

$\mathcal{F}(0) = \mathcal{F}'(0) = \dots = \mathcal{F}^{(k-1)}(0) = 0$ . (Such a line is to be visualized as the limit of lines that intersect  $M$  at  $P$  and at  $k - 1$  other points that approach  $P$ .)

- a. Show that  $L$  has 2-point contact with  $M$  at  $P$  if and only if  $L$  is tangent to  $M$  at  $P$ , i.e.,  $L \subset T_P M$ .
- b. Show that  $L$  has 3-point contact with  $M$  at  $P$  if and only if  $L$  is an asymptotic direction at  $P$ . (Hint: It may be helpful to follow the setup of Exercise 21.)
- c. (Challenge) Assume  $P$  is a hyperbolic point. What does it mean for  $L$  to have 4-point contact with  $M$  at  $P$ ?

### 3. The Codazzi and Gauss Equations and the Fundamental Theorem of Surface Theory

We now wish to proceed towards a deeper understanding of Gaussian curvature. We have to this point considered only the normal components of the second derivatives  $\mathbf{x}_{uu}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_{uv}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_{vv}$ . Now let's consider them *in toto*. Since  $\{\mathbf{x}_u, \mathbf{x}_v, \mathbf{n}\}$  gives a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , there are functions  $\Gamma_{uu}^u, \Gamma_{uu}^v, \Gamma_{uv}^u = \Gamma_{vu}^u, \Gamma_{uv}^v = \Gamma_{vu}^v, \Gamma_{vv}^u$ , and  $\Gamma_{vv}^v$  so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{x}_{uu} &= \Gamma_{uu}^u \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{uu}^v \mathbf{x}_v + \ell \mathbf{n} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{uv} &= \Gamma_{uv}^u \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{uv}^v \mathbf{x}_v + m \mathbf{n} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{vv} &= \Gamma_{vv}^u \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{vv}^v \mathbf{x}_v + n \mathbf{n}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{\dagger}$$

(Note that  $\mathbf{x}_{uv} = \mathbf{x}_{vu}$  dictates the symmetries  $\Gamma_{uv}^\bullet = \Gamma_{vu}^\bullet$ .) The functions  $\Gamma_{\bullet\bullet}^\bullet$  are called *Christoffel symbols*.

**Example 1.** Let's compute the Christoffel symbols for the usual parametrization of the sphere (see Example 1(d) on p. 37). By straightforward calculation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{x}_u &= (\cos u \cos v, \cos u \sin v, -\sin u) \\
 \mathbf{x}_v &= (-\sin u \sin v, \sin u \cos v, 0) \\
 \mathbf{x}_{uu} &= (-\sin u \cos v, -\sin u \sin v, -\cos u) = -\mathbf{x}(u, v) \\
 \mathbf{x}_{uv} &= (-\cos u \sin v, \cos u \cos v, 0) \\
 \mathbf{x}_{vv} &= (-\sin u \cos v, -\sin u \sin v, 0) = -\sin u (\cos v, \sin v, 0).
 \end{aligned}$$

(Note that the  $u$ -curves are great circles, parametrized by arclength, so it is no surprise that the acceleration vector  $\mathbf{x}_{uu}$  is inward-pointing of length 1. The  $v$ -curves are latitude circles of radius  $\sin u$ , so, similarly, the acceleration vector  $\mathbf{x}_{vv}$  points inwards towards the center of the respective circle.)

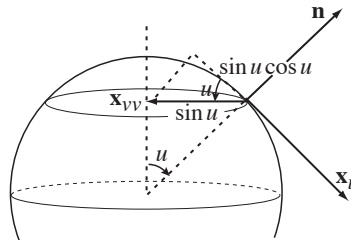


FIGURE 3.1

Since  $\mathbf{x}_{uu}$  lies entirely in the direction of  $\mathbf{n}$ , we have  $\Gamma_{uu}^u = \Gamma_{uu}^v = 0$ . Now, by inspection,  $\mathbf{x}_{uv} = \cot u \mathbf{x}_v$ , so  $\Gamma_{uv}^u = 0$  and  $\Gamma_{uv}^v = \cot u$ . Last, as we can see in Figure 3.1, we have  $\mathbf{x}_{vv} = -\sin u \cos u \mathbf{x}_u - \sin^2 u \mathbf{n}$ , so  $\Gamma_{vv}^u = -\sin u \cos u$  and  $\Gamma_{vv}^v = 0$ .  $\nabla$

