

10.3 Polar coordinates

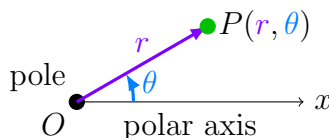
1. polar coordinates 極座標 $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$.
2. polar curve 極曲線
3. symmetry 對稱性
4. tangent 切線 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{d\theta} \div \frac{dx}{d\theta}$ if $\frac{dx}{d\theta} \neq 0$.

0.1 Polar coordinate

以前的 (x, y) 叫 Cartesian coordinates system 卡氏 (直角) 坐標系, Newton 引進 polar coordinates system 極座標系:

Define:

- **pole (origin)** 極 (原點): O .
- **polar axis** 極軸: \overrightarrow{Ox} , x -axis 正向。
- **polar coordinates** 極座標 (r, θ) , where $r = |\overrightarrow{OP}|$ and $\theta = \angle xOP$.

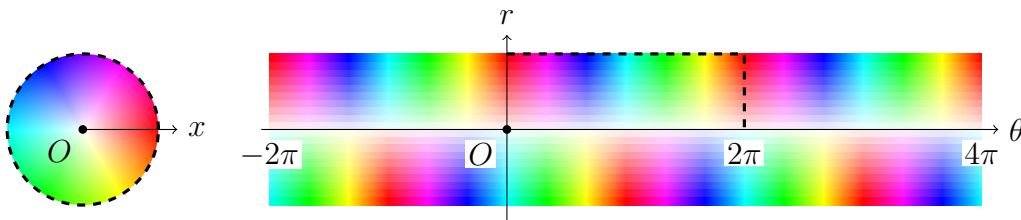


Note:

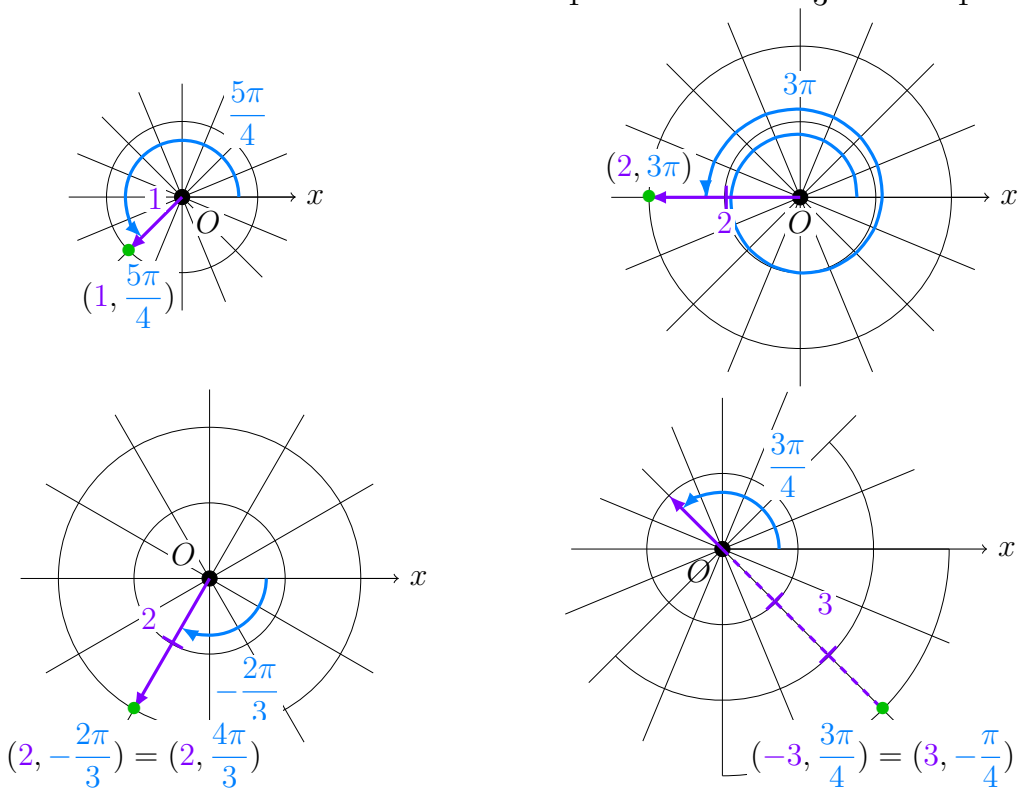
1. θ counterclockwise + 逆時針為正, clockwise - 順時針為負。
2. 表示法不唯一: $(r, \theta + 2\pi) = (r, \theta)$ for $r > 0$, $O(0, \theta)$ for any θ . (差一圈)
3. 延伸定義 $(-r, \theta) = (r, \theta + \pi)$. (差半圈)
4. 座標轉換:

Polar \rightarrow Cartesian: $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$. (唯一解)

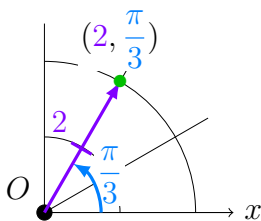
Cartesian \rightarrow Polar: $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$, $\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$. (解不唯一)



Example 0.1 Plot polar coordinates $(1, \frac{5\pi}{4})$, $(2, 3\pi)$, $(2, -\frac{2\pi}{3})$, $(-3, \frac{3\pi}{4})$.



