are thus zero since these are derivatives of a constant. Hence all Christoffel symbols of the generalized cylinder are zero.

12.14 **12.14.** Now we shall prove the Gauss' theorem egregium. We shall start with equations (1) which we shall write in the form

$$\mathbf{e12.13} \quad (13) \quad f_{ij} = \sum_{l=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^l f_l + h_{ij} n.$$

We shall use the notation $f_{ijk} = \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial u_i \partial u_j \partial u_k}$, $\Gamma_{ij,k}^l = \frac{\partial \Gamma_{ij}^l}{\partial u_k}$, $n_i = \frac{\partial n}{\partial u_i}$, $h_{ij,k} = \frac{\partial h_{ij}}{\partial u_k}$. Equations 7.(8) can be written in the form

$$\mathbf{e12.14} \quad (14) \quad (n_i, f_j) = -h_{ij}.$$

Differentiating (13) with respect to u_k , we obtain

$$\mathbf{e12.15} \quad (15) \quad f_{ijk} = \sum_{m=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij,k}^m f_m + \sum_{n=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^n f_{nk} + h_{ij,k} n + h_{ij} n_k.$$

Using (13), the second term on the right hand side has the form

$$\mathbf{e12.16} \quad (16) \quad \sum_{n=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^n f_{nk} = \sum_{m,n=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^n (\Gamma_{nk}^m f_m + h_{nk} n).$$

Taking the scalar product of (15) with the vector f_j and using (14), we obtain

$$\mathbf{e12.17} \quad (17) \quad (f_{ijk}, f_i) = \sum_{m=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij,k}^m g_{ml} + \sum_{m,n=1}^2 \Gamma_{ij}^n \Gamma_{nk}^m g_{ml} - h_{ij} h_{kl}.$$

It follows from symmetry of third partial derivatives $f_{ikj} = f_{ijk}$ that (17) holds also after exchange of indices j and k . Subtracting these two equations, we obtain

$$\mathbf{e12.18} \quad (18) \quad h_{ij} h_{kl} - h_{ik} h_{jl} = \sum_{m=1}^2 g_{ml} \left[\Gamma_{ij,k}^m - \Gamma_{ik,j}^m + \sum_{n=1}^2 (\Gamma_{ij}^n \Gamma_{nk}^m - \Gamma_{ik}^n \Gamma_{nj}^m) \right].$$

Putting $i = 1, j = 1, k = 2, l = 2$ we obtain

Theorem (Gauss' equations). It holds

$$\boxed{\text{e12.19}} \quad (19) \quad h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2 = \sum_{m=1}^2 g_{m2} \left[\Gamma_{11,2}^m - \Gamma_{12,1}^m + \sum_{n=1}^2 (\Gamma_{11}^n \Gamma_{n2}^m - \Gamma_{12}^n \Gamma_{n1}^m) \right].$$

□

The right hand side depends only on coefficients g_{ij} of the first fundamental form and its partial derivatives of the first and second order according to the theorem 12.12. We have found in 8.9 that $K = (h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2)/(g_{11}g_{22} - g_{12}^2)$. Thus the Gaussian curvature K belongs to the inner geometry of the surface as the theorem egregium states.

We also remark that putting different indices i, j, k, l into (18), we obtain again the equation (19) or identity.

12.15. Information If we analogously decompose $n_i, i = 1, 2$ into the frame f_1, f_2, n and use the relation $\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial u_j} = \frac{\partial n_j}{\partial u_i} (= \frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial u_i \partial u_j})$, we obtain so called **Codazzi equations** (two of them are essentially)

$$\boxed{\text{e12.20}} \quad (20) \quad h_{ij,k} - h_{ik,j} + \sum_{l=1}^2 (\Gamma_{ij}^l h_{lk} - \Gamma_{ik}^l h_{lj}) = 0.$$

Using elementary techniques for systems of partial differential equations (e.g. the theorem 7.8 in the textbook [5]), one can prove following two statements about existence and uniqueness of solutions, which are sometimes called **The basic theorem of theory of surfaces**.

I. If S and \bar{S} are two simple surfaces with parametrizations $f: D \rightarrow E_3$ and $\bar{f}: D \rightarrow E_3$, respectively on the same parameter space D , which have the same first and second fundamental form, then there exists an Euclidean motion $\varphi: E_3 \rightarrow E_3$ such that $\varphi \circ f = \bar{f}$.

