

Review for Exam 1.

- ▶ Sections 12.1-12.6.
- ▶ 50 minutes.
- ▶ 5 or 6 problems, similar to homework problems.
- ▶ No calculators, no notes, no books, no phones.
- ▶ No green book needed.

Example

Consider the vectors $\mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$.

1. Compute $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$.

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1. Compute $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$.

Solution:

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = \langle 2, -2, 1 \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 2, -1 \rangle = 2 - 4 - 1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = -3.$$



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2. Find the cosine of the angle between \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} .

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2. Find the cosine of the angle between \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} .

Solution:

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{4 + 4 + 1} = 3, \quad |\mathbf{w}| = \sqrt{1 + 4 + 1} = \sqrt{6}.$$

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}}{|\mathbf{v}| |\mathbf{w}|} = \frac{-3}{3\sqrt{6}}$$

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$$|\mathbf{u} - 2\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{1 + 36 + 1}. \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\mathbf{u} - 2\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{38}.$$



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$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{\langle 1, 0, 2 \rangle}{|\langle 1, 0, 2 \rangle|} \Rightarrow \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \langle 1, 0, 2 \rangle.$$



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$$A = 8\sqrt{5}.$$



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$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & -2 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = \langle (5 + 4), -(0 - 8), (0 - 4) \rangle$$

We obtain $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = \langle 9, 8, -4 \rangle$.

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Since $V = |\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})|$, we obtain $V = 82$.

Example

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Solution: The line with parametric equation

$$x = t, \quad y = 1 + 2t, \quad z = 1 + 3t,$$

intersect the plane $2x + y - z = 1$ iff there is a solution t for the equation

$$2t + (1 + 2t) - (1 + 3t) = 1.$$

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There is a solution given by $t = 1$. Therefore, the point of intersection has coordinates $x = 1$, $y = 3$, $z = 4$, then

$$P = (1, 3, 4).$$



Example

Find the equation for the plane that contains the point $P_0 = (1, 2, 3)$ and the line $x = -2 + t$, $y = t$, $z = -1 + 2t$.

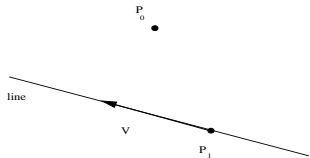
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The vector equation of the line is

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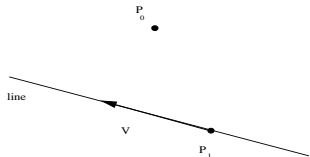
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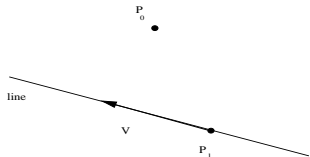
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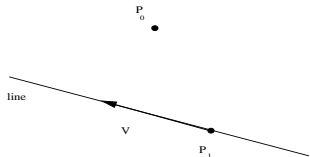
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Then a second vector tangent to the plane is $\overrightarrow{P_1 P_0} = \langle 3, 2, 4 \rangle$.

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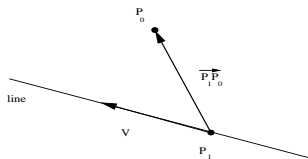
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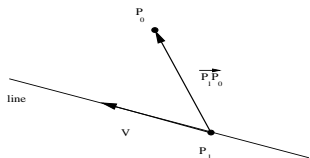
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and a second vector tangent to the plane is $\overrightarrow{P_1 P_0} = \langle 3, 2, 4 \rangle$.



Then, a normal to the plane is given by

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = \langle (4 - 4), -(4 - 6), (2 - 3) \rangle \Rightarrow \mathbf{n} = \langle 0, 2, -1 \rangle.$$

So, the equation of the plane is

$$0(x - 1) + 2(y - 2) - (z - 3) = 0, \Rightarrow 2y - z = 1.$$

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that is, $\vec{PQ} \times \vec{PR} = \langle -2, 0, -2 \rangle$. Take $\mathbf{n} = \langle 2, 0, 2 \rangle$.

