

# Curve Tracing

## \* Steps Tracing of Cartesian Curve

- (1) Symmetry
- (2) Origin & tangent at origin  $(0,0)$
- (3) Intercept
- (4) Asymptote
- (5) ~~Region~~ Region
- (6) Curve.

## \* Procedure:

### (I) Symmetry:

#### (i) Symmetry about X-axis:

Replace  $y$  by  $-y$ , if  $eq^n$  remains unchanged then there is symmetry about X-axis.

or if Curve Contains all even powers of  $y$ :

#### (ii) Symmetry about Y-axis:

Replace  $x$  by  $-x$ , if  $eq^n$  remains unchanged then there is symmetry about Y-axis.

or

If Curve Contains all even powers of  $x$ .

#### (iii) Symmetry about origin:

Replace  $x$  by  $-x$  &  $y$  by  $-y$ , if  $eq^n$  remains unchanged then there is symmetry about origin.



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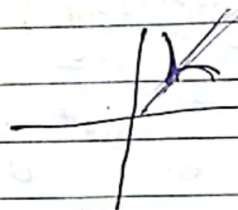
### (2) Origin & Tangent at origin:

- The Curve passing through the origin if the equation of the curve does not contain the constant term.

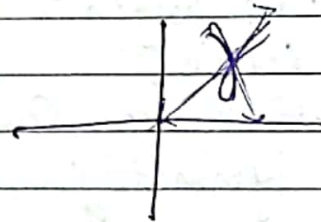
For the tangent, Take

lowest degree term = 0

if we have two tangent which are ~~distinct~~ <sup>not coincident</sup> (equal) then it's a cusp.



if we have two tangent which are <sup>not</sup> distinct then it's a node.



### (3) Intercept:

X-intercept: Put  $y=0$  & find  $x$ .

Y-intercept: put  $x=0$  & find  $y$ .

#### (4) Asymptotes:

(i) Asymptotes  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to X-axis:

Take coeff. of highest degree term of  $x = 0$

(ii) Asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to y-axis:

coeff. of highest degree term of  $y = 0$

(5) Region:

(6) Curve:





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Ex: 1 sketch the Curve  $xy^2 = 4a^2(a-x)$

Ex: 2 sketch the Curve  $y^2(a+x) = x^2(a-x)$

Soln.  $ay^2 + xy^2 - ax^2 + x^3 = 0$

(I) Symmetry:

Given Curve is symmetric w.r.t. X-axis as it contains all even power terms of y.

there is no symmetry about y-axis & origin.

(II) Origin & tangent at origin

Since, there is no constant term in the given eq<sup>n</sup> of curve.

So Curve passes through origin

Tangent at origin:

lowest degree term = 0

$$ay^2 - ax^2 = 0$$

$$y^2 = x^2$$

$$\boxed{y = \pm x} \quad (\text{real \& distinct})$$

$\therefore$  Double point is a node.

### (III) Intercept :

X-intercept : put  $y=0$

$$x^3 - ax^2 = 0$$

$$x^2(x-a) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x=0 \text{ or } x=a$$

$\therefore (0,0)$  &  $(a,0)$  are intercept

Y-intercept : put  $x=0$

$$ay^2 = 0 \Rightarrow y=0$$

$\therefore (0,0)$  is intercept.

### (IV) Asymptotes :

Asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to X-axis :

Coeff. of highest degree term of  $x = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 0 \quad \text{is not possible}$$

$\therefore$  asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to X-axis not possible

Asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to Y-axis

Coeff. of highest degree term of  $y = 0$

$$a + x = 0$$

$\boxed{x = -a}$  is asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to Y-axis.



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(V) Region :

