



1862

# Problematis ex theoria maximorum et minimorum solutio

Leonhard Euler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/euler-works>

 Part of the [Mathematics Commons](#)

Record Created:

2018-09-25

## Recommended Citation

Euler, Leonhard, "Problematis ex theoria maximorum et minimorum solutio" (1862). *Euler Archive - All Works*. 815.  
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/euler-works/815>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Euler Archive at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Euler Archive - All Works by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [mgibney@pacific.edu](mailto:mgibney@pacific.edu).

## XIX.

### Problematis ex theoria maximorum et minorum solutio.

**Problema.** (Fig. 48) Super recta  $AB$  constituere triangulum  $AOB$ , ut si ex dato puncto  $V$  in \* sublimi posito ducantur rectae  $VA$ ,  $VB$  et  $VO$ , sit summa binorum triangulorum  $AVO + BVO$  minima.

**Solutio.** Ex  $V$  in planum trianguli quaesiti demittatur perpendicularum  $VC$ , et ex  $C$  in rectas quaesitas  $AO$  et  $BO$  productas agantur perpendiculares  $CP$  et  $CQ$ : erunt rectae  $VP$  et  $VQ$  in easdem perpendiculares. Hinc colligitur area  $\Delta AVO = \frac{1}{2} AO \cdot VP$  et  $\Delta BVO = \frac{1}{2} BO \cdot VQ$ , ideoque minimum effici oportet

$$AO\sqrt{(CV^2 + CP^2)} + BO\sqrt{(CV^2 + CQ^2)}.$$

Statuamus nunc rectas datas  $CA = a$ ,  $CB = b$ ,  $AB = c$  et  $CV = h$ , itemque angulos datos  $\angle CAB = \alpha$  et  $\angle CBA = \beta$ , hincque quaeramus binos angulos  $\angle BAO = \mu$ ,  $\angle ABO = \nu$ , ideoque  $\angle AON = \angle BOM = \mu + \nu$ , unde colligimus

$$AO = \frac{c \sin \nu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} \quad \text{et} \quad BO = \frac{c \sin \mu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)},$$

et ob angulos  $\angle CAP = \alpha - \mu$  et  $\angle CBQ = \beta - \nu$  fit

$$CP = a \sin(\alpha - \mu) \quad \text{et} \quad CQ = b \sin(\beta - \nu)$$

quare ob  $c$  constans minimum esse debet

$$\frac{\sin \nu \sqrt{(hh + aa \sin^2(\alpha - \mu))}}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} + \frac{\sin \mu \sqrt{(hh + bb \sin^2(\beta - \nu))}}{\sin(\mu + \nu)},$$

cujus ergo formulae differentiale, positis  $\mu$  et  $\nu$  variabilibus, nihilo est aequandum. Est vero

$$d \cdot \frac{\sin \nu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} = \frac{d\nu \cos \nu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} - \frac{(d\mu + d\nu) \sin \nu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)} = \frac{d\nu \sin \mu - d\mu \sin \nu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)},$$

$$d \cdot \frac{\sin \mu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} = \frac{d\mu \cos \mu}{\sin(\mu + \nu)} - \frac{(d\mu + d\nu) \sin \mu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)} = \frac{d\mu \sin \nu - d\nu \sin \mu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)}$$

Tum vero posito  $\sqrt{(hh + aa \sin^2(\alpha - \mu))} = P$  et  $\sqrt{(hh + bb \sin^2(\beta - \nu))} = Q$  erit differentiando

$$dP = \frac{-aa d\mu \sin(\alpha - \mu) \cos(\alpha - \mu)}{P} \quad \text{et} \quad dQ = \frac{-bb d\nu \sin(\beta - \nu) \cos(\beta - \nu)}{Q},$$

quibus valoribus substitutis prodit differentiale nihilo aequandum

$$+ \frac{P d\nu \sin \mu - P d\mu \sin \nu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)} - \frac{a a d\mu \sin \nu \sin(\alpha - \mu) \cos(\alpha - \mu)}{P \sin(\mu + \nu)},$$

