

Combining General Relativity and Optics to Visualize Light on Curved Paths

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The „Cosmic Horseshoe“ LRG 3-757
(Hubble Space Telescope)



Karl-Heinz Lotze



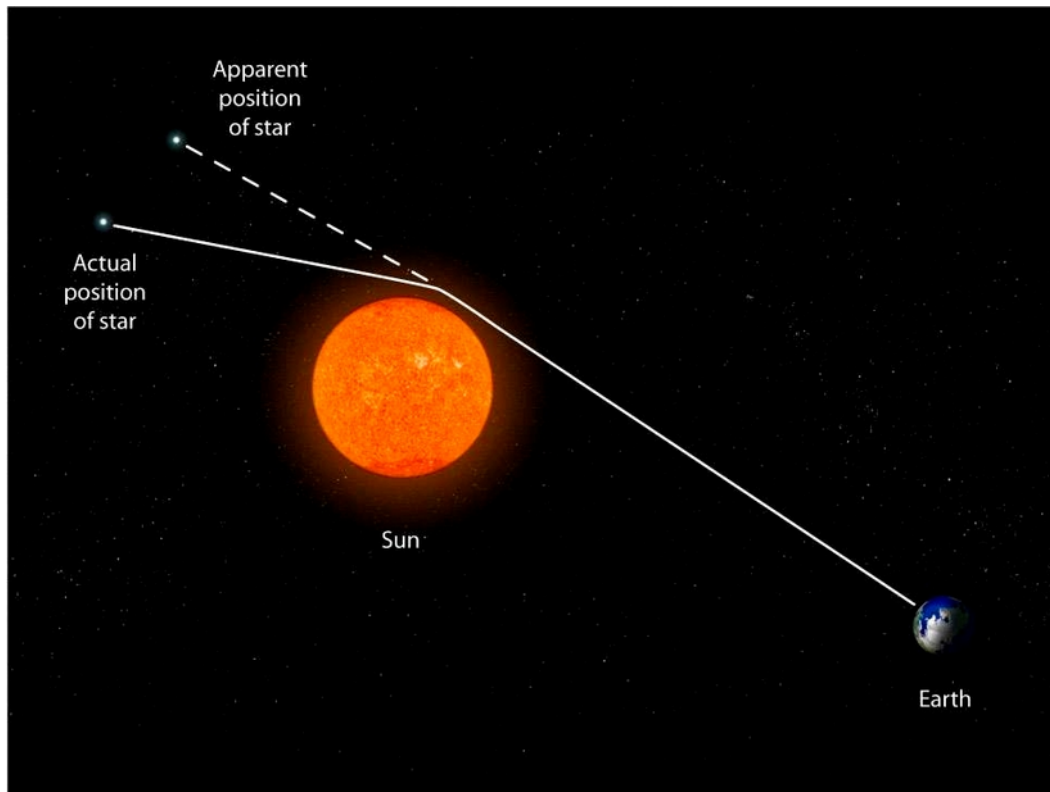
Hubble Space Telescope: STScI-2012-08



Uwe Alberti

10-15 February 2019, Physikzentrum Bad Honnef

Light Deflection



Deflection Angle

$$\delta(\theta) = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta D_L}$$

Lens Equation

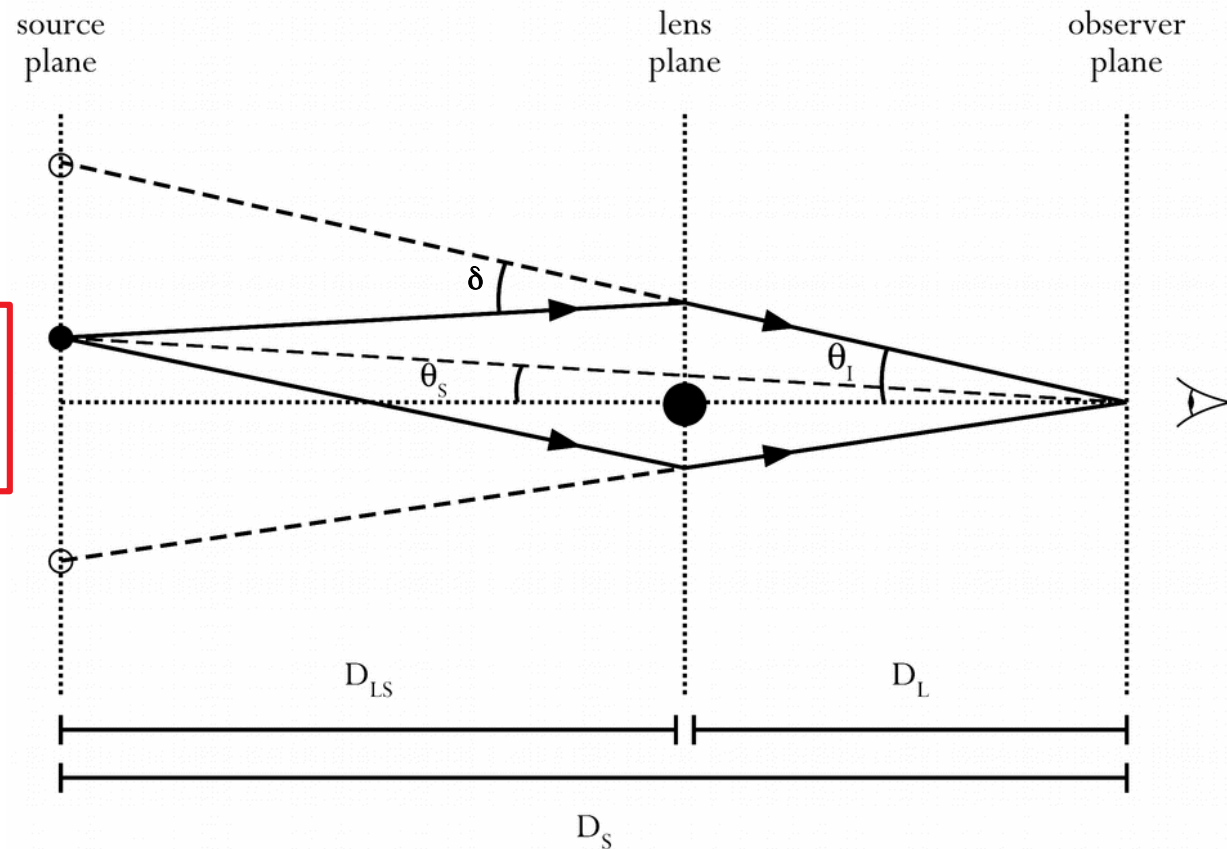
- Lens Equation:

$$\theta - \theta_s - \delta \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S} = 0$$

$$\theta - \theta_s - \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = 0$$

- Einstein Ring Radius:

$$\theta_E = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta_E)}{\theta_E} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$



Point-Mass Lens

$$M = \text{constant}$$



$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{4 \cdot G}{c^2} \frac{M}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

$$\theta_E = \frac{4 G}{c^2} \frac{M}{\theta_E} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

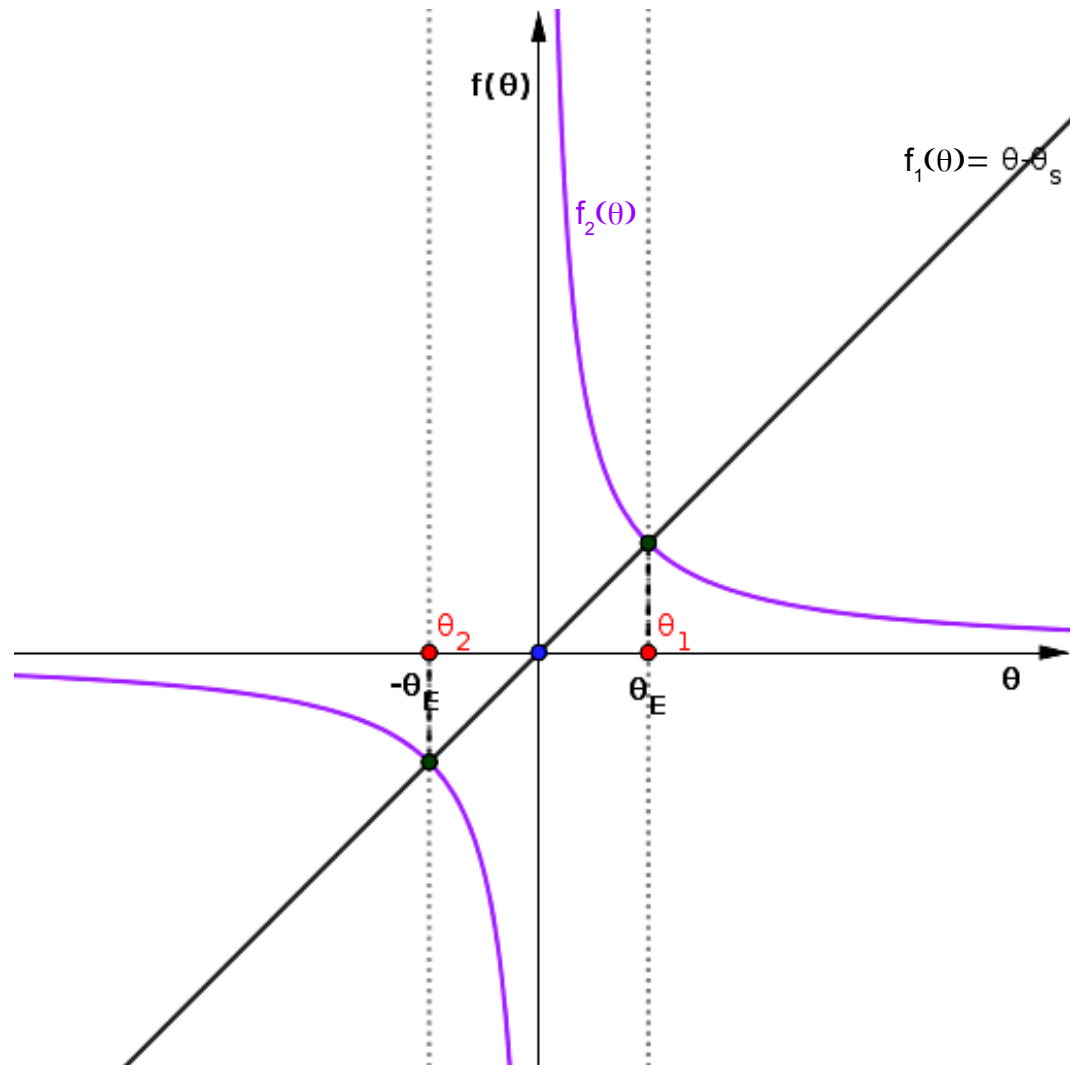
$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$$

Lens equation in terms
of Einstein radius

Point-Mass Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$$

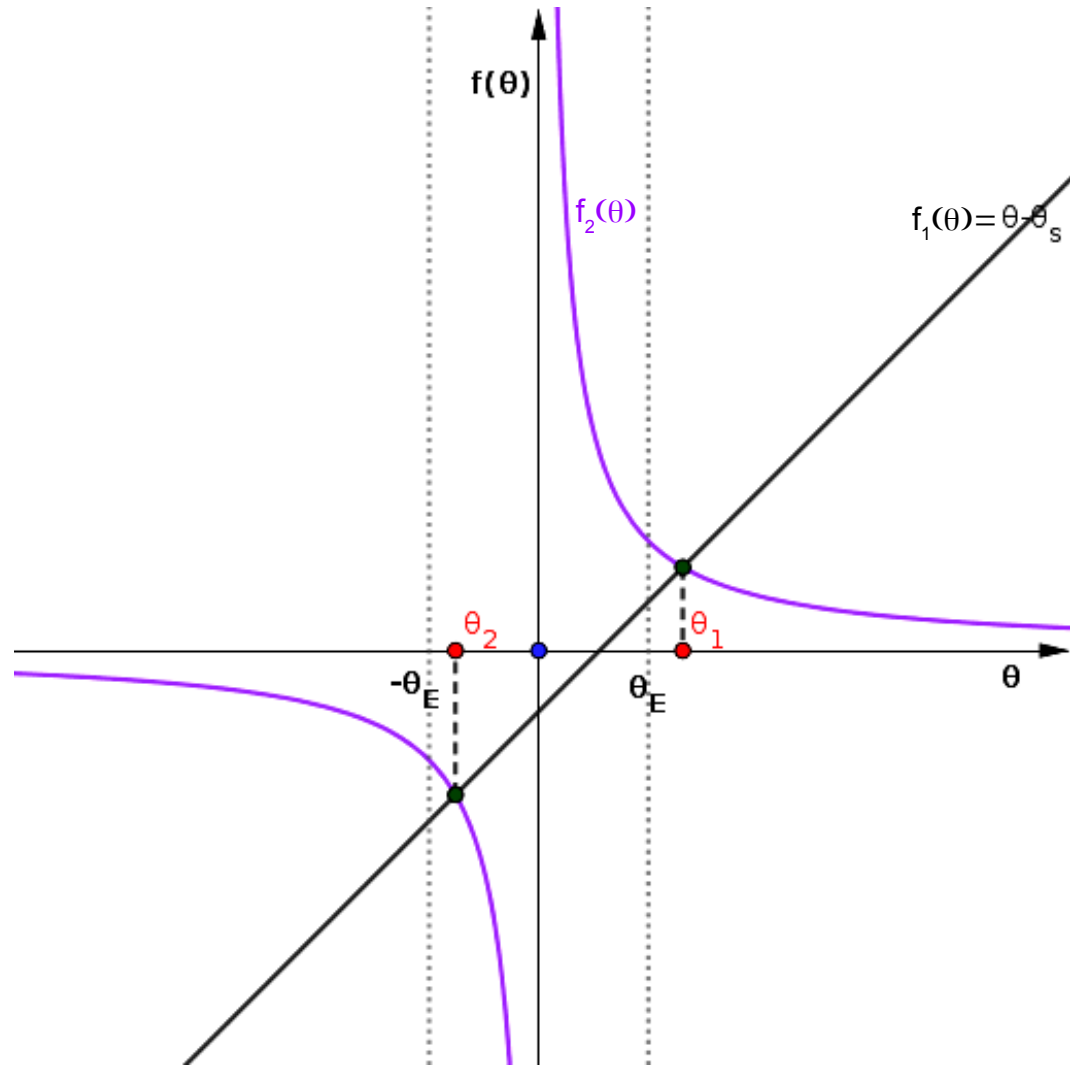
$$\theta_s = 0$$



Point-Mass Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$$

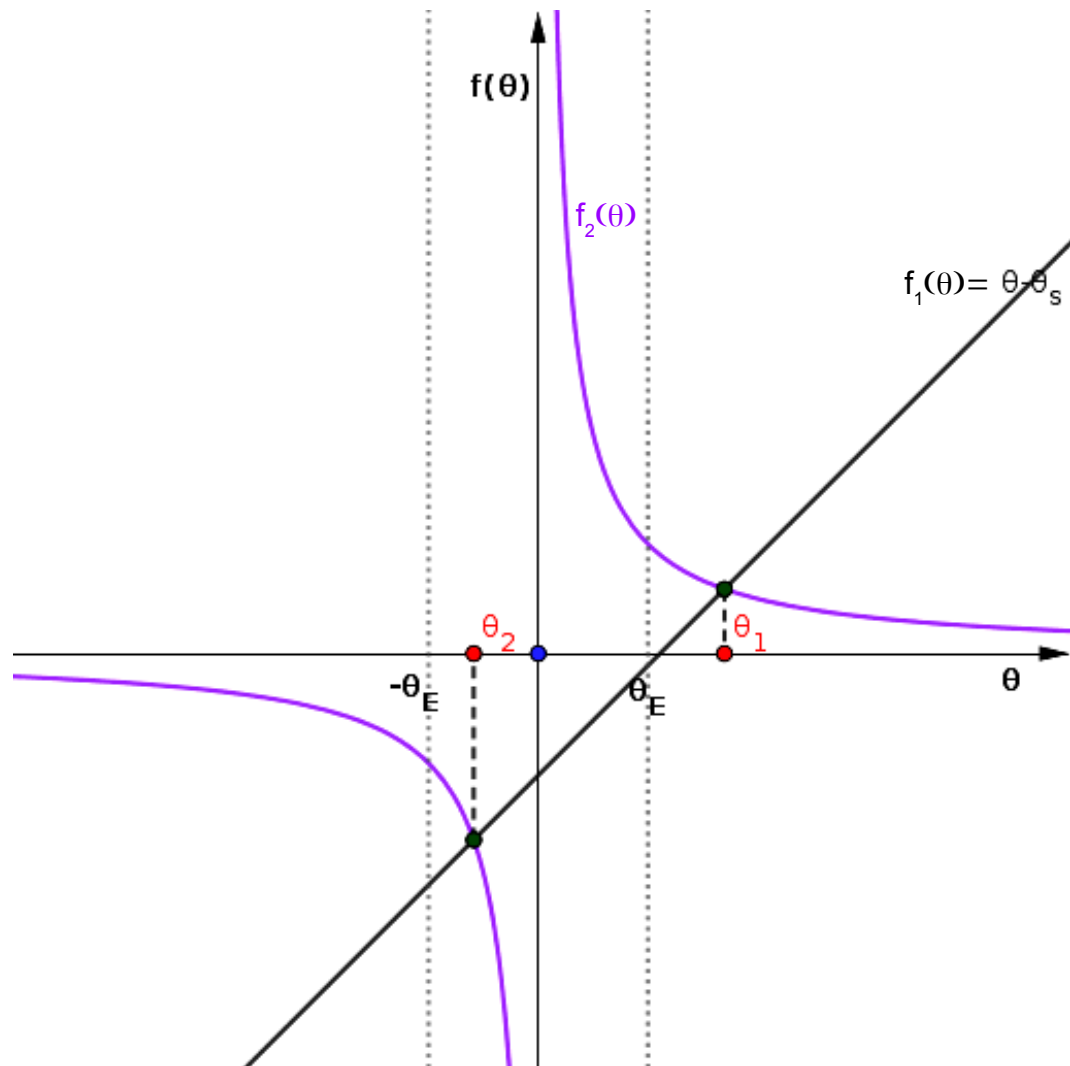
$$\theta_s > 0$$



Point-Mass Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$$

$$\theta_s > 0$$



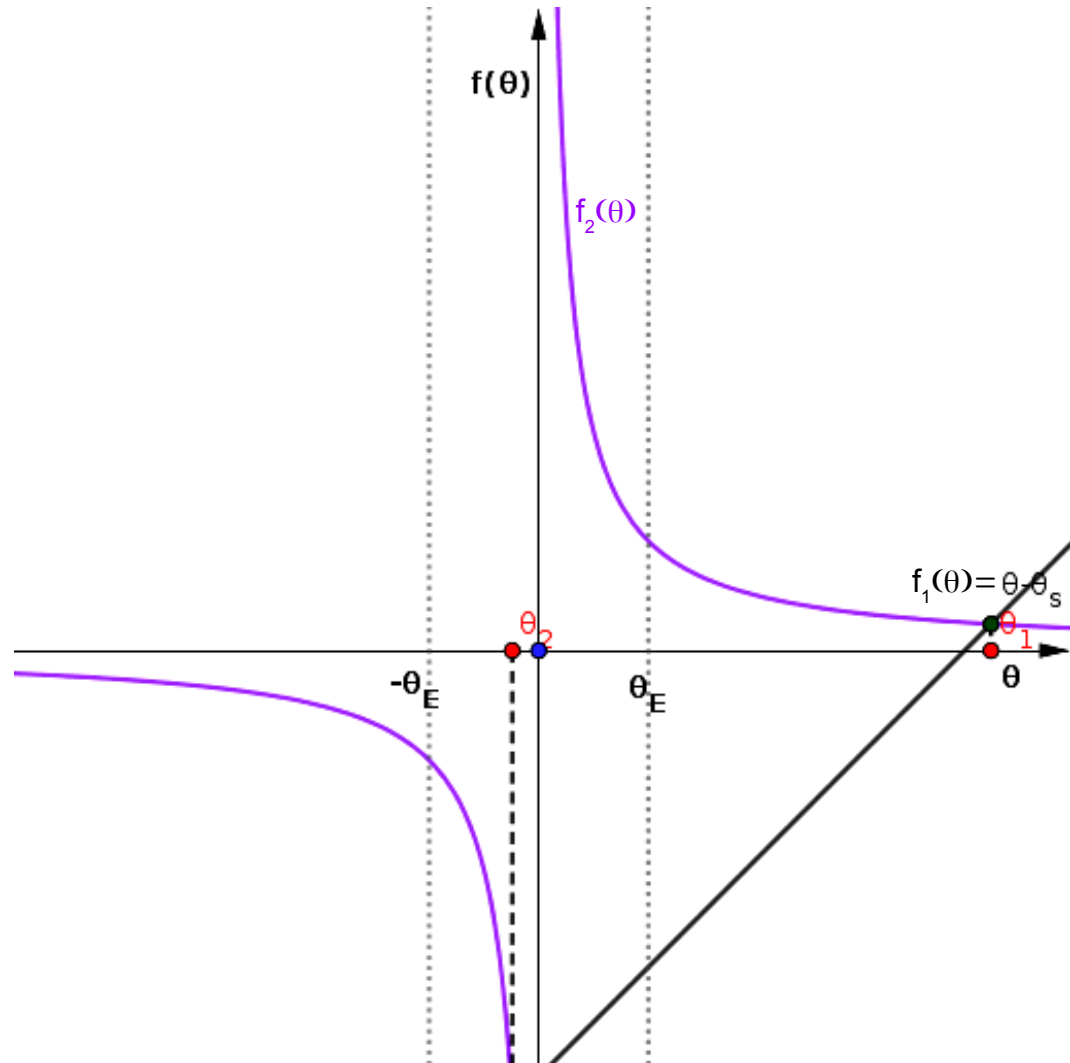
Point-Mass Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$$

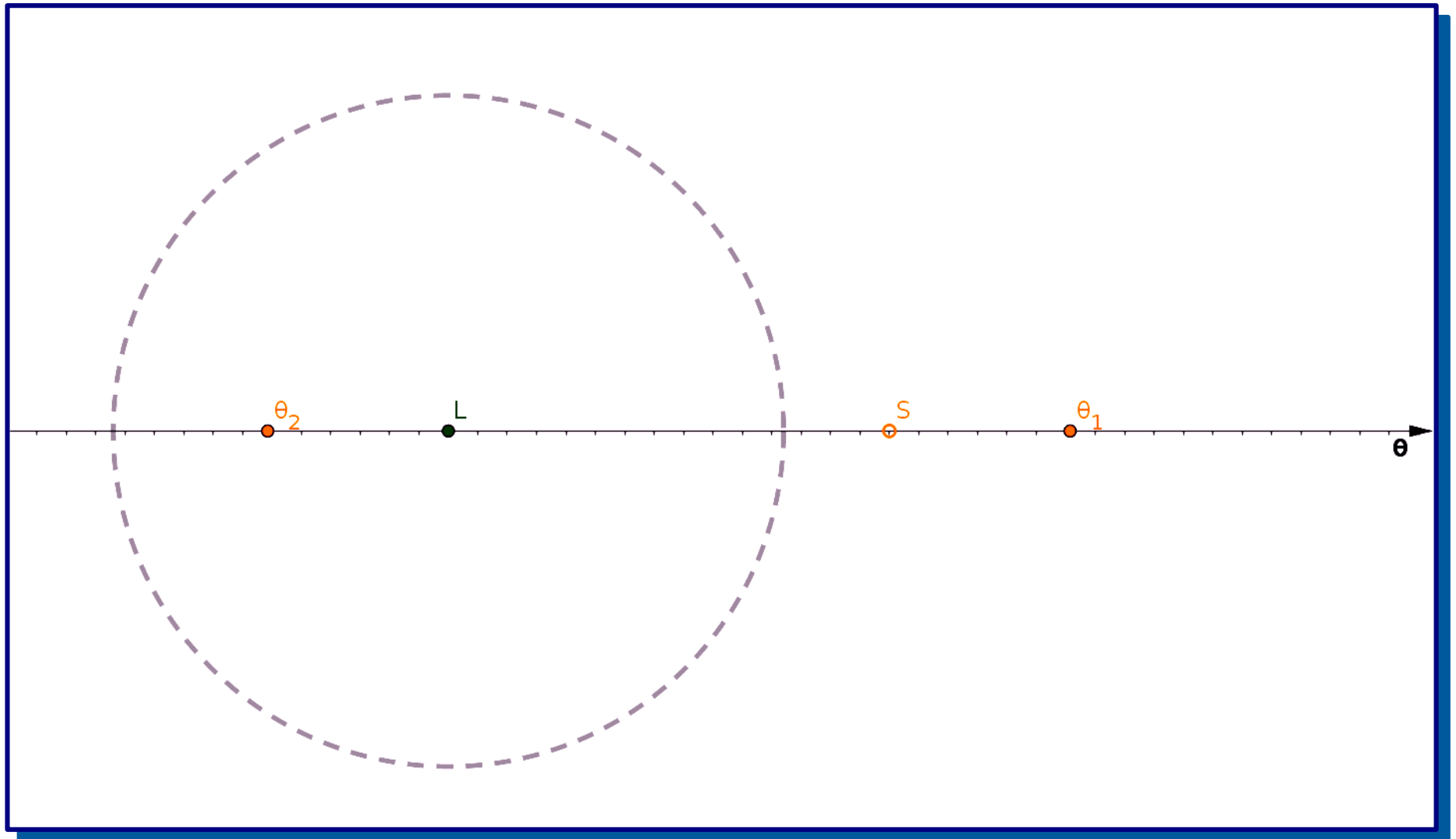
$$\theta_s > 0$$

• Or...

