

Contents

1	Euclidean Geometry	2
1.1	Jane Street's 3b1b Puzzler	2
2	Calculus	3
2.1	The Math Sorcerers Calculus Problem His Students Couldn't Solve	3
3	Algebra	4
3.1	Exercise Posed During Lecture	4

1 Euclidean Geometry

1.1 Jane Street's 3b1b Puzzler

Let C be a closed bounded convex set in \mathbb{R}^3 , and let $B = \partial C$. Now imagine creating a new set by taking any two points from B and adding them together, doing this for every possible pair of points. Denote this new set of vector sums as $D = \{\vec{p} + \vec{q} \mid \vec{p}, \vec{q} \in B\}$.

Prove that D is also a convex set.

Proof. Let $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in D$. This implies that $\vec{x} = \vec{p} + \vec{q}$ and $\vec{y} = \vec{r} + \vec{s}$, where $\vec{p}, \vec{q}, \vec{r}, \vec{s} \in B$. It is first important to note that since C is closed, it contains all its boundary points, and since C is bounded, the distance between any two boundary points is within the bound defined by the distance function d_C , say $M \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, since D is just the vector sums of all possible pairs of boundary points in C , we can find the bound for d_D with our given points in D as follows:

$$d_D(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = |\vec{x} - \vec{y}| = |(\vec{p} + \vec{q}) - (\vec{r} + \vec{s})| \leq |\vec{p} - \vec{r}| + |\vec{q} - \vec{s}| \leq M + M = 2M.$$

With this bound, let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, where $0 < \lambda < 1$, and see that

$$\begin{aligned} |(1 - \lambda)\vec{x} + \lambda\vec{y}| &= |\vec{x} - \lambda\vec{x} + \lambda\vec{y}| \\ &= |(\vec{p} + \vec{q}) - \lambda(\vec{p} + \vec{q}) + \lambda(\vec{r} + \vec{s})| \\ &= |\vec{p} - \lambda\vec{p} + \lambda\vec{r} + \vec{q} - \lambda\vec{q} + \lambda\vec{s}| \\ &= |((1 - \lambda)\vec{p} + \lambda\vec{r}) + ((1 - \lambda)\vec{q} + \lambda\vec{s})| \\ &\leq |(1 - \lambda)\vec{p} + \lambda\vec{r}| + |(1 - \lambda)\vec{q} + \lambda\vec{s}| \\ &\leq M + M = 2M. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $(1 - \lambda)\vec{x} + \lambda\vec{y} \in D$, implying that D is indeed also a convex set. □

2 Calculus

2.1 The Math Sorcerers Calculus Problem His Students Couldn't Solve

Find the equations of the tangent lines to the graph of $f(x) = x^2$ that pass through $(1, -1)$.

Solution. Work in progress...

//

3 Algebra

3.1 Exercise Posed During Lecture

Simplify

$$\frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca}$$

given that $abc = 1$.

Solution. Firstly, we will rearrange the first summand into

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+a+ab} &= \frac{1}{abc+a+ab} \\ &= \frac{1}{a(bc+1+b)} \\ &= \frac{1}{a(1+b+bc)} \\ &= \frac{1}{a(abc+b+bc)} \\ &= \frac{1}{ab(ac+1+c)} \\ &= \frac{1}{ab(1+c+ca)}. \end{aligned}$$

Then similarly, we will rearrange the second summand into

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+b+bc} &= \frac{1}{abc+b+bc} \\ &= \frac{1}{b(ac+1+c)} \\ &= \frac{1}{b(1+c+ca)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now substitute both of these back into the original equation to get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} &= \frac{1}{ab(1+c+ca)} + \frac{1}{b(1+c+ca)} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \\ &= \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{b} + 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \left(\frac{1+a+ab}{ab} \right) \\ &= \frac{1+a+ab}{ab+abc+a^2bc} \\ &= \frac{1+a+ab}{ab+1+a} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

//