

Lecture CIII

Analytical definition of conic sections.

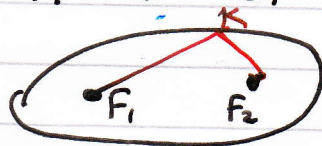
We will call ellipse, hyperbola, parabola

CONIC SECTIONS.

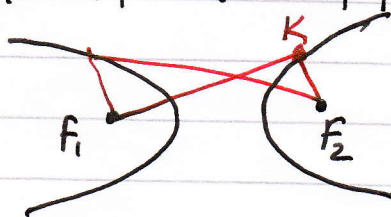
(In the next lecture this terminology will be explained).

In the first lecture we consider
geometrical definition of conic sections.
Recall it:

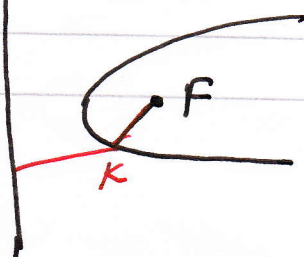
Ellipse — $\{K: |KF_1| + |KF_2| = 2a\}$



Hyperbola — $\{K: ||KF_1| - |KF_2|| = 2a\}$



Parabola — $\{K: |KF| = d(K, l)\}$



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Analytical definition of ⁻²⁻
ellipse, parabola, hyperbola.
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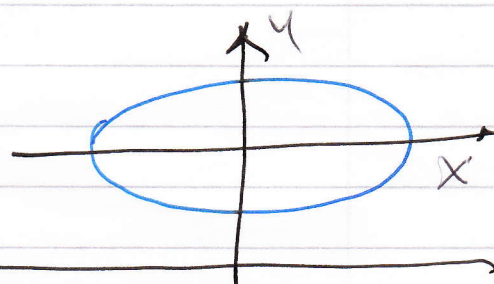
Def. Let C be a curve on plane.

A curve C is an ellipse if there exist Cartesian coordinates (x, y) such that

C is defined by equation

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

in these Cartesian coordinates

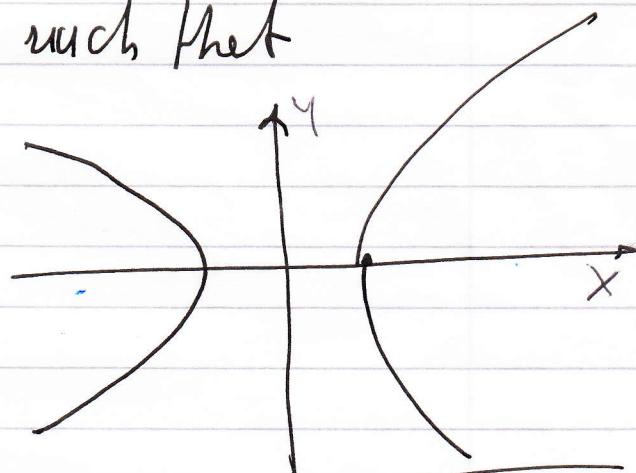


A curve C is an hyperbola if there exist Cartesian coordinates (x, y) such that

C is defined by equation

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

in these Cartesian coordinates



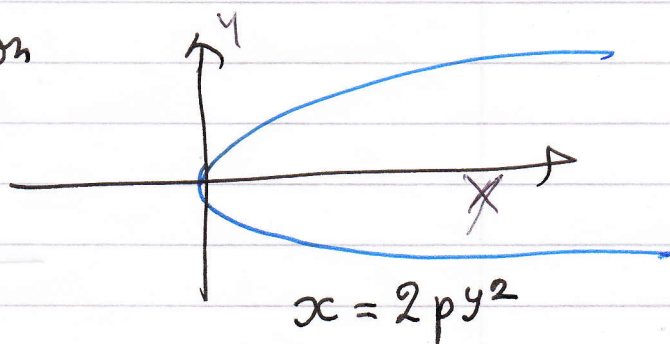
A curve C is parabola if there exist Cartesian coordinates (x, y) such that