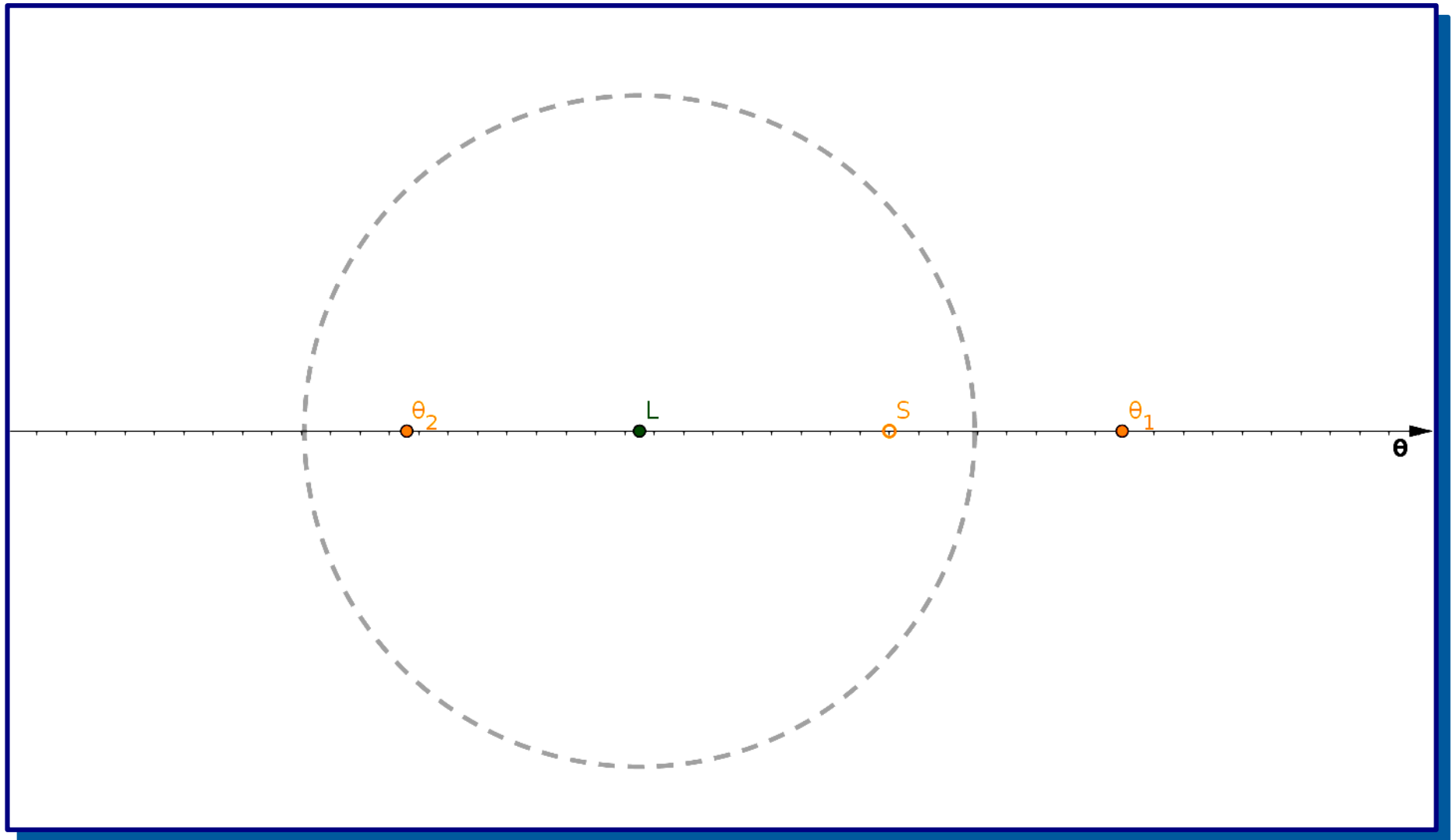
$$\theta^2 - \theta_s^2 - \theta_E^2 = 0$$



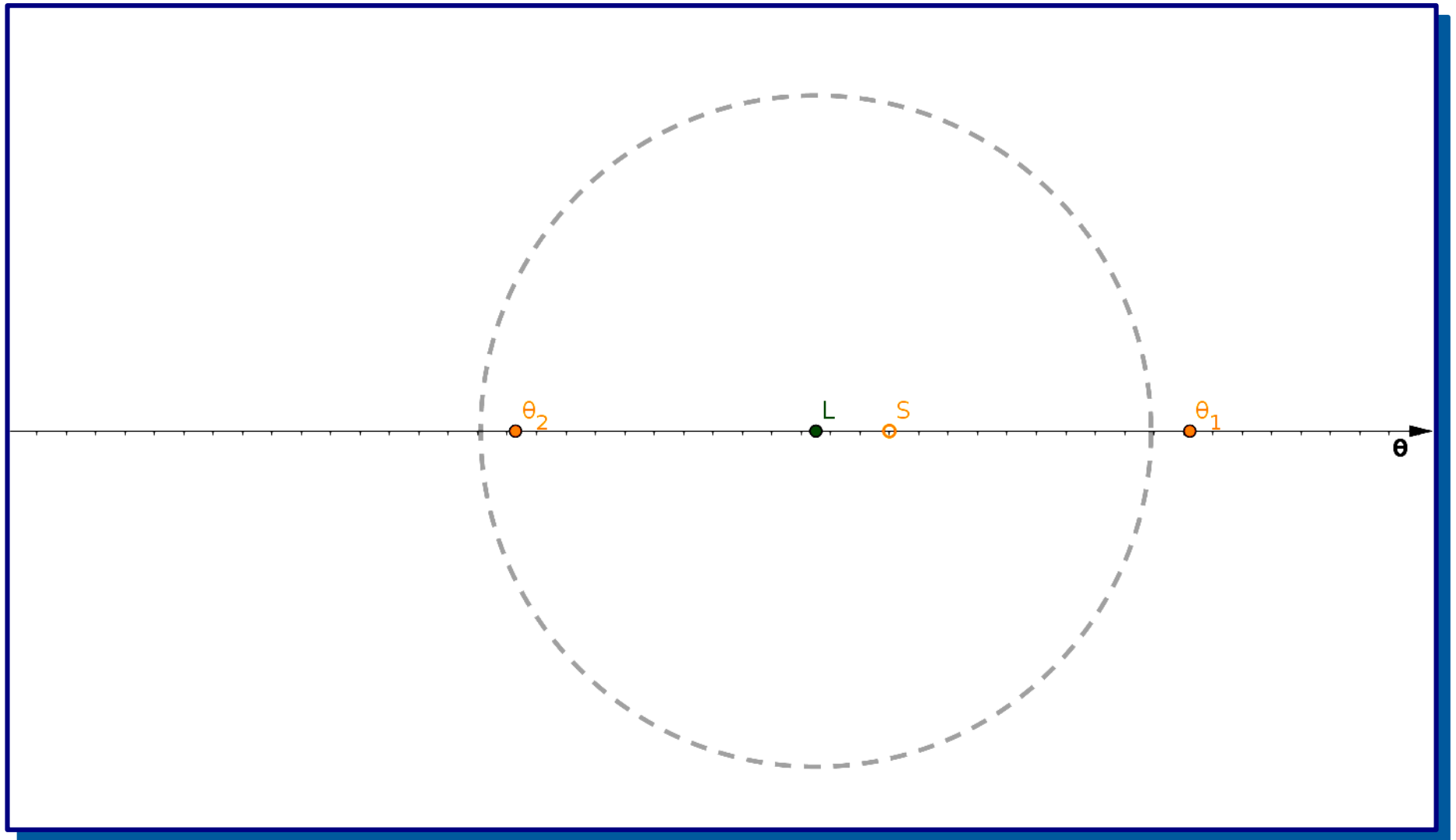
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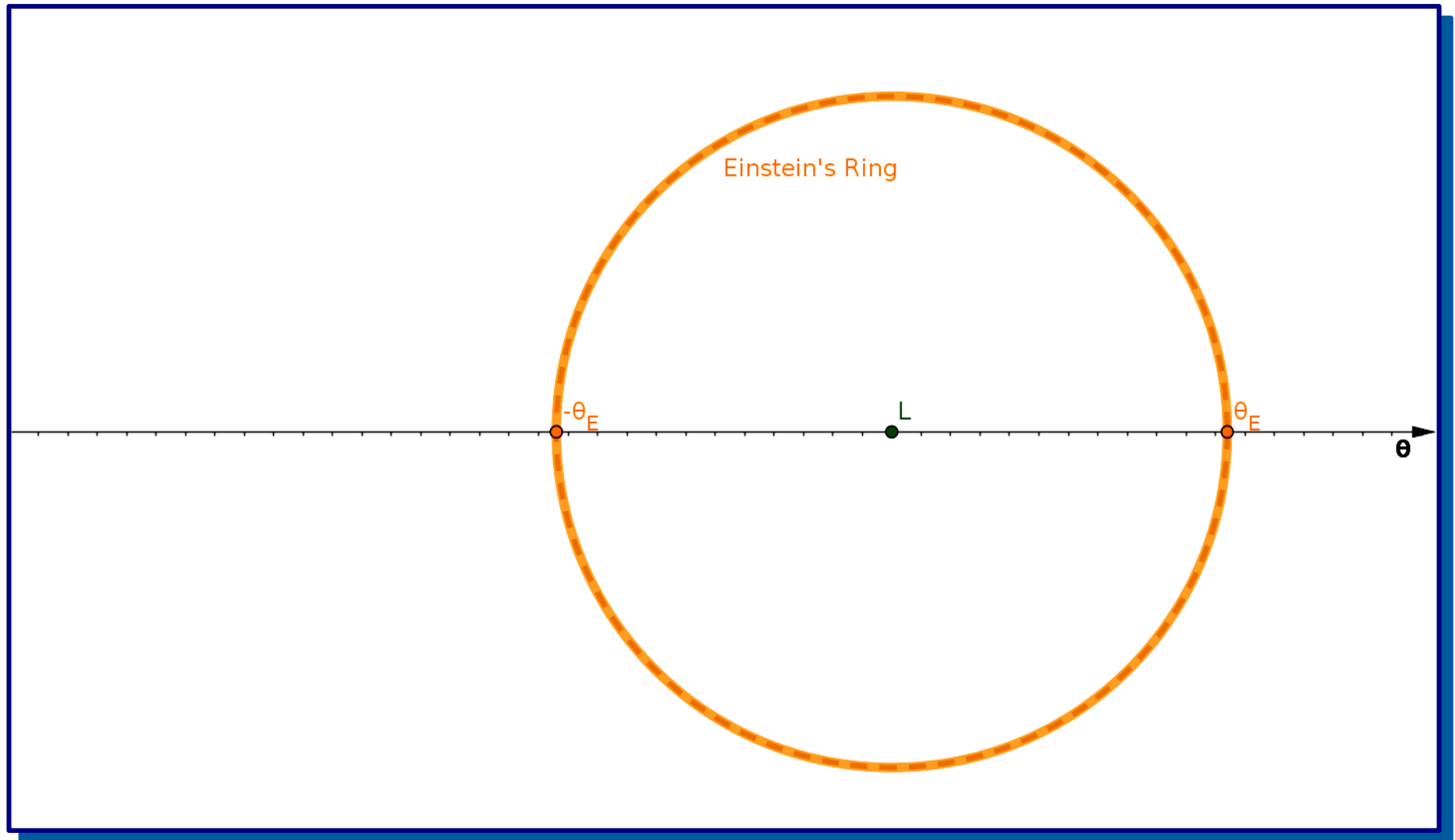
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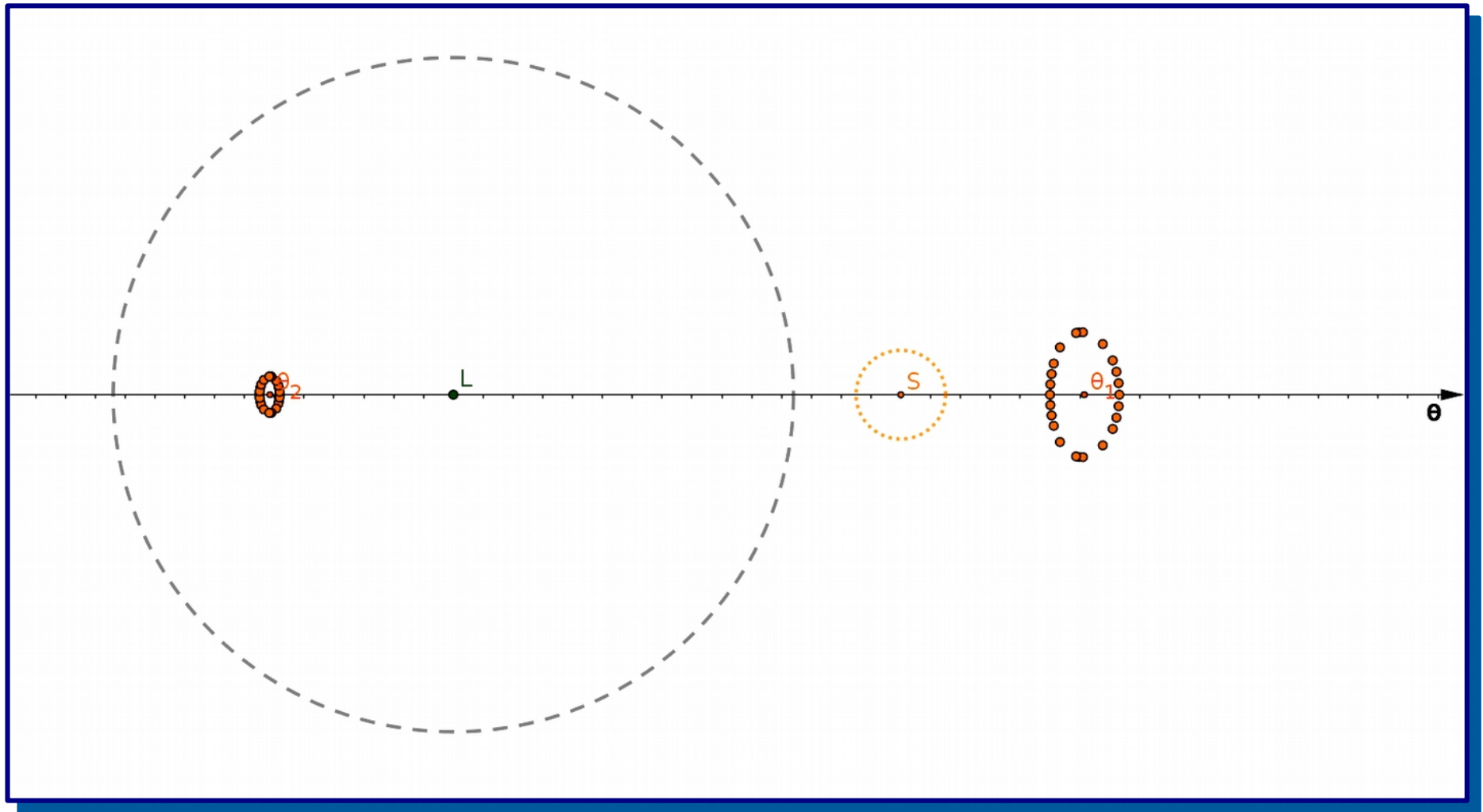
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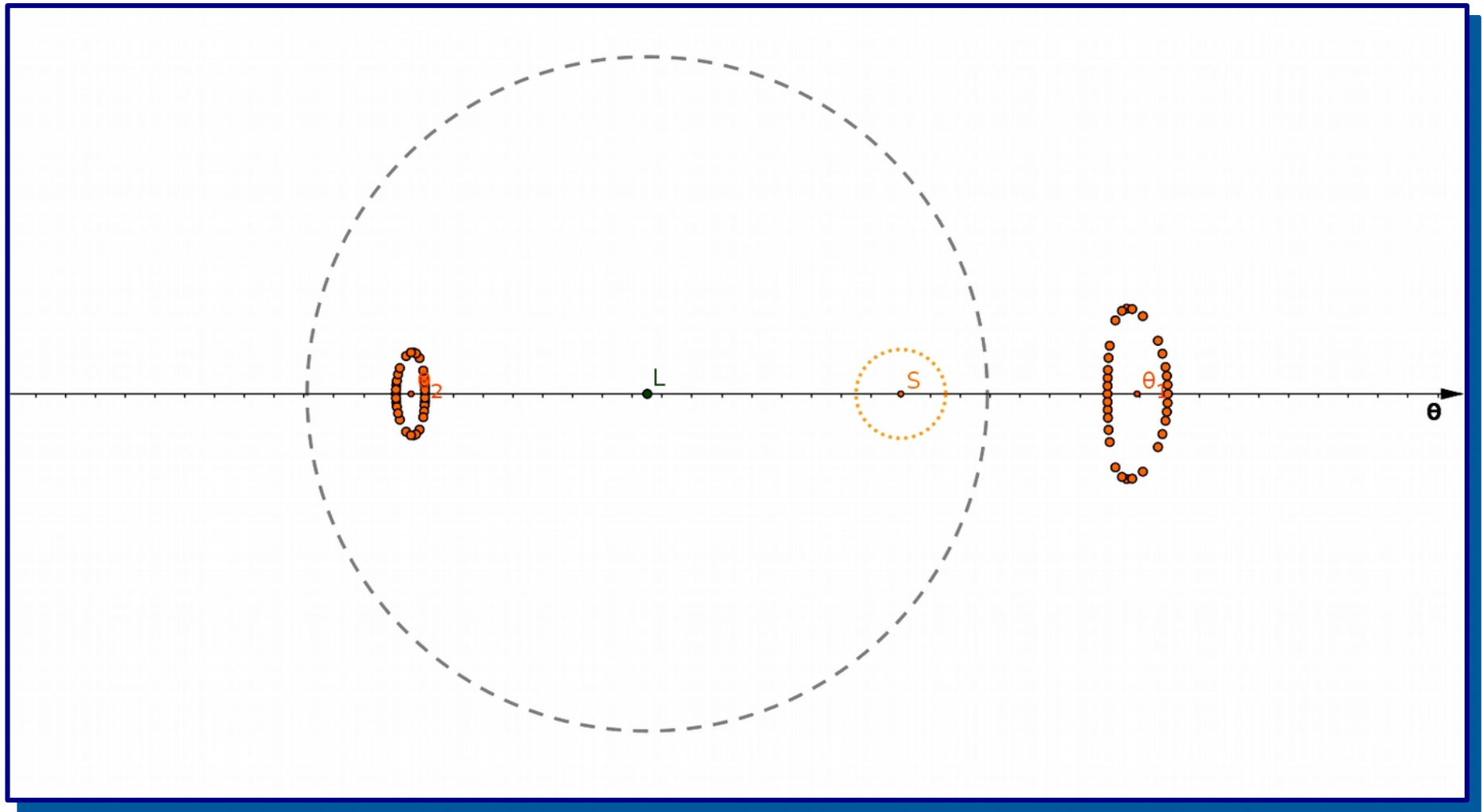
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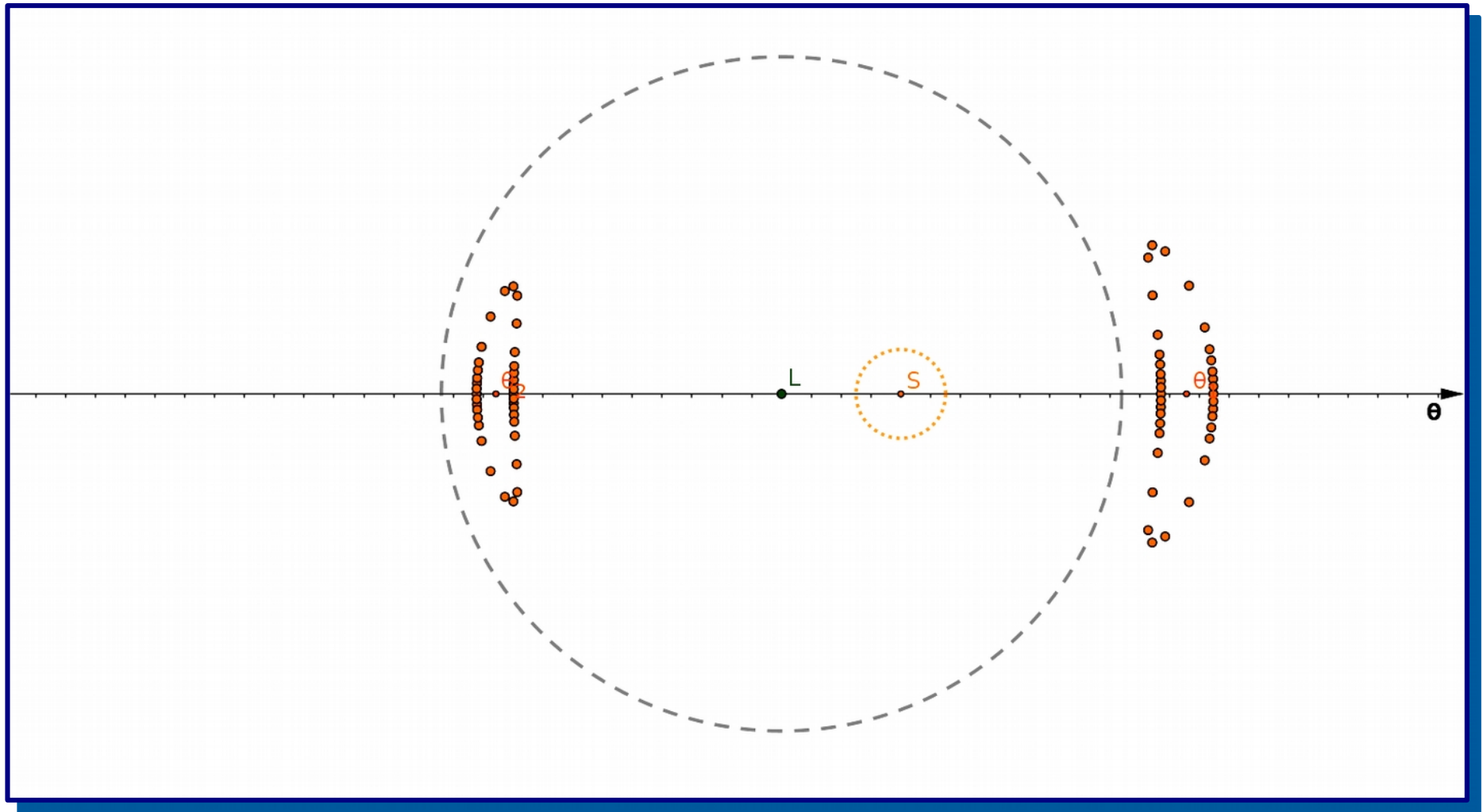
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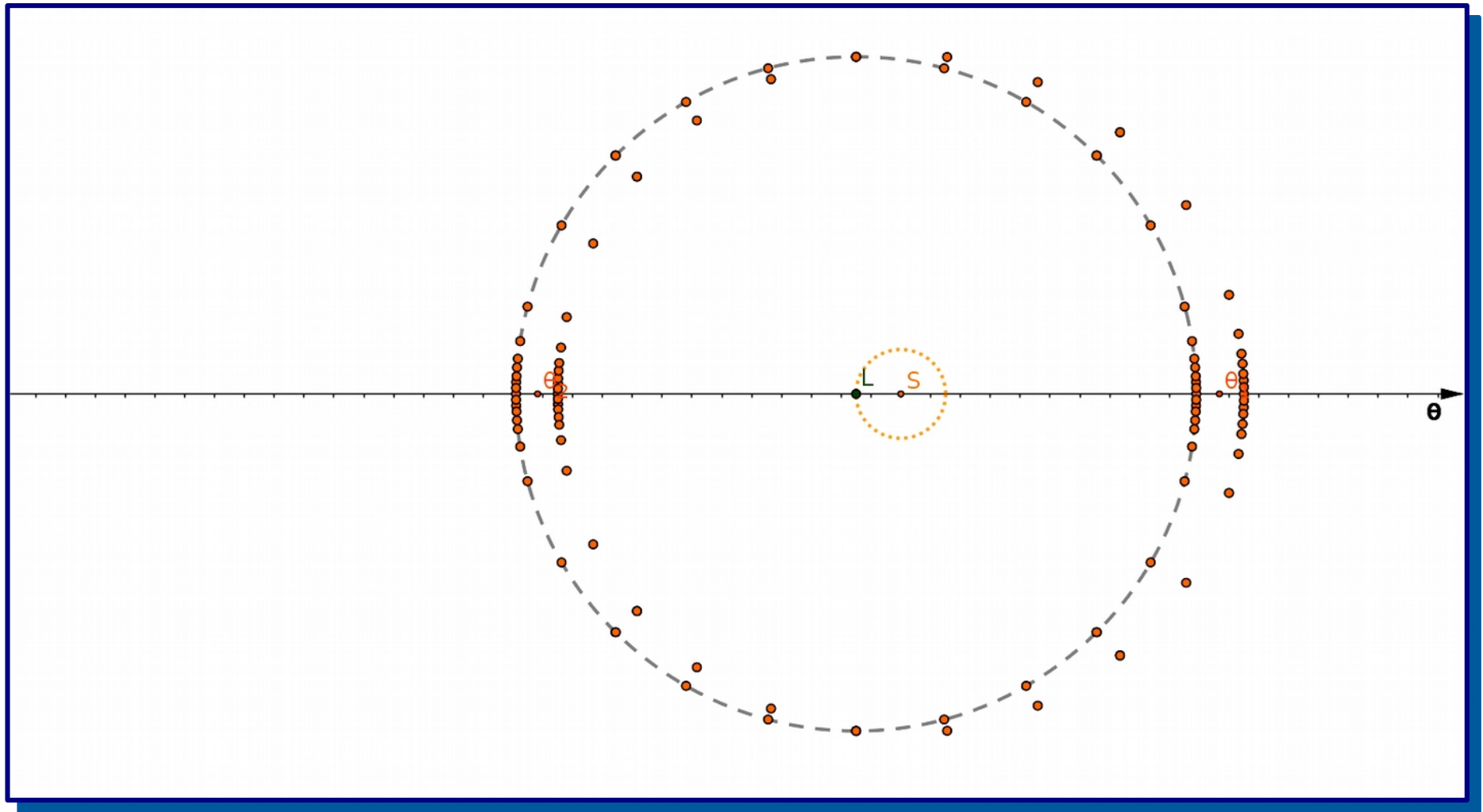
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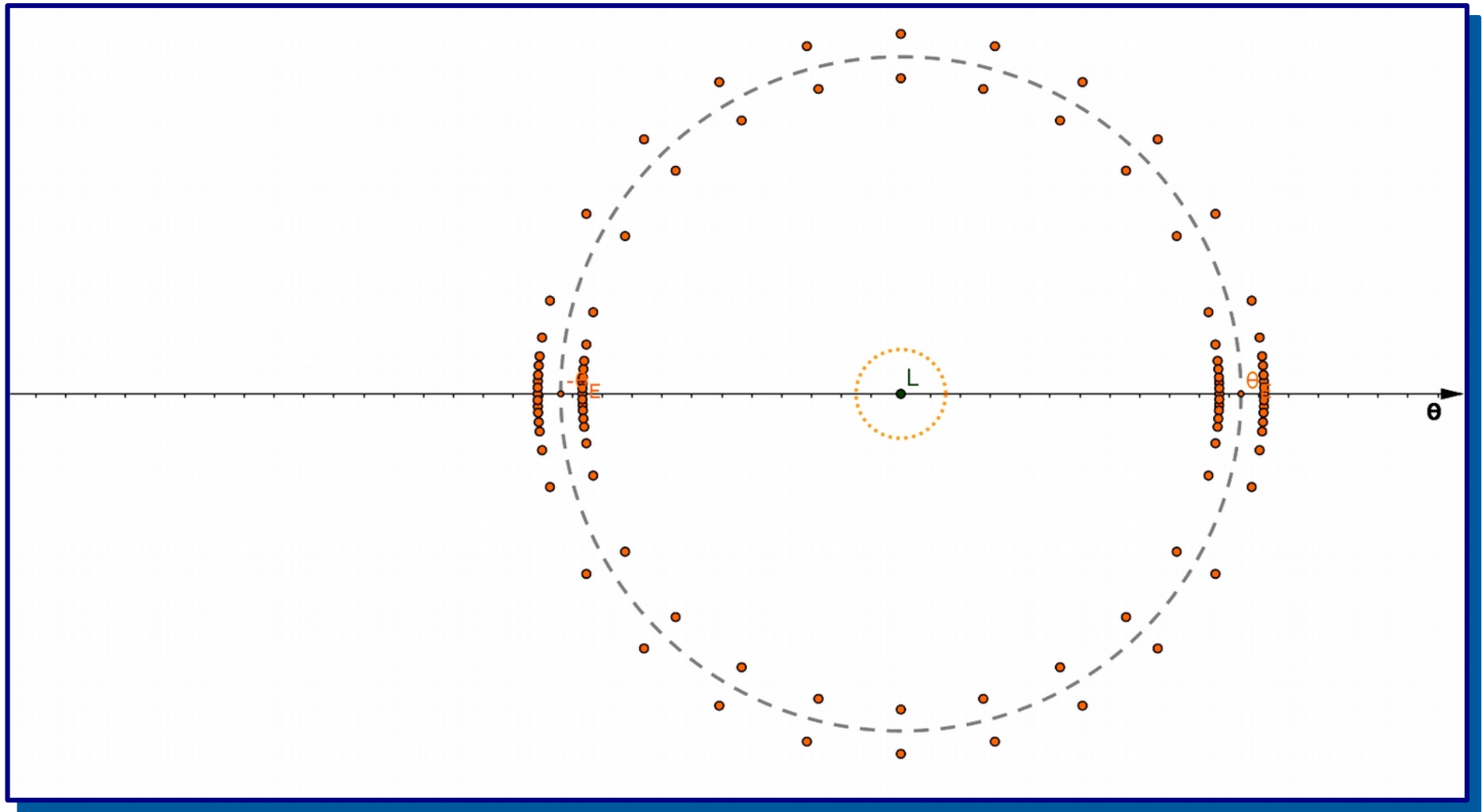
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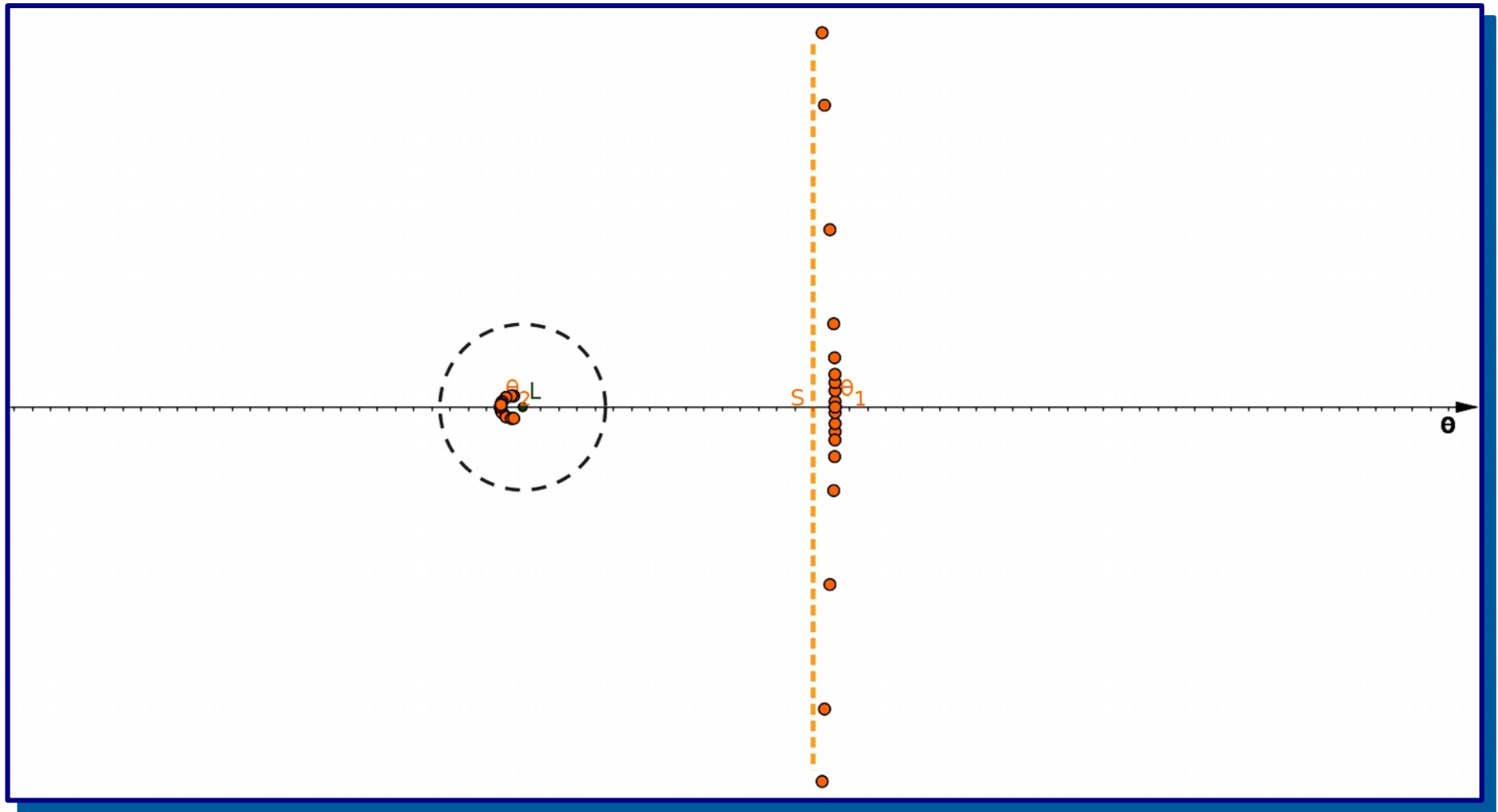
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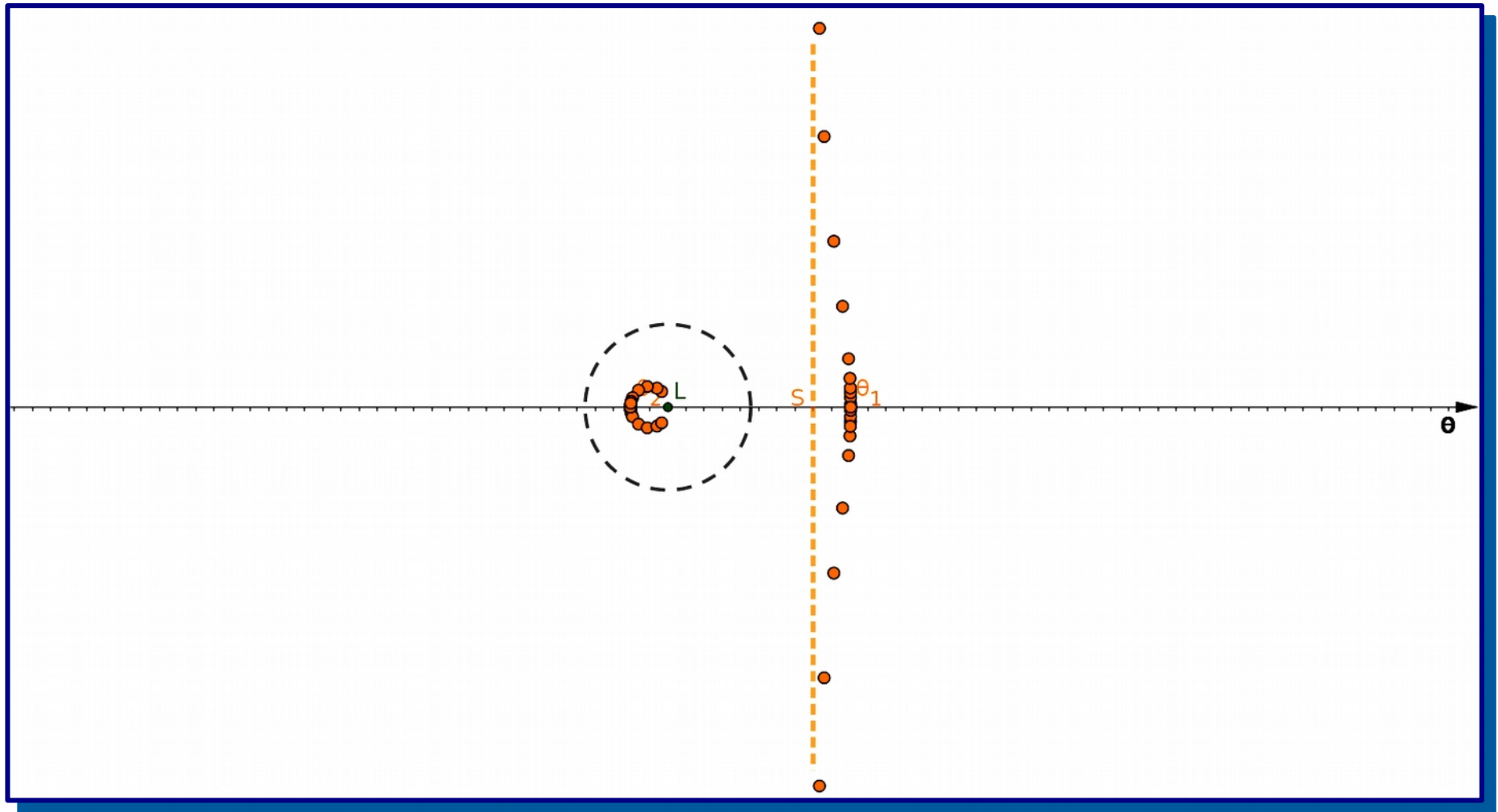
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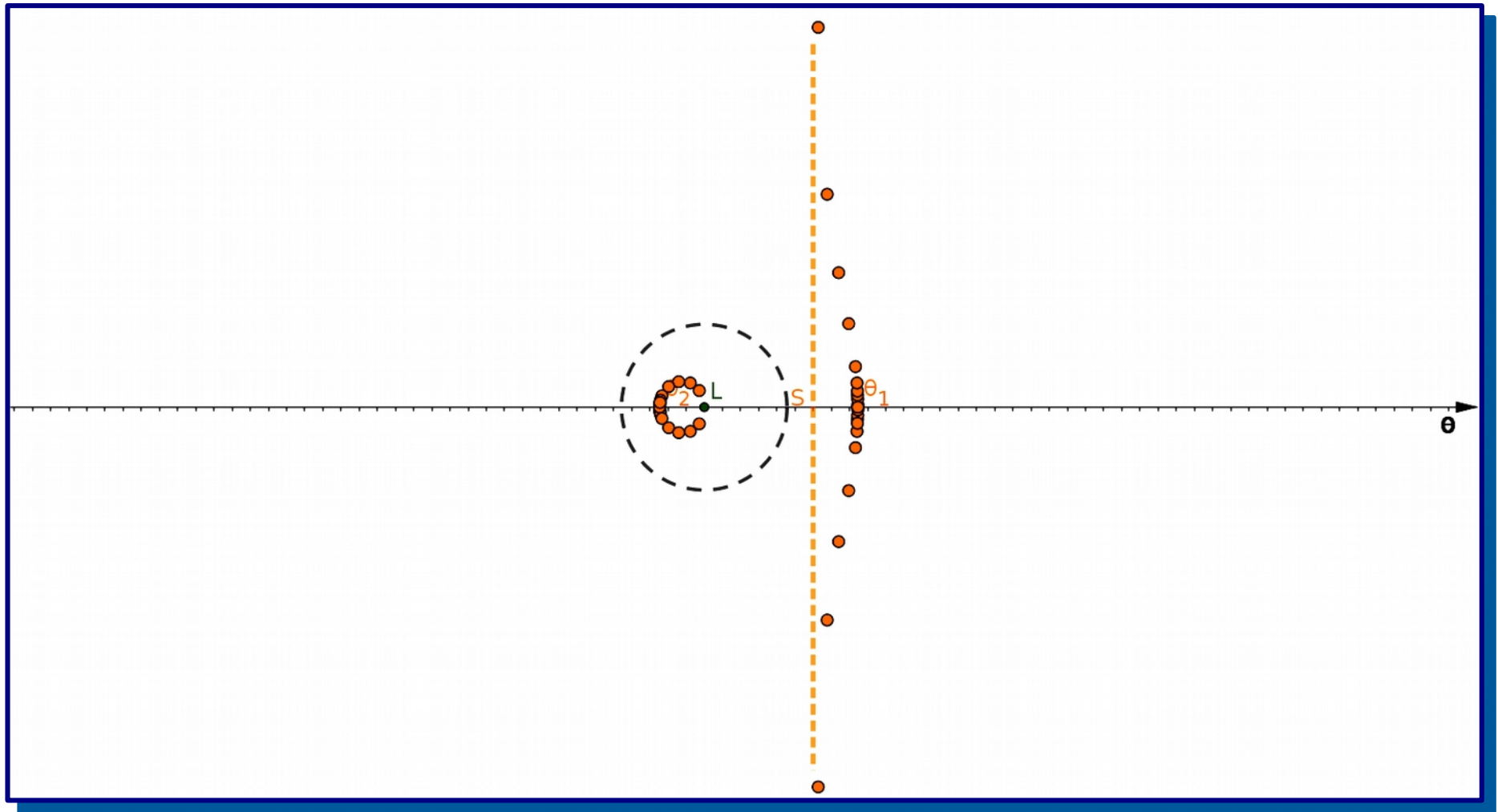
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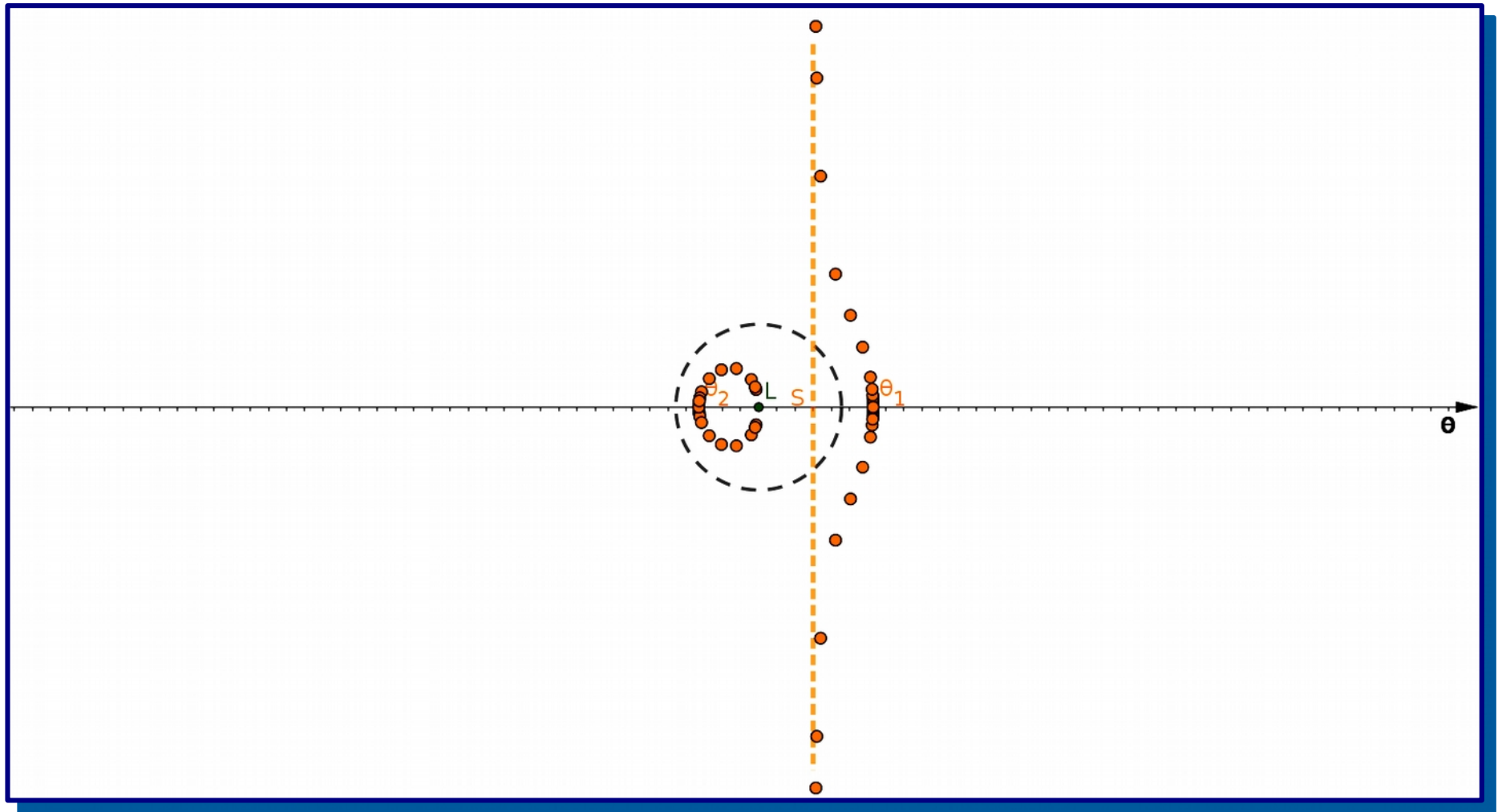
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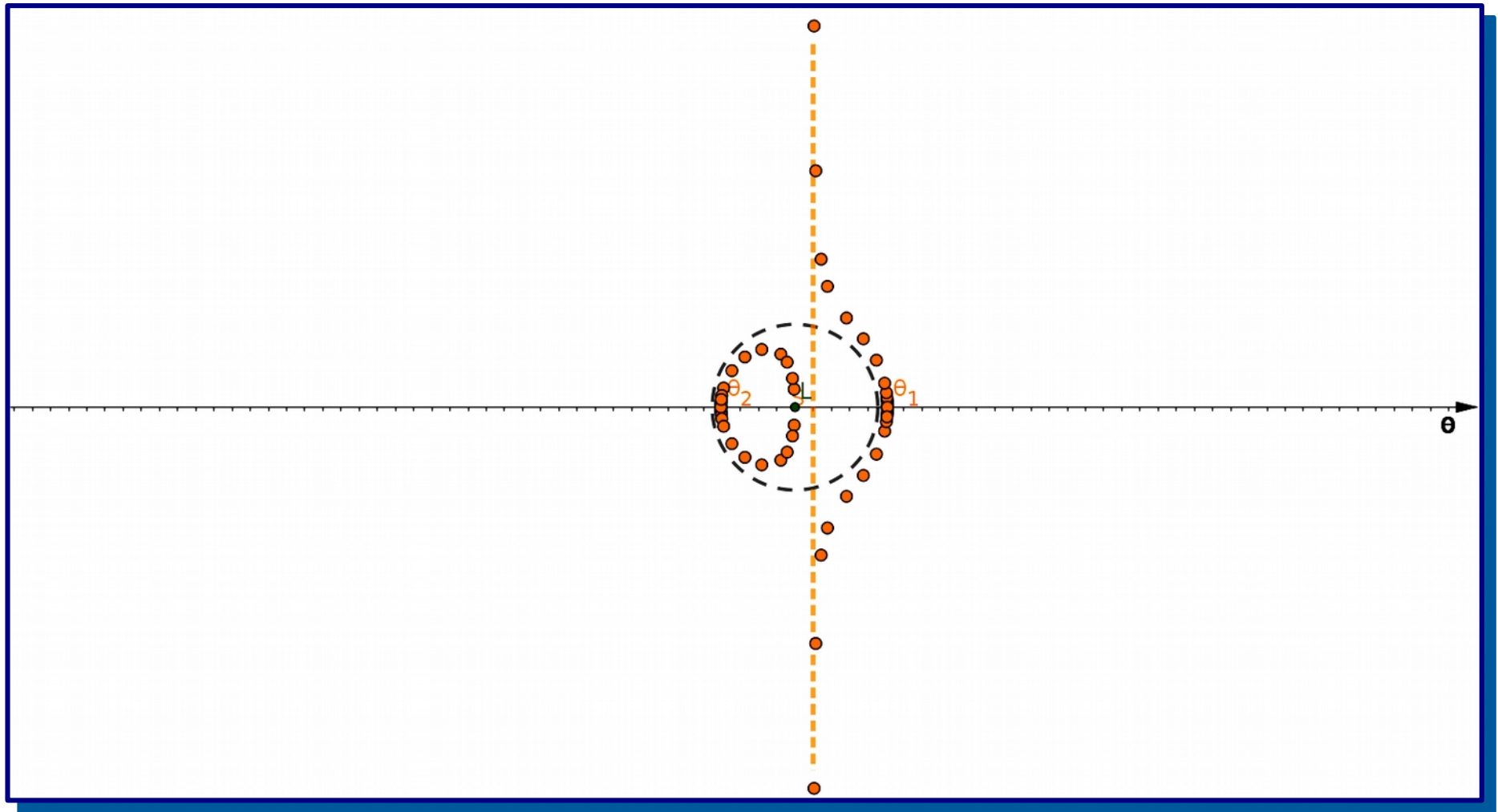
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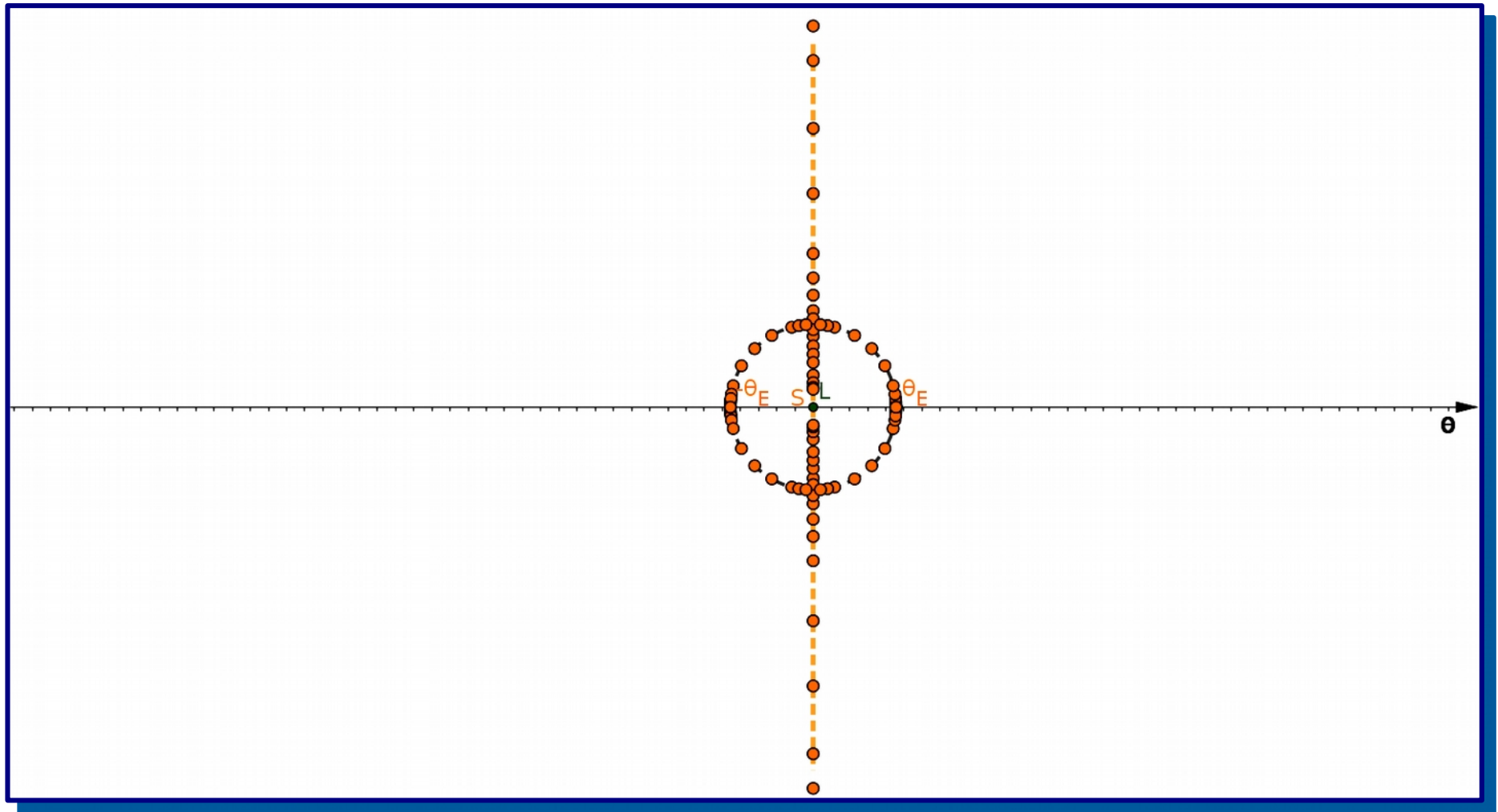
Line Source



