

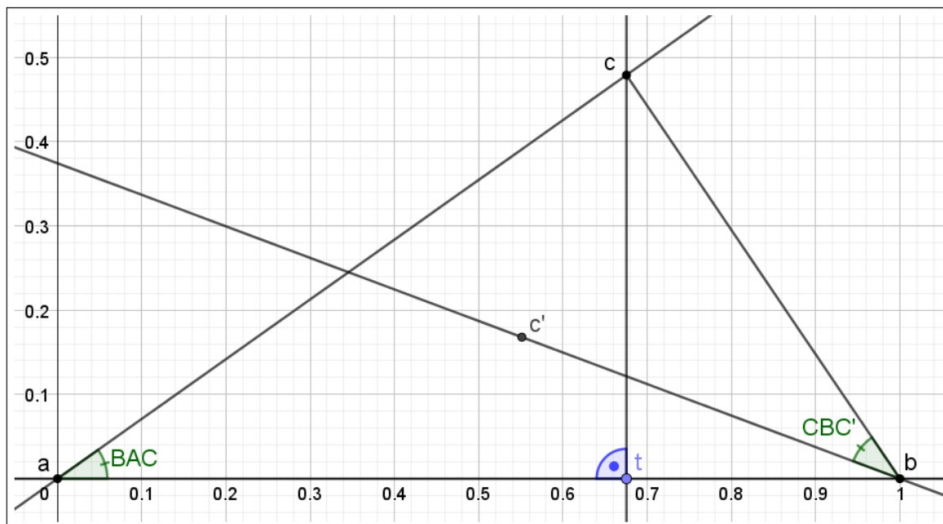
**BUNDESWETTBEWERB MATHEMATIK 2018**  
**2. ROUND, PROBLEM 3**

ALEXANDRU DUCA

**Problem.** Let  $AB$  be a line segment and let  $T$  be a point on it, that is closer to  $B$  than to  $A$ . Let  $C$  be a point on the line that is perpendicular to  $AB$  and that goes through  $T$ .

- a) Show that there exists exactly one point  $D$  on the line segment  $AC$ , such that the angles  $\angle CBD$  and  $\angle BAC$  are the same.
- b) Show that the line perpendicular to  $AC$  and going through  $D$  intersects the line segment  $AB$  in a point  $E$  that does not depend on the choice of  $C$ .

*Proof.*  $A = 0 + 0i$  and  $B = 1 + 0i$  is assumed without loss of generality. We have  $T = x + 0i$  with  $x \in (0.5, 1]$ , since  $T$  is a point on the line segment that is closer to  $B$  than to  $A$ . We also have  $C = x + yi$  with  $y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , since  $C$  is a point on the line that is perpendicular to  $AB$  and that goes through  $T$ .  $y > 0$  is assumed without loss of generality.



Let  $C' := C(C - B) + B$ . It is the result of rotating  $C$  counter-clockwise around  $B$  by the angle  $\arg(C) = \angle BAC$  and scaling it by  $|C|$ . Therefore, we have  $\angle BAC = \angle CBC'$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
C' &= C(C - B) + B \\
&= (x + yi)(x - 1 + yi) + 1 \\
&= ((x - 1)x - y^2) + ((x - 1)y + xy)i + 1 \\
&= (x^2 - x - y^2) + (xy - y + xy)i + 1 \\
&= (x^2 - x - y^2 + 1) + (2xy - y)i
\end{aligned}$$

An expression for the line  $AC$  is  $A + \mu(C - A) = \mu C = \mu x + \mu yi$  with  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
An expression for the line  $BC'$  is  $B + \lambda(C' - B)$  with  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
&B + \lambda(C' - B) \\
&= 1 + \lambda((x^2 - x - y^2) + (2xy - y)i) \\
&= (\lambda x^2 - \lambda x - \lambda y^2 + 1) + (2\lambda xy - \lambda y)i
\end{aligned}$$

Equating both line expressions yields the following system of two linear equations. The solution of this system describes the intersection  $D$  of both lines with  $\angle BAC = \angle CBC' = \angle CBD$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu x &= \lambda x^2 - \lambda x - \lambda y^2 + 1 \\
\mu y &= 2\lambda xy - \lambda y
\end{aligned}$$

