

# On a Conformal Mapping of Regular Hexagons and the Spiral of its Centers

Wolfdieter L a n g <sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

A sequence of regular hexagons used in a geometrical proof of the incommensurability of the shorter diagonal and the side of a hexagon is obtained by iteration of a conformal mapping. The centers form a discrete spiral and are interpolated by two continuous spirals, one with discontinuous curvature the other one a logarithmic spiral.

## 1 Introduction

A geometrical proof by contradiction of the incommensurability of the shorter diagonal of a regular hexagon and its side can be given by considering an infinite process of ever smaller hexagons. This is explained in *Havil's* book [2] on irrationals. It shows the irrationality of  $\sqrt{3}$ , the length ratio between the a shorter diagonal and the side of a regular hexagon. We use this geometrical construction of a sequence of translated, rotated and down-scaled hexagons (always regular ones)  $\{H_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  inscribed in circles  $\{C_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  of radius  $\sigma^k r_0$ , with  $\sigma = -1 + \sqrt{3}$  and centers  $\{O_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ . These centers build a discrete spiral. The interpolation of the centers by a continuous curve is immediately given by patching together circular arcs of radius  $\sigma^k$  with one of the  $H_k$  vertices as centers. The curvature of this spiral is therefore discontinuous. Due to a conformal mapping of the loxodromic type whose iteration produces the sequence of hexagons an interpolating logarithmic spiral ensues with the finite fixed point  $S$  as its center. These two spirals are analogous to the ones in a regular pentagon with a sequence of golden triangles (or rectangles) shown, *e.g.*, in the book of *Livio* [4], as figures 40 and 41 on p. 119. For these triangles the conformal mapping has been given in [3]. The completion of the hexagon sequence and the spirals using negative  $k$  values is also considered.

## 2 Hexagon Descent

For the following geometrical construction see *Figure 1* with  $k = 0$ . One starts with a circle  $C_0$  with center  $O_0$  and radius  $r_0$  (this will be taken in the sequel as length unit. Hence, lengths will always be lengths ratios *w.r.t.*  $r_0$ ), and inscribes a regular hexagon (the standard construction with a pair of compasses). The vertices of the hexagon (only regular hexagons will be considered) are denoted by  $V_k(j)$ , for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, 5$ , taken in the positive (anti-clockwise) sense. The choice of  $V_0(0)$  defines the non-negative  $x_0$  axis as prolongation of  $O_0, V_0(0)$ . These Cartesian coordinates are named  $(x_0, y_0)$  (or in the complex plane  $z = x_0 + y_0 i$ ).

The next (smaller) hexagon  $H_1$  is inscribed in a circle  $C_1$  with center  $O_1$  and radius  $r_1 = \sigma := -1 + \sqrt{3}$ . This center is obtained by drawing the smaller diagonal in  $H_0$ , *viz*,  $D_0 = \overline{V_0(0), V_0(2)}$ , which has length  $\sqrt{3}$ , intersecting it with a circle of radius 1 around  $V_0(2)$ . Then on the circle  $C_1(O_1, r_1)$ , with radius

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<sup>1</sup> wolfdieter.lang@partner.kit.edu, <http://www.kit.edu/~wl/>

$r_1 = \overline{O_1, V_0(0)} = \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{3}$ , the vertex  $V_1(3)$  of  $H_1$  is the intersection point with the  $x_0$  axis, *i.e.*, the prolongation of  $\overline{O_0 V_0(0)}$  or  $\overline{V_0(3) V_0(0)}$ . From this vertex  $V_1(3)$  one finds the vertex  $V_1(0)$  as antipode on  $C_1$ .  $V_1(5)$  coincides with  $V_0(0)$ .

In the second step the new center  $O_2$  of  $H_2$  is constructed in the same way by drawing the smaller diagonal  $D_1 = \overline{V_1(0) V_1(2)}$  ( $V_1(2)$  happens to lie on the diagonal  $D_0$ , and  $D_1$  is parallel to the  $x_0$  axis). Then the circle around  $V_1(2)$  with radius  $r_1$  intersects  $D_1$  at  $O_2$ . The vertex  $V_2(3)$  on  $C_2(O_2, r_2)$ , with  $r_2 = \overline{O_2, V_1(0)} = \sigma r_1 = \sigma^2$ , is the point of intersection of  $C_2$  with the  $x_1$  axis (prolongation of  $\overline{O_1, V_1(0)}$ ). The antipode of  $V_2(3)$  on  $C_2$  is  $V_2(0)$ , etc.

This construction implies the following data (besides some obvious ones for a hexagon).

**Lemma 1**

- 1)  $|V_0(2), V_0(0)| = \sqrt{3}$ ,  $|O_1, V_0(0)| = \sigma := -1 + \sqrt{3}$ .  $|V_1(3), O_0| = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} = 2 - \sqrt{3}$ .
- 2) The two circles  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  intersect at  $(1, 0)$  and  $S = (0, 1)$ .

**Proof:** (In Cartesian coordinates  $(x_0, y_0)$ )

- 1)  $V_0(2) = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$ , hence  $\angle(V_0(2), V_0(1), O_0) = \frac{\pi}{6}$ . Therefore,  $O_1 = \left(\frac{\sigma}{2}, \frac{\sigma}{2}\right)$ , and  $\angle(V_0(0), O_0, O_1) = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .  $\angle(V_0(0), V_1(3), O_1) = \frac{\pi}{6}$ . From  $\triangle(V_1(3), O_1, V_0(0))$  one has  $|V_1(3), V_0(0)| = 2 \cdot \left(\frac{\sigma}{2} \sqrt{3}\right)$ . On the other hand, the  $y_0$  component of  $V_1(0)$  is  $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) 2\sigma = \sigma$ , hence  $V_0(0) = V_1(5)$ , and  $\overline{V_1(0), V_0(0)}$  is parallel to the  $y_0$ -axis. Therefore  $\overline{V_1(0), V_1(2)}$  is parallel to the  $x_0$ -axis, and  $V_1(2)$  with  $y_0$ -component  $\sigma$  lies on the diagonal  $D_0$ .  $|V_1(3), O_0| = \sigma \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{\sigma}{2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} = 2 - \sqrt{3}$ .

- 2) With  $C_0 : x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 1$  and  $C_1 : \left(x_0 - \frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2 + \left(y_0 - \frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2 = \sigma^2$  one finds the intersections  $(1, 0)$  and  $S = (0, 1)$ . □

Thus the new hexagon  $H_1$  is obtained from the old one,  $H_0$ , by a translation with  $\vec{v}_0 := \overrightarrow{O_0, O_1} = \sigma(1, 1)^\top$  (a column vector), followed by a rotation about the axis perpendicular to the plane (the  $z$ -axis) through  $O_1$  by the angle  $\angle(V_1(0), V_1(2), V_1(5)) = \frac{\pi}{6}$  and scaling down by a factor  $\sigma$ . This process is iterated to find  $H_{k+1}$  from  $H_k$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$  (see *Figure 1*).

Next, the vectors  $\vec{v}_k = \overrightarrow{O_{k-1}, O_k}$  are given in polar coordinates.

**Lemma 2: Vectors  $\vec{v}_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$**

$$\vec{v}_k \doteq v_k \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha_k \\ \sin \alpha_k \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with } v_k = \sigma^k \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \quad \text{and } \alpha_k = (2k+1) \frac{\pi}{12}, \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (1)$$

$$v_k = (a_k + b_k \sqrt{3}) \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \quad \text{where } a_k = (-1)^k \text{A026150}(k), \quad \text{and } b_k = (-1)^{k+1} \text{A002605}(k).$$

For the first  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  entries see *Table 6*, column  $r_k$ . For the components of the first twelve vectors  $\vec{v}_k$  see *Table 1*.

