

The tangent plane

Let S be a surface and $p \in S$.

Def A vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is said to be tangent to S at p , if \exists a smooth curve $\gamma : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow S$ s.t.

$$\gamma(0) = p \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\gamma}(0) = v.$$

When computing the tangent vector of γ we think of γ as a curve in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Ex $S = S^2 \Rightarrow p$ arbitrary. Recall the curve

$$\gamma_v(t) = \cos t \cdot p + \sin t \cdot v,$$

where $\|v\| = 1$ and $v \perp p$. Then

$$\dot{\gamma}_v(0) = v. \text{ Hence, } v \text{ is tangent to } S^2 \text{ at } p.$$

$T_p S =$ the set of all tangent vectors to S at p .

Prop Let $\psi : V \rightarrow U$ be a parametrization such that $\psi(u_0, v_0) = p$. Then

$$T_p S = \text{Im } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \psi.$$

In particular, $T_p S$ is a vector space of dim. 2.

Proof

$$\underline{\text{Step 1}} \quad \text{Im } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \Psi \subset T_p S$$

$$\text{Assume } v \in \text{Im } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \Psi \Rightarrow$$

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^2 \text{ s.t. } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \Psi(w) = v$$

Consider the ^{smooth} curve $\beta: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow V$

$$\beta(t) = (u_0, v_0) + t \cdot w.$$

Then $\gamma(t) := \Psi \circ \beta(t)$ is a smooth curve in S s.t.

$$\gamma(0) = \Psi(\beta(0)) = \Psi(u_0, v_0) = p,$$

$$\dot{\gamma}(0) = D_{(u_0, v_0)} \Psi(w) = v.$$

$$\Rightarrow v \in T_p S.$$

$$\underline{\text{Step 2}} \quad T_p S \subset \text{Im } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \Psi$$

If $v \in T_p S$, then $\exists \gamma: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow S$ s.t.

$$\gamma(0) = p \text{ & } \dot{\gamma}(0) = v. \text{ Can assume}$$

$\text{Im } \gamma \subset V$ by choosing ε smaller if necessary.

If $\varphi = \Psi^{-1}$, then

$$\beta(t) := \varphi \circ \gamma(t) \text{ is a smooth curve}$$

in $V \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ s.t. $\beta(0) = (u_0, v_0)$. (3)

Denote $w := \dot{\beta}(0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \dot{\gamma}(0) = (\underbrace{\psi \circ \beta}_u)(0) = (D_{(u_0, v_0)} \psi)(\dot{\beta}(0)) \\ &\quad \psi \circ \psi^{-1} \circ \gamma \\ &= D_{(u_0, v_0)} \psi(w) \in \text{Im } D_{(u_0, v_0)} \psi. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3 $\dim T_p S = 2$.

This follows immediately from the injectivity of $D_{(u_0, v_0)} \psi$. □

Exercise Assume $v \perp p \in S^2$ and $\|v\| = 2$. Find a curve in S^2 through p with the tangent vector v .

Prop Pick $p \in S$ and recall that there exists a nbhd $W \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ of p and a smooth function $\varphi: W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

$$S \cap W = \{q \in W \mid \varphi(q) = 0\} \text{ and } \nabla \varphi(q) \neq 0 \quad \forall q \in W.$$

Then

$$T_p S = \nabla \varphi(p)^\perp.$$

Proof If γ is any curve in S through P , then

$$\varphi \circ \gamma(t) = 0 \quad \forall t \Rightarrow \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \varphi(\gamma(t)) = 0$$

$$\langle \nabla \varphi(P), \dot{\gamma}(0) \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow T_p S \subset \nabla \varphi(P)^\perp$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{both have dimension 2} \end{array} \Rightarrow T_p S = \nabla \varphi(P)^\perp$$

□

Ex 1) $\forall P \in S^2 \quad T_p S^2 = P^\perp$

Indeed, for $\varphi(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$
we have $\nabla \varphi(x, y, z) = 2(x, y, z)$.

$$2) P = (x, y, z) \in H = \left\{ \underbrace{x^2 + y^2 - z^2 - 1}_{\varphi(x, y, z)} = 0 \right\}$$

$$\nabla \varphi(P) = 2(x, y, -z) \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow T_p H = (x, y, -z)^\perp$$

$$= \left\{ \mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x v_1 + y v_2 - z v_3 = 0 \right\}$$

$$3) P = (x, y, z) \in C = \left\{ x^2 + y^2 = 1 \right\}$$

$$T_p C = \left\{ \mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3) \mid x v_1 + y v_2 = 0, v_3 \text{ arbitrary} \right\}$$

Differential of a smooth map

Let S be a surface and $f \in C^\infty(S)$.

