

Asymptotes

Let the n th degree polynomial curve is expressed as

$$x^n \phi_n\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) + x^{n-1} \phi_{n-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) + \dots + \phi_1\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = 0$$

assuming it passes through origin.

We write the equation of asymptote as

$$y = mx + c$$

then $\frac{y}{x} \rightarrow m$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ and $\phi_n(m) = 0$ provides as its real roots the potential gradient of all asymptotes.

Now $\frac{y - mx - c}{\sqrt{1 + m^2}} = d \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ gives

$\phi_n\left(m + \frac{c+u}{x}\right) + \frac{1}{x} \phi_{n-1}\left(m + \frac{c+u}{x}\right) + \dots$
on Taylor's series expansion gives

$$\frac{c+u}{x} \phi_n'(m) + \frac{1}{x} \phi_{n-1}(m) + \frac{c+u}{x^2} \phi_{n-1}'(m) + \frac{1}{x^2} \phi_{n-2}(m) + \dots = 0$$

Since $\phi_n(m) = 0$ and $u \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$.

Multiplying throughout by x , we easily get

$$c = - \frac{\phi_{n-1}(m)}{\phi_n'(m)}$$

For repeated root, i.e. $\phi_n'(m) = 0$ and $\phi_{n-1}(m) = 0$, we get similarly, the eqn.

$$\frac{c^2}{2} \phi_n''(m) + c \phi_{n-1}'(m) + \phi_{n-2}(m) = 0$$

for the two values of c with same m .