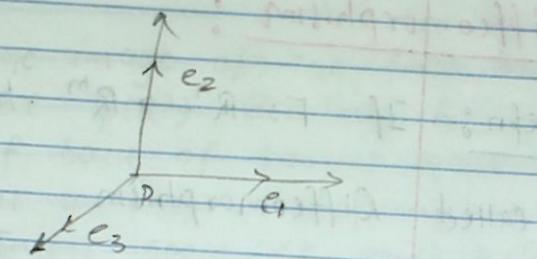
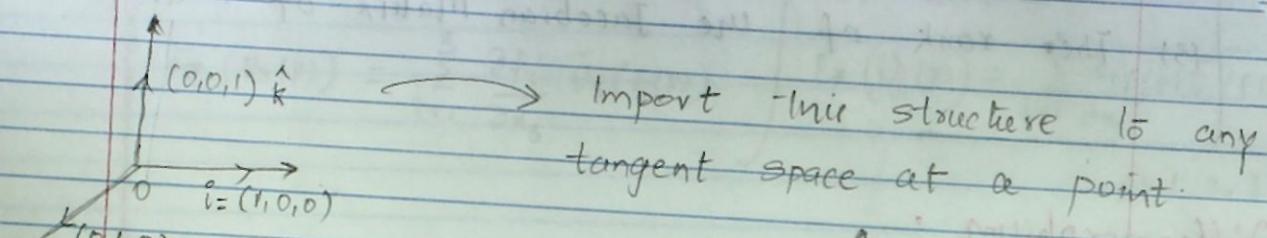


DOT PRODUCTS AND FRAMES



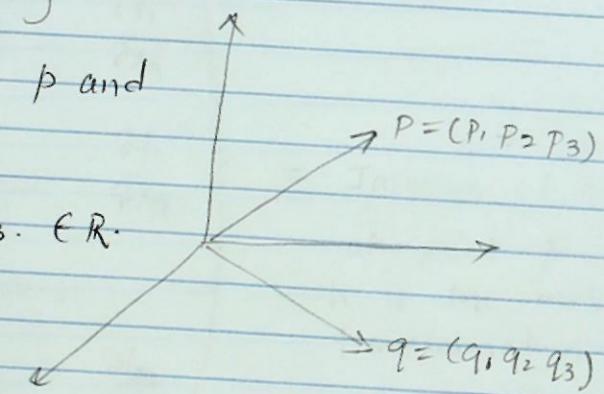
Dot Product:

$P = (P_1, P_2, P_3)$, $q = (q_1, q_2, q_3)$ be two points in \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$\begin{aligned} OP &= P_1\hat{i} + P_2\hat{j} + P_3\hat{k} \\ OQ &= q_1\hat{i} + q_2\hat{j} + q_3\hat{k} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Position vectors of } P \text{ and } Q. \\ \hline \end{array} \right.$$

Then the dot product of p and q is the real number

$$p \cdot q = p_1q_1 + p_2q_2 + p_3q_3 \in \mathbb{R}.$$



Some Properties of Dot Products

Let p, q and r be points in \mathbb{R}^3 and a, b be real numbers. Then we have the following properties that hold true for Dot Product.

(1) **Bilinearity** : (i) $r \cdot (ap + bq) = a(r \cdot p) + b(r \cdot q)$ can be checked easily.
(ii) $(ap + bq) \cdot r = a(p \cdot r) + b(q \cdot r)$.

(2) **Symmetry** : $p = (p_1, p_2, p_3)$ and $q = (q_1, q_2, q_3)$.

Then $[p \cdot q = q \cdot p]$ Commutativity of Dot Products.

(3) **Positive Definiteness** : $p \cdot p \geq 0$; $p \cdot p = 0 \Leftrightarrow p = 0$.

Dot Product on Tangent Vectors

We know that tangent space any point in \mathbb{R}^3 , that $T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{R}^3 . We can use this relation to define Dot Product on any Tangent Space $T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{R}^3 \\ p = (p_1, p_2, p_3) \text{ and } q = (q_1, q_2, q_3) \end{array} \right.$$

$$p \cdot q = p_1q_1 + p_2q_2 + p_3q_3$$

$T_p(\mathbb{R}^3) \cong \mathbb{R}^3$ as seen earlier.

