

for the length of the curve $x = g(y)$, $c \leq y \leq d$ (Section 6.3, Equation 4), is a special case of the parametric length formula

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt.$$

Use this result to find the length of each curve.

b. $x = y^{3/2}$, $0 \leq y \leq 4/3$

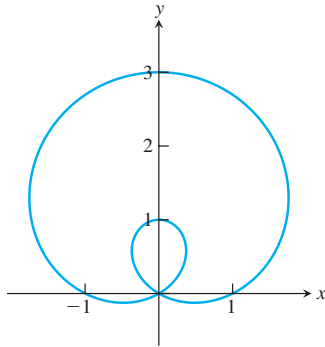
c. $x = \frac{3}{2}y^{2/3}$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$

43. The curve with parametric equations

$$x = (1 + 2 \sin \theta) \cos \theta, \quad y = (1 + 2 \sin \theta) \sin \theta$$

is called a *limaçon* and is shown in the accompanying figure. Find the points (x, y) and the slopes of the tangent lines at these points for

a. $\theta = 0$. b. $\theta = \pi/2$. c. $\theta = 4\pi/3$.

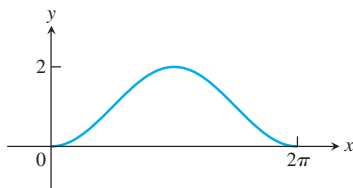


44. The curve with parametric equations

$$x = t, \quad y = 1 - \cos t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

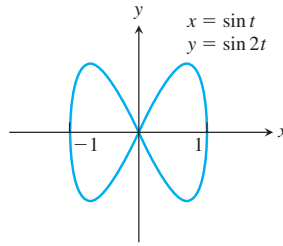
is called a *sinusoid* and is shown in the accompanying figure. Find the point (x, y) where the slope of the tangent line is

a. largest. b. smallest.

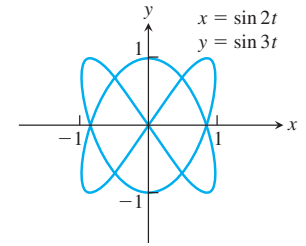


T The curves in Exercises 45 and 46 are called *Bowditch curves* or *Lissajous figures*. In each case, find the point in the interior of the first quadrant where the tangent to the curve is horizontal, and find the equations of the two tangents at the origin.

45.



46.



47. **Cycloid**

a. Find the length of one arch of the cycloid

$$x = a(t - \sin t), \quad y = a(1 - \cos t).$$

b. Find the area of the surface generated by revolving one arch of the cycloid in part (a) about the x -axis for $a = 1$.

48. **Volume** Find the volume swept out by revolving the region bounded by the x -axis and one arch of the cycloid

$$x = t - \sin t, \quad y = 1 - \cos t$$

about the x -axis.

49. Find the volume swept out by revolving the region bounded by the x -axis and the graph of

$$x = 2t, \quad y = t(2 - t)$$

about the x -axis.

50. Find the volume swept out by revolving the region bounded by the y -axis and the graph of

$$x = t(1 - t), \quad y = 1 + t^2$$

about the y -axis.

COMPUTER EXPLORATIONS

In Exercises 51–54, use a CAS to perform the following steps for the given curve over the closed interval.

- a. Plot the curve together with the polygonal path approximations for $n = 2, 4, 8$ partition points over the interval. (See Figure 11.16.)
- b. Find the corresponding approximation to the length of the curve by summing the lengths of the line segments.
- c. Evaluate the length of the curve using an integral. Compare your approximations for $n = 2, 4, 8$ with the actual length given by the integral. How does the actual length compare with the approximations as n increases? Explain your answer.

51. $x = \frac{1}{3}t^3, \quad y = \frac{1}{2}t^2, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

52. $x = 2t^3 - 16t^2 + 25t + 5, \quad y = t^2 + t - 3, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 6$

53. $x = t - \cos t, \quad y = 1 + \sin t, \quad -\pi \leq t \leq \pi$

54. $x = e^t \cos t, \quad y = e^t \sin t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi$

11.3 Polar Coordinates

Chapter Four

In this section we study polar coordinates and their relation to Cartesian coordinates. You will see that polar coordinates are very useful for calculating many multiple integrals studied in Chapter 15. They are also useful in describing the paths of planets and satellites.

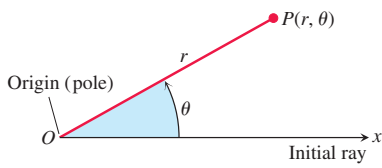


FIGURE 11.20 To define polar coordinates for the plane, we start with an origin, called the pole, and an initial ray.

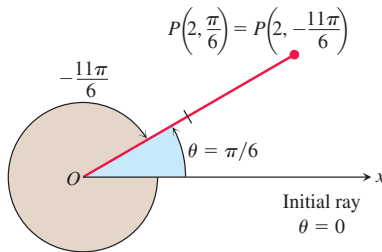


FIGURE 11.21 Polar coordinates are not unique.

