

**3.8.5** Check that if you consider the *surface* of equation  $z = f(x)$ ,  $y$  arbitrary, and the plane *curve*  $z = f(x)$ , the mean curvature of the surface is half the curvature of the plane curve.

**3.8.6** What are the Gaussian and mean curvature of the surface of equation

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1, \quad \text{at } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}?$$

**3.8.7** a. How long is the arctic circle? How long would a circle of that radius be if the earth were flat?

b. How big a circle around the pole would you need to measure in order for the difference of its length and the corresponding length in a plane to be one kilometer?

**3.8.8** a. Draw the cycloid given parametrically by  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a(t - \sin t) \\ a(1 - \cos t) \end{pmatrix}$ .

b. Can you relate the name “cycloid” to “bicycle”?

c. Find the length of one arc of the cycloid.

**3.8.9** Repeat exercise 3.8.8 for the hypocycloid  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \cos^3 t \\ a \sin^3 t \end{pmatrix}$ .

**3.8.10** a. Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a smooth function satisfying  $f(x) > 0$ , and consider the surface obtained by rotating its graph around the  $x$ -axis. Show that the Gaussian curvature  $K$  and the mean curvature  $H$  of this surface depend only on the  $x$ -coordinate.

b. Show that  $K(x) = \frac{-f''(x)}{f(x)\left(1 + (f'(x))^2\right)^2}$ .

c. Find a formula for the mean curvature in terms of  $f$  and its derivatives.

**\*3.8.11** Use exercise 3.1.24 to explain why the Frenet formulas give an anti-symmetric matrix.

**3.8.12** Prove proposition 3.8.6, using proposition 3.8.16.

Useful fact for exercise 3.8.7:  
The arctic circle is those points that are 2 607.5 kilometers south of the north pole.

Exercise 3.8.11: The curve

$$F : t \mapsto [\vec{\mathbf{t}}(t), \vec{\mathbf{n}}(t), \vec{\mathbf{b}}(t)] = T(t)$$

is a mapping  $I \mapsto SO(3)$ , the space of orthogonal  $3 \times 3$  matrices with determinant +1. So

$$t \mapsto T^{-1}(t_0)T(t)$$

is a curve in  $SO(3)$  that passes through the identity at  $t_0$ .

### 3.9 REVIEW EXERCISES FOR CHAPTER 3

**3.1** a. Show that the set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  of equation

$$x^3 + xy^2 + yz^2 + z^3 = 4 \quad \text{is a smooth surface.}$$

b. Give the equations of the tangent plane and tangent space to  $X$  at  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Exercise 3.2: We strongly advocate using MATLAB or similar software.

**3.2** a. For what values of  $c$  is the set of equation  $Y_c = x^2 + y^3 + z^4 = c$  a smooth surface?

b. Sketch this surface for a representative sample of values of  $c$  (for instance,  $-2, -1, 0, 1, 2$ ).

c. Give the equations of the tangent plane and tangent space at a point  $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix}$

of the surface  $Y_c$ .

**3.3** Consider the space  $X$  of positions of a rod of length 2 in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , where one endpoint is constrained to be on the sphere of equation  $(x - 1)^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ , and the other on the sphere of equation  $(x + 1)^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \\ x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Point for exercise 3.3, parts b and c.

a. Give equations for  $X$  as a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^6$ , where the coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^6$  are the coordinates  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}$  of the end of the rod on the first sphere, and the three

coordinates  $\begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$  of the other end of the rod.

b. Show that near the point in  $\mathbb{R}^6$  shown in the margin, the set  $X$  is a manifold. What is the dimension of  $X$  near this point?

c. Give the equation of the tangent space to the set  $X$ , at the same point as in part b.

**3.4** Consider the space  $X$  of triples  $\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ z \end{pmatrix}$  such that  $y \neq 0$  and the segments  $\overline{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}$  and  $\overline{\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}}$  form an angle of  $\pi/4$ .

The notation  $\overline{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}$  means the segment going from  $\mathbf{p}$  to  $\mathbf{q}$ .

a. Write an equation  $f \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$  which all points of  $X$  will satisfy.

b. Show that the position of  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}$  where  $x = 0, y = 1, z = 1$  satisfies the equation, and that  $X$  is a smooth surface near that point.

c. True or false? Near this point,  $X$  is locally the graph of a function expressing  $z$  as a function of  $x$  and  $y$ .

d. What is the tangent plane to  $X$  at the point  $x = 0, y = 1, z = 1$ ? What is the tangent space to the surface at that point?

