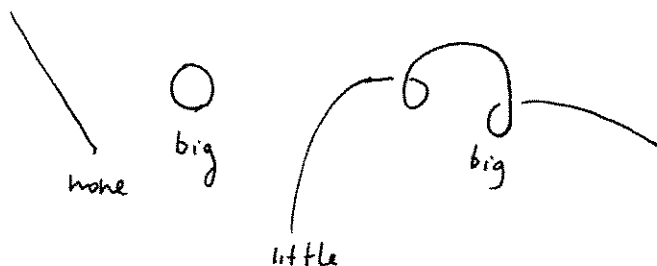


Math 2210
Wed 22 Sept

§12.2 curvature & acceleration



Homework for
Monday 9/27

12.2 (7, 8, 16, 17, 25)

(33, 43, 50, 55)

Exam Wed 9/29
thru 12.2

Fri: Kepler/Newton
Mon 12.3

sketch this spiral
show $\vec{r}(t/2)$, $\vec{T}$, $\vec{N}$, $\vec{a}$
illustrating tang &
normal part of $\vec{a}$

curvature is a quantitative measure of how "fast" a curve is bending.

↓
w.r.t. ?

how about, if you traverse the
curve with unit speed ($|\vec{r}'(t)| \equiv 1$).

digress:

unit speed reparameterizations:

example: $\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \cos t \\ 10 \sin t \end{bmatrix}$, $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$
parameterizes the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 100$
of radius 10 centered at the origin

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -10 \sin t \\ 10 \cos t \end{bmatrix}$$

$|\vec{r}'(t)| = 10$, so we're going 10 times too fast

if we let $s = 10t$; $t = \frac{s}{10}$

then $\vec{\rho}(s) = \vec{r}(t(s)) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \cos \frac{s}{10} \\ 10 \sin \frac{s}{10} \end{bmatrix}$ satisfies $|\vec{\rho}'(s)| = 1$!

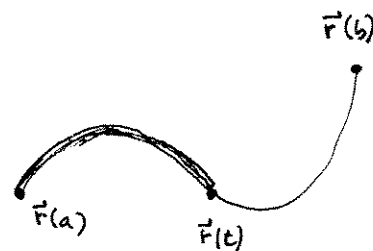
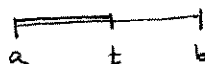
In general, if

$$\vec{r}: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

Define $s(t) = \int_a^t |\vec{r}'(\tau)| d\tau$ = length of arc of curve
between $\vec{r}(a)$ and $\vec{r}(t)$

$$1210 \text{ FTC} \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{ds}{dt} = |\vec{r}'(t)| = v(t)}$$

(makes sense: how fast the
arc length is changing equals speed)



Assuming $v(t) > 0$ on $[a, b]$, $s(t)$ is a strictly increasing function, $s(a) = 0$
so by inverse fun thm [e.g. recall ln, exp in Calculus]
 $s(b) = L$ total length

there is an inverse function $t(s)$, $t: [0, L] \rightarrow [a, b]$,

and $\vec{\rho}(s) := \vec{r}(t(s))$ is unit speed, since $\vec{\rho}'(s) = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$ (chain rule)

$$|\vec{\rho}'(s)| = \left| \frac{dt}{ds} \right| \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right| = \frac{1}{v} \cdot v = 1. !$$

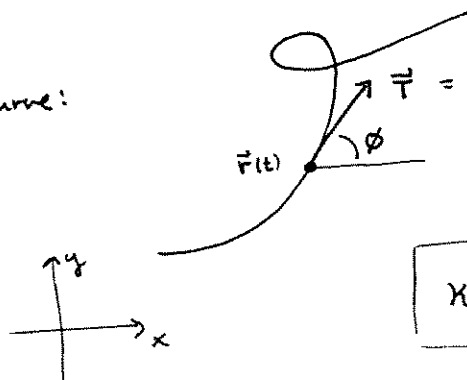
Check that for the circle on page 1 this algorithm reproduces the same unit speed reparameterization

A unit speed parameterization $\vec{p}(s)$ is also called an arclength parameterization, since then $\int_0^s |\vec{p}'(t)| dt = \int_0^s 1 = s$

so the length of the curve as t varies from 0 to s exactly equals s .

return to curvature

for a plane curve:



$\vec{T}$ = unit tangent vector at $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{p}(s)$ ($= \vec{r}(t(s))$)

$$\kappa := \left| \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right|$$

Notice, $\vec{T}(s) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi(s) \\ \sin \phi(s) \end{bmatrix}$

$$\vec{T}'(s) = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \phi \phi'(s) \\ \cos \phi \phi'(s) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{so } |\vec{T}'(s)| = |\phi'(s)| = \kappa$$

example

$$\vec{p}(s) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \cos \frac{s}{10} \\ 10 \sin \frac{s}{10} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{p}'(s) = \vec{T}(s) = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \frac{s}{10} \\ \cos \frac{s}{10} \end{bmatrix}$$

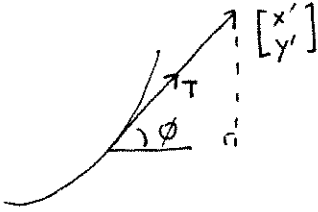
$$\vec{T}'(s) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{10} \cos \frac{s}{10} \\ -\frac{1}{10} \sin \frac{s}{10} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|\vec{T}'(s)| = \kappa = \frac{1}{10}$$

So, what is the curvature of a radius R circle?

