

MATH-5031M01

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Examination for the Module MATH-5031M

(January 2006)

Differential Geometry 2

Time allowed: 3 hours

Answer a maximum of **four** questions from Section A and a maximum of **two** questions from Section B. All questions carry equal marks.

Throughout this paper, by ‘surface’ we shall mean ‘smooth regular embedded m -surface in \mathbb{R}^n for some positive integers m and n ’.

SECTION A

1. (a) Let $\gamma : [0, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a regularly parametrized curve. What is meant by saying that γ is closed? What is meant by the *total curvature of a regularly parametrized closed curve*?

Let $\gamma_0 : [0, b_0] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ and $\gamma_1 : [0, b_1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be regularly parametrized closed curves. What is meant by a *regular homotopy from γ_0 to γ_1* ? State the *Whitney–Graustein Theorem*.

- (b) Let $\gamma(t) = (4 \sin 2t, 4 \cos 2t)$ ($t \in [0, 5\pi]$). Calculate the total curvature of γ .

- (c) By finding a suitable regular homotopy and quoting the Whitney–Graustein Theorem, or otherwise, find the total curvature of the closed curve $\alpha : [0, 5\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ given by

$$\alpha(t) = (4 \sin 2t - 2 \sin t, 4 \cos 2t + 2 \cos t).$$

Show that

$$H(u, t) = (4u \sin 2t - 2 \sin t, 4u \cos 2t + 2 \cos t) \quad (u \in [0, 1], t \in [0, 5\pi])$$

does *not* define a regular homotopy.

2. (a) Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow M'$ be a smooth map between surfaces, and let $p \in M$. Define what is meant by the *differential* $d\varphi_p : T_p M \rightarrow T_{\varphi(p)} M'$ of φ at p . Let

$$X : U \rightarrow M, \quad \mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_m) \mapsto X(\mathbf{u})$$

be a local parametrization of M with $X(\mathbf{0}) = p$. Write $\hat{\varphi} = \varphi \circ X$ and $\epsilon_i = \partial X / \partial u_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$). Show that

$$d\varphi_p(\epsilon_i) = \frac{\partial \hat{\varphi}}{\partial u_i}(\mathbf{0}) \quad (i = 1, \dots, m).$$

Deduce that, if $\mathbf{v} \in T_p M$ is given by $\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^m v_i \epsilon_i$, then

$$d\varphi_p(\mathbf{v}) = \sum_{i=1}^m v_i d\varphi_p(\epsilon_i).$$

- (b) Let $f : M \rightarrow M'$ be a smooth map between surfaces. Define what is meant by f is a *local isometry*.

Show that, if f is a local isometry then,

(*) for any smooth curve $\alpha : [a, b] \rightarrow M$ defined on a closed interval $[a, b]$, the length of $f \circ \alpha$ is equal to the length of α .

Show conversely that, if $f : M \rightarrow M'$ is a smooth map having the property (*), then it is a local isometry.

3. (a) Let $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the smooth function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2$. For $r > 0$, set $S^2(r) = f^{-1}(r)$. Show that f is regular on $S^2(r)$, so that $S^2(r)$ is a 2-surface. Without parametrizing $S^2(r)$, show that its shape operator S at any point $p \in S^2(r)$ is given by

$$S(\mathbf{v}) = c \mathbf{v} \quad (\mathbf{v} \in T_p S^2(r))$$

for some constant c to be determined.

- (b) Let M be a surface and let $\gamma : I \rightarrow M$ be a smooth curve defined on an interval I . Say what is meant by γ is a *geodesic on* M . Show that the speed $|\gamma'(t)|$ ($t \in I$) of a geodesic is constant.

- (c) Suppose that $\gamma : I \rightarrow S^2(r)$ is a geodesic of unit speed. Show that it is a plane curve of constant curvature $1/r$; deduce that its track lies on a great circle of $S^2(r)$.

Suppose, instead, that $\gamma : I \rightarrow S^2(r)$ is a smooth curve of unit speed whose principal normal makes a constant angle with a unit normal of $S^2(r)$. Show that the track of γ lies on a circle and give the radius of that circle.

[You may assume that the track of a unit speed plane curve of constant curvature $1/r$ lies on a circle of radius r .]

4. (a) Let $f : M \rightarrow M'$ be a smooth map between 2-surfaces. Say what is meant by f is *conformal with scale factor* λ . Show that a smooth map $f : M \rightarrow M'$ is conformal with scale factor λ if and only if

$$df_p(\mathbf{v}) \cdot df_p(\mathbf{w}) = \lambda(p)^2 \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} \quad (p \in M, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in T_p M).$$

Give a formula for the angle between two non-zero vectors, and show that a smooth map $f : M \rightarrow M'$ is conformal if and only if it preserves angles in the sense that, for all $p \in M$ and all non-zero $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in T_p M$, the vectors $df_p(\mathbf{v})$ and $df_p(\mathbf{w})$ are non-zero and the angle between them is equal to the angle between \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} .

- (b) Let $S^2 = \{(x, y, z) : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$ and

$$E^2 = \left\{ (x, y, z) : \frac{x^2 + y^2}{a^2} + \frac{z^2}{b^2} = 1 \right\}$$

where a and b are positive constants. Define a smooth map $f : S^2 \rightarrow E^2$ by

$$f(x, y, z) = (ax, ay, bz).$$

Show that f is conformal if and only if $a = b$. Determine the scale factor of f in this case.

