

Vector Calculus

Poll Question

The position vector of a particle at time t seconds, $t \geq 0$, is given by $\underline{r}(t) = (3-t)\underline{i} - 6\sqrt{t}\underline{j} + 5\underline{k}$.
The direction of motion of the particle when $t = 9$ is:

- A. $-6\underline{i} - 18\underline{j} + 5\underline{k}$
- B. $-\underline{i} - \underline{j}$
- C. $-\underline{i} - 6\underline{j}$
- D. $-\underline{i} - \underline{j} + 5\underline{k}$
- E. $-13.5\underline{i} - 108\underline{j} + 45\underline{k}$

Question: 1.

The position vector of an object moving in a plane is given by:

$$\underline{r}(t) = t^3\underline{i} + t^2\underline{j}$$

Find its velocity, speed, and acceleration when $t = 1$ and illustrate geometrically.

Question: 2.

The position of an object, r metres, is given by $\underline{r}(t) = 3 \sin 2t \underline{i} + 3 \cos 2t \underline{j}$.

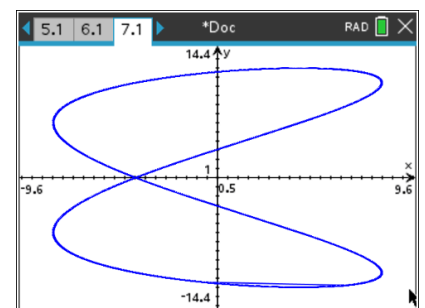
- (a) Find the speed at any time, t seconds.
- (b) Show that the velocity vector is always perpendicular to the acceleration vector.

Question: 3.

The motion of a figure skater relative to a fixed origin O , at time t minutes is modelled using the vector equation:

$$\underline{r}(t) = 8 \cos(20t)\underline{i} + 12 \sin\left(10t - \frac{\pi}{3}\right)\underline{j}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

- a) Find the velocity vector and the acceleration vector of the figure skater.
- b) Find the speed of the figure skater after $\frac{\pi}{10}$ minutes.
- c) Find the times in one full cycle (when she completes 'an eight') at which velocity is perpendicular to acceleration.



Question: 4.

The position vector of a projectile is:

$\underline{r}(t) = 15t \underline{i} + (29.4t - 4.9t^2) \underline{j}$ metres. The maximum height of the projectile is equal to:

- A 45 m
- B 29.4 m
- C 36.2 m
- D 40 m
- E 44.1 m

Question: 5.

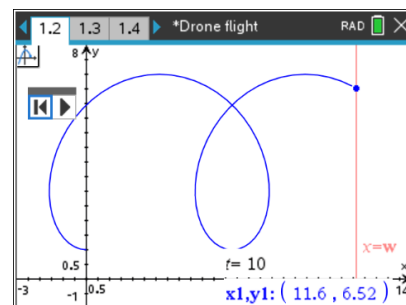
In a trial first flight, an experimental drone follows the trajectory

$$\underline{r}(t) = (t - 3 \sin t) \underline{i} + (4 - 3 \cos t) \underline{j}, \quad t \geq 0$$

but crashes into a wall at time $t = 10$.

Assume all distances are in metres and time is in seconds. Give all answers to two decimal places.

- a) At what times was the drone flying vertically?
- b) At what times was the drone flying horizontally?
- c) Calculate the total distance travelled by the drone until it crashes into the wall.
- d) Find the speed of the drone at $t = 10$.
- e) Find the angle at which the drone hit the wall.
- f) Find the maximum and minimum speeds of the drone during its flight.
- g) At what times the velocity was perpendicular to acceleration?
- h) Find the magnitude of the acceleration.

**Question: 6.**

The angle between the direction of two objects with respective position vectors

$$\underline{r}_1 = \sin \pi t \underline{i} + 4t \underline{j} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{r}_2 = t^2 \underline{i} - 3 \underline{j}, \quad \text{when } t = 1, \text{ is nearest to:}$$

- A 180°
- B 0°
- C 162°
- D 60°
- E 128°

Question: 7.

At time t a particle has position vector $\underline{r} = (3 \sin t + \sin 2t) \underline{i} + (3 \cos t - \cos 2t) \underline{j} + t \underline{k}, \quad t \geq 0$.

Find the maximum and minimum speeds of the particle.

Question: 8.

The displacement of a particle from the origin at time t , $t \geq 0$, is given by $\underline{r}(t) = e^{-2t}\underline{i} + \sin(\pi t)\underline{j} + 2\underline{k}$.

The initial direction of motion of the particle is:

- A. $4\underline{i}$ B. $\underline{i} + 2\underline{k}$ C. $-2\underline{i} + \underline{j}$ D. $-2\underline{i} + \pi\underline{j}$ E. $-2\underline{i} + \pi\underline{j} + 2\underline{k}$

Question: 9.

An object is thrown in the air and its position is described by the following:

$$\underline{r}(t) = 10.5t\underline{i} + \left(\frac{\pi}{2}t - 4 \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{8}\right) \right)\underline{j} + (2 + 19.5t - 5t^2)\underline{k}$$

where \underline{i} is a unit vector in the east direction, \underline{j} is a unit vector in the north direction and \underline{k} is a unit vector vertically up. The origin O of the coordinate system is at ground level and displacement are measured in metres.

