

Vector Calculus

Vector Space Axioms

A set $\mathcal{V} = \{\vec{v}\}$ with addition $+$ and scalar multiplication \cdot with scalars from a field F is a *vector space over F* when

1. $\langle \mathcal{V}, + \rangle$ is an Abelian group.
2.
 - scalar multiplication distributes over vector addition
 - scalar addition distributes over scalar multiplication
 - multiplication of scalars 'associates' with scalar multiplication

Recall:

- The *norm* (magnitude) of a vector \vec{u} is $\|\vec{u}\| = \sqrt{\sum u_i^2}$
- The *direction vector* of \vec{u} is $(1/\|\vec{u}\|) \cdot \vec{u}$

Definition (Dot Product in \mathbb{R}^n over \mathbb{R})

Dot Product $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \sum u_i \cdot v_i = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos(\angle \vec{u}\vec{v})$

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Dot Product

Proposition (Dot Product Properties)

Let \vec{u} and \vec{v} be in \mathbb{R}^n . Then

1. $\angle \vec{u}\vec{v} = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \right]$ *angle between vectors*
2. $|\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}| \leq \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|$ *Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz inequality*
3. $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$ *Triangle inequality; (cf. Minkowski's inequality)*
4. $\text{proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{u}) = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}} \vec{v}$ *(orthogonal) projection of \vec{u} onto \vec{v}*

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Cross Product

Definition

- Let \vec{u} and $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$; set e_1, e_2, e_3 to be std basis vectors. Then

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} e_1 & e_2 & e_3 \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

- Let \vec{u}_1 to $\vec{u}_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 3$; let $\{e_n\} = \{\text{std basis vectors}\}$. Then

$$\times(\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_{n-1}) = \begin{vmatrix} e_1 & e_2 & \dots & e_n \\ u_{1,1} & u_{1,2} & \dots & u_{1,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{n-1,1} & u_{n-1,2} & \dots & u_{n-1,n} \end{vmatrix}$$

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Cross Product Properties

Proposition (Cross Product Properties in \mathbb{R}^3)

Let \vec{u} , \vec{v} , and \vec{w} be in \mathbb{R}^3 . Then

$$1. \angle \vec{u}\vec{v} = \sin^{-1} \left[\frac{\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\|}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \right] \quad \text{angle between vectors}$$

$$2. \|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|$$

$$3. \vec{u} \times \vec{v} = -\vec{v} \times \vec{u} \quad \text{area of } [\vec{u}, \vec{v}] = \|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\|$$

$$4. \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{v} \cdot (\vec{w} \times \vec{u})$$

$$5. \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = \begin{vmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}; \quad \text{volume of } [\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}] = |\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})|$$

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Parametric Equations

Definition (Parametrization)

Suppose $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $h: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\gamma(t) = (f(t), g(t), h(t))$$

for $t \in D$ is a *curve (spacecurve)* in \mathbb{R}^3 . The fcn's f , g , and h are *parametric equations* for γ , or a *parametrization* of γ .

Examples

1. The line segment L from \vec{u} to \vec{w} can be parametrized as

$$L(t) = \vec{u} + (\vec{w} - \vec{u}) \cdot t, \quad t \in [0, 1]$$

2. Γ given by $f: t \rightarrow \langle \cos(t), \sin(t) * \cos(t), t * (1-t) \rangle$ for $t \in [0, 3\pi]$.

```
animate(spacecurve, [f(t), t=0..3*Pi*k,
thickness=2], k=0..1, axes=frame, color=black, frames=30)
```

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Continuous Spacecurves

Definition

Let $\mathcal{I} = [a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. A curve γ is

- *continuous (on \mathcal{I})* if γ can be parametrized with components that are continuous on \mathcal{I} .
- *smooth (on \mathcal{I})* if γ 's parametric components are continuously differentiable on \mathcal{I} , and $f'^2 + g'^2 + h'^2 > 0$ for all $t \in (a, b)$.
- *piecewise smooth (on \mathcal{I})* if $[a, b]$ can be partitioned into a finite number of subintervals on which γ is smooth.

Note: Smooth \equiv a particle moving parametrically along the curve doesn't change direction abruptly, stop mid-curve, or reverse.