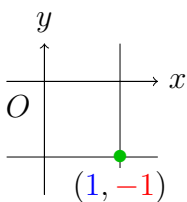
Example 0.2 Convert polar coordinates $(2, \pi/3)$ to Cartesian coordinates.



$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{3} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 1, \\ y &= r \sin \theta = 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \sqrt{3}. \\ (x, y) &= (1, \sqrt{3}). \end{aligned}$$

■

Example 0.3 Represent Cartesian coordinates $(1, -1)$ by polar coordinates.



$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= x^2 + y^2 = (1)^2 + (-1)^2 = 2, \quad r = \pm\sqrt{2}. \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{x} = \frac{-1}{1} = -1, \quad \theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} \text{ or } \frac{7\pi}{4}, \\ &\because (1, -1) \text{ in the fourth quadrant,} \\ (r, \theta) &= (\sqrt{2}, \frac{7\pi}{4}) = (-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}). \end{aligned}$$

■

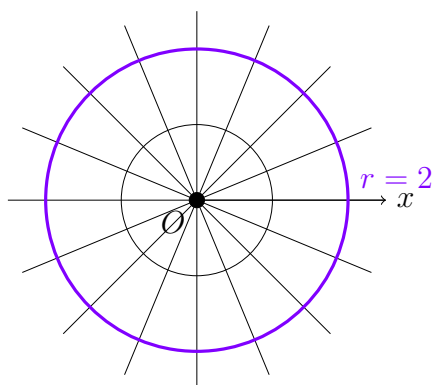
0.2 Polar curve

Cartesian curve: $\{(x, y) : y = f(x) \text{ or } F(x, y) = 0\}$.

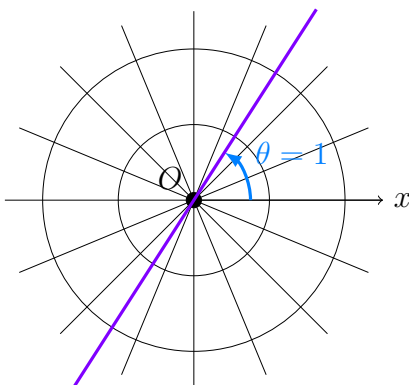
The **graph** of a **polar equation** 極方程式 $r = f(\theta)$ or $F(r, \theta) = 0$ is

$$\{(r, \theta) : r = f(\theta) \text{ or } F(r, \theta) = 0\}$$

Example 0.4 $r = 2$.



Example 0.5 $\theta = 1$.

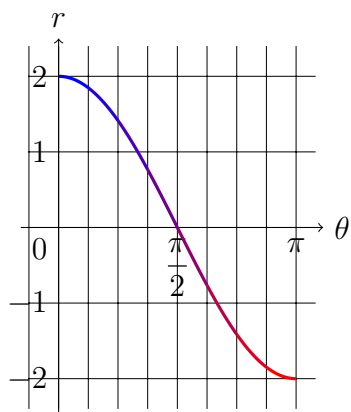


Note: 1. $r = a$ 是半徑 a 圓心 O 的圓。2. $\theta = t$ 是夾極軸 t 的直線。

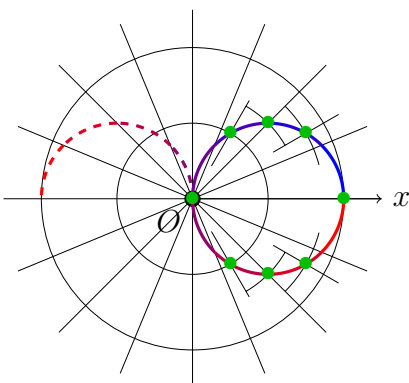
Example 0.6 $r = 2 \cos \theta$, and find a Cartesian equation.

