

Conic section Assignment

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Problem Statement - If the line $2x + \sqrt{6}y = 2$ touches the hyperbola $x^2 - 2y^2 = 4$, then the point of contact is

From the line $2x + \sqrt{6}y = 2$ the vectors \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{m} are taken,

Solution

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{6} \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

by substituting eq(2),(3),(4),(8),(9) in eq(7)

$$\mu = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2} \quad (10)$$

substituting eq(8),(9),(10) in eq(6) the point of contact is

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{q} + \mu \mathbf{m} \quad (11)$$

Construction

Points	intersection points
c	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -\sqrt{6} \end{pmatrix}$
q	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

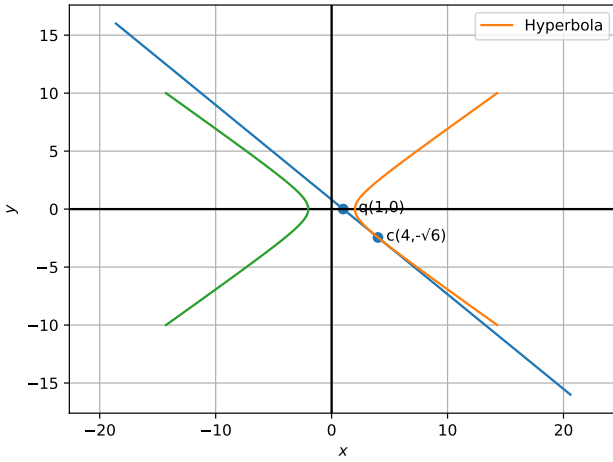


Figure 1:

The given equation of hyperbola $x^2 - 2y^2 = 4$ can be written in the general quadratic form as

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x} + f = 0 \quad (1)$$

where

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

$$f = -4 \quad (4)$$

The points of intersection of the line

$$L: \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{q} + \mu \mathbf{m} \quad \mu \in \mathbf{R} \quad (5)$$

with the conic section are given by

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{q} + \mu_i \mathbf{m} \quad (6)$$

where

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{\mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m}} \left(-\mathbf{m}^T (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}) \pm \sqrt{\left[\mathbf{m}^T (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}) \right]^2 - \left(\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{q} + f \right) \left(\mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m} \right)} \right) \quad (7)$$