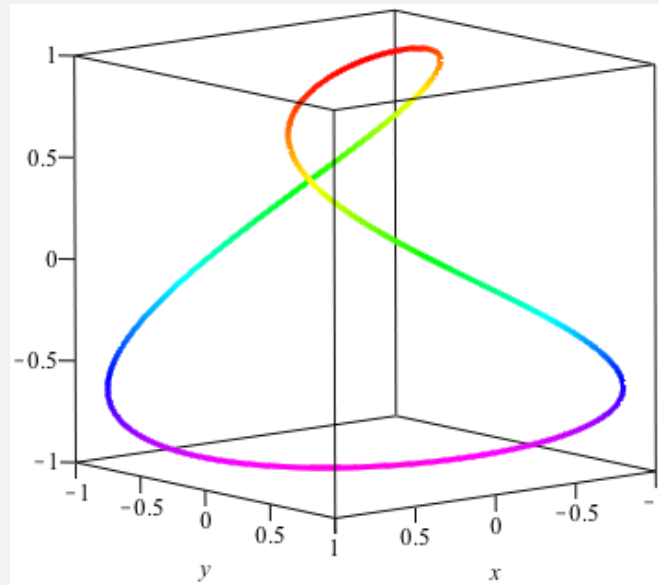
Theorem

If $\gamma(t) = (f(t), g(t))$ is smooth on $[a, b]$, then tangent slope at

$P_0 = (x, y)$ is given by $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} / \frac{dx}{dt}$ when $\frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$.

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A Smooth Closed Curve



$$\Gamma(t) = (\sin(2t), \sin(t), \cos(t)) \text{ for } t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$\Gamma(0) = \Gamma(2\pi)$$

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Lines in \mathbb{R}^3

Theorem (The Line Forms Here Thm)

A line ℓ passing through $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$, parallel to $\vec{u} = (a, b, c) \neq \vec{0}$ has

vector form: $\ell(t) = P_0 + t\vec{u}, t \in \mathbb{R}$

parametric form: $\ell(t) = (x_0 + at, y_0 + bt, z_0 + ct), t \in \mathbb{R}$

symmetric form: $\frac{x(t) - x_0}{a} = \frac{y(t) - y_0}{b} = \frac{z(t) - z_0}{c}$

Consider...

Let $P_0 = (1, 2, 4)$ and direction $\vec{u} = (1, 2, -1)$.

1. $\ell_1(t) = (1 + t, 2 + 2t, 4 - t)$ $\vec{u} = (1, 2, -1)$

2. $\ell_2(s) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}s, 2 + \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}s, 4 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}s\right)$ $\vec{w} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(1, 2, -1)$

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Planes in \mathbb{R}^3

Theorem (The Plane, the Plane)

A plane P passing through $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$, normal to $\vec{u} = (a, b, c) \neq \vec{0}$ is $P = \{\vec{X}\}$ s.t.

vector form: $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{X} - P_0) = 0$

parametric form: $a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$

A plane P passing through $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$, containing two vectors \vec{u} and \vec{w} is $P = \{\vec{X}\}$ s.t.

cross product form: $(\vec{u} \times \vec{w}) \cdot (\vec{X} - P_0) = 0$

Problem

1. Find a plane containing the three points $(1, 1, 0)$, $(1, 0, 1)$, $(0, 1, 1)$.

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Quadric Surfaces

Standard Forms of Quadric Surfaces

sphere: $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$

ellipsoid: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$

elliptic paraboloid: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - z = 0$

hyperbolic paraboloid: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} + z = 0$

elliptic cone: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - z^2 = 0$

hyperboloid of 1 sheet: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = +1$

hyperboloid of 2 sheets: $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = -1$

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Quadric Surfaces Reformed

Almost Standard Forms of Quadric Surfaces

sphere: $\rho x^2 + \rho y^2 + \rho z^2 = 1$

ellipsoid: $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 + \gamma z^2 = 1$

elliptic paraboloid: $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 - z = 0$

hyperbolic paraboloid: $\alpha x^2 - \beta y^2 + z = 0$

elliptic cone: $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 - z^2 = 0$

hyperboloid of 1 sheet: $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 - \gamma z^2 = +1$

hyperboloid of 2 sheets: $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 - \gamma z^2 = -1$

