

# MIDTERM

**Time: 120min**

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Choose 5 of the following 8 problems. Write complete answers.

1. Show that if a closed planar curve lies inside a circle of radius  $r$  then its curvature is bigger than or equal to  $1/r$  at some point.
2. Show that if the curvature of a planar curve is monotone, then it has no self intersections.
3. Compute the curvature and torsion of the helix  $(r \cos(t), r \sin(t), ht)$ , where  $r$  and  $h$  are constants.
4. Show that if the principal normals of a planar curve all pass through the same point, then the curve is a circle.
5. Show that the tantrix of a closed curve intersects every great circle.
6. Let  $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$  be a unit speed curve whose torsion never vanishes. Suppose that the binormal vector  $B: I \rightarrow \mathbf{S}^2$  is known. Show that we can then recover the curvature and torsion of  $\alpha$ .
7. Suppose that  $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2$  is a closed curve such that for any constant  $s$ ,  $\|\alpha(t+s) - \alpha(t)\|$  is constant for all  $t \in I$ . Show that  $\alpha$  is a circle.
8. Show that the only closed planar curve of constant curvature is a circle.

*Each problem is worth 20pts.*