ASSIGNMENT 5

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Download all python codes from

https://github.com/vaibhavchhabra25/EE3900-course/blob/main/Assignment-5/codes

and latex-tikz codes from

https://github.com/vaibhavchhabra25/EE3900-course/blob/main/Assignment-5/main.tex

1 Problem

(Quadratic Forms-Q-2.25)

Find the equation of the parabola which is symmetric about the y-axis, and passes through the point $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$.

2 Solution

Since the parabola is symmetric about y-axis, it is the axis of the parabola. Let the vertex of the parabola be $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ k \end{pmatrix}$ and the focus be $\mathbf{f} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ k+a \end{pmatrix}$. Then the point of intersection of the directrix and y-axis will be $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ k-a \end{pmatrix}$.

Since, directrix of the parabola is perpendicular to the axis, the equation of directrix will be

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = k - a \tag{2.0.1}$$

Let
$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $c = k - a$.

Let \mathbf{x} be any general point on the parabola.

By the definition of a parabola, the distance between \mathbf{x} and the focus is equal to the perpendicular distance between \mathbf{x} and the directrix.

So we can write

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}\| = \frac{\left|\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} - c\right|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}$$
 (2.0.2)

$$\Longrightarrow ||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}||^2 ||\mathbf{n}||^2 = \left|\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{x} - c\right|^2 \tag{2.0.3}$$

$$\implies (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}) ||\mathbf{n}||^2 = (\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x})^2 - 2c\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} + c^2$$
(2.0.4)

$$||\mathbf{n}||^2 \mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} - 2||\mathbf{n}||^2 \mathbf{f}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} + ||\mathbf{n}||^2 ||\mathbf{f}||^2 =$$
$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} - 2c \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} + c^2 \qquad (2.0.5)$$

$$\implies \mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}}(\|\mathbf{n}\|^{2}\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{n}\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}})\mathbf{x} + 2(c\mathbf{n} - \|\mathbf{n}\|^{2}\mathbf{f})^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} + \|\mathbf{n}\|^{2}\|\mathbf{f}\|^{2} - c^{2} = 0 \quad (2.0.6)$$

Putting values of \mathbf{n} , \mathbf{f} and c, we get

$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2a \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + 4ak = 0 \qquad (2.0.7)$$

Since $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ lies on the parabola,

$$(2 -3)\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + (0 -4a)\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + 4ak = 0$$
 (2.0.8)

$$\implies 4 + 12a + 4ak = 0 \tag{2.0.9}$$

$$\implies ak = -1 - 3a \tag{2.0.10}$$

Using (2.0.7) and (2.0.10), the required equation of parabola is

$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4a \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} - 12a - 4 = 0 \qquad (2.0.11)$$

