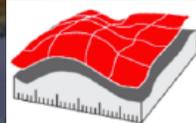


A New Analytic Framework and Notebook for Terrain Analysis

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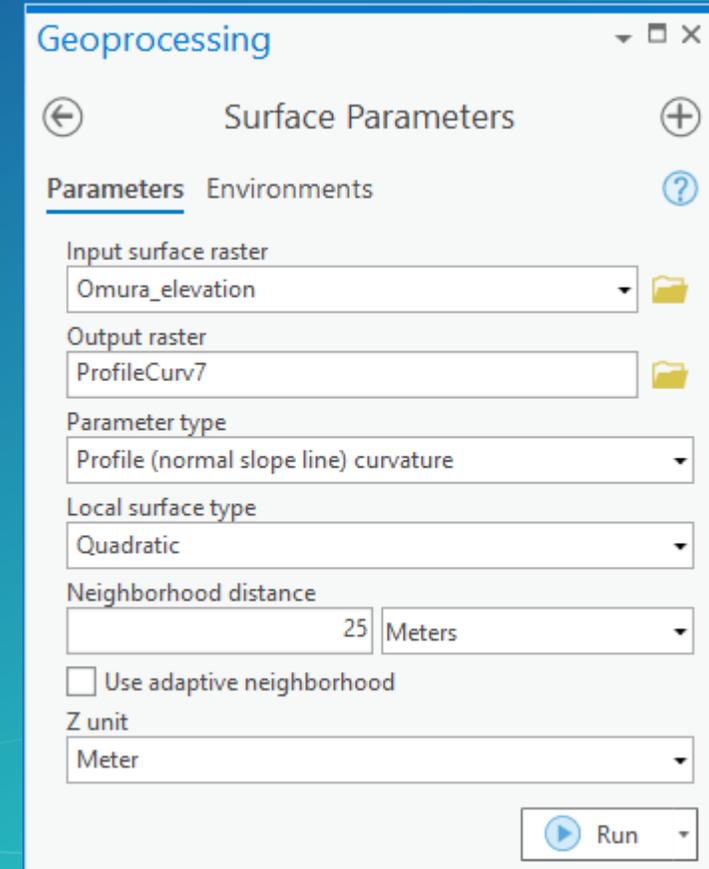
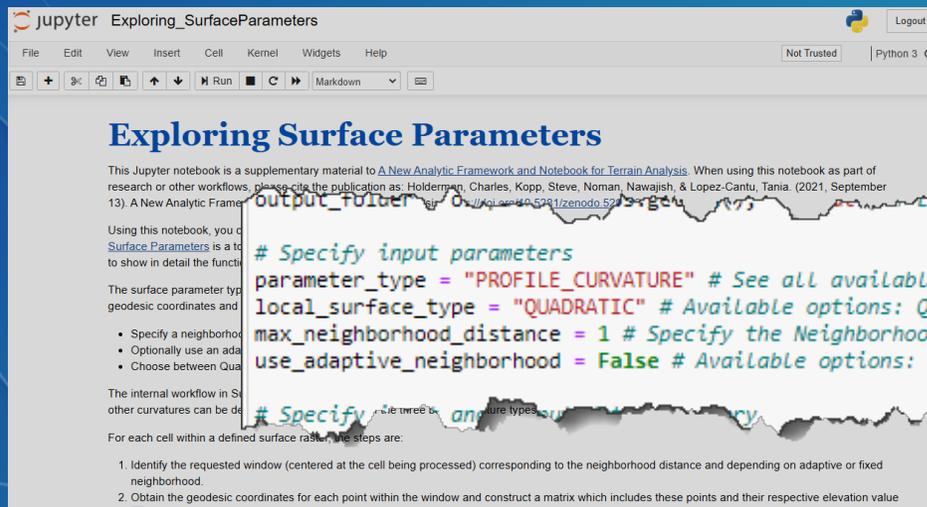
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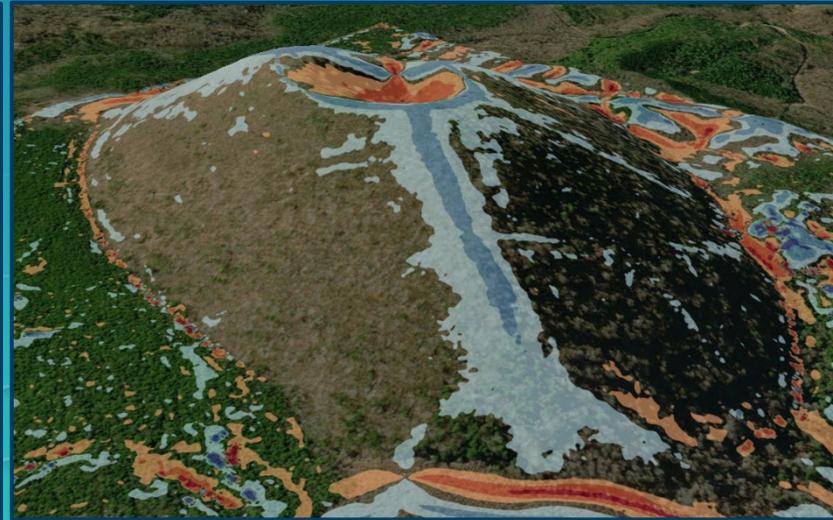
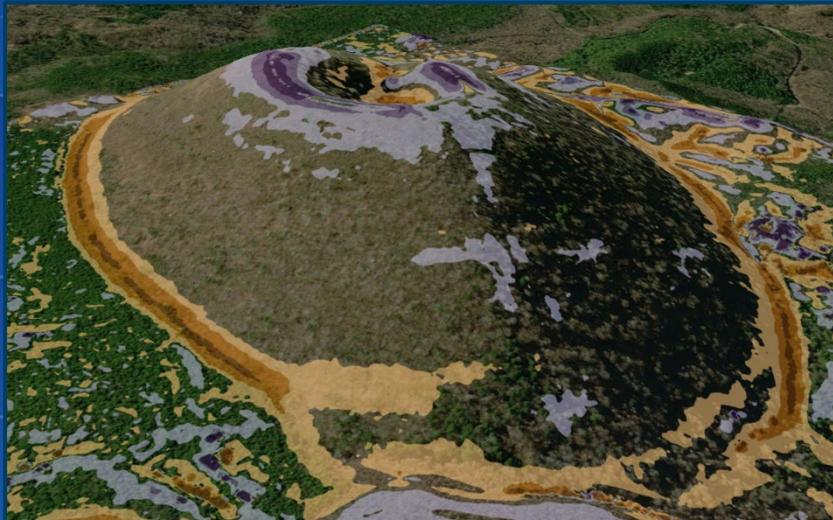
A Single Tool and Companion Jupyter Notebook

