MA 302: Selected Course notes

CONTENTS

1. BASIC CONCEPTS AND REVIEW FROM MA 122

1.1. **Euclidean Vector spaces.** In this course, a vector space will always consist of a set of the form:

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \{(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) : x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

with component wise addition and scalar multiplication. For example, in $\mathbb{R}^3$:

$$(1,2,3) + (-5,4,16) = (-4,6,19)$$

and

$$\sqrt{3}(1,2,3) = (\sqrt{3}, 2\sqrt{3}, 3\sqrt{3}).$$

In these notes, an element (called a **vector**) of $\mathbb{R}^n$ for $n \geq 2$ will be often be denoted in bold face, (eg. $\mathbf{x}$). On the blackboard, vectors are usually denoted by $\vec{x}$. If $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the numbers x_i are called the **coordinates** or **components** of $\mathbf{x}$. We will often write a vector $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ in vertical format as $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$. The **zero vector** is the vector $\mathbf{0} = (0,0,\ldots,0)$.

In $\mathbb{R}^n$, the **standard basis vectors** (for rectangular coordinates) are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{e_1} &= (1,0,0,\ldots,0) \\ \mathbf{e_2} &= (0,1,0,\ldots,0) \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{e_n} &= (0,0,\ldots,0,1) \end{aligned}$$

That is, $\mathbf{e_i}$ is the vector with the ith coordinate equal to 1 and all other coordinates equal to 0. Notice that

$$(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = x_1\mathbf{e_1} + x_2\mathbf{e_2} + \ldots + x_n\mathbf{e_n}.$$

In $\mathbb{R}^2$ the standard basis vectors are sometimes denoted by $\mathbf{i}$ and $\mathbf{j}$ instead of $\mathbf{e_1}$, and $\mathbf{e_2}$. In $\mathbb{R}^3$ the standard basis vectors are sometimes denoted $\mathbf{i}$, $\mathbf{j}$, and $\mathbf{k}$ instead of $\mathbf{e_1}$, $\mathbf{e_2}$, and $\mathbf{e_3}$.

We can picture a vector $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^2$ or $\mathbb{R}^3$ as an arrow *with base at* $\mathbf{0}$ and the tip of the arrowhead at $\mathbf{x}$.

The act of multiplying a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ by a scalar $k \in \mathbb{R}$, stretches the arrow representing $\mathbf{x}$ if $k > 1$ and shrinks the arrow representing $\mathbf{x}$ if $0 < k < 1$. If $k < 0$, the vector $k\mathbf{x}$ is represented by an arrow pointing in the direction

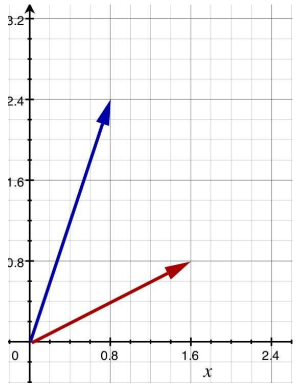


FIGURE 1. The vector $(.8,2.4)$ is in blue and the vector $(1.6,2.4)$ is in red.

opposite the arrow representing **x**. The sum of two vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$ or $\mathbb{R}^3$ can be found using the parallelogram rule as in Figure 2.

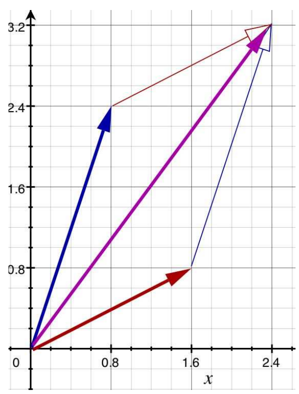


FIGURE 2. The sum of the red vector and the blue vector is the purple vector.

1.1.1. *Length and Distance.* Given a vector $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$, its **length** (or **magnitude** or **norm**) is denoted

$$||\mathbf{x}|| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \ldots + x_n^2}.$$

The (Euclidean) **distance** between two vectors **x** and **y** is defined to be

$$||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}||.$$

1.1.2. *Dot product.* If $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ and $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \ldots, y_n)$ are two vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$ their **dot product** is defined to be:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \ldots + x_n y_n.$$

Notice that this means that for any vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$||\mathbf{x}||^2 = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}.$$

Theorem 1.1. Suppose that $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and that $k, l, m \in \mathbb{R}$. Then the following are true:

(a) (Commutativity)

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

(b) (Vector Distributativity)

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w}$$

(c) (Scalar Associativity)

$$k(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = (k\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \cdot (k\mathbf{v})$$

1.2. **Linear functions and matrices.** The importance of linear functions arises from their ability to approximate differentiable functions.

1.2.1. *Linear functions.* A function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is a **linear function** if for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and for all $k, l \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$f(k\mathbf{x} + l\mathbf{y}) = kf(\mathbf{x}) + l\mathbf{y}.$$

Exercise 1.2. Prove that the linear functions $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ are exactly those of the form $f(x) = mx$ for some $m \in \mathbb{R}$.

A function $g\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is an **affine function** if there exists a linear function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ and a vector $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{b}.$$

Exercise 1.3. Prove that a function $g\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is affine if and only if it is of the form $g(x) = mx + b$ for some fixed $m, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

Exercise 1.4. Give examples of linear functions $\mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^2$, and $\mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$.

1.2.2. *Matrices.* An $m \times n$ matrix M is an array of the form

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We will sometimes place the dimensions of the matrix as subscripts on the name of the matrix. Thus we might write M_{mn} for the above matrix.

If we let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r_1} &= (a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) \\ \mathbf{r_2} &= (a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{r_m} &= (a_{m1}, a_{m2}, \dots, a_{mn}) \end{aligned}$$

we can write the matrix M_{mn} as

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{r_1} \\ \mathbf{r_2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r_m} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, if we let $\mathbf{c_1}, \dots, \mathbf{c_n}$ be the columns of M_{mn} then we can write

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c_1} & \mathbf{c_2} & \dots & \mathbf{c_n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Suppose that

$$A_{mn} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A_1} \\ \mathbf{A_2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A_m} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$B_{np} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B_1} & \mathbf{B_2} & \dots & \mathbf{B_p} \end{pmatrix}$$

are both matrices where $\mathbf{A_i}$ is the ith row of A and $\mathbf{B}_j$ is the jth column of B. Botice that both $\mathbf{A_i}$ and $\mathbf{B_j}$ are in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then the product AB is an $m \times p$ matrix defined by

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A_1} \cdot \mathbf{B_1} & \mathbf{A_1} \cdot \mathbf{B_2} & \dots & \mathbf{A_1} \cdot \mathbf{B_p} \\ \mathbf{A_2} \cdot \mathbf{B_1} & \mathbf{A_2} \cdot \mathbf{B_2} & \dots & \mathbf{A_2} \cdot \mathbf{B_p} \\ \vdots & & & \\ \mathbf{A_m} \cdot \mathbf{B_1} & \mathbf{A_1} \cdot \mathbf{B_2} & \dots & \mathbf{A_m} \cdot \mathbf{B_p} \end{pmatrix}$$

That is, the entry in the ith row and jth column of AB is the dot product of the ith row of A with the jth column of B.

Exercise 1.5. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ and let $B = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 7 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 6 & -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Let $\mathbf{v} = (3,1,-5)$.

(a) Calculate AB

(b) Calculate BA

(c) Calculate $A\mathbf{v}$ and $B\mathbf{v}$.

(d) Let $\mathbf{e_i}$ be the ith basis vector of $\mathbb{R}^3$. Calculate $A\mathbf{e_i}$ and $B\mathbf{e_i}$.

If A is a matrix and if $k \in \mathbb{R}$, then kA is defined to be the matrix obtained by multiplying all the entries of A by k. If A and B are matrices with the same dimensions, then $A+B$ is defined to be the matrix obtained by adding the corresponding entries of A and B.

Exercise 1.6. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ and let $k = 2$. Write down all the entries of kA.

Exercise 1.7. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ and let $B = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 7 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 6 & -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Compute $A+B$.

The following theorem should come as no surprise:

Theorem 1.8. Suppose that A,B,C are matrices and that $k,l \in \mathbb{R}$ such that all expressions in what follows are defined. Then

(a) $A(BC) = (AB)C$

(b) $A(B+C) = AB+AC$

(c) $(A+B)C = AC+BC$.

(d) $(kA)BC = k(ABC)$

(e) $(k+l)A = kA+lA$

Exercise 1.9. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$. Let $\mathbf{v} = (-4,8,2)$.

(a) Calculate $A\mathbf{v}$.

(b) Define a function by $f(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$. What are the domain and codomain of f? Show that f is a linear function.

The $n \times n$ **identity matrix** I_n is the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e_1} & \dots & e_n \end{pmatrix}$, where $\mathbf{e_i}$ is the ith basis vector of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Exercise 1.10. (a) Suppose that A is an arbitrary $n \times n$ matrix. Explain why $IA = AI = A$.

(b) If A is an $m \times n$ matrix such that $m \neq n$, is it still true that $IA = AI = A$? Why or why not?

The following theorem is fundamental to linear algebra. It is typically proved in a linear algebra course.

Theorem 1.11. A function $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is linear if and only if there is an $m \times n$ matrix A such that $f(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Exercise 1.12. Consider the grid on $\mathbb{R}^2$ given by horizontal lines at integer y values and vertical lines at integer x values. What happens to this grid under the linear function $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ given by

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

2. VISUALIZING FUNCTIONS $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$

There are three basic situations to consider $n < m$, $n = m$, and $n > m$. Furthermore, we will almost always be considering the following types of functions:

- $f\colon\ \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ (the subject of Calculus I)
- $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ and $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$ (the subject of Calculus II)
- $f\colon\ \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^2$, and $f\colon\ \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^3$ (parameterized curves)
- $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ (a parameterized surface)
- $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ and $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ (vector fields)

2.1. **Visualizing functions** $f\colon\ \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ **and** $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$**.** If $f\colon\ \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ then we (in principle) can draw the graph of f in $\mathbb{R}^2$ with the horizontal axis representing the domain and the vertical axis representing the codomain. If $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ then we can draw the graph of f in $\mathbb{R}^3$ with the horizontal plane representing the domain and the vertical axis representing the codomain.

Exercise 2.1. Define $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ by $f(\mathbf{x}) = ||x||$. Sketch the graph of f in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Humans often have a difficult time visualizing objects in $\mathbb{R}^3$. One of the most common methods of trying to gain a better understanding of an oject in $\mathbb{R}^3$ is to slice it by planes parallel to one of the xy, yz, or xz planes in $\mathbb{R}^3$. This corresponds to fixing $f(x,y)$, x, or y (respectively). Here are two examples:

Example 2.2. Draw 3 slices of the graph of $f(x,y) = x^2 - 2y^2$ using x-slices (that is slices parallel to the yz-plane.)

Solution: Fixing $x = 0$, we have the function $f(0,y) = -2y^2$. We draw the graph of this on the yz plane. We also do this for $x = \pm 0.5$, getting $f(\pm 0.5, y) = .25 - 2y^2$ and $x = \pm 1$, getting $f(1,y) = 1 - 2y^2$.

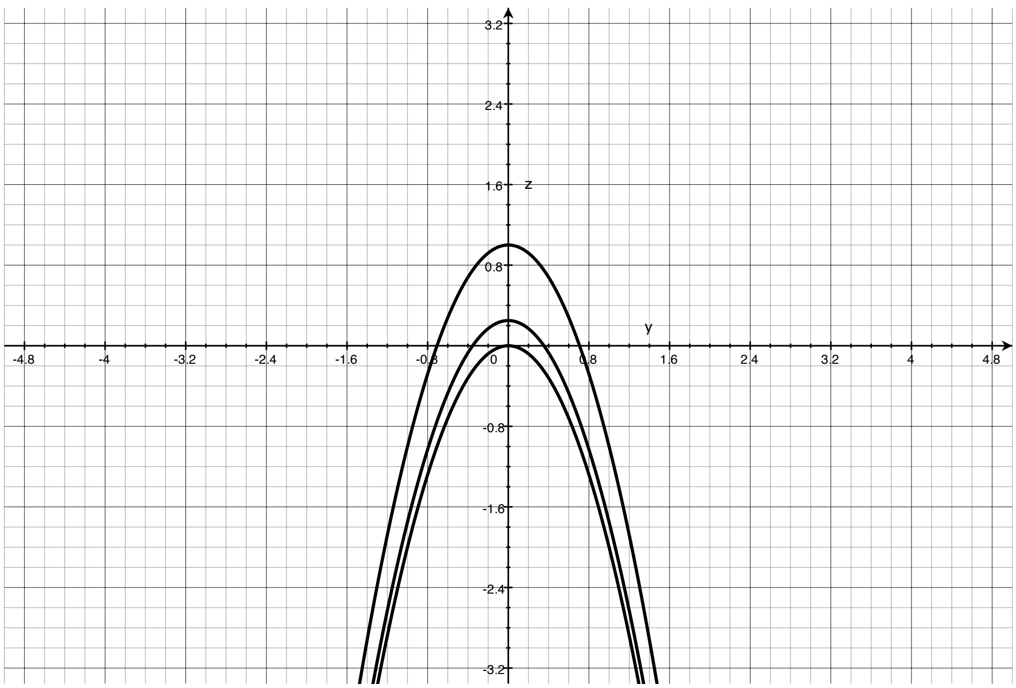


FIGURE 3

Here is a 3-dimensional figure illustrating the fact that our graphs in the yz plane come from slicing the graph of $f(x,y)$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$ by planes parallel to the yz axis.

3. DIFFERENTIATION

3.1. **Partial Derivatives.** You should recall that for $f\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(a,b)$ is the slope of the line in the $x = a$ slice tangent to the graph of $z = f(x,y)$

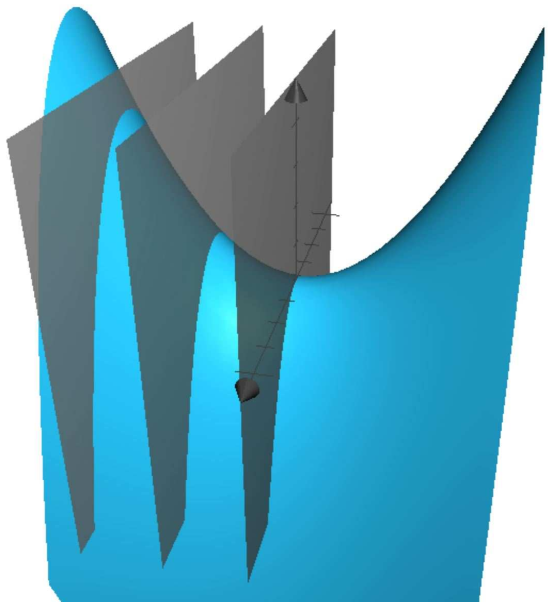


FIGURE 4

at $y = b$. You can compute $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(a,b)$ by holding x constant, taking the (1-variable) derivative of f with respect to y and then plugging in $(x,y) = (a,b)$. The **gradient** of f at (a,b) is defined to be:

$$\nabla f(a,b) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(a,b), \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(a,b) \right)$$

Example 3.1. Let $f\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be the function $f(x,y) = x^2 - 2y^2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x,y) &= 2x \\ \tfrac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x,y) &= -4y \\ \nabla f(x,y) &= (2x, -4y) \end{aligned}$$

At the point $(x,y) = (1,.5)$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{\partial}{\partial x} f(1,.5) &= 2 \\ \tfrac{\partial}{\partial y} f(1,.5) &= -2 \\ \nabla f(x,y) &= (2,-2) \end{aligned}$$

The fact that $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(1,.5) = -2$ can be seen from Figure 5.

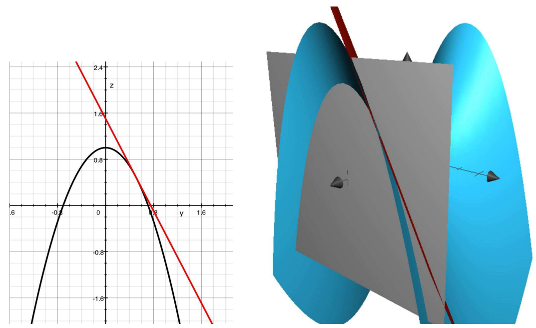


FIGURE 5. If $x = 1$, the equation for $f(x,y)$ becomes $f(x,y) = 1 - 2y^2$. The tangent line to this graph at $y = .5$ has equation $l(y) = -2(y - .5) + .5$. Thus, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(1,.5) = -2$. In the figure on the right, you can see the 3-dimensional graphs of $f(x,y)$ and the tangent plane (in red) to $f(x,y)$ at $(1,.5)$. It is evident that the tangent plane slices through the plane $x = 1$ in a line of slope -2 which is the tangent line to the graph of $f(1,y) = 1 - 2y^2$.

For a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$, we keep constant all but one coordinate x_i of $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \ldots, x_i, \ldots, x_n)$ we have a partial function of f. If f is differentiable, we can take the partial derivative of f with respect to x_i.

