Competing Swirls Create Sunflowers

The 4 images below show competing clockwise, O, and counter-clockwise, O, swirls at various parts of the same image. The O curves use the leading half of each line segment (note that there are 20 lines starting the O curves) and Ocurves use the ending half of line segments. If you look carefully at the upper right image, some starts of the O curves do not have ending lines covering those curves. Perhaps the easiest not covered O curve to see in the upper right is the opening that exists between vertex 0 and 55. This curve is covered by the end of the 37th line in the lower left on the vertex 56 (or -1) radius. Note how close each a/b is to 2.85 = n/J. The 20 O curves are longer than the 37 O curves.

At left is n = 57, J = 20, r = 600. At right, note the 20th line ends on the vertex 1 radius, (2); 20/7 = 2.857 > 2.85 = 57/20.



At left below, the 37^{th} line ends on the vertex 56 (-1) radius, (5); 37/13 = 2.846 < 2.85. Bottom right is a blow-up of the middle range, a (5) 17,6-swirl 17/6 = 2.833 < 2.85. At the center of the blow-up, note the (2) 3,1-swirl, 3 > 2.85.



By counting in the blow-up, you can verify that there are 17 $rac{0}$ curves and 6 jumps in the <u>cracked-open</u> 17,6-star.