



Tatiana Babicheva is an inspiring teacher who believes that teaching is not just about imparting knowledge but also about being a lifelong learner. This passion for growth and discovery led her to earn two PhDs: one in applied mathematics and its applications in Russia, and another in computer science from Université Paris-Saclay in France. She has published 10 books in Russian and French in the field of popular science, including mathematics at the competition level.

Yury Bychkov is a dedicated student at Aragon High School with a strong interest in exploring mathematical concepts beyond the standard classroom curriculum. He actively seeks opportunities to compete both individually and as a representative of his school, showcasing his solution-oriented mindset and personal growth. For Yury, mathematics is not confined to a narrow spectrum of theories; it also serves as a vital tool in other fields, particularly science, where mathematics provides the foundation for precise predictions, experimental design, and analysis of large datasets. Employing his passion for math, Yury aims to share his enthusiasm for exploring mathematics and its applications in different fields to empower others to creatively approach and solve real-world challenges.



COMPETITIVE GEOMETRY

Mathematical Competitions.  
Levels A1-A2

# 6. Competitive Geometry

**TATIANA BABICHEVA**  
**Yury Bychkov**  
Illustrators: Kilyanova Natalia; Yuliya Chayka

**Mathematical Competitions.**  
**Levels A1-A2**  
**Book 6. Competitive Geometry**

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# Dedication

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To our esteemed colleagues, whose invaluable contributions made the realization of this book possible. A special acknowledgment goes to Michael Podaev for his exceptional support and insights.

“

Dedicated to our students, who discovered the joy of geometry through the pages of this book. Your enthusiasm and engagement have truly made the journey enjoyable.



# Introduction

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## Introduction to the series

Begin your preparation for Competition Mathematics with our carefully crafted series. These books are designed to inspire a love for problem-solving and foster critical thinking. They are ideal for both budding mathematicians and passionate enthusiasts.

Inside, you will find a wide range of challenges, puzzles, and problems. Each one is selected to enhance your mathematical abilities. Experience the challenge of solving complex equations and gain confidence by deciphering complex geometric puzzles. Every book has engaging content to stimulate your mind and expand your skills.

If you're preparing for regional competitions, national tournaments, or simply want to deepen your mathematical knowledge, this series is an invaluable resource. The books provide clear explanations, strategic insights, and numerous practice problems. They aim to build your confidence and equip you with the skills needed to tackle any mathematical challenge.

While school mathematics forms a foundation, this series goes beyond it without requiring advanced knowledge to understand the material. Our course covers a wide range of topics, reflecting the diverse nature of Olympiad problems. Solving a geometry problem may require knowledge of combinatorics, while a number theory problem might involve understanding invariants and the pigeonhole principle.

Olympiad problems are generally not restricted to specific grade levels, making these books suitable for high school students. Some of the problems included have been featured in the final stages of national math Olympiads for higher grades. The goal is to demonstrate how to solve problems using straightforward and elegant methods, avoiding unnecessary complexity.

We have categorized competition mathematics into levels similar to the international standards used for foreign language proficiency. This approach is based on the concept of the «language» of competition mathematics. Traditional grade-based divisions are often outdated, as understanding a topic might only require elementary-level math. Moreover, the topics in these books are interconnected. Without a grasp

of a topic at level A1, understanding its expanded form at level A2 can be challenging.

Here's what to expect at each level:

Let's use an analogy with foreign languages:

Level A1. You understand (generally) foreign speech and can talk about family, activities, hobbies, travels, weather, and buying things. In short, the standard tourist set. Can you conjugate basic verbs and be familiar with different tenses? The question «How are you?» doesn't stump you? Congratulations! You have a good A1 level! This is enough for survival.

Similarly, in olympiad math — you can «survive» at beginner-level olympiads, understand what is required in problems, and formulate solutions. You likely won't need math knowledge beyond seventh grade to understand topics at this level. (The problem might be from an 11th-grade olympiad, but the solving method remains the same)

At level A2, you can discuss preferences in art, cultural differences, and main social trends, etc. You form complex sentences («This is Peter, whose dad works at the bank. I've already told you about him»), can write to a friend on Facebook, describe a vacation, and understand the essence of any conversation in the language.

You can recognize and solve middle-level Olympiad problems. You will be able to avoid common mistakes and present your solutions effectively. Topics at this level typically require knowledge up to the eighth grade.

This series of books generally covers levels A1 and A2 of competition maths: you will understand any problem from most competitions, formulate your solution, and even change the solution of ChatGPT to match the real competition problem. However, you are still far from being a native speaker.

## What is in these books?

This series uses a proof-based approach to problem-solving, which is usually reserved for advanced levels in countries like the USA and the UK. However, this method helps build a solid foundation in mathematics.

Each chapter is divided into four parts:

1. The first part covers the theoretical background and provides detailed solutions to typical problems.
2. The second part presents a problem set labeled by source. Olympiad problems are marked with notations like «Year.Grade/Round.Number.» For example, «ACM 2016.10A.5» is the fifth problem from the 10th-grade 10A variant of the ACM Olympiad 2016. Grade numbering may vary between countries, so adjust accordingly. Non-grade-specific Olympiads, like AIME, are marked by version (I or II) instead of grade.

You will encounter many problems from the Russian Olympiads (a country with a strong tradition in Olympiad mathematics) and various US mathematical competitions (such as AMC and AIME). We sincerely recommend not only finding the correct answer from the given AMC options but also approaching these problems from a proof-based perspective.

The problem number usually provides a sense of difficulty; generally, a higher number indicates a more challenging problem. However, this labeling doesn't always apply to some «independent» Olympiads, which can sometimes confuse genuine Olympiad participants.

3. The third part includes problems for independent solving, with some original problems introduced here.
4. Solutions are found in the fourth part.

The series consists of the following books.

1. Competitive Arithmetics
2. Ideas and Methods
3. Introduction to Discrete Mathematics
4. Introduction to Competitive Geometry
5. Competitive Number Theory
6. Competitive Geometry

This series is designed for both experienced Olympiad participants and newcomers to mathematical problem-solving. It offers a journey where theory and application meet, providing a rewarding experience. Welcome to a unique math adventure!

## Introduction to this book

Within the pages of this book, we embark on a journey into the captivating realm of geometry. Allow me to make one thing clear – this is not an attempt to produce yet another run-of-the-mill geometry textbook. The existing school materials adequately cover the theoretical foundations essential for solving Olympiad-level geometry problems. Instead, our focus is on bridging the gap between possessing theoretical knowledge and mastering the art of conquering Olympiad geometry challenges.

In this book, we revisit essential geometric theory, providing both a reminder and a deeper understanding of the concepts crucial for Olympiad success. Additionally, we delve into various problem-solving methodologies tailored to the unique demands of Olympiad-style questions. Reading this book assumes you've already mastered school geometry, covering grades 7-9, and perhaps explored some aspects of AP Geometry (without trigonometry; it won't be necessary here).

In this book, in order to ensure the AMC problems pose a bit more challenge, we have selected those where reconstructing the diagram is possible purely from the textual conditions.

Embarking on this journey signifies your readiness to elevate your geometric prowess beyond the classroom. We won't rehash familiar theories but will delve into the intricacies, nuances, and strategic thinking required to crack the code of Olympiad geometry.

## List of competitions used in this book

- «Математический праздник», in English mean «Mathematical festival». We note it in the book as «MF». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olympiads.mccme.ru/matprazdnik/>
- Городская устная математическая олимпиада для 6–7 классов, mean «City Oral Mathematical Olympiad for 6–7 grades». We note it in the book as «СОМ». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olympiads.mccme.ru/ustn/>
- Всероссийская олимпиада по геометрии им. И. Ф. Шарыгина (Москва), mean «Sharygin Geometry Olympiad». We note it in the book as «Sharygin». The official site (in Russian) is <https://geometry.ru/>
- Турнир городов, mean «Tournament of Towns». We note it in the book as «ТОТ». The official site is <https://www.turgor.ru/en/>
- Школьный этап Всероссийской олимпиады школьников, mean «first stage of All-Russian School Olympiad». We note it in the book as «1ARSO». The official site (in Russian) is <https://vserosolimp.edsoo.ru/>
- Муниципальный этап Всероссийской олимпиады школьников, mean «second stage of All-Russian School Olympiad». We note it in the book as «2ARSO». The official site (in Russian) is <https://vserosolimp.edsoo.ru/>
- Муниципальный этап Всероссийской олимпиады школьников (Москва), mean «second stage of All-Russian School Olympiad in Moscow». We note it in the book as «Mos2ARSO». The official site (in Russian) is <https://vserosolimp.edsoo.ru/>
- Региональный этап Всероссийской олимпиады школьников, mean «third stage of All-Russian School Olympiad». We note it in the book as «3ARSO». The official site (in Russian) is <https://vserosolimp.edsoo.ru/>
- Всероссийская олимпиада школьников, mean «All-Russian School Olympiad». We note it in the book as «ARSO». The official site (in Russian) is <https://vserosolimp.edsoo.ru/>
- American Mathematics Competitions. We note it in the book as «АМС». The official site is <https://maa.org/math-competitions>
- Московская математическая олимпиада, mean «Moscow Mathematical Olympiad». We note it in the book as «ММО». The official site (in Russian) is <https://mmo.mccme.ru/>
- Олимпиада им. Леонарда Эйлера, mean «Leonhard Euler Math Olympiad». We note it in the book as «LEO». The official site (in Russian) is <http://matol.ru/>
- Junior Mathematical Olympiad. We note it in the book as «JMO». The official site is <https://ukmt.org.uk/>

- Турнир им. Ломоносова, mean «Lomonosov Tournament». We note it in the book as «LT». The official site (in Russian) <https://turlom.olimpiada.ru/>
- Турнир Архимеда, mean «Archimedes Tournament». We note it in the book as «AT». The official site (in Russian) is <http://www.arhimedes.org/>
- Олимпиада «Ломоносов», mean «Lomonosov Competition», competition of Moscow State University. We note it in the book as «Lomonosov». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olymp.msu.ru/>
- Кружок МЦНМО, mean «Circle of Moscow Center for Continuous Mathematical Education». We note it in the book as «Mccme». The official site (in Russian) is <https://mccme.ru/en/math-circles/circles-mccme/20232024/>
- Московская математическая регата, mean «Moscow mathematical regatta». We note it in the book as «MMG». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olympiads.mccme.ru/regata/>
- «Покори Воробьёвы горы», mean «Conquer Vorobyovy Gory», competition of MSU. We note it in the book as «PVG». The official site (in Russian) is <https://pvg.mk.ru/>
- Nederlandse Wiskunde Olympiade. The official site is <https://www.vwo.be/vwo/>
- MATHCOUNTS competition. We note it in the book as «mathcounts». The official site is <https://www.mathcounts.org/resources/mathcounts-minis>
- Hamilton Mathematical Olympiad. We note it in the book as «HMO». The official site is <https://ukmt.org.uk/>
- Курчатов, mean «Kurchatov Competition». We note it in the book as «Kurchatov». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olimpiadakurchatov.ru/>
- Московская устная олимпиада по геометрии, mean «Moscow Geometry Oral Olympiad». We note it in the book as «OMGO». The official site (in Russian) <https://olympiads.mccme.ru/ustn/>
- Система задач Р. Гордина, mean «Gordin's system of problems». We note it in the book as «Gordin». The official site (in Russian) is <https://zadachi.mccme.ru/>
- МГУ Мехмат, mean «Moscow State University, Department of Mechanics and Mathematics». We note it in the book as «MechMat». The official site (in Russian) is <https://math.msu.ru/>
- МГУ, ДВИ, mean «Additional entrance test at Moscow State University». We note it in the book as «DVI». The official site (in Russian) is <https://www.msu.ru/entrance/>
- «РЕШУ ЕГЭ», математика, mean «I'll solve the Russian state exam in mathematics». We note it in the book as «EGE». The official site (in Russian) is <https://ege.sdangia.ru/>

- ЦПМ, кружок по математике, mean «Mathematical Circle of Center for Teaching Excellence». We note it in the book as «ZPM». The official site (in Russian) is <https://школа-цпм.рф/>
- Каталог задач [www.problems.ru](http://www.problems.ru), mean «Catalog of problems [www.problems.ru](http://www.problems.ru)». We note it in the book as «Problems.ru». The official site (in Russian) is [problems.ru](http://problems.ru)
- Прасолов В.В. Задачи по планиметрии, means the book «Prasolov V.V. Planimetry problems». We note it in the book as «Prasolov». The official site (in Russian) is <https://math.ru/lib/files/pdf/planim5.pdf>
- «Высшая проба», means the schoolchildren competition of HSE. We note it in the book as «HSE». The official site (in Russian) is <https://olymp.hse.ru/mmo/>



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# Geometric Inequalities

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«Obvious» is the most dangerous word in mathematics.

—Eric Temple Bell

## Theory and Practice

Although problems involving the triangle inequality in its pure form are quite rare in olympiads, it is often used in the solutions of «larger» problems.

Let's start by recalling the basic properties of triangles:

1. The larger angle of a triangle is opposite the larger side.
2. The larger side of a triangle is opposite the larger angle.
3. The sum of any two sides of a triangle is greater than the third side.

The last property is often referred to as the «triangle inequality,» and it is precisely this property that is most commonly used in problem-solving.

**Example 1.1.** In a triangle, the lengths of two sides are 1 and 2024 respectively. Find the length of the third side, given that it is expressed as an integer.

**Solution:** Denoting the side lengths as  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 2024$ , and the unknown side as  $c$ , we have three inequalities:

$$1 + 2024 > c,$$

$$1 + c > 2024,$$

$$2024 + c > 1,$$

which immediately implies  $2023 < c < 2025$ . Therefore,  $c = 2024$ . □

**Example 1.2.** Prove that in any triangle, the length of any side is less than half the perimeter of the triangle.

**Solution:** Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be the side lengths of the triangle.

Without loss of generality, let's prove that

$$a < \frac{a + b + c}{2}.$$

We know that  $a < b + c$ . Adding  $a$  to both sides of the inequality, we get  $2a < a + b + c$ . Dividing both sides of the inequality by the positive number 2 yields the desired result.  $\square$

**Example 1.3.** Prove that in any quadrilateral, the length of any diagonal is less than half the perimeter.

**Solution:** Let  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  be the side lengths of the quadrilateral (see Figure 1.1).

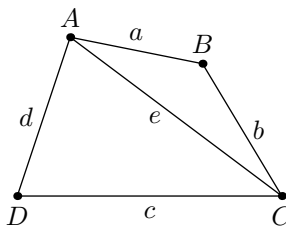


Figure 1.1: Side lengths of a quadrilateral.

Consider the diagonal  $AC$  and denote its length as  $e$ .

Then, by the triangle inequality, it is true that  $a + b > e$  and  $c + d > e$ .

Adding these inequalities (since we can do this for inequalities with the same sign), we get  $a + b + c + d > 2e$ , and after dividing by the positive number 2, we obtain the desired statement.

Note that in formulating the inequalities, we did not use the convexity property of the quadrilateral, so the statement holds for arbitrary quadrilaterals.  $\square$

**Example 1.4.** Is it true that for any 10-line segments, there will be three that can form a triangle?

**Solution:** Here, it is sufficient to present 10 line segments from which it is impossible to choose any three to form a triangle.

Consider the set of the following 10 line segments: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, and 512. Let's assume a triangle with sides  $a < b < c$  does exist. Given the values of the proposed lengths,  $a < \frac{c}{2}$  and  $b \leq \frac{c}{2}$ . Adding these inequalities, we get  $a + b < c$ , which contradicts the triangle inequality.  $\square$

Inequalities in triangles are a powerful tool, especially for proving the impossibility of certain geometric constructions.

## Problem Set

**Problem 1.1.** On the base  $AC$  of the isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , a point  $D$  is chosen, and on the extension of  $AC$  beyond vertex  $C$ , a point  $E$  is chosen such that  $AD = CE$ . Prove that  $BD + BE > AB + BC$ .

**Problem 1.2.** The diagonals  $AC$  and  $BD$  of the isosceles trapezoid  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $O$ . It is also known that a circle can be inscribed in the trapezoid. Prove that  $\angle BOC > 60^\circ$ .

**Problem 1.3.** (OMGO – 2019.7.5): A rectangular sheet of paper was folded along the diagonal. Can the perimeter of the resulting pentagon be equal to the perimeter of the original sheet?

**Problem 1.4.** (MMO – 1997.9): In a triangle, one side is three times smaller than the sum of the other two sides. Prove that the angle opposite to this side is the smallest angle in the triangle.

**Problem 1.5.** (MMG – 2012.9): On a plane, given a square and a point  $P$ , is it possible for the distances from point  $P$  to the vertices of the square to be 1, 1, 2, and 3?

**Problem 1.6.** (TOT – 2016.8.9): Prove that the sum of the lengths of any two medians of an arbitrary triangle

a) is not greater than  $\frac{3P}{4}$ , where  $P$  is the perimeter of the triangle;

b) is not less than  $\frac{3p}{4}$ , where  $p$  is the semiperimeter of the triangle.

**Problem 1.7.** (MMO – 2002.8.5): In triangle  $ABC$ , medians  $AD$  and  $BE$  intersect at point  $M$ . Prove that if angle  $AMB$

a) is right;

b) is acute,

then  $AC + BC > 3AB$ .

**Problem 1.8.** (ARSO – 1993.9.2): The segments  $AB$  and  $CD$  of length 1 intersect at point  $O$ , and  $\angle AOC = 60^\circ$ . Prove that  $AC + BD \geq 1$ .

**Problem 1.9.** (LEO – 2017.3): Diagonals of a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $E$ . It is known that  $AB = BC = CD = DE = 1$ . Prove that  $AD < 2$ .

**Problem 1.10.** (LEO – 2016.3): Given an equilateral triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  is chosen on the extension of side  $AB$  beyond point  $A$ , point  $E$  on the extension of  $BC$  beyond point  $C$ , and point  $F$  on the extension of  $AC$  beyond point  $C$  such that  $CF = AD$  and  $AC + EF = DE$ . Find the angle  $\angle BDE$ .

**Problem 1.11.** The perpendicular bisector of side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersects side  $AC$  at point  $K$ , and point  $K$  divides the broken line  $ACB$  into two parts of equal length. Prove that triangle  $ABC$  is isosceles.

**Problem 1.12.** (TOT – 2015.8-9): Prove that in any cyclic polygon, three sides exist that can form a triangle.

**Problem 1.13.** (TOT – 1985.7-8): A quadrilateral is inscribed in a rectangle (with one vertex on each side of the rectangle). Prove that the perimeter of the quadrilateral is not less than twice the diagonal of the rectangle.

**Problem 1.14.** (TOT – 1989.7-8): In triangle  $ABC$ , the median  $AM$  is drawn. Can the radius of the inscribed circle of triangle  $ABM$  be exactly twice the radius of the inscribed circle of triangle  $ACM$ ?

**Problem 1.15.** (TOT – 2006.8-9): A segment of length 1 is divided into 11 segments, the length of each of which does not exceed  $a$ . For what values of  $a$  can we say that any three resulting segments can be used to form a triangle?

**Problem 1.16.** (TOT – 2014.8-9): Prove that among 100 red, 100 yellow, and 100 green sticks, where any three sticks of different colors can form a triangle, there must be a color for which any three sticks of that color can form a triangle.

**Problem 1.17.** (TOT – 2015.8-9): Given are  $N$  right-angled triangles. For each triangle, one leg was chosen, and the sum of their lengths was found. Then, the sum of the lengths of the remaining legs was found, and finally, the sum of the lengths of all hypotenuses was found. It turned out that these three found numbers are the side lengths of a certain right-angled triangle. Prove that for all original triangles, there is a consistent ratio between the longer leg and the shorter leg, if

- a)  $N = 2$ ;
- b)  $N$  – is any number bigger than 1.

**Problem 1.18.** (TOT – 1991.8-9): The sides  $AB$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CD$ , and  $DA$  of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  are respectively equal to the sides  $A'B'$ ,  $B'C'$ ,  $C'D'$ , and  $D'A'$  of quadrilateral  $A'B'C'D'$ . Additionally, it is known that  $AB \parallel CD$  and  $B'C' \parallel D'A'$ . Prove that both quadrilaterals are parallelograms.

**Problem 1.19.** (Sharygin – 2012.8.5): Does there exist a convex quadrilateral and a point  $P$  inside it such that the sum of the distances from  $P$  to the vertices is greater than the perimeter of the quadrilateral?

**Problem 1.20.** (MMO – 2011.11.3): In an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  is chosen on the base  $BC$ , and points  $E$  and  $M$  are chosen on the side  $AB$  such that  $AM = ME$ , and the segment  $DM$  is parallel to side  $AC$ . Prove that  $AD + DE > AB + BE$ .

**Problem 1.21.** (mathcounts) How many non-congruent triangles are there with sides of integer length having at least one side of length five units and having no side longer than five units?

**Problem 1.22.** (AMC – 2003.12A.7): How many non-congruent triangles with perimeter 7 have integer side lengths?

- (A) 1      (B) 2      (C) 3      (D) 4      (E) 5

**Problem 1.23.** (UK Kangaroo): The lengths of two sides of a triangle are 5 cm and 2 cm. The length of the third side in cm is an odd integer. What is the length of the third side?

- (A) 1cm      (B) 3cm      (C) 5cm      (D) 7cm      (E) 9cm

**Problem 1.24.** (UK Kangaroo): The lengths of the sides of a triangle are the integers 13,  $x$ ,  $y$ . It is given that  $xy = 105$ . What is the length of the perimeter of the triangle?

**Problem 1.25.** (HMMT): Let  $ABC$  be a triangle with  $AB = 13$ ,  $BC = 14$ ,  $CA = 15$ . Company  $XYZ$  wants to locate their base at the point  $P$  in the plane, minimizing the total distance to their workers, who are located at vertices  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . There are 1, 5, and 4 workers at  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , respectively. Find the minimum possible total distance Company  $XYZ$ 's workers have to travel to get to  $P$ .

**Problem 1.26.** (Canadian math competition): The triangle with side lengths 6, 8, and 10 is right-angled, while the triangle with side lengths 6, 8, and 9 is an acute triangle, and the triangle with side lengths 6, 8, and 11 is an obtuse triangle. An obtuse triangle with a positive area has side lengths of 10, 17, and  $x$ . If  $x$  is an integer, what is the sum of all possible values of  $x$ ?

**Problem 1.27.** (International Olympiad «Formula of Unity»): John has 12 sticks; the length of each stick is a positive integer not greater than 56. Prove that he has three sticks that could form a triangle.

**Problem 1.28.** (HMMT): What is the smallest possible perimeter of a triangle whose side lengths are all squares of distinct positive integers?

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 1.1.** Prove that the sum of the diagonals of any convex quadrilateral is less than its perimeter but greater than half of its perimeter.

**Skill Assessment Problem 1.2.** The angle at vertex  $M$  of triangle  $ACM$  is  $60^\circ$ . Prove that

$$AM + MC \leq 2 \cdot AC.$$

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 1.1:** In the quadrilateral  $ABCD$  (Figure 1.2), each diagonal forms 2 triangles, diagonal  $AC$  forms triangles  $ADC$  and  $ABC$ , and diagonal  $BD$  forms triangles  $BAD$  and  $BCD$ .

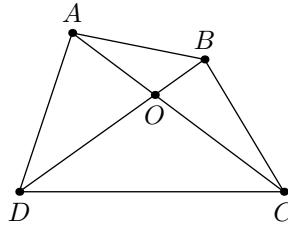


Figure 1.2: Sum of diagonals of a quadrilateral.

Writing down the inequalities for the larger triangles, we get

$$\begin{aligned} BD &< BA + AD, \\ BD &< BC + CD, \\ AC &< AD + DC, \\ AC &< AB + BC. \end{aligned}$$

Summing up these inequalities, we arrive at the inequality

$$2 \cdot BD + 2 \cdot AC < 2 \cdot AB + 2 \cdot BC + 2 \cdot CD + 2 \cdot DA,$$

from which the first estimate follows.

To solve the second part of the problem, let's consider smaller triangles involving point  $O$ . We obtain the following triangle inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} AB &< BO + AO, \\ AD &< AO + DO, \\ DC &< DO + CO, \\ BC &< BO + CO. \end{aligned}$$

After summing up these inequalities, we get

$$AB + AD + DC + BC < 2 \cdot AO + 2 \cdot OC + 2 \cdot BO + 2 \cdot OD,$$

which, after dividing both sides, gives us the desired second estimate.  $\square$

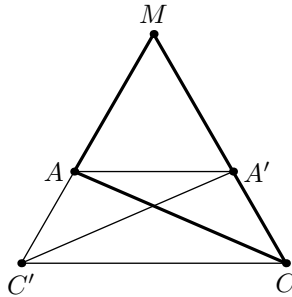


Figure 1.3: Triangle  $AMC$ .

**Solution to Problem 1.2:** If  $MC = MA$ , then the triangle is equilateral, and the equality  $AM + MC = 2AC$  holds.

If the triangle is not equilateral, we extend the shorter side (let it be  $AM$ ) by the length of side  $MC$ , forming an equilateral triangle  $MCC'$ . On side  $MC$ , we mark off segment  $MA' = MA$ .

Since  $AC = A'C'$ , then  $2AC = AC + A'C' < CC' + AA' = MC + AM$ . The statement of the problem is proven.  $\square$

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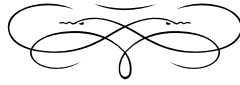


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# Angle Calculations

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It is worth repeating that geometry is the art of reasoning well from badly drawn figures.

—Henri Poincaré

## Theory and Practice

Often, when solving geometry problems, many forget to do the simplest thing: consider all possible angles arising in the problem. At the same time, one of the first facts of plane geometry that many encounter even before the beginning of the study of school geometry is the formula for the sum of angles in a triangle: «the sum of angles in a triangle is equal to 180 degrees.» Of course, the method of «calculating angles» is not limited to just using this fact, but often you can find problems involving combinations of triangles (isosceles, equilateral, right-angled), bisectors, and perpendiculars, where it is necessary to sequentially calculate angles, proving one fact or another. Calculation of angles is also popular in problems with circles, where formulas for an inscribed angle hint at the multiplicity of equal or easily expressible angles. However, in this context, we will focus, for warm-up, on straight lines and segments.

To find, or rather «calculate,» angles in many problems, it is enough to know about the sum of angles in a triangle, equality of vertical angles, the sum of adjacent angles, angles with parallel lines, and angles in a circle. Often, introducing one, two, and, in rare cases, three variables is sufficient.

**Example 2.1.** In a right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , altitude  $CK$  is drawn from the vertex of the right angle  $C$ , and in triangle  $ACK$ , angle bisector  $CE$  is drawn. Prove that  $CB = BE$ .



Figure 2.1: Illustrations for the solutions. a) First solution, b) second solution.

**First Solution:** In this solution, we will use Figure 2.1 a).

Let  $\angle A = \alpha$ . Then, we can determine the other angles:  $\angle ACK = 90^\circ - \alpha$ . Furthermore,  $\angle ECK = \angle ACE = 45^\circ - \frac{\alpha}{2}$ . Thus,  $\angle KCB = \alpha$ , and  $\angle CEB = \angle A + \angle ACE = \alpha + 45^\circ - \frac{\alpha}{2} = 45^\circ + \frac{\alpha}{2}$ . Similarly,  $\angle BCE = \angle KCB + \angle ECK = \alpha + 45^\circ - \frac{\alpha}{2} = 45^\circ + \frac{\alpha}{2}$ . The discovered angle equality proves that triangle  $CBE$  is isosceles and  $CB = BE$ .  $\square$

**Second Solution:** Let us consider a perpendicular  $EL$  to  $AC$ , as shown in Figure 2.1 b). Triangles  $ECK$  and  $ECL$  are congruent by the hypotenuse and acute angle, so  $CK = CL$ . But the segment  $CL$  is equal to the height of the triangle  $CBE$  dropped on side  $BC$ . Therefore, in triangle  $CBE$ , two altitudes are equal, that is, it is isosceles.  $\square$

**Example 2.2.** In an acute-angled scalene triangle, a height is drawn through one vertex, a median through another, and a bisector through the third. Prove that if the drawn lines intersect to form a triangle, it cannot be equilateral.

**Solution:** Let the height  $AH$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersect the median  $BM$  at point  $P$ , the bisector  $CL$  at point  $R$ , and the bisector  $CL$  and median  $BM$  intersect at point  $Q$ , as shown in Figure 2.2.

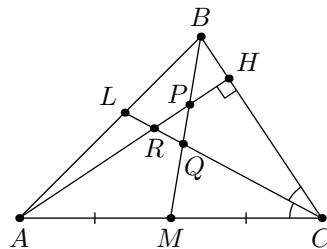


Figure 2.2: Height, median, and bisector from different angles of the triangle.

Suppose that triangle  $PQR$  is equilateral. Then  $\angle RCH = 90^\circ - \angle CRH = 90^\circ - 60^\circ = 30^\circ$ ,  $\angle C = 60^\circ$ . Moreover,  $\angle PBH = 90^\circ - \angle BPH = 90^\circ - \angle RPQ =$

$90^\circ - 60^\circ = 30^\circ$ ,  $\angle BMC = 90^\circ$ . Thus,  $BM$  is the height and median of triangle  $ABC$ . Therefore, triangle  $ABC$  is isosceles, and since one of its angles ( $C$ ) is  $60^\circ$ , it is equilateral. Contradiction.  $\square$

**Example 2.3.** In a triangle with unequal sides  $AB$  and  $AC$ , a height  $AH$  and a bisector  $AD$  are drawn. Prove that the angle  $HAD$  is equal to half the difference between angles  $B$  and  $C$ .

**Solution:** Without the loss of generality, let  $AC > AB$ . Then point  $D$  lies between  $C$  and  $H$  (see Figure 2.3).

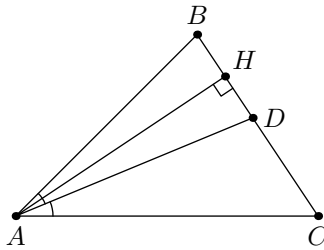


Figure 2.3: Figure for the problem.

Therefore,  $\angle HAD = 90^\circ - \angle ADC = 90^\circ - (\angle DAC + \angle C) = 90^\circ - \angle ADC = 90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle A - \angle C = \frac{1}{2}(\angle B - \angle C)$ .  $\square$

Certainly, nobody prevents us from introducing variables when counting angles, and the number of variables does not necessarily have to be limited to one (after all, we participate in Olympiads; will we be scared of some algebra in geometry?!).

**Example 2.4.** The bisectors of angles  $A$  and  $B$  of triangle  $ABC$  are equally inclined to sides  $BC$  and  $AC$ . Find the relationship between angles  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Solution:** Let  $AK$  and  $BM$  be the bisectors of triangle  $ABC$ , and  $P$  be the point of their intersection (see Figure 2.4).

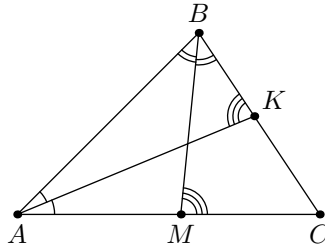


Figure 2.4: Two bisectors in a triangle.

Denote  $\angle A = \alpha$ ,  $\angle B = \beta$ . From the condition, it follows that  $\angle AKC = \angle BMC$  or  $\angle AKC + \angle BMC = 180^\circ$ . In the first case,  $\angle AKC = \angle KAB + \angle KBA = \frac{\alpha}{2} + \beta$ ,  $\angle BMC = \angle MBA + \angle MAB = \alpha + \frac{\beta}{2}$ . Then  $\frac{\alpha}{2} + \beta = \alpha + \frac{\beta}{2}$ . Consequently,  $\alpha = \beta$ . In the second case, similarly, we obtain that  $\alpha + \beta = 120^\circ$ .  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 2.1.** (Gordin – 1306): The bisector of the angle adjacent to angle  $C$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersects the extension of side  $AB$  beyond point  $B$  at point  $D$ , and the bisector of the angle adjacent to angle  $A$  intersects the extension of  $BC$  beyond point  $C$  at point  $E$ . It is known that  $DC = CA = AE$ . Find the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 2.2.** (Gordin – 2726): From point  $O$  on the plane, four rays emerge in clockwise order:  $OA$ ,  $OB$ ,  $OC$ , and  $OD$ . It is known that the sum of angles  $AOB$  and  $COD$  is  $180^\circ$ . Prove that the bisectors of angles  $AOC$  and  $BOD$  are perpendicular.

**Problem 2.3.** (TOT – 1999.8.20): In triangle  $ABC$ , points  $A'$ ,  $B'$ , and  $C'$  lie on sides  $BC$ ,  $CA$ , and  $AB$ , respectively. It is known that  $\angle AC'B' = \angle B'A'C$ ,  $\angle CB'A' = \angle A'C'B$ ,  $\angle BA'C' = \angle C'B'A$ . Prove that points  $A'$ ,  $B'$ , and  $C'$  are the midpoints of the sides of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 2.4.** (MMG – 2011.7.3): Given square  $ABCD$ . On the side  $AD$  of the

square, an equilateral triangle  $ADE$  is constructed inside the square. Diagonal  $AC$  intersects side  $ED$  of this triangle at point  $F$ . Prove that  $CE = CF$ .

**Problem 2.5.** (Gordin – 1103): The triangle  $ABC$  is given. On the extension of side  $AC$  beyond point  $A$ , a segment  $AD = AB$  is marked, and beyond point  $C$ , a segment  $CE = CB$  is marked. Find the angles of triangle  $DBE$  in terms of the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 2.6.** (Gordin – 1103): On the side  $BC$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$  ( $AB = BC$ ), points  $N$  and  $M$  ( $N$  is closer to  $B$  than  $M$ ) are taken such that  $NM = AM$  and  $\angle MAC = \angle BAN$ . Find  $\angle CAN$ .

**Problem 2.7.** (1ARSO – 2014.7.2): It's half past nine. What is the angle between the hour and minute hands?

**Problem 2.8.** (1ARSO – 2018.7.3): At some point in time, Esther measured the angle between the hour and minute hands of her clock. Exactly one hour later, she measured the angle again, and it turned out to be the same. What could this angle be? (Consider all possible cases.)

**Problem 2.9.** (2ARSO – 2018.7.1): Draw four rays  $OA$ ,  $OB$ ,  $OC$ , and  $OD$  with a common starting point in such a way that the following angles can be found on this diagram:  $100^\circ$ ,  $110^\circ$ ,  $120^\circ$ ,  $130^\circ$ , and  $140^\circ$ . Write down which angles have the specified measures.

**Problem 2.10.** (Lomonosov – 2016.7.8.3): In the rectangle,  $ABDF$  with sides  $BD = 2$  and  $DF = 3$ , points  $C$  and  $E$  are chosen on the sides  $BD$  and  $DF$ , respectively, in such a way that triangle  $AFE$  is congruent to triangle  $EDC$ . Then triangles  $ABC$ ,  $CDE$ , and  $AFE$  are cut off from the rectangle  $ABDF$ . Find the angles of the remaining triangle.

**Problem 2.11.** (OMGO – 2013.7.3): A triangle was folded from a square sheet of paper (see Figure 2.5). Find the angle measure of the marked corner.

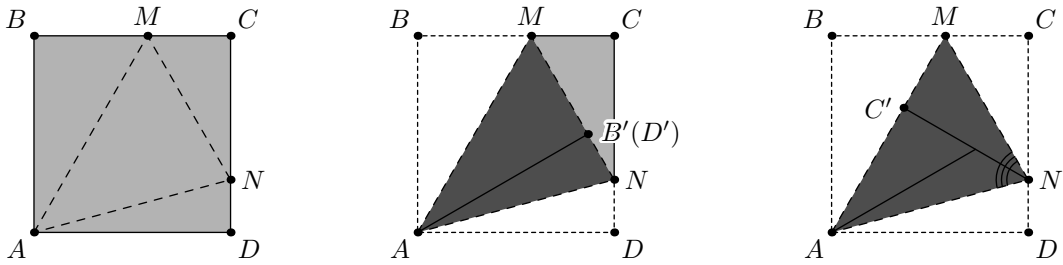


Figure 2.5: Square folded into a triangle

**Problem 2.12.** (MF – 2019.7.3): Two congruent triangles are located inside a square, as shown in Figure 2.6. Find their angles.

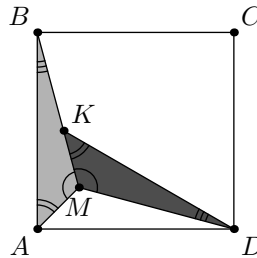


Figure 2.6: Triangles in a square

**Problem 2.13.** (Kurchatov – 2015.7.4): In a right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , the bisector  $AL$  was drawn, and a point  $K$  was marked on the hypotenuse  $AB$  such that  $AB = 3BK$ . It turned out that the angle  $ALK$  is right. Prove that  $AL = BL$ .

**Problem 2.14.** (HSE – 2015.7.6): In a triangle  $ABC$  where  $AB = BC$  and  $\angle ABC = 90^\circ$ , the altitude  $BH$  is drawn. On side  $CA$ , a point  $P$  is chosen such that  $AP = AB$ , and on side  $CB$ , a point  $Q$  is chosen such that  $BQ = BH$ . Prove that the lines  $PQ$  and  $AB$  are parallel.

**Problem 2.15.** (OMGO – 2013.7.8): The bisectors of triangle  $ABC$  intersect at point  $I$ , where  $\angle ABC = 120^\circ$ . On the extensions of sides  $AB$  and  $CB$  beyond point  $B$ , points  $P$  and  $Q$  are marked, respectively, such that  $AP = CQ = AC$ . Prove that angle  $PIQ$  is a right angle.

**Problem 2.16.** (MF – 2014.7.2): Two identical right-angled triangles made of paper were placed one on top of the other, as shown in Figure 2.7 (with one triangle's right angle vertex on the side of the other). Prove that the shaded triangle is equilateral.

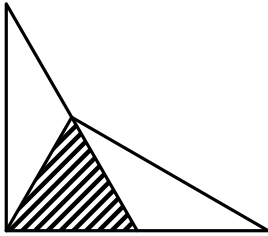


Figure 2.7: Overlapping triangles.

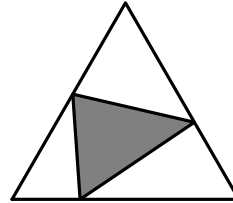


Figure 2.8: Folded triangle.

**Problem 2.17.** (MF – 2015.7.5): A paper equilateral triangle was folded along a straight line so that one of the vertices landed on the opposite side (see Figure 2.8). Prove that the angles of the two white triangles at the bottom are respectively equal.

**Problem 2.18.** (OMGO – 2012.7.5): In triangle  $ABC$ , the bisector of angle  $C$  intersects side  $AB$  at point  $M$ , and the bisector of angle  $A$  intersects segment  $CM$  at point  $T$ . It turned out that segments  $CM$  and  $AT$  divided triangle  $ABC$  into three isosceles triangles. Find the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 2.19.** (Lomonosov – 2014.8): In an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , each angle contains a non-integer number of degrees. It is known that through one of the vertices of triangle  $ABC$ , one can draw a straight cut that divides the given triangle into two isosceles triangles. Find the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 2.20.** (MMG – 2003.7.1.3): Does there exist a triangle in which the degree measure of each angle is expressed by a prime number?

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**Problem 2.21.** (Gordin – 1104): The altitudes of triangle  $ABC$  drawn from vertices  $A$  and  $C$  intersect at point  $M$ . Find  $\angle AMC$  if  $\angle A = 70^\circ$ ,  $\angle C = 80^\circ$ .

**Problem 2.22.** (PVG 2014.8-9): Leo wanted to draw an equilateral triangle  $ABC$ . However, due to his imprecise drawing, he obtained a triangle with angles  $\angle A = 59^\circ$  and  $\angle B = 63^\circ$ . Later, Leo drew altitudes  $CE$  and  $BD$ . However, since the right angle in the ruler was slightly distorted, he got angles  $\angle ADB = \angle AEC = 92^\circ$ . Find the degree measure of angle  $AED$ .

**Problem 2.23.** (HSE – 2018.7-8.4): Let there be a quadrilateral  $ACDE$  such that vertices  $D$  and  $E$  are on the same side of the line  $AC$ . Take point  $B$  on side  $AC$  such that triangle  $BCD$  is isosceles with base  $BC$  (i.e.,  $BD = CD$ ). Suppose that angles  $\angle BDC$ ,  $\angle ABE$ , and  $\angle ADE$  are all equal to  $80^\circ$ . Find the angle  $EAD$ .

**Problem 2.24.** (MechMat – 2003.05.3): In triangle  $ABC$  with  $\angle B = 50^\circ$  and side  $BC = 3$ , a point  $D$  is taken on the altitude  $BH$  such that  $\angle ADC = 130^\circ$  and  $AD = \sqrt{3}$ . Find the angle between the lines  $AD$  and  $BC$ , and also find  $\angle CBH$ .

**Problem 2.25.** (MechMat – 1999.03.4): The diagonals of the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $E$ . It is given that  $AB = AD$ ,  $CA$  is the angle bisector of  $\angle C$ ,  $\angle BAD = 140^\circ$ , and  $\angle BEA = 110^\circ$ . Find the angle  $CDB$ .

**Problem 2.26.** (Mos2ARSO – 2014.10): Point  $F$  is the midpoint of side  $BC$  of square  $ABCD$ . A perpendicular  $AE$  is drawn to segment  $DF$ . Find the angle  $CEF$ .

**Problem 2.27.** (LEO – 2018.8.4): Inside the parallelogram  $ABCD$ , a point  $E$  is chosen such that  $AE = DE$ , and  $\angle ABE = 90^\circ$ . Point  $M$  is the midpoint of segment  $BC$ . Find the angle  $DME$ .

**Problem 2.28.** (OMGO – 2012.8.9): In a trapezoid  $ABCD$ , where sides  $AD$  and  $BC$  are parallel, and  $AB = BC = BD$ , the height  $BK$  intersects diagonal  $AC$  at point  $M$ . Find  $\angle CDM$ .

**Problem 2.29.** (OMGO – 2011.8.9): In a trapezoid  $ABCD$  where  $AB = BC = CD$ , and  $CH$  is the height, prove that the perpendicular from  $H$  to  $AC$  passes through the midpoint of  $BD$ .

