

Landscape Block Circle Algorithm : Inscribe in an Equilateral Triangle

R_m the minimum R_s

Given: equilateral triangle (P1,P2,P3) with sides of length a

Determine: radius r or inscribed circle

- radii $\{(P4,P7),(P5,P7), (P6,P7)\}$ of length r will split triangle P1,P2,P3 with sides of length a into four smaller triangles of with side of length $a/2$
- all of these triangles will have angles of 60 degrees
- since angle P4, P5, P6 are equally spaced radii in a circle around P7, so dividing 360 by 3 gives 120 degrees for angle P5,P7,P6.

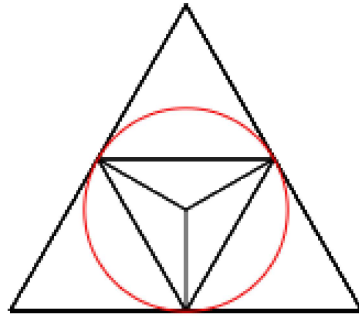


Diagram 1 - Inscribed Circle

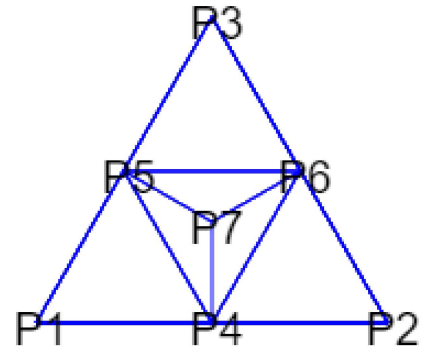


Diagram 2 - Points

- the law of cosines states $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab\cosine(\gamma)$ with γ being the angle opposite of side C in any triangle with other sides of length a and b.
- substituting $a/2$ for c; r for a and b; and 120° for γ to represent triangle P5,P6,P7 gives $(a/2)^2 = r^2 + r^2 - 2rr\cosine(\gamma)$

- $a^2/4 = 2r^2 - 2r^2\cosine(120^\circ)$

- $a^2/4 = 2r^2(1 - \cosine(120^\circ))$

- $a^2/(4 \cdot 2(1 - \cosine(120^\circ))) = 2r^2$; note \cdot indicates multiplication

- $r = \sqrt{(a^2/(4 \cdot 2(1 - \cosine(120^\circ))))}$; note \sqrt indicates square root

- $r = \sqrt{(a^2/(8(1 - \cosine(120^\circ))))}$; note \sqrt indicates square root

substituting W_f for a gives

EQN : the minimum $R_s = \sqrt{(W_f^2/(8(1 - \cosine(120^\circ)))}$

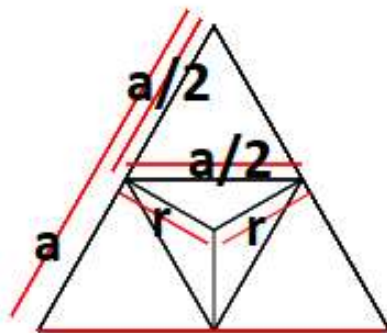


Diagram 3 -

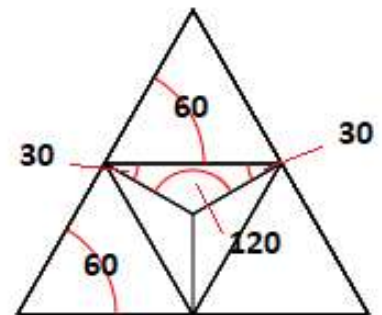


Diagram 4 -

