

**Curves and Surfaces.**  
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**Module-I.**  
**Curves in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .**  
**Lecture-04.**  
**Frenet-Serret Formula.**

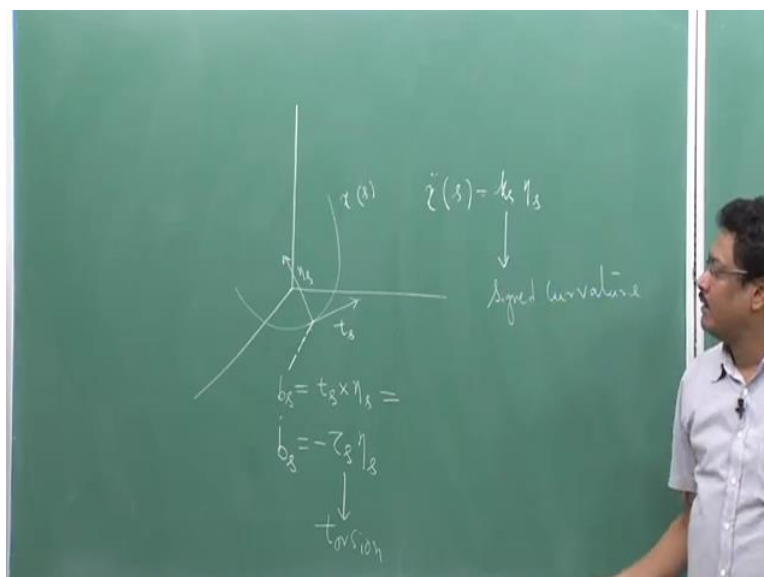
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Frenet-Serret Formula:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \kappa & 0 \\ -\kappa & 0 & \tau \\ 0 & -\tau & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t_s \\ \eta_s \\ b_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{t}_s \\ \dot{\eta}_s \\ \dot{b}_s \end{pmatrix}$$

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> lecture of this module. So, we start by recalling Frenet Serret formula which we wrote down yesterday. Which actually says that, okay, I can write it in a matrix form. That  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \kappa & 0 \\ -\kappa & 0 & \tau \\ 0 & -\tau & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t_s \\ \eta_s \\ b_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{t}_s \\ \dot{\eta}_s \\ \dot{b}_s \end{pmatrix}$  equal to... So, it gives the relation between these quantities we defined that is unit tangent, unit normal and unit binormal.

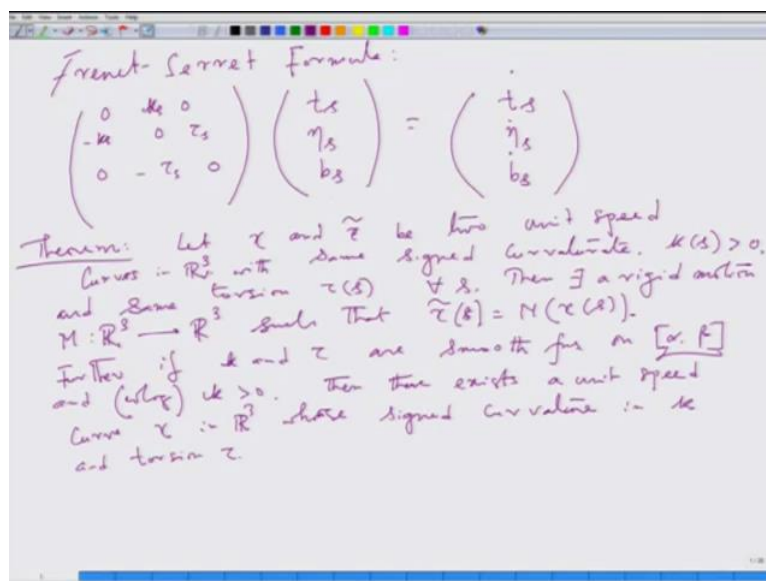
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Recall that we have, how we defined these quantities. So, this is a special curve  $\gamma$ . I have a tangent at a point  $S$   $\tau$ , and you rotate it by  $\pi/2$  and you get the unit normal. And binormal is  $\tau \times \eta$  is the vector, unit vector perpendicular to both. And the torsion is  $B \cdot \dot{S}$ , multiple of  $\eta$ , so we usually use the  $-$  sign. And the signed curvature is given by this one. So, just to recall. This Frenet Serret gives actually, I mean it is a tool to prove what is called invariance theorem for regular smooth curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and from that you can also deduce the invariance of smooth curves in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

