



$$K(x) = \left| \frac{2}{\sqrt{1+4x^2}} \right|$$

$K'(x) = 0$ to find max/min

11.6: Curvature

Arc length $s(t) = \int_a^t v(t) dt$ where $v(t) = |v(t)|$

$s(t)$ is an increasing function and thus $s^{-1}(t)$ exists. Let $t(s) = s^{-1}(t)$.

Arc-length parametrization = reparametrize by replacing t with $t(s)$.

Example: $r(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t), t)$

Unit tangent vector $T(t) = \frac{v(t)}{|v(t)|} = \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{speed}} = \frac{dr}{ds} = \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{ds}$
 Unit \Rightarrow length = 1

Thus if T is parametrized by arc length s , then

$$T(s) = \frac{v(s)}{|v(s)|} = \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{speed}} = \frac{dr}{ds} = \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{ds}$$

Since T is a unit vector, $T \cdot T = 1$ Speed = 1 w/ arc length parametrization

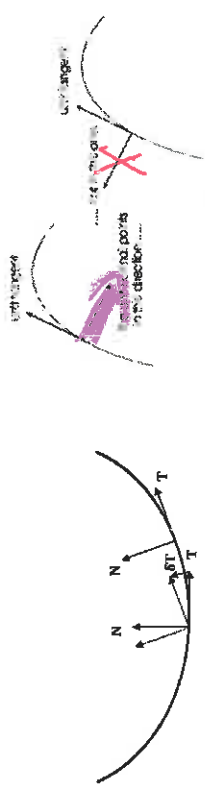
Differentiate with respect to s : $2T \cdot \frac{dT}{ds} = 0$

Thus T is perpendicular to $\frac{dT}{ds}$

Definition: The principal unit normal is $\frac{dT}{ds} = \frac{dT}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{ds}$ where

$$\text{curvature } \kappa = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right| = \left| \frac{dT}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{ds} \right| = \frac{1}{\text{speed}} \left| \frac{dT}{dt} \right|$$

The unit normal points in the direction in which the curve is curving:



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curvature>, [http://sites.millersville.edu/bikenaga/calculus/tangent-normal-curvature.html](http://sites.millersville.edu/bikenaga/calculus/tangent-normal-curvature/tangent-normal-curvature.html)

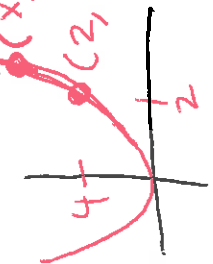
Example: Find the unit tangent and normal vectors to the curve $y = x^2$

at $(2, 4)$

$$r(x) = (x, x^2)$$

$$r(t) = (t, t^2)$$

not using arc length parametrization



$$K = \left| \frac{y''}{(1+(y')^2)^{3/2}} \right|$$

In 2D, if $r(t) = (x(t), y(t))$, let $\phi = \tan^{-1}(\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)})$

Write unit tangent in polar coordinates: $T = \frac{r'(t)}{|r'(t)|} = \cos\phi i + \sin\phi j$

Then $\frac{dT}{ds} = (-\sin\phi i + \cos\phi j) \frac{d\phi}{ds}$ is obviously perpendicular to T .

$$\text{curvature } \kappa = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right| = \left| (-\sin\phi i + \cos\phi j) \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right| = \left| \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right|$$

If $r(x) = (x, f(x)) = (x, y)$

$$\text{curvature } \kappa = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right| = \frac{|x'y'' - x''y'|}{(x'^2 + y'^2)^{3/2}}$$

Example: Find the point(s) on the curve $y = x^2$ where curvature is maximum. $y' = 2x$, $y'' = 2$

$$\text{Maximize } K(x) = \frac{2}{|(1, 2x)|^3}$$

$$\vec{T} \cdot \vec{T} = \sum T_i^2$$

$$\frac{d}{ds}(\vec{T} \cdot \vec{T}) = \sum 2T_i \cdot \frac{dT_i}{ds} = 2\vec{T} \cdot \frac{dT}{ds}$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) = (1, 2t)$$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{(1, 2t)}{\sqrt{1+4t^2}}$$

$$\text{At } (2, 4), \vec{T}(2) = \frac{(1, 4)}{\sqrt{17}} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}}, \frac{4}{\sqrt{17}} \right)$$



$y = x^2 \Rightarrow y' = 2x$
slope is $\frac{4}{1}$

$$r(s) = \left(\cos\left(\frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \sin\left(\frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

11.6: Curvature

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Example: $r(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t), t)$

Unit tangent vector $T(t) = \frac{v(t)}{|v(t)|} = \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{speed}} = \frac{dr}{ds} = \frac{dr}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$

Thus if T is parametrized by arclength s , then

$$T(s) = \frac{v(s)}{|v(s)|} = \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{speed}} = \frac{dr}{ds} = \frac{dr}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$$

Since T is a unit vector, $T \cdot T = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dT}{ds} = 0$

Differentiate with respect to s : $2T \cdot \frac{dT}{ds} = 0$

Thus T is perpendicular to $\frac{dT}{ds}$

Definition: The principal unit normal is $\frac{dT}{ds}$ where $\frac{dT}{ds} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{dT}{dt}$

$$\text{curvature } \kappa = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right| = \left| \frac{dT}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds} \right| = \frac{1}{\text{speed}} \left| \frac{dT}{dt} \right|$$

The unit normal points in the direction in which the curve is curving:



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Example: Find the unit tangent and normal vectors to the curve $y = x^2$ at $(2, 4)$

$$r(x) = (x, x^2)$$

$$r(t) = (t, t^2)$$

not using arclength

In 2D, if $r(t) = (x(t), y(t))$, let $\phi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}\right)$