Line Source



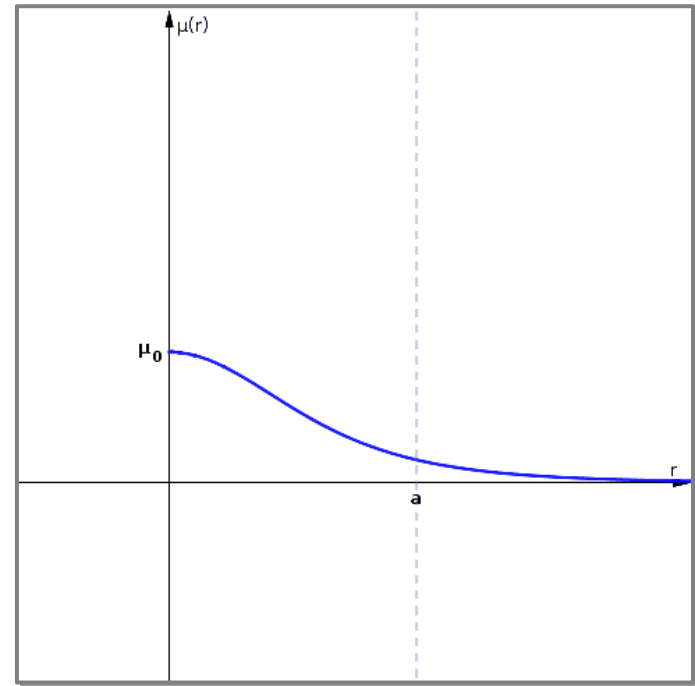
Line Source



Plummer Sphere Lens

- Mass Density

$$\mu(r) = \frac{3a^2}{4\pi} \frac{M}{(r^2 + a^2)^{5/2}}$$



- Mass:

$$M(r) = M \frac{r^3}{(r^2 + a^2)^{3/2}}$$



$$M(\rho) = M \frac{\rho^2}{(\rho^2 + a^2)}$$

Projected Mass

Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M \cdot \theta}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

$$\theta_E = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta_E)}{\theta_E} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M \cdot \theta_E}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

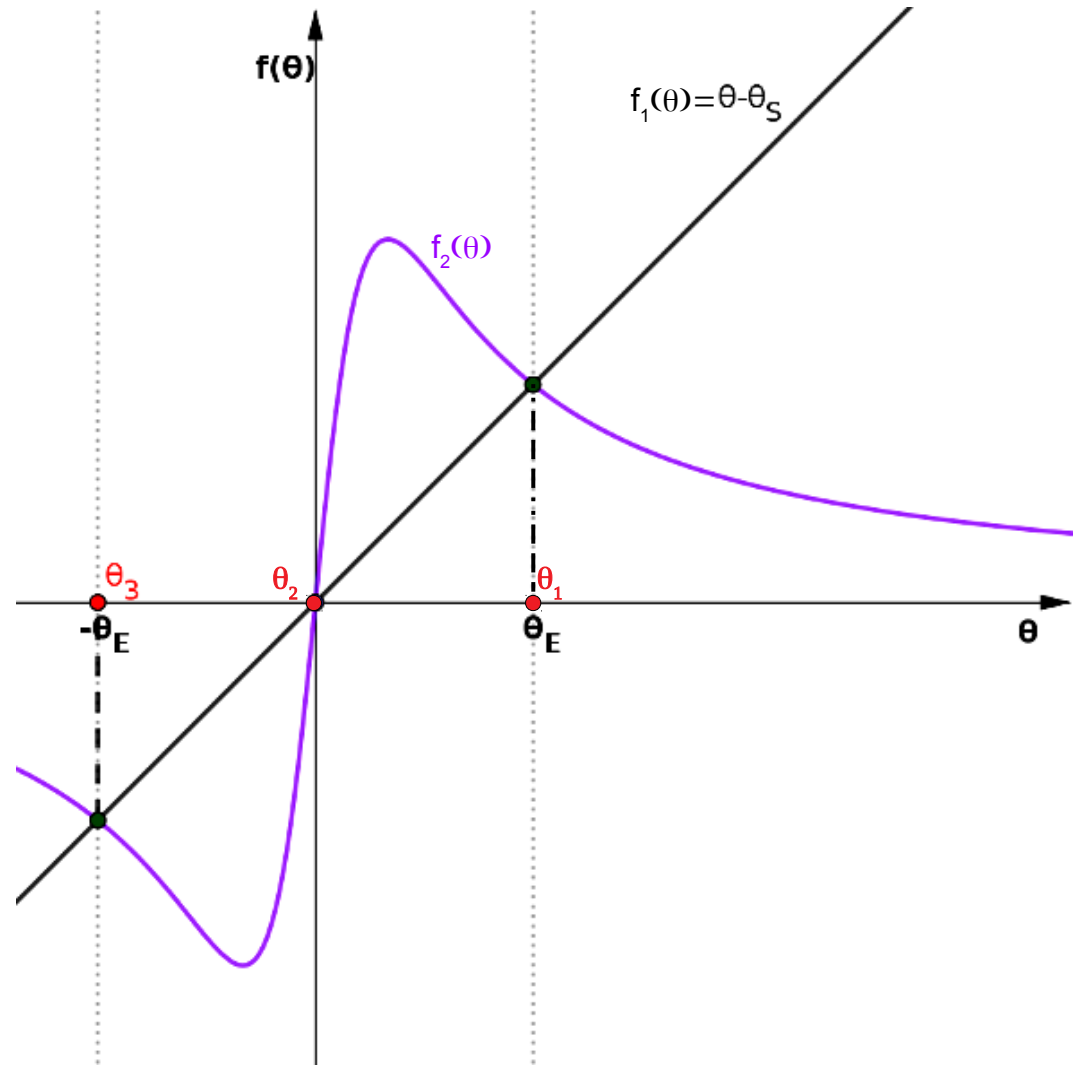
$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

