

# Amicable Triangles and Perfect Circles

Michael Sejfried

*ul. Żyzna 11F, PL-42200 Częstochowa, Poland  
email: michael@sejfried.pl*

**Abstract.** This is a contribution to triangle geometry. Two amicable triangles are inscribed in any circle which is related to a reference triangle  $ABC$ . Amicable triangles give rise to some family of circles – so-called perfect circles. In this way it is possible to generalize geometrical objects like the Soddy and Gergonne Line, the Gergonne Point, the Fletcher Point and the points of Eppstein, Griffith, Rigby and Nobbs as well. Amicable triangles and perfect circles have numerous and unusual interesting properties, and only a small part is presented in this article. Some of these results are still lacking of a rigorous mathematical proof; they only have been numerically confirmed.

*Key Words:* triangle geometry, amicable triangles, perfect circles, Soddy Line, Gergonne Point, Gergonne Line, Nobbs Points

*MSC 2010:* 51M04

## 1. Introduction

This paper presents generalizations of several well known geometric objects, whose special cases are described in numerous sources. Despite of an intensive literature recherche, to the author's best knowledge these generalizations seem to be new. This is why references to this article contain only four positions, which I mainly used.

All these considerations take their beginning from two triangles inscribed in any circle accompanying to the reference triangle  $ABC$ . These triangles, which I called *amicable triangles*, allowed me to define some family of circles – *perfect circles*. On their base it was possible to build generalizations of geometrical objects like the Soddy and Gergonne Line, the Gergonne Point, the Fletcher Point and the points of Eppstein, Griffith, Rigby and Nobbs as as well as the pair of other points, which do not exist for the incircle. Amicable triangles and perfect circles have numerous and unusual interesting properties. I have been working on this theme for ten years and I put it together on over 200 pages of my elaborations. This article shows only a small part out of these properties.

## 2. Amicable Triangles

Given any reference triangle  $ABC$ . Let's join each of its vertices  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  with corresponding points  $S_0$ ,  $T_0$  and  $U_0$  lying on the opposite sides. So we obtain the three cevians  $AS_0$ ,  $BT_0$  and  $CU_0$ . These cevians intersect at three points  $K_0$ ,  $L_0$  and  $M_0$  forming a triangle (cevianic triangle), which in special cases according to Ceva's Theorem degenerates to a single point. Let's now circumscribe the circle  $c(O_0, r_0)$  on the triangle  $K_0L_0M_0$  (Fig. 1). Thereafter, let's modify the points  $S_0$ ,  $T_0$  and  $U_0$  along the sides  $BC$ ,  $AC$  and  $AB$  such that the circle  $c(O_0, r_0)$  becomes the incircle of the triangle  $ABC$ . There are exactly two such triples of points  $S$ ,  $T$  and  $U$  as well as  $S_1$ ,  $T_1$  and  $U_1$  for which it is satisfied.

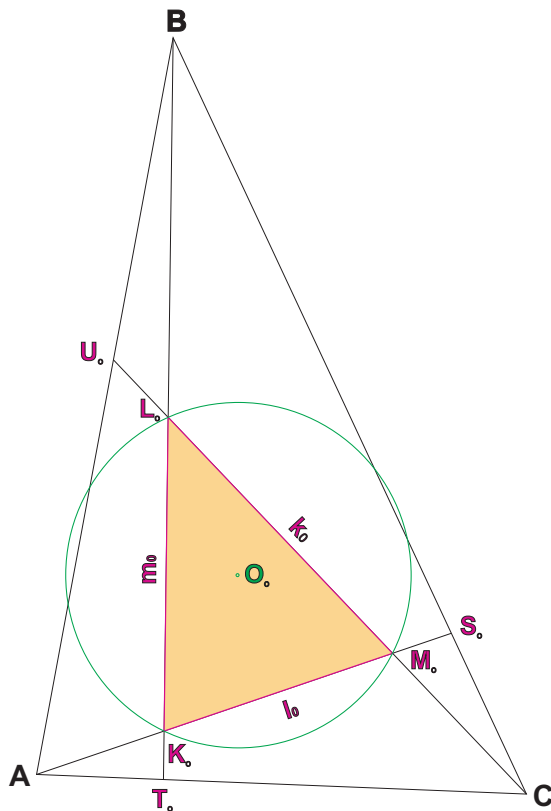


Figure 1: The Golden Theorem

When we set

$$\begin{aligned}
 s &= \frac{|BS|}{|SC|}, & t &= \frac{|CT|}{|TA|}, & u &= \frac{|AU|}{|UB|}, \\
 s_1 &= \frac{|BS_1|}{|S_1C|}, & t_1 &= \frac{|CT_1|}{|T_1A|}, & u_1 &= \frac{|AU_1|}{|U_1B|},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

and  $\varphi$  for the golden mean we obtain a theorem which I called the *Golden Theorem*.

**Theorem 1. Golden Theorem:** *The triangles  $KLM$  and  $K_1L_1M_1$ , which sides lie on six cevians passing pairwise through the vertices of the triangle  $ABC$  and meeting on the incircle of  $ABC$ , define ratios which satisfy*

$$stu = \frac{1}{s_1 t_1 u_1} = \left( \frac{\pm 1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^6 = \varphi^{\pm 6}.
 \tag{2}$$

