MATB42: Assignment #4

1. (For this question assume that all curves are of class  $C^k$ , some  $k \geq 3$ ).

A curve  $\gamma:[a,b]\to\mathbb{R}^n$  is called regular if  $\gamma'(t)\neq 0$  for any t. For a regular curve  $\gamma$ , the vector  $T=\frac{\gamma'(t)}{\|\gamma'(t)\|}$  is called the *unit tangent vector* to the curve.

(a) If  $\gamma : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}^3$  is a regular curve, show that  $T'(t) \cdot T(t) = 0$ . (see page 235, #16(a))

$$\|\mathbf{T}(t)\|^{2} = T_{1}^{2} + T_{2}^{2} + T_{3}^{2} = 1$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\|\mathbf{T}(t)\|^{2} = 2T_{1}T_{1}' + 2T_{2}T_{2}' + T_{3}T_{3}' = \frac{d}{dt}1$$

$$2(\mathbf{T}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t)) = 2(T_{1}'T_{1} + T_{2}'T_{2} + T_{3}'T_{3}) = 0$$

A curve  $\gamma(s)$  is said to be parameterized by arclength (or have unit speed) if  $\|\gamma'(s)\| = 1$ . The curvature  $\kappa$  at a point  $\gamma(s)$  of a unit speed curve is defined by  $\kappa = \|T'(s)\|$ 

- (b) (i) If  $\gamma : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}^3$  is a unit speed curve, show that its length is b a. The length of  $\gamma$  is  $\int_{\gamma} d\mathbf{s} = \int_a^b \|\gamma'(t)\| dt$ , but  $\|\gamma'(t)\|$  is 1 since  $\gamma$  has unit speed. Therefore, the integral is just b - a.
  - (ii) Show that  $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\cos t, \sin t, t)$  is a unit speed curve and compute its curvature. (see page 235, #17)

$$\frac{d}{dt}\boldsymbol{\sigma}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{d}{dt}\cos t, \frac{d}{dt}\sin t, \frac{d}{dt}t\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-\sin t, \cos t, 1)$$

$$\implies \left\|\frac{d}{dt}\boldsymbol{\sigma}(t)\right\| = \frac{\sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t + 1}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = 1 \quad \text{So } \boldsymbol{\sigma}(t) \text{ is in fact a unit curve.}$$

Since  $\sigma(t)$  has unit speed, T(t) is just  $\sigma'(t)$ , so T'(t) is  $\sigma^{(2)}(t)$ .

$$T'(t) = \sigma^{(2)}(t)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{d}{dt} - \sin t, \frac{d}{dt} \cos t, \frac{d}{dt} 1 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-\cos t, -\sin t, 0)$$

$$\implies ||T'(t)|| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \kappa$$

If  $T'(t) \neq 0$ ,  $N(t) = \frac{T'(t)}{\|T'(t)\|}$  is perpendicular to T'(t) (by part (a)); N is called the *principal normal vector*. The vector B, defined by  $B = T \times N$ , is called the *binormal vector*.

(c) Show the following about the T, N and B system

(i) 
$$\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$
 (ii)  $\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt} \cdot \mathbf{T} = 0$  (iii)  $\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt}$  is a scalar multiple of  $\mathbf{N}$ . (see page 235, #20)

- (i)  $\frac{d}{dt} \boldsymbol{B} \cdot \boldsymbol{B} = \frac{d}{dt} \|\boldsymbol{B}\|^2$ , but the norm of  $\boldsymbol{N}$  and  $\boldsymbol{T}$  are 1, so  $\|\boldsymbol{B}\|^2 = 1$  which means that  $\frac{d}{dt} 1 = 0$
- (ii) Because **B** is the cross product of **T** along with N,  $B \cdot T$  must be 0, so  $\frac{d}{dt}0 = 0$
- (iii) From the last two parts,  $\frac{d}{dt}\boldsymbol{B}$  is orthogonal to both  $\boldsymbol{B}$  and  $\boldsymbol{T}$ . Since there are only 3 dimensions for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , anything orthogonal to both of these must be parallel to each other. We know that  $\boldsymbol{N}$  is orthogonal to  $\boldsymbol{T}$  by (a), and by definition it is orthogonal to  $\boldsymbol{B}$  so both are parallel, i.e. they are scalar multiples.

If  $\gamma(s)$  is a unit speed curve we can define the tortion  $\tau$  by  $\frac{dB}{ds} = -\tau N$ .

