

# Multivariable and Vector Calculus

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## Vector Functions and Space Curves

$$v : t \in \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow v(\vec{t}) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$$

Parametric line equations are similar to this form:

$$l = \begin{cases} x &= x_o + ta_1 \\ y &= y_o + ta_2 \\ z &= z_o + ta_3 \end{cases}$$

$$r(t) = \langle x_o + ta_1, y_o + ta_2, z_o + ta_3 \rangle$$

### Example

$$v(\vec{t}) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t^3 \rangle$$

We know that  $x = \cos(t)$  and  $y = \sin(t)$  and we have the identity  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ , therefore  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . We can determine this this vector traces a helix on the perimeter of a cylinder along the  $z$ -axis.

### Example

Find the point where the helix  $v(t) = \langle \cos(t), \sin(t), t \rangle$  intersects the sphere with equation  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 5$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^2 + z^2 &= 5 \\ \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t + t^2 &= 5 \\ 1 + t^2 &= 5 \\ t^2 &= 4 \\ t &= \pm 2 \end{aligned}$$

There are two points at which they intersect, when  $t = 2$  and when  $t = -2$ ,  $P_1(\cos 2, \sin(2), 2)$  and  $P_2(\cos(-2), \sin(-2), -2)$ .

### Example

Suppose you have two surfaces  $S_1 : x^2 + y^2 = 4$  and  $S_2 : z = xy$ . Find the curve of intersection  $C$ . We can let  $x = 2 \cos(t)$  and  $y = 2 \sin(t)$  in order to fulfill  $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ .

$$r(\vec{t}) = \langle 2 \cos(t), 2 \sin(t), 4 \cos(t) \sin(t) \rangle$$

### Example

Given the vector equation for the curve of intersection between  $S_1 : z = 4x^2 + y^2$  and  $S_2 : y = x^2$ . In terms of  $x$ :

$$r(\vec{x}) = \langle x, x^2, 4x^2 + y^2 \rangle = \langle x, x^2, 4x^2 + x^4 \rangle$$

$$r(\vec{t}) = \langle t, t^2, 4t^2 + t^4 \rangle$$

### Example

Give the vector equation for the curve of intersection between  $S_1 : x^2 + z^2 = 1$  and  $S_2 : x^2 + y^2 + 4z^2 = 4, y \geq 0$ .

$$r(\vec{t}) = \langle \cos(t), \sqrt{4 - \cos^2(t) - 4 \sin^2(t)}, \sin(t) \rangle$$

### Example

Given a surface  $S$  such that the curve  $r(\vec{t}) = \langle t^2, \ln(t), \frac{1}{2} \rangle$  belongs to  $S$ .

$$t^2 - t^2 = 0$$

$$x - e^{2 \ln(t)} = 0$$

**Example**

Find the length of the arc of the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, 9t, 4t^{\frac{3}{2}} \rangle$   $1 \leq t \leq 4$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_1^4 |\langle 2t, 9, 4\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{t} \rangle| dt \\ &= \int_1^4 \sqrt{4t^2 + 81 + 36t} dt \\ &= \int_1^4 2t + 9 dt \\ &= t^2 + 9 \Big|_1^4 \end{aligned}$$

**Example**

Find a point on  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3 \sin(t), 4t, 3 \cos(t) \rangle$  5 units from  $(0,0,3)$  in the direction of increasing  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L &= 5 \\ &= \int_0^\tau |\langle 3 \cos(t), 4, -3 \sin(t) \rangle| dt \\ &= \int_0^\tau \sqrt{9 \cos^2(t) + 16 + 9 \sin^2(t)} dt \\ &= \int_0^\tau \sqrt{9(\cos^2(t) + \sin^2(t)) + 16} dt \\ &= \int_0^\tau \sqrt{9 + 16} dt \\ &= \int_0^\tau 5 dt \\ &= 5t \Big|_{t=0}^{t=\tau} \\ &= 5\tau \\ \tau &= 1 \\ P &= (3 \sin(1), 4, 3 \cos(1)) \end{aligned}$$

### Example

Given:

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{v(0)} &= \langle 1, 0, -4 \rangle \\ \overrightarrow{v'(0)} &= \langle 0, 0, -1 \rangle \\ \overrightarrow{v''(t)} &= \langle \sin(t), 2 \cos(t), 6t \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Find  $\overrightarrow{v(t)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{v'(t)} &= \langle -\cos(t) + c_1, 2 \sin(t) + c_2, 3t^2 + c_3 \rangle = \langle 0, 0, -1 \rangle \\ \therefore c_1 &= 1 \quad c_2 = 0 \quad c_3 = -1 \\ \overrightarrow{v'(t)} &= \langle -\cos(t) + 1, 2 \sin(t), 3t^2 - 1 \rangle \\ \overrightarrow{v(t)} &= \langle -\sin(t) + t + c_1, -2 \cos(t) + c_2, t^3 - t + c_3 \rangle = \langle 1, 0, -4 \rangle \\ \therefore c_1 &= 1 \quad c_2 = 2 \quad c_3 = -4 \\ \overrightarrow{v(t)} &= \langle -\sin(t) + t + 1, -2 \cos(t) + 2, t^3 - t - 4 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

### Example

A bullet fired at an angle of  $30^\circ$  to the horizontal lands 1600ft away. Find  $v_o$ .  
Newton's Second Law:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F} &= m\vec{a} \\ &\equiv m\vec{v}'' = \langle 0, -mg \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Assume  $m = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}&\equiv \overrightarrow{v''(t)} = \langle 0, -g \rangle \\ &= \langle c_1, -gt + c_2 \rangle = \langle v_o \cos(30), v_o \cos(60) \rangle \text{ at } t = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore c_1 = \frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2} \quad c_2 = \frac{v_o}{2}$$

$$\overrightarrow{v''(t)} = \left\langle \frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2}, -gt + \frac{v_o}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$\overrightarrow{v(t)} = \left\langle \frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2}t + c_1, -gt + \frac{v_o}{2} + c_2 \right\rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\therefore c_1 = 0 \quad c_2 = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{v(t)} = \left\langle \frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2}t, \frac{-gt^2}{2} + \frac{v_o}{2}t \right\rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\frac{-gt^2}{2} + \frac{v_o}{2}t = 0$$

$$\therefore t = \frac{v_o}{g}$$

$$\frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2}t = 1600$$

$$\frac{v_o \sqrt{3}}{2} \frac{v_o}{g} = 1600$$

$$v_o = \sqrt{\frac{3200g}{\sqrt{3}}}$$

You can find all my notes at <http://omgimanerd.tech/notes>. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at [alvin@omgimanerd.tech](mailto:alvin@omgimanerd.tech)