

A curve \vec{r} such that $\|\vec{r}'\| = 1$ is a unit speed curve.

Can we always reparametrize to make a curve unit speed? Yes

The arclength reparametrization of a smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$ works as follows:

- 1) Compute the arclength function $s(t)$.
- 2) Invert the function i.e. solve for t in terms of s .
- 3) Substitute this expression for t into \vec{r} to get a reparametrized curve $\vec{r}(s)$.

The resulting curve will have unit speed i.e. $\|\vec{r}'(s)\| = 1$

Example - $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle \quad t \geq 0$

Last time, we computed $s = 5t$

Thus, $t = \frac{s}{5}$

Then $\vec{r}(s) = \left\langle 3\cos\left(\frac{s}{5}\right), 3\sin\left(\frac{s}{5}\right), \frac{4s}{5} \right\rangle$

The curvature of a smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$ is $K(t) = \frac{\|\vec{T}'(t)\|}{\|\vec{r}'(t)\|}$

Example - $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{\|\vec{r}'(t)\|} \quad \vec{r}'(t) = \langle -3\sin(t), 3\cos(t), 4 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{r}'(t)\| = 5 \quad \text{So } \vec{T}(t) = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}\sin(t), \frac{3}{5}\cos(t), \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\vec{T}'(t) = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}\cos(t), -\frac{3}{5}\sin(t), 0 \right\rangle$$

$$\|\vec{T}'(t)\| = \sqrt{\frac{9}{25}\cos^2(t) + \frac{9}{25}\sin^2(t)} = \sqrt{\frac{9}{25}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\text{Thus, } K(t) = \frac{\|\vec{T}'(t)\|}{\|\vec{r}'(t)\|} = \frac{3/5}{5} = \frac{3}{25}$$

The unit normal vector of a smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$ is $\vec{N}(t) = \frac{\vec{T}'(t)}{\|\vec{T}'(t)\|}$

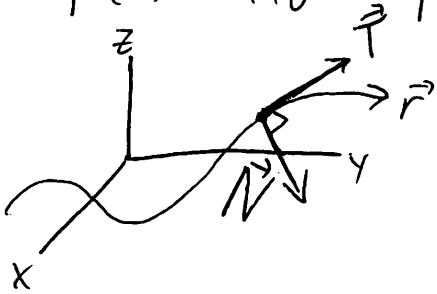
Example - $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$

$$\vec{T}'(t) = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}\cos(t), -\frac{3}{5}\sin(t), 0 \right\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \|\vec{T}'(t)\| = \frac{3}{5}$$

Then $\vec{N}(t) = \frac{\vec{T}'(t)}{\|\vec{T}'(t)\|} = \langle -\cos(t), -\sin(t), 0 \rangle$

Observe $\vec{T}(t) \cdot \vec{N}(t) = 0$

Fact - $\vec{T}(t)$ and $\vec{N}(t)$ are orthogonal



The binormal vector of a smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$ is the unit vector $\vec{B}(t) = \vec{T}(t) \times \vec{N}(t)$

Example - $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}\sin(t), \frac{3}{5}\cos(t), \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\vec{N}(t) = \langle -\cos(t), -\sin(t), 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{B}(t) = \left\langle \frac{4}{5}\sin(t), -\frac{4}{5}\cos(t), \frac{3}{5} \right\rangle$$

Let $\vec{r}(t)$ be a smooth parametrized curve.

The osculating plane for the curve at $t=t_0$ is the plane spanned by $\vec{T}(t_0)$ and $\vec{N}(t_0)$

It contains the point on \vec{r} at which $t=t_0$ and has normal vector $\vec{B}(t_0)$.

Example - Write the general equation for the osculating plane of $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$ at $t=0$.

$$\vec{r}(0) = \langle 3, 0, 0 \rangle \text{ so point is } (3, 0, 0)$$

$$\vec{B}(t) = \left\langle \frac{4}{5}\sin(t), -\frac{4}{5}\cos(t), \frac{3}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\text{So } \vec{n} = \vec{B}(0) = \left\langle 0, -\frac{4}{5}, \frac{3}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, we have } 0(x-3) - \frac{4}{5}(y-0) + \frac{3}{5}(z-0) &= 0 \\ -\frac{4}{5}y + \frac{3}{5}z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Fact - For a smooth parametrized curve $\vec{r}(t)$, its acceleration vector $\vec{a}(t) = \vec{r}''(t)$ lies in the osculating plane.

Thus, we can write $\vec{a}(t)$ as a linear combination of $\vec{T}(t)$ and $\vec{N}(t)$, say $\vec{a}(t) = a_T(t)\vec{T}(t) + a_N(t)\vec{N}(t)$ where $a_T(t)$ and $a_N(t)$ are real-valued functions.

The function $a_T(t)$ is the scalar tangent component of acceleration, and is defined to be $a_T(t) = v'(t)$ where $v(t) = \|\vec{r}'(t)\|$

The function $a_N(t)$ is the scalar normal component of acceleration, and is defined to be $a_N(t) = \kappa(t) \|\vec{r}'(t)\|^2$

Example. $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$
 $\vec{r}'(t) = \langle -3\sin(t), 3\cos(t), 4 \rangle$ so $v(t) = \|\vec{r}'(t)\| = 5$

Thus $a_T(t) = v'(t) = 0$

$\kappa(t) = \frac{3}{25}$ so $a_N(t) = \kappa(t) \|\vec{r}'(t)\|^2 = \frac{3}{25}(5)^2 = 3$

Let $\vec{r}(t)$ be a ^{smooth} parametrized curve. The osculating circle for the curve at $t = t_0$ is the circle tangent to \vec{r} at $t = t_0$, lying in the osculating plane.



The radius of the osculating circle is called the radius of curvature, and is given by $\rho(t_0) = \frac{1}{\kappa(t_0)}$

The center of the circle is $\mathcal{C}(t_0) = \vec{r}(t_0) + \rho(t_0) \vec{N}(t_0)$

Example- $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3\cos(t), 3\sin(t), 4t \rangle$ at $t=0$

$$K(t) = \frac{3}{25} \quad \text{so} \quad \rho(t) = \frac{1}{K(t)} = \frac{25}{3}$$

Hence $\rho(0) = \frac{25}{3} \leftarrow$ radius of curvature

$$\vec{r}(0) = \langle 3, 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{N}(t) = \langle -\cos(t), -\sin(t), 0 \rangle$$

$$\text{So } \vec{N}(0) = \langle -1, 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Center is } \mathcal{C}(0) &= \vec{r}(0) + \rho(0) \vec{N}(0) \\ &= \langle 3, 0, 0 \rangle + \frac{25}{3} \langle -1, 0, 0 \rangle \\ &= \langle -\frac{16}{3}, 0, 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{r} = \langle x_0 + at, y_0 + bt, z_0 + ct \rangle$$

$$x = x_0 + at, \quad y = y_0 + bt, \quad z = z_0 + ct$$

$$\frac{x-x_0}{a} = t, \quad \frac{y-y_0}{b} = t, \quad \frac{z-z_0}{c} = t$$

$$\frac{x-x_0}{a} = \frac{y-y_0}{b} = \frac{z-z_0}{c} \quad (\text{symmetric equations})$$