

# Tangent Lines in Polar

$$\underline{\text{slope of tangent line}} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

\* turn polar into parametric for tangents

$$x = r \cos \theta$$

$$r = f(\theta)$$

$$y = r \sin \theta$$

$$x = f(\theta) \cos \theta$$

$$y = f(\theta) \sin \theta$$

$$\text{slope tangent} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/d\theta}{dx/d\theta}$$

$$\text{horiz tangents} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = 0$$

$$\text{vert tangents} \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{d\theta} = 0$$

if both = 0 at same  $\theta$ , then not horiz or vert  
 $\Rightarrow$  cusp

Ex.  $r = 2 - 2\cos\theta$

① Find eqn. of tangent at  $\theta = \pi/2$

$x = (2 - 2\cos\theta)\cos\theta$   
 $y = (2 - 2\cos\theta)\sin\theta$

→ Plug in  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  to get pt.  $(0, 2)$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2\sin\theta \sin\theta + (2 - 2\cos\theta)\cos\theta}{2\sin\theta \cos\theta - (2 - 2\cos\theta)\sin\theta} \bigg|_{\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{2}{-2} = -1$$

$y - 2 = -1(x - 0) \Rightarrow \boxed{y = -x + 2}$

Horiz & Vert tangents  $\Rightarrow$  give polar pts

Horiz:  $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = 0 = 2\sin^2\theta + 2\cos\theta - 2\cos^2\theta$

$$= 2(1 - \cos^2\theta) + 2\cos\theta - 2\cos^2\theta = 0$$

$$= -4\cos^2\theta + 2\cos\theta + 2 = -2(2\cos^2\theta - \cos\theta - 1) = 0$$

$$-2(2\cos\theta + 1)(\cos\theta - 1) = 0$$

$\cos\theta = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \cos\theta = 1$

$\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{4\pi}{3} \quad \theta = 0$

polar pts  $[r, \theta]$

$[3, \frac{2\pi}{3}]$

$[3, \frac{4\pi}{3}]$

Vert:  $\frac{dx}{d\theta} = 0 = 2\sin\theta \cos\theta - 2\sin\theta + 2\sin\theta \cos\theta$

$$= 4\sin\theta \cos\theta - 2\sin\theta = 2\sin\theta(2\cos\theta - 1) = 0$$

$\sin\theta = 0 \quad \cos\theta = \frac{1}{2}$

$\theta = 0, \pi \quad \theta = \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$

polar pts

$[4, \pi] \quad [1, \frac{\pi}{3}]$

$[1, \frac{5\pi}{3}]$

Tangents at pole  $\Rightarrow$  tangents that pass through pole (origin)

only ones that don't use  $x+y$ .

Find where  $r=0$  and  $\frac{dr}{d\theta} \neq 0$

Ans  $\Rightarrow \theta = \# \rightarrow$  convert to rect. if needed.

Ex.  $r = 2\sin 3\theta$ . Find tangents at pole.

Rose  
w/ 3 petals  
int:  $[0, \pi)$

$$r=0 \rightarrow 2\sin 3\theta = 0$$
$$\sin 3\theta = 0$$

$$3\theta = 0, \pi, 2\pi, 3\pi, 4\pi, 5\pi$$

$$\theta = 0, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}, \pi, \frac{4\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$$

$$\frac{dr}{d\theta} = 6\cos 3\theta \neq 0 \text{ at } \theta = \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{4\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$$

Polar

$$\theta = 0$$
$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$
$$\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

Rect.  $\rightarrow$  Convert

$$\tan \theta = \tan 0$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$y = 0$$

$$\tan \theta = \tan \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = \sqrt{3} \Rightarrow$$

$$y = \sqrt{3}x$$

$$\tan \theta = \tan \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$y = -\sqrt{3}x$$