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MATH 445 HW 3  
11: A, B, C, D, E

- 11A Prove theorem 11.10 (The area of a triangle) [Be careful: you have to prove that the area formula holds no matter which base is chosen. There are several cases to consider, depending on whether the altitude meets the base at an interior point, at a vertex, or not at all.]

Let  $\triangle ABC$  be a triangle.

Let  $\overline{BC}$  be the base, with length  $b$

$\overline{BC}$  is on line  $\overleftrightarrow{BC}$ , so drop a perpendicular from  $A$  to  $\overleftrightarrow{BC}$

Call this the height of  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $h$ , and label the point of intersection  $F$

Case:  $F = B$  or  $F = C$

Then  $\triangle ABC$  is a right triangle, and  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2}b * h$ , by lemma 11.9

Case:  $F \in \overline{BC}$

Then  $B * F * C$ , and  $\angle BFA, \angle AFC$  are right.

This forms right triangles  $\triangle ABF, \triangle AFC$

Where  $BF = BC - FC$

Then by lemma 11.9,  $\alpha(\triangle ABF) = \frac{1}{2}(BC - FC) * h$

And  $\alpha(\triangle AFC) = \frac{1}{2}(FC) * h$

Then since  $\overline{AF}$  is a chord of  $\triangle ABC$ , then  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \alpha(\triangle ABF) + \alpha(\triangle AFC)$

$\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2}(BC - FC) * h + \frac{1}{2}(FC) * h = \frac{1}{2}BC * h$

Case:  $F$  is outside of  $\overline{BC}$

$\angle AFC$  is a right angle, by construction of perpendicular segment  $\overline{AF}$

Then  $\triangle AFC$  is a right triangle with base  $\overline{FC}$ .

We know  $FC = FB + BC$

By lemma 11.9,  $\triangle AFC$  has area  $\alpha(\frac{1}{2}[FB + BC] * h$

$\triangle AFB$  is also a right triangle, with base  $\overline{FB}$

Then by lemma 11.9,  $\alpha(\triangle AFB) = \frac{1}{2}[FB] * h$

Since  $\overline{AB}$  is a chord in  $\triangle AFC$ , then  $\alpha(\triangle AFC) = \alpha(\triangle AFB) + \alpha(\triangle ABC)$

Then  $\frac{1}{2}[FB + BC] * h - \frac{1}{2}[FB] * h = \alpha(\triangle ABC)$

Then  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2}BC * h$

- 11B Prove Corollary 11.11 (The triangle sliding theorem)

Corollary 11.11: Suppose  $\triangle ABC$  and  $\triangle A'BC$  are triangles with a common side  $\overline{BC}$ , such that  $A$  and  $A'$  both lie on the same line parallel to  $\overleftrightarrow{BC}$ . Then  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \alpha(\triangle A'BC)$

$\overleftrightarrow{AA'}$  parallel to  $\overleftrightarrow{BC}$ , so they are equidistant.

If we drop a perpendicular from  $A$  to  $\overline{BC}$ , it has an altitude, call it  $h$

And  $A'$  also on  $\overleftrightarrow{AA'}$ , so if we drop a perpendicular to  $\overline{BC}$ , it also has altitude  $h$

So for  $\triangle ABC$ , if we let the base be  $\overline{BC}$ , then it has area  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2}BC * h$

And for  $\triangle A'BC$ , if we let the base be  $\overline{BC}$ , then it has area  $\alpha(\triangle A'BC) = \frac{1}{2}BC * h$

So  $\alpha(\triangle ABC) = \alpha(\triangle A'BC)$

11C Prove Corollary 11.12 (The triangle area proportion theorem)

Corollary 11.12: Suppose  $\triangle ABC$  and  $\triangle AB'C'$  are triangles with common vertex  $A$ , such that the points  $B, C, B', C'$  are collinear. Then  $\frac{\alpha(\triangle ABC)}{\alpha(\triangle AB'C')} = \frac{BC}{B'C'}$

$B, C, B', C'$  collinear,  $A$  not on  $\overleftrightarrow{BC'}$ , so drop a perpendicular from  $A$  to  $\overleftrightarrow{BC'}$  to find the altitude, call it  $h$

For triangle  $\triangle ABC$ , take the base to be  $\overline{BC}$

Since  $\overline{BC}$  on  $\overleftrightarrow{BC'}$ , then the altitude from  $A$  is also  $h$

