

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 α , with nonzero torsion everywhere, determines the curvature $\kappa(s)$ and the torsion τ of α . (\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 α is called a helix if the tangent lines of α make a constant angle with a fixed direction. Assume that $\tau(s) \neq 0$, $s \in I$, and prove that:*

- (a) α is a helix if and only if $\kappa/\tau = \text{constant}$.
- (b) α is a helix if and only if the lines containing $n(s)$ and passing through $\alpha(s)$ are parallel to a fixed plane.
- (c) α 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. (a) Assume that s is arc-length parameter, V is the fixed direction.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle T, V \rangle = C \\
\rightarrow & \langle T', V \rangle = 0 \\
& = \langle \kappa N, V \rangle \\
\rightarrow & \langle N, V \rangle = 0 \\
\rightarrow & \langle N', V \rangle = 0 \\
& = \langle -\kappa T - \tau B, V \rangle \\
& = -\kappa C - \tau \langle B, V \rangle \\
& = -\kappa C - \tau \langle T \times N, V \rangle \\
& = -\kappa C - \tau \langle V \times T, N \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

$$\because T \perp N, V \perp N \rightarrow V \times T = \pm |V \times T| N$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\rightarrow 0 & = -\kappa C - \tau \langle V \times T, N \rangle \\
& = -\kappa C \mp \tau |V \times T|
\end{aligned}$$

$\because T$ make a constant angle with V , $|V \times T|$ is a constant.

$\rightarrow \kappa/\tau = \mp \frac{|V \times T|}{C}$, but because κ, τ are continuous, κ/τ is constant.

Conversely, let $\kappa/\tau \equiv c$ be a constant. Define vector V by $V(s) = T(s) - cB(s)$. We claim V is a constant since $V'(s) = T'(s) - cB'(s) = \kappa(s)N(s) - c\tau(s)N(s) = (\kappa(s) - c\tau(s))N(s) = 0$. Now $\langle V, T \rangle$ is constant because $\langle V, T \rangle' = \kappa \langle V, N \rangle = \kappa \langle T - cB, N \rangle = 0$. This implies T make a constant angle with V .

(b)

(c)

(d)

□

Problem 6. $\gamma(s)$ 長度參數。若將 $T(s)$ 寫成 $(\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi)$, ϕ, θ 是 s 的函數。說明 $\kappa(s) = \sqrt{\phi'^2 + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi}$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
T'(s) & = (\phi' \cos \phi \cos \theta - \theta' \sin \phi \sin \theta, \phi' \cos \phi \sin \theta + \theta' \sin \phi \cos \theta, -\phi' \sin \phi) \\
\rightarrow \kappa(s) & = |T'(s)| \\
& = \sqrt{\phi'^2 \cos^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \phi'^2 \cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \phi'^2 \sin^2 \phi} \\
& = \sqrt{\phi'^2 + \theta'^2 \sin^2 \phi}
\end{aligned}$$

□

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 κ, τ 變化。

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

Proof. (b)

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{\gamma}'| &= \sqrt{\bar{\gamma}'^T \bar{\gamma}'} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma'^T M^T M \gamma'} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma'^T \gamma'} \\ &= |\gamma'| \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

So s is arc-length parameter for $\bar{\gamma}$ too.

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_{\bar{\gamma}} &= |\bar{\gamma}''| \\ &= \sqrt{\bar{\gamma}''^T \bar{\gamma}''} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma''^T M^T M \gamma''} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma''^T \gamma''} \\ &= |\gamma''| \\ &= \kappa_{\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

So κ remains the same.

(c)

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{\gamma}'(s)| &= \sqrt{\bar{\gamma}'(s)^T \bar{\gamma}'(s)} \\ &= \sqrt{(-\gamma'^T(-s))(-\gamma'(-s))} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma'^T(-s)\gamma'(-s)} \\ &= |\gamma'(-s)| \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

So s is arc-length parameter for $\bar{\gamma}$ too.

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_{\bar{\gamma}}(s) &= |\bar{\gamma}''(s)| \\ &= \sqrt{\bar{\gamma}''(s)^T \bar{\gamma}''(s)} \\ &= \sqrt{\gamma''(-s)^T \gamma''(-s)} \\ &= |\gamma''(-s)| \\ &= \kappa_{\gamma}(-s) \end{aligned}$$

So $\kappa_{\bar{\gamma}}(s) = \kappa_{\gamma}(-s)$.

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\bar{\gamma}}(s) &= \frac{|\bar{\gamma}'(s) \bar{\gamma}''(s) \bar{\gamma}'''(s)|}{|\bar{\gamma}'(s) \times \bar{\gamma}''(s)|^2} \\ &= \frac{|-\gamma'(-s) \gamma''(-s) - \gamma'''(-s)|}{|-\gamma'(-s) \times \gamma''(-s)|^2} \\ &= \frac{|\gamma'(-s) \gamma''(-s) \gamma'''(-s)|}{|\gamma'(-s) \times \gamma''(-s)|^2} \\ &= \tau_{\gamma}(-s)\end{aligned}$$

So $\tau_{\bar{\gamma}}(s) = \tau_{\gamma}(-s)$.

□

Problem 8. 說明 $\bar{\gamma}(u) = \gamma(t(u))$ 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.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\gamma}'(u) &= \gamma'(t(u))t'(u) \\ \bar{\gamma}''(u) &= \gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2 + \gamma'(t(u))t''(u) \\ \bar{\gamma}'''(u) &= \gamma'''(t(u))t'(u)^3 + 3\gamma''(t(u))t'(u)t''(u) + \gamma'(t(u))t'''(u)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow \det(\bar{\gamma}', \bar{\gamma}'', \bar{\gamma}''')(u) &= \det(\gamma'(t(u))t'(u), \gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2 + \gamma'(t(u))t''(u), \\ &\quad \gamma'''(t(u))t'(u)^3 + 3\gamma''(t(u))t'(u)t''(u) + \gamma'(t(u))t'''(u)) \\ &= \det(\gamma'(t(u))t'(u), \gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2, \gamma'''(t(u))t'(u)^3 + 3\gamma''(t(u))t'(u)t''(u)) \\ &= \det(\gamma'(t(u))t'(u), \gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2, \gamma'''(t(u))t'(u)^3) \\ &= t'(u)^6 \det(\gamma'(t(u)), \gamma''(t(u)), \gamma'''(t(u)))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}|\bar{\gamma}' \times \bar{\gamma}''|^2(u) &= |(\gamma'(t(u))t'(u)) \times (\gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2 + \gamma'(t(u))t''(u))|^2 \\ &= |(\gamma'(t(u))t'(u)) \times (\gamma''(t(u))t'(u)^2)|^2 \\ &= t'(u)^6 |\gamma'(t(u)) \times \gamma''(t(u))|^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow \frac{\det(\bar{\gamma}', \bar{\gamma}'', \bar{\gamma}''')}{|\bar{\gamma}' \times \bar{\gamma}''|^2}(u) &= \frac{t'(u)^6 \det(\gamma', \gamma'', \gamma''')}{t'(u)^6 |\gamma' \times \gamma''|^2}(t) \\ &= \frac{\det(\gamma', \gamma'', \gamma''')}{|\gamma' \times \gamma''|^2}(t)\end{aligned}$$

□