*The same formula holds also for any ellipse inscribed in the triangle  $ABC$ .*

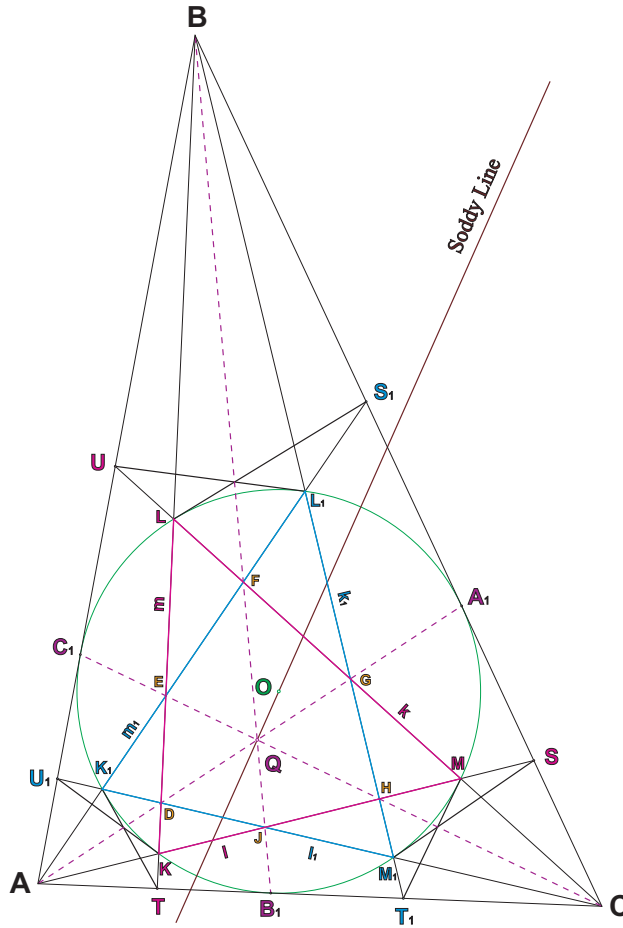


Figure 2: Amicable triangles in the incircle

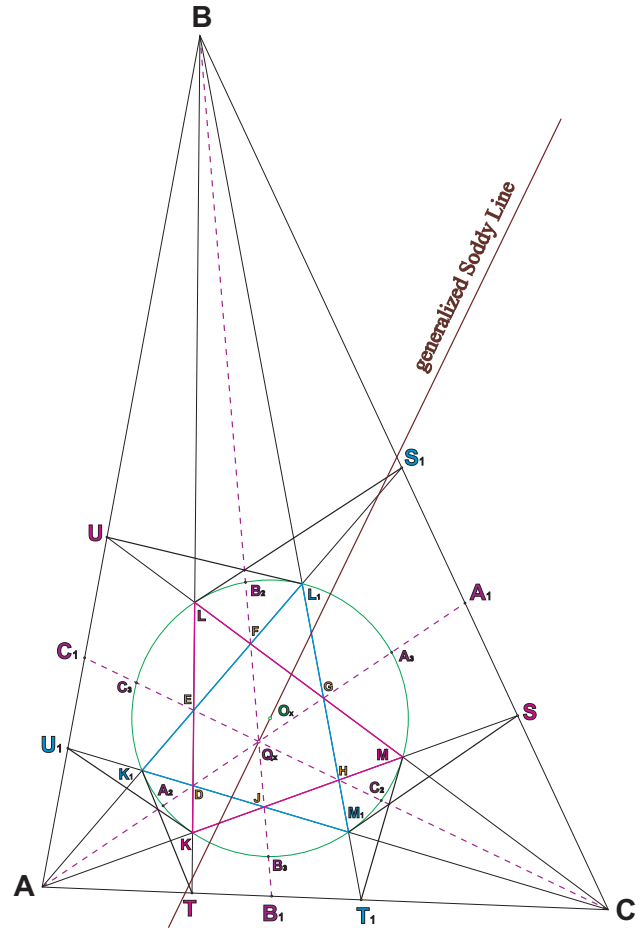


Figure 3: General amicable triangles

The last remark follows by applying an affine transformation.

The two triangles  $KLM$  and  $K_1L_1M_1$  are called *amicable triangles*. They mutually intersect on the cevians  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  called *main cevians*, which meet at the Gergonne Point  $Q$  (Fig. 2).

There exist at least two proofs of the Golden Theorem (2). One originates from Vladimir SHELOMOVSKII [2] and another from the young Chinese mathematician YUMING LI. The second proof — yet unpublished — is based on Ptolemy's Theorem and on harmonic quadrilaterals.

Based on the Golden Theorem we get for  $s, t, u, s_1, t_1$  and  $u_1$  the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 s &= \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(a - b + c)}{(a + b - c)} = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_B}{r_C}, & s_1 &= \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(a - b + c)}{(a + b - c)} = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_B}{r_C}, \\
 t &= \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(b - c + a)}{(b + c - a)} = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_C}{r_A}, & t_1 &= \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(b - c + a)}{(b + c - a)} = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_C}{r_A}, \\
 u &= \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(c - a + b)}{(c + a - b)} = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_A}{r_B}, & u_1 &= \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{(c - a + b)}{(c + a - b)} = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{r_A}{r_B},
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where  $r_A, r_B$  and  $r_C$  are the radii of three mutually tangent vertex circles of the triangle  $ABC$ .

We get then the coordinates of the points  $S, T, U, S_1, T_1,$  and  $U_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_S \\ y_S \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 + \sqrt{5})a - (1 + \sqrt{5})(b - c)} \left[ 2(a + b - c) \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5})(a - b + c) \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ \begin{pmatrix} x_T \\ y_T \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 + \sqrt{5})b - (1 + \sqrt{5})(c - a)} \left[ 2(b + c - a) \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5})(a + b - c) \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ \begin{pmatrix} x_U \\ y_U \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 + \sqrt{5})c - (1 + \sqrt{5})(a - b)} \left[ 2(a - b + c) \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5})(b + c - a) \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_{S_1} \\ y_{S_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 - \sqrt{5})a - (1 - \sqrt{5})(b - c)} \left[ 2(a + b - c) \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5})(a - b + c) \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ \begin{pmatrix} x_{T_1} \\ y_{T_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 - \sqrt{5})b - (1 - \sqrt{5})(c - a)} \left[ 2(b + c - a) \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5})(a + b - c) \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ \begin{pmatrix} x_{U_1} \\ y_{U_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{(5 - \sqrt{5})c - (1 - \sqrt{5})(a - b)} \left[ 2(a - b + c) \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5})(b + c - a) \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

and resulting from above the coordinates of the points  $K, L, M, K_1, L_1,$  and  $M_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_K \\ y_K \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5})bc + (3 + \sqrt{5})(ab - c^2) + (1 + \sqrt{5})a^2(4 + 2\sqrt{5})b^2 + 2ac \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ b^2 - (c - a)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5}) \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_L \\ y_L \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5})ac + (3 + \sqrt{5})(bc - a^2) + (1 + \sqrt{5})b^2(4 + 2\sqrt{5})c^2 + 2ab \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ b^2 - (c - a)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5}) \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_M \\ y_M \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5})ab + (3 + \sqrt{5})(ac - b^2) + (1 + \sqrt{5})c^2(4 + 2\sqrt{5})a^2 + 2bc \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 + 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + (3 + \sqrt{5}) \left[ b^2 - (c - a)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_{K_1} \\ y_{K_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5})ab + (3 - \sqrt{5})(ac - b^2) - (\sqrt{5} - 1)c^2(4 - 2\sqrt{5})a^2 + 2bc \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5}) \left[ b^2 - (c - a)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_{L_1} \\ y_{L_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5})bc + (3 - \sqrt{5})(ab - c^2) - (\sqrt{5} - 1)a^2(4 - 2\sqrt{5})b^2 + 2ac \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5}) \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ b^2 - (a - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_{M_1} \\ y_{M_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{2 \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5})ac + (3 - \sqrt{5})(bc - a^2)(4 - 2\sqrt{5})c^2 - (\sqrt{5} - 1)b^2 + 2ab \right]} \cdot \\ &\quad \left[ (7 - 3\sqrt{5}) \left[ b^2 - (a - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + (3 - \sqrt{5}) \left[ a^2 - (b - c)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + 2 \left[ c^2 - (a - b)^2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The amicable triangles based on the incircle have many interesting properties. Here are two of them:

$$\frac{k^2 + l^2 + m^2}{P_{KLM}} = \frac{k_1^2 + l_1^2 + m_1^2}{P_{K_1L_1M_1}}, \quad \frac{1}{k^2} + \frac{1}{l^2} + \frac{1}{m^2} = \frac{1}{k_1^2} + \frac{1}{l_1^2} + \frac{1}{m_1^2} \quad (8)$$

where  $k, l, m, k_1, l_1, m_1$  are the respective lengths of the sides of the triangles  $KLM$  and  $K_1L_1M_1$  while  $P_{KLM}$  and  $P_{K_1L_1M_1}$  are the surface areas of these triangles. This result has been proved by V. SHELOMOVSKII [2]. The above equations hold also for generalized amicable triangles.

The segments  $A_1S, A_1S_1, B_1T, B_1T_1, C_1U,$  and  $C_1U_1$  have the following property — among numerous other properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|A_1S|} + \frac{1}{|B_1T|} + \frac{1}{|C_1U|} &= \frac{1}{|A_1S_1|} + \frac{1}{|B_1T_1|} + \frac{1}{|C_1U_1|} \\ \frac{1}{|A_1S|^2} + \frac{1}{|B_1T|^2} + \frac{1}{|C_1U|^2} &= \frac{1}{|A_1S_1|^2} + \frac{1}{|B_1T_1|^2} + \frac{1}{|C_1U_1|^2} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

and resulting from these equations:

$$\frac{|A_1S| + |B_1T| + |C_1U|}{|A_1S| + |B_1T| + |C_1U|} = \frac{|A_1S| \cdot |B_1T| \cdot |C_1U|}{|A_1S| \cdot |B_1T| \cdot |C_1U|} \quad (10)$$

I called the pairs of triples of numbers satisfying above and similar equations *quadratic tertionals*. Quadratic tertionals are the form of multigrade equations with negative powers.

