

# AP Classroom Problems Unit 6

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## 6.01

1. A curve in the  $xy$ -plane is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = \cos(2t)$  and  $y(t) = \sin(2t)$  for  $t \geq 0$ . Which of the following is equal to  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2}$ ?

(a)  $\frac{dx}{dt} = x'(t) = -2\sin(2t)$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dt} = y'(t) = 2\cos(2t)$

$$\implies \sqrt{(-2\sin(2t))^2 + (2\cos(2t))^2} = 2\sqrt{\underbrace{\sin^2(2t) + \cos^2(2t)}_0} = \boxed{2}$$

2. A curve is defined by the parametric functions  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$ , where  $\frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$  and  $2x(t) - y(t) = 4$  for all  $t$ . Which of the following equals  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ ?

$$2x'(t) - y'(t) = 0$$

$$\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \boxed{2}$$

3. A curve is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = at + b$  and  $y(t) = ct + d$ , where  $a, b, c$  and  $d$  are nonzero constants. Which of the following gives the slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point  $(x(t), y(t))$ ?

(a)  $\frac{dx}{dt} = x'(t) = a$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dt} = y'(t) = c$

$$\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \boxed{\frac{c}{a}}$$

4. An object moves in the  $xy$ -plane so that its position at any time  $t$  is given by the parametric equations  $x(t) = t^3 - 3t^2 + 2$  and  $y(t) = \sqrt{t^2 + 16}$ . What is the rate of change of  $y$  with respect to  $x$  when  $t = 3$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 3t^2 - 6t$

(b)  $y'(t) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + 16}}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)} = \frac{\frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2+16}}}{3t^2-6t} = \frac{t}{3t(t-2)\sqrt{t^2+16}} \Big|_{t=3} = \frac{3}{45} = \boxed{\frac{1}{15}}$$

5. If  $x = e^{2t}$  and  $y = \sin(2t)$ , then  $\frac{dy}{dx} =$

(a)  $x'(t) = 2e^{2t}$

(b)  $y'(t) = 2\cos(2t)$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)} = \boxed{\frac{\cos(2t)}{e^{2t}}}$$

6. A curve  $C$  is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = 3 + t^2$  and  $y(t) = t^3 + 5t$ . Which of the following is an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $C$  at the point where  $t = 1$ ?

(a)  $x(1) = 4$  and  $y(1) = 6$

(b)  $x'(t) = 2t \implies x'(1) = 2$

(c)  $y'(t) = 3t^2 + 5 \implies y'(1) = 8$

(d)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{8}{2} = 4$

$$y = 4(x - 4) + 6 = \boxed{4x - 10}$$

7. A particle moves along the curve  $xy = 10$ . If  $x = 2$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 3$ , what is the value of  $\frac{dy}{dt}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} xy &= 10 \\ y \frac{dx}{dt} + x \frac{dy}{dt} &= 0 \\ \frac{-x}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} &= \frac{dy}{dt} \\ \frac{dy}{dt} \Big|_{(2,5)} &= \boxed{\frac{-6}{5}} \end{aligned}$$

8. The position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric functions  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  for which  $x'(t) = t \sin t$  and  $y'(t) = 5e^{-3t} + 2$ . What is the slope of the line tangent to the path of the particle at the point at which  $t = 2$ ?

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{t=2} = \frac{y'(2)}{x'(2)} = \frac{(2e^6 + 5) \cdot e^{-6}}{2 \sin 2} \approx \boxed{1.107}$$

9. Consider the curve in the  $xy$ -plane represented by  $x = e^t$  and  $y = te^{-t}$  for  $t \geq 0$ . The slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point where  $x = 3$  is

(a)  $t = \ln x$

(b)  $x'(t) = e^t$

(c)  $y'(t) = (1 - t)e^{-t}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{t=\ln 3} = \frac{y'(\ln 3)}{x'(\ln 3)} = \frac{1 - \ln 3}{9} \approx \boxed{-0.011}$$

10. For  $0 \leq t \leq 13$ , an object travels along an elliptical path given by the parametric equations  $x = 3 \cos t$  and  $y = 4 \sin t$ . At the point where  $t = 13$ , the object leaves the path and travels along the line tangent to the path at that point. What is the slope of the line on which the object travels?

