

Curvature

Weingarten Map

- The **Weingarten** map *dN* is the differential of the Gauss map *N*
- At each point, tells us the change in the normal vector along any given direction *X*
- Since change in *unit* normal cannot have any component in the normal direction, *dN*(*X*) is always tangent to the surface
- Can also think of it as a vector tangent to the unit sphere *S*²



- Recall that for the sphere, N = -f. Hence, Weingarten map dN is just -df: $f := (\cos(u)\sin(v), \sin(u)\sin(v), \cos(v))$
- $df = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin(u)\sin(v), & \cos(u)\sin(v), & 0 \\ \cos(u)\cos(v), & \cos(v)\sin(u), & -\sin(v) \end{pmatrix} \frac{du + u}{dv}$
- $dN = \begin{pmatrix} \sin(u)\sin(v), -\cos(u)\sin(v), 0 \end{pmatrix} du$ $(-\cos(u)\cos(v), -\cos(v)\sin(u), \sin(v) \end{pmatrix} dv$

Key idea: computing the Weingarten map is no different from computing the differential of a surface.





Normal Curvature

- we'll instead consider how quickly the *normal* is changing.*
- In particular, **normal curvature** is rate at which normal is bending along a given tangent direction:

$$\kappa_N(X) := \frac{\langle df(X), dN(X) \rangle}{|df(X)|^2}$$

• Equivalent to intersecting surface with normal-tangent plane and measuring the usual curvature of a plane curve

*For plane curves, what would happen if we instead considered change in *N*?

• For curves, curvature was the rate of change of the *tangent*; for immersed surfaces,



Normal Curvature—Example

Consider a parameterized cylinder: $f(u,v) := (\cos(u), \sin(u), v)$ $df = (-\sin(u), \cos(u), 0)du + (0, 0, 1)dv$ $N = (-\sin(u), \cos(u), 0) \times (0, 0, 1)$ $= (\cos(u), \sin(u), 0)$ $dN = (-\sin(u), \cos(u), 0)du$ $\kappa_N(\frac{\partial}{\partial u}) = \frac{\langle df(\frac{\partial}{\partial u}), dN(\frac{\partial}{\partial u}) \rangle}{|df(\frac{\partial}{\partial u})|^2} = \frac{(-1)}{|df(\frac{\partial}{\partial u})|^2}$ $|\mathcal{U}| \setminus \partial u |$ $\kappa_N(\frac{\partial}{\partial n}) = \cdots = 0$



$$\frac{\sin(u),\cos(u),0)\cdot(-\sin(u),\cos(u),0)}{|(-\sin(u),\cos(u),0)|^2} = 1$$

Q: Does this result make sense geometrically?



Principal Curvature

- normal curvature has minimum/maximum value (respectively)
- Corresponding normal curvatures are the principal curvatures
- Two critical facts*:
 - 1. $g(X_1, X_2) = 0$
 - 2. $dN(X_i) = \kappa_i df(X_i)$

Where do these relationships come from?

• Among all directions X, there are two **principal directions** X₁, X₂ where





Shape Operator

- The change in the normal N is always *tangent* to the surface
- Must therefore be some linear map *S* from tangent vectors to tangent vectors, called the **shape operator**, such that

- Principal directions are the *eigenvectors* of S
- Principal curvatures are *eigenvalues* of S
- Note: *S* is not a symmetric matrix! Hence, eigenvectors are not orthogonal in R²; only orthogonal with respect to induced metric g.

df(SX) = dN(X)

Shape Operator — Example

Consider a nonstandard parameterization of the cylinder (*sheared* along z): $N = (\cos(u), \sin(u), 0)$ $df \circ S = dN$ $\begin{bmatrix} -\sin(u) & 0 \\ \cos(u) & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(u) & 0 \\ \cos(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\Rightarrow S = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{c} X_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{c} X_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ \end{array}$ $df(X_1) = (0, 0, 1)$ $\kappa_1 = 0$ $df(X_2) = (\sin(u), -\cos(u), 0)$ $\kappa_2 = 1$ **Key observation:** principal directions orthogonal only in *R*³.

$f(u,v) := (\cos(u), \sin(u), u + v) \qquad df = (-\sin(u), \cos(u), 1)du + (0, 0, 1)dv$ $dN = (-\sin(u), \cos(u), 0)du$



Umbilic Points

- Points where principal curvatures are equal are called **umbilic points**
- Principal *directions* are not uniquely determined here
- What happens to the shape operator *S*?
 - May still have full rank!
 - Just have repeated eigenvalues, 2-dim. eigenspace

Could still of course choose (arbitrarily) an orthonormal pair X_1 , X_2 ...

- $=\kappa_2=\frac{1}{4}$ $\forall X, SX = \frac{1}{r}X$



Principal Curvature Nets

- Collection of all such lines is called the **principal curvature network**



• Walking along principal direction field yields principal curvature lines





Separatrices and Spirals

- If we walk along a principal curvature line, where do we end up?
- Sometimes, a curvature line terminates at an umbilic point in both directions; these socalled **separatrices** (can) split network into regular patches.
- Other times, we make a closed loop. More often, however, behavior is *not* so nice!









Application – Quad Remeshing

• Recent approach to meshing: construct net roughly aligned with principal curvature—but with separatrices & loops, not spirals.





from Knöppel, Crane, Pinkall, Schröder, "Stripe Patterns on Surfaces"



Gaussian and Mean Curvature

Gaussian and mean curvature also fully describe local bending:





 $H \neq 0$

K > 0

*Warning: another common convention is to omit the factor of 1/2

Total Mean Curvature?

Theorem (Minkowski): for a regular closed embedded surface,

 $\int_{M} H \, dA \ge \sqrt{4\pi A}$

Q: When do we get equality? A: For a sphere.





Second Fundamental Form

- Second fundamental form is closely related to principal curvature
- Can also be viewed as change in first fundamental form under motion in normal direction
- Why "fundamental?" First & second fundamental forms play role in important theorem...



$\mathbf{II}(X,Y) := \langle dN(X), df(Y) \rangle$

 $\kappa_N(X) := \frac{df(X), dN(X)}{|df(X)|^2} = \frac{\mathbf{II}(X, X)}{\mathbf{I}(X, X)}$



Fundamental Theorem of Surfaces

- Fact. Two surfaces in R³ are congruent if and only if they have the same first and second fundamental forms
 - ...However, not every pair of bilinear forms I, II on a domain U describes a valid surface—must satisfy the Gauss Codazzi equations
- Analogous to fundamental theorem of plane curves: determined up to rigid motion by curvature
 - ...However, for *closed* curves not every curvature function is valid (*e.g.*, must integrate to $2k\pi$)



