# The Energy of a Hypersurface

#### Ayşe Altın\*

#### Abstract

In this paper, we compute the energy of a unit normal vector field on a hypersurface M in (n+1)-dimensional manifold  $\overline{M}$ . We show that the energy of a unit normal vector field may be expressed in terms of the principal curvatures functions of M. To this end we define the energy of the hypersurface.

*Keywords and Phrases* : Energy, Energy of a unit normal vector field, Energy of a Hypersurface, Sasaki metric.

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### 1 Introduction

In [1], we compute the energy of a Frenet vector field and the pseudo-angle between Frenet vectors for a given non-null curve C in semi Euclidien space of signature  $(n, \nu)$ . We observe that the energy and pseudo-angle may be expressed in terms of the curvature functions of C. In [2], we calculated the energy of a unit normal vector field on the surface M in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and we show that the energy may be expressed in terms of the Gaussian curvature, mean curvature and area of M. We achieved that energy of a unit normal vector field is invariant on the orthonormal basis of the tangent space of M. We will forget the constant term of area of M and we

define the energy of the surface. Using this definition we calculated the energy of a domain on surface.

In this paper, we compute the energy of a unit normal vector field on a hypersurface M in (n+1)-dimensional manifold  $\overline{M}$  with respect to the basis. We show that the energy of a unit normal vector field may be expressed in terms

<sup>\*</sup>Hacettepe University, Faculty of Science, Department of Mathematics, 06550 Beytepe Ankara Turkey.

Tel.:+90 0312 297 78 50; Fak: +90 0312 299 20 17.

 $E\text{-}mail\ address:\ ayse@hacettepe.edu.tr$ 

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of the principal curvatures functions of M. The principal curvatures functions on M are independent from the choice of the basis. To this end we define the energy of the hypersurface. Using this definition we calculated the energy of a hypersurface.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** Let (M, g) be a hypersurface of a (m + 1)-dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(\overline{M}, \overline{g})$  and  $\overline{\nabla}$  be the Levi-Civita connection on  $\overline{M}$  with respect to  $\overline{g}$ , let

$$A_N: \Gamma(TM) \to \Gamma(TM), \quad A_N(\zeta) = -\overline{\nabla}_{\zeta} N$$
 (1)

where N is a unit normal vector field on M and  $\Gamma(TM)$  is set of tangent vector fields.  $A_N$  is called Weingarter funtamental tenser.

If  $A_N = \lambda$  then M is called totally umbilical hypersurface where  $\lambda \in C^{\infty}(M; R)$ .

For a unit normal vector N of M at a point p,  $A_N$  is self-adjoint. Hence there exist orthonormal vectors  $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$  of M at p which are the eigenvectors of  $A_N$ , that is,

$$A_N e_i = k_i e_i \tag{2}$$

for real numbers  $k_i$ . We call the eigenvalues  $k_i$  are call the principal curvatures and the eigenvectors  $e_i$  the principal directions of M at p [5].

**Definition 2.2.** The energy of a differentiable map

 $f:(M,<,>)\to (N,h)$  between Riemannian manifolds is given by

$$\mathcal{E}(f) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} (\sum_{a=1}^{n} h(df(e_a), df(e_a)) \upsilon$$
(3)

where v is the canonical volume form in M and  $\{e_a\}$  is a local basis of the tangent space (see for example [3], [6]).

In [6], the energy of a unit vector field on a Riemannian manifold M is defined as the energy of the mapping  $X : M \to T^1M$ , where  $\pi : T^1M \to M$  is the bundle projection and the unit tangent bundle  $T^1M$  is equipped with the restriction of the Sasaki metric.

**Proposition 2.1.** The connection map  $K : T(T^1M) \to T^1M$  verifies the following conditions.

1)  $\pi \circ K = \pi \circ d\pi$  and  $\pi \circ K = \pi \circ \tilde{\pi}$ , where  $\tilde{\pi} : T(T^1M) \to T^1M$  is the tangent bundle projection.

2) For  $\omega \in T_x M$  and a section  $\xi : M \to T^1 M$ , we have

$$K(d\xi(\omega)) = \nabla_{\omega}\xi$$

where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita covariant derivative (see [4]).

**Definition 2.3.** For  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in T_{\xi}(T^1M)$  define

$$g_{\mathcal{S}}(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \langle d\pi(\eta_1), d\pi(\eta_2) \rangle + \langle K(\eta_1), K(\eta_2) \rangle.$$
(4)

This gives a Riemannian metric on TM. Recall that  $g_S$  is called the Sasaki metric. The metric  $g_s$  makes the projection  $\pi : T^1M \to M$  a Riemannian submersion (see [4]).

