

# 12-1 Curves in Space and Their Tangents

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師大工教一

When a particle move through space during a time interval  $I$ , we think of the particle's coordinates as functions defined on  $I$ :

$$x = f(t), \quad y = g(t), \quad z = h(t), \quad t \in I$$

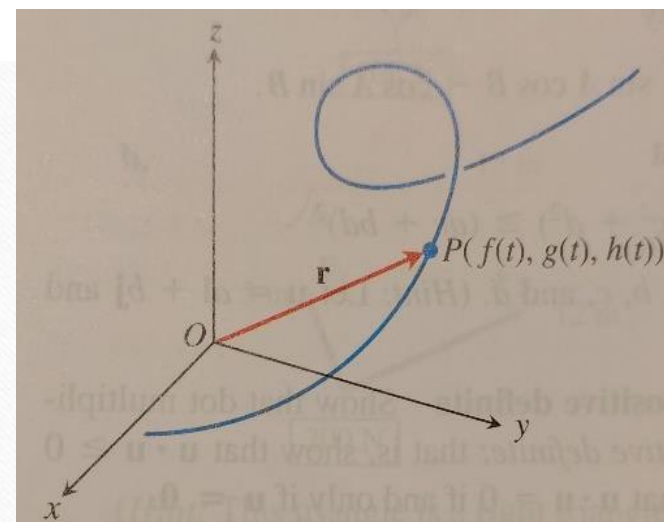
The points  $(x, y, z) = (f(t), g(t), h(t)), t \in I$ , make up the **curve** in space that we call the particle's **path**.



## 向量 Vector Form

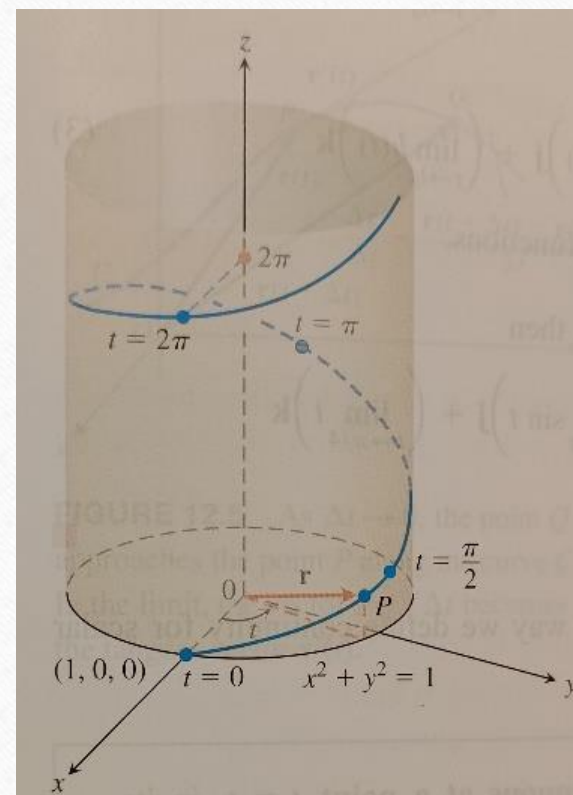
$$\vec{r}(t) = \overrightarrow{OP} = f(t)\vec{i} + g(t)\vec{j} + h(t)\vec{k} \quad (2)$$

The above equation defines  $\vec{r}$  as a **vector-valued function** or **vector function** on a domain set  $D$ .  $\vec{r}$  is a rule that assigns a vector in space to each element in  $D$ . The functions  $f, g, h$  are called the **component functions** (or components) of the position function.



Ex1(p681) Graph the vector function  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t)\vec{i} + (\sin t)\vec{j} + t\vec{k}$ . This graph is called the helix (from the ancient Greek word for “spiral”).

