

**MATH 4030 Differential Geometry**  
**Tutorial 4, 4 October 2017**

Verify that the following subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are surfaces.

1.  $S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$  (sphere)

Method 1. (covering  $S$  by 6 graphs)

Let  $U_{yz} = \{(y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid y^2 + z^2 < 1\}$ , and define  $U_{xz}$  and  $U_{xy}$  similarly. Let  $V_{yz}^\pm = S \cap \{\pm x > 0\}$ , and define  $V_{xz}^\pm$  and  $V_{xy}^\pm$  similarly. Then

- The six open subsets (of  $S$ )  $V_{yz}^-, V_{yz}^+, V_{xz}^-, V_{xz}^+, V_{xy}^-, V_{xy}^+$  cover the whole  $S$ .
- Each of these sets is the graph of some smooth function defined on one of the  $U$ 's. For example,  $V_{yz}^+$  is the graph of the function  $f_{yz}^+ : U_{yz} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : (y, z) \mapsto \sqrt{1 - y^2 - z^2}$ .

Method 2. (using implicit function theorem)

Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : (x, y, z) \mapsto x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$ . Then  $F$  is smooth and  $S = F^{-1}(0)$ . It suffices to show that 0 is a regular value of  $F$ . Let  $p = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a point in  $F^{-1}(0)$ . Then  $dF(p)$  is given by the matrix  $[2x_0 \ 2y_0 \ 2z_0]$ . If  $dF(p) = \mathbf{0}$ , then  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0 = 0$ , and hence  $F(p) = -1$ , a contradiction. It follows that every point in  $F^{-1}(0)$  is not a critical point. In other words, 0 is a regular value of  $F$ .

Method 3. (covering  $S$  by 2 charts- stereographical projections)

We cover  $S$  by the two open subsets  $V_1 = S - \{(0, 0, 1)\}$  and  $V_2 = S - \{(0, 0, -1)\}$ , and show that each of them has a parametrization, which is done as follows: for  $V_1$ , consider the map

$$X : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow V_1 : (u, v) \mapsto \left( \frac{2u}{u^2 + v^2 + 1}, \frac{2v}{u^2 + v^2 + 1}, \frac{u^2 + v^2 - 1}{u^2 + v^2 + 1} \right).$$

Geometrically,  $X$  maps every point  $p$  in the  $xy$ -plane to the unique point  $X(p)$  in  $V_1$  such that  $p, X(p)$  and the north pole  $(0, 0, 1)$  are collinear.  $X$  is a homeomorphism with inverse

$$X^{-1} : V_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 : (x, y, z) \mapsto \left( \frac{x}{1 - z}, \frac{y}{1 - z} \right).$$

It suffices to check that  $dX$  is one-to-one at every point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We have

$$dX(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2(-u^2 + v^2 + 1)}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} & \frac{-4uv}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} \\ \frac{-4uv}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} & \frac{2(u^2 - v^2 + 1)}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} \\ \frac{4u}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} & \frac{4v}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^2} \end{bmatrix},$$

which has full rank because the  $2 \times 2$  minors of this matrix (which determine  $X_u \times X_v$ ) are  $\frac{-8u}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^3}, \frac{-8v}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^3}$  and  $\frac{4[1 - (u^2 + v^2)^2]}{(u^2 + v^2 + 1)^4}$  respectively, and they cannot be zero simultaneously.

For  $V_2$ , we consider the map

$$Y : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow V_2 : (u, v) \mapsto \left( \frac{2u}{u^2 + v^2 + 1}, \frac{2v}{u^2 + v^2 + 1}, \frac{-u^2 - v^2 + 1}{u^2 + v^2 + 1} \right)$$

and proceed in the similar way as above.