Define a map $d_p f: T_p S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as follows:

for $v \in T_p S$ choose a smooth curve

γ through p with $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$ and set

$$d_p f(v) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f \circ \gamma(t).$$

Prop $d_p f$ is a well-defined linear map.

Proof $d_p f$ is well-defined.

If γ_1 and γ_2 are two curves through p
s.t. $\dot{\gamma}_1(0) = v = \dot{\gamma}_2(0)$, then for $\beta_j := \psi^{-1} \circ \gamma_j$
we have

$$\dot{\gamma}_j(t) = \psi \circ \beta_j(t) \Rightarrow v = D_\psi(\dot{\beta}_j(0)) = D_\psi(\dot{\beta}_2(0))$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\beta}_1(0) = \dot{\beta}_2(0) =: w$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f \circ \gamma_1(t) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \left(f \circ \psi \circ \psi^{-1} \circ \gamma_1(t) \right)$$

$$= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (F \circ \beta_1(t))$$

$$= D_F(w)$$

injective

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$$\text{Similarly, } \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f \circ \gamma_2(t) = D_o F(w)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (f \circ \gamma_1(t)) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (f \circ \gamma_2(t)).$$

Step 2 $d_p f \circ D_o \psi = D_o F$, where $F := f \circ \psi$.

This follows from the pf of Step 1.

Step 3 $d_p f$ is linear

$$d_p f \circ D_o \psi = D_o F$$

$$\begin{matrix} \swarrow & \searrow \\ \text{linear} & \end{matrix} \Rightarrow d_p f \text{ is linear}$$

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Exercise If $h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$ and $f = h|_S$, then $\forall p \in S$ we have

$$d_p f = D_p h|_{T_p S}.$$

Def A point $p \in S$ is called critical for $f \in C^\infty(S)$, if $d_p f = 0$, that is $d_p f(v) = 0 \forall v \in T_p S$.

Prop If p is a pt of loc. max. (min) for f , then p is critical for f .

Proof p is a pt of loc. max for $f \Rightarrow$ \exists curve γ through p , o is a pt of loc. max for $f \circ \gamma$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f \circ \gamma = 0$$

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Prop Let $h, \varphi \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$. Assume $\nabla \varphi(p) \neq 0$ for any $p \in S = \varphi^{-1}(0)$. If $p \in S$ is a pt of loc. max. for $f = h|_S$, then

$$\nabla h(p) = \lambda \nabla \varphi(p)$$

for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof Notice: S is a surface and

$$T_p S = \{ v \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \langle v, \nabla \varphi(p) \rangle = 0 \}$$

$$d_p f = 0 \Leftrightarrow D_p h|_{T_p S} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle v, \nabla h(p) \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v \in T_p S$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \nabla h(p) = \lambda \nabla \varphi(p) \text{ for some } \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad \square$$

Reem This proof is in a sense more conceptual than the pf of Thm 1 on P. 4 of Part 1.

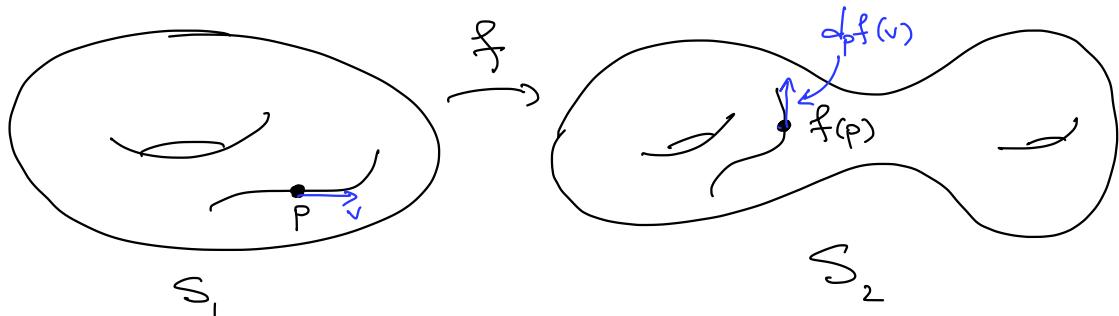
More generally, for any $f \in C^\infty(S; \mathbb{R}^n)$ the differential $d_p f: T_p S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined by the same formula.