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## Limits and Continuity

Definition Let  $\vec{r}(t) = f(t)\vec{i} + g(t)\vec{j} + h(t)\vec{k}$  be a vector function with domain

$D$ , and let  $\vec{L}$  be a vector. We say that  $\vec{r}$  has **limit**  $\vec{L}$  as  $t$  approaches  $t_0$

and write  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{L}$ , if, for every number  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a

corresponding number  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all  $t \in D$ ,  $|\vec{r}(t) - \vec{L}| < \varepsilon$  whenever

$0 < |t - t_0| < \delta$ . Or  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} f(t) \right) \vec{i} + \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} g(t) \right) \vec{j} + \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} h(t) \right) \vec{k}$ .



Ex2(p682) If  $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t)\vec{i} + (\sin t)\vec{j} + t\vec{k}$ , find  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \vec{r}(t)$ .

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \vec{r}(t) = \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \cos t \right) \vec{i} + \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \sin t \right) \vec{j} + \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} t \right) \vec{k}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \vec{i} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \vec{j} + \frac{\pi}{4} \vec{k}$$

Definition A vector function  $\vec{r}(t)$  is **continuous at a point**  $t = t_0$  in its

domain if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}(t_0)$ . The function is **continuous** if it is continuous at

every point in its domain.

Ex3(p682) (a) If each component function is continuous, then the space curve is also continuous.

(b) The function  $\vec{g}(t) = (\cos t)\vec{i} + (\sin t)\vec{j} + [t]\vec{k}$  is discontinuous at every integer, where  $[t]$  is the greatest integer function.

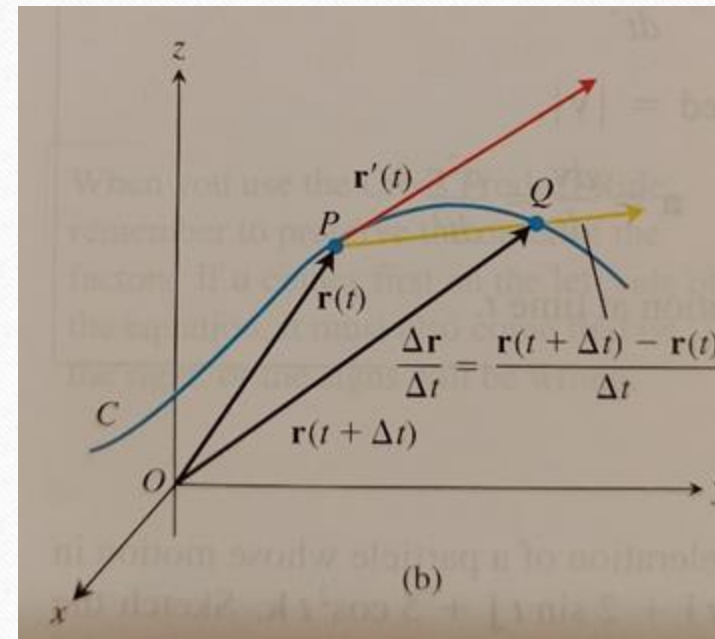
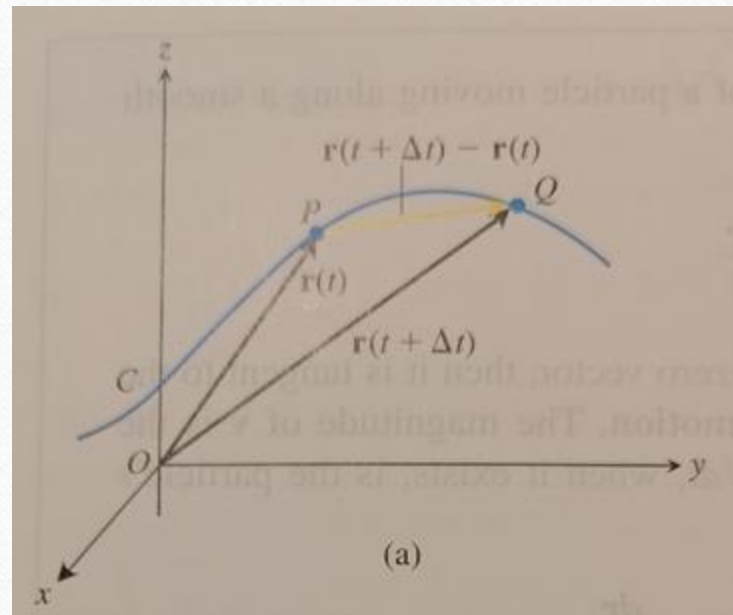
## Derivatives and Motion

