

# Mechanical Theorem Proving of the Local Theory of Surfaces\*

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## Abstract

The present paper applies the characteristic set method of algebraic differential polynomials to give a mechanical procedure which permits us to prove non-trivial theorems in the local theory of surfaces. By this method, we have discovered a new relation between the first and second fundamental forms of a surface in case this surface contains no umbilici. A few examples are given to illustrate the method

In 1989 Wu Wen tsun [Wu, 1989] gave a constructive theory of the characteristic set (abbreviated as char-set) method of general algebraic differential polynomials (abbreviated as d-pols) based on the works of Riquier, Janet, Cartan, Thomas and Ritt. One of the applications of this method is mechanical theorem-proving (abbreviated as MTP) in differential geometries. In the case of a single independent variable, this method is quite similar to the char-set method in the algebraic case. There have been several papers applying it to the MTP of space curves, cf. [Chou & Gao, 1989, 1990]. In the case of two or more independent variables, the char-set method is much more complicated than that of a single variable because of the presence of integrability conditions. Consequently, the MTP of the

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surface theory becomes rather difficult in practice since the computation of integrability conditions is costly. However, as shown in the rest of this paper, some non-trivial theorems can still be proved mechanically by this method when we translate geometric statements by means of the frames on surfaces.

The paper is organized as follows In Section 1 we give a brief description of the char-set method of d-pols. For more details, please refer to [Wu, 1989] and [Wu, 1991]. In Section 2 some experiments and results of studying the fundamental equations of surface are given. In Section 3 we illustrate this method by means of three examples.

## 1 A survey of the char-set algorithm of algebraic differential polynomials

We assume that the following polynomials involve two independent variables  $u$  and  $v$ . In fact, all of statements in this section can be extended to any finite number of variables.

### 1.1 Ordering of indeterminates

Let  $K$  be an algebraic field of characteristic 0 which admits two operations of differentiation, that is, each element  $a$  of  $K$  has two partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial a}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial a}{\partial v}$ . These symbols may merely distinguish the derivatives. Each of the two operations satisfies, for any  $a, b \in K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial(a+b)}{\partial u} &= \frac{\partial a}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial b}{\partial u}, \\ \frac{\partial ab}{\partial u} &= \frac{\partial a}{\partial u}b + \frac{\partial b}{\partial u}a,\end{aligned}$$

where  $u$  can be replaced by  $v$ , and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \frac{\partial a}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \frac{\partial a}{\partial v}.$$

$K$  is called a *differential field*. For example,  $K$  may be  $\mathbf{Q}(u, v)$ , the field of rational functions in  $u$  and  $v$ .

We use indeterminates  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ . With each  $X_k$  are associated symbols

$$\frac{\partial^{i+j} X_k}{\partial u^i \partial v^j},$$

where  $i$  and  $j$  are non-negative integers. These are the partial derivatives of  $X_k$ .

$K$  being given, a d-pol is a polynomial in the derivatives of  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  with coefficients over  $K$ . We can then introduce partial differentiations satisfying the ordinary rules in the calculus. It is easy to see that the set of all d-pols with ordinary algebraic and differential operations forms a differential polynomial ring which we will denote by  $K\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ .

**Notation.** For brevity, we denote the partial derivative  $\frac{\partial^{i+j} X_k}{\partial u^i \partial v^j}$  by  $\partial_\delta X_k$  in which  $\delta = (i, j)$ .

Let  $\Delta$  be the set  $\{\partial_\delta | \delta = (i, j), i \text{ and } j \text{ are non-negative integers}\}$ . The set  $\Delta$  may be regarded as the free commutative monoid generated by  $\partial_{1,0}$  and  $\partial_{0,1}$  with an identity  $\partial_{0,0}$  and the composition of differentiations, namely,

$$\partial_{i,j} \partial_{k,l} = \partial_{i+k, j+l}.$$

In the remainder of this paper we shall write  $\partial_{ij}$  instead of  $\partial_{i,j}$ , for instance,  $\partial_{23}$  instead of  $\partial_{2,3}$  since no derivative appearing in this paper will have order more than 9.

**Definition 1.** Let  $<$  be an ordering on  $\Delta$  that is compatible with the monoid structure, i.e.

1.  $\partial_{00} < \partial_{lk}$  for all  $(l, k) \neq (0, 0)$ .
2.  $\partial_\alpha < \partial_\beta$  implies that  $\partial_\delta \partial_\alpha < \partial_\delta \partial_\beta$  for all  $\partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta, \partial_\delta \in \Delta$ .

We call such an ordering  $<$  an *admissible ordering* on  $\Delta$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $\{\partial_\delta X_k | \partial_\delta \in \Delta, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$  be denoted by  $\{X\}$  and  $<$  be an ordering on  $\{X\}$  that is compatible with differentiation, i.e.

$$\partial_\alpha X_m > \partial_\beta X_k \implies \partial_\delta \partial_\alpha X_m > \partial_\delta \partial_\beta X_k.$$

We call such an ordering  $<$  an *admissible ordering* on  $\{X\}$ .

Let the *order* and the *class* of  $\partial_{ij} X_k$  be, resp.,  $i + j$  and  $k$ . By fixing an admissible ordering on  $\{X\}$ , we can write a d-pol  $P$  in the form

$$P = I(\partial_\alpha X_k)^d + I_1(\partial_\alpha X_k)^{d-1} + \text{lower terms},$$

where  $\partial_\alpha X_k$  is the highest derivative occurring in  $P$  and  $d$  is the degree of  $P$  w.r.t.  $\partial_\alpha X_k$ . We may introduce the following terminologies to describe a d-pol.

**Definition 3.** Let  $<$  be an admissible ordering on  $\{X\}$  and  $P$  in  $K\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  but not in  $K$ ,

1. The highest derivative occurring in  $P$  is called the *lead* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{ld}(P)$ .
2. The order of the lead of  $P$  is called the *order* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{ord}(P)$ .
3. The class of the lead of  $P$  is called the *class* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{class}(P)$ .
4. The highest degree of  $P$  w.r.t. its lead is called the *degree* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{deg}(P)$ .
5. The leading coefficient of  $P$  w.r.t. its lead is called the *initial* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{init}(P)$ .
6. The formal partial derivative of  $P$  w.r.t. its lead is called the *separant* of  $P$ , denoted by  $\text{sep}(P)$ .

