

## GEOMETRY HOMEWORK 3

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**Problem 3** (P26: 16). *Show that the knowledge of the vector function  $n = n(s)$  (normal vector) of a curve  $\alpha$ , with nonzero torsion everywhere, determines the curvature  $\kappa(s)$  and the torsion  $\tau$  of  $\alpha$ . ( $\vec{n}$  能決定曲線嗎? 說明題目錯誤並找反例。)*

*Proof.* Consider the helix  $\alpha(s) = (a \cos \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, a \sin \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, \frac{bs}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}})$   
Then  $n(s) = (-\cos \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, -\sin \frac{s}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}, 0)$ .

So if two helix has the same  $a^2 + b^2$  (e.g.  $\alpha_1(s) = (\frac{1}{2} \cos s, \frac{1}{2} \sin s, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s)$ ,  $\alpha_2(s) = (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos s, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin s, \frac{1}{2}s)$ ), then they have same  $n(s)$ , but they're not the same curve.  $\square$

**Problem 4** (P26: 17, 另一種描述 Helix 的方式). *In general, a curve  $\alpha$  is called a helix if the tangent lines of  $\alpha$  make a constant angle with a fixed direction. Assume that  $\tau(s) \neq 0$ ,  $s \in I$ , and prove that:*

- (a)  $\alpha$  is a helix if and only if  $\kappa/\tau = \text{constant}$ .
- (b)  $\alpha$  is a helix if and only if the lines containing  $n(s)$  and passing through  $\alpha(s)$  are parallel to a fixed plane.
- (c)  $\alpha$  is a helix if and only if the lines containing  $b(s)$  and passing through  $\alpha(s)$  make a constant angle with a fixed direction.
- (d) The curve

$$\alpha(s) = \left( \frac{a}{c} \int \sin \theta(s) ds, \frac{a}{c} \int \cos \theta(s) ds, \frac{b}{c} s \right),$$

where  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ , is a helix, and that  $\kappa/\tau = a/b$ .

*Proof.*

$\square$

**Problem 6.**  $\gamma(s)$  長度參數。若將  $\gamma(s)$  寫成  $(\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi)$ ,  $\phi, \theta$  是  $s$  的函數。說明  $\kappa(s) = \sqrt{\phi'^2 + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi}$ 。

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma'(s) &= (\phi' \cos \phi \cos \theta - \theta' \sin \phi \sin \theta, \phi' \cos \phi \sin \theta + \theta' \sin \phi \cos \theta, -\phi' \sin \phi) \\
 \rightarrow \kappa(s) &= |\gamma'(s)| \\
 &= \sqrt{\phi'^2 \cos^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \phi'^2 \cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \phi'^2 \sin^2 \phi} \\
 &= \sqrt{\phi'^2 + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Problem 7.**  $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , 不妨假設是長度參數。

(b) 若  $M^t M = I$ ,  $\det(M) = -1$  且  $\bar{\gamma} = M\gamma$ , 討論  $\kappa, \tau$  變化。

(c)  $\bar{\gamma}(s) = \gamma(-s)$ , 說明  $\kappa, \tau$  變化。

*Proof.*

□

**Problem 8.** 說明  $\bar{\gamma}(u) = \gamma(-s)$  時, 在對應點

$$\frac{\det(\bar{\gamma}', \bar{\gamma}'', \bar{\gamma}''')}{|\bar{\gamma}' \times \bar{\gamma}''|^2}(u) = \frac{\det(\gamma', \gamma'', \gamma''')}{|\gamma' \times \gamma''|^2}(t)$$

再用 *chain rule* 直接說明。

*Proof.*

□