

Coordinates on \mathbb{R}^2 (the plane)

A device to specify position in the plane

(r, θ)

Polar coordinates - another location based off circles rather than squares

Relationship between Cartesian & Polar

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \\ \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x} \end{array} \right.$$

$$f'(\theta) = f(\theta) \tan \left(\gamma - \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

2 ways to interpret $f'(\theta)$:

- 1) As the slope of $r = f(\theta)$ in the θ -plane
- 2) $f(\theta) \tan \left(\gamma - \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$ in the xy -plane

How polar coordinates change in the xy -plane

1) How does the graph of $r = f(\theta)$ differ from $r = 2f(\theta)$?

Compare $r = \cos \theta$ & $r = 2 \cos \theta$

$$r = \cos \theta$$

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

$$x^2 + y^2 = x$$

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

radius $\frac{1}{2}$

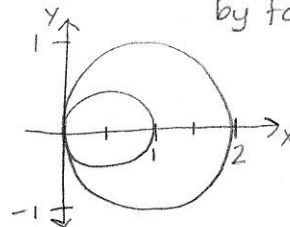
$$r = 2 \cos \theta$$

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

$$x^2 + y^2 = 2x$$

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

radius 1



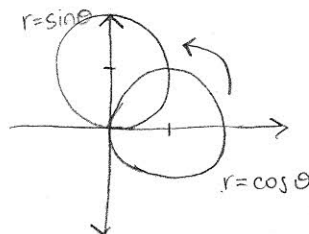
The second is stretched by factor of 2

2) What is the difference between $r = f(\theta)$ & $r = f\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$?

Compare $r = \cos \theta$ & $r = \cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$

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

$$r = \sin \theta \Rightarrow x^2 + \left(y - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$



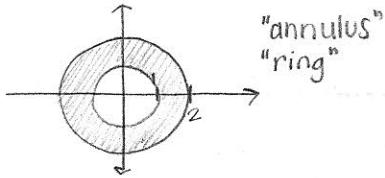
The second is rotated 90° counterclockwise

3) What is the difference between $r=f(\theta)$ and $r=-f(\theta)$?

Ex: $(-3, \pi/4) = (3, 5\pi/4)$ $\theta \rightarrow \theta + \pi$ So \rightarrow rotation by 180°

Sketch the following regions

1) $\{(r, \theta) \mid 1 \leq r \leq 2\}$



2) $\{(r, \theta) \mid 1 \leq r \leq 2, 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4\}$

