

# Notes on Chapter 2 of O'Neill

①

$$\text{Def}^n / p \cdot q = p_1 q_1 + p_2 q_2 + p_3 q_3$$

$$\|p\| = (p \cdot p)^{1/2} = \sqrt{p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2}$$

$$d(p, q) = \|p - q\|$$

All the fun facts you know and love from calculus III,

$$(ap + bq) \cdot r = ap \cdot r + bq \cdot r$$

$$r \cdot (ap + bq) = ar \cdot p + br \cdot q$$

$$p \cdot p \geq 0 \text{ and } \|p\| = 0 \text{ iff } p = 0.$$

$$\|p + q\| \leq \|p\| + \|q\| \quad \& \quad \|cp\| = |c| \|p\|$$

We define dot product on  $T_p \mathbb{R}^3$  by using the natural dot-product transferred by  $v_p \leftrightarrow v$

$$\text{Def}^n / v_p \cdot w_p = v \cdot w$$

$v, w$  are orthogonal iff  $v \cdot w = 0$ . Also, we define  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  by  $v \cdot w = \|v\| \|w\| \cos \theta \rightarrow v \perp w$  if  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\text{Def}^n / e_1, e_2, e_3 \text{ is a frame at } p \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ if } e_1, e_2, e_3 \in T_p \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ and } e_i \cdot e_j = \delta_{ij} \quad \forall i, j.$$

Example:  $U_1(p), U_2(p), U_3(p)$  form a frame at  $p$ .

$$\text{Th}^n / \text{Let } e_1, e_2, e_3 \text{ be a frame for } T_p \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ then if } v \in T_p \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ then } v = (v \cdot e_1) e_1 + (v \cdot e_2) e_2 + (v \cdot e_3) e_3$$

Proof: Since  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  is orthogonal  $\Rightarrow \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  LI hence  $\exists c_1, c_2, c_3$  for which  $v = c_1 e_1 + c_2 e_2 + c_3 e_3$ . Now take dot-products with  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  to conclude. //

The Euclidean Frame  $U_1, U_2, U_3$  gives

(2)

$$V_p = (V_1, V_2, V_3)_p = \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i U_i(p)$$

Another frame,

$$V_p = \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i e_i$$

Likewise for  $W_p$ . Note,

$$V_p \cdot W_p = \left( \sum_i a_i e_i \right) \cdot \left( \sum_j b_j e_j \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j e_i \cdot e_j$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j \delta_{ij}$$

$$= \frac{a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3}{\{e_i\} \text{ frame formula.}} = \frac{V_1 W_1 + V_2 W_2 + V_3 W_3}{\text{Euclidean Coordinates formula}}$$

Def<sup>n</sup>/ Let  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  be frame at  $P \in \mathbb{R}^3$  then the attitude matrix of the frame is  $(a_{ij})$  given by the following:

$$e_1 = (a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{13})_p$$

$$e_2 = (a_{21}, a_{22}, a_{23})_p$$

$$e_3 = (a_{31}, a_{32}, a_{33})_p$$

$$\rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe:  $\sum_{k=1}^3 a_{ik} \underbrace{a_{jk}}_{(a^T)_{kj}} = a_i \cdot a_j = \delta_{ij}$

$$\rightarrow \underbrace{AA^T}_{\text{or } A^T A} = I$$

attitude matrix.

for Oneil.

$$\text{Def}^{10} \quad V \times W = \begin{vmatrix} U_1(p) & U_2(p) & U_3(p) \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

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Lemma (1.8)  $\|V \times W\|^2 = (V \cdot V)(W \cdot W) - (V \cdot W)^2$

Proof: see my calculus III notes or pg. 49.

This is Lagrange's Identity, it's non trivial. //

Cor:  $\|V \times W\| = \|V\| \|W\| \sin \theta$  and R.H.S. gives direction.

Exercises on p. 50 (calculus III in new notation)

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## §2.2 CURVES

$\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  a curve

$$\alpha'(t) = \left( \frac{d\alpha_1}{dt}(t), \frac{d\alpha_2}{dt}(t), \frac{d\alpha_3}{dt}(t) \right)_{\alpha(t)}$$

