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Differential Calculus (Curvature) 01-06-2020

Q.1 For the cardioid $r = a(1 - \cos\theta)$, prove that the chord of curvature through the pole is $\frac{4}{3}r$.

Soln We have, $r = a(1 - \cos\theta)$ ——— (I)

Differentiating w.r.t. to θ , we get

$$\frac{dr}{d\theta} = a \sin\theta. \text{ ——— (II)}$$

We know that

$$\tan\phi = r \frac{d\theta}{dr} = \frac{a(1 - \cos\theta)}{a \sin\theta} \quad [\text{from I and II}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\phi = \frac{r \sin\frac{\theta}{2}}{r \sin\frac{\theta}{2} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}} = \tan\frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\phi = \tan\frac{\theta}{2} \Rightarrow \phi = \frac{\theta}{2} \text{ ——— (III)}$$

Also, we have $p = r \sin\phi = r \sin\frac{\theta}{2}$ [from III]

$$\Rightarrow p = r \sin\frac{\theta}{2} = r \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos\theta}{2}}$$

$$= r \sqrt{\frac{r}{2a}} \quad [\text{from (I)}]$$

$$p = \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \text{ ——— IV}$$

Differentiating w.r.t. r , we get

$$\frac{dp}{dr} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}-1}}{\sqrt{2a}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{r^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \text{ ——— V}$$

Hence, the chord of curvature through the pole $= r \frac{dr}{dp}$

$$= r \times \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \times \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{\sqrt{2a}}{r^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad [\text{from IV and V}]$$

$$= \frac{4}{3} r^{\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{4}{3} r \quad \underline{\underline{\text{proved}}}$$

Q.2. Find the chord of curvature through the pole of the cardioid $r = a(1 + \cos\theta)$

Soln. We have $r = a(1 + \cos\theta)$ ——— (I)

Differentiating w.r.t. θ , we get

$$\frac{dr}{d\theta} = -a \sin\theta \quad \text{————— (II)}$$

We know that $\tan\phi = r \frac{d\theta}{dr}$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\phi = \frac{a(1 + \cos\theta)}{a \sin\theta} \quad [\text{from I and II}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\phi = \frac{1 + \cos\frac{\theta}{2}}{\sin\frac{\theta}{2}} = -\cot\frac{\theta}{2} = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\phi = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2}$$

Also, we have, $p = r \sin\phi = r \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow p &= r \cos\frac{\theta}{2} = r \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos\theta}{2}} \\ &= r \sqrt{\frac{r}{2a}} \quad [\text{from I}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \quad \text{————— (III)}$$

Differentiating w.r.t. r , we get

$$\frac{dp}{dr} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}-1}}{\sqrt{2a}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{r^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \quad \text{————— (IV)}$$

Hence, chord of curvature through the pole

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2p \frac{dr}{dp} = 2 \times \frac{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{2a}} \times \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{\sqrt{2a}}{r^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad [\text{from III and IV}] \\ &= \frac{4}{3} r^{\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{4}{3} r \end{aligned}$$

Solved.