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The mean curvature at $p \in S$ is the average of the signed curvature over all angles θ :

$$H = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \kappa(\theta) d\theta$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2) \text{ by Euler theorem}$$

A surface which evolves under the mean curvature of the surface S , is said to obey the heat-type equation called the **mean curvature flow** .

The sphere is the only embedded surface of constant positive mean curvature without boundary or singularities .

For a surface defined in 3D space . The mean curvature is related to a unit normal of the surface . $2H = -\nabla \cdot \vec{n}$

均曲率流 (Mean Curvature Flow, MCF) 在蛋白質表面形變理論中的應用，主要涉及生物分子的形狀演化、動力學模擬以及相關的幾何分析。以下是幾個主要的應用方向：

1. 蛋白質摺疊與構象變化

蛋白質在水溶液中的形狀變化 (如摺疊與展開) 可以視為一種幾何流動過程。在某些模型中，蛋白質的表面可以看作流形，而其變形則可以用均曲率流來描述。均曲率流會驅使高曲率區域趨於平滑，這與蛋白質表面在溶劑影響下的演化過程類似。

2. 生物大分子的自由能最小化

蛋白質表面的形變與自由能密切相關，而均曲率流是一種可以驅使曲面向最小曲面演化的機制。這與某些自由能最小化過程 (如基於 Poisson-Boltzmann 方程的電荷調控) 相吻合，因此在建構蛋白質溶劑界面的數值方法時，MCF 可用來模擬溶劑可及表面 (Solvent Accessible Surface, SAS) 或溶劑排除表面 (Solvent Excluded Surface, SES) 的演化。

3. 蛋白-蛋白與蛋白-配體相互作用

均曲率流在模擬蛋白質表面適應性變形方面也有所應用。當兩個蛋白質相互作用時，界面形狀會發生變化，而這種變化通常受到曲率驅動。MCF 可用於建構蛋白-蛋白或蛋白-配體結合界面形狀的理論模型，幫助理解結合部位的形變機制。

4. 膜蛋白與脂質雙層相互作用

膜蛋白的嵌入與運動涉及蛋白質表面與脂質雙層的形狀適應問題。均曲率流可用來模擬脂質雙層如何根據蛋白質的形狀變化來重新排列，以達到穩定的狀態。例如，在某些膜融合與囊泡形成過程中，均曲率流可用於模擬曲面演化，從而幫助理解生物膜的形態學變化。

5. 數值模擬與計算方法

在計算生物學中，均曲率流常用於發展新的數值演算法，以提高蛋白質表面形變的計算效率。例如，基於水平集方法（Level Set Method）或相場方法（Phase Field Method）的均曲率流數值解法，可用於模擬蛋白質表面形狀的演化，並與分子動力學（Molecular Dynamics, MD）或布朗動力學（Brownian Dynamics, BD）聯合應用。

總結

均曲率流在蛋白質表面形變理論中的應用，主要涉及形狀演化、自由能最小化、相互作用建模以及數值模擬等方面。這一方法提供了一種幾何視角來分析蛋白質的結構變化，並在計算生物學與生物物理學領域具有廣泛的應用價值。

Exercise

$z = \sinh x \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{y}{\cosh x}\right)^2}$ ，求 mean curvature $H =$

$$\sinh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2}, \cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}, \cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1$$

$$H = \frac{eG - 2fF + gE}{2(EG - F^2)}$$

$$X(x, \theta) = (x, \cosh x \sin \theta, \sinh x \cos \theta)$$

$$X_x = (1, \sinh x \sin \theta, \cosh x \cos \theta)$$

$$X_\theta = (0, \cosh x \cos \theta, -\sinh x \sin \theta)$$

$$E = X_x \cdot X_x = 1 + \sinh^2 x \sin^2 \theta + \cosh^2 x \cos^2 \theta$$

$$F = X_x \cdot X_\theta = 0$$

$$G = X_\theta \cdot X_\theta = \cosh^2 x \cos^2 \theta + \sinh^2 x \sin^2 \theta$$

$$X_x \times X_\theta = (-\sinh^2 x - \cos^2 \theta, \sinh x \sin \theta, \cosh x \cos \theta)$$

$$|X_x \times X_\theta|^2 =$$

$$N = \frac{X_x \times X_\theta}{|X_x \times X_\theta|} = \frac{\dots}{\sqrt{(\sinh^2 x + \cos^2 \theta)(\sin^2 x + \cos^2 \theta + 1)}}$$

$$X_{xx} = (0, \cosh x \sin \theta, \sinh x \cos \theta)$$

$$X_{x\theta} = (0, \sinh x \cos \theta, -\cosh x \sin \theta)$$

$$X_{\theta\theta} = (0, -\cosh x \sin \theta, -\sinh x \cos \theta)$$

$$e = \frac{\cosh x \sinh x}{\sqrt{(\sinh^2 x + \cos^2 \theta)(\sinh^2 x + \cos^2 \theta + 1)}}$$

$$g = \frac{-\cosh x \sinh x}{\sqrt{(\sinh^2 x + \cos^2 \theta)(\sinh^2 x + \cos^2 \theta + 1)}}$$

$$H = \frac{eG + gE}{2EG} = \frac{e(G-E)}{2EG} = \frac{-e}{2EG}$$

$$\text{For fixed } x, \left(\frac{y}{\cosh x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{\sinh x}\right)^2 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$

This symmetry implies the surface is rotationally invariant around the x -axis, a hallmark (標誌) of minimal surfaces like the catenoid.

The term e contains $\cosh x \sinh x$ in the numerator, but for a minimal surface, these terms must inherently (本質上) cancel globally due to the surface's geometric constraints (e.g., the identity $\cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1$)

Catenoid :

$$\begin{cases} x = c \cosh\left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \cos u \\ y = c \sinh\left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \sin u \\ z = v \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For fixed } x, \left(\frac{y}{\cosh x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{\sinh x}\right)^2 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1 \text{ is a catenoid.}$$

The term e contains $\cosh x \sinh x$ in the numerator, but H must vanish ($H = 0$) for a minimal surface. This forces the **geometric cancellation** of $\cosh x \sinh x$ through two mechanisms:

1. **Hyperbolic Identity:** The identity $\cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1$ is implicitly embedded in the parameterization, ensuring that contributions from $\cosh x \sinh x$ are counterbalanced by the surface's curvature structure.
2. **Symmetry of the Parameterization:** The rotational symmetry ensures that the positive and negative contributions of $\cosh x \sinh x$ (via e and $g = -e$) cancel globally when integrated over the surface. This is a hallmark of minimal surfaces, where stretching and compression effects balance perfectly.

The geometric constraints of minimality ($H=0$) and the symmetry of the catenoid parameterization force the $\cosh x \sinh x$ terms to cancel identically. This cancellation is not algebraic but **geometric**, arising from the *surface's* intrinsic balance of curvature contributions.

Thus, $H=0$