Notes from Sylvia leading towards the construction of the Geometrical Figure for Shakespeare's King Lear

KING LEAR – Deducing the Figure from Basic Numbers   8th November 1991

			Sub-Totals	
ACT I	=		**899 lines**	
ACT II	=	↑2286	**671 lines**	1570
ACT III	=	↑1615	**539 lines**	2109
ACT IV	=	↑1076	**644 lines**	2753
ACT V	=		**432 lines**	3185
			3185 lines	**Total Number of Lines in Play**

Small circles *(Act Circles, ed)* must be smaller than 432. 400 convenient.

If 400, Act I probably has 2 circles.

Try out

					(Lines left over ed)	*(Sub total of lines left over ed)*
	899	-	2 x 400	=	99	
	671	-	400	=	271	370
1210 = 11² x 10 {	539	-	400	=	139	509
	644	-	400	=	244	753
	432	-	400	=	32	
					785	

Is there a simple ratio between 785 or 784 and 400 ?

$$784 = 49 \times 16$$
$$400 = 25 \times 16$$
$$\therefore 784 : 400 = 49 : 25$$

Suppose we take ¼ inch as unit

$49 \times ¼ = 12¼ =$ Diameter of Great Circle
$25 \times ¼ = \;\;6¼ =$ Diameter of Small Circles

∴ Figure can be constructed and drawn on a convenient scale.

Can one make a calibrated circle with 785? Esp. a circle overlapping one?
785 = 784 + 1
784 = 49 x 16 = 7^2 x 4^2

16 is easy to subdivide by progressive bisection.

The 49 points to a 7-pointed star. The later can be constructed to a <u>nearly</u> perfect degree of accuracy. In the C17th it was probably regarded as perfect.

∴ Construct 7-pointed star and subdivide each of the divisions into 16 parts. Then each part will measure 7 lines.

Can one make a calibrated circle with 400 ?

400 = 40 x 10
     = 80 x 5

∴ One can construct a pentagram and subdivide each part into 8, giving steps of 10 lines – and further, into 16, giving steps of 5 lines.

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KING LEAR – looking at the drawing.   8th November 1991

Diameter of the Great Circle 12¼ inches = 49 x ¼ inch. Radius = 6⅛ inches.

Diameter of Small Circles = 6¼ inches = 25 x ¼ inch.

Total of units in Great Circle = 784 (+1)

Total of units in each Small Circle = 400

784 + 6 x 400 + 1

       = 784 + 2400 + 1

       = 3185 = TOTAL NUMBER OF LINES IN THE PLAY

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KING LEAR - *From notes:* 'King Lear figure details for Rose company'. 9th December 1991

ACT II   =   **671 lines**   =   400 + (2 x 135.5 [wing length])

ACT III   =   **539 lines**   =   400 + (2 x 69.5 [wing length])

Therefore each small circle must be entered on half-line – awkward

But 671 + 539 = 1210 = $\underline{11^2 \times 10}$. Is there a 121 rhythm throughout both Act? Yes! *(see King Lear notes Nov 25th to Dec 26th 1991 ed.).*

Could Act II lend one line to Act III in the geometry?

ACT II   =   **671 – 1 lines**   =   670   =   400 + (2 x 135 [wing length])

ACT III   =   **539 lines + 1 line**   =   540   =   400 + (2 x 70 [wing length])

Both Text and Figure seem to support this.