**Remark 1.** One can easily see that  $\text{sep}(P)$  is the initial of any proper derivative of a d-pol  $P$ .

## 1.2 Ordering of d-pols and ascending sets

We now introduce a partial ordering on  $K\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$  as follows:

**Definition 4.** Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be non-zero d-pols, then we say that  $P$  is higher than  $Q$  or that  $Q$  is lower than  $P$  if they satisfy either (1) or (2).

1.  $Q \in K$ , but  $P$  not in  $K$ .
2. Both  $Q$  and  $P$  are not in  $K$  and either  $\text{ld}(P) > \text{ld}(Q)$  or  $\text{ld}(P) = \text{ld}(Q)$  and  $\text{deg}(P) > \text{deg}(Q)$ .

In this case we write  $P \succ Q$ . If neither  $Q \prec P$  nor  $P \prec Q$  hold, then we say that  $P$  and  $Q$  are incomparable in order and write  $P \sim Q$ .

**Definition 5.** A non-zero d-pol  $Q$  is said to be reduced w.r.t. a d-pol  $P$  that is not in  $K$  if no proper derivatives of  $\text{ld}(P)$  occur in  $Q$ , and either

$\text{ld}(P)$  does not occur in  $Q$  or  $\text{ld}(P)$  occurs in  $Q$  with a degree lower than  $\text{deg}(P)$ .

**Definition 6.** An ascending set  $\Phi$  is either a single non-zero element in  $K$  and is then said to be trivial or a finite sequence of d-pols none of which are in  $K$ ,

$$\Phi : P_1, P_2, \dots, P_r$$

such that  $P_1 \prec P_2 \prec \dots \prec P_r$  and each  $P_i$  is reduced w.r.t. preceding  $P_j$ , for  $j < i$ .

**Definition 7.** Given two non-trivial ascending sets

$$\Phi_1 : P_1, P_2, \dots, P_r,$$

$$\Phi_2 : Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_s.$$

We shall say that  $\Phi_2$  is higher than  $\Phi_1$  or that  $\Phi_1$  is lower than  $\Phi_2$  and write  $\Phi_1 \prec \Phi_2$  if either (1) or (2) below holds.

1. There is some  $k \leq \min(s, r)$  such that  $P_i \sim Q_i$  for  $i < k$  and  $P_k \prec Q_k$ .
2.  $s < r$  and  $P_i \sim Q_i$  for all  $i \leq r$ .

If neither  $\Phi_1 \prec \Phi_2$  and  $\Phi_2 \prec \Phi_1$  hold, then we say that  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  are incomparable in order and write  $\Phi_1 \sim \Phi_2$ .

**Remark 2.** Any non-trivial ascending set is said to be higher than any trivial one.

**Definition 8.** Let  $\Psi$  be a set of d-pols. A subset of  $\Psi$  is called a basic set of  $\Psi$  if it is any lowest ascending set contained in  $\Psi$ .

### 1.3 Remainder

Computing remainders of a d-pol w.r.t. an ascending set is a basic procedure in the char-set method. Let us start with two technical definitions

**Definition 9.** An *IS-product* of a non-trivial ascending set  $\Phi$  is any power product of initials and separants of d-pols in  $\Phi$ .

**Remark 3.** *IS-products* of a non-trivial an ascending set play a role in

specifying degenerate cases for geometric theorems.

**Definition 10.** A d-pol  $R$  is said to be reduced w.r.t. a non-trivial ascending set  $\Phi$  if  $R$  is reduced w.r.t. each d-pol in  $\Phi$ .

**Remainder Theorem.** For any d-pol  $P$  and a non-trivial ascending set  $\Phi$

$$\Phi : F_1, F_2, \dots, F_r,$$

there is an  $IS$ -product  $J$  of  $\Phi$  such that

$$JP = \sum_{k, \delta_k} A_{k\delta_k} \partial_{\delta_k}(F_k) + R,$$

in which  $k$  runs over a finite subset of non-negative integers,  $\delta_k$  runs over a finite subset of  $\Delta$ ,  $A_{k\delta_k}$  is a d-pol, and  $R$  is reduced w.r.t.  $\Phi$ .  $R$  is called a remainder of  $P$  w.r.t.  $\Phi$ .

The above formula is then called the remainder formula which is obtained by applying pseudo division successively w.r.t. an admissible ordering on  $\{X\}$ . In this procedure we have to choose some of the proper derivatives of  $F_k$  as divisor polynomials.

#### 1.4 The completion of an ascending set

Given a non-trivial ascending set  $\Phi$

$$\Phi : F_1, F_2, \dots, F_r.$$

we shall now define the completion of  $\Phi$ .

**Definition 11.**

1. For  $1 \leq k \leq r$ , derivatives of leads of  $F_k$  in  $\Phi$  are called the *principal derivatives* of  $\Phi$ .
2. For  $1 \leq k \leq r$ , the leads of  $F_k$  in  $\Phi$  are called *leading derivatives* or *proper principal derivatives* of  $\Phi$ , while other principal derivatives are called *improper derivatives* of  $\Phi$ .
3. The derivatives that are not principal are called *parametric derivatives*.
4.  $\text{lpair}_p(\Phi) := \{(i, j) \mid \partial_{ij} X_p \text{ is a lead of some } F_k \text{ in } \Phi\}$ .

5.  $\max_p(\Phi) := (m_1, m_2)$ , where  $m_i$  is the maximal integer of the  $i$ th coordinate of all pairs in  $\text{lpair}_p(\Phi)$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ .
6. We say that  $(i, j)$  is a multiple of  $(i_1, j_1)$  if  $i \geq i_1$  and  $j \geq j_1$  hold, and in this case write  $(i, j) \gg (i_1, j_1)$  or  $(i_1, j_1) \ll (i, j)$ .
7.  $\text{cpair}_p(\Phi) := \{(i, j) | (i_1, j_1) \ll (i, j) \ll \max_p(\Phi), (i_1, j_1) \in \text{lpair}_p(\Phi)\}$

For the pair  $(i, j) \in \text{cpair}_p(\Phi) - \text{lpair}_p(\Phi)$ , let us form a remainder of  $\partial_{ij}X_p$  w.r.t.  $\Phi$  and denote it by  $h_{ij,p}$ . Then  $J\partial_{ij}X_p - h_{ij,p}$  is a linear combination of derivatives of  $F_k$  in  $\Phi$ , where  $J$  is a *IS*-product of  $\Phi$ .

**Definition 12.** The d-pol  $J\partial_{ij}X_p - h_{ij,p}$  is called a *derived d-pol* of  $\Phi$  w.r.t  $(i, j)$  and  $p$ .

