

M16600 Lecture Notes

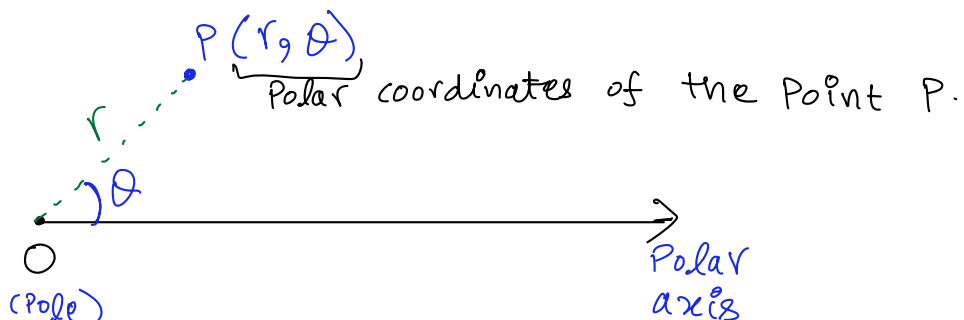
Section 10.3: Polar Coordinates

■ Section 10.3 textbook exercises, page 706: #1, 3, 5, 21, 25, 29, 31

Polar Coordinates:

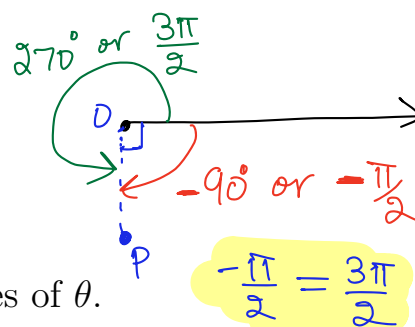
r = length of OP
($r > 0$)

θ = angle b/w
 OP and
the Polar axis



Conventions:

- $\theta > 0$ if θ is measured in counterclockwise direction.
- $\theta < 0$ if θ is measured in clockwise direction.
- The polar coordinates for the pole is $(0, \theta)$ for any values of θ .



➔ For $r > 0$, to plot a point $(-r, \theta)$, i.e., a point with a negative radius, we plot the corresponding point of positive radius (r, θ) then reflect it about the pole.

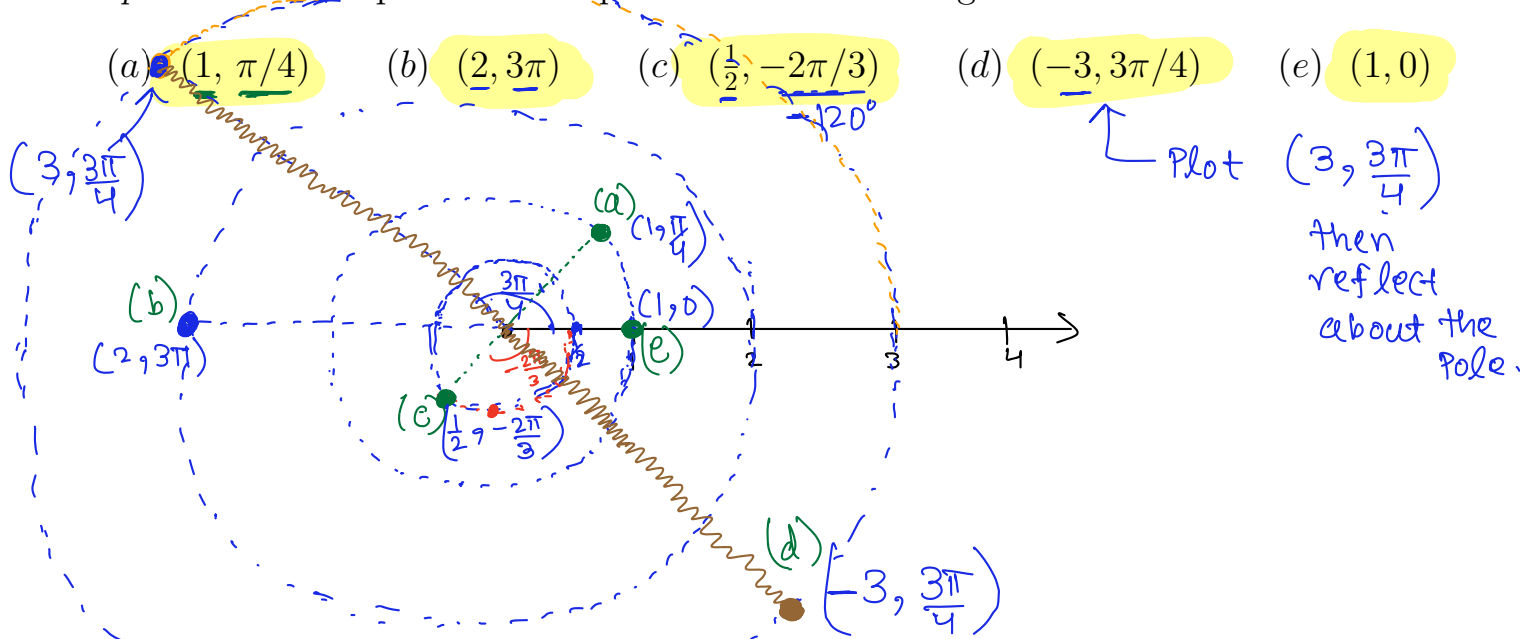
$r = 0 \Rightarrow$ length of $OP = 0 \Rightarrow P$ is at the Pole