What it, what I mean by that? I say that for planar curves, the signed curvature determines the curves of 2 rigid motions. For  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , the spatial curve, the signed curvature and torsion determine the curve of 2 rigid motions of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . And now for planar curve, as you know the torsion is 0, we have proved it, so the previous theorem follows from this one. So, let me write this as a theorem.

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Now, let  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma$  tilde be 2 unit speed curves in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with same signed curvatures, let us assume  $k_s$  greater than 0, no problem in Assuming  $k_s$  greater than 0, otherwise you would look at it in 2 parts,  $k_s$  greater than 0 part and  $k_s$  lesser than 0 part. And same torsion  $\tau$  for  $S$ . So, unit speed curve, so we are considering arc length parameterisation.

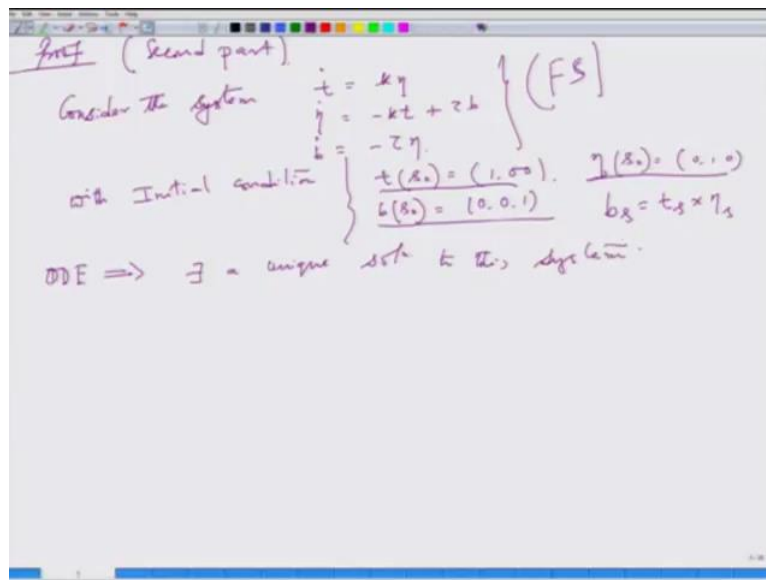
The conclusion says then there exists a rigid motion, so recall the rigid motion is always composition rotation followed by translation or translation followed by rotation  $M$  such that  $\gamma$  tilde for each  $S$  is  $M, S$ . So, to curves with unit speed, when you put it in unit speed, every curve, every regular curve can be, can have unit speed parameterisation. And if they

have same signed curvature and same torsion, then they are basically same in the sense that I can rotate and translate to match them to each other.

Actually this has a converse also, in the sense that further, if  $K$  and  $\tau$  are smooth functions on some interval say  $\alpha, \beta$ . And let us assume without loss of generality  $K$  greater than 0, then there exists unit speed curve  $\gamma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose signed curvature is  $K$  and torsion  $\tau$ . That means, is also defined on the same interval  $\alpha, \beta$  and this solution is satisfied.

So, for today's lecture, I want to prove this theorem in detail. So, follow the proof carefully, if you have any question which you cannot follow during the proof, please raise it in the discussion forum.

