

Tangent & Normal.

Rule: If the equation of the curve is $f(x, y) = 0$ then

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y} \quad (f_y \neq 0)$$

** The equation of tangent to the curve $y = f(x)$ at (x, y)

$$(Y - y) = \frac{dy}{dx} (X - x) \quad \text{or,} \quad (X - x)f_x + (Y - y)f_y = 0$$

** Equation of Normal:

$$(Y - y)\frac{dy}{dx} + (X - x) = 0 \quad \text{or,} \quad (X - x)f_y - (Y - y)f_x = 0$$

① Problems:

① Find the condition that the conics $ax^2 + by^2 = 1$ and $a_1x^2 + b_1y^2 = 1$ shall cut orthogonally

② Prove that the curves $\frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b} = 1$ and $\frac{x^2}{a'} + \frac{y^2}{b'} = 1$ will cut orthogonally if $a - b = a' - b'$

③ Find the condition that the curves $ax^3 + by^3 = 1$ and $a_1x^3 + b_1y^3 = 1$ should cut orthogonally.

Solution: ① Given that the conics are

$$ax^2 + by^2 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad a_1x^2 + b_1y^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow ax^2 + by^2 - 1 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a_1x^2 + b_1y^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\text{Consider } f(x, y) \equiv ax^2 + by^2 - 1 = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \textcircled{I}$$

$$\text{and } \phi(x, y) \equiv a_1x^2 + b_1y^2 - 1 = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \textcircled{II}$$

Now the slope of ① is $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y}$

And the slope of ② is $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\phi_x}{\phi_y}$

The condition that they should cut orthogonally at (x, y)

$$\therefore \left(-\frac{f_x}{f_y}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{\phi_x}{\phi_y}\right) = -1$$

$$\text{or, } f_x \phi_x = -f_y \phi_y$$

$$\text{or, } f_x \phi_x + f_y \phi_y = 0$$

$$\text{or, } 2ax \cdot 2a_1x + 2by \cdot 2b_1y = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } aa_1x^2 + bb_1y^2 = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{iii}$$

Since the point (x, y) is common to both ① and ②. Subtracting ② from ① we get

$$(a - a_1)x^2 + (b - b_1)y^2 = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{iv}$$

Comparing equation ③ and ④, we get

$$\frac{a - a_1}{aa_1} = \frac{b - b_1}{bb_1} \quad \text{or, } \frac{a}{aa_1} - \frac{a_1}{aa_1} = \frac{b}{bb_1} - \frac{b_1}{bb_1}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{1}{a_1} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{b_1} - \frac{1}{b}$$

Which is the required condition.

⑤ Answer: let $f(x, y) \equiv \frac{x^2}{a} + \frac{y^2}{b} - 1 = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$$\text{ss } \phi(x, y) \equiv \frac{x^2}{a_1} + \frac{y^2}{b_1} - 1 = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

$\frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{a_1}$
 $\frac{1}{b} = \frac{1}{b_1}$
just its symbol

Now the condition that they should cut orthogonally at (x, y)

$$f_x \phi_x + f_y \phi_y = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{2x}{a} \cdot \frac{2x}{a_1} + \frac{2y}{b} \cdot \frac{2y}{b_1} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{x^2}{aa_1} + \frac{y^2}{bb_1} = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

Since the point (x, y) is common to both ① and ②.

Subtracting ② from ① we get

$$\left(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a_1}\right)x^2 + \left(\frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{b_1}\right)y^2 = 0 \longrightarrow \textcircled{4}$$

Comparing equation ③ and ④ we get

$$\frac{\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a_1}}{\frac{1}{aa_1}} = \frac{\frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{b_1}}{\frac{1}{bb_1}}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{\frac{a_1 - a}{aa_1}}{\frac{1}{aa_1}} = \frac{\frac{b_1 - b}{bb_1}}{\frac{1}{bb_1}}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{a_1 - a}{aa_1} \cdot aa_1 = \frac{b_1 - b}{bb_1} \cdot bb_1$$

$$\text{or } a_1 - a = b_1 - b \Rightarrow \text{Hence } a - b = a_1 - b_1$$

(Proved)

© Answer: Let $f(x, y) \equiv ax^3 + by^3 - 1 = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

And $\phi(x, y) \equiv a'x^3 + b'y^3 - 1 = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$

Now the condition that they should cut orthogonally at (x, y) is $f_x \phi_x + f_y \phi_y = 0$

i.e. $3ax^2 \cdot 3a'x^2 + 3by^2 \cdot 3b'y^2 = 0$

or, $aa'x^4 + bb'y^4 = 0$

Given the two curves $ax^3 + by^3 = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

and $a'x^3 + b'y^3 = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$

Suppose the two curves intersect at the point (x_1, y_1) . Then

$ax_1^3 + by_1^3 = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{A}$

and $a'x_1^3 + b'y_1^3 = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{B}$

or, $(a - a')x_1^3 + (b - b')y_1^3 = 0$

or $\frac{x_1^3}{y_1^3} = -\frac{b - b'}{a - a'}$

or, $\frac{x_1}{y_1} = -\left(\frac{b - b'}{a - a'}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$

