

## HOLDITCH'S THEOREM FOR CIRCLES IN 2-DIMENSIONAL EUCLIDEAN SPACE

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### ABSTRACT

The present study expresses and proves Holditch's Theorem for two different circles in two-dimensional Euclidean space through a new method.

**Key Words:** *Affine space, Euclidean space, Euclidean circle, Holditch's Theorem*

## 2-BOYUTLU ÖKLİD UZAYINDA ÇEMBER İÇİN HOLDITCH TEOREMİ

### ÖZET

Bu çalışmada, 2-boyutlu Öklid uzayında farklı iki çember için Holditch Teoremi yeni bir metotla ifade ve ispat edilmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** *Afin Uzay, Öklid uzayı, Öklid çemberi, Holditch Teoremi*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In this section we give basic definitions and theorems used in this study.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $A$  be a non-empty set and  $V$  be a vector space on a field  $F$ .

- i. For  $\forall P, Q, R \in A$ ,  $f(P, Q) + f(Q, R) = f(P, R)$ .
- ii. For  $\forall P \in A$  and  $\forall \alpha \in V$ , there is a unique point  $Q \in A$  so that  $f(P, Q) = \alpha$ .

If there is a function  $f: A \times A \rightarrow V$ , satisfying above propositions, then  $A$  is called an Affine space associated to  $V$  [1].

**Definition 1.2** Let  $A$  be a real affine space and let  $V$  be a vector space associated to  $A$ . Using Euclidean inner product operation on  $V$ ,

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \left\langle \vec{X}, \vec{Y} \right\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i, \vec{X} = (x_1, \dots, x_n), \vec{Y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

we can define the metric concepts such as distance and angle in A. Therefore, Affine space A is called a in Euclidean space and is denoted by  $A = E^n$  [1].

**Definition 1.3** The transformation defined by  $\|\cdot\|: IR^n \rightarrow IR^+$

$$\|\vec{X}\| = \sqrt{\langle \vec{X}, \vec{X} \rangle}$$

is called the norm of the vector  $\vec{X}$ .

**Definition 1.4** For  $\forall \vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in IR^n$ , the measure of the angle between  $\vec{X}$  and  $\vec{Y}$  is the real number  $\theta$  derived from

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\langle \vec{X}, \vec{Y} \rangle}{\|\vec{X}\| \|\vec{Y}\|}.$$

**Definition 1.5 (The Pythagoras Theorem)** In a right triangle called  $\triangle ABC$ , if  $\|\vec{AB}\| = c$ ,  $\|\vec{AC}\| = b$ ,  $\|\vec{BC}\| = a$ , then  $a^2 = b^2 + c^2$  (Figure 1.1) [2].

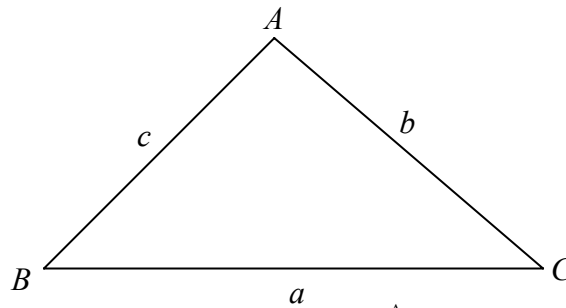


Figure 1.1 Right triangle  $\triangle ABC$

**Definition 1.6** The set of the points in  $E^2$  which are at a distance r from a point M is called a circle with center M and radial length r Euclid circle and is denoted by

$$C = \left\{ X : \|\vec{MX}\| = r, r = \text{constant} \right\} [2].$$

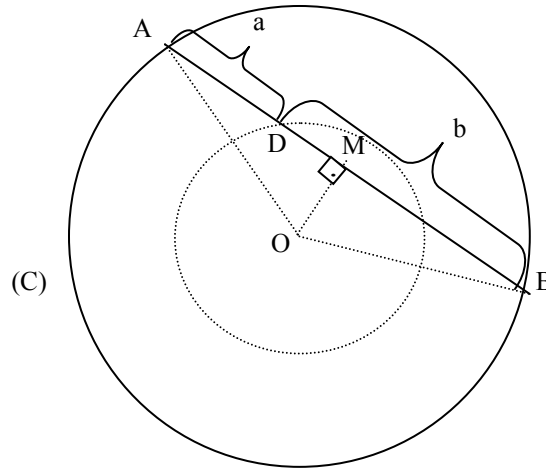
**Definition 1.7** The area of a circle with radius r and with point A on it is