Lens equation in terms
of Einstein radius

Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

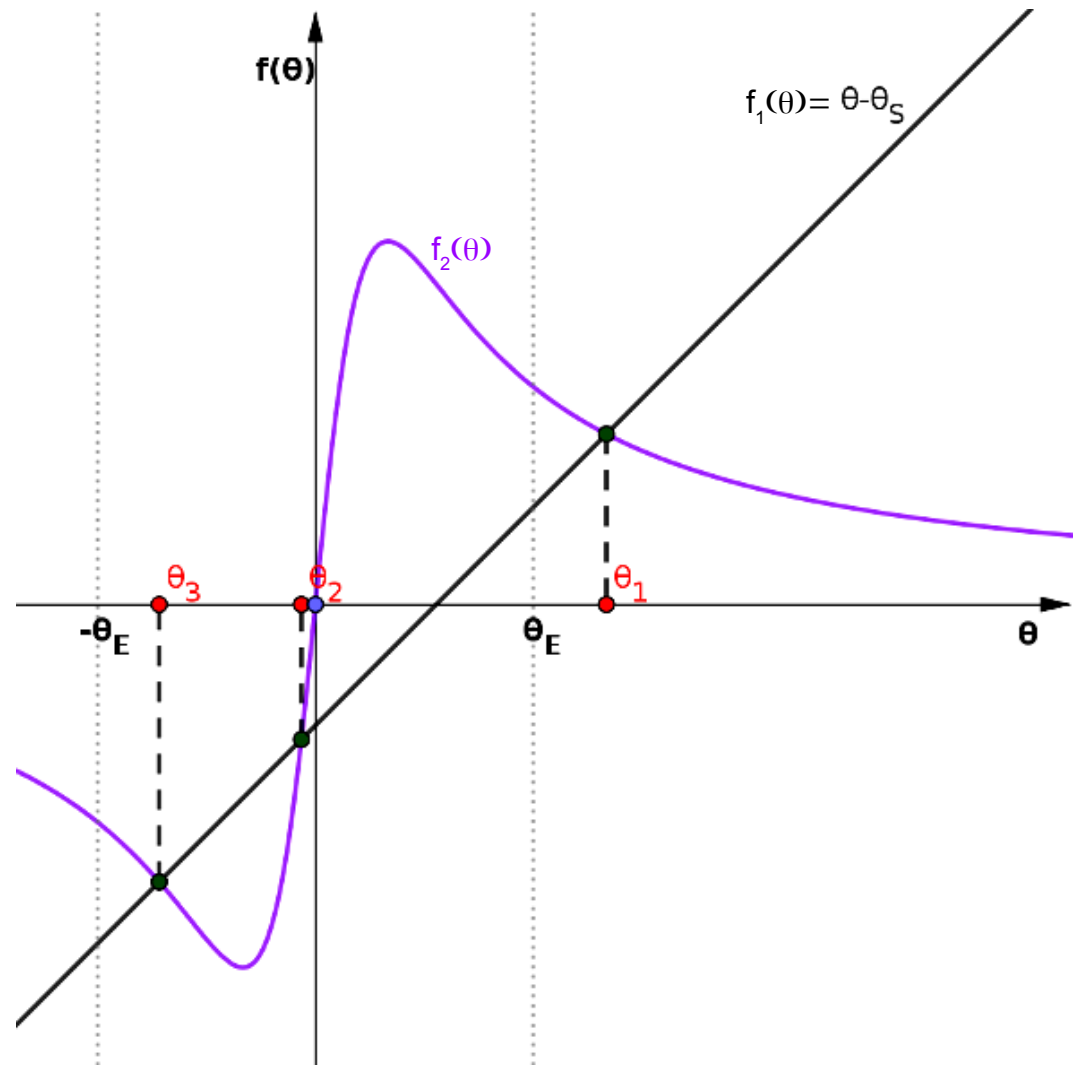
$$\theta_s = 0$$



Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

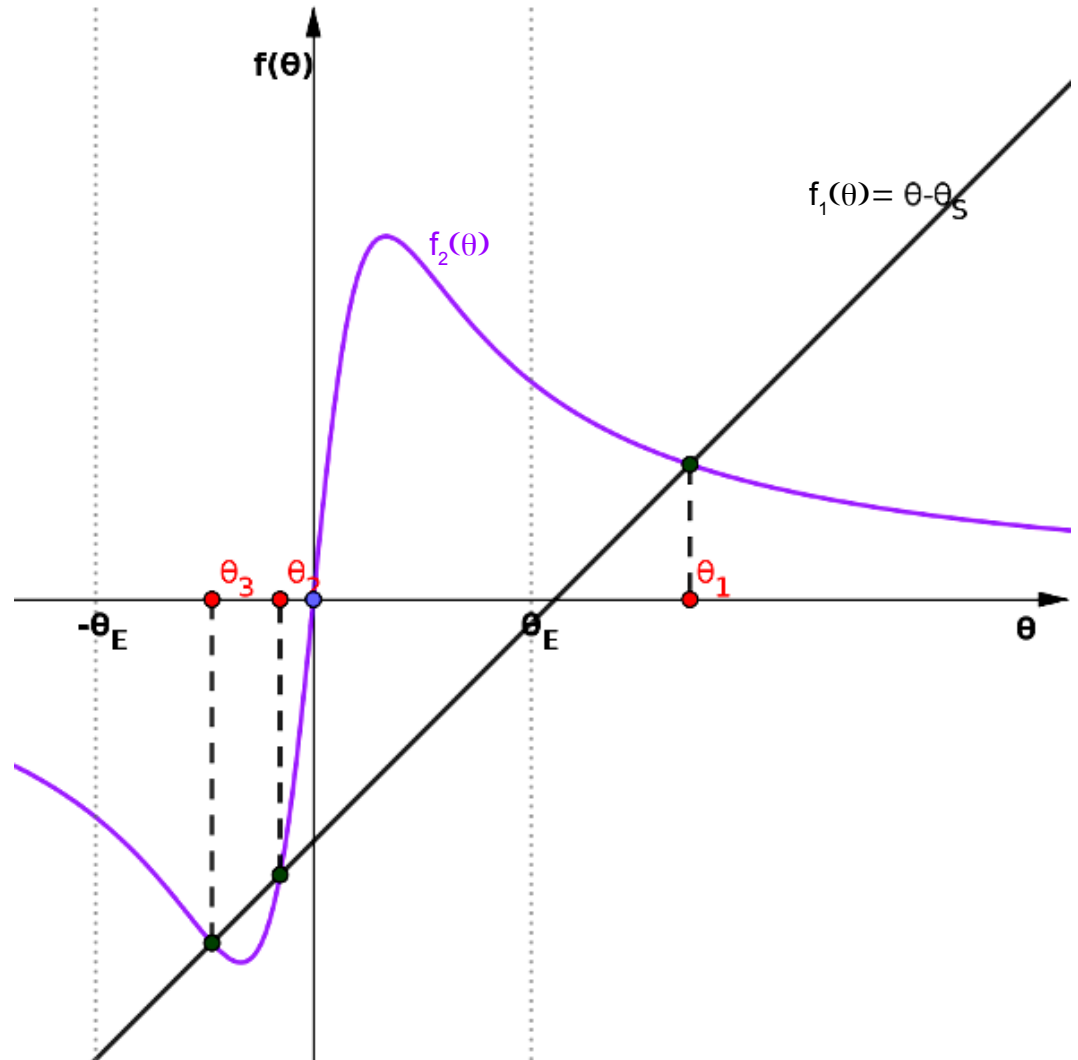
$$\theta_s > 0$$



Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

$$\theta_s > 0$$

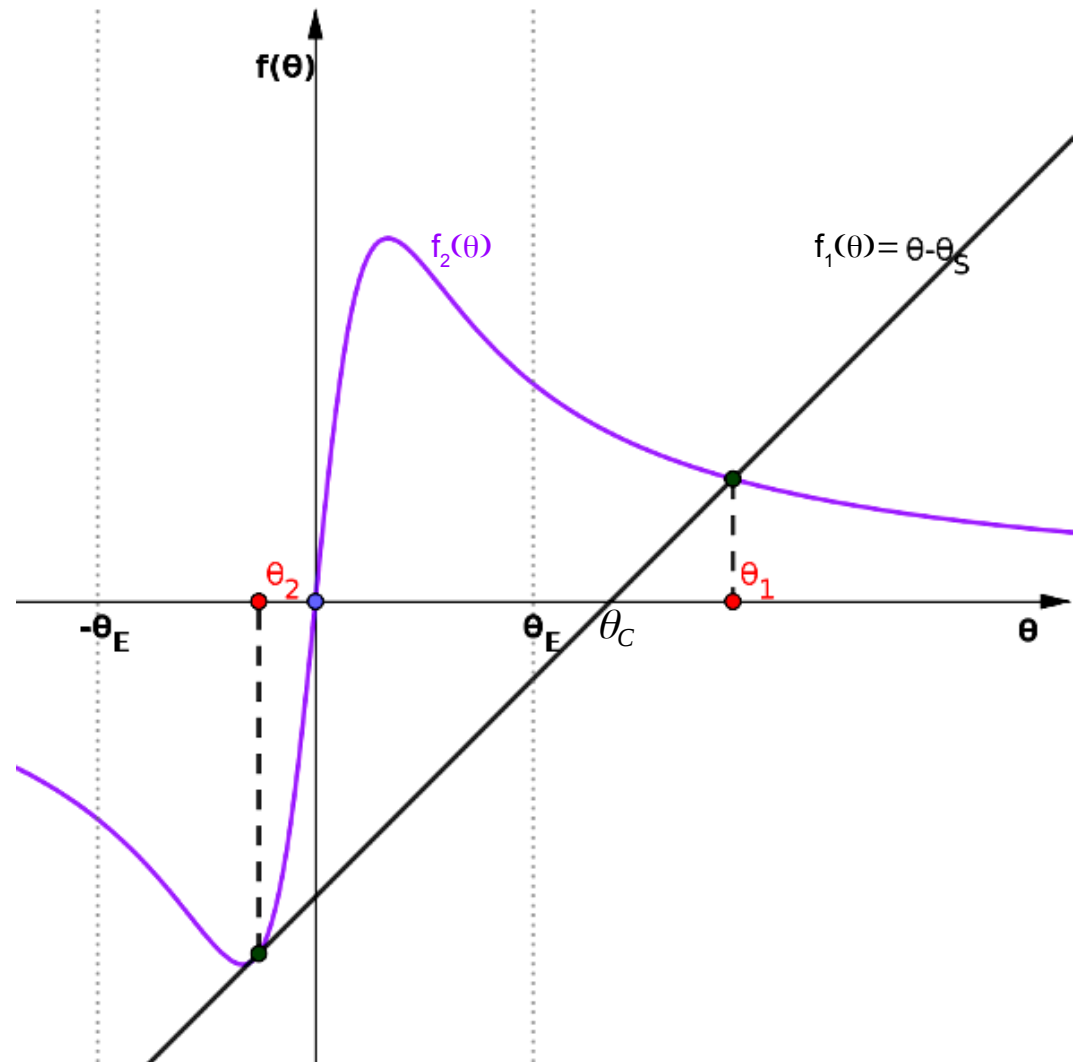


Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

$$\theta_s > 0$$

$$\theta_s = \theta_C$$



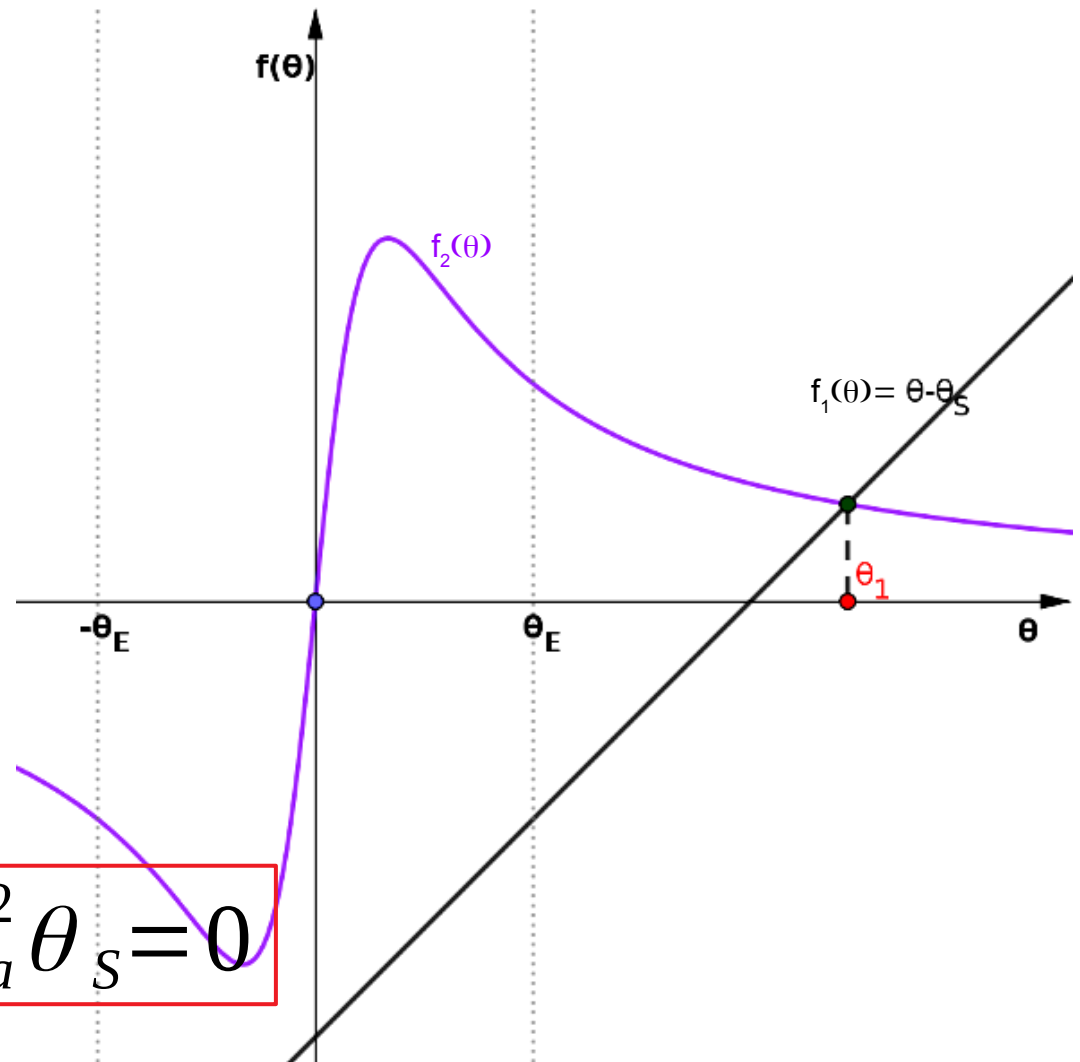
Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)}$$

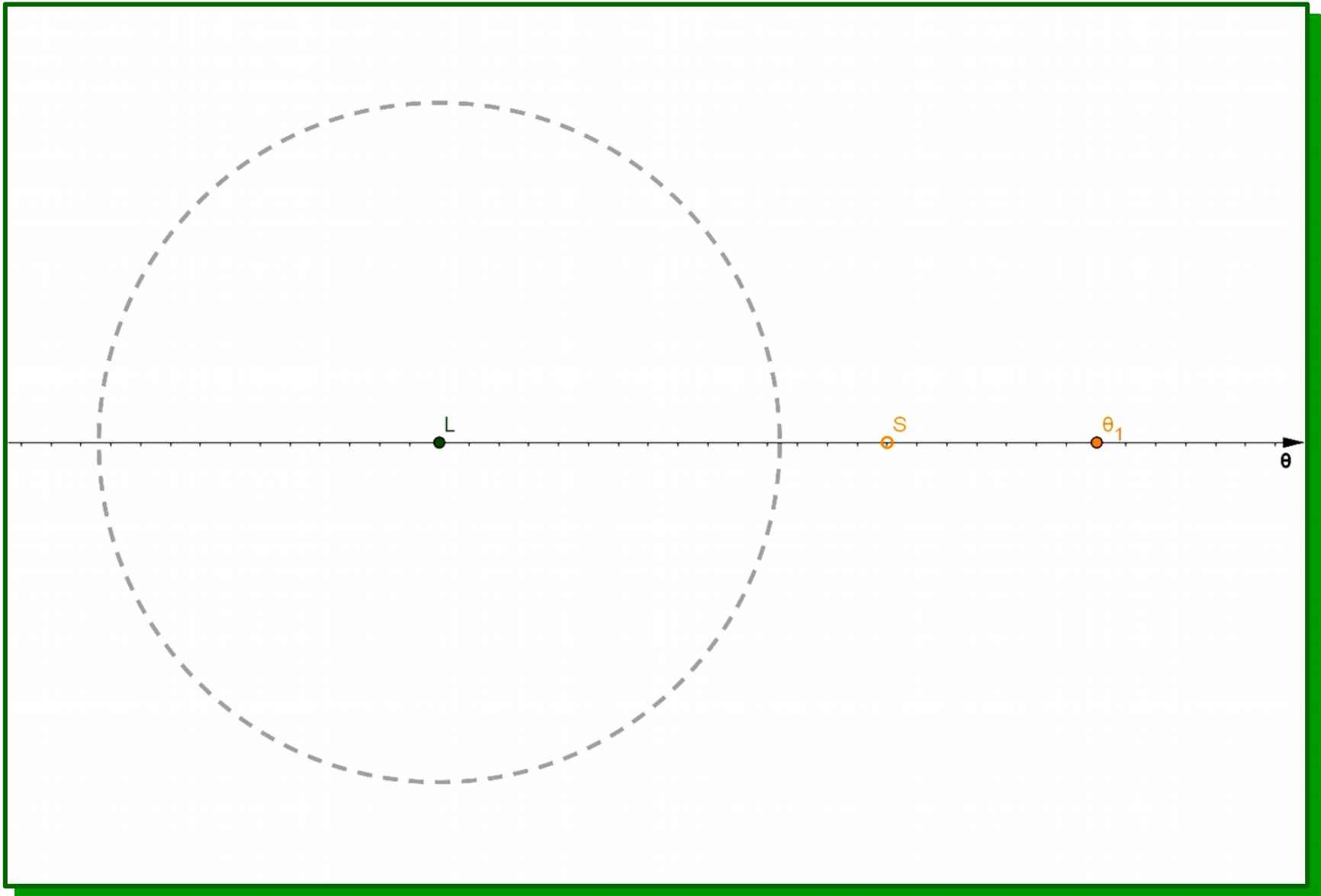
$$\theta_s > 0$$

• Or...

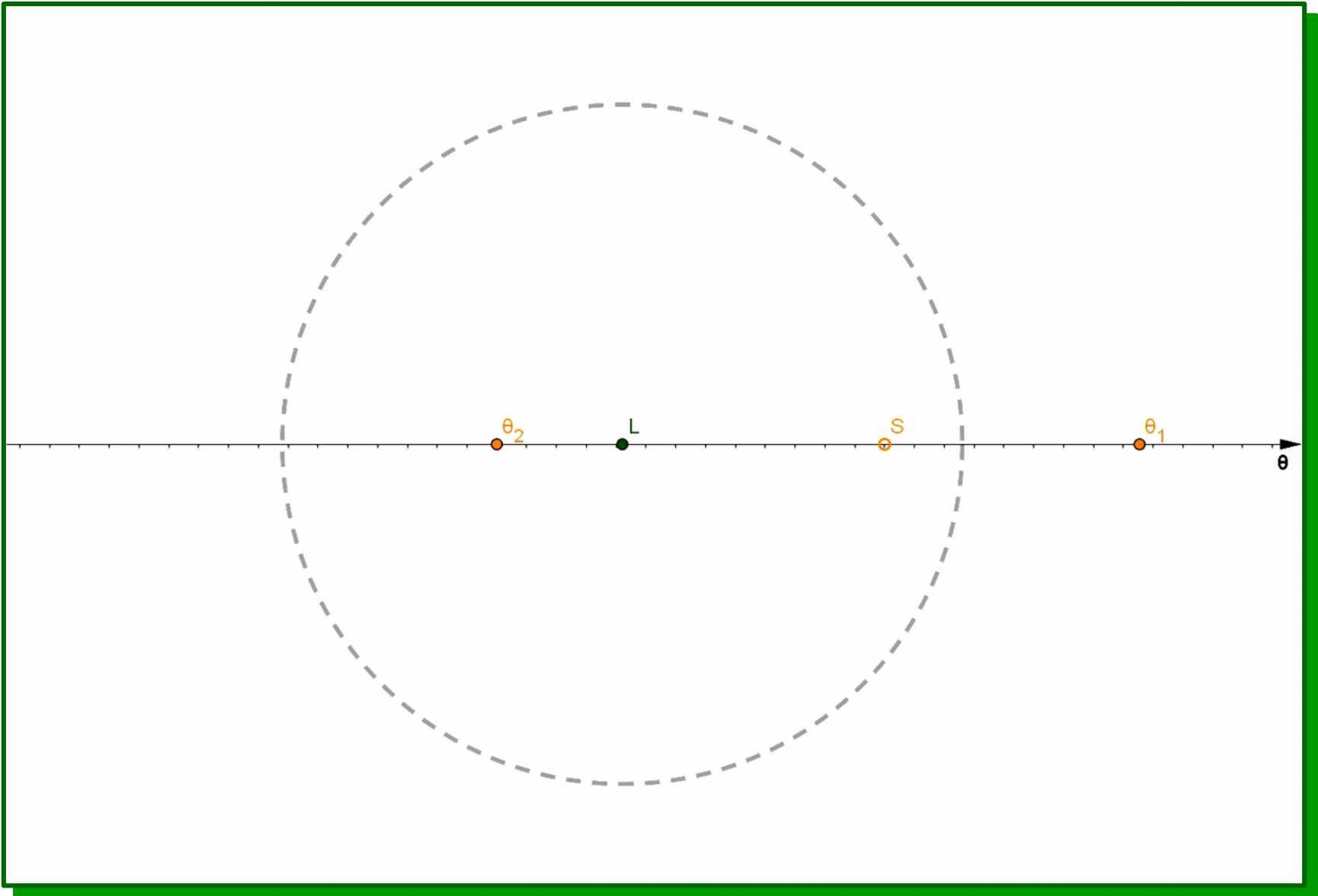
$$\theta^3 - \theta_s \theta^2 - \theta_E^2 \theta - \theta_a^2 \theta_s = 0$$



