

# A NEW TYPE OF $q$ -DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY

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We introduce  $q$ -analogues of the basic concepts in nineteenth century differential geometry. Under the assumption of  $q$ -real numbers, we generalize the previously introduced notion of  $3 \times 3$   $q$ -determinant to  $\tau$  operating on both the second and third row, but with different indices as well as to other forms. The  $q$ -scalar product is generalized in an analogous way. This brings us to define the corresponding  $q$ -metric. It turns out that, in this context, the most common orthogonal coordinates have similar  $q$ -aliases, which enable  $q$ -analogues of coordinate surfaces, like the  $q$ -sphere, etc. The concept of  $q$ -Gaussian curvature is introduced together with  $q$ -minimal surfaces. The concept  $q$ -differential in vector form is introduced to prepare for the first fundamental form and the  $q$ -metric. After the introduction of  $q$ -Christoffel symbols, we consider three different aspects of  $q$ -geodesics, the second order  $q$ -difference equation, the coordinate surfaces and the  $q$ -exponential function. The five-dimensional  $q$ -de Sitter spacetime corresponds to a sphere in  $q$ -Minkowski spacetime. The matrix pseudogroup  $SL_q(2; \mathbb{R})$  as function of four coordinates is a kind of three-dimensional  $q$ -hyperboloid in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

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