

1 Find an equation of the common chord of two intersected circles.

Problem 1: Without finding the intersection point of the circles, create an equation for their common chord.

$$\begin{aligned}(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 - 18 &= 0, \\ (x+3)^2 + (y-1)^2 - 36 &= 0.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

Solution: All quadrics (including the degenerate general chord whose equations need to be found) passing through the points P and Q belong to the bundle:

$$\lambda F + \mu G = 0.\tag{2}$$

Let us take advantage of the fact that the general chord is a degenerate quadric, which means its invariants are equal to zero: $I_2 = I_3 = 0$. Substituting Eqs. (1) into Eq. (2), we obtain

$$\lambda((x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 - 18) + \mu((x+3)^2 + (y-1)^2 - 36) = 0.\tag{3}$$

$$(\lambda + \mu)x^2 + (\lambda + \mu)y^2 + (-2\lambda + 6\mu)x + (4\lambda - 2\mu)y - 13\lambda - 26\mu = 0.\tag{4}$$

$$I_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda + \mu & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda + \mu \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Leftrightarrow (\lambda + \mu)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda = -\mu\tag{5}$$

Let's choose $\lambda = 1$, then we have $\mu = -1$. Substituting these values λ and μ into Eq. (4), we obtain the equation for common chord:

$$8x - 6y - 13 = 0.\tag{6}$$

■