

Circle Assignment

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Problem Statement - Draw a circle of radius 3 cm. Take two points P and Q on one of its extended diameter each at a distance of 7 cm from its centre. Draw tangents to the circle from these two points P and Q.

1. Radius of circle OA = OB = 3cm
2. Distance from center to points OP = OQ = 7cm

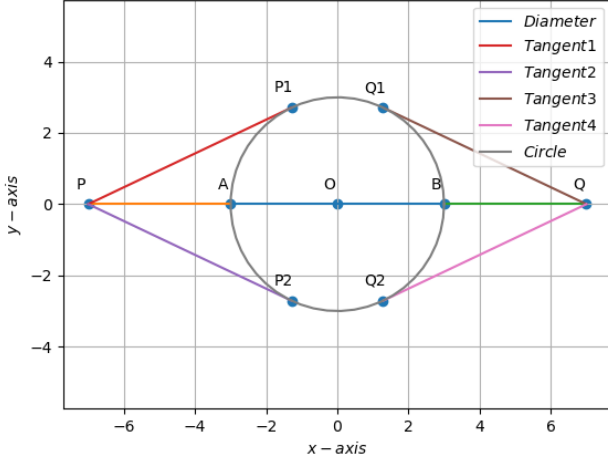


Figure 1: Circle with center O and points P & Q

Solution

Consider the circle of radius 3cm whose center is at origin and points P & Q each at a distance of 7cm from the center.

Two tangents can be drawn from point P on to the circle and let the point of contacts be P1 and P2, and other two tangents can be drawn from point Q on to the circle and let the point of contacts be Q1 and Q2

The point of intersection of line

$$L : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{q} + \mu \mathbf{m} \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

with the conic section

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{x} + f = 0$$

is given by

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{q} + \mu_i \mathbf{m} \quad (3)$$

where

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{\mathbf{m}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m}} \left(-\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}) \pm \sqrt{[\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} \mathbf{u})]^2 - (\mathbf{q}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + 2\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{q} + f) (\mathbf{m}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m})} \right) \quad (4)$$

If the line L touches the conic at exactly one point \mathbf{q} ,

$$\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad (5)$$

In this case, the conic intercept has exactly one root. Hence,

$$[\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u})]^2 - (\mathbf{m}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{q}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + 2\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{q} + f) = 0 \quad (6)$$

So, the equation of conic $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ can be

written in the form of eq (2) as,

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + 9 = 0 \quad (7)$$

Let us consider the direction vector of \mathbf{L} as \mathbf{m} ,

$$\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

and \mathbf{q} be the point P,

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

Substituting (7),(8) and (9) in eq (6), we get

$$[\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{I} \mathbf{q})]^2 - (\mathbf{m}^\top \mathbf{I} \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{q}^\top \mathbf{I} \mathbf{q} + (-9)) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & \left[(1 \ \lambda) \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 \\ (2) \quad & - \left((1 \ \lambda) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} \right) \left((-7 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - 9 \right) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(-7)^2 - (1 + \lambda^2)(49 - 9) &= 0 \\
49 - (1 + \lambda^2)(40) &= 0 \\
(1 + \lambda^2)(40) &= 49 \\
1 + \lambda^2 &= \frac{49}{40} \\
\lambda^2 &= \frac{9}{40} \\
\lambda &= \pm \frac{3}{\sqrt{40}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda = \pm 0.4743 \quad (11)$$

That is,

$$\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \pm 0.4743 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

From (4) and (6)

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{\mathbf{m}^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{m}} (-\mathbf{m}^\top (\mathbf{V} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u})) \quad (13)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu_i &= \frac{1}{(1 \quad \frac{3}{\sqrt{40}}) \mathbf{I} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{3}{\sqrt{40}} \end{pmatrix}} \left(- (1 \quad \sqrt{40}) \left(\mathbf{I} \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \right) \\
\mu_i &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{9}{40}} (-7 + 0) \\
\mu_i &= \frac{-7}{\left(\frac{49}{40}\right)} \\
\mu_i &= \frac{40}{7} \\
\mu_i &= 5.714
\end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Now (3) becomes,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 5.714 * \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \pm 0.4743 \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 5.714 \\ \pm 2.710 \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1.285 \\ 2.710 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1.285 \\ -2.710 \end{pmatrix} \quad (17)$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} -1.285 \\ 2.710 \end{pmatrix} \\
\mathbf{P}_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} -1.285 \\ -2.710 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

In the similar way, points of contact from the other point Q that are Q_1 & Q_2 can be

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{Q}_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1.285 \\ 2.710 \end{pmatrix} \\
\mathbf{Q}_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1.285 \\ -2.710 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

Construction

A Circle with center O and radius 3cm is constructed using python, with the parameters that are mentioned in the table below.

Symbol	Value	Description
r	3	Radius
d	7	distance from O to P & Q
O	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	Center
e₁	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	Unit Vector
P	-d*e ₁	Point P
Q	d*e ₁	Point Q
θ	$\angle P_1 O P$	Angle $P_1 P O$
P₁	$r \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\pi - \theta) \\ \sin(\pi - \theta) \end{pmatrix}$	Point of contact P1
P₂	$r \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\pi - \theta) \\ -\sin(\pi - \theta) \end{pmatrix}$	Point of contact P2
Q₁	$r \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$	Point of contact Q1
Q₂	$r \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ -\sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$	Point of contact Q2

Table 1: Parameter's Table