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Vector-Valued Functions

Notation

The *standard basis vectors* in \mathbb{R}^3 are

$$\langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle = e_1 = \mathbf{i}, \quad \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle = e_2 = \mathbf{j}, \quad \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle = e_3 = \mathbf{k}$$

If $f, g, h: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are real functions, then $\vec{r}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ given by

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle f(t), g(t), h(t) \rangle = f(t)\mathbf{i} + g(t)\mathbf{j} + h(t)\mathbf{k}$$

is a *vector-valued function* with components f, g , and h .

Definition

Let $\vec{r}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ have components f, g , and h , and let t_0 be an accumulation point of D . Then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{L} = L_f \mathbf{i} + L_g \mathbf{j} + L_h \mathbf{k}$$

iff $(\forall \epsilon > 0) (\exists \delta > 0)$ s.t. $(\forall t \in D)$ if $0 < |t - t_0| < \delta$, then $\|\vec{r}(t) - \vec{L}\| < \epsilon$.

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Vector-Valued Function Limits

Theorem (Limits Work)

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = L_f \mathbf{i} + L_g \mathbf{j} + L_h \mathbf{k}$$

$$\iff$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} f(t) = L_f \wedge \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} g(t) = L_g \wedge \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} h(t) = L_h$$

Proof (key inequality).



$$|a| \underset{(\Leftarrow)}{\leq} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} = \|(a, b, c)\| \underset{(\Rightarrow)}{\leq} |a| + |b| + |c|$$

□

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Algebra of Vector-Valued Function Limits

Theorem (Algebra of Vector-Valued Limits)

Suppose $\vec{u}, \vec{w}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $k: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$, and $t_0 \in D'$. Then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} [\vec{u} \pm \vec{w}] = \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{u} \right] \pm \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{w} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} [c\vec{u}] = c \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{u} \right] \quad (2)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} [k\vec{u}] = \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} k \right] \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{u} \right] \quad (3)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} [\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}] = \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{u} \right] \cdot \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{w} \right] \quad (4)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} [\vec{u} \times \vec{w}] = \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{u} \right] \times \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{w} \right] \quad (5)$$

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Continuity of Vector-Valued Functions

Definition (Continuity)

A function $\vec{r}(t)$ is *continuous* at $t_0 \in D$ iff $(\forall \epsilon > 0) (\exists \delta > 0)$ s.t. $(\forall t \in D)$ if $|t - t_0| < \delta$, then $\|\vec{r}(t) - \vec{r}(t_0)\| < \epsilon$.

Proposition

1. A function $\vec{r}(t)$ is continuous at an accumulation point $t_0 \in D$ iff

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}(t_0)$$

2. A function $\vec{r}(t)$ is uniformly continuous on $E \subseteq D$ iff $(\forall \epsilon > 0) (\exists \delta > 0)$ s.t. $(\forall t_1, t_2 \in E)$ if $|t_1 - t_2| < \delta$, then $\|\vec{r}(t_1) - \vec{r}(t_2)\| < \epsilon$.

3. If a function $\vec{r}(t)$ is continuous on a closed and bounded set E , then \vec{r} is uniformly continuous on E .

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Differentiability of Vector-Valued Functions

Definition (Differentiable)

A function $\vec{r}(t)$ is *differentiable* at $t_0 \in D$ iff the limit

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{\vec{r}(t) - \vec{r}(t_0)}{t - t_0} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{r}(t_0 + h) - \vec{r}(t_0)}{h}$$

exists and is finite.

