

Math 1060 ~ Trigonometry

25 Parametric Descriptions for Oriented Curves

Learning Objectives

In this section you will:

- Eliminate the parameter in a pair of parametric equations.
- Parameterize curves given in Cartesian coordinates.

$$\sin^2 u + \cos^2 u = 1$$

$$\sin 2u = 2 \sin u \cos u$$

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$

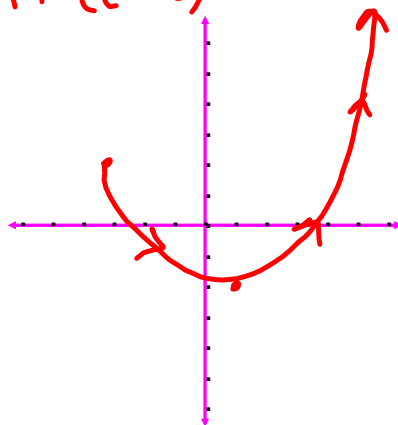
Eliminating the Parameter in Parametric Equations

To eliminate the parameter, we solve one equation for t and use substitution to arrive at a single equation in terms of x and y .

Ex 1: Eliminate the parameter in this system of equations from the previous lecture.

$$\begin{cases} \textcircled{1} x = 2t + 1 \\ \textcircled{2} y = t^2 - 2 \end{cases} \quad t \geq -2$$

starting pt: $(t = -2)$
 $(-3, 2)$



$$\textcircled{1} \quad x - 1 = 2t \\ t = \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad y = \left(\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - 2$$

$$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}(x-1)\right)^2 - 2$$

$$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 (x-1)^2 - 2$$

$$y = \frac{1}{4}(x-1)^2 - 2$$

parabola w/ vertex
 $(1, -2)$

If the parametric equations have trigonometric expressions, using one of the Pythagorean Identities might be useful.

Ex 2: Eliminate the parameter in this set of equations and sketch the curve.

$$\begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} x = 2 \cos t \\ \textcircled{2} y = 1 + 3 \sin t \end{array} \quad 0 \leq t \leq \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

start pt: $(2, 1)$

end pt: $(0, -2)$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \frac{x}{2} = \cos t \quad \textcircled{2} \quad y - 1 = 3 \sin t$$

$$\frac{x^2}{4} = \cos^2 t$$

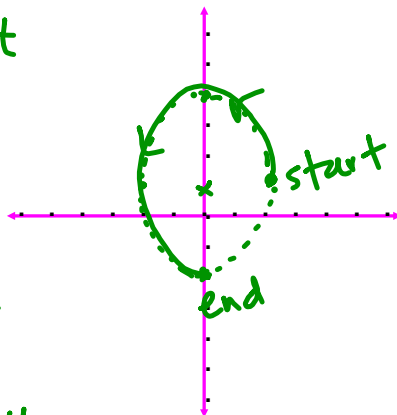
$$\frac{y-1}{3} = \sin t$$

$$\left(\frac{y-1}{3}\right)^2 = \sin^2 t$$

know: $\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$

$$\boxed{\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{(y-1)^2}{9} = 1}$$

ellipse w/ center $(0, 1)$



Ex 3: Find a parameterization for each of these curves and sketch each one.

a) $y = -2x + 3$ from $(2, -1)$ to $(0, 3)$

$$\Delta x = 0 - 2 = -2$$

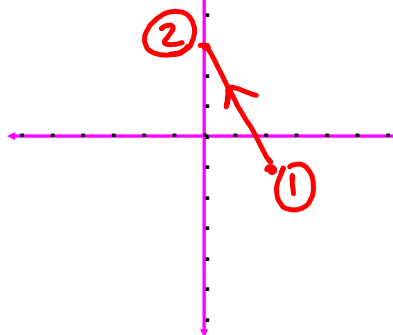
$$\Delta y = 3 - (-1) = 4$$

start w/:

$$\begin{cases} x = t & \text{from } t = 2 \text{ (1)} \\ y = -2t + 3 & \text{to } t = 0 \text{ (2)} \end{cases}$$

OR

$$\begin{cases} x = 2 - 2t & t \in [0, 1] \\ y = -1 + 4t & \text{at } t = 1, x = 0, y = 3 \checkmark \end{cases}$$



b) $x^2 - 2x + y^2 - 4y = 4$

circle: center $(1, 2)$
radius 3

$$(x^2 - 2x + 1) + (y^2 - 4y + 4) = 4 + 1 + 4$$

$$(x - 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 9$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{notice: } & (3\sin\theta)^2 + (3\cos\theta)^2 \\ & = 9(\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta) = 9 \end{aligned}$$

want:

$$x - 1 = 3\cos\theta \quad \text{and} \quad y - 2 = 3\sin\theta$$

$$x = 1 + 3\cos\theta, \quad y = 2 + 3\sin\theta, \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$$

