MAT232 - Lecture 3

[Lesson Topic(s)]

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Lecture Title

Note

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Key Concepts

Definition

A **parametric equation** is a set of equations that express the coordinates of the points of a curve as functions of a variable, called a parameter.

Examples

Example

Example 1: Consider the parametric equations:

$$x = t, \quad y = t^2, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- At t = 0, (x, y) = (0, 0).
- At t = 1, (x, y) = (1, 1).

This describes a parabola.



Figure 1: Sample image illustrating the concept.

Theorems and Proofs

Theorem

Theorem: If x(t) and y(t) are differentiable functions, the slope of the curve is given by:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}}, \text{ provided } \frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0.$$



Figure 2: Graphical representation of the theorem.

Additional Notes

Note

Always check the domain of the parameter t when solving problems involving parametric equations.

Further Visualization



Figure 3: Additional visualization for parametric curves.