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Chains of cycles and general m -gonal curves.

We generalize the work of Cools, Draisma, Payne, and Robeva to analyze the Brill-Noether theory of chains of cycles with arbitrary edge lengths. By choosing specific edge lengths and applying tropical lifting results, we prove partial analogs of the Brill-Noether Theorem for general curves of fixed gonality. (Received January 17, 2016)