

Minimal surfaces and smooth autonomous dynamical systems in 2D

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Abstract: In this talk, an autonomous dynamical system on a two-dimensional manifold M will be identified with an exterior differential system (Σ, \mathcal{I}) , where Σ is a three-dimensional Riemannian manifold in $\mathbb{R} \times TM \simeq J^1(\mathbb{R}, M)$ and \mathcal{I} is the Pfaffian system generated by the contact forms on Σ . We will show that it is possible to construct a minimal but not necessarily totally geodesic surface in Σ characterized by the corresponding dynamical system. As a particular case, a nontrivial minimal surface in the Heisenberg group will be discussed.

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