Example 3.2. Let $f\colon \mathbb{R}^4 \to \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$$f(x_1,x_2,x_3,x_4) = x_1^2 - x_2^2 + x_3 - 5x_4^5x_3.$$

Then:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_4} f(x_1,x_2,x_3,x_4,x_5) = -25x_4^4x_3.$$

The gradient of $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is:

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} f, \ldots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} f\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} f \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} f \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example 3.3. Let $f\colon \mathbb{R}^4 \to \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$$f(x_1,x_2,x_3,x_4) = x_1^2 - x_2^2 + x_3 - 5x_4^5x_3.$$

Then:

$$\nabla f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 \\ -2x_2 \\ 1 \\ -25x_4^4 x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Important Observation: If $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable, then

$$\nabla f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$$

is a vector valued function.

We will sometimes think of

$$\nabla = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

as a function of functions. Its input is a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ and its output is a function $\nabla f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$.

3.2. **Linear Approximation.** Suppose that $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at $\mathbf{0}$ and that $f(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$. The gradient allows a nice formula for a linear approximation to f near $\mathbf{0}$. Let:

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla f(\mathbf{0}) \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Then $L\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is a linear function which is a "good approximation" to f near $\mathbf{0}$ in the sense that:

$$\lim_{\mathbf{x} \to \mathbf{0}} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}) - L(\mathbf{x})}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}||} = 0$$

(You can summarize this equation by saying that the relative error between f and L goes to 0 as $\mathbf{x}$ approaches $\mathbf{0}$.)

The restriction to differentiability at $\mathbf{0}$ is rather unnatural. If f is differentiable at $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ then

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla f(\mathbf{a}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}) + f(\mathbf{a})$$

is a good approximation to f near $\mathbf{a}$ in the sense that

$$\lim_{\mathbf{x} \to \mathbf{a}} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}) - L(\mathbf{x})}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}||} = 0.$$

(This is, in fact, the definition of "differentiablility of f at $\mathbf{a}$.) The graph of L is the "tangent space" to the graph of f at the point $(\mathbf{a}, f(\mathbf{a}))$.

Notice that, usually, L will not be linear function. It will, however, always be an affine function. Nonetheless, L is called the "linear approximation" to f at $\mathbf{a}$. By introducing the notions of "tangent space" and "differential" it is possible to turn L into a linear function between vector spaces. We will not do this here, but may come back to it later.

We will want to use ideas similar to the above to construct linear approximations to differentiable functions $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$. For that matter, we still need to *define* the notion of derivative for functions $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$. We do this now.

Notice that the formula $\nabla f(\mathbf{0}) \cdot \mathbf{x}$ looks like the entry in a matrix resulting from a matrix multiplication. In fact, it is the result of the matrix multiplication:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f(\mathbf{0}) & \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} f(\mathbf{0}) & \dots & \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} f(\mathbf{0}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

3.2.1. *Derivatives.* The matrix

$$Df(\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f(\mathbf{0}) & \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} f(\mathbf{0}) & \dots & \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} f(\mathbf{0}) \end{pmatrix}$$

is called the **derivative** of f at $\mathbf{0}$. It is just the transpose of the vector $\nabla f(\mathbf{0})$.

Inspired by this, we set out to extend these notions to a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$. The function f can be written in the form:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_1(\mathbf{x}), f_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{x}))$$

The function f_i keeps track of the ith coordinate of the result of plugging $\mathbf{x}$ into the function f. Notice that $f_i\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$, so we can talk about its partial derivatives. Assume that all partial derivatives of all the f_i exist and define:

$$Df(\mathbf{a}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_3}(\mathbf{a}) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n}(\mathbf{a}) \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_3}(\mathbf{a}) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n}(\mathbf{a}) \\ \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial x_3}(\mathbf{a}) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial x_n}(\mathbf{a}) \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{a}) & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_3}(\mathbf{a}) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n}(\mathbf{a}) \end{pmatrix}$$

The entry in the ith row and jth column is the partial derivative at $\mathbf{a}$ of f_i with respect to x_j. Equivalently, the ith row consists of $Df_i(\mathbf{a})$.

Example 3.4. Define $f\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^4$ by

$$f(x,y) = (xy, x^2y, xy^3, x^4e^y)$$

Then

$$Df(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} y & x \\ 2xy & x^2 \\ y^3 & 3xy^2 \\ 4x^3e^y & x^4e^y \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$Df(1,2) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \\ 8 & 12 \\ 4e^2 & e^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here is another example, demonstrating an important point (to be made later).

Example 3.5. Define $f\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ and $g\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ by

$$\begin{aligned} f(x,y) &= (x^2+2x, e^y) \\ g(x,y) &= (\sin(x), 5y+x) \end{aligned}$$

Notice that we can compose f and g to obtain $f \circ g\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$. A formula for $f \circ g$ is:

$$f \circ g(x,y) = (\sin^2 x + 2\sin x, e^{5y+x}).$$

Notice that $g(0,0) = (0,0)$.

Compare $Df(g(\mathbf{0}))$, $Dg(\mathbf{0})$ and $D(f \circ g)(\mathbf{0})$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} Df(\mathbf{0}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ Dg(\mathbf{0}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \\ D(f \circ g)(\mathbf{0}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Notice that:

$$D(f \circ g)(\mathbf{0}) = Df(g(\mathbf{0}))Dg(\mathbf{0}).$$

This is an example of the chain rule at work.

3.2.2. *Differentiability.* Throughout this section, let $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ be a differentiable function and let f_i be the ith coordinate function. Recall from MA 122, that the existence of $Df(\mathbf{a})$ does not guarantee the differentiability of f at $\mathbf{a}$. Put another way: Even if all partial derivatives exist, the function may not have a good linear approximation near $\mathbf{a}$. In this section we define the notion of differentiability for a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ and we state a theorem which gives a necessary and sufficient condition for f to be differentiable.

Definition: Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open ball centered at $\mathbf{a}$. and that f is defined on X. Suppose that all partial derivatives of f at $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ exist and define:

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = Df(\mathbf{a})(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{a}) + f(\mathbf{x}.$$

Notice that $h\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is an affine function. We say that f is **differentiable** at $\mathbf{a}$ if

$$\lim_{\mathbf{x}\to\mathbf{a}} \frac{||f(\mathbf{x}) - h(\mathbf{x})||}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{a}||} = 0$$

As before, this definition can be rephrased by saying that all partial derivatives of f exist and the affine function h is a good approximation to f near $\mathbf{a}$.

Theorem 3.6. Suppose that $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ has the property that each component function f_i is differentiable at $\mathbf{a}$. Then f is differentiable at $\mathbf{a}$. Furthermore, $f_i\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at $\mathbf{a}$, if there is an open ball X containing $\mathbf{a}$ such that f_i is defined on X and all partial derivatives of f_i exist and are continuous on X.

Example 3.7. Let $f\colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be defined by

$$f(x,y,z) = (\ln(|xyz|), x+y+z^2)$$

Then

$$Df(x,y,z) = \begin{pmatrix} 1/x & 1/y & 1/z \\ 1 & 1 & 2z \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let A be the coordinate axes in $\mathbb{R}^3$. That is, $A = \{(x,y,z) : xyz = 0\}$. Each entry in the matrix $Df(x,y,z)$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R}^3 - A$. The function f is defined on $\mathbb{R}^3 - A$. Consequently, f is differentiable at each point $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^3 - A$.

Finally, here is the statement of the chain rule:

Theorem 3.8. Suppose that $g\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ and $f\colon \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^p$ are functions which are defined on open sets $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $X \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ such that $g(Y) \subset X$. Assume that g is differentiable at $\mathbf{y} \in Y$ and that f is differentiable at $g(\mathbf{y}) \in X$. Then, $f \circ g\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^p$ is differentiable at $\mathbf{y}$ and $D(f \circ g)(\mathbf{y}) = Df\big(g(\mathbf{y})\big)Dg(\mathbf{y})$.

Example 3.9. Define $f(x,y) = (x^2, x^2+y^2)$. Let $\hat{f}\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be the function f with domain in polar coordinates. What is $D\hat{f}(r,\theta)$?

Solution: Let $T\colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be the change from polar coordinates to rectangular coordinates. That is,

$$T(r,\theta) = (r\cos\theta, r\sin\theta).$$

Then, by definition, $\hat{f} = f \circ T$. Since the coordinates of f and T are polynomials and trig functions, f and T are everywhere differentiable. A calculation shows that:

$$Df(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} 2x & 0 \\ 2x & 2y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$Df(T(r,\theta)) = \begin{pmatrix} 2r\cos\theta & 0 \\ 2r\cos\theta & 2r\sin\theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Another calculation shows that

$$DT(r,\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & r\cos\theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, by the chain rule:

$$D\hat{f}(r,\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} 2r\cos\theta & 0 \\ 2r\cos\theta & 2r\sin\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & r\cos\theta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2r\cos^2\theta & -2r^2\cos\theta\sin\theta \\ 2r & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Sketch of proof of Chain Rule. Let $g\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ and $f\colon \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ be such that g and f are both differentiable at $\mathbf{0}$ and $g(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ and $f(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$.

Special case: f and g are both linear.

Then there exist matrices A_{mk} and B_{nm} so that

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= A\mathbf{x} \qquad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m \\ g(\mathbf{x}) &= B\mathbf{x} \qquad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{aligned}$$

This implies that, for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) = A(B\mathbf{x}) = (AB)\mathbf{x}.$$

Notice that:

$$\begin{aligned} Df(g(\mathbf{0})) &= A \\ Dg(\mathbf{0}) &= B \\ D(f\circ g)(\mathbf{0}) &= AB \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$D(f\circ g)(\mathbf{0}) = Df(g\mathbf{0})Dg(\mathbf{0})$$

as desired.

General Case: f and g are not necessarily linear.

Since $g\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is differentiable at $\mathbf{0}$, for $\mathbf{x}$ near $\mathbf{0}$,

$$g(\mathbf{x}) \approx Dg(\mathbf{0})\mathbf{x}.$$

Similarly, since $f\colon \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ is differentiable at $g(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$, for $\mathbf{x}$ near $\mathbf{0}$,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \approx Df(g(\mathbf{0}))\mathbf{x}.$$

To prove the theorem we just need to show that

$$f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) \approx Df(g(\mathbf{0}))Dg(\mathbf{0}).$$

Remember that $\approx$ in this context means that the relative error goes to 0 as $\mathbf{x} \to \mathbf{0}$. We didn't go over this in class, but here is a proof:

For convenience, define the following:

$$\begin{aligned} B &= Dg(\mathbf{0}) \\ A &= Df(\mathbf{0}) \end{aligned}$$

We need to show that for each $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ so that if $0 < ||\mathbf{x}|| = ||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}|| < \delta$ then

$$\frac{||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}||}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}||} < \varepsilon.$$

Notice that:

$$||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}|| = ||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - Ag(\mathbf{x}) + Ag(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}||.$$

By the triangle inequality,

$$||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}|| \leq ||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - Ag(\mathbf{x})|| + ||A(g\mathbf{x}) - B\mathbf{x})||.$$

Now there exists a constant α, such that for all $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $||A\mathbf{y}|| \leq \alpha||\mathbf{y}||$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} ||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}|| &\leq \\ ||f(g(\mathbf{x})) - Ag(\mathbf{x})|| + ||A(g\mathbf{x}) - B\mathbf{x})|| &\leq \\ ||f(g(\mathbf{x})) - Ag(\mathbf{x})|| + \alpha||g(\mathbf{x} - B\mathbf{x}|| & \end{aligned}$$

We now consider the relative errors.

Piece 1: Since g is differentiable at $\mathbf{0}$, there exists $\delta_1 > 0$, so that if $0 < ||\mathbf{x}|| < \delta_1$ then

$$\frac{||g(\mathbf{x}) - B\mathbf{x}||}{||\mathbf{x}||} < \varepsilon/2\alpha.$$

Piece 2: There is a theorem, which guarantees that (since g is differentiable at $\mathbf{0}$) there exists $\delta_2 > 0$ so that if $||\mathbf{x}|| < \delta_2$, then there is a constant β such that

$$||g(\mathbf{x})|| \leq \beta||\mathbf{x}||.$$

Piece 3: Since f is differentiable at $\mathbf{0} = g(\mathbf{0})$, there exists $\delta_3 > 0$ so that if $0 < ||\mathbf{y}|| < \delta_3$, then

$$\frac{||f(\mathbf{y}) - A\mathbf{y}}{||\mathbf{y}||} < \varepsilon/2\beta.$$

This implies that

$$||f(\mathbf{y}) - A\mathbf{y}|| < (\varepsilon/2\beta)||\mathbf{y}||$$

Pieces 2 and 3 imply: if $0 < \mathbf{x} < \min(\delta_2, \delta_3)$, setting $\mathbf{y} = g(\mathbf{x})$ we have

$$||f(g(\mathbf{x}) - Ag(\mathbf{x})|| < (\varepsilon/2\beta)||g(\mathbf{x})|| < (\varepsilon/2\beta)\beta||\mathbf{x}||.$$

Consequently, if $0 < \mathbf{x} < \min(\delta_2, \delta_3)$, we have

$$\frac{||f(g(\mathbf{x})) - Ag(\mathbf{x})}{||\mathbf{x}||} < \varepsilon/2.$$

Piece 1 implies: if $0 < \mathbf{x} < \delta_1$, then

$$\frac{\alpha||g(\mathbf{x}) - B\mathbf{x}||}{||\mathbf{x}||} < \varepsilon/2.$$

We conclude that if $0 < ||\mathbf{x}|| < \delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} ||f \circ g(\mathbf{x}) - AB\mathbf{x}||/||\mathbf{x}|| &\leq \\ ||f(g(\mathbf{x})) - Ag(\mathbf{x})||/||\mathbf{x}|| + \alpha||g(\mathbf{x}) - B\mathbf{x}||/||\mathbf{x}|| &< \\ \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

4. Space Curves

After reviewing, the differentiation of functions $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ we now turn to the situation when $n = 1$ and $m \geq 2$. For the sake of consistency with the text, we consider functions

$$\mathbf{x}\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^n$$

and we let $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be the independent variable. If $n = 2$, we are considering functions of the form:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$$

and if $n = 3$, we consider functions of the form:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t)).$$

We usually don't graph the function $\mathbf{x}$ (even in the case when $n = 2$). Instead, we draw the image of $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$. The function $\mathbf{x}$ is often called a **parameterization** of its image.

Example 4.1. $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t))$ and $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos(2t), \sin(2t))$ are both parameterizations of the unit circle in $\mathbb{R}^2$. In what way(s) are they different?

Example 4.2. Suppose that $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function. Then $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t, f(t))$ is a parameterization of the graph of f in $\mathbb{R}^2$.

Example 4.3. Suppose that $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{w}$ are distinct vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then $\mathbf{x}(t) = t\mathbf{v} + (1-t)\mathbf{w}$ is a parameterization of the line through $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{w}$. Restricting $\mathbf{x}$ to $t \in [0,1]$ is a parametrization of the line segment joining $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{w}$.

Example 4.4. Suppose that $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{w}$ are distinct vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{v} + t\mathbf{w}$ is a parameterization of the line through $\mathbf{v}$ that is parallel to the vector $\mathbf{w}$.

The derivative (in rectangular coordinates) of $\mathbf{x}(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \ldots, x_n(t))$ is the matrix:

$$D\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}'(t) = (x_1'(t), x_2'(t), \ldots, x_n'(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1'(t) \\ x_2'(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n'(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The vector $\mathbf{x}'(t)$ has components which are the instantaneous rates of change of the coordinates of $\mathbf{x}$. The **speed** of $\mathbf{x}$ is $||\mathbf{x}'(t)||$ and, if $\mathbf{x}'(t)$ is differentiable, the **acceleration** of $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is $\mathbf{x}''(t)$. We sometimes write $\mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{x}'(t)$ and $\mathbf{a}(t) = \mathbf{x}''(t)$.

Example 4.5. Find $\mathbf{v}(t)$ and $\mathbf{a}(t)$ for the curve $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t, t\sin(t), t\cos(t))$. Also find the speed of $\mathbf{x}(t)$ at time t.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}(t) &= (1, \sin(t) + t\cos(t), \cos(t) - t\sin(t)) \\ ||\mathbf{v}(t)|| &= \sqrt{1 + \sin(t)\cos(t) - t^2\sin(t)\cos(t) - t\sin^2(t) + t\cos^2(t)} \\ \mathbf{a}(t) &= (0, 2\cos(t) - t\sin(t), -2\sin(t) - t\cos(t)) \end{aligned}$$

The next theorem should not be surprising.

Theorem 4.6. Suppose that $\mathbf{x}\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is differentiable. Then $\mathbf{x}'(t_0)$ is parallel to the line tangent to the curve $\mathbf{x}(t)$ at t_0.