(a)  $x'(t) = -3 \sin t$

(b)  $y'(t) = 4 \cos t$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y'(13)}{x'(13)} = \frac{4 \cos 13}{-3 \sin 13} = \boxed{-\frac{4}{3 \tan 13}}$$

11. A curve is described by the parametric equations  $x = t^2 + 2t$  and  $y = t^3 + t^2$ . An equation of the line tangent to the curve at the point determined by  $t = 1$  is

(a)  $x(1) = 3$  and  $y(1) = 2$

(b)  $x'(t) = 2t + 2 \implies x'(1) = 4$

(c)  $y'(t) = 3t^2 + 2t \implies y'(1) = 5$

$$y = \frac{5}{4}(x - 3) + 2$$

$$\implies \boxed{7 = 5x - 4y}$$

12. For what values of  $t$  does the curve given by the parametric equations  $x = t^3 - t^2 - 1$  and  $y = t^4 + 2t^2 - 8t$  have a vertical tangent?

(a) Vertical tangent occurs when  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$

(b)  $x'(t) = t(3t - 2)$

(c)  $x'(t) = 0$  when  $t = 0$  and  $t = \frac{2}{3}$

$$\boxed{t = 0 \text{ and } t = \frac{2}{3} \text{ only}}$$

## 6.02

1. For what values of  $t$  does the curve given by the parametric equations  $x = t^3 - t^2 - 1$  and  $y = t^4 + 2t^2 - 8t$  have a vertical tangent?

See # 12 above

2. If  $x = t^2 + 1$  and  $y = t^3$ , then  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} =$

(a)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\frac{d}{dy}\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$

(b)  $x'(t) = 2t$  and  $y'(t) = 3t^2$

(c)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3}{2}x \implies \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\frac{3}{2}}{2t} = \frac{3}{4t}$

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{3}{4t}}$$

3. If  $x = e^{2t}$  and  $y = \sin(2t)$ , then  $\frac{dy}{dx} =$

$$\boxed{\text{See \# 5 above}}$$

4. An object moves in the  $xy$ -plane so that its position at any time  $t$  is given by the parametric equations  $x(t) = t^3 - 3t^2 + 2$  and  $y(t) = \sqrt{t^2 + 16}$ . What is the rate of change of  $y$  with respect to  $x$  when  $t = 3$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 3t^2 - 6t$  and  $y'(t) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + 16}}$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{t}{(3t^2 - 6t)(\sqrt{t^2 + 16})}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \left( \frac{t}{(3t^2 - 6t)(\sqrt{t^2 + 16})} \right) \Big|_{t=3} = \frac{3}{45} = \boxed{\frac{1}{15}}$$

5. A curve  $C$  is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = 3 + t^2$  and  $y(t) = t^3 + 5t$ . Which of the following is an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $C$  at the point where  $t = 1$ ?

(a)  $(x, y) : (4, 6)$

(b)  $x'(t) = 2t$  and  $y'(t) = 3t^2 + 5$ .

(c)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3t^2 + 5}{2t}$

(d)  $\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{t=1} = 4$

$$y = 4(x - 4) + 6 = \boxed{4x - 10}$$

6. The position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric functions  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  for which  $x'(t) = t \sin t$  and  $y'(t) = 5e^{-3t} + 2$ . What is the slope of the line tangent to the path of the particle at the point at which  $t = 2$ ?

