

Contents! - Curve Tracing in Polar Co-ordinates.

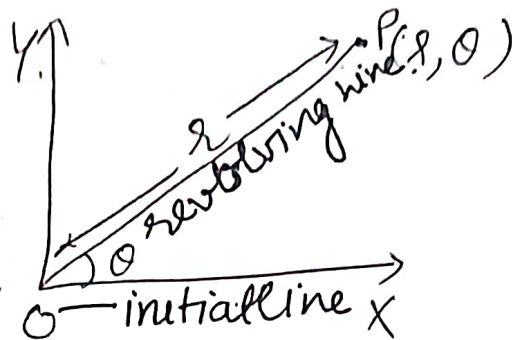
Polar-Co-ordinates! -

OX - horizontal line is called initial line.

OP is called revolving line making an angle θ .

polar co-ordinates of pt. $P(r, \theta)$

O is called pole,



$\theta \rightarrow$ vertical angle, r - radius vector

Working Process! - To plot polar curves.

1. Symmetry: 1) If $f(-\theta, r) = f(\theta, r)$ then symmetrical about initial line.
2) If $f(\theta, -r) = f(\theta, r)$, then curve is symmetrical about pole.
3) If $f(\pi - \theta, r) = f(\theta, r) \Rightarrow$ then curve is symmetrical about $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
4) for $\theta = \alpha$, if $f(2\alpha - \theta, r) = f(\theta, r)$ then symmetrical about line $\theta = \alpha$.

2. origin! - If at $r = 0$, we get real values of θ , then curve passes through pole or origin.

3. Tangent at pole: At $r = 0$ the values of θ gives tangent at the pole.

4. Asymptote: If $\theta \rightarrow 0$, (any real value) r tends to ∞ then there exist asymptote. $r \sin(\theta - \alpha) = \frac{1}{f'(\alpha)}$
condition θ $f(\theta) = \frac{1}{r}$ (in this form)

put $f(\theta) = 0$, $\theta = \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \dots \dots \alpha_n$
at these values of θ

asymptotes are $r \sin(\theta - \alpha) = \frac{1}{f'(\alpha)}$

5. Nature of curve or point of Intersection - find max and minimum points on the curve at the values of θ , region.

6. Construct the table

7. plot the curve.

Q.1 Trace the curve $r = a(1 - \cos \theta)$ [Cardioid] symmetrical
 Sol. Symmetry 1) $f(-r, \theta) \neq f(r, \theta)$, curve is not symmetrical about pole.

2) $f(r, -\theta) = f(r, \theta) \Rightarrow$ curve is symmetrical about initial line.

Origin at $\theta = 0$. r becomes 0 \therefore curve passes through pole. $a(1 - \cos \theta) = 0 \Rightarrow \cos \theta = 1$. $\theta = 0, 2\pi$. (real values exist)

3. Tangent at origin: - put $r = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a(1 - \cos \theta) = 0 \Rightarrow 1 - \cos \theta = 0$
 $\cos \theta = 1$

$$\boxed{\theta = 0, 2\pi}$$

$\theta = 0, 2\pi$ are tangents to the curve at origin.

4. Asymptote: - $r = a(1 - \cos \theta)$
 $|\cos \theta| \leq 1 \quad \forall \theta$ r can never tends to ∞ . Hence curve has no asymptotes.

5. Nature of the curve, and region. $\therefore |\cos \theta| \leq 1$

$$\Rightarrow r \leq 2a$$

$$\text{At } \theta = 0 \Rightarrow r = 0$$

$$\text{At } \theta = -\pi \Rightarrow r = 2a$$

$$-1 \leq \cos \theta \leq 1$$

$$\boxed{\theta = 0, \pi}$$

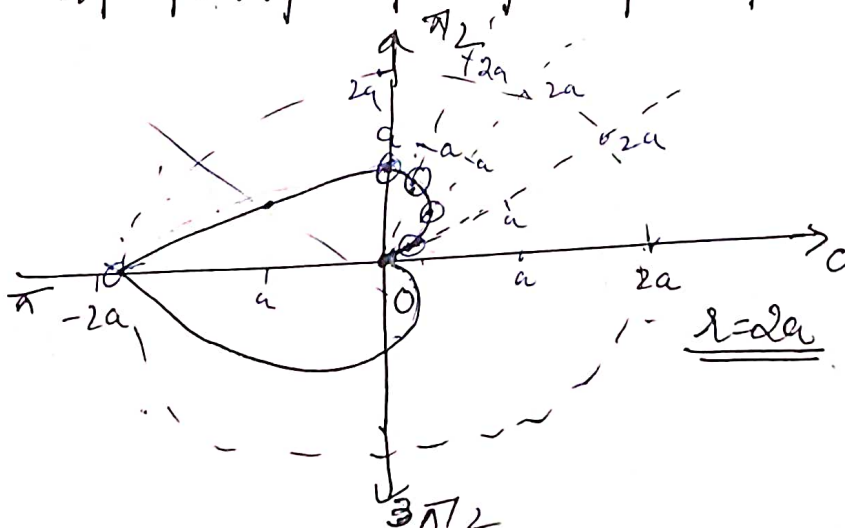
$$\boxed{+\pi \leq \theta \leq 0^\circ}$$