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \vec{r} &= \vec{r}(t + \Delta t) - \vec{r}(t) \\ &= [f(t + \Delta t)\vec{i} + g(t + \Delta t)\vec{j} + h(t + \Delta t)\vec{k}] - [f(t)\vec{i} + g(t)\vec{j} + h(t)\vec{k}] \\ &= [f(t + \Delta t) - f(t)]\vec{i} + [g(t + \Delta t) - g(t)]\vec{j} + [h(t + \Delta t) - h(t)]\vec{k}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t} &= \left[ \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t + \Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t + \Delta t) - g(t)}{\Delta t} \right] \vec{j} + \left[ \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(t + \Delta t) - h(t)}{\Delta t} \right] \vec{k} \\ &= \left[ \frac{df}{dt} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \frac{dg}{dt} \right] \vec{j} + \left[ \frac{dh}{dt} \right] \vec{k}\end{aligned}$$

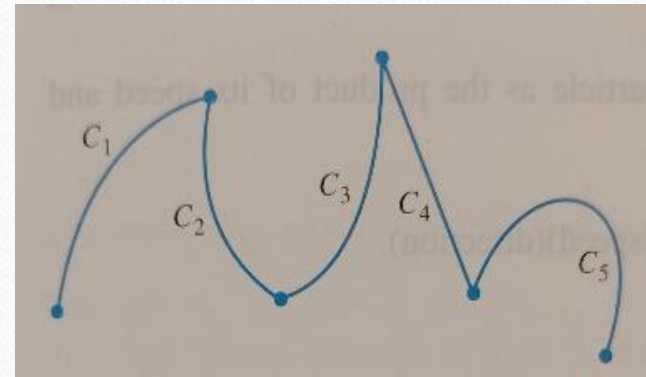


Definition The vector function  $\vec{r}(t) = f(t)\vec{i} + g(t)\vec{j} + h(t)\vec{k}$  has a **derivative (is differentiable) at  $t$**  if  $f, g, h$  have derivatives at  $t$ . The derivative is the vector function  $\vec{r}'(t) = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{r}(t + \Delta t) - \vec{r}(t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{df}{dt}\vec{i} + \frac{dg}{dt}\vec{j} + \frac{dh}{dt}\vec{k}$ .



A vector function  $\vec{r}$  is **differentiable** if it is differentiable at every point in its domain. The curve traced by  $\vec{r}$  is **smooth** if  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  is continuous and never  $\vec{0}$ , that is, if  $f, g, h$  have continuous first derivatives that are not simultaneously 0. A curve that is made up of a finite number of smooth curves pieced together in a continuous fashion is called **piecewise smooth**.

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Definition If  $\vec{r}$  is the position vector of a particle along a smooth curve in space, then  $\vec{v}(t) = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$  is the particle's **velocity vector**. If  $\vec{v}$  is a nonzero vector, then it is tangent to the curve, and its direction is the **direction of motion**. The magnitude of  $\vec{v}$  is the particle's **speed**, and the derivative  $\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$ , when it exists, is the particle's **acceleration vector**. In summary,



1. Velocity is the derivative of position:  $\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$ .

2. Speed is the magnitude of velocity:  $\text{Speed} = |\vec{v}|$ .

3. Acceleration is the derivative of velocity:  $\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}$ .

4. The unit vector  $\frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$  is the direction of motion at time  $t$ .

Ex4(p684) Find the velocity, speed, and acceleration of a particle whose motion in space is given by the motion vector  $\vec{r}(t) = 2\cos t \vec{i} + 2\sin t \vec{j} + 5\cos^2 t \vec{k}$ .