speed  $v = \|\alpha'\| = \sqrt{\alpha'(t) \cdot \alpha'(t)}$

arclength from  $\alpha(a)$  to  $\alpha(b) = \int_a^b \|\alpha'(t)\| dt$

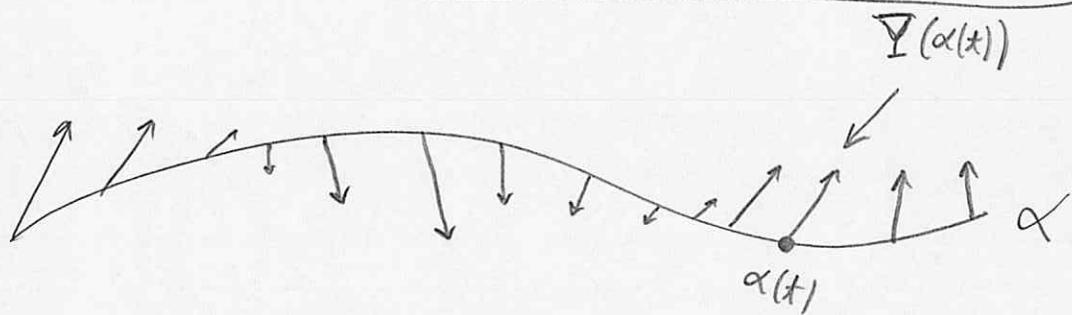
Th<sup>m</sup> If  $\alpha$  a regular curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  then  $\exists$  a reparametrization  $\beta$  such that  $\beta$  has unit speed

Proof: parametrize by arclength. Then

$$\|\beta'(s)\| = \frac{dt}{ds} \|\alpha'(t(s))\| = \frac{dt}{ds} \frac{ds}{dt} = 1. //$$

(I have careful proof in 231 notes or see pg. 53)

Def<sup>n</sup>/ A vector field  $\mathbb{Y}$  on curve  $\alpha: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a function that assigns to each  $t \in I$  a tangent vector  $\mathbb{Y}(t)$  at  $\alpha(t)$ .



To differentiate  $\mathbb{Y}$  above, we differentiate the component functs. If  $\mathbb{Y} = \sum y_i \mathbb{U}_i$  then

$$\mathbb{Y}' = \frac{d\mathbb{Y}}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{dy_i}{dt} \mathbb{U}_i$$

Likewise  $\mathbb{Y}''$  is defined.

PROPERTIES

$$(a\mathbb{Y} + b\mathbb{Z})' = a\mathbb{Y}' + b\mathbb{Z}'$$

$$(f\mathbb{Y})' = \frac{df}{dt} \mathbb{Y} + f\mathbb{Y}'$$

$$(\mathbb{Y} \cdot \mathbb{Z})' = \mathbb{Y}' \cdot \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Y} \cdot \mathbb{Z}'$$

← THIS IS IMPORTANT!

Lemma 2.3:

- (1) curve  $\alpha$  is constant iff  $\alpha' = 0$
- (2) a non constant curve  $\alpha$  is straight line iff  $\alpha'' = 0$
- (3.) a vector field  $\mathbb{Y}$  on a curve is parallel iff  $\mathbb{Y}' = 0$

Proof: see text.

Exercises pg. 57 (11 problems)

## Proof of Lemma 2.3

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(1.) a curve  $\alpha$  is constant iff  $\alpha' = 0$

Proof: If  $\alpha(t) = p \forall t$  then  $\alpha'(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha' = 0$ .

Conversely  $\alpha' = \left( \frac{d\alpha_1}{dt}, \frac{d\alpha_2}{dt}, \frac{d\alpha_3}{dt} \right) = (0, 0, 0)$  at each  $(\alpha(t))$

thus  $\frac{d\alpha_i}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha_i = c_i \Rightarrow \alpha(t) = (c_1, c_2, c_3)$ . //

(2.) a non-constant curve  $\alpha$  is straight line iff  $\alpha'' = 0$ .

If  $\alpha$  straight line then  $\exists p, v$  s.t.  $\alpha(t) = p + tv$  thus

$\alpha'(t) = v_{\alpha(t)} = (v_1, v_2, v_3) \Rightarrow \alpha''(t) = \left( \frac{d}{dt}(v_1), \frac{d}{dt}(v_2), \frac{d}{dt}(v_3) \right) = (0, 0, 0)$

thus  $\alpha'' = 0$ . Conversely if  $\alpha'' = 0$  then

$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  has  $\alpha'' = (\alpha_1'', \alpha_2'', \alpha_3'') = (0, 0, 0)$

So integrate twice to find  $\alpha(t) = (p_1 + tv_1, p_2 + tv_2, p_3 + tv_3)$   
which is a straight line. //

} Remark: soon after,  $\beta$  unit speed has  $\beta' = T$   
and  $\beta'' = \kappa N$  hence  $\beta'' = 0 \Rightarrow \kappa = 0$ .  
we see straight lines have zero curvature. }

(3.) a vector field  $\Upsilon$  on a curve  $\alpha$  is parallel iff  $\Upsilon' = 0$ .