Let the set of all derived polynomials be

$$\{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_s\}.$$

**Definition 13.** The sequence consisting of all  $F_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) and  $G_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq s$ ) arranged in increasing order

$$(\Phi+) : H_1, H_2, \dots, H_g$$

( $g = r + s$ ) is called the *completion* of  $\Phi$ .

**Remark 4.** The initials and separants of  $H_k$  in  $(\Phi+)$  are all *IS*-products of  $\Phi$ .

## 1.5 The integrability polynomials of an ascending set

Let a non-trivial ascending set

$$F_1, F_2, \dots, F_r$$

denoted by  $\Phi$  be given with its completion

$$(\Phi+) : H_1, H_2, \dots, H_g.$$

**Definition 14.** An *M-derivative*  $M$  of  $\Phi$  is a d-pol of the form

$$M = \partial_{i_1 i_2} H_k$$

with  $\text{ld}(H_k) = \partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p$ , and  $i_k = 0$  if  $j_k < m_k$  where  $k = 1, 2$  and  $(m_1, m_2) = \max_p(\Phi)$ .

**Definition 15.** An *M-product* of  $\Phi$  is a product of d-pols, one of which is an M-derivative.

**Definition 16.** An *M-polynomial* of  $\Phi$  is a linear sum of M-products whose coefficients are d-pols in leading and parametric derivatives alone.

Consider any d-pol  $P$  in some M-derivatives and other parametric or principal derivatives of  $\Phi$ . Suppose that among the improper principal derivatives not appearing in M-products of  $P$ , the highest one is  $\partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p$ , then let

$$\begin{aligned} \max_p(\Phi) &= (m_1, m_2), \\ (j_1, j_2) &= (\min(l_1, m_1), \min(l_2, m_2)), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(i_1, i_2) = (l_1 - j_1, l_2 - j_2).$$

It is easy to see that  $(j_1, j_2) \in \text{cpair}_p(\Phi)$ , and if  $l_q < m_q$ , then  $i_q = 0$  for  $q = 1, 2$ . Hence there exists a  $H_k$  in  $(\Phi+)$  such that  $\text{ld}(H_k) = \partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p$ . Moreover  $\partial_{i_1 i_2} H_k$  is an M-derivative with the lead  $\partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p$ . Then we have

$$J_1 \partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p = \partial_{i_1 i_2} H_k + U$$

where  $J_1$  is an *IS-product* of  $\Phi$ , and  $U$  is a d-pol in parametric and principal derivatives lower than  $\partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p$ . Replacing  $\partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p$  in  $P$  by

$$\frac{\partial_{i_1 i_2} H_k + U}{J_1}$$

and clearing denominators, we get a d-pol  $P_1 = J_1' P$ ,  $J_1'$  being a power of  $J_1$ , in such a form which involves the M-derivatives and the new one  $M = \partial_{i_1 i_2} H_k$ , and other parametric, proper and improper principal derivatives lower than  $\partial_{l_1 l_2} X_p$ .

**Definition 17.** The above procedure for obtaining  $P_1 = J_1' P$  from  $P$  is called an *M-reduction* of  $P$ .

In  $P$  there may still be, besides the parametric derivatives, some leading



derivatives not yet present in the M-products. Suppose that the highest such leading derivatives  $\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p$ , whose corresponding d-pol in  $\Phi$  is  $F_i$ , has degree  $d \geq \deg(F_i) = d_i$ . By performing pseudo division of  $(\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p)^d$  and  $F_i$  w.r.t  $\text{ld}(F_i)$ , we then have

$$J_2(\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p)^d = QF_k + V$$

where  $J_2$  is an *IS*-product of  $\Phi$ ,  $Q$  is a d-pol, and  $V$  is a d-pol lower than  $(\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p)^d$ . Replacing  $(\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p)^d$  in  $P$  by

$$\frac{QF_k + V}{J_2}$$

and clearing denominators, we get a d-pol  $P_2 = J_2 P$  in such a form which involves the M-derivatives and a new one  $F_k$ , other parametric, improper, and proper principal derivatives lower than  $\text{ld}(F_i)^{d_i}$ .

**Definition 18.** The above procedure for obtaining  $P_2$  from  $P$  is called an *I-reduction* of the d-pol  $P$ .

It is clear that in applying successive M- and I-reductions we will finally arrive at a d-pol

$$JP = M + N$$

possessing the following properties:

1.  $J$  is a certain *IS*-product of  $\Phi$ .
2.  $M$  is a M-polynomial for  $\Phi$ .
3.  $N$  is a d-pol containing parametric and leading derivatives alone.
4. The leading derivatives in  $M$  and  $N$  not already appearing in the M-derivatives each have a degree less than the degree of those derivatives in the corresponding d-pol  $F_i$  of  $\Phi$ .

**Definition 19.** In the above formula the d-pols  $M$  and  $N$  are called resp. the *M-part* and *N-part* of  $P$ .

We shall now show how to compute the integrability polynomials of  $\Phi$  by means of M- and I-reductions. Consider any  $H_h$  of  $(\Phi+)$  with lead

$\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p$  such that either  $j_1 < m_1$  or  $j_2 < m_2$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $j_1 < m_1$ . Then we have

$$H_h = I(\partial_{j_1 j_2} X_p)^d + \text{lower terms}$$

where  $I = \text{init}(H_h)$ . Moreover, we get

$$\partial_{10} H_h = S \partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p + U,$$

where  $S = \text{sep}(H_h)$ , and  $U$  is a d-pol lower than  $\partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p$ . As  $j_1 < m_1$ , it is clear that

$$(j_1 + 1, j_2) \in \text{cpair}_p(\Phi) - \text{lpair}_p(\Phi).$$

Thus  $\partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p$  is the lead of some  $H_k$  in  $(AS+)$ . We then have

$$H_k = I' \partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p + V$$

where  $I' = \text{init}(H_k)$  and  $V$  is a d-pol lower than  $\partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p$ . It follows that

$$I' \partial_{10} H_h - S H_k = W_1$$

where  $W_1$  is a d-pol lower than  $\partial_{(j_1+1)j_2} X_p$ .

We can form  $W_2$  in the same way if  $j_2 < m_2$ .

**Definition 20.** The N-part of the above d-pol  $W_1$  (resp.,  $W_2$ ) is called the *integrability d-pol* of  $\Phi$  of index 1 (resp., index 2) corresponding to  $H_h$ .