Now, dotting the equations in  $(\dagger)$  with  $\mathbf{x}_u$  and  $\mathbf{x}_v$  gives

$$\mathbf{x}_{uu} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = \Gamma_{uu}^u E + \Gamma_{uu}^v F$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{uu} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = \Gamma_{uu}^u F + \Gamma_{uu}^v G$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{uv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = \Gamma_{uv}^u E + \Gamma_{uv}^v F$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{uv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = \Gamma_{uv}^u F + \Gamma_{uv}^v G$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{vv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = \Gamma_{vv}^u E + \Gamma_{vv}^v F$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{vv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = \Gamma_{vv}^u F + \Gamma_{vv}^v G.$$

Now observe that

$$\mathbf{x}_{uu} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_u)_u = \frac{1}{2}E_u$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{uv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_u)_v = \frac{1}{2}E_v$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{uv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_v \cdot \mathbf{x}_v)_u = \frac{1}{2}G_u$$

(♣)

$$\mathbf{x}_{uu} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = (\mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_v)_u - \mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_{uv} = F_u - \frac{1}{2}E_v$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{vv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_u = (\mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_v)_v - \mathbf{x}_{uv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = F_v - \frac{1}{2}G_u$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{vv} \cdot \mathbf{x}_v = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_v \cdot \mathbf{x}_v)_v = \frac{1}{2}G_v$$

Thus, we can rewrite our equations as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uu}^u \\ \Gamma_{uu}^v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}E_u \\ F_u - \frac{1}{2}E_v \end{bmatrix} &\implies & \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uu}^u \\ \Gamma_{uu}^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}E_u \\ F_u - \frac{1}{2}E_v \end{bmatrix} \\ (\dagger) \quad \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uv}^u \\ \Gamma_{uv}^v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}E_v \\ \frac{1}{2}G_u \end{bmatrix} &\implies & \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uv}^u \\ \Gamma_{uv}^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}E_v \\ \frac{1}{2}G_u \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{vv}^u \\ \Gamma_{vv}^v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} F_v - \frac{1}{2}G_u \\ \frac{1}{2}G_v \end{bmatrix} &\implies & \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{vv}^u \\ \Gamma_{vv}^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} F_v - \frac{1}{2}G_u \\ \frac{1}{2}G_v \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

What is quite remarkable about these formulas is that the Christoffel symbols, which tell us about the tangential component of the second derivatives  $\mathbf{x}_{\bullet\bullet}$ , can be computed *just* from knowing  $E$ ,  $F$ , and  $G$ , i.e., the first fundamental form.

**Example 2.** Let's now recompute the Christoffel symbols of the unit sphere and compare our answers with Example 1. Since  $E = 1$ ,  $F = 0$ , and  $G = \sin^2 u$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uu}^u \\ \Gamma_{uu}^v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \csc^2 u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{uv}^u \\ \Gamma_{uv}^v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \csc^2 u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sin u \cos u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \cot u \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{vv}^u \\ \Gamma_{vv}^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \csc^2 u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\sin u \cos u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin u \cos u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the only nonzero Christoffel symbols are  $\Gamma_{uv}^v = \Gamma_{vu}^v = \cot u$  and  $\Gamma_{vv}^u = -\sin u \cos u$ , as before.  
 $\nabla$

By Exercise 2.2.2, the matrix of the shape operator  $S_P$  with respect to the basis  $\{\mathbf{x}_u, \mathbf{x}_v\}$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \ell & m \\ m & n \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{EG - F^2} \begin{bmatrix} \ell G - mF & mG - nF \\ -\ell F + mE & -mF + nE \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that these coefficients tell us the derivatives of  $\mathbf{n}$  with respect to  $u$  and  $v$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (\dagger\dagger) \quad \mathbf{n}_u &= D_{\mathbf{x}_u} \mathbf{n} = -S_P(\mathbf{x}_u) = -(a\mathbf{x}_u + b\mathbf{x}_v) \\ \mathbf{n}_v &= D_{\mathbf{x}_v} \mathbf{n} = -S_P(\mathbf{x}_v) = -(c\mathbf{x}_u + d\mathbf{x}_v). \end{aligned}$$

