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**Assignment:** Practice Questions for  
 Sections 11.4 & 11.5 [Not f

The equation  $\frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(r,\theta)} = \frac{f'(\theta) \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta}{f'(\theta) \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta}$  gives a formula for the derivative  $y'$  of a polar curve  $r = f(\theta)$ . The second derivative is  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{dy' / d\theta}{dx / d\theta}$ . Find the slope and concavity of the following curve at the given points.

$$r = 8\theta, \quad \theta = 2\pi, \quad \frac{7\pi}{2}$$

To find the slope, use the first derivative of the function.

So, start by finding  $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(r,\theta)}$  using the formula given in the problem statement.

The formula involves  $f(\theta)$  and  $f'(\theta)$ . Identify these functions.

$$f(\theta) = 8\theta$$

$$f'(\theta) = 8$$

Substitute  $f(\theta) = 8\theta$  and  $f'(\theta) = 8$  into the formula for  $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(r,\theta)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(r,\theta)} &= \frac{f'(\theta) \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta}{f'(\theta) \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{8 \sin \theta + 8\theta \cos \theta}{8 \cos \theta - 8\theta \sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\sin \theta + \theta \cos \theta}{\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta} \end{aligned}$$

Evaluate this at  $\theta = 2\pi$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(r,\theta)} &= \frac{\sin \theta + \theta \cos \theta}{\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta} \\ \frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{\theta=2\pi} &= \frac{\sin 2\pi + 2\pi \cos 2\pi}{\cos 2\pi - 2\pi \sin 2\pi} \\ &= \frac{0 + 2\pi \cdot 1}{1 - 2\pi \cdot 0} \\ &= 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

This means the slope at  $\theta = 2\pi$  is  $2\pi$ .

To find the concavity, use the second derivative of the function.

In particular, the graph is concave up where  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} > 0$  and is concave down where  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} < 0$ .

The formula for  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  involves the derivative  $\frac{dy'}{d\theta}$ . Find this derivative.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy'}{d\theta} &= \frac{d}{d\theta}(y') \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \frac{\sin \theta + \theta \cos \theta}{\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta} \right) \\ &= \frac{\theta^2 + 2}{(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^2}\end{aligned}$$

The formula for  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  also involves the derivative  $\frac{dx}{d\theta}$ . To find this derivative, first express  $x$  in terms of  $\theta$ .

$$x = 8\theta \cos \theta$$

Find  $\frac{dx}{d\theta}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{d\theta} &= \frac{d}{d\theta}(8\theta \cos \theta) \\ &= 8 \cos \theta - 8\theta \sin \theta\end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $\frac{dy'}{d\theta} = \frac{\theta^2 + 2}{(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^2}$  and  $\frac{dx}{d\theta} = 8 \cos \theta - 8\theta \sin \theta$  into the formula for  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &= \frac{dy' / d\theta}{dx / d\theta} \\ &= \frac{\frac{\theta^2 + 2}{(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^2}}{8 \cos \theta - 8\theta \sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\theta^2 + 2}{8(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^3}\end{aligned}$$

Evaluate this at  $\theta = 2\pi$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right|_{(r,\theta)} &= \frac{\theta^2 + 2}{8(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^3} \\ \left. \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right|_{\theta=2\pi} &= \frac{(2\pi)^2 + 2}{8(\cos 2\pi - 2\pi \sin 2\pi)^3} \\ &= \frac{4\pi^2 + 2}{8(1 - 2\pi \cdot 0)^3} \\ &= \frac{2\pi^2 + 1}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\frac{2\pi^2 + 1}{4} > 0$ . This means that at  $\theta = 2\pi$ , the curve is concave up.

Now consider the second point,  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$ .

Find the slope at  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$  using the formula for  $y' = \frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{(r,\theta)}$  found earlier.

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(r,\theta)} = \frac{\sin \theta + \theta \cos \theta}{\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}} &= \frac{\sin \frac{7\pi}{2} + \frac{7\pi}{2} \cos \frac{7\pi}{2}}{\cos \frac{7\pi}{2} - \frac{7\pi}{2} \sin \frac{7\pi}{2}} \\ &= \frac{-1 + \frac{7\pi}{2} \cdot 0}{0 - \frac{7\pi}{2} \cdot (-1)} \\ &= -\frac{2}{7\pi} \end{aligned}$$

The slope at  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$  is  $-\frac{2}{7\pi}$ .

To find the concavity at  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$ , first evaluate the formula for  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  found earlier at  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right|_{(r,\theta)} &= \frac{\theta^2 + 2}{8(\cos \theta - \theta \sin \theta)^3} \\ \left. \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right|_{\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}} &= \frac{\left(\frac{7\pi}{2}\right)^2 + 2}{8\left(\cos \frac{7\pi}{2} - \frac{7\pi}{2} \sin \frac{7\pi}{2}\right)^3} \\ &= \frac{\frac{49\pi^2}{4} + 2}{8\left(0 - \frac{7\pi}{2} \cdot (-1)\right)^3} \\ &= \frac{49\pi^2 + 8}{1372\pi^3} \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\frac{49\pi^2 + 8}{1372\pi^3} > 0$ . This means that at  $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{2}$ , the curve is concave up.