

4 Unit Math Homework for Year 12

Student Name: _____	Grade: _____
Date: _____	Score: _____

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2 Topic 2 — Conics Part 2

2.4 Parametric Equations for the Ellipse and Hyperbola

2.4.1 Parametric Equations for the Ellipse

Definition: Let N be the foot of a perpendicular from a point P on the ellipse to the x-axis.

Produce NP to a point Q on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$.

Let OQ make an angle θ with the positive x-axis, $\pi < \theta \leq \pi$.

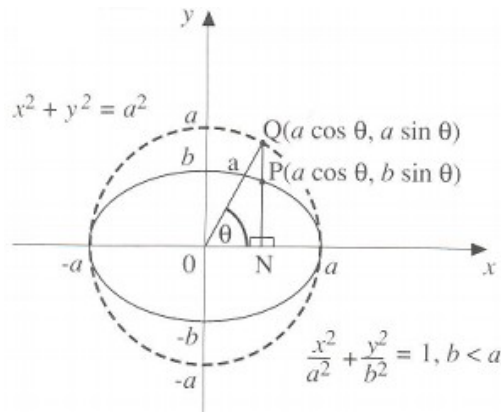
Then Q has coordinates $(a \cos \theta, a \sin \theta)$.

At P, $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ and $x = a \cos \theta$, hence $y = b \sin \theta$, where $a > b$.

Hence the ellipse with Cartesian equation $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.

has parametric equations $x = a \cos \theta$ and $y = b \sin \theta$, where $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$.

The circle $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$ is called the auxiliary circle.



Exercise 2.4.1 Find the parametric equations of

1. The ellipse $\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$.

2. The ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$.

2.4.2 Parametric Equations for Hyperbola

Definition: N the foot of the perpendicular from a point P on the hyperbola to the x-axis.

From N, a tangent is drawn to the circle $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$, meeting the circle in Q.

If P is on the right-hand branch, choose Q in the same quadrant as P.

If P is on the left-hand branch, choose Q in different quadrants as P.

Let θ be the angle OQ makes with the positive x-axis.

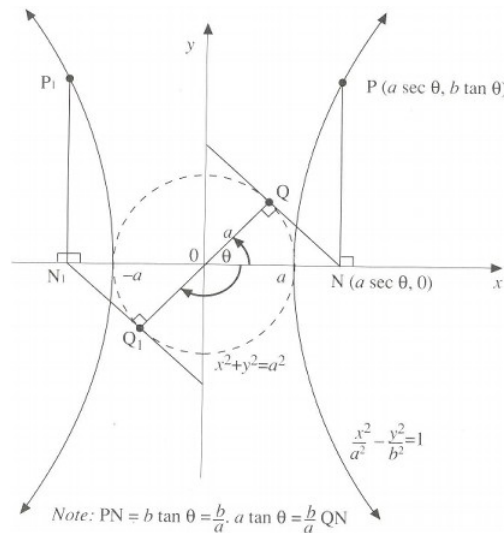
At P, $x = a \sec \theta$ and $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$, hence $y = b \tan \theta$

For P on the right-hand branch, $-\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$.

For P on the left-hand branch, $-\pi < \theta < -\frac{\pi}{2}$

The hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ has parametric equations

$$x = a \sec \theta \text{ and } y = b \tan \theta, \text{ where } -\pi < \theta \leq \pi, \theta \neq \pm \frac{\pi}{2}.$$



Exercise 2.4.2 Find the parametric equations of

1. The hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{y^2}{25} = 1$.

2. The hyperbola $x^2 - y^2 = 4$.

Exercise 2.4.3 Find the Cartesian equations of:

1. The ellipse $x = 3 \cos \theta$, $y = 2 \sin \theta$.

2. The ellipse $x = 5 \cos \theta$, $y = 4 \sin \theta$.

3. The hyperbola $x = 3 \sec \theta$, $y = 4 \tan \theta$.

4. The hyperbola $x = 2 \sec \theta$, $y = 5 \tan \theta$.

2.4.3 Further Trigonometry

Sums and Differences:

$$\sin(\theta + \phi) = \sin \theta \cos \phi + \cos \theta \sin \phi$$

$$\sin(\theta - \phi) = \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \theta \sin \phi$$

$$\cos(\theta + \phi) = \cos \theta \cos \phi - \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$\cos(\theta - \phi) = \cos \theta \cos \phi + \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$\tan(\theta + \phi) = \frac{\tan \theta + \tan \phi}{1 - \tan \theta \tan \phi}$$

$$\tan(\theta - \phi) = \frac{\tan \theta - \tan \phi}{1 + \tan \theta \tan \phi}$$

Double Angle Identities:

$$\sin 2\theta = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$\cos 2\theta = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta = 2 \cos^2 \theta - 1$$

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

Sums to Products:

$$\sin \theta + \sin \phi = 2 \sin \left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right) \cos \left(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2} \right)$$

$$\sin \theta - \sin \phi = 2 \cos \left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2} \right)$$

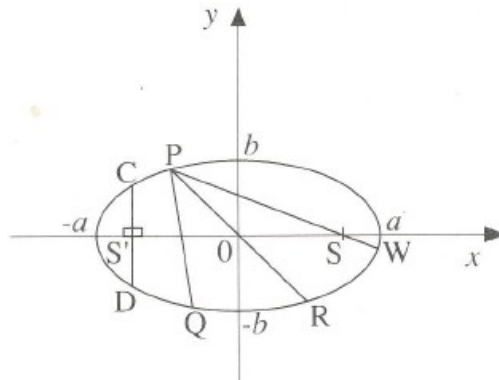
$$\cos \theta + \cos \phi = 2 \cos \left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right) \cos \left(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2} \right)$$

$$\cos \theta - \cos \phi = 2 \sin \left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2} \right)$$

The t-Formulae: Let $t = \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$, Then:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{2t}{1+t^2}, \quad \cos \theta = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{2t}{1-t^2}$$

2.4.4 Equation of a Chord on an Ellipse



PQ, PR, PW are chords of the conic.

Chord PR through the centre is a diameter,

PW through the focus S is a focal chord.

CD is a focal chord which is perpendicular to the major axis.

Such a chord is termed a latus rectum of the conic and has equation $x = \pm ae$.

The equation of a general chord PQ is best expressed in terms of the parameters θ and ϕ of the end points P and Q.

Definition: Let $P(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$ and $Q(a \cos \phi, b \sin \phi)$ lie on $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.

Then the gradient of PQ is:

$$\frac{b(\sin \theta - \sin \phi)}{a(\cos \theta - \cos \phi)} = \frac{b}{a} \times \frac{2 \sin(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2}) \cos(\theta + \phi)}{-2 \sin(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2}) \sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})} = -\frac{b}{a} \times \frac{\cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})}{\sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})}$$

$$\therefore y - b \sin \theta = -\frac{b}{a} \times \frac{\cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})}{\sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})} (x - a \cos \theta)$$

$$\frac{x}{a} \cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) + \frac{y}{b} \sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) = \cos \theta \cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) + \sin \theta \sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2})$$

$$\text{Then the equation of the chord is: } \frac{x}{a} \cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) + \frac{y}{b} \sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) = \cos(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2}).$$

In the special case where PQ is a diameter, (0, 0) lies on the chord and hence $|\theta - \phi| = \pi$

Example 2.4.1 $P(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$ and $Q[a \cos(\pi + \theta), b \sin(\pi + \theta)]$ lie on the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$. Show that PQ passes through (0, 0).

