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Q.1. Find the radius curvature for the polar curve $r = f(\theta)$
or, prove that the formula $\rho = \frac{(r^2 + r'^2)^{3/2}}{r^2 + 2r'^2 - rr''}$, where the

symbols have their usual meaning.

Soln: We know that $\frac{1}{\rho^2} = \frac{1}{r^2} + \frac{1}{r^4} \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2$ — (1)
Differentiating both sides with respect to θ , we have

$$-\frac{2}{\rho^3} \frac{d\rho}{d\theta} = -\frac{2}{r^3} \cdot \frac{dr}{d\theta} - \frac{4}{r^5} \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^3 + \frac{2}{r^4} \frac{dr}{d\theta} \cdot \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{d\rho}{d\theta} = \left\{ \frac{1}{r^3} + \frac{2}{r^5} \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{r^4} \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2} \right\} \rho^2$$

$$= \left\{ r^2 + 2 \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 - r \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2} \right\} \cdot \frac{\rho^3}{r^5} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{from (1)} \quad \frac{1}{\rho^2} = \frac{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2}{r^4}$$

$$\text{or, } \rho = \frac{\frac{r^4}{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2}}{\frac{\rho^3}{r^5}} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

We know that $\rho = \frac{r^5}{r^2 + 2 \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 - r \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2}}$ [642]

$$= \frac{r^5}{r^2 + 2 \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 - r \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2}}$$

$$= \frac{r^6 \left\{ r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 \right\}^{3/2}}{r^6 \left\{ r^2 + 2 \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 - r \frac{d^2r}{d\theta^2} \right\}}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \rho = \frac{(r^2 + r'^2)^{3/2}}{r^2 + 2r'^2 - rr''} \quad \text{Proved.}$$

Q.2. Find the radius of curvature when x and y are known functions of s .

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or, prove that the formulae: $\frac{1}{\rho^2} = \left\{ \frac{d^2x}{ds^2} \right\}^2 + \left\{ \frac{d^2y}{ds^2} \right\}^2$

Soln. We know that

$$\cos \psi = \frac{dx}{ds} \quad \text{and} \quad \sin \psi = \frac{dy}{ds}$$

Differentiating with respect to s , we have

$$-\sin \psi \frac{d\psi}{ds} = \frac{d^2x}{ds^2} \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

$$\text{and} \quad \cos \psi \frac{d\psi}{ds} = \frac{d^2y}{ds^2} \quad \text{--- (II)}$$

Squaring and adding (I) and (II), we get

$$\left(\frac{d\psi}{ds} \right)^2 (\sin^2 \psi + \cos^2 \psi) = \left(\frac{d^2x}{ds^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{d^2y}{ds^2} \right)^2$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{1}{\rho^2} = \left(\frac{d^2x}{ds^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{d^2y}{ds^2} \right)^2, \text{ where } \rho = \frac{ds}{d\psi}$$

Q.3. Prove that $r^2 = p^2 + \left(\frac{dp}{d\psi} \right)^2$

$$\text{and } p = r + \frac{dr}{d\psi}$$

Soln. We know that $p = r \sin \phi$ --- (1)

$$\cos \phi = \frac{dr}{ds} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{and } p = r \frac{dr}{p} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{dp}{d\psi} = \frac{dp}{dr} \cdot \frac{dr}{ds} \cdot \frac{ds}{d\psi} = \frac{dp}{dr} \cos \phi \cdot p \quad [\because s = \frac{ds}{d\psi}]$$

$$= \frac{dp}{dr} \cos \phi \cdot r \frac{dr}{dp} \quad \text{from (3)}$$

$$= r \cos \phi \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Squaring and adding (1) and (4), we obtain

$$p^2 + \left(\frac{dp}{d\psi} \right)^2 = r^2 (\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi) = r^2$$

Diff. w.r. to p , we get

$$2p + 2 \frac{dp}{d\psi} \cdot \frac{d\psi}{d\psi} \cdot \frac{d\psi}{dp} = 2r \frac{dr}{dp}$$

$$\text{i.e. } p + \frac{dp}{d\psi} = r \frac{dr}{dp} = p$$

$$\text{Hence, } p = p + \frac{dp}{d\psi} \quad \text{proved.}$$