$$+ \frac{Q d\mu \sin \nu - Q d\nu \sin \mu \cos(\mu + \nu)}{\sin^2(\mu + \nu)} - \frac{b b d\nu \sin \mu \sin(\beta - \nu) \cos(\beta - \nu)}{Q \sin(\mu + \nu)} = 0,$$

ubi termini elementis  $d\mu$  et  $d\nu$  affecti seorsim evanescentes reddi debent, ita ut hae binae obtineantur aequationes finitae per  $\sin^2(\mu + \nu)$  multiplicando

$$\text{I. } P \sin \mu - Q \sin \mu \cos(\mu + \nu) - \frac{b b \sin \mu \sin(\mu + \nu) \sin(\beta - \nu) \cos(\beta - \nu)}{Q} = 0,$$

$$\text{II. } Q \sin \nu - P \sin \nu \cos(\mu + \nu) - \frac{a a \sin \nu \sin(\mu + \nu) \sin(\alpha - \mu) \cos(\alpha - \mu)}{P} = 0.$$

Formetur hinc ista combinatio I.  $\frac{Q}{\sin \mu} - \text{II. } \frac{P}{\sin \nu}$ , proditque

$$(PP - QQ) \cos(\mu + \nu) - b b \sin(\mu + \nu) \sin(\beta - \nu) \cos(\beta - \nu) + a a \sin(\mu + \nu) \sin(\alpha - \mu) \cos(\alpha - \mu) = 0,$$

at est  $PP - QQ = a a \sin^2(\alpha - \mu) - b b \sin^2(\beta - \nu)$ , ideoque

$$a a \sin(\alpha - \mu) (\cos(\mu + \nu) \sin(\alpha - \mu) + \sin(\mu + \nu) \cos(\alpha - \mu)) = b b \sin(\beta - \nu) (\cos(\mu + \nu) \sin(\beta - \nu) + \sin(\mu + \nu) \cos(\beta - \nu))$$

quae aequatio per reductionem sinuum abit in hanc

$$a a \sin(\alpha - \mu) \sin(\alpha + \nu) = b b \sin(\beta - \nu) \sin(\beta + \mu),$$

cujus vis quo distinctius perspiciatur, notetur in figura esse

$$\alpha - \mu = CAM, \alpha + \nu = CNB, \beta - \nu = CBN, \beta + \mu = CMA,$$

unde manifestum est fore

$$\frac{\sin(\alpha - \mu)}{\sin(\beta + \mu)} = \frac{\sin CAM}{\sin CMA} = \frac{CM}{CA} \quad \text{et} \quad \frac{\sin(\beta - \nu)}{\sin(\alpha + \nu)} = \frac{\sin CBN}{\sin CNB} = \frac{CN}{CB},$$

aequatio ergo nostra  $\frac{a a \sin(\alpha - \mu)}{\sin(\beta + \mu)} = \frac{b b \sin(\beta - \nu)}{\sin(\alpha + \nu)}$  fit  $CA \cdot CM = CB \cdot CN$  seu  $CA : CB = CN : CM$  ita ut recta  $MN$  futura sit rectae  $AB$  parallela. Atque hinc porro concludere licet, si ex  $C$  per punctum  $O$  recta ducatur  $COJ$ , ab ea rectam  $AB$  bisectum iri, quod cum non sit adeo obvium, ostenditur.

Ob intersectionem rectarum  $AM$  et  $CJ$  in puncto  $O$  est

$$AJ : OJ = AB \cdot CM : BM \cdot CO,$$

similique modo ob rectarum  $BN$  et  $JC$  intersectionem in  $O$

$$BJ : OJ = AB \cdot CN : AN \cdot CO,$$

unde alternando et multiplicando fit

$$AJ : BJ = CM \cdot AN : CN \cdot BM.$$

At ob rectam  $MN$  ipsi  $AB$  parallelam est

$$CM : CN = BM : AN \quad \text{seu} \quad CM \cdot AN = CN \cdot BM$$

ideoque  $AJ = BJ$ . Sicque unam conditionem jam eliciimus, qua novimus punctum quaesitum  $O$  in rectam  $OJ$ , qua  $AB$  bisecatur, cadere.

