



F from a point without a circle two straight lines be drawn to it, one of which — is a tangent to the circle, and the other — cuts it; the rectangle under the whole cutting line — and the external segment — is equal to the square of the tangent —.

FIGURE I.

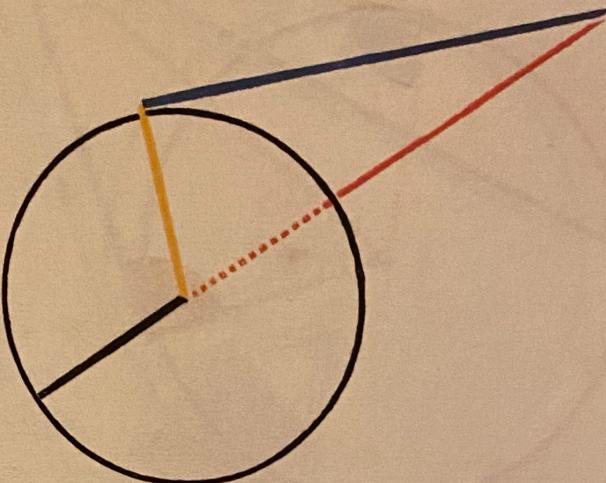


FIGURE I.

Let — pass through the centre;
draw — from the centre to the point of contact;
 $\text{---}^2 = \text{---}^2$ minus ---^2 (B. 1. pr. 47),
or $\text{---}^2 = \text{---}^2$ minus ---^2 ,
 $\therefore \text{---}^2 = \text{---} \times \text{---}$ (B. 2. pr. 6).

FIGURE II.

If — do not pass through the centre, draw — and —.

Then $\text{---} \times \text{---} = \text{---}^2$ minus ---^2

(B. 2. pr. 6), that is,

$\text{---} \times \text{---} = \text{---}^2$ minus ---^2 ,
 $\therefore \text{---} \times \text{---} = \text{---}^2$ (B. 3. pr. 18).

Q. E. D.

FIGURE II.

