

Mon Aug 26

Memorial 205

MTH 230 E (MWF 12:20-1:10)

"Intro to Abstract Mathematics"  
(A.K.A. Mathematics)

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Office Hours: TBA

Evaluation:

There will be  $\approx 6$  HW assignments

3 in-class exams

NO FINAL EXAM

	Homework	25%
In Class	{ Exam 1	25%
	{ Exam 2	25%
	{ Exam 3	25%
		<hr/> 100%

This class is about Math.

Q: What is math?

My (provisional) Answer:

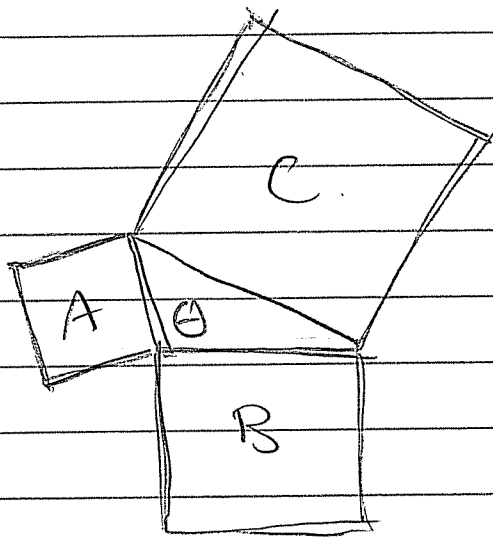
- math allows humans to agree on things
- it's a language  
but not a "natural language"
- consciously invented to be

CLEAR & PRECISE.

"Rigor = Clarity + Precision"

- it uses English words but this is deceptive.
- you must learn math like you would a language.
  - immersion
  - practice
  - open mind.

Example:



Claim: If  $\theta = 90^\circ$

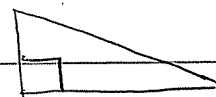
Then  $\text{area}(C) = \text{area}(A) + \text{area}(B)$ .

Why is this "true"?

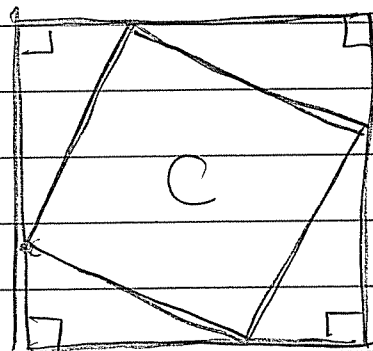
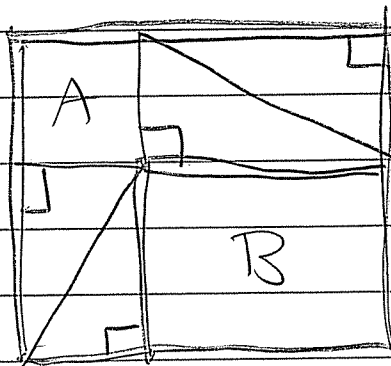
Is it "true"?

I'll try to convince you.

Proof: Assume that  $\theta = 90^\circ$ .



Observe the following two squares:



They have equal area.

Each contains 4 copies of the original triangle

If we remove the triangles,  
what remains on each side must  
still have equal area.

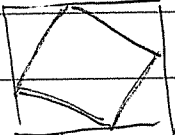
Hence

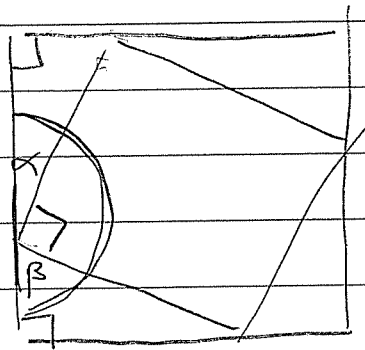
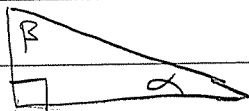
$$\text{area}(A) + \text{area}(B) = \text{area}(C)$$



Are you convinced?

Possible complaints:

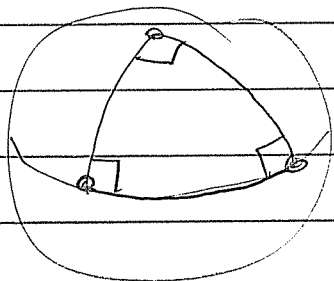
- Why is  a square?



Because  $\alpha + \beta + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$   
(Angles in a triangle sum to  $180^\circ$ )

- Why is that true?

It's not true on a sphere (e.g. Earth).



three right angles!

$$90^\circ + 90^\circ + 90^\circ \neq 180^\circ$$

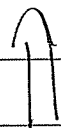
OOPS!

Oh well. At least I showed that

(if  $\Theta = 90^\circ$  then  $\text{area}(C) = \text{area}(A) + \text{area}(B)$ )



angles in a triangle sum to  $180^\circ$



Maybe you have more complaints.  
- what is "area"? etc.



When can I stop?!

At some point I will "just stop"

Pythagorean Theorem



Angles in a triangle sum to  $180^\circ$



AXIOMS

Hopefully we agree on some axioms  
- they should be "self-evident"  
(need no proof)

If you still don't agree, that's  
"your problem"

The axiomatic/deductive method arose  
in Greece  $\sim 600$  BC

(Thales of Miletus, 625 BC - 546 BC)  
and reached its full expression  $\sim 300$  BC  
(Euclid of Alexandria, ? - ?).

Wed Aug 28

MTH 230 ("Rigor = Clarity + Precision")

Drew Armstrong

[www.math.miami.edu/~armstrong](http://www.math.miami.edu/~armstrong)

Q: What is Math?

