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Abstract

Full Text

MATHEMATICS

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SOME GEOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF NOMO- GRAPHABLE EQUATIONS

(Presented by Academician P. S. Aleksandrov, 15 III 1960)

Consider a function

$$w = f(u, v), \quad (1)$$

satisfying the following conditions:

- 1) the function $f(u, v)$ is defined for all values u, v in some neighborhood g of the point u_0, v_0 ;
- 2) in g the function $f(u, v)$ and its derivatives up to and including the second order are continuous;
- 3)

$$\frac{\partial f(u, v)}{\partial v} \neq 0 \quad \text{for } u = u_0, v = v_0. \quad (2)$$

If, for the given function $w = f(u, v)$, one can find a determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} A_1(u) & A_2(u) & A_3(u) \\ B_1(v) & B_2(v) & B_3(v) \\ C_1(w) & C_2(w) & C_3(w) \end{vmatrix} \neq 0, \quad (3)$$

satisfying the condition

$$\begin{vmatrix} A_1(u) & A_2(u) & A_3(u) \\ B_1(v) & B_2(v) & B_3(v) \\ C_1(f(u, v)) & C_2(f(u, v)) & C_3(f(u, v)) \end{vmatrix} \equiv 0, \quad (4)$$

then the function $w = f(u, v)$ is called **nomographable**. In this case, for equation (1) one can construct a nomogram of aligned points.

From (4) it follows that

$$C_1(f) p_{23}(u, v) + C_2(f) p_{31}(u, v) + C_3(f) p_{12}(u, v) \equiv 0, \quad (5)$$

where

$$p_{ik} = \begin{vmatrix} A_i(u) & A_k(u) \\ B_i(v) & B_k(v) \end{vmatrix}$$

and they satisfy the conditions

$$\begin{vmatrix} p_{23} & p_{31} & p_{12} \\ \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial^2 p_{23}}{\partial u^2} & \frac{\partial^2 p_{31}}{\partial u^2} & \frac{\partial^2 p_{12}}{\partial u^2} \end{vmatrix} \equiv 0; \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} p_{23} & p_{31} & p_{12} \\ \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial^2 p_{23}}{\partial v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 p_{31}}{\partial v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 p_{12}}{\partial v^2} \end{vmatrix} \equiv 0. \quad (7)$$

With the aid of the functions p_{ik} , the functions $A_i(u), B_k(v)$ are determined ^(1,2).

Differentiating identities (5) with respect to u, v , from the relation f'_u/f'_v we obtain

$$C_1(f) \left[\frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial u} f'_v - \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial v} f'_u \right] + C_2(f) \left[\frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial u} f'_v - \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial v} f'_u \right] + C_3(f) \left[\frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial u} f'_v - \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial v} f'_u \right] \equiv 0. \quad (8)$$

From (5) and (8) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{C_1(f)}{\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial u} \\ p_{31} & p_{12} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} f'_v & \\ & f'_u \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial v} \\ p_{31} & p_{12} \end{vmatrix} f'_u} &= \frac{C_2(f)}{\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial u} \\ p_{12} & p_{23} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} f'_v & \\ & f'_u \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{12}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial v} \\ p_{12} & p_{23} \end{vmatrix} f'_u} = \\ &= \frac{C_3(f)}{\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial u} \\ p_{23} & p_{31} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} f'_v & \\ & f'_u \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p_{23}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial p_{31}}{\partial v} \\ p_{23} & p_{31} \end{vmatrix} f'_u}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

It is easy to show that the functions $P_{ik} = p_{ik}\lambda(u, v)$ satisfy conditions (6), (7). Define $\lambda(u, v)$ so that

$$P_{23}^2 + P_{31}^2 + P_{12}^2 = 1.$$

Then P_{ik} may be regarded as the coordinates of a point on a sphere whose radius is equal to 1 and whose center is at the origin of the coordinate system.

The vector $\mathbf{N} = \{P_{23}, P_{31}, P_{12}\}$ is the unit normal vector to the sphere, and the coefficients D, D', D'' of the second quadratic form of the sphere have the values

$$D = -E, \quad D' = -F, \quad D'' = -G,$$

where E, F, G are the coefficients of the first quadratic form of the sphere.

