

Math 436 – Final Exam

- (1) Write down the Frenet-Serret formulas for a unit speed curve $\gamma : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ with nonzero curvature. Explain the meaning of each quantity in your expressions.

- (2) Answer each of the following “true” or “false.” Explain your answer, and if “false” provide a counterexample.
- (a) Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a regular surface. Then between any two points in S there exists a *unique* geodesic.
- (b) The unit sphere $S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is locally conformal to the plane \mathbb{R}^2 .
- (c) There exists a simple, closed, convex curve $\gamma(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, with arc length parameter $0 \leq t \leq \pi$, such that the curvature function is $\kappa(t) = \cos^2 t$.
- (d) Let $S_1, S_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be two oriented surfaces and suppose there is an isometry $f : S_1 \rightarrow S_2$. Then S_1 and S_2 have the same principal curvatures.

- (3) (a) We can express tangent vector fields X, Y in terms of σ_u and σ_v . With respect to this expression write down a formula for the directional derivative $D_X Y$.

- (b) Using the above expression, write down the conditions for the covariant derivative $\nabla_X Y = 0$.

(4) Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be an oriented surface with normal vector \mathbf{N} . Give complete definitions of the following:

(a) The first fundamental form.

(b) The second fundamental form.

(c) The principal curvatures.

(d) The mean curvature.

(e) The Gauss curvature.

- (5) (a) What is the Euler characteristic of the surface obtained by removing three disjoint disks from the sphere S^2 (a “pair of pants”)?
- (b) State the Gauss-Bonnet theorem for a closed oriented surface $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$.
- (c) State the Gauss-Bonnet theorem for a triangle in S where the edges are all geodesics and the *interior* angles are α, β, γ .