

# Hyperbola

01

## Definition of Hyperbola

A hyperbola is the particular case of the conic

$$ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$

When,  $abc + 2fgh - af^2 - bg^2 - ch^2 \neq 0$

i.e.,  $\Delta \neq 0$  and  $h^2 > ab$

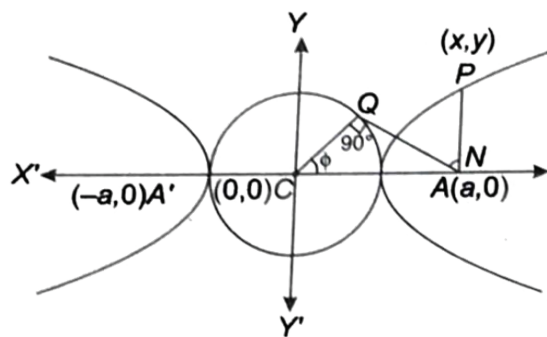
03

## Auxiliary Circle of Hyperbola

Let  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  be the hyperbola with centre C and transverse axis A'A. Therefore, circle drawn with

centre C and segment A'A as a diameter is called auxiliary circle of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ .

Equation of the auxiliary circle is  $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$ .



Let  $\angle QCN = \phi$

Here, P and Q are the corresponding points on the hyperbola and the auxiliary circle ( $0 \leq \phi < 2\pi$ ).

**Note :** Here  $\phi$  is called eccentric angle of point P .

04

## Parametric equations of hyperbola

The equations  $x = a \sec \phi$  and  $y = b \tan \phi$  are known as the parametric equations of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ .

This  $(a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi)$  lies on the hyperbola for all values of  $\phi$ .

Position of points Q on auxiliary circle and the corresponding point P which describes the hyperbola and  $0 \leq \phi < 2\pi$

$\phi$ varies from	Q( $a \cos \phi, b \sin \phi$ )	P( $a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi$ )
$0$ to $\frac{\pi}{2}$	I	I
$\frac{\pi}{2}$ to $\pi$	II	III
$\pi$ to $\frac{3\pi}{2}$	III	II
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$ to $2\pi$	IV	IV

02

## Hyperbola

Hyperbola Fundamentals	Hyperbola	CONJUGATE HYPERBOLA
	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$	$-\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ or $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = -1$
Centre	(0,0)	(0,0)
Length of transverse axis	2a	2b
Length of conjugate axis	2b	2a
Foci	( $\pm ae, 0$ )	(0, $\pm be$ )
Equation of directrices	$x = \pm a/e$	$y = \pm b/e$
Eccentricity	$e = \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{a^2}}$	$e = \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{b^2}}$
Length of latus rectum	$\frac{2b^2}{a}$	$\frac{2a^2}{b}$
Parametric co-ordinates	( $a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi$ ), $0 \leq \phi < 2\pi$	( $b \sec \phi, a \tan \phi$ ), $0 \leq \phi < 2\pi$
Focal radii	$SP = ex_1 - a$ and $S'P = ex_1 + a$	$SP = ey_1 - b$ and $S'P = ey_1 + b$
Difference of focal radii ( $S'P - SP$ )	2a	2b
Tangents at the vertices	$x = -a, x = a$	$y = -b, y = b$
Equation of the transverse axis	$y = 0$	$x = 0$
Equation of the conjugate axis	$x = 0$	$y = 0$

- If e and e' are the eccentricities of a hyperbola and its conjugate, then  $\frac{1}{e^2} + \frac{1}{e'^2} = 1$ .
- The foci of a hyperbola and its conjugate are concyclic.

05

## Position of a Point with Respect to a Hyperbola

Let the hyperbola be  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ . Then,  $P(x_1, y_1)$  will lie inside, on or outside the hyperbola

$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  according as  $\frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_1^2}{b^2} - 1$  is positive, zero or negative.

