

# IX GEOMETRICAL OLYMPIAD IN HONOUR OF I.F.SHARYGIN. THE CORRESPONDENCE ROUND. SOLUTIONS.

1. (N.Moskvitin) Let  $ABC$  be an isosceles triangle with  $AB = BC$ . Point  $E$  lies on side  $AB$ , and  $ED$  is the perpendicular from  $E$  to  $BC$ . It is known that  $AE = DE$ . Find  $\angle DAC$ .

**Answer.**  $45^\circ$ .

**Solution.** By the external angle theorem  $\angle AED = 90^\circ + \angle B = 270^\circ - 2\angle A$  (fig.1). Therefore,  $\angle EAD = (180^\circ - \angle AED)/2 = \angle A - 45^\circ$ .

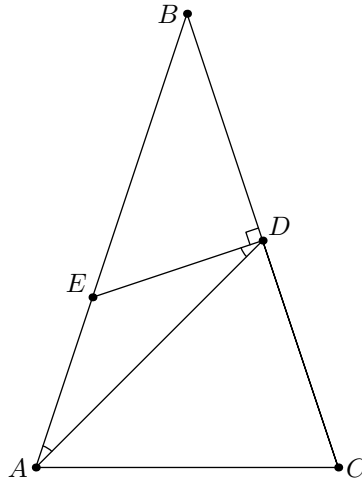


Fig.1

2. (L.Steingarts) Let  $ABC$  be an isosceles triangle ( $AC = BC$ ) with  $\angle C = 20^\circ$ . The bisectors of angles  $A$  and  $B$  meet the opposite sides in points  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  respectively. Prove that triangle  $A_1OB_1$  (where  $O$  is the circumcenter of  $ABC$ ) is regular.

**Solution.** On sides  $BC$  and  $AC$  take points  $A'$  and  $B'$  such that  $AB' = B'O = OA' = A'B$ . It is clear that  $A'B' \parallel AB$ , i.e.  $\angle CA'B' = \angle CBA = 80^\circ$ . Also  $\angle A'OB = \angle A'BO = \angle BCO = 10^\circ$ . Thus  $\angle CA'O = 20^\circ$  and  $\angle OA'B' = 60^\circ$ , i.e triangle  $OA'B'$  is regular. Then  $A'B' = A'B$  and  $\angle A'BB' = \angle A'B'B = \angle ABB'$  (fig.2). Therefore  $B'$  coincides with  $B_1$ . Similarly  $A'$  coincides with  $A_1$ , q.e.d.

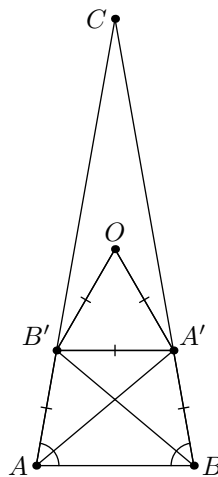


Fig.2

3. (D.Shvetsov) Let  $ABC$  be a right-angled triangle ( $\angle B = 90^\circ$ ). The excircle inscribed into the angle  $A$  touches the extensions of the sides  $AB$ ,  $AC$  at points  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  respectively; points  $C_1$ ,

$C_2$  are defined similarly. Prove that the perpendiculars from  $A, B, C$  to  $C_1C_2, A_1C_1, A_1A_2$  respectively, concur.

**Solution.**

Let  $I$  be the incenter of  $ABC$ , and  $D$  be the fourth vertex of rectangle  $ABCD$ . Since  $AI \perp A_1A_2$ ,  $CI \perp C_1C_2$ , the perpendiculars from  $A$  to  $CC_1$  and from  $C$  to  $AA_1$  meet in the incenter  $J$  of triangle  $ACD$ . Then it is sufficient to prove that  $DI \perp A_1C_1$ . Let  $X, Y, Z$  be the projections of  $I$  to  $AB, BC, CD$  respectively. Then  $BC_1 = XC_2 = ZD$  and  $A_1B = CY = IZ$ , thus triangles  $A_1BC_1$  and  $IZD$  are equal, i.e.  $\angle IDZ = \angle A_1C_1B$  (fig.3), that proves the required assertion.

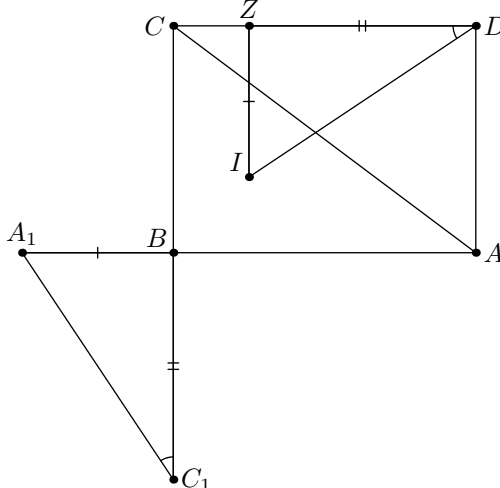


Fig.3

4. (F.Ivlev) Let  $ABC$  be a nonisosceles triangle. Point  $O$  is its circumcenter, and point  $K$  is the center of the circumcircle  $w$  of triangle  $BCO$ . The altitude of  $ABC$  from  $A$  meets  $w$  at a point  $P$ . The line  $PK$  intersects the circumcircle of  $ABC$  at points  $E$  and  $F$ . Prove that one of the segments  $EP$  and  $FP$  is equal to the segment  $PA$ .

