

# Calculus of parametric equations example problems\*

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## 1 Parametric curve differentiation

**Problem 1.1.** Derive the equation for the first derivative of a parametric equation.

**Problem 1.2.** Derive the equation for the second derivative of a parametric equation.

**Problem 1.3.** Find the first derivative of the parametric equations  $x = r \cos t$  and  $y = r \sin t$ .

**Problem 1.4.** Find the second derivative of the parametric equations  $x = r \cos t$  and  $y = r \sin t$ .

**Problem 1.5.** Find the first derivative of the parametric equations  $x = t^3 + t$  and  $y = t^7 + t + 1$ .

**Problem 1.6.** Find the second derivative of the parametric equations  $x = t^3 + t$  and  $y = t^7 + t + 1$ .

**Problem 1.7.** Find the first derivative of the parametric equations  $x = x(t)$  and  $y = y(t)$  using time derivative dot notation.

**Problem 1.8.** Find the second derivative of the parametric equations  $x = x(t)$  and  $y = y(t)$  using time derivative dot notation.

**Problem 1.9.** Find the angle at which the cycloid  $(x, y) = (at - a \sin t, a - a \cos t)$  meets the  $x$  axis at the origin.

*Hint: Use the limit as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ .*

**Problem 1.10.** Find the slope of the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (t^5 + \sin 2\pi t, t + e^t)$

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**Problem 1.11.** Find the slope of the curve  $(x, y) = (t^2 + e^t, t + e^t)$  at the point  $(1, 1)$ .

*Hint: Find the value of  $t$  at the point.*

**Problem 1.12.** Find the point(s) on the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (2 \cos t + \sin 2t, 2 \sin t + \cos 2t)$  where there is a horizontal tangent line.

*Hint: This is the point where the numerator of the first derivative is 0, but the denominator is not.*

**Problem 1.13.** Find the point(s) on the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (2 \cos t + \sin 2t, 2 \sin t + \cos 2t)$  where there is a vertical tangent line.

*Hint: A vertical tangent line to a parametric curve is where the numerator of the first derivative not 0, while the denominator is 0.*

**Problem 1.14.** Find the points on the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (\cos 2t, \sin 3t)$ , where there are horizontal tangent lines.

*Hint: This is the point where the numerator of the first derivative is 0, but the denominator is not.*

**Problem 1.15.** Find the points on the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (\cos 2t, \sin 3t)$ , where there are vertical tangent lines.

*Hint: A vertical tangent line to a parametric curve is where the numerator of the first derivative not 0, while the denominator is 0.*

## 2 Parametric curve integration

**Problem 2.1.** Consider a single variable function,  $f$ , continuous on an interval  $a \leq x \leq b$ . Derive an equation for the area enclosed by the parametric curve of this function, given  $c \leq t \leq d$  (with no intersection of the curve on this interval, except perhaps for a coincident start and end position and a clockwise traversal on the interval).

**Problem 2.2.** Find the area enclosed by the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (2 \cos t + \sin 2t, 2 \sin t + \cos 2t)$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .

*Hint: Use  $\int_c^d y'(t) x(t) dt$  or  $-\int_c^d y(t) x'(t) dt$*

**Problem 2.3.** Find the area enclosed by the ellipse in (3).

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad (1)$$

*Hint: Use a trigonometric identity.*

**Problem 2.4.** Find the area enclosed by the the parametric equations given in (4).

$$(x, y) = \left( \frac{1}{2} \cos t - \frac{1}{4} \cos 2t, \frac{1}{2} \sin t - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t \right) \quad (2)$$

**Problem 2.5.** Find the area enclosed by the parametric curve  $(x, y) = (\cos t, \sin 2t)$  on the interval  $\frac{\pi}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{3\pi}{2}$

**Problem 2.6.** Find the area enclosed by the parametric equation  $(x, y) = (t^3 - 4t, t^4 - 1)$  on the interval  $-2 \leq t \leq 2$ .