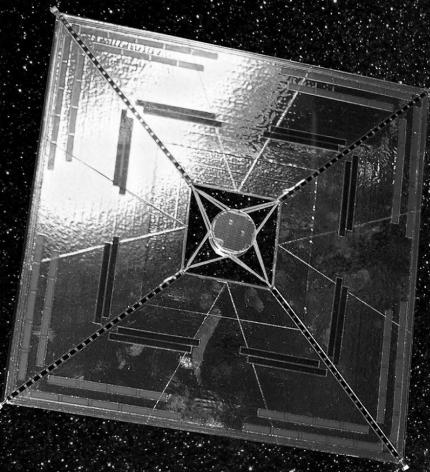


# Pedal coordinates, Dipole drive orbits and other force problems



Białystok 24. 6. 2022  
Petr Blaschke

# Tennis racket problem



KT

# Tennis racket problem

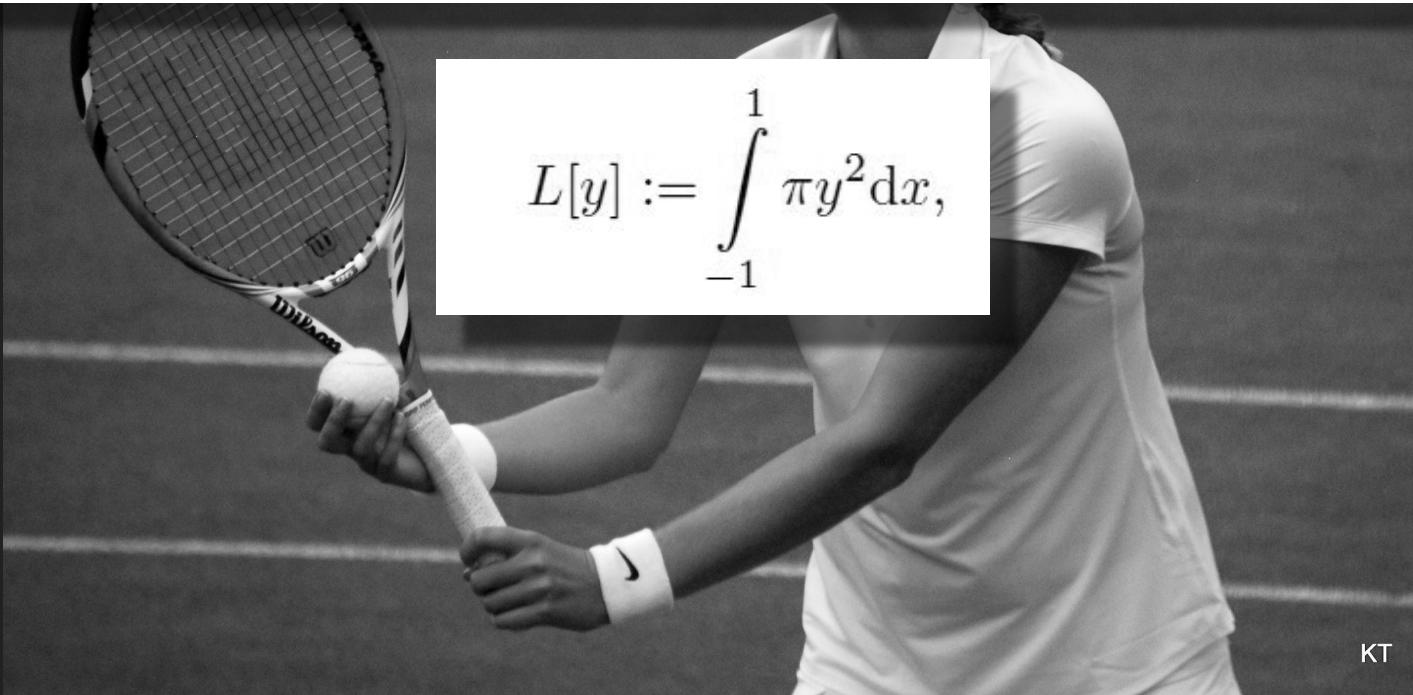
*Find a curve of a given length fixed on both ends that sweeps maximal volume when rotated around the  $x$ -axis.*



# Tennis racket problem

*Find a curve of a given length fixed on both ends that sweeps maximal volume when rotated around the x-axis.*

$$L[y] := \int_{-1}^1 \pi y^2 dx,$$



# Tennis racket problem

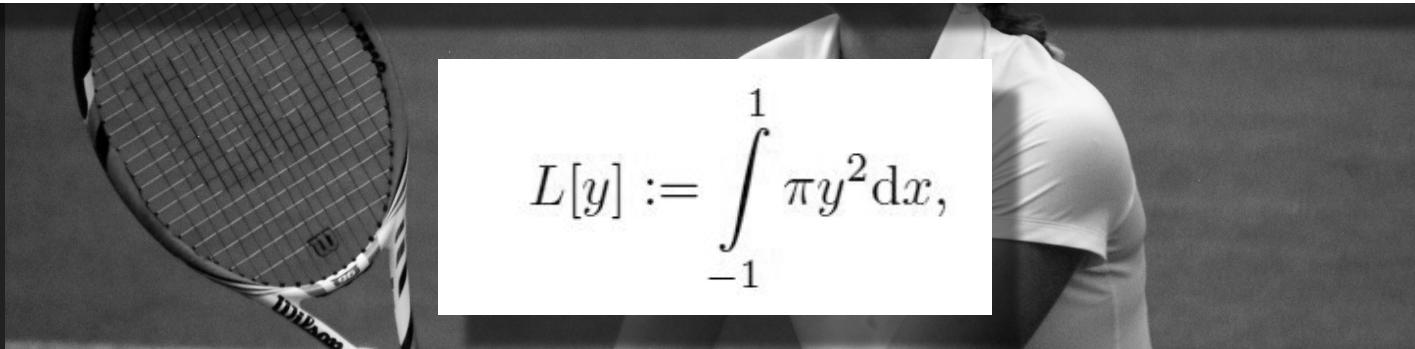
Find a curve of a given length fixed on both ends that sweeps maximal volume when rotated around the  $x$ -axis.

$$L[y] := \int_{-1}^1 \pi y^2 dx,$$

$$y(-1) = y(1) = 0, \quad \int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 + y'^2} dx = l,$$

Beltrami identity:

$$\pi y^2 + \lambda \sqrt{1 + y'^2} - \lambda \frac{y'^2}{\sqrt{1 + y'^2}} = C$$



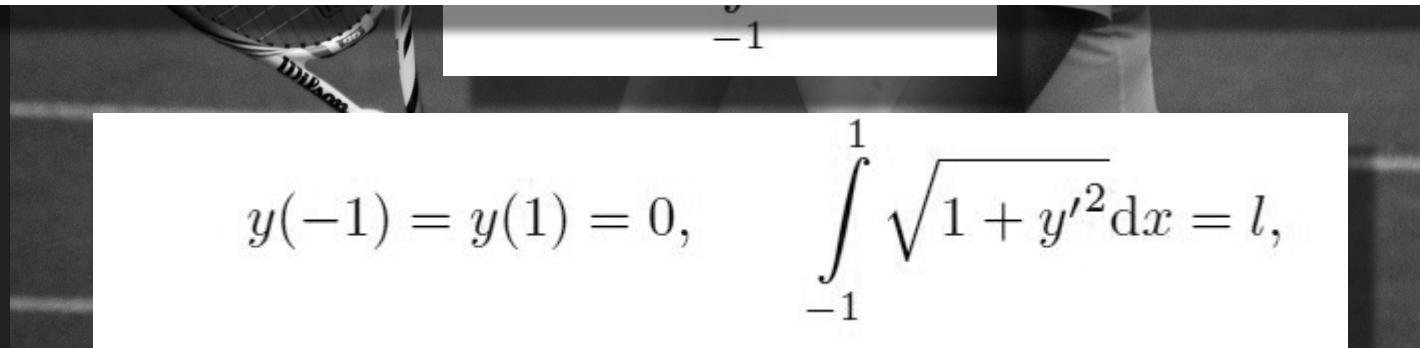
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$$\sqrt{\frac{\lambda - C}{\pi}} F \left( y \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{C + \lambda}}, k \right) - \sqrt{\frac{\lambda - C}{\pi}} E \left( y \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{C + \lambda}}, k \right) + Cy = x - d.$$



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Euler-Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{y''}{(1 + y'^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} y.$$

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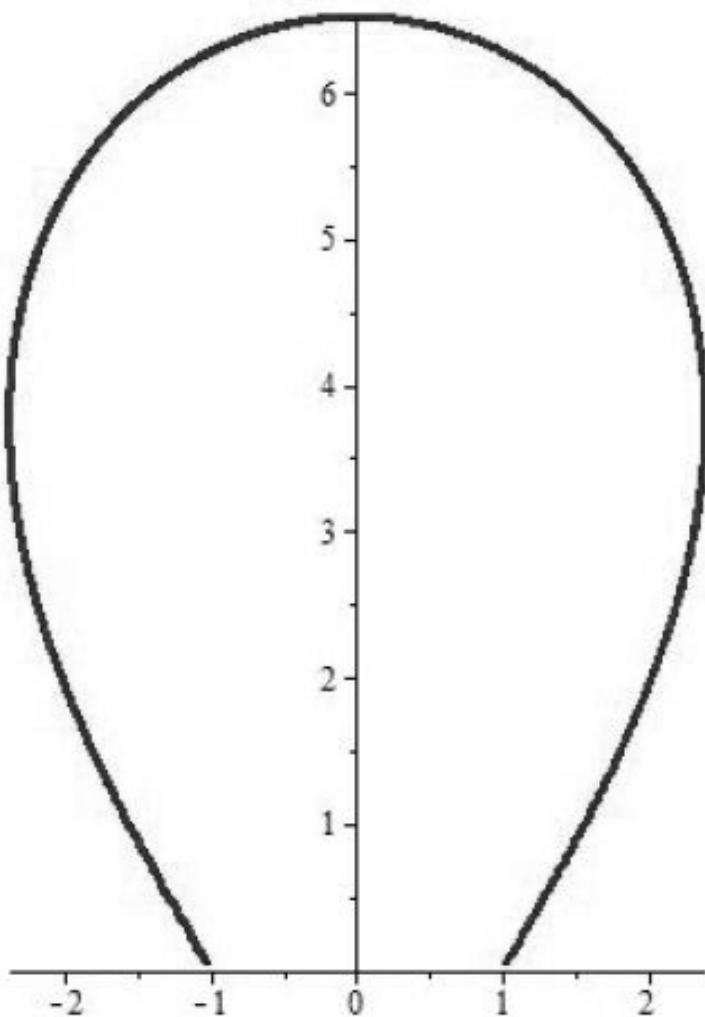
$$\frac{y''}{(1 + y'^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} y.$$

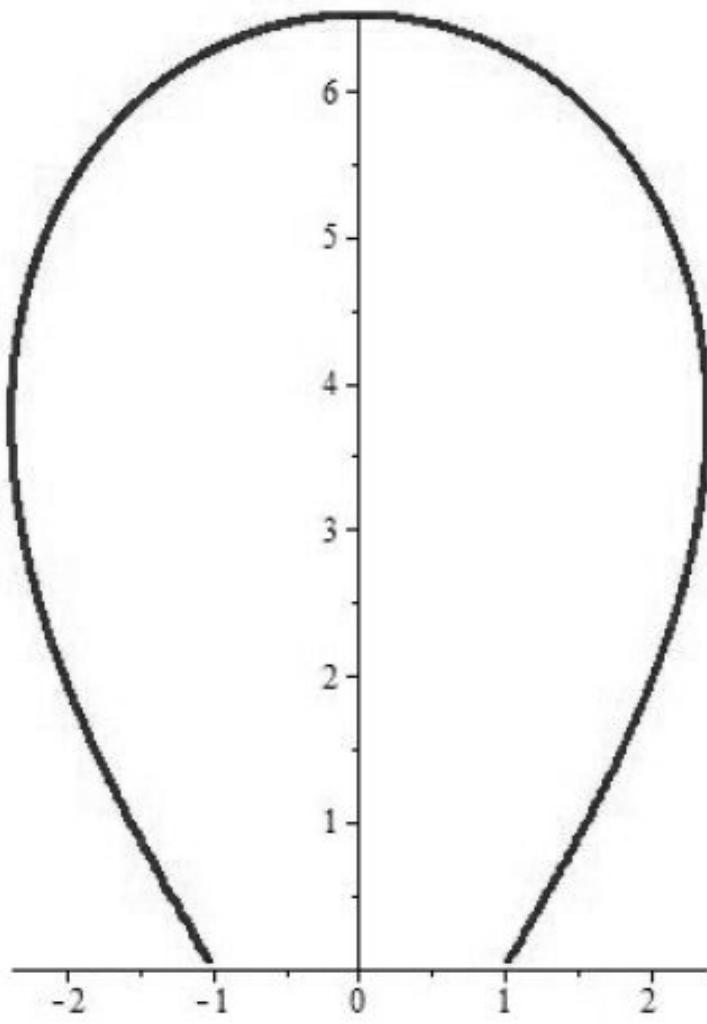
Beltrami identity:

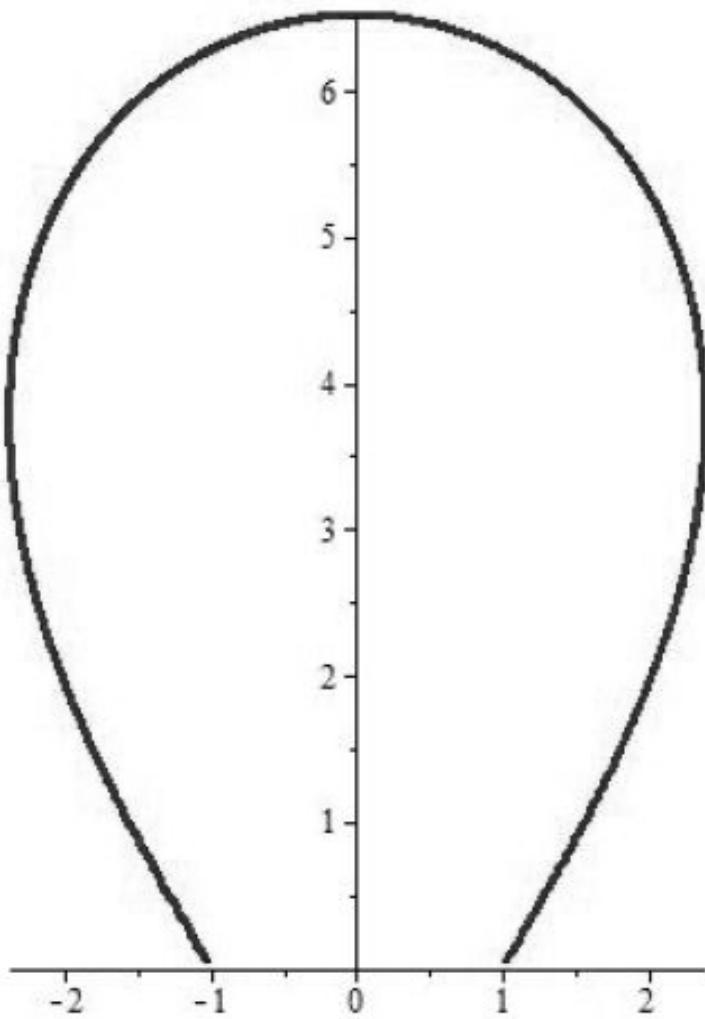
$$\sqrt{\frac{\lambda - C}{\pi}} F \left( y \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{C + \lambda}}, k \right) - \sqrt{C + \lambda} \int_{y_0}^y \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{C + \lambda}} dk = 0$$

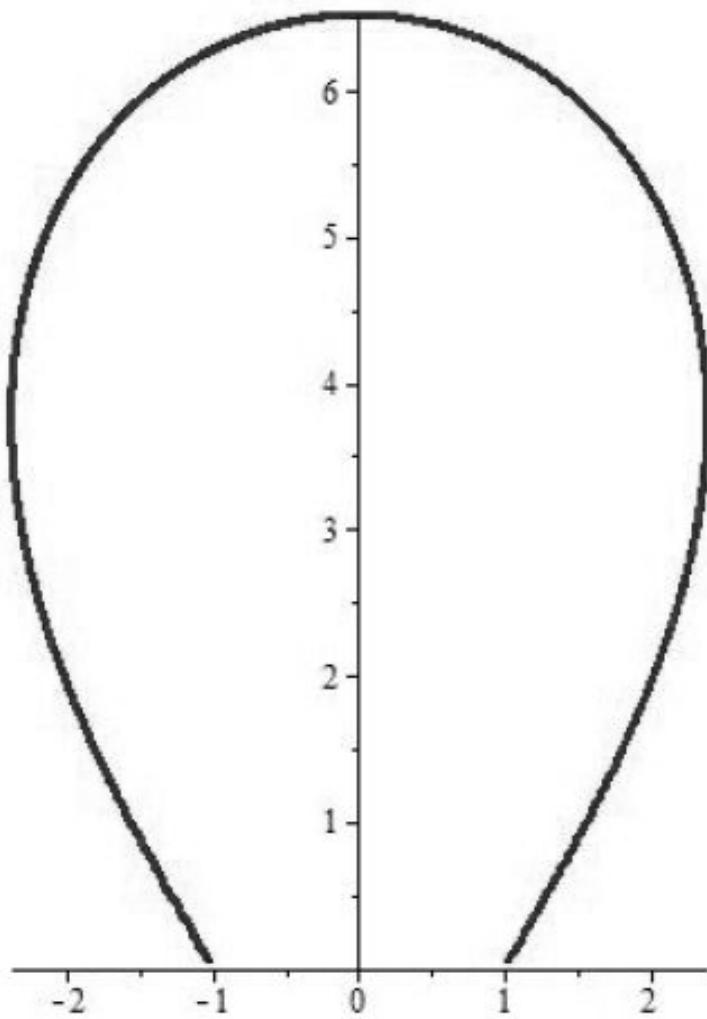
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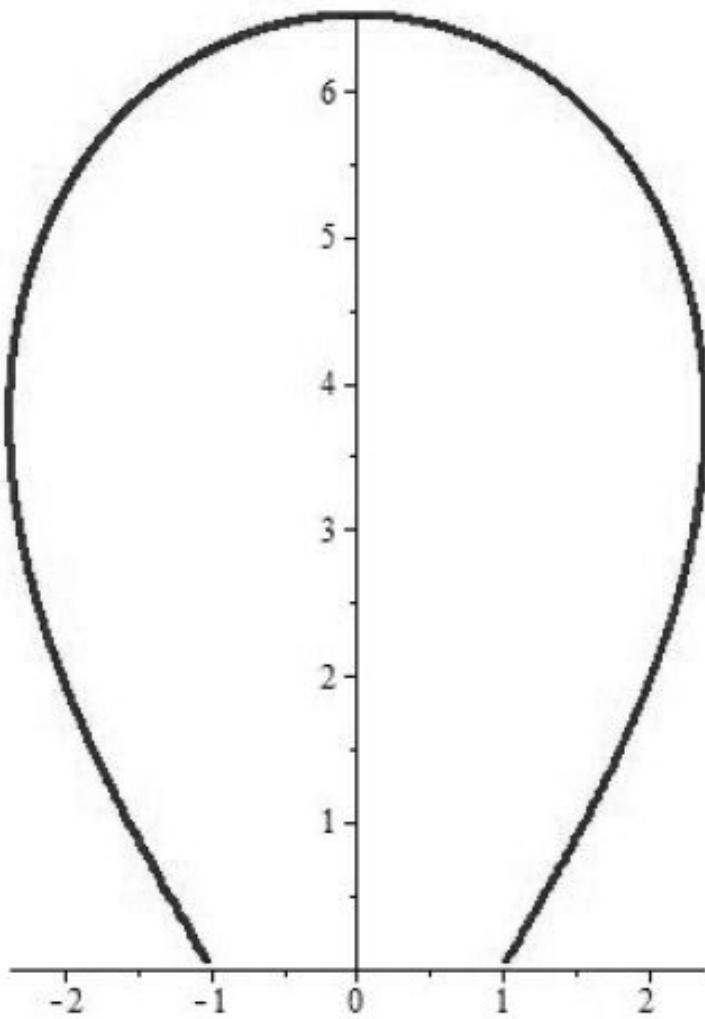








