

## Chapter 2: Calculus of Parametrized curves.

### GENERALITIES:

DEFINITION: (Parametrization of a curve)

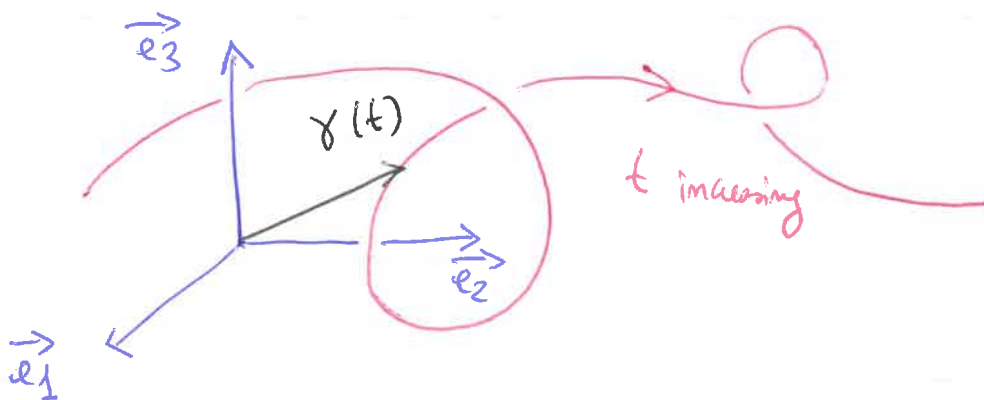
A locally one-to-one map

$$\vec{\gamma}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: t \mapsto \vec{\gamma}(t) =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

is called a parametrization of the curve

$$\mathcal{C} := \{ \vec{\gamma}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ s.t. } t \in \mathbb{R} \}$$



REMARKS:

- $\vec{\gamma}$  is a mapping while  $\mathcal{C}$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- The variable "t" is called the parameter which we usually think of as "time". Thus we think of  $\mathcal{C}$  as a curve in space along

which a FLY is flying so that

$\vec{\gamma}(t)$  = the position of this fly at time  $t$ .

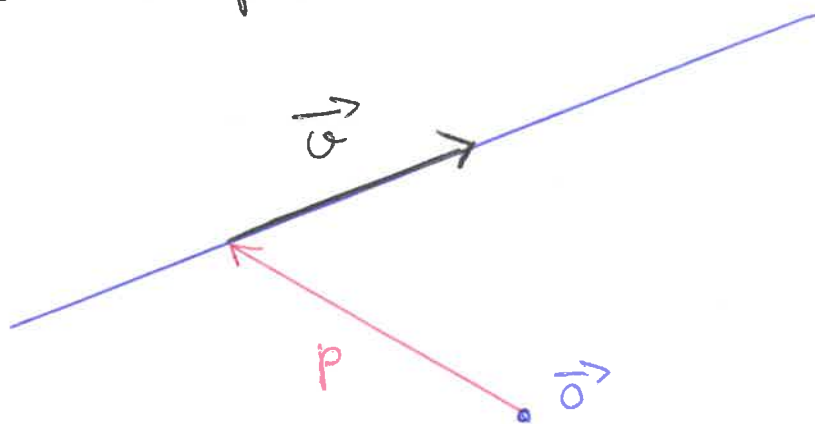
- Of course there is very little unique about such a parametrization, it all depends on the "choice of fly".

- We will allow ourselves to consider

$\vec{\gamma}: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  where  $I$  is an interval  $\subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  
when useful.

EXAMPLE: We've already seen parametrizations of lines,

$$\vec{\gamma}(t) = p + t\vec{v}$$



# LIMITS:

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## DEFINITIONS:

Let us consider  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $t \mapsto f(t)$ .

We want to formalize the following definition:

" We say that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} f(t) = l \quad (\text{def}) \iff$$

$t$  close enough to  $t_0$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $f(t)$  close to  $l$  )

The above qualitative statement is made quantitative as follows:

" For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$|t - t_0| < \delta \implies |f(t) - l| < \varepsilon \quad "$$

We extend the definition to  $\vec{\gamma}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$   
 $t \mapsto \vec{\gamma}(t)$

as follows:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{\gamma}(t) = \vec{p} \quad (\text{def}) \iff$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  
 $|t - t_0| < \delta \implies \|\vec{\gamma}(t) - \vec{p}\| < \varepsilon.$

REMARKS:

- $\varepsilon$  is to be seen as "as little as wanted" and is some kind of exigency.

