

How many seconds does it take to draw the curve of your name? Key

AP Calculus BC: 12.4 Length of a Curve for Parametric Equations

Calculator may be used throughout this worksheet

- Find the length of the parametric curve given the equations $x = t^2 + 3t$ and $y = \ln(5t + 1)$ on the interval $[0,6]$. (Ans: 54.563)

$$\int_0^6 \sqrt{(2t+3)^2 + \left(\frac{5}{5t+1}\right)^2} dt = 54.563$$

- Find the length of the parametric curve given the equations $x = \arccos(2t)$ and $y = 5t^2$ on the interval $[0,0.5]$. (Ans: 2.069)

$$\int_0^{0.5} \sqrt{\left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}}\right)^2 + (10t)^2} dt = 2.069$$

- A parametric equation is given the equations $(x(t), y(t))$ for the interval $[0,6]$ and it is known that $\frac{dx}{dt} = \sqrt{t-1}$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = e^{t/2} - 5$.

a) When are the parametric equations decreasing on the interval, in terms of t .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{e^{t/2} - 5}{\sqrt{t-1}} = 0 \quad t = \ln(25)$$

$$t = 1$$

b) Find the $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ at $t = 2$

$$\boxed{\frac{5}{2}}$$

calculate fn calc.

c) Find the length of the parametric curve for the t -interval $[0,6]$.

$$\int_0^6 \sqrt{(\sqrt{t-1})^2 + (e^{t/2} - 5)^2} dt = \boxed{26.456}$$

d) At what t -value, on the interval $[0,6]$, does $y(t)$ have a minimum value? If $y(t)$ has a point $y(0) = 3$, find the y -value at the t -value where $y(t)$ has a minimum.

$$e^{t/2} - 5 = 0$$

$$e^{t/2} = 5$$

$$t/2 = \ln(5)$$

$$t = 2\ln(5) = \ln(25)$$

$$3 + \int_0^{\ln(25)} e^{t/2} - 5 dt = \boxed{-5.094}$$