

Harmonic Analysis and Convex Geometry, Fall 2013, November 15.

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Assignment 10.

1. **Problem 1.**

a) Find the curvature of the curve

$$x = t - \sin t, \quad y = 1 - \cos t, \quad z = 4 \sin \frac{t}{2}.$$

b) Find the curvature of the curve given implicitly by the equations

$$x + \sinh x = \sin y + y, \quad z + e^z = x + \log(1 + x) + 1$$

at the point $(0, 0, 0)$.

2. **Problem 2.** Find the expression for the curvature of the plane curve given in polar coordinates.

3. **Problem 3.** Let the convex curve α be a boundary of a convex body $K \subset \mathbb{R}^2$.

a) Prove that the length of α is given by $L = \int_0^{2\pi} h(\theta) d\theta$, where $h(\theta) := h_K((\cos \theta, \sin \theta))$.

Hint: Problem 2 b), Assignment 7.

b) Prove that if K is of constant breadth (width) μ , then $length(\alpha) = \pi\mu$. Conclude that all bodies of the given constant breadth have the same perimeter.

c) Prove that the line $x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = h(\theta)$ is tangent to the curve at the point

$$\alpha(\theta) = (x(\theta), y(\theta)) = (h(\theta) \cos \theta - h'(\theta) \sin \theta, h(\theta) \sin \theta + h'(\theta) \cos \theta).$$

Hint: A regular convex plane curve can be defined as an *envelope* of its tangent lines. Differentiate $x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = h(\theta)$ with respect to θ and solve the system.

(In general, a regular curve α is an envelope of the family of curves \mathcal{F} if at every point α is tangent to at least one of the curves in \mathcal{F} and for every segment of α there are infinitely many points in the segment where α is tangent to curves from \mathcal{F} . Use (prove, if you want) the fact that for every point (x, y) of the envelope of the family $\mathcal{F} = \{\gamma_\beta\}_{\beta \in (a,b)}$ of curves (given by the equations $\varphi(x, y, \beta) = 0$) there exists $\beta \in (a, b)$ such that

$$\varphi(x, y, \beta) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \varphi(x, y, \beta) = 0 \text{).}$$

d) Prove that the radius of curvature of the curve at $\alpha(\theta)$ is $R(\theta) = h(\theta) + h''(\theta)$.

Hint: Differentiate again

$$dx(\theta) = -(h(\theta) + h''(\theta)) \sin \theta d\theta, \quad dy(\theta) = (h(\theta) + h''(\theta)) \cos \theta d\theta.$$

and observe that

$$(x'(\theta), y'(\theta)) \cdot (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta) = \sqrt{(x'(\theta))^2 + (y'(\theta))^2} = \frac{ds}{d\theta}.$$

e) Conclude that the length of α is “an average” of the radius of curvature $L = \int_0^{2\pi} R(\theta) d\theta$.

f) Prove that the area enclosed by α is given by $A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} h(\theta) R(\theta) d\theta$.

Hint: Use the formula $A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} (x(\theta)y'(\theta) - x'(\theta)y(\theta)) d\theta$ from Calc III.

g) Prove that the area enclosed by α is given by $A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} (h(\theta)^2 - h'(\theta)^2) d\theta$.

Hint: Integrate by parts.