

# 10

## Parametric Equations and Polar Coordinates

The photo shows Halley's comet as it passed Earth in 1986. Due to return in 2061, it was named after Edmond Halley (1656–1742), the English scientist who first recognized its periodicity. In Section 10.6 you will see how polar coordinates provide a convenient equation for the elliptical path of its orbit.



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**SO FAR WE HAVE DESCRIBED** plane curves by giving  $y$  as a function of  $x$  [ $y = f(x)$ ] or  $x$  as a function of  $y$  [ $x = g(y)$ ] or by giving a relation between  $x$  and  $y$  that defines  $y$  implicitly as a function of  $x$  [ $f(x, y) = 0$ ]. In this chapter we discuss two new methods for describing curves.

Some curves, such as the cycloid, are best handled when both  $x$  and  $y$  are given in terms of a third variable  $t$  called a parameter [ $x = f(t)$ ,  $y = g(t)$ ]. Other curves, such as the cardioid, have their most convenient description when we use a new coordinate system, called the polar coordinate system.

## 10.1 Curves Defined by Parametric Equations

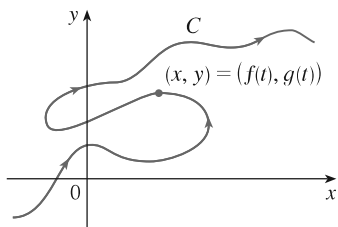


FIGURE 1

Imagine that a particle moves along the curve  $C$  shown in Figure 1. It is impossible to describe  $C$  by an equation of the form  $y = f(x)$  because  $C$  fails the Vertical Line Test. But the  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates of the particle are functions of time and so we can write  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$ . Such a pair of equations is often a convenient way of describing a curve and gives rise to the following definition.

Suppose that  $x$  and  $y$  are both given as functions of a third variable  $t$  (called a **parameter**) by the equations

$$x = f(t) \quad y = g(t)$$

(called **parametric equations**). Each value of  $t$  determines a point  $(x, y)$ , which we can plot in a coordinate plane. As  $t$  varies, the point  $(x, y) = (f(t), g(t))$  varies and traces out a curve  $C$ , which we call a **parametric curve**. The parameter  $t$  does not necessarily represent time and, in fact, we could use a letter other than  $t$  for the parameter. But in many applications of parametric curves,  $t$  does denote time and therefore we can interpret  $(x, y) = (f(t), g(t))$  as the position of a particle at time  $t$ .

**EXAMPLE 1** Sketch and identify the curve defined by the parametric equations

$$x = t^2 - 2t \quad y = t + 1$$

**SOLUTION** Each value of  $t$  gives a point on the curve, as shown in the table. For instance, if  $t = 0$ , then  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$  and so the corresponding point is  $(0, 1)$ . In Figure 2 we plot the points  $(x, y)$  determined by several values of the parameter and we join them to produce a curve.

$t$	$x$	$y$
-2	8	-1
-1	3	0
0	0	1
1	-1	2
2	0	3
3	3	4
4	8	5

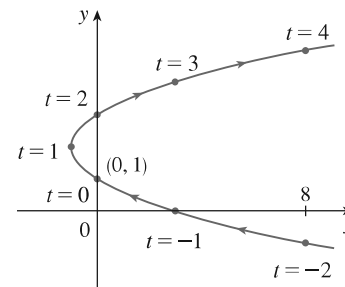


FIGURE 2

A particle whose position is given by the parametric equations moves along the curve in the direction of the arrows as  $t$  increases. Notice that the consecutive points marked on the curve appear at equal time intervals but not at equal distances. That is because the particle slows down and then speeds up as  $t$  increases.

It appears from Figure 2 that the curve traced out by the particle may be a parabola. This can be confirmed by eliminating the parameter  $t$  as follows. We obtain  $t = y - 1$  from the second equation and substitute into the first equation. This gives

$$x = t^2 - 2t = (y - 1)^2 - 2(y - 1) = y^2 - 4y + 3$$

and so the curve represented by the given parametric equations is the parabola  $x = y^2 - 4y + 3$ . ■

This equation in  $x$  and  $y$  describes *where* the particle has been, but it doesn't tell us *when* the particle was at a particular point. The parametric equations have an advantage—they tell us *when* the particle was at a point. They also indicate the *direction* of the motion.

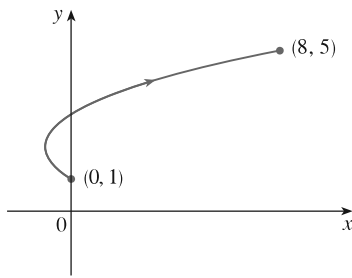


FIGURE 3

No restriction was placed on the parameter  $t$  in Example 1, so we assumed that  $t$  could be any real number. But sometimes we restrict  $t$  to lie in a finite interval. For instance, the parametric curve

$$x = t^2 - 2t \quad y = t + 1 \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4$$

shown in Figure 3 is the part of the parabola in Example 1 that starts at the point  $(0, 1)$  and ends at the point  $(8, 5)$ . The arrowhead indicates the direction in which the curve is traced as  $t$  increases from 0 to 4.

In general, the curve with parametric equations

$$x = f(t) \quad y = g(t) \quad a \leq t \leq b$$

has **initial point**  $(f(a), g(a))$  and **terminal point**  $(f(b), g(b))$ .

**EXAMPLE 2** What curve is represented by the following parametric equations?

$$x = \cos t \quad y = \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

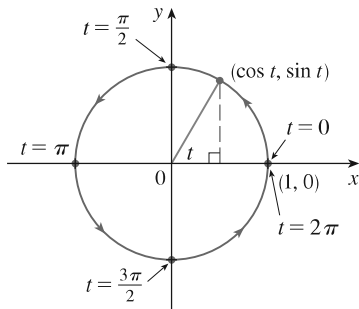


FIGURE 4

**SOLUTION** If we plot points, it appears that the curve is a circle. We can confirm this impression by eliminating  $t$ . Observe that

$$x^2 + y^2 = \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$$

Thus the point  $(x, y)$  moves on the unit circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . Notice that in this example the parameter  $t$  can be interpreted as the angle (in radians) shown in Figure 4. As  $t$  increases from 0 to  $2\pi$ , the point  $(x, y) = (\cos t, \sin t)$  moves once around the circle in the counterclockwise direction starting from the point  $(1, 0)$ . ■

**EXAMPLE 3** What curve is represented by the given parametric equations?

$$x = \sin 2t \quad y = \cos 2t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

**SOLUTION** Again we have

$$x^2 + y^2 = \sin^2 2t + \cos^2 2t = 1$$

so the parametric equations again represent the unit circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . But as  $t$  increases from 0 to  $2\pi$ , the point  $(x, y) = (\sin 2t, \cos 2t)$  starts at  $(0, 1)$  and moves *twice* around the circle in the clockwise direction as indicated in Figure 5. ■

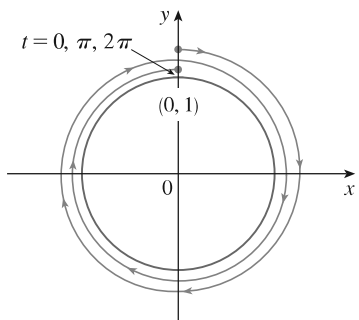


FIGURE 5

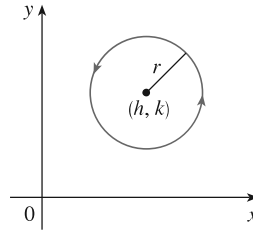
Examples 2 and 3 show that different sets of parametric equations can represent the same curve. Thus we distinguish between a *curve*, which is a set of points, and a *parametric curve*, in which the points are traced in a particular way.

**EXAMPLE 4** Find parametric equations for the circle with center  $(h, k)$  and radius  $r$ .

**SOLUTION** If we take the equations of the unit circle in Example 2 and multiply the expressions for  $x$  and  $y$  by  $r$ , we get  $x = r \cos t$ ,  $y = r \sin t$ . You can verify that these equations represent a circle with radius  $r$  and center the origin traced counterclockwise. We now shift  $h$  units in the  $x$ -direction and  $k$  units in the  $y$ -direction and obtain para-

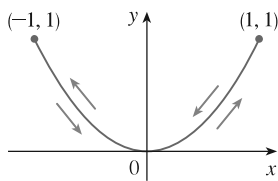
metric equations of the circle (Figure 6) with center  $(h, k)$  and radius  $r$ :

$$x = h + r \cos t \quad y = k + r \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$



**FIGURE 6**

$$x = h + r \cos t, y = k + r \sin t$$



**FIGURE 7**

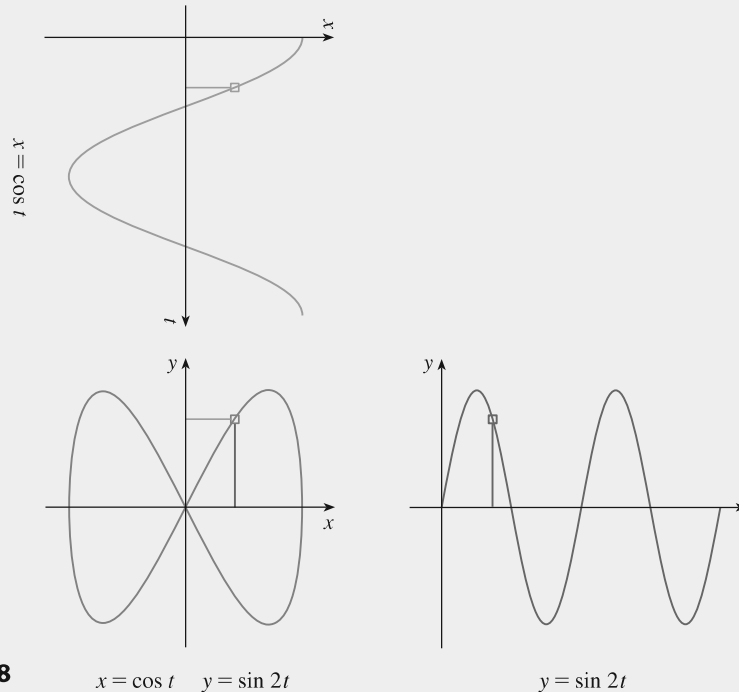
**EXAMPLE 5** Sketch the curve with parametric equations  $x = \sin t, y = \sin^2 t$ .

**SOLUTION** Observe that  $y = (\sin t)^2 = x^2$  and so the point  $(x, y)$  moves on the parabola  $y = x^2$ . But note also that, since  $-1 \leq \sin t \leq 1$ , we have  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ , so the parametric equations represent only the part of the parabola for which  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ . Since  $\sin t$  is periodic, the point  $(x, y) = (\sin t, \sin^2 t)$  moves back and forth infinitely often along the parabola from  $(-1, 1)$  to  $(1, 1)$ . (See Figure 7.)

**TEC** Module 10.1A gives an animation of the relationship between motion along a parametric curve  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$  and motion along the graphs of  $f$  and  $g$  as functions of  $t$ . Clicking on TRIG gives you the family of parametric curves

$$x = a \cos bt \quad y = c \sin dt$$

If you choose  $a = b = c = d = 1$  and click on **animate**, you will see how the graphs of  $x = \cos t$  and  $y = \sin t$  relate to the circle in Example 2. If you choose  $a = b = c = 1, d = 2$ , you will see graphs as in Figure 8. By clicking on **animate** or moving the  $t$ -slider to the right, you can see from the color coding how motion along the graphs of  $x = \cos t$  and  $y = \sin 2t$  corresponds to motion along the parametric curve, which is called a **Lissajous figure**.



**FIGURE 8**

**Graphing Devices**

Most graphing calculators and other graphing devices can be used to graph curves defined by parametric equations. In fact, it's instructive to watch a parametric curve being drawn by a graphing calculator because the points are plotted in order as the corresponding parameter values increase.



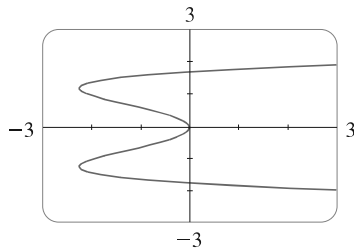


FIGURE 9

**EXAMPLE 6** Use a graphing device to graph the curve  $x = y^4 - 3y^2$ .

**SOLUTION** If we let the parameter be  $t = y$ , then we have the equations

$$x = t^4 - 3t^2 \quad y = t$$

Using these parametric equations to graph the curve, we obtain Figure 9. It would be possible to solve the given equation ( $x = y^4 - 3y^2$ ) for  $y$  as four functions of  $x$  and graph them individually, but the parametric equations provide a much easier method. ■

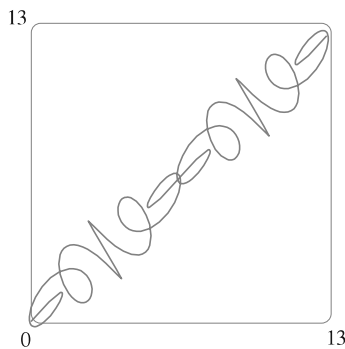
In general, if we need to graph an equation of the form  $x = g(y)$ , we can use the parametric equations

$$x = g(t) \quad y = t$$

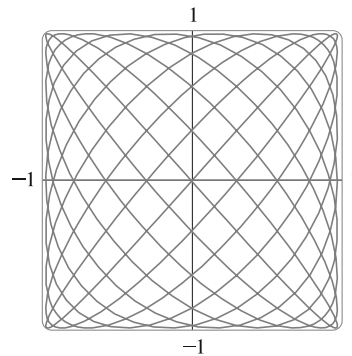
Notice also that curves with equations  $y = f(x)$  (the ones we are most familiar with—graphs of functions) can also be regarded as curves with parametric equations

$$x = t \quad y = f(t)$$

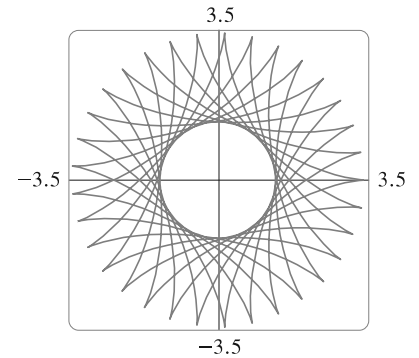
Graphing devices are particularly useful for sketching complicated parametric curves. For instance, the curves shown in Figures 10, 11, and 12 would be virtually impossible to produce by hand.



**FIGURE 10**  
 $x = t + \sin 5t$   
 $y = t + \sin 6t$



**FIGURE 11**  
 $x = \sin 9t$   
 $y = \sin 10t$



**FIGURE 12**  
 $x = 2.3 \cos 10t + \cos 23t$   
 $y = 2.3 \sin 10t - \sin 23t$

One of the most important uses of parametric curves is in computer-aided design (CAD). In the Laboratory Project after Section 10.2 we will investigate special parametric curves, called **Bézier curves**, that are used extensively in manufacturing, especially in the automotive industry. These curves are also employed in specifying the shapes of letters and other symbols in laser printers and in documents viewed electronically.

### ■ The Cycloid

**TEC** An animation in Module 10.1B shows how the cycloid is formed as the circle moves.

**EXAMPLE 7** The curve traced out by a point  $P$  on the circumference of a circle as the circle rolls along a straight line is called a **cycloid** (see Figure 13). If the circle has radius  $r$  and rolls along the  $x$ -axis and if one position of  $P$  is the origin, find parametric equations for the cycloid.

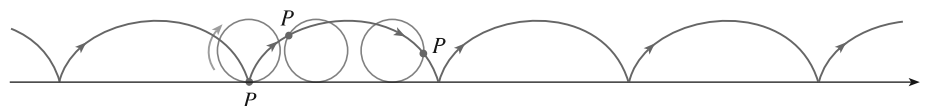


FIGURE 13

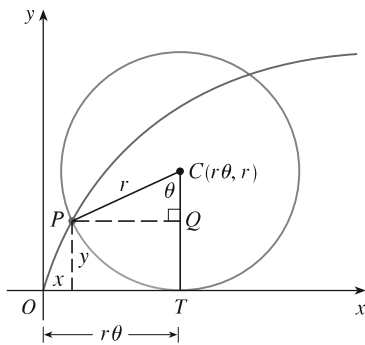


FIGURE 14

**SOLUTION** We choose as parameter the angle of rotation  $\theta$  of the circle ( $\theta = 0$  when  $P$  is at the origin). Suppose the circle has rotated through  $\theta$  radians. Because the circle has been in contact with the line, we see from Figure 14 that the distance it has rolled from the origin is

$$|OT| = \text{arc } PT = r\theta$$

Therefore the center of the circle is  $C(r\theta, r)$ . Let the coordinates of  $P$  be  $(x, y)$ . Then from Figure 14 we see that

$$x = |OT| - |PQ| = r\theta - r \sin \theta = r(\theta - \sin \theta)$$

$$y = |TC| - |QC| = r - r \cos \theta = r(1 - \cos \theta)$$

Therefore parametric equations of the cycloid are

$$\boxed{1} \quad x = r(\theta - \sin \theta) \quad y = r(1 - \cos \theta) \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}$$

One arch of the cycloid comes from one rotation of the circle and so is described by  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ . Although Equations 1 were derived from Figure 14, which illustrates the case where  $0 < \theta < \pi/2$ , it can be seen that these equations are still valid for other values of  $\theta$  (see Exercise 39).

Although it is possible to eliminate the parameter  $\theta$  from Equations 1, the resulting Cartesian equation in  $x$  and  $y$  is very complicated and not as convenient to work with as the parametric equations. ■

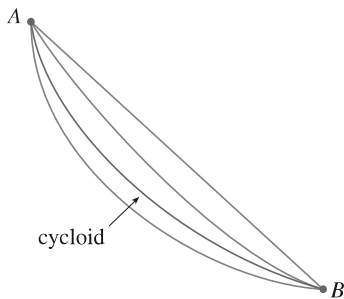


FIGURE 15

One of the first people to study the cycloid was Galileo, who proposed that bridges be built in the shape of cycloids and who tried to find the area under one arch of a cycloid. Later this curve arose in connection with the **brachistochrone problem**: Find the curve along which a particle will slide in the shortest time (under the influence of gravity) from a point  $A$  to a lower point  $B$  not directly beneath  $A$ . The Swiss mathematician John Bernoulli, who posed this problem in 1696, showed that among all possible curves that join  $A$  to  $B$ , as in Figure 15, the particle will take the least time sliding from  $A$  to  $B$  if the curve is part of an inverted arch of a cycloid.

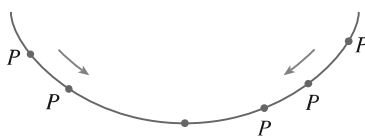


FIGURE 16

The Dutch physicist Huygens had already shown that the cycloid is also the solution to the **tautochrone problem**; that is, no matter where a particle  $P$  is placed on an inverted cycloid, it takes the same time to slide to the bottom (see Figure 16). Huygens proposed that pendulum clocks (which he invented) should swing in cycloidal arcs because then the pendulum would take the same time to make a complete oscillation whether it swings through a wide or a small arc.

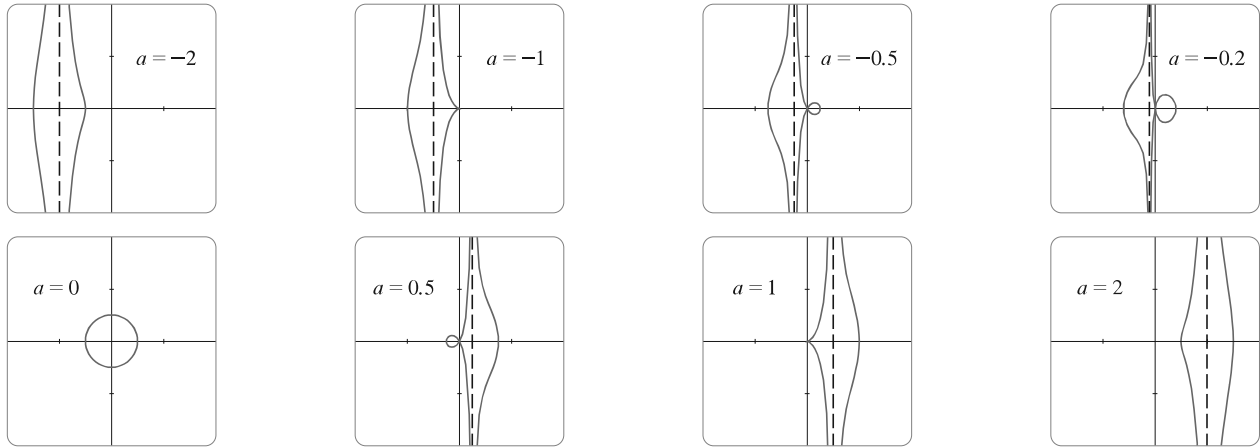
### ■ Families of Parametric Curves

**EXAMPLE 8** Investigate the family of curves with parametric equations

$$x = a + \cos t \quad y = a \tan t + \sin t$$

What do these curves have in common? How does the shape change as  $a$  increases?

**SOLUTION** We use a graphing device to produce the graphs for the cases  $a = -2, -1, -0.5, -0.2, 0, 0.5, 1,$  and  $2$  shown in Figure 17. Notice that all of these curves (except the case  $a = 0$ ) have two branches, and both branches approach the vertical asymptote  $x = a$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$  from the left or right.

**FIGURE 17**

Members of the family  $x = a + \cos t$ ,  $y = a \tan t + \sin t$ , all graphed in the viewing rectangle  $[-4, 4]$  by  $[-4, 4]$

When  $a < -1$ , both branches are smooth; but when  $a$  reaches  $-1$ , the right branch acquires a sharp point, called a *cusp*. For  $a$  between  $-1$  and  $0$  the cusp turns into a loop, which becomes larger as  $a$  approaches  $0$ . When  $a = 0$ , both branches come together and form a circle (see Example 2). For  $a$  between  $0$  and  $1$ , the left branch has a loop, which shrinks to become a cusp when  $a = 1$ . For  $a > 1$ , the branches become smooth again, and as  $a$  increases further, they become less curved. Notice that the curves with  $a$  positive are reflections about the  $y$ -axis of the corresponding curves with  $a$  negative.

These curves are called **conchoids of Nicomedes** after the ancient Greek scholar Nicomedes. He called them conchoids because the shape of their outer branches resembles that of a conch shell or mussel shell. ■

## 10.1 EXERCISES

**1–4** Sketch the curve by using the parametric equations to plot points. Indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as  $t$  increases.

- $x = 1 - t^2$ ,  $y = 2t - t^2$ ,  $-1 \leq t \leq 2$
- $x = t^3 + t$ ,  $y = t^2 + 2$ ,  $-2 \leq t \leq 2$
- $x = t + \sin t$ ,  $y = \cos t$ ,  $-\pi \leq t \leq \pi$
- $x = e^{-t} + t$ ,  $y = e^t - t$ ,  $-2 \leq t \leq 2$

**5–10**

- Sketch the curve by using the parametric equations to plot points. Indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as  $t$  increases.
  - Eliminate the parameter to find a Cartesian equation of the curve.
- $x = 2t - 1$ ,  $y = \frac{1}{2}t + 1$
  - $x = 3t + 2$ ,  $y = 2t + 3$
  - $x = t^2 - 3$ ,  $y = t + 2$ ,  $-3 \leq t \leq 3$
  - $x = \sin t$ ,  $y = 1 - \cos t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

**9.**  $x = \sqrt{t}$ ,  $y = 1 - t$

**10.**  $x = t^2$ ,  $y = t^3$

**11–18**

- Eliminate the parameter to find a Cartesian equation of the curve.
- Sketch the curve and indicate with an arrow the direction in which the curve is traced as the parameter increases.

