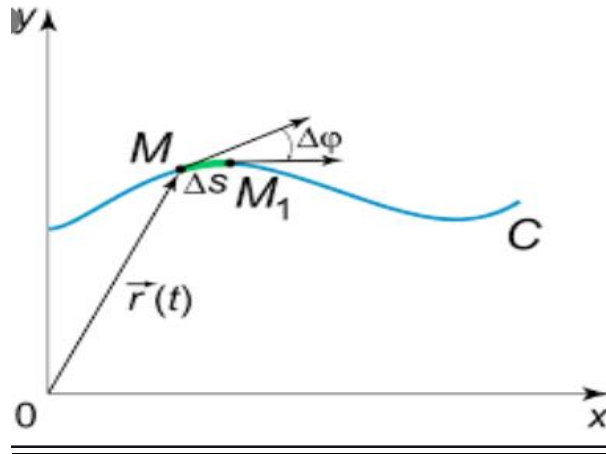


8. Curvature, Torsion & binormal vector: -

Curvature for curves in space



In space there is no natural way to find an angle like ϕ with which to measuring the change in \mathbf{T} along a differential curve .but we still have \mathbf{S} ,the directed distance along the curve and can define the curvature to be

$$\mathbf{K} = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right|$$

OR

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{|v \times \mathbf{a}|}{|v|^3}$$

Example: Find the curvature of the curve, where $a \& b > 0$

$$\mathbf{r} = (a \cos t \mathbf{i} + a \sin t \mathbf{j} + b t \mathbf{k})$$

Solution//

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{|v \times \mathbf{a}|}{|v|^3}$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = -a \sin t \mathbf{i} + a \cos t \mathbf{j} + b \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = (-a \cos t \mathbf{i} - a \sin t \mathbf{j} + 0 \mathbf{k})$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{V}| &= \sqrt{(-a \sin t)^2 + (a \cos t)^2 + b^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(a^2 \sin^2 t) + (a^2 \cos^2 t) + b^2} \\ &= \sqrt{a^2(\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t) + b^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{a} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ -a \sin t & a \cos t & b \\ -a \cos t & -a \sin t & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= +ab \sin t \mathbf{i} - ab \cos t \mathbf{j} + ka^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{a}| &= \sqrt{(ab \sin t)^2 + (-ab \cos t)^2 + (a^2)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{a^2 b^2 \sin^2 t + a^2 b^2 \cos^2 t + a^4} = \sqrt{a^2 b^2 + a^4} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

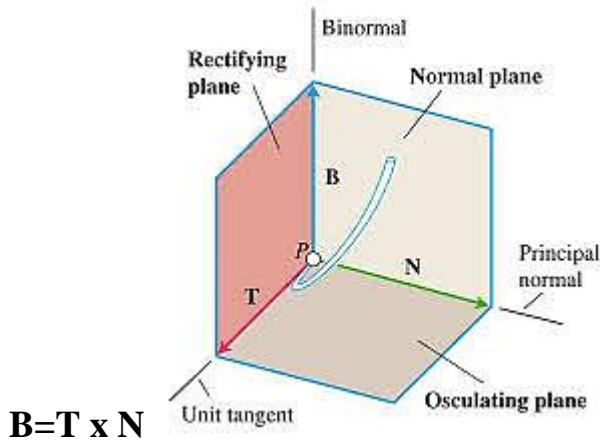
$$|\mathbf{V}|^3 = (a^2 + b^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 b^2 + a^4}}{(a^2 + b^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

H.W.// Find the curvature of the curve,

$$\mathbf{r} = (c \cos t \mathbf{i} + c \sin t \mathbf{j})$$

Torsion & binormal vector



Binormal vector is perpendicular to both normal (N) & tangent (T) vector

The torsion $\tau = \left| \frac{dB}{ds} \right|$

It is measure of how mach the curve twists

$$\tau = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} & \dot{z} \\ \ddot{x} & \ddot{y} & \ddot{z} \\ \ddot{\ddot{x}} & \ddot{\ddot{y}} & \ddot{\ddot{z}} \end{vmatrix}}{|v \times a|^2} \quad \text{if } v \times a \neq 0$$

Example: Find the torsion of the $r = (\cos t i + \sin t j + tk)$

Solution/

$$\tau = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} & \dot{z} \\ \ddot{x} & \ddot{y} & \ddot{z} \\ \ddot{\ddot{x}} & \ddot{\ddot{y}} & \ddot{\ddot{z}} \end{vmatrix}}{|v \times a|^2}$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{dr}{dt} = -\sin t \mathbf{i} + \cos t \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = -\cos t \mathbf{i} - \sin t \mathbf{j} + 0\mathbf{k}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{a}} = \sin t \mathbf{i} - \cos t \mathbf{j} + 0\mathbf{k}$$

$$= \tau = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -\sin t & \cos t & 1 \\ -\cos t & -\sin t & 0 \\ \sin t & -\cos t & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ -\sin t & \cos t & 1 \\ -\cos t & -\sin t & 0 \end{vmatrix}^2} = \frac{\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t}{|\sin t \mathbf{i} - \cos t \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}|^2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

H.W. Find the torsion for the curve $\mathbf{r} = (3\sin t \mathbf{i} + 3\cos t \mathbf{j} + 4t\mathbf{k})$