

## ON ALGEBRAIC EQUATIONS CONCERNING CHORDAL AND TANGENTIAL POLYGONS

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### Abstract

Some properties of the equations (11) and (12) are proved (Theorem 1-5) and established that the positive roots of these equations are radii of a sequence of chordal or tangential polygons with the same lengths of sides or the same lengths of tangents.

**Key words:** algebraic equation, chordal polygon, tangential polygon

### 1. Preliminaries

A polygon with vertices  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  (in this order) will be denoted by  $A_1 \dots A_n$  shortly by  $A$ . The lengths of its sides will be denoted by  $|A_1A_2|, \dots, |A_nA_1|$  or  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , and the interior angle at the vertex  $A_i$  by  $\alpha_i$  or  $\angle A_i$ , i.e.

$$\angle A_i = \angle A_{n-1+i}A_iA_{i+1}, i=1, \dots, n.$$

Of course, indices are calculated modulo  $n$ .

A polygon  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  is a chordal polygon if there exists a circle  $\mathcal{C}$  such that each vertex of  $A$  lie on  $\mathcal{C}$ .

A polygon  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  is a tangential polygon if there exists a circle  $\mathcal{C}$  such that each side of  $A$  lie on a tangent line of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

In this paper we shall use the following notation used in [1] and [2].

If it is a question of a chordal polygon  $A_1 \dots A_n$ , then  $C$  is the centre of its circum-circle, and  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are the angles such that

$$\beta_i = \angle CA_iA_{i+1}, i=1, \dots, n. \quad (1a)$$

If it is a question of a tangential polygon  $A_1 \dots A_n$ , then  $C$  is the centre of its inscribed circle, and the angles  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are such that  $\beta_i = \frac{1}{2} \angle A_i$ , that is

$$\beta_i = \angle CA_iA_{i+1}, i=1, \dots, n. \quad (1b)$$

If  $A_1 \dots A_n$  is a chordal polygon or a tangential polygon, then by  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n$  will be denoted the angles such that

$$\phi_i = \angle A_i C A_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \tag{2}$$

Symbol  $\left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right]$ . If  $n$  is a positive integer, then

$$\left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right] = \frac{n-1}{2} \text{ if } n \text{ is odd, } \left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right] = \frac{n-2}{2} \text{ if } n \text{ is even.}$$

Symbol  $P_j^n$ . If  $j$  and  $n$  are positive integers and  $j \leq n$ , then  $P_j^n$  is the sum of  $\binom{n}{j}$  products of the form

$$\cos \beta_{i_1} \dots \cos \beta_{i_j} \sin \beta_{i_{j+1}} \dots \sin \beta_{i_n}$$

where  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . For example:

$$P_1^3 = \cos \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \sin \beta_3 + \sin \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \sin \beta_3 + \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \cos \beta_3$$

$$P_3^4 = \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \cos \beta_3 \sin \beta_4 + \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \sin \beta_3 \cos \beta_4 +$$

$$+ \cos \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \cos \beta_3 \cos \beta_4 + \sin \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \cos \beta_3 \cos \beta_4.$$

Symbol  $S_j(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be real numbers, and let  $j$  be an integer such that  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Then  $S_j(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is the sum of all  $\binom{n}{j}$  products of the form  $x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_j}$ , where  $i_1, \dots, i_j$  are different elements of the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , that is

$$S_j(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_j \leq n} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_j}.$$

Symbol  $T_j^n$ . The sum  $S_j(\tan \beta_1, \dots, \tan \beta_n)$  will be briefly written as  $T_j^n$ .

Symbol  $C_j^n$ . The sum  $S_j(\cot \beta_1, \dots, \cot \beta_n)$  will be briefly written as  $C_j^n$ .

Notice 1. In the following where  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  will be lengths of tangents we shall, for brevity, write  $S_j^n$  instead of  $S_j(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ .

$$\text{For example: } S_1^3 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3, S_2^3 = t_1 t_2 + t_2 t_3 + t_3 t_1, S_3^3 = t_1 t_2 t_3.$$

One property of the angles  $\beta_i$  and  $\phi_i$  given by (1a), (1b) and (2).

In this paper we shall use oriented angles. As it is known, an angle  $\angle PQR$  is positively or negatively oriented if from  $QP$  to  $QR$  is going counter-clockwise or clockwise.

It is very important to remark that the angles  $\beta_i$  and  $\varphi_i$  have opposit orientation, that is, if  $\beta_i$  is positively oriented, then  $\varphi_i$  is negatively oriented, and vice versa. For example, see Fig. 1.

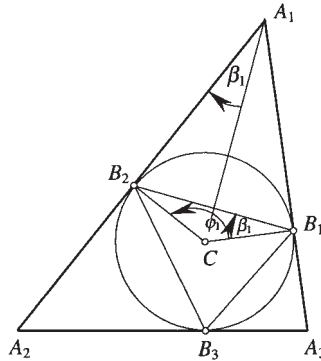


Fig. 1

The measure of an oriented angle will be taken with sign + or - depending on whether the angle is positively or negatively oriented.

## 2. Connection between chordal and tangential polygons

It is easy to see that every tangential polygon determines a chordal polygon. So, if  $A=A_1...A_n$  is any given tangential polygon and if  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  are its tangential points with the circle inscribed into  $A$  such that  $B_i \in A_i A_{n+i-1}$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ , then the polygon  $B$  is a chordal polygon determined by the polygon  $A$  and it is valid

$$\beta_i = \angle CA_i A_{i+1} = \angle CB_i B_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \quad (3)$$

$$b_i^2 = \frac{4r^2 t_i^2}{r^2 + t_i^2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4)$$

where  $r$  is the radius of the inscribed circle into  $A$ ,  $b_i = |B_i B_{i+1}|$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are the lengths of the tangents of  $A$ , i.e.

$$t_i = |A_i B_i|, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Let us remark that (4) follows from

$$b_i = 2r \cos \beta_i, \quad b_i = 2t_i \sin \beta_i. \quad (5)$$

Consequently, for any relation which is valid for a tangential polygon there is a relation which is valid for the corresponding chordal polygon. Therefore, the relations (3) and (4) will play important role in the following considerations.

*Notice 2.* In order that every chordal polygon be the corresponding of a tangential polygon, we shall permit that some of the angles  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  may be zero, but we shall exclude that some of the angles  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  may be  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  (two consecutive vertices the same).

In the following considerations we shall use only oriented angles. So, if it is a question of a chordal (tangential) polygon  $A_1 \dots A_n$ , then  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  will be the measures of the oriented angles

$$\angle CA_i A_{i+1}, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

**Definition 1.** Let  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  be a chordal polygon, and let  $k$  be a positive integer such that  $k \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ . Then the polygon  $A$  will be called  $k$ -chordal polygon if

$$\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n = (n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{2}, \tag{6}$$

$$\beta_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, n \text{ or } \beta_i < 0, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

It is easy to see that the chordal polygon  $A_1 \dots A_n$  is a  $k$ -chordal polygon iff

$$\varphi_1 + \dots + \varphi_n = 2k\pi, \tag{7}$$

$$\varphi_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, n \text{ or } \varphi_i < 0, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

So, for example, if  $\varphi_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ , then  $\beta_i < 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ , and from (7) it follows that

$$(\pi - 2\beta_1) + \dots + (\pi - 2\beta_n) = 2k\pi,$$

which can be written as (6). Conversely, from (6) it follows that

$$2\beta_1 + \dots + 2\beta_n = n\pi - 2k\pi$$

or

$$(\pi - \varphi_1) + \dots + (\pi - \varphi_n) = n\pi - 2k\pi,$$

which can be written as (7).