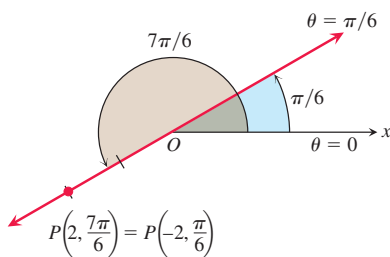


FIGURE 11.22 Polar coordinates can have negative r -values.

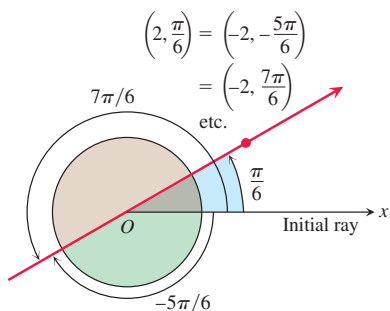


FIGURE 11.23 The point $P(2, \pi/6)$ has infinitely many polar coordinate pairs (Example 1).

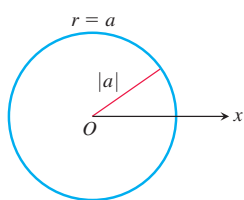
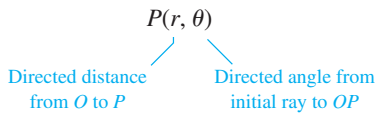


FIGURE 11.24 The polar equation for a circle is $r = a$.

Definition of Polar Coordinates

To define polar coordinates, we first fix an **origin** O (called the **pole**) and an **initial ray** from O (Figure 11.20). Usually the positive x -axis is chosen as the initial ray. Then each point P can be located by assigning to it a **polar coordinate pair** (r, θ) in which r gives the directed distance from O to P and θ gives the directed angle from the initial ray to ray OP . So we label the point P as



As in trigonometry, θ is positive when measured counterclockwise and negative when measured clockwise. The angle associated with a given point is not unique. While a point in the plane has just one pair of Cartesian coordinates, it has infinitely many pairs of polar coordinates. For instance, the point 2 units from the origin along the ray $\theta = \pi/6$ has polar coordinates $r = 2, \theta = \pi/6$. It also has coordinates $r = 2, \theta = -11\pi/6$ (Figure 11.21). In some situations we allow r to be negative. That is why we use directed distance in defining $P(r, \theta)$. The point $P(2, 7\pi/6)$ can be reached by turning $7\pi/6$ radians counterclockwise from the initial ray and going forward 2 units (Figure 11.22). It can also be reached by turning $\pi/6$ radians counterclockwise from the initial ray and going *backward* 2 units. So the point also has polar coordinates $r = -2, \theta = \pi/6$.

EXAMPLE 1 Find all the polar coordinates of the point $P(2, \pi/6)$.

Solution We sketch the initial ray of the coordinate system, draw the ray from the origin that makes an angle of $\pi/6$ radians with the initial ray, and mark the point $(2, \pi/6)$ (Figure 11.23). We then find the angles for the other coordinate pairs of P in which $r = 2$ and $r = -2$.

For $r = 2$, the complete list of angles is

$$\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{\pi}{6} \pm 2\pi, \frac{\pi}{6} \pm 4\pi, \frac{\pi}{6} \pm 6\pi, \dots$$

For $r = -2$, the angles are

$$-\frac{5\pi}{6}, -\frac{5\pi}{6} \pm 2\pi, -\frac{5\pi}{6} \pm 4\pi, -\frac{5\pi}{6} \pm 6\pi, \dots$$

The corresponding coordinate pairs of P are

$$\left(2, \frac{\pi}{6} + 2n\pi\right), \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

and

$$\left(-2, -\frac{5\pi}{6} + 2n\pi\right), \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

When $n = 0$, the formulas give $(2, \pi/6)$ and $(-2, -5\pi/6)$. When $n = 1$, they give $(2, 13\pi/6)$ and $(-2, 7\pi/6)$, and so on. ■

Polar Equations and Graphs

If we hold r fixed at a constant value $r = a \neq 0$, the point $P(r, \theta)$ will lie $|a|$ units from the origin O . As θ varies over any interval of length 2π , P then traces a circle of radius $|a|$ centered at O (Figure 11.24).

If we hold θ fixed at a constant value $\theta = \theta_0$ and let r vary between $-\infty$ and ∞ , the point $P(r, \theta)$ traces the line through O that makes an angle of measure θ_0 with the initial ray. (See Figure 11.22 for an example.)

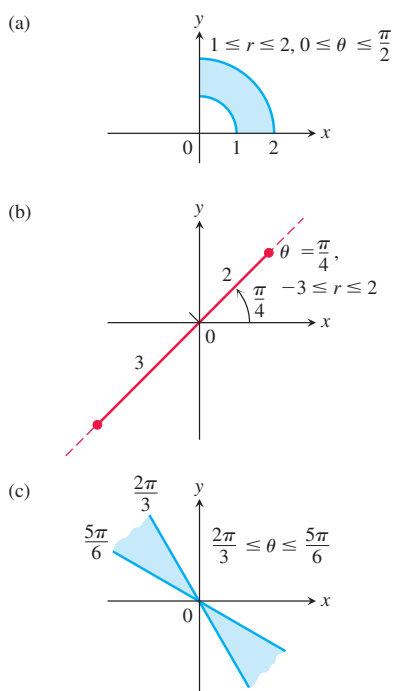


FIGURE 11.25 The graphs of typical inequalities in r and θ (Example 3).