**Definition 21.** A non-trivial ascending set is said to be *passive* if all its integrability d-pols are zero.

**Passivity Theorem** If an ascending set  $\Phi$  is passive, then all derivatives of any d-pol in  $(\Phi+)$ , when multiplied by some *IS*-product of  $\Phi$ , have their N-parts equal to zero. Moreover, any such derivative, say  $P$ , can be written in the form

$$JP = J' M + R$$

where  $M$  is an M-derivative having the same lead as that of the given derivative  $P$ , while  $R$  is an M-polynomial in which all M-derivatives are lower than  $P$ .

## 1.6 The Char-sets of a differential polynomial set

Let  $\Psi$  be a finite set of d-pols and  $<$  an admissible ordering on  $\{X\}$ .  $Zero(\Psi)$  denotes the differential algebraic set defined by  $\Psi$ . For any d-pol  $G$ ,  $Zero(\Psi/G)$  denotes the subset of  $Zero(\Psi)$  for which  $G \neq 0$ . By the following algorithm **Charset**, we can obtain a passive ascending set  $\Phi$  such that the remainders of all d-pols in  $\Psi$  with respect to  $\Phi$  are zero. This algorithm basically consists of pseudo division, and the M- and I-reductions introduced in the previous sections.

### Algorithm Charset

INPUT:  $\Psi$  (a finite set of d-pols).

OUTPUT:  $\Phi$  (an ascending set w.r.t.  $<$ ).

- (1) [Initialization]
  - $\Psi_0 := \Psi$ ;
  - $BS_0 :=$  a basic set for  $\Psi_0$ ;
  - $RS_0 :=$  the set of all non-trivial remainders of d-pols in  $\Psi_0$  w.r.t.  $BS_0$ ;
  - $HS_0 :=$  the set of all non-trivial integrability conditions for  $\Psi_0$
  - $i := 0$ ;
- (2) [Loop]
  - While  $RS_i \neq \emptyset$  or  $HS_i \neq \emptyset$  do
    - $i := i + 1$ ;
    - $\Psi_i := \Psi_{i-1} \cup RS_{i-1} \cup HS_{i-1}$ ;
    - $BS_i :=$  a basic set for  $\Psi_i$ ;
    - $RS_i :=$  the set of all non-trivial remainders of d-pols in  $\Psi_i$  w.r.t.  $BS_i$ ;
    - $HS_i :=$  the set of all non-trivial integrability conditions for  $\Psi_i$
  - end{while}
- (3) [Done]
  - $\Phi := BS_i$ ;
  - Return**  $\Phi$ ;

**Remark 5.** We exit from this algorithm as long as a non-zero element in  $K$  appears in either  $RS_i$  or  $HS_i$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots$ . In this case the input system  $\Psi$  is inconsistent.

**Remark 6.** In this algorithm the set of d-pols  $\Psi$  is enlarged to  $\Psi_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , while the  $Zero(\Psi_i) = Zero(\Psi)$  holds throughout the while-loop since each d-pol in  $RS_{i-1}$  or  $HS_{i-1}$  can be expressed as a linear combination of d-pols in  $PS_{i-1}$  and their derivatives.

It can be shown that the basic-sets

$$BS_0 \succ BS_1 \dots$$

are decreasing in order so that the construction should end in a finite number of steps and at a certain stage  $t$  we should have both  $RS_t = \emptyset$  and  $HS_t = \emptyset$ .

**Definition 22.** The corresponding ascending set  $\Phi$  in Algorithm **Charset** is called a passive (differential) char-set of the given d-pol-set  $\Psi$ .

**Theorem (Well-Ordering Principle)** Let  $\Phi$  be a passive char-set of the given differential polynomial set  $\Psi$ ,  $I_i$  and  $S_i$  the initials and separants of differential polynomials in  $\Phi$ , and  $J$  some  $IS$ -product of  $\Phi$ . Then

$$Zero(\Phi/J) \subset Zero(\Psi) \subset Zero(\Phi), \quad (I)$$

$$Zero(\Psi) = Zero(\Phi/J) \bigcup (\cup_i Zero(\Psi'_i)) \bigcup (\cup_i Zero(\Psi''_i)). \quad (II)$$

In these formulas  $\Psi'_i = \Psi \cup \{I_i\}$  and  $\Psi''_i = \Psi \cup \{S_i\}$ .

**Remark 7.**  $\Phi$  must be passive by the assumption of the well-ordering principle. In fact, it suffices to derive relation (I) and (II) if  $RS_k = \emptyset$ , for some non-negative integer  $k$  in the Algorithm **Charset**.

## 1.7 A basic principle of MTP

The char-set method is able to prove the theorems whose hypothesis and conclusion can be formulated in terms of d-pols. Hence we have the following definitions.

**Definition 23.** A theorem consists of a d-pol set called the *hypothesis set* and a d-pol called the *conclusion d-pol*.

**Definition 24** Let the hypothesis set and the conclusion polynomial of a theorem T be resp.  $H$  and  $C$ . Then we say

1. T is *true* if

$$Zero(H) \subset Zero(C).$$

2.  $T$  is *generically true* under non-degeneracy conditions

$$G_i \neq 0.$$

for degenerate polynomials  $G_i$  if

$$\text{Zero}(H/\prod G_i) \subset \text{Zero}(C).$$

**Remark 8.** A zero in  $\text{Zero}(H)$  is nothing but a geometrical configuration verifying the hypothesis of the theorem  $T$  and  $\text{Zero}(H)$  is just the algebraic differential set of all such geometrical configurations.

Using the notation of Definition 24, we state the following principle.

**Principle of MTP (weak form)** If the remainder  $R$  of  $C$  w.r.t. a char-set of  $HYP$  is identical to 0, then the theorem  $T$  with hypothesis set  $H$  is generically true under the non-degeneracy conditions  $I_i \neq 0$  and  $S_i \neq 0$  where  $I_i$  and  $S_i$  are the initials and separants of this char-set, respectively.

There are three principles of MTP corresponding to different forms of zero structure theorems for an algebraic differential set. The examples shown in the following sections are only based on the principle mentioned above. Another way to prove theorems mechanically in differential geometries is based on the calculation of differential dimension of differential quasi-algebraic sets, cf. [Ferro & Gallo, 1990].

## 2 Studying the fundamental equations of surface theory by the char-set method

In this section we shall try to compute a characteristic set of the fundamental equations of surfaces. To do this we first introduce an admissible ordering on the variables to be handled and then apply the algorithm **Charset** to these equations. As shown below, although it is difficult to obtain a char-set for the general form of the fundamental equations of surfaces, some interesting results can still be obtained during this computation.

