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Abstract

Full Text

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EVOLUTE SURFACES OF A TWO-DIMENSIONAL DUALY NORMALIZED D_2 IN E_4

(Presented by Academician P. S. Aleksandrov on 8 II 1962)

1. We shall say that a surface X_m in the projective space P_n is dually normalized if it is normalized in the sense of A. P. Norden ⁽¹⁾ and its normal of the first kind contains the characteristic of the family of hyperplanes tangent to X_m . A number of properties of dually normalized surfaces were obtained in the author's papers ⁽²⁾. In this note we shall restrict ourselves to the case of a surface of two dimensions X_2 , immersed in the Euclidean E_4 .

Suppose that X_2 can be completed to a hypersurface in such a way that the characteristics of the family of tangent hyperplanes are perpendicular to the tangent plane of the surface X_2 . It is obvious that then the natural normalization of X_2 will at the same time also be dual. The surfaces X_2 admitting a dual normalization form a certain class, which in what follows we shall denote by D_2 .

The basic differential equations of surfaces of the class D_2 have the form ⁽²⁾

$$\nabla_j r_i = h_{ij}X + k_{ij}Y, \quad \mathbf{X}_j = -h_j^l r_l, \quad \mathbf{Y}_j = -k_j^l r_l, \quad (\text{A})$$

where $h_{ij} = -\partial_j r \partial_i X = \mathbf{X} \nabla_j r_i$, $k_{ij} = -\partial_j r \partial_i Y = \mathbf{Y} \nabla_j r_i$, and \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} denote, respectively, the normal vector of the tangent hyperplane and the vector of the characteristic line.

2. Let us construct the congruence of normals of a dually normalized surface, going in the direction of the unit vectors

$$X^* = X \cos \alpha + Y \sin \alpha, \quad \alpha = \text{const.}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r}(u^1, u^2) + \rho X^*(u^1, u^2). \quad (1)$$

Let us pose the question: do focal surfaces of this congruence exist, i.e., such surfaces which are touched by all its rays? In this case there must exist a function $\rho(u^1, u^2)$ such that the vectors $\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2$ and X^* are coplanar. Taking (1) and (A) into account, we obtain

$$\mathbf{R}_i = [\delta_i^s - \rho (h_i^s \cos \alpha + k_i^s \sin \alpha)] \mathbf{r}_s + \rho_i^* X^*.$$

Taking the latter into account, we must require the existence of numbers μ^1, μ^2, γ , not all simultaneously equal to zero, such that

$$\mu^i \mathbf{R}_i + \gamma X^* = 0,$$

i.e.

$$\mu^i [\delta_i^s - \rho (h_i^s \cos \alpha + k_i^s \sin \alpha)] \mathbf{r}_s + (\mu^i \rho_i + \gamma) X^* = 0.$$

Hence it follows that

$$\mu^i [\delta_i^s - \rho (h_i^s \cos \alpha + k_i^s \sin \alpha)] = 0.$$

Thus, the desired function $\rho(u^1, u^2)$ must be a quantity reciprocal to a root of the equation

$$\text{Det} \|h_i^s \cos \alpha + k_i^s \sin \alpha - \omega \delta_i^s\| = 0. \quad (2)$$

Since the tensors h_{ij}, k_{ij} have common principal directions ⁽²⁶⁾, the roots of equation (2) are equal to

$$\omega_i = \sigma_i \cos \alpha + \tau_i \sin \alpha,$$

where σ_i, τ_i are the principal values of the tensors h_{ij}, k_{ij} , respectively. Thus, on the ray (1) there exist two desired focal points

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{R}_1 &= \mathbf{r} + \frac{1}{\sigma_1 \cos \alpha + \tau_1 \sin \alpha} (\mathbf{X} \cos \alpha + \mathbf{Y} \sin \alpha), \\ \mathbf{R}_2 &= \mathbf{r} + \frac{1}{\sigma_2 \cos \alpha + \tau_2 \sin \alpha} (\mathbf{X} \cos \alpha + \mathbf{Y} \sin \alpha). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

If in (1) we put $\alpha = 0$ and $\alpha = \pi/2$, then we obtain the congruences of normals D_2 going in the directions of the unit vectors \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} , respectively.

Thus, on each normal to D_2 there exist two focal points. Let us determine how the focal points are situated in the normal plane to D_2 . Introduce in this plane a rectangular coordinate system with origin at the point of the surface D_2 and with axes going in the directions of the unit vectors \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} . Then from (3) it follows that the coordinates of the focal points $F_1(\mathbf{R}_1)$ are equal to

$$x = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sigma_1 \cos \alpha + \tau_1 \sin \alpha}, \quad y = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sigma_1 \cos \alpha + \tau_1 \sin \alpha}.$$

Eliminating the parameter α , we obtain the equation

$$\sigma_1 x + \tau_1 y = 1. \quad (4)$$

Thus, the focal points $F_1(\mathbf{R}_1)$ are situated in the normal plane on a straight line not passing through the point of the surface D_2 . Similarly, we obtain that the focal points $F_2(\mathbf{R}_2)$ lie on the straight line

$$\sigma_2 x + \tau_2 y = 1. \quad (5)$$

We shall call the straight lines (4) and (5) the **axes of curvature** of the surface D_2 . From (4) and (5) we find the geometric meaning of the invariants $\chi_1 = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \tau_1^2}$ and $\chi_2 = \sqrt{\sigma_2^2 + \tau_2^2}$: their reciprocals $\frac{1}{\chi_1}$ and $\frac{1}{\chi_2}$ give the distances from the point of the surface D_2 to the axes of curvature (4) and (5), respectively.

