

**TOTAL 20 POINTS**

An object follows a path described by the equation,  $\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$ , with

$$x(t) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)t^2, y(t) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)t^4, z = 2 \text{ m.}$$

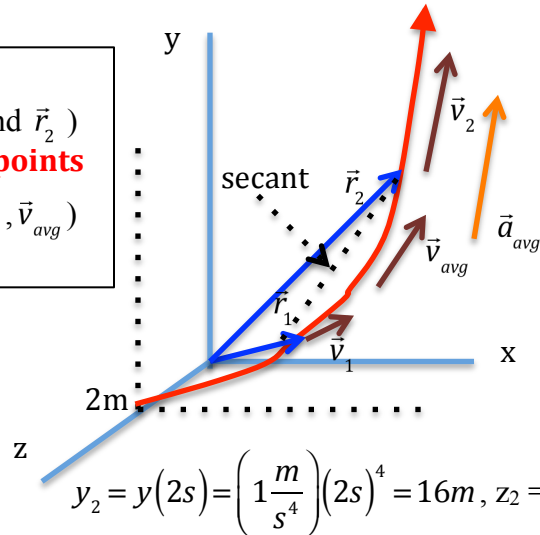
A) Plot the path of the object on the **3D Cartesian coordinate** below. Calculate the position at  $t = 1\text{s}$ ,  $\vec{r}_1 = \vec{r}(t = 1\text{s}) = x(1\text{s})\hat{i} + y(1\text{s})\hat{j} + z(1\text{s})\hat{k}$ , and at  $t = 2\text{s}$ ,

$\vec{r}_2 = \vec{r}(t = 2\text{s})$ . Plot the positions on the diagram. Calculate the **average velocity**,  $\vec{v}_{avg}$  during the **interval**, and plot on the path.

The x-component of the position is  $x = t^2$ , and the y-component is  $y = t^4 = (t^2)^2 = x^2$ .

Hence the path traces a **parabola** (as shown in **red** below).

**Path in red**  
**Positions** ( $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\vec{r}_2$ )  
 in **blue** **3 points**  
**Velocity** ( $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_{avg}$ )  
 in **brown**



**Position: 2 points**

$$t_1 = 1\text{s}, x_1 = x(1\text{s}) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)(1\text{s})^2 = 1\text{m}$$

$$y_1 = y(1\text{s}) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)(1\text{s})^4 = 1\text{m}$$

$$z_1 = z(1\text{s}) = 2\text{m} \quad \vec{r}_1 = 1\text{m}\hat{i} + 1\text{m}\hat{j} + 2\text{m}\hat{k}$$

$$t_2 = 2\text{s}, x_2 = x(2\text{s}) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)(2\text{s})^2 = 4\text{m}$$

$$y_2 = y(2\text{s}) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)(2\text{s})^4 = 16\text{m}, z_2 = z(2\text{s}) = 2\text{m}, \vec{r}_2 = 4\text{m}\hat{i} + 16\text{m}\hat{j} + 2\text{m}\hat{k}$$

**Average velocity:**  $v_{avg} = \frac{\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{t_2 - t_1}\hat{i} + \frac{y_2 - y_1}{t_2 - t_1}\hat{j} + \frac{z_2 - z_1}{t_2 - t_1}\hat{k} = 3\frac{m}{s}\hat{i} + 15\frac{m}{s}\hat{j}$ . See

**brown arrow** that is parallel to the secant above. **2 points**

B) Calculate the **velocity**,  $\vec{v}$ , at  $t = 1\text{s}$  and  $t = 2\text{s}$ , and draw it on the above graph. Find the **speed** (magnitude of velocity). Find the average acceleration  $\vec{a}_{avg}$  during the interval, and plot of the graph.