**Proof:**

- i) The polar angle  $\alpha$  is obtained recursively from  $\alpha_k = \alpha_{k-1} + \frac{\pi}{6}$ , for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$ , with input  $\alpha_1 = \frac{\pi}{4}$  which follows from the rotation by an angle of  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  to obtain  $H_k$  from  $H_{k-1}$ .
- ii) The length  $v_k$  is obtained recursively from  $v_k = v_{k-1} \sigma$  for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$  with input  $v_1 = \sigma \sqrt{2}$ . One may take formally  $v_0 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  and then  $v_k = \sigma^k v_0$ , for  $k = (0), 1, 2, \dots$ . For  $\{a_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  and  $\{b_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  one obtains the mixed recurrence  $a_k = -a_{k-1} + 3b_{k-1}$  and  $b_k = a_{k-1} - b_{k-1}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , and inputs  $a_0 = 1$  and  $b_0 = 0$ . This decouples, inserting  $b_k + b_{k-1} = a_{k-1}$  into  $a_k + a_{k-1}$ , to the three term recurrences  $b_k = 2(-b_{k-1} + b_{k-2})$  with inputs  $b_0 = 0$  and  $b_1 = 1$ , and  $a_k = 2(-a_{k-1} + a_{k-2})$  with inputs

$a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = -1$ . The *Binet* formulae are, with  $\tau := \frac{2}{\sigma} = 1 + \sqrt{3} =: -\bar{\sigma}$ ,  $a_k = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sigma^k + (-\tau)^k \right)$  and  $b_k = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( \sigma^k - (-\tau)^k \right)$ . The *o.g.f.s* (ordinary generating functions) are  $Ga(x) = \frac{1+x}{1+2x-2x^2}$  and  $Gb(x) = \frac{x}{1+2x-2x^2}$ . This explains the given result involving [A026150](#) and [A002605](#).  $\square$

In Cartesian coordinates one can write the recurrence as

$$\vec{v}_k = \sigma \mathbf{R} \vec{v}_{k-1}, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots \quad \text{with } \vec{v}_1 \doteq \frac{\sigma}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } \mathbf{R} \doteq \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} & -1 \\ 1 & \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

$\mathbf{R}$  is the rotation matrix for angle  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ . This leads to

$$\vec{v}_{k+1} = (\sigma \mathbf{R})^k \vec{v}_1, \quad \text{for } k = (0), 1, 2, \dots \quad (3)$$

The powers of  $\sigma$  have been given above as  $\sigma^k = a_k + b_k \sqrt{3}$ .

The powers of  $R$  are found as an application of the *Cayley – Hamilton* theorem, *e.g.*, [8],[7]:

$$\mathbf{R}^k = S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) \mathbf{R} - S_{k-2}(\sqrt{3}) \mathbf{1}_2, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (4)$$

Where  $S_n(x)$  is the *Chebyshev* polynomial with coefficients given in [A049310](#) with  $S_{-1}(x) = 0$  and  $S_{-2}(x) = -1$ . Here  $S_{2l}(\sqrt{3}) = \text{A057079}(l)$  and  $S_{2l+1}(\sqrt{3}) = \text{A019892}(l) \sqrt{3}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . [A057079](#) and [A019892](#) are period length 6 sequences, repeat(1, 2, 1, -1, -2, -1) and repeat(1, 1, 0, -1, -1, 0), respectively. *I.e.*,  $S_n(\sqrt{3}) = s_n + t_n \sqrt{3}$ , with  $\{s_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \text{repeat}(1, 0, 2, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0, -2, 0, -1, 0)$  and  $\{t_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \text{repeat}(0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, -1, 0, 0)$ .

**Corollary 1:**  $\vec{v}_k$  **Periodicity modulo 12 up to scaling**

$$\vec{v}_{k+12l} = \sigma^{12l} \vec{v}_k, \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}, l \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (5)$$

This follows from the periodicity of the angle  $\alpha_k$  in eq. (1).

The calculation of the  $\vec{v}_{2l}$  and  $\vec{v}_{2l+1}$  components *w.r.t.* the  $(x_0, y_0)$  coordinate system leads to

**Proposition 1:** **Components of  $\vec{v}_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$**

$$\vec{v}_{2l} \doteq \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} ve1(l) + we1(l) \sqrt{3} \\ ve2(l) + we2(l) \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l \geq 1, \quad \vec{v}_{2l+1} \doteq \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} vo1(l) + wo1(l) \sqrt{3} \\ vo2(l) + wo2(l) \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l \geq 0, \quad (6)$$

$$\text{with } ve1(l) = -a_{2l} A(l-1) + 3b_{2l} (A(l-1) - 2B(l-2)), \quad (7)$$

$$we1(l) = +a_{2l} (A(l-1) - 2B(l-2)) - b_{2l} A(l-1), \quad (8)$$

$$ve2(l) = +a_{2l} A(l-1) + 3b_{2l} (A(l-1) - 2B(l-2)), \quad (9)$$

$$we2(l) = +a_{2l} (A(l-1) - 2B(l-2)) + b_{2l} A(l-1), \quad (10)$$

$$\text{and } vo1(l) = a_{2l+1} (3B(l-1) - 2A(l-1)) - 3b_{2l+1} B(l-1), \quad (11)$$

$$wo1(l) = -a_{2l+1} B(l-1) + b_{2l+1} (3B(l-1) - 2A(l-1)), \quad (12)$$

$$vo2(l) = +a_{2l+1} (3B(l-1) - 2A(l-1)) + 3b_{2l+1} B(l-1), \quad (13)$$

$$wo2(l) = +a_{2l+1} B(l-1) + b_{2l+1} (3B(l-1) - 2A(l-1)), \quad (14)$$

where  $A(l) = S_{2l}(\sqrt{3})$ ,  $B(l) = S_{2(l-1)}(\sqrt{3})/\sqrt{3}$ ,

and  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  are given in Lemma 2.

See *Table 1* for the coordinates of  $\vec{v}_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$ .

The center  $O_k$  of hexagon  $H_k$ , the endpoint of the vector  $\vec{O}_k := \overrightarrow{O_0, O_k}$ , is obtained from (undefined sums are set to 0)

$$\vec{O}_k = \sum_{j=1}^k \vec{v}_j, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{O}_0 = \vec{0}, \quad (15)$$

$$\vec{O}_k = \left( \mathbf{1}_2 + \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (\sigma \mathbf{R})^j \right) \vec{v}_1. \quad (16)$$

In the coordinate system  $(x_0, y_0)$  the components of center  $O_k$  follow from *Proposition 1*.

**Corollary 2: Components of  $O_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$**

$$\begin{aligned} (O_k)_{x_0} &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor} (ve1(j) + we1(j) \sqrt{3}) + \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{k-1}{2} \rfloor} (vo1(j) + wo1(j) \sqrt{3}) \right), \\ (O_k)_{y_0} &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor} (ve2(j) + we2(j) \sqrt{3}) + \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{k-1}{2} \rfloor} (vo2(j) + wo2(j) \sqrt{3}) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

See *Table 1* for the components of  $O_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$ . It seems that the centers  $O_{6l}$ , for  $l = 0, 1, \dots$  lie on the  $y_0$  axis. This will be proved in the next section in *Proposition 4*.

The relation between  $\vec{O}_{k+12l}$  and  $O_k$  will also be considered in the next section in *Proposition 6*, part 7), in the complex plane. It is a periodicity modulo 12 up to a scaling and a translation.

The vertices  $V_k(j)$ , for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, 5$ , of the hexagon  $H_k$  follow from  $\vec{V}_k(j) := \overrightarrow{O_0, V_k(j)}$ .

**Proposition 2: Vertices of hexagons  $H_k$**

$$\vec{V}_k(j) = \vec{O}_k + \sigma^k \mathbf{R}^{k+2j} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, \quad \text{and } j = 0, 1, \dots, 5. \quad (18)$$

**Proof:**

For the hexagon  $H_k$  the vector  $\overrightarrow{O_k, V_k(0)}$  is obtained from the unit vector in  $x_0$  direction of the original coordinate system  $(x_0, y_0)$  for the first hexagon  $H_0$  by  $k$ -fold rotation with  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}(\frac{\pi}{6})$  and down-scaling by  $\sigma$  as

$$\overrightarrow{O_k, V_k(0)} = (\sigma \mathbf{R})^k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

Then the vectors for the other vertices are obtained by repeated rotation of  $60^\circ$ , *i.e.*, by application of  $\mathbf{R}^2$  leading to the assertion.  $\square$

For the  $(x_0, y_0)$  components of  $\vec{V}_k(0)$ , for  $0, 1, \dots, 12$ , see *Table 2*, and for the other vertices, for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ , see *Tables 3, 4* and *5*.

**Lemma 3: Triangles  $T_k$**

The triangle  $T_k = \triangle(O_k, V_k(2), O_{k+1})$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , is isosceles with basis  $v_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sigma^{k+1}$  and two sides of length  $r_k = \sigma^k$ . The angles are  $\angle(O_{k+1}, V_k(2), O_k) = \frac{\pi}{6} \hat{=} 30^\circ$  and twice  $\frac{5\pi}{12} \hat{=} 75^\circ$ .

