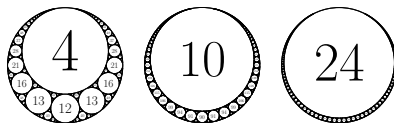


Apollonian Circle Packings & Parameterizations of Descartes Quadruples

Clyde Kertzer

University of Colorado Boulder



(Wednesday, April 10, 2024)

Descartes Quadruples

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Definition

Descartes Quadruples

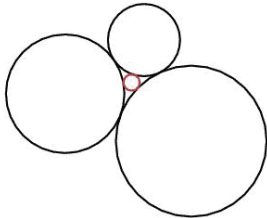
Definition

Descartes quadruple: four mutually tangent circles with disjoint interiors.

Descartes Quadruples

Definition

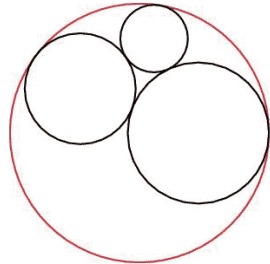
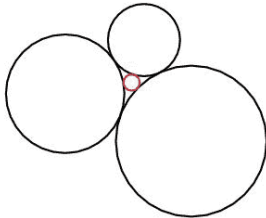
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Descartes Quadruples

Definition

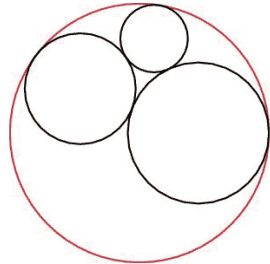
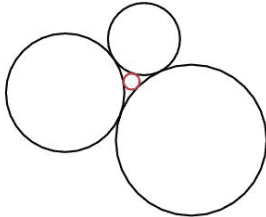
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Descartes Quadruples

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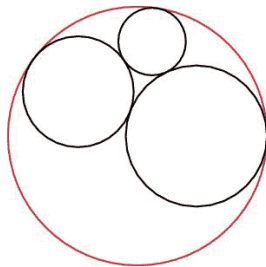
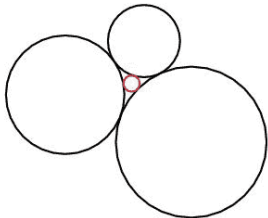


We can only have at most one "inverted" circle!

Descartes Quadruples

Definition

Descartes quadruple: four mutually tangent circles with disjoint interiors.



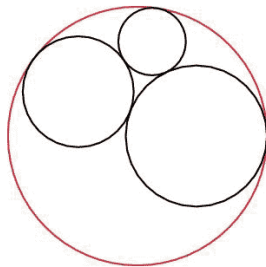
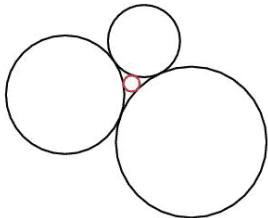
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Theorem of Apollonius

Descartes Quadruples

Definition

Descartes quadruple: four mutually tangent circles with disjoint interiors.



We can only have at most one “inverted” circle!

Theorem of Apollonius

If three circles are mutually tangent, there are two other circles that are tangent to all three.

The Descartes Equation

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Definition

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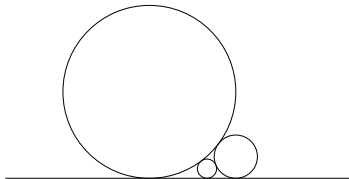
Definition

The *curvature* of a circle with radius r is defined to be $1/r$.

The Descartes Equation

Definition

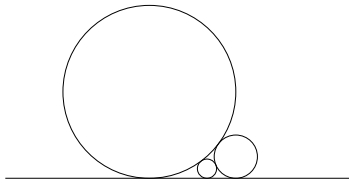
The *curvature* of a circle with radius r is defined to be $1/r$.



The Descartes Equation

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Circle with infinite radius

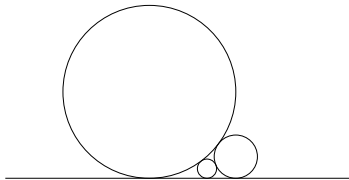
The Descartes Equation

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Descartes Equation

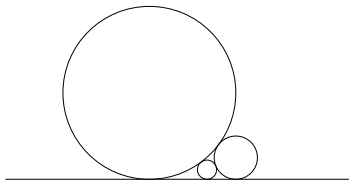
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Circle with infinite radius

Descartes Equation

If four mutually tangent circles have curvatures a, b, c, d then

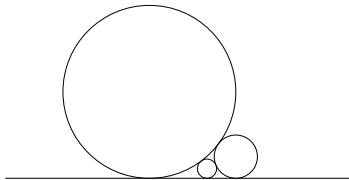
The Descartes Equation

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Definition

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Circle with infinite radius

Descartes Equation

If four mutually tangent circles have curvatures a, b, c, d then

$$(a + b + c + d)^2 = 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2).$$

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Corollary

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Corollary

If three mutually tangent circles have curvatures a , b , and c , then the two circles of Apollonius, d and d' have curvatures

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If three mutually tangent circles have curvatures a , b , and c , then the two circles of Apollonius, d and d' have curvatures

$$d = a + b + c + 2\sqrt{ab + ac + bc}$$

$$d' = a + b + c - 2\sqrt{ab + ac + bc}$$

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Corollary

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$$d = a + b + c + 2\sqrt{ab + ac + bc}$$

$$d' = a + b + c - 2\sqrt{ab + ac + bc}$$

Moreover, $d + d' = 2(a + b + c)$.

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The Descartes Equation

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Proof.

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Proof.

First, we solve for d from the Descartes Equation to find that

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Proof.

First, we solve for d from the Descartes Equation to find that

$$2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2) - (a + b + c + d)^2 = 0$$
$$d^2 - 2d(a + b + c) + (a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2ab - 2bc - 2ac) = 0.$$

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The quadratic formula gives

$$\begin{aligned} d &= (a + b + c) \\ &\quad \pm \frac{\sqrt{4(a + b + c)^2 - 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2ab - 2bc - 2ac)}}{2} \\ &= a + b + c \pm 2\sqrt{ab + bc + ca}. \end{aligned}$$

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Thus, there are two options for d . Their sum is $2(a + b + c)$. □

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The Key Relation

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The Key Relation

$$d + d' = 2(a + b + c) \implies d' = 2(a + b + c) - d$$

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The Key Relation

$$d + d' = 2(a + b + c) \implies d' = 2(a + b + c) - d$$

If a, b, c, d are integers, then d' is an integer!

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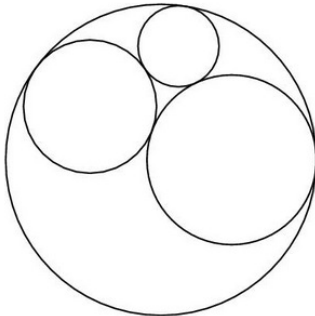
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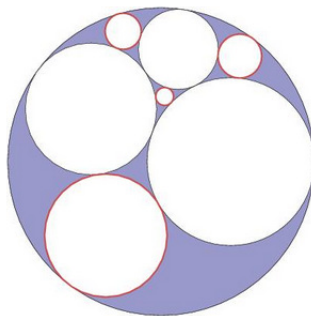
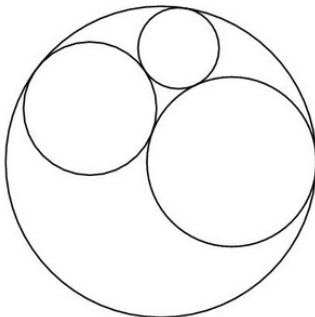