**11.**  $x = \sin \frac{1}{2}\theta$ ,  $y = \cos \frac{1}{2}\theta$ ,  $-\pi \leq \theta \leq \pi$

**12.**  $x = \frac{1}{2} \cos \theta$ ,  $y = 2 \sin \theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$

**13.**  $x = \sin t$ ,  $y = \csc t$ ,  $0 < t < \pi/2$

**14.**  $x = e^t$ ,  $y = e^{-2t}$

**15.**  $x = t^2$ ,  $y = \ln t$

**16.**  $x = \sqrt{t+1}$ ,  $y = \sqrt{t-1}$

**17.**  $x = \sinh t$ ,  $y = \cosh t$

**18.**  $x = \tan^2 \theta$ ,  $y = \sec \theta$ ,  $-\pi/2 < \theta < \pi/2$

19–22 Describe the motion of a particle with position  $(x, y)$  as  $t$  varies in the given interval.

19.  $x = 5 + 2 \cos \pi t, \quad y = 3 + 2 \sin \pi t, \quad 1 \leq t \leq 2$

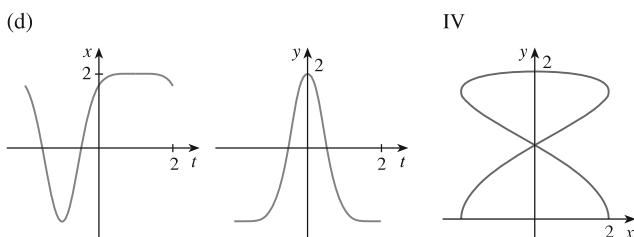
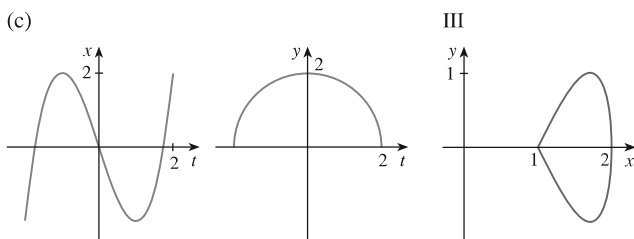
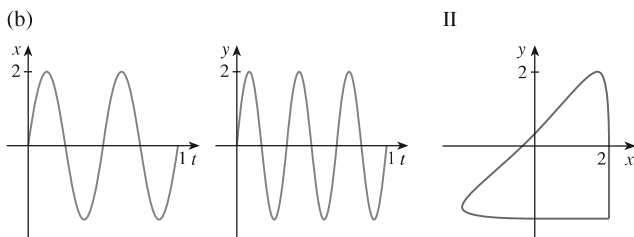
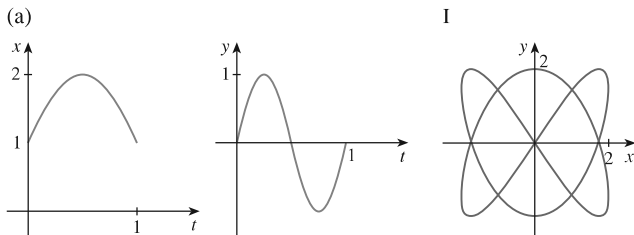
20.  $x = 2 + \sin t, \quad y = 1 + 3 \cos t, \quad \pi/2 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

21.  $x = 5 \sin t, \quad y = 2 \cos t, \quad -\pi \leq t \leq 5\pi$

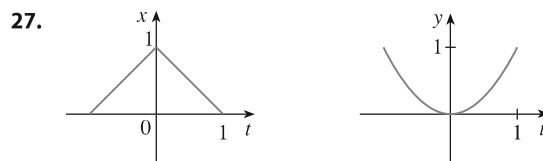
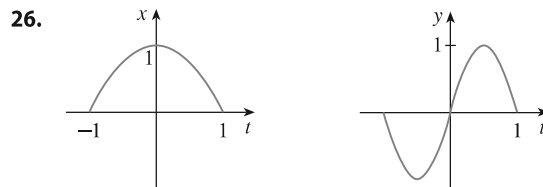
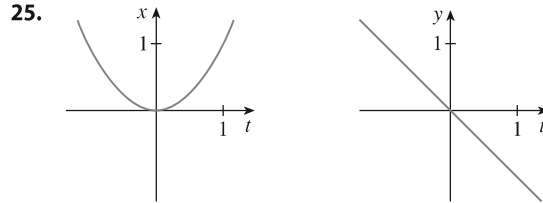
22.  $x = \sin t, \quad y = \cos^2 t, \quad -2\pi \leq t \leq 2\pi$

23. Suppose a curve is given by the parametric equations  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$ , where the range of  $f$  is  $[1, 4]$  and the range of  $g$  is  $[2, 3]$ . What can you say about the curve?

24. Match the graphs of the parametric equations  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$  in (a)–(d) with the parametric curves labeled I–IV. Give reasons for your choices.

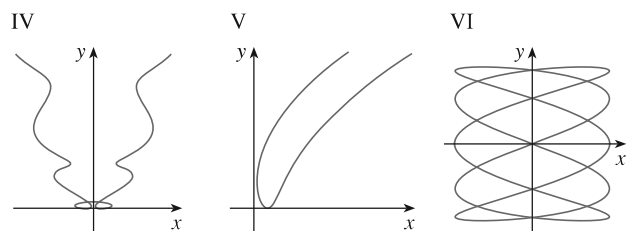
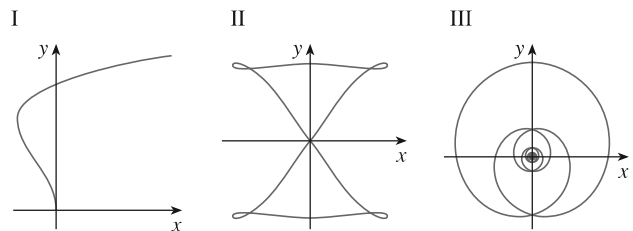


25–27 Use the graphs of  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$  to sketch the parametric curve  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$ . Indicate with arrows the direction in which the curve is traced as  $t$  increases.

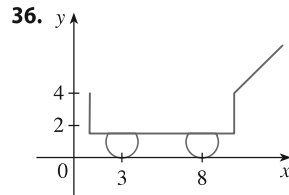
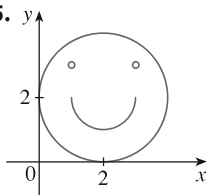


28. Match the parametric equations with the graphs labeled I–VI. Give reasons for your choices. (Do not use a graphing device.)

- (a)  $x = t^4 - t + 1, \quad y = t^2$
- (b)  $x = t^2 - 2t, \quad y = \sqrt{t}$
- (c)  $x = \sin 2t, \quad y = \sin(t + \sin 2t)$
- (d)  $x = \cos 5t, \quad y = \sin 2t$
- (e)  $x = t + \sin 4t, \quad y = t^2 + \cos 3t$
- (f)  $x = \frac{\sin 2t}{4 + t^2}, \quad y = \frac{\cos 2t}{4 + t^2}$



29. Graph the curve  $x = y - 2 \sin \pi y$ .
30. Graph the curves  $y = x^3 - 4x$  and  $x = y^3 - 4y$  and find their points of intersection correct to one decimal place.
31. (a) Show that the parametric equations
- $$x = x_1 + (x_2 - x_1)t \quad y = y_1 + (y_2 - y_1)t$$
- where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , describe the line segment that joins the points  $P_1(x_1, y_1)$  and  $P_2(x_2, y_2)$ .
- (b) Find parametric equations to represent the line segment from  $(-2, 7)$  to  $(3, -1)$ .
32. Use a graphing device and the result of Exercise 31(a) to draw the triangle with vertices  $A(1, 1)$ ,  $B(4, 2)$ , and  $C(1, 5)$ .
33. Find parametric equations for the path of a particle that moves along the circle  $x^2 + (y - 1)^2 = 4$  in the manner described.
- Once around clockwise, starting at  $(2, 1)$
  - Three times around counterclockwise, starting at  $(2, 1)$
  - Halfway around counterclockwise, starting at  $(0, 3)$
34. (a) Find parametric equations for the ellipse  $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$ . [Hint: Modify the equations of the circle in Example 2.]
- Use these parametric equations to graph the ellipse when  $a = 3$  and  $b = 1, 2, 4,$  and  $8$ .
  - How does the shape of the ellipse change as  $b$  varies?
- 35–36 Use a graphing calculator or computer to reproduce the picture.



37–38 Compare the curves represented by the parametric equations. How do they differ?

37. (a)  $x = t^3, \quad y = t^2$       (b)  $x = t^6, \quad y = t^4$   
 (c)  $x = e^{-3t}, \quad y = e^{-2t}$
38. (a)  $x = t, \quad y = t^{-2}$       (b)  $x = \cos t, \quad y = \sec^2 t$   
 (c)  $x = e^t, \quad y = e^{-2t}$

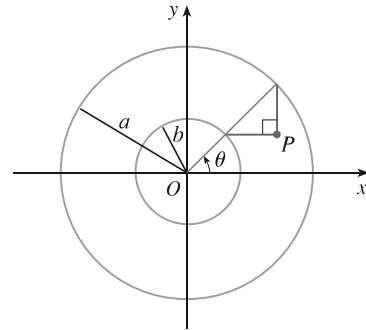
39. Derive Equations 1 for the case  $\pi/2 < \theta < \pi$ .
40. Let  $P$  be a point at a distance  $d$  from the center of a circle of radius  $r$ . The curve traced out by  $P$  as the circle rolls along a straight line is called a **trochoid**. (Think of the motion of a point on a spoke of a bicycle wheel.) The cycloid is the special case of a trochoid with  $d = r$ . Using the same parameter  $\theta$  as for the cycloid, and assuming the line is the  $x$ -axis and  $\theta = 0$  when  $P$  is at one of its lowest points, show

that parametric equations of the trochoid are

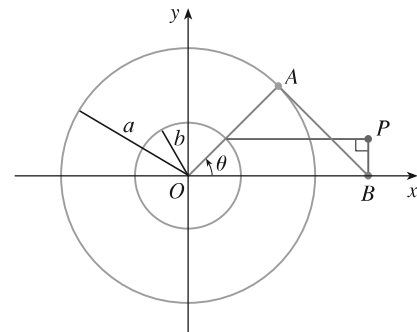
$$x = r\theta - d \sin \theta \quad y = r - d \cos \theta$$

Sketch the trochoid for the cases  $d < r$  and  $d > r$ .

41. If  $a$  and  $b$  are fixed numbers, find parametric equations for the curve that consists of all possible positions of the point  $P$  in the figure, using the angle  $\theta$  as the parameter. Then eliminate the parameter and identify the curve.



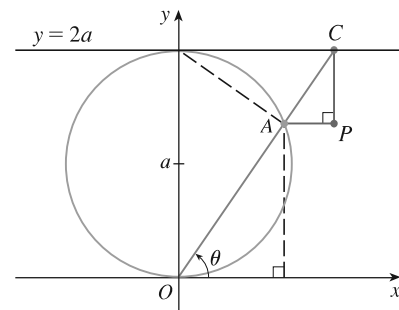
42. If  $a$  and  $b$  are fixed numbers, find parametric equations for the curve that consists of all possible positions of the point  $P$  in the figure, using the angle  $\theta$  as the parameter. The line segment  $AB$  is tangent to the larger circle.



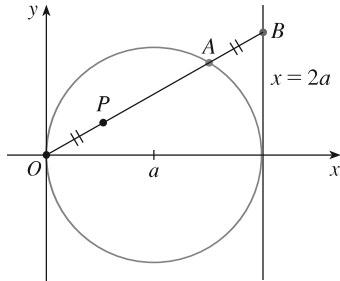
43. A curve, called a **witch of Maria Agnesi**, consists of all possible positions of the point  $P$  in the figure. Show that parametric equations for this curve can be written as

$$x = 2a \cot \theta \quad y = 2a \sin^2 \theta$$

Sketch the curve.



44. (a) Find parametric equations for the set of all points  $P$  as shown in the figure such that  $|OP| = |AB|$ . (This curve is called the **cuspid of Diocles** after the Greek scholar Diocles, who introduced the cissoid as a graphical method for constructing the edge of a cube whose volume is twice that of a given cube.)  
 (b) Use the geometric description of the curve to draw a rough sketch of the curve by hand. Check your work by using the parametric equations to graph the curve.



45. Suppose that the position of one particle at time  $t$  is given by

$$x_1 = 3 \sin t \quad y_1 = 2 \cos t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

and the position of a second particle is given by

$$x_2 = -3 + \cos t \quad y_2 = 1 + \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

- (a) Graph the paths of both particles. How many points of intersection are there?  
 (b) Are any of these points of intersection *collision points*? In other words, are the particles ever at the same place at the same time? If so, find the collision points.  
 (c) Describe what happens if the path of the second particle is given by
- $$x_2 = 3 + \cos t \quad y_2 = 1 + \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$
46. If a projectile is fired with an initial velocity of  $v_0$  meters per second at an angle  $\alpha$  above the horizontal and air resistance is assumed to be negligible, then its position after

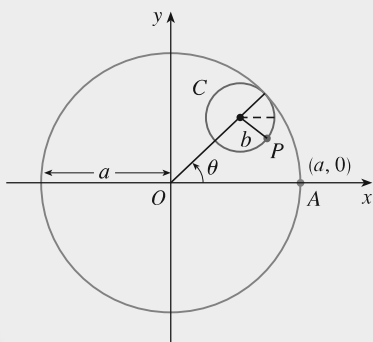
$t$  seconds is given by the parametric equations

$$x = (v_0 \cos \alpha)t \quad y = (v_0 \sin \alpha)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

where  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity ( $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ ).

- (a) If a gun is fired with  $\alpha = 30^\circ$  and  $v_0 = 500 \text{ m/s}$ , when will the bullet hit the ground? How far from the gun will it hit the ground? What is the maximum height reached by the bullet?  
 (b) Use a graphing device to check your answers to part (a). Then graph the path of the projectile for several other values of the angle  $\alpha$  to see where it hits the ground. Summarize your findings.  
 (c) Show that the path is parabolic by eliminating the parameter.
47. Investigate the family of curves defined by the parametric equations  $x = t^2, y = t^3 - ct$ . How does the shape change as  $c$  increases? Illustrate by graphing several members of the family.
48. The **swallowtail catastrophe curves** are defined by the parametric equations  $x = 2ct - 4t^3, y = -ct^2 + 3t^4$ . Graph several of these curves. What features do the curves have in common? How do they change when  $c$  increases?
49. Graph several members of the family of curves with parametric equations  $x = t + a \cos t, y = t + a \sin t$ , where  $a > 0$ . How does the shape change as  $a$  increases? For what values of  $a$  does the curve have a loop?
50. Graph several members of the family of curves  $x = \sin t + \sin nt, y = \cos t + \cos nt$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer. What features do the curves have in common? What happens as  $n$  increases?
51. The curves with equations  $x = a \sin nt, y = b \cos t$  are called **Lissajous figures**. Investigate how these curves vary when  $a, b$ , and  $n$  vary. (Take  $n$  to be a positive integer.)
52. Investigate the family of curves defined by the parametric equations  $x = \cos t, y = \sin t - \sin ct$ , where  $c > 0$ . Start by letting  $c$  be a positive integer and see what happens to the shape as  $c$  increases. Then explore some of the possibilities that occur when  $c$  is a fraction.

### LABORATORY PROJECT RUNNING CIRCLES AROUND CIRCLES



In this project we investigate families of curves, called *hypocycloids* and *epicycloids*, that are generated by the motion of a point on a circle that rolls inside or outside another circle.

1. A **hypocycloid** is a curve traced out by a fixed point  $P$  on a circle  $C$  of radius  $b$  as  $C$  rolls on the inside of a circle with center  $O$  and radius  $a$ . Show that if the initial position of  $P$  is  $(a, 0)$  and the parameter  $\theta$  is chosen as in the figure, then parametric equations of the hypocycloid are

$$x = (a - b) \cos \theta + b \cos \left( \frac{a - b}{b} \theta \right) \quad y = (a - b) \sin \theta - b \sin \left( \frac{a - b}{b} \theta \right)$$

2. Use a graphing device (or the interactive graphic in TEC Module 10.1B) to draw the graphs of hypocycloids with  $a$  a positive integer and  $b = 1$ . How does the value of  $a$  affect the

**TEC** Look at Module 10.1B to see how hypocycloids and epicycloids are formed by the motion of rolling circles.

graph? Show that if we take  $a = 4$ , then the parametric equations of the hypocycloid reduce to

$$x = 4 \cos^3 \theta \quad y = 4 \sin^3 \theta$$

This curve is called a **hypocycloid of four cusps**, or an **astroid**.

- Now try  $b = 1$  and  $a = n/d$ , a fraction where  $n$  and  $d$  have no common factor. First let  $n = 1$  and try to determine graphically the effect of the denominator  $d$  on the shape of the graph. Then let  $n$  vary while keeping  $d$  constant. What happens when  $n = d + 1$ ?
- What happens if  $b = 1$  and  $a$  is irrational? Experiment with an irrational number like  $\sqrt{2}$  or  $e - 2$ . Take larger and larger values for  $\theta$  and speculate on what would happen if we were to graph the hypocycloid for all real values of  $\theta$ .
- If the circle  $C$  rolls on the *outside* of the fixed circle, the curve traced out by  $P$  is called an **epicycloid**. Find parametric equations for the epicycloid.
- Investigate the possible shapes for epicycloids. Use methods similar to Problems 2–4.

## 10.2 Calculus with Parametric Curves

Having seen how to represent curves by parametric equations, we now apply the methods of calculus to these parametric curves. In particular, we solve problems involving tangents, areas, arc length, and surface area.

### Tangents

Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable functions and we want to find the tangent line at a point on the parametric curve  $x = f(t)$ ,  $y = g(t)$ , where  $y$  is also a differentiable function of  $x$ . Then the Chain Rule gives

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

If  $dx/dt \neq 0$ , we can solve for  $dy/dx$ :

If we think of the curve as being traced out by a moving particle, then  $dy/dt$  and  $dx/dt$  are the vertical and horizontal velocities of the particle and Formula 1 says that the slope of the tangent is the ratio of these velocities.

1

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} \quad \text{if } \frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0$$

Equation 1 (which you can remember by thinking of canceling the  $dt$ 's) enables us to find the slope  $dy/dx$  of the tangent to a parametric curve without having to eliminate the parameter  $t$ . We see from (1) that the curve has a horizontal tangent when  $dy/dt = 0$  (provided that  $dx/dt \neq 0$ ) and it has a vertical tangent when  $dx/dt = 0$  (provided that  $dy/dt \neq 0$ ). This information is useful for sketching parametric curves.

As we know from Chapter 4, it is also useful to consider  $d^2y/dx^2$ . This can be found by replacing  $y$  by  $dy/dx$  in Equation 1:

Note that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \neq \frac{\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}}{\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}}$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$$

**EXAMPLE 1** A curve  $C$  is defined by the parametric equations  $x = t^2$ ,  $y = t^3 - 3t$ .

- (a) Show that  $C$  has two tangents at the point  $(3, 0)$  and find their equations.  
 (b) Find the points on  $C$  where the tangent is horizontal or vertical.  
 (c) Determine where the curve is concave upward or downward.  
 (d) Sketch the curve.

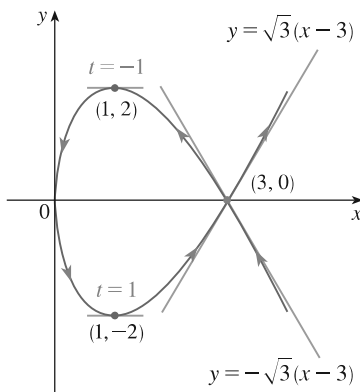
**SOLUTION**

(a) Notice that  $y = t^3 - 3t = t(t^2 - 3) = 0$  when  $t = 0$  or  $t = \pm\sqrt{3}$ . Therefore the point  $(3, 0)$  on  $C$  arises from two values of the parameter,  $t = \sqrt{3}$  and  $t = -\sqrt{3}$ . This indicates that  $C$  crosses itself at  $(3, 0)$ . Since

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{3t^2 - 3}{2t} = \frac{3}{2} \left( t - \frac{1}{t} \right)$$

the slope of the tangent when  $t = \pm\sqrt{3}$  is  $dy/dx = \pm 6/(2\sqrt{3}) = \pm\sqrt{3}$ , so the equations of the tangents at  $(3, 0)$  are

$$y = \sqrt{3}(x - 3) \quad \text{and} \quad y = -\sqrt{3}(x - 3)$$



**FIGURE 1**

(b)  $C$  has a horizontal tangent when  $dy/dx = 0$ , that is, when  $dy/dt = 0$  and  $dx/dt \neq 0$ . Since  $dy/dt = 3t^2 - 3$ , this happens when  $t^2 = 1$ , that is,  $t = \pm 1$ . The corresponding points on  $C$  are  $(1, -2)$  and  $(1, 2)$ .  $C$  has a vertical tangent when  $dx/dt = 2t = 0$ , that is,  $t = 0$ . (Note that  $dy/dt \neq 0$  there.) The corresponding point on  $C$  is  $(0, 0)$ .

(c) To determine concavity we calculate the second derivative:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{\frac{3}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{t^2} \right)}{2t} = \frac{3(t^2 + 1)}{4t^3}$$

Thus the curve is concave upward when  $t > 0$  and concave downward when  $t < 0$ .

(d) Using the information from parts (b) and (c), we sketch  $C$  in Figure 1. ■

**EXAMPLE 2**

- (a) Find the tangent to the cycloid  $x = r(\theta - \sin \theta)$ ,  $y = r(1 - \cos \theta)$  at the point where  $\theta = \pi/3$ . (See Example 10.1.7.)  
 (b) At what points is the tangent horizontal? When is it vertical?

**SOLUTION**

(a) The slope of the tangent line is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta} = \frac{r \sin \theta}{r(1 - \cos \theta)} = \frac{\sin \theta}{1 - \cos \theta}$$

When  $\theta = \pi/3$ , we have

$$x = r \left( \frac{\pi}{3} - \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \right) = r \left( \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \quad y = r \left( 1 - \cos \frac{\pi}{3} \right) = \frac{r}{2}$$

and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sin(\pi/3)}{1 - \cos(\pi/3)} = \frac{\sqrt{3}/2}{1 - 1/2} = \sqrt{3}$$



Therefore the slope of the tangent is  $\sqrt{3}$  and its equation is

$$y - \frac{r}{2} = \sqrt{3} \left( x - \frac{r\pi}{3} + \frac{r\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt{3}x - y = r \left( \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} - 2 \right)$$

The tangent is sketched in Figure 2.

