

## **Polar Coordinates (Solutions)**

## 1. [04/AJC/FM/I/6]

A curve C has equation, in polar coordinates,  $r = \frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta}$ ,  $0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$ ,

where a is a positive constant.

Let the pole be denoted by O, the points  $P(r_1, \theta_1)$  and  $Q(r_2, \theta_2)$  on the curve C are such that POQ is a straight line and  $0 < \theta_1 < \pi$ .

If the length of the chord PQ is  $\frac{8a}{3}$ , find the coordinates of point P. [5]

#### [Solution]

$$r = \frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta}, 0 \le \theta < 2\pi$$
$$r_1 = \frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta_1}, r_2 = \frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta_2}$$

$$r_{1} + r_{2} = \frac{8a}{3}$$
$$\frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta_{1}} + \frac{a}{1 + \cos \theta_{2}} = \frac{8a}{3}$$

 $P(r_{1}, 0, 1)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$   $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ 

Since *POQ* is a straight line,  $0 < \theta_1 < \pi$ , then  $\theta_2 = \pi + \theta_1$ 

$$\frac{a}{1+\cos\theta_1} + \frac{a}{1+\cos(\pi+\theta_1)} = \frac{8a}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{1+\cos\theta_1} + \frac{1}{1-\cos\theta_1} = \frac{8}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{1-\cos^2\theta_1} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\sin\theta_1 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ (Since } 0 < \theta_1 < \pi, \sin\theta_1 > 0\text{)}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3} \text{ or } \frac{2\pi}{3}$$
Coordinates of  $P = \left(\frac{2}{3}a, \frac{1}{3}\pi\right) \text{ or } \left(2a, \frac{2}{3}\pi\right).$ 

## 2. [04/NJC/FM/I/7]



State, with a reason, the least possible value of b.

(i) Prove that 
$$r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2 = a^2 \left(1 + (b^2 - 1)\cos^2 b\theta\right)$$
. Using the value of b found above, show that the arc length of one loop of C is at most  $\pi a$ . [3]

(ii) A and B are two points on C furthest from the pole. Show that the cartesian coordinates of A is 
$$\left(a\cos\frac{\pi}{8}, a\sin\frac{\pi}{8}\right)$$
. Hence, find the cartesian equation of the line AB in the form  $y = mx + c$ . [3]  
[least  $b = 4$ ;  $y = -\left(\cot\frac{3\pi}{8}\right)x + a\cot\frac{3\pi}{8}\cos\frac{\pi}{8} + a\sin\frac{\pi}{8}$ ]

#### [Solution]

Since  $b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and r = 0 when  $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ , least possible b = 4

(i) 
$$r^{2} + \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}\theta}\right)^{2} = a^{2} \sin^{2} b\theta + a^{2} b^{2} \cos^{2} b\theta = a^{2} \left(1 - \cos^{2} b\theta\right) + a^{2} b^{2} \cos^{2} b\theta$$
$$= a^{2} \left[1 + \left(b^{2} - 1\right) \cos^{2} b\theta\right]$$
Arc length of one loop 
$$= \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{r^{2} + \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}\theta}\right)^{2}} \, \mathrm{d}\theta = a \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{1 + 15 \cos^{2} 4\theta} \, \mathrm{d}\theta$$
$$\leq a \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{1 + 15} \, \mathrm{d}\theta = 4a \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \mathrm{d}\theta = \pi a$$

(ii) At 
$$A$$
,  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{8}$ ,  $r = a$ . Cartesian coordinates of  $A = \left(a\cos\frac{\pi}{8}, a\sin\frac{\pi}{8}\right)$   
At  $B$ ,  $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{8} = \frac{5\pi}{8}$ ,  $r = a$ . Cartesian coordinates of  $B = \left(a\cos\frac{5\pi}{8}, a\sin\frac{5\pi}{8}\right)$   
Gradient of line  $AB = \frac{a\sin\frac{5\pi}{8} - a\sin\frac{\pi}{8}}{a\cos\frac{5\pi}{8} - a\cos\frac{\pi}{8}} = \frac{2\cos\frac{3\pi}{8}\sin\frac{2\pi}{8}}{-2\sin\frac{3\pi}{8}\sin\frac{2\pi}{8}} = -\cot\frac{3\pi}{8}$   
Thus  $AB$ :  $y - a\sin\frac{\pi}{8} = -\cot\frac{3\pi}{8}\left(x - a\cos\frac{\pi}{8}\right)$   
 $y = -x\cot\frac{3\pi}{8} + a\cot\frac{3\pi}{8}\cos\frac{\pi}{8} + a\sin\frac{\pi}{8}$  [Note answer is not simplified]

