

Uwahaha Imeka

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Mathematics

INCA 281

1. The parametric equations of a curve are as given in equations 1 and 2

$$x = \cos t + t \sin t$$

$$y = \sin t - t \cos t$$

in terms of t , determine.

i. an expression for the radius of curvature (R) and;

ii. expressions for the coordinates (h, k) of the centre of curvature.

Solution.

$$R = \left[1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 \right]^{3/2} \frac{d^2y/dx^2}{d^2y/dx^2}$$

$$x = \cos t + t \sin t ; y = \sin t - t \cos t$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\sin t + (t + \cos t + \sin t)$$

$$= -\sin t + t \cos t + \sin t = t \cos t$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \cos t + (-t \cdot -\sin t + \cos t - 1)$$

$$= \cos t + t \sin t + \cos t - 1 = t \sin t$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{t \sin t}{t \cos t} = \frac{\sin t}{\cos t}$$

$$= \tan t$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)$$

$$= \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{d}{dt} (\tan t) \times \frac{1}{t \cos t}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \sec^2 t \cdot \frac{1}{t \cos t}$$

recall $\sec^2 \theta = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 t} \times \frac{1}{t \cos t} = \frac{1}{t \cos^3 t}$$

$$\text{then } R = \left(1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2\right)^{3/2} = \frac{(1 + \tan^2 t)^{3/2}}{\frac{1}{t \cos^3 t}}$$

recall $1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$

$$\frac{(\sec^2 t)^{3/2}}{(t \cos^3 t)^{-1}} = \frac{(\sqrt{\sec^2 t})^3}{(t \cos^3 t)^{-1}}$$

$$= \sec^3 t \times t \cos^3 t$$

where $\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta} = \frac{1}{\cancel{\cos^3 t}} \times t \cancel{\cos^3 t}$

$$R = t$$

$$\therefore h = x_1 - R \sin t$$

from $x = \cos t + t \sin t$

$$h = \cos t + t \sin t - R \sin t$$

$$= \cos t + t \sin t - t \sin t$$

$$= \cos t$$

$$k = y_1 + R \cos t$$

from $y = \sin t - \cos t$ $R = t$

$$k = \sin t - t \cos t + R \cos t$$

$$k = \sin t - t \cos t + t \cos t$$

$$k = \sin t$$