Proposition

If f , g , and h are the components of \vec{r} , then \vec{r} is differentiable iff f , g , and h are differentiable, whence

$$\vec{r}'(t) = f'(t)\mathbf{i} + g'(t)\mathbf{j} + h'(t)\mathbf{k}.$$

Example

1. Find \vec{r}' for the line through $P_0 = (1, 2, 4)$ parallel to $\vec{u} = (1, 2, -1)$.

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Algebra of Vector-Valued Derivatives

Theorem (Algebra of Derivatives)

Suppose $\vec{u}, \vec{w}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ & $k: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are all differentiable, and $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$[\vec{u} \pm \vec{w}]' = [\vec{u}'] \pm [\vec{w}'] \quad (6)$$

$$[c\vec{u}]' = c[\vec{u}'] \quad (7)$$

$$[k\vec{u}]' = [k']\vec{u} + k[\vec{u}'] \quad (8)$$

$$[\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}]' = [\vec{u}'] \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{u} \cdot [\vec{w}'] \quad (9)$$

$$[\vec{u} \times \vec{w}]' = [\vec{u}'] \times \vec{w} + \vec{u} \times [\vec{w}'] \quad (10)$$

$$\|\vec{u}\|' = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot [\vec{u}']}{\|\vec{u}\|} \quad (11)$$

$$[\vec{u} \circ k]' = [\vec{u}' \circ k] * k' \quad (12)$$

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Derivative Props

Properties

Suppose $\vec{r}(t)$ is a twice differentiable vector function.

1. $\vec{V}(t) = \vec{r}'(t)$ is

- the *tangent vector* of \vec{r}
- the *velocity vector* of \vec{r}

and $S(t) = \|\vec{r}'(t)\|$ gives the *speed* of $\vec{r}(t)$

2. $\vec{A}(t) = \vec{V}'(t) = \vec{r}''(t)$ is

- the *acceleration vector* of \vec{r}

Example

Find the velocity & acceleration and the speed for the function

1. $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2 \cos(t), 3 \sin(t), z_0 \rangle.$

2. $\vec{\rho}(t) = \langle \cos(t) \cdot (1 + \cos(t)), 2 \sin(t) \cdot (1 + t), t \rangle.$ ¹

¹`spacecurve(f(t), t=0..6*Pi, numpoints=101, thickness=3, axes=normal)`

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Example 9.6.9

Example (9.6.9, pg 410)

Consider $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$\vec{u} = \langle t, t^2 \rangle, \vec{v} = \langle t^3, t^6 \rangle, \text{ and } \vec{w} = \begin{cases} \langle t, t^2 \rangle & \text{if } t \leq 0 \\ \langle t^3, t^6 \rangle & \text{if } t > 0 \end{cases}$$

All 3 functions are continuous, all trace the parabola $y = x^2$, and all are $\vec{0}$ at $t = 0$.

1. \vec{u} is differentiable at $t = 0$ with tangent vector $\vec{u}'(0) = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$ and tangent line $y = 0$.
2. \vec{v} is differentiable at $t = 0$ with tangent vector $\vec{v}'(0) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$, but has *no* tangent line $\vec{0}$.
3. \vec{w} is *not* differentiable at $t = 0$ and has no tangent line at $\vec{0}$.

See Maple demo

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Circles

Proposition

Let \vec{r} be a differentiable vector function of t . Then $\|\vec{r}(t)\|$ is constant iff $\vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) = 0$; i.e. \vec{r} and \vec{r}' are orthogonal.

Proof.

$$\|\vec{r}(t)\| \text{ is constant} \iff \vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}(t) = c \iff \vec{r}(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) = 0 \quad \square$$

Definition

Unit tangent vector: $\vec{T}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) / \|\vec{r}'(t)\|$

Unit normal vector: $\vec{N}(t) = \vec{T}'(t) / \|\vec{T}'(t)\|$

$\vec{V} = \vec{r}'$ and $v = \|\vec{V}\|$. Then $\vec{A} = \vec{V}' = v\vec{T}' + v'\vec{T}$. Since $\vec{T}' \perp \vec{T}$, then $\vec{A}_{\vec{N}} = v\vec{T}'$ and $\vec{A}_{\vec{T}} = v'\vec{T}$ forms an orthogonal decomp of \vec{A}

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D^e Cræft

Project

Using

$$\vec{r}'' = \vec{A} = v\vec{T}' + v'\vec{T} \quad (13)$$

$$\vec{A} = \vec{A}_{\vec{N}} + \vec{A}_{\vec{T}} \quad (14)$$

1. Compute $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{T}$?
2. What vector is $(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{T})\vec{T}$?
3. Compute $\vec{A} - (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{T})\vec{T}$?
4. Apply this idea to $\vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t) \rangle$. What are \vec{A} 's orthogonal components?

