963-53-30 Andrejs E. treibergs (treiberg@math.utah.edu), Dept. of Mathematics, University of Utah, 155 South 1400 East JWB 233,Salt Lake City, UTAH 84112-0090. Nonpositively curved surfaces in Euclidean Space. Preliminary report.

We discuss some recent work with H. Chan on complete, embedded, nonpositively curved surfaces of Euclidean three space. A typical result is that if such a surface is connected, oriented, one ended and has square integrable second fundamental form, then it lies a finite distance from some plane. Moreover, the points in the surface at the maximal distance from the plane form a connected union of rays. (Received December 19, 2000)