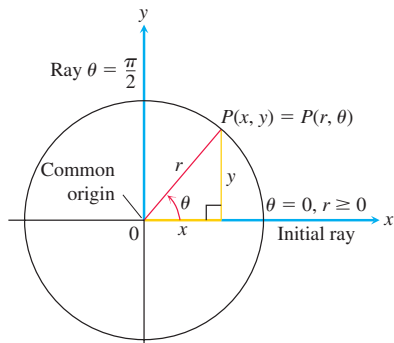


FIGURE 11.26 The usual way to relate polar and Cartesian coordinates.

EXAMPLE 2 A circle or line can have more than one polar equation.

- (a) $r = 1$ and $r = -1$ are equations for the circle of radius 1 centered at O .
- (b) $\theta = \pi/6$, $\theta = 7\pi/6$, and $\theta = -5\pi/6$ are equations for the line in Figure 11.23. ■

Equations of the form $r = a$ and $\theta = \theta_0$ can be combined to define regions, segments, and rays.

EXAMPLE 3 Graph the sets of points whose polar coordinates satisfy the following conditions.

- (a) $1 \leq r \leq 2$ and $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$
- (b) $-3 \leq r \leq 2$ and $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$
- (c) $\frac{2\pi}{3} \leq \theta \leq \frac{5\pi}{6}$ (no restriction on r)

Solution The graphs are shown in Figure 11.25. ■

Relating Polar and Cartesian Coordinates

When we use both polar and Cartesian coordinates in a plane, we place the two origins together and let the initial polar ray be the positive x -axis. The ray $\theta = \pi/2$, $r > 0$, becomes the positive y -axis (Figure 11.26). The two coordinate systems are then related by the following equations.

Equations Relating Polar and Cartesian Coordinates

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta, \quad r^2 = x^2 + y^2, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

The first two of these equations uniquely determine the Cartesian coordinates x and y given the polar coordinates r and θ . On the other hand, if x and y are given, the third equation gives two possible choices for r (a positive and a negative value). For each $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$, there is a unique $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ satisfying the first two equations, each then giving a polar coordinate representation of the Cartesian point (x, y) . The other polar coordinate representations for the point can be determined from these two, as in Example 1.

EXAMPLE 4 Here are some plane curves expressed in terms of both polar coordinate and Cartesian coordinate equations.

Polar equation	Cartesian equivalent
$r \cos \theta = 2$	$x = 2$
$r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta = 4$	$xy = 4$
$r^2 \cos^2 \theta - r^2 \sin^2 \theta = 1$	$x^2 - y^2 = 1$
$r = 1 + 2r \cos \theta$	$y^2 - 3x^2 - 4x - 1 = 0$
$r = 1 - \cos \theta$	$x^4 + y^4 + 2x^2y^2 + 2x^3 + 2xy^2 - y^2 = 0$

Some curves are more simply expressed with polar coordinates; others are not. ■

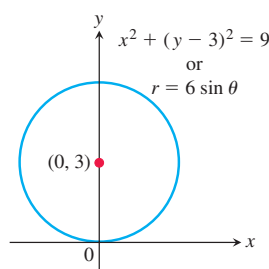


FIGURE 11.27 The circle in Example 5.

EXAMPLE 5 Find a polar equation for the circle $x^2 + (y - 3)^2 = 9$ (Figure 11.27).

Solution We apply the equations relating polar and Cartesian coordinates:

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + (y - 3)^2 &= 9 \\ x^2 + y^2 - 6y + 9 &= 9 && \text{Expand } (y - 3)^2. \\ x^2 + y^2 - 6y &= 0 && \text{Cancellation} \\ r^2 - 6r \sin \theta &= 0 && x^2 + y^2 = r^2, y = r \sin \theta \\ r = 0 \text{ or } r - 6 \sin \theta &= 0 \\ r &= 6 \sin \theta && \text{Includes both possibilities} \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 6 Replace the following polar equations by equivalent Cartesian equations and identify their graphs.

- (a) $r \cos \theta = -4$
- (b) $r^2 = 4r \cos \theta$
- (c) $r = \frac{4}{2 \cos \theta - \sin \theta}$

Solution We use the substitutions $r \cos \theta = x$, $r \sin \theta = y$, and $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$.

- (a) $r \cos \theta = -4$

The Cartesian equation: $r \cos \theta = -4$
 $x = -4$ Substitute.

The graph: Vertical line through $x = -4$ on the x -axis

- (b) $r^2 = 4r \cos \theta$

The Cartesian equation: $r^2 = 4r \cos \theta$
 $x^2 + y^2 = 4x$ Substitute.
 $x^2 - 4x + y^2 = 0$
 $x^2 - 4x + 4 + y^2 = 4$ Complete the square.
 $(x - 2)^2 + y^2 = 4$ Factor.

