

A smooth parametrized curve is
a (smooth) map $\gamma: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

It is regular if $\dot{\gamma} \neq 0$

Locally, ^{image of} regular curve \Leftrightarrow graph of a smooth
in \mathbb{R}^2 function

\Leftrightarrow level set of function
w/ non-vanishing gradient

A curve is regular \Leftrightarrow it has a unit-speed
(re)parametrization.

If $\vec{v}(t)$ and $\vec{w}(t)$ are ^{smooth} vector-valued functions,
then

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) = (\dot{\vec{v}} \cdot \vec{w}) + (\vec{v} \cdot \dot{\vec{w}})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) &= \frac{d}{dt} \sum_j v_j w_j = \sum_j \dot{v}_j w_j + v_j \dot{w}_j \\ &= \dot{\vec{v}} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \dot{\vec{w}} \end{aligned}$$

Cor: If $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \text{constant}$, $\dot{\vec{v}} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \dot{\vec{w}} = 0$

Cor: If $|\dot{\vec{v}}| = \text{constant}$, $\dot{\vec{v}} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$.

Imagine unit-speed curve $\gamma(t)$.

$\vec{T} = \dot{\gamma} = \text{unit vector} = \text{unit tangent vector}$.

$$\ddot{\gamma} \perp \dot{\gamma}$$

Def: Curvature of γ is $\kappa = |\ddot{\gamma}|$ for unit-speed curve. $= |d\vec{T}/ds|$

Def: Curvature of any curve is $\kappa = |d\vec{T}/ds|$ where $s = \text{arclength}$.

Thm If $K=0$ always, straight line.

Pf: Parametrize by arclength.

$$\ddot{\gamma} = 0, \quad \dot{\gamma} = T = \text{constant}$$

$$\gamma(s) = \vec{T}s + \text{constant} = \text{line.}$$

Ex: Circle of radius R .

$$\gamma(t) = (R \cos t, R \sin t) \quad \frac{d\gamma}{dt} = (-R \sin t, R \cos t)$$

$$\left| \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \right| = R \quad s = Rt$$
$$t = s/R$$

$$\tilde{\gamma}(s) = \left(R \cos \left(\frac{s}{R} \right), R \sin \left(\frac{s}{R} \right) \right)$$

$$\vec{T} = \left(-\sin \left(\frac{s}{R} \right), \cos \left(\frac{s}{R} \right) \right)$$

$$\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \left(-\frac{1}{R} \cos \left(\frac{s}{R} \right), -\frac{1}{R} \sin \left(\frac{s}{R} \right) \right)$$

$$K = \left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \right| = \frac{1}{R}$$

Thm

For any (regular, smooth) curve $\gamma(t)$,

$$K(t) = \frac{|\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma}|}{|\dot{\gamma}|^3}$$

$$= \frac{|\ddot{\gamma}| \sin \theta}{|\dot{\gamma}|^2}$$

$$\gamma = \text{length}$$

$$\dot{\gamma} = \text{length/time}$$

$$\ddot{\gamma} = \text{length/time}^2$$

$$\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma} = \text{length}^2/\text{time}^3$$

$$|\dot{\gamma}|^3 = \text{length}^3/\text{time}^3$$

$$K = 1/\text{length}$$

Pf: $\hat{T} = \frac{\dot{\gamma}}{|\dot{\gamma}|} = \dot{\gamma} (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \dot{\gamma})^{-1/2}$

$$\frac{d\hat{T}}{dt} = \ddot{\gamma} (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \dot{\gamma})^{-1/2} - \dot{\gamma} (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \ddot{\gamma}) (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \dot{\gamma})^{-3/2}$$

$$= \frac{\ddot{\gamma} (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \dot{\gamma}) - \dot{\gamma} (\dot{\gamma} \cdot \ddot{\gamma})}{|\dot{\gamma}|^3} = \frac{-\dot{\gamma} \times (\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma})}{|\dot{\gamma}|^3}$$

$$K = |dT/ds| = \frac{|dT/dt|}{|ds/dt|} = \frac{|\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma}| / |\dot{\gamma}|^2}{|\dot{\gamma}|}$$

$$= \frac{|\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma}|}{|\dot{\gamma}|^3}$$



$$\frac{d}{ds} = \frac{d/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d/dt}{|\dot{\gamma}|}$$

