Exercise 1

For the following exercises, sketch the curves below by eliminating the parameter t. Give the orientation of the curve.

$$x = t^2 + 2t, \quad y = t + 1$$

Solution

Since the second equation is simpler, solve it for t

$$t = y - 1$$

and plug it into the first equation.

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

The graph is of a parabola that opens to the right side. Plugging in t = 0 gives x = 0 and y = 1, and plugging in t = 1 gives x = 3 and y = 2. The orientation therefore goes from the bottom to the top.

