

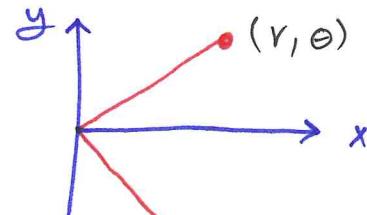
11.4

Graphing in Polar Coordinates

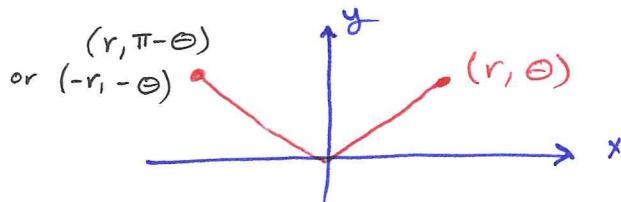
(4)

Symmetry Tests for Polar Graphs:

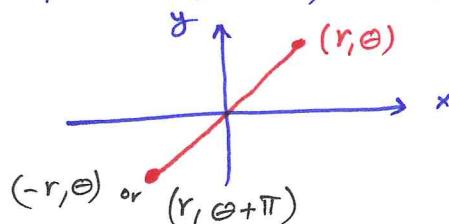
① Symmetry about x-axis: If the point (r, θ) lies on the graph, then $(r, -\theta)$ or $(-r, \pi - \theta)$ lies on the graph.



② Symmetry about y-axis: If the point (r, θ) lies on the graph, then the point $(r, \pi - \theta)$ or $(-r, -\theta)$ lies on the graph



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.



Slope Let $r = f(\theta)$. Recall the parametric equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta \\ &= f(\theta) \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$r' = f'(\theta)$$

slope of the curve $r = f(\theta)$ at (r, θ) is

$$\text{Proof } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta}$$

$$= \frac{f' \sin \theta + f \cos \theta}{f' \cos \theta - f \sin \theta}$$

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

Note that when the curve $r = f(\theta)$ passes through the origin at $\theta_0 \Rightarrow \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(0, \theta_0)} = \tan \theta_0$

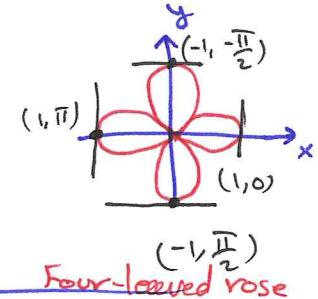
Ex Find the slope of $r = \cos 2\theta$ at $\theta = 0, \frac{\pi}{2}$ (5)

when $\theta = 0 \Rightarrow r = 1 \Rightarrow (r, \theta) = (1, 0) \quad r' = -2\sin 2\theta$

$$\text{slope is } \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(1,0)} = \left. \frac{r'\sin\theta + r\cos\theta}{r'\cos\theta - r\sin\theta} \right|_{(1,0)} = \frac{-2\sin(0)\sin(0) + (1)\cos(0)}{-2\sin(0)\cos(0) + (1)\sin(0)} = \frac{1}{0} \text{ undefined}$$

when $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow r = -1 \Rightarrow (r, \theta) = (-1, \frac{\pi}{2})$

$$\text{the slope is } \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(-1,\frac{\pi}{2})} = \left. \frac{-2\sin(\pi)\sin(\frac{\pi}{2}) + (-1)\cos(\frac{\pi}{2})}{-2\sin(\pi)\cos(\frac{\pi}{2}) - (-1)\sin(\frac{\pi}{2})} \right|_{(-1,\frac{\pi}{2})} = 0$$



Ex Sketch the graph of the following curves, identify the symmetry

(1) $r = 1 - \cos\theta$

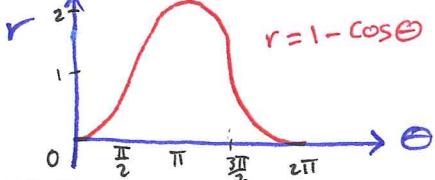
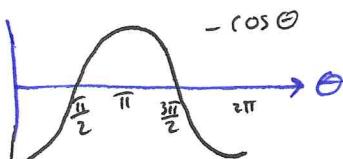
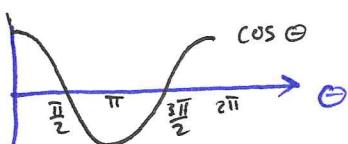
• (r, θ) on the graph $\Rightarrow r = 1 - \cos\theta$
 $\Rightarrow r = 1 - \cos(-\theta)$

