

## 1-1 Curves & Vector-valued Functions, Jan 8, Mon

Definition of vector-based functions

Vector-valued functions  $\underline{r}: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n=2$  or  $n=3$ )  
( $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ )

For example,  $\underline{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$ . ( $x, y, z: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ )

Definition of continuity of vector-based functions It's continuous iff  $x(t), y(t), z(t)$  are continuous on  $I$ .

Analogy

The motion of an object in 3D space

Definition of curve

A curve is the set  $\{r(t) : t \in I\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  of values attained by a continuous vector-based function.

If the same curve corresponds to several  $r(t)$ ,  $r_j$  is the different parameterizations of the curve.

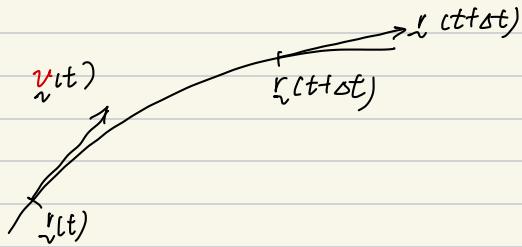
Definition of differentiability

is differentiable on an open interval  $I$  iff  $x(t), y(t), z(t)$  differentiable on  $I$

$$\frac{d\underline{r}}{dt} = \underline{r}'(t) = x'(t)\hat{i} + y'(t)\hat{j} + z'(t)\hat{k}$$

Average velocity

$$\frac{\underline{r}(t+\Delta t) - \underline{r}(t)}{\Delta t} \rightarrow \underline{v}(t) \text{ as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0$$



$$\begin{aligned} \text{speed} &= v(t) := |\underline{v}(t)| \\ \text{acceleration} &= \underline{a}(t) = \underline{v}'(t) = \underline{r}''(t) \end{aligned}$$

## Examples

1-4

$p_0 := (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , let  $\underline{v}$  be a constant vector. Then a straight line through  $p_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{r}(t) &= \underline{op}_0 + t\underline{v} = \underline{r}_0 + t\underline{v} \\ \underline{v}(t) &= \underline{r}'(t) = \underline{v} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{r}_2(t) = \underline{r}_0 + \boxed{2t}\underline{v} \rightarrow 2\underline{v} \\ \underline{r}_3(t) = \underline{r}_0 + \boxed{t^2}\underline{v} \rightarrow 3t^2\underline{v} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{velocity} \end{aligned}$$

1-5 ✓

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Helix curve:

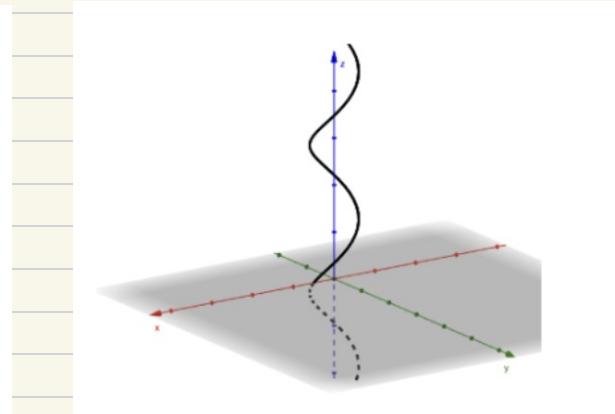
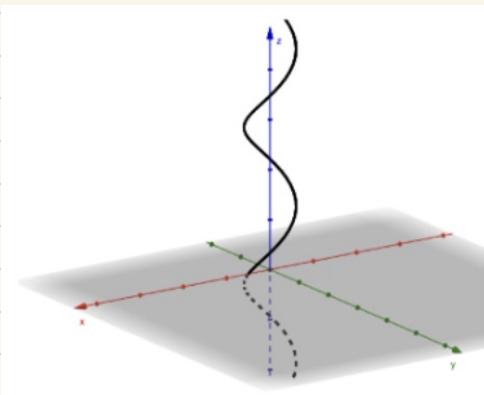
$$\begin{aligned} \underline{r}(t) &= \cos(t)\hat{i} + \sin(t)\hat{j} + t\hat{k} \\ \underline{v}(t) &= -\sin(t)\hat{i} + \cos(t)\hat{j} + \hat{k} \\ \underline{a}(t) &= -\cos(t)\hat{i} - \sin(t)\hat{j} + \boxed{?} \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\quad + \circ \end{aligned}$$

