

# Differential Geometry

What is the object of study?

Differential Geometry

must involve calculus somehow!

Smooth manifolds  
(as opposed to topological mflds.  
More soon.)

Meaning has expanded over time.

Obvious answer:  
metry  $\leftrightarrow$  metrics of some sort.

$\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0 \leftrightarrow$  Riemannian geometry.

$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \leftrightarrow$  Lorentzian

Also: study of other structures (not just metrics).

Principle bundles  
+  
connections

(we'll get to this)

Today: Nothing too formal.  
Heuristic examples of mflds,  
representative theorems of  
differential geometry.



Let's start w/ a representative example from more classical diff geom.

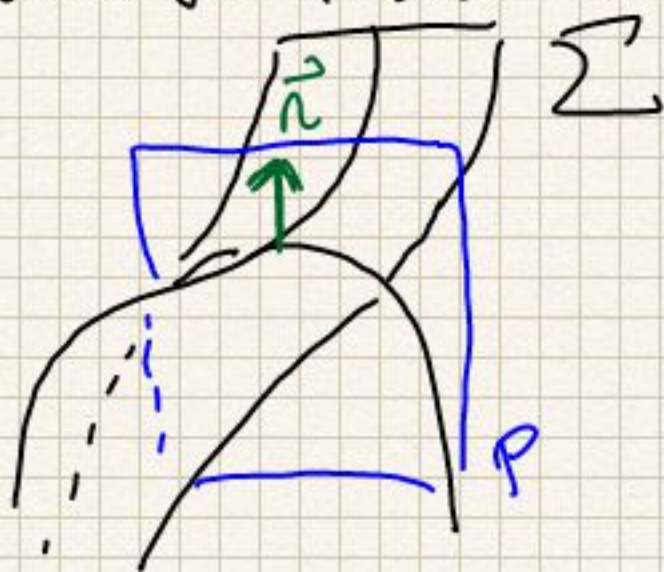
Thm (Baby Gauss-Bonnet)

Let  $\Sigma$  be a regular, compact, orientable surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Then

$$\int_{\Sigma} K \, dA = 2\pi \chi(\Sigma).$$

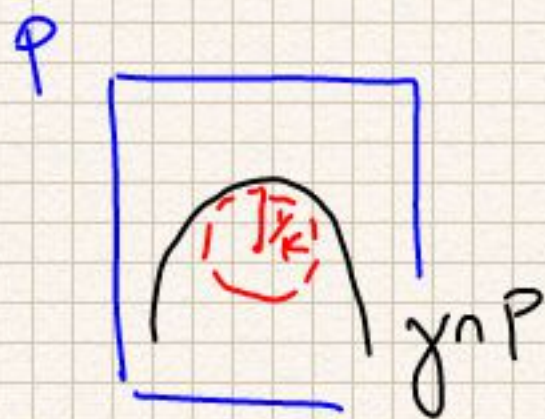
Gaussian curvature
Euler characteristic

Let's review for a second.



How is  $K$  defined?

At a point  $x \in \Sigma$ , we have a normal vector  $\vec{n}$ . Choose any plane  $P$  containing  $x$  and  $x + \vec{n}$ .



Then  $\Sigma \cap P$  is a curve  $\gamma_P$ , and we can compute its curvature  $K_{\gamma_P}$  at  $x$ , as a curve in  $P$ .

$\uparrow$   $\frac{1}{R}$  of circle approximating  $\gamma_P$ .