$$A(C_A) = \pi r^2 [2].$$

**Theorem 1.1 (Holditch's Theorem)** Let a chord with constant lengths of  $a+b$  of a closed convex curve  $\alpha$  be divided by a point P on it into two segments with a and b as lengths. Let us move the end-points of the chord so that they will entirely trace the curve. Then, the difference between the sizes of the area bounded by the closed curve drawn by point P and that bounded by the main convex curve  $\alpha$  is  $\pi ab$  [3].

## 2. THE CLASSICAL HOLDITCH THEOREM

**Theorem 2.1** Let an  $AB$  chord with a constant length of  $a+b$  on a circle (C) with a radius  $r$  in Euclidean plane  $E^2$  be divided by a point  $D$  into two segments with lengths of  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively. When the end-points  $A$  and  $B$  of the chord draw the circle in full, then geometric location of  $D$  forms an inner circle (Figure 2.1).



**Figure 2.1** Geometric location of  $D$  on the chord

**Proof.**  $\|AB\| = a + b = 2l = \text{constant}$ . Let  $M$  be the midpoint of  $AB$ . Then,

$$\|AD\| = a$$

$$\|BD\| = b$$

$$\|MA\| = \|MB\| = \frac{a+b}{2} = l.$$

From the right triangle  $\triangle OMA$

$$\|OA\|^2 = \|OM\|^2 + \|MA\|^2$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \|OM\|^2 &= \|OA\|^2 - \|MA\|^2 \\ &= r^2 - \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|MD\| &= b - l \\ &= b - \frac{a+b}{2} \\ &= \frac{b-a}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

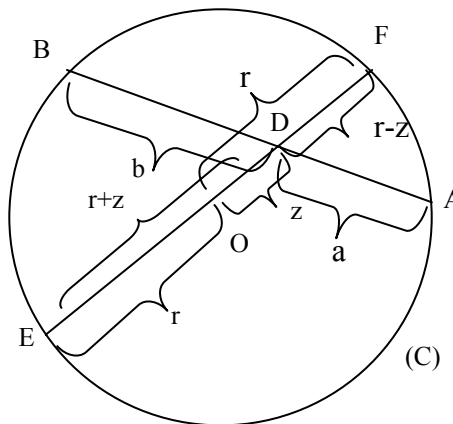
Similarly, from the right triangle  $\triangle OMD$

$$\begin{aligned} \|OD\|^2 &= \|OM\|^2 + \|MD\|^2 \\ &= r^2 - \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^2 \\ &= r^2 - ab. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $r$  are constant,  $\|OD\|$  is also constant. Therefore, the geometric location of  $D$  is a circle with a centre  $O$  and a radial length of  $\sqrt{r^2 - ab}$ .

**Theorem 2.2** Let a chord  $AB$  with a constant length of  $a+b$  on a circle  $(C)$  with a radius  $R$  in Euclidean plane  $E^2$  be divided by a point  $D$  into two segments with lengths of  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively. When the end-points  $A$  and  $B$  of the chord draw the circle in full, the size of the ring-shaped region between the orbit of  $D$  (inner circle) and circle  $(C)$  is independent from the radial length of circle  $(C)$ .

**Proof.** For the radial length  $z = \sqrt{r^2 - ab}$  of the inner circle is and its two chords  $AB$  and  $EF$  intersecting at point  $D$  of circle  $(C)$ , let the chord  $EF$  be the diameter of  $(C)$ . The chords  $AB$  and  $EF$  are divided by  $D$  into line segments whose lengths are  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $r+z$ ,  $r-z$ , respectively (Figure 2.2).