$\Rightarrow (r, -\theta)$ on the graph

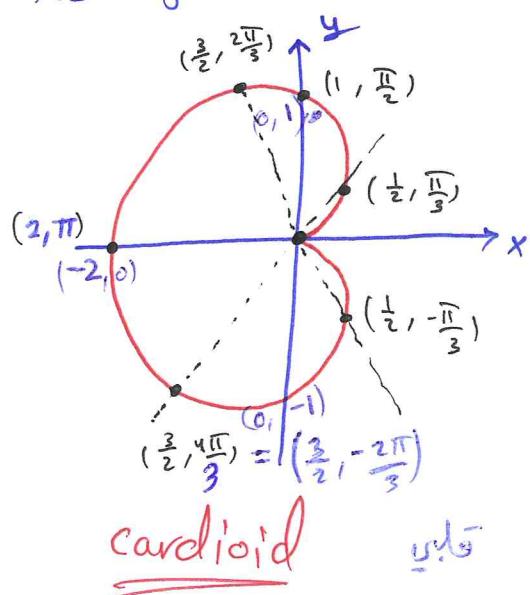
\Rightarrow The curve is symmetric about x-axis.

• $1 - \cos(-\theta) = 1 - \cos\theta \neq -r \Rightarrow$ the curve is not symmetric
 $1 - \cos(\pi - \theta) = 1 + \cos\theta \neq r \Rightarrow$ about y-axis

• $1 - \cos\theta \neq -r \Rightarrow$ the curve is not symmetric
 $1 - \cos(\theta + \pi) = 1 + \cos\theta \neq r \Rightarrow$ about the origin.



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

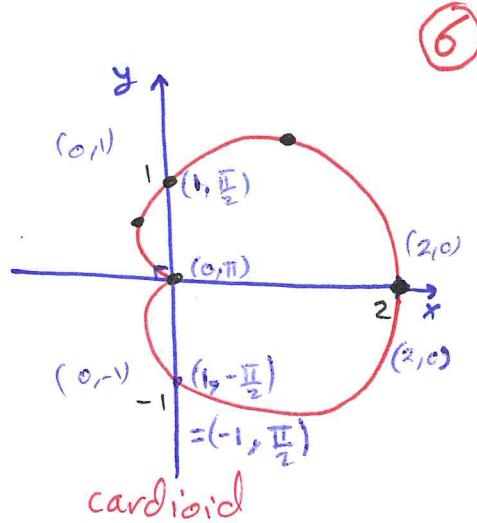


2) $r = 1 + \cos \theta$ ✓

• (r, θ) on the graph \Rightarrow

$$r = 1 + \cos \theta \Rightarrow r = 1 + \cos(-\theta) \Rightarrow$$

$(r, -\theta)$ on the graph \Rightarrow symmetric about x-axis



3) $r = -1 + \sin \theta$

similar to $r = 1 + \sin \theta$ ✓

• (r, θ) on the graph \Rightarrow

$$r = -1 + \sin \theta \Rightarrow r = -1 + \sin(\pi - \theta)$$

$\Rightarrow (r, \pi - \theta)$ on the graph \Rightarrow the curve is symmetric about y-axis

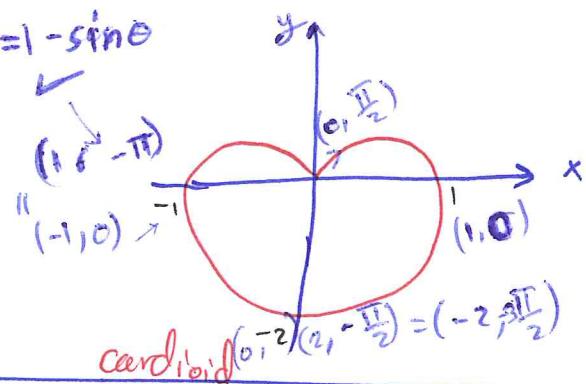
• $-1 + \sin(\theta) = -1 - \sin \theta \neq r$
 $-1 + \sin(\pi - \theta) = -1 + \sin \theta \neq -r$ \Rightarrow not symmetric about x-axis.

• $-1 + \sin \theta \neq -r$
 $-1 + \sin(\theta + \pi) = -1 - \sin \theta \neq r$ \Rightarrow not symmetric about origin.