#### **Alternative**

Note that triangle AOB is right-angled at O, and is also isosceles. Thus  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{8}$ . AB:  $y - a \sin \frac{\pi}{8} = -\tan \frac{\pi}{8} \left( x - a \cos \frac{\pi}{8} \right)$  $y = -x \tan \frac{\pi}{8} + 2a \sin \frac{\pi}{8}$ 

#### 3. [04/TJC/FM/I/5]

The curve C has polar equation  $r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}}$ , for  $0 < \theta < \pi$ . Show that C has the following characteristics: (i)  $r \ge 1$  for the given range of  $\theta$ ; (a) the curve C is symmetrical about the line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ; (b) the curve C has an asymptote  $\theta = 0$ . (c) [Hint: consider the x- and y- coordinates of C as  $\theta \to 0$ .] [3] [1] Give a sketch of the curve. (ii) Find the area of the closed region bounded by C and the line with (iii) cartesian equation  $y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . [5]

#### [Solution]

(i) (a) For 
$$0 < \theta < \pi$$
,  $0 < \sin \theta \le 1$ . Thus  $0 < \sqrt{\sin \theta} \le 1$  and  $r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} \ge 1$ .  
(b) Since  $\sin(\pi - \theta) = \sin \theta$ ,  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\sin(\pi - \theta)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}}$ .  
*C* is symmetrical about the line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .  
(a)  $\theta \to 0$ ,  $x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} \cos \theta \to \infty$ ,  $y = \frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{\sin \theta}} = \sqrt{\sin \theta} \to 0$   
Thus  $y = 0$  is an asymptote to *C* and thus  $\theta = 0$  is an asymptote.

(iii) 
$$y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow \sqrt{\sin \theta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$
  
Thus  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}$ .  
Area  $= 2\left[\frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}}\frac{1}{\sin \theta} d\theta - \frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{2}\cdot\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right]$   
 $= \left[-\ln(\cos ec\theta + \cot \theta)\right]_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$   
 $= \ln\left(2 + \sqrt{3}\right) - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ 

4 The curve  $C_1$  has polar equation

 $r = a + a \cos 2\theta$  for  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ , where *a* is a positive constant.

The curve  $C_2$  is obtained by rotating  $C_1$  through an angle of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  anticlockwise about the

pole.

#### [Solution]



(iv)  

$$r = a(1 + \cos 2\theta) \Rightarrow \frac{dr}{d\theta} = -2a \sin 2\theta$$
Perimeter =  $4 \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta$   
=  $4a \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{(1 + \cos 2\theta)^2 + (-2\sin 2\theta)^2} d\theta$   
 $\approx 13.710a$   
 $\approx 13.7a$  units

Show that the gradient of tangent of the polar curve with equation  $r = \frac{1}{1 + \cos \theta}$ 

is 
$$-\cot\frac{\theta}{2}$$
. [5]

[EJC/FM/2017/Promo/Q8b]

## [Solution]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5} & r = \frac{1}{1+\cos\theta} \Rightarrow \frac{dr}{d\theta} = \frac{\sin\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2} \\ \text{Note that } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dr}{d\theta}\sin\theta + r\cos\theta}{\frac{dr}{d\theta}\cos\theta - r\sin\theta} = \frac{\left(\frac{\sin\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2}\right)\sin\theta + \left(\frac{1}{1+\cos\theta}\right)\cos\theta}{\left(\frac{\sin\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2}\right)\cos\theta - \left(\frac{1}{1+\cos\theta}\right)\sin\theta} \\ & = \frac{\sin^2\theta + \cos\theta(1+\cos\theta)}{\sin\theta\cos\theta - \sin\theta(1+\cos\theta)} = \frac{1+\cos\theta}{-\sin\theta} = \frac{2\cos^2\frac{\theta}{2}}{-2\sin\frac{\theta}{2}\cos\frac{\theta}{2}} = -\cot\frac{\theta}{2} \\ \text{Alternatively:} \\ x = r\cos\theta = \frac{\cos\theta}{1+\cos\theta} \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{d\theta} = \frac{-\sin\theta(1+\cos\theta) - (-\sin\theta)\cos\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2} = \frac{-\sin\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2} \\ y = r\sin\theta = \frac{\sin\theta}{1+\cos\theta} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{\cos\theta(1+\cos\theta) - (-\sin\theta)\sin\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2} = \frac{1+\cos\theta}{(1+\cos\theta)^2} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{1+\cos\theta}{-\sin\theta} = \frac{2\cos^2\frac{\theta}{2}}{-2\sin\frac{\theta}{2}\cos\frac{\theta}{2}} = -\cot\frac{\theta}{2} \end{aligned}$$

