

# Lecture 4. The Classification Theorem.

## 1. Listing Normal forms

Following the theorem above, any conic is congruent to the following:

$$Q = Ax^2 + By^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0.$$

Let's find its centers (since the geometry of conics largely depend on centers)

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 2Ax + 2G$$

The equations of centre

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Ax + G = 0 \\ By + F = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} = 2By + 2F$$

Theorem: Any nondegenerate conic  $Q = ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c$  with a unique center congruent to one of the following:

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = -1, \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1.$$

Proof: Given  $Q$

"Theorem"  
rotate  $\rightsquigarrow Ax^2 + By^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0$

Translate so that the center  
gets placed at  $(0,0)$

$$Ax^2 + By^2 - k = 0.$$

Note that  $\wedge$   $A \wedge B$  ~~cannot be both zero.~~ (Otherwise, Contradicts to the premise of unique center)

Now suppose  $A > 0$  (multiply  $-1$  if necessary)

Also,  $k \neq 0$  (Otherwise,  $\Delta = 0$ : degenerate. Contradiction)

We may suppose  $k = 1$  or  $k = -1$ .

Also we can find  $a, b$  such that

$$A a^2 = 1 \quad B b^2 = 1 \text{ if } B > 0$$

$$B b^2 = -1 \text{ if } B < 0$$

Now if  $B < 0$  and  $k = 1$

$$(III) \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

$B < 0$  and  $k = -1$

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = -1 \quad (\text{nothing new})$$

if  $B > 0$ ,  $k = 1$

$$(I) \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

if  $B < 0$ ,  $k = -1$ .

$$(II) \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

~~Corollary~~

Corollary Any real circle, virtual circle, or rectangular hyperbola is congruent to one of the following:

$$x^2 + y^2 = a^2, \quad x^2 + y^2 = -a^2, \quad x^2 - y^2 = a^2.$$

Proof This is the theorem for the case  $A = B$ .

Theorem: Any parabola  $Q = ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$  is congruent to a standard parabola  $y^2 = 4ax$ ,  $a > 0$ .

Proof: By the "Theorem" we may write  $Q$  as

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0 \quad \dots (*)$$

And that  $(*)$  does not have a center means

$$\begin{cases} Ax + G = 0 \\ By + F = 0 \end{cases} \text{ does not have a solution.}$$

This is when (i)  $A = 0, G \neq 0, B \neq 0$ .

(ii)  $B = 0, F \neq 0, A \neq 0$ .

(iii)  $A = 0, B = 0, G \neq 0, F \neq 0$ .

Among (i), (ii), <sup>not a conic</sup> one of them reduces to the other  
(Consider a rotation with  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ )

We consider only (i). We may suppose  $B = 1$  (divide by  $B$ )

$$y^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0$$

Translate through  $(0, F)$ ,  $(y-F)^2 + 2Gx + 2F(y-F) + C = 0$

$$y^2 - 2Fy + F^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy - 2F^2 + C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 + 2Gx + k = 0$$

$(x-h)$   
↑

$$y^2 + 2Gx \boxed{-2Gd + k} = 0$$

Set  $d$  so that this vanishes.

If  $G < 0$  we're done. If  $G > 0$ , rotate about  $\theta = \pi$ .

$$(x, y) \mapsto (-x, -y)$$

Set  $a > 0$  so that  $G = -2a$ . □

So we can conclude that non-degenerate conics are the standard ellipses, parabolas, and hyperbolas up to congruence.

Now how about degenerate conics?

Thm: Any degenerate conic with unique center is congruent to a real line pair  $y^2 = c^2 x^2$  or a virtual line pair  $y^2 = -c^2 x^2$  with  $0 < c \leq 1$ .

Proof: We may assume that the conic is  $Q = Ax^2 + By^2 - k$ .

( $\because$  Similarly as in ellipses)

Since  $Q$  must have a unique center, both  $A, B$  are nonzero.

Hence,  $k=0$ . Dividing by  $B$ , we get

$$Q = Cx^2 + y^2 . \quad ( \neq 0 )$$

$C < 0$ , real line pair

$$C = -c^2 .$$

$C > 0$ , virtual line pair

$$C = c^2 .$$

◻

Thm: Any conic having a line of centers is congruent to the real parallel lines  $y^2 = k^2$ , the virtual parallel lines  $y^2 = -k^2$  or the repeated line  $y^2 = 0$  where  $k > 0$ .

Proof: Consider (up to rotation)

$$Q = Ax^2 + By^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0 .$$

Equations of centers

$$\begin{cases} Ax+G = 0 \\ By+F = 0 \end{cases}$$

$Q$  has lines of centers if (i)  $A = 0, B \neq 0, G = 0$

(ii)  $A \neq 0, B = 0, F = 0$ .

~~(iii)  $A \neq 0, B = 0, G \neq 0, F = 0$~~

Not a conic.

In this case (ii) reduces to (i)

$$By^2 + 2Fy + C = 0 .$$

Divide by  $B \neq 0$  and translate along the

y-axis yields  $y^2 + k = 0$ . The rest follows depending on  $k > 0$ ,  $k = 0$ ,  $k < 0$ .  $\square$

What about the case Q: degenerate  
with no centers

$$\begin{cases} Ax + G = 0 \\ By + F = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} A=0, G\neq 0, B\neq 0 \\ B=0, F\neq 0, A\neq 0 \end{array}$$

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + 2Gx + 2Fy + C = 0.$$

$$\Delta = 0 \iff A = 0 \text{ or } B = 0.$$

$$\Delta = 0 \iff \begin{vmatrix} A & 0 & G \\ 0 & B & F \\ G & F & C \end{vmatrix} = AB(-F^2) + G(-BG) = 0.$$

Is this possible?

