

# Loci: Hyperbolas

MA 341 - Topics in Geometry  
Lecture 26



# Conic Sections

Believed first used by Apollonius of Perga  
hyperbola comes from Greek word meaning  
"excessive"

ellipse comes from Greek word for  
"deficient"

parabola comes from Greek word for  
"comparable"

May refer to eccentricity of curves

hyperbola - greater than one

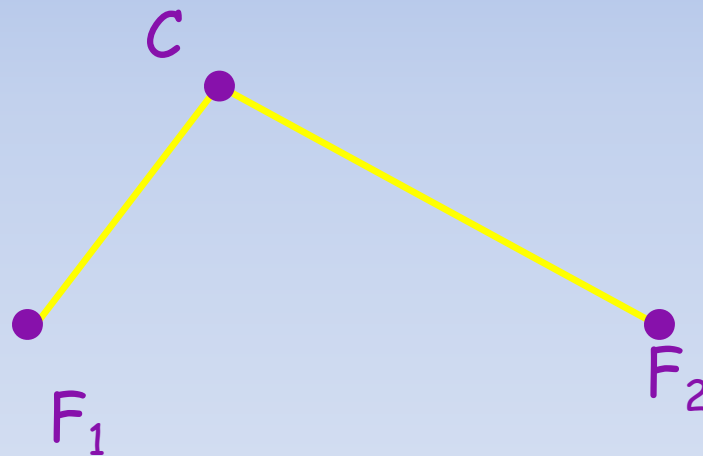
ellipse - less than one

parabola - exactly one

# Hyperbola

Given two points  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and  $s > 0$ .

Find the locus of points,  $C$ , so that

$$|CF_1 - CF_2| = s$$


# Hyperbola

Called a hyperbola with foci  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ .

Let  $V$  be point on  $F_1F_2$  so that

$$VF_2 = \frac{1}{2}(F_1F_2 - s)$$

Then

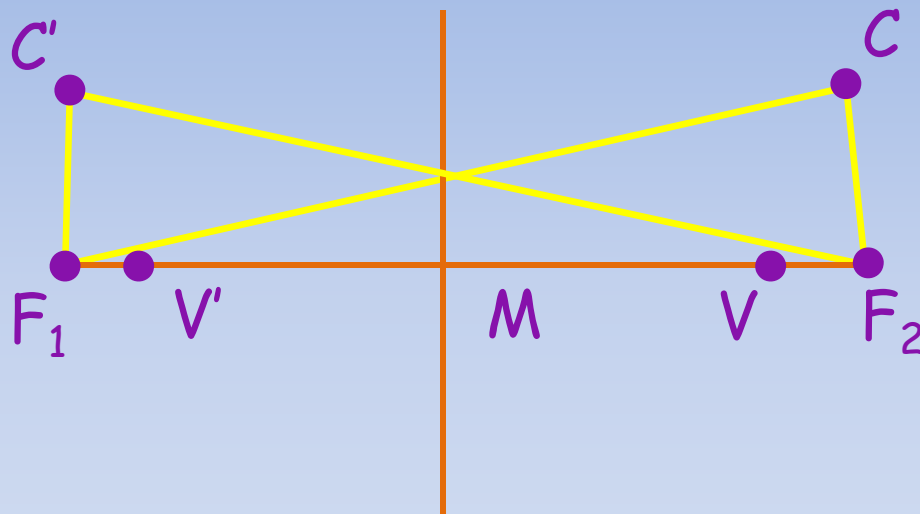
$$VF_1 - VF_2 = (F_1F_2 - VF_2) - VF_2 = F_1F_2 - 2VF_2 = s$$

If we reflect  $V$  across the midpoint we get a second point,  $V'$ , on the hyperbola.

$V, V'$  - vertices of hyperbola

# Hyperbola

$M = \text{midpoint of } F_1F_2$



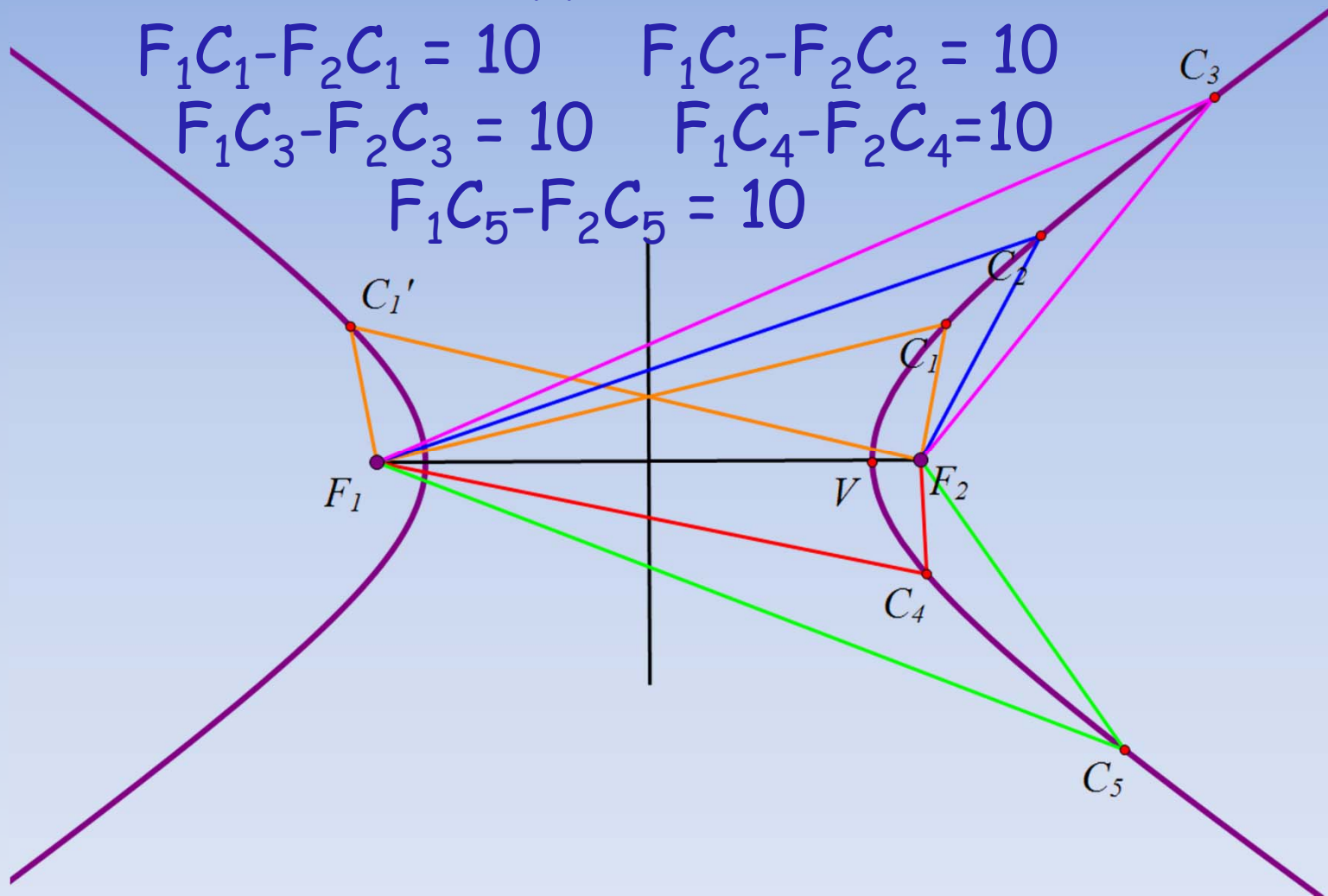
# Hyperbola

The common difference is 10:

$$F_1C_1 - F_2C_1 = 10 \quad F_1C_2 - F_2C_2 = 10$$

$$F_1C_3 - F_2C_3 = 10 \quad F_1C_4 - F_2C_4 = 10$$

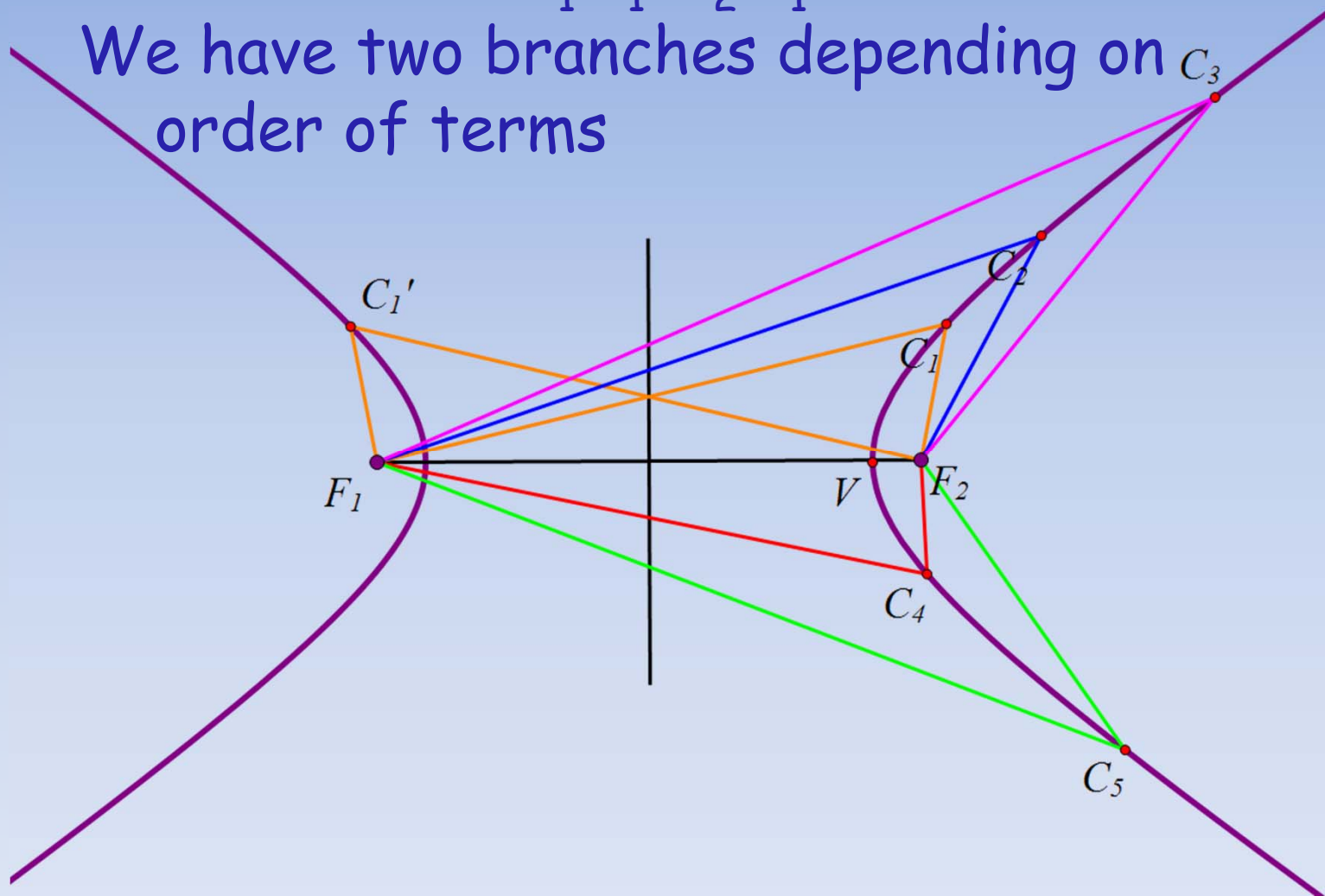
$$F_1C_5 - F_2C_5 = 10$$