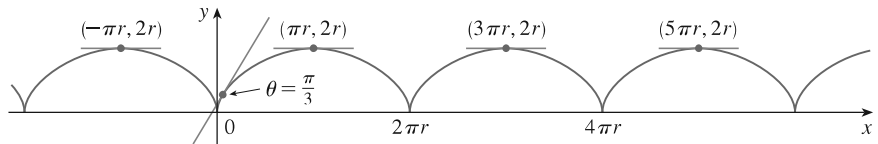


FIGURE 2

(b) The tangent is horizontal when  $dy/dx = 0$ , which occurs when  $\sin \theta = 0$  and  $1 - \cos \theta \neq 0$ , that is,  $\theta = (2n - 1)\pi$ ,  $n$  an integer. The corresponding point on the cycloid is  $((2n - 1)\pi r, 2r)$ .

When  $\theta = 2n\pi$ , both  $dx/d\theta$  and  $dy/d\theta$  are 0. It appears from the graph that there are vertical tangents at those points. We can verify this by using l'Hospital's Rule as follows:

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 2n\pi^+} \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 2n\pi^+} \frac{\sin \theta}{1 - \cos \theta} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 2n\pi^+} \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = \infty$$

A similar computation shows that  $dy/dx \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $\theta \rightarrow 2n\pi^-$ , so indeed there are vertical tangents when  $\theta = 2n\pi$ , that is, when  $x = 2n\pi r$ . ■

### ■ Areas

We know that the area under a curve  $y = F(x)$  from  $a$  to  $b$  is  $A = \int_a^b F(x) dx$ , where  $F(x) \geq 0$ . If the curve is traced out once by the parametric equations  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$ ,  $\alpha \leq t \leq \beta$ , then we can calculate an area formula by using the Substitution Rule for Definite Integrals as follows:

$$A = \int_a^b y dx = \int_\alpha^\beta g(t)f'(t) dt \quad \left[ \text{or} \quad \int_\beta^\alpha g(t)f'(t) dt \right]$$

The limits of integration for  $t$  are found as usual with the Substitution Rule. When  $x = a$ ,  $t$  is either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ . When  $x = b$ ,  $t$  is the remaining value.

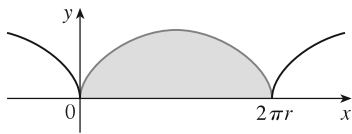


FIGURE 3

The result of Example 3 says that the area under one arch of the cycloid is three times the area of the rolling circle that generates the cycloid (see Example 10.1.7). Galileo guessed this result but it was first proved by the French mathematician Roberval and the Italian mathematician Torricelli.

**EXAMPLE 3** Find the area under one arch of the cycloid

$$x = r(\theta - \sin \theta) \quad y = r(1 - \cos \theta)$$

(See Figure 3.)

**SOLUTION** One arch of the cycloid is given by  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ . Using the Substitution Rule with  $y = r(1 - \cos \theta)$  and  $dx = r(1 - \cos \theta) d\theta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_0^{2\pi r} y dx = \int_0^{2\pi} r(1 - \cos \theta) r(1 - \cos \theta) d\theta \\ &= r^2 \int_0^{2\pi} (1 - \cos \theta)^2 d\theta = r^2 \int_0^{2\pi} (1 - 2\cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta) d\theta \\ &= r^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \left[ 1 - 2\cos \theta + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2\theta) \right] d\theta \\ &= r^2 \left[ \frac{3}{2}\theta - 2\sin \theta + \frac{1}{4}\sin 2\theta \right]_0^{2\pi} \\ &= r^2 \left( \frac{3}{2} \cdot 2\pi \right) = 3\pi r^2 \end{aligned}$$

### ■ Arc Length

We already know how to find the length  $L$  of a curve  $C$  given in the form  $y = F(x)$ ,  $a \leq x \leq b$ . Formula 8.1.3 says that if  $F'$  is continuous, then

$$\boxed{2} \quad L = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx$$

Suppose that  $C$  can also be described by the parametric equations  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$ ,  $\alpha \leq t \leq \beta$ , where  $dx/dt = f'(t) > 0$ . This means that  $C$  is traversed once, from left to right, as  $t$  increases from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  and  $f(\alpha) = a$ ,  $f(\beta) = b$ . Putting Formula 1 into Formula 2 and using the Substitution Rule, we obtain

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx = \int_\alpha^\beta \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt}\right)^2} \frac{dx}{dt} dt$$

Since  $dx/dt > 0$ , we have

$$\boxed{3} \quad L = \int_\alpha^\beta \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

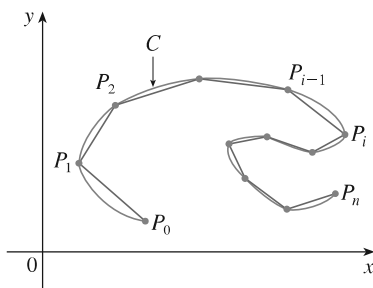


FIGURE 4

Even if  $C$  can't be expressed in the form  $y = F(x)$ , Formula 3 is still valid but we obtain it by polygonal approximations. We divide the parameter interval  $[\alpha, \beta]$  into  $n$  subintervals of equal width  $\Delta t$ . If  $t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$  are the endpoints of these subintervals, then  $x_i = f(t_i)$  and  $y_i = g(t_i)$  are the coordinates of points  $P_i(x_i, y_i)$  that lie on  $C$  and the polygon with vertices  $P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n$  approximates  $C$ . (See Figure 4.)

As in Section 8.1, we define the length  $L$  of  $C$  to be the limit of the lengths of these approximating polygons as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n |P_{i-1}P_i|$$

The Mean Value Theorem, when applied to  $f$  on the interval  $[t_{i-1}, t_i]$ , gives a number  $t_i^*$  in  $(t_{i-1}, t_i)$  such that

$$f(t_i) - f(t_{i-1}) = f'(t_i^*)(t_i - t_{i-1})$$

If we let  $\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$  and  $\Delta y_i = y_i - y_{i-1}$ , this equation becomes

$$\Delta x_i = f'(t_i^*) \Delta t$$

Similarly, when applied to  $g$ , the Mean Value Theorem gives a number  $t_i^{**}$  in  $(t_{i-1}, t_i)$  such that

$$\Delta y_i = g'(t_i^{**}) \Delta t$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |P_{i-1}P_i| &= \sqrt{(\Delta x_i)^2 + (\Delta y_i)^2} = \sqrt{[f'(t_i^*) \Delta t]^2 + [g'(t_i^{**}) \Delta t]^2} \\ &= \sqrt{[f'(t_i^*)]^2 + [g'(t_i^{**})]^2} \Delta t \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\boxed{4} \quad L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{[f'(t_i^*)]^2 + [g'(t_i^{**})]^2} \Delta t$$

The sum in (4) resembles a Riemann sum for the function  $\sqrt{[f'(t)]^2 + [g'(t)]^2}$  but it is not exactly a Riemann sum because  $t_i^* \neq t_i^{**}$  in general. Nevertheless, if  $f'$  and  $g'$  are continuous, it can be shown that the limit in (4) is the same as if  $t_i^*$  and  $t_i^{**}$  were equal, namely,

$$L = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{[f'(t)]^2 + [g'(t)]^2} dt$$

Thus, using Leibniz notation, we have the following result, which has the same form as Formula 3.

**5 Theorem** If a curve  $C$  is described by the parametric equations  $x = f(t)$ ,  $y = g(t)$ ,  $\alpha \leq t \leq \beta$ , where  $f'$  and  $g'$  are continuous on  $[\alpha, \beta]$  and  $C$  is traversed exactly once as  $t$  increases from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ , then the length of  $C$  is

$$L = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

Notice that the formula in Theorem 5 is consistent with the general formulas  $L = \int ds$  and  $(ds)^2 = (dx)^2 + (dy)^2$  of Section 8.1.

**EXAMPLE 4** If we use the representation of the unit circle given in Example 10.1.2,

$$x = \cos t \quad y = \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

then  $dx/dt = -\sin t$  and  $dy/dt = \cos t$ , so Theorem 5 gives

$$L = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t} dt = \int_0^{2\pi} dt = 2\pi$$

as expected. If, on the other hand, we use the representation given in Example 10.1.3,

$$x = \sin 2t \quad y = \cos 2t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

then  $dx/dt = 2 \cos 2t$ ,  $dy/dt = -2 \sin 2t$ , and the integral in Theorem 5 gives

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{4 \cos^2 2t + 4 \sin^2 2t} dt = \int_0^{2\pi} 2 dt = 4\pi$$

- ⊗ Notice that the integral gives twice the arc length of the circle because as  $t$  increases from 0 to  $2\pi$ , the point  $(\sin 2t, \cos 2t)$  traverses the circle twice. In general, when finding the length of a curve  $C$  from a parametric representation, we have to be careful to ensure that  $C$  is traversed only once as  $t$  increases from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ . ■

**EXAMPLE 5** Find the length of one arch of the cycloid  $x = r(\theta - \sin \theta)$ ,  $y = r(1 - \cos \theta)$ .

**SOLUTION** From Example 3 we see that one arch is described by the parameter interval  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ . Since

$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = r(1 - \cos \theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{d\theta} = r \sin \theta$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2(1 - \cos \theta)^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta} d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2(1 - 2 \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)} d\theta \\ &= r \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

The result of Example 5 says that the length of one arch of a cycloid is eight times the radius of the generating circle (see Figure 5). This was first proved in 1658 by Sir Christopher Wren, who later became the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

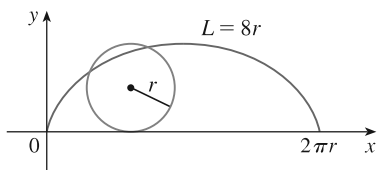


FIGURE 5

To evaluate this integral we use the identity  $\sin^2 x = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2x)$  with  $\theta = 2x$ , which gives  $1 - \cos \theta = 2 \sin^2(\theta/2)$ . Since  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , we have  $0 \leq \theta/2 \leq \pi$  and so  $\sin(\theta/2) \geq 0$ . Therefore

$$\sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)} = \sqrt{4 \sin^2(\theta/2)} = 2 |\sin(\theta/2)| = 2 \sin(\theta/2)$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} L &= 2r \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(\theta/2) d\theta = 2r[-2 \cos(\theta/2)]_0^{2\pi} \\ &= 2r[2 + 2] = 8r \end{aligned}$$

### ■ Surface Area

In the same way as for arc length, we can adapt Formula 8.2.5 to obtain a formula for surface area. Suppose the curve  $c$  given by the parametric equations  $x = f(t), y = g(t), \alpha \leq t \leq \beta$ , where  $f', g'$  are continuous,  $g(t) \geq 0$ , is rotated about the  $x$ -axis. If  $C$  is traversed exactly once as  $t$  increases from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ , then the area of the resulting surface is given by

$$\boxed{6} \quad S = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} 2\pi y \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

The general symbolic formulas  $S = \int 2\pi y ds$  and  $S = \int 2\pi x ds$  (Formulas 8.2.7 and 8.2.8) are still valid, but for parametric curves we use

$$ds = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

**EXAMPLE 6** Show that the surface area of a sphere of radius  $r$  is  $4\pi r^2$ .

**SOLUTION** The sphere is obtained by rotating the semicircle

$$x = r \cos t \quad y = r \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$$

about the  $x$ -axis. Therefore, from Formula 6, we get

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \int_0^{\pi} 2\pi r \sin t \sqrt{(-r \sin t)^2 + (r \cos t)^2} dt \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi} r \sin t \sqrt{r^2(\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t)} dt = 2\pi \int_0^{\pi} r \sin t \cdot r dt \\ &= 2\pi r^2 \int_0^{\pi} \sin t dt = 2\pi r^2(-\cos t) \Big|_0^{\pi} = 4\pi r^2 \end{aligned}$$

## 10.2 EXERCISES

1–2 Find  $dy/dx$ .

1.  $x = \frac{t}{1+t}, y = \sqrt{1+t}$

2.  $x = te^t, y = t + \sin t$

3–6 Find an equation of the tangent to the curve at the point corresponding to the given value of the parameter.

3.  $x = t^3 + 1, y = t^4 + t; t = -1$

4.  $x = \sqrt{t}, y = t^2 - 2t; t = 4$

5.  $x = t \cos t, y = t \sin t; t = \pi$

6.  $x = e^t \sin \pi t, y = e^{2t}; t = 0$

7–8 Find an equation of the tangent to the curve at the given point by two methods: (a) without eliminating the parameter and (b) by first eliminating the parameter.

7.  $x = 1 + \ln t, y = t^2 + 2; (1, 3)$

8.  $x = 1 + \sqrt{t}, y = e^{t^2}; (2, e)$

9–10 Find an equation of the tangent to the curve at the given point. Then graph the curve and the tangent.

9.  $x = t^2 - t, y = t^2 + t + 1; (0, 3)$

10.  $x = \sin \pi t, y = t^2 + t; (0, 2)$

11–16 Find  $dy/dx$  and  $d^2y/dx^2$ . For which values of  $t$  is the curve concave upward?

11.  $x = t^2 + 1, y = t^2 + t$

12.  $x = t^3 + 1, y = t^2 - t$

13.  $x = e^t, y = te^{-t}$

14.  $x = t^2 + 1, y = e^t - 1$

15.  $x = t - \ln t, y = t + \ln t$

16.  $x = \cos t, y = \sin 2t, 0 < t < \pi$

17–20 Find the points on the curve where the tangent is horizontal or vertical. If you have a graphing device, graph the curve to check your work.

17.  $x = t^3 - 3t, y = t^2 - 3$

18.  $x = t^3 - 3t, y = t^3 - 3t^2$

19.  $x = \cos \theta, y = \cos 3\theta$

20.  $x = e^{\sin \theta}, y = e^{\cos \theta}$

21. Use a graph to estimate the coordinates of the rightmost point on the curve  $x = t - t^6, y = e^t$ . Then use calculus to find the exact coordinates.22. Use a graph to estimate the coordinates of the lowest point and the leftmost point on the curve  $x = t^4 - 2t, y = t + t^4$ . Then find the exact coordinates.

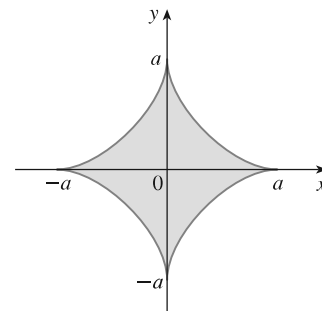
23–24 Graph the curve in a viewing rectangle that displays all the important aspects of the curve.

23.  $x = t^4 - 2t^3 - 2t^2, y = t^3 - t$

24.  $x = t^4 + 4t^3 - 8t^2, y = 2t^2 - t$

25. Show that the curve  $x = \cos t, y = \sin t \cos t$  has two tangents at  $(0, 0)$  and find their equations. Sketch the curve.26. Graph the curve  $x = -2 \cos t, y = \sin t + \sin 2t$  to discover where it crosses itself. Then find equations of both tangents at that point.27. (a) Find the slope of the tangent line to the trochoid  $x = r\theta - d \sin \theta, y = r - d \cos \theta$  in terms of  $\theta$ . (See Exercise 10.1.40.)(b) Show that if  $d < r$ , then the trochoid does not have a vertical tangent.28. (a) Find the slope of the tangent to the astroid  $x = a \cos^3 \theta, y = a \sin^3 \theta$  in terms of  $\theta$ . (Astroids are explored in the Laboratory Project on page 649.)

(b) At what points is the tangent horizontal or vertical?

(c) At what points does the tangent have slope 1 or  $-1$ ?29. At what point(s) on the curve  $x = 3t^2 + 1, y = t^3 - 1$  does the tangent line have slope  $\frac{1}{2}$ ?30. Find equations of the tangents to the curve  $x = 3t^2 + 1, y = 2t^3 + 1$  that pass through the point  $(4, 3)$ .31. Use the parametric equations of an ellipse,  $x = a \cos \theta, y = b \sin \theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , to find the area that it encloses.32. Find the area enclosed by the curve  $x = t^2 - 2t, y = \sqrt{t}$  and the  $y$ -axis.33. Find the area enclosed by the  $x$ -axis and the curve  $x = t^3 + 1, y = 2t - t^2$ .34. Find the area of the region enclosed by the astroid  $x = a \cos^3 \theta, y = a \sin^3 \theta$ . (Astroids are explored in the Laboratory Project on page 649.)35. Find the area under one arch of the trochoid of Exercise 10.1.40 for the case  $d < r$ .

36. Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the region enclosed by the loop of the curve in Example 1.  
 (a) Find the area of  $\mathcal{R}$ .  
 (b) If  $\mathcal{R}$  is rotated about the  $x$ -axis, find the volume of the resulting solid.  
 (c) Find the centroid of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

37–40 Set up an integral that represents the length of the curve. Then use your calculator to find the length correct to four decimal places.

37.  $x = t + e^{-t}, \quad y = t - e^{-t}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2$

38.  $x = t^2 - t, \quad y = t^4, \quad 1 \leq t \leq 4$

39.  $x = t - 2 \sin t, \quad y = 1 - 2 \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$

40.  $x = t + \sqrt{t}, \quad y = t - \sqrt{t}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$


41–44 Find the exact length of the curve.

41.  $x = 1 + 3t^2, \quad y = 4 + 2t^3, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

42.  $x = e^t - t, \quad y = 4e^{t/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2$


43.  $x = t \sin t, \quad y = t \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

44.  $x = 3 \cos t - \cos 3t, \quad y = 3 \sin t - \sin 3t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$

 45–46 Graph the curve and find its exact length.

45.  $x = e^t \cos t, \quad y = e^t \sin t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$

46.  $x = \cos t + \ln(\tan \frac{1}{2}t), \quad y = \sin t, \quad \pi/4 \leq t \leq 3\pi/4$

 47. Graph the curve  $x = \sin t + \sin 1.5t, y = \cos t$  and find its length correct to four decimal places.

48. Find the length of the loop of the curve  $x = 3t - t^3, y = 3t^2$ .

49. Use Simpson's Rule with  $n = 6$  to estimate the length of the curve  $x = t - e^t, y = t + e^t, -6 \leq t \leq 6$ .

50. In Exercise 10.1.43 you were asked to derive the parametric equations  $x = 2a \cot \theta, y = 2a \sin^2 \theta$  for the curve called the witch of Maria Agnesi. Use Simpson's Rule with  $n = 4$  to estimate the length of the arc of this curve given by  $\pi/4 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$ .

51–52 Find the distance traveled by a particle with position  $(x, y)$  as  $t$  varies in the given time interval. Compare with the length of the curve.

51.  $x = \sin^2 t, \quad y = \cos^2 t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 3\pi$

52.  $x = \cos^2 t, \quad y = \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$

53. Show that the total length of the ellipse  $x = a \sin \theta, y = b \cos \theta, a > b > 0$ , is

$$L = 4a \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \theta} \, d\theta$$

where  $e$  is the eccentricity of the ellipse ( $e = c/a$ , where  $c = \sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$ ).

54. Find the total length of the astroid  $x = a \cos^3 \theta, y = a \sin^3 \theta$ , where  $a > 0$ .

 55. (a) Graph the **epitrochoid** with equations

$$x = 11 \cos t - 4 \cos(11t/2)$$

$$y = 11 \sin t - 4 \sin(11t/2)$$

What parameter interval gives the complete curve?

(b) Use your CAS to find the approximate length of this curve.

 56. A curve called **Cornu's spiral** is defined by the parametric equations

$$x = C(t) = \int_0^t \cos(\pi u^2/2) \, du$$

$$y = S(t) = \int_0^t \sin(\pi u^2/2) \, du$$

where  $C$  and  $S$  are the Fresnel functions that were introduced in Chapter 5.

(a) Graph this curve. What happens as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  and as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ?

(b) Find the length of Cornu's spiral from the origin to the point with parameter value  $t$ .

57–60 Set up an integral that represents the area of the surface obtained by rotating the given curve about the  $x$ -axis. Then use your calculator to find the surface area correct to four decimal places.

57.  $x = t \sin t, \quad y = t \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$

58.  $x = \sin t, \quad y = \sin 2t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$

59.  $x = t + e^t, \quad y = e^{-t}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$


60.  $x = t^2 - t^3, \quad y = t + t^4, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

61–63 Find the exact area of the surface obtained by rotating the given curve about the  $x$ -axis.

61.  $x = t^3, \quad y = t^2, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

62.  $x = 2t^2 + 1/t, \quad y = 8\sqrt{t}, \quad 1 \leq t \leq 3$

63.  $x = a \cos^3 \theta, \quad y = a \sin^3 \theta, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$

 64. Graph the curve

$$x = 2 \cos \theta - \cos 2\theta \quad y = 2 \sin \theta - \sin 2\theta$$

If this curve is rotated about the  $x$ -axis, find the exact area of the resulting surface. (Use your graph to help find the correct parameter interval.)

65–66 Find the surface area generated by rotating the given curve about the  $y$ -axis.

65.  $x = 3t^2, \quad y = 2t^3, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 5$

66.  $x = e^t - t, \quad y = 4e^{t/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

67. If  $f'$  is continuous and  $f'(t) \neq 0$  for  $a \leq t \leq b$ , show that the parametric curve  $x = f(t), y = g(t), a \leq t \leq b$ , can be put in the form  $y = F(x)$ . [Hint: Show that  $f^{-1}$  exists.]

68. Use Formula 1 to derive Formula 6 from Formula 8.2.5 for the case in which the curve can be represented in the form  $y = F(x), a \leq x \leq b$ .

69. The **curvature** at a point  $P$  of a curve is defined as

$$\kappa = \left| \frac{d\phi}{ds} \right|$$

where  $\phi$  is the angle of inclination of the tangent line at  $P$ , as shown in the figure. Thus the curvature is the absolute value of the rate of change of  $\phi$  with respect to arc length. It can be regarded as a measure of the rate of change of direction of the curve at  $P$  and will be studied in greater detail in Chapter 13.

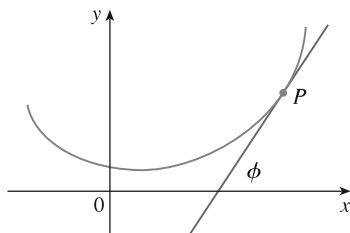
(a) For a parametric curve  $x = x(t), y = y(t)$ , derive the formula

$$\kappa = \frac{|\ddot{x}\dot{y} - \dot{x}\ddot{y}|}{[\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2]^{3/2}}$$

where the dots indicate derivatives with respect to  $t$ , so  $\dot{x} = dx/dt$ . [Hint: Use  $\phi = \tan^{-1}(dy/dx)$  and Formula 2 to find  $d\phi/dt$ . Then use the Chain Rule to find  $d\phi/ds$ .]

(b) By regarding a curve  $y = f(x)$  as the parametric curve  $x = x, y = f(x)$ , with parameter  $x$ , show that the formula in part (a) becomes

$$\kappa = \frac{|d^2y/dx^2|}{[1 + (dy/dx)^2]^{3/2}}$$



70. (a) Use the formula in Exercise 69(b) to find the curvature of the parabola  $y = x^2$  at the point  $(1, 1)$ .  
(b) At what point does this parabola have maximum curvature?

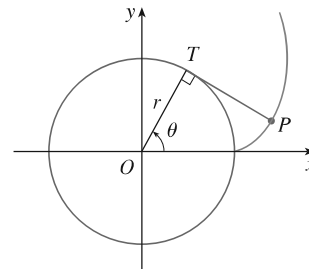
71. Use the formula in Exercise 69(a) to find the curvature of the cycloid  $x = \theta - \sin \theta, y = 1 - \cos \theta$  at the top of one of its arches.

72. (a) Show that the curvature at each point of a straight line is  $\kappa = 0$ .