$\Rightarrow$   $\Upsilon \parallel \alpha$  then  $\Upsilon(t) = (c_1, c_2, c_3)_{\alpha(t)} \forall t$

$\Rightarrow \Upsilon'(t) = \left( \frac{d}{dt}(c_1), \frac{d}{dt}(c_2), \frac{d}{dt}(c_3) \right) = (0, 0, 0)$ .

$\Leftarrow$  If  $\frac{d\Upsilon}{dt} = (0, 0, 0)$  then  $\Rightarrow \left( \frac{d\Upsilon_1}{dt}, \frac{d\Upsilon_2}{dt}, \frac{d\Upsilon_3}{dt} \right) = (0, 0, 0)$

$\Rightarrow \Upsilon(t) = (c_1, c_2, c_3)_{\alpha(t)}$  //

## § 2.3 THE FRENET FORMULAS

$\beta: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  unit speed,  $\|\beta'(s)\| = 1$ .

Def<sup>n</sup>  $T = \beta'$  is unit tangent vector field,

$T' = \beta''$  measures change in direction for  $T$  as  $T \cdot T = \|T\|^2 = 1$ .  
↑  
curvature vector field for  $\beta$

Note  $T \cdot T = 1 \Rightarrow 2T' \cdot T = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow T' \perp T$

Def<sup>n</sup>  $\kappa(s) = \|T'(s)\| =$  curvature funct. of  $\beta$

Def<sup>n</sup>  $N = T'/\kappa$  and  $B = T \times N$   
↑ unit normal                      ↑ binormal

Lemma 3.1:  $\beta$  a unit speed curve with  $\kappa > 0$ .  
The three vector fields  $T, N, B$  are unit-vector fields which are mutually  $\perp$ . These form the Frenet Frame for  $\beta$

(I begin again and work out Frenet Serret like Uncl for next two pages, we define  $\kappa$  and  $T$  again as we go)

## Frenet Serret Derivation

Btw  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{this is unique up to base point} \\ \Rightarrow \kappa \text{ and } T \end{array} \right\}$  6 well-defined.

Let  $\alpha$  be a unit-speed curve;  $\alpha'(s) \cdot \alpha'(s) = 1$

for all  $s$ . We define  $T = \alpha'$ , the unit-tangent to  $\alpha$

Next, differentiate  $\alpha' \cdot \alpha' = 1$  and use product rule, TANGENT

$$\alpha'' \cdot \alpha' + \alpha' \cdot \alpha'' = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha'' \cdot T = 0$$

The vector field  $\alpha''$  describes the change in  $T$ , it thus describes how  $T$  is turning given  $\|T\| = 1$

We define  $\kappa = \|\alpha''\| = \sqrt{\alpha'' \cdot \alpha''}$ . If  $\kappa > 0$  (assumed)

then define  $N = \frac{1}{\kappa} \alpha'' = \frac{1}{\kappa} T'$ . Observe  $N \cdot T = 0$

as  $\frac{1}{\kappa} \alpha'' \cdot T = \frac{1}{\kappa} (\alpha'' \cdot T) = 0$ . Also  $N \cdot N = 1$

To complete the Frenet Frame define  $B = T \times N$

The Frenet-Serret Eq<sup>s</sup> detail the change in  $T, N, B$  in terms of  $T, N, B$ . Observe, we already have

$$1.) \quad T' = \kappa N$$

Notice,  $\{T, N, B\}$  is orthonormal as  $T \cdot T = N \cdot N = 1$  and

$T \cdot N = 0 \Rightarrow B \cdot B = \|T \times N\| = \sin \theta = 1$ . (using Lagrange's Identity which motivates  $T \times N = (TN \sin \theta) \hat{n}$ . Furthermore, as  $T \cdot (T \times N) = N \cdot (T \times N) = 0$  we have  $T \cdot B = N \cdot B = 0$ .

Therefore  $\{T, N, B\}$  is orthonormal frame as claimed.

$B' = (B' \cdot T)T + (B' \cdot N)N + (B' \cdot B)B$  as  $B' \in \text{span}\{T, N, B\}$ .

Note,  $B \cdot B = 1 \Rightarrow B' \cdot B + B \cdot B' = 0 \Rightarrow B' \cdot B = 0$ .