**Definition 2.** Let  $A = A_1...A_n$  be a tangential polygon, and let  $k$  be a positive integer such that  $k \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ . Then the polygon  $A$  will be called  $k$ -tangential polygon if

$$\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n = (n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2},$$

$$\beta_i > 0, i=1, \dots, n \text{ or } \beta_i < 0, i=1, \dots, n.$$

It is easy to see that a  $k$ -tangential polygon has the property that any two of its consecutive sides have only one point in common.

In [2] we have proved the following result (Theorem 2 and its Corollary 3):

**(Theorem 2)** Let  $A = A_1...A_n$  be a given 1-tangential polygon. If  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are the lengths of its tangents and  $r$  the radius of its inscribed circle, then  $r$  is a solution of the equation

$$S_1^n x^{n-1} - S_3^n x^{n-3} + S_5^n x^{n-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n = 0, \tag{8}$$

or

$$S_1^{n+1} x^{n-1} - S_3^n x^{n-3} + S_5^{n+1} x^{n-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_n^{n+1} = 0, \tag{9}$$

where  $n$  is an odd number, and  $s = (1+3+5+\dots+n)+1$ .

**(Corollary 3)** Let  $m$  be a positive integer such that  $m = \frac{n-1}{2}$ , where  $n \geq 3$  is odd, and let  $r_k, k = 1, \dots, m$ , be the radius of  $k$ -tangential polygon whose lengths of its tangents are  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ . Then every  $r_k$  is a solution of the equation (8), i.e.

$$S_1^n r_k^{n-1} - S_3^n r_k^{n-3} + S_5^n r_k^{n-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n = 0. \tag{10}$$

Similarly holds for the equation (9) where  $n+1$  is an even number. (In [2], Theorem 1, it is proved that for each  $k=1, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  there exists  $k$ -tangential polygon whose tangents have the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ .)

The following theorem is a generalization of Theorem 2 and its Corollary 3 given in [2].

**Theorem 1.** Let  $A = A_1...A_n$  be a tangential polygon, and let its tangents have the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ . If  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are such that

$$\beta_u > 0, u=i_1, \dots, i_j \text{ and } \beta_v < 0, v=i_{j+1}, \dots, i_n$$

then the radius  $r$  of the inscribed circle into  $A$  is a solution of the equation

$$S_1^n x^{n-1} - S_3^n x^{n-3} + S_5^n x^{n-5} - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} S_n^n = 0, n \text{ is odd} \tag{11}$$

or

$$S_1^n x^{n-2} - S_3^n x^{n-4} + S_5^n x^{n-6} - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} S_{n-1}^n = 0, n \text{ is even} \tag{12}$$

where

$$s_1 = (1+3+5+\dots+n)+1, s_2 = (1+3+5+\dots+(n-1))+1 \tag{13}$$

and where instead of  $t_v, v=i_{j+1}, \dots, i_n$  is written  $-t_v$ .

Of course, here  $S_j^n$  is not referred to the numbers  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  but to the numbers  $t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_j}, -t_{i_{j+1}}, \dots, -t_{i_n}$ , that is

$$S_j^n = S_j(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_j}, -t_{i_{j+1}}, \dots, -t_{i_n}), i = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

**Proof.** First we shall prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** If  $B = B_1 \dots B_n$  is the chordal polygon determined by  $A$ , then

$$|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = h \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}, h \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-2\}. \tag{14}$$

**Proof.** Since

$$|\varphi_1 + \dots + \varphi_n| = 2k\pi, k \in \left\{0, 1, \dots, \left[\frac{n-1}{2}\right]\right\}$$

$$\varphi_i = \begin{cases} -(\pi - 2\beta_i) & \text{if } \beta_i \geq 0 \\ \pi + 2\beta_i & \text{if } \beta_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

it follows that  $|\varphi_1 + \dots + \varphi_n| = |n\pi - 2(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n)|$  or

$$2|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = |n\pi - 2k\pi|$$

which can be written as (14)

**Lemma 2.** If  $|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = j\pi, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-2\}$ , then

$$T_1^n - T_3^n + T_5^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} T_n^n = 0, n \text{ is odd} \tag{15}$$

$$T_1^n - T_3^n + T_5^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} T_{n-1}^n = 0, n \text{ is even} \tag{16}$$

and if  $|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = (2j+1)\frac{\pi}{2}, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-2\}$  then

$$C_1^n - C_3^n + C_5^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} C_n^n = 0, n, \text{ is odd} \tag{17}$$

$$C_1^n - C_3^n + C_5^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} C_{n-1}^n = 0, \quad n \text{ is even} \tag{18}$$

where  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are as in (13).

**Proof.** In [2], Lemma 1, it is proved that (17) and (18) is valid if

$$0 < \beta_i < \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n = (n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad k = 1, \dots, \left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right].$$

In exactly the same way can be proved that (17) and (18) are valid for the given condition here in Lemma 2. Also, in like manner can be proved (15) and (16).

Let us remark that from (17) and (18) (dividing with  $(-1)^{s_1} C_n^n$  or  $(-1)^{s_2} C_{n-1}^n$ ) we get

$$1 - T_2^n + T_4^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} T_{n-1}^n = 0, \tag{19}$$

$$1 - T_2^n + T_4^n - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} T_{n-2}^n = 0, \tag{20}$$

Now, if  $\cot \beta_i$  in the equations (17) and (18) is replaced by  $\frac{t_i}{r}$  if  $\beta_i > 0$  and by  $-\frac{t_i}{r}$  if  $\beta_i < 0$ , we shall get the equations

$$S_1^n r^{n-1} - S_3^n r^{n-3} + S_5^n r^{n-5} - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} S_n^n = 0 \quad n \text{ is odd}$$

$$S_1^n r^{n-2} - S_3^n r^{n-4} + S_5^n r^{n-6} - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} S_{n-1}^n = 0, \quad n \text{ is even.}$$

So, Theorem 1 is proved.

**Corollary 1.1.** *If some of  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are equals zero, then we can use the equation with the terms  $T_i^n$  instead of  $C_i^n$ .*

Some special cases will be discussed in more detail in the following examples which may be interesting.