(d) Compute the torsion of  $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\cos t, \sin t, t)$ . (see page 235, #21(c))

$$T(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(-\sin t, \cos t, 1)N(t) \qquad = (-\cos t, \sin t, 0)$$

2. Sketch the following vector fields including a few flow lines.

(a) 
$$\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (1,x^2)$$
 (b)  $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (x^2,x)$  (c)  $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (y,-2x)$ 

(a) 
$$\gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t))$$
$$\gamma'(t) = (x'(t), y'(t))$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\frac{dy(t)}{dt}}{\frac{dx(t)}{dt}} = \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$
$$dy = x^2, dx = 3$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x^2$$
$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{x^3}{3} + c$$

(b)  $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (x^2,x)$ 

$$dy = x, dx = x^{2}$$

$$\implies \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\implies y = \ln|x| + c \quad x \neq 0$$

(c)  $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (y, -2x)$ 

$$dy = -2x, dx = y$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x}{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow y dy = -2x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y^2}{2} + x^2 = c$$

3. Show that the curve  $c(t)=(t^2,2t-1,\sqrt{t}),\ t>0$  is a flow line of the velocity vector field F(x,y,z)=(y+1,2,1/2z)

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{c}'(t) &= \left(2t, 2, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) \\ \boldsymbol{F}(\boldsymbol{c}(t)) &= \left(2t - 1 + 1, 2, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) = \left(2t, 2, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) = \boldsymbol{c}'(t) \end{split}$$

Therefore, c is a flow line of F.

4. Find the work done by the force field F(x, y, z) = (xy, yz, zx) in moving a particle along the twisted cubic,  $\gamma(t) = (t, t^2, t^3)$ , from t = 0 to t = 1.

$$\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = \int_{0}^{1} \mathbf{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) dt$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} (t)(t^{2})(1) + (t^{2})(t^{3})(2t) + (t^{3})(t)(3t^{2})dt$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} t^{3} + 2t^{6} + 3t^{6}dt$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} t^{3} + 5t^{6}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[ t^{4} \right]_{0}^{1} + \frac{5}{7} \left[ t^{7} \right]_{0}^{1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{5}{7} = \frac{27}{28}$$

5. Evaluate each of the following integrals:

(a) 
$$\int_{\gamma} xy \ dx + y^2 dy, \quad \gamma(t) = (\cos t, \sin t), 0 \le t \le \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

$$\int_{\gamma} \omega \cdot ds = \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin t \cos t (-\sin t) + \sin^{2} t \cos t \, dt$$

(b) 
$$\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$
,  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = (y, z, x)$ ,  $\gamma(t) = \left(t, -2t^2, \frac{1}{3}t^3\right)$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$ .

$$\begin{split} \int_{\gamma} \boldsymbol{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{0}^{1} \boldsymbol{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) \ dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{1} (-2t^{2})(1) + (\frac{1}{3}t^{3})(-4t) + (t)(t^{2})dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{1} -2t^{2} - \frac{4}{3}t^{4} + t^{3}dt \\ &= -\frac{2}{3} \left[ t^{3} \right]_{0}^{1} - \frac{4}{15} \left[ t^{5} \right]_{0}^{1} + \frac{1}{4} \left[ t^{4} \right]_{0}^{1} \\ &= -\frac{10}{15} - \frac{4}{15} + \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{56}{60} + \frac{15}{60} = -\frac{41}{60} \end{split}$$

(c) 
$$\int_{\gamma} z \ dx - xyz \ dy + 2x^2 \ dz$$
,  $\gamma$  is the parabola  $z = x^2, y = 0$ , from (-1,0,1) to (1,0,1).

Can parameterize  $\gamma$  by  $\gamma(t) = (t, 0, t^2), -1 \le t \le 1$ , as on the parabola y is constant 0, x goes from  $-1 \to 1$  and z goes from  $1 \to 0 \to 1$ .

$$\begin{split} \int_{\gamma} \omega \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^{1} (t^2)(1) - (t)(0)(t^2)(0) + 2(t)^2(2t) \ dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^{1} t^2 + 4t^3 \ dt \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \Big[ t^3 \Big]_{0}^{1} \quad \text{Exploiting even/odd} \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \end{split}$$

(d) 
$$\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$
,  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = (2xy, x^2 + e^z, ye^z)$ ,  $\gamma$  consists of straight line segments joining, in order, the points  $(1,1,0)$ ,  $(2,0,5)$  and  $(0,3,0)$ .