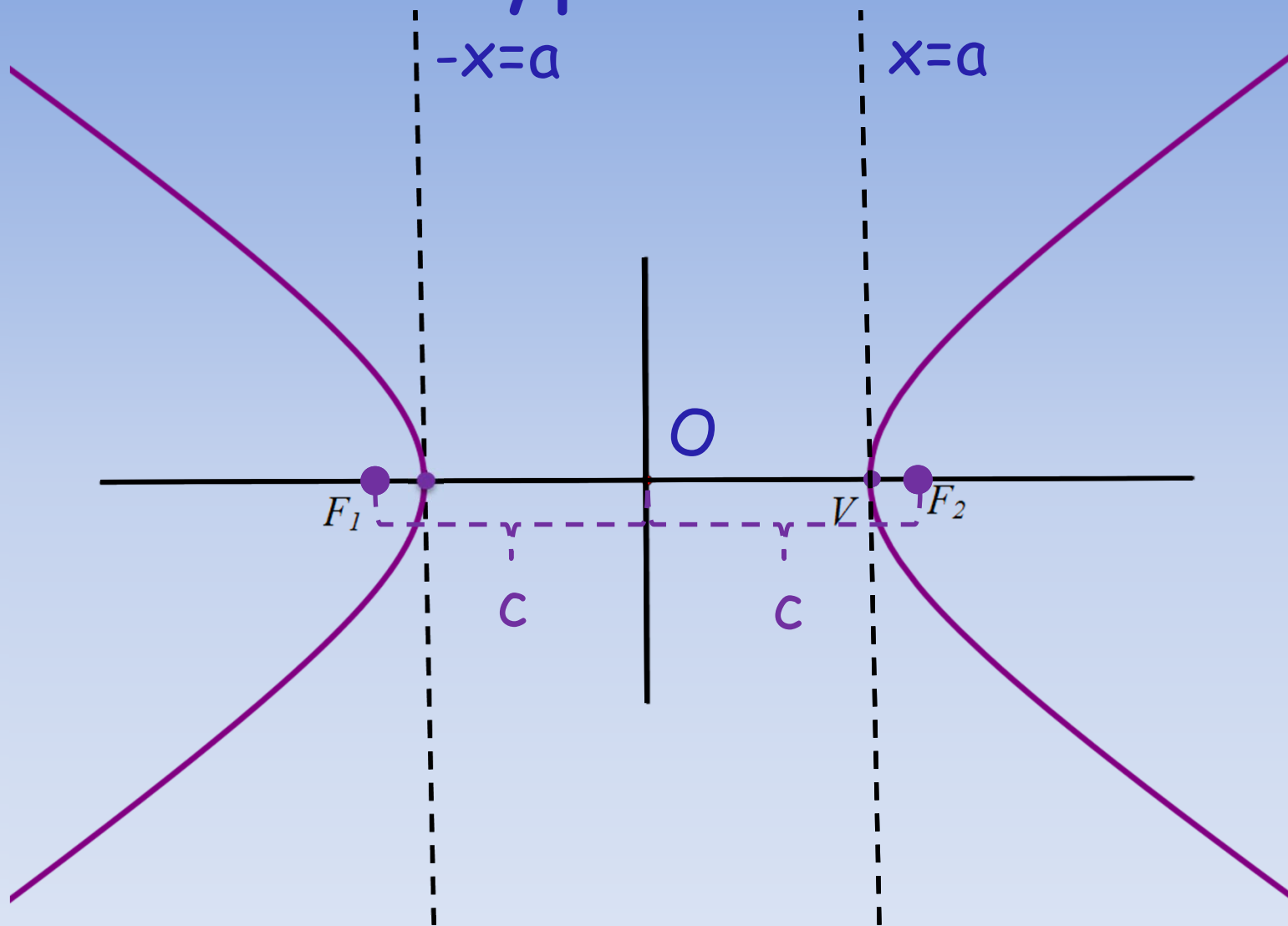
# Hyperbola

$$F_1C'_1 - F_2C'_1 = -10$$

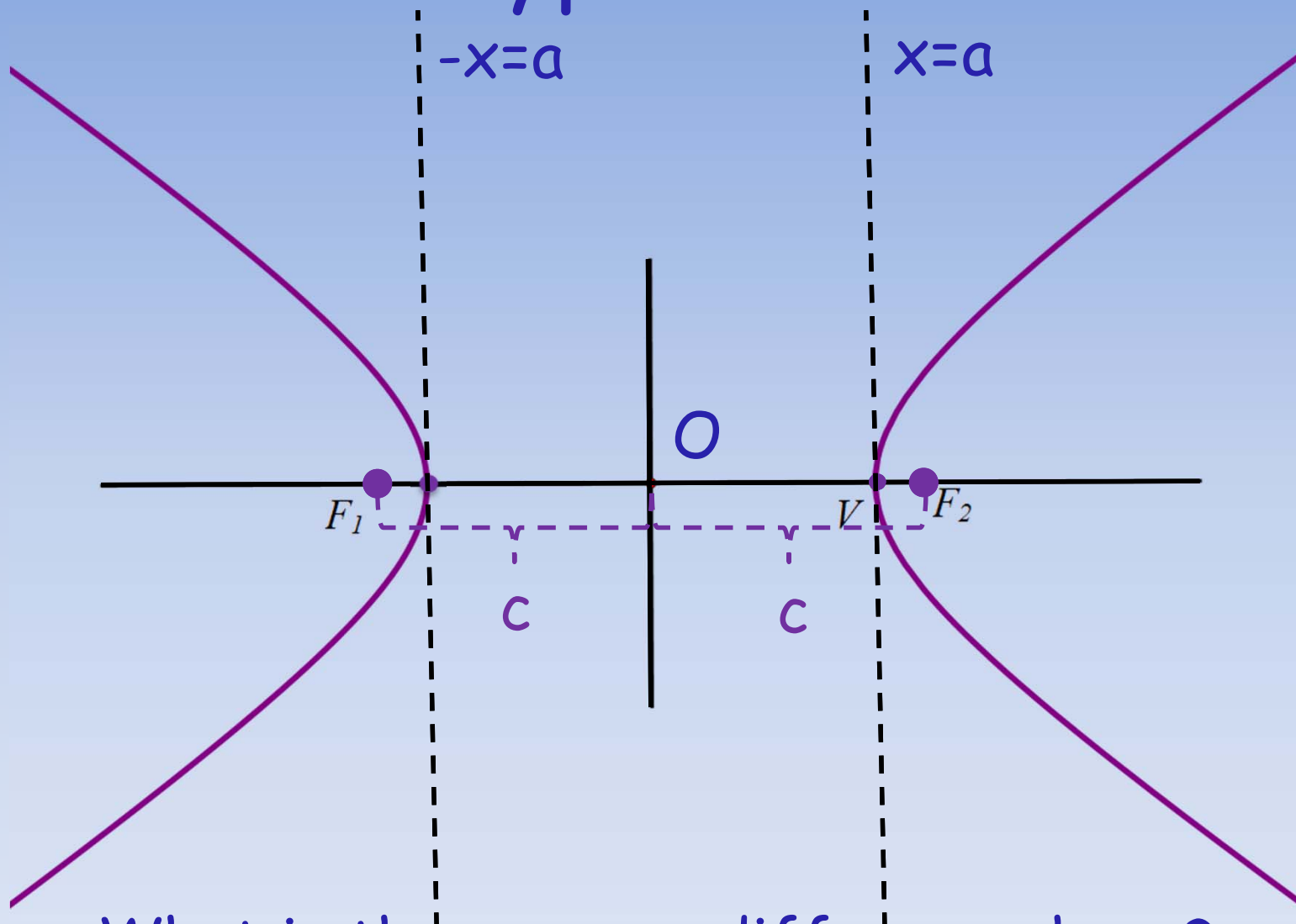
We have two branches depending on order of terms



