

A NOTE ON A COUNTEREXAMPLE OF DELGADO

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In this note we correct some incorrect analysis appearing in the paper of J. A. Delgado [1].

The example concerns two plane curves γ_1, γ_2 , which both are regular and complete, and have nonnegative curvature κ , i.e., $\kappa(\gamma_1) \geq 0, \kappa(\gamma_2) \geq 0$.

In this example Delgado intended to show that γ_1 and γ_2 are internally tangent at 0 and that $\kappa(\gamma_1(t)) \geq \kappa(\gamma_2(s))$ whenever $N_1(t) = N_2(s)$ where N_1 (resp. N_2) is the unit outward normal of γ_1 (resp. γ_2). He also showed that γ_1 is not contained in the convex region formed by γ_2 , thus showing that Blaschke's theorem does not apply to curves with nonnegative rather than positive curvature. However his analysis is incorrect. The example should go as follows:

$$\gamma_1(t) = (pt, t^4), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}, \quad p > 1,$$

$$\gamma_2(s) = \begin{cases} (s, (s-1)^4), & s \in \mathbf{R}, \quad s \geq 1, \\ (s, 0), & s \in \mathbf{R}, \quad |s| \leq 1, \\ (s, (s+1)^4), & s \in \mathbf{R}, \quad s \leq -1, \end{cases}$$

$$N_1(t) = \frac{1}{(p^2 + 16t^2)^{1/2}} (4t^3, -p),$$

$$N_2(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(1 + 16(s-1)^6)^{1/2}} (4(s-1)^3, -1), & \text{if } s \geq 1, \\ (0, -1), & \text{if } |s| \leq 1, \\ \frac{1}{(1 + 16(s+1)^6)^{1/2}} (4(s+1)^3, -1), & \text{if } s \leq -1. \end{cases}$$