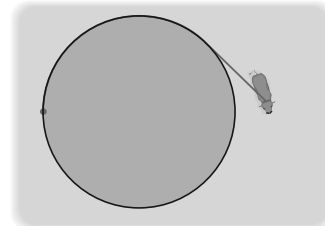
(b) Show that the curvature at each point of a circle of radius  $r$  is  $\kappa = 1/r$ .

73. A string is wound around a circle and then unwound while being held taut. The curve traced by the point  $P$  at the end of the string is called the **involute** of the circle. If the circle has radius  $r$  and center  $O$  and the initial position of  $P$  is  $(r, 0)$ , and if the parameter  $\theta$  is chosen as in the figure, show that parametric equations of the involute are

$$x = r(\cos \theta + \theta \sin \theta) \quad y = r(\sin \theta - \theta \cos \theta)$$



74. A cow is tied to a silo with radius  $r$  by a rope just long enough to reach the opposite side of the silo. Find the grazing area available for the cow.



## LABORATORY PROJECT BÉZIER CURVES

**Bézier curves** are used in computer-aided design and are named after the French mathematician Pierre Bézier (1910–1999), who worked in the automotive industry. A cubic Bézier curve is determined by four *control points*,  $P_0(x_0, y_0), P_1(x_1, y_1), P_2(x_2, y_2)$ , and  $P_3(x_3, y_3)$ , and is defined by the parametric equations

$$x = x_0(1 - t)^3 + 3x_1t(1 - t)^2 + 3x_2t^2(1 - t) + x_3t^3$$

$$y = y_0(1 - t)^3 + 3y_1t(1 - t)^2 + 3y_2t^2(1 - t) + y_3t^3$$

where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ . Notice that when  $t = 0$  we have  $(x, y) = (x_0, y_0)$  and when  $t = 1$  we have  $(x, y) = (x_3, y_3)$ , so the curve starts at  $P_0$  and ends at  $P_3$ .

- Graph the Bézier curve with control points  $P_0(4, 1)$ ,  $P_1(28, 48)$ ,  $P_2(50, 42)$ , and  $P_3(40, 5)$ . Then, on the same screen, graph the line segments  $P_0P_1$ ,  $P_1P_2$ , and  $P_2P_3$ . (Exercise 10.1.31 shows how to do this.) Notice that the middle control points  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  don't lie on the curve; the curve starts at  $P_0$ , heads toward  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  without reaching them, and ends at  $P_3$ .
- From the graph in Problem 1, it appears that the tangent at  $P_0$  passes through  $P_1$  and the tangent at  $P_3$  passes through  $P_2$ . Prove it.
- Try to produce a Bézier curve with a loop by changing the second control point in Problem 1.
- Some laser printers use Bézier curves to represent letters and other symbols. Experiment with control points until you find a Bézier curve that gives a reasonable representation of the letter C.
- More complicated shapes can be represented by piecing together two or more Bézier curves. Suppose the first Bézier curve has control points  $P_0, P_1, P_2, P_3$  and the second one has control points  $P_3, P_4, P_5, P_6$ . If we want these two pieces to join together smoothly, then the tangents at  $P_3$  should match and so the points  $P_2, P_3$ , and  $P_4$  all have to lie on this common tangent line. Using this principle, find control points for a pair of Bézier curves that represent the letter S.

### 10.3 Polar Coordinates

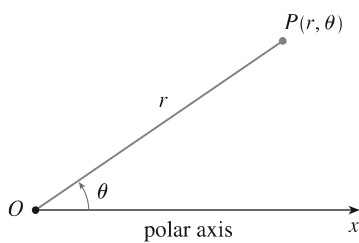


FIGURE 1

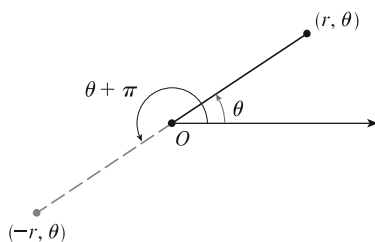


FIGURE 2

A coordinate system represents a point in the plane by an ordered pair of numbers called coordinates. Usually we use Cartesian coordinates, which are directed distances from two perpendicular axes. Here we describe a coordinate system introduced by Newton, called the **polar coordinate system**, which is more convenient for many purposes.

We choose a point in the plane that is called the **pole** (or origin) and is labeled  $O$ . Then we draw a ray (half-line) starting at  $O$  called the **polar axis**. This axis is usually drawn horizontally to the right and corresponds to the positive  $x$ -axis in Cartesian coordinates.

If  $P$  is any other point in the plane, let  $r$  be the distance from  $O$  to  $P$  and let  $\theta$  be the angle (usually measured in radians) between the polar axis and the line  $OP$  as in Figure 1. Then the point  $P$  is represented by the ordered pair  $(r, \theta)$  and  $r, \theta$  are called **polar coordinates** of  $P$ . We use the convention that an angle is positive if measured in the counterclockwise direction from the polar axis and negative in the clockwise direction. If  $P = O$ , then  $r = 0$  and we agree that  $(0, \theta)$  represents the pole for any value of  $\theta$ .

We extend the meaning of polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  to the case in which  $r$  is negative by agreeing that, as in Figure 2, the points  $(-r, \theta)$  and  $(r, \theta)$  lie on the same line through  $O$  and at the same distance  $|r|$  from  $O$ , but on opposite sides of  $O$ . If  $r > 0$ , the point  $(r, \theta)$  lies in the same quadrant as  $\theta$ ; if  $r < 0$ , it lies in the quadrant on the opposite side of the pole. Notice that  $(-r, \theta)$  represents the same point as  $(r, \theta + \pi)$ .

**EXAMPLE 1** Plot the points whose polar coordinates are given.

- (a)  $(1, 5\pi/4)$       (b)  $(2, 3\pi)$       (c)  $(2, -2\pi/3)$       (d)  $(-3, 3\pi/4)$



**SOLUTION** The points are plotted in Figure 3. In part (d) the point  $(-3, 3\pi/4)$  is located three units from the pole in the fourth quadrant because the angle  $3\pi/4$  is in the second quadrant and  $r = -3$  is negative.

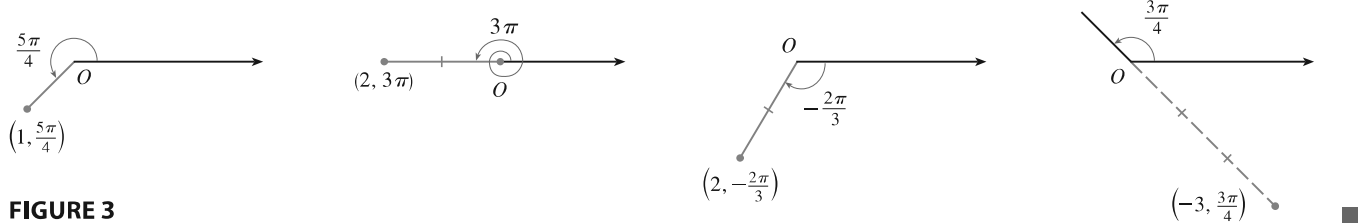


FIGURE 3

In the Cartesian coordinate system every point has only one representation, but in the polar coordinate system each point has many representations. For instance, the point  $(1, 5\pi/4)$  in Example 1(a) could be written as  $(1, -3\pi/4)$  or  $(1, 13\pi/4)$  or  $(-1, \pi/4)$ . (See Figure 4.)

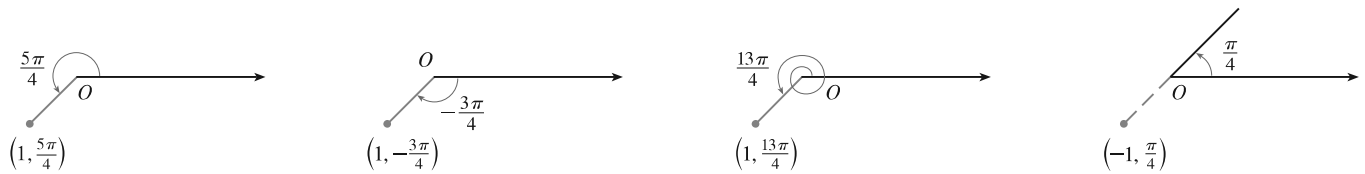


FIGURE 4

In fact, since a complete counterclockwise rotation is given by an angle  $2\pi$ , the point represented by polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  is also represented by

$$(r, \theta + 2n\pi) \quad \text{and} \quad (-r, \theta + (2n + 1)\pi)$$

where  $n$  is any integer.

The connection between polar and Cartesian coordinates can be seen from Figure 5, in which the pole corresponds to the origin and the polar axis coincides with the positive  $x$ -axis. If the point  $P$  has Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$  and polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$ , then, from the figure, we have

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \quad \sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

and so

1

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

Although Equations 1 were deduced from Figure 5, which illustrates the case where  $r > 0$  and  $0 < \theta < \pi/2$ , these equations are valid for all values of  $r$  and  $\theta$ . (See the general definition of  $\sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta$  in Appendix D.)

Equations 1 allow us to find the Cartesian coordinates of a point when the polar coordinates are known. To find  $r$  and  $\theta$  when  $x$  and  $y$  are known, we use the equations

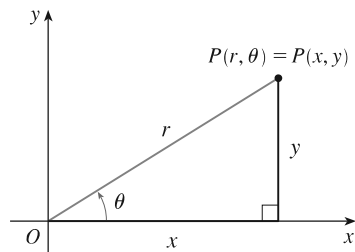


FIGURE 5

2

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \quad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

which can be deduced from Equations 1 or simply read from Figure 5.

**EXAMPLE 2** Convert the point  $(2, \pi/3)$  from polar to Cartesian coordinates.

**SOLUTION** Since  $r = 2$  and  $\theta = \pi/3$ , Equations 1 give

$$x = r \cos \theta = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{3} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 1$$

$$y = r \sin \theta = 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \sqrt{3}$$

Therefore the point is  $(1, \sqrt{3})$  in Cartesian coordinates. ■

**EXAMPLE 3** Represent the point with Cartesian coordinates  $(1, -1)$  in terms of polar coordinates.

**SOLUTION** If we choose  $r$  to be positive, then Equations 2 give

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{1^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x} = -1$$

Since the point  $(1, -1)$  lies in the fourth quadrant, we can choose  $\theta = -\pi/4$  or  $\theta = 7\pi/4$ . Thus one possible answer is  $(\sqrt{2}, -\pi/4)$ ; another is  $(\sqrt{2}, 7\pi/4)$ . ■

**NOTE** Equations 2 do not uniquely determine  $\theta$  when  $x$  and  $y$  are given because, as  $\theta$  increases through the interval  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ , each value of  $\tan \theta$  occurs twice. Therefore, in converting from Cartesian to polar coordinates, it's not good enough just to find  $r$  and  $\theta$  that satisfy Equations 2. As in Example 3, we must choose  $\theta$  so that the point  $(r, \theta)$  lies in the correct quadrant.

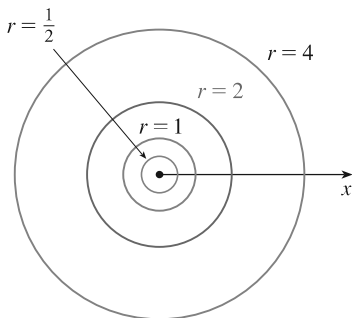


FIGURE 6

### ■ Polar Curves

The **graph of a polar equation**  $r = f(\theta)$ , or more generally  $F(r, \theta) = 0$ , consists of all points  $P$  that have at least one polar representation  $(r, \theta)$  whose coordinates satisfy the equation.

**EXAMPLE 4** What curve is represented by the polar equation  $r = 2$ ?

**SOLUTION** The curve consists of all points  $(r, \theta)$  with  $r = 2$ . Since  $r$  represents the distance from the point to the pole, the curve  $r = 2$  represents the circle with center  $O$  and radius 2. In general, the equation  $r = a$  represents a circle with center  $O$  and radius  $|a|$ . (See Figure 6.) ■

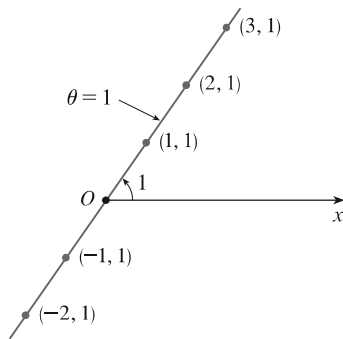


FIGURE 7

**EXAMPLE 5** Sketch the polar curve  $\theta = 1$ .

**SOLUTION** This curve consists of all points  $(r, \theta)$  such that the polar angle  $\theta$  is 1 radian. It is the straight line that passes through  $O$  and makes an angle of 1 radian with the polar axis (see Figure 7). Notice that the points  $(r, 1)$  on the line with  $r > 0$  are in the first quadrant, whereas those with  $r < 0$  are in the third quadrant. ■

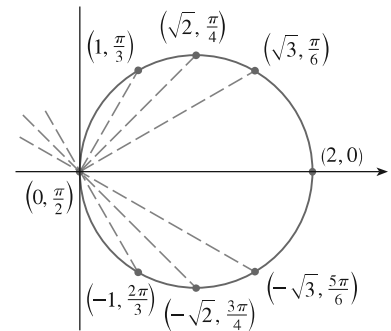
**EXAMPLE 6**

- (a) Sketch the curve with polar equation  $r = 2 \cos \theta$ .  
 (b) Find a Cartesian equation for this curve.

**SOLUTION**

(a) In Figure 8 we find the values of  $r$  for some convenient values of  $\theta$  and plot the corresponding points  $(r, \theta)$ . Then we join these points to sketch the curve, which appears to be a circle. We have used only values of  $\theta$  between 0 and  $\pi$ , since if we let  $\theta$  increase beyond  $\pi$ , we obtain the same points again.

$\theta$	$r = 2 \cos \theta$
0	2
$\pi/6$	$\sqrt{3}$
$\pi/4$	$\sqrt{2}$
$\pi/3$	1
$\pi/2$	0
$2\pi/3$	-1
$3\pi/4$	$-\sqrt{2}$
$5\pi/6$	$-\sqrt{3}$
$\pi$	-2



**FIGURE 8**  
Table of values and graph of  $r = 2 \cos \theta$

(b) To convert the given equation to a Cartesian equation we use Equations 1 and 2. From  $x = r \cos \theta$  we have  $\cos \theta = x/r$ , so the equation  $r = 2 \cos \theta$  becomes  $r = 2x/r$ , which gives

$$2x = r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 + y^2 - 2x = 0$$

Completing the square, we obtain

$$(x - 1)^2 + y^2 = 1$$

which is an equation of a circle with center  $(1, 0)$  and radius 1. ■

Figure 9 shows a geometrical illustration that the circle in Example 6 has the equation  $r = 2 \cos \theta$ . The angle  $OPQ$  is a right angle (Why?) and so  $r/2 = \cos \theta$ .

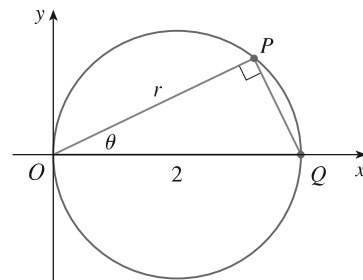
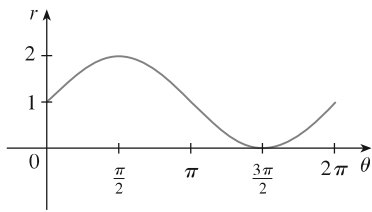


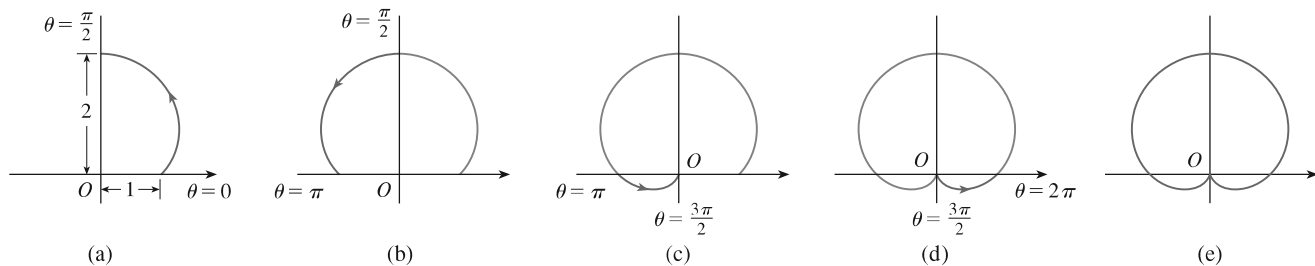
FIGURE 9



**FIGURE 10**  
 $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  in Cartesian coordinates,  
 $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

**EXAMPLE 7** Sketch the curve  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ .

**SOLUTION** Instead of plotting points as in Example 6, we first sketch the graph of  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  in Cartesian coordinates in Figure 10 by shifting the sine curve up one unit. This enables us to read at a glance the values of  $r$  that correspond to increasing values of  $\theta$ . For instance, we see that as  $\theta$  increases from 0 to  $\pi/2$ ,  $r$  (the distance from  $O$ ) increases from 1 to 2, so we sketch the corresponding part of the polar curve in Figure 11(a). As  $\theta$  increases from  $\pi/2$  to  $\pi$ , Figure 10 shows that  $r$  decreases from 2 to 1, so we sketch the next part of the curve as in Figure 11(b). As  $\theta$  increases from  $\pi$  to  $3\pi/2$ ,  $r$  decreases from 1 to 0 as shown in part (c). Finally, as  $\theta$  increases from  $3\pi/2$  to  $2\pi$ ,  $r$  increases from 0 to 1 as shown in part (d). If we let  $\theta$  increase beyond  $2\pi$  or decrease beyond 0, we would simply retrace our path. Putting together the parts of the curve from Figure 11(a)–(d), we sketch the complete curve in part (e). It is called a **cardioid** because it’s shaped like a heart.

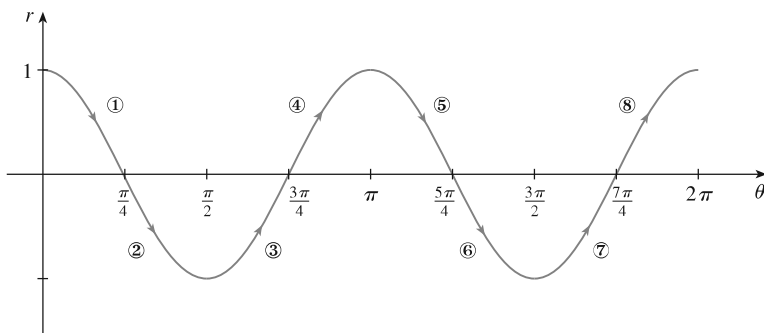


**FIGURE 11** Stages in sketching the cardioid  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$

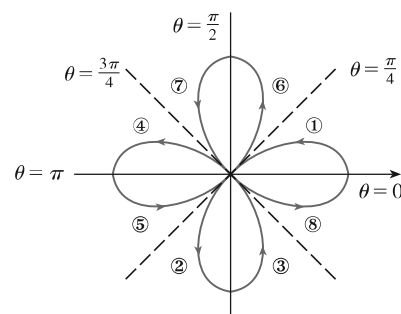
**TEC** Module 10.3 helps you see how polar curves are traced out by showing animations similar to Figures 10–13.

**EXAMPLE 8** Sketch the curve  $r = \cos 2\theta$ .

**SOLUTION** As in Example 7, we first sketch  $r = \cos 2\theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , in Cartesian coordinates in Figure 12. As  $\theta$  increases from 0 to  $\pi/4$ , Figure 12 shows that  $r$  decreases from 1 to 0 and so we draw the corresponding portion of the polar curve in Figure 13 (indicated by ①). As  $\theta$  increases from  $\pi/4$  to  $\pi/2$ ,  $r$  goes from 0 to  $-1$ . This means that the distance from  $O$  increases from 0 to 1, but instead of being in the first quadrant this portion of the polar curve (indicated by ②) lies on the opposite side of the pole in the third quadrant. The remainder of the curve is drawn in a similar fashion, with the arrows and numbers indicating the order in which the portions are traced out. The resulting curve has four loops and is called a **four-leaved rose**.



**FIGURE 12**  
 $r = \cos 2\theta$  in Cartesian coordinates



**FIGURE 13**  
 Four-leaved rose  $r = \cos 2\theta$

### ■ Symmetry

When we sketch polar curves it is sometimes helpful to take advantage of symmetry. The following three rules are explained by Figure 14.

- If a polar equation is unchanged when  $\theta$  is replaced by  $-\theta$ , the curve is symmetric about the polar axis.
- If the equation is unchanged when  $r$  is replaced by  $-r$ , or when  $\theta$  is replaced by  $\theta + \pi$ , the curve is symmetric about the pole. (This means that the curve remains unchanged if we rotate it through  $180^\circ$  about the origin.)
- If the equation is unchanged when  $\theta$  is replaced by  $\pi - \theta$ , the curve is symmetric about the vertical line  $\theta = \pi/2$ .

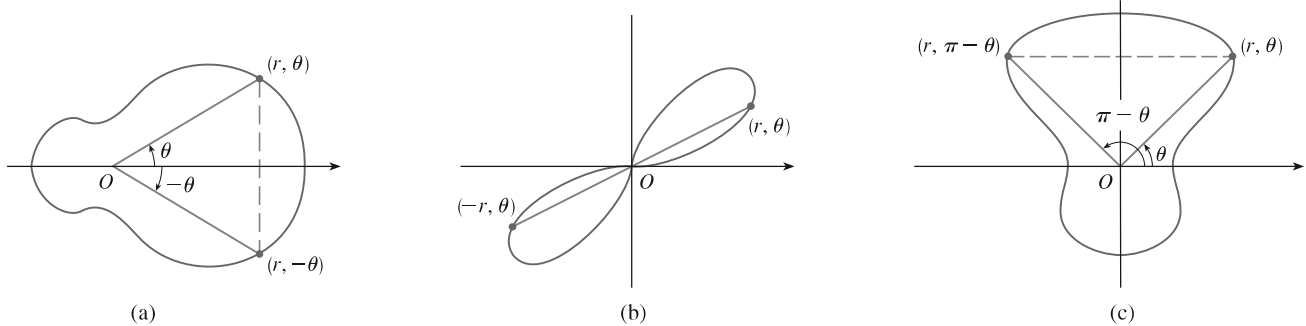


FIGURE 14

The curves sketched in Examples 6 and 8 are symmetric about the polar axis, since  $\cos(-\theta) = \cos \theta$ . The curves in Examples 7 and 8 are symmetric about  $\theta = \pi/2$  because  $\sin(\pi - \theta) = \sin \theta$  and  $\cos 2(\pi - \theta) = \cos 2\theta$ . The four-leaved rose is also symmetric about the pole. These symmetry properties could have been used in sketching the curves. For instance, in Example 6 we need only have plotted points for  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$  and then reflected about the polar axis to obtain the complete circle.

### ■ Tangents to Polar Curves

To find a tangent line to a polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$ , we regard  $\theta$  as a parameter and write its parametric equations as

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta$$

Then, using the method for finding slopes of parametric curves (Equation 10.2.1) and the Product Rule, we have

$$\boxed{3} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta}{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta}$$

We locate horizontal tangents by finding the points where  $dy/d\theta = 0$  (provided that  $dx/d\theta \neq 0$ ). Likewise, we locate vertical tangents at the points where  $dx/d\theta = 0$  (provided that  $dy/d\theta \neq 0$ ).