# Hyperbola

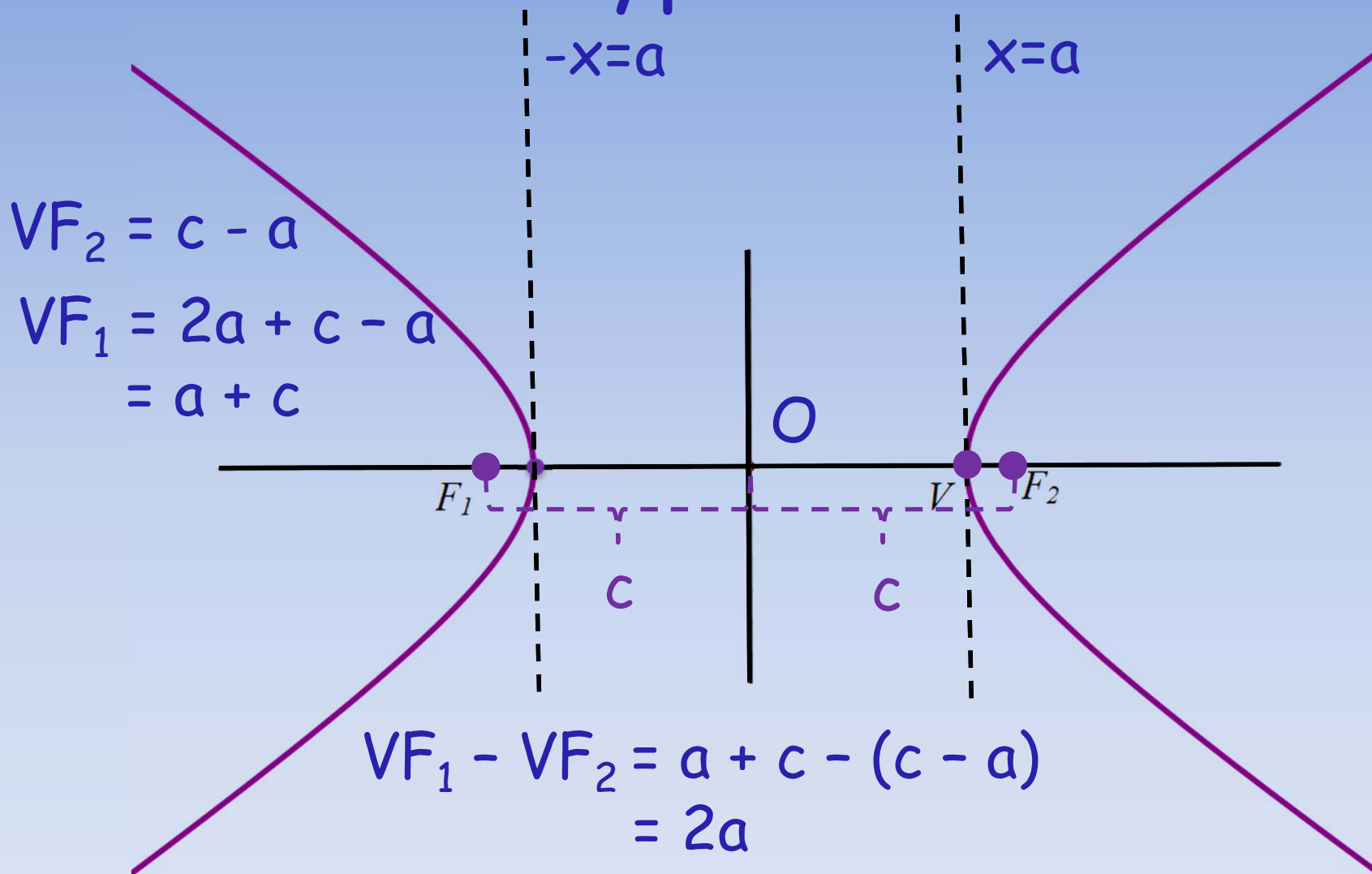


# Hyperbola

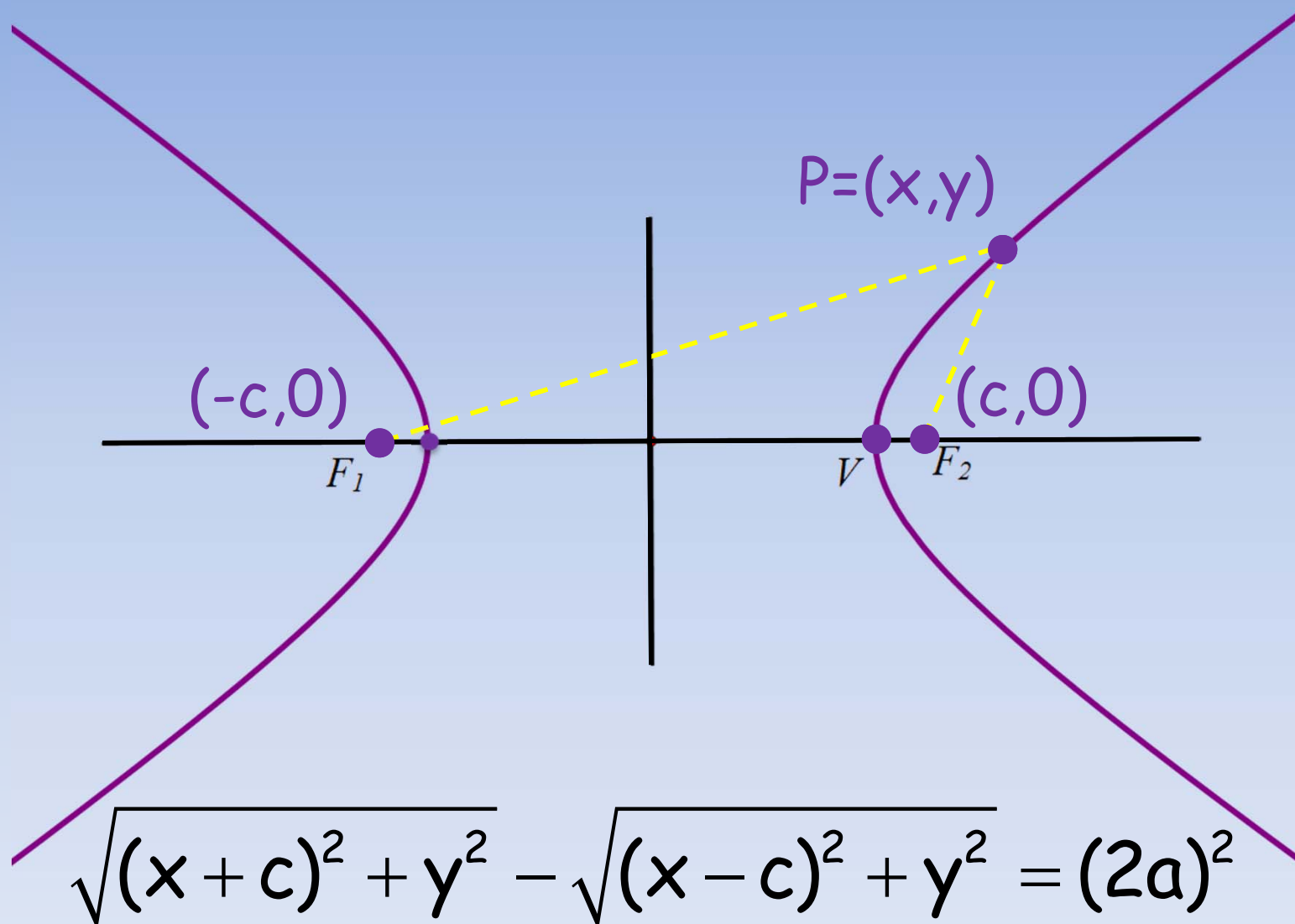


What is the common difference here?

