Solution Section 3.6 – Polar Coordinates

Exercise

Convert to rectangular coordinates. (4, 30°)

Solution

$$x = r\cos\theta$$

$$= 4\cos 30^{\circ}$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$= 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$y = r\sin\theta$$

$$= 4\sin 30^{\circ}$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= 2$$

: The point $(2\sqrt{3}, 2)$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(4, 30^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to rectangular coordinates $\left(-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$.

Solution

$$x = -\sqrt{2}\cos\frac{3\pi}{4}$$
$$= -\sqrt{2}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$
$$= 1$$

$$y = -\sqrt{2} \sin \frac{3\pi}{4}$$
$$= -\sqrt{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$
$$= -1$$

 \therefore The point (1, -1) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

Convert to rectangular coordinates (3, 270°).

Solution

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x = 3\cos 270^{\circ}
= 3(0)
= 0
y = 3\sin 270^{\circ}
= 3(-1)
= -3
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 \therefore The point (3, 270°) in polar coordinates is equivalent to (0, -3) in rectangular coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to rectangular coordinates $(2, 60^{\circ})$

Solution

$$x = 2\cos 60^{\circ}$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= 0$$

$$y = 2\sin 60^{\circ}$$

$$= 2\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$= \sqrt{3}$$

∴ The point $(2, 60^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to $(1, \sqrt{3})$ in rectangular coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to rectangular coordinates $(\sqrt{2}, -225^{\circ})$

$$x = \sqrt{2}\cos(-225^\circ)$$
$$= \sqrt{2}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$
$$= -1$$
$$y = \sqrt{2}\sin(-225^\circ)$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$
$$= 1 \mid$$

∴ The point $(\sqrt{2}, -225^\circ)$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to (-1, 1) in rectangular coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to rectangular coordinates $\left(4\sqrt{3}, -\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$

Solution

$$x = 4\sqrt{3}\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= 4\sqrt{3}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$= 6$$

$$y = 4\sqrt{3}\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= 4\sqrt{3}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= -2\sqrt{3}$$

 \therefore The point $\left(4\sqrt{3}, -\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to $\left(6, -2\sqrt{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates.

Exercise

Change the polar coordinates to rectangular coordinates $\left(-2, \frac{7\pi}{6}\right)$

Solution

$$x = -2\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= -2\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$= \sqrt{3}$$

$$y = -2\sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= -2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= 1$$

 \therefore The point $\left(-2, \frac{7\pi}{6}\right)$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to $\left(\sqrt{3}, 1\right)$ in rectangular coordinates.

Change the polar coordinates to rectangular coordinates $\left(6, \arctan \frac{3}{4}\right)$

Solution

$$\arctan \frac{3}{4} = \beta \implies \tan \beta = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x = 2\cos\beta$$

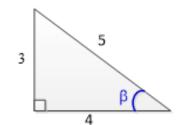
$$=2\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)$$

$$=\frac{8}{5}$$

$$y = 2\sin \beta$$

$$=2\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)$$

$$=\frac{6}{5}$$



∴ The point $\left(6, \arctan \frac{3}{4}\right)$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to $\left(\frac{8}{5}, \frac{6}{5}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates.

Exercise

Change the polar coordinates to rectangular coordinates $\left(10, \arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)\right)$

Solution

$$\arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) = \alpha \implies \cos\alpha = -\frac{1}{3} \quad (QII)$$

$$x = 10\cos\alpha$$

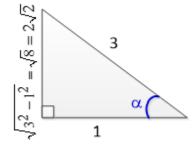
$$=10\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$=-\frac{10}{3}$$

$$y = 10 \sin \alpha$$

$$=10\left(\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}\right)$$

$$=\frac{20\sqrt{2}}{3}$$



∴ The point $\left(10, \arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)\right)$ in polar coordinates is equivalent to $\left(-\frac{10}{3}, \frac{20\sqrt{2}}{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates.

Convert to polar coordinates (3, 3).

Solution

$$r = \sqrt{3^2 + 3^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{18}$$

$$= 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{3}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1)$$

$$= 45^{\circ}$$

∴ The point (3, 3) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(3\sqrt{2}, 45^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to polar coordinates (-2, 0).

Solution

$$r = \pm \sqrt{4+0}$$

$$= \pm 2$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{0}{-2}$$

$$= 0^{\circ}$$

∴ The point (-2, 0) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(-2, 0^\circ)$ $(2, 180^\circ)$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to polar coordinates $(-1, \sqrt{3})$.