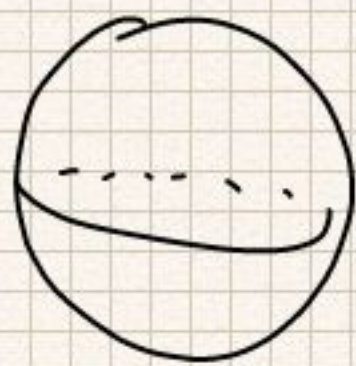
We then have

$$K := \left( \max_P K_{\gamma_P} \right) \left( \min_P K_{\gamma_P} \right)$$

$$= \det(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ ind. form}).$$



Ex  $\Sigma = S_R^2 = \partial B_R^3$



Then  $K_{\gamma_P}$  is  
constant  $\forall P$   
 $\forall x$ ,

since

$\Sigma \cap P =$  great  
circle  
of radius  
 $R$

and

$$K_{\gamma_P} = \frac{1}{R}.$$

Hence 
$$\begin{aligned} K(x) &= \max K_{\gamma_P} \cdot \min K_{\gamma_P} \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \cdot \frac{1}{R} \\ &= \frac{1}{R^2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{S_R^2} K \, dA &= \frac{1}{R^2} \cdot \int_{S_R^2} K \, dA \\ &= \frac{1}{R^2} (4\pi R^2) \\ &= 4\pi \\ &= 2\pi \cdot 2 \\ &= 2\pi \chi(S^2). \end{aligned}$$



What were the ingredients?

- Inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

More specifically, at every point  $x \in \Sigma$ , we made use of the inner product for vectors emanating from  $x$ , to define  $\vec{n}$ .

- Gauss's Theorema Egregium says one can get rid of embedding into  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , and study what we have left on

$\Sigma$  will be a manifold, rather than an embedded manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\Sigma$ . We'll no longer have things like  $\vec{n}$ , but we will have

- notion of tangent vectors to  $x \in \Sigma$ ,  $T_x \Sigma$
- an inner product on  $T_x \Sigma \forall x$ .

Later, we will define the bundle of all the tangent spaces of a mfd, the "tangent bundle"  $T\Sigma$ .

A structure on  $T_x \Sigma \forall x$ .

Thm Given an inner product  $g_x$  on  $T_x \Sigma \forall x$  varying smoothly, one can define a  $f \times n$  K st 
$$\int_{\Sigma} K dA = 2\pi \chi(\Sigma).$$

Moreover, if  $g_x$  is induced by an embedding  $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ , the two definitions of  $K$  agree.



# Three themes:

- Structure on  $T\Sigma$ .

In this case, a Riemannian metric — i.e., positive definite inner product on  $T_x \Sigma$   $\forall x \in \Sigma$ .

(Geometry)

Later, we'll talk about other kinds of structures like connections on principle bundles.

- Intrinsic v Extrinsic

$\Sigma$  on its own i.e.,  $\Sigma$  as a manifold.

$\Sigma$  as an embedded subobject of something else ( $\mathbb{R}^3$ )

Can still talk about derivatives, and tangent vectors.

(Differential)

- Topology. Strictly speaking,

topology is the study of geometry w/out the measurements — so of shapes, not of sizes. Yet topology will fundamentally appear throughout, as geometry + topology aide each other.

(Not in phrase "differential topology")

For instance, what shapes allow certain structures?

Corollary If  $\Sigma$  is compact and admits a Riemannian metric s.t.  $K \equiv 0$

$$K(x) > 0 \quad \forall x$$

$$K(x) < 0 \quad \forall x$$

then

$$\chi(\Sigma) = 0$$

$$\chi(\Sigma) > 0$$

$$\chi(\Sigma) < 0$$

$(\Rightarrow \Sigma \cong T^2)$   
 $(\Rightarrow \Sigma \cong S^2)$   
 $(\Rightarrow \text{genus } ?)$



[What is a topological manifold?]

Def. Fix  $n \geq 0$ .  
A topological space

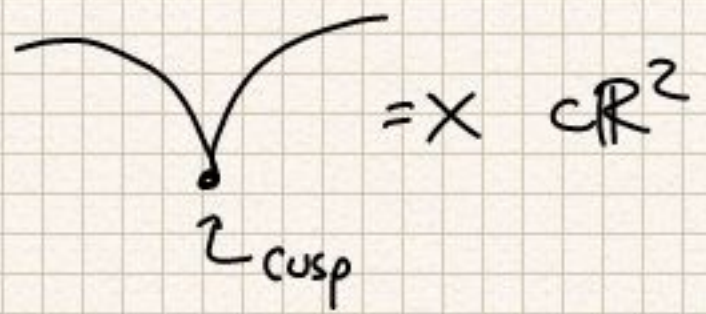
$X$  is called a topological manifold of dimension  $n$  if it is

(adjectives) and locally homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

i.e.,  $\forall x \in X$ ,  
 $\exists U \subset X$  open,  $x \in U$   
s.t.  $U \cong \mathbb{R}^n$   
as a topological space.

