

# Multivariable Calculus

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# Chapter 1

## Review

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Give a summary of the ideas you learned in 112, including graphing, derivatives (product, quotient, power, chain, trig, exponential, and logarithm rules), and integration ( $u$ -sub and integration by parts).
2. Compute the differential  $dy$  of a function and use it to approximate the change in a function.
3. Explain how to perform matrix multiplication and compute determinants of square matrices.
4. Illustrate how to solve systems of linear equations, including how to express a solution parametrically (in terms of  $t$ ) when there are infinitely solutions.
5. Extend the idea of differentials to approximate functions using parabolas, cubics, and polynomials of any degree.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 1.1 Review of First Semester Calculus

#### 1.1.1 Graphing

We'll need to know how to graph by hand some basic functions. If you have not spent much time graphing functions by hand before this class, then you should spend some time graphing the following functions by hand. When we start drawing functions in 3D, we'll have to piece together infinitely many 2D graphs. Knowing the basic shape of graphs will help us do this.

**Problem 1** Provide a rough sketch of the following functions, showing their basic shapes:

$$x^2, x^3, x^4, \frac{1}{x}, \sin x, \cos x, \tan x, \sec x, \arctan x, e^x, \ln x.$$

Then use a computer algebra system, such as Wolfram Alpha, to verify your work. I suggest Wolfram Alpha, because it is now built into Mathematica 8.0. If you can learn to use Wolfram Alpha, you will be able to use Mathematica.

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### 1.1.2 Derivatives

In first semester calculus, one of the things you focused on was learning to compute derivatives. You'll need to know the derivatives of basic functions (found on the end cover of almost every calculus textbook). Computing derivatives accurately and rapidly will make learning calculus in high dimensions easier. The following rules are crucial.

- Power rule  $(x^n)' = nx^{n-1}$
- Sum and difference rule  $(f \pm g)' = f' \pm g'$
- Product  $(fg)' = f'g + fg'$  and quotient rule  $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}$
- Chain rule (arguably the most important)  $(f \circ g)' = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$

**Problem 2** Compute the derivative of  $e^{\sec x} \cos(\tan(x) + \ln(x^2 + 4))$ . Show each step in your computation, making sure to show what rules you used.

See sections 3.2-3.6 for more practice with derivatives. The later problems in 3.6 review of most of the entire differentiation chapter.

**Problem 3** If  $y(p) = \frac{e^{p^3} \cot(4p + 7)}{\tan^{-1}(p^4)}$  find  $dy/dp$ . Again, show each step in your computation, making sure to show what rules you used.

The following problem will help you review some of your trigonometry, inverse functions, as well as implicit differentiation.

**Problem 4** Use implicit differentiation to explain why the derivative of  $y = \arcsin x$  is  $y' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ . [Rewrite  $y = \arcsin x$  as  $x = \sin y$ , differentiate both sides, solve for  $y'$ , and then write the answer in terms of  $x$ ].

See sections 3.7-3.9 for more examples involving inverse trig functions and implicit differentiation.

### 1.1.3 Integrals

Each derivative rule from the front cover of your calculus text is also an integration rule. In addition to these basic rules, we'll need to know three integration techniques. They are (1)  $u$ -substitution, (2) integration-by-parts, and (3) integration by using software. There are many other integration techniques, but we will not focus on them. If you are trying to compute an integral to get a number while on the job, then software will almost always be the tool you use. As we develop new ideas in this and future classes (in engineering, physics, statistics, math), you'll find that  $u$ -substitution and integrations-by-parts show up so frequently that knowing when and how to apply them becomes crucial.

**Problem 5** Compute  $\int x\sqrt{x^2 + 4} dx$ .

For practice with  $u$ -substitution, see section 5.5 and 5.6.

**Problem 6** Compute  $\int x \sin 2x dx$ .

For practice with integration by parts, see section 8.1.

**Problem 7** Compute  $\int \arctan x dx$ .

**Problem 8** Compute  $\int x^2 e^{3x} dx$ .

## 1.2 Differentials

The derivative of a function gives us the slope of a tangent line to that function. We can use this tangent line to estimate how much the output ( $y$  values) will change if we change the input ( $x$ -value). If we rewrite the notation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'$  in the form  $dy = f'dx$ , then we can read this as “A small change in  $y$  (called  $dy$ ) equals the derivative ( $f'$ ) times a small change in  $x$  (called  $dx$ ).”

**Definition 1.1.** We call  $dx$  the differential of  $x$ . If  $f$  is a function of  $x$ , then the differential of  $f$  is  $df = f'(x)dx$ . Since we often write  $y = f(x)$ , we'll interchangeably use  $dy$  and  $df$  to represent the differential of  $f$ .

We will often refer to the differential notation  $dy = f'dx$  as “a change in the output  $y$  equals the derivative times a change in the input  $x$ .”

**Problem 9** If  $f(x) = x^2 \ln(3x + 2)$  and  $g(t) = e^{2t} \tan(t^2)$  then compute  $df$  and  $dg$ . See 3.10:19-38.

Most of higher dimensional calculus can quickly be developed from differential notation. Once we have the language of vectors and matrices at our command, we will develop calculus in higher dimensions by writing  $d\vec{y} = Df(\vec{x})d\vec{x}$ . Variables will become vectors, and the derivative will become a matrix.

This problem will help you see how the notion of differentials is used to develop equations of tangent lines. We'll use this same idea to develop tangent planes to surfaces in 3D and more.

**Problem 10** Consider the function  $y = f(x) = x^2$ . This problem has multiple steps, but each is fairly short. See 3.11:39-44. Also see problems 3.11:1-18. The linearization of a function is just an equation of the tangent line where you solve for  $y$ .

1. Find the differential of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ .
2. Give an equation of the tangent line to  $f(x)$  at  $x = 3$ . Use any method you want. The remaining parts to this problem just ask you give an equation of the tangent line using differentials.
3. Draw a graph of  $f(x)$  and the tangent line on the same axes.
4. Place a dot at the point  $(3, 9)$  and label it on your graph. Pick a point on the tangent line, place a dot on that point in your graph, and label the point  $(x, y)$ .
5. Using the two points  $(3, 9)$  and  $(x, y)$ , compute the slope of the line connecting these two points. Your answer should involve  $x$  and  $y$ . What is the rise (i.e, the change in  $y$  or  $dy$ )? What is the run (i.e, the change in  $x$  or  $dx$ )?
6. We already know the slope of the tangent line is the derivative  $f'(3) = 6$ . We also know the slope from the previous part. These two must be equal. Use this fact to give an equation of the tangent line to  $f(x)$  at  $x = 3$ .

**Problem 11** The manufacturer of a spherical storage tank needs to create a tank with a radius of 3 m. Recall that the volume of a sphere is  $V(r) = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ . No manufacturing process is perfect, so the resulting sphere will have a radius of 3 m, plus or minus some small amount  $dr$ . The actual radius will be  $3 + dr$ . Find the differential  $dV$ . Then use differentials to estimate the change in the volume of the sphere if the actual radius is 3.02 m instead of the planned 3 m. See 3.11:45-62.

**Problem 12** A forest ranger needs to estimate the height of a tree. The ranger stands 50 feet from the base of tree and measures the angle of elevation to the top of the tree to be about  $60^\circ$ . If this angle of  $60^\circ$  is correct, then what is the height of the tree? If the ranger's angle measurement could be off by as much as  $5^\circ$ , then how much could his estimate of the height be off? Use differentials to give an answer.

## 1.3 Matrices

We will soon discover that matrices represent derivatives in high dimensions. When you use matrices to represent derivatives, the chain rule is precisely matrix multiplication. For now, we just need to become comfortable with matrix multiplication.

We perform matrix multiplication “row by column”. Wikipedia has an excellent visual illustration of how to do this. See [Wikipedia](#) for an explanation. See [texample.net](#) for a visualization of the idea.

The links will open your browser and take you to the web.

**Problem 13** Compute the following matrix products.

$$\begin{aligned} &\bullet \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\bullet \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

For extra practice, make up two small matrices and multiply them. Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to see if you are correct (click the links to see how to do matrix multiplication in each system).

**Problem 14** Compute the product  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

### 1.3.1 Determinants

Determinants measure area, volume, length, and higher dimensional versions of these ideas. Determinants will appear as we study cross products and when we get to the high dimensional version of  $u$ -substitution.

Associated with every square matrix is a number, called the determinant, which is related to length, area, and volume, and we use the determinant to generalize volume to higher dimensions. Determinants are only defined for square matrices.

**Definition 1.2.** The determinant of a  $2 \times 2$  and  $3 \times 3$  matrix is the number

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc \\ \det \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix} &= a \det \begin{vmatrix} e & f \\ h & i \end{vmatrix} - b \det \begin{vmatrix} d & f \\ g & i \end{vmatrix} + c \det \begin{vmatrix} d & e \\ g & h \end{vmatrix} \\ &= a(ei - hf) - b(di - gf) + c(dh - ge) \end{aligned}$$

We use vertical bars next to a matrix to state we want the determinant, so  $\det A = |A|$ . Notice the negative sign on the middle term of the  $3 \times 3$  determinant. Also, notice that we had to compute three determinants of  $2$  by  $2$  matrices in order to find the determinant of a  $3$  by  $3$ .



**Problem 15** Compute  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$  and  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$ .

Again, for extra practice create your own square matrix (2 by 2 or 3 by 3). Use Wolfram Alpha to check your work.

What good is the determinant? The determinant was discovered as a result of trying to find the area of a parallelogram and the volume of the three dimensional version of a parallelogram (called a parallelepiped) in space. If we had a full semester to spend on linear algebra, we could eventually prove the following facts that I will just present here with a few examples.

Consider the 2 by 2 matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  whose determinant is  $3 \cdot 2 - 0 \cdot 1 = 6$ . Draw the column vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  with their base at the origin (see figure 1.1). These two vectors give the edges of a parallelogram whose area is the determinant 6. If I swap the order of the two vectors in the matrix, then the determinant of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is  $-6$ . The reason for the difference is that the determinant not only keeps track of area, but also order. Starting at the first vector, if you can turn counterclockwise through an angle smaller than  $180^\circ$  to obtain the second vector, then the determinant is positive. If you have to turn clockwise instead, then the determinant is negative. This is often termed “the right-hand rule,” as rotating the fingers of your right hand from the first vector to the second vector will cause your thumb to point up precisely when the determinant is positive.

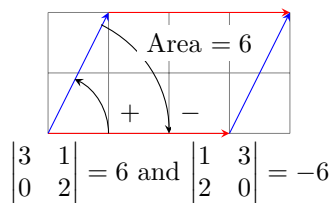


Figure 1.1: The determinant gives both area and direction. A counter clockwise rotation from column 1 to column 2 gives a positive determinant.

For a 3 by 3 matrix, the columns give the edges of a three dimensional parallelepiped and the determinant produces the volume of this object. The sign of the determinant is related to orientation. If you can use your right hand and place your index finger on the first vector, middle finger on the second vector, and thumb on the third vector, then the determinant is positive. For example,

consider the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Starting from the origin, each column

represents an edge of the rectangular box  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq 2$ ,  $0 \leq z \leq 3$  with volume (and determinant)  $V = lwh = (1)(2)(3) = 6$ . The sign of the determinant is positive because if you place your index finger pointing in the direction  $(1,0,0)$  and your middle finger in the direction  $(0,2,0)$ , then your thumb points upwards in the direction  $(0,0,3)$ . If you interchange two of the columns,

for example  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ , then the volume doesn't change since the shape is

still the same. However, the sign of the determinant is negative because if you point your index finger in the direction  $(0,2,0)$  and your middle finger in the direction  $(1,0,0)$ , then your thumb points down in the direction  $(0,0,-3)$ . If you

repeat this with your left hand instead of right hand, then your thumb points up.

**Problem 16** • Use determinants to find the area of the triangle with vertices  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(-2, 5)$ , and  $(3, 4)$ .

- What would you change if you wanted to find the area of the triangle with vertices  $(-3, 1)$ ,  $(-2, 5)$ , and  $(3, 4)$ ? Find this area.

## 1.4 Solving Systems of equations

**Problem 17** Solve the following linear systems of equations.

- $\begin{cases} x + y = 3 \\ 2x - y = 4 \end{cases}$
- $\begin{cases} -x + 4y = 8 \\ 3x - 12y = 2 \end{cases}$

For additional practice, make up your own systems of equations. Use Wolfram Alpha to check your work.

**Problem 18** You main goal is to solve the linear system  $\begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ 2x - y = 4 \end{cases}$ . This link will show you how to specify which variable is  $t$  when using Wolfram Alpha.

You'll notice there are more variables than equations. This suggests there is probably not just one solution, but perhaps infinitely many. One common way to deal with solving such a system is to let one variable equal  $t$ , and then solve for the other variables in terms of  $t$ . Do this three different ways.

- If you let  $x = t$ , what are  $y$  and  $z$ . Write your solution in the form  $(x, y, z)$  where you replace  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  with what they are in terms of  $t$ .
- If you let  $y = t$ , what are  $x$  and  $z$ .
- If you let  $z = t$ , what are  $x$  and  $y$ .

## 1.5 Higher Order Approximations

When you ask a calculator to tell you what  $e^{-1}$  means, your calculator uses an extension of differentials to give you an approximation. The calculator only uses polynomials (multiplication and addition) to give you an answer. This same process is used to evaluate any function that is not a polynomial (so trig functions, square roots, inverse trig functions, logarithms, etc.) The key idea needed to approximate functions is illustrated by the next problem.

**Problem 19** Let  $f(x) = e^x$ . You should find that your work on each step can be reused to do the next step.

- Find a first degree polynomial  $P_1(x) = a + bx$  so that  $P_1(0) = f(0)$  and  $P_1'(0) = f'(0)$ . In other words, give me a line that passes through the same point and has the same slope as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 0$ . Set up a system of equations and then find the unknowns  $a$  and  $b$ . The next two are very similar.

- Find a second degree polynomial  $P_2(x) = a + bx + cx^2$  so that  $P_2(0) = f(0)$ ,  $P_2'(0) = f'(0)$ , and  $P_2''(0) = f''(0)$ . In other words, give me a parabola that passes through the same point, has the same slope, and has the same concavity as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 0$ .
- Find a third degree polynomial  $P_3(x) = a + bx + cx^2 + dx^3$  so that  $P_3(0) = f(0)$ ,  $P_3'(0) = f'(0)$ ,  $P_3''(0) = f''(0)$ , and  $P_3'''(0) = f'''(0)$ . In other words, give me a cubic that passes through the same point, has the same slope, the same concavity, and the same third derivative as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 0$ .
- Now compute  $e^{-1}$  with a calculator. Then compute  $P_1(.1)$ ,  $P_2(.1)$ , and  $P_3(.1)$ . How accurate are the line, parabola, and cubic in approximating  $e^{-1}$ ?

**Problem 20** Let  $f(x) = e^x$ .

- Find a second degree polynomial  $T(x) = a + bx + cx^2$  so that  $T(1) = f(1)$ ,  $T'(1) = f'(1)$ , and  $T''(1) = f''(1)$ . In other words, give me a parabola that passes through the same point, has the same slope, and the same concavity as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 1$ .
- Find a second degree polynomial written in the form  $S(x) = a + b(x - 1) + c(x - 1)^2$  so that  $S(1) = f(1)$ ,  $S'(1) = f'(1)$ , and  $S''(1) = f''(1)$ . In other words, give me a cubic that passes through the same point, has the same slope, and the same concavity as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 1$ .
- Find a third degree polynomial written in the form  $P(x) = a + b(x - 1) + c(x - 1)^2 + d(x - 1)^3$  so that  $P(1) = f(1)$ ,  $P'(1) = f'(1)$ ,  $P''(1) = f''(1)$ , and  $P'''(1) = f'''(1)$ . In other words, give me a cubic that passes through the same point, has the same slope, the same concavity, and the same third derivative as  $f(x) = e^x$  does at  $x = 1$ .

The previous 2 problems showed you how to create what we call a Taylor polynomial expanded about  $c = 0$  and  $c = 1$ . The third degree Taylor polynomial expanded about  $c = 0$  is in general given by

$$P_3(x) = f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!}x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3.$$

To expand about  $c = a$  (we used  $c = 1$  in the problem 20), the polynomial is

$$P_3(x) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(x - a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x - a)^2 + \frac{f^{(3)}(a)}{3!}(x - a)^3,$$

where we use  $f^{(3)}$  to represent taking 3 derivatives. All you do is evaluate each derivative at  $a$  instead of 0, and then replace  $x$  with  $(x - a)$  to shift everything right  $a$ . If we wanted a fourth degree polynomial, we would evaluate the 4th derivative at  $a$ , divide by  $4!$ , multiply by  $(x - a)^4$ , and then add this product to the 3rd degree polynomial.

**Problem 21** Use summation notation to rewrite the degree 3 Taylor polynomial of  $f(x)$  expanded about  $c = 0$ . Then use sigma notation to rewrite the Taylor polynomial of  $f(x)$  expanded about  $c = a$ . Then make a guess as to the formula for the 20th degree Taylor polynomial expanded about  $c = a$ . What would the  $n$ th degree Taylor polynomial formula be?

The factorial function  $n!$  for a natural number  $n$  is defined as the product of all the integers upto and including  $n$ , namely  $n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots n$ . We define  $0! = 1$ .

See section 5.2, problems 1-24 for a review of sigma notation.

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**Problem 22** Find the 11th degree Taylor polynomial for  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  expanded about  $c = 0$ . Don't worry about expanding any factorials. Evaluate the Taylor polynomial at  $x = .3$ . Then compute  $\sin(.3)$  with a calculator. How close is the Taylor polynomial to your calculator's answer?

---

If we use the notation  $dx = x - a$  to emphasize a change from  $a$ , then we can rewrite the Taylor polynomial formula in terms of differentials as

$$P_n(x) - f(a) = \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(dx) + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}(dx)^n = f(a) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!}(dx)^k.$$

**Problem 23** Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ . Compute the degree 3 Taylor polynomial  $P_3(x)$  of  $f(x)$  expanded about  $c = 4$ . Then compute  $\sqrt{4.1}$  and  $P_3(4.1)$ . What is the difference  $P_3(4.1) - f(4.1)$ ? You will have found a small change in  $y$  (remember we called this  $dy$ ) when the change in  $x$  is  $.2$  (so  $dx = .1$  since  $4.1$  is only  $.1$  units away from where we centered out polynomial at  $c = 4$ ).

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## 1.6 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

# Chapter 2

## Vectors

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Define, draw, and explain what a vector is in 2 and 3 dimensions.
2. Add, subtract, multiply (scalar, dot product, cross product) vectors. Be able to illustrate each operation geometrically.
3. Use vector products to find angles, length, area, projections, and work.
4. Use vectors to give equations of lines and planes, and be able to draw lines and planes in 3D.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 2.1 Vectors and Lines

Learning to work with vectors will be key tool we need for our work in high dimensions. Let's start with some problems related to finding distance in 3D, drawing in 3D, and then we'll be ready to work with vectors.

**Problem 24** To find the distance between two points  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  in the plane, we create a triangle connecting the two points. The base of the triangle has length  $\Delta x = (x_2 - x_1)$  and the vertical side has length  $\Delta y = (y_2 - y_1)$ . The Pythagorean theorem gives us the distance between the two points as  $\sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$ .

Show that the distance between two points  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  in 3-dimensions is  $\sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2 + \Delta z^2} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$ .

---

**Problem 25** Find the distance between the two points  $P = (2, 3, -4)$  and  $Q = (0, -1, 1)$ . Then find an equation of the sphere passing through point  $Q$  whose center is at  $P$ . See 12.1:41-58.

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**Problem 26** For each of the following, construct a rough sketch of the set of points in space (3D) satisfying: See 12.1:1-40.

1.  $2 \leq z \leq 5$

2.  $x = 2, y = 3$
3.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 25$

**Definition 2.1.** A vector is a magnitude in a certain direction. If  $P$  and  $Q$  are points, then the vector  $\vec{PQ}$  is the directed line segment from  $P$  to  $Q$ . This definition holds in 1D, 2D, 3D, and beyond. If  $V = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$  is a point in space, then to talk about the vector  $\vec{v}$  from the origin  $O$  to  $V$  we'll use any of the following notations:

$$\vec{v} = \vec{OV} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = v_1\mathbf{i} + v_2\mathbf{j} + v_3\mathbf{k} = (v_1, v_2, v_3) = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The entries of the vector are called the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  components of the vector.

Note that  $(v_1, v_2, v_3)$  could refer to either the point  $V$  or the vector  $\vec{v}$ . The context of the problem we are working on will help us know if we are dealing with a point or a vector.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\mathbb{R}$  represent the set real numbers. Real numbers are actually 1D vectors. Let  $\mathbb{R}^2$  represent the set of vectors  $(x_1, x_2)$  in the plane. Let  $\mathbb{R}^3$  represent the set of vectors  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  in space. There's no reason to stop at 3, so let  $\mathbb{R}^n$  represent the set of vectors  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  in  $n$  dimensions.

In first semester calculus and before, most of our work dealt with problem in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Most of our work now will involve problems in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . We've got to learn to visualize in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Definition 2.3.** The magnitude, or length, or norm of a vector  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$  is  $|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$ . It is just the distance from the point  $(v_1, v_2, v_3)$  to the origin. A unit vector is a vector whose length is one unit.

The standard unit vectors are  $\mathbf{i} = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{j} = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{k} = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ .

Note that in 1D, the length of the vector  $\langle -2 \rangle$  is simply  $|-2| = \sqrt{(-2)^2} = 2$ , the distance to 0. Our use of the absolute value symbols is appropriate, as it generalizes the concept of absolute value (distance to zero) to all dimensions.

**Definition 2.4.** Suppose  $\vec{x} = \langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \rangle$  and  $\vec{y} = \langle y_1, y_2, y_3 \rangle$  are two vectors in 3D, and  $c$  is a real number. We define vector addition and scalar multiplication as follows:

- Vector addition:  $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, x_3 + y_3)$  (add component-wise).
- Scalar multiplication:  $c\vec{x} = (cx_1, cx_2, cx_3)$ .

**Problem 27** Consider the vectors  $\vec{u} = (1, 2)$  and  $\vec{v} = (3, 1)$ . Draw  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$ , and  $\vec{u} - \vec{v}$  with their tail placed at the origin. Then draw  $\vec{v}$  with its tail at the head of  $\vec{u}$ . See 12.2:23-24.

**Problem 28** Consider the vector  $\vec{v} = (2, -1)$ . Draw  $\vec{v}$ ,  $-\vec{v}$ , and  $3\vec{v}$ . Suppose a donkey travels along the path given by  $(x, y) = \vec{v}t = (2t, -t)$ , where  $t$  represents time. Draw the path followed by the donkey. Where is the donkey at time  $t = 0, 1, 2$ ? Put markers on your graph to show the donkey's location. Then determine how fast the donkey is traveling. See 11.1: 3,4.

In the previous problem you encountered  $(x, y) = (2t, -t)$ . This is an example of a function where the input is  $t$  and the output is a vector  $(x, y)$ . For each input  $t$ , you get a single vector output  $(x, y)$ . Such a function is called a vector-valued function. Often, we'll use the variable  $\vec{r}$  to represent the vector  $(x, y)$ , or  $(x, y, z)$  in 3D. So we could rewrite the position of the donkey as  $\vec{r}(t) = (2, -1)t$ . We use  $\vec{r}$  instead of  $r$  to remind us that the output is a vector.

---

**Problem 29** Suppose a horse races down a path given by the vector valued function  $\vec{r}(t) = (1, 2)t + (3, 4)$ . Draw the path followed by the horse. Where is the horse at time  $t = 0, 1, 2$ ? Put markers on your graph to show the horse's location. Give a vector that tells the horse's direction. Then determine how fast the horse is traveling. See 12.2: 1.

---

**Problem 30** Consider the two points  $P = (1, 2, 3)$  and  $Q = (2, -1, 0)$ . Write the vector  $\vec{PQ}$  in component form  $(a, b, c)$ . Find the length of vector  $\vec{PQ}$ . Then find a unit vector in the same direction as  $\vec{PQ}$ . Finally, find a vector of length 7 units that points in the same direction as  $\vec{PQ}$ . See 12.2: 9, 17, 25, 33 and surrounding.