Proof. We consider only $n = 2$; for $n > 2$, the proof is nearly identical. A vector parallel to the tangent line to $\mathbf{x}(t)$ at $t = t_0$ can be obtained as in

1-variable calculus:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{tangent vector} &= \lim_{\Delta t\to 0}\big(\mathbf{x}(t_0+\Delta t)-\mathbf{x}(t_0)\big)/\Delta t\\
&= \lim_{\Delta t\to 0}\Big(\big(x(t_0+\Delta t),y(t_0+\Delta t)\big)-\big(x(t_0),y(t_0)\big)\Big)/\Delta t\\
&= \lim_{\Delta t\to 0}\left(\tfrac{x(t_0+\Delta t)-x(t_0)}{\Delta t},\tfrac{y(t_0+\Delta t)-y(t_0)}{\Delta t}\right)\\
&= \left(\lim_{\Delta t\to 0}\tfrac{x(t_0+\Delta t)-x(t_0)}{\Delta t},\lim_{\Delta t\to 0}\tfrac{y(t_0+\Delta t)-y(t_0)}{\Delta t}\right)\\
&= (x'(t),y'(t))\\
&= \mathbf{x}'(t)
\end{aligned}$$

□

Example 4.7. Let $\mathbf{x}(t)=(3\cos(2t),\sin(6t))$. The image of $\mathbf{x}$ for $t\in[-6\pi,6\pi]$ is drawn in Figure 6. Find the equations of the tangent lines at the point $(-1.5,0)$.

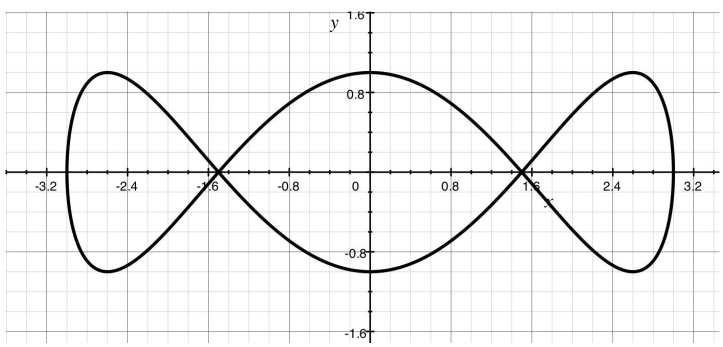


FIGURE 6

Solution: The point $(-1.5,0)$ is crossed by $\mathbf{x}$ at $t_1=\pi/3$ and at $t_2=2\pi/3$. The derivative of $\mathbf{x}$ is

$$\mathbf{x}'(t)=(-6\sin(2t),6\cos(6t)).$$

At t_1, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}'(t_1)=(-6\sin(2\pi/3),6\cos(2\pi))=(-3\sqrt{3},6).$$

Thus, one of the tangent lines has parameterization:

$$L_1(t)=t(-3\sqrt{3},6)+(-1.5,0).$$

At t_2, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}'(t_2)=(3\sqrt{3},6).$$

Thus, the other tangent line has a parameterization:

$$L_2(t)=t(3\sqrt{3},6)+(-1.5,0).$$

5. Direction Vectors and Tangent spaces

We saw in the last section that if $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is a curve in $\mathbb{R}^n$, then $\mathbf{x}'(t)$ is a vector *parallel* to the line tangent to the image of $\mathbf{x}$ at the point t. This is the most we can hope for since we are always basing our vectors at $\mathbf{0}$. This is often somewhat inconvenient (although it remains convenient for other reasons) and so we need a work-around.

Here is the idea:

Example 5.1. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$ and let $t_0 = (\pi/4, \pi/4)$. Notice that $\mathbf{x}'(t_0) = (1/\sqrt{2}, 1/\sqrt{2})$. If an object's position at time t seconds is given by $\mathbf{x}(t)$ and if at time t_0 all forces stop acting on the object then 1 second later, the object will be at the position given by $\mathbf{x}(t_0) + \mathbf{x}'(t_0)$. That is, $\mathbf{x}'(t_0)$ denotes the direction the object will travel starting at $\mathbf{x}(t_0)$. It would be convenient to represent $\mathbf{x}(t_0)$ by a vector with tail at $\mathbf{x}(t_0)$ and head at $\mathbf{x}(t_0) + \mathbf{x}'(t_0)$.

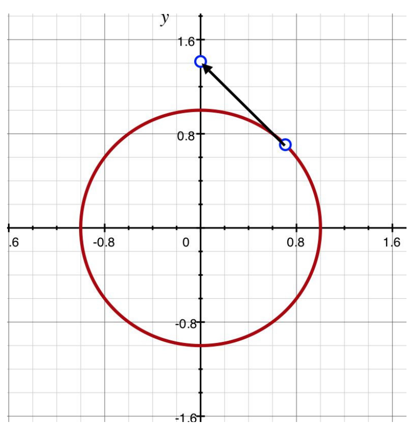


FIGURE 7

To do this to each point $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ we associate a "tangent space" $T_{\mathbf{p}}$. This is simply a copy of $\mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\mathbf{p}$ corresponds to the origin of $T_{\mathbf{p}}$. In $\mathbb{R}^2$, the standard basis vectors are denoted $\mathbf{i}$ and $\mathbf{j}$. In $\mathbb{R}^3$ the standard basis vectors are denoted $\mathbf{i}$, $\mathbf{j}$, and $\mathbf{k}$. We usually think of $T_{\mathbf{p}}$ as an alternative coordinate system for $\mathbb{R}^n$ which is positioned so that $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is at the origin.

Example 5.2. If $\mathbf{p} = (1,3)$ and if $(2,5) \in T_{\mathbf{p}}$ then $(2,5)$ corresponds to the point $(1,3) + (2,5) = (3,8)$ in $\mathbb{R}^2$.

We think of $T_{\mathbf{p}}$ as the set of directions at $\mathbf{p}$.

Example 5.3. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$ and let $t_0 = \pi/6$. Suppose that an object is following the path $\mathbf{x}(t)$ and that at time t_0 all forces stop acting on the object. Then the direction in which the object will head is

$$\mathbf{x}'(t_0) = (-\sin\pi/6, \cos\pi/6) = (-1/2, \sqrt{3}/2).$$

That is, the object will travel $1/2$ units to the left of $\mathbf{x}(t_0)$ and $\sqrt{3}/2$ units up from $\mathbf{x}(t_0)$ in 1 second.

Put another way, the point $\mathbf{x}(t_0) + \mathbf{x}'(t_0)$ is the same as the point $\mathbf{x}'(t_0) \in T_{\mathbf{x}(t_0)}$.

5.1. **Derivatives and Tangent Spaces.** Suppose that $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is differentiable at $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $L\colon T_p \to T_{f(\mathbf{p})}$ defined by

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = Df(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{x}$$

is a linear map between tangent spaces.

Example 5.4. Let $\mathbf{p} = (1,2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and let $f(\mathbf{x}) = (1/4)(x^2 + y^2, x^2 - y^2)$ for all $\mathbf{x} = (x,y)$. Let $\mathbf{v} = (-2,3) \in T_{\mathbf{p}}$. Sketch the point $Df(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{v} \in T_{f(\mathbf{p})}$.

Solution: Compute:

$$Df(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} x/2 & y/2 \\ x/2 & -y/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

So that

$$Df(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1 \\ 1/2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$Df(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1 \\ 1/2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In $\mathbb{R}^2$, we plot $Df(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{v}$ by starting at $f(\mathbf{p}) = (5/4, -3/4)$ and then travel over 2 and down 4. See Figure 8.

5.2. **Other coordinate systems on tangent spaces.** In $\mathbb{R}^2$, it is sometimes useful to use polar coordinates instead of rectangular coordinates. In $\mathbb{R}^3$

it is sometimes useful to use either cylindrical or spherical coordinates instead of rectangular coordinates. Using rectangular coordinates on tangent spaces in $\mathbb{R}^2$, the vectors $\mathbf{i}$, and $\mathbf{j}$ point in the directions in which x and y (respectively) increase.

Now suppose that we are using polar coordinates on $\mathbb{R}^2$ and that we want a basis of unit vectors e_r and e_θ of $T_{\mathbf{p}}$ so that e_r points in the direction of

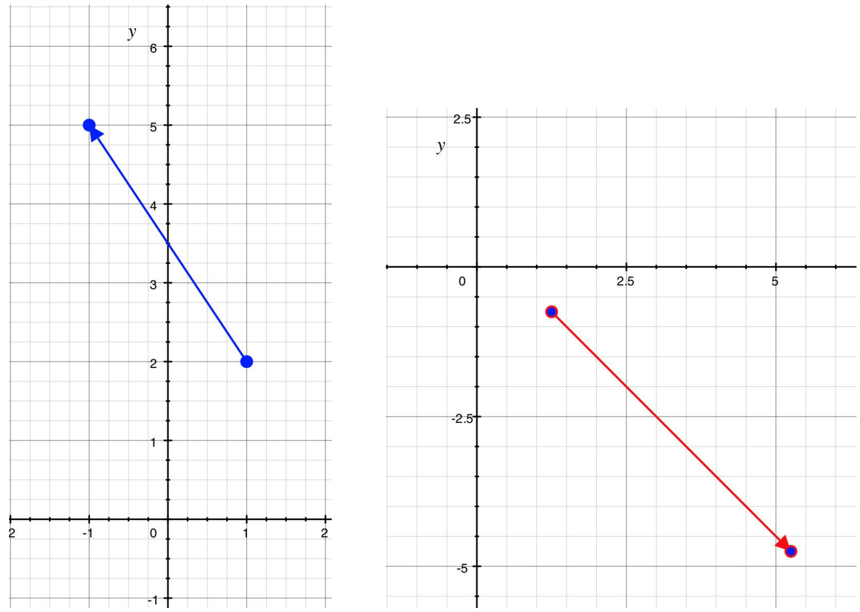


FIGURE 8. On the left is an arrow representing $\mathbf{v} \in T_{\mathbf{p}}$. On the right is an arrow representing $Df(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{v}$ in $T_{f(\mathbf{p})}$.

increasing r and e_θ points in the direction of increasing θ. Let $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2)$. Since r increases as $\mathbf{x}$ is moved radially from $\mathbf{0}$, starting at $\mathbf{p}$ and moving p_1 horizontally and p_2 vertically will increase r the greatest. That is, move in the direction $p_1\mathbf{i} + p_2\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{p}$. We want e_r to be a unit vector, so let

$$e_r = (p_1\mathbf{i} + p_2\mathbf{j})/||\mathbf{p}|| = \mathbf{p}/||\mathbf{p}||.$$

Notice that e_r depends on $\mathbf{p}$.

To find e_θ, notice that we can parameterize the circle of radius $||\mathbf{p}||$ by $\phi(t) = ||\mathbf{p}||(\cos t, \sin t)$. As t increases, the angle θ is increasing. Suppose that $\phi(t_0) = \mathbf{p}$. Then $\phi'(t_0) \in T_{\mathbf{p}}$ will be the direction of greatest increase of θ. We have

$$\phi'(t_0) = ||\mathbf{p}||(-\sin t_0, \cos t_0) = (-p_2, p_1).$$

Thus, to increase θ (and keep r the same) we should move $-p_2$ horizontally and p_1 vertically. That is, move in the direction $-p_2\mathbf{i} + p_1\mathbf{j}$. The magnitude of this vector is $||\mathbf{p}||$ and so we define

$$e_\theta = (-p_2\mathbf{i} + p_1\mathbf{j})/||\mathbf{p}||.$$

5.3. **Parameterizing interesting curves.**

Example 5.5. Suppose that a circle of radius ρ cm rolls along level ground so that the center of the circle is moving at 1 cm/sec. At time $t = 0$, the center of the circle is at $(0,0)$ and the top of the circle is a point $P=(0,\rho)$. As the circle rolls, the point P traces out a curve $\mathbf{x}(t)$ (with $P=\mathbf{x}(0)$). Find an equation for $\mathbf{x}(t)$.

Solution: Let $\mathbf{c}(t)$ denote the center of the circle at time t. The circumference of the circle is $2\pi\rho$ and so the circle makes one complete rotation in $2\pi\rho$ sec. At time t, the line segment joining $\mathbf{c}(t)$ to $\mathbf{x}(t)$ makes an angle of $-t/\rho+\pi/2$ with the horizontal. That is, in $T_{\mathbf{c}(t)}$, $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is represented by the point $(\rho\cos(-t/\rho+\pi/2), \rho\sin(-t/\rho+\pi/2))$. Thus, with respect to the standard coordinates on $\mathbb{R}^2$:

$$\mathbf{x}(t)=\mathbf{c}(t)+\begin{pmatrix}\rho\cos(-t/\rho+\pi/2)\\ \rho\sin(-t/\rho+\pi/2)\end{pmatrix}.$$

Since

$$\mathbf{c}(t)=t\begin{pmatrix}1\\0\end{pmatrix},$$

we have

$$\mathbf{x}(t)=\begin{pmatrix}t+\rho\cos(-t/\rho+\pi/2)\\ \rho\sin(-t/\rho+\pi/2)\end{pmatrix}.$$

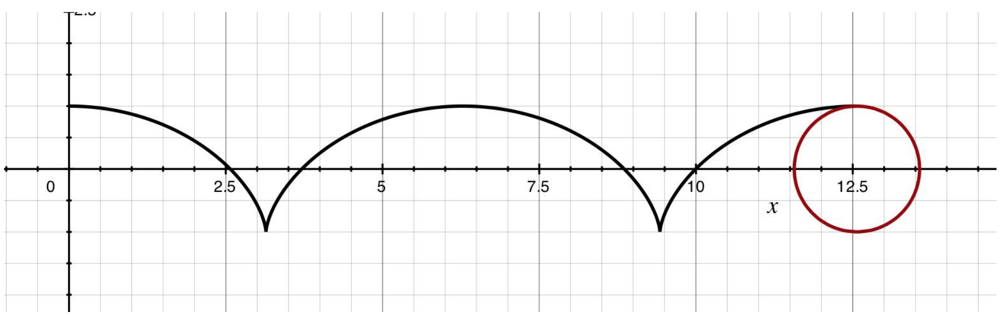


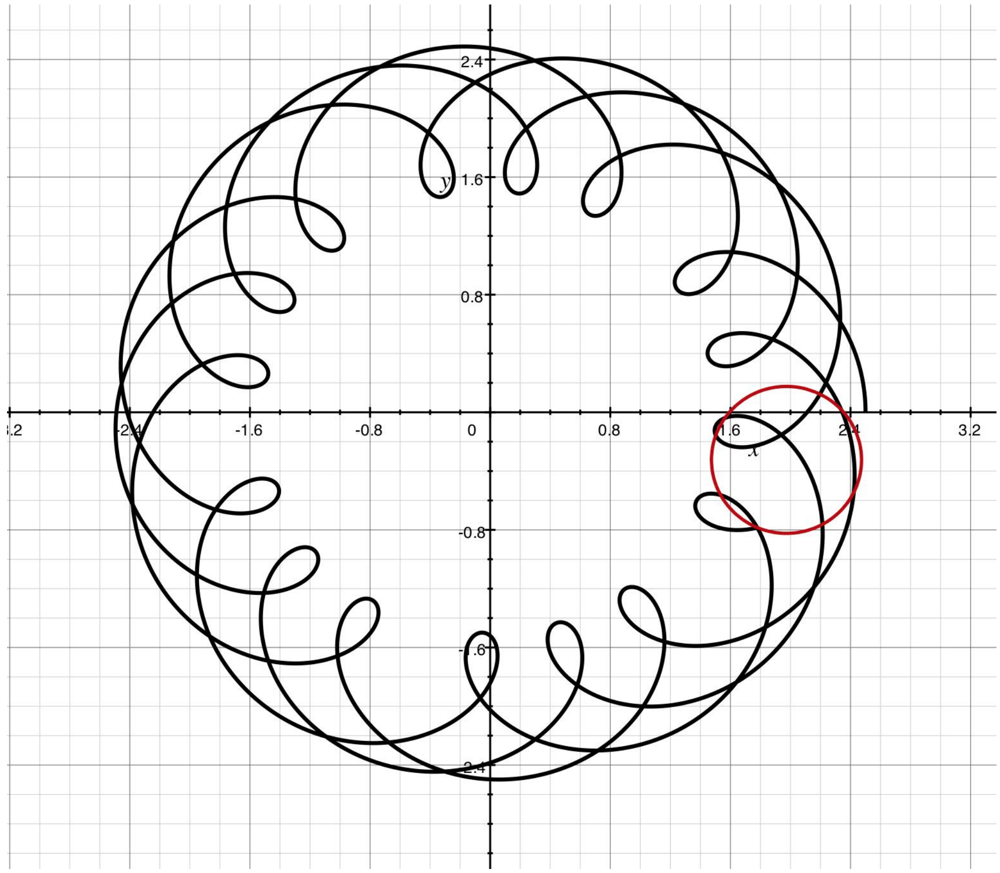
FIGURE 9. The point P traces out a cycloid as the circle rolls down the x axis.

Question: Is the cycloid a differentiable curve?

Example 5.6. Suppose that a circle C of radius r is moving so that the center of C, $\mathbf{c}$ traces out the path $(R\cos(t), R\sin(t))$. As C moves, it rotates counterclockwise so that it completes k revolutions per second. Suppose that E is the East pole of C at time 0. What path does P trace out?