#### Method 4. (spherical coordinates)

Let  $X : (0, \pi) \times (0, 2\pi) \rightarrow S : (\theta, \phi) \mapsto (\sin \theta \cos \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \theta)$ . Then  $X$  is smooth, and its differential

$$dX(\theta, \phi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \cos \phi & -\sin \theta \sin \phi \\ \cos \theta \sin \phi & \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ -\sin \theta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$|X_\theta \times X_\phi| = \sin \theta \neq 0$$

(I am sure you will have to compute this later by yourself, so I skip the details). Since  $|X_\theta \times X_\phi|$  is always non-zero, it follows that  $dX(\theta, \phi)$  is one-to-one at every point  $(\theta, \phi) \in (0, \pi) \times (0, 2\pi)$ . The image of  $X$  is  $S - \{y = 0, x \geq 0\}$  which is an open subset of  $S$ . Furthermore,  $X$  is a homeomorphism (in fact, its inverse can be expressed in terms of the Log function (with branch  $0 < \text{Arg} < 2\pi$ ) and the inverse of the cosine function defined on  $(0, \pi)$ ). It follows that  $X$  is a parametrization of  $S - \{y = 0, x \geq 0\}$ . Since  $S = S - \{y = 0, x \geq 0\} \cup S - \{z = 0, x \leq 0\}$  and the latter open subset has a parametrization of the similar form, we conclude that  $S$  is covered by two charts, and hence it is a surface.

2.  $T = \{((R + r \cos \theta) \cos \phi, (R + r \cos \theta) \sin \phi, r \sin \theta) \mid \theta, \phi \in \mathbb{R}, R > r > 0\}$  (torus)

#### Method 1. (covering $T$ by a few charts defined using a periodic function in two variables)

Let  $X : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow T : (\theta, \phi) \mapsto ((R + r \cos \theta) \cos \phi, (R + r \cos \theta) \sin \phi, r \sin \theta)$ . Then  $X$  is smooth and has the property that  $X(\theta + 2m\pi, \phi + 2n\pi) = X(\theta, \phi)$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Its differential

$$dX(\theta, \phi) = \begin{bmatrix} -r \sin \theta \cos \phi & -(R + r \cos \theta) \sin \phi \\ -r \sin \theta \sin \phi & (R + r \cos \theta) \cos \phi \\ r \cos \theta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$|X_\theta \times X_\phi| = r(R + r \cos \theta) \neq 0.$$

Since  $|X_\theta \times X_\phi|$  is always non-zero, it follows that  $dX(\theta, \phi)$  is one-to-one at every point  $(\theta, \phi) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . It can also be checked that  $X$  is an open map, i.e. it maps open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to open subsets of  $T$ . While  $X$  fails to be a homeomorphism onto its image, its restriction to some open sets  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  is, whenever  $U$  is contained in a translate of the open square  $(0, 2\pi) \times (0, 2\pi)$  (exercise). In other words, the restriction of  $X$  to any open set of this type is a chart for  $T$ . The result thus follows by covering the square  $[0, 2\pi) \times [0, 2\pi)$  (whose image under  $X$  is the whole  $T$ , but which is not open) using open sets of this type. (For example, take the covering to be  $\{(0, 2\pi) \times (0, 2\pi), (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (0, 2\pi), (0, 2\pi) \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon), (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)\}$  for small  $\varepsilon > 0$ .)

Method 2. (using implicit function theorem)

Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^3 - \{(0, 0, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{R}\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : (x, y, z) \mapsto (\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - R)^2 + z^2 - r^2$ . Then  $F$  is smooth and  $T = F^{-1}(0)$ . It suffices to show that 0 is a regular value of  $F$ . Let  $p = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a point in  $F^{-1}(0)$ . Then  $dF(p)$  is given by the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2x_0 - \frac{2Rx_0}{\sqrt{x_0^2 + y_0^2}}, & 2y_0 - \frac{2Ry_0}{\sqrt{x_0^2 + y_0^2}}, & 2z_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $dF(p) = \mathbf{0}$ , then  $1 - \frac{R}{\sqrt{x_0^2 + y_0^2}} = z_0 = 0$ , and hence  $F(p) = -r^2$ , a contradiction.

It follows that every point in  $F^{-1}(0)$  is not a critical point. In other words, 0 is a regular value of  $F$ .