

# Calculus of Vector functions

Different parameterizations of a space curve.

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, t^3 \rangle \quad 1 \leq t \leq 2$$

path from  $\vec{r}(1) = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$   
to  $\vec{r}(2) = \langle 2, 4, 8 \rangle$

$t = \text{parameter}$

$$\vec{r}(u) = \langle e^u, e^{2u}, e^{3u} \rangle \quad 0 \leq u \leq \ln 2$$

path from  $\vec{r}(u=0) = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$   
to  $\vec{r}(u=\ln 2) = \langle 2, 4, 8 \rangle$

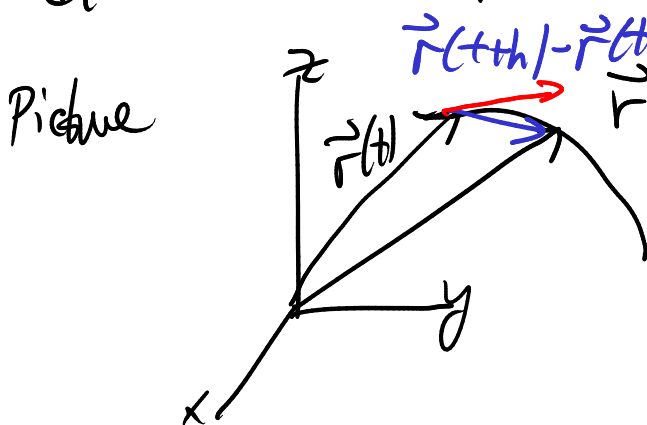
$u = \text{parameter}$

These two curves are geometrically the same, but they have different parameterization.

Related by change of variable  $t = e^u$   
 $u = \ln t$

Derivatives vector function  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle f(t), g(t), h(t) \rangle$

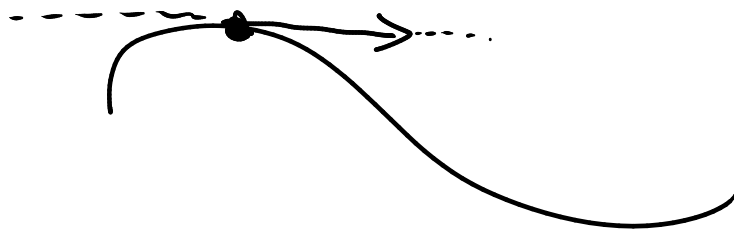
$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{r}'(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{r}(t+h) - \vec{r}(t)}{h}$$



$$\rightarrow = \vec{r}'(t)$$

$\vec{r}'(t)$  is a vector tangent to the curve at the point  $\vec{r}(t)$

In 1-var:  $f'(t)$  = slope of tangent line  
 In 3-d:  $\vec{r}'(t)$  = tangent vector



The limit definition is equivalent to taking derivatives of components:

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle f(t), g(t), h(t) \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \langle f'(t), g'(t), h'(t) \rangle$$

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{r}(t+\epsilon) - \vec{r}(t)}{\epsilon} =$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\langle \frac{f(t+\epsilon) - f(t)}{\epsilon}, \frac{g(t+\epsilon) - g(t)}{\epsilon}, \frac{h(t+\epsilon) - h(t)}{\epsilon} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t+\epsilon) - f(t)}{\epsilon}, \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t+\epsilon) - g(t)}{\epsilon}, \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(t+\epsilon) - h(t)}{\epsilon} \right\rangle$$

$$= \langle f'(t), g'(t), h'(t) \rangle$$

$\vec{r}'(t)$  = tangent vector = velocity vector.

direction:  $\vec{T}(t) = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|}$  unit tangent vector

This tells us what direction the curve is moving at an instant in time.

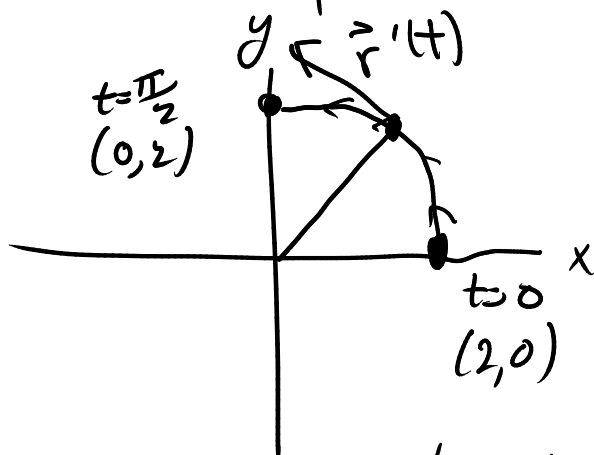
works in 2D as well.