Notice that if we are looking for tangent lines at the pole, then  $r = 0$  and Equation 3 simplifies to

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \tan \theta \quad \text{if } \frac{dr}{d\theta} \neq 0$$

For instance, in Example 8 we found that  $r = \cos 2\theta = 0$  when  $\theta = \pi/4$  or  $3\pi/4$ . This means that the lines  $\theta = \pi/4$  and  $\theta = 3\pi/4$  (or  $y = x$  and  $y = -x$ ) are tangent lines to  $r = \cos 2\theta$  at the origin.

**EXAMPLE 9**

- (a) For the cardioid  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  of Example 7, find the slope of the tangent line when  $\theta = \pi/3$ .  
 (b) Find the points on the cardioid where the tangent line is horizontal or vertical.

**SOLUTION** Using Equation 3 with  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta}{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta} = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta + (1 + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}{\cos \theta \cos \theta - (1 + \sin \theta) \sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta)}{1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta - \sin \theta} = \frac{\cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta)}{(1 + \sin \theta)(1 - 2 \sin \theta)} \end{aligned}$$

- (a) The slope of the tangent at the point where  $\theta = \pi/3$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{\theta=\pi/3} &= \frac{\cos(\pi/3)(1 + 2 \sin(\pi/3))}{(1 + \sin(\pi/3))(1 - 2 \sin(\pi/3))} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{3})}{(1 + \sqrt{3}/2)(1 - \sqrt{3})} \\ &= \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{(2 + \sqrt{3})(1 - \sqrt{3})} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{-1 - \sqrt{3}} = -1 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta) = 0 & \quad \text{when } \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6} \\ \frac{dx}{d\theta} = (1 + \sin \theta)(1 - 2 \sin \theta) = 0 & \quad \text{when } \theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6} \end{aligned}$$

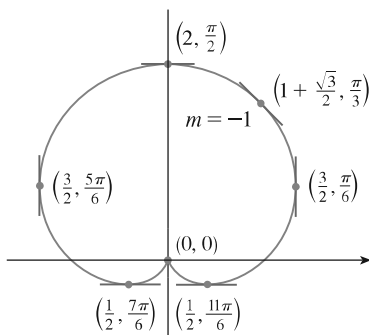
Therefore there are horizontal tangents at the points  $(2, \pi/2)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 7\pi/6)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 11\pi/6)$  and vertical tangents at  $(\frac{3}{2}, \pi/6)$  and  $(\frac{3}{2}, 5\pi/6)$ . When  $\theta = 3\pi/2$ , both  $dy/d\theta$  and  $dx/d\theta$  are 0, so we must be careful. Using l'Hospital's Rule, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^-} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \left( \lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^-} \frac{1 + 2 \sin \theta}{1 - 2 \sin \theta} \right) \left( \lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^-} \frac{\cos \theta}{1 + \sin \theta} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{3} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^-} \frac{\cos \theta}{1 + \sin \theta} = -\frac{1}{3} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^-} \frac{-\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \infty \end{aligned}$$

By symmetry,

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow (3\pi/2)^+} \frac{dy}{dx} = -\infty$$

Thus there is a vertical tangent line at the pole (see Figure 15). ■



**FIGURE 15**

Tangent lines for  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$

**NOTE** Instead of having to remember Equation 3, we could employ the method used to derive it. For instance, in Example 9 we could have written

$$x = r \cos \theta = (1 + \sin \theta) \cos \theta = \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta$$

$$y = r \sin \theta = (1 + \sin \theta) \sin \theta = \sin \theta + \sin^2 \theta$$

Then we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta} = \frac{\cos \theta + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{-\sin \theta + \cos 2\theta} = \frac{\cos \theta + \sin 2\theta}{-\sin \theta + \cos 2\theta}$$

which is equivalent to our previous expression.

### ■ Graphing Polar Curves with Graphing Devices

Although it's useful to be able to sketch simple polar curves by hand, we need to use a graphing calculator or computer when we are faced with a curve as complicated as the ones shown in Figures 16 and 17.

Some graphing devices have commands that enable us to graph polar curves directly. With other machines we need to convert to parametric equations first. In this case we take the polar equation  $r = f(\theta)$  and write its parametric equations as

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta$$

Some machines require that the parameter be called  $t$  rather than  $\theta$ .

**EXAMPLE 10** Graph the curve  $r = \sin(8\theta/5)$ .

**SOLUTION** Let's assume that our graphing device doesn't have a built-in polar graphing command. In this case we need to work with the corresponding parametric equations, which are

$$x = r \cos \theta = \sin(8\theta/5) \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta = \sin(8\theta/5) \sin \theta$$

In any case we need to determine the domain for  $\theta$ . So we ask ourselves: How many complete rotations are required until the curve starts to repeat itself? If the answer is  $n$ , then

$$\sin \frac{8(\theta + 2n\pi)}{5} = \sin \left( \frac{8\theta}{5} + \frac{16n\pi}{5} \right) = \sin \frac{8\theta}{5}$$

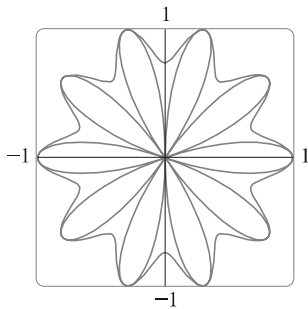
and so we require that  $16n\pi/5$  be an even multiple of  $\pi$ . This will first occur when  $n = 5$ . Therefore we will graph the entire curve if we specify that  $0 \leq \theta \leq 10\pi$ . Switching from  $\theta$  to  $t$ , we have the equations

$$x = \sin(8t/5) \cos t \quad y = \sin(8t/5) \sin t \quad 0 \leq t \leq 10\pi$$

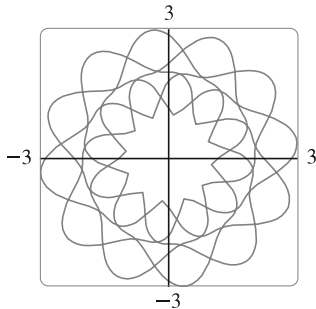
and Figure 18 shows the resulting curve. Notice that this rose has 16 loops. ■

**EXAMPLE 11** Investigate the family of polar curves given by  $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$ . How does the shape change as  $c$  changes? (These curves are called **limaçons**, after a French word for snail, because of the shape of the curves for certain values of  $c$ .)

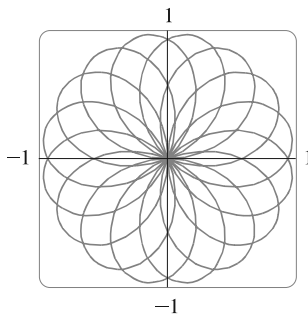
**SOLUTION** Figure 19 on page 666 shows computer-drawn graphs for various values of  $c$ . For  $c > 1$  there is a loop that decreases in size as  $c$  decreases. When  $c = 1$  the loop disappears and the curve becomes the cardioid that we sketched in Example 7. For  $c$  between 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cardioid's cusp is smoothed out and becomes a "dimple." When  $c$



**FIGURE 16**  
 $r = \sin^3(2.5\theta) + \cos^3(2.5\theta)$



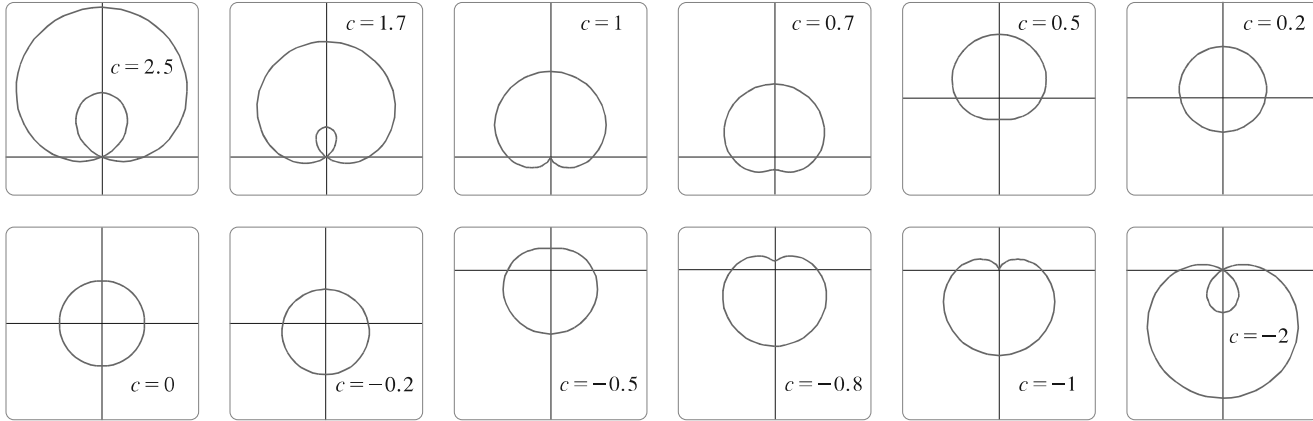
**FIGURE 17**  
 $r = 2 + \sin^3(2.4\theta)$



**FIGURE 18**  
 $r = \sin(8\theta/5)$

In Exercise 53 you are asked to prove analytically what we have discovered from the graphs in Figure 19.

decreases from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 0, the limaçon is shaped like an oval. This oval becomes more circular as  $c \rightarrow 0$ , and when  $c = 0$  the curve is just the circle  $r = 1$ .



**FIGURE 19**  
Members of the family of  
limaçons  $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$

The remaining parts of Figure 19 show that as  $c$  becomes negative, the shapes change in reverse order. In fact, these curves are reflections about the horizontal axis of the corresponding curves with positive  $c$ . ■

Limaçons arise in the study of planetary motion. In particular, the trajectory of Mars, as viewed from the planet Earth, has been modeled by a limaçon with a loop, as in the parts of Figure 19 with  $|c| > 1$ .

### 10.3 EXERCISES

**1–2** Plot the point whose polar coordinates are given. Then find two other pairs of polar coordinates of this point, one with  $r > 0$  and one with  $r < 0$ .

- 1.** (a)  $(1, \pi/4)$       (b)  $(-2, 3\pi/2)$       (c)  $(3, -\pi/3)$   
**2.** (a)  $(2, 5\pi/6)$       (b)  $(1, -2\pi/3)$       (c)  $(-1, 5\pi/4)$

**3–4** Plot the point whose polar coordinates are given. Then find the Cartesian coordinates of the point.

- 3.** (a)  $(2, 3\pi/2)$       (b)  $(\sqrt{2}, \pi/4)$       (c)  $(-1, -\pi/6)$   
**4.** (a)  $(4, 4\pi/3)$       (b)  $(-2, 3\pi/4)$       (c)  $(-3, -\pi/3)$

**5–6** The Cartesian coordinates of a point are given.

- (i) Find polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  of the point, where  $r > 0$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ .  
 (ii) Find polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  of the point, where  $r < 0$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ .

- 5.** (a)  $(-4, 4)$       (b)  $(3, 3\sqrt{3})$   
**6.** (a)  $(\sqrt{3}, -1)$       (b)  $(-6, 0)$

**7–12** Sketch the region in the plane consisting of points whose polar coordinates satisfy the given conditions.

- 7.**  $r \geq 1$   
**8.**  $0 \leq r < 2, \pi \leq \theta \leq 3\pi/2$   
**9.**  $r \geq 0, \pi/4 \leq \theta \leq 3\pi/4$   
**10.**  $1 \leq r \leq 3, \pi/6 < \theta < 5\pi/6$   
**11.**  $2 < r < 3, 5\pi/3 \leq \theta \leq 7\pi/3$   
**12.**  $r \geq 1, \pi \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

- 13.** Find the distance between the points with polar coordinates  $(4, 4\pi/3)$  and  $(6, 5\pi/3)$ .  
**14.** Find a formula for the distance between the points with polar coordinates  $(r_1, \theta_1)$  and  $(r_2, \theta_2)$ .

**15–20** Identify the curve by finding a Cartesian equation for the curve.

- 15.**  $r^2 = 5$       **16.**  $r = 4 \sec \theta$   
**17.**  $r = 5 \cos \theta$       **18.**  $\theta = \pi/3$   
**19.**  $r^2 \cos 2\theta = 1$       **20.**  $r^2 \sin 2\theta = 1$



**21–26** Find a polar equation for the curve represented by the given Cartesian equation.

21.  $y = 2$

22.  $y = x$

23.  $y = 1 + 3x$

24.  $4y^2 = x$

25.  $x^2 + y^2 = 2cx$

26.  $x^2 - y^2 = 4$

**27–28** For each of the described curves, decide if the curve would be more easily given by a polar equation or a Cartesian equation. Then write an equation for the curve.

- 27.** (a) A line through the origin that makes an angle of  $\pi/6$  with the positive  $x$ -axis  
 (b) A vertical line through the point  $(3, 3)$
- 28.** (a) A circle with radius 5 and center  $(2, 3)$   
 (b) A circle centered at the origin with radius 4

**29–46** Sketch the curve with the given polar equation by first sketching the graph of  $r$  as a function of  $\theta$  in Cartesian coordinates.

29.  $r = -2 \sin \theta$

30.  $r = 1 - \cos \theta$

31.  $r = 2(1 + \cos \theta)$

32.  $r = 1 + 2 \cos \theta$

33.  $r = \theta, \theta \geq 0$

34.  $r = \theta^2, -2\pi \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

35.  $r = 3 \cos 3\theta$

36.  $r = -\sin 5\theta$

37.  $r = 2 \cos 4\theta$

38.  $r = 2 \sin 6\theta$

39.  $r = 1 + 3 \cos \theta$

40.  $r = 1 + 5 \sin \theta$

41.  $r^2 = 9 \sin 2\theta$

42.  $r^2 = \cos 4\theta$

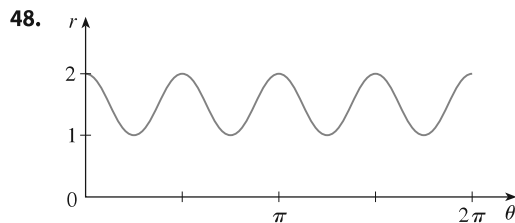
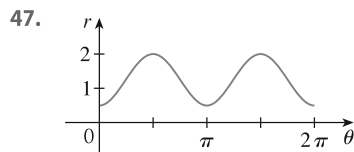
43.  $r = 2 + \sin 3\theta$

44.  $r^2 \theta = 1$

45.  $r = \sin(\theta/2)$

46.  $r = \cos(\theta/3)$

**47–48** The figure shows a graph of  $r$  as a function of  $\theta$  in Cartesian coordinates. Use it to sketch the corresponding polar curve.



**49.** Show that the polar curve  $r = 4 + 2 \sec \theta$  (called a **conchoid**) has the line  $x = 2$  as a vertical asymptote by showing that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \pm\infty} x = 2$ . Use this fact to help sketch the conchoid.

**50.** Show that the curve  $r = 2 - \csc \theta$  (also a conchoid) has the line  $y = -1$  as a horizontal asymptote by showing that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \pm\infty} y = -1$ . Use this fact to help sketch the conchoid.

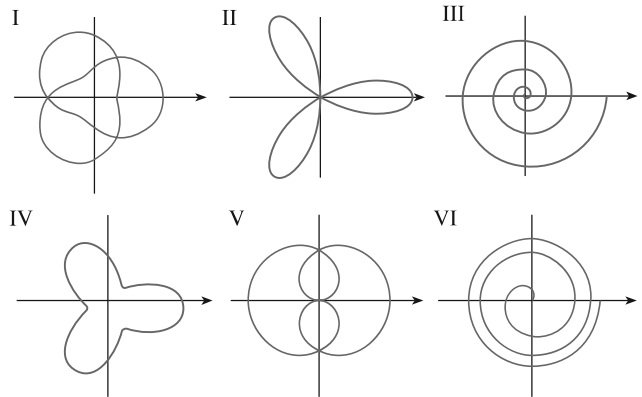
**51.** Show that the curve  $r = \sin \theta \tan \theta$  (called a **cisoid of Diocles**) has the line  $x = 1$  as a vertical asymptote. Show also that the curve lies entirely within the vertical strip  $0 \leq x < 1$ . Use these facts to help sketch the cisoid.

**52.** Sketch the curve  $(x^2 + y^2)^3 = 4x^2y^2$ .

- 53.** (a) In Example 11 the graphs suggest that the limaçon  $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$  has an inner loop when  $|c| > 1$ . Prove that this is true, and find the values of  $\theta$  that correspond to the inner loop.  
 (b) From Figure 19 it appears that the limaçon loses its dimple when  $c = \frac{1}{2}$ . Prove this.

**54.** Match the polar equations with the graphs labeled I–VI. Give reasons for your choices. (Don't use a graphing device.)

- (a)  $r = \ln \theta, 1 \leq \theta \leq 6\pi$       (b)  $r = \theta^2, 0 \leq \theta \leq 8\pi$   
 (c)  $r = \cos 3\theta$       (d)  $r = 2 + \cos 3\theta$   
 (e)  $r = \cos(\theta/2)$       (f)  $r = 2 + \cos(3\theta/2)$



**55–60** Find the slope of the tangent line to the given polar curve at the point specified by the value of  $\theta$ .

55.  $r = 2 \cos \theta, \theta = \pi/3$

56.  $r = 2 + \sin 3\theta, \theta = \pi/4$

57.  $r = 1/\theta, \theta = \pi$

58.  $r = \cos(\theta/3), \theta = \pi$

59.  $r = \cos 2\theta, \theta = \pi/4$

60.  $r = 1 + 2 \cos \theta, \theta = \pi/3$

**61–64** Find the points on the given curve where the tangent line is horizontal or vertical.

61.  $r = 3 \cos \theta$


62.  $r = 1 - \sin \theta$

63.  $r = 1 + \cos \theta$

64.  $r = e^\theta$

65. Show that the polar equation  $r = a \sin \theta + b \cos \theta$ , where  $ab \neq 0$ , represents a circle, and find its center and radius.

66. Show that the curves  $r = a \sin \theta$  and  $r = a \cos \theta$  intersect at right angles.

 67–72 Use a graphing device to graph the polar curve. Choose the parameter interval to make sure that you produce the entire curve.

67.  $r = 1 + 2 \sin(\theta/2)$  (nephroid of Freeth)


68.  $r = \sqrt{1 - 0.8 \sin^2 \theta}$  (hippopede)


69.  $r = e^{\sin \theta} - 2 \cos(4\theta)$  (butterfly curve)


70.  $r = |\tan \theta|^{\cot \theta}$  (valentine curve)


71.  $r = 1 + \cos^{999} \theta$  (Pac-Man curve)

72.  $r = 2 + \cos(9\theta/4)$

 73. How are the graphs of  $r = 1 + \sin(\theta - \pi/6)$  and  $r = 1 + \sin(\theta - \pi/3)$  related to the graph of  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ ? In general, how is the graph of  $r = f(\theta - \alpha)$  related to the graph of  $r = f(\theta)$ ?

 74. Use a graph to estimate the y-coordinate of the highest points on the curve  $r = \sin 2\theta$ . Then use calculus to find the exact value.

 75. Investigate the family of curves with polar equations  $r = 1 + c \cos \theta$ , where  $c$  is a real number. How does the shape change as  $c$  changes?

 76. Investigate the family of polar curves

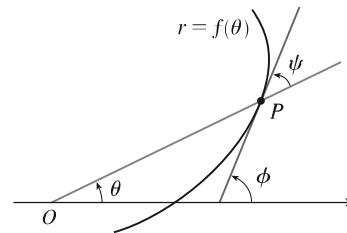
$$r = 1 + \cos^n \theta$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer. How does the shape change as  $n$  increases? What happens as  $n$  becomes large? Explain the shape for large  $n$  by considering the graph of  $r$  as a function of  $\theta$  in Cartesian coordinates.


77. Let  $P$  be any point (except the origin) on the curve  $r = f(\theta)$ . If  $\psi$  is the angle between the tangent line at  $P$  and the radial line  $OP$ , show that

$$\tan \psi = \frac{r}{dr/d\theta}$$

[Hint: Observe that  $\psi = \phi - \theta$  in the figure.]



78. (a) Use Exercise 77 to show that the angle between the tangent line and the radial line is  $\psi = \pi/4$  at every point on the curve  $r = e^\theta$ .

 (b) Illustrate part (a) by graphing the curve and the tangent lines at the points where  $\theta = 0$  and  $\pi/2$ .

(c) Prove that any polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$  with the property that the angle  $\psi$  between the radial line and the tangent line is a constant must be of the form  $r = Ce^{k\theta}$ , where  $C$  and  $k$  are constants.

## LABORATORY PROJECT FAMILIES OF POLAR CURVES

In this project you will discover the interesting and beautiful shapes that members of families of polar curves can take. You will also see how the shape of the curve changes when you vary the constants.

1. (a) Investigate the family of curves defined by the polar equations  $r = \sin n\theta$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer. How is the number of loops related to  $n$ ?  
 (b) What happens if the equation in part (a) is replaced by  $r = |\sin n\theta|$ ?

2. A family of curves is given by the equations  $r = 1 + c \sin n\theta$ , where  $c$  is a real number and  $n$  is a positive integer. How does the graph change as  $n$  increases? How does it change as  $c$  changes? Illustrate by graphing enough members of the family to support your conclusions.

3. A family of curves has polar equations

$$r = \frac{1 - a \cos \theta}{1 + a \cos \theta}$$

Investigate how the graph changes as the number  $a$  changes. In particular, you should identify the transitional values of  $a$  for which the basic shape of the curve changes.

4. The astronomer Giovanni Cassini (1625–1712) studied the family of curves with polar equations

$$r^4 - 2c^2r^2 \cos 2\theta + c^4 - a^4 = 0$$

where  $a$  and  $c$  are positive real numbers. These curves are called the **ovals of Cassini** even though they are oval shaped only for certain values of  $a$  and  $c$ . (Cassini thought that these curves might represent planetary orbits better than Kepler's ellipses.) Investigate the variety of shapes that these curves may have. In particular, how are  $a$  and  $c$  related to each other when the curve splits into two parts?

## 10.4 Areas and Lengths in Polar Coordinates

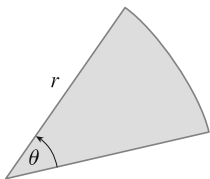


FIGURE 1

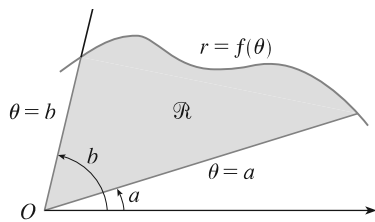


FIGURE 2

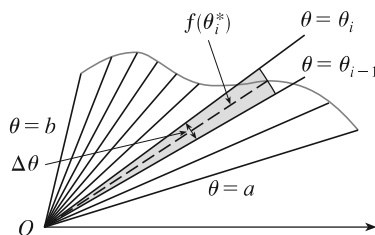


FIGURE 3

In this section we develop the formula for the area of a region whose boundary is given by a polar equation. We need to use the formula for the area of a sector of a circle:

$$\boxed{1} \quad A = \frac{1}{2}r^2\theta$$

where, as in Figure 1,  $r$  is the radius and  $\theta$  is the radian measure of the central angle. Formula 1 follows from the fact that the area of a sector is proportional to its central angle:  $A = (\theta/2\pi)\pi r^2 = \frac{1}{2}r^2\theta$ . (See also Exercise 7.3.35.)