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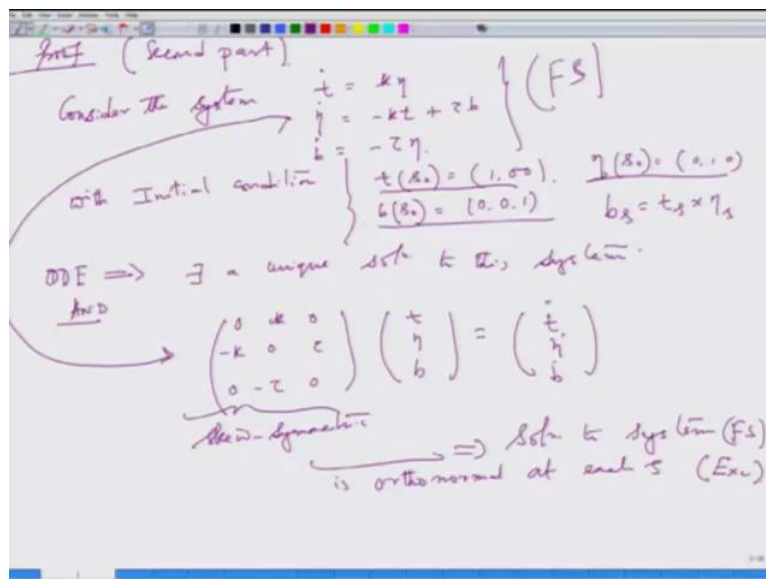
So, let us prove it very slowly so that everybody can follow. I will prove the 2<sup>nd</sup> part 1<sup>st</sup>, that is, what was it? That if  $K$  and  $\tau$  are smooth functions and, okay without loss of generality  $K$  greater than 0, then there exists a unit speed curve  $\gamma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose signed curvature is  $K$  and torsion is  $\tau$ .

So, what I suggest... Consider, this is from, I am following from Frenet Serret equation. Consider the system  $\dot{T} = K\eta$ ,  $\dot{\eta} = -K\eta + \tau b$ ,  $\dot{b} = -\tau\eta$ , so  $S$  is suppressed everywhere, so  $S$  is there everywhere,  $\dot{\eta} = -K\eta + \tau b$  and  $\dot{b} = -\tau\eta$ . So, this is the FS equation, right. So, this is a system of linear equation, 3 variable  $T$ ,  $\eta$  and  $b$  and  $K$  and  $\tau$  are known quantities. And consider system with IC, initial condition, that your  $T$  is 100,  $\eta$  is 010 and  $b$  is 001. So, what I am trying to do? I am trying to find a curve which

passes through 0 and at 0 the tangent vector is this one, so passes through some point S nought, S nought can be assumed to be 0 as well.

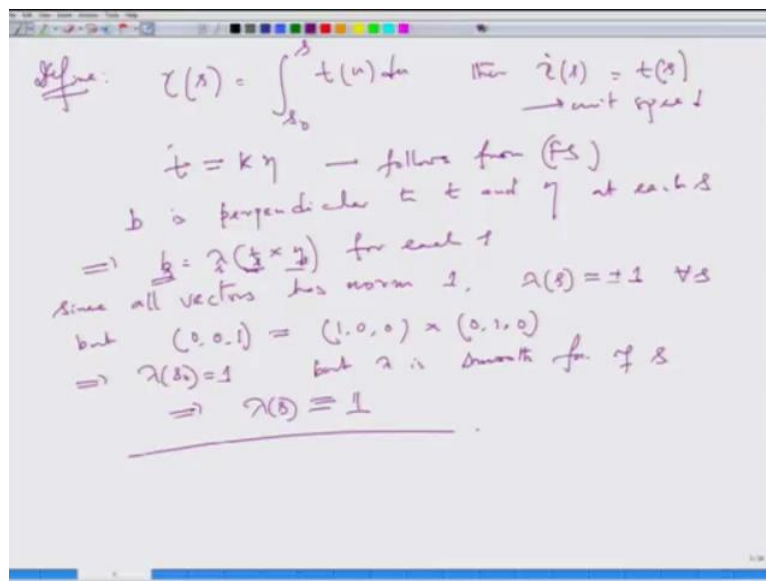
The number should be perpendicular, so I take this perpendicular, unit channel vector as perpendicular and binormal to this one. Because recall that I should must have BS equal to TS dot eta S. And so in this system, this is satisfied. Now if I have, look at this linear system FS with this initial condition, then the general theory of ODE will tell you, so ODE will tell you that there exists a unique solution to this system.

