

Math 4441

October 5, 2022

LAST TIME

We defined $T_p M$ as the set of velocity vectors of surface curves through p . This gave $T_p M$ a natural vector space structure. Finally, we gave $T_p M$ an inner product structure.

TODAY

Our primary goal will be to become more familiar with the first fundamental form / metric tensor.

"Differential geometry is just
parametrized linear algebra."

—Deane Yang

$$\begin{aligned} I_p : T_p M \times T_p M &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\ (\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) &\longmapsto \langle \vec{X}, \vec{Y} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^3} \end{aligned}$$

Our first goal is based in linear algebra:
how should we package bilinear forms?

Take $\vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in T_p M$. Since $\{\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2\}$ is
a basis for $T_p M$,

$$\vec{X} = X^1 \vec{x}_1 + X^2 \vec{x}_2 \quad ; \quad \vec{Y} = Y^1 \vec{x}_1 + Y^2 \vec{x}_2$$

We want a matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ so that

$$I_p(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) = \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ X^2 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y^1 \\ Y^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

for any choice of $\vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in T_p M$.

Q How should we choose $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ to
get $I_p(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) = \begin{pmatrix} x^1 \\ x^2 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y^1 \\ y^2 \end{pmatrix}$,
for any $\vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in T_p M$? (5 minutes)

$$I_p(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix} = a$$

$$I_p(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} b \\ d \end{pmatrix} = b$$

Def. The matrix of metric coefficients for \vec{X} is given by

$$(g_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

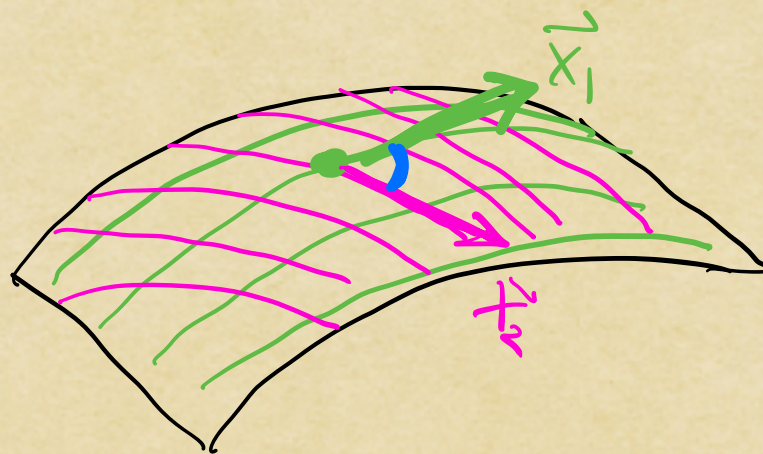
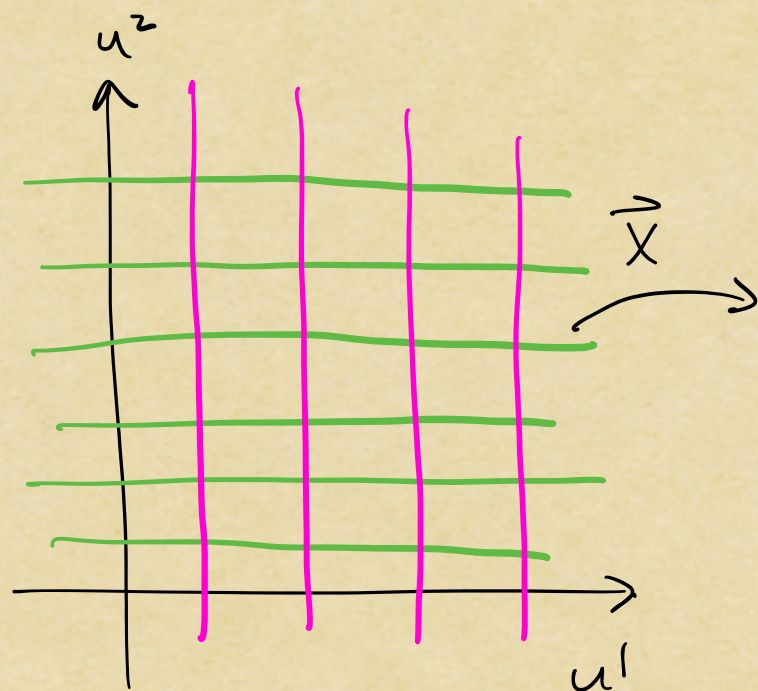
where $g_{ij}: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$g_{ij}(u^1, u^2) := I_{\vec{X}(u^1, u^2)}(\vec{X}_i(u^1, u^2), \vec{X}_j(u^1, u^2)).$$

Notice that $g_{21} = g_{12}$.

