

Central Forces Conic Sections

Complete and keep in your notebook

In the Maple worksheet, `conics.mws`, you will examine a two parameter family of curves described by the polar equation

$$r(\phi) = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \epsilon \cos(\phi)}$$

Describe in detail how the shape of the plot depends on the parameters α and ϵ .

by Corinne Manogue
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