

MCV4UR : Advanced Placement Calculus and Vectors

Assignment #2

Reference Declaration

Complete the Reference Declaration section below in order for your assignment to be graded.

If you used any references beyond the course text and lectures (such as other texts, discussions with colleagues or online resources), indicate this information in the space below. If you did not use any aids, state this in the space provided.

Be sure to cite appropriate theorems throughout your work. You may use shorthand for well-known theorems like the MVT, IVT, etc.

Note: Your submitted work must be **your original work**.

Family Name: Do

First Name: Kien

Declared References:

Did some reading on how to find the tangent line given a point and the equation of a circle (hyperlinked):

- Intersection of a Line and a Circle (Part 1)
- Tangent: Slope Form (Part 1)

Discussion with Phil Ostroscki on Question 7 about strategies and ways to tackle the problem.

1. Given $\cosh(x) = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}$, show the derivation of $\cosh^{-1}(x)$ as a function of x .

Solution:

First, let's represent $\cosh^{-1}(x)$ into something more familiar in order to find its derivative.

Let $y = \cosh^{-1}(x)$.

$$\cosh^{-1}(x) = y \quad (1)$$

$$\cosh(\cosh^{-1}(x)) = \cosh(y) \quad (2)$$

$$x = \cosh(y) \quad (3)$$

$$x = \frac{e^y + e^{-y}}{2} \quad (4)$$

$$2x = e^y + \frac{1}{e^y} \quad (5)$$

$$2xe^y = (e^y)^2 + 1 \quad (6)$$

$$0 = (e^y)^2 - 2x(e^y) + 1 \quad (7)$$

Let $u = e^y$.

$$0 = u^2 - 2xu + 1 \quad (8)$$

$$u = \frac{2x \pm \sqrt{(2x)^2 - 4(1)(1)}}{2(1)} \quad (9)$$

$$u = \frac{2x \pm \sqrt{4x^2 - 4}}{2} \quad (10)$$

$$u = \frac{2x \pm \sqrt{4(x^2 - 1)}}{2} \quad (11)$$

$$u = \frac{2x \pm 2\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}{2} \quad (12)$$

$$u = x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \quad (13)$$

$$e^y = x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \xleftarrow{\text{sub in } u = e^y} \quad (14)$$

$$y = \ln(x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}) \quad (15)$$

$$\cosh^{-1}(x) = \ln(x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}) \xleftarrow{\text{sub in } y = \cosh^{-1}(x)} \quad (16)$$

Now, we can determine $\frac{d}{dx} \cosh^{-1}(x)$. Let $y = \cosh^{-1}(x)$.

$$y = \ln(x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}) \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \times \left(1 \pm \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \right) \xleftarrow{\text{by chain rule}} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \times \left(1 \pm \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \times 2x \right) \xleftarrow{\text{by chain rule}} \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \times \left(1 \pm \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \right) \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \times \left(\frac{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \right) \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \quad (22)$$

2. Assume that $f(x)$ is continuous on the interval $J = [3, 5]$, $f(3) = 2$ and that $f'(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^3}$ on J .
- (a) Determine the maximum and minimum values of $f'(x)$ on J .

Solution:

Let's take a look at $f'(x)$. I can see that as x increases, $f'(x)$ decreases. That means $f'(x)$ is a decreasing function on J . Since 3 is the smallest value on J , I can say that $f'(3)$ is the largest value on J . Likewise, since 5 is the largest number on J , $f'(5)$ must be the smallest value on J .

Therefore, the minimum and maximum value of $f'(x)$ on J is $f'(5)$ and $f'(3)$, respectively.

- (b) Prove that $\frac{127}{63} \leq f(5) \leq \frac{29}{14}$.

Solution:

Since $f'(x)$ has a max slope at $x = 3$, a min slope at $x = 5$, is positive on J and decreases as x increases, I can sketch out $f(x)$ starting with a steep slope then gradually getting less steep as x increases. Note that the figure is not to scale.