- Many terrain analysis metrics in a single ArcGIS tool
 - Easy to find many terrain metric
 - Easy to re-run with similar options
 - Easy to add new terrain metrics
- Notebook to show how it works
 - Modify and experiment with our settings
 - Add your own new metrics reusing our framework



Topics Addressed

- Remove map projection distortion
- Surface fitting options to improve results from noisy high resolution DEMs
- Neighborhood window size appropriate for DEM resolution
- Support for spatial scaling
- Clarity of curvature names and formulas

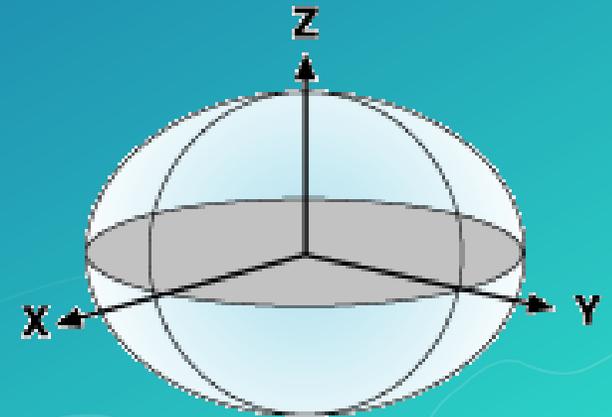


No Map Projection Distortion

- All calculations in the ArcGIS Surface Parameters tool and in the notebook are geodesic.
- Coordinate system of input data does not matter (spherical or planar).
- Eliminates map projection distortion of distances and angles.

```
# Find geodesic distance and geodesic angle of all cell centers from window center
for i in range(len(x_values)):
    x_any = x_values[i]
    y_any = y_values[i]
    pnt_window_any = arcpy.PointGeometry(arcpy.Point(x_any,y_any), sr)
    geodesic_angle, geodesic_distance = pnt_window_center.angleAndDistanceTo(pnt_window_any, "GEODESIC")

# Convert angles from North (0 degrees starts from) to East, counterclockwise
if (geodesic_angle < 0): #2nd and 3rd quadrant
    geodesic_angle_from_east = 90 + math.fabs(geodesic_angle)
elif (geodesic_angle >= 0) and (geodesic_angle < 90): #1st quadrant
    geodesic_angle_from_east = 90 - geodesic_angle
elif (geodesic_angle >= 90) and (geodesic_angle <= 180): #4th quadrant
```



