

Geometry Homework 1

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Problem 1 (P7: 4). Let $\alpha : (0, \pi) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2$ be given by

$$\alpha(t) = \left(\cos t, \cos t + \log \tan \frac{t}{2} \right),$$

where t is the angle that the y axis makes with the vector $\alpha(t)$. The trace of α is called the tractrix (Fig. 1-9). Show that

- (a) α is a differentiable parametrized curve, regular except at $t = \pi/2$.
- (b) The length of the segment of the tangent of the tractrix between the point of tangency and the y axis is constantly equal to 1.

Proof. This is the proof. □

Problem 2 (Curvature is a geometric object I.). *haha*