

2.8 Verifying Properties of Triangles

↳ algebraically

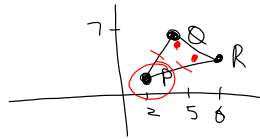


Type	Features	Need to Show...
equilateral	all sides equal	side lengths are equal → distance
isosceles	two sides are equal	2 side lengths are equal → distance
scalene	no equal sides	3 side lengths are different → distance
right	has a 90° angle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows slopes of 2 sides are neg. recip OR show that 3 sides satisfy Pythagorean relationship

Example 1: P(2,1), Q(5,7) and R(8,4) are the vertices of the triangle
Classify the triangle.

→ find the lengths of all 3 sides.

→ check if 90° (if needed)



$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{PQ} &= \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(5 - 2)^2 + (7 - 1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{3^2 + 6^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9 + 36} \\
 &= \sqrt{45}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{QR} &= \sqrt{(8 - 5)^2 + (4 - 7)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{3^2 + (-3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9 + 9} \\
 &= \sqrt{18}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{PR} &= \sqrt{(8 - 2)^2 + (4 - 1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{6^2 + 3^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{36 + 9} \\
 &= \sqrt{45}
 \end{aligned}$$

∴ PQ = PR ∴ Isosceles

Check if Right angle P.

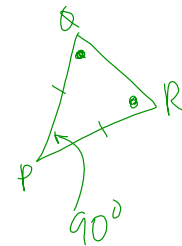
$$\begin{aligned}
 m_{PQ} &= \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \\
 &= \frac{7 - 1}{5 - 2} \\
 &= \frac{6}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_{PR} &= \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \\
 &= \frac{3}{6} \\
 m_{PR} &= \frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$m_{PQ} = 2$$

not negative reciprocals

∴ NOT RIGHT



Isosceles Triangle

Ex. 2 Classify triangle PQR, given $P(-7,1)$, $Q(-8,4)$ and $R(-1,3)$.



★ Right.

Ex. 3 The vertices of a triangle are A(-3,4), B(-2,-4), and C(5,-2). D is the midpoint of AC and E is the midpoint of AB. Verify that DE is parallel to BC and half its length.

① DE is parallel to BC
find slopes, compare them

Ⓐ Find D and E (Midpoints)

$$M_{AC} = \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{-3 + 5}{2}, \frac{4 + (-2)}{2} \right)$$

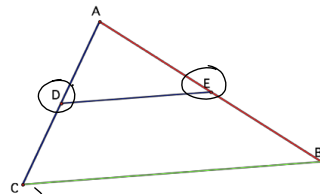
$$D = (1, 1)$$

$$M_{AB} = \left(\frac{-3 - 2}{2}, \frac{4 + (-4)}{2} \right)$$

$$E = \left(-\frac{5}{2}, 0 \right)$$

$$B(-2, -4)$$

$$C(5, -2)$$



Ⓑ Compare slopes

$$m_{DE} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 0}{1 - (-\frac{5}{2})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{2}{2} + \frac{5}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{7}{2}}$$

$$= 1 \div \frac{7}{2}$$

$$= 1 \times \frac{2}{7}$$

$$= \frac{2}{7}$$

$$m_{BC} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$= \frac{-4 - (-2)}{-2 - 5}$$

$$= \frac{-2}{-7}$$

$$= \frac{2}{7}$$

$$\therefore m_{DE} = m_{BC}$$

$$\therefore DE \parallel BC$$

$$D(1, 1)$$

$$E(-\frac{5}{2}, 0)$$

$$B(-2, -4)$$

$$C(5, -2)$$

Ⓒ Find lengths DE, BC

$$L_{DE} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(1 - (-\frac{5}{2}))^2 + (1 - 0)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(\frac{2}{2} + \frac{5}{2})^2 + 1}$$

$$= \sqrt{(\frac{7}{2})^2 + 1}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{49}{4} + \frac{4}{4}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{53}{4}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{53}}{2}$$

$$\therefore \approx 3.64$$

$$L_{BC} = \sqrt{(5 - (-2))^2 + (-2 - (-4))^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(5 + 2)^2 + (-2 + 4)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{7^2 + 2^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{49 + 4}$$

$$= \sqrt{53}$$

$$\approx 7.28$$

$$3.64 \times 2 = 7.28$$

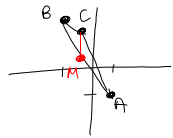
$$\therefore DE = \frac{1}{2} BC$$

4. A triangle has vertices A(2,-3), B(-3,5), and C(-2,4).

Find the centroid.