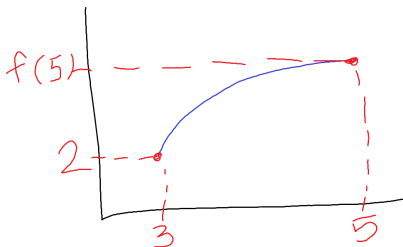


Figure 1: Sketch of $f(x)$

Determine the value of the maximum slope, $f'(3)$, and the minimum slope, $f'(5)$.

$$f'(3) = \frac{1}{1 + (3)^3} \quad (1)$$

$$f'(3) = \frac{1}{28} \quad (2)$$

$$f'(5) = \frac{1}{1 + (5)^3} \quad (3)$$

$$f'(5) = \frac{1}{126} \quad (4)$$

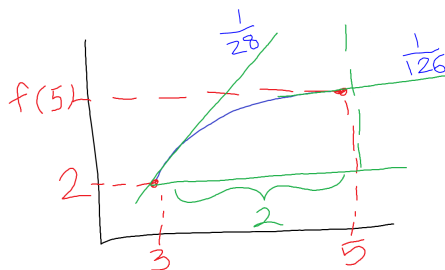


Figure 2: Sketch of $f(x)$

We do not know $f(x)$ but now that we have determined the value of the max and min slopes of $f(x)$, we know that $\forall x \in J$, its minimum slope must be $\frac{1}{126}$ and its maximum slope must be $\frac{1}{28}$. So, let's assume the most extreme cases - that $f(x)$ is linear and that the entire function's slope is either the minimum or the maximum, ie: $f(x)$ has a slope of $\frac{1}{126} \forall x \in J$ for case 1 and a slope of $\frac{1}{28} \forall x \in J$ for case 2. With both of these extreme cases in mind, case 1 must yield the lowest possible outputs of $f(x)$ on J , similarly, case 2 must yield the highest possible outputs of $f(x)$ on J . See Figure 3.

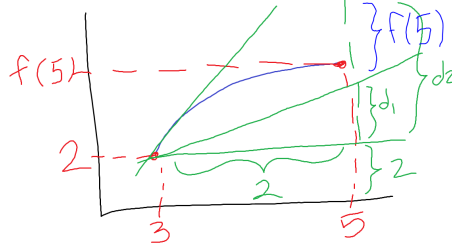


Figure 3: Sketch of $f(x)$

We can see that all possible values for $f(5)$ is simply the difference between $2 + d_1$ and $2 + d_2$. First, let's determine d_1 and d_2 .

Since a slope is the same as a tangent line and $\tan = \frac{\text{opp.}}{\text{adj.}}$, I can say, based on figure 2, that

$\frac{1}{28} = \frac{d_1}{2}$. Likewise, I can say that $\frac{1}{126} = \frac{d_2}{2}$. For now, let's determine d for both cases.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{28} &= \frac{d_1}{2} \\ d_1 &= \frac{1}{14}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{126} &= \frac{d_2}{2} \\ d_2 &= \frac{1}{63}\end{aligned}$$

However, we are not done since we need to add 2 to d_1 and d_2 due to $f(3)$ starting at (3,2).

$$\begin{aligned}f(5)_1 &= \frac{1}{14} + 2 \\ f(5)_1 &= \frac{1}{14} + \frac{28}{14} \\ f(5)_1 &= \frac{29}{14}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}f(5)_2 &= \frac{1}{63} + 2 \\ f(5)_2 &= \frac{1}{63} + \frac{126}{63} \\ f(5)_2 &= \frac{127}{63}\end{aligned}$$

We cannot know the exact value of $f(5)$, however, we have just determined the maximum and minimum values for $f(5)$, therefore, $f(5)$ must be from $\frac{127}{63}$ to $\frac{29}{14}$, inclusive.

Therefore, $\frac{127}{63} \leq f(5) \leq \frac{29}{14}$.

