



There are two triangles ABC and PQR. The vertex A is a middle of the side QR. The vertex P is a middle of the side BC. The line QR is a bisector of the angle BAC. The line BC is a bisector of the angle QPR. Prove that  $|AC| + |AB| = |PR| + |PQ|$ .

First we solve this problem under the following additional assumption: there are no parallel lines among  $AB, AC, PR, PQ$ .

Observe that

$$\mathbf{AP} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{AC}) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{PQ} + \mathbf{PR}) = \mathbf{AN} - \mathbf{PN}, \quad (1)$$

where the bisectors are presented as follows

$$\mathbf{AN} = \frac{|\mathbf{AB}|\mathbf{AC}}{|\mathbf{AB}| + |\mathbf{AC}|} + \frac{|\mathbf{AC}|\mathbf{AB}}{|\mathbf{AB}| + |\mathbf{AC}|}, \quad \mathbf{PN} = \frac{|\mathbf{PQ}|\mathbf{PR}}{|\mathbf{PQ}| + |\mathbf{PR}|} + \frac{|\mathbf{PR}|\mathbf{PQ}}{|\mathbf{PQ}| + |\mathbf{PR}|}.$$

Equations (1) imply

$$\mathbf{PQ} = \frac{(c+b)\mathbf{AC} + (b-c)\mathbf{AB}}{a-b}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{PR} = -\frac{(c+a)\mathbf{AC} + (a-c)\mathbf{AB}}{a-b}, \quad (3)$$

where

$$a = \frac{|\mathbf{PR}|}{|\mathbf{PR}| + |\mathbf{PQ}|}, \quad b = \frac{|\mathbf{PQ}|}{|\mathbf{PR}| + |\mathbf{PQ}|}, \quad c = \frac{|\mathbf{AB}| - |\mathbf{AC}|}{2(|\mathbf{AB}| + |\mathbf{AC}|)}. \quad (4)$$

Equality  $a = b$  is impossible. Indeed, if it would be so then  $|\mathbf{PR}| = |\mathbf{PQ}|$  and  $PQR$  is an isosceles triangle so that  $A = N$  and the triangle  $ABC$  collapses; by the analogous reason  $c \neq 0$ .

Formulas (2), (3) imply respectively

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{PQ}|^2(a-b)^2 &= (c+b)^2|\mathbf{AC}|^2 + (b-c)^2|\mathbf{AB}|^2 + 2(c+b)(b-c)S, \\ |\mathbf{PR}|^2(a-b)^2 &= (c+a)^2|\mathbf{AC}|^2 + (a-c)^2|\mathbf{AB}|^2 + 2(c+a)(a-c)S, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where  $S = (\mathbf{AC}, \mathbf{AB})$ .

Excluding 2S from equations (5) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|PQ|^2(a-b)^2 - (c+b)^2|AC|^2 - (b-c)^2|AB|^2}{(c+b)(b-c)} \\ & - \frac{|PR|^2(a-b)^2 - (c+a)^2|AC|^2 - (a-c)^2|AB|^2}{(c+a)(a-c)} = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The denominators in equation (6) cannot vanish provided there are no parallel lines among  $AB, AC, PR, PQ$ . Indeed, if for example  $b - c = 0$  then by equation (2)  $PQ$  is parallel to  $AC$  etc.

The left side of (6) is processed with the help of Maple. See the sheet below.

Without loss of generality we can put  $|AB| > |AC|$ . Indeed, else one must replace the notations for vertexes  $A$  and  $C$ . Analogously the assumption  $|PQ| > |PR|$  does not lose the generality. These inequalities imply  $b > a, \quad c > 0$ .

Consider the case  $a = c$ . From (3) it follows that

$$|PR| = \frac{(c+a)|AC|}{b-a} = \frac{2a|AC|}{b-a} = |AC| \frac{2|PR|}{|PQ| - |PR|};$$

or

$$|PQ| - |PR| = 2|AC|.$$

This equation together with  $a = c$  (see (4) gives

$$|PQ| = \frac{1}{2}|AB| + \frac{3}{2}|AC|, \quad |PR| = \frac{1}{2}(|AB| - |AC|);$$

and formula

$$|PQ| + |PR| = |AB| + |AC|$$

holds.

$$\begin{aligned} &> a := \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad a := \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> b := \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad b := \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> c := \frac{(AB - AC)}{2 \cdot (AB + AC)} \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad c := \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> U := \frac{(PQ^2 \cdot (a - b)^2 - (c + b)^2 \cdot AC^2 - (b - c)^2 \cdot AB^2)}{b^2 - c^2} \\ U &:= \frac{1}{\frac{PQ^2}{(PR + PQ)^2} - \frac{(AB - AC)^2}{(2 AB + 2 AC)^2}} \left( PQ^2 \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 AC^2 - \left( \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} - \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right)^2 AB^2 \right) \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> V := \frac{(PR^2 \cdot (a - b)^2 - (c + a)^2 \cdot AC^2 - (a - c)^2 \cdot AB^2)}{a^2 - c^2} \\ V &:= \frac{1}{\frac{PR^2}{(PR + PQ)^2} - \frac{(AB - AC)^2}{(2 AB + 2 AC)^2}} \left( PR^2 \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 AC^2 - \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right)^2 AB^2 \right) \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> W := U - V \\ W &:= \frac{1}{\frac{PQ^2}{(PR + PQ)^2} - \frac{(AB - AC)^2}{(2 AB + 2 AC)^2}} \left( PQ^2 \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 AC^2 - \left( \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} - \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right)^2 AB^2 \right) \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{\frac{PR^2}{(PR + PQ)^2} - \frac{(AB - AC)^2}{(2 AB + 2 AC)^2}} \left( PR^2 \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{PQ}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \left( \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} + \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} \right)^2 AC^2 - \left( \frac{PR}{PR + PQ} - \frac{AB - AC}{2 AB + 2 AC} \right)^2 AB^2 \right) \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> \text{factor}(W) \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \left( 4 (PR + PQ) (-PR + PQ)^3 (AB - AC)^2 (AB + AC)^2 \underbrace{(AC - PQ - PR + AB)}_6 (AC + AB \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + PQ + PR) \right) / \left( (-AB PR - 3 AC PR + AB PQ - AC PQ) (3 AB PR + AB PQ + AC PR \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - AC PQ) (AB PQ + 3 AC PQ - AB PR + AC PR) (AB PR + 3 AB PQ - AC PR \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + AC PQ) \right)
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{7}$$