

1 Surface 2

Problem 1.1. *A surface is either a sphere or plane $\Leftrightarrow H^2 = K$.*

Solution. Note that $K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$ and $H = (\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)/2$. So $H^2 = K \Leftrightarrow \kappa_1 = \kappa_2$.

• \Rightarrow

Let's calculate the curvatures for spheres and planes. $\gamma = -d\vec{r} \cdot d\vec{n}$.

- For planes we have $d\vec{n} = 0$. So everything is identically 0.
- For the unit sphere $r = (\cos u \cos v, \sin u \cos v, \sin v)$. And

$$\vec{r}_u = (-\sin u \cos v, \cos u \cos v, 0), \vec{r}_v = (-\cos u \sin v, -\sin u \sin v, \cos v)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{n} &= \vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v / |\vec{r}_u| |\vec{r}_v| \\ &= (\cos u \cos^2 v, \sin u \cos^2 v, \sin^2 u \cos v \sin v + \sin v \sin u \cos v \cos u) / \cos v \\ &= (\cos u \cos v, \sin u \cos v, \sin v) \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

We have that $\vec{r} = \vec{n}$. So

$$\begin{aligned} d\vec{r} &= (-\sin u \cos v, \cos u \cos v, 0)du + (-\cos u \sin v, -\sin u \sin v, \cos v)dv \\ &= d\vec{n} \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

And

$$II = -d\vec{r} \cdot d\vec{n} = -\cos^2 v du^2 - \sin^2 v dv^2 \quad (3)$$

$$I = d\vec{r} \cdot d\vec{r} = -II = \cos^2 v du^2 + \sin^2 v dv^2 \quad (4)$$

So that the two principle curvatures are all 1.

• \Leftarrow

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Problem 1.2. *The helicoid $\vec{r} = (u \cos v, u \sin v, bv)$ is a minimal surface. And that besides planes, all ruled minimal surfaces must be helicoids.*

Solution. Let's recall the definition of minimal surfaces:

Let's calculate their principle curvature.

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Problem 1.3. *If the ?? surface $\vec{r} = (u \cos v, u \sin v, \phi(v))$ is a minimal surface, then it must be the helicoid.*

Solution. Let's calculate their principle curvatures.



Problem 1.4. *A surface is a minimal surface \Leftrightarrow there exist two families of orthogonal asymptotes.*

Solution.