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With $\mathbf{n} = \langle 2, 0, 2 \rangle$ and a point $R = (0, 0, 2)$, the equation of the plane is

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$$2(x - 0) + 0(y - 0) + 2(z - 2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x + z = 2.$$



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Solution: The plane is parallel to the plane $x - 2y + 3z = 1$, so their normal vectors are parallel. We choose $\mathbf{n} = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$. We need to find the center of the sphere. We complete squares:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= x^2 + 2x + y^2 + z^2 - 2z \\ &= (x^2 + 2x + 1) - 1 + y^2 + (z^2 - 2z + 1) - 1 = 0 \\ &= (x + 1)^2 + y^2 + (z - 1)^2 - 2. \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore, the center of the sphere is at $P_0 = (-1, 0, 1)$.

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Find the equation of the plane that is parallel to the plane $x - 2y + 3z = 1$ and passes through the center of the sphere $x^2 + 2x + y^2 + z^2 - 2z = 0$.

Solution: The plane is parallel to the plane $x - 2y + 3z = 1$, so their normal vectors are parallel. We choose $\mathbf{n} = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$. We need to find the center of the sphere. We complete squares:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= x^2 + 2x + y^2 + z^2 - 2z \\ &= (x^2 + 2x + 1) - 1 + y^2 + (z^2 - 2z + 1) - 1 = 0 \\ &= (x + 1)^2 + y^2 + (z - 1)^2 - 2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the center of the sphere is at $P_0 = (-1, 0, 1)$.

The equation of the plane is

$$(x + 1) - 2(y - 0) + 3(z - 1) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x - 2y + 3z = 2.$$



Example

Find the angle between the planes $2x - 3y + 2z = 1$ and $x + 2y + 2z = 5$.

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The angle θ is $\theta = \pi/2$.



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One such vector is

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{N} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & -3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \langle (-6 - 4), -(4 - 2), (4 + 3) \rangle.$$

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So, $\mathbf{v} = \langle -10, -2, 7 \rangle$.

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$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle -4, 0, 9/2 \rangle + \langle -10, -2, 7 \rangle t.$$

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Sketch the surface $36x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 36$.

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This is the equation of an ellipsoid with principal radius of length 1, 3, and 2 on the x , y and z axis, respectively.

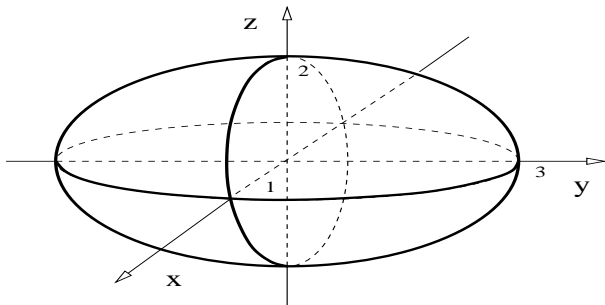
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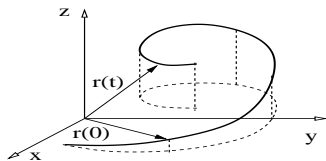
Vector functions (Sect. 13.1).

- ▶ Definition of vector functions: $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$.
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Motion in space motivates to define vector functions.

Definition

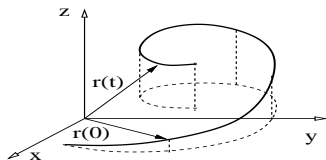
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Remark: Given Cartesian coordinates in \mathbb{R}^3 , the values of a vector function can be written in components as follows:

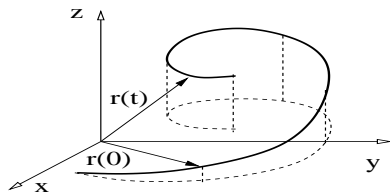
$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle, \quad t \in I,$$

where $x(t)$, $y(t)$, and $z(t)$ are the values of three scalar functions.

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Remarks:

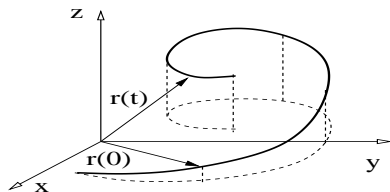
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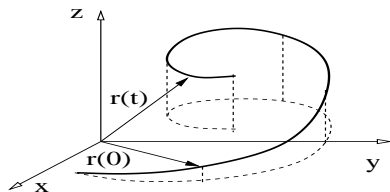


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- ▶ The independent variable t is called the parameter of the curve.

Vector functions.

