



Civilizar. Ciencias Sociales y Humanas

ISSN: 1657-8953

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Universidad Sergio Arboleda

Colombia

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Civilizar. Ciencias Sociales y Humanas, núm. 8, junio, 2005, pp. 141-151

Universidad Sergio Arboleda

Bogotá, Colombia

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Curvature lines on orthogonal surfaces of \mathbb{R}^3 and Joachimsthal Theorem

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Abstract

In this paper is studied, as a complement of Joachimsthal theorem, the behavior of curvature lines near a principal cycle common to two orthogonal surfaces.

keywords: principal cycle, curvature lines. MSC: 53C12, 34D30, 53A05, 37C75

1 Introduction

The local behavior of curvature lines near umbilic points was considered by G. Darboux, [3], for analytic surfaces and by C. Gutierrez and J. Sotomayor, [7], for C^r surfaces.

Near principal cycles, the local behavior of curvature lines was first considered in details by C. Gutierrez and J. Sotomayor, [7]. They obtained the derivative of the first return map $\pi : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$ associated to the periodic leaf and showed that generically (open and dense set of immersions) the principal cycles are hyperbolic, i.e, $\pi'(0) \neq 1$.

The Joachimsthal theorem says that two surfaces intersecting at a constant angle along a regular curve γ and this curve is a curvature line of one surface then it is a curvature line of the other.

The main goal of this paper is to describe the local behavior near a principal cycle common to two surfaces intersecting orthogonally.

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[†]The author was partially supported by FUNAPE/UFG and is fellow of CNPq. This work was done under the project PRONEX/FINEP/MCT - Conv. 76.97.1080.00 - Teoria Qualitativa das Equações Diferenciais Ordinárias and had the partial support of CNPq Grant 476886/2001-5.

2 Differential equation of curvature lines

A *principal curvature line* is a regular curve (parametrized by arc length s) $\gamma : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{M} \setminus \mathcal{U}$ such that for all $s \in (a, b)$ we have $\gamma'(s)$ is a principal direction.

The normal curvature at p in the direction $w \in T_p\mathbb{M}$ is $k_n(p; w) = II(p; w)/I(p; w)$, where I and II are, respectively, the first and second fundamental forms of \mathbb{M} .

Therefore, $w = (du, dv)$ is a principal direction, if and only if, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$II(p; w) = \lambda I(p; w), \quad I(p; w) = 1.$$

This means that I e II are proportional in the direction w .

As $I(p; w) = Edu^2 + 2Fdudv + Gdv^2$ and $II(p; w) = edu^2 + 2fdudv + gdv^2$ we have that $w = (du, dv)$ is a principal direction, if and only if,

$$\frac{\partial(I, II)}{\partial(du, dv)} = 0.$$

Or, equivalently by,

$$(Fg - Gf)dv^2 + (Eg - Ge)dudv + (Ef - Fe)du^2 = 0. \quad (1)$$

In the case where \mathbb{M} is parametrized as graph $(x, y, h(x, y))$ we have that

$$\begin{aligned} E &= 1 + h_x^2, & F &= h_x h_y, & G &= 1 + h_y^2, \\ e &= \frac{h_{xx}}{\sqrt{EG - F^2}}, & f &= \frac{h_{xy}}{\sqrt{EG - F^2}}, & g &= \frac{h_{yy}}{\sqrt{EG - F^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

When \mathbb{M} is defined implicitly $\mathbb{M} = \{(x, y, z) : h(x, y, z) = 0\}$ the differential equation of curvature lines is expressed by

$$[dp, \nabla h, d\nabla h] = 0,$$

where $dp = (dx, dy, dz)$, $\nabla h = (h_x, h_y, h_z)$, $d\nabla h = (dh_x, dh_y, dh_z)$ and $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$ denotes the mist product of three vectors.

Remark 1. See the books and lecture notes [1], [2], [5], [7], [6], [8], [9], [10], [11] and [12] for more on local and global properties of principal curvature lines on surfaces.

