Assignment 7

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Question

Draw a circle of radius 3 units. Take two points \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{Q} on one of its extended diameter each at a distance of 7 units from its centre. Draw tangents to the circle from these two points \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{Q} .

Answer

Taking the center of the circle at (0,0)

$$O = (0, 0)$$

Taking the diameter of the circle lie on the X axis the extended diameter \mathbf{PQ} would be

$$P = (-7,0)$$
$$Q = (7,0)$$

now, constructing circles with the mid point of \mathbf{OP} and \mathbf{OQ} as centers and \mathbf{OP} and \mathbf{OQ} as diameters respectively we obtain circle R and S as coordinates

$$R = (-3.5, 0)$$

 $S = (3.5, 0)$

the intersection points of Circle R(-3.5,0) and S(-3.5,0) with O(0,0) would be the points of contact of tangents through P and Q respectively this point would be as

For tangents through P, solving the equations

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

$$(x+3.5)^2 + y^2 = (3.5)^2 (2)$$

we would obtain the point of contact for the tangents similarly for tangents through Q, solving the equation (1) and

$$(x - 3.5)^2 + y^2 = (3.5)^2 (3)$$

we would obtain the point of contact for the tangents equation (2) can be rewritten as

$$x^{2} + (3.5)^{2} + 2 \times (3.5) \times x + y^{2} = (3.5)^{2}$$
(4)

$$\implies x^2 + y^2 + (3.5)^2 + 2 \times (3.5) \times x = (3.5)^2 \tag{5}$$

and equation (3) can be rewritten as

$$x^{2} + (3.5)^{2} - 2 \times (3.5) \times x + y^{2} = (3.5)^{2}$$
(6)

$$\implies x^2 + y^2 + (3.5)^2 - 2 \times (3.5) \times x = (3.5)^2 \tag{7}$$

substituting equation (1) in (5) we get

$$9 + (3.5)^{2} + 2 \times (3.5) \times x = (3.5)^{2}$$

$$\implies 9 + 7x = 0$$

$$\implies x = \frac{-9}{7} = -1.286$$

substituting value of x in equation (1)

$$\left(\frac{-9}{7}\right)^2 + y^2 = 9$$

$$\implies y = \sqrt{9 - \left(\frac{-9}{7}\right)^2}$$

$$\implies y = \pm 2.710$$

Similarly substituting equation (1) in (7) we get $x=\frac{9}{7}=-1.286$ and substituting this in equation 1 we get

$$y = \pm 2.71$$

therefore the tangents from P would make contact with Circle O at

$$T_1(-1.286, 2.710)$$

 $T_2(-1.286, -2.710)$

and tangents from Q would make contact at

$$T_3(1.286, 2.710)$$

 $T_4(1.286, -2.710)$

joining this points we would obtain the asked tangents on circle O.

below is the constructed figure.

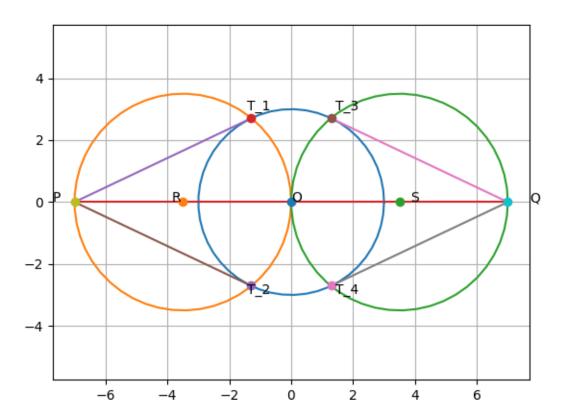


Figure 1: Python output