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad x^2 + y^2 = r^2 = r \cdot 2 \cos \theta = 2x \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^2 + y^2 = 1. \quad (\text{圓心在 } (1, 0) \text{ 的單位圓。})$$

■

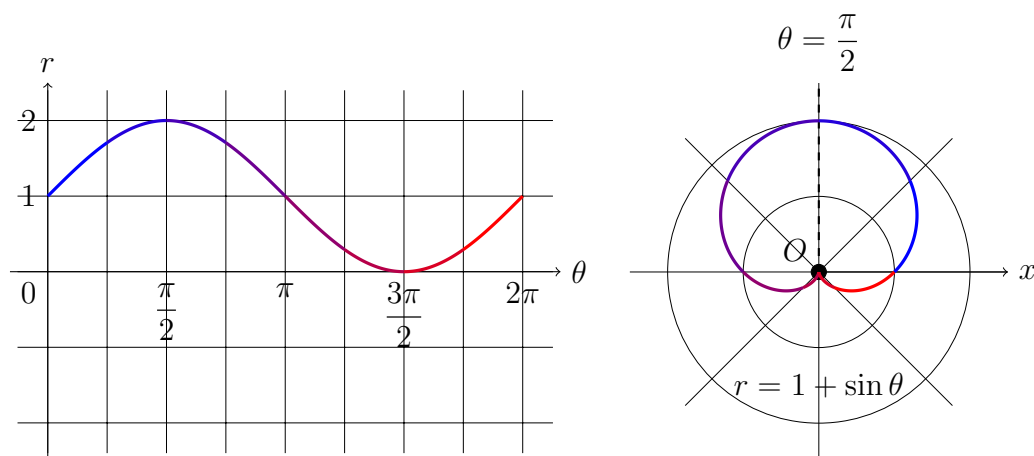


($0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ 就已經一圈。)

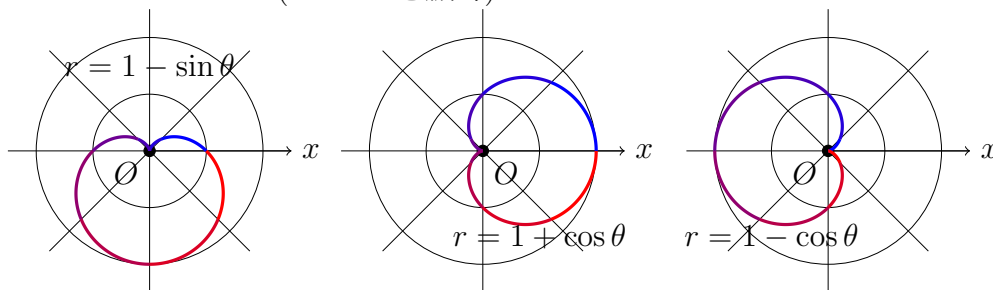


θ	r
0	2
$\pi/6$	$\sqrt{3}$
$\pi/4$	$\sqrt{2}$
$\pi/3$	1
$\pi/2$	0
$2\pi/3$	-1
$3\pi/4$	$-\sqrt{2}$
$5\pi/6$	$-\sqrt{3}$
π	-2

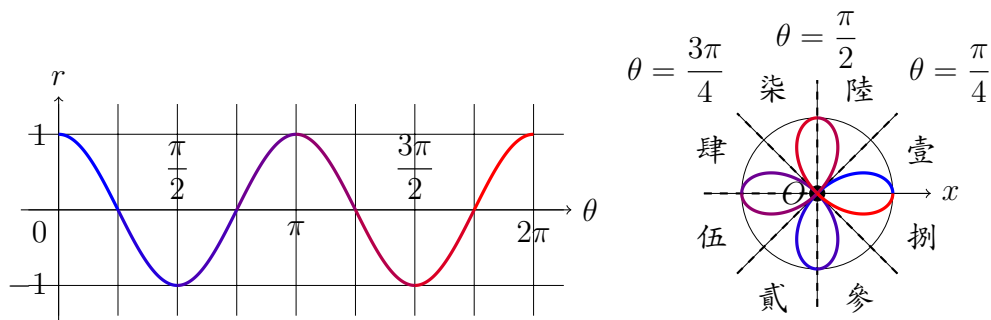
Example 0.7 $r = 1 + \sin \theta$. (*cardioid* ['kɑ:di,ɔɪd], [卡底歐乙的] 心臟線)



Other cardioids (cardiac 心臟的):



Example 0.8 $r = \cos 2\theta$. (*four-leaved rose*)

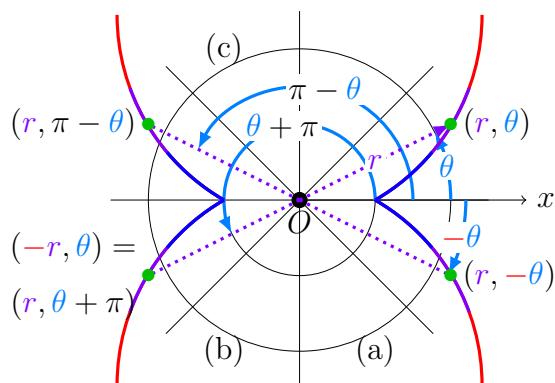


Additionally:

1. $r = a \sin \theta$, $r = a \cos \theta$ 也都是圓。(半徑=? 圓心=?)
2. $r = a \sec \theta$, $r = a \csc \theta$ 也是直線。(什麼線?)