The graph: Circle, radius 2, center $(h, k) = (2, 0)$

- (c) $r = \frac{4}{2 \cos \theta - \sin \theta}$

The Cartesian equation: $r(2 \cos \theta - \sin \theta) = 4$
 $2r \cos \theta - r \sin \theta = 4$ Multiply by r .
 $2x - y = 4$ Substitute.
 $y = 2x - 4$ Solve for y .

The graph: Line, slope $m = 2$, y -intercept $b = -4$

EXERCISES 11.3

Polar Coordinates

1. Which polar coordinate pairs label the same point?

- a. $(3, 0)$
- b. $(-3, 0)$
- c. $(2, 2\pi/3)$
- d. $(2, 7\pi/3)$
- e. $(-3, \pi)$
- f. $(2, \pi/3)$
- g. $(-3, 2\pi)$
- h. $(-2, -\pi/3)$

2. Which polar coordinate pairs label the same point?

- a. $(-2, \pi/3)$
- b. $(2, -\pi/3)$
- c. (r, θ)
- d. $(r, \theta + \pi)$
- e. $(-r, \theta)$
- f. $(2, -2\pi/3)$
- g. $(-r, \theta + \pi)$
- h. $(-2, 2\pi/3)$

3. Plot the following points (given in polar coordinates). Then find all the polar coordinates of each point.
- a. $(2, \pi/2)$ b. $(2, 0)$
 c. $(-2, \pi/2)$ d. $(-2, 0)$
4. Plot the following points (given in polar coordinates). Then find all the polar coordinates of each point.
- a. $(3, \pi/4)$ b. $(-3, \pi/4)$
 c. $(3, -\pi/4)$ d. $(-3, -\pi/4)$

Polar to Cartesian Coordinates

5. Find the Cartesian coordinates of the points in Exercise 1.
6. Find the Cartesian coordinates of the following points (given in polar coordinates).
- a. $(\sqrt{2}, \pi/4)$ b. $(1, 0)$
 c. $(0, \pi/2)$ d. $(-\sqrt{2}, \pi/4)$
 e. $(-3, 5\pi/6)$ f. $(5, \tan^{-1}(4/3))$
 g. $(-1, 7\pi)$ h. $(2\sqrt{3}, 2\pi/3)$

Cartesian to Polar Coordinates

7. Find the polar coordinates, $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ and $r \geq 0$, of the following points given in Cartesian coordinates.
- a. $(1, 1)$ b. $(-3, 0)$
 c. $(\sqrt{3}, -1)$ d. $(-3, 4)$
8. Find the polar coordinates, $-\pi \leq \theta < \pi$ and $r \geq 0$, of the following points given in Cartesian coordinates.
- a. $(-2, -2)$ b. $(0, 3)$
 c. $(-\sqrt{3}, 1)$ d. $(5, -12)$
9. Find the polar coordinates, $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ and $r \leq 0$, of the following points given in Cartesian coordinates.
- a. $(3, 3)$ b. $(-1, 0)$
 c. $(-1, \sqrt{3})$ d. $(4, -3)$
10. Find the polar coordinates, $-\pi \leq \theta < 2\pi$ and $r \leq 0$, of the following points given in Cartesian coordinates.
- a. $(-2, 0)$ b. $(1, 0)$
 c. $(0, -3)$ d. $(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

Graphing Sets of Polar Coordinate Points

Graph the sets of points whose polar coordinates satisfy the equations and inequalities in Exercises 11–26.

11. $r = 2$ 12. $0 \leq r \leq 2$
 13. $r \geq 1$ 14. $1 \leq r \leq 2$
 15. $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/6, r \geq 0$ 16. $\theta = 2\pi/3, r \leq -2$
 17. $\theta = \pi/3, -1 \leq r \leq 3$ 18. $\theta = 11\pi/4, r \geq -1$
 19. $\theta = \pi/2, r \geq 0$ 20. $\theta = \pi/2, r \leq 0$

21. $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, r = 1$ 22. $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, r = -1$
 23. $\pi/4 \leq \theta \leq 3\pi/4, 0 \leq r \leq 1$
 24. $-\pi/4 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4, -1 \leq r \leq 1$
 25. $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2, 1 \leq r \leq 2$
 26. $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2, 1 \leq |r| \leq 2$

Polar to Cartesian Equations

Replace the polar equations in Exercises 27–52 with equivalent Cartesian equations. Then describe or identify the graph.

27. $r \cos \theta = 2$ 28. $r \sin \theta = -1$
 29. $r \sin \theta = 0$ 30. $r \cos \theta = 0$
 31. $r = 4 \csc \theta$ 32. $r = -3 \sec \theta$
 33. $r \cos \theta + r \sin \theta = 1$ 34. $r \sin \theta = r \cos \theta$
 35. $r^2 = 1$ 36. $r^2 = 4r \sin \theta$
 37. $r = \frac{5}{\sin \theta - 2 \cos \theta}$ 38. $r^2 \sin 2\theta = 2$
 39. $r = \cot \theta \csc \theta$ 40. $r = 4 \tan \theta \sec \theta$
 41. $r = \csc \theta e^{r \cos \theta}$ 42. $r \sin \theta = \ln r + \ln \cos \theta$
 43. $r^2 + 2r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta = 1$ 44. $\cos^2 \theta = \sin^2 \theta$
 45. $r^2 = -4r \cos \theta$ 46. $r^2 = -6r \sin \theta$
 47. $r = 8 \sin \theta$ 48. $r = 3 \cos \theta$
 49. $r = 2 \cos \theta + 2 \sin \theta$ 50. $r = 2 \cos \theta - \sin \theta$
 51. $r \sin \left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{6} \right) = 2$
 52. $r \sin \left(\frac{2\pi}{3} - \theta \right) = 5$

Cartesian to Polar Equations

Replace the Cartesian equations in Exercises 53–66 with equivalent polar equations.

53. $x = 7$ 54. $y = 1$ 55. $x = y$
 56. $x - y = 3$ 57. $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ 58. $x^2 - y^2 = 1$
 59. $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$ 60. $xy = 2$
 61. $y^2 = 4x$ 62. $x^2 + xy + y^2 = 1$
 63. $x^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 4$ 64. $(x - 5)^2 + y^2 = 25$
 65. $(x - 3)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 4$ 66. $(x + 2)^2 + (y - 5)^2 = 16$
 67. Find all polar coordinates of the origin.

68. Vertical and horizontal lines

- a. Show that every vertical line in the xy -plane has a polar equation of the form $r = a \sec \theta$.
 b. Find the analogous polar equation for horizontal lines in the xy -plane.

11.4 Graphing Polar Coordinate Equations

It is often helpful to graph an equation expressed in polar coordinates in the Cartesian xy -plane. This section describes some techniques for graphing these equations using symmetries and tangents to the graph.

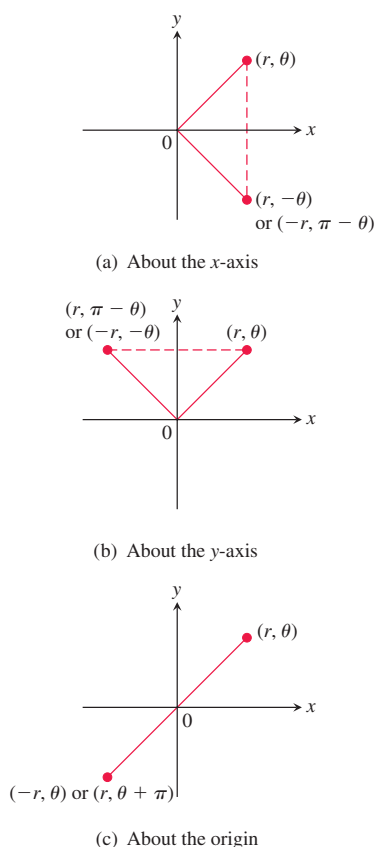


FIGURE 11.28 Three tests for symmetry in polar coordinates.

Symmetry

The following list shows how to test for three standard types of symmetries when using polar coordinates. These symmetries are illustrated in Figure 11.28.

Symmetry Tests for Polar Graphs in the Cartesian xy -Plane

1. *Symmetry about the x -axis:* If the point (r, θ) lies on the graph, then the point $(r, -\theta)$ or $(-r, \pi - \theta)$ lies on the graph (Figure 11.28a).
2. *Symmetry about the y -axis:* If the point (r, θ) lies on the graph, then the point $(r, \pi - \theta)$ or $(-r, -\theta)$ lies on the graph (Figure 11.28b).
3. *Symmetry about the origin:* If the point (r, θ) lies on the graph, then the point $(-r, \theta)$ or $(r, \theta + \pi)$ lies on the graph (Figure 11.28c).

Slope

The slope of a polar curve $r = f(\theta)$ in the xy -plane is dy/dx , but this is **not** given by the formula $r' = df/d\theta$. To see why, think of the graph of f as the graph of the parametric equations

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta.$$

If f is a differentiable function of θ , then so are x and y and, when $dx/d\theta \neq 0$, we can calculate dy/dx from the parametric formula

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta} && \text{Section 11.2, Eq. (1) with } t = \theta \\ &= \frac{\frac{d}{d\theta}(f(\theta) \sin \theta)}{\frac{d}{d\theta}(f(\theta) \cos \theta)} && \text{Substitute} \\ &= \frac{\frac{df}{d\theta} \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta}{\frac{df}{d\theta} \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta} && \text{Product Rule for derivatives} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we see that dy/dx is not the same as $df/d\theta$.

Slope of the Curve $r = f(\theta)$ in the Cartesian xy -Plane

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(r, \theta)} = \frac{f'(\theta) \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta}{f'(\theta) \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta} \tag{1}$$

provided $dx/d\theta \neq 0$ at (r, θ) .

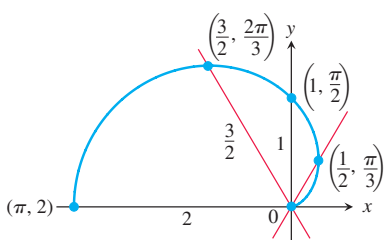
If the curve $r = f(\theta)$ passes through the origin at $\theta = \theta_0$, then $f(\theta_0) = 0$, and the slope equation gives

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(0, \theta_0)} = \frac{f'(\theta_0) \sin \theta_0}{f'(\theta_0) \cos \theta_0} = \tan \theta_0.$$

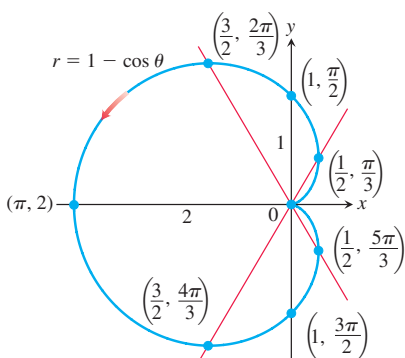
That is, the slope at $(0, \theta_0)$ is $\tan \theta_0$. The reason we say “slope at $(0, \theta_0)$ ” and not just “slope at the origin” is that a polar curve may pass through the origin (or any point) more than once, with different slopes at different θ -values. This is not the case in our first example, however.

θ	$r = 1 - \cos \theta$
0	0
$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	1
$\frac{2\pi}{3}$	$\frac{3}{2}$
π	2

(a)



(b)



(c)

FIGURE 11.29 The steps in graphing the cardioid $r = 1 - \cos \theta$ (Example 1). The arrow shows the direction of increasing θ .

EXAMPLE 1 Graph the curve $r = 1 - \cos \theta$ in the Cartesian xy -plane.

Solution The curve is symmetric about the x -axis because

$$\begin{aligned} (r, \theta) \text{ on the graph} &\Rightarrow r = 1 - \cos \theta \\ &\Rightarrow r = 1 - \cos(-\theta) \quad \cos \theta = \cos(-\theta) \\ &\Rightarrow (r, -\theta) \text{ on the graph.} \end{aligned}$$

As θ increases from 0 to π , $\cos \theta$ decreases from 1 to -1 , and $r = 1 - \cos \theta$ increases from a minimum value of 0 to a maximum value of 2. As θ continues on from π to 2π , $\cos \theta$ increases from -1 back to 1 and r decreases from 2 back to 0. The curve starts to repeat when $\theta = 2\pi$ because the cosine has period 2π .

The curve leaves the origin with slope $\tan(0) = 0$ and returns to the origin with slope $\tan(2\pi) = 0$.

We make a table of values from $\theta = 0$ to $\theta = \pi$, plot the points, draw a smooth curve through them with a horizontal tangent at the origin, and reflect the curve across the x -axis to complete the graph (Figure 11.29). The curve is called a *cardioid* because of its heart shape. ■

EXAMPLE 2 Graph the curve $r^2 = 4 \cos \theta$ in the Cartesian xy -plane.

Solution The equation $r^2 = 4 \cos \theta$ requires $\cos \theta \geq 0$, so we get the entire graph by running θ from $-\pi/2$ to $\pi/2$. The curve is symmetric about the x -axis because

$$\begin{aligned} (r, \theta) \text{ on the graph} &\Rightarrow r^2 = 4 \cos \theta \\ &\Rightarrow r^2 = 4 \cos(-\theta) \quad \cos \theta = \cos(-\theta) \\ &\Rightarrow (r, -\theta) \text{ on the graph.} \end{aligned}$$

The curve is also symmetric about the origin because

$$\begin{aligned} (r, \theta) \text{ on the graph} &\Rightarrow r^2 = 4 \cos \theta \\ &\Rightarrow (-r)^2 = 4 \cos \theta \\ &\Rightarrow (-r, \theta) \text{ on the graph.} \end{aligned}$$

Together, these two symmetries imply symmetry about the y -axis.

The curve passes through the origin when $\theta = -\pi/2$ and $\theta = \pi/2$. It has a vertical tangent both times because $\tan \theta$ is infinite.

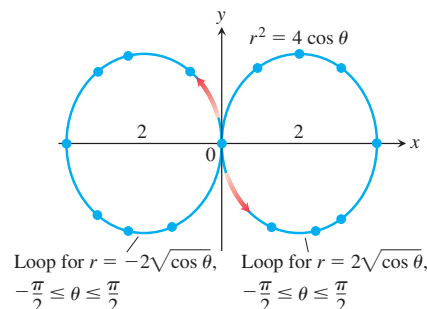
For each value of θ in the interval between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$, the formula $r^2 = 4 \cos \theta$ gives two values of r :

$$r = \pm 2\sqrt{\cos \theta}.$$

We make a short table of values, plot the corresponding points, and use information about symmetry and tangents to guide us in connecting the points with a smooth curve (Figure 11.30).

θ	$\cos \theta$	$r = \pm 2\sqrt{\cos \theta}$
0	1	± 2
$\pm \frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\approx \pm 1.9$
$\pm \frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\approx \pm 1.7$
$\pm \frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\approx \pm 1.4$
$\pm \frac{\pi}{2}$	0	0

(a)



(b)

FIGURE 11.30 The graph of $r^2 = 4 \cos \theta$. The arrows show the direction of increasing θ . The values of r in the table are rounded (Example 2). ■

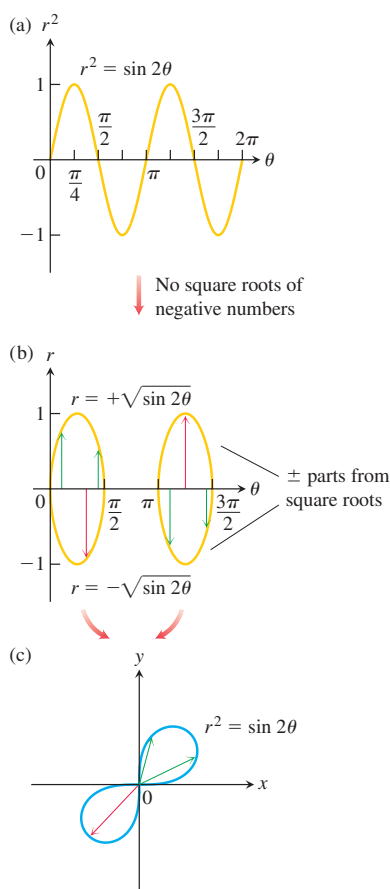


FIGURE 11.31 To plot $r = f(\theta)$ in the Cartesian $r\theta$ -plane in (b), we first plot $r^2 = \sin 2\theta$ in the $r^2\theta$ -plane in (a) and then ignore the values of θ for which $\sin 2\theta$ is negative. The radii from the sketch in (b) cover the polar graph of the lemniscate in (c) twice (Example 3).

Converting a Graph from the $r\theta$ - to xy -Plane

One way to graph a polar equation $r = f(\theta)$ in the xy -plane is to make a table of (r, θ) -values, plot the corresponding points there, and connect them in order of increasing θ . This can work well if enough points have been plotted to reveal all the loops and dimples in the graph. Another method of graphing is to

1. first graph the function $r = f(\theta)$ in the Cartesian $r\theta$ -plane,
2. then use that Cartesian graph as a “table” and guide to sketch the polar coordinate graph in the xy -plane.

This method is sometimes better than simple point plotting because the first Cartesian graph shows at a glance where r is positive, negative, and nonexistent, as well as where r is increasing and decreasing. Here is an example.

EXAMPLE 3 Graph the lemniscate curve $r^2 = \sin 2\theta$ in the Cartesian xy -plane.

Solution For this example it will be easier to first plot r^2 , instead of r , as a function of θ in the Cartesian $r^2\theta$ -plane (see Figure 11.31a). We pass from there to the graph of $r = \pm\sqrt{\sin 2\theta}$ in the $r\theta$ -plane (Figure 11.31b), and then draw the polar graph (Figure 11.31c). The graph in Figure 11.31b “covers” the final polar graph in Figure 11.31c twice. We could have managed with either loop alone, with the two upper halves, or with the two lower halves. The double covering does no harm, however, and we actually learn a little more about the behavior of the function this way. ■

USING TECHNOLOGY Graphing Polar Curves Parametrically

For complicated polar curves we may need to use a graphing calculator or computer to graph the curve. If the device does not plot polar graphs directly, we can convert $r = f(\theta)$ into parametric form using the equations

$$x = r \cos \theta = f(\theta) \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta = f(\theta) \sin \theta.$$

Then we use the device to draw a parametrized curve in the Cartesian xy -plane.

EXERCISES 11.4

Symmetries and Polar Graphs

Identify the symmetries of the curves in Exercises 1–12. Then sketch the curves in the xy -plane.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. $r = 1 + \cos \theta$ | 2. $r = 2 - 2 \cos \theta$ |
| 3. $r = 1 - \sin \theta$ | 4. $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ |
| 5. $r = 2 + \sin \theta$ | 6. $r = 1 + 2 \sin \theta$ |
| 7. $r = \sin(\theta/2)$ | 8. $r = \cos(\theta/2)$ |
| 9. $r^2 = \cos \theta$ | 10. $r^2 = \sin \theta$ |
| 11. $r^2 = -\sin \theta$ | 12. $r^2 = -\cos \theta$ |

Graph the lemniscates in Exercises 13–16. What symmetries do these curves have?

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 13. $r^2 = 4 \cos 2\theta$ | 14. $r^2 = 4 \sin 2\theta$ |
| 15. $r^2 = -\sin 2\theta$ | 16. $r^2 = -\cos 2\theta$ |

Slopes of Polar Curves in the xy -Plane

Find the slopes of the curves in Exercises 17–20 at the given points. Sketch the curves along with their tangents at these points.

17. **Cardioid** $r = -1 + \cos \theta$; $\theta = \pm\pi/2$
18. **Cardioid** $r = -1 + \sin \theta$; $\theta = 0, \pi$
19. **Four-leaved rose** $r = \sin 2\theta$; $\theta = \pm\pi/4, \pm3\pi/4$
20. **Four-leaved rose** $r = \cos 2\theta$; $\theta = 0, \pm\pi/2, \pi$

Concavity of Polar Curves in the xy -Plane

Equation (1) gives the formula for the derivative y' of a polar curve $r = f(\theta)$. The second derivative is $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{dy'/d\theta}{dx/d\theta}$ (see Equation (2) in Section 11.2). Find the slope and concavity of the curves in Exercises 21–24 at the given points.

21. $r = \sin \theta$, $\theta = \pi/6, \pi/3$ 22. $r = e^\theta$, $\theta = 0, \pi$
 23. $r = \theta$, $\theta = 0, \pi/2$ 24. $r = 1/\theta$, $\theta = -\pi, 1$

Graphing Limaçons

Graph the limaçons in Exercises 25–28. Limaçon (“lee-ma-sahn”) is Old French for “snail.” You will understand the name when you graph the limaçons in Exercise 25. Equations for limaçons have the form $r = a \pm b \cos \theta$ or $r = a \pm b \sin \theta$. There are four basic shapes.

25. Limaçons with an inner loop

- a. $r = \frac{1}{2} + \cos \theta$ b. $r = \frac{1}{2} + \sin \theta$

26. Cardioids

- a. $r = 1 - \cos \theta$ b. $r = -1 + \sin \theta$

27. Dimpled limaçons

- a. $r = \frac{3}{2} + \cos \theta$ b. $r = \frac{3}{2} - \sin \theta$

28. Oval limaçons

- a. $r = 2 + \cos \theta$ b. $r = -2 + \sin \theta$

Graphing Polar Regions and Curves in the xy -Plane

29. Sketch the region defined by the inequalities $-1 \leq r \leq 2$ and $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$.
 30. Sketch the region defined by the inequalities $0 \leq r \leq 2 \sec \theta$ and $-\pi/4 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$.

In Exercises 31 and 32, sketch the region defined by the inequality.

31. $0 \leq r \leq 2 - 2 \cos \theta$ 32. $0 \leq r^2 \leq \cos \theta$

T 33. Which of the following has the same graph as $r = 1 - \cos \theta$?

- a. $r = -1 - \cos \theta$ b. $r = 1 + \cos \theta$

Confirm your answer with algebra.

T 34. Which of the following has the same graph as $r = \cos 2\theta$?

- a. $r = -\sin(2\theta + \pi/2)$ b. $r = -\cos(\theta/2)$

Confirm your answer with algebra.

T 35. **A rose within a rose** Graph the equation $r = 1 - 2 \sin 3\theta$.

T 36. **The nephroid of Freeth** Graph the nephroid of Freeth:

$$r = 1 + 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2}.$$

T 37. **Roses** Graph the roses $r = \cos m\theta$ for $m = 1/3, 2, 3$, and 7 .

T 38. **Spirals** Polar coordinates are just the thing for defining spirals. Graph the following spirals.

- a. $r = \theta$
 b. $r = -\theta$
 c. A logarithmic spiral: $r = e^{\theta/10}$
 d. A hyperbolic spiral: $r = 8/\theta$
 e. An equilateral hyperbola: $r = \pm 10/\sqrt{\theta}$
 (Use different colors for the two branches.)

T 39. Graph the equation $r = \sin(\frac{8}{7}\theta)$ for $0 \leq \theta \leq 14\pi$.

T 40. Graph the equation

$$r = \sin^2(2.3\theta) + \cos^4(2.3\theta)$$

for $0 \leq \theta \leq 10\pi$.

11.5 Areas and Lengths in Polar Coordinates

This section shows how to calculate areas of plane regions and lengths of curves in polar coordinates.

Area in the Plane

The region OTS in Figure 11.32 is bounded by the rays $\theta = \alpha$ and $\theta = \beta$ and the curve $r = f(\theta)$. We approximate the region with n nonoverlapping fan-shaped circular sectors based on a partition P of angle TOS . The typical sector has radius $r_k = f(\theta_k)$ and central angle of radian measure $\Delta\theta_k$. Its area is $\Delta\theta_k/2\pi$ times the area of a circle of radius r_k , or

$$A_k = \frac{1}{2} r_k^2 \Delta\theta_k = \frac{1}{2} (f(\theta_k))^2 \Delta\theta_k.$$

The area of region OTS is approximately

$$\sum_{k=1}^n A_k = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2} (f(\theta_k))^2 \Delta\theta_k.$$

If f is continuous, we expect the approximations to improve as the norm of the partition P goes to zero, where the norm of P is the largest value of $\Delta\theta_k$. We are therefore led to the following formula for the region’s area:

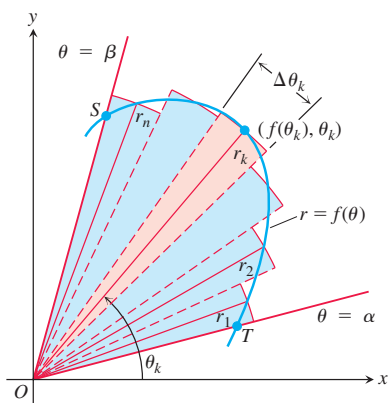


FIGURE 11.32 To derive a formula for the area of region OTS , we approximate the region with fan-shaped circular sectors.