~~Ignore "adjectives" for now.~~  
~~I'd rather motivate "topological."~~

Ex



$X$  is a topological 1-mfd.

Ex

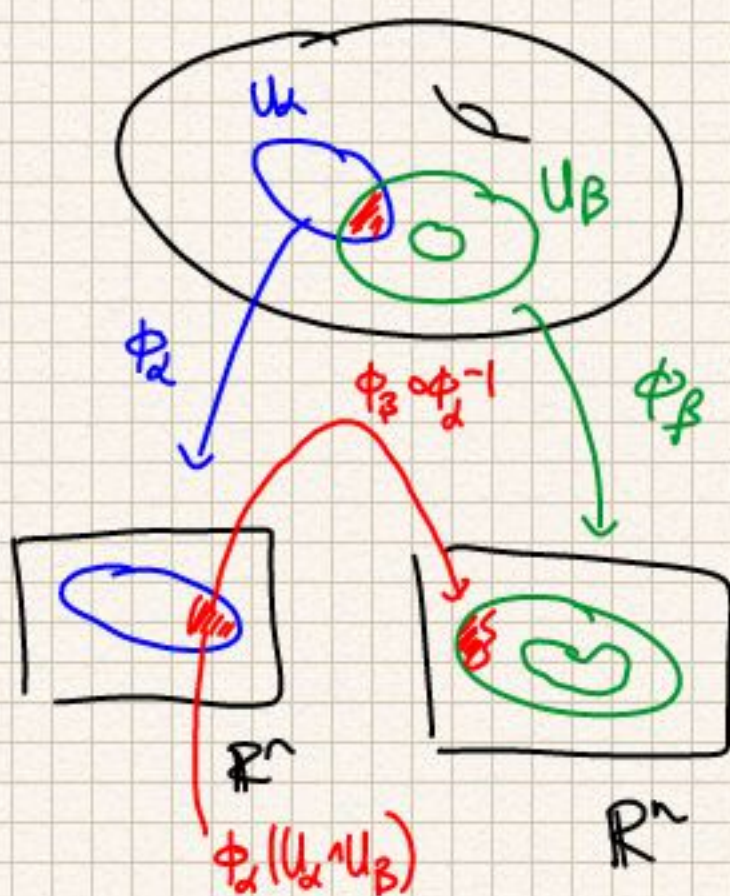
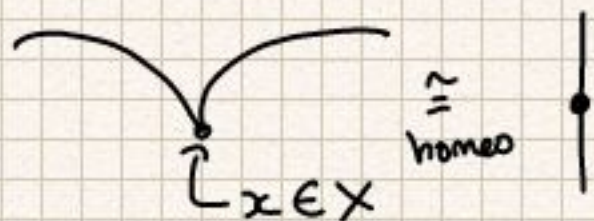


(nothing rigorous yet).



This alone doesn't tell us how to do calculus - re, take derivatives.

For instance, how do you know when a function  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is smooth for  $x \in X$ ?



Lesson: not enough to know  $X$  as a topological space.

An atlas is called  $C^k$  if  $\forall \alpha, \beta$

Def let  $X$  be a topological  $n$ -mfd.

A chart for  $X$

is a pair

$$(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)$$

where  $U_\alpha \subset X$  open,

$$\phi_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

is a homeom. onto its image.

An atlas for  $X$  is a collection of charts

$$\left\{ (U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha) \right\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} U_\alpha = X.$$

$\hat{=}$  NOT a  $\coprod$ , so  $U_\alpha$  can intersect  $U_\beta$ .

$$\phi_\beta \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1} \Big|_{\phi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)}$$

is  $C^k$ .

(Since  $\phi_\alpha^{-1} \circ \phi_\beta$  is a map from an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we know what it means for it to be  $C^k$ .)