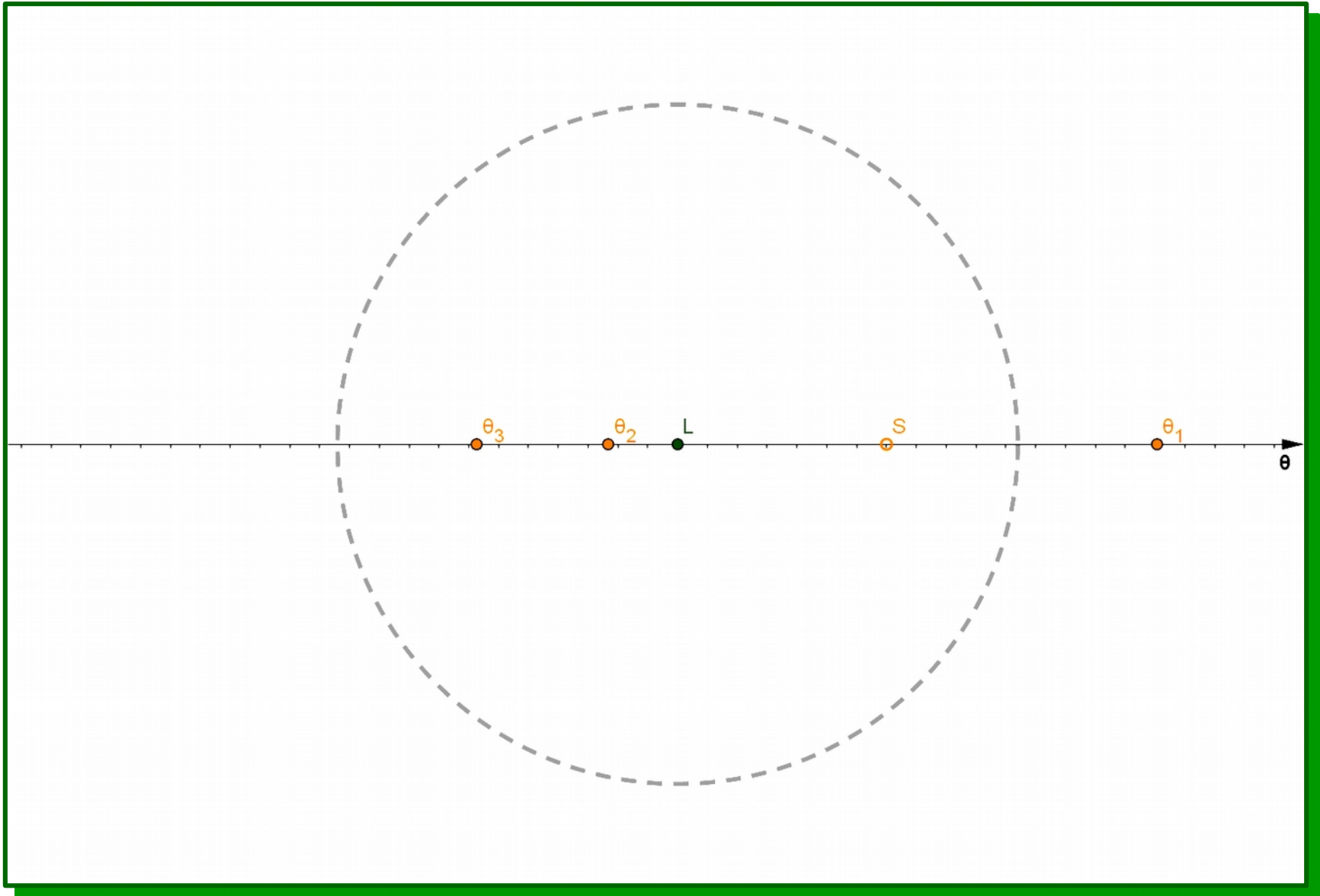
Point-Like Source



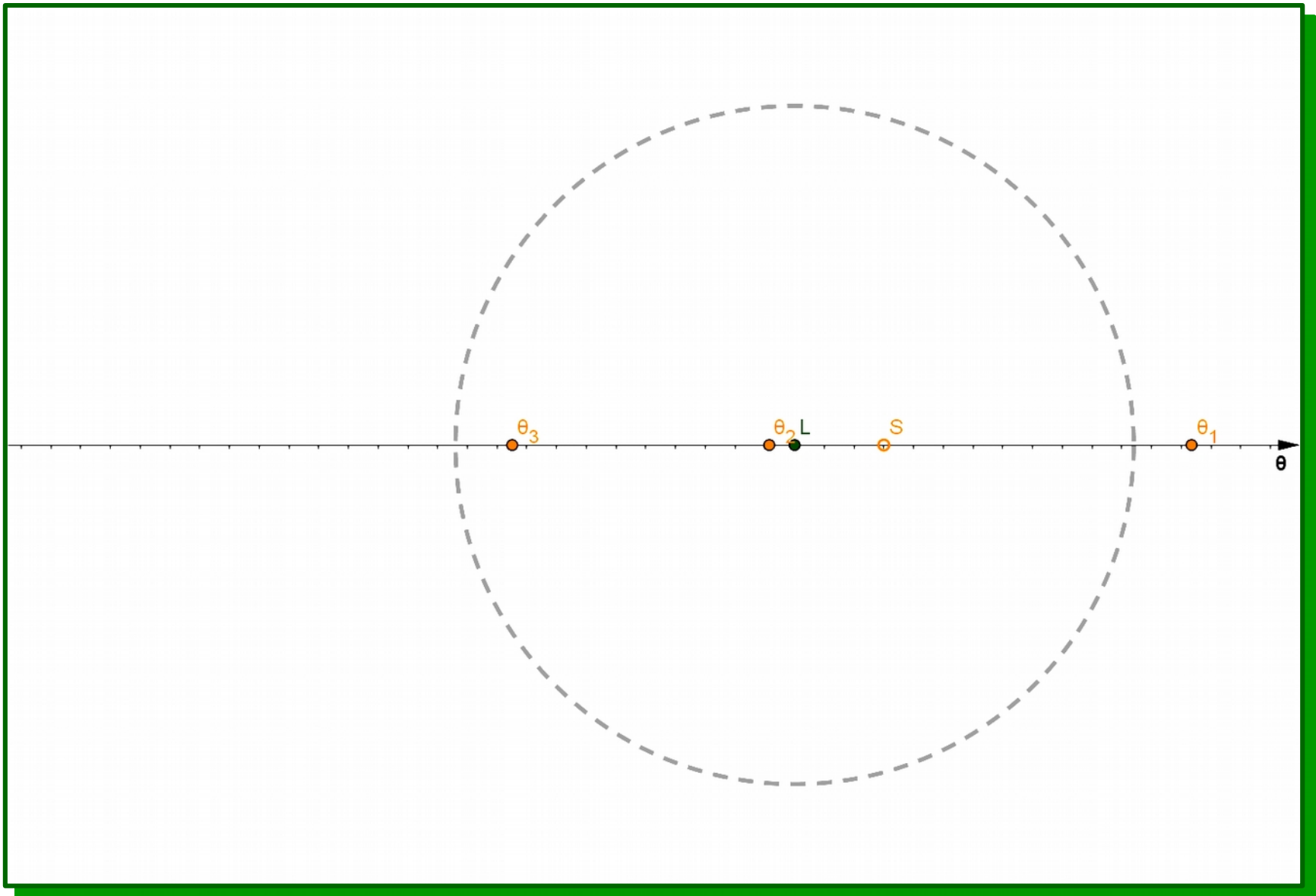
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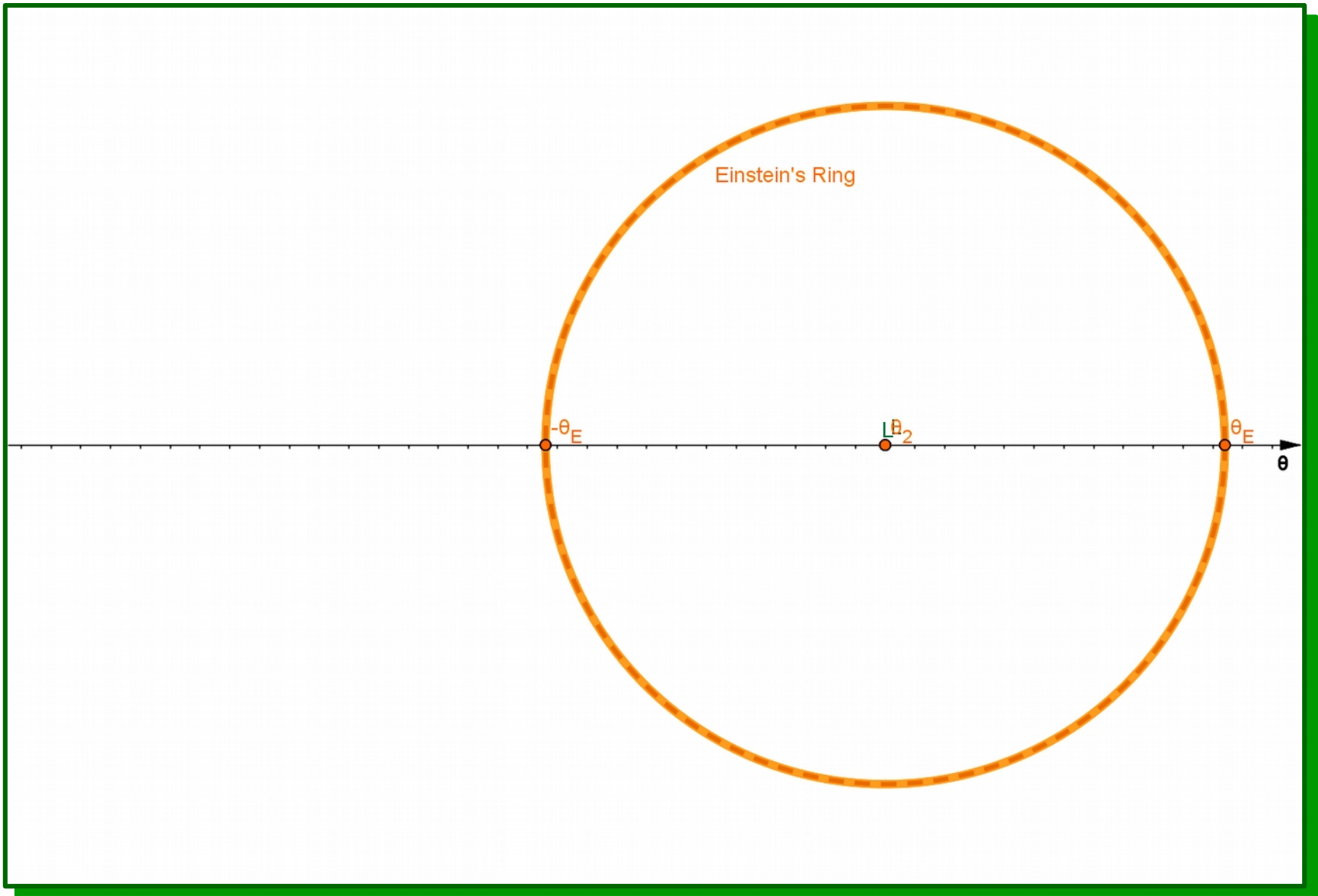
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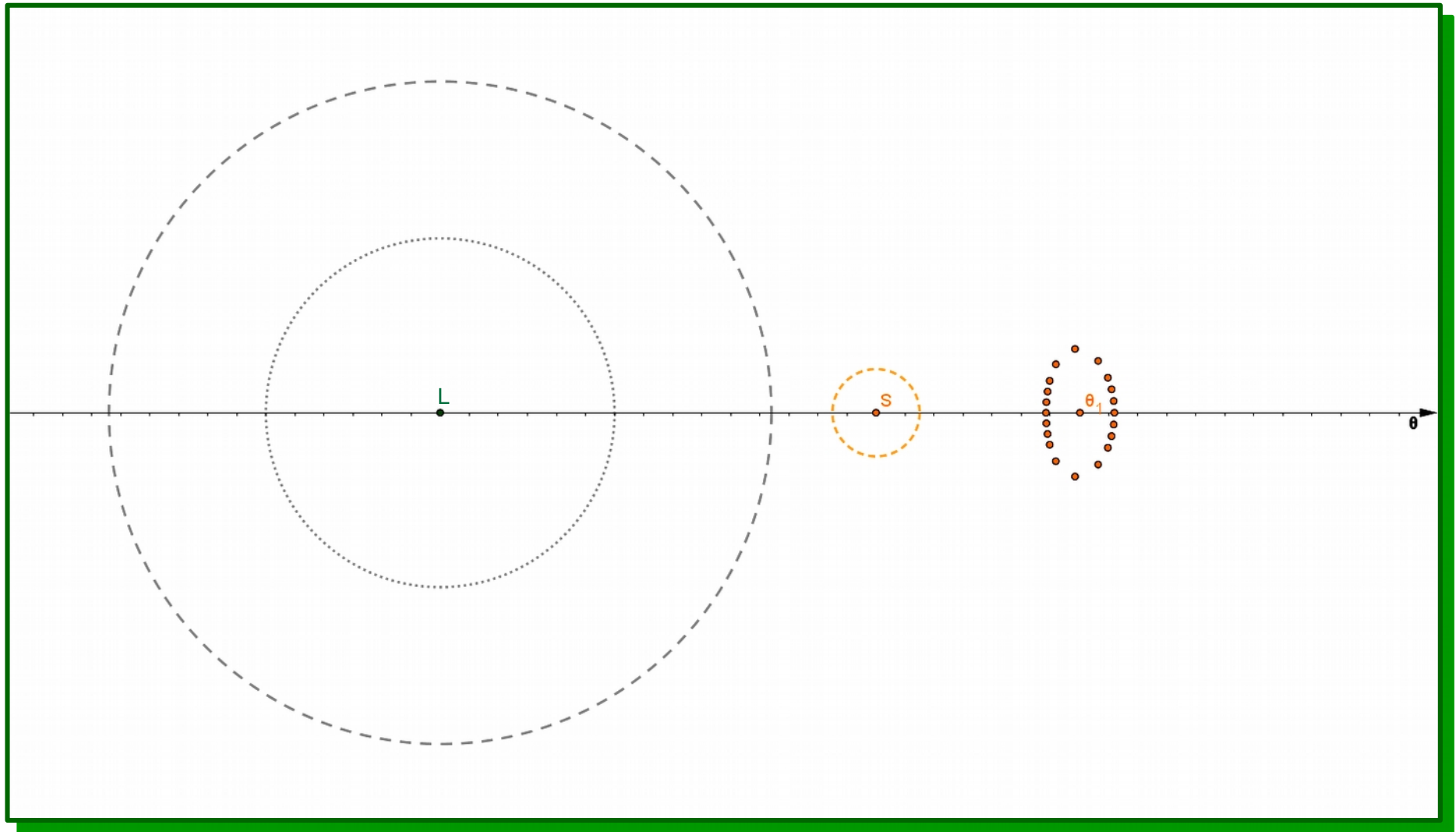
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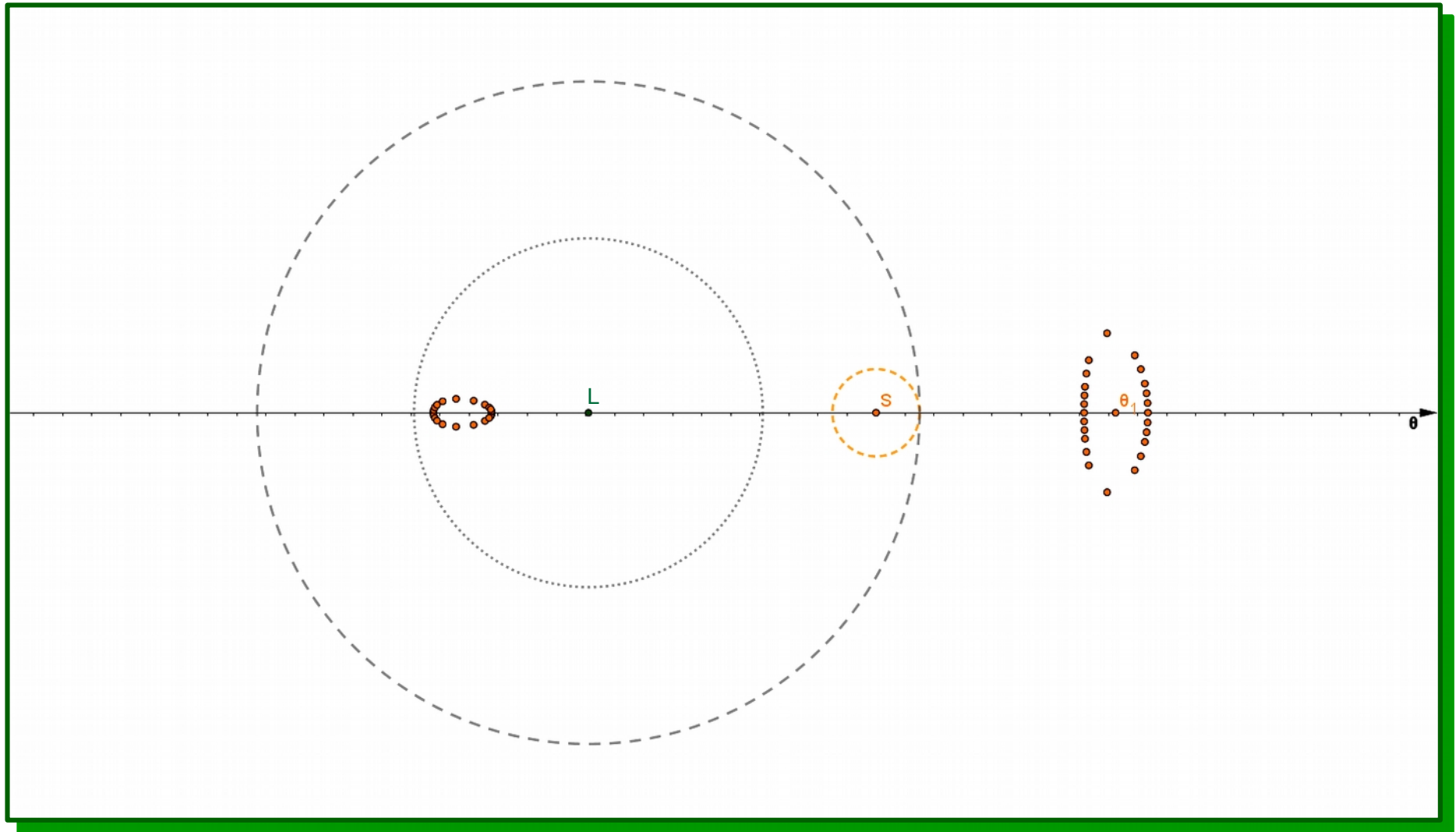
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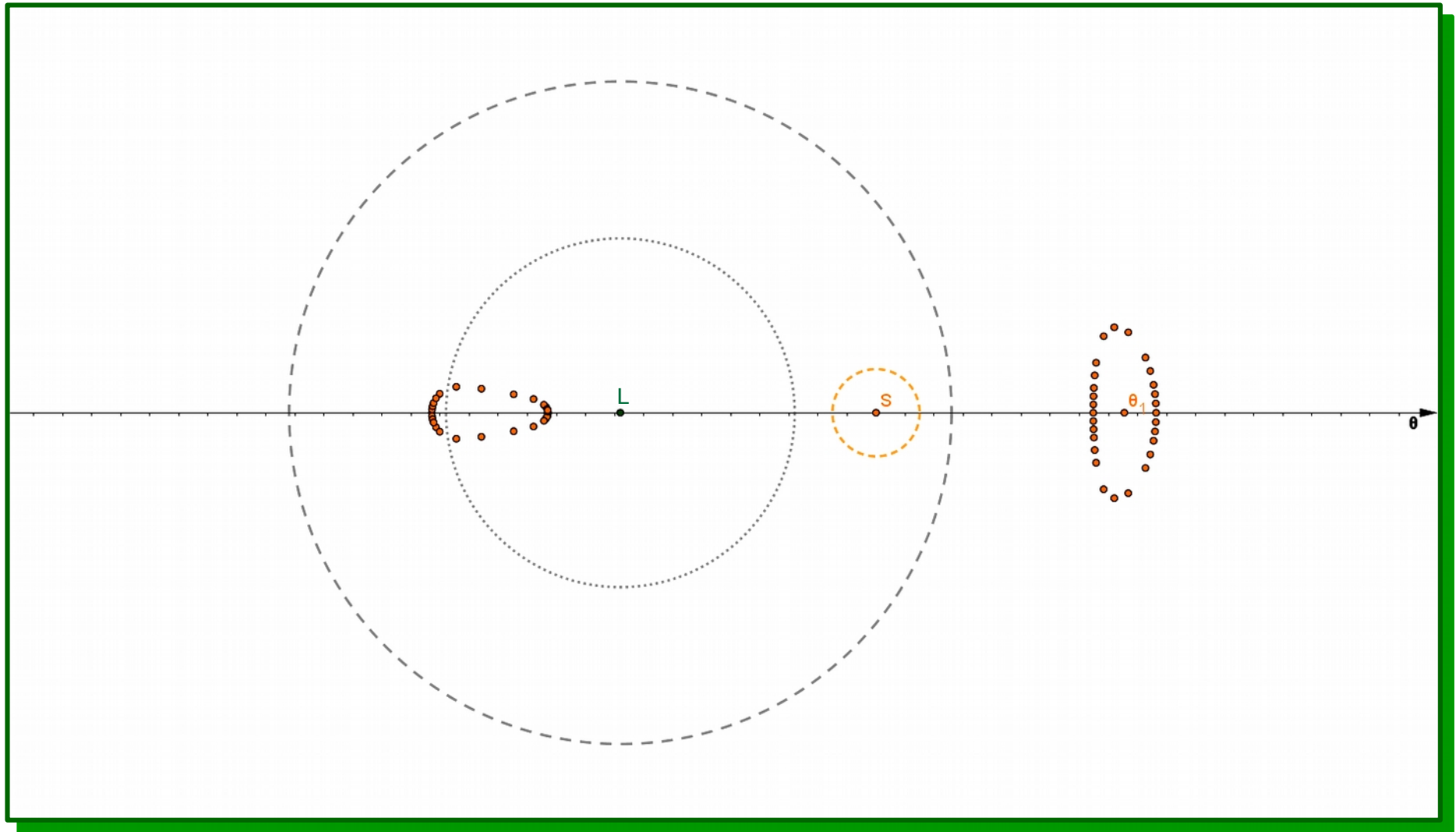
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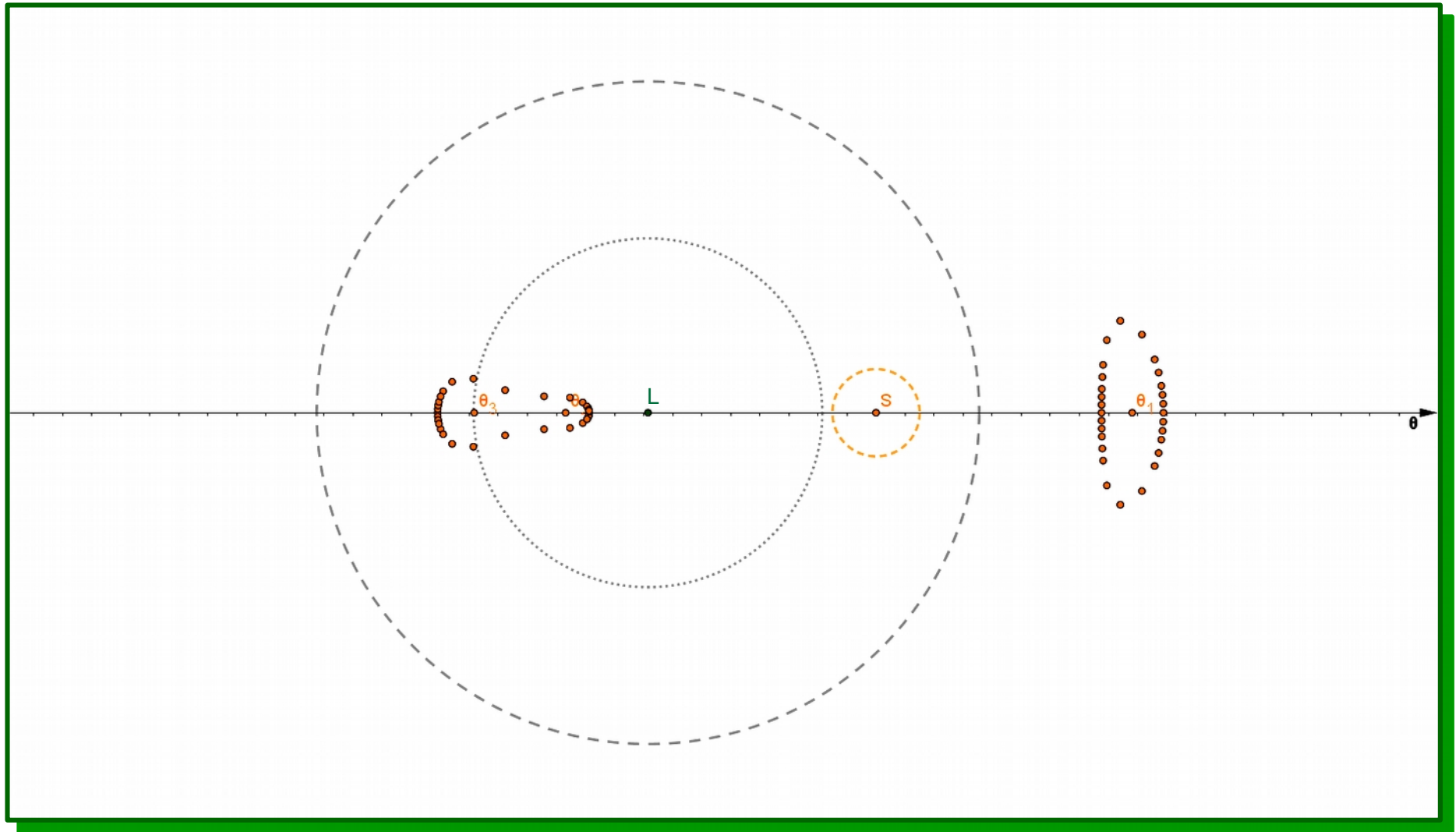
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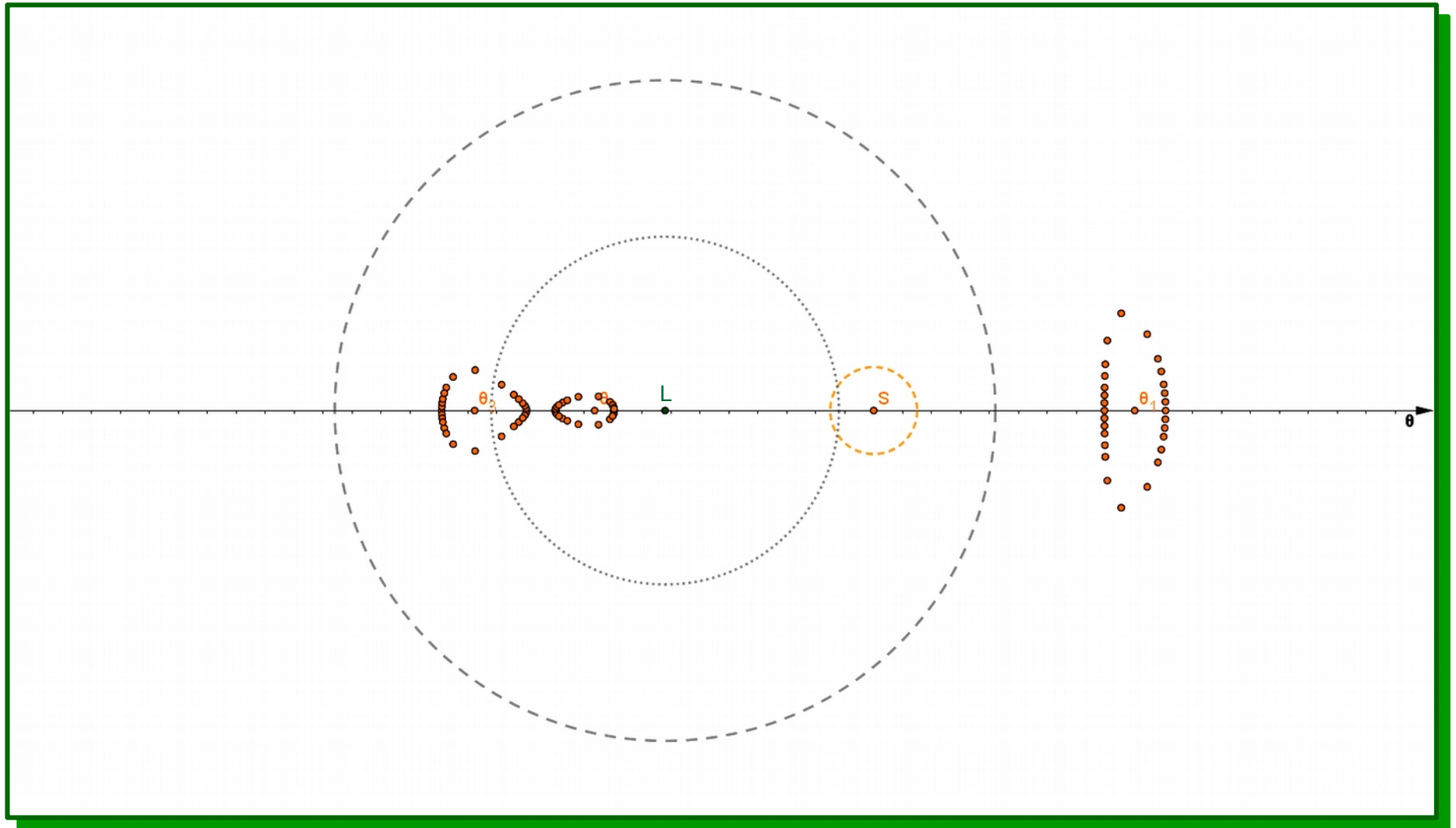
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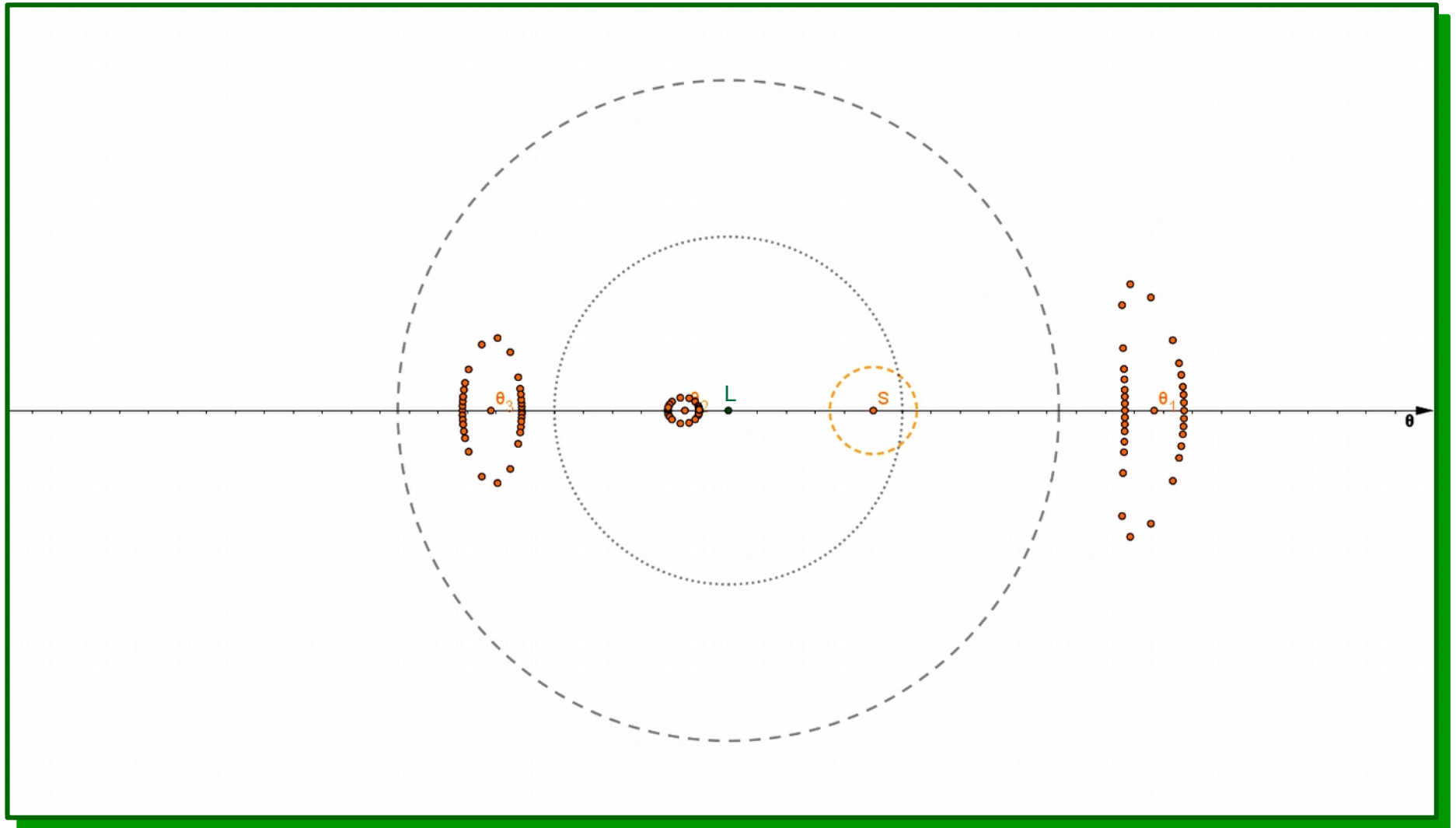
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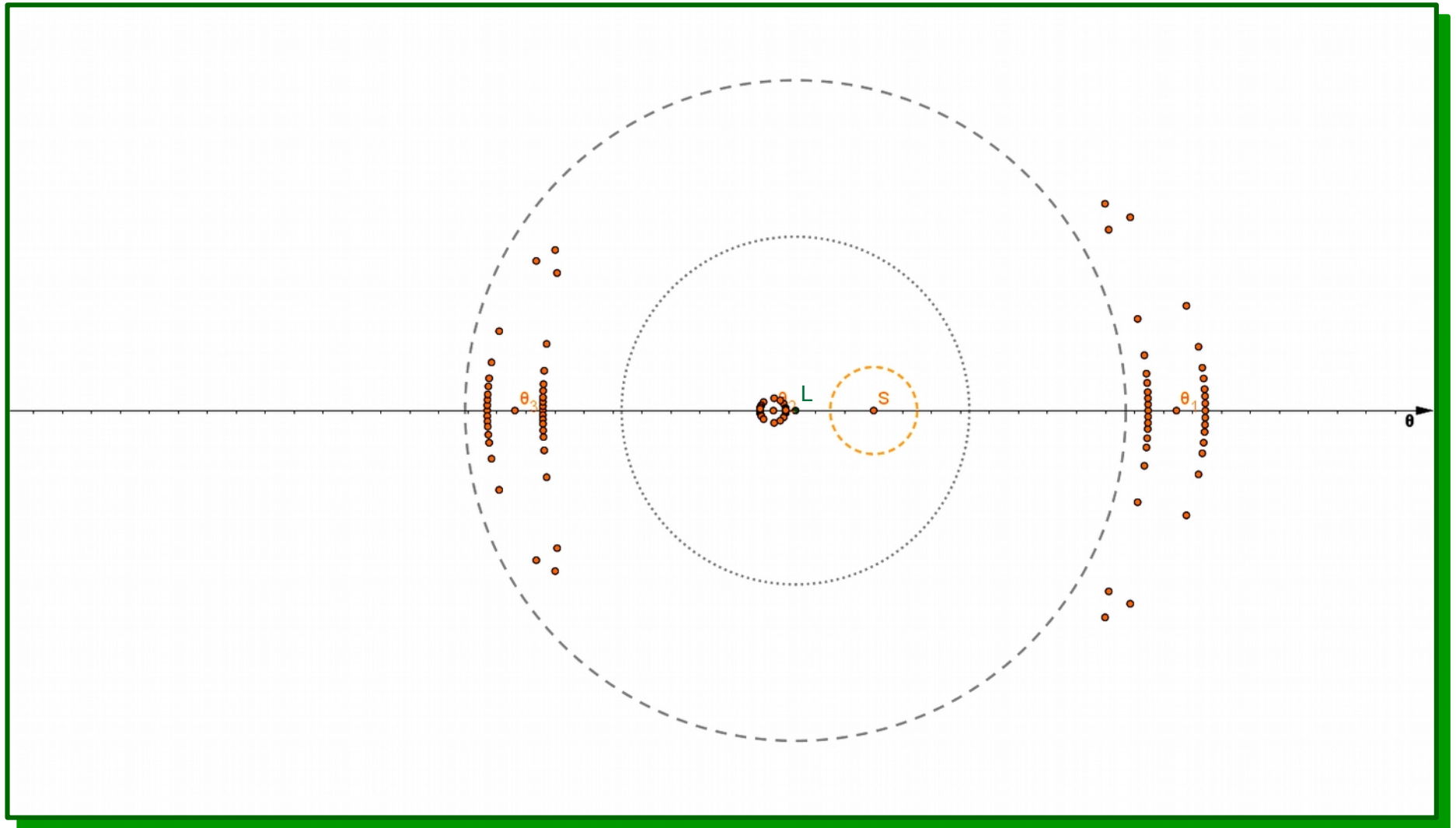
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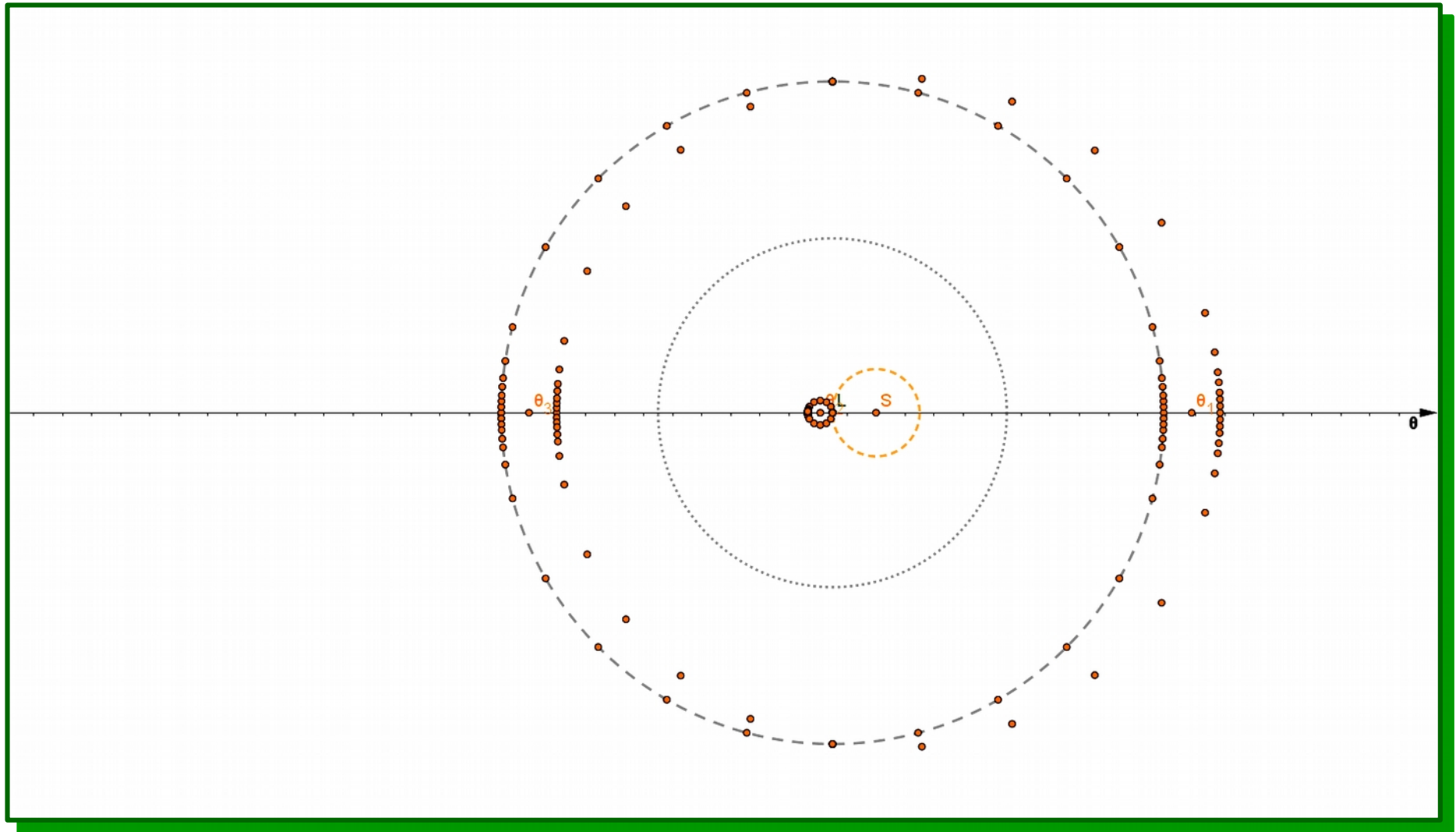
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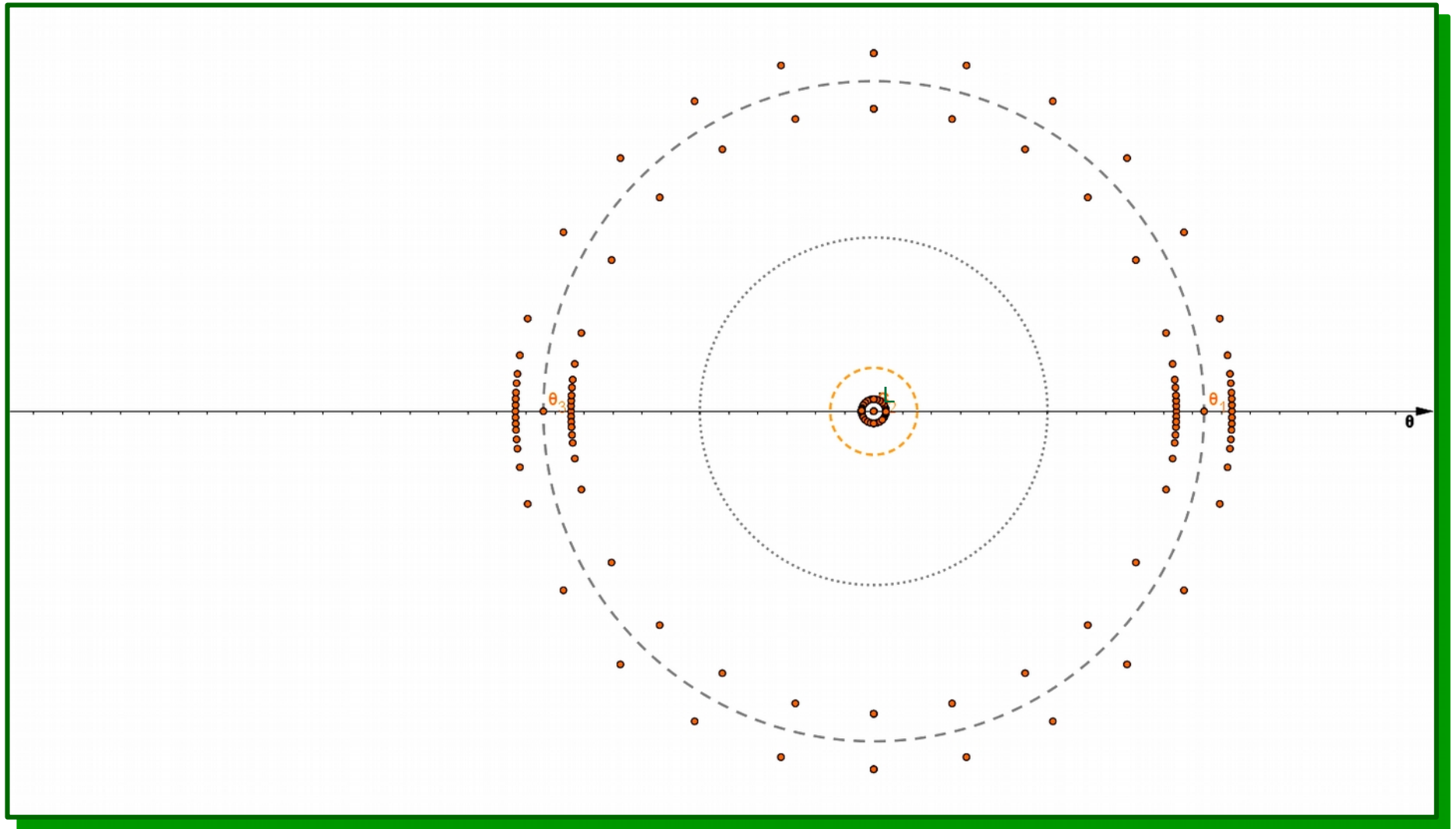
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Extended Source