**Figure 2.2** Two chords intersecting in circle  $(C)$

Since the triangles  $\triangle BDE$  and  $\triangle FDA$  in the interior of circle  $(C)$  are similar triangles,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|BD\|}{\|FD\|} &= \frac{\|DE\|}{\|DA\|} \\ \frac{b}{r-z} &= \frac{r+z}{a} \\ ab &= r^2 - z^2 \end{aligned}$$

Since the area of circle  $(C)$  is  $A(C) = \pi r^2$  and the area of the inner circle is  $\pi z^2$ , the area of the ring-shaped region between these two circles is found as

$$\begin{aligned} \pi r^2 - \pi z^2 &= \pi (r^2 - z^2) \\ &= \pi ab \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the size of the ring-shaped region that falls between the orbit of D and circle (C) is independent from the radial length of circle (C).

**Corollary 2.1** The size of the ring-shaped region that falls between the orbit of D and circle (C) is dependent on the selection of point D on the chord; that is, on the segments with lengths of  $a$  and  $b$ .

### 3. HOLDITCH'S THEOREM FOR TWO DIFFERENT CIRCLES IN A 2-DIMENSIONAL EUCLIDEAN SPACE

**Theorem 3.1** For a circle C with a radial length of  $R+a+b$  and a circle  $C'$  with radius  $R < (R+a+b)$ , let an AB rod with a constant length of  $a+b = \text{constant}$ , with end B attached to circle C, and the other end A attached to circle  $C'$  by a joint, be divided by point X on it into two segments with lengths of  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively. When the rod with the constant length of  $a+b = \text{constant}$  draws the circles C and  $C'$  with its end-points within these circles C and  $C'$ , the geometric location of X forms another inner circle (Figure 3.1). During this motion, the relation between the regions bounded by circles is independent from the selection of circles C and  $C'$ .

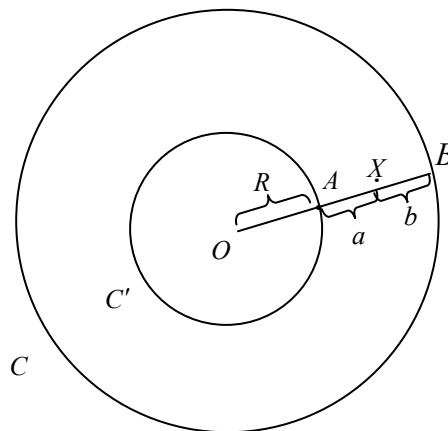


Figure 3.1 Circles in  $E^2$

**Proof.**

$$\|\vec{AX}\| = a, \|\vec{XB}\| = b, \|\vec{OX}\| = R+a$$

The area of circle  $C'$  with a radial length R and with a point A on it is

$$A(C_A) = \pi R^2$$

The area of circle C with a radial length  $R+a+b$  and with a point B on it is

$$A(C_B) = \pi(R+a+b)^2$$

Therefore, the area of the circle, which is the geometric location of point X is

$$A(C_X) = \pi(R+a)^2$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} A(C_B) - A(C_X) &= \pi \left[ (R+a+b)^2 - (R+a)^2 \right] \\ &= \pi b \left[ 2(R+a) + b \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A(C_A) - A(C_X) &= \pi \left[ R^2 - (R+a)^2 \right] \\ &= -\pi a (2R+a) \end{aligned}$$

and by adding these two equations side by side, we get

$$\begin{aligned} A(C_A) + A(C_B) - 2A(C_X) &= \pi \left[ 2(R+a)b + b^2 + R^2 - (R+a)^2 \right] \\ &= \pi \left[ 2Rb + 2ab + b^2 + R^2 - R^2 - 2aR - a^2 \right] \\ &= \pi \left[ 2R(b-a) + 2ab + b^2 - a^2 \right] \\ &= \pi \left[ 2ab + (b-a)(b+a+2R) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$A(C_A) + A(C_B) - 2A(C_X) = \pi \left[ 2ab + (b-a) \left( b+a+2\sqrt{\frac{A(C_A)}{\pi}} \right) \right]$$

**Corollary 3.1** The relation between the regions bounded by circles with radial lengths of  $R$ ,  $R+a$  and  $R+a+b$  is  $a$  and  $b$ ; in other words, it is independent from the rod's motion on the circles.

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