06

## Equation of the Chord joining Two Points on the Hyperbola

The equation of the chord joining the points  $P(a \sec \phi_1, b \tan \phi_1)$  and  $(a \sec \phi_2, b \tan \phi_2)$

$$y - b \tan \phi_1 = \frac{b \tan \phi_2 - b \tan \phi_1}{a \sec \phi_2 - a \sec \phi_1} (x - a \sec \phi_1) \Rightarrow \frac{x}{a} \cos \left( \frac{\phi_1 - \phi_2}{2} \right) - \frac{y}{b} \sin \left( \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2} \right) = \cos \left( \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2} \right)$$

### Note

- If the chord joining two points  $(a \sec \phi_1, b \tan \phi_1)$  and  $(a \sec \phi_2, b \tan \phi_2)$  passes through the focus of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , then  $\tan \frac{\theta_1}{2} \tan \frac{\theta_2}{2} = \frac{1-e}{1+e}$  or  $\frac{1+e}{1-e}$ .

07

## Intersection of a Line and a Hyperbola

The straight line  $y = mx + c$  will cut the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  in two points may be real, coincident or imaginary according as  $c^2 >, = < a^2 m^2 - b^2$ .

08

## Condition for tangency

If straight line  $y = mx + c$  touches the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , then  $c^2 = a^2 m^2 - b^2$ .

9

## Equations of Tangent in Different Forms

01

**Point form:** The equation of the tangent to the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  at  $(x_1, y_1)$  is  $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = 1$ .

02

**Parametric form:** The equation of tangent to the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  at  $(a \sec \phi, b \tan \phi)$  is  $\frac{x}{a} \sec \phi - \frac{y}{b} \tan \phi = 1$

### Note

Point of intersection of tangents drawn at point on  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  is  $\left( \frac{a \cos \left( \frac{\theta - \phi}{2} \right)}{\cos \left( \frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right)}, \frac{b \sin \left( \frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right)}{\cos \left( \frac{\theta + \phi}{2} \right)} \right)$ .

03

**Slope form:** The equations of tangents of slope  $m$  to the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  are  $y = mx \pm \sqrt{a^2 m^2 - b^2}$  and the co-ordinates of points of contacts are  $\left( -\frac{a^2 m}{c}, -\frac{b^2}{c} \right)$  where  $c^2 = a^2 m^2 - b^2$ .

Clearly for the existence of tangent with slope  $m$  to the hyperbola  $|m| > \frac{b}{a}$  (where  $a, b > 0$ ).

### Note

If the straight line  $lx + my + n = 0$  touches the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , then  $a^2 l^2 - b^2 m^2 = n^2$ .

If the straight line  $x \cos \alpha + y \sin \alpha = p$  touches the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , then  $a^2 \cos^2 \alpha - b^2 \sin^2 \alpha = p^2$ . • Two tangents can be drawn from an outside point to a hyperbola.

10

## Equation of Pair of Tangents

If  $P(x_1, y_1)$  be any point outside the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , then a pair of tangents  $PQ, PR$  can be drawn to it from  $P$

The equation of pair of tangents  $PQ$  and  $PR$  is  $SS_1 = T^2$ , where,

$$S = \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} - 1, S_1 = \frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_1^2}{b^2} - 1, T = \frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} - 1.$$

**Director circle:** The director circle is the locus of points from which perpendicular tangents are drawn to the given hyperbola. The equation of the director circle of the hyperbola

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \text{ is } x^2 + y^2 = a^2 - b^2.$$

# 11

## Equations of Normal in Different Forms

01

**Point form :** The equation of normal to the hyperbola

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \text{ at } (x_1, y_1) \text{ is}$$

$$\frac{a^2x}{x_1} + \frac{b^2y}{y_1} = a^2 + b^2.$$

02

**Parametric form :** The equation of normal at  $(a \sec\theta, b \tan\theta)$ , to the hyperbola

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

$$ax \cos\theta + by \cot\theta = a^2 + b^2.$$

03

**Slope form :** The equation of the normal to the hyperbola

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \text{ in terms of the slope } m \text{ of}$$

$$y = mx \mp \frac{m(a^2 + b^2)}{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2m^2}}$$

04

**Condition of normality :** If  $y = mx + c$  is the normal of

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, \text{ then } c = \mp \frac{m(a^2 + b^2)}{\sqrt{a^2 - m^2b^2}} \text{ or}$$

$$c = \frac{m^2(a^2 + b^2)^2}{(a^2 - m^2b^2)}, \text{ which is condition of normality.}$$

# 12

## Important Tips

01

In general, four normals can be drawn to a hyperbola from any point and if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  be the eccentric angles of these four co-normal points, then  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta$  is an odd multiple of  $\pi$ .

