Euclid's Elements Book IV

Philosophy (nature) is written in that great book which ever is before our eyes -- I mean the universe -- but we cannot understand it if we do not first learn the language and grasp the symbols in which it is written. The book is written in mathematical language, and the symbols are triangles, circles and other geometrical figures, without whose help it is impossible to comprehend a single word of it - without which one wanders in vain through a dark labyrinth.

Galileo Galilei



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Proposition 5 of Book IV About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.



Table of Contents, Chapter 4

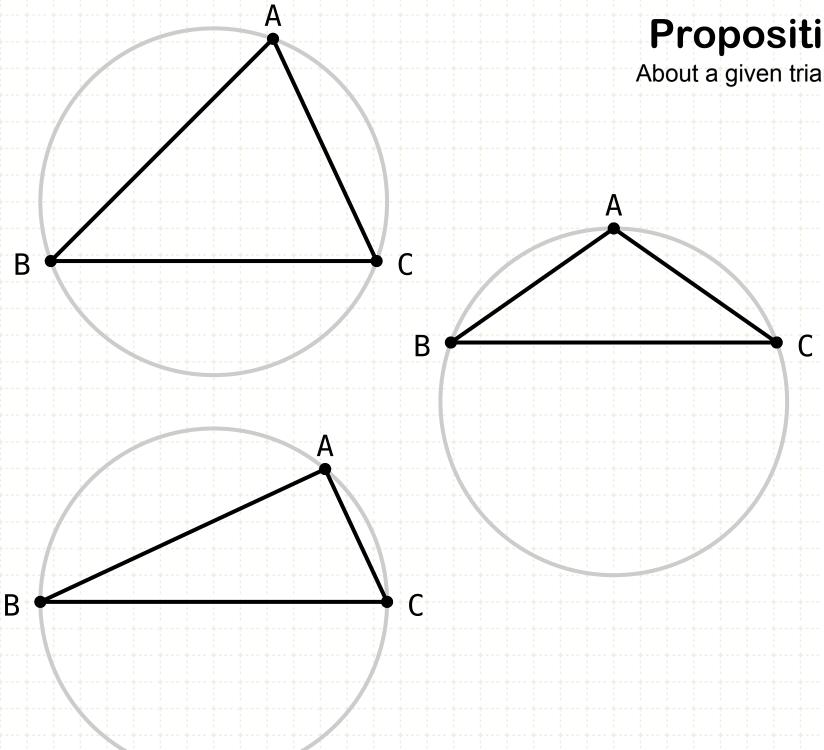
- 1 Fit a given straight line into a given circle, if the line is less than the diameter
- In a given circle to inscribe a triangle equiangular with a given triangle
- 3 About a given circle to circumscribe a triangle equiangular with a given triangle
- 4 In a given triangle, to inscribe a circle
- 5 About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle
- 6 In a given circle to inscribe a square
- 7 About a given circle to circumscribe a square
- 8 In a given square, to inscribe a circle
- 9 About a given square, to circumscribe a circle
- 10 To construct an isosceles triangle having each of the angles at the base double of the remaining one

- 11 In a given circle to inscribe an equilateral and equiangular pentagon
- 12 About a given circle to circumscribe an equilateral and equiangular pentagon
- 13 In a given pentagon, which is equilateral and equiangular, to inscribe a circle
- 14 About a given pentagon, which is equilateral and equiangular, to circumscribe a circle
- 15 In a given circle to inscribe an equilateral and equiangular hexagon
- 16 In a given circle to inscribe a fifteen angled figure which shall be both equilateral and equiangular



Proposition 5 of Book IV About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.



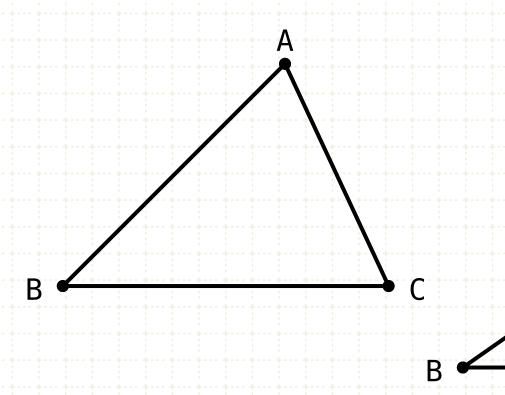


About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.

