

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
2024 Enrichment Programme for Young Mathematics Talents

**TOWARDS DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY**  
**Test 2, 23/08/2024**

**Instructions:**

- Time allowed:  **$90 \pm \delta$  minutes.**
- This paper consists of **Basic Part**, **Harder Part** and **Bonus Part**.
- The full mark of the paper is **80 points** and bonus mark **15 points**.
- Answer **ALL** questions in Basic Part and **THREE** questions in Harder Part. Make your best effort to answer the Bonus Part.
- Show your work clearly and concisely. Give thorough explanation and justification for your calculations and observations.
- Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Answer Booklet. Begin each question on a new page. Clearly indicate the question number in the designated slot at the top of each page.
- Supplementary answer sheets and rough paper will be supplied on request.
- Non-graphical calculators are allowed.
- Unless otherwise specified, numerical answers must be exact.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

**Basic Part (50 points).** Answer **ALL** questions in this part.

1. (10 points) Compute the curvature  $\kappa(t)$  of the following curves:

(a) (4 points)  $\alpha(t) = \left( \frac{1}{3}(1+t)^{3/2}, \frac{1}{3}(1-t)^{3/2}, \frac{t}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$ , for  $t \in (0, 1)$ .

(b) (3 points)  $\alpha(t) = \left( \frac{4}{5} \cos t, 1 - \sin t, -\frac{3}{5} \cos t \right)$ , for  $t \in (0, 2\pi)$ .

(c) (3 points)  $\alpha(t) = (t, \cosh t)$ , for  $t \in (0, \infty)$ .

2. (20 points) Given the parameterized curve

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (e^t \cos t, e^t \sin t, 2e^t), \quad t \in (0, \infty).$$

(a) (5 points) Find  $\mathbf{r}'(t)$ , hence find  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|$ .

(b) (2 points) Find  $s := \int_0^t \|\mathbf{r}'(u)\| du$ .

(c) (3 points) Hence, or otherwise, find an arc-length parameterization of  $\mathbf{r}(t)$ . Please state clearly the domain of  $s$ .

(d) (10 points) Hence, or otherwise find the **TNB** frame, the curvature  $\kappa$ , and torsion  $\tau$ . (You may find your answer with the original parameterization, or with the arc-length parameterization you found.)

3. (20 points) It is given that the parametrization of the torus is

$$\mathbf{X}(\phi, \theta) = ((R + r \sin \phi) \cos \theta, (R + r \sin \phi) \sin \theta, r \cos \phi), 0 < \phi < 2\pi, 0 < \theta < 2\pi$$

where  $R > r > 0$  and  $R, r$  are constants.

(a) (6 points) Compute  $\mathbf{X}_\phi \times \mathbf{X}_\theta$ .

(b) (4 points) Hence, prove that the torus is a regular surface.

(c) (5 points) Compute the first fundamental form of  $\mathbf{X}$  as a  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

(d) (5 points) Show that the surface area of the torus is  $4\pi^2 r R$ .

## Harder Part – Curve Theory (15 points).

Answer **ONE** question in **Curve Theory** section

### Curve Theory – Structured Questions

4. (15 points) This question investigates vanishing curvature  $\kappa$  and torsion  $\tau$

- (a) (6 points) Let  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  be a regular parametrised curve. Prove that if its curvature satisfies  $\kappa(t) = 0$  of any  $a < t < b$ , then  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  is a straight line.
- (b) (9 points) Let  $\mathbf{r}(s)$  be a regular parametrised curve with  $\|\mathbf{r}'(s)\| = 1$ . Further suppose that there exists a constant  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3, C \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\langle \mathbf{r}(s), \mathbf{v} \rangle = C$  for all  $s$ .
  - (i) (4 points) Differentiating with respect to  $s$ , prove that

$$\langle \mathbf{r}'(s), \mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r}''(s), \mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r}'''(s), \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0.$$

- (ii) (3 points) Explain why  $\langle \mathbf{r}'(s) \times \mathbf{r}''(s), \mathbf{r}'''(s) \rangle = 0$ .
  - (iii) (2 points) Compute torsion  $\tau(s)$  of  $\mathbf{r}(s)$ .

5. (15 points) This question is investigates curves on sphere

Let  $\alpha(s)$  be a regular space curve with arc length parameterization.  $\mathbf{T}(s)$ ,  $\mathbf{N}(s)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(s)$  are the unit tangent, unit normal and unit binormal to the curve respectively. Let  $\kappa(s)$  and  $\tau(s)$  be the curvature and torsion of the curve. Suppose  $\alpha(s)$  lies on the some sphere centred at the origin for any  $s$ , that is:

$$\|\alpha(s)\| = r \text{ for some } r \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

- (a) (4 points) Differentiating with respect to  $s$ , show that

$$\langle \alpha, \alpha' \rangle = 0 \text{ and } \langle \alpha', \alpha' \rangle = -\langle \alpha'', \alpha \rangle \text{ and } \langle \alpha''', \alpha \rangle = 0.$$