Note: By inspection  $g = x^2y + ye^z$  is a potential function for  $\boldsymbol{F}$ . Also, straight line segments, being linear functions are smooth. Furthermore, F(x,y,z) is smooth since polynomials and exponential functions are each smooth. Therefore, GFTC applies, and  $\int_{\gamma} \boldsymbol{F} \cdot d\boldsymbol{s} = g(0,3,0) - g(1,1,0) = ((0)^2(3) + (3)e^{(0)}) - ((1)^2(1) + (1)e^{(0)}) = 3 - 2 = 1.$ 

- 6. (a) Let  $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (y,-x)$ . Find  $\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$  from (1,0) to (0,-1) along
  - (i) the straight line segment joining these points Parameterize the path as  $t \mapsto (1-t,-t)$  where  $0 \le t \le 1$ .

$$\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) dt$$
$$= \int_0^1 -(-t)(-1) + (1-t)(-1) dt$$
$$= \int_0^1 -1 dt = -1$$

(ii) three-quarters of the unit circle centered at the origin traced in the counter-clockwise direction. Parameterize the path as  $t \mapsto (\sin -t, \cos -t) = (-\sin t, \cos t)$  where  $0 \le t \le \frac{3\pi}{2}$ . Using -t since it is counter-clockwise

$$\int_{\gamma} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = \int_{0}^{\frac{3\pi}{2}} \mathbf{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) dt$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\frac{3\pi}{2}} (\cos t)(-\cos t) - (-\sin t)(-\sin t) dt$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\frac{3\pi}{2}} -1 dt = -\frac{3\pi}{2}$$

(b) Can your answers for part (a) help you determine if the 1-form  $\omega = y \, dx - x \, dy$  is exact? Explain. Yes, we can determine that it is not exact. If  $\omega$  were to be exact then  $\boldsymbol{F}$  would be conservative implying that the line integral would be independent of path. Since the integrals are different, this is evidently not the case.

- 7. Let c be the curve obtained by intersecting the cylinder  $y^2 + z^2 = 4$  and the surface x = yz in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
  - (a) Give a parametrization,  $\gamma(t)$ , of the curve c.

= 0

The cylinder simply describes a circle of radius 2 in 2 dimensions, so y and z can be parameterized as  $t \mapsto (2\sin t, 2\cos t)$ . To add the additional constraint of the surface, just check what x is, given the y and z.  $x = (2\sin t)(2\cos t) = 4\sin t\cos t$ .

Given these conditions,  $\gamma(t)$  is given by  $(4\sin t\cos t, 2\sin t, 2\cos t), 0 \le t \le 2\pi$ .

(b) Evaluate 
$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$
, where  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = (2xy, 4y, x^2)$ .

$$\begin{split} \int_{\gamma} \boldsymbol{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} \boldsymbol{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) \ dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} 2(4 \sin t \cos t)(2 \sin t)(4(\cos^{2}t - \sin^{2}t)) + 4(2 \sin t)(2 \cos t) + (4 \cos t \sin t)^{2}(-2 \sin t) \ dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} 16 \sin^{2}t \cos t(\cos^{2}t - \sin^{2}t) + 8 \sin t \cos t - 32 \cos^{2}t \sin^{3}t \ dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} 16 \sin^{2}t \cos^{3}t - 16 \sin^{4}t \cos t + 8 \sin t \cos t - 32 \cos^{2}t \sin^{3}t \ dt \\ &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} 16 \sin^{2}t (1 - \sin^{2}t) \cos t - 16 \sin^{4}t \cos t + 8 \sin t \cos t \ dt - 32 \int_{0}^{2\pi} \cos^{2}t (1 - \cos^{2}t) \sin t \ dt \\ \text{Let } u = \sin t, \ du = \cos t \\ &= \int_{0}^{2} 16 u^{2}(1 - u^{2}) - 16 u^{4} + 8 u \ du - 32 \int_{0}^{2\pi} \cos^{2}t (1 - \cos^{2}t) \sin t \ dt \\ &= -32 \int_{0}^{2\pi} \cos^{2}t (1 - \cos^{2}t) \sin t \ dt \\ \text{Let } u = \cos t, \ du = - \sin t \\ &= 32 \int_{0}^{1} u^{2} (1 - u^{2}) \ du \end{split}$$