Surface Fitting options

- **QUADRATIC** (default)
aka second order polynomial

$$z = f(x, y) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2y + a_3xy + a_4x^2 + a_5y^2$$

- **BIQUADRATIC**
aka fourth order polynomial
aka partial quartic

$$z = f(x, y) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2y + a_3xy + a_4x^2 + a_5y^2 + a_6x^2y + a_7y^2 + a_8y^2x^2$$

```
if surface_type == 'QUADRATIC':
    # unpack float coefficients
    a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5 = coefficients

    # compute first order derivatives of function
    fx = 0 + a_1 + 0 + a_3*y + 2*a_4*x + 0
    fy = 0 + 0 + a_2 + a_3*x + 0 + 2*a_5*y

    # compute second order derivatives of function
    fxx = 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 2*a_4 + 0
    fyy = 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 2*a_5
    fxy = 0 + 0 + 0 + a_3 + 0 + 0

elif surface_type == "BIQUADRATIC":
    # unpack float coefficients
    a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7, a_8 = coefficients

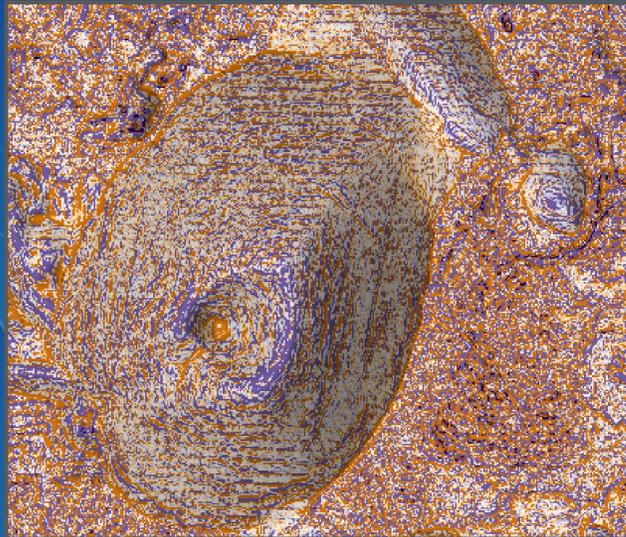
    # compute first order derivatives of function
    fx = 0 + a_1 + 0 + a_3*y + 2*a_4*x + 2*a_6*y*x + a_7*(y**2) + 2*a_8*(y**2)*x
    fy = 0 + a_2 + a_3*x + 0 + 2*a_5*y + a_6*(x**2) + 2*a_7*y*x + 2*a_8*y*(x**2)

    # compute second order derivatives of function
    fxx = 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 2*a_4 + 0 + 2*a_6*y + 2*a_8*(y**2)
    fyy = 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 2*a_5 + 2*a_7*x + 2*a_8*(x**2)
    fxy = 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + a_3 + 2*a_6*x + 2*a_7*y + 4*a_8*y*x

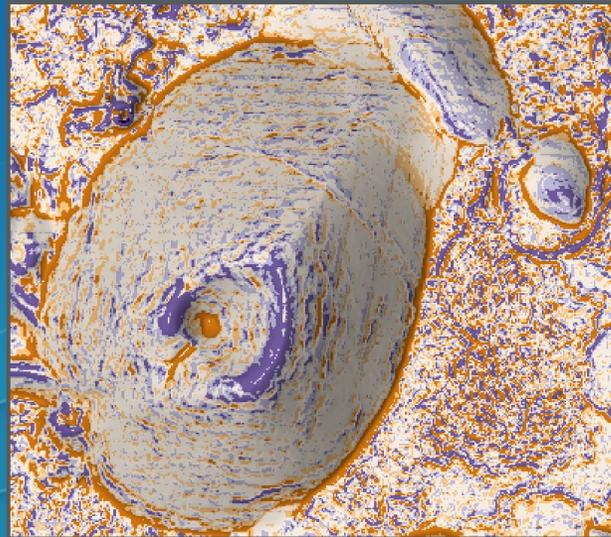
return np.array([fx, fy, fxx, fyy, fxy])
```

