

3/13 Parametric Equations § 10.1

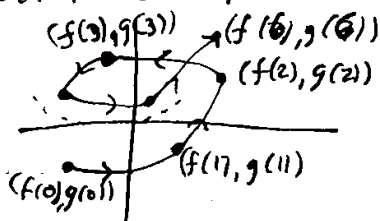
The 1st half of the semester was focused on integration.
In 2nd half, we will study other topics. We start with a short chapter (Ch. 10) on parametric equations & polar coordinates.

Up until now we have looked at curves of the form $y = f(x)$ (or, more rarely, $f(x, y) = 0$).

A parameterized curve is defined by two equations:

$$x = f(t) \quad \text{and} \quad y = g(t)$$

where t is an auxiliary variable. Often think of t as time, so the curve describes motion of a particle where at time t particle is at position $(f(t), g(t))$:

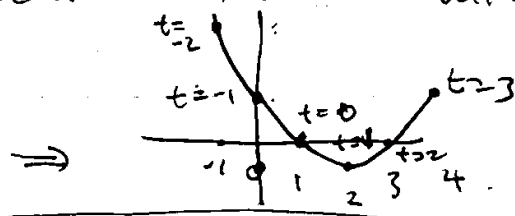


In this picture the arrows \rightarrow show movement of particle over time.

Ex. Consider curve $x = t + 1$, $y = t^2 - 2t$.

We can make a chart w/ different values of t :

t	x	y
-2	-1	8
-1	0	3
0	1	0
1	2	-1
2	3	0
3	4	3



plot of points $(f(t), g(t))$ for $t = -1, 0, \dots, 4$ looks like parabola

In this case, we can eliminate the variable t :

$$x = t + 1 \Rightarrow t = x - 1$$

$$y = t^2 - 2t \Rightarrow y = (x - 1)^2 - 2(x - 1) = x^2 - 4x + 3$$

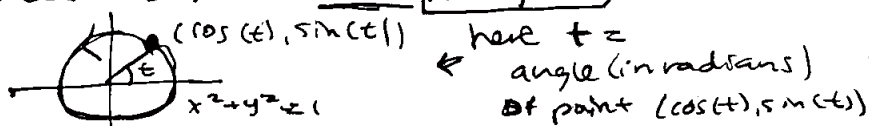
So this parametric curve is just $y = x^2 - 4x + 3$

E.g. Consider parametric curve:
 $x = \cos(t), y = \sin(t) \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

initial time \Rightarrow initial point $(f(0), g(0))$
 terminal time \Rightarrow terminal point $(f(2\pi), g(2\pi))$

How can we visualize this curve?

Notice that $x^2 + y^2 = \cos^2(t) + \sin^2(t) = 1$, so
 this parameterizes a circle ($x^2 + y^2 = 1$):



E.g. What about $x = \cos(2t), y = \sin(2t), 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$?

Notice we still have $x^2 + y^2 = \cos^2(2t) + \sin^2(2t) = 1$,

so the parameterized curve still traces a circle.

curve
spins
around
2 times! \Rightarrow



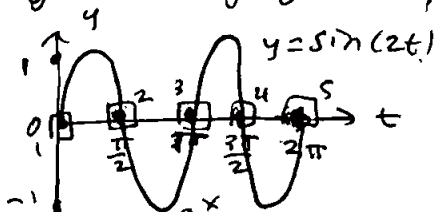
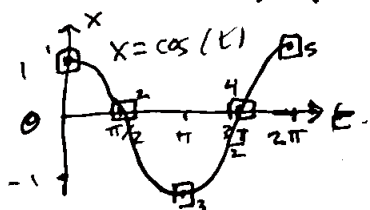
But: now traces circle twice:
 once for $0 \leq t \leq \pi$ and
 once for $\pi \leq t \leq 2\pi$

So we see that the same curve can be
 parameterized in different ways!
 Can think of the particle as moving "faster"!