$$y^2 = \frac{x^2(a-x)}{a+x}$$

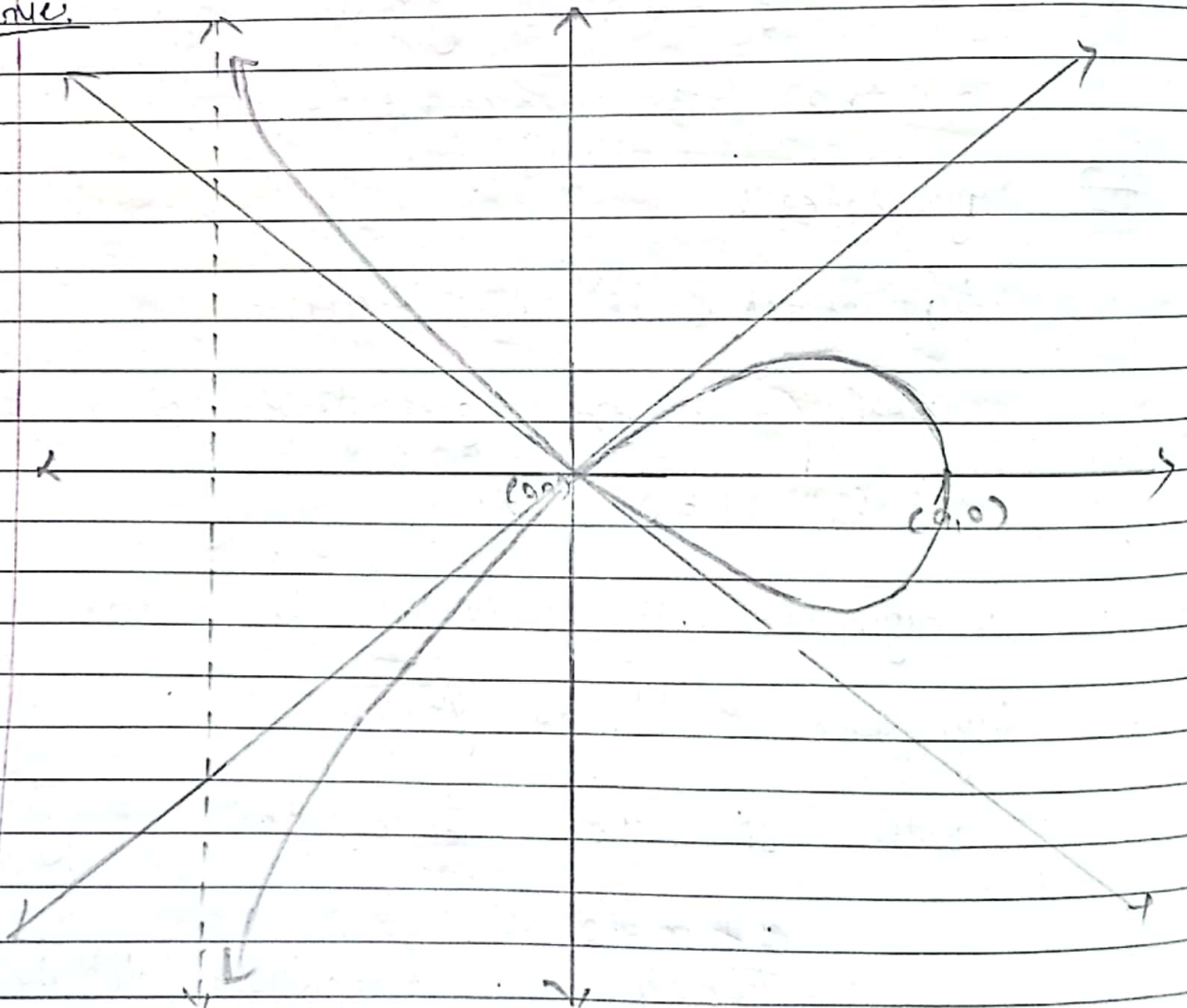
$$y^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{x^2(a-x)}{(a+x)} \geq 0$$

$$\text{if } a-x \geq 0 \text{ \& } a+x \geq 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } x \leq a \text{ \& } x \geq -a$$

$$\text{i.e. } -a \leq x \leq a$$

Curve:







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Ex: 3 sketch the curve  $y^2(2a-x) = x^3$  ( $a > 0$ )

Sol<sup>n</sup>: We have  $y^2(2a-x) = x^3$

$$\Rightarrow 2ay^2 - xy^2 - x^3 = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(I) Symmetry:

equation contains only even powers of  $y$ , so the curve has symmetry about  $X$ -axis.

There is no symmetry about  $y$ -axis & origin.

(II) Origin & tangent at origin.

Since,

There is no constant term in the eq<sup>n</sup>  
So the curve passes through origin.

Tangent at origin:

lowest degree term  $= 0$

$$2ay^2 = 0$$

$$y^2 = 0$$

$y = 0, 0$ , real & coincident tangents

$\therefore$  origin is a cusp.