# Elastic curve

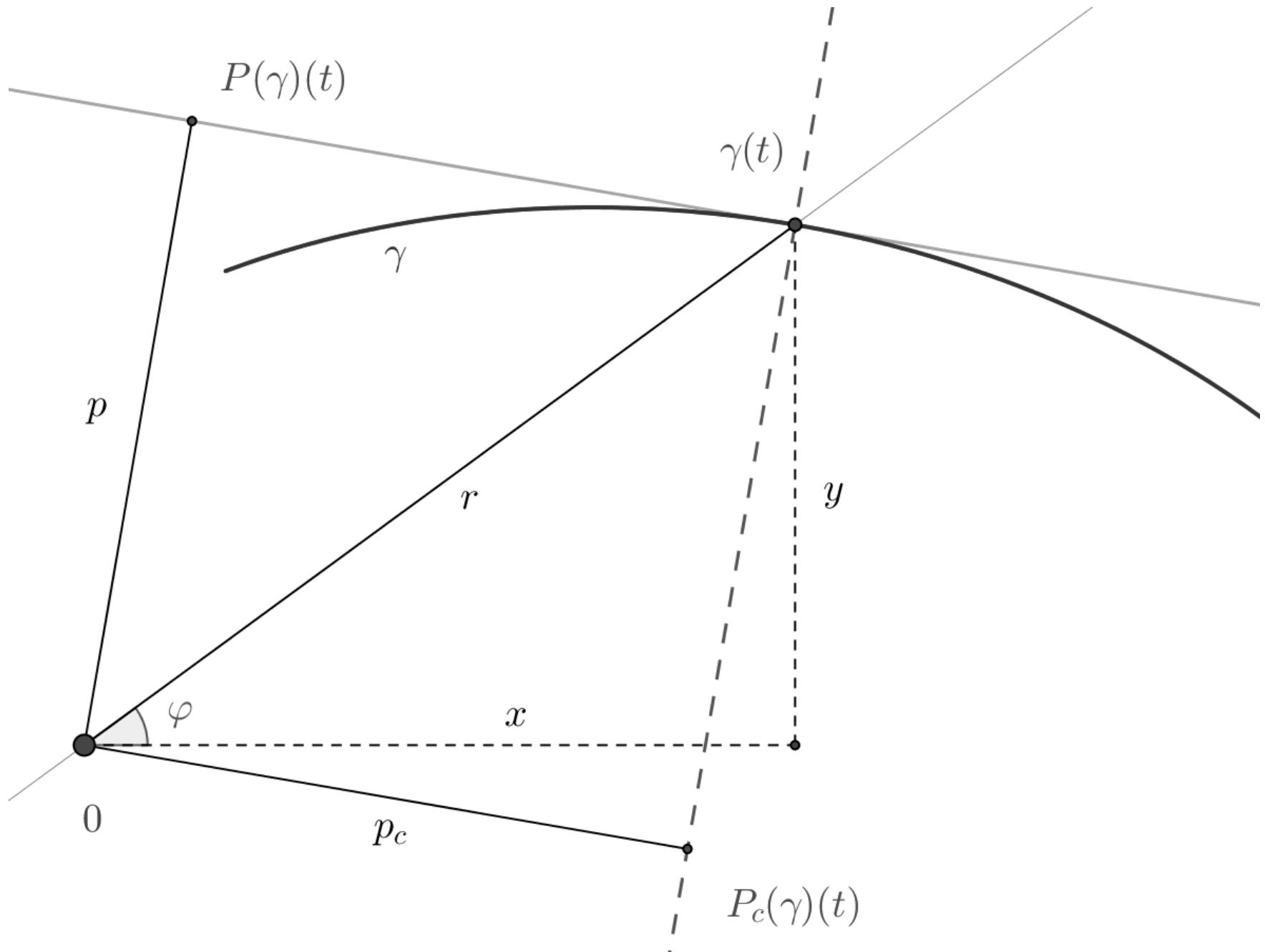




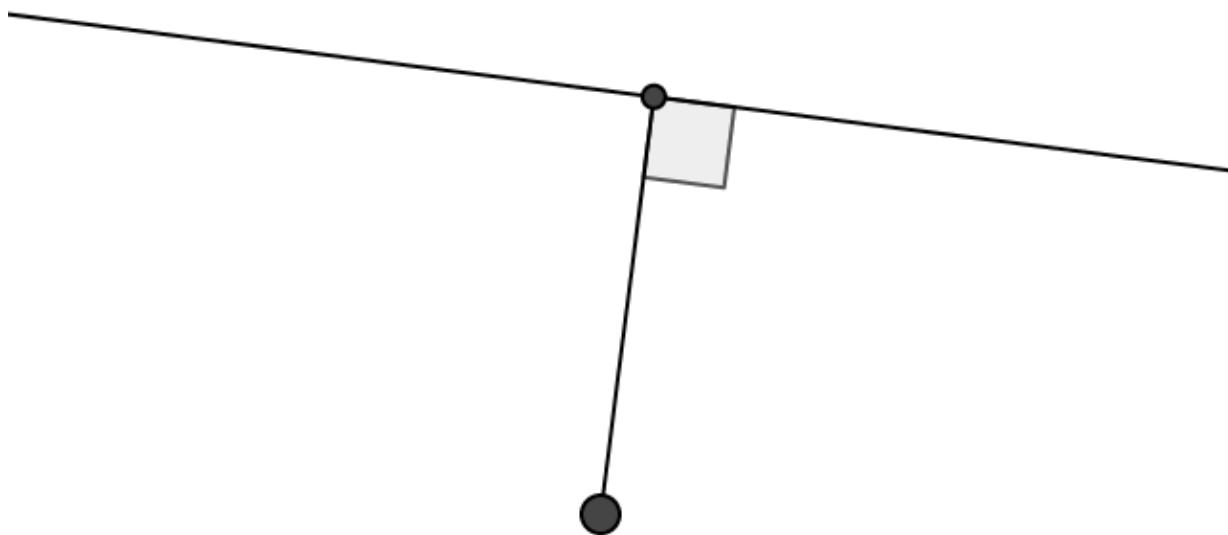
Pedal  
coordinates

Cartesian,  
polar  
coordinates

# Coordinates



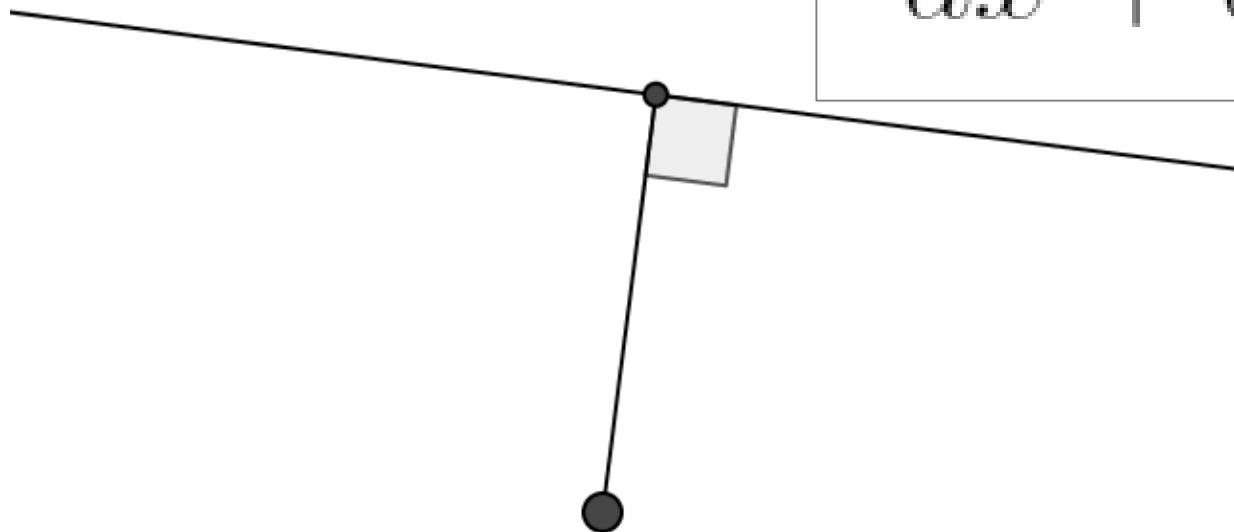
# Line



0

# Line

$$ax + by + c = 0.$$



0

# Line

$$ax + by + c = 0.$$

$$r = \frac{c}{a \cos \varphi + b \sin \varphi}.$$



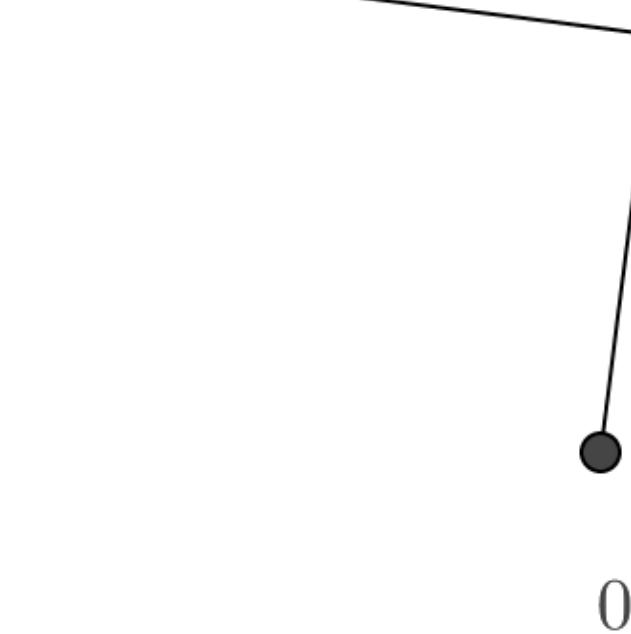
0

# Line

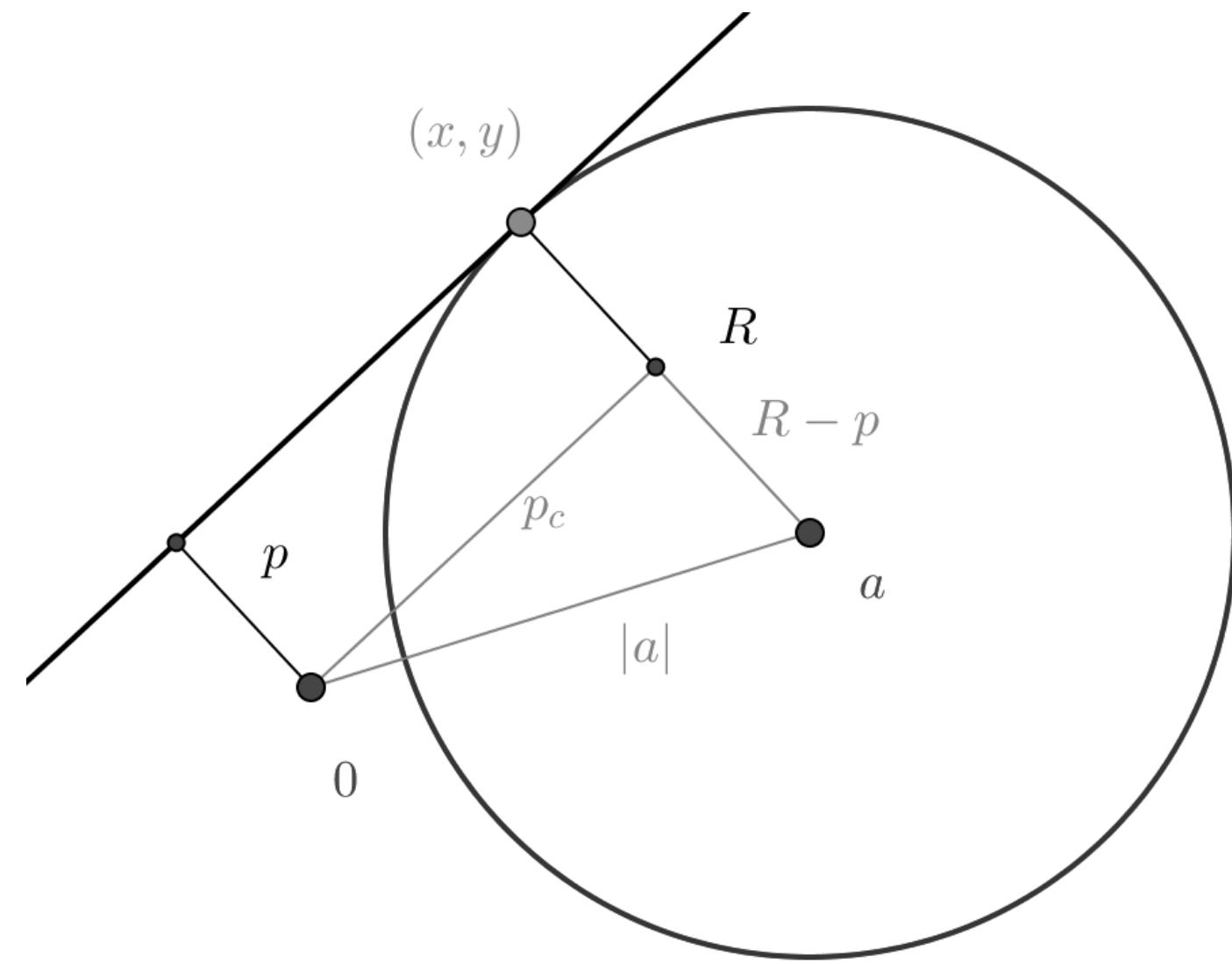
$$ax + by + c = 0.$$

$$r = \frac{c}{a \cos \varphi + b \sin \varphi}.$$

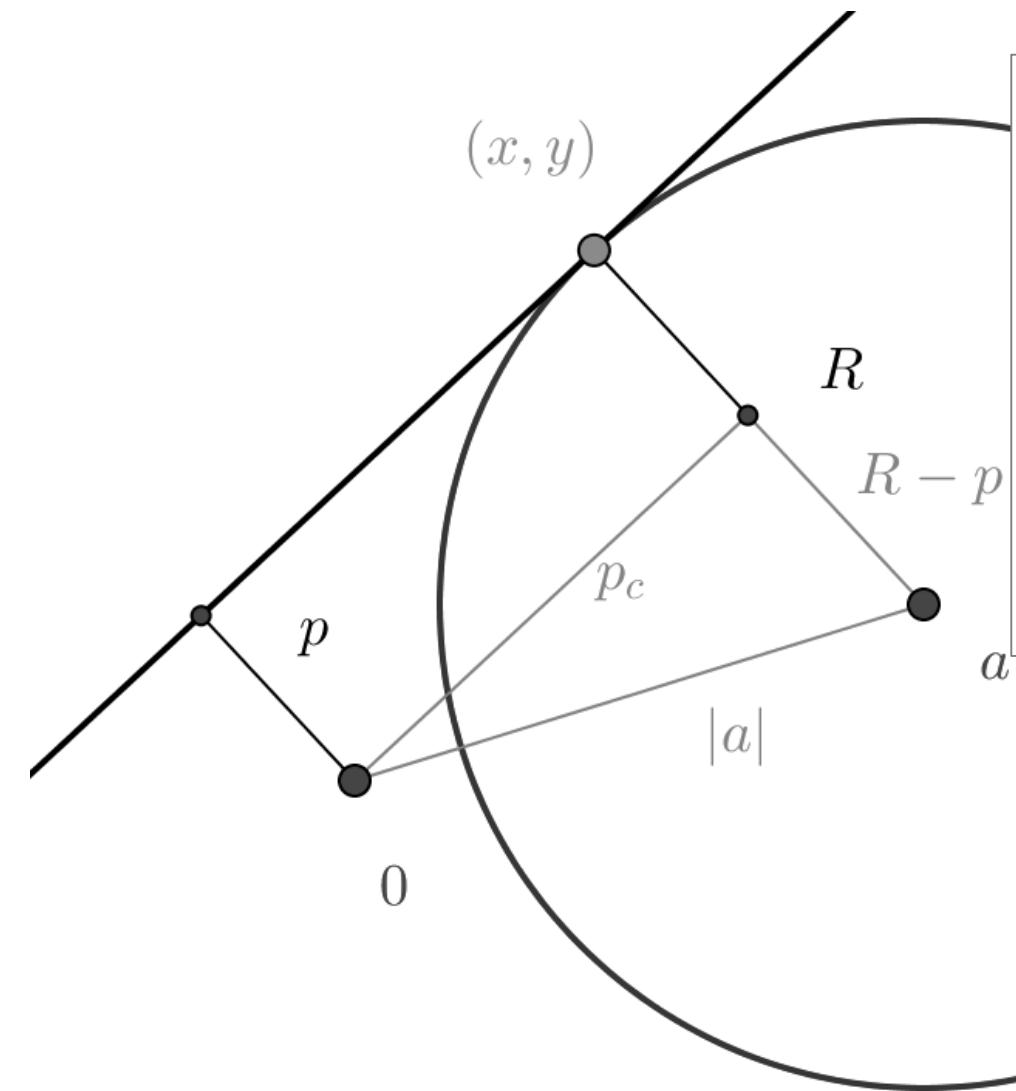
$$p = \alpha.$$



# Circle



# Circle

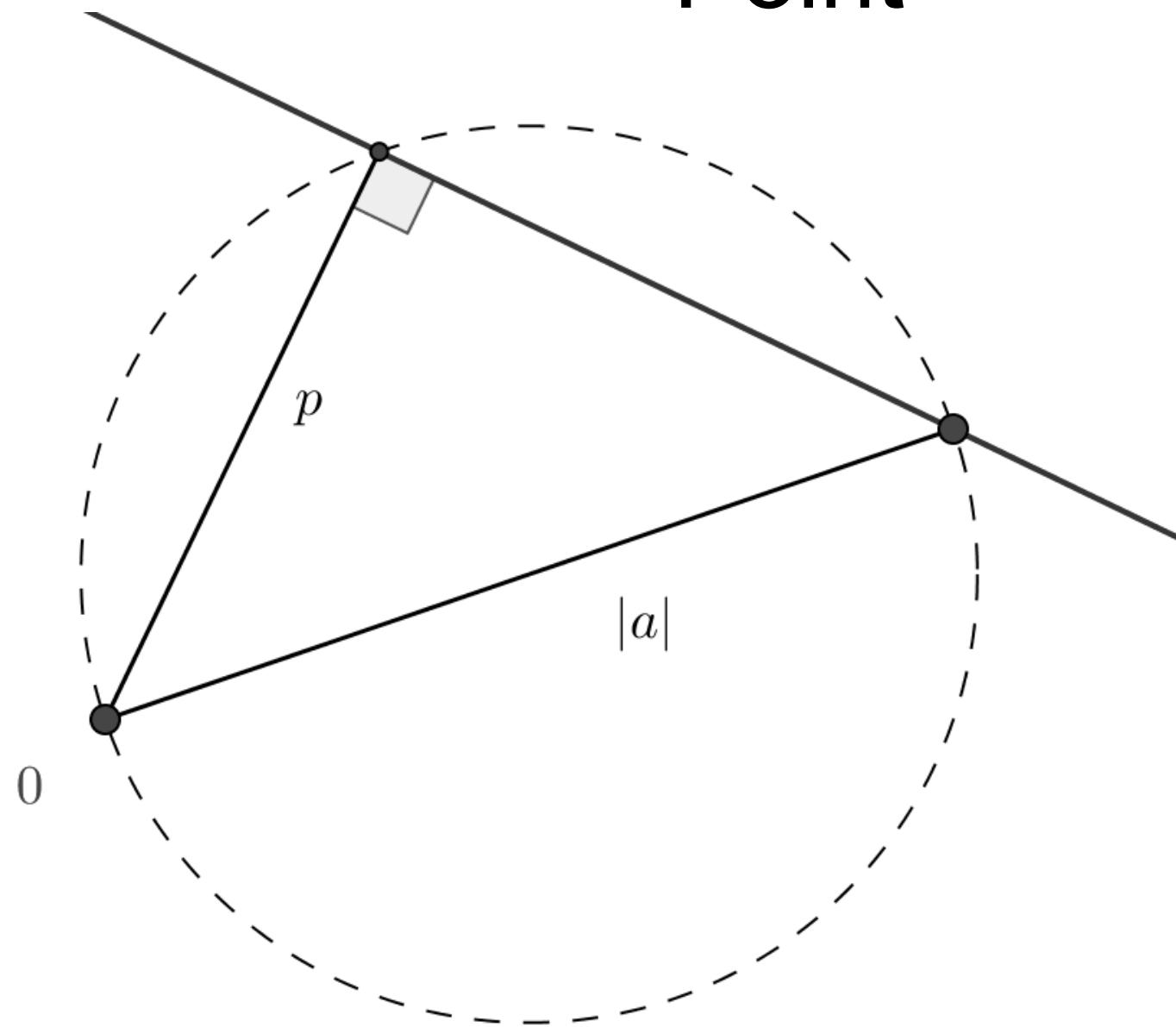


$$(x - a_1)^2 + (y - a_2)^2 = R^2.$$

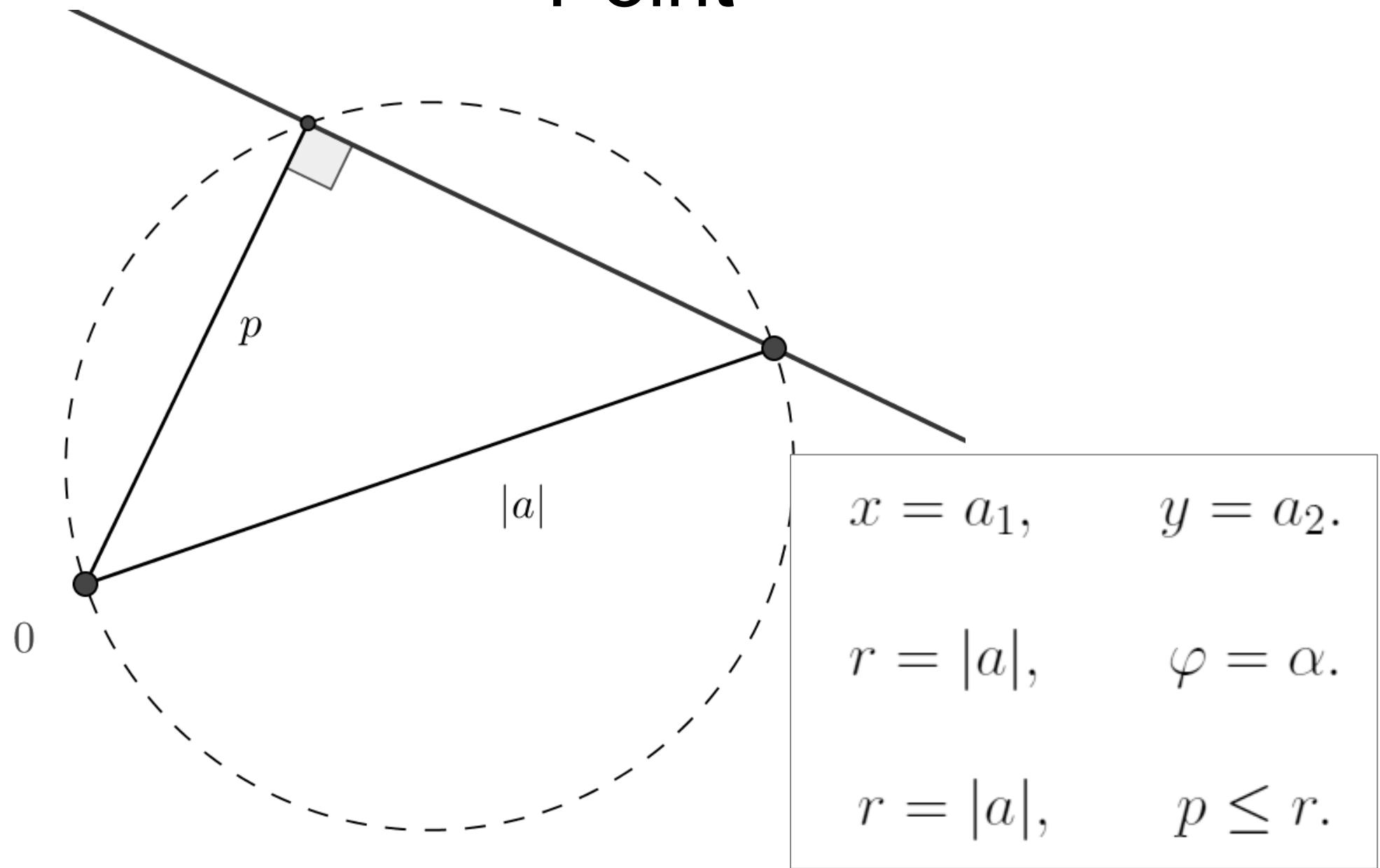
$$r^2 - 2r \cos(\varphi - \alpha) + |a|^2 = R^2.$$