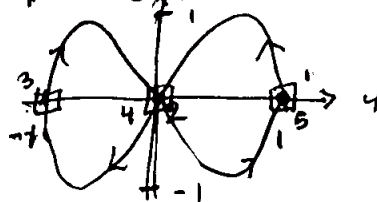
E.g. Consider the curve $x = \cos(t), y = \sin(2t)$.

It is possible to eliminate t to get $y^2 = 4x^2 - 4x^4$,
 but that equation is hard to visualize.

Instead, graph $x = f(t)$ and $y = g(t)$ separately:



Then
 combine \Rightarrow
 into one picture:
 showing $(f(t), g(t))$



1 2 ... 5
 are 5 time
 "snapshots"
 of particle
 as it traces the curve

3/15 Calculus with parameterized curves § 10.2

Much of what we have done with curves $y = f(x)$ in calculus can also be done for parameterized curves.

Tangent vectors: Let $(x, y) = (f(t), g(t))$ be a curve.

Then, at time t , the slope of tangent vector is given by:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{chain rule}}}{=} \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{g'(t)}{f'(t)} \quad (\text{if } f'(t) \neq 0).$$

If $dy/dt = 0$ and $dx/dt \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ horizontal tangent

If $dx/dt = 0$ and $dy/dt \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ vertical tangent.

E.g. Consider curve $x = t^2$, $y = t^3 - 3t$.

First, notice when $t = \pm\sqrt{3}$ have

$$x = t^2 = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad y = t^3 - 3t = t(t^2 - 3) = 0,$$

so curve passes through $(3, 0)$ at two times $t = -\sqrt{3}$ and $t = \sqrt{3}$.

With the above formula we can compute:

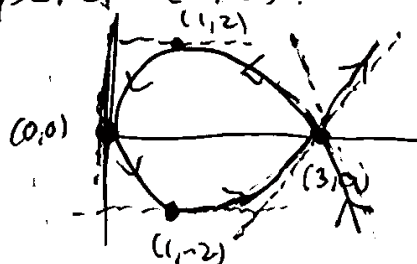
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{3t^2 - 3}{2t} \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow = -6/2\sqrt{3} = -\sqrt{3} \text{ at } t = -\sqrt{3} \\ \searrow = 6/2\sqrt{3} = \sqrt{3} \text{ at } t = \sqrt{3} \end{array}$$

So two tangent lines, of slopes $\pm\sqrt{3}$, pass through curve at $(3, 0)$.

When is the tangent horizontal? When $dy/dt = 3t^2 - 3 = 0$, which is for $t = \pm 1$, at points $(1, 2)$ and $(1, -2)$.

When is tangent vertical? When $dx/dt = 2t = 0$, at $t = 0$, which is point $(0, 0)$.

Putting all this info together lets us give a good sketch of the curve.



(Exercise: Show circumference of unit circle = 1 using parametrization $x = \cos(t)$, $y = \sin(t)$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$)

Arc lengths: We saw several times how to find lengths of curves by breaking into line segments:

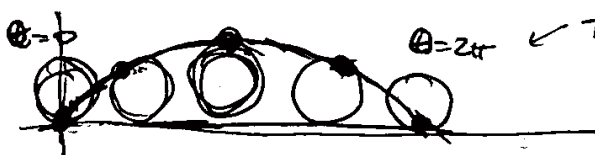


← recall length of each small segment
 $= \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2}$

For a parameterized curve $(x, y) = (f(t), g(t))$, where t is in the range $\alpha \leq t \leq \beta$, this gives:

$$\text{length of curve} = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{f'(t)^2 + g'(t)^2} dt.$$

→ E.g. A cycloid is the path a point on circle traces as the circle rolls:



← think of this as animation of circle rolling, with point marked where $\theta = \text{"time"}$

The cycloid is parameterized by:

$$x = \theta - \sin \theta, \quad y = 1 - \cos \theta \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

(assuming circle has radius 1; θ represents angle rolled).