**Solutionis pars altera.** Restat ergo, ut conditio haec inventa in altera aequationum supra inventarum substituatur, indeque ambo anguli incogniti  $\mu$  et  $\nu$ , quorum jam quaedam relatio constat, determinentur: hoc autem modo in calculos nimis intricatos delaberemur, quam ut inde solutio commoda derivari posset. Expediet ergo novam resolutionem huic conditioni, quod punctum quaesitum  $O$  certo in recta  $CJ$  lineam datam  $AB$  bisecante reperitur, superstruere.

Fig. 49. In hac ergo recta  $CJ$  sit  $O$  punctum quaesitum. Ex  $A$  et  $B$  in eam demittantur \* perpendiculara  $AF$  et  $BG$ , atque ob  $AJ = BJ$  erit tam  $AF = BG$  quam  $JF = JG$ . In calculum igitur introducamus has quantitates cognitatas:  $CJ = e$ ,  $AF = BG = f$ ,  $JF = JG = g$  et altitudinem  $CV = h$ . Tum vero sit intervallum quaesitum  $JO = z$ , erit  $CO = e - z$ . Hinc ob  $OF = z + g$  et  $OG = z - g$  habebitur

$$AO = \sqrt{ff + (z + g)^2} \quad \text{et} \quad BO = \sqrt{ff + (z - g)^2}$$

simulque perpendiculara ex  $C$  in rectas  $AO$  et  $BO$  demissa sic facile obtinentur

$$AO : AF = CO : CP \quad \text{et} \quad BO : BG = CO : CQ, \quad \text{ut sit}$$

$$CP = \frac{f(e-z)}{AO} \quad \text{et} \quad CQ = \frac{f(e-z)}{BO},$$

$$\text{unde fit} \quad AO \cdot VP = \sqrt{hh \cdot AO^2 + ff(e-z)^2} = \sqrt{ffhh + hh(z+g)^2 + ff(e-z)^2}$$

$$BO \cdot VQ = \sqrt{hh \cdot BO^2 + ff(e-z)^2} = \sqrt{ffhh + hh(z-g)^2 + ff(e-z)^2}$$

quorum productorum summa debet esse minima.

Ad calculum contrahendum statuamus

$$ffhh + gghh + eeff = E, \quad ff + hh = F,$$

$$eff - ghh = G, \quad eff + ghh = H,$$

ut haec expressio minima sit efficienda

$$\sqrt{E - 2Gz + Fzz} + \sqrt{E - 2Hz + Fzz},$$

unde differentiando colligimus

$$\frac{Fz - G}{\sqrt{E - 2Gz + Fzz}} + \frac{Fz - H}{\sqrt{E - 2Hz + Fzz}} = 0$$

et irrationalitate sublata

$$(G - Fz)^2 (E - 2Hz + Fzz) = (H - Fz)^2 (E - 2Gz + Fzz),$$

quae evoluta praebet

$$\left. \begin{aligned} EGG - 2GGHz + FGGzz \\ - 2EFGz + 4FGHzz - 2FFGz^3 \\ + EFFzz - 2FFHz^3 + F^3z^4 \end{aligned} \right\} = \left. \begin{aligned} EHH - 2GHHz + FHHzz \\ - 2EFHz + 4FGHzz - 2FFHz^3 \\ + EFFzz - 2FFGz^3 + F^3z^4 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

et contrahitur in hanc formam

$$E(GG - HH) - 2(GGH + EFG - GHH - EFH)z + F(GG - HH)zz = 0.$$

Facta divisione per  $G - H$  nanciscimur

$$E(G + H) - 2(GH + EF)z + F(G + H)z^2 = 0$$

et radice extracta

$$z = \frac{GH + EF \pm \sqrt{(EF - GG)(EF - HH)}}{F(G + H)}$$

Jam vero est

$$F = ff + hh, \quad G + H = 2eff, \quad EF = eeff(ff + hh) + hh(ff + gg)(ff + hh)$$

