spherical images equal to k1, k2, ..., kn. with the area of the spherical image equal to  $k_1 + k_2 + ... + k_n$  and so situated that any perpendicular to T either has no points in common with V, or its whole semi-line lies within it. There exists then an infinite convex polyhedron with n vertices projecting into A1, A2, ..., An and having the areas of their way that  $k_1 + k_2 + ... + k_n \leq 2\pi$ . Let, further, a polyhedral angle  $V^*$  be given

Q consisting of complexes of positive numbers  $k_1, k_2, ..., k_n$  such that their sum is equal to the area of the spherical image of V. We have a natural mapping of P, into Q and by means of Brower's theorem of invariance of projections of the others are  $A_1, \ldots, A_n$ , and the (n-1)-dimensional manifold We take the (n-1)-dimensional manifold P consisting of all convex polyhedrons with a given limit cone V, one of the vertices of which is  $A_1$  and the

the domain we prove that it is a mapping of P onto Q.

The theorem, being proved for the case of polyhedrons, can be extended on the case of surfaces by means of a limit process, for which the following lemma

If the sequence of ICCS's  $F_i$  converges to F, then  $k_i(E)$ , the corresponding integral curvatures reduced to T, weakly converge to k(E), the integral curvatures reduced to T. function f(x) on Tvature of F reduced to T; in other words, for any bounded continuous

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \int_{T} f(x) k_i (dE) = \int_{T} f(x) k (dE).$$

Stekloff Mathematical Institute. Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Received 8.IV.1942.

## REFERENCES

----

<sup>1</sup> А. Александров, Ученые ваписки Лепингр. ун-та, серия математ. наук, 87, вып. 6 (1939). <sup>2</sup> А. Аlexandroll, Bull. Acad. Sci. URSS, serie mathém., No. 3 (1939).

Comptes Rendus (Doklady) de l'Académie des Sciences de l'URSS 1942. Volume XXXV, M 5

MATHEM ATICS

## EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS OF A CONVEX SURFACE WITH A GIVEN INTEGRAL CURVATURE

## By A. ALEXANDROFF

(Communicated by S. L. Soboless, Member of the Academy, 8.IV.1942)

of the convex surface (1).
Our purpose will be 1°, to obtain necessary and sufficient conditions for of the end-points of the normals, the latter being considered as the radii of a fixed unit sphere, is called the spherical image of E, and its area, the integral curvature of E. It is easy to see that the integral curvature is a nonnegative completely additive set function defined on the totality of all Borel at every point of E and the outer normals to these supporting planes. The set (finite or infinite). Let E be a subset of F. Consider the supporting planes to FLet P be a convex surface, i. e. a domain on the boundary of a convex body

of sets. The statements and proofs of the following theorems are given for the three-dimensional space; they hold, however, for n-dimensional space systems of sels and therefore cannot be compared. To avoid this difficulty we must define the integral curvature of the surfaces on one and the same system nal space instead of 4 π and 2 π. surfaces will be studied separately. Our problem is yet quite indefinite, surfaces, i. e. complete boundaries of convex bodies; closed and open infinite to find out in how far the convex surface is determined by its integral curva-ture considered as a set function. We shall investigate only complete convex a set function to represent the integral curvature of a convex surface, and 2°. must take the areas of the unit sphere and the semi-sphere in the n-dimensio- $(n \ge 2)$ . The only difference between our case and the general one is that one since the integral curvatures of different surfaces are defined on different

such that O be within F. The projection from the centre O determines a homeomorphism between F and S. If  $E_F$  and  $E_S$  are subsets of F and S, respecti-Consider a unit sphere S with centre O and a closed convex surface F

vely, corresponding to each other under this homeomorphism, then, assigning to Es the value of the integral curvature of the set  $E_F$ , we obtain a function defined on the subsets of S. We call this function the integral curvature of the set  $E_F$ , we obtain a function Theorem 1. In order that a non-negative completely additive set function k(E) defined on the Borel sets of the sphere S be the integral curvature reduced to S of a closed convex surface, it is necessary and sufficient that:

1)  $k(S) = 4\pi$ , 2) for any convex subset E of S  $k(E) < 4\pi$ — $\Phi$ , where  $\Phi$  is the area of the spherical image of the cone projecting E from the centre of S.