**Solution.** Points  $O$  and  $K$  lie on the bisector of segment  $BC$ , thus  $OK \parallel AP$  and  $\angle OPK = \angle POK = \angle OPA$ . Therefore the reflection  $A'$  of  $A$  in  $OP$  lies on  $PK$ . Also  $OA' = OA$ , i.e.  $A'$  lies on the circumcircle of  $ABC$  (fig.4). Thus  $A'$  coincides with one of points  $E, F$ .

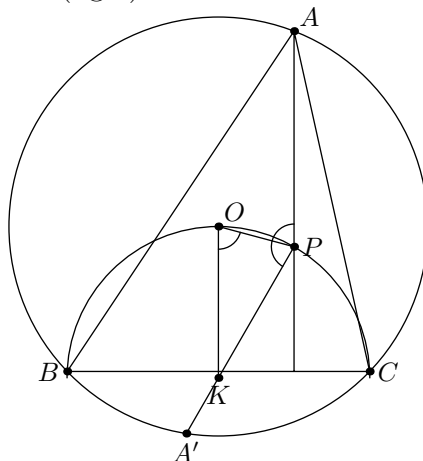


Fig.4

5. (B.Frenkin) Four segments drawn from a given point inside a convex quadrilateral to its vertices, split the quadrilateral into four equal triangles. Can we assert that this quadrilateral is a rhombus?

**Answer.** Yes.

**Solution.** Let  $ABCD$  and  $O$  be the given quadrilateral and point. In equal triangles the angles opposite to equal sides are equal. Since  $\triangle ABO = \triangle CBO$ , angles  $BAO$  and  $BCO$  opposite to  $BO$  are equal. Similarly  $\angle DAO = \angle DCO$ , thus  $\angle BAD = \angle BCD$ . Two remaining angles of the quadrilateral are similarly equal, therefore  $ABCD$  is a parallelogram.

There exist two adjacent angles with vertex  $O$  such that their sum is not less than  $\pi$ , suppose that these angles are  $\angle AOB$  and  $\angle COB$ . The second angle is equal to some angle of triangle  $AOB$ . This can be only  $\angle AOB$ , because its sum with any of two remaining angles of  $AOB$  is less than  $\pi$ . The sides of equal triangles  $AOB$  and  $COB$  opposite to these angles are equal. Then  $AB = BC$  and  $ABCD$  is a rhombus.

6. (D.Shvetsov) Diagonals  $AC$  and  $BD$  of a trapezoid  $ABCD$  meet at point  $P$ . The circumcircles of triangles  $ABP$  and  $CDP$  intersect the line  $AD$  for the second time at points  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively. Let  $M$  be the midpoint of segment  $XY$ . Prove that  $BM = CM$ .

**Solution.**

By condition,  $\angle BXA = \angle BPA = \angle CPD = \angle CYD$  (fig.6). Thus  $BXYC$  is an isosceles trapezoid, which proves the required assertion.

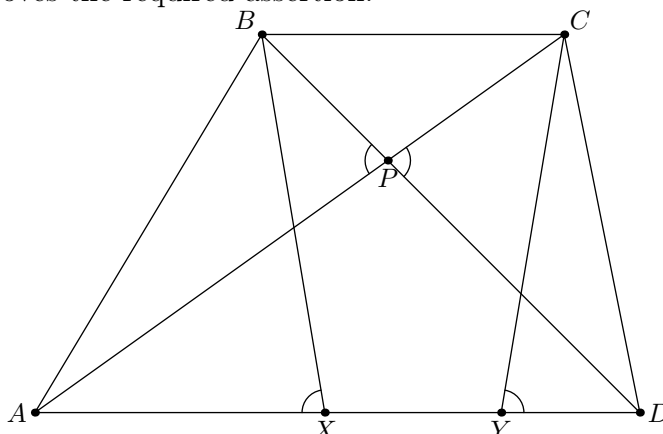


Fig.6

7. (D.Shvetsov) Let  $BD$  be a bisector of triangle  $ABC$ . Points  $I_a, I_c$  are the incenters of triangles  $ABD, CBD$  respectively. The line  $I_a I_c$  meets  $AC$  in point  $Q$ . Prove that  $\angle DBQ = 90^\circ$ .

**Solution.**

Lines  $AI_a$  and  $CI_c$  meet in the incenter  $I$  of  $ABC$ . By the bisectrix theorem  $AI_a/I_a I = AD/ID$ ,  $CI_c/I_c I = CD/ID$ . By the Menelaos theorem  $QA/QC = AD/CD = AB/BC$ . Therefore  $BQ$  is the external bisectrix of angle  $B$ , q.e.d.

8. (M.Plotnikov) Let  $X$  be an arbitrary point inside the circumcircle of a triangle  $ABC$ . The lines  $BX$  and  $CX$  meet the circumcircle for the second time at points  $K$  and  $L$  respectively. The line  $LK$  intersects  $BA$  and  $AC$  at points  $E$  and  $F$  respectively. Find the locus of points  $X$  such that the circumcircles of triangles  $AFK$  and  $AEL$  touch.

