

Converting Rectangular Equations to Polar Equations

Remember our conversions:

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

$$x = r \cos \theta$$

$$y = r \sin \theta$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$$

Polar \rightarrow Rect

① $(r) = (5)^2$

$$r^2 = 25$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25$$

② $(r) = (3 \sin \theta) \cdot r$

$$r^2 = 3r \sin \theta$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 3y$$

Sometimes we multiply by r to get r^2 , other times we square both sides.

③ $\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$

$$\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) = \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right)$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right)$$

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

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

④ $r = -6 \sec \theta$

$$\cos(\theta) = \left(\frac{-6}{r} \right) \cos \theta$$

$$r \cos \theta = -6$$

$$x = -6$$

⑤ $r = \frac{10 \cos \theta - 7 \sin \theta}{13}$

mult. by denom.

$$r(10 \cos \theta - 7 \sin \theta) = 13$$

$$10r \cos \theta - 7r \sin \theta = 13$$

$$10x - 7y = 13$$

Rect \rightarrow Polar

① $(x) + (y) = 2$

$$r \cos \theta + r \sin \theta = 2$$

Put into $r = \text{form} \dots$

$$\frac{r(\cos \theta + \sin \theta) = 2}{\cos \theta + \sin \theta}$$

$$r = \frac{2}{\cos \theta + \sin \theta}$$

② $\left(\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1 \right) \cdot 36$

$$4x^2 + 9y^2 = 36$$

$$4r^2 \cos^2 \theta + 9r^2 \sin^2 \theta = 36$$

$$\frac{r^2(4 \cos^2 \theta + 9 \sin^2 \theta) = 36}{4 \cos^2 \theta + 9 \sin^2 \theta}$$

$$\sqrt{r^2} = \sqrt{\frac{36}{4 \cos^2 \theta + 9 \sin^2 \theta}}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{36}{4 \cos^2 \theta + 9 \sin^2 \theta}}$$