## 3 The energy of the unit normal vector field of a hypersurface

**Theorem 3.1.** Let (M, <, >) be a hypersurface of a (n + 1)-dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(\overline{M}, <, >)$  and  $\overline{\nabla}$  be the Levi-Civita connection on  $\overline{M}$ . Let N be unit normal vector field of M. Then we have the energy of N.

$$\mathcal{E}(N) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} (a_{ij}^2) \upsilon + \frac{n}{2} V(M)$$

where  $a_{ij}$  are real-valued functions v is the volume form in M, V(M) is volum of M.

**Proof.** Let  $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$  be an local orthonormal basis of the tangent space, N be unit normal vector field of M and NM be normal bundle. Thus we have  $N : (M, <, >) \to (NM, g_S)$  where  $NM = \bigcup_{p \in M} N_p M$ ,  $N_p M$  denotes generated by N and  $g_S$  is the restriction of the Sasaki metric on the tangent bundle TM.

Now, let  $\pi : NM \to M$  be the bundle projection and the Levi-Civita connection map  $K : T(NM) \to NM$ . By using equation (3) we obtain the energy of N is

$$\mathcal{E}(N) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} g_{\mathcal{S}}(dN(e_i), dN(e_i)) \right) \upsilon.$$
(5)

From (4) we get

$$g_{\mathcal{S}}(dN(e_i), dN(e_i)) = < d\pi(dN(e_i)), d\pi(dN(e_i)) > + < K(dN(e_i)), K(dN(e_i)) > + < K(dN(e_i))$$

Since N is a section we have  $d(\pi) \circ d(N) = d(\pi \circ N) = d(id_M) = id_{TM}$ . By Proposition 2.1, we also have that  $K(dN(e_i)) = \overline{\nabla}_{e_i}N$ , giving

$$g_{\mathcal{S}}(dN(e_i), dN(e_i)) = \langle e_i, e_i \rangle + \langle \overline{\nabla}_{e_i} N, \overline{\nabla}_{e_i} N \rangle \rangle$$

For hypersurface  $\overline{\nabla}_{e_i} N = -A_N e_i, \forall p \in M$ , because of (1), we get,

$$g_{\mathcal{S}}(dN(e_i), dN(e_i)) = \langle e_i, e_i \rangle + \langle A_N e_i, A_N e_i \rangle.$$

Using these results in (5) we get

$$\mathcal{E}(N) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle A_{N}e_{i}, A_{N}e_{i} \rangle \upsilon + \frac{n}{2} V(M).$$
(6)

On the other hand, since  $A_N e_i \in \Gamma(TM)$  we have that

$$A_N e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} e_j$$

where  $a_{ij}$  are real-valued functions and  $\langle A_N e_i, A_N e_i \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}^2$ From (6) we get,

$$\mathcal{E}(N) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} (\sum_{i,j=1}^{n} a_{ij}^{2}) \upsilon + \frac{n}{2} V(M).$$

**Corollary 3.1.** If  $k_1, ..., k_n$  are principal curvatures functions on M, then we have

$$\mathcal{E}(N) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \sum_{j=1}^{n} k_j^2 \upsilon + \frac{n}{2} V(M).$$

**Proof.** Using equations (2) in (6), we obtain result.

The principal curvatures functions on M are independent from the choice of the basis  $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$ , therefore the energy of a unit normal vector field invariant on the each orthonormal basis of the tangent space of M. We may ignore the constant term of V(M) and we can give the following definition.

**Definition 3.1.** The integral

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_M\sum_{j=1}^nk_j^2\upsilon$$

is called the energy of surface M or the integral

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_M \sum_{i=1}^n \langle A_N e_i, A_N e_i \rangle \upsilon$$

is called the energy of surface M with respect to the basis  $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$  and is denoted by  $\mathcal{E}(M)$ .

**Example 1.** Energy of hyperplain in Euclidian space is zero.

**Example 2.**Let  $M = S_r^n = \{(x_1, ..., x_{n+1}) : \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i^2 = r^2, \}$  be the Hypershape in (n + 1)- dimensional Euclidian space and N be unit normal vector field of M then

$$A_N X = -\frac{1}{r} X$$
, for any  $X \in \Gamma(TM)$ .

Using equation (5) we obtain the energy of M is

$$\mathcal{E}(M) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle A_{N} e_{i}, A_{N} e_{i} \rangle \psi = \frac{n}{2r^{2}} V(M).$$

**Example 3.** Let M be the totally umbilical hypersurface and N be unit normal vector field of M then  $A_N = \lambda$  and

$$\mathcal{E}(M) = \frac{n}{2} \int_M \lambda^2 \upsilon.$$

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