

# 10.1 Parametric Equations

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equations that describe motion in terms of time because they have an additional variable (the parameter) where an item is at a particular moment in time

there are 2 parts to a parametric equation - in terms of time

$x = f(t)$  **this is one set of equations**

$y = g(t)$

t is the parameter

plot points as (x, y)

Make a table of values, sketch the curve, indicate direction. Then eliminate the parameter.

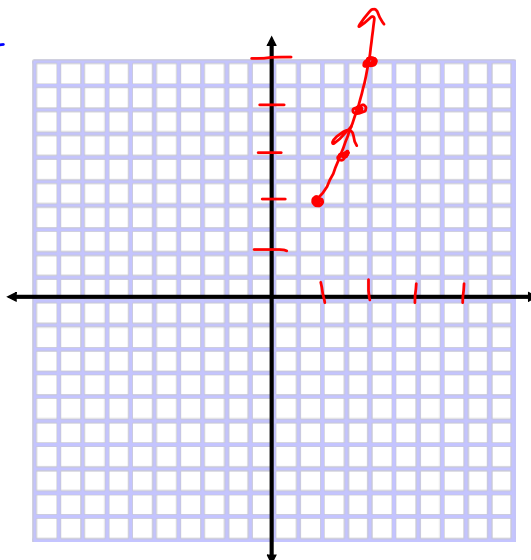
$x = \sqrt{t+1}$

$y = t + 2$   
 (-2)

t	0	1	2	3
x	1	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{3}$	2
y	2	3	4	5

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

$x = \sqrt{y-1}$



Make a table of values, sketch the curve, indicate direction. Then eliminate the parameter.

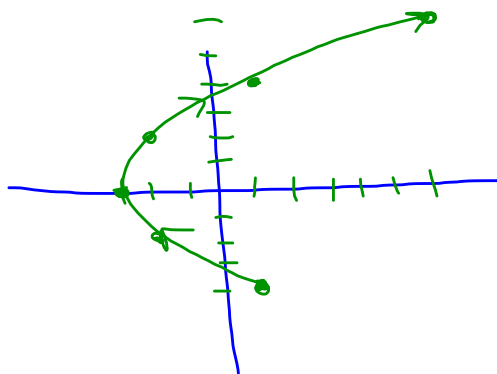
$$x = t^2 - 3$$

$$y = 2t$$

$$-2 \leq t \leq 3$$

$$x = \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 - 3$$

t	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
x	1	-2	-3	-2	1	6
y	-4	-2	0	2	4	6



Eliminate the parameter in the following equation:

$$x = 3 \cos t$$

$$\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t = 1$$

$$\left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2 = 4(\sin t)^2$$

$$\left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2 = 1$$

$$\frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{x^2}{9} = 1$$

$$y = 2 \sec t$$

$$\tan^2 t + 1 = \sec^2 t$$

$$x = 5 \tan t$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^2 + 1 = \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{x^2}{25} = 1$$

### Parametric Equations and Calculus

If a smooth curve is represented by parametric equations, then the slope of the curve at a point  $(x, y)$  is given by:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} \quad \text{where } \frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$$

Ex. 1 (Noncalculator)

Given the parametric equations  $x = 2\sqrt{t}$  and  $y = 3t^2 - 2t$ , find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{6t - 2}{t^{-\frac{1}{2}}} = t^{\frac{1}{2}}(6t - 2) = 6t^{\frac{3}{2}} - 2t^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{9t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{t^{-\frac{1}{2}}} = t^{\frac{1}{2}}(9t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = 9t - 1$$

$$\frac{\frac{d^3y}{dx^3}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{9}{t^{-\frac{1}{2}}} = 9t^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Ex. 2 (Noncalculator)

Given the parametric equations  $x = 4 \cos t$  and  $y = 3 \sin t$  write an equation of the tangent line to the curve at the point where  $t = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ .

pt.  $\left( 4\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right), 3\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)$   
 $\left( -2\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3 \cos t}{-4 \sin t} \Bigg|_{t = \frac{3\pi}{4}}$$

slope:

$$\frac{3\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)}{-4\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$y = \frac{3}{4}(x + 2\sqrt{2}) + \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

**Ex 3 (Noncalculator)**

Find all points of horizontal and vertical tangency given the parametric equations  $x = t^2 + t$ ,  $y = t^2 - 3t + 5$ .

Slope:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = 0$  horizontal  
 Vertical tnd. =  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$   $\frac{dy}{dt} \neq 0$

$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$

$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2t - 3 = 0$

$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2t + 1 = 0$

$t = \frac{3}{2}$

$t = -\frac{1}{2}$

$\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}$   $\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 - 3\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + 5$   
 $\left(\frac{15}{4}, \frac{11}{4}\right)$

$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - 3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) + 5$

$\left(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{27}{4}\right)$

**Ex 4**

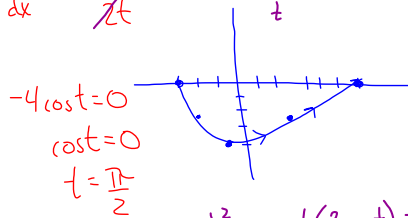
Sketch the graph, indicate the direction, find the lowest point, and find any points of inflection.

$x = t^2 - 3$   
 $y = -4\sin t$

$0 \leq t \leq \pi$

t	0	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	$\pi$
x	-3	$\frac{\pi^2}{16} - 3$	$\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 3$	$\frac{9\pi^2}{16} - 3$	$\pi^2 - 3$
y	0	$-2\sqrt{2}$	-4	$-2\sqrt{2}$	0

$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-4\cos t}{2t} = 0 = -\frac{2\cos t}{t}$  min.  
 Points:  $(-3, 0)$ ,  $(-2.583, -2.828)$ ,  $(-5.33, -4)$ ,  $(2.551, -2.88)$



$-4\cos t = 0$   
 $\cos t = 0$   
 $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{t(2\sin t) - (-2\cos t)}{t^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2t}$

$\frac{2t\sin t + 2\cos t}{2t^3} = 0$

$2t\sin t + 2\cos t = 0$   
 $t\sin t + \cos t = 0$

Finish w/ calc.

## Arc Length

from  $t = a$  to  $t = b$ , or distance traveled  
by the particle from  $a$  to  $b$

$$\int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

**Ex. 5** (Noncalculator)

Set up an integral expression for the arc length of the curve given by the parametric equations  $x = t^2 + 1$ ,  $y = 4t^3 - 1$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .

Do not evaluate.

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{(2t)^2 + (12t^2)^2} dt$$

Ex 6: Find the arc length:

$$x = 2 \cos^3 t \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$$

$$y = 2 \sin^3 t$$

$$\int_0^{\pi} \sqrt{(6 \cos^2 t \cdot -\sin t)^2 + (6 \sin^2 t \cdot \cos t)^2} dt$$

$$\int_0^{\pi} \sqrt{36 \cos^4 t \cdot \sin^2 t + 36 \sin^4 t \cdot \cos^2 t} dt$$

$$\int_0^{\pi} \sqrt{36 \cos^2 t \sin^2 t (\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)} dt$$

$$\int_0^{\pi} 6 \cos t \sin t dt \quad \begin{array}{l} u = \sin t \\ du = \cos t dt \end{array}$$

$$6 \int u du$$

$$6 \left( \frac{u^2}{2} \right)$$

$$6 \frac{\sin^2 t}{2} \Big|_0^{\pi}$$

$$0 - 0 = 0$$