# 8TH GRADE

**1.** In triangle *ABC*, point *O* is the circumcenter. The line *AO* intersects *BC* at point *T*, and the perpendiculars drawn from *T* to *AB* and *AC* intersect the radii *OB* and *OC* at points *E* and *F*, respectively. Prove that  $BE = CF$ .

(*Oleksii Karlyuchenko*)

*Solution.* Let *AD* be the diameter of the circumcircle of triangle *ABC* (Fig. 1). Then *BD*  $\perp$  *AB* and *TE*  $\perp$  *AB*, which implies *TE*  $\parallel$  *BD*. Triangle *OBD* is isosceles  $(OB = OD \text{ as radii}).$  If  $∠OBD = ∠ODB = \alpha$ , then  $∠OET = ∠OTE = \alpha$ , so  $OE = OT$  and  $BE = OB - OE = OD - OT = DT$ . Similarly,  $CF = DT$ , hence  $BE = CF$ .



**2.** Given a triangle  $ABC$ , with a marked point  $I$  as its incenter, and  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ being the points of tangency of the incircle with sides  $BC$  and  $AC$ , respectively. Using a compass and a ruler, construct the incenter of triangle  $CK_1K_2$  with the minimal possible number of lines (a line is a straight line or a circle).

(*Hryhorii Filippovskyi*)

*Solution.* Clearly, that a single line is insufficient for the construction. Draw two lines: the incircle of triangle  $ABC$  (with center  $I$  and radius  $IK_1$ ) and the segment *CI*. Let these intersect at point  $D$  (Fig. 2). We will show that  $D$  is the incenter of triangle  $\mathit{CK}_1\mathit{K}_2$ . Indeed,  $D$  lies on the angle bisector of  $\angle C$ , so it suffices to prove that  $K_2D$  is the angle bisector of  $\angle{CK_2K_1}$ . Let  $\angle{ACB} = 2\alpha$ . Since  $CI$  is the angle bisector, triangle  $\mathit{CIK}_2$  is right-angled, and triangles  $K_2ID$  and  $\mathit{CK}_1K_2$  are isosceles, step by step, we find

$$
\angle CIK_2 = 90^\circ - \alpha, \ \angle IK_2D = 90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle CIK_2 = 45^\circ + \frac{\alpha}{2},
$$
  

$$
\angle CK_2D = 90^\circ - \angle IK_2D = 45^\circ - \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\angle CK_2K_1,
$$

which completing the proof.

**3.** Let *ABC* be a right triangle ( $\angle C = 90^\circ$ ), *N* be the midpoint of arc *BAC* of the circumcircle, and  $K$  the intersection point of  $CN$  with  $AB$ . On the extension of *AK* beyond *K*, let *T* be the point chosen such that  $TK = KA$ . Prove that the circle with center  $T$  and radius  $TK$  is tangent to  $BC$ .

(*Mykhailo Sydorenko*)

#### *Solution.*

Draw  $TD \perp BC$  and  $TE \perp AC$  (Fig. 3). It suffices to prove that  $TD = TK$ . Since  $KE$  is the median of the right triangle *AET*, drawn to the hypotenuse, we have  $KE = TK = KA$ , and since TDCE is a rectangle,  $TD = CE$ . It remains to prove that  $KE = CE$ . Let  $\angle BAC = 2\alpha$ . Then  $\angle BNC = 2\alpha$ , implying  $\angle BCN = \angle CBN = 90^\circ - \alpha$ ,  $\angle KCE = 90^\circ - \angle BCN = \alpha$ ,  $\angle KEA = 2\alpha$  and  $\angle$ *CKE* =  $\angle$ *KEA* -  $\angle$ *KCE* =  $\alpha$  =  $\angle$ *KCE*. Thus, triangle  $KEC$  is isosceles, completing the proof.



Fig. 3

**4.** Let ABC be an acute triangle, AD, BE, and CF its altitudes, and H the orthocenter. On the rays  $AD, BE$  , and  $CF$  , points  $A_1, B_1,$  and  $C_1$  chosen such that  $AA_1 = HD$ ,  $BB_1 = HE$ , and  $CC_1 = HF$  respectively. Let  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$ , and  $C_2$  be the midpoints of  $A_1D$ ,  $B_1E$ , and  $C_1F$ , respectively. Prove that the points  $H$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$ , and *<sup>2</sup>* lie on the same circle.