Many sources use the notation

$$E = g_{11}, \quad F = g_{12}, \quad G = g_{22}.$$



We can now derive an important equation:

$$I(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 X^i Y^j g_{ij}$$

This follows from the matrix version:

$$\begin{aligned} I(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) &= \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ X^2 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y^1 \\ Y^2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ X^2 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} Y^1 g_{11} + Y^2 g_{12} \\ Y^1 g_{21} + Y^2 g_{22} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= X^1 Y^1 g_{11} + X^1 Y^2 g_{12} + X^2 Y^1 g_{21} + X^2 Y^2 g_{22} \end{aligned}$$

Now that we've repackaged the first fundamental form as a matrix, let's use it.

Def. Pick $p \in \vec{X}(U)$ and

$$\vec{X} = \sum_i x^i \vec{x}_i, \vec{Y} = \sum_j y^j \vec{x}_j \in T_p \vec{X}(U).$$

The magnitude of \vec{X} is

$$|\vec{X}| := \sqrt{I_p(\vec{X}, \vec{X})} = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^2 x^i x^j g_{ij}}$$

The angle between \vec{X} and \vec{Y} is

$$\angle(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) := \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{I_p(\vec{X}, \vec{Y})}{|\vec{X}| \cdot |\vec{Y}|} \right) \in [0, \pi].$$

Once we know how to compute lengths of vectors, it's natural to try computing arclengths of surface curves.

Given a surface curve $\vec{\alpha} = \vec{x} \circ \vec{\alpha}_u$, we can compute $L(\vec{\alpha})$ in terms of (g_{ij}) and $\vec{\alpha}_u$:

$$L(\vec{\alpha}) = \int_a^b \|\vec{\alpha}'(t)\| dt = \int_a^b \sqrt{I_{\vec{\alpha}(t)}(\vec{\alpha}'(t), \vec{\alpha}'(t))} dt$$

If we write $\vec{\alpha}_u(t) = (\alpha_u^1(t), \alpha_u^2(t))$, then

$$\vec{\alpha}'(t) = d\vec{x}_{\vec{\alpha}_u(t)} \circ \frac{d}{dt} \vec{\alpha}_u(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \alpha_u^1(t) \cdot \vec{x}_1 + \frac{d}{dt} \alpha_u^2(t) \cdot \vec{x}_2$$

Cont'd

$$\vec{\alpha}' = \frac{d\alpha_u^1}{dt} \vec{x}_1 + \frac{d\alpha_u^2}{dt} \vec{x}_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(\vec{\alpha}) &= \int_a^b \sqrt{I_{\vec{\alpha}(t)}(\vec{\alpha}'(t), \vec{\alpha}'(t))} dt \\ &= \int_a^b \sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^2 \frac{d\alpha_u^i}{dt} \cdot \frac{d\alpha_u^j}{dt} g_{ij}} dt \quad (\star) \end{aligned}$$

Notice that (\star) references two-dimensional data^{*} only. This supports the theme of $\text{im}(\vec{x})$ being a 2D object in \mathbb{R}^3 .

* $\vec{\alpha}_u$ and (g_{ij})

We'll finish today with some more notation.

The relevance of this notation is intended to be made clearer soon.

Let \vec{X} be a simple surface with metric coefficients (g_{ij}) .

Def. The determinant of the matrix of metric coefficients is $g := \det(g_{ij})$.

Other notation: $(g^{kl}) := (g_{ij})^{-1}$

Lemma. Let \vec{X} be a simple surface with metric coefficients (g_{ij}) .

① $g = \|\vec{X}_1 \times \vec{X}_2\|^2$, so \sqrt{g} gives a scale factor for areas;

②
$$\begin{pmatrix} g^{11} & g^{12} \\ g^{21} & g^{22} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{g} \begin{pmatrix} g_{22} & -g_{12} \\ -g_{21} & g_{11} \end{pmatrix};$$

③
$$\sum_{k=1}^2 g_{ik} g^{kj} = \delta_i^j = \begin{cases} 0, & i \neq j \\ 1, & i = j \end{cases}, \text{ for any } i, j.$$

(Proof.) ① Activity 6. ② Linear alg. formula.

③ Rewrite ②. ← Do it!



Next time: How does the first
fundamental form* change under
coordinate transformation?

*really the matrix of metric
coefficients