



MATH 214 (R1) Winter 2008
Intermediate Calculus I

Solutions to Problem Set #5

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Question 1. [Sec. 11.1, # 10] Given the parametric equations $x = t^2$, $y = t^3$

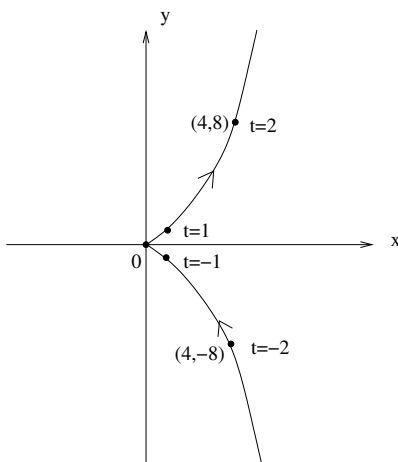
- (a) Sketch the curve by using the parametric equations to plot points. Indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as t increases.
- (b) Eliminate the parameter to find a Cartesian equation of the curve.

SOLUTION:

- (a) Plotting points for integer values of t with $-3 \leq t \leq 3$, we have

t	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
x	9	4	1	0	1	4	9
y	-27	-8	-1	0	1	8	27

and the curve is plotted below.



- (b) Solving for the parameter t in the first equation, we have $t = \pm\sqrt{x}$, so that $y = \pm x^{3/2}$, $x \geq 0$, $y \in \mathbb{R}$. The Cartesian equation of the curve is given by

$$x = y^{2/3}, \quad x \geq 0, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Question 2. [Sec. 11.1, # 12] Given the parametric equations

$$x = 4 \cos \theta, \quad y = 5 \sin \theta, \quad -\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$$

- (a) Eliminate the parameter to find a Cartesian equation of the curve.
- (b) Sketch the curve and indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as the parameter increases.

SOLUTION:

- (a) Eliminating the parameter, since $\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$, we have

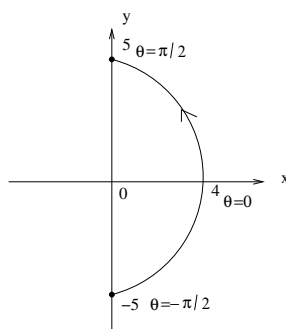
$$(x/4)^2 + (y/5)^2 = 1,$$

that is,

$$\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{25} = 1$$

which is the equation of an ellipse with the x -intercepts $x = \pm 4$, the y -intercepts $y = \pm 5$. However, since $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$, we have $0 \leq \cos \theta \leq 1$ so the graph consists of only the portion on the right side of the y -axis.

- (b) The curve is plotted below.



Question 3. [Sec. 11.1, # 16] Given the parametric equations

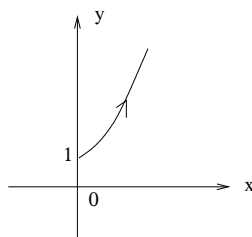
$$x = \ln t, \quad y = \sqrt{t}, \quad t \geq 1$$

- (a) Eliminate the parameter to find a Cartesian equation of the curve.
- (b) Sketch the curve and indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as the parameter increases.

SOLUTION:

- (a) Eliminating the parameter, we have $x = \ln t$, which implies that $t = e^x$, so that $y = \sqrt{e^x} = e^{x/2}$, $x \geq 0$.

- (b) The curve is plotted below.

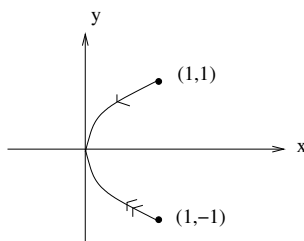


Question 4. [Sec. 11.1, # 22] Describe the position of a particle with position (x, y) where

$$x = \cos^2 t, \quad y = \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$$

as t varies in the given interval.

SOLUTION: The curve $x = y^2$ is a parabola opening to the right with the vertex $(0, 0)$. The particle starts at the point $(1, 1)$ ($t = 0$). It then moves along the parabola to the point $(0, 0)$ ($t = \pi/2$) down to $(1, -1)$ ($t = \pi$), then back to $(0, 0)$ ($t = 3\pi/2$) and to $(1, 1)$ ($t = 2\pi$). The same motion is repeated from 2π to 4π .