$$\text{Helix: } \gamma(t) = (a \cos(t), a \sin(t), bt)$$

$$\dot{\gamma} = (-a \sin(t), a \cos(t), b)$$

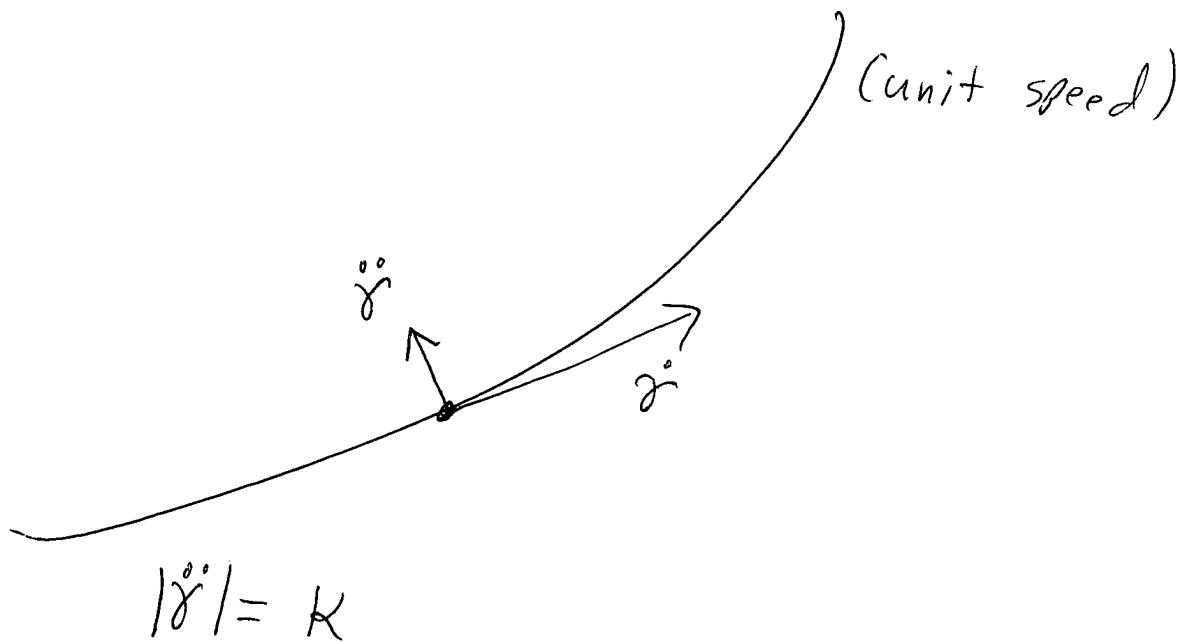
$$\ddot{\gamma} = (-a \cos(t), -a \sin(t), 0)$$

$$\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ -a \sin & a \cos & b \\ -a \cos & -a \sin & 0 \end{vmatrix} = (ab \sin(t), -ab \cos(t), a^2)$$

$$|\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma}| = \sqrt{a^2 b^2 + a^4} = a \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$|\dot{\gamma}| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$K = \frac{|\dot{\gamma} \times \ddot{\gamma}|}{|\dot{\gamma}|^3} = \frac{a \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^3} = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}$$



$$\vec{N} = \text{principal normal} = \frac{\ddot{\gamma}}{\kappa}$$

$$\vec{B} = \text{binormal} = \vec{T} \times \vec{N}$$

$$\ddot{\gamma} = \kappa \vec{N}$$

First order: $\gamma =$ line in \vec{T} direction

2nd order $\gamma =$ ~~circle~~ circle of radius $\frac{1}{\kappa}$ in (\vec{T}, \vec{N}) plane.

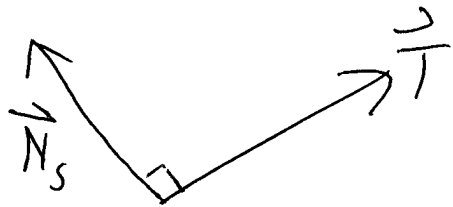
3rd order ($\ddot{\gamma}$) tells

(a) changes in curvature

(b) changes in plane (torsion)

Curves in $\mathbb{R}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$
 $(x, y) = (x, y, 0)$

\vec{N}_s = signed normal vector = 90° ccw rotation
of \vec{T} .



Parametrize by
arclength.

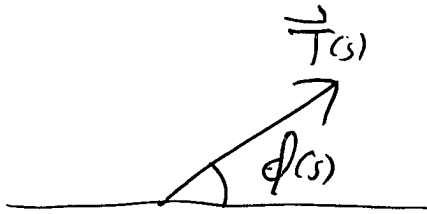
$$\dot{\vec{T}} = a \vec{T} + b \vec{N}_s$$

$$0 = \vec{T} \cdot \dot{\vec{T}} = a \Rightarrow \dot{\vec{T}} = b \vec{N}_s$$

let $K_s = b =$ signed curvature.

