

Matrix theory Assignment 7

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Abstract—This document solves for a point on parabola at which tangent is parallel to a chord

Download all python codes from

<https://github.com/saipranavkr/EE5609/codes>

and latex-tikz codes from

<https://github.com/saipranavkr/EE5609>

1 PROBLEM

Find a point on the curve $y = (x - 2)^2$ at which the tangent is parallel to the chord joining the points (2,0) and (4,4)

2 SOLUTION

$y = (x - 2)^2$ can be written as,

$$x^2 - 4x - y + 4 = 0 \quad (2.0.1)$$

From (2.0.1),

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}; f = 4 \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$|V| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (2.0.3)$$

(2.0.3) implies that the curve is a parabola. Now, finding the eigen values corresponding to the \mathbf{V} ,

$$\begin{aligned} |V - \lambda I| &= 0 \\ \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} &= 0 \\ \implies \lambda &= 0, 1 \end{aligned} \quad (2.0.4)$$

Calculating the eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda = 0, 1$ respectively,

$$\mathbf{V}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = 0; \implies \mathbf{p}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = 0; \implies \mathbf{p}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.6)$$

By Eigen decomposition on \mathbf{V} ,

$$\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^T$$

$$\text{where, } \mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{p}_1 \quad \mathbf{p}_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.8)$$

To find the vertex of the parabola,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}^T + \eta \mathbf{p}_1^T \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \eta \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$\text{where, } \eta = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{p}_1 = -\frac{1}{2} \quad (2.0.10)$$

Substituting values from (2.0.2), (2.0.5) and (2.0.10) in (2.0.9),

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.11)$$

Removing last row and representing (2.0.11) as augmented matrix and then converting the matrix to echelon form,

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & -4 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} &\xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} &\xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow (-2R_2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - \frac{R_2}{2}} \\ &\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (2.0.12)$$

From (2.0.12) it can be observed that,

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.13)$$

Direction vector of the chord joining A(4,4) and B(2,0) can be calculated as,

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.14)$$

We know that,

$$\mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{n} = 0; \Rightarrow \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.15)$$

To find the point of contact \mathbf{q} , which is intersection point for normal of the chord AB and also tangent of the curve,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}^T + \kappa \mathbf{n}^T \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \kappa \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.16)$$

$$\text{where, } \kappa = \frac{\mathbf{p}_1^T \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{p}_1^T \mathbf{n}} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (2.0.17)$$

Substituting the values from (2.0.2),(2.0.15) and (2.0.17) in (2.0.16),

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.18)$$

Removing last row and representing (2.0.18) as augmented matrix and then converting the matrix to echelon form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & -4 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow (-R_1)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow (-R_2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.19)$$

From (2.0.19), it can be observed,

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.20)$$

which is the required point of contact

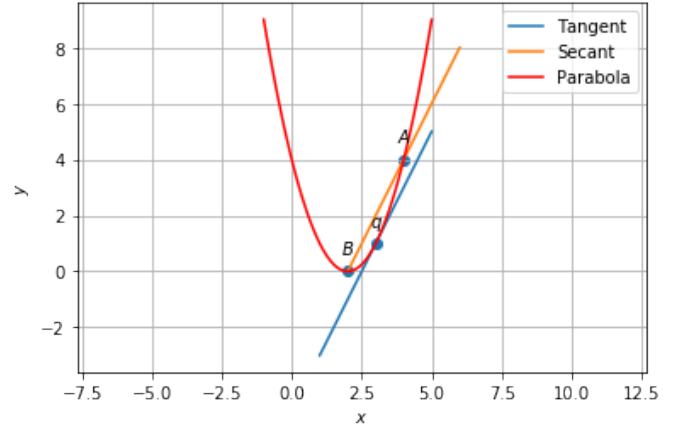


Fig. 1: Parabola with AB as chord, a tangent parallel to the chord