$\delta$  is a threshold: if  $|t - t_0| < \delta$ , then our exigency is satisfied.

- notice that  $|t - t_0| = d(t, t_0)$ ,  
 $|f(t) - l| = d(f(t), l)$ ,  
 $\|\vec{f}(t) - \vec{f}\| = d(\vec{f}(t), \vec{f})$

are distances

- This definition takes different shapes in other contexts, such as:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \vec{f}(t) = \vec{f} \iff \text{For every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } \eta > 0 \text{ such that } t \geq \eta \implies \|\vec{f}(t) - \vec{f}\| < \varepsilon.$$

(This definition is like this because  $d(t, +\infty) = +\infty$  is difficult to use.)

- We have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{f}(t) = \vec{f} \iff$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x(t) = x_f \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} y(t) = y_f \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} z(t) = z_f \end{array} \right]$$

## EXAMPLE:

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$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -2} \begin{bmatrix} t+4 \\ t^2-1 \\ t^3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

## CONTINUITY =

We say that  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $t \mapsto f(t)$

is CONTINUOUS AT  $t_0$

(def)  
 $\iff$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} f(t) = f(t_0).$$

- That is to say  $f$  is "where we expect" when  $t = t_0$ .
- The definition generalizes to  $\vec{f}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Another interpretation of continuity is: the graph of  $f$  (the curve associated to  $\vec{f}$ ) can be drawn without "lifting the pen from the paper".

## DIFFERENTIATION:

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DEFINITION: For  $\vec{\gamma}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , we define  
 $t \mapsto \vec{\gamma}(t)$

the derivative of  $\vec{\gamma}$  at  $t = t_0$  as follows:

$$\left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{\gamma}(t_0 + \Delta t) - \vec{\gamma}(t_0)}{\Delta t}$$

INTERPRETATION: •  $\frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt}$  is the speed vector  
at  $\vec{\gamma}(t_0)$ : notice that

$\vec{\gamma}(t_0 + \Delta t) - \vec{\gamma}(t_0)$  is the variation  
of position  
between the times  
 $t$  and  $t + \Delta t$ .

$\Delta t$  is the time elapsed between  
 $t_0$  and  $t_0 + \Delta t$ .

•  $\frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt}$  is tangent to the curve  $\mathcal{C}$  (associated to  $\vec{\gamma}$ )  
at  $\vec{\gamma}(t_0)$ .

## ACCELERATION VECTOR:

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Notice that

$$\frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad \text{is a parametrized curve.}$$
$$t_0 \mapsto \left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{t_0}$$

We can now consider

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right) \right|_{t_0}, \text{ which we denote by}$$
$$\left. \frac{d^2\vec{\gamma}}{dt^2} \right|_{t_0}.$$

It is the second derivative of  $\vec{\gamma}$ , and is to be interpreted as the acceleration vector of a particle following  $\vec{\gamma}(t)$ .

REMARKS: • The quantity  $\frac{\vec{\gamma}(t_0 + \Delta t) - \vec{\gamma}(t_0)}{\Delta t}$  may not have a limit when  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .

If it does, we say that  $\vec{\gamma}$  is differentiable at  $t = t_0$ .

In this class, we will consider curves, functions, ---

, objects such as the derivatives we consider  $\boxed{\mathcal{P}}$  exist. **HOWEVER**, in the mathematical world, and even in the physical world, it may happen that derivatives exist or not.

• These definitions are valid for  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

• Notations:

→ We may write  $\frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \Big|_{t_0}$  (when  $t$  is time, specifically).  $\vec{\gamma}(t_0)$

LEIBNIZ  
↑  
NEWTON

You will find  $\frac{d^2\vec{\gamma}}{dt^2} = \ddot{\vec{\gamma}}(t_0)$  in this context.