\Rightarrow curve lies between $0 \leq r \leq 2a$

6. Special points / Table: -

θ	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$	$3\pi/4$	π
r	0	$1.34a$	$2.93a$	$0.5a$	a		$2a$

\therefore curve is symmetrical about initial line.



the curve $r^2 = a^2 \cos 2\theta$

initial line

1) $f(r, \theta) = f(r, \theta)$, curve is symmetrical about pole.

2) $f(r, -\theta) = f(r, \theta)$; curve is symmetrical about initial line.

3) $f(-r, -\theta) = f(r, \theta)$ \therefore curve is symmetrical about both.
put $\theta = \pi/2$ $f(\pi - \theta, r) = f(\theta, r) \Rightarrow$ curve is symmetrical about line $\theta = \pi/2$.

2. Origin. put $r = 0$. $r^2 = a^2 \cos 2\theta = 0 \therefore$ curve does not pass through pole.
 $\cos 2\theta = 0 \Rightarrow 2\theta = \pm \pi/2$ $\theta = \pm \pi/4$
 \therefore real values of θ exist \therefore curve passes through pole.

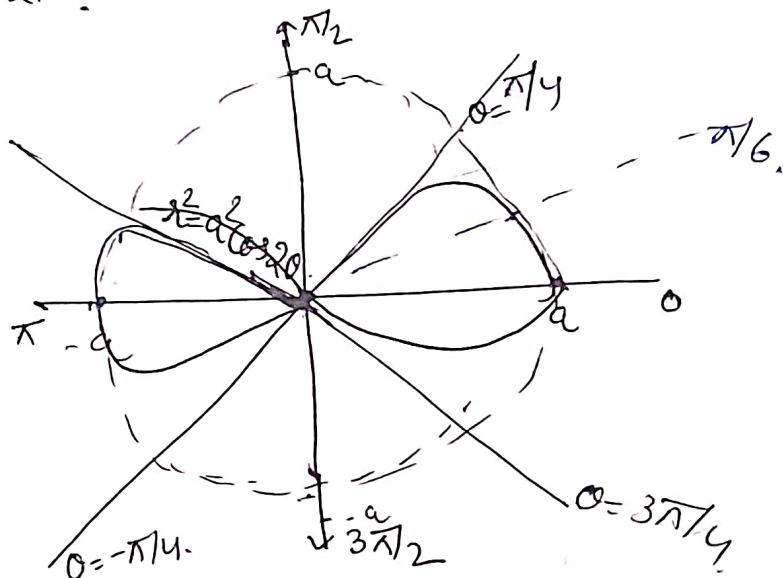
Tangent at origin. put $r = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = \pm \pi/4$ are tangents to the curve.
 $\therefore |\cos 2\theta| \leq 1$

4. Asymptote. $r^2 = a^2 \cos 2\theta$.
 $r^2 \leq a^2 \Rightarrow r \leq \pm a$ $-a < r < a$
 r does not tend to infinity. \therefore curve does not have any asymptote.

5. Nature of the curve: $\therefore |\cos \theta| \leq 1 \Rightarrow |\cos 2\theta| \leq 1$
 $\Rightarrow -a < r < a$.
 $a, r = |a|$ is the region of the curve.

6. special points of table.

θ	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$	$3\pi/4$	π
r	$\pm a$	$\pm \frac{a}{2}$	0	imag	0	$\pm a$	$\pm a$



Problems for Practice!

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1. Trace the curve $r = a(1 + \cos \theta)$
2. Trace the curve $r = a(1 - \sin \theta)$
3. Trace the curve $r = a(1 + 8 \sin \theta)$
4. Trace the curve $r = a \sin 2\theta$ $r = a \sin \theta$
5. Trace the curve $r = a \cos \theta$
6. Trace the curve $r = 2 \cos \theta$