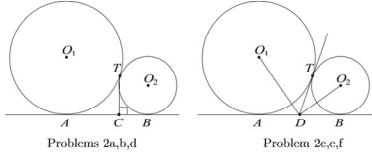


**Inversion in the Plane (Discussion)**  
**Worksheet 2: Tangent Circles and Tangents to Circles<sup>1</sup>**  
 Date: 10/27/2020

MATH 74: Transition to Upper-Division Mathematics  
 with Professor Zvezdelina Stankova, UC Berkeley

Write clearly. Supply your reasoning in words and/or symbols. Show calculations and relevant pictures.

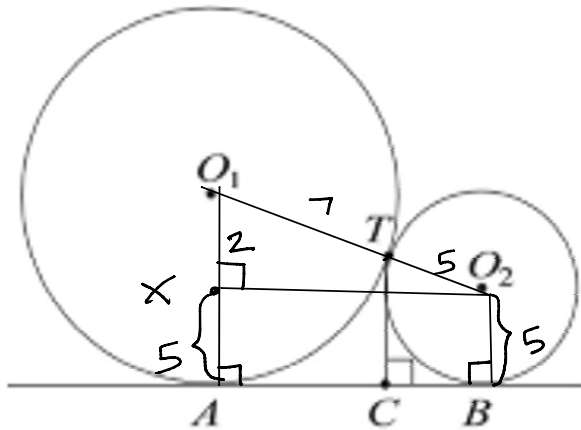
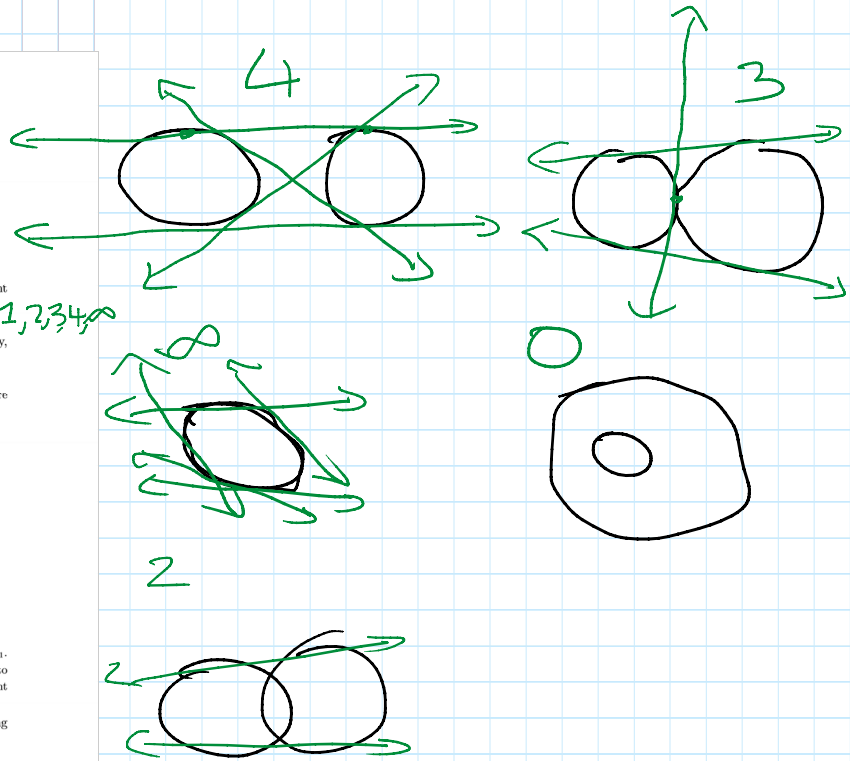
1. (Common Tangents) What are *common tangent lines* to two circles? How many common tangent lines can two circles have and why? Explain briefly and supply a picture in each situation. (Hint: Consider cases according to how the two circles are positioned with respect to each other.)
2. (Two Tangent Circles) Two circles with centers  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  and of radii 7 cm and 5 cm, respectively, are externally tangent at point  $T$ .
- How long is their common external tangent segment  $AB$ ? (Hint: Connect all tangency points with the centers of the circles on which they lie. What type of a figure do you see? Apply PT to a carefully constructed right  $\triangle O_1O_2X$ , where  $O_2X \parallel AB$ .)
  - Prove that  $\angle ATB$  is right. (Hint:  $O_1A \parallel O_2B$ , and  $\triangle O_1AT$  and  $\triangle O_2BT$  are isosceles.)
  - Find the distance from  $T$  to the midpoint of the tangent segment  $AB$ .