5

6 The curve C has equation  $2x^2 - xy + 2y^2 = 150$ .

(a) Show that a polar equation for *C* can be expressed in the form

$$r^{2} = \frac{P}{Q + R \sin 2\theta},$$
  
where *P*, *Q* and *R* are integers to be found and  $-\pi < \theta \le \pi$ . [3]

(b) Hence, find the polar coordinates of the points on *C* which are the furthest from the pole *O*.
 [3] [JJC/FM/2017/Promo/Q2]

[Solution]

(a) 
$$2x^2 - xy + 2y^2 = 150$$
  
 $2(x^2 + y^2) - xy = 150$   
 $2r^2 - (r \cos \theta)(r \sin \theta) = 150$   
 $r^2 (2 - \sin \theta \cos \theta) = 150$   
 $r^2 = \frac{150}{2 - \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2}}$   
 $= \frac{300}{4 - \sin 2\theta}$  (Shown)  
 $\therefore P = 300, Q = 4, R = -1$   
(b)  
 $r^2 = \frac{300}{4 - \sin 2\theta}$   
For r to be maximum,  
 $\sin 2\theta = 1$   
 $2\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, -\frac{3\pi}{2}$   
 $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}, -\frac{3\pi}{4}$   
Max.  $r = \sqrt{\frac{300}{4 - 1}} = 10$   
Polar coordinates are  $\left(10, \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$  and  $\left(10, -\frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$ .

7 The straight line with polar equation

$$r_1 = \frac{1}{a\sin\theta + b\cos\theta},$$

is a tangent to the circle with the polar equation,

$$r_2 = 2c\cos\theta,$$

where *a*, *b* and *c* are real numbers,  $a^2 + b^2 \neq 0$  and  $c \neq 0$ .

By first finding the Cartesian equations of the respective polar equations, find the possible value(s) of c in terms of a and/or b. [8]

[MJC/FM/2017/Promo/Q2]

[Solution]

(i) 
$$r_1 = \frac{1}{a \sin \theta + b \cos \theta}$$
  
 $\Rightarrow r_1 a \sin \theta + r_1 b \cos \theta = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow ay + bx = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{1 - bx}{a}, \text{ when } a \neq 0$   
 $r_2 = 2c \cos \theta$   
 $\Rightarrow r_2^2 = 2cr_2 \cos \theta$   
 $\Rightarrow r_2^2 = 2cr_2 \cos \theta$   
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 2cx$   
 $\Rightarrow (x - c)^2 + y^2 = c^2$   
Case 1 (when a is non-zero)  
Substituting  $y = \frac{1 - bx}{a}$  into  $(x - c)^2 + y^2 = c^2$  gives:  
 $(x - c)^2 + (\frac{1 - bx}{a})^2 = c^2$   
 $\Rightarrow a^2 (x^2 - 2cx + c^2) + 1 - 2bx + b^2x^2 - a^2c^2 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (a^2 + b^2)x^2 - 2(a^2c + b)x + 1 = 0 - (*)$   
Since the line is a tangent to the circle, there is only one solution. Thus the discriminant to (\*) is zero.  
 $D = [-2(a^2c + b)]^2 - 4(a^2 + b^2)(1) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (a^2c + b)^2 - (a^2 + b^2) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow a^4c^2 + 2a^2bc + b^2 - a^2 - b^2 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow a^4c^2 + 2a^2bc - a^2 = 0$ 

Since *a* is non-zero,  

$$a^{2}c^{2} + 2bc - 1 = 0$$

$$c = \frac{-2b \pm \sqrt{(2b)^{2} + 4a^{2}}}{2a^{2}} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^{2} + a^{2}}}{a^{2}}$$
Case 2 (when *a* is zero)  
The Cartesian Equation of the line reduces to  

$$0y + bx = 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{b}$$
This implies that the line is tangential to the circle at its non-zero *x*-intercept  
(2c,0), since equation is  $(x - c)^{2} + y^{2} = c^{2}$ .  
Thus,  $\frac{1}{b} = 2c \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{2b}$ 



In the above diagram, four bugs *A*, *B*, *C* and *D* are placed at the four corners of a square with side of length *a*. The bugs crawl counter clockwise towards the centre of the square, *O*, along the spiral paths. Bug *A* starts from the corner  $\left(\frac{a}{2}, \frac{a}{2}\right)$ . The line joining the bug *A* to the bug *B* is tangent to the path of the bug *A*.

