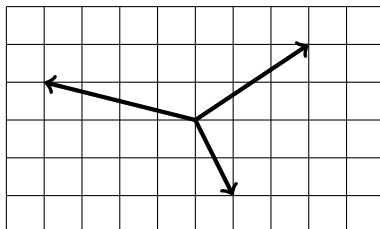


Warm-up

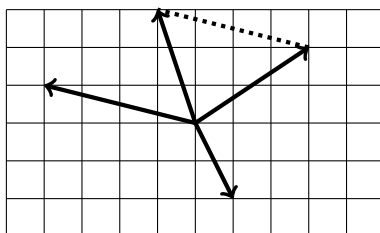
1. Draw a diagram to show the three separate position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$.

- Something like



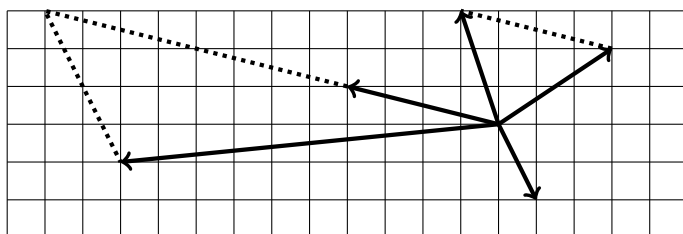
2. Add the vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

- We add the components separately, so $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$.
- My diagram now looks like this.



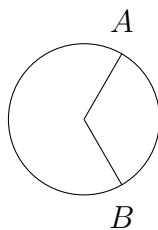
3. Find $3\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

- You multiply a vector by a scalar by multiplying each component, so $3\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$. Then add them together $\begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$.
- My diagram now looks like this.



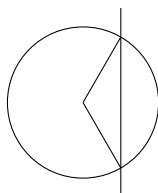
4. Find the equation of the line through the points $(1, 5)$ and $(3, -1)$.

- This line has gradient $(-1 - 5)/(3 - 1) = -3$ and goes through $(1, 5)$ so it's $y - 5 = -3(x - 1)$ which can also be written as $y = 8 - 3x$.
5. Find the equation of the line through the point $(3, 5)$ with gradient 2.
- This must be $y = 2x + c$ for some constant c , and the line goes through $(3, 5)$ so $5 = 6 + c$ and so the line is $y = 2x - 1$.
6. Find equations of three lines such that the region bounded by the three lines is an equilateral triangle.
- There are lots of examples that work! I decided to use the x -axis as one of my lines (that's $y = 0$), and then use something like $y = \sqrt{3} - ax$ and $y = \sqrt{3} + bx$ for some a and b ; I've chosen those y -intercepts so that $(0, \sqrt{3})$ is a corner of the triangle (I've drawn a little sketch of an equilateral triangle with side-length 2 and height $\sqrt{3}$ which I'm aiming for).
 - I need those two lines to go through $(\pm 1, 0)$. I can do that by choosing a and b carefully, and I end up with the three lines $y = 0$ and $y = \sqrt{3}(1 - x)$ and $y = \sqrt{3}(1 + x)$.
7. A circle has centre $(-1, 4)$ and radius 3. Write down an equation for the circle. What's the area of this circle?
- $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 4)^2 = 3^2$
 - The area is πr^2 and $r = 3$ so the area is 9π .
8. A circle is given by $x^2 + 9x + y^2 - 3y = 10$. Find the centre and radius of the circle.
- $x^2 + 9x + y^2 - 3y = (x + \frac{9}{2})^2 + (y - \frac{3}{2})^2 - \frac{81}{4} - \frac{9}{4}$. The equation of the circle is $(x + \frac{9}{2})^2 + (y - \frac{3}{2})^2 = 10 + \frac{90}{4}$
 - So the centre is $(-\frac{9}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$ and the radius is $\sqrt{\frac{65}{2}}$.
9. Points A and B lie on a circle with centre O and radius 2. The angle $\angle AOB$ is 120° . Find the length of the arc between A and B . Find the area enclosed by that arc and the radii OA and OB .

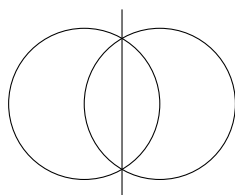


- Since 120° is one-third of 360° , the length of the arc is one-third of the length of the circumference $2\pi r$ with $r = 2$. So the length of the arc is $\frac{4}{3}\pi$.
- The area is one-third of πr^2 , which works out to be $\frac{4}{3}\pi$.

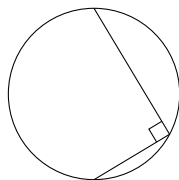
10. A circle is given by $x^2 + y^2 = 4$. The line $x = 1$ splits the circle into two regions. Find the area of each region.