- (d) What is the distance  $TC$  from  $T$  to their common external tangent segment  $AB$ ? (Hint: As before, connect all relevant points. You know all sides of the resulting right trapezoid  $ABO_2O_1$ . By drawing  $O_2X \parallel AB$ , create the same right  $\triangle O_1O_2X$  as before. But now, with the altitude  $TC$  to  $AB$ , you have actually created a second, smaller right triangle. What can you say about these two right triangles? How does this help find  $TC$ ?)
- (e) Let the internal tangent of the two circles intersect the external tangent  $AB$  in point  $D$ . How long is  $TD$ ? (Hint: Compare  $TD$  with some segments on the picture!  $AB = ?$ )
- (f) Prove that  $\angle O_1DO_2 = 90^\circ$ . (Hint: Connect some points. Two quadrilaterals form a right trapezoid.)

Extra Background and Practice: Circle Inscribed in a Triangle: L138-139, W138-139  
 4. (Basics) W138: #1, 2, 3, 4, W139: #1, 2, 3, 4.

<sup>1</sup>These worksheets are copyrighted and provided for the personal use of Fall 2020 MATH 74 students only. They may not be reproduced or posted anywhere without explicit written permission from Prof. Zvezdelina Stankova.



Problems 2a,b,d

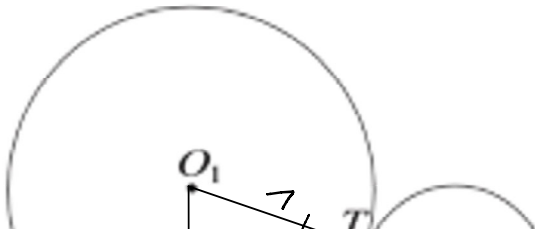
$\triangle AB O_2 X$  is a rectangle  $\Rightarrow \overline{AB} = \overline{O_2 X}$ .

$\overline{O_1 X} = \overline{O_1 A} - \overline{X A} = 7 - 5 = 2$

$\overline{O_1 O_2} = \overline{O_1 T} + \overline{T O_2} = 7 + 5 = 12$

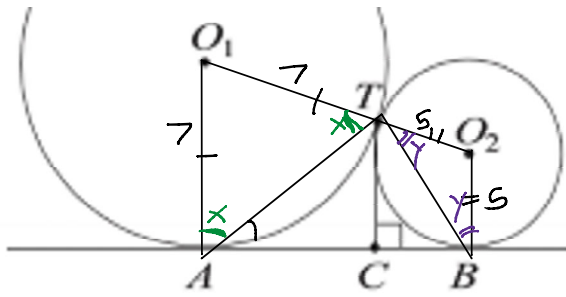
$\overline{AB} = \overline{O_2 X} = \sqrt{12^2 - 2^2} = \sqrt{140} = 2\sqrt{35}$

b)  $\angle ATB = ?$



$\triangle O_1 A T$  and  $\triangle O_2 T B$  are both isosceles.

$\angle ATB = 180 - x - y = 90^\circ$



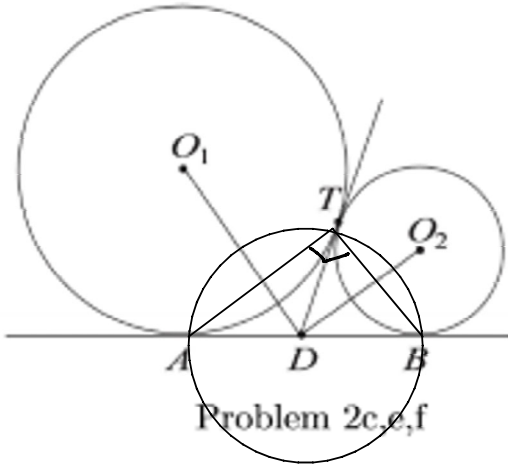
Problems 2a,b,d

$$\begin{aligned} \angle ATB &= 180 - x - y = 90^\circ \\ \angle TAB &= 90 - x \\ + \angle TBA &= 90 - y \end{aligned}$$

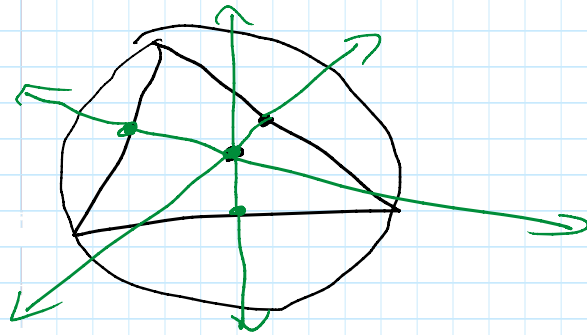
$$180^\circ = 360 - 2x - 2y \stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow} 90 = 180 - x - y$$

c) D is the midpoint of AB. TD = ?