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Int

Definition

$$\int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt = \left[\int_a^b f(t) dt \right] \mathbf{i} + \left[\int_a^b g(t) dt \right] \mathbf{j} + \left[\int_a^b h(t) dt \right] \mathbf{k}$$

iff the integrals exist. I.e., $\int_a^b \langle f_i \rangle(t) dt = \left\langle \int_a^b f_i(t) dt \right\rangle$.

Theorem (FToC)

Suppose $\vec{r}(t)$ is integrable on $[a, b]$ and $\vec{R}(t)$ is an antiderivative (or primitive) for \vec{r} . Then

$$\int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt = \vec{R}(t) \Big|_a^b = \vec{R}(b) - \vec{R}(a)$$

Theorem

Suppose $\vec{r}(t)$ is integrable on $[a, b]$. Then

$$\left\| \int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_a^b \|\vec{r}(t)\| dt$$

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Arclength

Definition (Arclength)

Let $\gamma(t) = \vec{r}(t)$ be a smooth curve on $[a, b]$. The length of γ on $[a, b]$ is

$$L(\gamma) = \sup \{L_Q \mid Q \text{ partitions } [a, b]\}$$

where $L_Q = \sum_k \|\gamma(t_k) - \gamma(t_{k-1})\|$ for $t_k \in Q$.

Proposition

Let $\gamma(t) = \vec{r}(t)$ be a smooth curve on $[a, b]$. The length of γ on $[a, b]$ is

$L(\gamma) = \lim_{|Q| \rightarrow 0} L_Q$ where $|Q|$ is the norm of the partition.

Theorem (Useful Arclength Theorem)

Let $\gamma(t) = \vec{r}(t)$ be a smooth curve on $[a, b]$. The length of γ on $[a, b]$ is

$$L(\gamma) = \int_a^b \sqrt{\sum_k (f'_k)^2} dt = \int_a^b \|\vec{r}'(t)\| dt$$

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Proof

Proof (UAT).

I. Let Q be a partition. Fix k . Whereupon

$$\sqrt{\sum_j [f_j(t_k) - f_j(t_{k-1})]^2} = \|\vec{r}(t_k) - \vec{r}(t_{k-1})\| = \left\| \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \vec{r}'(t) dt \right\|$$

Since $\left\| \int \vec{r}' dt \right\| \leq \int \|\vec{r}'\| dt$, then $L(\gamma) \leq \int_a^b \|\vec{r}'(t)\| dt$.

II. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Choose $\delta > 0$ s.t. $\|\vec{r}(s) - \vec{r}(t)\| < \varepsilon$ for $|s - t| < \delta$. Choose $|Q| < \delta$.

$$1. \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \|\vec{r}'(t)\| dt \leq \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \|\vec{r}'(t_{k+1})\| + \varepsilon dt = \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \|\vec{r}'(t_{k+1})\| dt + \varepsilon \Delta t_k$$

$$2. \leq \left\| \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \vec{r}'(t) dt \right\| + \left\| \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} [\vec{r}'(t_{k+1}) - \vec{r}'(t)] dt \right\| + \varepsilon \Delta t_k$$

$$3. \leq \|\vec{r}(t_{k+1}) - \vec{r}(t_k)\| + 2\varepsilon \Delta t_k \implies \int_a^b \|\vec{r}'(t)\| dt \leq L_Q + 2\varepsilon(b - a)$$

Hence $\int_a^b \|\vec{r}'(t)\| dt \leq L(\gamma)$. □

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Rectified

Definition (Rectifiable Curve)

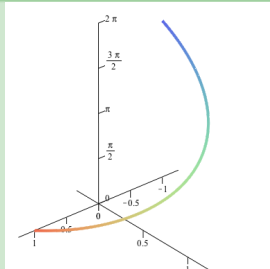
A curve γ is *rectifiable* iff $L(\gamma)$ is finite.

