

Finding the "inverted circles" for circles inscribed in a honeycomb lattice

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inversive\\_geometry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inversive_geometry)

Variation on:

Infinitely Many Touching Circles - Numberphile

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSsRcpIsunk>

Epic Circles - Numberphile

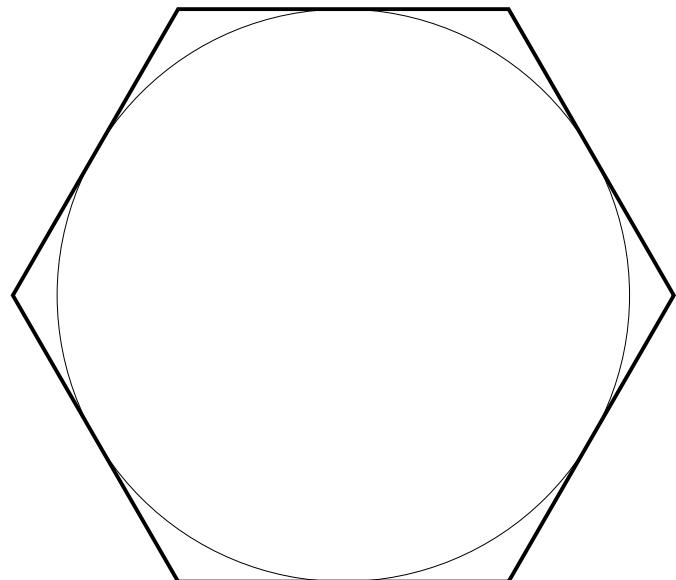
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sG\\_6nlMZ8f4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sG_6nlMZ8f4)

The "length" parameter in the RegularPolygon method is the distance from center to corner

If the inscribed circle has a radius of 1, then the hexagon has a length parameter of  $2/\sqrt{3}$

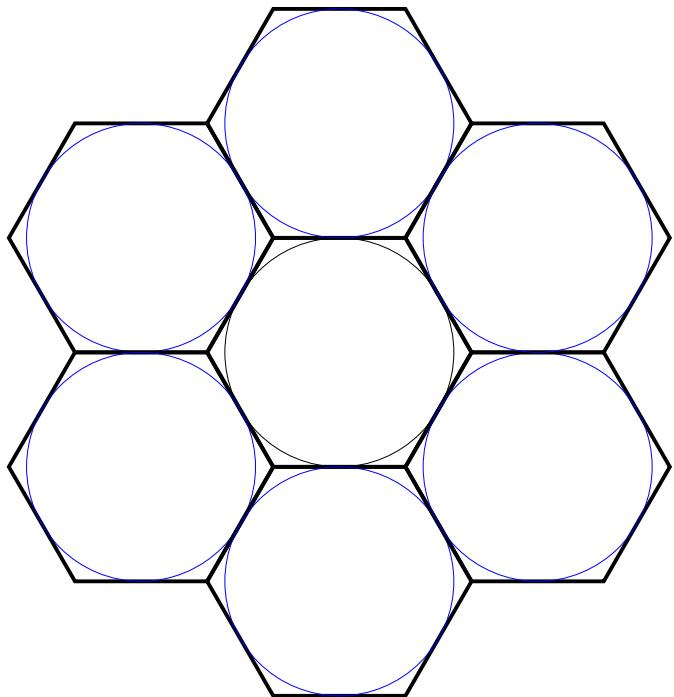
```
In[1]:= Show[Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}],  
Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]]]
```

Out[1]=



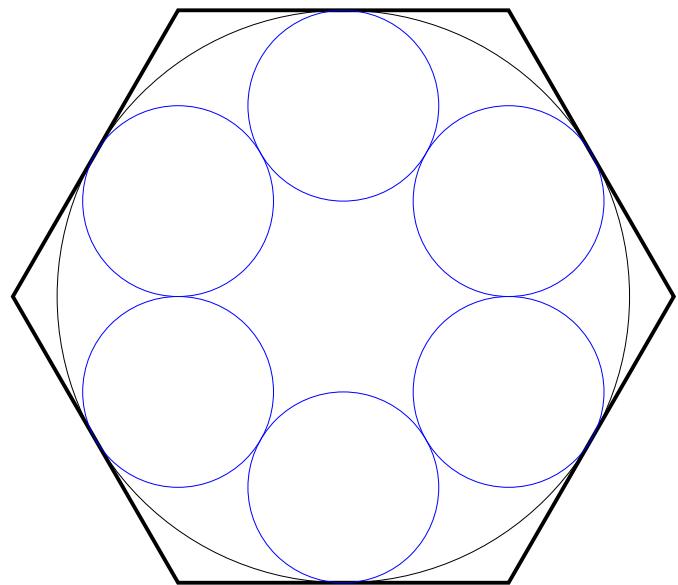
```
In[8]:= HC = {};
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[HC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* NN - nearest neighbors *)
NN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0],
RegularPolygon[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
];
Show[HC]
```