C is defined by equation

$$x = \cancel{p} y^2$$

in these Cartesian coordinates

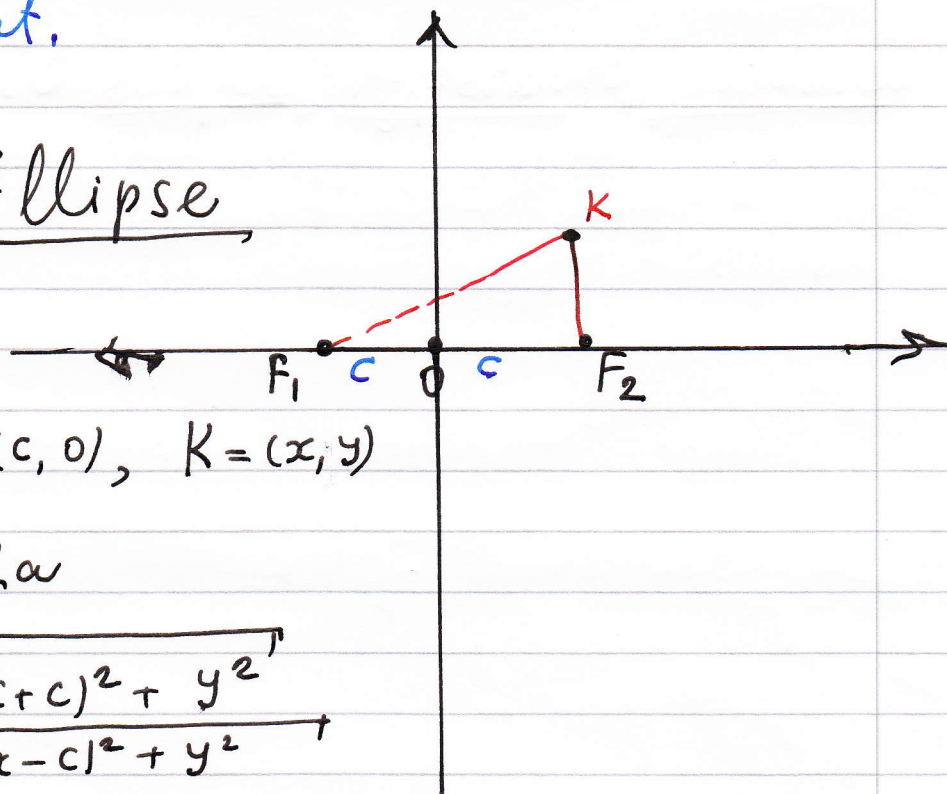
$(x = p y^2)$



Show that geometrical and analytical definitions of conic sections (ellipse, hyperbola, parabola) are equivalent.

Ellipse

Geom. def.



$$F_1 = (-c, 0); F_2 = (c, 0), K = (x, y)$$

$$|KF_1| + |KF_2| = 2a$$

$$\text{We have } |KF_1| = \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$|KF_2| = \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} + \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = 2a \quad (a \geq c > 0)$$

$$\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} = 2a - \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} \quad \text{Take square:}$$

$$x^2 + 2xc + c^2 + y^2 = 4a^2 - 4a\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} + x^2 - 2xc + c^2 + y^2 \quad \text{Hence}$$

$$4a\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = 4a^2 - 4xc = 4(a^2 - xc) \quad \text{Take again square:}$$

$$a^2(x^2 - 2xc + c^2 + y^2) = a^4 - 2a^2xc + x^2c^2$$

$$\cancel{a^2x^2} (a^2 - c^2)x^2 + a^2y^2 = a^4 - a^2c^2$$

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

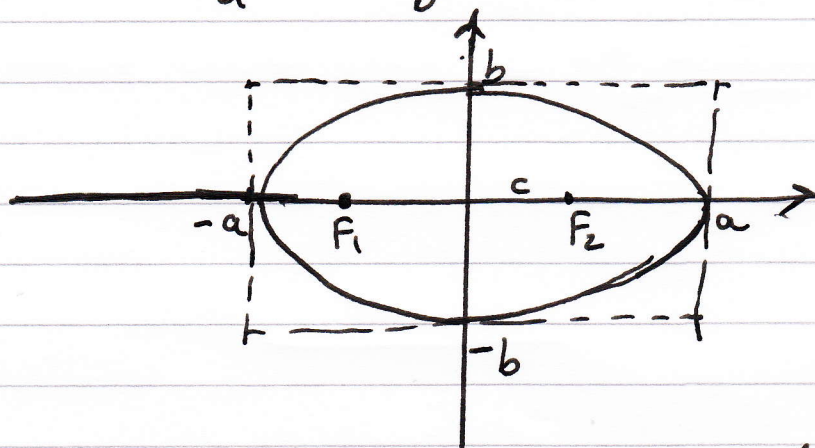
We proved that Geometrical def. ~~is~~

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We proved that all points K which belong to locus $\{K: |KF_1| + |KF_2| = 2a\}$ obey equation

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad (b^2 = a^2 - c^2) \quad (*)$$



One can see that converse implication is also true.

Indeed suppose that $(*)$ is obeyed.