**Answer.** The arc of the circle passing through  $B, C$  and the circumcenter  $O$  of  $ABC$ .

**Solution.** Let the circles touche. Then the angles between their common tangent and lines  $AC$  and  $AB$  are equal to angles  $ALE$  and  $AKF$  respectively. Since these two angles are equal to

angles  $ABX$  and  $ACX$ , their sum is equal to angle  $A$  and  $\angle BXC = 2\angle A = \angle BOC$ . Similarly we obtain that for any point of the arc the correspondent circles touche.

9. (M.Plotnikov) Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be the points of tangency of the excircles of a triangle  $ABC$  with its sides  $BC$  and  $AC$  respectively. It is known that the reflection of the incenter of  $ABC$  across the midpoint of  $AB$  lies on the circumcircle of triangle  $CT_1T_2$ . Find  $\angle BCA$ .

**Answer.**  $90^\circ$ .

**Solution.** Let  $D$  be the fourth vertex of parallelogram  $ACBD$ ,  $J$  be the incenter of  $ABD$ ,  $S_1, S_2$  be the points of tangency of the incircle of  $ABC$  with  $AD$  and  $BD$ . Then  $S_1T_1 \parallel AC$ ,  $S_2T_2 \parallel BC$  and  $\angle T_1JT_2 = \angle S_1JS_2 = \pi - \angle C$ . Also  $DS_1 = DS_2$ , i.e. lines  $S_1T_1, S_2T_2$  and  $DJ$  concur. Therefore  $J$  coincides with the common point of lines  $S_1T_1$  and  $S_2T_2$ , i.e.  $\angle C = 90^\circ$  (fig.9).

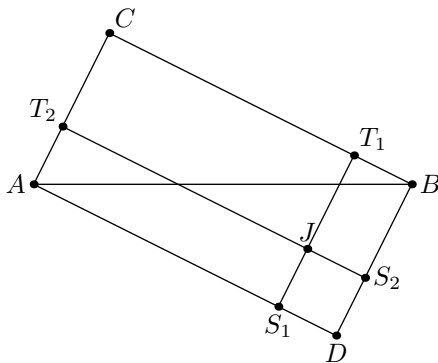


Fig.9

10. (D.Shvetsov) The incircle of triangle  $ABC$  touches the side  $AB$  at point  $C'$ ; the incircle of triangle  $ACC'$  touches the sides  $AB$  and  $AC$  at points  $C_1, B_1$ ; the incircle of triangle  $BCC'$  touches the sides  $AB$  and  $BC$  at points  $C_2, A_2$ . Prove that the lines  $B_1C_1, A_2C_2$ , and  $CC'$  concur.

**Solution.**

Since  $AC' - BC' = AC - BC$ , the incircles of triangles  $ACC'$  and  $BCC'$  touche  $CC'$  at the same point. Therefore  $CB_1 = CA_2$ . Also  $AB_1 = AC_1, BA_2 = BC_2$ , and if we find the angles of quadrilateral  $A_2B_1C_1C_2$ , we obtain that it is cyclic. Thus  $B_1C_1, A_2C_2$  and  $CC'$  concur in the radical center of three circles: the circumcircle of  $A_2B_1C_1C_2$  and the incircles of triangles  $ACC', BCC'$  (fig.10).

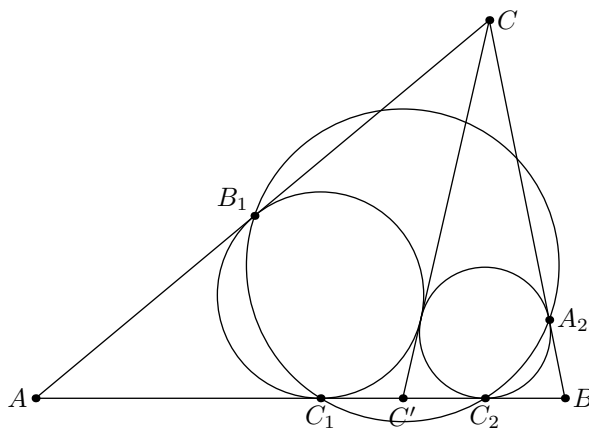


Fig.10

11. (P.Kozhevnikov) a) Let  $ABCD$  be a convex quadrilateral and  $r_1 \leq r_2 \leq r_3 \leq r_4$  be the radii of the incircles of triangles  $ABC$ ,  $BCD$ ,  $CDA$ ,  $DAB$ . Can the inequality  $r_4 > 2r_3$  hold?
- b) The diagonals of a convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  meet in point  $E$ . Let  $r_1 \leq r_2 \leq r_3 \leq r_4$  be the radii of the incircles of triangles  $ABE$ ,  $BCE$ ,  $CDE$ ,  $DAE$ . Can the inequality  $r_2 > 2r_1$  hold?