Other Lenses

- Analyzed and produced:
 - **Point-mass Lens**
 - **Plummer Sphere Lens**
 - **Uniform Disk**
 - **Singular Isothermal Sphere (SIS)**
 - **Kuzmin Disk**
- Only Analyzed:
 - **SIS with a core**
 - **Spiral Galaxy**
 - **Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW)**

Uniform Disk Lens

- Surface Mass Density

$$\sigma(\rho) = \sigma_0 = \text{constant}$$

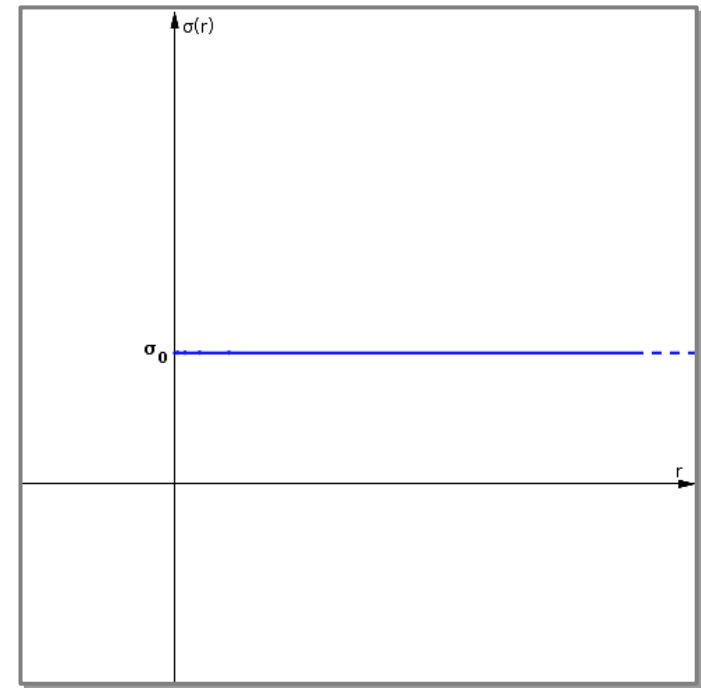
- Projected Mass:

$$M(\rho) = \pi \sigma_0 \rho^2$$

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4G}{c^2} \pi \cdot \sigma_0 \cdot \theta \frac{D_L D_{LS}}{D_S}$$

$$\theta_s = 0 \longrightarrow \frac{4G}{c^2} \pi \cdot \sigma_0 \frac{D_L D_{LS}}{D_S} = \frac{\sigma_0}{\Sigma_C} = k = 1$$

$$\text{with } \Sigma_C = \frac{c^2}{4G\pi} \frac{D_S}{D_L D_{LS}}$$



$$k = \frac{\sigma_0}{\Sigma_C}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} k > 1 \quad \sigma_0 > \Sigma_C \\ k = 1 \rightarrow \text{if } \sigma_0 = \Sigma_C \\ k < 1 \quad \sigma_0 < \Sigma_C \end{array}$$

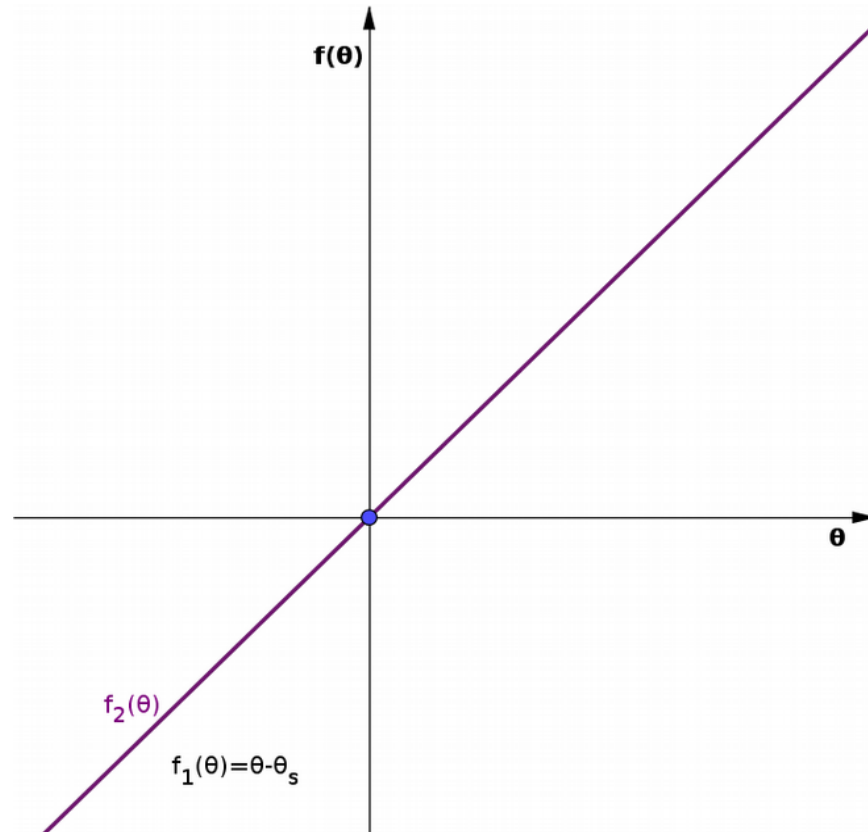
Uniform Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = k \cdot \theta$$

Lens equation in
terms of k

$$\theta_s = 0$$

$$k = 1$$



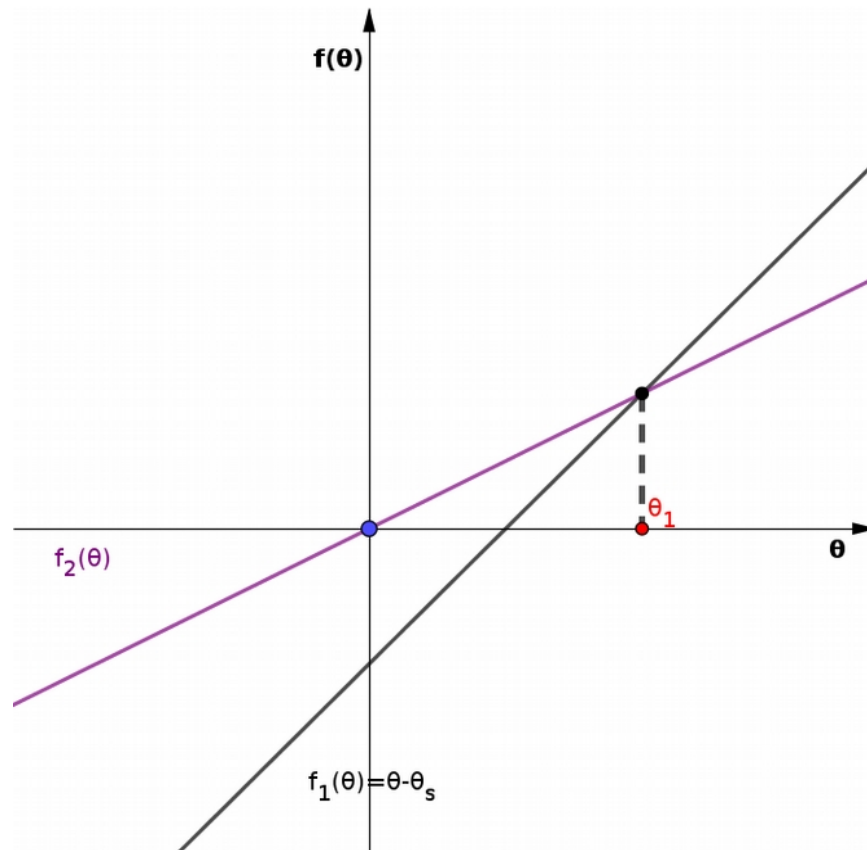
Uniform Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = k \cdot \theta$$

Lens equation in
terms of k

$$\theta_s > 0$$

$$k < 1$$



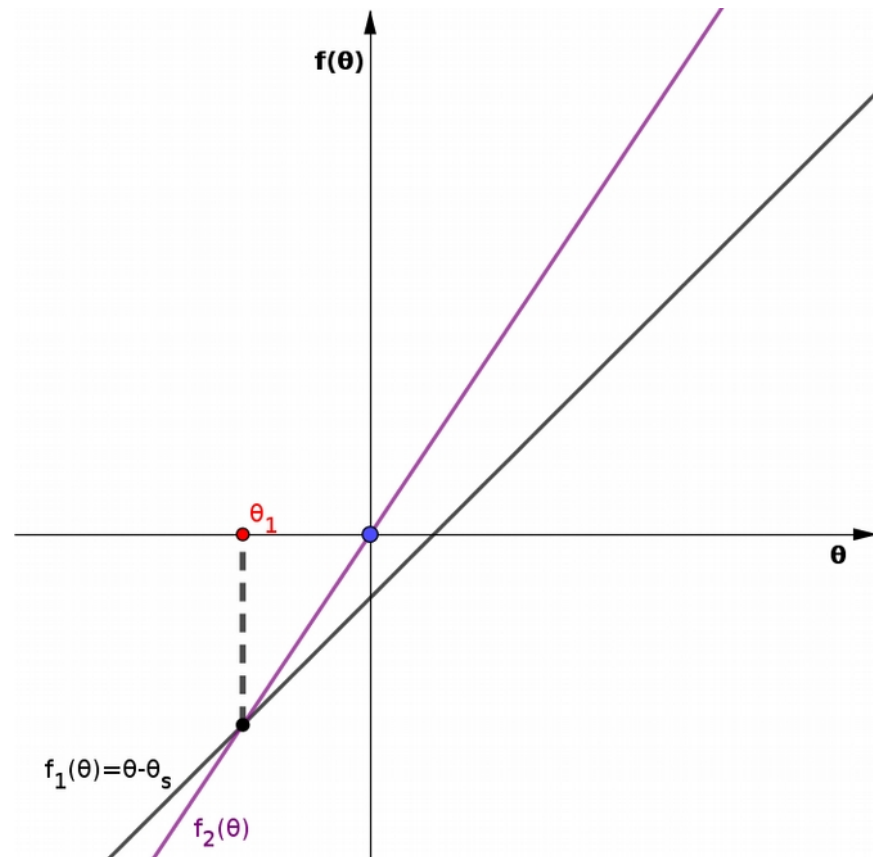
Uniform Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = k \cdot \theta$$

Lens equation in
terms of k

$$\theta_s > 0$$

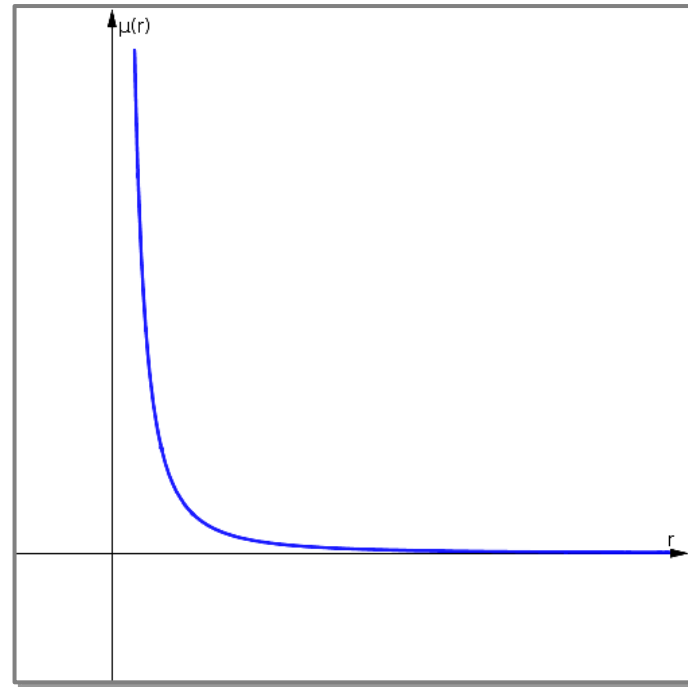
$$k > 1$$



SIS Lens

- Mass Density

$$\mu(r) = \frac{\sigma_v^2}{2\pi G r^2}$$



- Mass:

$$M(r) = \frac{2\sigma_v^2}{G} r$$

$$M(\rho) = \frac{\pi\sigma_v^2}{G} \rho$$

Projected Mass

SIS Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4}{c^2} \pi \sigma_v^2 \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S}$$

$$\theta_E = \frac{4}{c^2} \pi \sigma_v^2 \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S}$$

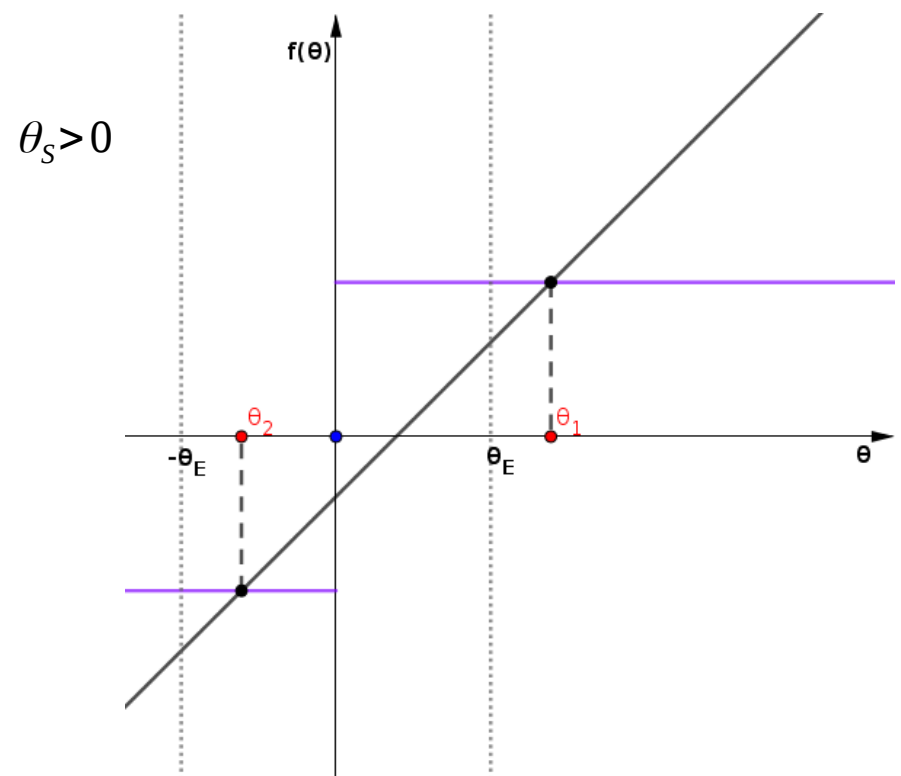
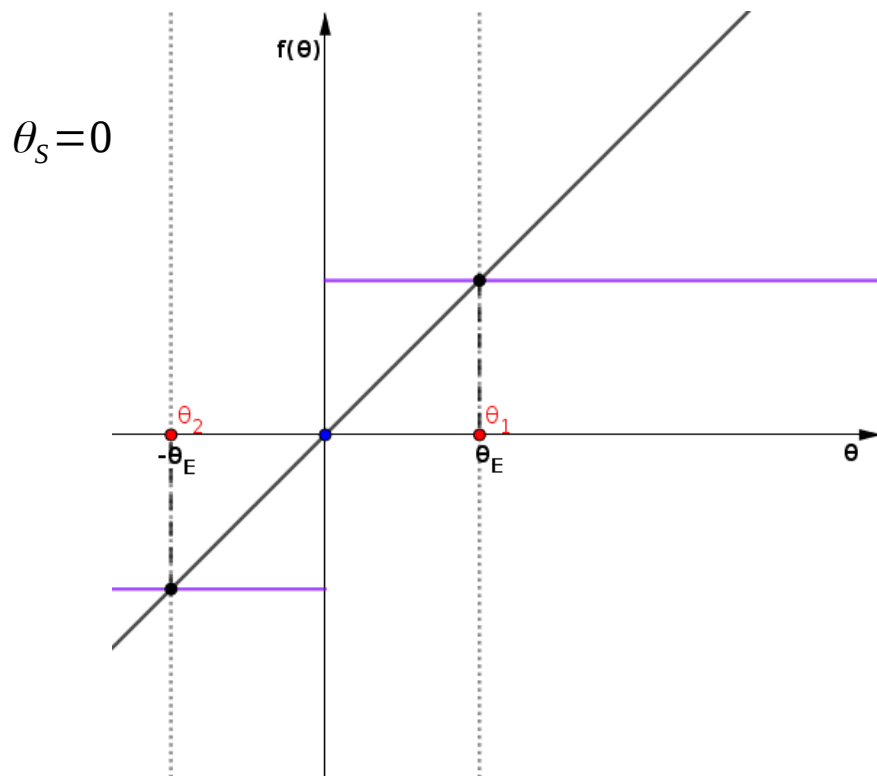
$$\theta - \theta_s = \theta_E$$

with $\text{sgn}(\theta) = \text{sgn}(\theta_E)$

Lens equation in terms
of Einstein radius

SIS Lens

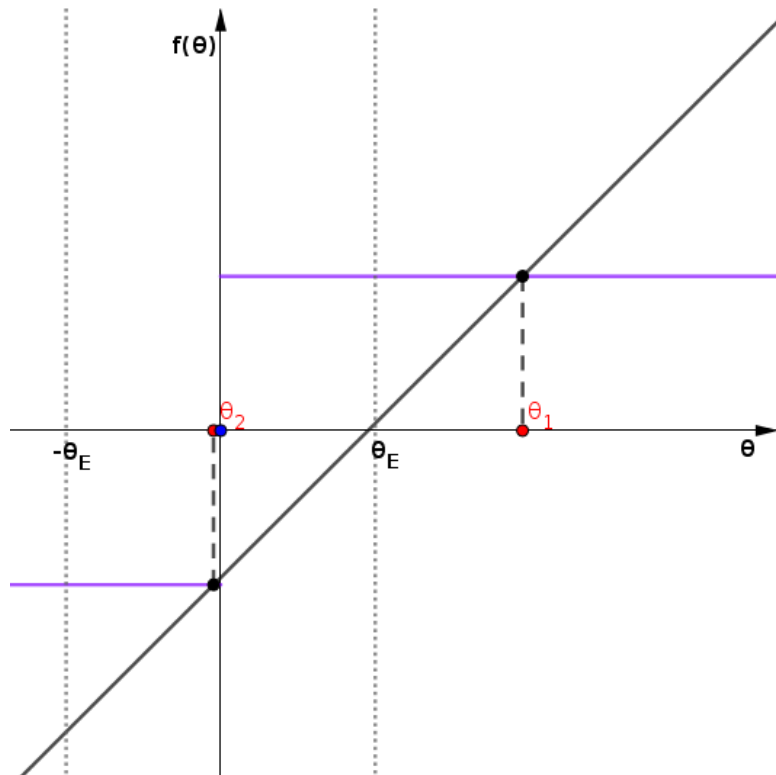
$$\theta - \theta_S = \theta_E$$



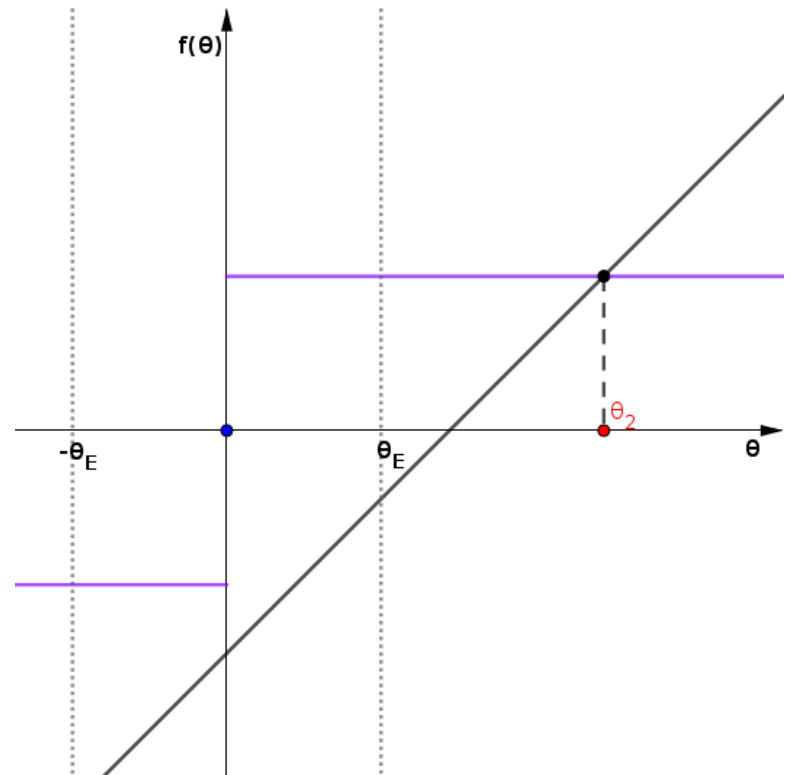
SIS Lens

$$\theta - \theta_S = \theta_E$$

$\theta_S > 0$



$\theta_S > 0$



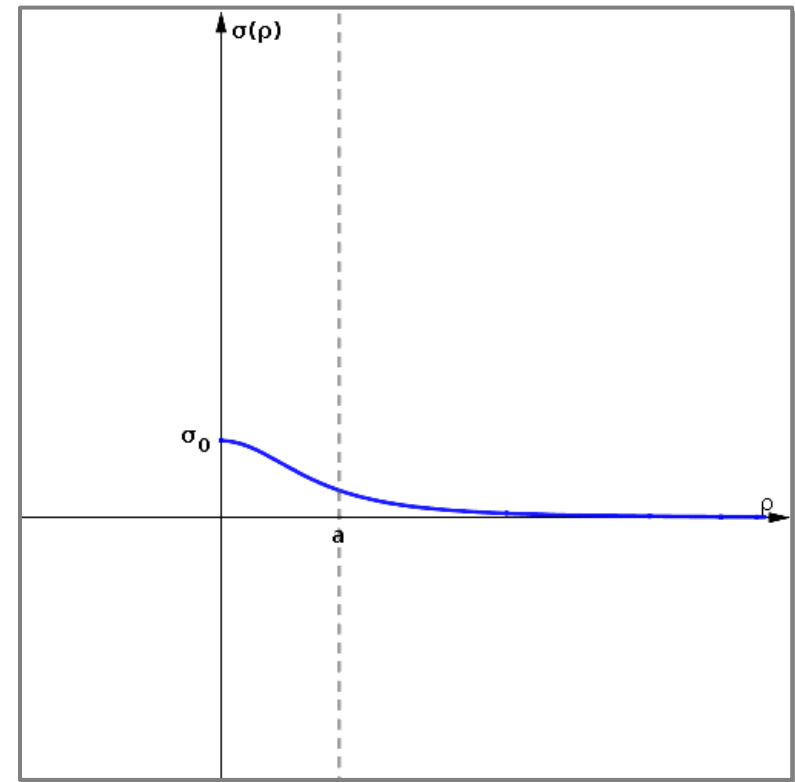
Kuzmin Disk Lens

- Surface Mass Density

$$\sigma(\rho) = \frac{a \cdot M}{2 \pi} \frac{1}{(\rho^2 + a^2)^{3/2}}$$

- Projected Mass:

$$M(\rho) = M \frac{(\rho^2 + a^2)^{1/2} - a}{(\rho^2 + a^2)^{1/2}}$$



Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta)}{\theta} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M}{\theta} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

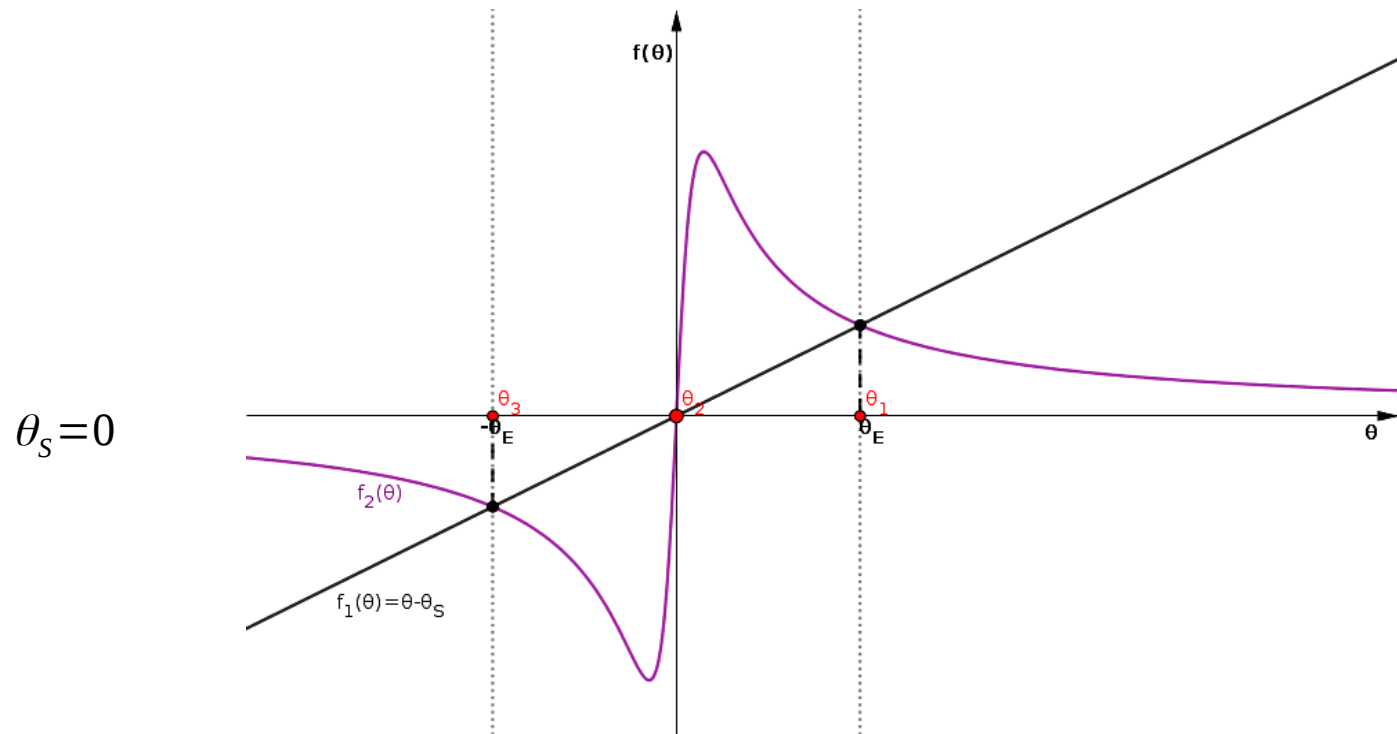
$$\theta_E = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M(\theta_E)}{\theta_E} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S} = \frac{4G}{c^2} \frac{M}{\theta_E} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}$$