So  $\triangle ABC$  has area  $\alpha(ABC) = \frac{1}{2}BC * h$

Similarly, for  $\triangle AB'C'$ , let  $\overline{B'C'}$  be the base, it has height  $h$

Then  $\alpha(AB'C') = \frac{1}{2}B'C' * h$

Then  $\frac{\alpha(\triangle ABC)}{\alpha(\triangle AB'C')} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}BC * h}{\frac{1}{2}B'C' * h} = \frac{BC}{B'C'}$

11D Prove Theorem 11.13 (The area of a trapezoid) [Hint: Use a diagonal to decompose the trapezoid into triangles]

Theorem 11.13: The area of a trapezoid is the average of the lengths of the bases multiplied by the height.

Let  $ABCD$  be a parallelogram with  $\overline{AB} \parallel \overline{DC}$ ,  $\overline{DC}$  is equidistant from  $\overline{AB}$ , and has height  $h$

Draw diagonal  $\overline{AC}$ , forming triangles  $\triangle ABC, \triangle ACD$

We know that since  $\overline{AC}$  is a chord of  $ABCD$ , then  $\alpha(ABCD) = \alpha(ABC) + \alpha(ACD)$

$\triangle ABC$  is a triangle. Let the base be  $\overline{AB}$ .  $C$  is on  $\overline{DC}$ , so it is equidistant to  $\overline{AB}$ , and has height  $h$

So  $\alpha(ABC) = \frac{1}{2}AB * h$

Similarly  $\triangle ACD$  has area  $\alpha(ACD) = \frac{1}{2}CD * h$

So  $\alpha(ABCD) = \frac{1}{2}AB * h + \frac{1}{2}CD * h = \frac{1}{2}[AB + CD] * h$

11E Suppose  $ABCD$  is a parallelogram and  $E, F, G, H$  are points satisfying the hypotheses of Lemma 11.3 and in addition suppose that the point  $X$  where  $\overline{HF}$  meets  $\overline{EG}$  lies on the diagonal  $\overline{AC}$ . What is the relationship between  $\alpha(EBFX)$  and  $\alpha(GDHX)$  Prove your answer is correct.

The relationship is that the areas are the same.

$ABCD$  is a parallelogram, so  $AD = BC, AB = DC$

So we can form triangles  $\triangle ADC, \triangle ABC$

By theorem 10.25a,  $\triangle ADC, \triangle ABC$  must be congruent.

Since  $\overline{AC}$  is a chord in  $ABCD$ ,  $\alpha(ABCD) = \alpha(ADC) + \alpha(ABC)$

For triangle  $\triangle ADC$ , since  $\overline{HX}$  is a chord,  $\alpha(ADC) = \alpha(AHX) + \alpha(HXCD)$

And since  $\overline{XG}$  is a chord, then  $\alpha(HXCD) = \alpha(HXGD) + \alpha(XFGC)$

So  $\alpha(ADC) = \alpha(AXH) + \alpha(HXGD) + \alpha(XFGC)$

Similarly,  $\alpha(ABC) = \alpha(AEX) + \alpha(EBFX) + \alpha(XFC)$

And we know  $\triangle ADC \cong \triangle ABC$ , so  $\alpha(ADC) = \alpha(ABC)$

So  $\alpha(AXH) + \alpha(HXGD) + \alpha(XFGC) = \alpha(AEX) + \alpha(EBFX) + \alpha(XFC)$

Since points  $E, F, G, H$  satisfy lemma 11.3, then  $AEXH, EBFX, XFCG, HXGD$  are all parallelograms

For parallelogram  $AEXH$ , there is a diagonal segment  $\overline{AX}$  forming triangles  $\triangle AEX, \triangle AXH$ , so by theorem 10.25a,  $\triangle AEX, \triangle AXH$  are congruent.

Using a similar argument for parallelogram  $XFCG$  for triangles  $\triangle XFC, \triangle XCG$ , they are congruent.

So  $\alpha(AEX) = \alpha(AXH)$

And  $\alpha(XFC) = \alpha(XCG)$

Since  $\alpha(AXH) + \alpha(HXGD) + \alpha(XFGC) = \alpha(AEX) + \alpha(EBFX) + \alpha(XFC)$ ,

then  $\alpha(HXGD) = \alpha(EBFX)$