Solution: In $T_{\mathbf{c}(t)}$, E has coordinates $(r\cos 2\pi kt, r\sin 2\pi kt)$. Thus in $\mathbb{R}^2$ coordinates, E has position

$$\mathbf{x}(t)=\mathbf{c}(t)+(r\cos t, r\sin t)=(R\cos t+r\cos 2\pi kt, R\sin t+r\sin 2\pi kt).$$



5.4. **Kepler's Laws of Motion.**

Lemma 5.7 (Warm-up Problem)**.** Suppose that $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is differentiable tnd that $||\mathbf{x}(t)||$ is constant. Then $\mathbf{x}$ is perpendicular to $\mathbf{x}'$.

Proof. Since $||\mathbf{x}||$ is constant, $\mathbf{x}$ is a differentiable curve lying on a sphere. For each t, $\mathbf{x}'(t)$ lies in the plane tangent to the sphere at $\mathbf{x}(t)$. The tangent plane is perpendicular to the radius $\mathbf{x}(t)$ of the sphere.

Alternatively,

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt}||\mathbf{x}||^2 = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{x}) = 2\left(\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x}\right)\cdot\mathbf{x} = 2\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{x}'.$$

□

In this section we will use Newton's law of universal gravitation and Newton's second law to prove Kepler's first law of planetary motion. Suppose that the sun is at the origin $\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and that a planet is at vector $\mathbf{x}$. The force of gravitation is

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{k}{||\mathbf{x}||^3}\mathbf{x} = -\frac{k}{||\mathbf{x}||^2}\mathbf{u}.$$

Here $k > 0$ is a constant of proportionality which is the product of the mass of the sun, the mass of the planet, and the gravitational constant. The vector $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x}/||\mathbf{x}||$ is the unit vector in the direction of $\mathbf{x}$.

We begin with two lemmas:

Lemma 5.8. We have

$$\mathbf{x}'' = -\frac{k}{m||\mathbf{x}||^3}\mathbf{x} = -\frac{k}{m||\mathbf{x}||^2}\mathbf{u}$$

where m is the mass of the planet.

Proof. Recall from Newton's second law of motion that $\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a}$. We know that $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{x}''$. The equations follow from the law of universal gravitation. □

Lemma 5.9. The motion of the planet lies in a plane containing the sun.

Proof. We will show that there is a constant vector $\mathbf{c}$, such that $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is perpendicular to $\mathbf{c}$ (for all time t). Let $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}'$. We will show that $\mathbf{c}$ is constant by showing that $\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{c}(t) = 0$.

Well,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{c} = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}' = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x}\right) \times \mathbf{x}' + \left(\mathbf{x} + \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x}'\right) = \mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{x}' + \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}''.$$

Recall that any vector crossed with itself is the zero vector, so

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}''.$$

By the previous lemma:

$$\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}'' = \mathbf{x} \times \left(-\frac{k}{m||\mathbf{x}||^3}\mathbf{x}\right) = 0,$$

as desired. □

Theorem 5.10 (Kepler's First Law (simplified))**.** The orbit of the planet around the sun is either an ellipse, a parabola, or a hyperbola.

The challenge to proving this is to pick a useful coordinate system. In particular, we want a coordinate system that doesn't change with time. One direction that doesn't change with time is $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}'$. We will consider that to be the $\mathbf{k}$ direction, so that the planet is contained in the xy plane.

Proof. Without loss of generality, we may assume that the plane containing the orbit of the planet is the xy plane, so that

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}' = \alpha \mathbf{e_3}.$$

Step 1: Find $\mathbf{c}$ in terms of $\mathbf{u}$, rather than in terms of $\mathbf{x}$.

By the product rule:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \frac{d}{dt}(||\mathbf{x}||\mathbf{u}) = ||\mathbf{x}||'\mathbf{u} + ||\mathbf{x}||\mathbf{u}'.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{c} &= ||\mathbf{x}||\mathbf{u} \times \big(||\mathbf{x}||'\mathbf{u} + ||\mathbf{x}||\mathbf{u}'\big) \\ \mathbf{c} &= ||\mathbf{x}|| \cdot ||\mathbf{x}||' \left(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}\right) + ||\mathbf{x}||^2 \left(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}'\right). \end{aligned}$$

Since, $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u} = 0$,

$$\mathbf{c} = ||\mathbf{x}||^2(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}').$$

Step 2: $\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c} = \beta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{d}$ for some constants $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

Notice that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}'' \times \mathbf{c} &= \big(-\tfrac{k}{m||\mathbf{x}||^2}\mathbf{u}\big) \times ||\mathbf{x}||^2 \left(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}'\right) \\ &= -\beta \big(\mathbf{u} \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}')\big) \\ &= \beta \big((\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}') \times \mathbf{u}\big) \\ &= \beta \big((\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u})\mathbf{u}' - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}')\mathbf{u}\big) \\ &= \beta \mathbf{u}' \end{aligned}$$

Also notice that:

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c}) &= \mathbf{x}'' \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c}' \\ &= \mathbf{x}'' \times \mathbf{c} \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c}) &= \beta \mathbf{u}' \\ \mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c} &= \beta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{d}. \end{aligned}$$

□(Step 2)

Notice that $\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{c}$ lies in the xy plane as does $\mathbf{u}$. Thus, $\mathbf{d}$ lies in the xy plane.

Rotate the entire coordinate system, so that $\mathbf{d} = d\mathbf{e_1}$. Then the angle between $\mathbf{x}$ (or $\mathbf{u}$) and $\mathbf{d}$ is the polar angle $\theta(t)$ of $\mathbf{x}$.

We have

$$||\mathbf{c}||^2 = (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}') \cdot \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{x} \cdot (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{c}).$$

Thus,

$$||\mathbf{c}||^2 = ||\mathbf{x}||\mathbf{u} \cdot (\beta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{d}) = \beta ||\mathbf{x}|| + ||\mathbf{x}||||\mathbf{d}|| \cos \theta.$$

Solving for $||\mathbf{x}||$ we obtain:

$$r = ||\mathbf{x}|| = ||\mathbf{c}||^2 / (\beta + ||\mathbf{d}|| \cos \theta).$$

This is the polar equation for the planet's orbit. It remains to check that this is the polar form of a non-circular conic section. Some algebra shows that the equation

$$r = \frac{c^2}{(\beta + d \cos \theta)}$$

is equivalent in rectangular coordinates to

$$(1 - e^2)x^2 + 2pex + y^2 = p^2$$

where $p > 0$ and $e > 0$ are constants. If $0 < |e| < 1$, the path is elliptical; if $|e| = 1$, it is parabolic; and if $|e| > 1$ it is hyperbolic. □

5.5. **Reparameterizing functions $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^n$.** Let $f\colon I \to \mathbb{R}^n$ be a continuous function (where $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ is an interval). Suppose that $\phi\colon J \to I$ is continuous (where $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ is an interval) and bijective. Then $f \circ \phi$ is a **reparameterization** of f. Notice that f and $f \circ \phi$ have the same image. We usually will require both L and f to have nice differentiability properties. If both f and ϕ are differentiable, notice that by the chain rule:

$$\frac{d}{dt} f \circ \phi(t) = f'(\phi(t))\phi'(t).$$

Since ϕ is a bijection, it is either increasing or decreasing. If it is increasing, ϕ is an **orientation-preserving** reparameterization. Otherwise, it is **orientation-reversing**. If ϕ is differentiable, then ϕ is orientation preserving if $\phi'(t) > 0$ and orientation reversing if $\phi'(t) < 0$. If ϕ is orientation preserving, then f and $f \circ \phi$ have the same orientations. If ϕ is orientation reversing, then f and $f \circ \phi$ have different orientations.

6. Integrating over functions $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^n$

In the last section we focused on differentiating functions $\phi\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^n$. In MA 122, we studied how to integrate functions $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$. In this section, we will discuss how to integrate a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ *over* a curve ϕ. Certainly one way to do this is to use 1-variable calculus to integrate:

$$\int_a^b f \circ \phi(t)\, dt$$

where $[a,b]$ is in the domain of ϕ. This is a fine thing to do in many situations, however, consider the following example:

Example 6.1. Let $\phi: [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be given by $\phi(t) = (t, 2t)$ and let $\psi: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be defined by $\psi(t) = (t^2, 2t^2)$. Notice that ϕ and ψ have the same image. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x,y) = x^2 + y$. Then

$$\int_0^1 f \circ \phi(t)\, dt = \int_0^1 t^2 + 2t\, dt = 4/3.$$

However,

$$\int_0^1 f \circ \psi(t)\, dt = \int_0^1 4t^4 + 2t^2\, dt = 4/5 + 1/3$$

Example 6.2. Show that ϕ and ψ in the previous example are reparameterizations of each other.

Solution: Define $p(t) = t^2$ and $q(t) = \sqrt{t}$. Both p and q are bijective functions $[0,1] \to [0,1]$. Clearly, $\phi = \psi \circ q$ and $\psi = \phi \circ p$.

Thus, the integral $\int_a^b f \circ \phi\, dt$ depends on the parameterization of the curve ϕ, not just on its image. In many cases, we will want to have an integral which depends only on the image of the curve, not on its parameterization. That way, in applications, we will be free to pick a parameterization which suits us and we won't have to worry about what would happen if we picked a different parameterization.

The following example demonstrates the important points.

Example 6.3. Let L be a straight piece of wire in $\mathbb{R}^2$ with endpoints at $(0,0)$ and at $(1,2)$. Suppose that the temperature of the wire at point (x,y) is $f(x,y) = x^2 + y$. Find the average temperature of the wire.

Solution: Break the wire L into little tiny segments, $L_1, \ldots, L_n$ each of length Δs. Since L has a length of $\sqrt{5}$, $\Delta s = \sqrt{5}/n$.

Then the average temperature of L is approximately

$$T_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(\mathbf{x_i^*})$$

In fact, the average temperature of L is exactly

$$T = \lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(\mathbf{x_i^*}).$$

Recall that $1/n = (\Delta s)/\sqrt{5}$. Thus,

$$T = \lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(\mathbf{x_i^*})\Delta s$$

This looks a lot like a limit of Riemann sums, so perhaps we can convert this to a definite integral and use the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Before we do that, however, notice that (up to proving that the limit exists) we have a perfectly fine definition of the quantity

$$\text{Ave. value of } f \text{ on } L = \frac{1}{\text{length of } L}\int_L f\,ds.$$

We were able to define this integral without relying on a parameterization of L!

To calculate this, however, we need a parameterization. Suppose that there exists a parameterization $\phi\colon\ [0,\sqrt{5}] \to \mathbb{R}^2$ of L such that at time t, the distance from $(0,0)$ to $\phi(t)$ along L is exactly t. That is, "L is parameterized by arc length". Then, $\Delta s = \Delta t = \sqrt{5}/n$ so

$$T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\lim_{n\to\infty}\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(\phi(t_i^*))\Delta t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\int_0^{\sqrt{5}} f(\phi(t))\,dt.$$

Exercise: Find a parameterization of L by arclength.

Solution: Define $\hat{\phi}(t) = (t, 2t)$ and define $\phi(t) = \hat{\phi}(t/\sqrt{5})$.

This example has all the important points except that at the very end we had to pick a particular parameterization. You can imagine that in many situations, finding a suitable parameterization might be challenging!. The next sections will address that issue. In general, the nices parameterizations are those which are parameterizations "by arc length".

6.1. **Arc-Length.** Suppose that $\mathbf{x}\colon\ [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ is a C^1 curve. We wish to find the length of $\mathbf{x}$. The formula is

Theorem 6.4. The arc length of $\mathbf{x}$ is

$$\int_a^b ||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\,dt.$$

Arc length is often denote by

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} ds$$

where

$$ds = ||\mathbf{x}'||dt$$

Example 6.5. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t^2, 2t^2)$ for $t \in [0,1]$. Then

$$||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| = ||(2t,4t)|| = \sqrt{4t^2+16t^2} = 2t\sqrt{5}.$$

The arclength of $\mathbf{x}$ is

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} ds = \int_0^1 2t\sqrt{5}\,dt = t^2\sqrt{5}\big|_0^1 = \sqrt{5}.$$

Example 6.6. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t,t^2)$ for $t \in [0,1]$. Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} ds = \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+4t^2}\,dt \approx 1.47894$$

Here is why the formula for arclength is what it is. For convenience, we assume that $n = 2$.

Partition $[a,b]$ into n subintervals $[t_{i-1},t_i]$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$, each of length $\Delta t = (b-a)/n$. Joining the points $\mathbf{x}(t_{i-1})$ and $\mathbf{x}(t_i)$ by straight lines creates a polygonal approximation P_n to the image of $\mathbf{x}$. The length of the polygonal path is:

$$\text{length}(P_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n ||\mathbf{x}(t_i) - \mathbf{x}(t_{i-1})||.$$

We *define* the **arc length** of $\mathbf{x}$ to be

$$L = \int_{\mathbf{x}} ds = \lim_{n\to\infty} \sum_{i=1}^n ||\mathbf{x}(t_i) - \mathbf{x}(t_{i-1})||.$$

Now suppose that $\mathbf{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$. Both x and y are C^1 functions. Notice that if we replace our current polygonal approximation with a polygonal approximation have vertices $(x(t_i^*), y(t_i^{**}))$, with $t_i^*, t_i^{**} \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]$, we will still have:

$$L = \int_{\mathbf{x}} ds = \lim_{n\to\infty} \sum_{i=1}^n ||(x(t_i^*), y(t_i^{**})) - (x(t_{i-1}^*), y(t_{i-1}^{**}))||.$$

Here's how to choose the values t_i^* and t_i^{**}. By the mean value theorem (remember that?) There exists $t_i^*, t_i^{**} \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]$ so that

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} x(t_i^*) & = & x'(t_i^*)(t_i - t_{i-1}) & = & x'(t_i^*)\Delta t \\ y(t_i^{**}) & = & y'(t_i^{**})(t_i - t_{i-1}) & = & y'(t_i^{**})\Delta t \end{array}$$

Thus,

$$L = \lim_{n\to\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sqrt{(x'(t_i^*)^2 + y'(t_i^{**})^2}\Delta t = \int_a^b \sqrt{x'(t)^2 + y'(t)^2}\, dt = \int_a^b ||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\, dt.$$

We can also compute the arc length of paths which are piecewise C^1. These paths must be composed of a finite number of pieces.

Example 6.7. Compute the length of the curve $\mathbf{x}\colon [0,2] \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by:

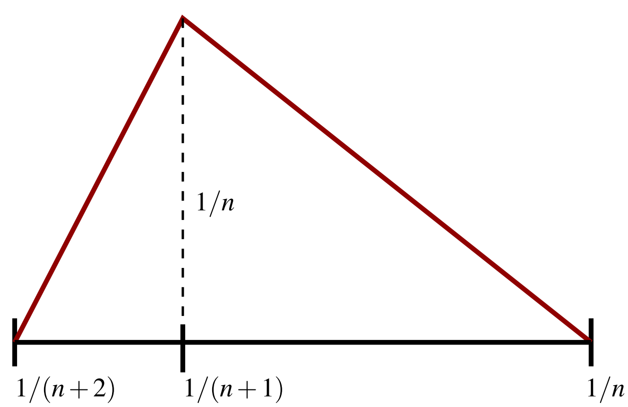
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} (t, t^2) & \text{if } 0 \le t \le 1 \\ (t, (2-t)^2) & \text{if } 1 \le t \le 2 \end{array} \right\}$$

Solution: Let $\mathbf{x_1}(t) = \mathbf{x}(t)$ for $0 \le t \le 1$ and let $\mathbf{x}_2(t) = \mathbf{x}(t)$ for $1 \le t \le 2$. Then

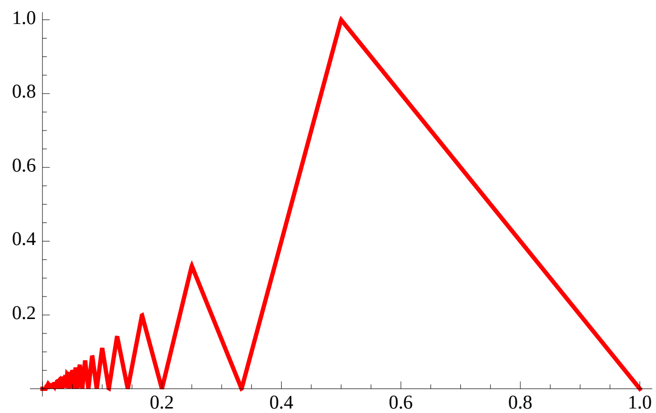
$$\begin{array}{rcl} \int_{\mathbf{x}} ds & = & \int_{\mathbf{x_1}} ds + \int_{\mathbf{x_2}} ds \\ & = & \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+4t^2}\, dt + \int_1^2 \sqrt{1+4(2-t)^2} \\ & \approx & 2.95789 \end{array}$$

The following example shows that it is possible for a "finite" curve to have infinite length.

