

EE3900 Assignment-5

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Download all python codes from

<https://github.com/vrahul02/EE3900/tree/main/Assignment-5/Codes>

and latex-tikz codes from

<https://github.com/vrahul02/EE3900/tree/main/Assignment-5/Assignment-5.tex>

PROBLEM QUADRATIC FORMS Q.2.24

Find the coordinates of the focus, axis, equation of the directrix and latus rectum of the parabola $y^2 = 8x$.

SOLUTION

The parabola $y^2 = 8x$ can be written as

$$\mathbf{x}^T \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + (-8 \ 0) \mathbf{x} = 0 \quad (0.0.1)$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.0.2)$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.0.3)$$

Since the parabola is symmetric about x-axis, it is the axis of the parabola.

Vertex of the parabola is $v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Let the focus be $f = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

Then the point of intersection of directrix and x-axis will be $\begin{pmatrix} -a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

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

$$(1 \ 0) \mathbf{x} = -a \quad (0.0.4)$$

The point of intersection of latus rectum and x-axis will be $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

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

$$(1 \ 0) \mathbf{x} = a \quad (0.0.5)$$

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

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

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}\| = \frac{|\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} - c|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|} \quad (0.0.6)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}\|^2 \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 = |\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} - c|^2 \quad (0.0.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f})^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{f}) \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 = (\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x})^2 - 2c \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} + c^2 \quad (0.0.8)$$

$$\|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} - 2\|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{x} + \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \|\mathbf{f}\|^2 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} - 2c \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} + c^2 \quad (0.0.9)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}^T (\|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}^T) \mathbf{x} + 2(c \mathbf{n} - \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \mathbf{f})^T \mathbf{x} + \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \|\mathbf{f}\|^2 - c^2 = 0 \quad (0.0.10)$$

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

$$a = 2 \quad (0.0.11)$$

Thus focus $\mathbf{f} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Equation of directrix is given by

$$(1 \ 0) \mathbf{x} = -2 \quad (0.0.12)$$

Equation of latus rectum is given by

$$(1 \ 0) \mathbf{x} = 2 \quad (0.0.13)$$

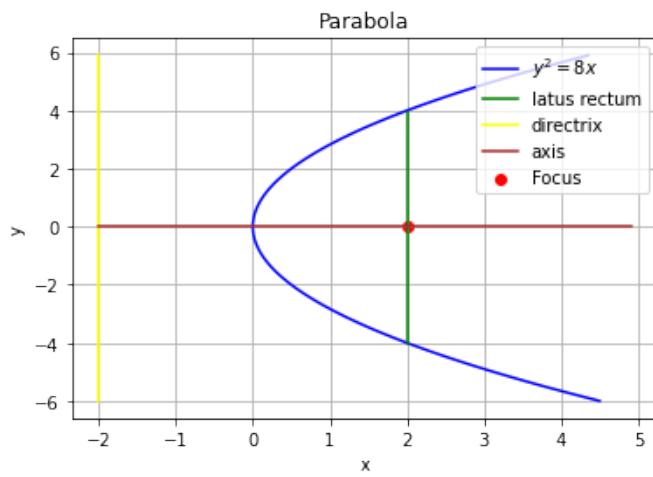


Fig. 0: Plot of the parabola