Out[13]=



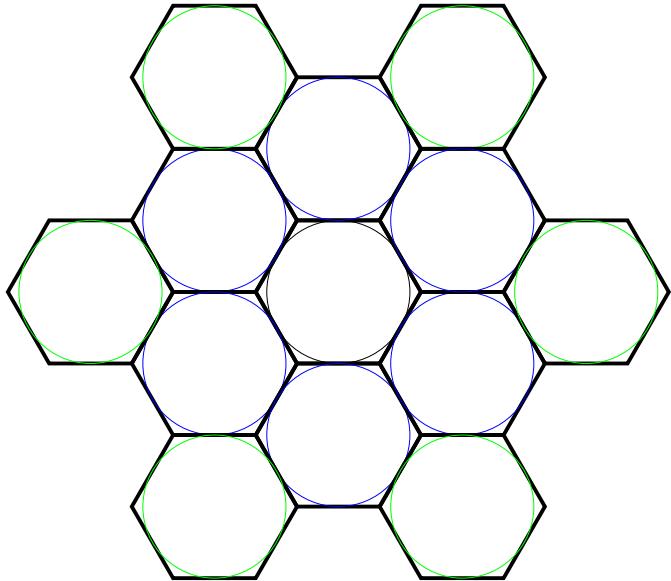
```
In[2]:= IHC = {}; (* inverted honeycomb*)
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* inverted nearest neighbor circles radii 1/3 *)
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2/3*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2/3*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/3}]];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
]; Show[IHC]
```

Out[7]=



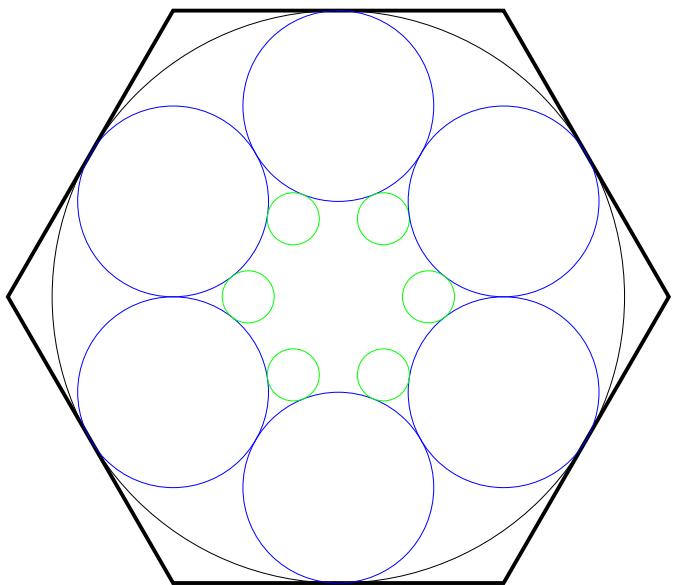
```
In[32]:= HC = {};
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[HC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* nearest neighbors*)
NN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0],
RegularPolygon[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 2/Sqrt[3], 6}]];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
(* next nearest neighbors *)
NNN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[
{6/Sqrt[3]*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6/Sqrt[3]*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}], 2/Sqrt[3], 6}]];
AppendTo[HC, NNN];
NNN = Graphics[
{Green, Circle[{6/Sqrt[3]*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6/Sqrt[3]*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NNN];
];
Show[HC]
```