(i) Taking *O* as the origin and the coordinates of the bug *A* to be(x, y), explain why the Cartesian coordinates of the bug *B* are (-y, x).

[1]

It is given that OA = r and OA makes an angle  $\theta$  with the x-axis.

- (ii) Show that the gradient of the line *AB* is  $\frac{\tan \theta 1}{\tan \theta + 1}$ . [2]
- (iii) By expressing  $\frac{dx}{d\theta}$  and  $\frac{dy}{d\theta}$  in terms of r,  $\theta$  and  $\frac{dr}{d\theta}$ , show that  $\frac{dr}{d\theta} = -r$ . [4]
- (iv) It is known that the polar equation of the path of the bug A is in the form  $r = ke^{-\theta}$ , show that  $k = \frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}e^{\frac{\pi}{4}}$ , assuming the pole is at the centre of the square. [2]

(v) Find the exact distance travelled by the bug A for 
$$\frac{\pi}{4} \le \theta \le 2\pi$$
. [4]  
[SAJC/FM/2017/Promo/Q10]

#### [Solution]



Since 
$$m = \frac{dy}{dx}$$
  
 $\frac{\frac{dx}{dx} \tan \theta + r}{\frac{dx}{d\theta} - r \tan \theta} = \frac{\tan \theta - 1}{\tan \theta + 1}$   
 $\frac{dr}{d\theta} \tan^2 \theta + \frac{dr}{d\theta} \tan \theta + r \tan \theta + r = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \tan \theta - \frac{dr}{d\theta} - r \tan^2 \theta + r \tan \theta$   
 $\frac{dr}{d\theta} (\tan^2 \theta + 1) = -r (\tan^2 \theta + 1)$   
 $\therefore \qquad \frac{dr}{d\theta} = -r$   
(iv) Given that the polar equation of the path is  $r = ke^{-\theta}$ .  
Bug *A* starts from the corner  $\left(\frac{a}{2}, \frac{a}{2}\right)$ , so when  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ ,  $r = a \sin \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}$   
Therefore  $\frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2} = ke^{-\frac{\pi}{4}} \implies k = \frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}e^{\frac{\pi}{4}}$   
So the equation of the polar curve is  $r = \frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}e^{\frac{\pi}{4}-\theta}$ .  
(v) Distance travelled by the *A* for  $\frac{\pi}{4} \le \theta \le 2\pi$  is  
 $L = \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta = \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{2\pi} \sqrt{r^2 + (-r)^2} d\theta$   
 $= \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} r d\theta$   
 $= \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}e^{\frac{\pi}{4}-\theta}\right) d\theta$   
 $= d\left[-e^{\frac{\pi}{4}-\theta}\right]_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{2\pi}$ 

9 A curve *C* has polar equation given by

	$r^2 = a\cos^2\theta + b\sin^2\theta$ , where a and b are non-zero constants.	
(a)	State the condition(s) on a and b so that C has tangent(s) through the pole.	[1]
(b)	State the condition(s) on a and b so that C will never come back to the pole.	[1]
(c)	Sketch C, where $0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$ , for the following cases:	
	(i) $\sqrt{a} > \sqrt{b}$ ,	[2]
	(ii) $a > 0 \text{ and } b < 0.$	[2]
(d)	Given that $a = 4$ and $b = 2$ , find the exact area of the region enclosed by C.	[3]
(e)	Write down the polar equation of the curve if C is	
	(i) rotated 90° anti-clockwise about the pole,	[1]
	(ii) reflected about the line $y = x$ .	[1]

[TJC/FM/2017/Promo/Q8]

