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 ${\it Abstract} {\it \textbf{--}} \textbf{This document solves triangle equality using matrices}$

1 Problem

In an isosceles $\triangle ABC$ with AB = AC, the bisectors of $\angle B$ and $\angle C$ intersect each other at O. Join A to O. Show that : a) OB = OC b) AO bisects $\angle A$

2 Solution

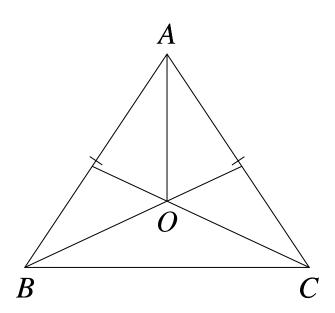


Fig. 1: $\triangle ABC$ with angle bisectors by tikz

Given:

$$\angle ABC = \angle ACB$$
 (2.0.1)

$$\implies \angle OBC = \angle OCB$$
 (2.0.2)

$$\implies \cos(OBC) = \cos(OCB)$$
 (2.0.3)

$$\frac{(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\| \|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\|} = \frac{(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O}\| \|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}\|}$$
(2.0.4)

$$\implies \frac{(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\|}$$

$$= \frac{(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O}\|} \quad (2.0.5)$$

From the figure, it can be derived that:

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})$$

$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}^2\| - (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}) \quad (2.0.6)$$

Similarly,

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O})^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B})$$

$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}^{2}\| - (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}) \quad (2.0.7)$$

Substituting (2.0.7) and (2.0.6) in (2.0.5), we get:

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\|^2 - (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\|}$$

$$= \frac{\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\|^2 - (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\|} \quad (2.0.8)$$

$$\implies \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\| - \frac{(\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\|}$$
$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\| - \frac{(\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B})}{\|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O}\|} \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$\implies \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\| - \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\| \cos BOC$$
$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\| - \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\| \cos COB \quad (2.0.10)$$

$$\implies \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\| (1 + \cos \angle BOC)$$
$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\| (1 + \cos \angle COB) \quad (2.0.11)$$

$$\implies \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}\| = \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}\| \tag{2.0.12}$$

From figure,

$$(O - B) = (O - A) + (A - B)$$
 (2.0.13)

$$(\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}) = (\mathbf{0} - \mathbf{A}) + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})$$
 (2.0.14)

Squaring (2.0.13) and (2.0.14) on both the sides,

we get:

$$\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{B}^2\| = \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}^2\| + \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}^2\|$$
$$-2\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\|\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\|\cos OAB \quad (2.0.15)$$

$$\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{C}^2\| = \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}^2\| + \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}^2\|$$

$$-2\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| \cos OAC \quad (2.0.16)$$

Using (2.0.12), we get

$$\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}^2\| + \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}^2\|$$

$$-2\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| \cos OAB$$

$$= \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}^2\| + \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}^2\|$$

$$-2\|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| \cos OAC \quad (2.0.17)$$

$$\implies 2 \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| \cos OAB$$
$$= 2 \|\mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| \cos OAC \quad (2.0.18)$$

$$\implies \cos OAB = \cos OAC$$
 (2.0.19)

$$\implies \angle OAB = \angle OAC$$
 (2.0.20)

Therefore proved that AO bisects $\angle A$