Out[37]=



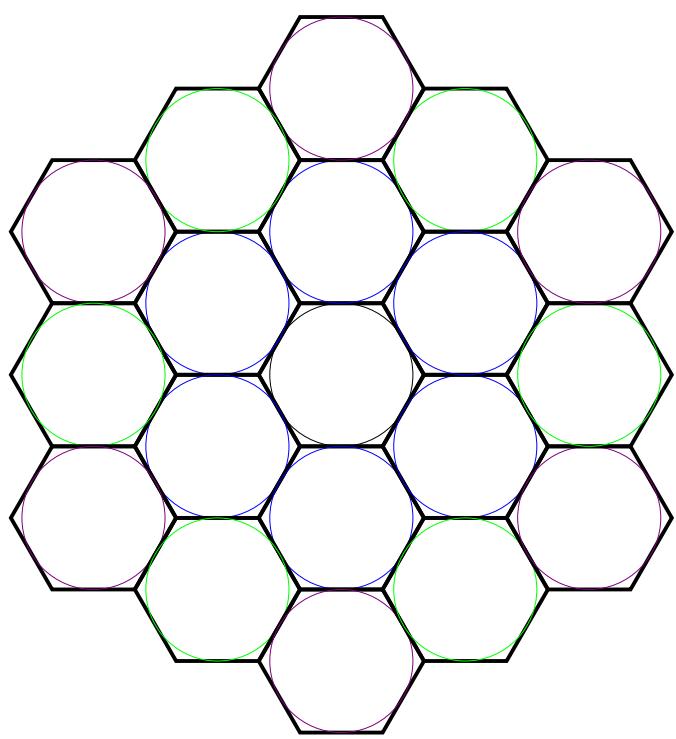
```
In[8]:= IHC = {};
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* inverted nearest neighbors radii 1/3 *)
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2/3*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2/3*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/3]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
(* inverted next nearest neighbors radii 1/11 *)
NNN = Graphics[{Green,
Circle[{6 Sqrt[3]/33*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6 Sqrt[3]/33*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/11]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NNN];
]; Show[IHC]
```

Out[13]=



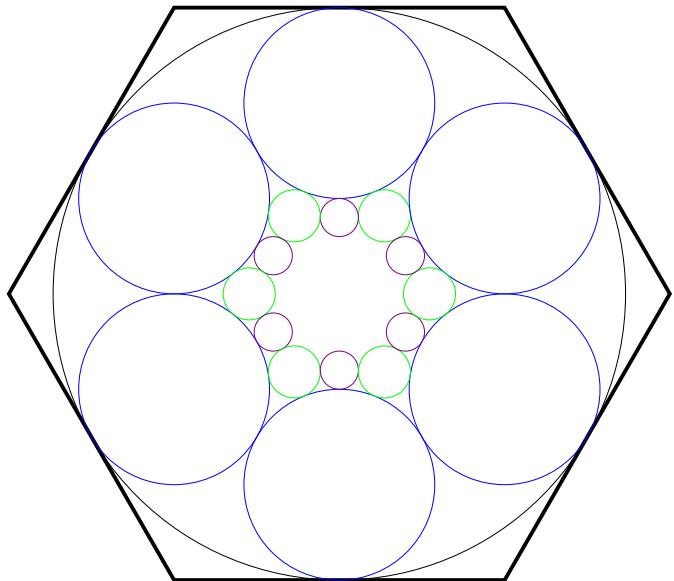
```
In[14]:= HC = {};
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[HC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* nearest neighbors*)
NN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0],
RegularPolygon[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NN];
(* next nearest neighbors *)
NNN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[
{6/Sqrt[3]*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6/Sqrt[3]*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[HC, NNN];
NNN = Graphics[
{Green, Circle[{6/Sqrt[3]*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6/Sqrt[3]*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NNN];
(* next-next nearest neighbors*)
NNNN = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0],
RegularPolygon[{4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6}]];
AppendTo[HC, NNNN];
NNNN = Graphics[{Purple, Circle[{4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1}]];
AppendTo[HC, NNNN];
]; Show[HC]
```

Out[19]=



```
In[20]:= IHC = {};
center = Graphics[{EdgeForm[Thick], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* inverted nearest neighbors radii 1/3 *)
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2/3*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2/3*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/3}]];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
(* inverted next nearest neighbors radii 1/11*)
NNN = Graphics[{Green,
Circle[{6 Sqrt[3]/33*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6 Sqrt[3]/33*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}], 1/11}];
AppendTo[IHC, NNN];
(* inverted next-next nearest neighbors radii 1/15 *)
NN =
Graphics[{Purple, Circle[{4/15*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 4/15*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/15}]];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
]; Show[IHC]
```

Out[25]=



Next, let us invert the nearest-neighbor hexagons.

