

Intrinsic Properties of a Surface

Differential Geometry

Presented by



MATHEMATICAL EXPLORATIONS

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Important Relation Between the Coefficients E, F, G and H :

From vector identity

$$(\vec{r}_1 \times \vec{r}_2)^2 = r_1^2 r_2^2 - (\vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2)^2$$

We have

$$H^2 = EG - F^2, \quad \text{where } H = |\vec{r}_1 \times \vec{r}_2|$$

Since H is a positive quantity, so $EG - F^2$ is always positive and

$$H = \sqrt{EG - F^2}$$

Again, at an ordinary point $r_1 \neq 0, r_2 \neq 0$, thus

$$E = r_1^2 > 0, \quad G = r_2^2 > 0$$

Hence we have

$$E > 0, \quad G > 0, \quad EG - F^2 > 0$$

Important Properties of the Metric:

Property 1. The metric or the first fundamental form is a positive definite quadratic form in du, dv .

Proof. Since $E > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} E du^2 + 2F du dv + G dv^2 &= \frac{1}{E} [E^2 du^2 + 2EF du dv + EG dv^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{E} [(E du + F dv)^2 + (EG - F^2) dv^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{E} [(E du + F dv)^2 + H^2 dv^2] \\ &\geq 0 \quad \text{for all real values of } du \text{ and } dv \quad [\because H^2 > 0] \end{aligned}$$

Again,

$$E du^2 + 2F du dv + G dv^2 = 0$$

gives

$$(E du + F dv)^2 + H^2 dv^2 = 0$$

$$\text{i.e., } (E du + F dv)^2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H^2 dv^2 = 0$$

$$\text{i.e., } E du + F dv = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad dv = 0 \quad [\because H^2 > 0]$$

$$\text{i.e., } E du = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad dv = 0$$

$$\text{i.e., } du = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad dv = 0 \quad [\because E > 0]$$

But both du and dv cannot vanish together. Hence metric,

$$E du^2 + 2F du dv + G dv^2$$

is a positive definite quadratic form in du, dv .

Property 2. Invariance property. The metric is invariant under a transformation of parameters.

Proof. Let in the equation of the surface $\vec{r} = \vec{r}(u, v)$, the parameters u, v are transformed to the parameters u', v' by the relation (say)

$$u = \phi(u', v'), \quad v = \psi(u', v')$$

Thus,

$$\vec{r}'_1 = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u'} = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial u'} + \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \frac{\partial v}{\partial u'} = \vec{r}_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial u'} + \vec{r}_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial u'} \quad (1)$$

Similarly,

$$\vec{r}'_2 = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v'} = \vec{r}_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial v'} + \vec{r}_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial v'} \quad (2)$$

Again,

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial u'} du' + \frac{\partial u}{\partial v'} dv' \quad \text{and} \quad dv = \frac{\partial v}{\partial u'} du' + \frac{\partial v}{\partial v'} dv' \quad (3)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} E' du'^2 + 2F' du' dv' + G' dv'^2 &= r_1'^2 du'^2 + 2(\vec{r}_1' \cdot \vec{r}_2') du' dv' + r_2'^2 dv'^2 \\ &= (\vec{r}_1' du' + \vec{r}_2' dv')^2 \\ &= \left[\left(\vec{r}_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial u'} + \vec{r}_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial u'} \right) du' + \left(\vec{r}_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial v'} + \vec{r}_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial v'} \right) dv' \right]^2 \\ &= \left[\vec{r}_1 \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial u'} du' + \frac{\partial u}{\partial v'} dv' \right) + \vec{r}_2 \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial u'} du' + \frac{\partial v}{\partial v'} dv' \right) \right]^2 \\ &= (\vec{r}_1 du + \vec{r}_2 dv)^2 \\ &= r_1^2 du^2 + 2(\vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2) du dv + r_2^2 dv^2 \\ &= E du^2 + 2F du dv + G dv^2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the metric is invariant.