Then $y^2 = b^2(1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2})$. We have

$$|KF_1| = \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + b^2(1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2})} =$$

$$= \sqrt{\underbrace{(1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2})}_{\frac{c^2}{a^2}} x^2 + 2cx + \underbrace{c^2 + b^2}_{a^2}} = \sqrt{(\frac{c}{a}x + a)^2} =$$

$$= \left| \frac{c}{a}x + a \right| = \frac{c}{a}x + a \quad (\text{since } -a < x < a)$$

$$\text{Analogously } |KF_2| = \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + b^2(1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2})} =$$

$$= \sqrt{(1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2})x^2 - 2cx + c^2 + b^2} = \left| \frac{c}{a}x - a \right| = a - \frac{c}{a}x \quad (-a < x < a)$$

Hence

$$|KF_1| + |KF_2| = (\frac{c}{a}x + a) + (a - \frac{c}{a}x) = 2a$$

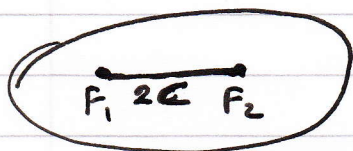
We proved both statements.

there exist Cartesian coordinates (x, y) :

$$\{K: |KF_1| + |KF_2| = 2a\}$$

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

$(b^2 = a^2 - c^2)$



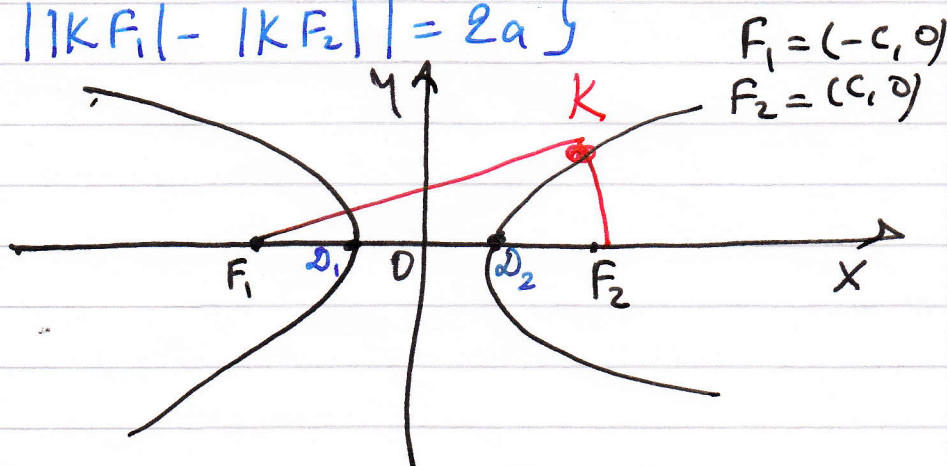
Thus we see that geometrical and analytical definitions of ellipse are equivalent.

Hyperbola

In the same way one can perform a proof for hyperbola and parabola.

Proof for hyperbola

$$K: \{ ||KF_1| - |KF_2|| = 2a \}$$



~~We omit the proofs for hyperbola and parabola~~

We choose Cartesian coordinates such that,

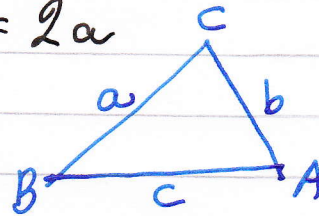
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foci F_1, F_2 are on OX axis, and the origin (point O) is in the middle of the segment $[F_1, F_2]$: $|OF_1| = |OF_2| = c$

$$||KF_1| - |KF_2|| = 2a$$

Note that for any triangle



$$a + b > c$$

$$|a - b| < c$$

Hence for hyperbola

$$||KF_1| - |KF_2|| = 2a < |F_1, F_2| = 2c, \quad a < c.$$

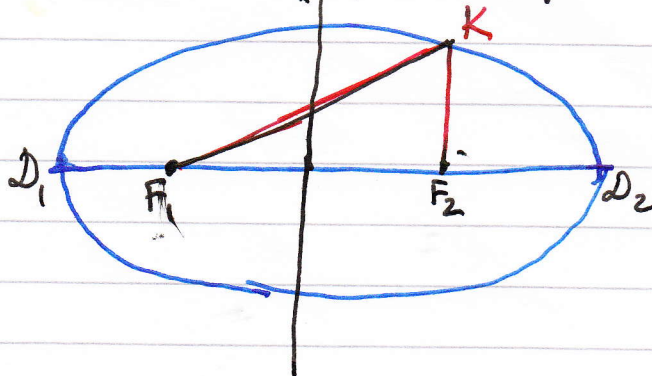
In particular hyperbola intersects OX axis at the points $D_2 = (a, 0)$ and $D_1 = (-a, 0)$

$$|D_1 F_1| - |D_1 F_2| = |-a - (-c)| - |-a - c| = |(c-a) - (c+a)| = 2a$$

$$|D_2 F_1| - |D_2 F_2| = |a - (-c)| - |a - c| = |(a+c) - (c-a)| = 2a$$

(Foci have coordinates $(-c, 0), (0, c)$)