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{5e^{-3t} + 2}{t \sin t} \Big|_{t=2} = \frac{5e^{-6} + 2}{2 \sin 2} \approx \boxed{1.107}$$

7. Which of the following gives the length of the path described by the parametric equations  $x = \sin(t^3)$  and  $y = e^{5t}$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \pi$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 3t^2 \cos(t^3)$  and  $y'(t) = 5e^{5t}$

$$\int_0^\pi \sqrt{(3t^2 \cos(t^3))^2 + (5e^{5t})^2} dt = \boxed{\int_0^\pi \sqrt{9t^4 \cos^2(t^3) + 25e^{10t}} dt}$$

8. Which of the following gives the length of the path described by the parametric equations  $x(t) = 2 + 3t$  and  $y(t) = 1 + t^2$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 3$  and  $y'(t) = 2t$

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{9 + 4t^2} dt$$

9. Consider the curve in the  $xy$ -plane represented by  $x = e^t$  and  $y = te^{-t}$  for  $t \geq 0$ . The slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point where  $x = 3$  is

See # 9 above

10. A curve is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = at$  and  $y(t) = bt$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. What is the length of the curve from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = a$  and  $y'(t) = b$

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} dt = \boxed{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

11. What is the length of the curve defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = t^2 - 2t$  and  $y(t) = t^3 - 4t$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 2$ ?

$$\int_0^2 \sqrt{(2t - 2)^2 + (3t^2 - 4)^2} dt \approx \boxed{6.511}$$

12. A curve is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = at^2$  and  $y(t) = bt$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive constants. What is  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $t$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 2at$  and  $y'(t) = b$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{b}{2at}$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\frac{-b}{2at^2}}{2at} = \boxed{\frac{-b}{4a^2t^3}}$$

13. A curve is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = e^{-3t}$  and  $y(t) = e^{3t}$ . What is  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $t$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = -3e^{-3t}$  and  $y'(t) = 3e^{3t}$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -e^{6t}$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-6e^{6t}}{-3e^{-3t}} = \boxed{2e^{9t}}$$

14. A curve is defined by the parametric functions  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$ , where  $\frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$  and  $2x(t) - y(t) = 4$  for all  $t$ . Which of the following equals  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ ?

See #2 above

15. A curve is defined by the parametric equations  $x(t) = at + b$  and  $y(t) = ct + d$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  are nonzero constants. Which of the following gives the slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point  $(x(t), y(t))$ ?

See #3 above

16. If  $x = t^2 - 1$  and  $y = \ln t$ , what is  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $t$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 2t$  and  $y'(t) = \frac{1}{x}$

(b)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2t^2}$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-t^{-3}}{2t} = \boxed{\frac{-1}{2t^4}}$$

17. For  $0 \leq t \leq 13$ , an object travels along an elliptical path given by the parametric equations  $x = 3 \cos t$  and  $y = 4 \sin t$ . At the point where  $t = 13$ , the object leaves the path and travels along the line tangent to the path at that point. What is the slope of the line on which the object travels?

See #10 above

## 6.03

1. For time  $t > 0$ , the position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric equations  $x = 4t + t^2$  and  $y = \frac{1}{3t+1}$ . What is the acceleration vector of the particle at time  $t = 1$ ?

(a)  $x'(t) = 4 + 2t \implies x''(t) = 2$

(b)  $y'(t) = \frac{-3}{(3t+1)^2} \implies y''(t) = \frac{18}{(3t+1)^3}$

$$\langle x''(1), y''(1) \rangle = \boxed{\left\langle 2, \frac{9}{32} \right\rangle}$$

2. A particle moves on a plane curve so that at any time  $t > 0$  its  $x$ -coordinate is  $t^3 - t$  and its  $y$ -coordinate is  $(2t - 1)^3$ . The acceleration vector of the particle at  $t = 1$  is

(a)  $x(t) = t^3 - t \implies x'(t) = 3t^2 - 1 \implies x''(t) = 6t$

(b)  $y(t) = (2t - 1)^3 \implies y'(t) = 6(2t - 1)^2 \implies y''(t) = 24(2t - 1)$

$$\langle x''(1), y''(1) \rangle = \boxed{\langle 6, 24 \rangle}$$

3. For time  $t > 0$ , the position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the vector  $\langle \frac{1}{t}, e^{3t} \rangle$ . What is the velocity vector of the particle at time  $t = 2$ ?

