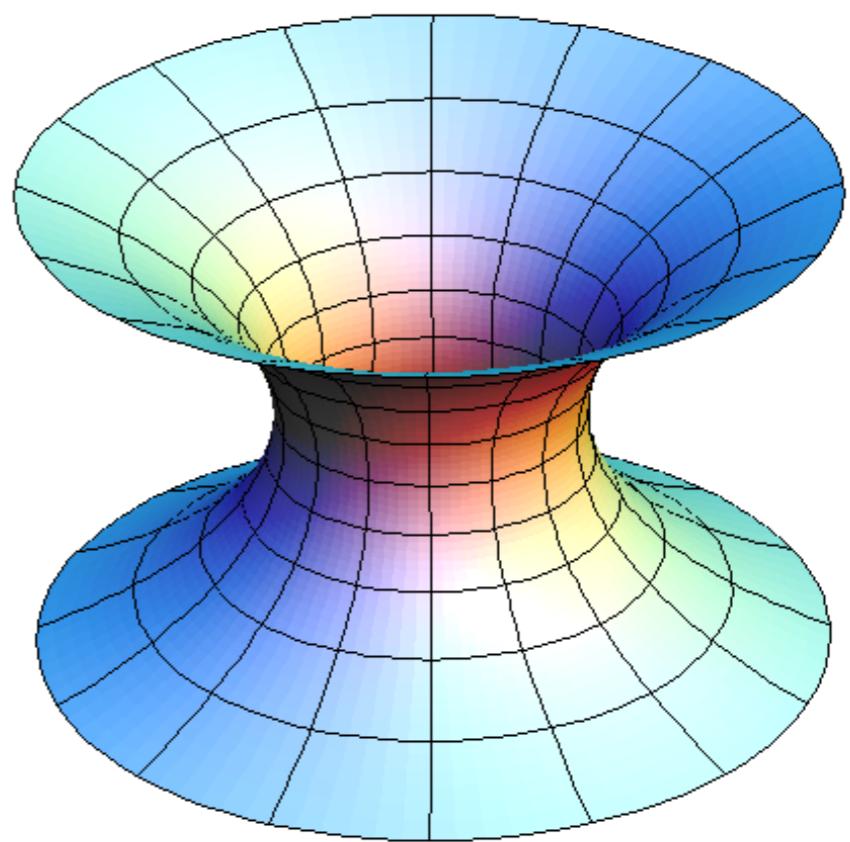
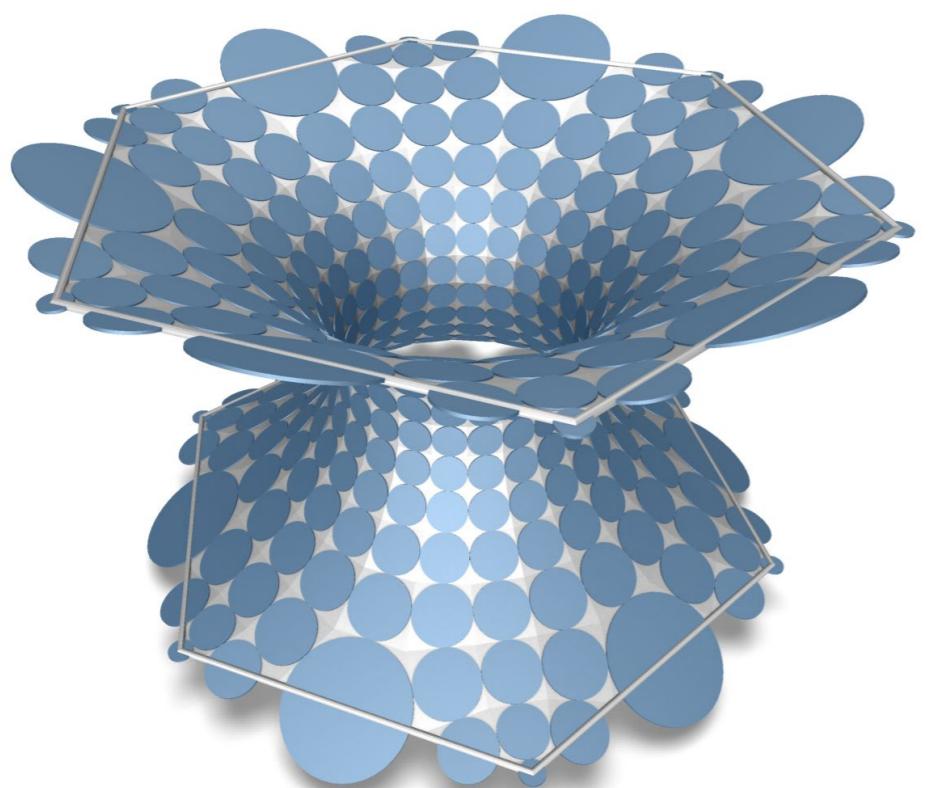


(Discrete) Differential Geometry



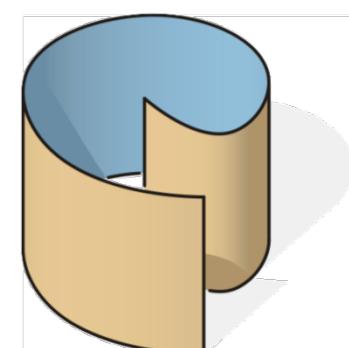
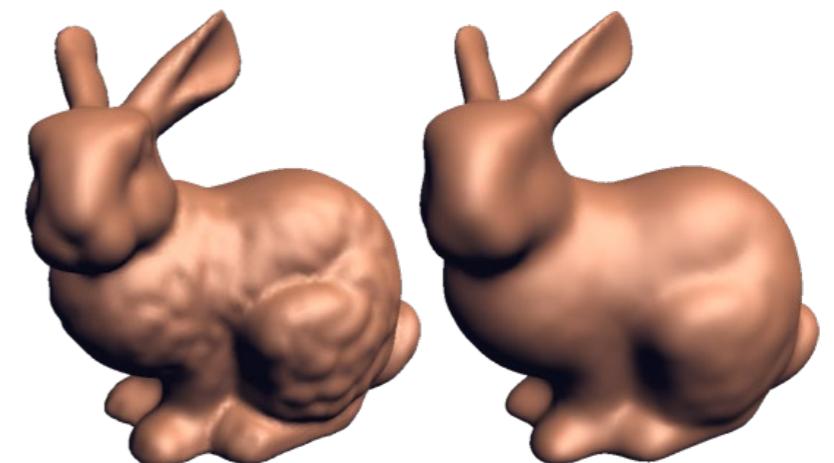
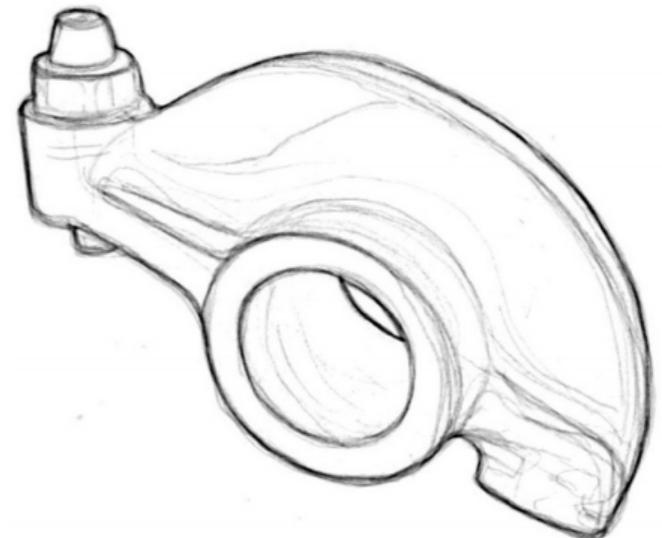
A Motivating Problem

Non Photorealistic Rendering



Motivation

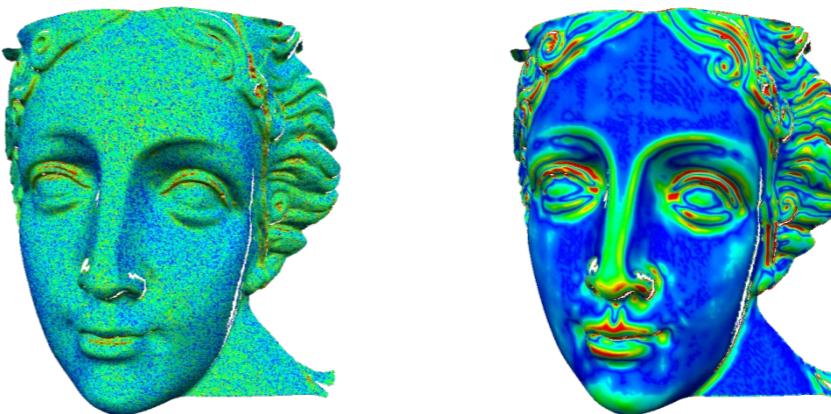
- Understand the structure of the surface
 - Properties: smoothness, “curviness”, important directions
- How to modify the surface to change these properties
- What properties are preserved for different modifications
- The math behind the scenes for many geometry processing applications



More Applications

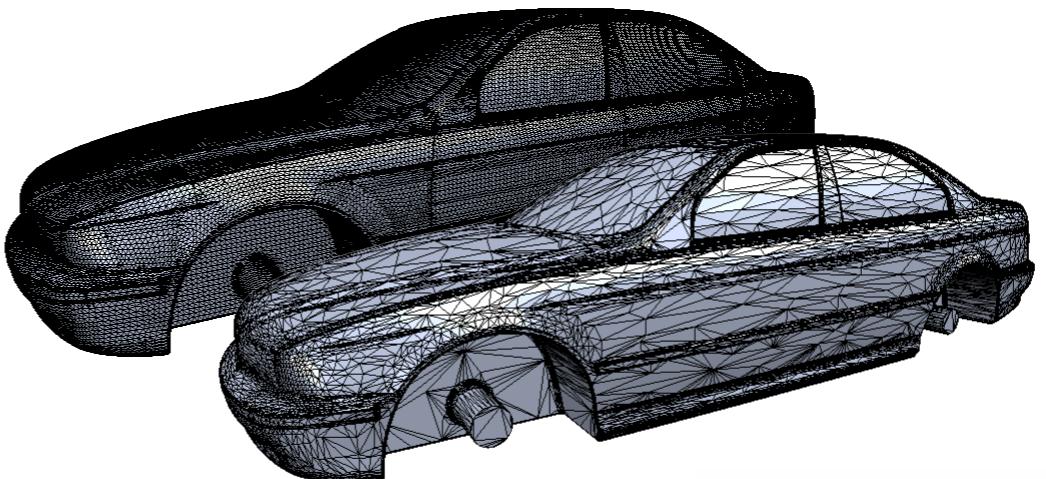
- Smoothness

→ Mesh smoothing



- Curvature

→ Adaptive simplification

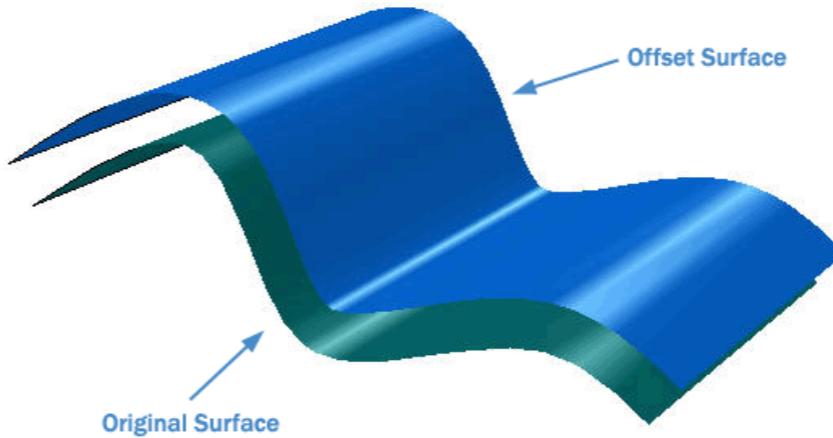


→ Physically-based simulation



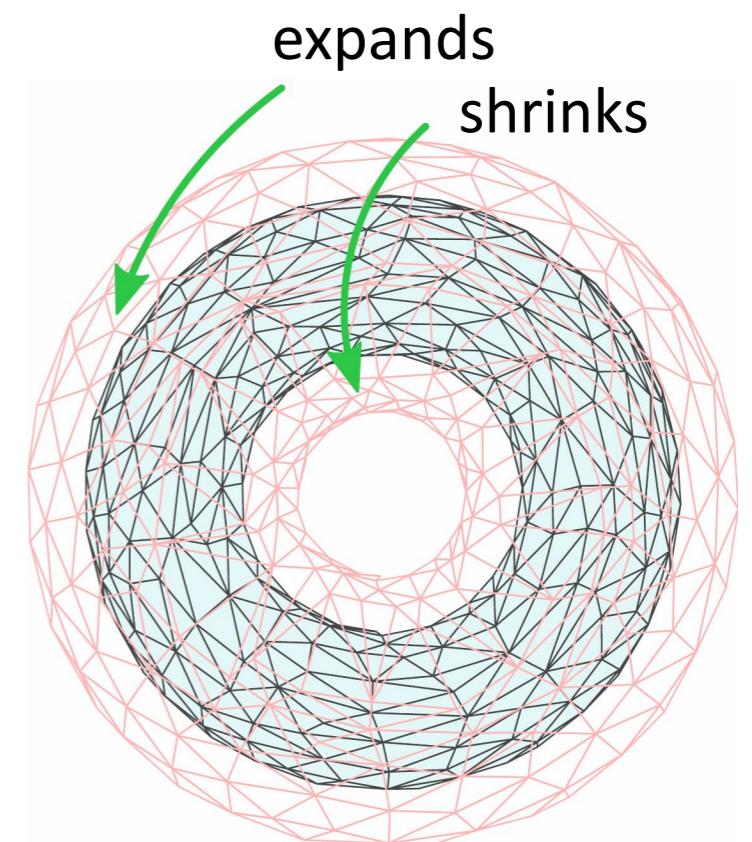
Curvature?

- A plane is flat, so curvature 0



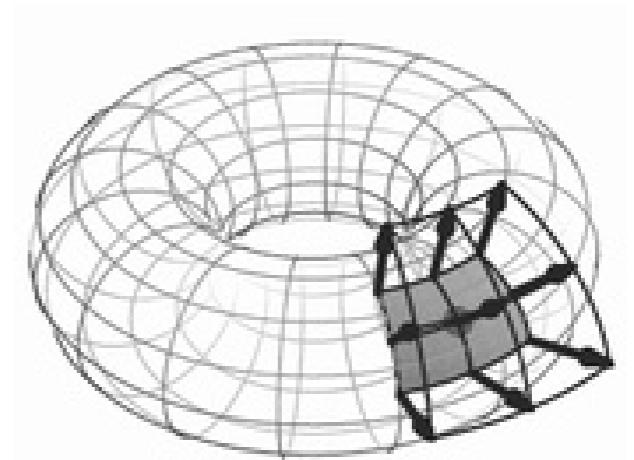
- *Offset* surface

- Some areas expand, other shrink
 - Why?

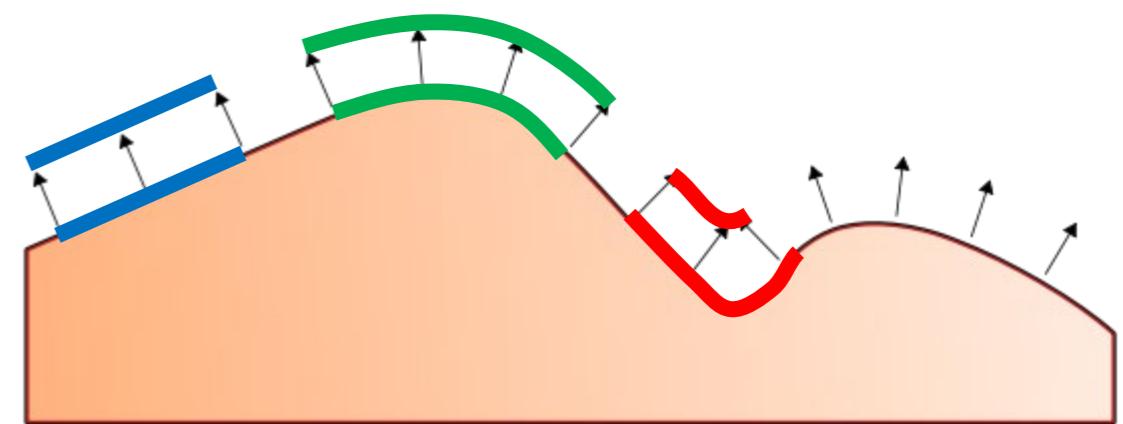


A Closer Look

- *Normal* directions define offset surface
 - The “other” direction that’s pointing off the surface



- The way they **change** determines shrinkage/expansion

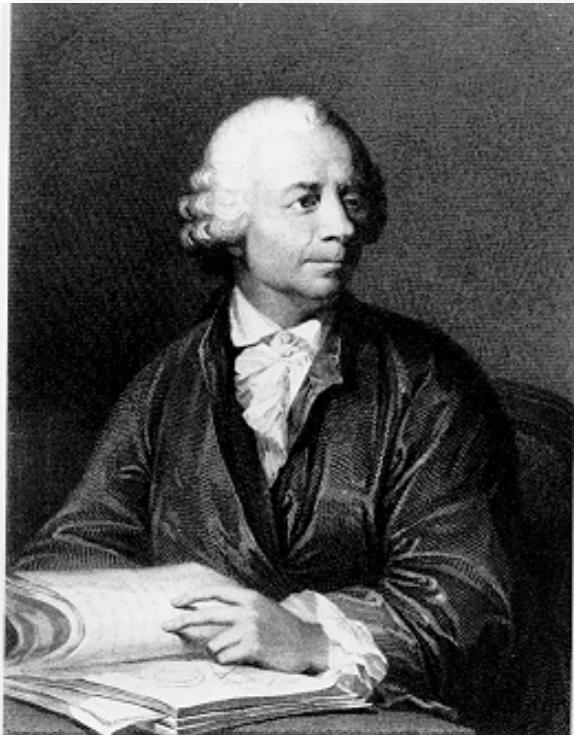


Surfaces?



Differential Geometry

- M.P. do Carmo: *Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces*, Prentice Hall, 1976



Leonard Euler (1707 - 1783)



Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777 - 1855)

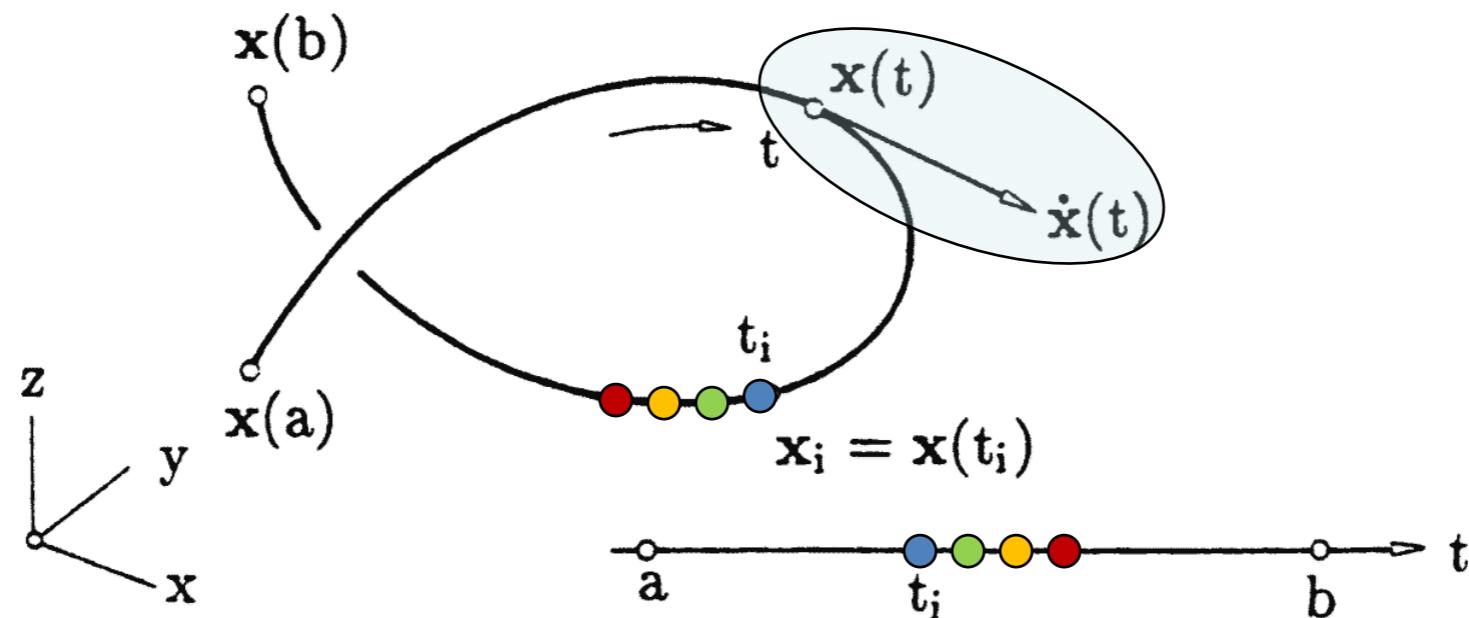
$$\dot{x} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial t}$$

Parametric Curves

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) \\ \dot{z}(t) \end{bmatrix} \neq \mathbf{0}$$

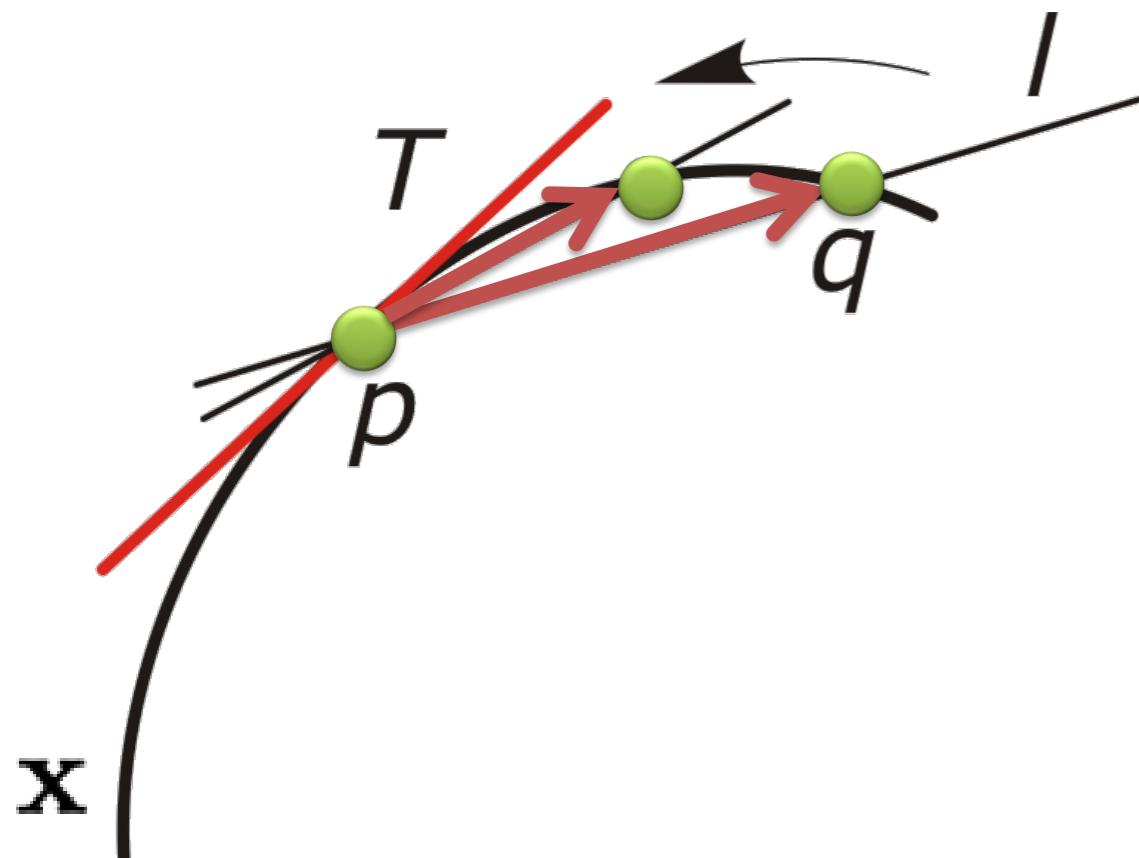
$$t \in [a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$$



The Tangent Vector

As a limit

$$p = \mathbf{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$$



$$q = \mathbf{x}(t + h)$$

Connecting line l is in the direction
 $\mathbf{x}(t + h) - \mathbf{x}(t)$

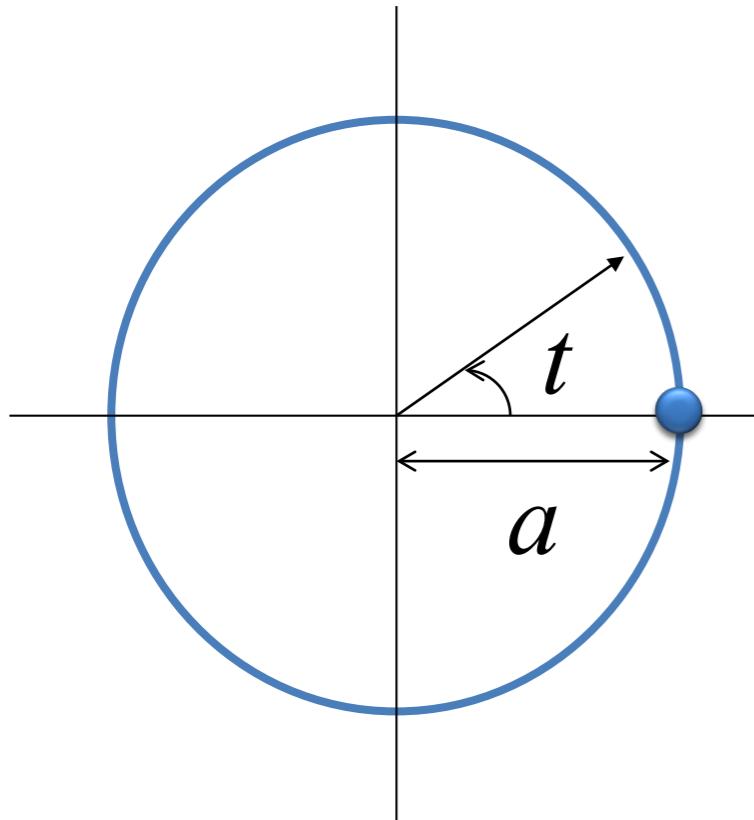
Limit of the direction vector

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{x}(t+h) - \mathbf{x}(t)}{h} =$$

$$T = \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = (\dot{x}(t), \dot{y}(t), \dot{z}(t))$$