$$GH = eef^2 - ggh^2, \quad GG = eef^2 - 2effghh + ggh^2, \quad HH = eeff^2 + 2effghh + ggh^2$$

$$\text{unde fit } GH + EF = ff(2eeff + eehh + ffhh + gghh + h^4)$$

$$EF - GG = ffhh((e + g)^2 + ff + hh)$$

$$EF - HH = ffhh((e - g)^2 + ff + hh) \text{ sicque elicatur}$$

$$z = \frac{2eeff + eehh + ffhh + gghh + h^4 \pm hh\sqrt{(ff + hh + (e + g)^2)(ff + hh + (e - g)^2)}}{2e(ff + hh)}$$

$$\text{hincque porro } CO = \frac{hh(ee - ff - gg - hh) \pm hh\sqrt{(ff + hh + (e + g)^2)(ff + hh + (e - g)^2)}}{2e(ff + hh)}$$

Transferamus has expressiones in figuram, huncque in finem ad  $CJ$  normaliter jungatur recta  $DE$ , in quam ex  $A$  et  $B$  demittantur perpendiculara  $AD$  et  $BE$  junganturque  $VD$  et  $VE$ . Cum nunc sit  $CV = h$ ,  $CD = CE = f$ , erit  $DV = EV = \sqrt{(ff + hh)}$ ,  $AD = e + g$ ,  $BE = e - g$ , hincque

$$AV = \sqrt{(ff + hh + (e + g)^2)}, \quad BV = \sqrt{(ff + hh + (e - g)^2)}$$

et  $AD \cdot BE = ee - gg$ . Ergo ob  $CJ = e$  habebitur

$$CO = \frac{CV^2}{2CJ} \cdot \frac{AD \cdot BE - DV \cdot EV \pm AV \cdot BV}{DV \cdot EV}$$

ubi perspicuum est rationem triangulorum  $ADV$  et  $BEV$  praecipue teneri, quae ad  $D$  et  $E$  sunt rectangula. Quodsi ergo vocentur anguli  $DAV = \delta$  et  $EBV = \epsilon$ , erit

$$DV = AV \sin \delta, \quad AD = AV \cos \delta \quad \text{atque} \quad EV = BV \sin \epsilon, \quad BE = BV \cos \epsilon,$$

quibus introductis conficitur

$$CO = \frac{CV^2}{2CJ} \cdot \frac{\cos \delta \cos \epsilon - \sin \delta \sin \epsilon \pm 1}{\sin \delta \sin \epsilon} = \frac{CV^2}{2CJ} \cdot \frac{\cos(\delta + \epsilon) \pm 1}{\sin \delta \sin \epsilon}$$

Duplex igitur hinc nascitur solutio

$$\text{I. } CO = \frac{CV^2}{CJ} \cdot \frac{\cos^2\left(\frac{\delta + \epsilon}{2}\right)}{\sin \delta \sin \epsilon}, \quad \text{II. } CO = -\frac{CV^2}{CJ} \cdot \frac{\sin^2\left(\frac{\delta + \epsilon}{2}\right)}{\sin \delta \sin \epsilon}$$

quarum prior dat punctum  $O$  inter puncta  $C$  et  $J$ , uti problema postulat; posterior vero praebet punctum  $O$  in recta  $JC$  ultra  $C$  producta, cui quidem etiam minimum convenit, sed non tale, quale in quaestione desideratur, quia aequatio inventa etiam quaestionem resolvit, ubi differentia triangulorum  $AVO$  et  $BVO$  minima quaereretur. Quocirca sola solutio prior locum habere est censenda.

**Coroll. I.** Si ergo ponamus  $ff + hh = kk$  erit

$$z = e - \frac{hh}{2ekk} (ee - gg - kk + \sqrt{(kk + (e + g)^2)(kk + (e - g)^2)})$$

unde patet si altitudo  $CV = h$  evanescat, fore  $z = e$ , seu punctum  $O$  in  $C$  cadere, quo casu utique ambo triangula  $AVO$  et  $BVO$  evanescent.