Question 5. [Sec. 11.2, # 8] Find an equation of the tangent to the curve

$$x = \tan \theta, \quad y = \sec \theta$$

at the point $(1, \sqrt{2})$ by 2 methods: (a) without eliminating the parameter and (b) by first eliminating the parameter.

SOLUTION:

(a) Differentiating, we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta} = \frac{\sec \theta \tan \theta}{\sec^2 \theta} = \frac{\tan \theta}{\sec \theta} = \sin \theta,$$

and at $(1, \sqrt{2})$, $1 = \tan \theta$, so that $\sqrt{2} = \sec \theta$, so that $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ or $\theta = \pi/4 + 2n\pi$, (since $\tan \theta > 0$ in quadrant I and III while $\sec \theta > 0$ in quad. I and IV). Hence the slope of the tangent at $(1, \sqrt{2})$ is

$$y' \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right) = \sin \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

and the equation of the tangent line is

$$y - \sqrt{2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(x - 1).$$

(b) Since $\tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta$ implies $x^2 + 1 = y^2$, differentiating implicitly we obtain

$$2x = 2yy'$$

which implies that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y},$$

which in turn implies that

$$y'(1, \sqrt{2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

and this gives the same equation as in part (a).

Question 6. [Sec. 11.2, # 16] Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ if $x = \cos 2t$, $y = \cos t$, $0 < t < \pi$. For which values of t is the curve concave upward?

SOLUTION:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{-\sin t}{-2 \sin 2t} = \frac{\sin t}{4 \sin t \cos t} = \frac{1}{4 \cos t} = \frac{1}{4} \sec t, \\ \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &= \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{dx/dt} = \frac{\frac{1}{4} \sec t \tan t}{-2 \sin 2t} = -\frac{1}{16} \cdot \frac{\sin t}{\cos^2 t \sin t \cos t} \\ &= -\frac{1}{16 \cos^3 t}\end{aligned}$$

or $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{16} \sec^3 t$. The curve is concave upward if $y''(x) > 0$ on $0 < t < \pi$, that is, if

$$-\frac{1}{16} \sec^3 t > 0,$$

or equivalently

$$\sec t < 0,$$

or

$$\cos t < 0,$$

so that

$$t \in (\pi/2, \pi).$$

Question 7. [Sec. 11.2, # 18] Find the points on the curve

$$x = 2t^3 + 3t^2 - 12t, \quad y = 2t^3 + 3t^2 + 1$$

where the tangent is horizontal or vertical.

SOLUTION: Differentiating, we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{6t^2 + 6t}{6t^2 + 6t - 12} = \frac{6t(t+1)}{6(t+2)(t-1)} = \frac{t(t+1)}{(t+2)(t-1)}.$$

Horizontal tangents occur when $y' = 0$, that is, when $t = 0, -1$. Therefore the points where the tangent line is horizontal are

$$\begin{aligned}t = 0: \quad x &= 0, \quad y = 1, \text{ that is, } (0, 1), \\ t = -1: \quad x &= -2 + 3 + 12 = 13, \quad y = -2 + 3 + 1 = 2, \text{ i.e., } (13, 2).\end{aligned}$$

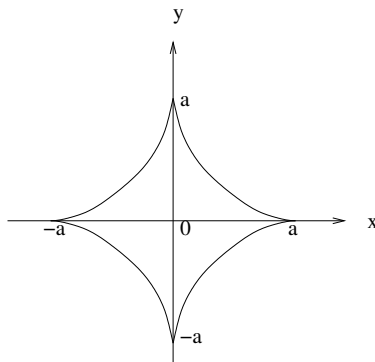
Vertical tangents occur at $t = -2, 1$ (y' does not exist there), and the points where the tangent line is vertical are

$$\begin{aligned}t = -2: \quad x &= -16 + 12 + 24 = 20, \quad y = -16 + 12 + 1 = -3, \text{ that is, } (20, -3), \\ t = 1: \quad x &= 2 + 3 - 12 = -7, \quad y = 2 + 3 + 1 = 6, \text{ that is, } (-7, 6).\end{aligned}$$