Now the equation of the tangent at (x_1, y_1) on the eqⁿ ① is

$$y - y_1 = \frac{dy}{dx} (x - x_1) \quad \left| \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{3ax^2}{3by^2} \right.$$

$$\text{or, } y - y_1 = -\frac{ax_1^2}{by_1^2} (x - x_1)$$

$$\text{or, } by_1^2 y + ax_1^2 x = ax_1^3 + by_1^3 \quad \left| \quad = -\frac{ax_1^2}{by_1^2} \text{ at } (x_1, y_1) \right.$$

$$\text{or, } ax_1^2 x + by_1^2 y = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{4} \text{ [using (A)]}$$

Similarly the tangent for the second curve is

$$a'x_1^2 x + b'y_1^2 y = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{5}$$

$$\text{Slope of } \textcircled{4} \text{ is } = -\frac{ax_1^2}{by_1^2}$$

$$\text{Slope of } \textcircled{5} \text{ is } = -\frac{a'x_1^2}{b'y_1^2}$$

Since the curves intersect orthogonally. Then tangent $\textcircled{4}$ and $\textcircled{5}$ must be perpendicular.

$$-\frac{ax_1^2}{by_1^2} \cdot \left(-\frac{a'y_1^2}{b'x_1^2}\right) = -1$$

$$\text{or, } aa'x_1^4 = -bb'y_1^4$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{x_1^4}{y_1^4} = -\frac{bb'}{aa'} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x_1}{y_1}\right)^4 = -\frac{bb'}{aa'}$$

$$\text{or, } \left\{ -\left(\frac{b-b'}{a-a'}\right)^{1/3} \right\}^4 = -\frac{bb'}{aa'} \text{ [using eqⁿ ③]}$$

$$\text{or, } aa' \left\{ \frac{b-b'}{a-a'} \right\}^{4/3} = -bb'$$

$$\text{or, } aa'(b-b')^{4/3} + bb'(a-a')^{4/3} = 0$$

Which is the required condition.



Problem 02: If $x \cos \alpha + y \sin \alpha = p$ touch the curve $\frac{x^m}{a^m} + \frac{y^m}{b^m} = 1$. show that $(a \cos \alpha)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} + (b \sin \alpha)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} = p$

Solution:

Given that, $x \cos \alpha + y \sin \alpha = p \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

and $\frac{x^m}{a^m} + \frac{y^m}{b^m} = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$

let $f(x, y) \equiv \frac{x^m}{a^m} + \frac{y^m}{b^m} - 1 = 0$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y} = -\left(\frac{\frac{m x^{m-1}}{a^m}}{\frac{m y^{m-1}}{b^m}}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{b^m}{a^m} \frac{x^{m-1}}{y^{m-1}}$$

let (x_1, y_1) be any point on a curve $\textcircled{2}$ and $\textcircled{1}$. It

$$x_1 \cos \alpha + y_1 \sin \alpha = p \rightarrow \textcircled{4} \textcircled{1}$$

$$\frac{x_1^m}{a^m} + \frac{y_1^m}{b^m} = 1 \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

slope of eqⁿ $\textcircled{2}$ at (x_1, y_1) is $-\frac{b^m}{a^m} \cdot \frac{x_1^{m-1}}{y_1^{m-1}}$

The equation of the tangent to the curve $\textcircled{2}$ at

is $y - y_1 = -\frac{b^m}{a^m} \frac{x_1^{m-1}}{y_1^{m-1}} (x - x_1)$

or, $y_1^{m-1} (y - y_1) = -\frac{b^m}{a^m} (x - x_1) x_1^{m-1}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{y_1^{m-1} y}{b^m} + \frac{x_1^{m-1} x}{a^m} = \frac{x_1^m}{a^m} + \frac{y_1^m}{b^m}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{y_1^{m-1} y}{b^m} + \frac{x_1^{m-1} x}{a^m} = 1$ [using $\textcircled{3}$]

$\Rightarrow \frac{x_1^{m-1}}{a^m} x + \frac{y_1^{m-1}}{b^m} y = 1$ ~~is~~ $\textcircled{4}$

If equation (I) touch the given curve, then eqⁿ (I) and (4) must be identical.