# Hyperbola



# Hyperbola



# Hyperbola

$$\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2} - \sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} = (2a)^2$$

$$(x+c)^2 + y^2 - 2\sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2}\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2} + (x-c)^2 + y^2 = 4a^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + c^2 - 2a^2 = \sqrt{(x+c)^2 + y^2}\sqrt{(x-c)^2 + y^2}$$

$$(x^2 + y^2 + c^2 - 2a^2)^2 = ((x+c)^2 + y^2)((x-c)^2 + y^2)$$

$$x^4 + y^4 + c^4 + 4a^4 - 4a^2c^2 - 4a^2x^2 - 4a^2y^2 + 2c^2x^2 + 2c^2y^2 + 2x^2y^2$$

$$= x^4 + y^4 + c^4 - 2c^2x^2 + 2c^2y^2 + 2x^2y^2$$

$$4a^4 - 4a^2c^2 - 4a^2x^2 - 4a^2y^2 + 4c^2x^2 = 0$$

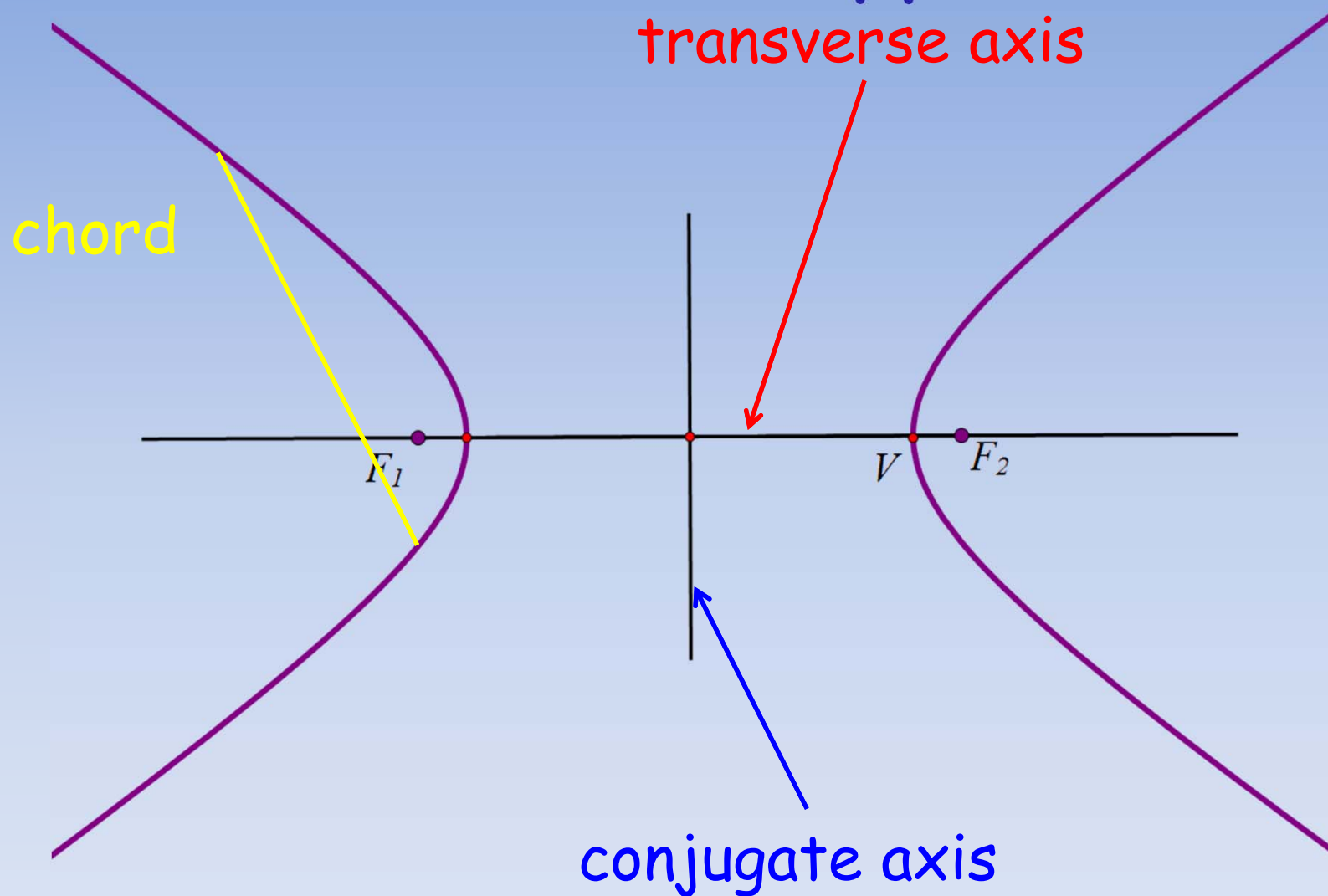
$$(c^2 - a^2)x^2 - a^2y^2 = a^2(c^2 - a^2)$$