Also, the differential is well-defined for maps $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow S$, $d_p f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow T_{f(p)} S$

$$f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2, \quad d_p f: T_p S_1 \rightarrow T_{f(p)} S_2$$

In the latter case, if $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v \in T_p S_1$, then

$$D_p f(v) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (f \circ \gamma(t))$$



Prop Let S_1, S_2, S_3 be smooth surfaces. For any smooth maps $f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ and $g: S_2 \rightarrow S_3$ and any pt $p \in S_1$, we have

$$\boxed{D_p(g \circ f) = D_{f(p)} g \circ D_p f.}$$

This also holds if any of S_i is replaced by an open subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

Proof Let γ_1 be any smooth curve in S_1 through p . Denote $\gamma_2 = f \circ \gamma_1$, which is a smooth curve in S_2 through $f(p)$. If $\dot{\gamma}_1(0) = v_1$, then $v_2 := \dot{\gamma}_2(0) = D_p f(v_1)$ by the definition of $D_p f$. Hence,

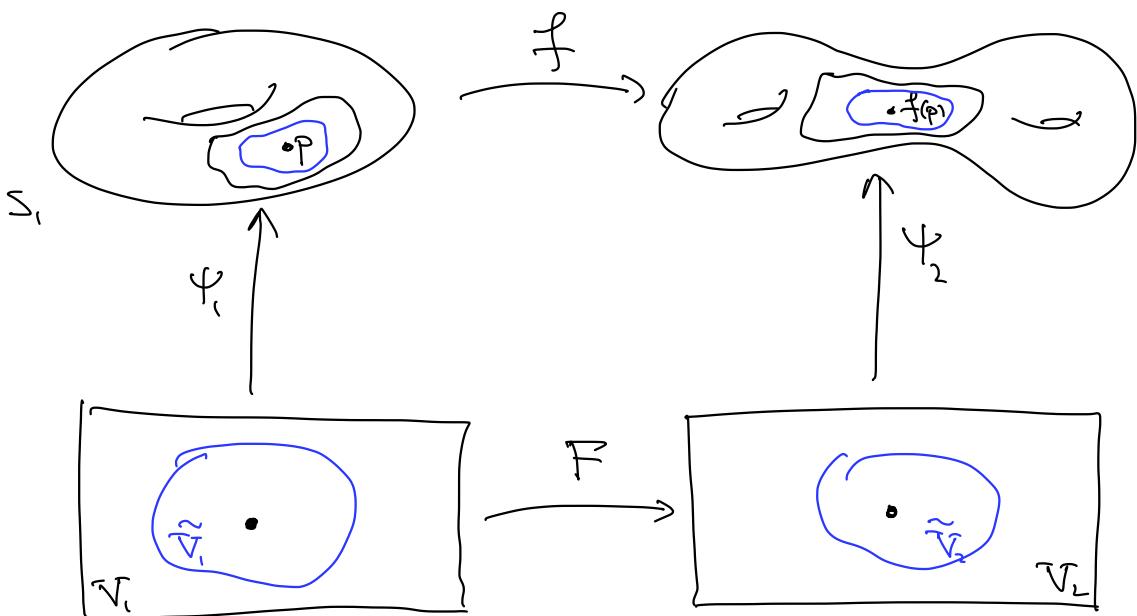
$$\begin{aligned} D_p(g \circ f)(v_1) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (g \circ f \circ \underbrace{\gamma_1}_{\gamma_2}(t)) \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (g \circ \gamma_2(t)) = D_{f(p)} g(v_2) \\ &= D_{f(p)} g(D_p f(v_1)) \end{aligned}$$

Cor If $f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ is a diffeomorphism, ⑨
 then $\forall p \in S_1, d_p f: T_p S_1 \rightarrow T_{f(p)} S_2$
 is an isomorphism. \square

Def A map $f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ is called a local diffeomorphism if $\forall p \in S_1, \exists$ a nbhd $U_1 \subset S_1$ and a nbhd $U_2 \subset S_2$ of $f(p)$ s.t. $f: U_1 \rightarrow U_2$ is a diffeomorphism.