**Problem 2.30.** (AMC – 2016.10B.17): The ratio of the measures of two acute angles is  $5 : 4$ , and the complement of one of these two angles is twice as large as the complement of the other. What is the sum of the degree measures of the two angles?  
(A) 75      (B) 90      (C) 135      (D) 150      (E) 270

**Problem 2.31.** (AMC – 2012.10A.10): Mary divides a circle into 12 sectors. The central angles of these sectors, measured in degrees, are all integers, and they form an arithmetic sequence. What is the degree measure of the smallest possible sector angle?  
(A) 5      (B) 6      (C) 8      (D) 10      (E) 12

**Problem 2.32.** (AMC – 2011.10B.7): The sum of two angles of a triangle is  $\frac{6}{5}$  of a right angle, and one of these two angles is  $30^\circ$  larger than the other. What is the degree measure of the largest angle in the triangle?  
(A) 69      (B) 72      (C) 90      (D) 102      (E) 108

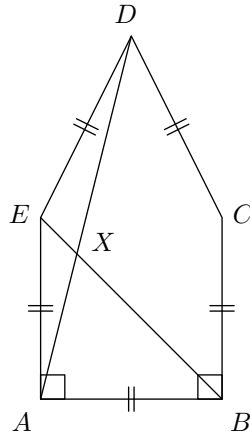
**Problem 2.33.** (AMC – 2010.10B.6): A circle is centered at  $O$ ,  $\overline{AB}$  is a diameter, and  $C$  is a point on the circle with  $\angle COB = 50^\circ$ . What is the degree measure of  $\angle CAB$ ?  
(A) 20      (B) 25      (C) 45      (D) 50      (E) 65

**Problem 2.34.** (International Olympiad «Formula of Unity»): Let  $BK$  be a bisector of triangle  $ABC$ . Given that  $AB = AC$  and  $BC = AK + BK$ , find the angles of the triangle.

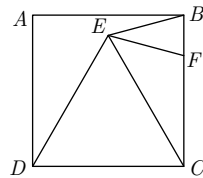
**Problem 2.35.** (HMMT): Let  $P$  be a point inside regular pentagon  $ABCDE$  such that  $\angle PAB = 48^\circ$  and  $\angle PDC = 42^\circ$ . Find  $\angle BPC$ , in degrees.

**Problem 2.36.** (HMO): The diagram shows a pentagon  $ABCDE$  in which all sides are equal in length, and two adjacent interior angles are  $90^\circ$ . The point  $X$  is the point of intersection of  $AD$  and  $BE$ .

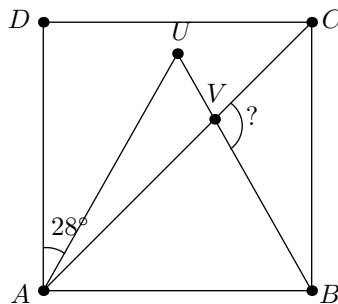
Prove that  $DX = BX$ .



**Problem 2.37.** (JMO): In the diagram shown,  $ABCD$  is a square, and point  $F$  lies on  $BC$ . Triangle  $DEC$  is equilateral, and  $EB = EF$ . What is the size of  $\angle CEF$ ?



**Problem 2.38.** (Nederlandse Wiskunde Olympiade): In the square  $ABCD$  lies a point  $U$  such that  $BU$  and  $AB$  have the same length. Point  $V$  is the intersection of  $BU$  and the diagonal  $AC$ . The size of angle  $DAU$  is 28 degrees. What is the size of the angle at  $V$  in triangle  $BVC$ ?



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 2.1.** A five-pointed star (self-intersecting) is given. Find the sum of the angles at its five vertices.

**Skill Assessment Problem 2.2.** Find the degree measures of the angles indicated in the figure by  $x$ .

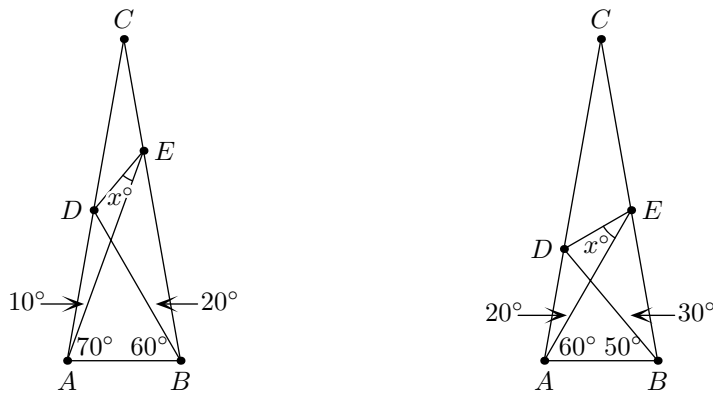


Figure 2.9: Angles to find.

**Skill Assessment Problem 2.3.** Point  $M$  lies inside triangle  $ABC$ . Prove that  $\angle BMC > \angle BAC$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 2.1:** Denote the vertices of the star sequentially:  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5$  (Figure 2.10).

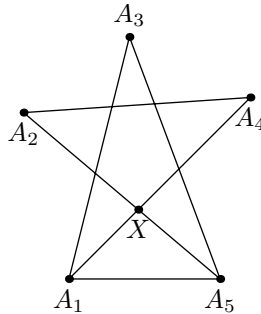


Figure 2.10: Star with additional construction.

Let  $X$  be the intersection point of the segments  $A_1A_4$  and  $A_2A_5$ . Express the sums of angles in triangles  $A_2A_4X$  and  $A_1A_5X$ :  $\angle A_2A_4X + \angle A_2XA_4 + \angle XA_2A_4 = 180^\circ$ ,  $\angle A_1A_5X + \angle A_1XA_5 + \angle XA_1A_5 = 180^\circ$ . Then, the sum of angles  $A_2$  and  $A_4$  is equal to the sum of angles  $XA_1A_5$  and  $XA_5A_1$ . However, the sum of angles in triangle  $A_1A_3A_5$  is 180 degrees, and as we have already shown, this sum is equal to the sum of all angles of the star. Therefore, the sum of angles at the vertex of the star is 180 degrees.

□

**Solution to Problem 2.2:** Let's solve the problem step by step for each of the proposed figures to demonstrate one of the possible reasoning processes.

First, let's find the angle  $x$  for the first figure.

*Step 1.* Find some angles:

$$\angle ACB = 180 - (10 + 70) - (60 + 20) = 20^\circ,$$

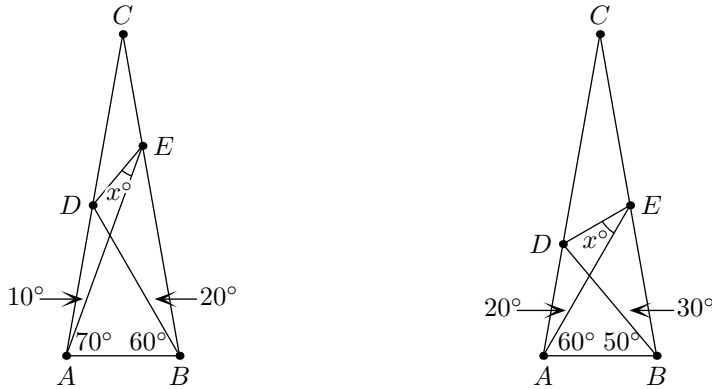


Figure 2.11: Angles to find.

$$\angle AEB = 180 - 70 - (60 + 20) = 30^\circ.$$

*Step 2.* Draw a line through point  $D$  parallel to  $AB$  that intersects  $BC$  at point  $F$  (Figure 2.12). Then,

$$\angle CFD = \angle CBA = 60 + 20 = 80^\circ,$$

$$\angle DFB = 180 - 80 = 100^\circ,$$

$$\angle CDF = \angle CAB = 70 + 10 = 80^\circ,$$

$$\angle ADF = 180 - 80 = 100^\circ,$$

$$\angle BDF = 180 - 100 - 20 = 60^\circ.$$

*Step 3.* Let  $FA$  intersect  $DB$  at point  $G$ , then we can calculate the following angles:

$$\angle AFD = \angle BDF = 60^\circ,$$

$$\angle DGF = 180 - 60 - 60 = 60^\circ = \angle AGB,$$

$$\angle GAB = 180 - 60 - 60 = 60^\circ.$$

Thus, from the triangles with all angles equal to 60 degrees, we can identify the equilateral triangles  $DFG$  and  $AGB$ .

*Step 4.*  $CFA$  has two angles of  $20^\circ$  each, so  $FC = FA$ .

*Step 5.* Draw  $CG$ , which bisects the angle  $ACB$ :

$$FC - CE = FA - AG = FE = FG.$$

On the other hand,  $FG = FD$ , so  $FE = FD$ .

*Step 6.* With two equal sides, triangle  $DFE$  is isosceles, hence:

$$\angle DEF = 30 + x = (180 - 80)/2 = 50^\circ.$$

Thus, we obtain  $x = 20^\circ$ .

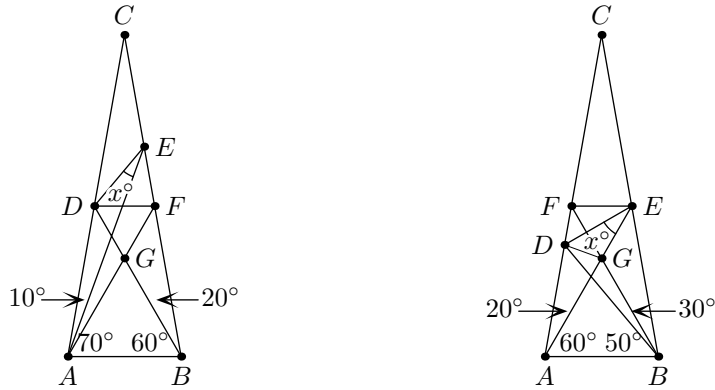


Figure 2.12: Additional constructions for the problem.

Now, let's find the angle  $x$  for the second figure.

*Step 1.* Calculate some angles:

$$\angle ACB = 180 - (10 + 70) - (60 + 20) = 20^\circ,$$

$$\angle AEB = 180 - 60 - (50 + 30) = 40^\circ.$$

*Step 2.* Draw a line through  $E$  parallel to  $AB$ , intersecting  $AC$  at point  $F$  (Figure 2.12):

$$\angle CEF = \angle CBA = 50 + 30 = 80^\circ,$$

$$\angle FEB = 180 - 80 = 100^\circ,$$

$$\angle AEF = 100 - 40 = 60^\circ,$$

$$\angle CFE = \angle CAB = 60 + 20 = 80^\circ,$$

$$\angle EFA = 180 - 80 = 100^\circ.$$

*Step 3.* Let  $FB$  intersect  $AE$  at point  $G$ :

$$\angle AFB = \angle BEA = 40^\circ,$$

$$\angle BFE = \angle AEF = 60^\circ,$$

$$\angle FGE = 180 - 60 - 60 = 60^\circ = \angle AGB.$$

Then,

$$\angle ABG = 180 - 60 - 60 = 60^\circ.$$

*Step 4.* Draw  $DG$ . Since  $AD = AB$  and  $AG = AB$ , we have  $AD = AG$ .

Thus, triangle  $DAG$  is isosceles.

Therefore,  $\angle ADG = \angle AGD = (180 - 20)/2 = 80^\circ$ .

*Step 5.*  $\angle DGF = 180 - 80 - 60 = 40^\circ$ , so triangle  $FDG$  is isosceles, having two angles of  $40^\circ$ , and therefore  $DF = DG$ .

*Step 6.*  $EF = EG$ , so triangles  $DEF$  and  $DEG$  are congruent.

In this case,  $\angle DEF = \angle DEG = x$ .

Moreover,  $\angle FEG = 60 = x + x$ , which leads to the answer  $x = 30^\circ$ .

There is another approach to solving the problem – you can notice that the triangle itself is enclosed within the sides and diagonals of a regular 18-gon, and the segments drawn inside it lie on the diagonals of this regular polygon (Figure 2.13):

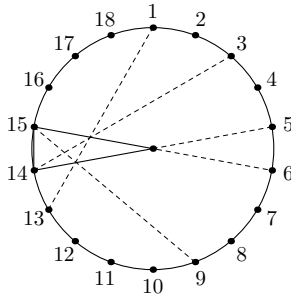


Figure 2.13: Application of a regular polygon.

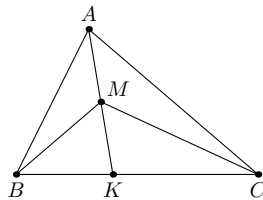


Figure 2.14: Additional constructions for the problem.

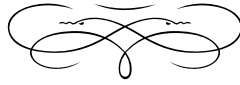
Of course, you and I agree that this is very easy to notice, but such people exist.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 2.3:** Extend  $AM$  to intersect side  $BC$  at point  $K$  (Figure 2.14). Then,  $\angle BMK > \angle BAM$ , and  $\angle CMK > \angle CAM$ . Therefore,  $\angle BMC = \angle BMK + \angle CMK > \angle BAM + \angle CAM = \angle BAC$ .  $\square$



# Double the Median in Triangles

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“

There is no branch of mathematics, however abstract, which may not some day be applied to phenomena of the real world.

—Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevsky

## Theory and Practice

Let us recall the basic theory that will be useful to you in this chapter.

**Definition 1.** A parallelogram is a quadrilateral whose both pairs of opposite sides are parallel.

Of course, like any geometric figure, a parallelogram has its properties. The following ones are usually studied in school:

- Opposite angles of a parallelogram are equal.
- Opposite sides of a parallelogram are equal.
- The diagonals of a parallelogram bisect each other.

These are the properties of parallelograms, meaning they are criteria that can be used to determine whether a quadrilateral is a parallelogram. Perhaps the most useful among them is the criterion that if the diagonals of a quadrilateral bisect each other, then it is a parallelogram.

**Example 3.1.** The median  $AM$  of triangle  $ABC$  is extended beyond point  $M$  by a distance equal to  $AM$ , and a point  $D$  is marked at the end of the segment (see Figure 3.1). Prove that the quadrilateral  $ABDC$  is a parallelogram.

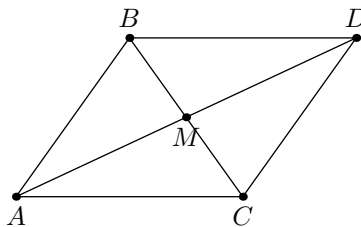


Figure 3.1: Doubling the median

*Proof.* The diagonals of the quadrilateral  $ABDC$  intersect at point  $M$  and divide each other in half, so the quadrilateral  $ABDC$  is a parallelogram.  $\square$

The fact we proved is probably one of the most well-known properties that aid in additional construction. It is extremely useful for a wide range of problems, and we'll explore some of them in this chapter.

**Example 3.2.** (Mccme – 2017.8-9.2): The median  $BM$  of triangle  $ABC$  forms angles  $40^\circ$  and  $70^\circ$ , with its sides emanating from  $B$ . Prove that this median is equal to half of one of the sides of the triangle (Figure 3.2a).

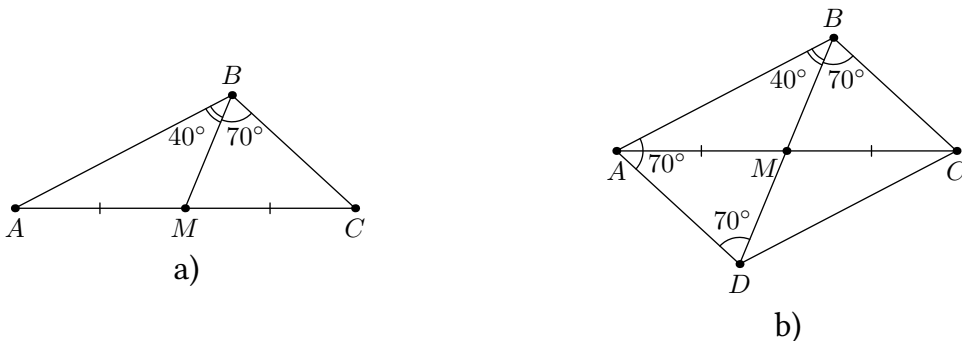


Figure 3.2: Problem of doubling the median.

*Proof.* Extend  $BM$  by its own length to form the parallelogram  $ABDC$  (Figure 3.2b). The angle of  $40^\circ$  is the angle on the longer side; let it be  $ABD$ . Angles  $DBC$  and  $BDA$  are both  $70^\circ$  as alternate interior angles, and the angle  $BAD = 180^\circ - 110^\circ = 70^\circ = ADB$ . Hence,  $AB = BD$ , and therefore, the median  $BM = \frac{1}{2}BD = \frac{1}{2}AB$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.3.** (Mccme – 2017.8-9.3): On the sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  squares  $ABDE$  and  $BCKF$  are constructed outside it (Figure 3.3). Prove that the segment  $DF$  is twice the median  $BM$  of the triangle.

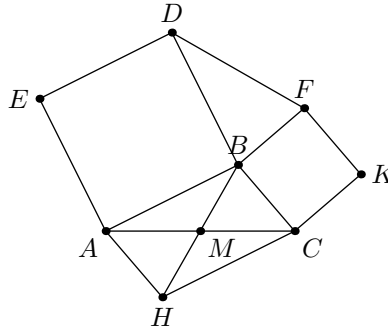


Figure 3.3: Outer squares.

*Proof.* Let us double the median  $BM$ , obtaining the segment  $BH = 2BM$ . Consider the triangles  $DBF$  and  $BAH$ . There,  $DB = BA$  (as the sides of a square). Furthermore,  $AH = BC$  (according to the properties of a parallelogram)  $= BF$  (as the sides of a square). Also,  $\angle DBF + \angle ABC = 180^\circ$  (since the other two angles at vertex  $B$  are right and add up to  $180^\circ$ ),  $\Rightarrow \angle DBF = 180^\circ - \angle ABC = \angle BAC + \angle BCA = \angle BAC + \angle CAH = \angle BAH$ . Therefore, triangles  $DBF$  and  $BAH$  are equal by two sides and the angle between them, and  $BM = 1/2BH = 1/2DF$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.4.** (Mccme – 2017.8-9.4): In a convex pentagon  $ABCDE$ ,  $AE = AD$ ,  $AC = AB$  and  $\angle DAC = \angle AEB + \angle ABE$ . Prove that side  $CD$  is twice the median  $AK$  of triangle  $ABE$ .

*Proof.* On the extension of the median  $AK$  beyond point  $K$ , let us plot the segment  $KF$  equal to  $AK$  (Figure 3.4).

From the equality of triangles  $BKF$  and  $EKA$  it follows that  $BF = AE = AD$  and  $\angle KBF = \angle KEA$ . So  $\angle ABF = \angle ABK + \angle KBF = \angle DAC$ . Also,  $AB = AC$ . Therefore, triangles  $ABF$  and  $CAD$  are congruent. Hence,  $CD = AF = 2AK$ .  $\square$

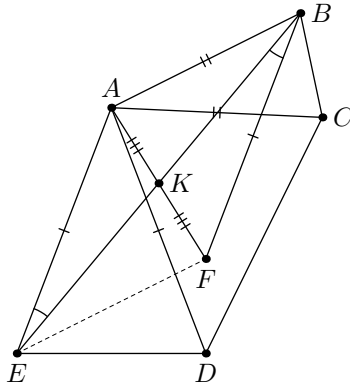


Figure 3.4: Convex pentagon.

## Problem Set

**Problem 3.1.** (Gordin — 1209): Construct a triangle, given two sides, and draw the median to the third side using a compass and a straightedge.

**Problem 3.2.** (TOT — 2008.8.3): Sergey drew triangle  $ABC$  and constructed median  $AD$ . He then told Ilya the length of median  $AD$  and the length of side  $AC$  in this triangle. Based on this information, Ilya proved that angle  $CAB$  is obtuse and angle  $DAB$  is acute. Find the ratio  $AD : AC$  (and prove that for any triangle with this ratio, Ilya's statement holds true).

**Problem 3.3.** (MMO — 2012.8.3): In triangle  $ABC$ , the median drawn from vertex  $A$  to side  $BC$  is four times smaller than side  $AB$  and forms a  $60^\circ$  angle with it. Find angle  $A$ .

**Problem 3.4.** (Gordin — 5835): The median  $AD$  and the altitude  $CE$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$  ( $AB = BC$ ) intersect at point  $P$ . Find the area of triangle  $ABC$  if  $CP = 5$  and  $PE = 2$ .

**Problem 3.5.** (Gordin — 4011): Prove that the sum of the squares of the diagonals of a parallelogram is equal to the sum of the squares of all of its sides.

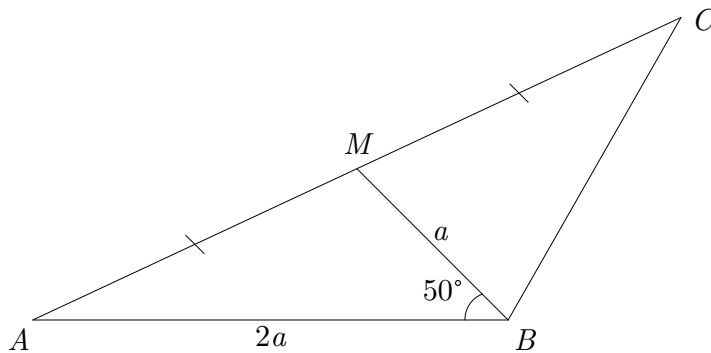
**Problem 3.6.** (Gordin – 2651): The sides of a triangle are 11, 13, and 12. Find the length of the median drawn to the longest side.

**Problem 3.7.** (Gordin – 2652): In a triangle, two sides are 11 and 23, and the median drawn to the third side is 10. Find the third side.

**Problem 3.8.** (Gordin – 4047): Prove that the ratio of the sum of the squares of the medians of a triangle to the sum of the squares of its sides is  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

**Problem 3.9.** Prove that if two medians in a triangle are equal in length, then the triangle is isosceles.

**Problem 3.10.** (Mid-Michigan Mathematical Olympiad): In triangle  $ABC$ , the median  $BM$  is drawn.



The length  $|BM| = |AB|/2$ . The angle  $\angle ABM = 50^\circ$ . Find the angle  $\angle ABC$ .

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 3.1.**  $BM$  is the median of triangle  $ABC$  such that the sum of angles  $A$  and  $C$  of this triangle is equal to angle  $ABM$ . Find the ratio  $BC : BM$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 3.2.**  $BM$  is the median of triangle  $ABC$ , where  $AB = 2BM$ , and  $\angle ABM = 40^\circ$ . Find angle  $ABC$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

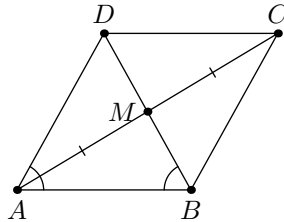


Figure 3.5: Doubling the median in the problem.

**Solution to Problem 3.1:** Extend  $BM$  by its length to form the parallelogram  $ABCD$  (Figure 3.5). From the equality of angles, we have  $\angle ACB = \angle DAC$ ,  $\angle CAB + \angle BCA = \angle ABM \Rightarrow \angle DAB = \angle DBA$ , which implies  $DA = DB = CB$ . Therefore, the required ratio is  $CB : BM = 2 : 1$ .  $\square$

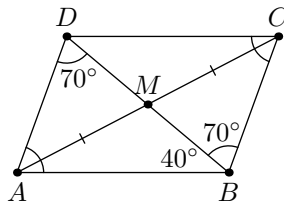
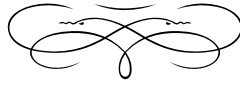


Figure 3.6: Doubling the median in the problem.

**Solution to Problem 3.2:** Extend  $BM$  by its length to form parallelogram  $ABCD$  (Figure 3.6).  $AB = BD$ , which implies  $\angle BAD = \angle BDA = 70^\circ = \angle DBC \Rightarrow \angle ABC = 110^\circ$ .  $\square$

# Thales's Theorem

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“

Mathematicians are a kind of Frenchmen. Whenever you say anything or talk to them, they translate it into their own language, and right away, it is something completely different.

—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

## Theory and Practice

The intercept theorem, also known as Thales's theorem, states the following.

**Theorem 1** (Thales). If parallel lines intersect the sides of an angle, forming equal segments on one side of the angle, then they also form equal segments on the other side of the angle.

*Proof.* Let the parallel lines  $A_1B_1$ ,  $A_2B_2$ , and  $A_3B_3$  intersect the sides of angle  $AOB$ , such that  $A_1A_2 = A_2A_3$  (see Figure 4.1). It is required to prove that  $B_1B_2 = B_2B_3$ .

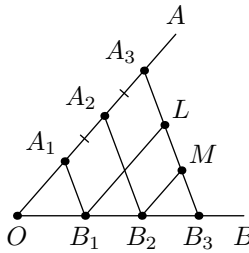


Figure 4.1: Thales's Theorem

Draw  $B_1L$  and  $B_2M$  parallel to  $OA$  ( $B_1L$  intersects  $A_2B_2$  at point  $K$ ).

The quadrilaterals  $A_1A_2KB_1$  and  $A_2A_3MB_2$  are parallelograms. Therefore,  $B_1K = A_1A_2$  and  $B_2M = A_2A_3$ . Thus,  $B_1K = B_2M$ .

Triangles  $B_1KB_2$  and  $B_2MB_3$  are congruent by side and two adjacent angles. Hence,  $B_1B_2 = B_2B_3$ . Thales's Theorem is proven.  $\square$

An important consequence of Thales's theorem is the theorem on proportional segments.

**Theorem 2** (On Proportional Segments). Parallel lines intersecting the sides of an angle cut these sides into proportional segments.

*Proof.* Let  $AC$  and  $BD$  be parallel lines. The theorem states that

$$\frac{OA}{OB} = \frac{OC}{OD}.$$

Suppose the equality is not satisfied. Let, for example,

$$\frac{OA}{OB} < \frac{OC}{OD},$$

then

$$OC > \frac{OA \cdot OD}{OB}.$$

Construct on the ray  $OD$  a segment

$$OE = \frac{OA \cdot OD}{OB}.$$

Point  $E$  lies between  $O$  and  $C$  because  $OE < OC$ .

Take a natural number  $n$  and divide the segment  $OD$  into  $n$  equal segments (Figure 4.2). Let the length of one segment be  $y$ ; then  $OD = ny$ . Draw lines through the ends of these equal segments, parallel to  $BD$ . By Thales's theorem, they divide the segment  $OB$  into  $n$  equal segments. Let  $x$  be the length of each of these segments; then  $OB = nx$ .

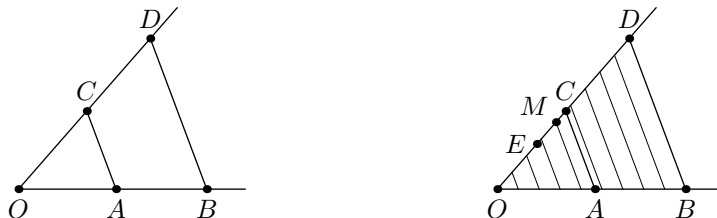


Figure 4.2: Proof of the theorem on proportional segments

For a sufficiently large  $n$ , points of division of the segment  $OD$  can be found inside the segment  $EC$ . Let  $M$  be such a point, and  $OM = my$ . The corresponding line intersects  $OB$  at point  $K$ , and then  $OK = mx$ . We have:

$$\frac{OM}{OD} = \frac{my}{ny} = \frac{m}{n} = \frac{mx}{nx} = \frac{OK}{OB}.$$

Now, since  $OE < OM$  and  $OK < OA$ , we obtain:

$$\frac{OE}{OD} < \frac{OM}{OD} = \frac{OK}{OB} < \frac{OA}{OB},$$

which implies

$$OE < \frac{OA \cdot OD}{OB}.$$

The obtained contradiction, therefore, proves the theorem.  $\square$

Thales' theorem forms the basis for many other important theorems and problem-solving principles. Let's consider one of them.

**Example 4.1.** Using a compass and a ruler, divide a given segment into 2024 equal parts.

**Solution:** Let  $AB$  be the given segment. Take an arbitrary point  $C$  outside the line  $AB$ . Along the ray  $AC$ , mark 2024 consecutive equal segments. Connect the endpoint  $D$  of the last one with point  $B$ . Draw lines through the endpoints of the marked segments parallel to  $DB$ . According to Thales's theorem, these lines will also divide the segment  $AB$  into 2024 equal parts.  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 4.1.** (Gordin – 6275): Points  $D$  and  $E$  are chosen on sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  respectively, such that  $\frac{AD}{DB} = \frac{BE}{EC} = 2$  and  $\angle C = 2\angle DEB$ . Prove that triangle  $ABC$  is isosceles.

**Problem 4.2.** (Gordin — 3397): On the median  $AM$  of triangle  $ABC$ , point  $K$  is taken such that  $AK : KM = 1 : 3$ . Find the ratio in which the line passing through point  $K$ , parallel to side  $AC$ , divides side  $BC$ .

**Problem 4.3.** (COM — 2004.10.1): Points  $E$  and  $F$  are the midpoints of sides  $DC$  and  $AD$  of convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . Prove that segment  $EF$  divides diagonals  $AC$  and  $BD$  in equal ratio.

**Problem 4.4.** (Gordin — 1321): Point  $M$  is taken on side  $CB$  of triangle  $ABC$ , and point  $P$  is taken on side  $CA$ . It is known that  $CP : CA = 2CM : CB$ . A line through point  $M$  is drawn parallel to line  $CA$ , and a line through point  $P$  is drawn parallel to line  $AB$ . Prove that these constructed lines intersect on median  $CN$ .

**Problem 4.5.** (Gordin — 1379): A line is drawn through a point on the side of a quadrilateral, parallel to one diagonal, until it intersects the adjacent side. Through the obtained point, a line parallel to the other diagonal is drawn, and so on. Prove that the fifth point obtained in this way coincides with the original point.

**Problem 4.6.** (Gordin — 1380): Through a point on the side of a triangle, a line parallel to another side is drawn until it intersects the third side of a triangle. Through the obtained point, a line parallel to the first side of the triangle is drawn, and so on.

a) If the original point coincides with the midpoint of a side of the triangle, prove that the fourth point obtained in this way coincides with the original point.

b) If the original point is different from the midpoint of a side of the triangle, prove that the seventh point obtained in this way coincides with the original point.

**Problem 4.7.** (Gordin — 3110): In triangle  $ABC$  with an area of 6, point  $K$  is taken on side  $AB$  such that  $AK : BK = 2 : 3$ , and point  $L$  is taken on side  $AC$  such that  $AL : LC = 5 : 3$ . The distance between point  $Q$ , the intersection of lines  $CK$  and  $BL$ , and the  $AB$  is equal to 1.5. Find the length of side  $AB$ .

**Problem 4.8.** (Gordin – 2608): Given segments  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ . Using a compass and straightedge, construct a segment  $x$  such that  $x : a = b : c$ .

**Problem 4.9.** (Gordin – 2814): On side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$ , point  $K$  is taken, and on side  $BC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are taken such that  $AB = 4AK$ ,  $CM = BN$ ,  $MN = 2BN$ . Find the ratios  $AO : ON$  and  $KO : OM$ , where  $O$  is the intersection of lines  $AN$  and  $KM$ .

**Problem 4.10.** (2ARSO – 2011.8.3): On side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$ , point  $K$  is chosen. Segment  $CK$  intersects the median  $AM$  of the triangle at point  $P$ . It turns out that  $AK = AP$ . Find the ratio  $BK : PM$ .

**Problem 4.11.** (MMG – 2014.8.3.2): In triangle  $ABC$ , points  $D$ ,  $E$ , and  $F$  are chosen on sides  $AB$ ,  $AC$ , and  $BC$ , respectively, such that  $BF = 2CF$ ,  $CE = 2AE$ , and angle  $DEF$  is right. Prove that  $DE$  is the angle bisector of angle  $ADF$ .

**Problem 4.12.** (Gordin – 6621): In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $M$  is the midpoint of side  $AC$ , and point  $P$  lies on side  $BC$ . Segment  $AP$  intersects  $BM$  at point  $O$ . It turns out that  $BO = BP$ . Find the ratio  $OM : PC$ .

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 4.1.** Point  $T$  lies on side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$ .  $Q$  is the intersection point of  $CT$  and the median  $AM$  of triangle  $ABC$ . Find the ratio  $BT : QM$  if  $AT = AQ$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 4.2.** In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $P$  on side  $AB$  and point  $M$  on side  $AC$  are positioned such that  $AP : PB = 3 : 2$ , and  $AM : MC = 4 : 5$ . Find the ratio in which the line passing through point  $P$  and parallel to side  $BC$  divides segment  $BM$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

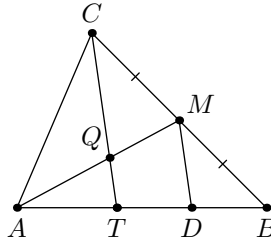


Figure 4.3: Additional construction.

**Solution to Problem 4.1:** Extend a line through point  $M$  parallel to  $CT$  that intersects  $AB$  at point  $D$  (Figure 4.3).

By Thales's theorem,  $BD = TD$ . By the theorem of proportional segments,  $QM = TD = BT/2$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 4.2:** Let  $F$  be the intersection point of the mentioned line with side  $AC$ , and  $Q$  be the intersection point of  $BM$  and  $PF$ . Draw a line through vertex  $B$  parallel to  $AC$ . Let  $T$  be the intersection point of this line with line  $PF$  (Figure 4.4). By the theorem of proportional segments,  $FC = 2/5AC$ . Since  $TBCF$  is a

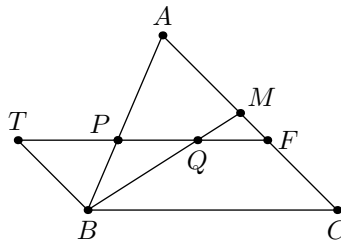


Figure 4.4: Additional construction.

parallelogram,  $TB = FC = 2/5AC$ . From the similarity of triangles  $TQB$  and

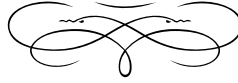
$FQM$ , it follows that

$$\frac{BQ}{QM} = \frac{TB}{MF} = \frac{TB}{MC - FC} = \frac{\frac{2}{5}AC}{\frac{7}{45}AC} = \frac{18}{7}.$$

□

# Additional Constructions

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“

The art of solving geometric problems is somewhat reminiscent of the tricks of illusionists — sometimes, even knowing the solution, it is difficult to understand how one could have come to it.

—I. Novikov

## Theory and Practice

The main idea of additional or complementary constructions is that the drawing for a problem, where the relation between given data and needed quantities is not easily noticeable, is complemented with new (additional) elements. After that, these relationships become more perceptible or even evident. There are problems where a complementary construction defines the only way of solving; in such cases, the solution usually starts with needed construction. In other problems, a mixed approach is used, where the complementary construction is only implemented in a part of the solution. In the third category of problems, it is applied as one of several possible methods alongside others, even though it might not be the best. In many cases, employing a complementary construction allows for solving the problem more intuitively.

Often, the one solving the problem intuitively uses a complementary construction but may not recognize it as a method and might not see the potential of applying it to other, more complex, or analogous problems.

Arguably, the most popular method of complementary construction, the method of doubling a median, was discussed in the previous chapter. What are some other classical methods of complementary constructions?

**Method 1.** If a certain secant is given in a triangle, a ray parallel to one of the sides can be drawn through its base into the interior of the triangle until it intersects the other side (Figure 5.1).

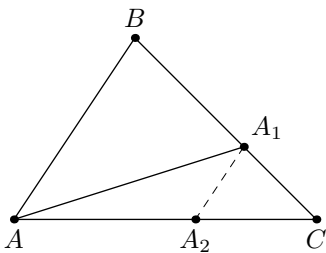


Figure 5.1: Method 1:  
Illustration.

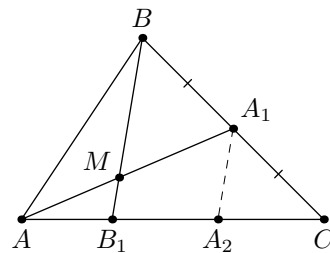


Figure 5.2: Method 2:  
Illustration.

As a result, parallel lines will appear on the diagram:  $A_1A_2 \parallel AB$ , which, thanks to Thales's theorem, determine proportional segments on the sides:

$$\frac{CA_2}{CA_1} = \frac{AA_2}{BA_1}.$$

This can be very useful, especially in problems where certain ratios need to be found.

**Method 2.** If a median and some arbitrary secant (including height, bisector, or another median) are given in a triangle, drawn from different vertices, a ray parallel to the given secant can be drawn through the base of the median into the interior of the triangle until it intersects a side of the triangle (Figure 5.2).

As a result, two pairs of parallel lines will appear on the diagram:

1)  $A_1A_2 \parallel BB_1$ ;

2)  $MB_1 \parallel A_1A_2$ , where  $M = AA_1 \cap BB_1$ .

From the first pair, it indicates that  $A_2$  is the midpoint of  $B_1C$ , and from the second pair, the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{AM}{AB_1} = \frac{MA_1}{B_1A_2}.$$

**Method 3.** If two arbitrary secants are given in a triangle, drawn from different vertices, a ray parallel to one of them can be drawn through the base of one secant into the interior of the triangle until it intersects a side of the triangle (Figure 5.3).

One can notice that this construction differs from the previous one only in that here the first pair of parallel lines gives proportional segments, not equal ones.

**Method 4.** If two secants are given in a triangle, drawn from different vertices, a line parallel to one of them can be drawn through the origin of one of them (the vertex of the triangle) into the interior of the triangle until it intersects the extension

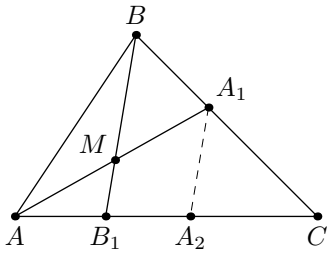


Figure 5.3: Method 3:  
Illustration.

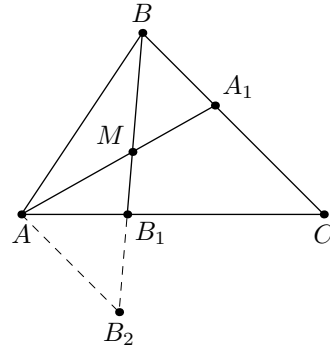


Figure 5.4: Method 4:  
Illustration.

of the other secant (Figure 5.4). As a result of the construction, two pairs of similar triangles are formed.

Thus, in Figure 5.4,  $\triangle AMB_2 \sim \triangle A_1MB$ ;  $\triangle AB_1B_2 \sim \triangle CB_1B$ .

**Method 5.** If a secant and a segment with endpoints on two sides of a triangle are given, intersecting the secant and not parallel to the third side, you can either:

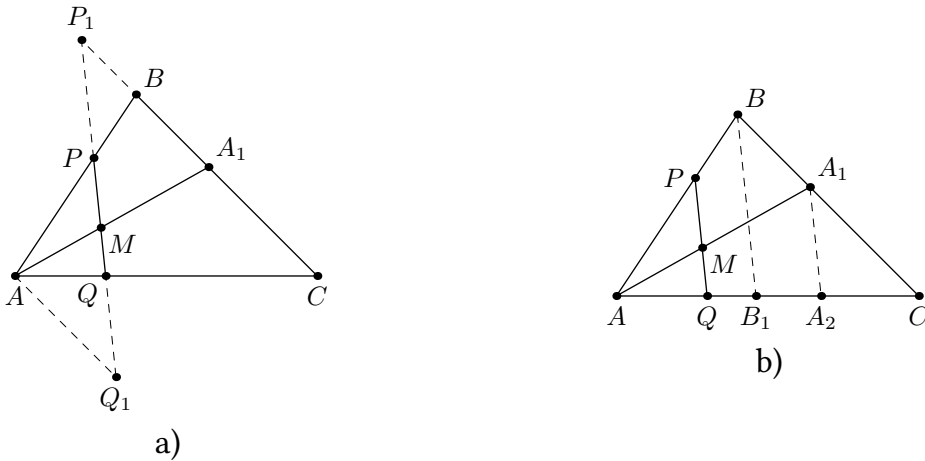


Figure 5.5: Method 5: Illustrations.

1) Extend the given segment in both directions until it intersects with the extension

of the third side and with the line parallel to this side passing through the vertex from which the secant originates (Figure 5.5 a);

2) Draw rays through the base of the secant and one of the vertices not coinciding with its starting point, parallel to the given segment, into the interior of the triangle (Figure 5.5 b).

In the first case, three pairs of similar triangles appear on the diagram. In the illustration, we have:

$$\triangle APQ_1 \sim \triangle BPP_1, \triangle AQQ_1 \sim \triangle CQP_1, \triangle AMQ_1 \sim \triangle A_1MP_1.$$

In the second case, several pairs of parallel lines appear, providing an opportunity to use Thales's theorem.

**Method 6.** If a segment with endpoints on the sides of a triangle is given and if the extension of this segment intersects the line containing the third side of the triangle, it can be useful to either:

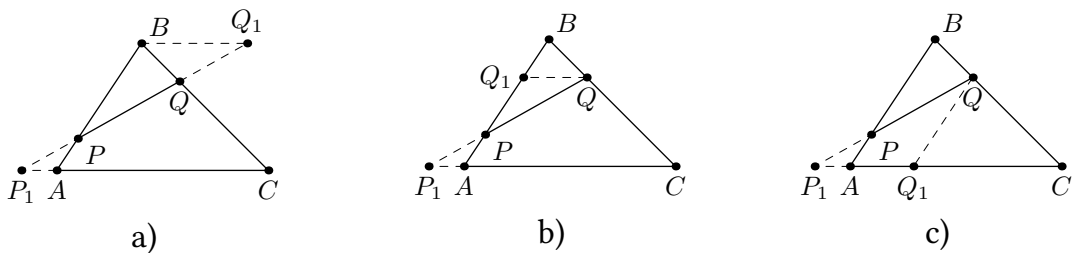


Figure 5.6: Method 6: Illustrations

1) Extend this segment until it intersects with the line drawn through the vertex of the triangle parallel to the third side (Figure 5.6 a);

2) Draw a ray through the other end of this segment into the interior of the triangle, parallel to one of the sides, until it intersects the other side (Figure 5.6 b, c).

In the illustrations in Figure 5.6 b, c, we have  $\triangle PP_1A \sim \triangle QP_1Q_1$ ;  $\triangle ACB \sim \triangle Q_1CQ$ .

