

Practice Questions

Q1. Find the equation of the circle which passes through the points (20, 3), (19, 8) and (2, -9). Find its centre and radius.

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Q2. The equation of the circle having centre (1, -2) and passing through the point of intersection of the lines $3x + y = 14$ and $2x + 5y = 18$ is

1. $x^2 + y^2 - 2x + 4y - 20 = 0$

2. $x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 4y - 20 = 0$

3. $x^2 + y^2 + 2x - 4y - 20 = 0$

4. $x^2 + y^2 + 2x + 4y - 20 = 0$

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Q3. Find the equation of the circle which touches the both axes in first quadrant and whose radius is a.

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Q4. If a circle passes through the point (o, o) (a, o), (o, b) then find the coordinates of its centre.

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Solution and Hints

S1. This is a simple application of class notes formulas. If one remembers the formulas using some trick, then it can be done easily just by putting values in formulas. We can solve 3 equations to get 3 unknowns of general form. By substitution of coordinates in the general equation of the circle given by

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$

, we have

$$40g + 6f + c = -409$$

$$38g + 16f + c = -425$$

$$4g - 18f + c = -85$$

From these three equations, we get $g = -7$, $f = -3$ and $c = -111$. Hence, the equation of the circle is

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^2 - 14x - 6y - 111 &= 0 \\ \implies (x - 7)^2 + (y - 3)^2 &= 132 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the centre of the circle is $(7, 3)$ and radius is 13 .

S2. Note that to get intersection point of two lines we just need to solve two linear equation problem.

$$3x + y - 14 = 0$$

$$2x + 5y - 18 = 0$$

This gives us intersection point: $x = 4, y = 2$. Now radius of circle is:

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= (4 - 1)^2 + (2 + 2)^2 \\ &= 9 + 16 = 25 \end{aligned}$$

We have radius = 5. Then c in general form is,

$$\begin{aligned} c &= g^2 + f^2 - r^2 \\ &= (-1)^2 + (2)^2 - 25 = -20 \end{aligned}$$

So general form is,

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2x + 4y - 20 = 0$$

Hence option (1) is right.

S3. It can be done just by looking at the below picture,

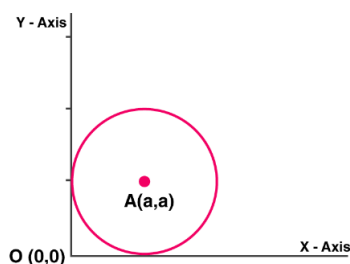


Figure 1: Circle with radius a

Now we can write equation of the center,

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - a)^2 = a^2$$

S4. This is also a simple application of class notes formulas, like que-1. By substitution of coordinates in the general equation of the circle given by

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$

, we have

$$c = 0$$

$$a^2 + 2ga + c = 0$$

$$b^2 + 2fb + c = 0$$

From these three equations, we get center as

$$-g = \frac{a}{2}$$

$$-f = \frac{b}{2}$$

And radius to be,

$$r^2 = g^2 + f^2 - c = \frac{a^2 + b^2}{4}$$

Hence, the equation of the circle is

$$\left(x - \frac{a}{2}\right)^2 + \left(y - \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{a^2 + b^2}{4}$$