→ For functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  we often write

$$\frac{df}{dt} \Big|_{t_0} = f'(t), \quad \frac{d^2f}{dt^2} = f''(t) \dots$$

LAGRANGE



## COMPUTING DERIVATIVES

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Exactly like for limits we have

$$\text{for } \vec{\gamma}: t \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\ t \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \begin{bmatrix} \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t_0} \\ \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t_0} \\ \left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t_0} \end{bmatrix},$$

so that we only need to understand how  
to differentiate functions.

In practice:

→ We know the derivatives of usual functions.

→ There are rules to "cook" with these usual functions.

# DERIVATIVES OF USUAL FUNCTIONS:

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$f(x)$	$\frac{df}{dx} \Big _x$
$x^n$	$nx^{n-1}$
$e^x$	$e^x$
$\ln(x)$	$\frac{1}{x}$
$\sin(x)$	$\cos(x)$
$\cos(x)$	$-\sin(x)$
$\tan(x)$	$\frac{1}{\cos^2(x)} = 1 + \tan^2(x)$

REMARK: This is a "first version", we will see later that we can enhance it.

# FIRST "COOKING RULES"

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## DERIVATIVE OF A SUM

$$\frac{d}{dx} (f+g) = \frac{df}{dx} + \frac{dg}{dx}$$

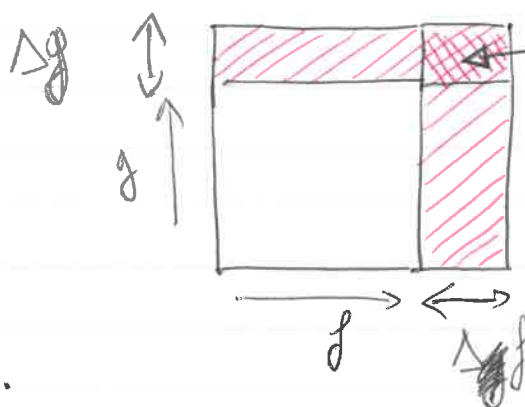
- Also true for vector-valued functions:

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2) = \frac{d\vec{r}_1}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{r}_2}{dt}$$


## DERIVATIVE OF A PRODUCT

$$\frac{d}{dx} (f \cdot g) = \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right) \cdot g + f \cdot \left( \frac{dg}{dx} \right)$$

Intuition:  $\Delta(f \cdot g) \approx (\Delta f) \cdot g + f \cdot (\Delta g)$



When we take the limit  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  this part will be negligible.

 :  $\Delta(f \cdot g)$ .

This formula stays true for

the **inner** and the **outer products**:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \langle \vec{r}_1(t), \vec{r}_2(t) \rangle \right)$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r}_1(t), \vec{r}_2(t) \right\rangle + \left\langle \vec{r}_1(t), \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r}_2(t) \right\rangle$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \vec{r}_1(t) \times \vec{r}_2(t) \right)$$

$$= \left( \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r}_1(t) \right) \times \vec{r}_2(t) + \vec{r}_1(t) \times \left( \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r}_2(t) \right).$$

IDEA OF PROOF:

• Notice that  $\langle \vec{r}_1(t), \vec{r}_2(t) \rangle$

$$= x_1(t)x_2(t) + y_1(t)y_2(t) + z_1(t)z_2(t)$$

is a **sum of product**.

• In a similar way

$$\vec{\gamma}_1 \times \vec{\gamma}_2 = \det \begin{bmatrix} \vec{e}_1 & \vec{e}_2 & \vec{e}_3 \\ x_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & z_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} \vec{e}_1 - \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & z_2 \end{vmatrix} \vec{e}_2 + \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & z_1 \\ y_2 & z_2 \end{vmatrix} \vec{e}_3$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 y_2 - y_1 x_2 \\ z_1 x_2 - x_1 z_2 \\ y_1 z_2 - z_1 y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

has also every coordinate as a sum of products.

→ A last product: the scalar multiplication.