(*Mykhailo Barkulov*)

### *Solution.*

Let *O* be the circumcenter of triangle *ABC*. Extend the altitudes and mark points  $H_1, H_2$ , and  $H_3$  such that  $DH_1$  =  $DH$ ,  $EH_2$  =  $EH$ , and  $FH_1 = FH.$  (Fig. 4). Then  $A_2$  is the midpoint of both segments  $A_1D$  and  $AH_1$ . The right triangles  $BDH$  and  $BDH_{\rm 1}$  are congruent by two legs. Hence  $\angle BH_1A = \angle BHD = 90^\circ - \angle HBC = \angle BCA$ , so point  $H_1$  lies on the circumcircle of triangle ABC. Therefore, the perpendicular bisector of *AH*<sub>1</sub> passes through *O*, implying  $\angle HA_2O = 90^\circ$ . Similarly,  $\angle HB_2O = 90^\circ$  and  $\angle HC_2O = 90^\circ$ . Thus, the points  $H$  ,  $A_2$  ,  $B_2$  ,  $C_2$  , and  $O$  lie on a circle with diameter *HO*. Fig. 4



**5.** Through vertex A of triangle ABC, a line *ℓ*  $\parallel$  *BC* is drawn. Two circles, each congruent to the incircle of triangle *ABC*, are tangent to the lines  $\ell$ ,  $AB$ , and  $AC$  as shown in the diagram. The lines *DE* and *FG* intersect at point *P*, which lies on *BC*. Prove that *P* is the midpoint of *BC*. (*Mykhailo Plotnikov*)



*Solution.* Let *I* be the incenter of triangle *ABC*, *K* and *L* the points of tangency of this circle with sides  $AB$  and  $AC$ , and  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  the centers of the two other circles from the problem statement (Fig. 5). Since  $AD = AE$  as tangents drawn from a single point to a circle,  $\angle ADE = \angle AED$ . But  $\angle ADE = \angle BPE$ (corresponding angles with parallel lines) and  $\angle AED = \angle BEP$  (vertical angles). Hence  $\angle BEP = \angle BPE$ , triangle *BPE* is isosceles, and *BP* = *BE*. Similarly,  $CP =$  $CG$ , so it suffices to establish that  $BE = CG$ .

The right triangles  $O_1AE$  and *IBK* are congruent by a leg and an acute angle  $(O_1 E = IK$  as radii of congruent circles,  $\angle O_1 AE = \frac{1}{2} \angle DAE = \frac{1}{2} \angle PBE = \angle IBK$ . Thus,  $AE = BK$ , and consequently  $BE = AB - AE = AB - BK = AK$ . Similarly,  $CG = AL$ , and noting that  $AK = AL$  as tangents from a single point, the proof is complete.



Fig. 5

**6.** In an isosceles triangle *ABC* with  $∠BAC = 108°$ , the bisector of angle *ABC* intersects the circumcircle of the triangle at point  $D$ . Point  $E$  on segment  $BC$  is such that  $AB = BE$ . Prove that the perpendicular bisector of  $CD$  is tangent to the circumcircle of triangle *ABE*.

(*Bohdan Zheliabovskyi*)

*Solution.* The base angles of isosceles triangle  $ABC$  are  $\angle ABC = \angle BCA = 36^\circ$ . Let  $O$  be the circumcenter of triangle  $ABC$  and  $\ell$  the perpendicular bisector of  $CD$ (Fig. 6). From the isosceles triangle *ABE*, we find  $\angle AEB = 90^\circ - \frac{1}{2} \angle ABC = 72^\circ$ . Also,  $\angle AOB = 2\angle ACB = 72^\circ$ , since the central angle is twice the inscribed angle. Hence, the circumcircle of triangle  $ABE$  passes through point *O*. The line  $\ell$  also passes through point *O*. We will show that  $\ell$  is tangent to the circumcircle of triangle *ABE* at this point.

Since  $\angle ACD = \angle ABD = \frac{1}{2} \angle ABC = 18^\circ$  and  $\angle BCD = \angle BCA + \angle ACD = 54^\circ$ ,  $\Box$  we have *∠ABC* + *∠BCD* =  $\Box$ 90°. Thus, *AB*  $\bot$  *CD*, and therefore  $\ell \parallel AB$ . But triangle  $AOB$  is isosceles, so the tangent to its circumcircle at point  $O$  is parallel to  $AB$ , implying that this tangent is the line  $\ell$ .



