

# PROBLEM SOLVING: CIRCLES AND ANGLES IN PLANE GEOMETRY

IGOR A. GANICHEV

BMC, October 29, 2013

## 1. BASIC FACTS AND INTRODUCTORY PROBLEMS

**Theorem 1.1.** *Angle  $\angle ABC$  whose vertices lie on a circle is called inscribed angle. If  $O$  is the center of this circle, then*

$$\angle ABC = \frac{1}{2}\angle AOC$$

*if points  $B$  and  $O$  lie on the same side of  $AC$ , and*

$$\angle ABC = 180^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle AOC$$

*otherwise. The most widely used corollary of this theorem is that equal chords subtend angles that are either equal or give  $180^\circ$  when summed.*

**Theorem 1.2.** *The value of the angle between chord  $AB$  and the tangent to the circle that passes through point  $A$  is equal to half the angle value of arc  $AB$ .*

**Theorem 1.3.** *The angle values of arcs conned between parallel chords are equal.*

**Problem 1.4.** a) From point  $A$  lying outside of a circle, rays  $AB$  and  $AC$  come out and intersect the circle. Prove that the value of angle  $\angle BAC$  is equal to half the difference of the angle measures of the arcs conned inside this angle.

b) The vertex of angle  $\angle BAC$  lies inside the circle. Prove that angle  $\angle BAC$  is equal to half the sum of angle measures of the arcs conned inside angle  $\angle BAC$  and inside the angle symmetric to it with respect to vertex  $A$ .

**Problem 1.5.** From point  $P$  inside acute angle  $\angle BAC$  perpendiculars  $PC_1$  and  $PB_1$  are dropped on lines  $AB$  and  $AC$ , respectively. Prove that  $\angle C_1AP = \angle C_1B_1P$ .

**Problem 1.6.** Prove that all the angles formed by the sides and diagonals of a regular  $n$ -gon are integer multiples of  $\frac{180^\circ}{n}$ .

**Problem 1.7.** The center of an inscribed circle of triangle  $ABC$  is symmetric to the center of the circumscribed circle w.r.t. side  $AB$ . Find the angles of triangle  $\triangle ABC$ .

**Problem 1.8.** The bisector of the exterior angle at vertex  $C$  of triangle  $\triangle ABC$  intersects the circumscribed circle at point  $D$ . Prove that  $|AD| = |BD|$ .

## 2. EQUAL ARCS

**Problem 2.1.** Vertex  $A$  of an acute triangle  $\triangle ABC$  is connected by a segment with the center  $O$  of the circumscribed circle. From vertex  $A$  height  $AH$  is drawn. Prove that  $\angle BAH = \angle OAC$ .

**Problem 2.2.** Two circles intersect at points  $M$  and  $K$ . Lines  $AB$  and  $CD$  are drawn through  $M$  and  $K$ , respectively. They intersect the first circle at points  $A$  and  $C$ , the second circle at points  $B$  and  $D$ , respectively. Prove that  $AC$  is parallel to  $BD$ .

**Problem 2.3.** a) Given a perpendicular angle with center  $O$  and segment  $BC$  is moving such that its vertices stay on different sides of the angle. What is the locus of the midpoint of  $BC$ ? b) Segment  $BC$  is extended into a right triangle  $\triangle ABC$  such that points  $A$  and  $O$  lie on opposite sides of  $BC$ . Show that the locus of point  $A$  is a segment and find its length.

**Problem 2.4.** Diagonal  $AC$  of square  $ABCD$  coincides with the hypotenuse of right triangle  $\triangle ACK$ , so that points  $B$  and  $K$  lie on one side of line  $AC$ . Prove that

$$BK = \frac{|AK - CK|}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } DK = \frac{|AK + CK|}{\sqrt{2}}$$

**Problem 2.5.** Each angle of triangle  $\triangle ABC$  is smaller than  $120^\circ$ . Prove that inside  $\triangle ABC$  there exists a point from which each side of  $\triangle ABC$  is visible at  $120^\circ$ . (This point is known as a Fermat Point or a Torricelli Point and has a number of other interesting properties)

**Problem 2.6.** A circle is divided into equal arcs by  $n$  diameters. Prove that the bases of the perpendiculars dropped from an arbitrary point  $M$  inside the circle to these diameters are vertices of a regular  $n$ -gon.

## 3. ANGLE BETWEEN TWO CHORDS

**Problem 3.1.** Points  $A, B, C, D$  in the indicated order are given on a circle. Let  $M$  be the midpoint of arc  $AB$ . Denote the intersection points of chords  $MC$  and  $MD$  with chord  $AB$  by  $E$  and  $K$ . Prove that  $KECD$  is an inscribed quadrilateral.

**Problem 3.2.** Consider an equilateral triangle. A circle with the radius equal to the triangle's height rolls along a side of the triangle. Prove that the angle measure of the arc cut off the circle by the sides of the triangle is always equal to  $60^\circ$ .

**Problem 3.3.** Points  $A, B, C, D$  in the indicated order are given on a circle; points  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  and  $D_1$  are the midpoints of arcs  $AB, BC, CD$  and  $DA$ , respectively. Prove that  $A_1C_1$  is perpendicular to  $B_1D_1$ .

**Problem 3.4.** Point  $P$  inside triangle  $\triangle ABC$  is taken so that  $\angle BPC = \angle A + 60^\circ$ ,  $\angle APC = \angle B + 60^\circ$ , and  $\angle APB = \angle C + 60^\circ$ . Lines  $AP, BP$  and  $CP$  intersect the circumscribed circle of triangle  $\triangle ABC$  at points  $A', B',$  and  $C'$ , respectively. Prove that triangle  $\triangle A'B'C'$  is an equilateral one.