3 General properties of curvature lines

Theorem 1 (Joachimsthal). Let $\mathbb{M}_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ and $\mathbb{M}_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ two regular and oriented surfaces such that $\mathbb{M}_1 \cap \mathbb{M}_2 = \gamma$ is a regular curve and $\langle N_1(\gamma(s)), N_2(\gamma(s)) \rangle = cte$ along γ , where N_1 and N_2 are unitary normal vector fields to \mathbb{M}_1 and \mathbb{M}_2 . Then γ is a principal curvature line of \mathbb{M}_1 if and only if it is a curvature line of \mathbb{M}_2 .

Proof. Suppose that $\langle N_1(\gamma(s)), N_2(\gamma(s)) \rangle = 0$.

Let $T = \gamma'(s)$ and suppose that γ is a principal curvature line, with geodesic curvature $k_{g,1}$, geodesic torsion $\tau_{g,1} = 0$ and principal curvature $k_{m,1}$, for the surface \mathbb{M}_1 . See [11]. So,

$$\begin{aligned} T' &= k_{g,1}N_1 \wedge T + k_{m,1}N_1 \\ (N_1 \wedge T)' &= -k_{g,1}T + \tau_{g,1}N_1 \\ N_1' &= -k_{m,1}T - \tau_{g,1}N_1 \wedge T \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The Darboux frame for γ , as a curve of \mathbb{M}_2 , is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} T' &= k_{g,2}N_2 \wedge T + k_{n,2}N_2 \\ (N_2 \wedge T)' &= -k_{g,2}T + \tau_{g,2}N_2 \\ N_2' &= -k_{n,2}T - \tau_{g,2}(N_2 \wedge T) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where $k_{n,2}$ is the normal curvature, $\tau_{g,2}$ is the geodesic torsion and $k_{g,2}$ is the geodesic curvature of γ as a curve of \mathbb{M}_2 .

Also $N_2 = \pm N_1 \wedge T$, since $\langle N_1, N_2 \rangle = 0$. Suppose $N_2 = N_1 \wedge T$. From the equations (2) and (3), and using that $N_1 = T \wedge N_2$, it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{g,2} &= \tau_{g,1} = 0 \\ k_{g,1} &= k_{m,2} \\ k_{g,2} &= k_{m,1}, \end{aligned}$$

where $k_{m,2}$ is a principal curvature of \mathbb{M}_2 . Therefore γ is a principal curvature line of \mathbb{M}_2 . The case $\langle N_1, N_2 \rangle = cte \neq 0$ is analogous. \square

Proposition 1. A closed, simple and biregular curve $c : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $|c'(s)| = 1$, of length L and torsion τ is a principal curvature line of a surface if, and only if, $\int_0^L \tau(s)ds = 2k\pi$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. Consider the Frenet frame $\{t, n, b\}$ associated to c .

Let $N = \cos \theta(s)n(s) + \sin \theta(s)b(s)$ be a unitary normal vector to c .

So it follows that,

$$N'(s) = -k(s) \cos \theta(s)t(s) + (\theta'(s) + \tau(s))[-\sin \theta(s)n(s) + \cos \theta(s)b(s)].$$

Therefore, $N'(s) = \lambda t(s)$ if and only if $\theta'(s) + \tau(s) = 0$.

So $\theta(L) - \theta(0) = -\int_0^L \tau(s)ds$ e $N(L) = N(0)$ if and only if $\int_0^L \tau(s)ds = 2k\pi$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$. \square

Proposition 2. Let $\gamma : [0, L] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a principal cycle of a surface \mathbb{M} such that $\{T, N \wedge T, N\}$ is a positive frame of \mathbb{R}^3 . Then the expression

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s, v) &= \gamma(s) + v(N \wedge T)(s) \\ &+ \left(\frac{1}{2}k_2(s)v^2 + \frac{1}{6}b(s)v^3 + \frac{1}{24}c(s)v^4 + o(v^4) \right) N(s), \quad -\delta < v < \delta \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where k_2 is the principal curvature in the direction of $N \wedge T$, defines a local C^∞ chart on the surface $\hat{\mathbb{M}}$ defined in a small tubular neighborhood of γ .

