

4. Suppose that the foci of the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{5} = 1$ are $(f_1, 0)$

and $(f_2, 0)$ where $f_1 > 0$ and $f_2 < 0$. Let P_1 and P_2 be two parabolas with a common vertex at $(0, 0)$ and with foci at $(f_1, 0)$ and $(2f_2, 0)$, respectively. Let T_1 be a tangent to P_1 which passes through $(2f_2, 0)$ and T_2 be a tangent to P_2 which passes through $(f_1, 0)$. If m_1 is the slope of T_1 and m_2

is the slope of T_2 , then the value of $\left(\frac{1}{m_1^2} + m_2^2\right)$ is

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Solution: -

4 • (4) Ellipse: $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{5} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow a = 3, b = \sqrt{5} \text{ and } e = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\therefore f_1 = 2 \text{ and } f_2 = -2$$

$$P_1 : y^2 = 8x \text{ and } P_2 : y^2 = -16x$$

$$T_1 : y = m_1x + \frac{2}{m_1}$$

It passes through $(-4, 0)$,

$$0 = -4m_1 + \frac{2}{m_1} \Rightarrow m_1^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$T_2 : y = m_2x - \frac{4}{m_2}$$

It passes through $(2, 0)$

$$0 = 2m_2 - \frac{4}{m_2} \Rightarrow m_2^2 = 2$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{m_1^2} + m_2^2 = 4$$