Solution

$$r = \pm \sqrt{1+3}$$

$$= \pm 2$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{-1} \right)$$

$$= 120^{\circ}$$

∴ The point $\left(-1, \sqrt{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(2, 120^{\circ}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

Convert to polar coordinates (-3, -3) $r \ge 0$ $0^{\circ} \le \theta < 360^{\circ}$

Solution

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

$$= 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$\widehat{\theta} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{3}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1)$$

$$= 45^{\circ}$$

The angle is in quadrant III

Therefore,
$$\theta = 180^{\circ} + 45^{\circ}$$

= 225°

∴ The point (-3, 3) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(3\sqrt{2}, 225^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to polar coordinates $\left(2, -2\sqrt{3}\right)$ $r \ge 0$ $0^{\circ} \le \theta < 360^{\circ}$

Solution

$$r = \sqrt{2^2 + \left(-2\sqrt{3}\right)^2}$$

$$= 4 \rfloor$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}\left(\sqrt{3}\right)$$

$$= 60^\circ \rfloor$$

The angle is in quadrant *IV*

Therefore,
$$\theta = 360^{\circ} - 60^{\circ}$$

= 300°

: The point $(2, -2\sqrt{3})$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(4, 300^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Convert to polar coordinates (-2, 0) $r \ge 0$ $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$

Solution

$$r = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 0^2}$$

$$= 2 \rfloor$$

$$\widehat{\theta} = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{0}{2}\right)$$

$$= 0 \rfloor$$

$$\underline{\theta} = \pi \rfloor$$

 \div The point (-2, 0) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(2, \pi)$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Convert to polar coordinates $\left(-1, -\sqrt{3}\right)$ $r \ge 0$ $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$

Solution

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

$$= 2$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{1}\right)$$

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

The angle is in quadrant III

Therefore,
$$\theta = \pi + \frac{\pi}{3}$$

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

 \therefore The point $\left(-1, -\sqrt{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(2, \frac{4\pi}{3}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Change the rectangular coordinates to polar coordinates $(7, -7\sqrt{3})$ r > 0 $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$

$$r = \sqrt{(7)^2 + (-7\sqrt{3})^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{196}$$
$$= 14$$

$$\widehat{\theta} = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{7\sqrt{3}}{7} \right)$$
$$= \frac{\pi}{3}$$

The angle is in quadrant IV; therefore,

$$\theta = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$= \frac{5\pi}{3}$$

∴ The point $\left(7, -7\sqrt{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(14, \frac{5\pi}{3}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Change the rectangular coordinates to polar coordinates $\left(-2\sqrt{2}, -2\sqrt{2}\right)$ r > 0 $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$

Solution

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

$$= \frac{4}{4}$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-2\sqrt{2}}{-2\sqrt{2}}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1)$$

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

The angle is in quadrant III; therefore,

$$\theta = \pi + \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$= \frac{5\pi}{4}$$

∴ The point $\left(7, -7\sqrt{3}\right)$ in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(4, \frac{5\pi}{4}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

The point (0, -3) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(3, 270^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Solution

$$r = \sqrt{0 + (-3)^2}$$

$$= 3$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \tan^{-1} \frac{0}{3}$$

$$= 90^{\circ}$$

The polar point is $(3, 270^{\circ})$

Exercise

The point (1, -1) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $\left(-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$ in polar coordinates.

Solution

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

$$= \sqrt{2}$$

$$\widehat{\theta} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{1}\right)$$

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

$$\theta \in QIV \rightarrow \underline{\theta} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$$

$$\left(\sqrt{2}, \frac{7\pi}{4}\right) \iff \left(-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$$

Exercise

A point lies at (4, 4) on a rectangular coordinate system. Give its address in polar coordinates (r, θ)

$$r = \sqrt{4^2 + 4^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{32}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{2}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{4}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1)$$

∴ The point (4, 4) in rectangular coordinates is equivalent to $(4\sqrt{2}, 45^{\circ})$ in polar coordinates.

Exercise

Write the equation in rectangular coordinates $r^2 = 4$

Solution

$$r^2 = 4$$
$$x^2 + y^2 = 4$$

Exercise

Write the equation in rectangular coordinates $r = 6\cos\theta$

Solution

$$r = 6\cos\theta$$

$$r = 6\frac{x}{r}$$

$$r^2 = 6x$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 6x$$

Exercise

Write the equation in rectangular coordinates $r^2 = 4\cos 2\theta$

$$r^{2} = 4\cos 2\theta$$

$$= 4\left(\cos^{2}\theta - \sin^{2}\theta\right)$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{x^{2}}{r^{2}} - \frac{y^{2}}{r^{2}}\right)$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{x^{2} - y^{2}}{r^{2}}\right)$$

$$r^{4} = 4\left(x^{2} - y^{2}\right)$$

$$\left(x^{2} + y^{2}\right)^{4} = 4x^{2} - 4y^{2}$$

Write the equation in rectangular coordinates $r(\cos\theta - \sin\theta) = 2$

Solution

$$r(\cos\theta - \sin\theta) = 2 \qquad \cos\theta = \frac{x}{r} \quad \sin\theta = \frac{y}{r}$$
$$r\left(\frac{x}{r} - \frac{y}{r}\right) = 2$$
$$r\left(\frac{x - y}{r}\right) = 2$$
$$x - y = 2$$

