12.3 DOUBLE INTEGRALS IN POLAR COORDINATES

EXAMPLE A Use a double integral to find the area enclosed by one loop of the four-leaved rose $r = \cos 2\theta$.

SOLUTION From the sketch of the curve in Figure 1 we see that a loop is given by the region

$$D = \{(r, \theta) \mid -\pi/4 \leqslant \theta \leqslant \pi/4,\ 0 \leqslant r \leqslant \cos 2\theta\}$$

So the area is

$$\begin{aligned} A(D) &= \iint_D dA = \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \int_0^{\cos 2\theta} r\,dr\,d\theta \\ &= \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \left[\tfrac{1}{2}r^2\right]_0^{\cos 2\theta} d\theta = \tfrac{1}{2}\int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \cos^2 2\theta\,d\theta \\ &= \tfrac{1}{4}\int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} (1 + \cos 4\theta)\,d\theta = \tfrac{1}{4}\left[\theta + \tfrac{1}{4}\sin 4\theta\right]_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} = \frac{\pi}{8} \end{aligned}$$

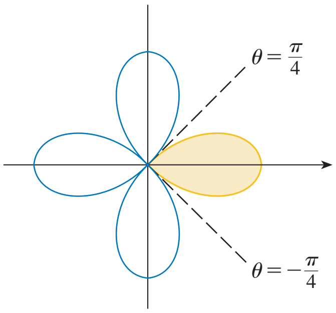

FIGURE 1