Then again we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dx} (f(x) \cdot \vec{\gamma}(x)) \\ &= \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right) \cdot \vec{\gamma}(x) + f(x) \cdot \left( \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dx} \right). \end{aligned}$$

DERIVATION OF A QUOTIENT:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{f}{g} \right) = \frac{\left( \frac{df}{dx} \right) \cdot g - f \cdot \left( \frac{dg}{dx} \right)}{g^2}$$

→ we do not know how to divide by a vector  
but

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\vec{\gamma}(x)}{g(x)} \right) = \text{the same expression.}$$

# THE CHAIN RULE (VERSION 1)

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Consider  $\vec{\gamma} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$   
 $x \mapsto \vec{\gamma}(x)$

and  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $t \mapsto f(t)$

We want to compute the derivative of

$\vec{\gamma} \circ f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$   
 $t \mapsto \vec{\gamma}(f(t))$

Interpretation:  $f$  could be a "change of parametrization",

for example  $f : t \mapsto 2t$  for a fly that goes  
twice as fast.

→ A naive idea would be to write:

$$\left. \frac{d(\vec{\gamma}(2t))}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{2t_0} \quad \text{but it is wrong!}$$

"When the fly goes twice as fast, the speed vector must be multiplied by 2".

$$\left. \frac{d(\vec{\gamma}(2t))}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{2t_0} \times 2.$$

In general we have:

CHAIN RULE (VERSION 1):

$$\left| \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{\gamma}(f(t))) \right|_{t_0} = \left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dx} \right|_{f(t_0)} \cdot \left. \frac{df}{dt} \right|_{t_0}$$


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Idea of the proof:

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{\gamma}(f(t))) \right|_{t_0} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{\gamma}(f(t_0 + \Delta t)) - \vec{\gamma}(f(t_0))}{\Delta t}$$

and 
$$\frac{\vec{\gamma}(f(t_0 + \Delta t)) - \vec{\gamma}(f(t_0))}{\Delta t}$$

$$= \frac{\vec{\gamma}(f(t_0 + \Delta t)) - \vec{\gamma}(f(t_0))}{f(t_0 + \Delta t) - f(t_0)} \cdot \frac{f(t_0 + \Delta t) - f(t_0)}{\Delta t}$$

↓

$$\left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dx} \right|_{f(t_0)}$$

↓

$$\left. \frac{df}{dt} \right|_{t_0}$$



• An abbreviated notation:

$$\frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

(with  $x = f(t)$ ,  
and with the risk  
of forgetting at  
which points are  
taken the  
derivatives!)

$$\left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \left. \frac{d\vec{\gamma}}{dx} \right|_{f(t_0)} \cdot \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t_0}$$

• In Lagrange notation:

$$(\vec{\gamma} \circ f)' = (\vec{\gamma}' \circ f) \cdot f' \quad \downarrow \text{ WITH VARIABLES.}$$

$$(\vec{\gamma}(f(t)))' = \vec{\gamma}'(f(t)) \cdot f'(t).$$

Examples:

① compute  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( e^{(\cos(x))^2} \right)$ .

$$\left. \frac{d}{dx} \left( e^{(\cos(x))^2} \right) \right|_x = \left. \frac{d \exp}{dx} \right|_{(\cos(x))^2} \cdot \left. \frac{d}{dx} \left( \cos(x)^2 \right) \right|_x$$

$$= \exp\left((\cos(x))^2\right) \cdot \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{\cos(x)} \cdot \left. \frac{d \cos(x)}{dx} \right|_x,$$

with  $f: x \mapsto x^2$

$$= \exp\left((\cos(x))^2\right) \cdot 2\cos(x) \cdot (-\sin(x))$$

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use  $f'(x) = 2x$

$$= -2 e^{(\cos(x))^2} \cdot \cos(x) \sin(x)$$

② derivative of something like  $f(x)^{g(x)}$ .

→ we use  $x^y = e^{y \ln(x)}$   
(definition of  $x^y$ ).

→ example:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \cos(x)^{\sin(x)} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( e^{\sin(x) \ln(\cos(x))} \right)$$
$$= e^{\sin(x) \ln(\cos(x))} \cdot \left[ \cos(x) \ln(\cos(x)) + \sin(x) \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \cdot (-\sin(x)) \right]$$

derivative of a  
product  $\sin(x) \ln(\cos(x))$

$$= \cos(x)^{\sin(x)} \cdot \left[ \cos(x) \ln(\cos(x)) - \frac{\sin^2(x)}{\cos(x)} \right]$$