

# Space curves

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$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = (\alpha_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \alpha_3 \mathbf{e}_3) \times (\beta_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \beta_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \beta_3 \mathbf{e}_3)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}(t) \times \mathbf{w}(t) &= (\alpha_1(t)\mathbf{e}_1 + \alpha_2(t)\mathbf{e}_2 + \alpha_3(t)\mathbf{e}_3) \times (\beta_1(t)\mathbf{e}_1 + \beta_2(t)\mathbf{e}_2 + \beta_3(t)\mathbf{e}_3) \\ &= (\beta_2(t)\alpha_3(t) - \beta_3(t)\alpha_2(t))\mathbf{e}_1 + \cdots\end{aligned}$$

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So, if  $\mathbf{v}(t)$  and  $\mathbf{w}(t)$  are smooth, then  $\mathbf{v}(t) \times \mathbf{w}(t)$  is smooth.

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So, any vector field,

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## Space curves

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$$x(t) = \mathbf{v}(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t)$$

$$y(t) = \mathbf{v}(t) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$z(t) = \mathbf{v}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{v}}(t) &= \dot{x}(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + x(t)\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) \\ &+ \dot{y}(t)\mathbf{N}(t) + y(t)\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) \\ &+ \dot{z}(t)\mathbf{B}(t) + z(t)\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)\end{aligned}$$

What are  $\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t)$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t)$ , and  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)$  in terms of the basis?

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t) + \underbrace{\mathbf{N}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{T}}(t)}_{\kappa(t)} = \underbrace{(\mathbf{N}(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t))'}_0$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + \underbrace{\mathbf{N}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)}_{-\tau(t)} = \underbrace{(\mathbf{N}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))'}_0$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t) + \underbrace{\mathbf{B}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{T}}(t)}_0 = \underbrace{(\mathbf{B}(t) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t))'}_0$$

# Frenet-Serret equations

## Frenet-Serret equations

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = 0\mathbf{T}(t) + \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t) + 0\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + 0\mathbf{N}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{T}(t) - \tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t) + 0\mathbf{B}(t)$$

## Frenet-Serret equations

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$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion

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$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ .

## Planes

$$P = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid a(x-x_0)+b(y-y_0)+c(z-z_0) = 0\}$$

## Frenet-Serret equations

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$$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta)$$

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$$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$



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$\gamma : (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  parametrizes a curve that lies on the plane,  $P$ , if and only if

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for all  $t$

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If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,  
then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)$

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then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t)$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant,

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

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$$((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))'$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' = ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) +$$



$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' = ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t))$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ .

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then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ .

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,

then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t).\mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ .

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,

then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t).\mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B} = c$$



$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

At  $t = t_0$ ,

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ .

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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At  $t = t_0$ ,

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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t).\mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ . If the torsion is a constant 0, the curve lies on a plane.

*Notation:*

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,

$$\text{then } \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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At  $t = t_0$ ,

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$$\text{then } \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))'.\mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t).\mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)).\mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

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At  $t = t_0$ ,

$$c = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\text{So, } (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ . If the torsion is a constant 0, the curve lies on a plane.

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,  
then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  : unit **tangent** vector at  $t$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  : unit **tangent** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{N}(t)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,  
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So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

At  $t = t_0$ ,

$$c = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t_0)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

So,  $(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

If the torsion is a constant 0, the curve lies on a plane.

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  : unit **tangent** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{N}(t)$  : unit **normal** vector at  $t$



$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{N}}(t) = -\kappa(t)\mathbf{T}(t) + \tau(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

At  $t = t_0$ ,

$$c = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t_0)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ . If the torsion is a constant 0, the curve lies on a plane.

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,

$$\text{then } \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$$

So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  : unit **tangent** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{N}(t)$  : unit **normal** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{B}(t)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \kappa(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$$

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**Definition.**  $\tau(t)$ , defined so that  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -\tau(t)\mathbf{N}(t)$  is called the torsion of  $\gamma$  at  $t$ . If the torsion is a constant 0, the curve lies on a plane.

If  $\tau(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in (\alpha, \beta)$ ,  
then  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = 0\mathbf{N}(t) = 0$   
So,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is constant, say,  $\mathbf{B}$

At  $t = t_0$ ,

$$c = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\text{So, } (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

*Notation:*

$\mathbf{T}(t)$  : unit **tangent** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{N}(t)$  : unit **normal** vector at  $t$

$\mathbf{B}(t)$  : unit **binormal** vector at  $t$

$$\begin{aligned} ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t))' &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) + (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - \tau(t)(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{N}(t)) \\ &= ((\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t))' \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) - 0) \\ &= -\mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) = (\gamma(t_0) - \gamma(t)) \cdot \mathbf{B} = c$$