

The Circle - The Conics

• $S \equiv x^2 + y^2 - r^2$ (circle)

$S \equiv y^2 - 4ax$ (parabola)

$S \equiv \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - 1, a > b$ (ellipse)

$S \equiv \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} - 1$ (hyperbola)

• $S_1 = 0$ for circle: $xx_1 + yy_1 - r^2 = 0$

For parabola: $yy_1 - 2ax - 2ax_1 = 0$

For ellipse: $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} + \frac{yy_1}{b^2} - 1 = 0$

For hyperbola: $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} - 1 = 0$

If $y = mx + c$ is a tangent, then

For circle: $c = \pm r \sqrt{1 + m^2}$

For parabola: $c = \frac{a}{m}$

For ellipse: $c = \pm \sqrt{a^2 m^2 + b^2}$

For hyperbola: $c = \pm \sqrt{a^2 m^2 - b^2}$

• Tangent in slope form

For circle: $y = mx \pm r \sqrt{1 + m^2}$

For parabola: $y = mx + \frac{a}{m}$

For ellipse: $y = mx \pm \sqrt{a^2 m^2 + b^2}$

For hyperbola: $y = mx \pm \sqrt{a^2 m^2 - b^2}$

• Quadratic in ' m' at (x_1, y_1) :

For circle:

$m^2(x_1^2 - r^2) - 2x_1 y_1 m + (y_1^2 - r^2) = 0$

For parabola: $m^2 x_1 - my_1 + a = 0$

For ellipse:

$m^2(x_1^2 - a^2) - 2x_1 y_1 m + (y_1^2 - b^2) = 0$

For hyperbola:

$m^2(x_1^2 - a^2) - 2x_1 y_1 m + (y_1^2 + b^2) = 0$

• For circle: $m_1 + m_2 = \frac{2x_1 y_1}{x_1^2 - r^2}; m_1 m_2 = \frac{y_1^2 - r^2}{x_1^2 - r^2}$

For parabola: $m_1 + m_2 = \frac{y_1}{x_1}; m_1 m_2 = \frac{a}{x_1}$

For ellipse: $m_1 + m_2 = \frac{2x_1 y_1}{x_1^2 - a^2}; m_1 m_2 = \frac{y_1^2 - b^2}{x_1^2 - a^2}$

For hyperbola: $m_1 + m_2 = \frac{2x_1 y_1}{x_1^2 - a^2}; m_1 m_2 = \frac{y_1^2 + b^2}{x_1^2 - a^2}$

• For \perp r tangents ($m_1 m_2 = -1$), locus equation:

For circle: $x^2 + y^2 = 2r^2$

For parabola: $x + a = 0$

For ellipse: $x^2 + y^2 = a^2 + b^2$

For hyperbola: $x^2 + y^2 = a^2 - b^2$

• Point of contact of $y = mx + c$ with

Circle: $\left(\frac{-mr^2}{c}, \frac{r^2}{c}\right)$

Parabola: $\left(\frac{a}{m^2}, \frac{2a}{m}\right)$

Ellipse: $\left(\frac{-ma^2}{c}, \frac{b^2}{c}\right)$

Hyperbola: $\left(\frac{-ma^2}{c}, \frac{-b^2}{c}\right)$

• $S_1 = S_{11}$ for

Circle: $xx_1 + yy_1 = x_1^2 + y_1^2$

Parabola: $yy_1 - 2ax = y_1^2 - 2ax_1$

Ellipse: $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} + \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = \frac{x_1^2}{a^2} + \frac{y_1^2}{b^2}$

Hyperbola: $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = \frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_1^2}{b^2}$

$$\Rightarrow m^4 + m^2 - 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m^2 + 2)(m^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m^2 - 1 = 0 \quad [\because m^2 + 2 \neq 0]$$

$$\Rightarrow m = \pm 1$$

∴ The tangents are $y = \pm x \pm 4$

But only $y = x + 4$ and $y = -x - 4$ are satisfied by the condition $c = \frac{a}{m}$

∴ The common tangents are given as

$$y = \pm (x + 4)$$

• Find the equation to the locus of all middle points of the chords of the parabola $y^2 = 4ax$ and subtending a right angle at its vertex.

Ans: Let M (x_1, y_1) be any variable mid point of the chord of the parabola $y^2 = 4ax$, then we have

$$S_1 = S_{11}$$

$$\Rightarrow yy_1 - 2ax = y_1^2 - 2ax_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{yy_1 - 2ax}{y_1^2 - 2ax_1} = 1$$

These chords subtend a right angle at the vertex. This implies that

$$y^2 - 4ax(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 - 4ax \left(\frac{yy_1 - 2ax}{y_1^2 - 2ax_1} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 (y_1^2 - 2ax_1) - 4axy_1 + 8a^2x^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1^2 - 2ax_1 + 8a^2 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow y^2 - 2ax + 8a^2 = 0$ is the required equation of the locus.

• Find the equation to the chord joining the points P (α) and Q (β) on the ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \text{ for } a > b.$$

Ans: For $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, a > b$, we have

P $(\alpha) = P(a \cos \alpha, b \sin \alpha)$ and

Q $(\beta) = Q(a \cos \beta, b \sin \beta)$

Now, the equation of the chord PQ is:

$$\frac{b \sin \beta - b \sin \alpha}{a \cos \beta - a \cos \alpha} = \frac{y - b \sin \alpha}{x - a \cos \alpha}$$

$$b \left(2 \cos \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2} \right)$$

$$a \left(-2 \sin \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{y - b \sin \alpha}{x - a \cos \alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow b \left(\cos \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \right) (x - a \cos \alpha)$$

$$= -a \left(\sin \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \right) (y - b \sin \alpha)$$

$$\Rightarrow bx \cos \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} + ay \sin \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2}$$

$$= ab \left[\sin \alpha \sin \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} + \cos \alpha \cos \frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \right]$$



$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow bx \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + ay \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \\ &= ab \cos \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{x}{a} \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \frac{y}{b} \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \\ &= \cos \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \text{ is the required equation.} \end{aligned}$$

• If the normal at one end of the latus rectum of an ellipse passes through the other end of the minor axis, then prove that $e^4 + e^{-4} = 1$.

Ans: Let the ellipse be $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 (a > b)$

Let P $(ae, b^2/a)$ be one end of the latus rectum and let Q $(0, -b)$ be the other end of the minor axis.

Normal at P is given by

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

This passes thro' Q $(0, -b)$ implies

$$0 - a(-b) = a^2 - b^2 = a^2 e^2$$

$$\left[\because e^2 = \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow ab = a^2 e^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 b^2 = a^4 e^4$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = a^2 e^4$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2(1 - e^2) = a^2 e^4$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - e^2 = e^4$$

$$(or) e^4 + e^2 = 1$$

∴ The result proved.