(a)  $x(t) = t^{-1} \implies x'(t) = -\frac{1}{t^2}$

(b)  $y(t) = e^{3t} \implies y'(t) = 3e^{3t}$

$$\langle x''(2), y''(2) \rangle = \boxed{\left\langle -\frac{1}{4}, 3e^6 \right\rangle}$$

4. A particle moves in the  $xy$ -plane with position given by  $(x(t), y(t)) = (5 - 2t, t^2 - 3)$  at time  $t$ . In which direction is the particle moving as it passes through the point  $(3, -2)$ ?

- (a)  $x(t)5 - 2t \implies x'(t) = -2$
- (b)  $y(t) = t^2 - 3 \implies y'(t) = 2t$
- (c) The point  $(3, -2)$  occurs at  $t = 1$
- (d)  $\langle x'(1), y'(1) \rangle = \langle -2, 2 \rangle$

Up and to the left

5. A particle moves on the curve  $y = \ln x$  so that the  $x$ -component has velocity  $x'(t) = t + 1$  for  $t \geq 0$ . At time  $t = 0$ , the particle is at the point  $(1, 0)$ . At time  $t = 1$ , the particle is at the point

- (a)  $x(1) = x(0) + \int_0^1 (t + 1) dt = \frac{5}{2}$
- (b)  $y = \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)$

 $\left(\frac{5}{2}, \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)\right)$ 

6. The position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric equations  $x = t^3 - 3t^2$  and  $y = 2t^3 - 3t^2 - 12t$ . For what values of  $t$  is the particle at rest?

- (a)  $x'(t) = 3t^2 - 6t = 3t(t - 2)$
- (b)  $y'(t) = 6t^2 - 6t = 6(t + 1)(t - 2)$
- (c) When  $t = 2$   $x'(t) = 0$  and  $y'(t) = 0$

2 only

7. The position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric equations  $x(t) = t^3 - 3t^2$  and  $y(t) = 12t - 3t^2$ . At which of the following points  $(x, y)$  is the particle at rest?

- (a)  $x'(t) = 3t(t - 2)$  and  $y'(t) = -6(t - 2)$
- (b) The particle is at rest at  $t = 2$
- (c)  $x(2) = -4$  and  $y(2) = 12$

 $(-4, 12)$ 

8. For time  $t \geq 0$ , a particle moves with velocity vector given by  $v(t) = \langle f(t), g(t) \rangle$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous functions of  $t$ . At time  $t = 3$ , the particle is at position  $(-4, 5)$ . Which of the following expressions gives the particle's position at time  $t = 1$ ?

 $\left(-4 - \int_1^3 f(t) dt, 5 - \int_1^3 g(t) dt\right)$

9. The vector-valued function  $h$  is defined by  $h(t) = \langle te^t, t^2e^t \rangle$ . Which of the following is  $h'(1)$ ?

$$h'(t) = \langle e^t + 4e^t, 2e^t + t^2e^t \rangle$$

$$\boxed{h'(1) = \langle 2e, 3e \rangle}$$

10. The instantaneous rate of change of the vector-valued function  $f(t)$  is given by  $r(t) = \langle 3 + 30t - 8t^3, 9t^2 + 4t \rangle$ . If  $f(1) = \langle 4, -3 \rangle$ , what is  $f(-1)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} f(-1) &= f(1) - \int_{-1}^1 r(t) dt \\ &= \left\langle 4 - \int_{-1}^1 (3 + 30t - 8t^3) dt, -3 - \int_{-1}^1 (t^2 + 4t) dt \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle 4 - [3t + 15t^2 - 2t^3]_{-1}^1, -3 - [t^3 + 2t^2]_{-1}^1 \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle 4 - ((3 + 15 - 2) - (3 + 15 - 2)), -4 - ((3 + 2) - (-3 + 2)) \right\rangle \\ &= \boxed{\langle -2, -9 \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

