

The Calculus of Vector-Valued Functions

```
> restart:with(plots):with(VectorCalculus):
  setoptions3d(axes=NORMAL,labels=[x,y,z],orientation=[20,70]):
  BasisFormat(false):
```

We will use the [VectorCalculus](#) package for this worksheet. We first find

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \langle \sin(t) \cos(t), \cos(t)^2, \sin(t) \rangle.$$

```
> limit(<sin(t)*cos(t), (cos(t))^2, sin(t)>, t=Pi/4);
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Next we find the derivative of $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \sin(t) \cos(t), \cos(t)^2, \sin(t) \rangle$.

```
> r:=<sin(t)*cos(t), (cos(t))^2, sin(t)>;
```

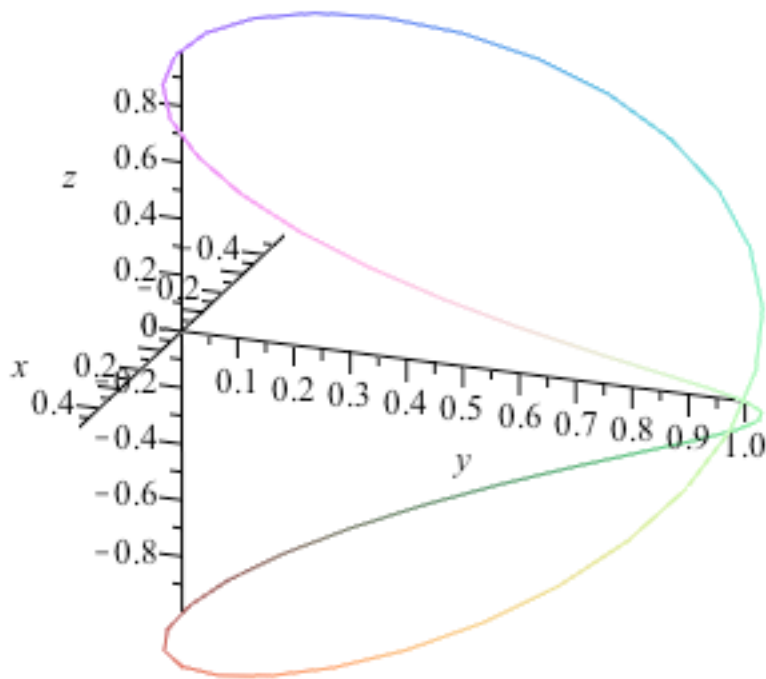
$$r := \begin{bmatrix} \sin(t) \cos(t) \\ \cos(t)^2 \\ \sin(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

```
> rprime:=diff(r,t);
```

$$rprime := \begin{bmatrix} \cos(t)^2 - \sin(t)^2 \\ -2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \\ \cos(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

We see that this derivative is never $\langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$, since if the third component is 0, the first component is -1, so \mathbf{r} is a smooth curve. We plot \mathbf{r} .

```
> spacecurve(r,t=0..2*Pi);
```



On the other hand, the curve $\mathbf{s}(t) = \left\langle t^3 - t^2, \frac{t^2}{2} - \frac{2t}{3}, \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) \right\rangle$ is not smooth at $t = \frac{2}{3}$ since $\mathbf{s}'\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$.

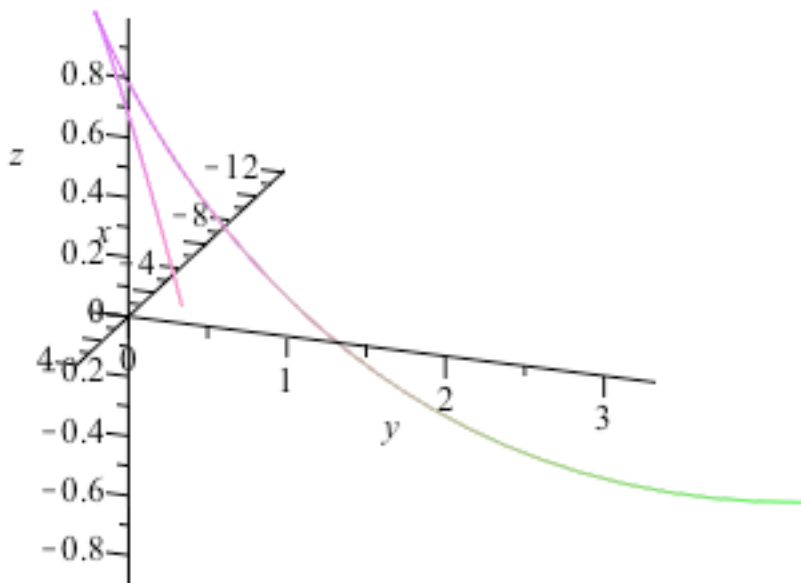
```
> s := <t^3 - t^2, t^2/2 - 2/3*t, cos(t - 2/3)>;
```

$$\mathbf{s} := \begin{bmatrix} t^3 - t^2 \\ \frac{1}{2}t^2 - \frac{2}{3}t \\ \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