Vector space.

Question: Can we define dot product on $T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$?

Vectors in $T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$ are of the form $v_p = (v_1, v_2, v_3)_p$ and

$$w_p = (w_1, w_2, w_3)_p$$

We define dot product $[v_p \cdot w_p = v_1w_1 + v_2w_2 + v_3w_3]$

Example : $v_p = (2, 3, 4)_{(1, 1, 1)}$ and $w_p = (2, 4, 6)_{(1, 1, 1)}$.

$$v_p \cdot w_p = (2, 3, 4) \cdot (2, 4, 6)$$

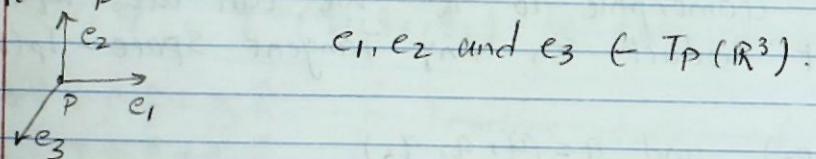
$$= 4 + 12 + 24 = 42.$$

On similar lines we can define norm of any tangent vector in the following way;

Norm of $\vartheta_p = (\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2, \vartheta_3)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$ } ie. Norm of the vector part.
 Tangent vector at $P \in \mathbb{R}^3$.
 $\|\vartheta_p\| = \|\vartheta\|$

Frames

Defn: A set e_1, e_2 and e_3 of three mutually orthogonal unit vectors tangent to \mathbb{R}^3 at P is called a frame at point P .



Example: $U_1(p) = (1, 0, 0)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$
 $U_2(p) = (0, 1, 0)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$
 $U_3(p) = (0, 0, 1)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$. } And so on.

$\{U_1(p), U_2(p), U_3(p)\}$ is a frame at the point p .

Alternate way of defining frame at point p : The set of tangent vectors e_1, e_2 and e_3 to \mathbb{R}^3 at p is a frame at p if and only if

$$e_i \cdot e_j = \delta_{ij} \text{ for all } i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Example: $e_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$

$$e_2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

$$e_3 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0 \right)_p \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

forms a frame at p .

Theorem: Let e_1, e_2 and e_3 be a frame at a point p of \mathbb{R}^3 .

If v is any tangent vector to \mathbb{R}^3 at p , then,

$$v = (v \cdot e_1)e_1 + (v \cdot e_2)e_2 + (v \cdot e_3)e_3$$

Attitude Matrix of a Frame

Let $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$ be a frame at a point p in \mathbb{R}^3 .

If $e_1 = (a_{11} \ a_{12} \ a_{13})_p$
 $e_2 = (a_{21} \ a_{22} \ a_{23})_p$
 $e_3 = (a_{31} \ a_{32} \ a_{33})_p$

Then the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$

is called the attitude matrix of the frame $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$.

Example: At any point p of \mathbb{R}^3

$$U_1(p), U_2(p), U_3(p) \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

$$U_1(p) = (1, 0, 0)_p$$

$$U_2(p) = (0, 1, 0)_p$$

$$U_3(p) = (0, 0, 1)_p$$

Attitude Matrix corresponding to this frame i.e.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Rows can be interchanged to get a different attitude matrix.

Example: $e_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)_p$, $e_2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \right)_p$ and

$$e_3 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0 \right)_p \quad \{e_1, e_2, e_3\} \in T_p(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

form a frame at point p.

Attitude Matrix corresponding to this frame;

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

{ Attitude Matrix is an Orthogonal Matrix since the rows are orthonormal. }

Cross Product:

Let v and w be tangent vectors to \mathbb{R}^3 at p. The cross product of v and w is the determinant

$$v \times w = \begin{vmatrix} v_1(p) & v_2(p) & v_3(p) \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Example: $\bar{v} = (1, 3, -1)_p$, $\bar{w} = (-1, 0, 6)_p$

$$\bar{v} \times \bar{w} = \begin{vmatrix} v_1(p) & v_2(p) & v_3(p) \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\bar{v} \times \bar{w} = 18v_1(p) - 5v_2(p) + 3v_3(p).$$

Properties of Cross Product

Linearity: If u, v and w be tangent vectors to \mathbb{R}^3 at the same point p and let a, b be scalars.

$$\text{Then } (au+bv) \times w = a(u \times w) + b(v \times w)$$

$$u \times (av+bw) = a(u \times v) + b(u \times w).$$

Alteration Rule: If u and v are tangent vectors to \mathbb{R}^3 at a point p, then $u \times v = -v \times u$.