Thm Let $f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ be a smooth map s.t. $\forall p \in S_1, d_p f: T_p S_1 \rightarrow T_{f(p)} S_2$ is an isomorphism. Then f is a local diffeomorphism.

Proof Pick any $p \in S_1$ and parametrizations $\psi_1: V_1 \rightarrow W_1 \subset S_1$ and $\psi_2: V_2 \subset W_2 \subset S_2$



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Without loss of generality $\psi_1(0) = p$ and
 $\psi_2(0) = f(p)$.

$$F = \psi_2^{-1} \circ f \circ \psi_1 \Rightarrow d_o F = d_{\psi_1(p)} \psi_2^{-1} \circ d_p f \circ d_o \psi_1$$

$d_o \psi_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow T_p S_1$ is an iso.

$d_{f(p)} \psi_2: T_{f(p)} S_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is an iso.

$d_p f$ is an iso $\Rightarrow d_o F$ is an iso.

From analysis, it is known that \exists a nbhd $0 \in \tilde{V}_1 \subset V_1$ and a nbhd $\tilde{V}_2 \subset V_2$ of 0 such that $F: \tilde{V}_1 \rightarrow \tilde{V}_2$ is a diffeomorphism.

Denote $U_1 = \psi_1(\tilde{V}_1)$, $U_2 = \psi_2(\tilde{V}_2)$.

Then

$$f|_{U_1} = \psi_2 \circ F \circ \psi_1^{-1}|_{U_1}: U_1 \rightarrow U_2$$

is a diffeomorphism, since it is a composition of diffeomorphisms. □

Rem It follows from the proof, that

$$d_p f = \underbrace{d_o \psi_2}_{\text{iso}} \circ \underbrace{d_o F}_{\text{iso}} \circ \underbrace{d_p \psi_1^{-1}}_{\text{iso}}.$$

In particular,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} d_p f \text{ is injective} & \Leftrightarrow & D_{\psi(p)} \text{ is injective} \\ \text{surj.} & \Leftrightarrow & \text{surj.} \\ \text{iso} & \Leftrightarrow & \text{iso} \end{array}$$

Let $f \in C^\infty(S_1; S_2)$.

Def 1) A pt $p \in S_1$ is called a critical pt of f if $d_p f$ is not surjective $\Leftrightarrow d_p f$ is not injective $\Leftrightarrow d_p f$ is not an iso.

a) $q \in S_2$ is called a regular value of f , if $\forall p \in f^{-1}(q)$ is regular (non-critical), i.e., if $\forall p \in f^{-1}(q)$ $d_p f$ is surjective $\Leftrightarrow d_p f$ is injective $\Leftrightarrow d_p f$ is an iso.

Ex $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \cong \mathbb{C}$, $f(z) = z^n$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n \geq 2$. It is known from analysis that $D_z f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ can be identified with the map $h \mapsto f'(z) \cdot h$. Hence, z is critical iff $f'(z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow n z^{n-1} = 0 \Leftrightarrow z = 0$. Hence, f has a single critical pt $z=0$ and a single critical value, the zero. All other pts are regular and any non-zero value is also regular.

Thm (The fundamental theorem of algebra)

Let $g(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1z + a_0$

be a polynomial of degree $n \geq 1$ with cx. coefficients. Then p has at least one cx. root.

Proof Recall that the map $f: S^2 \rightarrow S^2$,

$$f(p) = \begin{cases} N & p = N, \\ \psi_N \circ g \circ \psi_N^{-1} & p \neq N, \end{cases}$$

is smooth.

Step 1 f has at most n crit pts (values).

$p \in S^2 \setminus \{N\}$ is critical $\iff z := \psi_N(p)$ is critical for $g \iff g'(z) = 0$, that is

$$nz^{n-1} + (n-1)a_{n-1}z^{n-2} + \dots + a_1 = 0$$

This can have at most $(n-1)$ roots.

Step 2 Denote by $R(f)$ the set of regular values of f . Then for any $r \in R(f)$ the set $f^{-1}(r)$ is finite and the map

$$R(f) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, \quad r \mapsto \# f^{-1}(r)$$

is constant.