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(iii) Intercepts:

X-intercept: put  $y=0 \Rightarrow x=0$   
 $\therefore (0,0)$  is intersecting point

Y-intercept: put  $x=0 \Rightarrow y=0$   
 $\therefore (0,0)$  is intersecting point

(iv) Asymptotes:

Asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to X-axis:

coeff. of highest degree term of  $x=0$

$-1=0$   $\times$  not possible

Asymptote  $\parallel^{\text{al}}$  to Y-axis:

coeff. of highest degree term of  $y=0$

$$\Rightarrow 24-x=0$$

$$\Rightarrow x=24$$

$\therefore$  Curve has vertical asymptote  $x=24$

(v) Region:

$$y^2 = \frac{x^3}{24-x}$$

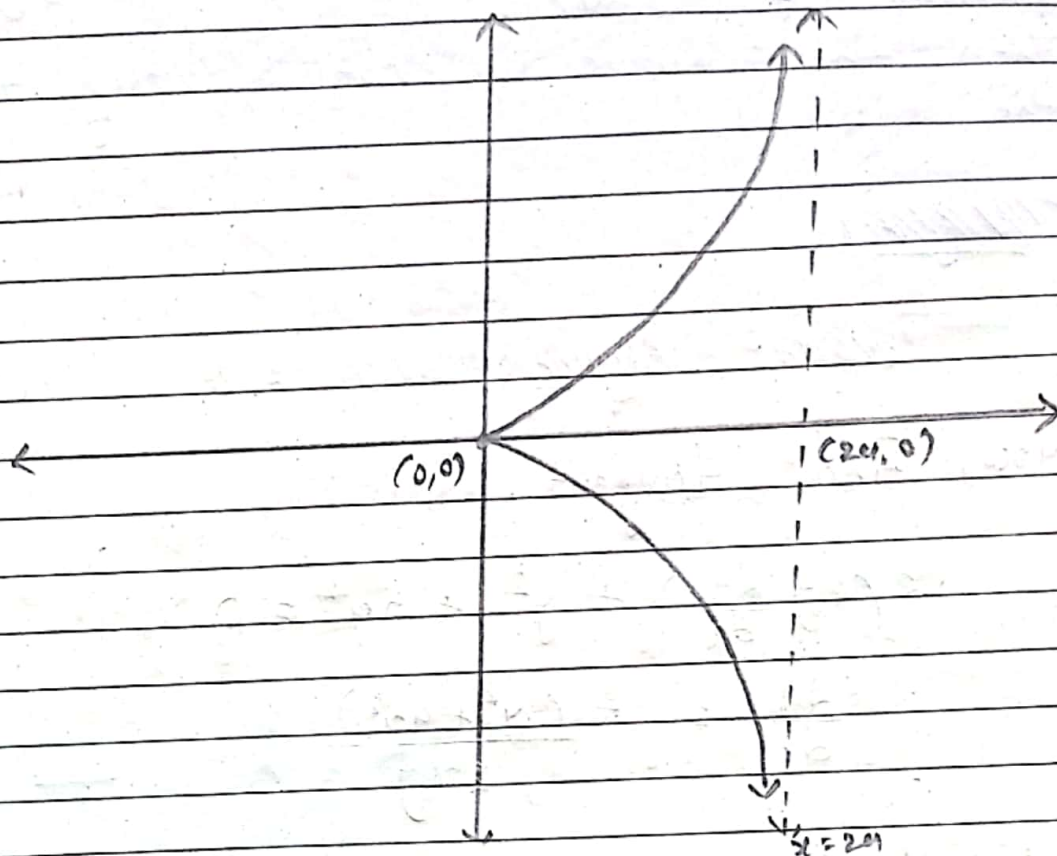
Since,  $y^2 \geq 0$ ,  $\frac{x^3}{24-x} \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow x \geq 0 \text{ \& } 24-x \geq 0$$



∴  $x \geq 0$  &  $x \leq 2a$

∴ Curve lies in  $0 \leq x \leq 2a$



Ex: Trace the Curve  $xy^2 = 4a^2(2a-x)$ ,  $a > 0$ .

Sol: Here,  $xy^2 - 8a^3 + 4a^2x = 0$  — (1)

(I) Symmetry:

About X-axis:  $x$  contains only even power of  $y$ . therefore curve has symmetry about X-axis.

There is no symmetry about Y-axis & origin.



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## (ii) Origin & tangent:

There is a Constant term in given equation of Curve.  
Then the Curve is not passing through the origin.

~~Therefore~~

~~Therefore tangent through (0,0)~~

Now, Find tangent.

$$x \left( 2y \frac{dy}{dx} \right) + y^2 + 4a^2 = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(y^2 + 4a^2)}{2xy}$$

If  $\frac{dy}{dx} \rightarrow 0$  it gives horizontal tangent.

If  $\frac{dy}{dx} \rightarrow \infty$  it gives Vertical tangent.

$$\text{If } \frac{dy}{dx} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{i.e. } x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0$$

If  $x = 0$  from eq<sup>n</sup> (i)

we can not find any value of  $y$ .