Fig. 6

# 9TH GRADE

**1.** In an acute triangle *ABC*, the altitudes *BD* and *CE* intersect at point *H*. A point *F* is chosen on side *AC*, such that  $FH \perp CE$ . Segment *FE* intersects the circumcircle of triangle *CDE* at point *K*. Prove that  $HK \perp EF$ .

(*Matthew Kurskyi*)

### *Solution.*

Points  $D$  and  $E$  lie on the circle with diameter  $BC.$  By the problem statement, point  $K$  also belongs to this circle, so  $\angle KDB = 180^\circ -$ *∠KEB* = ∠*KEA* (Fig. 1). Since *FH* ⊥ *CE* and  $AB \perp CE$ , it follows that  $FH \parallel AB$ . Hence,  $\angle HFE = \angle KEA$ . Therefore,  $\angle HFE =$ ∠*KDB*, and quadrilateral *DFKH* is cyclic. Thus,  $\angle$ *FKH* = 180<sup>°</sup> −  $\angle$ *HDF* = 90<sup>°</sup>, which means  $HK \perp EF$ .



Fig. 1

**2.** Let *BC* and *BD* be the tangents drawn from point *B* to the circle with diameter  $AC$ , and let  $E$  be the second intersection point of line  $CD$  with the circumcircle of triangle  $ABC$ . Prove that  $CD = 2DE$ .

(*Matthew Kurskyi*)

### *Solution.*

Let  $O$  be the midpoint of  $AC$  and  $F$  the intersection point of  $BO$  with  $CD$  (Fig. 2). The right triangles  $OBC$  and  $OBD$  are congruent by three sides ( $OC = OD$  as radii,  $BC = BD$  as tangents), so  $BF$  is the angle bisector, altitude, and median of isosceles triangle *CBD*. The right triangles  $ACB$  and  $EFB$  are similar, since  $\angle FEB = \angle CEB = \angle CAB$ . Since *BO* is the median of triangle  $ACB$  and  $\angle OBC = \angle DBF$ , it follows that  $BD$  is the median of triangle *EFB.* Hence,  $CF = FD = DE$ , and thus  $CD =$ *2DE.* Fig. 2



**3.** Given a triangle  $ABC$ , with a marked point  $I$  as its incenter, and  $K^{}_1$  and  $K^{}_2$ being the points of tangency of the incircle with sides *BC* and *AC*, respectively. Using a compass and a ruler, construct the center of the excircle of triangle  $CK_1K_2$ that is tangent to  $\mathit{CK}_2^{}$ , using at most 4 lines (a line is a straight line or a circle). (*Hryhorii Filippovskyi and Volodymyr Brayman*)

### *Solution.*

First, draw two lines: the incircle of triangle ABC (with center I and radius  $IK_1$ ) and the line *CI*. Let these intersect at points *D* and *E*, where  $CD \leq CE$  (Fig. 3). We will show that D is the center of the incircle of triangle  $\mathit{CK}_1\mathit{K}_2$ . Indeed, denote the center of the incircle by  $D'$ . Point  $D'$ lies on *CI*, and since *I* is the midpoint of the arc  $K_1 K_2$  of the circumcircle of triangle  $CK_1 K_2$ , by the "Incenter lemma", we have  $ID' = IK_2 = IK_3$ . Thus, points *D* and *D'* coincide. Since  $\angle DK_2^{\mathsf{T}}E = 90^\circ, K_2^{\mathsf{T}}E$ is the angle bisector of the exterior angle at vertex  $K_2$  of triangle  $CK_1K_2$ . Next, draw two more lines:  $EK_2$  and  $K_1D$ . Their intersection gives the required Fig. 3



*Note.* Point  $E$  is the center of the excircle of triangle  $\mathit{CK}_1K_2$  that is tangent to  $K_1 K_2$ .

**4.** Let *BE* and *CF* be the altitudes of an acute triangle *ABC*, *H* its orthocenter, M the midpoint of *BC*, *K* and *L* the intersection points of the perpendicular bisector of *BC* with *BD* and *CE*, respectively, and *Q* the orthocenter of triangle *KLH*. Prove that *Q* lies on the median *AM*.

