Let t denote the tangential vector along s, then n, b, t consist a right-handed system.

The action in t is expressed by $S = \int L_t c dt,$

$$L_t = -\frac{mc}{p_0} \sqrt{1 - \dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + (1 + x/\rho)^2 \dot{s}^2} + a_x \dot{x} + a_y \dot{y} + (1 + x/\rho) a_s \dot{s},$$
 where p_0 and $(a_x, a_y, a_z) = e(A_x, A_y, A_z)/p_0$ are the design momentum and the normalized vector potentials, respective derivative by ct . SAD's coordinate only has the radius of curvature ρ in the local x - s plane. Note that ρ is the curvature of

The primary position variables are (x, y, s), where x and y are the displacements along the normal and binormal vectors

not that of the orbit. The transverse vector potentials (a_x, a_y) are non-zero only in the solenoid region, where $1/\rho$ is zero. Currently SAD does not handle the electrostatic potential.

As SAD uses s for the independent variable instead of t, the Lagrangean L for s is written as

As SAD uses s for the independent variable instead of t, the Lagrangean L for s is written as
$$L = L_t \frac{dct}{ds},$$

 $=-\frac{mc}{n_0}\sqrt{c^2t'^2-x'^2+y'^2+(1+x/\rho)^2}+a_xx'+a_yy'+(1+x/\rho)a_s,$

where ' is the derivative by s.