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**Problem 31** A raccoon is sitting at point  $P = (0, 2, 3)$ . It starts to climb in the direction  $\vec{v} = \langle 1, -1, 2 \rangle$ . Write a vector equation  $\vec{r}$  for the line that passes through the point  $P$  and is parallel to  $\vec{v}$ . [Hint, study problem 29, and base your work off of what you saw there.] See 12.5: 1-12.

Then generalize your work to give an equation of the line that passes through  $P = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and is parallel to  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$ .

---

Make sure you ask me in class to show you how to connect the equation developed above to what you have been doing since middle school. If you can remember  $y = mx + b$ , then you can quickly remember the equation of a line. If I don't show you in class, make sure you ask me (or feel free to come by early and ask before class).

**Problem 32** Let  $P = (3, 1)$  and  $Q = (-1, 4)$ . See 12.5: 13-20.

- Write a vector equation  $\vec{r}$  for the line that passes through  $P$  and  $Q$ , with  $\vec{r}(0) = P$  and  $\vec{r}(1) = Q$ .
  - Write a vector equation  $\vec{r}$  for the line that passes through  $P$  and  $Q$ , with  $\vec{r}(0) = P$  but whose speed is twice the speed of the first line.
  - Write a vector equation  $\vec{r}$  for the line that passes through  $P$  and  $Q$ , with  $\vec{r}(0) = P$  but whose speed is one unit per second.
- 

## 2.2 The Dot Product

Now that we've learned how to add and subtract vectors, stretch them by scalars, and use them to find lines, it's time to introduce a way of multiplying vectors called the dot product. We'll use the dot product to help us find angles. First, we need to recall the law of cosines.

**Theorem** (The Law of Cosines). *Consider a triangle with side lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ . Let  $\theta$  be the angle between the sides of length  $a$  and  $b$ . Then the law of cosines states that*

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \theta.$$

If  $\theta = 90^\circ$ , then  $\cos \theta = 0$  and this reduces to the Pythagorean theorem.

**Definition 2.5: The Dot Product.** If  $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$  and  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , then we define the dot product of these two vectors to be

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + u_3v_3.$$

A similar definition holds for vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + \cdots + u_nv_n$ . You just multiply corresponding components together and then add. It is the same process used in matrix multiplication.

**Problem 33** If  $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$  and  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (which is often written  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ), then show that Page 693 has the solution if you are struggling.

$$|\vec{u} - \vec{v}|^2 = |\vec{u}|^2 - 2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + |\vec{v}|^2.$$


---

**Problem 34** Sketch in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  the vectors  $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$  and  $\langle 3, 5 \rangle$ . Use the law of cosines to find the angle between the vectors. See 12.3: 9-12.

---

**Problem 35** Let  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $\theta$  be the angle between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ . See page 693.

1. Use the law of cosines to explain why  $|\vec{u} - \vec{v}|^2 = |\vec{u}|^2 + |\vec{v}|^2 - 2|\vec{u}||\vec{v}| \cos \theta$ .
2. Use the above together with problem 33 to explain why

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}||\vec{v}| \cos \theta.$$


---

**Problem 36** Sketch in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  the vectors  $\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$  and  $\langle -2, 1, 0 \rangle$ . Use the law of cosines to find the angle between the vectors. Then use the formula  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}||\vec{v}| \cos \theta$  to find the angle between them. Which was easier? See 12.3: 9-12.

---

**Definition 2.6.** We say that the vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are orthogonal if  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$ .

**Problem 37** Find two vectors orthogonal to  $(1, 2)$ . Then find 4 vectors orthogonal to  $(3, 2, 1)$ .

---

**Problem 38** Mark each statement true or false. Explain. You can assume that  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and that  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

1.  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$ .
2.  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w}$ .
3.  $c(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) = (c\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{u} \cdot (c\vec{v})$ .
4.  $\vec{u} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} + \vec{w})$ .



$$5. \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}).$$

$$6. \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = |\vec{u}|^2.$$

**Problem 39** Show that if two nonzero vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are orthogonal, then the angle between them is  $90^\circ$ . Then show that if the angle between them is  $90^\circ$ , then the vectors are orthogonal. See page 694.

The dot product provides a really easy way to find when two vectors meet at a right angle. The dot product is precisely zero when this happens.

### 2.2.1 Projections and Work

Suppose a heavy box needs to be lowered down a ramp. The box exerts a downward force of 200 Newtons, which we will write in vector notation as  $\vec{F} = \langle 0, -200 \rangle$ . The ramp was placed so that the box needs to be moved right 6 m, and down 3 m, so we need to get from the origin  $(0, 0)$  to the point  $(6, -3)$ . This displacement can be written as  $\vec{d} = \langle 6, -3 \rangle$ . The force  $F$  acts straight down, which means the ramp takes some of the force. Our goal is to find out how much of the 200N the ramp takes, and how much force must be applied to prevent the box from sliding down the ramp (neglecting friction). We are going to break the force  $\vec{F}$  into two components, one component in the direction of  $\vec{d}$ , and another component orthogonal to  $\vec{d}$ .

**Problem 40** Read the preceding paragraph. We want to write  $\vec{F}$  as the sum of two vectors  $\vec{F} = \vec{w} + \vec{n}$ , where  $\vec{w}$  is parallel to  $\vec{d}$  and  $\vec{n}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{d}$ . Since  $\vec{w}$  is parallel to  $\vec{d}$ , we can write  $\vec{w} = c\vec{d}$  for some unknown scalar  $c$ . This means that  $\vec{F} = c\vec{d} + \vec{n}$ . Use the fact that  $\vec{n}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{d}$  to solve for the unknown scalar  $c$ . [Hint: dot each side of  $\vec{F} = c\vec{d} + \vec{n}$  with  $\vec{d}$ . This should turn the vectors into numbers, so you can use division.]

The solution to the previous problem gives us the definition of a projection.

**Definition 2.7.** The projection of  $\vec{F}$  onto  $\vec{d}$ , written  $\text{proj}_{\vec{d}} \vec{F}$ , is defined as

$$\text{proj}_{\vec{d}} \vec{F} = \left( \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{d}}{\vec{d} \cdot \vec{d}} \right) \vec{d}.$$

**Problem 41** Let  $\vec{u} = (-1, 2)$  and  $\vec{v} = (3, 4)$ . Draw  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\text{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u}$ . Then draw a line segment from the head of  $\vec{u}$  to the head of the projection. See 12.3:1-8 (part d).

Now let  $\vec{u} = (-2, 0)$  and keep  $\vec{v} = (3, 4)$ . Draw  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\text{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u}$ . Then draw a line segment from the head of  $\vec{u}$  to the head of the projection.

One final application of projections pertains to the concept of work. Work is the transfer of energy. If a force  $F$  acts through a displacement  $d$ , then the most basic definition of work is  $W = Fd$ , the product of the force and the displacement. This basic definition has a few assumptions.

- The force  $F$  must act in the same direction as the displacement.
- The force  $F$  must be constant throughout the entire displacement.
- The displacement must be in a straight line.

Before the semester ends, we will be able to remove all 3 of these assumptions. The next problem will show you how dot products help us remove the first assumption.

Recall the set up to problem 40. We want to lower a box down a ramp (which we will assume is frictionless). Gravity exerts a force of  $\vec{F} = \langle 0, -200 \rangle$  N. If we apply no other forces to this system, then gravity will do work on the box through a displacement of  $\langle 6, -3 \rangle$  m. The work done by gravity will transfer the potential energy of the box into kinetic energy (remember that work is a transfer of energy). How much energy is transferred?

**Problem 42** Find the amount of work done by the force  $\vec{F} = \langle 0, -200 \rangle$  through the displacement  $\vec{d} = \langle 6, -3 \rangle$ . Find this by doing the following: See 12.3: 24, 41-44.

1. Find the projection of  $\vec{F}$  onto  $\vec{d}$ . This tells you how much force acts in the direction of the displacement. Find the magnitude of this projection.
2. Since work equals  $W = Fd$ , multiply your answer above by  $|\vec{d}|$ .
3. Now compute  $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{d}$ . You have just shown that  $W = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{d}$  when  $\vec{F}$  and  $\vec{d}$  are not in the same direction.

**Problem 43** Show that the distance from a point  $Q$  to a line (with direction vector  $\vec{v}$  passing through  $P$ ) is  $|\vec{PQ} - \text{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{PQ}|$ . Draw a diagram illustrating your reasoning.

## 2.3 The Cross Product and Planes

The dot product gave us a way of multiplying two vectors together, but the result was a number, not a vector. We now define the cross product, which will allow us to multiply two vectors together to give us another vector. We were able to define the dot product in all dimensions. The cross product is only defined in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Definition 2.8: The Cross Product.** The cross product of two vectors  $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$  is a new vector  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ . This new vector is (1) orthogonal to both  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ , (2) has a length equal to the area of the parallelogram whose sides are these two vectors, and (3) points in the direction your thumb points as you curl the base of your right hand from  $\vec{u}$  to  $\vec{v}$ . The formula for the cross product is

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \langle u_2v_3 - u_3v_2, -(u_1v_3 - u_3v_1), u_1v_2 - u_2v_1 \rangle = \det \begin{bmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This definition is not really a definition. It is actually a theorem. If you use the formula given as the definition, then you would need to prove the three facts. We have the tools to give a complete proof of (1) and (3), but we would need a course in linear algebra to prove (2). It shouldn't be too much of a surprise that the cross product is related to area, since it is defined in terms of determinants

**Problem 44** Let  $\vec{u} = (1, -2, 3)$  and  $\vec{v} = (2, 0, -1)$ .

See 12.4: 1-8.

- Compute  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ .
- Compute  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{v})$  and  $\vec{v} \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{v})$ . Why did you get the answer you got?
- Compute  $\vec{v} \times \vec{u}$ . How is this related to  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ ?
- Compute  $|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}|$ . Compute the area of the parallelogram formed by  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  using trigonometry and  $|\vec{u}|$ ,  $|\vec{v}|$ , and the angle  $\theta$  between the two vectors, and compare your answer with  $|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}|$ .

- Compute  $\vec{u} \times (2\vec{u})$ . Why did you get the answer you got?
- 

**Problem 45** Let  $P = (2, 0, 0)$ ,  $Q = (0, 3, 0)$ , and  $R = (0, 0, 4)$ . Find a vector that orthogonal to both  $\vec{PQ}$  and  $\vec{PR}$ . Then find the area of the triangle  $PQR$ . Construct a 3D graph of this triangle. See 12.4: 15-18.

---

**Problem 46** Consider the vectors  $\vec{i} = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $2\vec{j} = (0, 2, 0)$ , and  $3\vec{k} = (0, 0, 3)$ . See 12.3: 9-14.

- Compute  $\vec{i} \times 2\vec{j}$  and  $2\vec{j} \times \vec{i}$ .
- Compute  $\vec{i} \times 3\vec{k}$  and  $3\vec{k} \times \vec{i}$ .
- Compute  $2\vec{j} \times 3\vec{k}$  and  $3\vec{k} \times 2\vec{j}$ .

Give a geometric reason as to why some vectors above have a plus sign, and some have a minus sign.

---

We will now combine the dot product with the cross product to develop an equation of a plane in 3D. Before doing so, let's look at what information we need to obtain a line in 2D, and a plane in 3D. To obtain a line in 2D, one way is to have 2 points. The next problem introduces the new idea by showing you how to find an equation of a line in 2D.

**Problem 47** Suppose the point  $P = (1, 2)$  lies on line  $L$ . Suppose that the angle between the line and the vector  $\vec{n} = \langle 3, 4 \rangle$  is  $90^\circ$  (whenever this happens we say the vector  $\vec{n}$  is normal to the line). Let  $Q = (x, y)$  be another point on the line  $L$ . Use the fact that  $\vec{n}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{PQ}$  to obtain an equation of the line  $L$ .

---

**Problem 48** Let  $P = (a, b, c)$  be a point on a plane in 3D. Let  $\vec{n} = (A, B, C)$  be a normal vector to the plane (so the angle between the plane and  $\vec{n}$  is  $90^\circ$ ). Let  $Q = (x, y, z)$  be another point on the plane. Show that an equation of the plane through point  $P$  with normal vector  $\vec{n}$  is See page 709.

$$A(x - a) + B(y - b) + C(z - c) = 0.$$


---

**Problem 49** Consider the three points  $P = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $Q = (2, 0, -1)$ ,  $R = (0, 1, 3)$ . Find an equation of the plane which passes through these three points. [Hint: first find a normal vector to the plane.] See 12.5: 21-28.

---

**Problem 50** Consider the two planes  $x + 2y + 3z = 4$  and  $2x - y + z = 0$ . These planes meet in a line. Find a vector that is parallel to this line. Then find a vector equation of the line. See 12.5: 57-60.

---

**Problem 51** Find the equation of the plane containing the lines  $\vec{r}_1(t) = (1, 3, 0)t + (1, 0, 2)$  and  $\vec{r}_2(t) = (2, 0, -1)t + (2, 3, 2)$ .

---

**Problem 52** Show that the distance from a point  $Q$  to a plane (with normal vector  $\vec{n}$  and a point  $P$ ) is given by  $|\text{proj}_{\vec{n}} \overrightarrow{PQ}|$ . Draw a diagram illustrating your reasoning.

---

**Problem 53** Show that the distance from a line (with direction vector  $\vec{v}_1$  passing through  $P_1$ ) to a line (with direction vector  $\vec{v}_2$  passing through  $P_2$ ) is  $|\text{proj}_{\vec{v}_1 \times \vec{v}_2} \overrightarrow{P_1P_2}|$ . Draw a diagram illustrating your reasoning.

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## 2.4 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

# Chapter 3

## Curves

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Be able to describe, graph, give equations of, and find foci for conic sections (parabolas, ellipses, hyperbolas).
2. Model motion in the plane using parametric equations. In particular, describe conic sections using parametric equations.
3. Find derivatives and tangent lines for parametric equations. Explain how to find velocity, speed, and acceleration from parametric equations.
4. Use integrals to find the lengths of parametric curves.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 3.1 Conic Sections

Before we jump fully into  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , we need some good examples of planar curves (curves in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ) that we'll extend to object in 3D. These examples are conic sections. We call them conic sections because you can obtain each one by intersecting a cone and a plane (I'll show you in class how to do this). Here's a definition.

**Definition 3.1.** Consider two identical, infinitely tall, right circular cones placed vertex to vertex so that they share the same axis of symmetry. A conic section is the intersection of this three dimensional surface with any plane that does not pass through the vertex where the two cones meet.

These intersections are called circles (when the plane is perpendicular to the axis of symmetry), parabolas (when the plane is parallel to one side of one cone), hyperbolas (when the plane is parallel to the axis of symmetry), and ellipses (when the plane does not meet any of the three previous criteria).

The definition above provides a geometric description of how to obtain a conic section from cone. We'll not introduce an alternate definition based on distances between points and lines, or between points and points. Let's start with one you are familiar with.

**Definition 3.2.** Consider the point  $P = (a, b)$  and a positive number  $r$ . A circle with center  $(a, b)$  and radius  $r$  is the set of all points  $Q = (x, y)$  in the plane so that the segment  $PQ$  has length  $r$ .

Using the distance formula, this means that every circle can be written in the form  $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$ .

**Problem 54** The equation  $4x^2 + 4y^2 + 6x - 8y - 1 = 0$  represents a circle (though initially it does not look like it). Use the method of completing the square to rewrite the equation in the form  $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$  (hence telling you the center and radius). Then generalize your work to find the center and radius of any circle written in the form  $x^2 + y^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$ .

---

### 3.1.1 Parabolas

Before proceeding to parabolas, we need to define the distance between a point and a line.

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $P$  be a point and  $L$  be a line. Define the distance between  $P$  and  $L$  (written  $d(P, L)$ ) to be the length of the shortest line segment that has one end on  $L$  and the other end on  $P$ . Note: This segment will always be perpendicular to  $L$ .

**Definition 3.4.** Given a point  $P$  (called the focus) and a line  $L$  (called the directrix) which does not pass through  $P$ , we define a parabola as the set of all points  $Q$  in the plane so that the distance from  $P$  to  $Q$  equals the distance from  $Q$  to  $L$ . The vertex is the point on the parabola that is closest to the directrix.

**Problem 55** Consider the line  $L : y = -p$ , the point  $P = (0, p)$ , and another point  $Q = (x, y)$ . Use the distance formula to show that an equation of a parabola with directrix  $L$  and focus  $P$  is  $x^2 = 4py$ . Then use your work to explain why an equation of a parabola with directrix  $x = -p$  and focus  $(p, 0)$  is  $y^2 = 4px$ . See page 658.

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Ask me about the reflective properties of parabolas in class, if I have not told you already. They are used in satellite dishes, long range telescopes, solar ovens, and more. The following problem provides the basis to these reflective properties and is optional. If you wish to present it, let me know. I'll have you type it up prior to presenting in class.

**Problem 56: Optional** Consider the parabola  $x^2 = 4py$  with directrix  $y = -p$  and focus  $(0, p)$ . Let  $Q = (a, b)$  be some point on the parabola. Let  $T$  be the tangent line to  $L$  at point  $Q$ . Show that the angle between  $PQ$  and  $T$  is the same as the angle between the line  $x = a$  and  $T$ . This shows that a vertical ray coming down towards the parabola will reflect off the wall of a parabola and head straight towards the vertex.

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The next two problems will help you use the basic equations of a parabola, together with shifting and reflecting, to study all parabolas whose axis of symmetry is parallel to either the  $x$  or  $y$  axis.

**Problem 57** Once the directrix and focus is known, you can give an equation of a parabola. For each of the following, give an equation of the parabola with the stated directrix and focus. See 11.6: 9-14

1. The focus is  $(0, 3)$  and the directrix is  $y = -3$ .
2. The focus is  $(0, 3)$  and the directrix is  $y = 1$ .

3. The focus is  $(2, -5)$  and the directrix is  $y = 3$ .
  4. The focus is  $(1, 2)$  and the directrix is  $x = 3$ .
- 

**Problem 58** Each equation below represents a parabola. Find the focus, See 11.6: 9-14 directrix, and vertex of each parabola, and then provide a rough sketch.

1.  $y = x^2$
  2.  $(y - 2)^2 = 4(x - 1)$
  3.  $y = -8x^2 + 3$
  4.  $y = x^2 - 4x + 5$
- 

### 3.1.2 Ellipses

**Definition 3.5.** Given two points  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  (called foci) and a fixed distance  $d$ , we define an ellipse as the set of all points  $Q$  in the plane so that the sum of the distances  $F_1Q$  and  $F_2Q$  equals the fixed distance  $d$ . The center of the ellipse is the midpoint of the segment  $F_1F_2$ . The two foci define a line. Each of the two points on the ellipse that intersect this line is called a vertex. The major axis is the segment between the two vertexes. The minor axis is the largest segment perpendicular to the major axis that fits inside the ellipse.

We can derive an equation of an ellipse in a manner very similar to how we obtained an equation of a parabola. The following problem will walk you through this. We will not have time to present this problem in class. However, if you would like to complete the problem and write up your solution on the wiki, you can obtain presentation points for doing so. Let me know if you are interested.

**Problem 59: Optional** Consider the ellipse produced by the fixed distance  $d$  and the foci  $F_1 = (c, 0)$  and  $F_2 = (-c, 0)$ . Let  $(a, 0)$  and  $(-a, 0)$  be the vertexes of the ellipse.

1. Show that  $d = 2a$  by considering the distances from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  to the point  $Q = (a, 0)$ .
2. Let  $Q = (0, b)$  be a point on the ellipse. Show that  $b^2 + c^2 = a^2$  by considering the distance between  $Q$  and each focus.
3. Let  $Q = (x, y)$ . By considering the distances between  $Q$  and the foci, show that an equation of the ellipse is

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1.$$

4. Suppose the foci are along the  $y$ -axis (at  $(0, \pm c)$ ) and the fixed distance  $d$  is now  $d = 2b$ , with vertexes  $(0, \pm b)$ . Let  $(a, 0)$  be a point on the  $x$  axis that intersect the ellipse. Show that we still have

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1,$$

but now we instead have  $a^2 + c^2 = b^2$ .

You'll want to use the results of the previous problem to complete the problems below. The key equation above is  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ . The foci will be on the  $x$ -axis if  $a > b$ , and will be on the  $y$ -axis if  $b > a$ . The second part of the problem above shows that the distance from the center of the ellipse to the vertex is equal to the hypotenuse of a right triangle whose legs go from the center to a focus, and from the center to an end point of the minor axis.

The next two problems will help you use the basic equations of an ellipse, together with shifting and reflecting, to study all ellipses whose major axis is parallel to either the  $x$ - or  $y$ -axis.

**Problem 60** For each ellipse below, graph the ellipse and give the coordinates of the foci and vertexes. See 11.6: 17-24

1.  $16x^2 + 25y^2 = 400$  [Hint: divide by 400.]

2.  $\frac{(x-1)^2}{5} + \frac{(y-2)^2}{9} = 1$

3.  $x^2 + 2x + 2y^2 - 8y = 9$

**Problem 61** Given an equation of each ellipse described below, and provide a rough sketch. See 11.6: 25-26

1. The foci are at  $(2 \pm 3, 1)$  and vertices at  $(2 \pm 5, 1)$ .
2. The foci are at  $(-1, 3 \pm 2)$  and vertices at  $(-1, 3 \pm 5)$ .

Ask me about the reflective properties of an ellipse in class, if I have not told you already. The following problem provides the basis to these reflective properties and is optional. If you wish to present it, let me know. I'll have you type it up prior to presenting in class.

**Problem 62: Optional** Consider the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  with foci  $F_1 = (c, 0)$  and  $F_2 = (-c, 0)$ . Let  $Q = (x, y)$  be some point on the ellipse. Let  $T$  be the tangent line to the ellipse at point  $Q$ . Show that the angle between  $F_1Q$  and  $T$  is the same as the angle between  $F_2Q$  and  $T$ . This shows that a ray from  $F_1$  to  $Q$  will reflect off the wall of the ellipse at  $Q$  and head straight towards the other focus  $F_2$ .

### 3.1.3 Hyperbolas

**Definition 3.6.** Given two points  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  (called foci) and a fixed number  $d$ , we define a hyperbola as the set of all points  $Q$  in the plane so that the difference of the distances  $F_1Q$  and  $F_2Q$  equals the fixed number  $d$  or  $-d$ . The center of the hyperbola is the midpoint of the segment  $F_1F_2$ . The two foci define a line. Each of the two points on the hyperbola that intersect this line is called a vertex.

We can derive an equation of a hyperbola in a manner very similar to how we obtained an equation of an ellipse. The following problem will walk you through this. We will not have time to present this problem in class.



**Problem 63: Optional** Consider the hyperbola produced by the fixed number  $d$  and the foci  $F_1 = (c, 0)$  and  $F_2 = (-c, 0)$ . Let  $(a, 0)$  and  $(-a, 0)$  be the vertexes of the hyperbola.

1. Show that  $d = 2a$  by considering the difference of the distances from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  to the vertex  $(a, 0)$ .
2. Let  $Q = (x, y)$  be a point on the hyperbola. By considering the difference of the distances between  $Q$  and the foci, show that an equation of the hyperbola is  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{c^2 - a^2} = 1$ , or if we let  $c^2 - a^2 = b^2$ , then the equation is

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1.$$

3. Suppose the foci are along the  $y$ -axis (at  $(0, \pm c)$ ) and the number  $d$  is now  $d = 2b$ , with vertexes  $(0, \pm b)$ . Let  $a^2 = c^2 - b^2$ . Show that an equation of the hyperbola is

$$\frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{x^2}{a^2} = 1.$$

You'll want to use the results of the previous problem to complete the problems below.

**Problem 64** Consider the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ . Construct a box centered at the origin with corners at  $(a, \pm b)$  and  $(-a, \pm b)$ . Draw lines through the diagonals of this box. Rewrite the equation of the hyperbola by solving for  $y$  and then factoring to show that as  $x$  gets large, the hyperbola gets really close to the lines  $y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$ . [Hint: rewrite so that you obtain  $y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x\sqrt{\text{something}}$ ]. These two lines are often called oblique asymptotes. See 11.6: 27-34

Now apply what you have just done to sketch the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{25} - \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$  and give the location of the foci.

The next two problems will help you use the basic equations of a hyperbola, together with shifting and reflecting, to study all ellipses whose major axis is parallel to either the  $x$ - or  $y$ -axis.