Exercise

Write the equation in rectangular coordinates $r^2 = 4\sin 2\theta$

Solution

$$r^{2} = 4\sin 2\theta \qquad \sin 2\theta = 2\sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$= 4(2\sin \theta \cos \theta) \qquad \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$= 8\left(\frac{y}{r}\right)\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)$$

$$= 8\frac{xy}{r^{2}}$$

$$r^{4} = 8xy \qquad r^{2} = x^{2} + y^{2}$$

$$\left(x^{2} + y^{2}\right)^{2} = 8xy$$

Exercise

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar equation. $r \sin \theta = -2$

$$r \sin \theta = -2$$

$$y = r \sin \theta$$

$$y = -2$$

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar equation. $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$

Solution

$$\tan\theta = \tan\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = 1$$

$$y = x$$

Exercise

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r^2 \left(4\sin^2 \theta - 9\cos^2 \theta \right) = 36$

Solution

$$r^2 \left(4\sin^2 \theta - 9\cos^2 \theta \right) = 36$$

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

$$r^2 \left(4 \frac{y^2}{r^2} - 9 \frac{x^2}{r^2} \right) = 36$$

$$r^2\left(\frac{4y^2 - 9x^2}{r^2}\right) = 36$$

$$4y^2 - 9x^2 = 36$$

Exercise

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r^2 \left(\cos^2 \theta + 4\sin^2 \theta\right) = 16$

$$r^2\left(\cos^2\theta + 4\sin^2\theta\right) = 16$$

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

$$r^2 \left(\frac{x^2}{r^2} + 4 \frac{y^2}{r^2} \right) = 16$$

$$r^2 \left(\frac{x^2 + 4y^2}{r^2} \right) = 16$$

$$x^2 + 4y^2 = 16$$

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r(\sin \theta - 2\cos \theta) = 6$

Solution

$$r(\sin \theta - 2\cos \theta) = 6$$

$$r(\frac{y}{r} - 2\frac{x}{r}) = 6$$

$$r(\frac{y - 2x}{r}) = 6$$

$$y - 2x = 6$$

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

Exercise

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r(\sin \theta + r \cos^2 \theta) = 1$

Solution

$$r\left(\sin\theta + r\cos^2\theta\right) = 1$$

$$r\left(\frac{y}{r} + r\frac{x^2}{r^2}\right) = 1$$

$$r\left(\frac{y}{r} + \frac{x^2}{r}\right) = 1$$

$$r\left(\frac{y + x^2}{r}\right) = 1$$

$$y + x^2 = 1$$

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

Exercise

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r = 8 \sin \theta - 2 \cos \theta$

$$r = 8\sin\theta - 2\cos\theta$$

$$r = 8\frac{y}{r} - 2\frac{x}{r}$$

$$r^2 = 8y - 2x$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 8y - 2x$$

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

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

Find an equation in x and y that has the same graph as polar $r = \tan \theta$

Solution

$$r = \tan \theta$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = \frac{y^2}{x^2}$$

$$x^4 + x^2y^2 = y^2$$

$$\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{y}{x}$$

Exercise

Find a polar equation that has the same graph as the equation in x and y. $y^2 = 6x$

Solution

$$y^2 = 6x$$

$$x = r\cos\theta$$
 $y = r\sin\theta$

$$(r\sin\theta)^2 = 6(r\cos\theta)$$

$$r^2 \sin^2 \theta = 6r \cos \theta$$

$$r = 6 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

Exercise

Find a polar equation that has the same graph as the equation in x and y. xy = 8

Solution

$$xy = 8$$

$$x = r \cos \theta$$
 $y = r \sin \theta$

$$(r\cos\theta)(r\sin\theta) = 8$$

$$r^2 = \frac{8}{\cos\theta\sin\theta}$$

Exercise

Find a polar equation that has the same graph as the equation in x and y. $(x+2)^2 + (y-3)^2 = 13$

$$x^2 + 4x + 4 + y^2 - 6y + 9 = 13$$

$$x^2 + 4x + y^2 - 6y = 13 - 9 - 4$$

$$x^{2} + 4x + y^{2} - 6y = 0$$

$$x^{2} + y^{2} = 6y - 4x$$

$$r^{2} = 6r \sin \theta - 4r \cos \theta$$

$$r^{2} = r(6 \sin \theta - 4 \cos \theta)$$

$$r = 6 \sin \theta - 4 \cos \theta$$
Divide by r

Find a polar equation that has the same graph as the equation in x and y. $y^2 - x^2 = 4$