User Specified Neighborhood Window

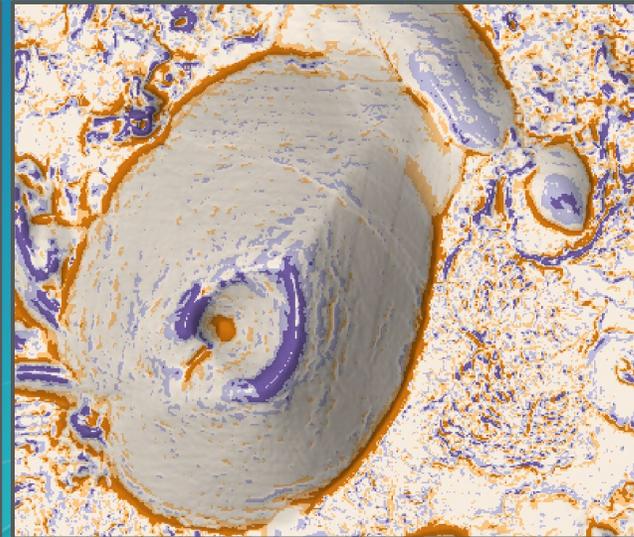
- Specify a window size that matches the cellsize of your elevation and the size of landscape features of interest.
- Run multiple times with different window sizes for multiscale analysis
- The neighborhood window is square, in odd intervals; 3x3, 5x5, etc.



3x3



9x9



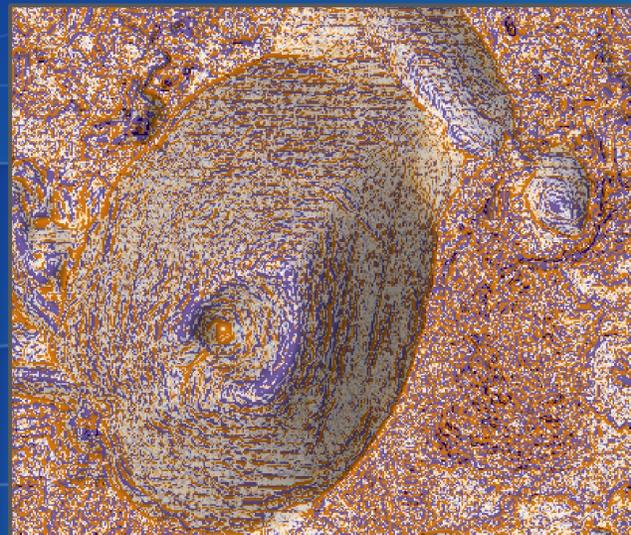
15x15

Optional Adaptive Neighborhood Window

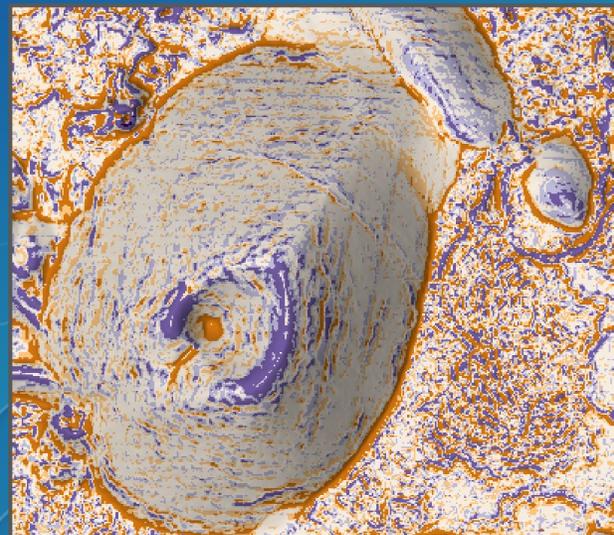
Auto adapts from 3x3 to user specific maximum

- Evaluates surface complexity for each cell at progressively smaller window sizes until a threshold is met.
- Uses deviation from mean elevation.
- Follows approach of *James et al., 2014*

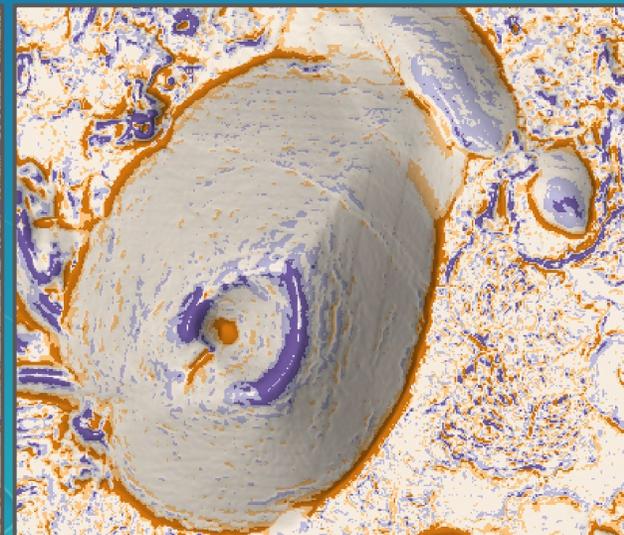
$$\text{DEV} = \frac{z_0 - \bar{z}}{\text{SD}}$$