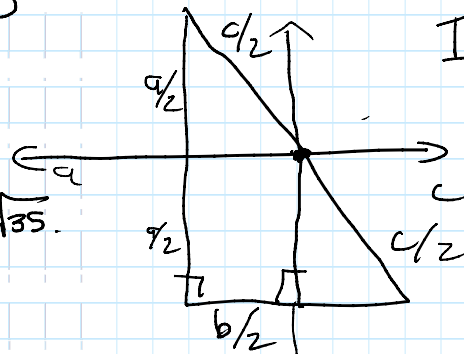
circumcenter = center of circumscribed circle  
= intersection of perpendicular bisector



Problem 2c,e,f



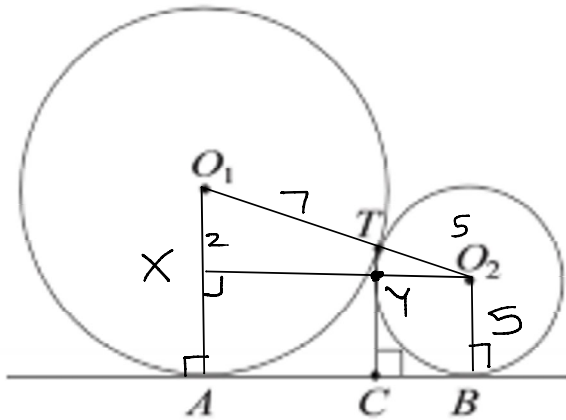
D is midpoint of AB,  
→ D is the circumcenter of  $\triangle TAB$   
DT, DA, DB are radii of the  
circumcircle  
 $\overline{DT} = \overline{DA} = \overline{DB} = \frac{1}{2} (2\sqrt{35}) = \sqrt{35}$ .



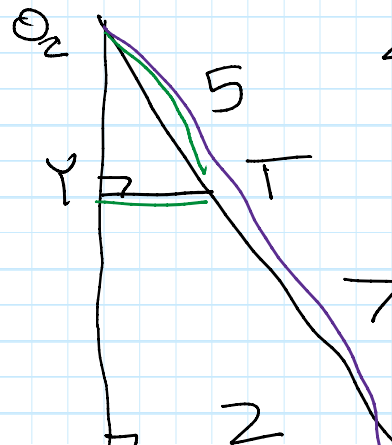
Thm: The circumcenter of a  
right triangle is the  
midpoint of the hypotenuse.

$$\overline{TC} = \overline{TY} + \overline{YC} = 5 + 5 = 10$$

(d)



Problems 2a,b,d



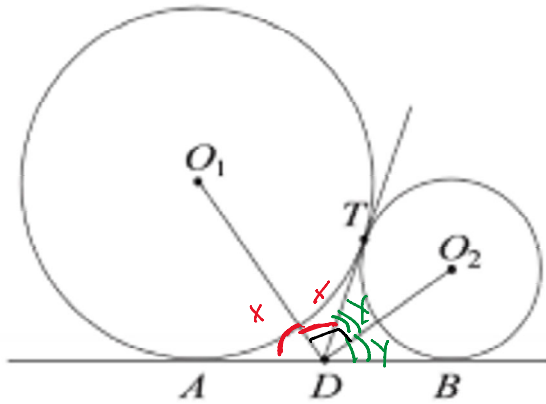
$$\triangle O_2YT \sim \triangle O_2XO_1$$

$$\frac{O_2T}{O_2O_1} = \frac{TY}{O_1X}$$

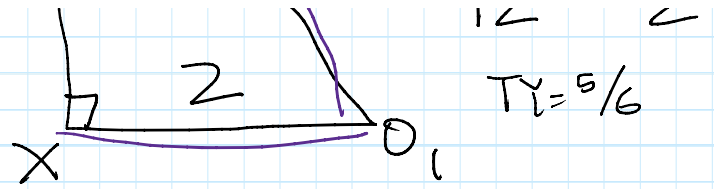
$$\frac{5}{12} = \frac{TY}{2}$$

$$TY = 5/6$$

A C B  
Problems 2a,b,d



Problem 2c,e,f



(e) D is so that DT is a common tangent.

DT and DB are common tangents to  $O_2$

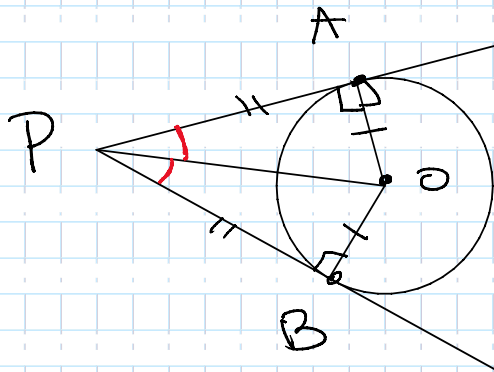
$$\Rightarrow DT = DB$$

DT and DA are common tangents to  $O_1$

$$DT = DA$$

$DA = DT = DB \Rightarrow D$  is the midpoint of AB.

$$DT = \sqrt{35} \text{ (from before)}$$



$\triangle PAO \cong \triangle PBO$  by HL  $\Rightarrow PA = PB$   
 $\angle OPB = \angle OPA$

$$(f) \angle O_1 D O_2 = x + y = 70^\circ$$

$$2x + 2y = 180 \Rightarrow x + y = 90$$