Parametric Curves

A Simple Example



$$\alpha_1(t) = (a \cos(t), a \sin(t))$$

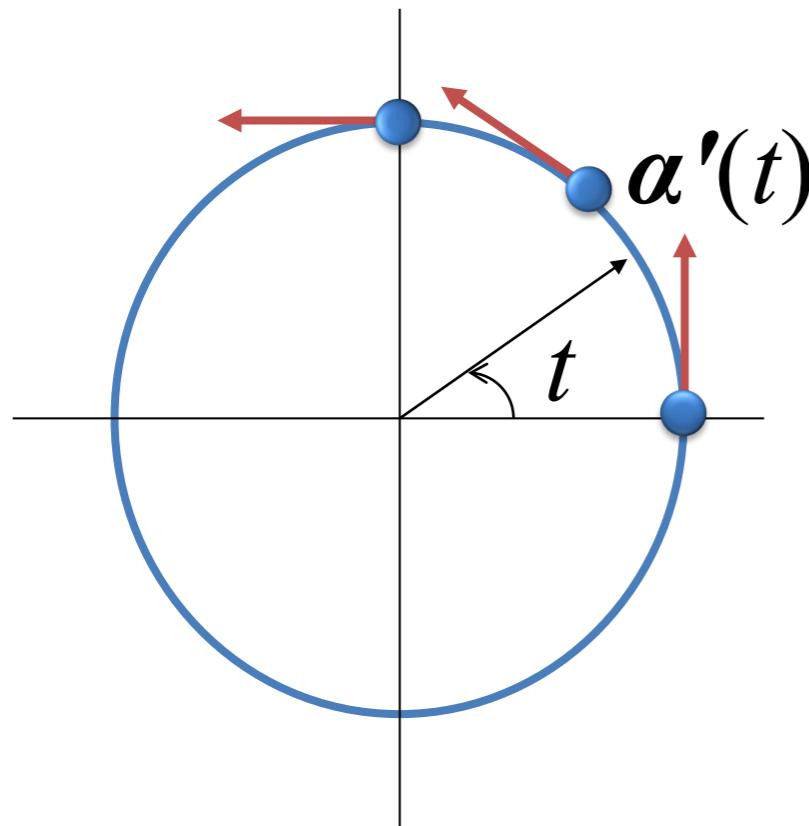
$$t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$\alpha_2(t) = (a \cos(2t), a \sin(2t))$$

$$t \in [0, \pi]$$

Parametric Curves

A Simple Example



$$\alpha(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t))$$

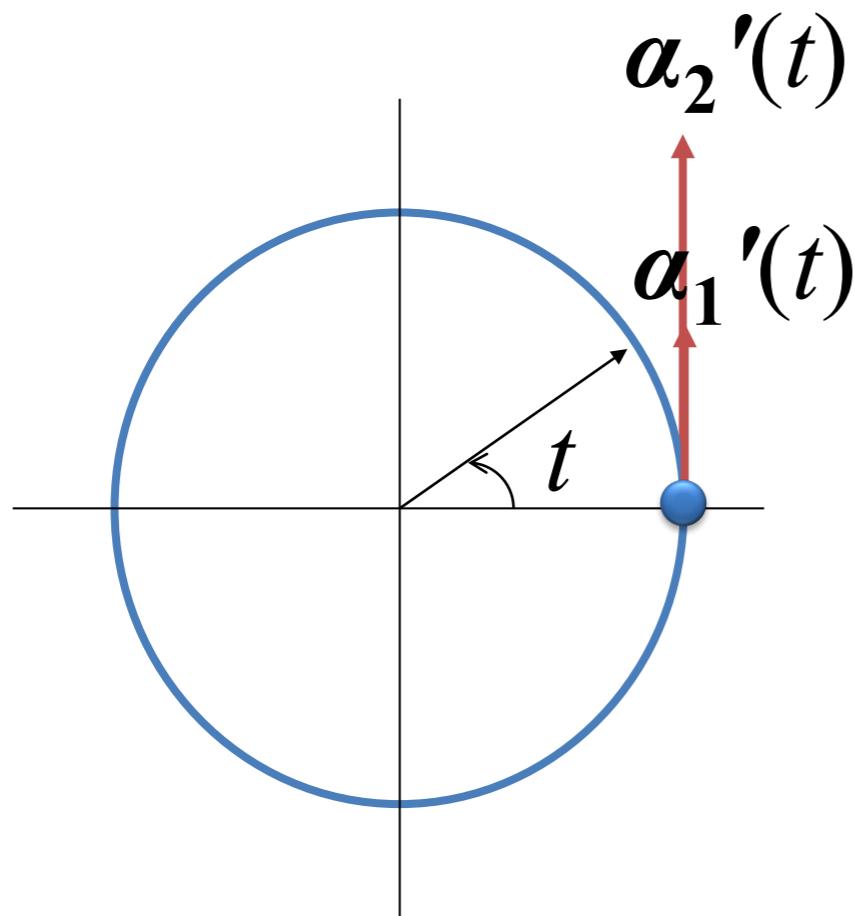
$$\alpha'(t) = (-\sin(t), \cos(t))$$

$\alpha'(t)$ - direction of movement

$|\alpha'(t)|$ - speed of movement

Parametric Curves

A Simple Example



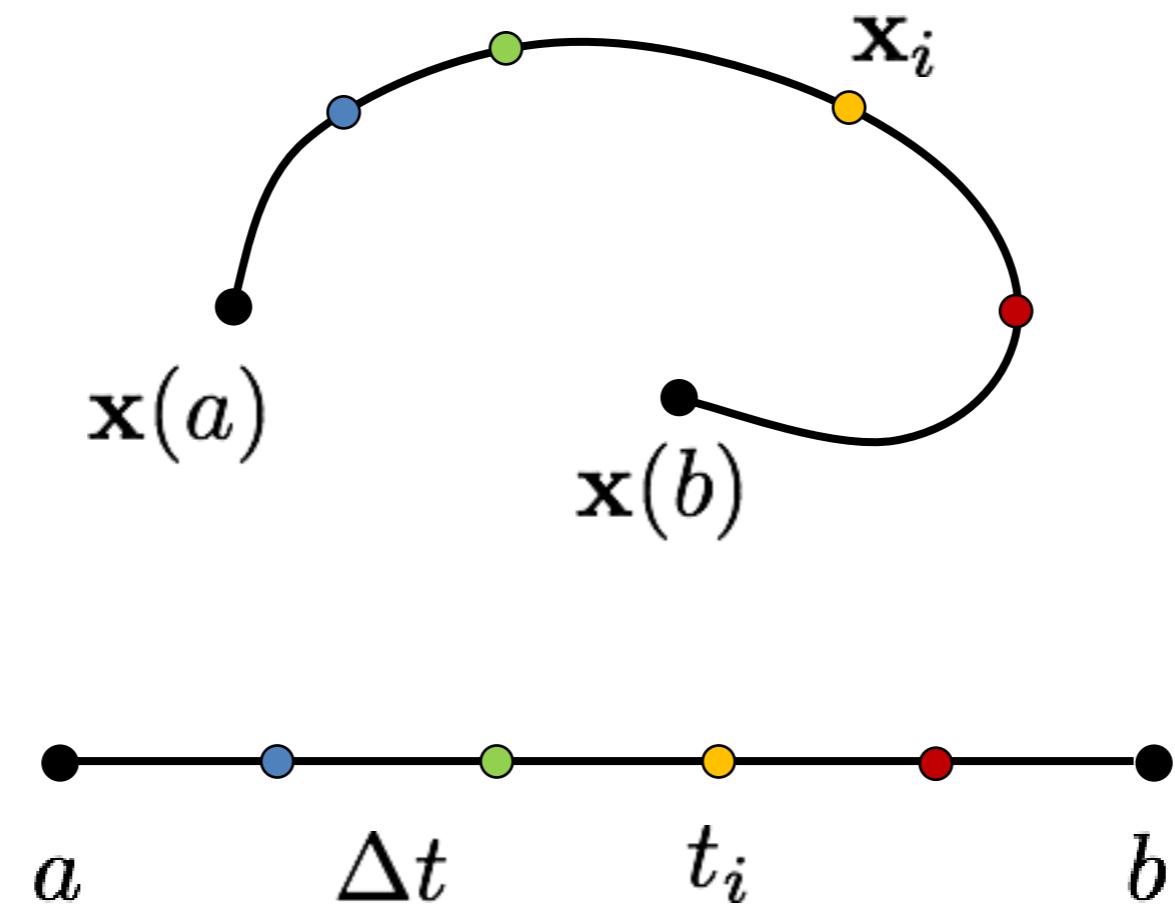
$$\alpha_1(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t))$$

$$\alpha_2(t) = (\cos(2t), \sin(2t))$$

Same direction, different speed

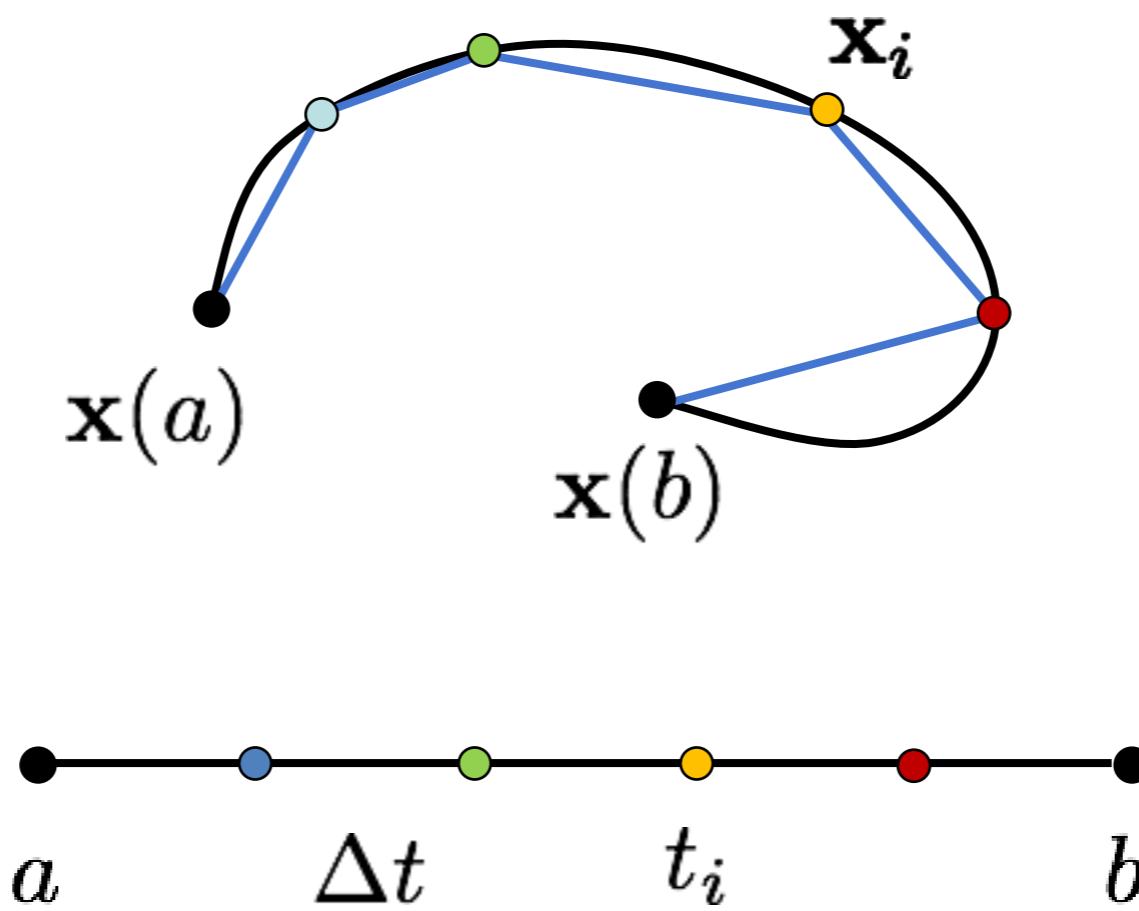
Length of a Curve

- Let $t_i = a + i\Delta t$ and $\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}(t_i)$



Length of a Curve

- Chord length $S = \sum_i \|\Delta \mathbf{x}_i\| = \sum_i \left\| \frac{\Delta \mathbf{x}_i}{\Delta t} \right\| \Delta t$
- $\Delta \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i$
- Euclidean norm

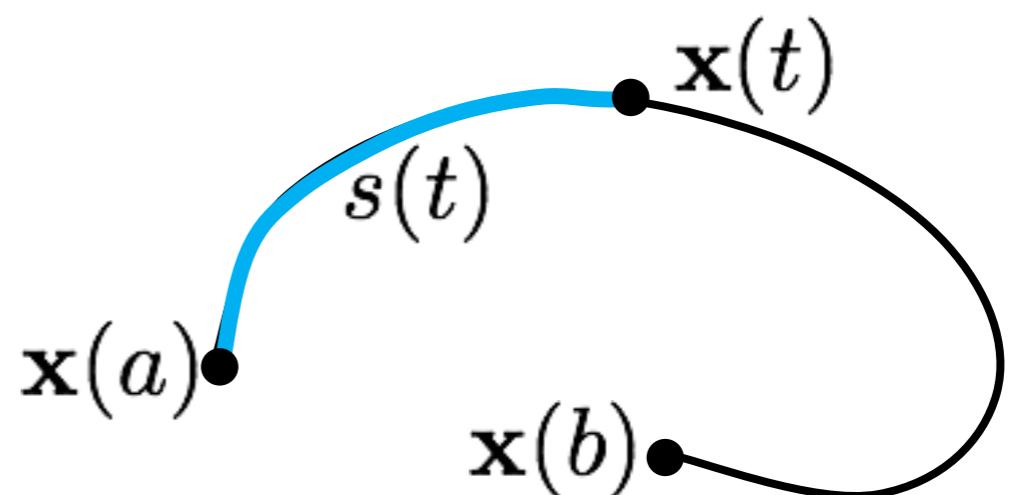


Length of a Curve

- Chord length $S = \sum_i \|\Delta \mathbf{x}_i\| = \sum_i \left\| \frac{\Delta \mathbf{x}_i}{\Delta t} \right\| \Delta t$

$$\Delta \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i$$

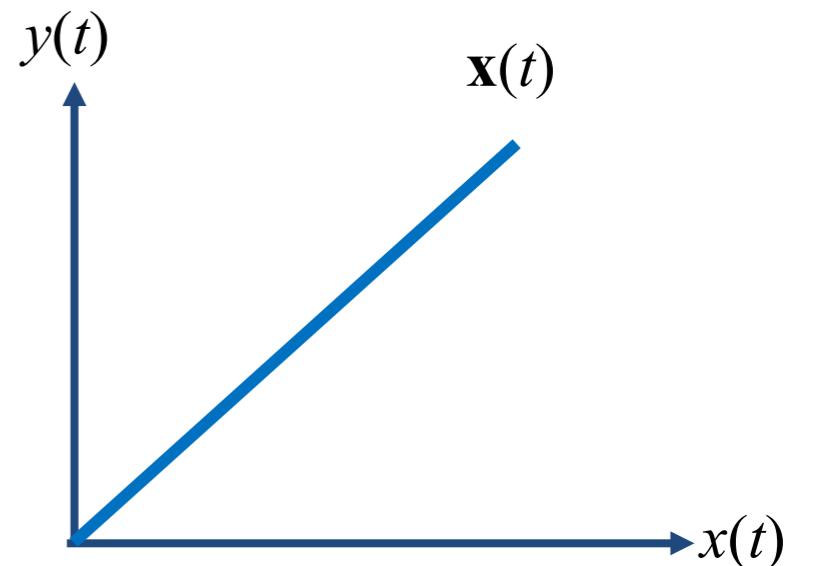
- Arc length $s = s(t) = \int_a^t \|\dot{\mathbf{x}}\| dt$



Examples

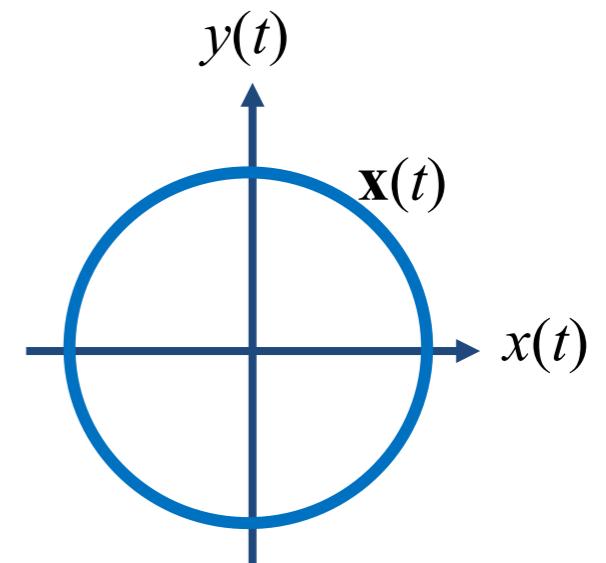
- Straight line

- $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t, t), t \in [0, \infty)$
- $\mathbf{x}(t) = (2t, 2t), t \in [0, \infty)$
- $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t^2, t^2), t \in [0, \infty)$



- Circle

- $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t)), t \in [0, 2\pi)$
- $\mathbf{x}(t) = \left(\frac{t^2 - 1}{t^2 + 1}, \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} \right) \quad t \in (-\infty, +\infty)$



Examples

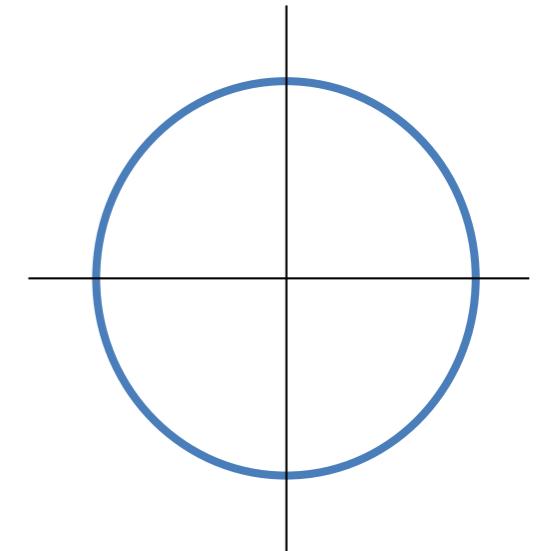
$$\alpha(t) = (a \cos(t), a \sin(t)), t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$\alpha'(t) = (-a \sin(t), a \cos(t))$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(\alpha) &= \int_0^{2\pi} |\alpha'(t)| dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{a^2 \sin^2(t) + a^2 \cos^2(t)} dt \\ &= a \int_0^{2\pi} dt = 2\pi a \end{aligned}$$

Many possible parameterizations

Length of the curve does not depend on parameterization!



Arc Length Parameterization

- Re-parameterization $\mathbf{x}(u(t))$

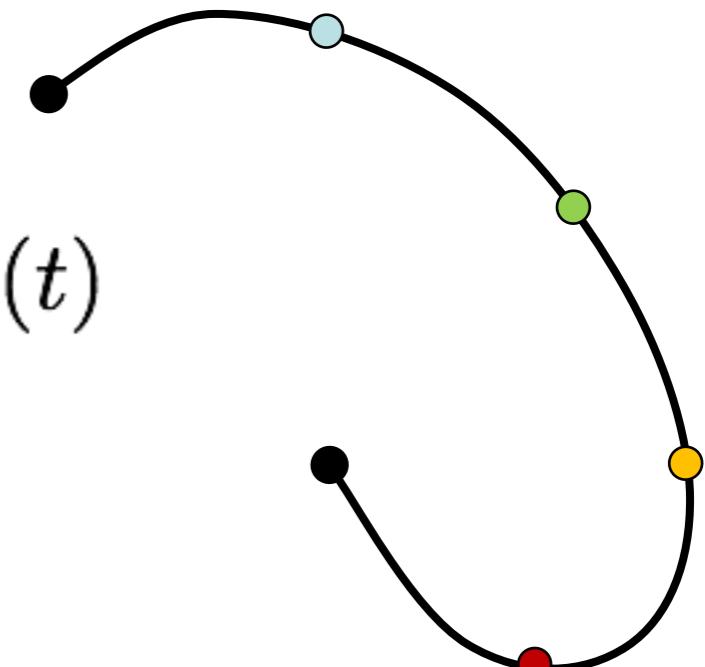
$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(u(t))}{dt} = \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{du} \frac{du}{dt} = \dot{\mathbf{x}}(u(t))\dot{u}(t)$$

- Arc length parameterization

$$s = s(t) = \int_a^t \|\dot{\mathbf{x}}\| dt \quad ds = \|\dot{\mathbf{x}}\| dt$$

- parameter value s for $\mathbf{x}(s)$ equals length of curve from $\mathbf{x}(a)$ to $\mathbf{x}(s)$

$$\|\dot{\mathbf{x}}(s)\| = 1 \rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{x}}(s) \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{x}}(s) = 0$$



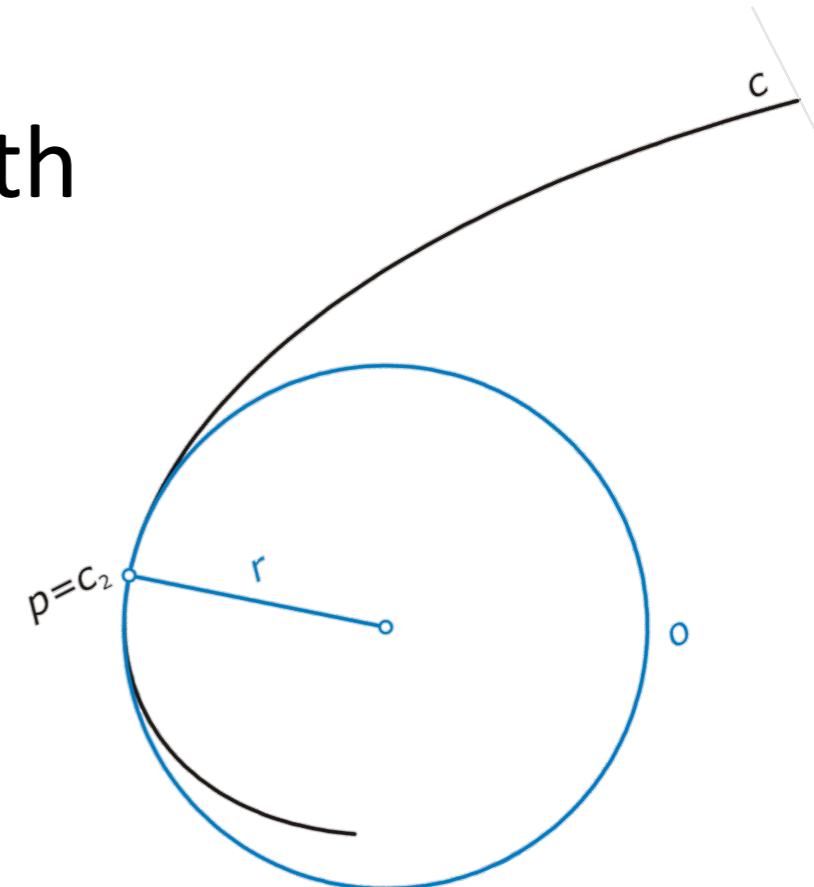
Curvature

$\mathbf{x}(t)$ a curve parameterized by arc length

The *curvature* of \mathbf{x} at t : $\kappa = \|\ddot{\mathbf{x}}(t)\|$

$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t)$ – the tangent vector at t

$\ddot{\mathbf{x}}(t)$ – the *change* in the tangent vector at t

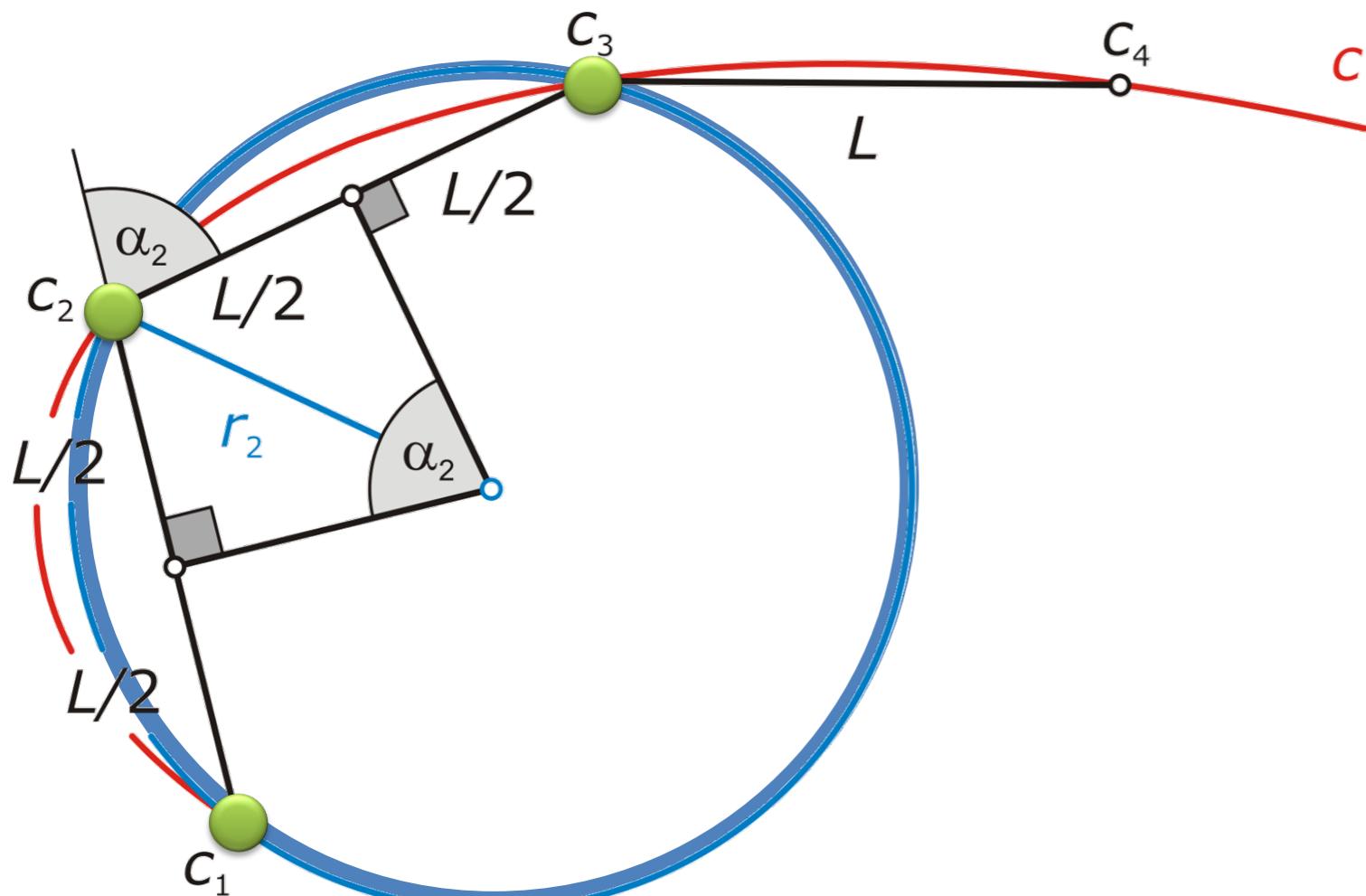


$R(t) = 1/\kappa(t)$ is the *radius of curvature* at t

Some driving-related intuition

Curvature

As a Limit



3 points define a circle.

What is the *osculating circle* radius?

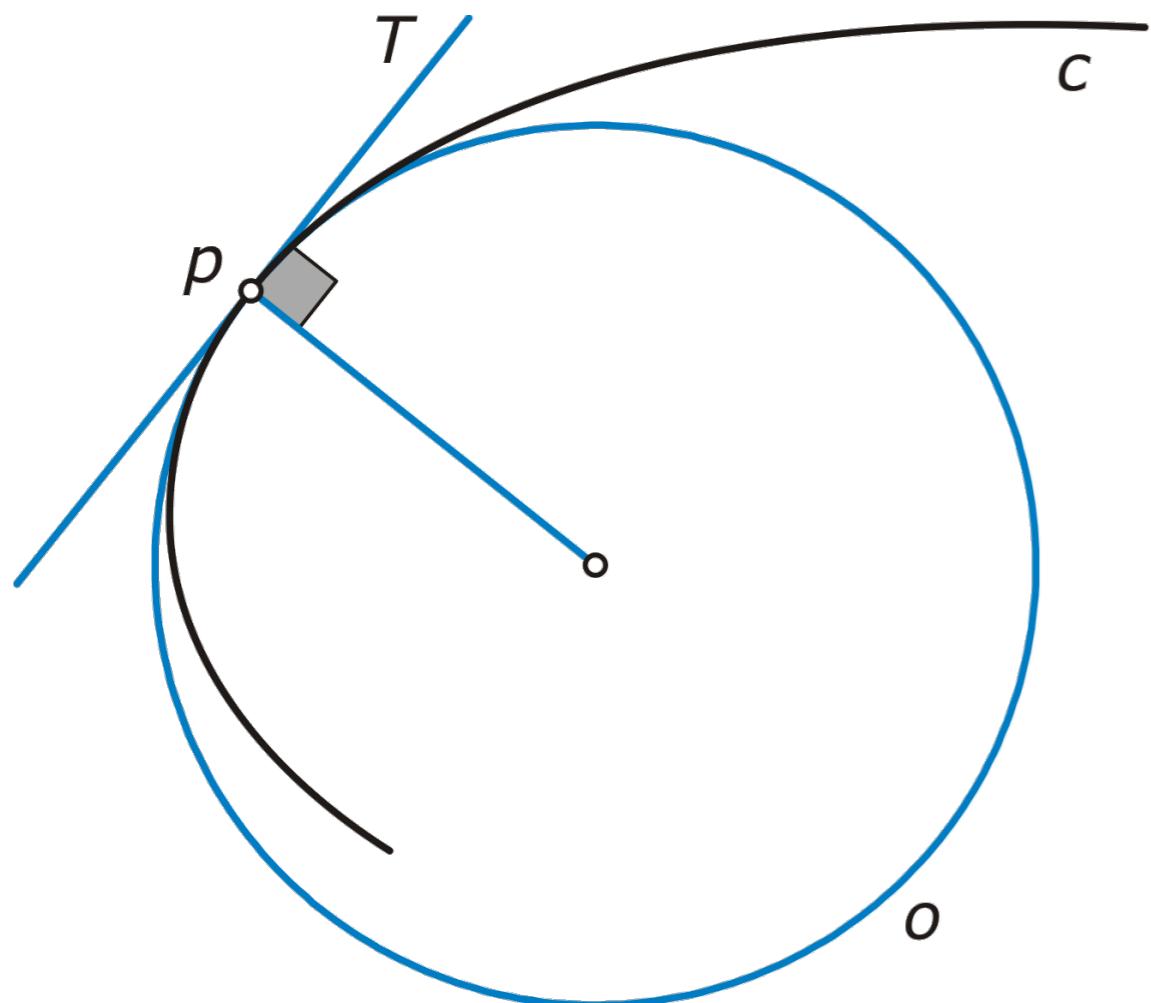
$$r_2 = L / (2 \sin(\alpha_2/2))$$

And the discrete curvature
(the inverse):

$$\kappa = \lim((2\sin(\alpha/2)) / L)$$

$$\kappa = \lim(\alpha / L) \text{ (for small } \alpha)$$

Signed Curvature



The **sign of the curvature**
depends on the side of o w.r.t.
the **tangent**.

...In CCW curves, positive = circle to
the left!

