

Question 1.5.9

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Given triangle ABC with vertices,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Find the points of contact, \mathbf{E}_3 and \mathbf{F}_3 , of the incircle with sides AC and AB respectively.

Solution

Required to find points of contact, \mathbf{E}_3 and \mathbf{F}_3 , of incircle with sides AC and AB respectively.

From previous questions we know the coordinates of the incircle are :

$$\mathbf{I} = \left(\frac{\frac{-53-11\sqrt{37}+7\sqrt{61}+\sqrt{2257}}{12}}{\frac{5-\sqrt{37}+5\sqrt{61}-\sqrt{2257}}{12}} \right) \quad (2)$$

Radius of incircle is :

$$r = \frac{185 + 41\sqrt{37} - 37\sqrt{61} - \sqrt{2257}}{6\sqrt{74}} \quad (3)$$

Equation of incircle is :

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{I}\|^2 = r^2 \quad (4)$$

points \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{B} and \mathbf{C} are :

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Parametric equation of AC is :

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{m} \quad (6)$$

where,

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} \quad (7)$$

Substituting (6) in (4) :

$$\|\mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{I}\|^2 = r^2 \quad (8)$$

$$(k\mathbf{m} + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})) \cdot (k\mathbf{m} + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})) = r^2 \quad (9)$$

$$k^2 \|\mathbf{m}\|^2 + 2k\mathbf{m}^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I}) + \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I}\|^2 = r^2 \quad (10)$$

Since AC is tangent to the incircle, the discriminant of the obtained quadratic equation is zero and the value of k is given as :

$$k = -\frac{\mathbf{m}^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})}{\|\mathbf{m}\|^2} \quad (11)$$

We can use (11) and find the points of contact with AC and AB by substituting k back into their parametric equations,

Parametric equation of AB is :

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{m} \quad (12)$$

where,

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \quad (13)$$

1) For finding \mathbf{E}_3 , substitute A , C and I into (11),

$$k = -\frac{\mathbf{m}^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})}{\|\mathbf{m}\|^2} \quad (14)$$

$$k = -\frac{(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})}{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\|^2} \quad (15)$$

Substituting the values, we get,

$$k = \frac{-4 - \sqrt{37} + \sqrt{61}}{2} \quad (16)$$

Substituting (16) into (6), we get the value of \mathbf{E}_3 ,

$$\mathbf{E}_3 = \left(\frac{\frac{-2 - \sqrt{37} + \sqrt{61}}{2}}{\frac{-6 - \sqrt{37} + \sqrt{61}}{2}} \right) \quad (17)$$

2) For finding \mathbf{F}_3 , substitute A , B and I into (11),

$$k = -\frac{\mathbf{m}^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})}{\|\mathbf{m}\|^2} \quad (18)$$

$$k = -\frac{(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^\top(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})}{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\|^2} \quad (19)$$

Substituting the values, we get,

$$k = \frac{-37 - 4\sqrt{37} + \sqrt{2257}}{74} \quad (20)$$

Substituting (20) into (12), we get the value of \mathbf{F}_3 ,

$$\mathbf{F}_3 = \left(\frac{\frac{-111 - 20\sqrt{37} + 5\sqrt{2257}}{74}}{\frac{185 + 28\sqrt{37} - 7\sqrt{2257}}{74}} \right) \quad (21)$$

Diagram is shown on next page.

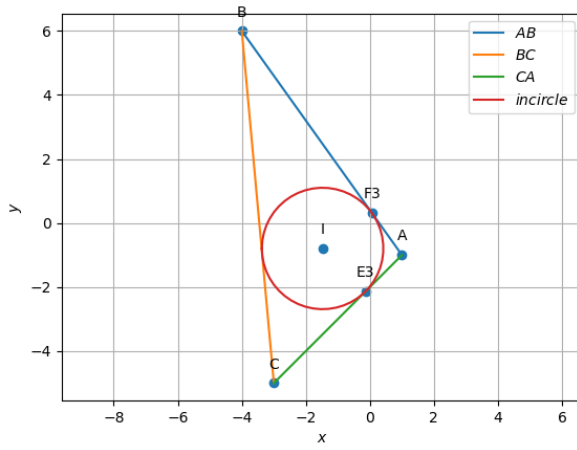


Fig. 2. Points of contact of incircle