

1. Show that if a curve has constant speed, then its acceleration is always perpendicular to its velocity. (Hint: Rewrite the condition “constant speed” in terms of the dot product, and differentiate.)
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2. Show that if a particle always moves along a circle, then its velocity vector is always tangent to the circle. (Hint: Rewrite the condition “moves along a circle” in terms of the dot product. What does it mean to be tangent to a circle?)
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3. Suppose

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} R \cos(\omega t) \\ R \sin(\omega t) \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $R$  and  $\omega$  are positive constants.

- (a) Find  $\|\mathbf{v}(t)\|$ .
  - (b) Write  $\mathbf{a}(t)$  in terms of  $\mathbf{x}(t)$ .
  - (c) Rewrite Newton’s formula ( $\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a}$ ) in terms of  $\mathbf{x}(t)$ , and find  $\|\mathbf{F}\|$  in terms of  $\|\mathbf{v}(t)\|$ . You should end up with the familiar formula for centrifugal force.
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4. Consider the curve  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t \cos t \\ e^t \sin t \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Check that the points  $(1, 0)$  and  $(-e^\pi, 0)$  are on this curve. (*What are the corresponding values of  $t$ ?*)
  - (b) Find the arc length between these two points.
  - (c) Find the point on the curve that is exactly midway **along the curve** between these two points.
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5. Consider the parametric curve given by:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t \cos t \\ e^t \sin t \\ e^t \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Find the arc length from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \pi$ .
- (b) Parametrize the line that is tangent to  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  at the point  $t_0$ .

- (c) Find the point where the above tangent line intersects the  $xy$ -plane. Let  $\mathbf{y}(t_0)$  be the position vector for this point. As  $t_0$  varies, sketch the curve that  $\mathbf{y}(t_0)$  traces.