Solution: The equation of the chord PQ of the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ is:

$$\frac{x}{a} \cos(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) + \frac{y}{b} \sin(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}) = \cos(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2}), \text{ where } P, Q \text{ have parameters } \theta, \phi$$

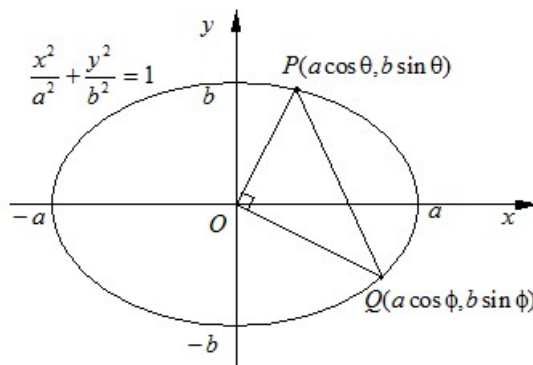
We have $\phi = \pi + \theta$. Hence the equation of the chord PQ transforms into:

$$\frac{x}{a} \cos(\frac{\theta + (\pi + \theta)}{2}) + \frac{y}{b} \sin(\frac{\theta + (\pi + \theta)}{2}) = \cos(\frac{\theta - (\pi + \theta)}{2}).$$

$$\frac{x}{a} \cos(\frac{2\theta + \pi}{2}) + \frac{y}{b} \sin(\frac{2\theta + \pi}{2}) = \cos(\frac{-\pi}{2}).$$

Thus $-\frac{x}{a} \sin \theta + \frac{y}{b} \cos \theta = 0$. Therefore (0, 0) lies on the chord PQ.

Exercise 2.4.4 The point $P(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$, and $Q(a \cos \phi, b \sin \phi)$ lie on the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ and the chord PQ subtends a right angle at $(0, 0)$. Show that $\tan \theta \tan \phi = -\frac{a^2}{b^2}$.



Exercise 2.4.5 The point $P(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$ and $Q[a \cos(-\theta), b \sin(-\theta)]$ are the extremities of the latus

rectum $x = ae$ of the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.

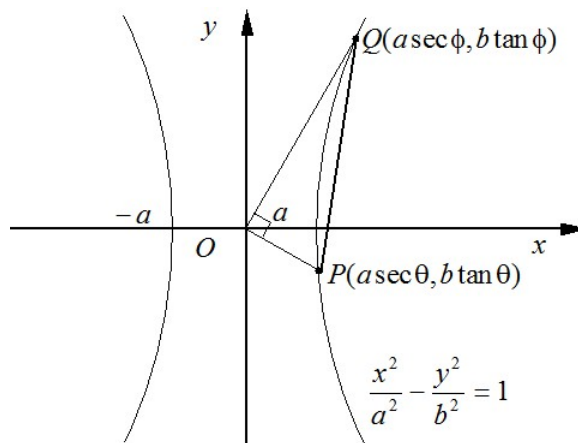
1. Show that $\cos \theta = e$.

2. Show that PQ has length $\frac{2b^2}{a}$.

2.4.5 Equation of a Chord on Hyperbola

Definition: Let $P(a \sec \theta, b \tan \theta)$ and $Q(a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi)$ lie on $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.
 Then the equation of the chord is: $\frac{x}{a} \cos\left(\frac{\theta - \phi}{2}\right) - \frac{y}{b} \sin\left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\theta + \phi}{2}\right)$.
 In the special case where PQ is a diameter, $(0, 0)$ lies on the chord and hence $|\theta + \phi| = \pi$

Example 2.4.2 The points $P(a \sec \theta, b \tan \theta)$ and $Q(a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi)$ lie on the hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ and the chord PQ subtends a right angle at $(0, 0)$. Show that $\sin \theta \sin \phi = -\frac{a^2}{b^2}$.



Solution: POQ is a right-angled triangle. Therefore $OP^2 + OQ^2 = PQ^2$.

$$a^2 \sec^2 \theta + b^2 \tan^2 \theta + a^2 \sec^2 \phi + b^2 \tan^2 \phi = a^2 (\sec \theta - \sec \phi)^2 + b^2 (\tan \theta - \tan \phi)^2$$

$$= a^2 (\sec^2 \theta - 2 \sec \theta \sec \phi + \sec^2 \phi) + b^2 (\tan^2 \theta - 2 \tan \theta \tan \phi + \tan^2 \phi)$$

Then $0 = -2a^2 \sec \theta \sec \phi - 2b^2 \tan \theta \tan \phi, \Rightarrow \therefore \sin \theta \sin \phi = -\frac{a^2}{b^2}$

2.5 Past Exam Questions