Proof. The map $\alpha(s, v, w) = c(u) + v(N \wedge T)(s) + wN(s)$ is a local diffeomorphism in a neighborhood of the s axis. For each s , the curve $v \rightarrow v(N \wedge T)(s) + w(s, v)N(s)$ is the intersection of the surface $\hat{\mathbb{M}}$ with the plane spanned by $\{(N \wedge T)(s), N(s)\}$. Using Hadamard's lemma it follows that

$$w(s, v) = [\frac{1}{2}k_2(s)v^2 + v^2A(s, v)]N(s)$$

where $A(s, 0) = 0$ and k_2 is the (plane) curvature of the curve in the plane spanned by $\{N \wedge T, N\}$, that cuts the surface $\hat{\mathbb{M}}$. This ends the proof. \square

According to [11], the Darboux frame $\{T, N \wedge T, N\}$ along γ satisfies the following system of differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} T' &= k_g N \wedge T + k_1 N \\ (N \wedge T)' &= -k_g T + 0N \\ N' &= -k_1 T - 0(N \wedge T) \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

where k_1 is the *principal curvature* and k_g is the *geodesic curvature* of the principal cycle γ .

4 Preliminary calculations

Consider the parametrizations α of \mathbb{M}_1 and β of \mathbb{M}_2 in a neighborhood of γ , such that $\{T, N \wedge T, N\}$ is a positive frame of γ as a curve of \mathbb{M}_1 and $\{T, N, T \wedge N\}$ is a positive frame of γ as a curve of \mathbb{M}_2 .

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s, v) &= \gamma(s) + v(N \wedge T)(s) + [\frac{1}{2}k_2(s)v^2 + \frac{1}{6}b(s)v^3 + O(v^3)]N(s) \\ \beta(s, w) &= \gamma(s) + wN(s) + [\frac{1}{2}m_2(s)w^2 + \frac{1}{6}B(s)w^3 + O(w^3)](T \wedge N)(s). \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

4.1 Immersion α

The coefficients of the first fundamental form of α are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} E_\alpha(s, v) &= 1 - 2k_g v + [k_g^2 - k_1 k_2]v^2 + O(v^3) \\ F_\alpha(s, v) &= O(v^3) \\ G_\alpha(s, v) &= 1 + k_2^2 v^2 + O(v^3) \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

The unitary normal vector field $\mathcal{N}_\alpha = (\alpha_s \wedge \alpha_v) / |\alpha_s \wedge \alpha_v|$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{N}_\alpha(s, v) = & [-\frac{1}{2}k_2'v^2 + O(v^3)]T(s) - [k_2v + \frac{1}{2}b(s)v^2 + O(v^3)](N \wedge T)(s) \\ & + [1 - \frac{1}{2}k_2^2v^2 + O(v^3)]N(s)\end{aligned}\quad (8)$$

The coefficients of the second fundamental form of α are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}e_\alpha(s, v) = & k_1 - (k_1 + k_2)k_gv \\ & + \frac{1}{2}[k_2'' - (k_1 + k_2)k_1k_2 - k_gb(s) + 2k_g^2k_2]v^2 + O(v^3) \\ f_\alpha(s, v) = & k_2'v + \frac{1}{2}[k_gk_2' + b'(s)]v^2 + O(v^3) \\ g_\alpha(s, v) = & k_2 + b(s)v + \frac{1}{2}(c(s) - k_2^3)v^2 + O(v^3)\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