Let $p \in f^{-1}(r)$, $r \in R(f) \implies$

$$f(p) = r \text{ & } df_p \text{ is an iso}$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$ a nbhd U_p of p and a nbhd W_r s.t.

$f: U_p \rightarrow W_r$ is a diffeo. In particular, $f^{-1}(r) \cap U_p = \{p\} \Rightarrow f^{-1}(r)$ is discrete.

However, $f^{-1}(r)$ is a closed subset of S^2 , hence compact. But a compact discrete set must be finite.

Denote $f^{-1}(r) = \{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ and the corresponding nbhds $U_1, \dots, U_m, W_1, \dots, W_m$.

Set $W := W_1 \cap \dots \cap W_m$ and

$\tilde{U}_j := f^{-1}(W) \cap U_j$. Then for each $j \leq m$

the map $f: \tilde{U}_j \rightarrow W$ is a diffeomorphism.

In particular, $\forall r' \in W \exists! p'_j \in \tilde{U}_j$ s.t.

$f(p'_j) = r'$. Hence, $\# f^{-1}(r') = \# f^{-1}(r)$ $\forall r' \in W$, so that the function

$$R(f) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \quad r \mapsto \# f^{-1}(r) \quad (*)$$

is locally constant.

However, $R(f)$ is the complement of a finite number of pts in S^2 , hence connected. Therefore, $(*)$ is (globally) constant.

Step 3 We prove this thus.

Pick any pairwise distinct pts $p_1, \dots, p_{n+1} \in S^2 \setminus \{N\}$ s.t. $f(p_1), \dots, f(p_{n+1})$ are also pairwise distinct. Since f has at most n critical values, at least one pt from $\{f(p_1), \dots, f(p_{n+1})\}$ is a regular value and (*) does not vanish at this pt. Hence, (*) vanishes nowhere on $R(f)$.

If S is a critical value of S , then $f^{-1}(S) \neq \emptyset$, since $f^{-1}(S)$ contains a critical pt. However,

$$f^{-1}(S) \neq \emptyset \iff g^{-1}(0) \neq 0.$$

If S is a regular value, then by Step 2 $\#\ f^{-1}(S) \geq 1 \Rightarrow f^{-1}(S) \neq \emptyset$.

This finishes the proof. □

Orientability

Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a (smooth) surface.

Def 1) A (smooth) map $v: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is called a (smooth) tangent vector field on S , if $\forall p \in S \quad v(p) \in T_p S$.

2) A (smooth) map $n: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is called a (smooth) normal field on S , if $\forall p \in S \quad n(p) \perp T_p S$.

Ex Set $S = S^2$, $n(x) = x$. Then n is a normal vector field on S^2 .

Lemma Let $\Psi: V \rightarrow U \subset S$ be a parametrization. Then V admits a unit normal field n on U , that is $\forall p \in U \quad n(p) \perp T_p S$ and $|n(p)| = 1$.

Proof Ψ is a param. \Rightarrow

$\forall p \in U \quad \exists! q \in V \text{ s.t. } \Psi(q) = p$ and

$$D_q \Psi: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow T_p S = \text{Im}(D_q \Psi)$$

is an isomorphism. Hence, $D_q \Psi$ maps a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 onto a basis of $T_p S$. Therefore, the image of the standard basis $(\partial_u \Psi, \partial_v \Psi)|_q$ is a basis of $T_p S$.

Define

$$n(p) = \frac{\partial_u \psi \times \partial_v \psi}{|\partial_u \psi \times \partial_v \psi|}$$

where " \times " means the cross-product in \mathbb{R}^3 . This is well-defined, since $\partial_u \psi \times \partial_v \psi \neq 0$.

Exercise: Check that n is smooth. \square

Lemma If S is connected, then there are at most 2 non-equal unit normal fields on S .