## 2.1 The fundamental equations of surface theory

Suppose that a surface  $S$  is generated by the movement of the tip of a position vector

$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$$

in which  $x(u, v)$ ,  $y(u, v)$ , and  $z(u, v)$  are functions of  $u$  and  $v$  possessing as many derivatives as may be required. The first fundamental form is defined as follows:

$$I = Edu^2 + 2Fdudv + Gdv^2$$

where  $E = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}$ ,  $F = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$  and  $G = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$ . Here “ $\cdot$ ” means the dot product of two vectors.

When the tangent vectors  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$  at any point  $\vec{r}(u, v)$  are not parallel, we may find a unit normal vector  $\vec{n}(u, v)$ , which is perpendicular to the tangent plane at the point on  $S$ , by computing the vector product of partial derivative vectors  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$  at the point, that is,

$$\vec{n}(u, v) = \frac{\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}}{\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \right|}$$

The order in which we take the vector product determines the direction of  $\vec{n}(u, v)$ .

The vectors  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$  and  $\vec{n}(u, v)$  constitute a moving frame on  $S$  denoted by  $[\vec{r}; \vec{r}_u, \vec{r}_v, \vec{n}]$ . The second fundamental form is given by

$$II = Ldu^2 + 2Mdudv + Ndv^2$$

where  $L = -\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{n}}{\partial u}$ ,  $M = -\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{n}}{\partial v} = -\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{n}}{\partial u}$ , and  $N = -\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{n}}{\partial v}$ .

By differentiating the frame  $[\vec{r}; \vec{r}_u, \vec{r}_v, \vec{n}]$ , we may obtain the fundamental equations of surface theory. Let  $u = u^1$ ,  $v = u^2$ ,  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} = \vec{r}_1$ , and  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} = \vec{r}_2$ . Then we may write these equations as follows:

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u^\alpha} = \vec{r}_\alpha & \alpha = 1, 2 \\ \frac{\partial \vec{r}_\alpha}{\partial u^\beta} = \sum_{\delta=1}^2 \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\delta \vec{r}_\delta + b_{\alpha\beta} \vec{n} & \alpha, \beta = 1, 2 \\ \frac{\partial \vec{n}}{\partial u^\alpha} = -\sum_{\delta=1}^2 b_\alpha^\delta \vec{r}_\delta & \alpha = 1, 2 \end{cases}$$

where the  $\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\delta$ 's are the Christoffel symbols of the second kind which are rational functions of  $E$ ,  $F$ ,  $G$  and their derivatives,  $b_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $b_\alpha^\delta$  are rational

functions of  $L, M, N, E, F,$  and  $G$ . For the definitions of  $\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\delta, b_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $b_\alpha^\delta$ , please refer to [Carmo, 1976]. One may observe that the denominators of these rational functions are  $EG - F^2$ , which is non-zero by its geometric meaning.

## 2.2 Computing char-sets of the fundamental equations of surface theory

There are two reasons for computing a passive char-set of the fundamental equations of surface. The first is to derive Gauss's theorem mechanically, and the second is to find the general passive char-set of the fundamental equations since we often put some of the fundamental equations or their integrability conditions into the hypothesis set of the theorem to be mechanically proved.

The Gauss's Theorem may be stated as follows:

**Theorem** (Theorema Egregium) The Gaussian curvature  $\frac{LN-M^2}{EG-F^2}$  is determined by the first fundamental form of surface  $S$ .

In order to compute the char-set of the fundamental equations, we should first translate (2.1) into d-pols and arrange the variables occurring in (2.1) in a proper order. Since all the coefficients in (2.1) are rational functions of  $L, M, N, E, F, G$  and their derivatives, we can order  $L, M, N, E, F, G$  and the vectors  $\vec{r}, \vec{r}_u, \vec{r}_v, \vec{n}$  as well as their derivatives.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} E &= X_1, & F &= X_2, & G &= X_3, \\ L &= X_{24} & M &= X_{25}, & N &= X_{26}, \\ \vec{r}_u &= X_{32}, & \vec{r}_v &= X_{33}, & \vec{n} &= X_{34}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, let  $\Lambda_1$  be the set consisting of  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  and their derivatives,  $\Lambda_2$  the set consisting of  $X_{24}, X_{25}, X_{26}$  and their derivatives, and  $\Lambda_3$  the set consisting of  $X_{32}, X_{33}, X_{34}$  and their derivatives. We introduce an admissible ordering on  $\Lambda = \Lambda_1 \cup \Lambda_2 \cup \Lambda_3$  as follows:

1. For any two pairs of non-negative integers,  $(i, j)$  and  $(l, k)$ ,  $\partial_{ij} > \partial_{kl}$  iff either  $i + j > k + l$  or  $i + j = k + l$  and  $j > l$ .
2. For any  $\partial_{ij}X_p, \partial_{kl}X_q \in \Lambda_i$ , where  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ,  $\partial_{ij}X_p > \partial_{kl}X_q$  iff either  $\partial_{ij} > \partial_{kl}$  or  $\partial_{ij} = \partial_{kl}$  and  $p > q$ .

3. For any  $\partial_{ij}X_p \in \Lambda_m$  and  $\partial_{kl}X_q \in \Lambda_n$ ,  $\partial_{ij}X_p > \partial_{kl}X_q$  iff  $m > n$ .

One may easily verify that such an ordering is admissible.

We can now rewrite (2.1) in terms of d-pols in  $\Lambda$ . After removing trivial and extraneous equations, we have

$$(2.2) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_1 = (\partial_{01}X_{34})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) + X_{33}X_{26}X_1 - X_{33}X_{25}X_2 \\ \quad - X_{32}X_{26}X_2 + X_{32}X_{25}X_3 \\ p_2 = (\partial_{10}X_{34})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) + X_{33}X_{25}X_1 - X_{33}X_{24}X_2 \\ \quad - X_{32}X_{25}X_2 + X_{32}X_{24}X_3 \\ p_3 = 2(\partial_{01}X_{33})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) - 2X_{34}X_{26}(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) \\ \quad - X_{33}((\partial_{01}X_3)X_1 + (\partial_{10}X_3)X_2 - 2(\partial_{01}X_2)X_2) \\ \quad + X_{32}((\partial_{01}X_3)X_2 + (\partial_{10}X_3)X_3 - 2(\partial_{01}X_2)X_3) \\ p_4 = 2(\partial_{10}X_{33})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) - 2X_{34}X_{25}(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) \\ \quad - X_{33}((\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_2) \\ \quad + X_{32}((\partial_{10}X_3)X_2 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_3) \\ p_5 = 2(\partial_{01}X_{32})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) - 2X_{34}X_{25}(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) \\ \quad - X_{33}((\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_2) \\ \quad + X_{32}((\partial_{10}X_3)X_2 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_3) \\ p_6 = 2(\partial_{10}X_{32})(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) - 2X_{34}X_{24}(X_3X_1 - X_2^2) \\ \quad - X_{33}(2(\partial_{10}X_2)X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - (\partial_{10}X_1)X_2) \\ \quad + X_{32}((2\partial_{10}X_2)X_2 - (\partial_{01}X_1)X_2 - (\partial_{10}X_1)X_3) \end{array} \right.$$

