

3C Eccentricity

Ellipse

Parabola

Hyperbola

1. Show that for $0 < e < 1$, the ellipse with focus $S = (ae, 0)$ and directrix $x = \frac{a}{e}$ has equation $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.

2.

- a) Find foci of the ellipse with equation $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$ and give the equation of the directrices. Hence sketch the ellipse.

- b) Find foci of the ellipse with equation $\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{25} = 1$ and give the equation of the directrices. Hence sketch the ellipse.

3. If P is a point on an ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$, prove that $PS + PS' = 2a$

4. Show that for $e > 1$, the hyperbola with foci at $(\pm ae, 0)$ and directrices at $x = \pm \frac{a}{e}$ has equation $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$

5.

- a) Sketch the hyperbola with equation $\frac{x^2}{9} - \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$, indicating the foci, directrices and equations of the asymptotes.

- b) Sketch the hyperbola with equation $\frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{y^2}{25} = 1$, indicating the foci, directrices and equations of the asymptotes.

A quick note on hyperbolas and ellipses:

For hyperbolas, you don't care which of a and b are bigger. For ellipses, swapping the a and b has the effect of rotating the ellipse 90° and hence the foci/directrices too. We don't get this same rotation for hyperbolas.

Formula book p19

Conics

	Ellipse	Parabola	Hyperbola	Rectangular Hyperbola
Standard Form	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$	$y^2 = 4ax$	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$	$xy = c^2$
Parametric Form	$(a \cos \theta, b \sin \theta)$	$(at^2, 2at)$	$(a \sec \theta, b \tan \theta)$ $(\pm a \cosh \theta, b \sinh \theta)$	$\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$
Eccentricity	$e < 1$ $b^2 = a^2(1 - e^2)$	$e = 1$	$e > 1$ $b^2 = a^2(e^2 - 1)$	$e = \sqrt{2}$
Foci	$(\pm ae, 0)$	$(a, 0)$	$(\pm ae, 0)$	$(\pm\sqrt{2}c, \pm\sqrt{2}c)$
Directrices	$x = \pm \frac{a}{e}$	$x = -a$	$x = \pm \frac{a}{e}$	$x + y = \pm\sqrt{2}c$
Asymptotes	none	none	$\frac{x}{a} = \pm \frac{y}{b}$	$x = 0, y = 0$

Note:

Tangent:	$ty = x + at^2$	$x + t^2y = 2ct$
Normal:	$y + tx = 2at + at^3$	$t^3x - ty = c(t^4 - 1)$