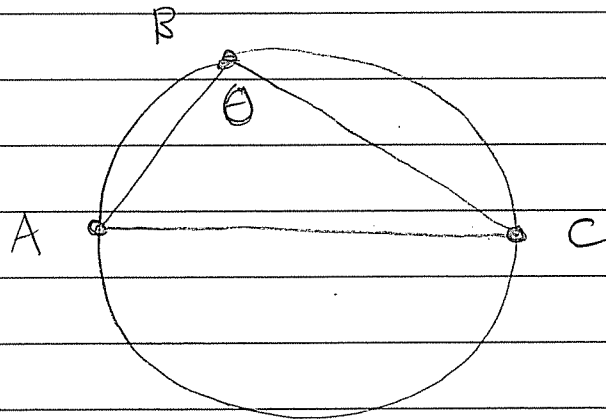
My Answer:

- math allows humans to agree on things
- a PROOF is an attempt to persuade
- a THEOREM is a thing we've been persuaded to agree about.

Example: The oldest Theorem

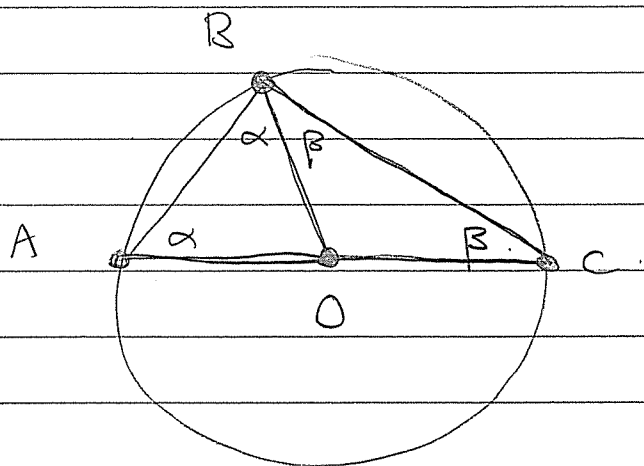
Thales' Theorem (~600 BC):

Consider points  $A, B, C$  on a circle



If  $AC$  is a diameter, then  $\theta = 90^\circ$ .

Proof: Assume that AC is a diameter and draw the center O.



Draw the line segment OB.

Note that  $\overline{OA} = \overline{OB} = \overline{OC}$  by the definition of "circle", Hence  $\triangle OAB$  and  $\triangle OBC$  are isosceles triangles.

We conclude that  $\angle OAB = \angle OBA = \alpha$   
and  $\angle OCB = \angle OBC = \beta$

Since the angles in  $\triangle ABC$  sum to  $180^\circ$  we have:

$$\alpha + (\alpha + \beta) + \beta = 180^\circ$$

$$2\alpha + 2\beta = 180^\circ$$

$$2(\alpha + \beta) = 180^\circ$$

$$\alpha + \beta = 90^\circ$$





Are you persuaded?

There is still room for complaint.

For example: Why do the angles  
in  $\triangle ABC$  sum to  $180^\circ$ ?

How skeptical should we be?

What will we allow ourselves to assume  
without proof ("AXIOMS")

We should explicitly state our Axioms.  
The first explicitly axiomatic  
system was given by Euclid  $\sim 300$  BC

"The Elements"

- XIII Books

(Book I is a proof of the Pythagorean  
Theorem)

- Read by every educated person  
in the West until  $\sim 1900$

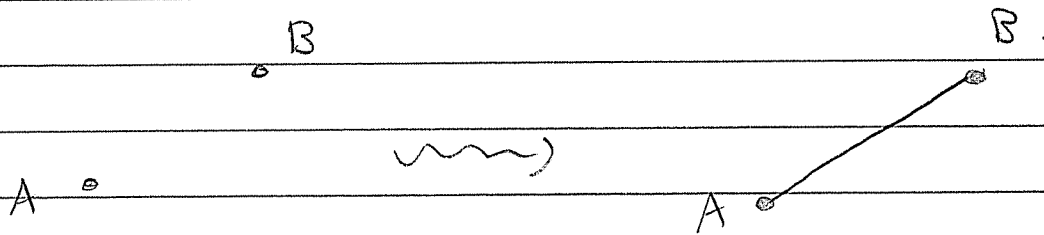
(including Abraham Lincoln).

- Deduced (Proved) all of classical  
Greek mathematics from just

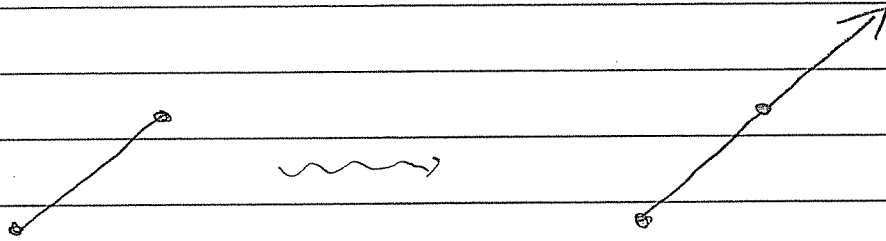
10 Axioms

10 Axioms  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 5 \text{ "postulates"} \\ 5 \text{ "common notions"} \end{array} \right.$

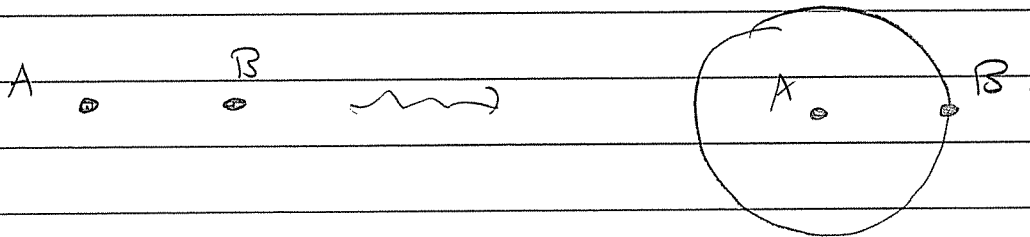
(P1)



