

# Motion of a Line Segment Whose Endpoint Paths Have Equal Arc Length

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16th Scientific-Professional Colloquium on  
Geometry and Graphics

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Problem Formulation

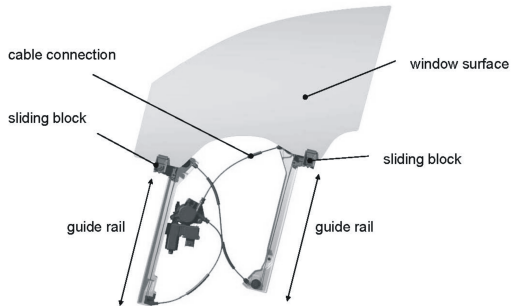
The Planar Case

The Spatial Case

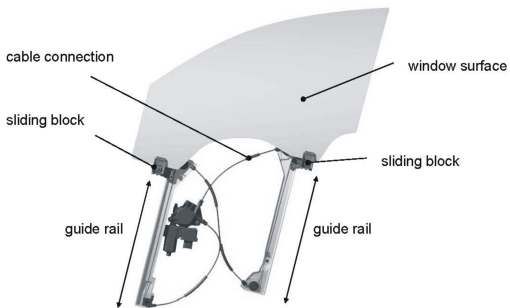
An Interpolation Problem

# Problem Formulation

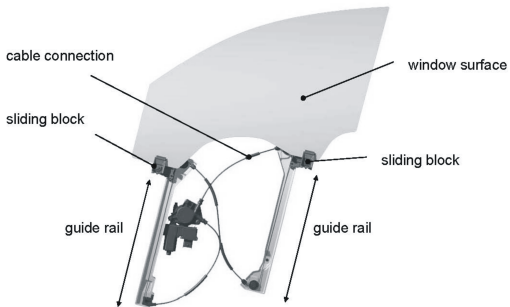
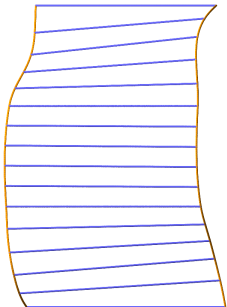
## Problem Formulation



How can you move a rod so that its endpoint paths have equal length?



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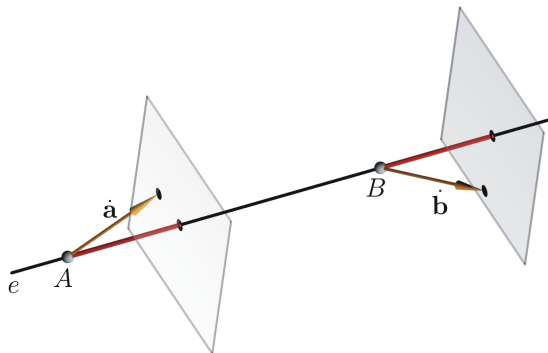
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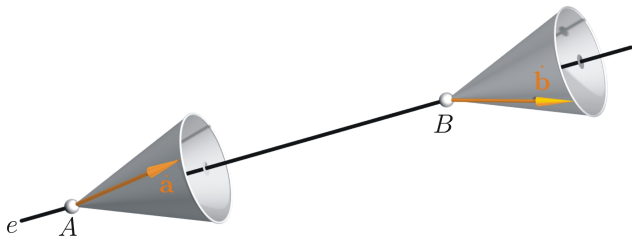
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$$|\dot{\mathbf{a}}| = |\dot{\mathbf{b}}| \implies \angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{a}}) = \angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{b}})$$



$\Sigma$  ... moving system

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$\Sigma^*$  ... fixed system

$\Sigma$  ... moving system

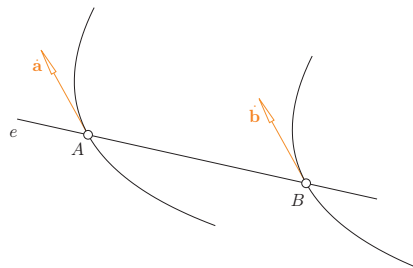
$\Sigma^*$  ... fixed system

$\Sigma/\Sigma^*$  ... motion

# The Planar Case

planar case A

$$\angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{a}}) = \angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{b}}) \text{ for all } t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

