

$$\textcircled{2} (\vec{r}_1(t) \times \vec{r}_2(t))' = \vec{r}_1'(t) \times \vec{r}_2(t) + \vec{r}_1(t) \times \vec{r}_2'(t)$$

Session 20: Velocity and Arc Length

2025.1.9

Speed

$$\text{speed} = |\vec{v}| = \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right|$$

Example:

radius 1 3 seconds π $\Delta \theta = \frac{\pi}{3}/s$

What's avg velocity and average speed?

$$\text{speed} = \frac{2\pi}{3} \quad \vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

Notations:

$$\vec{r}(t) = \text{position, plane: } x(t)\vec{i} + y(t)\vec{j} = \langle x, y \rangle$$



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In space: $\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\vec{i} + y(t)\vec{j} + z(t)\vec{k}$
 $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{v}(t) = \text{tangent vector} = \text{velocity}$

In plane: ~~$\vec{v} = v'(x)\vec{i} + v'(y)\vec{j}$~~

$$\vec{v} = x'(t)\vec{i} + y'(t)\vec{j} = \langle x', y' \rangle$$

In space: $\vec{v} = x'(t)\vec{i} + y'(t)\vec{j} + z'(t)\vec{k} = \langle x', y', z' \rangle$

$\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|} = \text{unit tangent vector}$

$s = \text{arc length}, \text{ speed} = \frac{ds}{dt} = |\vec{v}|$

In plane: $\frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2}$

In space: $\frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2 + (z')^2}$

$$\vec{v} = \frac{ds}{dt} \vec{T}, \quad \vec{T} = \frac{\vec{v}}{ds/dt}$$

$\vec{a}(t) = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2} = \text{acceleration}$

$$\vec{v} = \frac{ds}{dt} \cdot \vec{T}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$
 $|\vec{v}| \quad \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$

$$\text{speed} = \frac{ds}{dt} = |\vec{v}|$$

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt} \right)^2}$$



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From Problems: Vector derivatives and arc length

1. let $\vec{r}(t) = t^2\vec{i} + t^3\vec{j}$

a)

$$\text{velocity} = \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = 2t\vec{i} + 3t^2\vec{j} = \langle 2t, 3t^2 \rangle$$

unit tangent vector: \vec{T}

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4} = \frac{ds}{dt}$$

$$\vec{T} = \left\langle \frac{2t}{\sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4}}, \frac{3t^2}{\sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4}} \right\rangle$$

$$a(t) = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = 2\vec{i} + 2 \cdot 3t\vec{j} = \langle 2, 6t \rangle$$

b)

$$s = \int_1^4 \sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4} \cdot dt$$

2. $x(t) = 3t+1, y(t) = 4t+3$

a) velocity = $\langle 3, 4 \rangle$

$$\text{speed} = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$$

$$\vec{T} = \left\langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle, a(t) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$$

b) $\int_0^2 5 \cdot dt = 5t \Big|_0^2 = 10$