

4. Isosceles Triangles

1. Let AA_1 be the internal bisector of $\angle CAB$ and BB_1 be the internal bisector of $\angle ABC$, such that $A_1 \in BC$ and $B_1 \in CA$. Suppose $\overline{AA_1} = \overline{BB_1}$. By Stewart's theorem we get

$$\overline{AA_1} = \sqrt{\frac{A_1C \cdot \overline{AB}^2 + A_1B \cdot \overline{AC}^2}{BC} - \overline{A_1B} \cdot \overline{A_1C}}$$

and $\overline{BB_1} = \sqrt{\frac{B_1C \cdot \overline{AB}^2 + B_1A \cdot \overline{BC}^2}{AC} - \overline{B_1A} \cdot \overline{B_1C}}$, thus

$$\frac{A_1C \cdot \overline{AB}^2 + A_1B \cdot \overline{AC}^2}{BC} - \overline{A_1B} \cdot \overline{A_1C} = \frac{B_1C \cdot \overline{AB}^2 + B_1A \cdot \overline{BC}^2}{AC} - \overline{B_1A} \cdot \overline{B_1C}.$$

Due to the bisector theorem, we know that

$$\overline{A_1B} = \frac{\overline{AB} \cdot \overline{BC}}{\overline{AB} + \overline{AC}}, \quad \overline{A_1C} = \frac{\overline{AC} \cdot \overline{BC}}{\overline{AB} + \overline{AC}}, \quad \overline{B_1C} = \frac{\overline{AC} \cdot \overline{BC}}{\overline{AB} + \overline{BC}}, \quad \overline{B_1A} = \frac{\overline{AB} \cdot \overline{AC}}{\overline{AB} + \overline{BC}}.$$

By inserting these values into the equation above, we obtain

$$\overline{AB} \cdot \overline{AC} - \overline{AB} \cdot \overline{AC} \cdot \overline{BC} \cdot \frac{\overline{BC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{AC})^2} = \overline{AB} \cdot \overline{BC} - \overline{AB} \cdot \overline{AC} \cdot \overline{BC} \cdot \frac{\overline{AC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{BC})^2}$$

$$\iff \frac{1}{\overline{BC}} - \frac{\overline{BC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{AC})^2} = \frac{1}{\overline{AC}} - \frac{\overline{AC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{BC})^2}.$$

Suppose $\overline{AC} > \overline{BC}$. Thus $\frac{1}{\overline{BC}} > \frac{1}{\overline{AC}}$ and because $\overline{AB} + \overline{AC} > \overline{AB} + \overline{BC}$, $\frac{\overline{BC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{AC})^2} < \frac{\overline{AC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{BC})^2}$, hence

$$\iff \frac{1}{\overline{BC}} - \frac{\overline{BC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{AC})^2} > \frac{1}{\overline{AC}} - \frac{\overline{AC}}{(\overline{AB} + \overline{BC})^2},$$

which is a contradiction. $\overline{AC} < \overline{BC}$ leads to a contradiction, simultaneously. Therefore it is shown that $\overline{AC} = \overline{BC}$, so the triangle is isosceles.

3. If the triangle is isosceles the two external bisectors are equal, since the triangle is symmetric. So now assume that $\overline{A_1'A} = \overline{B_1'B}$. Denote by α, β, γ the angles $\angle CAB, \angle ABC, \angle BCA$. Since AA_1' and BB_1' are external bisectors we conclude: $\angle BAA_1' = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}$ and $\angle B_1'BA = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}$. With the theorem of external angle we get: $\angle AB_1'B = \alpha + \frac{\beta}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $\angle AA_1'B = \beta + \frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2}$. Using the law of sine in $A_1'BA$ we get:

$$\frac{\sin(\beta + \frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2})}{\sin(\pi - \beta)} = \frac{\sin(\beta + \frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2})}{\sin(\beta)} = \frac{\overline{A_1'A}}{\overline{AB}} = \frac{\overline{B_1'B}}{\overline{AB}} = \frac{\sin(\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2})}{\sin(\alpha)}$$

