Stewart's Theorem and Apollonius' Theorem

Lukas Bulwahn

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Abstract

This entry formalizes the two geometric theorems, Stewart's and Apollonius' theorem. Stewart's Theorem [3] relates the length of a triangle's cevian to the lengths of the triangle's two sides. Apollonius' Theorem [2] is a specialisation of Stewart's theorem, restricting the cevian to be the median. The proof applies the law of cosines, some basic geometric facts about triangles and then simply transforms the terms algebraically to yield the conjectured relation. The formalization in Isabelle can closely follow the informal proofs described in the Wikipedia articles of those two theorems.

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1 Stewart's Theorem and Apollonius' Theorem

theory *Stewart-Apollonius*
imports
Triangle.Triangle
begin

1.1 Stewart's Theorem

theorem *Stewart*:
fixes A B C D :: $'a$::*euclidean-space*
assumes *between* (B, C) D
assumes $a = dist\ B\ C$
assumes $b = dist\ A\ C$
assumes $c = dist\ B\ A$
assumes $d = dist\ A\ D$
assumes $m = dist\ B\ D$
assumes $n = dist\ C\ D$
shows $b^2 * m + c^2 * n = a * (d^2 + m * n)$

⟨*proof*⟩

Here is an equivalent formulation that is probably more suitable for further use in other geometry theories in Isabelle.

theorem *Stewart'*:
fixes *A B C D* :: *'a*::*euclidean-space*
assumes *between* (*B*, *C*) *D*
shows (*dist A C*)^2 ∗ *dist B D* + (*dist B A*)^2 ∗ *dist C D* = *dist B C* ∗ ((*dist A D*)^2 + *dist B D* ∗ *dist C D*)
⟨*proof*⟩

1.2 Apollonius' Theorem

Apollonius' theorem is a simple specialisation of Stewart's theorem, but historically predated Stewart's theorem by many centuries.

lemma *Apollonius*:
fixes *A B C* :: *'a*::*euclidean-space*
assumes *B* ≠ *C*
assumes *b* = *dist A C*
assumes *c* = *dist B A*
assumes *d* = *dist A* (*midpoint B C*)
assumes *m* = *dist B* (*midpoint B C*)
shows *b*^{2} + *c*^{2} = *2* ∗ (*m*^{2} + *d*^{2})
⟨*proof*⟩

Here is the equivalent formulation that is probably more suitable for further use in other geometry theories in Isabelle.

lemma *Apollonius'*:
fixes *A B C* :: *'a*::*euclidean-space*
assumes *B* ≠ *C*
shows (*dist A C*)^2 + (*dist B A*)^2 = *2* ∗ ((*dist B* (*midpoint B C*))^2 + (*dist A* (*midpoint B C*))^2)
⟨*proof*⟩

end

References

[1] D. B. Surowski. Advanced high-school mathematics, 2011. https://www.math.ksu.edu/~dbski/writings/further.pdf [Online; accessed 30-July-2017].

[2] Wikipedia. Apollonius' theorem — wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, 2017. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Apollonius%27_theorem&oldid=790659235 [Online; accessed 30-July-2017].

[3] Wikipedia. Stewart's theorem — wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, 2017. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Stewart%27s_theorem&oldid=790777285 [Online; accessed 30-July-2017].