Speed of Curve

Defn: Let $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3) : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a curve. The speed of α is defined as the length of the velocity of α :

$$v = \|\alpha'\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{d\alpha_1}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d\alpha_2}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d\alpha_3}{dt}\right)^2}$$

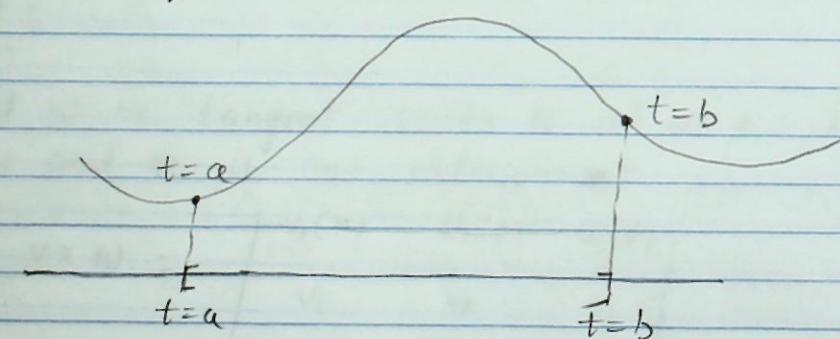
Arc Length: Arc length of α from $t=a$ to $t=b$ is equal

$$\int_a^b \|\alpha'\| dt = \int_a^b v(t) dt$$

Curve Segment: Restriction of a curve $\alpha : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ to a closed interval $[a, b]$ is called a curve segment. If σ is a curve segment of α ,

$$\sigma : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

and the length of σ is written as $L(\sigma)$.



Unit Speed Curve: Defn: A curve β has unit speed if its speed is 1 at every point, that is $\|\beta'\| = 1$.

Example: Let $\beta : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be defined by,

$$\beta(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$$

$$\beta'(t) = (-\sin t, \cos t, 1)$$

$$\|\beta'(t)\| = \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t + 1} = \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow \beta(t) \text{ is not a unit speed curve.}$$

Ex. $\beta(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t) \Rightarrow \beta'(t) = (-\sin t, \cos t, 1)$

$$\|\beta'(t)\| = \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t} = \sqrt{1} = 1 \Rightarrow \beta(t) \text{ is a unit speed curve.}$$

Arc Length Reparametrization

Theorem: Let $\alpha : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a regular curve. Then there exists a reparametrization β of α such that

$$\|\beta'\| = 1$$

Recall: Regular curve; $\alpha'(t) \neq 0 \forall t$

Reparametrization; $\alpha : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$h : J \rightarrow I$ differentiable

$\beta(s) = \alpha(h(s))$ reparametrization

Same curve followed at different speed.

$$\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \alpha(t) = (\alpha_1(t), \alpha_2(t), \alpha_3(t)) \quad t=a$$

$$\alpha(a) = (\alpha_1(a), \alpha_2(a), \alpha_3(a))$$

Proof: Let $t=0$ be the value of the parameter corresponding to the base point.

$$\text{We define } s(t) = \int_a^t \|\alpha'(u)\| du$$

Recall: (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus)

Let $f(x)$ be a continuous function, we define $F(x) = \int_a^x f(u) du$. $F(x)$ is continuous and differentiable

$$\text{and } F'(x) = f(x).$$

$$\text{So we have } s(t) = \int_a^t \|\alpha'(u)\| du$$

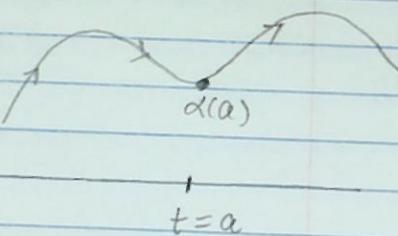
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{ds}{dt} = \|\alpha'(t)\| \\ > 0 \end{array} \right\}; \text{ Since curve is Regular}$$

$$\alpha'(t) \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\alpha'(t)\| > 0.$$