### 3. Perfect circles

The tangent lines to the circle  $c(O, r)$  circle at the points  $K, L, M, K_1, L_1,$  and  $M_1$  intersect the sides of the triangle  $ABC$  at the points  $U_1, S_1, T_1, T, U,$  and  $S,$  respectively. This property distinguishes the family of circles with radii  $0 \leq r_x \leq R,$  where  $R$  denotes the radius of the circumcircle of the triangle  $ABC$  (Fig. 4). I called these circles *perfect circles*. The smallest of them is the Fermat Point and the biggest one the circumcircle of  $ABC$ .

The incircle is obviously the perfect circle (Fig. 4). Based on these circles we can generalize the Soddy Line, Circles and Points, the Gergonne Point and Line, Griffiths, Rigby and Nobbs Points. We can also define the other points, which don't exist for the incircle of the triangle  $ABC$ .

The perfect circle can be also defined through following equations:

$$\frac{s}{s_1} = \frac{t}{t_1} = \frac{u}{u_1} = \Psi = (s \cdot t \cdot u)^{\frac{2}{3}} \quad (11)$$

The coordinates of the vertices of the both amicable triangles based on perfect circles can be presented using the cubic root of the product of  $stu$  and all three radii of the generalized vertex circles  $r_{A_p}, r_{B_p}$  and  $r_{C_p}$ . The cubic root of  $stu$  appears here in the first and second power.

The following equations have been calculated using the program Mathematica.

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{pmatrix} x_K \\ y_K \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} + r_{A_p} r_{C_p} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{A_p} r_{B_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_L \\ y_L \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} + r_{A_p} r_{B_p} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{B_p} r_{C_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right] \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_M \\ y_M \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} + r_{B_p} r_{C_p} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{A_p} r_{C_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^2} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{stu} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{pmatrix} x_{K_1} \\ y_{K_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} + r_{B_p} r_{C_p} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{A_p} r_{C_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} \right] \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_{L_1} \\ y_{L_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} + r_{A_p} r_{C_p} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{A_p} r_{B_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_{M_1} \\ y_{M_1} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} + r_{A_p} r_{B_p} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{B_p} r_{C_p}} \cdot \\
&\quad \left[ \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-2}} r_{A_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p} r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt[3]{(stu)^{-1}} r_{B_p} r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

For each perfect circle the points  $S, T, U, S_1, T_1,$  and  $U_1$  are located on the ellipse, whose foci lie on the generalized Soddy Line. Any line passing through the generalized Gergonne Point intersects this ellipse in two points. The both tangent lines to this ellipse in those points intersect on the generalized Gergonne Line.

The generalized Soddy Line is always perpendicular to the generalized Gergonne Line and cuts it at the generalized Fletcher Point.

Each perfect circle can still be defined in a different way – without being based on amicable triangles. Let's draw three pairs of cevians coming out of all three vertices of the triangle  $ABC$  and tangent to the circle  $c(O, r)$  on the left and on the right. Let's denote the six tangents as follows:  $t_{A_l}, t_{A_r}, t_{B_l}, t_{B_r}, t_{C_l},$  and  $t_{C_r}$ . These tangents intersect mutually in twelve points. On each cevian there are four points of intersection with other cevians, but only every second and third of these points are significant for us.

Let's denote these points (intersections)  $I_{A_l B_r} = C_4, I_{A_l C_r} = B_5, I_{B_l C_r} = A_4, I_{B_l A_r} = C_5, I_{C_l A_r} = B_4,$  and  $I_{C_l B_r} = A_5$ . The points  $I_{C_l B_r}$  and  $I_{B_l C_r}$  lie on the line  $\alpha$ , the points  $I_{A_l C_r}$  and  $I_{C_l A_r}$  on the line  $\beta$ , and the points  $I_{B_l A_r}$  and  $I_{A_l B_r}$  on the line  $\gamma$ . Let's move now the circle  $c(O, r)$  circle so that the lines  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  pass through the vertices  $A, B$  and  $C$ , respectively (Fig. 5). We need only two coincidences of them. At this moment the circle  $c(O, r)$  becomes a perfect circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$ . The lines  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  meet at one point  $Q_x$ , the generalized Gergonne Point. The tangent lines  $t_{A_l}, t_{A_r}, t_{B_l}, t_{B_r}, t_{C_l},$  and  $t_{C_r}$  passing through the vertices  $A, B$  and  $C$  are tangent to the perfect circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $A_L, A_R, B_L, B_R, C_L,$  and  $C_R$ .

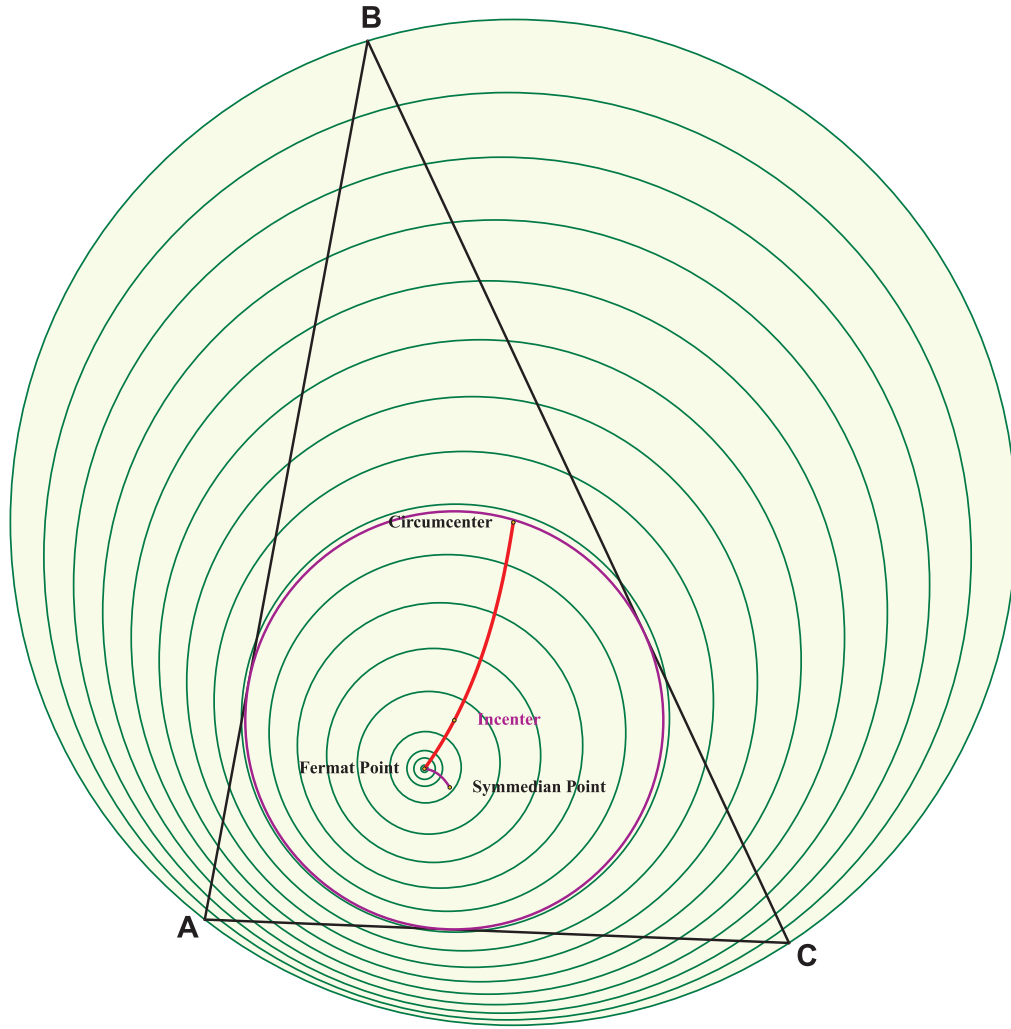


Figure 4: Locus of incenters of all perfect circles

So we obtain six triples of collinear points:  $\{A_1, B_L, C_L\}$ ,  $\{A_1, C_R, B_R\}$ ,  $\{B_1, C_L, A_L\}$ ,  $\{B_1, A_R, C_R\}$ ,  $\{C_1, A_L, B_L\}$  and  $\{C_1, B_R, A_R\}$  (Fig. 5). Denoting the lengths of the line segments connecting the vertices with the points of their tangency to the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  by  $r_{A_L} = r_{A_R} = r_{A_p}$ ,  $r_{B_L} = r_{B_R} = r_{B_p}$ ,  $r_{C_L} = r_{C_R} = r_{C_p}$  we get:

$$s \frac{r_{C_p}}{r_{B_p}} = t \frac{r_{A_p}}{r_{C_p}} = u \frac{r_{B_p}}{r_{A_p}} = \sqrt[3]{stu} \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{r_{B_p}}{r_{A_p}} = \sqrt{ss_1}, \quad \frac{r_{C_p}}{r_{A_p}} = \sqrt{tt_1}, \quad \frac{r_{A_p}}{r_{B_p}} = \sqrt{uu_1}.$$

The trilinear coordinates of the generalized Gergonne Point  $Q_x$  are then:

$$\alpha : \beta : \gamma = \frac{bc}{r_{A_p}} : \frac{ca}{r_{B_p}} : \frac{ab}{r_{C_p}} \tag{15}$$

and using the Cartesian coordinates we get:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{Q_x} \\ y_{Q_x} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{r_{B_p}r_{C_p} + r_{A_p}r_{C_p} + r_{A_p}r_{B_p}} \left[ r_{B_p}r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ y_A \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p}r_{C_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_B \\ y_B \end{pmatrix} + r_{A_p}r_{B_p} \begin{pmatrix} x_C \\ y_C \end{pmatrix} \right] \tag{16}$$

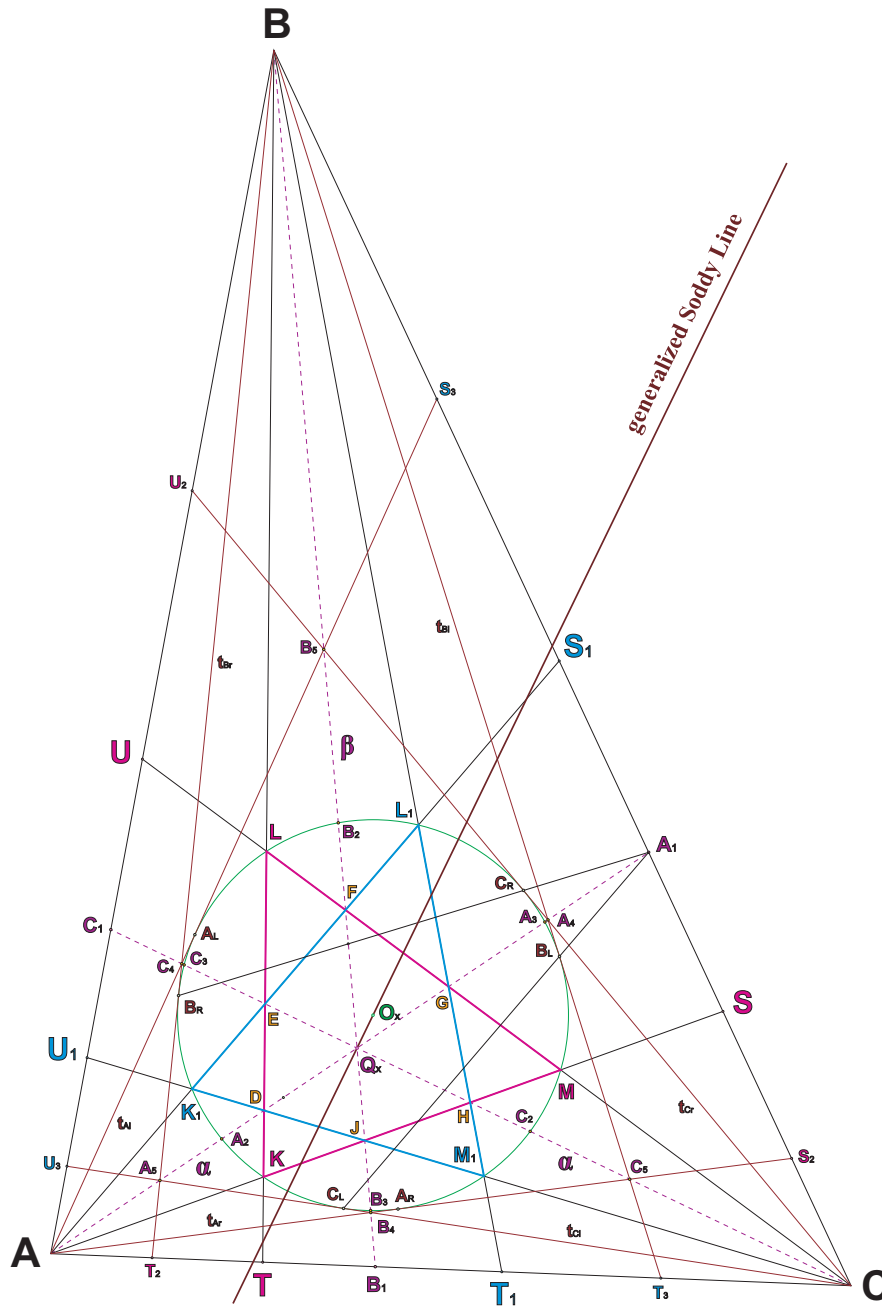


Figure 5: Alternate definition of perfect circles

The centers  $O_x$  of the perfect circles  $c(O_x, r_x)$  belonging to the same family lie on the curve connecting the Fermat Point  $F_P$  ( $r_x = 0$ ) with the circumcenter ( $r_x = R$ ) (Fig. 5). The locus of the generalized Gergonne Points  $Q_x$  is the curve beginning at the Fermat Point and ending at the Symmedian Point  $S_P$ .

The lines  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  intersect the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at two points each:  $\alpha$  at  $A_2$  and  $A_3$ ,  $\beta$  at  $B_2$  and  $B_3$  and  $\gamma$  at  $C_2$  and  $C_3$ . Let's define the following three cross ratios:  $[A, A_2, A_3, A_1]_c$ ,  $[B, B_2, B_3, B_1]_c$  and  $[C, C_2, C_3, C_1]_c$  as  $c_{rn} = |NN_3| \cdot |N_2N_1| / (|NN_2| \cdot |N_3N_1|)$ . The values of these ratios are not only equal but they are also maximal from all values of cross ratios based on the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  circle and on the sides  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  of the reference triangle  $ABC$  (Fig. 5). All other cross ratios in this paper are used in the same form as  $c_{rn}$ . It is worth noting, that



for any triangle  $KLM$  (not necessarily inscribed in a perfect circle) we get:

$$[A, K, M, S]_c = [B, L, K, T]_c = [C, M, L, U]_c = stu. \quad (17)$$

Each perfect circle has an interesting property:

$$stu = \left(\frac{s}{s_1}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = \left(\frac{t}{t_1}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = \left(\frac{u}{u_1}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}. \quad (18)$$

#### 4. Further properties

Let's draw the ellipse  $e_A$  tangent to the sides  $b$  and  $c$  of the triangle  $ABC$  at the points  $T$  and  $U_1$  and simultaneously passing through the point  $A_1$ . It turns out that the ellipse  $e_A$  is also tangent to the side  $a$  at this point. The remaining two ellipses  $e_B$  and  $e_C$  have the same property. However it happens only if the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  circle is the perfect circle in the triangle  $ABC$ .