**Example 1.** The triangle  $A_1A_2A_3$  in Fig 2a is a tangential triangle and  $B_1B_2B_3$  is its corresponding chordal triangle. Since

$$|A_1B_1| = |A_1B_3| = t_1, \quad |A_2B_1| = |A_2B_2| = t_2, \quad |A_3B_2| = |A_3B_3| = t_3$$

and  $\beta_1 < 0$ , we can use the equation  $1 - T_2^3 = 0$ , that is

$$1 - (\tan \beta_1 \tan \beta_2 + \tan \beta_2 \tan \beta_3 + \tan \beta_3 \tan \beta_1) = 0$$

or

$$1 - \left( \frac{r}{-t_1} \cdot \frac{r}{t_2} + \frac{r}{t_2} \cdot \frac{r}{t_3} + \frac{r}{t_3} \cdot \frac{r}{-t_1} \right) = 0.$$

In the case when  $\beta_1 = 0$  (Fig. 2b), then  $t_1 = \infty$ , and we have the equation  $r^2 = t_2 t_3$ .

Of course, the same result can be obtained from the equation  $S_1^3 r^2 - S_3^3 = 0$  or (since  $\beta < 0$ )

$$(-t_1 + t_2 + t_3)r^2 - (-t_1)t_2 t_3 = 0.$$

Namely, if  $t_1 = \infty$ , then  $r^2 = t_2 t_3$ .

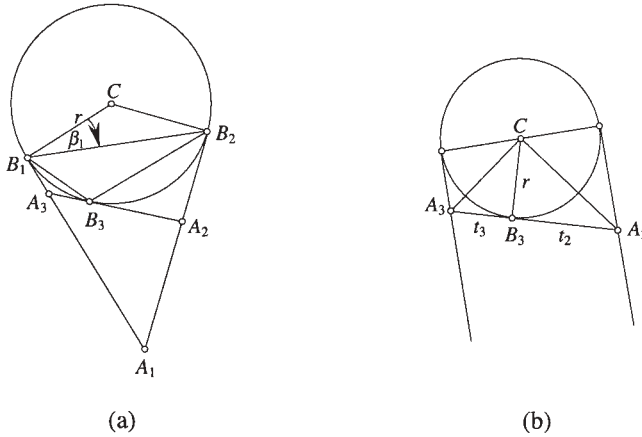


Fig. 2

**Example 2.** Let  $A_1 A_2 A_3 A_4$  be a tangential quadrangle where  $\beta_1 < 0$ , and let  $\beta_1 \rightarrow 0$ . Then the equations  $T_1^4 - T_3^4 = 0$  for  $\beta_1 = 0$  can be written as

$$\tan \beta_2 + \tan \beta_3 + \tan \beta_4 - \tan \beta_2 \tan \beta_3 \tan \beta_4 = 0.$$

Using the expression  $\tan \beta_i = \frac{r}{t_i}$ , we get  $r^2 = t_2 t_3 + t_3 t_4 + t_4 t_2$  (Fig. 3).

Of course, the same result can be obtained using the equation  $S_1^4 r^2 - S_3^4 = 0$  taking  $t_1 = \infty$ .

**Example 3.** Let  $B = B_1 \dots B_5$  be a chordal pentagon like this in Fig 4. The corresponding tangential pentagon has property that  $t_1 = t_5 = \infty$ . Using the equation  $1 - T_2^5 + T_4^5 = 0$ , we get

$$t_2 t_3 t_4 - (t_2 + t_3 + t_4) r^2 = 0.$$



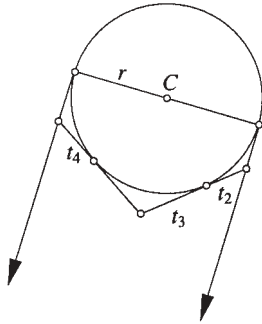


Fig. 3

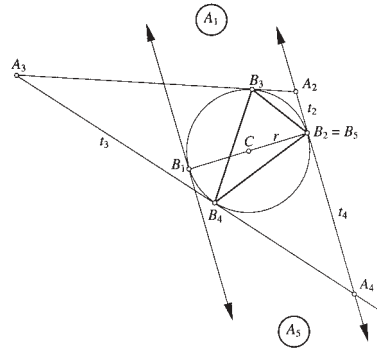


Fig 4.

So, if  $t_2 = t_3 = t_4 = 1$ , then  $r = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be any given lengths and let  $m$  be any given integer such that  $1 \leq m \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \right\rfloor$ . Then any  $m$  of the angles  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  may be negative.

**Proof.** Since

$$n - 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \right\rfloor = 3 \text{ if } n \text{ is odd,}$$

$$n - 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \right\rfloor = 4 \text{ if } n \text{ is even,}$$

that is

$$n - 2m \geq 3 \text{ if } n \text{ is odd,}$$

$$n - 2m \geq 4 \text{ if } n \text{ is even,}$$

it is easy to see that is a length  $r$  such that

$$-\sum_{i=1}^m \arctan \frac{r}{t_i} + \sum_{i=m+1}^n \arctan \frac{r}{t_i} = (n - 2(m+1)) \frac{\pi}{2}. \quad (21)$$

And Theorem 2 is proved.

In the following corollary will be used the symbol  $\sigma(n)$  given by

$$\sigma(n) = \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor + \binom{n}{1} \left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \right\rfloor + \binom{n}{2} \left\lfloor \frac{n-5}{2} \right\rfloor + \dots + \binom{n}{u} \left\lfloor \frac{n-2u-1}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad (22)$$

where

$$n - 2u - 1 = 3 \text{ if } n \text{ is odd,}$$

$$n - 2u - 1 = 4 \text{ if } n \text{ is even.}$$

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be any given lengths. Then there are at least  $\sigma(n)$  tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths.*

**Proof.** If all of the angles  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are positive then there are  $\left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths. If one of the angles  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  is negative, then there are  $\binom{n}{1} \left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \right\rfloor$  tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths. And so on.

From the following two corollaries will be clear that the number of tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths may be greater than  $\sigma(n)$ .

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $S_j^n, j = 1, 3, 5, \dots$  be referred to the numbers  $-t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$ . Then the equation*

$$S_1^n x^{\frac{n-1}{2}} - S_3^n x^{\frac{n-3}{2}} + S_5^n x^{\frac{n-5}{2}} - \dots + (-1)^{s_1} S_n^n = 0, n \text{ is odd}$$

or

$$S_1^n x^{\frac{n-2}{2}} - S_3^n x^{\frac{n-4}{2}} + S_5^n x^{\frac{n-6}{2}} - \dots + (-1)^{s_2} S_{n-1}^n = 0, n \text{ is even}$$

where  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are as in (13), has no less than  $\left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor - 1$  positive solutions.

**Corollary 2.3.** *If  $t_1 > t_2 + \dots + t_n$  then there are  $\left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  tangential polygons whose tangents have the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ . In other words, the equations in Corollary 2.2 have all positive solutions.*

**Proof.** Let  $n$  be odd. Then

$$\begin{aligned} S_1^n &= -t_1 + S_1^{n-1} \\ S_3^n &= -t_1 S_2^{n-1} + S_3^{n-1} \\ S_5^n &= -t_1 S_4^{n-1} + S_5^{n-1} \\ &\dots \dots \dots \\ S_n^n &= -t_1 S_{n-1}^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_i^{n-1}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  is referred to the numbers  $t_2, \dots, t_n$ .