Also,  $B \cdot T = 0 \Rightarrow B' \cdot T + B \cdot T' = 0 \Rightarrow B' \cdot T + \kappa B \cdot N = 0$

Thus  $B' \cdot T = 0$ . We find  $B' = (B' \cdot N)N$  so define  $\tau = -B' \cdot N$

$$2.) \quad B' = -\tau N$$

continued  $\rightarrow$

Both  $T' = \kappa N$  and  $B' = -\tau N$  are essentially the definition of curvature  $\kappa$  and torsion  $\tau$ . The curvature measures how  $T$  bends along curve whereas the torsion  $\tau$  measures how  $B$  bends along curve. Since we define  $N$  to be the direction in which  $T$  changes this ultimately forces  $B = T \times N$  to also change in the  $N$  direction (if  $\tau \neq 0$ ). Finally we consider  $N$ , I suppose it's not surprising it changes into both  $T$  &  $B$  directions,

$$N' = (N' \cdot T)T + (N' \cdot N)N + (N' \cdot B)B$$

Note  $N \cdot N = 1 \Rightarrow 2N' \cdot N = 0$ .

Note  $N \cdot T = 0 \Rightarrow N' \cdot T + N \cdot T' = 0 \Rightarrow N' \cdot T = -N \cdot (\kappa N) = -\kappa$

Also,  $N \cdot B = 0 \Rightarrow N' \cdot B + N \cdot B' = 0 \Rightarrow N' \cdot B = -N \cdot B' = -(-\tau) = \tau$

Therefore,

$$3.) \boxed{N' = -\kappa T + \tau B}$$

Reminder: Eq<sup>s</sup> 1, 2, 3 are all for unit-speed curves with  $\kappa > 0$ . So, explicitly,

$$T' = \frac{dT}{ds}, \quad N' = \frac{dN}{ds}, \quad B' = \frac{dB}{ds}$$

To reparametrize with a different parameter we change  $s \mapsto h(t)$  and use  $\tilde{F} = (F \circ h)$

$$\frac{dF}{ds} = \frac{dt}{ds} \frac{d\tilde{F}}{dt} = \frac{1}{v} \frac{d\tilde{F}}{dt}$$

Then multiply by  $v$  to obtain (using  $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa \circ h$ ,  $\tilde{\tau} = \tau \circ h$ ,

$$\frac{d\tilde{T}}{dt} = \tilde{\kappa} v \tilde{N}, \quad \frac{d\tilde{N}}{dt} = -\tilde{\kappa} v \tilde{T} + \tilde{\tau} v \tilde{B}, \quad \frac{d\tilde{B}}{dt} = -v \tilde{\tau} \tilde{N}$$

Of course, O'Neil uses a different notation scheme to explain this in §2.4.

Cor 3.5

(8)

Let  $\beta$  be a unit speed curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with  $\kappa > 0$ .  
Then  $\beta$  is planar curve iff  $\tau = 0$ .

Lemma 3.6.

If  $\beta$  is a unit-speed curve with constant curvature  $\kappa > 0$  and zero torsion, then  $\beta$  is part of a circle of radius  $1/\kappa$ .

Discussion:  $\Sigma$  a sphere,  $\beta$  unit-speed curve  
minimum curvature occurs on great circles (have radius  $a$ )  
so  $\kappa \geq \frac{1}{a}$  (see pg. 66 in v. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed)

§ 2.4 (Arbitrary Speed Curves)

$$\alpha(t) = \bar{\alpha}(s(t)) \quad \text{for all } t$$

$$\kappa = \bar{\kappa}(s)$$

$$\tau = \bar{\tau}(s)$$

$$T = \bar{T}(s)$$

$$N = \bar{N}(s)$$

$$B = \bar{B}(s)$$

(p 70)

Modified Frenet Serret: (just add chain rule part the derivation we already went through on pg. 60)

$$T' = \kappa v N$$

$$N' = -\kappa v T + \tau v B$$

$$B' = -\tau v N$$

Lemma 4.2: If  $\alpha$  is regular curve with speed  $v$   
then velocity  $\alpha'$  and acceleration  $\alpha''$  are

$$\alpha' = v T, \quad \alpha'' = \frac{dv}{dt} T + \kappa v^2 N$$

(9)

Th<sup>m</sup> (4.3) gives convenient f-la's for explicit calculation.

Def<sup>n</sup> (4.5) A regular curve  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a cylindrical helix provided unit tangent  $T$  of  $\alpha$  has constant angle  $\vartheta$  with some fixed unit-vector  $u$ ;  $T(t) \cdot u = \cos \vartheta$   
 $\forall t$ .

Th<sup>m</sup> (4.6) A regular curve  $\alpha$  with  $\kappa > 0$  is cylindrical helix iff  $\tau/\kappa$  is constant.

Punch line:

$\kappa = 0 \iff$  straight line

$\tau = 0 \iff$  plane curve

$\kappa \text{ const} > 0, \tau = 0 \iff$  circle

$\kappa \text{ const} > 0, \tau \text{ const} > 0 \iff$  circular helix

$\tau/\kappa \text{ const} \neq 0 \iff$  cylindrical helix.

$\kappa$  &  $\tau$  characterize the curve.