$$2pR = r^2 + R^2 - |a|^2.$$

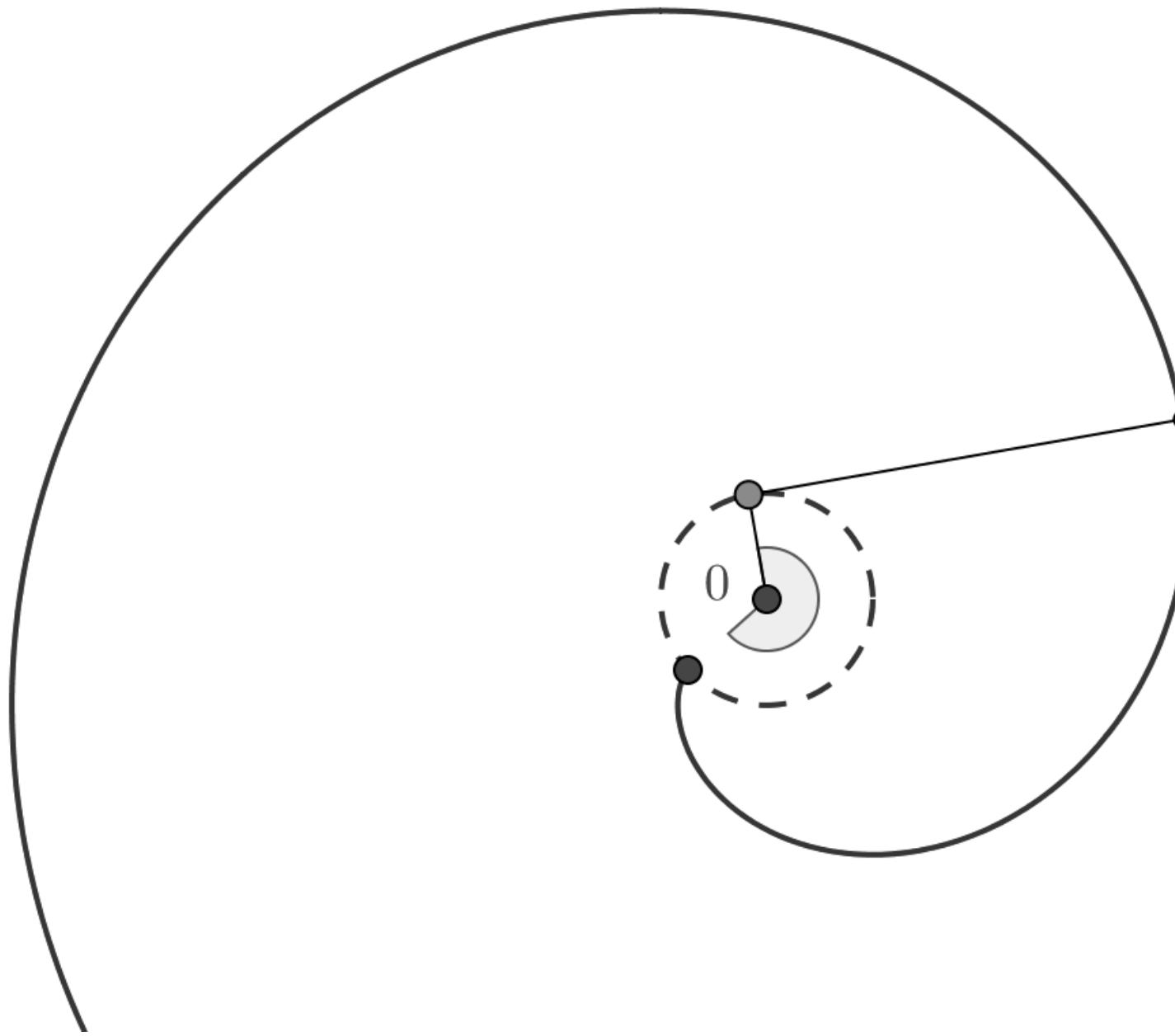
# Point



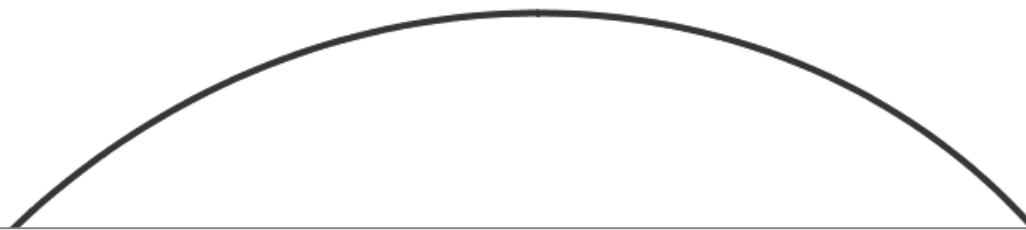
# Point



# Involute of a circle



# Involute of a circle



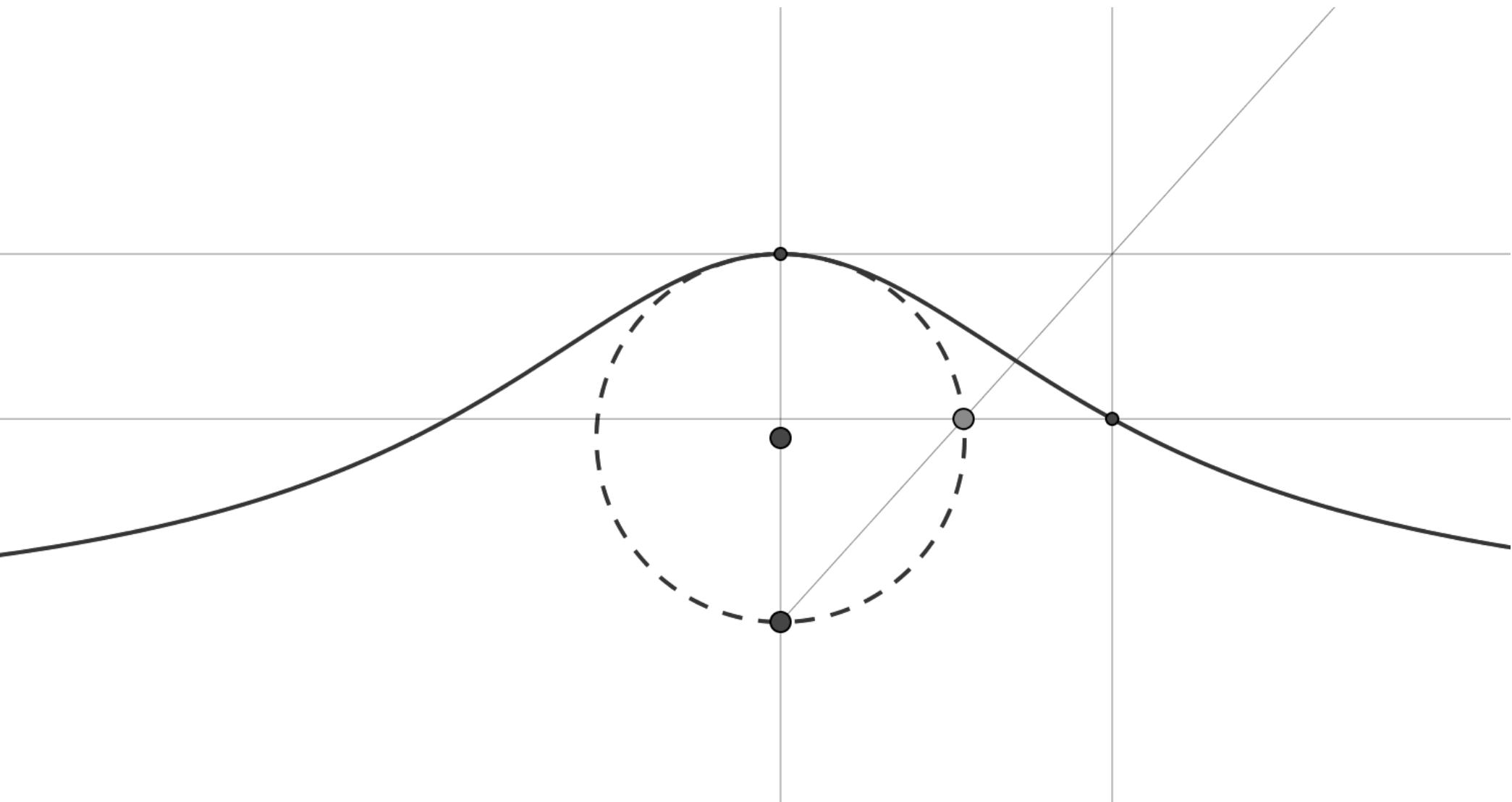
$$x = R (\cos \alpha + \alpha \sin \alpha), \quad y = R (\sin \alpha - \alpha \cos \alpha).$$

$$r = \frac{R}{\cos \alpha}, \quad \varphi = \tan \alpha - \alpha.$$

$$p_c = R.$$



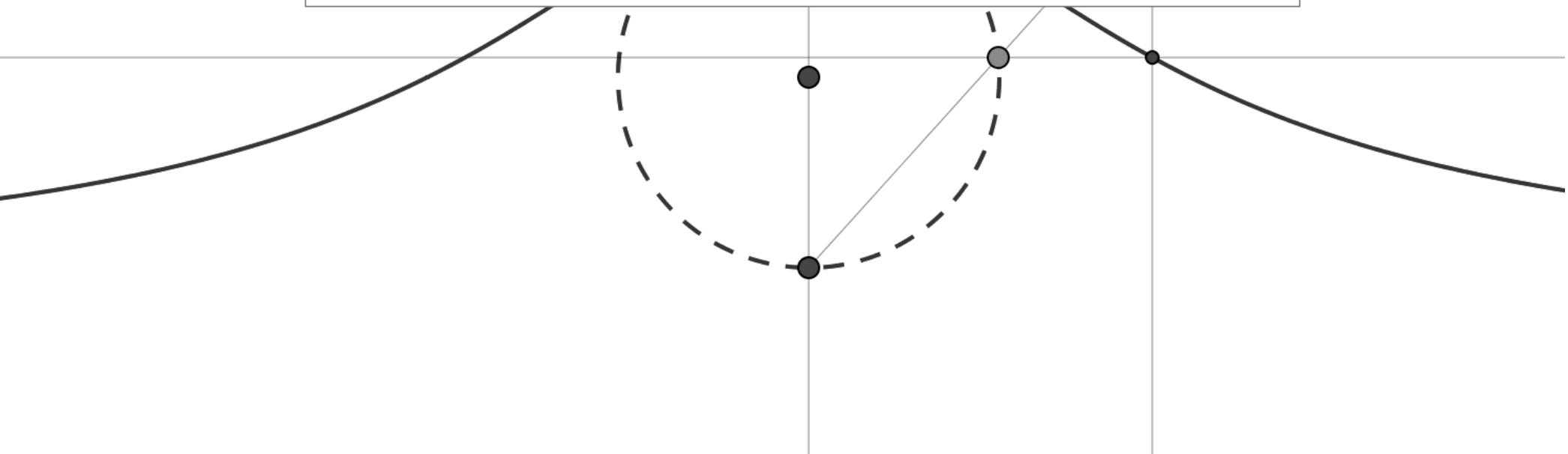
# Witch of Agnesi



# Witch of Agnesi

$$y = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

$$r(r^2 + 1) \sin \varphi - r^3 \sin^3 \varphi = 1.$$



# Witch of Agnesi

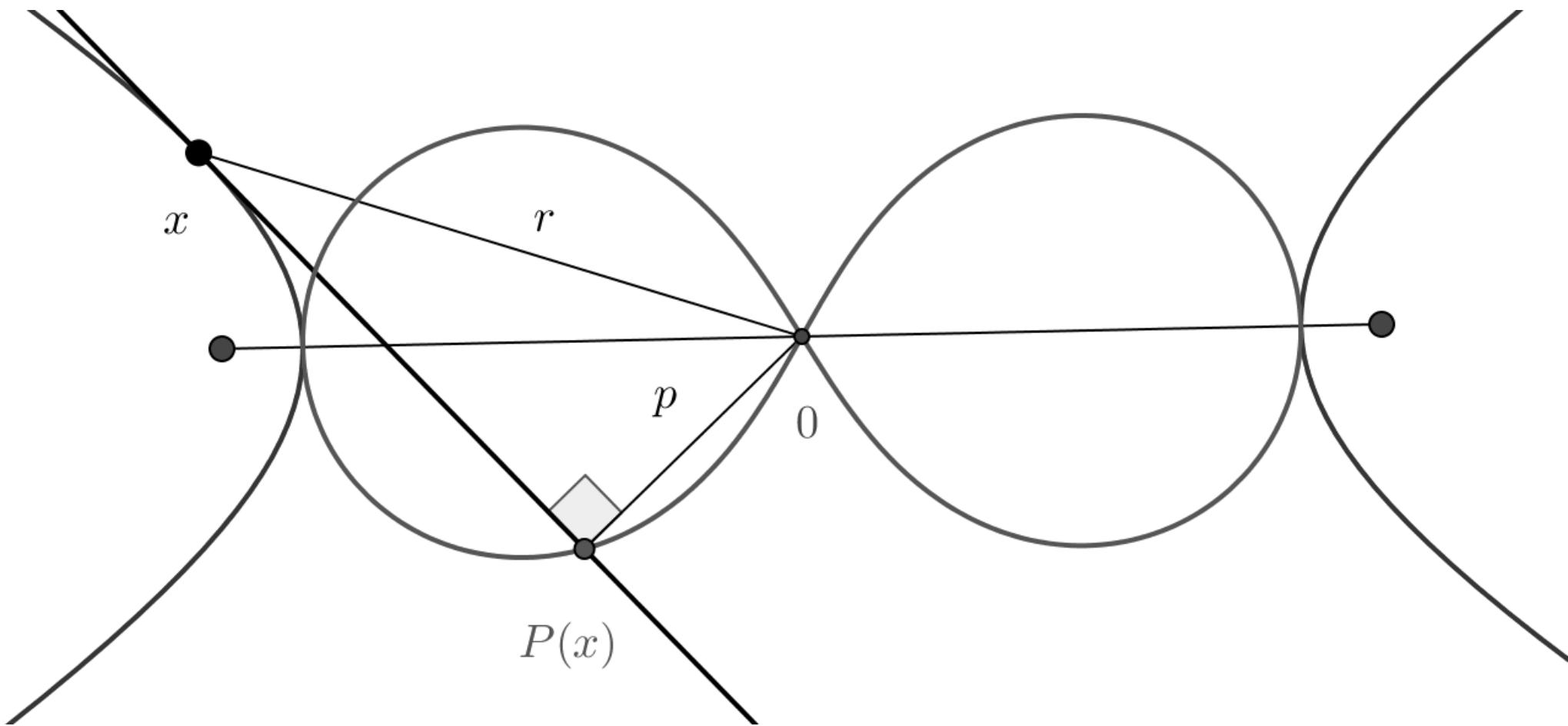
$$y = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

$$r(r^2 + 1) \sin \varphi - r^3 \sin^3 \varphi = 1.$$

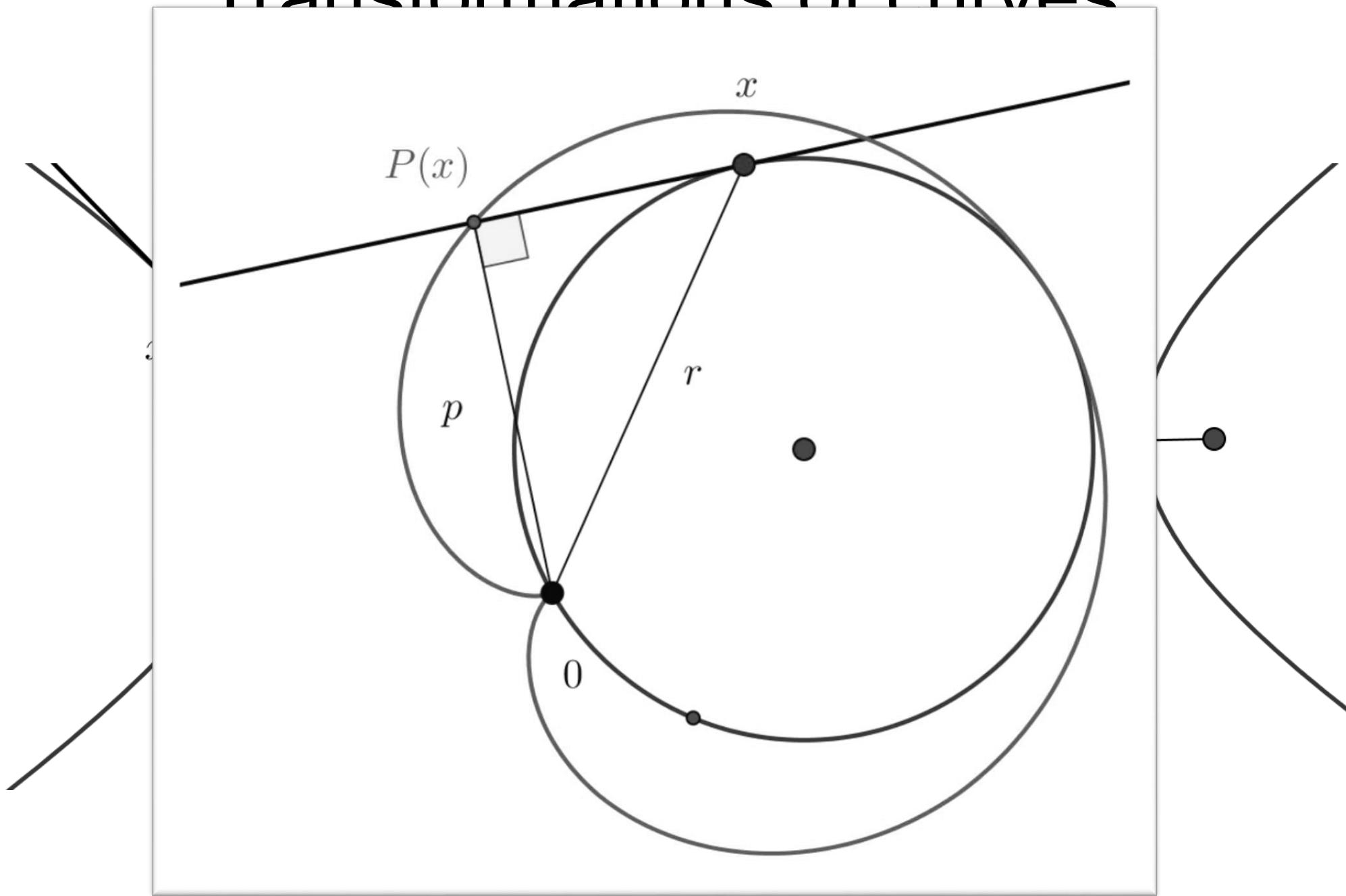
$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{1/36} \frac{C^2}{p^2} + 1/3 \frac{p^2 - 2r^2 + 2}{p^2} + 4 \frac{r^4 + 4p^2 - 2r^2 + 1}{p^2 C^2} + 192 \frac{r^2 (r^2 + 1)^2 (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C^3 B} - 8 \frac{(r^2 + 1)^2 (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C B} \\ & - 1152 \frac{(r^2 + 1)^3 (r - 1) (r + 1) (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C^5 B} - 576 \frac{r^2 (r^2 + 1)^4 (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C^4 B^2} - 82944 \frac{r^2 (r^2 + 1)^6 (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C^8 B^2} \\ & + 13824 \frac{r^2 (r^2 + 1)^5 (p - r) (p + r)}{p^2 C^6 B^2} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$C := \sqrt[3]{12B - 108}, \quad B := \sqrt{-12r^6 - 36r^4 - 36r^2 + 69}.$$

# Transformations of curves



# Transformations of curves



# Transformations of curves

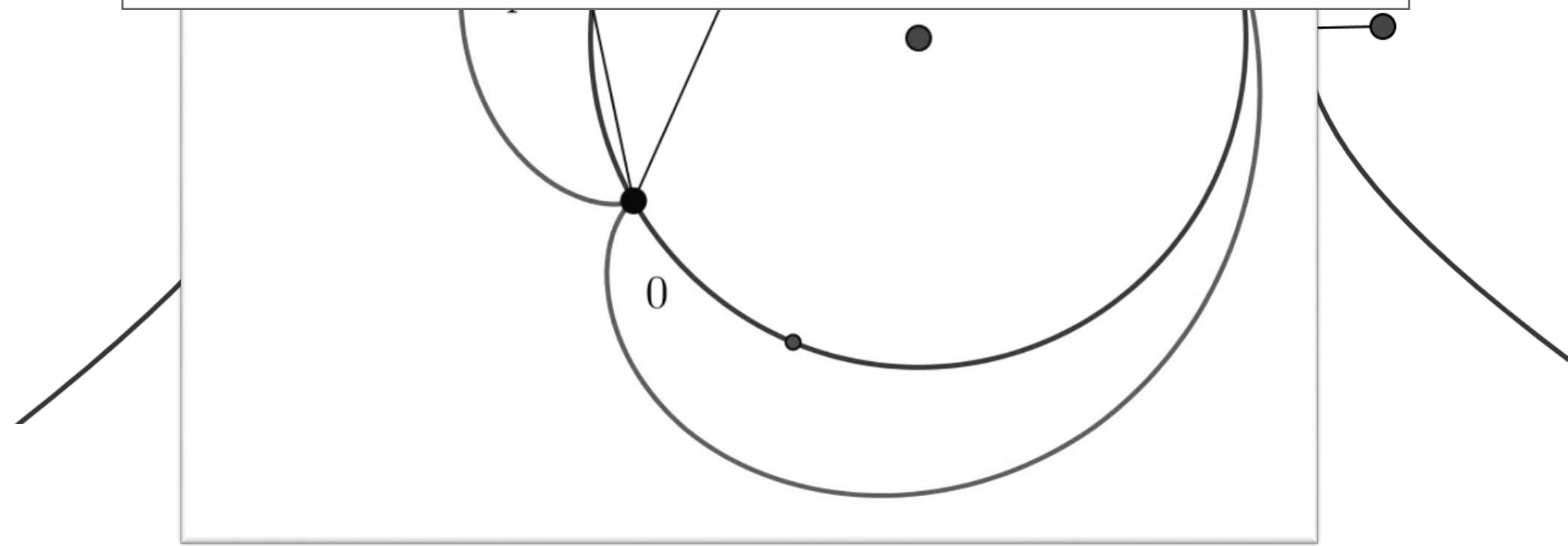
$x$

$\rightarrow$

$$x - \frac{\dot{x}x + \dot{y}y}{x^2 + y^2}\dot{x},$$
$$y - \frac{\dot{x}x + \dot{y}y}{x^2 + y^2}\dot{y}.$$

$y$

$\rightarrow$



# Transformations of curves

$x$

$\rightarrow$

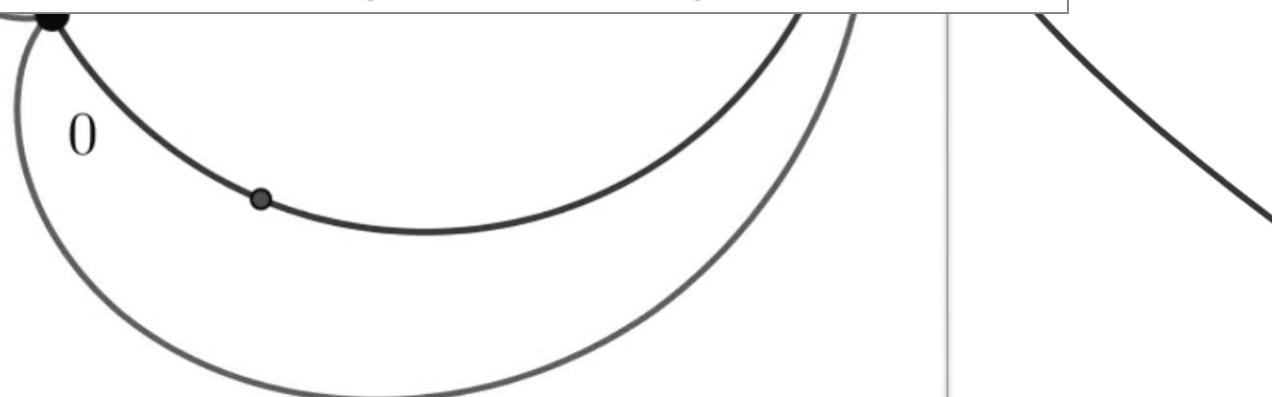
$$x - \frac{\dot{x}x + \dot{y}y}{x^2 + y^2}\dot{x},$$

$y$

$\rightarrow$

$$y - \frac{\dot{x}x + \dot{y}y}{x^2 + y^2}\dot{y}.$$

$$f(p, r, p_c) = 0 \xrightarrow{P} f\left(r, \frac{r^2}{p}, \frac{r}{p}p_c\right) = 0,$$



# Transformations of curves

$$x \rightarrow x - \frac{\dot{x}x + \dot{y}y}{\dot{x}},$$

$$f(p, r, p_c) = 0 \xrightarrow{S_\alpha} f(\alpha p, \alpha r, \alpha p_c) = 0,$$

$$f(p, r, p_c) = 0 \xrightarrow{P} f\left(r, \frac{r^2}{p}, \frac{r}{p}p_c\right) = 0,$$

$$f(p, r, p_c) = 0 \xrightarrow{I_R} f\left(\frac{Rp}{r^2}, \frac{R}{r}, \frac{R}{r^2}p_c\right) = 0,$$

$$f(p, r^2, p_c) = 0 \xrightarrow{E_c} f(p - c, r^2 - 2pc + c^2, p_c) = 0,$$

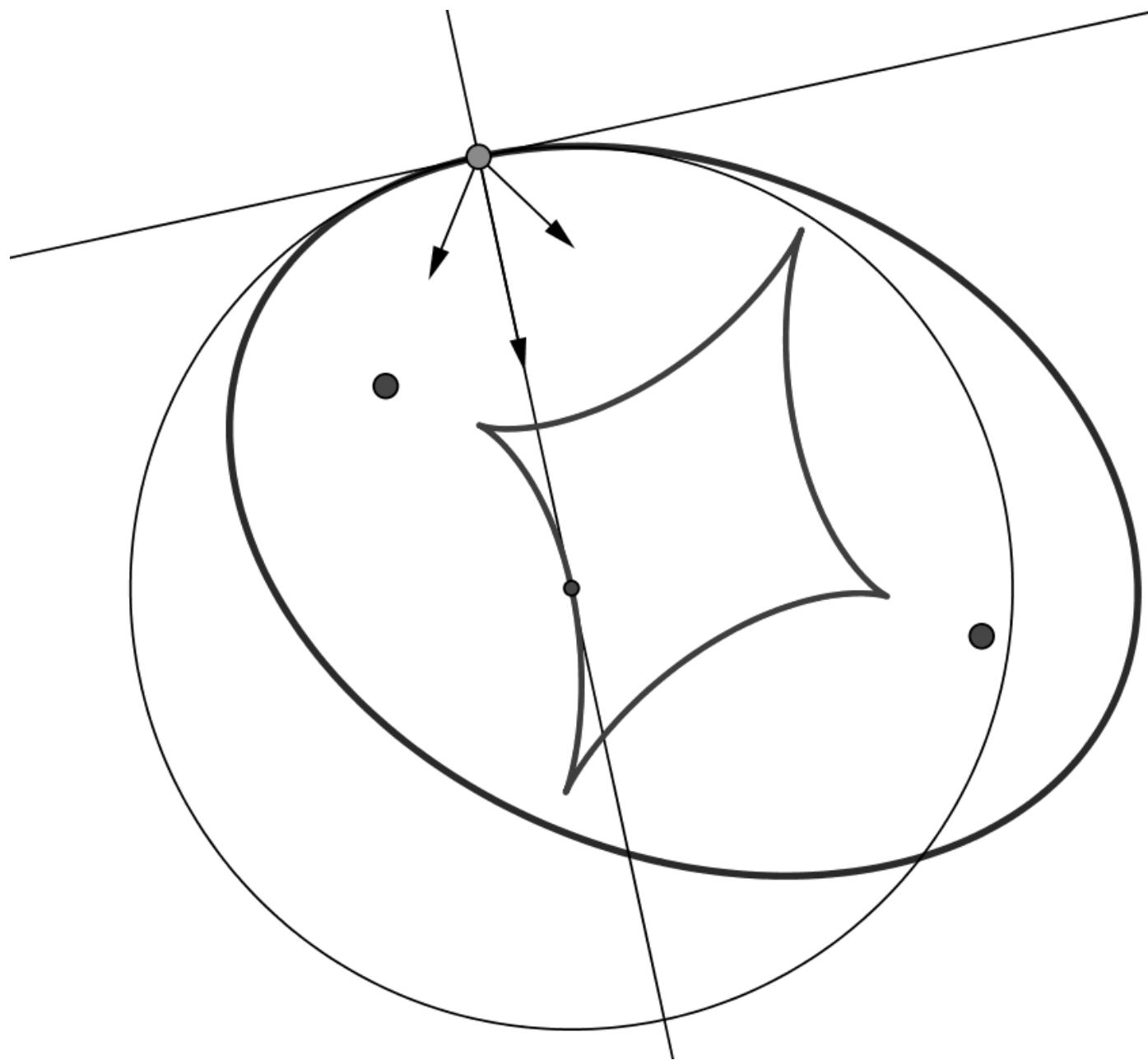
$$f\left(\frac{1}{p^2}, r; \frac{r^2}{p^2}\right) = 0 \xrightarrow{J_\alpha} f\left(r^{2-2\alpha} \left(\frac{\alpha^2}{p^2} + \frac{1-\alpha^2}{r^2}\right), r^\alpha; \alpha^2 \frac{r^2}{p^2} + \alpha^2 - 1\right) = 0,$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{p^2}, r\right) = 0 \xrightarrow{H_k} f\left(\frac{k^2}{p^2} - \frac{k^2 - 1}{r^2}, r\right) = 0,$$