#### [Solution]

TJC\Promo\P\Q8 9 For r = 0,  $a\cos^2 \theta + b\sin^2 \theta = 0 \implies \tan^2 \theta = -\frac{a}{b}$ **(a)** For real solutions,  $\frac{a}{b} < 0$  which means a and b must be of opposite signs. (b) For r > 0 for all  $\theta$ ,  $a \cos^2 \theta + b \sin^2 \theta > 0 \implies a > 0$  and b > 0(c) (i)  $\sqrt{a} > \sqrt{b}$  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  $\sqrt{b}, \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ 0  $\theta = \pi \underbrace{\left( \sqrt{a}, \pi \right)}$  $\int (\sqrt{a}, 0)$  $-\frac{\pi}{2}$  $\sqrt{b}$ ,  $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ (ii) a > 0 and b < 0 $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  $\theta = \pi - \tan^{-1} \left( \sqrt{-\frac{a}{b}} \right)$  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/2}$  $\frac{a}{b}$  $\theta = \pi \left( \sqrt{a}, \pi \right)$  $\theta = 0$  $\sqrt{a}, 0$  $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2} \qquad \theta = 2\pi - \tan^{-1}$  $\theta = \pi + \tan^{-1} \left( \sqrt{-\frac{a}{b}} \right)$  $-\frac{a}{b}$ 

(d) Area 
$$= 4 \times \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r^{2} d\theta = 2 \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (4\cos^{2}\theta + 2\sin^{2}\theta) d\theta$$
  
 $= 2 \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 4 \left( \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{1 - \cos 2\theta}{2} \right) d\theta$   
 $= 2 \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (3 + \cos 2\theta) d\theta$   
 $= 2 \left[ 3\theta + \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2} \right]_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 3\pi$  units<sup>2</sup>  
(e) (i) Replace  $\theta$  with  $\left( \theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$ , the new polar curve is  
 $r^{2} = a \cos^{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) + b \sin^{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = a \sin^{2} \theta + b \cos^{2} \theta$   
(ii) Replace  $\theta$  with  $\left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)$ , the new polar curve is  
 $r^{2} = a \sin^{2} \theta + b \cos^{2} \theta$ 

**10** Sketch the curve  $r = \sin 2\theta$ , for  $r \ge 0, 0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ . [2] Describe the curves  $r = \sin 2n\theta$ , where  $r \ge 0, n$  are positive integers and show that the area enclosed by such a curve is independent of *n*. [6]

[VJC/FM/2018/P1/4]

## [Solution]



Area enclosed = 
$$2n \times 2 \times \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4n}} \sin^{2} 2n\theta \, \mathrm{d}\theta$$
  
=  $n \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4n}} (1 - \cos 4n\theta) \, \mathrm{d}\theta$   
=  $n \left[ \theta - \frac{\sin 4n\theta}{4n} \right]_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{4n}}$   
=  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  sq. units

Curves  $r = \sin 2n\theta$  has 2n identical loops. is

Hence, the area enclosed by such a curve is independent of n. (shown)

11 The curve *D* has polar equation

$$r = 6\sin\frac{1}{2}\theta$$
, where  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ 

(i) Sketch *D*, indicating clearly all key features and symmetries of the curve. [2]
(ii) Find the arc length of *D*. [2]

The locus of points  $(r, \theta)$  satisfying  $6\sin\frac{1}{2}\theta \le r \le 3$  forms a region *R*.

(iii) Find the exact area of *R*.

[NJC/FM/2018/P2/4]

[5]

[Solution]





#### 12 The curve $\Gamma$ has polar equation

$$r = 1 + \cos \theta$$
,  $0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$ .

The circle with equation  $(x-2)^2 + y^2 = 4$  intersects  $\Gamma$  at O, A and B, where O is the pole.

Determine the perimeter of the sector *OAB*, where *OA* and *OB* are straight line segments and *AB* is an arc on  $\Gamma$  that lies within the circle.

Leave your answer in an exact surd form.

[8]

[VJC/FM/2019/MCT/6]

#### [Solution]

To find A, B: (convert both equations to the same kind, either polar or Cartesian)

$$r = 1 + \cos \theta, \quad 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi.$$

$$(x - 2)^{2} + y^{2} = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow x^{2} - 4x + y^{2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^{2} - 4r \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 4 \cos \theta$$
At *A* and *B*,  $4 \cos \theta = 1 + \cos \theta$ .  $\therefore \cos \theta = \frac{1}{3}$ .  

$$\therefore OA = OB = 1 + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{3}$$
Arc length of  $AB = 2\int_{0}^{\alpha} \sqrt{r^{2} + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^{2}} d\theta$ , where  $\cos \alpha = \frac{1}{3}$ .  