**Problem 65** For each hyperbola below, graph the hyperbola (include the box and asymptotes) and give the coordinates of the foci and vertexes. See 11.6: 27-34

1.  $16x^2 - 25y^2 = 400$  [Hint: divide by 400.]
2.  $\frac{(x-1)^2}{5} - \frac{(y-2)^2}{9} = 1$
3.  $x^2 + 2x - 2y^2 + 8y = 9$

**Problem 66** Given an equation of each hyperbola described below, and provide a rough sketch. See 11.6: 35-38

1. The vertexes are at  $(2 \pm 3, 1)$  and foci at  $(2 \pm 5, 1)$ .
2. The vertexes are at  $(-1, 3 \pm 2)$  and foci at  $(-1, 3 \pm 5)$ .

Ask me about the reflective properties of a hyperbola in class, if I have not told you already. In particular, we can discuss lasers and long range telescopes. The following problem provides the basis to these reflective properties and is optional. If you wish to present it, let me know. I'll have you type it up prior to presenting in class.

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**Problem 67: Optional** Consider the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  with foci  $F_1 = (c, 0)$  and  $F_2 = (-c, 0)$ . Let  $Q = (x, y)$  be some point on the ellipse. Let  $T$  be the tangent line to the hyperbola at point  $Q$ . Show that the angle between  $F_1Q$  and  $T$  is the same as the angle between  $F_2Q$  and  $T$ . This shows that if you begin a ray from a point in the plane and head towards  $F_1$  (where the wall of the hyperbola lies between the start point and  $F_1$ ), then when the ray hits the wall at  $Q$ , it will reflect off the wall and head straight towards the other focus  $F_2$ .

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## 3.2 Parametric Equations

In middle school, you learned to write an equation of a line as  $y = mx + b$ . In the vector unit, we learned to write this in vector form as  $(x, y) = (1, m)t + (0, b)$ . The equation to the left is called a vector equation. It is equivalent to writing the two equations  $x = 1t + 0, y = mt + b$ , which we will call parametric equations of the line. We were able to quickly develop equations of lines in space, by just adding a third equation for  $z$ .

Parametric equations provide us with a way of specifying the location  $(x, y, z)$  of an object by giving an equation for each coordinate. We will use these equations to model motion in the plane and in space. In this section we'll focus mostly on planar curves.

**Definition 3.7.** If each of  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous functions, then the curve in the plane defined by  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$  is called a parametric curve, and the equations  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$  are called parametric equations for the curve. You can generalize this definition to 3D and beyond by just adding more variables.

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**Problem 68** By plotting points, construct graphs of the parametric curves given below (just make a  $t, x, y$  table, and then plot the  $(x, y)$  coordinates). Place an arrow on your graph to show the direction of motion. See 11.1: 1-18. This is the same for all the problems below.

1.  $x = \cos t, y = \sin t$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .
  2.  $x = \sin t, y = \cos t$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .
  3.  $x = \cos t, y = \sin t, z = t$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$ .
- 

**Problem 69** Plot the path traced out by the parametric curve  $x = 1 + 2\cos t, y = 3 + 5\sin t$ . Then use the trig identity  $\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$  to give a Cartesian equation of the curve (an equation that only involves  $x$  and  $y$ ). What are the foci of the resulting object (it's a conic section).

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**Problem 70** Find parametric equations for a line that passes through the points  $(0, 1, 2)$  and  $(3, -2, 4)$ . What we did in the previous chapter should help here.

**Problem 71** Plot the path traced out by the parametric curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (t^2 + 1, 2t - 3)$ . Give a Cartesian equation of the curve (eliminate the parameter  $t$ ), and then find the focus of the resulting curve.

**Problem 72** Consider the parametric curve given by  $x = \tan t, y = \sec t$ . Plot the curve for  $-\pi/2 < t < \pi/2$ . Give a Cartesian equation of the curve (a trig identity will help). Then find the foci of the resulting conic section. [Hint: this problem will probably be easier to draw if you first find the Cartesian equation, and then plot the curve.]

### 3.2.1 Derivatives and Tangent lines

We're now ready to discuss calculus on parametric curves. The derivative of a vector valued function is defined using the same definition as first semester calculus.

**Definition 3.8.** If  $\vec{r}(t)$  is a vector equation of a curve (or in parametric form just  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$ ), then we define the derivative to be

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{r}(t+h) - \vec{r}(t)}{h}.$$

The subtraction above requires vector subtraction. The following problem will provide a simple way to take derivatives which we will use all semester long.

**Problem 73** Show that if  $\vec{r}(t) = (f(t), g(t))$ , then the derivative is just  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = (f'(t), g'(t))$ . In other words, you can take the derivative by just differentiating each component separately. See page 728.

**Problem 74** Consider the parametric curve given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (3 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ . See 13.1:5-8 and 13.1:19-20

1. Compute  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  and  $\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}$ .
2. Construct a graph of the curve given by  $\vec{r}$ .
3. On your graph, draw the vectors  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}(\frac{\pi}{4})$  and  $\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}(\frac{\pi}{4})$  with their tail placed on the curve at  $\vec{r}(\frac{\pi}{4})$ . These vectors represent the velocity and acceleration vectors.
4. Give a vector equation of the tangent line to this curve at  $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .

**Definition 3.9.** If an object moves along a path  $\vec{r}(t)$ , we can find the velocity and acceleration by just computing the first and second derivatives. The velocity is  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$ , and the acceleration is  $\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}$ . Speed is a scalar, not a vector. The speed of an object is just the length of the velocity vector.

**Problem 75** Consider the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (2t + 3, 4(2t - 1)^2)$ .

1. Construct a graph of  $\vec{r}$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 2$ .

2. If this curve represented the path of a horse running through a pasture, find the velocity of the horse at any time  $t$ , and then specifically at  $t = 1$ . What is the horse's speed at  $t = 1$ ?
3. Find a vector equation of the tangent line to  $\vec{r}$  at  $t = 1$ . Include this on your graph.
4. Show that the slope of the line is  $\frac{dy}{dx}\big|_{x=5} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}\big|_{t=1}}{\frac{dx}{dt}\big|_{t=1}}$ .

The previous problem introduced the following key theorem. Its proof is just the chain rule.

**Theorem 3.10.** *If  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$  is a parametric curve, then the slope  $dy/dx$  of the curve can be found using the formula*

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt}.$$

The second derivative is then  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d(y'(x))}{dx} = \frac{d(dy/dx)}{dx} = \frac{d(dy/dx)/dt}{dx/dt}$ .

An easy way to remember this theorem is to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ , just find the derivative of  $y$  with respect to  $t$ , and then divide by  $dx/dt$ . This will allow you to connect derivatives of vector valued functions to slopes and derivatives back in first semester calculus.

**Problem 76** Consider the parametric curve given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (t^2, t^3)$ .

See 11.2:1-14

1. Compute  $y'$  and  $y''$  at  $t = 2$  using the theorem above.
2. Eliminate the parameter  $t$  (get a Cartesian equation for the curve). Then find  $y'$  and  $y''$  at  $t = 2$  using first semester calculus.

### 3.2.2 Arc Length

If an object moves at a constant speed, then the distance travelled is

$$\text{distance} = \text{speed} \times \text{time}.$$

This requires that the speed be constant. What if the speed is not constant? Over a really small time interval  $dt$ , the speed is almost constant, so we can still use the idea above. The following problem will help you develop the key formula for arc length.

**Problem 77: Derivation of the arc length formula** Suppose an object moves along the path given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$  for  $a \leq t \leq b$ .

1. Show that the object's speed at any time  $t$  is  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2}$ .
2. If you move over a really small time interval, say of length  $dt$ , then the speed is almost constant. Give a formula for the small distance  $ds$  you have travelled through a small time  $dt$ , provided you are moving at the speed given above.

3. Explain why the length of the path given by  $\vec{r}$  is

This is the arc length formula.

$$s = \int ds = \int_a^b \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right| dt = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left( \frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2} dt.$$

4. Draw a small curve. Pick two points close together. Construct a straight line segment between them (call this  $ds$ ). Then draw a right triangle that shows the change in  $x$  and change in  $y$  (written  $dx$  and  $dy$ ). Use the Pythagorean theorem to show that  $ds = \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2} = \sqrt{\left( \frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2} dt$ . See page 639.

**Problem 78** Find the length of the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \left( t^3, \frac{3t^2}{2} \right)$  for  $t \in [1, 3]$ . See 11.2: 25-30  
 The notation  $t \in [1, 3]$  means  $1 \leq t \leq 3$ .

**Problem 79** Set up an integral formula which would give the length of the following curves. Sketch the curve. Do not worry about integrating them.

1. The parabola  $\vec{p}(t) = (t, t^2)$  for  $t \in [0, 3]$ .
2. The ellipse  $\vec{e}(t) = (4 \cos t, 5 \sin t)$  for  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ .
3. The hyperbola  $\vec{h}(t) = (\tan t, \sec t)$  for  $t \in [-\pi/4, \pi/4]$ .

The reason I don't want you to actually compute the integrals is that they will get ugly really fast. Try doing one in Wolfram Alpha and see what the computer gives.

To actually compute the integrals above and find the lengths, we would use a numerical technique to approximate the integral (something akin to adding up the areas of lots and lots of rectangles as you did in first semester calculus).

### 3.3 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

## Chapter 4

# New Coordinates

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Be able to convert between rectangular and polar coordinates in 2D. Convert between rectangular and cylindrical or spherical in 3D.
2. Graph polar functions in the plane. Find intersections of polar equations, and illustrate that not every intersection can be obtained algebraically (you may have to graph the curves).
3. Find derivatives and tangent lines in polar coordinates.
4. Find area and arc length using polar equations.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 4.1 Polar Coordinates

Up to now, we most often give the location of a point (or coordinates of a vector) by stating the  $(x, y)$  coordinates. These are called the Cartesian coordinates. Some problems are much easier to work with if we know how far a point is from the origin, together with the angle between the  $x$ -axis and a ray from the origin to the point.

**Problem 80**

There are two parts to this problem.

See 11.3:5-10.

1. Consider the point  $P$  with Cartesian coordinates  $(2, 1)$ . Find the distance  $r$  from  $P$  to the origin. Consider the ray  $\vec{OP}$  from the origin through  $P$ . Find an angle between  $\vec{OP}$  and the  $x$ -axis.
2. Suppose that a point  $Q = (a, b)$  is 6 units from the origin, and the angle the ray  $\vec{OP}$  makes with the  $x$ -axis is  $\pi/4$  radians. Find the Cartesian coordinates  $(a, b)$  of  $Q$ .

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**Definition 4.1.** Let  $Q$  be a point in the plane with Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$ . Let  $O = (0, 0)$  be the origin. We define the polar coordinates of  $Q$  to be the ordered pair  $(r, \theta)$  where  $r$  is the displacement from the origin to  $Q$ , and  $\theta$  is an angle of rotation (counter-clockwise) from the  $x$ -axis to the ray  $\vec{OP}$ .

**Problem 81** The following points are given using their polar coordinates. See 11.3:5-10. Plot the points in the Cartesian plane, and give the Cartesian coordinates of each point. The points are

$$(1, \pi), \left(3, \frac{5\pi}{4}\right), \left(-3, \frac{\pi}{4}\right), \text{ and } \left(-2, -\frac{\pi}{6}\right).$$

The next two problems provide general formulas for converting between the Cartesian and polar coordinate systems.

**Problem 82** Suppose that  $Q$  is a point in the plane with Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$  and polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$ . Write formulas for  $x$  and  $y$  in terms of  $r$  and  $\theta$ . [Hint: a triangle with vertices at the origin and  $Q$  should help.] See page 647.

**Problem 83** Suppose that  $Q$  is a point in the plane with Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$ . Write a formula to find the distance  $r$  from  $Q$  to the origin. Then write a formula to find the angle  $\theta$  between the  $x$ -axis and a line containing  $Q$  and the origin. See page 647.

In problem 82, you should have obtained the equations

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta.$$

We can write this in vector notation as  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r \cos \theta \\ r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$ . This is a vector equation in which you input polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  and get out Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$ . So you input one thing to get out one thing, which means that we have a function. We could write  $\vec{T}(r, \theta) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$ , where we've used the letter  $T$  as the name of the function because it is a transformation between coordinate systems. To emphasize that the domain and range are both two dimensional systems, we could also write  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ . In the next chapter, we'll spend more time with this notation. The following problem will show you how to graph a coordinate transformation. When you're done, you should essentially have polar graph paper.

**Problem 84** Consider the coordinate transformation

$$\vec{T}(r, \theta) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta).$$

For this problem, you are just drawing many parametric curves. This is what we did in the previous chapter.

1. Let  $r = 3$  and then graph  $\vec{T}(3, \theta) = (3 \cos \theta, 3 \sin \theta)$  for  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ .
2. Let  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and then, on the same axes as above, add the graph of  $\vec{T}\left(r, \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \left(r \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, r \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$  for  $r \in [0, 5]$ .
3. To the same axes as above, add the graphs of  $\vec{T}(1, \theta), \vec{T}(2, \theta), \vec{T}(4, \theta)$  for  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$  and  $\vec{T}(r, 0), \vec{T}(r, \pi/2), \vec{T}(r, 3\pi/4), \vec{T}(r, \pi)$  for  $r \in [0, 5]$ .

**Problem 85** In the plane, graph the curve  $y = \sin x$  for  $x \in [0, 2\pi]$  and the curve  $r = \sin \theta$  for  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$  (just make an  $r, \theta$  table).

**Problem 86** Each of the following equations is written in the Cartesian (rectangular) coordinate system. Convert each to an equation in polar coordinates, and then solve for  $r$  so that the equation is in the form  $r = f(\theta)$ . See 11.3: 53-66.

1.  $x^2 + y^2 = 7$

2.  $2x + 3y = 5$

3.  $x^2 = y$

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**Problem 87** Each of the following equations is written in the polar coordinate system. Convert each to an equation in the Cartesian coordinates. See 11.3: 27-52. I strongly suggest that you do many of these as practice.

1.  $r = 9 \cos \theta$

2.  $r = \frac{4}{2 \cos \theta + 3 \sin \theta}$

3.  $\theta = 3\pi/4$

---

### 4.1.1 Graphing and Intersections

To construct a graph of a polar curve, just create an  $r, \theta$  table. Choose values for  $\theta$  that will make it easy to compute any trig functions involved. Then connect the points in a smooth manner, making sure that your radius grows or shrinks appropriately as your angle increases.

**Problem 88** Graph the polar curve  $r = 2 + 2 \cos \theta$ . See 11.4: 1-20.

---

**Problem 89** Graph the polar curve  $r = 2 \sin 3\theta$ .

---

**Problem 90** Graph the polar curve  $r = 3 \cos 2\theta$ .

---

**Problem 91** Find the points of intersection of  $r = 3 - 3 \cos \theta$  and  $r = 3 \cos \theta$ . (If you don't graph the curves, you'll probably miss a few points of intersection.)

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**Problem 92** Find the points of intersection of  $r = 2 \cos 2\theta$  and  $r = \sqrt{3}$ . (If you don't graph the curves, you'll probably miss a few points of intersection.)

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### 4.1.2 Calculus with Polar Coordinates

Recall that for parametric curves  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ , to find the slope of the curve we just compute

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt}.$$

A polar curve of the form  $r = f(\theta)$  can be thought of as just the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (f(\theta) \cos \theta, f(\theta) \sin \theta)$ . So you can find the slope by computing

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta}.$$

**Problem 93** Consider the polar curve  $r = 1 + 2 \cos \theta$ . (It wouldn't hurt to provide a quick sketch of the curve.) See 11.2: 1-14.

1. Compute both  $dx/d\theta$  and  $dy/d\theta$ .
2. Find the slope  $dy/dx$  of the curve at  $\theta = \pi/2$ .
3. Give both a vector equation of the tangent line, and a Cartesian equation of the tangent line at  $\theta = \pi/2$ .

We showed in the curves section that you can find arc length for parametric curves using the formula

$$s = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2}.$$

If we replace  $t$  with  $\theta$ , this becomes a formula for arc length in polar coordinates. However, the formula can be simplified.

**Problem 94** Recall that  $x = r \cos \theta$  and  $y = r \sin \theta$ . Suppose that  $r = f(\theta)$  for  $\theta \in [\alpha, \beta]$  is a continuous function, and that  $f'$  is continuous. Show that the arc length formula can be simplified to See 11.5: 29.

$$s = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2}.$$

[Hint: the product rule and Pythagorean identity will help.]

**Problem 95** Set up (do not evaluate) an integral formula to compute the length of See 11.5: 21-28.

1. the rose  $r = 2 \cos 3\theta$ , and
2. the rose  $r = 3 \sin 2\theta$ .

**Problem 96** In this problem, you will develop a formula for finding area inside a polar curve. See page 653.

1. Consider a circle of radius  $r$ . The area inside the circle is  $\pi r^2$ . This is the area inside when you traverse around the circle for a full  $2\pi$  radians. Fill in the following table by finding the pattern that connects angle traversed to area inside.

Angle traversed	Area inside
$2\pi$	$A = \pi r^2$
$\pi$	
$\pi/2$	
$\pi/4$	
$d\theta$	$dA =$

2. Explain why the area inside a polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$  for  $\alpha \leq \theta \leq \beta$  is

$$A = \int dA = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta.$$

What must be true about the curve  $r = f(\theta)$  for this formula to be valid?

**Problem 97** Find the area inside of the polar curve  $r = \sin \theta$ . You will need to use the half angle identity. See 11.5: 1-20.

**Problem 98** Set up (do not evaluate) an integral to compute the area

1. inside the cardioid  $r = 2 + 2 \sin \theta$ , and
2. inside the circle  $r = 3 \cos \theta$ .

**Problem 99** Set up (do not evaluate) an integral formula to compute the area that lies inside both  $r = 2 - 2 \cos \theta$  and  $r = \cos \theta$ . Sketch both curves.

## 4.2 Other Coordinate Systems

In this chapter, we've introduced just one of many different coordinate systems that people have used over the centuries. Sometimes a problem can't be solved until the correct coordinate system is chosen. Problem 84 showed you how to graph the coordinate transformation given by polar coordinates. The following problem shows you how to graph in a different coordinate system.

**Problem 100** Consider the coordinate transformation  $T(a, \omega) = (a \cos \omega, a^2 \sin \omega)$ .

1. Let  $a = 3$  and then graph the curve  $\vec{T}(3, \omega) = (3 \cos \omega, 9 \sin \omega)$  for  $\omega \in [0, 2\pi]$ . See Sage. Click on the link to see how to check your answer in Sage.
2. Let  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and then, on the same axes as above, add the graph of  $\vec{T}(a, \frac{\pi}{4}) = (a \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, a^2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$  for  $a \in [0, 4]$ . See Sage. Notice that you can add the two plots together to superimpose them on each other.
3. To the same axes as above, add the graphs of  $\vec{T}(1, \omega), \vec{T}(2, \omega), \vec{T}(4, \omega)$  for  $\omega \in [0, 2\pi]$  and  $\vec{T}(a, 0), \vec{T}(a, \pi/2), \vec{T}(a, -\pi/6)$  for  $a \in [0, 4]$ . Use Sage to check your answer.

[Hint: when you're done, you should have a bunch of parabolas and ellipses.]

In 3 dimensions, the most common coordinate systems are cylindrical and spherical. The equations for these coordinate systems are in the table below.

Cylindrical Coordinates	Spherical Coordinates
-------------------------	-----------------------

$x = r \cos \theta$	$x = \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta$
$y = r \sin \theta$	$y = \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta$
$z = z$	$z = \rho \cos \phi$

**Problem 101** Let  $P = (x, y, z)$  be a point in space. This point lies on a cylinder of radius  $r$ , where the cylinder has the  $z$  axis as its axis of symmetry. The height of the point is  $z$  units up from the  $xy$  plane. The point casts a shadow in the  $xy$  plane at  $Q = (x, y, 0)$ . The angle between the ray  $\vec{OQ}$  and the  $x$ -axis is  $\theta$ . Construct a graph in 3D of this information, and use it to develop the equations for cylindrical coordinates given above. See page 893.

**Problem 102** Let  $P = (x, y, z)$  be a point in space. This point lies on a sphere of radius  $\rho$  (“rho”), where the sphere’s center is at the origin  $O = (0, 0, 0)$ . The point casts a shadow in the  $xy$  plane at  $Q = (x, y, 0)$ . The angle between the ray  $\vec{OQ}$  and the  $x$ -axis is  $\theta$ , and is called the azimuth angle. The angle between the ray  $\vec{OP}$  and the  $z$  axis is  $\phi$  (“phi”), and is called the inclination angle, polar angle, or zenith angle. Construct a graph in 3D of this information, and use it to develop the equations for spherical coordinates given above. See page 897.

There is some disagreement between different fields about the notation for spherical coordinates. In some fields (like physics),  $\phi$  represents the azimuth angle and  $\theta$  represents the inclination angle. In some fields, like geography, instead of the inclination angle, the *elevation* angle is given—the angle from the  $xy$ -plane (lines of latitude are from the elevation angle). Additionally, sometimes the coordinates are written in a different order. You should always check the notation for spherical coordinates before communicating using them.

See the Wikipedia or MathWorld for a discussion of conventions in different disciplines.

### 4.3 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

# Chapter 5

## Functions

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Describe uses for, and construct graphs of, space curves and parametric surfaces. Find derivatives of space curves, and use this to find velocity, acceleration, and find equations of tangent lines.
2. Describe uses for, and construct graphs of, functions of several variables. For functions of the form  $z = f(x, y)$ , this includes both 3D surface plots and 2D level curve plots. For functions of the form  $w = f(x, y, z)$ , construct plots of level surfaces.
3. Describe uses for, and construct graphs of, vector fields and transformations.
4. If you are given a description of a vector field, curve, or surface (instead of a function or parametrization), explain how to obtain a function for the vector field, or a parametrization for the curve or surface.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 5.1 Function Terminology

A function is a set of instructions involving two sets (called the domain and codomain). A function assigns to each element of the domain  $D$  exactly one element in the codomain  $R$ . We'll often refer to the codomain  $R$  as the target space. We'll write

$$f: D \rightarrow R$$

when we want to remind ourselves of the domain and target space. In this class, we will study what happens when the domain and target space are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (Euclidean  $n$ -space). In particular, we will study functions of the form

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m,$$

when  $m$  and  $n$  are 3 or less. The value of  $n$  is the dimension of the input vector (or number of inputs). The number  $m$  is the dimension of the output vector (or number of outputs). Our goal is to understand uses for each type of function, and be able to construct graphs to represent the function.

We will focus most of our time this semester on two- and three-dimensional problems. However, many problems in the real world require a higher number of

dimensions. When you hear the word “dimension”, it does not always represent a physical dimension, such as length, width, or height. If a quantity depends on 30 different measurements, then the problem involves 30 dimensions. As a quick illustration, the formula for the distance between two points depends on 6 numbers, so distance is really a 6-dimensional problem. As another example, if a piece of equipment has a color, temperature, age, and cost, we can think of that piece of equipment being represented by a point in four-dimensional space (where the coordinate axes represent color, temperature, age, and cost).

**Problem 103** A pebble falls from a 64 ft tall building. Its height (in ft) above the ground  $t$  seconds after it drops is given by the function  $y = f(t) = 64 - 16t^2$ . What are  $n$  and  $m$  when we write this function in the form  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ? Construct a graph of this function. How many dimensions do you need to graph this function?

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. Follow the links to Sage or Wolfram Alpha in all the problems below to see how to get the computer to graph the function.

## 5.2 Parametric Curves: $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

**Problem 104** A horse runs around an elliptical track. Its position at time  $t$  is given by the function  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ . We could alternatively write this as  $x = 2 \cos t, y = 3 \sin t$ .

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. See also Chapter 3 of this problem set. There's a lot more practice of this idea in 11.1. You'll also find more practice in 13.1: 1-8.

1. What are  $n$  and  $m$  when we write this function in the form  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ?
2. Construct a graph of this function.
3. Next to a few points on your graph, include the time  $t$  at which the horse is at this point on the graph. Include an arrow for the horse's direction.
4. How many dimensions do you need to graph this function?