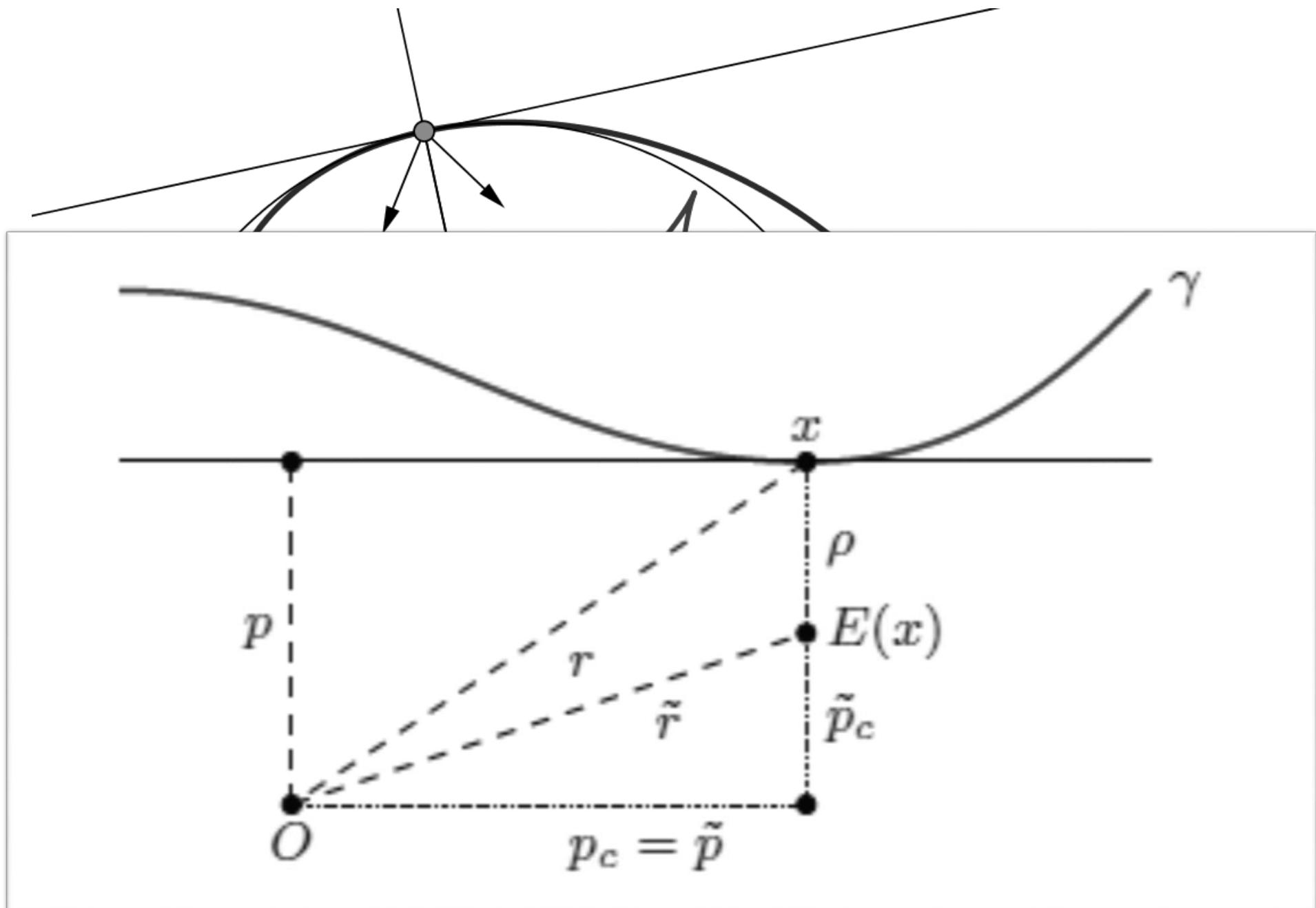
$$\frac{(L - G(r^2))^2}{p^2} = F(r^2) + c \xrightarrow{R_\omega} \frac{(L - G(r^2) + \omega r^2)^2}{p^2} = F(r^2) + \omega^2 r^2 - 2G\omega + c + 2\omega L,$$



# Evolute



# Evolute



# Evolute

PROPOSITION 2. The evolute  $E(\gamma)$  of a curve  $\gamma$  which satisfies

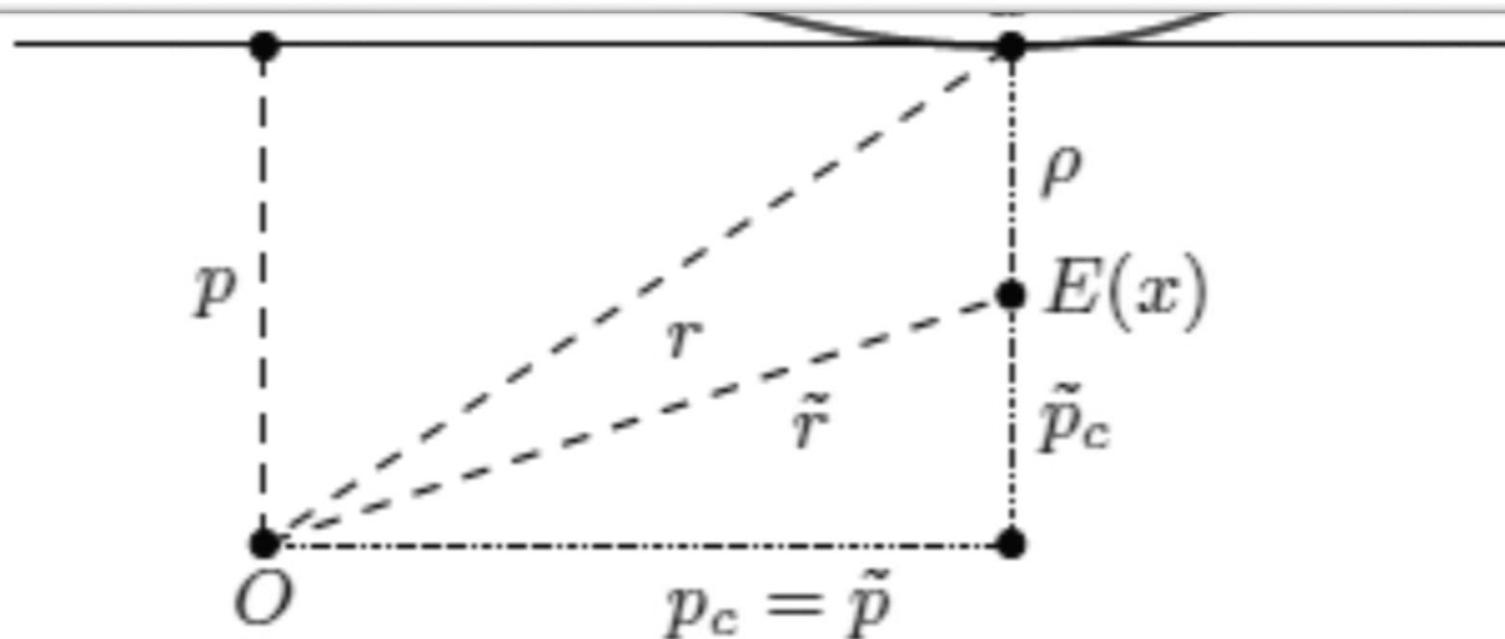
$$f \left( p_c, p_c p'_c, (p_c p'_c)' p_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^n p \right) = 0,$$

where  $n > 1$ , satisfies

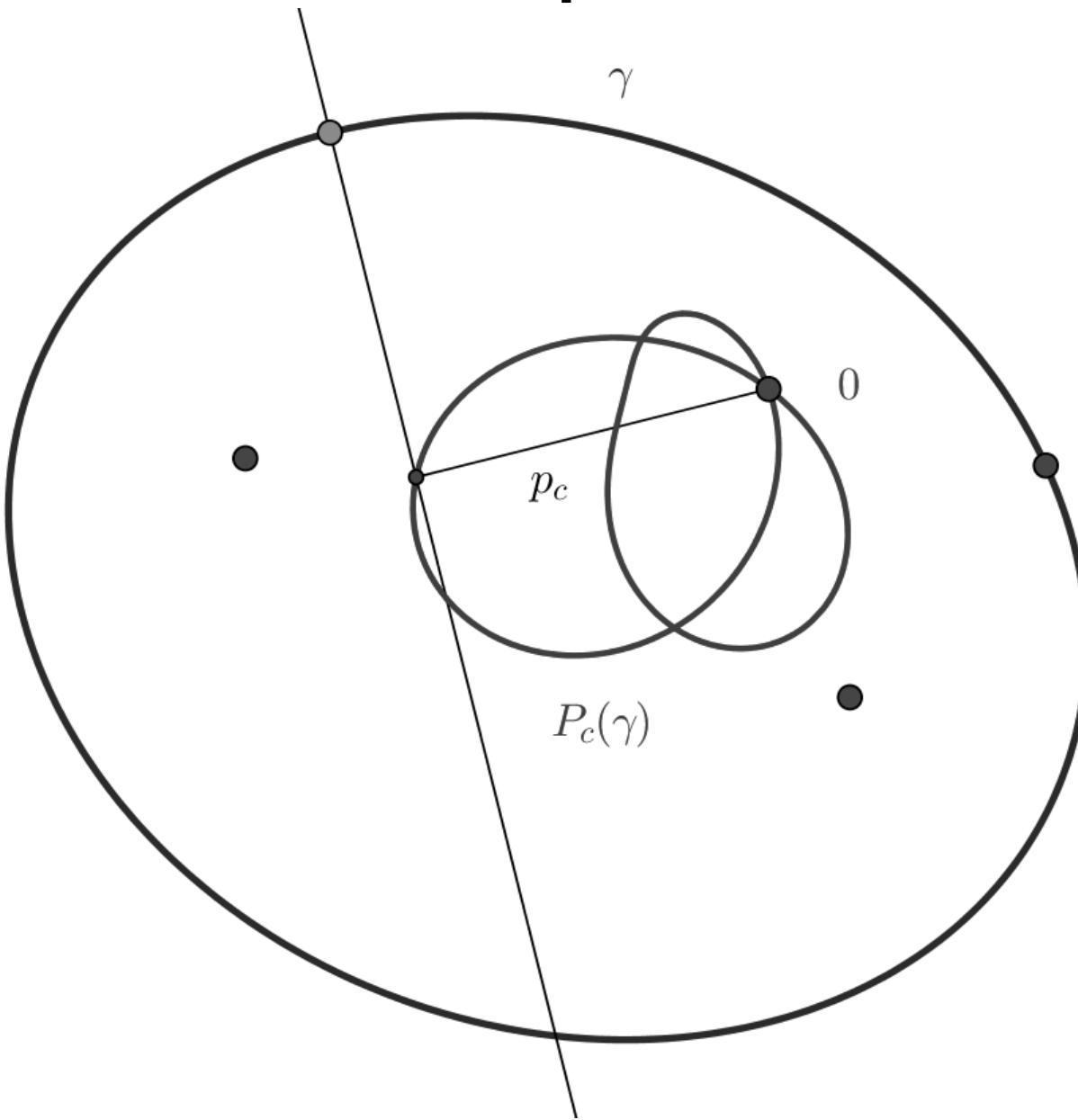
$$f \left( p, p_c, p_c p'_c, (p_c p'_c)' p_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^{n-1} p \right) = 0.$$

In other words

$$f(p_c, p_c p'_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^n p) = 0, \quad \xrightarrow{E} \quad f(p, p_c, p_c p'_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^{n-1} p) = 0.$$



# Contrapedal



# Contrapedal



COROLLARY 2.

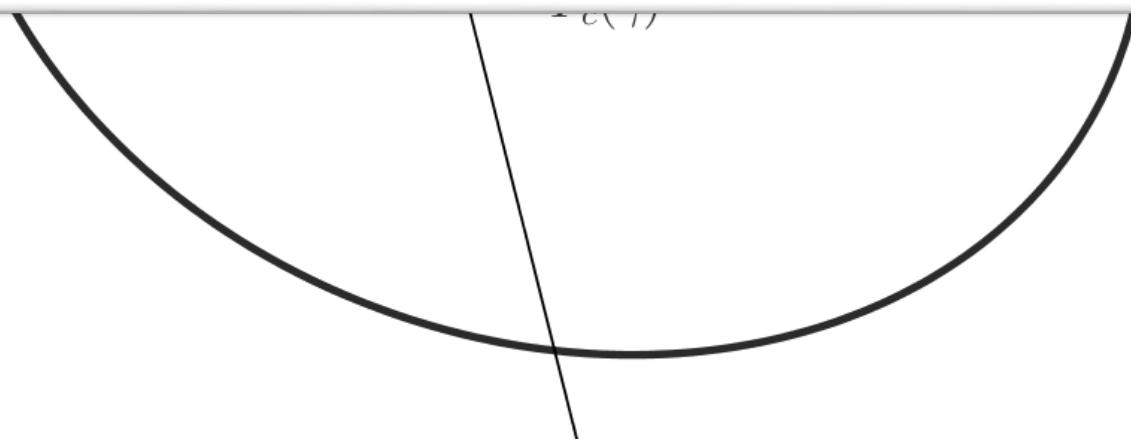
$$f(p_c, p_c p'_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^n p) = 0, \quad \xrightarrow{P_c := PE} \quad P(f(p, p_c, p_c p'_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^{n-1} p)) = 0,$$

or using Proposition 1:

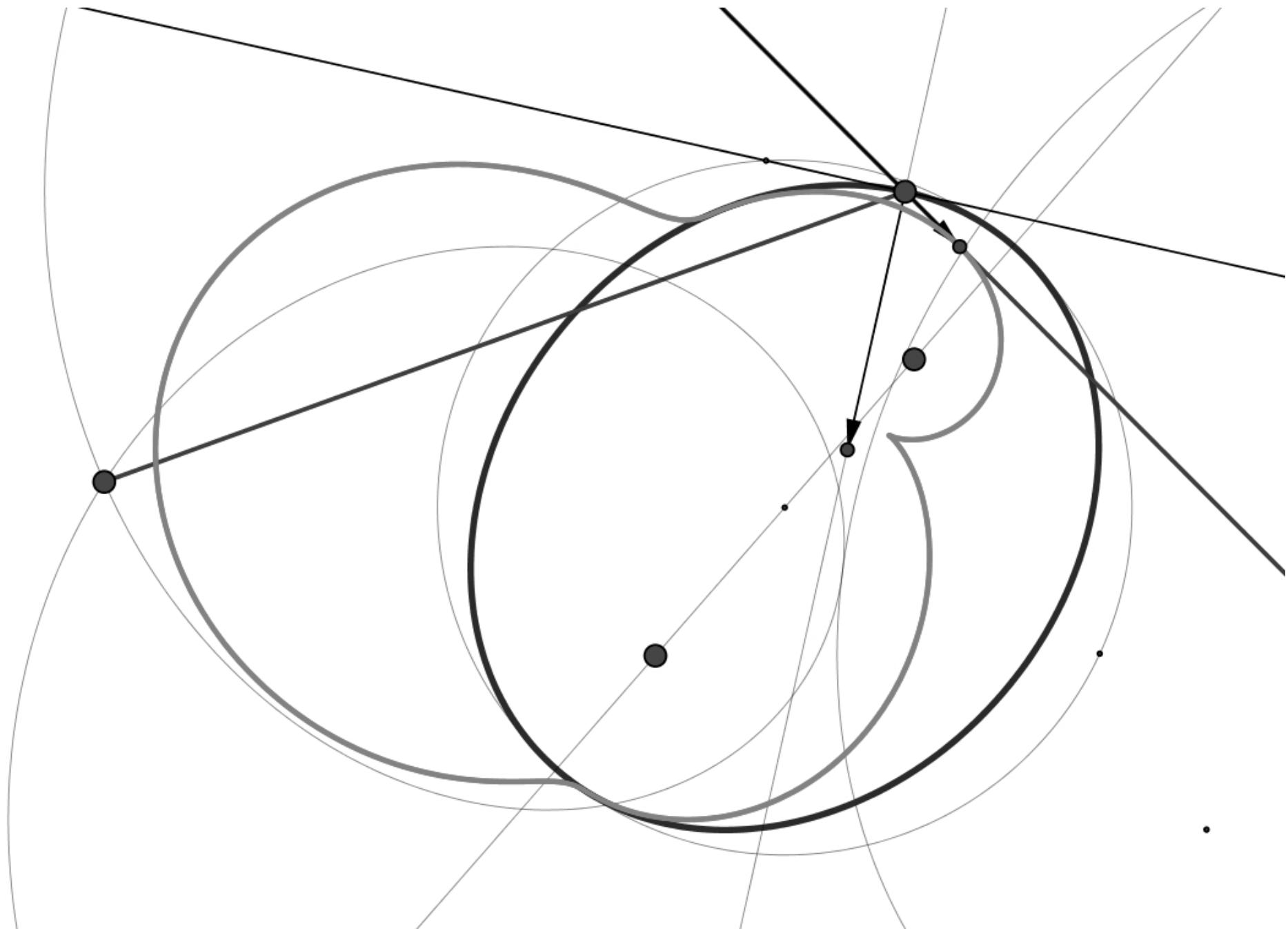
$$f(p_c, p_c p'_c, \dots, (p_c \partial_p)^n p) = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{P_c} \quad f(r, |r'_\varphi|, r''_\varphi, \dots, r^{(n-1)}_\varphi) = 0.$$

Equivalently, we can say:

$$f(|r'_\varphi|, r''_\varphi, \dots, r^{(n)}_\varphi) = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{PEP^{-1}} \quad f(r, |r'_\varphi|, r''_\varphi, \dots, r^{(n-1)}_\varphi) = 0.$$

