

# Introduction to Smooth Submanifolds

Nikolai Nowaczyk

September 2008

## Contents

1	Basics of Real Analysis	1
2	Smooth Submanifolds of $\mathbb{R}^n$	1
3	Tangential and Normal Spaces	4
4	Extremal Problems under Restraints	6

## 1 Basics of Real Analysis

**1.1 Theorem** (Implicit Functions Theorem). Let  $U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be open and  $F \in \mathcal{C}^r(U \times V, \mathbb{R}^m)$ . Let  $(a, b) \in U \times V$  such that  $F(a, b) = 0$  and

$$\det(D_v F(a, b)) \neq 0$$

Then there are open neighbourhoods  $U'$  of  $a$  and  $V'$  of  $b$  and a mapping  $g \in \mathcal{C}^r(U', V')$  satisfying  $g(a) = b$  and

$$\forall (u, v) \in U' \times V' : F(u, v) = 0 \Leftrightarrow v = g(u)$$

**1.2 Theorem** (Inverse Function Theorem). Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open and  $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ . Let  $a \in U$  satisfying

$$\det(DF(a)) \neq 0$$

Then there exist open neighbourhoods  $U'$  of  $a$  and  $V'$  of  $b := f(a)$  such that  $F|_{U'} : U' \rightarrow V'$  is a Diffeomorphism of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ .

**1.3 Definition** (Immersion). Let  $W \subset \mathbb{R}^k$  be an open subset. A mapping  $\psi : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is an *immersion* of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  if  $\psi \in \mathcal{C}^r(W, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and

$$\forall w \in W : \text{rg}(D\psi(w)) = k$$

## 2 Smooth Submanifolds of $\mathbb{R}^n$

In this section we will state four criterions a subset  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  can fulfill and proof their equivalence, which is the main result of this section. A *submanifold* is defined to be a subset  $M$  fulfilling at least one (and thus all) of these four conditions. We will proof their equivalence via

$$(i) \Rightarrow (ii) \Rightarrow (iii) \Rightarrow (iv) \Rightarrow (i)$$

As a preparation it is extremely helpful to clarify some conventions of notation:

### 2.1 Convention.

- (i) Spaces: Although  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we are in fact dealing with two different versions of it: The submanifold  $M$  is the space itself, we are interested in. It is contained in a *surrounding space*  $\mathbb{R}_s^n := \mathbb{R}^n$ . We will also be dealing with a *coordinate space*  $\mathbb{R}_c^n := \mathbb{R}^n$  used only to describe  $M$ . To understand the following proof it could be helpful to distinguish these spaces from one another. If it doesn't help you, then you can completely ignore it.
- (ii) Integers: The dimension of the surrounding space as well as the coordinate space will be denoted by  $n$ . The dimension of the submanifold is  $k$  and it's class is  $r$ .
- (iii) Canonical Isomorphism: Throughout the proof we will identify  $\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$ .
- (iv) Multidimensional Zero: We denote  $0_k := (0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^k$
- (v) Neighbourhoods: We will have to deal with open neighbourhoods of points in the surrounding space as well as in the coordinate space. Our neighbourhood in  $\mathbb{R}_s^n$  will be denoted with  $S$  and a corresponding neighbourhood in  $\mathbb{R}_c^n$  will be denoted by  $C$ . It will also be necessary to write these neighbourhoods as cartesian products of  $k$ -dimensional and  $(n-k)$ -dimensional neighbourhoods. Of course this is not always possible. But since all norms are equivalent, choosing the maximum-norm and the euclidian norm we obtain open subsets  $U \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k$  and  $V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^{n-k}$  such that  $U \times V \subset S$ . Without loss of generality we can always assume that  $S = U \times V$ , because we will always be dealing with local questions. Similarly we will decompose  $C$  into  $C = W \times O$  where  $W \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k$ ,  $O \subset \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k}$  are both open subsets of their spaces. It will often be necessary to slightly modify a neighbourhood  $U$  for example. This will then be denoted by  $U'$ .