Summarizing: surfaces, which have the same first and second fundamental form, are congruent.

II. Consider two quadratic forms Φ_1 and Φ_2 on $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ where Φ_1 is positive definite at all points. If Φ_1 and Φ_2 satisfy Gauss and Codazzi equations, then there locally exists a surface with a parametrization $f: D \rightarrow E_3$ such that Φ_1 and Φ_2 are its first and second fundamental form, respectively.

13 Geodetic curves

13

13.1

13.1. Given a surface S and a motion $\gamma: I \rightarrow S$, we can consider the field of tangent vectors of γ which we denote by $\dot{\gamma}$.

Definition. The motion $\gamma: U \rightarrow S$ is called **geodetic curve** if the field $\dot{\gamma}$ of its tangent vectors transports parallelly along γ .

Consider a plane ϱ as a surface, this definition means that the vector $\dot{\gamma} = a$ is constant, i.e. γ is the motion $p + ta$ along a line, $p \in \varrho$.

13.2

13.2. Thus the condition for the motion γ to be geodetic means $\frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{dt} = 0$. Let $\gamma(t) = (u_1(t), u_2(t))$. Hence we need to put $\gamma(t) = (u_1(t), u_2(t))$ into the relation (12.3) and require the right hand side to be zero. I.e. geodetic motions are solutions of a system of two differential equations of the 2. order:

12

e13.1

$$(1) \quad \frac{d^2 u_i}{dt^2} + \sum_{j,k=1}^2 \Gamma_{jk}^i(u(t)) \frac{du_j}{dt} \frac{du_k}{dt} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

This system behaves more or less similarly as one differential equations of the 2. order.

13.3

13.3. It is well known that a solution of a differential equation of the 2. order is fully determined by its initial value and initial velocity (i.e. the value of its derivative). Analogously, in the case of the system (13.1) we have

Theorem. For every point $p \in S$ and every vector $A \in T_p S$ there exists an interval $0 \in I_A \subset \mathbb{R}$ and a unique geodetic motion $\gamma_A: I_A \rightarrow S$ such that $\gamma(0) = p$ and $\dot{\gamma}(0) = A$.

The interval I_A generally changes depending on A .

13.4

13.4. It is useful to observe the following property.

Lemma. If $\gamma(t)$ is a geodetic motion then also the motion $\gamma(at + b)$ is geodetic for each $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \neq 0$.

Proof. Put $\tilde{\gamma}(t) = \gamma(at + b)$. We have $\frac{d\tilde{\gamma}}{dt} = \frac{d\gamma}{dt} a$, $\frac{d^2\tilde{\gamma}(t)}{dt^2} = \frac{d^2\gamma}{dt^2} a^2$. Multiplying equations by a^2 then also $\tilde{\gamma}(t) = (\tilde{u}_1(t), \tilde{u}_2(t))$ satisfies

e13.1

$$\frac{d^2 \tilde{u}_i}{dt^2} + \sum_{j,k=1}^2 \Gamma_{jk}^i(\tilde{u}(t)) \frac{d\tilde{u}_j}{dt} \frac{d\tilde{u}_k}{dt} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

□

This lemma has a natural kinematic interpretation in the plane: If we change parametrization of a linear steady motion, we obtain again a linear steady motion.

13.5 **13.5 Definition.** The curve $C \subset S$ is called **geodetic curve**, if there exists such a parametrization $\gamma(t)$ that γ is a geodetic motion.

We briefly talk about **geodetics**. Geodetic curves in the plane are lines. It follows from 13.3 and 13.4 that

Theorem. For each point $p \in S$ and each direction in $T_p S$ there exists a unique geodetic on S which touches this direction at the point p .

13.6 **13.6.** It follows from properties of solutions of systems of differential equations of the 2. order (which we shall not discuss here in detail) that

Theorem. At each point $p \in S$ there exists a neighbourhood $Z \subset S$ such that for each two points $q_1 \neq q_2$ in Z there exists a unique geodetic in Z through points q_1 and q_2 .

This property is analogous to the fact that each two points in the plane can be connected by a unique line. However, a simple examples shows that the locality assumption in the theorem is essential on surfaces. We shall show below that geodetic curves on the sphere S are great circles. Given any point $q_1 \in S$ and another point q_2 (different from the “opposite pole”), there is a unique great circle through q_1 and q_2 . However, if q_2 is the “opposite pole” to q_1 then there are infinitely many great circles through points q_1 and q_2 .