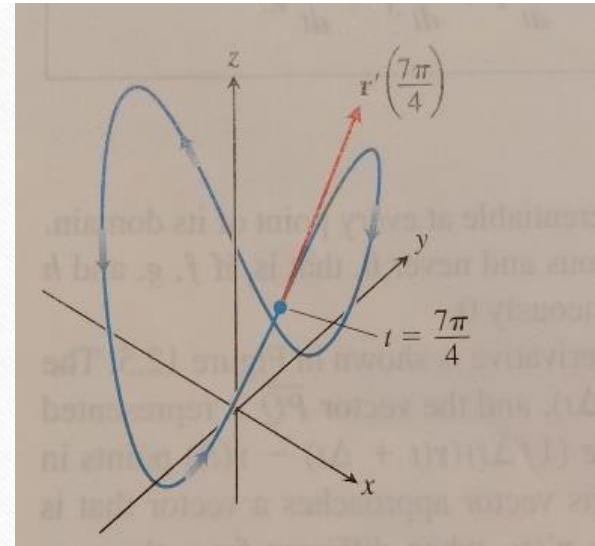
Sketch the velocity vector  $\vec{v}\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right)$ .

$$\vec{r}(t)$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) = -2\sin t \vec{i} + 2\cos t \vec{j} - 10\cos t \sin t \vec{k}$$

$$|\vec{v}(t)| = \sqrt{4\sin^2 t + 4\cos^2 t + 100\cos^2 t \sin^2 t} = \sqrt{4 + 100\sin^2 t \cos^2 t}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a}(t) &= \vec{v}'(t) = -2\cos t \vec{i} - 2\sin t \vec{j} - 10(-\sin t + \cos t) \vec{k} \\ &= -2\cos t \vec{i} - 2\sin t \vec{j} + (10\sin t - 10\cos t) \vec{k} \\ &= -2\cos t \vec{i} - 2\sin t \vec{j} + 10\cos 2t \vec{k}\end{aligned}$$



1. *Constant Function Rule:*  $\frac{d}{dt} \bar{C} = \bar{0}.$

2. *Scalar Multiple Rule:*  $\frac{d}{dt} [c\bar{u}(t)] = c\bar{u}'(t),$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [f(t)\bar{u}(t)] = f'(t)\bar{u}(t) + f(t)\bar{u}'(t)$$

3. *Dot Product Rule:*  $\frac{d}{dt} [\bar{u}(t) \cdot \bar{v}(t)] = \bar{u}'(t) \cdot \bar{v}(t) + \bar{u}(t) \cdot \bar{v}'(t)$

4. *Cross Product Rule:*  $\frac{d}{dt} [\bar{u}(t) \times \bar{v}(t)] = \bar{u}'(t) \times \bar{v}(t) + \bar{u}(t) \times \bar{v}'(t)$

5. *Chain Rule:*  $\frac{d}{dt} [\bar{u}(f(t))] = f'(t)\bar{u}'(f(t))$



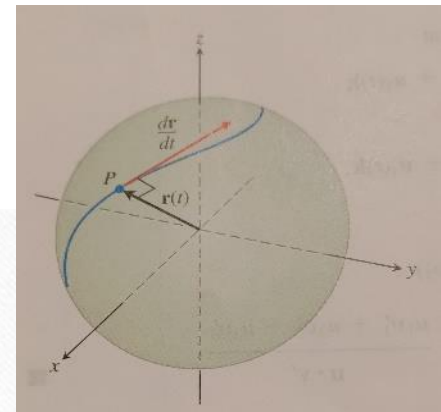
When a particle moves on a sphere centered at the origin, the position vector has a constant length equal to the radius of the sphere.

$$\vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = |\vec{r}(t)|^2 = c^2$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t)] = \vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) + \vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) = 2\vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = 0$$

If  $\vec{r}$  is differentiable vector function of  $t$  and the length of  $\vec{r}(t)$  is constant,

then  $\vec{r} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = 0$ .



# HW12-1

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- HW: 1,4,9,12,16,18