

MATH 4030 Problem Set 3¹

Due date: Oct 22, 2019

Reading assignment: do Carmo's Section 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6

Problems: (Those marked with † are optional.)

1. Let $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be smooth functions such that $f(u) > 0$ and $g'(u) > 0$ for all $u \in \mathbb{R}$. Define a smooth map $X : \mathbb{R} \times (-\pi, \pi) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ by

$$X(u, v) := (f(u) \cos v, f(u) \sin v, g(u)).$$

Show that the image $S := X(\mathbb{R} \times (-\pi, \pi))$ is a surface, and that all the normal lines of S pass through the z -axis. What does the surface S look like?

2. If all normal lines to a connected surface S passes through a fixed point $p_0 \in \mathbb{R}^3$, show that S is contained in a sphere.
3. Let S be a compact surface, show that there exists a straight line ℓ cutting S orthogonally at at least two points. (*Hint: Consider two points on S which are of maximal distance apart.*)
4. Let $S = \{p \in \mathbb{R}^3 : |p|^2 - \langle p, a \rangle^2 = r^2\}$ with $|a| = 1$ and $r > 0$ be a right cylinder of radius r whose axis is the line passing through the origin with direction a . Prove that

$$T_p S = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \langle p, v \rangle - \langle p, a \rangle \langle a, v \rangle = 0\}.$$

Conclude that all the normal lines of S cut the axis orthogonally. Prove the converse as well: i.e. if S is a connected surface whose normal lines all intersect a fixed straight line $\ell \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ orthogonally, then S is a subset of a right cylinder with axis ℓ .

5. Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a surface.

(a) Fix a point $p_0 \in \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $p_0 \notin S$, show that the *distance function from p_0*

$$f(p) := |p - p_0|$$

defines a smooth function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Moreover, prove that $p \in S$ is a critical point of f if and only if the line joining p to p_0 is normal to S at p .

(b) Fix a unit vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$, show that the *height function along v*

$$h(p) := \langle p, v \rangle$$

defines a smooth function $h : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Prove that $p \in S$ is a critical point of h if and only if v is normal to S at p .

6. Find the area of the torus of revolution S defined by

$$S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : (\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - a)^2 + z^2 = r^2\},$$

where $a > r > 0$ are given positive constants.

7. Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$ be a regular value of a smooth function $F : O \subset \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Prove that the surface $S = F^{-1}(a)$ is orientable.

¹Last revised on October 8, 2019

8. Compute the first fundamental form and surface area of the helicoid parametrized by

$$X(u, v) := (u \cos v, u \sin v, bv) \quad 1 < u < 3, 0 < v < 2\pi.$$

9. (†) (*Change of coordinates for tangent vectors*) Let $p \in S$ be a point on the surface S . Suppose there are two parametrizations

$$\begin{aligned} X(u, v) &: U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow V \subset S, \\ \bar{X}(\bar{u}, \bar{v}) &: \bar{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \bar{V} \subset S \end{aligned}$$

such that $p \in V \cap \bar{V}$. Let $\psi = \bar{X}^{-1} \circ X : X^{-1}(V \cap \bar{V}) \rightarrow \bar{X}^{-1}(V \cap \bar{V})$ be the transition map which can be written in (u, v) and (\bar{u}, \bar{v}) coordinates as

$$\psi(u, v) = (\bar{u}(u, v), \bar{v}(u, v)).$$

If $v \in TpS$ is a tangent vector which can be expressed in local coordinates as

$$a_1 \frac{\partial X}{\partial u} + a_2 \frac{\partial X}{\partial v} = v = b_1 \frac{\partial \bar{X}}{\partial \bar{u}} + b_2 \frac{\partial \bar{X}}{\partial \bar{v}},$$

where the partial derivatives are evaluated at the point $X^{-1}(p)$ and $\bar{X}^{-1}(p)$ respectively, show that

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where the partial derivatives are evaluated at the point $(u_0, v_0) = X^{-1}(p)$. In other words, the tangent vector transforms by multiplying the *Jacobian matrix* of the transition map ψ .

10. (†) Show that each of the subset $(a, b, c, \neq 0)$ below are surfaces

$$S_1 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = ax\},$$

$$S_2 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = by\},$$

$$S_3 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = cz\}.$$

Prove that they all intersect orthogonally.

11. (†) Construct an explicit diffeomorphism between the ellipsoid $S_1 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1\}$ and the sphere $S_2 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$.