Apollonian Circle Packings

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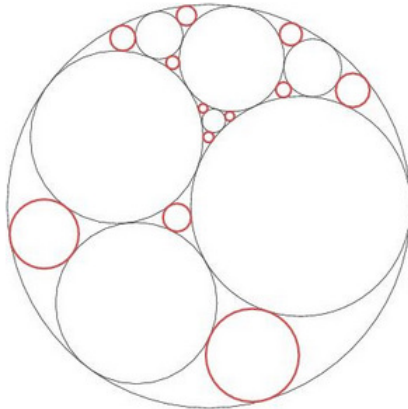
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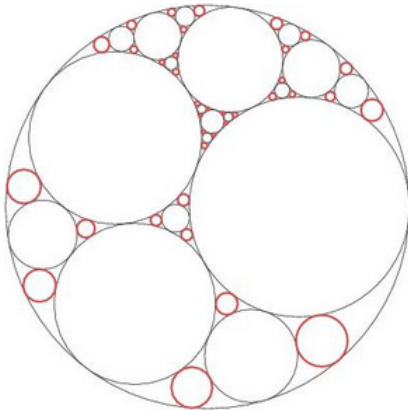
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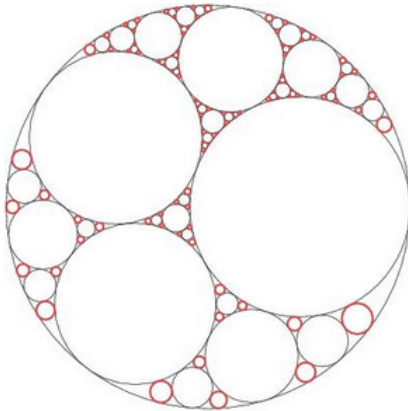
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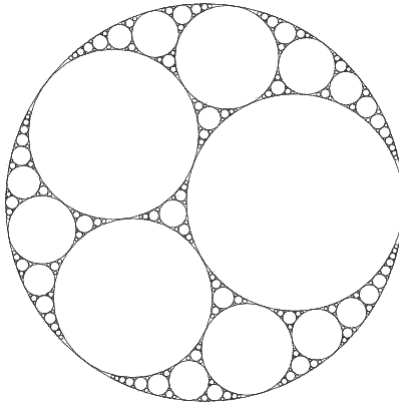
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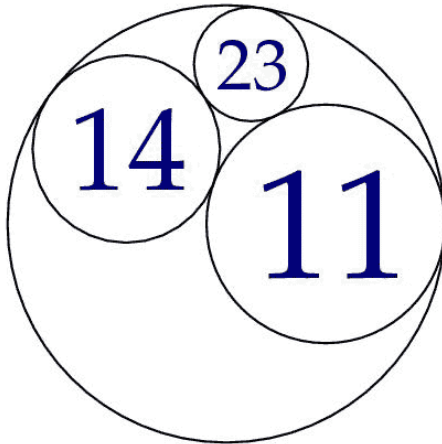
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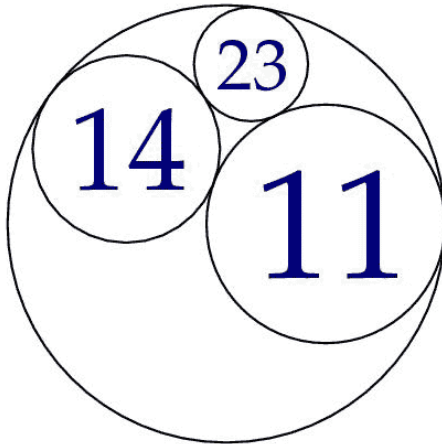


¹Images from: AMS "When Kissing Involves Trigonometry"

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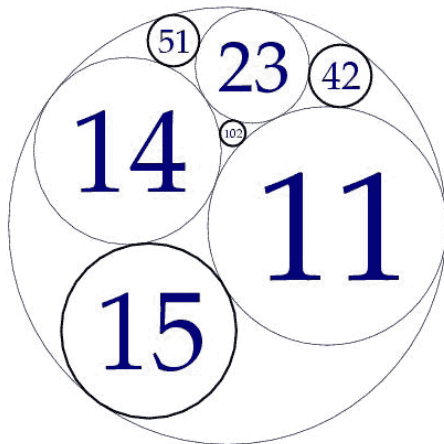
$$[-6, 11, 14, 23]^1$$

¹Images from: AMS "When Kissing Involves Trigonometry"

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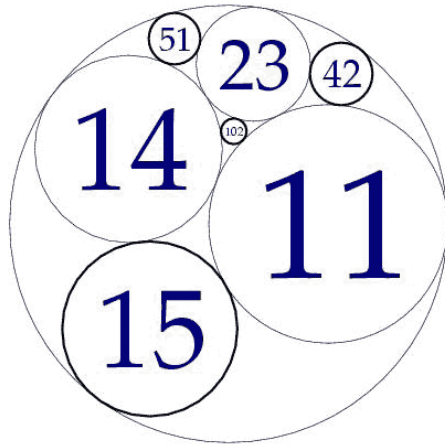


$[-6, 11, 14, 23]$

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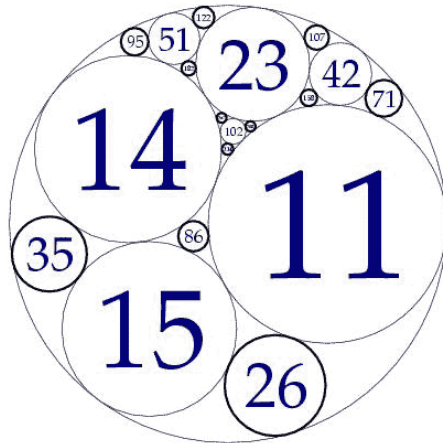


$[-6, 11, 14, 23]$ reduces to $[-6, 11, 14, 15]$

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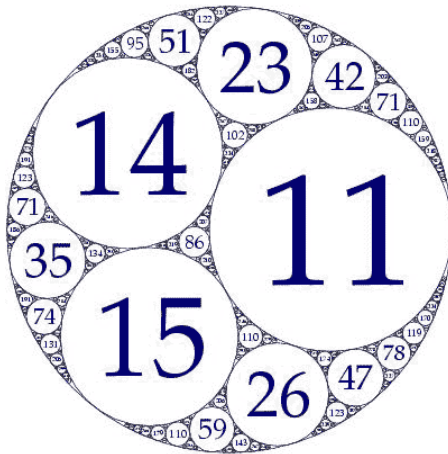


$[-6, 11, 14, 15]$

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$[-6, 11, 14, 15]$

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Definition

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Definition

A positive integer a *has a packing*

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Definition

A positive integer a *has a packing* if there exists a primitive reduced Descartes quadruple $[-a, b, c, d]$.

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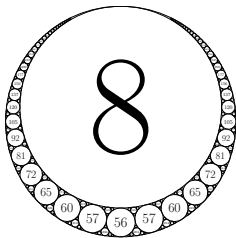
Example: $a = 7$

Apollonian Circle Packings

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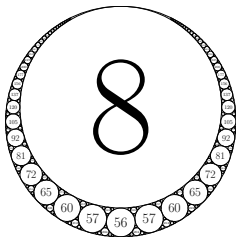
$[-7, 8, 56, 57],$

Apollonian Circle Packings

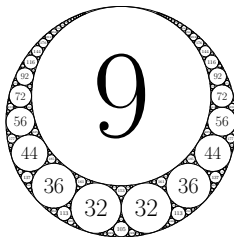
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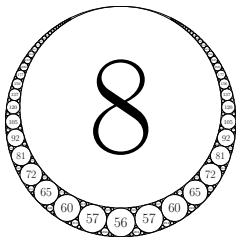


Apollonian Circle Packings

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Symmetric Packings

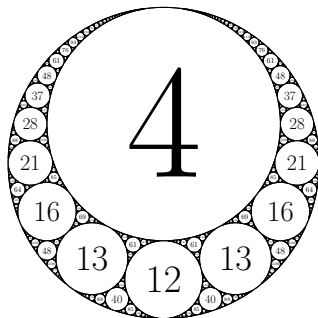
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Symmetric Packings