Notice in the problem above that we placed a vector symbol above the function name, as in  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ . When the target space (codomain) is 2-dimensional or larger, we place a vector above the function name to remind us that the output is more than just a number.

**Problem 105** Consider the pebble from problem 103. The pebble's height was given by  $y = 64 - 16t^2$ . The pebble also has some horizontal velocity (it's moving at 3 ft/s to the right). If we let the origin be the base of the 64 ft building, then the position of the pebble at time  $t$  is given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (3t, 64 - 16t^2)$ .

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. The text has more practice in 13.1: 1-8.

1. What are  $n$  and  $m$  when we write this function in the form  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ?
2. At what time does the pebble hit the ground (the height reaches zero)? Construct a graph of the pebble's path from when it leaves the top of the building till when it hits the ground.
3. Find the pebble's velocity and acceleration vectors at  $t = 1$ ? Draw these vectors on your graph with their base at the pebble's position at  $t = 1$ .
4. At what speed is the pebble moving when it hits the ground?

See Section 3.2.1 and Definition 3.9.

In the next problem, we keep the input as just a single number  $t$ , but the output is now a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Problem 106** A jet begins spiraling upwards to gain height. The position of the jet after  $t$  seconds is modeled by the equation  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 2 \sin t, t)$ . We could alternatively write this as  $x = 2 \cos t$ ,  $y = 2 \sin t$ ,  $z = t$ .

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. The text has more practice in 13.1: 9-14.

1. What are  $n$  and  $m$  when we write this function in the form  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ?
2. Construct a graph of this function by picking several values of  $t$  and plotting the resulting points  $(2 \cos t, 2 \sin t, t)$ .
3. Next to a few points on your graph, include the time  $t$  at which the jet is at this point on the graph. Include an arrow for the jet's direction.
4. How many dimensions do you need to graph this function?

In all the problems above, you should have noticed that in order to draw a function (provided you include arrows for direction, or use an animation to represent “time”), you can determine how many dimensions you need to graph a function by just summing the dimensions of the domain and codomain. This is true in general.

**Problem 107** Use the same set up as problem 106, namely

$$\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 2 \sin t, t).$$

See Section 3.2.1 and Definition 3.9.

The text has more practice in 13.1: 19-22.

You'll need a graph of this function to complete this problem.

1. Find the first and second derivative of  $\vec{r}(t)$ .
2. Compute the velocity and acceleration vectors at  $t = \pi/2$ . Place these vectors on your graph with their tails at the point corresponding to  $t = \pi/2$ .
3. Give an equation of the tangent line to this curve at  $t = \pi/2$ .

## 5.3 Parametric Surfaces: $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

We now increase the number of inputs from 1 to 2. This will allow us to graph many space curves at the same time.

**Problem 108** The jet from the problem above is actually accompanied by several jets flying side by side. As all the jets fly, they leave smoke trail behind them (it's an air show). The smoke from one jet spreads outwards to mix with the neighboring jet, so that it looks like the jets are leaving a rather wide sheet of smoke behind them as they fly. The position of two of the many other jets is given by  $\vec{r}_3(t) = (3 \cos t, 3 \sin t, t)$  and  $\vec{r}_4(t) = (4 \cos t, 4 \sin t, t)$ . A function which represents the smoke stream is  $\vec{r}(a, t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, t)$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$  and  $2 \leq a \leq 4$ .

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha.

1. What are  $n$  and  $m$  when we write the function  $\vec{r}(a, t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, t)$  in the form  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ?
2. Start by graphing the position of the three jets  $\vec{r}(2, t) = (2 \cos t, 2 \sin t, t)$ ,  $\vec{r}(3, t) = (3 \cos t, 3 \sin t, t)$  and  $\vec{r}(4, t) = (4 \cos t, 4 \sin t, t)$ .
3. Let  $t = 0$  and graph the curve  $r(a, 0) = (a, 0, 0)$  for  $a \in [2, 4]$ . Then repeat this for  $t = \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2$ .
4. Describe the resulting surface.

The function above is called a parametric surface. Parametric surfaces are formed by joining together many parametric space curves. Most of 3D computer animation is done using parametric surfaces. Woody's entire body in *Toy Story* is a collection of parametric surfaces. Car companies create computer models of vehicles using parametric surfaces, and then use those parametric surfaces to study collisions. Often the mathematics behind these models is hidden in the software program, but parametric surfaces are at the heart of just about every 3D computer model.

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**Problem 109** Consider the parametric surface  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (u \cos v, u \sin v, u^2)$  See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. for  $0 \leq u \leq 3$  and  $0 \leq v \leq 2\pi$ . Construct a graph of this function. To do so, let  $u$  equal a constant (such as 1, 2, 3) and then graph the resulting space curve. Then let  $v$  equal a constant (such as 0,  $\pi/2$ , etc.) and graph the resulting space curve until you can visualize the surface. [Hint: Think satellite dish.]

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## 5.4 Functions of Several Variables: $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

In this section we'll focus on functions of the form  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  and  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ ; we'll keep the output as a real number. In the next problem, you should notice that the input is a vector  $(x, y)$  and the output is a number  $z$ . There are two ways to graph functions of this type. The next two problems show you how.

**Problem 110** A computer chip has been disconnected from electricity and sitting in cold storage for quite some time. The chip is connected to power, and a few moments later the temperature (in Celsius) at various points  $(x, y)$  on the chip is measured. From these measurements, statistics is used to create a temperature function  $z = f(x, y)$  to model the temperature at any point on the chip. Suppose that this chip's temperature function is given by the equation  $z = f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ . We'll be creating a 3D model of this function in this problem, so you'll want to place all your graphs on the same  $x, y, z$  axes. See Sage or Wolfram Alpha.

1. What is the temperature at  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1, 2)$ , and  $(-4, 3)$ ? See 14.1: 1-4.
  2. If you let  $y = 0$ , construct a graph of the temperature  $z = f(x, 0) = 9 - x^2 - 0^2$ , or just  $z = 9 - x^2$ . In the  $xz$  plane (where  $y = 0$ ) draw this upside down parabola.
  3. Now let  $x = 0$ . Draw the resulting parabola in the  $yz$  plane.
  4. Now let  $z = 0$ . Draw the resulting curve in the  $xy$  plane.
  5. Once you've drawn a curve in each of the three coordinate planes, it's useful to pick an input variable (either  $x$  or  $y$ ) and let it equal various constants. So now let  $x = 1$  and draw the resulting parabola in the plane  $x = 1$ . Then repeat this for  $x = 2$ .
  6. Describe the shape. Add any extra features to your graph to convey the 3D image you are constructing. See 14.1: 37-48.
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**Problem 111** We'll be using the same function  $z = f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  as the previous problem. However, this time we'll construct a graph of the function by only studying places where the temperature is constant. We'll create a graph in 2D of the surface (similar to a topographical map). See Sage or Wolfram Alpha.

1. Which points in the plane have zero temperature? Just let  $z = 0$  in  $z = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ . Plot the corresponding points in the  $xy$ -plane, and write  $z = 0$  next to this curve. This curve is called a level curve. As long as you stay on this curve, your temperature will remain level, it will not increase nor decrease. See 14.1: 13-16 and 31-36.
2. Which points in the plane have temperature  $z = 5$ ? Add this level curve to your 2D plot and write  $z = 5$  next to it.
3. Repeat the above for  $z = 8$ ,  $z = 9$ , and  $z = 1$ . What's wrong with letting  $z = 10$ ? See 14.1: 37-48.
4. Using your 2D plot, construct a 3D image of the function by lifting each level curve to its corresponding height.

**Definition 5.1.** A level curve of a function  $z = f(x, y)$  is a curve in the  $xy$ -plane found by setting the output  $z$  equal to a constant. Symbolically, a level curve of  $f(x, y)$  is the curve  $c = f(x, y)$  for some constant  $c$ . A 2D plot consisting of several level curves is called a contour plot of  $z = f(x, y)$ .

**Problem 112** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = x - y^2$ .

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. More practice is in 14.1: 37-48.

1. Construct a 3D surface plot of  $f$ . [So just graph in 3D the curves given by  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$  and then try setting  $x$  or  $y$  equal to some other constants, like  $x = 1$ ,  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $y = 2$ , etc.]
2. Construct a contour plot of  $f$ . [So just graph in 2D the curves given by setting  $z$  equal to a few constants, like  $z = 0$ ,  $z = 1$ ,  $z = -4$ , etc.]
3. Which level curve passes through the point  $(2, 2)$ ? Draw this level curve on your contour plot. See 14.1: 49-52.

Notice that when we graphed the previous two functions (of the form  $z = f(x, y)$ ) we could either construct a 3D surface plot, or we could reduce the dimension by 1 and construct a 2D contour plot by letting the output  $z$  equal various constants. The next function is of the form  $w = f(x, y, z)$ , so it has 3 inputs and 1 output. We could write  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ . We would need 4 dimensions to graph this function, but graphing in 4D is not an easy task. Instead, we'll reduce the dimension and create plots in 3D to describe the level surfaces of the function.

**Problem 113** Suppose that an explosion occurs at the origin  $(0, 0, 0)$ . Heat from the explosion starts to radiate outwards. Suppose that a few moments after the explosion, the temperature at any point in space is given by  $w = T(x, y, z) = 100 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2$ .

See Sage. Wolfram Alpha currently does not support drawing level surfaces. You could also use Mathematica or Wolfram Demonstrations.

You can access more problems on drawing level surfaces in 12.6:1-44 or 14.1:53-60.

1. Which points in space have a temperature of 99? To answer this, replace  $T(x, y, z)$  by 99 to get  $99 = 100 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2$ . Use algebra to simplify this to  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ . Draw this object.
2. Which points in space have a temperature of 96? of 84? Draw the surfaces.
3. What is your temperature at  $(3, 0, -4)$ ? Draw the level surface that passes through  $(3, 0, -4)$ .
4. The 4 surfaces you drew above are called level surfaces. If you walk along a level surface, what happens to your temperature?



5. As you move outwards, away from the origin, what happens to your temperature?

**Problem 114** Consider the function  $w = f(x, y, z) = x^2 + z^2$ . This function has an input  $y$ , but notice that changing the input  $y$  does not change the output of the function. See Sage.

1. Draw a graph of the level surface  $w = 4$ . [When  $y = 0$  you can draw one curve. When  $y = 1$ , you should draw the same curve. When  $y = 2$ , again you draw the same curve. This kind of graph is called a cylinder, and is important in manufacturing where you extrude an object through a hole.]
2. Graph the surface  $9 = x^2 + z^2$  (so the level surface  $w = 9$ ).
3. Graph the surface  $16 = x^2 + z^2$ .

Most of our examples of function of the form  $w = f(x, y, z)$  can be drawn by using our knowledge about conic sections. We can graph ellipses and hyperbolas if there are only two variables. So the key idea is to set one of the variables equal to a constant and then graph the resulting curve. Repeat this with a few variables and a few constants, and you'll know what the surface is. Sometimes when you set a specific variable equal to a constant, you'll get an ellipse. If this occurs, try setting that variable equal to other constants, as ellipses are generally the easiest curves to draw.

**Problem 115** Consider the function  $w = f(x, y, z) = x^2 - y^2 + z^2$ .

See Sage. Remember you can find more practice in 12.6:1-44 or 14.1:53-64. We'll have a few people present this problem.

1. Draw a graph of the level surface  $w = 1$ . [You need to graph  $1 = x^2 - y^2 + z^2$ . Let  $x = 0$  and draw the resulting curve. Then let  $y = 0$  and draw the resulting curve. Let either  $x$  or  $y$  equal some more constants (whichever gave you an ellipse), and then draw the resulting ellipses.]
2. Graph the level surface  $w = 4$ . [Divide both sides by 4 (to get a 1 on the left) and then repeat the previous part.]
3. Graph the level surface  $w = -1$ . [Try dividing both sides by a number to get a 1 on the left. If  $y = 0$  doesn't help, try  $y = 1$  or  $y = 2$ .]
4. Graph the level surface that passes through the point  $(3, 5, 4)$ . [Hint: what is  $f(3, 5, 4)$ ?]

### 5.4.1 Vector Fields and Transformations: $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

We've covered the following types of functions in the problems above.

- $y = f(x)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (functions of a single variable)
- $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  (parametric curves)
- $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  (space curves)
- $\vec{r}(u, v) = (x, y, z)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  (parametric surfaces)
- $z = f(x, y)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (functions of two variables)
- $z = f(x, y, z)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (functions of three variables)

We will finish this section by considering vector fields and transformations.

- $\vec{F}(x, y) = (M, N)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  (vector fields in the plane)
- $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = (M, N, P)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  (vector fields in space)
- $\vec{T}(u, v) = (x, y)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  (2D transformation)
- $\vec{T}(u, v, w) = (x, y, z)$  or  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  (3D transformation)

Notice that in all cases, the dimension of the input and output are the same. The difference between vector fields and transformations has to do with the application. We've already seen examples of transformations with polar, cylindrical, and spherical coordinates.

**Problem 116** Consider the spherical coordinates transformation

$$\vec{T}(\rho, \phi, \theta) = (\rho \sin \phi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \phi),$$

which could also be written as

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta \\ y &= \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ z &= \rho \cos \phi. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $\phi$  ("phi") is the angle down from the  $z$  axis,  $\theta$  ("theta") is the angle counterclockwise from the  $x$ -axis in the  $xy$ -plane, and  $\rho$  ("rho") is the distance from the origin. Review problem 102 if you need a refresher.

Graphing this transformation requires  $3+3 = 6$  dimensions. In this problem we'll construct parts of this graph by graphing various surfaces. We did something similar for the polar coordinate transformation in problem 84.

1. Let  $\rho = 2$  and graph the resulting surface. What do you get if  $\rho = 3$ ? See Sage or Wolfram Alpha.
2. Let  $\phi = \pi/4$  and graph the resulting surface. What do you get if  $\phi = \pi/2$ ? See Sage or Wolfram Alpha.
3. Let  $\theta = \pi/4$  and graph the resulting surface. What do you get if  $\theta = \pi/2$ ?

We now focus on vector fields.

**Problem 117** Consider the vector field  $\vec{F}(x, y) = (2x + y, x + 2y)$ . In this problem, you will construct a graph of this vector field by hand.

See Sage or Wolfram Alpha. The computer will shrink the largest vector down in size so it does not overlap any of the others, and then reduce the size of all the vectors accordingly. See 16.2: 39-44 for more practice.

1. Compute  $\vec{F}(1, 0)$ . Then draw the vector  $F(1, 0)$  with its base at  $(1, 0)$ .
2. Compute  $\vec{F}(1, 1)$ . Then draw the vector  $F(1, 1)$  with its base at  $(1, 1)$ .
3. Repeat the above process for the points  $(0, 1)$ ,  $(-1, 1)$ ,  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $(-1, -1)$ ,  $(0, -1)$ , and  $(1, -1)$ . Remember, at each point draw a vector.

**Problem 118: Spin field** Consider the vector field  $\vec{F}(x, y) = (-y, x)$ . Construct a graph of this vector field. Remember, the key to plotting a vector field is "at the point  $(x, y)$ , draw the vector  $\vec{F}(x, y)$  with its base at  $(x, y)$ ." Plot at least 8 vectors (a few in each quadrant), so we can see what this field is doing.

Use the links above to see the computer plot this. See 16.2: 39-44 for more practice.

Sage can also help us visualize 3d vector fields, like  $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = (y, z, x)$ .

## 5.5 Constructing Functions

We now know how to draw a vector field provided someone tells us the equation. How do we obtain an equation of a vector field? The following problem will help you develop the gravitational vector field.

**Problem 119: Radial fields** Do the following:

Use Sage to plot your vector fields. See 16.2: 39-44 for more practice.

1. Let  $P = (x, y, z)$  be a point in space. At the point  $P$ , let  $\vec{F}(x, y, z)$  be the vector which points from  $P$  to the origin. Give a formula for  $\vec{F}(x, y, z)$ .
2. Give an equation of the vector field where at each point  $P$  in the plane, the vector  $\vec{F}_2(P)$  is a unit vector that points towards the origin.
3. Give an equation of the vector field where at each point  $P$  in the plane, the vector  $\vec{F}_3(P)$  is a vector of length 7 that points towards the origin.
4. Give an equation of the vector field where at each point  $P$  in the plane, the vector  $\vec{G}(P)$  points towards the origin, and has a magnitude equal to  $1/d^2$  where  $d$  is the distance to the origin.

If someone gives us parametric equations for a curve in the plane, we know how to draw the curve. How do we obtain parametric equations of a given curve? In problem 104, we were given the parametric equation for the path of a horse, namely  $x = 2 \cos t, y = 3 \sin t$  or  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ . From those equations, we drew the path of the horse, and could have written a Cartesian equation for the path. How do we work this in reverse, namely if we had only been given the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$ , could we have obtained parametric equations  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$  for the curve?

**Problem 120** Find a parametrization for each of the following curves in the plane. You can write your parametrization in the vector form  $\vec{r}(t) = (?, ?)$ , or in the parametric form  $x = ?, y = ?$ . With each parametrization, include bounds for  $t$ .

Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to visualize your parametrizations.

1. The top of the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ . [Hint: Review 104.]
2. The straight line from  $(a, 0)$  to  $(0, b)$ . [Hint: Review 32 and 70.]
3. The parabola  $y = x^2$  from  $(-1, 1)$  to  $(2, 4)$ .
4. The function  $y = f(x)$  for  $x \in [a, b]$ .

If someone gives us parametric equations for a surface, we can draw the surface. This is what we did in problems 108 and 109. How do we work backwards and obtain parametric equations for a given surface? This requires that we write an equation for  $x, y$ , and  $z$  in terms of two input variables (see 108 and 109 for examples). In vector form, we need a function  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . We can often use a coordinate transformation  $\vec{T}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  to obtain a parametrization of a surface. The next three problems show how to do this.

**Problem 121** Consider the surface  $z = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  plotted in problem 110.

Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to plot your parametrization. See 16.5: 1-16 for more practice.

1. Using the rectangular coordinate transformation  $\vec{T}(x, y, z) = (x, y, z)$ , give a parametrization  $\vec{r}_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  of the surface. [Hint: Use the surface equation to eliminate the input variable  $z$  in  $\vec{T}$ .]

2. What bounds must you place on  $x$  and  $y$  to obtain the portion of the surface above the plane  $z = 0$ ?
3. If  $z = f(x, y)$  is any surface, give a parametrization of the surface (i.e.,  $x = ?, y = ?, z = ?$  or  $\vec{r}(?, ?) = (?, ?, ?)$ .)

**Problem 122** Again consider the surface  $z = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ .

1. Using cylindrical coordinates,  $\vec{T}(r, \theta, z) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, z)$ , obtain a parametrization  $\vec{f}(r, \theta) = (?, ?, ?)$  of the surface using the input variables  $r$  and  $\theta$ .
2. What bounds must you place on  $r$  and  $\theta$  to obtain the portion of the surface above the plane  $z = 0$ ?

Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to plot your parametrization with your bounds (see 121 for examples). See 16.5: 1-16 for more practice.

**Problem 123** marginparSee 16.5: 1-16 for more practice. Recall the spherical coordinate transformation

$$\vec{T}(\rho, \phi, \theta) = (\rho \sin \phi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \phi).$$

We did very similar things in problem 116.

This is a function of the form  $\vec{T}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . If we hold one of the three inputs constant, then we have a function of the form  $\vec{r}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , which is a parametric surface.

1. Give a parametrization of the sphere of radius 2, using  $\phi$  and  $\theta$  as your input variables.
2. What bounds should you place on  $\phi$  and  $\theta$  if you want to hit each point on the sphere exactly once?
3. What bounds should you place on  $\phi$  and  $\theta$  if you only want the portion of the sphere above the plane  $z = 1$ ?

Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to plot each parametrization (see 121 for examples).

Sometimes you'll have to invent your own coordinate system when constructing parametric equations for a surface. If you notice that there are lots of circles parallel to one of the coordinate planes, try using a modified version of cylindrical coordinates. Instead of circles in the  $xy$  plane ( $x = r \cos \theta, y = r \sin \theta, z = z$ ), maybe you need circles in the  $yz$ -plane ( $x = x, y = r \sin \theta, z = r \cos \theta$ ) or the  $xz$  plane. Just look for lots of circles, and then construct your parametrization accordingly.

**Problem 124** Find parametric equations for the surface  $x^2 + z^2 = 9$ . [Hint: read the paragraph above.]

1. What bounds should you use to obtain the portion of the surface between  $y = -2$  and  $y = 3$ ?
2. What bounds should you use to obtain the portion of the surface above  $z = 0$ ?
3. What bounds should you use to obtain the portion of the surface with  $x \geq 0$  and  $y \in [2, 5]$ ?

Use Sage or Wolfram Alpha to plot each parametrization (see 121 for examples).

## 5.6 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

# Chapter 6

## Derivatives

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Find limits, and be able to explain when a function does not have a limit by considering different approaches.
2. Compute partial derivatives. Explain how to obtain the total derivative from the partial derivatives (using a matrix).
3. Find equations of tangent lines and tangent planes to surfaces. We'll do this three ways.
4. Find derivatives of composite functions, using the chain rule (matrix multiplication).

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

### 6.1 Limits

In first-semester calculus, you learned how to compute limits of functions. We need to define limits before proceeding. One possible definition of a limit follows.

**Definition 6.1.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. We write  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$  if and only if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |x - c| < \delta$  implies  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

This formal definition is studied extensively in upper division math classes. We're looking at it here because we need to compare it with the formal definition of limits in higher dimensions. The only difference: just put vector symbols above the input  $x$  and the output  $f(x)$ .

**Definition 6.2.** Let  $\vec{f} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a function. We write  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{c}} \vec{f}(\vec{x}) = \vec{L}$  if and only if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |\vec{x} - \vec{c}| < \delta$  implies  $|\vec{f}(\vec{x}) - \vec{L}| < \epsilon$ .

We'll find that throughout this unit, the key difference between first-semester calculus and this course is that we replace input and output of functions with vectors.

**Problem 125** For the function  $f(x, y) = z$ , we can write  $f$  in the vector notation  $\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$  if we let  $\vec{x} = (x, y)$  and  $\vec{y} = (z)$ . Notice that  $\vec{x}$  is a vector of inputs, and  $\vec{y}$  is a vector of outputs. For each of the functions below, state what  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  should be so that the function can be written in the form  $\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$ .

1.  $f(x, y, z) = w$
2.  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$
3.  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (x, y, z)$
4.  $\vec{F}(x, y) = (M, N)$
5.  $\vec{F}(\rho, \phi, \theta) = (x, y, z)$

The point to this problem is to help you learn to recognize the dimensions of the domain and codomain of the function. If we write  $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , then  $\vec{x}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $n$  components, and  $\vec{y}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with  $m$  components.

You learned to work with limits in first-semester calculus without needing the formal definitions above. The following problem has you review some of the limit techniques from first-semester calculus.

**Problem 126** Compute each of the following limits, or state why the limit does not exist. Do these problems without using L'Hopital's rule, as there is not a good substitute for L'Hopital's rule in higher dimensions.

See 14.2: 1-30 for more practice.

1.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x^2 - 3x + 5$
2.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3}$
3.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{|x|}$  [Hint: graph the function.]

Some of the techniques you used in single-variable calculus give us immediate techniques for handling multivariable functions.

**Problem 127** Do the following limits:

1.  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} 9 - x^2 - y^2$
2.  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (4,4)} \frac{x - y}{x^2 - y^2}$

You should have observed that all the limits above existed, except for the  $x/|x|$  limit. You can show that limit does not exist by considering what happens from the left, and comparing it to what happens on the right. In first-semester calculus you used the following theorem extensively.

If  $y = f(x)$  is a function defined on some open interval containing  $c$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$  exists if and only if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$ .

A limit exists precisely when the limits from every direction exists, and all directional limits are equal. In first-semester calculus, this required that you check two directions (left and right). This theorem generalizes to higher dimensions, but it becomes much more difficult to apply. The following problem will show you why.

**Problem 128** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}$ . Our goal is to determine if the function has a limit at  $(0, 0)$ .

You may want to look at a graph in Sage or Wolfram Alpha (try using the "contour lines" option). As you compute each limit, make sure you understand what that limit means in the graph.