Example

Graph the vector function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t \rangle$.

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Graph the vector function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t \rangle$.

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The curve given by $\mathbf{r}(t)$ lies on a vertical cylinder with radius one, since

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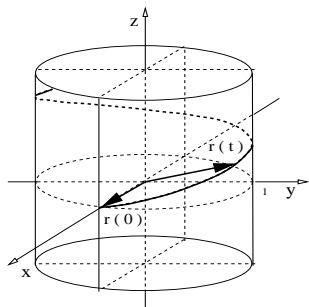
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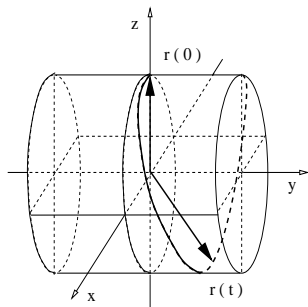
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- ▶ Definition of vector functions: $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$.
- ▶ **Limits and continuity of vector functions.**
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Limits and continuity of vector functions.

Definition

The vector function $\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, with $n = 2, 3$, has a *limit* given by the vector \mathbf{L} when t approaches t_0 , denoted as $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{L}$, iff the following holds: For every number $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a number $\delta > 0$ such that

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$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{r}(t) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left\langle \cos(t), \frac{\sin(t)}{t}, t^2 + 2 \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \cos(t), \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(t)}{t}, \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (t^2 + 2) \right\rangle \\ &= \langle 1, 1, 2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 1, 1, 2 \rangle$.



Limits and continuity of vector functions.

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A vector function $\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, with $n = 2, 3$, is *continuous at* $t = t_0 \in I$ iff holds $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}(t_0)$. The function $\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is *continuous* if it is continuous at every t in its domain interval I .

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Remark: Having the idea of limit, one can introduce the idea of a derivative of a vector valued function.

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Derivatives and motion.

Definition

The vector function $\mathbf{r} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, with $n = 2, 3$, is *differentiable at* $t = t_0$, denoted as $\mathbf{r}'(t)$ or $\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt}$, iff the following limit exists,

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Derivatives and motion.

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Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}'(t) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{r}(t+h) - \mathbf{r}(t)}{h}, \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left\langle \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h}, \frac{y(t+h) - y(t)}{h}, \frac{z(t+h) - z(t)}{h} \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h}, \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{y(t+h) - y(t)}{h}, \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{z(t+h) - z(t)}{h} \right\rangle \\ &= \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle.\end{aligned}$$



Derivatives and motion.

Example

Find the derivative of the vector function

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), (t^2 + 3t - 1) \rangle.$$

Derivatives and motion.

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Solution: We differentiate each component of \mathbf{r} , that is,

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Find the derivative of the vector function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(2t), e^{3t}, 1/t \rangle$.

Derivatives and motion.

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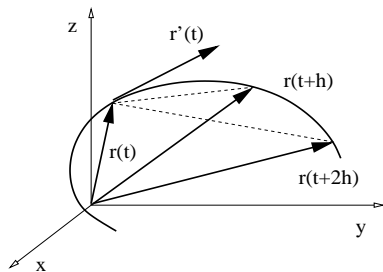
Find the derivative of the vector function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(2t), e^{3t}, 1/t \rangle$.

Solution: We differentiate each component of \mathbf{r} , that is,

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle -2\sin(2t), 3e^{3t}, -1/t^2 \rangle.$$

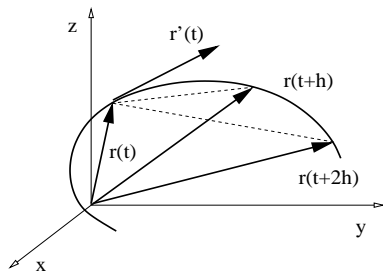
Geometrical property of the derivative.

Remark: The vector $\mathbf{r}'(t)$ is tangent to the curve given by \mathbf{r} at the point $\mathbf{r}(t)$.



Geometrical property of the derivative.