Remark. Note that for ellipse: ~~it is~~ it is opposite: $c < a$



$$F_1 = (-c, 0),$$

$$F_2 = (c, 0)$$

$$D_1 = (-a, 0)$$

$$D_2 = (a, 0)$$

$$|KF_1| + |KF_2| = 2a > |F_1, F_2| = 2c, \quad a > c.$$

Now: $||KF_1| - |KF_2|| = 2a$ (*)

$K = (x, y)$, $F_1 = (-c, 0)$, $F_2 = (c, 0)$

we have

$$\left| \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} - \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} \right| = 2a \quad (*)$$

Performing calculations in the same way like for ellipse we will come to the fact that

geometrical definition (*) is equivalent to

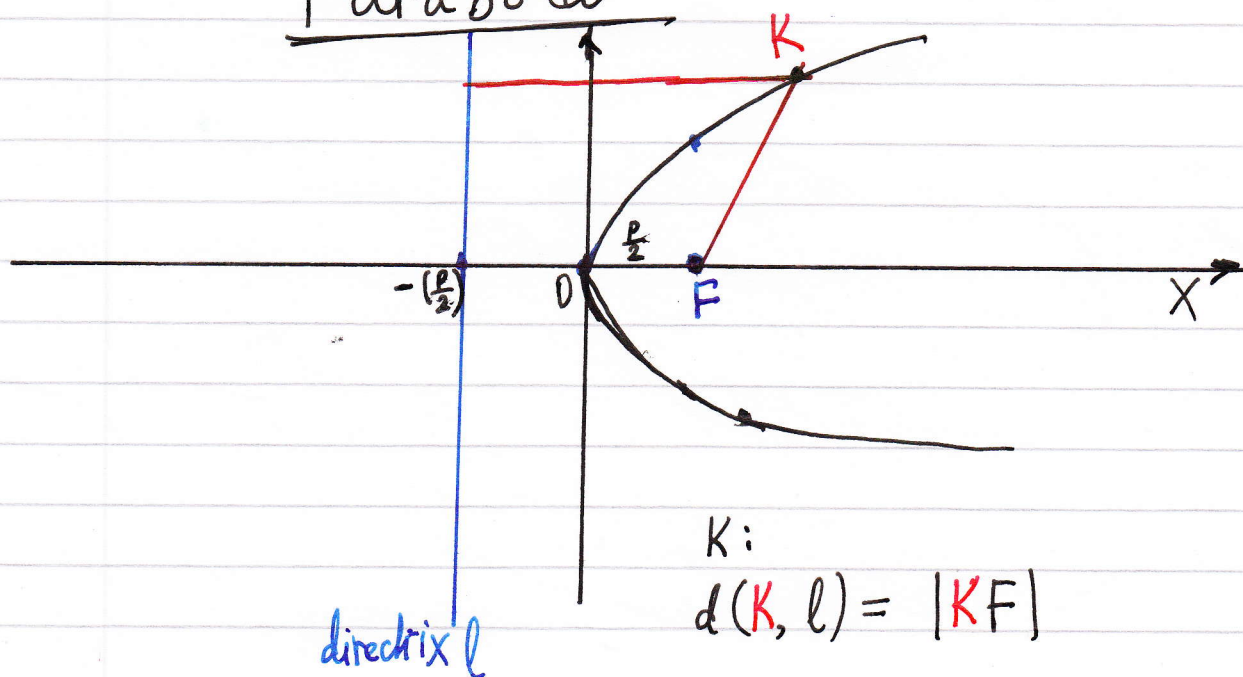
$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

where $b^2 = c^2 - a^2$

i.e. we proved that for hyperbola

geometrical and analytical definitions coincide.

Parabola



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Choose Cartesian coordinates such that axis OX is passing through focus F and this axis is orthogonal to directrix l , and origin (point O) is between focus and directrix.

$$|OF| = d(O, l) = \frac{p}{2} \quad (d(F, l) = p, p > 0)$$

Let (x, y) then $d(,) = |x + \frac{p}{2}|$,

$$| | = \sqrt{(x - \frac{p}{2})^2 + y^2}$$

$$\sqrt{(x - \frac{p}{2})^2 + y^2} = |x + \frac{p}{2}|$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \Updownarrow \\ x^2 - px + \frac{p^2}{4} + y^2 = x^2 + px + \frac{p^2}{4} \\ \Updownarrow \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{y^2 = 2px}$$

Thus we show that for Conic Sections (ellipse, hyperbola and parabola)

geometrical and analytical definitions are equivalent.