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}$$

Lens equation in terms
of Einstein radius

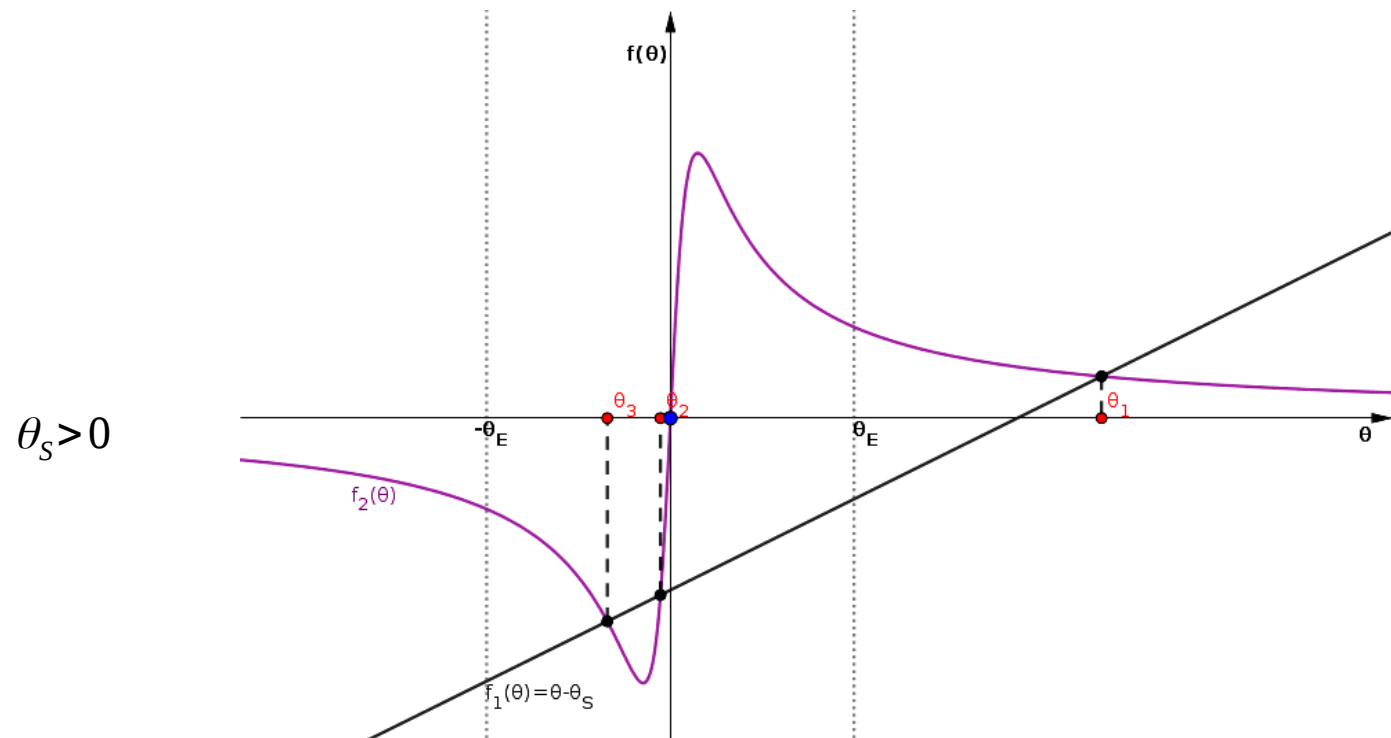
Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}$$



Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}$$

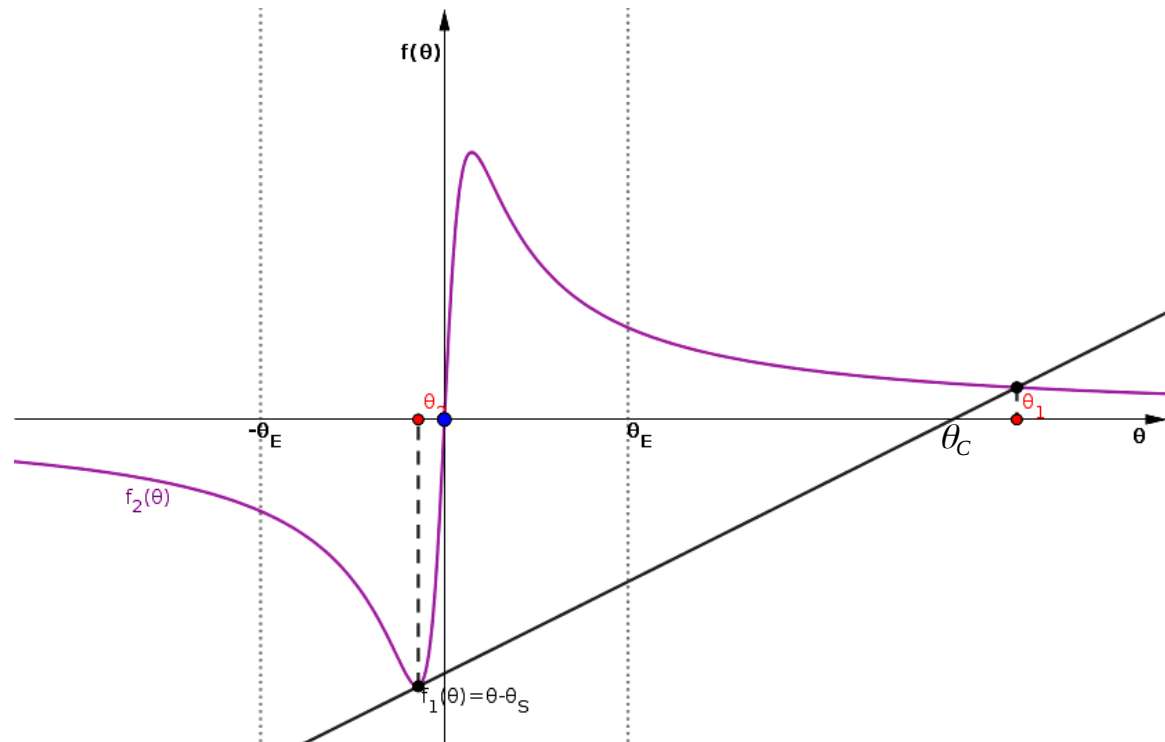


Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}$$

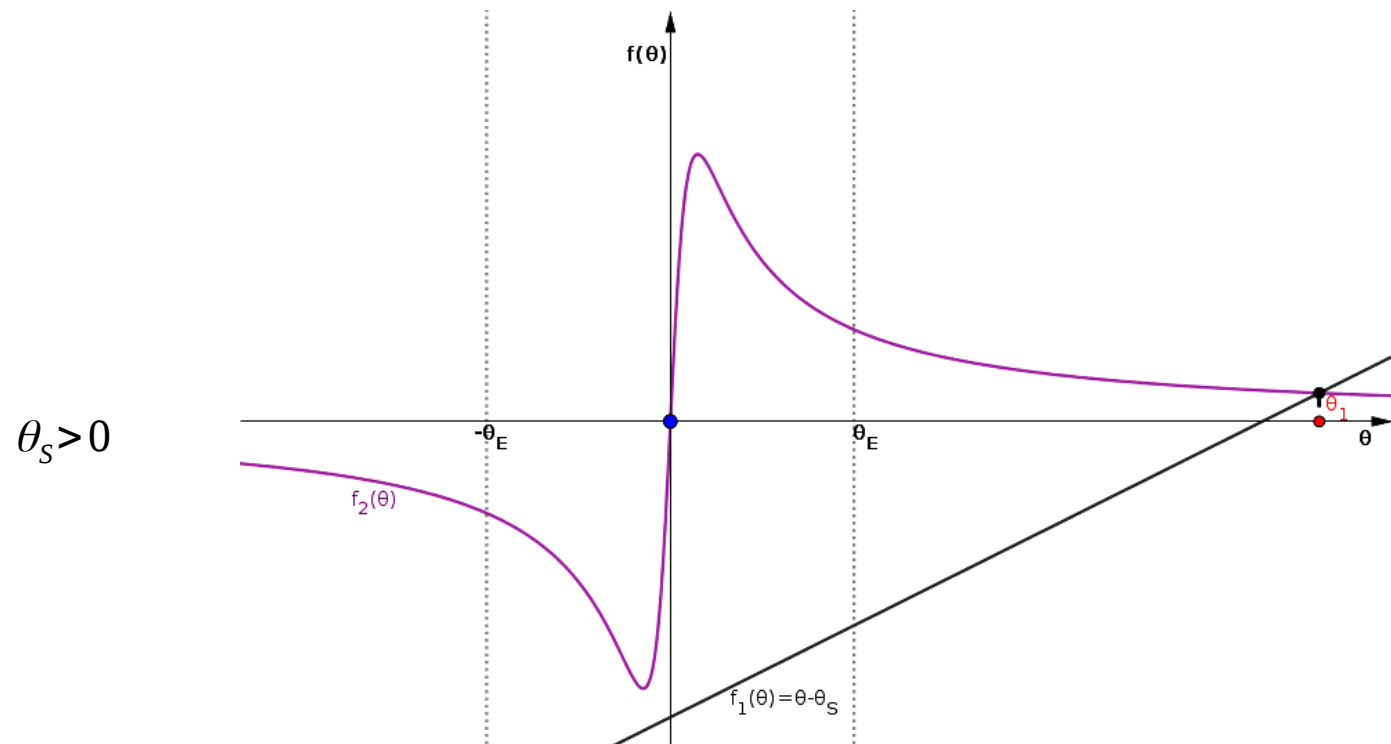
$$\theta_s > 0$$

$$\theta_s = \theta_C$$



Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\theta - \theta_s = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta} \frac{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}}{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{(\theta^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}{(\theta_E^2 + \theta_a^2)^{1/2} - \theta_a}$$



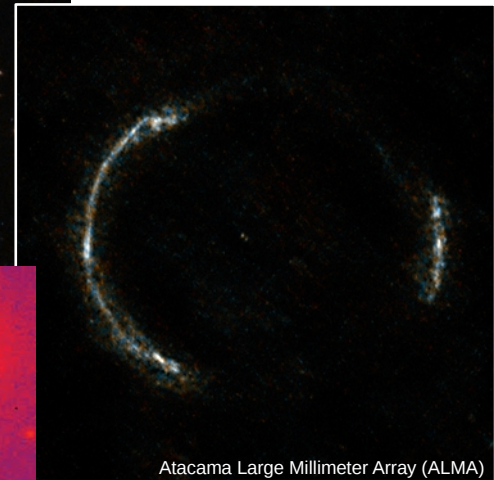
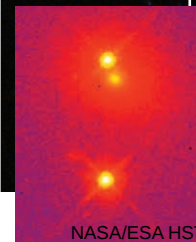
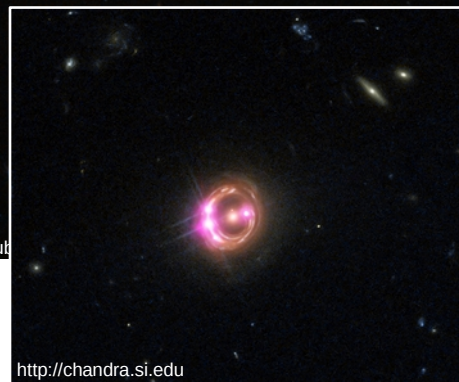
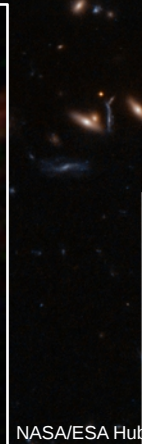
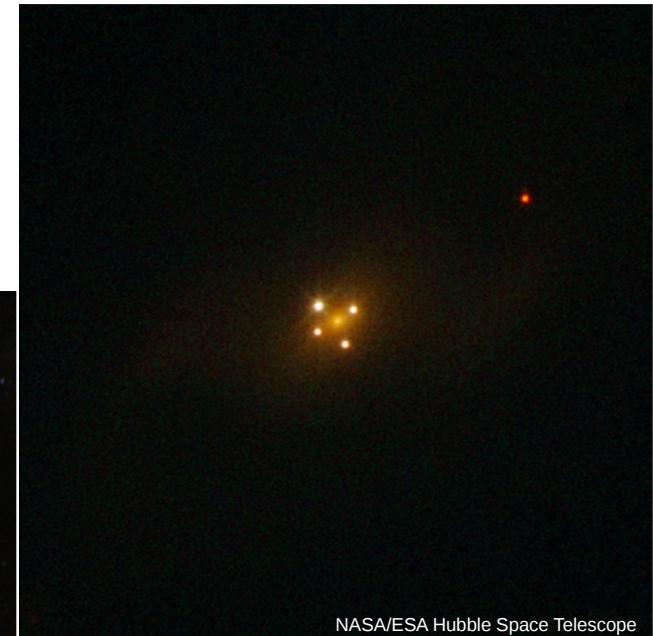
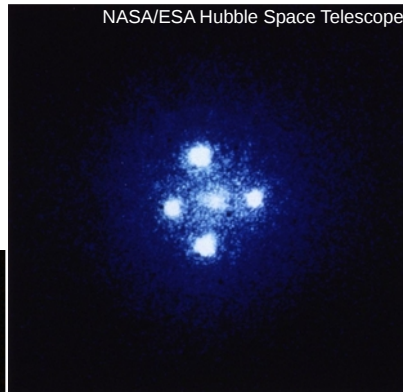
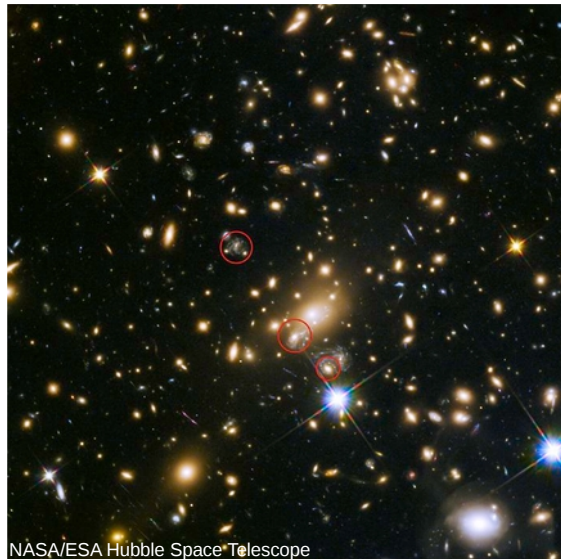


Prof. Dr. Sjur Refsdal

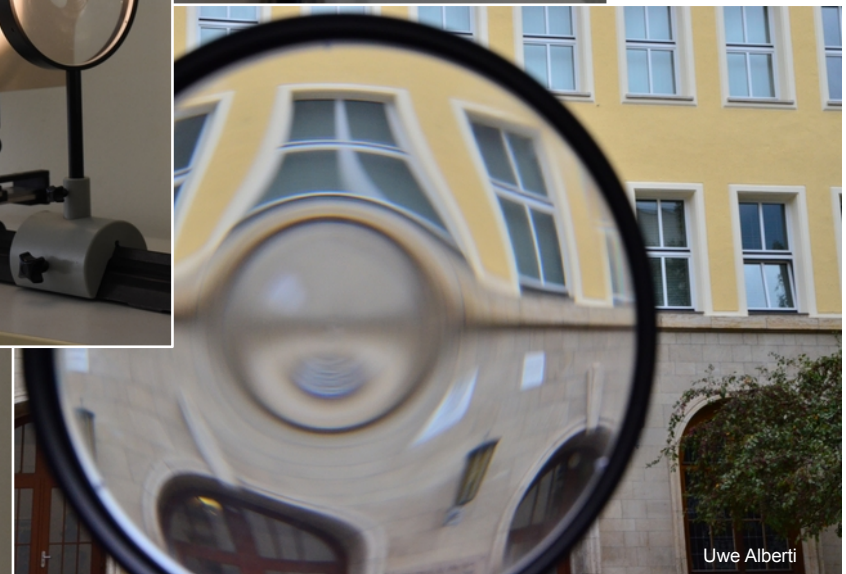
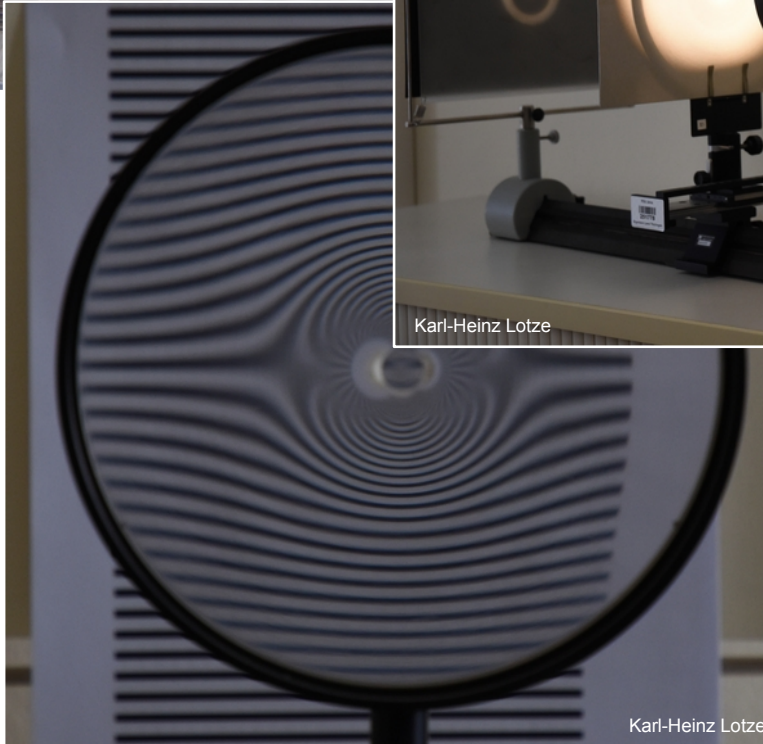
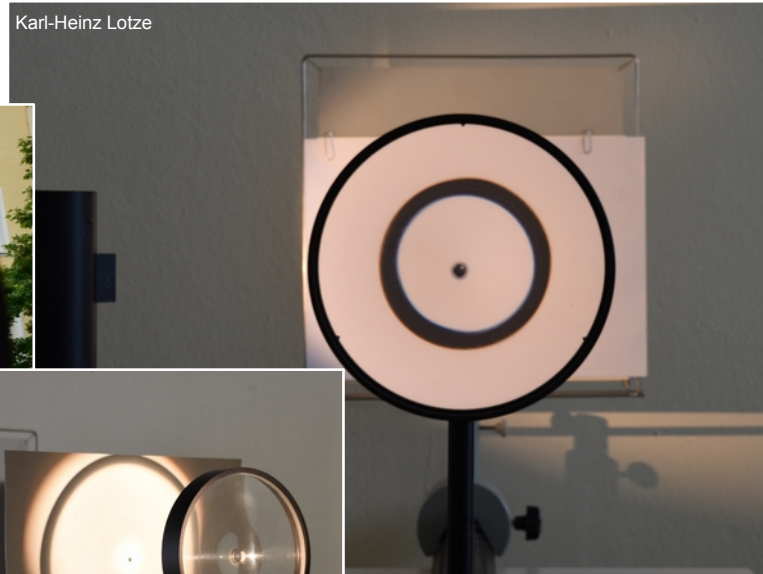
How is it possible to
visualize the
gravitational lensing
effect?

Refsdal, S. and Surdej, J., 1994. Gravitational lenses. Reports on Progress in Physics, 57(2), p.117.

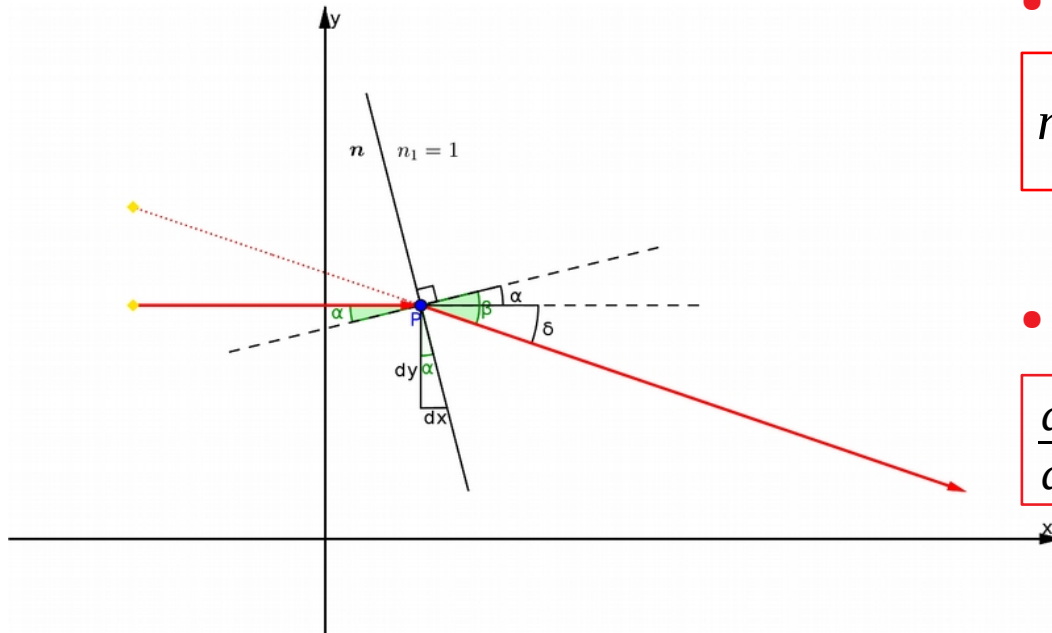
Nowadays this is one possibility



A “gravitational” lens made of glass is another possibility



Shaping the Glass Lens



- Snell's Law

$$n = \frac{\sin(\alpha + \delta)}{\sin \alpha} = \cos \delta + \cot \alpha \sin \delta$$

- From figure and Snell's Law

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\cot \alpha = -\frac{n - \cos \delta}{\sin \delta} \approx -\frac{n - 1}{\delta} = -\frac{(n - 1)c^2}{4GM(y)} \cdot y$$

Small-angle Approximation

- Solving this differential equation we obtain the shape of the glass lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n - 1)c^2}{4GM(y)} \cdot y$$

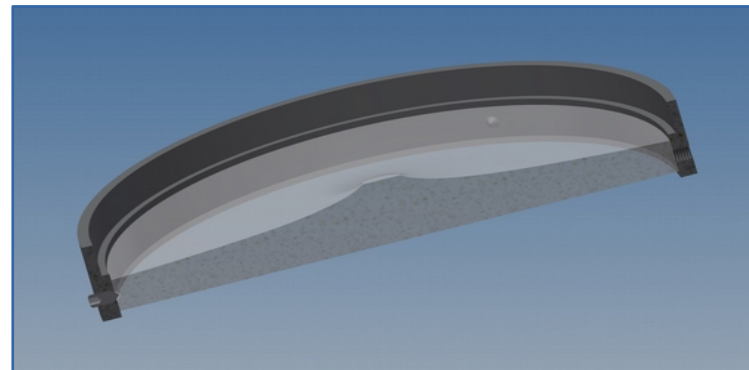
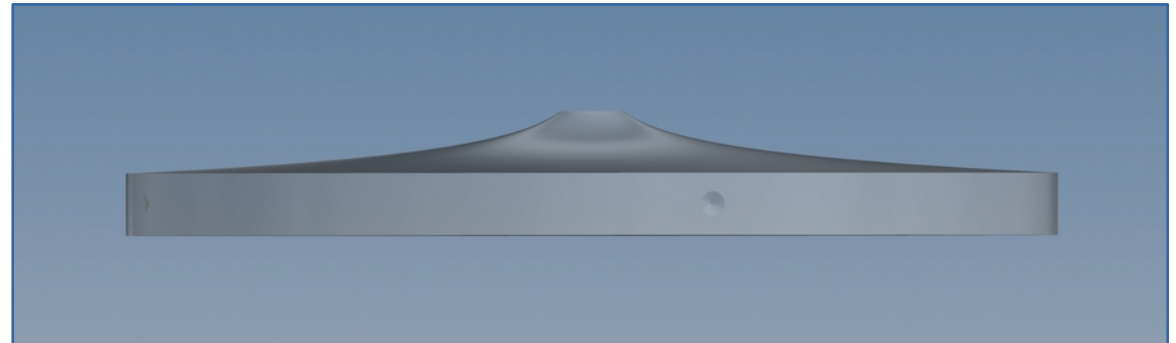
Point-Mass Lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM} \cdot y$$

- Solution

$$y = A e^{-\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM} \cdot x}$$

- Rotational symmetry gives



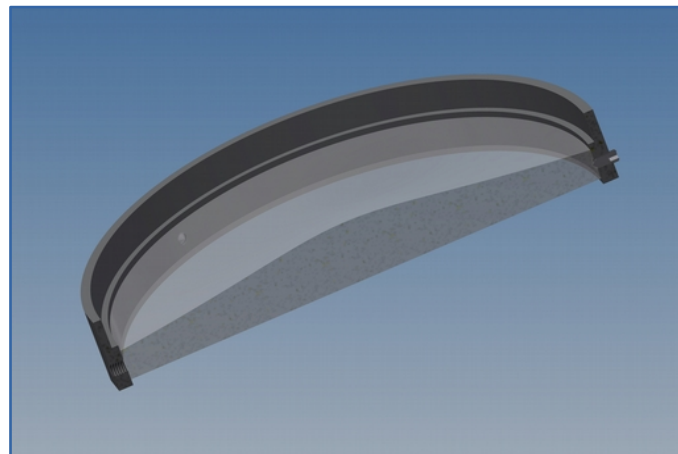
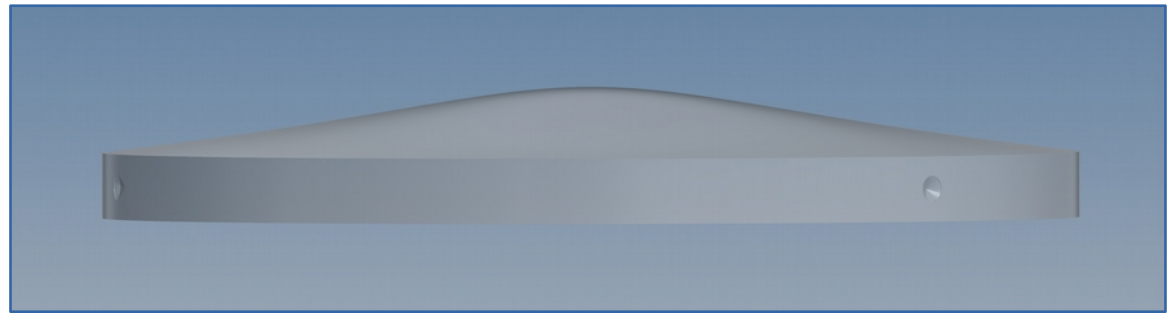
Plummer Sphere Lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM} \frac{y^2 + a^2}{y}$$

- Solution

$$y = \sqrt{A \cdot e^{-\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM} \cdot x} - a^2}$$

- Rotational symmetry gives



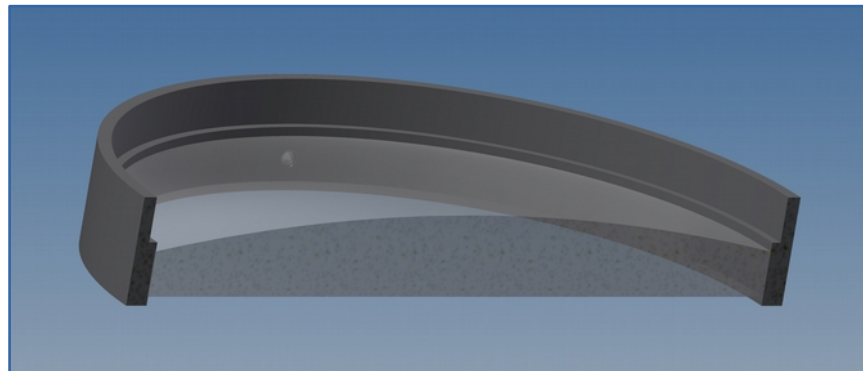
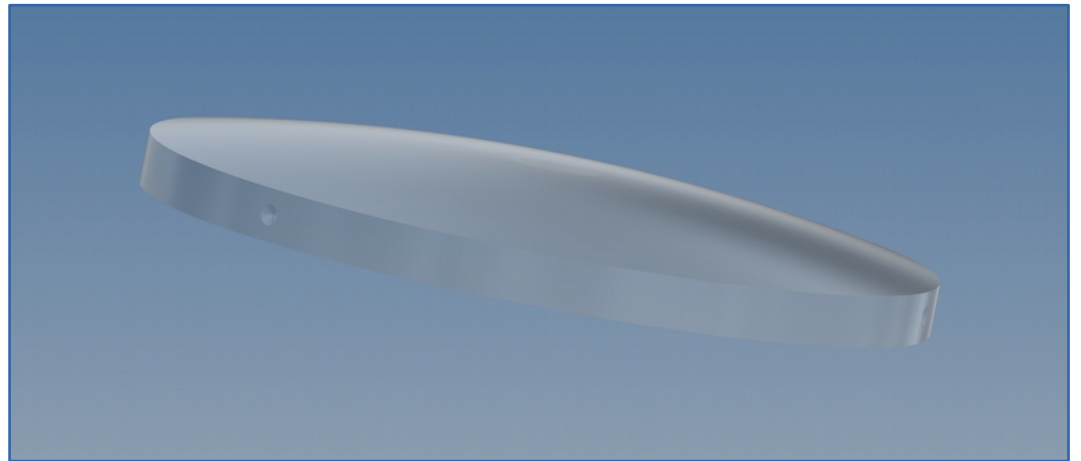
Uniform Disk Lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4G} \frac{1}{\pi\sigma_0 \cdot y}$$