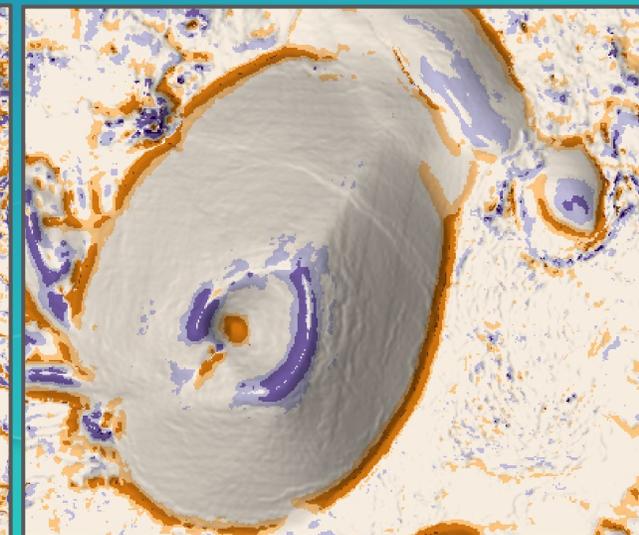
3x3



9x9



15x15



15x15 to 3x3 Adaptive

New Geometric Curvatures

- Following naming system of:
Minár, Evans, and Jenčo 2020

Contour (projected contour) curvature

Profile (normal slope line) curvature

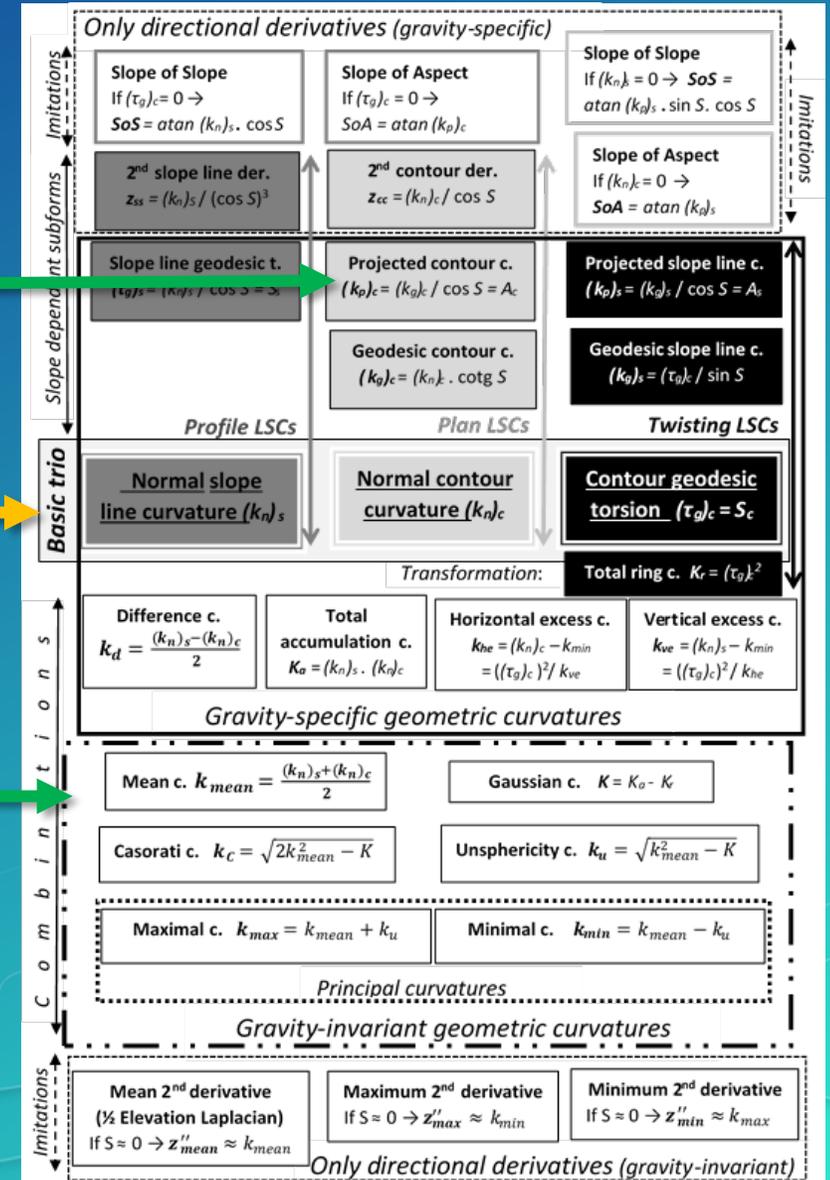
Tangential (normal contour) curvature

Contour geodesic torsion curvature

Mean curvature

Gaussian curvature

Casorati curvature



New Geometric Curvatures

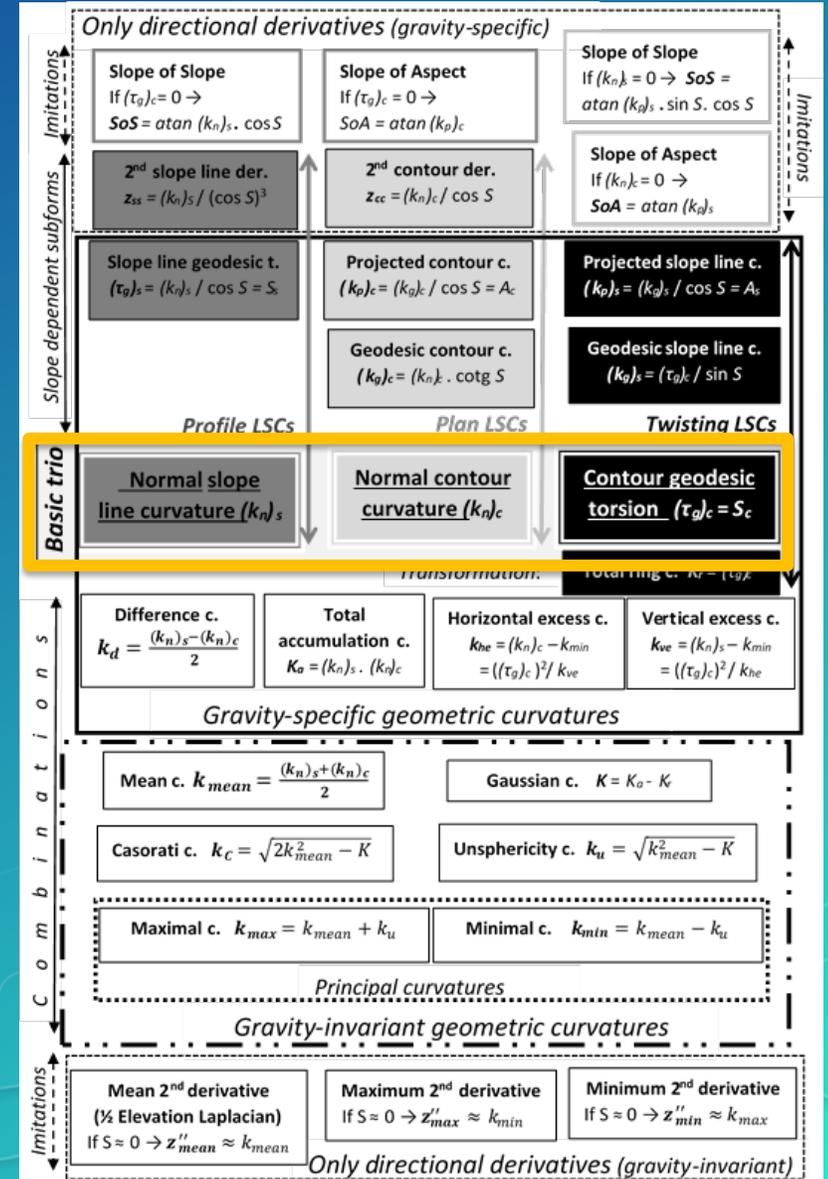
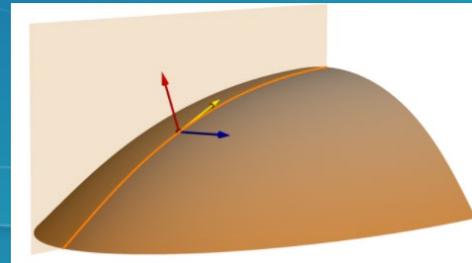
- Notebook computes “Basic Trio” from derivatives

Profile (normal slope line) curvature

```

if parameter_type == "PROFILE_CURVATURE":
    return (-(fxx*(fx**2) + 2*fxy*fx*fy + fyy*(fy**2))
           ) /
           (((fx**2 + fy**2)*((fx**2 + fy**2 + 1)**(3/2))))
    
```

$$K_P = \frac{f_{xx}f_x^2 + 2f_{xy}f_xf_y + f_{yy}f_y^2}{(f_x^2 + f_y^2)(f_x^2 + f_y^2 + 1)^{3/2}}$$



New Geometric Curvatures

- Additional curvatures computed with simple math using the “Basic trio” and slope