(P2)



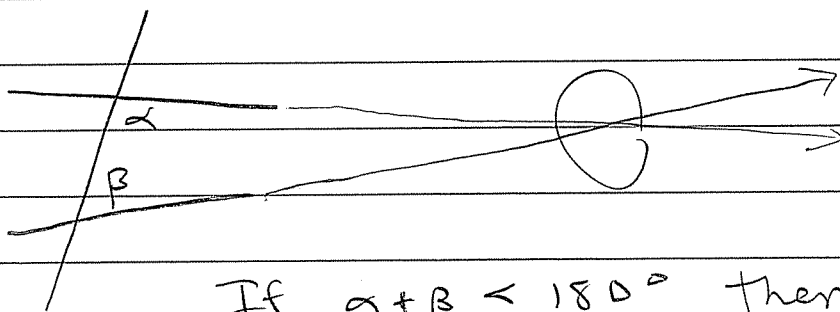
(P3)



(P4)

All right angles are equal  
( ? Necessary ? ).

(P5)



If  $\alpha + \beta < 180^\circ$  then the lines will meet on that side.

The common notions (CN1) - (CN5) describe properties of comparison

" = " and " < "

And that's all.

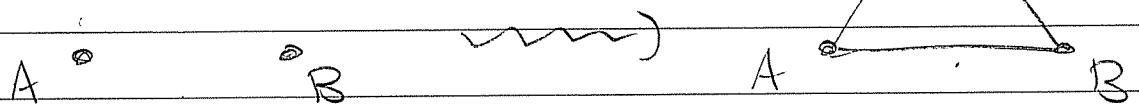
With a lot of work he deduced everything from these axioms

Pythagorean Theorem  
is Prop 47 in Book I.

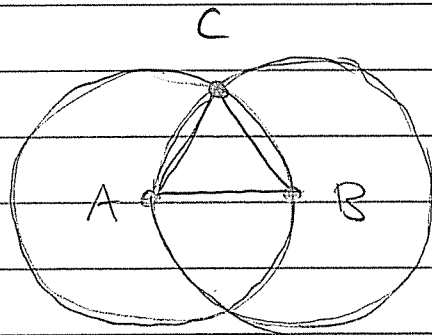
Thales' Theorem  
is Prop 33 in Book III.

What is Prop 1 in Book I ?

Prop I.1: Given two points A, B  
we can draw a point C such that  
 $\triangle ABC$  is equilateral



Proof:



Draw circle center A radius AB

(P3)

Draw circle center B radius AB

(P3)

Let C be a point of intersection  
of the two circles

(?)

Draw triangle ABC.

We have  $\overline{AC} = \overline{AB}$  } definition  
 $\overline{BC} = \overline{AB}$  } of "circle"

Hence also  $\overline{AC} = \overline{BC}$

(CN 1)

$\therefore$  Triangle ABC is equilateral.

Q.E.D.

---

OOPS! Why does the point C exist?

Euclid gave no reason  
(He was not perfect).

David Hilbert "Fixed" The Elements  
in 1899. He needed 20 Axioms!

Fri Aug 30

The course webpage is up:

[www.math.miami.edu/~armstrong/230Fall3.html](http://www.math.miami.edu/~armstrong/230Fall3.html)

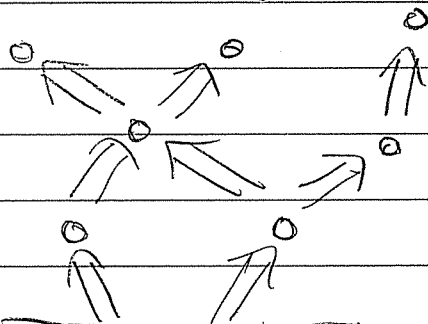
I will assign HW 1 next week.

Assignment for the weekend:

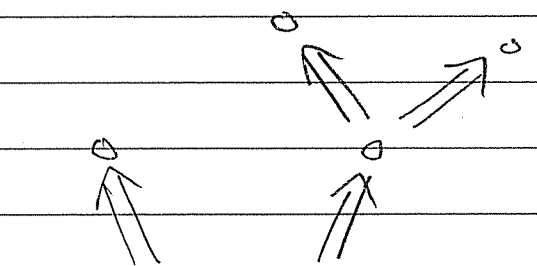
Browse Euclid's Elements online.

## Schematic Diagram of Mathematics

Theorems ("truth")



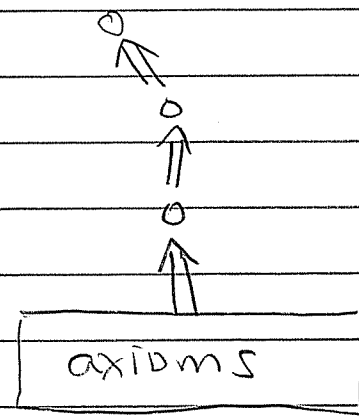
different "truth"



- Theorems are statements that can be deduced logically from the axioms
- Different axioms, different notion of "truth"

A proof looks like this:

A sequence of logical deductions leading back to the axioms.



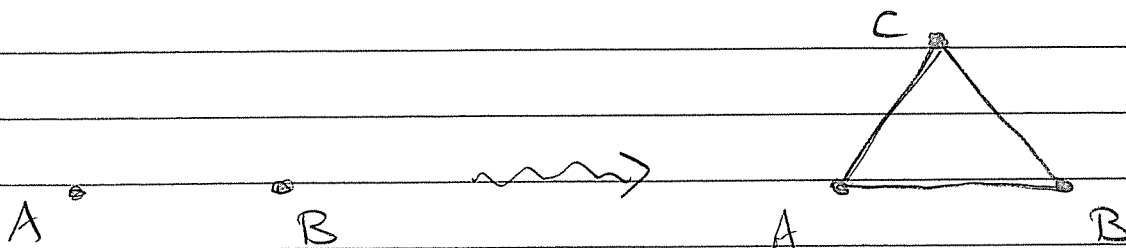
The first axiomatic system was Euclid's "Elements" (~300 BC).

