

Curve Tracing :- Finding approximate shapes of the curves from their cartesian or polar eq^{ns}.

Working process :-

1. Symmetry :
 1. If $f(x, -y) = f(x, y)$, curve is symmetrical about x axis.
 2. If $f(-x, y) = f(x, y)$, curve is symmetrical about y axis.
 3. If $f(y, x) = f(x, y)$, curve is symmetrical about line $y = x$.
 4. If $f(-y, -x) = f(x, y)$, curve is symmetrical about line $y = -x$.
 5. If $f(-x, -y) = f(x, y)$, curve is symmetrical in opposite quadrants.

2. Origin: - We check whether curve passes through or not. If constant term is missing then curve passes through origin or $f(0,0) = 0$.
3. Tangent at origin: - Equating lowest degree terms = 0 we get eqn of tangent at origin.
4. Asymptotes: - At this step we find asymptotes of curve.

1) || to x axis.

2) || to y axis

3) oblique asymptotes.

5. Point of Intersection: - put $x = 0$ & calculate y
put $y = 0$ & calculate x .

6. Nature of curve / Region: - We look for values which are possible for the given eqn.

7. Construct the Table: - In this step we take random values in the region to plot the curve.

UPTU 2013/15

Q.1 Trace the curve $y^2(2a-x) = x^3$ [Cissoid].

Sol. $f(x,y) = 2ay^2 - xy^2 - x^3 = 0$.

Symmetry ① $f(-x,y) \neq f(x,y) \therefore$ curve is not symmetric on y axis

② $f(x,-y) = f(x,y) \therefore$ curve is symmetrical about x axis.

③ $f(y,x) \neq f(x,y) \therefore f(-y,-x) \neq f(y,x)$

Origin The curve does not contain any constant term. \therefore curve passes through $O(0,0)$

Tangent at origin: - The lowest degree term $2ay^2 = 0$

tangent to the given curve. $y = 0, 0$ is double point. \therefore cusp to the curve.

Asymptotes 1) \parallel to x -axis $-1 \neq 0 \therefore$ No asymptote \parallel to x -axis.
 2) \parallel to y -axis. $2a - x = 0$ $x = 2a$ is asymptote.

3) oblique. $\phi_3(m) = -m^2 - 1 = 0$ $m = \pm i$ No real asymptote.

$\Rightarrow x = 2a$ is the only asymptote for the curve.

Point of Intersection put $y = 0$. $x = 0$.

put $x = 0$, we get $y = 0$.
 $(0, 0)$ is point of intersection.

Nature of the curve

$$y^2 = \frac{x^3}{2a-x} = \pm x \sqrt{\frac{x}{2a-x}}$$

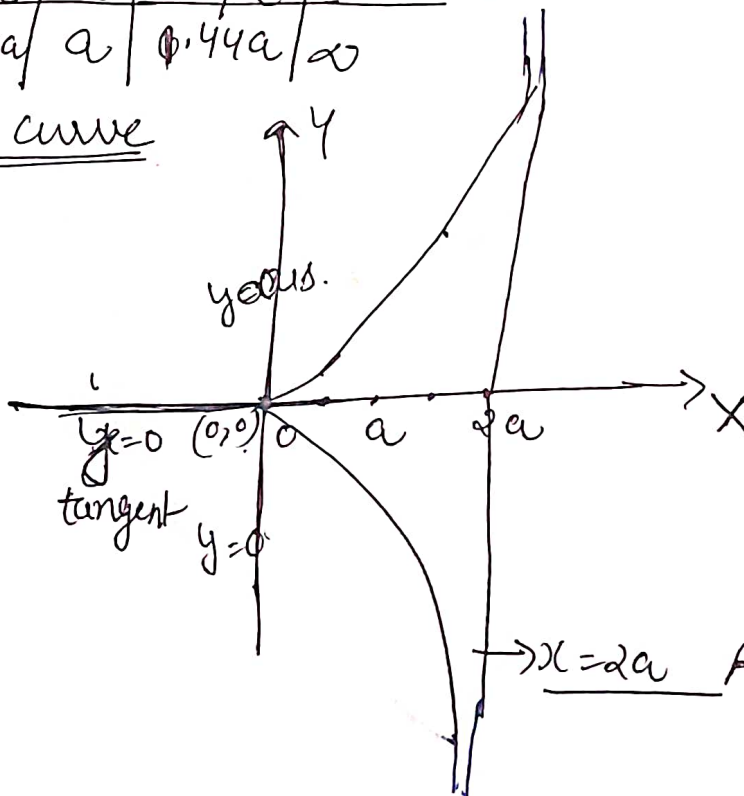
If $x > 2a$ y is imaginary.
 $x = 2a$ y does not exist.
 $x < 2a$ y is real.

$\therefore x$ varies from 0 to $2a$.

Construction of Table

x	0	$a/2$	a	$3a/2$	$2a$
y	0	$0.28a$	a	$0.44a$	∞

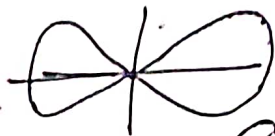
plot the curve



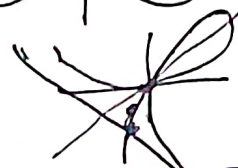
Symmetrical about x -axis

Problems for practice!

1) Trace the curve $y^2 = x^2 - x^4$ →



2) Trace the curve $x^3 + y^3 = 3axy$

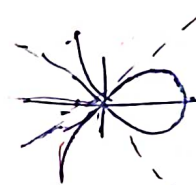


3) Trace the curve $y^2(a-x) = x^2(a+x)$. 2007

4) Trace the curve $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = a^{2/3}$, [2010-11]

note symmetry

5) $ay^2 = x^2(a-x)$, 2009, 14.

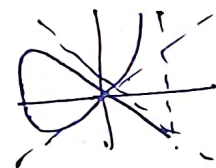


6) $y^4(x^2 + y^2) + a^2(x^2 - y^2) = 0$ 2010

7) $y = x^3$ 2014, 13.

8) $y^2(a-x) = x^3$. Cissoid. 2015

9) $a^2x^2 = y^4(2a-y)$



$$x = \sqrt{\frac{a-y}{a}}$$

$$x < 0$$

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