3. Consider a function $f(x)$.

(a) Show that if $f(x)$ is differentiable on \mathbb{R} and that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} f'(x) = 0$, then $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} f(x) = f(0)$.

Solution:

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable on \mathbb{R} and $f'(x) = 0$, or, the slope of $f(x)$ is 0 for all values of x , this means that $f(x)$ is flat on the graph and $f(x) = C$ where C is some constant (theorem 10.5 pg. 202). Since $f(x) = C$ for all values of x , $f(x) = f(0) = C$.

(b) Assume that $f(x)$ is such that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} f'(x) = f(x)$. Show that there exists a constant $C \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = Ce^x$.

(Hint: Let $g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{e^x}$ and show that it is a constant function.)

Solution:

Since $f'(x) = f(x)$ for all x , $f'(x) = f(x) = Ce^x$ or $f'(x) = f(x) = 0$.

For the first case, let $g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{e^x}$. Since $f(x) = Ce^x$ (in order to satisfy the given conditions), $g(x) = C$.

We will ignore the second case as it is not relevant to the question, and, that the answer is simply $g(x) = \frac{0}{e^x} = 0$.

4. Given $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, prove $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ that $f^{(n)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n n!}{x^{n+1}}$.

Solution:

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction, first we will check to see if the Base Case is true, then we will come up with an Inductive Hypothesis, then we will use our Inductive Hypothesis to show that our statement holds.

Base Case:

Show that the statement is true for the lowest value of n .

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) & f'(x) &= \frac{(-1)^1 1!}{x^{1+1}} \\ f'(x) &= -\frac{1}{x^2} & f'(x) &= \frac{-1}{x^2} \end{aligned}$$

The base case is satisfied.

Inductive Hypothesis:

Assume $f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^k k!}{x^{k+1}}$ is true ($n=k$). We need to prove that $f^{(k+1)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^{k+1} (k+1)!}{x^{k+2}}$.

By definition, $f^{(k+1)}(x)$ is just the derivative of $f^{(k)}(x)$, so, I just need to find the derivative of $f^{(k)} = \frac{(-1)^k k!}{x^{k+1}}$ and if it equals $f^{(k+1)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^{k+1} (k+1)!}{x^{k+2}}$, my hypothesis is correct.

Proof:

Use the right side of $f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^k k!}{x^{k+1}}$, determine $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{(-1)^k k!}{x^{k+1}} \right)$. First of all, I can see that the entire numerator is just a constant, so, let $z = (-1)^k k!$. We have,

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{z}{x^{k+1}} \right) \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{z'(x^{k+1}) - z(x^{k+1})'}{(x^{k+1})^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{quotient rule} \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{-z(k+1)x^k}{x^{k+1} \times x^{k+1}} \tag{3}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{-z(k+1)}{x \times x^{k+1}} \tag{4}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{-(-1)^k k! (k+1)}{x^{k+2}} \tag{5}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^{k+1} (k+1)!}{x^{k+2}} \tag{6}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{(k)}(x) = f^{(k+1)}(x) \tag{7}$$

Therefore, $f^{(n)}(x) = \frac{(-1)^n n!}{x^{n+1}}$

5. Hailstones originate at an altitude of about 3000 metres, although this varies. As they fall, air resistance slows down the hailstones considerably. In one model of air resistance, the speed (in metres per second) of a hailstone of mass m as a function of time t (in seconds) is given by $v(t) = \frac{mg}{k}(1 - e^{\frac{-kt}{m}})$ where $g \approx 9.8$ (in metres per second squared) is the acceleration due to gravity and k is a constant that depends on the size of the hailstone and the conditions of the air.

(a) Determine the acceleration function $a(t)$ of the hailstone as a function of time.