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And importantly if I look at here, this is in matrix form what? Recall, this is 0 K 0, then - K 0 tau 0 - tau 0 T eta B equal to T dot eta dot beta dot. And this matrix is skew symmetric. That will imply us that the solution to system FS is orthonormal at each S. I put it as a simple exercise. If you do have, if you have done your vector calculus in +2, this is very easy to prove. So, what I got? The system has a solution, so I can find T, eta and B. So, now I have to define the curve.

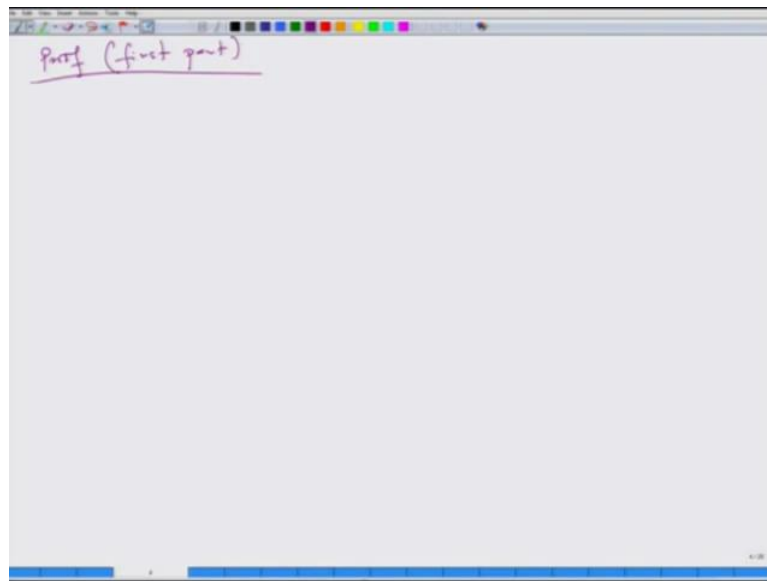
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So now define  $\gamma = \int t(u) du$ , then  $\dot{\gamma} = t$ . So, this is unit speed because  $t$  is a unit speed vector. You can verify because this is a solution of FS, this follows from FS and now  $b$  follows is perpendicular to  $t$  and  $\eta$  at each  $s$  hence  $b$  should be some  $\lambda$  times  $t \times \eta$ .  $b = \lambda (t \times \eta)$  for each  $s$ . Since all vectors are unit norm 1  $\lambda$  must be equal to  $+1$  or  $-1$  for all  $s$ . But look at this point.

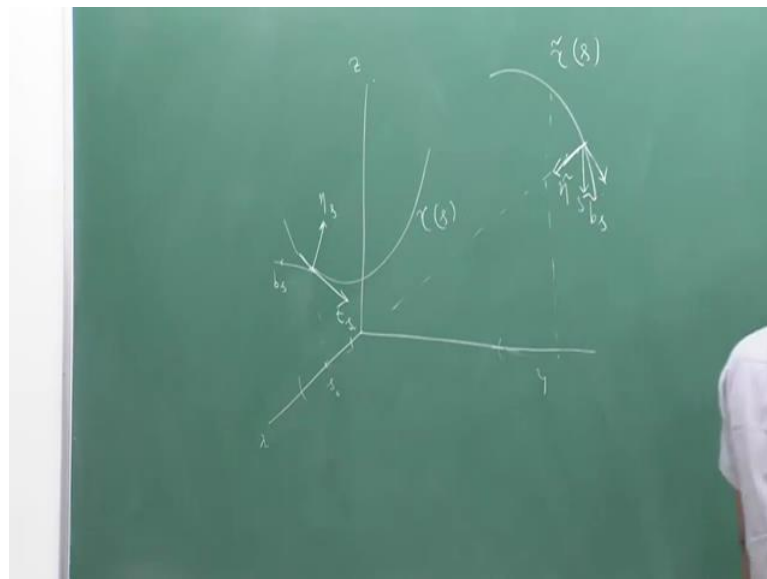
This implies  $\lambda = 1$ , it is not equal to  $-1$ . But  $\lambda$  is a smooth function, we have discussed this part because  $b$  is smooth,  $t$  is smooth function,  $\eta$  is smooth function,  $t \times \eta$  is smooth function, this is a smooth function of  $s$ , this will imply  $\lambda$  is identically 1. So, this is simple vector calculus, nothing great in it. Okay. So, this is the proof of the 2<sup>nd</sup> part. Let me prove. 2<sup>nd</sup> part proof is okay, I hope everybody?