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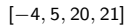
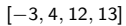
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$[-3, 4, 12, 13]$

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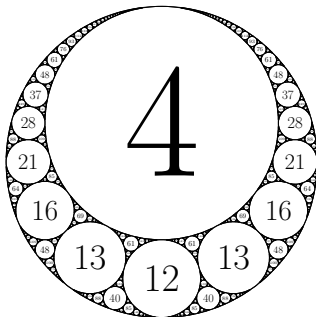
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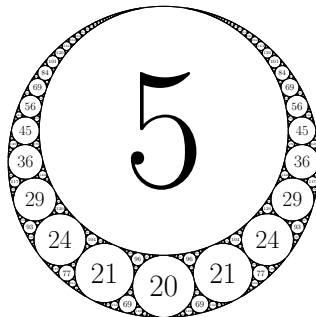
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$[-3, 4, 12, 13]$



$[-4, 5, 20, 21]$

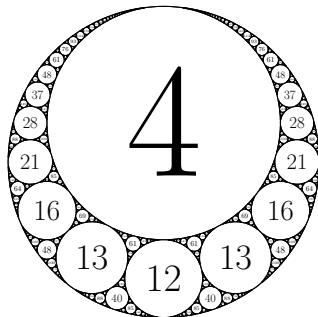
Definition

A *sum-symmetric*

Symmetric Packings

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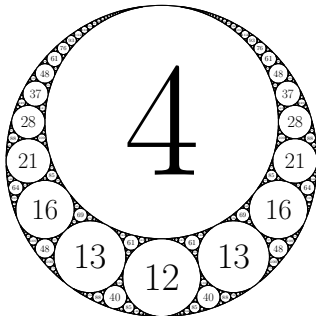
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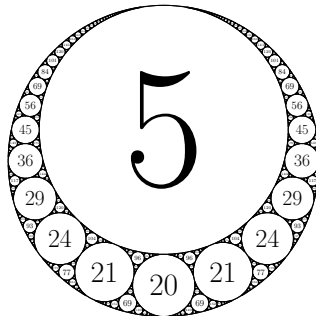
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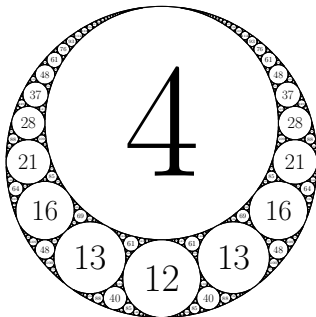
A *sum-symmetric* quadruple is a primitive reduced Descartes quadruple satisfying $2(a + b + c) - d = d$.

$$2(a + b + c) - d = d$$

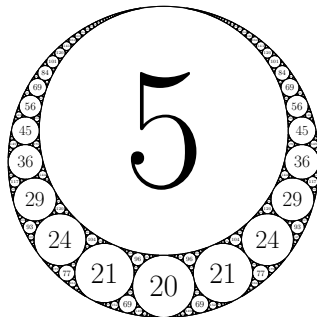
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$[-3, 4, 12, 13]$



$[-4, 5, 20, 21]$

Definition

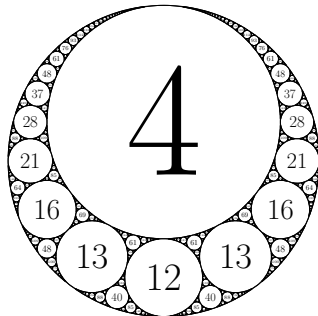
A *sum-symmetric* quadruple is a primitive reduced Descartes quadruple satisfying $2(a + b + c) - d = d$.

$$2(a + b + c) - d = d \implies 2(a + b + c) = 2d$$

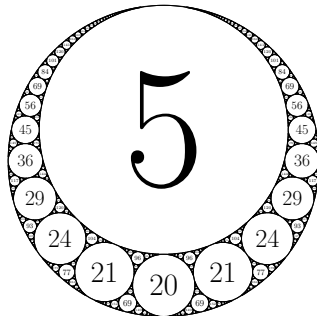
Symmetric Packings

Apollonian
Circle
Packings &
Parameteri-
zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer



$[-3, 4, 12, 13]$



$[-4, 5, 20, 21]$

Definition

A *sum-symmetric* quadruple is a primitive reduced Descartes quadruple satisfying $2(a + b + c) - d = d$.

$$2(a + b + c) - d = d \implies 2(a + b + c) = 2d \implies a + b + c = d$$

Symmetric Packings

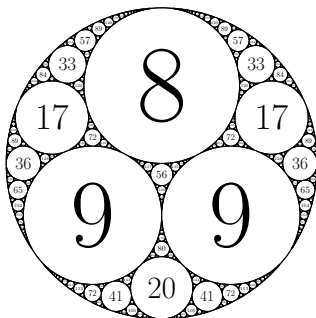
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Symmetric Packings

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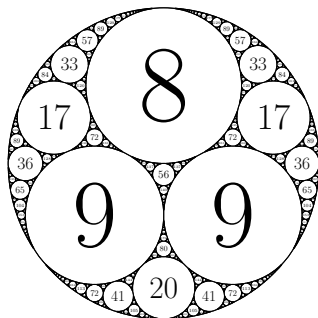


$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$

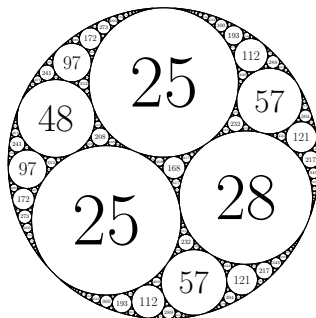
Symmetric Packings

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$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$



$[-12, 25, 25, 28]$

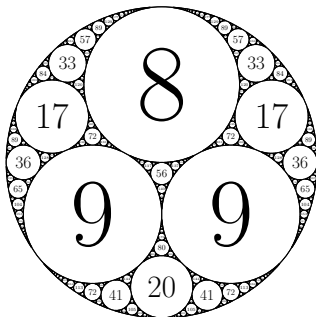
Apollonian
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Quadruples

Definition

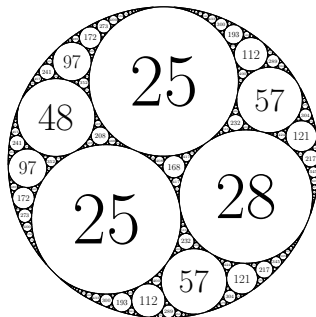
Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer



$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$



$[-12, 25, 25, 28]$

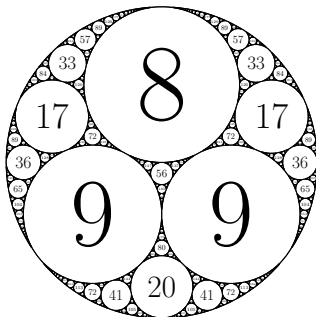
Definition

A *twin-symmetric* quadruple

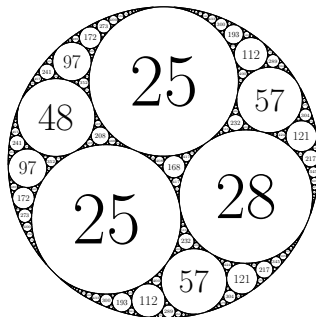
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zations of
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$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$



$[-12, 25, 25, 28]$

Definition

A *twin-symmetric* quadruple is a primitive reduced Descartes quadruple with $c = d$ or $c = b$.