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the region, illustrated in Figure 2, bounded by the polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$  and by the rays  $\theta = a$  and  $\theta = b$ , where  $f$  is a positive continuous function and where  $0 < b - a \leq 2\pi$ . We divide the interval  $[a, b]$  into subintervals with endpoints  $\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n$  and equal width  $\Delta\theta$ . The rays  $\theta = \theta_i$  then divide  $\mathcal{R}$  into  $n$  smaller regions with central angle  $\Delta\theta = \theta_i - \theta_{i-1}$ . If we choose  $\theta_i^*$  in the  $i$ th subinterval  $[\theta_{i-1}, \theta_i]$ , then the area  $\Delta A_i$  of the  $i$ th region is approximated by the area of the sector of a circle with central angle  $\Delta\theta$  and radius  $f(\theta_i^*)$ . (See Figure 3.)

Thus from Formula 1 we have

$$\Delta A_i \approx \frac{1}{2}[f(\theta_i^*)]^2 \Delta\theta$$

and so an approximation to the total area  $A$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  is

$$\boxed{2} \quad A \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2}[f(\theta_i^*)]^2 \Delta\theta$$

It appears from Figure 3 that the approximation in (2) improves as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . But the sums in (2) are Riemann sums for the function  $g(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}[f(\theta)]^2$ , so

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2}[f(\theta_i^*)]^2 \Delta\theta = \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(\theta)]^2 d\theta$$

It therefore appears plausible (and can in fact be proved) that the formula for the area  $A$  of the polar region  $\mathcal{R}$  is

3

$$A = \int_a^b \frac{1}{2} [f(\theta)]^2 d\theta$$

Formula 3 is often written as

4

$$A = \int_a^b \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta$$

with the understanding that  $r = f(\theta)$ . Note the similarity between Formulas 1 and 4.

When we apply Formula 3 or 4, it is helpful to think of the area as being swept out by a rotating ray through  $O$  that starts with angle  $a$  and ends with angle  $b$ .

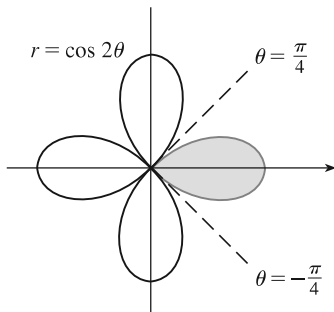


FIGURE 4

**EXAMPLE 1** Find the area enclosed by one loop of the four-leaved rose  $r = \cos 2\theta$ .

**SOLUTION** The curve  $r = \cos 2\theta$  was sketched in Example 10.3.8. Notice from Figure 4 that the region enclosed by the right loop is swept out by a ray that rotates from  $\theta = -\pi/4$  to  $\theta = \pi/4$ . Therefore Formula 4 gives

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \cos^2 2\theta d\theta = \int_0^{\pi/4} \cos^2 2\theta d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/4} \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos 4\theta) d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \theta + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4\theta \right]_0^{\pi/4} = \frac{\pi}{8} \end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 2** Find the area of the region that lies inside the circle  $r = 3 \sin \theta$  and outside the cardioid  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ .

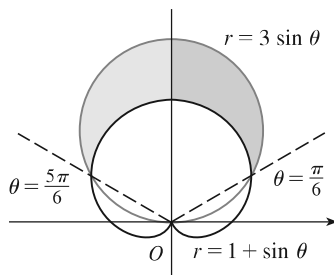


FIGURE 5

**SOLUTION** The cardioid (see Example 10.3.7) and the circle are sketched in Figure 5 and the desired region is shaded. The values of  $a$  and  $b$  in Formula 4 are determined by finding the points of intersection of the two curves. They intersect when  $3 \sin \theta = 1 + \sin \theta$ , which gives  $\sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $\theta = \pi/6, 5\pi/6$ . The desired area can be found by subtracting the area inside the cardioid between  $\theta = \pi/6$  and  $\theta = 5\pi/6$  from the area inside the circle from  $\pi/6$  to  $5\pi/6$ . Thus

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\pi/6}^{5\pi/6} (3 \sin \theta)^2 d\theta - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\pi/6}^{5\pi/6} (1 + \sin \theta)^2 d\theta$$

Since the region is symmetric about the vertical axis  $\theta = \pi/2$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} 9 \sin^2 \theta d\theta - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} (1 + 2 \sin \theta + \sin^2 \theta) d\theta \right] \\ &= \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} (8 \sin^2 \theta - 1 - 2 \sin \theta) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} (3 - 4 \cos 2\theta - 2 \sin \theta) d\theta \quad \left[ \text{because } \sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos 2\theta) \right] \\ &= 3\theta - 2 \sin 2\theta + 2 \cos \theta \Big|_{\pi/6}^{\pi/2} = \pi \end{aligned}$$

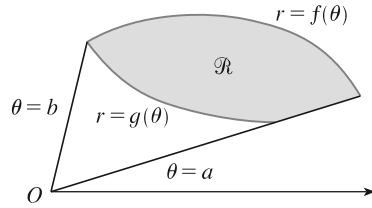


FIGURE 6

Example 2 illustrates the procedure for finding the area of the region bounded by two polar curves. In general, let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a region, as illustrated in Figure 6, that is bounded by curves with polar equations  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $r = g(\theta)$ ,  $\theta = a$ , and  $\theta = b$ , where  $f(\theta) \geq g(\theta) \geq 0$  and  $0 < b - a \leq 2\pi$ . The area  $A$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  is found by subtracting the area inside  $r = g(\theta)$  from the area inside  $r = f(\theta)$ , so using Formula 3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_a^b \frac{1}{2} [f(\theta)]^2 d\theta - \int_a^b \frac{1}{2} [g(\theta)]^2 d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b ([f(\theta)]^2 - [g(\theta)]^2) d\theta \end{aligned}$$

**CAUTION** The fact that a single point has many representations in polar coordinates sometimes makes it difficult to find all the points of intersection of two polar curves. For instance, it is obvious from Figure 5 that the circle and the cardioid have three points of intersection; however, in Example 2 we solved the equations  $r = 3 \sin \theta$  and  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  and found only two such points,  $(\frac{3}{2}, \pi/6)$  and  $(\frac{3}{2}, 5\pi/6)$ . The origin is also a point of intersection, but we can't find it by solving the equations of the curves because the origin has no single representation in polar coordinates that satisfies both equations. Notice that, when represented as  $(0, 0)$  or  $(0, \pi)$ , the origin satisfies  $r = 3 \sin \theta$  and so it lies on the circle; when represented as  $(0, 3\pi/2)$ , it satisfies  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  and so it lies on the cardioid. Think of two points moving along the curves as the parameter value  $\theta$  increases from 0 to  $2\pi$ . On one curve the origin is reached at  $\theta = 0$  and  $\theta = \pi$ ; on the other curve it is reached at  $\theta = 3\pi/2$ . The points don't collide at the origin because they reach the origin at different times, but the curves intersect there nonetheless.

Thus, to find *all* points of intersection of two polar curves, it is recommended that you draw the graphs of both curves. It is especially convenient to use a graphing calculator or computer to help with this task.

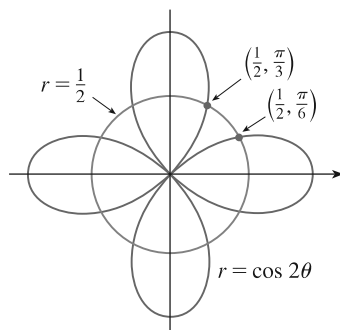


FIGURE 7

**EXAMPLE 3** Find all points of intersection of the curves  $r = \cos 2\theta$  and  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ .

**SOLUTION** If we solve the equations  $r = \cos 2\theta$  and  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ , we get  $\cos 2\theta = \frac{1}{2}$  and, therefore,  $2\theta = \pi/3, 5\pi/3, 7\pi/3, 11\pi/3$ . Thus the values of  $\theta$  between 0 and  $2\pi$  that satisfy both equations are  $\theta = \pi/6, 5\pi/6, 7\pi/6, 11\pi/6$ . We have found four points of intersection:  $(\frac{1}{2}, \pi/6)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 5\pi/6)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 7\pi/6)$ , and  $(\frac{1}{2}, 11\pi/6)$ .

However, you can see from Figure 7 that the curves have four other points of intersection—namely,  $(\frac{1}{2}, \pi/3)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 2\pi/3)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 4\pi/3)$ , and  $(\frac{1}{2}, 5\pi/3)$ . These can be found using symmetry or by noticing that another equation of the circle is  $r = -\frac{1}{2}$  and then solving the equations  $r = \cos 2\theta$  and  $r = -\frac{1}{2}$ . ■

### ■ Arc Length

To find the length of a polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $a \leq \theta \leq b$ , we regard  $\theta$  as a parameter and write the parametric equations of the curve as

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta$$

Using the Product Rule and differentiating with respect to  $\theta$ , we obtain

$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta \quad \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta$$

so, using  $\cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2 &= \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 \cos^2\theta - 2r \frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos\theta \sin\theta + r^2 \sin^2\theta \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 \sin^2\theta + 2r \frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin\theta \cos\theta + r^2 \cos^2\theta \\ &= \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 + r^2 \end{aligned}$$

Assuming that  $f'$  is continuous, we can use Theorem 10.2.5 to write the arc length as

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

Therefore the length of a curve with polar equation  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $a \leq \theta \leq b$ , is

5

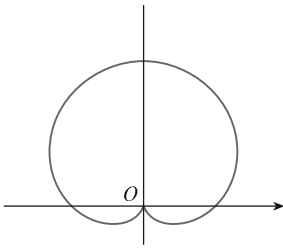
$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

**EXAMPLE 4** Find the length of the cardioid  $r = 1 + \sin\theta$ .

**SOLUTION** The cardioid is shown in Figure 8. (We sketched it in Example 10.3.7.) Its full length is given by the parameter interval  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , so Formula 5 gives

$$L = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{(1 + \sin\theta)^2 + \cos^2\theta} d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2 + 2\sin\theta} d\theta$$

We could evaluate this integral by multiplying and dividing the integrand by  $\sqrt{2 - 2\sin\theta}$ , or we could use a computer algebra system. In any event, we find that the length of the cardioid is  $L = 8$ . ■



**FIGURE 8**  
 $r = 1 + \sin\theta$

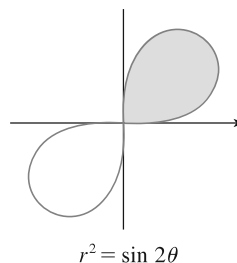
## 10.4 EXERCISES

1–4 Find the area of the region that is bounded by the given curve and lies in the specified sector.

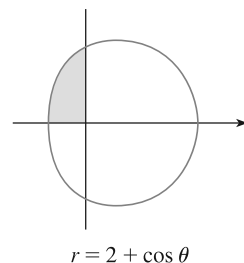
1.  $r = e^{-\theta/4}$ ,  $\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi$
2.  $r = \cos\theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/6$
3.  $r = \sin\theta + \cos\theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$
4.  $r = 1/\theta$ ,  $\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

5–8 Find the area of the shaded region.

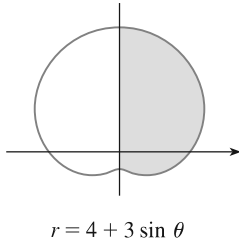
5.



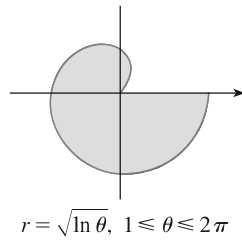
6.



7.



8.



9–12 Sketch the curve and find the area that it encloses.

9.  $r = 2 \sin \theta$

10.  $r = 1 - \sin \theta$

11.  $r = 3 + 2 \cos \theta$

12.  $r = 2 - \cos \theta$

13–16 Graph the curve and find the area that it encloses.

13.  $r = 2 + \sin 4\theta$

14.  $r = 3 - 2 \cos 4\theta$

15.  $r = \sqrt{1 + \cos^2(5\theta)}$

16.  $r = 1 + 5 \sin 6\theta$

17–21 Find the area of the region enclosed by one loop of the curve.

17.  $r = 4 \cos 3\theta$

18.  $r^2 = 4 \cos 2\theta$

19.  $r = \sin 4\theta$

20.  $r = 2 \sin 5\theta$

21.  $r = 1 + 2 \sin \theta$  (inner loop)

22. Find the area enclosed by the loop of the **strophoid**  
 $r = 2 \cos \theta - \sec \theta$ .

23–28 Find the area of the region that lies inside the first curve and outside the second curve.

23.  $r = 4 \sin \theta, r = 2$

24.  $r = 1 - \sin \theta, r = 1$

25.  $r^2 = 8 \cos 2\theta, r = 2$

26.  $r = 1 + \cos \theta, r = 2 - \cos \theta$

27.  $r = 3 \cos \theta, r = 1 + \cos \theta$

28.  $r = 3 \sin \theta, r = 2 - \sin \theta$

29–34 Find the area of the region that lies inside both curves.

29.  $r = 3 \sin \theta, r = 3 \cos \theta$

30.  $r = 1 + \cos \theta, r = 1 - \cos \theta$

31.  $r = \sin 2\theta, r = \cos 2\theta$

32.  $r = 3 + 2 \cos \theta, r = 3 + 2 \sin \theta$

33.  $r^2 = 2 \sin 2\theta, r = 1$

34.  $r = a \sin \theta, r = b \cos \theta, a > 0, b > 0$

35. Find the area inside the larger loop and outside the smaller loop of the limaçon  $r = \frac{1}{2} + \cos \theta$ .36. Find the area between a large loop and the enclosed small loop of the curve  $r = 1 + 2 \cos 3\theta$ .

37–42 Find all points of intersection of the given curves.

37.  $r = \sin \theta, r = 1 - \sin \theta$

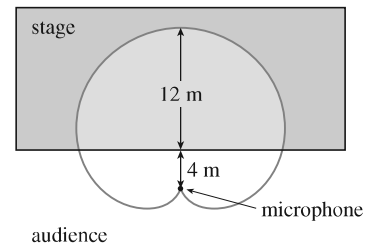
38.  $r = 1 + \cos \theta, r = 1 - \sin \theta$

39.  $r = 2 \sin 2\theta, r = 1$

40.  $r = \cos 3\theta, r = \sin 3\theta$

41.  $r = \sin \theta, r = \sin 2\theta$

42.  $r^2 = \sin 2\theta, r^2 = \cos 2\theta$

43. The points of intersection of the cardioid  $r = 1 + \sin \theta$  and the spiral loop  $r = 2\theta, -\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$ , can't be found exactly. Use a graphing device to find the approximate values of  $\theta$  at which they intersect. Then use these values to estimate the area that lies inside both curves.44. When recording live performances, sound engineers often use a microphone with a cardioid pickup pattern because it suppresses noise from the audience. Suppose the microphone is placed 4 m from the front of the stage (as in the figure) and the boundary of the optimal pickup region is given by the cardioid  $r = 8 + 8 \sin \theta$ , where  $r$  is measured in meters and the microphone is at the pole. The musicians want to know the area they will have on stage within the optimal pickup range of the microphone. Answer their question.

45–48 Find the exact length of the polar curve.

45.  $r = 2 \cos \theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$

46.  $r = 5^\theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

47.  $r = \theta^2, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$

48.  $r = 2(1 + \cos \theta)$

49–50 Find the exact length of the curve. Use a graph to determine the parameter interval.

49.  $r = \cos^4(\theta/4)$

50.  $r = \cos^2(\theta/2)$

51–54 Use a calculator to find the length of the curve correct to four decimal places. If necessary, graph the curve to determine the parameter interval.

51. One loop of the curve  $r = \cos 2\theta$

52.  $r = \tan \theta$ ,  $\pi/6 \leq \theta \leq \pi/3$

53.  $r = \sin(6 \sin \theta)$

54.  $r = \sin(\theta/4)$

55. (a) Use Formula 10.2.6 to show that the area of the surface generated by rotating the polar curve

$$r = f(\theta) \quad a \leq \theta \leq b$$

(where  $f'$  is continuous and  $0 \leq a < b \leq \pi$ ) about the polar axis is

$$S = \int_a^b 2\pi r \sin \theta \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$$

(b) Use the formula in part (a) to find the surface area generated by rotating the lemniscate  $r^2 = \cos 2\theta$  about the polar axis.

56. (a) Find a formula for the area of the surface generated by rotating the polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$ ,  $a \leq \theta \leq b$  (where  $f'$  is continuous and  $0 \leq a < b \leq \pi$ ), about the line  $\theta = \pi/2$ .

(b) Find the surface area generated by rotating the lemniscate  $r^2 = \cos 2\theta$  about the line  $\theta = \pi/2$ .

## 10.5 Conic Sections

In this section we give geometric definitions of parabolas, ellipses, and hyperbolas and derive their standard equations. They are called **conic sections**, or **conics**, because they result from intersecting a cone with a plane as shown in Figure 1.

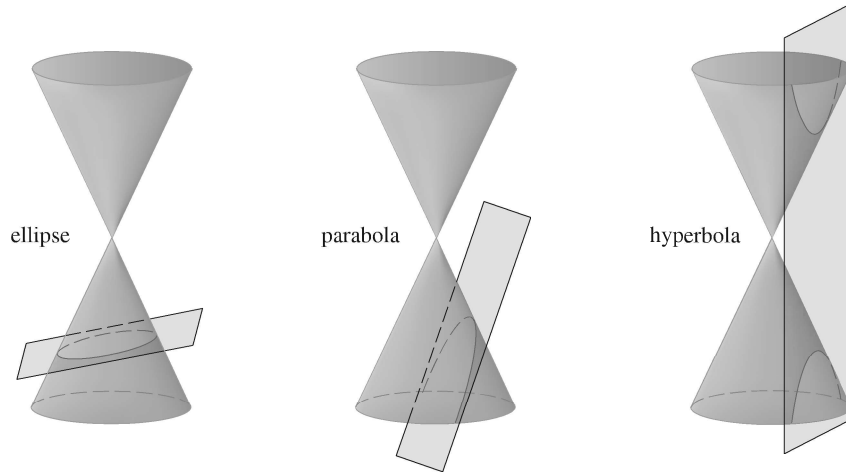


FIGURE 1  
Conics

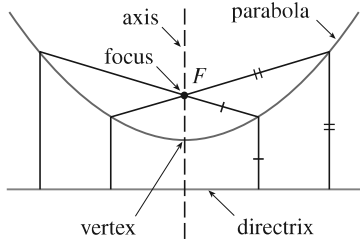


FIGURE 2

### Parabolas

A **parabola** is the set of points in a plane that are equidistant from a fixed point  $F$  (called the **focus**) and a fixed line (called the **directrix**). This definition is illustrated by Figure 2. Notice that the point halfway between the focus and the directrix lies on the parabola; it is called the **vertex**. The line through the focus perpendicular to the directrix is called the **axis** of the parabola.

In the 16th century Galileo showed that the path of a projectile that is shot into the air at an angle to the ground is a parabola. Since then, parabolic shapes have been used in designing automobile headlights, reflecting telescopes, and suspension bridges. (See Problem 22 on page 273 for the reflection property of parabolas that makes them so useful.)

We obtain a particularly simple equation for a parabola if we place its vertex at the origin  $O$  and its directrix parallel to the  $x$ -axis as in Figure 3. If the focus is the point  $(0, p)$ , then the directrix has the equation  $y = -p$ . If  $P(x, y)$  is any point on the parabola,



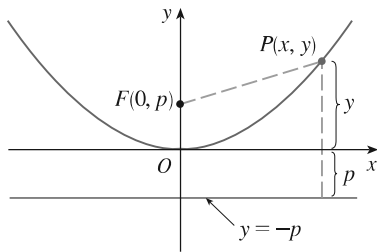


FIGURE 3

then the distance from  $P$  to the focus is

$$|PF| = \sqrt{x^2 + (y - p)^2}$$

and the distance from  $P$  to the directrix is  $|y + p|$ . (Figure 3 illustrates the case where  $p > 0$ .) The defining property of a parabola is that these distances are equal:

$$\sqrt{x^2 + (y - p)^2} = |y + p|$$

We get an equivalent equation by squaring and simplifying:

$$x^2 + (y - p)^2 = |y + p|^2 = (y + p)^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2py + p^2 = y^2 + 2py + p^2$$

$$x^2 = 4py$$

**1** An equation of the parabola with focus  $(0, p)$  and directrix  $y = -p$  is

$$x^2 = 4py$$

If we write  $a = 1/(4p)$ , then the standard equation of a parabola (1) becomes  $y = ax^2$ . It opens upward if  $p > 0$  and downward if  $p < 0$  [see Figure 4, parts (a) and (b)]. The graph is symmetric with respect to the  $y$ -axis because (1) is unchanged when  $x$  is replaced by  $-x$ .

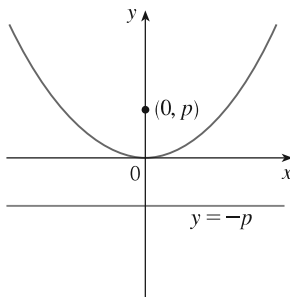
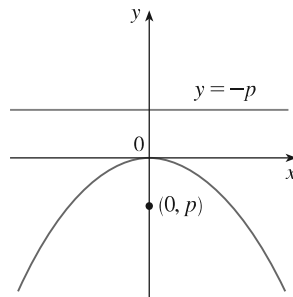
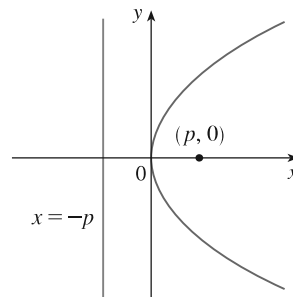
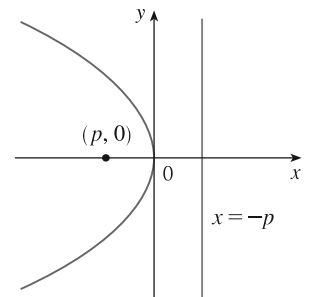
(a)  $x^2 = 4py, p > 0$ (b)  $x^2 = 4py, p < 0$ (c)  $y^2 = 4px, p > 0$ (d)  $y^2 = 4px, p < 0$ 

FIGURE 4

If we interchange  $x$  and  $y$  in (1), we obtain

**2**

$$y^2 = 4px$$

which is an equation of the parabola with focus  $(p, 0)$  and directrix  $x = -p$ . (Interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  amounts to reflecting about the diagonal line  $y = x$ .) The parabola opens to the right if  $p > 0$  and to the left if  $p < 0$  [see Figure 4, parts (c) and (d)]. In both cases the graph is symmetric with respect to the  $x$ -axis, which is the axis of the parabola.