Example 6.8. We will specify the graph of the curve $f(x)$. On the interval $[\frac{1}{n+2}, \frac{1}{n}]$ erect a tent consisting of two straight lines with the bottoms of the lines on the x axis and the top of the tent at the point $(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n})$. See the figure below:



Do this for each odd value of n, achieving the following graph:



If you want an equation for $f(x)$ do the following:

Begin by defining

$$g_n(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{cl} 0 & \text{if } x < \frac{1}{n+2} \\ \frac{1}{n\left(\frac{1}{n+1}-\frac{1}{n}\right)}(x - \frac{1}{n+2}) & \text{if } \frac{1}{n+2} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n+1} \\ \frac{-1}{n\left(\frac{1}{n}-\frac{1}{n+1}\right)}(x - \frac{1}{n}) & \text{if } \frac{1}{n+1} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ 0 & \text{if } x > \frac{1}{n} \end{array} \right\}$$

Then define

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_{2n+1}(x).$$

Notice that $g_{2n+1}(x) \neq 0$ only if $x \in [\frac{1}{2n+3}, \frac{1}{2n+1}]$. Thus, the sum defining $f(x)$ has only one term which is not zero.

Let's show that the length of the graph of f is infinite. To do this, consider the line segment in the interval $[\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}]$ for an odd value of n. This line segment has length

$$L = \sqrt{(\frac{1}{n})^2 + (\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1})^2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{n^2} + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} - \frac{2}{n(n+1)}}.$$

Some algebra shows that $L \geq \frac{1}{n}$ Similarly, the line segment in the interval $[\frac{1}{n+2}, \frac{1}{n+1}]$ has length at least $1/(n+1)$. Consequently, the length of the graph of f is at least

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}.$$

It is well known that this is the harmonic series which diverges to infinity.

The text gives an example of a function $f\colon [0,1] \to [-1,1]$ which is differentiable on $(0,1]$ but whose graph has infinite arclength. An example similar to that one could be constructed from our example by rounding the points of the graph above.

Next we show that reparameterizing a (rectifiable) curve does not change arclength.

Lemma 6.9. Suppose that $\mathbf{x}\colon [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is a C^1 path and that $\phi\colon [c,d] \to [a,b]$ is a C^1 bijection. Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} ds = \int_{\mathbf{x}\circ\phi} ds.$$

Proof. By the chain rule,

$$||(\mathbf{x}\circ\phi)'(t)|| = ||\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))\phi'(t)|| = ||\mathbf{x}'(t)|||\phi'(t)|.$$

Thus,

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}\circ\phi} ds = \int_c^d ||(\mathbf{x}\circ\phi)'(t)||\,dt = \int_c^d ||\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))|||\phi'(t)|\,dt$$

Assume that ϕ is orientation reversing. Then $|\phi'(t)| = -\phi'(t)$, so

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}\circ\phi} ds = -\int_c^d ||\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))||\phi'(t)\,dt.$$

Let $u = \phi(t)$. Then $du = \phi'(t)\,dt$. Since ϕ is orientation reversing, $\phi(c) = b$ and $\phi(d) = a$. Thus,

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}\circ\phi} ds = -\int_b^a ||\mathbf{x}'(u)||\,du = \int_a^b ||\mathbf{x}'(u)||\,du = \int_{\mathbf{x}} ds.$$

□

Consequently, when calculating arc length, we are free to choose any parameterization we want. We will frequently choose to "parameterize by arc length". Suppose that $\mathbf{x}\colon [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ is C^1 and that $||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| > 0$ for all $t \in [a,b]$. Define $s\colon [a,b] \to [0,L]$ by

$$s(t) = \int_a^t ||\mathbf{x}'(\tau)||\,d\tau.$$

Notice that s is a strictly increasing C^1 function and so is an orientation preserving bijection $[a,b] \to [0,L]$. Furthermore, it's inverse function $s^{-1}\colon [a,b] \to [a,L]$ is also strictly increasing bijection. Define $\mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{x}\circ s^{-1}$.

Lemma 6.10. For $t \in [a,b]$, the arclength of the curve $\mathbf{y}\colon [0,t] \to \mathbb{R}$ is t. In particular, $||\mathbf{y}'(t)||$ is constant on $[a,b]$.

Proof. Notice that:

$$s'(t) = ||\mathbf{x}'(t)||$$

by the fundamental theorem of Calculus. Also, $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\mathbf{y} \circ s)(t)$ and so by the Chain Rule:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}'(t) &= \mathbf{y}'(s(t))s'(t) \\ &= \mathbf{y}'(s(t))||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\mathbf{y}'(s(t)) = \frac{\mathbf{x}'(t)}{||\mathbf{x}'(t)||}$$

which means that $||\mathbf{y}'(s(t))|| = 1$ for all t. Since s is a bijection, this means that $||\mathbf{y}'(t)|| = 1$ for all t. Hence, the arc length of y on $[0,t]$ is

$$\int_0^t ||\mathbf{y}'(t)||\,dt = \int_0^t 1\,dt = t.$$

□

Example 6.11. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t^2, 3t^2)$ for $t \in [1,2]$. Reparameterize $\mathbf{x}$ by arc length.

Answer: By definition,

$$\begin{aligned}s(t) &= \int_1^t \sqrt{4\tau^2 + 36\tau^2}\,d\tau \\ &= \int_1^t \sqrt{40}\tau\,d\tau \\ &= \sqrt{40}(t^2 - 1)\end{aligned}$$

We need, s^{-1}. Solving the previous equation for t we find:

$$t = \sqrt{1 + s/\sqrt{40}}$$

Thus,

$$s^{-1}(t) = \sqrt{1 + t/\sqrt{40}}$$

To get $\mathbf{y}(t)$ which is the reparameterization of $\mathbf{x}$ by arclength, we plug this in for t in the equation for $\mathbf{x}$, getting:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{y}(t) &= \mathbf{x} \circ s^{-1}(t) \\ &= (\left(\sqrt{1 + t/\sqrt{40}}\right)^2, 3\left(\sqrt{1 + t/\sqrt{40}}\right)^2) \\ &= \big(1 + t/\sqrt{40}, 3(1 + t/\sqrt{40})\big)\end{aligned}$$

To avoid much of this algebra, we will often simply write $\mathbf{x}(s)$ instead of $\mathbf{x} \circ s^{-1}$. This notation has the potential to be confusing. Thus, in the previous example, the reparameterization of $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t^2, 3t^2)$ by arc length is

$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \big(1 + s/\sqrt{40}, 3(1 + s/\sqrt{40})\big).$$

Example 6.12. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, (2/3)t^{3/2})$ for $t \geq 3$. Find $\mathbf{x}(s)$.

Answer: Compute:

$$||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| = ||(-\sin t, \cos t, t^{1/2})|| = \sqrt{1+t}.$$

Thus,

$$s = \int_3^t \sqrt{1+\tau}\, d\tau = (2/3)(1+t)^{3/2} - (2/3)(1+3)^{3/2} = (2/3)(1+t)^{3/2} - 16/3.$$

Consequently,

$$t = \left(\frac{3(s+16/3)}{2}\right)^{2/3}$$

Thus,

$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \left(\cos\left(\frac{3(s+16/3)}{2}\right)^{2/3}, \sin\left(\frac{3(s+16/3)}{2}\right)^{2/3}, (2/3)\left(\frac{3(s+16/3)}{2}\right)^{4/3}\right)$$

Theorem 6.13. A straight line in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is the unique shortest distance between two points.

Proof. The following proof contains the important ideas. We will show that in $\mathbb{R}^2$, the straight line segment joining $(0,0)$ to $(1,0)$ is the unique shortest path between those two points. Obviously, the distance between those two points is 1. That is also the length of the straight line segment.

Suppose that $\mathbf{x} = (x,y)$ is a differentiable plane curve joining $(0,0)$ to $(1,0)$. Assume that $x'(t) > 0$ for all t. We will show that the length of $\mathbf{x}$ is strictly greater than 1.

We may assume that $\mathbf{x}$ is parameterized by arclength. The length of $\mathbf{x}$ is

$$\int_0^1 ||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\, dt$$

Suppose that $\mathbf{x}$ does not lie completely on the x axis (If it does, we are done.) Then $y'(t)^2$ is positive on some interval $(a,b) \subset [0,1]$. Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 ||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\, dt &= \int_0^1 \sqrt{x'(t)^2 + y'(t)^2}\, dt \\ &> \int_0^1 \sqrt{x'(t)^2}\, dt \\ &= \int_0^1 x'(t)\, dt \\ &= x(1) - x(0) \\ &= 1 - 0 \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the length of $\mathbf{x}$ is greater than 1 and so $\mathbf{x}$ is not length-minimizing. $\square$

6.2. **The geometry of space curves.** In this section we will explore two concepts: The curvature of space curves and a moving coordinate system along a curve. Throughout, let $\mathbf{x}\colon [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be a C^3 path such that $||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| > 0$ for all t.

The **unit tangent vector** $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}(t)$ to $\mathbf{x}$ at time t is defined as

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\mathbf{x}'(t)}{||\mathbf{x}'(t)||}.$$

Notice that if $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x} \circ \phi$ is an orientation reparameterization of $\mathbf{x}$ then:

$$\mathbf{y}'(t) = \mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))\phi'(t)$$

so

$$\frac{\mathbf{y}'(t)}{||\mathbf{y}'(t)||} = \frac{\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))\phi'(t)}{||\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))||\phi'(t)} = \frac{\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))}{||\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))||}.$$

Thus, $\mathbf{T}$ depends only on the orientation and position of the curve $\mathbf{x}$ and not on a particular (orientation-preserving) parameterization. Consequently, if we parameterize $\mathbf{x}$ by arclength, then we can think of $\mathbf{T}$ as the rate of change of $\mathbf{x}$ with respect to distance travelled. Also, recall that since $\mathbf{T}$ is always a unit vector, it is perpendicular to $\mathbf{T}'$.

Theorem 6.14. $||\frac{d}{dt}|_{t=t_0}\mathbf{T}(t)||$ is the angular rate of change of the direction of $\mathbf{T}$ as t increases.

Proof. On the interval $[t_0, t_0 + \Delta t]$ the average angular rate of of change of $\mathbf{T}$ is $\Delta\theta/\Delta t$. The limit

$$\lim_{\Delta t \to 0^+} \Delta\theta/\Delta t$$

is the angular rate of change of $\mathbf{T}$. It follows from some trigonometry that

$$\lim_{\Delta t \to 0^+} \Delta\theta/||\Delta\mathbf{T}|| = 1$$

where $\Delta\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}(t_0 + \Delta t) - \mathbf{T}(t_0)$.

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\Delta t \to 0^+} \Delta\theta/\Delta t &= \lim_{\Delta t \to 0^+} \tfrac{\Delta\theta}{||\Delta\mathbf{T}||} \tfrac{||\Delta\mathbf{T}||}{\Delta t} \\ &= \lim_{\Delta t \to 0^+} ||\Delta\mathbf{T}||/\Delta t \\ &= ||\tfrac{d\mathbf{T}}{dt}|_{t=t_0}|| \end{aligned}$$

□

Based on this idea, we define the **curvature** κ of $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$ to be the angular rate of change of the direction of $\mathbf{T}$ as a function of distance. That is

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{||d\mathbf{T}/dt||}{ds/dt} = \frac{||d\mathbf{T}/dt||}{||\mathbf{x}'(t)||}$$

If $\mathbf{x}$ is parameterized by arc length, then $\kappa(t) = ||d\mathbf{T}/dt||$.

Example 6.15. Find the curvature of a line $\mathbf{x}(t) = t\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{b}$.

Answer: We have

$$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{x}'/||\mathbf{x}|| = \mathbf{v}/||\mathbf{v}||.$$

Thus, $d\mathbf{T}/dt = \mathbf{0}$ and so $\kappa(t) = 0$.

Example 6.16. The curvature of a circle of radius $r > 0$ is $1/r$ at each point on the circle.

Example 6.17. Let $\phi(t) = (t, at^2)$ be a parameterized curve. Find the curvature of ϕ at $t = 0$.

Answer: We have: $\phi'(t) = (1, 2at)$ and $\mathbf{T} = (1, 2at)/\sqrt{1+4a^2t^2}$. Thus,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{T} = (0, 2a)/\sqrt{1+4a^2t^2} + (1, 2at)(-1/2)(1+4a^2t^2)^{-3/2}(8a^2t).$$

Thus,

$$||\phi'(0)|| = 1$$

and

$$||\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{T}(0)|| = ||(0, 2a)|| = 2a$$

Consequently,

$$\kappa(t) = 2a/1 = 2a$$

A C^3 curve $\mathbf{x}$ can allow us to create a certain coordinate system (called the **moving frame**) for the tangent spaces to $\mathbb{R}^n$ at the points of the curve.

One basis vector is $\mathbf{T}$. (This requires that $||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| > 0$.

Since $\mathbf{T}(t)$ is a unit vector for all time, it is always perpendicular to $\mathbf{T}'$. We take our second basis vector to be $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{T}'/||\mathbf{T}'||$. This requires that $||\mathbf{T}'|| > 0$. $\mathbf{N}$ is called the **principal normal vector** to $\mathbf{x}$. It follows from the chain rule that $\mathbf{N}$ is an intrinsic quantity (it remains the same after an orientation preserving parameterization change). To get a vector perpendicular to both $\mathbf{T}$ and $\mathbf{N}$ we use the **binormal vector**

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{T} \times \mathbf{N}.$$

Example 6.18. Compute the moving frame and curvature for the path $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\sin t - t\cos t, \cos t + t\sin t, 2)$ with $t \geq 0$.

Answer: We compute:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\mathbf{x}'(t) & = & (\cos t - \cos t + t\sin t, -\sin t + \sin t + t\cos t, 0) = (t\sin t, t\cos t, 0) \\
\hline
\|\mathbf{x}'(t)\| & = & \sqrt{t^2\sin^2 t + t^2\cos^2 t} = t \\
\hline
\mathbf{T} & = & \mathbf{x}'(t)/\|\mathbf{x}'(t)\| = (\sin t, \cos t, 0) \\
\hline
\mathbf{T}' & = & (-\cos t, \sin t, 0) \\
\hline
\|\mathbf{T}'\| & = & 1 \\
\hline
\mathbf{N} & = & \mathbf{T}'/\|\mathbf{T}'\| = (-\cos t, \sin t, 0) \\
\hline
\kappa & = & \|\mathbf{T}'\|/\|\mathbf{x}'\| = 1/t
\end{array}$$

Finally, to compute $\mathbf{B}$ we need the cross product:

$$\mathbf{B} = (\sin t, \cos t, 0) \times (-\cos t, \sin t, 0) = (0, 0, 1).$$

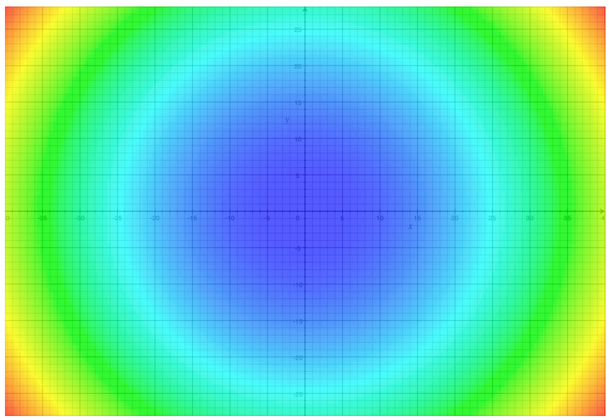
It turns out that

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{B} = -\tau\mathbf{N}$$

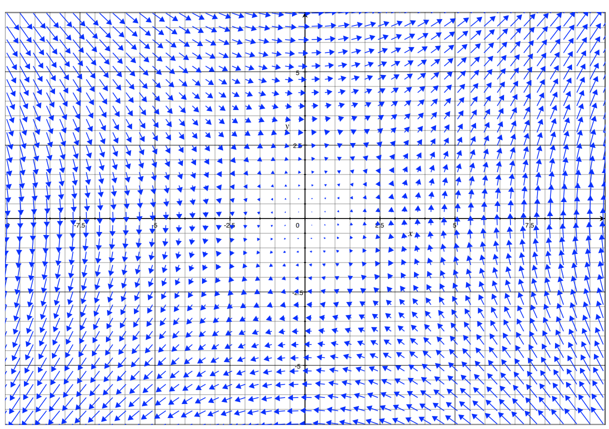
for some scalar function τ, called the **torsion**. The torsion measures how much the curve twists out of a plane. If $\tau(t) = 0$ for all t, then the curve lies in a plane.

7. Scalar Fields and Vector Fields

A **scalar field** on $\mathbb{R}^n$ is simply a function $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$. We think of f as assigning a number $f(\mathbf{x})$ to each point $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Below is a depiction of the scalar field $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$ on $\mathbb{R}^2$. To a point $(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, we assign the number $x^2 + y^2$. Points which are assigned small numbers are colored blue and points which are assigned large numbers are colored red.



A **vector field** on $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a function F such that for every $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $F(\mathbf{x})$ is a vector in $T_{\mathbf{x}}$. Since $T_{\mathbf{x}}$ is simply a copy of $\mathbb{R}^n$ with origin at $\mathbf{x}$, we can think of F as the assignment of a vector $F(\mathbf{x})$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$ to each point in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Since we think of this vector as living in $T_{\mathbf{x}}$, we draw it as a vector in $\mathbb{R}^n$ with tail at $\mathbf{x}$. Below is drawn the vector field $F(x,y) = (y,x)$.



