Exercise 1 Given the curve of parametric equations

$$x = 3t^2; \quad y = t^3 - 3t; \qquad -2 \le t \le 2$$

find

- 1. The length of the loop that starts and ends at the point (9,0).
- 2. The point(s) where the curve has a horizontal tangent.

Solution:

1. First we need to find the values of t such that x = 9 and y = 0. These are the common solutions of the equations $3t^2 = 9$ and $t^3 - 3t = 0$, i.e. $t = \pm \sqrt{3}$. The length of the loop is given by the integral of the speed

$$L = \int_{-\sqrt{3}}^{+\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\left[x'(t)\right]^2 + \left[y'(t)\right]^2} \, dt.$$

The derivatives are x'(t) = 6t and $y'(t) = 3t^2 - 3$. Therefore,

speed =
$$\sqrt{[x'(t)]^2 + [y'(t)]}^2$$

= $\sqrt{36t^2 + 9(t^2 - 1)^2}$
= $\sqrt{9(t^2 + 1)^2}$
= $3(t^2 + 1)$

and

$$L = 3 \int_{-\sqrt{3}}^{+\sqrt{3}} (t^2 + 1) dt$$
$$= 6 \int_{0}^{+\sqrt{3}} (t^2 + 1) dt$$
$$= 6 \left(\frac{t^3}{3} + t\right) \Big|_{0}^{\sqrt{3}}$$
$$= 12\sqrt{3}.$$

2. The points where the tangent is horizontal are determined by the condition $y'(t) = 3t^2 - 3 = 0$. This implies $t = \pm 1$ so x = 3 and $y = \pm 2$. Plot of the curve



Exercise 2 Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = 2x^2 + 3y^2.$$

- 1. Find the directional derivative of f at the point (1/2, -1/2) in the direction of the vector $\mathbf{u} = 4\mathbf{i} 3\mathbf{j}$.
- 2. Evaluate the double integral of f on the region D enclosed by the lines x = -1, y = -1 and x + y = 1.

Solution:

1. Partial derivatives

$$\begin{array}{rcl} f_x &=& 4x \\ f_y &=& 6y \end{array}$$

Gradient vector at the point (1/2, -1/2)

$$\nabla f(1/2, -1/2) = 2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}.$$

Unit vector \mathbf{d} in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}$

$$\mathbf{d} = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} = \frac{4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 3^2}} = \frac{4}{5}\mathbf{i} - \frac{3}{5}\mathbf{j}$$

Directional derivative of f at (1/2,-1/2) in the direction of vector ${\bf u}$

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}(f)(1/2, -1/2) = \nabla f(1/2, -1/2) \cdot \mathbf{d}$$

= $(2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}) \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\mathbf{i} - \frac{3}{5}\mathbf{j}\right)$
= $2\frac{4}{5} + (-3)\left(-\frac{3}{5}\right)$
= $\frac{17}{5}$.

2. Region D



Double integral

$$\iint_{D} (2x^{2} + 3y^{2}) dA = \int_{-1}^{2} \left(\int_{-1}^{1-x} (2x^{2} + 3y^{2}) dy \right) dx$$
$$= \int_{-1}^{2} \left[(2x^{2}y + y^{3}) \Big|_{-1}^{1-x} \right] dx$$
$$= -\int_{-1}^{2} (2 - 3x + 7x^{2} - 3x^{3}) dx$$
$$= \left(2x - 3\frac{x^{2}}{2} + 7\frac{x^{3}}{3} - 3\frac{x^{4}}{4} \right) \Big|_{-1}^{2}$$
$$= \frac{45}{4}.$$