$$\vec{N} = \pm \vec{N}_s$$

$$K = |K_s|$$



$$\vec{T}(s) = (\cos(\phi(s)), \sin(\phi(s)))$$

$$\vec{N}_s(s) = (-\sin(\phi(s)), \cos(\phi(s)))$$

$$\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \dot{\phi}(s) (-\sin(\phi), \cos(\phi)) = \dot{\phi}(s) \vec{N}_s$$

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

Ex: $\gamma(t) = (t, \cosh(t))$

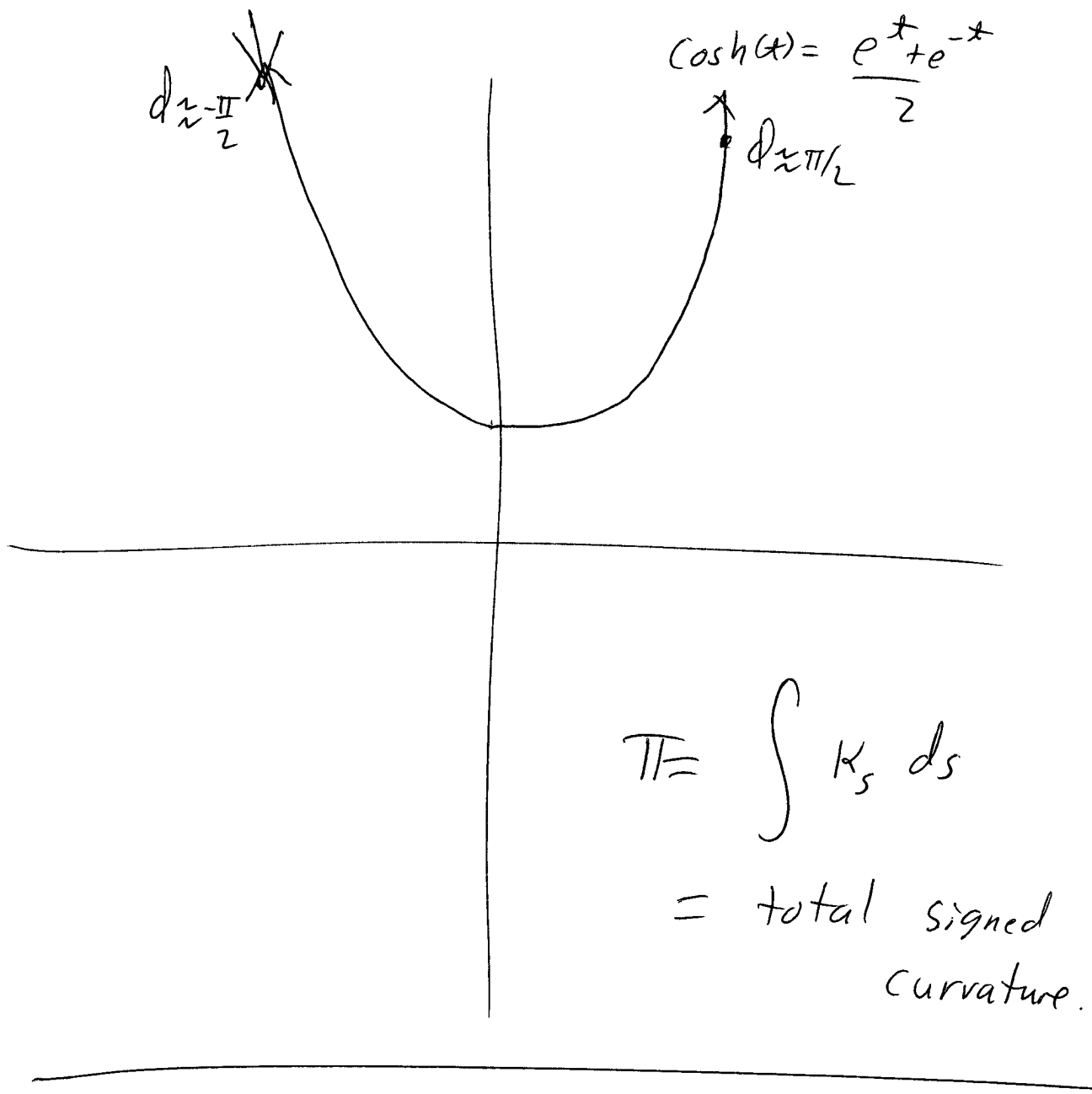
$$\dot{\gamma} = (1, \sinh(t))$$

$$|\dot{\gamma}| = \sqrt{1 + \sinh^2} = \cosh(t)$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1}(\sinh(t))$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{\cosh(t)}{1 + \sinh^2(t)} = \frac{1}{\cosh(t)}$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{ds} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 t}$$



For any curve, $\int K_s ds = \int \frac{d\phi}{ds} ds$
 $= \Delta \phi$

For closed curve, $\int_0^l K_s ds = 2\pi n$.