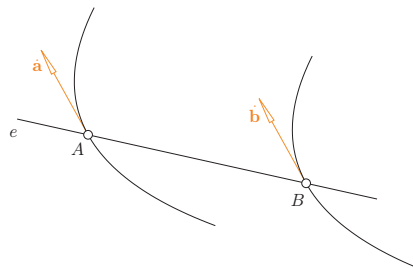




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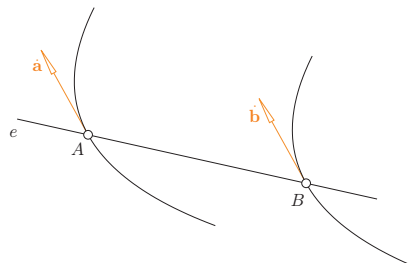


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curved translation

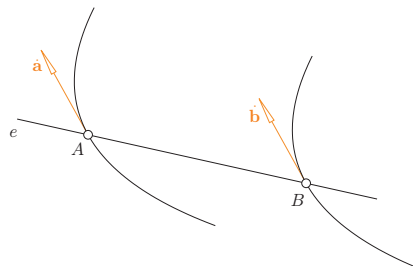


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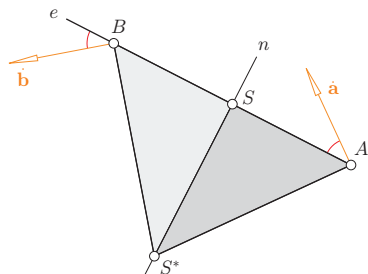
$$\dot{\mathbf{a}} = \dot{\mathbf{b}} \text{ for all } t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

curved translation



planar case B

$$\angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{a}}) = -\angle(\vec{AB}, \dot{\mathbf{b}}) \text{ for all } t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

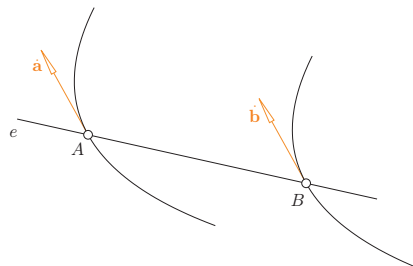


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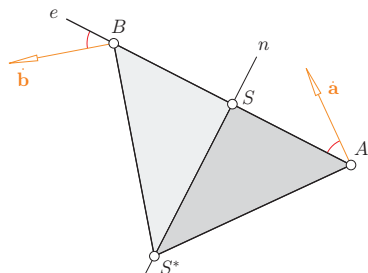
curved translation



planar case B

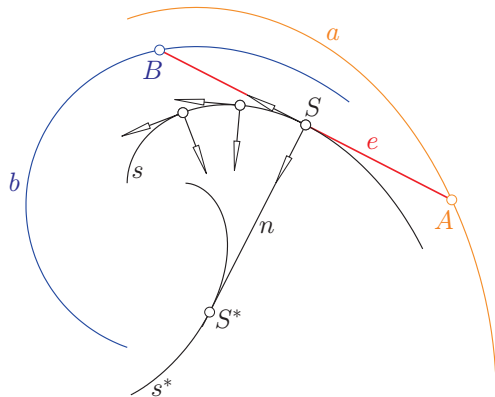
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bisector  $n$  of  $AB =$  moving polhode