According to the ordering introduced before, (2.2) is itself an ascending set. We then compute the derived d-pols of (2.2). Note that  $X_{32}$ ,  $X_{33}$  and  $X_{34}$  are linearly independent vectors which represents the moving frame  $\vec{r}_u$ ,  $\vec{r}_v$  and  $\vec{n}$ . Therefore, during the computation we may replace any linear homogeneous d-pol in  $X_{32}$ ,  $X_{33}$  and  $X_{34}$  by the d-pols obtained from the coefficients of this d-pol w.r.t.  $X_{32}$ ,  $X_{33}$  and  $X_{34}$ . Hence we get a d-pol, say  $F$ , in the form

$$F = X_{24}X_{26} - X_{25}^2 + F^*$$

where  $F^*$  is a d-pol in  $\mathbf{Q}[\Lambda_1]$ . From Remark 6 in Section 1.6 it follows that  $F$  vanishes on the zero set defined by (2.2). In other words, Theorema Egregium has been derived mechanically. Moreover, it is easy to check that  $F = 0$  gives us the formula for computing the Gaussian curvature by means of  $E$ ,  $F$  and  $G$  and their derivatives.

The intermediate d-pols of this derivation are too lengthy to be shown here. For more details, please refer to [Li, 1991].

We are able to obtain the completion of (2.2) which consists of 9 d-pols. In accordance with our general method described in Section 1, we



should compute integrability d-pols of (2.2). But we meet some intermediate polynomials that are too big to manipulate on our computer.

Consider a simple case. Let  $X_2 = X_{25} = 0$  ( $M = F = 0$ ), i.e. we suppose that there is no umbilicus point on  $S$ . Then the fundamental equations can be expressed in terms of  $X_1, X_3, X_{24}, X_{26}, X_{32}, X_{33}$  and  $X_{34}$  as follows:

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} pp_1 = (\partial_{01}X_{34})X_3 + X_{33}X_{26} \\ pp_2 = (\partial_{10}X_{34})X_1 + X_{32}X_{24} \\ pp_3 = 2(\partial_{01}X_{33})X_3X_1 - 2X_{34}X_{26}X_3X_1 \\ \quad - X_{33}(\partial_{01}X_3)X_1 - X_{32}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_3 \\ pp_4 = 2(\partial_{10}X_{33})X_3X_1 - X_{33}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - X_{32}(\partial_{01}X_1)X_3 \\ pp_5 = 2(\partial_{01}X_{32})X_3X_1 - X_{33}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - X_{32}(\partial_{01}X_1)X_3 \\ pp_6 = 2(\partial_{10}X_{32})X_3X_1 - 2X_{34}X_{24}X_3X_1 \\ \quad + X_{33}(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - X_{32}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 \end{cases}$$

In the same way we get the derived polynomials of (2.3) as follows:

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{cases} pp_{10} = 2(\partial_{10}X_{26})X_3X_1 - X_{26}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - X_{24}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_3 \\ pp_{11} = 4X_{26}X_{24}X_3X_1 + 2(\partial_{20}X_3)X_3X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_3)(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10}X_3)^2X_1 - (\partial_{10}X_3)X_3(\partial_{10}X_1) + 2X_3(\partial_{02}X_1)X_1 \\ \quad - X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)^2 \\ pp_{12} = 8(\partial_{01}X_{24})X_{24}X_3^2X_1 - 4X_{24}^2X_3^2(\partial_{01}X_1) \\ \quad + 2(\partial_{20}X_3)X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_3)(\partial_{01}X_1)^2X_1 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10}X_3)^2(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - (\partial_{10}X_3)X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)(\partial_{10}X_1) \\ \quad + 2X_3(\partial_{02}X_1)(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)^3 \end{cases}$$

Please notice that  $pp_{11}$  is the formula for computing the Gaussian curvature by means of  $X_1, X_3$  and their derivatives in the case  $X_2 = X_{25} = 0$ . During the computation of the integrability d-pols of (2.3) with derived polynomials (2.4), it is interesting to note that we obtained an intermediate d-pol,  $P$ , with 434 terms. This d-pol can be written as

$$P = X_{24}P^*,$$

in which  $P^*$  takes  $X_{24}$  as its lead with  $\deg(P^*) = 4$ , the coefficients of  $P$  w.r.t.  $X_{24}$  are d-pols involving only  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$ . It is clear that  $P$  vanishes on  $Zero((2.3))$ . In consideration of  $pp_{11}$  and  $P$ , we can conclude that the second fundamental form is *algebraically determined* by the first fundamental form in case there is no umbilic point on  $S$ .

**Remark 9.** If  $X_{24}$  is identical to zero, then  $S$  is developable.

Unfortunately, the passive char-set of (2.3) has not yet been obtained since we ran out of memory on a Sun-3/50 using REDUCE.

### 3 Examples

In order to control the size of intermediate expressions, the following strategies are quite helpful.

Formulate the hypothesis and conclusion of a theorem by means of moving frames on surfaces and put Gauss-Codazzi equations into the hypothesis set.

In the algorithm `Charset`, supposing that  $RS_i$  is empty at some stage  $i$ , then we try to compute a remainder of the conclusion d-pol w.r.t. the basic set  $BS_i$ . If this d-remainder is identical to 0, then this theorem is generically true under some non-degeneracy conditions (See Remark 6 in Section 1.6).

The following examples are chosen from [Chen, 1990].

**Example 1.** Show that, if a surface  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}(u, v)$  has two unequal constant principal curvatures, then the surface is a cylinder.