**EXAMPLE 1** Find the focus and directrix of the parabola  $y^2 + 10x = 0$  and sketch the graph.

**SOLUTION** If we write the equation as  $y^2 = -10x$  and compare it with Equation 2, we see that  $4p = -10$ , so  $p = -\frac{5}{2}$ . Thus the focus is  $(p, 0) = (-\frac{5}{2}, 0)$  and the directrix is  $x = \frac{5}{2}$ . The sketch is shown in Figure 5. ■

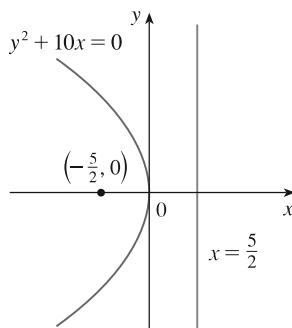


FIGURE 5

### ■ Ellipses

An **ellipse** is the set of points in a plane the sum of whose distances from two fixed points  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  is a constant (see Figure 6). These two fixed points are called the **foci** (plural of **focus**). One of Kepler's laws is that the orbits of the planets in the solar system are ellipses with the sun at one focus.

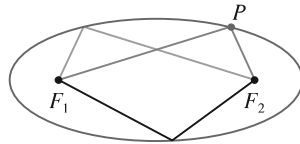


FIGURE 6

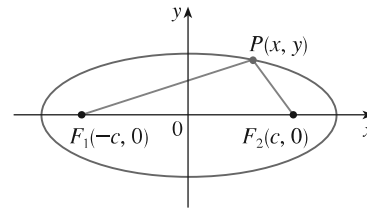


FIGURE 7

In order to obtain the simplest equation for an ellipse, we place the foci on the  $x$ -axis at the points  $(-c, 0)$  and  $(c, 0)$  as in Figure 7 so that the origin is halfway between the foci. Let the sum of the distances from a point on the ellipse to the foci be  $2a > 0$ . Then  $P(x, y)$  is a point on the ellipse when

$$|PF_1| + |PF_2| = 2a$$

that is, 
$$\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} + \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = 2a$$

or 
$$\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = 2a - \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2}$$

Squaring both sides, we have

$$x^2 - 2cx + c^2 + y^2 = 4a^2 - 4a\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} + x^2 + 2cx + c^2 + y^2$$

which simplifies to 
$$a\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} = a^2 + cx$$

We square again:

$$a^2(x^2 + 2cx + c^2 + y^2) = a^4 + 2a^2cx + c^2x^2$$

which becomes 
$$(a^2 - c^2)x^2 + a^2y^2 = a^2(a^2 - c^2)$$

From triangle  $F_1F_2P$  in Figure 7 we can see that  $2c < 2a$ , so  $c < a$  and therefore  $a^2 - c^2 > 0$ . For convenience, let  $b^2 = a^2 - c^2$ . Then the equation of the ellipse becomes  $b^2x^2 + a^2y^2 = a^2b^2$  or, if both sides are divided by  $a^2b^2$ ,

$$\boxed{3} \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

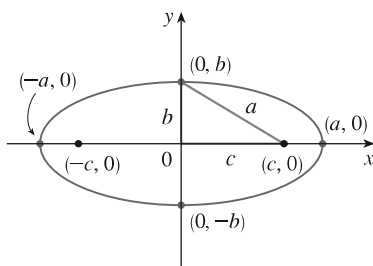
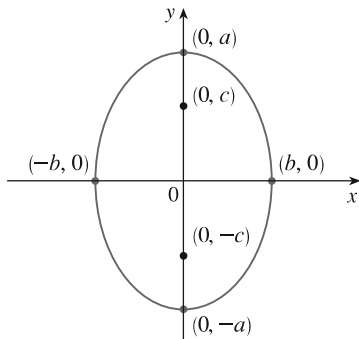


FIGURE 8

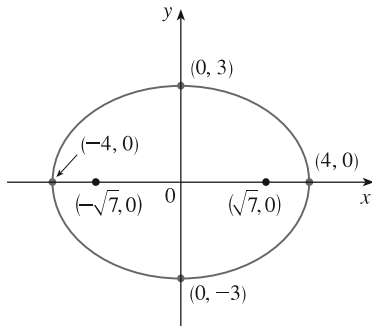
$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, a \geq b$$

Since  $b^2 = a^2 - c^2 < a^2$ , it follows that  $b < a$ . The  $x$ -intercepts are found by setting  $y = 0$ . Then  $x^2/a^2 = 1$ , or  $x^2 = a^2$ , so  $x = \pm a$ . The corresponding points  $(a, 0)$  and  $(-a, 0)$  are called the **vertices** of the ellipse and the line segment joining the vertices is called the **major axis**. To find the  $y$ -intercepts we set  $x = 0$  and obtain  $y^2 = b^2$ , so  $y = \pm b$ . The line segment joining  $(0, b)$  and  $(0, -b)$  is the **minor axis**. Equation 3 is unchanged if  $x$  is replaced by  $-x$  or  $y$  is replaced by  $-y$ , so the ellipse is symmetric about both axes. Notice that if the foci coincide, then  $c = 0$ , so  $a = b$  and the ellipse becomes a circle with radius  $r = a = b$ .

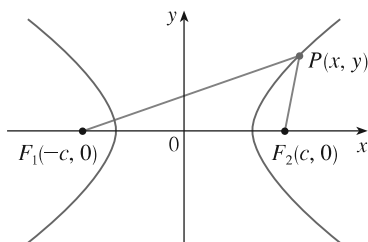
We summarize this discussion as follows (see also Figure 8).



**FIGURE 9**  
 $\frac{x^2}{b^2} + \frac{y^2}{a^2} = 1, a \geq b$



**FIGURE 10**  
 $9x^2 + 16y^2 = 144$



**FIGURE 11**  
 $P$  is on the hyperbola when  
 $|PF_1| - |PF_2| = \pm 2a$ .

**4** The ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad a \geq b > 0$$

has foci  $(\pm c, 0)$ , where  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$ , and vertices  $(\pm a, 0)$ .

If the foci of an ellipse are located on the  $y$ -axis at  $(0, \pm c)$ , then we can find its equation by interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  in (4). (See Figure 9.)

**5** The ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{b^2} + \frac{y^2}{a^2} = 1 \quad a \geq b > 0$$

has foci  $(0, \pm c)$ , where  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$ , and vertices  $(0, \pm a)$ .

**EXAMPLE 2** Sketch the graph of  $9x^2 + 16y^2 = 144$  and locate the foci.

**SOLUTION** Divide both sides of the equation by 144:

$$\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$$

The equation is now in the standard form for an ellipse, so we have  $a^2 = 16$ ,  $b^2 = 9$ ,  $a = 4$ , and  $b = 3$ . The  $x$ -intercepts are  $\pm 4$  and the  $y$ -intercepts are  $\pm 3$ . Also,  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2 = 7$ , so  $c = \sqrt{7}$  and the foci are  $(\pm\sqrt{7}, 0)$ . The graph is sketched in Figure 10. ■

**EXAMPLE 3** Find an equation of the ellipse with foci  $(0, \pm 2)$  and vertices  $(0, \pm 3)$ .

**SOLUTION** Using the notation of (5), we have  $c = 2$  and  $a = 3$ . Then we obtain  $b^2 = a^2 - c^2 = 9 - 4 = 5$ , so an equation of the ellipse is

$$\frac{x^2}{5} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$$

Another way of writing the equation is  $9x^2 + 5y^2 = 45$ . ■

Like parabolas, ellipses have an interesting reflection property that has practical consequences. If a source of light or sound is placed at one focus of a surface with elliptical cross-sections, then all the light or sound is reflected off the surface to the other focus (see Exercise 65). This principle is used in *lithotripsy*, a treatment for kidney stones. A reflector with elliptical cross-section is placed in such a way that the kidney stone is at one focus. High-intensity sound waves generated at the other focus are reflected to the stone and destroy it without damaging surrounding tissue. The patient is spared the trauma of surgery and recovers within a few days.

### ■ Hyperbolas

A **hyperbola** is the set of all points in a plane the difference of whose distances from two fixed points  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  (the **foci**) is a constant. This definition is illustrated in Figure 11.

Hyperbolas occur frequently as graphs of equations in chemistry, physics, biology, and economics (Boyle's Law, Ohm's Law, supply and demand curves). A particularly

significant application of hyperbolas was found in the navigation systems developed in World Wars I and II (see Exercise 51).

Notice that the definition of a hyperbola is similar to that of an ellipse; the only change is that the sum of distances has become a difference of distances. In fact, the derivation of the equation of a hyperbola is also similar to the one given earlier for an ellipse. It is left as Exercise 52 to show that when the foci are on the  $x$ -axis at  $(\pm c, 0)$  and the difference of distances is  $|PF_1| - |PF_2| = \pm 2a$ , then the equation of the hyperbola is

$$\boxed{6} \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

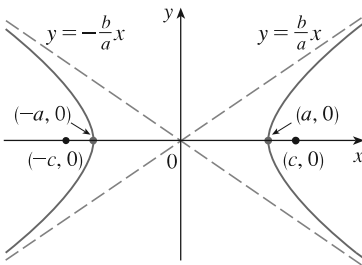
where  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ . Notice that the  $x$ -intercepts are again  $\pm a$  and the points  $(a, 0)$  and  $(-a, 0)$  are the **vertices** of the hyperbola. But if we put  $x = 0$  in Equation 6 we get  $y^2 = -b^2$ , which is impossible, so there is no  $y$ -intercept. The hyperbola is symmetric with respect to both axes.

To analyze the hyperbola further, we look at Equation 6 and obtain

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} = 1 + \frac{y^2}{b^2} \geq 1$$

This shows that  $x^2 \geq a^2$ , so  $|x| = \sqrt{x^2} \geq a$ . Therefore we have  $x \geq a$  or  $x \leq -a$ . This means that the hyperbola consists of two parts, called its *branches*.

When we draw a hyperbola it is useful to first draw its **asymptotes**, which are the dashed lines  $y = (b/a)x$  and  $y = -(b/a)x$  shown in Figure 12. Both branches of the hyperbola approach the asymptotes; that is, they come arbitrarily close to the asymptotes. (See Exercise 4.5.73, where these lines are shown to be slant asymptotes.)



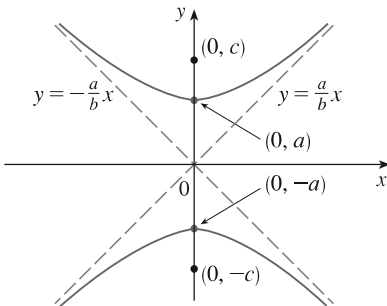
**FIGURE 12**  
 $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$

**7** The hyperbola

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

has foci  $(\pm c, 0)$ , where  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ , vertices  $(\pm a, 0)$ , and asymptotes  $y = \pm(b/a)x$ .

If the foci of a hyperbola are on the  $y$ -axis, then by reversing the roles of  $x$  and  $y$  we obtain the following information, which is illustrated in Figure 13.



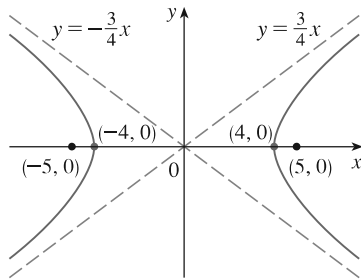
**FIGURE 13**  
 $\frac{y^2}{a^2} - \frac{x^2}{b^2} = 1$

**8** The hyperbola

$$\frac{y^2}{a^2} - \frac{x^2}{b^2} = 1$$

has foci  $(0, \pm c)$ , where  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ , vertices  $(0, \pm a)$ , and asymptotes  $y = \pm(a/b)x$ .

**EXAMPLE 4** Find the foci and asymptotes of the hyperbola  $9x^2 - 16y^2 = 144$  and sketch its graph.



**FIGURE 14**  
 $9x^2 - 16y^2 = 144$

**SOLUTION** If we divide both sides of the equation by 144, it becomes

$$\frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$$

which is of the form given in (7) with  $a = 4$  and  $b = 3$ . Since  $c^2 = 16 + 9 = 25$ , the foci are  $(\pm 5, 0)$ . The asymptotes are the lines  $y = \frac{3}{4}x$  and  $y = -\frac{3}{4}x$ . The graph is shown in Figure 14. ■

**EXAMPLE 5** Find the foci and equation of the hyperbola with vertices  $(0, \pm 1)$  and asymptote  $y = 2x$ .

**SOLUTION** From (8) and the given information, we see that  $a = 1$  and  $a/b = 2$ . Thus  $b = a/2 = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = \frac{5}{4}$ . The foci are  $(0, \pm\sqrt{5}/2)$  and the equation of the hyperbola is

$$y^2 - 4x^2 = 1$$

### ■ Shifted Conics

As discussed in Appendix C, we shift conics by taking the standard equations (1), (2), (4), (5), (7), and (8) and replacing  $x$  and  $y$  by  $x - h$  and  $y - k$ .

**EXAMPLE 6** Find an equation of the ellipse with foci  $(2, -2)$ ,  $(4, -2)$  and vertices  $(1, -2)$ ,  $(5, -2)$ .

**SOLUTION** The major axis is the line segment that joins the vertices  $(1, -2)$ ,  $(5, -2)$  and has length 4, so  $a = 2$ . The distance between the foci is 2, so  $c = 1$ . Thus  $b^2 = a^2 - c^2 = 3$ . Since the center of the ellipse is  $(3, -2)$ , we replace  $x$  and  $y$  in (4) by  $x - 3$  and  $y + 2$  to obtain

$$\frac{(x - 3)^2}{4} + \frac{(y + 2)^2}{3} = 1$$

as the equation of the ellipse. ■

**EXAMPLE 7** Sketch the conic  $9x^2 - 4y^2 - 72x + 8y + 176 = 0$  and find its foci.

**SOLUTION** We complete the squares as follows:

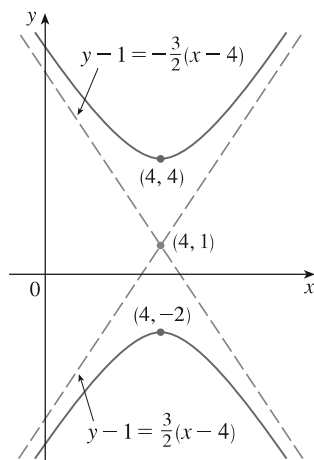
$$4(y^2 - 2y) - 9(x^2 - 8x) = 176$$

$$4(y^2 - 2y + 1) - 9(x^2 - 8x + 16) = 176 + 4 - 144$$

$$4(y - 1)^2 - 9(x - 4)^2 = 36$$

$$\frac{(y - 1)^2}{9} - \frac{(x - 4)^2}{4} = 1$$

This is in the form (8) except that  $x$  and  $y$  are replaced by  $x - 4$  and  $y - 1$ . Thus  $a^2 = 9$ ,  $b^2 = 4$ , and  $c^2 = 13$ . The hyperbola is shifted four units to the right and one unit upward. The foci are  $(4, 1 + \sqrt{13})$  and  $(4, 1 - \sqrt{13})$  and the vertices are  $(4, 4)$  and  $(4, -2)$ . The asymptotes are  $y - 1 = \pm\frac{3}{2}(x - 4)$ . The hyperbola is sketched in Figure 15. ■



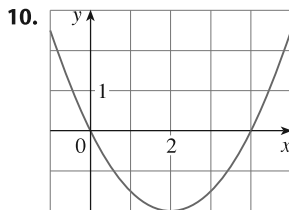
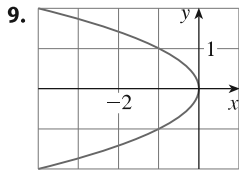
**FIGURE 15**  
 $9x^2 - 4y^2 - 72x + 8y + 176 = 0$

## 10.5 EXERCISES

1–8 Find the vertex, focus, and directrix of the parabola and sketch its graph.

1.  $x^2 = 6y$
2.  $2y^2 = 5x$
3.  $2x = -y^2$
4.  $3x^2 + 8y = 0$
5.  $(x + 2)^2 = 8(y - 3)$
6.  $(y - 2)^2 = 2x + 1$
7.  $y^2 + 6y + 2x + 1 = 0$
8.  $2x^2 - 16x - 3y + 38 = 0$

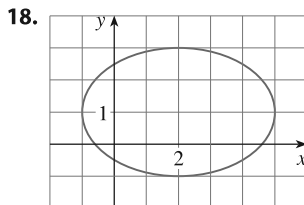
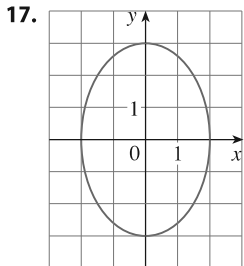
9–10 Find an equation of the parabola. Then find the focus and directrix.



11–16 Find the vertices and foci of the ellipse and sketch its graph.

11.  $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$
12.  $\frac{x^2}{36} + \frac{y^2}{8} = 1$
13.  $x^2 + 9y^2 = 9$
14.  $100x^2 + 36y^2 = 225$
15.  $9x^2 - 18x + 4y^2 = 27$
16.  $x^2 + 3y^2 + 2x - 12y + 10 = 0$

17–18 Find an equation of the ellipse. Then find its foci.



19–24 Find the vertices, foci, and asymptotes of the hyperbola and sketch its graph.

19.  $\frac{y^2}{25} - \frac{x^2}{9} = 1$
20.  $\frac{x^2}{36} - \frac{y^2}{64} = 1$

21.  $x^2 - y^2 = 100$

22.  $y^2 - 16x^2 = 16$

23.  $x^2 - y^2 + 2y = 2$

24.  $9y^2 - 4x^2 - 36y - 8x = 4$

25–30 Identify the type of conic section whose equation is given and find the vertices and foci.

25.  $4x^2 = y^2 + 4$

26.  $4x^2 = y + 4$

27.  $x^2 = 4y - 2y^2$

28.  $y^2 - 2 = x^2 - 2x$

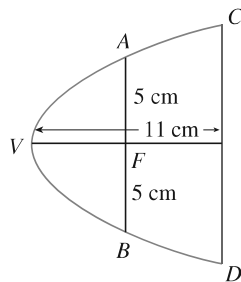
29.  $3x^2 - 6x - 2y = 1$

30.  $x^2 - 2x + 2y^2 - 8y + 7 = 0$

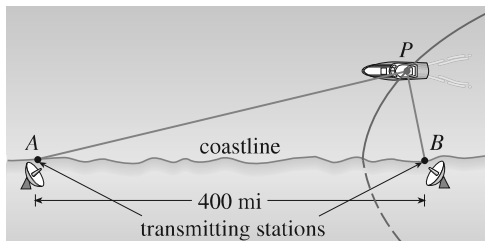
31–48 Find an equation for the conic that satisfies the given conditions.

31. Parabola, vertex (0, 0), focus (1, 0)
32. Parabola, focus (0, 0), directrix  $y = 6$
33. Parabola, focus (-4, 0), directrix  $x = 2$
34. Parabola, focus (2, -1), vertex (2, 3)
35. Parabola, vertex (3, -1), horizontal axis, passing through (-15, 2)
36. Parabola, vertical axis, passing through (0, 4), (1, 3), and (-2, -6)
37. Ellipse, foci  $(\pm 2, 0)$ , vertices  $(\pm 5, 0)$
38. Ellipse, foci  $(0, \pm\sqrt{2})$ , vertices  $(0, \pm 2)$
39. Ellipse, foci (0, 2), (0, 6), vertices (0, 0), (0, 8)
40. Ellipse, foci (0, -1), (8, -1), vertex (9, -1)
41. Ellipse, center (-1, 4), vertex (-1, 0), focus (-1, 6)
42. Ellipse, foci  $(\pm 4, 0)$ , passing through (-4, 1.8)
43. Hyperbola, vertices  $(\pm 3, 0)$ , foci  $(\pm 5, 0)$
44. Hyperbola, vertices (0,  $\pm 2$ ), foci (0,  $\pm 5$ )
45. Hyperbola, vertices (-3, -4), (-3, 6), foci (-3, -7), (-3, 9)
46. Hyperbola, vertices (-1, 2), (7, 2), foci (-2, 2), (8, 2)
47. Hyperbola, vertices  $(\pm 3, 0)$ , asymptotes  $y = \pm 2x$
48. Hyperbola, foci (2, 0), (2, 8), asymptotes  $y = 3 + \frac{1}{2}x$  and  $y = 5 - \frac{1}{2}x$

49. The point in a lunar orbit nearest the surface of the moon is called *perilune* and the point farthest from the surface is called *apolune*. The *Apollo 11* spacecraft was placed in an elliptical lunar orbit with perilune altitude 110 km and apolune altitude 314 km (above the moon). Find an equation of this ellipse if the radius of the moon is 1728 km and the center of the moon is at one focus.
50. A cross-section of a parabolic reflector is shown in the figure. The bulb is located at the focus and the opening at the focus is 10 cm.
- Find an equation of the parabola.
  - Find the diameter of the opening  $|CD|$ , 11 cm from the vertex.

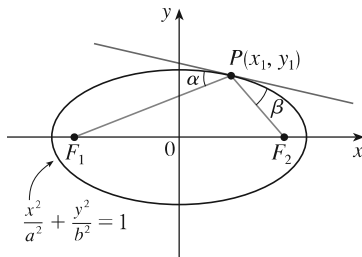


51. The LORAN (LONg RANGE Navigation) radio navigation system was widely used until the 1990s when it was superseded by the GPS system. In the LORAN system, two radio stations located at  $A$  and  $B$  transmit simultaneous signals to a ship or an aircraft located at  $P$ . The onboard computer converts the time difference in receiving these signals into a distance difference  $|PA| - |PB|$ , and this, according to the definition of a hyperbola, locates the ship or aircraft on one branch of a hyperbola (see the figure). Suppose that station  $B$  is located 400 mi due east of station  $A$  on a coastline. A ship received the signal from  $B$  1200 microseconds ( $\mu\text{s}$ ) before it received the signal from  $A$ .
- Assuming that radio signals travel at a speed of 980 ft/ $\mu\text{s}$ , find an equation of the hyperbola on which the ship lies.
  - If the ship is due north of  $B$ , how far off the coastline is the ship?