The functions $L_\alpha = (Fg - Gf)_\alpha$, $M_\alpha = (Eg - Ge)_\alpha$ and $N_\alpha = (Ef - Fe)_\alpha$ are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}L_\alpha(s, v) = & -k_2'v - \frac{1}{2}(k_gk_2' + b'(s))v^2 + O(v^3) \\ M_\alpha(s, v) = & k_2 - k_1 + [(k_1 - k_2)k_g + b(s)]v \\ & + \frac{1}{2}[(-3k_1k_2^2 - 3k_gb(s) + c(s) - k_2^3 - k_2'' + k_1^2k_2)]v^2 + O(v^3) \\ N_\alpha(s, v) = & k_2'v + \frac{1}{2}(b'(s) - 3k_gk_2')v^2 + O(v^3)\end{aligned}\quad (10)$$

The functions \mathcal{K}_α and \mathcal{H}_α are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{K}_\alpha(s, v) = & k_1k_2 + [(k_1k_2 - k_2^2)k_g(s) + k_1b(s)]v + O(v^2) \\ \mathcal{H}_\alpha(s, v) = & \frac{1}{2}(k_2 + k_1) + \frac{1}{2}[(k_1 - k_2)k_g + b(s)]v + O(v^2)\end{aligned}\quad (11)$$

The principal curvatures $k_{1,\alpha} = \mathcal{H}_\alpha - \sqrt{\mathcal{H}_\alpha^2 - \mathcal{K}_\alpha}$ and $k_{2,\alpha} = \mathcal{H}_\alpha + \sqrt{\mathcal{H}_\alpha^2 - \mathcal{K}_\alpha}$ are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}k_{1,\alpha}(s, v) = & k_1 + (k_1 - k_2)k_gv + O(v^2) \\ k_{2,\alpha}(s, v) = & k_2 + b(s)v + O(v^2)\end{aligned}\quad (12)$$

Remark 2. The following relations holds

$$k_g(s) = -\frac{(k_1)_v}{k_2 - k_1}, \quad k_g^\perp(s) = -\frac{(k_2)'}{k_2 - k_1}, \quad b(s) = (k_2)_v = \frac{\partial k_2}{\partial v}\quad (13)$$

Here $k_g^\perp(s)$ is the geodesic curvature of the other principal curvature line which pass through $\gamma(s)$.

4.2 Immersion β

The coefficients of the first fundamental form of β are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} E_\beta(s, w) &= 1 - 2k_1w + (k_1^2 + k_g m_2)w^2 + O(w^3) \\ F_\beta(s, w) &= O(w^3) \\ G_\beta(s, w) &= 1 + m_2^2 w^2 + O(w^3) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The unitary normal vector field $\mathcal{N}_\beta = \beta_s \wedge \beta_w / |\beta_s \wedge \beta_w|$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_\beta(s, w) &= [-\frac{1}{2}m_2'w^2 + O(w^3)]T(s) - [m_2w + \frac{1}{2}B(s)w^2 + O(w^3)](N \wedge T)(s) \\ &\quad + [1 - \frac{1}{2}m_2^2w^2 + O(w^3)]N(s) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

The coefficients of the second fundamental form of β are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} e_\beta(s, w) &= -k_g - k_1[m_2 - k_g]w \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}[m_2'' - k_1B(s) + 2k_1^2m_2 + k_g^2m_2 + k_gm_2^2]w^2 + O(w^3) \\ f_\beta(s, w) &= m_2'v + \frac{1}{2}[k_1m_2' + B'(s)]w^2 + O(w^3) \\ g_\beta(s, w) &= m_2 + B(s)w + \frac{1}{2}(C(s) - m_2^3)w^2 + O(w^3) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

The functions $L_\beta = (Fg - Gf)_\beta$, $M_\beta = (Eg - Ge)_\beta$ and $N_\beta = (Ef - Fe)_\beta$ are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} L_\beta(s, w) &= -m_2'w - \frac{1}{2}(k_1m_2' + B'(s))w^2 + O(w^3) \\ M_\beta(s, w) &= m_2 + k_g + [B(s) - k_1(m_2 + k_g)]v \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}[(3k_gm_2^2 - 3k_1B(s) + C(s) - m_2^3 - m_2'' - k_g^2m_2]w^2 + O(w^3) \\ N_\beta(s, w) &= m_2'(s)v + \frac{1}{2}(B'(s) - 3k_1m_2')w^2 + O(w^3) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