1-7

Imagine the following two helix curves?

$$\underline{r}(t) = \cos(t)\hat{i} + \sin(t)\hat{j} + t\hat{k}$$

$$\underline{r}(t) = \cos(t)\hat{i} + \sin(t)\hat{j} + t^2\hat{k}$$



## Worked problems

### Proposition 1.8

$$\underline{u}, \underline{v} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad \lambda : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\underline{u} + \underline{v})' = \underline{u}' + \underline{v}'$$

$$(\lambda \underline{u})' = \lambda' \underline{u} + \lambda \underline{u}'$$

$$(\underline{u} \cdot \underline{v})' = \underline{u}' \cdot \underline{v} + \underline{u} \cdot \underline{v}'$$

$$(\underline{u} \times \underline{v})' = \underline{u}' \times \underline{v} + \underline{u} \times \underline{v}'$$

If  $s : J \rightarrow I$ , **vector-valued chain rule:**

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\underline{u}(s(t))] = s'(t) \underline{u}'(s(t))$$

to re-parameterizing curves.

Q1.

1. Parametrize the curve of intersection of the cylinder  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$  and the plane  $z = x + y$ .

Soln.

$$x^2 + y^2 = 9 = 9(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \underline{r}(t) &= \cancel{9 \cos^2 \theta \hat{i} + 9 \sin^2 \theta \hat{j}} \\ &= 3 \cos \theta \hat{i} + 3 \sin \theta \hat{j} \end{aligned}$$

$$z = x + y$$

$$\rightarrow \text{further: } z = 3 \cos \theta + 3 \sin \theta$$

$$\hookrightarrow \underline{r}(t) = 3 \cos \theta \hat{i} + 3 \sin \theta \hat{j} + 3(\cos \theta + \sin \theta) \hat{k}.$$

Q2.

2. Parametrize the curve of intersection of the paraboloid  $z = x^2 + y^2$  and the plane  $x = 2y$ .

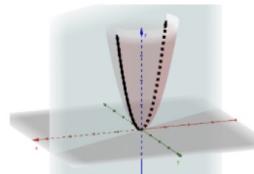


FIGURE 6. The curve described in Worked Problem no. 2

Soln.

$$\underline{r} = \langle 2t, t, 5t^2 \rangle \quad \checkmark$$

Q3

3. Find a formula for  $\frac{d}{dt}|\mathbf{u}(t)|$ .

S2

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt}|\mathbf{u}(t)| &= \frac{d}{dt}\sqrt{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \\
 &= \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{u}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2(\mathbf{u}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{u}^2) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2(\mathbf{u}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \cdot \cancel{2\mathbf{u}} = \frac{1}{2(\mathbf{u}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{u}^2}} \cdot (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}' + \mathbf{u}' \cdot \mathbf{u}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{u}^2}} (2\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}') = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}'}{\sqrt{\mathbf{u}^2}} \\
 &= \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}'}{|\mathbf{u}|}
 \end{aligned}$$

meaning velocity vector

Q4.

4. Suppose  $\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is differentiable, where  $I$  is an interval. Prove that  $|\mathbf{r}|$  is constant if and only if  $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r} = 0$  for all  $t \in I$ .

S2

??

$$\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

↑  
interval

$$\text{For } \forall a \in [0, \infty), |\mathbf{r}| = a \Leftrightarrow |\mathbf{r}|^2 = a^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r} = a^2$$

So  $|\mathbf{r}|$  is constant iff  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}$  is constant,

intermediate!