4) $r = -1 - \sin \theta$

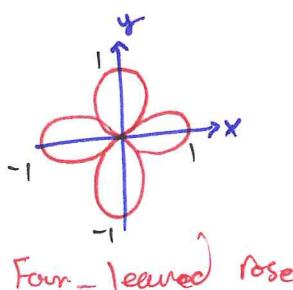
similar to $r = 1 - \sin \theta$ ✓

symmetric about y-axis



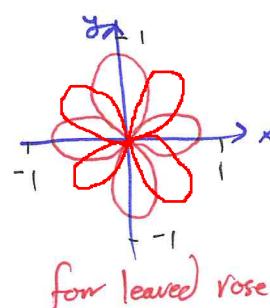
5) $r = \cos 2\theta$

symmetric about x-axis and y-axis and origin

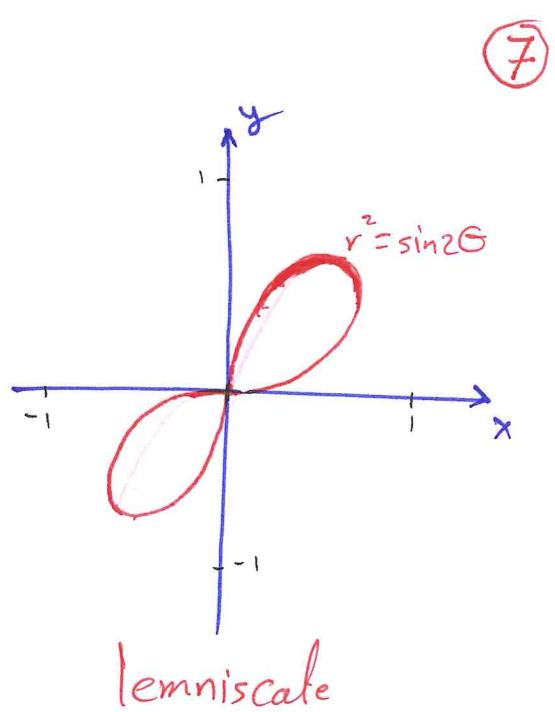
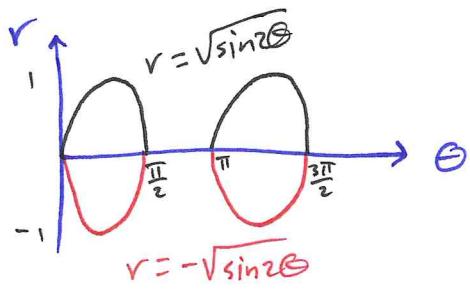
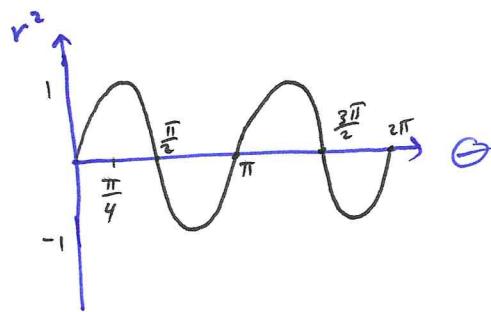


6) $r = \sin 2\theta$

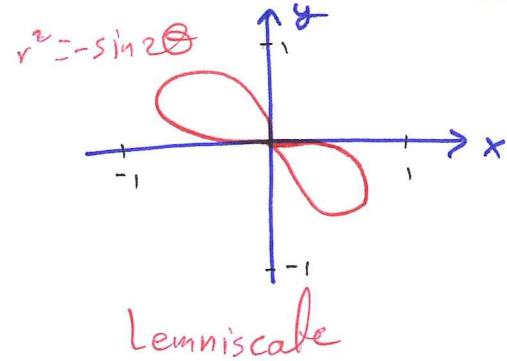
symmetric about x-axis, y-axis and origin.



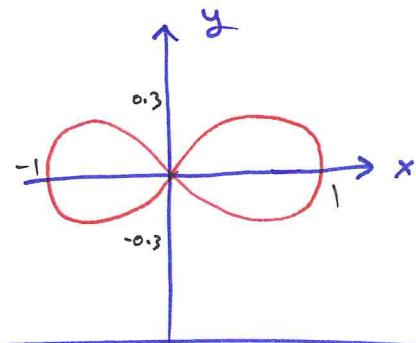
7) $r^2 = \sin 2\theta$



7) $r^2 = -\sin 2\theta$



8) $r^2 = \cos 2\theta$



9) $r^2 = -\cos 2\theta$