- Find the velocity of the object at time $t = 4$.
- Find the angle between the path of the object and the ground after 4 seconds. Give your answer to the nearest degree.

Answers**Question 4 Option E**

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3.1 4.1 5.1 *Doc DEG
[15·t 29.4·t-4.9·t²]→r(t) Done
d/dt(r(t)) [15. 29.4-9.8·t]
solve(29.4-9.8·t=0,t)|t>0 t=3.
r(3) [45 44.1]
|

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Question 6 Option E

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2.1 3.1 4.1 *Doc RAD
[sin(pi·t) 4·t]→r1(t) Done
d/dt(r1(t))|t=1 [-pi 4]
[t² -3]→r2(t) Done
d/dt(r2(t))|t=1 [2 0]
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2.1 3.1 4.1 *Doc DEG
d/dt(r1(t))|t=1 [-pi 4]
d/dt(r2(t))|t=1 [2 0]
cos⁻¹(dotP([-pi 4],[2 0]) / (norm([-pi 4])·norm([2 0]))) 128.
|

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Question 7

Enter the position vector on your CAS calculator and find the velocity vector.

$$\begin{aligned} & [3 \cdot \sin(t) + \sin(2 \cdot t) \quad 3 \cdot \cos(t) - \cos(2 \cdot t) \quad t] \rightarrow r(t) \\ & \text{Done} \\ & \frac{d}{dt}(r(t)) \\ & [2 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot t) + 3 \cdot \cos(t) \quad 2 \cdot \sin(2 \cdot t) - 3 \cdot \sin(t) \quad 1] \\ & [2 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot t) + 3 \cdot \cos(t) \quad 2 \cdot \sin(2 \cdot t) - 3 \cdot \sin(t) \quad 1] \rightarrow v(t) \\ & \text{Done} \end{aligned}$$

Find the speed of the particle. Use tCollect to simplify the trigonometric expression inside the square root.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{norm}(v(t)) \\ & \sqrt{2 \cdot (6 \cdot \cos(t) \cdot \cos(2 \cdot t) - 6 \cdot \sin(t) \cdot \sin(2 \cdot t) + 7)} \\ & \text{tCollect}(\sqrt{2 \cdot (6 \cdot \cos(t) \cdot \cos(2 \cdot t) - 6 \cdot \sin(t) \cdot \sin(2 \cdot t) + 7)}) \\ & \sqrt{2 \cdot (6 \cdot \cos(3 \cdot t) + 7)} \\ & \text{expand}(2 \cdot (6 \cdot \cos(3 \cdot t) + 7)) \quad 12 \cdot \cos(3 \cdot t) + 14 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: maximum speed = $\sqrt{26}$ and minimum speed = $\sqrt{2}$.

Question 8 Option D

The screenshot shows a CAS calculator window with the following steps:

$$\begin{aligned} & [e^{-2 \cdot t} \quad \sin(\pi \cdot t) \quad 2] \quad [e^{-2 \cdot t} \quad \sin(\pi \cdot t) \quad 2] \\ & \frac{d}{dt}([e^{-2 \cdot t} \quad \sin(\pi \cdot t) \quad 2]) \\ & [-2 \cdot e^{-2 \cdot t} \quad \pi \cdot \cos(\pi \cdot t) \quad 0] \\ & [-2 \cdot e^{-2 \cdot t} \quad \pi \cdot \cos(\pi \cdot t) \quad 0] \rightarrow v(t) \quad \text{Done} \\ & v(0) \quad [-2 \quad \pi \quad 0] \end{aligned}$$

Question 9

a) Enter the position vector on you calculator and find the velocity vector.

Calculator screenshot showing the input of the position vector $r(t)$ and the resulting velocity vector $v(t)$ after differentiation.

$$\left[\frac{105}{10} \cdot t \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot t - 4 \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\pi \cdot t}{8}\right) \quad 2 + \frac{195 \cdot t}{10} - 5 \cdot t^2 \right] \rightarrow r(t)$$

Done

$$\frac{d}{dt}(r(t)) \quad \left[\frac{21}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot t}{8}\right)}{2} \quad \frac{39}{2} - 10 \cdot t \right]$$

Done

$$\left[\frac{21}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot t}{8}\right)}{2} \quad \frac{39}{2} - 10 \cdot t \right] \rightarrow v(t)$$

Note that entering fractions instead of decimals will give you exact values for the velocity vector.

Now, find velocity at time $t = 4$.

Calculator screenshot showing the evaluation of the velocity vector at $t = 4$.

$$\left[\frac{21}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot t}{8}\right)}{2} \quad \frac{39}{2} - 10 \cdot t \right] \rightarrow v(t)$$

Done

$$v(4) \quad \left[\frac{21}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \frac{-41}{2} \right]$$

Answer: $v(4) = \frac{21}{2} \hat{i} + \frac{\pi}{2} \hat{j} - \frac{41}{2} \hat{k}$

b) We need to find the angle between velocity vector and the horizontal. One way of doing so is to find the angle between the \hat{k} component and horizontal speed.

Calculator screenshot showing the calculation of the angle between the velocity vector and the horizontal.

$$v(4) \quad \left[\frac{21}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \frac{-41}{2} \right]$$

$$\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\frac{-41}{2}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{21}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2}}\right) \quad -62.6$$

Answer: **63 degrees.**