



An Elementary Course in Synthetic Projective Geometry (Paperback)

By Derrick Norman Lehmer

Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt: .pg 63 110.

Classification of conics. Conics are classified according to their relation to the infinitely distant line. If a conic has two points in common with the line at infinity, it is called a hyperbola; if it has no point in common with the infinitely distant line, it is called an ellipse; if it is tangent to the line at infinity, it is called a parabola . 111. In a hyperbola the center is outside the curve (101), since the two tangents to the curve at the points where it meets the line at infinity determine by their intersection the center. As previously noted, these two tangents are called the asymptotes of the curve. The ellipse and the parabola have no asymptotes. 112. The center of the parabola is at infinity, and therefore all its diameters are parallel, for the pole of a tangent line is the point of contact. The locus of the middle points of a series of parallel chords in a parabola is a diameter, and the direction of the line of...



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