In other words

Given a triangle ABC

Draw a circle so that it passes through each vertex of the triangle

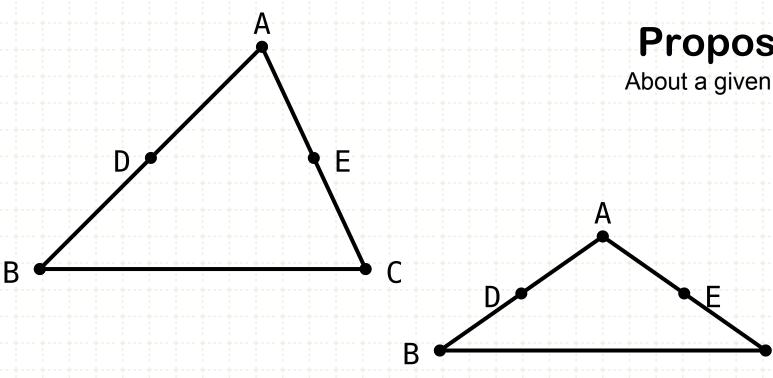


Proposition 5 of Book IV About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.

Construction



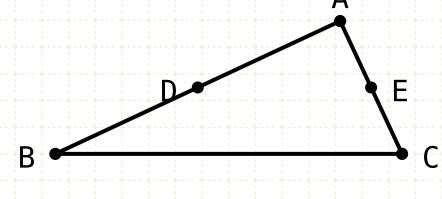




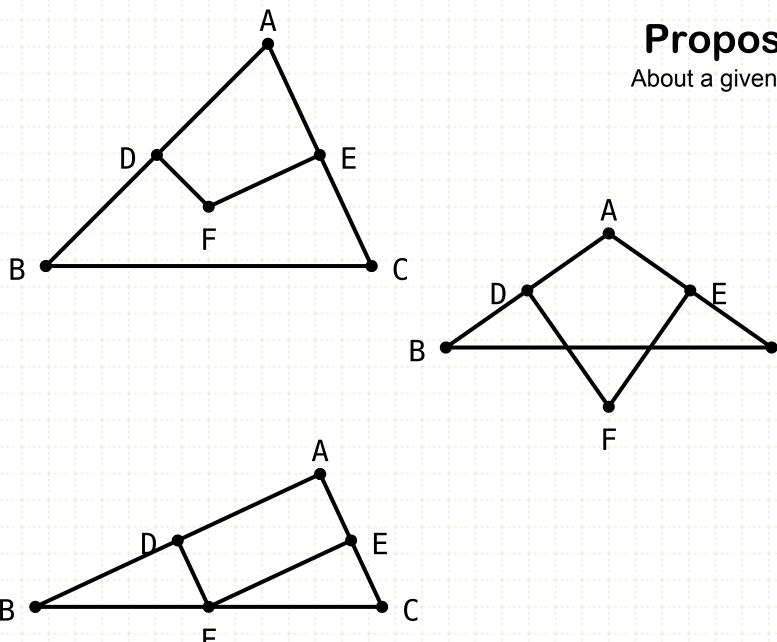
About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.

Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I-10)





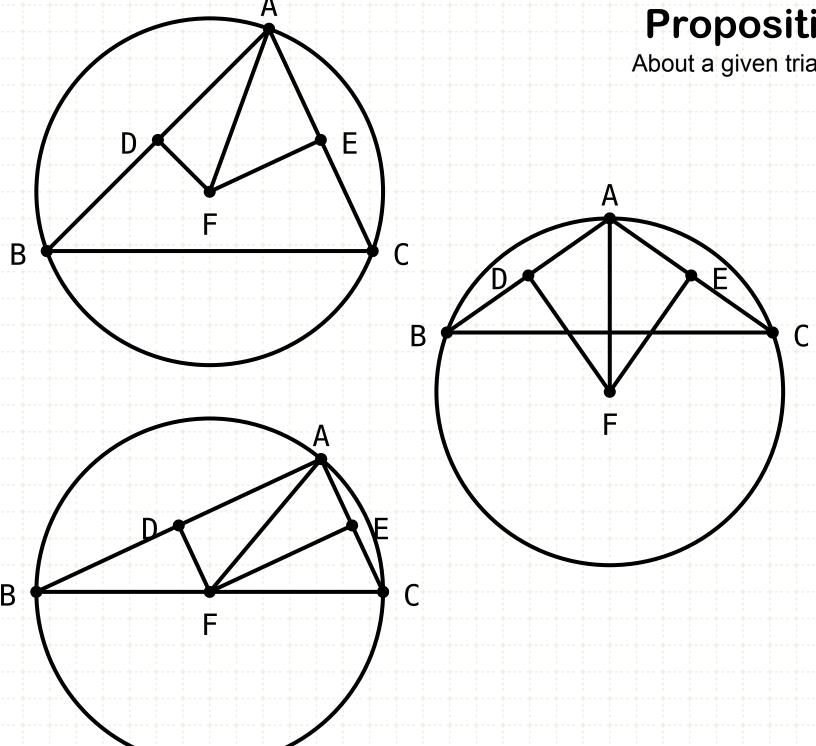


About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.

Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I·10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I·11)



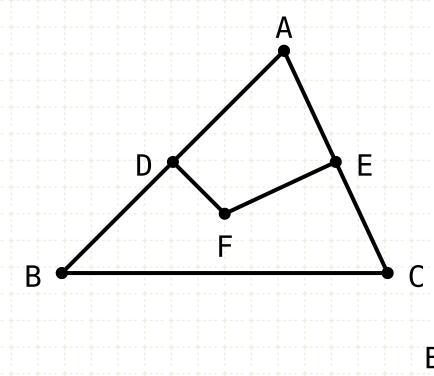
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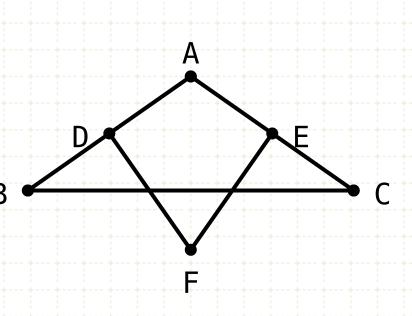
Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I·10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I·11)

With F as the centre, and AF as the radius, it is possible to draw a circle that passes through each point A, B and C



About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.



Construction

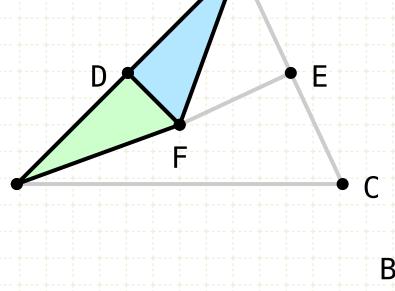
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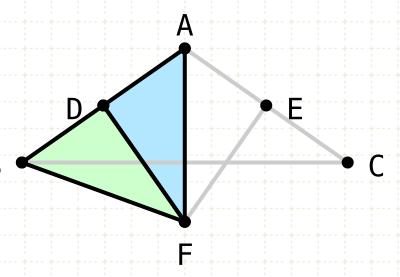
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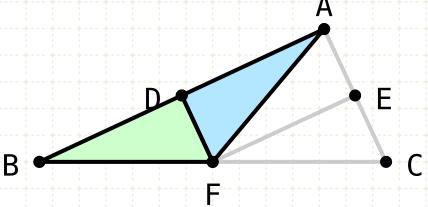
With F as the centre, and AF as the radius, it is possible to draw a circle that passes through each point A, B and C

Proof

About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.







Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I·10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I-11)

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Proof

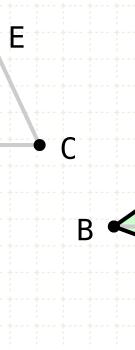
Draw lines BF and AF

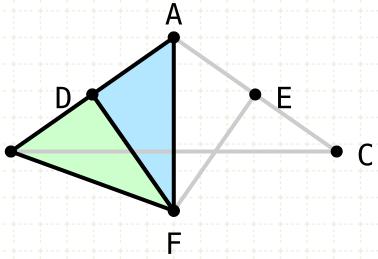
The two triangles ADF and BDF are equal in all respects, since they have a side (BD,AD), angle (ADF = BDF = \bot), side (DF) equal (I·4)

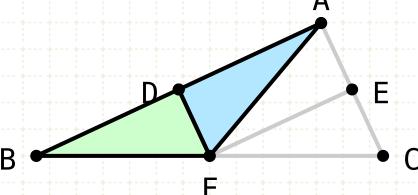
D F

Proposition 5 of Book IV

About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.







Construction

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Draw lines BF and AF

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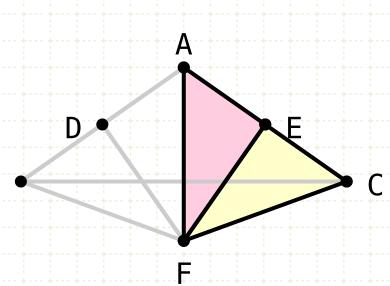
Hence BF equals AF



D F

Proposition 5 of Book IV

About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.