The functions \mathcal{K}_β and \mathcal{H}_β are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_\beta(s, w) &= -k_gm_2 - [(k_gm_2 + m_2^2)k_1 + k_gB(s)]w + O(w^2) \\ \mathcal{H}_\beta(s, w) &= \frac{1}{2}(m_2 - k_g) + \frac{1}{2}[B(s) - (k_g + m_2)k_1]w + O(w^2) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

The principal curvatures $k_{1,\beta} = \mathcal{H}_\beta - \sqrt{\mathcal{H}_\beta^2 - \mathcal{K}_\beta}$ and $k_{2,\beta} = \mathcal{H}_\beta + \sqrt{\mathcal{H}_\beta^2 - \mathcal{K}_\beta}$ are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} k_{1,\beta}(s, w) &= -k_g - (k_g + m_2)k_1w + O(w^2) \\ k_{2,\beta}(s, w) &= m_2 + B(s)w + O(w^2) \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

5 Principal cycles

Proposition 3 (Gutierrez-Sotomayor). Let γ be a principal cycle of an immersion $\alpha : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ of length L . Denote by π_α the first return map associated to γ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\pi'_\alpha(0) &= \exp\left[\int_\gamma \frac{-dk_2}{k_2 - k_1}\right] = \exp\left[\int_\gamma k_g^\perp(s) ds\right] \\ &= \exp\left[\int_\gamma \frac{-dk_1}{k_1 - k_2}\right] = \exp\left[\frac{1}{2} \int_\gamma \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{\sqrt{\mathcal{H}^2 - \mathcal{K}}}\right].\end{aligned}\tag{20}$$

Proof. Suppose that γ is a principal cycle and consider the chart (s, v) as defined by the expression of α in the equation (6). The differential equation of the principal curvature lines is given by

$$(f - k_1 F)ds + (g - k_1 G)dv = 0.\tag{21}$$

Therefore $\pi(v_0) = v(L, v_0)$, where $v(s, v_0)$ is the solution of equation 21 with initial condition $v(0, v_0) = v_0$.

Differentiation of equation 21 with respect to v_0 gives:

$$\frac{d}{ds}\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}\right)(s, v(s, v_0)) = -\left[\frac{f - k_1 F}{g - k_1 G}\right]_v(s, v(s, v_0)) \frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}(s, v(s, v_0))$$

Denote $a(s) = \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}\right)(s, 0)$. Therefore at $v(s, 0) = 0$ it is obtained

$$\frac{d}{ds}a(s) = -\frac{f_v(s, 0)}{g - k_1}a(s) = -\frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}a(s) = k_g^\perp(s)a(s), \quad a(0) = 1.$$

Integration of the linear differential equation above leads to the result. \square

The following result established in [4] is improved in the next proposition.

Proposition 4. Let γ be a principal cycle of length L of a surface $\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Consider a chart (s, v) and a parametrization α as defined by equation (6). Denote by k_1 and k_2 the principal curvatures of \mathbb{M} . Suppose that $Jac(k_1, k_2) = \frac{\partial(k_1, k_2)}{\partial(s, v)} = (k_1)_s(k_2)_v - (k_1)_v(k_2)_s \neq 0$ for all $s \in [0, L]$. Then if γ is not hyperbolic then it is semihyperbolic. That is, if the first derivative of the first return map π associated to γ is one, then the second derivative of π is different from zero. In fact, if $\pi'(0) = 1$ then,

$$\pi''(0) = \int_0^L e^{-\int_0^s \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1} du} \frac{Jac(k_1, k_2)}{(k_2 - k_1)^2} ds.$$

Proof. The differential equation of the principal curvature lines 21 in the chart (s, v) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{ds} &= -\frac{f - k_1 F}{g - k_1 G} \\ &= -\frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}v - \frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{b'(k_2 - k_1) - 2k'_2 b + k_g k'_2(k_1 - k_2)}{(k_2 - k_1)^2}\right]v^2 + v^2 R(s, v). \quad (22) \\ &= P(s)v + \frac{1}{2}Q(s)v^2 + R(s, v)v^2, \quad R(s, 0) = 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\pi(v_0) = v(L, v_0)$, where $v(s, v_0)$ is the solution of equation (22) with initial condition $v(0, v_0) = v_0$.

Differentiating twice the equation (22) with respect to v_0 and evaluating at $v_0 = 0$ the following holds

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{ds}\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}\right) &= P(s)\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0} \\ \frac{d}{ds}\left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial v_0^2}\right) &= P(s)\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial v_0^2} + Q(s)\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}\right)^2 \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial v_0}(0) &= 1, \quad \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial v_0^2}(0) = 0\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned}\pi''(0) &= \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial v_0^2}(L) = \int_0^L \exp\left(\int_0^s P(u)du\right)Q(s)ds \\ &= \int_0^L \exp\left(-\int_0^s \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}du\right)\left[\frac{2k'_2 b - b'(k_2 - k_1) - k_g k'_2(k_1 - k_2)}{(k_2 - k_1)^2}\right]ds\end{aligned}$$

Integration by parts and using that $k_g(k_1 - k_2) = \frac{\partial k_1}{\partial v}$ it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\pi''(0) &= \int_0^L \exp\left(-\int_0^s \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}du\right)\left[\frac{k'_1 \frac{\partial k_2}{\partial v} - k'_2 \frac{\partial k_1}{\partial v}}{(k_2 - k_1)^2}\right]ds \\ &= \int_0^L \exp\left(-\int_0^s \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}du\right)\frac{Jac(k_1, k_2)}{(k_2 - k_1)^2}ds\end{aligned}$$

□

Proposition 5. Let $c : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $|c'(s)| = 1$ be a closed, simple and biregular curve of length L and torsion τ such that $\int_0^L \tau(s)ds = 2k\pi$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then there exists an immersion $\alpha : [0, L] \times (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $\alpha(s, 0) = c(s)$ is a hyperbolic principal cycle of α .

Proof. It follows from propositions 2 and 3 defining the principal curvatures adequately. \square

Theorem 2. Let γ be a hyperbolic (minimal) principal cycle of a surface $\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ of length L . Let k_1 and k_2 the principal curvatures of \mathbb{M}_1 and k_g the geodesic curvature of γ . Let $P(s) = k'_2/(k_2 - k_1)$ and suppose that the linear differential equation $f' = P(s)f + k'_g$ has a L -periodic solution such that $f(s) \neq 0$ for all $s \in [0, L]$. Then there exists a surface $\mathbb{M}_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ such that γ is a principal hyperbolic principal cycle of \mathbb{M}_2 which is orthogonal to \mathbb{M}_1 along γ and $\pi'_1(0) = \pi'_2(0)$.

Proof. Consider the parametrizations α of \mathbb{M}_1 and β of \mathbb{M}_2 in a neighborhood of γ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(s, v) &= \gamma(s) + v(N \wedge T)(s) + \left[\frac{1}{2}k_2(s)v^2 + \frac{1}{6}b(s)v^3 + O(v^3)\right]N(s) \\ \beta(s, w) &= \gamma(s) + wN(s) + \left[\frac{1}{2}m_2(s)w^2 + \frac{1}{6}B(s)w^3 + O(w^3)\right](T \wedge N)(s).\end{aligned}$$

where $\{T, N \wedge T, N\}$ is a positive frame of γ as curve of \mathbb{M}_1 and $\{T, N, T \wedge N\}$ is a positive frame of γ as curve of \mathbb{M}_2 .

By proposition 3 it follows that

$$\pi'_\alpha(0) = \exp\left[-\int_\gamma \frac{dk_2}{k_2 - k_1}\right], \quad \pi'_\beta(0) = \exp\left[-\int_\gamma \frac{dm_2}{m_2 + k_g}\right] \quad (23)$$

Suppose that the following equation holds

$$\frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1} = \frac{m'_2}{m_2 + k_g}.$$

Then m_2 is defined by the linear differential equation:

$$m'_2 - \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1}m_2 - k_g \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1} = 0, \quad m_2(0) = m_0. \quad (24)$$

The solution of the linear equation above is given by

$$m_2(s) = e^{\int_0^s a(t)dt} \left[m_0 + \int_0^s e^{-\int_0^t a(u)du} k_g(t) a(t) dt \right],$$

where $a(s) = k'_2/(k_2 - k_1)(s)$.

As, by hypothesis, $\int_0^L \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1} \neq 0$ it follows that

$m_0 = m_2(0) = m_2(L)$ if and only if

$$m_0 = \frac{\int_0^L (e^{-\int_0^t a(u)du}) k_g(t) a(t) dt}{e^{-\int_0^L \frac{k'_2}{k_2 - k_1} ds} - 1}.$$

Therefore the immersion β can be constructed with m_2 , principal curvature of β , defined by the equation 24. To finish we need to show that $m_2(s) + k_g(s) \neq 0$ for all $s \in [0, L]$ and so γ is a principal cycle of β .

In the differential equation (24) let $f = k_g + m_2$. So it is obtained,

$$f' = \frac{k_2'}{k_2 - k_1} f + k_g'. \quad (25)$$

By the same argument above the differential equation (25) has a L -periodic solution.

The points s where $f(s) = 0$ correspond to umbilic points of \mathbb{M}_2 . Therefore γ is a principal cycle of \mathbb{M}_2 if equation (25) has a periodic solution which is different from zero for all $s \in [0, L]$. \square

Remark 3. The condition $k_g \neq cte$ is a necessary condition for existence of the surface \mathbb{M}_2 as stated in the theorem 2 above.

Theorem 3. Let γ be a minimal principal cycle of a surface $\mathbb{M}_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $k_g|_\gamma \neq cte$. Then there exists a surface $\mathbb{M}_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ such that γ is a principal hyperbolic principal cycle of \mathbb{M}_2 which is orthogonal to \mathbb{M}_1 along γ .

Proof. By theorem 1 we have that $-k_g$ is a principal curvature of \mathbb{M}_2 having $T \wedge N$ as positive normal vector in a neighborhood of γ . Defining a non constant L -periodic function m_2 such that $m_2(s) + k_g(s) > 0$ and $\int_0^L \frac{m_2'}{m_2 + k_g} ds \neq 0$ the result follows, observing that $\int_0^L \frac{m_2'}{m_2 + k_g} ds = \int_0^L \frac{-k_g'}{m_2 + k_g} ds$. \square

Theorem 4. Let γ be a hyperbolic (minimal) principal cycle of a surface $\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ of length L . Suppose that the geodesic curvature of γ is not constant. Then there exists a surface $\mathbb{M}_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ such that γ is a hyperbolic principal principal cycle of \mathbb{M}_2 which is orthogonal to \mathbb{M}_1 along γ .

Proof. By theorem 1 we have that $-k_g$ is a principal curvature of \mathbb{M}_2 having $T \wedge N$ as positive normal vector in a neighborhood of γ . Define a non constant L -periodic function m_2 such that $m_2(s) + k_g(s) > 0$ and $\int_0^L \frac{m_2'}{m_2 + k_g} ds \neq 0$. Therefore γ is a hyperbolic (minimal) principal cycle of \mathbb{M}_2 parametrized in a neighborhood of γ by the parametrization β . Observing that $\int_0^L \frac{m_2'}{m_2 + k_g} ds = \int_0^L \frac{-k_g'}{m_2 + k_g} ds$, we can define $\bar{m} = m_2 + \epsilon k_g'$ to obtain \bar{m} as a maximal principal curvature of \mathbb{M}_2 with $\bar{m} + k_g > 0$ and $\int_0^L \frac{\bar{m}'}{\bar{m} + k_g} ds \neq 0$ for ϵ small. \square

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