13.7 **13.7.** Recall the osculating plane of a curve is not defined in inflection points. The following theorem provides “outer” characterization of geodesics.

Theorem. The curve $C \subset S$ is geodesic if and only if its osculating plane at each point contains the normal direction of the surface or is not defined.

Proof. The condition $\frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{dt} = o$ means that the vector lies in the normal direction. If $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{dt} \neq o$ then vectors $\dot{\gamma}$ and $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{dt}$ determine the osculating plane which contains the normal direction. If $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{dt} = o$ then this is the inflection point. In the opposite direction, consider a curve C parametrized by the arc-length $\gamma(s)$. Then $(\dot{\gamma}(s), \dot{\gamma}(s)) = 1$. Differentiating the latter, we obtain $(\dot{\gamma}, \frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds}) = 0$. If $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds} \neq o$ then vectors $\dot{\gamma}$ and $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds}$ determine the osculating plane and we assume this plane contains the normal line of the surface. Since the vector $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds}$ is perpendicular to the vector $\dot{\gamma}(s)$, it is parallel with the normal line. Thus $\frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{ds} = o$. If $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds} = o$ then $\frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{ds} = o$. \square

Example. The great circle C on the sphere S is such circle whose center coincides with the center of the sphere. Its osculating plane coincides with the plane the circle lies in (at every point). Normal lines of the sphere along C lie in the same plane. Hence each great circle is a geodesic. On the other hand, at each point $p \in S$ and each direction in $T_p S$, there is a unique great circle. Using the theorem 13.5, other geodesics on S do not exist.

13.8 **13.8 Corollary.** If C is a geodesic curve and $\gamma(s)$ its arc-length parametrization then $\gamma(s)$ is a geodesic motion.

Proof. It follows from the theorem 13.7, the osculating plane of the curve contains the normal direction of the surface. The second part of the proof shows that $\frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{ds} = 0$. \square

13.9 **13.9.** Let $Z \subset S$ is a neighbourhood of the point $p \in S$ with the property from the theorem 13.6

Theorem. For each $q \in Z$, $q \neq p$, the geodesic through points p and q is the shortest curve in Z which connects points p and q .

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Proof. Let us denote by C the geodesic connecting points p and q . Choose a curve \bar{C} through the point p perpendicular to C . Further, we have a geodesic curve through every point of \bar{C} perpendicular to \bar{C} ; these curves form a 1-parameter family of parametric curves. We choose its orthogonal trajectories as the second family of parametric curves. Choosing a parameter u_1 on C and a parameter u_2 on \bar{C} , we obtain a parametrization of the surface on some neighbourhood U of the point p . We can put $p = (0, 0)$, $q = (a, 0)$, $a > 0$.

Parametrizing curves $u_2 = c$ by the arc-length s , the parametrization $u_1 = s$, is a geodesic motion. This it satisfies equations (13). We have $\frac{du_2}{ds} = 0$, $\frac{d^2 u_2}{ds^2} = 0$, since $u_2 = c$, and further $\frac{du_1}{ds} = 1$ (the parameter is arc-length) and $\frac{d^2 u_1}{ds^2} = 0$. Putting this into (13.1), we obtain

$$\Gamma_{11}^1 = 0, \quad \Gamma_{11}^2 = 0.$$

Since the parametric net is orthogonal, we have $g_{12} = (f_1, f_2) = 0$. Using the decomposition 12.(1), we obtain

$$\frac{dg_{11}}{du_1} = \frac{\partial(f_1, f_1)}{\partial u_1} = 2(f_1, f_{11}) = 2\Gamma_{11}^1(f_1, f_1) = 0.$$

Differentiating $(f_1, f_2) = 0$, we find

$$0 = \frac{\partial(f_1, f_2)}{\partial u_1} = (f_{11}, f_2) + (f_1, f_{12}) = \Gamma_{11}^2(f_2, f_2) + (f_1, f_{12}) = 0,$$

hence $(f_1, f_{12}) = 0$. Now we obtain

$$\frac{\partial g_{11}}{\partial u_2} = \frac{\partial(f_1, f_1)}{\partial u_2} = 2(f_1, f_{12}) = 0.$$

Thus g_{11} is a constant $k > 0$.

