

A (lengthy) example. ①

We now have defined a lot of stuff! Let's compute it in a particular (gory) example.

Suppose $X(u,v) = (u, v, uv)$. This is the graph of $f(u,v) = uv$, which is a saddle surface.

$$X_u = (1, 0, v)$$

$$X_{uu} = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$X_v = (0, 1, u)$$

$$X_{uv} = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$X_{vu} = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$\vec{n} = \frac{X_u \times X_v}{|X_u \times X_v|} = \frac{(-v, -u, 1)}{\sqrt{1+u^2+v^2}}$$

$$X_{vv} = (0, 0, 0)$$

So

$$E = \langle X_u, X_u \rangle = 1 + v^2$$

$$l = \langle \vec{n}, X_{uu} \rangle = 0$$

$$F = \langle X_u, X_v \rangle = uv$$

$$m = \langle \vec{n}, X_{uv} \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u^2+v^2}}$$

$$G = \langle X_v, X_v \rangle = 1 + u^2$$

$$n = \langle \vec{n}, X_{vv} \rangle = 0$$

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so

$$I_P = \begin{bmatrix} 1+v^2 & uv \\ uv & 1+u^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad II_P = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u^2+v^2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S_P &= I_P^{-1} II_P = \frac{1}{(1+v^2)(1+u^2) - u^2v^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1+u^2 & -uv \\ -uv & 1+v^2 \end{bmatrix} II_P \\ &= \frac{1}{1+u^2+v^2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u^2+v^2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1+u^2 & -uv \\ -uv & 1+v^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \begin{bmatrix} -uv & 1+u^2 \\ 1+v^2 & -uv \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

We now pause to think: how do we calculate the eigenvectors and eigenvalues of $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ again?

Given $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, we know that the eigenvalues are the roots of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a-\lambda & b \\ c & d-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (a-\lambda)(d-\lambda) - bc$$

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$$= \lambda^2 - (a+d)\lambda + (ad-bc)$$

$$= \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A),$$

so the solutions are

$$\lambda = \frac{\text{tr}(A) \pm \sqrt{\text{tr}(A)^2 - 4\det(A)}}{2}$$

Now notice that we can already compute

$$K = \det S_p = \frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} (u^2v^2 - (1+u^2)(1+v^2))$$

$$= \frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} (-1 - u^2 - v^2)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u^2+v^2}}^2$$

and

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$$H = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} S_p = - \frac{uv}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}}$$

from the matrix. But plugging and chugging, we get principal curvatures

$$K_{1,2} = H \pm \sqrt{H^2 - K}$$

$$= \frac{-uv}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \pm \sqrt{\frac{(-uv)^2}{(1+u^2+v^2)^3} - \frac{-1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{-uv}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \pm \sqrt{\frac{u^2v^2 + (1+u^2+v^2)}{(1+u^2+v^2)^3}}$$

$$= \frac{-uv \pm \sqrt{(1+u^2)(1+v^2)}}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}}$$

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Pause again: how do we get the eigenvectors? Recall that the Cayley-Hamilton theorem says that

$$(A - \lambda_1 I)(A - \lambda_2 I) = 0,$$

so both columns of $A - \lambda_2 I$ are in the null space of $A - \lambda_1 I$ (and vice versa).

Thus computing a column of $A - \lambda_1 I$ gives you a multiple of v_2 (and vice versa).

$$S_p - \lambda_1 I = \frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -uv & 1+u^2 \\ 1+v^2 & -uv \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -uv + \sqrt{(1+u^2)(1+v^2)} & 1+u^2 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{(1+u^2)(1+v^2)} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \begin{bmatrix} * - \sqrt{(1+u^2)(1+v^2)} & 1+u^2 \\ 1+v^2 & -\sqrt{(1+u^2)(1+v^2)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Now either column will do, so pick

$$\frac{1}{(1+u^2+v^2)^{3/2}} \begin{bmatrix} -\sqrt{1+u^2} \sqrt{1+v^2} \\ \sqrt{1+u^2} \sqrt{1+v^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Since only the ratio ^{of entries} matters, we can cancel a common $\sqrt{1+v^2}$ and ~~get~~ the scalar v to get $\sqrt{1+u^2} x_u - \sqrt{1+v^2} x_v = v_2$
and multiply by -1

Similarly, we get

$$v_1 = \sqrt{1+u^2} x_u + \sqrt{1+v^2} x_v$$

Now we know that ~~this~~ ^{every} surface has lines of curvature with tangent vectors in the v_1, v_2 directions

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In the u - v plane, the differential equation corresponding to this is

$$\frac{dv}{du} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{1+v^2}}{\sqrt{1+u^2}}$$

Separating variables, that's

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+v^2}} dv = \pm \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u^2}} du$$

We've seen this integral before:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \operatorname{arcsinh} x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$$

So the solution is

$$\operatorname{arcsinh} v = \pm \operatorname{arcsinh} u + C$$

or

$$v = \sinh(\pm \operatorname{arcsinh} u + C).$$

Now the addition formula for $\sinh x$

is

$$\sinh(a+b) = \sinh a \cosh b + \cosh a \sinh b.$$

plus!

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so we have

$$v = \pm (\cosh c) u + (\sinh c) \cosh(\operatorname{arcsinh} u).$$

We can handle this by recalling

$$\cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1,$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \cosh^2(\operatorname{arcsinh} u) &= \sqrt{1 + \sinh^2(\operatorname{arcsinh} u)} \\ &= \sqrt{1 + u^2} \end{aligned}$$

and finally,

$$v = \pm (\cosh c) u + (\sinh c) \sqrt{1 + u^2}$$

When $c=0$, we get $v = \pm u$. For other c , we get hyperbolae.

claim we

Pause yet again: How do we recognize an (arbitrary) hyperbola?

Given a general quadratic

$$Ax^2 + 2Bxy + Cy^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

we look at the first part - now revealed as a quadratic form

$$\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

If $\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{bmatrix}$ has

- eigenvalues of the same sign.
form is definite (positive or negative)
quadratic is an ellipse
we call the ~~form~~ operator elliptic
- one zero eigenvalue
form is semidefinite
quadratic is a parabola
we call the ~~form~~ operator parabolic

so

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$$v \mp (\cosh c) u = \sinh c \sqrt{1+u^2}$$

and (squaring both sides)

$$v^2 \mp 2(\cosh c) uv + (\cosh^2 c) u^2 = \sinh^2 c + (\sinh^2 c) u^2$$

Using $\cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1$ again,

$$v^2 \mp 2(\cosh c) uv + u^2 - \sinh^2 c = 0$$

and the matrix of quadratic coeffs has determinant

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mp \cosh c \\ \mp \cosh c & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 1 - \cosh^2 c = -\sinh^2 c \leq 0.$$

But $\sinh c = 0 \iff c = 0$, so this is a hyperbola (or the lines $v = \pm u$).

Done!