

# Triangle mosaic

## Question:

Select a starting point  $P_0$  and draw a 1cm long line  $c_1$  ending in  $P_1$ .

From  $P_1$ , make a 1cm line perpendicular to  $\overline{P_0P_1}$ . Connect its other end point  $P_2$  with  $P_0$  to obtain a triangle and call the hypotenuse  $c_2$ .

From  $P_2$ , make a 1cm line perpendicular to  $\overline{P_0P_2}$  (away from the triangle). Connect its other end point  $P_3$  with  $P_0$  to obtain a triangle and call the hypotenuse  $c_3$ .

Keep going. Step  $k$  looks like this:

From  $P_{k-1}$ , make a 1cm line perpendicular to  $\overline{P_0P_{k-1}}$  (away from the previous triangle). Connect its other end point  $P_k$  with  $P_0$  to obtain a triangle and call the hypotenuse  $c_k$ .

Denote the angles between  $c_k$  and  $c_{k+1}$  with  $\alpha_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Let  $c_n$  be the first line to be more than one complete turn away from the starting line  $c_1$ .

**What is  $n$ ?** Derive formulas for  $c_k$  and  $\alpha_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

*Note: This is an updated version from the one posted on 22.4. (typos removed and missing information added to better explain location of 1cm lines).*