Computing curvature for plane curves:

You don't need to find the explicit arclength reparameterization,
you just need to be good at the chain rule



$\vec{r}(t)$ original parameterization, $\vec{r}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x'(t) \\ y'(t) \end{bmatrix}$

$$\phi = \arctan \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}$$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{1}{v} \vec{r}'(t), \quad v = |\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2}$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{ds} = \frac{d\phi}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$$

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = v \quad \text{so} \quad \frac{dt}{ds} = \frac{1}{v}$$

$$= \frac{1}{v} \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

$$= \frac{1}{v} \left(\frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{y'}{x'}\right)^2} \right) \underbrace{D_t \left(\frac{y'}{x'} \right)}_{\frac{y''x' - y'x''}{(x')^2}}$$

$$= \frac{y''x' - y'x''}{((x')^2 + (y')^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\text{so } \kappa = \frac{|y''x' - y'x''|}{((x')^2 + (y')^2)^{3/2}}$$

example: Find the curvature of the parabola $y = x^2$, at every point on the parabola.

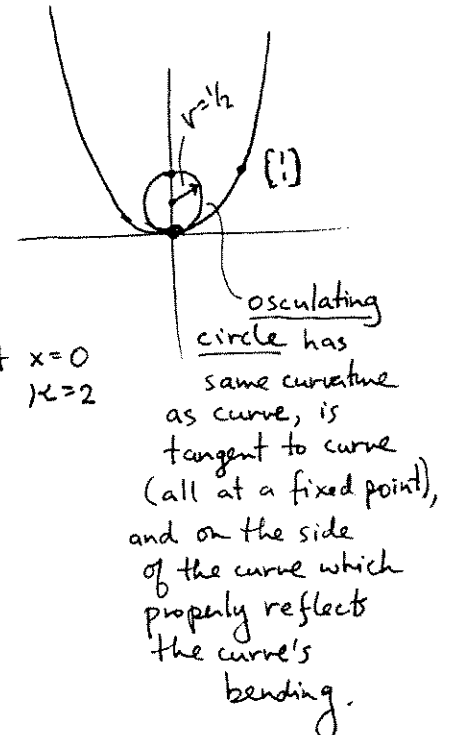
$$\text{let } \vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} x=t & x'=1 & x''=0 \\ y=t^2 & y'=2t & y''=2 \end{array}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{|2 \cdot 1 - 2t \cdot 0|}{(1 + 4t^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{2}{(1 + 4t^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\text{so at } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix}, \kappa = \frac{2}{(1 + 4x^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\text{e.g. at } x=0 \quad \kappa=2$$



Space curves $\vec{r}: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ any $n \geq 2$

We can't use ϕ when $n \neq 2$
but the definition

$$\kappa = \left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \right|$$

still holds.

Notice, since $\vec{T} \cdot \vec{T} \equiv 1$

$$\frac{d}{ds} \vec{T} \cdot \vec{T} \equiv 0$$

$$2 \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \cdot \vec{T} \equiv 0$$

So, if $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \neq 0$ we call $\vec{N} := \frac{1}{\left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \right|} \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$ the unit normal to the curve

Computationally

$$\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$$

$$= \frac{1}{v} \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$$

$$= \frac{1}{v} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{v} \vec{r}'(t) \right)$$

$$\text{So } \kappa = \frac{1}{v} \left| \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{v} \vec{r}'(t) \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \kappa \vec{N}$$

for plane curves
you can get $\vec{N}$
directly from $\vec{T}$

e.g. in parabola
example at $[1]$.

Back to physics:

Normal and tangential components
of acceleration

$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{v} \quad \text{so}$$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = v \vec{T}(t)$$

$$\vec{r}''(t) = v'(t) \vec{T}(t) + v \underbrace{\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}}_{\underbrace{\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \frac{ds}{dt}}_{\vec{N} v}} = v'(t) \vec{T}(t) + \underbrace{v \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}}_{\kappa v^2} \vec{N}$$

$$\vec{r}''(t) = v'(t) \vec{T} + \kappa v^2 \vec{N}$$