```
> sprime := diff(s, t);
```

$$sprime := \begin{bmatrix} 3t^2 - 2t \\ t - \frac{2}{3} \\ -\sin\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

> spacecurve(s, t=-2..2);



Using the above vector functions $\mathbf{r}(t)$ and $\mathbf{s}(t)$, we illustrate that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\mathbf{r}(t) \times \mathbf{s}(t)) = \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r}(t) \times \mathbf{s}(t) + \mathbf{r}(t) \times \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{s}(t).$$

> diff(CrossProduct(r,s),t);

$$\left[\left[-2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) - \cos(t)^2 \sin\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) - \cos(t) \left(\frac{1}{2} t^2 - \frac{2}{3} t\right) - \sin(t) \left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) \right], \right.$$

$$\left. \left[\cos(t) (t^3 - t^2) + \sin(t) (3t^2 - 2t) - \cos(t)^2 \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) + \sin(t)^2 \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) \right] \right]$$

$$+ \sin(t) \cos(t) \sin\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right)],$$

$$\left[\cos(t)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} t^2 - \frac{2}{3} t \right) - \sin(t)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} t^2 - \frac{2}{3} t \right) + \sin(t) \cos(t) \left(t - \frac{2}{3} \right) + 2 \cos(t) (t^3 - t^2) \sin(t) - \cos(t)^2 (3 t^2 - 2 t) \right]$$

> CrossProduct(diff(r,t),s)+CrossProduct(r,diff(s,t));

$$\left[\left[-2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) - \cos(t)^2 \sin\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) - \cos(t) \left(\frac{1}{2} t^2 - \frac{2}{3} t \right) - \sin(t) \left(t - \frac{2}{3} \right) \right], \right]$$

$$\left[\cos(t) (t^3 - t^2) - (\cos(t)^2 - \sin(t)^2) \cos\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right) + \sin(t) (3 t^2 - 2 t) \right]$$

$$+ \sin(t) \cos(t) \sin\left(t - \frac{2}{3}\right)],$$

$$\left[(\cos(t)^2 - \sin(t)^2) \left(\frac{1}{2} t^2 - \frac{2}{3} t \right) + 2 \cos(t) (t^3 - t^2) \sin(t) + \sin(t) \cos(t) \left(t - \frac{2}{3} \right) - \cos(t)^2 (3 t^2 - 2 t) \right]$$