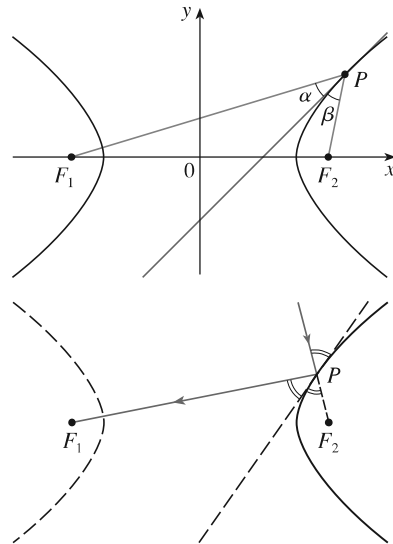
52. Use the definition of a hyperbola to derive Equation 6 for a hyperbola with foci  $(\pm c, 0)$  and vertices  $(\pm a, 0)$ .
53. Show that the function defined by the upper branch of the hyperbola  $y^2/a^2 - x^2/b^2 = 1$  is concave upward.
54. Find an equation for the ellipse with foci  $(1, 1)$  and  $(-1, -1)$  and major axis of length 4.
55. Determine the type of curve represented by the equation  $\frac{x^2}{k} + \frac{y^2}{k-16} = 1$  in each of the following cases:
- $k > 16$
  - $0 < k < 16$
  - $k < 0$
- (d) Show that all the curves in parts (a) and (b) have the same foci, no matter what the value of  $k$  is.
56. (a) Show that the equation of the tangent line to the parabola  $y^2 = 4px$  at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  can be written as  $y_0y = 2p(x + x_0)$
- (b) What is the  $x$ -intercept of this tangent line? Use this fact to draw the tangent line.
57. Show that the tangent lines to the parabola  $x^2 = 4py$  drawn from any point on the directrix are perpendicular.
58. Show that if an ellipse and a hyperbola have the same foci, then their tangent lines at each point of intersection are perpendicular.
59. Use parametric equations and Simpson's Rule with  $n = 8$  to estimate the circumference of the ellipse  $9x^2 + 4y^2 = 36$ .
60. The dwarf planet Pluto travels in an elliptical orbit around the sun (at one focus). The length of the major axis is  $1.18 \times 10^{10}$  km and the length of the minor axis is  $1.14 \times 10^{10}$  km. Use Simpson's Rule with  $n = 10$  to estimate the distance traveled by the planet during one complete orbit around the sun.
61. Find the area of the region enclosed by the hyperbola  $x^2/a^2 - y^2/b^2 = 1$  and the vertical line through a focus.
62. (a) If an ellipse is rotated about its major axis, find the volume of the resulting solid.
- (b) If it is rotated about its minor axis, find the resulting volume.
63. Find the centroid of the region enclosed by the  $x$ -axis and the top half of the ellipse  $9x^2 + 4y^2 = 36$ .
64. (a) Calculate the surface area of the ellipsoid that is generated by rotating an ellipse about its major axis.
- (b) What is the surface area if the ellipse is rotated about its minor axis?
65. Let  $P(x_1, y_1)$  be a point on the ellipse  $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$  with foci  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be the angles between the lines

$PF_1$ ,  $PF_2$  and the ellipse as shown in the figure. Prove that  $\alpha = \beta$ . This explains how whispering galleries and lithotripsy work. Sound coming from one focus is reflected and passes through the other focus. [Hint: Use the formula in Problem 21 on page 273 to show that  $\tan \alpha = \tan \beta$ .]



66. Let  $P(x_1, y_1)$  be a point on the hyperbola  $x^2/a^2 - y^2/b^2 = 1$  with foci  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be the angles between the lines  $PF_1$ ,  $PF_2$  and the hyperbola as shown in the figure. Prove that  $\alpha = \beta$ . (This is the reflection property of the hyper-

bola. It shows that light aimed at a focus  $F_2$  of a hyperbolic mirror is reflected toward the other focus  $F_1$ .)



## 10.6 Conic Sections in Polar Coordinates

In the preceding section we defined the parabola in terms of a focus and directrix, but we defined the ellipse and hyperbola in terms of two foci. In this section we give a more unified treatment of all three types of conic sections in terms of a focus and directrix. Furthermore, if we place the focus at the origin, then a conic section has a simple polar equation, which provides a convenient description of the motion of planets, satellites, and comets.

**1 Theorem** Let  $F$  be a fixed point (called the **focus**) and  $l$  be a fixed line (called the **directrix**) in a plane. Let  $e$  be a fixed positive number (called the **eccentricity**). The set of all points  $P$  in the plane such that

$$\frac{|PF|}{|Pl|} = e$$

(that is, the ratio of the distance from  $F$  to the distance from  $l$  is the constant  $e$ ) is a conic section. The conic is

- (a) an ellipse if  $e < 1$
- (b) a parabola if  $e = 1$
- (c) a hyperbola if  $e > 1$

**PROOF** Notice that if the eccentricity is  $e = 1$ , then  $|PF| = |Pl|$  and so the given condition simply becomes the definition of a parabola as given in Section 10.5.

Let us place the focus  $F$  at the origin and the directrix parallel to the  $y$ -axis and  $d$  units to the right. Thus the directrix has equation  $x = d$  and is perpendicular to the



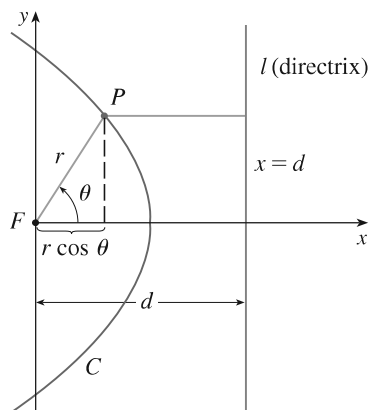


FIGURE 1

polar axis. If the point  $P$  has polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$ , we see from Figure 1 that

$$|PF| = r \quad |Pl| = d - r \cos \theta$$

Thus the condition  $|PF|/|Pl| = e$ , or  $|PF| = e|Pl|$ , becomes

$$\boxed{2} \quad r = e(d - r \cos \theta)$$

If we square both sides of this polar equation and convert to rectangular coordinates, we get

$$x^2 + y^2 = e^2(d - x)^2 = e^2(d^2 - 2dx + x^2)$$

$$\text{or} \quad (1 - e^2)x^2 + 2de^2x + y^2 = e^2d^2$$

After completing the square, we have

$$\boxed{3} \quad \left(x + \frac{e^2d}{1 - e^2}\right)^2 + \frac{y^2}{1 - e^2} = \frac{e^2d^2}{(1 - e^2)^2}$$

If  $e < 1$ , we recognize Equation 3 as the equation of an ellipse. In fact, it is of the form

$$\frac{(x - h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

where

$$\boxed{4} \quad h = -\frac{e^2d}{1 - e^2} \quad a^2 = \frac{e^2d^2}{(1 - e^2)^2} \quad b^2 = \frac{e^2d^2}{1 - e^2}$$

In Section 10.5 we found that the foci of an ellipse are at a distance  $c$  from the center, where

$$\boxed{5} \quad c^2 = a^2 - b^2 = \frac{e^4d^2}{(1 - e^2)^2}$$

This shows that 
$$c = \frac{e^2d}{1 - e^2} = -h$$

and confirms that the focus as defined in Theorem 1 means the same as the focus defined in Section 10.5. It also follows from Equations 4 and 5 that the eccentricity is given by

$$e = \frac{c}{a}$$

If  $e > 1$ , then  $1 - e^2 < 0$  and we see that Equation 3 represents a hyperbola. Just as we did before, we could rewrite Equation 3 in the form

$$\frac{(x - h)^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

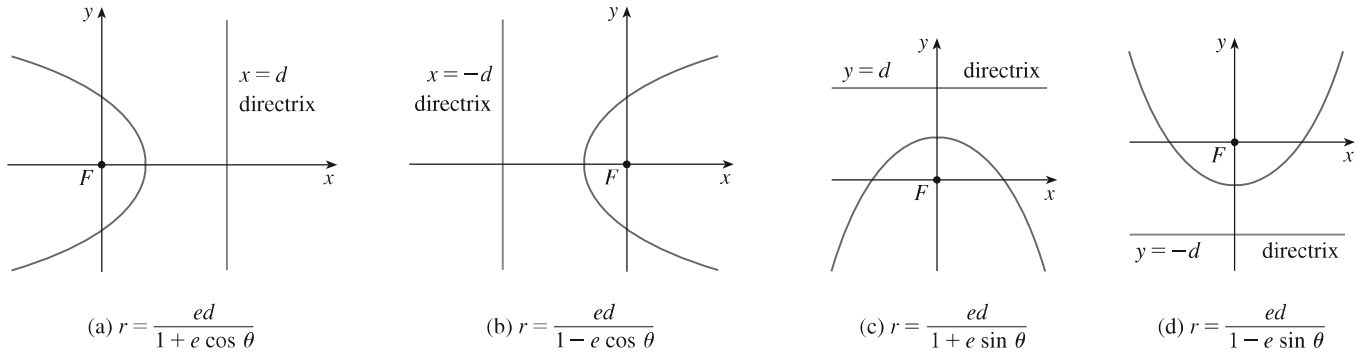
and see that

$$e = \frac{c}{a} \quad \text{where} \quad c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

By solving Equation 2 for  $r$ , we see that the polar equation of the conic shown in Figure 1 can be written as

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 + e \cos \theta}$$

If the directrix is chosen to be to the left of the focus as  $x = -d$ , or if the directrix is chosen to be parallel to the polar axis as  $y = \pm d$ , then the polar equation of the conic is given by the following theorem, which is illustrated by Figure 2. (See Exercises 21–23.)



**FIGURE 2**  
Polar equations of conics

**6 Theorem** A polar equation of the form

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 \pm e \cos \theta} \quad \text{or} \quad r = \frac{ed}{1 \pm e \sin \theta}$$

represents a conic section with eccentricity  $e$ . The conic is an ellipse if  $e < 1$ , a parabola if  $e = 1$ , or a hyperbola if  $e > 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 1** Find a polar equation for a parabola that has its focus at the origin and whose directrix is the line  $y = -6$ .

**SOLUTION** Using Theorem 6 with  $e = 1$  and  $d = 6$ , and using part (d) of Figure 2, we see that the equation of the parabola is

$$r = \frac{6}{1 - \sin \theta}$$

**EXAMPLE 2** A conic is given by the polar equation

$$r = \frac{10}{3 - 2 \cos \theta}$$

Find the eccentricity, identify the conic, locate the directrix, and sketch the conic.

**SOLUTION** Dividing numerator and denominator by 3, we write the equation as

$$r = \frac{\frac{10}{3}}{1 - \frac{2}{3} \cos \theta}$$

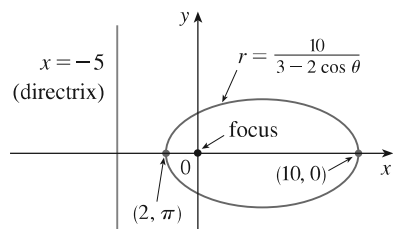


FIGURE 3

From Theorem 6 we see that this represents an ellipse with  $e = \frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $ed = \frac{10}{3}$ , we have

$$d = \frac{\frac{10}{3}}{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{\frac{10}{3} \cdot 3}{2} = 5$$

so the directrix has Cartesian equation  $x = -5$ . When  $\theta = 0$ ,  $r = 10$ ; when  $\theta = \pi$ ,  $r = 2$ . So the vertices have polar coordinates  $(10, 0)$  and  $(2, \pi)$ . The ellipse is sketched in Figure 3. ■

**EXAMPLE 3** Sketch the conic  $r = \frac{12}{2 + 4 \sin \theta}$ .

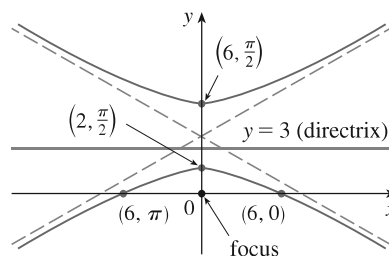
**SOLUTION** Writing the equation in the form

$$r = \frac{6}{1 + 2 \sin \theta}$$

we see that the eccentricity is  $e = 2$  and the equation therefore represents a hyperbola. Since  $ed = 6$ ,  $d = 3$  and the directrix has equation  $y = 3$ . The vertices occur when  $\theta = \pi/2$  and  $3\pi/2$ , so they are  $(2, \pi/2)$  and  $(-6, 3\pi/2) = (6, \pi/2)$ . It is also useful to plot the  $x$ -intercepts. These occur when  $\theta = 0, \pi$ ; in both cases  $r = 6$ . For additional accuracy we could draw the asymptotes. Note that  $r \rightarrow \pm\infty$  when  $1 + 2 \sin \theta \rightarrow 0^+$  or  $0^-$  and  $1 + 2 \sin \theta = 0$  when  $\sin \theta = -\frac{1}{2}$ . Thus the asymptotes are parallel to the rays  $\theta = 7\pi/6$  and  $\theta = 11\pi/6$ . The hyperbola is sketched in Figure 4.

**FIGURE 4**

$$r = \frac{12}{2 + 4 \sin \theta}$$



When rotating conic sections, we find it much more convenient to use polar equations than Cartesian equations. We just use the fact (see Exercise 10.3.73) that the graph of  $r = f(\theta - \alpha)$  is the graph of  $r = f(\theta)$  rotated counterclockwise about the origin through an angle  $\alpha$ .

**EXAMPLE 4** If the ellipse of Example 2 is rotated through an angle  $\pi/4$  about the origin, find a polar equation and graph the resulting ellipse.

**SOLUTION** We get the equation of the rotated ellipse by replacing  $\theta$  with  $\theta - \pi/4$  in the equation given in Example 2. So the new equation is

$$r = \frac{10}{3 - 2 \cos(\theta - \pi/4)}$$

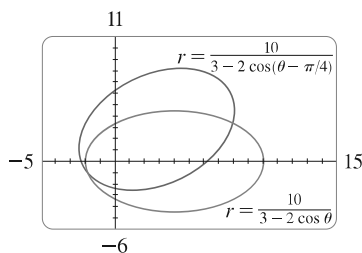


FIGURE 5

We use this equation to graph the rotated ellipse in Figure 5. Notice that the ellipse has been rotated about its left focus. ■

In Figure 6 we use a computer to sketch a number of conics to demonstrate the effect of varying the eccentricity  $e$ . Notice that when  $e$  is close to 0 the ellipse is nearly circular, whereas it becomes more elongated as  $e \rightarrow 1^-$ . When  $e = 1$ , of course, the conic is a parabola.

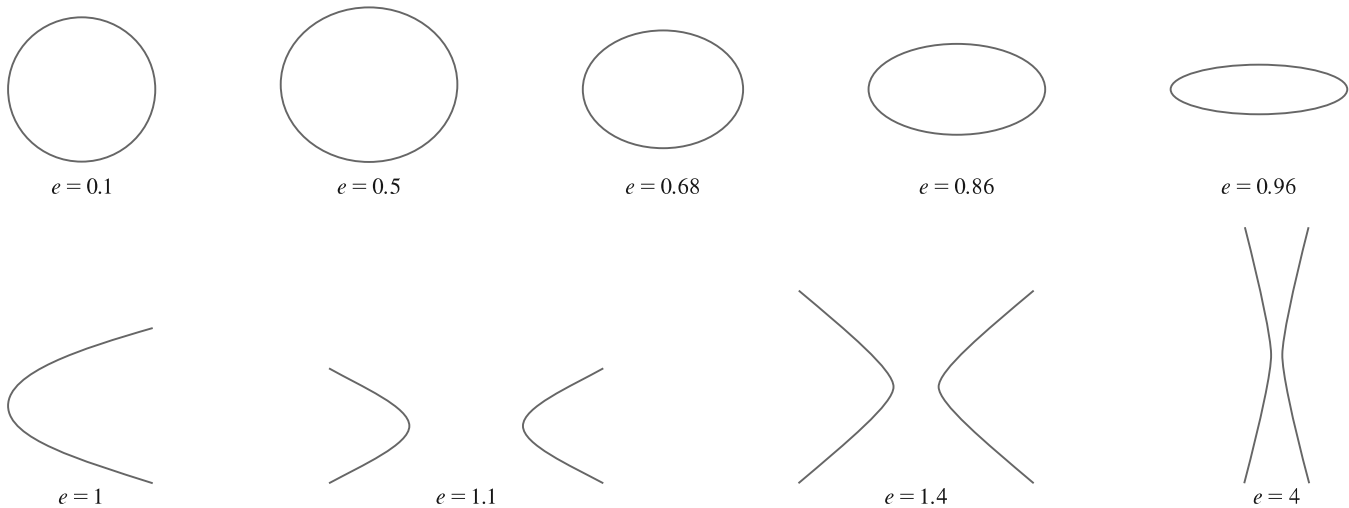


FIGURE 6

### ■ Kepler's Laws

In 1609 the German mathematician and astronomer Johannes Kepler, on the basis of huge amounts of astronomical data, published the following three laws of planetary motion.

#### Kepler's Laws

1. A planet revolves around the sun in an elliptical orbit with the sun at one focus.
2. The line joining the sun to a planet sweeps out equal areas in equal times.
3. The square of the period of revolution of a planet is proportional to the cube of the length of the major axis of its orbit.

Although Kepler formulated his laws in terms of the motion of planets around the sun, they apply equally well to the motion of moons, comets, satellites, and other bodies that orbit subject to a single gravitational force. In Section 13.4 we will show how to deduce Kepler's Laws from Newton's Laws. Here we use Kepler's First Law, together with the polar equation of an ellipse, to calculate quantities of interest in astronomy.

For purposes of astronomical calculations, it's useful to express the equation of an ellipse in terms of its eccentricity  $e$  and its semimajor axis  $a$ . We can write the distance  $d$  from the focus to the directrix in terms of  $a$  if we use (4):

$$a^2 = \frac{e^2 d^2}{(1 - e^2)^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad d^2 = \frac{a^2(1 - e^2)^2}{e^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad d = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{e}$$

So  $ed = a(1 - e^2)$ . If the directrix is  $x = d$ , then the polar equation is

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 + e \cos \theta} = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos \theta}$$

**7** The polar equation of an ellipse with focus at the origin, semimajor axis  $a$ , eccentricity  $e$ , and directrix  $x = d$  can be written in the form

$$r = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos \theta}$$

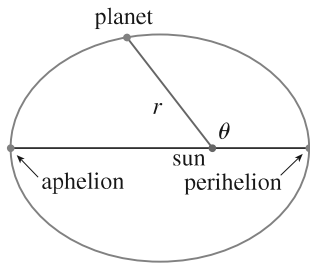


FIGURE 7

The positions of a planet that are closest to and farthest from the sun are called its **perihelion** and **aphelion**, respectively, and correspond to the vertices of the ellipse (see Figure 7). The distances from the sun to the perihelion and aphelion are called the **perihelion distance** and **aphelion distance**, respectively. In Figure 1 on page 683 the sun is at the focus  $F$ , so at perihelion we have  $\theta = 0$  and, from Equation 7,

$$r = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos 0} = \frac{a(1 - e)(1 + e)}{1 + e} = a(1 - e)$$

Similarly, at aphelion  $\theta = \pi$  and  $r = a(1 + e)$ .

**8** The perihelion distance from a planet to the sun is  $a(1 - e)$  and the aphelion distance is  $a(1 + e)$ .

### EXAMPLE 5

- (a) Find an approximate polar equation for the elliptical orbit of the earth around the sun (at one focus) given that the eccentricity is about 0.017 and the length of the major axis is about  $2.99 \times 10^8$  km.  
 (b) Find the distance from the earth to the sun at perihelion and at aphelion.

#### SOLUTION

(a) The length of the major axis is  $2a = 2.99 \times 10^8$ , so  $a = 1.495 \times 10^8$ . We are given that  $e = 0.017$  and so, from Equation 7, an equation of the earth's orbit around the sun is

$$r = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos \theta} = \frac{(1.495 \times 10^8)[1 - (0.017)^2]}{1 + 0.017 \cos \theta}$$

or, approximately,

$$r = \frac{1.49 \times 10^8}{1 + 0.017 \cos \theta}$$

(b) From (8), the perihelion distance from the earth to the sun is

$$a(1 - e) \approx (1.495 \times 10^8)(1 - 0.017) \approx 1.47 \times 10^8 \text{ km}$$

and the aphelion distance is

$$a(1 + e) \approx (1.495 \times 10^8)(1 + 0.017) \approx 1.52 \times 10^8 \text{ km}$$

### 10.6 EXERCISES

1–8 Write a polar equation of a conic with the focus at the origin and the given data.

1. Ellipse, eccentricity  $\frac{1}{2}$ , directrix  $x = 4$
2. Parabola, directrix  $x = -3$
3. Hyperbola, eccentricity 1.5, directrix  $y = 2$
4. Hyperbola, eccentricity 3, directrix  $x = 3$
5. Ellipse, eccentricity  $\frac{2}{3}$ , vertex  $(2, \pi)$
6. Ellipse, eccentricity 0.6, directrix  $r = 4 \csc \theta$
7. Parabola, vertex  $(3, \pi/2)$
8. Hyperbola, eccentricity 2, directrix  $r = -2 \sec \theta$

9–16 (a) Find the eccentricity, (b) identify the conic, (c) give an equation of the directrix, and (d) sketch the conic.

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 9. $r = \frac{4}{5 - 4 \sin \theta}$  | 10. $r = \frac{1}{2 + \sin \theta}$   |
| 11. $r = \frac{2}{3 + 3 \sin \theta}$ | 12. $r = \frac{5}{2 - 4 \cos \theta}$ |
| 13. $r = \frac{9}{6 + 2 \cos \theta}$ | 14. $r = \frac{1}{3 - 3 \sin \theta}$ |
| 15. $r = \frac{3}{4 - 8 \cos \theta}$ | 16. $r = \frac{4}{2 + 3 \cos \theta}$ |

17. (a) Find the eccentricity and directrix of the conic  $r = 1/(1 - 2 \sin \theta)$  and graph the conic and its directrix.  
 (b) If this conic is rotated counterclockwise about the origin through an angle  $3\pi/4$ , write the resulting equation and graph its curve.
18. Graph the conic  $r = 4/(5 + 6 \cos \theta)$  and its directrix. Also graph the conic obtained by rotating this curve about the origin through an angle  $\pi/3$ .
19. Graph the conics  $r = e/(1 - e \cos \theta)$  with  $e = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8,$  and  $1.0$  on a common screen. How does the value of  $e$  affect the shape of the curve?
20. (a) Graph the conics  $r = ed/(1 + e \sin \theta)$  for  $e = 1$  and various values of  $d$ . How does the value of  $d$  affect the shape of the conic?  
 (b) Graph these conics for  $d = 1$  and various values of  $e$ . How does the value of  $e$  affect the shape of the conic?
21. Show that a conic with focus at the origin, eccentricity  $e$ , and directrix  $x = -d$  has polar equation

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 - e \cos \theta}$$

22. Show that a conic with focus at the origin, eccentricity  $e$ , and directrix  $y = d$  has polar equation

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 + e \sin \theta}$$

23. Show that a conic with focus at the origin, eccentricity  $e$ , and directrix  $y = -d$  has polar equation

$$r = \frac{ed}{1 - e \sin \theta}$$

24. Show that the parabolas  $r = c/(1 + \cos \theta)$  and  $r = d/(1 - \cos \theta)$  intersect at right angles.
25. The orbit of Mars around the sun is an ellipse with eccentricity 0.093 and semimajor axis  $2.28 \times 10^8$  km. Find a polar equation for the orbit.
26. Jupiter's orbit has eccentricity 0.048 and the length of the major axis is  $1.56 \times 10^9$  km. Find a polar equation for the orbit.
27. The orbit of Halley's comet, last seen in 1986 and due to return in 2061, is an ellipse with eccentricity 0.97 and one focus at the sun. The length of its major axis is 36.18 AU. [An astronomical unit (AU) is the mean distance between the earth and the sun, about 93 million miles.] Find a polar equation for the orbit of Halley's comet. What is the maximum distance from the comet to the sun?
28. Comet Hale-Bopp, discovered in 1995, has an elliptical orbit with eccentricity 0.9951. The length of the orbit's major axis is 356.5 AU. Find a polar equation for the orbit of this comet. How close to the sun does it come?



29. The planet Mercury travels in an elliptical orbit with eccentricity 0.206. Its minimum distance from the sun is  $4.6 \times 10^7$  km. Find its maximum distance from the sun.
30. The distance from the dwarf planet Pluto to the sun is  $4.43 \times 10^9$  km at perihelion and  $7.37 \times 10^9$  km at aphelion. Find the eccentricity of Pluto's orbit.
31. Using the data from Exercise 29, find the distance traveled by the planet Mercury during one complete orbit around the sun. (If your calculator or computer algebra system evaluates definite integrals, use it. Otherwise, use Simpson's Rule.)