The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

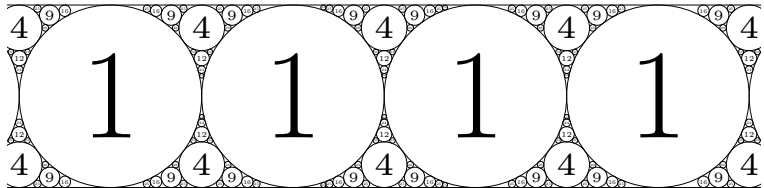
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The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

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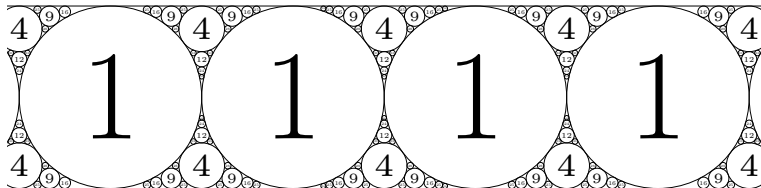
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The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

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The strip packing: $[0, 0, 1, 1]$

The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

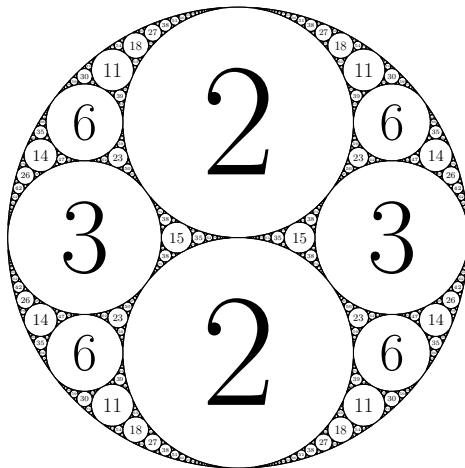
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The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

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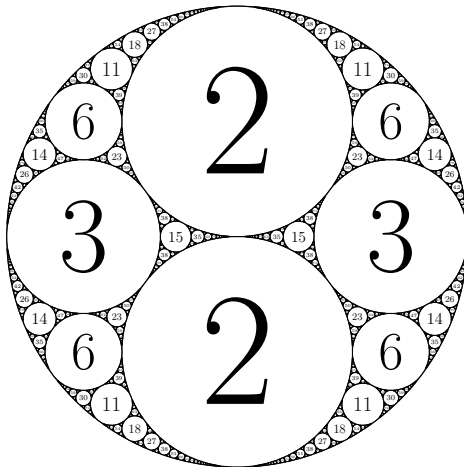
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The Two Unusual Symmetric Packings

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The bug-eye packing: $[-1, 2, 2, 3]$

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Proposition

Symmetric Packings

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Proposition

A symmetric packing is either sum-symmetric or twin-symmetric.

Symmetric Packings

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Proposition

A symmetric packing is either sum-symmetric or twin-symmetric.

Proposition

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zations of
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Proposition

A symmetric packing is either sum-symmetric or twin-symmetric.

Proposition

Only the strip and bug-eye packing are both sum-symmetric and twin-symmetric.

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Sum-Symmetric Packings

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$$\frac{[-a, b, c, d] \quad | \quad d - c \quad | \quad d - b \quad | \quad d + a}{\hline}$$

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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$$\begin{array}{c|ccc} [-a, b, c, d] & d - c & d - b & d + a \\ \hline [-6, 10, 15, 19] & & & \end{array}$$

Sum-Symmetric Packings

Apollonian
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Parameteri-
zations of
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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	4	9	25

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	4	9	25
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	9	16	49

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	4	9	25
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	9	16	49
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	4	81	121

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	4	9	25
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	9	16	49
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	4	81	121
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	16	25	81

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	4	9	25
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	9	16	49
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	4	81	121
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	16	25	81
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	9	49	100

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	9^2	11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2	5^2	9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	7^2	10^2

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Clyde
Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2		3^2		5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2		4^2		7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2		9^2		11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2		5^2		9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2		7^2		10^2

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	2^2	3^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	3^2	4^2	4^2	7^2
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Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	2^2	3^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	3^2	4^2	4^2	7^2
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$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	3^2	7^2	7^2	10^2

Given the factorization of a , we can find the entire quadruple!

Sum-Symmetric Packings

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	2^2	3^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	3^2	4^2	4^2	7^2
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Given the factorization of a , we can find the entire quadruple!

$$\left[\underbrace{-(2 \cdot 3)}_{-6}, \underbrace{2^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{10}, \underbrace{3^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{15}, \underbrace{(2 + 3)^2 - 2 \cdot 3}_{19} \right]$$

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Clyde
Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	2^2	3^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	3^2	4^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	2^2	9^2	9^2	11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2	4^2	5^2	5^2	9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	3^2	7^2	7^2	10^2

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$$\left[\underbrace{-(2 \cdot 3)}_{-6}, \underbrace{2^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{10}, \underbrace{3^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{15}, \underbrace{(2 + 3)^2 - 2 \cdot 3}_{19} \right]$$

$$[-xy, x^2 + xy, y^2 + xy, (x + y)^2 - xy]$$

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$b + a$	$d - b$	$c + a$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	2^2	3^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	3^2	4^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	2^2	9^2	9^2	11^2
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Given the factorization of a , we can find the entire quadruple!

$$\left[\underbrace{-(2 \cdot 3)}_{-6}, \underbrace{2^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{10}, \underbrace{3^2 + 2 \cdot 3}_{15}, \underbrace{(2 + 3)^2 - 2 \cdot 3}_{19} \right]$$

$$[-xy, x^2 + xy, y^2 + xy, (x + y)^2 - xy]$$

$$[-xy, x(x + y), y(x + y), (x + y)^2 - xy]$$

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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	4^2	7^2
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$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
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Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	9^2	11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2	5^2	9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	7^2	10^2

Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy] =$$

Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
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Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy] =$$

$$[-2 \cdot 6, 2(2+6), 6(2+6), (2+6)^2 - 2 \cdot 6] =$$

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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
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Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy] =$$

$$[-2 \cdot 6, 2(2+6), 6(2+6), (2+6)^2 - 2 \cdot 6] =$$

$$[-12, 16, 48, 52]$$

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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	9^2	11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2	5^2	9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	7^2	10^2

Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy] =$$

$$[-2 \cdot 6, 2(2+6), 6(2+6), (2+6)^2 - 2 \cdot 6] =$$

$$[-12, 16, 48, 52] = [-3, 4, 12, 13]$$

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$[-a, b, c, d]$	$d - c$	$d - b$	$d + a$
$[-6, 10, 15, 19]$	2^2	3^2	5^2
$[-12, 21, 28, 37]$	3^2	4^2	7^2
$[-18, 22, 99, 103]$	2^2	9^2	11^2
$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$	4^2	5^2	9^2
$[-21, 30, 70, 79]$	3^2	7^2	10^2

Try with $12 = 6 \cdot 2$:

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy] =$$

$$[-2 \cdot 6, 2(2+6), 6(2+6), (2+6)^2 - 2 \cdot 6] =$$

$$[-12, 16, 48, 52] = [-3, 4, 12, 13] \quad (x=3, y=1)$$

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Theorem

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Theorem

A sum-symmetric quadruple $[a, b, c, d]$ is of the form

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Theorem

A sum-symmetric quadruple $[a, b, c, d]$ is of the form

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$$

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zations of
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Theorem

A sum-symmetric quadruple $[a, b, c, d]$ is of the form

$$[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$, and $x, y \geq 0$.

The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Corollary

The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Corollary

A natural number n has $2^{\omega(n)-1}$ sum-symmetric packings, where $\omega(n)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of n .

The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Corollary

A natural number n has $2^{\omega(n)-1}$ sum-symmetric packings, where $\omega(n)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of n .

Proof.

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Corollary

A natural number n has $2^{\omega(n)-1}$ sum-symmetric packings, where $\omega(n)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of n .

Proof.

Because $n = -xy$ determines the sum-symmetric packing for coprime x and y , write $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$, so $\omega(n) = k$.

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Corollary

A natural number n has $2^{\omega(n)-1}$ sum-symmetric packings, where $\omega(n)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of n .

Proof.

Because $n = -xy$ determines the sum-symmetric packing for coprime x and y , write $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$, so $\omega(n) = k$. For each prime power we can choose to put it as a factor of x or y ,

The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

Corollary

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The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

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The Number of Sum-Symmetric Packings

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Proof.