Axioms { 23 Definitions  
5 Postulates  
5 Common Notions

XIII Books containing 465 Propositions (i.e. Theorems).

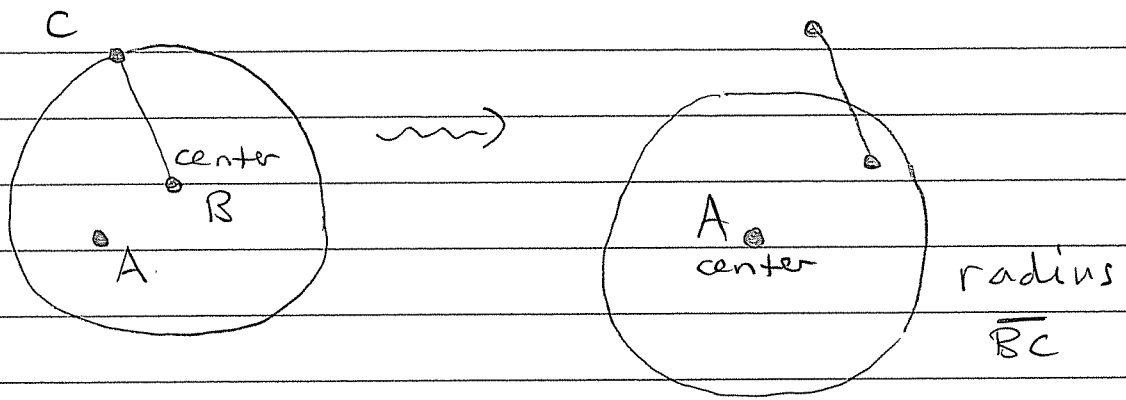
Recall

Prop I.1: To construct equilateral triangle

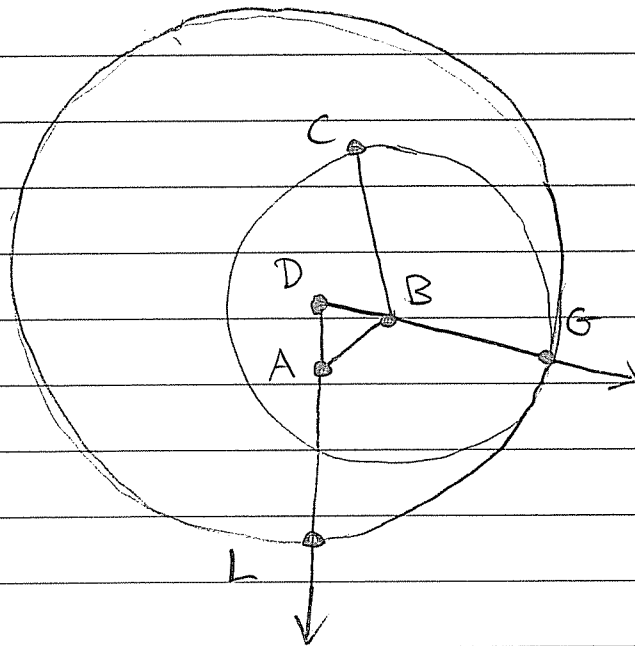


Prop I.2: To move a circle.

Given a circle center  $B$  radius  $BC$ , and a point  $A$ , we can draw a circle with center  $A$  and radius of length  $\overline{BC}$ .



Euclid's Proof:



Draw equilateral  $\triangle ABD$

(I.1)

Extend  $DB$  to  $G$

(P2)

Draw circle center  $D$  radius  $DG$

(P3)

Extend  $DA$  to  $L$

(P2)

$$\overline{DL} = \overline{DG} \text{ and } \overline{DA} = \overline{DB}$$

Definitions  
of "circle" and  
"equilateral  $\triangle$ "

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{AL} &= \overline{DL} - \overline{DA} = \overline{DG} - \overline{DB} \\ &= \overline{BG} \end{aligned}$$

(CN3)

$$\text{But } \overline{BC} = \overline{BG}$$

Definition  
of "circle".

$$\text{Hence } \overline{AL} = \overline{BG} = \overline{BC}$$

(CN1)

Finally,

Draw circle center  $A$  radius  $AL$

(P3)

Q.E.D.

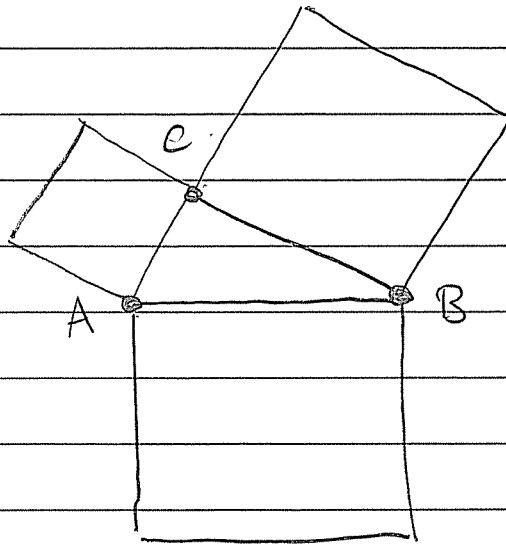


Q: Why didn't Euclid just assume that you can pick up the compass and move it?

A: Because he didn't need to!

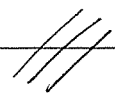
Book I contains 48 propositions

Prop I.47 is the Pythagorean Theorem.