5. (a) Give a formula which defines a local isometry from the plane \mathbb{R}^2 to the unit circular cylinder $C = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$. [You need not show that this is a local isometry.]

(b) Let M be a 2-surface in \mathbb{R}^3 . What is meant by saying that a property is (A) *intrinsic*, (B) *extrinsic*. Show that the following properties are extrinsic: (i) principal curvatures; (ii) mean curvature; (iii) distance between pairs of points [You may quote the values of the principal curvatures of \mathbb{R}^2 in \mathbb{R}^3 and of C in \mathbb{R}^3 without proof.] State the *Theorema Egregium* of Gauss.

(c) Let M be a closed 2-surface. Explain briefly what is meant by the (i) *total curvature* of M , (ii) *Euler characteristic* of M . [You need not define what is meant by a triangulation or show that the Euler characteristic is well defined.] State the *Gauss–Bonnet Theorem*.

Let M be a closed 2-surface with Euler characteristic 0 and Gauss curvature K satisfying $K \leq 0$ at all points. Show that K is identically zero.

SECTION B

6. (a) Prove that, for any nonnegative real numbers a and b ,

$$\sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{1}{2}(a+b).$$

Prove that, for any four real numbers a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 ,

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^2 a_i b_i\right)^2 \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 a_i^2\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 b_i^2\right).$$

- (b) Let $C: s \mapsto \mathbf{x}(s) = (x_1(s), x_2(s))$ ($s \in [0, L]$) be a positively oriented unit speed simple closed curve in the plane of length L which encloses an area A . Describe how to construct a circle $\bar{C}: s \mapsto \bar{\mathbf{x}}(s) = (\bar{x}_1(s), \bar{x}_2(s))$ ($s \in [0, L]$) with $\bar{x}_1(s) = x_1(s)$ ($s \in [0, L]$). Show that

$$A + \pi r^2 \leq Lr.$$

where r is the radius of the circle. Deduce the isoperimetric inequality:

$$4\pi A \leq L^2.$$

7. Let M be a 2-surface in \mathbb{R}^3 and let $X: U \rightarrow M$, $(u, v) \mapsto X(u, v)$ be a local parametrization of M . As usual, write $\epsilon_1 = \partial X / \partial u$ and $\epsilon_2 = \partial X / \partial v$, $E = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_1$, $F = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 = \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_1$, $G = \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_2$, $L = S(\epsilon_1) \cdot \epsilon_1$, $M = S(\epsilon_1) \cdot \epsilon_2 = S(\epsilon_2) \cdot \epsilon_1$, $N = S(\epsilon_2) \cdot \epsilon_2$, where S is the shape operator of M at p .

- (a) Show that the Gauss curvature K of M at a point in the image of X is given by

$$K = \frac{LN - M^2}{EG - F^2}.$$

- (b) Write

$$\begin{aligned} X_{uu} &= \Gamma_{11}^1 X_u + \Gamma_{11}^2 X_v + L \mathbf{N} \\ X_{uv} &= \Gamma_{12}^1 X_u + \Gamma_{12}^2 X_v + M \mathbf{N} \\ X_{vu} &= \Gamma_{21}^1 X_u + \Gamma_{21}^2 X_v + M \mathbf{N} \\ X_{vv} &= \Gamma_{22}^1 X_u + \Gamma_{22}^2 X_v + N \mathbf{N} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that F is identically zero. Show that

$$\Gamma_{11}^1 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{E_u}{E},$$

and find similar formulae for the other Γ_{ij}^k ($i, j, k = 1, 2$).

Show that $LN - M^2$ is expressible in terms of these functions and E, G and their derivatives. Deduce that the Gauss curvature K is expressible in terms of E, G and their derivatives. [You need not find the exact expression for $LN - M^2$ or for K .]

8. (a) Let M be a surface. Define what is meant by a (smooth) Riemannian metric on M .

(b) Let $\mathbb{R}_+^2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : y > 0\}$ and let g be the hyperbolic metric on \mathbb{R}_+^2 given at a point $p = (x, y)$ of \mathbb{R}_+^2 by

$$g_p(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{y^2} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}.$$

Show that the following bijective smooth maps of (\mathbb{R}_+^2, g) are isometries:

- (i) $\psi(x, y) = (x + \lambda, y) \quad (\lambda \in \mathbb{R}),$
- (ii) $\psi(x, y) = (\lambda x, \lambda y) \quad (\lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda \neq 0),$
- (iii) $\psi(x, y) = (-x, y),$
- (iv) $\psi(x, y) = \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \right).$

[You do not need to show that these maps are smooth and bijective, and you may assume that a smooth bijective map $\psi : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^2$ is an isometry if and only if, for each $p \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$, there is a basis $\{e_1, e_2\}$ of $T_p \mathbb{R}_+^2$ such that $g_{\psi(p)}(d\psi_p(e_i), d\psi_p(e_j)) = g_p(e_i, e_j) \quad (i = 1, 2).$]

(c) Find an isometry of (\mathbb{R}_+^2, g) which preserves the semicircle of centre $(0, 0)$, radius 3, but is not the identity map. Hence find $a \in (0, \infty)$ such that the distance from $(0, 1)$ to $(0, 2)$ is equal to the distance of $(0, a)$ to $(0, 9)$ without calculating these distances.

END