This theorem has already been proved by the author (2). The necessity of the above conditions being evident, it is, properly speaking, a theorem of existence of a surface with a given integral curvature. The corresponding theorem of uniqueness can be formulated as follows:

lying within each of them. Suppose that for every pair of Borel sets on F, and F, corresponding to each other when projected from O, the areas of their spherical images are equal. Then F, and F, are similar, O being the centre of similitude. Proof. Let F, F, and O have the meaning just defined. The points ying on the same ray drawn out of O we shall call corresponding points. It is easy to prove that if the tangents to F, and F, at any corresponding points of smoothness\* of F, and F, are parallel, then F, and F, are similar, Theorem 2. Let F, and F, be closed convex surfaces and O a point

O being the centre of similitude \*\*

Assume now that the tangent planes to  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  at the respective points of smoothness  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are not parallel. By means of a transformation of similitude of  $F_2$  with a centre O we make point  $x_2$  coincide with  $x_1$ . The transformed surface will also be denoted by  $F_2$ . The identity of areas of transformed surface will also be denoted by dently invariant under this transformation. the spherical images of the corresponding subsets of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  is evi-

 $F_1$  and  $F_2$  intersect now at the point  $x=x_1=x_2$ . Let  $F_{11}$  be the part of  $F_1$  lying outside  $F_2$ ;  $F_{21}$ , the respective part of  $F_2$ ;  $F_{12}$ , the part of  $F_3$  lying within  $F_3$ ;  $F_4$ : the respective part of  $F_4$  lying outside  $F_4$ ; and finally, let  $F_{13}=F_{21}$ 

be the common part of F1 and Fr

Denote by  $\omega$  (E) the spherical image of the set E. We shall prove that for a given situation of the surfaces  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  the area of  $\omega$  ( $F_{21}$ ) is less than that of  $\omega$  ( $F_{11}$ ). According to the conditions imposed, these areas must be equal. This contradiction will lead to the proof of our theorem.

1)  $\omega(F_1) \supset \omega(F_2)$ . In fact, the supporting plane cuts off, at every point of  $F_{21}$ , a convex piece of  $F_{11}$  at the «summit» of which the supporting plane is

parallel to the given one.

2)  $F_{12} + F_{13}$  and  $F_{21} + F_{23}$  are closed, consequently  $\omega(F_{13}$  and  $F_{14})$  and  $\omega(F_{21} + F_{23})$  are closed, too;  $\Omega - \omega(F_{13} + F_{13})$  and  $\Omega - \omega(F_{21} + F_{23})$ , where  $\Omega$  is the whole sphere, are open. At the same time

$$\Omega - \omega(F_{11} + F_{11}) \supset \omega(F_{11})$$

$$[\Omega - \omega(F_{21} + F_{23})] \omega(F_{21}) = 0.$$
Thus, the set
$$\omega = [\Omega - \omega(F_{12} + F_{13})] [\Omega - \omega(F_{21} + F_{23})]$$

is open, contained in  $\omega(F_{11})$  and not intersecting  $\omega(F_{11})$ .

The plane P cuts off two pieces of  $F_{11}$  and  $F_{21}$  at the «summits» of which the supporting planes are parallel to P. The spherical image of these supporting planes belongs neither to  $\omega$  ( $F_{12}+F_{12}$ ) nor to  $\omega$  ( $F_{21}+F_{22}$ )\*\*\*. Consequently, it belongs to  $\omega$ , q. e. d. to P be the bisector of the angle formed by the outer normals to P, and P.J. tangent planes  $P_1$ ,  $P_1$  to  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  at the point  $x=x_1=x_2$  (so that the normal fices to show that wis not void. Let us draw the bisector plane P between the 3) In order to prove that the area of  $\omega$   $(F_{11})$  exceeds that of  $\omega$   $(F_{21})$  it suf-