**Answer.** a) No. b) No.

**Solution.** a) Suppose that  $r_4 = r(ABC)$ . It is sufficient to prove that  $r(ABC)/2 < \max\{r(ABD), r(CBD)\}$ . The midpoint  $K$  of  $AC$  lies inside one of triangles  $ABD$ ,  $CBD$ , for example inside  $ABD$ . Then triangle  $AKL$ , where  $L$  is the midpoint of  $AB$ , lies inside triangle  $ABD$ , therefore  $r(ABC)/2 = r(AKL) < r(ABD)$ .

b) Let  $r = r_1$  be the inradius of triangle  $ABE$ . The diameters of the incircles of triangles  $BCE$ ,  $ADE$ , are less than the altitudes of these triangles coinciding with altitudes  $h_a$ ,  $h_b$  of  $ABE$ . Thus it is sufficient to prove that one of these altitudes is less than  $4r$ . Suppose that  $AE \geq BE$ . Then the semiperimeter  $p < AE + BE \leq 2AE$  and  $h_b = 2S/AE = 2pr/AE < 4r$ .

**Comment.** Note that the answer to both questions will be positive if we replace 2 to any smaller number.

12. (B.Frenkin) (8–11) On each side of triangle  $ABC$ , two distinct points are marked. It is known that these points are the feet of the altitudes and the bisectors.

a) Using only a ruler determine which points are the feet of the altitudes and which points are the feet of the bisectors.

b) Solve p.a) drawing only three lines.

**Solution. Preliminary hints.** Since all points are distinct the triangle isn't isosceles. For each side, the foot of the altitude lies between the foot of the bisector and the smaller of two remaining sides. Thus it is sufficient to define the smallest and the greatest of the sides. We will denote the feet of the bisector and the altitude from vertex  $X$  as  $L_X$  and  $H_X$  respectively.

**Lemma.** If  $|AC| > |BC|$  then lines  $L_B L_A$  and  $H_B H_A$  meet the extension of side  $AB$  beyond  $B$ .

**Proof.** Let  $L_B D$  be the perpendicular from  $L_B$  to  $AB$ , and  $CH$  be the altitude. By the bisector theorem  $|L_B D| : |CH| = |AB| : (|BC| + |AB|)$ . Similarly if  $L_A E$  is the perpendicular from  $L_A$  to  $AB$ , then  $|L_A E| : |CH| = |AB| : (|AC| + |AB|)$ . Furthermore  $|AC| > |BC|$ ,  $|L_B D| > |L_A E|$ , thus  $L_B L_A$  meets the extension of  $AB$  beyond  $B$ .

Points  $H_B$ ,  $H_A$  lie on the semicircle with diameter  $AB$ . Since  $\angle H_A A B < \angle H_B B A$ , the distance from  $H_A$  to  $AB$  is less than the distance from  $H_B$  to  $AB$ . The lemma is proved.

**Simple solution of p.a).** Joining the given points with the opposite vertices we obtain two families of concurrent lines. Take two points of the same family on two sides and draw the line through them. By the lemma this line meets the extension of the third side beyond the vertex lying on the smaller of two sides. Therefore we can define the smaller of any two sides.

**Solution of p.b).** Take for each vertex the nearest marked points on two adjacent sides and join these points. We will prove that *these lines meet the prolongation of the greatest side beyond the vertex of the medial angle and the extensions of two remaining sides beyond the vertex of the greatest angle*. From this we can define the greatest and the smallest side.

Let us prove the above assertion. Suppose that  $|AB| > |AC| > |BC|$ . The marked points nearest to the vertex of the smallest angle are the feet of the bisectors, and the points nearest to the vertex of the greatest angle are the feet of the altitudes. By the lemma, the lines joining these points meet the extension of  $BC$  beyond  $C$  and the extension of  $AB$  beyond  $B$ . The marked points nearest to  $B$  are  $H_C$  and  $L_A$ . By the lemma, line  $L_C L_A$  meets the extension of  $AC$  beyond  $C$  in some point  $P$ . Ray  $H_C L_A$  passes inside triangle  $H_C C P$  and thus intersects segment  $CP$ , q.e.d.

13. (F.Ivlev) Let  $A_1$  and  $C_1$  be the tangency points of the incircle of triangle  $ABC$  with  $BC$  and  $AB$  respectively,  $A'$  and  $C'$  be the tangency points of the excircle inscribed into the angle  $B$  with the extensions of  $BC$  and  $AB$  respectively. Prove that the orthocenter  $H$  of triangle  $ABC$  lies on  $A_1 C_1$  if and only if the lines  $A' C_1$  and  $BA$  are orthogonal.

**Solution.** Suppose that  $A' C_1 \perp BA$ . Then by Thales theorem the altitude from  $C$  divides segment  $A_1 C_1$  in ratio  $A_1 C : C A' = p - c : p - a$ . The altitude from  $A$  passes through the same point. The inverse assertion is obtained similarly.

14. (D.Shvetsov) Let  $M, N$  be the midpoints of diagonals  $AC, BD$  of right-angled trapezoid  $ABCD$  ( $\angle A = \angle D = 90^\circ$ ). The circumcircles of triangles  $ABN, CDM$  meet line  $BC$  in points  $Q, R$ . Prove that the distances from  $Q, R$  to the midpoint of  $MN$  are equal.

**Solution.** Let  $X, Y$  be the projections of  $N$  and  $M$  to  $BC$ . Then we have to prove that  $RY = XQ$ . Since  $\angle N Q X = \angle N A B = \angle D B A$ , triangles  $X Q N$  and  $A B D$  are similar (fig.14). Thus  $X Q = AB \cdot NX / AD$ . But  $NX = CD \sin \angle B C D / 2 = CD \cdot AD / 2BC$ , therefore  $X Q = AB \cdot CD / 2BC = RY$ .