1. In the  $xy$ -plane, how many ways are there to approach the point  $(0, 0)$ ? Give a few examples.
2. One approach to the origin is to travel along the  $x$ -axis (so  $y = 0$ ). Using this approach, compute the limit

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=0}} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 0^2}{x^2 - 0^2} = ?.$$

3. Another approach to the origin is to travel along the  $y$ -axis (so let  $x = 0$ ). Compute the limit along this approach, namely

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ x=0}} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}.$$

4. Another approach is to travel along the line  $y = x$ . What is the limit at  $(0, 0)$  along this approach?
5. Does this function have a limit at  $(0, 0)$ ? Explain.

See 14.2: 41-50 for more practice.

The theorem from first-semester calculus generalizes as follows.

If  $\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$  is a function defined on some open region containing  $\vec{c}$ , then  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{c}} \vec{f}(\vec{x})$  exists if and only if the limit exists along every possible approach to  $\vec{c}$  and all these limits are equal.

There's a fundamental problem with using this theorem to determine if a limit exists. Once the domain is 2-dimensional or higher, there are infinitely many ways to approach a point. There is no longer just a left and right side. So you can prove a limit exists, provided you can check infinitely many cases. That's the problem—checking infinitely many cases takes a really long time. The theorem can also be used to show that a limit does not exist. All you have to do is find two approaches with different limits.

**Problem 129** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}$ . Does this function

See Sage.

have a limit at  $(0, 0)$ ? Examine the function at  $(0, 0)$  by considering multiple approaches (feel free to use the same approaches as in the problem above).

See 14.2: 41-50 for more practice.

**Problem 130** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}$ . Does this function have a limit at  $(0, 0)$ ? Compute the limit at  $(0, 0)$  along the approaches  $y = mx$  (this takes care of every line through the origin, except  $x = 0$ ). Then compute the limit at  $(0, 0)$  along the approach  $y = x^2$ .

You might use the Sage tool above to investigate

**Problem 131: Challenge** Give an example of a function  $f(x, y)$  so that the limit at  $(0, 0)$  along every straight line  $y = mx$  exists and equals 0. However, show that the function has no limit at  $(0, 0)$  by considering an approach that is not a straight line.



## 6.2 Partial Derivatives

Recall from first-semester calculus the following definition of the derivative.

**Definition 6.3.** We define the derivative of a function  $f$  at  $x$  to be the limit

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h},$$

provided the limit exists. Whether you write  $f'$  or  $\frac{df}{dx}$  does not matter, as they both represent the same thing. The notation  $\frac{df}{dx}$  leads to the differential notation  $dy = f'dx$ , which we will use to generalize the derivative to all dimensions.

Before discussing the derivative of a function in higher dimensions, we first define partial derivatives. A matrix of partial derivatives will make up the total derivative.

**Definition 6.4: Partial Derivative.** Let  $f$  be a function. The partial derivative of  $f$  with respect to  $x$  is the regular derivative of  $f$ , provided we hold all input variables constant except  $x$ . If  $f = f(x, y, z)$ , we write any of

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f] = f_x = D_x f = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h, y, z) - f(x, y, z)}{h}$$

to mean the partial of  $f$  with respect to  $x$ . The partial of  $f$  with respect to  $y$ , written  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = f_y$ , is the regular derivative of  $f$ , provided we hold all input variables constant except  $y$ . A similar definition holds for partials with respect to any variable.

**Problem 132** Find the indicated partial derivatives.

1. For  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy + 3y^2$  find  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $f_y$ .
2. For  $f(x, y, z) = x^2 y^3 z^4$ , find  $f_x$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  and  $D_z f$ .
3. For  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (u, v, v \cos(uv))$ , find  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v}$ .
4. For  $\vec{F}(x, y) = (-y, x e^{3y})$ , find  $\frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial y}$ .

See 14.3: 1-40 for more practice. I strongly suggest you practice a lot of this type of problem until you can compute partial derivatives with ease.

Since a partial derivative is a function, you can take partial derivatives of that function as well. If you want to first compute a partial with respect to  $x$ , and then with respect to  $y$ , you would write

$$f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}.$$

The shorthand notation  $f_{xy}$  is easiest to write, but in upper-level courses, we will use subscripts to mean other things. At that point, we'll use the fractional partial notation to avoid confusion.

**Problem 133** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = 3xy^3 + e^{x^2}$ .

1. Compute the second partials  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$ , and  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$ .

2. For  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy + y^3$ , compute both  $f_{xy}$  and  $f_{yx}$ .
3. Make a conjecture about a relationship between  $f_{xy}$  and  $f_{yx}$ .
4. Use your conjecture to quickly compute  $f_{xy}$  if

$$f(x, y) = \tan^2(\cos(x))(x^{49} + x)^{1000} + 3xy.$$

The next problem will help you visualize what a partial derivative means in the graph of a surface.

**Problem 134** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ . Construct a 3D surface plot of  $f$  (see problem 110). We'll focus on the point  $(2, 1)$ . See Sage.

1. Let  $y = 1$  and construct a graph in the  $xz$  plane of the curve  $z = f(x, 1) = 9 - x^2 - 1^2$ . Find an equation of the tangent line to this curve at  $x = 2$ . Write the equation in the form  $(z - z_0) = m(x - x_0)$ .
2. Let  $x = 2$  and construct a graph in the  $yz$  plane of the curve  $z = f(2, y) = 9 - 2^2 - y^2$ . Find an equation of the tangent line to this curve at  $y = 1$ . Write the equation in the form  $(z - z_0) = m(y - y_0)$ .
3. Compute  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  and then evaluate each at  $(2, 1)$ . What does this have to do with the previous two parts?
4. If the slope of a line  $y = mx + b$  is  $m$ , then we know that an increase of 1 unit in the  $x$  direction will increase  $y$  by  $m$  units. Fill in the blanks, as they relate to the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  and the lines above.
  - Increasing  $x$  by 1 unit when  $y$  does not change will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_ units.
  - Increasing  $y$  by 1 unit when  $x$  does not change will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_ units.
5. In the previous part, we said that  $z$  increased by *about* a certain amount. Why did we not say that  $z$  increases by *exactly* that amount?

Once we have partial derivatives, we can calculate tangent lines to a surface. This means we can also find normal vectors and tangent planes as well. Normal vectors to surfaces (i.e., vectors that are perpendicular to the surface) are extremely important in many areas, including physics, optics, and computer graphics.

**Problem 135** Consider the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  at the point  $(2, 1)$ . See Sage.  
 From the previous problem, we know that increasing  $x$  by 1 unit when  $y$  does not change will cause  $z$  to increase by about  $f_x$  units. In terms of vectors, we have  $(\Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z) = (1, 0, f_x)$  is a tangent vector to the surface. See 14.6: 9-12 for more practice.

1. At the point  $(2, 1)$ , find a tangent vector to the surface in the  $x$  direction (so compute  $f_x(2, 1)$  and put it in the vector  $(1, 0, f_x)$ ). Then give a vector equation of the tangent line to  $f$  in the  $x$  direction.
2. At the point  $(2, 1)$ , find a tangent vector to the surface in the  $y$  direction. Then give a vector equation of the tangent line to  $f$  in the  $y$  direction.
3. Give an equation of the tangent plane to  $f$  at  $(2, 1)$ . [Hint: we've found equations of planes before—see problems 51 and 47.]

This next problem will help you see how parametric functions can simplify the process of finding tangent vectors and planes.

**Problem 136** Again, consider the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  at the point  $(2, 1)$ . A parametrization of this surface is  $\vec{r}(x, y) = (x, y, 9 - x^2 - y^2)$ . We'll use the parametrization to find an equation for the tangent plane at  $(2, 1, 4)$ . See 16.5: 27-30 for more practice.

1. Compute  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial x}(2, 1)$ . Then give a vector equation of the tangent line to  $f$  in the  $x$  direction.
2. Compute  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial y}(2, 1)$ . Then give a vector equation of the tangent line to  $f$  in the  $y$  direction.
3. Give an equation of the tangent plane to  $f$  at  $(2, 1)$ . [Hint: See problem 51.]

**Problem 137** Let  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + y^2$ . Give two vector equations of tangent lines to the surface at  $(3, -1)$ . Then give an equation of the tangent plane. See Sage. See 14.6: 9-12 for more practice.

The next problem helps you generalize what you did above to construct the general formula for the tangent plane and normal vector to a surface  $z = f(x, y)$  at the point  $(a, b)$ .

**Problem 138** Recall that an equation of the tangent line to  $y = f(x)$  at  $x = c$  is  $y - f(c) = f'(c)(x - c)$ . Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a function whose partial derivatives exist. Page 811 has the answer, but written in a slightly different form than you will get. In addition, they arrive at the solution in a completely different way.

1. Give two vectors tangent to the surface at  $(x, y) = (a, b)$ .
2. Give a normal vector to the surface at  $(a, b)$ .
3. Give an equation of the tangent plane to the surface at  $(a, b)$ .

The next problem generalizes the tangent plane and normal vector calculations above to work for a parametric surface  $\vec{r}(u, v)$ .

**Problem 139** Consider the cone parametrized by  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (u \cos v, u \sin v, u)$ . See Sage. See 16.5: 27-30 for more practice.

1. Give vector equations of two tangent lines to the surface at  $(2, \pi/2)$  (so  $u = 2$  and  $v = \pi/2$ ).
2. Give a normal vector to the surface at  $(2, \pi/2)$ .
3. Give an equation of the tangent plane at  $(2, \pi/2)$ .

## 6.3 The Derivative

**Remark 6.5.** In problem 134, we learned the following for  $z = f(x, y)$ .

- Increasing  $x$  by 1 unit when  $y$  remains constant will cause  $z$  to increase by about  $f_x$  units.
- Increasing  $y$  by 1 unit when  $x$  remains constant will cause  $z$  to increase by about  $f_y$  units.

We will use these facts to introduce differential notation for functions of several variables, and then define the total derivative as a matrix of partial derivatives.

**Problem 140** Fill in the blanks. For this example, consider the function  $z = f(x, y)$ .

- Increasing  $x$  by  $\frac{1}{2}$  when  $\Delta y = 0$  will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_.
- Increasing  $y$  by  $\frac{1}{10}$  when  $\Delta x = 0$  will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_.
- If  $\Delta x = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\Delta y = \frac{1}{10}$  then  $\Delta z \approx$  \_\_\_\_\_. [Hint: sum the quantities.]
- Increasing  $x$  by  $dx$  when  $\Delta y = 0$  will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_.
- Increasing  $y$  by  $dy$  when  $\Delta x = 0$  will cause  $z$  to increase by about \_\_\_\_\_.
- If  $\Delta x = dx$  and  $\Delta y = dy$  then  $\Delta z \approx$  \_\_\_\_\_.

Based on the answer from the previous problem, we define the following.

**Definition 6.6.** In first-semester calculus, if  $y = f(x)$ , we defined the differential of  $f$  to be

$$df = f' dx = \frac{df}{dx} dx,$$

where  $dx$  represents a change in  $x$ . If  $z = f(x, y)$ , we define the differential of  $f$  to be

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy,$$

or in short-hand notation  $df = f_x dx + f_y dy$ , where  $dx$  and  $dy$  are independent variables which represent small changes in  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Problem 141** Let's apply the problem and definition above. Fill in the blanks

1. If  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ , then  $df = f_x dx + f_y dy =$  \_\_\_\_\_  $dx +$  \_\_\_\_\_  $dy$ . If we are on the surface at the point  $(x, y, z) = (2, 1, 4)$ , then the differential is  $df =$  \_\_\_\_\_  $dx +$  \_\_\_\_\_  $dy$  (just plug  $x = 2$  and  $y = 1$  into the partial derivatives). If we move along the surface to  $(x, y) = (2.1, 1.1)$ , then our change in  $x$  is  $\Delta x =$  \_\_\_\_\_, our change in  $y$  is  $\Delta y =$  \_\_\_\_\_, and the differential  $df$  at  $(x, y) = (2, 1)$  estimates our change in height  $\Delta f$  to be about  $\Delta f \approx$  \_\_\_\_\_ (just plug in  $\Delta x$  for  $dx$  and  $\Delta y$  for  $dy$  to get a single number).

2. If  $f(x, y, z) = xy^2 + yz^2$ , then

$$df = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} dx + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} dy + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} dz.$$

If we are at the input vector  $(x, y, z) = (1, -2, 3)$ , then the differential is  $df = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} dx + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} dy + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} dz$ . If we move to  $(x, y, z) = (0.9, -2.2, 2.8)$ , then the change in  $x$  is  $\Delta x = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ , the change in  $y$  is  $\Delta y = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ , and the change in  $z$  is  $\Delta z = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ . The differential  $df$  at  $(x, y, z) = (1, -2, 3)$  helps us estimate the change in  $f$  to be about  $\Delta f \approx \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ . [Hint: plug in our numeric  $x, y, z, \Delta x, \Delta y$ , and  $\Delta z$ .]

3. When a function has multiple outputs, we view the differential as a multiple-row and 1-column matrix, where each row has the partial derivative of one of the outputs. If  $\vec{r}(t) = (3t^2, 2/t)$ , then

$$d\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} (3t^2)' \\ (2/t)' \end{bmatrix} dt = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix} dt.$$

If we are at  $t = 2$ , then our differential becomes  $d\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix}$ . If we move to  $t = 2.1$ , then the change in  $t$  is  $\Delta t = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$  and the change in  $\vec{r}$ , as estimated by the differential  $d\vec{r}$  at  $t = 2$ , is approximately  $\Delta\vec{r} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix}$ .

4. If  $\vec{r}(u, \theta) = (u \cos(\theta), u \sin(\theta), u^2)$ , then

$$d\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix} du + \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix} d\theta.$$

If we are at  $(u, \theta) = (2, \pi/3)$ , then the differential is

$$d\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix} du + \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix} d\theta.$$

If we move to  $(u, \theta) = (1.9, \pi/2)$ , then the change in  $u$  is  $\Delta u = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ , the change in  $\theta$  is  $\Delta\theta = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ , and the change in  $\vec{r}$ , as estimated by the differential  $d\vec{r}$  at  $(u, \theta) = (2, \pi/3)$ , is approximately  $\Delta\vec{r} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \end{bmatrix}$ .

In the next problem, you will use differential notation to discover the derivative of a function in high dimensions.

**Problem 142** In each problem below, your job is to find a matrix  $M$  so that the matrix product is the same as the corresponding differential notation.

See Section 1.3 to refresh on how to do matrix multiplication.

1. Let  $f(x, y) = z$ . Find a matrix  $M$  so that

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy = M \begin{bmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Let  $f(x, y, z) = w$ . Find a matrix  $M$  so that

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy + f_z dz = M \begin{bmatrix} dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Let  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y)$ . We will think of  $\vec{r}_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \end{bmatrix}$  as a column vector (a single-column matrix). Find a matrix  $M$  so that

$$d\vec{r} = \vec{r}_t dt = M dt.$$

4. Let  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (x, y, z)$ . We will think of  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} = \begin{bmatrix} x_u \\ y_u \\ z_u \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} = \begin{bmatrix} x_v \\ y_v \\ z_v \end{bmatrix}$  as column vectors (single-column matrices). Find a matrix  $M$  so that

$$d\vec{r} = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u} du + \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} dv = M \begin{bmatrix} du \\ dv \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Definition 6.7.** The derivative of a function  $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , where  $\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$ , is a matrix, written  $D\vec{f}$  and read “the derivative of  $\vec{f}$ ”. The columns of the matrix are the partial derivatives of the function. The order in which you list the input variables of  $\vec{f}$  is precisely the order in which the partials occur in the columns of the matrix.

The derivative of a function,  $D\vec{f}$ , is given many names in the literature. It’s called the total derivative, the matrix derivative, the Jacobian, the Jacobian matrix, and more. We’ll just call  $D\vec{f}$  the derivative.

This matrix  $D\vec{f}$  gives the best possible linear approximation to changes in the outputs, based upon changes in the inputs. We write the previous sentence symbolically as  $d\vec{y} = D\vec{f}d\vec{x}$ .

In first-semester calculus, we wrote the derivative of  $y = f(x)$  in differential notation as  $dy = f' dx$ . To generalize, we put a vector above each variable and change  $f'$  from a number (a one-by-one matrix) to a matrix. This results in the derivative of  $\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$  being written in differential notation as  $d\vec{y} = D\vec{f}d\vec{x}$ . This more general differential notation is valid in all dimensions.

Remember, to find the derivative of a function, compute all the partial derivatives and then place them in the columns of the matrix. Every input variable gets a column. *Every input variable gets a column.* **Every input variable gets a column.**

**Problem 143** For each function below, state the dimensions of the domain and codomain (numbers of inputs and outputs) and write the function in the form  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  (figure out what  $n$  and  $m$  are). Then find the derivative (as a matrix). How does the number of rows and columns relate to  $n$  and  $m$ ? Remember, every input variable gets a column.

This handwritten file has 6 problems, together with solutions, that you can use as extra practice.

I’ll have 4 people present this one in class.

1.  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + y^3$

2.  $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - yz^3$
3.  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$  (Remember to place vectors in columns.)
4.  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$
5.  $\vec{r}(a, t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, t)$
6.  $\vec{T}(r, \theta) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$
7.  $\vec{F}(x, y) = (2x + 3y, 4x + 5y)$
8.  $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = (2x + 3y - 5z, 4x + 5y + z^2, xyz)$

Once we have the multivariable (matrix) derivative, almost every idea from first-semester calculus can be generalized to all dimensions by just replacing  $f'$  with  $Df$  and putting vector symbols above the inputs and outputs. As a first example, let's examine how tangent lines generalize to tangent planes.

**Remark 6.8.** In problem 10, we saw that the differential notation  $dy = f'dx$  allowed us to write an equation of the tangent line to  $y = f(x) = x^2$  at  $x = 3$ . Here's a recap of what we did.

The derivative is  $f'(x) = 2x$  which at  $x = 3$  equals  $f'(3) = 6$ . The graph of the function passes through the point  $(3, f(3)) = (3, 9)$ . If  $(x, y)$  is any point on the tangent line, then the change from  $(3, 9)$  to  $(x, y)$  is given by  $(dx, dy) = (x, y) - (3, 9) = (x - 3, y - 9)$ . Differential notation then says  $dy = f'(3)dx$ , or in other words,  $(y - 9) = 6(x - 3)$ .

Tangent lines pop out instantly from differential notation. Tangent planes will “pop out” too, as well as tangent objects in any dimension.

**Problem 144** Read the remark above. Then give an equation of the tangent plane to  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  at  $(2, 1)$  by using differential notation. Try doing so without using the steps below, but rather just mimic what we did in the remark above (replacing inputs and outputs with vectors, and the derivative with the appropriate matrix). If you need the following steps, then use them. Compare with problem 135. See Sage.

1. Find  $Df(x, y)$  and then  $Df(2, 1)$ . You should have two matrices.
2. Find the point  $(2, 1, f(2, 1))$  on the graph of the surface.
3. If  $(x, y, z)$  is any point on the tangent plane, find the change from  $(2, 1, f(2, 1))$  to  $(x, y, z)$  (subtract vectors). This change is  $(dx, dy, dz)$ .
4. We'll use differential notation to finish this problem. We want to generalize  $dy = f'dx$  (a change in outputs equals the derivative times a change in inputs), so we will use the notation  $d\vec{y} = D\vec{f}d\vec{x}$ . Recall the following:
  - The inputs to  $z = f(x, y)$  are  $x$  and  $y$ , so the input vector is  $\vec{x} = (x, y)$ . The output is  $z$ , so the output vector is  $\vec{y} = (z)$ .
  - The change in inputs is  $(dx, dy)$ . The change in outputs is  $(dz)$ .
  - The differential notation  $d\vec{y} = D\vec{f}d\vec{x}$  then, in this case, becomes  $[dz] = Df \begin{bmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{bmatrix}$ . This means a very small change in the output  $z$  equals the derivative times very small changes in the inputs  $x$  and  $y$ .

Now use the differential notation  $[dz] = Df \begin{bmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{bmatrix}$  to write a matrix equation of the tangent plane (use  $Df(2, 1)$  from part 1 and  $dx$ ,  $dy$ , and  $dz$  from part 2). Then perform the matrix multiplication to get an equation of the tangent plane. Compare your answer with problem 135.

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**Problem 145** Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  has a derivative  $Df(x, y)$ . Use differential notation to give an equation of the tangent plane to the surface at  $(x, y) = (a, b)$ . Multiply out any matrix products. What is a normal vector to the plane? Compare with problem 138.

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## 6.4 The Chain Rule

Let's recall the chain rule from first-semester calculus.

**Theorem 6.9** (The Chain Rule). *Let  $x$  be a real number and  $f$  and  $g$  be functions of a single real variable. Suppose  $f$  is differentiable at  $g(x)$  and  $g$  is differentiable at  $x$ . The derivative of  $f \circ g$  at  $x$  is*

$$(f \circ g)'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(f \circ g)(x) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x).$$

Some people remember the theorem above as “the derivative of a composition is the derivative of the outside (evaluated at the inside) multiplied by the derivative of the inside.” If  $u = g(x)$ , we sometimes write  $\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{du} \frac{du}{dx}$ . The following problem is designed to help you master the notation.

**Problem 146** Suppose we know that  $f'(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{2x^2 + 3}$  and  $g(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$ . Notice we don't know  $f(x)$ . This is actually quite common in real life, as we can often measure how something changes (a derivative) without knowing the actual function.

1. What is  $f'(x)$  and  $g'(x)$ ?
  2. What is the difference between  $f'(x)$  and  $f'(g(x))$ ? State  $f'(g(x))$ .
  3. Use the chain rule to compute  $(f \circ g)'(x)$ .
- 

We now generalize to higher dimensions. If I want to write  $\vec{f}(\vec{g}(\vec{x}))$ , then  $\vec{x}$  must be a vector in the domain of  $g$ . After computing  $\vec{g}(\vec{x})$ , we must get a vector that is in the domain of  $f$ .

**Problem 147** Consider  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  and  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ . For this problem, imagine the following scenario. A horse is running around outside in the cold. The horse's position at time  $t$  is given by the elliptical path  $\vec{r}(t)$ . The temperature of the air at any point  $(x, y)$  is given by  $T = f(x, y)$ .

1. At time  $t = 0$ , what is the horse's position  $\vec{r}(0)$ , and what is the temperature  $f(\vec{r}(0))$  at that position? Find the temperatures at  $t = \pi/2$ ,  $t = \pi$ , and  $t = 3\pi/2$  as well.



2. In the plane, draw the path of the horse for  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Then, on the same 2D graph, include a contour plot of  $f$ . Make sure you include the level curves that pass through the points in part 1. (See 104 and 111 if you need help.) At the points addressed in part 1, write the temperature on the curve.
3. As the horse runs around, the temperature of the air around the horse is constantly changing. At which  $t$  does the temperature around the horse reach a maximum? A minimum? Explain, using your graph.
4. As the horse moves past the point at  $t = \pi/4$ , is the temperature of the surrounding air increasing or decreasing? Use your graph to explain.
5. Draw the 3D surface plot of  $f$ . In the  $xy$ -plane of your 3D plot (so  $z = 0$ ) add the path of the horse. In class, we'll project the path of the horse up into the 3D surface (give it a try yourself first).

This idea will lead to a very important optimization technique, Lagrange multipliers, later in the semester.

**Problem 148** Consider  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  and  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ , which means  $x = 2 \cos t$  and  $y = 3 \sin t$ .

1. For the function  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y)$ , the input is  $t$  and the outputs are  $x$  and  $y$ . So differential notation states that

$$\begin{pmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{pmatrix} = D\vec{r}(t) (dt).$$

Try to always remember the following summary of differential notation: a change in the outputs equals the derivative times a change in the inputs.

Compute  $D\vec{r}(t)$ .

2. For the function  $T = f(x, y)$ , the inputs are  $x$  and  $y$ , and the output is temperature  $T$ . Differential notation states that

$$(dT) = Df(x, y) \begin{pmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{pmatrix}.$$

Compute  $Df(x, y)$ .

