

Tchebychev
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藤岡敦

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Euclidean differential geometry and affine differential geometry

Consider hypersurfaces in the Euclidean space.

- Euclidean differential geometry
 - \exists a unit normal vector field
 - Study properties invariant under the Euclidean transformation.
- Affine differential geometry
 - Choose a transversal vector field.
 - Equiaffine differential geometry
 - Take a Blaschke normal vector field.
 - Study properties invariant under the equiaffine transformation.
 - Centroaffine differential geometry
 - Take a position vector field.
 - Study properties invariant under the affine transformation fixing the origin.

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$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a hypersurface

D : the standard flat connection on \mathbf{R}^{n+1}

$X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$

○ Euclidean differential geometry

n : a unit normal vector field

\implies Gauss-Weingarten formula:

$$\begin{cases} D_X f_* Y = f_* \nabla_X Y + h(X, Y)n & \text{(Gauss)} \\ D_X n = -f_* SX & \text{(Weingarten)} \end{cases}$$

∇ : the Levi-Civita connection

h : the second fundamental form

S : the shape operator

Gauss-Weingarten formula

Affine differential geometry

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a hypersurface

D : the standard flat connection on \mathbf{R}^{n+1}

$X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$

○ Affine differential geometry

ξ : a transversal vector field

\implies Gauss-Weingarten formula:

$$\begin{cases} D_X f_* Y = f_* \nabla_X Y + h(X, Y) \xi & \text{(Gauss)} \\ D_X \xi = -f_* S X + \tau(X) \xi & \text{(Weingarten)} \end{cases}$$

f is called an affine hypersurface.

∇ : the induced connection

h : the affine fundamental form

Considered as a metric.

S : the affine shape operator

τ : the transversal connection form

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Nondegenerate, definite or indefinite affine hypersurfaces

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Definition

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: an affine hypersurface

h : the affine fundamental form

f : nondegenerate (resp. definite, indefinite)

\Updownarrow def.

h : nondegenerate (resp. definite, indefinite)

Proposition

The above definition is independent of the choice of the transversal vector field ξ .

Proof

$$\bar{\xi} := \varphi\xi + f_*Z \quad (\varphi : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}, Z \in \mathfrak{X}(M)) \implies \varphi\bar{h} = h$$

Definition of Blaschke hypersurfaces

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a nondegenerate affine hypersurface

θ : the volume form induced by the immersion f

ω : a parallel volume form with respect to the flat connection D

$$\theta(X_1, \dots, X_n) := \omega(f_*X_1, \dots, f_*X_n, \xi) \quad (X_1, \dots, X_n \in \mathfrak{X}(M))$$

ω_h : the volume form with respect to the affine fundamental form h

$$X_1, \dots, X_n \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \text{ s.t. } \theta(X_1, \dots, X_n) = 1$$

$$\omega_h(X_1, \dots, X_n) := |\det(h(X_i, X_j))|^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Proposition

$\exists \xi$ (unique up to the sign) s.t. $\tau \equiv 0$ & $\theta = \omega_h$

The above ξ is called a Blaschke normal vector field.

f is called a Blaschke hypersurface.

h is called a Blaschke metric.

Affine hyperspheres

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Definition

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a Blaschke hypersurface

S : the affine shape operator

f : an affine hypersphere $\stackrel{\text{def.}}{\iff} S$: a scalar operator

$S = 0$: improper

$S \neq 0$: proper

Proposition

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: an affine hypersphere

ξ : a Blaschke normal vector field

○ f : improper $\iff \xi$: a constant vector

○ f : proper \iff The lines through f with direction ξ meet at one point (the center).

Examples

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Example (Quadrics)

- A proper noncentral quadric is an improper affine hypersphere.
- A proper central quadric is a proper affine hypersphere.

Theorem (M. A. Magid-P. J. Ryan 1990)

$f = (X, Y, Z) : M^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: an affine sphere

If the curvature of the Blaschke metric is 0, then f is one of the following up to the affine congruence.