**Method 7.** If the bisector of one of the internal angles is given in a triangle, parallelogram, or trapezoid, a rhombus can be introduced into the drawing, two sides of which lie directly along the sides of the given figure, and this bisector is one of the diagonals.

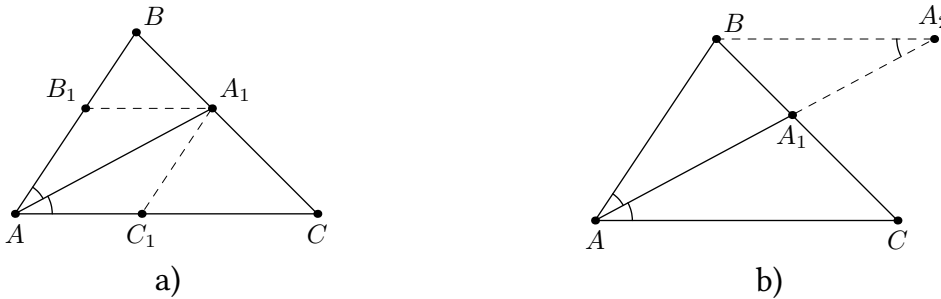


Figure 5.7: Method 7: Illustrations.

As you can see in the illustrations in Figure 5.7 a) and b), the rhombus can be either inside or outside the triangle. In Figure 5.7 b), we constructed not a rhombus but an isosceles triangle, which can also be quite useful.

In this chapter, we won't show you the application of specific techniques in problems (after all, we hope you have already considered the relevance of these methods), but you can practice on problems from textbooks or try solving problems independently.

By the way, a little secret is that sometimes the key to the most effective complementary construction is already hidden in the problem statement.

Consider the problem below:

**Example 5.1.** Point  $E$  is the midpoint of the lateral side  $CD$  of trapezoid  $ABCD$ . Point  $K$  is taken on side  $AB$  such that lines  $CK$  and  $AE$  are parallel. Segments  $CK$  and  $BE$  intersect at point  $O$ .

- a) Prove that  $CO = KO$ .  
 b) Find the ratio of the bases  $BC$  and  $AD$  in the trapezoid if the area of triangle  $BCK$  is  $\frac{9}{100}$  of the area of trapezoid  $ABCD$ .

**Solution:** First construction. Extend  $BC$  and  $AE$ , resulting in congruent triangles  $AED$  and  $ZEC$  (Figure 5.8). Since  $AE = EZ$ ,  $BE$  is the median of triangle  $ABZ$ .  $KC$  and  $AZ$  are parallel. The median is helpful because it bisects not only the side of the triangle but also any segment parallel to that side. Therefore,  $CO = KO$ .

The area of triangle  $ABZ$  is the same as the area of trapezoid  $ABCD$  due to the congruency of triangles  $AED$  and  $ZEC$ . Triangle  $KBC$  is similar to triangle  $ABZ$ . It is known that the ratio of the areas of two similar triangles is equal to the square of the similarity ratio. The segment  $BC$  divided by the segment  $BZ$  is  $3 : 10$ . Seven parts correspond to the segment  $CZ$ . The answer to part «b» is  $3 : 7$ .

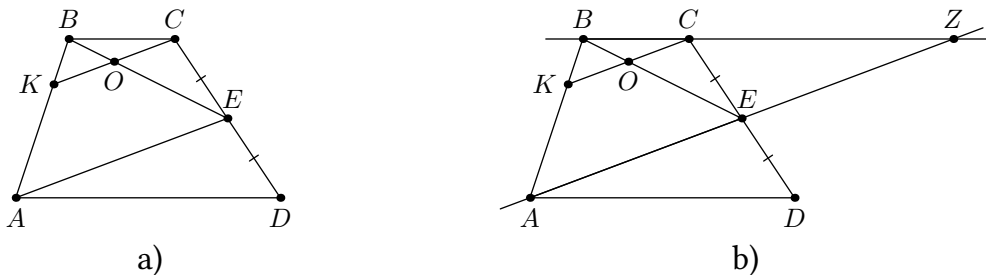


Figure 5.8: Complementary constructions.

Second construction. Extend the sides  $AB$  and  $CD$  (Figure 5.9). Using the converse of Thales's theorem, prove that the ratio of  $KB : BY$  is equal to ratio  $YE : ED$ , and that segment  $KD$  is parallel to  $BE$ . In triangle  $KCD$ , segment  $OE$  is parallel to  $KD$  and passes through the midpoint – hence, it is the median and passes through the midpoint of  $KC$ . Part «a» of the problem is solved. Dealing with part «b» is more complicated with this construction. The ratio  $KB$  to  $BY$  being the same as  $ED$  to  $YE$  leads to the answer  $3 : 7$ .

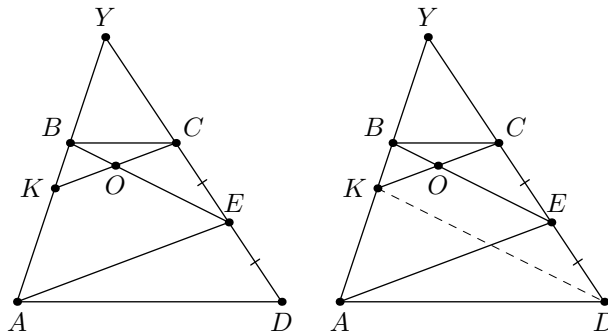


Figure 5.9: Complementary constructions: second solution.

## Problem Set

**Problem 5.1.** (LT – 1996.9.2): The length of the altitude  $AB$  of the right trapezoid  $ABCD$  is equal to the sum of the lengths of the bases  $AD$  and  $BC$ . In what ratio does the angle bisector of angle  $B$  divide the side  $CD$ ?

**Problem 5.2.** (TOT – 2003.9.3): On the lateral sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , points  $K$  and  $L$  are taken, respectively, so that  $AK + LC = KL$ . From the midpoint  $M$  of segment  $KL$ , a line parallel to  $BC$  is drawn, and this line intersects side  $AC$  at point  $N$ . Find the measure of angle  $KNL$ .

**Problem 5.3.** (TOT – 2014.9.3): In triangle  $ABC$ , angle  $C$  is a right angle. On the leg  $CB$ , a semicircle is constructed outward with the diameter, and point  $N$  is the midpoint of this semicircle. Prove that the line  $AN$  bisects the angle  $C$  bisector.

**Problem 5.4.** (Gordin – 2047): The bases of a trapezoid are  $a$  and  $b$ , and the angles at the larger base are  $30^\circ$  and  $45^\circ$ . Find the area of the trapezoid.

**Problem 5.5.** (ZPM): On the legs  $AC$  and  $BC$  of an isosceles right-angled triangle, points  $M$  and  $L$  are marked respectively, such that  $MC = BL$ . Point  $K$  is the midpoint of the hypotenuse  $AB$ . Prove that triangle  $MKL$  is also a right-angled isosceles triangle.

**Problem 5.6.** (ZPM): In triangle  $ABC$ , the angle bisector  $AE$  is congruent to segment  $EC$ . Moreover,  $2AB = AC$ . Find the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 5.7.** (ZPM): In the isosceles right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are taken on the hypotenuse  $AB$  ( $N$  between  $M$  and  $B$ ) such that  $\angle MCN = 45^\circ$ . Prove that segments  $MN$ ,  $AM$ ,  $NB$  can form a right-angled triangle.

**Problem 5.8.** (ZPM): In the isosceles triangle  $ABC$  ( $AB = BC$ ), a perpendicular is dropped from  $A$  to the lateral side  $BC$ . Point  $L$  is the base of the perpendicular from  $H$  to side  $AB$ . It turns out that  $AL = \frac{AB}{4}$ . Find the angles of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 5.9.** (ZPM): On the lateral sides  $AB$  and  $AC$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , points  $K$  and  $L$  are marked, respectively, such that  $AK = CL$  and  $\angle ALK + \angle LKB = 60^\circ$ . Prove that  $KL = BC$ .

**Problem 5.10.** (ZPM): On the hypotenuse  $AC$  of the right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  is selected such that  $BC = CD$ . On leg  $BC$ , point  $E$  is chosen such that  $DE = CE$ . Prove that  $AD + BE = DE$ .

**Problem 5.11.** (ZPM): In the square  $ABCD$ , points  $K$  and  $M$  belong to the sides  $BC$  and  $CD$ , respectively, such that  $AM$  is the bisector of the angle  $\angle KAD$ . Prove that  $AK = DM + BK$ .

**Problem 5.12.** (ZPM): In the isosceles triangle  $ABC$  with the base  $AC$ , the bisector  $AD$  is drawn. It is known that  $AD + BD = AC$ . Find the angles of the triangle.

**Problem 5.13.** (ZPM): On the median  $BM$  of triangle  $ABC$ , a perpendicular  $AL$  is dropped, and a perpendicular  $DK$  is dropped from some point  $D$  on side  $AB$  ( $L$  and  $K$  are distinct points lying inside  $BM$ ). It turned out that  $BK = LM$ . Prove that  $CD = BD + BA$ .

**Problem 5.14.** (MMG – 2004.10.9.2.2.): Do there exist four segments with lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  such that two trapezoids can be formed: one with bases  $a$  and  $b$  and diagonals  $c$  and  $d$ , and the other with bases  $c$  and  $d$  and diagonals  $a$  and  $b$ ?

**Problem 5.15.** On the median  $BM$  of triangle  $ABC$ , a point  $P$  is taken such that  $AP = BC$ . The line  $AP$  intersects segment  $BC$  at point  $D$ . Prove that  $BD = PD$ .

**Problem 5.16.** On the plane, a triangle  $ABC$  is given, and at the same plate, there are points  $D$  and  $E$  such that  $\angle ADB = \angle BEC = 90^\circ$ . Prove that the length of segment  $DE$  does not exceed half the perimeter of triangle  $ABC$ .

**Problem 5.17.** (Gordin – 1423): Two equilateral triangles  $ABC$  and  $CDE$  are located on the same side of line  $AE$  and have a unique common point  $C$ . Let  $M$ ,  $N$ , and  $K$  be the midpoints of segments  $BD$ ,  $AC$ , and  $CE$ , respectively. Prove that triangle  $MNK$  is equilateral.

**Problem 5.18.** In the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ :  $AD = BC$ ;  $\angle ABD + \angle CDB = 180^\circ$ . Prove that  $\angle BAD = \angle BCD$ .

**Problem 5.19.** (LEO – 2009.1.6): In the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ ,  $AB = BD$  and  $\angle ABD = \angle DBC$ . On diagonal  $BD$ , a point  $K$  is found such that  $BK = BC$ . Prove that  $\angle KAD = \angle KCD$ .

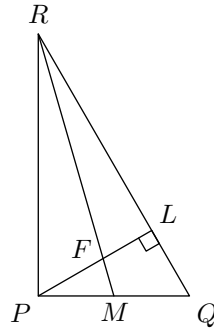
**Problem 5.20.** In the right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are marked on the legs  $AB$  and  $BC$ , respectively, such that  $AM = CB$  and  $MB = CN$ . Prove that the angle between the segments  $AN$  and  $CM$  is  $45^\circ$ .

**Problem 5.21.** On the sides  $BC$  and  $CD$  of the square  $ABCD$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are taken, respectively, such that  $\angle MAN = 45^\circ$ .  $AH$  is the altitude of the triangle  $AMN$ . Prove that  $AH = AB$ .

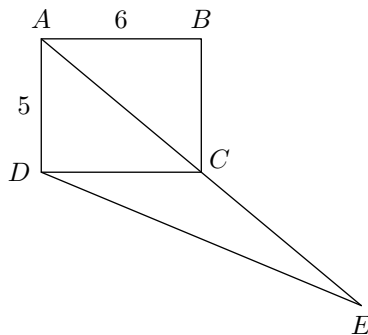
**Problem 5.22.** On the sides of a quadrilateral, four circles are constructed with the sides as diameters. Prove that the common chord of the circles constructed on two adjacent sides is parallel to the common chord of the other two circles, or these chords lie on the same line.

**Problem 5.23.** In parallelogram  $ABCD$ , a point  $Q$  is taken such that  $\angle ABQ = \angle ADQ$ . Prove that  $\angle DAQ = \angle DCQ$ .

**Problem 5.24.** (Pascal Contest, Canada – 2008.9.25): In the diagram,  $\triangle PQR$  is right-angled at  $P$  and has  $PQ = 2$  and  $PR = 2\sqrt{3}$ . Altitude  $PL$  intersects median  $RM$  at  $F$ . What is the length of  $PF$ ?

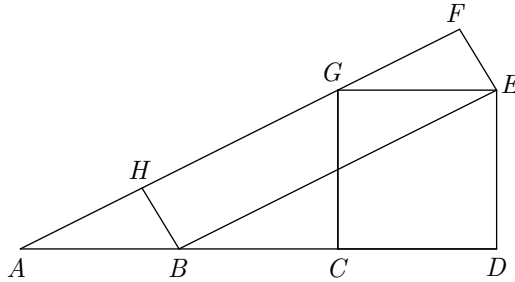


**Problem 5.25.** (mathcounts): Rectangle  $ABCD$  is shown with  $AB = 6$  units and  $AD = 5$  units. If  $AC$  is extended to point  $E$  such that  $AC$  is congruent to  $CE$ , what is the length of  $DE$ ?



**Problem 5.26.** (mathcounts): In the figure below, quadrilateral  $CDEG$  is a square with  $CD = 3$ , and quadrilateral  $BEFH$  is a rectangle. If  $BE = 5$ , how many units

is  $BH$ ? Express your answer as a mixed number.



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 5.1.** Point  $M$  divides side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  into two equal parts.  $CL$  is perpendicular to  $AM$  ( $L$  is between  $A$  and  $M$ ). On  $AM$ , there is a point  $K$  such that  $AK = 2LM$ . Prove that  $\angle BKM = \angle CAM$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 5.2.** The lengths of the bases of a trapezoid are 202 and 2020. If it is known that its diagonals are mutually perpendicular, find the square root of the sum of their squares.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 5.1:** Extend segment  $LM$  to point  $N$  such that  $NM = LM$  (see Figure 5.10). Then triangles  $CLM$  and  $BNM$  are congruent (by two sides and the included angle). Therefore,  $\angle BNM = \angle CLM = 90^\circ$  and  $BN = CL$ .

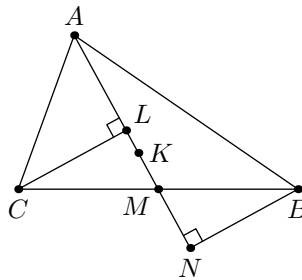


Figure 5.10: Illustration for the problem.

Since  $KN = KL + 2LM = KL + AK = AL$ , right triangles  $BNK$  and  $ALC$  are congruent (by two legs). Thus,  $\angle BKM = \angle CAM$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 5.2:** Let's denote the angles of our trapezoid as  $A, B, C, D$ , where  $AC \perp BC$ , and  $AD = 2020, BC = 202$  (Figure 5.11).

As an additional construction, draw  $CE \parallel BD$  (Figure 5.12).

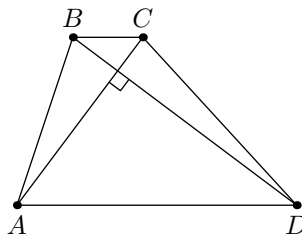


Figure 5.11: Trapezoid with perpendicular diagonals.

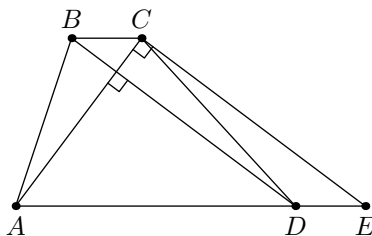
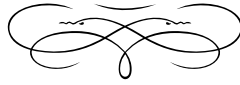


Figure 5.12: Additional construction.

Then  $CEBD$  is a parallelogram, so  $\angle ACE = 90^\circ$  and  $BD = CE$ . Thus,  $AC^2 + DB^2 = AC^2 + CE^2$ . Using the Pythagorean theorem,  $AC^2 + CE^2 = AE^2 = (202 + 2020)^2$ . Therefore, the square root of the sum of the squares of the diagonals is 2222.  $\square$

# Ceva's and Menelaus's Theorems

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No one expects you to derive all of the analytical geometry on the exam. It has been done by many smart people before you. Some things just need to be known.

—Dmitry Vladimirovich Beklemishev, university professor of one of authors

## Theory and Practice

In geometry, a lot of facts have «if and only if» condition. The «necessary and sufficient» statement means that the former statement is true if and only if the latter is true. In general, a necessary condition is one (possibly one of multiple conditions) that must be present in order for another condition to occur, while a sufficient condition is one that produces the said condition. We will divide the proofs of «if and only if» theorems to proofs of necessity and sufficiency.

The Ceva's Theorem is one of the classical theorems in elementary geometry, devised in 1678 by the Italian engineer Giovanni Ceva.

**Theorem 3** (of Ceva). On the sides  $AB$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CA$  of triangle  $ABC$ , take points  $C_1$ ,  $A_1$ , and  $B_1$  respectively (Figure 6.1). Then,  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at a single point if and only if the following equality holds true:

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1.$$

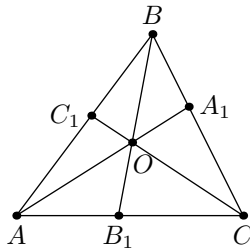


Figure 6.1: Ceva's Theorem.

*Proof of Necessity.* We will prove that if the segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at a single point, then the required equality is satisfied. To do this, draw a line through point  $B$  parallel to line  $AC$  and denote by  $D$  and  $C$  the points of intersection of lines  $CC_1$  and  $AA_1$  with this line, respectively (Figure 6.2).

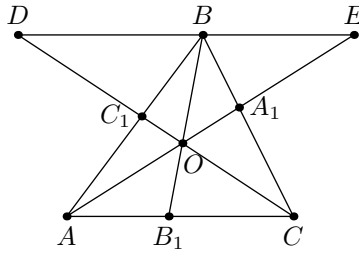


Figure 6.2: Ceva's Theorem: proof of necessity.

From the similarities of triangles, we have:

$$\triangle AC_1C \sim \triangle DC_1B \Rightarrow \frac{AC_1}{C_1B} = \frac{AC}{DB},$$

$$\triangle AA_1C \sim \triangle BA_1E \Rightarrow \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} = \frac{BE}{AC},$$

$$\triangle CB_1O \sim \triangle DBO \Rightarrow \frac{CB_1}{OB_1} = \frac{DB}{OB},$$

$$\triangle AOB_1 \sim \triangle BOE \Rightarrow \frac{OB_1}{B_1A} = \frac{OB}{BE}.$$

Multiplying the obtained equalities, we get:

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{OB_1} \cdot \frac{OB_1}{B_1A} = \frac{AC}{DB} \cdot \frac{BE}{AC} \cdot \frac{DB}{OB} \cdot \frac{OB}{BE} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1.$$

□

*Proof of Sufficiency.* Let's prove that if the condition that the product is equal to 1 is satisfied, then the segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at a single point. Assume the opposite. Let  $AA_1$  and  $CC_1$  intersect at point  $O$ , and suppose that segment  $BB_1$  does not pass through point  $O$  (Figure 6.3 a).

Let some segment  $BB'$  pass through point  $O$  (Figure 6.3 b).



Figure 6.3: Ceva's Theorem: proof of sufficiency.

Since the segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at one point, the equality is satisfied:

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB'}{B'A} = 1.$$

Dividing this expression by the given one, we obtain:

$$\frac{CB'}{B'A} \cdot \frac{B_1A}{CB_1} = 1,$$

which implies:

$$\frac{CB'}{B'A} = \frac{CB_1}{B_1A},$$

and hence  $B'$  and  $B_1$  coincide. □

**Definition 2.** Cevian is a segment in a triangle that connects a vertex of the triangle to a point on the opposite side.

Three such segments that intersect at one point are sometimes collectively called cevians.

The stated theorem extends to the case where the cevians intersect inside the triangle. Let's consider another case.

**Theorem 4** (Generalized Ceva's Theorem). Extend the sides of the triangle  $ABC$  —  $AB$  and  $CB$  beyond point  $B$ . Mark points  $C_1, A_1$  on the extensions of these sides, and on side  $CA$ , take point  $B_1$  (Figure 6.4 a).

The lines  $AA_1, BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at one point, or they are parallel if and only if the following condition is satisfied:

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1.$$



Figure 6.4: Generalized Ceva's Theorem.

*Proof of necessity.* Let's prove the statement: if the lines  $AA_1, BB_1, CC_1$  intersect at one point, then the required equality holds true.

Draw a line through  $B$  parallel to the base of the triangle, and intersecting  $AA_1$  and  $CC_1$  at points  $D$  and  $E$  respectively (Figure 6.4 b).

The following equalities follow from the similarity of triangles.

$$\triangle AC_1C \sim \triangle BC_1E \Rightarrow \frac{AC_1}{C_1B} = \frac{AC}{BE},$$

$$\triangle AA_1C \sim \triangle DA_1B \Rightarrow \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} = \frac{BD}{AC},$$

$$\triangle ODB \sim \triangle OAB_1 \Rightarrow \frac{DB}{AB_1} = \frac{OB}{OB_1},$$

$$\triangle BOE \sim \triangle B_1OC \Rightarrow \frac{CB_1}{BE} = \frac{OB_1}{OB}.$$

Multiplying these equalities, we get

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{DB}{AB_1} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{BE} = \frac{AC}{BE} \cdot \frac{BD}{AC} \cdot \frac{OB}{OB_1} \cdot \frac{OB_1}{OB} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1$$

□

*Proof of sufficiency.* This can be carried out similarly to the previous theorem. □

**Using** Ceva's theorem, one can quickly prove that the medians  $AA_m$ ,  $BB_m$ ,  $CC_m$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersect at one point:

$$\frac{AC_m}{C_mB} \cdot \frac{BA_m}{A_mC} \cdot \frac{CB_m}{B_mA} = 1.$$

**Example 6.1.** Prove, using Ceva's theorem, that the altitudes of an acute-angled triangle intersect at one point.

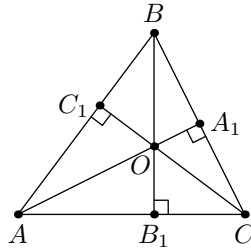


Figure 6.5: Property of triangle altitudes.

*Proof.* Right-angled triangles  $AA_1C$  and  $BB_1C$  (Figure 6.5) are similar due to two equal pair of angles, so

$$\frac{CA_1}{B_1C} = \frac{CA}{BC}.$$

In addition, from the similarity of right-angled triangle pairs  $AA_1B$  and  $CC_1B$ ,  $BB_1A$  and  $CC_1A$ , it follows that the following equalities hold:

$$\frac{BC_1}{A_1B} = \frac{BC}{AB}, \quad \frac{AB_1}{C_1A} = \frac{AB}{CA}.$$

Multiplying these equalities, we get

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1.$$

□

**Example 6.2.** *Gergonne's point.* In triangle  $ABC$ , there is an inscribed circle tangent to the lines  $AB$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CA$  at points  $C_1$ ,  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$  respectively. Prove that the segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ ,  $CC_1$  intersect at a single point (Gergonne's point).

*Proof.* Using the property of tangents drawn from a single point, we can assert that  $AC_1 = AB_1$ ,  $BC_1 = BA_1$ ,  $CB_1 = CA_1$ . Therefore,

$$\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = \frac{AC_1}{B_1A} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{A_1C} = 1.$$

□

Another important theorem in planar geometry is Menelaus's theorem. It is named after Menelaus of Alexandria, the author of the book «Sphaerica» (published in around 100 AD), who proved the theorem. In this book, Menelaus first proves the theorem for the planar case and then extends it to the sphere using central projection. According to some sources, the planar case of the theorem, considered in classical plane geometry, might have been discussed earlier in the lost works of Euclid known as «Porisms.» This theorem was very popular throughout the history of classical plane geometry, being one of its essential «building blocks.» In fact, Ceva's theorem discussed earlier in this chapter also, in a sense, relied on this «building block.»

**Theorem 5** (of Menelaus). Let  $ABC$  be a triangle, and points  $B_1$  and  $A_1$  are marked on its sides  $AC$  and  $CB$ , respectively. Additionally, point  $C_1$  is marked on the extension of side  $AB$  (see Figure 6.6).

a) (Direct Menelaus's Theorem) If points  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  lie on the same line, then

$$\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} \cdot \frac{BC_1}{C_1A} = 1.$$

b) (Converse Menelaus's Theorem) If the equality from a) holds, then points  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  lie on the same line.

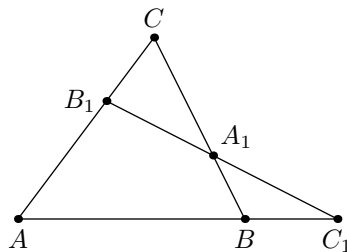


Figure 6.6: Menelaus's Theorem.

*Proof.* a) Let's draw a line through  $C$  parallel to  $B_1C_1$ . It intersects  $AB$  at  $N$  (see Figure 6.7).

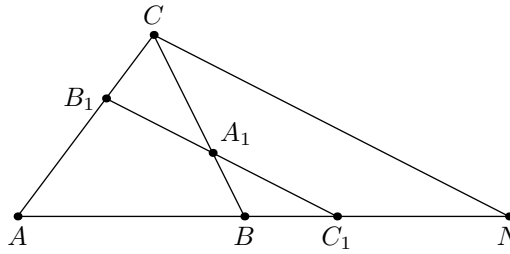


Figure 6.7: Menelaus's Theorem: proof.

According to the theorem on proportional segments, we have:

$$\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} = \frac{C_1A}{C_1M}, \quad \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} = \frac{C_1M}{BC_1}.$$

Then,

$$\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} \cdot \frac{BC_1}{C_1A} = \frac{C_1A \cdot C_1M \cdot BC_1}{C_1M \cdot BC_1 C_1A} = 1.$$

b) The proof in the reverse direction resembles a similar proof, as in Ceva's theorem.

Firstly, note that  $\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \neq 1$ , since, by assumption, this expression is equal to  $\frac{B_1A}{CB_1} \neq 1$ . Therefore, the lines  $A_1C_1$  and  $AC$  are not parallel.

Let's draw a line through points  $C_1$  and  $A_1$ . Let it intersect line  $AC$  at some point  $B_2$ . Then, for points  $A_1$ ,  $C_1$ , and  $B_2$ , the equality from the direct Menelaus theorem holds, i.e.,  $\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_2}{B_2A} = 1$ .

Thus, 
$$\frac{CB_2}{B_2A} = \frac{BC_1}{C_1A} \cdot \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} = \frac{CB_1}{B_1A}.$$

From this equality, it follows that both points  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  lie on the extension of segment  $AC$  beyond a common point. Since to the right of  $C$ , this ratio is less than 1, and to the left of  $A$ , it is strictly greater than 1, both points must coincide. Let  $CB_1 = x$ ,  $CB_2 = y$ , and  $AC = b$ . Then, considering that  $B_1A = x + b$  and  $B_2A = y + b$ , we rewrite the obtained equality as  $\frac{x}{x+b} = \frac{y}{y+b} \Leftrightarrow xy + xb = xy + yb \Leftrightarrow x = y$ .

From the equality  $CB_1 = CB_2$ , it follows that  $B_1 = B_2$ , and consequently, point  $B_1$ , coinciding with  $B_2$ , lies on the line  $A_1C_1$ .  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 6.1.** (3ARSO – 2009.10.3): Three lines pass through the point  $O$  and form pairwise equal angles. Points  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are taken on one of them, and  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  on another, such that the point  $C_1$  of the intersection of the lines  $A_1B_1$  and  $A_2B_2$  lies on the third line. Let  $C_2$  be the point of intersection of  $A_1B_2$  and  $A_2B_1$ . Prove that the angle  $C_1OC_2$  is right.

**Problem 6.2.** (3ARSO – 2000.11.6): A circle with center  $O$  inscribed in triangle  $ABC$  is tangent to side  $AC$  at point  $K$ . The second circle, also with center  $O$ , intersects all sides of triangle  $ABC$ . Let  $E$  and  $F$  be its points of intersection with sides  $AB$  and  $BC$ , respectively, closer to vertex  $B$ ;  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are the points of intersection with side  $AC$ , with  $B_1$  closer to  $A$ . Prove that points  $B$ ,  $K$ , and point  $P$ , an intersection of segments  $B_2E$  and  $B_1F$ , are collinear.

**Problem 6.3.** (Gordin – 1624): Through the point  $P$  lying on the median  $CC_1$  of triangle  $ABC$ , lines  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  are drawn (points  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  lie on sides  $BC$  and  $CA$  respectively). Prove that  $A_1B_1 \parallel AB$ .

**Problem 6.4.** (Sharygin – 2015.10.1): Let  $K$  be a point on side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , and  $KN$  be the bisector of triangle  $AKC$ . Lines  $BN$  and  $AK$  intersect at point  $F$ , and lines  $CF$  and  $AB$  intersect at point  $D$ . Prove that  $KD$  is the bisector of triangle  $AKB$ .

**Problem 6.5.** (Sharygin – 2013.9.5): Points  $E$  and  $F$  are taken on sides  $AB$  and  $AC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , respectively. Lines  $EF$  and  $BC$  intersect at point  $S$ . Points  $M$  and  $N$  are the midpoints of segments  $BC$  and  $EF$ , respectively. The line passing through vertex  $A$  and parallel to  $MN$  intersects  $BC$  at point  $K$ . Prove that  $BK : CK = FS : ES$ .

**Problem 6.6.** (OMGO – 2010.10.4): From vertex  $A$  of parallelogram  $ABCD$ , we drop altitudes  $AM$  onto  $BC$  and  $AN$  onto  $CD$ .  $P$  is the point of intersection of  $BN$  and  $DM$ . Prove that lines  $AP$  and  $MN$  are perpendicular.

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**Problem 6.7.** (OMGO – 2004.10.1): Points  $E$  and  $F$  are the midpoints of sides  $BC$  and  $AD$  of the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . Prove that the segment  $EF$  divides diagonals  $AC$  and  $BD$  in the same ratio.

**Problem 6.8.** (HMMT): The three points  $A, B, C$  form a triangle.  $AB = 4, BC = 5, AC = 6$ . Let the angle bisector of  $\angle A$  intersect side  $BC$  at  $D$ . Let the foot of the perpendicular from  $B$  to the angle bisector of  $\angle A$  be  $E$ . Let the line through  $E$  parallel to  $AC$  meet  $BC$  at  $F$ . Compute  $DF$ .

**Problem 6.9.** (ARML): Let  $ABCD$  be a parallelogram with  $\angle ABC$  obtuse. Let  $BE$  be the altitude to side  $AD$  of  $\triangle ABD$ . Let  $X$  be the point of intersection of  $AC$  and  $BE$ , and let  $F$  be the point of intersection of lines  $AB$  and  $DX$ . If  $BC = 30, CD = 13$ , and  $BE = 12$ , compute the ratio  $AC/AF$ .

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 6.1.** Circles  $S$  and  $S_1$  are tangent at point  $A_1$ , and circles  $S$  and  $S_2$  are tangent at point  $A_2$ . Prove that at least one of the points of intersection of the common external or common internal tangents to the circles  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  lies on  $A_1A_2$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 6.2.** Prove, using Ceva's theorem, that the angle bisectors of a triangle intersect at one point.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 6.1:** Let  $O$ ,  $O_1$ , and  $O_2$  be the centers of circles  $S$ ,  $S_1$ , and  $S_2$  respectively. Let  $X$  be the intersection point of the lines  $O_1O_2$  and  $A_1A_2$  (Figure 6.8).

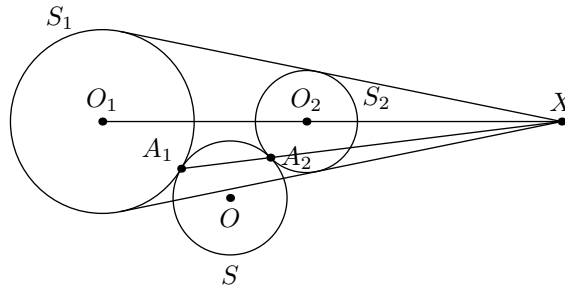


Figure 6.8: Three circles.

Applying Menelaus's theorem to triangle  $OO_1O_2$  and points  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ , and  $X$ , we get

$$\frac{O_1X}{O_2X} \cdot \frac{O_2A_2}{OA_2} \cdot \frac{OA_1}{O_1A_1} = 1,$$

which implies  $\frac{O_1X}{O_2X} = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$ , where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are the radii of circles  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . Therefore,  $X$  is the intersection point of the common external or common internal tangents to circles  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  (this follows, for example, from the similarity of triangles).  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 6.2:** Let three angle bisectors  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  be drawn in triangle  $ABC$  (Figure 6.9).

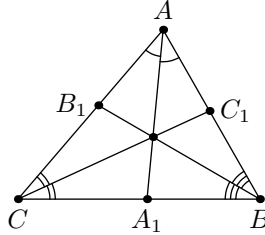


Figure 6.9: Proving the intersection of triangle bisectors at one point using Ceva's theorem.

From the properties of angle bisectors and Ceva's theorem:

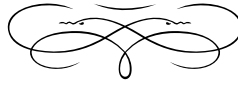
$$\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} \cdot \frac{BC_1}{C_1A} = \frac{AB}{BC} \cdot \frac{CA}{AB} \cdot \frac{BC}{CA} = 1,$$

so the angle bisectors intersect at one point. □



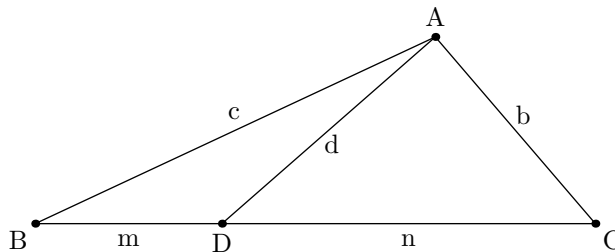
# Ratio Calculations

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Given a triangle  $\triangle ABC$  with sides of length  $a, b, c$  and opposite vertices  $A, B, C$ , respectively. If cevian  $AD$  is drawn so that  $BD = m$ ,  $DC = n$  and  $AD = d$ , we have that  $b^2m + c^2n = amn + d^2a$ . (This is also often written  $man + dad = bmb + cnc$ , a phrase which invites mnemonic memorization, i.e., «A man and his dad put a bomb in the sink.») That is Stewart's Theorem. I know, it's easy to memorize.



## Theory and Practice

Although geometry problems encountered in Olympiads usually have beautiful geometric solutions, sometimes combinatorial methods help prove certain statements or even find the solution to the entire problem. The most cumbersome method is the coordinate method, which is usually not applicable to more complex problems: the formulas become too complicated, making it very difficult to work with them without the help of a computer, and one mistake can render the entire solution incorrect.

Here, we will discuss some kind of «crutches»: theorems that help understand how segments and angles are related. In solving a problem, it is not necessary to write down all the combinatorial theorems; there may be too many of them to work with reasonably. Let's present a few more useful theorems in addition to those covered in the two previous sections.

A crucial consequence of Menelaus's theorem is the following theorem.

**Theorem 6** (Proportional Segments in a Triangle). Consider a triangle  $ABC$  and points  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  on its sides  $BC$  and  $AC$ , respectively. Let  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  intersect at point  $O$ .

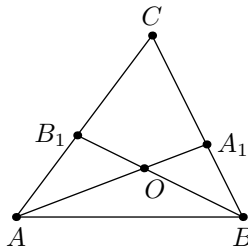


Figure 7.1: Theorem on proportional segments in a triangle.

Then (see Figure 7.1)

$$\frac{AO}{OA_1} = \frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{CA_1}{A_1B}\right).$$

*Proof.* Consider the triangle  $ACA_1$  and the secant  $B_1B$ . According to Menelaus's theorem,  $\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \frac{CB}{BA_1} \cdot \frac{A_1O}{OA} = 1$ . The proposed theorem follows directly from this.  $\square$

This theorem often simplifies problem-solving. It might even be applicable at the national level in most countries. For example, in 2009, participants of the Republican Olympiad in Mathematics (Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic) were given the following problem:

**Example 7.1.** On sides  $AC$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are marked, respectively, such that  $AM : MC = 4 : 5$  and  $BN : BC = 0.25$ . Segments  $BM$  and  $AN$  intersect at point  $P$ . Find the length of  $AP$  if  $PN = 10$ .

**Solution:** Let's construct the diagram shown in Figure 7.2.

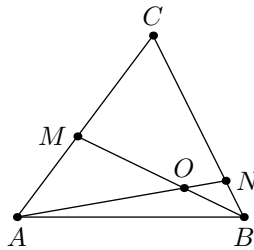


Figure 7.2: Proportional segments in a triangle problem.

By the theorem on proportional segments in a triangle,

$$\frac{AP}{PN} = \frac{AM}{MC} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{CN}{NB}\right).$$

Now substitute everything given in the problem.

$$\frac{AP}{10} = \frac{4}{5} \cdot (1 + 3),$$

from which  $AP = 32$ .  $\square$

As you can see, with the help of this theorem, the problem turned into solving a single equation.

**Example 7.2.** In triangle  $ABC$  with area 1, point  $D$  is located on segment  $BC$  and divides it in the ratio  $BD : DC = 1 : 2$ , and point  $E$  lies on the midpoint of segment  $AB$ . Segments  $CE$  and  $AD$  intersect at point  $G$ . Find the area of triangle  $AGE$ .

**Solution:** Extend ray  $BG$ , which intersects segment  $AC$  at point  $F$  (see Figure 7.3).

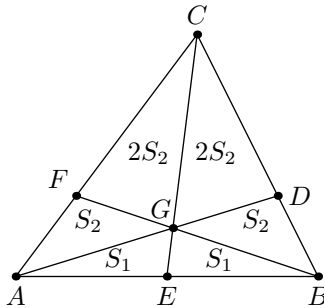


Figure 7.3: Extending the ray.

By Ceva's theorem,

$$\frac{AF}{FC} \cdot \frac{CD}{DB} \cdot \frac{BE}{EA} = 1,$$

which implies  $AF : FC = 1 : 2$ . Let's denote the area of triangle  $AGE$  as  $S_1$  and the area of triangle  $AGF$  as  $S_2$ . Then, the area of triangle  $BEG = S_1$  because these triangles have equal bases and a common height.  $S_{CFG} = 2S_2$ . Since both  $S_{ADB} = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $S_{ABF} = \frac{1}{3}$ , we have  $S_{BDG} = S_2$ , and  $S_{CDG} = 2S_2$ . Equality of areas  $S_{ACE}$  and  $S_{CEB}$  implies  $S_{CFG} = 2S_2$ . Now, we have triangle  $ADC$  with an area of  $\frac{2}{3}$ , containing only areas equal to  $S_2$ . Therefore,  $S_2 = \frac{2}{3} : 5 = \frac{2}{15}$ .  $S_{ABF} = S_2 + S_1 + S_1 = \frac{1}{3}$ , so  $S_1 = \frac{1}{10}$ .  $\square$

Often, when solving geometry problems, many forget to do the simplest thing — consider all possible angles that arise in the problem. To calculate angles in many problems, it is sufficient to have knowledge about the sum of the angles in a triangle,

the equality of vertical angles, the sum of adjacent angles, angles formed by parallel lines, and angles in a circle. Often, introducing one, two, or, in rare cases, three variables is sufficient.

Let's recall three signs of similar triangles: Triangle  $ABC$  is similar to triangle  $A_1B_1C_1$  if:

1.  $AB : A_1B_1 = BC : B_1C_1 = AC : A_1C_1$  (SSS rule),
2.  $\angle ABC = \angle A_1B_1C_1$  and  $AB : A_1B_1 = BC : B_1C_1$  (SAS rule),
3.  $\angle ABC = \angle A_1B_1C_1$  and  $\angle BAC = \angle B_1A_1C_1$  (AA rule).

By calculating all the angles present in a given problem, it becomes much easier to discover similar triangles. Typically, there are many triangles in a diagram, and finding similar ones among them requires some skill. Counting angles can also help identify isosceles triangles.

For example, this method can help prove the following useful theorem.

**Theorem 7** (Altitude of a Right-Angled Triangle). Consider a right-angled triangle  $ABC$  with a right angle at  $C$ , from which the altitude  $CH$  is drawn. Then,  $CH = \sqrt{AH \cdot BH}$ .

*Proof.* After calculating all possible angles, it can be observed that  $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle ACH \sim \triangle BCH$ .

From the similarity of triangles  $ACH$  and  $BCH$ , it follows that  $AH : CH = CH : BH \Rightarrow CH = \sqrt{AH \cdot BH}$  (see Figure 7.4), meaning the altitude drawn from the right angle is equal to the geometric mean of the segments into which it divides the hypotenuse.  $\square$

This chapter, in which we presented several useful counting methods, will allow you

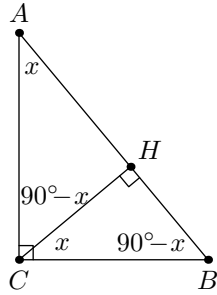


Figure 7.4: Property of the altitude of a right-angled triangle.

to find shorter solutions to the classical Olympiad problems.

## Problem Set

**Problem 7.1.** In triangle  $ABC$ , the side  $AB$  is  $c$ ,  $BC$  is  $a$ , and  $AC$  is  $b$ . In what ratio, in terms of  $a, b$ , and  $c$ , do the angle bisectors  $AK$ ,  $BL$ ,  $CM$  divide their common point  $F$ ?

**Problem 7.2.** Point  $X$  divides side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$  in the ratio  $2 : 1$ . Point  $Y$  lies on side  $AC$ , and  $BY$  is divided by  $XC$  in the ratio  $5 : 2$ . In what ratio does point  $Y$  divide side  $AC$ ?

**Problem 7.3.** A line divides the base  $AB$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$  with a side length of 3 in the ratio  $2 : 1$  and intersects ray  $CA$  at point  $M$  such that  $CM = 5$ . In what ratio does it divide the other side?

**Problem 7.4.** A line bisects the base  $AB$  of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$  with a side length of 3 and intersects rays  $CA$  and  $CB$  at points  $M$  and  $N$ , respectively. Find the length of  $CM$  if the length of  $CN$  is 2.

