

• Vector-valued functions / Curves

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle = x(t)\vec{i} + y(t)\vec{j} + z(t)\vec{k}$$

is called

Continuous at t_0 if $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}(t_0)$

Differentiable at t_0 if each of the component functions $x(t), y(t), z(t)$ is differentiable at t_0 .

Smooth if the derivative $\vec{r}'(t)$ is continuous and never $\vec{0}$.

• Vectors/Quantities associated to $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$ (smooth):

• Velocity: $\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r} = \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle$ (derivative of position)

• Speed: $|\vec{v}(t)|$

• Acceleration: $\vec{a}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} = \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2}$ (derivative of velocity)

• Length: $L = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_a^b |\vec{v}(t)| dt$ Length of a smooth curve that is traced exactly once as $a \leq t \leq b$.

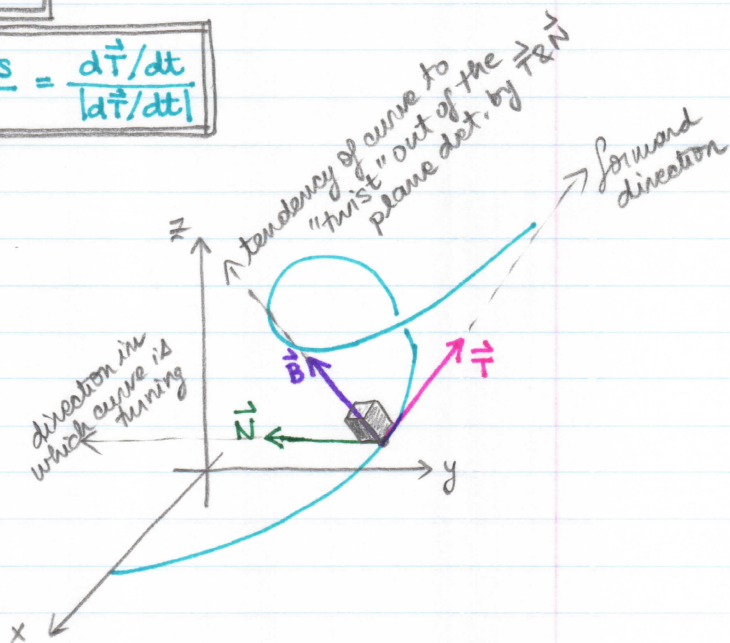
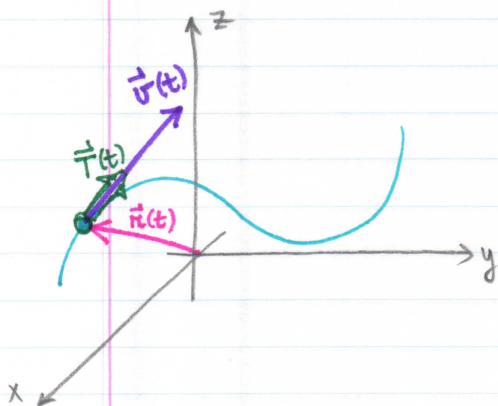
• Arc Length Parameter: $s(t) = \int_{t_0}^t |\vec{v}(\tau)| d\tau$ Length along the curve, measured from a basepoint $P(t_0) = (x(t_0), y(t_0), z(t_0))$.

• Unit Tangent Vector: $\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$; $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \vec{T}$ $\frac{ds}{dt} = |\vec{v}(t)|$ $\frac{dt}{ds} = \frac{1}{|\vec{v}(t)|}$

• Curvature: $\kappa = \left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \right| = \frac{1}{|\vec{v}|} \left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} \right|$

• Unit Normal Vector: $\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}/ds}{\kappa} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{|d\vec{T}/dt|}$

• Binormal Vector: $\vec{B} = \vec{T} \times \vec{N}$



- Tangential & Normal Components of Acceleration:

$$\vec{a} = a_T \vec{T} + a_N \vec{N}$$

$$a_T = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} |\vec{v}(t)|$$

- Tangential scalar component of acceleration
(measures how much of \vec{a} is acting in the direction of motion)

$$a_N = \kappa \left(\frac{ds}{dt} \right)^2 = \kappa |\vec{v}(t)|^2 = \sqrt{|\vec{a}|^2 - a_T^2}$$

→ Normal scalar component of \vec{a}
(measures how much of \vec{a} is acting normal to the motion)

- Torsion:

$$\tau = - \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} \cdot \vec{N}$$

- Differentiation Rules for Vector Functions:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(t) \cdot \vec{v}(t)] = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \vec{u} \right) \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{u} \cdot \left(\frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(t) \times \vec{v}(t)] = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \vec{u} \right) \times \vec{v} + \vec{u} \times \left(\frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(f(t))] = f'(t) \vec{u}'(f(t))$$

- Vector Functions of Constant Length:

If $\vec{r}(t)$ is a differentiable function of t with constant length, then $\vec{r}(t)$ and $\vec{r}'(t)$ are orthogonal at all t :

$$\vec{r} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = 0.$$