Question 8. [Sec. 11.2, # 34] Find the area of the region enclosed by the astroid

$$x = a \cos^3 \theta, \quad y = a \sin^3 \theta.$$

SOLUTION: The graph of the astroid is



Since $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = a^{2/3}$, using symmetry we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 4 \int_0^a y \, dx = 4 \int_0^a \left(a^{2/3} - x^{2/3} \right)^{3/2} dx \\ &= 4a^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} 3 \cos^2 t \sin^4 t \, dt = 12a^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{4} (2 \sin t \cos t)^2 \sin^2 t \, dt \\ &= \frac{3}{2} a^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 2t (1 - \cos 2t) \, dt \\ &= \frac{3}{2} a^2 \left[\int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 2t \, dt - \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 2t \cos 2t \, dt \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{2} a^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^2 2t \, dt - \frac{3}{2} a^2 \cdot \frac{\sin^3 2t}{6} \Big|_0^{\pi/2} \\ &= \frac{3a^2}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 4t \right) dt \\ &= \frac{3\pi a^2}{8}. \end{aligned}$$

Question 9. [Sec. 11.2, # 44] Find the length of the curve

$$x = e^t + e^{-t}, \quad y = 5 - 2t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 3.$$

SOLUTION: Differentiating, $dx/dt = e^t - e^{-t}$ and $dy/dt = -2$, so that

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2 = (e^t - e^{-t})^2 + 4 = e^{2t} - 2 + e^{-2t} + 4 = e^{2t} + 2 + e^{-2t} = (e^t + e^{-t})^2$$

therefore

$$L = \int_0^3 \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2} dt = \int_0^3 (e^t + e^{-t}) dt = e^t - e^{-t} \Big|_0^3 = e^3 - e^{-3} - 1 + 1 = e^3 - e^{-3}.$$

Question 10. [Sec. 11.2, # 60] Find the area of the surface obtained by rotating the curve

$$x = 3t - t^3, \quad y = 3t^2, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

about the x -axis.

SOLUTION: We have

$$S = 2\pi \int_a^b y \, ds = 2\pi \int_0^1 3t^2 \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

where

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 = (3 - 3t^2)^2 = 9 - 18t^2 + 9t^4$$

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 = (6t)^2 = 36t^2$$

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 = 9 - 18t^2 + 9t^4 + 36t^2 = 9 + 18t^2 + 9t^4 = (3 + 3t^2)^2$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 2\pi \int_0^1 3t^2(3 + 3t^2) dt = 2\pi \int_0^1 9t^2(1 + t^2) dt \\ &= 18\pi \int_0^1 (t^2 + t^4) dt = 18\pi \left(\frac{t^3}{3} + \frac{t^5}{5} \right) \Big|_0^1 = 18\pi \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} \right) = \frac{48\pi}{5}. \end{aligned}$$

Question 11. [Sec. 11.2, # 66] Find the surface area generated by rotating the curve

$$x = e^t - t, \quad y = 4e^{t/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

about the y -axis.

SOLUTION: We have $S = 2\pi \int_0^1 x \, ds$ where $ds = \sqrt{(dx/dt)^2 + (dy/dt)^2} dt$, and

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 = (e^t - 1)^2 = e^{2t} - 2e^t + 1, \quad \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 = (2e^{t/2})^2 = 4e^t$$

therefore

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 = e^{2t} - 2e^t + 1 + 4e^t = e^{2t} + 2e^t + 1 = (e^t + 1)^2$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t)(e^t + 1) dt \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^{2t} + e^t - te^t - t) dt \\ &= 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{2}e^{2t} + e^t - (te^t - e^t) - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{2}e^2 + e - e + e - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} - 1 - 1 \right) = \pi(e^2 + 2e - 6). \end{aligned}$$

(Here to do $\int te^t dt$, integration by parts was used.)