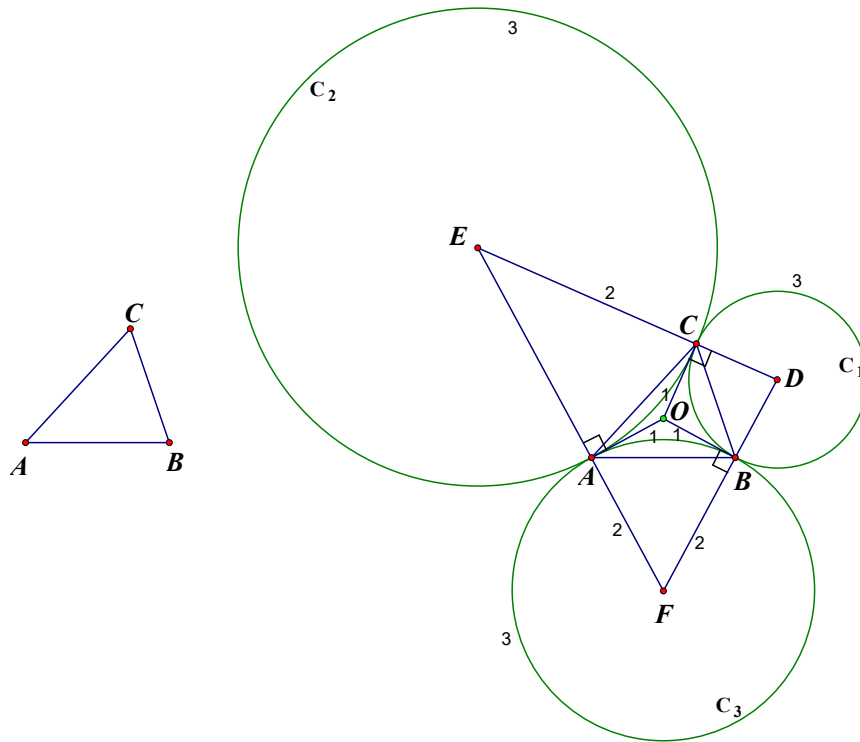


Given $\triangle ABC$. To construct 3 circles touching each other externally at A, B, C

Created by Mr. Francis Hung

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Steps

(1) Using perpendicular bisectors to construct the circumcentre O .

https://twhung78.github.io/Geometry/7%20Construction%20by%20ruler%20and%20compasses/circle/Circumscribed_circle.pdf

(2) Draw $EAF \perp OA$, $DBF \perp OB$, $DCE \perp OC$.

(3) Use D as centre, radius = DB to draw a circle C_1 , use E as centre, radius = EC to draw a circle C_2 , use F as centre, radius = FA to draw a circle C_3 .

Then the 3 circles touch each other externally at A , B and C respectively.

Proof: $\because O$ is circumcentre of ABC

$\therefore OA = OB = OC$ (circumradius)

$\angle OAB = \angle OBA$, $\angle OBC = \angle OCB$, $\angle OAC = \angle OCA$ (base \angle s isosceles \triangle)

$\angle FAB = \angle FBA$, $\angle EAC = \angle ECA$, $\angle DBC = \angle DCB$ ($EAF \perp OA$, $DBE \perp OB$, $DCF \perp OC$)

$FA = FB$, $EA = EC$, $DB = DC$ (sides, opp. eq. \angle s)

C_1 pass through B, C ; C_2 pass through A, C , C_3 pass through A, B

By construction, $EAF \perp OA$, $DBF \perp OB$, $DCE \perp OC$.

$\therefore OA$ is a common tangent to C_2, C_3 at A (converse, tangent \perp radius)

OB is a common tangent to C_1, C_3 at B (converse, tangent \perp radius)

OC is a common tangent to C_1, C_2 at C (converse, tangent \perp radius)

\therefore The 3 circles touches each other externally at A, B and C respectively.