

2/11/23

MATH 4030 Tutorial

Announcements:

- Midterm: Mean: 64, Median: 66, SD: 19
- HW3 Solution will be posted tomorrow morning, HW2 aim to finish grading this week.
- HW4, due 13/11.

Ex: Pseudosphere, an example of a surface S with $K \equiv -1$

Consider the tractrix: $\alpha: (0, \frac{\pi}{2}) \rightarrow xz$ -plane by

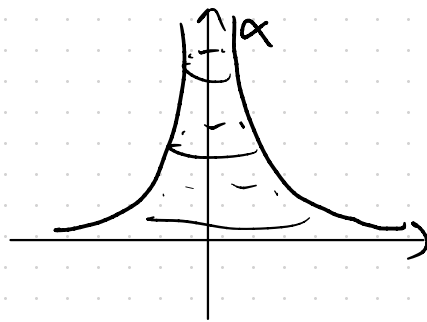
$$\alpha(t) = (\sin t, \cos t + \log \tan \frac{t}{2}).$$

Take the surface of revolution obtained by rotating α about the z -axis.

So S is parameterized by

$$X(t, \theta) = (\sin t \cos \theta, \sin t \sin \theta, \cos t + \log \tan \frac{t}{2}).$$

By computing E, F, G, e, f, g and using $K = \frac{eg - f^2}{EG - F^2}$, you can show that $K \equiv -1$.



Def: A surface S is called minimal if $H=0$. (critical point of area functional).

• A parametrization $X(u,v)$ is isothermal if

$$|X_u| = |X_v| = \lambda, \quad \langle X_u, X_v \rangle = 0$$

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(to be proved in lecture).

Thm: S is minimal iff \exists isothermal param. X s.t. $X_{uu} + X_{vv} = 0$.

$\Delta X = 0 \leftarrow$ PDE (Complex Analysis condition)

• $f, g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy CR-equations if

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = -\frac{\partial g}{\partial v}.$$

From Complex Analysis, we know $h: f+ig$ is a holomorphic function.

f, g are called harmonic conjugates.

• Let X, Y be isothermic param. of minimal surfaces M, N s.t. the component functions are pairwise harmonic conjugate, then M, N are called conjugate.

Minimal surfaces.

Q1: Show that the catenoid, helicoid are conjugate minimal surfaces.

Catenoid: $X(u, v) = (\cosh v \overset{f_1}{\cos u}, \cosh v \overset{f_2}{\sin u}, \overset{f_3}{v})$ Basically, check:

Helicoid $Y(u, v) = (\sinh v \overset{g_1}{\sin u}, -\sinh v \overset{g_2}{\cos u}, \overset{g_3}{u})$

$$X_v = Y_u,$$

$$X_u = -Y_v.$$

PF: Easy to check that $X_{uu} + X_{vv} = 0$, $Y_{uu} + Y_{vv} = 0$ and that X, Y are isothermal param.

$$X_u = (-\cosh v \sin u, \cosh v \cos u, 0)$$

$$Y_v = (\cosh v \sin u, -\cosh v \cos u, 0)$$

$\Rightarrow X_u = -Y_v$. So they indeed are conjugate param.

$$X_v = (\sinh v \cos u, \sinh v \sin u, 1)$$

$$Y_u = (\sinh v \cos u, \sinh v \sin u, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow X_v = Y_u.$$

Q2: Given two conjugate minimal surfaces X, Y , show that the surface

$$Z_t = \cos t X + \sin t Y$$

is minimal for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Pf: We'll show Z_t is isothermal and $\Delta Z_t = 0$.

$$\Delta Z_t = 0: \quad Z_{uu} = \cos t X_{uu} + \sin t Y_{uu}$$

$$Z_{vv} = \cos t X_{vv} + \sin t Y_{vv}$$

Since X, Y satisfy $\Delta X = 0, \Delta Y = 0$, we hence

$$\Delta Z = Z_{uu} + Z_{vv} = \cos t (X_{uu} + X_{vv}) + \sin t (Y_{uu} + Y_{vv}) = 0.$$

Remains to check Z_t is an isothermal param.

$$Z_u = \cos t X_u + \sin t Y_u, \quad Z_v = \cos t X_v + \sin t Y_v.$$

$$\langle Z_u, Z_v \rangle = \cos^2 t \langle X_u, X_v \rangle + \sin t \cos t \langle X_u, Y_v \rangle + \sin t \cos t \langle Y_u, X_v \rangle + \sin^2 t \langle Y_u, Y_v \rangle$$

since X, Y are isothermal

$$= \sin t \cos t \langle X_u, Y_v \rangle + \sin t \cos t \langle Y_u, X_v \rangle.$$

$$\text{CR eqn}^s \Rightarrow = \sin t \cos t \langle X_u, X_u \rangle - \sin t \cos t \langle X_v, X_v \rangle$$

$$= \sin t \cos t (|X_u|^2 - |X_v|^2) = 0$$

X is isothermal

$$\begin{aligned} |Z_u|^2 &= \langle Z_u, Z_u \rangle = \langle \cos t X_u + \sin t Y_u, \cos t X_u + \sin t Y_u \rangle \\ &= \cos^2 t |X_u|^2 + 2 \sin t \cos t \langle X_u, Y_u \rangle + \sin^2 t |Y_u|^2 \\ &= \cos^2 t |X_u|^2 + 2 \sin t \cos t \langle X_u, X_v \rangle + \sin^2 t |Y_u|^2 \\ &= \cos^2 t |X_u|^2 + \sin^2 t |X_v|^2 \quad \parallel \\ &= \lambda^2. \quad \text{where } \lambda = |X_u| = |X_v|. \end{aligned}$$

Similar argument to show $|Z_v|^2 = \lambda^2$.

So Z_t is isothermal and by the thm Z_t is minimal for all t .

So we have obtained a one-param. family of minimal surfaces

$$Z_t = \cos t \begin{pmatrix} \cosh v \cos u \\ \cosh v \sin u \\ v \end{pmatrix} + \sin t \begin{pmatrix} \sinh v \sin u \\ -\sinh v \cos u \\ u \end{pmatrix}$$

Z_t is minimal for all t , Z_0 is the catenoid, $Z_{\frac{\pi}{2}}$ is the helicoid.