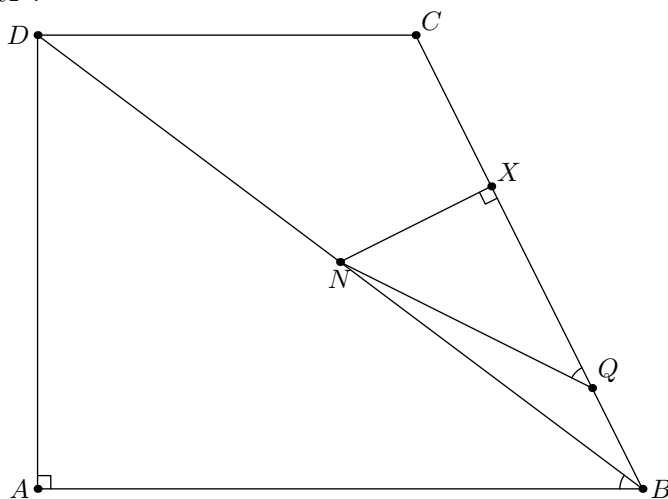


Fig.14

15. a) (V.Rastorguev) Triangles  $A_1 B_1 C_1$  and  $A_2 B_2 C_2$  are inscribed into triangle  $ABC$  so that  $C_1 A_1 \perp BC, A_1 B_1 \perp CA, B_1 C_1 \perp AB, B_2 A_2 \perp BC, C_2 B_2 \perp CA, A_2 C_2 \perp AB$ . Prove that these triangles are equal.

b) (P.Kozhevnikov) Points  $A_1, B_1, C_1, A_2, B_2, C_2$  lie inside triangle  $ABC$  so that  $A_1$  is on segment  $AB_1, B_1$  is on segment  $BC_1, C_1$  is on segment  $CA_1, A_2$  is on segment  $AC_2, B_2$  is on segment  $BA_2, C_2$  is on segment  $CB_2$  and angles  $B A A_1, C B B_1, A C C_1, C A A_2, A B B_2, B C C_2$  are equal. Prove that triangles  $A_1 B_1 C_1$  and  $A_2 B_2 C_2$  are equal.

**Solution.** a) Inscribe triangle  $A_2 B_2 C_2$  into triangle  $A' B' C'$  in such a way that  $C_2 A_2 \perp B' C', A_2 B_2 \perp C' A', B_2 C_2 \perp A' B'$ . It is clear that the corresponding sidelines of triangles  $ABC$

and  $B'C'A'$  are symmetric wrt the circumcenter of  $A_2B_2C_2$ . This symmetry maps  $A_2B_2C_2$  to  $B_1C_1A_1$ . Therefore these triangles are equal and their circumcenters coincide.

b) Consider the chords  $AA', BB', CC', AA'', BB'', CC''$  of the circumcircle of  $ABC$  lying on the lines  $A_1B_1, B_1C_1, C_1A_1, A_2C_2, B_2A_2, C_2B_2$ . By condition, arcs  $AC', BA', CB', AB'', CA'', BC''$  are equal. Let their size be  $\varphi$ . The rotation around the circumcenter to  $\varphi$  maps  $AA', BB', CC'$  to  $BB'', CC'', AA''$  respectively, thus it maps  $A_1B_1C_1$  to  $A_2B_2C_2$  (fig.15).

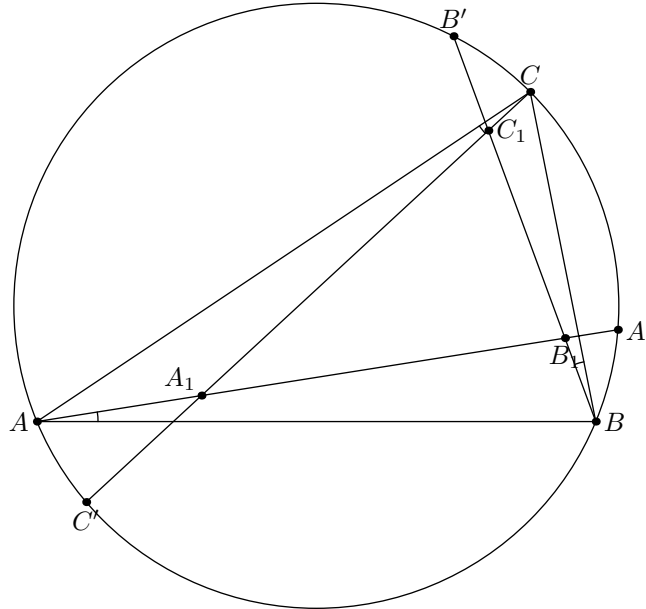


Fig.15

**Comment.** In a special case when triangle  $A_1B_1C_1$  degenerates to a point,  $A_2B_2C_2$  also degenerates to a point, and the distances from these two points to the circumcenter are equal. These points are *the Brocard points* of the triangle.

16. (F.Ivlev) The incircle of triangle  $ABC$  touches  $BC, CA, AB$  at points  $A', B', C'$  respectively. The perpendicular from the incenter  $I$  to the median from vertex  $C$  meets the line  $A'B'$  in point  $K$ . Prove that  $CK \parallel AB$ .

