## Exercise 6.9: Conic Sections Cheatsheet

# Axis Rotation (Remove xy-Term)

Transform using rotation angle  $\theta$ :  $x = X \cos \theta - Y \sin \theta$ ,  $y = X \sin \theta + Y \cos \theta$  Angle  $\theta$  where:  $\tan 2\theta = \frac{2h}{a-b}$  (for  $ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + \cdots = 0$ )

Steps: 1. Compute  $\tan 2\theta$  using coefficients a, h, b. 2. Solve for  $\theta$  and find  $\cos \theta$ ,  $\sin \theta$ . 3. Substitute into transformation equations. 4. Simplify to remove XY-term.

Examples:  $-5x^2 - 6xy + 5y^2 - 8 = 0$ :  $\tan 2\theta = \frac{-6}{5-5} = \infty \rightarrow \theta = 45^\circ \cos 45^\circ = \sin 45^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  Transformed:  $X^2 + 4Y^2 - 4 = 0$  (Ellipse)  $-4x^2 - 4xy + y^2 - 6 = 0$ : a = 4, 2h = -4, b = 1  $\tan 2\theta = \frac{-4}{4-1} = \frac{-4}{3}$   $2\tan^2\theta - 3\tan\theta - 2 = 0 \rightarrow \tan\theta = 2\cos\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$ ,  $\sin\theta = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$  Transformed:  $Y^2 = \frac{6}{5}$  (Parabola)

#### Identify Conic and Elements

- \*\*Ellipse\*\*: 
$$\frac{X^2}{a^2} + \frac{Y^2}{b^2} = 1$$
 Center: Solve  $X = 0$ ,  $Y = 0$  for  $(x,y)$ . Foci:  $(\pm ae, 0)$ ,  $e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}}$ . - \*\*Parabola\*\*:  $Y^2 = 4aX$  Vertex:  $X = 0$ ,  $Y = 0 \to (x,y)$ . Focus:  $(a,0)$ . Axis:  $Y = 0 \to x + y = 0$ .

Examples:  $-x^2 - 2xy + y^2 - 8x - 8y = 0$ :  $\theta = 45^{\circ}$ , Transformed:  $Y^2 - 4\sqrt{2}X = 0$  Conic: Parabola, Vertex (0,0), Focus  $(\sqrt{2},0)$ .  $-x^2 + xy + y^2 - 4 = 0$ :  $\theta = 45^{\circ}$ , Transformed:  $\frac{X^2}{8} + \frac{Y^2}{8} = 3$  Conic: Ellipse, Center (0,0).

## Tangent to Conic

For 
$$ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$
 at  $(x_1, y_1)$ :  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-(ax_1 + hy_1 + g)}{-(hx_1 + by_1 + f)}$  Tangent:  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$ .

Examples: 
$$-3x^2 - 7y^2 + 2x - y - 48 = 0$$
 at  $(4,1)$ :  $m = \frac{6(4) + 2}{14(1) + 1} = \frac{26}{15}$  Tangent:  $26x - 15y - 89 = 0$ .  $-x^2 + 5xy - 4y^2 + 4 = 0$  at  $(0, -1)$ :  $m = \frac{5}{8}$  Tangent:  $5x - 8y - 8 = 0$ .

### Pair of Straight Lines

For 
$$ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$
: Check determinant  $\begin{vmatrix} a & h & g \\ h & b & f \\ g & f & c \end{vmatrix} = 0$ . Factorize to find line equations.

Example: -10xy + 8x - 15y - 12 = 0: Determinant = 0, Factor: (5y + 4)(2x - 3) = 0 Lines: 5y + 4 = 0, 2x - 3 = 0.