The Normal Vector

$\mathbf{x}'(t) = \mathbf{T}(t)$ - tangent vector

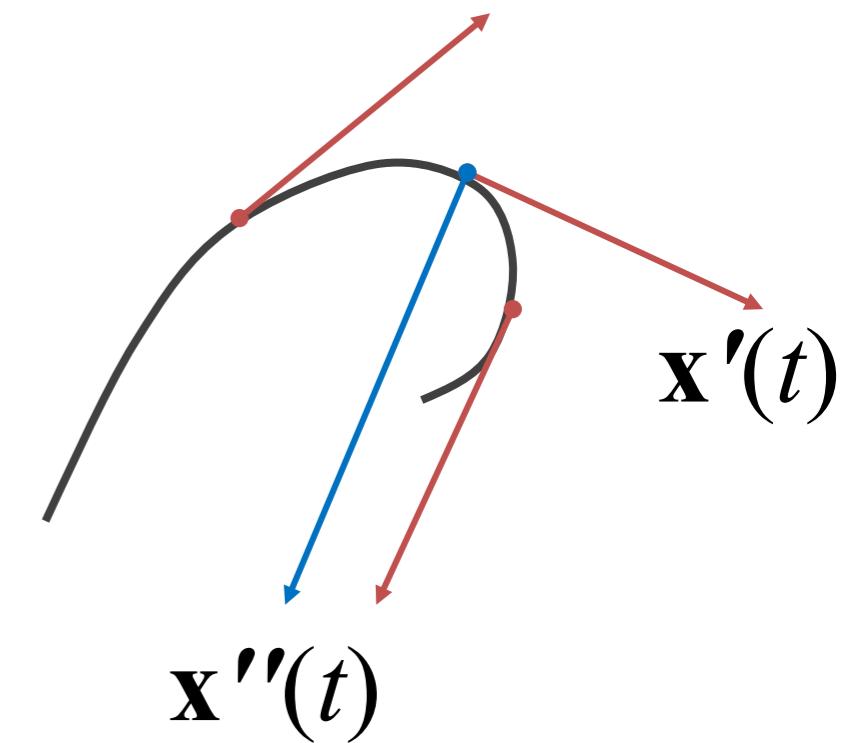
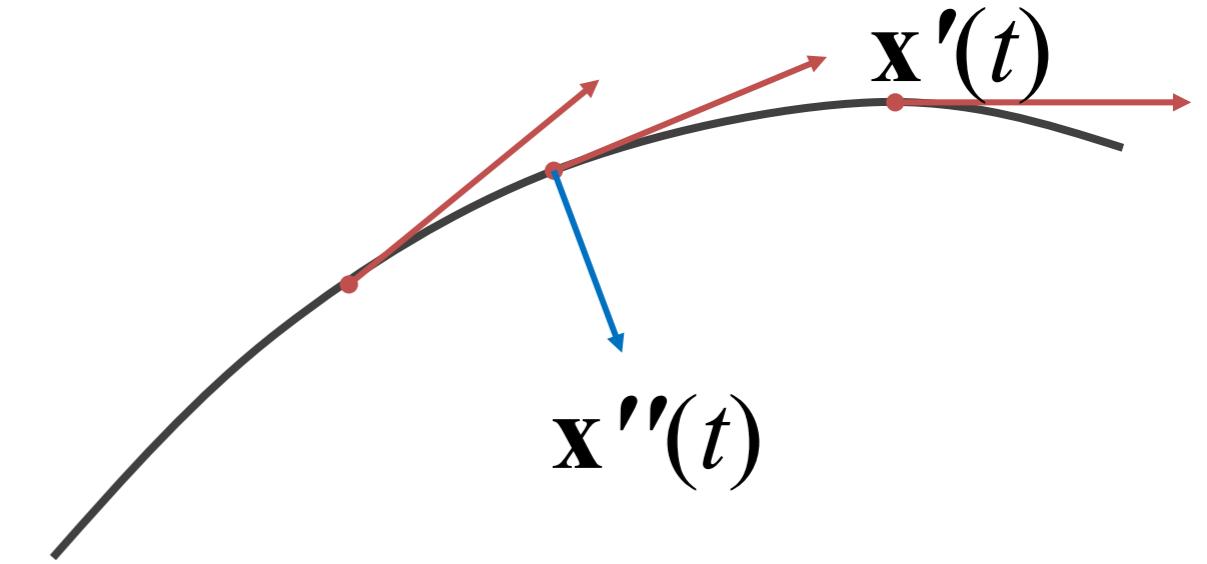
$|\mathbf{x}'(t)|$ - velocity

$\mathbf{x}''(t) = \mathbf{T}'(t)$ - normal direction

$|\mathbf{x}''(t)|$ - curvature

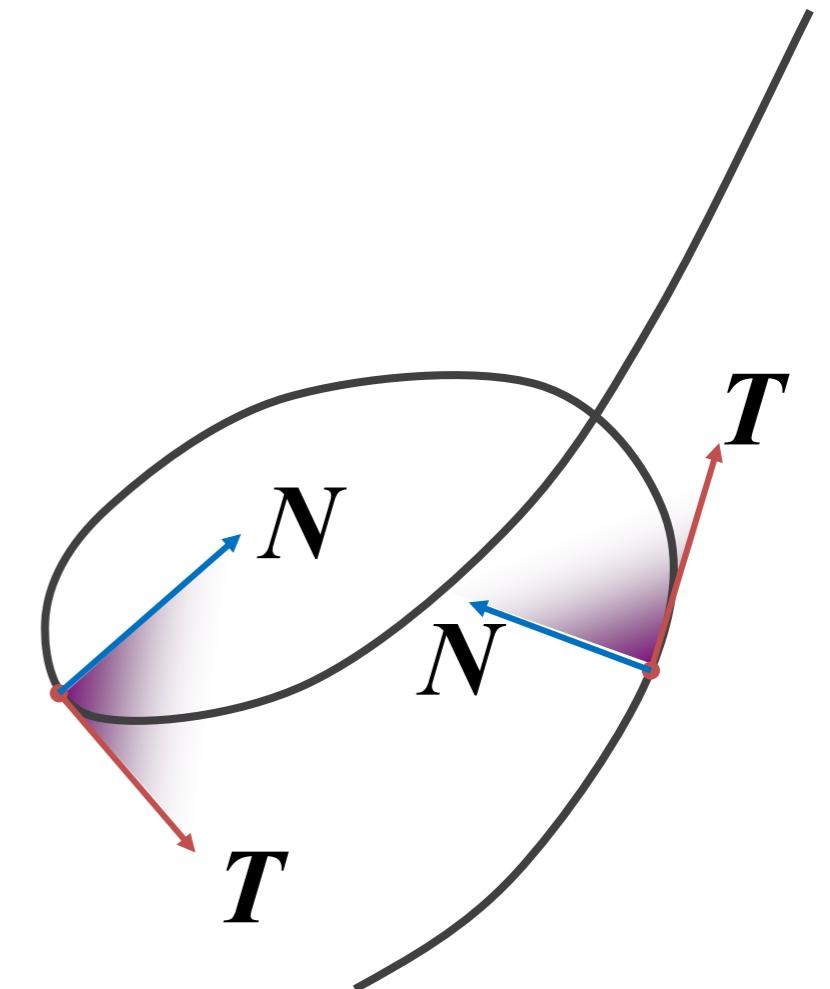
If $|\mathbf{x}''(t)| \neq 0$, define $\mathbf{N}(t) = \mathbf{T}'(t)/|\mathbf{T}'(t)|$

Then $\mathbf{x}''(t) = \mathbf{T}'(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$



The Osculating Plane

The plane determined by the unit tangent and normal vectors $T(s)$ and $N(s)$ is called the *osculating plane* at s

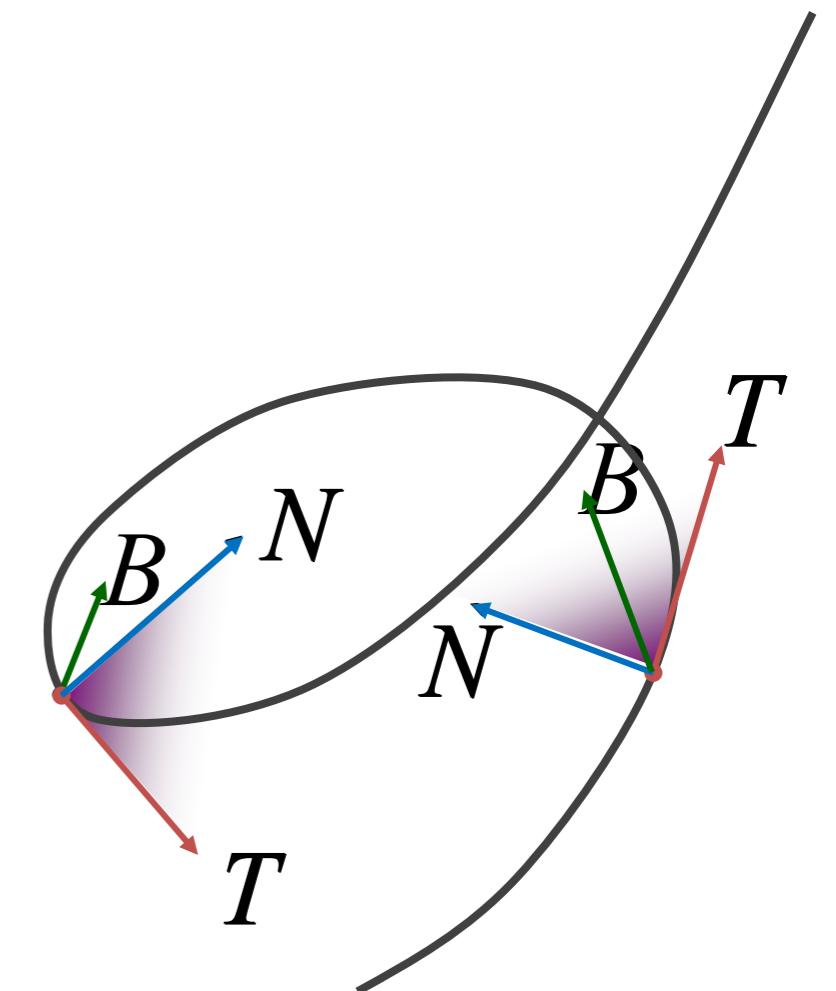


The Binormal Vector

For points s , s.t. $\kappa(s) \neq 0$, the *binormal vector* $B(s)$ is defined as:

$$B(s) = T(s) \times N(s)$$

The binormal vector defines the osculating plane



The Frenet Frame

$$T = \frac{\dot{x}}{\|\dot{x}\|}$$

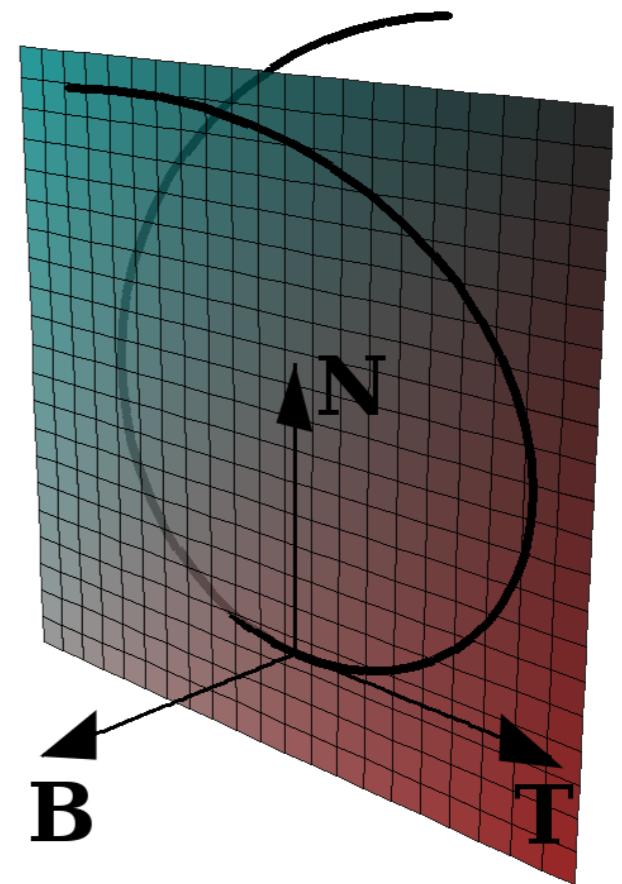
tangent

$$N = \frac{\ddot{x}}{\|\ddot{x}\|}$$

normal

$$B = T \times N$$

binormal



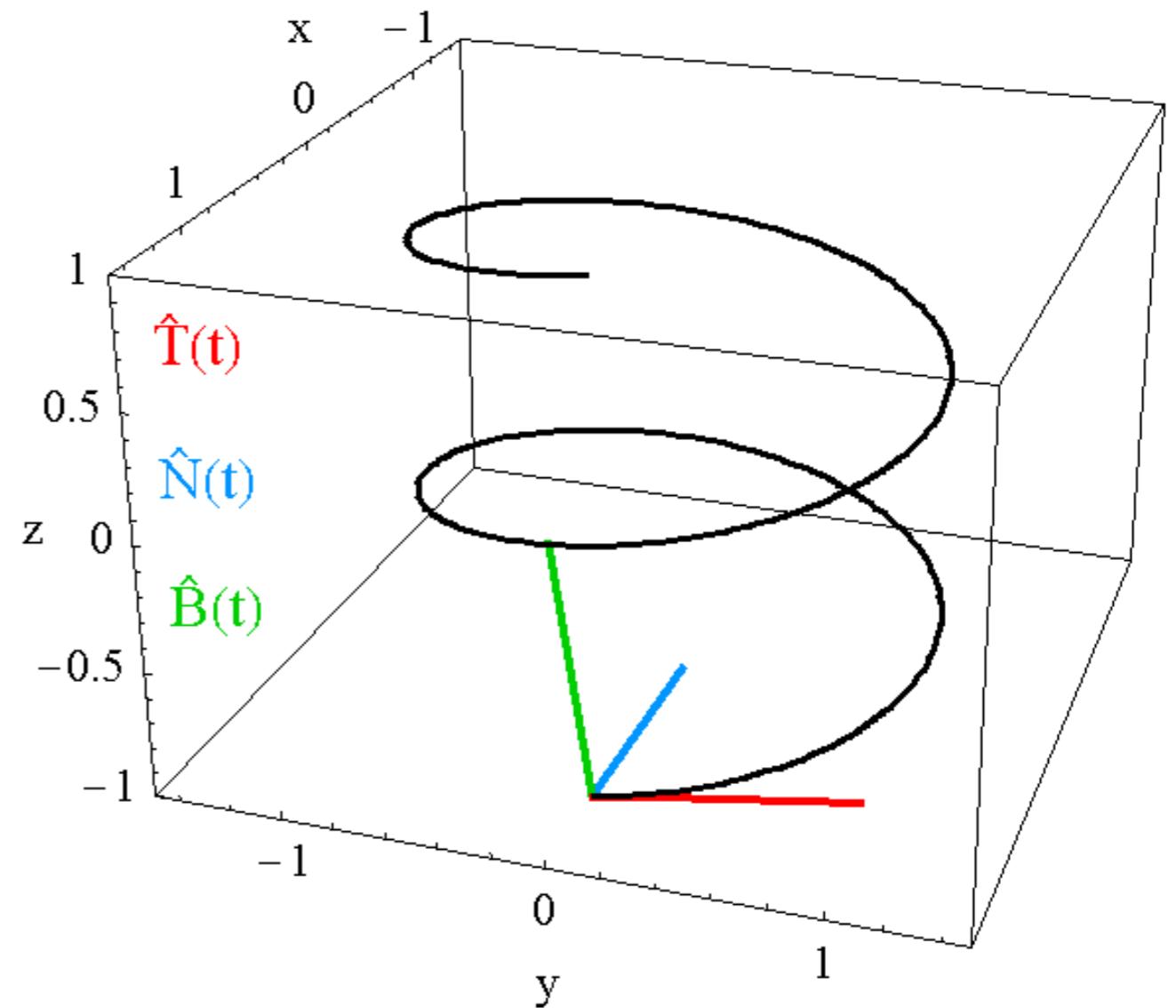
Demo

The Frenet Frame

$\{T(s), N(s), B(s)\}$ form an orthonormal basis for R^3 called the *Frenet frame*

How does the frame change when the particle moves?

What are T' , N' , B' in terms of $\hat{T}, \hat{N}, \hat{B}$?



The Frenet Frame

- Frenet-Serret formulas

$$\dot{T} = \quad + \kappa N$$

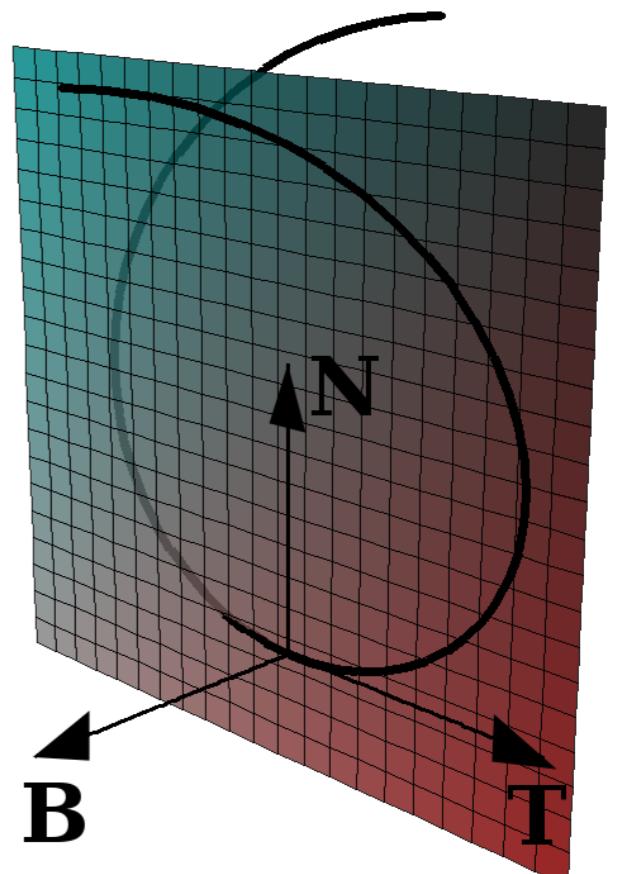
$$\dot{N} = -\kappa T \quad + \tau B$$

$$\dot{B} = \quad - \tau N$$

- curvature $\kappa = \|\ddot{x}\|$

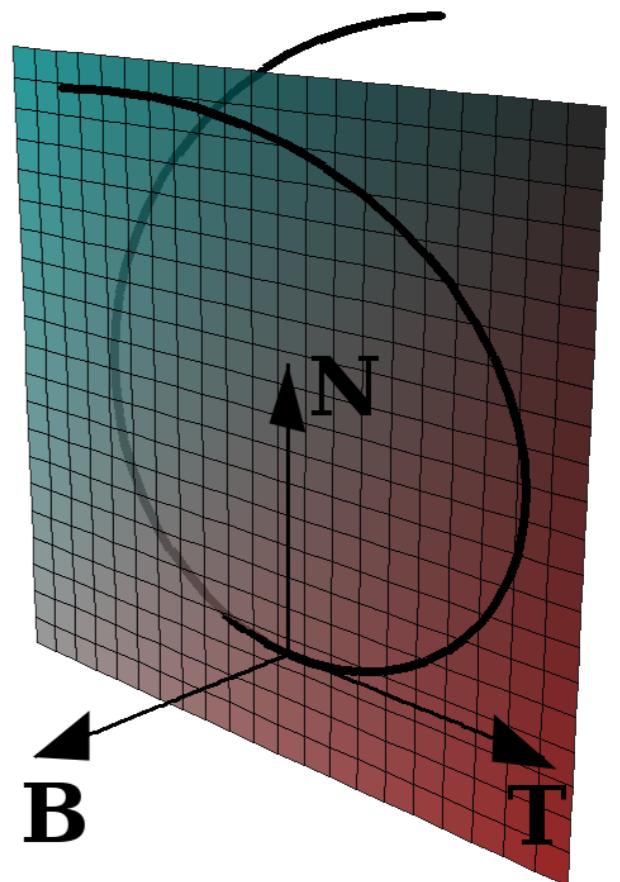
- torsion $\tau = \frac{1}{\kappa^2} \det[\dot{x}, \ddot{x}, \dddot{x}]$

(arc-length parameterization)



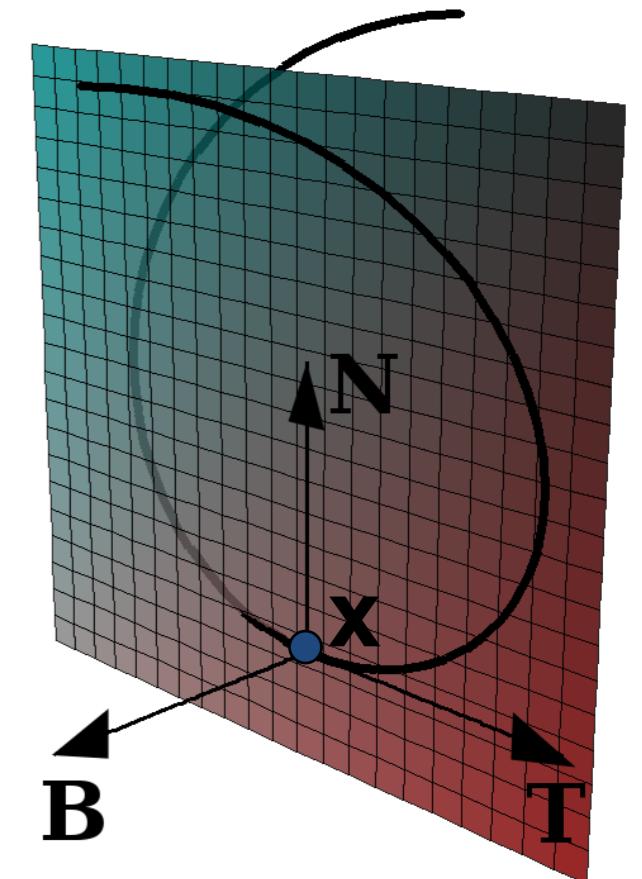
Curvature and Torsion

- Curvature: Deviation from straight line
- Torsion: Deviation from planarity
- Independent of parameterization
 - intrinsic properties of the curve
- Invariant under rigid
(translation+rotation) motion
- Define curve uniquely up to rigid motion



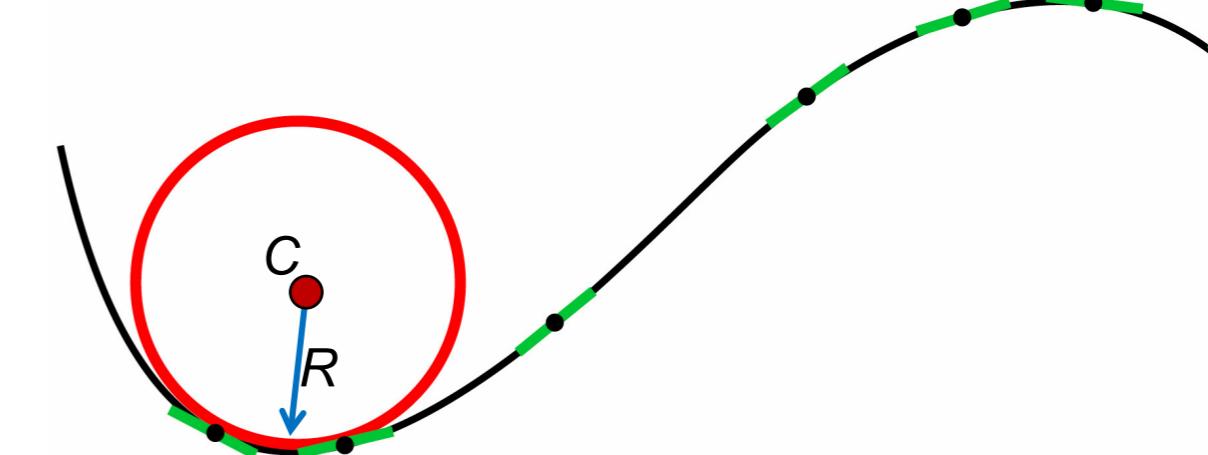
Curvature and Torsion

- Planes defined by \mathbf{x} and two vectors:
 - *osculating plane*: vectors \mathbf{T} and \mathbf{N}
 - *normal plane*: vectors \mathbf{N} and \mathbf{B}
 - *rectifying plane*: vectors \mathbf{T} and \mathbf{B}
- Osculating circle
 - second order contact with curve
 - center
 - radius



$$C = \mathbf{x} + \kappa^{-1} \mathbf{N}$$

$$R = \kappa^{-1}$$

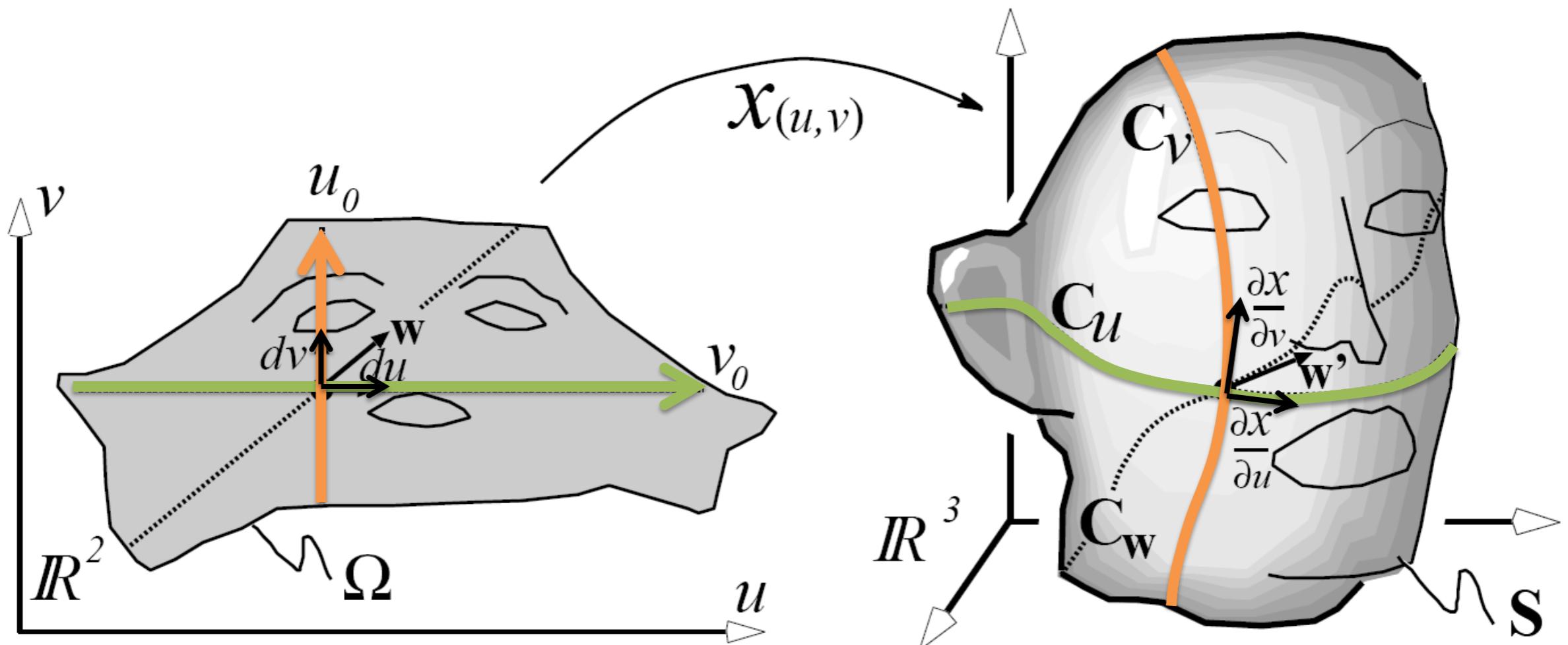


Things you can do with curves



Differential Geometry: Surfaces

$$\mathbf{x}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} x(u, v) \\ y(u, v) \\ z(u, v) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$



Differential Geometry: Surfaces

- Continuous surface

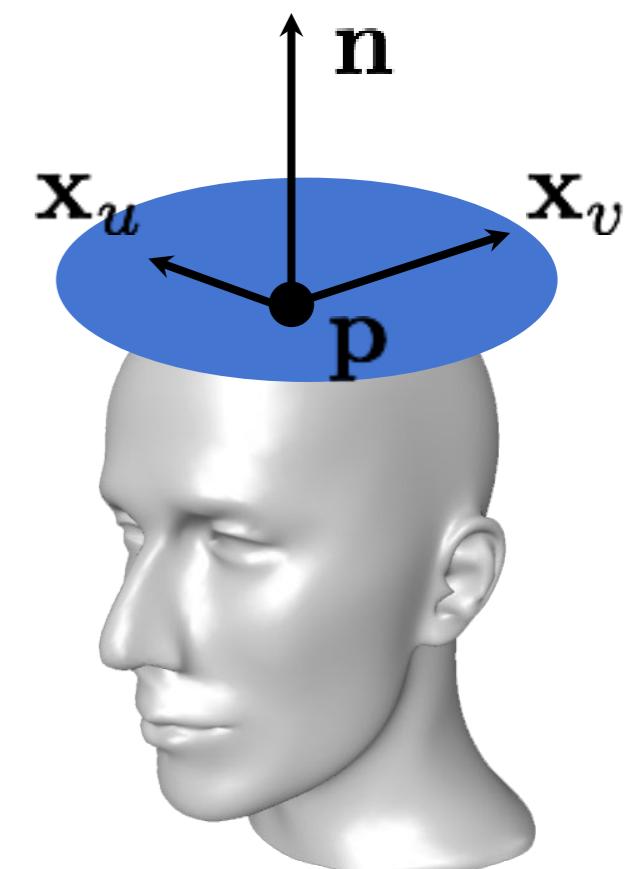
$$\mathbf{x}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} x(u, v) \\ y(u, v) \\ z(u, v) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

- Normal vector

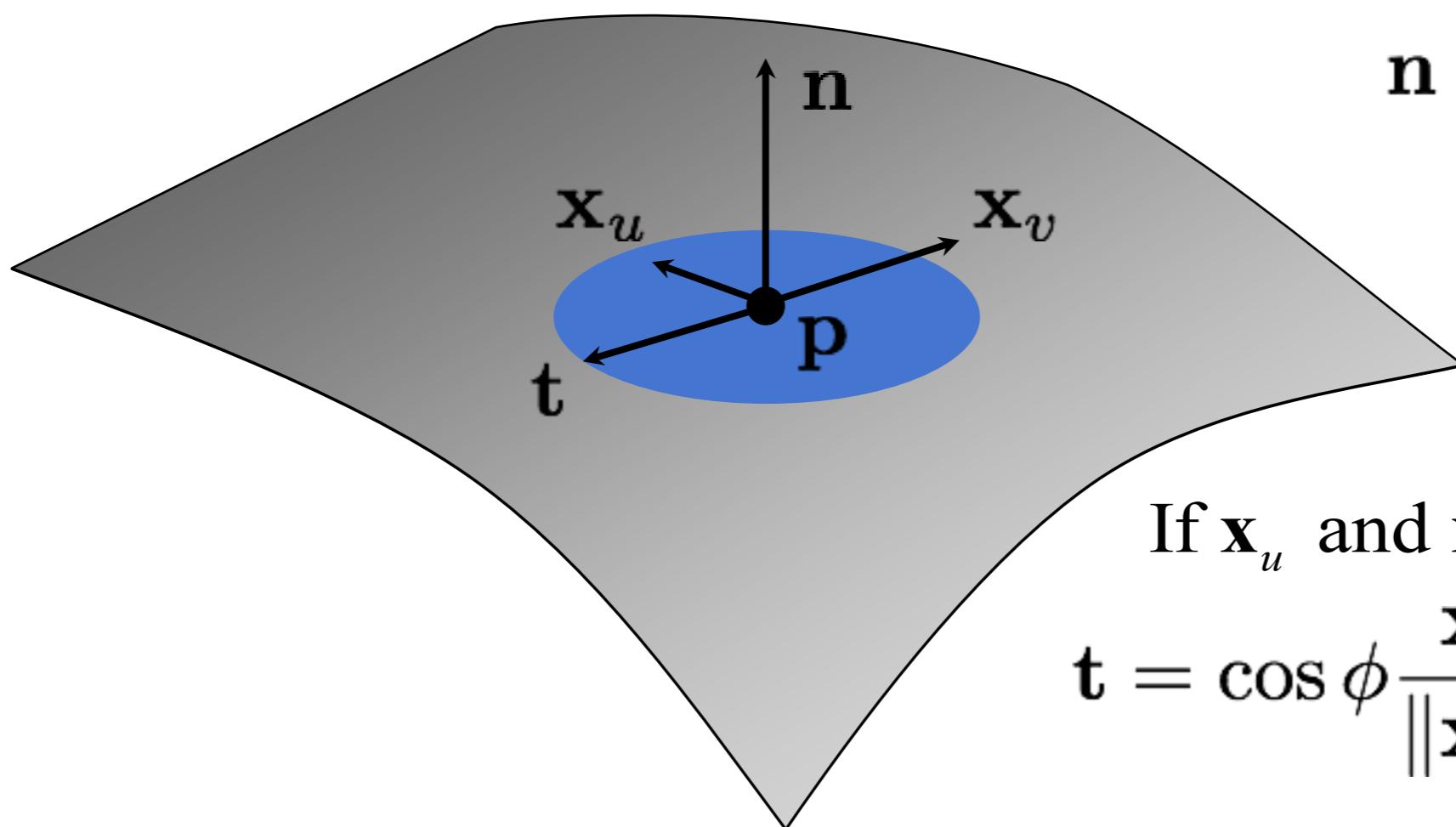
$$\mathbf{n} = (\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v) / \|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\|$$

– assuming regular parameterization, i.e.