**Coroll. 2.** Sin autem altitudo  $CV = h$  fiat infinita, quo casu etiam  $k = \infty$  et  $\frac{hh}{kk} = 1$ , tum formula irrationalis fit

$$\sqrt{(k^4 + 2(ee + gg)kk)} = kk + ee + gg$$

ideoque  $z = e - \frac{hh}{2ekk} \cdot 2ee = 0$ . Punctum scilicet  $O$  in  $J$  cadit; unde perspicuum est, quemcunque altitudo  $h$  valorem finitum sortiatur, punctum  $O$  inter  $C$  et  $J$  cadere.

**Coroll. 3.** Aequatio quadratica primum inventa praebet

$$E + Fzz = \frac{2(GH + EF)z}{G + H}$$

Hinc fit

$$E - 2Gz + Fzz = \frac{2(EF - GG)z}{G + H} = \frac{hh}{e} (kk + (e + g)^2) z,$$

$$E - 2Hz + Fzz = \frac{2(EF - HH)z}{G + H} = \frac{hh}{e} (kk + (e - g)^2) z,$$

unde prodit quantitas minima facta

$$\frac{h\sqrt{z}}{\sqrt{e}} (\sqrt{(kk + (e + g)^2)} + \sqrt{(kk + (e - g)^2)})$$

quae aequatur duplae areae triangulorum  $AVO$  et  $BVO$ .

**Coroll. 4.** Sin autem intervallo  $JO$  alius quicumque valor  $JO = x$  tribuatur, eorundem triangulorum summa duplicata fit

$$fh\sqrt{1 + \frac{(x+g)^2}{ff} + \frac{(e-x)^2}{hh}} + fh\sqrt{1 + \frac{(x-g)^2}{ff} + \frac{(e-x)^2}{hh}}$$

qua superior semper est minor, nisi sit  $x = z$ . Hic autem sumto  $x = 0$ , fit ista quantitas

$$2fh\sqrt{1 + \frac{gg}{ff} + \frac{ee}{hh}} = 2\sqrt{(ffhh + gghh + eeff)}$$

sin autem capiatur  $x = e$ , seu  $O$  in  $C$  capiatur, erit ea

$$h\sqrt{(ff + (e+g)^2)} + h\sqrt{(ff + (e-g)^2)}.$$



Fig. 42. Pag. 388.

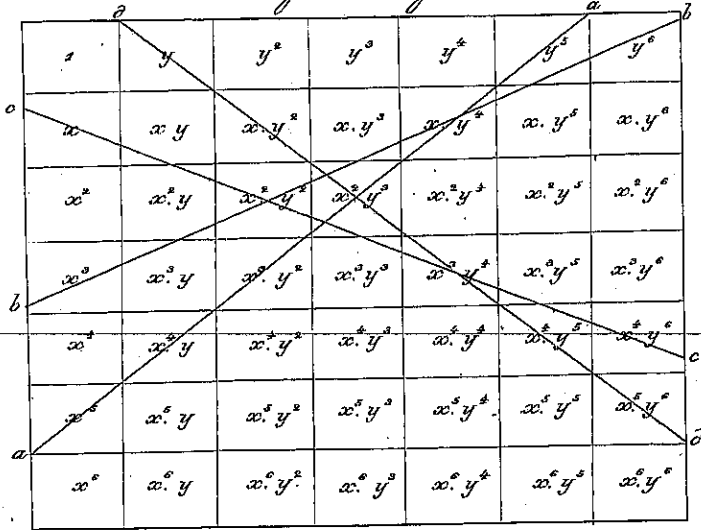


Fig. 46. Pag. 398.