Proof Let n_1 and n_2 be unit norm. fields.

$$\begin{aligned} \forall p \in S \quad n_1(p) &\perp T_p S \\ n_2(p) &\perp T_p S \\ |n_1(p)| &= 1 = |n_2(p)| \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow n_2(p) = \pm n_1(p)$$

$$S_{\pm} := \{ p \in S \mid n_2(p) = \pm n_1(p) \}.$$

Then both S_+ and S_- are closed and $S = S_+ \cup S_-$. Hence, either

$$S_+ = \emptyset \iff n_2(p) = -n_1(p) \quad \forall p \in S$$

or

$$S_- = \emptyset \iff n_2(p) = n_1(p) \quad \forall p \in S. \quad \square$$

Def A surface S is said to be orientable, if S admits a unit normal field.

It should be intuitively clear that any unit normal field "selects a side" of the surface. A choice of the unit normal field ("a side of S ") is called an orientation of S . Thus, any surface S admits at most 2 distinct orientations.

Prop (Preimages are orientable)

If o is a regular value of $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $S := \varphi^{-1}(o)$ admits a unit normal field.

Here, just like in the definition on P. 11, o is said to be the regular value of φ if $\forall p \in S = \varphi^{-1}(o)$

$D_p \varphi: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is surjective

$\Leftrightarrow \nabla \varphi(p) \neq 0$, since $D_p \varphi(v) = \langle \nabla \varphi(p), v \rangle$ $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

Proof of the proposition

$$T_p S = \nabla \varphi(p)^\perp \Rightarrow \nabla \varphi \text{ is a normal field}$$

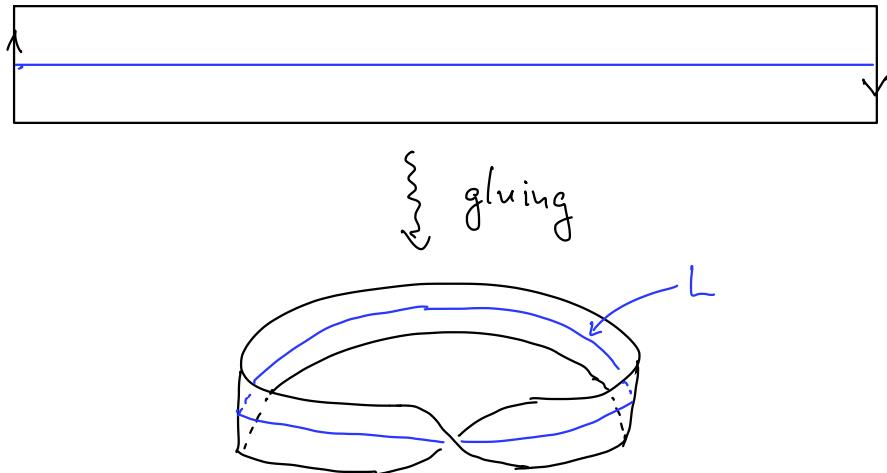
o is a regular value of $\varphi \Rightarrow \nabla \varphi$ vanishes nowhere

$$\Rightarrow n(p) := \frac{\nabla \varphi(p)}{\|\nabla \varphi(p)\|} \text{ is a unit normal field} \quad \square$$

Rem In the definition of orientability, it is only important, that the normal field exists, is non-vanishing and continuous.

A non-example: the Möbius band.

One can obtain the Möbius band from the strip by gluing the opposite sides as shown on the figure.



More formally, the Möbius band is the image of the map

$$\Psi : [0, 2\pi] \times (-1, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3,$$

$$\Psi(u, v) = \left((2 - v \sin \frac{u}{2}) \sin u, (2 - v \sin \frac{u}{2}) \cos u, v \cos \frac{u}{2} \right)$$

Exercise Show that the image of Ψ is a surface indeed.

We showed that any point on a surface admits an orientable neighbourhood U . Moreover, it follows from the proof that given $o \neq n_0 \in T_{p_0}S$ at some $p_0 \in U$, there is a unique orientation n of U such that $n(p_0) = \frac{n_0}{|n_0|}$.

With this understood, $\forall p \in L$ pick an orientable neighbourhood U_p . Since L is compact, there is a finite collection U_1, \dots, U_n covering L . Choose a pt $p_1 \in L \cap U_1$ and a vector $n_1 \in T_{p_1}S^\perp$, $|n_1|=1$. This determines uniquely a normal field n on U_1 such that $n(p_1) = n_1$. If $U_2 \cap U_1 \neq \emptyset$, then there exists a unique smooth extension of n to $U_1 \cup U_2$. After finitely many steps we obtain a normal field n on $U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_n = L$. However, as one travels once along L , this normal field must change its direction, that is $n(p_1) = -n(p_1)$, which is impossible. Hence, the Möbius band does not admit a unit normal field, that is the Möbius band is non-orientable.