It is easy to see that the numbers  $S_1^n, S_3^n, \dots, S_n^n$  are all negative, and by Vietas formulas it is clear that the equation can not has a negative solution (since the all other by Corollary 2.2. are positive). In the same way we find it is valid if  $n$  is an even number.

For example, if  $n = 5, t_1 = 5, t_2 = t_3 = t_4 = t_5 = 1$ , then

$$-x^2 - (-5 \cdot 6 + 4)x + (-5) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 - 26x + 5 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 13 + \sqrt{164}, \quad x_2 = 13 - \sqrt{164}$$

$$r_1^2 = x_1, \quad r_2^2 = x_2.$$

$$r_1 \approx 5.07998, \quad r_2 \approx 0.44017$$

The pentagons are as in Fig. 5.

In Fig. 6 we see another two tangential pentagon whose tangents have the lengths  $t_1 = 5, t_2 = t_3 = t_4 = t_5 = 1$ . The radii of their inscribed circles are the solutions of the equation  $S_1^5 r^4 - S_3^5 r^2 + S_5^5 = 0$  or  $9r^2 - 34r^2 + 5 = 0$ , where now  $S_i^5, i = 1, 3, 5$  is referred to the numbers 5, 1, 1, 1, 1. We find that

$$r_1 \approx 1.90381, \quad r_2 \approx 0.39151.$$

Let us remark that there are others tangential pentagons whose tangents have the lengths 5, 1, 1, 1, 1. The following combinations are possible:

5,	-1,	1,	1,	1
5,	1,	-1,	1,	1
...	...	...	...	...
-5,	-1,	1,	1,	1
-5,	1,	-1,	1,	1
...	...	...	...	...
5,	1,	-1,	-1,	-1
5,	-1,	1,	-1,	-1

But there are no tangential pentagons for the combinations

5,	1,	1,	-1,	-1
5,	1,	-1,	1,	-1

Notice 3. As it can be seen, it is very difficult to say with precision about the number of all together tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths. It is because the expressions  $S_i^n$  are not so simple. So, for example, if  $n = 7, j = 3$ , then

$$S_3^7 = (-t_1)S_2^6 + S_3^6 \quad \text{if} \quad -t_1, t_2, \dots, t_7$$

$$S_3^7 = (-t_1)(-t_2)S_1^5 + [(-t_1) + (-t_2)]S_2^5 + S_3^5 \quad \text{if} \quad -t_1, -t_2, t_3, \dots, t_7$$

$$S_3^7 = (-t_1)(-t_2)(-t_3) + [(-t_1)(-t_2) + (-t_1)(-t_3) + (-t_2)(-t_3)] S_1^4 + \\ + [(-t_1) + (-t_2) + (-t_3)] S_2^4 + S_3^4 \text{ if } -t_1, -t_2, -t_3, t_4, \dots, t_7.$$

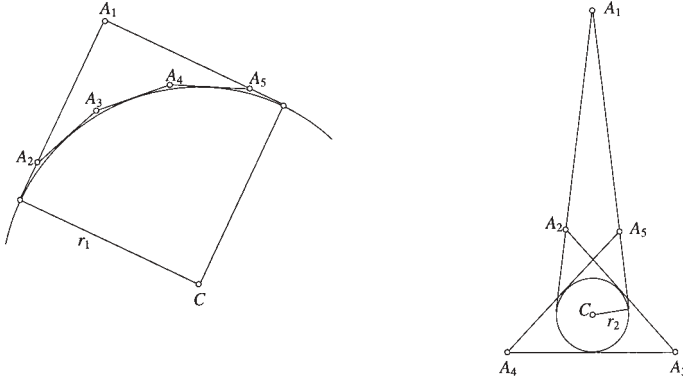


Fig. 5

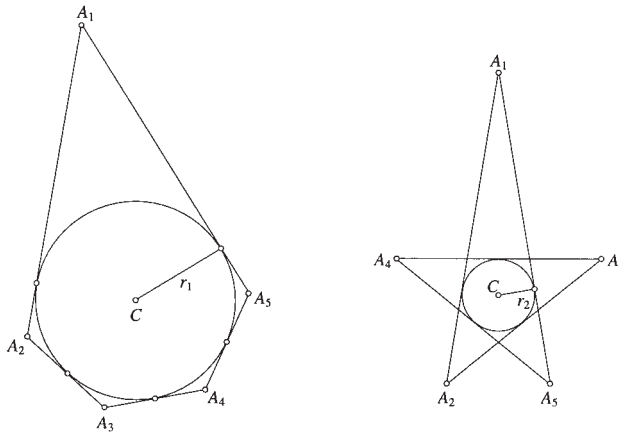


Fig. 6

In the case when  $n$  is an even number, then it is possible to be infinity tangential polygons whose tangents have the given lengths. So, for example, if  $n = 6, t_1 = \dots = t_6 = 1$ , and  $S_i^6$  is referred to the numbers  $1, 1, 1, -1, -1, -1$  then  $S_i^6 = 0, i = 1, 3, 5$ . Thus, in this case we have the equation

$$0r^4 + 0r^2 + 0 = 0.$$

The situation is like this in Fig. 7. But in this case such a tangential polygon has two consecutive vertices the same, and we do not consider (by Notice 2) such cases in this paper.

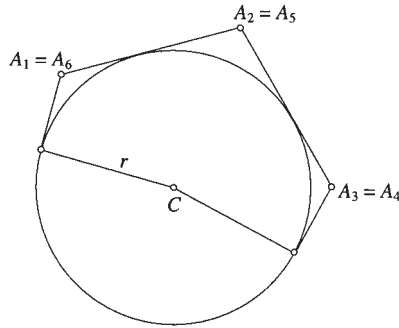


Fig. 7

The following theorem is concerning the question: If  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are the lengths of the sides of a 1-chordal polygon, are there the  $k$ -chordal polygons with  $k > 1$  and the same lengths of sides?

In [1], Corollary 1.2, we have proved: If  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are the lengths of the sides of a  $k$ -chordal polygon, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n b_i > 2kb_j, j = 1, \dots, n. \tag{23}$$

But the converse may not be valid for  $k > 1$ . Namely, the above inequality may be fulfilled, but may not be a  $k$ -chordal polygon for  $k > 1$  whose sides have the lengths  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ .

In the following, for brevity, we use the symbol  $S(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$  defined as follows: If  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y$  are some real numbers, then

$$S(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = 0 \tag{24}$$

is the equation

$$S_1^n y^{\bar{n}-1} - S_3^n y^{\bar{n}-3} + S_5^n y^{\bar{n}-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_{\bar{n}}^n = 0,$$

where

$$\bar{n} = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ n-1 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$$s = (1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + \bar{n}) + 1$$

$$S_j^n = S_j(x_1, \dots, x_n), j = 1, 3, \dots, \bar{n}.$$

**Theorem 3.** Let  $B = B_1 \dots B_n$  be a 1-chordal polygon and let  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  be its corresponding tangential polygon. Further, let  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  be the lengths of the sides of  $B$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be the lengths of the tangents of  $A$ . If in the equation

$$S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) = 0$$

we put  $\frac{rb_i}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b_i^2}}$  instead of  $t_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  we shall get the equation with the property

that for each its positive root  $r_k$  there is a  $k$ -chordal polygon whose sides have the lengths  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $r_k$  be a positive root of the such obtained equation. Then there are positive numbers  $t_i^{(k)}, i = 1, \dots, n$  such that

$$t_i^{(k)} = \frac{r_k b_i}{\sqrt{4r_k^2 - b_i^2}}, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Hence, according to the relation (5), it follows that there is a  $k$ -tangential polygon with the property that its corresponding  $k$ -chordal polygon has  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  as the lengths of its sides.