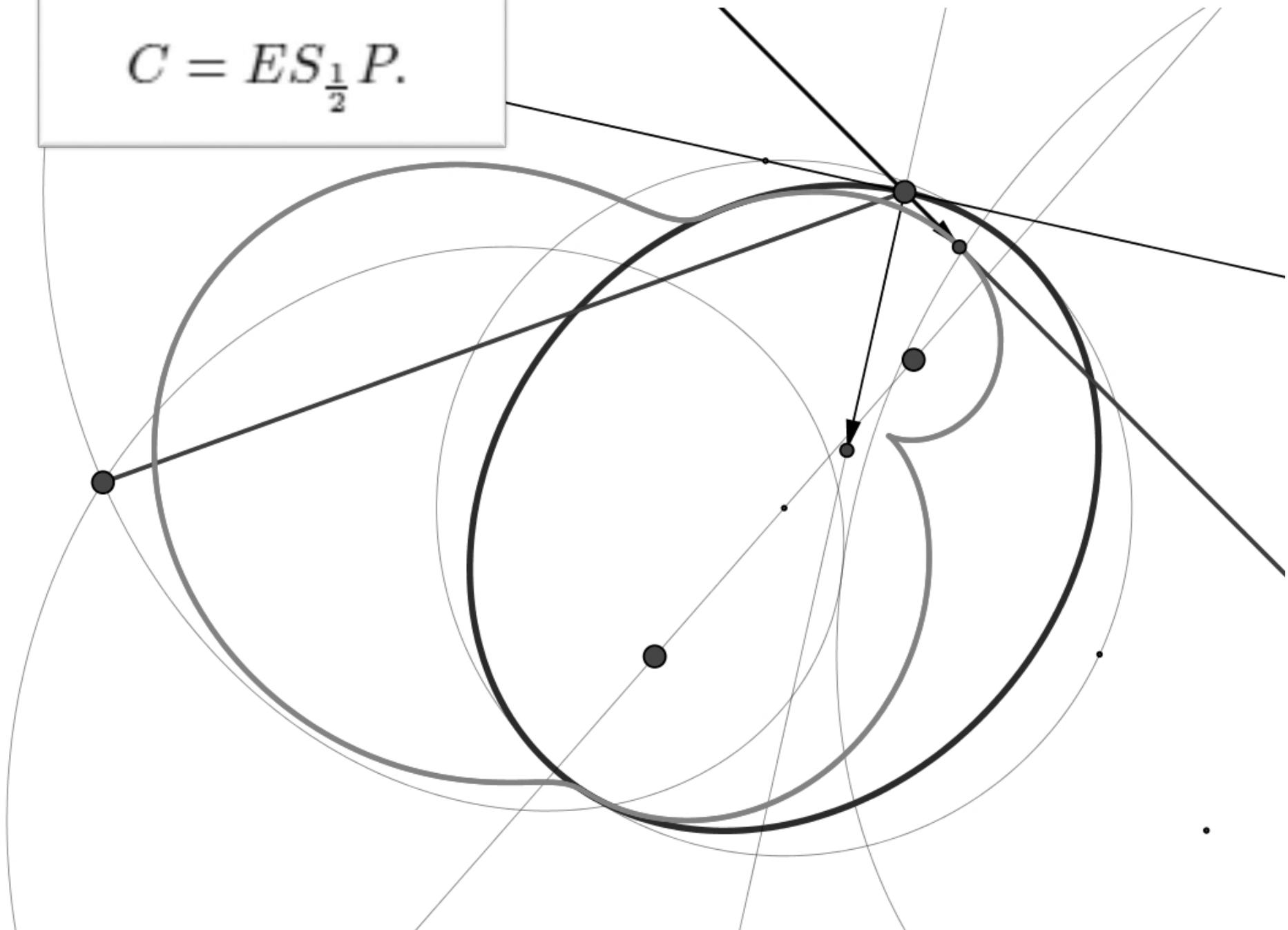


# Catacaustic

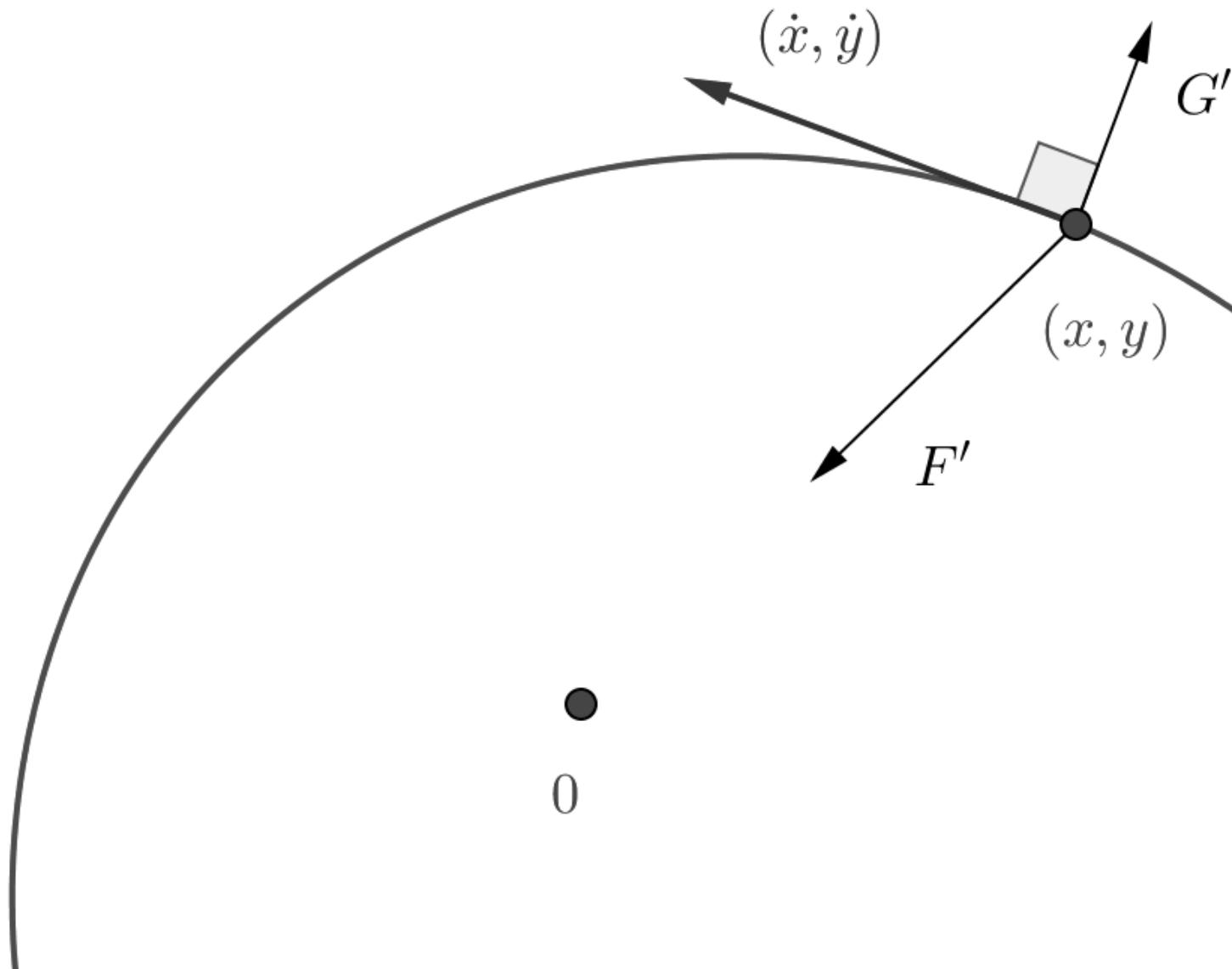


# Catacaustic

$$C = E S_{\frac{1}{2}} P.$$

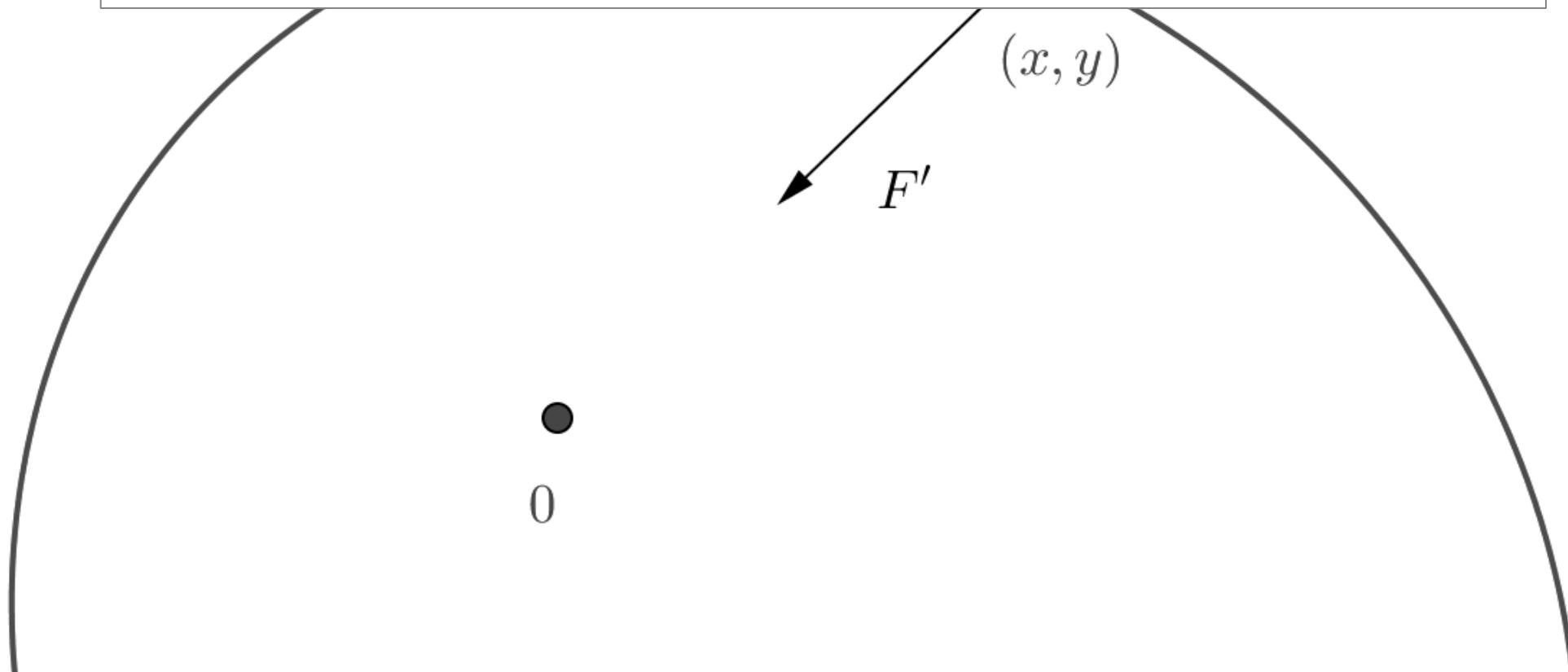


# Force problems



# Force problems

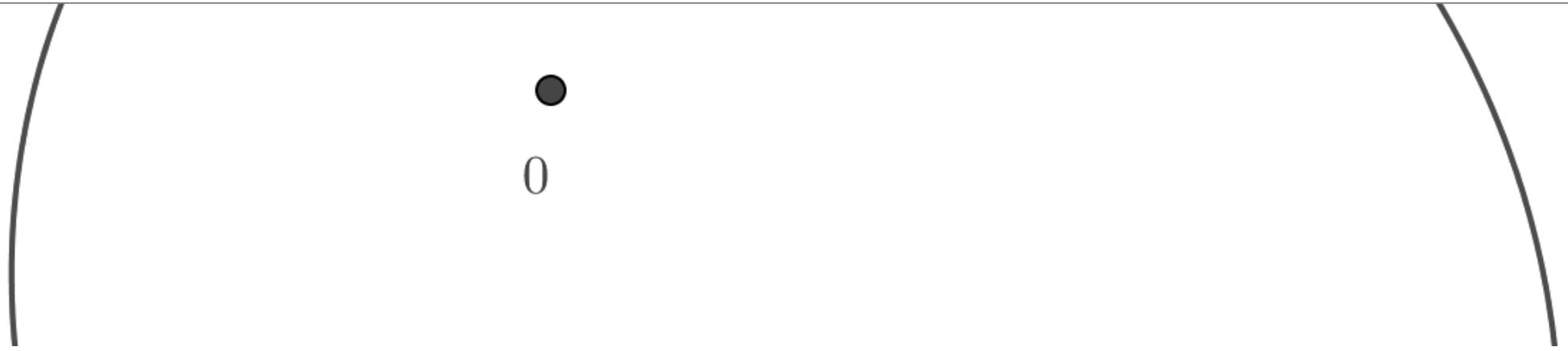
$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} &= F' (x^2 + y^2) x - 2G' (x^2 + y^2) \dot{y}, \\ \ddot{y} &= F' (x^2 + y^2) y + 2G' (x^2 + y^2) \dot{x}.\end{aligned}$$



# Force problems

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$$rr'' - 2r'^2 + 2G'(r^2)r'^2 - r^2 + \frac{2r^4G'(r^2)}{(G(r^2) + L)} = \frac{F'(r^2)r^6}{(G + L)^2}$$



# Force problems

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$$rr'' - 2r'^2 + 2G'(r^2)r'^2 - r^2 + \frac{2r^4G'(r^2)}{(G(r^2) + L)} = \frac{F'(r^2)r^6}{(G + L)^2}$$

$$\frac{(L - G(r^2))^2}{p^2} = F(r^2) + c.$$

# Force problems generalized

$$\mathbf{x} := (x, y),$$

$$p := \frac{\mathbf{x}^\perp \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|)}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}| p)}{p_c |\dot{\mathbf{x}}|} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\perp := (-y, x),$$

$$p_c := \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\perp = \frac{p}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{r^2}{p_c |\dot{\mathbf{x}}|} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}^\perp = -\mathbf{x}^\perp \cdot \mathbf{y},$$

$$\kappa := \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^3}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{p}{p_c} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp.$$

$$(\mathbf{x}^\perp)^\perp = -\mathbf{x}.$$

# Force problems generalized

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = f\mathbf{x} + g\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\frac{(\int grdr)^2}{p^2} = 2 \int frdr,$$

$$\mathbf{x} := (x, y),$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\perp := (-y, x),$$

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}^\perp = -\mathbf{x}^\perp \cdot \mathbf{y},$$

$$(\mathbf{x}^\perp)^\perp = -\mathbf{x}.$$

$$p := \frac{\mathbf{x}^\perp \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$p_c := \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\kappa := \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^3}$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|)}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}| p)}{p_c |\dot{\mathbf{x}}|} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\perp = \frac{p}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{r^2}{p_c |\dot{\mathbf{x}}|} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}{p_c} \mathbf{x} + \frac{p}{p_c} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp.$$

# Force problems generalized

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = f\mathbf{x} + g\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

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$$\mathbf{x} := (x, y),$$

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$$(\mathbf{x}^\perp)^\perp = -\mathbf{x}.$$

$$p := \frac{\mathbf{x}^\perp \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$p_c := \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\kappa := \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^3}$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|)}{p_c}\mathbf{x} + \frac{\partial_t(|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|p)}{p_c|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\perp = \frac{p}{p_c}\mathbf{x} + \frac{r^2}{p_c|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp,$$

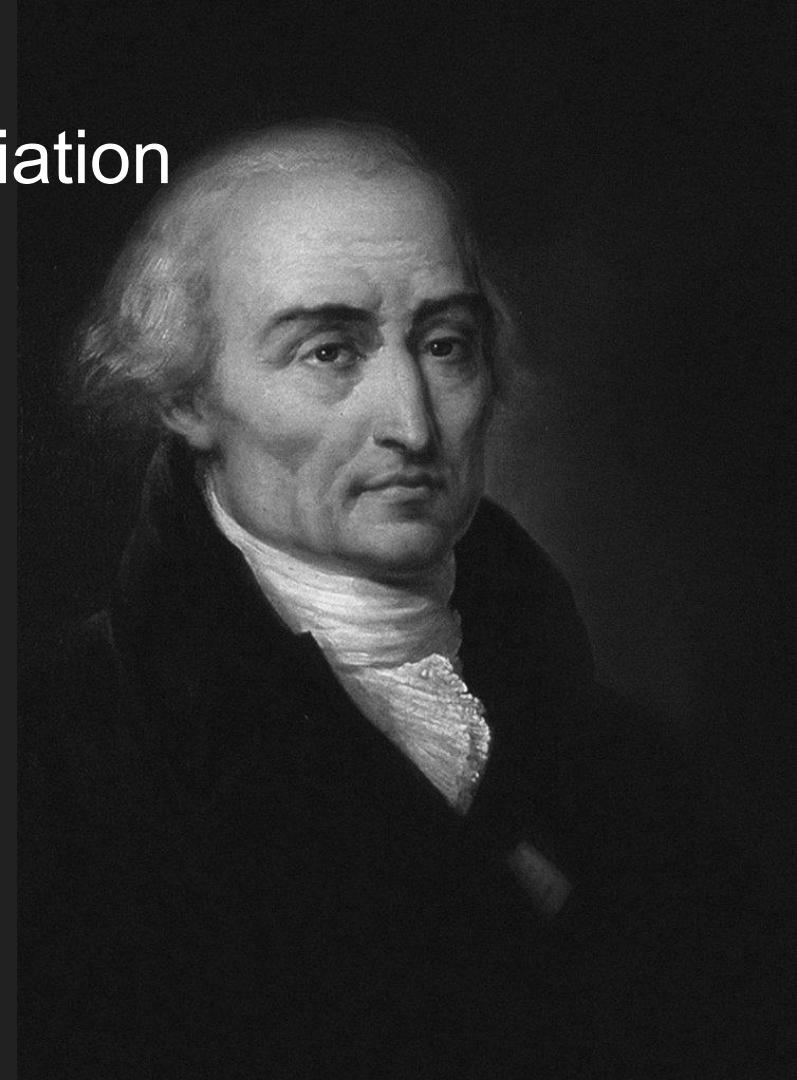
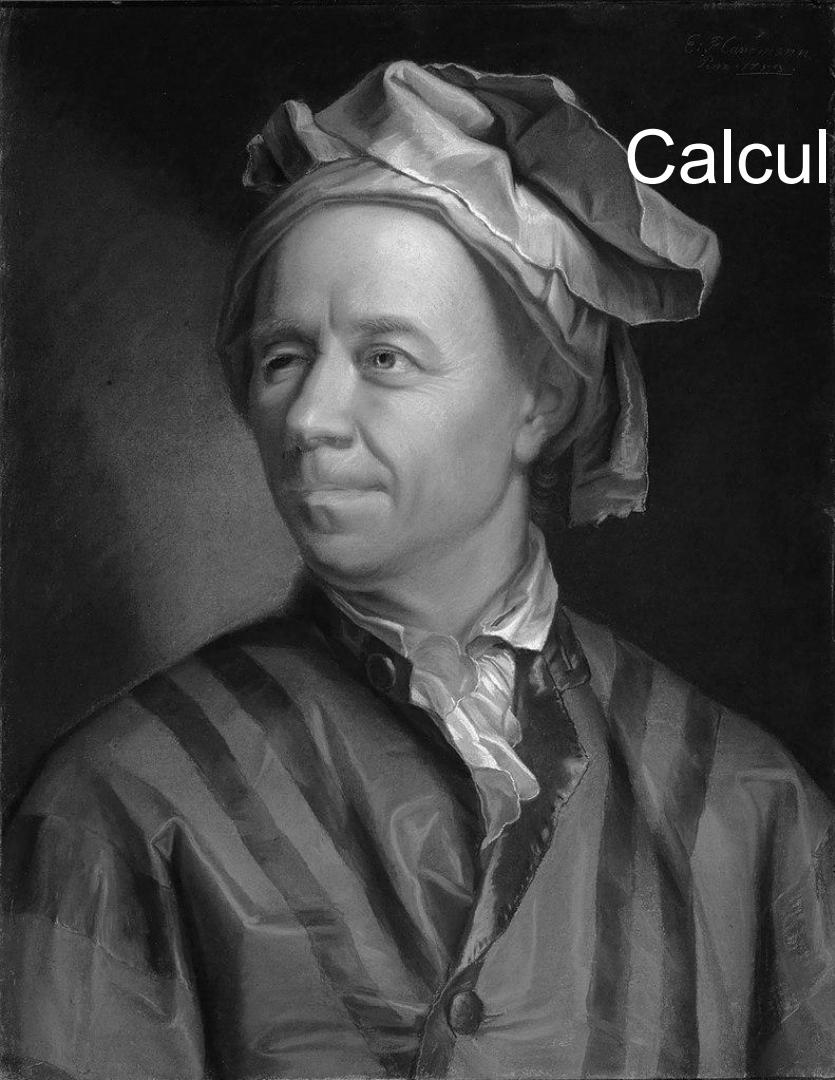
$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}{p_c}\mathbf{x} + \frac{p}{p_c}\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp.$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = f\frac{\mathbf{x}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^\alpha} + g\frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^\beta},$$

$$\left( \frac{(1+\beta)\int gp^\beta r dr}{p^{1+\beta}} \right)^{2+\alpha} = \left( (2+\alpha)\int fr dr \right)^{1+\beta}, \quad \begin{matrix} \alpha \neq -2 \\ \beta \neq -1 \end{matrix}$$

E. P. Carrington  
1790

# Calculus of variation



E. P. Casenave  
Paris 1899

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Any extremal curve of the functional:*

$$\mathcal{L}[r] := \int_{s_0}^{s_1} f(r) ds,$$

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Any extremal curve of the functional:*

$$\mathcal{L}[r] := \int_{s_0}^{s_1} f(r) ds,$$

*where*

$$ds := \sqrt{{r'}_\varphi^2 + r^2} d\varphi = \sqrt{1 + {y'_x}^2} dx$$

*is the arc-length measure, has pedal equation*

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Any extremal curve of the functional:*

$$\mathcal{L}[r] := \int_{s_0}^{s_1} f(r) ds,$$

*where*

$$ds := \sqrt{{r'}_\varphi^2 + r^2} d\varphi = \sqrt{1 + {y'_x}^2} dx$$

*is the arc-length measure, has pedal equation*

$$(13) \quad \frac{L}{p} = f(r),$$

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Any extremal curve of the functional:*

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**REMARK 3.** The constant  $L$  is actually a conserved quantity associated to the rotational symmetry of  $\mathcal{L}$ . The pedal equation (13) is, in fact, a conservation law.

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$$(13) \quad \text{is the arc-length , } \mathcal{L}[r] := \int_{\varphi_0}^{\varphi_1} f(r, r'_\varphi, r''_\varphi, \dots, r_\varphi^{(n)}) d\varphi. \quad p = \sqrt{1 + {y'_x}^2} dx$$

# Brachistochone



$$dt = \frac{ds}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}, \text{ chistochone}$$


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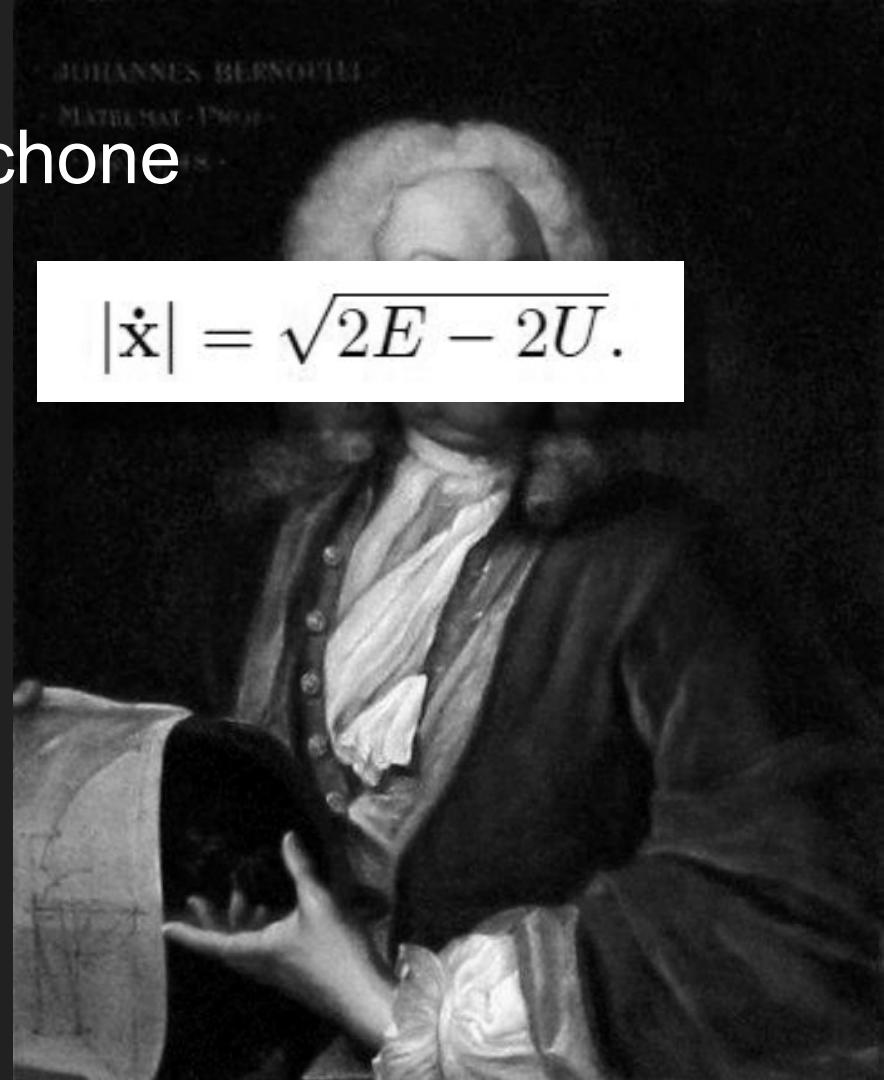
$$E = \frac{1}{2} |\dot{\mathbf{x}}|^2 + U,$$



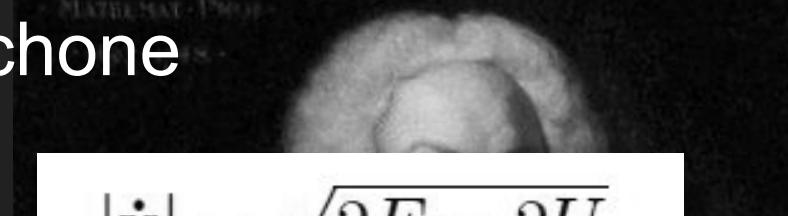
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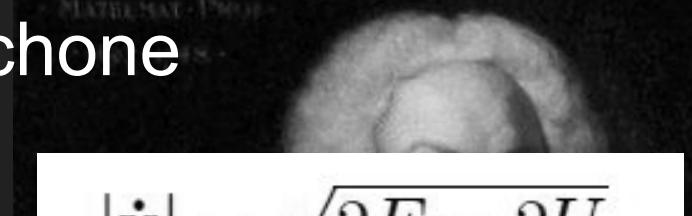


A black and white portrait of the Swiss mathematician Johann Bernoulli. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark coat over a white cravat and a white waistcoat. His right hand is resting on a book or manuscript he is holding. The background is dark and indistinct.

$$|\dot{\mathbf{x}}| = \sqrt{2E - 2U}.$$

$$\mathcal{L} := \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt = \int_{s_0}^{s_1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E - 2U}} ds.$$