## planar case B

$\Sigma/\Sigma^*$  ... motion of a straight line  $n$  rolling on a curve  $s^*$

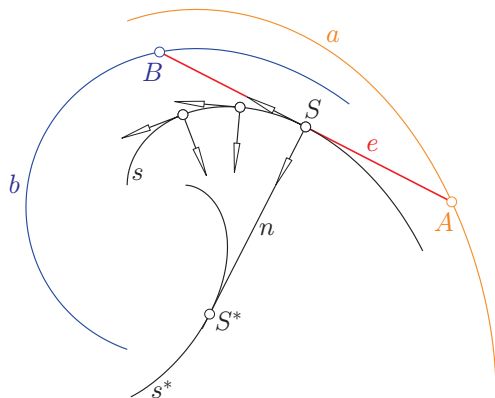


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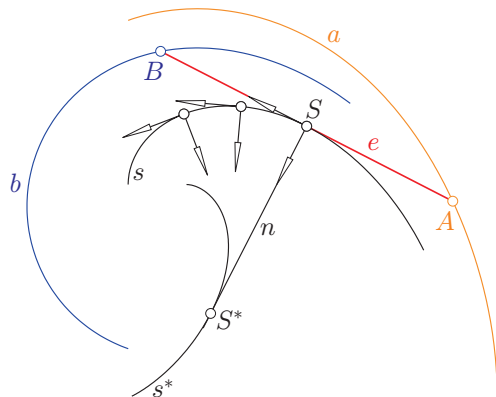
$S$  ... midpoint of  $AB$

$\Sigma/\Sigma^*$  ... Frenet motion along the path  $s$  of  $S$

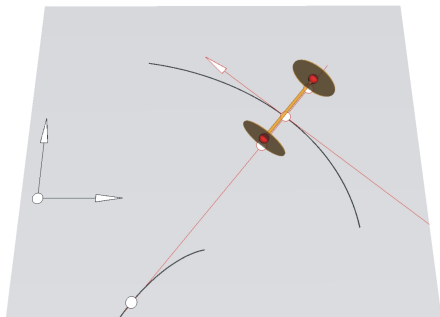
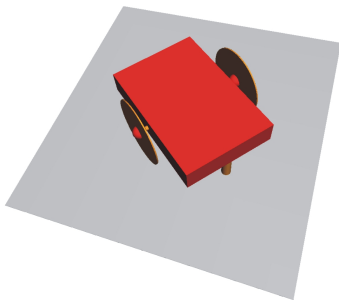


## planar case B

$s$  is a tractrix with respect to  $a$  and  $b$



mobile robot with two wheels

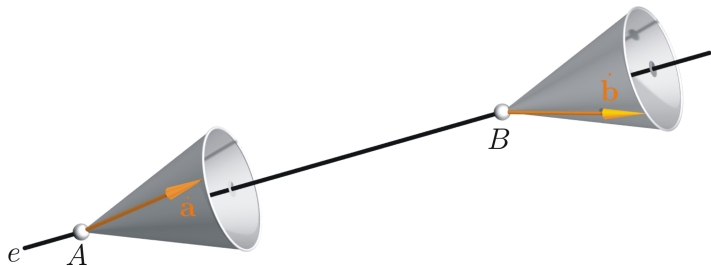




# The Spatial Case

ruled surface  $\Phi$  generated by the motion of  $e = AB$ :

$$\mathbf{y}(t, u) = \mathbf{x}(t) + u\mathbf{e}(t) \text{ with } \langle \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e} \rangle = 1$$

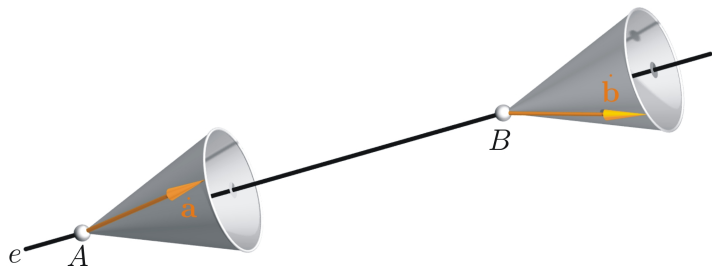


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$$A \dots \mathbf{a}(t) = \mathbf{y}(t, a)$$

$$B \dots \mathbf{b}(t) = \mathbf{y}(t, a + d)$$



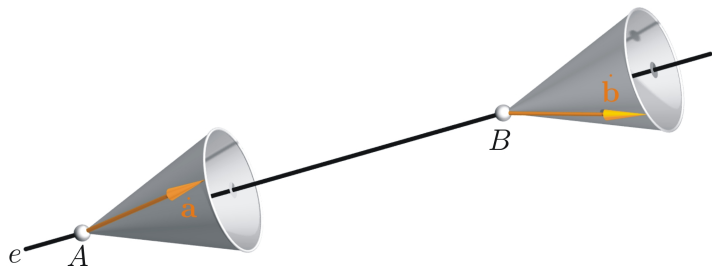
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$$|\dot{\mathbf{a}}| = |\dot{\mathbf{b}}| \implies (2a + d)\langle \dot{\mathbf{e}}, \dot{\mathbf{e}} \rangle = -2\langle \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{e}} \rangle$$



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The midpoint  $S$  of  $AB$  is the striction (cuspidal) point on  $e = AB$ .