$$\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v \neq \mathbf{0}$$



Normal Curvature

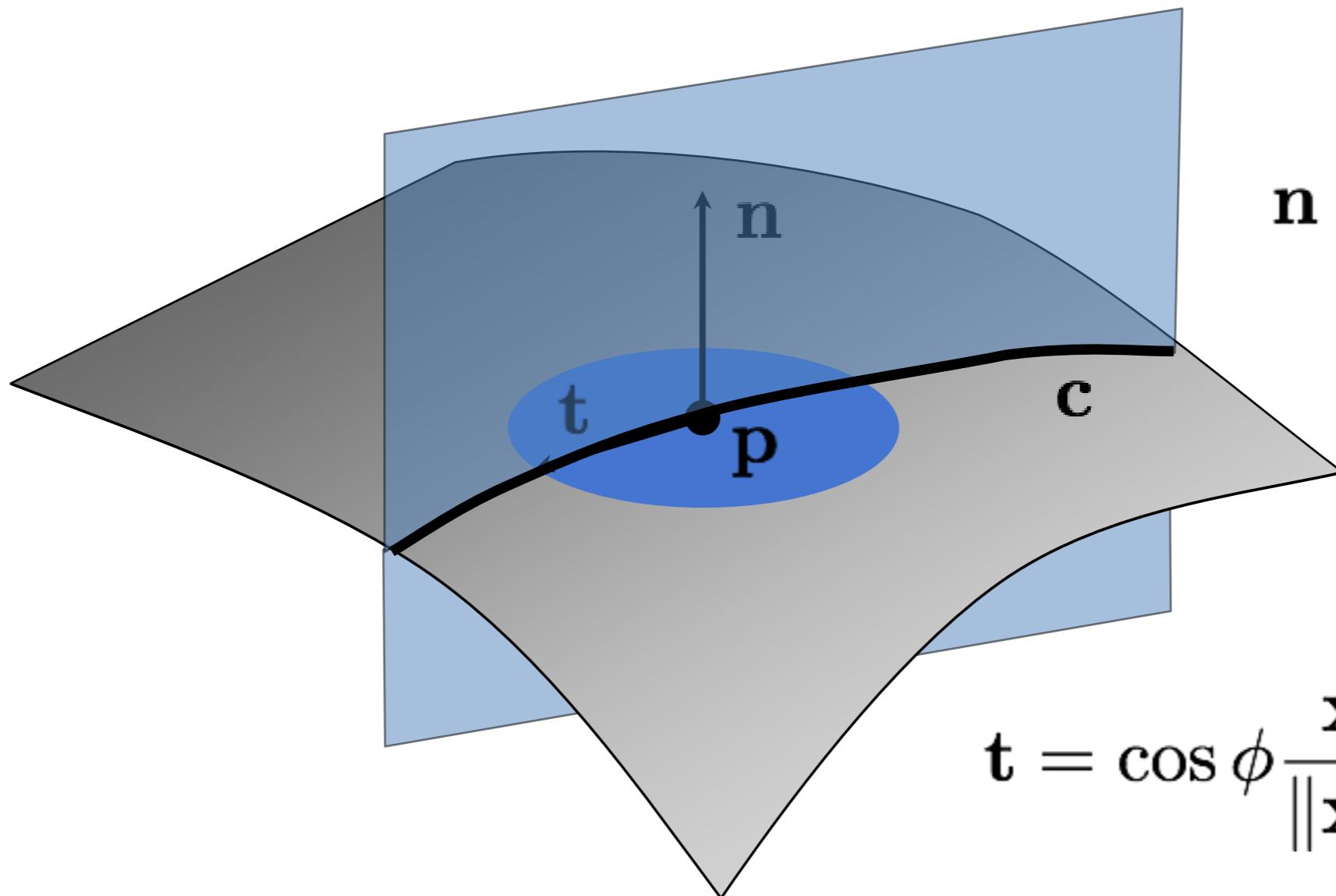


$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

If \mathbf{x}_u and \mathbf{x}_v are orthogonal:

$$\mathbf{t} = \cos \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_u}{\|\mathbf{x}_u\|} + \sin \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

Normal Curvature

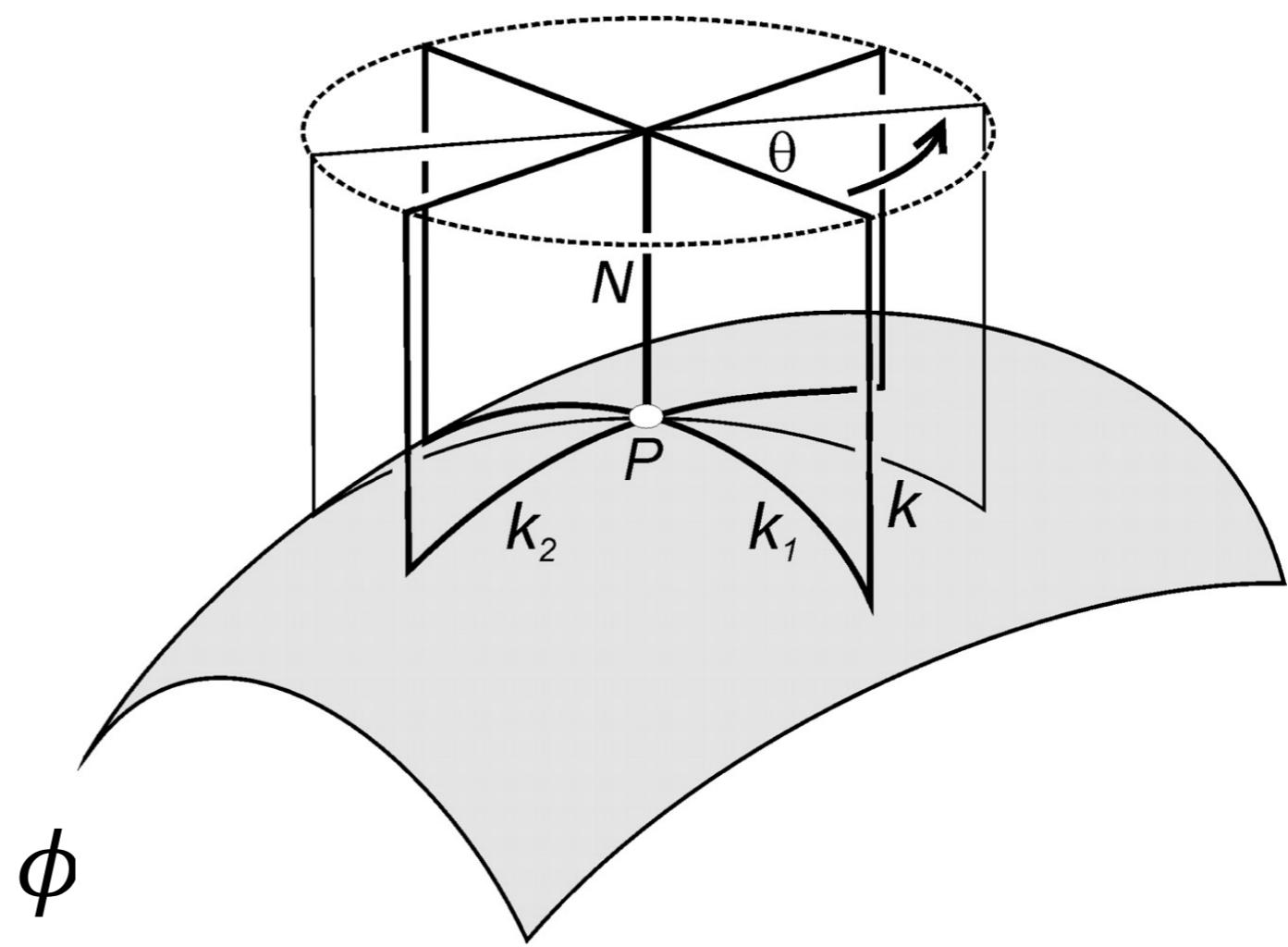
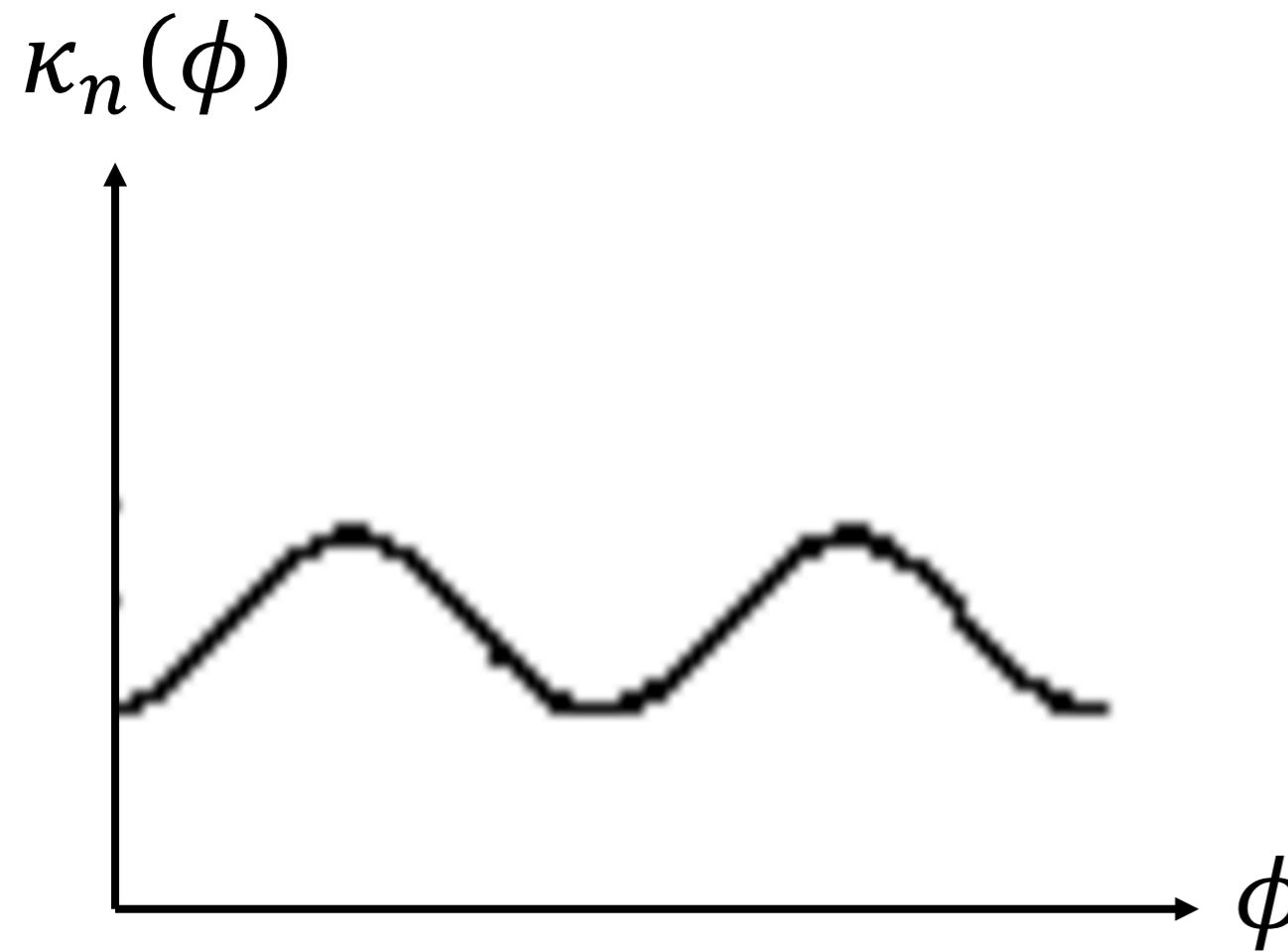


$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

$$\mathbf{t} = \cos \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_u}{\|\mathbf{x}_u\|} + \sin \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

Normal Curvature

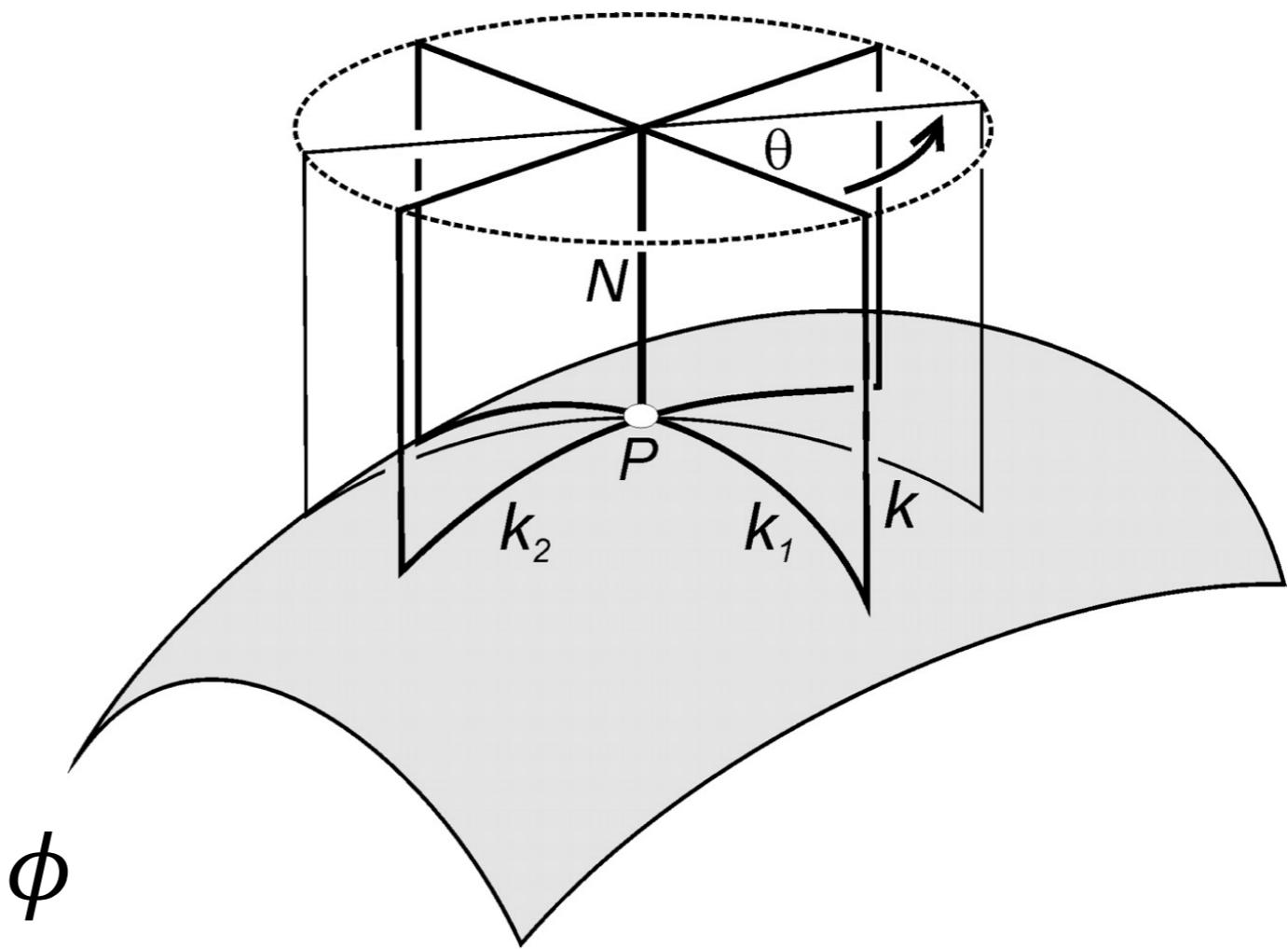
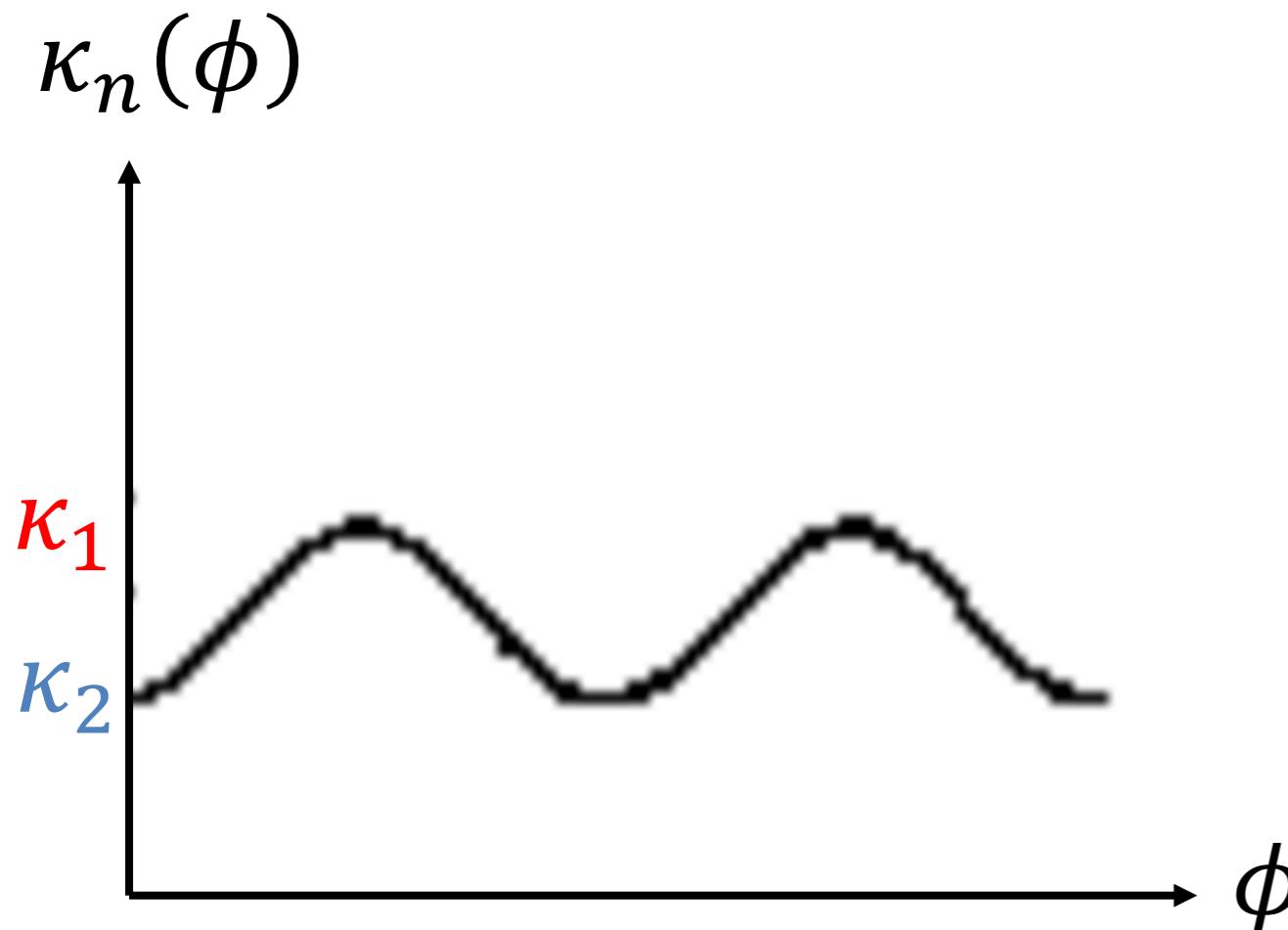
$\kappa_n(\phi)$ - Curvature in direction $t = \cos \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_u}{\|\mathbf{x}_u\|} + \sin \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_v\|}$



Principal Curvatures

maximum curvature $\kappa_1 = \max_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$

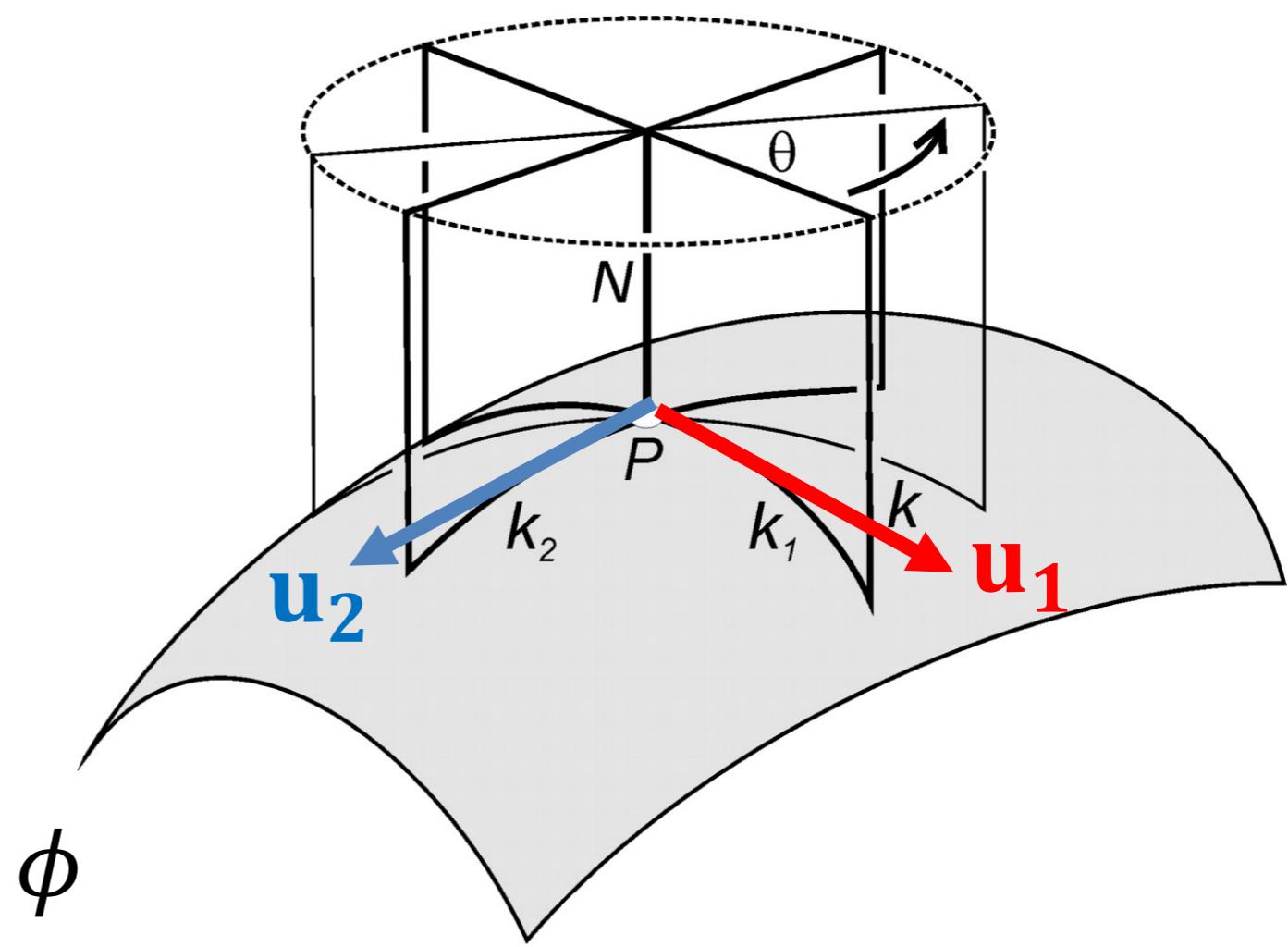
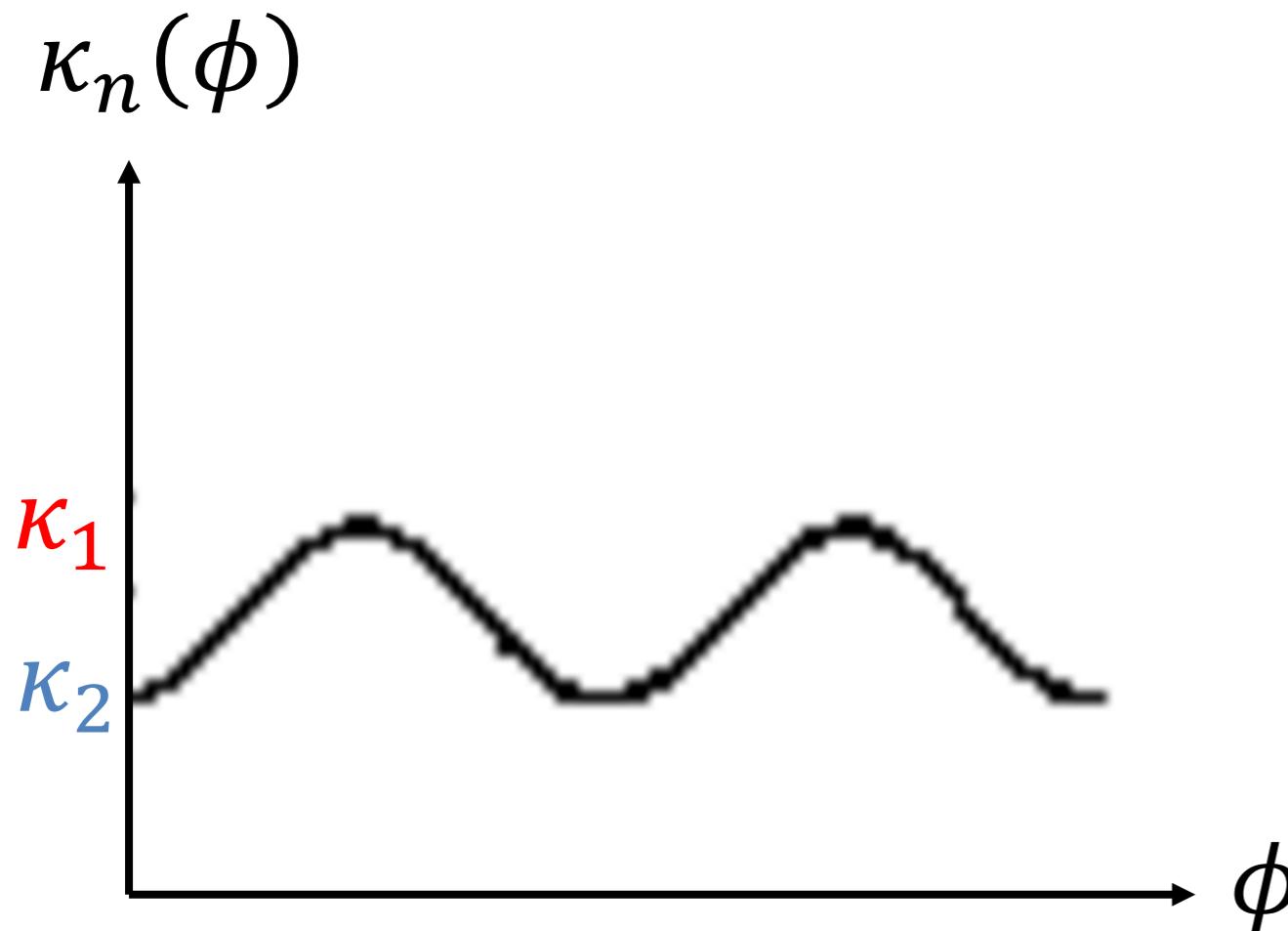
minimum curvature $\kappa_2 = \min_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$



Principal Curvature Directions

maximum curvature direction \mathbf{u}_1

minimum curvature direction \mathbf{u}_2

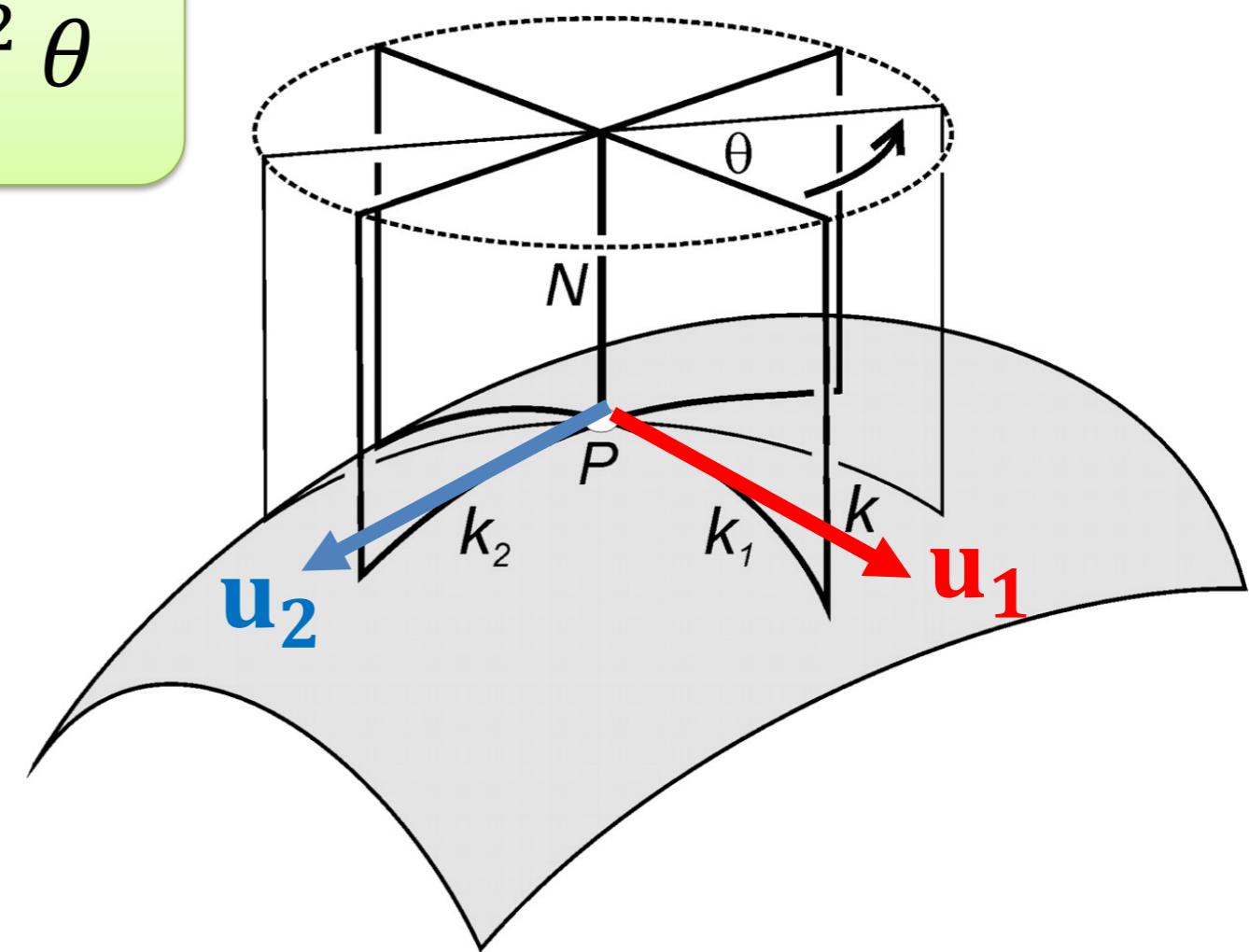


Principal Curvature Directions

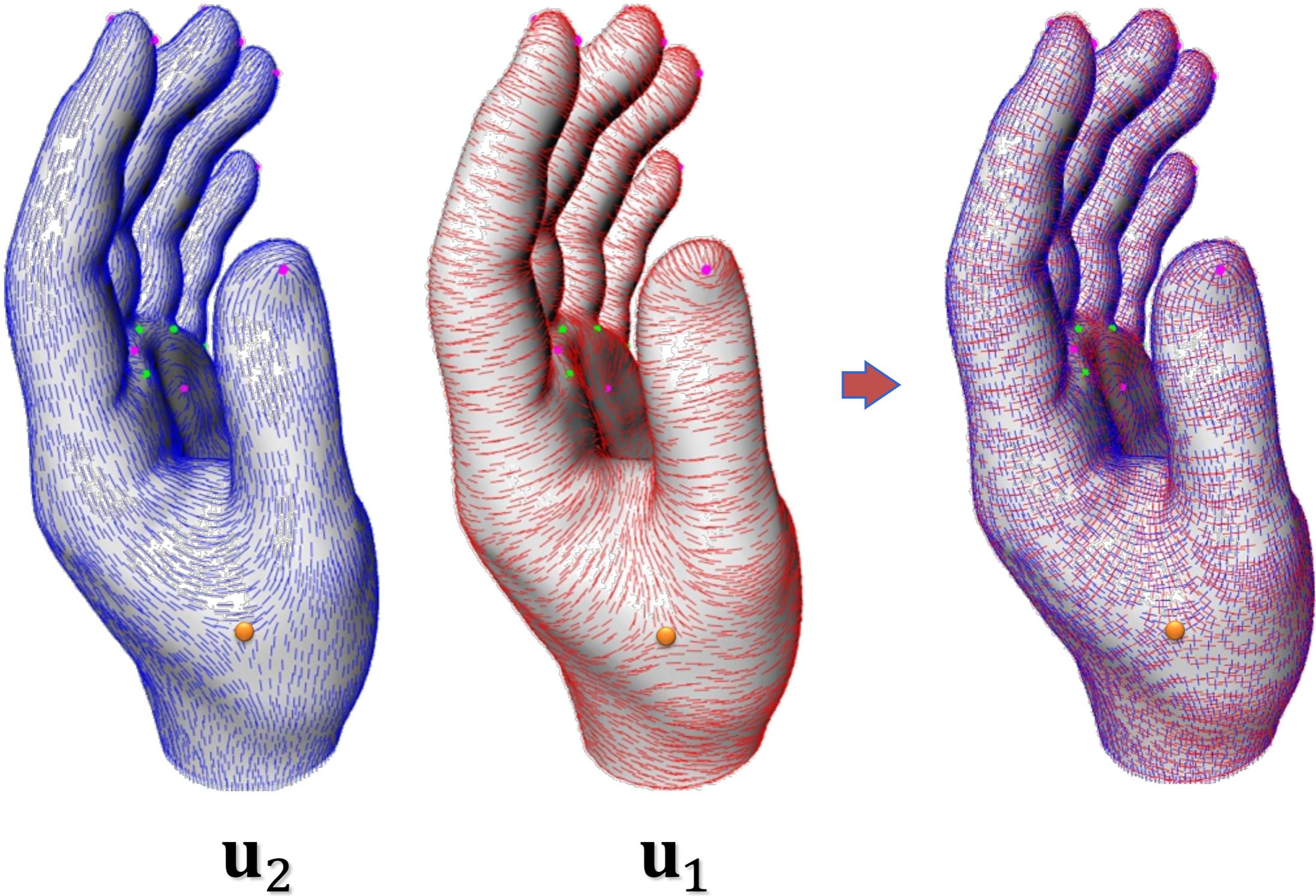
Euler's Theorem: Planes of principal curvature are **orthogonal** and independent of parameterization.