If  $A=0, G\neq 0, B\neq 0$ .

If  $A\neq 0, F\neq 0, B=0$ .

Hence degenerate conics with no center do not exist.

## 2. Proof of the invariance theorem

$$Q_1 = x^2 + y^2 + 1$$

Aside  $L = \lambda L'$   $Z(Q_1) = \emptyset$  )?

Theorem (Uniqueness)

$$L \not\sim L' \quad Z(L') \quad Q_2 = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + 1$$

$$Z(L) = \{(x,y) : L(x,y) = 0\} \quad Z(Q_2) = \emptyset$$

Let  $Q, Q'$  be conics having the same zero sets.

If the common zero set is infinite, then  $Q, Q'$  coincide.

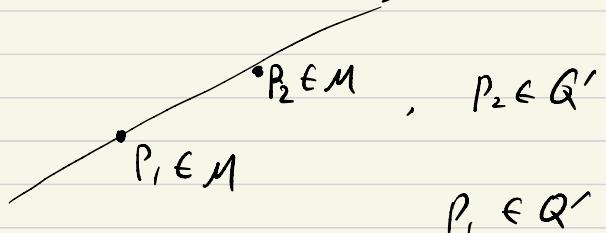
Sketch. (Case I)  $Q$ : reducible

$$Q = LM.$$

$$Z(Q) = Z(Q')$$

$$Z(L) \cup Z(M)$$

Component Lemma  $Q' = L M'$



$$Z(M' = P_1 P_2) \quad (Z(Q')) \quad \therefore M' = \lambda M.$$

(Case II) irreducible.

$$Q = a x^2 + 2 b xy + c y^2 + 2 dx + 2 ey + f = 0$$

$$P_i = (x_i, y_i) \quad i=1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} ax_1^2 + \dots + 2fy_1 + c = 0 \\ \vdots \\ ax_5^2 + \dots + 2fy_5 + c = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{5/11/2023}$$

Since  $Z(Q)$  is infinite, hence  $Z_i = (x_i, y_i)$  ( $i=1, \dots, 5$ )

can be found in  $Z(Q)$ . Any conic  $Q'$  having the same zero set (i.e.  $Z(Q') = Z(Q)$ ) is equivalent to  $Q$

if the above 5 equations are "independent". Actual proof:  
"Suppose not"

$Z_5$  depends on  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, Z_4$ .

$$L_{ij} = \overline{Z_i Z_j}$$

$L_{13}, L_{24}$  must pass through  $Z_5$ .

$Z_1, Z_3, Z_5$  : on the same line.

$\Rightarrow$  Component Lemma  $Q = L_{13} M$  : Contradiction.

Thm (Invariance; Classification thm) If  $Q, Q'$  be

Strictly congruent (i.e.  $Q \underset{\text{cong}}{\sim} Q' \Leftrightarrow Q' = \mu_1(Q \circ \phi)$ ),

then  $T = T'$

$$\delta = \delta'$$

$$\Delta = \Delta'.$$

Proof

$$Q = ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a & h & j \\ h & b & f \\ g & f & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x & y & 1 \end{pmatrix}^T$$

$$A = (a_{ij})_{\substack{i=1, \dots, m \\ j=1, \dots, n}}$$

$$A^T = (a_{ji})_{\substack{j=1, \dots, n \\ i=1, \dots, m}}$$

$\phi$ : congruence on  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x, y)$$

$$\det P = 1 \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & u \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & v \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \cos \alpha - y \sin \alpha + u \\ x \sin \alpha + y \cos \alpha + v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Realizing congruence transformation

$$Z^T = P Z$$

$$Z = (x, y, 1)$$

$$\underbrace{Q'(X, Y)}_{\text{sym}} = (XY^T) A \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} = Z A Z^T \stackrel{*}{=} Z P^T A P Z^T$$

$$(AB)^T \stackrel{*}{=} B^T A^T.$$

$$\Delta' = \det(P^T A P) \stackrel{*}{=} \det P^T \det A \det P$$

$$\det(AB) \stackrel{*}{=} \det A \det B$$

$$= \det A \underbrace{(\det P)}_1^2 = \Delta$$

$\det A^T = \det A$

Now  $B, B', S =$

$$\begin{matrix} \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{matrix} = \left( \begin{matrix} a' & b' \\ c' & d' \end{matrix} \right) \left( \begin{matrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right) \approx P$$

$$\left( \begin{matrix} a & b & g \\ h & s & f \\ g & f & c \end{matrix} \right) \approx A'$$

$$S' = \det B' = \det(S^T B S) \stackrel{*}{=} \det B = S$$

$\therefore B' = S^T B S$

$$\det S = 1 = \det S^T$$

$$C' = \text{tr}(B') = \text{tr}(S^T B S) = \text{tr}(\underbrace{S S^T}_{} B) = \text{tr} B = C$$

$$\text{tr} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = a + d.$$

$$\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA) \quad \square$$

# Question for you (during the rest of summer)

Is the converse of the invariance theorem true?

i.e. Given  $Q, Q'$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{가정: } \tau = \tau'$$

$$s = s'$$

$$\Delta = \Delta'$$

$$\text{결론: } Q' = Q \circ \phi$$

$$\phi \in \text{Cong}(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

"folklore fact"