

A Bézier curve is a family of parametric curves that can be used in computer aided design, computer graphics, animation, and other related fields which involve generating smooth curves. A cubic Bézier curve is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x_0(1-t)^3 + 3x_1t(1-t)^2 + 3x_2t^2(1-t) + x_3t^3 \\ y &= y_0(1-t)^3 + 3y_1t(1-t)^2 + 3y_2t^2(1-t) + y_3t^3 \end{aligned}$$

where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  and  $P_0(x_0, y_0), P_1(x_1, y_1), P_2(x_2, y_2), P_3(x_3, y_3)$  are control points which determine the shape of the curve.

1. Graph a Bézier curve in Desmos using sliders for the control points.
2. Using the fact that the slope of a parametric curve is given by  $\frac{y'(t)}{x'(t)}$ , find the slope of the Bézier curve at  $P_0(x_0, y_0)$  and  $P_3(x_3, y_3)$ .
3. Show that the tangent lines at  $P_0(x_0, y_0)$  and  $P_3(x_3, y_3)$  connect  $P_0P_1$  and  $P_2P_3$ , respectively.



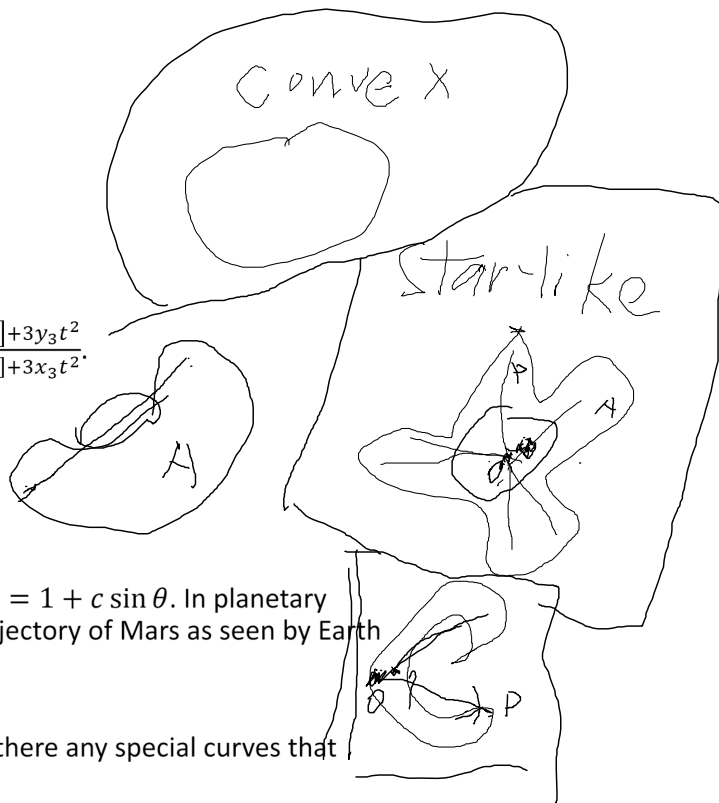
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-3y_0(1-t)^2 + 3y_1[(1-t)^2 - 2t(1-t)] + 3y_2[2t(1-t) - t^2] + 3y_3t^2}{-3x_0(1-t)^2 + 3x_1[(1-t)^2 - 2t(1-t)] + 3x_2[2t(1-t) - t^2] + 3x_3t^2}$$

$t=0$

$$\frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0}$$

$t=1$

$$\frac{y_3 - y_2}{x_3 - x_2}$$



A limaçon is a family of polar curves of the form  $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$ . In planetary motion studies, it has been used to model the trajectory of Mars as seen by Earth by setting  $|c| > 1$ !

1. Draw the limaçon for  $c = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2$ . Are there any special curves that arise from these cases?
2. Notice that at certain values of  $c$ , there is an inner loop at the origin. Determine which values of  $c$  exhibit this phenomenon.
3. Also notice that at other values of  $c$ , the limaçon has a dimple at  $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ , i.e., it bends into (rather than out from) the origin. Determine which values exhibit this phenomenon.

$$r = 1 + c \sin \theta$$