**Solution.** The polar transformation wrt the incircle maps the perpendicular from  $I$  to the median into the infinite point of this median, the image of line  $A'B'$  is point  $C$ , and the image of the line passing through  $C$  and parallel to  $AB$  is the common point  $P$  of  $A'B'$  and  $IC'$ . Thus we have to prove that  $P$  lies on the median.

Since  $IA' = IB'$ ,  $\angle PIB' = \angle A$ ,  $\angle PIA' = \angle B$ , we have  $B'P : A'P = BC : AC$ . Since  $CA' = CB'$ , we have  $\sin \angle ACP : \sin \angle BCP = BC : AC$ , i.e.  $CP$  bisects  $AB$  (fig.16).

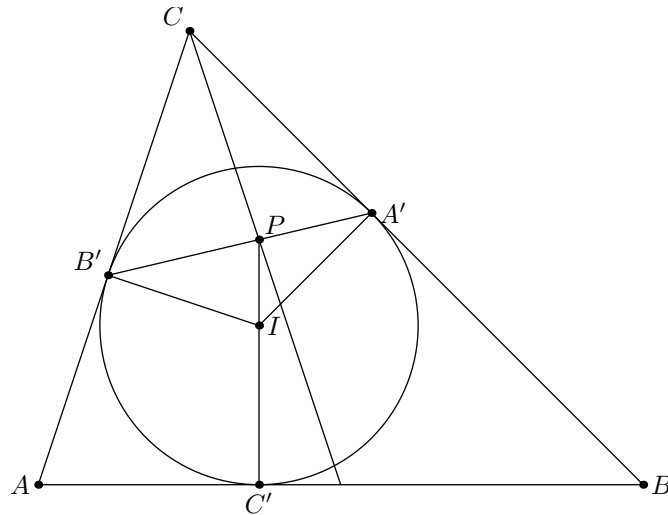


Fig.16

17. (A.Zaslavsky) An acute angle between the diagonals of a cyclic quadrilateral is equal to  $\phi$ . Prove that an acute angle between the diagonals of any other quadrilateral having the same sidelengths is smaller than  $\phi$ .

**Solution.** Let the diagonals of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  meet in point  $P$ . Put  $PA = a$ ,  $PB = b$ ,  $PC = c$ ,  $PD = d$  and express the sidelengths of  $ABCD$  through  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$  and  $\cos \phi$ . Then

$$|AB^2 - BC^2 + CD^2 - CA^2| = 2 \cos \phi (ab + bc + cd + da) = 2AC \cdot BD \cos \phi.$$

By Ptolemy's theorem  $AC \cdot BD \leq AB \cdot CD + BC \cdot AD$ , and the equality holds only for a cyclic quadrilateral.

18. (A.Ivanov) Let  $AD$  be a bisector of triangle  $ABC$ . Points  $M$  and  $N$  are the projections of  $B$  and  $C$  to  $AD$ . The circle with diameter  $MN$  intersects  $BC$  in points  $X$  and  $Y$ . Prove that  $\angle BAX = \angle CAY$ .

**Solution.** Let  $B'$ ,  $C'$ ,  $X'$ ,  $Y'$  be the reflections of  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$  in  $MN$ . Then the diagonals of isosceles trapezoid  $BB'CC'$  meet at point  $L$ , which is the reflection of  $A$  in the circle with diameter  $MN$ . The diagonals of isosceles trapezoid  $XX'YY'$  inscribed into this circle also meet at  $L$ . The lateral sidelines of this trapezoid meet on the polar of  $L$ , passing through  $A$  and parallel to the bases of the trapezoid. By symmetry  $A$  is the common point of the sidelines, which implies the assertion of the problem (fig.18).

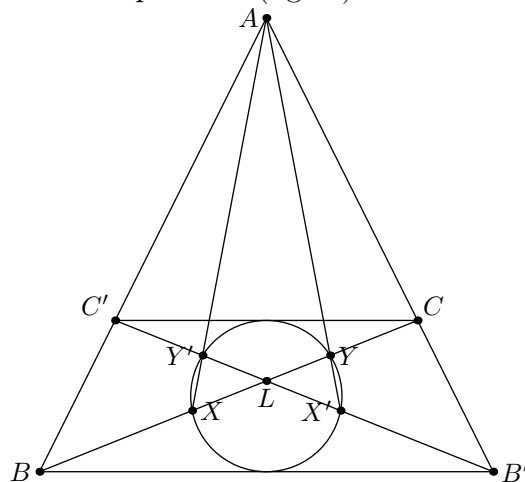




Fig.18

19. (D.Prokopenko) a) The incircle of a triangle  $ABC$  touches  $AC$  and  $AB$  at points  $B_0$  and  $C_0$  respectively. The bisectors of angles  $B$  and  $C$  meet the perpendicular bisector to the bisector  $AL$  in points  $Q$  and  $P$  respectively. Prove that the lines  $PC_0$ ,  $QB_0$ , and  $BC$  concur.
- b) Let  $AL$  be the bisector of a triangle  $ABC$ . Points  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  are the circumcenters of triangles  $ABL$  and  $ACL$  respectively. Points  $B_1$  and  $C_1$  are the projections of  $C$  and  $B$  to the bisectors of angles  $B$  and  $C$  respectively. Prove that the lines  $O_1C_1$ ,  $O_1B_1$ , and  $BC$  concur.
- c) Prove that two points obtained in pp. a) and b) coincide.