(for any value of the angle θ)

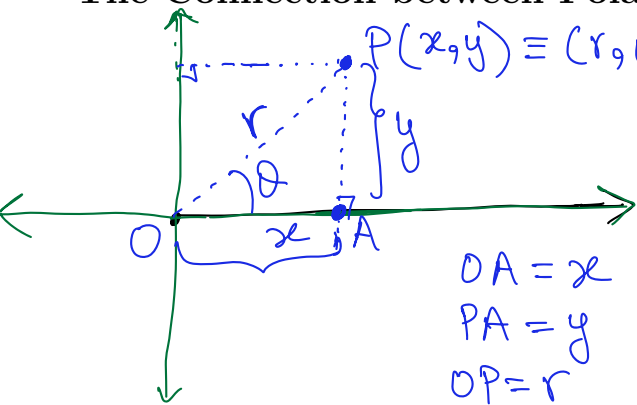
$(0, \pi/3), (0, \pi), (0, \pi/2)$
the same point
that is the Pole

$$(-r, \theta) = (r, \theta + \pi)$$

Example 1: Plot the points whose polar coordinates are given



The Connection Between Polar and Cartesian Coordinates:



In $\triangle OAP$:-

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}, \quad \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta}$$

Given Polar coord, it gives us Cartesian coord

Example 2: Convert the point $(2, \pi/3)$ from polar to Cartesian coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{3} \quad , \quad y = 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \\ &= 2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = 1 \quad \quad \quad = 2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) = \sqrt{3} \\ (x, y) &= (1, \sqrt{3}) \end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Convert the point to polar coordinates.

(a) $(1, -1)$ $x = 1, \quad y = -1$

$$r = \sqrt{(1)^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{1+1} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_0 &= \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{1} \\ &= \tan^{-1} 1 = \frac{\pi}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$P \equiv (1, -1)$ is in the 4th quad

$$\theta = 2\pi - \theta_0 = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{7\pi}{4} \Rightarrow (r, \theta) = (\sqrt{2}, \frac{7\pi}{4})$$

(b) $(-\sqrt{3}, 1)$

$$x = -\sqrt{3}, \quad y = 1$$

$$r = \sqrt{(-\sqrt{3})^2 + (1)^2} = \sqrt{3+1} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$\theta_0 = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\pi}{6} \Rightarrow \theta = \pi - \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{5\pi}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow (r, \theta) = (2, \frac{5\pi}{6})$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ \theta_0 &= \tan^{-1} \frac{|y|}{|x|} \\ \theta &= \begin{cases} \theta_0 & \text{if } P \text{ is in 1st quad.} \\ \pi - \theta_0 & \text{if } P \text{ in 2nd quad.} \\ \pi + \theta_0 & \text{if } P \text{ in 3rd quad.} \\ 2\pi - \theta_0 & \text{if } P \text{ in 4th quad.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Given Cartesian coord, it gives us Polar coord

Example 4: Find a polar equation for the curve represented by the Cartesian equation $x^2 + 2x + y^2 = 0$.

in terms of x and $y \Rightarrow$ we want it in terms of r and θ

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta \\ y &= r \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (r \cos \theta)^2 + 2(r \cos \theta) + (r \sin \theta)^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta} + 2r \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2r \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) + 2r \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 + 2r \cos \theta = 0 \Rightarrow r(r + 2 \cos \theta) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 0 \text{ or } r + 2 \cos \theta = 0$$

$$r = -2 \cos \theta$$

a set of points satisfying some equation in r and θ

$$r = f(\theta)$$

A Polar Curve is the Graph of a Polar Equation $r = r(\theta)$.