Solution:

In order to $a(t)$, we simply have to find the derivative $v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} \left(1 - e^{\frac{-kt}{m}}\right)$.

$$a(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{mg}{k} \left(1 - e^{\frac{-kt}{m}}\right) \right) \quad (1)$$

$$a(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$a(t) = -\frac{mg}{k} \left(\frac{-k}{m} \right) e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \quad (3)$$

$$a(t) = g \times e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \quad (4)$$

$$a(t) = 9.8 \times e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \quad (5)$$

(b) Determine $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t)$. What does this say about the speed of the hailstone?

Solution:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{mg}{k} (1 - e^{\frac{-kt}{m}}) \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \right) \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{lim of difference = difference of lim} \\ \text{lim of constant times function = constant times lim of function} \end{array} \quad (3)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt[m]{e^{kt}}} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} \sqrt[m]{\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{e^{kt}} \right)} \quad (5)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} \sqrt[m]{0} \quad (6)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} \quad (7)$$

This means that as time approaches infinity, the velocity of the hailstone will be a constant,

$$\frac{mg}{k}, \text{ or, } \frac{9.8m}{k}.$$

- (c) Determine $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t)$. What does this say about the acceleration of the hailstone?

Solution:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(9.8 \times e^{\frac{-kt}{m}} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t) = 9.8 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{e^{kt}}} \quad (2)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t) = 9.8(0) \quad (3)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t) = 0 \quad (4)$$

This means that as time approaches infinity, there would be no acceleration on the hailstone.

6. Prove that if $\sqrt{x+y} - \sqrt{x-y} = 1$ then $\frac{dy}{dx}$ can be expressed as a function of y .

Solution:

$$\sqrt{x+y} - \sqrt{x-y} = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$(\sqrt{x+y} - \sqrt{x-y})^2 = 1^2 \quad (2)$$

$$x+y - 2\sqrt{x+y}\sqrt{x-y} + x-y = 1 \leftarrow \frac{(a-b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2}{\quad} \quad (3)$$

$$2x - 2\sqrt{x+y}\sqrt{x-y} = 1 \quad (4)$$

$$2(x - \sqrt{x+y}\sqrt{x-y}) = 1 \quad (5)$$

$$-\sqrt{x+y}\sqrt{x-y} = \frac{1}{2} - x \quad (6)$$

$$(-\sqrt{x+y}\sqrt{x-y})^2 = \left(\frac{1}{2} - x\right)^2 \quad (7)$$

$$(x+y)(x-y) = \frac{1}{4} - x + x^2 \leftarrow \frac{(a-b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2}{\quad} \quad (8)$$

$$x^2 - xy + xy - y^2 = x^2 - x + \frac{1}{4} \quad (9)$$

$$-y^2 = -x + \frac{1}{4} \quad (10)$$

$$y^2 = x - \frac{1}{4} \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(y^2) = \frac{d}{dx}\left(x - \frac{1}{4}\right) \quad (12)$$

$$2y \times \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \quad (13)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2y} \quad (14)$$

Therefore, $\frac{dy}{dx}$ can be expressed as a function of y .

7. Consider the three circles defined as $C_1 : x^2 + y^2 = 1$, $C_2 : (x - 4)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 4$ and $C_3 : (x + 5)^2 + (y - 1)^2 = 9$. An *external tangent* of two circles is a line that is tangent to both circles but does not pass between them. A pair of circles will have two external tangents.
- Determine the external tangents of C_1 and C_2 .
 - Determine the external tangents of C_1 and C_3 .
 - Determine the external tangents of C_2 and C_3 .
 - Determine the points of intersection for each system of external tangents for each pair of circles.
 - Show that the points of intersection are collinear.
 - Conjecture, with evidence, whether you believe that the intersection points of these systems of external tangents for three circles will always be collinear or not. Cite any sources you use in your investigation.

Solution for (a), (b) and (c):

Characteristics of a circle on a graph

The general equation of a circle can be represented as $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = c^2$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$. In the equation of a circle, a and b translate the circle horizontally and vertically, respectively, and c is the radius of the circle.

$(x + a)^2$ translates the circle left and $(x - a)^2$ translates the circle right.