$$\kappa_n(\theta) = \kappa_1 \cos^2 \theta + \kappa_2 \sin^2 \theta$$

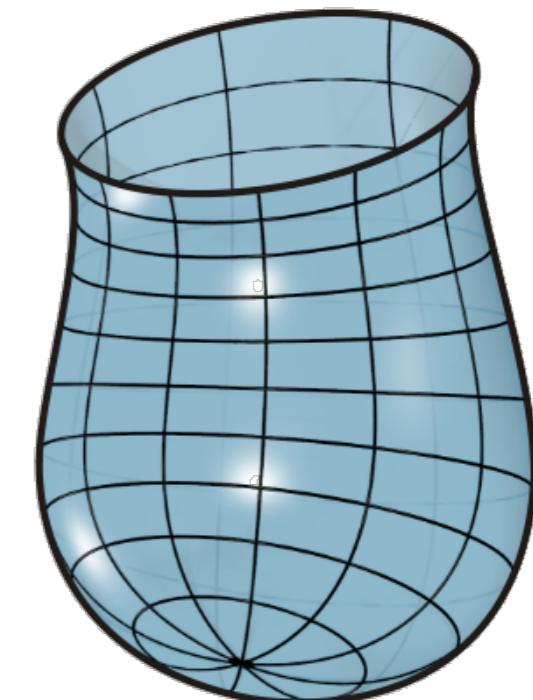
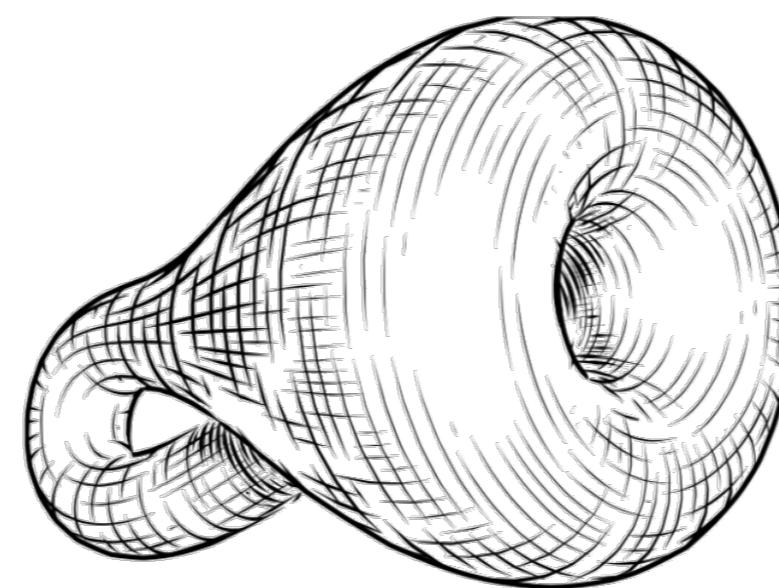
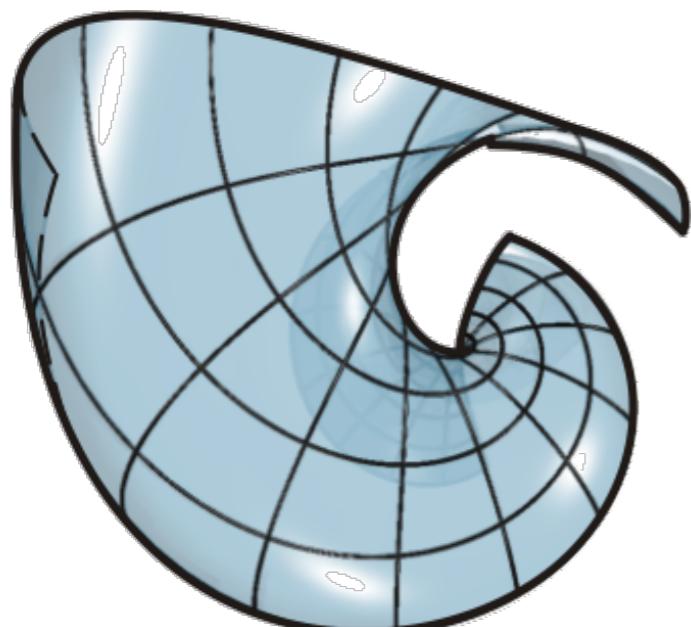
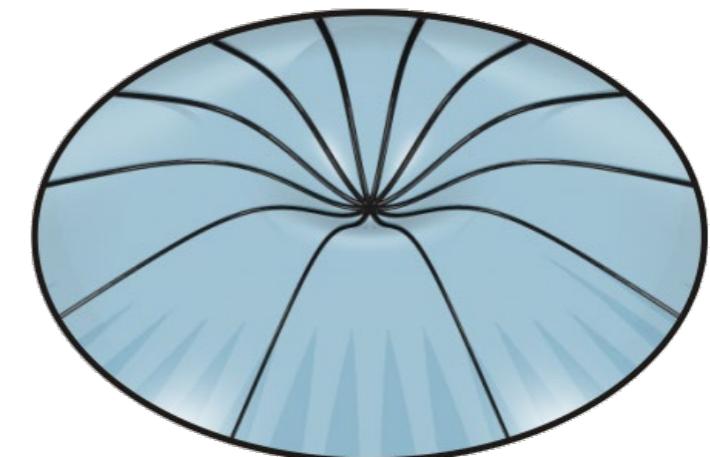
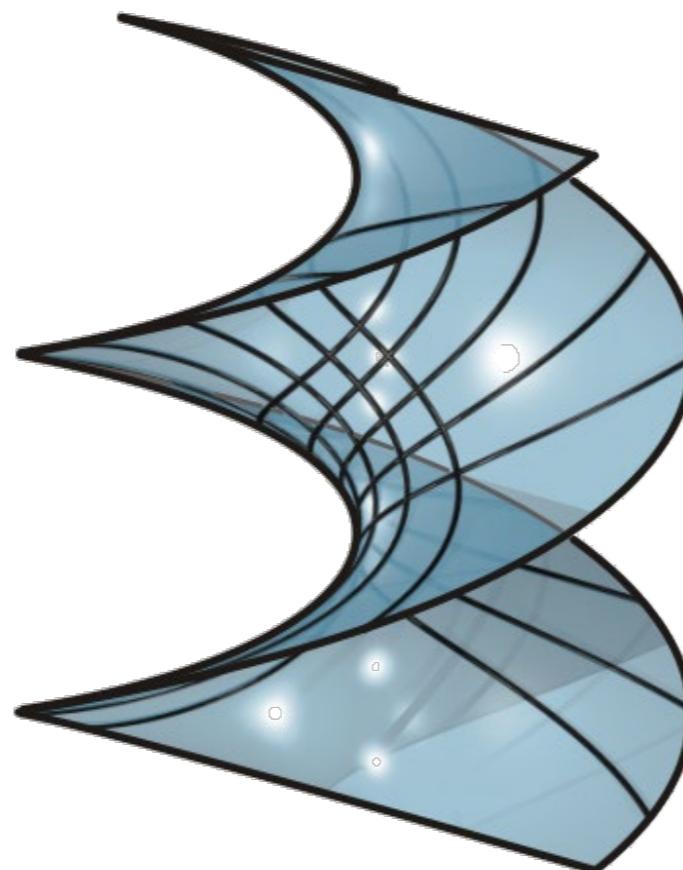
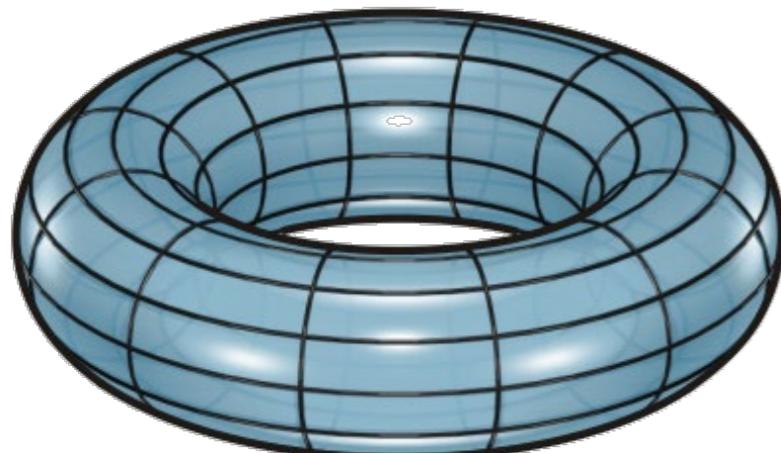
θ = angle with \mathbf{u}_1



Principal Curvature Directions

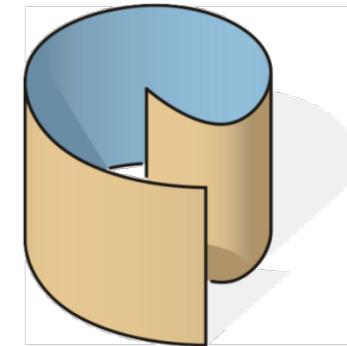


Principal Curvature Lines

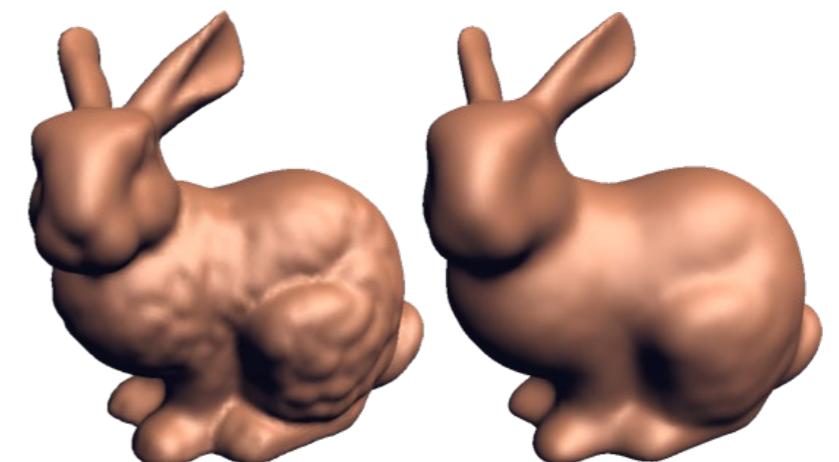


How to use the curvatures?

- Are κ_1, κ_2 *invariant* to surface change?



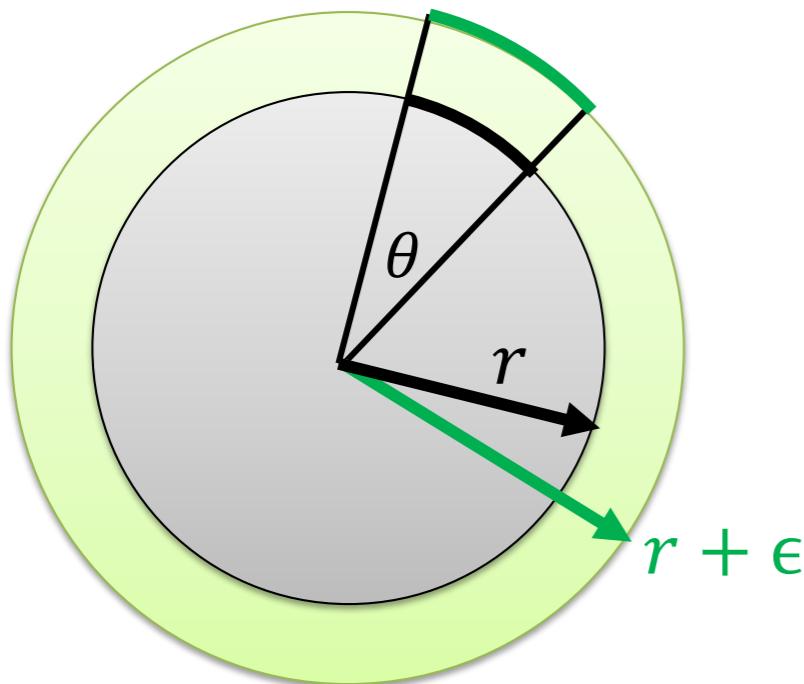
- Optimize for κ_1, κ_2 to improve surface properties?



- Fully represent the surface?

One Curvature to Rule Them All?

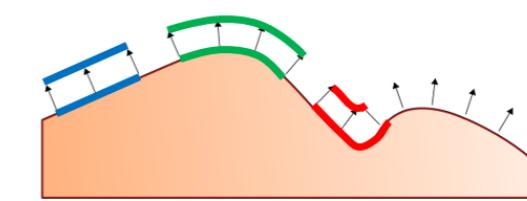
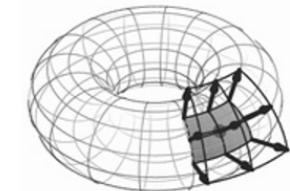
How does length change?



$$\text{length ratio} = \frac{\theta(r + \epsilon)}{\theta r} = 1 + \epsilon\kappa$$

A Closer Look

- *Normal* directions define offset surface
 - The “other” direction that’s pointing off the surface
- The way they **change** determines shrinkage/expansion

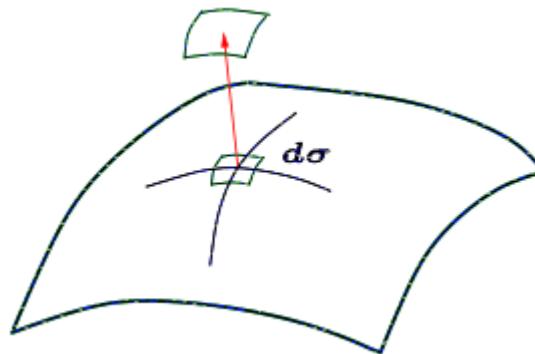


6

One Curvature to Rule Them All?

How does area change?

$$\text{length ratio} = 1 + \epsilon\kappa$$

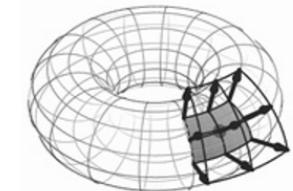


$$\text{area ratio} = (1 + \epsilon\kappa_1)(1 + \epsilon\kappa_2)$$

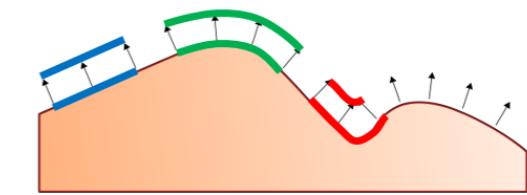
$$= 1 + \epsilon(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2) + \epsilon^2\kappa_1\kappa_2$$

A Closer Look

- *Normal* directions define offset surface
 - The “other” direction that’s pointing off the surface



- The way they **change** determines shrinkage/expansion

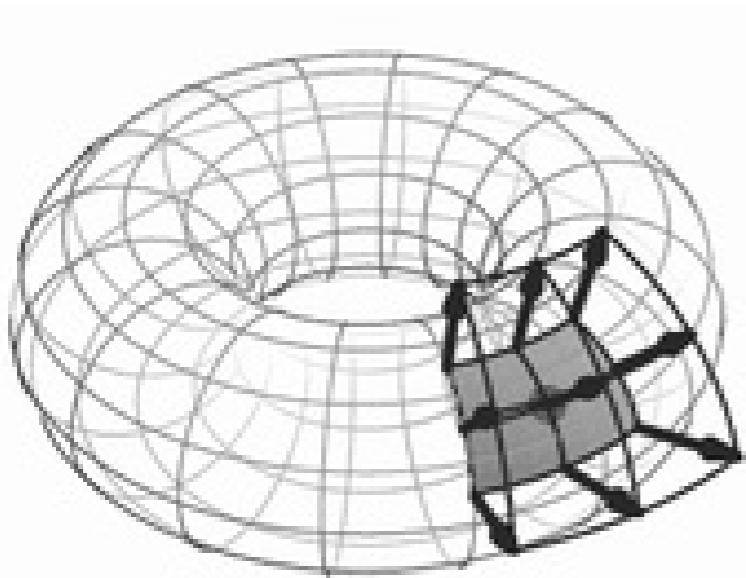


6

Two Curvatures to Rule Them All!

area ratio =

$$1 + \underbrace{\epsilon(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)}_{\text{mean curvature}} + \underbrace{\epsilon^2 \kappa_1 \kappa_2}_{\text{Gaussian curvature}}$$



Mean Curvature

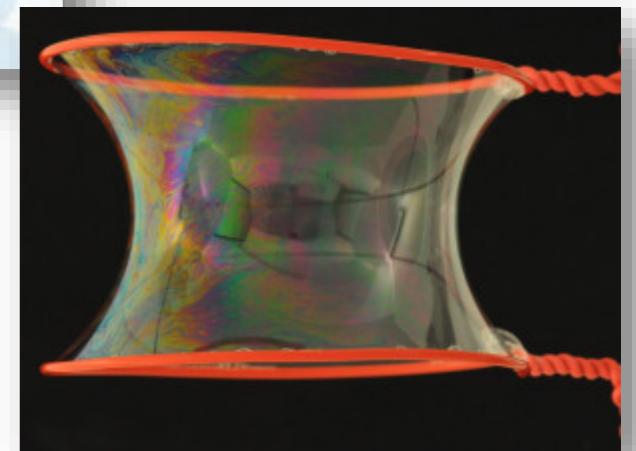
$$H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \kappa_n(\phi) d\phi$$

Minimize *bending*

[“Discrete Quadratic Curvature Energies”, Wardetzky et al., 2007]



Minimal surface, $H=0$



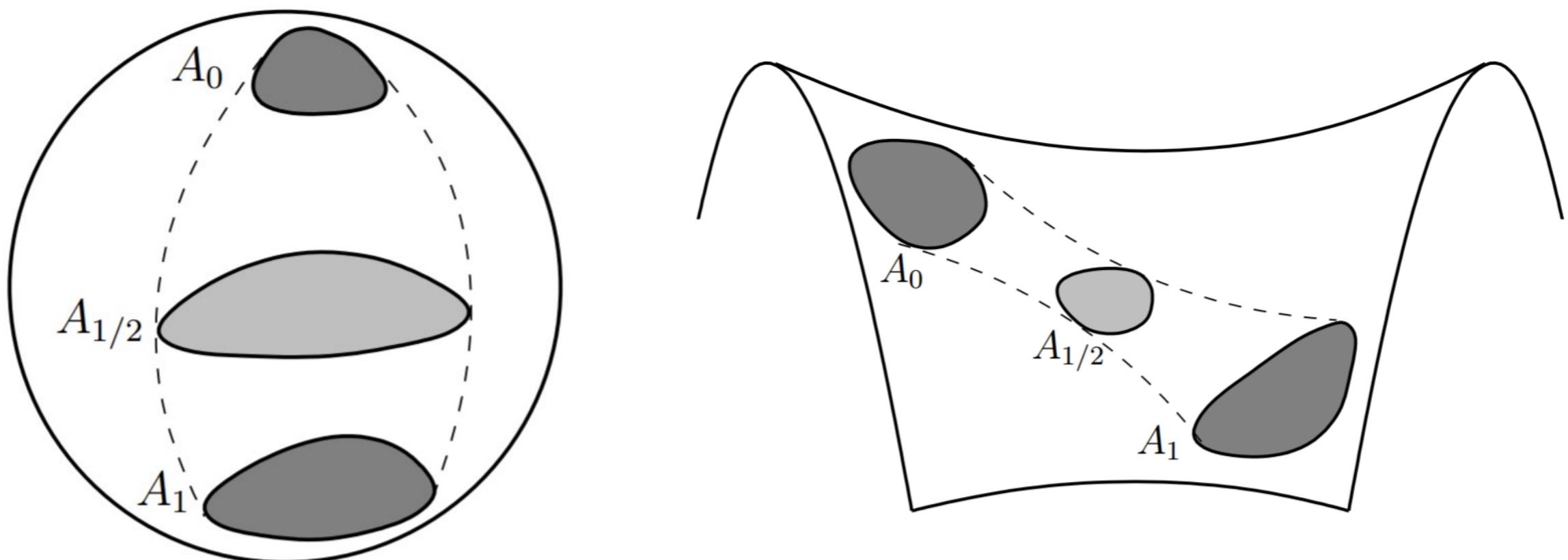
As a descriptor for features

[“Robust Voronoi-based Curvature and Feature Estimation”, Mérigot et al., 2009]



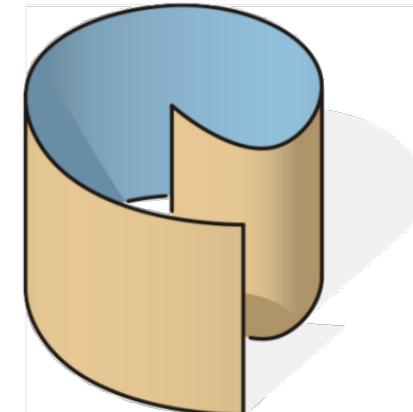
Gaussian Curvature

$$K = \kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2$$

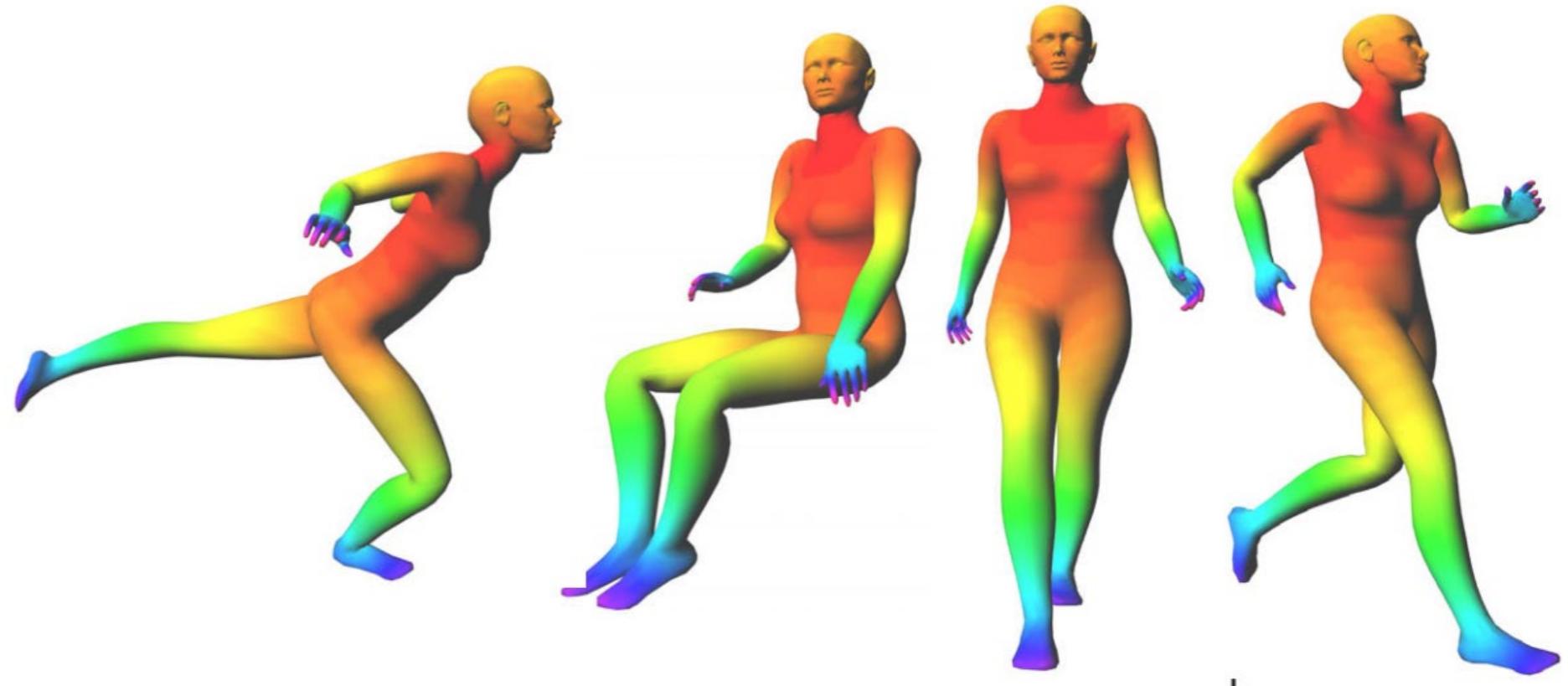


Gaussian Curvature

- Intrinsic – invariant to bending



- As a descriptor for shape similarity



Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

For ANY closed manifold surface with Euler number
 $\chi=2-2g$:

$$\int K = 2\pi\chi$$

$$\int K(\text{dolphin}) = \int K(\text{cow}) = \int K(\text{sphere}) = 4\pi$$

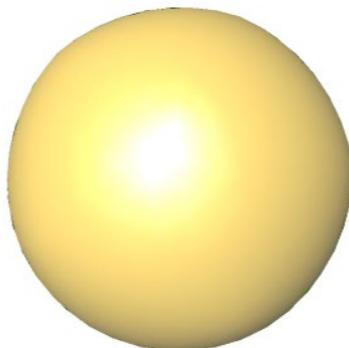
Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

Example

- Sphere

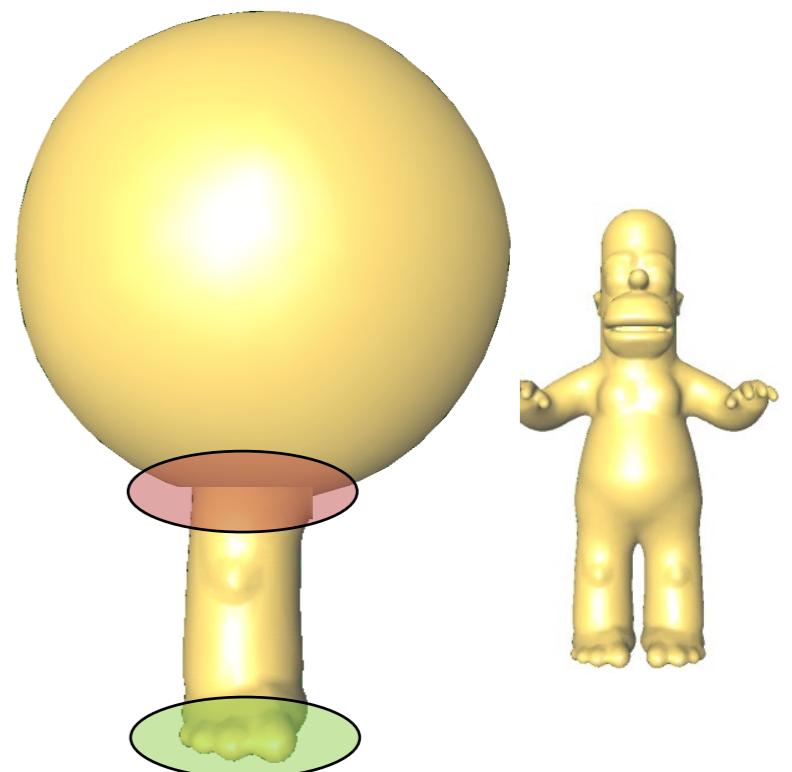
- $k_1 = k_2 = 1/r$
- $K = k_1 k_2 = 1/r^2$

$$\int K = 4\pi r^2 \cdot \frac{1}{r^2} = 4\pi$$



- Manipulate sphere

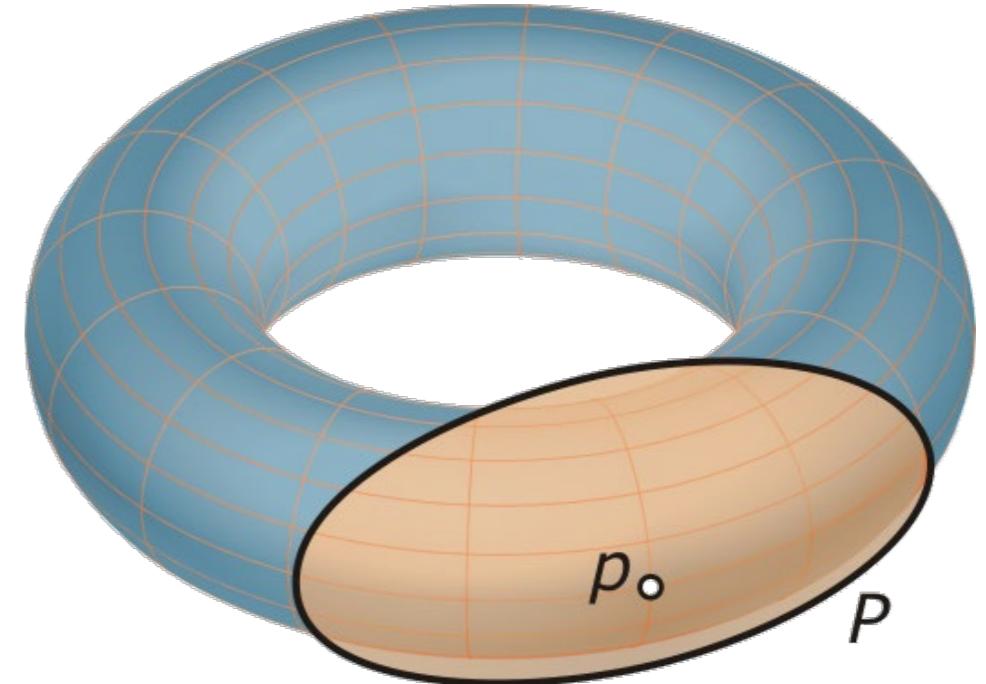
- New **positive** + **negative** curvature
- Cancel out!