**Corollary 3.1.** Let  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  be given lengths (in fact some positive numbers), and let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be as follows

$$x_i = \frac{yb_i}{\sqrt{4y^2 - b_i^2}}, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

If the equations  $S(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = 0$  has not a positive root, then there is not a positive integer  $k$  such that there is a  $k$ -chordal polygon whose lengths of sides are  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ . In the case when the equation has  $m$  positive roots, then for each  $k = 1, \dots, m$  there is the  $k$ -chordal polygon whose sides have the lengths  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be given lengths. Since the equation  $S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) = 0$  has  $\left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right]$  positive roots  $r_k, k = 1, \dots, \left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right]$  which are all different, let

$$r_1 > r_2 > \dots > r_m,$$

where  $m = \left[ \frac{n-1}{2} \right]$ . Then for each positive integer  $k \leq m$  there is  $k$ -chordal polygon whose lengths of sides are given by

$$b_i^2 = \frac{4r_k^2 + t_i^2}{r_k^2 + t_i^2}, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

For example, if  $n = 5$  and  $r_2$  is the less positive root the equation  $S_1^5 r^4 - S_3^5 r^2 + S_5^5 = 0$ , i. e.

$$r_2^2 = \frac{S_3^5 - \sqrt{(S_3^5)^2 - 4S_1^5 S_5^5}}{2S_1^5},$$

then there are 1-chordal pentagon and 2-chordal pentagon with property that their lengths of sides are given by

$$b_i^2 = \frac{4r_2^2 + t_i^2}{r_2^2 + t_i^2}, i = 1, \dots, 5.$$

In this way we may find the lengths  $b_1, \dots, b_5$  which may be the lengths of the sides of a 2-chordal pentagon.

**Corollary 3.3.** *If  $b_1 = \dots = b_n = b$ , then for each  $k = 1, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  there is the equilateral  $k$ -chordal polygon whose side has length  $b$ . The radii of their circumcircles are the solutions of the equation*

$$S\left(\frac{b}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b^2}}, \dots, \frac{b}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b^2}}, r\right) = 0. \tag{25}$$

For example, if  $n = 7$ , then we have the equation

$$\binom{7}{1}x - \binom{7}{3}x^3 + \binom{7}{5}x^5 - \binom{7}{7}x^7 = 0 \tag{26}$$

where  $x = \frac{b}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b^2}}$ . Its positive roots are

$$r_k = \frac{b}{2 \sin \frac{k\pi}{n}}, k = 1, 2, 3.$$

It is easy to prove that the equation (26) can be written as

$$P_1^6 - P_3^6 + P_5^6 = (-1)^{k+1} \cos \beta(k), k = 1, 2, 3$$

where

$$\beta(k) = (n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{14}, P_1^6 = \binom{6}{1} \cos \beta(k) \sin^5 \beta(k),$$

$$P_3^6 = \binom{6}{3} \cos^3 \beta(k) \sin^3 \beta(k), \quad P_5^6 = \binom{6}{5} \cos^5 \beta(k) \sin \beta(k),$$

$$\cos \beta(k) = \frac{b}{2r_k}, \quad \sin \beta(k) = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{b}{2r_k}\right)^2}.$$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $B = B_1 \dots B_n$  be a chordal polygon such that*

$$\beta_u > 0, u = i_1, \dots, i_k, \quad \beta_v < 0, v = i_{k+1}, \dots, i_n.$$

If  $|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = j\pi, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-2\}$ , let  $\tan \beta_u$  and  $\tan \beta_v$  in the equation (15) or (16) be replaced by  $\frac{b_u}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b_u^2}}$  and  $\frac{b_v}{\sqrt{4r^2 - b_v^2}}$  respectively. The positive roots of the such a obtained equation are the radii of the circuncircles of the chordal polygons whose lengths of sides are  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ .

Analogously holds in the case when  $|\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n| = (2j-1)\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Then can be used (19) or (20).

Of course, if some of  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  are zero, say  $\beta_1 = 0$ , then  $2r = b_1$ . But the problem may be as follows. If the lengths  $b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}$  are given, then the length  $b_n$  may be wanted so that  $\beta_n = 0$ .

The following exaples will be considered in more detail.

**Example 1.** Let  $B = B_1 B_2 B_3 B_4$  be a chordal quadrangle such that  $\beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 = 0$ . If the situation is like this in Fig. 8, then

$$-\beta_1 - \beta_2 = |\beta_1 + \beta_2| = \beta_3 + \beta_4$$

since  $\beta_1 < 0, \beta_2 < 0$ . Using the equatin  $T_1^4 - T_3^4 = 0$  we find that

$$r^2 = \frac{(b_1 b_2 - b_3 b_4)(b_1 b_3 - b_2 b_4)(b_2 b_3 - b_1 b_4)}{D}, \tag{27}$$

where  $D = (4 \text{ area of } B)^2$ , that is

$$D = b_1^4 + b_2^4 + b_3^4 + b_4^4 - 8b_1 b_2 b_3 b_4 - 2b_1^2 b_2^2 - 2b_1^2 b_3^2 - 2b_1^2 b_4^2 - 2b_2^2 b_3^2 - 2b_2^2 b_4^2 - 2b_3^2 b_4^2.$$

If  $b_1 = b_3, b_2 = b_4$ , then  $r^2 = \frac{0}{0}$  or  $0r^2 = 0$ . Thus, in this case there are infinity chordal quadrangles whose lengths of sides sre  $b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4$ .

In the case when each of  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$  is positive or each is negative, then (as it is well known)



$$r^2 = \frac{(b_1 b_2 + b_3 b_4)(b_1 b_3 + b_2 b_4)(b_2 b_3 + b_1 b_4)}{D_1}, \tag{28}$$

where  $D_1 = (4 \text{ area of } B)^2$ , that is

$$D = -b_1^4 - b_2^4 - b_3^4 - b_4^4 + 8b_1 b_2 b_3 b_4 + 2b_1^2 b_2^2 + 2b_1^2 b_3^2 + 2b_1^2 b_4^2 + 2b_2^2 b_3^2 + 2b_2^2 b_4^2 + 2b_3^2 b_4^2 + 2b_3^2 b_2^4.$$

The similarity between (27) and (28) may be interesting.