$$\text{Hence } \frac{x_1^{m-1}/a^m}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{y_1^{m-1}/b^m}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_1^{m-1}/a^{m-1}}{a \cos \alpha} = \frac{y_1^{m-1}/b^{m-1}}{b \sin \alpha} = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{x_1}{a}\right)^{m-1} = \frac{a \cos \alpha}{p}, \quad \left(\frac{y_1}{b}\right)^{m-1} = \frac{b \sin \alpha}{p}$$

$$\text{or, } \left(\frac{x_1}{a}\right) = \left(\frac{a \cos \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}, \quad \left(\frac{y_1}{b}\right) = \left(\frac{b \sin \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{x_1}{a}\right)^m = \left(\frac{a \cos \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}}, \quad \left(\frac{y_1}{b}\right)^m = \left(\frac{b \sin \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}}$$

Adding above two equation

$$\frac{x_1^m}{a^m} + \frac{y_1^m}{b^m} = \left(\frac{a \cos \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} + \left(\frac{b \sin \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}}$$

$$\text{or, } 1 = \left(\frac{a \cos \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} + \left(\frac{b \sin \alpha}{p}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} \quad [\text{Using (2)}]$$

$$\therefore (a \cos \alpha)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} + (b \sin \alpha)^{\frac{m}{m-1}} = p^{\frac{m}{m-1}}$$

(Shoed)

Q3. If $lx + my = 1$ touches the curve $(ax)^n + (by)^n = 1$, show that $(l/a)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + (m/b)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} = 1$.

Solution: Given that, $lx + my = 1 \rightarrow (1)$
~~and $(l/a)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + (m/b)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} = 1 \rightarrow (2)$~~
 $(ax)^n + (by)^n = 1 \rightarrow (2)$

Let (x_1, y_1) be the any point on the curve (2). Then

$$(ax_1)^n + (by_1)^n = 1 \rightarrow (3)$$

$$\text{Now the slope of (2) at } (x_1, y_1) \text{ is } = -\frac{na^n x_1^{n-1}}{nb^n y_1^{n-1}} \\ = -\frac{a^n}{b^n} \cdot \frac{x_1^{n-1}}{y_1^{n-1}}$$

The equation of tangent to the curve (2) at the point (x_1, y_1) is $y - y_1 = -\frac{a^n}{b^n} \frac{x_1^{n-1}}{y_1^{n-1}} (x - x_1)$

$$\Rightarrow b^n y_1^{n-1} (y - y_1) + a^n x_1^{n-1} (x - x_1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^n x_1^{n-1} x + b^n y_1^{n-1} y = a^n x_1^n + b^n y_1^n$$

$$\Rightarrow a^n x_1^{n-1} x + b^n y_1^{n-1} y = 1 \quad [\text{using eqn (3)}]$$

If eqn (1) touch the curve (2) then eqn (1) and (4) must be identical.

$$\text{Hence } \frac{a^n x_1^{n-1}}{a/a} = \frac{b^n y_1^{n-1}}{m/b} = \frac{1}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^{n-1} x_1^{n-1}}{l/a} = \frac{b^{n-1} y_1^{n-1}}{m/b} = 1$$

$$\therefore (ax_1)^{n-1} = l/a \quad \text{and} \quad (by_1)^{n-1} = \frac{m}{b} \cdot \frac{1}{1} \\ ax_1 = (l/a)^{\frac{1}{n-1}}, \quad by_1 = \left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}}$$

$$(ax_1)^n = \left(\frac{l}{a}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}}, \quad (by_1)^n = \left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}}$$

Adding above two we get

$$\left(\frac{l}{a}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} = (ax_1)^n + (by_1)^n$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{l}{a}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} = 1 \quad [\text{using } (3)]$$

(Showed)

Q4. If $lx + my = 1$ is normal to the parabola $y^2 = 4ax$, then $al^3 + 2alm^2 = m^2$.

Solution: Given that $lx + my = 1 \rightarrow (1)$
 $y^2 = 4ax \rightarrow (2)$

Let (x_1, y_1) be the any point on (2) then
 $y_1^2 = 4ax_1 \rightarrow (3)$

From (2) $2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 4a \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2a}{y}$

Slope of (2) at (x_1, y_1) is $\frac{2a}{y_1}$.

\therefore Equation of the normal at the point (x_1, y_1) is

$$(y - y_1) + \frac{2a}{y_1} (x - x_1) = 0$$

$$\text{or, } xy_1 - x_1 y_1 + 2ay - 2ay_1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1 x + 2ay = y_1 (2a + x_1) \rightarrow (4)$$

Equation (1) and (4) must be identical

$$\frac{y_1}{l} = \frac{2a}{m} = \frac{y_1 (2a + x_1)}{1}$$

$$\therefore \frac{y_1}{l} = \frac{2a}{m} \text{ and } \frac{y_1}{l} = \frac{y_1(2a+x_1)}{1}$$

$$\text{or, } y_1 = \frac{2al}{m}, \quad \frac{1}{l} = (2a+x_1) \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{1}{l} - 2a$$

