A 30-Gon with all its Diagonals

The image at bottom left reproduces Figure 1 from Poonen and Rubinstein. The 435 = 30.29/2 line image has 16,801 interior intersection points of which: 13,800 are 2 lines; 2,250 are 3 lines; 420 are 4 lines; 180 are 5 lines; 120 are 6 lines; 30 are 7 lines, and 1 is 15 lines. 30 is the smallest n for which 7 regular n-gon diagonals meet at a point. One stunning result from Poonen and Rubinstein is that one can never have more than 7 diagonals meet at a non-central point.

Star

sizes

2

3

5

7

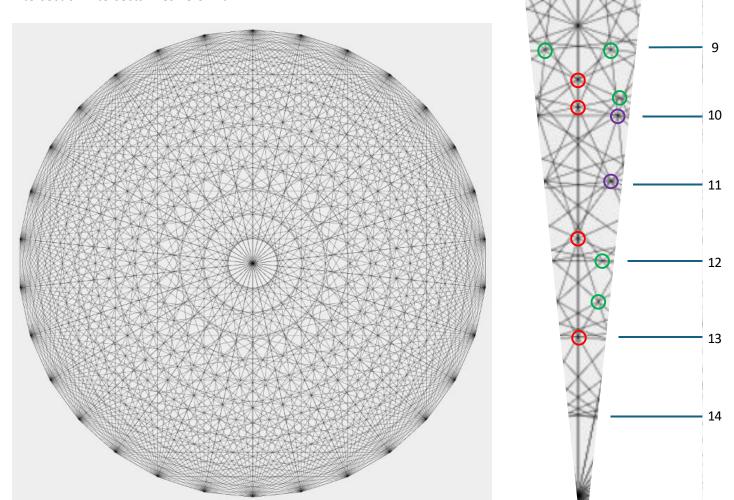
8

At right is the $360/n = 12^{\circ}$ wedge with 420/30 = 14 4 lines, 180/30 = 6 5 lines, and 120/30 = 4 6 lines concurrences

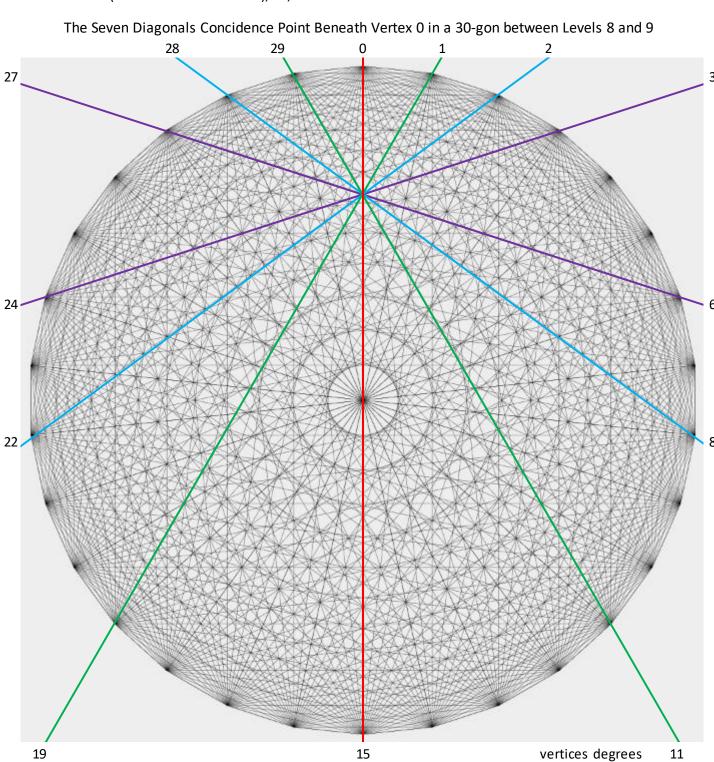
circled. The left side is lined up on the ray from the center to midway between vertices 29 and 0 but the right side shows that midway set of intersections to more easily identify concurrences on the ray that is midway between vertices 0 and 1 at 6° from vertical. The 7 lines concurrence in this wedge is on the positive vertical radius between star sizes 8 and 9 (noted at the right).

The image is an intricate weave but there are distinct levels that look like stacked circles. These are created by different jump stars. (It is worth noting that they only look like circles, in fact they are n-gons, here 30-gons.)

The most obvious ones are the inner levels, like the closest to the center which is created by a 30,14-star. A careful inspection shows that even jumps J = 2k are horizontal lines (connecting vertices k with 30-k) while odd jumps are pairs of intersecting lines along the vertical axis with the smallest sized interior angle possible, $2.180/30 = 12^{\circ}$ since the lines are separated from one another by a single vertex on either side of the vertical centerline. For example, the star size 3 intersection shown intersects lines from 29-2 and 28-1 but the star size 5 intersection intersects lines 28-3 with 27-2.



Interestingly, the angles created at the 7-lines concurrence points are not uniform. As can be seen below, the angles vary from top to bottom by 30°, 24°, 18°, 36°, 18°, 24°, and 30° according to the interior angle theorem. For convenience, the vertices are numbered around the perimeter of the image for each colored line. The number of vertices spanned for these lines range from 9 to 15 but these lines span only four sizes. The colored overlays show two lines each spanning 9, 10, and 12 vertices and the vertical diameter spans 15 vertices. Note how the pairs lines appear tangent to the stacked circles at levels 12 (3rd circle from the center), 10, and 9.



Angles created by: red to green 5

green to blue 4

blue to purple 3

purple to purple 6

30°

24°

18°

36°

The 7 lines span 9, 10, 12 & 15 vertices of the 30-gon.

The **blue lines** are part of a 30,10-star.

The purple lines are part of a 30,9-star.

Note: The green lines are part of a 30,12-star.