(The last equality holds because of the law of sine in $B_1'BA$). So we have:

$$\cos(\beta + \frac{\alpha}{2}) \sin \alpha = \cos(\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2}) \sin \beta$$

Using $2 \cos x \cos y = \cos(x + y) + \cos(x - y)$ we get:

$$\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \frac{\alpha}{2}} (\cos(\alpha + \beta) + \cos \beta) = \frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \frac{\beta}{2}} (\cos(\alpha + \beta) + \cos \alpha)$$

Using $\sin x = 2 \sin \frac{x}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{x}{2}$ we conclude:

$$\left(\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} - \sin \frac{\beta}{2}\right) \cos(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \alpha - \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \beta$$

With $\cos(x) = \cos^2 \frac{x}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2} = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}$

$$\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \alpha - \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \beta = \left(\sin \frac{\beta}{2} - \sin \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \left(1 - 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta}{2}\right)$$

Assume that $\alpha \neq \beta$ so we have $\sin \alpha \neq \sin \beta$ Hence:

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta}{2} - 1$$

Now Let x, y be $\frac{\alpha}{2}, \frac{\beta}{2}$.

$$\cos(2x+2y) = \cos^2(x+y) - \sin^2(x+y) = 2 \cos^2(x+y) - 1 = 2 \sin x \sin y - 1 \Leftrightarrow \cos^2(x+y) - \frac{\cos(x+y)}{2}$$

This equality has obviously solutions with $1 \geq \cos(x-y) > \cos(x+y) > 0$ So we can construct solutions with $0 < x+y < \frac{\pi}{2}, x, y > 0$. So of course α and β can be different, because we just used equivalent transformations. (Always looking at the range of the values. **5.** From the theorem of sine we get $\frac{|CA_1|}{|A_1B|} = \frac{\frac{\sin(\frac{\alpha}{2})|AA_1|}{\sin(\gamma)}}{\frac{\sin(\frac{\alpha}{2})|AA_1|}{\sin(\beta)}} = \frac{\sin(\beta)}{\sin(\gamma)} = \frac{b}{c}$.

For the external bisector it is $\frac{|CA'_1|}{|A'_1B|} = \frac{\frac{\sin(90-\frac{\alpha}{2})|AA'_1|}{\sin(\gamma)}}{\frac{\sin(90+\frac{\alpha}{2})|AA'_1|}{\sin(\beta)}} = \frac{\sin(\beta)}{\sin(\gamma)} = \frac{b}{c}$.

Looking at the symmedians we get that $\sin(\angle A_2AC) = \sin(\angle BAA_0) = \frac{\sin(\angle AA_0B)|BC|}{2|AB|}$ and $\sin(\angle BAA_2) = \sin(\angle A_0AC) = \frac{\sin(\angle AA_0B)|BC|}{2|AC|}$.

Hence:

$$\frac{|CA_2|}{|A_2B|} = \frac{\frac{\sin(\angle A_2AC)|AA_0|}{\sin(\gamma)}}{\frac{\sin(\angle BAA_2)|AA_0|}{\sin(\beta)}} = \frac{\sin(\beta)|AC|}{\sin(\gamma)|BC|} = \frac{b^2}{c^2}$$

Now last but not least the exsymmedians:

It is $\angle CAA'_2 = \gamma - 2\angle A'_1AA'_0 = \gamma - 2(\gamma - (90 - \frac{\alpha}{2})) = \beta$

Hence:

$$\frac{|CA'_2|}{|A'_2B|} = \frac{\frac{\sin(\beta)|AA'_2|}{\sin(\gamma)}}{\frac{\sin(\alpha+\beta)|AA'_2|}{\sin(\beta)}} = \frac{\sin(\beta)^2}{\sin(\gamma)\sin(\alpha+\beta)} = \frac{\sin(\beta)^2}{\sin(\gamma)^2} = \frac{b^2}{c^2}$$