- (b) (3 points) Using (a) (ii) and Frenet Serret Equation, show that  $\langle \alpha(s), \mathbf{N}(s) \rangle = -\frac{1}{\kappa(s)}$ .
- (c) (3 points) Using Frenet Serret Equation, show that

$$\alpha'''(s) = \frac{d}{ds}(\kappa(s) \mathbf{N}(s)) = -\kappa^2(s) \mathbf{T}(s) + \kappa'(s) \mathbf{N}(s) + \kappa(s) \tau(s) \mathbf{B}(s).$$

- (d) (i) (3 points) By considering  $\langle \alpha'''(s), \alpha(s) \rangle = 0$ , compute  $\langle \alpha(s), \mathbf{B}(s) \rangle$
- (ii) (2 points) Deduce that  $\alpha(s) = -\frac{1}{\kappa(s)} \mathbf{N}(s) + \frac{\kappa'(s)}{\kappa^2(s) \tau(s)} \mathbf{B}(s)$ .  
(Hints:  $\{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{B}\}$  constitutes an orthonormal basis.)

### Harder Part – Surface Theory (5+10 points).

Answer **ALL** True/False Questions. Answer **ONE** question in **Surface Theory** section.

General notations:

- Let  $\mathbf{X} : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a regular parametrized surface. We name the surface as  $M$ .
- Unit normal vector  $\mathbf{n}$  of  $\mathbf{X}$  is computed by  $\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{X}_u \times \mathbf{X}_v}{\|\mathbf{X}_u \times \mathbf{X}_v\|}$ .

### Surface Theory – True/False Questions

6. (5 points) Mark each of the following statements “True” (meaning that it is a true statement) or “False” (meaning that there are counterexamples to the statement). No reasoning is required and each question carries 1 point.
- (a) A curve  $C$  lying on a regular surface  $M$  must be a regular curve.
  - (b) A connected subset of a regular surface must be a regular surface.
  - (c) The first fundamental form of a regular surface as a  $2 \times 2$  matrix must be invertible.
  - (d) Let  $M$  be a surface obtained by revolving the curve  $z = f(x)$  around the  $z$ -axis. Then  $(x \cos \theta, x \sin \theta, f(x))$ ,  $0 < \theta < 2\pi$  gives a parametrization of  $M$ .
  - (e) Surface area of  $M$  is given by:  $\iint_D \sqrt{\det(I)} dA$ , where  $I$  is the first fundamental form of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $dA$  is the area element of  $M$ .

### Surface Theory – Structured Questions

7. (10 points) Let  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  be a fixed vector such that for every  $(u, v) \in D$

$$\|\mathbf{X}(u, v) - \mathbf{a}\| = r \quad \dots (\#)$$

- (a) (1 point) Explain the geometric meaning of  $(\#)$ .
  - (b) (3 points) Prove that  $\langle \mathbf{X}_u, \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{a} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{X}_v, \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{a} \rangle = 0$ .
  - (c) (3 points) Prove that  $\mathbf{X}(u, v) - \mathbf{a}$  is parallel to  $\mathbf{X}_u \times \mathbf{X}_v$ .
  - (d) (3 points) Deduce that all normal vectors of  $\mathbf{X}$  passes through  $\mathbf{a}$ .
8. (10 points) Let  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  be a fixed vector such that for every  $(u, v) \in D$

$$\mathbf{X}(u, v) - \mathbf{a} = \lambda(u, v) \mathbf{n} \quad \dots (\#\#)$$

for some smooth functions  $\lambda : U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- (a) (1 point) Explain the geometric meaning of  $(\#\#)$ .
- (b) (2 points) Show that  $\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{a}\|^2 = \lambda^2$ .
- (c) (4 points) Using the fact that  $\langle \mathbf{X}_u, \mathbf{n} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{X}_v, \mathbf{n} \rangle = 0$ , prove that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \lambda^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \lambda^2 = 0.$$

- (d) (3 points) Deduce that  $\mathbf{X}$  is part of a sphere. What is the radius of the sphere?

**Bonus Part (15 points).** Try your best to answer the question in this part.

9. This question will investigate the tangent plane of a surface and the geometric application of the first fundamental form.

Let  $S$  be a regular surface parameterized by  $\mathbf{X}(u, v)$  for any  $(u, v) \in U$ . For any point  $p := \mathbf{X}(u_0, v_0)$ , we can define a **tangent space**  $T_p S$  of  $S$  at  $p$  by

$$T_p S := \{\alpha \mathbf{X}_u(u_0, v_0) + \beta \mathbf{X}_v(u_0, v_0) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

- (a) (5 points) Show that for any  $(u_0, v_0) \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\mathbf{x} = \alpha \mathbf{X}_u(u_0, v_0) + \beta \mathbf{X}_v(u_0, v_0) \in T_p S$ , we have

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \end{pmatrix} I_p \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}.$$

where  $I_p$  denotes the first fundamental form as a  $2 \times 2$  matrix evaluated at  $p$ .