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt}\hat{i} + \frac{dy}{dt}\hat{j} + \frac{dz}{dt}\hat{k},$$

x-component,  $x(t) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)t^2 \rightarrow v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)t$ . **1 point**

y-component,  $y(t) = \left(1 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)t^4 \rightarrow v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} = \left(4 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)t^3$ . **1 point**

z-component,  $z(t) = 2m \rightarrow v_z = \frac{dz}{dt} = 0$ . **1 point**

$$\vec{v} = v_x \hat{i} + v_y \hat{j} + v_z \hat{k} = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right) t \hat{i} + \left(4 \frac{m}{s^4}\right) t^3 \hat{j}$$

$t = 1s, \vec{v}_1 = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)(1s) \hat{i} + \left(4 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)(1s)^3 \hat{j} = 2 \frac{m}{s} \hat{i} + 4 \frac{m}{s} \hat{j}$ , **1 point**

$t = 2s, \vec{v}_2 = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right)(2s) \hat{i} + \left(4 \frac{m}{s^4}\right)(2s)^3 \hat{j} = 4 \frac{m}{s} \hat{i} + 32 \frac{m}{s} \hat{j}$ . **1 point**

The velocities are plotted as above (brown arrows)

$$v = |\vec{v}| = \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2}; v_1 = \sqrt{\left(2 \frac{m}{s}\right)^2 + \left(4 \frac{m}{s}\right)^2} = 4.47 \frac{m}{s};$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{\left(4 \frac{m}{s}\right)^2 + \left(32 \frac{m}{s}\right)^2} = 32.2 \frac{m}{s}. \quad \mathbf{1 \text{ point}}$$

Average Acceleration  $\vec{a}_{avg} = \frac{v_{2x} - v_{1x}}{t_2 - t_1} \hat{i} + \frac{v_{2y} - v_{1y}}{t_2 - t_1} \hat{j} + \frac{v_{2z} - v_{1z}}{t_2 - t_1} \hat{k}$ .

$$\vec{a}_{avg} = \frac{4m \cdot s^{-1} - 2m \cdot s^{-1}}{2s - 1s} \hat{i} + \frac{32m \cdot s^{-1} - 4m \cdot s^{-1}}{2s - 1s} \hat{j} + \frac{0 - 0}{t_2 - t_1} \hat{k}$$

$$\vec{a}_{avg} = 2 \frac{m}{s^2} \hat{i} + 28 \frac{m}{s^2} \hat{j}. \quad \vec{a}_{avg} \text{ is the orange arrow above. } \quad \mathbf{3 \text{ point}}$$

Note that  $a_{avg} = |\vec{a}_{avg}| = 28 \frac{m}{s^2}$ , and angle wrt +x in x-y plane is  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{28}{2} = 86^\circ$ .

For the  $\vec{v}_{avg}$  in same interval,  $v_{avg} = 15.3m \cdot s^{-1}$ , and  $\theta = 78^\circ$ . That's why  $\vec{a}_{avg}$  is drawn longer and steeper than  $\vec{v}_{avg}$ .

C) Find acceleration,  $\vec{a}$ , at  $t = 1.5s$ . Calculate the **magnitude** of the **acceleration**.

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{dv_x}{dt} \hat{i} + \frac{dv_y}{dt} \hat{j} + \frac{dv_z}{dt} \hat{k}, \quad v_x = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right) t \rightarrow a_x = \frac{dv_x}{dt} = 2 \frac{m}{s^2};$$

$$v_y = \left(4 \frac{m}{s^4}\right) t^3 \rightarrow a_y = \frac{dv_y}{dt} = 12 \frac{m}{s^4} t^2, \text{ and } v_z = 0 \rightarrow a_z = \frac{dv_z}{dt} = 0$$

$$\vec{a} = a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j} + a_z \hat{k} = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right) \hat{i} + \left(12 \frac{m}{s^4}\right) t^2 \hat{j} \quad \mathbf{2 \text{ points}}$$

At  $t = 1.5s, \vec{a} = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right) \hat{i} + \left(12 \frac{m}{s^4}\right) (1.5s)^2 \hat{j} = \left(2 \frac{m}{s^2}\right) \hat{i} + 27 \frac{m}{s^2} \hat{j}$ . **1 point**

Magnitude  $a = |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{\left(2m \cdot s^{-2}\right)^2 + \left(27m \cdot s^{-2}\right)^2} = 27m \cdot s^{-2}$  **1 point**