IF  $\angle ACB = 90^\circ$

Then  $\overline{AB}^2 = \overline{AC}^2 + \overline{BC}^2$ .



So what is Prop I.48 ??

Prop I.48 is the CONVERSE of the Pythagorean Theorem:

IF  $\overline{AB}^2 = \overline{AC}^2 + \overline{BC}^2$  Then  $\angle ACB = 90^\circ$

[We say  $P \Rightarrow Q =$  "P implies Q"  
= "if P then Q".

Note that

$P \Rightarrow Q$  and  $Q \Rightarrow P$

are NOT logically equivalent.

Let  $P = "x > 0"$

$Q = "x^2 > 0"$

Then  $P \Rightarrow Q$  is true

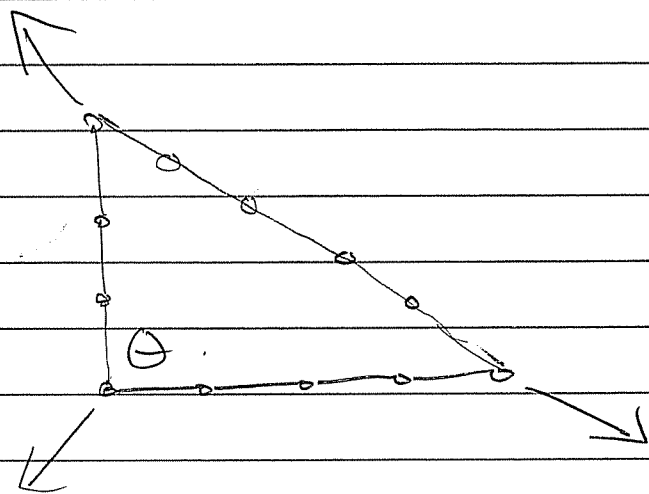
but  $Q \Rightarrow P$  is false!

Counterexample:  $x = -2$ .

Then  $x^2 > 0$  but  $x \not> 0$ . ]

The converse of Pythag. Thm. has applications

- Make a loop of rope with 12 equally spaced knots.
- Get two friends and pull.



- Since  $3^2 + 4^2 = 9 + 16$   
 $= 25 = 5^2$

it follows that  $\theta = 90^\circ$ .

- Build a pyramid!

Wed Sept 4

HW 1 due Fri Sept 13  
at beginning of class

Office Hours (Ungar 533)

Mon 2-3 pm

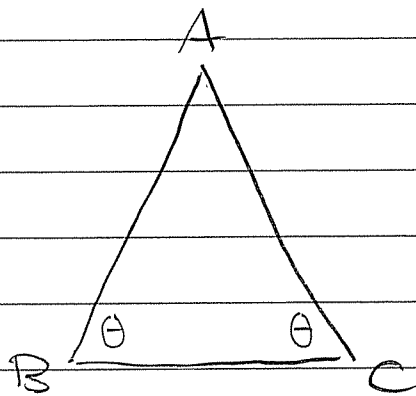
wed 3-4 pm

and by appointment.

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Topic: Book I of Euclid.

Prop I.5 ("pons asinorum"):



Consider  $\triangle ABC$ .

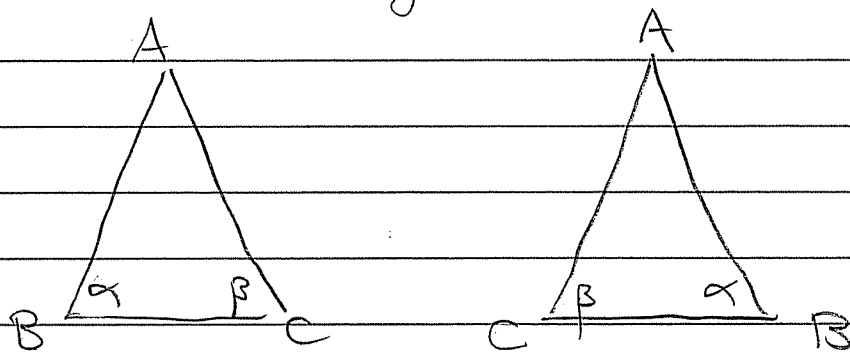
If  $\overline{AB} = \overline{AC}$  (i.e. triangle is "isosceles")

then  $\angle ABC = \angle BAC$ .

On HW 1 you will tell me Euclid's proof.

Here is a cute proof due to Pappus (~ 320 AD).

Proof: Consider the triangle and its mirror image



Since  $\overline{AB} = \overline{AC}$ ,  
 $\overline{AC} = \overline{AB}$ , and  
 $\angle BAC = \angle CBA$ ,

the triangles are congruent by the side-angle-side criterion (Prop I.4).

Hence  $\alpha = \angle ABC = \angle ACB = \beta$ .



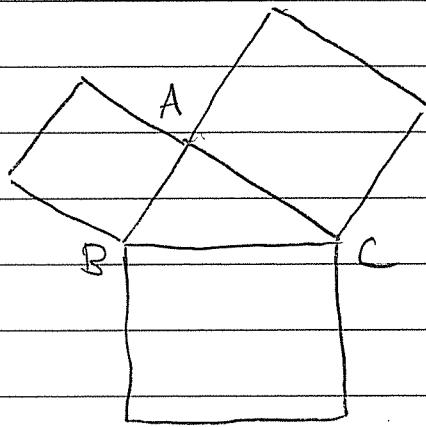
Prop I.32 states that:

the interior angles of any triangle sum to  $180^\circ$ .

On HW 1, you will give an abbreviated proof. (I've given you the necessary ingredients.)

The final two propositions are

Prop I.47 (Pythagorean Theorem)



If  $\angle BAC = 90^\circ$   
then  $\overline{BC}^2 = \overline{AB}^2 + \overline{AC}^2$

Proof omitted.

and

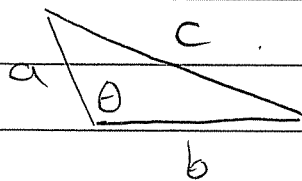
Prop I.48 (converse of Pyth. Thm.)