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Then let us go to the proof of the 1<sup>st</sup> part. Okay. So, what I have here? I have a situation like this.

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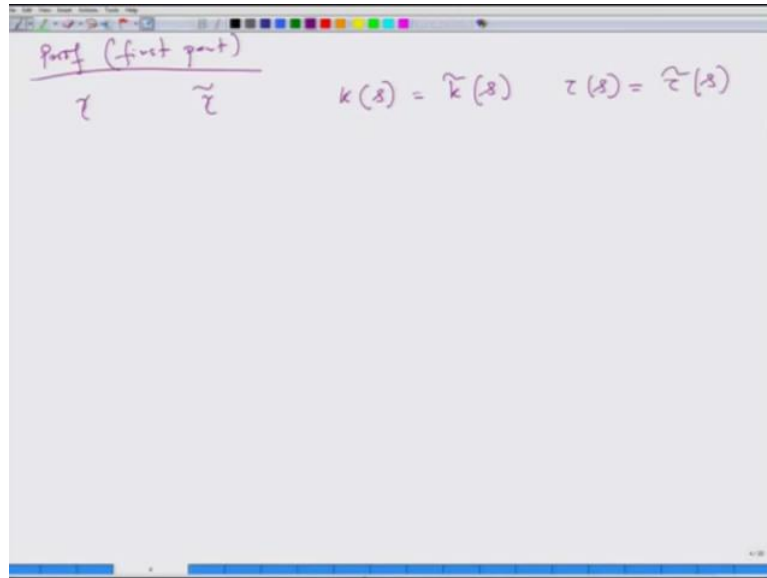


So, I have some spatial curve sitting here and I have another spatial curve sitting there. So, this is the point, here is x-axis,  $S$  nought. And here I have some other interval  $\alpha$ , some other interval I should write this way. Okay. So, now 2 curves are there which are both are unit speed. What are same? We should extend it little bit. Yeah. What is given to be same?

Tangent vector is here and binormal, these are binormals and here I have tangent vector this way. Let us say  $\tilde{T}$  this is  $\tilde{\gamma}$   $\tilde{S}$ . This is  $\tilde{\gamma}$   $\tilde{S}$ , this is a point  $S$  nought this is

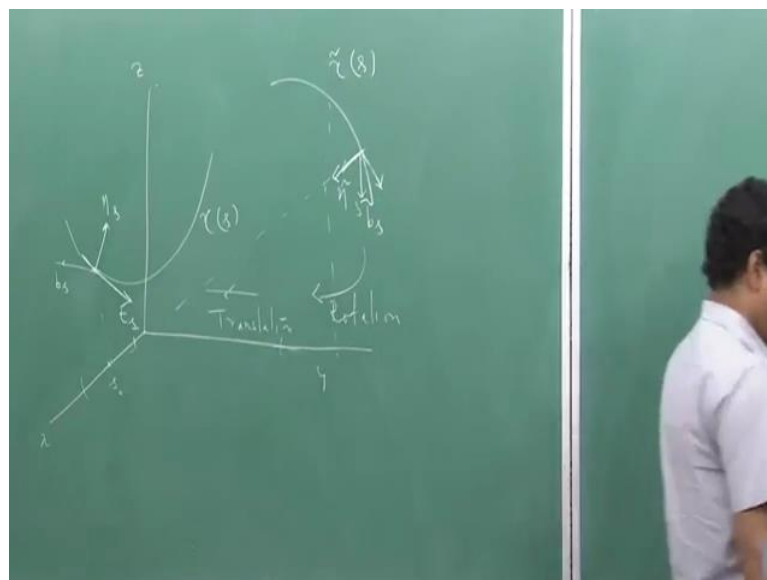
eta tilde S and binormal will be which way, this way, right. So, this this beta tilde S, B tilde S. So, this is the situation here and what I am given?