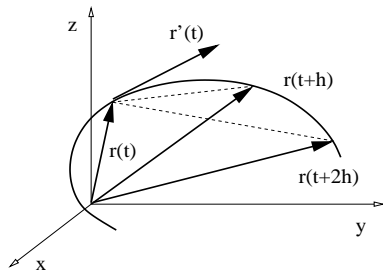
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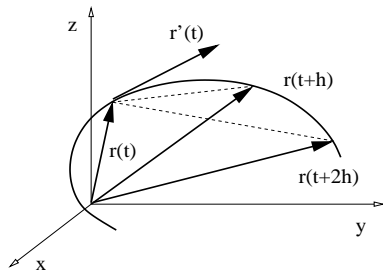


Remark: If $\mathbf{r}(t)$ represents the vector position of a particle, then:

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Derivatives and motion.

Example

Compute the derivative of the position function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), 0 \rangle$. Graph the curve given by \mathbf{r} , and explicitly show the position vector $\mathbf{r}(0)$ and velocity vector $\mathbf{v}(0)$.

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Derivatives and motion.

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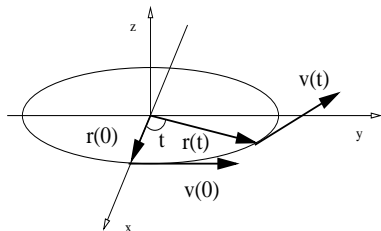
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Differentiation rules are the same as for scalar functions

Theorem

If \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} are differentiable vector functions, then holds:

- ▶ $[\mathbf{v}(t) + \mathbf{w}(t)]' = \mathbf{v}'(t) + \mathbf{w}'(t),$ (addition);
- ▶ $[c\mathbf{v}(t)]' = c\mathbf{v}'(t),$ (product rule);
- ▶ $[\mathbf{v}(f(t))]' = \mathbf{v}'(f(t))f'(t),$ (chain rule);
- ▶ $[f(t)\mathbf{v}(t)]' = f'(t)\mathbf{v}(t) + f(t)\mathbf{v}'(t),$ (product rule);
- ▶ $[\mathbf{v}(t) \cdot \mathbf{w}(t)]' = \mathbf{v}'(t) \cdot \mathbf{w}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t) \cdot \mathbf{w}'(t),$ (dot product);
- ▶ $[\mathbf{v}(t) \times \mathbf{w}(t)]' = \mathbf{v}'(t) \times \mathbf{w}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t) \times \mathbf{w}'(t),$ (cross product).

Higher derivatives can also be computed.

Remark: The m -derivative of a vector function \mathbf{r} is denoted as $\mathbf{r}^{(m)}$ and is given by the expression $\mathbf{r}^{(m)}(t) = [\mathbf{r}^{(m-1)}(t)]'$.

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Compute the third derivative of $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t^2 + 2t + 1 \rangle$.

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Example

Compute the third derivative of $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t^2 + 2t + 1 \rangle$.

Solution:

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle -\sin(t), \cos(t), 2t + 2 \rangle,$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(2)}(t) = (\mathbf{r}'(t))' = \langle -\cos(t), -\sin(t), 2 \rangle,$$

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Recall: If $\mathbf{r}(t)$ is the position of a particle, then $\mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{r}'(t)$ is the velocity and $\mathbf{a}(t) = \mathbf{r}^{(2)}(t)$ is the acceleration of the particle.

Vector functions (Sect. 13.1).

- ▶ Definition of vector functions: $\mathbf{r} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$.
- ▶ Limits and continuity of vector functions.
- ▶ Derivatives and motion.
- ▶ Differentiation rules.
- ▶ **Integrals of vector functions.**

Integrals of vector functions.

Definition

The *indefinite integral*, also called the *antiderivative*, of a vector function \mathbf{v} is denoted as $\int \mathbf{v}(t) dt$ and given by

$$\int \mathbf{v}(t) dt = \mathbf{V}(t) + \mathbf{C},$$

where $\mathbf{V}'(t) = \mathbf{v}(t)$ and \mathbf{C} is a constant vector.

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Find the position function \mathbf{r} knowing that the velocity function is $\mathbf{v}(t) = \langle 2t, \cos(t), \sin(t) \rangle$ and the initial position is $\mathbf{r}(0) = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$.

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Solution: The position function is the primitive of the velocity function, $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{V}(t) + \mathbf{C}$, that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{r}(0) = \mathbf{V}(0) + \mathbf{C}$. This initial condition fixes the constant vector \mathbf{C} .