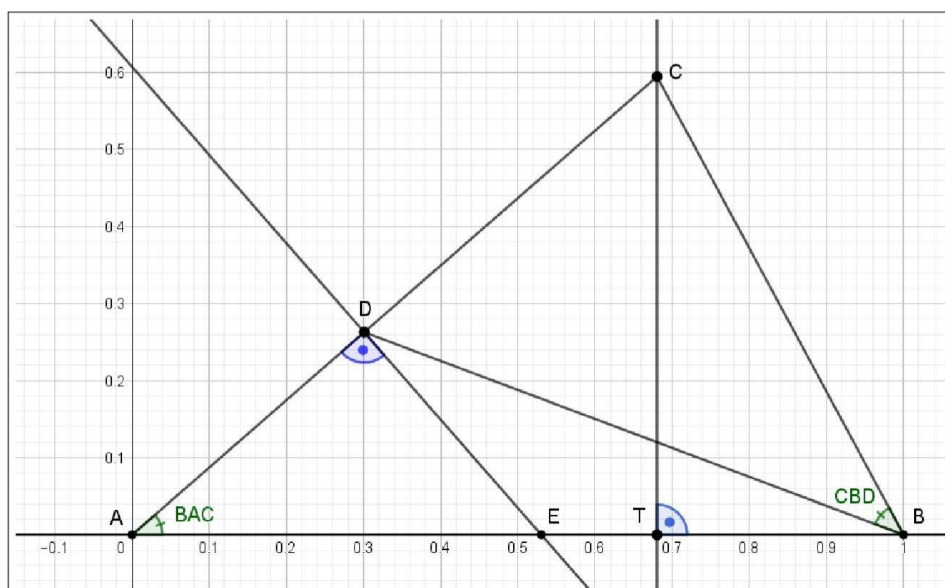
Dividing the second linear equation by  $y \neq 0$  yields  $\mu = 2\lambda x - \lambda$ .  $\mu$  can now be eliminated from the first linear equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
(2\lambda x - \lambda)x &= \lambda x^2 - \lambda x - \lambda y^2 + 1 \\
\Leftrightarrow 2\lambda x^2 - \lambda x &= \lambda x^2 - \lambda x - \lambda y^2 + 1 \\
\Leftrightarrow \lambda x^2 + \lambda y^2 &= 1 \\
\Leftrightarrow \lambda &= \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Plugging  $\lambda = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2}$  into  $\mu = 2\lambda x - \lambda$  yields  $\mu = \frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2}$ . First, we have  $x^2 - 2x + 1 = (x - 1)^2 \geq 0$  and therefore  $x^2 \geq 2x - 1$ . Because of  $y^2 > 0$  we also have  $x^2 + y^2 > 2x - 1$  and therefore  $1 > \frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2}$ . Next, we have  $2x - 1 > 0$ ,  $x^2 + y^2 > 0$  and  $\frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2} > 0$  because of  $x > 0.5$ . Therefore,  $1 > \frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2} > 0$ .

The system of linear equations has exactly one solution  $\lambda = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2}$  and  $\mu = \frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2}$ . Also we have shown that  $\mu = \frac{2x-1}{x^2+y^2}$  is always between 0 and 1. Therefore, there is exactly one point  $D$  between  $A$  and  $C$ , such that the angles  $\angle CBD$  and  $\angle BAC$  are the same.

$$\begin{aligned} D &= (\lambda x^2 - \lambda x - \lambda y^2 + 1) + (2\lambda xy - \lambda y) i \\ &= \left( \frac{x^2 - x - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} + 1 \right) + \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \\ &= \left( \frac{2x^2 - x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \end{aligned}$$



Let  $A' := i(A - D) + D$ . It is the result of rotating  $A$  counter-clockwise around  $D$  by the angle  $\arg(i) = 90^\circ$  and scaling it by  $|i| = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A' &= i(A - D) + D \\ &= D - Di \\ &= \left( \frac{2x^2 - x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i - \left( \frac{2x^2 - x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i + \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{2x^2 + 2xy - x - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{-2x^2 + 2xy + x - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \end{aligned}$$

An expression for the line  $DA'$  is  $D + \zeta (A' - D)$  with  $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& D + \zeta(A' - D) \\
&= D + \zeta(D - Di - D) \\
&= D - \zeta Di \\
&= \left( \frac{2x^2 - x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i - \zeta \left( \frac{2x^2 - x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i + \zeta \left( \frac{2xy - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \\
&= \left( \frac{2x^2 + 2\zeta xy - x - \zeta y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{-2\zeta x^2 + 2xy + \zeta x - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i
\end{aligned}$$

Equating the imaginary part with 0 and solving for  $\zeta$  yields the point  $E$  where  $DA'$  meets  $AB$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{-2\zeta x^2 + 2xy + \zeta x - y}{x^2 + y^2} = 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow -2\zeta x^2 + 2xy + \zeta x - y = 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow -2\zeta x^2 + \zeta x = -2xy + y \\
& \Leftrightarrow \zeta = \frac{-2xy + y}{-2x^2 + x} = \frac{y(-2x + 1)}{x(-2x + 1)} = \frac{y}{x}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
E &= \left( \frac{2x^2 + 2\zeta xy - x - \zeta y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{-2\zeta x^2 + 2xy + \zeta x - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \\
&= \left( \frac{2x^2 + \frac{2xy^2}{x} - x - \frac{y^2}{x}}{x^2 + y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{-\frac{2x^2 y}{x} + 2xy + \frac{yx}{x} - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \\
&= \left( \frac{2x^3 + 2xy^2 - x^2 - xy^2}{x(x^2 + y^2)} \right) + \left( \frac{-2xy + 2xy + y - y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) i \\
&= \frac{x^2(2x - 1) + y^2(2x - 1)}{x(x^2 + y^2)} \\
&= \frac{(x^2 + y^2)(2x - 1)}{x(x^2 + y^2)} \\
&= \frac{2x - 1}{x}
\end{aligned}$$

We have  $1 > x$ . Therefore,  $x > 2x - 1$  and  $1 > \frac{2x-1}{x}$ . Also we have  $x > 0.5$ . Therefore  $2x - 1 > 0$  and  $\frac{2x-1}{x} > 0$ . We have shown that  $E$  is between  $A$  and  $B$ . Indeed,  $E$  is independent of the choice of  $C$ , since  $y$  doesn't appear in the expression of  $E$ .  $\square$