$$\text{iff } \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}) = 0.$$

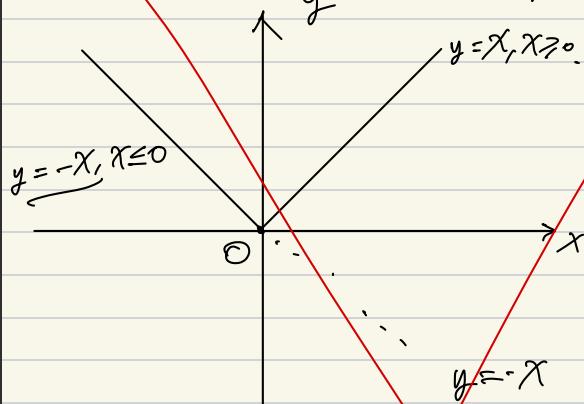
However,

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}' = 2\mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r} = 2\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$

$\checkmark$   
we also have  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r} \geq 0$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow \dots$

## Practice problems

1. Let  $C$  be the curve in the  $xy$ -plane that consists of the half-line  $y = -x, x \leq 0$  and the half-line  $y = x, x \geq 0$ . Give an example of a vector-valued function  $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  which parametrizes  $C$  and such that  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  is differentiable for all  $t$ .



$$\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (\quad) \hat{i} + (\quad) \hat{j}$$

2. Suppose that  $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a parametrized curve such that  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{r}'$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $\mathbf{r}'(t) \neq 0$ . Does there have to exist a  $t_0 \in (a, b)$  such that  $\mathbf{r}(b) - \mathbf{r}(a) = (b-a)\mathbf{r}'(t_0)$ ? If yes, prove it. If no, give a counterexample.

$$\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$

$$\& \mathbf{r}'(t) \neq 0$$

$$t_0 \in (a, b)$$

$$\mathbf{r}(b) - \mathbf{r}(a) = (b-a)\mathbf{r}'(t_0)$$

Lagrange theorem

Suppose  $\mathbf{r} = f(t) \hat{i} + g(t) \hat{j}$ .

$$\mathbf{r}(b) - \mathbf{r}(a) = [f(b) - f(a)] \hat{i} + [g(b) - g(a)] \hat{j}$$

$$\mathbf{r}'(t_0) = f'(t_0) \hat{i} + g'(t_0) \hat{j}$$

$$(b-a)\mathbf{r}'(t_0) = (b-a)(f'(t_0) \hat{i} + g'(t_0) \hat{j})$$

Because Lagrange also dealt with it in 2D then what we're supposed to do.

## Practice problems

1. Let  $C$  be the curve in the  $xy$ -plane that consists of the half-line  $y = -x$ ,  $x \leq 0$ , and the half-line  $y = x$ ,  $x \geq 0$ . Give an example of a vector-valued function  $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  which parametrizes  $C$  and such that  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  is differentiable for all  $t$ .

Sur.

We claim that  $\underline{r}(t) = (t^3, |t^3|)$  works

Bijection from  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow C$ .

The components of  $x(t) = t^3$  is differentiable for all  $t$ .  
and  $y(t) = |t^3|$  is differentiable for all  $t \neq 0$ .

Next we check the differentiability at  $t=0$ .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|t^3|}{t} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{t^3}{t} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|t^3|}{t} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-t^3}{t} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} -t^2 = 0.$$

is differentiable  
at  $t=0$

So derivatives from either sides equal  $\rightarrow y'(t)$

2. Suppose that  $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a parametrized curve such that  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{r}'$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $\mathbf{r}'(t) \neq 0$ . Does there have to exist a  $t_0 \in (a, b)$  such that  $\mathbf{r}(b) - \mathbf{r}(a) = (b-a)\mathbf{r}'(t_0)$ ? If yes, prove it. If no, give a counterexample.

$$\underline{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$\underline{r}, \underline{r}'$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$

$$\underline{r}'(t) \neq 0$$

$$a \underset{t_0 \in (a, b)}{\underline{r}}$$

$$\underline{r}(b) - \underline{r}(a) = (b-a)\underline{r}'(t_0)$$

Answer is No.

Counterexample:

$$\underline{r} = \cos t \hat{i} + \sin t \hat{j} + t \hat{k} \text{ and } [a, b] = [0, 2\pi]$$

So that

$$\underline{r}(b) - \underline{r}(a) = \hat{j} + 2\pi \hat{k} - \hat{i} = 2\pi \hat{k}$$

$$\text{But } \underline{r}'(t) = -\sin t \hat{i} + \cos t \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

never parallel to the x-axis