Solution

$$y^{2} - x^{2} = 4$$

$$r^{2} \sin^{2} \theta - r^{2} \cos^{2} \theta = 4$$

$$r^{2} \left(\sin^{2} \theta - \cos^{2} \theta\right) = 4$$

$$\cos 2\alpha = \cos^{2} \alpha - \sin^{2} \alpha$$

$$r^{2} \left(-\cos 2\theta\right) = 4$$

$$r^{2} = -\frac{4}{\cos 2\theta}$$

Exercise

Write the equation in polar coordinates x + y = 5

Solution

$$x + y = 5$$

$$r\cos\theta + r\sin\theta = 5$$

$$r\left(\cos\theta + \sin\theta\right) = 5$$

$$r = \frac{5}{\cos\theta + \sin\theta}$$

Exercise

Write the equation in polar coordinates $x^2 + y^2 = 9$

$$x^{2} + y^{2} = 9$$
 $r^{2} = x^{2} + y^{2}$ $r^{2} = 9$

Write the equation in polar coordinates $x^2 + y^2 = 4x$

Solution

$$x^2 + y^2 = 4x$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \qquad x = r\cos\theta$$

$$r^2 = 4r\cos\theta$$

$$\frac{r^2}{r} = \frac{4r\cos\theta}{r}$$

$$r = 4\cos\theta$$

Exercise

Write the equation in polar coordinates y = -x

Solution

$$y = -x$$

$$x = r\cos\theta$$
 $y = r\sin\theta$

$$r\sin\theta = -r\cos\theta$$

$$\sin \theta = -\cos \theta$$

Exercise

Write the equation in polar coordinates x + y = 4

$$x + y = 4$$

$$x + y = 4$$

$$r\cos\theta + r\sin\theta = 4$$

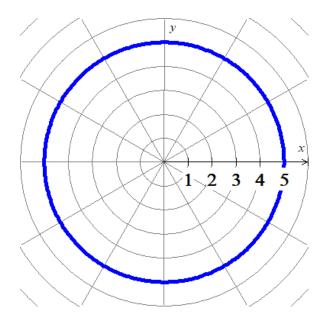
$$x = r\cos\theta$$
 $y = r\sin\theta$

$$r(\cos\theta + \sin\theta) = 4$$

$$r = \frac{4}{\cos\theta + \sin\theta}$$

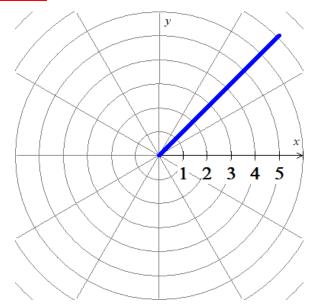
Sketch the graph of the polar equation r = 5

Solution



Exercise

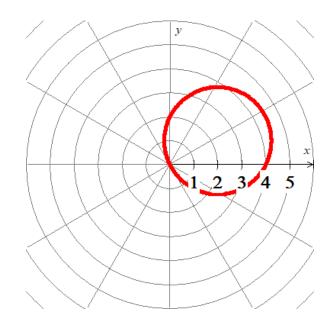
Sketch the graph of the polar equation $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$



Sketch graph $r = 4\cos\theta + 2\sin\theta$

Solution

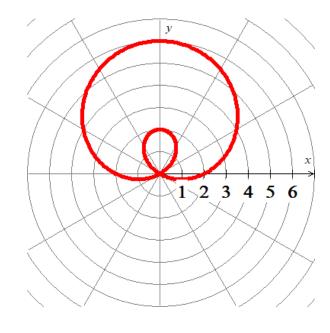
θ	r
0	4
$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$3\sqrt{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	2
$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	$-\sqrt{2}$
π	-4
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-2



Exercise

Sketch the graph of the polar $r = 2 + 4 \sin \theta$

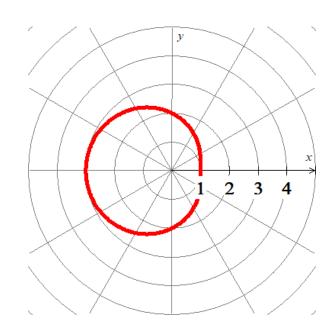
θ	r
0	2
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	4
$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$2+2\sqrt{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	6
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	4
π	2
$\frac{7\pi}{6}$	0
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-2
$\frac{11\pi}{6}$	0