**2.2 Theorem** (Characterization of Submanifolds). Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$  be a non-empty subset and  $r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $r > 0$ ,  $k \geq 0$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) "M is locally immersed": For any  $p \in M$  there is an open neighbourhood  $S = U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$  of  $p$  and an open subset  $W \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k$  and an immersion  $\psi : W \rightarrow S$  of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  such that

$$M \cap S = \psi(W)$$

and  $\psi : W \rightarrow M \cap S$  is a homeomorphism. Such a  $\psi$  is called *local parametrization*.

- (ii) "M is locally a graph": For any  $p \in M$  there exist (after renumbering the coordinates) an open neighbourhood  $U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k \times \mathbb{R}_s^{n-k}$  of  $p$  and a mapping  $g : U \rightarrow V$  of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  such that:  $\forall (u, v) \in U \times V : (u, v) \in M \Leftrightarrow v = g(u)$ . In other words:

$$M \cap (U \times V) = \Gamma_g \cap (U \times V)$$

- (iii) "M is locally a zero set": For any  $p \in M$  there exists an open neighbourhood  $U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$  and a function  $F : U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k}$  of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  such that

$$M \cap (U \times V) = \{(u, v) \in U \times V : F(u, v) = 0\} = F^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap (U \times V)$$

and for all  $(u, v) \in M \cap (U \times V)$ :  $\text{rg}(DF(u, v)) = n - k$ . Such an  $F$  is called *locally defining function*.

- (iv) "M is locally euclidian":  $M$  is a submanifold of dimension  $k$  and class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ , so: For any  $p \in M$  there exists an open neighbourhood  $S \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$  of  $p$ , an open subset  $C = W \times O \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k \times \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k} = \mathbb{R}_c^n$  and a  $\mathcal{C}^r$ -diffeomorphism  $\varphi : S \rightarrow W \times O$ , such that:

$$\varphi(M \cap S) = W \times 0_{n-k}$$

Such a  $\varphi$  is called a *chart*.

*Proof.* First of all let's introduce some notation: Let  $\pi_K : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n) \mapsto (x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

be the projection of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the first  $k$  coordinates and  $\pi^K : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n) \mapsto (x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

be the projection of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the last  $n - k$  coordinates.

"(i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii)": Let  $p \in M$  be arbitrary,  $\psi : W \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k \rightarrow (U \times V) \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$  be the immersion defined in the hypothesis and  $x := \psi^{-1}(p)$ . Since  $\psi$  is a local homeomorphism  $x$  is well defined. By definition (c.f. 1.3) the immersion  $\psi$  satisfies  $\text{rg}(D\psi(x)) = k$ . So after renumbering the coordinates if necessary we may assume that

$$\det \left( \left( \frac{\partial \psi_i(x)}{\partial x_j} \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq k} \right) = \det(D(\pi_K \circ \psi)(x)) \neq 0$$

Define  $\tilde{\psi} : W \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k \rightarrow U \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k$ ,  $\tilde{\psi} := \pi_k \circ \psi = (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_k)$ . Then the inverse functions theorem (1.2) is applicable to  $\tilde{\psi}$ . So there exist open neighbourhoods  $W' \subset W$  of  $x$  and  $U' \subset U$  of  $\pi_K(p)$  such that the restriction  $\tilde{\psi} : W' \rightarrow U'$  is a class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ -Diffeomorphism. Let's denote it's inverse by  $\varphi : U' \rightarrow W'$ . Now define  $G := (G_1, \dots, G_n) := \psi \circ \varphi : U' \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k \rightarrow \psi(W') \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$ . Then for any  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_k) \in U'$ :

$$\begin{aligned} G(u) &= (\psi \circ \varphi)(u) \\ &= (\psi_1(\varphi(u)), \dots, \psi_k(\varphi(u)), \psi_{k+1}(\varphi(u)), \dots, \psi_n(\varphi(u))) \\ &= (\tilde{\psi}_1(\varphi(u)), \dots, \tilde{\psi}_k(\varphi(u)), G_{k+1}(u), \dots, G_n(u)) \\ &= (u_1, \dots, u_k, G_{k+1}(u), \dots, G_n(u)) \\ &= (u, (\pi^K \circ G)(u)) \end{aligned}$$