The tangent line  $t_{A_1}$  intersects the ellipses  $e_A$ ,  $e_B$  and  $e_C$  at the points  $\{A_{LA_1}, A_{LA_2}\}$ ,  $\{A_{LB_1}, A_{LB_2}\}$  and  $\{A_{LC_1}, A_{LC_2}\}$ . We also get  $\{A_{RA_1}, A_{RA_2}\}$ ,  $\{A_{RB_1}, A_{RB_2}\}$  and  $\{A_{RC_1}, A_{RC_2}\}$  for  $t_{A_r}$ . For both remaining vertices there are:  $\{B_{LA_1}, B_{LA_2}\}$ ,  $\{B_{LB_1}, B_{LB_2}\}$  and  $\{B_{LC_1}, B_{LC_2}\}$  for  $t_{B_1}$ ,  $\{B_{RA_1}, B_{RA_2}\}$ ,  $\{B_{RB_1}, B_{RB_2}\}$  and  $\{B_{RC_1}, B_{RC_2}\}$  for  $t_{B_r}$ ,  $\{C_{LA_1}, C_{LA_2}\}$ ,  $\{C_{LB_1}, C_{LB_2}\}$  and  $\{C_{LC_1}, C_{LC_2}\}$  for  $t_{C_1}$  and  $\{C_{RA_1}, C_{RA_2}\}$ ,  $\{C_{RB_1}, C_{RB_2}\}$  and  $\{C_{RC_1}, C_{RC_2}\}$  for  $t_{C_r}$ .

The points  $B_{RA_2}$  and  $B_{LA_2}$  lie on the line  $AS$  and the points  $C_{LA_2}$  and  $C_{RA_2}$  on the line  $AS_1$ . We find same properties for the lines  $BT$ ,  $BT_1$ ,  $CU$  and  $CU_1$ .

Among all circles  $c(O_x, r_x)$  there are at least five, which can be defined as special cases:

- Fermat Point ( $r_x = 0$ ,  $stu = 1$ ),
- Circle I ( $stu = 2 + \sqrt{5}$ ),
- Circle II ( $stu = 8$ ),
- Incircle ( $r_x = r$ ,  $stu = \varphi^6$ ),
- Circumcircle ( $r_x = R$ ,  $stu = \infty$ ).

The Fermat Point, the incircle and circumcircle do not require any comment, but also the Circles I and II (Fig. 6) have very interesting properties. For the Circle I there are:

- the lines  $ST$ ,  $TU$  and  $US$  are tangent to the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $M_1$ ,  $K_1$  and  $L_1$ ;
- the lines  $S_1T_1$ ,  $T_1U_1$  and  $U_1S_1$  are tangent to  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $M$ ,  $K$  and  $L$ ;
- the quadruplets of points  $\{A_1, M, M_1, B_1\}$ ,  $\{B_1, K, K_1, C_1\}$ ,  $\{C_1, L, L_1, A_1\}$  and the sextuplets of points  $\{T, C_L, J, G, C_R, S_1\}$ ,  $\{U, A_L, E, J, A_R, T_1\}$ ,  $\{S, B_L, G, E, B_R, U_1\}$  are collinear;

and for the Circle II (Fig. 6):

- the lines  $SB_1$ ,  $TC_1$ ,  $UA_1$ ,  $S_1C_1$ ,  $T_1A_1$  and  $U_1B_1$  are tangent to the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $M_1$ ,  $K_1$ ,  $L_1$ ,  $L$ ,  $M$  and  $K$ ;
- the cross ratios  $[A, U_3, U_2, B]_c$ ,  $[B, S_3, S_2, C]_c$ ,  $[C, T_3, T_2, A]_c$  are all  $17 + 12\sqrt{2}$ ;
- the ellipse  $e_A$  tangent to the triangle  $ABC$  triangle at the points  $T$ ,  $U_1$  and  $A_1$  is tangent to the circle  $c(O_x, r_x)$  circle at the points  $L$  and  $M_1$ ;
- the ellipse  $e_B$  tangent to  $ABC$  at the points  $U$ ,  $S_1$  and  $B_1$  is tangent to  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $M$  and  $K_1$ ;

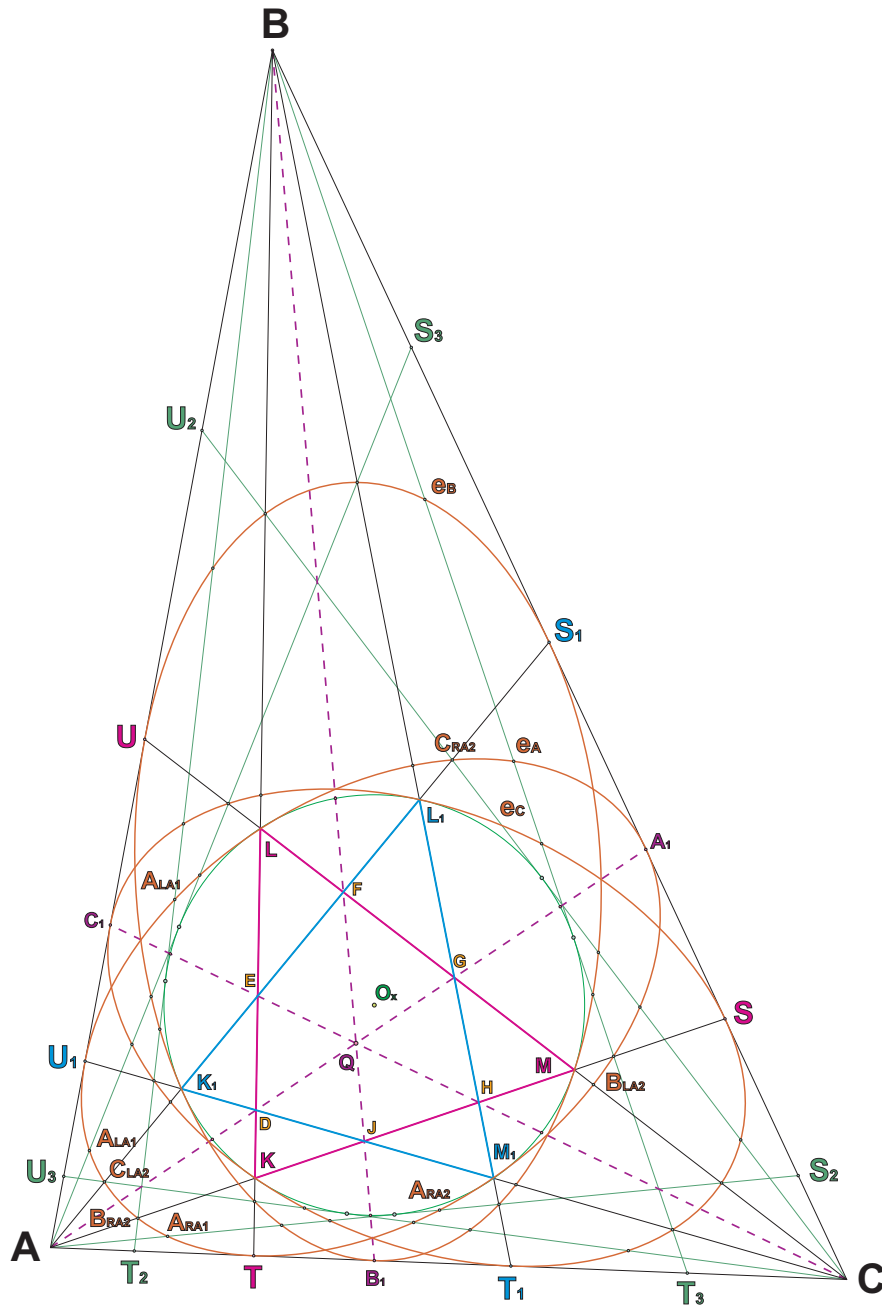


Figure 6: Special case of amicable triangles

- the ellipse  $e_C$  tangent to  $ABC$  at the points  $S, T_1$  and  $C_1$  is tangent to  $c(O_x, r_x)$  at the points  $K$  and  $L_1$ ;
- the cross ratios satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}
 [A, B_{RA_2}, B_{LA_2}, S]_c &= [A, C_{LA_2}, C_{RA_2}, S_1]_c = 17 + 12\sqrt{2} \\
 &= [A, A_{RA_1}, A_{RA_2}, S_2]_c^2 = [A, A_{LA_1}, A_{LA_2}, S_3]_c^2;
 \end{aligned}$$

similarly for the other vertices  $B$  and  $C$ ;