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Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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Kertzer

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$,

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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zations of
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Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.
These correspond to the coprime factor pairs

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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zations of
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Clyde
Kertzer

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.
These correspond to the coprime factor pairs $(1, 60)$,

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.
These correspond to the coprime factor pairs $(1, 60)$, $(4, 15)$,

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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Parameteri-
zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.
These correspond to the coprime factor pairs $(1, 60)$, $(4, 15)$, $(3, 20)$,

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

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zations of
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Clyde
Kertzer

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.

These correspond to the coprime factor pairs $(1, 60)$, $(4, 15)$, $(3, 20)$, $(5, 12)$.

Sum-Symmetric packings of 60

Write $60 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$, so 60 has $2^{3-1} = 2^2 = 4$ sum-symmetric packings.

These correspond to the coprime factor pairs $(1, 60)$, $(4, 15)$, $(3, 20)$, $(5, 12)$. They are

$$(1, 60) \implies [-60, 61, 3660, 3661]$$

$$(4, 15) \implies [-60, 76, 285, 301]$$

$$(3, 20) \implies [-60, 69, 460, 469]$$

$$(5, 12) \implies [-60, 85, 204, 229]$$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

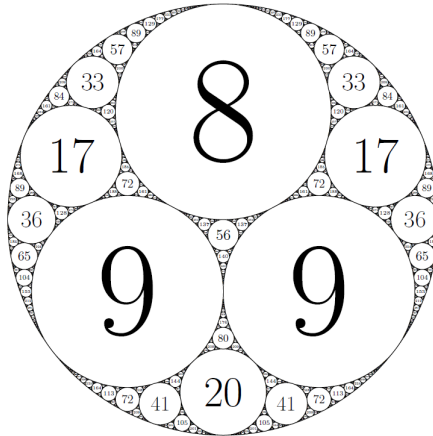
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Packings where one of the numbers is the same:

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

Packings where one of the numbers is the same:



$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

-2 |

none

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Quadruples

$$\begin{array}{c|c} -2 & \text{none} \\ \hline -3 & [-3, 5, 8, 8] \end{array}$$

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Kertzer

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Parameteri-
zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Packings &
Parameteri-
zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Parameteri-
zations of
Descartes
Quadruples

Clyde
Kertzer

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$
-13	$[-13, 15, 98, 98]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$
-13	$[-13, 15, 98, 98]$
-14	none

Twin-Symmetric Packings

-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$
-13	$[-13, 15, 98, 98]$
-14	none
-15	$[-15, 17, 128, 128], [-15, 32, 32, 33]$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Clyde
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-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$
-13	$[-13, 15, 98, 98]$
-14	none
-15	$[-15, 17, 128, 128], [-15, 32, 32, 33]$
-16	$[-16, 20, 81, 81]$

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-2	none
-3	$[-3, 5, 8, 8]$
-4	$[-4, 8, 9, 9]$
-5	$[-5, 7, 18, 18]$
-6	none
-7	$[-7, 9, 32, 32]$
-8	$[-8, 12, 25, 25]$
-9	$[-9, 11, 50, 50]$
-10	none
-11	$[-11, 13, 72, 72]$
-12	$[-12, 16, 49, 49], [-12, 25, 25, 28]$
-13	$[-13, 15, 98, 98]$
-14	none
-15	$[-15, 17, 128, 128], [-15, 32, 32, 33]$
-16	$[-16, 20, 81, 81]$

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Over the summer:

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Over the summer:

Theorem

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Over the summer:

Theorem

All primitive ACPs with $c = d$ are given by

$$\left[-x, x + y^2, \left(\frac{2x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2, \left(\frac{2x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2 \right] \quad y \text{ even}$$

$$\left[-x, x + 2y^2, 2 \left(\frac{x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2, 2 \left(\frac{x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2 \right] \quad y \text{ odd}$$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Over the summer:

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$$\left[-x, x + 2y^2, 2 \left(\frac{x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2, 2 \left(\frac{x + y^2}{2y} \right)^2 \right] \quad y \text{ odd}$$

Not ideal, not in terms of factorization.

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Improved to:

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Kertzer

Improved to:

Theorem

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is of the form

$$\left\{ \left[-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2}, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2} \right] \quad x \text{ odd}, y \text{ odd} \quad x > y \right.$$

Twin-Symmetric Packings

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zations of
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Quadruples

Improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is of the form

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \left[-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2}, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2} \right] & x \text{ odd}, y \text{ odd } x > y \\ \left[-xy, xy + 4y^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2 \right] & 4 \mid x, \quad x > 2y \end{array} \right.$$

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

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Improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is of the form

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left[-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2}, \frac{(x+y)^2}{2} \right] \\ \left[-xy, xy + 4y^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2 \right] \\ \left[-xy, xy + x^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2, \left(\frac{x}{2} + y\right)^2 \right] \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} x \text{ odd}, y \text{ odd} \quad x > y \\ 4 \mid x, \quad x > 2y \\ 4 \mid x, \quad x < 2y \end{array}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$.

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Further improved to:

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Twin-Symmetric Packings

Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Twin-Symmetric Packings

Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Ex: $x = 3, y = 2$

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Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Ex: $x = 3, y = 2$:

$$[-12, 12 + 16, 5^2, 5^2] \implies [-12, 28, 25, 25]$$

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Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Ex: $x = 3, y = 2$:

$$[-12, 12 + 16, 5^2, 5^2] \implies [-12, 28, 25, 25]$$

Why won't $x = 1, y = 3$ work?

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Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Ex: $x = 3, y = 2$:

$$[-12, 12 + 16, 5^2, 5^2] \implies [-12, 28, 25, 25]$$

Why won't $x = 1, y = 3$ work? Let's try:

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Further improved to:

Theorem

A twin-symmetric quadruple is one of following two forms

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

Ex: $x = 3, y = 2$:

$$[-12, 12 + 16, 5^2, 5^2] \implies [-12, 28, 25, 25]$$

Why won't $x = 1, y = 3$ work? Let's try:

$$[-3, 3 + 2(3)^2, 5^2, 5^2] \implies [-3, 48, 25, 25]$$

Twin-symmetric Packings

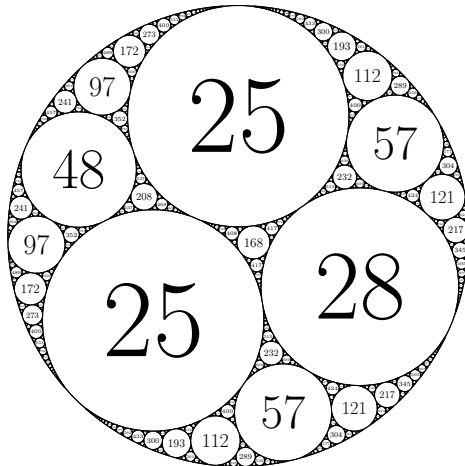
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Twin-symmetric Packings

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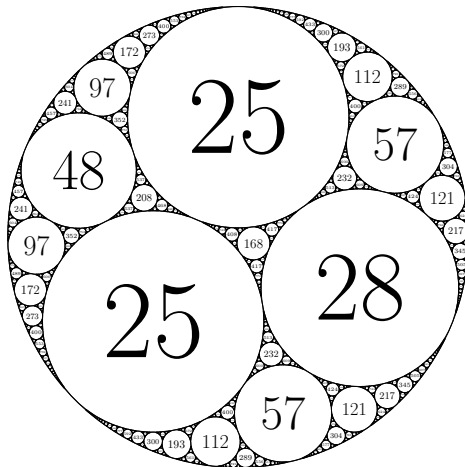


$[-12, 48, 25, 25]$

Twin-symmetric Packings

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$$[-12, 48, 25, 25] \implies [-12, 28, 25, 25]$$

The Number of Twin-symmetric Packings

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We define δ_n as

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We define δ_n as

$$\delta_n = \begin{cases} 1 & n \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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We define δ_n as

$$\delta_n = \begin{cases} 1 & n \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Corollary

The Number of Twin-symmetric Packings

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We define δ_n as

$$\delta_n = \begin{cases} 1 & n \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Corollary

A natural number n has $(1 - \delta_n) \cdot 2^{\omega(n)-1}$ twin-symmetric packings where $\omega(n)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of n .

