7.3 The Ellipse

▼ Geometric Definition of an Ellipse

An **ellipse** is a collection of all points in the plane, the sum of whose distances from two fixed points called the foci is a constant.





▼ Vocabulary of an Ellipse





- ▼ Important Components of the Equation
 - a: distance from center to vertex
 - b : distance from center to minor vertex



c: distance from center to focus Related by Pythagorean theorem.



▼ Labeling the Ordered Pairs and Equations

When you know the center, a, b and c you can find all of the significant features of the ellipse.





• Equations of an ellipse with center at the origin (0,0).

Major Axis is Horizontal (y = 0)

$$rac{x^2}{a^2}+rac{y^2}{b^2}=1;$$

 $b^2+c^2=a^2$

Major Axis is Vertical (x = 0)

$$rac{x^2}{b^2}+rac{y^2}{a^2}=1; \ b^2+c^2=a^2$$

• Equations of an ellipse with center at (h, k).

Major Axis is Horizontal (
$$y=k$$
) $rac{(x-h)^2}{a^2}+rac{(y-k)^2}{b^2}=1;$ $b^2+c^2=a^2$

Major Axis is Vertical (
$$x=h$$
) $rac{(x-h)^2}{b^2}+rac{(y-k)^2}{a^2}=1;$ $b^2+c^2=a^2$

- ▼ Examples: Given the graph find the features and equation
 - ▼ Example 1:

Find the equation of the ellipse, the center, vertices, foci, major axis, minor axis



▼ Example 2:

Find the equation of the ellipse, the center, vertices, foci, major axis, minor axis



- ▼ Examples: Given the features find the equation and the graph
 - ▼ Example 1:

Find the orientation, center, vertices, and write the equation of the ellipse. Graph the Ellipse

The foci is $(0,\pm 2)$ and the length of the major axis is 8.

▼ Example 2:

Find the orientation, center, vertices, and write the equation of the ellipse.

The center is at (2,1); One vertex is at (7,1); One focus is at (-1,1).

X

▼ Examples: Given the equations find the features and graph

y

x

x

▼ Example 1:

Find the orientation, center, vertices, and graph of the ellipse.

$$rac{(x-3)^2}{16} + rac{(y+4)^2}{49} = 1$$

▼ Example 2:

Rewrite using completing the square. Find the orientation, center, vertices, and graph of the ellipse.

$$x^2 - 2x + 16y^2 + 32y + 1 = 0$$