planes and regions bounded by parallel straight lines, which should be considered as limit cases of cylinders. Such domains are limit cases of ICCS's. In the sequel the term ICCS will be understood to have these qualifications. refer to this class the rays and the infinite plane domains, except semitheir integral curvature being zero, are of no interest). At the same time we ICCS's. In what follows we exclude cylinders from the class of ICCS's (which, We shall now turn to infinite complete convex surfaces, abbreviated:

normal to T with a body bounded by F (including F) is either void, or is a semi-line. Consider the orthogonal projection of F onto T. Let  $E_T$  be a Borel set on T, and  $E_F$ —its complete  $\varphi$ —original, which is a Borel set, too. Assigning to  $E_T$  the value of the integral curvature of the set  $E_F^*$ , we define a set function on T and call it the integral curvature of F reduced to the plane T. It is Let F be an ICCS and T a plane situated so that the intersection of any

non-negative, completely additive and defined on all Borel sets of T. Theorem 3. A non-negative completely additive set function k(E) defined on all Borel sets of the plane T is an integral curvature reduced to T of an ICCS if and only if its value for the whole plane T is positive and does not exceed  $2\pi$ , i. e.  $0 < k(T) \le 2\pi$ .

set of the sphere and, consequently, contained in the closed semi-sphere, so that its area does not exceed  $2\pi$ . The necessity of the condition is thus introducing the following new notion: established. As to the sufficiency, we can obtain a more precise result by It is easy to prove that the spherical image of every ICCS is a convex sub-

The convex cone, whose spherical image coincides with the closure of the spherical image of the ICCS F, will be called the limit cone of F. The limit cone of an ICCS always exists, in virtue of the convexity of the latter. It can parallel to the supporting planes to F and passing through a fixed point. be represented as the intersection of semi-spaces bounded by the planes

The ore m4. Let k(E) be a non-negative completely additive set function defined on Borel sets of the plane T and such that  $k(T) \leq 2\pi$ . Let, further, V be a convex cone\*\*, the area of the spherical image of which is equal to k(T), situated so that any perpendicular to T either has no points in common with T or its whole semi-line lies within T. There exists then a unique (up to a translation in the direction normal to T) ICCS such that k(T) is its integral curvature reduced to T and V is its limit cone.

necessarily coincide there can present certain difficulties; this does not affect the areas, since  $\omega(F_1)$  and  $\omega(F_2)$  are convex and their closures coincide. As to the existence of ICCS's stated in the theorem, it can be proved essenbe considered as a transformation of similitude with the centre at infinity); (2) the various parts of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  ( $F_{11}$ ,  $F_{12}$  a. o.) may be infinite; (3) the spherical images of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  should be considered up to the points belonging to their common boundary\*\*\*, because the fact that they do not except that (1) the transformation of similitude must now be replaced by the translation in the direction perpendicular to T (which, of course, may The required uniqueness may be proved in the same way as Theorem 2,

shall first prove existence theorem for the case of polyhedrons. tially in the same way as Theorem 1: supposing the uniqueness to have been established and applying the principle of invariance of the domain, we

Suppose that a positive number  $k_1$  is assigned to each of these points  $A_i$  in such Theorem 5. Let n points  $A_1, A_2, ..., A_n$  in the plane T be given.

direction of the intersection line of planes  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . smoothness. gent plane.

\*\* It suffices to remark that almost every point of a convex surface is a point of \*\*\* It is quite evident, if we consider the projections of F1, F2, P1, P2 and P in the \* Point of smoothness of the surface is such a point at which there exists a tan-

<sup>\*</sup> If  $E_F$  is void, then the corresponding value of the integral curvature is zero. \*\* Rays and convex plane angles are also considered as convex cones. \*\*\* •  $(F_1)$  and •  $(F_2)$  have the common boundary, since they are convex and their closures coincide with the spherical image of the limit cone F of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ .