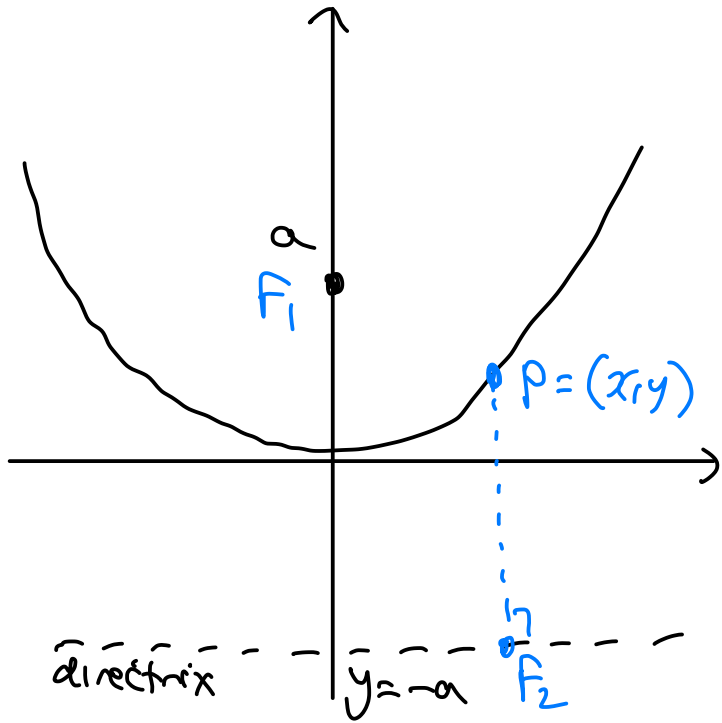


# More about parabolas



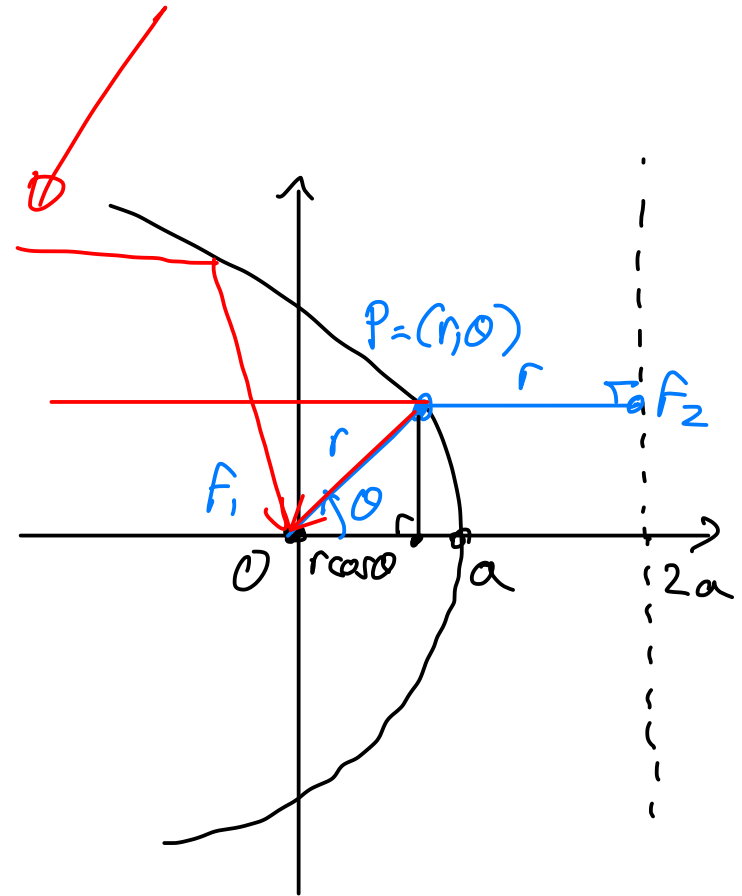
directrix  $y = -a$

$$4ay = x^2 \iff |PF_1| = |PF_2|$$

Polar coordinates equation!

Goal: Show that parabola is only curve with this optical property.

optical property of the parabola



$$r = 2a - r \cos \theta$$

$$\therefore r + r \cos \theta = 2a$$

$$\therefore r(1 + \cos \theta) = 2a$$

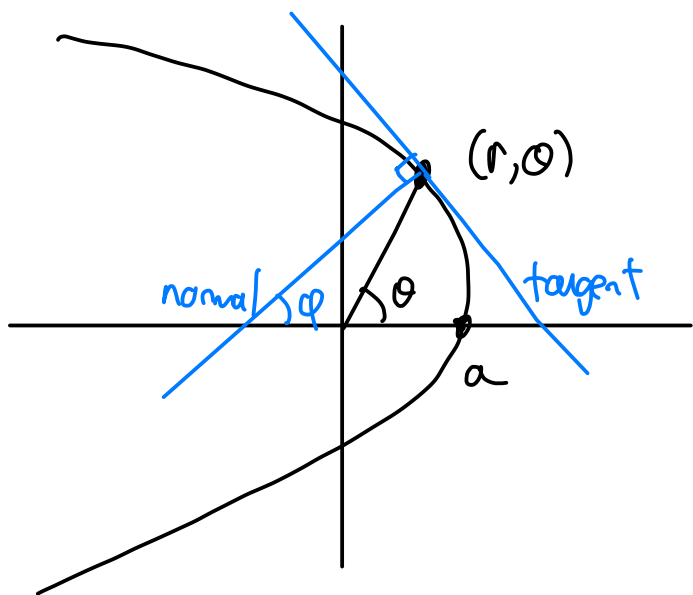
$\therefore$

$$r = \frac{2a}{1 + \cos \theta}$$

Polar equation for parabola.

$$r = \frac{r_0(1+e)}{1+e \cos \theta}$$

$r = f(\theta)$  some polar graph,



Let  $\phi$  be the angle between the x-axis and the normal.

$\theta, \phi$  ... what the connection?

First, what's slope of tangent line?  $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x &= f(\theta) \cos \theta \\ y &= f(\theta) \sin \theta \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{d\theta} &= f'(\theta) \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta \\ \frac{dy}{d\theta} &= f'(\theta) \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

slope of tangent line  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{f'(\theta) \sin \theta + f(\theta) \cos \theta}{f'(\theta) \cos \theta - f(\theta) \sin \theta} = \frac{f'(\theta) \tan \theta + f(\theta)}{f'(\theta) - f(\theta) \tan \theta}$

slope of normal  $-\frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}} = -\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{f(\theta) \tan \theta - f'(\theta)}{f'(\theta) \tan \theta + f(\theta)} = \tan \phi$

$$\therefore f(\theta) \tan \theta - f'(\theta) = f'(\theta) \tan \theta \tan \phi + f(\theta) \tan \phi$$

$$\therefore f(\theta) [\tan \theta - \tan \phi] = f'(\theta) [1 + \tan \theta \tan \phi]$$



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

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

← Relates angle  $\theta$  of our point  $(r, \theta)$  on the curve to angle  $\phi$  of normal to horizontal

RHS is very nice ...

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

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

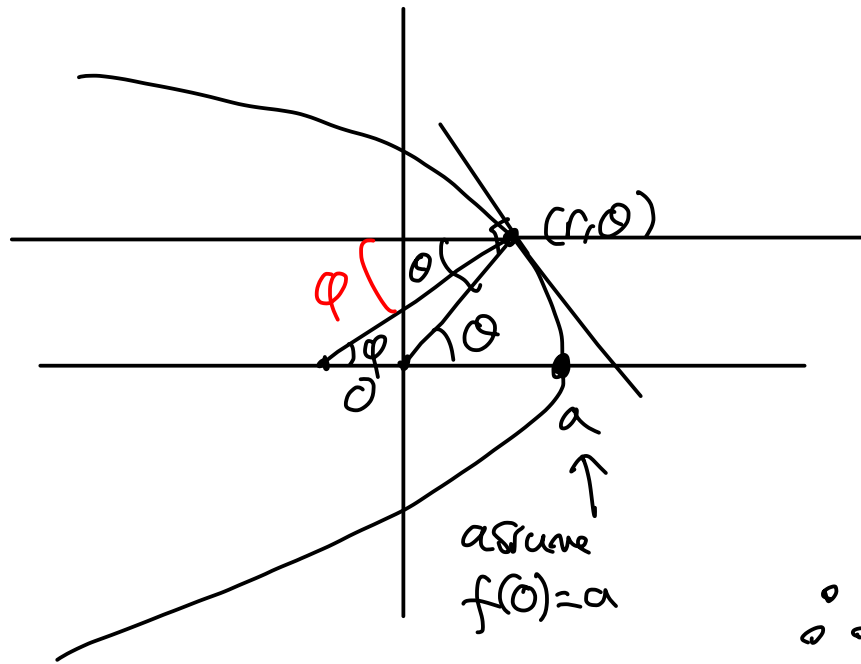
$$\therefore \tan(\theta - \phi) = \frac{\sin\theta \cos\phi - \cos\theta \sin\phi}{\cos\theta \cos\phi + \sin\theta \sin\phi} = \frac{\tan\theta - \tan\phi}{1 + \tan\theta \tan\phi}$$

} multiple angle formulae

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f'(\theta)}{f(\theta)} = \tan(\theta - \phi)$$

Now assume polar graph  $r=f(\theta)$  has the optical property

$$\frac{f'(\theta)}{f(\theta)} = \tan(\theta - \varphi)$$



Optical property : the normal bisects the angle  $\theta$ .



$$\varphi = \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{f'(\theta)}{f(\theta)} = \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{r} \frac{dr}{d\theta} = \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$

first order differential equation for  $r=f(\theta)$

Now we must solve this diff. eq!

$$\left. \begin{aligned} r &= f(\theta) \\ \frac{dr}{d\theta} &= f'(\theta) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{r} \frac{dr}{d\theta} = \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\int \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot d\theta = \int \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{2}} \cdot d\theta$$

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

Separate variable

$$\int \frac{1}{r} dr = \int \tan \frac{\theta}{2} d\theta + c$$

$$\therefore \ln(r) = \ln \left( \frac{1}{\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} \right) + c$$

$$A = e^c$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{A}{\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} \quad \leftarrow \text{when } \theta = 0, r = a \dots A = a$$

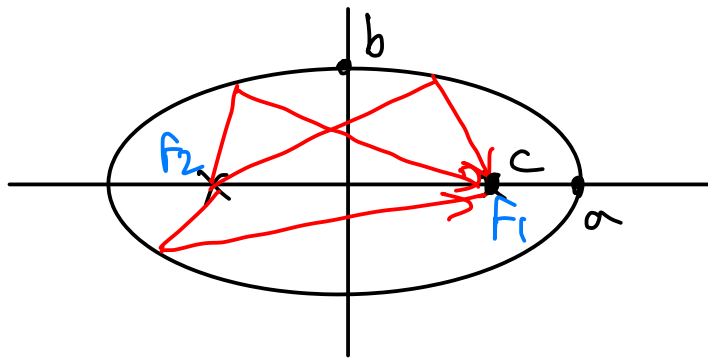
$$\therefore r = \frac{2a}{2\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - 1 + 1} = \frac{2a}{\cos \theta + 1}$$

$$r = \frac{2a}{1 + \cos \theta}$$

Same as polar equation for parabola we derived at start of lecture !!!

What about ellipse?

eccentricity  $0 \leq e < 1$



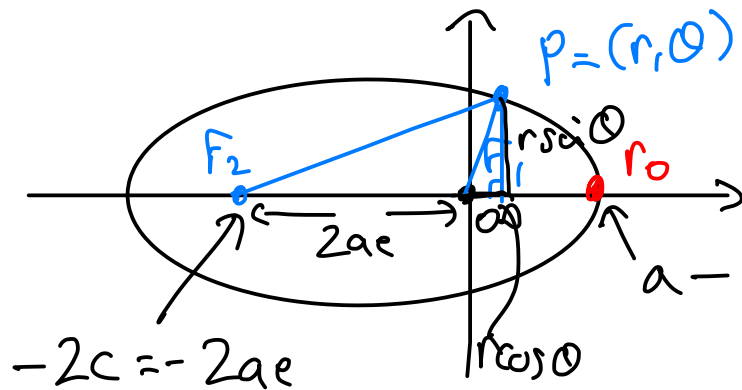
Also has optical property...

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

$$c = ae$$

$$e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}}$$

What about polar equation of ellipse? Move the origin to  $F_1$



$$a - c = a - ae = a(1 - e)$$

$$|PF_1| + |PF_2| = 2a$$

$$\therefore r + |PF_2| = 2a$$

$$|PF_2|^2 = (2a - r)^2$$

$$\therefore r^2 \sin^2 \theta + (r \cos \theta + 2ae)^2 = (2a - r)^2$$

$$\therefore \underbrace{r^2 \sin^2 \theta + r^2 \cos^2 \theta + 4aer \cos \theta + 4a^2 e^2}_{\cancel{r^2}} = 4a^2 - 4ar + \cancel{r^2}$$

$$4aer\cos\theta + 4a^2e^2 = 4a^2 - 4ar$$

$$er\cos\theta + ae^2 = a - r$$

$$\therefore r + re\cos\theta = a - ae^2$$

$$\therefore r(1 + e\cos\theta) = \underbrace{a(1 - e)}_{\text{Call this } r_0}(1 + e)$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{r_0(1 + e)}{1 + e\cos\theta}$$

$e$  eccentricity  
 $r_0$  x-axis intercept

Unified polar equation  
for all conic sections.

Polar equation for ellipse:

Equation for parabola from earlier has same form ( $e=1, a=r_0$ )

Equation for hyperbola is also exactly this ( $e > 1$ ).