Non-symmetric Packings

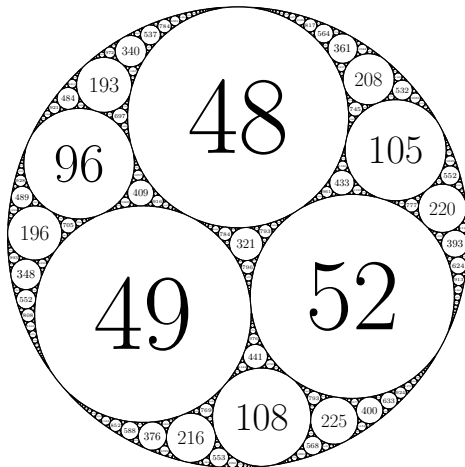
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Non-symmetric Packings

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$[-23, 48, 49, 52]$.

Non-symmetric Packings

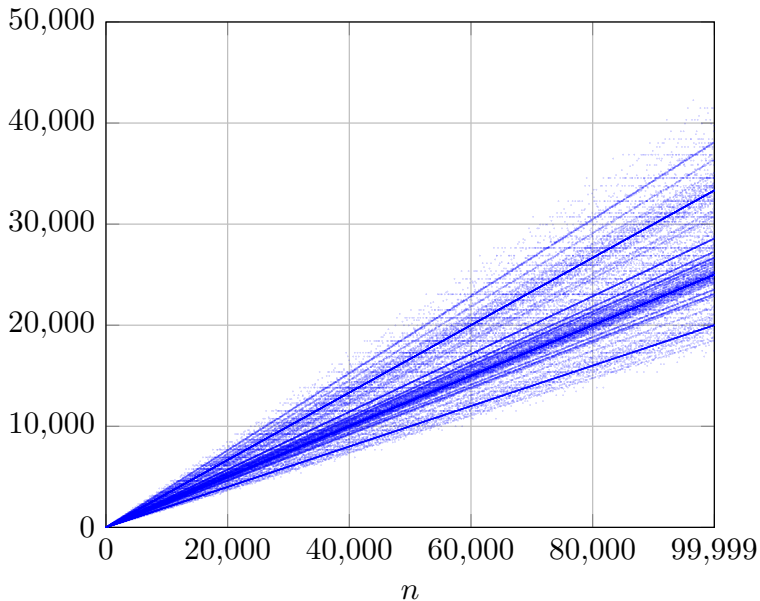
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Families of non-symmetric packings

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$$n \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \implies$$

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Families of non-symmetric packings

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$$n \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \implies$$

$$\left[-n, n + 9, \frac{n^2}{9} + n + 1, \frac{n^2}{9} + n + 4 \right]$$

Families of non-symmetric packings

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Families of non-symmetric packings

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Families of non-symmetric packings

$$n \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \implies$$

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Every packing can be written

Families of non-symmetric packings

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Every packing can be written

$$\left[-n, n+k, \frac{n^2+kn+\alpha^2}{k}, \frac{n^2+kn+(k-\alpha)^2}{k} \right]$$

(Bridges, Tai, and Koziol.)

Total Number of Packings

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The total packings of n is known:

Total Number of Packings

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The total packings of n is known:

$$\frac{n}{4} \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(p)}{p} \right) + 2^{\omega(n) - \delta_n - 1},$$

Total Number of Packings

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where $\chi_{-4}(n) = (-1)^{(n-1)/2}$ for n odd and 0 for n even. (Due to Graham, Lagarias, Mallows, Wilks, Yan)

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Corollary

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$$\frac{n}{4} \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(p)}{p} \right) + 2^{\omega(n)-\delta_n-1} - \underbrace{(1 - \delta_n) \cdot 2^{\omega(n)-1}}_{\text{twin-symmetric}} - \underbrace{2^{\omega(n)-1}}_{\text{sum-symmetric}}$$

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Extended Example

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Extended Example

Sum-symmetric: $[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$

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Sum-symmetric: $[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$
Example: $20 = 2^2 \cdot 5$

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Sum-symmetric: $[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$

Example: $20 = 2^2 \cdot 5$, with $\omega(20) = 2$

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Extended Example

Sum-symmetric: $[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$

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Extended Example

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Example: $20 = 2^2 \cdot 5$, with $\omega(20) = 2$ and $20 \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, so $\delta_{20} = 0$.

Total number is

$$\frac{20}{4} \prod_{p|20} \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(p)}{p} \right) + 2^{\omega(20) - \delta_{20} - 1}$$

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Total number is

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{20}{4} \prod_{p|20} \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(p)}{p} \right) + 2^{\omega(20) - \delta_{20} - 1} \\ &= 5 \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(2)}{2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{-4}(5)}{5} \right) + 2^{2-0-1} \end{aligned}$$

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Extended Example

Sum-symmetric: $[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy]$

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- sum-symmetric: $2^{\omega(20)-1} = 2$.

Extended Example

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Extended Example

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- $\implies$ non-symmetric: $6 - 2 - 2 = 2$.

Extended Example

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Coprime factor pairs of 20: (1, 20) and (4, 5).

Extended Example - sum-symmetric

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Extended Example - sum-symmetric

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$$\left[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy \right]$$

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(1, 20)

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$$\left[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy \right]$$

$$(1, 20) \implies \left[-1 \cdot 20, 1(1+20), 20(1+20), (1+20)^2 - 1 \cdot 20 \right]$$

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$$\left[-xy, x(x+y), y(x+y), (x+y)^2 - xy \right]$$

$$(1, 20) \implies \left[-1 \cdot 20, 1(1+20), 20(1+20), (1+20)^2 - 1 \cdot 20 \right]$$

$$= [-20, 21, 420, 421]$$

Extended Example - sum-symmetric

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$$(4, 5)$$

Extended Example - sum-symmetric

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$$(4, 5) \implies \left[-4 \cdot 5, 4(4+5), 5(4+5), (4+5)^2 - 4 \cdot 5 \right]$$

Extended Example - sum-symmetric

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$$(1, 20) \implies \left[-1 \cdot 20, 1(1+20), 20(1+20), (1+20)^2 - 1 \cdot 20 \right]$$

$$= [-20, 21, 420, 421]$$

$$(4, 5) \implies \left[-4 \cdot 5, 4(4+5), 5(4+5), (4+5)^2 - 4 \cdot 5 \right]$$

$$= [-20, 36, 45, 61]$$

Extended Example - twin-symmetric

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Extended Example - twin-symmetric

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$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

(1, 10)

Extended Example - twin-symmetric

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

$$(1, 10) \implies [-2 \cdot 1 \cdot 10, 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 10 + 4(1)^2, (1+10)^2, (1+10)^2]$$

Extended Example - twin-symmetric

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$$(1, 10) \implies [-2 \cdot 1 \cdot 10, 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 10 + 4(1)^2, (1+10)^2, (1+10)^2]$$

$$= [-20, 24, 121, 121]$$

Extended Example - twin-symmetric

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

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$$(2, 5)$$

Extended Example - twin-symmetric

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Extended Example - twin-symmetric

$$\begin{cases} [-xy, xy + 2y^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2, \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2] & x, y \text{ odd} & x > y \\ [-2xy, 2xy + 4y^2, (x+y)^2, (x+y)^2] & xy \text{ even} & x > y \end{cases}$$

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$$(2, 5) \implies [-2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5, 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 + 4(2)^2, (2+5)^2, (2+5)^2]$$

$$= [-20, 36, 49, 49]$$

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$$20 \equiv 7 \pmod{13} \implies$$