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Solution: The position function is a primitive of the velocity,

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{V}(t) + \mathbf{C} = \langle t^2, \sin(t), -\cos(t) \rangle + \langle c_x, c_y, c_z \rangle,$$

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that is, $c_x = 1$, $c_y = 1$, $c_z = 2$.

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The position function is $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t^2 + 1, \sin(t) + 1, -\cos(t) + 2 \rangle$. \triangleleft

Integrals of vector functions.

Example

Find the position function of a particle with acceleration $\mathbf{a}(t) = \langle 0, 0, -10 \rangle$ having an initial velocity $\mathbf{v}(0) = \langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle$ and initial position $\mathbf{r}(0) = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle$.

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If the components of $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{y}(t), \mathbf{z}(t) \rangle$ are integrable functions on the interval $[a, b]$, then the *definite integral* of \mathbf{r} is given by

$$\int_a^b \mathbf{r}(t) dt = \left\langle \int_a^b x(t) dt, \int_a^b y(t) dt, \int_a^b z(t) dt \right\rangle.$$

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Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\pi \mathbf{r}(t) dt &= \int_0^\pi \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t \rangle dt \\ &= \left\langle \int_0^\pi \cos(t) dt, \int_0^\pi \sin(t) dt, \int_0^\pi t dt \right\rangle, \\ &= \left\langle \sin(t) \Big|_0^\pi, -\cos(t) \Big|_0^\pi, \frac{t^2}{2} \Big|_0^\pi \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle 0, 2, \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right\rangle, \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_0^\pi \mathbf{r}(t) dt = \left\langle 0, 2, \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right\rangle.\end{aligned}$$



The arc length of a curve in space (Sect. 13.3).

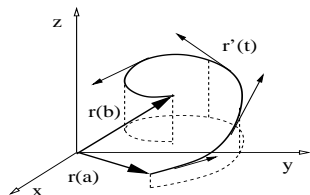
- ▶ The arc length of a curve in space.
- ▶ The arc length function.
- ▶ Parametrizations of a curve.
- ▶ The arc length parametrization of a curve.

The length of a curve is called its arc length.

Definition

The **arc length** of a continuously differentiable curve $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, with $n=2,3$, is the number given by

$$l_{ba} = \int_a^b |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt.$$

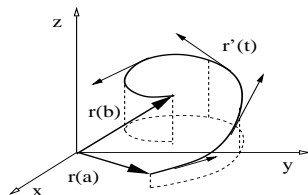


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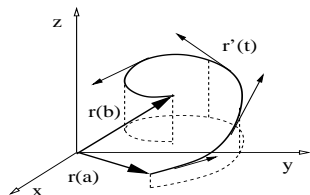
- ▶ If the curve \mathbf{r} is the path traveled by a particle in space, then $\mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{v}$ is the velocity of the particle.

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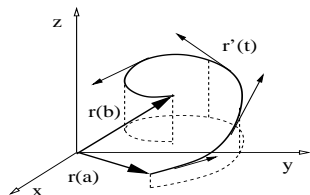
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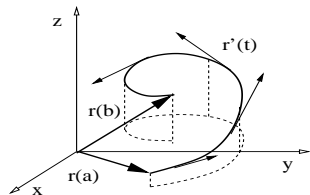
- ▶ If the curve \mathbf{r} is the path traveled by a particle in space, then $\mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{v}$ is the velocity of the particle.
- ▶ The arc length is the integral in time of the particle speed $|\mathbf{v}(t)|$.
- ▶ Therefore, the arc length of the curve is the distance traveled by the particle.

The length of a curve is called its arc length.

Recall:

The arc length of a curve $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$l_{ba} = \int_a^b |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt.$$

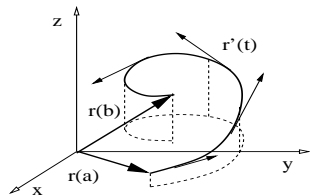


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Remark:

In Cartesian coordinates the functions \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{r}' are given by

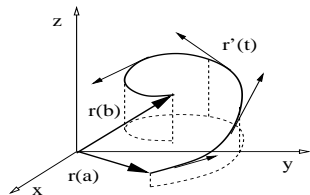
$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle, \quad \mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle.$$

The length of a curve is called its arc length.