**Problem 7.5.** Points  $C_1$ ,  $B_1$ ,  $A_1$  divide the sides  $AB$ ,  $AC$ ,  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  in the ratios  $AC_1 : C_1B = 1 : 4$ ,  $CB_1 : B_1A = 2 : 1$ ,  $BA_1 : A_1C = 1 : 1$ . Let point  $P$

be the intersection point of segments  $AA_1$  and  $CC_1$ , and  $Q$  be the intersection point of segments  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$ . In what ratio do points  $P$  and  $Q$  divide the segment  $AA_1$ ?

**Problem 7.6.** In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $N$  is taken on side  $BC$  such that  $NC = 3BN$ . On the extension of side  $AC$  beyond point  $A$ , point  $M$  is taken such that  $MA = AC$ . The line  $MN$  intersects side  $AB$  at point  $F$ . Find the ratio  $BF : FA$ .

**Problem 7.7.** Triangle  $ABC$ , circumscribed around a circle, has  $AB = 13$ ,  $DC = 12$ ,  $AC = 9$ .  $A_1$  and  $C_1$  are the points of tangency on sides  $BC$  and  $AB$ , respectively.  $Q$  is the intersection point of segments  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$ .  $Q$  lies on side  $BB_1$ . Find the ratio  $BQ : QB_1$ .

**Problem 7.8.** The sides of a triangle are 5, 6, and 7. Find the ratio into which the bisector of the larger angle of this triangle divides the opposite side.

**Problem 7.9.** Determine the sides of a triangle if the median and altitude drawn from a vertex of one angle divide this angle into three equal parts, and the median itself is equal to 10.

**Problem 7.10.** (Gordin – 2916): On the sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are located such that  $\frac{AM}{MB} = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $\frac{BN}{NC} = \frac{1}{4}$ . Lines  $CM$  and  $AN$  intersect at point  $O$ . Find the ratios:  $\frac{OA}{ON}$  and  $\frac{OM}{OC}$ .

**Problem 7.11.** (AMC – 2020.10A.20): Quadrilateral  $ABCD$  satisfies  $\angle ABC = \angle ACD = 90^\circ$ ,  $AC = 20$ , and  $CD = 30$ . Diagonals  $\overline{AC}$  and  $\overline{BD}$  intersect at point  $E$ , and  $AE = 5$ . What is the area of quadrilateral  $ABCD$ ?

- (A) 330      (B) 340      (C) 350      (D) 360      (E) 370

**Problem 7.12.** (MechMat – 1999.07.4): In trapezoid  $ABCD$  with lateral sides  $AB = 9$  and  $CD = 5$ , the angle bisector of angle  $D$  intersects the angle bisectors of angles

$A$  and  $C$  at points  $M$  and  $N$ , respectively. The angle bisector of angle  $B$  intersects the same angle bisectors at points  $L$  and  $K$ , where point  $K$  lies on the base  $AD$ .

a) In what ratio does the line  $LN$  divide the side  $AB$ , and the line  $MK$  divide the side  $BC$ ?

b) Find the ratio  $MN : KL$  if  $LM : KN = 3 : 7$ .

**Problem 7.13.** (AMC – 2016.10A.19): In rectangle  $ABCD$ ,  $AB = 6$  and  $BC = 3$ . Point  $E$  between  $B$  and  $C$ , and point  $F$  between  $E$  and  $C$  are such that  $BE = EF = FC$ . Segments  $\overline{AE}$  and  $\overline{AF}$  intersect  $\overline{BD}$  at  $P$  and  $Q$ , respectively. The ratio  $BP : PQ : QD$  can be written as  $r : s : t$  where the greatest common factor of  $r, s$  and  $t$  is 1. What is  $r + s + t$ ?

(A) 7      (B) 9      (C) 12      (D) 15      (E) 20

**Problem 7.14.** (AMC – 2016.10B.19): Rectangle  $ABCD$  has  $AB = 5$  and  $BC = 4$ . Point  $E$  lies on  $\overline{AB}$  so that  $EB = 1$ , point  $G$  lies on  $\overline{BC}$  so that  $CG = 1$ , and point  $F$  lies on  $\overline{CD}$  so that  $DF = 2$ . Segments  $\overline{AG}$  and  $\overline{AC}$  intersect  $\overline{EF}$  at  $Q$  and  $P$ , respectively. What is the value of  $\frac{PQ}{EF}$ ?

(A)  $\frac{\sqrt{13}}{16}$       (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{13}$       (C)  $\frac{9}{82}$       (D)  $\frac{10}{91}$       (E)  $\frac{1}{9}$

**Problem 7.15.** (AMC – 2014.10B.21): Trapezoid  $ABCD$  has parallel sides  $\overline{AB}$  of length 33 and  $\overline{CD}$  of length 21. The other two sides are of lengths 10 and 14. The angles at  $A$  and  $B$  are acute. What is the length of the shorter diagonal of  $ABCD$ ?

(A)  $10\sqrt{6}$       (B) 25      (C)  $8\sqrt{10}$       (D)  $18\sqrt{2}$       (E) 26

**Problem 7.16.** (AMC – 2013.10A.12): Given  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = AC = 28$  and  $BC = 20$ . Points  $D, E$ , and  $F$  are on sides  $\overline{AB}$ ,  $\overline{BC}$ , and  $\overline{AC}$ , respectively, such that  $\overline{DE}$  and  $\overline{EF}$  are parallel to  $\overline{AC}$  and  $\overline{AB}$ , respectively. What is the perimeter of the parallelogram  $ADEF$ ?

- (A) 48      (B) 52      (C) 56      (D) 60      (E) 72

**Problem 7.17.** (AMC – 2010.10A.14): Triangle  $ABC$  has  $AB = 2 \cdot AC$ . Let  $D$  and  $E$  be on  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{BC}$ , respectively, such that  $\angle BAE = \angle ACD$ . Let  $F$  be the intersection of segments  $AE$  and  $CD$ , and suppose that  $\triangle CFE$  is equilateral. What is  $\angle ACB$ ?

- (A)  $60^\circ$       (B)  $75^\circ$       (C)  $90^\circ$       (D)  $105^\circ$       (E)  $120^\circ$

**Problem 7.18.** (AMC – 2010.10A.16): Nondegenerate  $\triangle ABC$  has integer side lengths,  $\overline{BD}$  is an angle bisector,  $AD = 3$ , and  $DC = 8$ . What is the smallest possible value of the perimeter?

- (A) 30      (B) 33      (C) 35      (D) 36      (E) 37

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 7.1.** In an acute-angled triangle  $ABC$ , altitudes  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  are drawn. Prove that  $A_1C \cdot BC = B_1C \cdot AC$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 7.2.** Point  $M$  lies on side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , and point  $K$  lies on the extension of side  $AB$  beyond vertex  $B$ . Additionally,  $\frac{BM}{MC} = \frac{4}{5}$  and  $\frac{BK}{AB} = \frac{1}{5}$ .  $N$  is the point of intersection of  $KM$  and  $AC$ . Find the ratio  $\frac{CN}{AN}$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 7.1:** Let's construct the Figure 7.5.

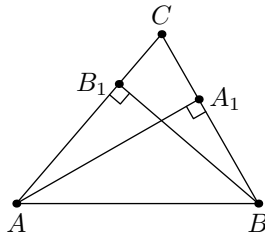


Figure 7.5: Two altitudes in a triangle

Notice that triangles  $AA_1C$  and  $BB_1C$  are similar by two angles: they share angle  $ACB$ , and  $\angle BB_1C = \angle AA_1C = 90^\circ$ . Therefore, we can write the ratios for the sides of the triangles:

$$\frac{BB_1}{AA_1} = \frac{B_1C}{A_1C} = \frac{BC}{AC},$$

and from the second equality, the desired statement follows:  $A_1C \cdot BC = B_1C \cdot AC$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 7.2:** Draw a line through point  $C$  parallel to  $AB$ . Let  $KM$  intersect it at point  $T$ . Suppose  $BK = a$  and  $AB = 5a$  (Figure 7.6).

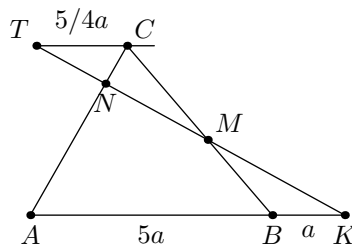


Figure 7.6: Additional construction.

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From the similarity of triangles  $CMT$  and  $BMK$  with  $k = 5/4$ , we can find that

$$CT = \frac{5}{4}BK = \frac{5}{4}a.$$

Then, from the similarity of triangles  $CNT$  and  $ANK$ ,

$$\frac{CN}{NA} = \frac{CT}{AK} = \frac{\frac{5}{4}a}{5a + a} = \frac{5}{24}.$$

□



# Triangle Bisector Properties

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“

Geometry ... is the science that it hath pleased God hitherto to bestow on mankind.

—Thomas Hobbes

## Theory and Practice

When you see the word «bisector,» you often think only about the equal angles it creates. However, there is another important fact. The bisector is the set of points equidistant from the sides of the given angle.

**Example 8.1.** Prove that the bisectors of a triangle intersect at one point.

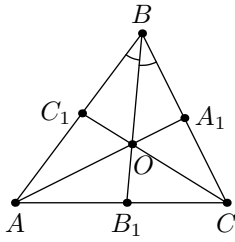


Figure 8.1: Bisectors of a triangle.

*Proof.* Let's draw two bisectors,  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$ , intersecting at point  $O$  (Figure 8.1). Obviously,  $O$  is equidistant from  $AB$ ,  $AC$ , and from  $BA$ ,  $BC$ . Furthermore, it is also equidistant from  $CA$ ,  $CB$  — meaning it lies on the bisector of the third angle. Therefore, bisectors intersect at one point.  $\square$

**Example 8.2.** Construct the bisector of a given angle using a compass and a straight-edge.

**Solution:** On a given figure, let's construct a circle with a center at the given point  $A$  and an arbitrary radius  $R$ . Let it intersect the sides of given angle  $A$  at points  $B$  and  $C$  (see Figure 8.2).

Let's construct a circle with a center at point  $B$  and radius  $R$  (see Figure 8.3).

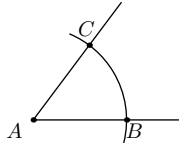


Figure 8.2: Construction of the bisector: Step 1.

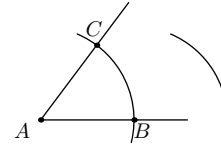


Figure 8.3: Construction of the bisector: Step 2.

Let's construct a circle with a center at point  $C$  and radius  $R$ . Let these two circles intersect at point  $D$  (see Figure 8.4).

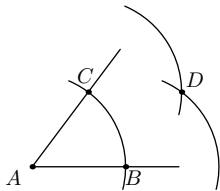


Figure 8.4: Construction of the bisector: Step 3.

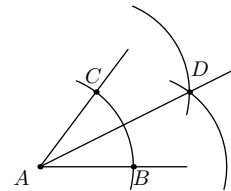


Figure 8.5: Construction of the bisector: Step 4.

Let's draw ray  $AD$  — this is the bisector of the angle (see Figure 8.5).

To prove it, it is enough to note that triangles  $ABD$  and  $ACD$  are congruent by SSS (three sides are equal by construction), and angles  $BAD$  and  $DAC$  are congruent as corresponding elements of congruent triangles.  $\square$

**Example 8.3.** Solve the previous problem in the case when the vertex of the angle is lying outside the drawing.

**Solution:** Consider arbitrary points  $A$  and  $B$  on different sides of the angle (Figure

8.6). Let's construct the bisectors of angles  $OAB$  and  $OBA$  ( $O$  is the inaccessible vertex of the given angle).

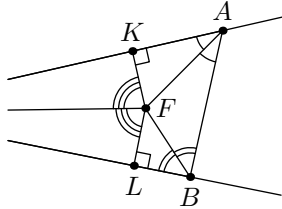


Figure 8.6: Bisector of an inaccessible angle.

Let  $F$  be their point of intersection. Drop perpendiculars  $FK$  and  $FL$  onto the sides of the angle. Then, the bisector of angle  $KFL$  will be the desired bisector since segments  $FK$  and  $FL$ , and therefore, the lines  $OA$  and  $OB$ , are symmetric with respect to the bisector of angle  $KFL$ .  $\square$

**Example 8.4.** a) In triangle  $ABC$ , a bisector  $BD$  of an internal or external angle is drawn. Prove that  $AD : DC = AB : BC$ .

b) Prove that the center  $O$  of the inscribed circle of triangle  $ABC$  divides the bisector  $AA_1$  in the ratio  $AO : OA_1 = (b + c) : a$ , where  $a, b, c$  are the lengths of the sides of the triangle.

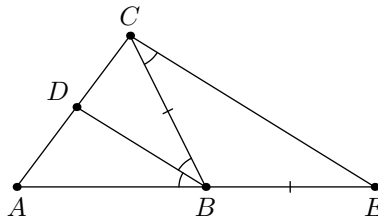


Figure 8.7: Proportions in triangle bisectors.

**Solution:** a) First method: Let's prove the statement for the internal angle bisector.

Draw a line through point  $C$  parallel to  $BD$  until it intersects line  $AB$  at point  $E$ . Since  $\angle BEC = \angle CBD = \angle BCE$ , triangle  $CBE$  is isosceles ( $BC = BE$ ). By Thales' theorem,  $AD : DC = AB : BE = AB : BC$ .

For the external angle bisector, the proof is similar.

Second method: Point  $D$  is equidistant from lines  $AB$  and  $BC$ . Therefore,  $AD : DC = S_{ABD} : S_{BCD} = AB : BC$ .

b) From a), it follows that  $BA_1 = ac/(b + c)$ . Since  $BO$  is the bisector of triangle  $ABA_1$ , then  $AO : OA_1 = AB : BA_1 = (b + c) : a$ .  $\square$

**Example 8.5.** The external angle bisector of angle  $A$  in triangle  $ABC$  intersects the extension of side  $BC$  at point  $M$ . Prove that  $BM : MC = AB : AC$ .

*Proof.* Draw a line through vertex  $B$  parallel to  $AM$ . Let this line intersect side  $AC$  at point  $P$ . Mark point  $Q$  on the extension of side  $AC$  beyond point  $A$ . Then,  $\angle APB = \angle QAM = \angle MAB = \angle ABP$ , which means triangle  $APB$  is isosceles, and  $PA = AB$ . By the theorem of proportional segments,  $BM : MC = PA : AC = AB : AC$ .  $\square$

**Example 8.6.** Prove that side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  is seen from the incenter  $O$  at an angle of  $90^\circ + \frac{\angle A}{2}$ , and from the excenter  $O_1$  opposite to vertex  $A$  at an angle of  $90^\circ - \frac{\angle A}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $O$  is the point of intersection of the angle bisectors of triangle  $ABC$ ,  $\angle BOC = 180^\circ - \angle OBC - \angle OCB = 180^\circ - \frac{\angle B}{2} - \frac{\angle C}{2} = 180^\circ - \frac{\angle B + \angle C}{2} = 90^\circ + \frac{\angle A}{2}$ .

As  $BO_1$  and  $CO_1$  are the bisectors of the external angles of triangle  $ABC$ ,  $\angle OBO_1 = \angle OCO_1 = 90^\circ$ . Therefore,  $\angle BO_1C = 180^\circ - \angle BOC = 180^\circ - (90^\circ + \frac{\angle A}{2}) = 90^\circ - \frac{\angle A}{2}$ .  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 8.1.** (TOT – 2000.10.1): In triangle  $ABC$ , the intersection point of the angle bisectors is connected with the vertices, dividing the triangle into three smaller triangles. One of the smaller triangles is similar to the original one. Find its angles.

**Problem 8.2.** (MMG – 2014.8.4): On the equal sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are chosen such that  $AC = CM$  and  $MN = NB$ . The altitude from vertex  $B$  intersects the segment  $CM$  at point  $H$ . Prove that  $NH$  is the bisector of angle  $MNC$ .

**Problem 8.3.** (Sharygin – 2015.9.4): In parallelogram  $ABCD$ , trisectors (trisection lines that divide the angle into 3 equal parts) of angles  $A$  and  $B$  were drawn. The trisectors closer to side  $AB$  intersect at point  $O$ . Let  $A_1$  be the intersection of the trisector  $AO$  with the second trisector of angle  $B$ , and  $B_1$  be the intersection of the trisector  $BO$  with the second trisector of angle  $A$ . If  $M$  is the midpoint of  $A_1B_1$ , and line  $MO$  intersects side  $AB$  at  $N$ , prove that triangle  $A_1B_1N$  is equilateral.

**Problem 8.4.** (ARSO – 2007.8.6): In triangle  $ABC$ , the bisectors intersect at point  $I$ . A line through  $I$  intersects sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  at points  $M$  and  $N$ , respectively. Triangle  $BMN$  is acute. Points  $K$  and  $L$  are chosen on side  $AC$  such that  $\angle ILA = \angle IMB$  and  $\angle IKC = \angle INB$ . Prove that  $AM + KL + CN = AC$ .

**Problem 8.5.** (MMG – 2017.8.3): In triangle  $ABC$ , with  $AC = 8$  and  $BC = 5$ , a line parallel to the external bisector of angle  $C$  passes through the midpoint of side  $AB$  and point  $E$  on side  $AC$ . Find  $AE$ .

**Problem 8.6.** (MMG – 2013.9.3): In convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , the bisectors of angles  $CAD$  and  $CBD$  intersect on side  $CD$ . Prove that the bisectors of angles  $ACB$  and  $ADB$  intersect on side  $AB$ .

**Problem 8.7.** (ARSO – 2015.10.1): Let  $K$  be a point on side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , and  $KN$  be a bisector of triangle  $AKC$ . Lines  $BN$  and  $AK$  intersect at point  $F$ , and lines  $CF$  and  $AB$  intersect at point  $D$ . Prove that  $KD$  is the bisector of triangle  $AKB$ .

**Problem 8.8.** In triangle  $ABC$ , bisectors  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  are drawn. Prove that if the circumcircles of triangles  $ABB_1$  and  $ACC_1$  intersect at a point on side  $BC$ , then  $\angle A = 60^\circ$ .

**Problem 8.9.** (Mccme – 05.031): In triangle  $ABC$  with  $\angle A = 120^\circ$ , the bisectors  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at point  $O$ . Prove that  $\angle A_1C_1O = 30^\circ$ .

**Problem 8.10.** (MMG – 2012.8.4.2): On the sides,  $AB$ ,  $BC$ , and  $AC$  of an equilateral triangle  $ABC$ , points  $K$ ,  $M$ , and  $N$  are chosen, respectively, such that the angle  $MKB$  is equal to the angle  $MNC$ , and the angle  $KMB$  is equal to the angle  $KNA$ . Prove that  $NB$  is the bisector of angle  $MNK$ .

**Problem 8.11.** (COM – 2013.11.7.8): The bisectors of triangle  $ABC$  intersect at point  $I$ , and  $\angle ABC = 120^\circ$ . On the extensions of sides  $AB$  and  $CB$  beyond point  $B$ , points  $P$  and  $Q$  are marked, respectively, such that  $AP = CQ = AC$ . Prove that the angle  $PIQ$  is a right angle.

**Problem 8.12.** (Mccme – 05.035): In triangle  $ABC$ , bisectors  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  are drawn. Prove that if  $\angle CC_1B_1 = 30^\circ$ , then either  $\angle A = 60^\circ$  or  $\angle B = 120^\circ$ .

**Problem 8.13.** (Gordin – 55): In triangle  $ABC$  where  $\angle B = 60^\circ$ , bisectors  $AD$  and  $CE$  intersect at point  $O$ . Prove that  $OD = OE$ .

**Problem 8.14.** (AIME – 2009.I.5): Triangle  $ABC$  has  $AC = 450$  and  $BC = 300$ . Points  $K$  and  $L$  are located on  $AC$  and  $AB$ , respectively, so that  $AK = CK$ , and  $CL$  is the angle bisector of angle  $C$ . Let  $P$  be the point of intersection of  $BK$  and  $CL$ , and let  $M$  be the point on line  $BK$  for which  $K$  is the midpoint of  $PM$ . If  $AM = 180$ , find  $LP$ .

**Problem 8.15.** (ARML): In triangle  $ABC$ ,  $AB = BC$ . A trisector of  $\angle B$  intersects  $AC$  at  $D$ . If  $AB$ ,  $AC$ , and  $BD$  are integers and  $AB - BD = 7$ , compute  $AC$ .

**Problem 8.16.** (HMMT): Consider triangle  $ABC$  with  $\angle A = 2\angle B$ . The angle bisectors from  $A$  and  $C$  intersect at  $D$ , and the angle bisector from  $C$  intersects  $AB$  at  $E$ . If  $\frac{DE}{DC} = \frac{1}{3}$ , compute  $\frac{AB}{AC}$ .

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 8.1.**  $O$  is the intersection point of the bisectors  $BD$  and  $CE$  in triangle  $ABC$ . Prove that if  $OD = OE$ , then either the triangle is isosceles or its angle at vertex  $A$  is  $60^\circ$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 8.2.**  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  are the bisectors of triangle  $ABC$ , and  $I$  is the point of intersection of the bisectors. It is known that  $AI$  is perpendicular to  $B_1C_1$ . Prove that triangle  $ABC$  is isosceles.

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## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

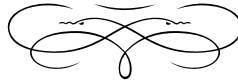
**Solution to Problem 8.1:** Triangles  $ADO$  and  $AEO$  are congruent by two sides and an angle. Therefore, they are either congruent or  $\angle ADO + \angle AEO = 180^\circ$ . In the first case, the triangle is isosceles due to symmetry with respect to the line  $AO$ . In the second case,  $\angle A + \angle DOE = 180^\circ$ . The angle  $DOE$  between the bisectors  $BD$  and  $CE$  is  $90^\circ + \frac{1}{2}\angle A$ . From here, we can find the angle  $A$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 8.2:** Let  $AI$  be the angle bisector of angle  $A$ . Segments  $AI$  and  $B_1C_1$  intersect at point  $K$ . In triangle  $AB_1C_1$ , the bisector  $AK$  is also an altitude, so triangle  $B_1AC_1$  is isosceles. Thus,  $AI$  is the median and perpendicular bisector of segment  $B_1C_1$ . Lines  $AB$  and  $AC$  are symmetric with respect to  $AI$ , and lines  $B_1I$  and  $C_1I$  are also symmetric with respect to  $AI$ . Therefore, the point  $B$  of intersection of  $AB$  and  $B_1I$  is symmetric to the point  $C$  of intersection of  $AC$  and  $C_1I$ . Hence,  $AB = AC$ .  $\square$



# Remarkable Property of the Trapezoid

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“

Trapezium, in British and other forms of English, a trapezoid, a quadrilateral that has exactly one pair of parallel sides

Trapezium, in North American English, an irregular quadrilateral with no sides parallel.

– wiki dictionary

## Theory and Practice

**Example 9.1.** Prove that the intersection point of the extensions of the lateral sides of a trapezoid, the midpoints of its bases, and the intersection point of its diagonals lie on the same straight line.

*Proof.* Let's break the problem into two parts:

1. Prove that the midpoints of the bases and the intersection point of the extensions of the lateral sides lie on the same straight line.
2. Prove that the midpoints of the bases and the intersection point of the diagonals lie on the same straight line.

Let  $ABCD$  be the trapezoid. Let  $M$  be the midpoint of the shorter base  $BC$ .

1) Let  $X$  be the intersection point of the extensions of the lateral sides. Draw a line through points  $X$  and  $M$ . Let it intersect side  $AD$  at point  $N$ . Prove that  $N$  is the midpoint of the base  $AD$  (Figure 9.1a). Triangles  $XMB$  and  $XAN$  are similar by three angles, so the ratio  $XM/XN = BM/AN$  holds. Similarly, from the similarity of triangles  $XMC$  and  $XND$ , we get  $XM/XN = MC/ND$ . Thus,  $BM/AN = MC/ND$ , but since  $BM = MC$ , we also have  $AN = ND$ .

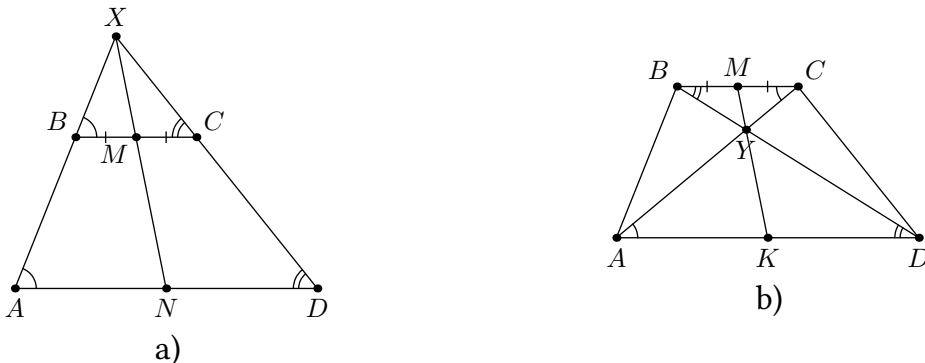


Figure 9.1: Remarkable property of the trapezoid.

2) Let  $Y$  be the intersection point of the diagonals. Draw a line through points  $M$  and  $Y$ . Let it intersect side  $AD$  at point  $K$ . Prove that  $K$  is the midpoint of the base  $AD$  (Figure 9.1b). Triangles  $YMB$  and  $YKD$  are similar by three angles, so the ratio  $MY/YK = BM/KD$  holds. Similarly, from the similarity of triangles  $YMC$  and  $YKA$ , we get  $MY/YK = MC/AK$ . Thus,  $BM/KD = MC/AK$ , but since  $BM = MC$ , we also have  $AK = KD$ .

Points  $N$  and  $K$  coincide – it is the midpoint of side  $AD$ . On the one hand, we have proved that  $M$ ,  $N$ , and  $X$  lie on the same straight line, and on the other hand, that points  $M$ ,  $N$ , and  $Y$  lie on the same straight line. This means that all these 4 points lie on the same straight line.

Note that this problem has another, more elegant solution, using homothety, similarity transformation of a plane. However, we leave this advanced method for the future.  $\square$

**Example 9.2.** In trapezoid  $ABCD$  ( $BC \parallel AD$ ), points  $P$ ,  $M$ ,  $Q$ ,  $N$  are the midpoints of sides  $AB$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CD$ , and  $DA$ , respectively. Prove that the segments  $AQ$ ,  $PD$ , and  $MN$  intersect at a single point.

*Solution.* Since quadrilateral  $PMQN$  is a parallelogram, the point  $F$ , the intersection of segments  $PQ$  and  $MN$ , is the midpoint of segment  $PQ$  (Figure 9.2).

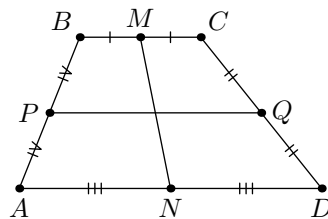


Figure 9.2: Trapezoid with a secant parallel to the bases.

In trapezoid  $APQD$ , the point of intersection of diagonals  $AQ$  and  $DP$  lies on the line passing through the midpoints  $F$  and  $N$  of the bases  $PQ$  and  $AD$ . Thus, all three proposed lines intersect at a single point, which completes the proof.  $\square$

As you can see, the remarkable property of the trapezoid allows this problem to be solved much faster than using proportional segments or additional constructions.

## Problem Set

**Problem 9.1.** (Sharygin – 2016.9.6): Extensions of the lateral sides of trapezoid  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $P$ , and its diagonals intersect at point  $Q$ . Point  $M$  on the smaller base  $BC$  is such that  $AM = MD$ . Prove that  $\angle PMB = \angle QMB$ .

**Problem 9.2.** (Gordin – 5725): Different parallelograms  $ABCD$  and  $AKLD$  are arranged such that their sides  $BC$  and  $KL$  lie on the same line. Additionally, lines  $AC$  and  $KD$  are not parallel. Prove that the point of intersection of lines  $AK$  and  $DC$ , the point of intersection of lines  $AB$  and  $DL$ , and the point of intersection of lines  $AC$  and  $KD$  lie on the same line.

**Problem 9.3.** (MMG – 2017.10.2): Diagonals of the quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $O$ .  $M$  and  $N$  are the midpoints of sides  $BC$  and  $AD$ , respectively. Segment  $MN$  divides the area of the quadrilateral in half. Find the ratio  $OM : ON$  if  $AD = 2BC$ .

**Problem 9.4.** (Gordin – 1646): Through point  $D$  taken on side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$ , a line parallel to  $AC$  is drawn, intersecting side  $BC$  at point  $E$ . Prove that lines  $AE$ ,  $CD$ , and the median drawn from vertex  $B$  intersect at a single point.

**Problem 9.5.** (Gordin – 1546): In a trapezoid, the point of intersection of the diagonals is equidistant from the lines on which the lateral sides lie (not the bases lines). Prove that the trapezoid is isosceles.

**Problem 9.6.** (Gordin – 1649): On the board, a trapezoid was drawn, and its midline  $EF$  and perpendicular  $OK$  from the point  $O$  of the intersection of the diagonals to

the longer base were drawn. Then, the trapezoid was erased. How can the drawing be restored based on the preserved segments  $EF$  and  $OK$ ?

**Problem 9.7.** (Gordin – 3040): The area of trapezoid  $ABCD$  is 6. Let  $E$  be the point of intersection of the extensions of its lateral sides. Through point  $E$  and the point of intersection of the diagonals of the trapezoid, a line is drawn, intersecting the shorter base  $BC$  at point  $P$  and the longer base  $AD$  at point  $Q$ . Point  $F$  lies on the segment  $EC$ , and  $EF : FC = EP : EQ = 1 : 3$ . Find the area of triangle  $EPF$ .

**Problem 9.8.** (Gordin – 3041): The area of triangle  $MNP$  is 7. Through point  $Q$  on side  $MN$ , a line is drawn parallel to side  $MP$ , intersecting side  $NP$  at point  $R$ . Points  $A$  and  $B$  are taken on the segment  $QR$  such that  $QR : MP = QA : QB = 1 : 5$ . The line  $NB$  passes through the intersection point of lines  $MR$  and  $QP$ . Find the area of triangle  $NAR$ .

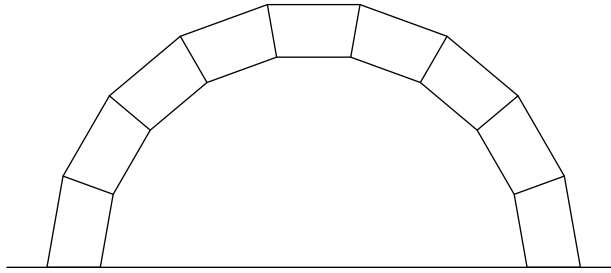
**Problem 9.9.** (Gordin – 1625): The line connecting point  $P$  of intersection of the diagonals of the quadrilateral  $ABCD$  with point  $Q$  of intersection of the lines  $AB$  and  $CD$  divides the side  $AD$  in half. Prove that it also bisects side  $BC$ .

**Problem 9.10.** (Gordin – 3042): In triangle  $ABC$ , a line  $DE$  is drawn parallel to  $AC$  (points  $D$  and  $E$  are the intersections of this line with sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  respectively). The line passing through vertex  $B$  and the point of intersection of the diagonals of trapezoid  $ADEC$  intersects side  $AC$  at point  $P$ . Point  $Q$  is taken on segment  $BD$ . Find the area of triangle  $QBP$  if it is known that the area of triangle  $DBE$  is 8 and  $\frac{QB}{AQ} = \frac{DE}{AC} = \frac{1}{7}$ .

**Problem 9.11.** (Gordin – 1539): Given two parallel lines  $l$  and  $l_1$ . Use only a straight-edge to bisect the given segment  $AB$  lying on  $l$ .

**Problem 9.12.** (HMMT): Let  $ABCD$  be a trapezoid with  $AB \parallel CD$ . The bisectors of  $\angle CDA$  and  $\angle DAB$  meet at  $E$ , the bisectors of  $\angle ABC$  and  $\angle BCD$  meet at  $F$ , the bisectors of  $\angle BCD$  and  $\angle CDA$  meet at  $G$ , and the bisectors of  $\angle DAB$  and  $\angle ABC$  meet at  $H$ . Quadrilaterals  $EABF$  and  $EDCF$  have areas 24 and 36, respectively, and triangle  $ABH$  has area 25. Find the area of triangle  $CDG$ .

**Problem 9.13.** (AMC – 2009.10B.24): The keystone arch is an ancient architectural feature. It is composed of congruent isosceles trapezoids fitted together along the non-parallel sides, as shown. The bottom sides of the two end trapezoids are horizontal. In an arch made with 9 trapezoids, let  $x$  be the angle measured in degrees of the larger interior angle of the trapezoid. What is  $x$ ?



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 9.1.** A segment on a line parallel to the bases of a trapezoid, contained within the trapezoid, divides its diagonals into three parts. Prove that the segments adjacent to the lateral sides are equal.

**Skill Assessment Problem 9.2.** Two parallelograms  $ABCD$  and  $AKLD$  are positioned such that sides  $BC$  and  $KL$  lie on the same line, and lines  $AC$  and  $KD$  are not parallel. Prove that the points of intersection of the lines  $AK$  and  $DC$ ,  $AB$  and  $DL$ , and  $AC$  and  $KD$  lie on the same line.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 9.1:** Let's denote the trapezoid as  $ABCD$ . Suppose the segment given in the problem intersects the sides and diagonals at points  $K, L, M, N$ , as shown in Figure 9.3.

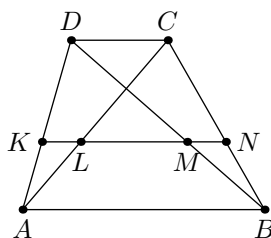


Figure 9.3: Trapezoid with a secant parallel to the bases.

The goal is to prove that  $KL = MN$ . From the similarity of triangles  $AKL$  and  $ABC$ , we have  $\frac{KL}{BC} = \frac{AK}{AB}$ . From the similarity of triangles  $MND$  and  $BCD$ , we have  $\frac{MN}{BC} = \frac{DN}{DC}$ . Using Thales' theorem for lines  $AB$  and  $CD$  and the fact that  $BC$ ,  $KN$ , and  $AD$  are parallel, we conclude that  $\frac{AK}{AB} = \frac{DN}{DC}$ . Therefore,  $\frac{KL}{BC} = \frac{MN}{BC} \Rightarrow KL = MN$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 9.2:** Let  $P$  be the point of intersection of  $AK$  and  $CD$ ,  $Q$  be the point of intersection of  $AB$  and  $DL$ , and  $T$  be the point of intersection of  $AC$  and  $KD$ . According to a remarkable property of the trapezoid ( $ACKD$ ), points  $P$ ,  $T$ ,  $E$  (the midpoint of  $CK$ ), and  $F$  (the midpoint of  $AD$ ) lie on the same line (Figure 9.4).

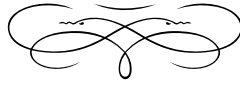
The line  $EF$ , drawn through the midpoints  $E$  and  $F$  of the bases  $BL$  and  $AD$  of the trapezoid  $ABLD$ , passes through point  $Q$ , the intersection of the extensions of the lateral sides  $AB$  and  $DL$  of this trapezoid. Therefore, points  $P$ ,  $Q$ , and  $T$  lie on the line  $EF$ .

Similarly, other cases can be analyzed.  $\square$



# Cyclic Quadrilaterals

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“

The circle is the soul of geometry. Understand the circle, and you will not only comprehend geometry but also elevate your soul...

—Igor Sharygin

## Theory and Practice

It is well known that, a circle can be circumscribed around any triangle. However, for quadrilaterals, this is generally not the case, and we can use one of the criteria to check (See Figure 10.1):

1. The quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is inscribed  $\Leftrightarrow$  the sum of its opposite angles is equal to  $180^\circ$ .
2. The quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is inscribed  $\Leftrightarrow$  the angles formed by one side are equal (note that there are a total of 4 pairs of such angles, and equalities of angles from one pair are sufficient).
3. The quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is inscribed  $\Leftrightarrow AT \cdot CT = BT \cdot DT$ , where  $T$  is the intersection point of the diagonals.
4. The quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is inscribed  $\Leftrightarrow AB \cdot CD + BC \cdot AD = AC \cdot BD$  (Ptolemy's theorem).

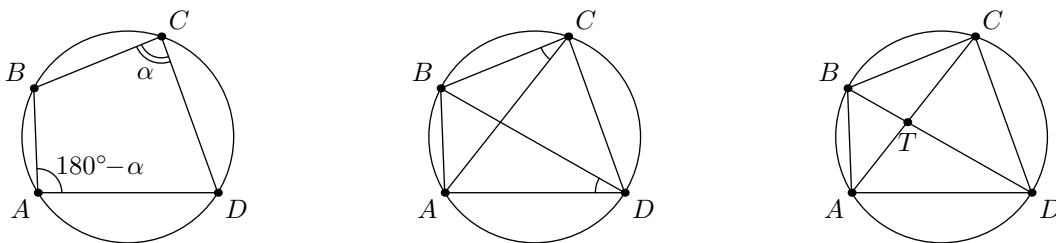


Figure 10.1: Criteria for an inscribed quadrilateral

**Example 10.1.** Two circles intersect at points  $A$  and  $B$ . Through point  $A$ , a line is drawn that intersects the circles at points  $C$  and  $D$ , respectively, and through point  $B$ , a line is drawn that intersects the circles at points  $E$  and  $F$ , respectively. Prove that  $CE \parallel DF$  (see Figure 10.2).

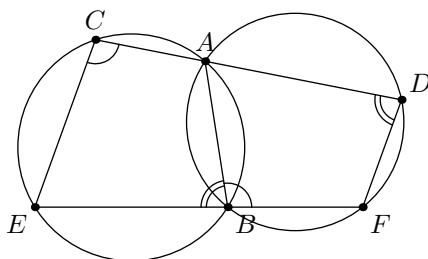


Figure 10.2: Diagram for the problem with intersecting circles.

**Solution:** In the diagram, two inscribed quadrilaterals can be identified:  $ABEC$  and  $ADFB$ . Let's use the first criterion for  $ABEC$ : let  $\angle ECA = \alpha$ , then  $\angle EBA = 180^\circ - \alpha$ . Angle  $ABF$  is equal to  $\alpha$  as it is adjacent to angle  $EBA$ , and according to the first criterion for  $ABDF$ , we have  $\angle ADF = 180^\circ - \alpha$ . The sum of angles  $ECD$  and  $CDF$  is  $180^\circ$ , and therefore, lines  $CE$  and  $DF$  are parallel.  $\square$

**Example 10.2.** (Napoleon's Problem). On the sides of an acute triangle  $ABC$ , equilateral triangles  $ABC_1$ ,  $BCA_1$ , and  $ACB_1$  are constructed externally. Prove that the segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at one point and are equal in length.

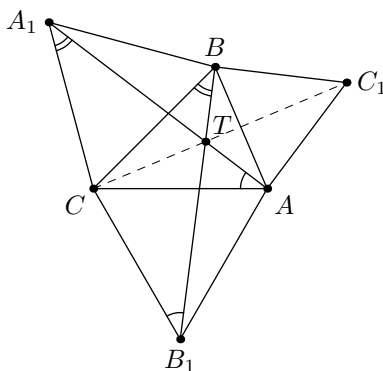


Figure 10.3: Diagram for the problem with external equilateral triangles.

**Solution:** Let's draw the diagram (Figure 10.3). Suppose the segments  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  intersect at point  $T$ . We will prove that points  $C$ ,  $T$ , and  $C_1$  lie on the same line. This will mean that all three segments  $AA_1$ ,  $BB_1$ , and  $CC_1$  intersect at one point.

$\triangle B_1CB = \triangle ACA_1$ , as  $B_1C = AC$ ,  $BC = CA_1$ , and  $\angle B_1CB = \angle ACA_1 = 60^\circ + \angle ACB$ . Hence,  $\angle AA_1C = \angle BB_1C$  and  $\angle CAA_1 = \angle CB_1B$ .

Quadrilateral  $CTBA_1$  is inscribed because two angles in it are based on one side (second criterion):  $\angle CA_1T = \angle CBT$ . Thus, the sum of opposite angles is  $180^\circ$ . Since  $\angle CA_1B = 60^\circ$ , then  $\angle CTB = 120^\circ$ . Similarly, quadrilateral  $ATCB_1$  is inscribed, and  $\angle CTA = 120^\circ$ .

Let's find the angle  $ATB$ , which is  $360^\circ - \angle ATC - \angle BTC = 360^\circ - 120^\circ - 120^\circ = 120^\circ$ . Therefore, quadrilateral  $ATBC_1$  is also inscribed because the sum of its opposite angles is  $180^\circ$ . From the inscribed property of this quadrilateral,  $\angle ATC_1 = \angle ABC_1 = 60^\circ$  (second criterion). Thus,  $\angle CTC_1 = \angle CTA + \angle ATC_1 = 120^\circ + 60^\circ = 180^\circ$ , which means that points  $C$ ,  $T$ , and  $C_1$  lie on the same line.

The equality of the segments  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  follows from the congruency of triangles  $B_1CB$  and  $ACA_1$ . Similarly, the equality of the segments  $AA_1$  and  $CC_1$  follows from the congruency of triangles  $AA_1B$  and  $C_1BC$ .  $\square$

**Example 10.3.** (Gordin – 1714): Points  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  are arranged sequentially on a circle, and the center  $O$  of the circle is located inside the quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . Points  $K$ ,  $L$ ,  $M$ , and  $N$  are the midpoints of segments  $AB$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CD$ , and  $AD$ , respectively. Prove that  $\angle KON + \angle MOL = 180^\circ$ .

**Solution:** Consider the isosceles triangles  $AOB$ ,  $BOC$ ,  $COD$ , and  $DOA$ . Their medians  $OK$ ,  $OL$ ,  $OM$ , and  $ON$  are also the angle bisectors of  $\angle AOB$ ,  $\angle BOC$ ,  $\angle COD$ , and  $\angle DOA$ , respectively. Therefore,  $\angle KON + \angle MOL = (\frac{1}{2}\angle AOD + \frac{1}{2}\angle AOB) + (\frac{1}{2}\angle BOC + \frac{1}{2}\angle COD) = 180^\circ$ .  $\square$

**Example 10.4.** (Gordin – 4780): Prove that the bisectors of angles of a convex quadrilateral form an inscribed quadrilateral.