→ POI of medians

→ need 2 equations (of the 3) median lines



$$M_{CM_{AB}}$$

① Median from C → M_{AB}

$$\begin{aligned} M_{AB} &= \left(\frac{x_1+x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{2+(-3)}{2}, \frac{-3+5}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(-\frac{1}{2}, 1 \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_{CM_{AB}} &= \frac{y_2-y_1}{x_2-x_1} \\ &= \frac{4-1}{-2-(-\frac{1}{2})} \\ &= \frac{3}{-\frac{4}{2}+\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{3}{-\frac{3}{2}} \\ &= 3 \div \left(-\frac{3}{2} \right) \\ &= 3 \times \left(-\frac{2}{3} \right) \\ &= m = -2 \end{aligned}$$

Equation

$$\begin{aligned} m &= -2 \\ b &= ? \quad C(-2, 4) \end{aligned}$$

$$y = mx + b$$

$$4 = -2(-2) + b$$

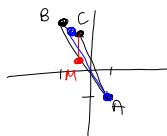
$$4 = 4 + b$$

$$4 - 4 = b$$

$$0 = b$$

∴ Equation of median from C

$$\boxed{y = -2x}$$



② Equation from A → M_{BC} $\left(-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{9}{2} \right)$

A(2,-3), B(-3,5), and C(-2,4).

$$\begin{aligned} M_{BC} &= \left(\frac{x_1+x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{-3+(-2)}{2}, \frac{5+4}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{9}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_{AM_{BC}} &= \frac{y_2-y_1}{x_2-x_1} \\ &= \frac{\frac{9}{2}-(-3)}{-\frac{5}{2}-2} \\ m &= \frac{-5}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$y = mx + b \quad A(2, -3)$$

$$y = -\frac{5}{3}x + b$$

$$-3 = -\frac{5}{3}(2) + b$$

$$-3 = -\frac{10}{3} + b$$

$$-\frac{9}{3} + \frac{10}{3} = b$$

$$\frac{1}{3} = b$$

∴ median from A

$$y = -\frac{5}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}$$

③ POI $y = -2x$ ①

$$y = -\frac{5}{3}x + \frac{1}{3} \quad ②$$

Sub ① into ②

$$3(-2x) = -\frac{5}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$-6x = -5x + 1$$

$$-1 = -5x + 6x$$

$$-1 = x$$

→ Sub $x = -1$ into ①

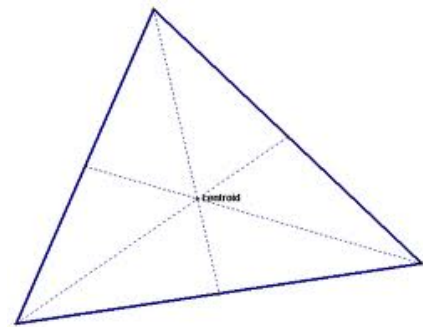
$$y = -2(-1)$$

$$y = 2$$

∴ Centroid is at $(-1, 2)$

↓
check in 3rd equation

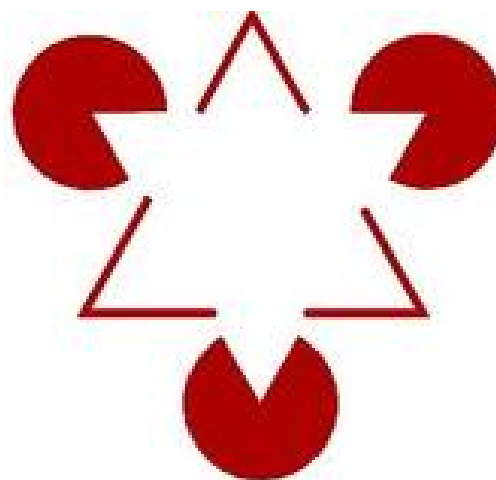
Ex. 4 $(-1,2)$ is the centroid of triangle with vertices $A(2,-3)$, $B(-3,5)$, and $C(-2, 4)$. Verify that the centroid divides each median in a 2:1 ratio.



Homework

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#2,4,6,15



Homework Check

- show me 2.7B Extra Practice Handout