Example: $(x - 2)^2 \rightarrow$ trans. 2 units right.

Similarly, $(y + b)^2$ translates the circle down and $(y - b)^2$ translates the circle up.

Example: $(y + 3)^2 \rightarrow$ trans. 3 units down.

Note: These characteristics are important as we will refer to them later in the solution.

Determine the general equation for the tangent slope for a circle

Consider the circle $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$. At any point on the circumference of this circle, its tangent line must be in the form of a linear equation, $y = mx + c$. Determine the general equation for the tangent slope of the circle by subbing in $y = mx + c$ into $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$ and solve for c .

$$a^2 = x^2 + y^2 \tag{1}$$

$$a^2 = x^2 + (mx + c)^2 \tag{2}$$

$$a^2 = x^2 + m^2x^2 + 2mcx + c^2 \tag{3}$$

$$0 = (1 + m^2)x^2 + 2mcx + c^2 - a^2 \tag{4}$$

The equation on line (4) is now in the quadratic form, $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, where the coefficient of x^2 is $(1 + m^2)$, the coefficient of x is $2mc$ and the constant is $c^2 - a^2$. Let's take a look at the discriminant of the quadratic formula ($\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$) and what it means. The discriminant, or, Δ , can be one of three cases:

Case 1: $\Delta > 0 \implies y = mx + c$ runs through the circle and intersects two points on the circle's circumference.

Case 2: $\Delta < 0 \implies y = mx + c$ does not intersect the circle at all.

Case 3: $\Delta = 0 \implies y = mx + c$ only intersects the circle at one point.

Case 3 is also the tangent slope of a circle. Therefore, we will let $\Delta = 0$ and solve for c .

We have,

$$0 = \Delta \quad (5)$$

$$0 = b^2 - 4ac \quad (6)$$

$$0 = (2mc)^2 - 4(1 + m^2)(c^2 - a^2) \quad (7)$$

$$0 = 4m^2c^2 - 4(c^2 - a^2 + m^2c^2 - m^2a^2) \quad (8)$$

$$0 = m^2c^2 - (c^2 - a^2 + m^2c^2 - m^2a^2) \quad (9)$$

$$0 = m^2c^2 - c^2 + a^2 - m^2c^2 + m^2a^2 \quad (10)$$

$$0 = -c^2 + a^2 + m^2a^2 \quad (11)$$

$$c^2 = a^2(1 + m^2) \quad (12)$$

$$c = \pm a^2(1 + m^2) \quad (13)$$

Now, subbing in c from line (13) into $y = mx + c$, we have determined that the tangent of a circle can be represented as, $y = mx \pm a\sqrt{1 + m^2}$ where c is a constant, a is radius of the circle, m is the slope of the tangent equation.

Connect the equation of a circle with the tangent of a circle

Recall the equation of a circle can be represented as $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = c^2$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$, a, b translate the circle horizontally and vertically, respectively, and c is the radius of the circle. We this equation of a circle to the tangent equation of a circle we determined earlier, but with the horizontal and vertical translations,

$$y = m(x - a) \pm c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$$

where a, b, c are the same as the equation of a circle (horizontal/vertical translation and radius) and m is the slope of the tangent line. We can also see that we have two cases, $y = m(x - a) + c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$ and $y = m(x - a) - c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$.

Determining the external tangents of C_1 and C_2

$$C_1 : (x)^2 + (y)^2 = 1$$

$$C_2 : (x - 4)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 4$$

First, we need to determine the a, b, c 's, or, the translations and the radii of C_1, C_2 .

$$C_1 : a = 0, b = 0, c = 1$$

$$C_2 : a = -4, b = 1, c = 2$$

Now, we can write out their respective tangent equations by subbing values of a, b, c into

$$y = m(x - a) \pm c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$$

we have,

$$C_{tan_1} : y = mx \pm 1\sqrt{1 + m^2}$$

$$C_{tan_2} : y = mx - 4m \pm 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1$$