Recall:

The arc length of a curve $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$l_{ba} = \int_a^b |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt.$$



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Therefore the arc length of the curve is given by the expression

$$l_{ba} = \int_a^b \sqrt{[x'(t)]^2 + [y'(t)]^2 + [z'(t)]^2} dt.$$

The arc length of a curve in a plane.

Example

Find the arc length of the curve $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t) \rangle$, for $t \in [\pi/4, 3\pi/4]$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \ell &= \int_{\pi/4}^{3\pi/4} \sqrt{[-\sin(t)]^2 + [\cos(t)]^2} dt \\ &= \int_{\pi/4}^{3\pi/4} dt \quad \Rightarrow \quad \ell = \frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

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This result is reasonable, since the curve is a circle and we are computing the length of quarter a circle. ◀

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Find the arc length of the spiral $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t \cos(t), t \sin(t) \rangle$, for $t \in [0, t_0]$.

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We conclude: $\ell(t_0) = \ln(t_0 + \sqrt{1 + t_0^2})$.

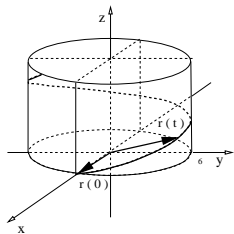


The arc length of a curve in space.

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Find the arc length of

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 6 \cos(2t), 6 \sin(2t), 5t \rangle, \text{ for } t \in [0, \pi].$$

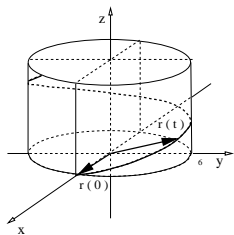


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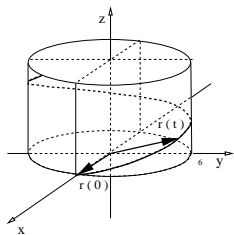
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}'(t) &= \langle -12 \sin(2t), 12 \cos(2t), 5 \rangle, \\ |\mathbf{r}'(t)|^2 &= 144[\sin^2(2t) + \cos^2(2t)] + 25 = 169 = (13)^2. \end{aligned}$$

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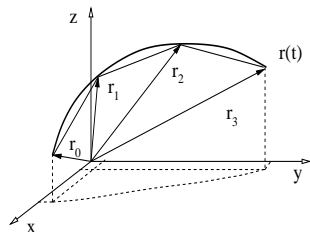
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$$\text{The arc length is } \ell = \int_0^\pi 13 \, dt = 13t \Big|_0^\pi \Rightarrow \ell = 13\pi. \quad \triangleleft$$

Idea behind the arc length formula.

The arc length formula can be obtained as a limit procedure. One adds up the lengths of a polygonal line that approximates the original curve.



$$\ell_N = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} |\mathbf{r}(t_{n+1}) - \mathbf{r}(t_n)|, \quad \{a = t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{N-1}, t_N = b\},$$
$$\simeq \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} |\mathbf{r}'(t_n)| (t_{n+1} - t_n) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt$$

The arc length of a curve in space (Sect. 13.3).

- ▶ The arc length of a curve in space.
- ▶ **The arc length function.**
- ▶ Parametrizations of a curve.
- ▶ The arc length parametrization of a curve.

The arc length function.

Definition

function. The arc *length function* of a continuously differentiable vector function \mathbf{r} is given by

$$\ell(t) = \int_{t_0}^t |\mathbf{r}'(\tau)| d\tau.$$

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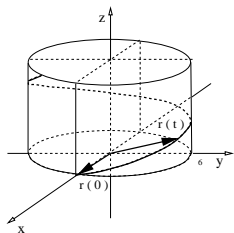
Remarks:

- ▶ The value $\ell(t)$ of the arc length function represents the length along the curve \mathbf{r} from t_0 to t .
- ▶ If the function \mathbf{r} is the position of a moving particle as function of time, then the arc length $\ell(t)$ is the distance traveled by the particle from the time t_0 to t .

The arc length function.

Example

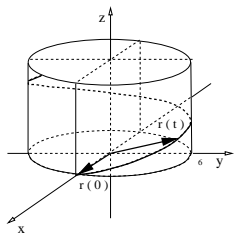
Find the arc length function for the curve $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 6 \cos(2t), 6 \sin(2t), 5t \rangle$, starting at $t = 0$.