In the same diagram we have that

$$\text{if } \overline{BC}^2 = \overline{AB}^2 + \overline{AC}^2 \\ \text{then } \angle BAC = 90^\circ$$

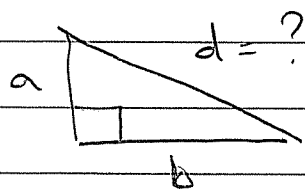
Euclid's Proof in modern language:

Label the sides and angle of the given  $\Delta$



We assume that  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$  and we want to show that  $\theta = 90^\circ$ .

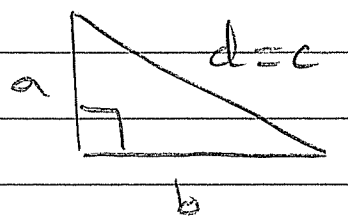
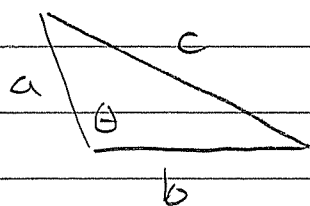
To do this we draw a (new) right triangle with side lengths  $a, b, d$ , where  $d$  is unknown to us



(Euclid I.2 and I.11 allow this.)

Then Prop I.47 (Pyth. Thm.) implies that  $a^2 + b^2 = d^2$ . But we assumed that  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ . Hence

$$c^2 = d^2 \quad \text{and} \quad c = d.$$



The two triangles have the same side lengths, hence by Euclid I.8 ("side-side-side criterion for congruence") they have the same angles.

We conclude that  $\theta = 90^\circ$



Logical notation:

$$\begin{aligned} P \Rightarrow Q &= \text{"P implies Q"} \\ &= \text{"if P then Q"} \\ &= \text{"P only if Q"} \end{aligned}$$

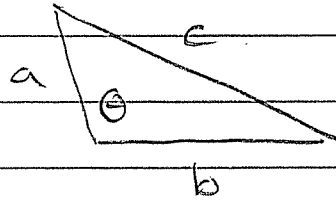


$$P \Leftarrow Q = \text{" } P \text{ is implied by } Q \text{"}$$
$$= \text{" } P \text{ if } Q \text{"}$$

Then we say

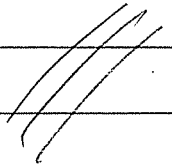
$$P \Leftrightarrow Q = P \Rightarrow Q \text{ AND } P \Leftarrow Q$$
$$= \text{" } P \text{ if and only if } Q \text{"}$$

Putting Prop I.47 and I.48 together:



For any triangle we have

$$\theta = 90^\circ \Leftrightarrow a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$



Fri Sept 6

HW 1 due next Friday.

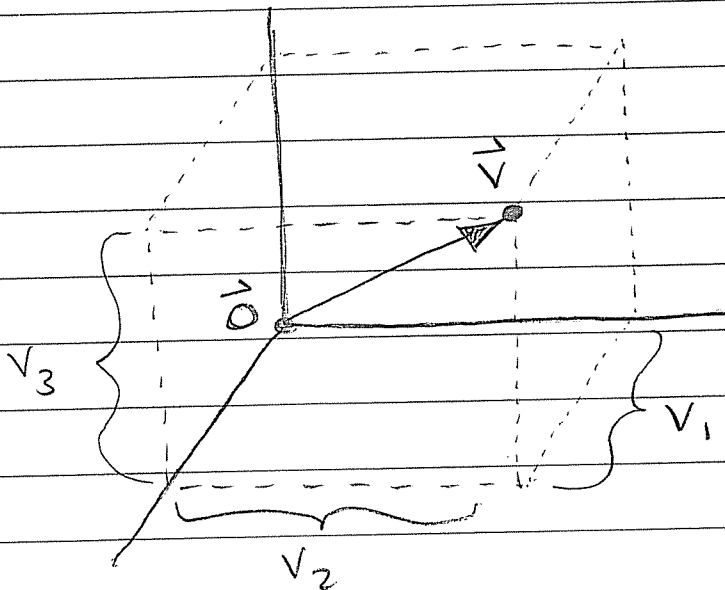
Office Hours: Mon 2-3 pm  
Wed 3-4 pm

Today: Moving On

- The first axiomatic system was Euclid's Elements (~300 BC)
- The first modern mathematician was René Descartes (1596-1650).

Descartes' revolutionary idea:

a "point"  $\equiv$  an ordered list of numbers



"a fly in the corner"

- fix 3 perpendicular axes
- given a point  $\vec{v}$ , imagine a rectangular box with opposite corners  $\vec{0}$  and  $\vec{v}$ .
- if the dimensions of the box are  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  we say.

$$\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$

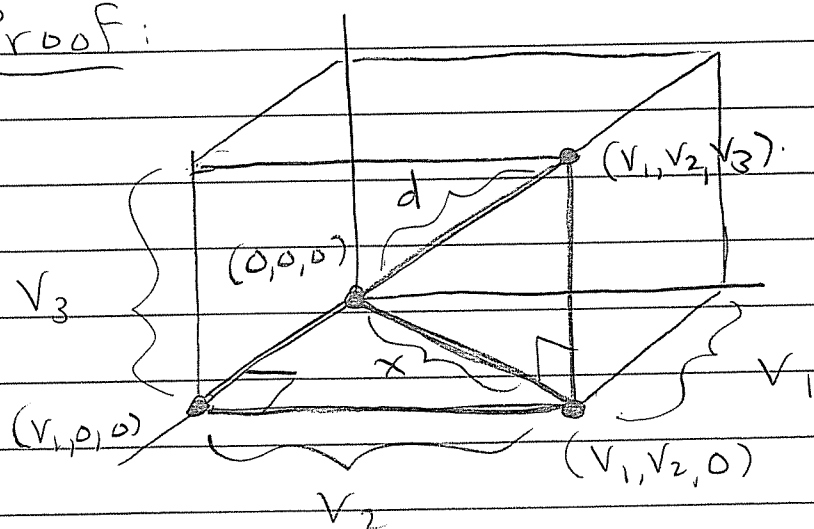
the "Cartesian coordinates" of the point.