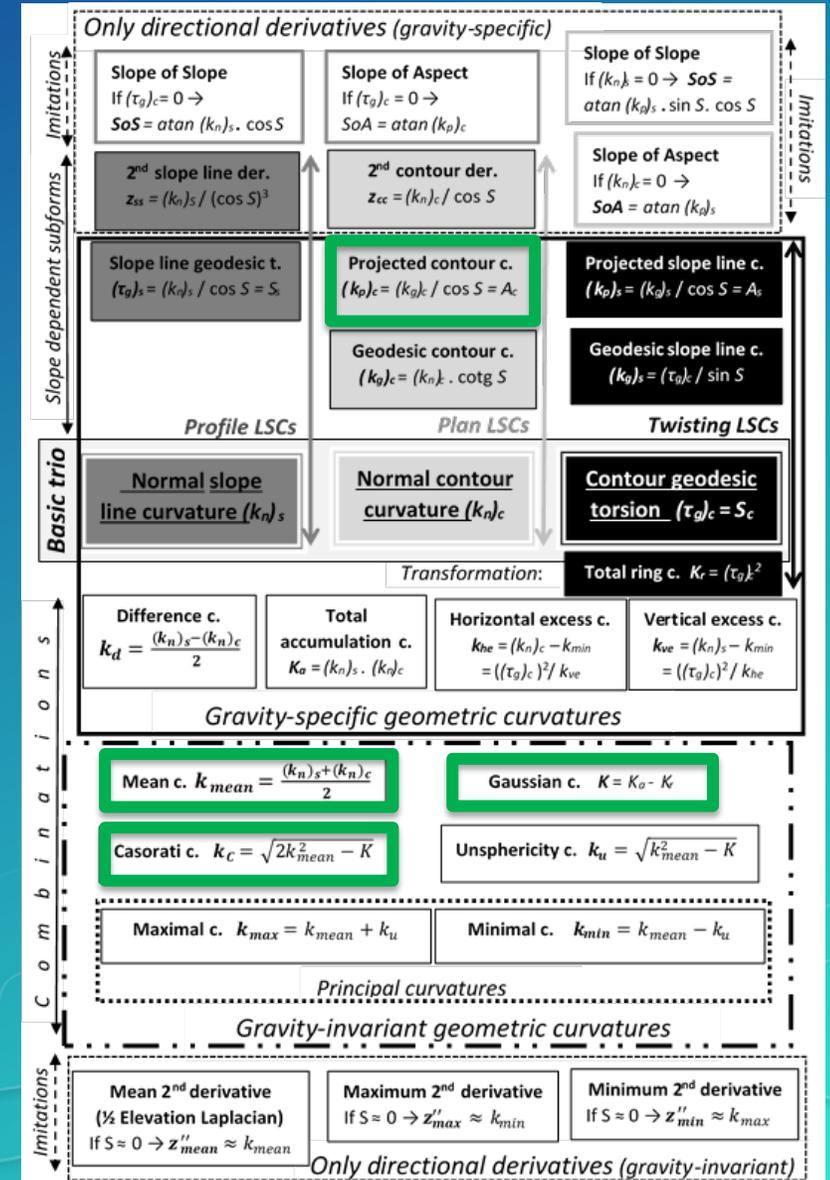
```

if parameter_type == "MEAN_CURVATURE":
    return np.mean([profile_curv, tangential_curv])

elif parameter_type == "GAUSSIAN_CURVATURE":
    return (profile_curv*tangential_curv - (contour_geodesic_torsion)**2)

elif parameter_type == "CASORATI_CURVATURE":
    return np.sqrt(2*((profile_curv + tangential_curv)/2)**2 - (profile_curv*tan

elif parameter_type == "PROJECTED_CONTOUR_CURVATURE":
    return tangential_curv/math.sin(math.radians(slope))
    
```



Known Differences between ArcGIS tool and Notebook results

- 10^{-7} differences in Curvature output from math libraries of C++ vs Python
- Differences in handling of missing values at edges of input data.
- Differences in geodesic calculation approach
 - 10^{-4} differences in Slope output
 - 10^{-1} differences in Aspect output
- Performance:
 - ArcGIS Surface Parameters tool is optimized C++, parallel.
 - Notebook is written to easily follow the logic and math, it is verbose and intentionally contains no optimizations or tuning tricks. Use the notebook to understand and experiment.
 - For project work we recommend using the ArcGIS tool



Exploring Surface Parameters

This Jupyter notebook is a supplementary material to [A New Analytic Framework and Notebook for Terrain Analysis](#). When using this notebook as part of research or other workflows, please cite the publication as: Holderman, Charles, Kopp, Steve, Noman, Nawajish, & Lopez-Cantu, Tania. (2021, September 13). A New Analytic Framework and Notebook for Terrain Analysis. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5297224>

Using this notebook, you can learn more about the internal calculations and the effects of parameter choices in the Surface Parameters tool in ArcGIS Pro. [Surface Parameters](#) is a tool under the Spatial Analyst extension that calculates various surface parameters, as its name indicates. This notebook is intended to show in detail the functionality of the ArcGIS Surface Parameters tool.