- the ellipse tangent to the sides  $a, b$  and  $c$  at the points  $A_1, B_1$  and  $C_1$  is also tangent to the lines  $TU_1, US_1, ST_1$  and passes through 15 other special points in the triangle  $ABC$ ;

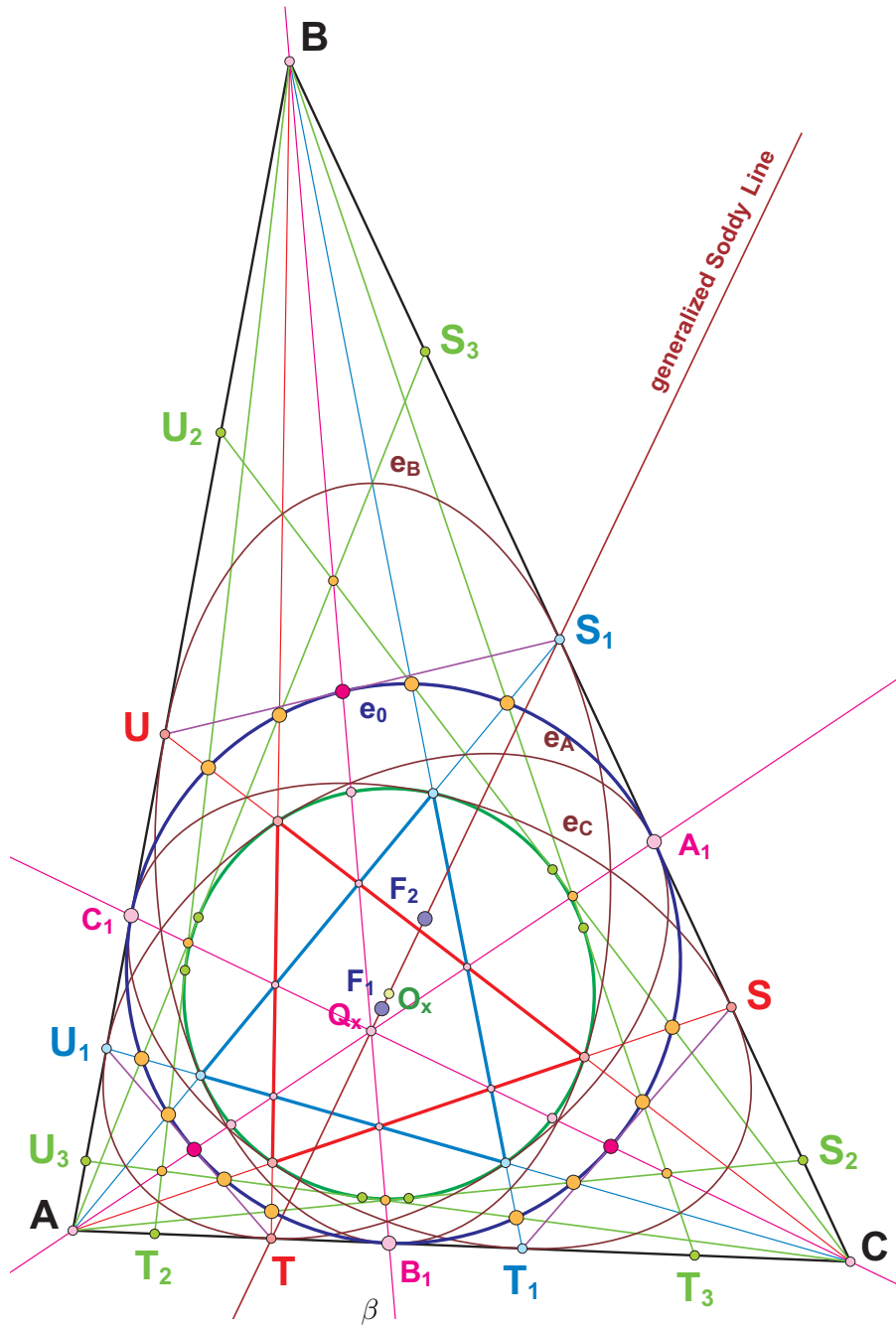


Figure 7: Special case of amicable triangles and their properties

the both foci  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of this ellipse lie on the generalized Soddy Line and we get the following equation which holds for any perfect circle):  $|O_x F_1|/|O_x F_2| = |Q F_1|/|Q F_2|$  (Fig. 7).

The Nobbs Points  $O_{A_1}$ ,  $O_{B_1}$  and  $O_{C_1}$  are the points of convergence of three groups of the lines related to the incircle of the triangle  $ABC$  triangle and especially to three main cevians  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$ . In case of incircle all three Nobbs Points are collinear and lie on the Gergonne Line. The first Nobbs Point  $O_{A_1}$  lies on the extension of the side  $a$ , the second  $O_{B_1}$  on the extension of the side  $b$ , and the last one  $O_{C_1}$  on the extension of the side  $c$  of the reference triangle  $ABC$ . Let's draw the midpoints of the segments  $ML_1$ ,  $M_1L$  and  $KK_1$

