

MATH 2110: Quiz #5 – SOLUTIONS

- /4 **Problem 1:** Find the unit tangent vector \mathbf{T} at the point where $t = 0$ on the curve described by the vector function

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (\cos t, 3t, 2 \sin 2t).$$

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = (-\sin t, 3, 4 \cos 2t) \implies \mathbf{r}'(0) = (0, 3, 4)$$

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\mathbf{r}'}{|\mathbf{r}'|} = \frac{(0, 3, 4)}{\sqrt{0^2 + 3^2 + 4^2}} = \boxed{\frac{1}{5}(0, 3, 4) = \left(0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5}\right)}$$

- /6 **Problem 2:** The cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ and the plane $x + y + z = 2$ intersect in a certain curve (actually an ellipse). Write (but do not evaluate) a definite integral whose value gives the length of this curve.

In the xy -plane the equation $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ describes a circle, which we can parametrize as

$$x = 2 \cos \theta, \quad y = 2 \sin \theta \quad (0 \leq \theta < 2\pi)$$

To obtain a vector function $\mathbf{r}(\theta)$ for points that also lie on the plane $x + y + z = 2$, we solve for z to obtain

$$z = 2 - x - y = 2 - 2 \cos \theta - 2 \sin \theta.$$

Thus the cylinder-plane intersection is parametrized as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}(\theta) &= (2 \cos \theta, 2 \sin \theta, 2 - 2 \cos \theta - 2 \sin \theta) \\ &= 2(\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 1 - \cos \theta - \sin \theta). \end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$\mathbf{r}'(\theta) = 2(-\sin \theta, \cos \theta, \sin \theta - \cos \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies |\mathbf{r}'(\theta)| &= 2\sqrt{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta + (\sin \theta - \cos \theta)^2} \\ &= 2\sqrt{1 + \sin^2 \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2 - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta} \\ &= \sqrt{8}\sqrt{1 - \sin \theta \cos \theta}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the length of the curve is

$$L = \int_0^{2\pi} |\mathbf{r}'(\theta)| d\theta = \boxed{\sqrt{8} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{1 - \sin \theta \cos \theta} d\theta}$$