A good way of thinking about a vector field is that it tells you the direction and speed of flow of water in a huge water system. To see this, suppose that we have an object in the stream at point (1,0) at time 0. Its position at time t is given by $\phi(t) = (x(t), y(t))$. If the vector field $F(x,y) = (F_1(x,y), F_2(x,y))$

describes the direction and speed of the object, then

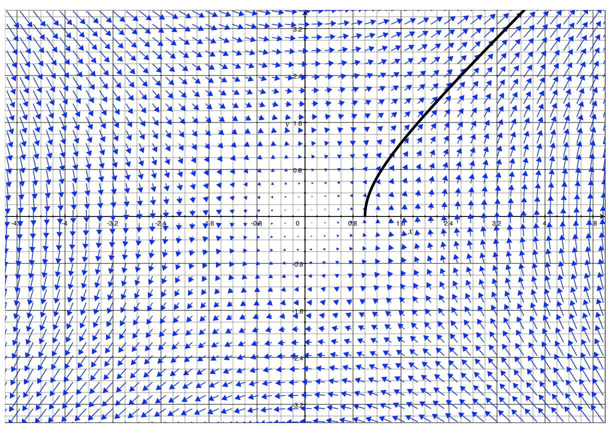
$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= F_1(\phi(t)) \\ y'(t) &= F_2(\phi(t)) \end{aligned}$$

This a system of differential equations which we may or may not be able to solve. If ϕ exists, it is called a flow on F. In the case of the vector field $F(x,y) = (y,x)$ the curve

$$\phi(t) = \begin{pmatrix} (e^t + e^{-t})/2 \\ (e^t - e^{-t})/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

for $t \geq 0$ is a flow on F beginning at $(1,0)$ since

$$\phi'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} (e^t - e^{-t})/2 \\ (e^t + e^{-t})/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

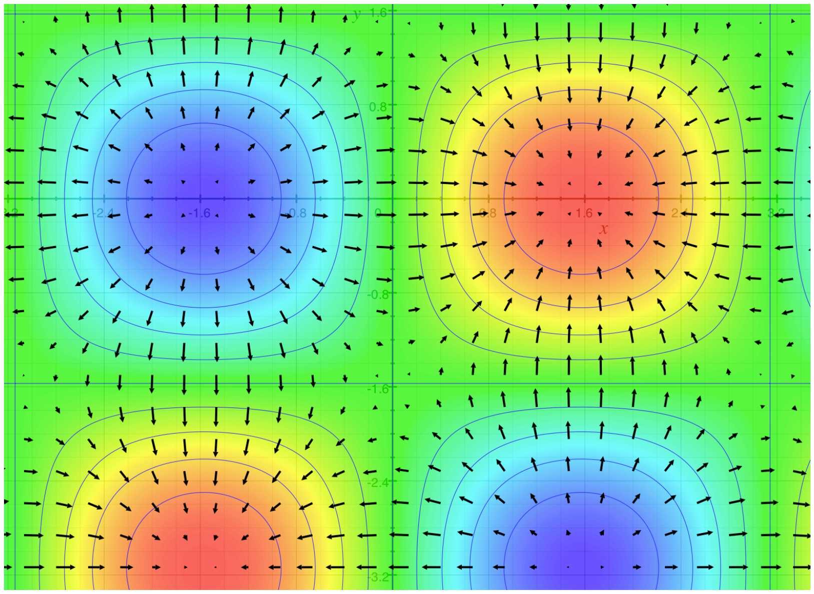


7.1. **Gradient.** Define the gradient by $\nabla\colon\ C^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \to \mathbb{R}^n$ by

$$\operatorname{grad} f = \nabla f = (\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, \ldots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n}).$$

If we think of $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ as a scalar field, then ∇ (the gradient) converts the scalar field into a vector field. The vectors point in the direction of greatest increase of f.

Example 7.1. Consider $f\colon\ \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x,y) = \sin x \cos y$. Then $\nabla f = (\cos x \cos y, -\sin x \sin y)$. Below is the vector field ∇f on top of the scalar field f. Contour lines have been drawn on the scalar field so that you can see how the vectors ∇f are perpendicular to the contour lines.

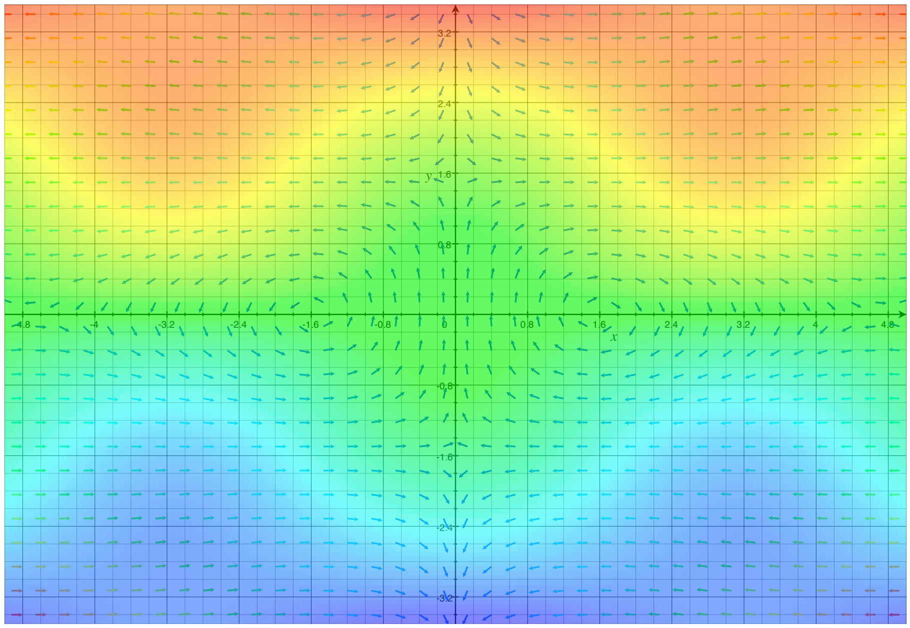


7.2. **Divergence.** Let $\mathbf{F}\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ be a differentiable vector field. Then the divergence of $\mathbf{F}$ is

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} F_1 + \ldots + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} F_n$$

The divergence converts a vector field into a scalar field.

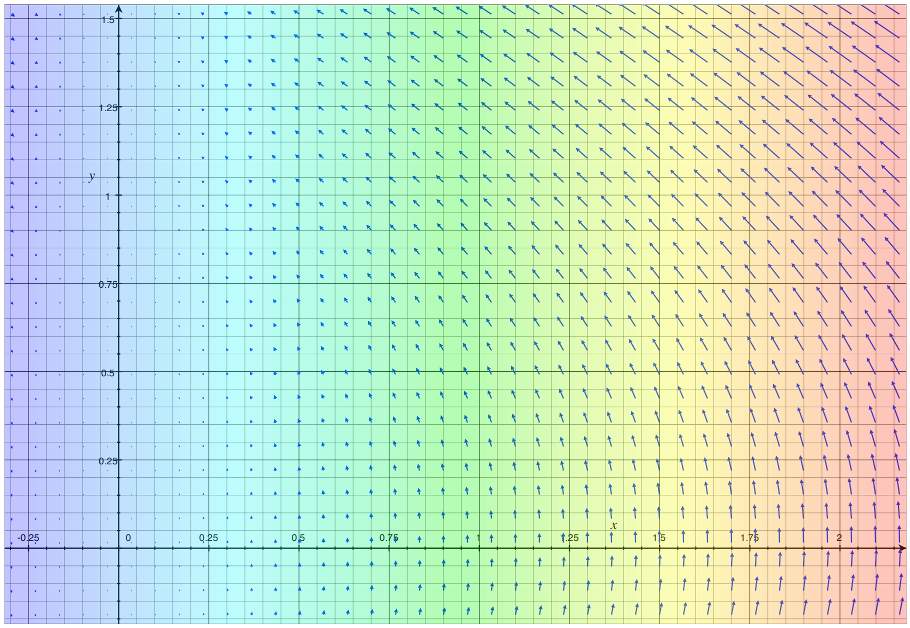
Example 7.2. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (xy, \cos x \cos y)$. Then $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}(x,y) = y - \cos x \sin y$. Below is plotted the vector field $\mathbf{F}$ and the scalar field $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}$. The arrows of vector field are not drawn with the correct length (so that we can see all the arrows). The red areas of the vector field have positive divergence and the blue areas have negative divergence. The green area has zero divergence.



7.3. **Curl.** Let $\mathbf{F}\colon\ \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be a differentiable vector field. Define the curl of $\mathbf{F}$ to be

$$\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}F_3 - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}F_2 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z}F_1 - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}F_3 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x}F_2 - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}F_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 7.3. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = (-yx, x, 0)$. Then $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = (0,0,1+x)$. Notice that the vector field $\mathbf{F}$ lies in the xy plane and that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}$ is always a vector perpendicular to the xy plane. Below is drawn the vector field $\mathbf{F}$ and the scalar field $||\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}||$. You can see that the farther from the origin a point is, the greater the magnitude of the curl.



7.4. **The relationship of Grad, Div, Curl.** In summary:

$$\begin{array}{rcrcl} \text{grad} & : & \text{scalar field} & \to & \text{vector field} \\ \text{div} & : & \text{vector field} & \to & \text{scalar field} \\ \text{curl} & : & \text{3D vector field} & \to & \text{3D vector field} \end{array}$$

The following theorem is straightforward, but tedious to prove.

Theorem 7.4. (1) Suppose that $f\colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$ is a C^2 scalar field. Then $\operatorname{curl}(\operatorname{grad} f) = \mathbf{0}$.
(2) Suppose that $\mathbf{F}\colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ is a C^2 vector field. Then $\operatorname{div}(\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F}) = 0$.

8. Integration of Scalar Fields and Vector Fields on $\mathbb{R}^n$ over Curves

Suppose that $\mathbf{x}\colon [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is a C^1 curve. If $f\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, then define

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} f\,ds = \int_a^b f(\mathbf{x}(t))||\mathbf{x}'(t)||\,dt.$$

Lemma 8.1. Suppose that $\mathbf{y}\colon \phi(t)$ is a reparameterization of $\mathbf{x}$. Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{y}} f\,ds = \int_{\mathbf{x}} f\,ds.$$

Proof. Assume that $\phi: [a,b] \to [c,d]$. Recall from the chain rule that $||\mathbf{y}'(t)|| = ||\mathbf{x}(\phi(t))|||\phi'(t)|$. Thus, if ϕ is orientation preserving:

$$\int_{\mathbf{y}} f\,ds = \int_c^d f(\mathbf{x}x(\phi(t)))|\mathbf{x}'(\phi(t))||\phi'(t)\,dt.$$

Perform the last integral by letting $u(t) = \phi(t)$ so that $du = \phi'\,dt$. That last integral is then equal to

$$\int_a^b f(\mathbf{x}(u))||\mathbf{x}'(u)||\,du = \int_{\mathbf{x}} f\,ds.$$

If ϕ is orientation reversing, then $|\phi'(t)| = -\phi'(t)$ and so the work above is largely the same except that in the substitution $u(c) = b$ and $u(d) = a$. Reversing the limits of integration kills the negative sign coming from $-\phi'(t)$. □

If $\mathbf{F}\colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is a continuous vector field, then define

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}(t))\cdot \mathbf{x}'(t)\,dt.$$

The proof of the next lemma should be easy.

Lemma 8.2. If $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}\circ\phi$ then if ϕ is orientation preserving,

$$\int_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

If ϕ is orientation reversing, then

$$\int_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

8.0.1. *Alternative Notation 1:* Let $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{x}'/||\mathbf{x}'||$. This is the unit tangent vector. Then,

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_a^b \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}(t))\mathbf{x}'(t)}{||\mathbf{x}'(t)||} |vectx'(t)|| \, dt = \int_{\mathbf{x}} (\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{T}) \, ds$$

Thus the integral of a vector field $\mathbf{F}$ over a path $\mathbf{x}$, "adds" up the tangential component of $\mathbf{F}$ along the image of $\mathbf{x}$.

8.0.2. *Alternative Notation 2:* Suppose that $\mathbf{F} = (M,N,P)$ and that $\mathbf{x} = (x,y,z)$. Using the notation of differentials we can write

$$\begin{aligned} dx &= x'(t)\,dt \\ dy &= y'(t)\,dt \\ dz &= z'(t)\,dt \\ \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{x}'(t) &= M\,dx + N\,dy + P\,dz. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we can write

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\mathbf{x}} M\,dx + N\,dy + P\,dz.$$

The object $M\,dx + N\,dy + P\,dz$ is an example of something called a "differential form".

Be careful to evaluate an integral like $\int_{\mathbf{x}} M\,dx + N\,dy + P\,dz$ correctly. If you never use a parameterization for $\mathbf{x}$, you've done something incorrectly.

Example 8.3. Let $f(x,y) = 1/(x^2+y^2)$. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = \nabla f(x,y) = -2(x,y)/(x^2+y^2)^2$. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$.

Notice that $||\mathbf{x}'(t)|| = 1$.

Then,

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} f\,ds = \int_0^{2\pi} 1/(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)\,dt = \int_0^{2\pi} 1\,dt = 2\pi.$$

And,

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_0^{2\pi} -2 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

9. The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus Revisited

9.0.3. *Another view of the FTC.* Let $I = [a,b]$ be an interval (oriented from a to b) If $F: I \to \mathbb{R}$ is a differentiable function, then you learn in one variable calculus that

$$\int_I \frac{d}{dt} F(t)\,dt = F(b) - F(a).$$

To generalize this theorem to higher dimensions we introduce some new terminology.

Terminology 1: If $p \in \mathbb{R}$ is a point, then say that p has "positive orientation" if we place an arrow on it pointing to the right. The point p has "negative orientation" if we put an arrow on it pointing to the left. If we have chosen an orientation for p, we say that p is oriented. If A is a finite subset of $\mathbb{R}$ and if each point in A has been given an orientation (not necessarily the same), we say that A is oriented.

Terminology 2: Suppose that $p \in \mathbb{R}$ is an oriented point and that $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is a function. If p has positive orientation, define $\int_p f = f(p)$. If p has negative orientation, define $\int_p f = -f(p)$. If $A = \{p_1, \ldots, p_n\}$ is a finite set of oriented points in $\mathbb{R}$, define $\int_A = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{p_i} f$.

Terminology 3: Suppose that $a < b$ are real numbers. The interval $[a,b]$ is positively oriented and the interval $[ba]$ is negatively oriented. (Think of an arrow running from the small number a to the big number b. If the arrow points right, the interval is positively oriented; if it points left it is negatively oriented.) If I is an interval in $\mathbb{R}$ with endpoints $a < b$, then the "boundary" of I, denoted ∂I, is the set $\{a,b\}$. If I has positive orientation, we assign the points of ∂I the orientation with arrows pointing out of I. If I has negative orientation, we assign the points of ∂I, the orientations with arrows pointing into I. We say that ∂I has the orientation "induced" by the orientation from I.

Suppose that $I = [a,b]$ has positive orientation (i.e. $a < b$). Let $J = [b,a]$ be the same interval but with the opposite orientation. If $f\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is integrable, then by definition

$$\int_I f = \int_a^b f(x)\,dx \quad \text{and} \quad \int_J f = \int_b^a f(x)\,dx = -\int_I f.$$

The fundamental theorem of calculus can then be stated as

Theorem 9.1 (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus)**.** Suppose that $F\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is a C^1 function. Let $DF\colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be its derivative. Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an oriented interval and give ∂I the induced orientation. Then

$$\int_I DF = \int_{\partial I} F.$$

9.0.4. *Returning to main lecture.* We will construct a version of the fundamental theorem of Calculus in 2-dimensions. It will have the form:

Theorem (Vaguely Stated Version of Green's Theorem)**.** Let D be a region in $\mathbb{R}^2$. Let $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be a C^1 vector field on D. Then:

$$\iint\limits_D \text{“a derivative” of } \mathbf{F}\, dA = \int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

For the left side of the equation to make sense, it turns out that we need a derivative of $\mathbf{F}$ which is a *scalar* function. Perhaps the idea of using $\operatorname{div}\mathbf{F}$ appeals to you? Well, there is a version of the theorem which will use $\operatorname{div}\mathbf{F}$, but for this version we'll use an adaptation of the curl. (Recall that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F}$.

Theorem (Less Vaguely Stated Version of Green's Theorem)**.** Let D be a region in $\mathbb{R}^2$. Let $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be a C^1 vector field on D Then:

$$\iint\limits_D (\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{k}\, dA = \int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

To get the precise version of Green's theorem we need to discuss what sort of regions D are allowed and what ∂D means. We also need to review double integration.

10. Double Integration and Iterated Integrals

We reviewed these. Typed notes are unavailable.

11. Green's Theorem

For this section, let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a closed bounded region with ∂D a collection of piecewise smooth simple closed curves.

