

Math 173 - Quiz 4

February 24, 2011

Name key

Score _____

Show all work to receive full credit. Supply explanations when necessary.

1. (3 points) Find a point of intersection of the graphs of the following vector-valued functions.

$$\vec{r}(t) = (t-2)\hat{i} + t^2\hat{j} + \frac{1}{2}t\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{u}(s) = \frac{1}{4}s\hat{i} + 2s\hat{j} + \sqrt[3]{s}\hat{k}$$

Then find the angle between the tangent vectors at that point.

POINT OF INTERSECTION:

$$t-2 = \frac{1}{4}s$$

$$t^2 = 2s$$

$$t^2 = 2(4t-8)$$

$$t^2 = 8t - 16$$

$$t^2 - 8t + 16 = 0$$

$$(t-4)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow t = 4$$

POINT is $t = 4, s = 8$

WHICH CORRESPONDS TO

$$(2, 16, 2)$$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \hat{i} + 2t\hat{j} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{u}'(s) = \frac{1}{4}\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \frac{1}{3}s^{-2/3}\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r}'(4) = \hat{i} + 8\hat{j} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{u}'(8) = \frac{1}{4}\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \frac{1}{12}\hat{k}$$

$$|\vec{r}'(4)| = \sqrt{261/4}$$

$$|\vec{u}'(8)| = \sqrt{293/72}$$

$$\vec{r}'(4) \cdot \vec{u}'(8) = \frac{391}{24}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{391/24}{\sqrt{261/4}\sqrt{293/72}}\right)$$

$$= 0.0206...$$

$$\approx 1.18^\circ$$

2. (3 points) Find the principal unit normal vector at $t = 0$.

$$\vec{r}(t) = \sqrt{2}t\hat{i} + e^t\hat{j} + e^{-t}\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \sqrt{2}\hat{i} + e^t\hat{j} - e^{-t}\hat{k}$$

$$|\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{2 + e^{2t} + e^{-2t}}$$

$$\hat{T}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 + e^{2t} + e^{-2t}}} (\sqrt{2}\hat{i} + e^t\hat{j} - e^{-t}\hat{k})$$

$$\hat{T}'(t) = -\frac{1}{2} (2 + e^{2t} + e^{-2t})^{-3/2} (2e^{2t} - 2e^{-2t}) [\sqrt{2}\hat{i} + e^t\hat{j} - e^{-t}\hat{k}]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 + e^{2t} + e^{-2t}}} (e^t\hat{j} + e^{-t}\hat{k}) \Rightarrow \hat{T}'(0) = \frac{\hat{j} + \hat{k}}{2}$$

$$\hat{N}(0) = \frac{\hat{T}'(0)}{|\hat{T}'(0)|} = \frac{\frac{\hat{j} + \hat{k}}{2}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} = \frac{\hat{j} + \hat{k}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

3. (2 points) Suppose $\vec{r}(t) = a \cos t \hat{i} + a \sin t \hat{j} + b \hat{k}$, where a and b are positive numbers. Find a formula for the arc length of the graph over the interval $[0, 2\pi]$.

$$\vec{r}'(t) = -a \sin t \hat{i} + a \cos t \hat{j}$$

$$|\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{a^2 \sin^2 t + a^2 \cos^2 t} = \sqrt{a^2} = a$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |\vec{r}'(t)| dt = \int_0^{2\pi} a dt = \boxed{2\pi a}$$

4. (2 points) Find the curvature of the graph of $y = 2x + \frac{4}{x}$ at the point where $x = 1$.

$$f(x) = 2x + \frac{4}{x}$$

$$f'(x) = 2 - \frac{4}{x^2} \quad f'(1) = -2$$

$$f''(x) = \frac{8}{x^3} \quad f''(1) = 8$$

$$K = \frac{|f''(x)|}{[1 + f'(x)^2]^{3/2}} = \frac{8}{5^{3/2}} = \boxed{0.7155...}$$