

# Curvature for Riemannian submanifolds

Motivation: • Show that some Riem. metrics are not attained by hypersurfaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

• Understand the following. Consider a surface  $S$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Fix  $p \in S$  and a normal direction  $\nu$ . For every  $v \in T_p M$  let  $K(v)$  be  $\pm \frac{1}{R}$  where  $R =$  radius of the osculating circle to a curve with tangent vector  $v$ ,  $\pm$  determined by whether the circle bends toward or away from the chosen normal direction.

Let  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  be the max and min  $K(v)$ ,  $v \in T_p M$ .

Then,  $S(p) = 2K_1 K_2$ . (and  $K_1, K_2$  are attained in orthogonal directions)

In  $p$ ,  $K_1, K_2$  is intrinsic to the Riem. geometry of  $S$ !

[Applicable to eating pizza:  $S=0$  so either  $K_1$  or  $K_2$  must vanish; can force  $K_1 \neq 0$  so then  $K_2=0$  necessarily.]

## Second fundamental form

Say we have  $M \subset \tilde{M}$  immersed Riemannian. Let  $N(M) = \mathcal{E}(NM)$ .

Then for  $X, Y \in T(M)$  have  $\tilde{\nabla}_X Y = \underbrace{(\tilde{\nabla}_X Y)^T}_{T(M)} + \underbrace{(\tilde{\nabla}_X Y)^\perp}_{N(M)}$

Define  $\mathbb{II}(X, Y) = (\tilde{\nabla}_X Y)^\perp$  ("second fundamental form")

Lemma 1)  $\mathbb{II} \in \mathcal{E}(\text{Hom}(TM \otimes TM, NM))$

2)  $\mathbb{II}(X, Y) = \mathbb{II}(Y, X)$

Pf 1) Check  $C^\infty(M)$ -linearity:  $[\tilde{\nabla}_X (fY)]^\perp = [f \tilde{\nabla}_X Y + (Xf)Y]^\perp = f[\tilde{\nabla}_X Y]^\perp$

2)  $\tilde{\nabla}_X Y - \tilde{\nabla}_Y X = [X, Y] \in TM$

so  $(\tilde{\nabla}_X Y - \tilde{\nabla}_Y X)^\perp = 0$ .

Lemma  $(\tilde{\nabla}_x Y)^T = \nabla_x Y.$

Pf Exercise. (already assigned in the case  $M = \mathbb{R}^n$ )

Lemma If  $X, Y \in TM$  and  $N \in NM$  then  $\langle \tilde{\nabla}_x N, Y \rangle = -\langle N, \mathbb{I}(X, Y) \rangle$

Pf

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= X \langle N, Y \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x N, Y \rangle + \langle N, \tilde{\nabla}_x Y \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x N, Y \rangle + \langle N, \nabla_x Y + \mathbb{I}(X, Y) \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x N, Y \rangle + \langle N, \mathbb{I}(X, Y) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Now we can relate curvatures of  $M$  and  $\tilde{M}$ :

Thm  $\tilde{R}_m(X, Y, Z, W) = R_m(X, Y, Z, W) - \langle \mathbb{I}(X, W), \mathbb{I}(Y, Z) \rangle + \langle \mathbb{I}(X, Z), \mathbb{I}(Y, W) \rangle$

Pf

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{R}_m(X, Y, Z, W) &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x \tilde{\nabla}_y Z - \tilde{\nabla}_y \tilde{\nabla}_x Z - \tilde{\nabla}_{[X, Y]} Z, W \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x (\nabla_y Z + \mathbb{I}(Y, Z)) - \tilde{\nabla}_y (\nabla_x Z + \mathbb{I}(X, Z)) - \tilde{\nabla}_{[X, Y]} Z + \mathbb{I}([X, Y], Z), W \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{\nabla}_x \nabla_y Z, W \rangle - \langle \mathbb{I}(Y, Z), \mathbb{I}(X, W) \rangle - \langle \tilde{\nabla}_y \nabla_x Z, W \rangle + \langle \mathbb{I}(Y, W), \mathbb{I}(X, Z) \rangle \\ &\quad - \langle \tilde{\nabla}_{[X, Y]} Z, W \rangle \quad \text{using previous lemma} \\ &= \langle \nabla_x \nabla_y Z - \nabla_y \nabla_x Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]} Z, W \rangle - \langle \mathbb{I}(X, W), \mathbb{I}(Y, Z) \rangle + \langle \mathbb{I}(Y, W), \mathbb{I}(X, Z) \rangle \\ &\quad \text{using } \langle \tilde{\nabla}(\dots), W \rangle = \langle \nabla(\dots), W \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Prk Say  $\gamma: [0, T] \rightarrow M$  and  $X$  a vector field along  $\gamma$ .

Then  $\tilde{\nabla}_{\dot{\gamma}} X = \nabla_{\dot{\gamma}} X + \mathbb{I}(\dot{\gamma}, X).$

In pth, if  $\gamma$  is a geodesic in  $M$  then  $\tilde{\nabla}_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma} = \mathbb{I}(\dot{\gamma}, \dot{\gamma})$

So  $\mathbb{I}$  measures the acceleration in  $\tilde{M}$  of geodesics in  $M$ .

(If  $\mathbb{I} = 0$ , say  $M$  is totally geodesic in  $\tilde{M}$ .)

Now, specialize to hypersurfaces  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Pick a unit normal vector  $N$  to  $M$  at  $p$ , then define  $s: T_p M \rightarrow T_p M$  ("shape tensor") by  $\langle s(X), Y \rangle = \langle \mathbb{I}(X, Y), N \rangle$ .

Def The Gaussian curvature of  $M$  at  $p$  is  $K(p) = \det s$ .

The mean curvature of  $M$  at  $p$  is  $m(p) = \text{tr } s$ .

[Rk  $m=0 \iff M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally volume-minimizing.]

In general  $K(p), m(p)$  depend on the embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . But for  $n=3$  there is a miracle:

Thm (Gauss) If  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  surface, then

1) in an ON-basis,  $K = R_{1221}$

2) for  $X, Y \in T_p M$ ,  $K = \frac{Rm(X, Y, Y, X)}{\|X\|^2 \|Y\|^2 - \langle X, Y \rangle^2}$

Pf 1) Since  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is flat, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{1221} &= Rm(e_1, e_2, e_2, e_1) = \langle \mathbb{I}(e_1, e_1), \mathbb{I}(e_2, e_2) \rangle - \langle \mathbb{I}(e_1, e_2), \mathbb{I}(e_2, e_1) \rangle \\ &= \det (\langle s(e_i), e_j \rangle)_{ij=1,2} \\ &= \det s \end{aligned}$$

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) is linear algebra exercise (do Gram-Schmidt to make ON basis from  $X, Y$  and then compute  $R_{1221}$ )

Cor If  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  surface,  $S(p) = 2K(p) = 2\kappa_1 \kappa_2$ .

Pf In ON-basis,  $S = (Ric)_{11} + (Ric)_{22} = R_{1221} + R_{2112} = 2R_{1221} = 2K$ .

Let  $f(v) = \frac{\langle v, s(v) \rangle}{\|v\|^2} = \frac{\mathbb{I}(v, v)}{\|v\|^2}$ .  $f(v)$  is the inverse curv. of osculating circle to  $v$ .  
(from high school:  $a = \frac{v^2}{r}$ !)

$s$  is self-adjoint  $\Rightarrow f(v)$  is extremized at eigenvectors of  $v$ .

$s(v) = \kappa v \Rightarrow f(v) = \kappa$ . So  $K = \det s = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$ . ✓