- (b) (5 points) Let  $\mathbf{r} : V \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S$ , be a regular parameterized curve on the surface  $S$  defined by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) := \mathbf{X}(f(t), g(t)) \text{ for any } t \in V$$

and let  $s = s(t)$  be the arc-length of  $\mathbf{r}$ . Given that

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = f'(t) \mathbf{X}_u(f(t), g(t)) + g'(t) \mathbf{X}_v(f(t), g(t)),$$

show that

$$\left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} f'(t) & g'(t) \end{pmatrix} I \begin{pmatrix} f'(t) \\ g'(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (c) (5 points) Now let  $\mathbf{Y}(u, v)$  be a regular parameterized surface with first fundamental form

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2(v) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $\alpha(t) := \mathbf{Y}(\sin(\log t), \log t)$  for  $t \in (1, e^\pi)$ . Find the arc-length of  $\alpha(t)$ .

~~ END OF PAPER ~~

## Formula Sheet

### 1 Notations

1.  $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a space curve (not necessarily parameterised by arc-length)
  - $\mathbf{r}(t)$  denotes a space curve **not necessarily** parametrized by arc-length
  - $\mathbf{r}(s)$  denotes a space curve parametrized by arc-length
2.  $\mathbf{T}$  denotes the unit tangent of  $\mathbf{r}$
3.  $\mathbf{N}$  denotes the unit normal of  $\mathbf{r}$
4.  $\mathbf{B}$  denotes the unit binormal of  $\mathbf{r}$
5.  $\kappa$  denotes the curvature of  $\mathbf{r}$
6.  $\tau$  denotes the torsion of  $\mathbf{r}$

### 2 Formulae of $\mathbf{T}$ , $\mathbf{N}$ , $\mathbf{B}$ Frame

- (1).  $\mathbf{T}(t) = \frac{\mathbf{r}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|}$  and  $\mathbf{T}(s) = \mathbf{r}'(s)$   $[\mathbf{T}'(s) = \mathbf{r}''(s)]$
- (2).  $\mathbf{N}(t) = \frac{\mathbf{T}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{T}'(t)\|}$  and  $\mathbf{N}(s) = \frac{\mathbf{T}'(s)}{\|\mathbf{T}'(s)\|} = \frac{\mathbf{r}''(s)}{\|\mathbf{r}''(s)\|}$
- (3).  $\mathbf{B}(t) = \mathbf{T}(t) \times \mathbf{N}(t)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(s) = \mathbf{T}(s) \times \mathbf{N}(s)$

### 3 Formulae of Curvature $\kappa$

- (1).  $\kappa(t) = \frac{\|\mathbf{T}'(t)\|}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|}$
- (2).  $\kappa(s) = \|\mathbf{T}'(s)\| = \|\mathbf{r}''(s)\|$
- (3).  $\kappa(t) = \frac{\|\mathbf{r}'(t) \times \mathbf{r}''(t)\|}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|^3}$
- (4).  $\kappa(t) = \frac{|x'(t)y''(t) - x''(t)y'(t)|}{|x'(t)^2 + y'(t)^2|^{3/2}}$ , for plane curve  $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$
- (5).  $\kappa(x) = \frac{|f''(x)|}{(1 + (f'(x))^2)^{3/2}}$ , for graph of function  $y = f(x)$
- (6).  $\kappa(\theta) = \frac{|r(\theta)^2 + 2r'(\theta)^2 - r(\theta)r''(\theta)|}{(r(\theta)^2 + r'(\theta)^2)^{3/2}}$ , for  $\mathbb{R}^2$  polar graph  $\mathbf{r}(\theta) = (r(\theta) \cos \theta, r(\theta) \sin \theta)$

## 4 Formulae for Torsion $\tau$

$$(1). \quad \tau(t) = \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{N}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|}, \mathbf{B}(t) \right\rangle \text{ and } \tau(s) = \langle \mathbf{N}'(s), \mathbf{B}(s) \rangle = -\langle \mathbf{N}(s), \mathbf{B}'(s) \rangle$$

$$(2). \quad \tau(t) = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}'(t) \times \mathbf{r}''(t), \mathbf{r}'''(t) \rangle}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t) \times \mathbf{r}''(t)\|^2}$$

## 5 Frenet Serret Equation

$$(1). \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{T}'(s) \\ \mathbf{N}'(s) \\ \mathbf{B}'(s) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \kappa(s) & 0 \\ -\kappa(s) & 0 & \tau(s) \\ 0 & -\tau(s) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{T}(s) \\ \mathbf{N}(s) \\ \mathbf{B}(s) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(2). \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{T}'(t) \\ \mathbf{N}'(t) \\ \mathbf{B}'(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|\kappa(t) & 0 \\ -\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|\kappa(t) & 0 & \|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|\tau(t) \\ 0 & -\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|\tau(t) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{T}(t) \\ \mathbf{N}(t) \\ \mathbf{B}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$