**Solution:** Denote the angles of the given quadrilateral  $ABCD$  by  $2\alpha$ ,  $2\beta$ ,  $2\gamma$ ,  $2\delta$ , respectively. Let the bisectors of angles  $A$  and  $B$  intersect at point  $M$ , those of angles  $B$  and  $C$  at point  $N$ , those of angles  $C$  and  $D$  at point  $K$ , and those of angles  $A$  and

$D$  at point  $L$ . Consider the case when the quadrilateral formed by these bisectors is  $KNML$ . Then  $\angle AMB + \angle CKD = 180^\circ - (\alpha + \beta) + 180^\circ - (\gamma + \delta) = 360^\circ - (\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta) = 360^\circ - \frac{1}{2}360^\circ = 180^\circ$ . Therefore, a circle can be circumscribed around quadrilateral  $KNML$ .  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 10.1.** (Gordin – 486): In the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , it is known that  $\angle CBD = 58^\circ$ ,  $\angle ABD = 44^\circ$ , and  $\angle ADC = 78^\circ$ . Find  $\angle CAD$ .

**Problem 10.2.** (Gordin – 305): In the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , it is given that  $\angle ABC = 116^\circ$ ,  $\angle ADC = 64^\circ$ ,  $\angle CAB = 35^\circ$ , and  $\angle CAD = 52^\circ$ . Find the angle between the diagonals of this quadrilateral.

**Problem 10.3.** (LT – 1999.9.5): Triangle  $ABC$  is inscribed in a circle. Point  $D$  is the midpoint of the arc  $AC$ , and points  $K$  and  $L$  are chosen on sides  $AB$  and  $CB$ , respectively, such that  $KL$  is parallel to  $AC$ . Let  $K'$  and  $L'$  be the points of intersection of the lines  $DK$  and  $DL$  with the circle, respectively. Prove that a circle can be circumscribed around the quadrilateral  $KLL'K'$ .

**Problem 10.4.** (Gordin – 47): In the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , the angles are given as follows:  $\angle DAB = \alpha$ ,  $\angle ABC = \beta$ ,  $\angle BKC = \gamma$ , where  $K$  is the point of intersection of the diagonals. Find the angle  $ACD$ .

**Problem 10.5.** (Gordin – 68): The extension of the median  $AM$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersects its circumscribed circle at point  $D$ . Find  $BC$  if  $AC = DC = 1$ .

**Problem 10.6.** (Gordin – 66): In the convex quadrilateral  $MNPQ$ , diagonal  $NQ$  is the bisector of angle  $PNM$  and intersects diagonal  $PM$  at point  $S$ . Find  $NS$  if it is known that a circle can be circumscribed around quadrilateral  $MNPQ$ , and  $PQ = 12$ ,  $SQ = 9$ .

**Problem 10.7.** (OMGO – 2013.10.1): The diagonals of the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $O$ . The circumcircles of triangles  $AOB$  and  $COD$  intersect at point  $M$  on side  $AD$ . Prove that point  $O$  is the center of the inscribed circle of triangle  $BMC$ .

**Problem 10.8.** (Gordin – 1307): Find the angles of quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , where the vertices are located on a circle, if  $\angle ABD = 74^\circ$ ,  $\angle DBC = 38^\circ$ , and  $\angle BDC = 65^\circ$ .

**Problem 10.9.** (Problems.ru – 35179): A billiard table has the shape of a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . A billiard ball was released from point  $K$  on side  $AB$ , reflected at points  $L, M, N$  on sides  $BC, CD, DA$ , returned to point  $K$ , and again entered the trajectory  $KLMN$ . Prove that quadrilateral  $ABCD$  can be inscribed in a circle.

**Problem 10.10.** (Gordin – 303): Can a circle be circumscribed around a quadrilateral whose angles have the following ratios : a)  $2 : 4 : 5 : 3$ ; b)  $5 : 7 : 8 : 9$ ?

**Problem 10.11.** (Gordin – 440): In triangle  $ABC$ , bisectors  $AD$  and  $BE$  are drawn, intersecting at point  $O$ . It is known that  $OE = 1$ , and points  $C, D, E$ , and  $O$  lie on the same circle. Find the sides and angles of triangle  $EDO$ .

**Problem 10.12.** (MMG – 2013.9.2.2): In triangle  $ABC$ , angle  $C$  is  $135^\circ$ . A square with center  $O$  is constructed on side  $AB$  outside the triangle. Find  $OC$  if  $AB = 6$ .

**Problem 10.13.** (ARSO – 2015.4.10.3): On side  $AB$  of convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , points  $K$  and  $L$  are taken (point  $K$  lies between  $A$  and  $L$ ), and on side  $CD$ , points  $M$  and  $N$  are taken (point  $M$  lies between  $C$  and  $N$ ). It is known that  $AK = KN = DN$  and  $BL = BC = CM$ . Prove that if  $BCNK$  is an inscribed quadrilateral, then  $ADML$  is also inscribed.

**Problem 10.14.** (MMO – 1992.55.11.2): Find the angles of the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  where  $\angle BAC = 30^\circ$ ,  $\angle ACD = 40^\circ$ ,  $\angle ADB = 50^\circ$ ,  $\angle CBD = 60^\circ$ , and  $\angle ABC + \angle ADC = 180^\circ$ .

**Problem 10.15.** (Gordin — 2923): Two circles pass through the vertex of an angle and the point of its bisector. Prove that the segments cut off by them on the sides of the angle are equal.

**Problem 10.16.** (Gordin — 47): In the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , the angles are given:  $\angle DAB = \alpha$ ,  $\angle ABC = \beta$ ,  $\angle BKC = \gamma$ , where  $K$  is the point of intersection of the diagonals. Find angle  $ACD$  in terms of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ .

**Problem 10.17.** (Gordin — 69): Through a point  $D$  on the base of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , a line  $CD$  is drawn, intersecting its circumcircle at point  $E$ . Find  $AC$  if  $CE = 3$  and  $DE = DC$ .

**Problem 10.18.** (Gordin — 528): In a circle with a radius of 17, a quadrilateral is inscribed, the diagonals of which are mutually perpendicular and are at a distance of 8 and 9 from the center of the circle. Find the length of the sides of the quadrilateral.

**Problem 10.19.** (AMC — 2019.10A.13): Let  $\triangle ABC$  be an isosceles triangle with  $BC = AC$  and  $\angle ACB = 40^\circ$ . Construct the circle with diameter  $\overline{BC}$ , and let  $D$  and  $E$  be the other intersection points of the circle with the sides  $\overline{AC}$  and  $\overline{AB}$ , respectively. Let  $F$  be the intersection of the diagonals of the quadrilateral  $BCDE$ . What is the degree measure of  $\angle BFC$ ?

(A) 90      (B) 100      (C) 105      (D) 110      (E) 120

**Problem 10.20.** (DVI — 2011.5): The medians  $AL$  and  $BM$  of triangle  $ABC$  intersect at point  $K$ . Find the length of segment  $CK$  if  $AB = \sqrt{3}$ , and it is known that a circle can be circumscribed around quadrilateral  $KLCM$ .

**Problem 10.21.** (DVI — 2012.6): The circle is tangent to the sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$  at points  $D$  and  $E$ , respectively, and intersects side  $AC$  at points  $F$  and  $G$  (point  $F$  is between points  $A$  and  $G$ ). Find the radius of this circle if it is known that  $AF = 5$ ,  $GC = 2$ ,  $AD : DB = 2 : 1$ , and  $BE = EC$ .

**Problem 10.22.** (MechMat – 2001.07.3): Through the vertices  $A, B, C$  of the parallelogram  $ABCD$  with sides  $AB = 3$  and  $BC = 5$ , a circle is drawn, intersecting the line  $BD$  at point  $E$ , where  $BE = 9$ . Find the length of diagonal  $BD$ .

**Problem 10.23.** (MechMat – 2000.05.3): The circle passing through the vertices  $B, C$ , and  $D$  of the parallelogram  $ABCD$  touches the line  $AD$  and intersects the line  $AB$  at points  $B$  and  $E$ . Find the length of segment  $AE$  if  $AD = 4$  and  $CE = 5$ .

**Problem 10.24.** (MechMat – 2001.03.3): In trapezoid  $ABCD$  with side  $CD = 30$ , the diagonals intersect at point  $E$ , and angles  $AED$  and  $BCD$  are equal. A circle with a radius of 17, passing through points  $C, D$ , and  $E$ , intersects the base  $AD$  at point  $F$  and is tangent to line  $BF$ . Find the height of the trapezoid and its bases.

**Problem 10.25.** (MechMat – 2001.05.3): Two circles with centers  $O$  and  $Q$ , intersecting at points  $A$  and  $B$ , intersect the angle bisector of  $\angle OAQ$  at points  $C$  and  $D$ , respectively. The segments  $OQ$  and  $AD$  intersect at point  $E$ , and the areas of triangles  $OAE$  and  $QAE$  are equal to 18 and 42, respectively. Find the area of quadrilateral  $OAQD$  and the ratio  $BC : BD$ .

**Problem 10.26.** (MechMat – 2007.4): Points  $A, B$ , and  $C$  lie on a circle with a radius of 2 and center  $O$ . Point  $K$  lies on the line tangent to this circle at point  $B$ , and  $\angle AKC = 46^\circ$ . The lengths of segments  $AK, BK$ , and  $CK$  form an increasing geometric progression (in that order). Find the angle  $AKO$ , the distance between points  $A$  and  $C$ , and determine which angle is larger:  $ACK$  or  $AOK$ .

**Problem 10.27.** (MechMat – 2003.07.4): Through vertices  $A$  and  $B$  of triangle  $ABC$ , a circle is drawn tangent to line  $BC$ , and through vertices  $B$  and  $C$ , another circle is drawn tangent to line  $AB$ . The extension of the common chord  $BD$  of these circles intersects segment  $AC$  at point  $E$ , and the extension of chord  $AD$  of one circle intersects the other circle at point  $F$ . Find the ratio  $AE : EC$  if  $AB = 5$  and  $BC = 9$ . Compare the areas of triangles  $ABC$  and  $ABF$ .

**Problem 10.28.** (MechMat – 2002.07.4): In the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , point

$X$  lies on side  $AD$  such that  $BX \parallel CD$  and  $CX \parallel BA$ . Find the value of  $BC$  if  $AX = \frac{3}{2}$  and  $DX = 6$ .

**Problem 10.29.** (AMC – 2016.10A.24): A quadrilateral is inscribed in a circle of radius  $200\sqrt{2}$ . Three of the sides of this quadrilateral have length 200. What is the length of the fourth side?

- (A) 200      (B)  $200\sqrt{2}$       (C)  $200\sqrt{3}$       (D)  $300\sqrt{2}$       (E) 500

**Problem 10.30.** (AMC – 2015.10B.19): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $\angle C = 90^\circ$  and  $AB = 12$ . Squares  $ABXY$  and  $ACWZ$  are constructed outside of the triangle. The points  $X, Y, Z$ , and  $W$  lie on a circle. What is the perimeter of the triangle?

- (A)  $12 + 9\sqrt{3}$       (B)  $18 + 6\sqrt{3}$       (C)  $12 + 12\sqrt{2}$       (D) 30      (E) 32

**Problem 10.31.** (AMC – 2013.10A.23): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = 86$ , and  $AC = 97$ . A circle with center  $A$  and radius  $AB$  intersects  $\overline{BC}$  at points  $B$  and  $X$ . Moreover,  $\overline{BX}$  and  $\overline{CX}$  have integer lengths. What is  $BC$ ?

- (A) 11      (B) 28      (C) 33      (D) 61      (E) 72

**Problem 10.32.** (ARML): A quadrilateral  $MATH$  is inscribed in a circle of radius 10.  $MA = AT = 12$  and  $MH = TH = 16$ . Compute the radius of the circle inscribed within  $MATH$ .

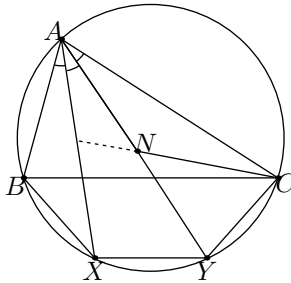
**Problem 10.33.** (BMO): In the cyclic quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , the diagonal  $AC$  bisects the angle  $DAB$ . The side  $AD$  is extended beyond  $D$  to a point  $E$ . Show that  $CE = CA$  if and only if  $DE = AB$ .

**Problem 10.34.** (European Mathematical Cup): Let  $ABC$  be an acute-angled triangle. Let  $D$  and  $E$  be the midpoints of sides  $AB$  and  $AC$ , respectively. Let  $F$  be the point such that  $D$  is the midpoint of  $EF$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the circumcircle of triangle  $FDB$ . Let  $G$  be a point on the segment  $CD$  such that the midpoint of  $BG$  lies on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $H$  be the second intersection of  $\Gamma$  and  $FC$ . Show that the quadrilateral  $BHGC$  is cyclic.

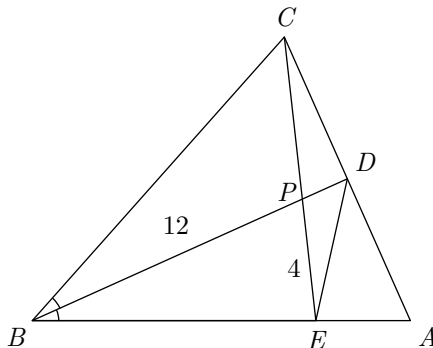
**Problem 10.35.** (HMMT): Let  $ABCD$  be a quadrilateral such that  $\angle ABC = \angle CDA = 90^\circ$ , and  $BC = 7$ . Let  $E$  and  $F$  be on  $BD$  such that  $AE$  and  $CF$  are perpendicular to  $BD$ . Suppose that  $BE = 3$ . Determine the product of the smallest and largest possible lengths of  $DF$ .

**Problem 10.36.** (USAJMO): Rectangles  $BCC_1B_2$ ,  $CAA_1C_2$ , and  $ABB_1A_2$  are erected outside an acute triangle  $ABC$ . Suppose that  $\angle BC_1C + \angle CA_1A + \angle AB_1B = 180^\circ$ . Prove that lines  $B_1C_2$ ,  $C_1A_2$ , and  $A_1B_2$  are concurrent.

**Problem 10.37.** (European Mathematical Cup): Let  $ABC$  be an acute-angled triangle such that  $|AB| < |AC|$ . Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be points on the minor arc  $BC$  of the circumcircle of  $ABC$  such that  $|BX| = |XY| = |YC|$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $N$  on the segment  $AY$  such that  $|AB| = |AN| = |NC|$ . Prove that the line  $NC$  passes through the midpoint of the segment  $AX$ .



**Problem 10.38.** (ARML): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $D$  is on  $AC$  so that  $BD$  is the angle bisector of  $\angle B$ . Point  $E$  is on  $AB$  and  $CE$  intersects  $BD$  at  $P$ . Quadrilateral  $BCDE$  is cyclic,  $BP = 12$  and  $PE = 4$ . Compute the ratio  $\frac{AC}{AE}$ .



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## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 10.1.** a) For an inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$  with  $AC \perp BD$  and  $P$  being the point of intersection of the diagonals, find  $AP^2 + BP^2 + CP^2 + DP^2$ .

b) Find the sum of the squares of the sides of  $ABCD$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 10.2.** In an inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , where the diagonals intersect at point  $O$ , and the circumcircles of triangles  $AOB$  and  $COD$  intersect at point  $M$  on side  $AD$ , prove that  $O$  is the center of the inscribed circle of triangle  $BCM$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

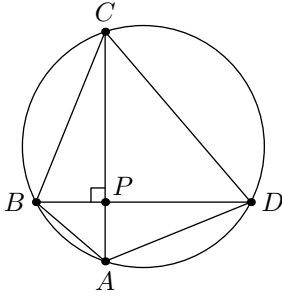


Figure 10.4: Illustration for the problem of diagonal intersection.

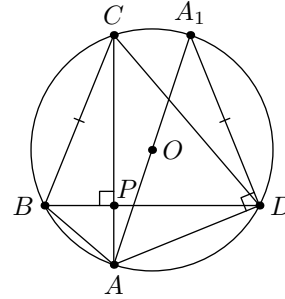


Figure 10.5: Let's make an additional construction.

**Solution to Problem 10.1:** a) We will use this fact to solve the problem:  $90^\circ = \angle APB = \frac{1}{2}(\smile AB + \smile CD)$ , so  $\smile AB + \smile CD = 180^\circ \Rightarrow \angle AOB + \angle COD = 180^\circ$ . Let  $\angle AOB = \alpha$ , then  $\angle COD = 180^\circ - \alpha$ .

Extend  $AO$  to intersect the circle at point  $A_1$  (Figure 10.5). Recall the following fact: the angle between two chords is equal to half the sum of the arcs between these chords. Therefore,  $\frac{\smile AD + \smile BC}{2} = 90^\circ$ . Since  $AA_1$  is a diameter, we have

$$\smile AD + \smile DA_1 = 180^\circ \Rightarrow \smile DA_1 = \smile BC \Rightarrow DA_1 = BC.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} AP^2 + PD^2 + BP^2 + CP^2 &= AD^2 + BC^2 = \\ AD^2 + DA_1^2 &= AA_1^2 = 4R^2. \end{aligned}$$

b) Notice that the sum  $BC^2 + AD^2$  is also equal to  $AP^2 + BP^2 + CP^2 + DP^2$ , so

$$AB^2 + BC^2 + CD^2 + DA^2 = 2(AP^2 + BP^2 + CP^2 + DP^2) = 8R^2.$$

□

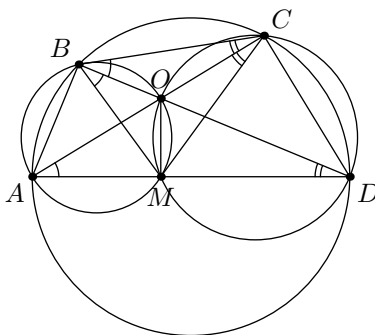


Figure 10.6: Illustration of the problem.

**Solution to Problem 10.2:** The center of the inscribed circle of a triangle lies at the intersection point of its angle bisectors. Let's prove that  $AO$  is the angle bisector of  $\angle DAM$ . From the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$ :  $\angle DAC = \angle DBC$  because these angles subtend the same arc. From the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABMO$ :  $\angle OBM = \angle OAM$ . Hence,  $\angle MAO = \angle DAO$ , implying that  $AO$  bisects  $\angle DAM$ . Similarly, it can be proved that  $DO$  bisects  $\angle DAM$ :  $\angle ADO = \angle ACB = \angle ODM$ . Therefore,  $O$  is the center of the inscribed circle of triangle  $ADM$ , as required.  $\square$



# Proportional Segments in a Circle

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“

The advancement and perfection of mathematics are intimately connected with the prosperity of the State.

—Napoleon I

## Theory and Practice

**Theorem 8.** If a diameter and a chord are drawn through a point inside a circle, then the product of the segments of the chord is equal to the product of the segments of the diameter.

*Proof.* Let's construct the following diagram (Figure 11.1). We need to prove that  $AD \cdot AE = AB \cdot AC$ .



Figure 11.1: Proportional segments in a circle.

Consider the angle equality:  $\angle BAD = \angle CAE$  (vertical angles) and  $\angle DBC = \angle CED$  (inscribed angles). Then,  $\triangle ABD \sim \triangle ACE$ , so

$$\frac{AD}{AB} = \frac{AC}{AE} \Rightarrow AD \cdot AE = AB \cdot AC,$$

which completes the proof. □

**Corollary 1.** For all chords passing through a given point inside a circle, the product of the segments is constant.

**Theorem 9** (Tangent Secant Segment Theorem). If a secant and a tangent are drawn from a point outside the circle, then the product of the secant and its external part is equal to the square of the tangent.

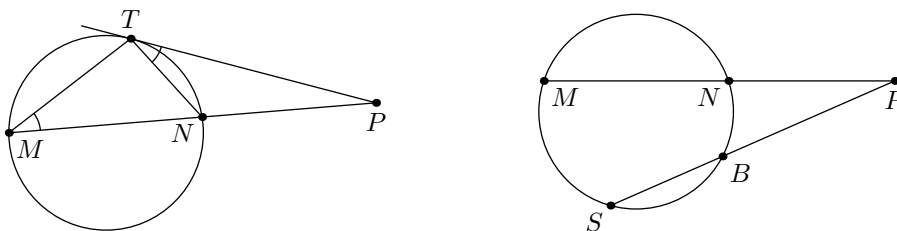


Figure 11.2: Tangent Secant Segment Theorem.

*Proof.* Let's construct the diagram (Figure 11.2). We need to prove:  $PM \cdot PN = PT^2$ .

$\triangle MTP \sim \triangle TNP$ , because  $\angle P$  is common and  $\angle TMN = \angle NTP =$  half of arc  $TN$ . From the similarity:

$$\frac{PM}{PT} = \frac{PT}{PN} \Rightarrow PM \cdot PN = PT^2.$$

□

**Corollary 2.** For all secants passing through a given point outside the circle, the product of the secant and its external part is constant.

**Theorem 10.** If a perpendicular is dropped from a point  $C$  on the circumference to the diameter, then the length of the perpendicular is the geometric mean between the lengths of segments of the diameter.

*Proof.* This theorem is a direct consequence of the theorem about the altitude in a right-angled triangle, discussed in chapter «Let's calculate all the length ratios!» □

**Theorem 11.** If a perpendicular is dropped from a point  $C$  on the circumference to the diameter, then the chord connecting point  $C$  to the end of the diameter is the geometric mean between the diameter and the projection of the chord onto the diameter.

*Proof.* This theorem is proved by a simple consequence of the similarity of the right-angled triangles that arise. □

A very important fact, which follows from the Tangent Secant Segment Theorem, is considered in the following problem. This fact will be extremely useful when you study radical axes in the next book.

**Example 11.1.** Prove that the line passing through the points of intersection of two circles bisects the common tangent to them.

**Solution:** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be the points of intersection of two circles, let  $MN$  be the common tangent ( $M$  and  $N$  are the points of tangency), and let  $K$  be the point of intersection of lines  $AB$  and  $MN$  ( $A$  is between  $K$  and  $B$ ) (Figure 11.3).

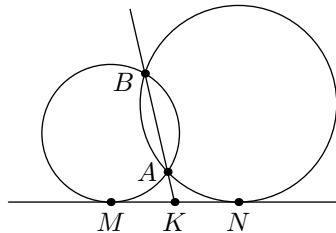


Figure 11.3: Common Secant of Two Circles.

Then,  $MK^2 = KB \cdot KA$  and  $NK^2 = KB \cdot KA$ . Hence,  $MK = NK$ . □

## Problem Set

**Problem 11.1.** (Gordin – 1331): In a circle with center  $O$ , chords  $AB$  and  $CD$  are drawn, intersecting at point  $M$ . Given that  $AM = 4$ ,  $MB = 1$ , and  $CM = 2$ , find the angle  $OMC$ .

**Problem 11.2.** (Gordin – 4839): From point  $A$ , two rays intersect a given circle: one at points  $B$  and  $C$ , and the other at points  $D$  and  $E$ . It is known that  $AB = 7$ ,  $BC = 7$ , and  $AD = 10$ . Find the length of  $DE$ .

**Problem 11.3.** (Gordin — 2635): Point  $M$  lies inside a circle with radius  $R$  and is located at a distance  $d$  from the center. Prove that for any chord  $AB$  passing through point  $M$ , the product  $AM \cdot BM$  remains constant. What is this constant?

**Problem 11.4.** (Gordin — 2873): Through point  $A$ , located outside a circle at a distance of 7 from its center, a line is drawn intersecting the circle at points  $B$  and  $C$ . If  $AB = 3$  and  $BC = 5$ , find the radius of the circle.

**Problem 11.5.** (Gordin — 4802): Point  $B$  is taken on segment  $AC$ . Circles are constructed with  $AB$  and  $AC$  as diameters. Perpendicular to the segment  $AC$  is drawn from point  $B$  and extended until it intersects the larger circle at point  $D$ . From point  $C$ , a tangent  $CK$  is drawn to the smaller circle. Prove that  $CD = CK$ .

**Problem 11.6.** (Gordin — 4621): Through the vertices  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  of a parallelogram  $ABCD$  with sides  $AB = 3$  and  $BC = 5$ , a circle is drawn, intersecting the line  $BD$  at point  $E$ , where  $BE = 9$ . Find the diagonal  $BD$ .

**Problem 11.7.** (Gordin — 10): In a circle with a radius of  $2\sqrt{7}$ , a trapezoid  $ABCD$  is inscribed, where its base  $AD$  is a diameter, and the angle  $BAD$  is  $60^\circ$ . Chord  $CE$  intersects the diameter  $AD$  at point  $P$ , such that  $AP : PD = 1 : 3$ . Find the area of triangle  $BPE$ .

**Problem 11.8.** (Gordin — 1333): Points  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  are located on a straight line in the given order. It is known that  $BC = 3$  and  $AB = 2CD$ . A circle is drawn through points  $A$  and  $C$ , and another circle is drawn through points  $B$  and  $D$ . Their common chord intersects segment  $BC$  at point  $K$ . Find  $BK$ .

**Problem 11.9.** (AMC — 2018.10A.15): Two circles of radius 5 are externally tangent to each other and are internally tangent to a circle of radius 13 at points  $A$  and  $B$ . The distance  $AB$  can be written in the form  $\frac{m}{n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. What is  $m + n$ ?

- (A) 21      (B) 29      (C) 58      (D) 69      (E) 93

**Problem 11.10.** (MechMat – 1999.05.4): Two circles intersect at points  $A$  and  $B$ . Through point  $B$ , a line is drawn intersecting the circles at points  $C$  and  $D$ , which lie on opposite sides of line  $AB$ . The tangents to these circles at points  $C$  and  $D$  intersect at point  $E$ . Find the length of  $AE$  if  $AB = 10$ ,  $AC = 16$ , and  $AD = 15$ .

**Problem 11.11.** (MechMat – 2000.07.4): Two circles touch each other externally at point  $A$ . The line passing through point  $A$  intersects the first circle at point  $B$  and the second circle at point  $C$ . The tangent to the first circle passing through point  $B$  intersects the second circle at points  $D$  and  $E$  ( $D$  is between  $B$  and  $E$ ). It is known that  $AB = 5$  and  $AC = 4$ . Find the length of segment  $CE$  and the distance from point  $A$  to the center of the circle, which is tangent to segment  $AD$  and to the extensions of segments  $ED$  and  $EA$  beyond points  $D$  and  $A$ , respectively.

**Problem 11.12.** (MechMat – 2005.4): On the base  $BC$  of trapezoid  $ABCD$ , a point  $E$  is taken, lying on the same circle as points  $A$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$ . Another circle passing through points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  is tangent to the line  $CD$ . Find  $BC$  if  $AB = 12$  and  $BE : EC = 4 : 5$ . Determine all possible values of the ratio of the radius of the first circle to the radius of the second circle under these conditions.

**Problem 11.13.** (MechMat – 2006.5): The segment  $KB$  is the bisector of triangle  $KLM$ . A circle with a radius of 5 passes through the vertex  $K$  and touches side  $LM$  at point  $B$ , and intersects side  $KL$  at point  $A$ . Find angle  $K$  and the area of triangle  $KLM$  if  $ML = 9\sqrt{3}$ , and  $KA : LB = 5 : 6$ .

**Problem 11.14.** (First lemma about sparrows): Point  $W$  is the midpoint of the arc  $ACB$  of the circumcircle of triangle  $ABC$ . Points  $X$  and  $Y$  simultaneously move from vertices  $A$  and  $B$  along the lines  $AC$  and  $BC$ , respectively, and they move in the same direction (either towards point  $C$  or away from it). Prove that points  $W$ ,  $C$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$  lie on the same circle if and only if the speeds of the moving points are equal.

**Problem 11.15.** (Second lemma about sparrows): A circle is inscribed in a triangle  $ABC$  and touches sides  $BC$  and  $AC$  at points  $A_0$  and  $B_0$ , respectively. Points  $X$  and  $Y$  simultaneously move from points  $A_0$  and  $B_0$  along the lines  $BC$  and  $AC$ , respectively, and they move in opposite directions (one towards point  $C$ , the other

away from it). Prove that points  $C$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $I$  (the center of the inscribed circle) lie on the same circle if and only if the speeds of the moving points are equal.

**Problem 11.16.** (OMGO – 2006.8.9): The diagonals of the inscribed quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at point  $K$ . Prove that the tangent at point  $K$  to the circumcircle of triangle  $ABK$  is parallel to  $CD$ .

**Problem 11.17.** (AMC – 2017.10B.22): The diameter  $AB$  of a circle of radius 2 is extended to point  $D$  outside the circle so that  $BD = 3$ . Point  $E$  is chosen so that  $ED = 5$  and line  $ED$  is perpendicular to line  $AD$ . Segment  $AE$  intersects the circle at a point  $C$  between  $A$  and  $E$ . What is the area of  $\triangle ABC$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{120}{37}$       (B)  $\frac{140}{39}$       (C)  $\frac{145}{39}$       (D)  $\frac{140}{37}$       (E)  $\frac{120}{31}$

**Problem 11.18.** (AMC – 2010.10B.19): A circle with center  $O$  has an area of  $156\pi$ . Triangle  $ABC$  is equilateral,  $\overline{BC}$  is a chord on the circle,  $OA = 4\sqrt{3}$ , and point  $O$  is outside  $\triangle ABC$ . What is the side length of  $\triangle ABC$ ?

- (A)  $2\sqrt{3}$       (B) 6      (C)  $4\sqrt{3}$       (D) 12      (E) 18

**Problem 11.19.** (HMMT): Let  $ABC$  be an obtuse triangle with circumcenter  $O$  such that  $\angle ABC = 15^\circ$  and  $\angle BAC > 90^\circ$ . Suppose that  $AO$  meets  $BC$  at  $D$ , and that  $OD^2 + OC \cdot DC = OC^2$ . Find  $\angle C$ .

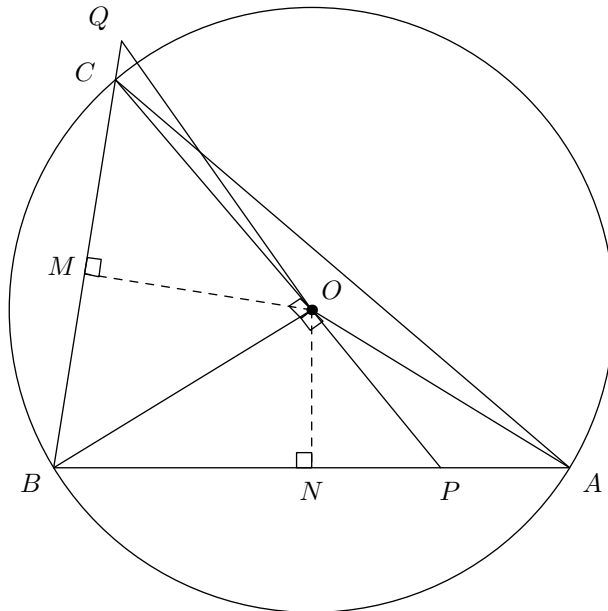
**Problem 11.20.** (HMMT): Points  $A, B, C$  lie on a circle  $\omega$  such that  $BC$  is a diameter.  $AB$  is extended past  $B$  to point  $B'$  and  $AC$  is extended past  $C$  to point  $C'$  such that line  $B'C'$  is parallel to  $BC$  and tangent to  $\omega$  at point  $D$ . If  $B'D = 4$  and  $C'D = 6$ , compute  $BC$ .

**Problem 11.21.** (AIME – 2014.I.15): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = 3$ ,  $BC = 4$ , and  $CA = 5$ . Circle  $\omega$  intersects  $\overline{AB}$  at  $E$  and  $B$ ,  $\overline{BC}$  at  $B$  and  $D$ , and  $\overline{AC}$  at  $F$  and  $G$ . Given that  $EF = DF$  and  $\frac{DG}{EG} = \frac{3}{4}$ , length  $DE = \frac{a\sqrt{b}}{c}$ , where  $a$  and  $c$  are relatively prime positive integers, and  $b$  is a positive integer not divisible by the square of any prime. Find  $a + b + c$ .

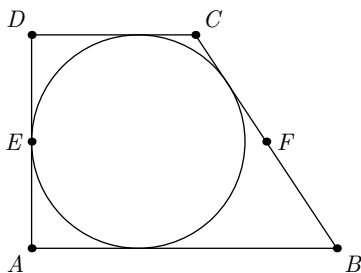
**Problem 11.22.** (AIME – 2012.II.15): Triangle  $ABC$  is inscribed in circle  $\omega$  with  $AB = 5$ ,  $BC = 7$ , and  $AC = 3$ . The bisector of angle  $A$  meets side  $\overline{BC}$  at  $D$  and circle  $\omega$  at a second point  $E$ . Let  $\gamma$  be the circle with diameter  $\overline{DE}$ . Circles  $\omega$  and  $\gamma$  meet at  $E$  and a second point  $F$ . Then  $AF^2 = \frac{m}{n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. Find  $m + n$ .

**Problem 11.23.** (BMO): Two touching circles  $S$  and  $T$  share a common tangent, which meets  $S$  at  $A$  and  $T$  at  $B$ . Let  $AP$  be a diameter of  $S$  and let the tangent from  $P$  to  $T$  touch it at  $Q$ . Show that  $AP = PQ$ .

**Problem 11.24.** (AIME – 2015.II.11): The circumcircle of acute  $\triangle ABC$  has center  $O$ . The line passing through point  $O$  perpendicular to  $\overline{OB}$  intersects lines  $AB$  and  $BC$  at  $P$  and  $Q$ , respectively. Also  $AB = 5$ ,  $BC = 4$ ,  $BQ = 4.5$ , and  $BP = \frac{m}{n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. Find  $m + n$ .



**Problem 11.25.** (BMO): Quadrilateral  $ABCD$  has right angles at  $A$  and  $D$ . A circle of radius 10 fits neatly inside the quadrilateral and touches all four sides. The length of edge  $BC$  is 24. The midpoint of edge  $AD$  is called  $E$ , and the midpoint of edge  $BC$  is called  $F$ . What is the length of  $EF$ ?



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 11.1.** Two circles intersect at points  $A$  and  $B$ . Point  $C$  lies on  $AB$ . Chords  $DM$  and  $LN$  pass through  $C$  on their respective circles. Prove that quadrilateral  $DLMN$  is cyclic.

**Skill Assessment Problem 11.2.** Line  $DA$  is tangent to the circle passing through  $A$ , and chord  $BC$  is parallel to  $DA$ . Lines  $DB$  and  $DC$  intersect the circle again at points  $K$  and  $L$ . Line  $KL$  intersects segment  $DA$  at point  $X$ . Prove that  $X$  is the midpoint of  $DA$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 11.3.** Given a parallelogram  $ABCD$  with  $AC > BD$ , point  $M$  lies on  $AC$  such that points  $B, C, D$ , and  $M$  are concyclic. Prove that  $BD$  is a common tangent to the circumcircles of triangles  $ABM$  and  $ADM$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 11.1:** Since the quadrilaterals  $ALBN$  and  $AMBD$  are inscribed, we have  $CL \cdot CN = CA \cdot CB = CM \cdot CD$ . Therefore, the quadrilateral  $KLMN$  is inscribed.  $\square$

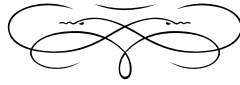
**Solution to Problem 11.2:** Let  $DA$  and  $BC$  be oriented in the same direction;  $M$  is the intersection point of the lines  $KL$  and  $DA$ . Then,  $\angle LDM = \angle LCB = \angle DKM$ , which implies  $\triangle KDM \sim \triangle DLM$ . Therefore,  $DM : KM = LM : DM$ , i.e.,  $DM^2 = KM \cdot LM$ . Additionally,  $MA^2 = MK \cdot ML$ . Thus,  $MA = DM$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 11.3:** Let  $AC$  and  $BD$  intersect at  $O$ . Then,  $MO \cdot OC = BO \cdot OD$ . Since  $OC = OA$  and  $BO = OD$ , we have  $MO \cdot OA = BO^2$  and  $MO \cdot OA = DO^2$ . Thus,  $OB$  is a tangent to the circle circumscribed around triangle  $ABM$ , and  $OD$  is a tangent to the circle circumscribed around triangle  $ADM$ .

Since points  $D$ ,  $O$ , and  $B$  are collinear,  $BD$  is a common tangent to the circles circumscribed around the required triangles.  $\square$

# Right Triangle Altitude Properties

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When Pythagoras discovered his famous theorem, he offered the gods a sacrifice of a hundred oxen. Since then, the oxen shudder whenever a new truth comes to light.

—Ludwig Börne

## Theory and Practice

Certainly, the most well-known «algebraic» theorem in geometry is the Pythagorean theorem.

**Theorem 12** (Pythagorean Theorem). The sum of the squares of the legs of a right-angled triangle is equal to the square of its hypotenuse.

At this time, there are about 400 different proofs for this theorem.

*Proof 1 (by similarity).* In the right-angled triangle  $ABC$ , draw the altitude  $CH$  from the right angle (Figure 12.1).

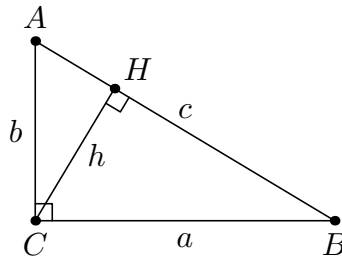


Figure 12.1: Proof by similarity.

From the similarity of triangles  $ABC$ ,  $BCH$ , and  $ACH$ , we have:

$$\frac{a}{c} = \frac{|HB|}{a}; \quad \frac{b}{c} = \frac{|AH|}{b}.$$

Hence:

$$a^2 = c \cdot |HB|; \quad b^2 = c \cdot |AH|,$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = c \cdot (|HB| + |AH|) = c^2 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = c^2.$$

□

*Proof 2 (by areas).* Let's use the «careful observation of the picture» method (Figure 12.2).

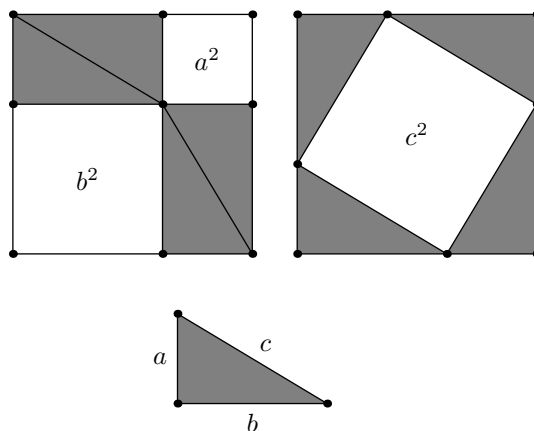


Figure 12.2: Proof by equal areas.

It can be seen that, since the areas of the proposed squares are equal, the areas of their white parts are also equal.  $\square$

*Proof 3 (Leonardo da Vinci).* Let  $ABC$  be a right-angled triangle, on the sides of which squares are built. On  $JH$ , a triangle symmetrical to  $ABC$  is built (with respect to the center of the square), constructing Figure 12.3.

The line  $CI$  passes through the center of symmetry, so it divides the square in half. Quadrilaterals  $CAJI$  and  $ABGD$  coincide by a  $90^\circ$  rotation, so they are congruent. Moreover, from their equality, it follows that the area of half of the square built on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the areas of half of the squares built on the legs, which indicates the validity of the theorem.  $\square$

The Pythagorean theorem is probably the most well-known theorem in geometry and may be required almost everywhere where there are right angles. Let's consider a few problems related to it.

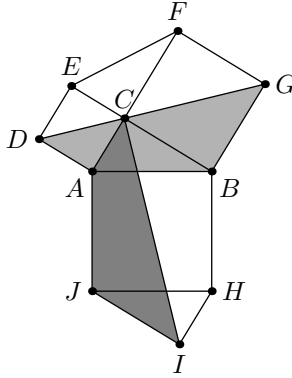


Figure 12.3: Leonardo da Vinci's proof

Of course, in right-angled triangles, we will also use the theorem about the triangle's height.

**Example 12.1.** On the altitudes  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  of triangle  $ABC$ , points  $B_2$  and  $C_2$  are taken so that  $\triangle AB_2C = \triangle AC_2B = 90^\circ$ . Prove that  $AB_2 = AC_2$ .

**Solution:** Let's construct the diagram in Figure 12.4.

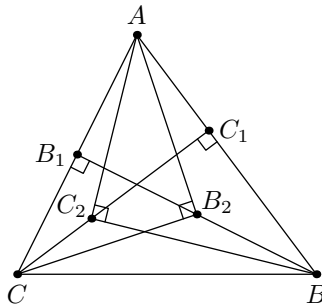


Figure 12.4: Diagram for the problem.

By the theorem of the height of a right-angled triangle:

$$AB_2^2 = AB_1 \cdot AC = AC_1 \cdot AB = AC_2^2.$$

□

## Problem Set

**Problem 12.1.** (Gordin — 2000): The legs of a right-angled triangle are in the ratio  $5 : 6$ , and the length of the hypotenuse is 122. Find the lengths of segments into which the altitude drawn from the right angle divides the hypotenuse.

**Problem 12.2.** (Gordin — 3432): Find the height of a right-angled triangle dropped onto the hypotenuse if it is known that the base of this height divides the hypotenuse into segments of length 1 and 4.

**Problem 12.3.** (Gordin — 420): The chord of a circle is 10. Through one end of the chord, a tangent is drawn to the circle, and through the other end, a secant is drawn parallel to the tangent. Find the radius of the circle if the internal segment of the secant is 12.

**Problem 12.4.** (Gordin — 2015): In an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ , the base  $AC$  is 32, and the lateral sides are 20. A perpendicular is drawn from vertex  $B$  to the lateral side, dividing the base. Find the lengths of the segments into which it divides the base.

**Problem 12.5.** (Gordin — 2237): In an isosceles trapezoid  $ABCD$  with bases  $BC$  and  $AD$ , the diagonals intersect at point  $O$ . Find the perimeter of the trapezoid if  $BO = \frac{7}{8}$ ,  $OD = \frac{25}{8}$ , and  $\angle ABD = 90^\circ$ .

**Problem 12.6.** (Mos2ARSO — 2016.10.4): From the vertex of the obtuse angle  $A$  of triangle  $ABC$ , the altitude  $AD$  is dropped. A circle with center  $D$  and radius  $DA$  is drawn, which intersects sides  $AB$  and  $AC$  at points  $M$  and  $N$ , respectively. Find  $AC$  if  $AB = c$ ,  $AM = m$ , and  $AN = n$ .

