

Some formulas for Chapter 13

Let $r(t)$ be the position (or a parameterization of a curve)

In[31]:= **Clear**[t , v , a , **UnitTangent**, **UnitNormal**, κ , **speed**]

In[32]:= $r = \{t, t^2, t^3\}$

Out[32]= $\{t, t^2, t^3\}$

The velocity is dr/dt , and the acceleration is $d^2 r/dt^2 = dv/dt$

In[33]:= $v = D[r, t]$

Out[33]= $\{1, 2t, 3t^2\}$

In[34]:= $a = D[v, t]$

Out[34]= $\{0, 2, 6t\}$

Note that there are simplifications in the above, mostly from $\sin^2 + \cos^2 = 1$

The speed is the length of the velocity,
and the (arc) length is the integral of the speed :

$$\text{speed} = ds/st = ||v|| = \sqrt{v \cdot v}$$

$$(\text{arc}) \text{ length} = s(t) = \int_0^t ||v(\tau)|| d\tau$$

- assuming the curve starts at $t = 0$

In[35]:= **speed** = **Simplify**[**Sqrt**[$v \cdot v$]]

Out[35]= $\sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4}$

$$\text{arclength} = \int_0^t \sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4} dt$$

The unit tangent is the unit vector in the direction of the velocity

$$T = v / ||v|| = v / \text{speed} = v / (ds/dt)$$

In[36]:= **UnitTangent** = **Simplify**[v / speed]

Out[36]= $\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4}}, \frac{2t}{\sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4}}, \frac{3t^2}{\sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4}} \right\}$

The unit normal N is the direction of dT/ds , and the curvature κ is its length.

So $dT/ds = \kappa N$.

N and κ are almost never computed this way, but rather are computed via the chain rule:

$$dT/ds = (dT/dt)/(ds/st) = (dT/dt)/\text{speed}.$$

Giving:

$$N = (dT/dt) / \| dT/dt \|$$

and

$$\kappa = \| dT/dt \| / \text{speed}$$

Alternatively,

$$\kappa = \| v \times a \| / \text{speed}^3$$

(this comes from writing the acceleration in terms of the tangential and normal components)

In[37]:= **dTdt = Simplify[D[UnitTangent, t]]**

$$\text{Out[37]} = \left\{ -\frac{2t(2+9t^2)}{(1+4t^2+9t^4)^{3/2}}, \frac{2-18t^4}{(1+4t^2+9t^4)^{3/2}}, \frac{6t(1+2t^2)}{(1+4t^2+9t^4)^{3/2}} \right\}$$

In[52]:= **? Assuming**

In[53]:= **UnitNormal = Assuming[t ∈ Reals, Simplify[dTdt / Sqrt[dTdt . dTdt]]]**

$$\text{Out[53]} = \left\{ -\frac{t(2+9t^2)}{\sqrt{(1+4t^2+9t^4)(1+9t^2+9t^4)}}, \frac{1-9t^4}{\sqrt{(1+4t^2+9t^4)(1+9t^2+9t^4)}}, \frac{3(t+2t^3)}{\sqrt{(1+4t^2+9t^4)(1+9t^2+9t^4)}} \right\}$$

In[54]:= **κ = Assuming[t ∈ Reals, Simplify[Sqrt[dTdt . dTdt] / speed]]**

$$\text{Out[54]} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{1+9t^2+9t^4}{(1+4t^2+9t^4)^3}}$$

In[40]:= **VCrossA = Cross[v, a]**

$$\text{Out[40]} = \{6t^2, -6t, 2\}$$

In[41]:= **Simplify[Sqrt[VCrossA . VCrossA] / speed^3]**

$$\text{Out[41]} = \frac{2\sqrt{1+9t^2+9t^4}}{(1+4t^2+9t^4)^{3/2}}$$

The acceleration can be written in terms of the unit tangent and the unit normal, using the tangential component a_T and the normal component a_N :

$$a = a_T T + a_N N.$$

$$a_T = \frac{d^2 s}{dt^2}$$

$$a_N = \kappa \left(\frac{ds}{dt} \right)^2 = \sqrt{(\|a\|)^2 - a_T^2} = \|v \times a\| / \text{speed}$$

In[42]:= **aT = D[speed, t]**

$$\text{Out[42]} = \frac{8t + 36t^3}{2\sqrt{1+4t^2+9t^4}}$$

In[43]:= **aN = Simplify[Sqrt[(a . a) - aT^2]]**

$$\text{Out[43]} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}{1 + 4 t^2 + 9 t^4}}$$

In[44]:= **aN = Simplify[Sqrt[VCrossA . VCrossA] / speed]**

$$\text{Out[44]} = \frac{2 \sqrt{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}}{\sqrt{1 + 4 t^2 + 9 t^4}}$$

The Binormal is $T^* N$, and the torsion is defined by

$$\tau = -N \cdot dB/ds$$

$$= -N \cdot (dB/dt)/\text{speed}.$$

There are other ways to compute the torsion, which can, for instance be found on mathworld.

In[55]:= **UnitBinormal = Assuming[t ∈ Reals, Simplify[Cross[UnitTangent, UnitNormal]]]**

$$\text{Out[55]} = \left\{ \frac{3 t^2}{\sqrt{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}}, -\frac{3 t}{\sqrt{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}} \right\}$$

In[50]:= **τ = - Simplify[UnitNormal . D[UnitBinormal, t] / speed]**

$$\text{Out[50]} = \frac{3}{1 + 9 t^2 + 9 t^4}$$