

Meccano pentagons diagonals

<https://github.com/heptagons/meccano/penta>

Abstract

We construct meccano ¹ regular pentagons internal diagonals.

1 Regular polygon diagonals

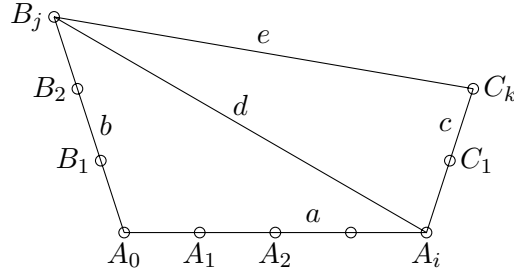


Figure 1: Regular pentagon basic diagonals d and e from sides segments $a \geq b \geq c$.

From figure 1 we have the regular internal polygon angle θ :

$$\theta = \angle B_j A_0 A_i = \angle A_0 A_i C_k \quad (1)$$

$$\alpha = \angle A_0 A_i B_j \quad (2)$$

$$\beta = \angle B_j A_i C_k \quad (3)$$

$$\alpha + \beta = \theta \quad (4)$$

We use the cosines sum identity to express $\cos \beta$ in function of the rest of variables. We define $u = \cos \theta$:

$$u \equiv \cos \theta \quad (5)$$

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = u \quad (6)$$

$$= \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta \quad (7)$$

$$\sin \beta = \frac{\cos \alpha \cos \beta - u}{\sin \alpha} \quad (8)$$

$$\sin^2 \beta = \frac{(\cos \alpha \cos \beta - u)^2}{\sin^2 \alpha} \quad (9)$$

$$1 - \cos^2 \beta = \frac{\cos^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta - 2u \cos \alpha \cos \beta + u^2}{\sin^2 \alpha} \quad (10)$$

We set $X = \cos \beta$ and rearrange the last equation to get:

$$X^2 - 2u \cos \alpha X + u^2 - \sin^2 \alpha = 0 \quad (11)$$

¹ Meccano mathematics by 't Hooft

And solve the quadratic equation $AX^2 + BX + C = 0$ to get $\cos \beta$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\cos \beta &= \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A} \\
&= \frac{2u \cos \alpha \pm \sqrt{4u^2 \cos^2 \alpha - 4(u^2 - \sin^2 \alpha)}}{2} \\
&= u \cos \alpha \pm \sqrt{u^2 \cos^2 \alpha - u^2 + \sin^2 \alpha}
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

From the law of cosines we calculate the diagonal d from integers a, b which equal respectively to iterators i, j :

$$\begin{aligned}
d &= \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \theta} \\
&= \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - 2abu}
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Using the law of cosines we calculate the angles $\alpha = \angle A_0 A_i B_j$ and $\beta = \angle B_j A_i C_k$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\cos \alpha &= \frac{a^2 + d^2 - b^2}{2ad} \\
&= \frac{a^2 + (a^2 + b^2 - 2abu) - b^2}{2ad} \\
&= \frac{a - bu}{d}
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\cos \beta &= \frac{c^2 + d^2 - e^2}{2cd} \\
&= \frac{c^2 + (a^2 + b^2 - 2abu) - e^2}{2cd} \\
&= \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - e^2 - 2abu}{2cd}
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

We define new variable f to simplify $\cos \beta$ to obtain:

$$f \equiv \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - e^2}{2} \tag{16}$$

$$\cos \beta = \frac{f - abu}{cd} \tag{17}$$

We calculate $\sin^2 \alpha = 1 - \cos^2 \alpha$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sin^2 \alpha &= 1 - \frac{(a - bu)^2}{d^2} \\
&= \frac{d^2 - a^2 + 2abu - b^2 u^2}{d^2} \\
&= \frac{(a^2 + b^2 - 2abu) - a^2 + 2abu - b^2 u^2}{d^2} \\
&= \frac{b^2(1 - u^2)}{d^2}
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

We plug the values of $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \sin^2 \alpha$ in equation 12 to get:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{f - abu}{cd} &= \left(\frac{a - bu}{d} \right) u \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{a - bu}{d} \right)^2 u^2 - u^2 - \frac{b^2(1 - u^2)}{d^2}} \\
\frac{f - abu}{c} &= (a - bu)u \pm \sqrt{(a - bu)^2 u^2 - d^2 u^2 - b^2(1 - u^2)} \\
f &= (ab + ac - bcu)u \pm c\sqrt{(a - bu)^2 u^2 - d^2 u^2 - b^2 + b^2 u^2} \\
&= abu + acu - bcu^2 \pm c\sqrt{a^2 u^2 - 2abu^3 + b^2 u^4 - d^2 u^2 - b^2 + b^2 u^2}
\end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

We define variables m, n to simplify f , so we have:

$$m = abu + acu - bcu^2 \tag{20}$$

$$n = a^2 u^2 - 2abu^3 + b^2 u^4 - d^2 u^2 - b^2 + b^2 u^2 \tag{21}$$

$$f = m + c\sqrt{n} \tag{22}$$

1.1 Regular pentagon diagonals

For the regular pentagon we have $u = \cos \theta = \cos(3\pi/5)$:

$$u = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{4} \tag{23}$$

$$u^2 = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \tag{24}$$

$$u^3 = \frac{2 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \tag{25}$$

$$u^4 = \frac{7 - 3\sqrt{5}}{32} \tag{26}$$

We plug values u, u^2, u^3, u^4 in equation 22 to get:

$$\begin{aligned}
m &= ab \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{4} \right) + ac \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{4} \right) - bc \left(\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \right) \\
&= \frac{2ab - 2ab\sqrt{5} + 2ac - 2ac\sqrt{5} - 3bc + bc\sqrt{5}}{8} \\
&= \frac{2ab + 2ac - 3bc + (bc - 2ab - 2ac)\sqrt{5}}{8}
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
n &= a^2 \left(\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \right) - 2ab \left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \right) + b^2 \left(\frac{7 - 3\sqrt{5}}{32} \right) - d^2 \left(\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \right) - b^2 + b^2 \left(\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{8} \right) \\
&= \frac{12a^2 - 4a^2\sqrt{5} - 16ab + 8\sqrt{5} + 7b^2 - 3b^2\sqrt{5} - 12d^2 + 4d^2\sqrt{5} - 32b^2 + 12b^2 - 4b^2\sqrt{5}}{32} \\
&= \frac{12a^2 - 16ab - 13b^2 - 12d^2 + (-4a^2 + 8 - 3b^2 + 4d^2 - 4b^2)\sqrt{5}}{32}
\end{aligned} \tag{28}$$