Extended Example - non-symmetric

$$20 \equiv 7 \pmod{13} \implies$$

$$\left[-n, n + 13, \left(\frac{n^2 + 13n + 4^2}{13} \right), \left(\frac{n^2 + 13n + (13 - 4)^2}{13} \right) \right]$$

Extended Example - non-symmetric

$$20 \equiv 7 \pmod{13} \implies$$

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$$= [-20, 33, 52, 57]$$

Extended Example - non-symmetric

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$$20 \equiv 3 \pmod{17} \implies$$

Extended Example - non-symmetric

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$$20 \equiv 3 \pmod{17} \implies$$

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Extended Example - non-symmetric

$$20 \equiv 7 \pmod{13} \implies$$

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$$= [-20, 37, 45, 52]$$

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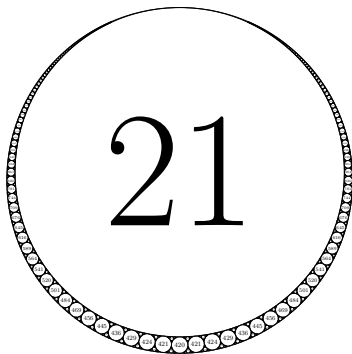
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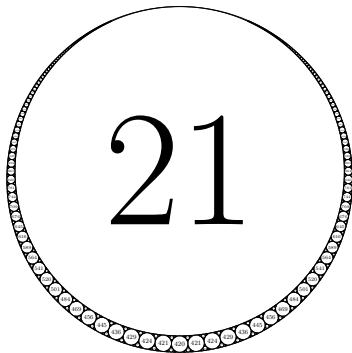


$[-20, 21, 420, 421]$

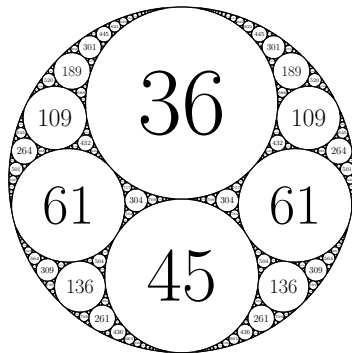
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$[-20, 21, 420, 421]$



$[-20, 36, 45, 61]$

Extended Example

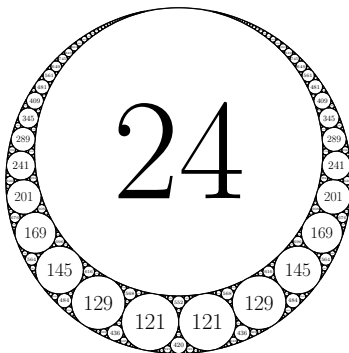
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Clyde
Kertzer

Extended Example

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Packings &
Parameteri-
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Descartes
Quadruples

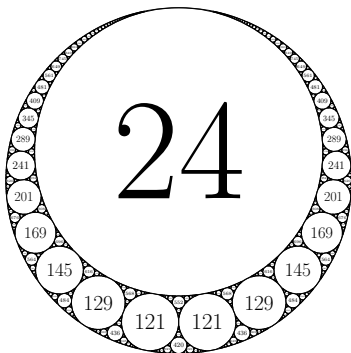
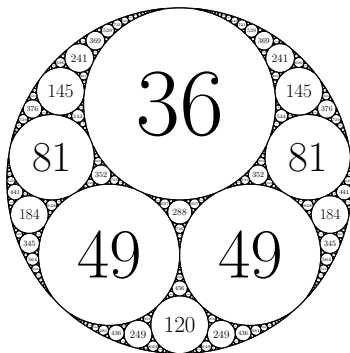
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$[-20, 24, 121, 121]$

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$$[-20, 24, 121, 121]$$
 $[-20, 36, 49, 49].$

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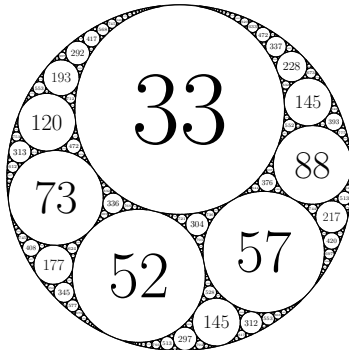
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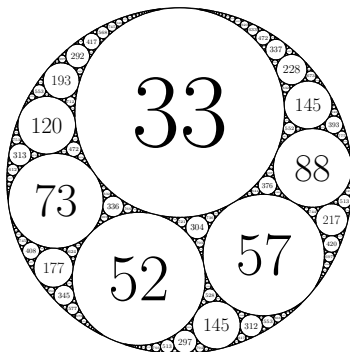


$[-20, 33, 52, 57].$

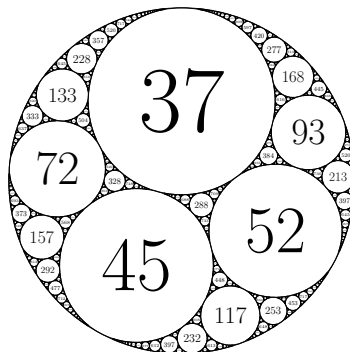
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$[-20, 33, 52, 57]$.



$[-20, 37, 45, 52]$

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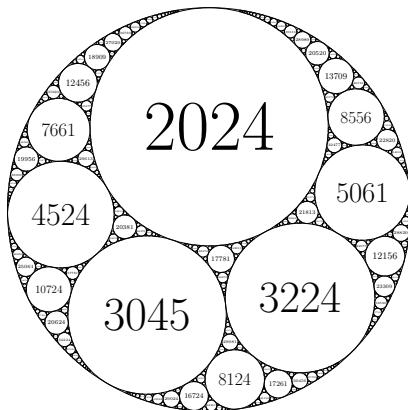
I am incredibly grateful to Professor Katherine Stange and Dr. James Rickards for taking me under their wing over the previous summer's REU. Their mentorship and encouragement inspired me to pursue not only this honors thesis, but a math conference across the country. Under their guidance, I have learned just how fun math research can be! Working on this thesis has been one of the most fulfilling projects I have undertaken.

I am also thankful to the Honors committee for reviewing my thesis. Without them, the honors program would not be possible.

Thank You!

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Images generated using James Rickards' Code.

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Proof of Descartes Equation

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First, we need a trigonometric lemma

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First, we need a trigonometric lemma

Lemma

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First, we need a trigonometric lemma

Lemma

If $\alpha + \beta + \theta = 2\pi$ then

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First, we need a trigonometric lemma

Lemma

If $\alpha + \beta + \theta = 2\pi$ then

$$\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \theta = 1 + 2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \theta.$$

Proof of the Lemma

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Proof of the Lemma

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Proof.

Proof of the Lemma

Proof.

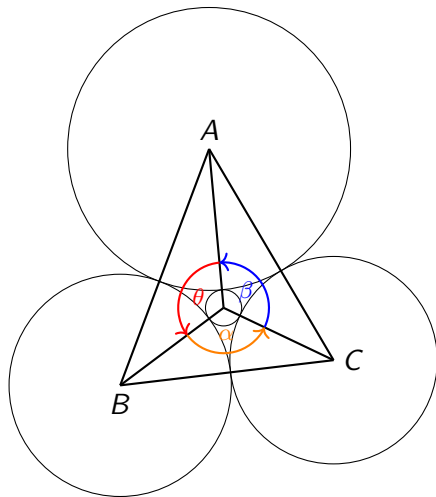
$$\begin{aligned}\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \theta &= \\&= \frac{1 + \cos 2\alpha}{2} + \frac{1 + \cos 2\beta}{2} + \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} \\&= \frac{3}{2} + \frac{\cos 2\alpha + \cos 2\beta}{2} + \frac{\cos(2\pi - (2\alpha + 2\beta))}{2} \\&= \frac{3}{2} + \cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \frac{\cos 2(\alpha + \beta)}{2} \\&= \frac{3}{2} + \cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \frac{2 \cos^2(\alpha + \beta) - 1}{2} \\&= 1 + \cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos^2(\alpha + \beta) \\&= 1 + (\cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(\alpha + \beta)) \cos(2\pi - \theta) \\&= 1 + 2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \theta.\end{aligned}$$



Proof of the Lemma

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Four mutually tangent circles with centers A , B , C , and D .