**Proof:** This is clear from the construction and the values for  $v_k$  given above in *Lemma 2* and  $r_k$ . See *Figure 1*.  $\square$

The polar coordinates of  $O_k$ , the center of hexagon  $H_k$  are given as follows. Note that  $\varphi \in [0, 2\pi)$ . The number of revolutions, using also  $\varphi \geq 2\pi$  (sheets in the complex plane), will be considered in the next section.

**Corollary 3: Polar coordinates of  $O_k$**

In the complex plane  $O_k \hat{=} z_k = \rho_k \exp(i\varphi_k)$  with  $\rho_k = \left| \overrightarrow{O_0, O_k} \right|$ , one has

$$\rho_k = \sqrt{((O_k)_{x_0})^2 + ((O_k)_{y_0})^2}, \quad \text{with eq.(17)} \quad (20)$$

$$\varphi_k = \hat{\varphi}_k \text{ in quadrant I, } = \hat{\varphi}_k + \pi \text{ in quadrants II and III, } = \hat{\varphi}_k + 2\pi \text{ in quadrant IV, with}$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_k = \arctan \left( \frac{(O_k)_{y_0}}{(O_k)_{x_0}} \right). \quad (21)$$

$\rho_k^2$  is integer in the real quadratic number field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ . For the values for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ , see *Table 2*. The corresponding angles are  $(\varphi_k 180/\pi)^\circ$ . The values for  $\tan \hat{\varphi}_k$  are elements of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ . For their components see also *Table 2*, for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$  (for  $k = 0$ , with  $z_0 = 0$ , the value of  $\hat{\varphi}_0$  is arbitrary; in *Table 2* we have set it to 0).

### 3 Conformal mapping and the Hexagon Spiral

The discrete spiral formed by the hexagon centers  $O_0$  and  $O_k$  given in eq. (17) for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , are shown as dots in *Figure 2* for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 11$ . In the complex plane  $\overline{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \infty$  these centers will be called  $z_k = (O_k)_{x_0} + (O_k)_{y_0} i$ . The construction of these hexagon described in sect. 1 is obtained by repeated application of a conformal Möbius transformation. It is determined by mapping the triangle  $T_0$  of  $H_0$  with vertices  $z(1) = V_0(2) = \frac{1}{2}(-1 + \sqrt{3}i)$ ,  $z(2) = z_0 = 0 + 0i$  and  $z(3) = z_1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + 1i)$  to the translated, rotated and scaled triangle  $T_1$  of  $H_1$  with vertices  $w(1) = V_1(2) = (-2 + \sqrt{3}) + (-1 + \sqrt{3})i$ ,  $w(2) = z_1 = \frac{1}{2}(-1 + \sqrt{3} + (-1 + \sqrt{3})i)$  and  $w(3) = z_2 = (-3 + 2\sqrt{3}) + (-1 + \sqrt{3})i$ . See *Figure 1* for these two triangles, setting  $k = 0$ . In general triangle  $T_k$  is mapped to  $T_{k+1}$  by this conformal transformation, especially  $w(z_k) = z_{k+1}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . The unique Möbius transformation which maps the vertices of  $T_0$  to those of  $T_1$  is given by solving the double quotient equation for  $w = w(z)$  (see. *e.g.*, [6], [9])

$$DQ(w(1), w(2), w(3), w) = DQ(z(1), z(2), z(3), z), \quad \text{with } DQ(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4) := \frac{z_4 - z_3}{z_4 - z_1} \Big/ \frac{z_2 - z_3}{z_2 - z_1}. \quad (22)$$

The solution is a Möbius transformation of the loxodromic type, having besides one fixed point at  $\infty$  another finite one  $S$  with  $(w - S) = a(z - S)$ , where  $a$  is not real non-negative, and  $|a| \neq 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} w(z) &= \frac{A}{D}z + \frac{B}{D}, \quad \text{with} \\ A &= 2 \left( (-2 + \sqrt{3}) + (-7 + 4\sqrt{3})i \right), \\ B &= (-9 + 5\sqrt{3}) + (5 - 3\sqrt{3})i, \\ D &= (1 - \sqrt{3}) + (-5 + 3\sqrt{3})i. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

The determinant of this transformation is  $AD = 8(-19 + 11\sqrt{3})$ .  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $D$  are integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ . This is rewritten in the following *Proposition*.

**Proposition 3: Loxodromic map  $w$**

1) The unique conformal Möbius transformation  $w$  which maps the corners of triangle  $T_0$  to those of  $T_1$  (keeping the orientation), and hence  $T_k = \triangle(V_k(2), O_k, O_{k+1})$  to  $T_{k+1}$ , is given by the loxodromic map

$$\begin{aligned} w(z) &= az + b, \text{ with} \\ a &= \frac{1}{2} \left( (3 - \sqrt{3}) + (-1 + \sqrt{3})i \right), \\ b &= \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \sqrt{3})(1 + i) = (1 - a)i. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

2)  $a = \sigma e^{i\frac{\pi}{6}}$ , and  $|a| = \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{3} \neq 1$ . The finite fixed point of this map is  $S = i$ .  $S$  is the common intersection point of all circles  $C_k$ .

**Proof:**

1) This is clear from the construction and the previous form of  $w$  from eq. (23), and the computation has been checked with the help of Maple [5].

2) The values of  $a$  and  $|a|$  show that this Möbius transformation is loxodromic with finite fixed point  $S = i$ .  $S$  has to lie on each circle  $C_k$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , because  $w$  maps  $C_k$  to  $C_{k+1}$ .

□

**Corollary 4: Inverse map  $w^{[-1]}$**

The inverse of map  $w^{[-1]}$  of  $w$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} w^{[-1]}(z) &= a^{-1}z + (1 - a^{-1})i \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[ \left( (3 + \sqrt{3}) - (1 + \sqrt{3})i \right) z + \left( -(1 + \sqrt{3}) + (1 - \sqrt{3})i \right) \right], \text{ for } z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}}. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

**Check:**  $w^{[-1]}(w(z)) \equiv z$ .

With the help of the conformal map  $w$  it is now easy to prove that points  $z_{6j}$  (corresponding to the centers  $O_{6j}$ ) lie on the imaginary axis (the  $y_0$ -axis).

**Proposition 4: Centers  $z_{6j}$  lie on the imaginary axis**

$$\Re(z_{6j}) = 0, \text{ for } j \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

**Proof:**

Compute  $w^6(z)$  for  $z$  on the imaginary axis,  $z = yi$ , with real  $y$ :  $w^6(yi) = (y + (209 - 120\sqrt{3})(1 - y))i = (y + (O_6)_{y_0}(1 - y))i$ . See the last column of *Table 1* for  $(O_6)_{y_0}$ . Therefore, points on the non-negative imaginary axis are mapped by  $w^6$  again on this axis. Because  $z_0 = 0$  lies on the imaginary axis also  $z_{6j}$ , for  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ , have to lie on the imaginary axis.

□

**Corollary 5: Number of centers for each revolution of the spiral**

The number of centers  $0_k$  for each revolution is 12.

See *Figure 4* for the first revolution, except for  $0_{12}$  on the imaginary axis where the second revolution starts.

The discrete hexagon spiral can be interpolated between  $O_k$  and  $O_{k+1}$  by circular arcs  $A_k$  of the circles  $\hat{C}_k(V_k(2), r_k)$ . See *Figure 4*. These arcs  $A_k$  belong to a sector of  $\hat{C}_k$  of angle  $\frac{5\pi}{12}$  (see *Lemma 3*). The precise form is given by

**Proposition 5: Interpolating circular arcs  $A_k$**

The circular arc with center  $V_k(2)$  and radius  $r_k = \sigma^k$  which interpolates between the centers  $O_k$  and  $O_{k+1}$  of the hexagon  $H_k$  is given by

$$A_k = \text{arc} \left( V_k(2), r_k, \frac{(k-2)\pi}{6}, \frac{(k-1)\pi}{6} \right). \quad (26)$$

**Proof:**

From *Lemma 3* the range of the angle  $\varphi$  is  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ . The angles are counted in the positive sense with respect to the horizontal line, defined by the  $x_0$ -axis. It is therefore sufficient to know the angle for one of the lines  $\overline{V_k(2), O_{k+1}}$  which corresponds to the larger of the angles for arc  $A_k$ , For  $k = 1$  this angle vanishes because the  $y_0$  components of  $V_1(2)$  and  $O_2$  coincide, they are  $\sigma r_0$ . Hence the angle for arc  $A_2$  starts with 0 ( $V_2(2)$  is on the line segment  $\overline{V_1(2), O_2}$ ) and ends with  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ . This proves the given range for each  $A_k$ .  $\square$

This interpolation by circular arcs is continuous but has discontinuous curvature with increases at each center  $O_k$  by a factor of  $1/\sigma = \frac{\tau}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{3}) \approx 1.366025403$ .