- Solution

$$y = \sqrt{A - 2 \frac{(n-1)c^2}{4G\pi\sigma_0} \cdot x}$$

- Rotational symmetry gives



SIS Lens

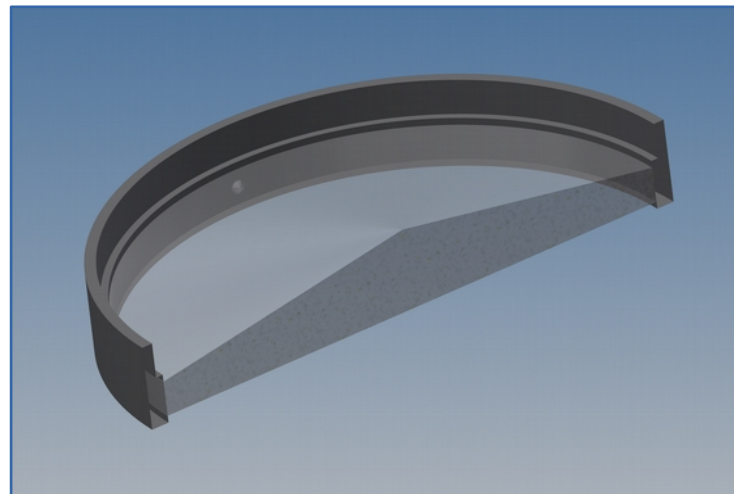
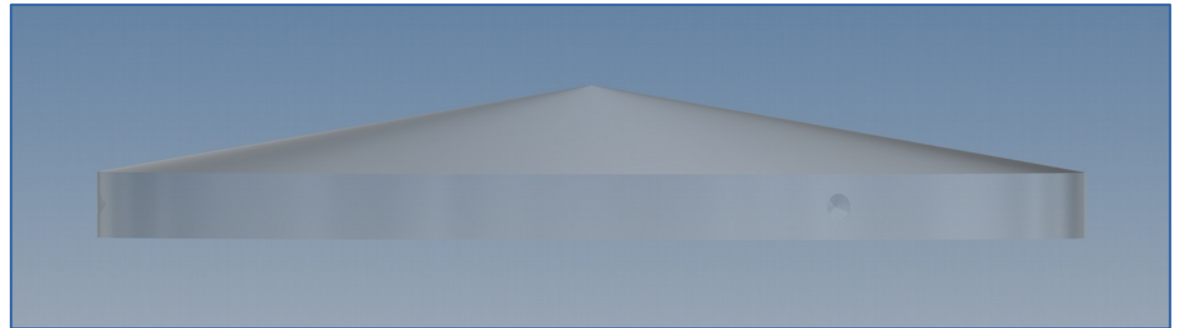
Called also Axicon Lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4} \frac{1}{\pi \sigma_v}$$

- Solution

$$y = A - \frac{(n-1)c^2}{4\pi\sigma_v} \cdot x$$

- Rotational symmetry gives



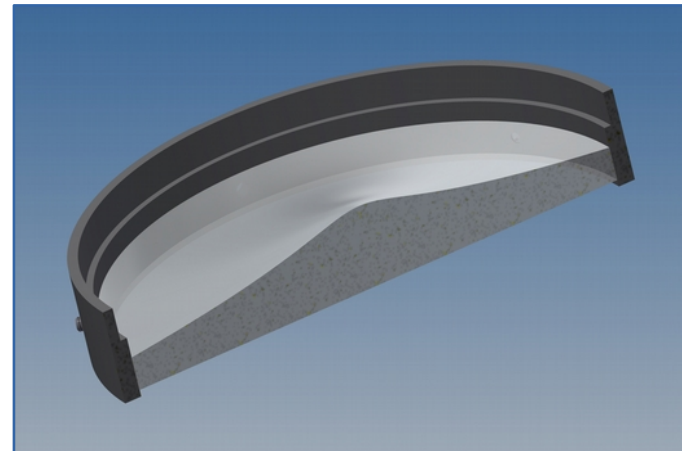
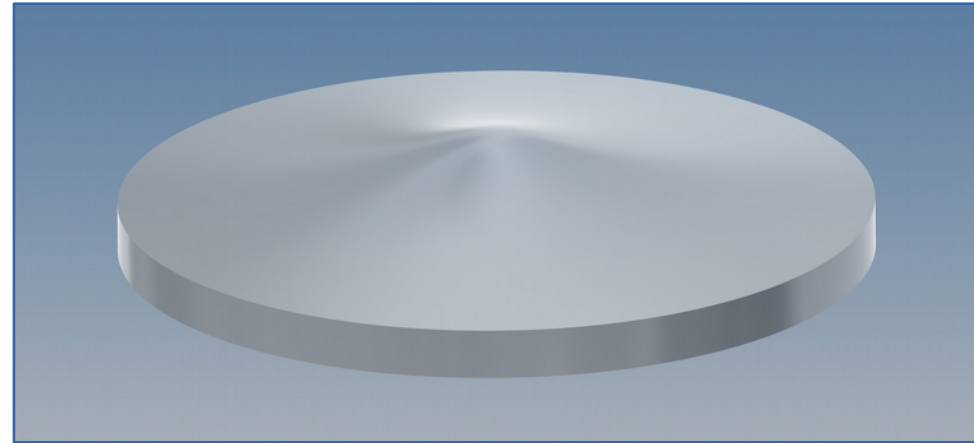
Kuzmin Disk Lens

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM} \frac{y(y^2+a^2)^{1/2}}{(y^2+a^2)^{1/2}-a}$$

- Solution

$$y = \sqrt{A \cdot e^{-\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM}x} \left(A \cdot e^{-\frac{(n-1)c^2}{4GM}x} - 2a \right)}$$

- Rotational symmetry gives



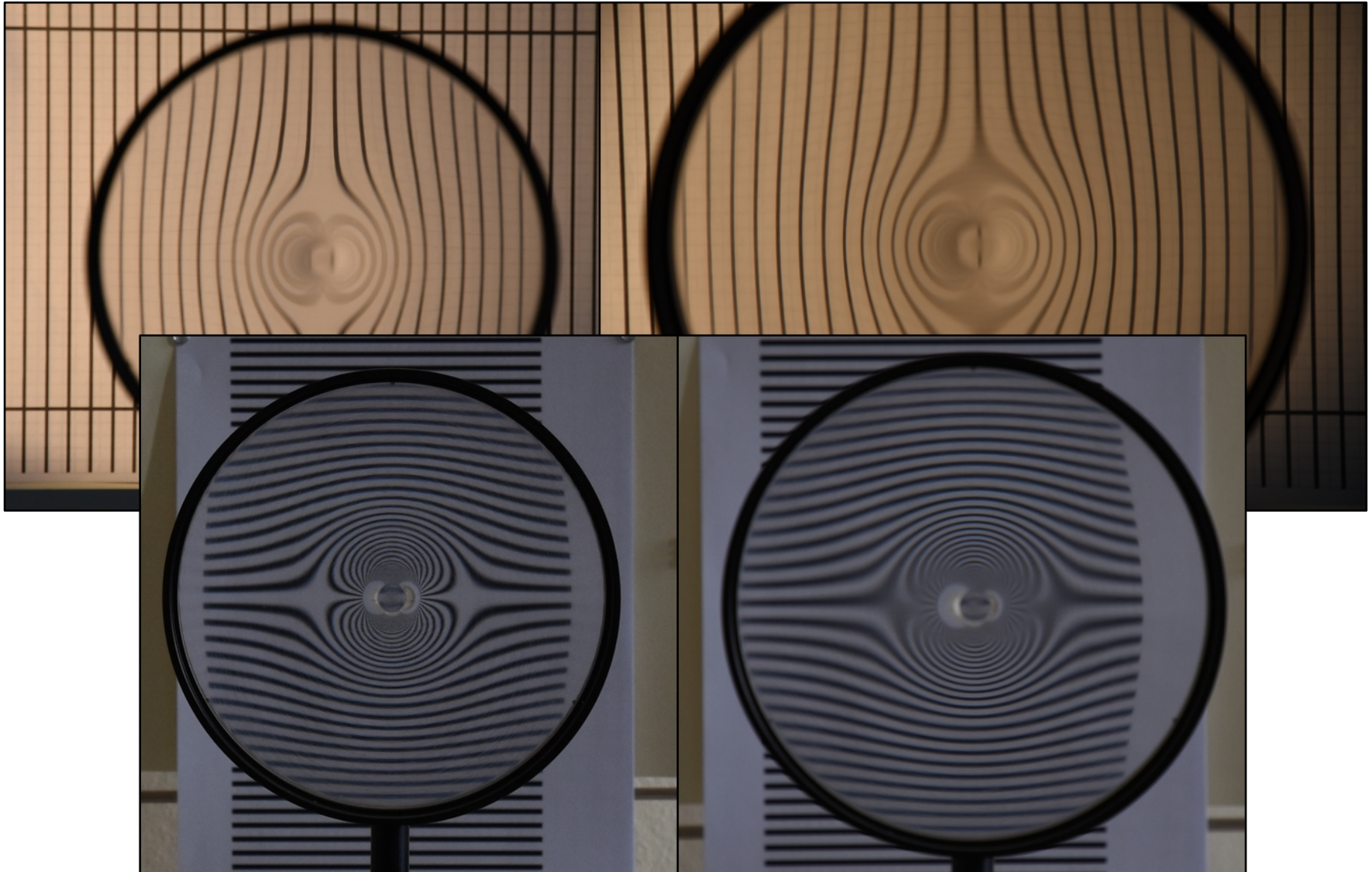
Experimenting

- Of course we already played with the lenses, let's do it together now



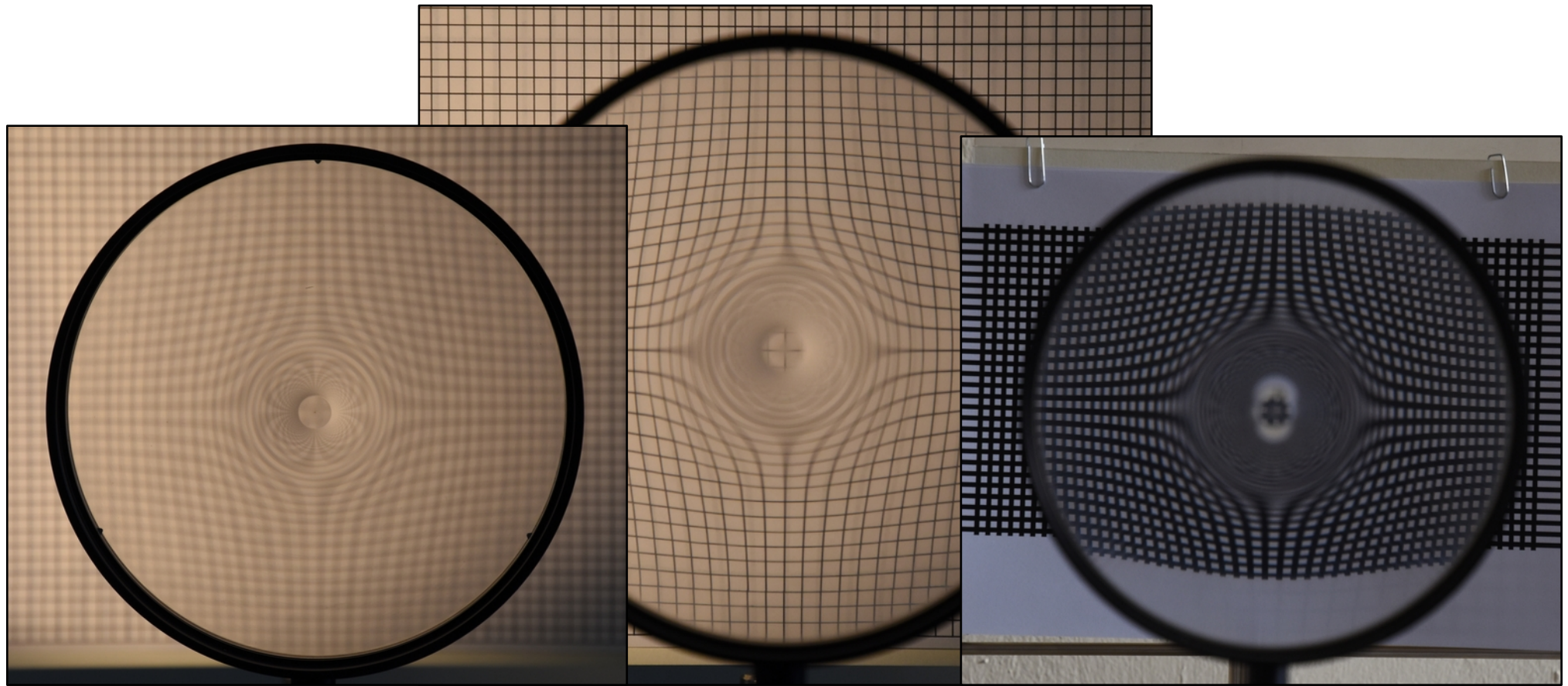
Experimenting

- Lines with the point-mass lens



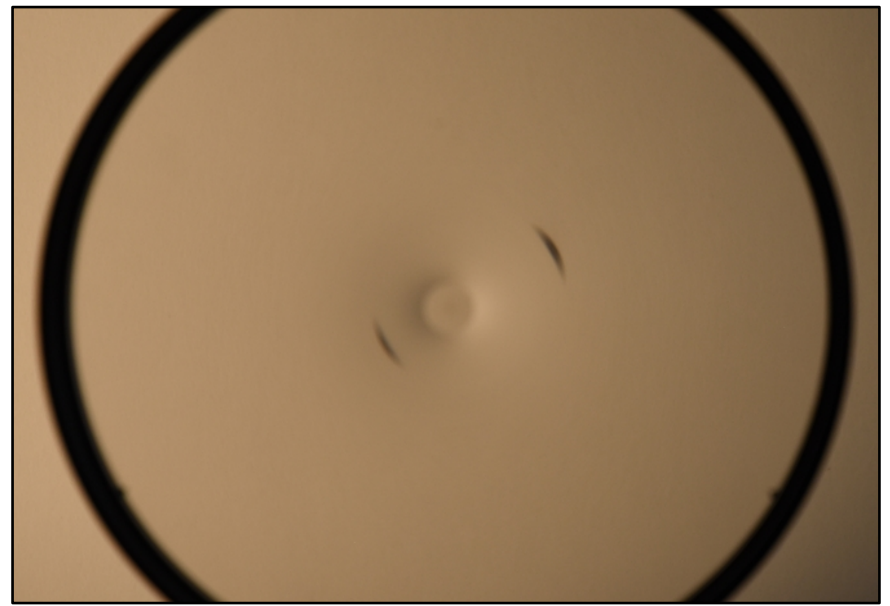
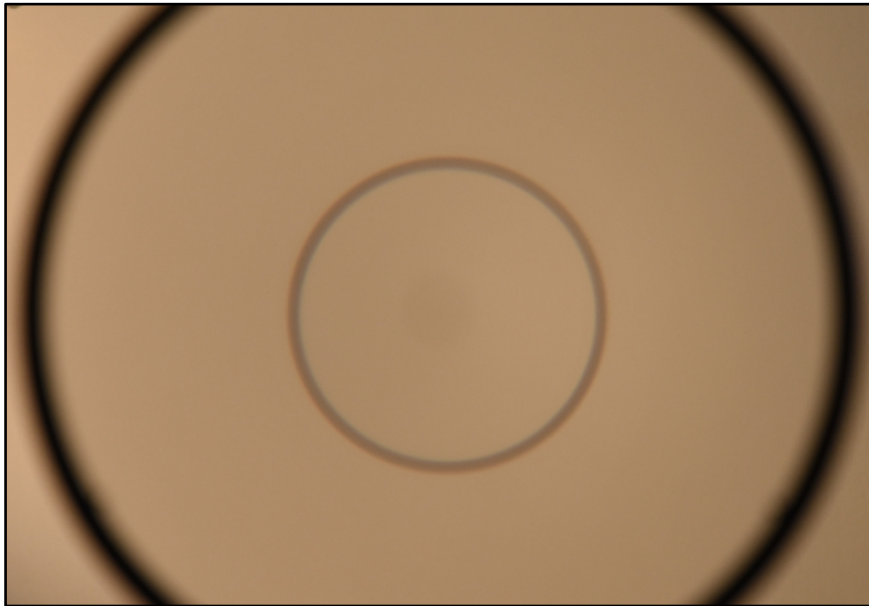
Experimenting

- Grid with the point-mass lens



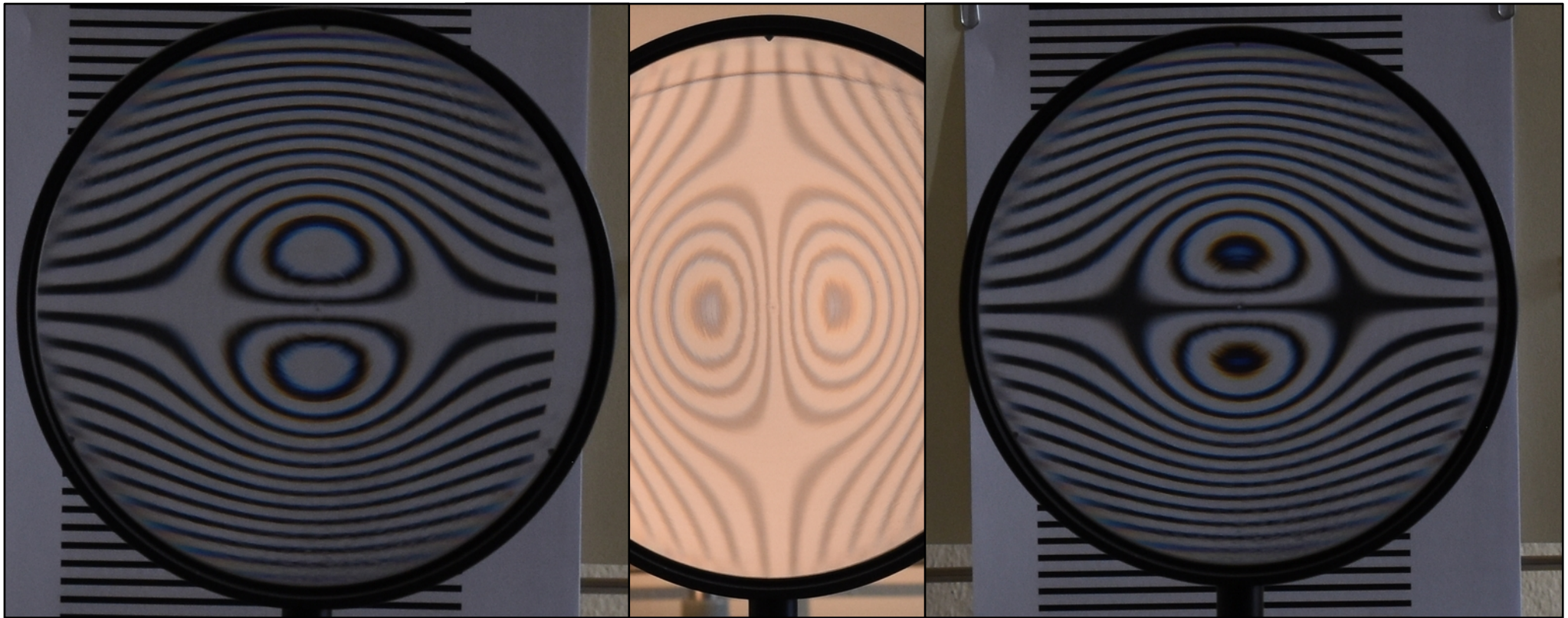
Experimenting

- Extended circular source with the point-mass lens



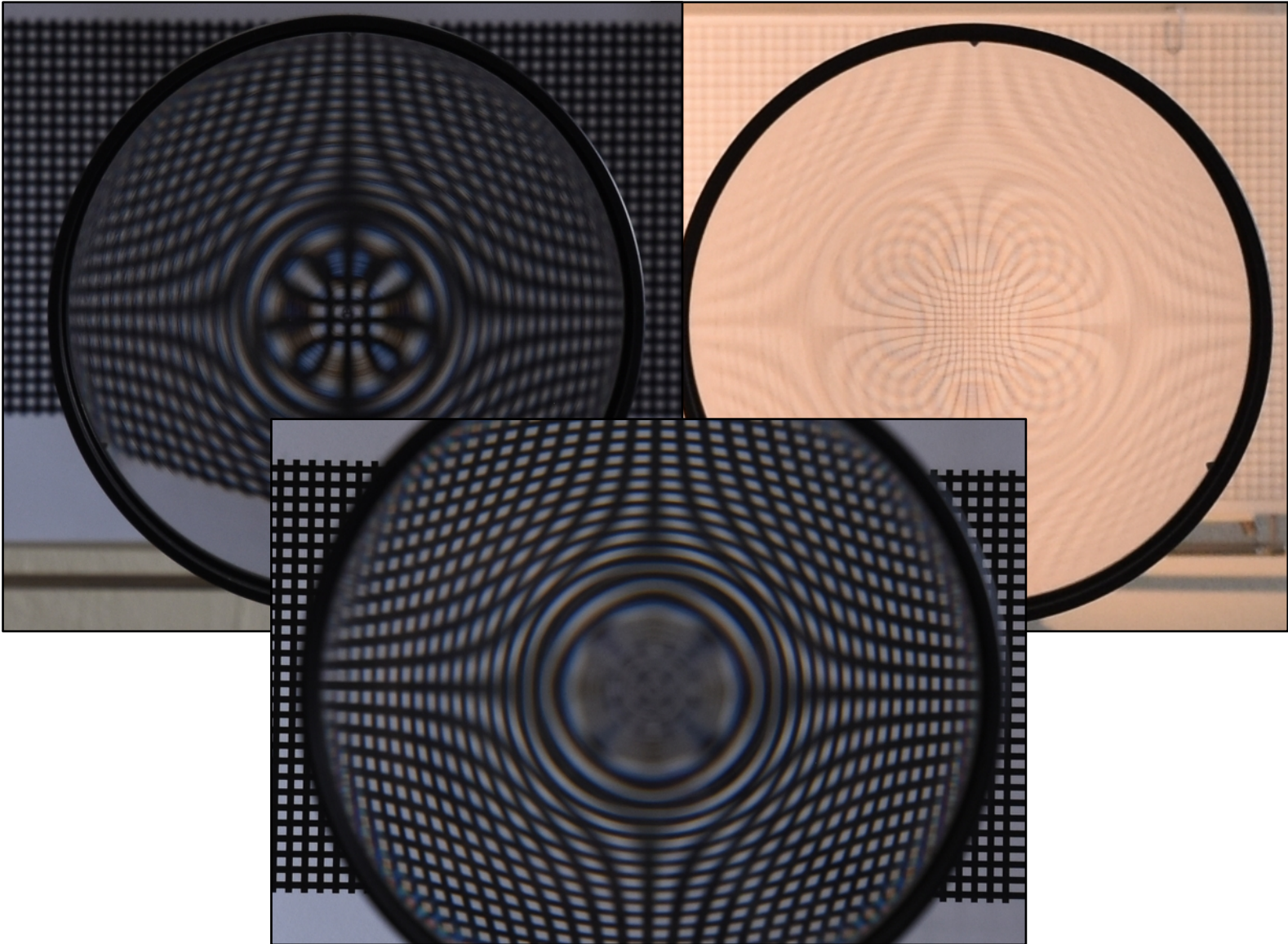
Experimenting

- Lines with the Plummer lens



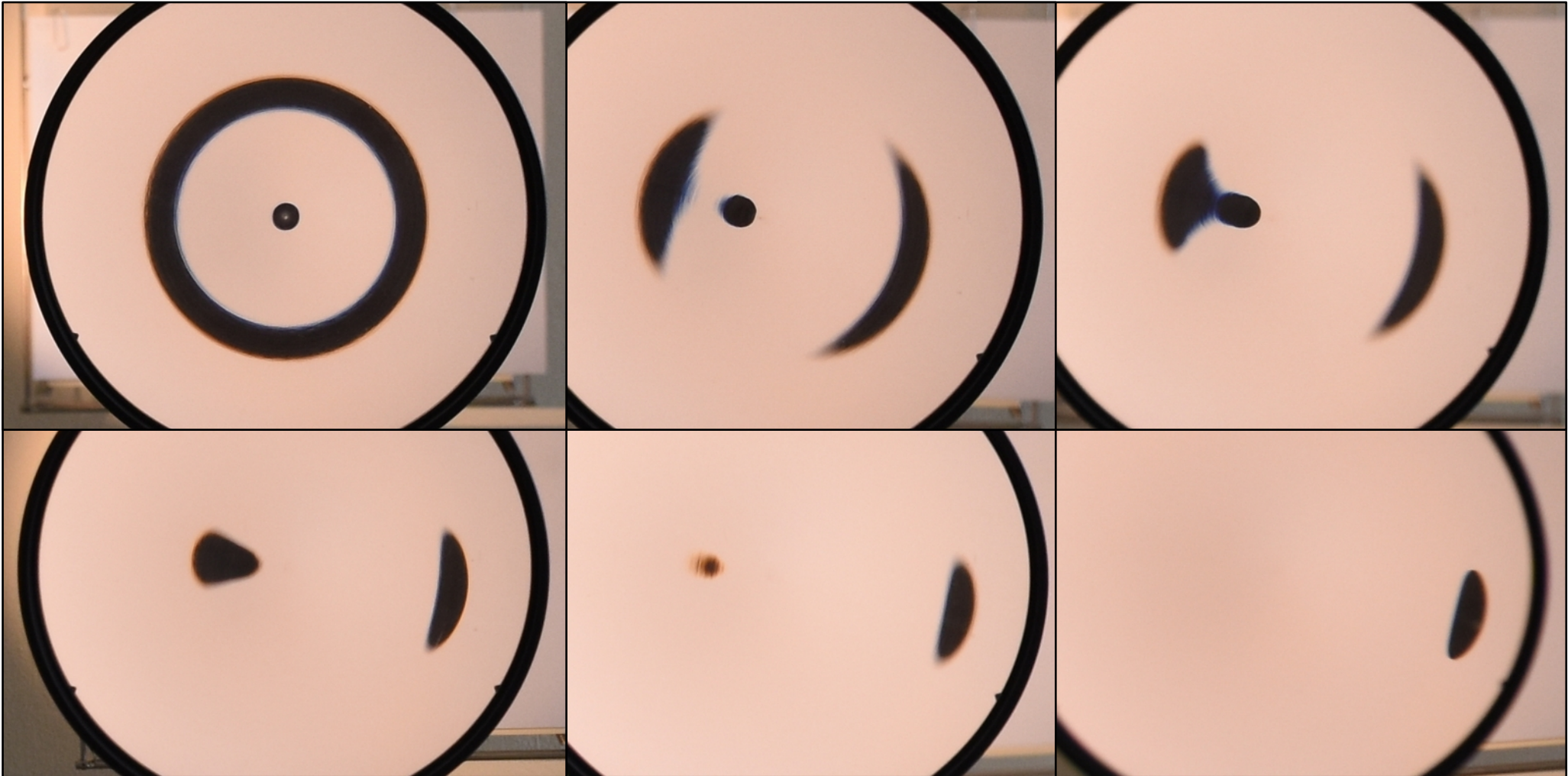
Experimenting

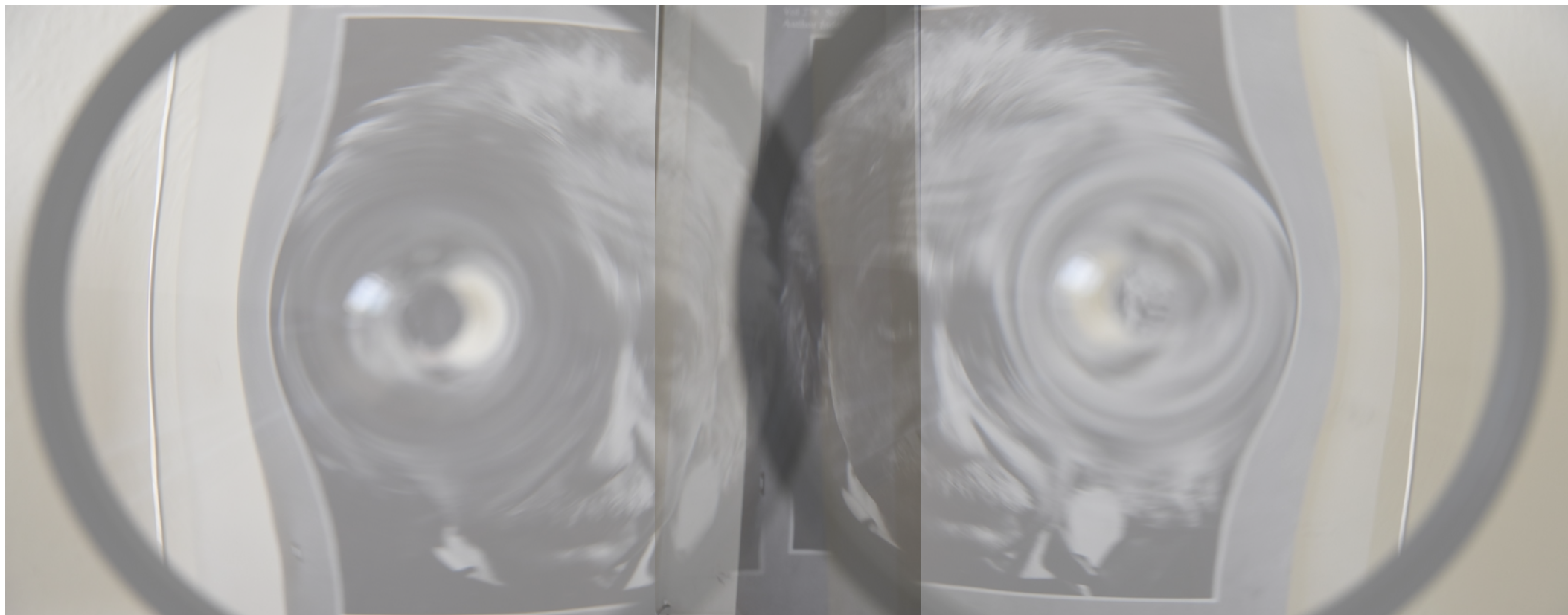
- Grid with the Plummer lens



Experimenting

- Extended circular source with the Plummer lens





A big thank to the colleagues who helped and supported us to make what was only on paper in glass:

- Mr Klumbies and his staff from the university lab
- Mr Köhler for the computer design work.



Thank you

Though my soul may set in darkness,
it will rise in perfect light.
I have loved the stars too fondly
to be fearful of the night.

“Sarah Williams”