In order to determine the external tangents for C_1 and C_2 , their respective tangents must be the same, therefore, let their tangents equal each other and determine the slope of the tangent, m .

$$C_{tan_1} = C_{tan_2} \quad (1)$$

$$mx \pm 1\sqrt{1+m^2} = mx - 4m \pm \sqrt{1+m^2} - 1 \quad (2)$$

$$\mp 2\sqrt{1+m^2} \pm \sqrt{1+m^2} = mx - 4m - mx - 1 \quad (3)$$

$$\pm\sqrt{1+m^2} = -4m - 1 \quad (4)$$

$$\left(\pm\sqrt{1+m^2}\right)^2 = (-4m - 1)^2 \quad (5)$$

$$1 + m^2 = 16m^2 + 8m + 1 \quad (6)$$

$$0 = 15m^2 + 8m \quad (7)$$

Now, I can determine m using the quadratic formula.

$$m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad (8)$$

$$m = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{8^2 - 4(15)(0)}}{2(15)} \quad (9)$$

$$m = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{64}}{30} \quad (10)$$

$$m = \frac{-8 \pm 8}{30} \quad (11)$$

Therefore, $m_1 = 0$, $m_2 = \frac{-16}{30}$.

Now, we need to determine which slope goes with which pair of tangent lines. Recall that we have two cases,

$$mx + 1\sqrt{1+m^2} = mx - 4m + 2\sqrt{1+m^2} - 1 \quad (1)$$

and

$$mx - 1\sqrt{1+m^2} = mx - 4m - 2\sqrt{1+m^2} - 1 \quad (2)$$

In order to determine which slope goes with which pair, we can sub in m_1 into the first pair and if the left side equals the right side, m_1 belongs to the first pair, otherwise, it belongs to the second pair.

Case 1:

LS

$$y = (m_1)x + 1\sqrt{1+(m_1)^2}$$

$$y = (0)x + 1\sqrt{1+(0)^2}$$

$$y = 1\sqrt{1}$$

$$y = 1$$

RS

$$y = (m_1)x - 4(m_1) + 2\sqrt{1+(m_1)^2} - 1$$

$$y = 0(x - 4) + 2\sqrt{1+0^2} - 1$$

$$y = 2\sqrt{1} - 1$$

$$y = 1$$

The left side equals the right side, therefore, m_1 goes with the first external tangent equation and m_2 goes with the second external tangent equation. With this, we also have our first external tangent, $y = 1$.

Now I can determine the second external tangent using either side of the second external tangent equation, but just to be cautious, I will use both sides of the equation similar to how I determined the external tangent for the first equation.

Case 2:

LS

$$y = (m_2)x - 1\sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2}$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-16}{30}\right)x - 1\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-16}{30}\right)^2}$$

$$y = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15}$$

RS

$$y = (m_2)x - 4(m_2) - 2\sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2} - 1$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-16}{30}\right)x - 4\left(\frac{-16}{30}\right) - 2\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-16}{30}\right)^2} - 1$$

$$y = \frac{-16}{30}x + \frac{32}{15} - \frac{34}{15} - 1$$

$$y = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15}$$

Therefore, our second tangent is $y = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15}$.

∴ The external tangents of C_1 and C_2 are $y = 1$ and $y = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15}$.

With the same method, I can determine the external tangents of C_2 , C_3 and C_1 , C_3 .