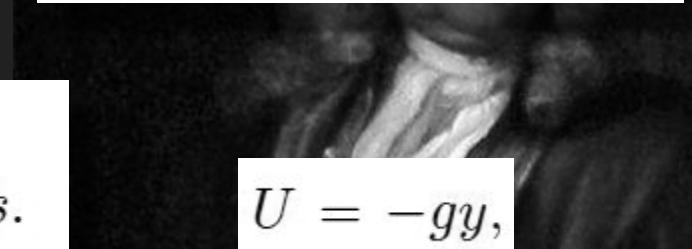
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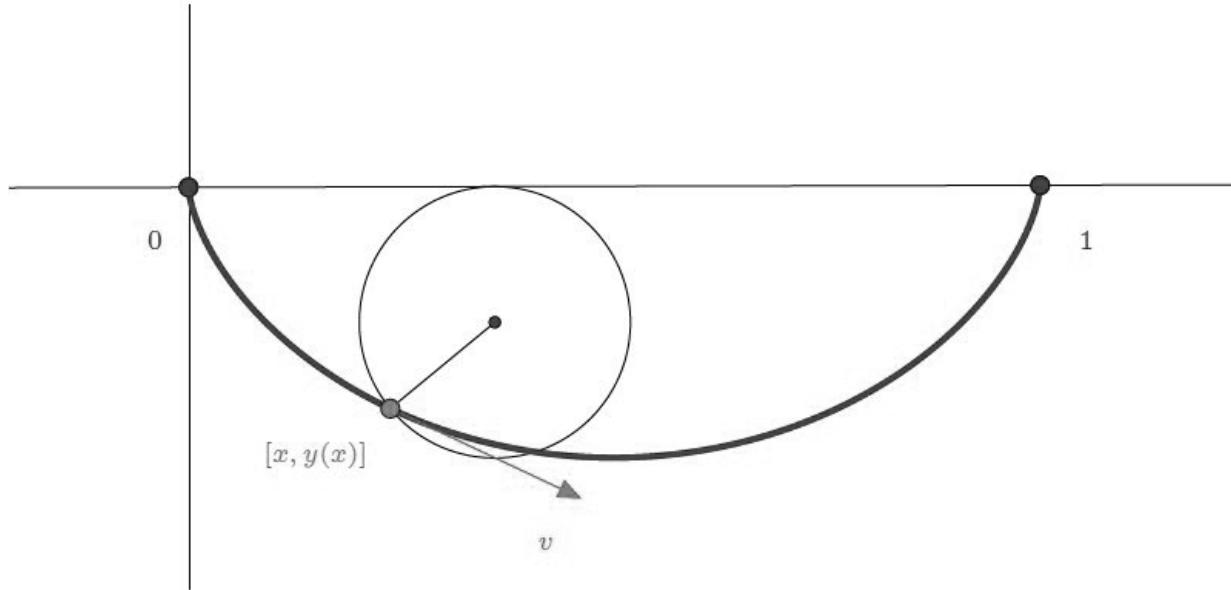
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$$U = -gy,$$

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$$\sqrt{2E - 2U}.$$

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# Gravity train

ROBERT HOOKE  
1635 - 1705



# Gravity train

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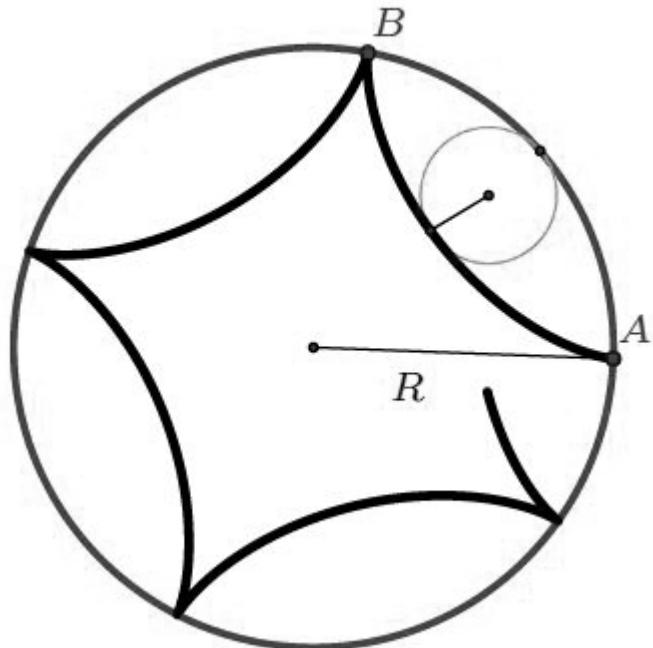
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# Central Brachistochone



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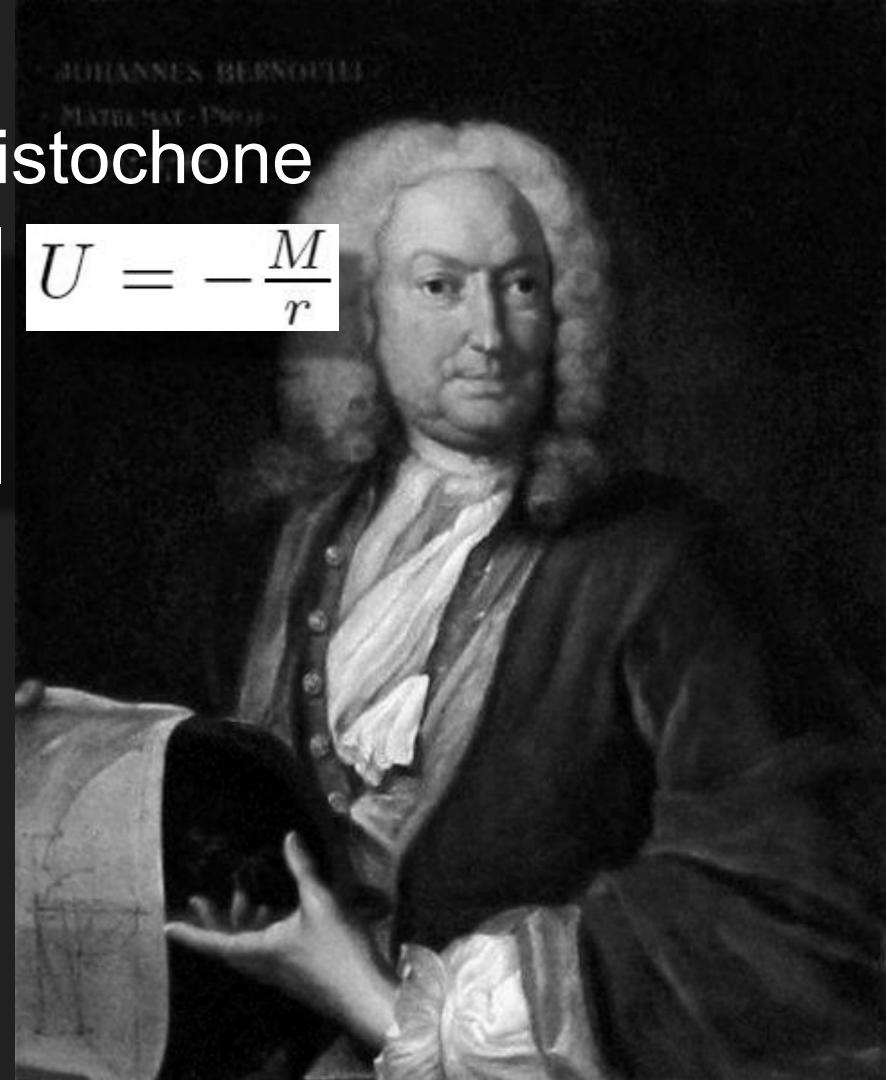
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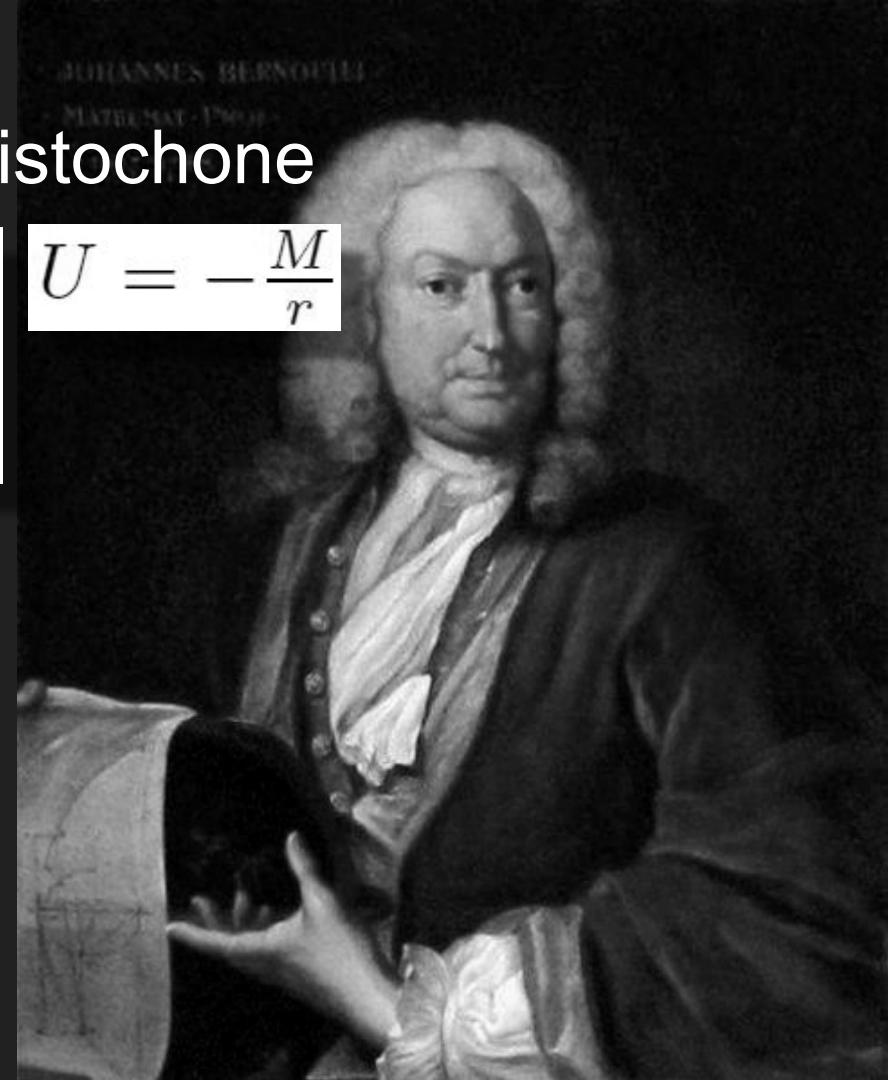


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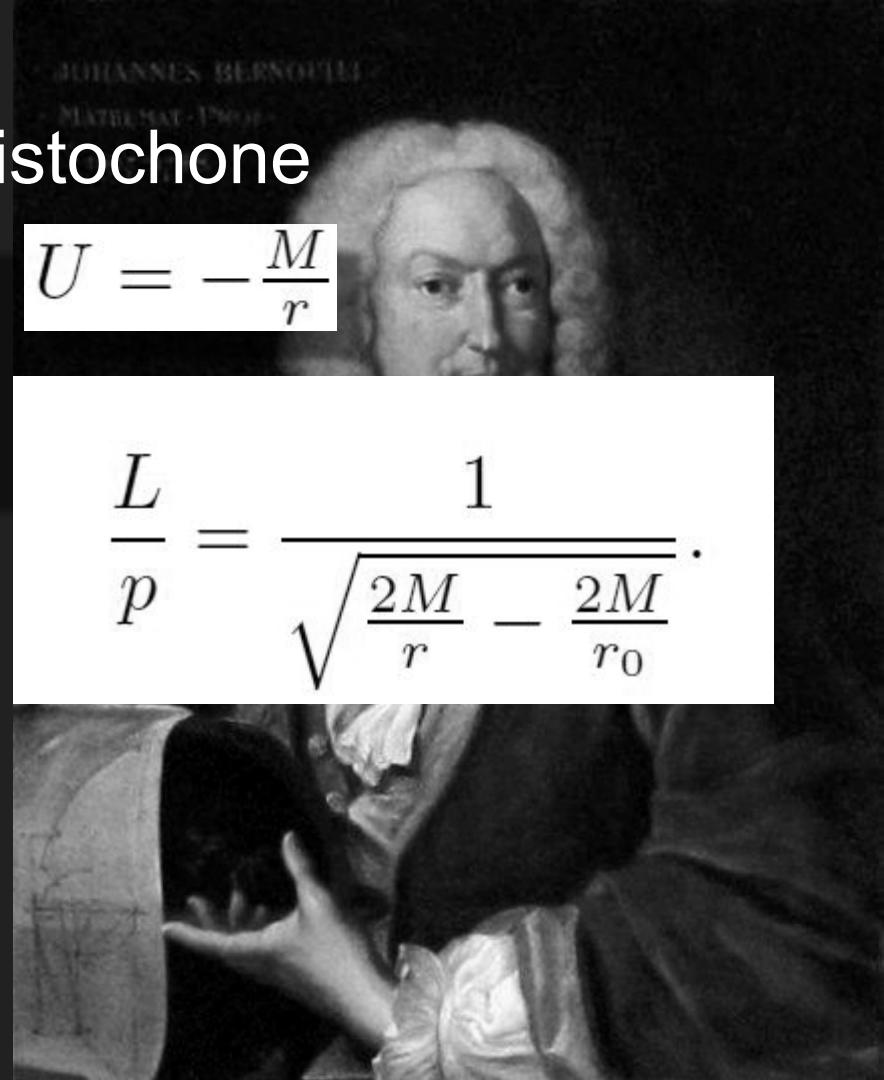
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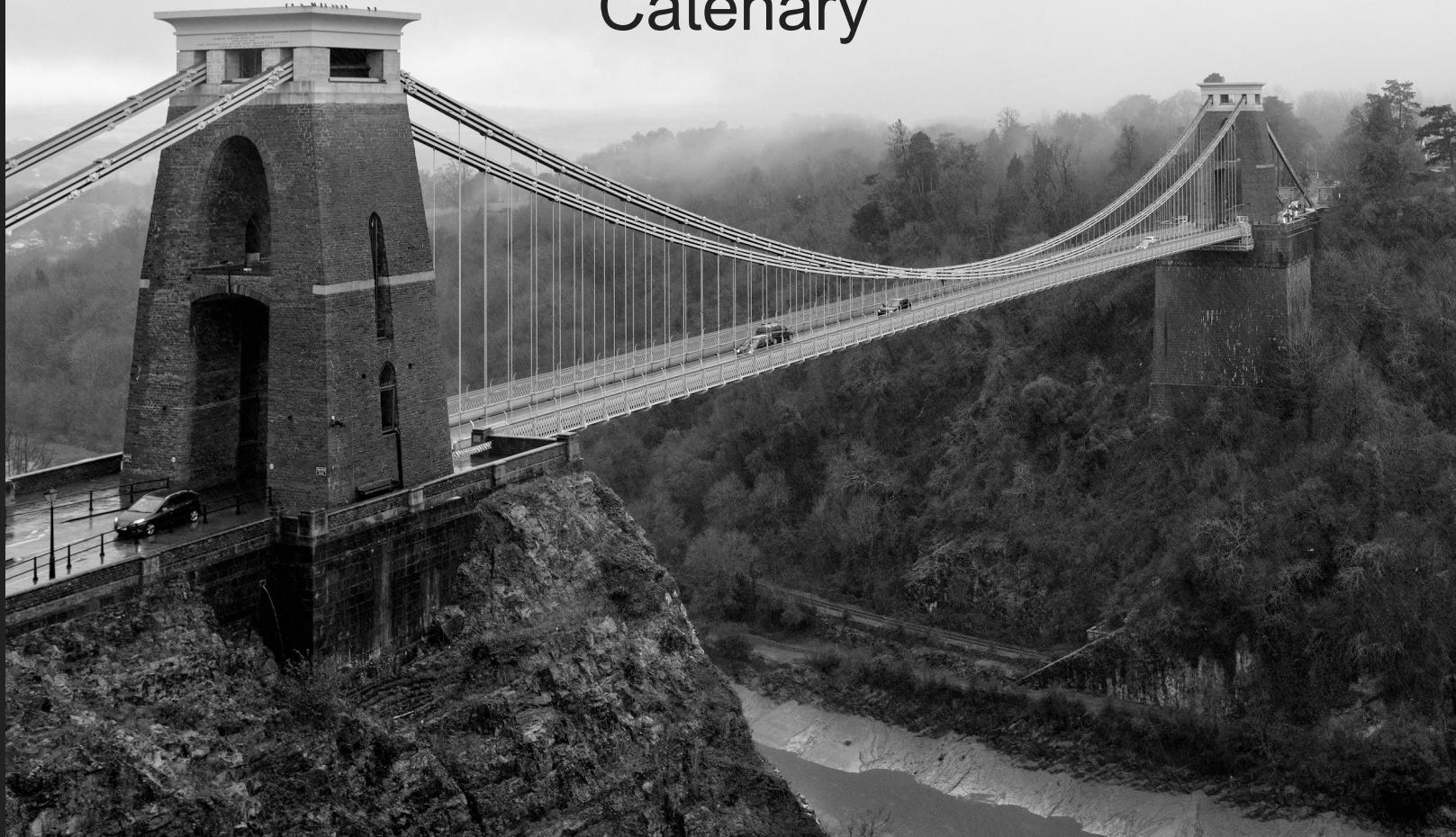
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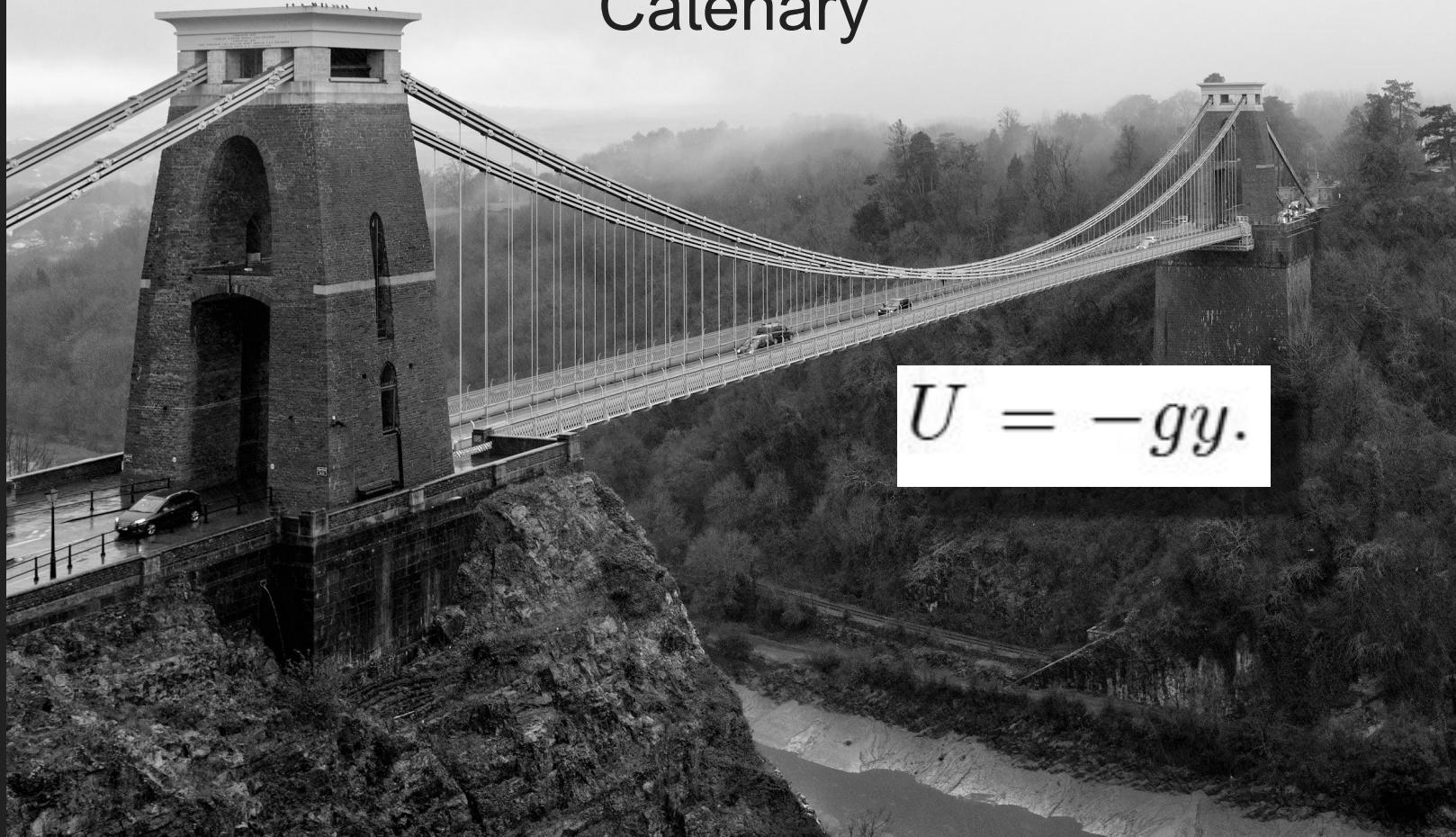
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# Catenary



# Catenary



$$U = -gy.$$

# Central Catenary



Altitude [Km] :  
35 786

# Central Catenary

$$U = -\frac{M}{r}$$

Altitude [Km] :  
35 786

# Central Catenary

$$\mathcal{L} := \int_{s_0}^{s_1} \left( \frac{M}{r} + \lambda \right) ds.$$

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Altitude [Km] :  
35 786

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$$Cr^{-\frac{3}{2}} = \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}\varphi\right),$$

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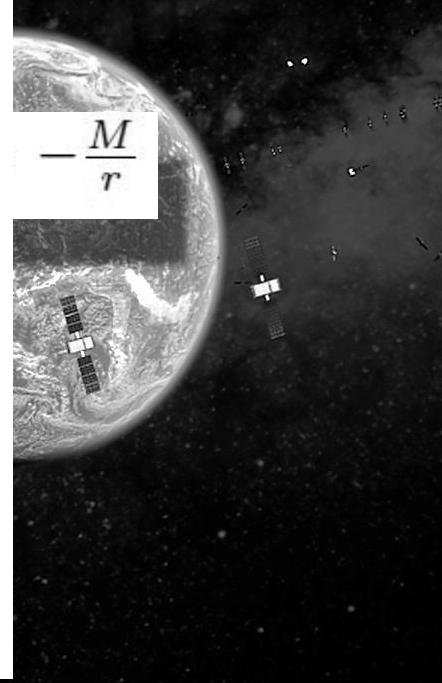
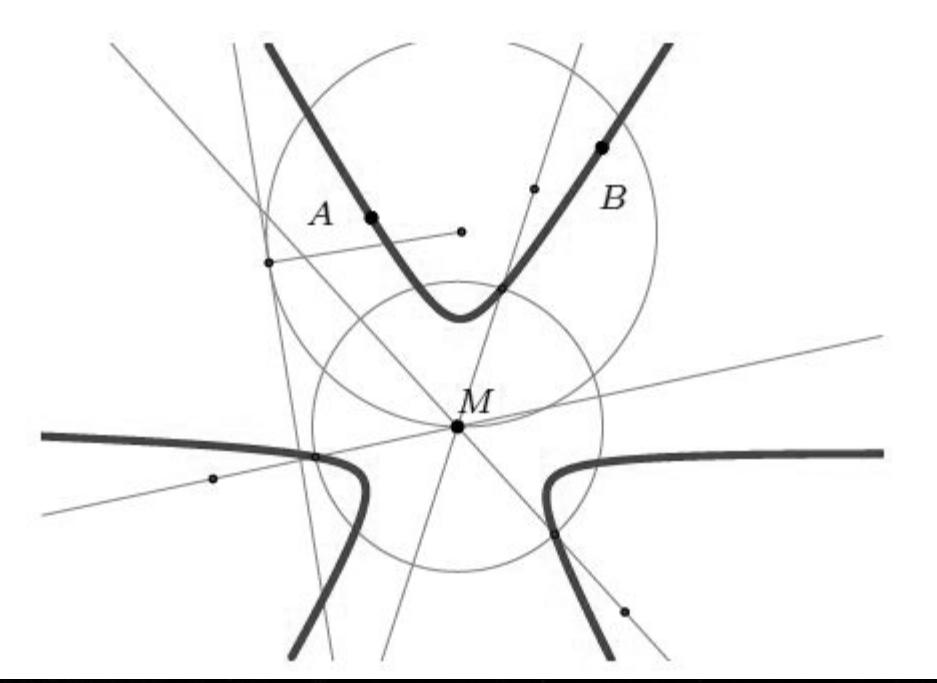
$$\frac{L}{p} = \frac{M}{r} + \lambda.$$

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for  $L^2 \geq M^2$  Central catenary is  $\sqrt{1 - \frac{M^2}{L^2}}$ -harmonic of a hyperbola!