Ex.1. Calculate first fundamental magnitudes for the surface

$$\vec{r} = [u \cos v, u \sin v, f(u)]$$

Solution. The given surface is

$$\vec{r} = [u \cos v, u \sin v, f(u)].$$

$$\vec{r}_1 = [\cos v, \sin v, f'(u)], \quad \vec{r}_2 = [-u \sin v, u \cos v, 0]$$

$$E = \vec{r}_1^2 = \cos^2 v + \sin^2 v + f'^2 = 1 + f'^2$$

$$F = \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2 = -u \cos v \sin v + u \sin v \cos v + 0 = 0$$

$$G = \vec{r}_2^2 = u^2 \sin^2 v + u^2 \cos^2 v + 0 = u^2$$

Ex.2. Calculate E, F, G, H for the paraboloid

$$x = u, \quad y = v, \quad z = u^2 - v^2.$$

Solution. The given surface is

$$\vec{r} = (u, v, u^2 - v^2).$$

We have

$$\vec{r}_1 = (1, 0, 2u), \quad \vec{r}_2 = (0, 1, -2v)$$

$$E = \vec{r}_1^2 = 1 + 4u^2, \quad F = \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2 = 0 + 0 - 4uv = -4uv$$

$$G = \vec{r}_2^2 = 1 + 4v^2$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \sqrt{EG - F^2} = \sqrt{(1 + 4u^2)(1 + 4v^2) - 16u^2v^2} \\ &= \sqrt{1 + 4u^2 + 4v^2} \end{aligned}$$

Ex.3. Show that for the surface of revolution

$$x = u \cos v, \quad y = u \sin v, \quad z = f(u),$$

the parametric curves form an orthogonal system and

$$ds^2 = (1 + f'^2) du^2 + u^2 dv^2,$$

where dash denotes differentiation with respect to u .

Solution. The given surface is

$$\vec{r} = [u \cos v, u \sin v, f(u)].$$

$$\vec{r}_1 = [\cos v, \sin v, f'(u)], \quad \vec{r}_2 = [-u \sin v, u \cos v, 0]$$

$$E = \vec{r}_1^2 = \cos^2 v + \sin^2 v + f'^2 = 1 + f'^2$$

$$F = \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2 = -u \cos v \sin v + u \sin v \cos v + 0 = 0$$

$$G = \vec{r}_2^2 = u^2 \sin^2 v + u^2 \cos^2 v + 0 = u^2$$

Since $F = 0$, therefore the parametric curves are orthogonal. Again,

$$ds^2 = E du^2 + 2F du dv + G dv^2 = (1 + f'^2) du^2 + u^2 dv^2.$$

Ex.4. Calculate E, F, G, H and the area corresponding to the domain $0 \leq u \leq 2\pi$, $0 \leq v \leq 2\pi$ for the anchor ring

$$x = (b + a \cos u) \cos v, \quad y = (b + a \cos u) \sin v, \quad z = a \sin u.$$

The given surface is

$$\vec{r} = [(b + a \cos u) \cos v, (b + a \cos u) \sin v, a \sin u].$$

We have

$$\vec{r}_1 = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} = (-a \sin u \cos v, -a \sin u \sin v, a \cos u),$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} = (-(b + a \cos u) \sin v, (b + a \cos u) \cos v, 0).$$

Therefore,

$$E = \vec{r}_1^2 = a^2 \sin^2 u \cos^2 v + a^2 \sin^2 u \sin^2 v + a^2 \cos^2 u = a^2,$$

$$F = \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2 = a(b + a \cos u) \sin u \cos v \sin v - a(b + a \cos u) \sin u \sin v \cos v + 0 = 0,$$

$$G = \vec{r}_2^2 = (b + a \cos u)^2 \sin^2 v + (b + a \cos u)^2 \cos^2 v = (b + a \cos u)^2.$$

Now,

$$H = \sqrt{EG - F^2} = \sqrt{a^2(b + a \cos u)^2} = a(b + a \cos u).$$

Elementary area at the point (u, v) is

$$H \, du \, dv.$$

$$\therefore \text{Required area} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} H \, du \, dv = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} a(b + a \cos u) \, du \, dv$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^{2\pi} 2\pi a(b + a \cos u) du = 2\pi a \int_0^{2\pi} (b + a \cos u) du \\ &= 2\pi a [bu + a \sin u]_0^{2\pi} = 2\pi a(2\pi b) = 4\pi^2 ab. \end{aligned}$$

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