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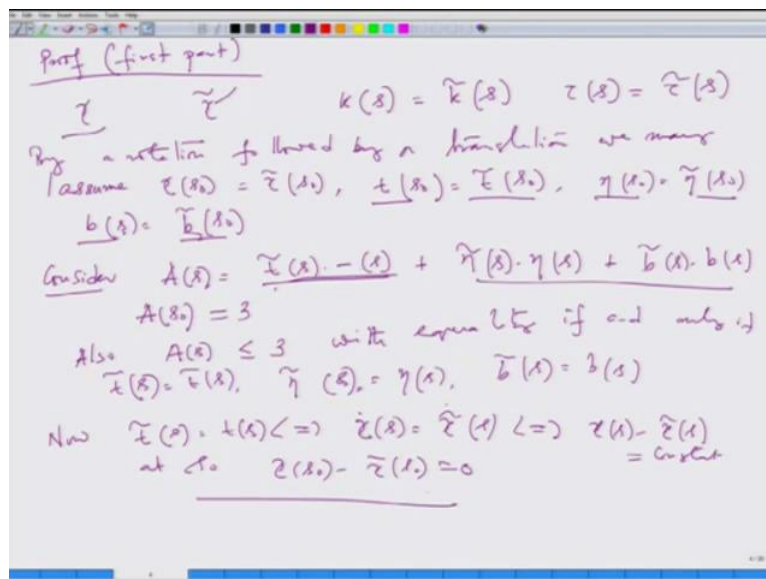
So, I have 2 curves gamma and gamma tilde for which I have given for each point KS equal to K tilde S and tau S equal to tau tilde S.

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Now what I can do, I can always put a rotation followed by a translation to matchup by rotation followed by a translation,

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we may assume that the point, the point is not I am looking at, gamma till, gamma S nought is gamma tilde S nought. Anyway T S T T S nought is given to be T tilde S nought. And eta S nought is eta tilde S nought and BS nought equal to beta tilde S nought. So, beta tilde, tilde is a quantity corresponding to gamma and without tilde, this is a quantity which is corresponding to, okay without tilde it is gamma, with tilde it is gamma tilde.

Consider this particular fellow AS, this I defined a function. T tilde S dot TS + eta tilde S dot eta S + B tilde S dot BS. What is AS nought, how much is that? This is unit vector, this is unit vector, so this is 1 at S nought, unit vector unit vector unit vector unit vector, so this is equal to 3. And also AS is less or equal to 3. Why? Because this fellow is of course less or equal to its norm, this norm is 1, this norm is 1, this norm is 1, so AS is less or equal to 3. With equality, this is by Cauchy Schwartz, if and only if T tilde S equal to TS eta tilde S equal to eta S B tilde S equal to BS. Right.

Now, T tilde S equal to TS will give us, what does it mean, this is if and only if by definition gamma dot S equal to gamma tilde S. So, this will happen if and only if gamma S - gamma tilde S is constant. And the constant and S nought, gamma S nought is 0. So, this is an observation, with that let us calculate what is A dot S.



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$$\dot{A}(s) = \tilde{f}(s) \dot{t}(s) + \tilde{\eta}(s) \cdot \dot{\eta}(s) + \tilde{b}(s) \dot{b}(s) + \tilde{f}(s) \cdot \dot{t}(s) + \tilde{\eta}(s) \cdot \dot{\eta}(s) + \tilde{b}(s) \cdot \dot{b}(s)$$

$$\stackrel{\substack{(F \dot{S}) \\ + \\ \tau = \tilde{\tau} \\ k = \tilde{k}}}{=} = k \dot{\eta} t + (-k \tilde{t} + \tau \tilde{b}) \cdot \dot{\eta} + (-\tau \tilde{\eta}) \cdot \dot{b} + \tilde{f} \cdot k \dot{\eta} + \tilde{\eta} (-k \dot{t} + \tau \dot{b}) + \tilde{b} (\tau \dot{\eta})$$

$$\boxed{= 0} \Rightarrow A(s) = \text{Constant} \forall s$$

$$\Rightarrow A(s) = 3 \quad \forall s \quad (\text{as } A(s_0) = 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\gamma(s) = \tilde{\gamma}(s)}$$

A dot S is T tilde S dot T eta tilde S dot eta beta tilde S TS eta S BS now I have to take care of the other quantities. T tilde S T dot S + eta tilde S dot eta dot as + B tilde S dot beta dot S.