We now look at an example of uniform circular motion with $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 2 \cos(3t), 2 \sin(3t) \rangle$.

> r:=<2*cos(3*t),2*sin(3*t)>;

$$r := \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cos(3 t) \\ 2 \sin(3 t) \end{bmatrix}$$

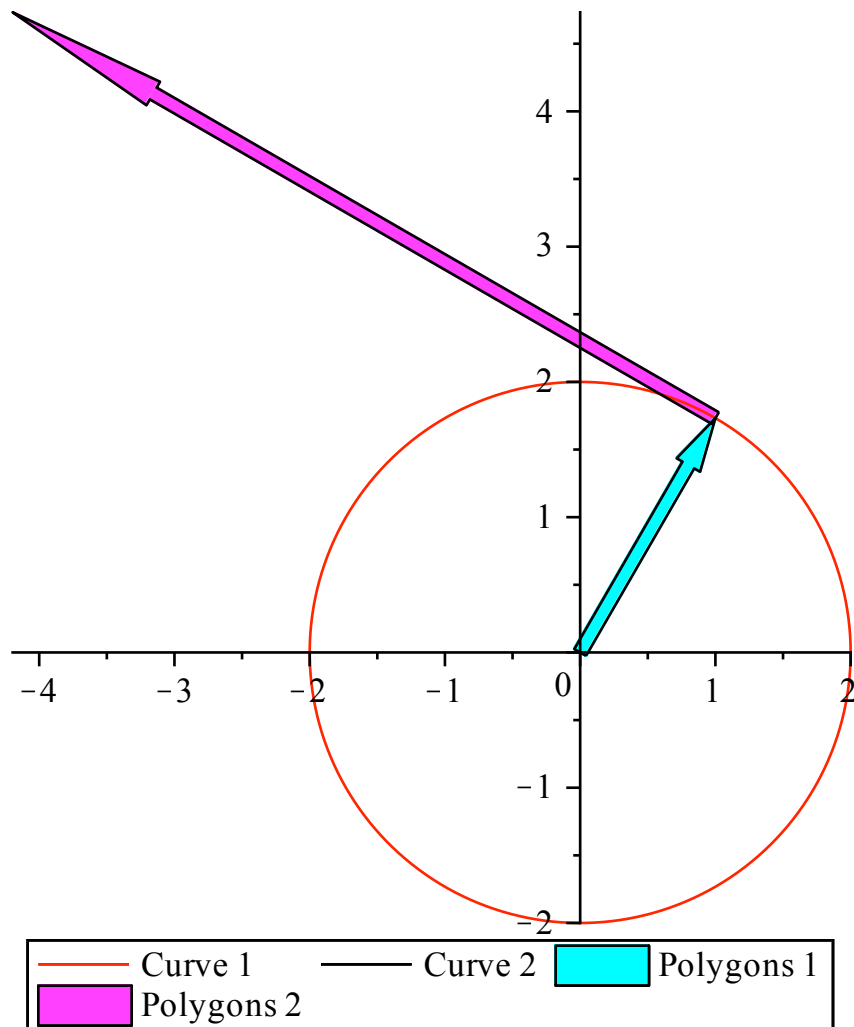
We find the derivative.

> rprime:=diff(r,t);

$$rprime := \begin{bmatrix} -6 \sin(3 t) \\ 6 \cos(3 t) \end{bmatrix}$$

We plot the curve along with the position and tangent vectors for $t = \frac{\pi}{9}$.

> p1:=plot([r[1],r[2],t=0..2/3*Pi]):
p2:=PlotVector(eval(r,t=Pi/9),width=.1,head_width=.2,color=cyan):
v:=RootedVector(root=[eval(r[1],t=Pi/9),eval(r[2],t=Pi/9)],
[eval(rprime[1],t=Pi/9),eval(rprime[2],t=Pi/9)]):
p3:=PlotVector(eval(v,t=Pi/9),width=.1,head_width=.2,color=magenta)
:
display(p1,p2,p3,scaling=constrained);



The position and tangent vectors appear to be **orthogonal** for $t = \frac{\pi}{9}$.

```
> DotProduct(eval(r,t=Pi/9),eval(rprime,t=Pi/9));
0
```

The dot product verifies the orthogonality. Next, we find $\int \langle e^{-3t}, t^2 \cos(t^3), t \cos(t) \rangle dt$.

```
> Int(<exp(-3*t),t^2*cos(t^3),t*cos(t)>,t)=int(<exp(-3*t),t^2*cos
(t^3),t*cos(t)>,t);
```

$$\int \begin{bmatrix} e^{-3t} \\ t^2 \cos(t^3) \\ t \cos(t) \end{bmatrix} dt = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} e^{-3t} \\ \frac{1}{3} \sin(t^3) \\ \cos(t) + t \sin(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally, we find $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \langle \sec(t) \tan(t), \tan(t), 2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \rangle dt$.

```
> Int(<sec(t)*tan(t),tan(t),2*sin(t)*cos(t)>,t=0..Pi/3)=int(<sec(t)*
```

`tan(t),tan(t),2*sin(t)*cos(t)>,t=0..Pi/3);`

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{3}\pi} \begin{bmatrix} \sec(t) \tan(t) \\ \tan(t) \\ 2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \end{bmatrix} dt = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \ln(2) \\ \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$