

3.4.1

Determine the characteristics of the following curves:

$$(1) x^2 - 2xy - 4y^2 + 6x + 2y + 3 = 0.$$

Combine $x - y + 3 = 0$ and $x + 4y - 1 = 0$ then the center is: $(-11/4, 4/5)$.

$$I_2 = 1 \cdot (-4) - (-1)^2 = -5 < 0 \text{ so it is a hyperbola.}$$

Asymptotes: $X^2 - 2XY - 4Y^2 = 0 \iff X/Y = 1 \pm \sqrt{5}$. So they are $(x + \frac{11}{4}) = (1 \pm \sqrt{5})(y - \frac{4}{5})$.

Axis of symmetry: $\cot(2\theta) = \frac{A-C}{2B} = -\frac{5}{2}$ so they are $y - \frac{4}{5} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{29}}{2}(x + \frac{11}{4})$.

$$(4) x^2 + 2xy + y^2 + 2x + 2y - 3 = 0.$$

This is a degenerate parabola: $(x + y - 1)(x + y + 3) = 0$.

$$(7) 5x^2 + 4xy + y^2 - 6x + 4y - 6 = 0.$$

Combine $5x + 2y - 3 = 0$ and $2x + y + 2 = 0$ then the center is $(7, -16)$.

$$I_2 = 5 - 2^2 = 1 > 0 \text{ so it is an ellipsis.}$$

Axis of symmetry: $\cot(2\theta) = \frac{A-C}{2B} = 1$ so they are $y + 16 = (-1 \pm \sqrt{2})(x - 7)$.

3.4.14

Prove that for every pair of conjugate diameters of an ellipsis, the sum of squares of the two radii are constant.

Proof: Assume the ellipsis is centered at $(0, 0)$. We can show that for any two pairs of conjugate radii OA, OB where $A = (x_1, y_1), B = (x_2, y_2), x_1^2 + x_2^2 = a^2$ and $y_1^2 + y_2^2 = b^2$ where $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ is the ellipsis. Note that the value $\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2}{a^2}, \frac{y_1^2 + y_2^2}{b^2}$ and conjugateness are invariant under dilation, hence we only need to prove the case of a circle, which is trivial.

3.4.18

Suppose $\Gamma : a_{11}x^2 + a_{22}y^2 + 2a_{12}xy + 2b_1x + 2b_2y + c = 0$. Prove that if there are two perpendicular tangents through (x', y') , then

$$F_1^2(x', y') + F_2^2(x', y') = (a_{11} + a_{22})F(x', y').$$

where $F_1(u, v) = a_{11}u + a_{12}v + b_1, F_2(u, v) = a_{12}u + a_{22}v + b_2$.

Proof: There exists m, n such that $\varphi(m, n) \neq 0$ and

$$\varphi(m, n)F(x', y') = [mF_1(x', y') + nF_2(x', y')]^2, \varphi(-n, m)F(x', y') = [nF_1(x', y') - mF_2(x', y')]^2.$$

Hence $F_1^2(x', y') + F_2^2(x', y') = (a_{11} + a_{22})F(x', y')$.

3.4.24

Assume the conic curve Γ has conjugate diameters $x - y - 10 = 0$ and $x + y + 6 = 0$, and passes $(3, -3), (3, -7)$. Determine the equation of Γ , and the tangent of Γ at $(3, -3)$.

Solution: By problem 3.5.4 (after dilation), $\Gamma : x^2 + y^2 - 6xy - 52x + 28y + 168 = 0$, and the tangent of Γ at $(-3, 3)$ is $7x - y - 24 = 0$.

3.5.4

The axis of symmetry of Γ is $x - y - 5 = 0$ and $x + y + 3 = 0$, and Γ passes points $(3/2, -3/2)$, $(3/2, -7/2)$. Determine the equation of Γ .

Solution: The center is $(1, -4)$. Let $x' = (x - 1)/\sqrt{2} - (y + 4)/\sqrt{2}$, $y' = (x - 1)/\sqrt{2} + (y + 4)/\sqrt{2}$, then the axis of symmetry of Γ' is $x = 0$ and $y = 0$, and Γ' passes the points $(-\sqrt{2}, 3/\sqrt{3})$ and $(0, 1/\sqrt{2})$, hence $\Gamma' : 2y^2 - 4x^2 = 1$, so $\Gamma : x^2 + y^2 - 6xy - 26x + 14y + 42 = 0$.

3.5.5

The equation of a parabola in I is $ax^2 + 4ay^2 + 4xy + 10x - 20y - 1 = 0$ where $a > 0$. Determine the value of a , and construct another coordinate system I' such that this parabola is in the then $y' = c(x')^2$ ($c > 0$).

Solution: $I_2 = 2^2 - a \cdot 4a = 0$ so $a = 1$. $\cot(2\theta) = \frac{A-C}{2B} = -\frac{3}{4}$ and $c = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{8}$.