0.3 Symmetry

- (a) If $F(r, -\theta) = F(r, \theta)$, then the curve is symmetric about the polar axis.
Ex: $\cos(-\theta) = \cos \theta$.
- (b) If $F(-r, \theta) = F(r, \theta)$ or $F(r, \theta + \pi) = F(r, \theta)$, then the curve is symmetric about the pole. Ex: $\tan(\theta + \pi) = \tan \theta$.
- (c) If $F(r, \pi - \theta) = F(r, \theta)$, then the curve is symmetric about the vertical line $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ (y -axis). Ex: $\sin(\pi - \theta) = \sin \theta$.



0.4 Tangent

The polar curve $r = f(\theta)$ is also the curve of parametric equations with parameter θ : (當成參數 θ 的參數方程/曲線)

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta.$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta}{\frac{dr}{d\theta} \cos \theta - r \sin \theta}, \quad \text{if } \frac{dx}{d\theta} \neq 0$$

Note: if $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = 0 \neq \frac{dx}{d\theta}$: horizontal tangent 水平切線;

if $\frac{dy}{d\theta} \neq 0 = \frac{dx}{d\theta}$: vertical tangent 垂直切線;

if $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = 0 = \frac{dx}{d\theta}$ 什麼都有可能。

Example 0.9 (a) For the cardioid $r = 1 + \sin \theta$, find the slope of the tangent line when $\theta = \pi/3$.

(b) Find the points on the cardioid where the tangent line is horizontal or vertical.

$$r = 1 + \sin \theta, \quad \frac{dr}{d\theta} = \cos \theta,$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta + (1 + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}{\cos \theta \cos \theta - (1 + \sin \theta) \sin \theta} = \frac{\cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta)}{(1 + \sin \theta)(1 - 2 \sin \theta)}.$$

$$(a) \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{\theta=\pi/3} = \frac{\cos \frac{\pi}{3} (1 + 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3})}{(1 + \sin \frac{\pi}{3})(1 - 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3})} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} (1 + 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})}{(1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})(1 - 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})} = -1.$$

[Quick sol] 如果只是要算切線，計算：

$$\left. \frac{dy}{d\theta} \right|_{\theta=\pi/3} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \sqrt{3}), \quad \left. \frac{dx}{d\theta} \right|_{\theta=\pi/3} = -\frac{1}{2} (1 + \sqrt{3}), \quad \text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{d\theta} \div \frac{dx}{d\theta} = -1.$$

$$(b) \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \cos \theta (1 + 2 \sin \theta) = 0 \text{ when } \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}.$$

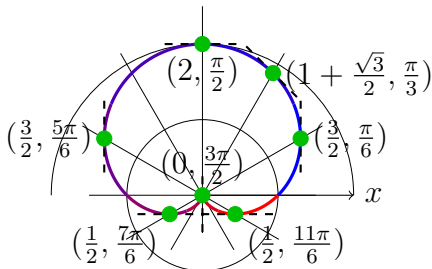
$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = (1 + \sin \theta)(1 - 2 \sin \theta) = 0 \text{ when } \theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}.$$

When $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$, $\frac{dy}{d\theta}$ 與 $\frac{dx}{d\theta}$ 同時為 0 ($\frac{0}{0}$), 要看看是不是端點。(不是)

用 ℓ' Hospital's rule 求極限：

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^-} \frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^-} \frac{1 + 2 \sin \theta}{1 - 2 \sin \theta} \right) \left(\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^-} \frac{\cos \theta}{1 + \sin \theta} \right) = -\frac{1}{3} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^-} \frac{\cos \theta}{1 + \sin \theta}$$

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} -\frac{1}{3} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^-} \frac{-\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \infty, \text{ also } \lim_{\theta \rightarrow \frac{3\pi}{2}^+} \frac{dy}{dx} = -\infty, \therefore \text{vertical tangent}.$$



(r 座標用 $1 + \sin \theta$ 算。)

