

Conic section Assignment

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Problem Statement - Find the area of the region bounded by the curve $x^2 = 4y$ and the lines $y=2$ and $y=4$ and the y-axis in the first quadrant

Solution

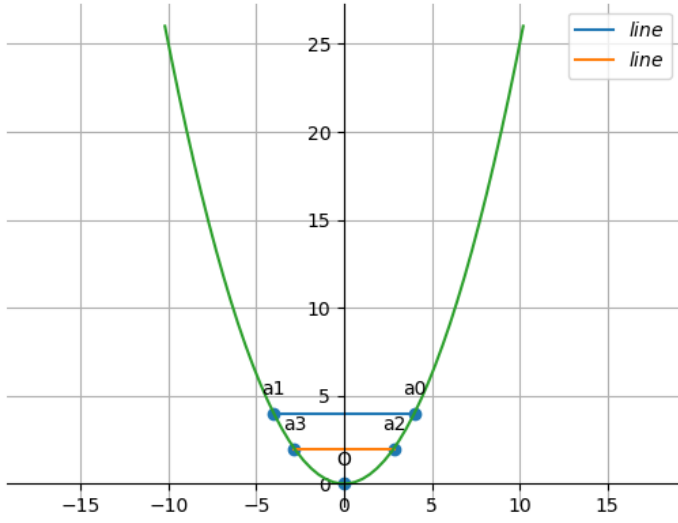


Figure 1: The parabola formed by the curve $x^2 = 4y$ and the lines $y=2$ and $y=4$

The given equation of parabola $x^2 = 4y$ can be written in the general quadratic form as

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x} + f = 0 \quad (1)$$

where

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

$$f = 0 \quad (4)$$

The point of intersection of the lines $y=2$ and $y=4$ to the parabola is given by

The points of intersection of the line

$$L : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{q} + \mu \mathbf{m} \quad \mu \in \mathbf{R} \quad (5)$$

with the conic section are given by

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{q} + \mu_i \mathbf{m} \quad (6)$$

where

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{\mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m}} \left(-\mathbf{m}^T (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}) \pm \sqrt{[\mathbf{m}^T (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u})]^2 - (\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{q} + f) (\mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m})} \right) \quad (7)$$

From the line $y-4=0$ the vectors \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{m} are taken,

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{m}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

by substituting eq(2),(3),(4),(8),(9) in eq(7)

$$\mu_i = 4, -4 \quad (10)$$

substituting eq(8),(9),(10) in eq(6) the intersection points on the parabola are

$$\mathbf{a}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

From the line $y-2=0$ the vectors \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{m} are taken,

$$\mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$$\mathbf{m}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (14)$$

by substituting eq(2),(3),(4),(13),(14) in eq(7)

$$\mu_i = 2.8, -2.8 \quad (15)$$

substituting eq(13),(14),(15) in eq(6) the intersection points on the parabola are

$$\mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2.8 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$\mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -2.8 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (17)$$

Area of the parabola in between the lines $y=2$ and $y=4$ is given by

$$\Rightarrow A_1 = \int_0^2 2\sqrt{y} dy \quad (18)$$

$$\Rightarrow A_2 = \int_0^4 2\sqrt{y} dy \quad (19)$$

$$\Rightarrow A_2 - A_1 = \int_0^4 2\sqrt{y} dy - \int_0^2 2\sqrt{y} dy \quad (20)$$

$$\Rightarrow A_2 - A_1 = 6.895 \text{squnits} \quad (21)$$

Construction

Points	intersection points
a0	$\begin{pmatrix} -2.8 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$
a1	$\begin{pmatrix} 2.8 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$
a3	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
a2	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$