Now note that function $s(t)$ is given with derivative of s wrt t strictly greater than 0; then $s(t)$ is a strictly increasing function and hence invertible.

$$\text{Thus there exists } t=t(s); \frac{dt}{ds} \cdot \frac{ds}{dt} = 1$$



We shall now show that $\|\beta'(s)\| = \|\alpha'(t(s))\| = 1$

From the lemma seen in the section on we have $\beta'(s) = \frac{ds}{dt}(s) \alpha'(t(s))$ where β is the reparametrization of α by t .

$$\|\beta'(s)\| = \|\alpha'(t(s))\| \cdot \left\| \frac{dt}{ds} \right\|$$

$$\text{But } \alpha'(t(s)) = \frac{ds}{dt} \text{ as proved earlier.}$$

$$\text{So } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \|\beta'(s)\| = \left\| \frac{ds}{dt} \right\| \cdot \left\| \frac{dt}{ds} \right\| = 1 \end{array} \right\}.$$

Example: Consider a helix $\alpha: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ defined by $\alpha(t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, bt)$

$$\alpha'(t) = (-a \sin t, a \cos t, b)$$

$$\|\alpha'(t)\| = \sqrt{a^2 \sin^2 t + a^2 \cos^2 t + b^2} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \neq 1.$$

New Parameter:

$$s = \int_0^t \|\alpha'(u)\| du = \int_0^t \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} du$$

$$\Rightarrow s(t) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} (t - 0) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \cdot t$$

$$\boxed{s(t) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} t} \Rightarrow \left\{ t = \frac{s(t)}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \right\}$$

Substitute $t = \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}$ in the original form of the curve $\alpha(t)$.

$$\alpha(t) = \left(a \cos \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, a \sin \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, \frac{bs}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} \right)$$

Note that we are essentially following the proof.

It can now be easily checked that $\|\alpha'(s)\| = 1$.

Orientation of Reparametrization

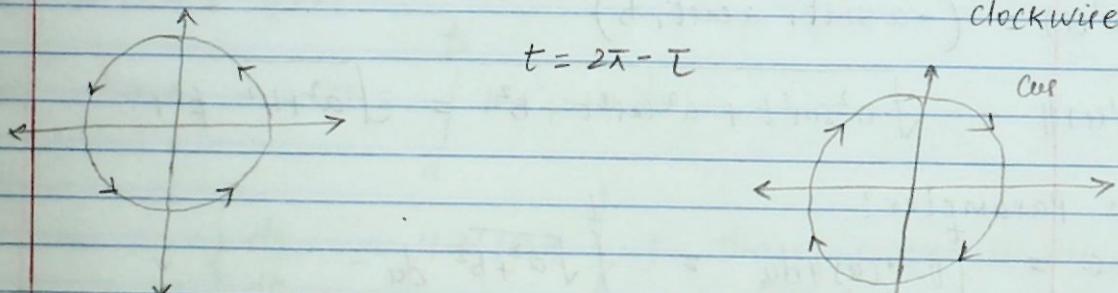
A reparametrization of a curve α given by

$$\beta(t) = \alpha(h(s)).$$

if orientation preserving if $h'(s) > 0$

if orientation reversing if $h'(s) < 0$

Example $\alpha(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$ gives a circle traversed in anti-clockwise sense.



$\alpha(\tau) = (\cos(2\pi - \tau), \sin(2\pi - \tau))$ gives circle traversed in clockwise sense.

We have $t = 2\pi - \tau$

$$\frac{dt}{d\tau} = -1 < 0 \text{ hence orientation reversing.}$$

Fact: Unit Speed Reparametrization is always orientation preserving. Since $\frac{dt}{ds} > 0$ as seen in the proof!