**Example 2.** Let  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  be given lengths and let  $b_4$  be wanted so that  $\beta_i < 0, i = 1, 2, 3, \beta_4 = 0$ . Thus,  $b_4$  must be  $2r$ . It is easy to prove that  $r$  is the positive root of the equation

$$4r^3 - (b_1^3 + b_2^3 + b_3^3)r - b_1 b_2 b_3 = 0.$$

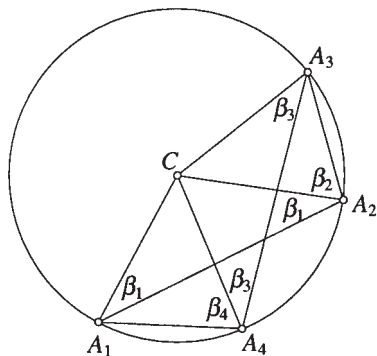


Fig. 8

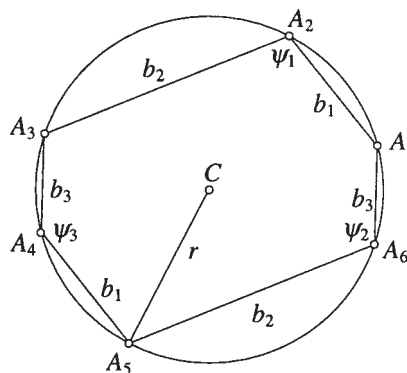


Fig. 9

The situation is as in Fig. 9, where  $b_4 = |A_1 A_4|$ . It may be interesting that the angles  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$ , are required in the following problem:

Let  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  be given distances from a point 0 (Fig. 10). The angles  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$  are required to be so that the area of  $\Delta PQR = \text{maximal}$ .

It is easy to prove that the angles must be equal to the angles  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$  in Fig. 9.

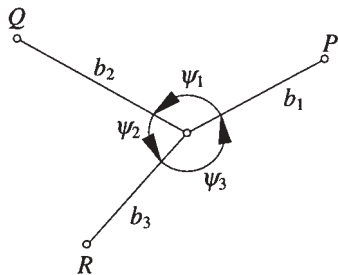


Fig. 10

**Corollary 3.5.** Let  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  be a tangential polygon such that no one of  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  is zero. Then the area of  $A = |rS_1^n|$ , where in  $S_1^n$  stand  $-t_i$  instead of  $t_i$  for each  $\beta_i < 0$ .

If  $A^{(k)} = A_1^{(k)} \dots A_n^{(k)}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  is the  $k$ -tangential polygon whose tangents have the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ , and if  $y_1, \dots, y_m$ , where  $m = \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ , are the positive roots of the equation obtained multiplying the equation

$$S_1^n x^{\bar{n}-1} - S_3^n x^{\bar{n}-3} + S_5^n x^{\bar{n}-5} + \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n = 0$$

by  $(S_1^n)^{\bar{n}-2}$  and putting  $y = xS_1^n$ , then

$$\text{area } A^{(k)} = y_k, k = 1, \dots, m$$

where  $y_1 > y_2 > \dots > y_m$ .

Also, by Vietas formulas, it is valid  $y_1^2 + \dots + y_m^2 = S_1^n S_3^n$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $m, n, q$  be positive integers such that  $n \geq 3$ ,  $mq = n$ , and let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be positive numbers such that

$$t_{i+jm} = t_i, i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, q-1.$$

Then  $S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r)$  is divisible by  $S(t_1, \dots, t_m, r)$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality we may, for simplicity, take an example, say,  $n = 15$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $q = 3$ , since in all other cases it is analogous.

So, in this case we have

$$t_1 = t_6 = t_{11}$$

$$t_2 = t_7 = t_{12}$$

$$t_3 = t_8 = t_{13}$$

$$t_4 = t_9 = t_{14}$$

$$t_5 = t_{10} = t_{15}$$

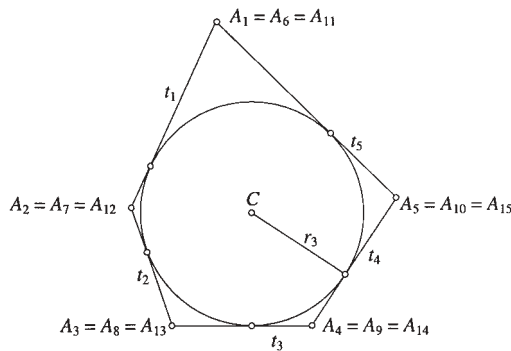


Fig. 11

Since the equation

$$S_1^{15} r^{14} - S_3^{15} r^{12} + S_5^{15} r^{10} - S_7^{15} r^8 + S_9^{15} r^6 - S_{11}^{15} r^4 + S_{13}^{15} r^2 - S_{15}^{15} = 0 \quad (29)$$

has 7 positive roots  $r_k, k = 1, \dots, 7$  there are 7 tangential polygons such that for each  $k \leq 7$  there is one  $k$ -tangential 15-gon whose tangent have the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_{15}$ .

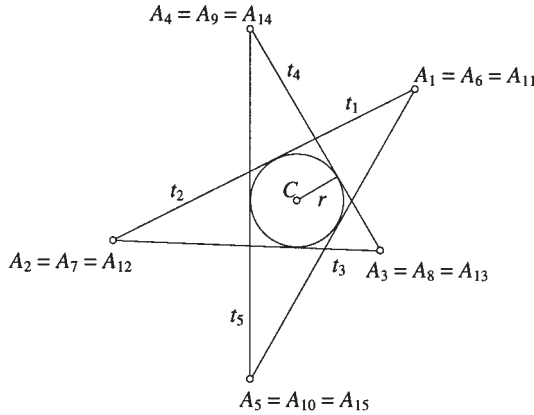


Fig. 12

In Fig. 11 and Fig 12 are showed 3-tangential 15-gon and 5-tangential 15-gon whose tangents have lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_{15}$ . Their radii are the positive roots of the equation

$$S_1^5 r^4 - S_3^5 r^2 + S_5^5 = 0, \tag{30}$$

where  $S_1^5, S_3^5, S_5^5$  are referred to the lengths  $t_1, \dots, t_5$ . Accordingly, the polynomial

$$S_1^{15} x^7 - S_3^{15} x^6 + S_5^{15} x^5 - S_7^{15} x^4 + S_9^{15} x^3 - S_{11}^{15} x^2 - S_{13}^{15} x + S_{15}^{15} x$$

is divisible by the polynomial  $S_1^5 x^2 - S_3^5 x + S_5^5$ .

*Notice 4.* The above corollary is a special case of the following theorem. But it may be useful for better comprehension of the geometrical interpretation of the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $m, n, q$  be positive integers such that  $n \geq 3, mq = n$ , and let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be real numbers different from zero such that

$$t_{i+jm} = t_i, i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, q-1. \tag{31}$$

Then  $S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r)$  is divisible by  $S(t_1, \dots, t_m, r)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  be different from zero and such that

$$\beta_{i+jm} = \beta_i, i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, q-1.$$

Then

$$\frac{\sin(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n)}{\sin \beta_1 \dots \sin \beta_n} = \frac{\sin q(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n)}{(\sin \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n)^q}.$$

Using induction on  $n$  it can be seen that

$$\frac{\sin(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n)}{\sin \beta_1 \dots \sin \beta_n} = C_1^n - C_3^n + C_5^n - \dots + (-1)^s C_n^n.$$

Thus, it is sufficient to show that

$$\frac{\sin q(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m)}{(\sin \beta_1 \dots \beta_m)^q} : \frac{\sin(\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m)}{\sin \beta_1 \dots \beta_m} = F(\cot \beta_1, \dots, \cot \beta_m),$$

where  $F(\cot \beta_1, \dots, \cot \beta_m)$  is a whole function of  $\cot \beta_1, \dots, \cot \beta_m$ .