**Problem 12.7.** (Gordin — 4401): Point  $A$  is chosen on a circle, and on diameter  $BC$ , points  $D$  and  $E$  are taken. Beyond point  $B$ , on the extension of the diameter, point  $F$  is taken. Find  $BC$  if  $\angle BAD = \angle ACD$ ,  $\angle BAF = \angle CAE$ ,  $BD = 2$ ,  $BE = 5$ , and  $BF = 4$ .

**Problem 12.8.** (Gordin – 4403): On the diameter  $AB$  of a circle, points  $C$  and  $D$  are taken, and on its extension beyond point  $B$ , point  $E$  is taken. On the circle, point  $F$  is taken, such that  $\angle AFC = \angle BFE$ ,  $\angle DAF = \angle BFD$ ,  $AB = 8$ ,  $CB = 6$ , and  $DB = 5$ . Find  $BE$ .

**Problem 12.9.** (Gordin – 4580): The length of altitude of a right-angled triangle dropped from the vertex of the right angle is equal to  $h$ , and the difference between the projections of the legs on the hypotenuse is equal to  $l$ . Find the area of this triangle.

**Problem 12.10.** (Gordin – 4586): In a right-angled triangle, the length of altitude dropped from the vertex of the right angle is equal to  $h$ , and the projection of one of the legs on the hypotenuse is equal to  $l$ . Find the radius of the circle tangent to the legs if the center of the circle lies on the hypotenuse of a triangle.

**Problem 12.11.** (Gordin – 1987): The height  $CD$  of triangle  $ABC$  divides the side  $AB$  into segments  $AD$  and  $BD$ , such that  $AD \cdot BD = CD^2$ . Is it true that triangle  $ABC$  is right-angled?

**Problem 12.12.** (Gordin – 2058): In the trapezoid  $ABCD$ , points  $K$  and  $M$  are the midpoints of the bases  $AB = 5$  and  $CD = 3$ , respectively. Find the area of the trapezoid if triangle  $AMB$  is right-angled and  $DK$  is the height of the trapezoid.

**Problem 12.13.** (AMC – 2019.10A.15): Right triangles  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  have areas 1 and 2, respectively. A side of  $T_1$  is congruent to a side of  $T_2$ , and a different side of  $T_1$  is congruent to a different side of  $T_2$ . What is the square of the product of the other (third) sides of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{28}{3}$     (B) 10    (C)  $\frac{32}{3}$     (D)  $\frac{34}{3}$     (E) 12

**Problem 12.14.** (AMC – 2019.10B.16): In  $\triangle ABC$  with a right angle at  $C$ , point  $D$  lies in the interior of  $\overline{AB}$  and point  $E$  lies in the interior of  $\overline{BC}$  so that  $AC = CD$ ,  $DE = EB$ , and the ratio  $AC : DE = 4 : 3$ . What is the ratio  $AD : DB$ ?

- (A)  $2 : 3$       (B)  $2 : \sqrt{5}$       (C)  $1 : 1$       (D)  $3 : \sqrt{5}$       (E)  $3 : 2$

**Problem 12.15.** (AMC — 2018.10A.23): Farmer Pythagoras has a field in the shape of a right triangle. The right triangle's legs have lengths of 3 and 4 units. In the corner where those sides meet at a right angle, he leaves a small unplanted square  $S$  so that from the air, it looks like the right angle symbol. The rest of the field is planted. The shortest distance from  $S$  to the hypotenuse is 2 units. What fraction of the field is planted?

- (A)  $\frac{25}{27}$       (B)  $\frac{26}{27}$       (C)  $\frac{73}{75}$       (D)  $\frac{145}{147}$       (E)  $\frac{74}{75}$

**Problem 12.16.** (AMC — 2017.10A.21): A square with side length  $x$  is inscribed in a right triangle with sides of length 3, 4, and 5 so that one vertex of the square coincides with the right-angle vertex of the triangle. A square with side length  $y$  is inscribed in another right triangle with sides of length 3, 4, and 5 so that one side of the square lies on the hypotenuse of the triangle. What is  $\frac{x}{y}$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{12}{13}$       (B)  $\frac{35}{37}$       (C) 1      (D)  $\frac{37}{35}$       (E)  $\frac{13}{12}$

**Problem 12.17.** (AMC — 2014.10A.9): The two legs of a right triangle, which are altitudes, have lengths of  $2\sqrt{3}$  and 6. How long is the third altitude of the triangle?

- (A) 1      (B) 2      (C) 3      (D) 4      (E) 5

**Problem 12.18.** (AMC — 2014.10A.22): In rectangle  $ABCD$ ,  $AB = 20$  and  $BC = 10$ . Let  $E$  be a point on  $\overline{CD}$  such that  $\angle CBE = 15^\circ$ . What is  $AE$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{20\sqrt{3}}{3}$       (B)  $10\sqrt{3}$       (C) 18      (D)  $11\sqrt{3}$       (E) 20

**Problem 12.19.** (AMC — 2013.10A.15): Two sides of a triangle have lengths of 10 and 15. The length of the altitude to the third side is the average of the lengths of the altitudes to the two given sides. How long is the third side?

- (A) 6      (B) 8      (C) 9      (D) 12      (E) 18

**Problem 12.20.** (AMC – 2013.10B.23): In triangle  $ABC$ ,  $AB = 13$ ,  $BC = 14$ , and  $CA = 15$ . Distinct points  $D$ ,  $E$ , and  $F$  lie on segments  $\overline{BC}$ ,  $\overline{CA}$ , and  $\overline{DE}$ , respectively, such that  $\overline{AD} \perp \overline{BC}$ ,  $\overline{DE} \perp \overline{AC}$ , and  $\overline{AF} \perp \overline{BF}$ . The length of segment  $\overline{DF}$  can be written as  $\frac{m}{n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. What is  $m + n$ ?

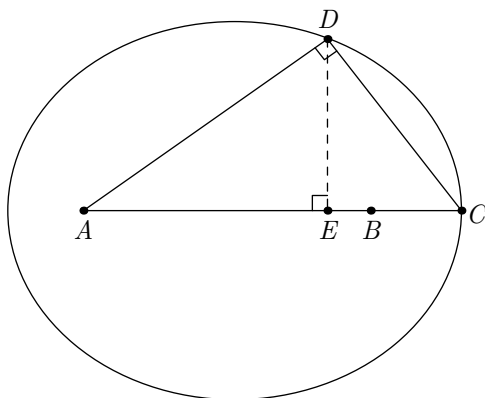
- (A) 18      (B) 21      (C) 24      (D) 27      (E) 30

**Problem 12.21.** (AMC – 2011.10B.14): A rectangular parking lot has a diagonal of 25 meters and an area of 168 square meters. In meters, what is the perimeter of the parking lot?

- (A) 52      (B) 58      (C) 62      (D) 68      (E) 70

**Problem 12.22.** (mathcounts): Triangle  $PQR$  is a right triangle with  $\angle Q = 90^\circ$ ,  $PQ = 3$  and  $QR = 4$ . Points  $S$ ,  $T$  and  $U$  are on sides  $PQ$ ,  $PR$  and  $QR$ , respectively, such that  $QSTU$  is a square. Find the length of  $ST$ . Express your answer as a common fraction.

**Problem 12.23.** (Georgia Tech High School Math Day): An ellipse has foci  $A$  and  $B$  with  $AB = 4$ . The segment  $AB$  is extended to point  $C$  on the ellipse, and  $BC = 1$ . Point  $D$  also lies on the ellipse, and  $\angle ADC$  is a right angle. Let point  $E$  be the base of the altitude of triangle  $ADC$  from point  $D$ . Compute the length  $AE$ . (The diagram below is not necessarily to scale.)



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 12.1.** (Sharygin — 2016.8.1) In triangle  $ABC$ , the height  $AH$  divides the median  $BM$  in half. Prove that a right-angled triangle can be formed from the medians of triangle  $ABM$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 12.2.** (Sharygin — 2016.8.2) On a grid paper, mark three nodes so that in the triangle formed by them, the sum of two shorter medians is equal to the semi-perimeter.

**Skill Assessment Problem 12.3.** The legs of a right-angled triangle are in the ratio  $1 : 10$ , and the hypotenuse is 2020. Find the segments into which the height from the right angle divides the hypotenuse.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 12.1:** Let the medians  $AK$ ,  $BL$ , and  $MN$  of triangle  $ABM$  intersect at point  $T$  (see Figure 12.5).

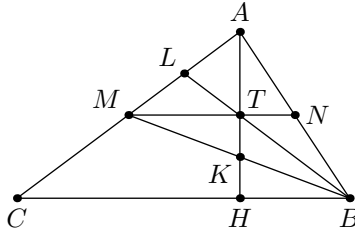


Figure 12.5: Three medians of a triangle

Since  $AT = \frac{2}{3}AK$ ,  $BT = \frac{2}{3}BL$ ,  $MT = \frac{2}{3}MN$ , it is enough to construct a right-angled triangle from the segments  $AT$ ,  $BT$ , and  $MT$ . But this triangle is  $AMT$ , as  $MN \perp AH$  as the median of triangle  $ABC$ , and  $AM = 2LT = BT$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 12.2:** Mark points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , forming a right-angled triangle with legs  $AC = 6$  and  $BC = 4$ . The median from vertex  $C$  is half the length of hypotenuse  $AB$ , and the median from vertex  $B$  by the Pythagorean theorem is  $5 = \frac{1}{2}(AC + BC)$ , which is the required condition.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 12.3:** Let the leg  $BC = x$ , then the leg  $AC = 10x$ . Draw the altitude  $CD$  of triangle  $ABC$  (Figure 12.6).

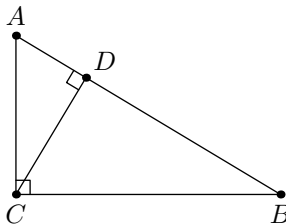


Figure 12.6: Altitude in a right-angled triangle.

Then,  $AD = \frac{AC^2}{AB} = \frac{100x^2}{2020}$ ,  $BD = \frac{BC^2}{AB} = \frac{x^2}{2020}$ ,  $AD + BD = 2020$ .

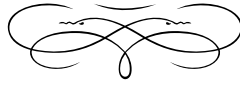
This implies  $\frac{100x^2}{2020} + \frac{x^2}{2020} = 2020$ . Thus,  $101x^2 = 2020^2$ ,  $x^2 = 2020 \cdot 20$ .

After substitution, we obtain  $AD = \frac{100 \cdot 2020 \cdot 20}{2020} = 2000$ ,  $BD = \frac{BC^2}{AB} = \frac{2020 \cdot 20}{2020} = 20$ .  $\square$



# Areas

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“ The essence of mathematics lies in its freedom.

—Georg Cantor

## Theory and Practice

Let's recall various formulas and theorems for areas. The area of triangle  $ABC$  with sides  $BC = a$ ,  $AC = b$ ,  $AB = c$  can be calculated using one of the following formulas:

1.  $A = \frac{a \cdot h_a}{2} = \frac{b \cdot h_b}{2} = \frac{c \cdot h_c}{2}$ , where  $h_a, h_b, h_c$  are the lengths of altitudes drawn from vertices  $A, B, C$ , respectively.
2.  $A = p \cdot r$ , where  $p$  is the semiperimeter and  $r$  is the radius of the inscribed circle.
3.  $A = \sqrt{p(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)}$  – Heron's formula.

How can we understand the relationships between different areas? The following facts will help us:

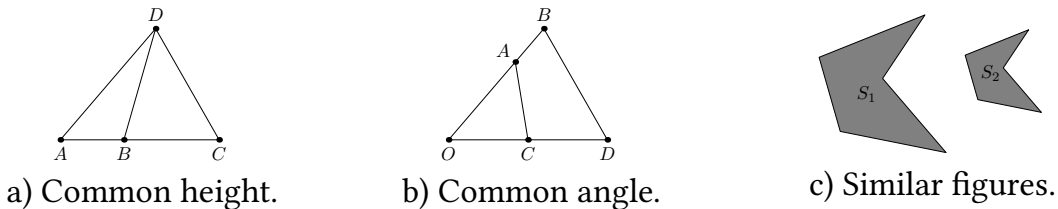


Figure 13.1: Facts about the areas of figures.

1. Let points  $A, B, C$  lie on the same line, while point  $D$  does not lie on this line. Then  $\frac{A_{ABD}}{A_{BCD}} = \frac{AB}{BC}$ , since these triangles share a common height (Figure 13.1a).
2. Let points  $A$  and  $B$  lie on one side of angle  $O$  with vertex  $O$ , and points  $C$  and  $D$  on the other side. Then  $\frac{A_{OAC}}{A_{OBD}} = \frac{OA \cdot OC}{OB \cdot OD}$ , since these triangles share a common angle (Figure 13.1b).
3. The areas of similar figures are in proportion to the square of the similarity

ratio (Figure 13.1c).

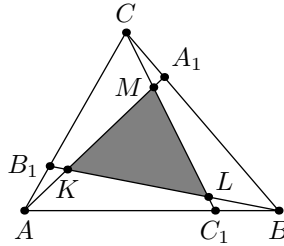


Figure 13.2: Illustration of the problem.

**Example 13.1.** Consider triangle  $ABC$  and points  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  on its sides  $BC, AC, AB$  respectively, such that  $\frac{AB_1}{B_1C} = \frac{CA_1}{A_1B} = \frac{BC_1}{C_1A} = \frac{1}{3}$ . Segments  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  intersect at point  $K$ , segments  $BB_1$  and  $CC_1$  intersect at point  $L$ , and segments  $CC_1$  and  $AA_1$  intersect at point  $M$ . Find the ratio of the areas of triangles  $KLM$  and  $ABC$  (Figure 13.2).

*Proof.* Let's use the theorem on proportional segments in a triangle:  $\frac{AK}{KA_1} = \frac{AB_1}{B_1C} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{CA_1}{A_1B}\right) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{3} = \frac{4}{9}$ . Therefore,  $\frac{AK}{AA_1} = \frac{4}{13}$ . Denote the area of triangle  $ABC$  as  $A$ . Then  $\frac{A_{AA_1C}}{A_{ABC}} = \frac{A_1C}{BC} = \frac{1}{4} \implies A_{AA_1C} = \frac{A}{4}$ . Similarly, the areas of triangles  $ABB_1$  and  $BCC_1$  are also  $\frac{A}{4}$ . Now, let's find the area of triangle  $AKB_1$ , using the fact that triangle  $AA_1C$  shares a common angle with it:

$$\frac{A_{AKB_1}}{A_{AA_1C}} = \frac{AK}{AA_1} \cdot \frac{AB_1}{AC} = \frac{4}{13} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{13} \implies$$

$$A_{AKB_1} = \frac{A_{AA_1C}}{13} = \frac{A}{52}$$

Similarly, the areas of triangles  $C_1LB$  and  $A_1MC$  are also  $\frac{A}{52}$ . Now we can calculate the area of triangle  $KLM$ :

$$A_{KLM} = A_{ABC} - A_{ABB_1} - A_{BCC_1} - A_{CAA_1} + A_{AKB_1} +$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+A_{CMA_1} + A_{BLC_1} = \\
 &= A \left( 1 - \frac{1}{4} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{52} \cdot 3 \right) = \frac{4A}{13},
 \end{aligned}$$

which is what we needed to find. □

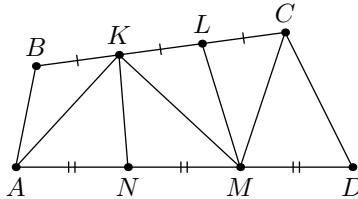


Figure 13.3: Illustration of the problem.

**Example 13.2.** Consider a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  with  $BK = KL = LC$  on side  $BC$  and  $AN = NM = MD$  on side  $AD$ . Prove that the area of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is three times the area of quadrilateral  $KLMN$  (Fig. 13.3).

*Proof.* The areas of triangles  $AKN$  and  $MKN$  are equal since they share a common height and equal base. Denote these areas as  $A_1$ . Similarly, denote the areas of triangles  $KLM$  and  $CLM$  as  $A_2$ .

For triangles  $ABC$  and  $ABK$ , their heights coincide, but the bases differ by a factor of 3, so  $A_{ABC} = 3A_{ABK}$ . Similarly,  $A_{ACD} = 3A_{MCD}$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_{ABCD} &= A_{ABC} + A_{ACD} = 3(A_{ABK} + A_{MCD}) \Rightarrow \\
 &\Rightarrow A_{AKCM} = 2(A_{ABK} + A_{MCD}) \Rightarrow \\
 A_{ABK} + A_{CDM} &= \frac{A_{AKCM}}{2} = A_1 + A_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the area of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is  $3(A_1 + A_2)$ , while the area of quadrilateral  $KLMN$  is  $A_1 + A_2$ , which is three times smaller. □

**Example 13.3.** In triangle  $ABC$ ,  $AB = 10$ ,  $BC = 12$ , and  $AC = 8$ . On segment  $AB$ , point  $K$  is taken such that  $AK : KB = 2 : 3$ , and on side  $BC$ , point  $M$  is taken such that  $BM : MC = 2 : 1$ . Point  $O$  is taken on segment  $KM$  such that  $KO : OM = 4 : 5$ . Which of the triangles  $ABO$ ,  $BCO$ , or  $ACO$  has the smallest area?

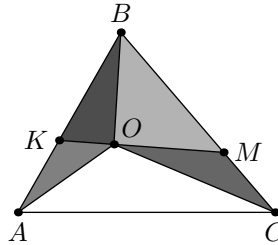


Figure 13.4: Area ratio

*Proof.* Let  $A_{AKO} = s$ , then by the property of areas (equal heights, different bases), we have (see Fig. 13.4):

$$\frac{A_{BKO}}{A_{AKO}} = \frac{3}{2}, \text{ then } A_{BKO} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot s,$$

$$\frac{A_{BKO}}{A_{BOM}} = \frac{4}{5}, \text{ then } A_{BOM} = \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot s = \frac{15}{8} \cdot s,$$

$$\frac{A_{BOM}}{A_{OMC}} = \frac{1}{2}, \text{ then } A_{OMC} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{15}{8} \cdot s = \frac{15}{16} \cdot s.$$

Then  $A_{AOB} = s + \frac{3}{2} \cdot s = \frac{5}{2} \cdot s = \frac{40}{16} \cdot s$  and  $A_{BOC} = \frac{15}{8} \cdot s + \frac{15}{16} \cdot s = \frac{45}{16} \cdot s$ . Also,  $A_{KBM} = \frac{27}{8} \cdot s$ , on the other hand,  $A_{KBM} = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot A_{ABC}$ , i.e.,  $A_{ABC} = \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{27}{8} \cdot s$ . Then  $A_{AOC} = A_{ABC} - A_{AOB} - A_{BOC} = \frac{50}{16} \cdot s$ . Therefore, the area of  $ABO$  is the smallest.  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 13.1.** (MMG – 2012.11.2): Inside parallelogram  $ABCD$ , an arbitrary point  $P$  is chosen, and segments  $PA$ ,  $PB$ ,  $PC$ , and  $PD$  are drawn. The areas of three of

the resulting triangles are 1, 2, and 3 (in some order). What can the area of the fourth triangle?

**Problem 13.2.** (MMO – 2005.10.3): On the sides of triangle  $ABC$ , squares  $ABB_1A_2$ ,  $BCC_1B_2$ , and  $CAA_1C_2$  are constructed outward. Squares  $A_1A_2A_3A_4$  and  $B_1B_2B_3B_4$  are also constructed outward on segments  $A_1A_2$  and  $B_1B_2$  beyond triangles  $AA_1A_2$  and  $BB_1B_2$ . Prove that  $A_3B_4 \parallel AB$ .

**Problem 13.3.** (Gordin – 2925): Points  $M$  and  $N$  are located on side  $BC$  of triangle  $ABC$ , and point  $K$  is on side  $AC$ . It is given that  $BM : MN : NC = 1 : 1 : 2$  and  $CK : AK = 1 : 4$ . If the area of triangle  $ABC$  is equal to 1, find the area of quadrilateral  $AMNK$ .

**Problem 13.4.** (MMO – 1967.9.2): Can a square pie be cut into 9 equal parts by choosing two points inside the square and connecting each of them with straight cuts to all four vertices of the square? If possible, which two points should be chosen?

**Problem 13.5.** (Gordin – 6226): In triangle  $ABC$  with  $AB = BC \neq AC$ , point  $E$  is chosen on side  $AB$ , and point  $D$  is chosen beyond vertex  $A$  on the extension of side  $AC$ , such that  $\angle BDC = \angle ECA$ . Prove that the areas of triangles  $DEC$  and  $ABC$  are equal.

**Problem 13.6.** (TOT – 1996.9.3): The rectangle  $ABCD$  has an area of 1 and is folded along a line so that point  $C$  coincides with point  $A$ . Prove that the area of the resulting pentagon has an area of less than  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

**Problem 13.7.** (AMC – 2019.10B.24): In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  divides side  $\overline{AC}$  so that  $AD : DC = 1 : 2$ . Let  $E$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{BD}$  and let  $F$  be the point of intersection of line  $BC$  and line  $AE$ . Given that the area of  $\triangle ABC$  is 360, what is the area of  $\triangle EBF$ ?

**Problem 13.8.** (AMC – 2018.10A.24): Triangle  $ABC$  with  $AB = 50$  and  $AC = 10$  has area 120. Let  $D$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{AB}$ , and let  $E$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{AC}$ . The

angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$  intersects  $\overline{DE}$  and  $\overline{BC}$  at  $F$  and  $G$ , respectively. What is the area of quadrilateral  $FDBG$ ?

- (A) 60      (B) 65      (C) 70      (D) 75      (E) 80

**Problem 13.9.** (MechMat – 2004.03.4): In the convex quadrilateral  $KLMN$ , diagonals  $KM$  and  $LN$  are perpendicular to the sides  $MN$  and  $KL$  respectively, and the length of side  $KN$  is  $4\sqrt{3}$ . Point  $A$  is located on the side  $KN$  such that  $\angle LAK = \angle MAN$ . It is known that  $\angle MKN - \angle KNL = 15^\circ$ . Find the length of the broken line  $LAM$  and the area of quadrilateral  $KLMN$  if  $LA : AM = 1 : \sqrt{3}$ .

**Problem 13.10.** (AMC – 2018.10B.24): Let  $ABCDEF$  be a regular hexagon with side length 1.  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  are placed at the midpoints of sides  $\overline{AB}$ ,  $\overline{CD}$ , and  $\overline{EF}$ , respectively. What is the area of the convex hexagon whose interior is the intersection of the interiors of  $\triangle ACE$  and  $\triangle XYZ$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{3}{8}\sqrt{3}$       (B)  $\frac{7}{16}\sqrt{3}$       (C)  $\frac{15}{32}\sqrt{3}$       (D)  $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$       (E)  $\frac{9}{16}\sqrt{3}$

**Problem 13.11.** (AMC – 2017.10A.22): Sides  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{AC}$  of equilateral triangle  $ABC$  are tangent to a circle at points  $B$  and  $C$ , respectively. What fraction of the area of  $\triangle ABC$  lies outside the circle?

- (A)  $\frac{4\sqrt{3}\pi}{27} - \frac{1}{3}$       (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{\pi}{8}$       (C)  $\frac{1}{2}$       (D)  $\sqrt{3} - \frac{2\sqrt{3}\pi}{9}$       (E)  $\frac{4}{3} - \frac{4\sqrt{3}\pi}{27}$

**Problem 13.12.** (AMC – 2017.10B.15): Rectangle  $ABCD$  has  $AB = 3$  and  $BC = 4$ . Point  $E$  is the foot of the perpendicular from  $B$  to diagonal  $\overline{AC}$ . What is the area of  $\triangle AED$ ?

- (A) 1      (B)  $\frac{42}{25}$       (C)  $\frac{28}{15}$       (D) 2      (E)  $\frac{54}{25}$

**Problem 13.13.** (AMC – 2017.10B.19): Let  $ABC$  be an equilateral triangle. Extend side  $\overline{AB}$  beyond  $B$  to a point  $B'$  so that  $BB' = 3AB$ . Similarly, extend side  $\overline{BC}$

beyond  $C$  to a point  $C'$  so that  $CC' = 3BC$ , and extend side  $\overline{CA}$  beyond  $A$  to a point  $A'$  so that  $AA' = 3CA$ . What is the ratio of the area of  $\triangle A'B'C'$  to the area of  $\triangle ABC$ ?

- (A) 9 : 1      (B) 16 : 1      (C) 25 : 1      (D) 36 : 1      (E) 37 : 1

**Problem 13.14.** (AMC – 2017.10B.21): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = 6$ ,  $AC = 8$ ,  $BC = 10$ , and  $D$  is the midpoint of  $\overline{BC}$ . What is the sum of the radii of the circles inscribed in  $\triangle ADB$  and  $\triangle ADC$ ?

- (A)  $\sqrt{5}$       (B)  $\frac{11}{4}$       (C)  $2\sqrt{2}$       (D)  $\frac{17}{6}$       (E) 3

**Problem 13.15.** (AMC – 2016.10A.21): Circles with centers  $P$ ,  $Q$  and  $R$ , having radii 1, 2 and 3, respectively, lie on the same side of line  $l$  and are tangent to  $l$  at  $P'$ ,  $Q'$  and  $R'$ , respectively, with  $Q'$  between  $P'$  and  $R'$ . The circle with center  $Q$  is externally tangent to each of the other two circles. What is the area of triangle  $PQR$ ?

- (A) 0      (B)  $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$       (C) 1      (D)  $\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}$       (E)  $\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$

**Problem 13.16.** (AMC – 2016.10B.10): A thin piece of wood of uniform density in the shape of an equilateral triangle with a side length of 3 inches weighs 12 ounces. A second piece of the same type of wood, with the same thickness and also in the shape of an equilateral triangle, has a side length of 5 inches. Which of the following is closest to the weight, in ounces, of the second piece?

- (A) 14.0      (B) 16.0      (C) 20.0      (D) 33.3      (E) 55.6

**Problem 13.17.** (AMC – 2016.10B.11): Carl decided to fence in his rectangular garden. He bought 20 fence posts, placed one on each of the four corners, and spaced out the rest evenly along the edges of the garden, leaving exactly 4 yards between neighboring posts. The longer side of his garden, including the corners, has twice as many posts as the shorter side, including the corners. What is the area, in square yards, of Carl's garden?

- (A) 256      (B) 336      (C) 384      (D) 448      (E) 512

**Problem 13.18.** (AMC – 2016.10B.23): In regular hexagon  $ABCDEF$ , points  $W$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  are chosen on sides  $\overline{BC}$ ,  $\overline{CD}$ ,  $\overline{EF}$ , and  $\overline{FA}$  respectively, so lines  $AB$ ,  $ZW$ ,  $YX$ , and  $ED$  are parallel and equally spaced. What is the ratio of the area of hexagon  $WCXYFZ$  to the area of hexagon  $ABCDEF$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{1}{3}$       (B)  $\frac{10}{27}$       (C)  $\frac{11}{27}$       (D)  $\frac{4}{9}$       (E)  $\frac{13}{27}$

**Problem 13.19.** (AMC – 2015.10A.11): The ratio of the length to the width of a rectangle is  $4 : 3$ . If the rectangle has a diagonal of length  $d$ , then the area may be expressed as  $kd^2$  for some constant  $k$ . What is  $k$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{2}{7}$       (B)  $\frac{3}{7}$       (C)  $\frac{12}{25}$       (D)  $\frac{16}{25}$       (E)  $\frac{3}{4}$

**Problem 13.20.** (AMC – 2015.10A.19): The isosceles right triangle  $ABC$  has right angle at  $C$  and area 12.5. The rays trisecting  $\angle ACB$  intersect  $AB$  at  $D$  and  $E$ . What is the area of  $\triangle CDE$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{5\sqrt{2}}{3}$       (B)  $\frac{50\sqrt{3}-75}{4}$       (C)  $\frac{15\sqrt{3}}{8}$       (D)  $\frac{50-25\sqrt{3}}{2}$       (E)  $\frac{25}{6}$

**Problem 13.21.** (AMC – 2014.10A.13): Equilateral  $\triangle ABC$  has a side length of 1, and squares  $ABDE$ ,  $BCHI$ ,  $CAFG$  lie outside the triangle. What is the area of hexagon  $DEFGHI$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{12+3\sqrt{3}}{4}$       (B)  $\frac{9}{2}$       (C)  $3 + \sqrt{3}$       (D)  $\frac{6+3\sqrt{3}}{2}$       (E) 6

**Problem 13.22.** (AMC – 2014.10A.15): In rectangle  $ABCD$ ,  $DC = 2CB$  and points  $E$  and  $F$  lie on  $\overline{AB}$  so that  $\overline{ED}$  and  $\overline{FD}$  trisect  $\angle ADC$ . What is the ratio of the area of  $\triangle DEF$  to the area of rectangle  $ABCD$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}$       (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{8}$       (C)  $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{16}$       (D)  $\frac{1}{3}$       (E)  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}$

**Problem 13.23.** (AMC – 2013.10A.13): Square  $ABCD$  has side length 10. Point  $E$  is on  $\overline{BC}$ , and the area of  $\triangle ABE$  is 40. What is  $BE$ ?

- (A) 4      (B) 5      (C) 6      (D) 7      (E) 8

**Problem 13.24.** (AMC – 2013.10A.20): A unit square is rotated  $45^\circ$  about its center. What is the area of the region swept out by the interior of the square?

- (A)  $1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}$       (B)  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}$       (C)  $2 - \sqrt{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}$   
(D)  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}$       (E)  $1 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} + \frac{\pi}{8}$

**Problem 13.25.** (AMC – 2013.10B.7): Six points are equally spaced around a circle of radius 1. Three of these points are the vertices of a triangle that is neither equilateral nor isosceles. What is the area of this triangle?

- (A)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$       (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$       (C) 1      (D)  $\sqrt{2}$       (E) 2

**Problem 13.26.** (AMC – 2013.10B.15): A wire is cut into two pieces, one of length  $a$  and the other of length  $b$ . The piece of length  $a$  is bent to form an equilateral triangle, and the piece of length  $b$  is bent to form a regular hexagon. The triangle and the hexagon have equal area. What is  $\frac{a}{b}$ ?

- (A) 1      (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$       (C)  $\sqrt{3}$       (D) 2      (E)  $\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$

**Problem 13.27.** (AMC – 2013.10B.16): In triangle  $ABC$ , medians  $AD$  and  $CE$  intersect at  $P$ , with  $PE = 1.5$ ,  $PD = 2$ , and  $DE = 2.5$ . What is the area of  $AEDC$ ?

- (A) 13      (B) 13.5      (C) 14      (D) 14.5      (E) 15

**Problem 13.28.** (AMC – 2012.10B.14): Two equilateral triangles lie inside of a

square whose side length is  $2\sqrt{3}$ . The bases of these triangles are the opposite sides of the square, and their intersection is a rhombus. What is the area of the rhombus?

- (A)  $\frac{3}{2}$       (B)  $\sqrt{3}$       (C)  $2\sqrt{2} - 1$       (D)  $8\sqrt{3} - 12$       (E)  $\frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}$

**Problem 13.29.** (AMC – 2012.10B.19): In rectangle  $ABCD$ ,  $AB = 6$ ,  $AD = 30$ , and  $G$  is the midpoint of  $\overline{AD}$ . Segment  $AB$  is extended 2 units beyond  $B$  to point  $E$ , and  $F$  is the intersection of  $\overline{ED}$  and  $\overline{BC}$ . What is the area of  $BFDG$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{133}{2}$       (B) 67      (C)  $\frac{135}{2}$       (D) 68      (E)  $\frac{137}{2}$

**Problem 13.30.** (AMC – 2011.10A.11): Square  $EFGH$  has one vertex on each side of square  $ABCD$ . Point  $E$  is on  $\overline{AB}$  with  $AE = 7 \cdot EB$ . What is the ratio of the area of  $EFGH$  to the area of  $ABCD$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{49}{64}$       (B)  $\frac{25}{32}$       (C)  $\frac{7}{8}$       (D)  $\frac{5\sqrt{2}}{8}$       (E)  $\frac{\sqrt{14}}{4}$

**Problem 13.31.** (AMC – 2011.10A.18): Circles  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  each have a radius of 1. Circles  $A$  and  $B$  share one point of tangency. Circle  $C$  has a point of tangency with the midpoint of  $\overline{AB}$ . What is the area inside circle  $C$  but outside circle  $A$  and circle  $B$ ?

- (A)  $3 - \frac{\pi}{2}$       (B)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$       (C) 2      (D)  $\frac{3\pi}{4}$       (E)  $1 + \frac{\pi}{2}$

**Problem 13.32.** (AMC – 2010.10A.19): Equiangular hexagon  $ABCDEF$  has side lengths  $AB = CD = EF = 1$  and  $BC = DE = FA = r$ . The area of  $\triangle ACE$  is 70% of the area of the hexagon. What is the sum of all possible values of  $r$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}$       (B)  $\frac{10}{3}$       (C) 4      (D)  $\frac{17}{4}$       (E) 6

**Problem 13.33.** (AMC – 2010.10B.7): A triangle has side lengths 10, 10, and 12. A rectangle has width 4 and area equal to the area of the triangle. What is the perimeter of this rectangle?

- (A) 16      (B) 24      (C) 28      (D) 32      (E) 36

**Problem 13.34.** (AMC – 2010.10B.16): A square of side length 1 and a circle of radius  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$  share the same center. What is the area inside the circle, but outside the square?

- (A)  $\frac{\pi}{3} - 1$       (B)  $\frac{2\pi}{9} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$       (C)  $\frac{\pi}{18}$       (D)  $\frac{1}{4}$       (E)  $\frac{2\pi}{9}$

**Problem 13.35.** (AMC – 2010.10B.20): Two circles lie outside of the regular hexagon  $ABCDEF$ . The first circle is tangent to  $\overline{AB}$ , and the second is tangent to  $\overline{DE}$ . Both are tangent to lines  $BC$  and  $FA$ . What is the ratio of the area of the second circle to the one of the first circle?

- (A) 18      (B) 27      (C) 36      (D) 81      (E) 108

**Problem 13.36.** (AIME – 2002.II.13): In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  is on  $\overline{BC}$  with  $CD = 2$  and  $DB = 5$ , point  $E$  is on  $\overline{AC}$  with  $CE = 1$  and  $EA = 3$ ,  $AB = 8$ , and  $\overline{AD}$  and  $\overline{BE}$  intersect at  $P$ . Points  $Q$  and  $R$  lie on  $\overline{AB}$  so that  $\overline{PQ}$  is parallel to  $\overline{CA}$  and  $\overline{PR}$  is parallel to  $\overline{CB}$ . It is given that the ratio of the area of triangle  $PQR$  to the area of triangle  $ABC$  is  $m/n$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. Find  $m + n$ .

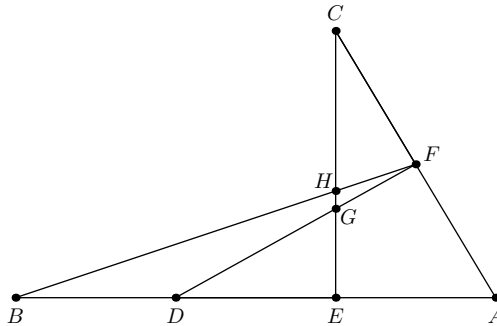
**Problem 13.37.** (HMMT): Let  $ABCD$  be a parallelogram with  $AB = 8$ ,  $AD = 11$ , and  $\angle BAD = 60^\circ$ . Let  $X$  be on segment  $CD$  with  $CX/XD = 1/3$  and  $Y$  be on segment  $AD$  with  $AY/YD = 1/2$ . Let  $Z$  be on segment  $AB$  such that  $AX$ ,  $BY$ , and  $DZ$  are concurrent. Determine the area of triangle  $XYZ$ .

**Problem 13.38.** (BMO): Let  $ABC$  be an equilateral triangle, and  $P$  be a point inside this triangle. Let  $D$ ,  $E$  and  $F$  be the feet of the perpendiculars from  $P$  to the sides  $BC$ ,  $CA$  and  $AB$ , respectively. Prove that

a)  $AF + BD + CE = AE + BF + CD$  and

b)  $[APF] + [BPD] + [CPE] = [APE] + [BPF] + [CPD]$ .

**Problem 13.39.** (ARML): Given noncollinear points  $A, B, C$ , segment  $AB$  is trisected by points  $D$  and  $E$ , and  $F$  is the midpoint of segment  $AC$ .  $DF$  and  $BF$  intersect  $CE$  at  $G$  and  $H$ , respectively. If  $[DEG] = 18$ , compute  $[FGH]$ .



## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 13.1.** Is there a triangle such that the distances from its vertices to the opposite sides are 1, 2, and 3?

**Skill Assessment Problem 13.2.**  $ABCD$  is a convex quadrilateral, and  $AC$  intersects  $BD$  at point  $O$ . If  $A_{AOB} = A_{COD}$ , prove that the original quadrilateral is either a trapezoid or a parallelogram.

**Skill Assessment Problem 13.3.** In a convex quadrilateral, points are marked on the sides, dividing them into three equal parts, and the corresponding points on opposite sides are connected (see Figure 13.5). Prove that the area of the middle shaded quadrilateral is 9 times smaller than the area of the original quadrilateral.

**Skill Assessment Problem 13.4.** In triangle  $ABC$ , a line is drawn through vertex  $A$  and the midpoint  $K$  of median  $BM$ , intersecting side  $BC$  at point  $X$ . Find  $\frac{A_{ABK}}{A_{KXMC}}$ .

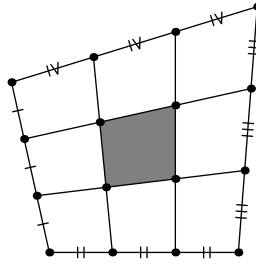


Figure 13.5: Areas when dividing a quadrilateral.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 13.1:** Assume that such a triangle exists. According to the formula for the area of a triangle, its sides are inversely proportional to the altitudes, i.e., the numbers  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$ . However, a triangle with these sides does not exist according to the triangle inequality.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 13.2:** Notice that  $A_{ABD} = A_{AOB} + A_{AOD} = A_{COD} + A_{AOD} = A_{ACD}$ . The triangles  $ABD$  and  $ACD$  share the base  $AD$ , so they have equal altitudes dropped onto side  $AD$ . This implies that points  $B$  and  $C$  are equidistant from line  $AD$ . Since  $B$  and  $C$  are on the same side of line  $AD$ , we have  $BC \parallel AD$ .  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 13.3:** Prove that  $C_2K = KL = LA_1$  and  $C_1M = MN = NA_2$ .

From the similarity of triangles  $BC_2D_1$  and  $BAC$ , it follows that  $AC = 3C_2D_1$  and  $C_2D_1 \parallel AC$ . From the similarity of triangles  $ACD$  and  $B_2A_1D$ , it follows that  $AC = 1.5B_2A_1$  and  $AC \parallel B_2A_1$ . Hence,  $C_2D_1 \parallel B_2A_1$  and  $2C_2D_1 = B_2A_1$  (see Figure 13.6). Therefore,  $\triangle C_2KD_1 \sim \triangle A_1KB_2$  with a coefficient of 0.5, which implies  $KA_1 = 2C_2K \implies C_2K = C_2A_1/3$ . Similarly,  $LA_1 = C_2A_1/3$ ;  $C_1M = A_2N = C_1A_2/3$ .

Using a problem from the covered material:  $A_{ABCD} = 3A_{C_1C_2A_1A_2}$  and  $A_{C_1C_2A_1A_2} = 3A_{KLMN} \implies A_{ABCD} = 9A_{KLMN}$ , as required.  $\square$

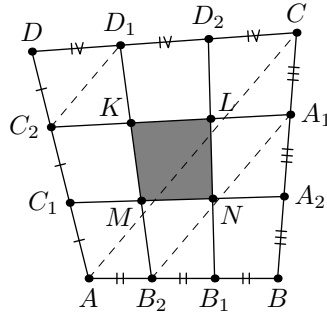


Figure 13.6: Additional construction.

**Solution to Problem 13.4:** Using the theorem of proportional segments in a triangle, we have  $\frac{BK}{KM} = \frac{BX}{XC} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{CM}{MA}\right) \implies \frac{BX}{XC} = \frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $A_{ABC} = A$ . Then  $A_{BMC} = A/2$ ;  $\frac{A_{BKK}}{A_{BMC}} = \frac{BK}{BM} \cdot \frac{BX}{BC} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$ , since these triangles have a common angle. Hence,  $A_{KXMC} = \frac{5A}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5A}{12}$ .  $\frac{A_{ABK}}{A_{ABM}} = \frac{BK}{BM} = \frac{1}{2}$ , as these triangles have the same height, implying  $A_{ABK} = \frac{A}{4}$ . Now, we can calculate the ratio of the areas:

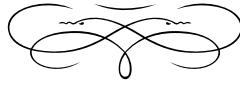
$$\frac{A_{ABK}}{A_{KXMC}} = \frac{A}{4} \cdot \frac{12}{5A} = \frac{3}{5},$$

as required. □



# Locus

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“

Let no one ignorant of geometry enter.

– Tradition has it that this phrase was engraved at the door of Plato's Academy

## Theory and Practice

A *locus* of points refers to those, and only those, points that possess a specified property.

*For example*, the geometric set of points equidistant from point  $O$  at a distance  $r$  defines a circle with center at  $O$  and radius  $r$ , denoted as  $(O, r)$ .

In the definition of locus, the words «those and only those» mean essentially the same as the expression «if and only if,» indicating the need to prove two statements: that all described points satisfy the given condition, and that no other points satisfy it. The locus of points equidistant from the sides of an angle is the angle bisector because:

1. Necessity: Any point equidistant from the sides of an angle lies on the bisector.
2. Sufficiency: Any point on the bisector is equidistant from the sides of the angle.

Therefore, the solution to a locus problem should include a proof that:

- a) points that possess the required property belong to the figure  $F$ , which is the answer to the problem;
- b) all points in figure  $F$  possess the required property.

If the locus has two properties, there is an intersection or common part of two loci, each possessing the first and second properties, respectively.

*For example*, the locus of points equidistant from  $O$  at a distance not exceeding  $a$  but not less than  $b$  ( $a > b$ ) defines a ring bounded by the circles  $(O, a)$  and  $(O, b)$ .

Let's recall a few more important loci:

The locus of points equidistant from the two ends of a given segment is the **midpoint perpendicular** to that segment.