3. Now we want to find out how the temperature  $T$  changes with respect to time  $t$ . We have  $(df) = Df(x, y) \begin{pmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} dx \\ dy \end{pmatrix} = D\vec{r}(t) (dt)$ . If  $dt = 1$  (so we increase  $t$  by 1 unit), what are  $dx$  and  $dy$  (perform a matrix multiplication)? Using these values of  $dx$  and  $dy$ , what is the change in temperature  $dT$  (perform another matrix multiplication)? If  $dt = 1$ , then  $dT = dT/1 = dT/dt$  gives us the derivative of temperature with respect to time. Replace any  $x$  or  $y$  in your final answer with what they equal along the curve  $\vec{r}$ , namely  $x = 2 \cos t$  and  $y = 3 \sin t$ .
4. Compute the matrix product  $Df(x, y)D\vec{r}(t)$ , and then substitute  $x = 2 \cos t$  and  $y = 3 \sin t$ .
5. What is  $df/dt$  (i.e.,  $dT/dt$ ) at  $t = \pi/4$ ? Is it positive or negative? Compare with part 4 of the previous problem.

**Problem 149** Consider  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  and  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ .

1. Writing  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$  means  $x = 2 \cos t$  and  $y = 3 \sin t$ . In  $f(x, y)$ , replace  $x$  and  $y$  with what they are in terms of  $t$ . This will give you  $f$  as a function of  $t$ .

2. Construct a graph of  $f(t)$  (use software to draw this if you like). From your graph, at what time values do the maxima and minima occur?
3. Compute  $df/dt$  (the derivative as you did in first-semester calculus).
4. What is  $df/dt$  at  $t = \pi/4$ ?
5. Compare your work with the previous problem.

The previous three problems all focused on exactly the same concept. The first looked at the concept graphically, showing what it means to write  $(f \circ \vec{r})(t) = f(\vec{r}(t))$ . The second tackled the problem by considering matrix derivatives. The third reduced the problem to first-semester calculus. In all three cases, we wanted to understand the following problem.

If  $z = f(x, y)$  is a function of  $x$  and  $y$ , and both  $x$  and  $y$  are functions of  $t$ , so in vector form we can write  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ , then find how quickly  $f$  changes as you change  $t$ . In other words, what is the derivative of  $f$  with respect to  $t$ . Notationally, we seek  $\frac{df}{dt}$  which formally is written  $\frac{d}{dt}[f(x(t), y(t))]$  or  $\frac{d}{dt}[f(\vec{r}(t))]$ .

The second problem above gave us an example of the multivariable chain rule.

**Theorem 6.10** (The Chain Rule). *Let  $\vec{x}$  be a vector and  $\vec{f}$  and  $\vec{g}$  be functions so that the composition  $\vec{f}(\vec{g}(\vec{x}))$  makes sense (the output of  $g$  can be used as an input to  $f$ ). Suppose  $\vec{f}$  is differentiable at  $\vec{g}(\vec{x})$  and  $\vec{g}$  is differentiable at  $\vec{x}$ . The derivative of  $\vec{f} \circ \vec{g}$  at  $\vec{x}$  is*

$$D(\vec{f} \circ \vec{g})(\vec{x}) = D\vec{f}(\vec{g}(\vec{x})) \cdot D\vec{g}(\vec{x}).$$

This is exactly the same as the chain rule in first-semester calculus. The only difference is that now we have vectors above every variable and function, and we replaced the one-by-one matrices  $f'$  and  $g'$  with potentially larger matrices  $Df$  and  $Dg$ . If everything is written in vector notation, the chain rule in any dimensions is the same as the chain rule in one dimension.

**Problem 150** Suppose  $f(x, y) = x^2 + xy$  and  $x = 2t + 3$  and  $y = 3t^2 + 4$ . See 14.4: 1-6 for more practice.

1. Rewrite the parametric equations  $x = 2t + 3$  and  $y = 3t^2 + 4$  in vector form, so we can apply the chain rule. This means you need to create a function  $\vec{r}(t) = (\underline{\hspace{2cm}}, \underline{\hspace{2cm}})$ .
2. Compute the derivatives  $Df(x, y)$  and  $D\vec{r}(t)$ .
3. The chain rule states that  $D(f \circ \vec{r})(t) = Df(\vec{r}(t))D\vec{r}(t)$ . What is the difference between  $Df(x, y)$  and  $Df(\vec{r}(t))$ . [Hint: see problem 146.]
4. Use the chain rule to compute  $D(f \circ \vec{r})(t)$ . What is  $df/dt$ ?
5. Now, without any matrix multiplication, replace  $x$  and  $y$  in  $f = x^2 + xy$  with what they are in terms of  $t$ , and then use first-semester calculus to find  $df/dt$ .

**Problem 151** Suppose  $f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z^2$  and  $x = u + v$ ,  $y = 2u - 3v$ , and  $z = uv$ . This means that changing  $u$  and  $v$  should cause  $f$  to change. Our goal is to find  $\partial f/\partial u$  and  $\partial f/\partial v$ . Try doing this problem without looking at the steps below, but instead try to follow the patterns in the previous problem on your own. See 14.4: 7-12 for more practice.

1. Rewrite the parametric equations for  $x, y$ , and  $z$  in vector form  $\vec{r}(u, v) = (x, y, z)$ . If you were to graph  $\vec{r}$ , what kind of graph would you make?
  2. Compute  $Df(x, y, z)$  and  $D\vec{r}(u, v)$ .
  3. Use the chain rule (matrix multiplication) to find  $D(f \circ \vec{r})(u, v)$ . Notice that since this composite function has 2 inputs, namely  $u$  and  $v$ , we should expect to get two columns when we are done.
  4. What are  $\partial f/\partial u$  and  $\partial f/\partial v$ ? [Hint: remember, each input variable gets a column.]
- 

**Problem 152** Suppose  $\vec{F}(s, t) = (2s + t, 3s - 4t, t)$  and  $s = 3pq$  and  $t = 2p + q^2$ . This means that changing  $p$  and  $q$  should cause  $\vec{F}$  to change. Our goal is to find  $\partial \vec{F}/\partial p$  and  $\partial \vec{F}/\partial q$ . Note that since  $\vec{F}$  is a vector-valued function, the two partial derivatives should be vectors. Try doing this problem without looking at the steps below, but instead try to follow the patterns in the previous problems on your own.

1. Rewrite the parametric equations for  $s$  and  $t$  in vector form.
  2. Compute  $D\vec{F}(s, t)$  and the derivative of your vector function from part 1.
  3. Use the chain rule (matrix multiplication) to find the derivative of  $\vec{F}$  with respect to  $p$  and  $q$ . How many columns should we expect to have when we are done multiplying matrices?
  4. What are  $\partial \vec{F}/\partial p$  and  $\partial \vec{F}/\partial q$ ?
- 

**Problem 153** Suppose  $\vec{F}(u, v) = (3u - v, u + 2v, 3v)$ ,  $\vec{G}(x, y, z) = (x^2 + z, 4y - x)$ , and  $\vec{r}(t) = (t^3, 2t + 1, 1 - t)$ . We want to examine  $\vec{F}(\vec{G}(\vec{r}(t)))$ . This means that  $\vec{F} \circ \vec{G} \circ \vec{r}$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  for what  $n$  and  $m$ ? Similar to first-semester calculus, since we have two functions nested inside of each other, we'll just need to apply the chain rule twice. Our goal is to find  $d\vec{F}/dt$ . Try to do this problem without looking at the steps below.

1. Compute  $D\vec{F}(u, v)$ ,  $D\vec{G}(x, y, z)$ , and  $D\vec{r}(t)$ .
  2. Use the chain rule (matrix multiplication) to find the derivative of  $\vec{F}$  with respect to  $t$ . What size of matrix should we expect for the derivative?
- 

**Problem 154** Suppose  $w = f(x, y, z)$  and  $x, y, z$  are all function of one variable  $t$  (so  $x = g(t)$ ,  $y = h(t)$ ,  $z = k(t)$ ). Find a general formula for  $dw/dt$  that involves partials of  $f$  and derivatives of  $x, y$ , and  $z$ . Try doing this problem without looking at the steps below, but instead try to follow the patterns in the previous problems.

See 14.4: 13-24 for more practice. Don't use the "branch diagram" in the book—use matrix multiplication instead. The branch diagram is just a way to express matrix multiplication without having to introduce matrices.

1. Rewrite the parametric equations for  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  in vector form  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$ .
2. Compute  $Dw(x, y, z)$  and  $D\vec{r}(t)$ .
3. Multiply the matrices together to get  $D(w \circ r)(t)$ . The matrix should have one entry. State what  $dw/dt$  equals.

**Problem 155** Suppose  $z = f(s, t)$  and  $s$  and  $t$  are functions of  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$ . Use the chain rule to give a general formula for  $\partial z/\partial u$ ,  $\partial z/\partial v$ , and  $\partial z/\partial w$ .

You've now got the key ideas needed to use the chain rule in all dimensions. You'll find this shows up many places in upper-level math, physics, and engineering courses. The following problem will show you how you can use the general chain rule to get an extremely quick way to perform implicit differentiation from first-semester calculus.

**Problem 156** Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$ . If  $z$  is held constant, this produces a level curve. As an example, if  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy - y^3$  then  $5 = x^2 + 3xy - y^3$  is a level curve. Our goal in this problem is to find  $dy/dx$  in terms of partial derivatives of  $f$ .

1. Suppose  $x = x$  and  $y = y(x)$ , so  $y$  is a function of  $x$ . We can write this in parametric form as  $\vec{r}(x) = (x, y(x))$ . We now have  $z = f(x, y)$  and  $\vec{r}(x) = (x, y(x))$ . Compute both  $Df(x, y)$  and  $D\vec{r}(x)$ .
2. Use the chain rule to compute  $D(f(\vec{r}(x)))$ . What is  $dz/dx$  (i.e.,  $df/dx$ )?
3. Since  $z$  is held constant, we know that  $dz/dx = 0$ . Use this fact, together with part 2 to explain why  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y} = -\frac{\partial f/\partial x}{\partial f/\partial y}$ .
4. For the curve  $5 = x^2 + 3xy - y^3$ , use this formula to compute  $dy/dx$ .

See 14.4: 25-32 to practice using the formula you developed. To practice the idea developed in this problem, show that if  $w = F(x, y, z)$  is held constant at  $w = c$  and we assume that  $z = f(x, y)$  depends on  $x$  and  $y$ , then  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}$  and  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}$ . This is done on page 798 at the bottom.

## 6.5 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.

# Chapter 7

## Motion

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Develop formulas for the velocity and position of a projectile, if we neglect air resistance and consider only acceleration due to gravity. Show how to find the range, maximum height, and flight time of the projectile.
2. Develop the  $TNB$  frame for describing motion. Make sure you can explain why  $\vec{T}$ ,  $\vec{N}$ , and  $\vec{B}$  are all orthogonal unit vectors, and be able to perform the computations to find these three vectors.
3. Explain the concepts of curvature  $\kappa$ , radius of curvature  $\rho$ , center of curvature, and torsion  $\tau$ . Make sure you can describe geometrically what these quantities mean.
4. Find the tangential and normal components of acceleration. Show how to obtain the formulas  $a_T = \frac{d}{dt}|\vec{v}|$  and  $a_N = \kappa|\vec{v}|^2 = \frac{|\vec{v}|^2}{\rho}$ , and explain what these equations physically imply.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

I have created a YouTube playlist to go along with this section. There are 11 videos, each 4-6 minutes long.

- YouTube playlist for 07 - Motion and The TNB Frame.
- PDF copy of the finished product (so you can follow along on paper).

### 7.1 Projectile Motion

Suppose a projectile is fired from a cannon with an initial speed  $v_0$ . The projectile leaves the cannon at an angle of  $\alpha$  above the  $x$ -axis, and we'll use the  $y$ -axis to keep track of the height of the projectile. All the motion in this problem occurs with a plane, and we'll use  $x$  and  $y$  to represent motion in that plane. Our goal is to find the velocity  $\vec{v}(t)$  and position  $\vec{r}(t)$  of the projectile at any time  $t$ .

We need some assumptions prior to solving.

- Assume the only force acting on the object is the force due to gravity. We will neglect air resistance.

- The force due to gravity is the mass of the projectile multiplied by the acceleration of gravity. The mass of the object will not be important in our work here, though in future classes you may study how mass affects energy computations.
- The projectile is shot over a small enough range that we can assume gravity only pulls the object straight down.
- Most branches of science use the letter  $g$  to represent the magnitude of the vertical component of acceleration, so we can write the acceleration of the projectile as

$$\vec{a}(t) = (0, -g) = 0\mathbf{i} - g\mathbf{j}.$$

- Our text uses the approximations  $g \approx 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$  or  $g \approx 32 \text{ ft/s}^2$ .

To solve the next problem, you need to remember that acceleration is the derivative of velocity, and that velocity is the derivative of position. These facts hold true for vector-valued functions as well. Integration will help.

**Problem 157** Suppose a projectile is fired from the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  with an initial velocity  $\vec{v}(0) = (v_{x_0}, v_{y_0})$ , and that gravity is the only force acting on the object. So the acceleration due to gravity is  $\vec{a}(t) = (0, -g)$ .

Watch a YouTube video.

You can practice finding position from velocity and acceleration with problems 13.2: 11-18, and especially 13.2: 29.

1. Show that the velocity at any time  $t$  is  $\vec{v}(t) = (v_{x_0}, -gt + v_{y_0})$ .
2. Show that the position at any time  $t$  is  $\vec{r}(t) = (v_{x_0}t + x_0, -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_{y_0}t + y_0)$ .
3. Give parametric equations  $x = x(t)$  and  $y = y(t)$  that give the horizontal and vertical position of the projectile at time  $t$ . [If you're asking, "Didn't I already do this?" then you are essentially correct. Just make sure you can explain what  $x$  and  $y$  are.]
4. Give a Cartesian (rectangular) equation of the projectile's path (so eliminate  $t$ ). What would the graph of this equation give you if you graphed it in the plane.

**Problem 158** Use the results from the results from the previous problem. (So you can work on this problem, even if you couldn't finish the previous).

1. If the initial speed of the object is  $v_0$ , with a firing angle of  $\alpha$  above the horizontal, rewrite  $v_{x_0}$  and  $v_{y_0}$  in terms of  $v_0$  and  $\theta$ . [What's the difference between speed and velocity?]
2. Rewrite your equations for  $\vec{v}(t)$  and  $\vec{r}(t)$  above, so that they are in terms of  $v_0$  and  $\alpha$  instead of  $v_{x_0}$  and  $v_{y_0}$ .
3. Give equations for  $x$  and  $y$  if the object is fired from the origin.

We make the following definitions for a projectile that starts at  $(0, 0)$  and hits the ground at  $(R, 0)$ .

- The range is the horizontal distance  $R$  traveled by the projectile.
- The flight time is how long the projectile is in the air. It is the time  $t$  at which  $\vec{r}(t) = (R, 0)$ .
- The maximum height is the largest  $y$  value obtained by the projectile.

**Problem 159** Answer the following questions. Assume that the projectile was fired from the origin. Watch a YouTube video.

1. What should the velocity vector equal when the object has reached the maximum height?
2. How long does it take to reach maximum height? What is the flight time?
3. Show that the maximum height is  $y_{\max} = \frac{v_{y0}^2}{2g} = \frac{v_0^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{2g}$ .
4. Show that the range is  $R = \frac{2v_{x0}v_{y0}}{g} = \frac{v_0^2 \sin 2\alpha}{g}$ .

You'll need a trig identity.

This problem comes from your text. (See section 13.2.) Try it without reading the text. It's a fun application of the ideas above.

**Problem 160** An archer stands at ground level and shoots an arrow at an object which is 90 feet away in the horizontal direction and 74 ft above ground. The arrow leaves the bow at about 6 ft above ground level (not the origin). The archer wants the arrow to hit the target at the peak of its parabolic path. For the purposes of this problem, Let  $g = 32\text{ft/s}^2$ . What initial speed  $v_0$  and firing angle  $\theta$  are needed to achieve this result? [Hint: This is much easier to solve if you first find  $v_{x0}$  and  $v_{y0}$ , the horizontal and vertical components of the velocity. You may want to move the origin as well, so that you can use the formulas from above.]

This problem was created around the opening ceremony of the Barcelona Spain Olympics. Antonio Rebollo was the archer, but he didn't try to hit the flame at the peak of the flight. You can watch a YouTube video of the opening ceremony by following the link.  
See 13.2: 19-28 for more practice.

## 7.2 Arc Length and the Unit Tangent Vector

In the next problem, you'll develop a formula for the arc length of a space curve (one input, 3 outputs). We've essentially already done this in chapters 3 and 4, but let's revisit the derivation once more.

**Problem 161** A space ship travels through the galaxy. Let  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$  be the position of the space ship at time  $t$ , with the earth at the origin  $(0, 0, 0)$ . Watch a YouTube video.

- What are the velocity and speed of the space ship at time  $t$ ? Your answers should involve some derivatives (such as  $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ).
- If the space ship travels for a really small time  $dt$ , then the speed is about constant. Since distance is speed times time, about how much distance (we'll call it  $ds$ ) will the space ship travel in this short amount of time?
- As the ship travels from time  $t = a$  to time  $t = b$ , explain why the distance traveled (the arc length of the path followed) is

Technically, we should write  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ . However, we already know that  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  depend on  $t$ , hence we'll just leave the dependence on  $t$  off.

$$s = \int_a^b |\vec{r}'(t)| dt = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^2} dt.$$

In all our work that follows, we want to consider space curves that have nice smooth paths. What does this mean? We want to be able to compute tangent vectors at any point, so we will require that a parametrization  $\vec{r}$  be differentiable. We also don't want any cusps in our path (places where the direction of motion changes instantaneously). If the speed of an object ever reaches zero, then the object could stop moving, change direction, and then start moving instantly. We don't want this to happen, so we'll assume that the velocity is never zero.

**Definition 7.1.** Let  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$  be a parametrization of a space curve  $C$ . We say that  $\vec{r}$  is smooth if  $\vec{r}$  is differentiable, and the derivative is never the zero vector. Under these conditions, we'll say that  $C$  is a smooth curve.

**Problem 162** Consider the helical space curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$ . Find the length of this space curve for  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Then find the length of the space curve from  $t = 0$  to time  $t = t$  (so after  $t$  seconds, what is the distance  $s(t)$  traveled?). What is the derivative  $\frac{ds}{dt}$ ?

Watch a YouTube Video.  
See 13.3: 1-10 for more practice.

**Problem 163** Let  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y, z)$  be a parametrization of a smooth space curve. Let  $s(t) = \int_0^t \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\tau}(\tau) \right| d\tau$ . Explain why  $\frac{ds}{dt}(t) = \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}(t) \right|$ , the speed. [Hint: look up the fundamental theorem of calculus.] Then explain why  $s(t)$  is an increasing function.

You can remember  $\frac{ds}{dt} = \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right|$  as follows. We use the differential  $ds$  to represent a change in distance, and  $dt$  represents a change in time. So the speed of an object is the change in distance  $ds$  over the change in time  $dt$ .

The quantity  $s(t) = \int_0^t \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\tau}(\tau) \right| d\tau$  is called the arc length parameter. It tells you how far you have traveled after  $t$  seconds. The fact that  $s(t)$  is always an increase function if the curve is smooth allows us to talk about taking derivatives with respect to the length traveled  $s$  instead of with respect to time  $t$ . The next problem illustrates how this is done.

**Problem 164** Consider again the helical space curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$ . We already have shown that  $s(t) = t\sqrt{2}$ . Solve for  $t$  in terms of  $s$  (so find the inverse of  $s(t)$ ). You will now have a function of the form  $t = t(s)$ . Find the derivative (using the matrix chain rule) of  $(\vec{r} \circ t)(s)$ . In other words, what is  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$ ? How are  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$  and  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  related? What does the speed have to do with anything?

See 13.3: 11-14 for more practice.

**Problem 165** In the previous problem, you computed  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$  for a helix. If you replace the helix with any other curve, the chain rule (applied exactly as above) shows that  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$ . Explain why

Watch a YouTube Video.

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{r}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d\vec{r}/dt}{|d\vec{r}/dt|}.$$

What is the magnitude of  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$ ? [Hint: Look at problem 163.]

**Definition 7.2: Unit Tangent Vector.** If  $\vec{r}(t)$  is a parametrization of a space curve, then we define the unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}(t)$  to be

$$\vec{T} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{r}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d\vec{r}/dt}{|d\vec{r}/dt|}.$$

**Problem 166** Suppose an object moves along the space curve given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t, bt)$ . Find the velocity and speed of the object. What is  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$ , the derivative of  $\vec{r}$  with respect to arc length? State the unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}(t)$ .

See 13.3: 1-10 for more practice.



## 7.3 The TNB Frame

The unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}$  provides us with a unit vector in the direction of motion. If we are moving along a straight line, then knowing  $\vec{T}$  is sufficient to understanding the motion. However, if we veer off the straight line, then we would like to know in which direction we are turning (accelerating). This direction, called the normal direction, tells us the direction of acceleration. When you study dynamics (forces acting on moving objects), you'll find that knowing the tangent and normal directions are crucial. In our class, we only have time to develop equations for  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$ , as well as practice on a few examples.

In order to find  $\vec{N}$ , we first need to develop a crucial fact. This fact states that if a vector valued function has constant length, then the function is orthogonal to its derivative. Here's an example.

**Problem 167** Consider  $\vec{r}_1(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, 0)$  and  $\vec{r}_2(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$ .

1. Show that  $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\frac{d\vec{r}_1}{dt}$  are orthogonal. Find  $|\vec{r}_1|$ .
2. Show that  $\vec{r}_2$  and  $\frac{d\vec{r}_2}{dt}$  are not orthogonal. Find  $|\vec{r}_2|$ .
3. Is the length of  $\frac{d\vec{r}_2}{dt}$  constant? Are  $\frac{d\vec{r}_2}{dt}$  and  $\frac{d^2\vec{r}_2}{dt^2}$  orthogonal?

**Theorem 7.3.** *If a vector valued function  $\vec{r}(t)$  has constant length, then the vector  $\vec{r}$  and its derivative  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  are orthogonal for all  $t$ .*

**Problem 168: Proof of Theorem 7.3** Prove the theorem above. Here [Watch a YouTube Video.](#) are some hints.

- We know that  $\vec{r}(t)$  has constant length. This means  $|\vec{r}| = c$  for some constant  $c$ .
- You need to get from a magnitude to the dot product. Look in your text for a way to relate magnitude to the dot product.
- Once you have things in terms of the dot product, take a derivative. The product rule applies to the dot product, so make sure you apply the product rule.

**Problem 169** Let  $\vec{r}$  be a smooth parametrization of a curve. Explain why [Watch a YouTube Video.](#)  $\vec{T}$  is orthogonal to  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$ . Explain why  $\vec{T}$  is orthogonal to  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$ . Give a unit vector that is orthogonal to  $T$ .

**Definition 7.4: Principle Unit Normal Vector.** If  $\vec{r}$  is a parametrization of a space curve with unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}$ , then we define the principle unit normal vector  $\vec{N}(t)$  to be the vector

$$\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{|d\vec{T}/dt|},$$

provided of course that  $|d\vec{T}/dt| \neq 0$ . From problem 169 we know that  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$  are orthogonal.

**Definition 7.5: Binormal Vector.** If  $\vec{r}$  is a parametrization of a space curve with unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}$  and principle unit normal vector  $\vec{N}$ , then we define the binormal vector  $\vec{B}$  to be the cross product

$$\vec{B} = \vec{T} \times \vec{N}.$$

**Problem 170** Answer the following questions (this will improve your knowledge of the dot and cross products).

1. What is  $\vec{T} \cdot \vec{N}$ ? Explain. Then explain why  $\vec{T} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$  and  $\vec{N} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ .
2. Both  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$  are unit vectors. Why is  $\vec{B}$  a unit vector? [Think area.]
3. We defined  $\vec{B} = \vec{T} \times \vec{N}$ . Compute the vectors  $\vec{B} \times \vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N} \times \vec{B}$ .

**Problem 171** Consider the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (3 \cos t, 3 \sin t, 4t)$ . Find the unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}$ , principle unit normal vector  $\vec{N}$ , and the binormal vector  $\vec{B}$ .

See 13.4: 9-16 and 13.5: 9-16 (the relevant parts) for more practice.

We've been working with helices in all the problems up to now because the velocity vectors have constant speed. Once the speed of the velocity vector is no longer constant, things get a lot messier. Ask me in class to show you what happens with the computations when you consider something like  $r(t) = (t, t^2, t^3)$ . Things get ugly really fast.