Let  $b^2 = c^2 - a^2$

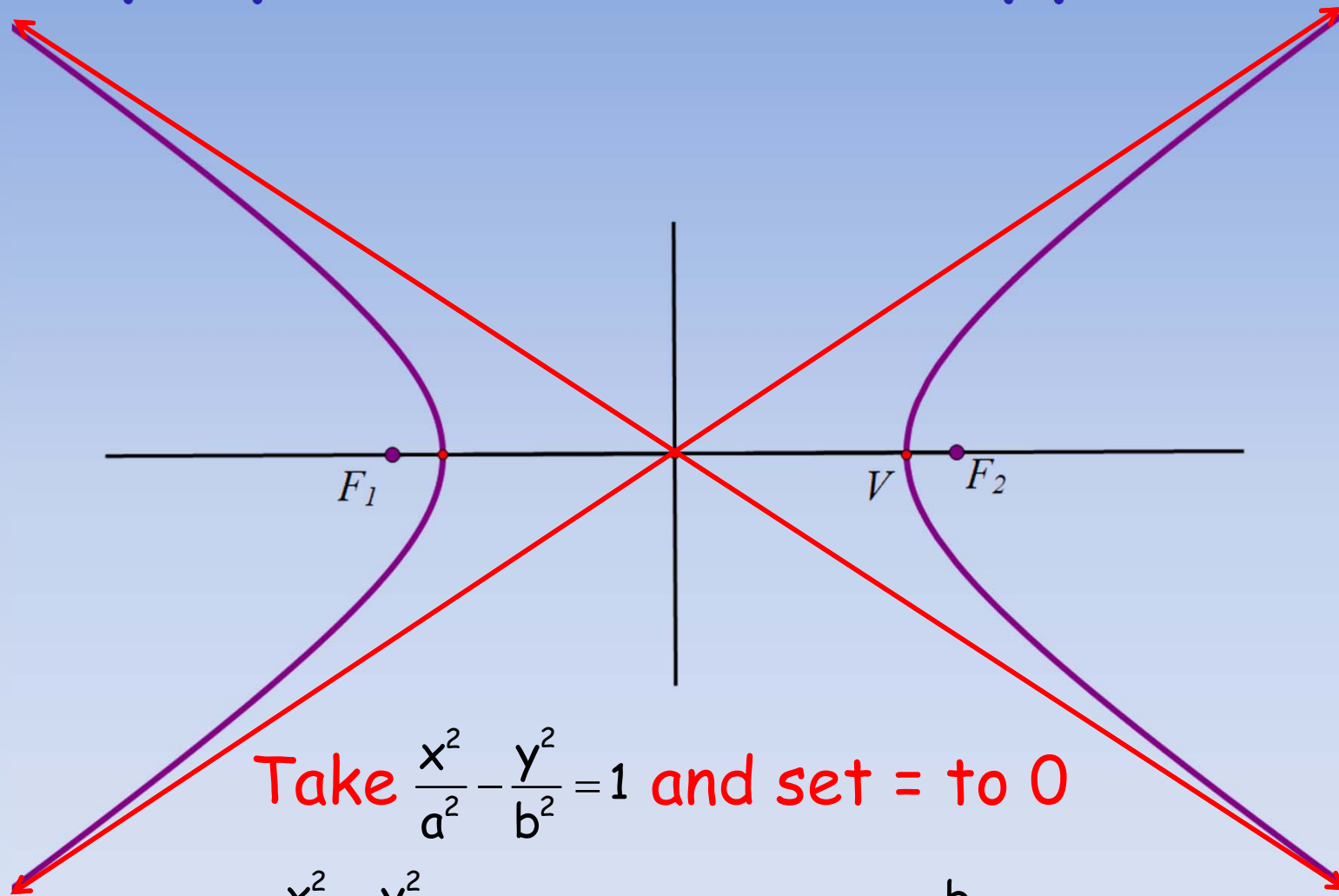
$$b^2x^2 - a^2y^2 = a^2b^2$$

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad \text{Standard Form}$$

# Parts of the Hyperbola



# Asymptotes of the Hyperbola

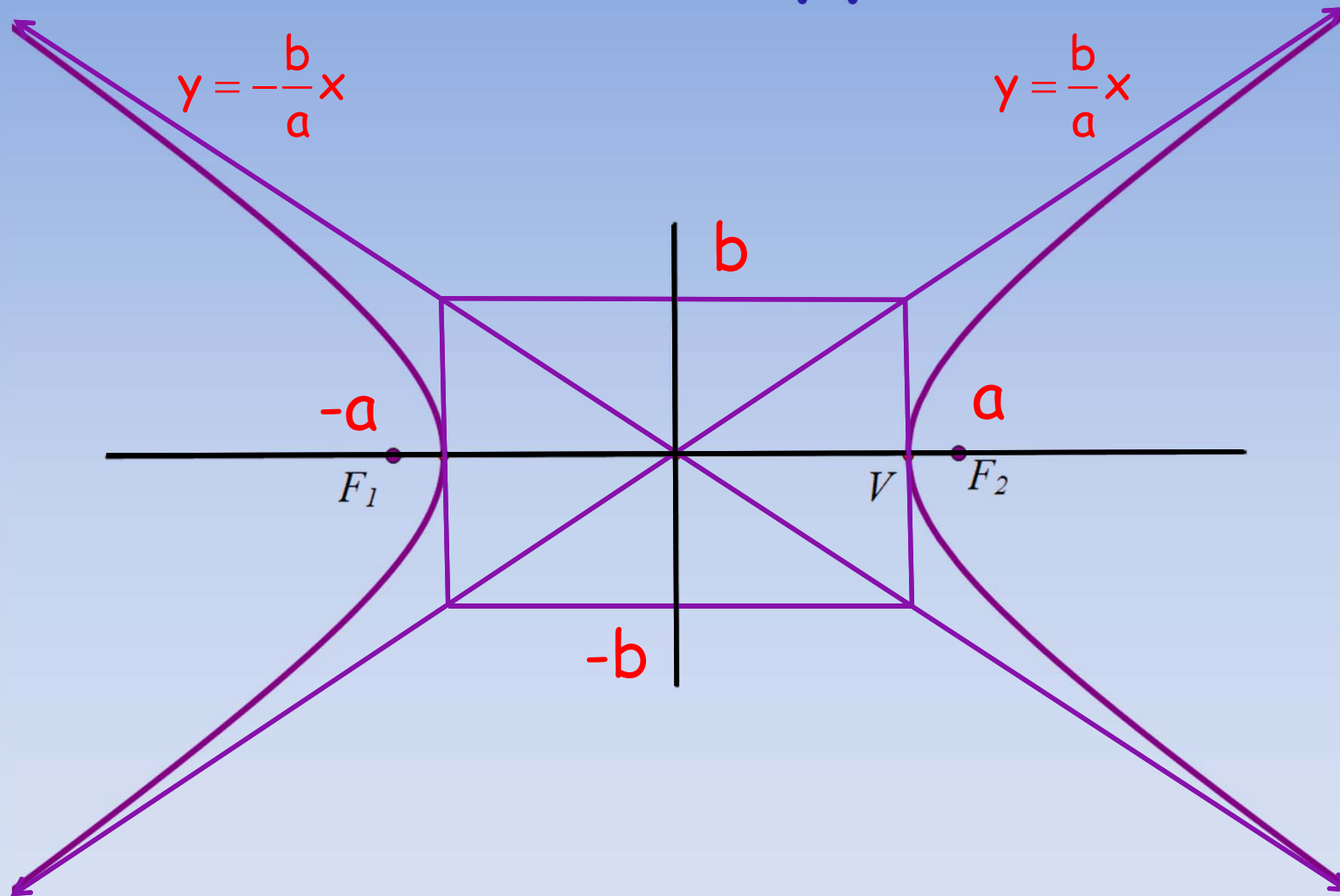


Take  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  and set = to 0

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 0$$

$$y = \pm \frac{b}{a} x$$

# To Draw a Hyperbola



# Hyperbolas with Center (0,0)

Standard equation	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$	$\frac{y^2}{a^2} - \frac{x^2}{b^2} = 1$
Focal axis	x-axis	y-axis
Foci	$(\pm c, 0)$	$(0, \pm c)$
Vertices	$(\pm a, 0)$	$(0, \pm a)$
Semitransverse axis	a	a
Semiconjugate axis	b	b
Pythagorean relation	$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$	$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$
Asymptotes	$y = \pm \frac{b}{a}x$	$y = \pm \frac{a}{b}x$

# Hyperbolas with Center $(h,k)$

Standard equation  $\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1$   $\frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} = 1$