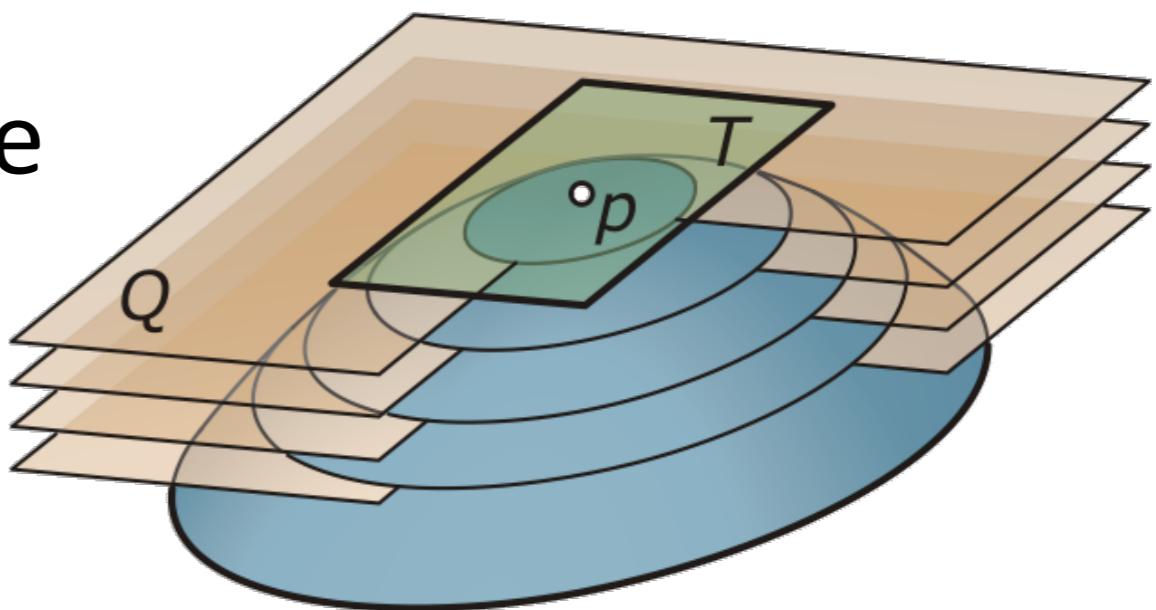
Surface Classification

Elliptic Points

$$\kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2 > 0$$



Surface lies locally on the same side of the tangent plane

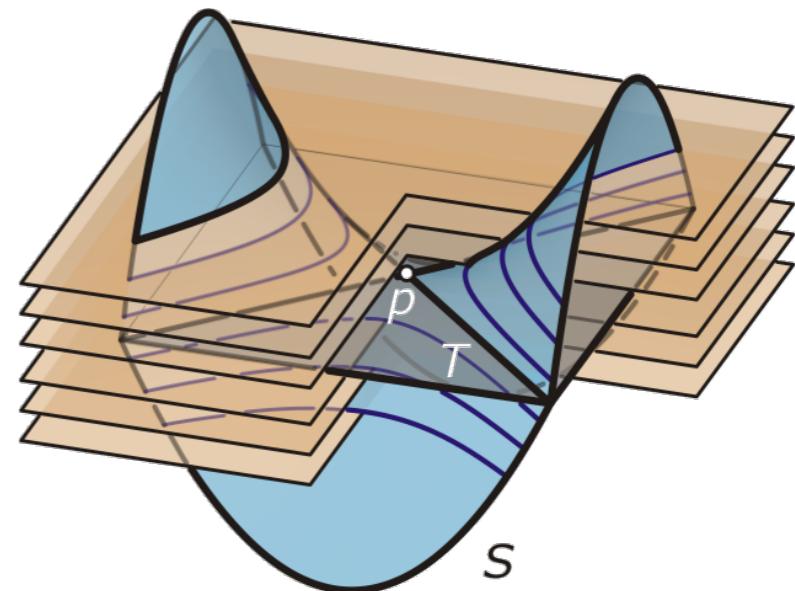
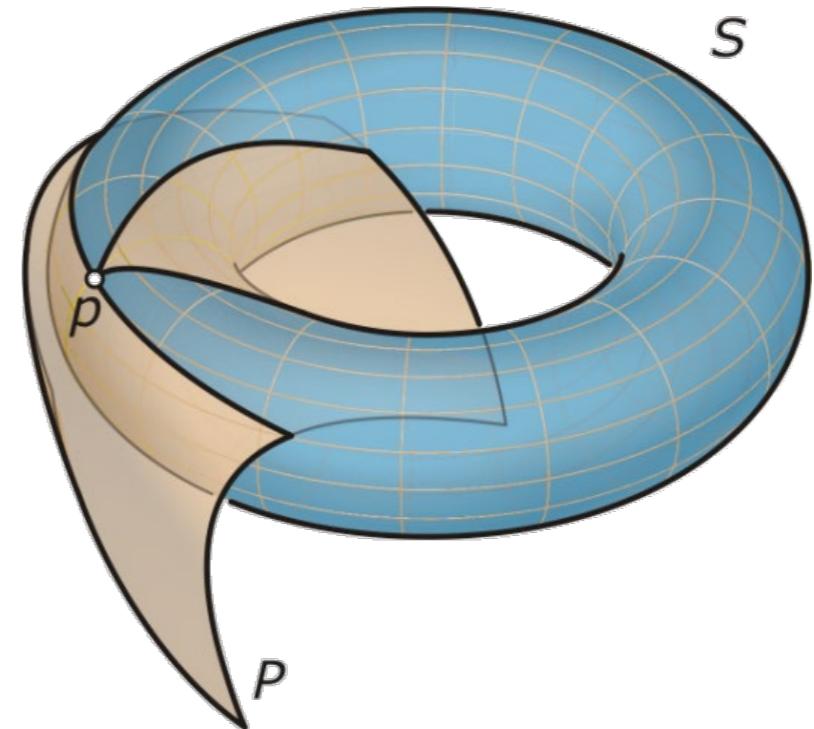


Surface Classification

Hyperbolic Points

$$\kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2 < 0$$

Surface lies locally on both sides of the tangent plane



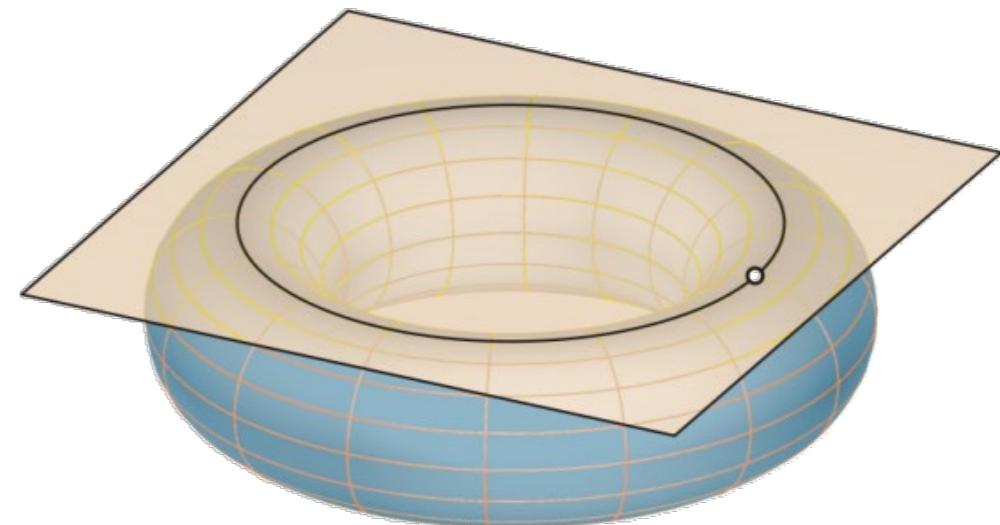
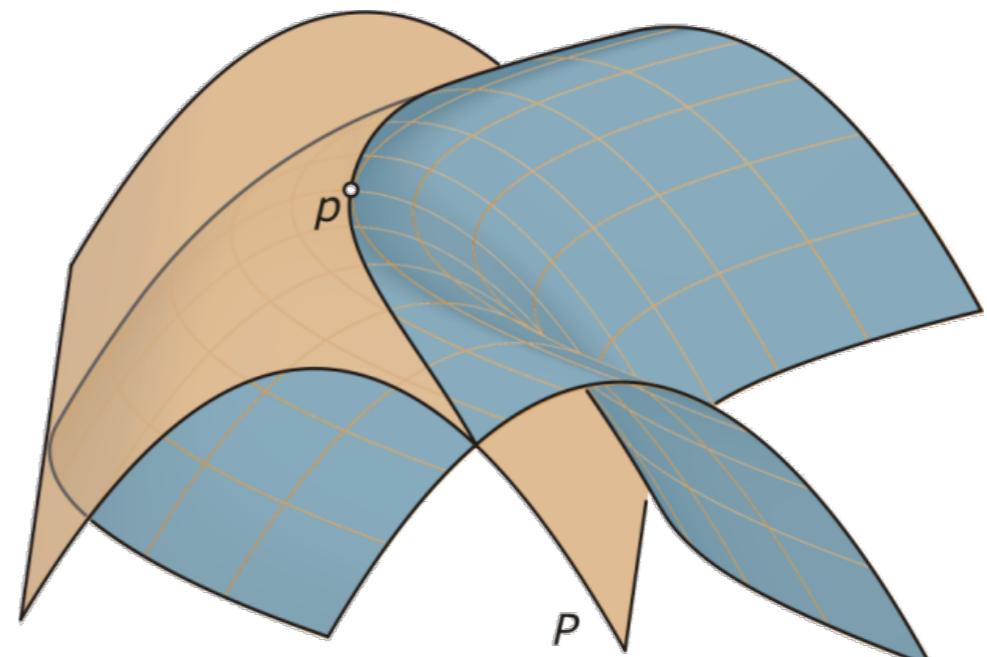
Surface Classification

Parabolic Points

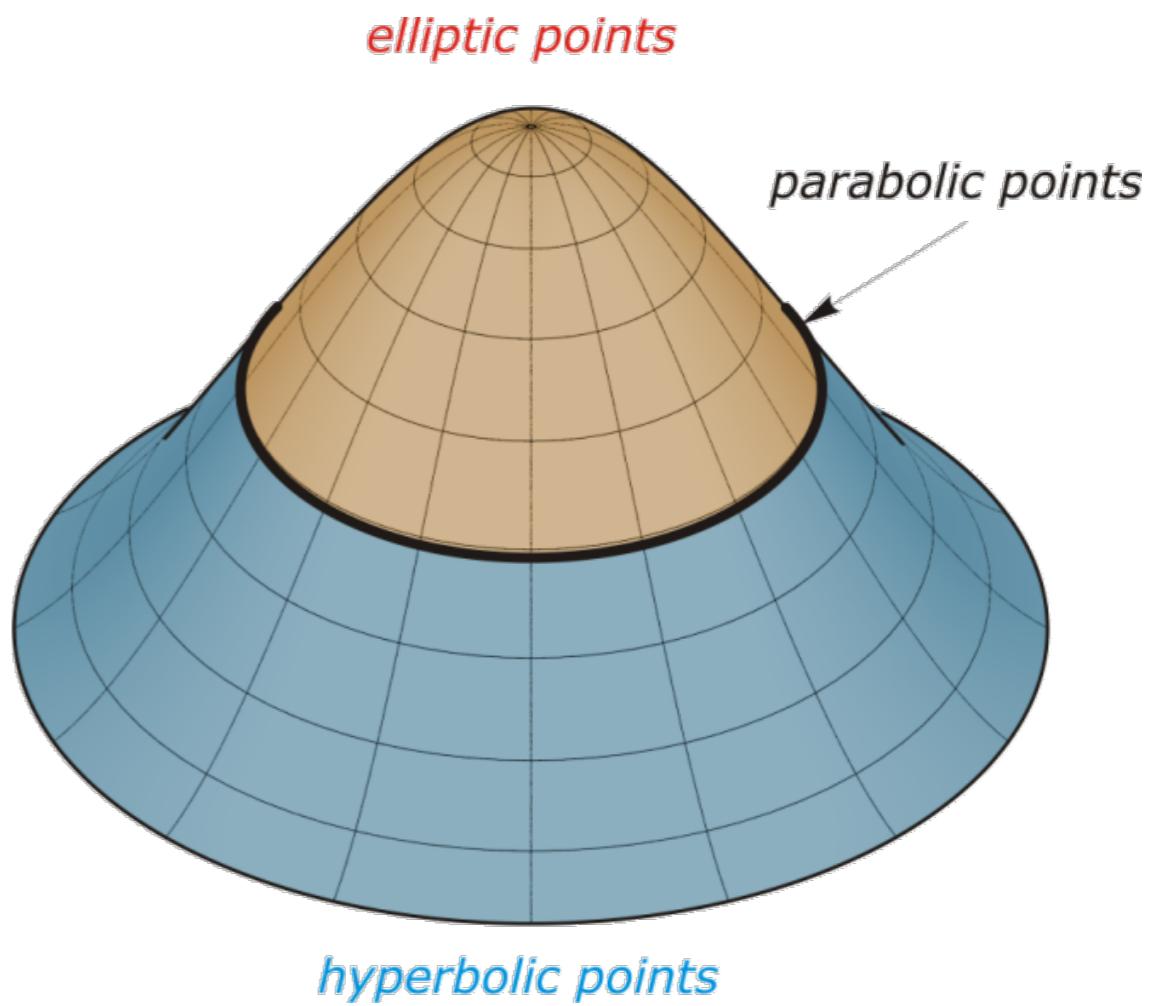
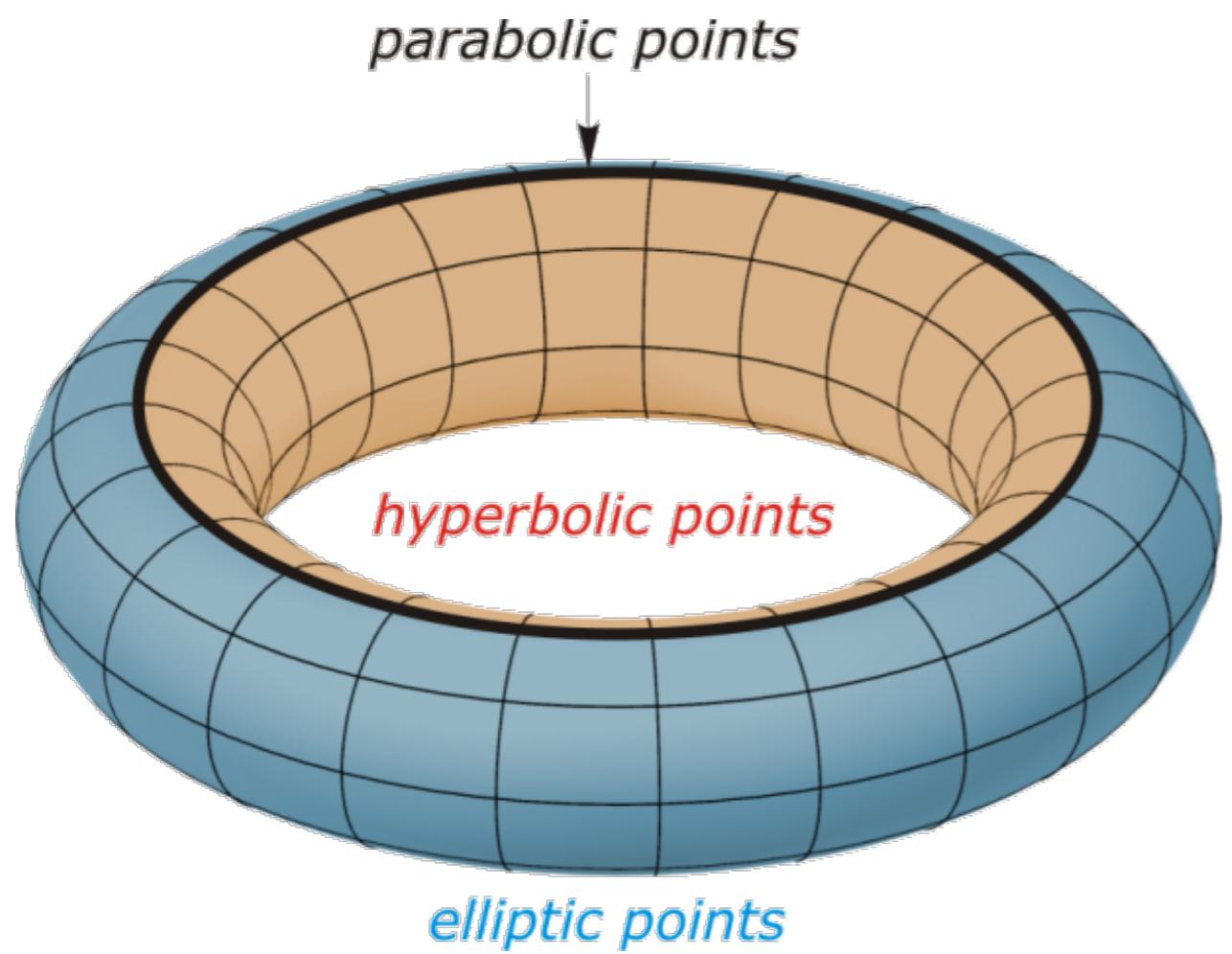
$\kappa_1 = 0$

or

$\kappa_2 = 0$



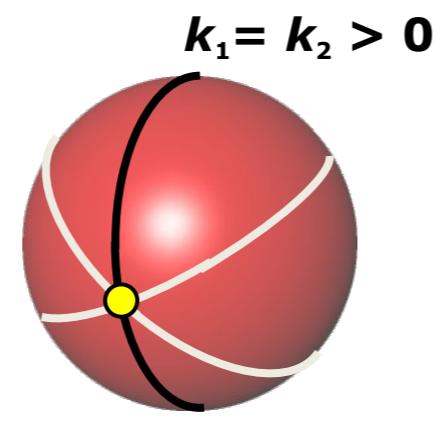
Examples



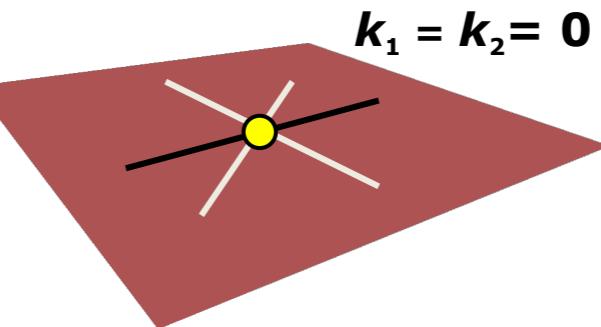
Surface Classification

Isotropic

Equal in all directions



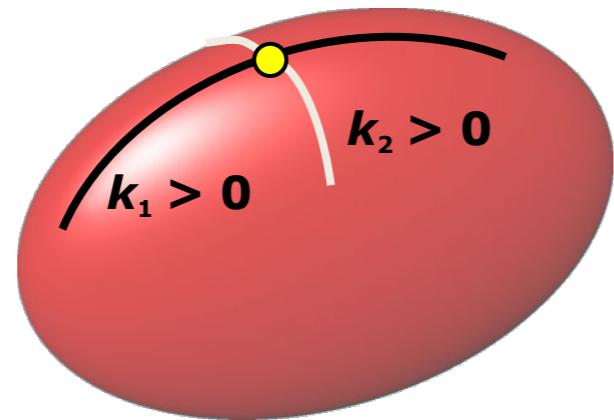
spherical



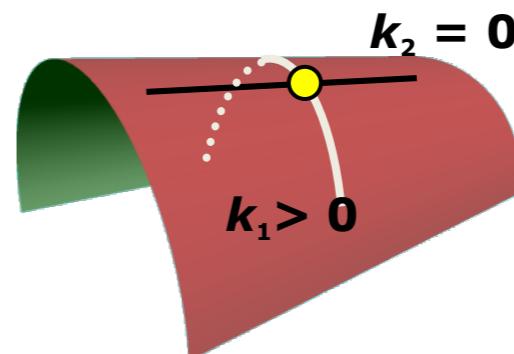
planar

Anisotropic

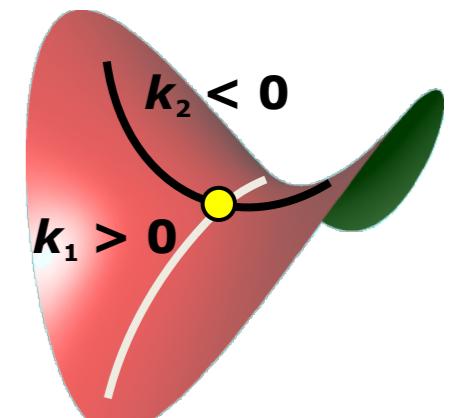
Distinct principal directions



elliptic
 $K > 0$



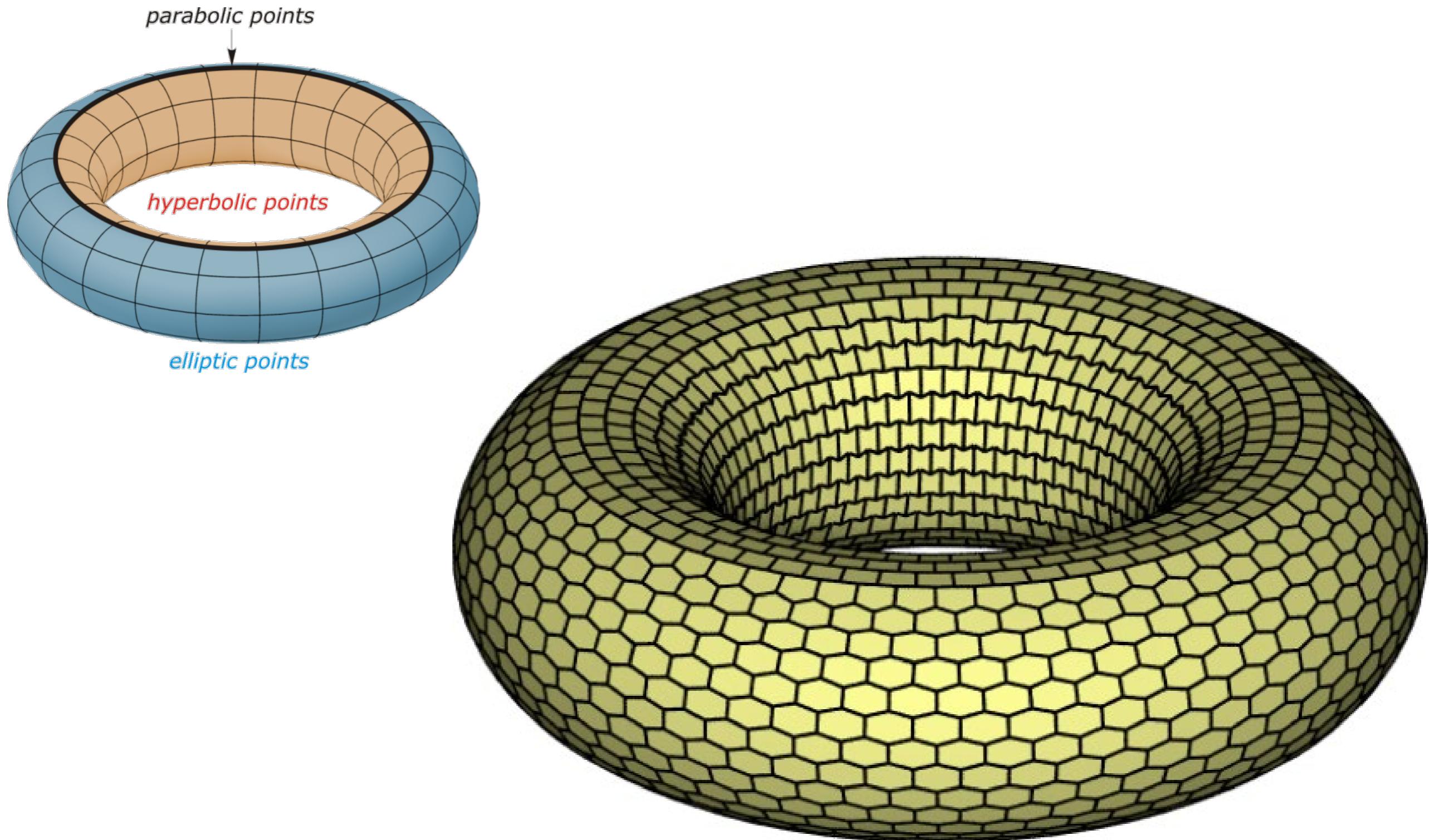
parabolic
 $K = 0$
developable



hyperbolic
 $K < 0$

[Demo](#)

Classification for Planar Hexagonal Meshing



Fundamental Forms

- First fundamental form

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u & \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v \\ \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v & \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v \end{bmatrix}$$

- Second fundamental form

$$\mathbf{II} = \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ f & g \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{uu}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{vv}^T \mathbf{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Fundamental Forms

- I and II allow to measure
 - length, angles, area, curvature
 - arc element

$$ds^2 = Edu^2 + 2Fdudv + Gdv^2$$

- area element

$$dA = \sqrt{EG - F^2} dudv$$

Intrinsic Geometry

- Properties of the surface that only depend on the first fundamental form
 - length
 - angles
 - Gaussian curvature (Theorema Egregium)
- First + second FF enough to reconstruct up to rigid motion

Bonus Task

- Film a short video demonstrating Theorema Egregium
 - E.g., the pizza experiment, corrugated paper, etc.

- Be creative!



- We'll vote on the best one
 - Winner gets negatively curved potatoes



No Parametric Surface?

- Input is triangle mesh and not parametric surface
- How to compute curvature (and everything else...)?
- Variational approach
 - Define an energy and minimize it
 - Need *differential operators*

Differential Operators

Gradient ∇

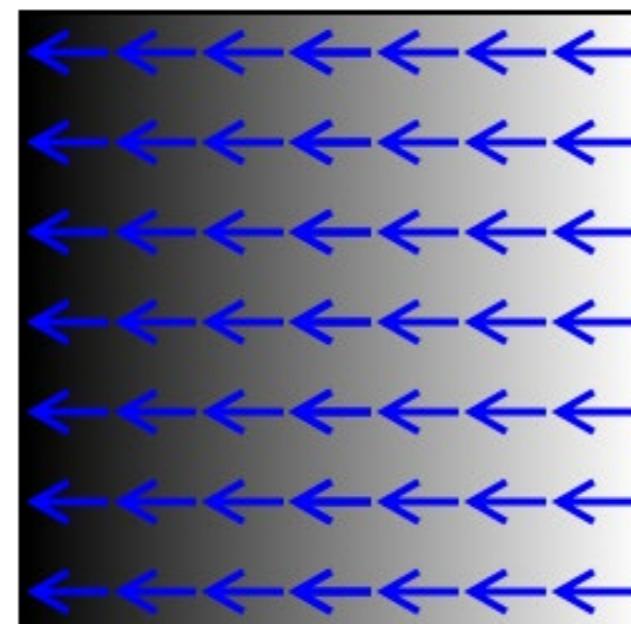
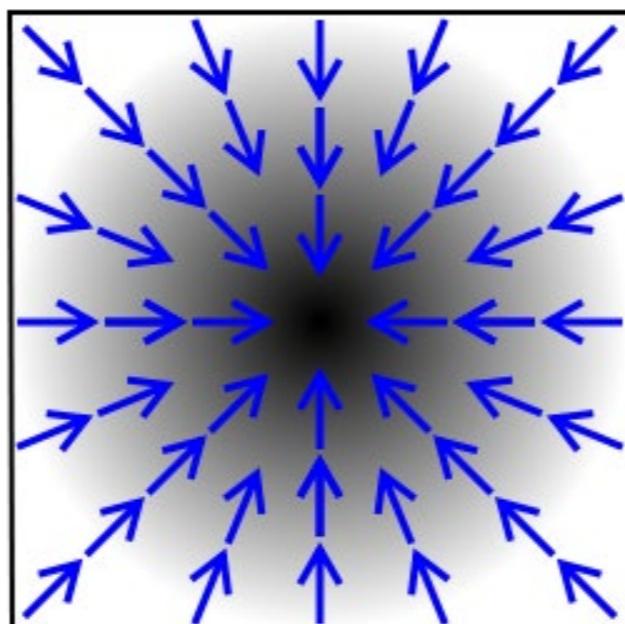
- **Input:** scalar function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- **Output:** vector field

$$\nabla f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

- **Intuition:** slope



$$\text{grad } f = \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right)$$

Differential Operators

Divergence $\nabla \cdot$

- **Input:** vector field

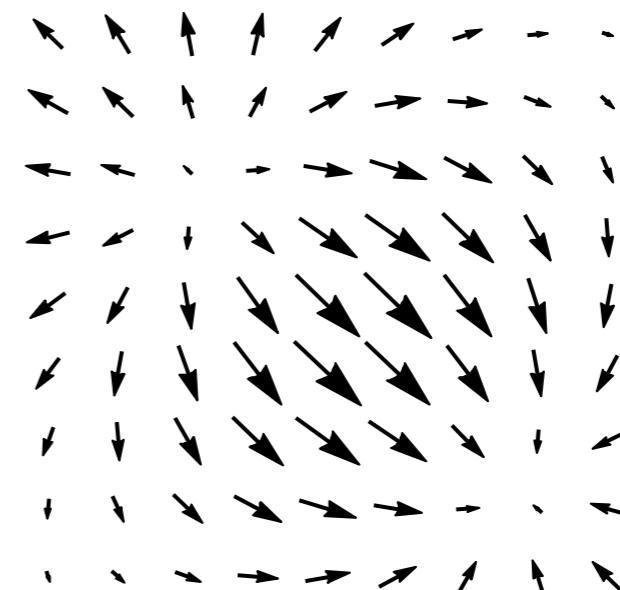
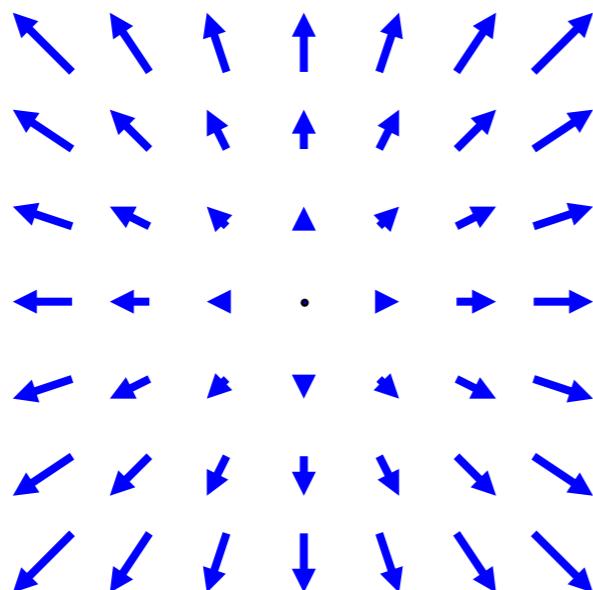
$$F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

- **Output:** scalar function

$$\text{div } \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

$$\nabla \cdot F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- **Intuition:** sources/sinks (think Jacuzzi...)



