- 1. Consider the parametric curve defined by  $\begin{cases} x(t) = \cos(t) \\ y(t) = \sin(2t) \end{cases} \text{ for } 0 \le t \le 2\pi.$ 
  - (a) Find x'(t) and y'(t).
  - (b) Find  $\frac{dy}{dr}$ .
  - (c) Find the tangent line to the curve at  $t = \frac{\pi}{3}$ .
  - (d) For what values of t is y'(t) = 0? For each of these values, find the point in x y coordinates.
  - (e) For what values of t is x'(t) = 0? For each of these values, find the point in x y coordinates.
  - (f) Use technology to graph the curve. For each of the points you found above, describe the tangent line.
  - (g) Find the speed of the point (x(t), y(t)) as it moves along the curve at t = 0.
- 2. Consider the parametric curve defined by  $\langle e^t t, t^2 t \rangle$  for  $-1 \le t \le 1$ .
  - (a) For what points on the curve is the tangent line horizontal?
  - (b) For what points on the curve is the tangent line vertical?
- 3. Consider the parametric curve defined by  $\begin{cases} x(t) = \sin(t) \\ y(t) = \left(\frac{t}{\pi}\right)^2 & \text{for } -\frac{3}{2}\pi \le t \le \frac{3}{2}\pi. \end{cases}$ 
  - (a) For what values of t does the curve intersect itself? (Hint: If (x(t), y(t)) = (x(s), y(s)), then x(t) = x(s) and y(t) = y(s). We know x(t) = x(s) if  $t = s + 2\pi$ , so try solving  $y(s + 2\pi) = y(s)$  for a value of s.)
  - (b) For one of the values of t above, find the tangent line to the curve. Then find the tangent line for the other value of t.
  - (c) Use technology to help you sketch the curve. Draw both tangent lines on the graph.
- 4. For each part, draw a curve that intersects itself in such a way that:
  - (a) the two tangent lines at the intersection are perpendicular.
  - (b) for both values of t at the intersection, the tangent line is the same.
  - (c) the two tangent lines at the intersection are neither the same, nor perpendicular.
- 5. Challenge: Integrating speed gives us arc length. For functions f(x), g(y)
  - (a) Write f(x) and g(y) as parametric equations.
  - (b) Use these parametric equations and the equation for speed to arrive at the formulas for (1) the arc length of f(x) from x = a to x = b, and (2) the arc length of g(y) from y = c to y = d.

## Lecture Notes:

- Given  $\begin{cases} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{cases}$ , we can find x'(t) and y'(t). The slope of the curve at t is given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}$ .
- We can also consider how quickly the coordinate (x(t), y(t)) is changing with respect to t. We call  $\sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2}$  the **speed** at t. This looks similar to the distance equation for good reason—we want to know what distance the point is moving as t changes. (Aside: Since speed tells us how quickly the distance is changing, integrating speed will give us the total distance—otherwise known as arclength.)
- To find the tangent line to a curve, we compute  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  as usual, but we have the additional step of moving back and forth between x y coordinates and our parameter t.
  - 1. Find the tangent line to  $\begin{cases} x(t) = \sin(2t) \\ y(t) = \sin(t) + 1 \end{cases}, -\frac{\pi}{2} \le t \le \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ at } (0, 1).$

To compute  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ , we need to know what value of t corresponds to (0, 1). Since  $\sin(2t) = 1$  for  $t = 0, \pi/2, -\pi/2$ , in this range of t and  $\sin(t) + 1 = 1$  only for t = 0, (1, 0) is on the curve and corresponds to t = 0. We have  $x'(t) = 2\cos(2t), y'(t) = \cos(t)$ . So,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\cos(t)}{2\cos(2t)}$ . So at (0, 1), the slope is  $\frac{\cos(0)}{2\cos(2(0))} = \frac{1}{2}$ . Then, we assemble the tangent line as usual:  $(y - 1) = \frac{1}{2}(x - 0)$ 

2. Find the tangent line to  $\begin{cases} x(t) = 4t^2 \\ y(t) = e^t \end{cases}, -2 \le t \le 2 \text{ at } t = 1.$ 

We have  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{e^t}{8t}$ . At t = 1, we have  $\frac{e}{8}$ . We want to assemble the tangent line, but need the x and y coordinates for that. x(1) = 4, y(1) = e. So our tangent line is: y - e = e(x - 4)

- Important Things to Look Out for:
  - If y'(t) = 0, the curve has a horizontal tangent line at t. If x'(t) = 0, the curve has a vertical tangent line at t.
  - If  $(x(t_0), y(t_0)) = (x(t_1), y(t_1))$  (i.e., the curve intersects itself), the curve doesn't necessarily have the same tangent line at  $t_0$  as at  $t_1$ . Example (draw 2 tangent lines at origin):