- we also think of  $\vec{v}$  as an arrow ("vector") with tail at  $\vec{0} = (0, 0, 0)$ .

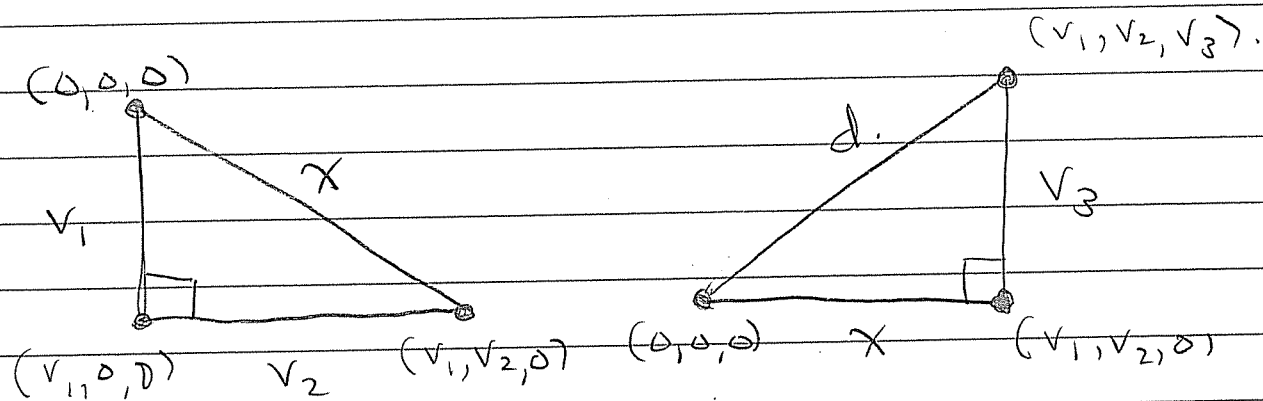
Claim: The length of the vector is

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$$

Proof:



Let  $\|\vec{v}\| = d$  and consider the points  $(0, 0, 0)$ ,  $(v_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $(v_1, v_2, 0)$ , and  $(v_1, v_2, v_3)$ . We have two right triangles.



By Pythagoras we have

$$x^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 \quad \text{and} \quad d^2 = x^2 + v_3^2$$

Combining the two equations gives

$$d^2 = x^2 + v_3^2 = (v_1^2 + v_2^2) + v_3^2$$

$$d^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2$$

$$d = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$$



Thinking: what is the length of a vector in 4D space?

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2 + v_4^2} \quad ?$$

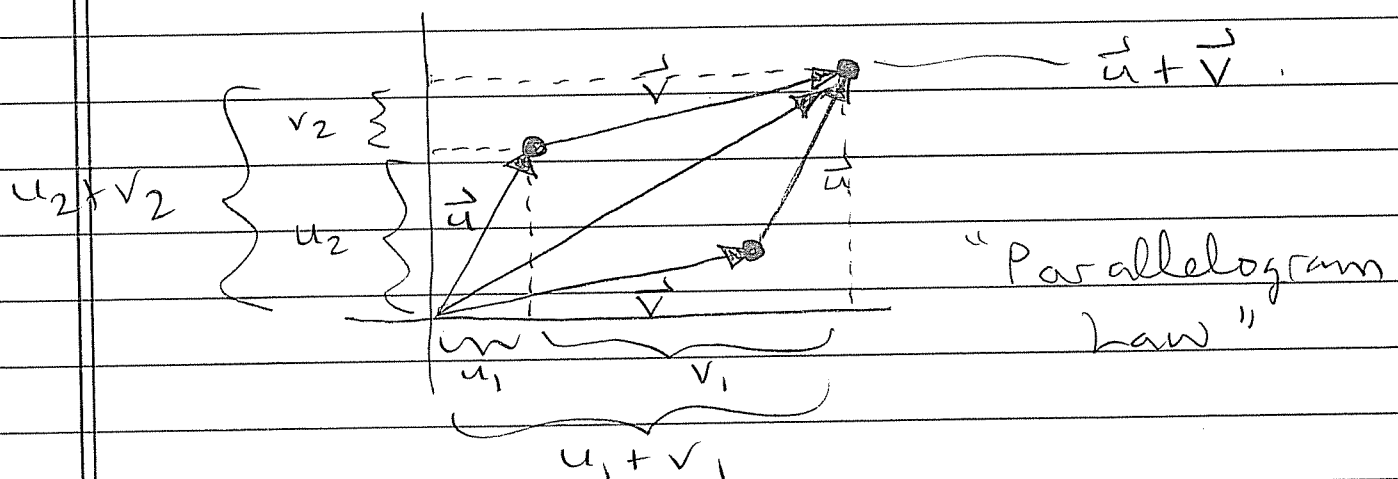
Here's something strange:

Since points are made of numbers, we can do algebraic things like "add" them:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} + \vec{v} &= (u_1, u_2, u_3) + (v_1, v_2, v_3) \\ &:= (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, u_3 + v_3). \end{aligned}$$

[What would Euclid think?]

Picture in 2D:  $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2)$ .



Vectors add head-to-tail.

Q: What about subtraction?

Given  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ , define

$$\vec{u} - \vec{v} = (u_1 - v_1, u_2 - v_2, u_3 - v_3).$$

What does it mean?

