

If the circles $x^2 + y^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + 2g'x + 2f'y + c' = 0$ touch each other then,

$$(2gg' + 2ff' - c - c')^2 = 4(g^2 + f^2 - c)(g'^2 + f'^2 - c')$$

is

- (A) always true
- (B) true only if circles touch externally
- (C) true only if circles touch internally
- (D) always false

Solution

Distance between centres = $|r \pm r'|$

$$\therefore \sqrt{(g - g')^2 + (f - f')^2} = |r \pm r'|$$

$$\therefore (g - g')^2 + (f - f')^2 = (r \pm r')^2$$

$$\therefore g^2 + g'^2 - 2gg' + f^2 + f'^2 - 2ff' = r^2 + r'^2 \pm 2rr' = g^2 + f^2 - c + g'^2 + f'^2 - c' \pm 2rr'$$

$$\therefore -2gg' - 2ff' = -c - c' \pm 2rr'$$

$$\therefore c + c' - 2gg' - 2ff' = \pm 2rr'$$

$$\therefore (2gg' + 2ff' - c - c')^2 = 4r^2r'^2 = 4(g^2 + f^2 - c)(g'^2 + f'^2 - c')$$

Hence, (A)