Theorem 11.1 (Green's Theorem)**.** Let D be as above. Orient ∂D so that D is on the left as ∂D is traversed. (Equivalently, $\mathbf{N}$ points into D.) Let $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be a C^1 vector field on D. Then,

$$\int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \iint\limits_D (\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} dA.$$

If we write $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = M(x,y)\mathbf{i} + N(x,y)\mathbf{j}$, then the conclusion of Green's theorem can be written as:

$$\int_{\partial D} M\,dx + N\,dy = \iint\limits_D \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} \right) dA.$$

Before proving (part of) Green's theorem, we'll look at some examples.

11.1. Examples relevant to Green's Theorem.

Example 11.2. For this example, let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$be the solid square with corners $(1,-1)$, $(1,1)$, $(-1,1)$, and $(-1,-1)$. We will need a parameterization of ∂D. Since ∂D is made up of 4 line segments, we can parameterize them as follows. For each of them $0 \leq t \leq 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} L_1(t) &= (1, 2t-1) \\ L_2(t) &= (1-2t, 1) \\ L_3(t) &= (-1, 1-2t) \\ L_4(t) &= (2t-1, -1) \end{aligned}$$

We will also need the derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} L_1'(t) &= (0,2) \\ L_2'(t) &= (-2,0) \\ L_3'(t) &= (0,-2) \\ L_4'(t) &= (2,0) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1a: Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (-x,y)$.

Example 1a.i: Compute $\int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$.

Answer: We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\partial D}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_1(t))\cdot L_1'(t)\,dt + \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_2(t))\cdot L_2'(t)\,dt + \\
&\quad \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_3(t))\cdot L_3'(t)\,dt + \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_4(t))\cdot L_4'(t)\,dt \\
&= \int_0^1 \begin{pmatrix}-1\\2t-1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}0\\2\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}2t-1\\1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}-2\\0\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}1\\1-2t\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}0\\-2\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}1-2t\\-1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}2\\0\end{pmatrix}\,dt \\
&= \int_0^1 2(2t-1)+(-2)(2t-1)+(-2)(1-2t)+2(1-2t)\,dt \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Example 1a.ii: Compute $\iint\limits_D (\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F})\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA$.

Answer: We have

$$\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k} = \frac{\partial(y)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(-x)}{\partial y} = 0.$$

Thus, $\iint\limits_D \operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA = \iint\limits_D 0\,dA = 0$. Notice that this matches the answer from Example 1a.i, as predicted by Green's theorem.

Example 1b: Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (-y,x)$.

Example 1b.i Compute $\int_{\partial D}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}$.

Answer: We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\partial D}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_1(t))\cdot L_1'(t)\,dt + \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_2(t))\cdot L_2'(t)\,dt + \\
&\quad \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_3(t))\cdot L_3'(t)\,dt + \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(L_4(t))\cdot L_4'(t)\,dt \\
&= \int_0^1 \begin{pmatrix}1-2t\\1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}0\\2\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}-1\\1-2t\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}-2\\0\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}2t-1\\-1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}0\\-2\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}1\\2t-1\end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix}2\\0\end{pmatrix}\,dt \\
&= \int_0^1 2+2+2+2\,dt \\
&= 8
\end{aligned}$$

Example 1b.ii Compute $\iint\limits_D (\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F})\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA$.

In this case, $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k} = 2$. Thus,

$$\iint\limits_D \operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA = \int_{-1}^{1}\int_{-1}^{1} 2\,dA = 8.$$

Notice that this is the same as in Example 1b.i as predicted by Green's theorem.

Example 11.3. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = (\sin x, \ln(1+y^2))$. Let C be a simple closed curve which is made up of 24 line segments in a star shape. Compute $\int_C \mathbf{F}\,d\mathbf{s}$.

Answer: Let D be the region bounded by C. Notice that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$, so $\iint\limits_D \operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA = 0$. By Green's theorem, this is also the answer to the requested integral.

Example 11.4. Let $\phi(t) = \begin{pmatrix}\cos t\sin(3t)\\ \sin t\cos(3t)\end{pmatrix}$ for $0 \le t \le \pi/2$. Find the area of the region D enclosed by ϕ.

Answer: Notice that ϕ travels clock-wise around D, we need it to go counter-clockwise to use Green's theorem. Changing the direction that ϕ travels, changes the sign of a path integral of a vector field. Thus, by Green's theorem, the area of D is given by

$$\iint_D 1\,dA = -\int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s},$$

where $\mathbf{F}$ is a vector field having the property that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = (0,0,1)$. The vector field: $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}(-y,x)$ has that property. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
\textstyle\iint_D 1\,dA &= -\textstyle\int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}\\
&= -(1/2)\textstyle\int_0^{\pi/2}(-\sin t\cos 3t, \cos t\sin 3t)\cdot\phi'(t)\,dt\\
&= -(1/2)\textstyle\int_0^{\pi/2}\cos 3t\sin 3t - 3\sin t\cos t\,dt\\
&= -(1/2)\textstyle\int_0^{\pi/2}\sin(6t)/2 - 3\sin(2t)/2\,dt\\
&= -(1/2)(1/6 - 3/2)\\
&= 2/3.
\end{aligned}$$

12. Conservative Planar Vector Fields

12.1. Conservative Vector Fields have Path Independent Line Integrals.

Lemma 12.1. Suppose that $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$. Assume that f is C^2 on an open set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. If $A, B \in D$ and if $\mathbf{x}$ is any path joining A to B, then

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = f(B) - f(A).$$

Proof. Recall that $\nabla f \cdot \mathbf{x}' = (Df)\mathbf{x}'$. Thus, $F(\mathbf{x}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}'(t) = \frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{x}(t))$ by the chain rule. Consequently, by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}'(t)\, dt \\ &= \int_a^b \left(\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{x}(t)) \right) dt \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}(b)) - f(\mathbf{x}(a)) \\ &= f(B) - f(A). \end{aligned}$$

□

Here is an application:

Suppose that P is a charged particle at $\mathbf{x}$ and that Q is a charged particle at $\mathbf{a}$ with charges q_P and q_Q respectively. The force exerted by P on Q is

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}) = \frac{q_P q_Q (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}||^3}.$$

If we fix $\mathbf{x}$ and let $\mathbf{a}$ vary, $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{a})$ is a gradient field with potential function

$$f(\mathbf{a}) = \frac{q_P q_Q}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}||}.$$

By the previous lemma, the work required to move Q from $\mathbf{a}$ to $\mathbf{b}$ is

$$\frac{1}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}||} - \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}||}$$

In particular, it does not depend on the path taken by the particle.

If we have stationary particles $P_1, \ldots, P_n$ at $\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_n$ respectively, each with charge $+1$ and if Q is a charged particle at $\mathbf{a}$, the force exerted by the stationary particles on Q is

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{a}) = a \sum \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{a}||^3}$$

Since the gradient is additive, this electric field is also a gradient field with potential function

$$f(\mathbf{a}) = q \sum \frac{1}{\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{a}}.$$

Given this set-up, if D is a collection of particles (possibly infinite) each with charge +1 we define the potential function of the electric field generated by D to be

$$f(\mathbf{a}) = \int_D \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{a}||}$$

where the integration is performed with respect to $\mathbf{x}$.

Here is a specific example. Suppose that D is the line segment $[-r,r]$ on the y–axis in $\mathbb{R}^2$. How much work is required to move a charged particle Q from a point $\mathbf{a} = (a,0)$ on the positive x axis to a point $\mathbf{b} = (b,0)$ on the positive x axis, by a path with positive x–coordinates.

The work is the line integral of the electric field along the path taken by Q. By the lemma above, we need only use the potential function to find that the work is:

$$\int_D \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}||}\,ds - \int_D \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{a}||}\,ds.$$

To solve this, let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (0,t)$ for $-r \leq t \leq r$ be a parameterization of D. Then the expression above equals

$$\int_{-r}^{r} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2+b^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2+a^2}}\,dt.$$

12.2. **When is a field conservative?** For this section, we assume that $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is closed and bounded with ∂D piecewise C^1. We say that D is **simply connected** if D consists of one piece (i.e. is connected) and if D “has no holes”. If $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ is a C^1 vector field, we say that $\mathbf{F}$ has **path-independent line integrals** if whenever $\mathbf{x}_1$ and $\mathbf{x}_2$ are paths in D which both join A to B then the line integrals of $\mathbf{F}$ over $\mathbf{x}_1$ and over $\mathbf{x}_2$ produce the same result.

Theorem 12.2 (Poincaré)**.** Let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be simply connected, and let $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be a C^1 vector field. Then, the following are equivalent:

(1) $\mathbf{F}$ is conservative (that is, $\mathbf{F}$ is a gradient field).
(2) $\mathbf{F}$ has path independent line integrals on D
(3) $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$.

Proof. **(1) $\Rightarrow$ (3)**

This is a simple calculation which you should do.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (2)

We assume by hypothesis that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$. Let $\mathbf{x}_1$ and $\mathbf{x}_2$ be two paths which join A to B. For simplicity, assume that the paths do not intersect except at

A and B. Then the images of $\mathbf{x}_1$ and $\mathbf{x}_2$ form the boundary of a region $R \subset D$ since D is simply connected. Giving the boundary the correct orientation amounts to traversing one of $\mathbf{x}_1$ and $\mathbf{x}_2$ in the given direction and traversing the other in the reverse direction. Thus, by Green's theorem:

$$\int_{\mathbf{x}_1} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} - \int_{\mathbf{x}_2} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \pm \int_{\partial R} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \iint_R \operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{k}\,dA.$$

By our initial hypothesis that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$, we have shown that this last integral is 0. Consequently, the line integrals over $\mathbf{x}_1$ and over $\mathbf{x}_2$ have the same values.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1)

We need to define a C^2 potential function $f\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^2$ for $\mathbf{F}$. To that end, let $\mathbf{a} \in D$, be considered as a basepoint. If $\mathbf{x} \in D$, choose a path ϕ joining $\mathbf{a}$ to $\mathbf{x}$ and define $f(\mathbf{x}) = \int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}$. Notice that definition of f requires that the path ϕ be chosen, but that the choice does not matter – any two paths will give the same answer, by our hypothesis.

We need to show that f is differentiable and that $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$. We concern ourselves only with the interior of D. Since ∂D is C^1, around each point $\mathbf{x} \in D - \partial D$, there exists an open disc centered at $\mathbf{x}$ and contained in D. Let $\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}$ be a vector in this disc. Let $h = ||\mathbf{h}||$. Let ϕ be a path from $\mathbf{a}$ to $\mathbf{x}$ and let ψ be a straight line path in D from $\mathbf{x}$ to $\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{1}{h}(f(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}) - f(\mathbf{x}) &= \\ \tfrac{1}{h}\left(\int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} + \int_\psi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} - \int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}\right) &= \\ \tfrac{1}{h}\int_\psi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} & \end{aligned}$$

Since ψ is a straight line path, we may assume that $\psi(t) = \mathbf{x}+t\mathbf{h}$ so that $\psi'(t) = \mathbf{h}$. Then,

$$\frac{1}{h}\int_\psi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \frac{1}{h}\int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(\psi(t))\cdot\mathbf{h}\,dt.$$

Write $\mathbf{h} = h\mathbf{u}$ with $\mathbf{u}$ a unit vector. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tfrac{1}{h}\int_\psi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \\ \tfrac{1}{h}\int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(\psi(t))\cdot(h\mathbf{u})\,dt &= \\ \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(\psi(t))\cdot\mathbf{u}\,dt &= \end{aligned}$$

When h is very small, $\mathbf{F}(\psi(t)) \approx \mathbf{F}(x)$ with the approximation improving as $\mathbf{h} \to \mathbf{0}$. Thus, if $\mathbf{u}$ is constant, we have the directional derivative of f in the u direction as:

$$\lim_{h\to 0}\frac{1}{h}(f(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}) - f(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\cdot\mathbf{u}$$

By making wise choices of $\mathbf{h}$, we see that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{i}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{j}$. Consequently, $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$. Furthermore, because $\mathbf{F}$ is C^1, f is differentiable and is C^2. $\square$

12.3. Divergence Theorem in the Plane.

12.4. Interpreting Divergence and Curl.

13. Parameterized Surfaces

** Normal Vectors** **Smooth surfaces**

13.1. Orientations.
** Normal orientations** **Intrinsic orientations**

13.2. Surface Area of a Smooth Parameterized Surface.

13.3. Reparameterizations.

Definition 13.1. Suppose that D and E are 2-dimensional regions in $\mathbb{R}^2$ with C^1 boundary. Let $h\colon E \to D$ be a function such that:

(1) h is a surjection.
(2) except on a finite set of points, h is C^1
(3) Let $\mathscr{P}$ be the set of points such that the determinant of the derivative of h is 0. If $\mathscr{P}$ is infinite, then $\mathscr{P} \subset \partial E$.

Then we say that h is a **change of coordinates** function.

Example 13.2. Let D be the disc $0 \leq s^2 + t^2 \leq 4$ in the $s - t$ plane. Let E be the rectangle $[0, 2\pi] \times [0, 2]$ in the $u - v$ plane. Define:

$$\begin{pmatrix} s \\ t \end{pmatrix} = h(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \end{pmatrix}.$$

Claim: h is a change of coordinates function.

Clearly, h is a surjection and h is C^1. Notice that:

$$Dh(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} -v\sin u & \cos u \\ v\cos u & \sin u \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, $\det Dh(u,v) = -v$. As long as $v > 0$, $\det Dh(u,v) \neq 0$. The set $\mathscr{P} = \{(0,v)\}$ lies in ∂E. Thus, h is a change of coordinates function.

Lemma 13.3. Suppose that E is connected and that $h\colon E \to D$ is a change of coordinates function. If $\mathbf{x}_1$ and $\mathbf{x}_2$ are points in E at which h is C^1 and with $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_1) \neq 0$ and $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_2) \neq 0$, then either both $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_1)$ and $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_2)$ are positive, or both are negative.

Proof. Let $\mathscr{P}$ be the set of points at which either h is not C^1 or at which $\det Dh$ is zero. By our hypotheses on $\mathscr{P}$ and the fact that E is connected, there is a continuous path in $E - \mathscr{P}$ joining $\mathbf{x}_1$ to $\mathbf{x}_2$. Since h is C^1 on $E - \mathscr{P}$, $\det Dh$ varies continuously along the path. Since the path misses the places where $\det Dh(u,v) = 0$, $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_1)$ and $\det Dh(\mathbf{x}_2)$ are both positive or both negative. □

Definition 13.4. If $h\colon E \to D$ is a change of coordinates function, and if E is connected then h is **orientation preserving** if $\det Dh > 0$ on all points where $\det Dh$ is defined and non-zero. Otherwise, h is **orientation reversing**.

Definition 13.5. Suppose that $\mathbf{X}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^3$ is a surface and that $\mathbf{Y}\colon E \to \mathbb{R}^3$ is a surface such that there exists a change of coordinates function $h\colon E \to D$ with $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \circ h$. Then $\mathbf{Y}$ is a reparameterization of $\mathbf{X}$.

Example 13.6. Let $\mathbf{X}(s,t) = \begin{pmatrix} s \\ t \\ s^2+t^2 \end{pmatrix}$ for $0 \leq s^2+t^2 \leq 4$. Let $\mathbf{Y}(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \\ v^2 \end{pmatrix}$. Notice that $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are parameterizations of the same paraboloid. Define $h(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \end{pmatrix}$. Then $\mathbf{Y}$ is a reparameterization of $\mathbf{X}$ by an orientation reversing change of coordinates.

Lemma 13.7. Suppose that $\mathbf{X}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^3$ and that $h\colon E \to D$ is a change of coordinates function. Let $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \circ h$. Let $\mathbf{N_X}$ and $\mathbf{N_Y}$ be the normal vectors of $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ respectively. Then,

$$\mathbf{N_Y}(u,v) = (\det Dh(u,v))\mathbf{N_X}(h(u,v)).$$

Proof. We simply provide a sketch for those who have taken Linear Algebra. The book provides a different method.

Let $S = \mathbf{X}(D) = \mathbf{Y}(E)$. Assume that both $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are smooth, so that there exists a tangent plane $TS_{\mathbf{p}}$ to S at $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{X}(s,t) = \mathbf{Y}(u,v)$. Assume that coordinates on $\mathbb{R}^3$ have been chosen so that $TS_{\mathbf{p}}$ is the xy-plane in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

We think of $TS(u,v)$ as lying in the tangent space $T_{\mathbf{p}}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$ at $\mathbf{p}$. Since both $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are smooth, the sets of vectors $\{\mathbf{T}_s, \mathbf{T}_t\}$ and $\{\mathbf{T}_u, \mathbf{T}_v\}$ are each a basis for $TS_{\mathbf{p}}$. Identifying $TS_{\mathbf{p}}$ with both the $s-t$ plane and with the $u-v$ plane.

