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Equivalent curves in surfaces.

We construct and study k -equivalent curves (on closed surfaces of genus at least 2): these are distinct curves that intersect all curves with k self-intersection the same number of times. Our results show that such curves must intersect all simple curves in the same way, but that all other possible implications fail to hold.

Note: the title is “stolen” from a paper by Chris Leininger about length equivalent curves on hyperbolic surfaces. We will see how the topics are related. (Received February 12, 2021)