Q: what is the arclength of the cycloid?

we compute: $\frac{dx}{d\theta} = 1 - \cos \theta$, $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = \sin \theta$, so that

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} = \sqrt{(1 - \cos \theta)^2 + (\sin \theta)^2} = \sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)}$$

$$\text{using identity } \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2x) = \sin^2 x \quad \Rightarrow \quad = \sqrt{4 \sin^2(\theta/2)}$$

$$= 2 \sin(\theta/2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{length of cycloid} = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

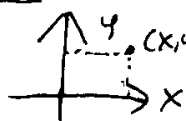
$$= \int_0^{2\pi} 2 \sin(\theta/2) d\theta = \left[-4 \cos(\theta/2) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= (-4 \cdot -1) - (-4 \cdot 1) = 8.$$

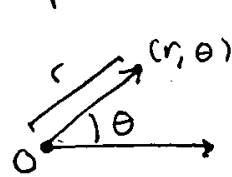
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Polar Coordinates §10.3

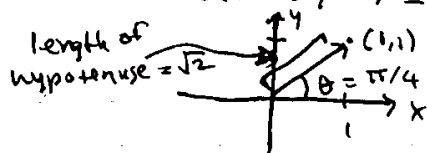
We are used to working with the "Cartesian" coordinate system where a point on the plane is represented by (x, y)

 (x, y) telling us how far to move along two orthogonal axes to reach that point.

The polar coordinate system is a different way to represent points on the plane by a pair (r, θ) :

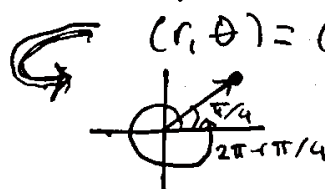
 Here we have one fixed axis ray \rightarrow emanating from origin, and we reach a point (r, θ) by making an angle of θ radians and going out a distance of r .

E.g. The point $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ in Cartesian coord's is the same as $(r, \theta) = (\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4})$ in polar coord's:



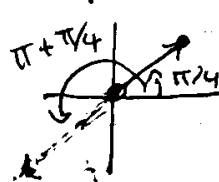
Notice: There are multiple ways to represent any point in polar coord's because we can add 2π to θ :

$(r, \theta) = (\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4})$ same as $(r, \theta) = (\sqrt{2}, 2\pi + \frac{\pi}{4})$



Also... can add π to θ and replace r by $-r$:

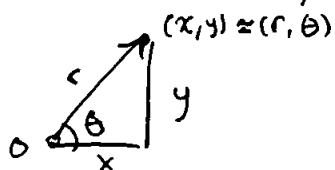
$(r, \theta) = (\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4})$ same as $(r, \theta) = (-\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4} + \pi)$



Negative value of r means go backwards that distance along the ray.

Question: How to convert between Cartesian & polar coord's?

Let's draw a right triangle to help us:



← From this picture we see that

$$x = r \cos \theta \text{ and } y = r \sin \theta$$

which gives (x, y) in terms of (r, θ)

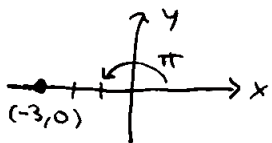
Also we have that:

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \text{ and } \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

which gives us (r, θ) in terms of (x, y)
(specifically, $r = \pm \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ and $\theta = \arctan(\frac{y}{x})$).

E.g.: Find the polar coordinates of $(x, y) = (-3, 0)$.

To solve this problem easiest to draw point:



we see that this point is
at angle $\theta = \pi$ and
radius $r = 3$.