$$= 2\int_{0}^{\alpha} \sqrt{(1 + 2\cos \theta + \cos^{2} \theta) + (-\sin \theta)^{2}} d\theta$$

$$= 2\sqrt{2} \int_{0}^{\alpha} \sqrt{1 + \cos \theta} d\theta$$

$$= 2\sqrt{2} \int_{0}^{\alpha} \sqrt{1 + \cos \theta} d\theta$$

$$= 4\left[2\sin \frac{\theta}{2}\right]_{0}^{\alpha}$$

$$= 8\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}$$

$$= 8\sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{8}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore$$
 the required perimeter is  $\frac{8}{3} + \frac{8}{\sqrt{3}} \left( \text{equivalently } \frac{8}{3}(1 + \sqrt{3}) \right)$ 

- **13** The curve  $T_1$  has polar equation  $r = 3 + 2\cos 3\theta$ ,  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ .
  - (i) Sketch T<sub>1</sub>, indicating all the key features and equations of lines of symmetry of the curve.
     [3]
  - (ii) A piece of wire of length 32 units long is used to bend into the shape of  $T_1$ . State, with a reason, whether the wire is long enough to do so. [2]

Another curve  $T_2$  has polar equation  $r = 2 + \cos 3\theta$ ,  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ .

(iii) Use calculus to evaluate the exact area enclosed in between  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ . [3] [RI/FM/2019/MCT/3]



14 [It is given that  $\cos 3\theta = 4\cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta$ .]

A polar curve *C* has equation  $r = \sin 2\theta$  where  $0 \le \theta \le \frac{\pi}{2}$ . *O* is the pole and the tangent at a point  $P(r, \theta)$  on the curve is parallel to the line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

(i) Sketch C. [2]

(ii) Show that 
$$\cos\theta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$$
 at *P*. [3]

(iii) Find the area bounded by C, the line  $\theta = 0$  and the tangent at P. [5]

0

[TJC/FM/2018/P1/6]

#### [Solution]

(i) Let r = 0 where  $0 \le \theta \le \frac{\pi}{2}$   $\sin 2\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = 0, \frac{\pi}{2}$  (tangents) r is maximum when  $\sin 2\theta = 1 \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$   $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$   $\left(1, \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$  P N $\theta = 0$ 

(ii) 
$$x = r \cos \theta = \sin 2\theta \cos \theta = \frac{1}{2} (\sin 3\theta + \sin \theta)$$
  
 $\frac{dr}{d\theta} = \frac{1}{2} (3 \cos 3\theta + \cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2} (3 (4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta) + \cos \theta) = 2 \cos \theta (3 \cos^2 \theta - 2)$   
At  $P$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  is undefined  $\Rightarrow \frac{dx}{d\theta} = 0 \Rightarrow \cos \theta = 0$  or  $\cos \theta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$   
Since  $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$  at  $P$ ,  $\cos \theta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$   
(iii) Area of triangle  $OPN = \frac{1}{2} (r \sin \theta) (r \cos \theta)$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} r^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta = \frac{1}{2} (2 \sin \theta \cos \theta)^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$   
 $= 2 (\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})^3 (\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}})^3 = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{27}$   
Required area  $= \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{27} - \int_0^{\cos^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}} \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta$   
 $= \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{27} - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\cos^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}} \sin^2 2\theta d\theta = 0.0949$  using GC

15 (a) The Archimedean spiral, S, which was first studied by the Greek mathematician Archimedes in the  $3^{rd}$  century BC, has polar equation given by

$$r = a + b\theta$$

where *a* and *b* are non-negative real constants and  $\theta \ge 0$ .

The Archimedean spiral has the property that any ray from the pole intersects successive turnings of the spiral at points with a constant separation distance d, hence also the name "arithmetic spiral".