The mapping  $g := \pi^K \circ G : U' \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k \rightarrow \pi^K(\psi(W')) =: V' \subset \mathbb{R}_s^{n-k}$  we just defined has all desired properties: Let  $(u, v) \in U' \times V'$  be arbitrary. Suppose  $v = g(u)$ . Then it follows

$$(u, v) = (u, g(u)) = G(u) = \psi(\varphi(u)) \in \psi(W') \subset \psi(W) = M \cap S \subset M$$

since  $\psi(W) = M \cap S$  by hypothesis,  $W' \subset W$  and  $S' \subset S$ . Conversely suppose that  $(u, v) \in M$ . Then

$$\exists! w \in W' : (u, v) = \psi(w) = (\tilde{\psi}_1(w), \dots, \tilde{\psi}_k(w), \psi_{k+1}(w), \dots, \psi_n(w))$$

So  $u = \tilde{\psi}(w)$  and since  $\tilde{\psi}$  is a diffeomorphism  $\varphi(u) = \varphi(\tilde{\psi}(w)) = w$ . This implies

$$(u, v) = \psi(w) = \psi(\varphi(u)) = G(u) = (u, g(u))$$

and thus  $v = g(u)$ .

"(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii)": Let  $g : U \subset \mathbb{R}_s^k \rightarrow V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^{n-k}$  as in the hypothesis and  $p \in U \times V$ . Define a mapping  $F = (F_1, \dots, F_{n-k}) : U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k}$  by

$$F(u, v) := v - g(u)$$

Then  $F$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  and for any  $(u, v) \in U \times V$ :

$$F(u, v) = 0 \Leftrightarrow v = g(u)(u, v) \Leftrightarrow (u, v) \in M$$

So  $M \cap (U \times V)$  is the zero set of  $F$ . Finally  $D_v F(u, v) = I_{n-k} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-k) \times (n-k)}$ . Since the unit matrix  $I_{n-k}$  has rank  $n-k$  and  $DF(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-k) \times n}$  it follows that for any  $(u, v) \in U \times V : DF(u, v) = n-k$ .

"(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv)": Let  $p \in M$  and  $F : U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k}$  be as in the hypothesis. After renumbering the coordinates if necessary we may assume, that

$$\det(D_v F(p)) = \det \left( \frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_{n-k})}{\partial(v_1, \dots, v_{n-k})}(p) \right) \neq 0$$

Define  $\text{id}_K : \mathbb{R}_s^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^k, x \mapsto x$  and  $\text{id}_K \times F : U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^n, (u, v) \mapsto (u, F(u, v))$ . Then the inequality above implies:

$$\det(D(\text{id}_K \times F)(p)) = \det \begin{pmatrix} I_k & 0 \\ D_u F(p) & D_v F(p) \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

as well. By the inverse functions theorem (1.2) there is an open neighbourhood  $S' \subset U \times V$  of  $p$  and an open neighbourhood  $C' := W' \times O'$  of  $q := (\text{id}_K \times F)(p)$  such that the restriction  $\varphi := \text{id}_K \times F : S' \rightarrow W' \times O'$  is a diffeomorphism of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ . It also fulfills the required property because for any  $(u, v) \in S'$ :

$$(u, v) \in M \Leftrightarrow F(u, v) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \varphi(u, v) = (\text{id}_K \times F)(u, v) = (u, F(u, v)) = (u, 0) \in W' \times 0_{n-k}$$