An interpolation with continuous curvature is given by the equal angle spiral (the logarithmic) spiral (*Jacob I Bernoulli: spira mirabilis*), defined in the complex plane by  $LS(\phi) = r(\phi) \exp(i\phi)$ , with  $r(\phi) = r(0) \exp(-\kappa\phi)$  where the constant  $\kappa$  defines the constant angle  $\alpha$  between the radial ray and the tangent (taken in the direction of increasing angle  $\phi$ ) at any point of the spiral by  $\alpha = \text{arccot}(-\kappa)$ . Here the center of the logarithmic spiral is at the finite fixed point  $S$  and we choose a coordinate system  $(X, Y)$  with the positive  $X$  direction along the vertical line (the  $y_0$ -axis in the negative sense) and the positive  $Y$  axis in the horizontal direction to the right, parallel to the positive  $x_0$  axis. *I.e.*,  $X = -y_0 + 1$  and  $Y = x_0$ . In this system  $0_0 = (1, 0)$  and  $r(0) = r_0 = 1$ . The angle  $\phi_1$  for  $0_1 = \left(\frac{2-\sigma}{2}, \frac{\sigma}{2}\right)$  (in the  $(X, Y)$  system) becomes  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  because  $\tan(\phi_1) = \frac{\sigma}{2-\sigma} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$ .  $r\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = r_1 = \sigma$ . Therefore the constant of the logarithmic spiral is  $\kappa = -\frac{6}{\pi} \log(\sigma) \approx 0.5956953531$ . This corresponds to  $\text{arccot}(\kappa) \approx 1.033548019$ , corresponding to about  $59.218^\circ$  (complementary to  $120.782^\circ$ ). To summarize:

**Proposition 6: Logarithmic Spiral for non-negative  $k$**

1) In the coordinate system  $(X, Y)$  of the logarithmic spiral with origin  $S$  and  $X = -y_0 + 1$ ,  $Y = x_0$  the spokes  $Sp_k = \overline{S, O_k}$  have lengths  $r_k = \sigma^k$ . The angles  $\phi_k$  are obtained by  $\sin(\phi_k) = (O_k)_{x_0} \sigma^{-k}$  where  $\sigma^{-k} = \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^k = a_{-k} + b_{-k} \sqrt{3}$ , where  $\tau = 1 + \sqrt{3} = -\bar{\sigma}$  and  $a_{-k} = \text{A002531}(k)/2^{\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor}$ ,  $b_{-k} = \text{A002530}(k)/2^{\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor}$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . *I.e.*,  $\{\sin(\phi_k)\}_{k=0}^\infty = \text{repeat} \left( 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, 1, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, \frac{1}{2}, 0, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, -1, -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, -\frac{1}{2} \right)$ . The first period applies to the first revolution of the spiral (sheet  $S_1$  in the complex plane). The corresponding angles are for the  $N$ -th revolution (sheet  $S_N$  in the complex plane)  $\phi_k = 2\pi(N-1) + \frac{\pi}{6}k \pmod{12}$ , *I.e.*, an addition of  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  or  $30^\circ$  from spoke  $Sp_k$  to  $Sp_{k+1}$  for each  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . The periodicity modulo 12 is proved in part 6).

2) In the coordinate system  $(X, Y)$  with origin  $S$  the hexagon centers are  $LS(\phi_k) = Z_k = \sigma^k \exp(i\phi_k) = (a_k + b_k \sqrt{3}) \exp(i\frac{\pi}{6}k)$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . This becomes with the help of the *de Moivre* formula, expressed in terms of *Chebyshev's S* polynomials evaluated at  $\sqrt{3}$ :

$$Z_k = \frac{1}{2} \left( (3b_k S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) - 2a_k S_{k-2}(\sqrt{3})) + (a_k S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) - 2b_k S_{k-2}(\sqrt{3})) \sqrt{3} + (a_k + b_k \sqrt{3}) S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) i \right) = (O_k)_X + (O_k)_Y i, \quad (27)$$

where  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  have been given in *Lemma 2*, and *Chebyshev's*  $S_n(\sqrt{3})$  polynomials entered in connection with eq. (4). See *Table 6* for the *Cartesian* coordinates  $((O_k)_X, (O_k)_Y)$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ .

3) The curvature  $K(\phi)$  of the logarithmic spiral  $r(\phi) = \exp(-\kappa \phi)$  is itself a logarithmic spiral

$$K(\phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \kappa^2}} \exp(+\kappa \phi) \quad \text{with} \quad \kappa = -\frac{6}{\pi} \log(\sigma). \quad (28)$$

$$\kappa \approx 0.5956953531 \quad \text{and} \quad K(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \kappa^2}} \approx 0.8591201770.$$

4) The conformal map  $W(Z)$  and its inverse  $W^{[-1]}$  in the  $S$ -system are for  $Z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}}$  given by

$$W(Z) = \frac{1}{2} \left( (3 - \sqrt{3}) + (-1 + \sqrt{3})i \right) Z = aZ, \quad (29)$$

$$W^{[-1]}(Z) = \frac{1}{4} \left( (3 + \sqrt{3}) - (1 + \sqrt{3})i \right) Z = a^{-1}Z. \quad (30)$$

5) The relation between the conformal maps  $w$  and  $W$  is

$$W(Z) = iw(z(Z)) + 1, \quad \text{or} \quad w(z) = i(1 - W(Z(z))), \quad (31)$$

$$\text{with} \quad z(Z, \overline{Z}) = z(Z) = i(1 - Z), \quad \text{or} \quad Z(z) = 1 + iz. \quad (32)$$

6) Periodicity modulo 12 up to scaling for  $Z_k$ :

$$Z_{k+12l} = \sigma^{12l} Z_k, \quad \text{for} \quad k \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad l \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (33)$$

7) Periodicity modulo 12 up to scaling and translation for  $z_k$ :

$$z_{k+12l} = \sigma^{12l} z_k + i(1 - \sigma^{12l}), \quad \text{for} \quad k \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad l \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (34)$$

### Proof:

1) The length ratio of the spokes is clear:  $S$  is the intersection of all circles  $C_k$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , and  $O_k$  is the center of  $C_k$ . The periodicity modulo 12 of the angles  $\phi_k$  follows conjecturally from the  $\sin(\phi_k)$  formula if the  $x_0$  component of  $O_k$  from eq. (17) is inserted. Later, under part **6**), this is proved. The values for the first revolution then show that in general  $\phi_{k+1} = \phi_k + \frac{\pi}{6}$ . One has to take into account the quadrants when interpreting the angles from the  $\sin(\phi_k)$  result.

2) This uses a standard reformulation of the trigonometric quantities obtained from the *de Moivre* formula in terms of *Chebyshev's* polynomials (they are the circular harmonics). The powers of  $\sigma$  have already been treated in *Lemma 2*.

3) The formula for the curvature  $K$  of a curve in two-dimensional polar coordinates  $r = r(\phi)$  is  $K(\phi) = \frac{r^2 + 2r'^2 - r r''}{(r^2 + r'^2)^{3/2}}$ , e.g., [1]. As explained in the preamble to this *Proposition* the logarithmic spiral is  $r(\phi) = \exp(-\kappa \phi)$ , and with  $r_1 = r\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \sigma$  one determines the constant  $\kappa$ . The curvature  $K$  becomes itself a logarithmic spiral with  $K(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \kappa^2}}$  and the constant  $-\kappa$ .

4) Like for the conformal map  $w$ , the unique *Möbius* transformation  $W$  which maps the points  $(S = 0, Z_0, Z_1)$  to  $(S, Z_1, Z_2)$  is obtained by solving the double quotient equation  $DQ(0, Z_0, Z_1, Z) = DQ(0, Z_1, Z_2, W)$  for  $W = W(Z)$ . The real and imaginary parts of  $Z_k$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$  are shown in *Table 6* as  $(O_k)_X$  and  $(O_k)_Y$ . In general  $W(Z_k) = Z_{k+1}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . The same  $a$  as in eq. (24) appears. The inverse map  $W^{[-1]}$  satisfies  $W^{[-1]}(W(Z)) = Z$ , identically. Note that, in contrast to  $w$ , the map  $W$ , hence  $W^{[-1]}$ , is linear.



