Derivation of Polar Equations for Conic Sections

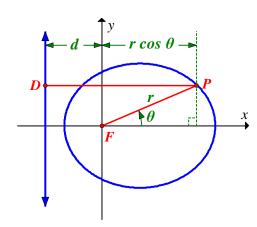
$$e = \frac{PF}{PD}$$

$$e = \frac{r}{d + r\cos\theta}$$

$$ed + er\cos\theta = r$$

$$r(1 - e\cos\theta) = ed$$

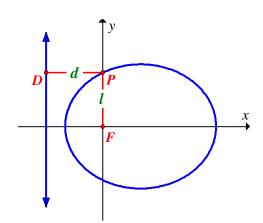
$$r = \frac{ed}{1 - e\cos\theta} \quad (*)$$



$$e = \frac{PF}{PD}$$

$$e = \frac{l}{d}$$

$$l = ed \ (**)$$



Substituting the last equation (**) into the polar equation (*) gives the modified equation,

$$r = \frac{l}{1 - e \cos \theta}.$$