02

if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are the eccentric angles of three points on the hyperbola.

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, \text{ at which the normals are concurrent, then}$$

$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) + \sin(\beta + \gamma) + \sin(\gamma + \alpha) = 0.$$

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If the normal at  $P$  meets the transverse axis in  $G$ , then  $SG = e.SP$ .

Also the tangent and normal bisect the angle between the focal distances of  $P$

04

If the normal at  $P$  meets the transverse axis in  $G$  and conjugate axis at  $g$ , then

$$PG : Pg = b^2 : a^2.$$

# 13

## Equation of Chord of Contact of Tangents drawn from a Point to a Hyperbola

Let  $PQ$  and  $PR$  be tangents to the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$

drawn from any external point  $P(x_1, y_1)$ .

Then equation of chord of contact  $QR$  is or  $\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = 1$

or  $T = 0$  (At  $x_1, y_1$ )

# 14

## Equation of the Chord of the Hyperbola whose Mid-point $(x_1, y_1)$ is given

Equation of the chord of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , bisected at the given point  $(x_1, y_1)$  is

$$\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} - 1 = \frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_1^2}{b^2} - 1, \text{ i.e., } T = S_1.$$

**Note**

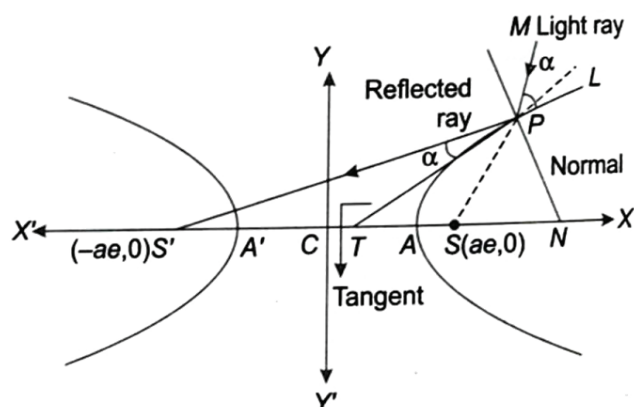
The length of chord cut off by hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  from the line

$$y = mx + c \text{ is } \frac{2ab\sqrt{[c^2 - (a^2m^2 - b^2)](1+m^2)}}{(b^2 - a^2m^2)}.$$

# 15

## Reflection Property of the Hyperbola

If an incoming light ray passing through one focus ( $S$ ) strike convex side of the hyperbola, then it will get reflected towards other focus ( $S'$ ).  $\angle TPS' = \angle LPM = \alpha$



**Note**

Hyperbola and ellipse are called orthogonal curves to each other if they are confocal (i.e., they have the same foci).

# 16

## Asymptotes of a Hyperbola

The equations of two asymptotes of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  are

$$y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x \text{ or } \frac{x}{a} \pm \frac{y}{b} = 0.$$

**Important Tips**

The product of length of perpendiculars drawn from any point on the hyperbola

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \text{ to the asymptotes is } \frac{a^2b^2}{a^2 + b^2}.$$

• The tangent at any point  $P$  on hyperbola if meet its asymptotes at  $Q$  and  $R$ , then :

(i) the midpoint of  $QR$  is always  $P$ ,

(ii) area of triangle  $QCR$  is always " $ab$ " where  $C$  is the of hyperbola and  $2a =$  length of transverse axis,  $2b =$  length of conjugate axis of hyperbola.

# 17

## Rectangular or Equilateral Hyperbola

**(i) Definition :** A hyperbola whose asymptotes are at right angles to each other is called a rectangular hyperbola. The eccentricity of rectangular hyperbola is always  $\sqrt{2}$ . The general equation of second degree represents a rectangular hyperbola if  $\Delta \neq 0$ ,  $h^2 > ab$  and coefficient of  $x^2 +$  coefficient of  $y^2 = 0$ .

