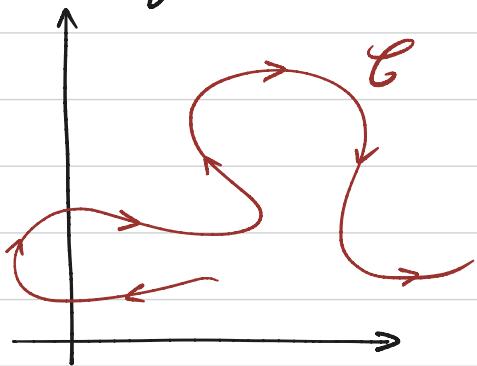


This time: curves defined by parametric eqns.
 Consider a particle moves along a curve like the following. It is not possible to write C as



$$y = f(x)$$

because C fails the vertical line test. However, if we introduce a new variable t then we can write x and y -coordinates as functions which depend on time.

Def We call t parameter

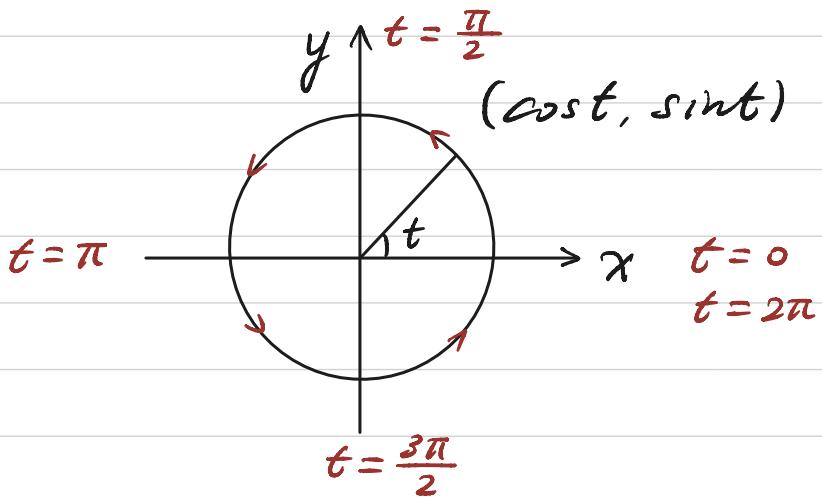
$$\begin{aligned} x &= f(t) \\ y &= g(t) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{parametric equations} \\ \text{parametrization} \end{array} \right\}$$

C a parametric curve.

Example 1. Consider $x = \cos t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

$$y = \sin t$$

Note that $\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$ implies $x^2 + y^2 = 1$
 So these gives us a unit circle.



Note that parameterization is not unique

Example 2. $x = \sin 2t \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$
 $y = \cos 2t$

These give the same circle but with opposite orientation.

Example 3. Find parametrization for the circle of radius r , centered at (a, b) .

$$(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 = r^2$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \right\}$$

$$r \cos t \quad r \sin t$$

scaling

$$\Rightarrow x = a + r \cos t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

$$y = b + r \sin t$$

translation

Example 4. $x = y^4 - 3y^2$

Take $y = t$ then $x = t^4 - 3t^2, t \in \mathbb{R}$

calculus with parametric curves

We can apply calculus techniques to parametrized curves.

Tangent : $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$ if $\frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$

The above is derived from chain rule

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Remark :

1. $\frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$ so that we can take quotient.

2. $\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \\ \frac{dy}{dt} \neq 0 \end{cases}$ corresponds to vertical line $y=ct$.

3. $\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0 \\ \frac{dy}{dt} = 0 \end{cases}$ corresponds to horizontal line $x=ct$.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$$

Arc length

$$L = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx$$

$$= \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt}\right)^2} \underbrace{\frac{dx}{dt} dt}_{\text{substitution}}$$

$$= \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$