

9.4 Classifying Conics

Classifying a Conic from Its General Equation

$$Ax^2 + Cy^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

Circle : $A = C$

Parabola : $AC = 0$

Ellipse : $AC > 0$

Hyperbola : $AC < 0$

Handwritten notes:
 your equation has an x^2 or y^2 NOT BOTH
 coefficients of x^2, y^2 are different but they have the same sign
 coefficients of x^2, y^2 have different signs

STANDARD FORM OF EQUATIONS OF TRANSLATED CONICS

In the following equations the point (h, k) is the *vertex* of the parabola and *center* of the other conics.

CIRCLE	$(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2$	
	Horizontal axis	Vertical axis
PARABOLA	$(y - k)^2 = 4p(x - h)$	$(x - h)^2 = 4p(y - k)$
ELLIPSE	$\frac{(x - h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y - k)^2}{b^2} = 1$	$\frac{(x - h)^2}{b^2} + \frac{(y - k)^2}{a^2} = 1$
HYPERBOLA	$\frac{(x - h)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(y - k)^2}{b^2} = 1$	$\frac{(y - k)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(x - h)^2}{b^2} = 1$

Classify the Conic:

Write the equation in standard form.

1.) $4x^2 - 9y^2 + 32x - 144y - 548 = 0$
H

2.) $2x^2 + y^2 - 4x - 4 = 0$
E

3.) $4x^2 - 9x + y - 5 = 0$
P
 $(x-h)^2 = 4p(y-k)$

4.) $2x^2 + 2y^2 - 8x + 12y + 2 = 0$
C

$$4x^2 - 9x = -y + 5$$

$$4\left(x^2 - \frac{9}{4}x + \frac{81}{64}\right) = -y + 5 + \frac{81}{16}$$

$$4\left(x - \frac{9}{8}\right)^2 = -y + \frac{161}{16}$$

$$\frac{4\left(x - \frac{9}{8}\right)^2}{4} = \frac{-1\left(y - \frac{161}{16}\right)}{4}$$

$$\left(x - \frac{9}{8}\right)^2 = -\frac{1}{4}\left(y - \frac{161}{16}\right)$$

(2) Each cable of the Golden Gate Bridge is suspended (in the shape of a parabola) between two towers that are 1280 meters apart. The top of each tower is 152 meters above the roadway. The cables touch the roadway midway between the towers.

(a) Draw a sketch of the bridge. Locate the origin of a rectangular coordinate system at the center of the roadway. Label the coordinates of the known points.

(b) Write an equation that models the cables. $X^2 = 2694.74 y$

(c) Complete the table by finding the height y of the suspension cables over the roadway at a distance of x meters from the center of the bridge.

Distance, x	Height, y
0	0
100	
250	
400	
500	