**Solution.** a) It is clear that  $PQ \parallel B_0C_0$ . Also  $P$  lies on the circumcircle of  $ACL$ . Thus  $\angle PLA = \angle C/2$  and  $\angle PLB = 90^\circ - \angle B/2 = \angle C_0A_0B$ , where  $A_0$  is the touching point of the incircle with  $BC$ . Therefore the corresponding sidelines of triangles  $PQL$  and  $C_0B_0A_0$  are parallel i.e., these triangles are homothetic (fig.19a). The homothety center  $S$  lies on line  $LA_0$ . Thus lines  $PQ$  and  $QB_0$  meet in  $S$ , i.e. on line  $BC$ .

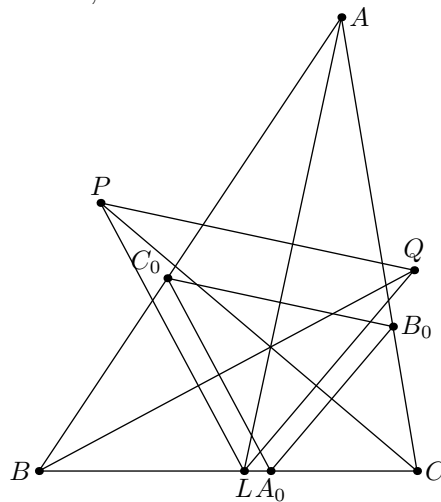


Fig.19a

b) First prove that points  $C_0$ ,  $B_0$ ,  $C_1$  and  $B_1$  are collinear. In fact, since the reflection of  $B$  in the bisector of angle  $C$  lies on  $AC$ , point  $C_1$  lies on the medial line  $A'C'$ . Also we have  $A'C_1 = BC/2$ , and therefore  $C'C_1 = |AC - BC|/2 = C'B_0$ . This property defines the common point of  $A'C'$  and  $B_0C_0$ . Thus lines  $O_1O_2$  and  $C_1B_1$  are parallel. Now quadrilateral  $BC_1IA_0$  is cyclic, therefore  $\angle C_1A_0B = 90^\circ - \angle A/2 = \angle O_1LB$  and  $A_0C_1 \parallel LO_1$ . Similarly  $A_0B_1 \parallel LO_2$  (fig.19b). Thus triangles  $O_1O_2L$  and  $C_1B_1A_0$  are homothetic.

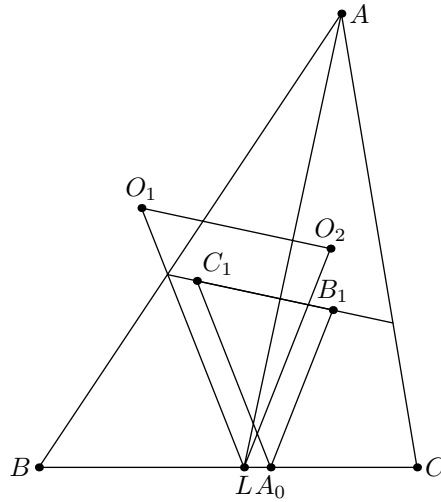


Fig.19b

c) Both homotheties of pp. a) and b) transform  $A_0$  to  $L$ , and line  $B_0C_0$  to the medial perpendicular to  $AL$ . Therefore their centers coincide.

20. (V.Yassinsky) Let  $C_1$  be an arbitrary point on the side  $AB$  of triangle  $ABC$ . Points  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  on the rays  $BC$  and  $AC$  are such that  $\angle AC_1B_1 = \angle BC_1A_1 = \angle ACB$ . The lines  $AA_1$  and  $BB_1$  meet in point  $C_2$ . Prove that all the lines  $C_1C_2$  have a common point.

**Solution.** By condition, quadrilaterals  $ACA_1C_1$  and  $BCB_1C_1$  are cyclic. Thus  $\angle B_1BC_1 = \angle ACC_1$ ,  $\angle A_1AC_1 = \angle BCC_1$ , and therefore  $\angle AC_2B = \pi - \angle C$ , i.e.  $C_2$  lies on the circle passing through  $A$ ,  $B$  and the reflection  $C'$  of  $C$  wrt  $AB$ . Also  $\angle BC'C_1 = \angle BAC_2$ , thus  $C'C_1$  passes through  $C_2$  (fig.20).