Determining the external tangents of C_1 and C_3

First, we write the equations of the circles,

$$C_1 : (x)^2 + (y)^2 = 1$$

$$C_3 : (x + 5)^2 + (y - 1)^2 = 9$$

then, we sub in their translations and radii into the linear tangent equation $y = m(x - a) \pm c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$ so that we have,

$$C_{tan_1} : y = mx \pm \sqrt{1 + m^2}$$

$$C_{tan_3} : y = mx + 5m \pm 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1$$

Now, let $C_{tan_1} = C_{tan_3}$, rewrite the equation into quadratic equation, then determine the slope, m .

$$C_{tan_1} = C_{tan_3} \tag{12}$$

$$mx \pm \sqrt{1 + m^2} = mx + 5m \pm 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \tag{13}$$

$$\pm\sqrt{1 + m^2} \mp 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} = mx - mx + 5m + 1 \tag{14}$$

$$\pm 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} = 5m + 1 \tag{15}$$

$$\left(\pm 2\sqrt{1 + m^2}\right)^2 = (5m + 1)^2 \tag{16}$$

$$4(1 + m^2) = (5m)^2 + 2(5m)(1) + 1^2 \tag{17}$$

$$4 + 4m^2 = 25m^2 + 10m + 1 \tag{18}$$

$$0 = 21m^2 + 10m - 3 \tag{19}$$

Determine m using the quadratic formula.

$$= \frac{-10 \pm \sqrt{10^2 - 4(21)(-3)}}{2(21)} \quad (20)$$

$$= \frac{-5 \pm 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \quad (21)$$

Therefore, $m_1 = \frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21}$ and $m_2 = \frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21}$.

Determine which slope goes with which case by subbing the slope into each case,

$$mx + \sqrt{1 + m^2} = mx + 5m + 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \quad (1)$$

$$mx - \sqrt{1 + m^2} = mx + 5m - 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \quad (2)$$

Case 1: LS

$$y = (m_1)x + \sqrt{1 + (m_1)^2} \quad (22)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (23)$$

Case 1: RS

$$y = (m_1)x + 5(m_1) + 3\sqrt{1 + (m_1)^2} + 1 \quad (24)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) (x) + 5 \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) + 3\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} + 1 \quad (25)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (26)$$

Therefore, the first external tangent of C_1 and C_3 is $y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2}$

Case 2: LS

$$y = (m_2)x - \sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2} \quad (27)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (28)$$

Case 2: RS

$$y = (m_2)x + 5(m_2) - 3\sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2} + 1 \quad (29)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) (x) + 5 \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) - 3\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} + 1 \quad (30)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (31)$$

Therefore, the second external tangent of C_1 and C_3 is $y = \left(\frac{-5+2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5+2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)^2}$

\therefore The external tangents of C_1 and C_3 are

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)^2}$$

and

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21}\right)^2}$$

Determining the external tangents of C_2 and C_3

The equations of the circles,

$$C_2 : (x - 4)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 4$$

$$C_3 : (x + 5)^2 + (y - 1)^2 = 9$$

then, we sub in their translations and radii into the linear tangent equation $y = m(x - a) \pm c\sqrt{1 + m^2} + b$ so that we have,

$$C_{tan_2} : y = m(x - 4) - 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1$$

$$C_{tan_3} : y = m(x + 5) - 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1$$

or,

$$C_{tan_2} : y = mx - 4m \pm 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1$$

$$C_{tan_3} : y = mx + 5m \pm 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1$$

Now, let $C_{tan_2} = C_{tan_3}$, rewrite the equation into quadratic equation, then determine the slope, m .

$$C_{tan_2} = C_{tan_3} \tag{32}$$

$$mx - 4m \pm 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1 = mx + 5m \pm 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \tag{33}$$

$$\pm\sqrt{1 + m^2} = 9m + 2 \tag{34}$$

$$\left(\pm\sqrt{1 + m^2}\right)^2 = (9m + 2)^2 \tag{35}$$

$$1 + m^2 = (9m)^2 + 2(9m)(2) + 2^2 \tag{36}$$

$$0 = 81m^2 + 36m + 4 - m^2 - 1 \tag{37}$$

$$0 = 80m^2 + 36m + 3 \tag{38}$$

Determine m using the quadratic formula.

$$= \frac{-36 \pm \sqrt{36^2 - 4(80)(3)}}{2(80)} \tag{39}$$

$$= \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{21}}{40} \tag{40}$$

Therefore, $m_1 = \frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40}$ and $m_2 = \frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40}$.