Let S be a surface.

Def A collection $A = \{(\psi_a, V_a, U_a) \mid a \in A\}$ of parametrizations of S is said to be an atlas, if $\bigcup_{a \in A} U_a = S$.

Recall that for $a, b \in A$ the map

$$\theta_{ab} := \psi_a^{-1} \circ \psi_b : V_{ab} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

is called the change of coordinates map.

Def An atlas A on S is said to be oriented, if

$$\det(D_{(u,v)}\theta_{ab}) > 0$$

for any $(u, v) \in V_{ab}$.

Ex For $S = S^2$, $A = \{(\psi_N, \mathbb{R}^2, S^2 \setminus \{N\}), (\psi_S, \mathbb{R}^2, S^2 \setminus \{S\})\}$ is an atlas. We have

$$\theta_{SN}(u, v) = \frac{1}{u^2 + v^2} (u, v)$$

A computation yields $\det(D\theta_{SN}) < 0$, so that A is not an oriented atlas.

Consider, however

$$B = \{(\psi_N, \mathbb{R}^2, S^2 \setminus \{N\}), (\hat{\psi}_S, \mathbb{R}^2, S^2 \setminus \{S\})\},$$

where $\hat{\psi}_S(u, v) = \psi_S(-u, v) = \psi_S \circ \delta(u, v)$,

where $\tilde{\epsilon}(u, v) = (-u, v)$. Then

$$\hat{\Theta}_{SN} = \hat{\psi}_s^{-1} \circ \psi_N = (\psi_s \circ \epsilon)^{-1} \circ \psi_N = \underset{\substack{\parallel \\ \theta}}{\epsilon^{-1}} \circ \Theta_{SN}$$

$$\epsilon \text{ is linear} \Rightarrow D\hat{\Theta}_{SN} = \epsilon \circ D\Theta_{SN}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det D\hat{\Theta}_{SN} = \underset{\substack{\parallel \\ -1}}{\det \epsilon} \cdot \underset{\substack{\wedge \\ 0}}{\det D\Theta_{SN}} > 0$$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is an oriented atlas on S^2 .

Prop A surface S is orientable if and only if S admits an oriented atlas.

Proof

Step 1 If S is orientable, then S admits an oriented atlas.

Choose a unit normal field n on S and an atlas A on S .

Define a new atlas \mathcal{B} as follows:

If $\psi_a : V_a \rightarrow U_a$ belongs to \mathcal{A} and

$\det(\partial_u \psi_a, \partial_v \psi_a, u(\psi_a(u,v))) > 0$, then
 (ψ_a, V_a, U_a) belongs to \mathcal{B} . If $\det(\cdot) < 0$,

then $(\hat{\psi}_a \circ \sigma(V_a), U_a) = (\hat{\psi}_a, \hat{V}_a, U_a)$
 belongs to \mathcal{B} , where $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, $\sigma(u,v) = (-u,v)$.

$$\Rightarrow \det(\partial_u \hat{\psi}_a, \partial_v \hat{\psi}_a, u(\hat{\psi}_a(u,v))) \\ = \det(-\partial_u \psi_a, \partial_v \psi_a, u(\cdot)) > 0.$$

We obtain:

a) If $\psi_a, \psi_e \in \mathcal{B}$, then

$$\psi_a : V_a \rightarrow U_a ; \quad \psi_e : V_e \rightarrow U_e \\ (x_1, x_2) \qquad \qquad \qquad (y_1, y_2)$$

$$\Theta_{ae} : V_e \rightarrow V_a \quad (\text{defined on a subset of } V_e) \\ y \mapsto \Theta(y) = \Theta_{ae}(y)$$

$$\psi_e = \psi_a \circ \Theta \Rightarrow$$

$$\partial_{y_1} \psi_e = \partial_{x_1} \psi_a(\Theta(y)) \partial_{y_1} \Theta_1 + \partial_{x_2} \psi_a(\Theta(y)) \partial_{y_1} \Theta_2$$

$$\partial_{y_2} \psi_e = \partial_{x_1} \psi_a(\Theta(y)) \partial_{y_2} \Theta_1 + \partial_{x_2} \psi_a(\Theta(y)) \partial_{y_2} \Theta_2.$$

