

## expressions for curvature and torsion

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Owner Simone (5904) Last modified by Simone (5904)

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For a http://planetmath.org/Curveregular, parameterized curve  $\alpha \colon (a,b) \to \mathbb{R}^3$ , not necessarily unit speed, the curvature  $\kappa(t)$  and torsion  $\tau(t)$  are given, respectively, by

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{\|\alpha'(t) \times \alpha''(t)\|}{\|\alpha'(t)\|^3};$$
  
$$\tau(t) = \frac{(\alpha'(t) \times \alpha''(t)) \cdot \alpha'''(t)}{\|\alpha'(t) \times \alpha''(t)\|^2}.$$

## References

John McCleary, Geometry from a Differentiable Viewpoint, Cambridge University Press, 1994.