# 18

## Parametric coordinates of a point on the hyperbola $xy = c^2$

If  $t$  is non-zero variable, the coordinates of any point on the rectangular hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  can be written as  $\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$ . The point

$\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$  on the hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  is generally referred as the point ' $t$ '.

For rectangular hyperbola the coordinates of foci are  $(\pm a\sqrt{2}, 0)$  and directrices are  $x = \pm a\sqrt{2}$ .

For rectangular hyperbola  $xy = c^2$ , the coordinates of foci are  $(\pm c\sqrt{2}, \pm c\sqrt{2})$  and directrices are  $x + y = \pm c\sqrt{2}$ .

# 19

## Equation of the chord joining points $t_1$ and $t_2$

The equation of the chord joining two points  $\left(ct_1, \frac{c}{t_1}\right)$  and  $\left(ct_2, \frac{c}{t_2}\right)$  on the

$$\text{hyperbola } xy = c^2 \text{ is } y - \frac{c}{t_1} = \frac{\frac{c}{t_2} - \frac{c}{t_1}}{ct_2 - ct_1}(x - ct_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x + yt_1t_2 = c(t_1 + t_2).$$

# 20

## Equation of tangent in different forms

**(i) Point form :** The equation of tangent at  $(x_1, y_1)$  to the hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  is

$$xy_1 + yx_1 = 2c^2 \text{ or } \frac{x}{x_1} + \frac{y}{y_1} = 2.$$

**(ii) Parametric form :** The equation of the

tangent at  $\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$  to the hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  is

$$\frac{x}{t} + yt = 2c \text{ On replacing } x_1 \text{ by } ct \text{ and } y_1 \text{ by } \frac{c}{t}$$

on the equation of the tangent at  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,

$$\text{i.e., } xy_1 + yx_1 = 2c^2, \text{ we get } \frac{x}{t} + yt = 2c.$$

### Note

$$\text{Point of intersection of tangents at } t_1 \text{ and } t_2 \text{ is } \left(\frac{2ct_1t_2}{t_1+t_2}, \frac{2c}{t_1+t_2}\right).$$

# 21

## Equation of the chord joining points $t_1$ and $t_2$

**(i) Point form :** The equation of the normal at  $(x_1, y_1)$  to the hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  is  $xx_1 - yy_1 = x_1^2 - y_1^2$ .

**(ii) Parametric form :** The equation of the normal at  $\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$  to the hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  is  $xt^3 - yt - ct^4 + c = 0$ .

### Note

- The equation of the normal at  $\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$  is a fourth degree in  $t$ . So, in general,
- If the normal at  $\left(ct, \frac{c}{t}\right)$  on the curve  $xy = c^2$  meets the curve again in  $t'$  then  $t' = -\frac{1}{t^3}$ .

• Point of intersection of normals at  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  is

$$\left\{ \frac{c\{t_1t_2(t_1^2 + t_1t_2 + t_2^2) - 1\}}{t_1t_2(t_1 + t_2)}, \frac{c\{t_1^3t_2^3(t_1^2 + t_1t_2 + t_2^2)\}}{t_1t_2(t_1 + t_2)} \right\}.$$

- A triangle has its vertices on a rectangular hyperbola; then the orthocentre of the triangle also lies on the same hyperbola
- All conics passing through the intersection of two rectangular hyperbolas are themselves rectangular hyperbolas.

# 22

## Intersection of a Circle and a Rectangular Hyperbola

If a circle  $x^2 + y^2 + 2gx + 2fy + k = 0$  cuts a rectangular hyperbola  $xy = c^2$  in A, B, C and D and

the parameters of these four points  $t_1, t_2, t_3$  and  $t_4$  respectively, then :

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(i)

$$\sum t_1 = -\frac{2g}{c}$$

(ii)

$$\sum t_1t_2 = \frac{k}{c^2}$$

(iii)

$$\sum t_1t_2t_3 = -\frac{2f}{c}$$

(iv)

$$t_1t_2t_3t_4 = 1$$

(v)

$$\sum \frac{1}{t_1} = -\frac{2f}{c}$$