Use the formula, this will give us K eta tilde T and suppressing S there + - K T tilde + tau B tilde dot eta + - tau Eta dot B + T tilde K eta + eta tilde - KT + tau B + B tau eta. FS + using tau equal to tau tilde K equal to K tilde. So, these 3 you used together, you will get the formula. And you from, just open up the bracket and to see this is 0. So, this will imply AS is constant for all S. And, so this implies AS equal to 3 for all S as we have seen AS nought is 3. So, that will give us gamma S equal to gamma tilde S. Okay.

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Proof (first part)  

$$\underline{\gamma} \quad \underline{\tilde{\gamma}} \quad k(s) = \tilde{k}(s) \quad \tau(s) = \tilde{\tau}(s)$$
 By a rotation followed by a translation we may assume  $\tau(s_0) = \tilde{\tau}(s_0)$ ,  $t(s_0) = \tilde{t}(s_0)$ ,  $\eta(s_0) = \tilde{\eta}(s_0)$   

$$b(s) = \tilde{b}(s)$$
 Consider  $A(s) = \underline{\tilde{f}(s) \cdot \dot{t}(s)} + \underline{\tilde{\eta}(s) \cdot \dot{\eta}(s)} + \underline{\tilde{b}(s) \cdot \dot{b}(s)}$   

$$A(s_0) = 3$$
 Also  $A(s) \leq 3$  with equality if and only if  

$$\tilde{f}(s) = \tilde{f}(s), \quad \tilde{\eta}(s) = \tilde{\eta}(s), \quad \tilde{b}(s) = \tilde{b}(s)$$
 Now  $\tilde{f}(s) \cdot \dot{t}(s) \Leftrightarrow \dot{\tilde{t}}(s) = \dot{\tilde{t}}(s) \Leftrightarrow \tau(s) - \tilde{\tau}(s) = \text{constant}$   

$$\text{at } s_0 \quad \tau(s_0) - \tilde{\tau}(s_0) = 0$$

This is up to, I have written this but this is up to which one, rotation followed by a translation.

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$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{A}(s) &= \tilde{\tau}(s) \cdot \ddot{\alpha}(s) + \tilde{\eta}(s) \cdot \dot{\eta}(s) + \tilde{b}(s) \cdot \dot{b}(s) \\ &\quad + \tilde{\tau}(s) \cdot \dot{t}(s) + \tilde{\eta}(s) \cdot \dot{\eta}(s) + \tilde{b}(s) \cdot \dot{b}(s) \\ &= \kappa \tilde{\eta} t + (-\kappa \tilde{t} + \tau \tilde{b}) \cdot \eta + (-\tau \tilde{\eta}) \cdot b + \\ &\quad \tilde{t} \cdot \kappa \eta + \tilde{\eta} \cdot (-\kappa t + \tau b) + b \cdot (\tau \eta) \end{aligned}$$

(Frenet)  $\left. \begin{matrix} + \\ \tau = \tilde{\tau} \\ \kappa = \tilde{\kappa} \end{matrix} \right\}$

$$\boxed{= 0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A(s) = \text{Constant} \quad \forall s$$

$$\Rightarrow A(s) = 3 \quad \forall s \quad (\text{as } A(s_0) = 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\tilde{\chi}(s) = \tilde{z}(s)} \quad \text{upto a rigid motion in } \mathbb{R}^3$$

That means, up to a rigid motion of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . So, this is the proof for the fact that if 2 planar curves smooth regular planar curves have same portion and same signed curvature, they are same up to rigid motion of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Again, simple vector calculus. Next lecture we will see some beautiful application of all these ideas and that will be end of curves. I covered this curve part very quickly because I want to concentrate more on surfaces from module 2 onwards. So, next lecture we will do what is known as, an application, what is known as iso-parametric inequality. So, till then goodbye.