



planetmath.org

Math for the people, by the people.

Golab’s theorem

Canonical name	GolabsTheorem
Date of creation	2013-03-22 16:50:33
Last modified on	2013-03-22 16:50:33
Owner	Mathprof (13753)
Last modified by	Mathprof (13753)
Numerical id	7
Author	Mathprof (13753)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 46B20

Theorem. Let D be the unit disc of a Minkowski plane and let $\ell(\partial D)$ denote the <http://planetmath.org/LengthOfCurveInAMetricSpaceMinkowski> length of the boundary of D . Then $6 \leq \ell(\partial D) \leq 8$. The lower bound is attained if and only if D is linearly equivalent to a regular hexagon. The upper bound is attained if and only if D is a parallelogram.

Note that $1/2$ the perimeter of the unit disc is a constant between 3 and 4. The special case of the 2-norm yields a constant, which is known as π . So Golab's theorem is that "pi" for a Minkowski plane is always between 3 and 4.

References

- [GO] S. GOLAB, Quelques problèmes métriques de la géométrie de Minkowski, *Trav. l'Acad. Mines Cracovie* **6** (1932) 1-79.
- [PE] C.M. PETTY, *Geometry of the Minkowski plane*, *Riv. Mat. Univ. Parma (4)* **6** (1955) 269-292.
- [SC] J.J. SCHÄEFER, *Inner diameter, perimeter, and girth of spheres*, *Math. Ann.* **173** (1967) 59-79.
- [ACT] A.C. THOMPSON, *Minkowski Geometry, Encyclopedia of Mathematics and its Applications*, 63, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1996.