Horizontal tangents at point:

$(2, \frac{\pi}{2}), (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{7\pi}{6}), (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{11\pi}{6})$; (極座標)

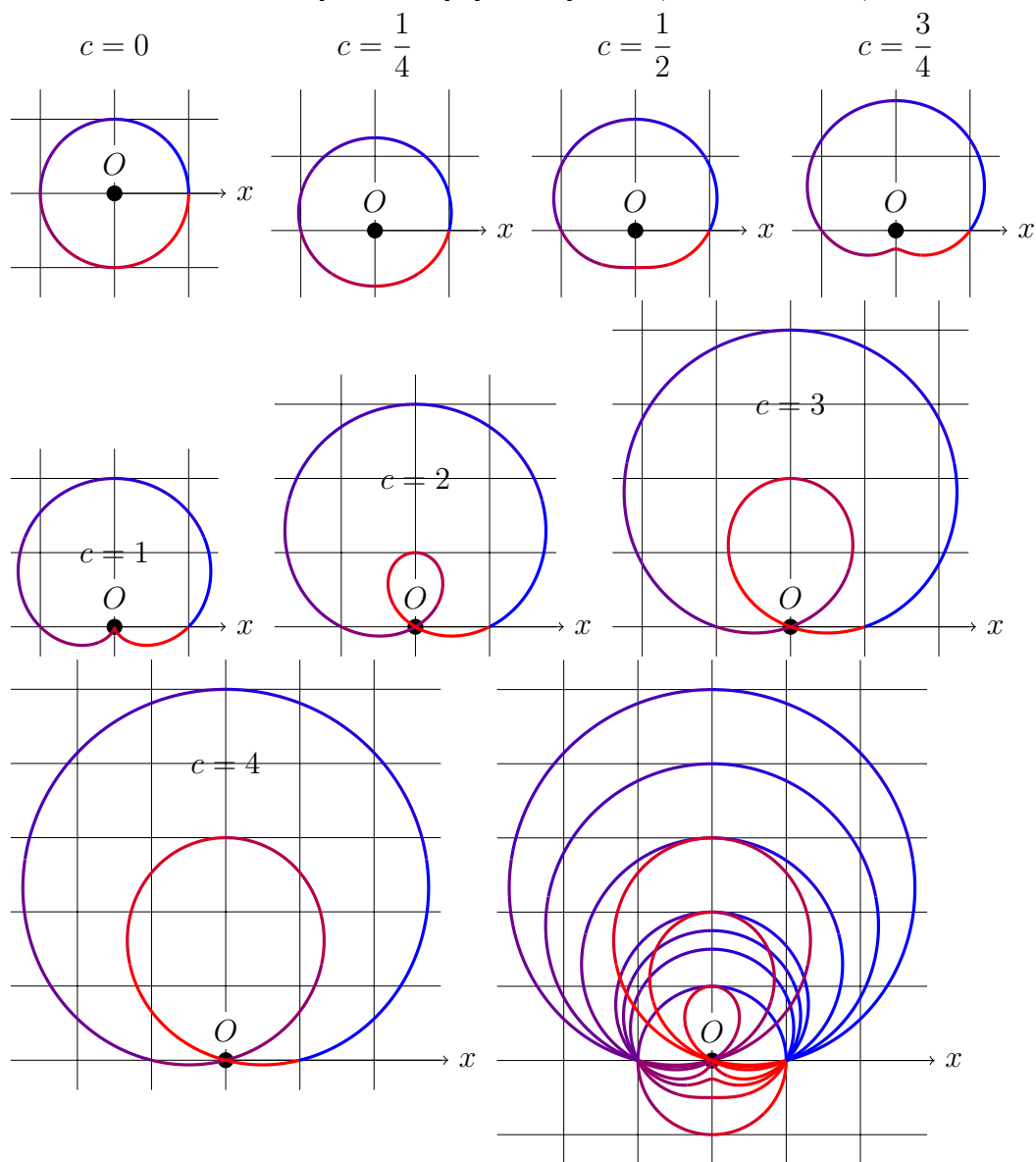
and vertical tangents at point:

$(0, \frac{3\pi}{2}) \Rightarrow (0, 0), (\frac{3}{2}, \frac{\pi}{6}), (\frac{3}{2}, \frac{5\pi}{6})$. ■

Attention: $0 \neq 1 + \sin 0$, 雖然是同一點，但最好別寫 $(0, 0)$ 。

Limaçons of Pascal: $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$

帕斯卡的 *limaçon* [ˈlimaˌsɒn], [哩麻送] 蝸線 (snail in French)。



◆ Additional: Sketch polar curve