Defn A  $C^k$ -differentiable  
 $n$ -manifold is a pair  
 $(X, \mathcal{A})$

where  $\mathcal{A} = \{(U_i, \phi_i)\}$

is a  $C^k$  atlas for  $X$ , and  $X$  is a topological  $n$ -mfd.

A  $C^\infty$ -differentiable  $n$ -mfd

is called a smooth  $n$ -mfd.

Ex

•  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$

$\mathcal{A} = \{(U = \mathbb{R}^n, \phi = \text{id})\}$

a singleton set.

Chart condition:  $U \cap U = X$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{R}^n & \xrightarrow{\phi \circ \phi^{-1}} & \mathbb{R}^n \\ & \parallel & \\ & \text{id} & \end{array}$$

is smooth.

• Likewise, if  $X = U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
set  $\mathcal{A} = \{(U, U \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n)\}$ .

•  $X = S^n$ . Let

$U_1 = S^n \setminus \text{north pole}$

$U_2 = S^n \setminus \text{south pole}$

$\phi_i: U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  stereographic  
projection



check for yourself  
that  $\phi_i \circ \phi_j^{-1}$   
is  $C^\infty$ .



Ex let  $(X, A)$  be a  
smth mfd, and  $V \subset X$   
open. Define

$$A_V = \left\{ (U \cap V, \phi|_{U \cap V}) \right\}.$$

Then  $(V, A_V)$  is a  $C^\infty$  mfd.

Rmk We've disregarded "adjective,"  
but these examples satisfy "adjective."

We will often just write  
 $X$

with the atlas  $A$  implicit.

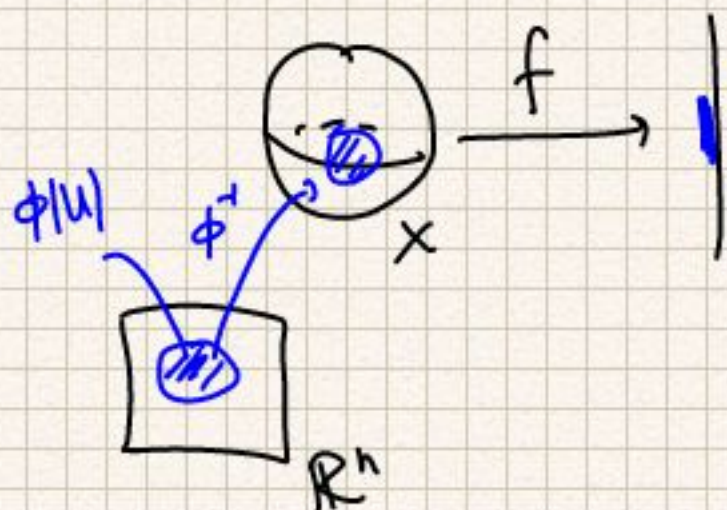
Finally!

Defn Let  $X = (X, A)$   
be a smooth  $n$ -mfd.

A function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

is called smooth if

$$f \circ \phi^{-1}: \phi(U) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$



is smooth  $\forall (U, \phi) \in A$ .



Def let  $X = (X, A_x)$   
 $Y = (Y, A_y)$

be two smooth mbls, possibly  
of different dimensions. A function

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

is called smooth if

$$g: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ smooth}$$

$$\Rightarrow g \circ f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ smooth.}$$

Exer

$$X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$$

$$f, g \text{ smooth} \Rightarrow g \circ f \text{ smooth.}$$

$$\forall h: Z \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

$h \circ g$  smooth since  $g$  is

$(h \circ g) \circ f$  smooth since  $f$  is

$$h \circ (g \circ f)$$

Exer A smooth atlas on  $X, Y$   
induces one on  $X \times Y$ .

$$A_{X \times Y} := \left\{ (U_\alpha \times V_\beta, \Phi_\alpha \times \Psi_\beta)_{(\alpha, \beta)} \right\}_{//}$$

$$\Phi_\alpha, \Psi_\beta \in C^k \Rightarrow \Phi_\alpha \times \Psi_\beta \in C^k.$$