Example 5: Sketch the polar curve $r = 2 \cos \theta$

θ	$r = 2 \cos \theta$
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$$0 \quad 2 \cos 0 = 2 \equiv (2, 0) P_1$$

$$\pi/4 \quad 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{4} = \sqrt{2} \equiv (\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4}) P_2$$

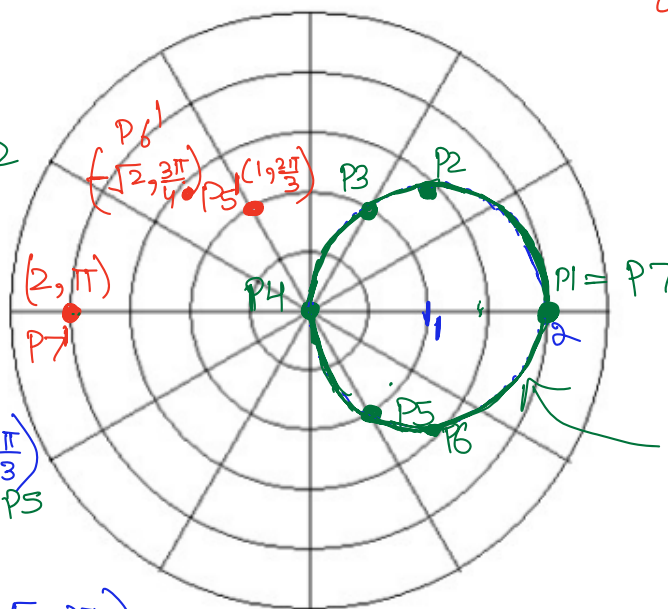
$$\pi/3 \quad 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{3} = 1 \equiv (1, \frac{\pi}{3}) P_3$$

$$\pi/2 \quad 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0 \equiv (0, \frac{\pi}{2}) P_4$$

$$2\pi/3 \quad 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{3} = 2(-\frac{1}{2}) = -1 \equiv (-1, \frac{2\pi}{3}) P_5$$

$$3\pi/4 \quad 2 \cos \frac{3\pi}{4} = 2(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) = -\sqrt{2} \equiv (-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}) P_6$$

$$\pi \quad 2 \cos \pi = -2 \equiv (-2, \pi) P_7$$



$$r = 2 \cos \theta$$

Sin +ve	All ratios +ve
Cos, Tan -ve	
Tan +ve	Cos +ve
Sin, Cos -ve	Sin, Tan -ve

$$\cos \frac{2\pi}{3} = \cos(\pi - \frac{\pi}{3}) = -\cos \frac{\pi}{3} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

rejected because $r=0$ corresponds to pole, and pole any satisfies

$$\frac{3\pi}{4} = \pi - \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Example 6: Sketch the polar curve $r = 1 + \sin \theta$

θ	$r = 1 + \sin \theta$
0	$1 + \sin 0 = 1$
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$1 + \sin \frac{\pi}{6} = 1.5$
$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$1 + \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 1.732$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$1 + \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = 2$
$\frac{2\pi}{3}$	$1 + \sin \frac{2\pi}{3} = 1.732$
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$1 + \sin \frac{5\pi}{6} = 1.5$
π	$1 + \sin \pi = 1$
$\frac{7\pi}{6}$	$1 + \sin \frac{7\pi}{6} = 1 - \sin \frac{\pi}{6} = 0.5$
$\frac{4\pi}{3}$	$1 + \sin \frac{4\pi}{3} = 1 - \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 0.268$
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	$1 + \sin \frac{3\pi}{2} = 1 - 1 = 0$
$-\frac{\pi}{3}$	$1 + \sin(-\frac{\pi}{3}) = 1 - \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 0.268$
$-\frac{\pi}{6}$	$1 + \sin(-\frac{\pi}{6}) = 1 - \sin \frac{\pi}{6} = 0.5$
0	$1 + \sin 0 = 1$