"(iv) $\Rightarrow$ (i)": Let  $p \in M$  be arbitrary and let  $\varphi : S \rightarrow W \times O$  be a chart, i.e. a diffeomorphism of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  as in the hypothesis. Define  $\psi : W \rightarrow S$  by

$$w \mapsto \varphi^{-1}(w, 0_{n-k})$$

Since  $\varphi^{-1}$  is diffeomorphism of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  as well,  $\psi$  is an immersion of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$  and we have by hypothesis:

$$\psi(W) = \varphi^{-1}(W, 0_{n-k}) = M \cap S$$

□

**2.3 Definition** (Submanifold). A subset  $\emptyset \neq M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a *differentiable submanifold*, if it satisfies one of the conditions listed in theorem 2.2 above. The integer  $r$  is the *class* of  $M$ .  $M$  is *smooth* if it is of class  $r$  for any  $r \in \mathbb{N}, r > 0$ . We call

$$\dim M := k \qquad \text{codim } M := n - k$$

the *dimension* and *codimension* of  $M$ .

### 3 Tangential and Normal Spaces

**3.1 Definition** (Tangential Bundle). Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a non-empty subset and  $p \in M$  be arbitrary. A vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a *tangent to  $M$  at  $p$*  if there exist  $\varepsilon > 0, \gamma \in \mathcal{C}^1(]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[, M)$ , such that  $\gamma(0) = p$  and  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$ . The set

$$T_p M := \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid v \text{ is tangent to } M \text{ at } p\}$$

is the *tangential space* of  $M$  at  $p$ . Their disjoint union

$$TM := \coprod_{p \in M} T_p M := \{(v, p) \mid v \in T_p M, p \in M\}$$

is the *tangential bundle* of  $M$ .

**3.2 Definition** (Normal Bundle). Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a non-empty subset,  $p \in M$  be arbitrary and  $\langle \_, \_ \rangle$  be the euclidian standard scalar product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

$$N_p M := \{w \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall v \in T_p M : \langle w, v \rangle = 0\}$$

is the *normal space* of  $M$  at  $p$ . A vector  $v \in N_p M$  is *normal to  $M$  at  $p$* . Analogously

$$NM := \coprod_{p \in M} N_p M$$

is the *normal bundle*.

**3.3 Theorem** (Property of Tangential and Normal Spaces). Let  $M$  be a  $k$ -dimensional submanifold of class  $\mathcal{C}^r$ . Then for any  $p \in M$

(i) The sets  $T_p M$  and  $N_p M$  are vector spaces and there is a direct and orthogonal decomposition

$$\mathbb{R}^n = T_p M \oplus N_p M$$

(ii) We have the dimension formulae

$$\dim T_p M = \dim M = k \qquad \dim N_p M = \text{codim } M = n - k$$

(iii) If  $F : U \times V \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_c^{n-k}$ ,  $p \in U \times V$ , is a locally defining function for  $M$  at  $p$ , then

$$T_p M = \ker dF(p) \qquad N_p M = \text{im } dF(p)$$

The  $(\text{grad } F_1(p), \dots, \text{grad } F_{n-k}(p))$  are a basis of  $N_p M$ .

(iv) If  $\psi : W \subset \mathbb{R}_c^k \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}_s^n$ , is a local parametrization at  $p$  such that  $p \in S$ ,  $q := \psi^{-1}(p) \in W$ ,  $T_p M$  is also given by:

$$T_p M = \langle \partial_1 \psi(q), \dots, \partial_k \psi(q) \rangle = \text{im } d\psi(q)$$

The  $(\partial_1 \psi(q), \dots, \partial_k \psi(q))$  are a basis of  $T_p M$ .