Focal axis

$$y = k$$

$$x = h$$

Foci

$$(h \pm c, k)$$

$$(h, k \pm c)$$

Vertices

$$(h \pm a, k)$$

$$(h, k \pm a)$$

Semitransverse axis

$$a$$

$$a$$

Semiconjugate axis

$$b$$

$$b$$

Pythagorean relation

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

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

Asymptotes

$$y = \pm \frac{b}{a}(x-h) + k$$

$$y = \pm \frac{a}{b}(x-h) + k$$

# Eccentricity

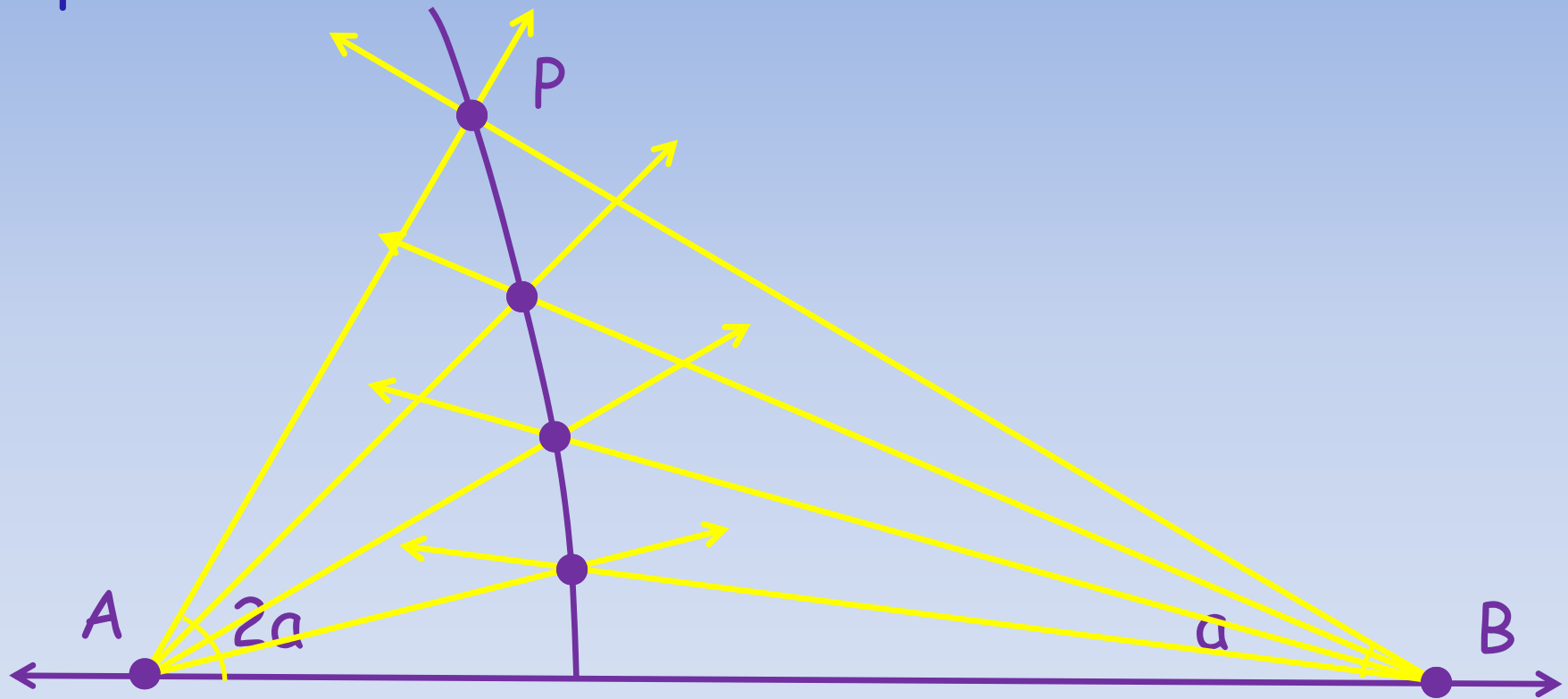
The eccentricity of a hyperbola is

$$e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{a}$$

where  $a$  is semitransverse axis,  $b$  is semiconjugate axis, and  $c$  is distance from center to focus.

# Example

Given two fixed points  $A$  and  $B$ , find the loci of points  $P$  so that  $\angle PAB = 2\angle PBA$ .



# Example

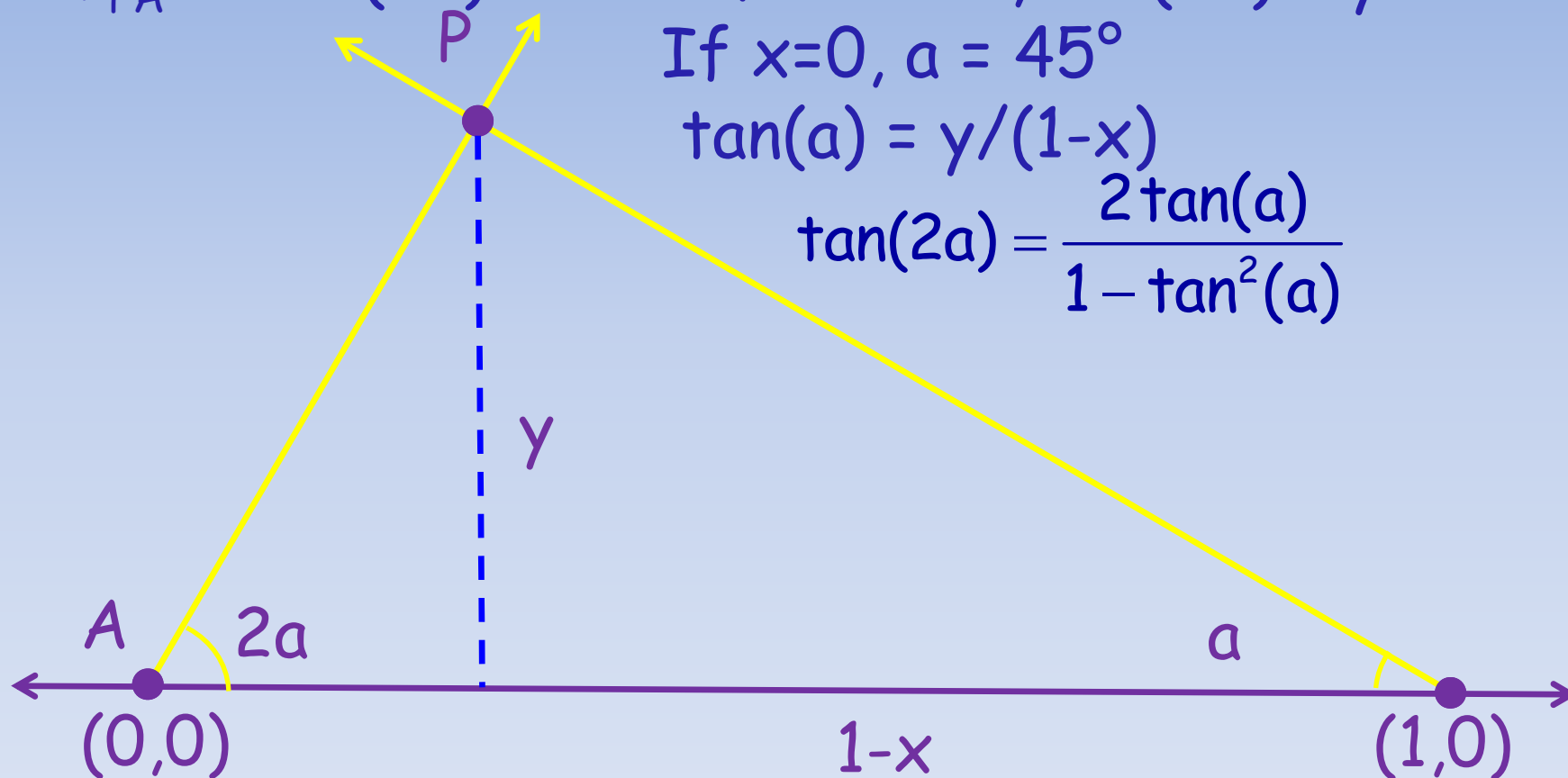
Put origin at A and B at (1,0).