Write unit tangent in polar coordinates: $T = \frac{r'(t)}{|r'(t)|} = \cos\phi i + \sin\phi j$

Then $\frac{dT}{ds} = (-\sin\phi i + \cos\phi j) \frac{d\phi}{ds}$ is obviously perpendicular to T .

$$\text{curvature } = \kappa = \left| \frac{dT}{ds} \right| = |(-\sin\phi i + \cos\phi j) \frac{d\phi}{ds}| = \left| \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right|$$

Since $\phi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}\right)$, then

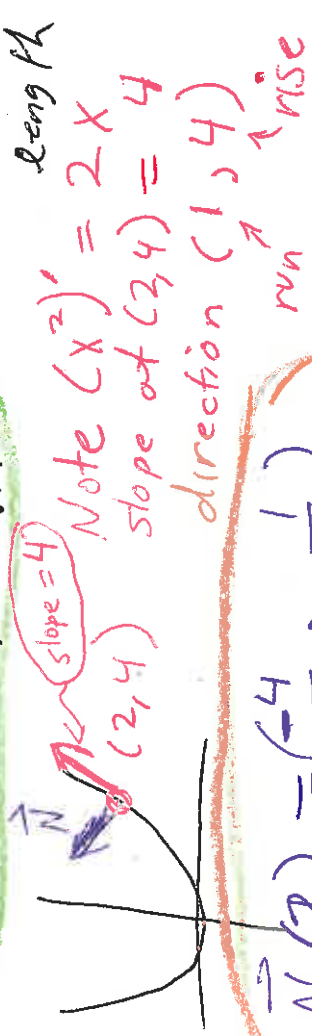
$$\text{curvature } = \kappa = \left| \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right| = \left| \frac{\frac{x'y'' - x''y'}{(x')^2 + (y')^2}}{ds} \right|$$

If $r(x) = (x, x^2)$
 $x' = 1, x'' = 0$
 $y' = 2x, y'' = 2$
 $\kappa'(x) = 0$

Example: Find the point(s) on the curve $y = x^2$ where curvature is maximum. Use calc I to find max

$$\kappa(x) = \left| \frac{2}{\sqrt{1^2 + (2x)^2}} \right| \Rightarrow \text{Unit tangent at } (2, 4)$$

$$T(2) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}}, \frac{4}{\sqrt{17}} \right) \text{ since } \sqrt{1+4(2)^2}$$



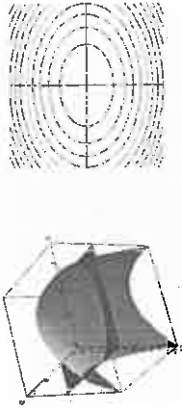
$$\vec{N}(2) = \left(-\frac{4}{\sqrt{17}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{17}} \right)$$

$$\vec{r}(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2} i + (2x) j$$

$$\vec{T}(x) = \frac{(1, 2x)}{\sqrt{1+4x^2}}$$

12.2 Functions of several variables: $z = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

Level set: $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = c$ for some constant c .



Nykamp DQ, "Level sets." From Math Insight. http://mathinsight.org/level_sets

A topographical map shows level sets:



<https://www.math.tamu.edu/~mphilant/math696/m696.240/jsanayoa/public.html/levelcurves.html>

Can use level sets to understand graphs of functions with 3 variables:

Example: $f(x, y, x) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$

$$c = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$c = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ level sets are spheres centered at $(0, 0, 0)$

Example: $g(x, y, x) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 8z$

$$c = x^2 + y^2 + (z - 4)^2 - 16$$

level sets = spheres centered at $(0, 0, 4)$

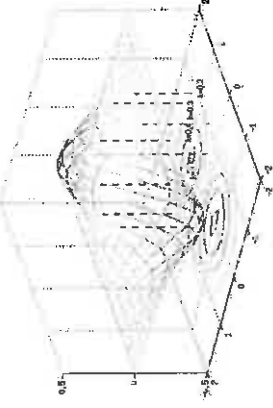
Cross section = the intersection of the graph of $z = f(x, y)$ with a plane.

Examples:

$$z = f(c, y)$$

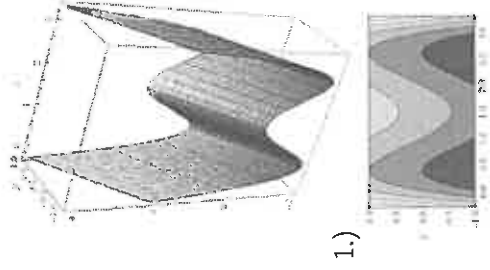
$$z = f(x, c)$$

$$c = f(x, y)$$

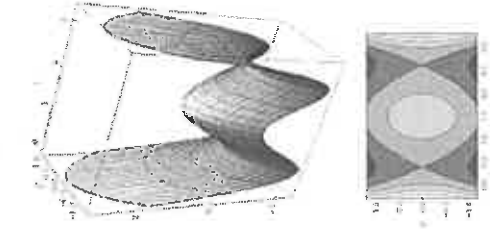


<https://www.math.tamu.edu/~mphilant/math696/m696.240/jsanayoa/public.html/levelcurves.html>

Match the following graphs to one of the functions below:



1.)



2.)

<https://www.wolframalpha.com/>

a.) $f(x, y, z) = 6x^3 + 11x^2 - 6x + y$

b.) $f(x, y, z) = x^4 - 6x^3 + 11x^2 - 6x + y$

c.) $f(x, y, z) = x^4 - 6x^3 + 11x^2 - 6x - y^2$

d.) $f(x, y, z) = x^4 - 6x^3 + 11x^2 - 6x + y^2$