*Proof.*

" $\text{im } d\psi(q) \subset T_p M$ ": Let  $v \in \text{im } d\psi(q)$  be arbitrary, thus

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \partial_i \psi(q)$$

where  $c = (c_1, \dots, c_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k$  is a coordinate vector of  $v$ . Define a curve  $\gamma : ]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[ \rightarrow M$ ,  $t \mapsto \psi(q + ct)$ , where  $\varepsilon > 0$  is sufficiently small, such that  $\forall t \in ]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[ : q + ct \in W$ . Then  $\gamma(0) = \psi(q) = p$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathcal{C}^1(W, S)$  and by chain rule

$$\dot{\gamma}(0) = \psi'(\gamma(0))c = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \partial_i \psi(q) = v$$

Thus  $v \in T_p M$ . By hypothesis  $\dim(\text{im } d\psi(q)) = \text{rg}(d\psi(q)) = k$ .

" $T_p M \subset \ker dF(p)$ ": Let  $v \in T_p M$  and  $\gamma : ]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[ \rightarrow M$  be a curve satisfying  $\gamma(0) = p$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$ . Then by the chain rule

$$0 = F \circ \gamma \Rightarrow 0 = dF(\gamma(0))(\dot{\gamma}(0)) = dF(p)(v) \Rightarrow v \in \ker dF(p)$$

So  $T_p M \subset \ker dF(p)$ . By hypothesis  $\text{rg}(dF(p)) = n - k$  and thus  $\dim(\ker dF(p)) = k$ .

These two parts proof, that  $T_p M$  is indeed a vector space of dimension  $k$ . It immediately follows that

$N_p M = (T_p M)^\perp$  and thus  $N_p M$  is a vector space of dimension  $n - k$ . So part (i) and (ii) is shown and bringing all this together it follows  $\text{im } d\psi(q) = T_p M$  - part (iv) - and  $T_p M = \ker dF(p)$ . The last part of (iii) follows very similar:

" $\text{im } dF(p) \subset N_p M$ ": Let  $v \in T_p M \subset \ker dF(p)$ . So

$$\forall 1 \leq j \leq n - k : 0 = \langle \text{grad } F_j(p), v \rangle$$

which implies

$$\text{im } dF(p) = \langle \text{grad } F_1(p), \dots, \text{grad } F_{n-k}(p) \rangle \perp v$$

thus - since  $v \in T_p M$  was arbitrary -  $\text{im } dF(p) \subset N_p M$ .

This again implies  $\text{im } dF(p) = N_p M$ , because by hypothesis and (ii)  $\dim(\text{im } dF(p)) = \dim N_p M = n - k$ .  $\square$

## 4 Extremal Problems under Restraints

**4.1 Definition** (Local Extrema). Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  a an arbitrary subset,  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function and  $M \subset X$ . A point  $a \in M$  is a *local minimum of  $f$  in  $M$*  if there is a neighbourhood  $U \subset M$  (with regard to the subspace topology of  $M$  seen as a metric subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) such that

$$\forall x \in U : f(x) \geq f(a)$$

Analogously if

$$\forall x \in U : f(x) \leq f(a)$$

we say  $a$  is a *local maximum of  $f$  in  $M$* . We say  $a$  is a *local extremum of  $f$  in  $a$*  if it is either a local minimum or maximum of  $f$  in  $M$ .

**4.2 Theorem** (Extrema under restraints). Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open,  $M \subset U$  be a  $k$ -dimensional manifold of class  $\mathcal{C}^1$  given by a globally defining function  $g \in \mathcal{C}^1(U, \mathbb{R}^{n-k})$ , i.e.

$$M = \{x \in U : g(x) = 0\} \quad \forall x \in U : \text{rg}(dg(x)) = n - k$$

Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(U, \mathbb{R})$  be a function having a local extremum at  $p \in M$ . Then

$$\text{grad } f(p) \in N_p M$$

which is equivalent to:

$$\exists \lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{n-k}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-k} : \text{grad } f(p) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} \lambda_j \text{grad } g_j(p)$$