Consider a curve from p to q given by the parametrization $u_1 = t$, $u_2 = f(t)$, $f(0) = 0$, $f(a) = 0$. Its length is equal to

e13.2 (2)
$$\int_0^a \sqrt{k + g_{22}(t, f(t)) \left(\frac{df}{dt}\right)^2} dt.$$

The length of the geodesic C is $\int_0^a \sqrt{k} dt = a\sqrt{k}$. Since $g_{22} > 0$, the integral (2) is greater or equal to $\sqrt{k}a$ and the equality holds obly for $\frac{df}{dt} = 0$. Using $f(0) = 0$, this means that $f(t) = 0$ for all t . \square

13.10 **13.10 Remark.** The oldest approach to the notion of geodesics comes exactly from the property that these are shortest curves connecting two points on the surface. Thus differential equations were derived using the calculus of variation.

13.11 **13.11.** The curvature \varkappa of a plane curve $f(s)$ satisfies $\varkappa = \left\| \frac{de_1}{ds} \right\|$, $e_1 = \frac{df}{ds}$. An analogy of this property is used to define geodetic curvature of the curve $C \subset S$. Assume that C is parametrized by the arclength $\gamma(s)$. Then $\dot{\gamma} = \frac{d\gamma}{ds}$ is a unit vector.

Definition. Geodetic curvature \varkappa_g of the curve $\gamma(s)$ on the surface S is defined via the relation $\varkappa_g = \left\| \frac{\nabla \dot{\gamma}}{ds} \right\|$.

That is, the geodetic curvature belongs to the inner geometry of the surface.

Remark. Also a notion of **geodetic torsion of a curve on the surface** can be defined but this no more belongs to the inner geometry of the surface.

13.12 **13.12.** We shall show hot the usual curvature \varkappa and the geodetic curvature \varkappa_g of a curve C on the surface S are related.

Theorem. Let α be the angle between the normal direction of the surface and the osculating plane of the curve $C \subset S$. Then $\kappa_g = \kappa \sin \alpha$. Further, we have $\kappa_g = 0$ in inflection points of the curve C .

Proof. In a non-inflection point, the vector $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds}$ lies in the osculating plane. It follows from the picture depictin the section by the plane perpendicular to the osculating plane ω of the curve C that $\|\frac{\nabla\dot{\gamma}}{ds}\| = \|\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds}\| \sin \alpha$. In inflection points, we have $\frac{d\dot{\gamma}}{ds} = o$ thus also $\frac{\nabla\dot{\gamma}}{ds} = o$. \square

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13.13 **13.13 Corollary.** The curve C on the surface S is geodetic if and only if $\kappa_g = 0$ at all points of C .

Proof. This follows directly from theorems 13.7 and 13.12. \square

Lines in a plane are characterized by the property $\kappa = 0$. This is one of analogies between lines on a plane and geodetic curves on a surface.

13.14 **13.14.** Using geodesics, we can extend certain constructions from the euclidean planes to surfaces. The simplest example is the notion of geodetic circles on the surface S .

It follows from properties of solutions of systems of 2nd order differential equations that for each point $p \in S$, there is a number $r_p > 0$ such that for each $0 < r < r_p$ and on every geodesic through p there are exactly two points q_1 and q_2 (one in each direction) such that the length of the arc between p and q_1 and of the arc between p and q_2 is equal to r . Moreover, it holds that the set $K(p, r)$ of all such points is a curve on S .

Definition. The curve $K(p, r)$ is called **geodetic circle of the radius r with the center p on the surface S** .

In the case of the sphere S with the radius ρ , we shall show that this construction works generally only locally. If $r < \pi\rho$ then $K(p, r)$ is a usual circle on S which is a curve. For $r = \pi\rho$, one moves along geodesics in all directions to the point opposite to p on S . In a sense, putting $r = \pi\rho$, the circle $K(p, r)$ “collapses” into a single point.

13.15 **13.15.** Geodetic circles have constant curvature in the plane and the same is true (as we have just shown) on spheres. This is not true in general, however. Already ellipsoid with axis of different lengths is an example of a surface where geodetic circles do not have constant geodetic curvature. (We shall mention one more statement in this directions later in ???.?)