

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

definition of
vector-valued 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
vector-valued 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 $\{\underline{r}(t) : t \in I\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ of values attained by a continuous vector-based function.

If the same curve ^{set of values} corresponds to several $\underline{r}(t)$, \underline{r}_j is the different parameterizations of the curve.

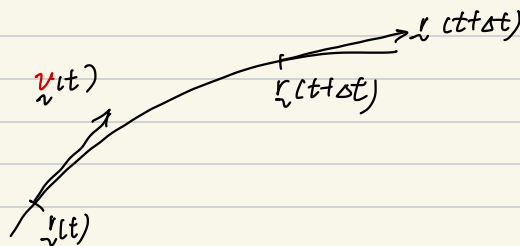
definition of
differentiability

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

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



$$\text{speed} = v(t) := |\underline{v}(t)|$$

$$\text{acceleration} = \underline{a}(t) = \underline{v}'(t) = \underline{r}''(t)$$

examples

t

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

$$\underline{r}(t) = \underline{OP_0} + t\underline{v} = \underline{r_0} + t\underline{v}$$

$$\underline{v}(t) = \underline{r}'(t) = \underline{v}$$

$$\begin{cases} \underline{r_2}(t) = \underline{r_0} + 2t\underline{v} \\ \underline{r_3}(t) = \underline{r_0} + t^2\underline{v} \end{cases}$$

velocity

✓

Helix curve:

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

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

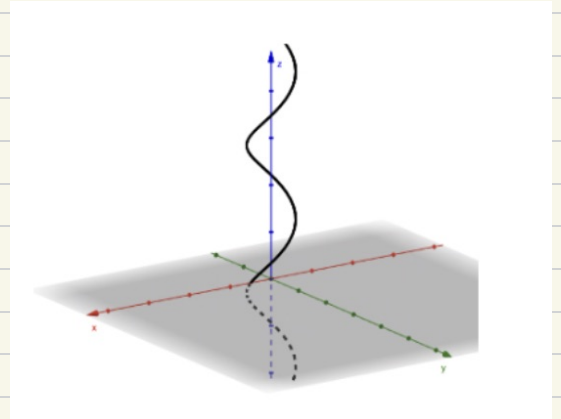
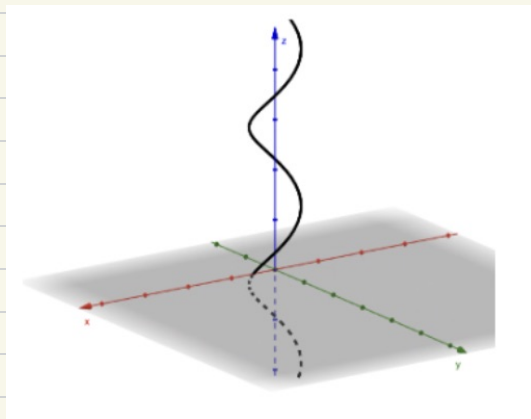
$$\underline{a}(t) = -\cos(t)\hat{i} - \sin(t)\hat{j} + \boxed{?}$$

+ 0

Imagine the following two helix curves?

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

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



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:**

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\underline{u}(s(t))] = s'(t) \underline{u}'(s(t)) \quad \text{to re-parametrizing curve.}$$

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

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

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

$$z = x + y$$

$$\rightarrow \text{further: } z = 9\cos^2 \theta + 9\sin^2 \theta$$

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

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

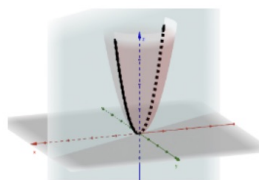


FIGURE 6. The curve described in Worked Problem no. 2

Sol. $\underline{r} = \langle 2t, t, 5t^2 \rangle$ ✓

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

Sol.

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

meaning velocity vector

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 $t \in I$.

Sol.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathbf{r}: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \\
 \uparrow \\
 \text{interval}
 \end{array}$$

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

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

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

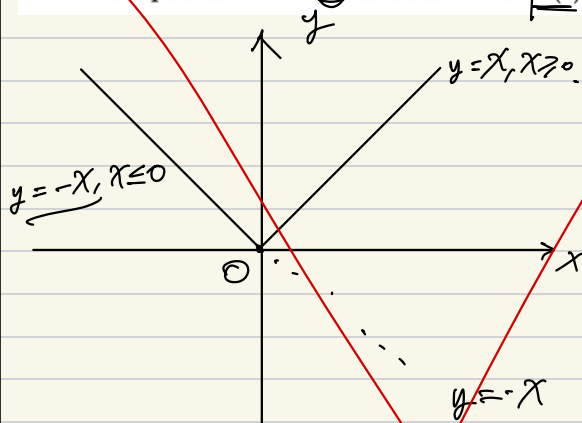
$$\text{intermediate!} \quad \text{iff } \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}) = 0.$$

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

we also have $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r} > 0$
 < 0
 $= 0 \dots$

altice problems

- 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 $\underline{r}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ which parametrizes C and such that $\underline{r}(t)$ is differentiable for all t .



$$\underline{r}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2.$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lagrange theorem

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

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

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

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

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

altice 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 .

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

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

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

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

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

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

Answer is No.

Counterexample:

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

So that

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

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

never parallel to the x -axis