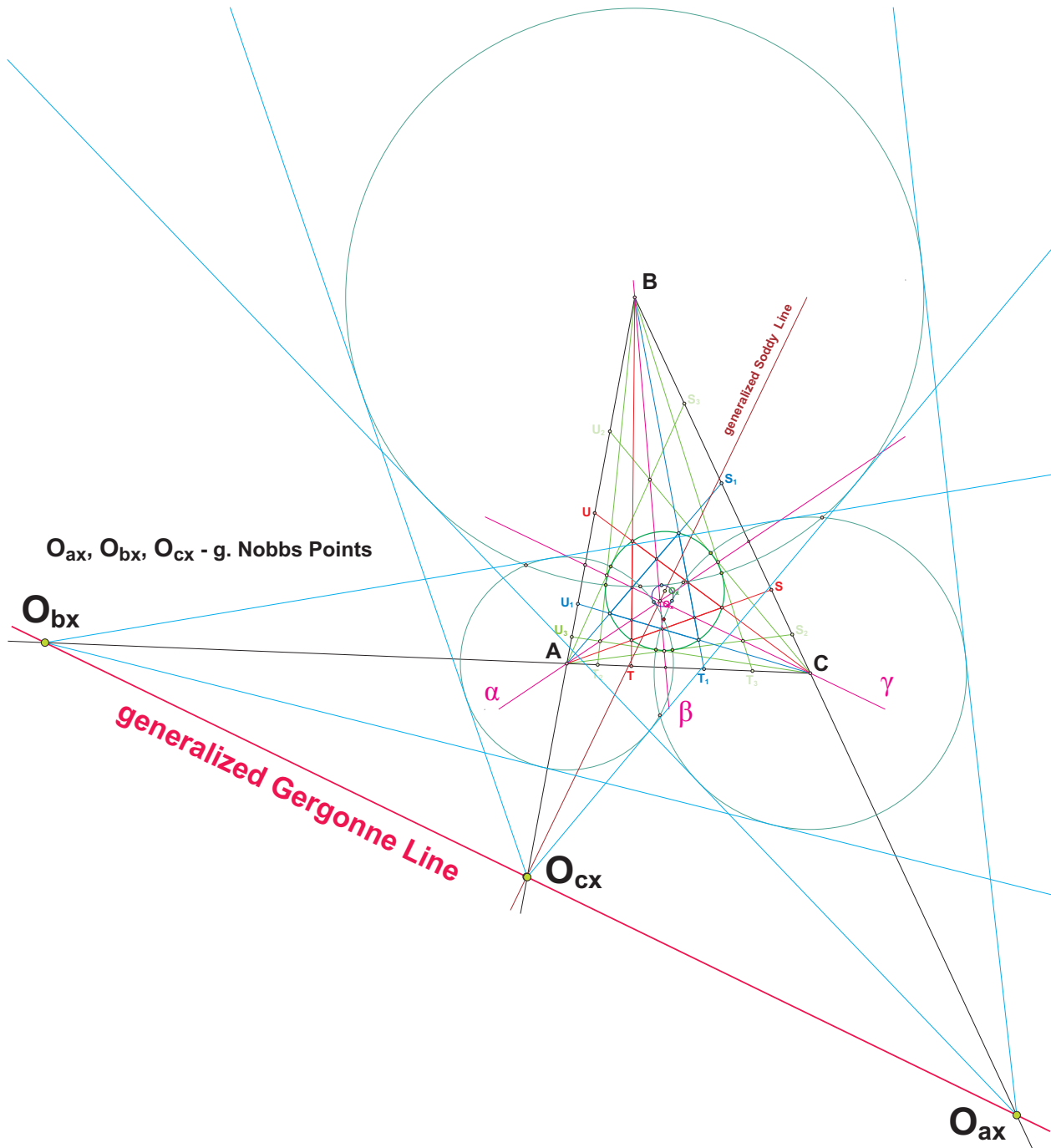


Figure 8: The vertical circles of perfect circles and common tangents

and call them  $V_{ML_1}$ ,  $V_{M_1L}$  and  $V_{KK_1}$ . Now, let's draw the circle  $c(V_{ML_1}, V_{M_1L}, V_{KK_1})$  passing through these points. It turns out, that this circle passes also through the incenter  $O$  and through the points  $A_1, A_2$  and the Nobbs Point  $O_{A_1}$ , as well. These properties hold for each perfect circle. We get here the *generalized Nobbs Points*.

We ask now, where lies the center  $O_A$  of the circle  $c(V_{ML_1}, V_{M_1L}, V_{KK_1})$ ? The center  $O_A$  is the midpoint of the line segment  $O_{AS_1}O$ . All three circles  $c(V_{ML_1}, V_{M_1L}, V_{KK_1})$ ,  $c(V_{KM_1}, V_{K_1M}, V_{LL_1})$  and  $c(V_{LK_1}, V_{L_1K}, V_{MM_1})$  intersect at two points: at the incenter  $O$  and at the Fletcher Point  $Fl$  – the point of intersection of the Soddy Line and the Gergonne Line.

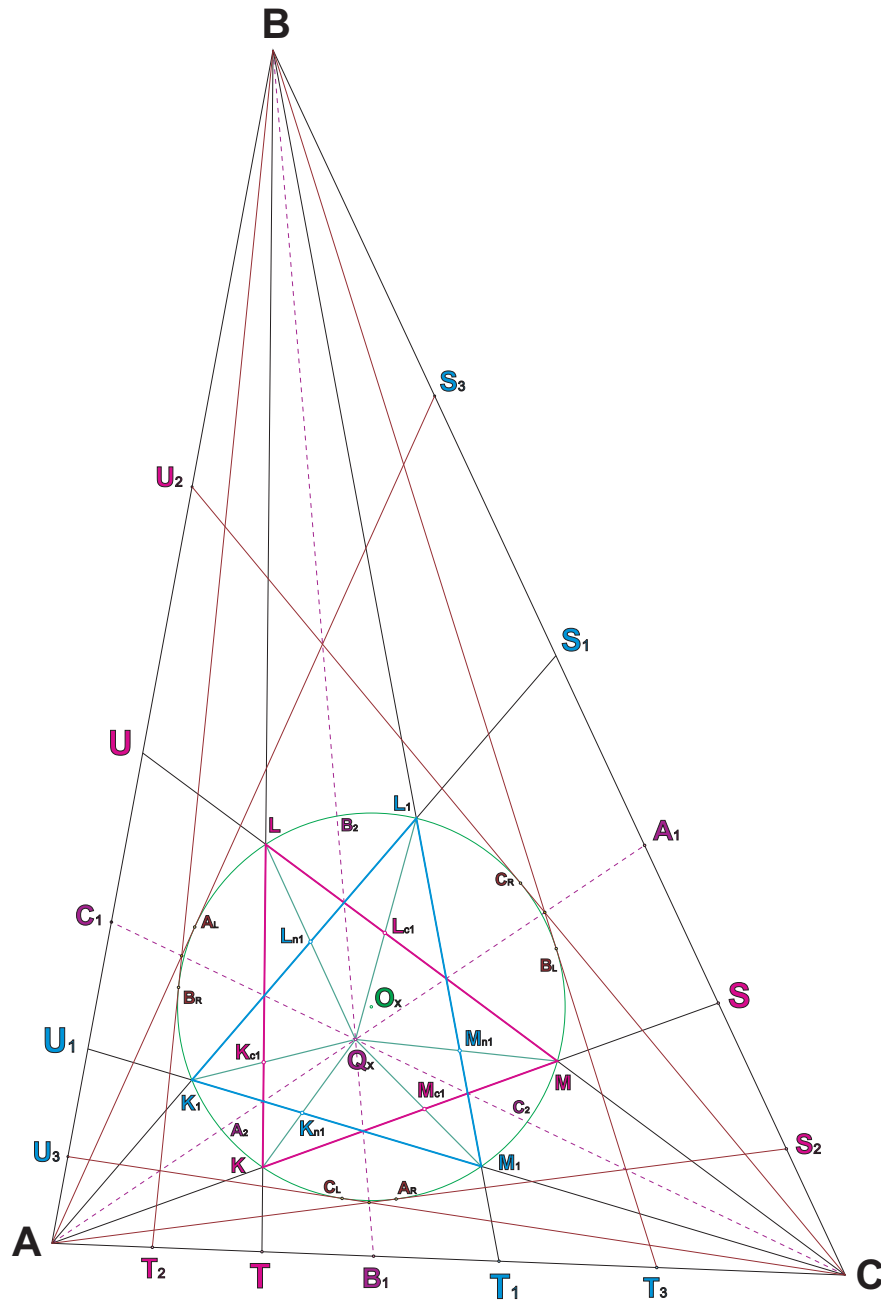


Figure 9: One of the various properties of perfect circles

All described above holds also for any perfect circle (Fig. 8), but with the points  $A_3$ ,  $B_3$  and  $C_3$  instead of  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$  and  $C_1$ , respectively, which in case of the incircle cover mutually.

The lines tangent to each perfect circle at the points  $N_2$  and  $N_3$  intersect at the generalized Nobbs points  $O_{N_1}$  lying on the side  $n$  (or its extension) of the triangle  $ABC$ . For each (not necessarily perfect) circle we get the very important equation:

$$[O_{A_1}, C, A_1, B]_c = [O_{B_1}, A, B_1, C]_c = [O_{C_1}, B, C_1, A]_c = 2. \tag{19}$$

Both amicable triangles in each perfect circle have common Brocard Points, but the first Brocard Point for one of the triangles is the second Brocard Point for the other triangle.