- $Z = X^2 + Y^2$ (definite, improper)
- $Z = XY + a(X)$, a : an arbitrary function (indefinite, improper)
- $XYZ = 1$ (definite, proper)
- $(X^2 + Y^2)Z = 1$ (indefinite, proper)

Definition of centroaffine hypersurfaces

Definition

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a hypersurface

f : a centroaffine hypersurface

\Updownarrow def.

The position vector intersects with the tangent space transversally at any point.

$$\xi := - \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$$

Weingarten formula:

$$D_X \xi = -f_* X$$

\Updownarrow

$$S = \text{the identity}, \tau \equiv 0$$

The affine fundamental form h is called a centroaffine metric.

Tchebychev operator

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Consider nondegenerate centroaffine hypersurfaces.

$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a centroaffine hypersurface

∇ : the induced connection

∇^h : the Levi-Civita connection for the centroaffine metric h

$C := \nabla - \nabla^h$: the difference tensor

$T := \frac{1}{n} \operatorname{tr}_h C$: the Tchebychev vector field

$$\phi(\operatorname{tr}_h C) = \operatorname{tr} A_\phi \quad (\forall \phi \in \Omega^1(M))$$

A : a $(1, 1)$ tensor s.t.

$$(\phi \circ C)(X, Y) = h(A_\phi(X), Y) \quad (\forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M))$$

The $(1, 1)$ tensor $\nabla^h T$ is called a Tchebychev operator.

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$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$: a centroaffine hypersurface

C : the difference tensor

T : the Tchebychev vector field

$\nabla^h T$: the Tchebychev operator

Maschke-Pick-Berwald's theorem

$$C \equiv 0 \iff f: \text{a quadric centered at the origin}$$

Proposition

$$T \equiv 0 \iff f: \text{a proper affine hypersphere centered at the origin}$$

1995 H. L. Liu-C. P. Wang: Classified centroaffine surfaces with $\nabla^h T \equiv 0$

Definiteness and the Euclidean Gaussian curvature

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Consider nondegenerate centroaffine surfaces.

Proposition

$f : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: a centroaffine surface

f : definite (resp. indefinite)



the Euclidean Gaussian curvature: positive (resp. negative)

Proof

(x_1, x_2) : local coordinates

Gauss formula:

$$f_{x_i x_j} = \Gamma_{ij}^1 f_{x_1} + \Gamma_{ij}^2 f_{x_2} - h(\partial_{x_i}, \partial_{x_j})f \quad (i = 1, 2)$$

Take the inner product with the unit normal vector field.

Notations

Consider the indefinite case.

$f : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: a centroaffine surface

K : the Euclidean Gaussian curvature < 0

(x, y) : asymptotic line coordinates

$\psi := h(\partial_x, \partial_y)$

d : the signed distance from the origin to the tangent plane

$$\rho := -\frac{1}{4} \log \left(-\frac{K}{d^4} \right)$$

$$\alpha := \psi \det \begin{pmatrix} f \\ f_x \\ f_{xx} \end{pmatrix} / \det \begin{pmatrix} f \\ f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\beta := \psi \det \begin{pmatrix} f \\ f_y \\ f_{yy} \end{pmatrix} / \det \begin{pmatrix} f \\ f_y \\ f_x \end{pmatrix}$$

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Gauss formula in asymptotic line coordinates

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Gauss formula

$$\begin{cases} f_{xx} = \left(\frac{\psi_x}{\psi} + \rho_x \right) f_x + \frac{\alpha}{\psi} f_y \\ f_{xy} = -\psi f + \rho_y f_x + \rho_x f_y \\ f_{yy} = \left(\frac{\psi_y}{\psi} + \rho_y \right) f_y + \frac{\beta}{\psi} f_x \end{cases}$$

Proof

Use

$$\Gamma_{xy}^x = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{K_y}{K}, \quad \Gamma_{xy}^y = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{K_x}{K}$$

etc.