By the chain rule,

$$D\mathbf{Y}(u,v) = D\mathbf{X}(h(u,v))Dh(u,v).$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} D\mathbf{Y}(u,v) &= \begin{pmatrix}\mathbf{T}_u(u,v) & \mathbf{T}_v(u,v)\end{pmatrix} \\ D\mathbf{X}(h(u,v)) &= \begin{pmatrix}\mathbf{T}_s(h(u,v)) & \mathbf{T}_t(h(u,v))\end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the absolute value of the determinant of a 2×2 matrix is the area of the parallelogram formed by its column vectors. Recall also that determinant is multiplicative. Thus, by taking determinants and absolute values we get:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{ Area of parallelogram formed by } \mathbf{T}_u(u,v) \text{ and } \mathbf{T}_v(u,v)\ ) &= (\text{ Area of parallelogram formed by } \mathbf{T} \\ ||\mathbf{N_Y}(u,,v)|| &= ||\mathbf{N_X}(h(u,v))||\,|\det Dh(u,v)|. \end{aligned}$$

Since we have arranged that $TS_{\mathbf{p}}$ is the xy-plane, both $\mathbf{N_Y}(u,v)$ and $\mathbf{N_X}$ point in the $\pm\mathbf{k}$ direction. That is:

$$\mathbf{N_Y}(u,,v) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \det D\mathbf{Y}(u,v) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{N_X}(h(u,v)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \det D\mathbf{X}(h(u,v)) \end{pmatrix}$$

Since, $\det D\mathbf{Y}(u,v) = \det D\mathbf{X}(h(u,v))\det Dh(u,v)$, the result follows. □

Thus, if $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are both smooth and connected surfaces and if $\mathbf{Y}$ is a reparameterization of $\mathbf{X}$ by a change of coordinates function h, then $\mathbf{Y}$ has the same normal orientation as $\mathbf{X}$ if and only if there exists a point (u,v) with $\det Dh(u,v) > 0$.

Example 13.8. Let $\mathbf{X}(s,t) = \begin{pmatrix} s \\ t \\ s^2+t^2 \end{pmatrix}$ for $0 \le s^2+t^2 \le 4$. Let $\mathbf{Y}(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \\ v^2 \end{pmatrix}$. Notice that $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are parameterizations of the same paraboloid. Define $h(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \end{pmatrix}$. Notice that $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \circ h$ where $h(u,v) = (v\cos u, v\sin u)$.

Calculations show that:

$$\mathbf{N_X} = \begin{pmatrix} -2s \\ -2t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{N_Y} = \begin{pmatrix} 2v^2\cos u \\ 2v^2\sin u \\ -v \end{pmatrix}$$

Recalling that $\det Dh(u,v) = -v$, we see that the lemma gives us the same relationship between $\mathbf{N_X}$ and $\mathbf{N_Y}$.

13.4. **Surface Integrals: Definitions and Calculations.** Suppose that $\mathbf{X}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}^3$ is a smooth surface. Suppose that $f\colon \mathbf{X}(D) \to \mathbb{R}$ and $f\colon \mathbf{X}(D) \to \mathbb{R}^3$ are C^1. Then define:

$$\begin{aligned} \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \iint_D (\mathbf{F}\circ\mathbf{X})\cdot\mathbf{N}\,dA \\ \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{X}} f\,dS &= \iint_D (f\circ\mathbf{X})\,||\mathbf{N}||\,dA. \end{aligned}$$

Example 13.9. Let $\mathbf{Y}(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} v\cos u \\ v\sin u \\ v^2 \end{pmatrix}$ for $(u,v) \in E$ where $E = [0,2\pi]\times[0,4]$. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Calculate $\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S}$.

Recall that $\mathbf{N_Y} = \begin{pmatrix} 2v^2\cos u \\ 2v^2\sin u \\ -v \end{pmatrix}$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{F}\,d\mathbf{S} &= \textstyle\iint_E \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{Y}(u,v))\cdot\mathbf{N_Y}\,dA \\ &= \int_0^4\int_0^{2\pi} \begin{pmatrix} -v\sin u \\ v\cos u \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\cdot\begin{pmatrix} 2v^2\cos u \\ 2v^2\sin u \\ -v \end{pmatrix} du\,dv \\ &= \int_0^4\int_0^{2\pi} 0\,du\,dv \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

You may wonder how surface integrals change under reparameterization. The following theorem provides the answer:

Theorem 13.10. Suppose that $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are parameterized connected surfaces and that $\mathbf{Y}$ is a reparameterization of $\mathbf{X}$. If the change of coordinate function h is orientation-preserving, let $\varepsilon = +1$. If h is orientation reversing, let $\varepsilon = -1$. Let f be a C^1 scalar field and let $\mathbf{F}$ be a C^1 vector field, both defined in a neighborhood of the image of $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{Y}} f\,dS &= \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{X}} f\,dS \\ \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We will need the change of variables theorem:

Theorem. Suppose that D and E are regions in the st plane and the uv plane respectively and that $h\colon E \to D$ is a change of coordinates function. Let $g\colon D \to \mathbb{R}$ be C^1. Then

$$\iint_E g\circ h\,|\det Dh(u,v)|\,du\,dv = \iint_D g\,ds\,dt$$

Both equations are a rather immediate application of this. We prove only the second, in the case when h is orientation reversing.

$$\begin{aligned} \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{F}\,d\mathbf{S} &= \textstyle\iint_E (\mathbf{F}\circ\mathbf{Y})\cdot\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{Y}}\,du\,dv \\ &= \textstyle\iint_E ((\mathbf{F}\circ\mathbf{X})\circ h)\cdot(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{X}}\cdot h)\,(\det Dh(u,v))\,du\,dv \\ &= \textstyle\iint_D (\mathbf{F}\circ\mathbf{X})\cdot\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{X}}\,ds\,dt \\ &= \textstyle\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S}. \end{aligned}$$

The second to last equality comes from an application of the change of variables theorem. □

14. Flux

If $\mathbf{F}\colon \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ is a vector field and if $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is an oriented surface, with normal orientation $\mathbf{n}$, then the **flux** of $\mathbf{F}$ across $\mathbf{S}$ is, by definition, $\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S}$, where $\mathbf{X}$ is any parameterization of S, with normal vector $\mathbf{N}$ pointing in the same direction as $\mathbf{n}$.

Informally, the flux of $\mathbf{F}$ across S, measures the rate of fluid flow across S.

Example 14.1. Let S be the paraboloid which is the graph of $f(x,y) = x^2+y^2$ for $x^2+y^2 \leq 4$. Orient S. If $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = (-y,x,0)$, then the flux of $\mathbf{F}$ across S is 0 since the vector field is tangent to S. (Notice that the flow lines for $\mathbf{F}$ which contain points of S, actually lie on S.

Example 14.2. Let S be the unit sphere in $\mathbb{R}^3$ with outward pointing normal. Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = (x,y,z)$. Then the flux of $\mathbf{F}$ across S is simply the surface area of S (which is $4\pi/3$) since, at $(x,y,z) \in S$.

To see this, let $\mathbf{X}\colon\ D \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be a smooth parameterization of S with outward pointing normal vector. Noticing that $||\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X})|| = 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \iint_D \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X})\cdot\mathbf{N}\,ds\,dt \\
&= \iint_D \left(\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X})\cdot\frac{\mathbf{N}}{||\mathbf{N}||}\right)||\mathbf{N}||\,ds\,dt \\
&= \iint_D ||\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X})||||\mathbf{N}||\,ds\,dt \\
&= \iint_D ||\mathbf{N}||\,ds\,dt \\
&= \iint_{\mathbf{X}} dS
\end{aligned}$$

and this last expression is the surface area of S.

This last example can be generalized to:

Theorem 14.3. Suppose that S is a compact surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$ and that $\mathbf{F}$ is a non-zero C^1 vector field defined in a neighborhood of S such that for each $(x,y,z) \in S$, $\mathbf{F}(x,y,z)$ is perpindicular to S. If $||\mathbf{F}(x,y,z)|| > 0$ for all $(x,y,z) \in S$, then the flux of $\mathbf{F}$ across S is simply $\pm\iint_S ||\mathbf{F}||\,dS$.

Example 14.4. Suppose that a thin sphere of radius 1 centered at the origin is given a constant $+1$ charge. Then the sphere generates an electric field given by:

$$\mathbf{E}(a,b,c) = \nabla_{(a,b,c)}\cdot\iint_S f\,dS,$$

where $f(x,y,z) = \frac{-1}{(a-x)^2+(b-y)^2+(c-z)^2}$.

By the theorem, this does not depend on a parameterization for S.

15. Stokes' and Gauss' Theorems

Definition 15.1. Suppose that S is a piecewise smooth surface which has normal orientation $\mathbf{n}$ (a unit vector). Let γ be a component of ∂S. Orient γ. We say that γ has been oriented consistently with $\mathbf{n}$ if it is possible to put a little triangle on γ, give the edges of the triangle arrows circulating in the direction of the orientation of γ, use the right hand rule and obtain a normal vector pointing in the direction of $\mathbf{n}$. We also say that ∂S has been given the orientation induced from the orientation of $\mathbf{S}$.

Example 15.2. Suppose that $A \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is an oriented annulus (i.e. cylinder) with two boundary components. Those boundary components must have opposite orientations.

Theorem 15.3 (Stokes' Theorem)**.** Let S be a compact, oriented, piecewise smooth surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$. Give ∂S the orientation induced by the orientation of S. Let $\mathbf{F}$ be a C^1 vector field defined on an open set containing S. Then,

$$\iint_S (\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F})\cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_{\partial S} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

Theorem 15.4 (Divergence Theorem/Gauss' Theorem)**.** Let D be a compact solid region in $\mathbb{R}^3$ such that ∂D consists of piecewise smooth, closed, orientable surfaces. Orient ∂D with unit normals pointing out of D. Suppose that $\mathbf{F}$ is a C^1 vectorfield defined on an open set containing D. Then:

$$\iiint\limits_D \operatorname{div}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint\limits_{\partial D} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

15.1. **Gravity.** Suppose that for each point $\mathbf{x}\in\mathbb{R}^3$, there is a point mass $\rho(\mathbf{x})$. Then the gravitational field exerted by $\mathbf{x}$ is:

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = (G\rho(\mathbf{x}))\frac{\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}||^3}.$$

where G is the gravitational constant. It is easy to check that the divergence of $\mathbf{F}$ with respect to $\mathbf{r}$ (denoted $\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{F}$ is 0.

Fundamental to the study of gravitation is:

Theorem 15.5 (Gauss' Law)**.** Let V be a 3–dimensional region. The flux of the gravitational field exerted by V across ∂V is:

$$\iint_{\partial V} \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} = -4\pi G \iiint_V \rho\, dV$$

Proof. **Case 1:** There exists a point $\mathbf{x}\in V$ with $\rho(\mathbf{x})\neq 0$ and all other points in V have zero mass. Let S be a small sphere of radius a enclosing $\mathbf{x}$ contained inside V. then

$$\begin{aligned}
\textstyle\iint_{S_a}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \textstyle\iint_{S_a}\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{n}dS \\
&= G\rho(\mathbf{x})\textstyle\iint_S \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}||^3}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r})\cdot\frac{-1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}||}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r})\,dS \\
&= -G\rho(\mathbf{x})\textstyle\iint_S \frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}||^3}\,dS \\
&= -G\rho(\mathbf{x})\frac{1}{||\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{r}||^3}\textstyle\iint_S dS \\
&= -G\rho(\mathbf{x}(4\pi)
\end{aligned}$$

Now notice that since $\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{F}=0$, by the divergence theorem, we have:

$$\iint_{\partial V}\mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_S \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{S} = -4\pi G\rho(\mathbf{x}).$$

Case 2: There is a 3-dimensional region $R \subset V$ with non-zero mass (possibly all of V) then by superposition:

$$\iint_{\partial V} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = -4\pi G \iiint_R \rho \, dV.$$

□

We can now prove an important theorem:

Theorem 15.6 (Shell Theorem)**.** Suppose that W is a 3–dimensional region of constant mass which is the region between a sphere of radius $a \geq 0$ and a sphere of radius $b > a$, both centered at the origin.

Then the following hold:

(1) For a point $\mathbf{r}$, with $||\mathbf{r}|| > b$, the force of gravity is the same as if W were a point mass.
(2) In either case, for a point $\mathbf{r}$ with $a < ||\mathbf{r}|| < b$, the force of gravity varies linearly with distance from the origin.
(3) For a point $\mathbf{r}$ with $||\mathbf{r}|| < a$, the force of gravity is zero.

Proof. Let $\mathbf{r}$ be a point in $\mathbb{R}^3$. By the principal of superposition, the gravitational field at $\mathbf{r}$ is a vector that points toward the origin. That is, if $\mathbf{r} \neq \mathbf{0}$,

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = -f(r)\frac{\mathbf{r}}{||\mathbf{r}||}$$

where $f(r)$ is a non-negative scalar function depending only on the magnitude r of $\mathbf{r}$.

Let S be a sphere of radius r bounding a ball V centered at $\mathbf{0}$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \textstyle\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} &= f(r) \textstyle\iint_S \frac{-x}{||\mathbf{x}||} \, d\mathbf{S} \\ &= -4\pi r^2 f(r). \end{aligned}$$

By the differential form of Gauss' Law and the divergence theorem , we also have:

$$\textstyle\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = -4\pi G \textstyle\iiint_B \rho \, dV$$

Thus,

$$-4\pi r^2 f(r) = -4piG \iint_B \rho \, dV$$

Thus:

- If $r > b$, for all $\mathbf{x} \in V - W$, $\rho(\mathbf{x}) = 0$, so the first result follows.
- If $a < r < b$, we have the second result.
- If $r < a$ we have the 3rd result, since for all $\mathbf{x} \in B$, $\rho(\mathbf{x}) = 0$.

□

16. Cohomology Theory

In this section we work entirely on subsets of $\mathbb{R}^3$. Throughout we assume that whenever every appropriate that the objects under consideration are C^1 or C^2.

Theorem 16.1. Suppose that $\mathbf{F}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ are vector fields defined on D and that whenever ϕ is a simple closed curve in D, then $\int_\phi \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_\phi \mathbf{G}\cdot d\mathbf{s}$. Then there exists a scalar field $h\colon D \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{G} + \nabla f$.

Proof. Recall from the proof of Poincaré's Theorem that if a vector field has path independent line integrals then it is a gradient field. In particular, this result did not rely on D being simply connected. Let $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{F} - \mathbf{G}$.

Claim: H has path independent line integrals.

Assume that ϕ and ψ are two paths joining a point $\mathbf{a}$ to a point $\mathbf{b}$. Let C be the closed curve obtained by traversing ϕ and then traversing ψ in the reverse direction. For simplicity, we assume that C is simple. Then,

$$\int_\phi \mathbf{H}\cdot d\mathbf{s} - \int_\psi \mathbf{H}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_C \mathbf{H}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_C (\mathbf{F}-\mathbf{G})\cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_C \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s} - \int_C \mathbf{G}\cdot d\mathbf{s} = 0.$$

Thus, by Poincaré's Lemma, there exists a scalar function $f\colon D \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{G} = \nabla f$ as desired. □

Corollary 16.2. Let $D = \mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\}$. Suppose that $\mathbf{F}\colon D \to \mathbb{R}$ and that $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = 0$. Then there exists a constant $k \in \mathbb{R}$ and a scalar field $f\colon D \to \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\mathbf{F}(x,y) = \frac{k}{x^2+y^2}\begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \nabla f(x,y).$$

Proof. Let C be a counter-clockwise oriented simple closed curve enclosing the origin. Define $k = \frac{1}{2\pi}\int_C \mathbf{F}\cdot d\mathbf{s}$. Then evaluating both $\mathbf{F}$ and $\mathbf{G} = \frac{k}{x^2+y^2}\begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$ around C produces the same answer. Since $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$ integrating $\mathbf{F}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ over any other simple closed curve containing the origin produces k (by Green's theorem and some topology). If C is a simple closed curve not enclosing the origin, since $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$ and since $\operatorname{curl}\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{0}$, $\mathbf{F}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ once again have the same contour integrals. Thus, by the theorem $\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{G}$ is a gradient field. □

Let $\text{cycle}^2(D)$ be the set of all vector fields on a region D with $\mathbf{0}$ curl. $\text{cycle}^2(D)$ is a real vector space. Let $\text{boundary}^1(D)$ be the set of all gradient fields on D. $\text{boundary}^1(D)$ is also a real vector space. Since $\operatorname{curl}\circ\operatorname{grad} =$

$\mathbf{0}$, boundary$^1(D) \subset$ cycle$^2(D)$. Let $H^1(D)$ be the quotient vector space cycle$^2(D)/$boundary$^1(D)$. That is, two vector fields with $\mathbf{0}$ curl on D are considered “the same” if they differ by a gradient field. We conclude from the above example that $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\})$ is a 1–dimensional vector space. From Poincaré’s Theorem, we know that $H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$ is a 0–dimensional vector space (i.e. every vector field with $\mathbf{0}$ curl is a gradient field).

You might enjoy this (challenging) exercise: Let D be the result of removing n points from $\mathbb{R}^2$. Prove that $H^1(D)$ is n–dimensional.