

**Problem statement** The thread length for a simple spool of cotton thread is 25 yards. To celebrate Valentine's Day, purchase a spool of red thread and send it to your beloved with these instructions:

Unwind the thread and arrange it in the shape of a cardioid,  $r = A(1 - \sin \theta)$ .  
The area of that cardioid represents how much I love you compared to the ordinary Valentine's Day card!

Compute the arclength of  $r = A(1 - \sin \theta)$  and find  $A$  so that the length is 25 yards. Then compute the area inside that cardioid. Sketch the result.

**Comment** An opened standard greeting card seems to have area about 70 inches<sup>2</sup>, or about .054 yards<sup>2</sup>. On sale, a spool of thread costs about 25 cents. A card these days costs several dollars. Isn't the thread more cost-effective?