Eg  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2\cos t, 2\sin t \rangle$

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

$$|\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{(-2\sin t)^2 + (2\cos t)^2} = \sqrt{4(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{2} = \langle -\sin t, \cos t \rangle$$



$t = \frac{\pi}{4} \quad \vec{r}(t) = \langle \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2} \rangle$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \langle -\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2} \rangle$$

$$\vec{T}(t) = \langle -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \rangle$$

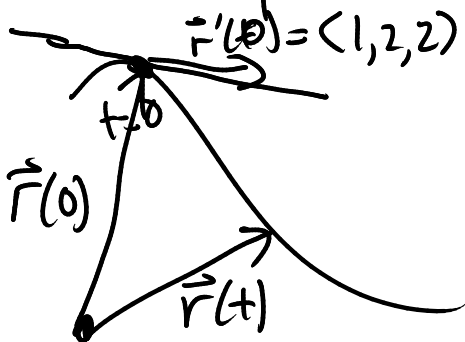
slope of tangent line (at  $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$ ) =  $-1 = \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{-\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1/\sqrt{2}}{-1/\sqrt{2}}$$

Ex(3D)

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle te^{-t}, 2\arctan t, 2e^t \rangle$$

Find a parametric equation for tangent line at  $t=0$



$$\vec{r}'(t) = \langle e^{-t} + t(-e^{-t}), \frac{2}{1+t^2}, 2e^t \rangle$$

plug in  $t=0$

$$\vec{r}'(0) = \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle$$

This is the direction vector of tangent line.

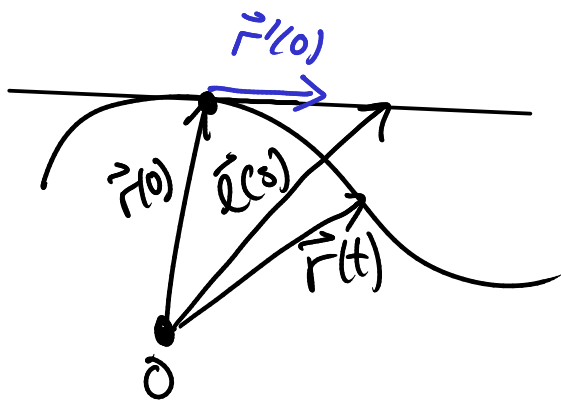
just need a point on the tangent line.  
just take  $\vec{r}(0)$  as the point.

$$\vec{r}(0) = \langle 0, 0, 2 \rangle$$

Let  $\vec{l}(s)$  be a vector function describing the tangent line ( $s = \text{parameter}$ )

$$\vec{l}(s) = \vec{r}(0) + s \vec{r}'(0)$$

$$\vec{l}(s) = \langle 0, 0, 2 \rangle + s \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle = \langle s, 2s, 2+2s \rangle$$



Higher derivatives  $\vec{r}''(t) = (\vec{r}'(t))'$   
 $\vec{r}'''(t) = (\vec{r}''(t))'$

$\vec{r}(t) = \text{position}$   
(based at origin)

$\vec{r}'(t) = \text{tangent vector/velocity}$   
(based at  $\vec{r}(t)$ )

$\vec{r}''(t) = \text{acceleration vector}$   
(based at  $\vec{r}(t)$ )

$\vec{r}'''(t) = ?$

## Derivative rules

Linearity:  $\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(t) + \vec{v}(t)] = \vec{u}'(t) + \vec{v}'(t)$   
 $\frac{d}{dt} [c\vec{u}(t)] = c\vec{u}'(t)$

Product rules:  $\frac{d}{dt} [f(t)\vec{u}(t)] = f'(t)\vec{u}(t) + f(t)\vec{u}'(t)$