(*Bohdan Zheliabovskyi*)

## *Solution.*

Triangles  $ABC$  and  $HLK$  are similar because the corresponding sides of these triangles are perpendicular, and therefore their corresponding angles are equal. Let  $AD$  and  $HP$  be the altitudes of these triangles, drawn to *BC* and *KL*, respectively, and let  $Q'$  be the intersection point of  $\overline{A}M$  with  $HP$  (Fig. 4). To show that  $Q$  and  $Q'$  coincide, it suffices to prove that  $HQ'$  :  $Q'P = AH$  :  $HD$ . Since the right triangles  $AQ'H$  and  $MQ'P$  are similar,  $HQ'$  :  $Q'P = AH : MP$ . It remains to observe that  $MP = HD$ , because  $MPHD$  is a rectangle. Fig. 4



**5.** Let *I* be the incenter of triangle *ABC*, and *K* the point of tangency of the incircle with side *BC*. Points *X* and *Y* are chosen on segments *BI* and *CI*, respectively, such that  $K X \perp AB$  and  $K Y \perp AC$ . The circumcircle of triangle XYK meets *BC* again at point *D* (other than point *K*). Prove that  $AD \perp BC$ . (*Matthew Kurskyi*)

*Solution.* Let  $K X$  and  $K Y$  intersect  $AB$  and  $AC$  at points  $E$  and  $F$ , respectively, and let  $AH$  be the altitude of triangle  $ABC$  (Fig. 5). We will show that points  $X, Y, K, H$  lie on the same circle. This will imply that points  $D$  and  $H$  coincide. The right triangles *BEX* and *BKI* are similar, so  $\frac{BX}{BI} = \frac{BE}{BK} = \cos B = \frac{BH}{BA}$ . Hence,  $BX : BH = BI : BA$ , which means triangles  $BH\ddot{X}$  and  $\ddot{B}AI$  are similar by two sides and the included angle. Thus,  $\angle BHX = \angle BAI = \frac{A}{2}$ . Similarly,  $\angle CHY = \frac{A}{2}$ , so  $\angle XHY = 180^\circ - \angle BHX - \angle CHY = 180^\circ - A$ . From quadrilateral AEKF, we find  $\angle XKY = \angle EKF = 180^\circ - A = \angle XHY$ , so points *X*, *Y*, *K*, *H* lie on the same circle, completing the proof.



Fig. 5

**6.** Around an acute triangle ABC, equilateral triangles  $KLM$  and  $PQR$  are constructed as shown in the diagram. Lines  $PK$  and  $QL$  intersect at point *D*. Prove that  $\angle ABC + \angle PDQ = 120^\circ$ .

(*Yurii Biletskyi*)



*Solution.* Since  $\angle APB = \angle AKB = 60^\circ$ , quadrilateral  $APKB$  is cyclic, and similarly, quadrilateral  $BQLC$  is cyclic. Let the circles circumscribed around these quadrilaterals intersect at points *B* and *O* (Fig. 6). Then  $\angle AOB = 120^\circ$ . We will

show that quadrilateral *PDQO* is cyclic. Indeed, let  $\angle POA = \angle PKA = \alpha$  and  $\angle BOQ = \angle BLQ = \beta$ . Then

$$
\angle POQ = \angle AOB - \angle POA + \angle BOQ = 120^{\circ} - \alpha + \beta,
$$

$$
\angle PDQ = \angle PKL - \angle KLQ = 60^{\circ} + \alpha - \beta,
$$

 $hence \angle POQ + \angle PDQ = 180^\circ$ . Now,

$$
\angle ABC + \angle PDQ = \angle ABO + \angle OBC + \angle PDO + \angle ODQ =
$$
  
= 
$$
\angle APO + \angle OQC + \angle PQO + \angle OPQ =
$$
  
= 
$$
\angle APQ + \angle PQC = 60^{\circ} + 60^{\circ} = 120^{\circ}.
$$



Fig. 6

# 10-11TH GRADE

**1.** Circles  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  are tangent to a line  $\ell$  at points A and B, respectively, and are tangent to each other externally at point  $D$ . A point  $E$  is chosen arbitrarily on the minor arc *BD* of circle  $\omega_2$ . The line *DE* meets circle  $\omega_1$  at point *C* for the second time. Prove that  $BE \perp AC$ .