5) The coordinate transformation  $X = 1 - y_0$  and  $Y = x_0$  leads for  $z = x_0 + y_0 i$  and  $Z = X + Y i$  to  $z(Z, \bar{Z}) = \frac{Z - \bar{Z}}{2i} + \left(1 - \frac{Z + \bar{Z}}{2}\right) i = i(1 - Z) + 0\bar{Z} = i(1 - Z) = z(Z)$ . With  $w(z) = az + (1 - a)i$  from eq. (24), one obtains  $w(z(Z)) = a(1 - Z)i + (1 - a)i = i(1 - aZ) = i(1 - W(Z))$ . I.e.,  $W(Z) = iw(z(Z)) + 1$ . Or, with  $Z(z) = 1 + zi$ ,  $W(Z(z)) = i(az + b) + (-ib + a) = iw(z) + 1$ , because  $a - ib = 1$ . Therefore,  $w(z) = i(1 - W(Z(z)))$ .

6) The linearity of  $W$  means that  $W^{[p]}(Z) = a^p Z$  for the  $p$ -fold iterated map  $W$  for  $Z \in \bar{\mathbb{C}}$ . Now, with  $Z_0 = 1$ , one has  $Z_{k+12l} = W^{[k+12l]}(1) = W^{[12l]}(W^{[k]}(1)) = W^{[12l]}(Z_k)$ . By linearity this is  $a^{12l} Z_k = (\sigma^{12})^l Z_k$ . Here  $a^{12} = \sigma^{12}$  even though  $a \neq \sigma$ . This follows from  $Z_{12} = W^{[12]}(1) = a^{12} 1 = a^{12}$ , and by computation (see the last two columns of Table 6)  $Z_{12} = 86464 - 49920\sqrt{3} + 0i = \sigma^{12}$  by the first column of this Table.

7) This periodicity modulo 12 up to scaling translates into a periodicity modulo 12 up to translation and scaling for the centers  $z_k$  of the circles  $C_k$  in the coordinate system  $(x_0, y_0)$  due to the transformation given in part 5) applied to these centers, viz,  $z_k(Z_k) = i(1 - Z_k)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Therefore,  $z_{k+12l} = i(1 - Z_{k+12l}) = i(1 - \sigma^{12l} Z_k)$  from part 4). With  $Z = Z_k(z_k) = 1 + z_k i$  this becomes  $z_{k+12l} = \sigma^{12l} z_k + i(1 - \sigma^{12l})$ .  $\square$

## 4 Hexagon Ascent

It is straightforward to continue the discrete spiral and its interpolations to negative  $k$  values. In the coordinate system  $(x_0, y_0)$  with origin  $O_0 = 0$  the vectors  $\vec{v}_{-k} = \overrightarrow{O_{-(k+1)} O_{-k}}$  have polar coordinates following from extending eq. (1).

$$\vec{v}_{-k} \doteq v_{-k} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha_{-k} \\ \sin \alpha_{-k} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with } v_{-k} = \sigma^{-k} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \quad \text{with } \alpha_{-k} = (1 - 2k) \frac{\pi}{12} \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (35)$$

$$v_{-k} = (a_{-k} + b_{-k} \sqrt{3}) \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \quad \text{where } a_{-k} = \text{A002531}(k)/2 \lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor, \text{ and } b_{-k} = \text{A002530}(k)/2 \lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor.$$

$\sigma^{-k}$  appeared already in Proposition 5, part 1). See also the second column of Table 3 for  $\{a_{-k}, b_{-k}\}$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ .

This can be written as

$$\vec{v}_{-k} = (\sigma \mathbf{R}^{-1})^{k+1} \vec{v}_1, \quad \text{with } \mathbf{R}^{-1} \doteq \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} & 1 \\ -1 & \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (36)$$

For  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  see eq. (2). E.g.,  $\vec{v}_0 \doteq \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \sigma \end{pmatrix}$ .

The formula eq. (4) can be used to obtain  $\mathbf{R}^{-k}$  with the Chebyshev polynomials  $S_{-n}(x) = -S_{n-2}(x)$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , with  $S_{-1}(x) = 0$ .

$$\mathbf{R}^{-k} = -S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) \mathbf{R} + S_k(\sqrt{3}) \mathbf{1}_2, \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (37)$$

The components of  $\vec{v}_{-k}$  can be computed from this. Similarly to Corollary 1 these vectors are periodic modulo 12 up to scaling:

**Corollary 6 = 1':  $\vec{v}_{-k}$  periodicity up to scaling**

$$\vec{v}_{-(k+12l)} = (\sigma)^{-12l} \vec{v}_{-k} = \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^{12l} \vec{v}_{-k}, \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0, l \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (38)$$

In order to obtain components of  $\vec{v}_{-k}$  which are integers in the real quadratic number field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  the largest denominator  $2^{s(k)}$  with  $s(k) = \text{A300068}(k)$  has been multiplied. This sequence  $\{s(k)\}_{k \geq 0}$  is obtained from the periodic sequence [A300067](#), repeat(0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 2, ).

**Lemma 4: Sequence  $s$**

The formula for the members of sequence  $s$  and its *o.g.f.* is

$$s(k) = 2 + \left\lfloor \frac{k \pmod{6}}{3} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{k \pmod{6}}{4} \right\rfloor + 3 \left\lfloor \frac{k}{6} \right\rfloor, \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

$$\text{O.g.f. : } G(x) = \frac{2 + x^3 + x^4 - x^6}{(1 - x^6)(1 - x)}. \quad (39)$$

**Proof:**

Due to the periodicity up to scaling (*Corollary 6*) it is sufficient to consider  $s(k)$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 11$ . These values are given from the first twelve vectors  $\vec{v}_{-k}$  by the second column of *Table 7* with the first six members 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, and the other six ones are obtained by adding 3 to each member. The scaling factor  $\sigma^{-12l}$  (see *Proposition 6*, part 1) and  $\mathbf{r}_{-k}$  in *Table 6*) has the denominator  $2^{\lfloor \frac{12l+1}{2} \rfloor} = 2^{6l}$  because  $\gcd(\text{A002531}(k), \text{A002530}(k)) = 1$  due to the fact that they are denominators and numerators in lowest terms of fractions (they give the continued fraction convergents of  $\sqrt{3}$ ). Therefore, for each period of length 12 a new factor  $2^6$  has to be multiplied, which means for the exponents that  $s(k + 12l) = 6l s(k)$ . Because in the first period 3 is added to the first six entries of  $s$  this results in a period of length 6 and the periodicity up to scaling formula for  $s$  becomes  $s(k + 6l) = 3l s(k)$ . This explains the last term in the explicit formula for  $s$ . The second and third terms result from [A300067](#), repeat(0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 2, ), and the 2 has then to be added to produce the first six entries of the sequence  $s$ . The *o.g.f.* of  $\{s(k) - 2\}_{k \geq 0}$  is found from the obvious ones of [A300067](#) and  $3 \lfloor \frac{k}{6} \rfloor$ .  $\square$

For the scaled vectors components  $\vec{v}_{-k}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ , see *Table 7*.

The centers  $O_{-k}$  are then given by

$$\vec{O}_{-k} = \overrightarrow{O_0}, \vec{O}_{-k} = - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \vec{v}_{-j}, \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } \vec{O}_{-0} = \vec{0}. \quad (40)$$

Again, some scaling  $2^{t(k)}$  is applied to obtain integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  for the components of  $\vec{O}_{-k}$ . For  $k = 0$ , the zero-vector  $\vec{0}$ , no scaling is needed and  $t(0) = 0$ . The above reasoning for sequence  $s$  does not apply immediately because  $O_{-k}$ , like  $O_k$ , is not periodic up to scaling, but in the  $y_0$  component also a translation appears (for  $O_k$ , in the complex plane called  $z_k$ , see the *Proposition 6*, part 7)). Later, in *Proposition 9*, part 5), it will be seen that for  $Z_{-k}$ , in the coordinate system  $(X, Y)$  with origin  $S$ , the same sequence  $t$  is used to obtain integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  for the real and imaginary parts of  $2^{t(k)} Z_{-k}$ . Then by the coordinate transformation  $x_0 = Y = \Im(Z)$  and  $y_0 = 1 - X = 1 - \Re(Z)$  this will imply integer coordinates in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  also for  $O_{-k}$ . It is therefore again sufficient to consider  $t(k)$  for the first period  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$ . These values are given in the fifth column of *Table 7* as 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 3, and the next six numbers are obtained by adding 3 to these members. This results in the following formula based on the period length 6 sequence [A300069](#), repeat(0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 1, ) (but there the offset is 0, not 1).

