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**Homework 1**

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**Exercise 1** *The curve traced out by a point  $P$  on the circumference of a circle as the circle rolls along a straight line is called a cycloid. Assume that the circle has radius  $r$  and that the point  $P$  is initially located at the origin of the  $x$ -axis.*

- (i) *Determine the parametric curve defined by the point  $P$ ,*
- (ii) *Determine the tangent line at any point of the cycloid,*
- (iii) *When is this tangent line horizontal or vertical ?*
- (iv) *Find the area under one arch of the cycloid,*
- (v) *Find the length of one arch of the cycloid.*

**Exercise 2** *Write a parametric equation for the tangent line at any point of the curve given by*

$$g : \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (e^{3t}, e^{-3t}, t, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^4.$$

**Exercise 3** *Consider the spiral in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined by the function*

$$f : \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (\cos(t), \sin(t), t) \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

*Determine the equation of the plane perpendicular to the spiral for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Exercise 4** *Find the length of the spiral of the previous exercise between  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$ .*

**Exercise 5** *Consider the parametric curve given by*

$$c : \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (e^t \cos(t), e^t \sin(t))$$

*Show that the tangent vector to the curve makes a constant angle with the position vector, i.e. with the vector  $c(\cdot)$ .*

**Exercise 6** *Consider a parametric curve  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  of class  $C^2$ , and us call the osculating plane at  $t$  the plane passing by  $f(t)$  and defined by the two vectors  $f'(t)$  and  $f''(t)$ . Obviously this plane is well defined only if these two vectors are not parallel.*

- (i) *Determine the osculating plane at any  $t$  for the spiral defined in Exercise 3.*
- (i) *More generally, for any parametric curve  $f$  of class  $C^2$  and for any diffeomorphism  $\varphi$  of class  $C^2$ , show that the osculating plane defined by  $f$  or by the new parametric curve  $f \circ \varphi$  **at the same point** are equal.*