(*Yurii Biletskyi*)

*Solution.* Let  $O^{}_1$  and  $O^{}_2$  be the centers of circles  $\omega^{}_1$  and  $\omega^{}_2$ , respectively, and let  $F$  be the intersection point of lines  $AC$  and  $BE$  (Fig. 1). We will show that points  $A, B, D$ , and *F* lie on the same circle. Indeed, in the isosceles triangles  $O<sub>1</sub>CD$  and  $O_2$ *DE*, we have ∠ $O_1$ *DC* = ∠ $O_2$ *DE* as vertical angles, thus ∠ $CO_1D = \angle DO_2E$ . Therefore,

$$
\angle CAD = \frac{1}{2}\angle CO_1D = \frac{1}{2}\angle DO_2E = \angle DBE,
$$

which implies *∠FAD* = ∠*FBD*, and quadrilateral *ABDF* is cyclic.

Since  $\overline{AO}_1 \parallel \overline{BO}_2$ , it follows that  $\angle A\overline{O}_1D + \angle BO_2D = 180^\circ$ . From the isosceles triangles  $AO<sub>1</sub>D$  and  $BO<sub>2</sub>D$ , we find

$$
\angle O_1DA + \angle O_2DB = (90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle AO_1D) + (90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle BO_2D) = 90^\circ.
$$

Hence,  $\angle ADB = 90^\circ$ , and therefore  $\angle AFB = 90^\circ$ .

*Solution 2*. Let the homothety centered at *D*, which maps circle  $\omega_2$  onto circle  $\omega_1$ , map radius  $O^{}_2$ B to radius  $O^{}_1$ G (Fig. 2). This homothety maps triangle  $BED$  to triangle *GCD*, so *GC*  $\parallel$  *BE*. Since  $O_2B$   $\parallel$   $O_1A$  and  $O_2B$   $\parallel$   $O_1G$ , we have  $G-O_1-A$ as a diameter of circle  $\omega_1$ . Thus,  $AC \perp GC$ , which implies  $AC \perp BE$ .



**2.** Let *I* be the incenter of triangle *ABC*, where  $\angle A = 60^\circ$ , and let *D* be the point of tangency of the incircle with side *BC*. Points *X* and *Y* are chosen on segments *BI* and *CI*, respectively, such that  $DX \perp AB$  and  $DY \perp AC$ . A point

Z is chosen such that triangle  $XYZ$  is equilateral, and points Z and I lie on the same side of line *XY*. Prove that  $AZ \perp BC$ .

(*Matthew Kurskyi*)

*Solution.* Let the incircle of triangle ABC touch sides AC and AB at points E and *F*, respectively (Fig. 3). Since  $CI \perp ED$ , point *Y* is the orthocenter of triangle *DEC*. Thus,  $EY \perp BC$  and  $ID \perp BC$ , which implies  $EY \parallel ID$ . Similarly,  $EI \parallel YD$ , so *EIDY* is a parallelogram, and  $\overrightarrow{EY} = \overrightarrow{ID}$ . Analogously,  $\overrightarrow{FX} = \overrightarrow{ID}$ .

The equilateral triangles  $AEF$  and  $ZYX$  are similar and equally oriented, and under the parallel translation by vector  $\overrightarrow{EY} = \overrightarrow{FX}$ , points E and F map to points *Y* and *X*, respectively. Thus, point *A* maps to point *Z*,  $\overrightarrow{AZ} = \overrightarrow{EY}$ , and therefore  $AZ \perp BC$ .



Fig. 3

 ${\bf 3.}$  Given an acute triangle  $ABC$  . Squares  $AA_1A_2A_3,$  $BB_1B_2B_3$ , and  $CC_1C_2C_3$  are positioned such that the lines  $A_1A_2$ ,  $B_1B_2$ , and  $C_1C_2$  pass through points *B*, *C*, and *A*, respectively, and the lines  $A_2A_3$ ,  $B_2B_3$ , and  $C_2C_3$  pass through points *C*, *A*, and *B*, respectively. Prove that

a) the lines  $AA_2$ ,  $B_1B_3$ , and  $C_1C_3$  are concurrent;

b) the lines  $AA_2$ ,  $BB_2$ , and  $CC_2$  are concurrent.

