## ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2 (POLAR COORDINATES)

NATHAN GRIGG



(1c) The math on this one is pretty tricky. The main idea is to eliminate the r and  $\theta$  in the equation. I can multiply both sides of  $\sec(\theta + \pi/3) = r$  by  $\cos(\theta + \pi/3)$  to get

$$1 = r\cos(\theta + \pi/3) = r(\cos\theta\cos\pi/3 - \sin\theta\sin\pi/3)$$
$$= r\left(\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{y}{r}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\right) = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}y}{2}$$



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- (2a)  $x^2 + y^2$  is obviously 4, so this is a circle, which has polar equation r = 2. The square root sign means to take the positive square root only, so technically x should always be positive, which means we have the right half of a circle. This doesn't change the polar equation, but it means that  $-\pi/2 \le \theta \le \pi/2$ .
- (2b) This takes some ingenuity, but to get the line x + y = 1 we need  $r \cos \theta +$  $r\sin\theta = 1$ . Since  $\cos(\pi/4) = \sin(\pi/4) = 1/\sqrt{2}$ , we can rewrite this as

$$1 = r\sqrt{2}\left(\cos\theta\sin(\pi/4) + \sin\theta\cos(\pi/4)\right) = r\sqrt{2}\sin(\theta + \pi/4)$$

Solving for r, we get

$$r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sin(\theta + \pi/4)} = \frac{\csc(\theta + \pi/4)}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

- So the equations for the region are  $0 \le \theta \le \pi/2$  and  $0 \le r \le \frac{\csc(\theta + \pi/4)}{\sqrt{2}}$ . (3) The velocity vector is  $\langle r' \cos \theta r \sin(\theta) \theta', r' \sin \theta + r \cos(\theta) \theta' \rangle$ . When we take the length of this vector lots of sin's and cos's cancel out to give us  $\sqrt{[r'(t)]^2 + [r(t)]^2 [\theta'(t)]^2}.$
- (4a) r'(t) = 1 and  $\theta'(t) = 1$ . So the speed is  $\sqrt{1+r^2} = \sqrt{1+\theta^2} = \sqrt{1+t^2}$ .



(4b)  $r'(t) = \cos t$  and  $\theta'(t) = 1$ . So the speed is  $\sqrt{\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t} = 1$ .



 $\mathbf{2}$