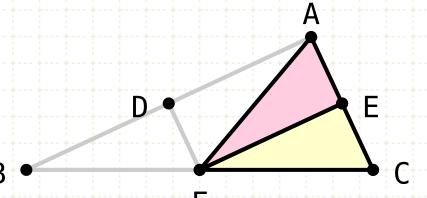


Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I·10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I·11)

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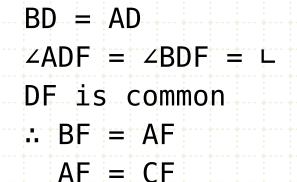
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Draw lines BF and AF

The two triangles ADF and BDF are equal in all respects, since they have a side (BD,AD), angle (ADF = BDF = \bot), side (DF) equal (I·4)

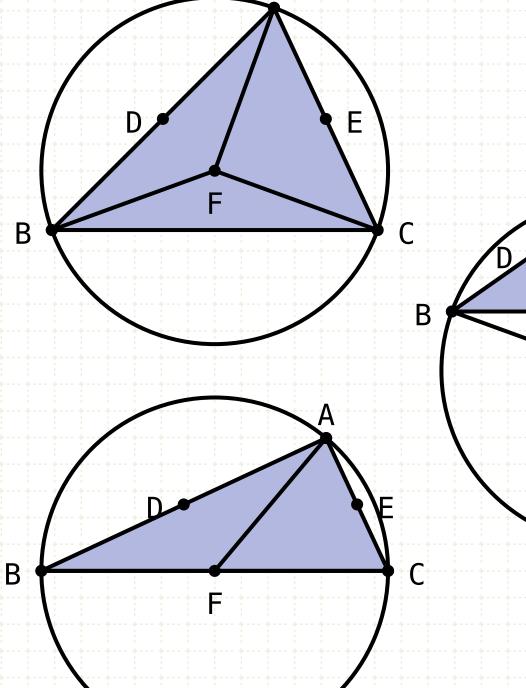
Hence BF equals AF

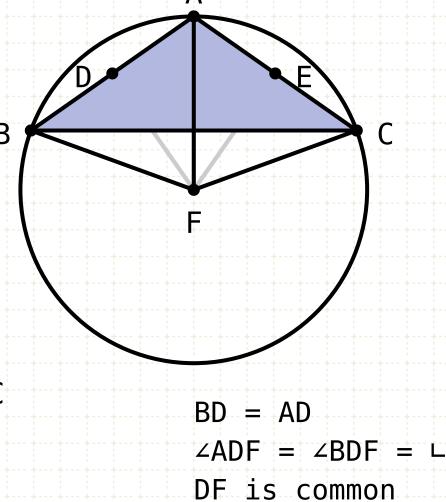
Similarly, it can be shown that AF is equal to CF





About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.





 \therefore BF = AF

AF = CF

BF = AF = CF

Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I-10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I·11)

With F as the centre, and AF as the radius, it is possible to draw a circle that passes through each point A, B and C

Proof

Draw lines BF and AF

The two triangles ADF and BDF are equal in all respects, since they have a side (BD,AD), angle (ADF = BDF = \bot), side (DF) equal (I·4)

Hence BF equals AF

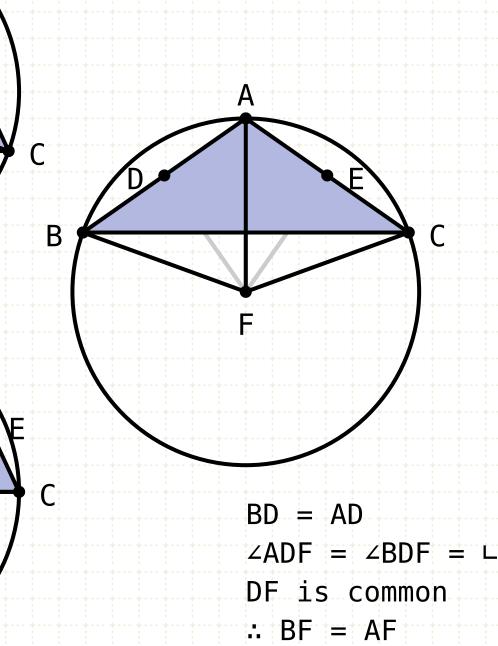
Similarly, it can be shown that AF is equal to CF

Since BF, AF and CF are all equal, a circle with the centre at F, with radius AF will pass through the points A, B, C

B F C

Proposition 5 of Book IV

About a given triangle to circumscribe a circle.



AF = CF

BF = AF = CF

Construction

Bisect line AB at point D and line AC at point E (I-10)

Draw lines from the points D,E perpendicular to their respective sides of the triangle, intersecting at point F (I·11)

With F as the centre, and AF as the radius, it is possible to draw a circle that passes through each point A, B and C

Proof

Draw lines BF and AF

The two triangles ADF and BDF are equal in all respects, since they have a side (BD,AD), angle (ADF = BDF = \bot), side (DF) equal (I·4)

Hence BF equals AF

Similarly, it can be shown that AF is equal to CF

Since BF, AF and CF are all equal, a circle with the centre at F, with radius AF will pass through the points A, B, C

Note: (III-31)

If the centre of the circle falls within the triangle, then the angle BAC is less than a right angle

If the centre of the circle falls on the line AC, then the angle BAC is less than a right angle

If the centre of the circle falls outside the triangle, then the angle BAC is greater than a right angle



В

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