Outer radial straight-line segments invert to inner radial straight-line segments

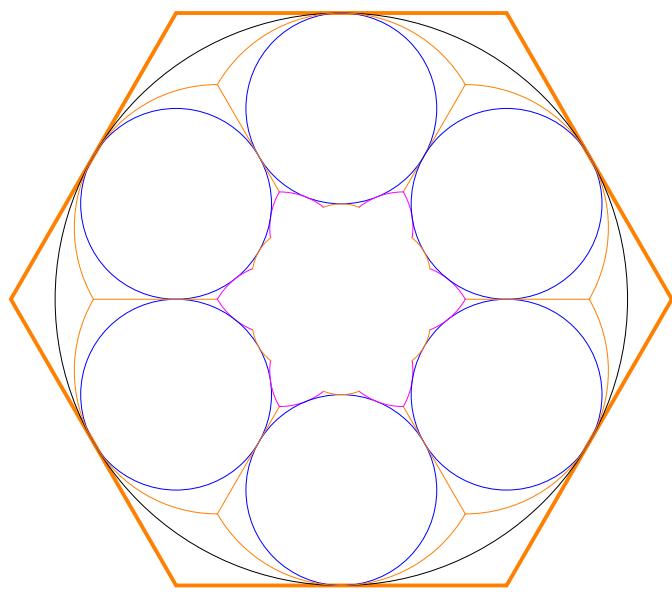
Non-radial outer straight-line segments map to arcs of interior circles that pass through the origin

```
In[26]:= IHC = {}; (* inverted honeycomb*)
center =
  Graphics[{EdgeForm[{Orange, Thick}], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* inverted nearest neighbor circles radii 1/3 *)
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2/3*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2/3*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/3]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
(* inverting the bounding/adjacent hexagon lines *)
NN = Graphics[{Orange, Circle[{1/2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/2,
{Pi/2 - Pi/3 + i*Pi/3, Pi/2 + Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
(* inverting radial lines of the nearest neighbor hexagons *)
NN = Graphics[{Orange, Line[{{Sqrt[3]/4*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], Sqrt[3]/4*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]},
{Sqrt[3]/2*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], Sqrt[3]/2*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* inverting far side of nearest neighbor hexagons -- angle range ???*)
NN = Graphics[{Orange, Circle[{1/6*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/6*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/6,
{Pi/2 - Pi/8 + i*Pi/3, Pi/2 + Pi/8 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* others angle range?? *)
NN = Graphics[{Magenta, Circle[{1/4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/4,
{-Pi/24 + i*Pi/3, Pi/6 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
NN = Graphics[{Magenta, Circle[{1/4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/4,
{5 Pi/6 + 5 Pi/24 + i*Pi/3, 5 Pi/6 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
]; Show[IHC]
```

Out[31]=



```
In[32]:= IHC = {}; (* inverted honeycomb*)
center =
  Graphics[{EdgeForm[{Orange, Thick}], Opacity[0], RegularPolygon[{0, 0}, 2/Sqrt[3], 6]}];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
center = Graphics[Circle[{0, 0}, 1]];
AppendTo[IHC, center];
For[i = 0, i < 6, i++,
(* inverted nearest neighbor circles radii 1/3 *)
NN = Graphics[{Blue, Circle[{2/3*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 2/3*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/3]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* inverted next nearest neighbors radii 1/11*)
NNN = Graphics[{Green,
  Circle[{6 Sqrt[3]/33*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], 6 Sqrt[3]/33*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/11]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NNN];
(* inverted next-next nearest neighbors radii 1/15 *)
NN =
  Graphics[{Purple, Circle[{4/15*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 4/15*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/15]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* inverting the bounding hexagon lines *)
NN = Graphics[{Orange, Circle[{1/2*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/2*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3]}, 1/2,
{Pi/2 - Pi/3 + i*Pi/3, Pi/2 + Pi/3 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
(* inverting radial lines of the nearest neighbor hexagons *)
```

```

NN = Graphics[{Orange, Line[{{Sqrt[3]/4*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], Sqrt[3]/4*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}, {Sqrt[3]/2*Cos[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3], Sqrt[3]/2*Sin[Pi/3 + i*Pi/3]}}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* inverting far side of nearest neighbor hexagons -- angle range ???*)
NN = Graphics[{Orange, Circle[{1/6*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/6*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/6, {Pi/2 - Pi/8 + i*Pi/3, Pi/2 + Pi/8 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];

(* others angle range?? *)
NN = Graphics[{Magenta, Circle[{1/4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/4, {-Pi/24 + i*Pi/3, Pi/6 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
NN = Graphics[{Magenta, Circle[{1/4*Cos[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3], 1/4*Sin[Pi/2 + i*Pi/3}], 1/4, {5 Pi/6 + 5 Pi/24 + i*Pi/3, 5 Pi/6 + i*Pi/3}]}];
AppendTo[IHC, NN];
]; Show[IHC]

```

Out[37]=