Luckily, when you are dealing with motion in a plane, there is a simplification. It is directly related to finding the slope of line that is perpendicular to a given line. You may recall that if a line has slope  $m$ , then the slope of a perpendicular line is  $\frac{-1}{m} = \frac{1}{-m}$ . Whether you put the negative on the top or bottom doesn't matter with finding a slope, but it will matter when you are working with vectors.

**Problem 172** Consider the curve  $r(t) = (t, t^2)$ , which is just a curve in the  $xy$ -plane. You could extend this to 3 dimensions by adding a 0 as the third component.

See 13.4: 7-8 for more practice, and perhaps a hint.

1. Compute  $\vec{T}(t)$ . What is  $\vec{T}(1)$ ?
2. Draw the curve for  $t \in [-2, 2]$ . At  $t = 1$ , plot  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$ . Then, using the right hand rule, explain why you know  $\vec{B}(t)$  for all  $t$  without doing any computations.
3. Since you know  $\vec{T}(t)$  and  $\vec{B}(t)$ , find  $\vec{N}(t)$  by using an appropriate cross product.
4. Try finding  $\vec{N}(t)$  directly by taking derivatives (I said try, don't finish). What makes this so difficult?

**Problem 173** Consider the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (t^2, t)$  (very similar to the previous problem).

See 13.4: 7-8 for more practice, and perhaps a hint.

1. Find  $\vec{T}(t)$ ,  $\vec{B}(t)$ , and  $\vec{N}(t)$  in the same way as the previous problem. Make sure you draw the curve to determine what  $\vec{B}(t)$  is.
2. If  $(a, b)$  is a vector in the plane, give two vectors in the plane that are orthogonal to  $(a, b)$ .

3. If you know  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = (a, b)$ , what are the only two options for  $\vec{N}$ ? How do you determine which is correct?

**Problem 174** Consider the curve  $y = \sin x$ , parametrized by  $r(t) = (t, \sin t)$ . See 13.4: 1-4 for more practice. Use the previous problems.

1. Compute  $\vec{T}(t)$ . For which  $t$  does  $B(t) = (0, 0, 1)$ ? How about  $(0, 0, -1)$ ?
2. What are  $\vec{T}(\pi/2)$  and  $\vec{N}(\pi/2)$ ?
3. What are  $\vec{T}(\pi/4)$  and  $\vec{N}(\pi/4)$ ? What are  $\vec{T}(-\pi/4)$  and  $\vec{N}(-\pi/4)$ ?
4. What are  $\vec{T}(0)$  and  $\vec{N}(0)$ ?

You've now developed the TNB frame for describing motion. Engineers will see this again when they study dynamics. Mathematicians who study differential geometry will use these ideas as well. Any time you want to analyze the forces acting on a moving object, the TNB frame may save the day.

## 7.4 Curvature and Torsion

We already know that  $\vec{T} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{ds}$  has length 1. This means that if we move along the curve  $\vec{r}$  using  $s$  as our parameter (not  $t$ ), then we move along the curve at a constant speed of 1. The fact that we are moving at speed 1 means that we can study the properties of the curve without having to worry about our speed. We would like to know how sharp a corner is (which we'll call the curvature). To determine how sharp a corner is, we must forget about speed for a bit. If we encounter a really tight corner (so a rapid change in direction over a very short distance) we would expect  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$  to be a fairly long vector. A small change in  $s$  results in a large change in  $T$ . However, if we were to move along this tight corner at a really slow speed, we would expect  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$  to be a really small vector. A small change in  $t$  would not produce much change in  $T$ .

**Problem 175** Suppose we are traveling along the space curve  $\vec{r}$ , and we know the unit tangent vector is  $\vec{T}$ . Watch a YouTube Video.

1. If we are moving along a straight line, then what is  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$ ? Explain.
2. If we veer slightly off a straight line, should  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$  be large or small? Why?
3. If we veer slightly off a straight line, and are moving extremely slow, should  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$  be large or small? Explain.
4. If we veer slightly off a straight line, and are moving extremely fast, should  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$  be large or small? Explain.
5. If we know  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$  has length  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and our speed is 50, how long is  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$ ? Explain.

We will often be computing derivatives with respect to  $s$ , instead of  $t$ , because we want to determine physical properties about the curve. When we compute  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$ , we'll learn how quickly the curve veers away from  $\vec{T}$ . When we compute  $\frac{d\vec{N}}{ds}$ , we will find how rapidly  $\vec{N}$  rotates away from the plane containing  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$  (motion and acceleration). When we compute  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$ , we will find how rapidly  $\vec{B}$  rotates. We'll show that both  $\frac{d\vec{N}}{ds}$  and  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$  cause a rotation of  $\vec{N}$  and  $\vec{B}$  about the tangent vector  $\vec{T}$ . The magnitude of this rotation, as  $\vec{B}$  wraps around  $\vec{T}$  counterclockwise, is called the torsion. Let's formally define curvature and torsion.

**Definition 7.6: Curvature and Torsion.** Let  $\vec{r}(t)$  be a parametrization of a smooth curve  $C$  with unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}(t)$ . The curvature vector, written  $\vec{\kappa}(t)$ , is the derivative of  $\vec{T}$  with respect to arc length, which means

$$\vec{\kappa}(t) = \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{|d\vec{r}/dt|}.$$

The length of the curvature vector is the curvature, written  $\kappa = |\vec{\kappa}|$ . Notice that  $\kappa$  is a number.

The derivative of  $\vec{B}$  with respect to  $s$  tells us how rapidly the plane containing  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{N}$  rotates. We'll define the torsion vector to be

Watch a YouTube Video.

$$\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{B}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d\vec{B}/dt}{|d\vec{r}/dt|}.$$

The torsion  $\tau$ , up to a sign, is the length of this vector. We say there is positive torsion if  $\vec{\tau}$  causes a counterclockwise rotation about  $\vec{T}$ , which occurs precisely when  $\vec{\tau}$  and  $\vec{N}$  point in opposite directions. We can summarize this is

$$\tau = \left| \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} \right| \quad \text{or} \quad \tau = - \left| \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} \right|,$$

where you choose “+” if  $\vec{N}$  and  $\vec{\tau}$  point in opposite directions.

**Problem 176** Consider the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (3 \cos t, 3 \sin t, 4t)$ . In problem 171 we found  $\vec{T}$ ,  $\vec{N}$ , and  $\vec{B}$ . Compute both  $\vec{\kappa} = \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds}$  and  $\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$ , and then give  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$ . See 13.4: 9-16 and 13.5: 9-16 (the relevant parts) for more practice.

**Problem 177** Consider the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (4 \sin t, 4 \cos t, 3t)$ . Use a computer to find  $\vec{T}$ ,  $\vec{N}$ ,  $\vec{B}$ ,  $\vec{\kappa}$ , and  $\vec{\tau}$ . Use your answers to then give  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$ . (When you present on the board, just write down the 5 vectors, and then explain how you obtained  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$ .)

In both examples above, you should have noticed that  $\vec{\tau}$  was either parallel to  $\vec{N}$  or anti-parallel to  $\vec{N}$ . We'll now show this is always the case.

**Problem 178** Suppose a curve  $\vec{r}(t)$  has the frame  $\vec{T}(t)$ ,  $\vec{N}(t)$ , and  $\vec{B}(t)$ . Watch a YouTube Video.

Prove that  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$  is either parallel to  $\vec{N}$ , or points opposite  $\vec{N}$ . Here are some steps.

- Why is  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$  orthogonal to  $\vec{B}$ ? [An earlier theorem will help.]
- We know  $\vec{B} = \vec{T} \times \vec{N}$ . So compute the derivative of both sides using the product rule. Make sure to preserve the order of the vectors, as swapping the order on the cross product does change the vector.
- Simplify your cross product (explain why  $\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \times \vec{N}$  cancels out). Then explain why  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{T}$ . (It's also orthogonal to  $\frac{d\vec{N}}{ds}$ , but that's not needed).
- We now know  $\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds}$  is orthogonal to both  $\vec{B}$  and  $\vec{T}$ , so it must be orthogonal to the plane containing  $\vec{T}$  and  $\vec{B}$ . Use this fact to complete the proof.

When the curvature is nonzero, the curve bends away from the direction of motion. We could use a circle to approximate how great this bend is. A small change in direction would require a large circle. A large change in direction would require a small circle. What we want is to find a circle that best approximates the curve (kind of like a Taylor polynomial, only now we'll use a circle.) At time  $t$ , we want the circle to meet the curve  $\vec{r}$  tangentially, and we want the curvature of the circle to match the curvature of the curve. The next problem shows you the relationship between the radius  $\rho$  of this circle and the curvature  $\kappa$  of the curve.

**Problem 179** Consider the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t)$ .

1. Draw the curve, and state the radius  $\rho$  of the best approximating circle.
2. Find the curvature  $\kappa$ .
3. What relationship exists between  $\rho$  and  $\kappa$ ? If the radius  $\rho$  were to increase, what would happen to  $\kappa$ ?

**Definition 7.7: Circle and Center of Curvature.** When the curvature  $\kappa$  of a smooth curve is nonzero, we'll define the radius of curvature, written  $\rho$ , to be the reciprocal  $\rho = \frac{1}{\kappa}$ . The center of curvature is the center of this circle. Watch a YouTube Video.

**Problem 180** Consider the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (t, \sin 3t)$ . Find the radius of curvature  $t = \pi/6$ . Draw the curve, and draw the circle of curvature at  $t = \pi/6$ . Then find the center of curvature at  $t = \pi/6$ . Without doing any more computations, what are the radius and center of curvature at  $t = \pi/2$ ? How about at  $t = \pi/3$ ? (You will have shown why the center is at  $\vec{r} + \rho\vec{N}$ .)

**Problem 181** Consider the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (t, \sin t, \cos t)$ . Find the radius of curvature  $t = \pi/2$ . Draw the curve, and draw the circle of curvature at  $t = \pi/2$ . Then find the center of curvature at  $t = \pi/2$ . Guess the center of curvature at  $t = \pi$ .

Here's two final problem related to curvature. They provide a really easy way to compute the curvature of a function of the form  $y = f(x)$ , and of any curve in the plane. Coming up with the formulas is not necessarily easy, but using them is fairly quick.

**Problem 182** The function  $y = f(x)$  can be given the parametrization  $\vec{r}(x) = (x, f(x))$ . Use this parametrization to show that the curvature is

$$\kappa(x) = \frac{|f''(x)|}{(1 + (f')^2)^{3/2}}.$$

**Problem 183: Optional** Suppose a smooth curve has the parametrization  $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ . Use this parametrization to show that the curvature is

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{|x'y'' - y'x''|}{((x')^2 + (y')^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{|\dot{x}\ddot{y} - \dot{y}\ddot{x}|}{(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2)^{3/2}}.$$

The dot notation is just an alternate way of saying, "Take the derivative with respect to time." If  $x = t$ , then note that this gives the previous formula.

See 13.4: 5.

See 13.4: 6. Though this problem is long, it is perhaps one of the best problems to do.

When a civil engineering team builds a road, they have to pay attention to the curvature of the road. If the curvature of the road is too large, accidents will happen and the civil engineering team will be liable. How do they make sure the curvature never gets too large? They use the circle of curvature. When they want to cause a road to turn, they'll find the center of curvature, send a surveyor out to the center, and then have the surveyor make sure that the road follows the circle of curvature for a short distance. They actually pace out the circle of curvature and then build the road along this circle for a hundred feet or so. Then, they recompute the radius of curvature (if they need the direction to change again), and pace out another circle. In this way, they can guarantee that the curvature never gets large. In the next section we'll see how curvature is directly related to normal acceleration (which is what causes semis to tip, and vehicles to slide off icy roads.)

## 7.5 Tangential and Normal Components of Acceleration

In this section, we'll show that you write the acceleration of an object moving along a curve  $\vec{r}(t)$  with velocity  $\vec{v}(t)$  as the sum

$$\vec{a}(t) = a_T \vec{T} + a_N \vec{N} = \frac{d}{dt} |\vec{v}(t)| \vec{T} + \kappa |\vec{v}|^2 \vec{N}.$$

The scalars  $a_T = \frac{d}{dt} |\vec{v}(t)|$  and  $a_N = \kappa |\vec{v}|^2$  are called the tangential and normal components of acceleration. All we are doing is writing the vector  $\vec{a}(t)$  as the sum of a vector parallel to  $\vec{T}$  and a vector orthogonal to  $\vec{T}$ . Before we decompose the acceleration into its tangential and normal components, let's look at two examples to see what these facts physically represent.

Engineers often use the equivalent formula  $a_N = \frac{|\vec{v}|^2}{\rho}$ , as  $\rho$  is a physical distance that they can measure.

**Problem 184** Consider the path of an object in projectile motion that has been fired from the origin. Draw a typical path followed by a projectile. The acceleration  $\vec{a}(t) = (0, -g)$  acts straight down for any time  $t$ .

See 13.5: 17-20 for more practice.

- Pick a point on your path before the max height occurs. At that point, draw both  $\vec{T}$ ,  $\vec{a}$ , and the projection of  $\vec{a}$  onto  $\vec{T}$ . Is  $a_T$  positive or negative?
- At the point you chose above, is the speed of the projectile increasing or decreasing as it climbs higher? Explain physically why  $a_T = \frac{d}{dt}|\vec{v}(t)|$ .
- Now pick a point after the projectile passes the peak. Then repeat the last two parts at this point.

**Problem 185** Imagine that you are riding as a passenger on a road and encounter a series of switchbacks (so the road starts to zigzag up the mountain). Right before each bend in the road, you see a yellow sign that tells you a U-turn is coming up, and that you should reduce your speed from 45 mi/hr to 15 mi/hr. Assume the largest curvature along the turn is  $\kappa$ . Recall that  $a_N = \kappa|\vec{v}|^2$ . The engineers of the road designed the road so that if you are moving at 15 mi/hr, then the normal acceleration will be at most  $A$ .

1. Suppose that your driver (Ben) ignores the suggestion to slow down to 15 mi/hr. He keeps going 45 mi/hr through the turn. Had he slowed down, the max acceleration would be  $A$ . You're traveling 3 times faster than suggested. What will your maximum normal acceleration be? [It's more than  $3A$ .]
2. You yell at Ben to slow down (you don't want to die). So Ben decides to only slow to 30 mi/hr. He figures this means you'll only feel twice as much acceleration as  $A$ . Explain why this line of reasoning is flawed.
3. Ben gets frustrated by the fact that he has to slow down. He complains about the engineers who designed the road, and says, "they should have just built a larger corner so I could keep going 45." How much larger should the radius of the circle be so that you can travel 45 mi/hr instead of 15 mi/hr, and still feel the same acceleration  $A$ ?
4. Which will cause the normal acceleration to decrease more, halving your speed or halving the curvature (doubling the radius)?

**Problem 186** We defined the principle unit normal vector as  $\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{|d\vec{T}/dt|}$ .

Explain why we can write  $\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}/ds}{|d\vec{T}/ds|}$  as well. Then use this fact to explain

why  $\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{\kappa|\vec{v}|}$ , which means we can write  $\kappa|\vec{v}|\vec{N} = \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$ .

**Problem 187** Prove that  $\vec{a}(t) = a_T\vec{T} + a_N\vec{N} = \frac{d}{dt}|\vec{v}|\vec{T} + \kappa|\vec{v}|^2\vec{N}$ . Here's [Watch a YouTube Video](#). some hints.

- Rewrite the velocity  $\vec{v}$  as a magnitude  $|\vec{v}|$  times a direction  $\vec{T}$ .
- We know that  $\vec{a}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}\vec{v}(t)$  (acceleration is the derivative of velocity). Take the derivative of  $\vec{v} = |\vec{v}|\vec{T}$  by using the product rule (on the scalar product  $|\vec{v}|\vec{T}$ ).

- You should encounter the quantity  $d\vec{T}/dt$  somewhere in your product. Use the previous problem to complete your proof.

To help you organize the information above, here's a table that includes all the vectors and scalars we have discussed.

Unit Tangent Vector	$\vec{T}$	$\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{r}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{ \vec{r}'(t) }$
Curvature Vector	$\vec{\kappa}$	$\frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{ \vec{v} } = \frac{\vec{T}'(t)}{ \vec{r}'(t) }$
Curvature (not a vector, but a scalar)	$\kappa$	$\left  \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} \right  = \left  \frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{ds/dt} \right  = \frac{ d\vec{T}/dt }{ \vec{v} } = \frac{ \vec{T}'(t) }{ \vec{r}'(t) }$
Principal unit normal vector	$\vec{N}$	$\frac{d\vec{T}/dt}{ d\vec{T}/dt } = \frac{\vec{T}'(t)}{ \vec{T}'(t) } = \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{d\vec{T}}{ds} = \frac{1}{\kappa \vec{v} } \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}$
Binormal vector	$\vec{B}$	$\vec{T} \times \vec{N}$
Radius of curvature	$\rho$	$1/\kappa$
Center of curvature at $t$		$\vec{r}(t) + \rho(t)\vec{N}(t)$
Torsion	$\tau$	$\pm \left  \frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} \right $ (pick the sign) or $-\frac{d\vec{B}}{ds} \cdot \vec{N}$
Tangential Component of acceleration	$a_T$	$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{T} = \frac{d}{dt}  \vec{v} $
Normal Component of acceleration	$a_N$	$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{N} = \kappa \left( \frac{ds}{dt} \right)^2 = \kappa  \vec{v} ^2$

## 7.6 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.



# Chapter 8

## Line Integrals

This unit covers the following ideas. In preparation for the quiz and exam, make sure you have a lesson plan containing examples that explain and illustrate the following concepts.

1. Describe how to integrate a function along a curve. Use line integrals to find the area of a sheet of metal with height  $z = f(x, y)$  above a curve  $\vec{r}(t) = (x, y)$  and the average value of a function along a curve.
2. Find the following geometric properties of a curve: centroid, mass, center of mass, inertia, and radii of gyration.
3. Compute the work (flow, circulation) and flux of a vector field along and across piecewise smooth curves.
4. Determine if a field is a gradient field (hence conservative), and use the fundamental theorem of line integrals to simplify work calculations.

You'll have a chance to teach your examples to your peers prior to the exam.

In this chapter, we generalize integrals along the  $x$ -axis from previous semesters in calculus to integrals along any curve.

### 8.1 Surface Area

In this section, we'll first generalize the concept of the integral. We'll approach everything from the point of view of area, though the applications are much more extensive. The first problem is a review problem from first-semester calculus. The second problem generalizes the idea to integrals along a curve (which we call a line integral). The third problem has you generalize your results.

This first problem appears to be really long, but it is just a step-by-step review of how you did integrals in first-semester calculus (each step is quite short).

**Problem 188** Consider the region in the  $xy$  plane that is below the function  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  and above the  $x$ -axis where  $x \in [-1, 2]$ . Think of this region as a metal plate. We will find its surface area.

1. Draw the curve over the bounds given and shade the region in question.
2. Now partition the interval  $[-1, 2]$  into 6 equally-spaced parts. On your graph, draw 6 rectangles to approximate the area under  $f$ . Use the right endpoint of each interval to determine the height of each rectangle.

You could have used the left endpoint point, or the midpoint, or any other point in each partition. I chose the right endpoint to make sure we all had the same answers.

3. The width of each rectangle we call  $\Delta x$ . What is  $\Delta x$  in this example?
4. Recall from first semester calculus that we typically name the  $x$ -coordinates of the ends of our rectangles using the notation  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$ . In this example, we have

$$x_0 = -1, x_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, x_2 = 0, x_3 = \frac{1}{2}, x_4 = 1, x_5 = \frac{3}{2}, x_6 = 2.$$

The area of the first rectangle is  $\Delta A_1 = f(x_1)\Delta x$ . The area of the second rectangle is  $\Delta A_2 = f(x_2)\Delta x$ .

If we used lots of rectangles, each of width  $\Delta x = dx$  (a very small value), and used a point  $x$  to find the height, then what would the area  $dA$  of a rectangle be?

5. The total combined area of the 6 rectangles you drew above is the sum

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta A_1 + \Delta A_2 + \Delta A_3 + \Delta A_4 + \Delta A_5 + \Delta A_6 \\ = f(x_1)\Delta x + f(x_2)\Delta x + f(x_3)\Delta x + f(x_4)\Delta x + f(x_5)\Delta x + f(x_6)\Delta x. \end{aligned}$$

Write both of these sums using sigma notation (i.e., using a  $\sum$ ).

6. If we drew  $n$  rectangles, each of width  $\Delta x = dx$ , and we used the points  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  to find the heights of the rectangles (one for each rectangle), what would the area  $A$  approximately equal? Write the sum in sigma ( $\Sigma$ ) notation.
7. What integral gives the area under  $f$  over the interval  $[-1, 2]$ ? Be prepared to share with the class how you can modify your sigma notation from the previous part to obtain the integral you gave here. (What happens to  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta x$ ?)
8. Find the area (surface area) of the metal sheet.

The next problem should mimic the steps in the previous problem. The only difference is that you are now integrating over a curve, not over an interval—this is the generalization from first-semester calculus that we are looking at now.

**Problem 189** Consider the surface in space that is below the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$  and above the curve  $C$  parametrized by  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$  for  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Think of this region as a metal plate that has been stood up with its base on  $C$  where the height above each spot is given by  $z = f(x, y)$ . Watch a YouTube video.

1. Draw the curve  $C$  in the  $xy$ -plane. See Problem 147
2. Now partition the curve you just drew into 6 parts, using equal spaced time intervals to create your partition. Draw a straight line between the spots on the curve given by  $\vec{r}(-1)$ ,  $\vec{r}(-1/2)$ ,  $\vec{r}(0)$ , etc. You should have 6 straight lines connecting points on a parabola.
3. The length of each segment you drew is called  $\Delta s$  (an approximation to arc length). If we drew lots of tiny segments, we would use  $\Delta s = ds$  to represent this length. What general formula do we use for  $ds$ ? [Remember, “A little bit of distance is speed times a little bit of time.” (see Section 3.2.2)] Compute  $ds$  in this particular example.

4. We'll call the  $t$ -coordinates of our partition  $t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots$ . In this example, we have

$$t_0 = -1, t_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, t_2 = 0, t_3 = \frac{1}{2}, t_4 = 1, t_5 = \frac{3}{2}, t_6 = 2.$$

We need the surface area of the sheet. Above each little straight segment of length  $\Delta s$  approximating the curve, we could approximate the area using just the right endpoint, i.e. using  $f(\vec{r}(t))$ . The area of the first rectangle is  $\Delta\sigma_1 = f(\vec{r}(t_1))\Delta s$ . The area of the second rectangle is  $\Delta\sigma_2 = f(\vec{r}(t_2))\Delta s$ .

We'll use  $\sigma$  (a lower-case "sigma") to stand for surface area.

If we used lots of rectangles, each of width  $\Delta s = ds$  (a very small value), and used a point  $t$  to find the height, then what would the area  $d\sigma$  of a rectangle be?

5. Using our 6 rectangles, the total surface area of the sheet would approximately be the sum

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\sigma_1 + \Delta\sigma_2 + \Delta\sigma_3 + \dots + \Delta\sigma_6 \\ = f(\vec{r}(t_1))\Delta s_1 + f(\vec{r}(t_2))\Delta s_2 + f(\vec{r}(t_3))\Delta s_3 + \dots + f(\vec{r}(t_6))\Delta s_6 \end{aligned}$$

Write both of these sums using sigma notation (i.e., using  $\Sigma$ ).

6. If we drew  $n$  rectangles, each of width  $\Delta s = ds$ , and we used the points  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$  to find the heights of the rectangles (one for each rectangle), what would the surface area  $\sigma$  equal? Write the sums in sigma ( $\Sigma$ ) notation.
7. What integral gives the area under  $f$  over the curve  $C$ ? Be prepared to share with the class how you can modify your sigma notation from the previous part to obtain the integral you gave here. (What happens to  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta s$ ?)
8. Find the surface area of the metal sheet. [Use technology to do this integral.]

Your results from the problem above suggest the following definition.

**Definition 8.1: Line Integral.** Let  $f$  be a function and  $C$  be a piecewise smooth curve given by the parametrization  $\vec{r}(t)$  for  $t \in [a, b]$ . We require that the composition  $f(\vec{r}(t))$  be continuous for all  $t \in [a, b]$ . Then we define the line integral of  $f$  over  $C$  to be the integral

The line integral is also called the path integral, contour integral, or curve integral.

$$\int_C f ds = \int_a^b f(\vec{r}(t)) \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right| dt.$$

Notice that this definition suggests the following four steps. These four steps are the key to computing any line integral.