Let us pose the question: do there exist envelopes of the family of normal planes of the surface D_2 ?

Consider the points

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r}(u^1, u^2) + a(u^1, u^2)\mathbf{X} + b(u^1, u^2)\mathbf{Y}$$

in the normal plane D_2 , and require that at these points it be tangent to some surface, i.e. that the derivatives $\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2$ decompose with respect to \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} . We have

$$\mathbf{R}_i = (\delta_i^s - ah_i^s - bk_i^s)\mathbf{r}_s + a_i\mathbf{X} + b_i\mathbf{Y},$$

whence we obtain the condition

$$\delta_i^s - ah_i^s - bk_i^s = 0. \quad (6)$$

Let a^i and \tilde{a}^i be common principal directions of the tensors h_{ij} and k_{ij} . Then from (6) we have

$$a^i - a\sigma_1 a^i - b\tau_1 a^i = 0, \quad \tilde{a}^i - a\sigma_2 \tilde{a}^i - b\tau_2 \tilde{a}^i = 0$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} a\sigma_1 + b\tau_1 &= 1, \\ a\sigma_2 + b\tau_2 &= 1. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

In this case our requirements are satisfied and the envelope exists. Comparing (7) with (4) and (5), we see that $a(u^1, u^2)$ and $b(u^1, u^2)$ are the coordinates of the points of intersection of the axes of curvature, which, thus, lie on the envelope of the family of normal planes D_2 . Thus, we have proved that the normal planes D_2 , embedded in E_4 , admit an enveloping surface. We shall call this surface the evolute surface.

We shall now prove that if the normal planes of a two-dimensional surface embedded in E_4 admit an envelope, then this surface is dually normalizable.

Let

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}(u^1, u^2)$$

be the parametric equation of the evolute surface. If \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} are unit and mutually perpendicular normal vectors of the evolute surface, then its basic derivative equations have the form

$$\nabla_j \mathbf{R}_i = a_{ij} \mathbf{m} + b_{ij} \mathbf{n}, \quad (8)$$

where $a_{ij} = -\partial_j \mathbf{R} \cdot \partial_i \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{m} \nabla_j \mathbf{R}_i$, $b_{ij} = -\partial_j \mathbf{R} \cdot \partial_i \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} \nabla_j \mathbf{R}_i$, and ∇ is the symbol of covariant differentiation in the intrinsic connection of the evolute surface. If the radius vector of a point of the original surface is represented in the form

$$\mathbf{R}^* = \mathbf{R}(u^1, u^2) + \lambda^k(u^1, u^2) \mathbf{R}_k, \quad (9)$$

then we must require that the derivatives $\mathbf{R}_1^*, \mathbf{R}_2^*$ be resolved along \mathbf{m} and \mathbf{n} . We have:

$$\mathbf{R}_i^* = (\delta_i^m + \nabla_i \lambda^k) \mathbf{R}_k + \lambda^k a_{ik} \mathbf{m} + \lambda^k b_{ik} \mathbf{n},$$

whence we obtain the condition

$$g_{ij} + \nabla_i \lambda_j = 0; \quad (10)$$

λ_i is a gradient, since g_{ij} is symmetric.

Forming the integrability condition for (10), we obtain $R_{.kij}{}^l \lambda_l = 0$, or ⁽³⁾

$$K\varepsilon_{jk}\varepsilon_i^l\lambda_l = 0, \quad (11)$$

where K is the Gaussian curvature of the intrinsic geometry of the evolute surface. From (11) it follows that $K = 0$, and this means that the intrinsic geometry of the evolute surface is Euclidean. The line element of this surface can be reduced to the form $ds^2 = du^2 + dv^2$. Hence, in turn, it follows that

$$\mathbf{R}_1^2 = 1, \quad \mathbf{R}_2^2 = 1, \quad \mathbf{R}_1\mathbf{R}_2 = 0.$$

From (10) we obtain

$$\partial_1\lambda_1 = -1, \quad \partial_2\lambda_2 = -1, \quad \partial_1\lambda_2 = \partial_2\lambda_1 = 0;$$

whence it follows that

$$\lambda_1 = -u + a, \quad \lambda_2 = -v + b,$$

where a, b are constants.

From what has been said it is clear that equation (9) can be rewritten in the form

$$\mathbf{R}^* = \mathbf{R}(u, v) + (a - u)\mathbf{R}_1 + (b - v)\mathbf{R}_2. \quad (12)$$

It is easy to see that equation (12) represents the surface D_2 . Indeed, the vectors $\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2$ are unit vectors, and for them the conditions $\partial_i\mathbf{R}_j = a_{ij}\mathbf{m} + b_{ij}\mathbf{n}$ hold, where \mathbf{m} and \mathbf{n} are normal vectors. Hence

$$\mathbf{R}_1\partial_j\mathbf{R}_2 = 0, \quad \mathbf{R}_2\partial_j\mathbf{R}_1 = 0, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

This means that the surface is doubly normalized.

Thus, we have proved the following theorems:

Theorem 1. *In order that a surface be doubly normalizable, it is necessary and sufficient that its normal planes have an envelope of zero curvature.*

Theorem 2. *Every D_2 in E_4 cuts orthogonally the tangent planes of some surface of zero curvature.*

Thus, the problem of finding D_2 in E_4 is equivalent to the problem of finding X_2 of zero curvature. We shall call surfaces that cut orthogonally the tangent planes of a given surface its **evolvent** surfaces. Then this result can be formulated as follows:

Every D_2 in E_4 is an evolvent surface of an arbitrary surface of zero curvature.

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

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