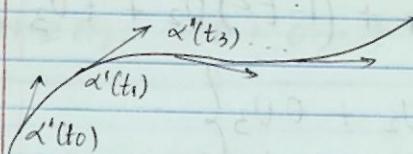
Vector Fields on curves:

Defn: A vector field Y on a curve α is a function that assigns to each number t in I a tangent vector $Y(t)$ in \mathbb{R}^3 at the point $\alpha(t)$.

Example: For curve α the velocity α' satisfies the defn. of vector field on a curve

{ We are essentially restricting the defn. of usual vector field which assigns a tangent vector to a point in \mathbb{R}^3 to a curve in \mathbb{R}^3

— Velocity vector field on α .



Properties of Vector Fields on Curves:

① If Y is a vector field on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, then for each t in I we can write

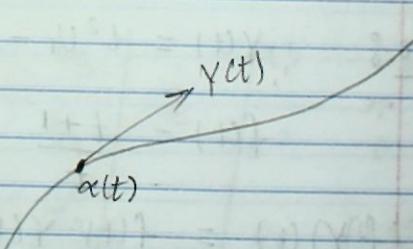
$$Y(t) = (Y_1(t), Y_2(t), Y_3(t))_{\alpha(t)} = \sum Y_i(t) U_i(\alpha(t)).$$

The real valued functions y_1, y_2 and $y_3: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are called Euclidean coordinate functions.

Note that ; $U_1(\alpha(t)) = (1, 0, 0)_{\alpha(t)}$

$$U_2(\alpha(t)) = (0, 1, 0)_{\alpha(t)}$$

$$U_3(\alpha(t)) = (0, 0, 1)_{\alpha(t)}.$$



(2) Addition of Vector Fields : Let $\mathbf{Y}(t) = y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3$

and $\mathbf{Z}(t) = z_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + z_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{U}_3$ be two vector valued functions on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. Then the addition of $\mathbf{Y}(t)$ and $\mathbf{Z}(t)$ is defined as;

$$(\mathbf{Y}(t) + \mathbf{Z}(t)) = (y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3) + (z_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + z_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{U}_3)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) + \mathbf{Z}(t) = (y_1 + z_1) \mathbf{U}_1 + (y_2 + z_2) \mathbf{U}_2 + (y_3 + z_3) \mathbf{U}_3.$$

Example:

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 - t \mathbf{U}_3, \quad \mathbf{Z}(t) = (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 + 0 \mathbf{U}_2 - t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\mathbf{Z}(t) = (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3 = 0 \mathbf{U}_1 + (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Y}(t) + \mathbf{Z}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 + (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + 0 \mathbf{U}_3 \end{array} \right.$$

(3) Scalar Multiplication : Let $\mathbf{Y}(t) = y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3$ be a vector field on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ and $f(t)$ be a real valued functions. Then we define $f\mathbf{Y}$

$$(f\mathbf{Y})(t) = f(t)\mathbf{Y}(t) = f(t)(y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3)$$

$$(f\mathbf{Y})(t) = y_1 f(t) \mathbf{U}_1(t) + y_2 f(t) \mathbf{U}_2(t) + y_3 f(t) \mathbf{U}_3(t).$$

Example: $\mathbf{Y}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 - t \mathbf{U}_3$

$$f(t) = \frac{t+1}{t}$$

$$(f\mathbf{Y})(t) = f(t) \cdot \mathbf{Y}(t) = \left(\frac{t+1}{t}\right) (t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 - t \mathbf{U}_3)$$

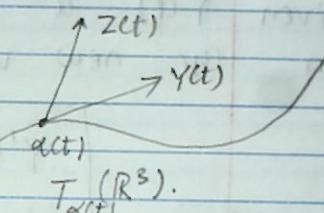
$$(f\mathbf{Y})(t) = (t+1)t \mathbf{U}_1 - (t+1)t \mathbf{U}_3$$

(4) Dot Product of Two Vector Fields : Let $\mathbf{Y}(t) = y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3$

and $\mathbf{Z}(t) = z_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + z_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{U}_3$ be two vector valued functions on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. Then the dot product of $\mathbf{Y}(t)$ and $\mathbf{Z}(t)$ is defined ;

