

HYPERBOLA : A hyperbola is the set of all points in the plane, the difference of whose distances from two fixed points is a given positive constant that is less than the distance between the fixed points.

The two fixed points are called the foci of the hyperbola.

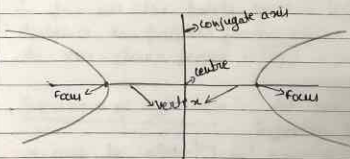
Note: (1) It is understood that the ^{term} difference used in defⁿ means - the distance to the farther focus minus the distance to the closer focus.

(2) Thus, the points on the hyperbola form two branches each wrapping around the closer focus.

The mid point of the line segment joining the foci is called the centre of the hyperbola.

The line through the foci is called the focal axis & a line through the centre that is perpendicular to the focal axis is called the conjugate axis.

The hyperbola intersects the focal axis at two points called the vertices.



Let the distance between the vertices be denoted by ' $2a$ ' & the distance between the two foci by ' $2c$ '

Define $b = \sqrt{c^2 - a^2}$ — (1)

$a \rightarrow$ semi focal axis

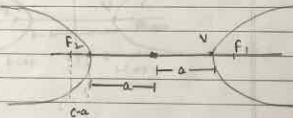
$b \rightarrow$ semi conjugate axis

(Note that these are not geometric axes)

Let V be one of the vertices, then the distance from V to the farther focus minus the distance from V to closer focus is

$[(c-a) + 2a] - (c-a) = 2a$ — (2)

$\downarrow$
Distance from
farther focus F_2



(Note: V lies on the ~~hyperbola~~ hyperbola)

$\therefore$ for all the points on the hyperbola, the distance to farther focus minus the distance to the closer focus is $[2a]$ (from (2))

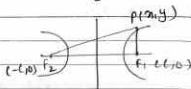
Equations of Hyperbola: Let the centre of the hyperbola be origin, x -axis be along the focal axis & y axis along the conjugate axis.

∴ coordinates of foci are- $F_1: (c, 0)$, $F_2: (-c, 0)$
 vertices $V_1: (a, 0)$, $V_2: (-a, 0)$

Let $P(x, y)$ be any pt on the hyperbola

Now $PF_2 - PF_1 = 2a$

$$\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} - \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = 2a$$



$$\Rightarrow (x+c)^2 + y^2 = 4a^2 + (x-c)^2 + y^2 + 4a\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4cx = 4a^2 + 4a\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow cx - a^2 = a\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow c^2x^2 + a^4 - 2a^2cx = a^2(x-c)^2 + a^2y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow c^2x^2 + a^4 - 2a^2cx = a^2x^2 + a^2c^2 - 2a^2cx + a^2y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (c^2 - a^2)x^2 - a^2y^2 = a^2(c^2 - a^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{c^2 - a^2} = 1 \quad (\text{from (1)})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Rewrite this eqn as

$$y^2 = \frac{b^2}{a^2} (x^2 - a^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \pm \frac{b}{a} \sqrt{x^2 - a^2} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

ASYMPTOTES of the hyperbola

Associated with every hyperbola, there is a pair of lines, called the asymptotes (oblique) of the hyperbola. These lines intersect at the center of the hyperbola & have the property that as a point P moves along the hyperbola away from the centre, the vertical distance

between P & one of the asymptotes approaches zero

(Asymptotes are lines such that the vertical distance between the curve & lines tends to zero).

→ We shall show that the lines $y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$ are the two asymptotes to the hyperbola.

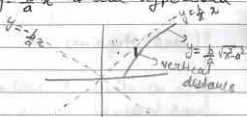
In the first quadrant, consider the distance between the line $y = \frac{b}{a}x$ & the hyperbola

$$\frac{b}{a}x - \frac{b}{a}\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{b}{a}x - \frac{b}{a}\sqrt{x^2 - a^2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b}{a} \frac{(x - \sqrt{x^2 - a^2})(x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2})}{x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b}{a} \frac{a^2}{x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{ab}{x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = 0$$



Similarly, considering the rest of the quadrant, we have

$y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$ are two asymptotes to the hyperbola.

A quick way to find asymptotes to the hyperbola:

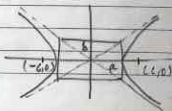
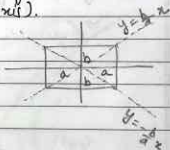
For the eqⁿ in the standard form, write 0 in place of 1 & solve the asymptotes to the hyperbola $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ are given by

$$\left[\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 0 \right] \Rightarrow y^2 = \frac{b^2}{a^2}x^2 \Rightarrow y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$$

Sketching Hyperbolas:

- ① Determine whether the focal axis is on the x -axis or the y -axis.
 - The focal axis is along the x -axis when the minus sign precedes the y^2 term, and it is along the y -axis when the minus sign precedes the x^2 term.
- ② Let the given eqⁿ be of the form $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$, then, the focal axis is along x -axis (For the eqⁿ $\frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{x^2}{a^2} = 1$, the x -axis is ~~the~~ taken along b^2 ~~the~~ conjugate axis).
- ③ Draw a box extending ' a ' units on either side of the centre along the focal axis & ' b ' units on either side of the centre along the conjugate axis).

(Note the eqⁿ of the diagonals in this case is: $y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$, which are asymptotes to the hyperbola)
- ④ Draw the asymptotes along the diagonals of the box. (Use dotted line)
- ⑤ Using the box & the asymptotes as a guide, sketch the graph.



eg Sketch $\frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$

- ① Since minus sign precedes the y^2 term, the focal axis is taken along x -axis.

$$a^2 = 4, \quad b^2 = 9$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 2, \quad b = 3 \quad (\because \text{they are +ve})$$

- ② Co-ord of vertices are $(2, 0)$ & $(-2, 0)$

③ $c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = \sqrt{4 + 9} = \sqrt{13} \approx 3.6$

$\therefore$ co-ord of focus are $(3.6, 0)$ & $(-3.6, 0)$

- ④ Asymptotes are given by

$$\frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{y^2}{9} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \pm \frac{3}{2}x$$

- ⑤ Draw a box extending 2 units along x -axis on each side of the origin & 3 units on each side of the origin along the y -axis.
- ⑥ Draw asymptotes along the diagonals of the box.

- ⑦ Sketch the hyperbola