First it is clear that

$$\frac{\sin q \psi}{\sin(\beta_1 \dots \beta_m)^q} : \frac{\sin \psi}{\sin \beta_1 \dots \beta_m} = \frac{\binom{q}{1} \cos^{q-1} \psi - \binom{q}{3} \cos^{q-3} \psi \sin^2 \psi + \dots}{\sin(\beta_1 \dots \beta_m)^{q-1}},$$

where  $\psi = \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m$ .

Also it is clear that  $\binom{q}{1} \cos^{q-1} \psi - \binom{q}{3} \cos^{q-3} \psi \sin^2 \psi + \dots$  can be written as a sum of the products of the form

$$(\cos^{k_1} \beta_{i_1} \dots \cos^{k_j} \beta_{i_j} \cdot \sin^{k_{j+1}} \beta_{i_{j+1}} \dots \sin^{k_m} \beta_{i_m})^{q-1}$$

where  $i_1, \dots, i_m \in \{1, \dots, m\}, k_1 + \dots + k_m = m$ .

This complete the prof of Theorem 4.

In the following corollaries we shall use some symbols which will be here introduced.

Let  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a sequence, where  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are real numbers. Then by  $S(X, r)$  will be denoted the polynomial  $S(x_1, \dots, x_n, r)$ .

The sequences  $X_1 = (x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_j}), \dots, X_k = (x_{i_p}, \dots, x_n)$  are called a partition of the sequence  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  if there is a bijection

$$f : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$$

such that  $f(u) = v$  implies  $x_u = x_v$  for each  $u = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Corollary 4.1.** Let  $m, n, q$  be positive integers such that  $mq = n$ , and let  $T_1, \dots, T_q$  be a partition of the sequence  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  such that

$$|T_i| = m, i = 1, \dots, q \tag{32}$$

where  $|T_i|$  is the number of members in  $T_i$ . If

$$S_j(T_i) = S_j(T_1), i = 1, \dots, q, j = 1, 3, \dots, \bar{m} \tag{33}$$

then  $S(T_1, r) = S(T_i, r), i = 1, \dots, q$  and

$$S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) \text{ is divisible by } S(T_1, r).$$

**Proof.** Because of (32) and (33) the situation is the same as in the case when (31) holds.

Here are some examples.

**Example 1.** If  $n = 6, m = 3, q = 2$ , and  $t_1 = 1, t_2 = 3, t_3 = \frac{16}{5}, t_4 = 2, t_5 = 4, t_6 = \frac{6}{5}$ , then

$$t_1 + t_2 + t_3 = t_4 + t_5 + t_6, t_1 t_2 t_3 = t_4 t_5 t_6 \tag{34}$$

$$(14.4r^4 - 242.4r^2 + 297.6) : (7.2r^2 - 9.6) = 2r^2 - 31.$$

Generally, if (34) hold, then

$$S_1^6 r^4 - S_3^6 r^2 + S_5^6 = (S_1^3 r^2 - S_3^3)(2r^2 - t_1 t_2 - t_2 t_3 - t_3 t_1 - t_4 t_5 - t_5 t_6 - t_6 t_4)$$

where  $S_1^3 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3, S_3^3 = t_1 t_2 t_3$ .

Especially if  $t_1 = t_4, t_2 = t_5, t_3 = t_6$ , then

$$S_1^6 r^4 - S_3^6 r^2 + S_5^6 = (S_1^3 r^2 - S_3^3)(2r^2 - 2S_2^3).$$

**Example 2.** If  $n = 10, m = 5, t_i = t_{i+5}, i = 1, \dots, 5$ , then

$$S_1^{10} r^8 - S_3^{10} r^6 + S_5^{10} r^4 - S_7^{10} r^2 - S_9^{10} = 2(S_1^5 r^4 - S_3^5 r^2 + S_5^5)(r^4 - S_5^5 r^2 + S_4^5)$$

Analogously holds generally if  $n = 2m$ .

**Corollary 4.2.** Let  $u, v, z$ , be elements of the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  where  $z \geq 3$  is an odd number, and let  $T_1, \dots, T_{u+v}$  be a partition of the sequence  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  such that for each  $i = 1, \dots, u+v$  is valid

$$|T_i| = z \text{ or } |T_i| = z + 1, \tag{35}$$

$$S_j(T_i) = S_j(T_1), j = 1, 3, 5, \dots, z. \tag{36}$$

Then

$$S(T_i, r) = S(T_1, r), i = 1, \dots, u + v \tag{37}$$

$$S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) \text{ is divisible by } S(T_1, r). \tag{38}$$

**Proof.** Since (36) implies (37) and each root of the equation  $S(T_1, r) = 0$  is a root of the equation  $S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) = 0$ , it is clear that (38) must be valid.

The following examples will be discussed in detail.

**Example 1.** If  $n = 7, t_1 = 1, t_2 = 4, t_3 = 7, t_4 = t_5 = t_6 = 1, t_7 = 9$ , then

$$T_1 = (t_1, t_2, t_3), T_2 = (t_4, t_5, t_6, t_7)$$

is a partition of the sequence  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  such that

$$S_1(T_1) = S_1(T_2) = 12, S_3(T_1) = S_3(T_2) = 28,$$

where  $u = v = 1, z = 3$ . The root of the equation  $S(T_1, r) = 0$ , that is of  $12r^2 - 28 = 0$ , is a root of the equation

$$S_1^7 r^6 - S_3^7 r^4 + S_5^7 r^2 - S_7^7 = 0,$$

where  $S_1^7 = 24, S_3^7 = 884, S_5^7 = 2040, S_7^7 = 252$ .

The root  $r = \sqrt{\frac{7}{3}}$  is the radius of the 2-tangential heptagon whose tangents have lengths 1, 4, 7, 1, 1, 1, 9. The radii of 1-tangential and 2-tangential heptagon whose tangents have lengths 1, 4, 7, 1, 1, 1, 9 are the positive solutions of the equation

$$2r^4 - 69r^2 + 9 = 0,$$

where  $(24r^6 - 884r^4 + 2040r^2 - 252) : (12r^2 - 28) = 2r^4 - 69r^2 + 9$ .