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) \cdot \mathbf{Z}(t) = (y_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + y_3 \mathbf{U}_3) \cdot (z_1 \mathbf{U}_1 + z_2 \mathbf{U}_2 + z_3 \mathbf{U}_3)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) \cdot \mathbf{Z}(t) = y_1 z_1 + y_2 z_2 + y_3 z_3$$



Example:

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 - t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\mathbf{Z}(t) = (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) \cdot \mathbf{Z}(t) = (t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 + 0 \mathbf{U}_2 - t \mathbf{U}_3) \cdot ((1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3 + 0 \mathbf{U}_1)$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{Y}(t) \cdot \mathbf{Z}(t) = 0 + 0 - t^2 = -t^2}$$

(5) Cross Product of Vector Fields ; $\mathbf{Y}(t)$ & $\mathbf{Z}(t)$ as in (4)

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) \times \mathbf{Z}(t) = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{U}_1 & \mathbf{U}_2 & \mathbf{U}_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Example: $\mathbf{Y}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{U}_1 + 0 \mathbf{U}_2 - t \mathbf{U}_3$

$$\mathbf{Z}(t) = (1-t^2) \mathbf{U}_2 + t \mathbf{U}_3$$

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) \times \mathbf{Z}(t) = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{U}_1 & \mathbf{U}_2 & \mathbf{U}_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{U}_1 & \mathbf{U}_2 & \mathbf{U}_3 \\ t^2 & 0 & -t \\ 1-t^2 & t & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= u_1(t(1-t^2)) - u_2(t^3) + u_3(t^2(1-t^2))$$

$$= t(1-t^2)u_1 - t^3u_2 + t^2(1-t^2)u_3$$

⑥ Differentiation of Vector Fields on a Curve:

Given $Y(t)$ a vector field on a curve α , with $Y(t) = \sum y_i U_i$. Then the new vector field on α

$$Y'(t) = \sum \frac{dy_i}{dt} U_i$$

Example: Let $Y(t) = 2tU_1 - tU_3$

$$Y'(t) = 2U_1 - U_3$$

$$Y''(t) = 0U_1 - 0U_3 = 0 \equiv (0,0,0)_{\alpha(t)}$$

Properties of Differentiation

Let $Y(t) = y_1 U_1 + y_2 U_2 + y_3 U_3$; $Z(t) = z_1 U_1 + z_2 U_2 + z_3 U_3$ vector valued functions on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be real valued functions.

Linearity : $(aY + bZ)' = aY' + bZ'$

Leibnizian Property : $(Y \cdot Z)' = Y' \cdot Z + Y \cdot Z'$

$$(fY)' = f'Y + fY'$$

Acceleration of α : Let $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a curve with coordinates $\alpha(t) = (\alpha_1(t), \alpha_2(t), \alpha_3(t))$ then the acceleration of α is defined as;

$$\alpha'' = \left(\frac{d^2\alpha_1}{dt^2}, \frac{d^2\alpha_2}{dt^2}, \frac{d^2\alpha_3}{dt^2} \right)$$

An Important Result - to be used in several results in further discussions.

Let $Y(t) = y_1 U_1 + y_2 U_2 + y_3 U_3$ and $Z(t) = z_1 U_1 + z_2 U_2 + z_3 U_3$ be two vector valued functions on $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. If $Y \cdot Z = \text{constant } (=c)$ then

$$Y \cdot Z = c$$

Differentiating $Y' \cdot Z + Z' \cdot Y = 0 \Rightarrow [Y' \cdot Z = -Z' \cdot Y]$

Now let Y be a vector field s.t $\|Y\|=1$

$$\text{then } Y \cdot Y = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow Y \cdot Y' + Y' \cdot Y = 0 \Rightarrow 2Y \cdot Y' = 0 \Rightarrow [Y \cdot Y' = 0]$$

$$Y \perp Y'$$

Parallel Vector Fields: A vector field on a curve is parallel if all its values are parallel tangent vectors.

That is;

$$Y(t) = (c_1, c_2, c_3)_{\alpha(t)} = \sum c_i U_i(\alpha(t))$$

