## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: APPROXIMATING THE SHAPE OPERATOR WITH THE SURFACE HELLAN-HERRMANN-JOHNSON ELEMENT\*

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SM1. Intrinsic Differential Geometry. We review various concepts from differential geometry; see [SM5, SM3, SM2, SM1, SM4], as well as [SM7, Appendix].

Consider a *d*-dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(\Gamma, g_{\mathfrak{ab}})$ , where  $g_{\mathfrak{ab}}$  is the given metric tensor (discussed below) defined over a (reference) domain  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ . A point in *U* is denoted by  $(u^1, u^2, ..., u^d)$ ; in the special case of d = 2 that we are mainly concerned with, we may use  $(u, v) \in U$ . We refer to variables defined on *U* as *intrinsic* quantities. We keep track of upper and lower indices, where a lower index (subscript) is for *covariant* terms, and an upper index (superscript) is for *contravariant* terms.

The given metric  $g_{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}}$  is a symmetric, covariant tensor with component functions  $g_{\alpha\beta}: U \to \mathbb{R}$ , for  $1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq d$ , which we assume are at least  $C^1$ , and is uniformly positive definite. We write  $g := \det g_{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}}$  and the inverse metric tensor  $g^{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}}$  is contravariant with components denoted  $g^{\alpha\beta}$ , where  $g_{\alpha\gamma}g^{\gamma\beta} = \delta^{\beta}_{\alpha}$ . Note that  $v^{\mathfrak{a}}$  may be converted to  $v_{\mathfrak{b}}$  via  $v_{\beta} = g_{\beta\alpha}v^{\alpha}$ ; similarly,  $w_{\mathfrak{b}}$  may be converted to  $w^{\mathfrak{a}}$  by  $w^{\alpha} = g^{\alpha\beta}w_{\beta}$ . When convenient, we write  $g_{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}} \equiv g = [g_{\alpha\beta}]^2_{\alpha,\beta=1}$  and  $g^{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}} \equiv g^{-1} = [g^{\alpha\beta}]^2_{\alpha,\beta=1}$  in standard matrix notation for the metric and inverse metric, respectively.

The Christoffel symbols  $\Gamma_{ij}^k$  (of the second kind) are defined by

(SM1.1) 
$$\Gamma^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta} := \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\gamma} \left( \partial_{\alpha} g_{\beta\mu} + \partial_{\beta} g_{\mu\alpha} - \partial_{\mu} g_{\alpha\beta} \right), \quad 1 \le \alpha, \beta, \gamma \le 2,$$

where  $\Gamma^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta} = \Gamma^{\gamma}_{\beta\alpha}$ , [SM3, SM2]. With this, we recall the definition of covariant (contravariant) derivatives, denoted  $\nabla_{\alpha}$  ( $\nabla^{\alpha}$ ), where f is a scalar,  $v_{\mathfrak{b}}$  is a covariant vector, and  $v^{\mathfrak{c}}$  is a contravariant vector:

(SM1.2) 
$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\alpha}f &= \partial_{\alpha}f, \quad \nabla_{\alpha}\nabla_{\beta}f = \partial_{\alpha}\partial_{\beta}f - (\partial_{\gamma}f)\Gamma^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta}, \\ \nabla_{\alpha}v_{\beta} &= \partial_{\alpha}v_{\beta} - v_{\gamma}\Gamma^{\gamma}_{\beta\alpha}, \quad \nabla_{\alpha}v^{\gamma} = \partial_{\alpha}v^{\gamma} + v^{\beta}\Gamma^{\gamma}_{\beta\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

**SM2. Extrinsic Differential Geometry.** Suppose that the manifold  $\Gamma$  is embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with  $n \geq d$ , and that it is represented by a family of charts  $\{(U_i, \chi_i)\}$ , where a single chart consists of a pair  $(U, \chi)$ , with  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  (reference domain) and  $\chi : U \to \mathbb{R}^n$ , [SM3]. For simplicity of exposition, assume there is only one chart  $(U, \chi)$ , where  $\Gamma = \chi(U)$ . We refer to variables in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as *extrinsic* quantities.

For example,  $\boldsymbol{\chi} = (\chi^1, ..., \chi^n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\chi^i : U \to \mathbb{R}$  for each  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ . A point  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  has its *j*-th coordinate denoted by  $x^j$ . Moreover,  $\partial_k$  is the partial derivative with respect to coordinate  $x^k$ . Repeated indices are summed over. We typically bold-face extrinsic vectors and tensors, e.g. let  $\boldsymbol{w}$  be a 2-tensor in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with components  $w_{ij}$  for  $i, j \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ . The canonical (orthonormal) basis in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , is denoted by  $\{\mathbf{a}_k\}_{k=1}^n$ , where  $\mathbf{a}_1 = (1, 0, ..., 0)^T$  (column vector), etc. With the Kronecker delta  $\delta_j^i$ , we have the dual basis  $\{\mathbf{a}^k\}$  of  $\{\mathbf{a}_k\}$  by the formula  $\mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}^j = \delta_j^i$ .