Putting these values in equation (A) we get

$$\left(\frac{2al}{m}\right)^2 = 4a\left(\frac{1}{l} - 2a\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a^2 l^2 = \frac{4am^2}{l} - 8a^2 m^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 l^2 = \frac{am^2 - 2a^2 m^2 l}{l} = \frac{a(m^2 - 2am^2 l)}{l}$$

$$\Rightarrow al^3 = m^2 - 2alm^2$$

$$\text{Hence } al^3 + 2alm^2 = m^2 \quad (\text{Showed})$$

Problem 05: (a) Show that the tangent at (a, b) to curve $(x/a)^3 + (y/b)^3 = 2$ is $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 2$.

(b) Prove that $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$ touches the curve $\frac{x}{a} + \log(y/b) = 0$.

Solution: (a) Given that $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^3 = 2 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$$\text{or, } x^3 b^3 + y^3 a^3 = 2a^3 b^3$$

Differentiating w.r to x we have

$$3x^2 b^3 + 3y^2 a^3 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{b^3 x^2}{a^3 y^2}$$

Value of $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (a, b) is $= -\frac{b^3}{a^3} \cdot \frac{a^2}{b^2} = -\frac{b}{a}$

The equation of tangent to the curve ① at (a, b) is

$$y - b = -\frac{b}{a}(x - a)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{y - b}{b} = -\left(\frac{x - a}{a}\right)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{y}{b} - 1 = -\frac{x}{a} + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 2$$

⑥ Answer: Given that $\frac{x}{a} + \log(y/b) = 0 \rightarrow \text{①}$
Differentiating w.r. to x we get

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{y/b} \cdot \frac{1}{b} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{1}{a} + \frac{b}{y} \cdot \frac{1}{b} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{a}$$

Let (x_1, y_1) be the any point on ①. Then

$\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (x_1, y_1) is $-y_1/a$

The eqⁿ of tangent to the ① at (x_1, y_1) is

$$y - y_1 = -y_1/a(x - x_1)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{y}{y_1} - 1 = -\left(\frac{x}{a} - \frac{x_1}{a}\right)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{y}{y_1} + \frac{x}{a} = 1 + \frac{x_1}{a} \rightarrow \text{②}$$

This becomes identical with $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$ when $x_1 = 0$ and $y_1 = b$ which point clearly satisfies the given equation—①. i.e. $\frac{0}{a} + \log(b/b) = 0$

Hence $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b}$ touches the given curve.

(Proved)

6. Show that the curve $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^n + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^n = 2$ touches the straight line $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 2$ at the point (a, b) , what be the value of n .

Solution: The given curve is $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^n + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^n = 2$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-nx^{n-1}/a^n}{ny^{n-1}/b^n} = \frac{-b^n x^{n-1}}{a^n y^{n-1}}$$

$$\text{Value of } \frac{dy}{dx} \text{ at } (a, b) = -\frac{b^n}{a^n} \cdot \frac{a^{n-1}}{b^{n-1}} = -\frac{b}{a}$$

Equation of tangent at (a, b) is

$$y - b = -\frac{b}{a}(x - a)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{y}{b} - 1 = -\left(\frac{x}{a} - 1\right)$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 2 \quad (\text{shown})$$

(*) Problem 07: Prove that all points of the curve $y^2 = 4a\{x + a \sin(x/a)\}$ at which the tangent is parallel to the x -axis lie on a parabola.

Solⁿ: Given $y^2 = 4a\{x + a \sin(x/a)\}$ \rightarrow ①

Let (x_1, y_1) be the point on the curve at which the tangent is parallel to x -axis. $\therefore y_1^2 = 4a\{x_1 + a \sin(x_1/a)\}$ \rightarrow ②

Differentiating ① w.r to x

$$2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 4a \left\{ 1 + a \cos\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{a} \right\}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2a}{y} \left\{ 1 + \cos\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) \right\}$$

Therefore $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at the point (x_1, y_1) is $\frac{2a}{y_1} \left\{ 1 + \cos\left(\frac{x_1}{a}\right) \right\}$

But $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at the point (x_1, y_1) should be zero.

$$\therefore \frac{2a}{y_1} (1 + \cos \frac{x_1}{a}) = 0$$

$$\therefore 1 + \cos \frac{x_1}{a} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \cos \frac{x_1}{a} = -1 \quad \text{or, } \cos^2 \frac{x_1}{a} = 1$$

$$\text{or, } 1 - \sin^2 \frac{x_1}{a} = 1$$

$$\text{or, } \sin \frac{x_1}{a} = 0$$

Putting this value in eqⁿ ②, we have $y_1^2 = 4ax_1$

Locus of the point (x_1, y_1) is $y^2 = 4ax$

which is parabola.

(Proved)