**Lemma 5: Sequence  $t$**

The formula for the members of sequence  $t$  and its *o.g.f.* is

$$t(0) = 0, \text{ and}$$

$$t(k) = 2 + \left\lfloor \frac{k-1 \pmod{6}}{3} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{k \pmod{6}}{5} \right\rfloor + 3 \left\lfloor \frac{k-1}{6} \right\rfloor = 2 + \text{A174257}(k), \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\text{O.g.f. : } G(x) = \frac{x(2 + 2x - x^3)}{(1 + x - x^3 - x^4)(1 - x)}. \quad (41)$$

The proof is analogous to the one of the preceding *Lemma 4* but the different offset has to be taken into account.

For the scaled vectors components  $2^{t(k)} \vec{O}_{-k}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ , see *Table 7*.

The square of the lengths  $2^k \rho_{-k}^2$  are given in *Table 5*.

The vertices of the hexagons  $H_{-k}$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , are given in the obvious extension of *Proposition 2* with  $\sigma^{-1} = \frac{\tau}{2}$  as follows.

**Proposition 7: Vertices of hexagons**  $H_{-k}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,

$$\vec{V}_{-k}(j) = \vec{O}_{-k} + \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^k \mathbf{R}^{-k+2j} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for } k = 0, 1, \dots, \text{ and } j = 0, 1, \dots, 5. \quad (42)$$

In order to obtain integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  after some scaling of the components of  $\vec{V}_{-k}(j)$  it turns out that one needs only the three scaling sequences  $2^{v_0(k)}$ ,  $2^{v_1(k)}$ ,  $2^{v_2(k)}$  for  $\vec{V}_{-k}(0)$ ,  $\vec{V}_{-k}(1)$ ,  $\vec{V}_{-k}(2)$ , which also work for  $\vec{V}_{-k}(3)$ ,  $\vec{V}_{-k}(4)$ ,  $\vec{V}_{-k}(5)$ , respectively. Again it is sufficient for the sequences  $v_0$ ,  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  to concentrate on the first six entries besides the values for  $k = 0$  (the original hexagon  $H_0$ ) which are 0, 1 and 1, respectively (for  $\vec{V}_0(0)$  see *Table 2* for  $k = 0$  which does not need a scaling). The other six values are obtained by adding 3, and for each new period of length 12 (starting with  $k = 1$ ) another 3 is added. We skip the proof (see the one for the sequence  $t$  which is similar), and give the results for these three sequences.

**Lemma 6: Sequences**  $v_0$ ,  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$

$v_0(0) = 0$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} v_0(k) &= 1 + \left\lfloor \frac{k \pmod{6}}{2} \right\rfloor + 2 \left\lfloor \frac{(k-1) \pmod{6}}{5} \right\rfloor + 3 \left\lfloor \frac{k-1}{6} \right\rfloor \\ &= 1 + \text{A300076}(k-1), \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

$v_0(k) = \text{A300068}(k+2)$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

$$\text{O.g.f. : } G_0(x) = \frac{x(1+x+x^3)}{(1-x^6)(1-x)}. \quad (44)$$

$v_1(0) = 1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} v_1(k) &= 1 + (k-1) \pmod{6} - \left\lfloor \frac{(k-1) \pmod{6}}{3} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{(k-1) \pmod{6}}{5} \right\rfloor + 3 \left\lfloor \frac{k-1}{6} \right\rfloor \\ &= 1 + \text{A300068}(k+1), \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

$$\text{O.g.f. : } G_1(x) = \frac{1+x^2+x^3+x^5-x^6}{(1-x^6)(1-x)}. \quad (46)$$

$v_2(0) = 1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} v_2(k) &= 2 + 2 \left\lfloor \frac{(k-1) \pmod{6}}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{k \pmod{6}}{3} \right\rfloor + 3 \left\lfloor \frac{k-1}{6} \right\rfloor \\ &= 2 + \text{A300293}(k-1), \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

$$\text{O.g.f. : } G_2(x) = \frac{1+x+x^3}{(1-x^6)(1-x)}. \quad (48)$$

The *o.g.f.s* show that  $v_2(k) = v_0(k+1)$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

The discrete hexagon spiral with points  $O_{-k}$  can again be interpolated by circular arcs  $A_{-k}$  between  $O_{-k}$  and  $O_{-k+1}$ . The centers of the circles are  $\hat{C}_{-k} = V_{-k}(2)$  and the radius is  $r_{-k} = \sigma^{-k} = \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^k$  (see *Table 6* for  $2^{\frac{k+1}{2}} r_{-k}$ ). The precise statement is given in

**Proposition 8: Interpolating circular arcs**  $A_{-k}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$

The circular arcs  $A_{-k}$  interpolation between the centers  $O_{-k}$  and  $O_{-k+1}$  of the discrete hexagon spiral are, for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  given by

$$A_{-k} = \text{arc} \left( V_{-k}(2), r_{-k}, \frac{-(k+2)\pi}{6}, \frac{-(k+1)\pi}{6} \right). \quad (49)$$

In *Figure 6* this interpolation by arcs is shown in dashed blue (almost coinciding with the later discussed logarithmic spiral shown there in solid red).

**Proof:**

This is simply the generalization of eq. (26) for negative  $k$ . The angle  $-\frac{2\pi}{6}$ , the first angle for  $A_0$  becomes the second angle for  $A_{-1}$  and then  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$  has to be added in order to obtain the first angle. This continues for each step  $A_{-k} \rightarrow A_{-(k+1)}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 9: Logarithmic Spiral for non-positive  $k$**

1) The centers of the circles  $C_{-k}$  are

$$Z_{-k} = (W^{[-1]})^{[k]}(1) = (a^{-1})^k, \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0, \text{ and } a_{-1} = \frac{\tau}{2} e^{-ik\frac{\pi}{6}}. \quad (50)$$

2) The spokes  $Sp_k = \overline{SZ_{-k}}$  have lengths  $\left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^k$  and the angles  $\phi_{-k} = -k\frac{\pi}{6}$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . For  $\sigma^{-k} = \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^k$  see *Proposition 6*, part 1).

3) The explicit form, using *de Moivre's* formula expressed in terms of the *Chebyshev's S* polynomials with negative index  $S_{-n}(x) = -S_{n-2}(x)$  is like eq. (27) with  $k \rightarrow -k$ :

$$Z_{-k} = \frac{1}{2} \left( (-3b_{-k} S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) + 2a_{-k} S_k(\sqrt{3})) + (-a_{-k} S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) + 2b_{-k} S_k(\sqrt{3})) \sqrt{3} - (a_{-k} + b_{-k} \sqrt{3}) S_{k-1}(\sqrt{3}) i \right). \quad (51)$$

4) The logarithmic spiral in the complex plane

$$LS(\phi) = e^{(-\kappa+i)\phi}, \text{ with } \kappa = -\frac{\pi}{6} \log(\sigma). \quad (52)$$

interpolates between all points  $Z_k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

5) Periodicity modulo 12 up to scaling for  $Z_{-k}$ :

$$Z_{-(k+12l)} = \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^{12l} Z_{-k}, \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0, l \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (53)$$

Therefore one has eq. (33) with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $l \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proof:**

1) With the map  $W^{[-1]}$  from *Proposition 6*, eq. (30), with  $a^{-1}$  from eq. (25), the hexagon centers  $O_{-k}$ , in the complex plane denoted by  $Z_{-k}$ , satisfy

$$Z_{-k} = W^{[-1]}(Z_{k-1}) = W^{[-k]}(Z_0) = W^{[-k]}(1) = (a^{-1})^k = a^{-k}, \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}_0. \quad (54)$$

2) This is clear from part 1).

3) This is also clear, repeating the steps which led to *Proposition 6*, part 2), and the rewriting of *S* polynomials with negative index, as given.

4) The logarithmic spiral, by construction of the maps  $W$  and  $W^{[-1]}$ , interpolates between all hexagon centers  $Z_k$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

5) The periodicity up to scaling is obvious from part 1).  $\square$

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Keywords: Conformal Mapping, Hexagon, Spiral

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Concerned with OEIS sequences [A002530](#), [A002531](#), [A002605](#), [A019892](#), [A026150](#), [A049310](#), [A057079](#), [A174257](#), [A300067](#), [A300068](#), [A300069](#), [A300076](#), [A300293](#).

