

Solutions to practice problems for Quiz 17  
Math 2580  
Spring 2016

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1. Calculate the derivative of the following vector-valued functions:

(a)  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t^2, t^3, t^4 \rangle \quad \mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle 2t, 3t^2, 4t^3 \rangle$

(b)  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \sin(t), e^{3t}, \cos(2t) \rangle \quad \mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle \cos(t), 3e^{3t}, -2\sin(2t) \rangle.$

(c)  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \sin(t^2), \ln(t^2 + 1) \rangle \quad \mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle 2t \cos(t^2), \frac{2t}{t^2+1} \rangle.$

2. Calculate  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|$  for the vector-valued functions in problem 1. (Note that if  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  is interpreted as position with respect to time, then  $\mathbf{r}'(t)$  is velocity, and  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|$  is speed.

(a)  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| = \sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4 + 16t^6}$

(b)  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| = \sqrt{\cos^2(t) + 9e^{6t} + 4\sin^2(2t)}$

(c)  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| = \sqrt{4t^2 \cos^2(t^2) + \frac{4t^2}{(t^2+1)^2}}.$

3. Show that  $\frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{r}(t)\|^2 = 2\mathbf{r}(t) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t).$

Using the product rule  $\frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{a}(t) \cdot \mathbf{b}(t)) = \mathbf{a}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{b}(t) + \mathbf{a}(t) \cdot \mathbf{b}'(t)$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{r}(t)\|^2 = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r}(t) \cdot \mathbf{r}(t)) = \mathbf{r}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{r}(t) + \mathbf{r}(t) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) = 2\mathbf{r}(t) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t).$$

4. Determine a vector-valued function  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  and an interval  $[a, b]$  that parameterize the line segment from  $(1, 2, 0)$  to  $(4, -3, 2)$ .

Since we're given two points on the line, we can form the direction vector  $\mathbf{v} = \langle 4 - 1, -3 - 2, 2 - 0 \rangle = \langle 3, -5, 2 \rangle$ , and the line segment is given by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle + t\mathbf{v} = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle + t\langle 3, -5, 2 \rangle = \langle 1 + 3t, 2 - 5t, 2t \rangle,$$

with  $t \in [0, 1]$ . (Note that since we took  $P = (1, 2, 0)$  as our initial point,  $\mathbf{r}(0) = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle$ , and taking  $\mathbf{v} = \overrightarrow{PQ}$ , where  $Q = (4, -2, 3)$  is the final point, guarantees that adding  $\mathbf{v}$  once to the initial point takes us to the final point, so  $\mathbf{r}(1) = \langle 4, -3, 2 \rangle$ .)

5. Evaluate  $\int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt$  for the vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  and curve  $\mathbf{r}$  given by

(a)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = x^2\mathbf{i} - xy\mathbf{j}$ , and  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \sin(t)\mathbf{i} + \cos(t)\mathbf{j}$ ,  $a = 0$ ,  $b = \pi$ .

We have  $\mathbf{F}(\sin t, \cos t) = \sin^2(t)\mathbf{i} - (\sin t)(\cos t)\mathbf{j}$ , and  $\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle \cos t, -\sin t \rangle$ , so

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) = \sin^2(t) \cos(t) + \sin^2(t) \cos(t) = 2 \sin^2(t) \cos(t).$$

It follows that  $\int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt = \int_0^\pi 2 \sin^2(t) \cos(t) dt = \sin^2(\pi) - \sin^2(0) = 0$ .

(b)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle xy^2, xyz, yz^2 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, 4t \rangle$ ,  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 1$ .

Since  $\mathbf{F}(t, t^2, 4t) = \langle t(t^2)^2, t(t^2)(4t), t^2(4t)^2 \rangle = \langle t^5, 4t^4, 16t^4 \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle 1, 2t, 4 \rangle$ , we have

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) = t^5 + 4t^4(2t) + 16t^4(4) = 9t^5 + 64t^4,$$

$$\text{so } \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt = \int_0^1 (9t^5 + 64t^4) dt = \frac{9}{6} + \frac{64}{5}.$$