If  $y = 0$  from eq<sup>n</sup> (i)

$$4a^2x = \frac{2}{x}a^2$$

$$x = 2a$$

$\therefore x=2a$  is Vertical tangent.

at point  $(2a, 0)$  there is a Vertical tangent

Now, if  $\frac{dy}{dx} \rightarrow 0$  i.e.  $y^2 + 4a^2 = 0$   
 $y^2 = -4a^2$  ✗.

(III) Intercepts: X-intercept: put  $y=0$

We get  $x=2a$ , point  $(2a, 0)$

Y-intercept: put  $x=0$   
 $-8a^3 = 0$  ✗.

(IV) Asymptotes:

(i) ||<sup>al</sup> to X-axis:  
 coeff. of highest degree term of  $x=0$

$y^2 + 4a^2 = 0 \Rightarrow y^2 = -4a^2$  ✗.

(ii) ||<sup>al</sup> to Y-axis:

coeff. of highest degree term of  $y=0$

$x=0$  is Asymptote. ||<sup>al</sup> to Y-axis

(V) Region: Here,  $y^2 = \frac{4a^2(2a-x)}{x}$

$y^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{4a^2(2a-x)}{x} \geq 0$

i.e.  $x \geq 0$  &  $2a-x \geq 0$

$x \leq 2a$

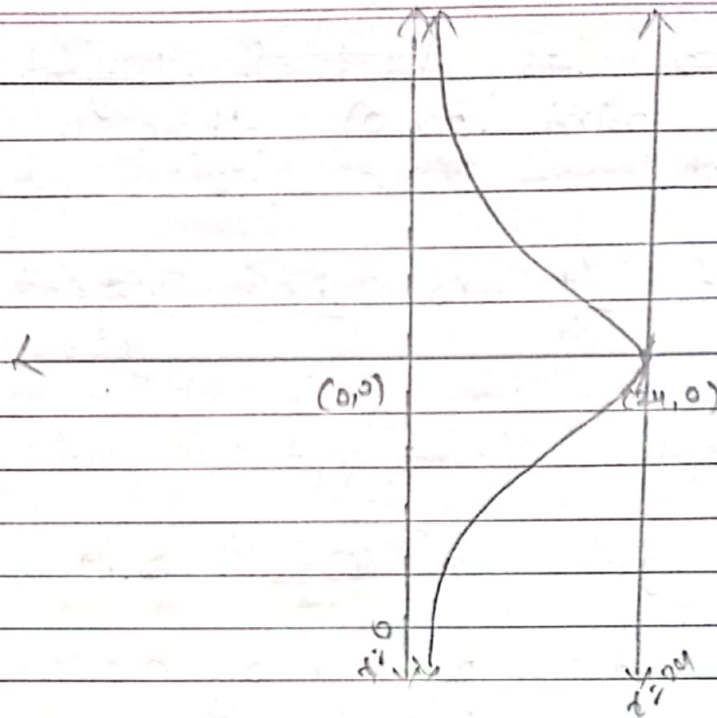
$\therefore 0 \leq x \leq 2a$





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Ex:- sketch the curve  $a^2 x^2 = y^3(2a - y)$  ( $a > 0$ )

Sol<sup>n</sup>:- Here given that  
$$a^2 x^2 - 2ay^3 + y^4 = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(I) Symmetry :

Since, equation contains only even power of  $x$  then curve has symmetry about  $y$ -axis.

There is no symmetry about  $x$ -axis & origin.

(II) Origin & tangent to the origin :

Since, there is no constant term in the given eq<sup>n</sup> of the curve,  
 $\therefore$  The curve passing through the origin.

Tangent to the origin:

lowest degree term = 0

$$a^2 x^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0, 0 \quad (\text{real \& coincident})$$

$\therefore$  There is a cusp at origin.

(III) Intercepts:

X-Intercept: Put  $y = 0$ ,

$$a^2 x^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0 \quad (0, 0) \text{ is intercept,}$$

Y-intercept: put  $x = 0$

$$y^4 - 2ay^3 = 0$$

$$y^3 (y - 2a) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } y = 2a$$

$\therefore (0, 0)$  &  $(0, 2a)$  are intercept.

(IV) Asymptotes:

||<sup>al</sup> to X-axis:

Coeff. of highest power term of  $x = 0$   
 $a^2 = 0$  ✗



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||<sup>al</sup> to y-axis:

Coeff. of highest power term of  $y = 0$

$$1 = 0 \quad \times$$

$\therefore$  Vertical asymptote are not possible

(II) Region:

$$x^2 = \frac{y^3(2a-y)}{a^2}$$

Since,  $x^2 \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y^3(2a-y)}{a^2} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y \geq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 2a - y \geq 0$$

$$y \leq 2a$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq y \leq 2a$$



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