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We now specialize to the case of a surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , i.e. d = 2, n = 3. The tangent space  $T_{\mathbf{x}}(\Gamma)$ , at a point  $\mathbf{x} \in \Gamma$ , is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2\}$  (the covariant basis) where

$$\mathbf{e}_{\alpha} = \partial_{\alpha} \boldsymbol{\chi}(u^1, u^2), \quad 1 \le \alpha \le 2, \quad \text{where } (u^1, u^2) = \boldsymbol{\chi}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}).$$

In this case, the metric tensor  $g_{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}}$  is given by  $g_{\alpha\beta} = \mathbf{e}_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{\beta}$ , for  $1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq 2$ . The contravariant tangent basis is given by  $\{\mathbf{e}^1, \mathbf{e}^2\}$ , where  $\mathbf{e}^{\beta} = \mathbf{e}_{\alpha}g^{\alpha\beta} = (\partial_{\alpha}\boldsymbol{\chi})g^{\alpha\beta}$ , [SM1]. Sometimes, we express  $g_{\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}} \equiv \boldsymbol{g} = \boldsymbol{J}^T \boldsymbol{J}$ , where  $\boldsymbol{J} = [\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2]$  is an  $3 \times 2$  matrix.

An alternative view of the tangent space is the following. Let  $\boldsymbol{\nu} : \Gamma \to \mathbb{R}^3$  be the surface unit normal vector of  $\Gamma$ , which satisfies  $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2$ . The tangent space projection  $\boldsymbol{P} : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ , defined on  $\Gamma$ , is given by

(SM2.1) 
$$\boldsymbol{P} = \boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{\nu} \otimes \boldsymbol{\nu} = \mathbf{e}_1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 \otimes \mathbf{e}_2,$$

and note that (in local coordinates)  $Jg^{-1}J^T = P \circ \chi$ , [SM6]. Thus, given a vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , it is in the tangent space  $T_{\mathbf{x}}(\Gamma)$  if there exists a (contravariant) vector  $v^{\mathfrak{a}}$  such that  $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) = v^{\alpha} \mathbf{e}_{\alpha} \circ \chi^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$ .

We define the tangent bundle:

$$T(\Gamma) = \{ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) \mid \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma, \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) \in T_{\mathbf{x}}(\Gamma) \},\$$

thus, we say  $\mathbf{v} \in T(\Gamma)$  if  $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) \in T_{\mathbf{x}}(\Gamma)$  for every  $\mathbf{x} \in \Gamma$ ; in this case, we write  $\mathbf{v} : \Gamma \to T(\Gamma)$ . We introduce extrinsic differential operators via their intrinsic counterpart, starting with the surface gradient  $\nabla_{\Gamma} f : \Gamma \to T(\Gamma)$  defined in local coordinates by

(SM2.2) 
$$(\nabla_{\Gamma} f) \circ \boldsymbol{\chi} = (\nabla_{\alpha} f) g^{\alpha\beta} \mathbf{e}_{\beta}^{T} = \partial_{\alpha} (f \circ \boldsymbol{\chi}) g^{\alpha\beta} (\partial_{\beta} \boldsymbol{\chi})^{T} \equiv \nabla (f \circ \boldsymbol{\chi}) \boldsymbol{g}^{-1} \boldsymbol{J}^{T},$$

for any differentiable function  $f: \Gamma \to \mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore, let  $\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}: \Gamma \to \Gamma$  be the identity map, i.e.  $\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma} = \chi \circ \chi^{-1}$ , or  $\mathbf{x} = \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x})$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Gamma$ . Then, defining

$$\nabla_{\Gamma} \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma} := [\nabla_{\Gamma} \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^1; \nabla_{\Gamma} \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^2; \nabla_{\Gamma} \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^3] \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3},$$

where  $\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma} = (\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^1, \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^2, \mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^3)$  (i.e.  $\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}^k$  is the *k*th component of  $\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma}$ ), it holds that  $\nabla_{\Gamma}\mathrm{id}_{\Gamma} = \boldsymbol{P}$ .

The (extrinsic) surface gradient, and surface divergence, of a tangential vector field  $\mathbf{v} \in T(\Gamma)$  is

$$\begin{split} \nabla_{\Gamma} \mathbf{v} \circ \boldsymbol{\chi} &:= \mathbf{e}_{\gamma} g^{\gamma \alpha} (\nabla_{\beta} v_{\alpha}) g^{\beta \mu} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}^{T} = \mathbf{e}_{\gamma} g^{\gamma \alpha} (\partial_{\beta} v_{\alpha} - v_{\omega} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\omega}) g^{\beta \mu} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}^{T} \\ (\nabla_{\Gamma} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \circ \boldsymbol{\chi} &:= \operatorname{tr} (\nabla_{\Gamma} \mathbf{v} \circ \boldsymbol{\chi}) = g^{\gamma \alpha} (\nabla_{\beta} v_{\alpha}) g^{\beta \mu} \mathbf{e}_{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{\gamma} \\ &= \nabla_{\beta} (g^{\gamma \alpha} v_{\alpha}) g^{\beta \mu} g_{\mu\gamma} = \delta_{\gamma}^{\beta} (\nabla_{\beta} v^{\gamma}) = \nabla_{\gamma} v^{\gamma}. \end{split}$$