**3.5** Find the Taylor polynomial of degree 3 of the function

$$f \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \sin(x + y + z) \quad \text{at the point} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \pi/6 \\ \pi/4 \\ \pi/3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**3.6** Show that if  $f \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \varphi(x - y)$  for some twice continuously differentiable function  $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then  $D_1^2 f - D_2^2 f = 0$ .

**3.7** Write, to degree 3, the Taylor polynomial  $P_{f,0}^3$  of

$$f \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \cos(1 + \sin(x^2 + y)) \quad \text{at the origin.}$$

$$\varphi_1 \left( \mathbf{a}, \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_2 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \right) \mapsto [\mathbf{a}, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}]$$

Mapping for exercise 3.8, part a

**\*3.8** a. Show that the mapping  $\varphi_1 : (\mathbb{R}^m - \{0\}) \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  shown in the margin is a parametrization of the subset  $U_1 \subset M_1(m, n)$  of those matrices whose first column is not  $\mathbf{0}$ .

b. Show that  $M_1(m, n) - U_1$  is a manifold embedded in  $M_1(m, n)$ . What is its dimension?

c. How many parametrizations like  $\varphi_1$  do you need to cover every point of  $M_1(m, n)$ ?

A homogeneous polynomial is a polynomial in which all terms have the same degree.

**\*3.9** A homogeneous polynomial in two variables of degree four is an expression of the form

$$p(x, y) = ax^4 + bx^3y + cx^2y^2 + dxy^3 + ey^4.$$

Consider the function

$$f\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \end{matrix}\right) = \begin{cases} \frac{p(x, y)}{x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ 0 & \text{if } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \end{cases}$$

where  $p$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree 4. What condition must the coefficients of  $p$  satisfy in order for the crossed partials  $D_1(D_2(f))$  and  $D_2(D_1(f))$  to be equal at the origin?

Exercise 3.11 is relevant to example 3.8.12. Hint for part b: The  $x$ -axis is contained in the surface.

$$Q_1\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}\right) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y \\ 1 & y & z \\ 1 & z & x \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q_2\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}\right) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x & y \\ x & 0 & z \\ y & z & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Functions for exercise 3.13

**3.10** a. Show that  $ye^y = x$  implicitly defines  $y$  as a function of  $x$ , for  $x \geq 0$ .

b. Find a Taylor polynomial of the implicit function to degree 4.

**3.11** a. Show that the equation  $y \cos z = x \sin z$  expresses  $z$  implicitly as a function  $z = g_r\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \end{matrix}\right)$  near the point  $\begin{pmatrix} r \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

b. Show that  $D_1 g_r\left(\begin{matrix} r \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix}\right) = D_1^2 g_r\left(\begin{matrix} r \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix}\right) = 0$ .

**3.12** On  $\mathbb{R}^4$  as described by  $M = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}$ , consider the quadratic form  $Q(M) = \det M$ . What is its signature?

**3.13** a. Are the functions  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  in the margin quadratic forms on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

b. For any that is a quadratic form, what is its signature? Is it degenerate or nondegenerate?

**3.14** Let  $P_k$  be the space of polynomials of degree at most  $k$ .

a. Show that the function  $\delta_a : P_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $\delta_a(p) = p(a)$  is a linear function.

b. Show that  $\delta_0, \dots, \delta_k$  are linearly independent. First say what it means, being careful with the quantifiers. It may help to think of the polynomial

$$x(x-1)\dots(x-(j-1))(x-(j+1))\dots(x-k),$$

which vanishes at  $0, 1, \dots, j-1, j+1, \dots, k$  but not at  $j$ .

c. Show that the function

$$Q(p) = (p(0))^2 - (p(1))^2 + \dots + (-1)^k (p(k))^2$$

is a quadratic form on  $P_k$ . When  $k = 3$ , write it in terms of the coefficients of  $p(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

d. What is the signature of  $Q$  when  $k = 3$ ?

Exercise 3.14 part d: There is the clever way, and then there is the plodding way.

**3.15** Show that a  $2 \times 2$  symmetric matrix  $G = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}$  represents a positive definite quadratic form if and only if  $\det G > 0$ ,  $a + d > 0$ .