Examples (Curves²)

I. Let $\gamma(t) = \langle \cos(\pi t), \sin(\pi t), \sqrt{3} \pi t \rangle$ on $[0, 1]$.

$$1. L(\gamma) = \int_0^1 \|\gamma'(t)\| dt$$

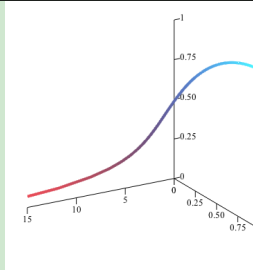
$$2. = \int_0^1 \left\| \pi \langle -\sin(\pi t), \cos(\pi t), \sqrt{3} \rangle \right\| dt = 2\pi$$



II. Let $\psi(t) = \langle \tan(t), 1 - \sin(t), \cos(t) \rangle$ on $[0, \pi/2]$.

$$1. L(\psi) = \int_0^1 \|\psi'(t)\| dt$$

$$2. = \int_0^1 \left\| \langle \sec^2(t), -\cos(t), -\sin(t) \rangle \right\| dt = \infty$$



² Maple worksheet

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Interlude

Theorem (Most Useful Norm-Integral Estimate)

Let $\vec{r}(t)$ be Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$. Then $\|\vec{r}(t)\|$ is integrable and

$$\left\| \int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_a^b \|\vec{r}(t)\| dt$$

Proof.

I. $\|\vec{r}(t)\|$ is integrable: \checkmark

$$\begin{aligned} \text{II. (in } \mathbb{R}^2). \left\| \int_a^b \vec{r}(t) dt \right\| &= \sqrt{\left(\int_a^b f \right)^2 + \left(\int_a^b g \right)^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\int_a^b (f^2) + \int_a^b (g^2)} = \sqrt{\int_a^b (f^2 + g^2)} \\ &\leq \int_a^b \sqrt{f^2 + g^2} = \int_a^b \|\vec{r}(t)\| dt. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

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Reparametrize

Definition

Two parametrizations γ_1 on $[a, b]$ and γ_2 on $[c, d]$ of a curve are *equivalent* iff there is a continuously differentiable bijection $u: [c, d] \rightarrow [a, b]$ such that $u(c) = a$, $u(d) = b$, and $\gamma_2 = \gamma_1 \circ u$.

Theorem

Suppose γ_1 and γ_2 are equivalent smooth parametrizations of a curve. Then $L(\gamma_1) = L(\gamma_2)$.

Proof.

Let u be the equivalence bijection for γ_1 and γ_2 . Then

$$\begin{aligned} L(\gamma_2) &= \int_c^d \|\gamma_2'(t)\| dt = \int_c^d \|\gamma_1'(u(t)) \cdot u'(t)\| dt \\ &= \int_c^d \|\gamma_1'(u(t))\| \cdot |u'(t)| dt = \int_a^b \|\gamma_1(s)\| ds = L(\gamma_1) \end{aligned}$$

□

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Parametrization by Arclength

Definition (Arclength Parameter)

Set $\ell(t) = \int_a^t \|\vec{r}'(\tau)\| d\tau$. Then ℓ is continuous, differentiable, a bijection, and increasing \Rightarrow it has an inverse $\ell^{-1}: [0, L(\gamma)] \rightarrow [a, b]$. So $\gamma \circ \ell^{-1}: [0, L(\gamma)] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is the *arclength parametrization* of γ .

Example

Let $\vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t/3 \rangle$ on $[-4\pi, 4\pi]$.

1. Whence $\|\vec{r}'(t)\| = \|\langle -\sin(t), \cos(t), 1/3 \rangle\| = \sqrt{10}/3$.
2. Hence $\ell(t) = \int_{-4\pi}^t \sqrt{10}/3 dt = \sqrt{10}/3 \cdot (t + 4\pi)$.
3. Fortuitously, ℓ is algebraically invertible (*usually not true!*) and $\ell^{-1}(s) = (3/\sqrt{10})s - 4\pi$.
4. Whereupon the arc length parametrized form of γ is

$$\gamma(s) = \left\langle \cos\left(\frac{3}{\sqrt{10}}s\right), \sin\left(\frac{3}{\sqrt{10}}s\right), \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}}s - \frac{4}{3}\pi \right\rangle \quad \text{on } \left[0, \frac{8\sqrt{10}}{3}\pi\right]$$