

Algebraic and Transcendental functions

Francisco Vazquez-Tavares

April 5, 2025

Summary Class sketches for the subject Algebraic and Transcendental Functions. Semester January-May 2025

Circle

A circle is the set of points in a plane that are equidistant from a given point O . The point O is called the center, while the distance r from the center is called the radius. Twice the radius is known as the diameter $d = 2r$ (fig.1).

Derivation of the equation

The main characteristic of the circle is “*equidistant*”, that is, that the distance between all those points and the point O are equal. A usefull theorem that translates that characteristic into an equation is the **Pythagorean theorem**. Which describes the relationship between the sides of a right triangle (fig.2) with the equation,

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2.$$

We can show that any point on the circle forms a right triangle with the horizontal and vertical distances from the point (x,y) to the point O (fig.3).

In that sense, we can relate a with x , b with y and c with the radius. In the special case when the radius is equal to one, we have a *unit circle*,

Definition 1: Unit circle

The unit circle is the circle of radius 1 centered at the origin in the xy -plane. It is represented with the following equation,

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1.$$

General equation

Now, let's give the mathematical representation of the point O as (h,k) . Using the knowledge of function translations, we can move the origin of the circle (fig.4) as follows,

$$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2. \quad (1)$$

Now, lets get some mathematical exercises.

Note 1: Some algebra stuff.

We are going to expand the equation(1) to get familiarize ourselves

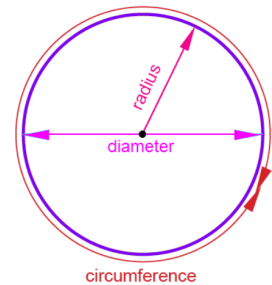


Figure 1: Sketch for the board

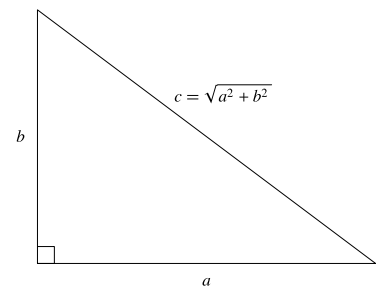


Figure 2: Sketch for the board for the pythagorean theorem.

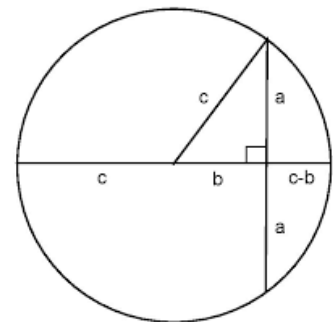


Figure 3: Relation between pythagorean theorem and the circle.

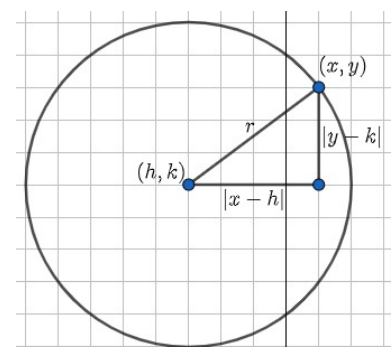


Figure 4: Displaced circle to the point (h,k) .

with different expressions of the same mathematical object.

$$\begin{aligned}(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 &= r^2 \\ (x^2 - 2hx + h^2) + (y^2 - 2ky + k^2) &= r^2 \\ x^2 + y^2 - 2hx - 2ky + h^2 + k^2 &= r^2\end{aligned}$$

As we can see, this can be approach as a function of two independent variables x and y ($f(x,y)$) equated to a constant value r^2 , $f(x,y) = r^2$. This function is not bijective, indicating that there is no inverse function and the domain and range are bounded.

Examples

Example 1: miao

Identify the radius and center of the following circle,

$$(x+3)^2 + (y+1)^2 = 9.$$

Example 2: miao

Identify the radius and center of the following circle,

$$x^2 + y^2 - 8x + 4y + 4 = 0$$

Exercises

- Write the equation of the circle with center at $(6, -9)$ and radius $1/4$.

Derivation of the equation/functionnote 1.

Example/Exercises.

Ellipse

Parabola

Hyperbola

References

James Stewart, L. Redlin, Saleem Watson, and Phyllis Panman. *Precalculus: mathematics for calculus*. Cengage Learning, Boston, MA, seventh edition edition, 2016. ISBN 9781305071759.

Eric W. Weisstein. Pythagorean theorem, a. URL <https://mathworld.wolfram.com/PythagoreanTheorem.html>.

Eric W. Weisstein. Circle, b. URL <https://mathworld.wolfram.com/Circle.html>.