- First let's find the points of intersection. We have $x = 1$ so $y^2 = 3$ so $y = \pm\sqrt{3}$. Now find the angle at the centre between the radii. There's a triangle here with width 1 and height $2\sqrt{3}$. Some trigonometry gives the angle at the centre as 120° .
 - We want the area of each region. The area of the small region ($x \geq 1$) is a sector of the circle minus the area of the triangle described above. That's $\frac{4}{3}\pi - \sqrt{3}$
 - The larger region is made of a larger sector plus the triangle, but let's just use the fact that the total area is 4π and subtract the area of the small region to get $\frac{8}{3}\pi + \sqrt{3}$.
11. Two circles are given by $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ and $(x - 2)^2 + y^2 = 4$. Find the area of the region that's inside both circles.



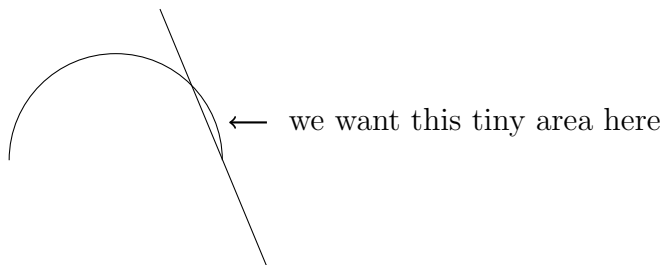
- This looks really hard, but luckily we've already done most of the work.
 - Find the points of intersection. $x^2 = (x - 2)^2$ so $x = 2 - x$ or $x = x - 2$, which only has $x = 1$ as a solution. The y -coordinates are the same as in the previous question; the line $x = 1$ perfectly splits the area we're looking for down the middle and the situation is symmetric.
 - So we just need to double the small area we found before.
 - That's $\frac{8}{3}\pi - 2\sqrt{3}$.
12. The points $(0, 0)$ and $(1, a)$ and $(0, a + 1/a)$ all lie on the same circle. Find the centre of the circle in terms of a .



- We could write down equations for the distance of a general point (x, y) to each of these points and set them equal to each other, but that's a lot of work.
- Instead, note that the gradient of the line from $(0, 0)$ to $(1, a)$ is a and the gradient of the line from $(1, a)$ to $(0, a + 1/a)$ is $-1/a$. These gradients multiply to -1 , so the lines are at right-angles.
- The angle in a semi-circle is a right-angle, so the line from the first point to the third point is the diameter of the circle.
- The centre is at the midpoint of the diameter, so it's at $(0, a/2 + 1/2a)$.

MAT questions

MAT 2013 Q1H

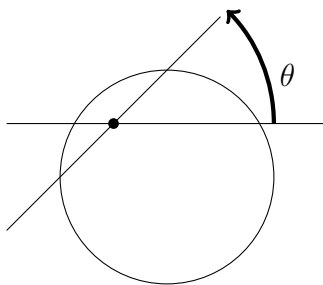


- First, note that the first graph is a semi-circle (the upper half of $x^2 + y^2 = 2$) and the second graph is a straight line.
- Inspired by this observation, let's find the intersection points and the angle at the centre (like the warm-up problem).
- The points of intersection are $(\sqrt{2}, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$, and the angle at the centre between radii to these points is 45° . So the area between the graphs is one-eighth of a circle minus the area of a triangle made by the radii and the line.
- This area is therefore

$$\frac{1}{8}\pi \times (\sqrt{2})^2 - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

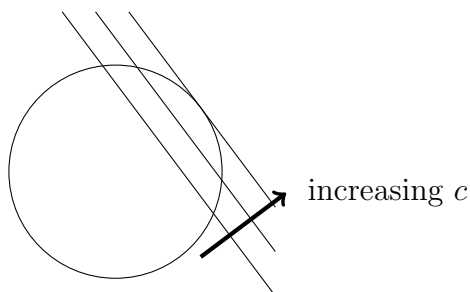
- The answer is (b)

MAT 2017 Q1G



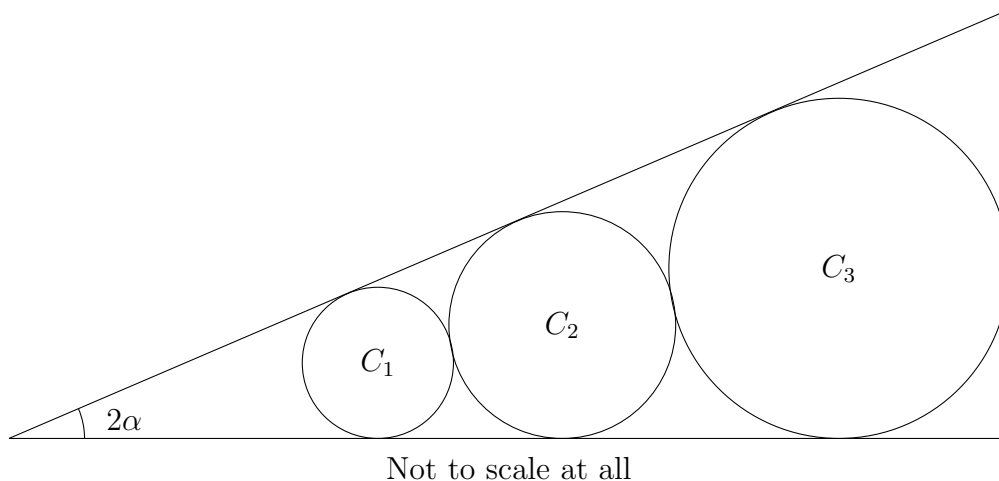
- This line goes through the point $(1, -1)$ which is inside the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$. The gradient of the line is $\tan \theta$ so the angle between the line and the x -axis is θ .
- As we change θ , the areas change size. The maximum comes when the line is at right-angles to the radius that goes through $(1, -1)$.
- This actually happens for two values of θ because $\theta + 180^\circ$ gives the same line as θ .
- The answer is (b).

