

Math 1060 ~ Trigonometry

25 Parametric Descriptions for Oriented Curves

Learning Objectives

In this section you will:

- Eliminate the parameter in a pair of parametric equations.
- Parameterize curves given in Cartesian coordinates.

$\sin^2 u + \cos^2 u = 1$

$\sin 2u = 2 \sin u \cos u$

$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$

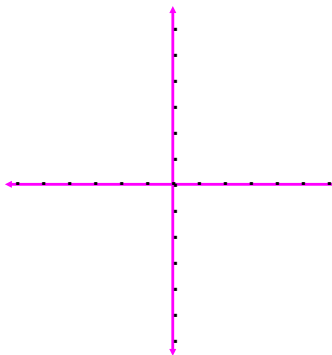
$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$

Eliminating the Parameter in Parametric Equations

To eliminate the parameter, we solve one equation for t and use substitution to arrive at a single equation in terms of x and y .

Ex 1: Eliminate the parameter in this system of equations from the previous lecture.

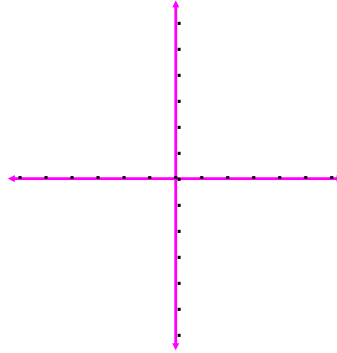
$$\begin{cases} x = 2t + 1 \\ y = t^2 - 2 \end{cases} \quad t \geq -2$$



If the parametric equations have trigonometric expressions, using one of the Pythagorean Identities might be useful.

Ex 2: Eliminate the parameter in this set of equations and sketch the curve.

$$\begin{cases} x = 2 \cos t \\ y = 1 + 3 \sin t \end{cases} \quad 0 \leq t \leq \frac{3\pi}{2}$$



Ex 3: Find a parameterization for each of these equations and sketch each one.

a) $3x - y^2 = 2$ from $x = -2$ to $x = 3$

b) $x^2 - 2x + y^2 + 4y = 4$

