

Polygon generator

The goal is to build a set of regular polygons using appropriate scatter plots. But instead of building a set of equal polygons, we're going to build the full collection: a triangle, square, pentagon, etc. On total there will be 10 polygons, starting with the triangle and ending up with a dodecagon.

This construction has one added problem: one cannot nest two **seq** commands unless the inner command generates lists of the same size.

First build a n sided polygon (choose n at will). Generate it with the **seq** command but add extra void elements, until the list reaches 13 elements (the number of points needed for the dodecagon).

You can achieve this with an extra **when** statement, to add void elements when i is bigger than some number.

On this example, from i=6 only void elements are generated.

	A	B	C	D
◆	=seq(when	=seq(when		
1		1.	0.	
2	0.309017	0.951057		
3	-0.809017	0.587785		
4	-0.809017	-0.587785		

Formula in B1: $=\text{seq}\left(\text{when}\left(i < 6, \sin\left(\frac{2 \cdot i \cdot \pi}{5}\right), -\right), i, 0, 12\right)$

Next generate the grid over which the polygons shall be drawn. Being a set of 10 polygons the best way is to lay them in two rows.

So, using **int** and **mod**, create the grid.

Remember that to generate a grid of 10 points you need to start with i=0 and go until i=9.

Also have the grid have a spacing of 3, as each polygon will have a radius of 1.

	A	B	C	D
◆	=seq(when	=seq(when	=3*seq(mod	=3*seq(int
1		1.	0.	0
2	0.309017	0.951057	3	0
3	-0.809017	0.587785	6	0
4	-0.809017	-0.587785	9	0

Formula in D1: $=3 \cdot \text{seq}\left(\text{int}\left(\frac{i}{5}\right), i, 0, 9\right)$

Now, use two nested **seq** commands, the outer one giving the grid's coordinates and the inner one providing the polygon's vertices, filled up with void elements.

To achieve this, use **j** as the variable of the outer **seq** command and **i** as the variable of the inner **seq** command.

The formulas are quite complex, so here they are:

mat>list(seq(seq(3*mod(j,5)+when('i<j+4,cos(((2*i*pi)/(j+3))),_),i,0,12),j,0,9))

mat>list(seq(seq(3*int(j/5)+when('i<j+4,sin(((2*i*pi)/(j+3))),_),i,0,12),j,0,9))

This formulas mean the following:

- the inner **seq** command generates a polygon with **j+3** points (so, a triangle when **j=0**, a square when **j=1**, etc.);
- the rest of the list is filled up with void elements, due to the when statement;
- the outer **seq** command adds the grid's coordinates.
- as two nested **seq** commands generate a matrix, the result is converted back to a list.

Back to the G&G page define a scatter plot using **xlist** and **ylist** and adjust the window in a suitable way.

Change the plot's attributes to make it look nicer and hide the axis.

You have built a set of regular polygons, from the triangle to the dodecagon.