The locus of points at a given distance from a given line is two parallel lines on opposite sides of it.

Typically, within the scope of school and Olympiad programs, loci are either lines, rays, segments, circles or arcs, areas bounded by given objects, or a combination of these objects.

**Example 14.1.** Given points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $N$ , find the locus of points  $M$  such that  $AM^2 - BM^2 = AN^2 - BN^2$ .

**Solution:** Let's draw a line  $l$  through point  $N$  perpendicular to  $AB$ . We will prove that this line is the desired locus. Suppose it intersects the segment  $AB$  (or its extension) at point  $X$ .



Figure 14.1: Problem of the difference of squared distances to the ends of the segment.

Sufficiency (see Figure 14.1a): we will prove that for any point  $M$  on this line, the equality  $AM^2 - BM^2 = AN^2 - BN^2$  holds. Let's write the Pythagorean theorem for triangles  $AMX, BMX, ANX, BNX$ :  $AM^2 = AX^2 + XM^2$ ;  $BM^2 = BX^2 + XM^2$ ;  $AN^2 = AX^2 + XN^2$ ;  $BN^2 = BX^2 + XN^2$ . Hence,  $AM^2 - BM^2 = AX^2 + XM^2 - BX^2 - XM^2 = AX^2 - BX^2$ . Also,  $AN^2 - BN^2 = AN^2 + XN^2 - BN^2 - XN^2 = AX^2 - BX^2$ .

Necessity: we will prove that any point  $M$  for which the equality  $AM^2 - BM^2 = AN^2 - BN^2$  holds lies on the line  $l$ . Suppose this is not the case (see Figure 14.1b). Draw a line through point  $M$  perpendicular to  $AB$ . Let this line intersect line  $AB$  at point  $Y$ , which is different from point  $X$ . Then, by the Pythagorean theorem for triangles  $AMY$  and  $BMY$ ,  $AM^2 - BM^2 = AY^2 - BY^2$ . Similarly,  $AN^2 - BN^2 = AX^2 - BX^2$ . Hence,  $AX^2 - BX^2 = AY^2 - BY^2$ . Let's introduce a numerical axis on line  $AB$ . Assume point  $A$  has a coordinate of 0,  $B$  has a coordinate of  $b$ ,  $X$  has a coordinate of  $x$ , and  $Y$  has a coordinate of  $y$ . Then  $AX^2 - BX^2 = x^2 - (b-x)^2 = 2bx - b^2$ ;  $AY^2 - BY^2 = y^2 - (b-y)^2 = 2by - b^2$ . From the equality  $2bx - b^2 = 2by - b^2$ , we conclude that  $x = y$ , which means points  $X$  and  $Y$  coincide. This contradiction completes the proof.  $\square$

**Example 14.2.** A kitten is sleeping in the middle of a ladder that is leaning against a wall. What trajectory will the kitten follow when the ladder starts to slide on the floor?

**Solution:** Finding the trajectory of the ladder means finding the locus of midpoints of segments of a given length, the ends of which lie on two given rays (walls). Let the length of the ladder be  $2l$ . We will prove that the desired locus will be a quarter circle with center  $O$  and radius  $l$ .

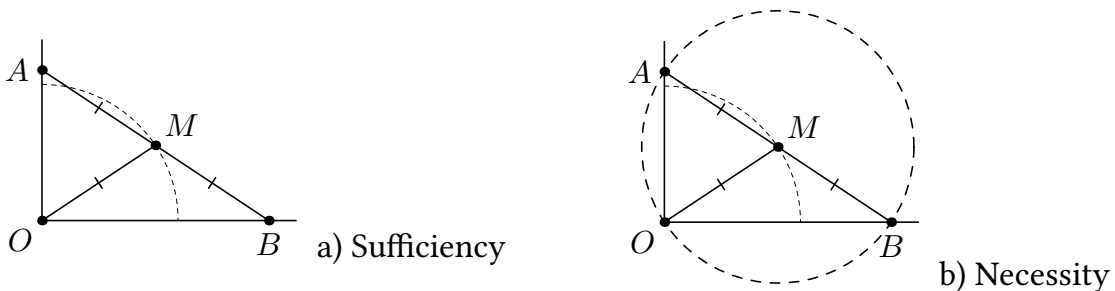


Figure 14.2: The problem of the kitten on the ladder.

Sufficiency (see Figure 14.2a): we will prove that the midpoint  $M$  of any position of the ladder  $AB$  will be on the circle. Indeed, in the right triangle  $AOB$ , the median  $OM$  is equal to half the hypotenuse, i.e.,  $OM = l$ .

Necessity (see Figure 14.2b): any point  $M$  lying on a quarter circle will be the midpoint of some position of the ladder; let's draw a circle with center  $M$  and radius  $l$ . Suppose it intersects the rays (walls) at points  $A$  and  $B$ . Then  $AB = 2l$ , so  $M$  is indeed the midpoint of some position of the ladder.  $\square$

## Problem Set

**Problem 14.1.** (MF – 1990.7.2): Draw a set of midpoints of all segments whose endpoints lie on a) a given semicircle and b) the diagonals of a given square.

**Problem 14.2.** (MMO – 1965.8.3): Given a line  $a$  and two non-parallel segments  $AB$  and  $CD$  on the same side of the line. Find a point  $M$  on line  $a$  such that triangles  $ABM$  and  $CDM$  have equal areas.

**Problem 14.3.** (MMG – 2012.8.4): Consider all triangles  $ABC$  with fixed positions for vertices  $B$  and  $C$ , while vertex  $A$  moves within the plane of the triangle so that median  $CM$  remains a constant length. Determine the trajectory of point  $A$ .

**Problem 14.4.** (Gordin – 2411): Using a compass and straightedge, draw a tangent to a given circle such that the given line would cut off on this tangent line a given segment.

**Problem 14.5.** (Gordin – 1769): Given points  $A$  and  $B$ . Circles with centers at  $B$  and radii not exceeding  $AB$  are drawn, and tangents are drawn through point  $A$  to these circles. Find the locus of points of tangency.

**Problem 14.6.** (Gordin – 2399): Given a circle, find the locus of points from which tangents are drawn to the circle, and the lengths of these tangents are equal to a given segment.

**Problem 14.7.** (Gordin – 2446): Given non-parallel sides  $AB$  and  $CD$  of a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  with area  $A$ . Find the locus of points  $X$  lying inside the quadrilateral for which  $A_{ABX} + A_{CDX} = \frac{A}{2}$ .

**Problem 14.8.** (Gordin – 2491): Through the intersection point of two circles, draw a line that intersects the circles again at points  $A$  and  $B$ . Find the locus of midpoints of segment  $AB$ .

**Problem 14.9.** (AMC – 2019.10A.6): For how many of the following types of quadrilaterals does there exist a point in the plane of the quadrilateral that is equidistant from all four vertices of the quadrilateral?

- a square
- a rectangle that is not a square
- a rhombus that is not a square
- a parallelogram that is not a rectangle or a rhombus
- an isosceles trapezoid that is not a parallelogram

(A) 1      (B) 2      (C) 3      (D) 4      (E) 5

**Problem 14.10.** (AMC – 2018.10B.12): Line segment  $\overline{AB}$  is the diameter of a circle with  $AB = 24$ . Point  $C$ , not congruent with  $A$  or  $B$ , lies on the circle. As point  $C$  moves around the circle, the centroid (center of mass) of  $\triangle ABC$  traces out a closed curve missing two points. To the nearest positive integer, what is the area of the region bounded by this curve?

(A) 25      (B) 38      (C) 50      (D) 63      (E) 75

**Problem 14.11.** (AMC – 2011.10B.18): Rectangle  $ABCD$  has  $AB = 6$  and  $BC = 3$ . Point  $M$  is chosen on the side  $AB$  so that  $\angle AMD = \angle CMD$ . What is the degree measure of  $\angle AMD$ ?

(A) 15      (B) 30      (C) 45      (D) 60      (E) 75

**Problem 14.12.** (AMC – 2011.10B.20): Rhombus  $ABCD$  has side length 2 and  $\angle B = 120^\circ$ . Region  $R$  consists of all points inside the rhombus that are closer to vertex  $B$  than any of the other three vertices. What is the area of  $R$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$     (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$     (C)  $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$     (D)  $1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$     (E) 2

**Problem 14.13.** (UCT Mathematics Competition): Find the locus of all points  $P$  for which the sum of the distances from  $P$  to two given intersecting lines is a given constant.

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 14.1.** Find the locus of centers of circles that are tangent to a given circle at a given point.

**Skill Assessment Problem 14.2.** In a circle inscribed in triangle  $ABC$ , point  $P$  moves along the arc  $ACB$ . Determine the locus of centers of the inscribed circles of all possible triangles  $ABP$ .

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 14.1:** Let's denote the given circle as  $\omega$ , and let its center be point  $O$ . Denote the given point as  $A$  (see Figure 14.3). Draw a line  $l$  through points  $A$  and  $O$ . We will prove that the locus of the centers of circles tangent to  $\omega$  at point  $A$  will be the line  $l$  excluding point  $O$ .

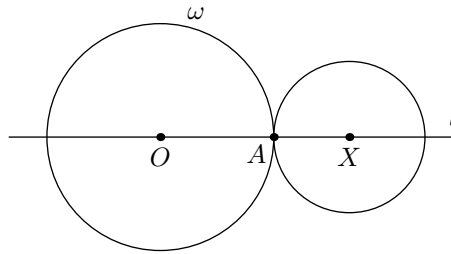


Figure 14.3: Illustration for the problem about the locus of centers of circles.

- 1) Prove that the center of any circle tangent to  $\omega$  at point  $A$  will lie on the line  $l$ . This is indeed true because the centers of tangent circles and their points of tangency always lie on the same line.
- 2) Prove that any point  $X$  lying on line  $l$ , excluding point  $O$ , will be the center of some circle tangent to  $\omega$  at point  $A$ . Indeed, the circle with radius  $AX$  will be the desired circle. If  $A$  is to the right of point  $O$ , then the circles touch externally, and if to the left, then internally.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 14.2:** Let us remember one interesting geometric fact, the so-called *trillium theorem*.

Let  $I$  be the center of the inscribed circle of triangle  $KLM$ , inscribed in circle  $\omega$ . Let  $T$  be the midpoint of the arc  $KL$ . Then  $TI = TK = TL$  (see Figure 14.4).

The reverse statement is also true: let  $I$  lie on the bisector of angle  $KML$  of triangle  $KLM$  inscribed in circle  $\omega$ . Then, if  $TI = TK = TL$ , then  $I$  is the center of the

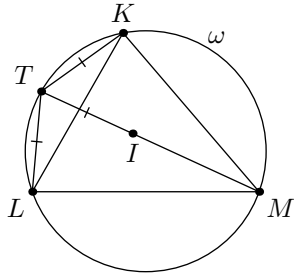
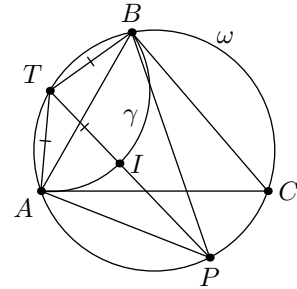


Figure 14.4: Trillium theorem.

Figure 14.5: Locus is an arc  $\gamma$ .

inscribed circle of triangle  $KLM$ .

Now, let's get back to the problem. We will prove that the locus of points is the arc  $\gamma$  with the center at the midpoint  $T$  of arc  $AB$ , starting at point  $A$  and ending at point  $B$  (see Figure 14.5).

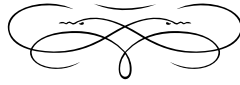
1) Consider an arbitrary point  $P$  on the arc  $ACB$  and prove that the center of the inscribed circle of triangle  $ABP$  will lie on  $\gamma$ . Indeed, using the trillium theorem, we get the desired result.

2) Consider an arbitrary point  $I$  on arc  $\gamma$  and prove that it is the center of the inscribed circle of some triangle  $ABP$ . Extend  $TI$  until it intersects arc  $ACB$  at point  $P$ . Since arcs  $AT$  and  $BT$  are equal, point  $I$  lies on the bisector of angle  $APB$ , and from the reverse trillium theorem, we get the desired result.  $\square$



# Geometry of Masses

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“

When talking to a mathematician, you may not have any knowledge of mathematics. But at the same time, a sense of humor and an awareness of your insignificance are absolutely necessary...

—K. Dzevanovskiy

## Theory and Practice

One of the less popular but quite interesting topics in Olympiad mathematics is the so-called «geometry of masses». This method helps solve certain geometric problems by transforming them into a «physical» form through the introduction of «weights» for certain vertices or edges. The most common type of such problem involves finding certain ratios, which are determined by finding the center of mass of a particular system. Let's recall the concept of the center of mass. Consider two small balls with masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , connected by a rigid «weightless» rod. There is a point on this rod such that if the entire system is suspended at this point, it will be in equilibrium — none of the balls will «pull down» the other. This point is the center of mass of the two considered material points  $m_1, m_2$ . Similarly, the concept of the center of mass, or barycenter, can be introduced for a system of  $N$  points.

Let's recall some fundamental facts from mechanics:

1. Any system consisting of a finite number of material points has a center of mass, and it is unique.
2. The center of mass of two material points is located on the segment connecting these points; its position is determined by the law of the lever (Figure 15.1): the product of the mass of a material point by the distance from it to the center of mass is the same for both points, i.e.,  $m_1 \cdot d_1 = m_2 \cdot d_2$ .
3. If, in a system consisting of a finite number of material points, several points are marked, and the masses of all marked points are moved to their center of mass, then this does not change the position of the center of mass of the entire system.

How can this concept help us solve geometry problems? Let's solve, for example, the following problem:

**Example 15.1.** Through the midpoint of median  $AA_1$  and the vertex  $B$  of triangle  $ABC$ , a line is drawn. In what ratio does it divide side  $AC$  (Figure 15.2)?

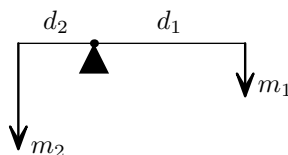


Figure 15.1: Law of the lever.

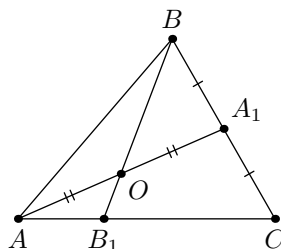


Figure 15.2: Illustration for the problem of segment ratios.

**Solution:** We could solve this problem, for example, using the theorem on proportional segments in a triangle (a consequence of Menelaus' theorem). However, not everyone remembers Menelaus' theorem, and the calculation in this problem becomes quite tedious. We will take a different approach. If we have midpoints of segments, we need to place equal masses at the ends of the specified segments. Let's place 1 gram at points  $B$  and  $C$ . Then, at point  $A_1$ , a mass of 2 grams is concentrated. We consider the midpoint of segment  $AA_1$ , so we place a mass of 2 grams at point  $A$ . Then, the barycenter of the triangle is point  $O$ . On the other hand, this barycenter is located at the intersection of segments  $BB_1$  and  $AC$ , i.e.,  $B_1$  is the center of mass of segment  $AC$ . At point  $A$ , a mass of 2 grams is concentrated, and at the center  $C$ , a mass of 1 gram is concentrated. Therefore, the required ratio is  $1 : 2$ .  $\square$

**Example 15.2.** In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $F$  divides the base  $BC$  in the ratio  $3 : 1$ , counting from vertex  $B$ . Points  $M$  and  $P$  cut off one-sixth from the lateral sides  $AB$  and  $AC$ , respectively, counting from vertex  $A$  and vertex  $C$ . In what ratio are each of the segments  $MP$  and  $AF$  divided by their point of intersection (Figure 15.3)?

**Solution:** Place masses in points  $B$  and  $C$  such that their mass center is point  $F$ . By the lever law, we can place mass 1 at  $B$  and mass 3 at  $C$ . Next, find mass  $x$  at  $A$  such that point  $M$  becomes the center of mass for points  $B$  and  $A$ . According to the lever law,  $1 \cdot BM = x \cdot MA$ , so  $x = 5$ . Finally, find mass  $y$  at  $A$  such that point  $P$  becomes

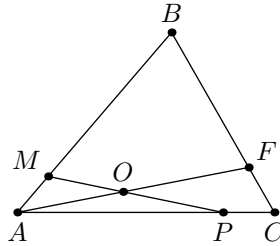


Figure 15.3: Intersecting secants in a triangle.

the center of mass for points  $C$  and  $A$ . According to the lever law,  $3 \cdot CP = y \cdot PA$ , so  $y = 0.6$ .

Now we have a new situation: at point  $A$ , we have two different masses, 5 and 0.6. Consider a system of all four masses. Denote its center of mass as  $Z$ . Move the masses of points  $B$  and  $A$  to their center of mass  $M$ , and the masses of points  $C$  and  $A$  to their center of mass  $P$ . Then,  $Z$  is the center of mass for points  $M$  and  $P$ . Alternatively, group the same four masses differently: move the masses of points  $B$  and  $C$  to their center of mass  $F$ , and consider the two masses at 5 and 0.6 from point  $A$  as one mass 5.6. Then  $Z$  will be the center of mass for points  $F$  and  $A$ . Therefore,  $Z$  lies on segment  $MP$ . As a result,  $Z$  is the point of intersection of segments  $MP$  and  $AF$ , and it coincides with the point  $O$ . Since  $Z$  is the center of mass for the system of points  $A$  and  $F$ , by the lever law,  $5.6 \cdot AZ = 4 \cdot FZ$ , so  $AZ : ZF = 5 : 7$ . Similarly,  $6 \cdot MZ = 3.6 \cdot PZ$ , so  $MZ : ZP = 3 : 5$ .  $\square$

Using the mass method, you can prove known facts quite easily.

**Example 15.3.** Prove that the medians of triangle  $ABC$  intersect at one point and divide it in the ratio  $2 : 1$ , counting from the vertex.

*Proof.* Place unit masses at points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . Let  $O$  be the center of mass of this system of points. Point  $O$  is also the center of mass of point  $A$  with mass 1 and point  $A_1$  with mass 2, where  $A_1$  is the center of mass of points  $B$  and  $C$  with unit masses, i.e.,  $A_1$  is the midpoint of segment  $BC$ . Therefore, point  $O$  lies on median  $AA_1$  and divides it in the ratio  $AO : OA_1 = 2 : 1$ . Similarly, it can be proved that the other medians pass through point  $O$  and divide in the ratio  $2 : 1$ .

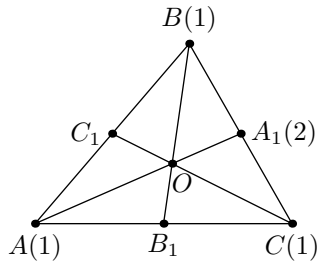


Figure 15.4: Property of medians in a triangle.

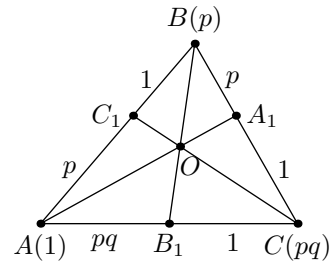


Figure 15.5: Ceva's theorem.

**Example 15.4.** Prove Ceva's theorem using mass grouping.

*Proof.* Let lines  $AA_1$  and  $CC_1$  intersect at point  $O$ ;  $AC_1 : C_1B = p$  and  $BA_1 : A_1C = q$ . We need to prove that line  $BB_1$  passes through the point  $O$  if and only if  $CB_1 : B_1A = 1 : pq$ .

Place masses 1,  $p$ , and  $pq$  at points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , respectively. Then point  $C_1$  is the center of mass of points  $A$  and  $B$ , and point  $A_1$  is the center of mass of points  $B$  and  $C$ . Therefore, the center of mass of points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  with these masses is point  $O$  at the intersection of lines  $CC_1$  and  $AA_1$ . On the other hand, point  $O$  lies on the segment connecting point  $B$  with the center of mass of points  $A$  and  $C$ . If  $B_1$  is the center of mass of points  $A$  and  $C$  with masses 1 and  $pq$ , then  $AB_1 : B_1C = pq : 1$ . It remains to be noticed that there is a unique point in segment  $AC$  that divides it in the given ratio  $AB_1 : B_1C$ .



## Problem Set

**Problem 15.1.** (Prasolov – 14.005): Let  $ABCD$  be a convex quadrilateral, and  $K, L, M,$  and  $N$  be the midpoints of sides  $AB, BC, CD,$  and  $DA$  respectively. Prove that the intersection point of segments  $KM$  and  $LN$  is the midpoint of both segments, and the midpoint of the segment joins the midpoints of the diagonals.

**Problem 15.2.** (Prasolov – 14.006): Let  $A_1, B_1, \dots, F_1$  be the midpoints of sides  $AB, BC, \dots, FA$  of an arbitrary hexagon. Prove that the centroids of triangles  $A_1C_1E_1$  and  $B_1D_1F_1$  coincide.

**Problem 15.3.** (MMO – 1956.9.1): In a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$ , consider the quadrilateral  $KLMN$  formed by the centroids of triangles  $ABC, BCD, CDA,$  and  $DAB$ . Prove that the lines connecting the midpoints of opposite sides of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  intersect at the same point as the lines connecting the midpoints of opposite sides of quadrilateral  $KLMN$ .

**Problem 15.4.** (AIME – 2003.I.15): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = 360, BC = 507,$  and  $CA = 780$ . Let  $M$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{CA}$ , and let  $D$  be the point on  $\overline{CA}$  such that  $\overline{BD}$  bisects angle  $ABC$ . Let  $F$  be the point on  $\overline{BC}$  such that  $\overline{DF} \perp \overline{BD}$ . Suppose that  $\overline{DF}$  meets  $\overline{BM}$  at  $E$ . The ratio  $DE : EF$  can be written in the form  $m/n$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. Find  $m + n$ .

**Problem 15.5.** (AIME – 2002.II.13): In triangle  $ABC$ , point  $D$  is on  $\overline{BC}$  with  $CD = 2$  and  $DB = 5$ , point  $E$  is on  $\overline{AC}$  with  $CE = 1$  and  $EA = 3$ ,  $AB = 8$ , and  $\overline{AD}$  and  $\overline{BE}$  intersect at  $P$ . Points  $Q$  and  $R$  lie on  $\overline{AB}$  so that  $\overline{PQ}$  is parallel to  $\overline{CA}$  and  $\overline{PR}$  is parallel to  $\overline{CB}$ . It is given that the ratio of the area of triangle  $PQR$  to the area of triangle  $ABC$  is  $m/n$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime positive integers. Find  $m + n$ .

**Problem 15.6.** (AIME – 2013.II.13): In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AC = BC$ , and point  $D$  is on  $\overline{BC}$  so that  $CD = 3 \cdot BD$ . Let  $E$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{AD}$ . Given that  $CE = \sqrt{7}$  and  $BE = 3$ , the area of  $\triangle ABC$  can be expressed in the form  $m\sqrt{n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers and  $n$  is not divisible by the square of any prime. Find  $m + n$ .

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 15.1.** Given six points, no three of which are collinear. Consider all possible partitions of these points into groups of three. Connect the intersection points of the medians of a triangle formed by the points in the first group with the intersection points of the medians of a triangle formed by the points in the other three groups. Prove that the resulting ten segments intersect at a single point.

**Skill Assessment Problem 15.2.** Prove that the midlines of a quadrilateral intersect at their midpoints.

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

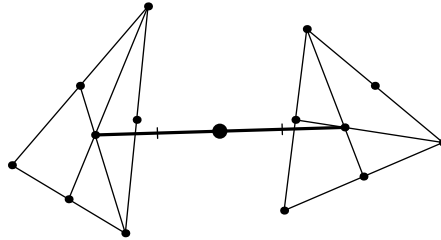


Figure 15.6: Illustration for the problem.

**Solution to Problem 15.1:** Place a mass of 1 at each of the given points. Then, the center of mass of each of the triangles will be at the intersection of its medians, and a mass of 3 will be concentrated there. For each partition into two triangles with the ends of the considered segments, the barycenters of the triangles will be the points of consideration. Therefore, the barycenter of the entire system will be the midpoint of the considered segment (see Figure 15.6). However, the barycenter for the system is unique. This implies that all considered segments intersect at one point, and even a stronger condition is satisfied than required: the intersection point divides the given segments in half.  $\square$

**Solution to Problem 15.2:** Place a mass of 1 at each vertex of the quadrilateral. Then, the barycenter of systems from points  $A$  and  $B$ , as well as points  $C$  and  $D$ , will be the midpoints of segments  $AB$  and  $CD$  – that is, points  $M$  and  $N$  – and masses of 2 will be concentrated there. Therefore, the barycenter of the system from points  $A, B, C, D$  lies on the segment  $MN$ , and, due to the equality of the concentrated masses at points  $M$  and  $N$ , it is the midpoint of this segment. Similarly, we prove that the barycenter of the system from points  $A, B, C, D$  lies at the midpoint of the segment  $PQ$ . The uniqueness of the center of mass for the system implies that the barycenter lies at the intersection of segments  $MN$  and  $PQ$ , dividing them in half, as required.  $\square$

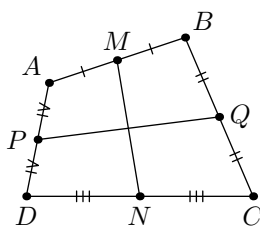
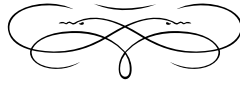


Figure 15.7: Illustration for the problem.



# Coordinate Method

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“ There is no royal road to geometry.

—Attributed to Euclid by Proclus

## Theory and Practice

In conclusion, in our book dedicated to geometry, we will present a purely algebraic approach to geometry.

**Any** (literally any) geometry problem can be reduced to algebra by introducing a coordinate system. However, solving a problem using the coordinate method can be much longer than a geometric solution.

Let's recall some key facts that will help you in this «algebraization.»

The equation of a **line with a given slope**  $y = kx + b$ , where  $k = \tan \alpha$  ( $\alpha$  is the angle between the x-axis and the line, measured counterclockwise).

If the lines have  $k_1 = k_2$  and  $b_1 \neq b_2$ , then the lines are parallel.

If the lines have  $k_1 = k_2$  and  $b_1 = b_2$ , then the lines coincide.

If the lines have  $k_1 \neq k_2$ , then the lines intersect.

If the lines have  $k_1 \cdot k_2 = -1$ , then the lines are perpendicular.

The equation of a **line passing through 2 points**  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  is given by:

$$\frac{x-x_1}{x_2-x_1} = \frac{y-y_1}{y_2-y_1}.$$

The equation of a **circle** with center at  $(x_0; y_0)$  and radius  $R$  is:  $(x-x_0)^2 + (y-y_0)^2 = R^2$ .

Let  $M$  be the **midpoint** of the segment  $AB$ . Its coordinates are found using the formulas:

$$x_M = \frac{x_A + x_B}{2}; \quad y_M = \frac{y_A + y_B}{2}.$$

The coordinates of point  $M(x, y)$ , which divides the segment  $M_1M_2$  between points  $M_1(x_1, y_1)$  and  $M_2(x_2, y_2)$  in the ratio  $M_1M : MM_2 = \lambda$ , are determined by the formulas:

$$x = \frac{x_1 + \lambda x_2}{1 + \lambda}; \quad y = \frac{y_1 + \lambda y_2}{1 + \lambda}.$$

The **distance** between points  $A(x_1, y_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2)$  is determined by the formula:

$$\rho(A, B) = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}.$$

Let's consider an example of a problem that can be solved using coordinates (although the geometric solution provided by the authors is much more elegant).

**Example 16.1.** (Sharygin – 2019.8.3): Inside the circle, there is a rectangle  $ABCD$ . Rays  $BA$  and  $DA$  intersect the circle at points  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . Point  $A_0$  is the midpoint of chord  $A_1A_2$ . Similarly, points  $B_0, C_0, D_0$  are defined. Prove that the segments  $A_0C_0$  and  $B_0D_0$  are equal.

**Author's solution:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be the projections of the center of the circle onto the lines  $AB$  and  $CD$ , respectively (see Figure 16.1). Then  $BB_1 - AA_1 = (XB_1 - XB) - (XA_1 - XA) = AX - BX = DY - CY = CC_1 - DD_1$ . Hence, the projection of the segment  $A_0C_0$  onto the line  $AB$ , equal to  $\frac{A_1B_1 + C_1D_1 - AA_1 - CC_1}{2}$ , is equal to the projection of the segment  $B_0D_0$  onto the same line. Similarly, the projections of these segments onto the line  $AD$  are equal, and therefore the segments themselves are equal.

□

*Now let's turn off our brains.* Let's draw Figure 16.2 for this problem.

Assume that the given circle has the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

Let point  $A$  have coordinates  $(a; b)$ , and point  $C$  have coordinates  $(c; d)$ , with coordinate axes parallel to the sides of the rectangle. Then point  $B$  has coordinates  $(a, d)$ ,

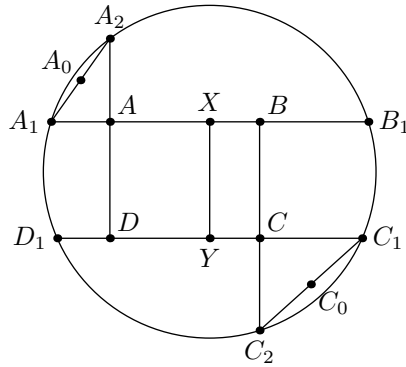


Figure 16.1: Projections in the problem.

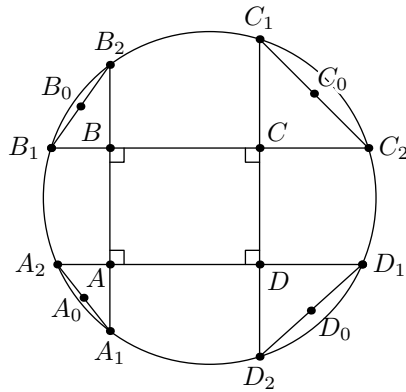


Figure 16.2: Coordinate method.

and point  $D$  has coordinates  $(c, b)$ .

Then, the coordinate  $x$  of the point  $A_1$  is equal to  $a$ . From this, the  $y$  coordinate of this point is  $-\sqrt{1-a^2}$ . Similarly, the coordinates of the other points on the circle are determined (see Figure 16.3).

Thus, the point  $A_0$ , as the midpoint of the segment  $A_1A_2$ , has coordinates  $(a - \sqrt{1-b^2}; b - \sqrt{1-a^2})$ , the point  $B_0$  has coordinates  $(a - \sqrt{1-d^2}; d + \sqrt{1-a^2})$ , the point  $C_0$  has coordinates  $(c + \sqrt{1-d^2}; d + \sqrt{1-c^2})$ , and the point  $D_0$  has coordinates  $(c + \sqrt{1-b^2}; b - \sqrt{1-c^2})$ .

The square of the length of the segment  $A_0C_0$  will be  $(a - \sqrt{1-b^2} - (c + \sqrt{1-d^2}))^2 + (b - \sqrt{1-a^2} - (d + \sqrt{1-c^2}))^2$ , and the square of the length of the segment  $B_0D_0$

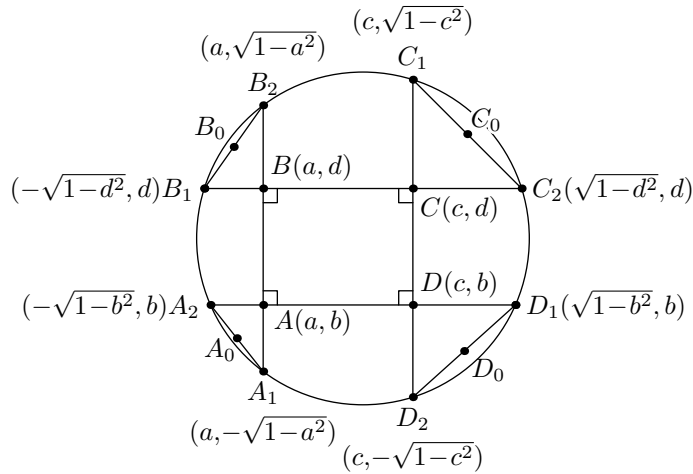


Figure 16.3: Coordinate method: assigned coordinates.

will be  $((a - \sqrt{1-d^2} - (c + \sqrt{1-b^2}))^2 + (d + \sqrt{1-a^2} - (b - \sqrt{1-c^2}))^2$ .

To avoid writing horrifying calculations, let's make temporary substitutions:  $\sqrt{1-a^2} = x$ ,  $\sqrt{1-b^2} = y$ ,  $\sqrt{1-c^2} = z$ ,  $\sqrt{1-d^2} = t$ .

Let's compare the obtained values.

$$(a - y - (c + t))^2 + (b - x - (d + z))^2 \vee ((a - t - (c + y))^2 + (d + x - (b - z))^2).$$

Expand the brackets and make additional substitutions:  $a - y = \alpha$ ,  $c + t = \beta$ ,  $b - d = \gamma$ ,  $x + z = \delta$ :

$$(\alpha - \beta)^2 + (\gamma - \delta)^2 \vee (\alpha - \beta)^2 + (\delta - \gamma)^2,$$

where, obviously, equality is achieved. Thus, the required segments are equal, which was to be proved.  $\square$

Of course, geometrical solutions are often much more pleasant than coordinate ones. However, if you have already been breaking your brain for a sufficient amount of time, sometimes it's worth simply turning off your brain and starting to calculate. However, you should be very careful and attentive.

We don't offer many problems in the problem set (as we mentioned, any problem

can be calculated in coordinates). So, you can now practice any of the previously suggested problems or any problem that appeals to you.

## Problem Set

**Problem 16.1.** (TOT – 1987.4): The length of the altitude  $AB$  of a rectangular trapezoid  $ABCD$  is equal to the sum of the lengths of the bases  $AD$  and  $BC$ . In what ratio does the angle bisector at  $B$  divide the side  $CD$ ?

**Problem 16.2.** (Gordin – 8098): Prove that the sums of the squares of the distances from an arbitrary point in space to the opposite vertices of a rectangle are equal.

**Problem 16.3.** (AMC – 2020.10A.16): A point is chosen at random within the square in the coordinate plane whose vertices are  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(2020, 0)$ ,  $(2020, 2020)$ , and  $(0, 2020)$ . The probability that the point is within  $d$  units of a lattice point is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . (A point  $(x, y)$  is a lattice point if  $x$  and  $y$  are both integers.) What is  $d$  to the nearest tenth?

(A) 0.3      (B) 0.4      (C) 0.5      (D) 0.6      (E) 0.7

**Problem 16.4.** (AMC – 2019.10A.7): Two lines with slopes  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 2 intersect at  $(2, 2)$ . What is the area of the triangle enclosed by these two lines and the line  $x + y = 10$ ?

(A) 4      (B)  $4\sqrt{2}$       (C) 6      (D) 8      (E)  $6\sqrt{2}$

**Problem 16.5.** (AMC – 2019.10B.5): Triangle  $ABC$  lies in the first quadrant. Points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are reflected across the line  $y = x$  to points  $A'$ ,  $B'$ , and  $C'$ , respectively. Assume that none of the vertices of the triangle lie on the line  $y = x$ . Which of the following statements is not always true?

(A) Triangle  $A'B'C'$  lies in the first quadrant.

- (B) Triangles  $ABC$  and  $A'B'C'$  have the same area.
- (C) The slope of line  $AA'$  is  $-1$ .
- (D) The slopes of lines  $AA'$  and  $CC'$  are the same.
- (E) Lines  $AB$  and  $A'B'$  are perpendicular to each other

**Problem 16.6.** (AMC – 2019.10B.23): Points  $A(6,13)$  and  $B(12,11)$  lie on circle  $\omega$  in the plane. Suppose that the tangent lines to  $\omega$  at  $A$  and  $B$  intersect at a point on the  $x$ -axis. What is the area of  $\omega$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{83\pi}{8}$       (B)  $\frac{21\pi}{2}$       (C)  $\frac{85\pi}{8}$       (D)  $\frac{43\pi}{4}$       (E)  $\frac{87\pi}{8}$

**Problem 16.7.** (AMC – 2018.10B.17): In rectangle  $PQRS$ ,  $PQ = 8$  and  $QR = 6$ . Points  $A$  and  $B$  lie on  $\overline{PQ}$ , points  $C$  and  $D$  lie on  $\overline{QR}$ , points  $E$  and  $F$  lie on  $\overline{RS}$ , and points  $G$  and  $H$  lie on  $\overline{SP}$  so that  $AP = BQ < 4$  and the convex octagon  $ABCDEFGH$  is equilateral. The length of a side of this octagon can be expressed in the form  $k + m\sqrt{n}$ , where  $k$ ,  $m$ , and  $n$  are integers and  $n$  is not divisible by the square of any prime. What is  $k + m + n$ ?

- (A) 1      (B) 7      (C) 21      (D) 92      (E) 106

**Problem 16.8.** (AMC – 2017.10B.8): Points  $A(11, 9)$  and  $B(2, -3)$  are vertices of  $\triangle ABC$  with  $AB = AC$ . The altitude from  $A$  meets the opposite side at  $D(-1, 3)$ . What are the coordinates of point  $C$ ?

- (A)  $(-8, 9)$       (B)  $(-4, 8)$       (C)  $(-4, 9)$       (D)  $(-2, 3)$       (E)  $(-1, 0)$

**Problem 16.9.** (AMC – 2017.10B.24): The vertices of an equilateral triangle lie on the hyperbola  $xy = 1$ , and a vertex of this hyperbola is the centroid of the triangle. What is the square of the area of the triangle?

(A) 48      (B) 60      (C) 108      (D) 120      (E) 169

**Problem 16.10.** (AMC – 2016.10A.16): A triangle with vertices  $A(0, 2)$ ,  $B(-3, 2)$ , and  $C(-3, 0)$  is reflected about the  $x$ -axis, then the image  $\triangle A'B'C'$  is rotated counterclockwise about the origin by  $90^\circ$  to produce  $\triangle A''B''C''$ . Which of the following transformations will return  $\triangle A''B''C''$  to  $\triangle ABC$ ?

- (A) counterclockwise rotation about the origin by  $90^\circ$ .
- (B) clockwise rotation about the origin by  $90^\circ$ .
- (C) reflection about the  $x$ -axis
- (D) reflection about the line  $y = x$
- (E) reflection about the  $y$ -axis.

**Problem 16.11.** (AMC – 2016.10B.9): All three vertices of  $\triangle ABC$  are lying on the parabola defined by  $y = x^2$ , with  $A$  at the origin and  $\overline{BC}$  parallel to the  $x$ -axis. The area of the triangle is 64. What is the length of  $BC$ ?

(A) 4      (B) 6      (C) 8      (D) 10      (E) 16

**Problem 16.12.** (AMC – 2016.10B.20) A dilation of the plane – that is, a size transformation with a positive scale factor – sends the circle of radius 2 centered at  $A(2, 2)$  to the circle of radius 3 centered at  $A(5, 6)$ . What distance does the origin  $O(0, 0)$ , move under this transformation?

(A) 0      (B) 3      (C)  $\sqrt{13}$       (D) 4      (E) 5

**Problem 16.13.** (AMC – 2016.10B.21): What is the area of the region enclosed by the graph of the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = |x| + |y|$ ?

(A)  $\pi + \sqrt{2}$       (B)  $\pi + 2$       (C)  $\pi + 2\sqrt{2}$       (D)  $2\pi + \sqrt{2}$       (E)  $2\pi + 2\sqrt{2}$

**Problem 16.14.** (AMC – 2015.10A.17): A line that passes through the origin intersects both the line  $x = 1$  and the line  $y = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x$ . The three lines create an equilateral triangle. What is the perimeter of the triangle?

- (A)  $2\sqrt{6}$     (B)  $2 + 2\sqrt{3}$     (C) 6    (D)  $3 + 2\sqrt{3}$     (E)  $6 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$

**Problem 16.15.** (AMC – 2015.10B.13): The line  $12x + 5y = 60$  forms a triangle with the coordinate axes. What is the sum of the lengths of the altitudes of this triangle?

- (A) 20    (B)  $\frac{360}{17}$     (C)  $\frac{107}{5}$     (D)  $\frac{43}{2}$     (E)  $\frac{281}{13}$

**Problem 16.16.** (AMC – 2014.10A.14): The  $y$ -intercepts,  $P$  and  $Q$ , of two perpendicular lines intersecting at the point  $A(6,8)$  have a sum of zero. What is the area of  $\triangle APQ$ ?

- (A) 45    (B) 48    (C) 54    (D) 60    (E) 72

**Problem 16.17.** (AMC – 2014.10A.18): A square in the coordinate plane has vertices whose  $y$ -coordinates are 0, 1, 4, and 5. What is the area of the square?

- (A) 16    (B) 17    (C) 25    (D) 26    (E) 27

**Problem 16.18.** (AMC – 2013.10A.16): A triangle with vertices  $(6, 5)$ ,  $(8, -3)$ , and  $(9, 1)$  is reflected about the line  $x = 8$  to create a second triangle. What is the area of the union of the two triangles?

- (A) 9    (B)  $\frac{28}{3}$     (C) 10    (D)  $\frac{31}{3}$     (E)  $\frac{32}{3}$

**Problem 16.19.** (AMC – 2013.10A.18): Let points  $A = (0, 0)$ ,  $B = (1, 2)$ ,  $C = (3, 3)$ , and  $D = (4, 0)$ . Quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is cut into equal area pieces by a line passing through  $A$ . This line intersects  $\overline{CD}$  at point  $\left(\frac{p}{q}, \frac{r}{s}\right)$ , where these fractions are in lowest terms. What is  $p + q + r + s$ ?

- (A) 54      (B) 58      (C) 62      (D) 70      (E) 75

**Problem 16.20.** (AMC – 2012.10B.3): The point in the  $xy$ -plane with coordinates  $(1000, 2012)$  is reflected across the line  $y = 2000$ . What are the coordinates of the reflected point?

- (A)  $(998, 2012)$       (B)  $(1000, 1988)$       (C)  $(1000, 2024)$   
(D)  $(1000, 4012)$       (E)  $(1012, 2012)$

**Problem 16.21.** (AMC – 2011.10A.9): A rectangular region is bounded by the graphs of the equations  $y = a$ ,  $y = -b$ ,  $x = -c$ , and  $x = d$ , where  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  are all positive numbers. Which of the following represents the area of this region?