Determine which slope goes with which case by subbing the slope into each case,

$$mx - 4m + 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1 = mx + 5m + 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \quad (1)$$

$$mx - 4m - 2\sqrt{1 + m^2} - 1 = mx + 5m - 3\sqrt{1 + m^2} + 1 \quad (2)$$

Case 1: LS

$$y = (m_1)x - 4(m_1) + 2\sqrt{1 + (m_1)^2} - 1 \quad (41)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 4 \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) + 2\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right)^2} - 1 \quad (42)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416 \quad (43)$$

Case 1: RS

$$y = (m_1)x + 5(m_1) + 3\sqrt{1 + (m_1)^2} + 1 \quad (44)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) (x) + 5 \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) + 3\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right)^2} + 1 \quad (45)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416 \quad (46)$$

Therefore, the first external tangent of C_2 and C_3 is $y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416$

Case 2: LS

$$y = (m_2)x - 4(m_2) - 2\sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2} - 1 \quad (47)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 4 \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) - 2\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right)^2} - 1 \quad (48)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416 \quad (49)$$

Case 2: RS

$$y = (m_2)x + 5(m_2) - 3\sqrt{1 + (m_2)^2} + 1 \quad (50)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) (x) + 5 \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) - 3\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right)^2} + 1 \quad (51)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416 \quad (52)$$

Therefore, the second external tangent of C_2 and C_3 is $y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416$

∴ The external tangents of C_2 and C_3 are

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416$$

and

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416$$

Solution for (d):

Since each system of external tangents has two linear equations, I can simply determine the points of intersection by elimination or substitution.

Point of intersection of the C_1 and C_2 's external tangents

Tangent equation 1:

$$y = 1$$

Tangent equation 2:

$$y = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15}$$

Determine the point of intersection by substitution.

$$1 = \frac{-16}{30}x - \frac{17}{15} \quad (1)$$

$$x = \frac{32}{15} \times \frac{30}{-16} \quad (2)$$

$$x = -4 \quad (3)$$

We already know $y = 1$,

∴ C_1 and C_2 's tangent lines have a point of intersection at $(-4, 1)$.

Point of intersection of the C_1 and C_3 's external tangents

Tangent equation 1:

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2}$$

Tangent equation 2:

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2}$$

Determine the point of intersection by substitution.

$$\left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} = \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 + 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (4)$$

$$x = 2.5 \quad (5)$$

Sub $x = 2.5$ into tangent equation 1 to determine the y coordinate.

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) x + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (6)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right) (2.5) + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-5 - 2\sqrt{22}}{21} \right)^2} \quad (7)$$

$$y = -0.5 \quad (8)$$

$\therefore C_1$ and C_3 's tangent lines have a point of intersection at $(2.5, -0.5)$.

Point of intersection of the C_2 and C_3 's external tangents

Tangent equation 1:

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416$$

Tangent equation 2:

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416$$

Determine the point of intersection by substitution.

$$\left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416 = \left(\frac{-9 + \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x - 2.570416 \quad (9)$$

$$x = 22 \quad (10)$$

Sub $x = 22$ into tangent equation 1 to determine the y coordinate.

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) x + 2.470416 \quad (11)$$

$$y = \left(\frac{-9 - \sqrt{21}}{40} \right) (22) + 2.470416 \quad (12)$$

$$y = -5 \quad (13)$$

$\therefore C_2$ and C_3 's tangent lines have a point of intersection at $(22, -5)$.

Solution for (f):

Suppose we have three circles defined as $S_1 : x^2 + y^2 = 4$, $S_2 : (x - 6)^2 + (y)^2 = 4$ and $S_3 : (x - 3)^2 + (y + 6)^2 = 4$. Since all of their radii are the same, the external tangents in each system must be parallel. If each system only has parallel tangents, there are no points of intersection. If there are no points of intersection, the "points of intersection" cannot be collinear.