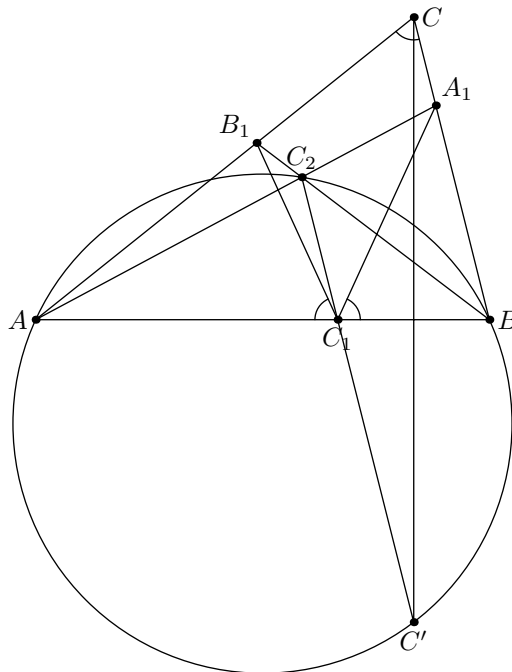


Fig.20

21. (D.Yassinsky) Let  $A$  be a point inside a circle  $\omega$ . One of two lines drawn through  $A$  intersects  $\omega$  at points  $B$  and  $C$ , the second one intersects it at points  $D$  and  $E$  ( $D$  lies between  $A$  and  $E$ ). The line passing through  $D$  and parallel to  $BC$  meets  $\omega$  for the second time at point  $F$ , and

the line  $AF$  meets  $\omega$  at point  $T$ . Let  $M$  be the common point of the lines  $ET$  and  $BC$ , and  $N$  be the reflection of  $A$  across  $M$ . Prove that the circumcircle of triangle  $DEN$  passes through the midpoint of segment  $BC$ .

**Solution.** Firstly, project line  $AB$  to the circle from point  $D$ , and then project the circle to  $AB$  from point  $T$ . As a result we obtain that the image of  $A$  is  $M$ , the image of infinite point is  $A$ , and points  $B$  and  $C$  are fixed. From the equality of cross-ratios we obtain that  $MB/MC = (AB/AC)^2$ . Hence  $AM = AB \cdot AC / (AB + AC)$ . Now let  $K$  be the midpoint of  $BC$ . Then  $AN \cdot AK = 2AM(AB + AC)/2 = AB \cdot AC = AD \cdot AE$ , i.e. points  $D, E, K, N$  are concyclic.

22. (A.Zaslavsky) The common perpendiculars to the opposite sidelines of a nonplanar quadrilateral are mutually orthogonal. Prove that they intersect.

**Solution.** Let  $K, L, M, N$  be the feet of common perpendiculars lying on the sides  $AB, BC, CD, DA$  of quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . The projection to the plane parallel to  $KM$  and  $LN$  transforms these lines to perpendicular lines  $K'M'$  and  $L'N'$ . By three perpendiculars theorem the projections of  $AB$  and  $CD$  are perpendicular to  $K'M'$ , and the projections of  $BC$  and  $AD$  are perpendicular to  $L'N'$ . Therefore the projection of  $ABCD$  is a rectangle  $A'B'C'D'$ , and  $A'K' = D'M', B'L' = A'N'$ . Thus  $AK'/KB = DM'/MC, BL'/LC = AN'/ND$  and by Menelaos theorem  $K, L, M, N$  are coplanar.

23. (B.Frenkin) Two convex polytopes  $A$  and  $B$  do not intersect. The polytope  $A$  has exactly 2012 planes of symmetry. What is the maximal number of symmetry planes of the union of  $A$  and  $B$ , if  $B$  has a) 2012, b) 2013 symmetry planes?

c) What is the answer to the question of p.b), if the symmetry planes are replaced by the symmetry axes?

**Answer.** a) 2013. b) 2012. c) 1.

**Solution.** a) *Estimation.* The symmetry transposes polyhedrons  $A$  and  $B$  or fixes each of them. In the first case it transposes the centroids of polyhedrons, thus the symmetry plane is the perpendicular bisector of the segment between the centroids. In the second case this plane is a symmetry plane of both polyhedrons  $A$  and  $B$ . Thus we have at most  $1+2012=2013$  planes.

*Example.* Let  $A$  be regular 2012-gonal pyramid. Take a point outside  $A$  on its axis and construct a plane  $P$  passing through this point and perpendicular to the axis. Let  $B$  be the reflection of  $A$  in  $P$ . Then all conditions are valid, and  $P$  and 2012 symmetry planes of  $A$  are the symmetry planes of the union.

b) *Estimation.* Since  $A$  and  $B$  have a distinct number of symmetry planes, they aren't equal and can't be transposed by a symmetry. Thus each symmetry is a symmetry of polyhedron  $A$ , which has only 2012 symmetry planes. *Example.* Let  $A$  be a regular 2012-gonal pyramid. Take a point outside  $A$  on its axis, a plane passing through this point and perpendicular to the axis, and construct the reflection of the pyramid's base in this plane. Let  $B$  be a prism with this reflection as the base, disjoint from  $A$ . It is clear that  $B$  has 2013 symmetry planes: one of them is parallel to the bases of the prism and equidistant from them and 2012 remaining planes coincide with the symmetry planes of  $A$ .

c) *Estimation.* Since  $A$  and  $B$  have a distinct number of symmetry axes they can't be transposed. Thus the sought symmetry fixes the centroid of each polyhedron. These centroids don't coincide because the polyhedrons are convex. Therefore the symmetry axis coincides with the line joining

two centroids. *Example.* Let  $A$  be a regular 2011-gonal prism with horizontal bases. Then  $A$  has one vertical and 2011 horizontal symmetry axes. Now let  $B$  be a regular 2012-gonal prism with the same axis, disjoint from  $A$ . Then  $B$  has 2013 symmetry axes and the union of  $A$  and  $B$  has a vertical symmetry axis.