*Proof.* Let  $v \in T_p M$  be arbitrary. Thus there is a curve  $\gamma : ]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[ \rightarrow M$ , such that  $\gamma(0) = p$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v$ . Define  $h : ]-\varepsilon, \varepsilon[ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $h := f \circ \gamma$ . Since  $f$  has a local extremum at  $p$  in  $M$ , and  $\text{im } \gamma \subset M$ ,  $h$  has a local extremum at 0. So by elementary calculus and the chain rule we obtain

$$0 = h'(0) = \nabla f(\gamma(0))(\dot{\gamma}(0)) = \nabla f(p)v = \langle \text{grad } f(p), v \rangle$$

Thus  $\text{grad } f(p) \perp v$ . Since  $v$  was arbitrary  $\text{grad } f(p) \in N_p M$ . Finally theorem 3.3,(iii) states that

$$N_p M = \text{im } dg(p) = \langle \text{grad } g_1(p), \dots, \text{grad } g_{n-k}(p) \rangle$$

$\square$

**4.3 Remark.**

- (i) The scalars  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{n-k}$  are called *Lagrangian Multipliers*.
- (ii) One says that the condition  $\text{grad } f(p) \in N_p M$  is a *necessary condition* for  $f$  to have a local extremum at  $p$  under the *restraint conditions*  $g_1(x) = \dots = g_{n-k}(x) = 0$ . This condition is not sufficient in general.
- (iii) This can also be expressed by

$$\text{grad } f(p) + \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} \lambda_j \text{grad } g_j(p) = 0$$

by simply changing the signs of  $\lambda_j$ .

- (iv) Altogether we obtain the following non-linear system of equations as a necessary condition for  $p$  to be a local extrema of  $f$  in  $M$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (1) : \partial_1 f(p) &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} \lambda_j \text{grad } g_j(p) \right)_1 \\ &\dots \\ (n) : \partial_n f(p) &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} \lambda_j \text{grad } g_j(p) \right)_n \\ (n+1) : g_1(p) &= 0 \\ &\dots \\ (n+k) : g_{n-k}(p) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

It consists of the  $n+k$  unknowns  $p_1, \dots, p_n, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{n-k}$  and the  $n+k$  equations listed above.

**4.4 Theorem.** Every symmetric matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  has an eigenvalue.

*Proof.* Define  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $x \mapsto x^T A x$ . Then  $F$  is differentiable and  $\nabla F(x) = 2x^T A$  since

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|F(x+h) - F(x) - 2x^T A h|}{\|h\|} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|(x+h)^T A(x+h) - x^T A x - 2x^T A h|}{\|h\|} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x^T A x + x^T A h + h^T A x + h^T A h - x^T A x - 2x^T A h|}{\|h\|} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h^T A h|}{\|h\|} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|\langle A h, h \rangle|}{\|h\|} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|A h\| \|h\|}{\|h\|} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \|A h\| = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the Cauchy-Schwarz-Inequality and the symmetry of  $A$ . Define  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by,  $x \mapsto \|x\|^2 - 1$ . Then

$$M := \mathbb{S}^{n-1} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | g(x) = 0\}$$

Then  $g$  is differentiable as well and

$$\nabla g(x) = 2\|x\| \frac{x^T}{\|x\|} = 2x^T$$

So  $g$  is especially continuous and thus  $M$  is the reversed image of the closed subset  $\{0\} \subset \mathbb{R}$ . Since it's obviously bounded,  $M$  is compact. The mapping  $F$  is continuous as well, so  $F|_M : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  attains it's extremal values. Let  $a \in M$  be such an extremal value. By the theorem 4.2 above there is a  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\text{grad } F(a) = \lambda \text{grad } g \Rightarrow 2Aa = \lambda \text{grad } g(a) = 2\lambda a \Rightarrow Aa = \lambda a$$

Since  $\|a\| = 1$  it follows that  $a \neq 0$  and thus  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

□

## References

- [1] Lee, Introduction to Smooth Manifolds
- [2] Forster, Analysis II
- [3] Königsberger, Analysis II