Sketch the graph $r = 2 - \cos \theta$

Solution

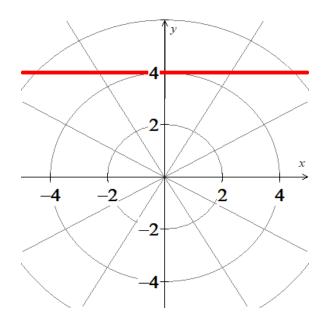
0	
θ	r
0	1
$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{3}{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	2
$\frac{2\pi}{3}$	$\frac{5}{2}$
π	3
$\frac{4\pi}{3}$	3 <u>5</u> 2
$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{4\pi}{3} \\ \frac{3\pi}{2} \\ \frac{5\pi}{3} \end{array} $	2
$\frac{5\pi}{3}$	$\frac{3}{2}$



Exercise

Sketch the graph $r = 4 \csc \theta$

$$r = 4\csc\theta$$
$$= \frac{4}{\sin\theta}$$
$$r\sin\theta = 4 = y$$



Sketch the graph $r^2 = 4\cos 2\theta$

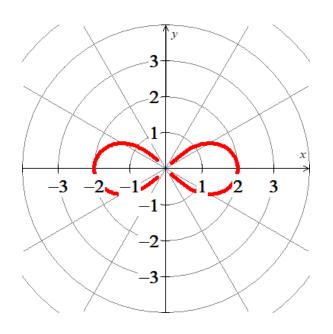
Solution

$$r^{2} = 4\cos 2\theta \ge 0$$

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} \le 2\theta \le \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$-\frac{\pi}{4} \le \theta \le \frac{\pi}{4} \quad \& \quad \frac{3\pi}{4} \le \theta \le \frac{5\pi}{4}$$

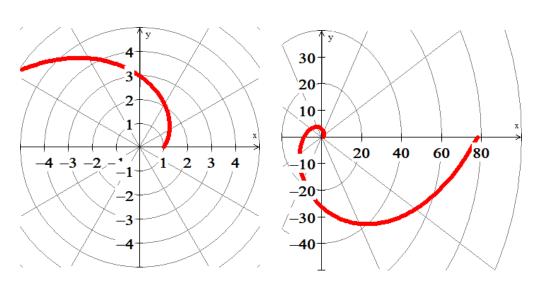
θ	r
0	2
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\sqrt{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{4}$	0
$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	0
π	2
$\frac{5\pi}{4}$	0
$\frac{7\pi}{4}$	0



Exercise

Sketch the graph $r = 2^{\theta}$ $\theta \ge 0$

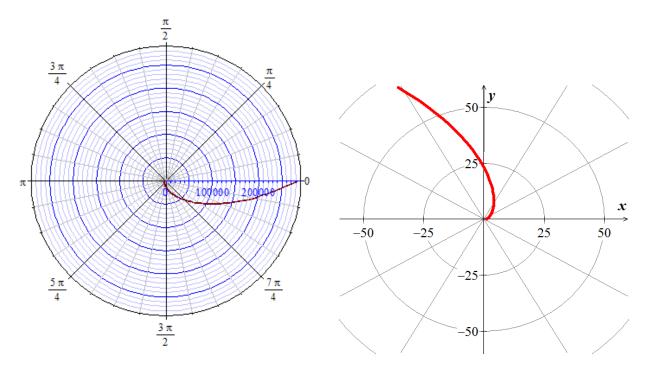
θ	r
0	1
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$2^{\pi/2}$



Sketch the graph of the polar equation

$$r = e^{2\theta} \quad \theta \ge 0$$

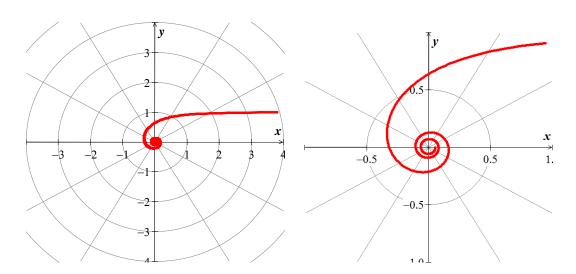
Solution



Exercise

Sketch the graph of the polar equation

$$r\theta = 1 \quad \theta > 0$$



Sketch the graph of the polar equation

$$r = 2 + 2\sec\theta$$