We now differentiate the equations  $(\dagger)$  again and use equality of mixed partial derivatives. To start, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{uuv} &= (\Gamma_{uu}^u)_v \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{uu}^u \mathbf{x}_{uv} + (\Gamma_{uu}^v)_v \mathbf{x}_v + \Gamma_{uu}^v \mathbf{x}_{vv} + \ell_v \mathbf{n} + \ell \mathbf{n}_v \\ &= (\Gamma_{uu}^u)_v \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{uu}^u (\Gamma_{uv}^u \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{uv}^v \mathbf{x}_v + m\mathbf{n}) + (\Gamma_{uu}^v)_v \mathbf{x}_v + \Gamma_{uu}^v (\Gamma_{vv}^u \mathbf{x}_u + \Gamma_{vv}^v \mathbf{x}_v + n\mathbf{n}) \\ &\quad + \ell_v \mathbf{n} - \ell(c\mathbf{x}_u + d\mathbf{x}_v) \\ &= ((\Gamma_{uu}^u)_v + \Gamma_{uu}^u \Gamma_{uv}^u + \Gamma_{uu}^v \Gamma_{vv}^u - \ell c) \mathbf{x}_u + ((\Gamma_{uu}^v)_v + \Gamma_{uu}^u \Gamma_{uv}^v + \Gamma_{uu}^v \Gamma_{vv}^v - \ell d) \mathbf{x}_v \\ &\quad + (\Gamma_{uu}^u m + \Gamma_{uu}^v n + \ell_v) \mathbf{n}, \end{aligned}$$

and, similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{uvu} &= ((\Gamma_{uv}^u)_u + \Gamma_{uv}^u \Gamma_{uu}^u + \Gamma_{uv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^u - ma) \mathbf{x}_u + ((\Gamma_{uv}^v)_u + \Gamma_{uv}^u \Gamma_{uu}^v + \Gamma_{uv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^v - mb) \mathbf{x}_v \\ &\quad + (\ell \Gamma_{uv}^u + m \Gamma_{uv}^v + m_u) \mathbf{n}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}_{uuv} = \mathbf{x}_{uvu}$ , we compare the indicated components and obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{x}_u): \quad & (\Gamma_{uu}^u)_v + \Gamma_{uu}^u \Gamma_{uv}^u - \ell c = (\Gamma_{uv}^u)_u + \Gamma_{uv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^u - ma \\ (\diamond) \quad (\mathbf{x}_v): \quad & (\Gamma_{uu}^v)_v + \Gamma_{uu}^u \Gamma_{uv}^v + \Gamma_{uu}^v \Gamma_{vv}^v - \ell d = (\Gamma_{uv}^v)_u + \Gamma_{uv}^u \Gamma_{uu}^v + \Gamma_{uv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^v - mb \\ (\mathbf{n}): \quad & \ell_v + m \Gamma_{uu}^u + n \Gamma_{uu}^v = m_u + \ell \Gamma_{uv}^u + m \Gamma_{uv}^v. \end{aligned}$$

Analogously, comparing the indicated components of  $\mathbf{x}_{uvv} = \mathbf{x}_{vuv}$ , we find:

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{x}_u): \quad & (\Gamma_{uv}^u)_v + \Gamma_{uv}^u \Gamma_{uv}^u + \Gamma_{uv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^u - mc = (\Gamma_{vv}^u)_u + \Gamma_{vv}^u \Gamma_{uu}^u + \Gamma_{vv}^v \Gamma_{vv}^u - na \\ (\mathbf{x}_v): \quad & (\Gamma_{uv}^v)_v + \Gamma_{uv}^u \Gamma_{uv}^v - md = (\Gamma_{vv}^v)_u + \Gamma_{vv}^u \Gamma_{uu}^v - nb \\ (\mathbf{n}): \quad & m_v + m \Gamma_{uv}^u + n \Gamma_{uv}^v = n_u + \ell \Gamma_{vv}^u + m \Gamma_{vv}^v. \end{aligned}$$

The two equations coming from the normal component give us the

<p>Codazzi equations</p> $\ell_v - m_u = \ell \Gamma_{uv}^u + m(\Gamma_{uv}^v - \Gamma_{uu}^u) - n \Gamma_{uu}^v$ $m_v - n_u = \ell \Gamma_{vv}^u + m(\Gamma_{vv}^v - \Gamma_{uv}^u) - n \Gamma_{uv}^v.$
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