- (i) Prove the above property and state the value of d. [2]
- (ii) For the case when a = b, prove that the angle which the tangent to S at the point  $(r, \theta)$  makes with the initial line is given by

$$\tan^{-1}(1+\theta)+\theta$$

and hence write down the cartesian equation of the tangent to S at the point where  $\theta = 0$ . [5]

(b) Let A and B be two points on a polar curve corresponding to  $\theta = \alpha$  and  $\theta = \beta$  respectively. The area of the curved surface generated when the arc AB is rotated completely about the initial line is given by the integral

$$2\pi \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} r \sin \theta \left\{ r^2 + \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}\theta}\right)^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathrm{d}\theta \, .$$

Use the above integral to derive the formula for the surface area of a sphere of radius *a*, explaining your working clearly. [3]

[NYJC/FM/2017/P2/4]

# [Solution]

15 (a)(i) 
$$d = a + b(\theta + 2\pi) - [a + b\theta] = 2b\pi$$
 which is a constant.  
(ii) Parametric equations of *S* are  
 $x = r \cos \theta = a(1+\theta)\cos \theta$  and  $y = r \sin \theta = a(1+\theta)\sin \theta$ .  
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{d\theta} / \frac{dx}{d\theta} = \frac{\sin \theta + (1+\theta)\cos \theta}{\cos \theta - (1+\theta)\sin \theta}$   
 $= \frac{\tan \theta + (1+\theta)}{1 - (1+\theta)\tan \theta}$   
 $= \tan(\theta + \phi)$  where  $\phi = \tan^{-1}(1+\theta)$   
So angle which the tangent to *S* at the point  $(r, \theta)$  makes with the initial line  
is  $\theta + \phi = \theta + \tan^{-1}(1+\theta)$ .  
Gradient of the tangent to *S* at the point where  $\theta = 0$  is  $\tan(\tan^{-1} 1) = 1$ . Also,  
when  $\theta = 0, r = a$ .  
Thus the cartesian equation of the tangent is  $y = x - a$ .  
(b) Consider the circle  $r = a$ .  
Surface area of sphere  
 $= 2\pi \int_{0}^{\pi} r \sin \theta \left\{ r^{2} + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^{2} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} d\theta$   
 $= 2\pi \int_{0}^{\pi} a \sin \theta \left\{ a^{2} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} d\theta \left( \frac{dr}{d\theta} = 0 \right)$   
 $= -2\pi a^{2} [\cos \theta]_{0}^{\pi}$ 

- 16 The curve T has polar equation  $r = \sqrt{2} \sin \theta$ ,  $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ .
  - (i) Sketch T. Show on your diagram, the exact polar coordinates of the point of intersection of T with the initial line.
     [2]

(ii) The tangent to T at the point A where  $\theta = \alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2}$  is parallel to the initial line.

Show that  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$  (do not merely verify) and find the exact distance from A to the pole. [4]

(iii) Find the exact area of the region bounded by *T*, the tangent in part (ii) and the halfline  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{c}$ . [5]

$$he \theta = \frac{1}{6}.$$

[HCI et al/FM/2018/P1/6]

#### [Solution]



(iii)  

$$A = \frac{A}{6} = 0$$

$$A = \frac{A}{6} = 0$$

$$A = \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}, 0}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin \frac{\pi}{4} = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$
Cartesian equation for half-line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$ :  $y = \left(\tan \frac{\pi}{6}\right)x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}x$   
The tangent and the half-line  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$  intersect at  $x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$   
Exact area required  

$$= \text{Area of triangle } OAB - \frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}r^{2}d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}(\sqrt{2} - \sin\theta)^{2}d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{8} - \frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}(2 - 2\sqrt{2}\sin\theta + \sin^{2}\theta)d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{8} - \frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}(2 - 2\sqrt{2}\cos\theta - \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2})d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{8} - \frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{5}{2}\theta + 2\sqrt{2}\cos\theta - \frac{\sin 2\theta}{4}\right]_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{8} - \frac{1}{2}\left[\left(\frac{5\pi}{8} + 2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) - \left(\frac{5\pi}{12} + \sqrt{2}\sqrt{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{8}\right)\right)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{16} - 1 - \frac{5\pi}{48}$$
 units<sup>2</sup>

# 17 The rotating blades of a fan can be modelled by the curve *C* with polar equation $r = a \left| \cos 2\theta \right|$

where  $-\pi < \theta \le \pi$  and *a* is a positive constant.