Integrability conditions

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Proposition

The integrability conditions for the above Gauss formula are

$$\begin{cases} (\log \psi)_{xy} = -\psi - \frac{\alpha\beta}{\psi^2} + \rho_x \rho_y \\ \alpha_y + \rho_x \psi_x = \rho_{xx} \psi \\ \beta_x + \rho_y \psi_y = \rho_{yy} \psi \end{cases}$$

If ρ is constant and $\alpha, \beta \neq 0$, changing the coordinates, if necessary, we obtain Tzitzéica equation:

$$(\log \psi)_{xy} = -\psi - \frac{1}{\psi^2}$$

Proposition

T : the Tchebychev vector field

$$\implies T = \text{grad}_h \rho$$

Equations of associativity

$f : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: an indefinite centroaffine surface

(x, y) : asymptotic line coordinates

κ : the curvature of the centroaffine metric h

$$\kappa = -\frac{(\log \psi)_{xy}}{\psi}$$

Consider the flat case. ($\kappa \equiv 0$)

May assume $\psi \equiv 1$.

\implies Equation of associativity in topological field theory:

$$g_{xxx}g_{yyy} - g_{xyx}g_{xyy} + 1 = 0$$
$$(\rho = g_{xy}, \alpha = g_{xxx}, \beta = g_{yyy})$$

2004 E. V. Ferapontov: Showed that the integrability conditions for flat centroaffine hypersurfaces are equivalent to equations of associativity.

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Centroaffine surfaces with vanishing Tchebychev operator

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$f = (X, Y, Z) : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: a centroaffine surface

$\nabla^h T$: the Tchebychev operator

κ : the curvature of the centroaffine metric h

$\nabla^h T \equiv 0 \implies \kappa \equiv 0$ except proper affine spheres centered at the origin with $\kappa \equiv 1$

The case $\kappa \equiv 0$: $p, q, r \in \mathbf{R}$

- $X^p Y^q Z^r = 1$

- $\left\{ \exp \left(-p \tan^{-1} \frac{X}{Y} \right) \right\} (X^2 + Y^2)^q Z^r = 1$

- $Z = -X(p \log X + q \log Y)$

- $Z = \pm X \log X + \frac{Y^2}{X}$

- $f = (e^x, A_1(x)e^y, A_2(x)e^y)$, A_1, A_2 : Linearly independent solutions to the differential equation:

$$A'' - A' - a(x)A = 0, \quad a: \text{an arbitrary function}$$

Another example

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Theorem (F. 2014)

$f : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$: a flat centroaffine surface

$\nabla^h T$: the Tchebychev operator

$J := \frac{1}{2} \|C\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} h^{ip} h^{jq} h_{kr} C_{ij}^k C_{pq}^r$: the Pick function

$\nabla^h T$: nonsemisimple & J : constant

$$\Rightarrow f = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{n,1}(x) y^n, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{n,2}(x) y^n, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{n,3}(x) y^n \right)$$

(x, y) : asymptotic line coordinates around $(x_0, 0)$ s.t.
 $x_0 \neq 0$

$\varphi_{0,1}, \varphi_{0,2}, \varphi_{0,3}$: Linearly independent solutions to the
differential equation: $x\varphi''' + \varphi'' - \varphi = 0$

$$(n+1)\varphi_{n+1,i} = x\varphi''_{n,i} \quad (i = 1, 2, 3)$$

Characterizations of the surface

- $J \equiv -1$
- Solutions to the equation of associativity:

$$g = \frac{1}{6}xy^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 \log x + (\text{polynomials with degree } \leq 2)$$

- Centroaffine minimal: Extremals of the area integral of the centroaffine metric h
 $\iff \text{tr } \nabla^h T \equiv 0$
- The differential equation can be solved by using Meijer G functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi = & c_1 G_{0,3}^{2,0} \left(\frac{x^2}{8} \middle| \frac{-}{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0} \right) + ic_2 G_{0,3}^{1,0} \left(-\frac{x^2}{8} \middle| \frac{-}{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0} \right) \\ & + c_3 G_{0,3}^{1,0} \left(-\frac{x^2}{8} \middle| 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbf{R}) \end{aligned}$$

The second and the third terms can be written by using the generalized hypergeometric function ${}_0F_2$.

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