From (6), (7) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 P_{ik}}{\partial u^2} &= \lambda_1 \frac{\partial P_{ik}}{\partial u} + \mu_1 P_{ik} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 1 \end{array} \right\} \frac{\partial P_{ik}}{\partial u} - EP_{ik}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 P_{ik}}{\partial v^2} &= \lambda_2 \frac{\partial P_{ik}}{\partial v} + \mu_2 P_{ik} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 22 \\ 2 \end{array} \right\} \frac{\partial P_{ik}}{\partial v} - GP_{ik}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 2 \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 22 \\ 1 \end{array} \right\} = 0. \quad (10)$$

Hence it follows that the lines $u = \text{const}$, $v = \text{const}$ are geodesic lines on the sphere.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{C_1(f)}{C_3(f)} &= \frac{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial P_{12}}{\partial u} & f'_v \\ P_{31} & P_{12} & \end{array} \right|}{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial u} & f'_v \\ P_{23} & P_{31} & \end{array} \right|} = \frac{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial P_{12}}{\partial v} & f'_u \\ P_{31} & P_{12} & \end{array} \right|}{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial v} & f'_u \\ P_{23} & P_{31} & \end{array} \right|} = \delta_1, \\ \frac{C_2(f)}{C_3(f)} &= \frac{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{12}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial u} & f'_v \\ P_{12} & P_{23} & \end{array} \right|}{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial u} & f'_v \\ P_{23} & P_{31} & \end{array} \right|} = \frac{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{12}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial v} & f'_u \\ P_{12} & P_{23} & \end{array} \right|}{\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{\partial P_{23}}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial P_{31}}{\partial v} & f'_u \\ P_{23} & P_{31} & \end{array} \right|} = \delta_2 \end{aligned}$$

depends only on $f(u, v)$, then from the conditions

$$f'_v \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \delta_k - f'_u \frac{\partial \delta_k}{\partial v} = 0 \quad (k = 1, 2)$$

we obtain Gronwall' s condition

$$M = \left(\left\{ \begin{matrix} 22 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right\} - 2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} 12 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right\} \right) f'_u + \left(\left\{ \begin{matrix} 11 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right\} - 2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} 12 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right\} \right) f'_v, \quad (11)$$

where

$$M = \frac{f''_{uu} f'^2_v - 2f''_{uv} f'_u f'_v + f''_{vv} f'^2_u}{f'_u f'_v}. \quad (12)$$

From condition (5) we find that the vector

$$\mathbf{C}(f) = \{C_1(f), C_2(f), C_3(f)\}$$

is situated in the tangent plane to the sphere.

At the points of the line $f(u, v) = c$ the vector \mathbf{C} has a constant direction and is situated at each point of this line in the tangent plane to the sphere; consequently, the lines $f(u, v) = c$ are arcs of great circles or geodesic lines on the sphere.

On the basis of conditions (2), from the equation $f(u, v) = c$ we determine

$$v = \sigma(u, c), \quad \frac{dv}{du} = -\frac{f'_u}{f'_v}$$

along the geodesics. Substituting the values $v = \sigma(u, c)$, $dv/du = -f'_u/f'_v$ into the differential equation of the geodesics, we obtain

$$M = \left(\left\{ \begin{matrix} 22 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right\} - 2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} 12 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right\} \right) f'_u + \left(\left\{ \begin{matrix} 11 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right\} - 2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} 12 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right\} \right) f'_v; \quad (13)$$

$$M = \frac{f''_{uu} f'^2_v - 2f''_{uv} f'_u f'_v + f''_{vv} f'^2_u}{f'_u f'_v} \quad (14)$$

for $v = \sigma(u, c)$.

Conditions (13), (14) are obtained from Gronwall' s conditions (11), (12) for $v = \sigma(u, c)$. But since for any values (u, v) one can determine c so that $v = \sigma(u, c)$, conditions (13), (14) will hold for any values (u, v) .

Thus, Gronwall' s condition is the condition that any values $(u, v) \in g$ and the derivative $dv/du = -f'_u/f'_v$, determined from the equation $f(u, v) = c$, satisfy the differential equation of the geodesics.

On the basis of the results obtained, one can construct a differential-geometric theory of nomographable equations.

The coefficients of the first quadratic form of the sphere satisfy Gronwall' s conditions (11), (12), the Gauss equation, and equations (10). The Peterson-Codazzi conditions are satisfied identically by virtue of conditions (10).

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Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

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