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all points on a common right cylinder around the screw axis have paths of equal length

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striction curve  $s$  is the helix generated by  $S$

# An interpolation problem



**Given:** series of positions  $A_i B_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  of the rod  $AB$

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**Wanted:** motion  $\Sigma/\Sigma^*$  which

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*Step 2:* Find a ruled surface  $\Phi$  that interpolates  $e_i = A_iB_i$  and whose striction curve is  $s$

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$$\langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{s}' \rangle = 1;$$

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$$\langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e}' \rangle = 0 \quad (S)$$

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$$\langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e}' \rangle = 0 \quad (\text{S})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e} \rangle = 1 \quad (\text{U})$$

$\sigma := \angle(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{s}') \dots$  striction of  $\Phi$

## An Interpolation Problem

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$\kappa := |\mathbf{s}''| \dots$  curvature of  $s$

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$$\varepsilon \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e} \rangle \quad - \quad \cos \sigma \quad = \quad 0$$

$$\varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{s}'', \mathbf{e} \rangle \quad + \quad \sigma' \sin \sigma \quad = \quad 0$$

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developable surface  $\Gamma$  with generators  $g$  parallel to  $\mathbf{b}$

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$\sigma := \angle(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{s}') \dots$  striction of  $\Phi$

$\kappa := |\mathbf{s}''| \dots$  curvature of  $s$

$\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{s}'$ ,  $\mathbf{h} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{s}''|} \mathbf{s}''$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{t} \times \mathbf{h} \dots$  Frenet frame of  $s$

$$\langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e} \rangle = \cos \sigma$$

$$\langle \mathbf{s}'', \mathbf{e} \rangle + \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e}' \rangle}_{= 0} = -\sigma' \sin \sigma$$

$$\varepsilon \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{s}', \mathbf{e} \rangle - \cos \sigma = 0$$

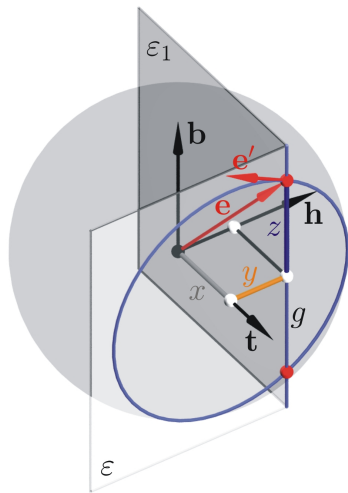
$$\varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{s}'', \mathbf{e} \rangle + \sigma' \sin \sigma = 0$$

developable surface  $\Gamma$  with generators  $g$  parallel to  $\mathbf{b}$

$$\varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{e} \rangle + \frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} = 0$$

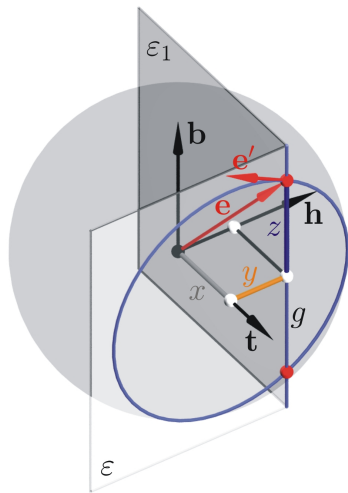
The intersection of  $\Gamma$  with the unit sphere contains the spherical generator image  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e}(s)$  of  $\Phi$

## An Interpolation Problem



## An Interpolation Problem

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \cos \sigma \\y &= -\frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} \\z &= \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}}\end{aligned}$$





## An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$



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## Special Cases

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

### Special Cases

- $\sigma' = 0$ :  $\Phi$  is a ruled surface of constant striction;  
 $\mathbf{e} \in [\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{b}]$