1. Start by getting a parametrization  $\vec{r}$  of the curve  $C$ .
2. Find the speed by computing  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  and then  $\left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right|$ .
3. Multiply  $f$  by the speed, and replace each  $x, y, z$  with what it equals in terms of  $t$ .
4. Integrate the product from the previous step.

Now we'll practice estimating a line integral and using these steps to do the line integral calculation.

When we ask you to set up a line integral, it means that you should do steps 1–3, so that you get an integral with a single variable and with bounds that you could plug into a computer or do in Calculus 2.

Please compute all integrals we ask you to compute to get a numeric answer. Compute the integrals by hand to practice basic integration techniques unless we say to use technology (i.e., calculator or computer).

**Problem 190** Let  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 25$ . Let  $C$  be the portion of the parabola  $y^2 = x$  between  $(1, -1)$  and  $(4, 2)$ . We want to compute  $\int_C f ds$ .

See 120 if you forgot how to parametrize plane curves.

1. Draw the curve  $C$  and the function  $f(x, y)$  on the same 3D  $xyz$  axes.
  2. Without computing the line integral  $\int_C f ds$ , determine if the integral should be positive or negative. Explain why this is so by looking at the values of  $f(x, y)$  at points along the curve  $C$ . Is  $f(x, y)$  positive, negative, or zero, at points along  $C$ ?
  3. Parametrize the curve and set up the line integral  $\int_C f ds$  (steps 1–3 above).
  4. Use technology to compute  $\int_C f ds$  to get a numeric answer. Was your answer the sign that you determined above?
- 

## 8.2 Average Value

The concept of averaging values together has many applications. In first-semester calculus, we saw how to generalize the concept of averaging numbers together to get an average value of a function. We'll review both of these concepts, and then generalize the concept of average value to calculate many physical properties of real-world objects.

**Problem 191** Suppose a class takes a test and there are three scores of 70, five scores of 85, one score of 90, and two scores of 95. We will calculate the average class score,  $\bar{s}$ , four different ways to emphasize four ways of thinking about the averages. We are emphasizing the pattern of the calculations in this problem, rather than the final answer, so it is important to write out each calculation completely in the form  $\bar{s} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  before calculating the number  $\bar{s}$ .

1. Compute the average by adding 11 numbers together and dividing by the number of scores. Write down the whole computation before doing any arithmetic. 
$$\bar{s} = \frac{\sum \text{values}}{\text{number of values}}$$
  2. Compute the numerator of the fraction in the previous part by multiplying each score by how many times it occurs, rather than adding it in the sum that many times. Again, write down the calculation for  $\bar{s}$  before doing any arithmetic. 
$$\bar{s} = \frac{\sum (\text{value} \cdot \text{weight})}{\sum \text{weight}}$$
  3. Compute  $\bar{s}$  by splitting up the fraction in the previous part into the sum of four numbers. This is called a “weighted average” because we are multiplying each score value by a weight. 
$$\bar{s} = \sum (\text{value} \cdot (\% \text{ of stuff}))$$
  4. Another way of thinking about the average  $\bar{s}$  is that  $\bar{s}$  is the number so that if all 11 scores were  $\bar{s}$ , you'd have the same sum. Write this way of thinking about these computations by taking the formulas for  $\bar{s}$  in the first two parts and multiplying both sides by the denominator. 
$$\begin{aligned} (\text{number of values})\bar{s} &= \sum \text{values} \\ (\sum \text{weight})\bar{s} &= \sum (\text{value} \cdot \text{weight}) \end{aligned}$$
- 

In the next problem, we generalize the above ways of thinking about averages from a discrete situation to a continuous situation. You did this in first-semester calculus when you did average value using integrals.

**Problem 192** Suppose the price of a stock is \$10 for one day. Then the price of the stock jumps to \$20 for two days. Our goal is to determine the average price of the stock over the three days.

1. Find the average price of the stock using all of the methods from Problem 191.
2. Let  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 10 & 0 < t < 1 \\ 20 & 1 < t < 3 \end{cases}$ , the price of the stock for the three-day period. Draw the function  $f$ , and find the area under  $f$  where  $t \in [0, 3]$ .
3. Find a single constant  $\bar{f}$  so that the areas under both  $\bar{f}$  and  $f$ , above the interval  $[0, 3]$ , are the same numbers. [Hint: The area under  $\bar{f}$  is just the area of a rectangle.]
4. We found a constant  $\bar{f}$  so that the area under  $\bar{f}$  matched the area under  $f$ . In other words, we solved the equation below for  $\bar{f}$ :

$$\int_a^b \bar{f} dx = \int_a^b f dx$$

Solve for  $\bar{f}$  symbolically, without doing any of the integrals. This quantity was called the average value of  $f$  over  $[a, b]$ , and was crucial to proving the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus from first-semester calculus.

5. The formula for  $\bar{f}$  in the previous part resembles at least one of the ways of calculating averages from Problem 191. Which ones and why?

Make sure to ask me in class about the “ant farm” approach to average value.

**Problem 193** Let the curve  $C$  have the parametrization  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 3 \sin t)$ . Watch a YouTube video. Let  $f$  be the function  $f(x, y) = 9 - x^2 - y^2$ .

1. Draw the surface  $f$  in 3D. Add to your drawing the curve  $C$  in the  $xy$  plane. Then draw the sheet whose area is given by the integral  $\int_C f ds$ .
2. What’s the maximum height and minimum height of the sheet? [Hint: these maxes and mins occur when you are over the  $x$  and  $y$  axes. We did this in problem 147.]
3. We would like to find a constant height  $\bar{f}$ , a number, so that the area under  $f$ , above  $C$ , is the same as area under  $\bar{f}$ , above  $C$ . What integral gives us the area under  $\bar{f}$ , above  $C$ ? What integral equation must we solve to find this constant  $\bar{f}$ ?
4. Solve for  $\bar{f}$  above. This constant  $\bar{f}$  is called the average value of  $f$  along  $C$ . You should obtain

$$\bar{f} = \frac{\int_C f ds}{\int_C ds}.$$

Please read Isaiah 40:4 and Luke 3:5. These scriptures should help you remember how to find average value.

Connect this formula with the ways of thinking about averages from Problem 191.

5. Use a computer to evaluate the integrals  $\int_C f ds$  and  $\int_C ds$ , and then give an approximation to the average value of  $f$  along  $C$ . How should this value relate to the maximum and minimum found above?

**Problem 194** The temperature  $T(x, y, z)$  at points on a wire helix  $C$  given by  $\vec{r}(t) = (\sin t, 2t, \cos t)$  is known to be  $T(x, y, z) = x^2 + y + z^2$ . What are the temperatures at  $t = 0$ ,  $t = \pi/2$ ,  $t = \pi$ ,  $t = 3\pi/2$  and  $t = 2\pi$ ? You should notice the temperature is constantly changing. Make a guess as to what the average temperature is (share with the class why you made the guess you made—it’s OK if you’re wrong). Then compute the average temperature of the wire.

## 8.3 Physical Properties

A number of physical properties of real-world objects can be calculated using the concepts of averages and line integrals. We explore some of these in this section. Additionally, many of these concepts and calculations are used in statistics.

### 8.3.1 Centroids

**Definition 8.2: Centroid.** Let  $C$  be a curve. If we look at all of the  $x$ -coordinates of the points on  $C$ , the “center”  $x$ -coordinate,  $\bar{x}$ , is the average of all these  $x$ -coordinates. Likewise, we can talk about the averages of all of the  $y$  coordinates or  $z$  coordinates of points on the function ( $\bar{y}$  or  $\bar{z}$ , respectively). The *centroid* of an object is the geometric center  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$ , the point with coordinates that are the average  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  coordinates.

**Problem 195: Centroid** Notice the word “average” in the definition of the centroid. Explain why the coordinates of the centroid are the formulas below. [Hint: If we have a curve  $C$  with parametrization  $\vec{r}(t)$  and function  $f$  so that  $f(\vec{r}(t))$  is continuous, then we’ve developed in Problem 193 a formula for the average value of  $f$  along  $C$ . What function  $f(x, y, z)$  gives the  $x$ -coordinate of a point?] Watch a YouTube video.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int_C x ds}{\int_C ds}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int_C y ds}{\int_C ds}, \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{z} = \frac{\int_C z ds}{\int_C ds}.$$

Formulas for the centroid.

Notice that the denominator in each case is just the arc length  $s = \int_C ds$ .

**Problem 196** Let  $C$  be the semicircular arc  $r(t) = (a \cos t, a \sin t)$  for  $t \in [0, \pi]$ . Without doing any computations, make an educated guess for the centroid  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  of this arc. Then compute the integrals given in problem 195 to find the actual centroid. Share with the class your guess, even if it was incorrect.

### 8.3.2 Mass and Center of Mass

Density is generally a mass per unit volume. However, when talking about a curve or wire, as in this chapter, it’s simpler to let density be the mass per unit length. Sometimes an object is made out of a composite material, and the density of the object is different at different places in the object. For example, we might have a straight wire where one end is aluminum and the other end is copper. In the middle, the wire slowly transitions from being all aluminum to all copper. The centroid is the midpoint of the wire. However, since copper has a higher density than aluminum, the balance point (the center of mass) would not be at the midpoint of the wire, but would be closer to the denser and heavier copper end. In this section, we’ll develop formulas for the mass and center of mass of such a wire. Such composite materials are engineered all the time (though probably not our example wire). In future mechanical engineering courses, you would learn how to determine the density  $\delta$  (mass per unit length) at each point on such a composite wire.

**Problem 197: Mass** Suppose a wire  $C$  has the parameterization  $\vec{r}(t)$  for  $t \in [a, b]$ . Suppose the wire’s density at a point  $(x, y, z)$  on the wire is given by the function  $\delta(x, y, z)$ . You’ll learn to calculate this function in a future class. For the purposes of our class, we’ll just assume we know what  $\delta(x, y, z)$  is. Watch a YouTube video.

1. Consider a small portion of the curve at  $t = t_0$  of length  $ds$ . Explain why the mass of the small portion of the curve is  $dm = \delta(\vec{r}(t_0))ds$ .
2. Explain why the mass  $m$  of an object is given by the formulas below (explain why each equals sign is true):

$$m = \int_C dm = \int_C \delta ds = \int_a^b \delta(\vec{r}(t)) \left| \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right| dt.$$

**Problem 198** A wire lies along the straight segment from  $(0, 2, 0)$  to  $(1, 1, 3)$ . The wire's density (mass per unit length) at a point  $(x, y, z)$  is  $\delta(x, y, z) = x + y + z$ .

1. Is the wire heavier at  $(0, 2, 0)$  or at  $(1, 1, 3)$ ?
2. What is the total mass of the wire? [You'll need to parameterize the line as your first step—see Problem 32 if you need a refresher.]

The center of mass of an object is the point where the object balances. In order to calculate the  $x$ -coordinate of the center of mass, we average the  $x$ -coordinates, but we weight each  $x$ -coordinate with its mass. Similarly, we can calculate the  $y$  and  $z$  coordinates of the center of mass. Wikipedia has some interesting applications of center of mass.

The next problem helps us reason about the center of mass of a collection of objects. Calculating the center of mass of a collection of objects is important, for example, in astronomy when you want to calculate how two bodies orbit each other.

**Problem 199** Suppose two objects are positioned at the points  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $P_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$ . Our goal in this problem is to understand the difference between the centroid and the center of mass.

1. Find the centroid of two objects.
2. Suppose both objects have the same mass of 2 kg. Find the center of mass by averaging the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  coordinages, weighted by how much mass is at each coordinate.
3. If the mass of the object at point  $P_1$  is 2 kg, and the mass of the object at point  $P_2$  is 3 kg, will the center of mass be closer to  $P_1$  or  $P_2$ ? Give a physical reason for your answer before doing any computations. Then find the center of mass  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  of the two points. [Hint: you should get  $\bar{x} = \frac{2x_1 + 3x_2}{2+3}$ .]

**Problem 200** This problem reinforces what you just did with two points in the previous problem. However, it now involves two people on a seesaw. Ignore the mass of the seesaw in your work below (pretend it's an extremely light seesaw, so its mass is negligible compared to the masses of the people).

See Wikipedia for a seesaw picture.

1. My daughter and her friend are sitting on a seesaw. Both girls have the same mass of 30 kg. My wife stands about 1 m behind my daughter. We'll measure distance in this problem from my wife's perspective. We can think of my daughter as a point mass located at  $(1\text{m}, 0)$  whose mass is 30 kg. Suppose her friend is located at  $(5\text{m}, 0)$ . Suppose the kids are sitting just right so that the seesaw is perfectly balanced. That means the the center of mass of the girls is precisely at the pivot point of the seesaw. Find the distance from my wife to the pivot point by finding the center of mass of the two girls.

2. My daughter's friend has to leave, so I plan to take her place on the seesaw. My mass is 100 kg. Her friend was sitting at the point  $(5, 0)$ . I would like to sit at the point  $(a, 0)$  so that the seesaw is perfectly balanced. Without doing any computations, is  $a > 5$  or  $a < 5$ ? Explain.
3. Suppose I sit at the spot  $(x, 0)$  (perhaps causing my daughter or I to have a highly unbalanced ride). Find the center of mass of the two points  $(1, 0)$  and  $(x, 0)$  whose masses are 30 and 100, respectively (units are meters and kilograms).
4. Where should I sit so that the seesaw is perfectly balanced (what is  $a$ )?

**Problem 201: Center of mass**

We now develop formulas for the center of mass of a wire whose density  $\delta$  is known. These will be generalizations of the formulas we obtained for the centroid in problem 195. For quick reference, these formulas are

Watch a YouTube video.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int_C x ds}{\int_C ds}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int_C y ds}{\int_C ds}, \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{z} = \frac{\int_C z ds}{\int_C ds}. \quad (\text{Centroid})$$

We'll show that the formulas for center of mass are

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int_C x dm}{\int_C dm}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int_C y dm}{\int_C dm}, \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{z} = \frac{\int_C z dm}{\int_C dm}, \quad (\text{Center of mass})$$

where  $dm = \delta ds$ . Notice that the denominator in each case is just the mass  $m = \int_C dm$ . Let's start by looking at a 3 point mass system, and then generalize the results to any wire.

The quantity  $\int_C x dm$  is sometimes called the first moment of mass about the  $yz$ -plane (so  $x = 0$ ). Notationally, some people write  $M_{yz} = \int_C x ds$ . Similarly, we could write  $M_{xz} = \int_C y dm$  and  $M_{xy} = \int_C z dm$ . With this notation, we could write the center of mass formulas as

$$(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = \left( \frac{M_{yz}}{m}, \frac{M_{xz}}{m}, \frac{M_{xy}}{m} \right).$$

1. Suppose that we have three points  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2)$ , and  $(x_3, y_3)$ . Find the centroid of these three points. Write your solution using  $\Sigma$  notation (for the denominator, replace 3 with  $3 = 1 + 1 + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^3 1$ ). [Hint: your formula should be very similar to the integral formula above.]
2. Suppose the masses of the three points are  $m_1$ ,  $m_2$ , and  $m_3$ . Find the center of mass of these three points. Write your solution using  $\Sigma$  notation.
3. Suppose now that we have a wire located along a curve  $C$ , and the density of the wire is known to be  $\delta$  (which could be different at different points on the curve). Imagine cutting the wire into a thousand or more tiny chunks. Each chunk would be centered at some point  $(x_i, y_i)$  and have length  $ds_i$ . Explain why the mass of each little chunk is  $dm_i \approx \delta ds_i$ .
4. Use summation ( $\Sigma$ ) notation to give a formula for the center of mass of the thousands of points  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ , each with mass  $dm_i$ . [This should almost be an exact copy of the second part.] Then explain why the center of mass formulas given above are correct.

**Problem 202**

Suppose a wire with density  $\delta(x, y) = x^2 + y$  lies along the curve  $C$  which is the upper half of a circle around the origin with radius 7.

1. Parametrize  $C$  (find  $\vec{r}(t)$  and the domain for  $t$ ).
2. Where is the wire heavier, at  $(7, 0)$  or at  $(0, 7)$ ?



3. In problem 196, we showed that the centroid of the wire is  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \left(0, \frac{2(7)}{\pi}\right)$ . We now seek the center of mass. Before computing, will  $\bar{x}$  change? Will  $\bar{y}$  change? How will each change? Explain.
4. Set up the integrals needed to find the center of mass. Then use technology to compute the integrals. You'll need an exact answer, not a numerical approximation.
5. Change the radius from 7 to 13, and use technology to compute the integrals again. Generalize what you see to give a formula for the center of mass if the radius of the semicircle is  $a$ .

We'll often use the notation  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  to talk about both the centroid and the center of mass. If no density is given in a problem, then  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  is the centroid. If a density is provided, then  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  refers to the center of mass. If the density is constant, it doesn't matter (the centroid and center of mass are the same). That's what the next problem shows.

**Problem 203** Suppose a wire lies along the smooth curve  $C$ . Your explanation in each case below should use the formula from problem 201. With each part, just start with the formulas for center of mass, and then simplify it to obtain the centroid formulas.

1. If the density of the wire is  $\delta = 1$ , explain why the center of mass is the centroid.
2. If the density of the wire is  $\delta = 7$ , explain why the center of mass is the centroid.
3. If the density of the wire is constant, so  $\delta = c$  for some constant  $c$ , explain why the center of mass is the centroid.

**Problem 204** The quantity  $M_{yz} = \int_C x dm$  is often called the first moment of mass about the  $yz$ -plane (the plane  $x = 0$ ). One way to view the center of mass is to ask yourself the following question.

The mass  $m$  of a curve  $C$  is known. If you could place all the mass at one single spot, called  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$ , what should  $\bar{x}$  be so that the moments of mass don't change.

We want the moments  $\int_C \bar{x} dm$  and  $\int_C x dm$  to be exactly the same. Use this idea to solve for  $\bar{x}$  in the equation

$$\int_C \bar{x} dm = \int_C x dm.$$

Then similarly obtain  $\bar{y}$  and  $\bar{z}$ . [Hint: the number  $\bar{x}$  is a constant, whereas  $x$  is not. Does  $\int 2f dx = 2 \int f dx$ ?]

### 8.3.3 Inertia and Radii of Gyration

Some of you may have already had a physics class, in which you learned that the kinetic energy of an object with mass  $m$  moving at speed  $v$  is

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2.$$

One of the main reasons we are studying mass, center of mass, centroids, etc., is so that we can understand energy. The transfer of energy (for example from kinetic to electrical and then back from electrical to kinetic) is one of the most important ideas in modern innovations. Our goal in this unit is to help us understand rotational kinetic energy. We'll show that the kinetic energy of an object that is rotating about a line  $L$ , and has an angular velocity of  $\omega$  radians per second about the line, is precisely

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2,$$

where  $I$  is the (second) moment of inertia. The moment of inertia can be obtained by integrating  $I = \int_C (d)^2 dm$  where  $d$  is the radius of rotation about  $L$ , i.e. the distance from a point  $(x, y, z)$  to the axis of rotation  $L$ . If the line  $L$  is one of the coordinate axes, then we obtain the key formulas

$$I_x = \int_C (y^2 + z^2) dm, \quad I_y = \int_C (x^2 + z^2) dm, \quad I_z = \int_C (x^2 + y^2) dm.$$

If you have never worked with kinetic energy before, you may skip the next problem and then just practice using these formulas.

**Problem 205** Suppose that an object, whose mass is  $m$ , is attached to a negligible mass string. The object is rotated about a point, where the angular velocity is  $\omega$  radians per second. The length of the string (distance from the point to the center of rotation) is  $d$ . Watch a YouTube video.

1. Using the fact that kinetic energy is  $KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ . Explain why the kinetic energy of this object in rotational motion is  $KE = \frac{1}{2}(d^2m)\omega^2$ . The quantity  $I = d^2m$  is called the moment of inertia. This problem only applies if you have a single point. [Hint: show that  $v = d\omega$ .]
2. Suppose the point  $P = (x, y, z)$ , which has mass  $m$ , is attached to a negligible mass string. The point is rotated about the  $x$ -axis with angular velocity  $\omega$ . Find the kinetic energy, using the results from the previous problem.
3. We can think of a curve as thousands of points  $(x, y, z)$ , each with mass  $dm = \delta ds$ . As we rotate an entire curve about the  $x$ -axis with angular velocity  $\omega$ , each little piece contributes small amount of kinetic energy, which we'll call  $dKE$ . Explain why  $dKE = \frac{1}{2}(y^2 + z^2)\omega^2 dm$ .
4. Explain why the kinetic energy of the curve (when rotated about the  $x$  axis) equals

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_C (y^2 + z^2) dm \right) \omega^2 = \frac{1}{2} I_x \omega^2.$$

5. If we rotated about the  $y$ -axis instead, how does this formula change?

**Problem 206** A wire follows the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (3 \cos t, 4t, 3 \sin t)$  for  $t \in [0, 4\pi]$ . The density is  $\delta(x, y, z) = x^2 + y + 2z^2$ .

1. Set up formulas to compute  $I_x$ ,  $I_y$ , and  $I_z$ . Use software to compute the integrals. In your presentation, show us the set up you used, and then just give us the numerical solutions.
2. Which is larger,  $I_x$  or  $I_z$ ? Can you explain why without having done any integrals?
3. If the wire had constant density and followed the helix  $\vec{r}(t) = (2 \cos t, 4t, 3 \sin t)$  instead, which would be bigger,  $I_x$  or  $I_z$ ? Feel free to use software to check your guess.

In problem 204, we showed how to find the center of mass by replacing the variable distance  $x$  in  $\int_C x dm$  with the constant distance  $\bar{x}$ , and then solving for  $\bar{x}$  in the equation  $\int_C \bar{x} dm = \int_C x dm$ . The idea is simple; if all the mass were located at one spot, what would that spot have to be for the moment of mass to be the same. The radii of gyration are obtained in the exact same manner. They can be thought of as a rotational center of mass.

**Problem 207: Radii of Gyration** Suppose a wire lies on the curve  $C$  and has density  $\delta$ . The inertia about a line  $L$  we know is  $I_x = \int_C d^2 dm$ , where  $d$  is the radius of rotation (distance to the line  $L$ ). What constant radius  $R$  should we replace the variable radius  $d$  with so that  $\int_C d^2 dm = \int_C R^2 dm$ . Explain how to obtain the radii of gyration about the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  axes given by

$$R_x = \sqrt{\frac{\int_C (y^2 + z^2) dm}{\int_C dm}}, \quad R_y = \sqrt{\frac{\int_C (x^2 + z^2) dm}{\int_C dm}}, \quad \text{and} \quad R_z = \sqrt{\frac{\int_C (x^2 + y^2) dm}{\int_C dm}}.$$

**Problem 208** Consider the curve  $y = 4 - x^2$  for  $x \in [-1, 2]$ , with  $\delta(x, y) = y$ . Set up integral formulas which would give (1) the  $x$  coordinate  $\bar{x}$  of the centroid, (2) the  $y$  coordinate  $\bar{y}$  of the center of mass, (3) the moment of inertia  $I_x$  about the  $x$ -axis, and (4) the radius of gyration  $R_y$  about the  $y$  axis. Use software to compute the integrals.

**Problem 209** Consider a straight wire which lies on the line segment between  $(-2, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, -1, 2)$ . The density of the wire is known to be  $\delta(x, y, z) = x + y + z + 2$ . Set up integral formulas which would give (1) the  $x$  coordinate  $\bar{x}$  of the centroid, (2) the  $z$  coordinate  $\bar{z}$  of the center of mass, (3) the moment of inertia  $I_y$  about the  $y$ -axis, and (4) the radius of gyration  $R_x$  about the  $x$ -axis. Compute the integrals.

## 8.4 Wrap Up

Once you have finished the problems in the section and feel comfortable with the ideas, create a short one page lesson plan that contains examples of the key ideas. You will get a chance to teach from this lesson plan prior to taking the exam. Then log on to Brainhoney and download the quiz. Once you have taken the quiz, you can upload your work back to brainhoney and then download the key to see how you did. If you still need to work on mastering some of the ideas, please do so and then demonstrate your mastery through the quiz corrections.