The (extrinsic) surface Hessian of f is given by

(SM2.3) 
$$(\nabla_{\Gamma}\nabla_{\Gamma}f) \circ \boldsymbol{\chi} := \mathbf{e}_{\mu}g^{\mu\alpha}[\nabla_{\alpha}\nabla_{\beta}f]g^{\beta\rho}\mathbf{e}_{\rho}^{T}$$
$$= \mathbf{e}_{\mu}g^{\mu\alpha}[\partial_{\alpha}\partial_{\beta}(f\circ\boldsymbol{\chi}) - \partial_{\gamma}(f\circ\boldsymbol{\chi})\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}]g^{\beta\rho}\mathbf{e}_{\rho}^{T}.$$

Lastly, setting  $\nabla_{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\nu} := [\nabla_{\Gamma} \nu_1; \nabla_{\Gamma} \nu_2; \nabla_{\Gamma} \nu_3]$ , it can be shown that [SM6]:

(SM2.4) 
$$\nabla_{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\nu} = \kappa_1 \boldsymbol{d}_1 \otimes \boldsymbol{d}_1 + \kappa_2 \boldsymbol{d}_2 \otimes \boldsymbol{d}_2,$$

where  $\kappa_1$ ,  $\kappa_2$  are the principle curvatures of  $\Gamma$  and  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$  are the principle directions (which are tangent to  $\Gamma$ ). Thus,  $\nabla_{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\nu}$  is the (extrinsic) shape operator. **SM3.** Parametrization Via Curved Element Map. Recall  $\mathbf{F}_T^l: T^1 \to T^l$ from subsection 3.1. It is useful to consider this map as a parametrization of  $T^l$  in the following sense. Apply a rigid rotation of coordinates  $\mathbf{x}$  to  $\mathbf{x}'$  so that  $T^s \to T^{s'}$ (for any s) and  $T^{1'} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . In the rotated coordinates, we view  $\mathbf{F}_T^{l'}$  as a function of two variables, so that  $(T^{1'}, \mathbf{F}_T^{l'})$  is a local chart for  $T^{l'}$ . Next, let  $\mathbf{J}' = [\partial_1 \mathbf{F}_T^{l'}, \partial_2 \mathbf{F}_T^{l'}]$ be the  $3 \times 2$  Jacobian matrix with induced metric  $\mathbf{g}' = (\mathbf{J}')^T \mathbf{J}'$ . In addition, define the  $3 \times 2$  matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{\star}' = [\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2]$ , where  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\}$  are the canonical basis vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $(\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{\star}')^T \bar{\mathbf{P}}_{\star}' = \mathbf{I}_2$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{\star}'(\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{\star}')^T = \bar{\mathbf{P}}' := \mathbf{I}_3 - \bar{\nu}' \otimes \bar{\nu}'$ , where  $\bar{\nu}' \equiv \mathbf{a}_3$  is the unit normal of  $T^{1'}$ .

All results derived in the rotated coordinates can be mapped back to the original coordinates. For example, let  $\bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star} = [\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2]$ , where  $\mathbf{b}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_2$  are any two orthogonal unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  pointing in the plane of  $T^1$ , and note that  $\bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star}^T \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star} = \boldsymbol{I}_2$ , and  $\bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star} \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star}^T = \bar{\boldsymbol{P}} := \boldsymbol{I}_3 - \bar{\boldsymbol{\nu}} \otimes \bar{\boldsymbol{\nu}}$  (see (SM2.1)), where  $\bar{\boldsymbol{\nu}} = \mathbf{b}_1 \times \mathbf{b}_2$  is the unit normal of  $T^1$ . Then,  $\boldsymbol{J} = (\nabla_{T^1} \boldsymbol{F}_T^l) \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star}, \boldsymbol{g} = \boldsymbol{J}^T \boldsymbol{J}$ , and by (3.2),

$$\boldsymbol{J} - \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star}| = O(h), \quad \boldsymbol{g} = \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star}^{T} \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}^{T} \bar{\boldsymbol{P}} \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star} + O(h) = \boldsymbol{I}_{2} + O(h),$$

so  $\boldsymbol{g}$  is invertible for h sufficiently small. Note that, in terms of  $\boldsymbol{F}_T^l$ , the surface gradient (SM2.2) of  $f: T^l \to \mathbb{R}$  can be written as  $(\nabla_{T^l} f) \circ \boldsymbol{F}_T^l = (\nabla_{T^1} \bar{f}) \bar{\boldsymbol{P}}_{\star} \boldsymbol{g}^{-1} \boldsymbol{J}^T$ , where  $\bar{f} := f \circ \boldsymbol{F}_T^l$ .

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