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

### Special Cases

- $\sigma' = 0$ :  $\Phi$  is a ruled surface of constant striction;  
 $\mathbf{e} \in [\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{b}]$
- $\sigma = 0$ :  $\Phi$  is the tangent surface of  $s$

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

### Special Cases

- $\sigma' = 0$ :  $\Phi$  is a ruled surface of constant striction;  
 $\mathbf{e} \in [\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{b}]$
- $\sigma = 0$ :  $\Phi$  is the tangent surface of  $s$
- $\kappa = 0$  (striction curve  $s$  is a straight line):  
a solution is possible only if  $\sigma' = 0$ , i.e.;  $\sigma = \text{const.}$   
 $\Phi$  is a ruled surface of constant slope and a straight line as striction curve.

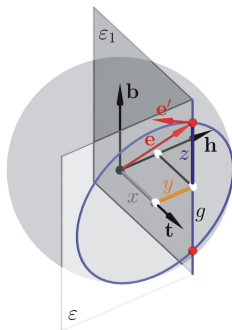
An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

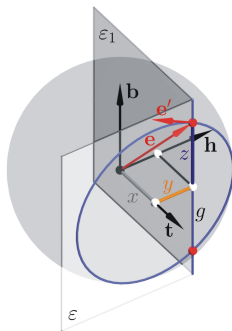
$$\begin{array}{rcll} \varepsilon & \dots & \langle \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{e} \rangle & - \cos \sigma & = & 0 \\ \varepsilon_1 & \dots & \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{e} \rangle & + \frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} & = & 0 \end{array}$$



### An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{e} \rangle - \cos \sigma &= 0 \\ \varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{e} \rangle + \frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

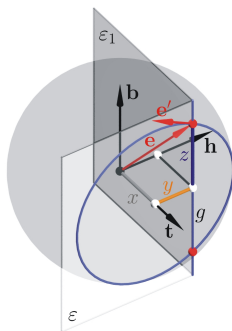


Construct a striction function  $\sigma$  with

An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

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Construct a striction function  $\sigma$  with

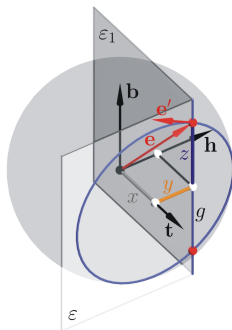
$$\sigma'(\tau)^2 \leq \kappa^2(\tau)$$



### An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{e} \rangle - \cos \sigma &= 0 \\ \varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{e} \rangle + \frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



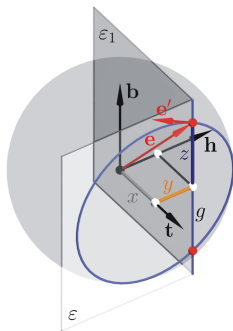
Construct a striction function  $\sigma$  with

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sigma'(\tau)^2 &\leq \kappa^2(\tau) \\ \sigma(\tau_i) &= \arccos \langle \mathbf{s}'(\tau_i), \mathbf{e}_i \rangle \\ \sigma'(\tau_i) &= -\frac{\langle \mathbf{s}''(\tau_i), \mathbf{e}_i \rangle}{\sin \sigma(\tau_i)} \end{aligned} \right\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

An Interpolation Problem

$$\mathbf{e} = \cos \sigma \cdot \mathbf{t} - \sigma' \sin \sigma \cdot \mathbf{h} \pm \sin \sigma \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma'^2}{\kappa^2}} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$







$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{e} \rangle - \cos \sigma &= 0 \\ \varepsilon_1 \quad \dots \quad \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{e} \rangle + \frac{\sigma' \sin \sigma}{\kappa} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



Construct a striction function  $\sigma$  with

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sigma'(\tau)^2 &\leq \kappa^2(\tau) \\ \sigma(\tau_i) &= \arccos \langle \mathbf{s}'(\tau_i), \mathbf{e}_i \rangle \\ \sigma'(\tau_i) &= -\frac{\langle \mathbf{s}''(\tau_i), \mathbf{e}_i \rangle}{\sin \sigma(\tau_i)} \end{aligned} \right\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Construct  $\sigma$  as a Hermite interpolant.

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**Thanks for your attention!**