

Assignment 4, Due 11:59 pm, Thursday Nov 5, 2020

- (1) Show that the helicoid:

$$\mathbf{X}(u, v) = (a \sinh v \cos u, a \sinh v \sin u, au),$$

and the Enneper's surface

$$\mathbf{X}(u, v) = \left(u - \frac{u^3}{3} + uv^2, v - \frac{v^3}{3} + vu^2, u^2 - v^2 \right).$$

are minimal surfaces.

- (2) A surface of revolution M parametrized by $\mathbf{X}(u, v) = (u, h(u) \cos v, h(u) \sin v)$ has nonzero constant mean curvature if and only if the function $h(u)$ satisfies

$$h^2 \pm \frac{2ah}{\sqrt{1 + (h')^2}} = b.$$

where $a > 0$ and b are constants.

(Hint: Suppose $H = -1/(2a)$ with $a > 0$. Show that

$$\frac{d}{du} \left(h^2 + \frac{2ah}{\sqrt{1 + (h')^2}} \right) = 0.)$$

- (3) Prove that if \mathbf{X} is an orthogonal parametrization, i.e. $F = 0$, then the Gaussian curvature is given by:

$$K = -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{EG}} \left[\left(\frac{E_v}{\sqrt{EG}} \right)_v + \left(\frac{G_u}{\sqrt{EG}} \right)_u \right].$$

Suppose in addition $E = G$ everywhere, then

$$K = -e^{-2f} \Delta f$$

where f is such that $E = e^{2f}$ (i.e. $f = \frac{1}{2} \log E$), and Δ is the Laplacian operator:

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2}.$$

- (4) Verify that the surfaces:

$$\mathbf{X}(u, v) = (u \cos v, u \sin v, \log u)$$

and

$$\mathbf{Y}(u, v) = (u \cos v, u \sin v, v)$$

have equal Gaussian curvature at that points $\mathbf{X}(u, v)$, $\mathbf{Y}(u, v)$ but the coefficients of the first fundamental forms at points $\mathbf{X}(u, v)$, $\mathbf{Y}(u, v)$ are not the same.

- (5) Suppose a regular surface M is parametrized by u^1, u^2 so that the first fundamental form is given by

$$g_{11} = g_{22} = \frac{4}{1 - \sum_{i=1}^2 (u^i)^2}, \quad g_{12} = 0.$$

Find the Gaussian curvature of the surface. Here we assume that $(u^1)^2 + (u^2)^2 < 1$.

(Remark: Compare the coefficients of the first fundamental form of the sphere in stereographic projection in Problem 5, assignment 2.)