

Conic Sections Cheatsheet: Class 12, Chapter 6, Exercise 6.7

This cheatsheet summarizes tangent and normal equations for conic sections, with examples from Exercise 6.7.

1. Tangent Equations

(i) Circle ($x^2 + y^2 = a^2$): - Point form at (x_1, y_1) : $xx_1 + yy_1 = a^2$ - Slope form with slope m : $y = mx \pm a\sqrt{1+m^2}$ (where $c^2 = a^2(1+m^2)$)

(ii) Parabola ($y^2 = 4ax$): - Point form at $(at^2, 2at)$: $y \cdot 2at = 2a(x + at^2)$ or $yt = x + at^2$ - Slope form: $y = mx + \frac{a}{m}$ (condition of tangency)

(iii) Ellipse ($\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$): - Point form at $(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$: $\frac{x}{a} \cos \theta + \frac{y}{b} \sin \theta = 1$

(iv) Hyperbola ($\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$): - Point form at $(a \sec \theta, b \tan \theta)$: $\frac{x}{a} \sec \theta - \frac{y}{b} \tan \theta = 1$

2. Normal Equations

(i) Parabola ($y^2 = 4ax$): - At (x_1, y_1) : $y - y_1 = \frac{-y_1}{2a}(x - x_1)$

(ii) Ellipse ($\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$): - At (x_1, y_1) : $\frac{a^2x}{x_1} - \frac{b^2y}{y_1} = a^2 - b^2$

(iii) Hyperbola ($\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$): - At (x_1, y_1) : $\frac{a^2x}{x_1} + \frac{b^2y}{y_1} = a^2 + b^2$

3. Tangent Through a Point

- **Circle**: Solve $c^2 = a^2(1+m^2)$ with the point (x_0, y_0) in $y = mx + c$. - **Parabola**: Use $c = \frac{a}{m}$ and solve with the point. - **Hyperbola**: Use $c^2 = a^2m^2 - b^2$ and solve with the point.

4. Parallel Tangents

- Match slope m of the given line, then use the conic's tangency condition (e.g., $c^2 = a^2m^2 - b^2$ for hyperbola).

5. Common Tangents

- Solve for m and c using the discriminant condition ($\text{disc} = 0$) for one conic and tangency for the other.

6. Examples from Exercise 6.7

Q.1(i) $y^2 = 4ax$ at $(at^2, 2at)$: - Tangent: $yt = x + at^2$ - Normal: $tx + y - at - at^3 = 0$

Q.2(i) $3x^2 = -16y$ at $y = -3$ (points $(4, -3)$, $(-4, -3)$): - Tangent at $(4, -3)$: $3x + 2y - 6 = 0$ - Tangent at $(-4, -3)$: $3x - 2y + 6 = 0$

Q.3(i) $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ through $(7, -1)$: - Tangents: $4x + 3y - 25 = 0$, $4x + 3y + 25 = 0$

Q.5 $x^2/4 + y^2 = 1$ parallel to $2x - 4y + 5 = 0$ (slope $m = 1/2$): - Tangent: $x - 2y \pm 2\sqrt{2} = 0$

Q.6 $9x^2 - 4y^2 = 36$ parallel to $5x - 2y + 7 = 0$ (slope $m = 5/2$): - Tangent: $5x - 2y \pm 8 = 0$

Q.7(i) $x^2 = 80y$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 81$: - Common tangent: $\pm 3x - 4y - 45 = 0$

7. Tips

- Differentiate implicitly to find slopes for general conics. - Check tangency conditions to ensure the line touches the conic at one point. - Simplify equations by completing the square when shifting points.