We may choose the parameters  $(u, v)$  as the lines of curvatures since the principal curvatures at every point on the surface are unequal. Hence the first and second fundamental forms are

$$I = Edu^2 + Gdv^2 \quad \text{and} \quad II = Ldu^2 + Ndv^2$$

The conclusion can be expressed as

1.  $v$ -curves are straight lines, that is,

$$\partial_{01}\vec{r} \times \partial_{02}\vec{r} = 0.$$

2. the curvature of  $u$ -curves is a constant, that is,

$$\partial_{10}\left(\frac{|\partial_{10}\vec{r} \times \partial_{20}\vec{r}|}{|\partial_{10}\vec{r}|^3}\right) = 0$$

and

$$\partial_{01} \left( \frac{|\partial_{10}\vec{r} \times \partial_{20}\vec{r}|}{|\partial_{10}\vec{r}|^3} \right) = 0$$

3. the torsion of  $u$ -curves is zero, that is,

$$(\partial_{10}\vec{r} \times \partial_{20}\vec{r}) \cdot \partial_{30}\vec{r} = 0.$$

Here  $|\cdot|$ ,  $\cdot$  and  $\times$  mean the length of a vector, dot product, and vector product, respectively.

From the assumption of this example we obtain the hypothesis set as follows

$$(3.1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_1 = \text{num}(\partial_{10}(\frac{X_{24}}{X_1})) = 0 \\ p_2 = \text{num}(\partial_{01}(\frac{X_{24}}{X_1})) = 0 \\ p_3 = \text{num}(\partial_{10}(\frac{X_{26}}{X_3})) = 0 \\ p_4 = \text{num}(\partial_{01}(\frac{X_{26}}{X_3})) = 0 \\ p_5 = 2(\partial_{10}X_{26})X_3X_1 - X_{26}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_1 - X_{24}(\partial_{10}X_3)X_3 \\ p_6 = 4X_{26}X_{24}X_3X_1 + 2(\partial_{20}X_3)X_3X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_3)(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10}X_3)^2X_1 - (\partial_{10}X_3)X_3(\partial_{10}X_1) + 2X_3(\partial_{02}X_1)X_1 \\ \quad - X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)^2 \\ p_7 = 8(\partial_{01}X_{24})X_{24}X_3^2X_1 - 4X_{24}^2X_3^2(\partial_{01}X_1) \\ \quad + 2(\partial_{20}X_3)X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - (\partial_{01}X_3)(\partial_{01}X_1)^2X_1 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10}X_3)^2(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - (\partial_{10}X_3)X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)(\partial_{10}X_1) \\ \quad + 2X_3(\partial_{02}X_1)(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 - X_3(\partial_{01}X_1)^3 \end{array} \right.$$

in which  $\text{num}(R)$  means the numerator of the rational expression  $R$ ,  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ ,  $p_3$  and  $p_4$  imply that two principal curvatures of this surface are constants, and  $p_5$ ,  $p_6$ ,  $p_7$  are the Gauss-Codazzi equations of the surface.

By means of the fundamental equations of surface theory, the conclusion can be expressed in terms of  $[\vec{r}; \vec{r}_u, \vec{r}_v, \vec{n}]$  and Christoffel symbols of the second kind. Hence we have the following conclusion polynomials:

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= X_{15} \\ c_2 &= X_{26} \\ c_3 &= 2(\partial_{10}X_{24})X_{24}X_1^2 - 2X_{24}^2(\partial_{10}X_1)X_1 \\ &\quad + 2(\partial_{10}X_{16})X_{16}X_1 - 3X_{16}^2(\partial_{10}X_1) \\ c_4 &= 2(\partial_{01}X_{24})X_{24}X_1^2 - 2X_{24}^2(\partial_{01}X_1)X_1 \\ &\quad + 2(\partial_{01}X_{16})X_{16}X_1 - 3X_{16}^2(\partial_{01}X_1) \\ c_5 &= \sqrt{X_1}X_{29}X_{24}^2X_3 + \sqrt{X_3}(\partial_{10}X_{24})X_{16} \\ &\quad - \sqrt{X_1}X_{24}X_{18}X_{16}X_3 - \sqrt{X_1}X_{24}(\partial_{01}X_{16})X_3 \\ &\quad - \sqrt{X_1}X_{24}X_{16}X_{12}X_3 + \sqrt{X_3}X_{24}X_{16}X_{12} \end{aligned}$$

in which  $X_{12} = \Gamma_{11}^1$ ,  $X_{15} = \Gamma_{22}^1$ ,  $X_{16} = \Gamma_{11}^2$  and  $X_{18} = \Gamma_{21}^2$ , moreover, we have  $X_{29} = b_2^1 = 0$  since  $M = F = 0$ . In the actual computation we may treat the square root  $\sqrt{X}$  as a new indeterminate satisfying  $\sqrt{X}^2 - X = 0$ .  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  mean that  $v$ -curves are straight lines,  $c_3$  and  $c_4$  imply that the curvatures of all  $u$ -curves are a single constant, and  $c_5$  implies that  $u$ -curves are planar curves.

Let us take the admissible ordering defined in Section 2. We may obtain the following char-set of the hypothesis set in accordance with the algorithm `Charset`

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{cases} p_1 = X_{26} \\ p_2 = \partial_{01}X_{24} \\ p_3 = (\partial_{10}X_{24})X_1 - X_{24}(\partial_{10}X_1) \\ p_4 = \partial_{10}X_3 \\ p_5 = \partial_{01}X_1 \end{cases}$$

All the remainders are identical to zero w.r.t. (3.2). In computing the char-set we remove some factors, e.g.  $X_{26}X_1 - X_{24}X_3$ , which are non-zero because the two principal curvatures are assumed to be unequal.

**Remark 10.** We get  $p_1 = X_{24}X_{26}$  from the algorithm `Charset`. If  $X_{24} = 0$ , then we may swap the positions of  $u$  and  $v$  in the conclusions.

**Example 2.** Assume that both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  do not contain any umbilici and have non-zero Gaussian curvatures. There is a map  $\phi$  between  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  which preserves the normal curvature with every tangent at every point. Prove that there exists a rigid motion such that  $S_1$  coincides with  $S_2$ .