- (A)  $ac + ad + bc + bd$       (B)  $ac - ad + bc - bd$       (C)  $ac + ad - bc - bd$       (D)  $-ac - ad + bc + bd$   
(E)  $ac - ad - bc + bd$

**Problem 16.22.** (HMMT): Trapezoid  $ABCD$  is inscribed in the parabola  $y = x^2$  such that  $A = (a, a^2)$ ,  $B = (b, b^2)$ ,  $C = (-b, b^2)$ , and  $D = (-a, a^2)$  for some positive reals  $a, b$  with  $a > b$ . If  $AD + BC = AB + CD$ , and  $AB = 0.75$ , what is  $a$ ?

## Skill Assessment Problems

**Skill Assessment Problem 16.1.** On the line given by the equation  $3x - 4y + 34 = 0$ , lies point  $M$ . Point  $N$  lies on the circle defined by the equation  $x^2 + y^2 - 8x + 2y - 8 = 0$ . Find the minimum distance between points  $M$  and  $N$ .

**Skill Assessment Problem 16.2.**  $M$  is the centroid of triangle  $ABC$ . Prove that the coordinates of point  $M$  are the arithmetic means of the corresponding coordinates of the vertices of the triangle.

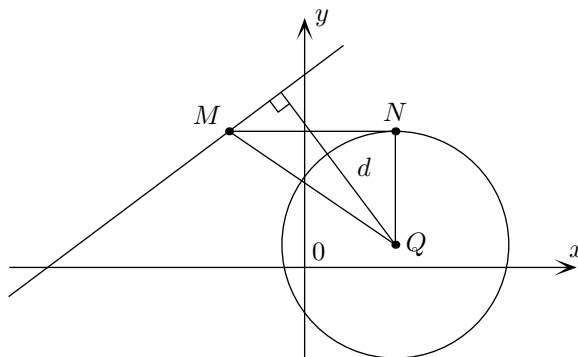


Figure 16.4: Coordinate sketch

## Solutions to Skill Assessment Problems

**Solution to Problem 16.1:** Notice that

$$x^2 + y^2 - 8x + 2y - 8 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 - 8x + 16 + y^2 + 2y + 1 = 25 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x - 4)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 5^2.$$

This implies that the center of the circle is the point  $Q(4; -1)$ , and the radius is 5 (see Figure 16.4).

Let  $d$  be the distance from the point  $Q$  to the line  $3x - 4y + 34 = 0$ . Then,

$$d = \frac{|3 \cdot 4 - 4 \cdot (-1) + 34|}{\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2}} = \frac{50}{5} = 10 > 5.$$

This means that all points of the given line are outside the given circle. Therefore, for each point  $M$  on the line and each point  $N$  on the circle,

$$MN > MQ - QN = MQ - 5 > d - 5 = 10 - 5 = 5,$$

and this distance is equal to 5 if  $M$  is the projection of point  $Q$  onto the given line.

□

**Solution to Problem 16.2:** Let  $A(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $B(x_2, y_2)$ , and  $C(x_3, y_3)$  be the vertices of the triangle, and  $M(x_0, y_0)$  be the intersection point of its medians. It is known that the medians of a triangle intersect at a point, dividing them in a ratio of 2 : 1, counting from the vertex. Therefore, if

$$D(x_4; y_4) = \left( \frac{x_2 + x_3}{2}, \frac{y_2 + y_3}{2} \right)$$

is the midpoint of segment  $BC$ , then  $AM : MD = 2 : 1$ . Since the point  $M(x_0, y_0)$  divides the segment with endpoints at  $A(x_1, y_1)$  and  $D(x_4, y_4)$  in the ratio of 2 : 1, counting from point  $A$ , by the theorem on proportional segments, the projection of point  $M$  onto the  $OX$  axis divides the projection of segment  $AD$  onto this axis in the same ratio, that is

$$\frac{x_0 - x_1}{x_4 - x_0} = 2.$$

From this, we get

$$x_0 = \frac{x_1 + 2x_4}{3} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{3}.$$

Similarly,

$$y_0 = \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}.$$

□

# Important Theory

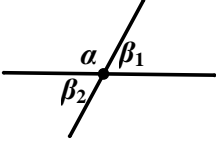
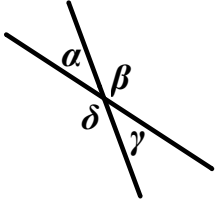
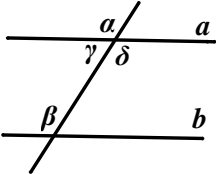
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## 17.1 Notations

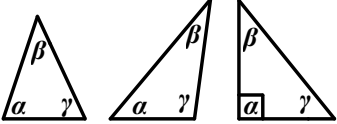
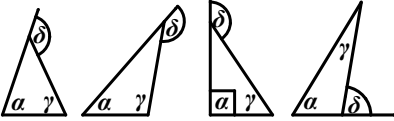
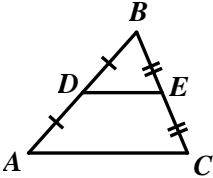
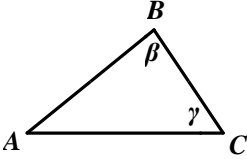
For the triangle  $ABC$ , we will use the following notations:

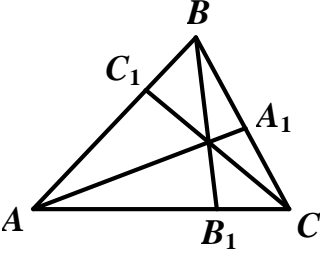
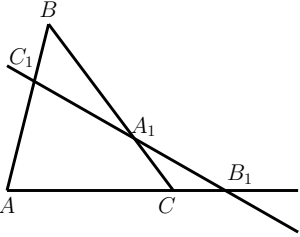
- $a = BC, b = AC, c = AB$  – lengths of the sides or just the sides;
- $\alpha = \angle CAB, \beta = \angle ABC, \gamma = \angle BCA$  – angle measures;
- $h_a, h_b, h_c$  – altitudes dropped from vertices  $A, B, C$  to sides  $a, b, c$  (or their extensions);
- $m_a, m_b, m_c$  – medians drawn from vertices  $A, B, C$  to sides  $a, b, c$ ;
- $l_a, l_b, l_c$  – angle bisectors drawn from vertices  $A, B, C$  to sides  $a, b, c$ ;
- $r$  – radius of the inscribed circle;
- $I$  – point of intersection of bisectors;
- $R$  and  $O$  – radius and center, respectively, of the circumscribed circle;
- $M$  – point of intersection of medians (centroid, center of mass);
- $H$  – point of intersection of altitudes or their extensions (orthocenter or external orthocenter);
- $p$  – semiperimeter of the triangle  $\left(p = \frac{a+b+c}{2}\right)$ ;
- $p_a = p - a, p_b = p - b, p_c = p - c$ ;
- $A(A_{\triangle ABC})$  – area of the triangle.

## 17.2 Properties of Angles and Parallel Lines

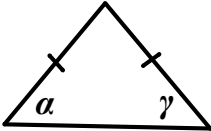
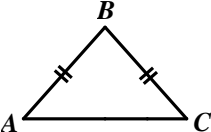
	$\alpha + \beta_1 = 180^\circ$ $\alpha + \beta_2 = 180^\circ$
	$\alpha = \gamma$ $\beta = \delta$
	<p>if <math>a \parallel b</math>, then</p> $\alpha = \beta$ $\beta = \delta$ $\beta + \gamma = 180^\circ$ <p>inverse: from any of these equalities <math>\Rightarrow a \parallel b</math></p>

## 17.3 Properties of an Arbitrary Triangle

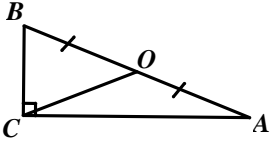
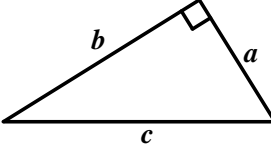
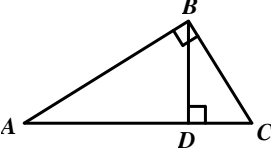
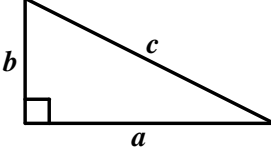
	$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 180^\circ$
	<p>external angle of a triangle</p> $\delta = \alpha + \gamma$
	<p>middle line</p> $DE \parallel AC$ $DE = \frac{1}{2}AC$
	<p>if <math>AC &gt; AB</math>, then</p> $\beta > \gamma$

<p><b>sin rule</b></p>	$\frac{a}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{b}{\sin \beta} = \frac{c}{\sin \gamma} = 2R$
<p><b>cos rule</b></p>	$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cdot \cos \alpha$ $b^2 = c^2 + a^2 - 2ca \cdot \cos \beta$ $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cdot \cos \gamma$
	<p><b>Ceva's theorem</b>  segments <math>AA_1, BB_1, CC_1</math>  intersect in one point  if and only if</p> $\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1$
	<p><b>Menelaus's theorem</b></p> $\frac{AC_1}{C_1B} \cdot \frac{BA_1}{A_1C} \cdot \frac{CB_1}{B_1A} = 1$

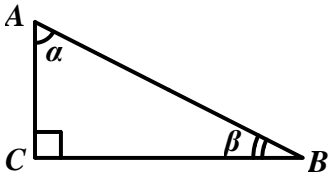
## 17.4 Properties of an Isosceles Triangle

	$\angle\alpha = \angle\gamma$
	in isosceles triangle $l_b = m_b = h_b$ <b>inverse:</b> each of these equalities mean, that $\triangle ABC$ isosceles ( $AB = BC$ )

## 17.5 Properties of a Right Triangle

	$m_c = R = \frac{1}{2}c = OC,$ and vice versa: <b>Criterion for a right-angled triangle:</b> If the median of a triangle is equal to the half of adverse side, then the triangle is right-angled.
	<b>Pythagorean theorem</b> $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$
	$\triangle ABD \sim \triangle CBD,$ $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle ABD,$ $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle CBD$
	$r = \frac{a + b - c}{2}$

## 17.6 Basic Trigonometric Relations

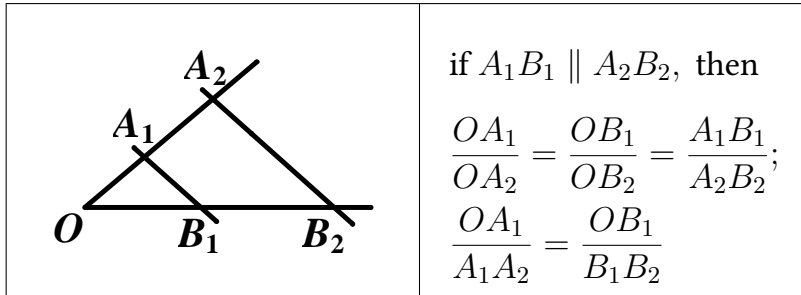
	$\sin \alpha = \frac{BC}{AB} \quad \cos \alpha = \frac{AC}{AB}$ $\tan \alpha = \frac{BC}{AC} \quad \cot \alpha = \frac{AC}{BC}$
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<p>If <math>\alpha + \beta = 90^\circ</math>, then  <math>\sin \alpha = \cos \beta</math>  <math>\tan \alpha = \cot \beta</math></p>	$\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}$ $\tan \alpha \cdot \cot \alpha = 1$ $1 + \tan^2 \alpha = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \alpha}$	$\cot \alpha = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha}$ $\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$ $1 + \cot^2 \alpha = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \alpha}$
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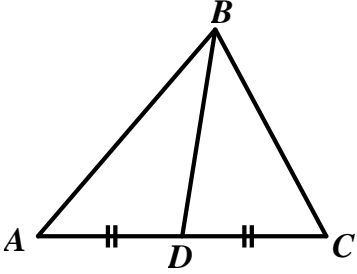
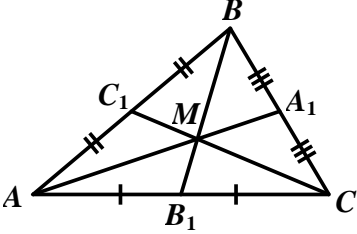
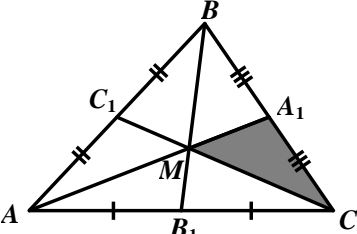
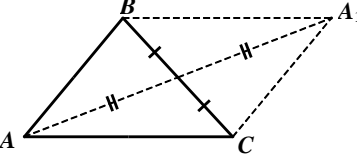
## 17.7 Congruency and Similarity of Triangles

- 3 criteria for the congruency of triangles:
  - by three sides;
  - by two sides and the angle between them;
  - by a side and 2 adjacent angles.
- 3 criteria for the similarity of triangles:
  - by two angles;
  - by two proportional sides and the angle between them;
  - by three proportional sides.

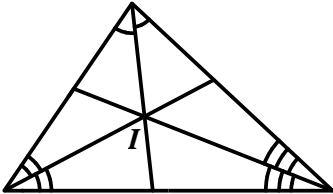
## 17.8 Proportional Segments

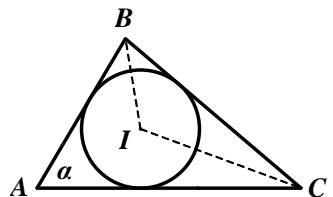


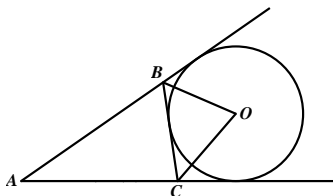
## 17.9 Medians

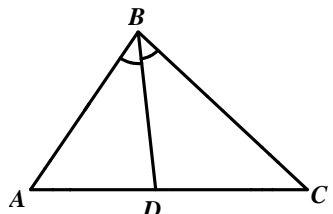
	$A_{\triangle ABD} = A_{\triangle CBD}$
	<p>The medians of a triangle intersect at one point</p> $\frac{AM}{MA_1} = \frac{BM}{MB_1} = \frac{CM}{MC_1} = \frac{2}{1}$
	<p>The medians of a triangle split the triangle into 6 triangles with equal area</p>
	<p>quadrilateral <math>ABA_1C</math> – parallelogram</p>

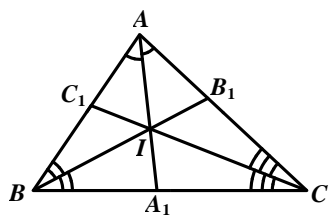
# 17.10 Bisectors

	<p>Bisectors of a triangle intersect at one point <math>I</math> – the center of the inscribed circle in a triangle</p>
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	$\angle CIB = 90^\circ + \frac{\alpha}{2}$
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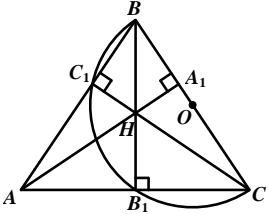
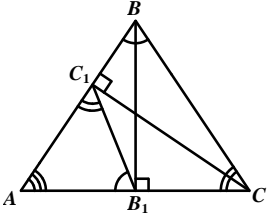
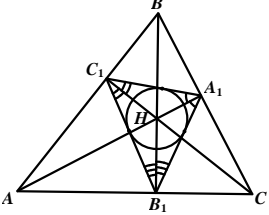
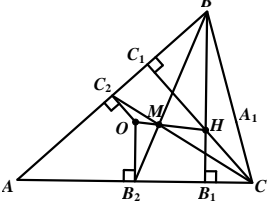
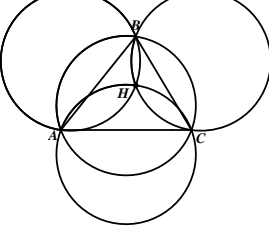
	<p>If <math>O</math> – center of the excircle, is touching side <math>BC</math> and extensions of sides <math>AB</math> and <math>AC</math> of <math>ABC</math>, then the equality holds:</p> $\angle COB = 90^\circ - \frac{\angle A}{2}$
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	$\frac{AD}{DC} = \frac{AB}{BC}$ $\frac{A_{\triangle ABD}}{A_{\triangle CBD}} = \frac{AB}{BC}$
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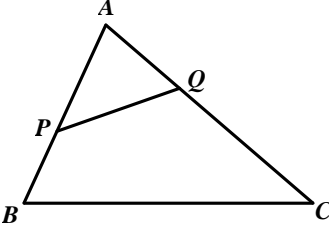
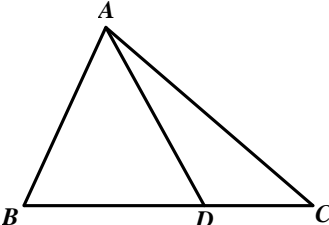
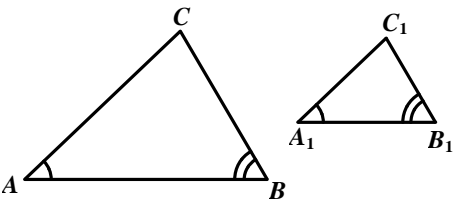
	$\frac{AI}{IA_1} = \frac{b+c}{a}$ $\frac{BI}{IB_1} = \frac{a+c}{b}$ $\frac{CI}{IC_1} = \frac{a+b}{c}$ $AA_1^2 = BA \cdot AC - BA_1 \cdot A_1C$
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## 17.11 Altitudes

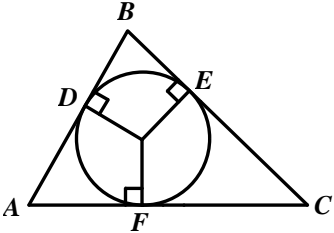
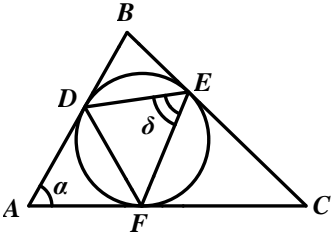
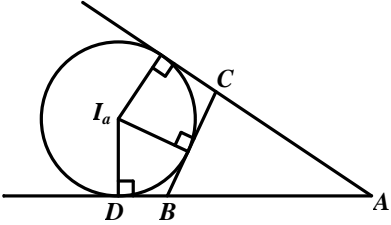
Some properties of altitudes and the point of their intersection – the orthocenter of a triangle ( $AA_1, BB_1, CC_1$  are altitudes of a non-right triangle  $ABC$ ,  $H$  is the orthocenter of the triangle):

	<p>Points <math>B, C, B_1, C_1</math> – lie on the same circle, and <math>BC</math> – its diameter.</p>
	<p>Triangle <math>ABB_1</math> is similar to <math>ACC_1</math>. Triangle <math>AB_1C_1</math> is similar to <math>ABC</math> with coefficient <math> \cos \angle A </math></p>
	<p><math>\angle C_1A_1A = \angle B_1A_1A</math>, <math>\angle A_1B_1B = \angle C_1B_1B</math>, <math>\angle B_1C_1C = \angle A_1C_1C</math>, <math>H</math> – center of a incircle of <math>\triangle A_1B_1C_1</math></p>
	<p>Points <math>O, H</math> and <math>M</math> lie on the same straight line (Euler line), and <math>M</math> lies on <math>OH</math> and <math>OM : MH = 1 : 2</math></p>
	<p>If <math>H</math> – orthocenter of the triangle, then the radii of circumscribed circles of triangles <math>ABC, ABH, BCH, ACH</math> are equal.</p>

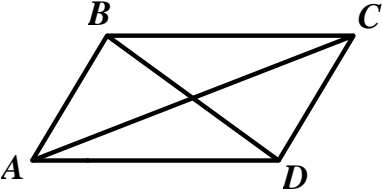
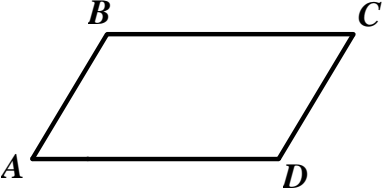
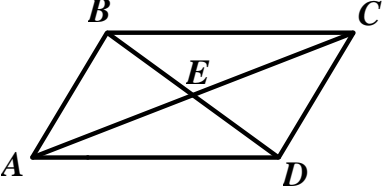
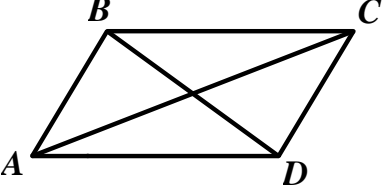
## 17.12 Relationships between Areas of Triangles

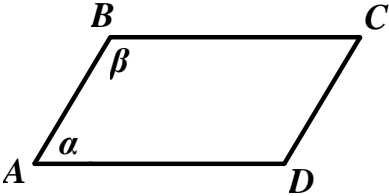
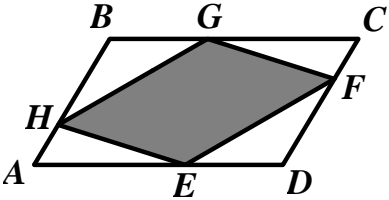
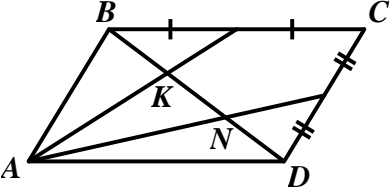
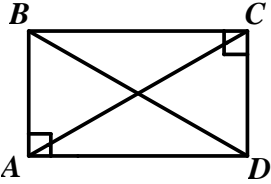
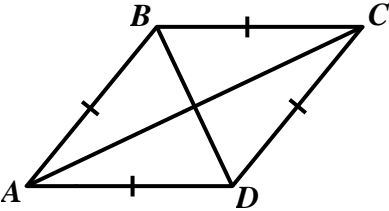
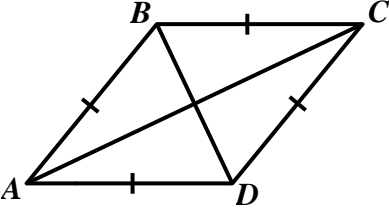
	$\frac{A_{\triangle APQ}}{A_{\triangle ABC}} = \frac{AP}{AB} \cdot \frac{AQ}{AC}$
	$\frac{A_{\triangle ABD}}{A_{\triangle ADC}} = \frac{BD}{DC}$
	$\frac{A_{\triangle ABC}}{A_{\triangle A_1B_1C_1}} = \frac{AB^2}{A_1B_1^2}$

## 17.13 Incircle and Excircle

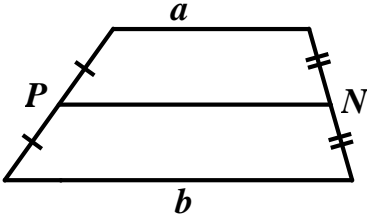
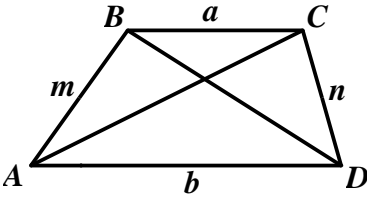
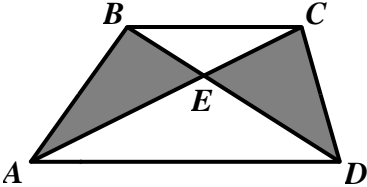
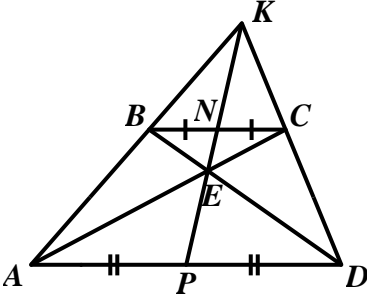
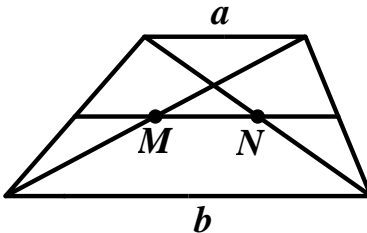
	$AF = AD = p - a$ $BD = BE = p - b$ $CE = CF = p - c$
	<p>If incircle of <math>ABC</math>, is touching <math>AB</math>, <math>BC</math> and <math>AC</math> in <math>D</math>, <math>E</math>, and <math>F</math>, then</p> $\angle DEF = 90^\circ - \frac{\alpha}{2}$
	$AD = p$ , where $D$ – touching point of excircle, which touches extension of $AB$ .
<p><b>Euler's theorem</b></p>	$IO^2 = R^2 - 2rR$

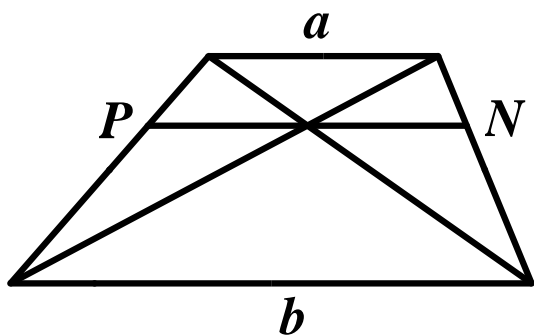
## 17.14 Parallelogram

	$\triangle ABD = \triangle CBD$ $\triangle ABC = \triangle ADC$
	$AB = CD$ $BC = AD$ $\angle DAB = \angle BCD$ $\angle ABC = \angle ADC$
	$AE = EC$ $BE = ED$
	$BD^2 + AC^2 = 2(AB^2 + BC^2)$

	$\sin \alpha = \sin \beta$ $\cos \alpha = -\cos \beta$ $\tan \alpha = -\tan \beta$
	<p>if <math>\frac{AE}{ED} = \frac{DF}{FC} = \frac{CG}{GB} = \frac{BH}{HA}</math>, then</p> <p><math>HEFG</math> – parallelogram</p>
	$BK = KN = ND$
	$AC = BD \Leftrightarrow$ $ABCD \text{ – rectangle}$
	$AC \perp BD \Leftrightarrow$ $ABCD \text{ – rhombus}$
	<p>in rhombus <math>ABCD</math></p> <p><math>AC</math> and <math>BD</math> – angle bisectors</p>

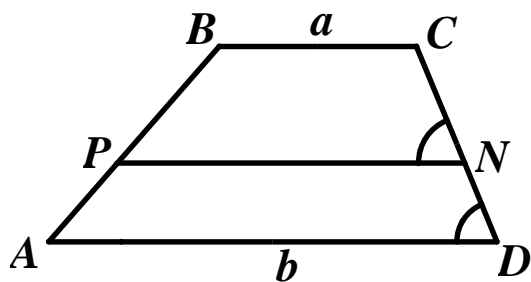
## 17.15 Trapezoid

	$PN \parallel a$ $PN = \frac{a+b}{2}$
	$AC^2 + BD^2 = m^2 + n^2 + 2ab$
	$S_{\triangle ABE} = S_{\triangle DCE}$
	<p>Points <math>P, E, N, K</math> are collinear</p>
	<p>Let <math>N</math> and <math>M</math> be the midpoints of the diagonals Then <math>MN = \frac{1}{2} a - b </math></p>



If  $PN \parallel a$ ,

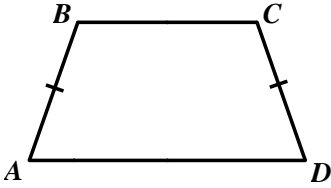
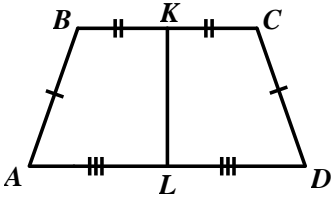
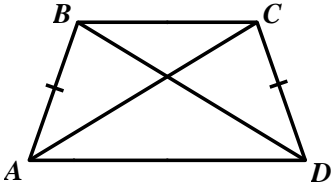
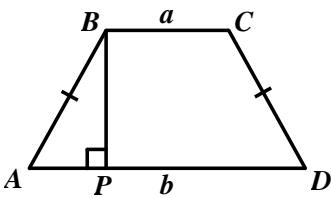
$$\text{then } PN = \frac{2ab}{a+b}$$

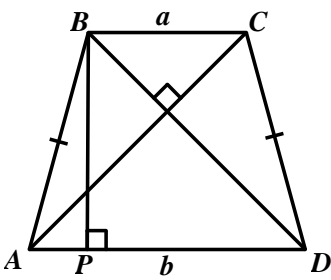


If  $S_{PBCN} = S_{APND}$ ,

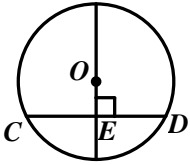
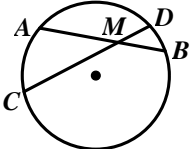
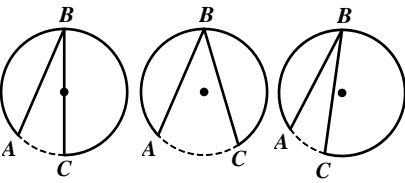
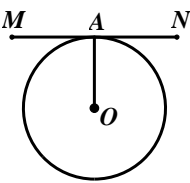
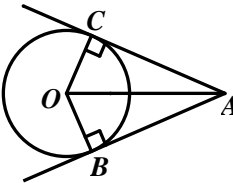
$$\text{then } PN = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{2}$$

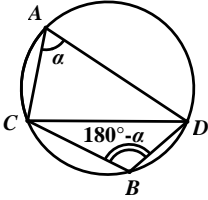
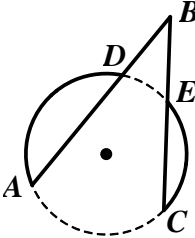
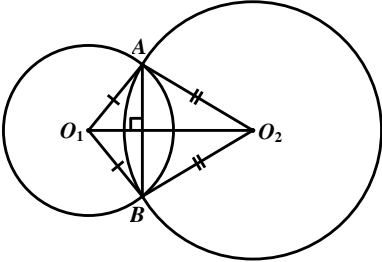
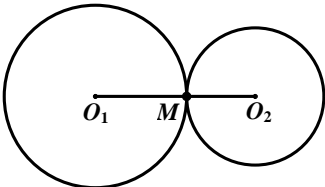
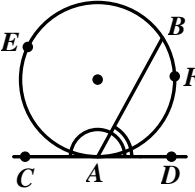
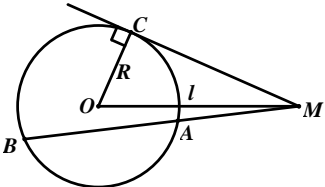
## 17.16 Isosceles Trapezoid

	$\angle BAD = \angle CDA$
	$KL \perp AD$
	$AC = BD$
	$AP = \frac{b-a}{2}, PD = \frac{a+b}{2}$

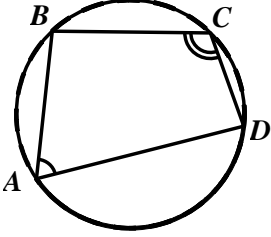
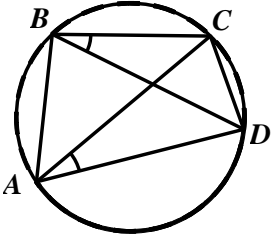
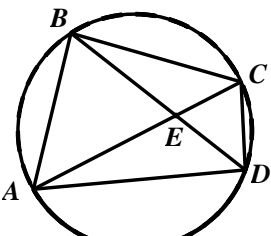
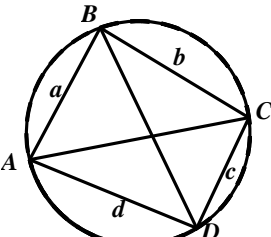
	$BD \perp AC \Leftrightarrow$ $BP = \frac{a+b}{2}$
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## 17.17 Circle. Properties of Chords and Angles

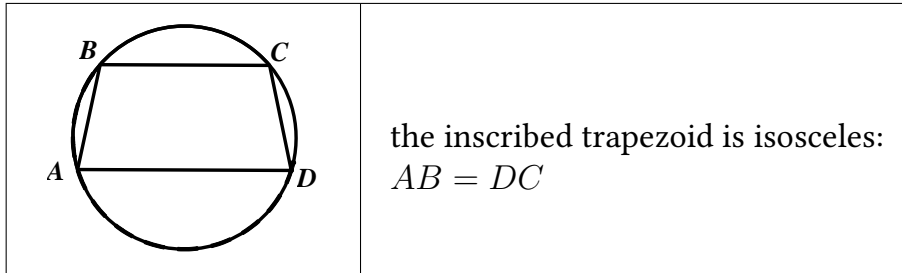
	$CE = ED$ <i>(O – centre of circle)</i>
	$AM \cdot MB = CM \cdot MD$
	$\angle ABC = \frac{1}{2} \text{ } \smile \text{ } AC$
	$MN$ touches the circle in $A$ $\Rightarrow MN \perp OA$ ; if $MN$ passes through point $A$ of circle and $MN \perp OA$ $\Rightarrow MN$ – tangent line
	$AC = AB,$ $\angle CAO = \angle BAO$

	$\angle CAD + \angle CBD = 180^\circ$
	$\angle ABC = \frac{1}{2}(\text{arc } AC - \text{arc } DE)$
	<p>The line joining the centers of two intersecting circles is perpendicular to their common chord and bisects it.</p>
	<p>The line joining the centers of two tangent circles passes through their point of tangency.</p>
	$\angle BAC = \frac{1}{2} \text{arc } AEB$ $\angle BAD = \frac{1}{2} \text{arc } AFB$
	$MA \cdot MB = MC^2$ $MA \cdot MB = l^2 - R^2$

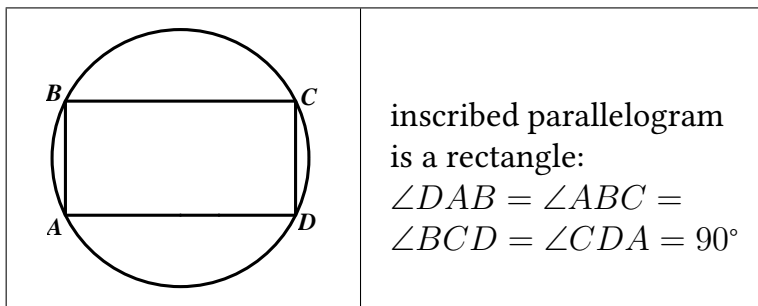
## 17.18 Cyclic Quadrilateral

	$\angle BAD + \angle BCD = 180^\circ$
	$\angle DAC = \angle DBC$
	$AE \cdot EC = BE \cdot ED$
	<p><b>Ptolemy's theorem</b>  <math display="block">AC \cdot BD = ac + bd</math></p>

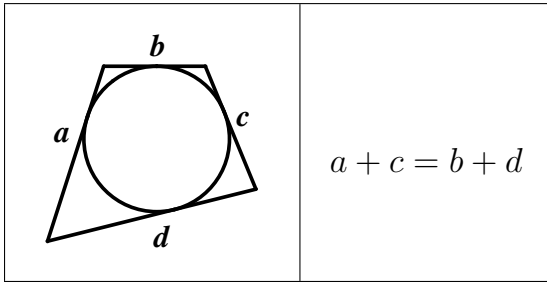
## 17.19 Inscribed Trapezoid



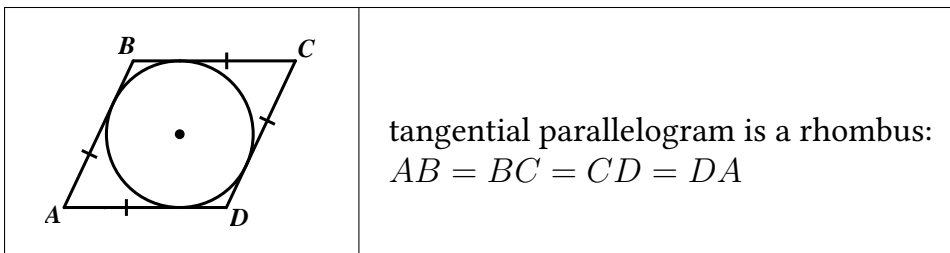
## 17.20 Inscribed Parallelogram



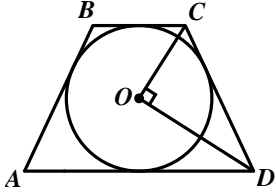
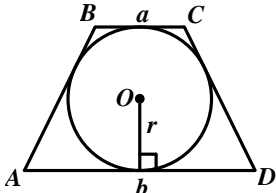
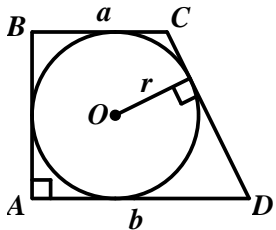
## 17.21 Tangential Quadrilateral



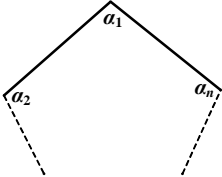
## 17.22 Tangential Parallelogram



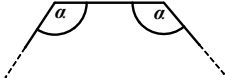
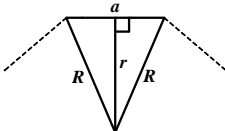
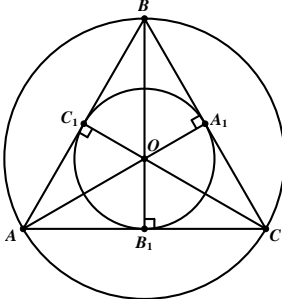
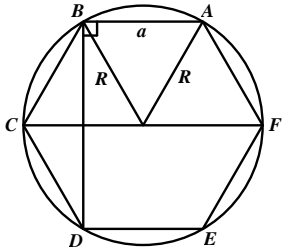
## 17.23 Tangential Trapezoid

	$\angle DOC = 90^\circ$ <p>(<math>O</math> – centre of the circle)</p>
	<p>if <math>AB = CD</math>,</p> $\text{then } r = \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2}$
	$r = \frac{ab}{a + b}$

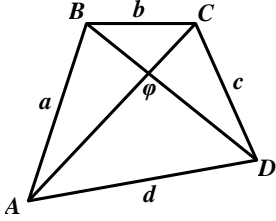
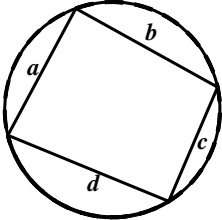
## 17.24 Sum of Angles of an N-gon

	$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n = 180^\circ(n - 2)$
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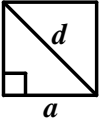
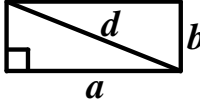
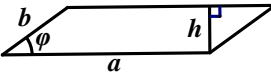
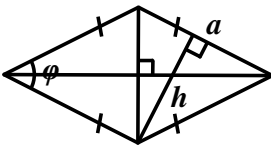
## 17.25 Regular N-gon

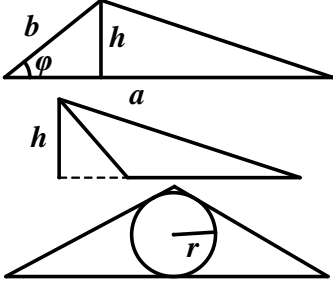
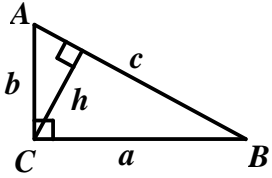
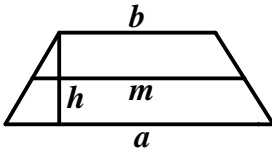
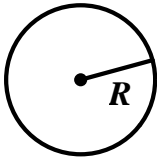
	$\alpha = \frac{180^\circ(n - 2)}{n}$
	$a = 2R \cdot \sin \frac{180^\circ}{n}$ $a = 2r \cdot \tan \frac{180^\circ}{n}$
	<p>For a regular triangle:</p> $a = AB = BC = CA$ $h = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a$ $R = \frac{2}{3}h$ $r = \frac{1}{3}h$
	<p>For a regular hexagon:</p> $a = R$ $AB \parallel CF$ $CF = 2a$ $BD \perp BA$ $BD = \sqrt{3}a$

## 17.26 Area of a Quadrilateral

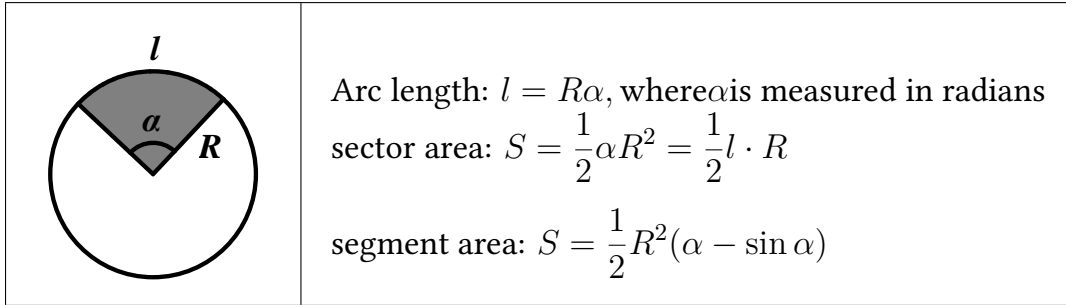
 <p>A quadrilateral with vertices labeled A, B, C, and D. The sides are labeled a, b, c, and d. The diagonals AC and BD intersect at an angle <math>\varphi</math>.</p>	$S = \frac{1}{2} AC \cdot BD \cdot \sin \varphi$ $S = \frac{1}{4}  d^2 - c^2 + b^2 - a^2  \cdot \tan \varphi, \varphi < 90^\circ$
 <p>A quadrilateral inscribed in a circle. The sides are labeled a, b, c, and d.</p>	<p><b>Brahmagupta's formula:</b></p> $S = \sqrt{(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)(p-d)}$

## 17.27 Areas of Random Figures

 <p>square</p>	$S = a^2$ $P = 4a$ $d = \sqrt{2}a$
 <p>rectangle</p>	$S = ab$ $P = 2(a + b)$ $d = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$
 <p>parallelogram</p>	$S = ah = ab \sin \varphi$ $P = 2(a + b)$ $d_1 = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \varphi}$ $d_2 = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab \cos \varphi}$
 <p>rhombus</p>	$S = ah = a^2 \sin \varphi = \frac{d_1 d_2}{2}, \text{ where}$ $d_1, d_2 - \text{diagonals of a rhombus}$

 <p>triangle</p>	$S = \frac{ah}{2} = \frac{1}{2}ab \sin \varphi = pr = \frac{abc}{4R} = \sqrt{p(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)}$
 <p>right triangle</p>	$S = \frac{ab}{2} = \frac{ch}{2}$ $h = \frac{ab}{c}$
 <p>trapezoid</p>	$S = \frac{a+b}{2}h = mh$ <p>where <math>m</math> – midline of trapezoid</p>
 <p>circle</p>	$S = \pi R^2$ $L = 2\pi R = \pi D$

## 17.28 Arc Length, Segment and Sector Area



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