Check: $3^2 = r^2 = x^2 + y^2 = (-3)^2 + 0^2$
and $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{y}{x}) = \frac{y}{x} = \frac{0}{-3}$

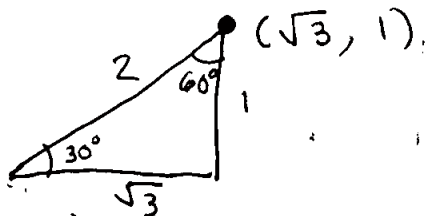
Could also choose $(r, \theta) = (-3, 0)$...

E.g.: Find the Cartesian coordinates of $(r, \theta) = (2, \frac{\pi}{6})$.

Here we have $y = r \sin \theta = 2 \sin(\frac{\pi}{6}) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 1$

and $x = r \cos \theta = 2 \cos(\frac{\pi}{6}) = 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \sqrt{3}$

Can also draw triangle:



≠ recall $\theta = \pi/6$ radians
= 30° degrees

corresponds to a special
right triangle

Polar Equations and Curves:

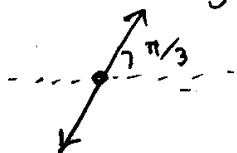
Just like we draw curves $f(x, y) = 0$ in Cartesian coord's, we can draw curves $f(r, \theta) = 0$ in polar coord's.

E.g. The equation $r = 2$ gives circle of radius 2, centered at origin.



← circle = all points at radial distance 2 from 0

E.g. The equation $\theta = \pi/3$ gives line at angle $\pi/3$ thru origin.



← line thru origin = all points at given angle...

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E.g. What about equation $r = 2 \cos \theta$?

Here it's helpful to switch to Cartesian coord's:

multiplying by r gives $r^2 = 2r \cos \theta$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 2x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2 + y^2 = 1$$

which is a circle of radius 1, centered at $(x, y) = (1, 0)$



← $(x-1)^2 + y^2 = 1$
a.k.a. $r = 2 \cos \theta$

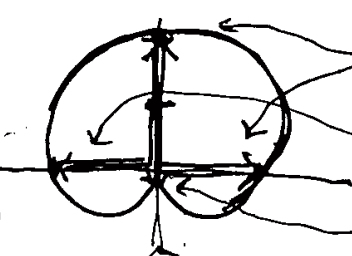
E.g. What about $r = 1 + \sin(\theta)$?

First let's plot this in Cartesian coord's:



← Shows us how radius of figure changes with angle

this "heart shape" figure is the polar curve $r = 1 + \sin(\theta)$



① at angle $\theta = 0$, $r = 1$

② at angle $\theta = \pi/2$, $r = 2$

So we move out to this point up top

③ at $\theta = \pi$, back to $r = 1$

④ at $\theta = 3\pi/2$, radius shrinks to $r = 0$

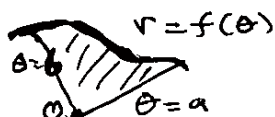
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Calculus in Polar coordinates § 10.4

We can do all types of calculus stuff in polar coord's too...

Areas: How to compute area "inside" polar curve $r = f(\theta)$?
where $a \leq \theta \leq b$

The polar curve looks something like this;



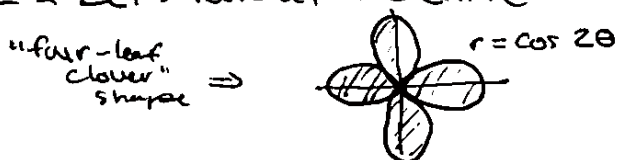
For a small change $d\theta$ in θ we get roughly a pie slice:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{area} &= \pi r^2 \cdot \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} \longrightarrow \text{pie slice diagram} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (f(\theta))^2 d\theta \end{aligned}$$

As usual, breaking up area into many pie slices and summing up areas gives an integral in limit:

$$\text{area inside polar curve} = \boxed{\int_a^b \frac{1}{2} (f(\theta))^2 d\theta}$$

Ex: Let's look at the curve $r = \cos 2\theta$ for $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$:



What is area inside this shape? Using formula...