Or simply $(\partial_{y_1} \psi_e, \partial_{y_2} \psi_e) = (\partial_{x_1} \psi_a, \partial_{x_2} \psi_a) \cdot \partial_y \Theta$,

where

$$\partial_y \theta = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_{y_1} \theta_1 & \partial_{y_2} \theta_1 \\ \partial_{y_1} \theta_2 & \partial_{y_2} \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is the Jacobi matrix of $\theta = \theta_{ab}$.

$$\Rightarrow (\partial_{y_1} \psi_e, \partial_{y_2} \psi_e, u) = (\partial_{x_1} \psi_a, \partial_{x_2} \psi_a, u) \begin{pmatrix} \partial_y \theta & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det (\partial_{y_1} \psi_e, \partial_{y_2} \psi_e, u) =$$

$$\begin{matrix} 0 & & & \\ \swarrow & & & \\ & = \det (\partial_{x_1} \psi_a, \partial_{x_2} \psi_a, u) \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} \partial_y \theta & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ & \searrow & & \\ \text{by the assumption} & & & \det (\partial_y \theta) \end{matrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det (\partial_y \theta) > 0.$$

b) If $\hat{\psi}_a$ and $\hat{\psi}_e$ belong to \mathcal{B} , the same computation yields

$$\det (\partial_y \theta_{ae}) > 0.$$

We have : $\psi_e = \psi_a \circ \theta_{ab} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \psi_e \circ \tilde{\sigma} = \psi_a \circ \theta_{ab} \circ \tilde{\sigma} = (\psi_a \circ \tilde{\sigma}) \circ \theta_{ab} \circ \tilde{\sigma}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \parallel & & & \\ \hat{\psi}_e & \hat{\psi}_a & & \end{matrix}$$

Hence, the change of coordinates map between

$\hat{\Psi}_a$ and $\hat{\Psi}_b$ is $\hat{\Theta}_{ab} := \sigma - \theta_{ab} \circ \sigma$

$$\Rightarrow \det(D\hat{\Theta}_{ab}) = \det \sigma \cdot \det D\theta_{ab} \cdot \det \sigma \\ = (\det \sigma)^2 \det D\theta_{ab} > 0.$$

c) Ψ_a and $\hat{\Psi}_b$ belong to \mathcal{B}

A similar computation yields $\det(D\theta_{ab}) < 0$

and if $\hat{\Theta}_{ab}$ is the change of coordinates between Ψ_a and $\hat{\Psi}_b$, then

$$\hat{\Theta}_{ab} = \theta_{ab} \circ \sigma \Rightarrow$$

$$\det D\hat{\Theta}_{ab} = \underset{\overset{\wedge}{\sigma}}{\det}(D\theta_{ab}) \cdot \underset{\overset{\wedge}{\sigma}}{\det} \sigma > 0.$$

Thus, \mathcal{B} is an oriented atlas.

Step 2 If S admits an oriented atlas, then S admits a unit normal field.

Let \mathcal{A} be an oriented atlas on S and $\Psi_a : V_a \rightarrow U_a$ a parametrization from \mathbb{R} .

If $\Psi_a(q) = p \in U_a$, define $n(p)$ by

$$n(p) = \frac{\partial_u \Psi_a \times \partial_v \Psi_a}{|\partial_u \Psi_a \times \partial_v \Psi_a|} \Big|_q.$$

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Assume ψ_e is another parametrization from A such that $p \in U_e$. Then

$$\psi_e = \psi_a \circ \underset{\Theta}{\underset{\circ}{\theta}}_{ab} \Rightarrow$$

$$(\partial_{y_1} \psi_e, \partial_{y_2} \psi_e) = (\partial_{x_1} \psi_a, \partial_{x_2} \psi_a) \cdot D\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_{y_1} \psi_e \times \partial_{y_2} \psi_e = \det \underset{\circ}{D\theta} \cdot \partial_{x_1} \psi_a \times \partial_{x_2} \psi_a$$

$\Rightarrow n(p)$ does not depend on the choice
of parametrization near p

Since n is smooth in a nbhd of p , n
is smooth everywhere. □