

Let a_n and b_n be the perimeters of the regular n -gons that circumscribe and inscribe a circle of radius r .

We can express the side lengths of the inner and outer polygons, respectively, with the formulas $s_n = 2r \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})$ and $S_n = 2r \tan(\frac{\pi}{n})$.

Thus $a_n = 2nr \tan(\frac{\pi}{n})$ and $b_n = 2nr \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})$.

We will now show that $\frac{2a_nb_n}{a_n+b_n} = a_{2n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2a_nb_n}{a_n+b_n} &= \frac{2 * 2nr \tan(\frac{\pi}{n}) * 2nr \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})}{2nr \tan(\frac{\pi}{n}) + 2nr \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})} \\ &= 4nr \frac{\tan(\frac{\pi}{n}) \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})}{\tan(\frac{\pi}{n}) + \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})} \\ &= 4nr \tan(\frac{\pi}{2n}) \\ &= a_{2n}\end{aligned}$$

On the third step, we used the identity $\tan(\frac{x}{2}) = \frac{\tan(x) \sin(x)}{\tan(x) + \sin(x)}$.

Now let's show that $\sqrt{a_{2n}b_n} = b_{2n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{a_{2n}b_n} &= \sqrt{2(2n)r \tan(\frac{\pi}{2n}) 2nr \sin(\frac{\pi}{n})} \\ &= \sqrt{2(2n)r \tan(\frac{\pi}{2n}) 2nr * 2 \sin(\frac{\pi}{2n}) \cos(\frac{\pi}{2n})} \\ &= 4nr \sqrt{\tan(\frac{\pi}{2n}) \sin(\frac{\pi}{2n}) \cos(\frac{\pi}{2n})} \\ &= 4nr \sqrt{\sin^2(\frac{\pi}{2n})} \\ &= 4nr \sin(\frac{\pi}{2n}) \\ &= b_{2n}\end{aligned}$$

On the third step, we used the identity $\sin(x) = 2 \sin(\frac{1}{2}x) \cos(\frac{1}{2}x)$.

We have now proven that $a_{2n} = \frac{2a_nb_n}{a_n+b_n}$ and $b_{2n} = \sqrt{a_{2n}b_n}$.

These formulas allow us to calculate the perimeter of a regular n -gon, given its apothem r or its circumradius R , where $n = 6 * 2^k$ for some natural number k . The apothem of a regular polygon is also called its inradius. The circumradius of a regular polygon is also called its outradius.