$$\text{Area} = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} (f(\theta))^2 d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \cos^2 2\theta d\theta$$

We've seen before that: $\int \cos^2 x dx = \frac{1}{2} (x + \sin(x)\cos(x))$
(using integration by parts)

so w/ a simple u-sub: $\int \frac{1}{2} \cos^2 2\theta d\theta = \frac{1}{4} \theta + \frac{1}{8} \sin(2\theta) \cos(2\theta)$

$$\text{Thus, } \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \cos^2 2\theta d\theta = \left[\frac{1}{4} \theta + \frac{1}{8} \sin(2\theta) \cos(2\theta) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \left(\left(\frac{1}{4} \cdot 2\pi + \frac{1}{8} \sin(4\pi) \cos(4\pi) \right) - \left(\frac{1}{4} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{8} \sin(0) \cos(0) \right) \right) = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

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Arc lengths: How to compute length of polar curve $r = f(\theta)$?

Recall $x = r \cos \theta$ and $y = r \sin \theta$ in Cartesian coords.

So using the product rule we get:

$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta \quad \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2 &= \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 \cos^2 \theta - 2r \frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta \sin \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2r \frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta \cos \theta + r^2 \cos^2 \theta \\ &= \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 + r^2 \quad (\text{using } \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1) \end{aligned}$$

If we think of (x, y) as parameterized by θ , then

$$\text{length of curve} = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

which in terms of r and θ is then

$$\text{length} = \int_a^b \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

E.g. For a circle $r = m$ centered at origin,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{this formula gives } \text{length} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{m^2 + 0^2} d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} m d\theta = 2\pi m \\ &\quad \text{circumference!} \end{aligned}$$

E.g. We saw before that $r = 2 \cos \theta$, $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ gives a circle of radius 1 centered at $(x, y) = (1, 0)$.

Here $\frac{dr}{d\theta} = -2 \sin \theta$, so the formula gives...

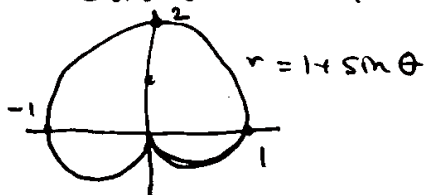
$$\text{length} = \int_0^\pi \sqrt{(2 \cos \theta)^2 + (-2 \sin \theta)^2} d\theta = \int_0^\pi 2 d\theta = 2\pi.$$

Tangents: How to find slope of tangent to polar curve $r = f(\theta)$?
 We again think in terms of Cartesian coord's (x, y) :

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta}{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta}$$

This is pretty complicated, but easy to derive if you remember $x = r \cos \theta$ and $y = r \sin \theta$.

E.g. Consider cardioid $r = 1 + \sin \theta$:



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Here } \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{(\frac{dr}{d\theta}) \sin \theta + r \cos \theta}{(\frac{dr}{d\theta}) \cos \theta - r \sin \theta} = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta + (1 + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}{\cos \theta \cos \theta - (1 + \sin \theta) \sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta)}{1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta - \sin \theta} = \frac{\cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta)}{(1 + \sin \theta)(1 - 2 \sin \theta)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So at } \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ get } \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{\cos(\pi/2) (1 + 2 \sin(\pi/2))}{(1 + \sin(\pi/2)) (1 - 2 \sin(\pi/2))} \\ &= \frac{0(1+2)}{(1+1)(1-2)} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{horizontal tangent at } \theta = \pi/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{And at } \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} \text{ get } \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{\cos(\pi/3) (1 + 2 \sin(\pi/3))}{(1 + \sin(\pi/3)) (1 - 2 \sin(\pi/3))} \\ &= \frac{(1/2)(1 + 2 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})}{(1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})(1 - 2 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{(2 + \sqrt{3})(1 - \sqrt{3})} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{-1 - \sqrt{3}} = -1 \end{aligned}$$