## 6.04

1. If  $f$  is a vector-valued function defined by  $f(t) = \langle e^{-t}, \cos t \rangle$ , then  $f''(t) =$

$$f'(t) = \langle -e^{-t}, -\sin t \rangle$$

$$\boxed{f''(t) = \langle e^{-t}, -\cos t \rangle}$$

2. If a particle moves in the  $xy$ -plane so that at time  $t > 0$  its position vector is  $\langle \ln(t^2 + 2t), 2t^2 \rangle$ , then at time  $t = 2$ , its velocity vector is

$$f(t) = \langle \ln(t^2 + 2t), 2t^2 \rangle$$

$$f'(t) = \left\langle \frac{2t}{t^2 + 2t}, 4t \right\rangle$$

$$\boxed{f'(2) = \left\langle \frac{3}{4}, 8 \right\rangle}$$

3. A curve in the  $xy$ -plane is given by parametric functions  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$ , where  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2 - \ln(t^3 + t + 1)$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 4 \arctan(t^2 + 2) - 5$  for  $t \geq 0$ . The coordinates of the point on the curve where  $t = 5$  are  $(-1.219, 4.532)$ . What is the  $y$ -coordinate of the point on the curve where  $t = 0$ ?

$$y(0) = y(5) - \int_0^5 (4 \arctan(t^2 + 2) - 5) dt \approx \boxed{1.654}$$



4. For time  $t \geq 0$ , a particle moves in the  $xy$ -plane with velocity vector given by  $v(t) = \langle \ln(t^3 + 3t + 1), 1 - \ln(t + 3) \rangle$ . At time  $t = 0$ , the particle is at position  $(1, -3)$ . What is the particle's acceleration vector at time  $t = 2.5$ ?

$$v'(t) = a(t) = \left\langle \frac{3(x^2 + 1)}{x^3 + 3x + 1}, \frac{-1}{x + 3} \right\rangle$$

$$a(2.5) = \left\langle \frac{174}{193}, \frac{-2}{11} \right\rangle$$

$$\boxed{a(2.5) \approx \langle 0.902, -0.182 \rangle}$$

5. The instantaneous rate of change of the vector-valued function  $g(t)$  is given by  $r(t) = \left\langle \sqrt{t^2 + 1}, \sin(t^2) \right\rangle$ . If  $g(7) = \langle \sqrt{2}, \pi \rangle$ , which of the following is  $g(0)$ ?

$$g'(t) = r(t)$$

$$g(0) = g(7) - \int_0^7 r(t) dt$$

$$g(0) = \left\langle \sqrt{2} - \int_0^7 \sqrt{t^2 + 1} dt, \pi - \int_0^7 \sin(t^2) dt \right\rangle$$

$$\boxed{g(0) \approx \langle -24.657, 2.536 \rangle}$$

6. For  $t \geq 0$ , the components of the velocity of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane are given by the parametric equations  $x'(t) = \frac{1}{1+t}$  and  $y'(t) = ke^{kt}$  where  $k$  is a positive constant. The line  $y = 4x + 3$  is parallel to the line tangent to the path of the particle at the point where  $t = 2$ . What is the value of  $k$ ?

$$\frac{y'(2)}{x'(2)} = 4$$

$$\implies 4 = \frac{ke^{2k}}{\frac{1}{2+1}} = 3ke^{kt}$$

Solving via a graphical approach yields that  $\boxed{k \approx 0.495}$

7. The position of a particle moving in the  $xy$ -plane is given by the parametric equations  $x(t) = \cos(2t)$  and  $y(t) = \sin(2t)$  for time  $t \geq 0$ . What is the speed of the particle when  $t = 2.3$ ?

$$(a) \quad s(t) = \sqrt{(y'(t))^2 + (x'(t))^2}$$

$$(b) \quad x'(t) = -\ln(2) \cdot \sin(e^t) \cdot 2^t$$

$$(c) \quad y'(t) = \ln(2) \cdot \cos(e^t) \cdot 2^t$$

$$s(2.3) = \sqrt{(\ln(2) \cdot \cos(e^t) \cdot 2^t)^2 + (-\ln(2) \cdot \sin(e^t) \cdot 2^t)^2} \approx \boxed{3.14345}$$