Two possibilities:

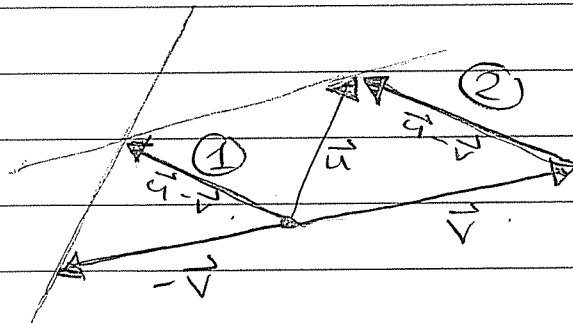
①  $\vec{u} - \vec{v} = \vec{u} + \text{"-}\vec{v}\text{"}$

same length,  
opposite direction  
as  $\vec{v}$ .

②  $\vec{u} - \vec{v}$  is the vector  $\vec{x}$  that satisfies

$$\vec{v} + \vec{x} = \vec{u}.$$

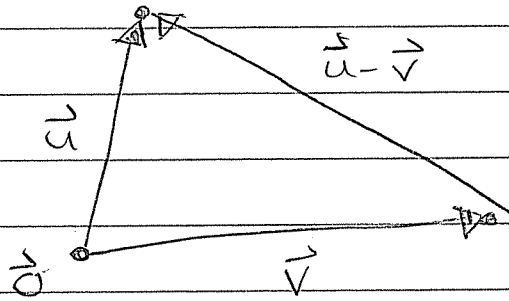
Picture:



① & ② are the SAME vector!

(A vector has direction and length,  
but not position.)

For any points  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  we have a triangle:



We can compute the distance between  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$ :

$$\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|$$

$$= \sqrt{(u_1 - v_1)^2 + (u_2 - v_2)^2 + (u_3 - v_3)^2}$$

Mon Sept 9

HW 1. due Friday

OH: Today 2-3 pm

Wed 3-4 pm

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Recall: Descartes' Big Idea.

a point  $\equiv$  an ordered list of numbers.

(the "cartesian coordinates" of the point)

Last time we talked about "adding" points (i.e. vector addition)

This time we'll try to "multiply" points.

$\mathbb{R}$  = the set of "real" numbers  
= the "number line".

Let

$\mathbb{R}^n = \{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) : x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \}$   
= ordered  $n$ -tuples of real numbers  
=  $n$ -dimensional space.



We can multiply elements of  $\mathbb{R}' = \mathbb{R}$ .

We can also multiply elements of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

Given  $(u_1, u_2)$  and  $(v_1, v_2)$  define

$$(u_1, u_2) * (v_1, v_2) := (u_1 v_1 - u_2 v_2, u_1 v_2 + u_2 v_1).$$

Do you recognize this??

$$\text{Think: } (u_1, u_2) \text{ "=" } u_1 + u_2 \sqrt{-1}$$

$$(v_1, v_2) \text{ "=" } v_1 + v_2 \sqrt{-1}$$

$$\text{Then } (u_1, u_2) * (v_1, v_2)$$

$$\text{"=" } (u_1 + u_2 \sqrt{-1})(v_1 + v_2 \sqrt{-1}).$$

$$= u_1 v_1 + u_1 v_2 \sqrt{-1} + u_2 v_1 \sqrt{-1} + u_2 v_2 \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{-1}.$$

$$= (u_1 v_1 - u_2 v_2) + (u_1 v_2 + u_2 v_1) \sqrt{-1}.$$

$$\text{"=" } (u_1 v_1 - u_2 v_2, u_1 v_2 + u_2 v_1)$$

We call this

$$\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{C} \quad \text{"complex numbers"}.$$

Hard Fact:

It is NOT POSSIBLE to "multiply" elements of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  except when  $n=1$  or  $2$ .

Oh well . . . .

So we can't multiply

$$\text{point} * \text{point} = \text{point}.$$

But there is a nice way to define

$$\text{point} * \text{point} = \text{number}.$$

Define the dot product of vectors

$$\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) \text{ and } \vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

by

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} := u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n.$$

Define the length of the vector  $\vec{u}$  by

$$\|\vec{u}\|^2 := \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$= u_1^2 + u_2^2 + \dots + u_n^2$$

$$\text{i.e. } \|\vec{u}\| = \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2 + \dots + u_n^2}$$

[Note that this is a definition,  
NOT a theorem.]

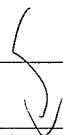
Exercise: Show that vector addition and dot product behave well together.

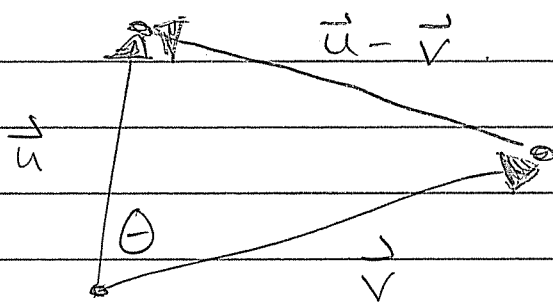
For all  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we have

$$\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}).$$

"distributive law"

Now let  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and consider the triangle





(This is a 2-dim triangle in  
n-dim space)

① Arithmetic Says:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 &= (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \\ &= \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} - \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \\ &= \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}). \end{aligned}$$

② Geometry Says (Law of Cosines):

$$\|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta$$

Comparing ① & ② tells us

$$\boxed{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta}$$

This is beautiful!

Thus the dot product allows us to define distances

$$\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|$$

$$= \sqrt{(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} - \vec{v})}$$

and angles

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\|} \right)$$

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$\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $+$  and  $\cdot$  is called  
 $n$ -dimensional "Euclidean space"

This is the modern DEFINITION  
of space!