**3.16** Let  $Q$  be a quadratic form. Construct a symmetric matrix  $A$  as follows: each entry  $A_{i,i}$  on the diagonal is the coefficient of  $x_i^2$ , while each entry  $A_{i,j}$  is half the coefficient of the term  $x_i x_j$ .

Exercise 3.16, part b: Consider  $Q(\vec{e}_i)$  and  $Q(\vec{e}_i + \vec{e}_j)$ .

- a. Show that  $Q(\vec{x}) = \vec{x} \cdot A\vec{x}$ .
- b. Show that  $A$  is the unique symmetric matrix with this property.

- 3.17** a. Find the critical points of the function  $f\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \end{matrix}\right) = 3x^2 - 6xy + 2y^3$ .
- b. What kind of critical points are these?

Exercise 3.18, part a: This is easier if you use

$$\begin{aligned} \sin(\alpha + \beta) &= \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta. \end{aligned}$$

- 3.18** a. What is the Taylor polynomial of degree 2 of the function

$$f\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \end{matrix}\right) = \sin(2x + y) \quad \text{at the point } \left(\begin{matrix} \pi/6 \\ \pi/3 \end{matrix}\right)?$$

- b. Show that  $f\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \end{matrix}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\left(2x + y - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) - \left(x - \frac{\pi}{6}\right)^2$  has a critical point at  $\left(\begin{matrix} \pi/6 \\ \pi/3 \end{matrix}\right)$ . What kind of critical point is it?

$$F\left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}\right) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y \\ x & 1 & z \\ y & z & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Function of exercise 3.19

- 3.19** The function in the margin has exactly five critical points.

- a. Find them.
- b. For each critical point, what are the quadratic terms of the Taylor polynomial at that point?
- c. Say everything you can about the type of critical point each is.

- 3.20** a. Find the critical points of  $xyz$ , if  $x, y, z$  belong to the surface  $S$  of equation  $x + y + z^2 = 16$ .

- b. Is there a maximum on the whole surface; if so, which critical point is it?
- c. Is there a maximum on the part of  $S$  where  $x, y, z$  are all positive?

- 3.21** Let  $A, B, C, D$  be a convex quadrilateral in the plane, with the vertices free to move but with  $a$  the length of  $AB$ ,  $b$  the length of  $BC$ ,  $c$  the length of  $CD$ , and  $d$  the length of  $DA$  all assigned. Let  $\varphi$  be the angle at  $A$  and  $\psi$  the angle at  $C$ .

- a. Show that the angles  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  satisfy the constraint

$$a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \cos \varphi = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos \psi.$$

- b. Find a formula for the area of the quadrilateral in terms of  $\varphi, \psi$  and  $a, b, c, d$ .

- c. Show that the area is maximum if the quadrilateral can be inscribed in a circle.

- 3.22** Find the maximum of the function  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$ , subject to the constraint

$$x_1^2 + 2x_2^2 + \dots + nx_n^2 = 1.$$

- 3.23** Compute the Gaussian and mean curvature of the surface of equation

$$z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad \text{at } \left(\begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}\right) = \left(\begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \end{matrix}\right). \quad \text{Explain your result.}$$

- 3.24** Suppose  $\gamma(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1(t) \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_n(t) \end{pmatrix}$  is twice continuously differentiable on a neighborhood of  $[a, b]$ .

Exercise 3.21, part c: You may use the fact that a quadrilateral can be inscribed in a circle if the opposite angles add to  $\pi$ .

a. Use Taylor's theorem with remainder (or argue directly from the mean value theorem) to show that for any  $s_1 < s_2$  in  $[a, b]$ ,

$$|\gamma(s_2) - \gamma(s_1) - \gamma'(s_1)(s_2 - s_1)| \leq C|s_2 - s_1|^2,$$

where

$$C = \sqrt{n} \sup_{j=1, \dots, n} \sup_{t \in [a, b]} |\gamma_j''(t)|.$$

b. Use this to show that

$$\lim \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} |\gamma(t_{i+1}) - \gamma(t_i)| = \int_a^b |\gamma'(t)| dt,$$

where  $a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = b$ , and we take the limit as the distances  $t_{i+1} - t_i$  tend to 0.

**3.25** Show that the quadratic form  $ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2$

- is positive definite if and only if  $ac - b^2 > 0$  and  $a > 0$
- is negative definite if and only if  $ac - b^2 > 0$  and  $a < 0$
- has signature (1,1) if and only if  $ac - b^2 < 0$ .