

1.11.14 Matgeo

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Question

Find the equation of the conic, that satisfies the given conditions.
focus $(-1, -2)$ and directrix $x - 2y + 3 = 0$.

Solution

Let :

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{directrix equation is : } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{x} = -3 \quad (2)$$

The equation of a conic with directrix $\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = c$, eccentricity e and focus \mathbf{F} is given by:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x} + f = 0 \quad (3)$$

where :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{V} &= \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{I} - e^2 \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}^T, \\ \mathbf{u} &= c e^2 \mathbf{n} - \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{F}, \\ f &= \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \|\mathbf{F}\|^2 - c^2 e^2\end{aligned}$$

Solution

From the question we can say that the conic is a parabola that is $e = 1$;
Calculating \mathbf{V} , \mathbf{u} and f by using the above equations we get :

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$f = 16 \quad (6)$$

Solution

Finding eigen values of \mathbf{V} :

$$\det|\mathbf{V} - \lambda\mathbf{I}| = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$\lambda^2 - 5\lambda = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\lambda = 5 \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \quad (10)$$

Eigen vectors \mathbf{v} for any any square matrix \mathbf{A} is defined as :

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v} \quad (11)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda)\mathbf{v} = 0 \quad (12)$$

$$\text{for } \lambda = 0 \quad v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{for } \lambda = 5 \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

Substituting in the equation 0.3 we get :

$$\mathbf{x}^T \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{x} + 16 = 0 \quad (15)$$

Graphical Representation

