

Homework 7 - Math 142, Frank Thorne (thornef@mailbox.sc.edu)

Due Friday, October 11

- (a) What is a parametric curve? Draw a picture and give an example.
- (b) Given a curve defined by parametric equations $x = f(t)$, $y = g(t)$, which variables are functions of the other variables?
- (c) Give (and draw) examples of parametric curves that illustrate the following possibilities. Explain thoroughly.
- y can be described as a function of x .
 - x can be described as a function of y .
 - Both of the above are true.
 - Neither of the above are true.
- (d) Suppose you have a function $y = f(x)$ that you want to define by parametric equations. How would you do it?
Could you do it a different way?
Is there any limit to the number of ways you could do it?
- (e) Give parametric equations for a line, a circle, an ellipse (other than a circle), and a parabola. Graph all of your curves.
- (f) A bug sits on the edge of a bicycle tire while you ride the bicycle, and does not move (relative to its position on the tire). Assume that the bicycle moves forward at a constant speed and that the bug starts at the bottom of the wheel.
Give parametric equations describing the bug's motion, and draw a graph which describes it.
- (g) Same as above, but now assume that the bug sits on a bicycle spoke, initially pointing downwards, halfway between the center and the edge of the wheel.
- (h) Same as above, but now assume that the bug sits at the center of the wheel.
- (i) If you are given a parametric curve $y = f(t)$, $x = g(t)$, how do you find $\frac{dy}{dx}$? Give the formula, explain why it is true, draw a picture, and give an example.
- (j) 10.1, 1-10, 24-28.
- (k) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ for each of the "bug" problems described above. Draw sample tangent lines on your graph, and explain how your answers differ from each other.
- (l) 10.2, 1-10.
- Additional problems:
- (a) 10.1, 11-14.
- (b) 10.2: Graph all of the curves sketched in 1-8 along with their tangent lines.
- Bonus (2 points): 10.2, 73.