Altitude [Km] :  
35 786

$$\mathcal{L} := \int_{s_0}^s \frac{L}{p}$$

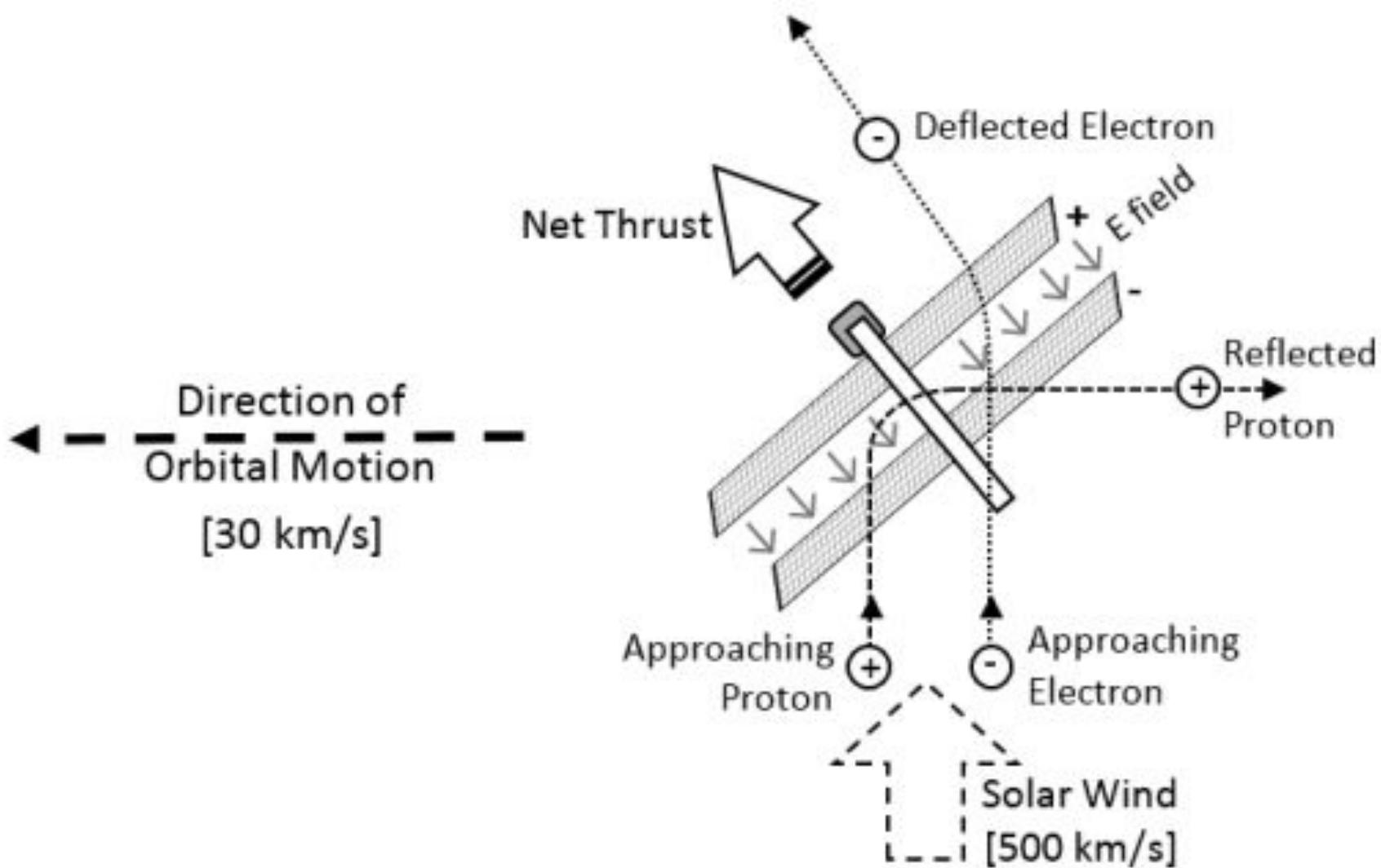


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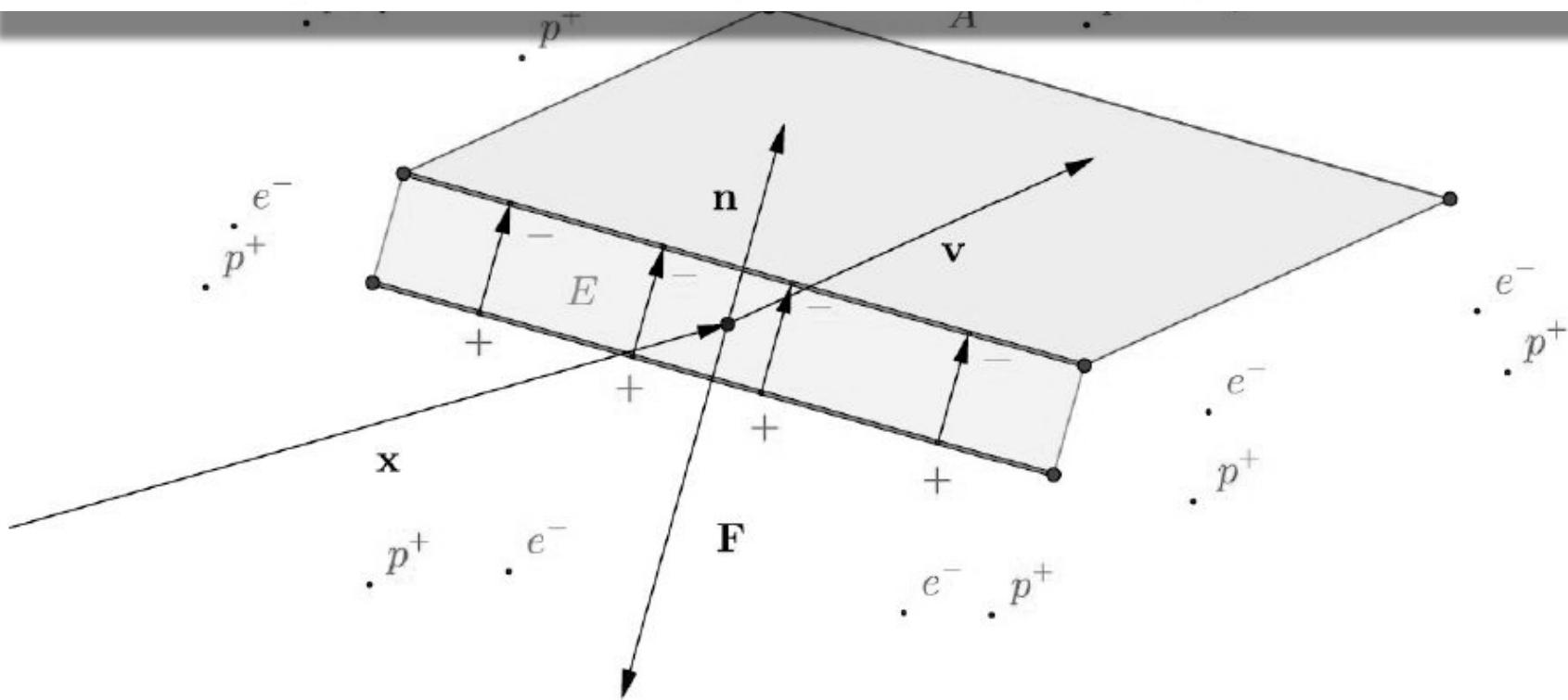
Altitude [Km] :  
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# Dipole drive by Robert Zubrin



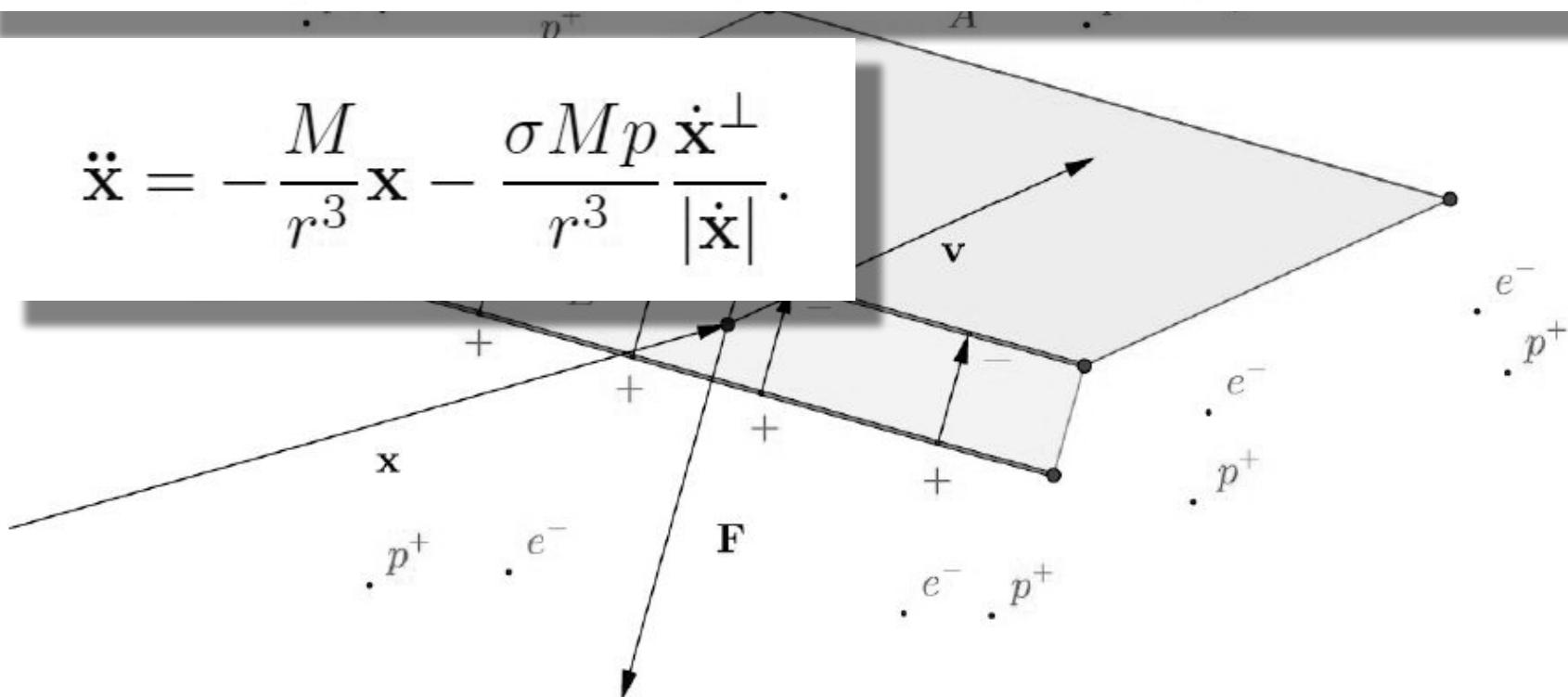


## Orbits of Dipole drive pointing in direction perpendicular to motion.



Orbits of Dipole drive pointing in direction perpendicular to motion.

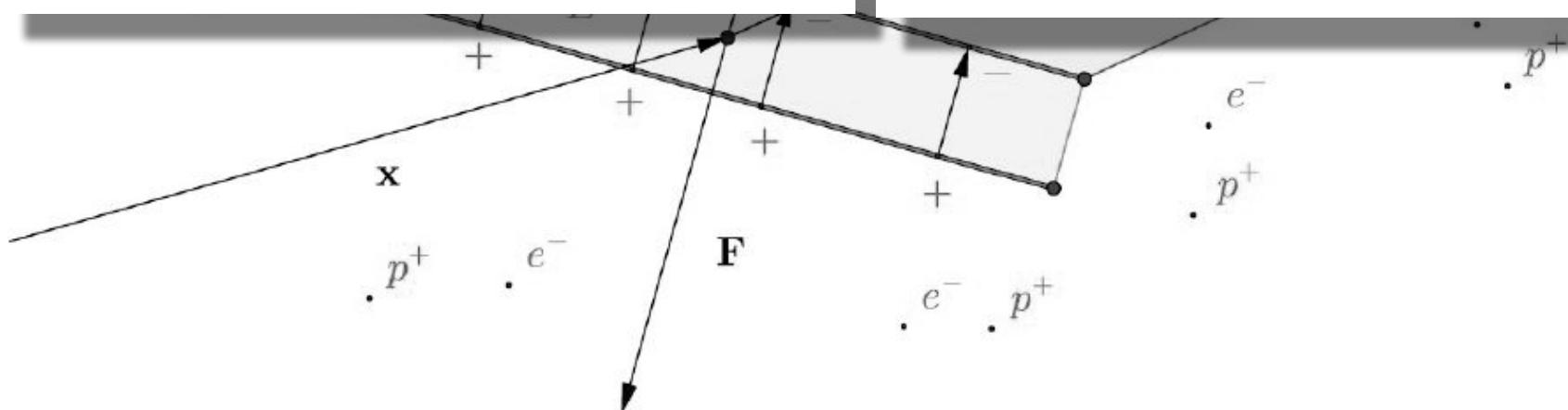
$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} - \frac{\sigma M p}{r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}.$$



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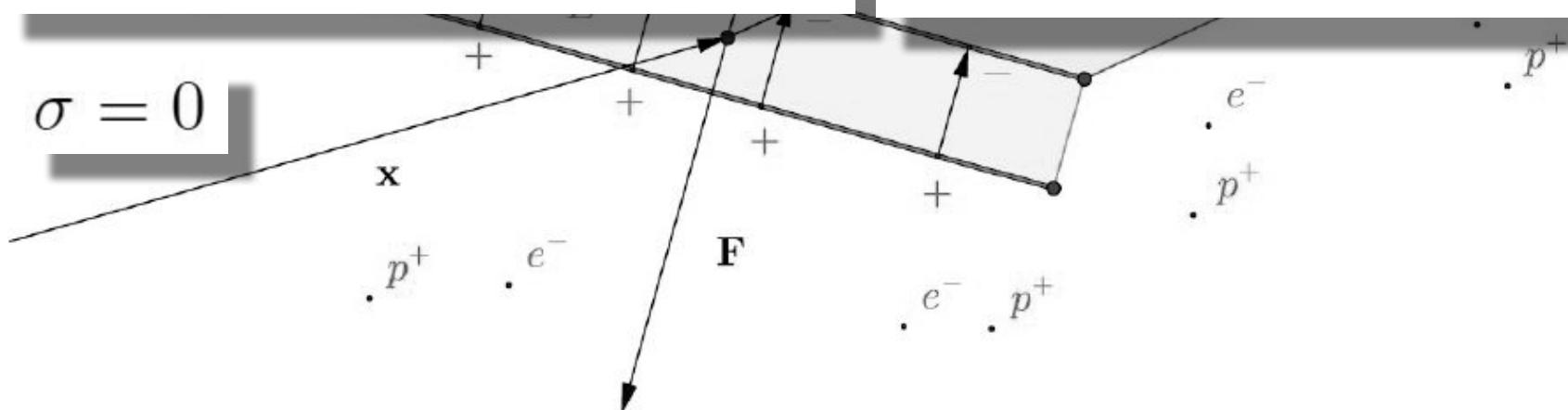
$$\frac{L^2}{p^2} = \left( \frac{2M}{r} + c \right)^{1-\sigma}.$$



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$$\sigma = 0$$

Kepler problem

$\mathbf{F}$

$p^+$

$e^-$

$e^-$

$p^+$

$p^+$

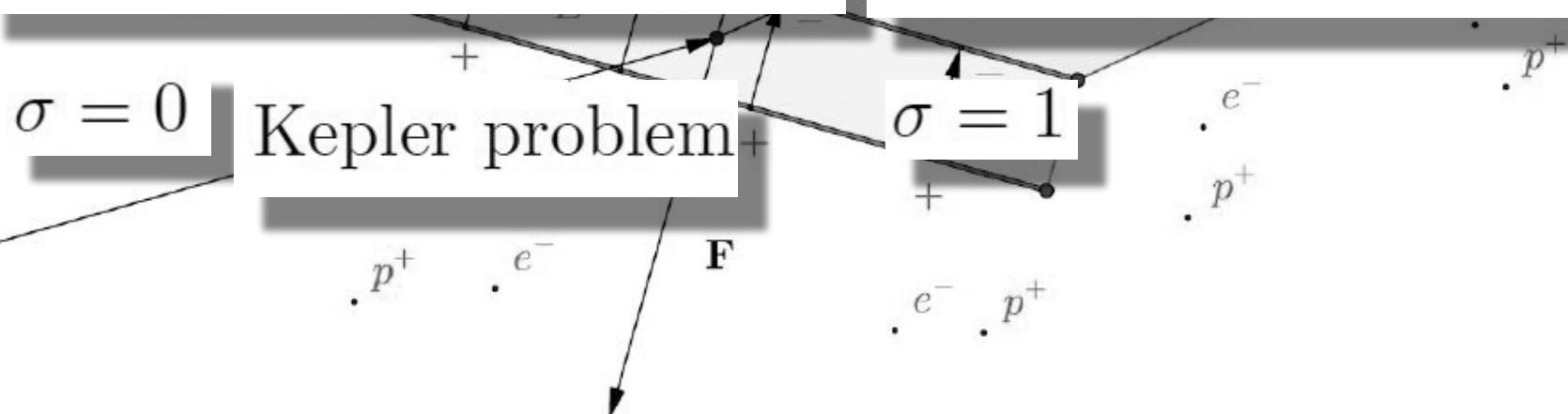
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Kepler problem

$$\sigma = 1$$

$$p = L.$$

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$\mathbf{F}$

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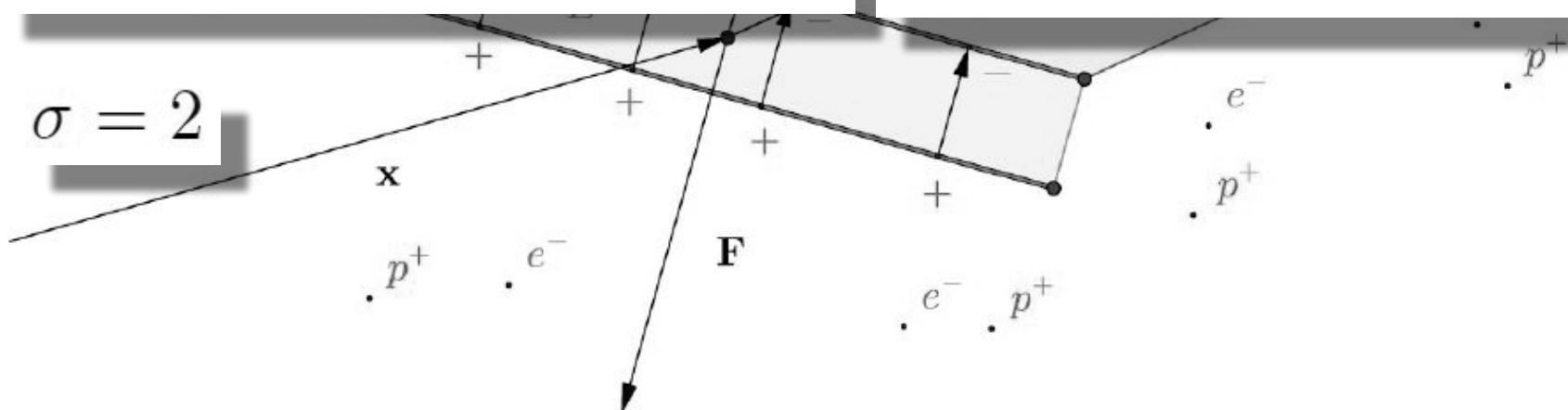
central Catenary

$$p = L.$$

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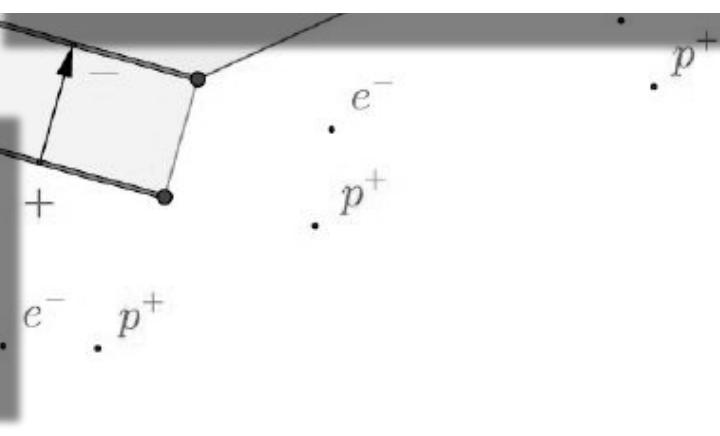
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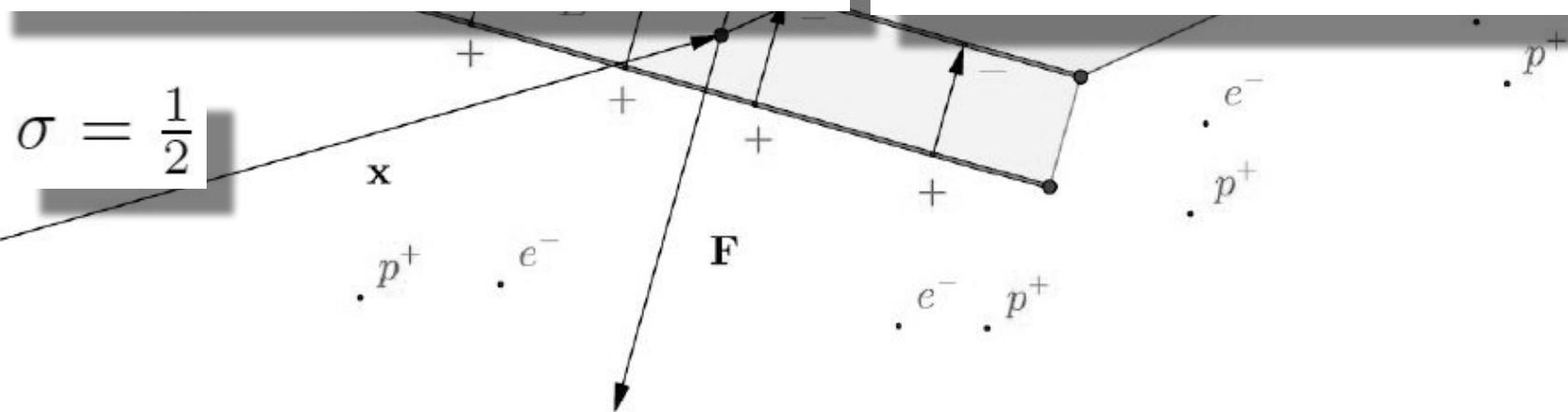
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central Brachistochrone