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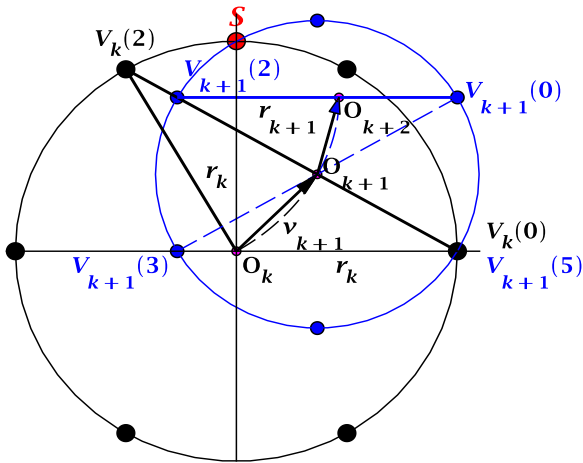


Figure 1

Figure 1: Construction  $H_k \rightarrow H_{k+1}$ :  $C_k(O_k, r_k)$ ,  $V_k(0)$ ,  $(x_k, y_k)$ ,  $D_k = \overline{V_k(0), V_k(2)}, \overline{V_k(2), O_{k+1}} = r_k$ ,  $C_{k+1}(O_{k+1}, r_{k+1} = \sigma^k, V_{k+1}(3), V_{k+1}(0), (x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}), \dots$

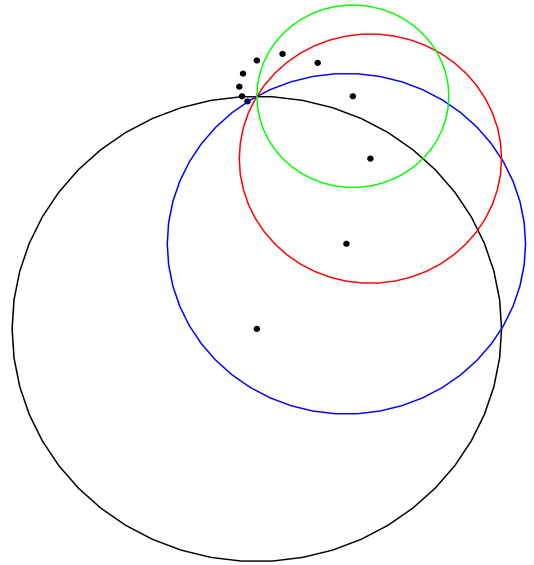


Figure 2

Figure 2: The first four circles and the first eleven centers.

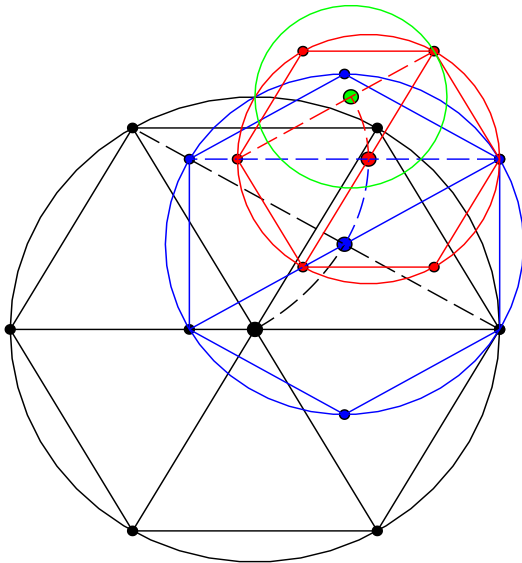


Figure 3

Figure 3: The first three hexagons and the first four circles.

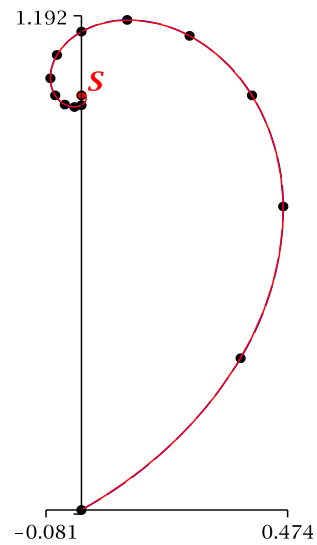


Figure 4

Figure 4: The discrete hexagon spiral of the first 13 centers. The interpolating circular arcs (dashed blue) and the logarithmic spiral (solid red) are almost indistinguishable).

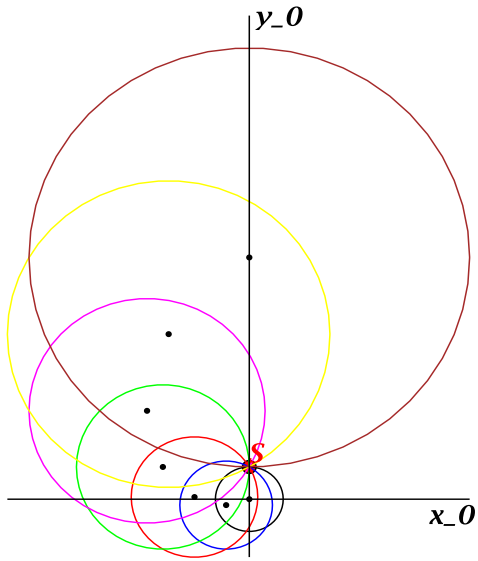


Figure 5

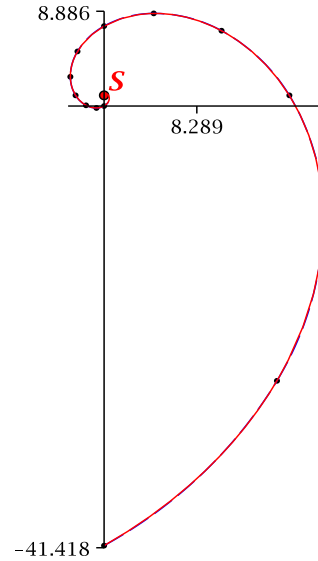


Figure 6

Figure 5: The circle  $C_0(0, 1)$  and the first six circles  $C_{-k}(O_{-k}, \sigma^{-k})$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ .

Figure 6: The fixed point  $S$ , the center  $O_0 = 0$ , the first 12 centers  $O_{-k}$  with  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$ . The interpolating circular arcs (dashed blue) and the logarithmic spiral (solid red) are almost indistinguishable.

In the following tables all length have been divided by  $r_0$ .

**Table 1**

$k$	$(\vec{v}_k)_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(\vec{v}_k)_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(O_k)_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(O_k)_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$
1	-1/2, 1/2	-1/2, 1/2	-1/2, 1/2	-1/2, 1/2
2	-5/2, 3/2	-1/2, 1/2	-3, 2	-1, 1
3	-7, 4	2, -1	-10, 6	1, 0
4	-14, 8	14, -8	-24, 14	15, -8
5	-14, 8	52, -30	-38, 22	67, -38
6	38, -22	142, -82	0, 0	209, -120
7	284, -164	284, -164	284, -164	493, -284
8	1060, -612	284, -164	1344, -776	777, -448
9	2896, -1672	-776, 448	4240, -2448	1, 0
10	5792, -3344	-5792, 3344	10032, -5792	-5791, 3344
11	5792, -3344	-21616, 12480	15824, -9136	-27407, 15824
12	-15824, 9136	-59056, 34096	0, 0	-86463, 49920
...				

**Table 2**

$k$	$(\vec{V}_k(0))_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(\vec{V}_k(0))_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$\rho_k^2 = \left  \overrightarrow{O_0, O_k} \right ^2$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$\tan \hat{\varphi}_k$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$
0	1, 0	0, 0	0, 0	0, 0
1	1, 0	-1, 1	2, -1	1, 0
2	-1, 1	-4, 3	25, -14	1, 1/3
3	-10, 6	-9, 6	209, -120	5/4, 3/4
4	-38, 22	-9, 6	1581, -912	2, 3/2
5	-104, 60	29, -16	11717, -6764	19/4, 15/4
6	-208, 120	209, -120	87881, -50160	$\infty$
7	-208, 1204	777, -448	646361, -373176	-71/8, -49/8
8	568, -328	2121, -1224	4818705, -2782080	-7, -35/8
9	4240, -2448	4241, -24488	35955713, -20759040	-265/32, -153/32
10	15824, -9136	4241, -2448	268365505, -154940896	-209/16, -173/24
11	43232, -24960	-11583, 6688	2003139041, -1156512864	-989/32, -539/32
12	86464, -49920	-86463, 49920	14951869569, -8632465920	$\infty$
...				