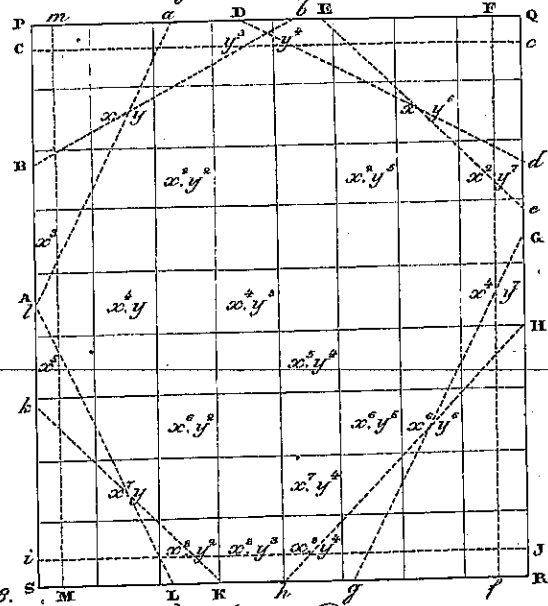


Fig. 43. Pag. 391.

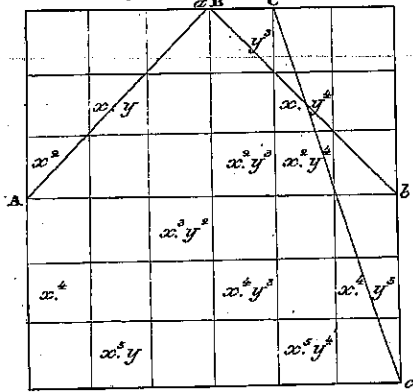


Fig. 47. Pag. 398.

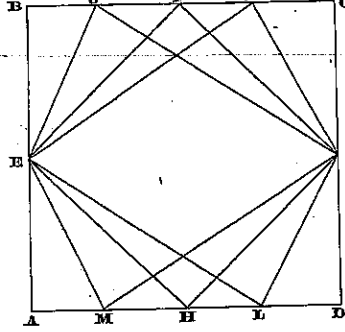


Fig. 44. Pag. 391.

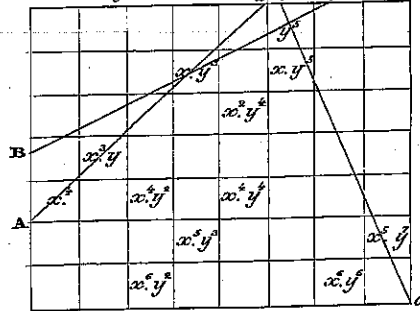


Fig. 45. Pag. 392.

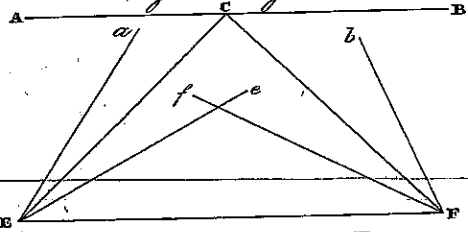


Fig. 41. Pag. 385.

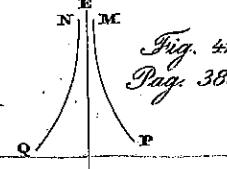


Fig. 40. Pag. 385.

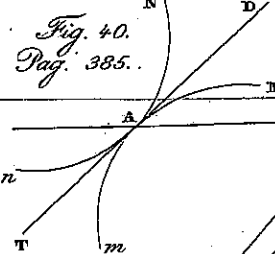


Fig. 49. Pag. 405.

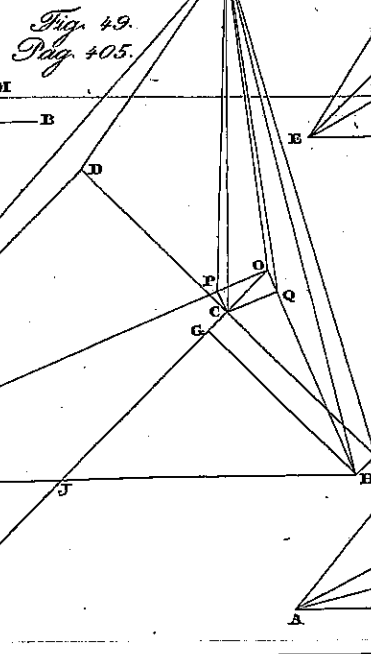


Fig. 48. Pag. 403.