Let's take the pair of amicable triangles (always based on any perfect circle) and let's connect the generalized Gergonne Point  $Q_x$  with all vertices of these triangles (Fig. 9). We get six line segments:  $QK, QL, QM, QK_1, QL_1$  and  $QM_1$ . Each of them intersects one of the sides  $l_1, m_1, k_1, m, k$  and  $l$  at the respective points  $K_{n_1}, L_{n_1}, M_{n_1}, K_{c_1}, L_{c_1}$  and  $M_{c_1}$ . We obtain the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|QK_{n_1}|}{|K_{n_1}K|} + \frac{|QL_{n_1}|}{|L_{n_1}L|} + \frac{|QM_{n_1}|}{|M_{n_1}M|} &= \frac{|QK_{c_1}|}{|K_{c_1}K|} + \frac{|QL_{c_1}|}{|L_{c_1}L|} + \frac{|QM_{c_1}|}{|M_{c_1}M|} \\ &= \sigma_Q(r_x) = \frac{s + s_1}{\sqrt{s + s_1}} = \frac{t + t_1}{\sqrt{t + t_1}} = \frac{u + u_1}{\sqrt{u + u_1}}. \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

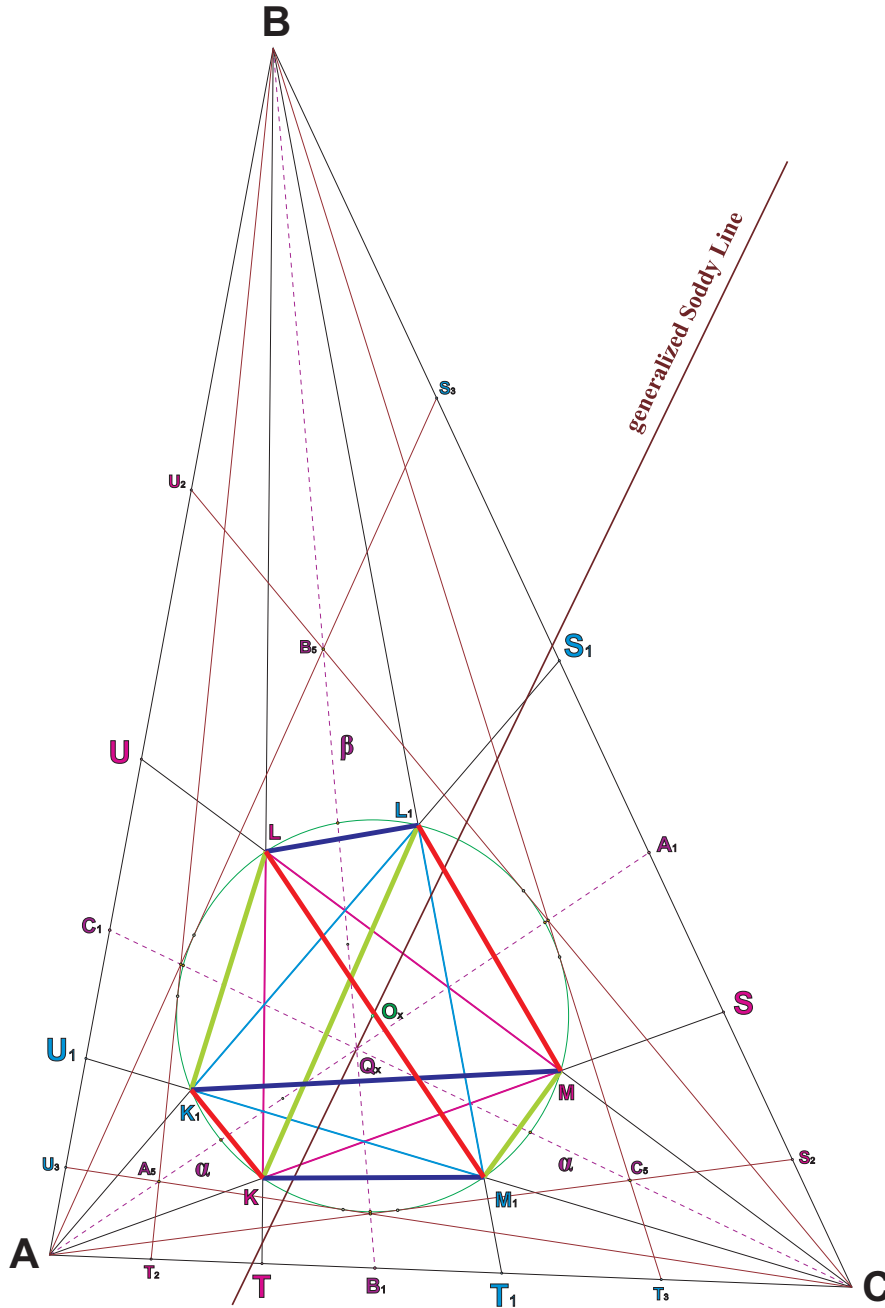


Figure 10: The cevianic triangle  $KLM$  and its 'amigo'  $K_1L_1M_1$

The following three properties I'd like to present in this paper are based on the cevianic triangle  $KLM$  and its 'amigo'  $K_1L_1M_1$  (see Fig. 10). The first property holds for each circle:

$$\frac{|AK|}{|AK_1|} \cdot \frac{|BL|}{|BL_1|} \cdot \frac{|CM|}{|CM_1|} = 1. \quad (21)$$

However, the second and third property are fulfilled only for perfect circles:

$$|KK_1| \cdot |M_1L| \cdot |ML_1| = |LL_1| \cdot |K_1M| \cdot |KM_1| = |MM_1| \cdot |L_1K| \cdot |LK_1|. \quad (22)$$

$$\frac{|KM_1|}{|KK_1|} \cdot \frac{|LK_1|}{|LL_1|} \cdot \frac{|ML_1|}{|MM_1|} = stu. \quad (23)$$

The perfect circles allow to generalize many points and lines related to the incircle. Under the generalizations almost all properties of these objects are preserved from the special case – also the modes of construction.

We conclude with two theorems:

**Theorem 2.** *The amicable triangles  $KLM$  and  $K_1L_1M_1$  have a common Symmedian Point, which coincides with the generalized Gergonne Point  $Q_x$  of the reference triangle  $ABC$ .*

**Theorem 3.** *The amicable triangles  $KLM$  and  $K_1L_1M_1$  share also other triangle centers (according to Clark Kimberling's Encyclopedia [1], in particular the first isodynamic point  $X_{15}$ , the second isodynamic point  $X_{16}$ , the third power point  $X_{32}$ , the Brocard midpoint  $X_{39}$ , the first isogonal conjugate point  $X_{61}$ , the second isogonal conjugate point  $X_{62}$ , the midpoint  $X_{182}$  of the Brocard diameter  $X_3X_6$ , and the Schoute Center  $X_{187}$ .*

## References

- [1] C. KIMBERLING: *Encyclopedia of Triangle Centers and Central Triangles*. Available at <http://faculty.evansville.edu/ck6/encyclopedia/ECT.html>.
- [2] M. SEJFRIED, V.V. SHELOMOVSKII: *Elementary proof of Sejfriedian properties*. Proc. 17th Asian Technology Conference in Mathematics ATCM, Bangkok 2012, pp. 342–352.
- [3] E.W. WEISSTEIN: *CRC Concise Encyclopedia of Mathematics*. Chapman & Hall, 2003.
- [4] [www.mathworld.wolfram.com](http://www.mathworld.wolfram.com)

Received August 3, 2012; final form March 18, 2013