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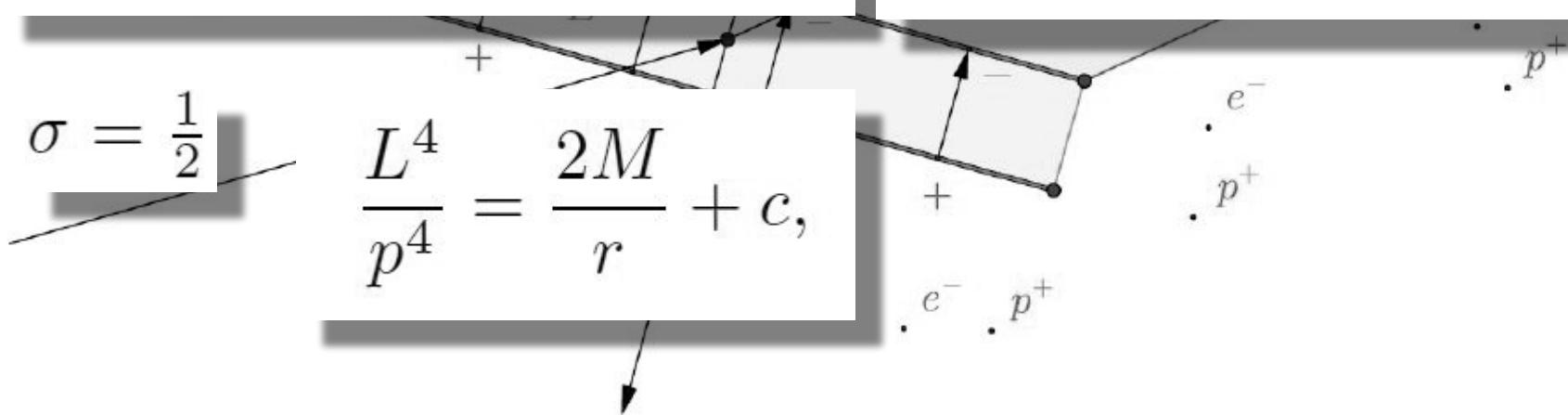
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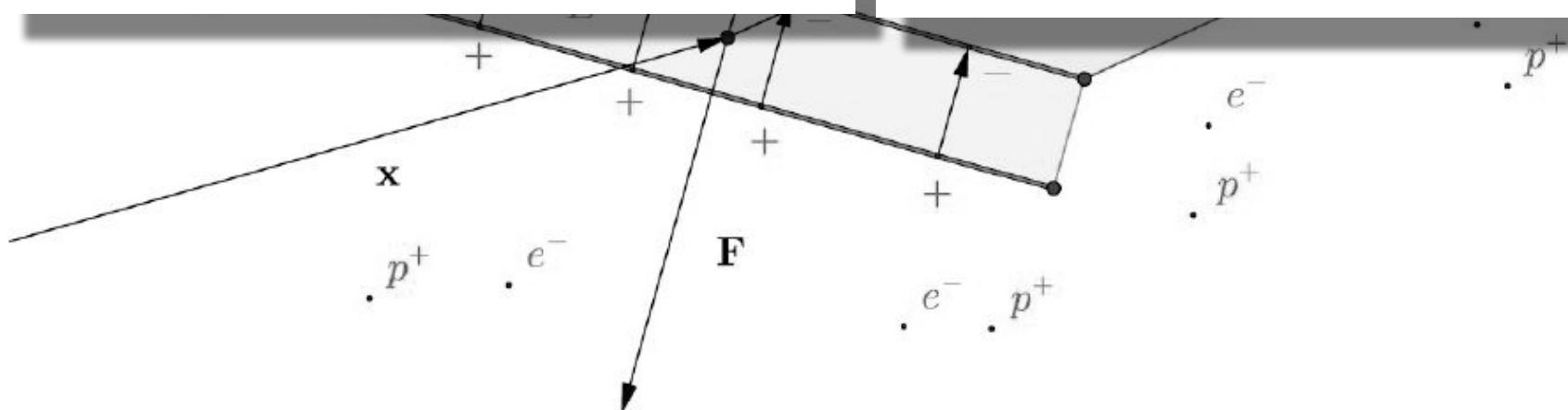
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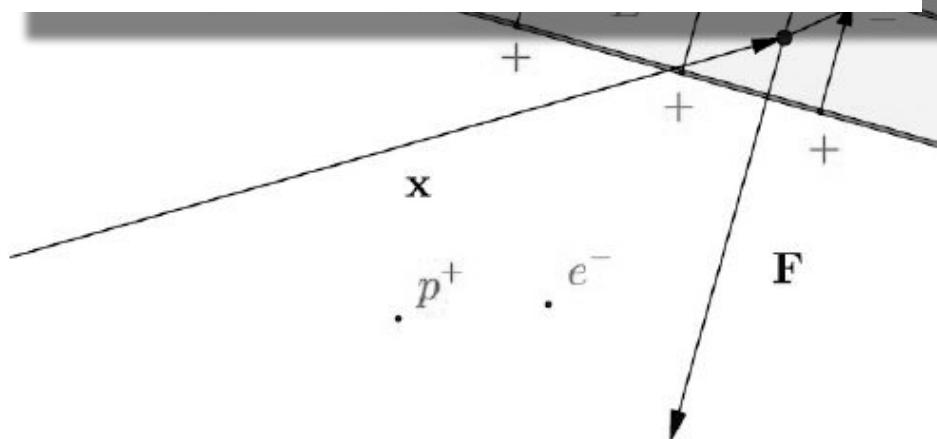
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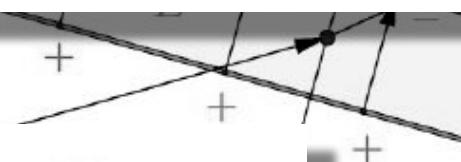
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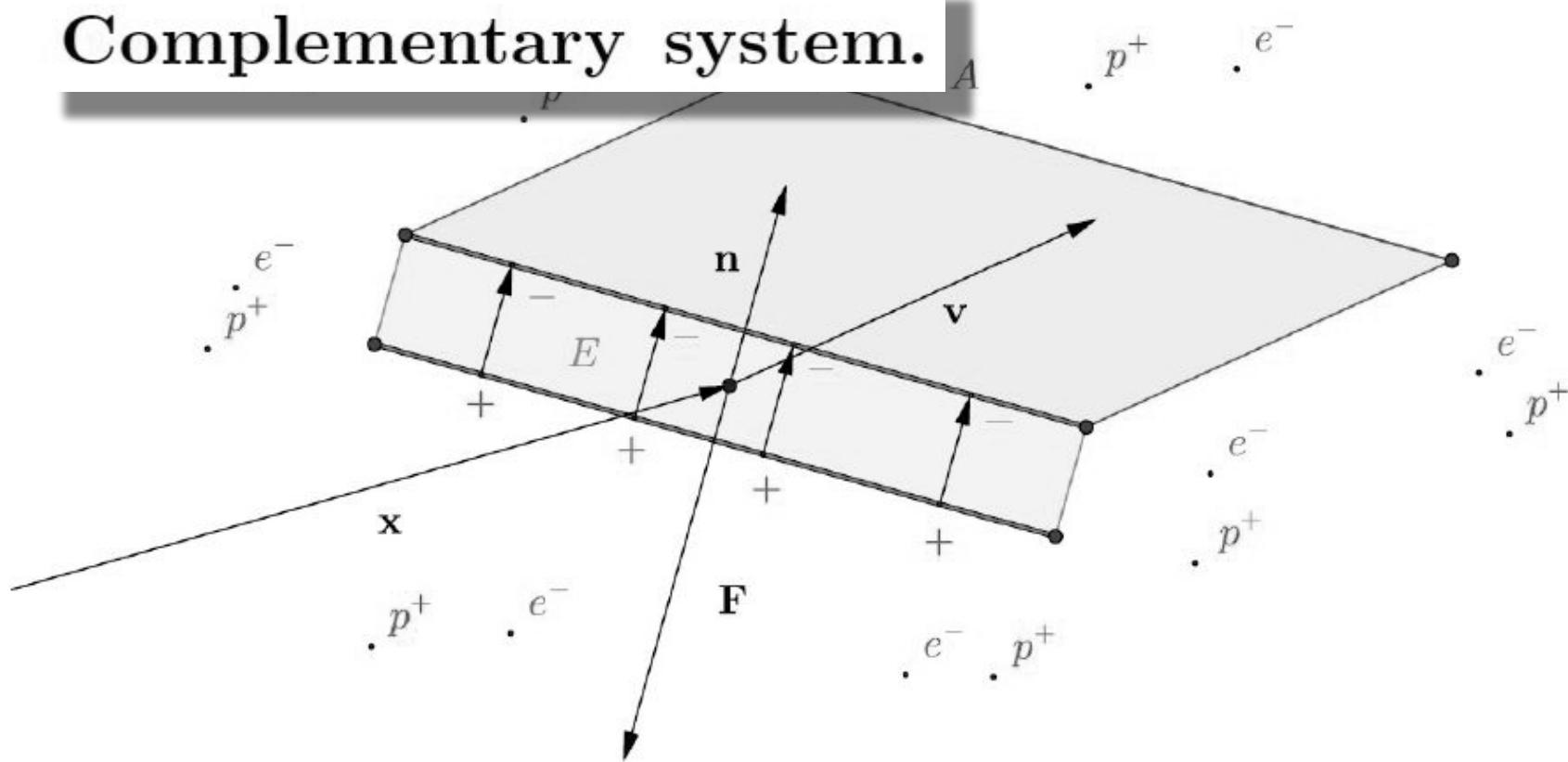
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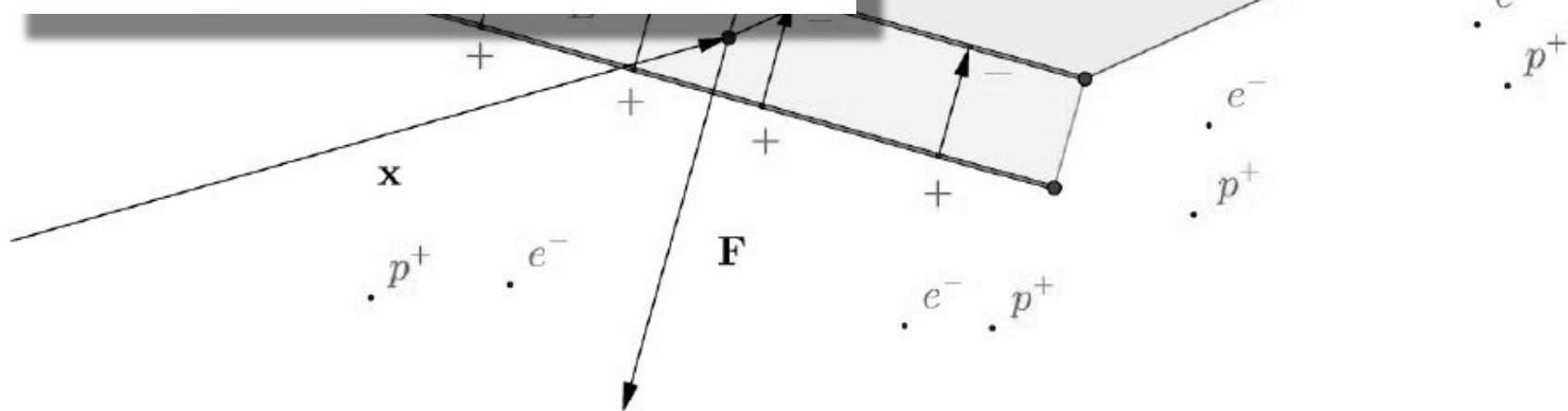
F

# Complementary system.



# Complementary system.

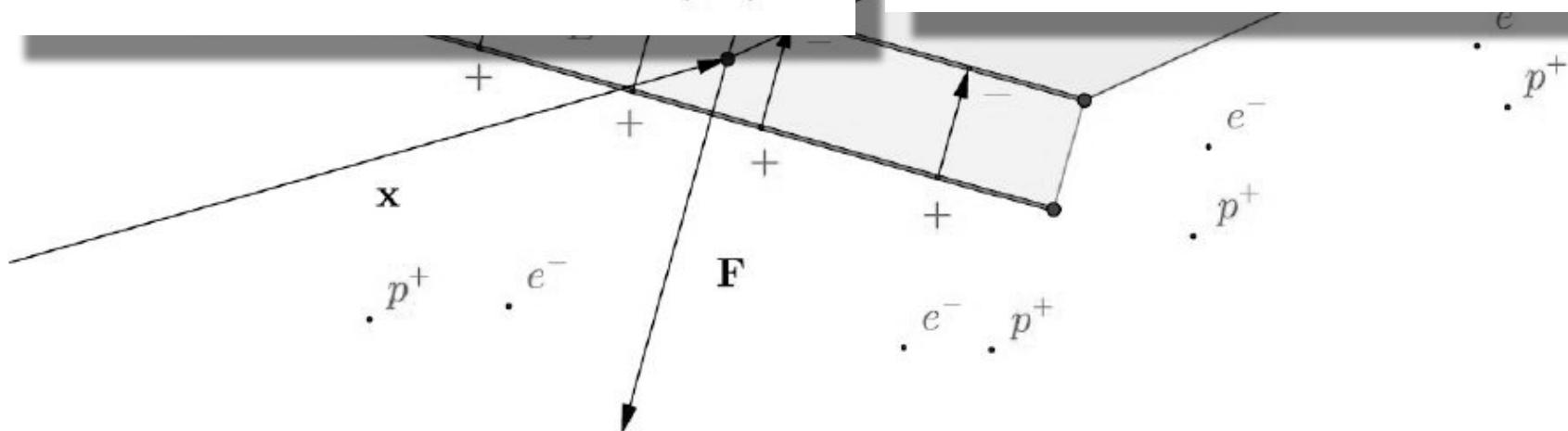
$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} - \frac{\sigma M p}{r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}.$$



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$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} + \frac{\sigma M p_c}{r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|}.$$

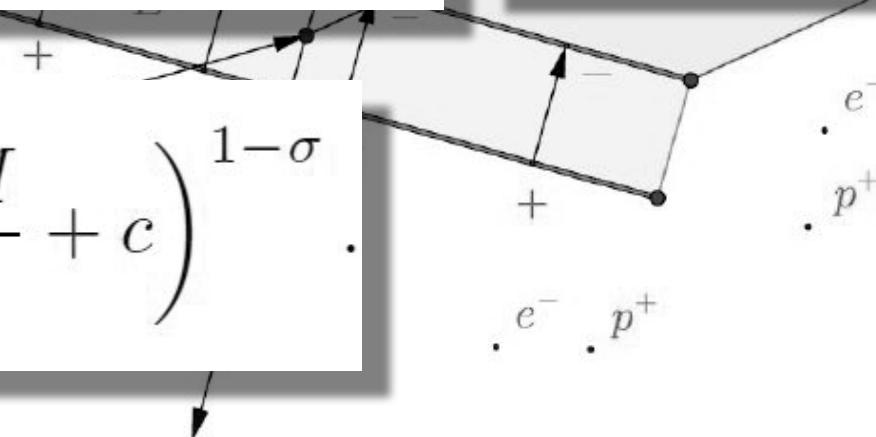


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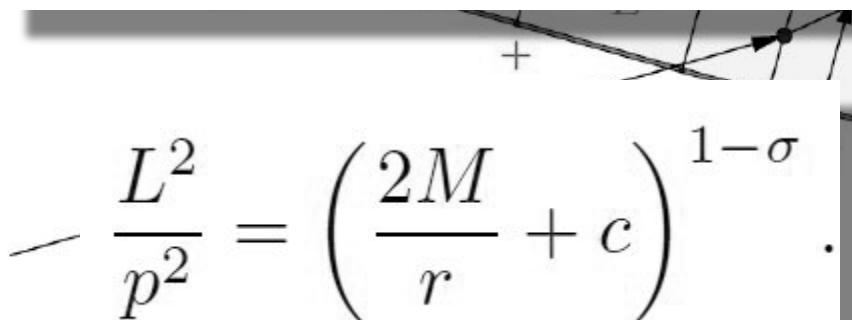
$$-\frac{L^2}{p^2} = \left( \frac{2M}{r} + c \right)^{1-\sigma}.$$

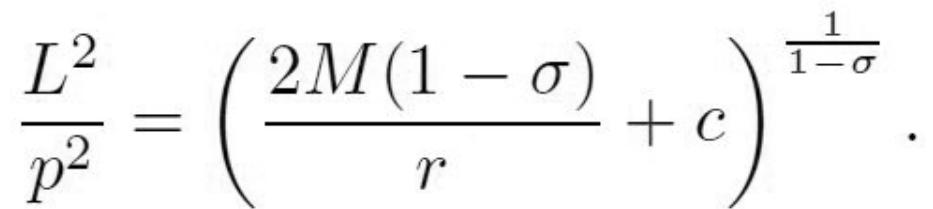


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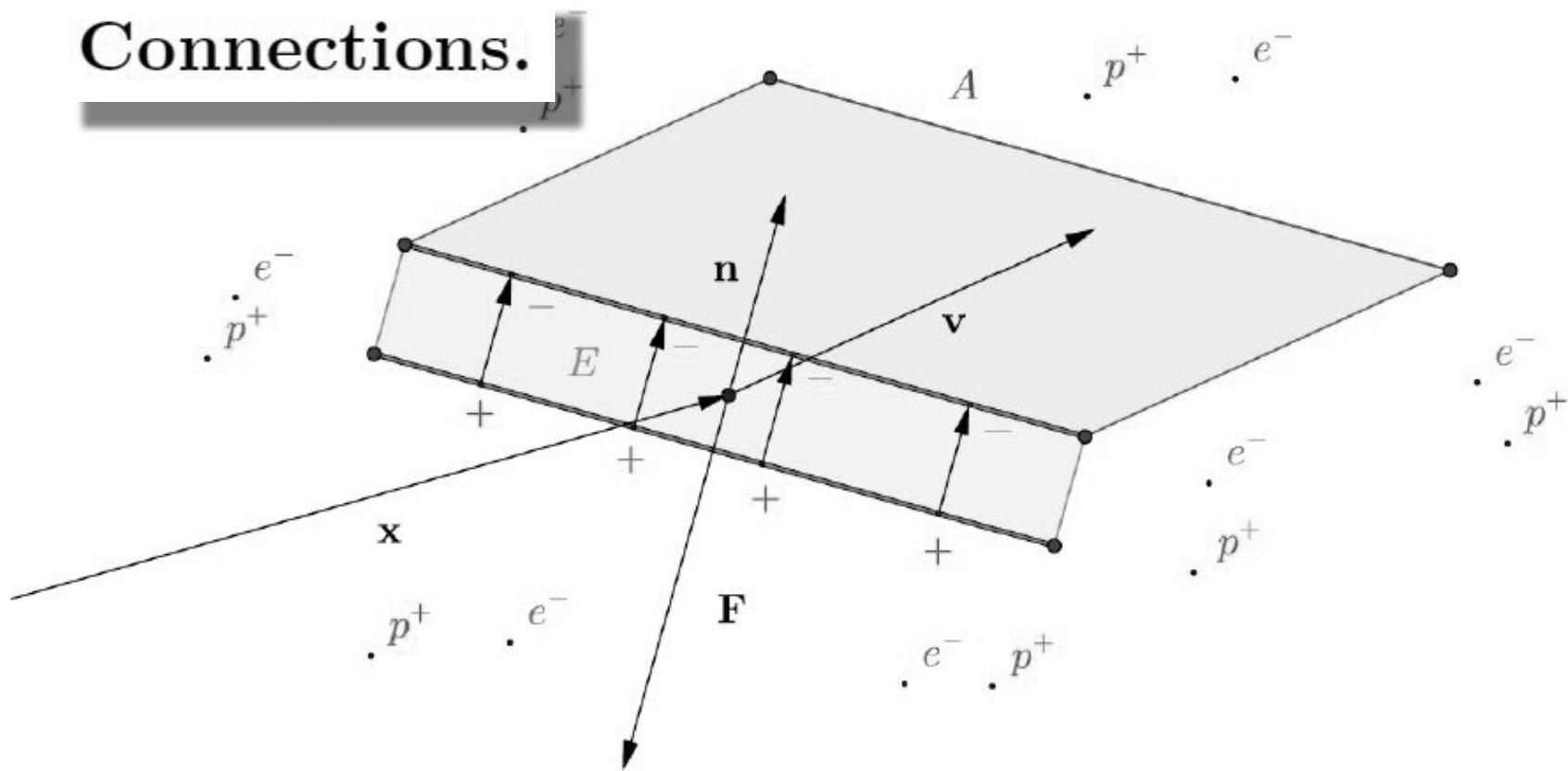
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$$-\frac{L^2}{p^2} = \left( \frac{2M}{r} + c \right)^{1-\sigma}.$$


$$\frac{L^2}{p^2} = \left( \frac{2M(1-\sigma)}{r} + c \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\sigma}}.$$

# Connections.



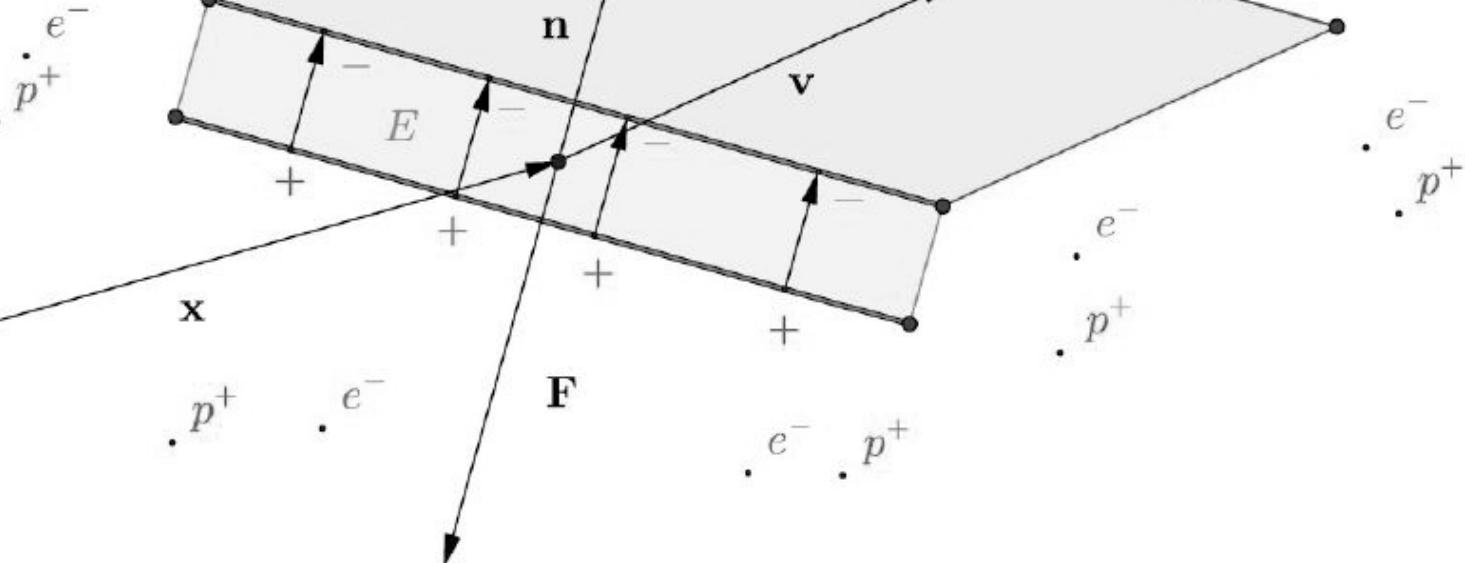
# Connections.

$$\sigma = -1$$

A

$p^+$

$e^-$



## Connections.

$$\sigma = -1$$

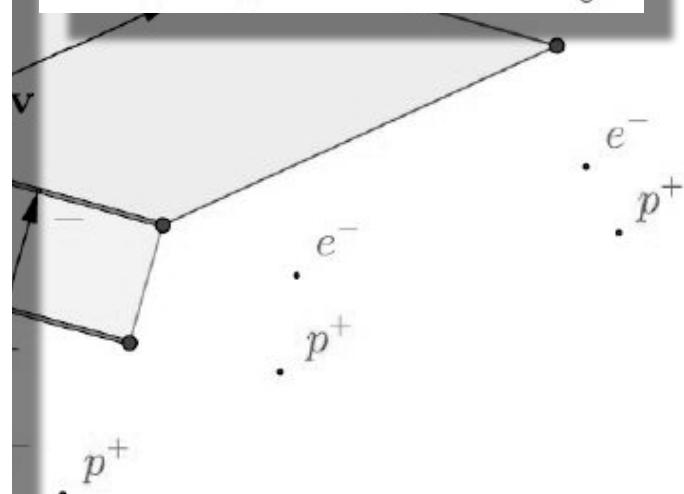
$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} + \frac{Mp}{r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{2M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} + \frac{Mp_c}{2r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} |\dot{\mathbf{x}}| \mathbf{x}.$$

$$A \cdot p^+ \cdot e^-$$

central Catenary



## Connections.

$$\sigma = -1$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{M}{r^3} \mathbf{x} + \frac{Mp}{r^3} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{x}}^\perp}{|\dot{\mathbf{x}}|},$$

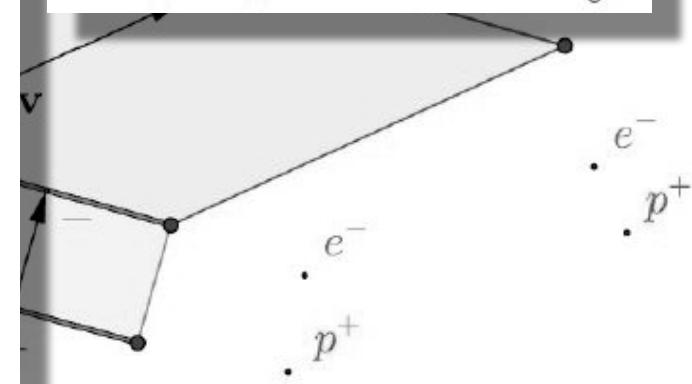
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Same orbits in Pedal coordinates!

$$A \cdot p^+ \cdot e^-$$

central Catenary

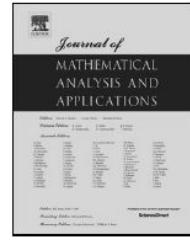




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Pedal coordinates, solar sail orbits, Dipole drive and other force problems



Petr Blaschke

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# Pedal coordinates, dark Kepler, and other force problems

Petr Blaschke<sup>a)</sup>

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THANK YOU