

Question

Sketch each of the plane curves γ given by the following parametrizations:

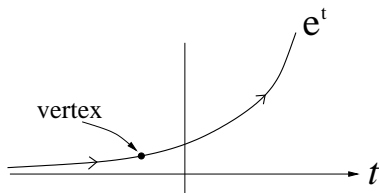
- (i) $\gamma(t) = (t, e^t)$
- (ii) $\gamma(t) = (t^3, t^4)$
- (iii) $\gamma(t) = (t - t^2, t + t^2)$
- (iv) $\gamma(t) = (t - \sin t, 1 + \cos t)$
- (v) $\gamma(t) = (e^{kt} \cos t, e^{kt} \sin t) \quad (k \neq 0)$
- (vi) $\gamma(t) = (t^2 - 1, t^3 - t)$

Answer

(i)

$$K(t) = e^t(1 + e^{2t})^{-\frac{3}{2}} > 0$$

$$K'(t) = e^t(1 + 2^t)^{-\frac{5}{2}} \cdot (1 - 2e^{2t})$$

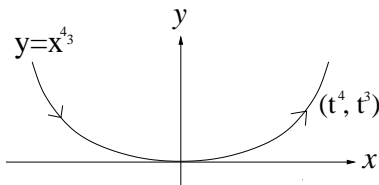


So $K' = 0$ where $e^{2t} = \frac{1}{2}$.

(ii) $K(t) = 12t^-(9 + 16t^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}}$, defined for all $t \neq 0$. (Note also $\gamma'(0) = 0$).

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |K| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0 \\ \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right\}$$

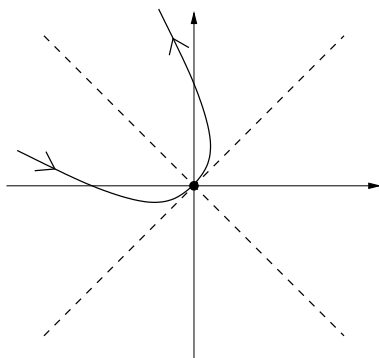
No vertices



At origin, deceptive@ $\gamma(t)$ slows to instantaneous halt.

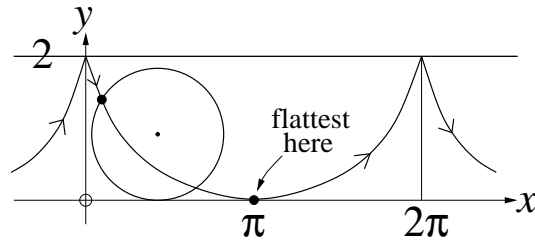
$\frac{dy}{dx}$ exists here ($= 0$), but $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ doesn't.

(iii) $x + y = 2t, -x + y = 2t^2$, so rotation by 45 degrees shows curve is a parabola.



$$K(t) = 4(2 + 8t^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}}, \text{ max when } t = 0.$$

(iv) This is a cycloid: take standard cycloid (for circle of radius 1), reflect in the x -axis and translate by 2 in the y -direction.



$$\gamma'(t) = (1 - \cos t, -\sin t), \text{ which is zero when } t = 2n\pi \text{ (} n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \text{)}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} K(t) &= -\frac{(1-c).c + ss}{((1-c)^2 + s^2)^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{1-c}{(2-2c)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \\ &= 2^{-\frac{3}{2}}(1-c)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\quad \text{where } c = \cos t (\neq 1) \\ &\quad \text{and } s = \sin t \\ &= 1/4 \sin \frac{t}{2} \end{aligned}$$

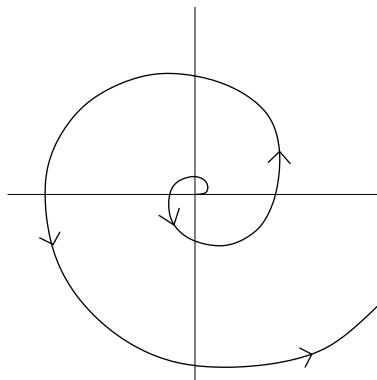
defined except when $t = 2n\pi$, ($n \in \mathbf{Z}$).

So $k > 0$, and as t goes from 0 to 2π we see K increases to $\frac{1}{4}$ (at $t = \pi$), then increases again.

(v) $K(t) = e^{-kt}(1 + K^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$.

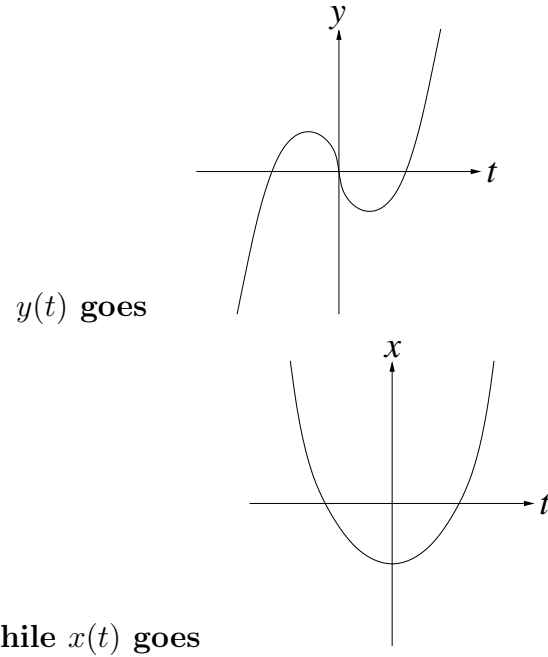
$\rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow +\infty$

$\rightarrow 0\infty$ as $t \rightarrow -\infty$, i.e. as $\gamma(t) \rightarrow (0,0)$

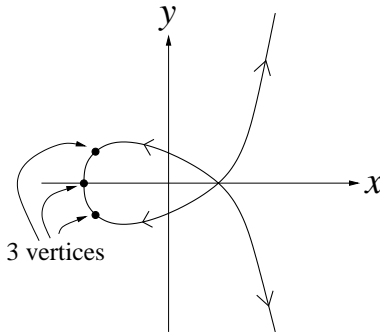


Spiral - radius increases exponentially.

(vi)



If $t \rightarrow -t$, then $x \rightarrow x$ and $y \rightarrow -y$.



$$K(t) = (6t^2 + 2)(9t^4 - 2t^2 + 1)^{-\frac{3}{2}}, > 0$$

defined for all $t \in \mathfrak{R}$ since $9u^2 - 2u + 1$ has no real roots.

$$K'(t) = -24t(9t^4 + 4t^2 - 1)(9t^4 - 2t^2 + 1)^{-\frac{5}{2}}, = 0 \text{ when } t = 0 \text{ or } t^2 = \frac{1}{9}(-2 + \frac{13}{9}).$$