$m_{PA} = \tan(2a)$  hence for  $x \neq 0$ ,  $\tan(2a) = y/x$ .

If  $x=0$ ,  $a = 45^\circ$

$$\tan(a) = y/(1-x)$$

$$\tan(2a) = \frac{2 \tan(a)}{1 - \tan^2(a)}$$



# Example

$$\tan(2a) = \frac{2 \tan(a)}{1 - \tan^2(a)}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = \tan(2a) = 2 \frac{\frac{y}{1-x}}{1 - \frac{y^2}{(1-x)^2}}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = 2 \frac{y(1-x)}{(1-x)^2 - y^2}$$

$$y((1-x)^2 - y^2) = 2xy(1-x)$$

# Example

$$y((1-x)^2 - y^2) = 2xy(1-x)$$

$$1 - 4x + 3x^2 - y^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{(x - \frac{2}{3})^2}{(\frac{1}{3})^2} - \frac{y^2}{(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})^2} = 1$$

Hyperbola - center at  $(\frac{2}{3}, 0)$

$$a = \frac{1}{3} \text{ and } b = \sqrt{3}$$

$a^2 + b^2 = \frac{4}{9}$ , so  $c = \pm\frac{2}{3}$  and foci are at  $(0, 0)$  and  $(\frac{4}{3}, 0)$

# Example II

Show that the graph of the curve  $xy = 1$  is a hyperbola.

Center =  $(0,0)$

Vertices =  $(1,1)$  and  $(-1,-1)$

$$a = \sqrt{2}$$

Asymptotes are perpendicular

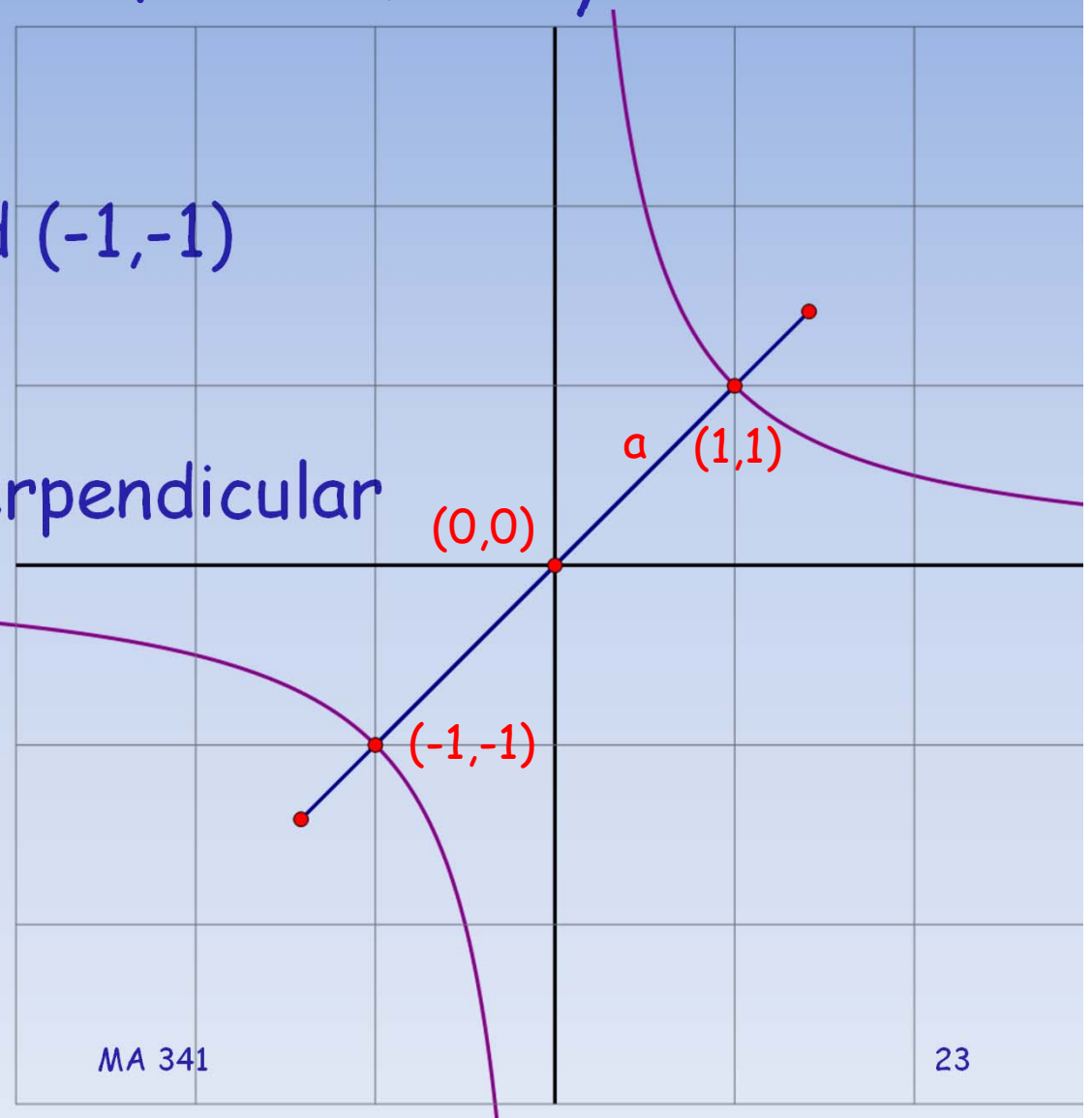
So,  $b = a$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = 2 + 2 = 4$$

$$c = 2$$

$$F_1 = (-\sqrt{2}, -\sqrt{2})$$

$$F_2 = (\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2})$$



# Example II

To show a hyperbola we need to show

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = 2\sqrt{2}$$

$P = (x, y)$ ,  $x \neq 0$  and  $y = 1/x$ .

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = \sqrt{(-\sqrt{2} - x)^2 + \left(-\sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{x}\right)^2} - \sqrt{(\sqrt{2} - x)^2 + \left(\sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{x}\right)^2}$$

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = \sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{2}\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) + \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)} - \sqrt{4 - 2\sqrt{2}\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) + \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)}$$

Let  $u = x + 1/x$

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = \sqrt{2 + 2\sqrt{2}u + u^2} - \sqrt{2 - 2\sqrt{2}u + u^2}$$

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = \left| |u + \sqrt{2}| - |u - \sqrt{2}| \right|$$

$$u^2 = x + 2 + 1/x > 2 \text{ so } |u| \geq \sqrt{2}$$

# Example II

If  $u \leq -\sqrt{2}$

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = |-u - \sqrt{2} - (-u + \sqrt{2})| = |-2\sqrt{2}| = 2\sqrt{2}$$

If  $u \geq \sqrt{2}$

$$|PF_1 - PF_2| = |u + \sqrt{2} - (u - \sqrt{2})| = 2\sqrt{2}$$

Therefore,  $P$  lies on the hyperbola.