

All parts of this homework to be completed in Maple should be done in a single worksheet. You can submit either the worksheet by email or a printout of it with your homework.

1. Let $k(s)$ be a smooth function on \mathbb{R} . Let

$$\theta(s) = \int_0^s k(u) \, du$$

and

$$\alpha(s) = \left(\int_0^s \cos(\theta(u)) \, du, \int_0^s \sin(\theta(u)) \, du \right).$$

Show that α is a smooth unit speed curve with signed curvature $\kappa_s(s) = k(s)$.

2. Let $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a translation (so $T(x) = x + v$ for some constant vector v). Let $R : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a rotation. Let $S : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be the reflection $S(x, y) = (-x, y)$. If α is a smooth plane curve, show that the signed curvatures of $T \circ \alpha$ and $R \circ \alpha$ are the same as those of α , but the signed curvature of $S \circ \alpha$ is the negative of the signed curvature of α .
3. Use Maple to plot the trace of a plane curve with signed curvature $\kappa_s(s) = 2 \sin(s)$. Explain why $\alpha(2\pi)$ lies on the x -axis.
4. Let α be a unit speed plane curve. Its center of curvature is

$$\epsilon(s) = \alpha(s) + \frac{1}{\kappa_s(s)} N(s).$$

- a) Show that the circle centered at $\epsilon(s)$ is tangent to α at $\alpha(s)$ and has the same curvature as α at that point. You should use facts you know about the curvature of a circle.
- b) The curve $\epsilon(s)$ is called the evolute of α . Show that the unit tangent to ϵ is $N(s)$ and the signed unit normal to ϵ is $-T$.
- c) Let v be the arclength parameter of ϵ . Show that

$$\frac{dv}{ds} = \left| \frac{\kappa'_s(s)}{\kappa^2} \right|$$

- d) Compute the signed curvature of $\epsilon(s)$.

5. Exercise 1.3.23.

6. (This problem to be done entirely with Maple.) Viviani's curve is defined by

$$\alpha(t) = (\cos(t)^2 - 1/2, \sin(t) \cos(t), \sin(t)).$$

- a) Show that α lies on the sphere of radius 1 centered at $(-1/2, 0, 0)$ and on the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

- b) Make a plot in Maple to demonstrate that α lies on this sphere. The commands **plots[spacecurve]**, **plottools[sphere]** and **plottools[display]** might come in handy. Also note that if you end a line in Maple with a colon rather than a semicolon, the output will be suppressed, which is handy for things like the output of **plottools[sphere]**.
- c) Compute the curvature and torsion of Viviani's curve.
- d) Verify that the curvature and torsion of Viviani's curve satisfy the formula

$$R^2 = (1/\kappa)^2 + ((1/\kappa)'(1/\tau))^2$$

from the previous problem.