- (i) The region *R* not containing the pole is bounded between the part of *C* for which  $-\frac{\pi}{4} \le \theta \le \frac{\pi}{4}$  and the line with polar equation  $r = \frac{\sqrt{3}a}{4\cos\theta} \quad (-\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2})$ . Find, in terms of *a*, the exact area of *R*. [4]
- (ii) The fan is rotated through an acute angle α radians about its centre. The rotated fan can be modelled by the curve with polar equation r = a |sin 2θ|.
  Without the aid of the graphing calculator, determine the exact value of α in terms of π, justifying your answer with relevant working. [2]
- (iii) A thin straight wire, which can be modelled by a line  $\ell$ , rests horizontally on top of two blades of the rotated fan in (ii). Find the cartesian equation of  $\ell$ . [4]

[NYJC/FM/2019/MYE/P1/6]

#### [Solution]



(iii)  
NORMAL FLOAT DECREAL RADION HF  

$$r = a |\sin 2\theta| \Rightarrow r^{2} = a^{2} \sin^{2} 2\theta$$

$$= 4a^{2} \sin^{2} \theta \cos^{2} \theta$$

$$r^{2} = 4a^{2} \left(\frac{y}{r}\right)^{2} \left(\frac{x}{r}\right)^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (r^{2})^{3} = 4a^{2}x^{2}y^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (r^{2})^{3} = 4a^{2}x^{2}y^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^{2} + y^{2})^{3} = 4a^{2}x^{2}y^{2} (y > 0) ----(1)$$
Differentiate w.r.t. x gives  

$$3(x^{2} + y^{2})^{2} \left(2x + 2y\frac{dy}{dx}\right) = 4a^{2} \left(2x^{2}y\frac{dy}{dx} + 2xy^{2}\right)$$
Put  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$  into the above and simplifying gives  

$$6x(x^{2} + y^{2})^{2} = 8a^{2}xy^{2} \Rightarrow (x^{2} + y^{2})^{2} = \frac{4a^{2}y^{2}}{3} ----(2) \text{ since } x \neq 0.$$

$$\left(\frac{(1)}{(2)}:x^{2} + y^{2} = 3x^{2} \Rightarrow y^{2} = 2x^{2} -----(3)$$
Substitute (3) into (2) gives  

$$(x^{2} + 2x^{2})^{2} = \frac{4a^{2}(2x^{2})}{3} \Rightarrow x^{2} = \frac{8}{27}a^{2}.$$
So  $y^{2} = 2\left(\frac{8}{27}a^{2}\right) \Rightarrow y = \frac{4}{3\sqrt{3}}a$  since  $y > 0$ ,  
which is the cartesian eqn of  $\ell$ .

18 Jenny is holding her vocal live performance on a rectangular stage of length 13 m and breadth 5 m. The technical crew uses a microphone with a cardioid pickup pattern so that it minimizes the pickup of noise from the audience. The crew places the microphone at a distance of  $\frac{3}{4}k$ ,  $k \ge 0$ , from the front of the stage as shown in the figure.



The boundary of the optimal pickup region is given by the cardioid  $r = k + k \sin \theta$ , where *r* is measured in meters and the microphone is at the pole. The optimal pickup region on the stage is indicated by the shaded area in the figure. Find

(a) the furthest distance, in terms of k, that Jenny can be on the stage from the microphone so that she is within the optimal pickup region, and [2]

(b) the minimum value of k if the optimal pickup region that Jenny has on stage is at least 75% of the stage area. [6]

[ACJC/FM/2017/P2/3]

#### [Solution]

3	Solution:
	(i) $\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}\theta} = 0 \Longrightarrow k \cos\theta = 0 \Longrightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$
	$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 r}{\mathrm{d}\theta^2} = -k\sin\theta$
	When $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , $\frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2} = -k < 0$ $\therefore$ maximum $r = 2k$ occurs when $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ Furthest distance, $r = 2k$

(ii)  

$$r = k + k \sin \theta$$

$$r = k + k \sin \theta$$

$$r = k + k \sin \theta$$

$$r = \frac{3}{4}k, \quad r \sin \theta = \frac{3}{4}k$$

$$\Rightarrow (k + k \sin \theta) \sin \theta = \frac{3}{4}k$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 \sin^{2} \theta + 4 \sin \theta - 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } -\frac{3}{2} \text{ (rejected since } 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2} \text{)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$$
Area =  $2\left[\frac{1}{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}}k^{2}(1 + \sin \theta)^{2}d\theta - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{3}{4}k\right)\left(\frac{\frac{3}{4}k}{\tan \frac{\pi}{6}}\right)\right]$ 

$$= k^{2}\int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{4}}(1 + \sin \theta)^{2}d\theta - \frac{9\sqrt{3}}{16}k^{2}$$

$$= 2.54507k^{2}$$
Given: Area  $\ge 0.75 (13 \times 5)$ 

$$\Rightarrow 2.54507k^{2} \ge 0.75 (13 \times 5)$$

$$\Rightarrow k \ge 4.38$$