**Example 2.** Again let be  $n = 7$ , but  $t_1 = 1, t_2 = -1, t_3 = 2, t_4 = -1, t_5 = t_6 = t_7 = 1$ . Then

$$T_1 = (1, -1, 2), T_2 = (-1, 1, 1, 1)$$

is a partition of  $(1, -1, 2, -1, 1, 1, 1)$  such that

$$S_1(T_1) = S_2(T_2) = 2, S_3(T_1) = S_3(T_2) = -2.$$

Hence  $S(T_1, r) = S(T_2, r) = 2r^2 + 2, S(1, -1, 2, -1, 1, 1, 1) = 4r^6 + 6r^4 - 2$ , and

$$(4r^6 + 6r^4 + 0r^2 - 2) = (2r^4 + r^2 - 1)(2r^2 + 2).$$

In this case there is only one tangential heptagon whose tangents have lengths 1, -1, 2, -1, 1, 1, 1. The radius of its inscribed circle is the positive root of the equation  $2r^4 + r^2 - 1 = 0$ , that is  $r = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ . The equation  $2r^2 + 2 = 0$  has not positive root, i.e. there is not a triangle whose tangents have lengths 1, -1, 2.

Thus, the polynomial  $S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r)$  may be reducible although there is no a tangential polygon whose tangents have given lengths. In this connection let us remark that in the proof of Theorem 4 the only condition for  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  is to be  $\beta_i \neq 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Also, let us remark that converse of Corollary 4.1. and Corollary 4.2. need not be valid. For example, if  $n = 7, t_1 = -1, t_2 = \dots = t_7 = 1$ , then

$$S(-1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, r) = 5r^6 - 5r^4 - 9r^2 + 1$$

$$5r^6 - 5r^4 - 9r^2 + 1 = (5r^4 - 10r^2 + 1)(r^2 + 1).$$

Here the following properties may be interesting.

**Property 1.** Let  $n \geq 3$  be any given integer and let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be such that  $t_1 = -1, t_2 \dots = t_n = 1$ . Then

$$S(-1, 1, \dots, 1, r) \text{ is divisible by } r^2 + 1.$$

**Proof.** If  $n$  is odd, then

$$S_1^n = n - 2, S_j^n = (-1) \binom{n-1}{j-1} + \binom{n-1}{j}, j = 3, 5, \dots, n - 2, S_n^n = -1.$$

From this it can be easily seen that  $r = i$  is a root of the polynomial  $S_1^n r^{n-1} - S_3^n r^{n-3} + \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n$ , where  $s = (1 + 3 + \dots + n) + 1$ .

Also it can easily found that

$$(S_1^n r^{n-1} - S_3^n r^{n-3} + \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n) : (r^2 + 1) =$$

$$= \binom{n-2}{1} r^{n-3} - \binom{n-2}{3} r^{n-5} + \dots + (-1)^s \binom{n-2}{n-2}. \tag{39}$$

Analogously is when  $n$  is an even number.

Thus, if  $n - 2$  is a prim number, then the polynomial on the right side of (39) is irreducible over the field  $\mathbb{Q}$  (rational numbers).

**Property 2.** In the sam way it can be found that generally holds:

If  $t_1 = \dots t_j = -1, t_{j+1} = \dots = t_n = 1, 2j < n$ , then for  $n$  odd

$$(S_1^n r^{n-1} - S_3^n r^{n-3} + \dots + (-1)^s (S_n^n)) : (r^2 + 1)^j =$$

$$= \binom{n-2j}{1} r^{n-1-2j} - \binom{n-2j}{3} r^{n-3-2j} + \dots + (-1)^s \binom{n-2j}{n-2j}.$$

Analogously is when  $n$  is an even number.

For example, if  $n = 8, t = 2$ , then

$$4r^6 + 4r^4 - 4r^2 - 4 = (4r^2 - 4)(r^4 + 2r^2 + 1).$$

Now we state the following two corollaries of Theorem 4.

**Corollary 4.3.** If  $t_i = -t_{i+m}, i = 1, \dots, m$ , where  $n > 2$ , then

$$S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) \text{ is divisible by } S(t_{2m+1}, \dots, t_n, r)$$

For example, the polyomial  $S(1, 2, 3, -1, -2, -3, 1, 1, 1, 2, r)$  can be written as

$$(x^2+1)(x^2+4)(x^2+9)(5r^2-7).$$

**Corollary 4.4.** If  $S_j(t_1, \dots, t_m) = -S_j(t_{m+1}, \dots, t_{2m}), j = 1, 3, \dots, \bar{m}$ , then

$$S(t_1, \dots, t_n, r) \text{ is divisible by } S(t_{2m+1}, \dots, t_n, r).$$

As we see, the Corollary 4.3. in a way corresponds to the Corollary 4.1, and the Corollary 4.4 to the Corollary 4.2.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $A = A_1 \dots A_n$  be a given  $k$ -tangential polygon and let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be the lengths of its tangents. If  $r_k$  is the radius of the inscribed circle into  $A$ , then

$$a \tan(n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2n} \leq r_k \leq b \tan(n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2n}, \tag{40}$$

where  $a = \min \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}, b = \max \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$ .

**Proof.** According to the Definition 2, each  $\beta_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  is either positive or each negative. Let each  $\beta_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ , be positive. Obviously, if  $t_i < t_j$  then  $\beta_i > \beta_j$  and if

$$\beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n = (n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2},$$

then

$$\min \{ \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \} \leq (n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2n},$$

$$\max \{ \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \} \geq (n-2k) \frac{\pi}{2n}.$$

Since  $r_k = t_1 \tan \beta_1 = \dots = t_n \tan \beta_n$  it is clear that the inequalities (40) are valid.

In the same way can be seen that inequalities (40) are valid if each  $\beta_i, i=1, \dots, n$ , is negative.



**Corollary 5.1.** Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be any given positive numbers and let  $r_1, \dots, r_m$  be all positive roots of the equation

$$S_1^n r^{\bar{n}-1} - S_3^n r^{\bar{n}-3} + S_5^n r^{\bar{n}-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n = 0.$$

Then for each  $i = 1, \dots, m$  it is valid

$$a \tan(n - \bar{n} + 1) \frac{\pi}{2n} \leq r_i \leq b \tan(n - 2) \frac{\pi}{2n}.$$

**Corollary 5.2.** Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be any given positive numbers and let the equation

$$S_1^n x^{\bar{n}-1} - S_3^n x^{\bar{n}-3} + S_5^n x^{\bar{n}-5} - \dots + (-1)^s S_n^n = 0$$

be such that  $x = y \tan(n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{2n}$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  where  $m = \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$ . Then for each positive root  $y_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, m$ , of the above equation is valid

$$a \cdot \frac{\tan(n - 2j) \frac{\pi}{2n}}{\tan(n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{2n}} \leq y_j \leq b \cdot \frac{\tan(n - 2j) \frac{\pi}{2n}}{\tan(n - 2k) \frac{\pi}{2n}}.$$

Especially, if  $j = k$ , then  $a \leq y_k \leq b$ .

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## O algebarskim jednadžbama u vezi sa tetivnim i tangencijalnim poligonima

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### SAŽETAK

Dokazana su važna svojstva jednadžbi (11) i (12) (Theorem 1-5) i utvrđeno da su pozitivna rješenja tih jednadžbi polumjeri jednog niza tetivnih odnosno tangencijalnih poligona s istim stranicama odnosno tangentama.

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