Velocity, Speed, Acceleration, and Direction of Motion

Suppose a particle moves along a smooth curve in the plane so that its position at any time *t* is (x(t), y(t)), where *x* and *y* are differentiable functions of *t*.

- 1. The particle's **position vector** is $r(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle$
- 2. The particle's **velocity vector** is $v(t) = \langle \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} \rangle$
- 3. The particle's **speed** is the magnitude of **v**, denoted |v|. Speed is a scalar not a vector.
- 4. The particle's acceleration vector is $a(t) = \langle \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}, \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} \rangle$
- 1. A particle moves in the xy-plane so that at any time *t*, the position of the particle is given by $x(t) = t^3 + 4t^2$, $y(t) = t^4 t^3$.
 - a. Find the velocity vector when t = 1
 - b. Find the acceleration vector when t = 2
- 2. A particle moves in the xy-plane so that at any time t, $t \ge 0$, the position of the particle is given by $x(t) = t^2 + 3t$, $y(t) = t^3 3t^2$. Find the magnitude of the velocity vector when t = 1.

3. A particle moves in the xy-plane so that $x = \sqrt{3} - 4 \cos t$ and $y = 1 - 2 \sin t$, where $0 \le t \le 2\pi$. The path of the particle intersects the *x* – axis twice. Write an expression that represents the distance traveled by the particle between the two x-intercepts.

4. A particle moves in the xy-plane so that at any time *t*, the position of the particle is given by $x(t) = 2t^3 - 15t^2 + 36t + 5$, $y(t) = t^3 - 3t^2 + 1$, where $t \ge 0$. For what value(s) of *t* is the particle at rest?

5. A particle moves in the xy-plane in such a way that its velocity vector is $\langle 3t^2 - 4t, 8t^3 + 5 \rangle$. If the position vector at t = 0 is $\langle 7, -4 \rangle$, find the position of the particle at t = 1.

- 6. An object moving along a curve in the xy-plane has position $\langle x(t), y(t) \rangle$ at time *t* with $\frac{dx}{dt} = \sin(t^3)$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \cos(t^2)$. At time *t* = 2, the object is at position (1,4).
 - a. Find the acceleration vector for the particle at t = 2.

b. Write the equation of the tangent line to the curve at the point where t = 2.

c. Find the speed of the vector at t = 2.

d. Find the position of the particle at time t = 1