Differential Operators

Laplacian ∇^2, Δ

- **Input:** scalar function

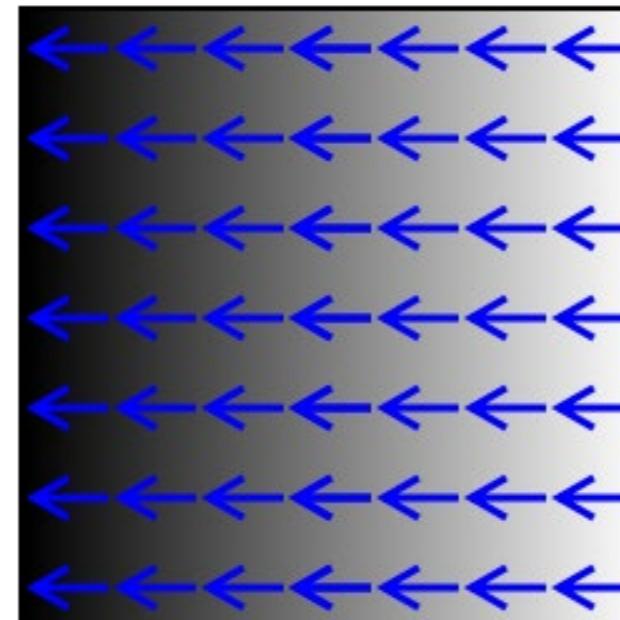
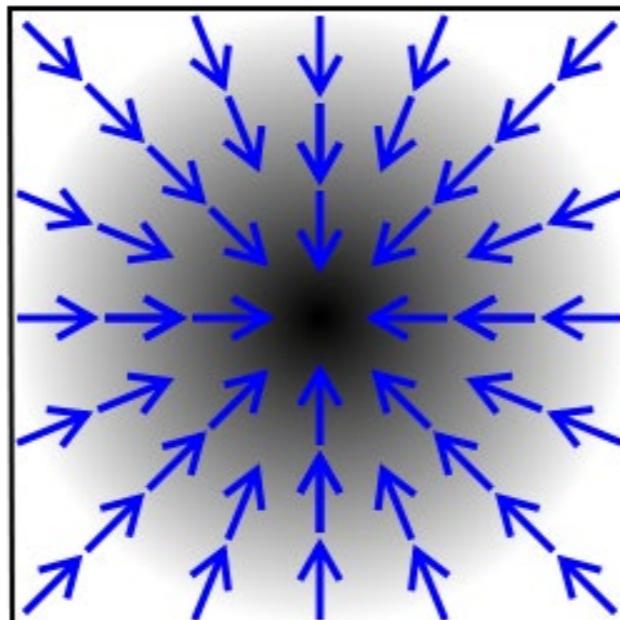
$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- **Output:** scalar function

$$\Delta f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Delta f = \operatorname{div} \nabla f = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2}$$

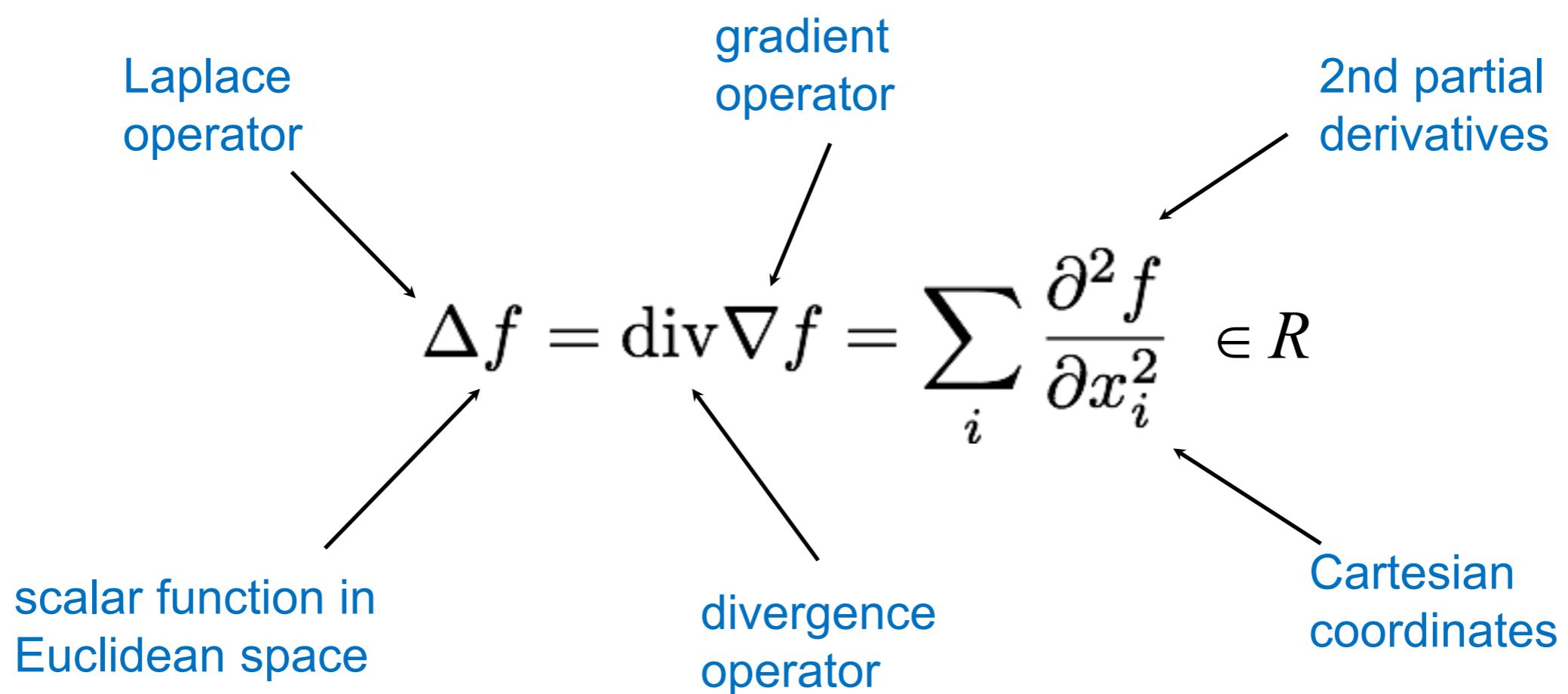
- **Intuition:** smoothness, deviation from average



Laplace Operator

$$f : R^3 \rightarrow R$$

$$\Delta f : R^3 \rightarrow R$$



$$\operatorname{grad} f = \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right)$$

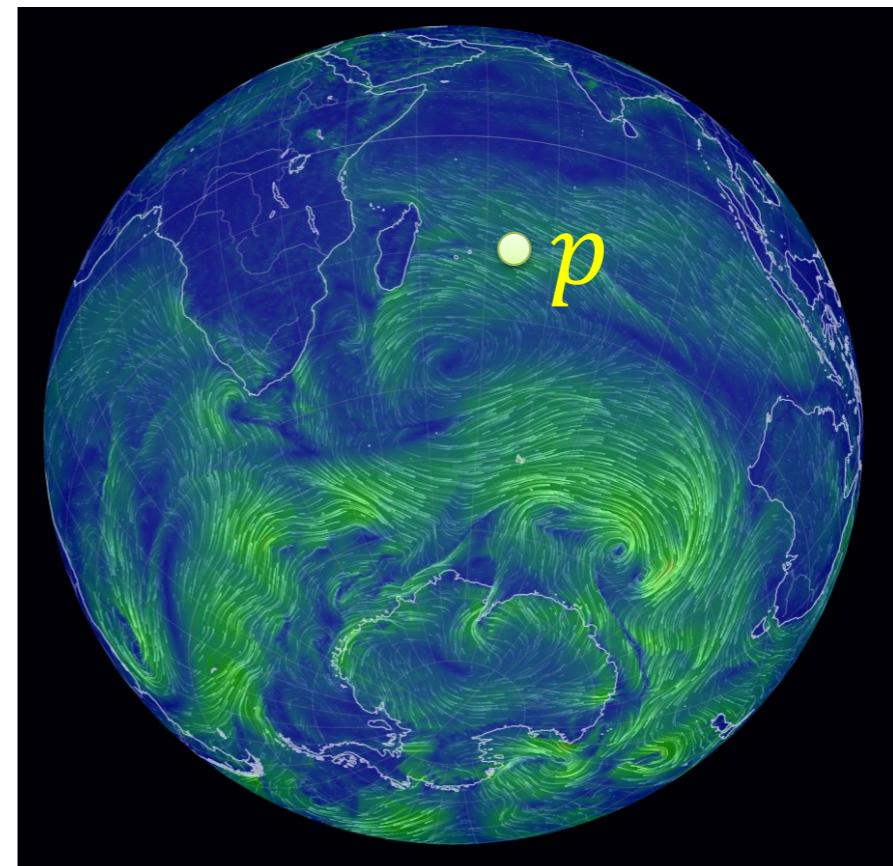
$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

Laplace-Beltrami Operator

- Extension to functions on manifolds $S, p \in S$



$$f(p) \in \mathbb{R}$$



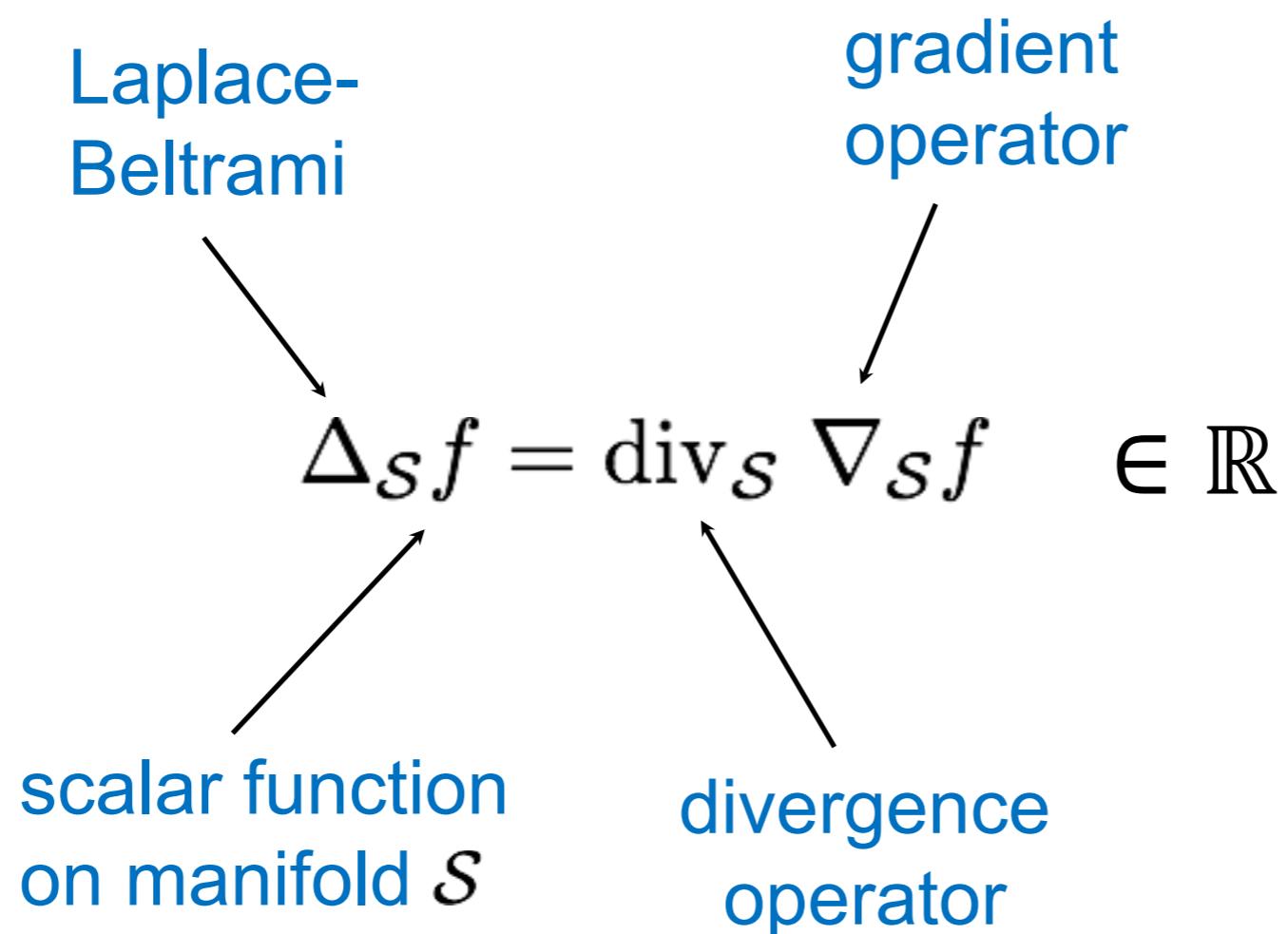
$$F(p) \in \underbrace{T_p S}_{\text{Tangent plane at } p}$$

Tangent plane at p

Laplace-Beltrami Operator

- Extension to functions on manifolds

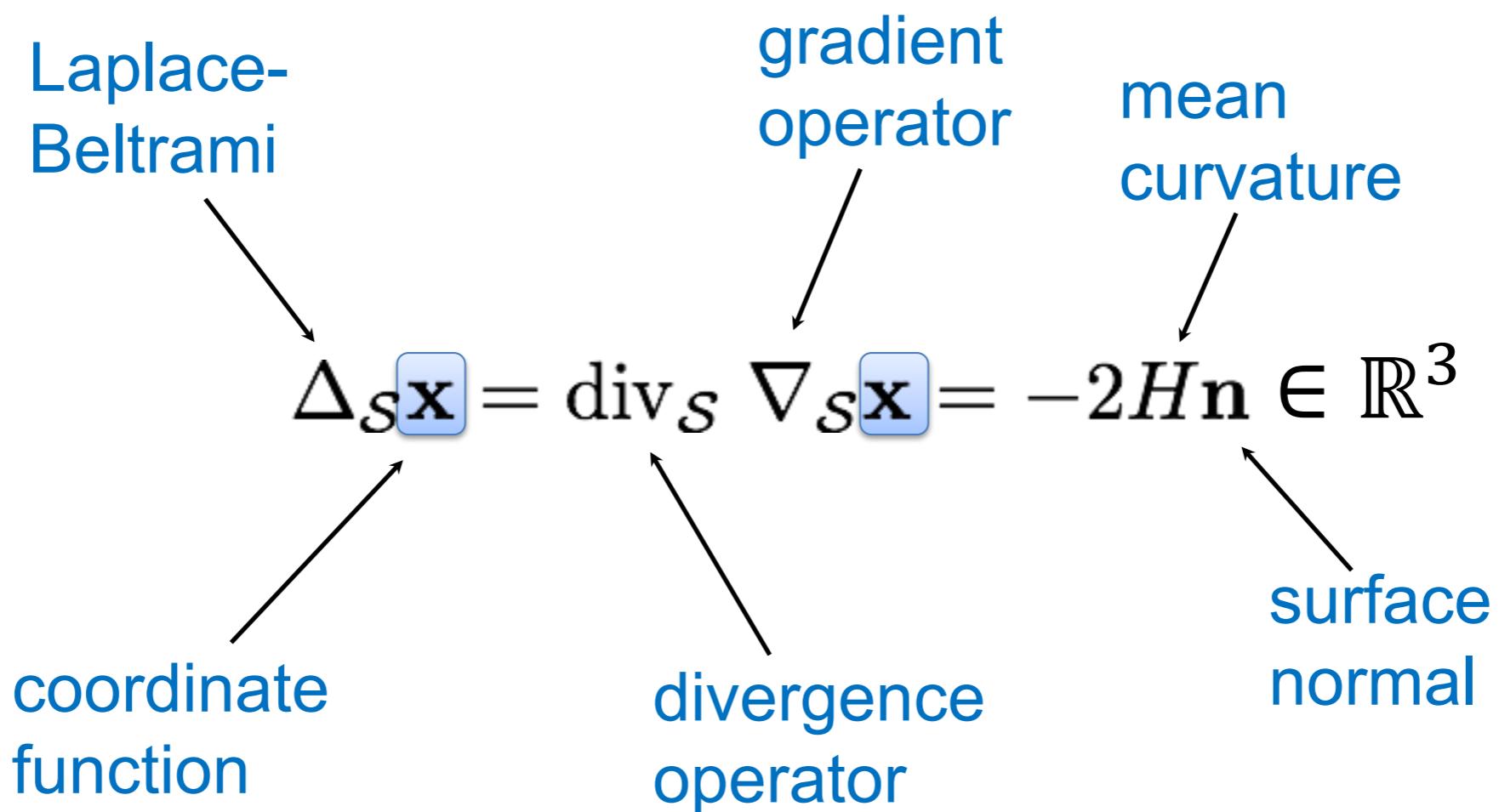
$$f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$



Laplace-Beltrami Operator (LBO)

- For coordinate function(s)

$$f(x, y, z) = \mathbf{x}$$

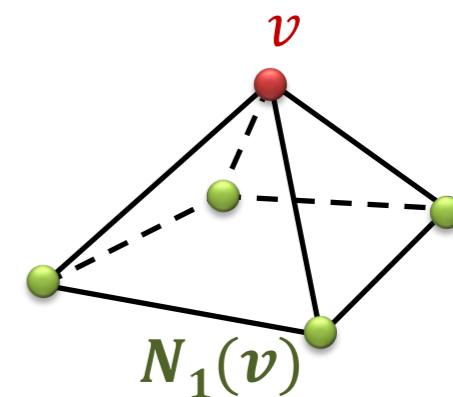
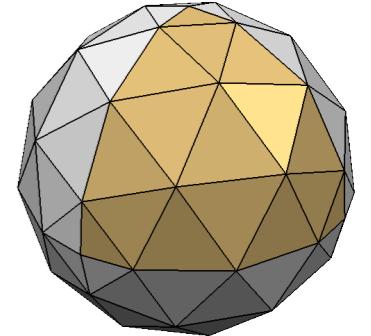


LBO is a second derivative

LBO of coordinates \rightarrow normal direction times curvature, similar to curves!

Discrete Differential Operators

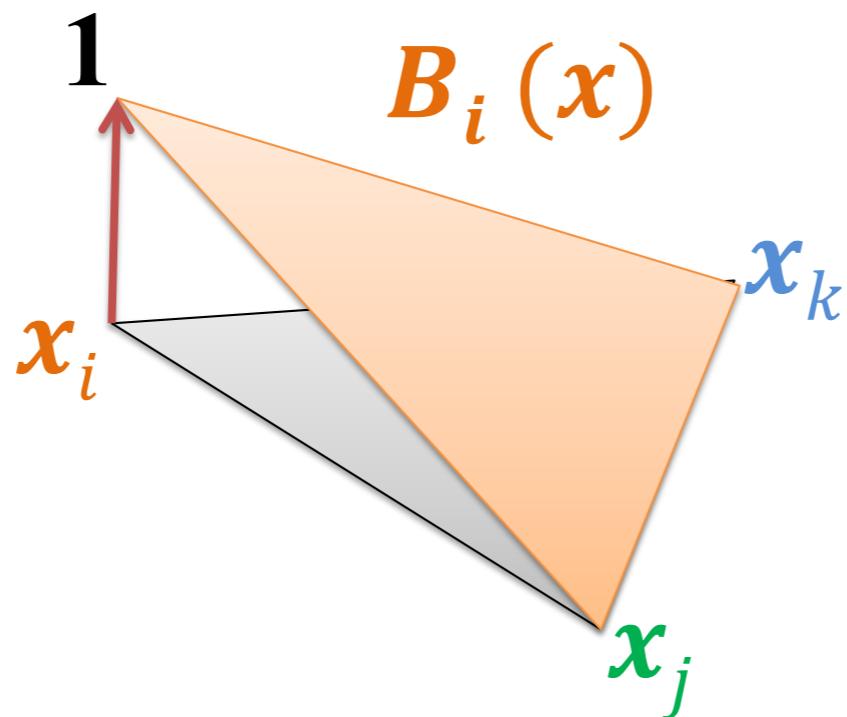
- **Assumption:** Meshes are piecewise linear approximations of smooth surfaces
- **Approach:** Approximate differential properties at point v as finite differences over local mesh neighborhood $N(v)$
 - v = mesh vertex
 - $N_d(v)$ = d -ring neighborhood
- **Disclaimer:** many possible discretizations, none is “perfect”



Functions on Meshes

- Function f given at mesh vertices $f(vi) = f(\mathbf{x}_i) = f_i$
- Linear interpolation to triangle $\mathbf{x} \in (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$

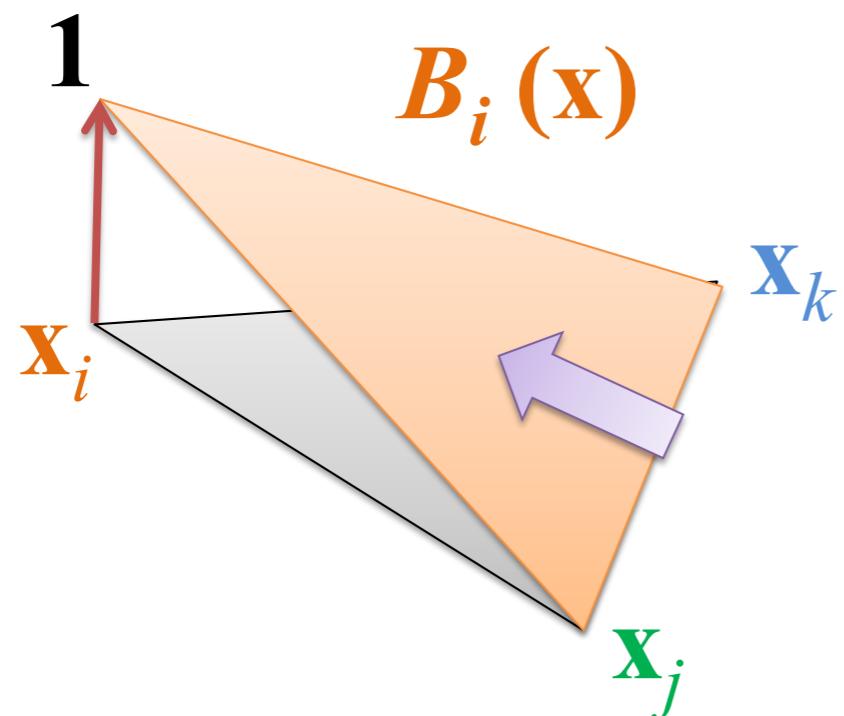
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k B_k(\mathbf{x})$$



Gradient of a Function

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k B_k(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i \nabla B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j \nabla B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k \nabla B_k(\mathbf{x})$$



Steepest ascent direction
perpendicular to opposite edge

$$\nabla B_i(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla B_i = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2A_T}$$

Constant in the triangle

Gradient of a Function

$$B_i(\mathbf{x}) + B_j(\mathbf{x}) + B_k(\mathbf{x}) = 1$$

$$\nabla B_i + \nabla B_j + \nabla B_k = 0$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_j - f_i) \nabla B_j(\mathbf{x}) + (f_k - f_i) \nabla B_k(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_j - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp}{2A_T} + (f_k - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i)^\perp}{2A_T}$$

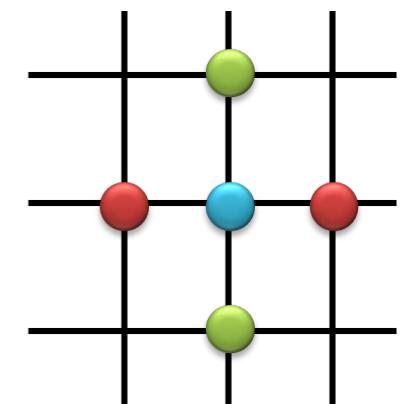
Discrete Laplace-Beltrami First Approach

- Laplace operator: $\Delta f = \operatorname{div} \nabla f = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2}$

- In 2D: $\Delta f = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$

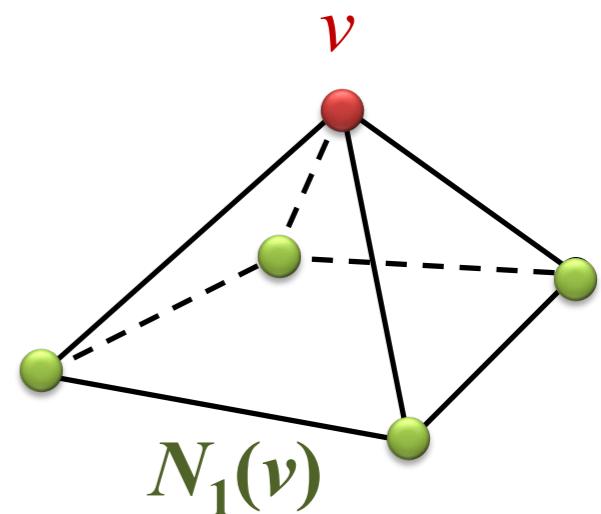
- On a grid – finite differences discretization:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f(x_i, y_i) = & \frac{f(x_{i+1}, y_i) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \frac{f(x_{i-1}, y_i) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \\ & + \frac{f(x_i, y_{i+1}) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \frac{f(x_i, y_{i-1}) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2}\end{aligned}$$



Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Uniform Discretization

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f &= \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} (f(v) - f(v_i)) = \\ &= |N_1(v)| f(v) - \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} f(v_i)\end{aligned}$$

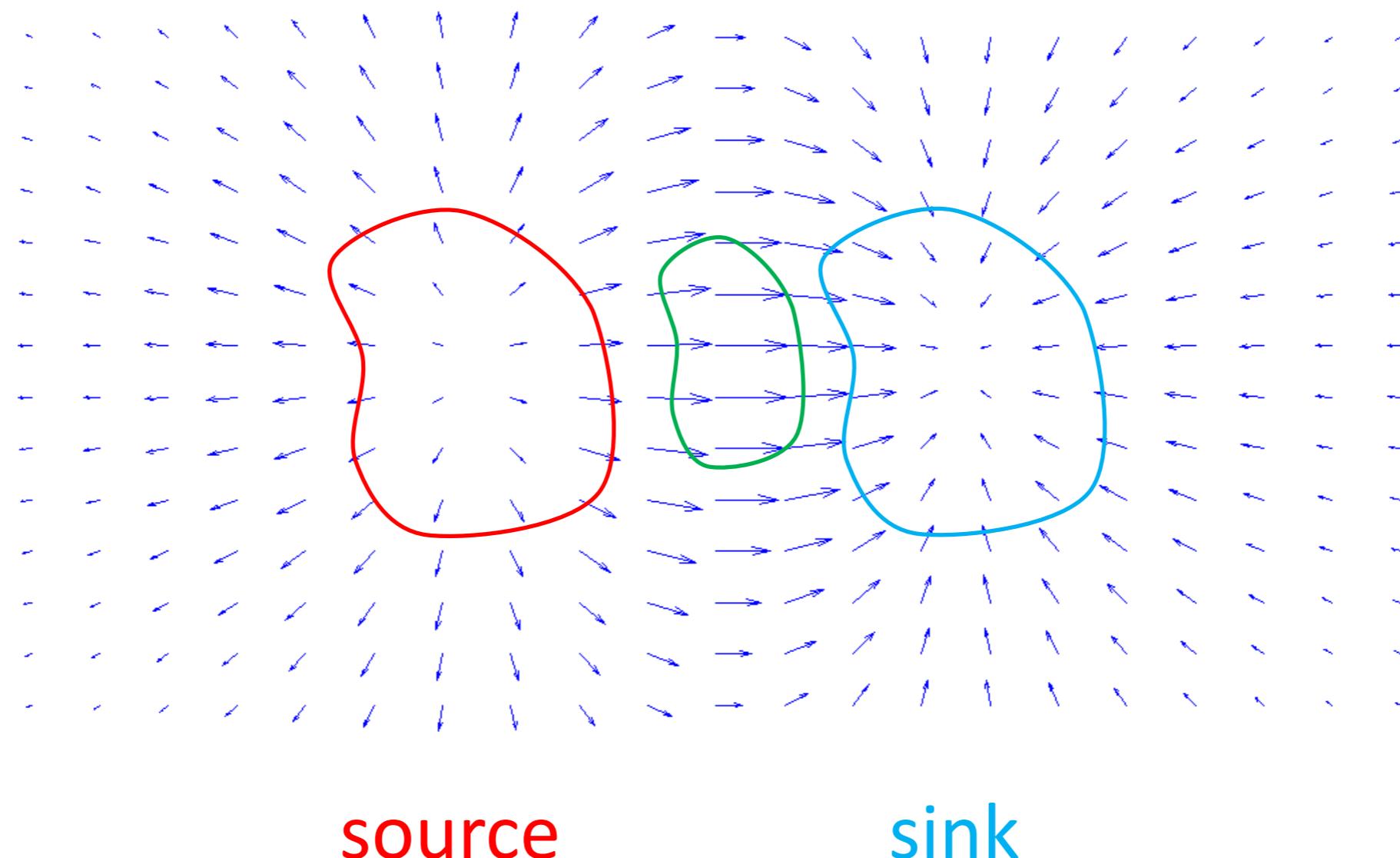


Normalized:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f &= \frac{1}{|N_1(v)|} \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} (f(v) - f(v_i)) = \\ &= f(v) - \frac{1}{|N_1(v)|} \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} f(v_i)\end{aligned}$$