(*Mykhailo Plotnikov*)



*Solution.* a) The lines  $B_1B_3$ ,  $AA_2$ , and  $C_1C_3$  contain the bisectors of the right angles ∠BB<sub>1</sub>C, ∠BA<sub>2</sub>C, and ∠BC<sub>3</sub>C, so all of them pass through point A', the midpoint of the semicircle constructed on  $BC$  as a diameter outside triangle  $ABC$ (Fig. 4).

b) Let  $A'$ ,  $B'$ , and  $C'$  be the midpoints of the semicircles with diameters  $BC$ ,  $AC$ , and  $AB$ , constructed outside triangle  $ABC$ . From part a), line  $A_1A_3$  passes through points  $B'$  and  $C'$ , and line  $AA_2$  passes through point  $A'$ . Since  $A_1A_3^\top \perp AA_2$ as the diagonals of a square, line  $AA_2$  contains the altitude of triangle  $\overline{A'B'C'}$ . The lines  $BB_2$  and  $CC_2$  also contain the altitudes of triangle  $A'B'C'$ , so the lines  $AA_2$ ,  $BB_{2}$ , and  $CC_{2}$  meet at the orthocenter of this triangle.



Fig. 4

**4.** On a semicircle with diameter AB, a point C is chosen arbitrarily. Let P and Q be points on segment AB such that  $AP = AC$  and  $BQ = BC$ , and let O and *H* be the circumcenter and orthocenter of triangle *CPQ*, respectively. Prove that for all possible positions of point  $C$ , line  $OH$  passes through a fixed point.

(*Mykhailo Sydorenko*)

*Solution.* We will show that line *OH* always passes through point *N*, the midpoint of the semicircle with diameter  $AB$  (Fig. 5).

First, we prove that ∠PCQ = 45°. Indeed, from the isosceles triangles ACP and *BCQ*, we obtain that  $\angle QPC = 90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle CAB$  and  $\angle PQC = 90^\circ - \frac{1}{2}\angle CBA$ , so

$$
\angle PCQ = 180^{\circ} - \angle QPC - \angle PQC =
$$
  
= 180^{\circ} - (90^{\circ} - \frac{1}{2}\angle CAB) - (90^{\circ} - \frac{1}{2}\angle CBA) =  
= \frac{1}{2}(\angle CAB + \angle CBA) = 45^{\circ}.

Hence,  $\angle POQ = 2\angle PCQ = 90^\circ$ , and  $POQ$  is an isosceles right triangle. But  $ANB$ 

is also an isosceles right triangle, so triangles  $ANB$  and  $QOP$  are homothetic.

Since triangles  $ACP$  and  $BCQ$  are isosceles,  $AO \perp CP$  and  $BO \perp CQ$ , implying *AO* || *QH* and *BO* || *PH*. Thus, triangles *AOB* and *QHP* are also homothetic. Consequently, there exists a homothety that maps triangles ANB and AOB onto triangles *QOP* and *QHP*. This homothety maps segment *NO* onto segment *OH*, and since these segments share a common point, they lie on the same line. Thus, line *OH* always passes through point *N*.



Fig. 5

**5.** Given a scalene triangle ABC, with the incenter I marked, and the points of tangency of the incircle with sides  $BC$  ,  $AC$  , and  $AB$  marked as  $K^{}_1, K^{}_2,$  and  $K^{}_3,$ respectively. Using only a ruler, construct the circumcenter of triangle ABC.

(*Hryhorii Filippovskyi*)

*Solution.* The construction consists of two steps.

**Step 1.** Find the midpoints of the sides of triangle  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $M_3$ .

*Method I.* Let *D* be the intersection point of lines  $K_1 K_3$  and *CI*. We will show that *D* lies on line  $M_2M_3$  (Fig. 6). Since  $\angle K_1DC = \angle K_3K_1B - \angle ICB = \frac{A+C}{2} - \frac{C}{2} =$  $\frac{A}{2}$  = ∠*K*<sub>3</sub>*AI*, points *A*, *I*, *D*, *K*<sub>3</sub> lie on the same circle. Hence, ∠*IDA* = ∠*IK*<sub>3</sub>*A* =  $\frac{1}{2}$ 0°. Let line *AD* intersect *BC* at point *F*. Then *CD* is the angle bisector and altitude of triangle *ACF*, so this triangle is isosceles. Hence, *D* is the midpoint of  $AF$  , and therefore lies on line  $M_2M_3$ . Now let  $E$  be the intersection point of lines  $K_1 K_2$  and *BI*. This point also lies on  $M_2 M_3$ , so line  $DE$  intersects  $AB$  and  $AC$  at points  $M^{}_3$  and  $M^{}_2$ . Similarly, construct line  $M^{}_1M^{}_2$  to find point  $M^{}_1.$ 



