

80. A Relation between the Length of a Plane Curve and Angles Stretched by it.

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Let us consider a continuous plane curve C , defined by the equation: $x=\varphi(t)$, $y=\psi(t)$ where $\varphi(t)$ and $\psi(t)$ are one-valued and continuous functions of t in $[0, 1]=[0 \leq t \leq 1]$. For brevity, let us call a continuous plane curve without double point a *Jordan curve*. A Jordan curve is therefore a continuous transformation of the segment $[0, 1]$ which is biuniform with a possible exception: $\varphi(0)=\varphi(1)$, $\psi(0)=\psi(1)$. We shall denote this transformation by $(x, y)=f(t)$. Let T be a set of numbers contained in $[0, 1]$. As t ranges over T , the point (x, y) ranges over a sub-set A of C . A will be called a *generalized arc of C* , and denoted by $f(T)$. The minimum value τ_0 and the maximum value τ_1 of \bar{T} ¹⁾ are called *extreme values of A* .

Let now C be rectifiable, and let $U=[a, b]$ be an interval contained in $[0, 1]$. The arc $f\{U\}$ will be denoted by $\mathfrak{A}(a, b)$. Divide $[a, b]$ into n sub-intervals by the points $t_0=a < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n=b$. To the value t_m ($m=0, 1, 2, \dots, n$), there corresponds the point $p_m=f(t_m)$ of the curve. Denote by (p_{m-1}, p_m) the segment between two points p_{m-1} , p_m , and by $\overline{(p_{m-1}, p_m)}$ its length. We define as usual the length of the arc $\mathfrak{A}(a, b)$ as the limit of the sum $\sum_{m=1}^n \overline{(p_{m-1}, p_m)}$ (the length of the polygon whose vertices are p_m), when the greatest of the lengths $t_m - t_{m-1}$ tends to 0, and denote it by $l(a, b)$. The complement of \bar{T} (in regard of $[\tau_0, \tau_1]$) is decomposed into at most enumerable infinity of contiguous intervals (a_r, b_r) . We call $l(A)=l(\tau_0, \tau_1) - \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} l(a_r, b_r)$ the *length of the generalized arc A* .²⁾

If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k are a finite number of generalized arcs of C such as $A = \sum_{r=1}^k A_r$, we have, as usual

$$l(A) \leq l(A_1) + l(A_2) + \dots + l(A_k).$$

We can divide the interval $[\tau_0, \tau_1]$ into n sub-intervals by the points of T : $t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$, so that the sum $\sum_{m=1}^n \overline{(p_{m-1}, p_m)}$ converges to $l(\tau_0, \tau_1) - \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} l(a_r, b_r) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \overline{(f(a_r), f(b_r))} = l(A) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \overline{(f(a_r), f(b_r))}$ as n tends to infinity.

Theorem 1. Let A be a generalized arc of a rectifiable Jordan curve C , whose extreme values are τ_0, τ_1 . Suppose that A is contained in a circle of radius S ($S > 0$), and that to each point p of A , we can associate two half-lines pq, pq' with the properties :

1) \bar{T} is the set of all points of T together with its limiting points.

2) $l(A)$ is the linear measure of A on C .