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Proof.

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Proof.

Suppose we have four mutually tangent circles with centers A , B , C , and D

Proof of the Descartes Equation

Proof.

Suppose we have four mutually tangent circles with centers A , B , C , and D with respective radii r_A , r_B , r_C , and r_D .

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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Suppose we have four mutually tangent circles with centers A , B , C , and D with respective radii r_A , r_B , r_C , and r_D . The side lengths of $\triangle ABC$ are

$$AB = r_A + r_B, \quad BC = r_B + r_C, \quad AC = r_A + r_C$$

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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Proof of the Descartes Equation

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Proof of the Descartes Equation

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Let $\angle BDC = \alpha$, $\angle CDA = \beta$, and $\angle ADB = \theta$.

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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$$AD = r_A + r_D, \quad BD = r_B + r_D, \quad CD = r_C + r_D.$$

Let $\angle BDC = \alpha$, $\angle CDA = \beta$, and $\angle ADB = \theta$. The law of cosines in $\triangle ADB$ yields

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{AD^2 + BD^2 - AB^2}{2 \cdot AD \cdot BD} \\ &= \frac{(r_A + r_D)^2 + (r_B + r_D)^2 - (r_A + r_B)^2}{2(r_A + r_D)(r_B + r_D)} \\ &= \frac{2r_D^2 + 2r_D(r_A + r_B) - 2r_A r_B}{2(r_A + r_D)(r_B + r_D)} \\ &= 1 - \frac{2r_A r_B}{(r_A + r_D)(r_B + r_D)}. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\cos \alpha = 1 - \frac{2r_B r_C}{(r_B + r_D)(r_C + r_D)}, \quad \cos \beta = 1 - \frac{2r_A r_C}{(r_A + r_D)(r_C + r_D)}.$$

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Now replace each radius by it's respective curvature k_A , k_B , k_C , and k_D and name the associated fraction to each angle λ

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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Now replace each radius by it's respective curvature k_A , k_B , k_C , and k_D and name the associated fraction to each angle λ

$$\cos \alpha = 1 - \frac{2k_D^2}{(k_B + k_D)(k_C + k_D)} = 1 - \lambda_\alpha$$

$$\cos \beta = 1 - \frac{2k_D^2}{(k_A + k_D)(k_C + k_D)} = 1 - \lambda_\beta$$

$$\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{2k_D^2}{(k_A + k_D)(k_B + k_D)} = 1 - \lambda_\theta.$$

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Proof.

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By the lemma we have that

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Proof.

By the lemma we have that

$$(1 - \lambda_\alpha)^2 + (1 - \lambda_\beta)^2 + (1 - \lambda_\theta)^2 = 1 + 2(1 - \lambda_\alpha)(1 - \lambda_\beta)(1 - \lambda_\theta)$$

$$\lambda_\alpha^2 + \lambda_\beta^2 + \lambda_\theta^2 + 2\lambda_\alpha\lambda_\beta\lambda_\theta = 2(\lambda_\alpha\lambda_\beta + \lambda_\beta\lambda_\theta + \lambda_\alpha\lambda_\theta)$$

$$\frac{\lambda_\alpha}{\lambda_\beta\lambda_\theta} + \frac{\lambda_\beta}{\lambda_\alpha\lambda_\theta} + \frac{\lambda_\theta}{\lambda_\alpha\lambda_\beta} + 2 = 2\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda_\beta} + \frac{1}{\lambda_\theta}\right).$$

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Substituting back our values for the λ s we find

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Substituting back our values for the λ s we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(k_A + k_D)^2}{2k_D^2} + \frac{(k_B + k_D)^2}{2k_D^2} + \frac{(k_C + k_D)^2}{2k_D^2} + 2 = \\ & 2\frac{(k_B + k_D)(k_C + k_D)}{2k_D^2} + 2\frac{(k_A + k_D)(k_B + k_D)}{2k_D^2} \\ & + 2\frac{(k_A + k_D)(k_B + k_D)}{2k_D^2}. \end{aligned}$$

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Proof.

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We multiply through by $2k_d^2$ and simplify to find that

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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We multiply through by $2k_d^2$ and simplify to find that

$$\begin{aligned} k_A^2 + k_B^2 + k_C^2 + 2k_D(k_A + k_B + k_C) + 7k_D^2 \\ = 6k_D^2 + 4k_D(k_A + k_B + k_C) \\ + 2(k_Ak_B + k_Bk_C + k_Ak_C) \end{aligned}$$

Proof of the Descartes Equation

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$$\begin{aligned} k_A^2 + k_B^2 + k_C^2 + k_D^2 &= 2k_D(k_A + k_B + k_C) \\ &\quad + 2(k_A k_B + k_B k_C + k_A k_C) \\ &= (k_A + k_B + k_C + k_D)^2 \\ &\quad - (k_A^2 + k_B^2 + k_C^2 + k_D^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$2(k_A^2 + k_B^2 + k_C^2 + k_D^2) = (k_A + k_B + k_C + k_D)^2.$$



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Proposition

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Proposition

The following equalities hold in a sum-symmetric packing $[a, b, c, d]$.

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The following equalities hold in a sum-symmetric packing $[a, b, c, d]$.

(i) $a + b = d - c$

(ii) $d^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$

(iii) $ab + ac + bc = 0$

Proving the Parameterization

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(i) We know that a sum-symmetric packing has the property that

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(i) We know that a sum-symmetric packing has the property that

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This yields immediately

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + c &= d \\ a + b &= d - c. \end{aligned}$$

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(ii) Plugging part (i) back into the Descartes Equation we find

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$$(a + b + c + d)^2 = 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)$$

$$(d - c + c + d)^2 = 2a^2 + 2b^2 + 2c^2 + 2d^2$$

$$4d^2 = 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 2d^2$$

$$d^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2.$$

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$$d^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2.$$

(iii) Use substitutions from parts (i) and (ii) to find

$$a + b + c = d$$

$$(a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$$

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2ab + 2ac + 2bc = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$$

$$ab + ac + bc = 0$$

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Proof.

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Proof.

Suppose that $[a, b, c, d]$ is a reduced primitive symmetric quadruple such that $a < 0 < b < c < d$.

Proving the Parameterization

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Suppose that $[a, b, c, d]$ is a reduced primitive symmetric quadruple such that $a < 0 < b < c < d$. Adding a^2 to both sides of Proposition part (iii) we have

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$$a^2 + ab + ac + bc = a^2$$

$$(a + b)(a + c) = a^2.$$

Proving the Parameterization

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Let $g = \gcd(a + b, a + c)$

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$$b = (a + b) + (-a) = gx^2 + gxy$$

Proving the Parameterization

Proof.

Suppose that $[a, b, c, d]$ is a reduced primitive symmetric quadruple such that $a < 0 < b < c < d$. Adding a^2 to both sides of Proposition part (iii) we have

$$ab + ac + bc = 0$$

$$a^2 + ab + ac + bc = a^2$$

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$$b = (a + b) + (-a) = gx^2 + gxy$$

and

$$c = (a + c) + (-a) = gy^2 + gxy.$$

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Thus, we have that

$$\begin{aligned}a &= -gxy \\b &= gx(x + y) \\c &= gy(x + y) \\d &= g((x + y)^2 - xy).\end{aligned}$$

Proving the Parameterization

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Circle
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Clearly, for the quadruple to be primitive, g must be 1, meaning x and y are coprime. Thus, we have

$$a = -xy$$

$$b = x(x + y)$$

$$c = y(x + y)$$

$$d = (x + y)^2 - xy.$$

with $\gcd(x, y) = 1$.