Table 3

$k$	$(\vec{V}_k(1))_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(1))_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(2))_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(2))_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	1/2, 0	0, 1/2	-1/2, 0	0, 1/2
1	-1/2, 1/2	-3/2, 3/2	-2, 1	-1, 1
2	-5, 3	-4, 3	-7, 4	-1, 1
3	-19, 11	-4, 3	-19, 11	6, -3
4	-52, 30	15, -8	-38, 22	39, -22
5	-104, 60	105, -60	-38, 22	143, -82
6	-104, 60	389, -224	104, -60	389, -224
7	284, -164	1061, -612	776, -448	777, -448
8	2120, -1224	2121, -1224	2896, -1672	777, -448
9	7912, -4568	2121, -1224	7912, -4568	-2119, 1224
10	21616, -12480	-5791, 3344	15824, -9136	-15823, 9136
11	43232, -24960	-43231, 24960	15824, -9136	-59055, 34096
12	43232, -24960	-161343, 93152	-43232, 24960	-161343, 93152
...				

Table 4

$k$	$(\vec{V}_k(3))_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(3))_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(4))_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$(\vec{V}_k(4))_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	-1, 0	0, 0	-1/2, 0	0, -1/2
1	-2, 1	0, 0	-1/2, 1/2	1/2, -1/2
2	-5, 3	2, -1	-1, 1	2, -1
3	-10, 6	11, -6	-1, 1	6, -3
4	-10, 6	39, -22	4, -2	15, -8
5	28, -16	105, -60	28, -16	29, -16
6	208, -120	209, -120	104, -60	29, -16
7	776, -448	209, -120	284, -164	-75, 44
8	2120, -1224	-567, 328	568, -328	-567, 328
9	4240, -2448	-4239, 2448	568, -328	-2119, 1224
10	4240, -2448	-15823, 9136	-1552, 896	-5791, 3344
11	-11584, 6688	-43231, 24960	-11584, 6688	-11583, 6688
12	-86464, 49920	-86463, 49920	-43232, 24960	-11583, 6688
...				

Table 5

$k$	$(\vec{V}_k(5))_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(\vec{V}_k(5))_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$2^k \rho_{-k}^2 = 2^k \left  \overrightarrow{O_0, O_{-k}} \right ^2$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$
0	1/2, 0	0, -1/2	0, 0	0, -1/2
1	1, 0	0, 0	1, 0	1/2, -1/2
2	1, 0	-1, 1	7, 2	2, -1
3	-1, 1	-4, 3	34, 15	6, -3
4	-10, 6	-9, 6	141, 72	15, -8
5	-38, 22	-9, 6	526, 285	29, -16
6	-104, 60	29, -16	1831, 1020	29, -16
7	-208, 120	209, -120	6154, 3479	-75, 44
8	-208, 120	777, -448	20625, 11760	-567, 328
9	568, -328	2121, 1224	70738, 40545	-2119, 1224
10	4240, -2448	4241, -2448	251527, 144628	-5791, 3344
11	15824, -9136	4241, -2448	925354, 533071	-11583, 6688
12	43232, -24960	-11583, 6688	3481569, 2007720	-11583, 6688
...				

Table 6

$k$	$r_k = \left  \overrightarrow{S, O_k} \right  = \sigma^k$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$2^{\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor} \mathbf{r}_{-k}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(O_k)_X$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$	$(O_k)_Y$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{3}}$
0	1, 0	1, 0	1, 0	0, 0
1	-1, 1	1, 1	3/2, -1/2	-1/2, 1/2
2	4, -2	2, 1	2, -1	-3, 2
3	-10, 6	5, 3	0, 0	-10, 6
4	28, -16	7, 4	-14, 8	-24, 14
5	-76, 44	19, 11	-66, 38	-38, 22
6	208, -120	26, 15	-208, 120	0, 0
7	-568, 328	71, 41	-492, 284	284, -164
8	1552, -896	97, 56	-776, 448	1344, -776
9	-4240, 2448	265, 153	0, 0	4240, -2448
10	11584, -6688	362, 209	5792, -3344	10032, -5792
11	-31648, 18271	989, 571	27408, -15824	15824, -9136
12	86464, -49920	1351, 780	86464, -49920	0, 0
...				

Table 7

$k$	$s(k)$	$2^{s(k)} (\vec{v}_{-k})_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{s(k)} (\vec{v}_{-k})_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$t(k)$	$2^{t(k)} (O_{-k})_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{t(k)} (O_{-k})_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	2	1, 1	-1, 1	0	0, 0	0, 0
1	2	2, 1	-1, 0	2	-1, -1	1, -1
2	2	2, 1	-2, -1	2	-3, -2	2, -1
3	3	2, 1	-7, -4	2	-5, -3	4, 0
4	4	-5, -3	-19, -11	3	-12, -7	15, 4
5	4	-19, -11	-19, -11	4	-19, -11	49, 19
6	5	-71, -41	-19, -11	3	0, 0	34, 15
7	5	-97, -56	26, 15	5	71, 41	155, 714
8	5	-97, -56	97, 56	5	168, 97	126, 56
9	6	-97, -56	382, 2098	5	265, 153	32, 0
10	7	265, 153	989, 571	6	627, 362	-298, -209
11	7	989, 571	989, 571	7	989, 571	-1585, -989
12	8	3691, 2131	989, 571	6	0, 0	-1287, -780
...						

Table 8

$k$	$v_0(k)$	$2^{v_0(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k}(0))_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v_0(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k}(0))_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v_0(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k}(3))_{x_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v_0(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k}(3))_{y_0}$ $\cdot \mathbf{1}, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	0	1, 0	0, 0	-1, 0	0, 0
1	1	1, 0	0, -1	-2, -1	1, 0
2	2	-1, -1	-1, -3	-5, -3	5, 1
3	2	-5, -3	-1, -3	-5, -3	9, 3
4	3	-19, -11	3, -3	-5, -3	27, 11
5	3	-26, -15	15, 4	7, 4	34, 15
6	3	-26, -15	34, 15	26, 15	34, 15
7	4	-26, -15	113, 56	97, 56	42, 15
8	5	71, 41	297, 153	256, 153	-39, -41
9	5	265, 153	297, 153	265, 153	-233, -153
10	6	989, 571	329, 153	265, 153	-925, -571
11	6	1351, 780	-298, -209	-362, -209	-1287, -780
12	6	1351, 780	-1287, -780	-1351, -780	-1287, -780
...					

Table 9

$k$	$v1(k)$	$2^{v1(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(1)})_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v1(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(1)})_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v1(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(4)})_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v1(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(4)})_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	1	1, 0	0, 1	-1, 0	0, -1
1	1	1, 0	1, 0	-2, -1	0, -1
2	2	1, 0	2, -1	-7, -4	2, -1
3	3	-1, -1	3, -3	-19, -11	13, 3
4	3	-5, -3	3, -3	-19, -11	27, 11
5	4	-19, -11	11, -3	-19, -11	87, 41
6	4	-26, -15	23, 4	26, 15	113, 56
7	4	-26, -15	42, 15	97, 56	113, 56
8	5	-26, -15	129, 56	362, 209	129, 56
9	6	71, 41	329, 153	989, 571	-201, -153
10	6	265, 153	329, 153	989, 571	-925, -571
11	7	989, 571	393, 153	989, 571	-3563, -2131
12	7	1351, 780	-234, -209	-1351, -780	-4914, -2911
...					

Table 10

$k$	$v2(k)$	$2^{v2(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(2)})_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v2(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(2)})_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v2(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(5)})_{x_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$	$2^{v2(k)} (\vec{V}_{-k(5)})_{y_0}$ $\cdot 1, \cdot \sqrt{3}$
0	1	-1, 0	0, 1	1, 0	0, -1
1	2	-1, -1	3, 1	-1, -1	-1, -3
2	2	-1, -1	5, 1	-5, -3	-1, -3
3	3	-1, -1	13, 3	-19, -11	3, -3
4	3	2, 1	15, 4	-26, -15	15, 4
5	3	7, 41	15, 4	-26, -15	34, 15
6	4	26, 15	23, 4	-26, -15	113, 56
7	5	71, 41	13, -11	71, 41	297, 153
8	5	71, 41	-39, -41	265, 153	297, 153
9	6	71, 41	-201, -153	989, 571	329, 153
10	6	-97, -56	-298, -209	1351, 780	-298, -209
11	6	-362, -209	-298, -209	1351, 780	-1287, -780
12	7	-1351, -780	-234, -209	1351, 780	-4914, -2911
...					