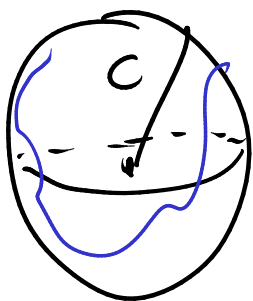
$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(t) \cdot \vec{v}(t)] = \vec{u}'(t) \cdot \vec{v}(t) + \vec{u}(t) \cdot \vec{v}'(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(t) \times \vec{v}(t)] = \vec{u}'(t) \times \vec{v}(t) + \vec{u}(t) \times \vec{v}'(t)$$

*order matters*  
 $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = -\vec{b} \times \vec{a}$

Chain rule:  $\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{u}(f(t))] = \vec{u}'(f(t)) f'(t)$

Proposition: Suppose the path  $\vec{r}(t)$  lies on a sphere of radius  $C$  centered at the origin. Then  $\vec{r}'(t)$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{r}(t)$ .



Know  $|\vec{r}(t)| = C$

$$\vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = |\vec{r}(t)|^2 = C^2$$

Take derivative  $\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t)] = \frac{d}{dt} [c^2] = 0$

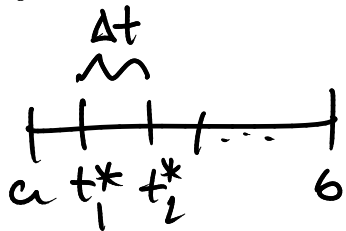
$$\begin{aligned} & \vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) + \vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) \\ & = 2 \vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$2 \vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = 0$$

$\Leftrightarrow \vec{r}'(t)$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{r}(t)$

Integration of vector valued functions.

$$\int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{r}(t_i^*) \Delta t$$



Riemann sum

Equivalent to integrating one component at a time

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle f(t), g(t), h(t) \rangle$$

$$\int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt = \left\langle \int_a^b f(t) dt, \int_a^b g(t) dt, \int_a^b h(t) dt \right\rangle$$

FTC: If  $\vec{R}'(t) = \vec{r}(t)$  then  $\int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt = \vec{R}(b) - \vec{R}(a)$

Indefinite integral  $\int \vec{r}(t) dt$  means (any) antiderivatives

$$\underline{\text{Ex}} \int (\cos t \vec{i} + \sin t \vec{j} + t \vec{k}) dt$$

$$= (\sin t + C_1) \vec{i} + (-\cos t + C_2) \vec{j} + \left(\frac{1}{2}t^2 + C_3\right) \vec{k}$$

$$= \sin t \vec{i} - \cos t \vec{j} + \frac{1}{2}t^2 \vec{k} + C_1 \vec{i} + C_2 \vec{j} + C_3 \vec{k}$$

$$= \left(\sin t \vec{i} - \cos t \vec{j} + \frac{1}{2}t^2 \vec{k}\right) + \vec{C}$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} (\cos t \vec{i} + \sin t \vec{j} + t \vec{k}) dt$$

$$= \left[ \sin t \vec{i} - \cos t \vec{j} + \frac{1}{2}t^2 \vec{k} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{2}(2\pi)^2 \vec{k}$$

$$= \langle 0, 0, \frac{1}{2}(2\pi)^2 \rangle$$

Arclength: in 2D  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle$

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2} dt$$

In 3D  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2 + (z'(t))^2} dt$$

$$\text{Arc length} = \int (\text{speed}) dt$$

$$\text{speed (of parametric curve } \vec{r}(t)) = |\vec{r}'(t)|$$

$$\text{speed} = |\overrightarrow{\text{velocity}}|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{speed} = |\vec{r}'(t)| &= |\langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle| \\ &= \sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2 + (z'(t))^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Arc length: } L = \int_a^b |\vec{r}'(t)| dt$$

$$\text{Ex Helix } \vec{r}(t) = \cos t \vec{i} + \sin t \vec{j} + t \vec{k}$$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = -\sin t \vec{i} + \cos t \vec{j} + 1 \vec{k}$$

$$|\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{(-\sin t)^2 + (\cos t)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

Arc length from  $t=0$  to  $t=2\pi$

$$L = \int_0^{2\pi} |\vec{r}'(t)| dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} dt = \sqrt{2} \cdot 2\pi$$