Divergence

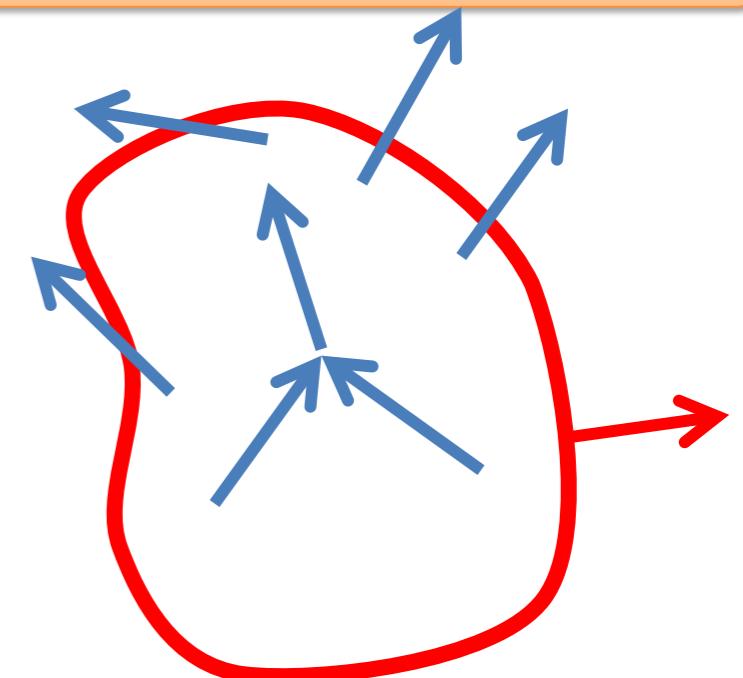
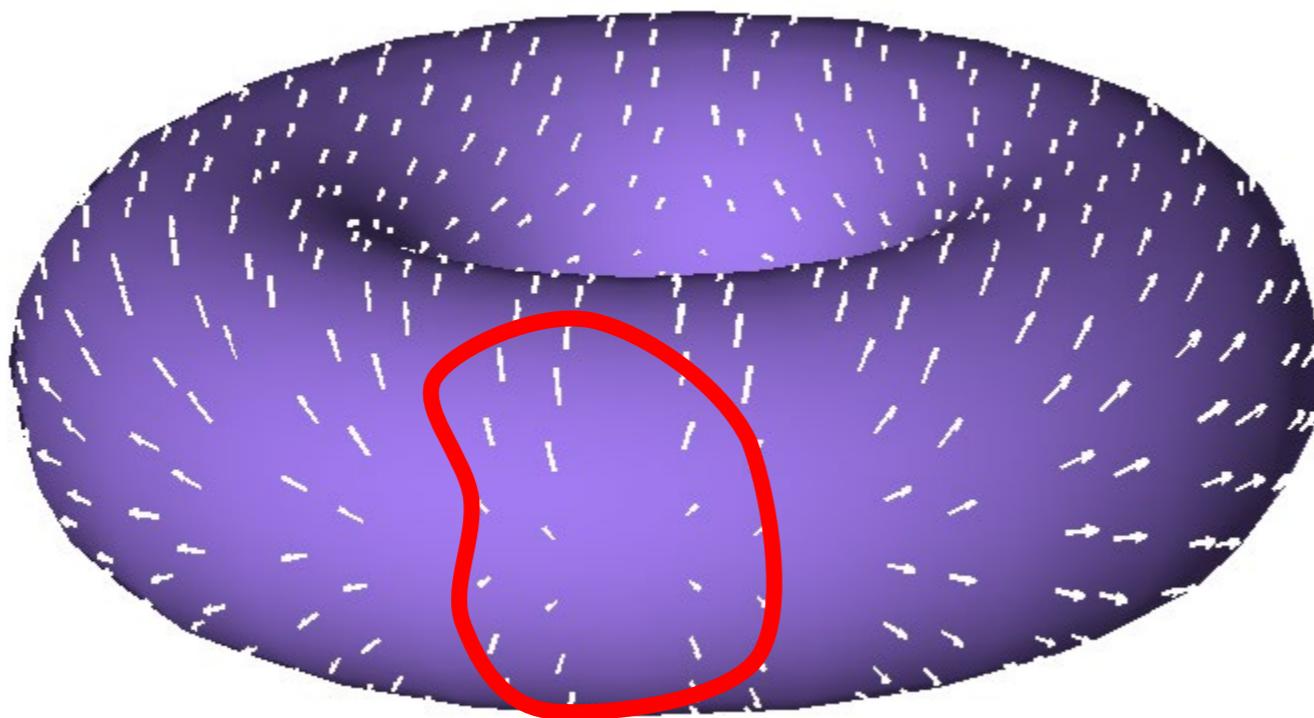
- How much goes out – how much comes in



Divergence

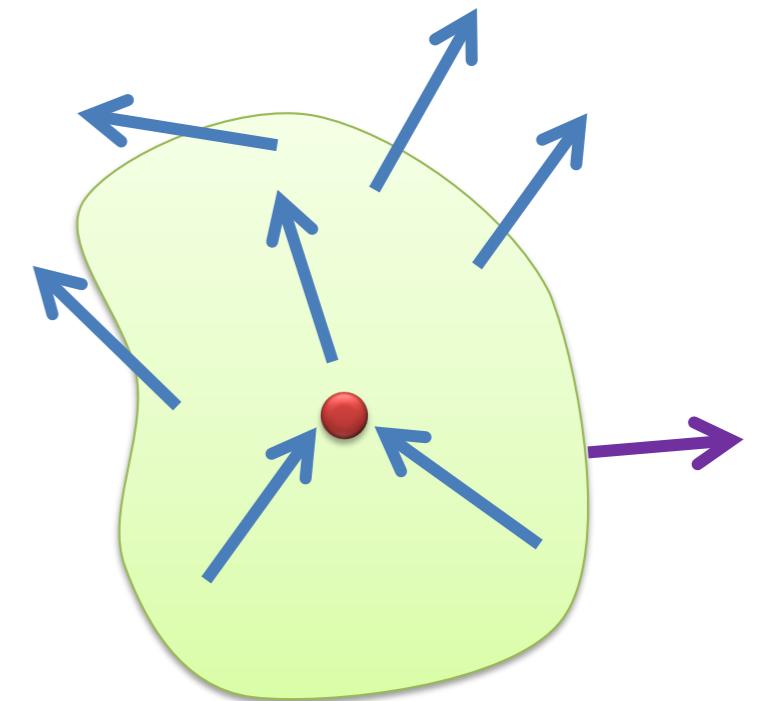
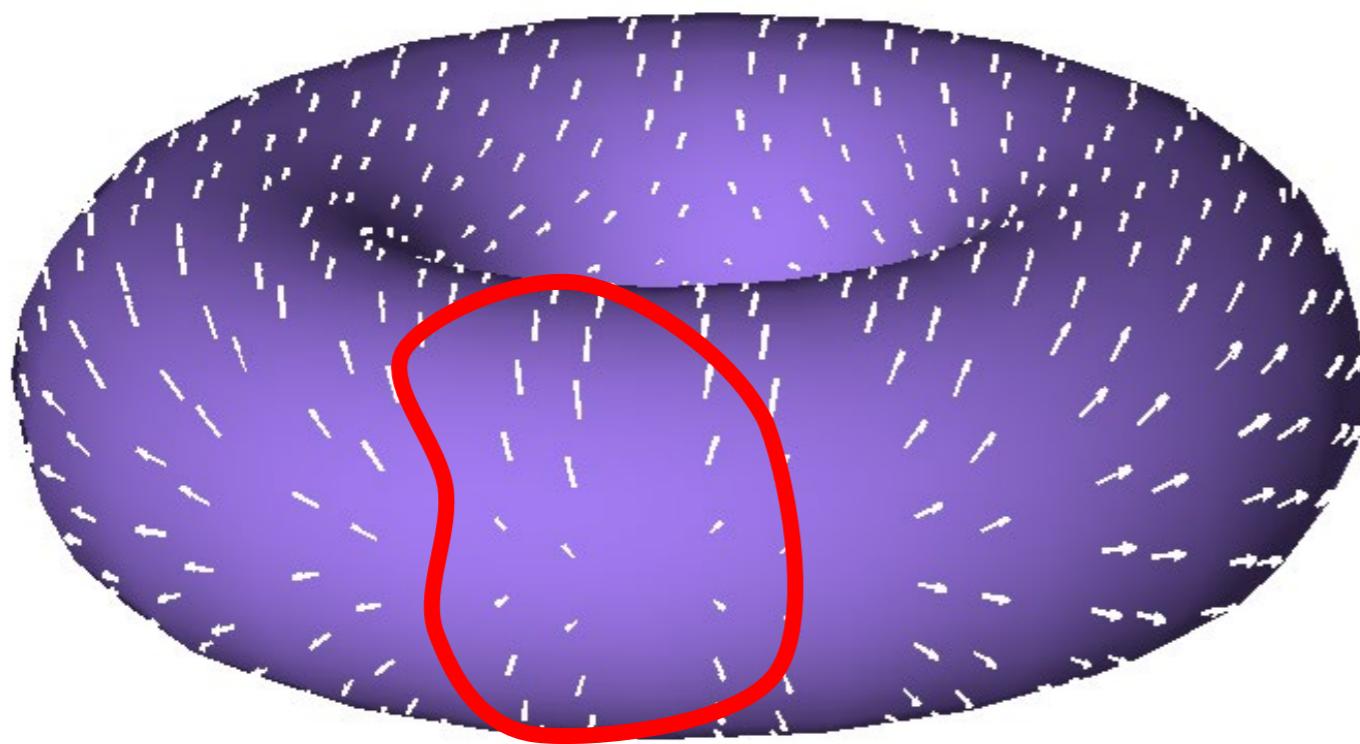
- How to measure “all the stuff that comes in – stuff that goes out”?
 - Only the boundary matters!

Only **normal** to the curve



Divergence Theorem

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{N}$$

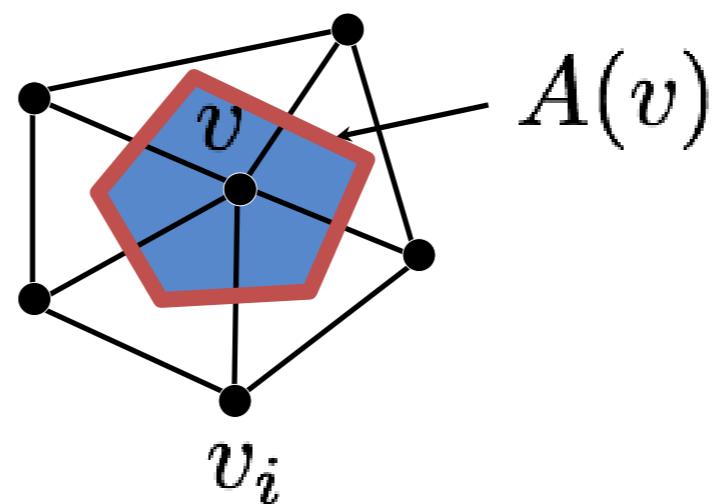


Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Second Approach

- Laplace-Beltrami operator: $\Delta_S f = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S f$
- Compute integral around vertex

$$\int_{A(v)} \Delta f(\mathbf{u}) dA$$

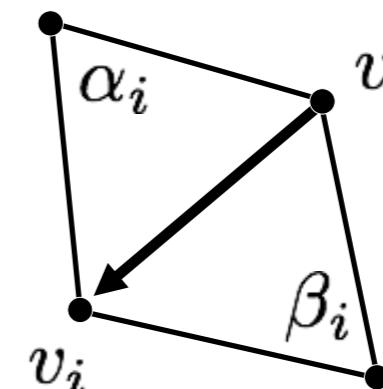
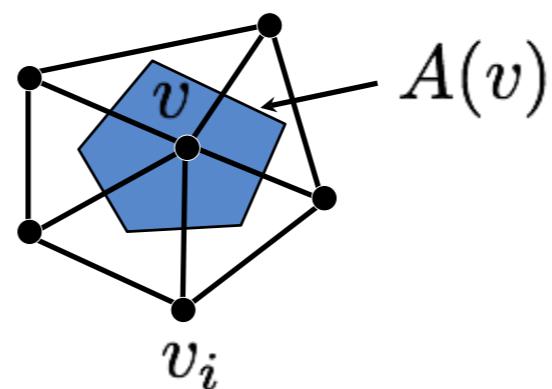
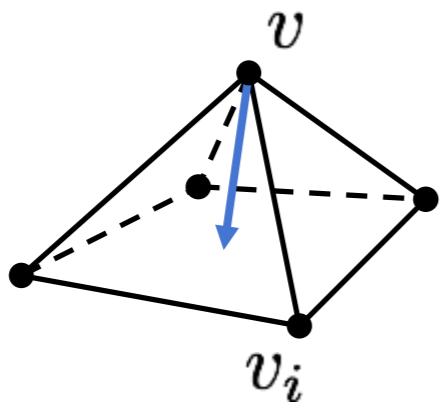
Divergence theorem



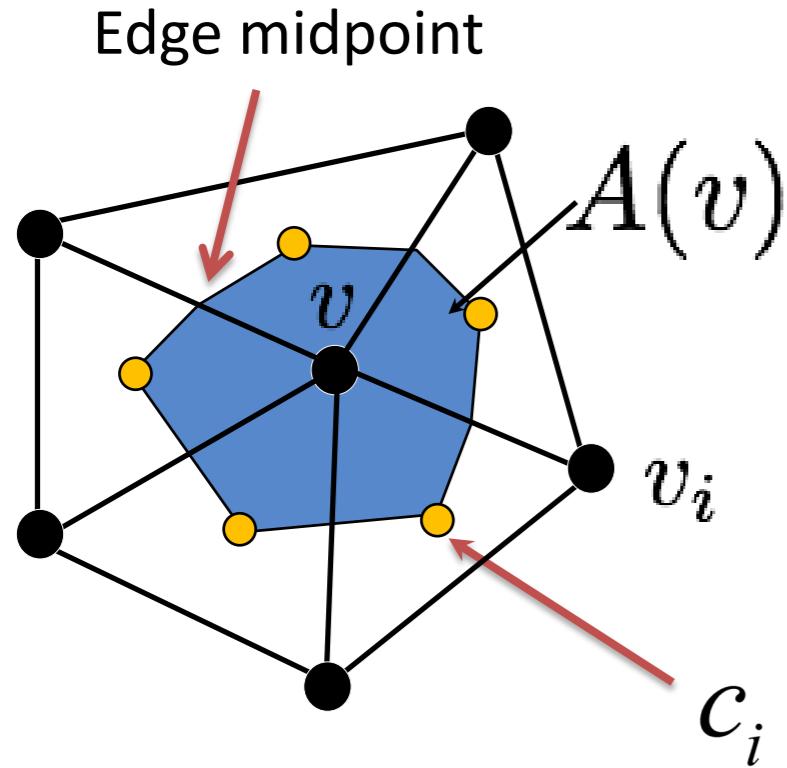
Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Cotangent Formula

Plugging in expression for gradients gives:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f(v) &= \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} w_i (f(v_i) - f(v)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2A(v)} \sum_{v_i \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} (\cot \alpha_i + \cot \beta_i) (f(v_i) - f(v))\end{aligned}$$

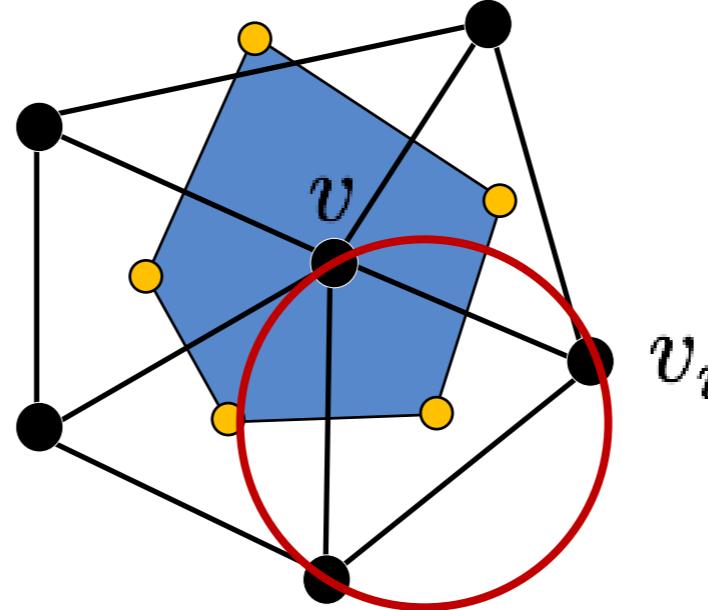


The Averaging Region



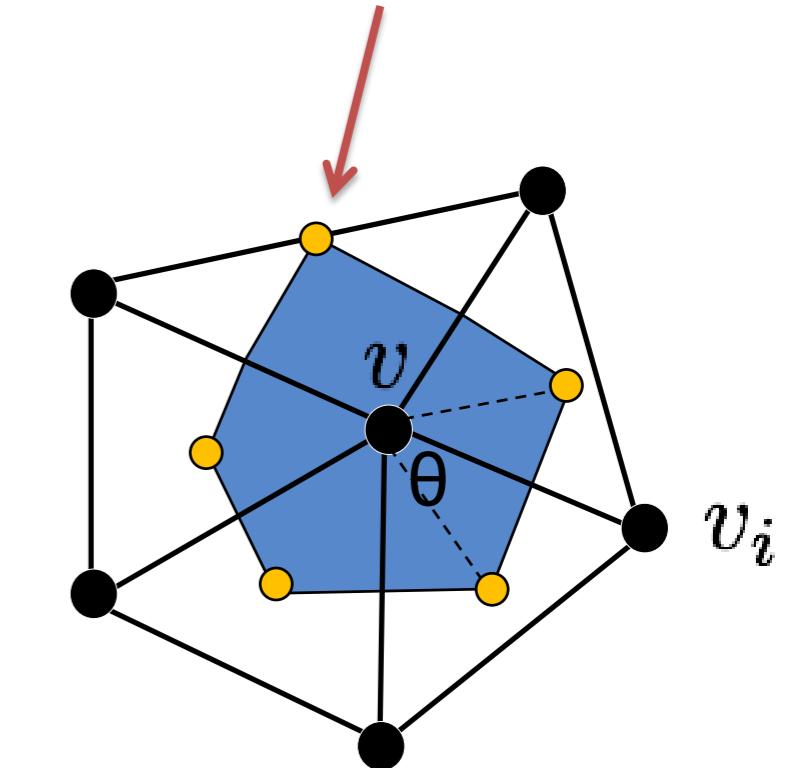
Barycentric cell

c_i = barycenter
of triangle



Voronoi cell

c_i = circumcenter
of triangle

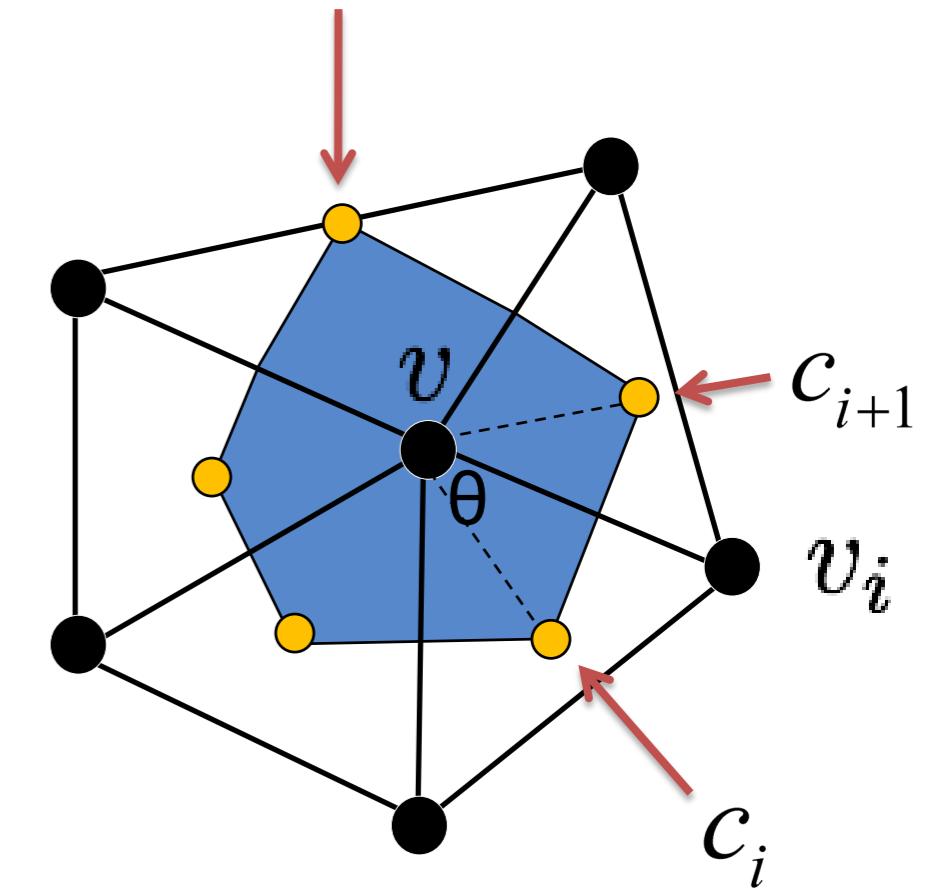


Mixed cell

The Averaging Region Mixed Cell

If $\theta < \pi/2$, c_i is the circumcenter
of the triangle (v_i, v, v_{i+1})

If $\theta \geq \pi/2$, c_i is the midpoint of
the edge (v_i, v_{i+1})



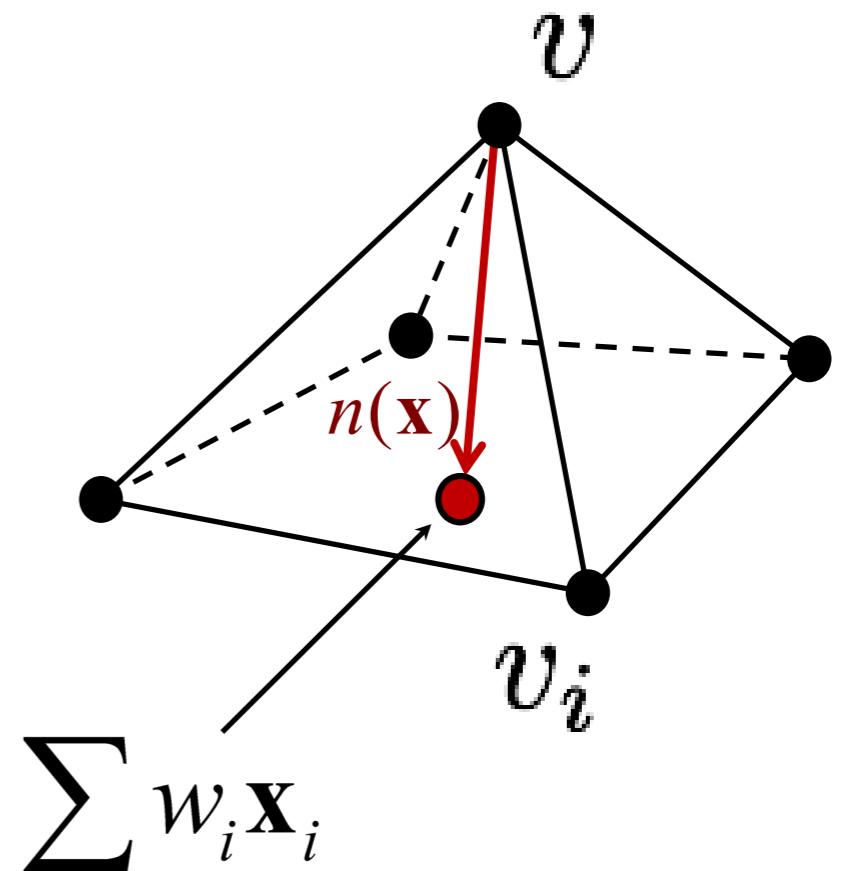
$$A(v) = \sum_{v_i \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \left(\text{Area}(c_i, v, (v + v_i)/2) + \text{Area}(c_{i+1}, v, (v + v_i)/2) \right)$$

Discrete Normal

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{div}_{\mathcal{S}} \nabla_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = -2H \mathbf{n}$$

$$n(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} w_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}) \quad \sum_i w_i = 1$$

$$= \left(\sum_{\mathbf{x}_i \in N_1(\mathbf{x})} w_i \mathbf{x}_i \right) - \mathbf{x}$$



$$\sum w_i \mathbf{x}_i$$

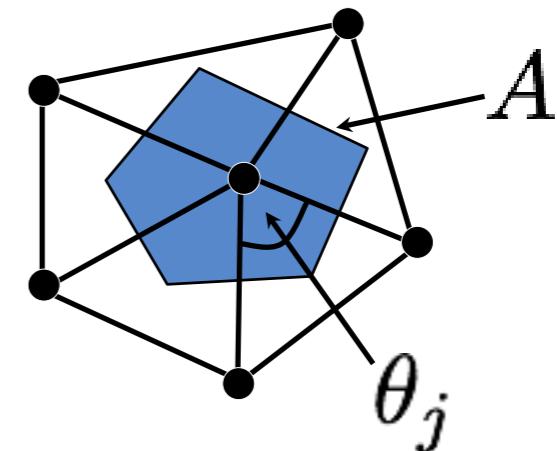
Discrete Curvatures

- Mean curvature

$$H = \|\Delta_S \mathbf{x}\|$$

- Gaussian curvature

$$G = (2\pi - \sum_j \theta_j)/A$$

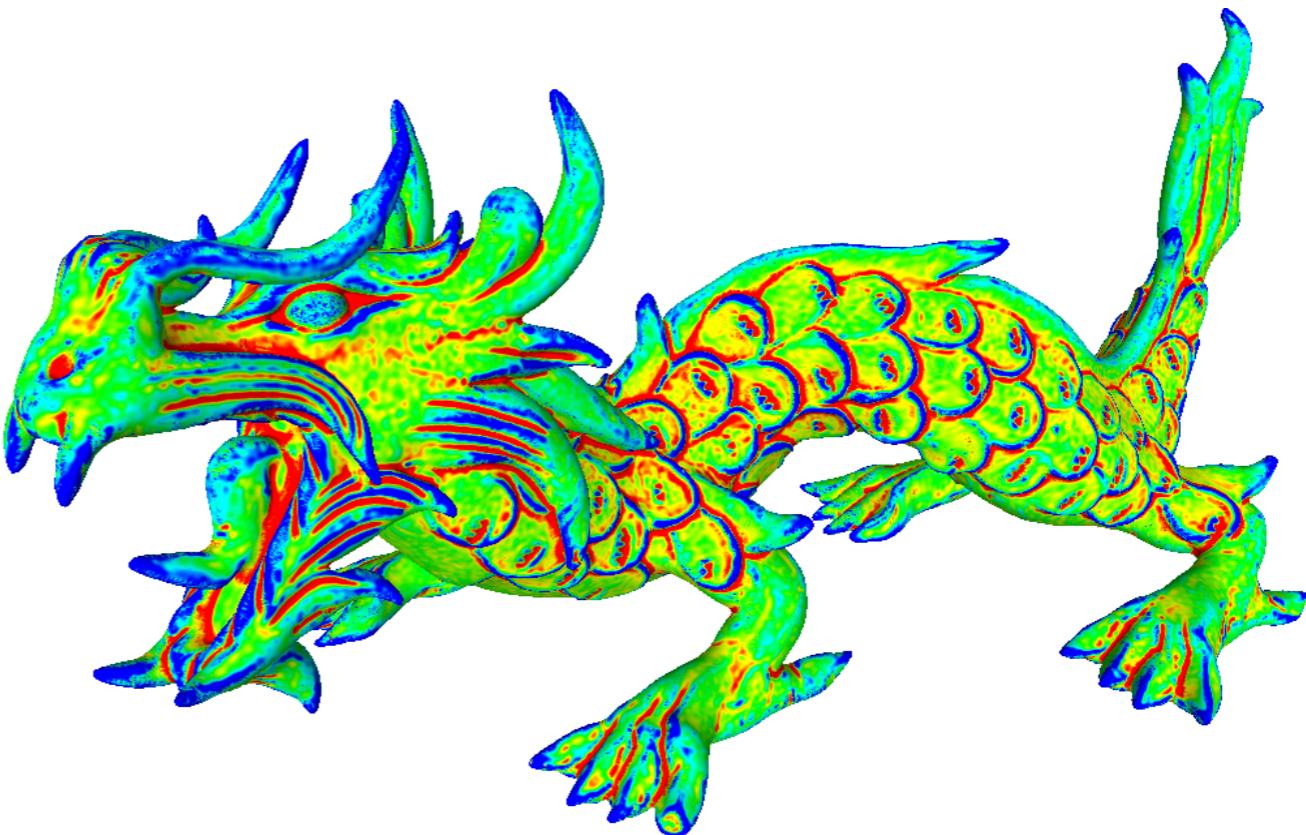


- Principal curvatures

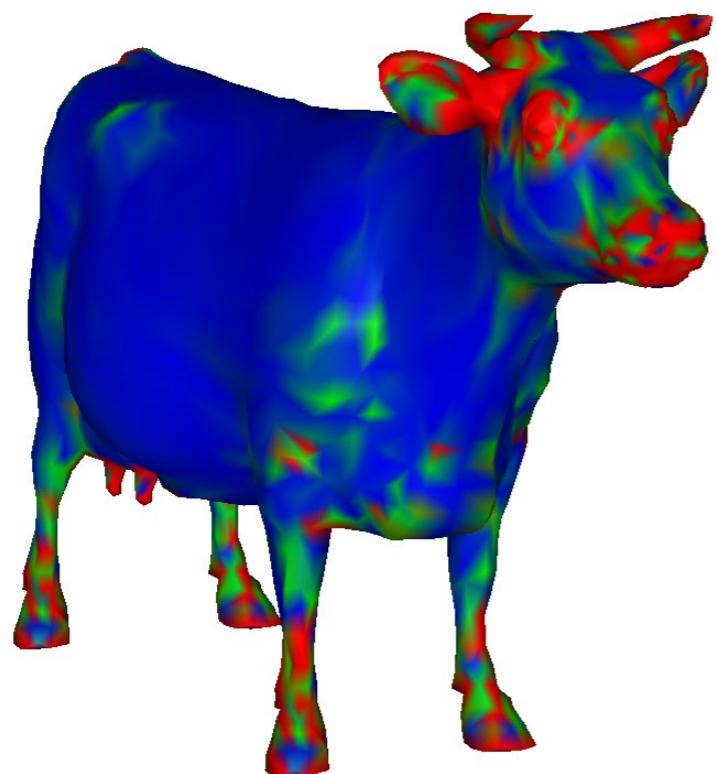
$$\kappa_1 = H + \sqrt{H^2 - G}$$

$$\kappa_2 = H - \sqrt{H^2 - G}$$

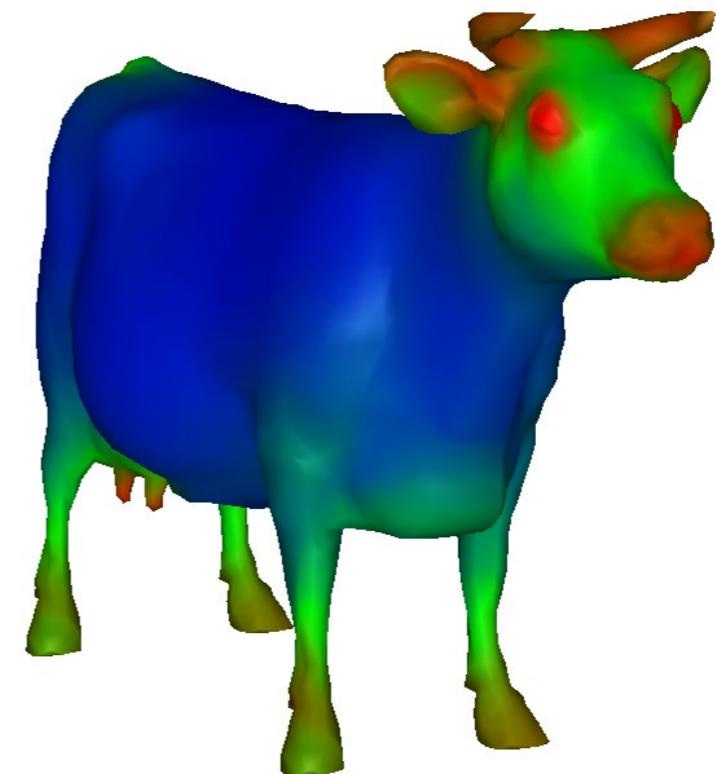
Example: Mean Curvature



Example: Gaussian Curvature



original



smoothed

Discrete Gauss-Bonnet (Descartes) theorem:

$$\sum_v K_v = \sum_v \left[2\pi - \sum_i \theta_i \right] = 2\pi\chi$$

References

- “Discrete Differential-Geometry Operators for Triangulated 2-Manifolds”, Meyer et al., ’02
- “Restricted Delaunay triangulations and normal cycle”, Cohen-Steiner et al., SoCG ‘03
- “On the convergence of metric and geometric properties of polyhedral surfaces”, Hildebrandt et al., ’06
- “Discrete Laplace operators: No free lunch”, Wardetzky et al., SGP ‘07