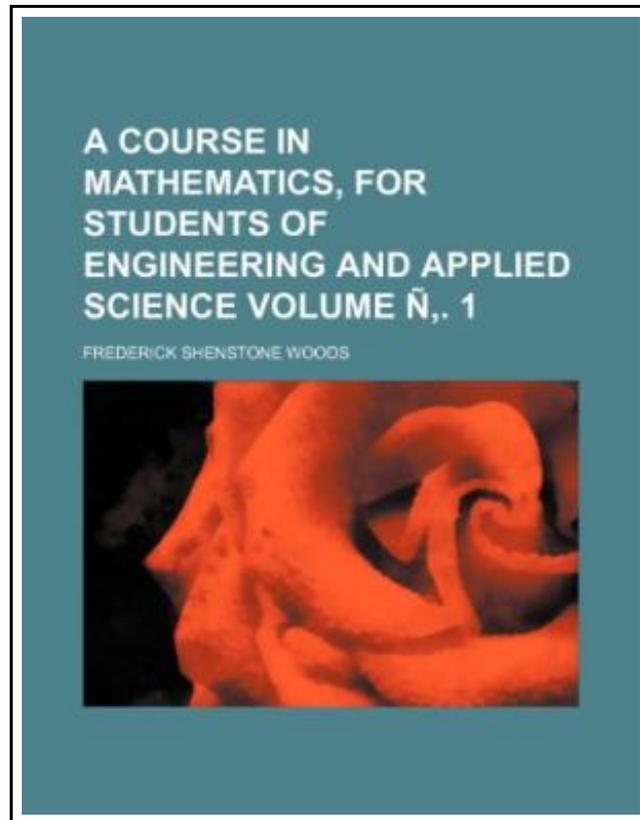


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A COURSE IN MATHEMATICS, FOR STUDENTS OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE VOLUME N . 1



RareBooksClub. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 72 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1907 Excerpt: . . . suggests a method of finding the tangent to any curve represented by an equation of the second degree, the slope of the tangent being given. For if m of the required tangent is known, its equation may be written $y = mx + b$, where b is not known. According to the definition of a tangent, however, b must have such value that the points of intersection of straight line and curve shall be coincident. This condition enables us to determine b , as shown in the following examples. Ex. 1. Find the equation of the tangent to the parabola $3x^2 - 2y = 0$, the slope of the tangent being 2. Since the slope of the tangent is 2, its equation may be written $y = 2x + b$. Substituting this value of y in the equation of the parabola, we have the equation $3x^2 - 4x - 2b = 0$. Since the line is to intersect the curve in two coincident points, this equation must have equal roots. The condition for equal roots, by 37, is $(-4)^2 - 4(3)(-2b) = 0$, whence we find $b = -\frac{2}{3}$. Therefore the required tangent is $y = 2x - \frac{2}{3}$, or $6x - 3y - 2 = 0$ (fig. 98). Ex. 2. Find the equation of the tangent to the ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$, the slope of the tangent being $\frac{1}{2}$. The equation of the tangent is $y = \frac{1}{2}x + b$. Substituting this value of y in the equation of the ellipse, we have By this same method the following formulas for a tangent...



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