The surface parameter types supported in this notebook currently include *Aspect*, *Slope* and 6 curvature types. All output parameters are calculated using geodesic coordinates and equations implemented in Python. In addition to the surface parameter type, there are additional controls available to the user:

- Specify a neighborhood window other than 3x3.
- Optionally use an adaptive neighborhood window.
- Choose between Quadratic or Biquadratic surface fit.

The internal workflow in Surface Parameters can be summarized in 5 steps applied on a cell-by-cell basis. The last step included in this notebook, shows how other curvatures can be derived from combinations of the three basic curvature types.

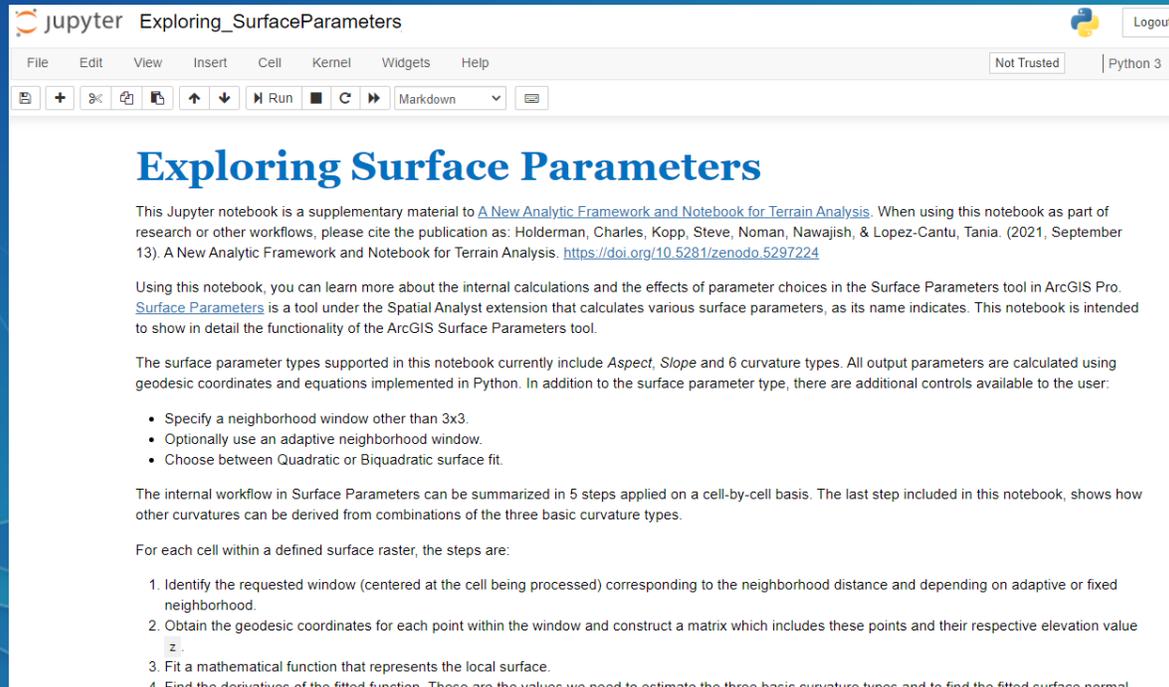
For each cell within a defined surface raster, the steps are:

1. Identify the requested window (centered at the cell being processed) corresponding to the neighborhood distance and depending on adaptive or fixed neighborhood.
2. Obtain the geodesic coordinates for each point within the window and construct a matrix which includes these points and their respective elevation value z .
3. Fit a mathematical function that represents the local surface.
4. Find the derivatives of the fitted function. These are the values we need to estimate the three basic curvature types and to find the fitted surface normal. This normal will be used to calculate slope and aspect.
5. Estimate surface parameter of choice, aspect, slope or curvature types.

Thank you

<https://www.esriurl.com/SurfaceParameters> (download)

<https://www.esriurl.com/SurfaceParametersPreview> (preview)



The screenshot shows a Jupyter notebook interface with the title 'Exploring_SurfaceParameters'. The notebook content includes a title, a paragraph about its purpose as supplementary material, a list of supported surface parameter types, and a list of steps for the internal workflow.

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