Suppose that the principal directions at a point on  $S_1$  is in the direction of the parameter lines  $u = \text{constant}$  and  $v = \text{constant}$ . Hence the first and second fundamental forms of  $S_1$  are, resp.,

$$I_1 = E_1 du^2 + G_1 dv^2$$

and

$$II_1 = L_1 du^2 + N_1 dv^2.$$

Under the correspondence of  $\phi$ ,  $(u, v)$  is also a regular parametric system of  $S_2$ . Furthermore the  $u$ -curve and the  $v$ -curve of  $S_2$  are also the lines of curvature since  $\phi$  preserves principal curvatures at every point. Thus the first and second fundamental forms of  $S_2$  are, resp.,

$$I_2 = E_2 du^2 + G_2 dv^2$$

and

$$II_2 = L_2 dv^2 + N_2 dv^2.$$

We can then formulate the hypothesis under such a choice of parameters as:

$$(3.3) \quad \frac{E_1 du^2 + G_1 dv^2}{L_1 du^2 + N_1 dv^2} = \frac{E_2 du^2 + G_2 dv^2}{L_2 du^2 + N_2 dv^2}.$$

Let  $E_1 = X_1$ ,  $G_1 = X_2$ ,  $E_2 = X_3$ ,  $G_2 = X_4$ ,  $L_1 = X_5$ ,  $N_1 = X_6$ ,  $L_2 = X_7$ , and  $N_2 = X_8$ , then the hypothesis set is as follows

$$(3.4) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_1 = X_7 X_1 - X_5 X_3 \\ p_2 = X_8 X_2 - X_6 X_4 \\ p_3 = X_6 X_1 + X_7 X_2 - X_6 X_3 - X_5 X_4 \\ p_4 = X_6 (\partial_{01} X_1) X_1 - 2(\partial_{01} X_5) X_2 X_1 + X_5 X_2 (\partial_{01} X_1) \\ p_5 = 2(\partial_{10} X_6) X_2 X_1 - X_6 (\partial_{10} X_2) X_1 - X_5 (\partial_{10} X_2) X_2 \\ p_6 = X_8 (\partial_{01} X_3) X_3 - 2(\partial_{01} X_7) X_4 X_3 + X_7 X_4 (\partial_{01} X_3) \\ p_7 = 2(\partial_{10} X_8) X_4 X_3 - X_8 (\partial_{10} X_4) X_3 - X_7 (\partial_{10} X_4) X_4 \\ p_8 = 4X_6 X_5 X_2 X_1 + 2(\partial_{20} X_2) X_1 - (\partial_{01} X_2) (\partial_{01} X_1) X_1 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10} X_2)^2 X_1 - (\partial_{10} X_2) X_2 (\partial_{10} X_1) \\ \quad + 2X_2 (\partial_{02} X_1) X_1 - X_2 (\partial_{01} X_1)^2 \\ p_9 = 4X_8 X_7 X_4 X_3 + 2(\partial_{20} X_4) X_4 X_3 - (\partial_{01} X_4) (\partial_{01} X_3) X_3 \\ \quad - (\partial_{10} X_4)^2 X_3 - (\partial_{10} X_4) X_4 (\partial_{10} X_3) \\ \quad + 2X_4 (\partial_{02} X_3) X_3 - X_4 (\partial_{01} X_3)^2 \end{array} \right.$$

where  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ , and  $p_3$  are equivalent to (3.3),  $p_4$ ,  $p_5$ ,  $p_8$  and  $p_6$ ,  $p_7$ ,  $p_9$  are the Gauss-Codazzi equations of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  respectively. By the fundamental theorem of the surface theory, the conclusions expressed in terms of  $X$ 's are

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{array}{l} c_1 = X_8 - X_6 \\ c_2 = X_7 - X_5 \\ c_3 = X_4 - X_2 \\ c_4 = X_3 - X_1 \end{array}$$

A char-set of the hypothesis set consists of seven d-pols of which the largest one has 22 terms. The remainders of all  $c_i$ 's are identical to zero w.r.t. the char-set. In the computation we remove all the factors  $X_5$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $X_7$ , and  $X_8$  since the Gaussian curvatures of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are non-zero.

**Example 3** If  $T$  is an isometric correspondence between two planes, then  $T$  is a rigid motion.

Assume that the two planes are  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  with the first fundamental forms  $I_1 = du^2 + dv^2$  and  $I_2 = (dX_1)^2 + (dX_2)^2$  respectively. The mapping between these two parametric coordinates of  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  induced by  $T$  is

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{cases} X_1 = X_1(u, v) \\ X_2 = X_2(u, v) \end{cases}$$

Then the hypothesis set is made up of the following equations.

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{cases} p_1 = (\partial_{10}X_2)^2 + (\partial_{10}X_1)^2 - 1 \\ p_2 = (\partial_{01}X_2)^2 + (\partial_{01}X_1)^2 - 1 \\ p_3 = (\partial_{10}X_2)(\partial_{01}X_2) + (\partial_{10}X_1)(\partial_{01}X_1) \end{cases}$$

with a non-degenerate condition

$$\frac{\partial(X_1, X_2)}{\partial(u, v)} \neq 0$$

The conclusion d-pols are the nine d-pols

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= (\partial_{10}X_1)^2 + (\partial_{10}X_2)^2 - 1, \\ c_2 &= (\partial_{01}X_1)^2 + (\partial_{01}X_2)^2 - 1, \\ c_3 &= (\partial_{10}X_2)(\partial_{10}X_1) + (\partial_{01}X_2)(\partial_{01}X_1), \\ c_4 &= \partial_{20}X_1 \quad c_5 = \partial_{02}X_1 \quad c_6 = \partial_{11}X_1, \\ c_7 &= \partial_{20}X_2 \quad c_8 = \partial_{02}X_2 \quad c_9 = \partial_{11}X_2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  and  $c_3$  imply that the Jacobian matrix of  $X_1(u, v)$  and  $X_2(u, v)$  is orthogonal.  $c_4 \dots c_9$  imply that each entry of this matrix is a constant.

The char-set of the hypothesis set is  $\{(\partial_{01}X_1)^2 + (\partial_{10}X_1)^2 - 1, \partial_{20}X_1, p_1, p_3\}$ , in which  $\partial_{20}X_1$  is a factor of the following d-pol that is obtained by computing integrability d-pols

$$(\partial_{10}X_1)(\partial_{20}X_1)((\partial_{10}X_1)(\partial_{01}X_2) - (\partial_{10}X_2)(\partial_{01}X_1))$$

The third factor is non-zero since it is just the non-degenerate condition. If the first one is zero, then we get the hypothesis set as follows:

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{cases} (\partial_{01}X_2)^2 - 1 = 0 \\ \partial_{10}X_2 = 0 \\ \partial_{10}X_1 = 0 \\ (\partial_{10}X_1)^2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the theorem holds immediately.

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