

1 Recap

- Change of variables formula and examples.

2 Parametrisation of surfaces

Let $T \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a bounded region whose boundary is a piecewise C^1 Jordan curve (i.e., simple closed regular curve).

Def: A parametrised surface is (the range of) a piecewise C^1 map $\vec{r}(u, v) : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ that is 1 – 1 on the interior.

Example: $\vec{r}(u, v) = (\sin(u) \cos(v), \sin(u) \sin(v), \cos(u))$ where $(u, v) \in T = [0, \pi] \times [0, 2\pi]$. The image is the unit sphere. The map is not 1 – 1 on the boundary of T . This surface is a “closed” surface, i.e., it has no “boundary”. On the other hand, if $T = [0, \frac{\pi}{2}] \times [0, 2\pi]$ then it is a hemisphere whose boundary is a circle.

Def: A closed parametrised surface is a set such that near every point, it can be written as the image of a 1 – 1 piecewise C^1 parametrised surface from an open subset of \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^3 . So the sphere is a closed parametrised surface. (On the other hand, a hemisphere is *not* a closed surface.)

Some more examples:

- Example: $\vec{r}(u, v) = (\cos(u), \sin(u), v)$ where $(u, v) \in [0, 2\pi] \times [0, 1]$. It is a right-circular cylinder with boundary being two circles. (It is not a closed parametrised surface.)
- Example: $\vec{r}(u, v) = (v \sin(\alpha) \cos(u), v \sin(\alpha) \sin(u), v \cos(\alpha))$ where $(u, v) \in [0, 2\pi] \times [0, 1]$ is a right-circular cone with cone angle α . It is a (non-closed) parametrised surface with boundary as a circle.

Suppose $dudv$ is an infinitesimal area element in the $u - v$ plane. Then the parallelogram formed in \mathbb{R}^3 has sides $\vec{r}_u du = du(\frac{\partial x}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial u})$ and $\vec{r}_v dv = dv(\frac{\partial x}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial v})$. The infinitesimal area is $\|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v\| dudv$. Just as for regular curves, we define regular surfaces as those with $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v \neq \vec{0}$ everywhere. Such surfaces are also called “smooth”. For a cone, $\vec{r}_u = v(-\sin(\alpha) \sin(u), \sin(\alpha) \cos(u), 0)$ and $\vec{r}_v = (\sin(\alpha) \cos(u), \sin(\alpha) \sin(u), \cos(\alpha))$. Thus $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v = \vec{0}$ when $v = 0$. The vertex of the cone is not a smooth point.

Example: Suppose $z = f(x, y)$ where f is a C^1 function, $\vec{r}(u, v) = (u, v, f(u, v))$. Then $\vec{r}_u = (1, 0, f_u)$ and $\vec{r}_v = (0, 1, f_v)$. Thus $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v = (-f_u, -f_v, 1)$ and is hence never zero. So the graph of a C^1 function is a regular parameterised surface.

Warning: For instance, if we take $z = \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2}$, the function is not differentiable at $x = y = 0$. The problem here lies with this *particular* parametrisation because we already saw the the sphere can be parametrised even near the equator as a regular surface. So the choice of a parametrisation is important.

Proposition: $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v$ is normal to the surface.

Proof: Indeed, let $(u(t), v(t))$ be a C^1 path on the surface passing through p . Then $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{r}_u u' + \vec{r}_v v'$. Thus \vec{r}' is perpendicular to $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v$. \square

This is another way to study normals to regular surfaces. The same regular surface can

be given in two ways: $F(x, y, z) = 0$ and as $(x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$. The normals are ∇F and $\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v$. They point in the same direction for sure. But their magnitudes can be different! (Indeed, if they are the same, then simply choose F to $2F$ and the magnitude doubles!)

For a graph, $F(x, y, z) = z - f(x, y)$ gives the same normal as the previous one. The infinitesimal area vector is $d\vec{A} = \vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v dudv$. The area of a parametric surface is $\int \int_T \|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v\| dudv$. For instance, for a graph $z = f(x, y)$, the area is $\int \int \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2} dx dy$.

An example and scalar line integrals: Hemisphere: $\vec{r} = (r \sin(u) \cos(v), r \sin(u) \sin(v), r \cos(u))$ and hence $\vec{r}_u = (r \cos(u) \cos(v), r \cos(u) \sin(v), -r \sin(u))$, $\vec{r}_v = (-r \sin(u) \sin(v), r \sin(u) \cos(v), 0)$. So $\|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v\| = r^2 \sin(u)$. Therefore, the area is $2\pi r^2$.

A digression: If $\vec{\gamma}(t)$ is a piecewise C^1 regular path, and $f(x, y, z)$ is a bounded function along the path, then $\int f ds = \int_a^b f(\gamma(t)) \|\gamma'(t)\| dt$ is called the scalar line integral of f along γ . (For instance, the charge on a wire.)

A crucial point: The scalar line integral is reparametrisation invariant: If $t(\tau)$ is a reparametrisation, then $\|\frac{d\gamma}{d\tau}\| = \|\gamma'(t)\| |\frac{dt}{d\tau}|$. Thus the “new” integral is $\int_{[c,d]} f(\gamma(t(\tau))) \|\gamma'(t)\| |\frac{dt}{d\tau}| d\tau$ which by the change of variables formula equals the “old” integral.