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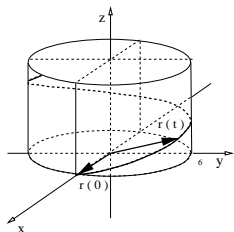
Solution: We have found that $|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = 13$. Therefore,

$$\ell(t) = \int_0^t 13 \, d\tau \quad \Rightarrow \quad \ell(t) = 13t.$$

The arc length function.

Example

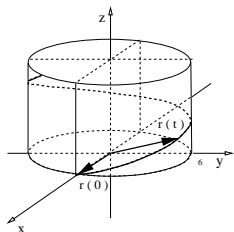
Given the position function in time $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 6 \cos(2t), 6 \sin(2t), 5t \rangle$, find the position vector $\mathbf{r}(t_0)$ located at a length $\ell_0 = 20$ from the initial position $\mathbf{r}(0)$.



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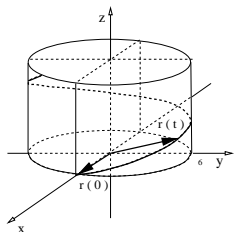


Solution: We have found that the arc length function for the vector function \mathbf{r} is $\ell(t) = 13t$.

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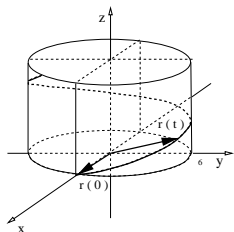
Solution: We have found that the arc length function for the vector function \mathbf{r} is $\ell(t) = 13t$.

Since $t = \ell/13$, the time at $\ell = \ell_0 = 20$ is $t_0 = 13/20$.

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Therefore, the position vector at $\ell_0 = 20$ is given by

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The arc length of a curve in space (Sect. 13.3).

- ▶ The arc length of a curve in space.
- ▶ The arc length function.
- ▶ **Parametrizations of a curve.**
- ▶ The arc length parametrization of a curve.

Parametrizations of a curve.

Remark:

A curve in space can be represented by different vector functions.

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The unit circle in \mathbb{R}^2 is the curve represented by the following vector functions:

- ▶ $\mathbf{r}_1(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t) \rangle$;
- ▶ $\mathbf{r}_2(t) = \langle \cos(5t), \sin(5t) \rangle$;
- ▶ $\mathbf{r}_3(t) = \langle \cos(e^t), \sin(e^t) \rangle$.

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Remark:

The curve in space is the same for all three functions above. The vector \mathbf{r} moves along the curve at different speeds for the different parametrizations.

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- ▶ The problem above is called the **arc length parametrization** of a curve.

The arc length of a curve in space (Sect. 13.3).

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Given vector function \mathbf{r} in terms of a parameter t , find the arc length parametrization of that curve.

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The function values $\mathbf{r}(\ell)$ are the parametrization of the function values $\mathbf{r}(t)$ using the arc length as the new parameter.

The arc length parametrization of a curve.

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Find the arc length parametrization of the vector function $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 4 \cos(t), 4 \sin(t), 3t \rangle$ starting at $t = 0$.

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Reparametrize the original curve:

$$\mathbf{r}(\ell) = \langle 4 \cos(\ell/5), 4 \sin(\ell/5), 3\ell/5 \rangle.$$

The arc length parametrization of a curve.

Theorem

A unit tangent vector to a curve given by the vector function values $\mathbf{r}(t)$ is given by $\mathbf{u}(\ell) = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{d\ell}$, where ℓ is the arc length of the curve.

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Notice that $\frac{d\ell}{dt} = |\mathbf{r}'(t)|$ and $\frac{dt}{d\ell} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}'(t)|}$.

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We conclude that $|\mathbf{u}(\ell)| = 1$. □

The arc length parametrization of a curve.

Example

Find a unit vector tangent to the curve given by $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 4 \cos(t), 4 \sin(t), 3t \rangle$ for $t \geq 0$.

The arc length parametrization of a curve.

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We can verify that this is a unit vector, since

$$|\mathbf{u}(\ell)|^2 = \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 [\sin^2(\ell/5) + \cos^2(\ell/5)] + \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 \Rightarrow |\mathbf{u}(\ell)| = 1.$$