MAT 2016 Q1I

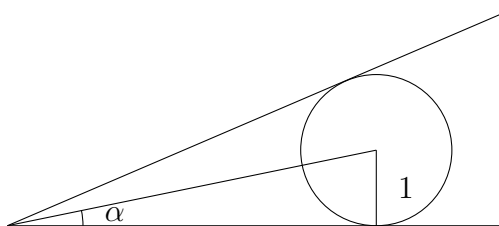


- Note that $ax + by$ takes the value c on the line $ax + by = c$. We want to make c big while still having the line intersect the circle for at least one point. We can do this in an extreme way by making the line tangent to the circle.
- Time for some geometry; the gradient of the line is $-a/b$ and the radius is at right angles to the tangent so the radius has gradient b/a . Intersecting the radius $y = bx/a$ with the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ gives the coordinates of the point of tangency as $(a, b)/\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, and at that point the value of the function we're maximising is $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$.
- The answer is (c).

MAT 2016 Q4



(i) First we're just asked about C_1 .

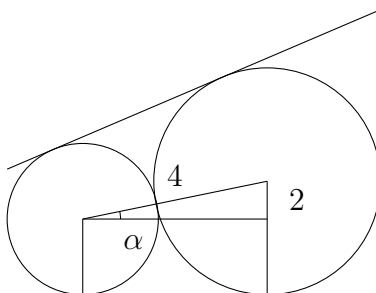


The y -coordinate of the center is clearly 1. There's a right-angled triangle here, and some trigonometry gives the x -coordinate of the centre as $1/\tan(\alpha)$.

(ii) The radius of C_1 is 1, so the equation for the circle is

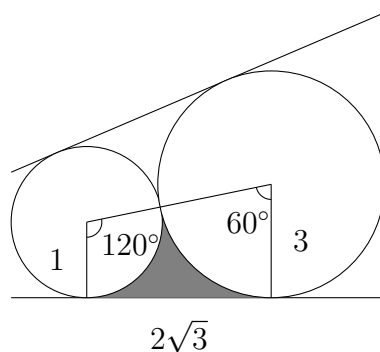
$$\left(x - \frac{1}{\tan \alpha}\right)^2 + (y - 1)^2 = 1.$$

(iii) Now we're asked about the pair C_1 and C_2 .



I've drawn in a line parallel to the x -axis through the centre of C_1 so that I can label the angle α , the thing I'm trying to solve for. This gives me a little right-angled triangle where I know two of the side lengths, and I would like to know one of the angles. I know the hypotenuse of the triangle because the circles just touch (so the radii are both perpendicular to the shared tangent and form a straight line), giving a distance of 4 between the centres. The side of the triangle opposite α is clearly just the difference between the radii, which is 2. So $\sin \alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ so $\alpha = 30^\circ$ (noting that $0 < \alpha < 45^\circ$).

- (iv) We can draw a very similar diagram to the previous part, and write R for the radius of C_3 . Then we have $\tan 30^\circ = (R - 3)/(R + 3)$. This rearranges to give $R = 9$. The radii of circles C_1 and C_2 and C_3 form a geometric sequence!
- (v) We are asked about the area between circles C_1 and C_2 and the x -axis.



This is the area of a trapezium (a rectangle plus a triangle) minus the area of two sectors of circles. We know the x -coordinate of the centre of C_1 is $1/\tan \alpha = \sqrt{3}$. Similarly, the centre of C_2 has x -coordinate $3\sqrt{3}$ (which is why I've labelled the base of the trapezium as $2\sqrt{3}$). The area we want is

$$2 \times 2\sqrt{3} - \frac{1}{3}\pi - \frac{1}{6}\pi \times 3^2 = 4\sqrt{3} - \frac{11\pi}{6}$$

Reflection

- Drawing pictures is generally helpful. I think that there's a bit of my brain that's good at recognising shapes, and I can use that to spot how to break down complicated areas into parts maybe (I am not a neuroscientist).
- Drawing the right diagram makes geometry questions like this easier. Sometimes it can feel like "I don't know which line to draw", but in the long MAT question above, the lines that we drew were motivated by either being radii of the circles (known lengths), or joining the centres of touching circles (interesting because the circles just touch), or parallel to the x -axis (so that I could mark in α).
- I like to imagine things moving as parameters change.