*Method II.* Let  $D$  be the intersection point of lines  $K_1I$  and  $K_2K_3$  (Fig. 7). We will show that line  $AD$  passes through point  $M^{}_1$ . To do this, draw segment  $EF \parallel$ *BC* through point  $D$  ( $E \in AB$ ,  $F \in AC$ ) and show that  $D$  is the midpoint of  $EF$ . Indeed, quadrilateral  $AK_2IK_3$  is inscribed in a circle with diameter  $AI$ , so  $\angle$ *IK*<sub>3</sub>*K*<sub>2</sub></sub> =  $\angle$ *IK*<sub>2</sub>*K*<sub>3</sub> =  $\frac{A}{2}$ *A 2 2 EX*<sub>3</sub>*I*  $\angle E K_3 I$  $\equiv \angle EDI$  $\equiv 90^\circ$ **, points** *E***,** *K***<sub>3</sub>,** *D***,** *I* **lie** on the same circle, and similarly points *I*, *D*, *F*,  $K_2$  lie on the same circle. Thus,  $∠IED = ∠IK<sub>3</sub>D = <sup>A</sup>/<sub>2</sub> = ∠IK<sub>2</sub>D = ∠IFD$ . Hence, triangle *IEF* is isosceles, and its altitude *ID* is the median. Similarly, construct points  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ .

**Step 2.** Construct the perpendicular bisectors of the sides of the triangle. Let  $G$  be the intersection point of  $AM_{1}$  and  $M_2M_3$ , and P the intersection point of  $M^{}_1 M^{}_3$  and  $CG$  (Fig. 8). Then segments  $M_3G$  and  $GM_2$  are the midlines of triangles  $M_1PC$  and  $BAM_1$ , so  $PA \parallel$ *BC*. Let *Q* be the intersection point of  $K_1 I$  and *PA*, *S* the intersection point of  $M^{}_1\mathrm{Q}$  and  $M^{}_2M^{}_3$ , and  $T$  the intersection point of  $K_1S$  and *PA*. It is easy to verify that  $M_1K_1QT$  is a rectangle, so  $M_1T \perp BC$ . Similarly, construct the perpendicular bisector of another side to find the circumcenter of triangle ABC.



**6.** Given a scalene triangle ABC. Through point B, a line  $\ell$  is drawn that does not intersect the triangle and forms distinct angles with sides AB and BC. Let  $M$  be the midpoint of  $AC$ , and let  $H_a$  and  $H_c$  be the feet of the perpendiculars

drawn from points  $A$  and  $C$  to  $\ell.$  The circumcircle of triangle  $MBH_{a}$  intersects  $AB$  at point  $A_1$ , and the circumcircle of triangle  $MBH_c$  intersects  $BC$  at point  $C_1$ . Point  $A_2$  is symmetric to  $A$  with respect to point  $A_1^{}$ , and point  $C_2^{}$  is symmetric to *C* with respect to point  $C_1$ . Prove that the lines  $\ell$ ,  $AC_2$ , and  $CA_2$  are concurrent. (*Yana Kolodach*)

*Solution.* Extend  $AH_a$  such that  $H_aN_a = AH_a$  and  $CH_c$  such that  $H_cN_c = CH_c$ (Fig. 9). Observe that lines BC and BN<sub>c</sub> are symmetric with respect to  $\ell$ , so points  $A,$   $B,$  and  $N_c$  are not collinear. Let the circumcircle of triangle  $ABN_c$  intersect  $\ell$ again at point *E*.



Fig. 9

We will show that line  $AC_2$  passes through point  $E.$  Indeed $^1,$ 

$$
\angle N_c AE = \angle N_c BE = \angle N_c BH_c = \angle H_c BC_1 = \angle H_c MC_1.
$$

Since  $MH_c$  and  $MC_1$  are the midlines of triangles  $ACN_c$  and  $ACC_2$ , respectively, we have

$$
\angle N_cAC_2 = \angle H_cMC_1 = \angle N_cAE,
$$

so line  $AC_2$  passes through point  $E.$  Similarly, line  $A^{}_2C$  passes through the intersection point of the circumcircle of triangle  $N_a BC$  with line  $\ell$  , distinct from  $B.$  But triangles  $ABN_c$  and  $N_aBC$  are symmetric with respect to line  $\ell$  . Hence, the circumcircle of triangle  $N_aBC$  also intersects line  $\ell$  at point  $E$ , completing the proof.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This reasoning corresponds to the configuration depicted in Fig. 9; in other cases, the arguments will be analogous.