

SEL 8.4

GENERAL CONICS

1. GENERAL FORM FOR A CONIC

$$Ax^2 + Bxy + Cy^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

↑ ↑ ↑

SKewed (pointing to Bxy)

$$B^2 - 4AC < 0 \quad \text{CIRCLE OR ELLIPSE}$$

$$B^2 - 4AC = 0 \quad \text{PARABOLA}$$

$$B^2 - 4AC > 0 \quad \text{HYPERBOLA}$$

IF NO "Bxy" TERM EXISTS

$$A = C \quad \text{CIRCLE}$$

$$A \neq C \quad \text{BUT BOTH POSITIVE} \quad - \quad \text{ELLIPSE}$$

$$\text{ONLY ONE SQUARED TERM EXISTS} \quad - \quad \text{PARABOLA}$$

$$A \neq C \quad \text{BUT ONE POSITIVE THE OTHER NEGATIVE} \\ \text{THEN} \quad - \quad \text{HYPERBOLA}$$