

Some Constructions Related to the Kiepert Hyperbola

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Abstract. Given a reference triangle and its Kiepert hyperbola \mathcal{K} , we study several construction problems related to the triangles which have \mathcal{K} as their own Kiepert hyperbolas. Such triangles necessarily have their vertices on \mathcal{K} , and are called special Kiepert inscribed triangles. Among other results, we show that the family of special Kiepert inscribed triangles all with the same centroid G form part of a poristic family between \mathcal{K} and an inscribed conic with center which is the inferior of the Kiepert center.

1. Special Kiepert inscribed triangles

Given a triangle ABC and its Kiepert hyperbola \mathcal{K} , consisting of the Kiepert perspectors

$$K(t) = \left(\frac{1}{S_A + t} : \frac{1}{S_B + t} : \frac{1}{S_C + t} \right), \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\},$$

we study triangles with vertices on \mathcal{K} having \mathcal{K} as their own Kiepert hyperbolas. We shall work with homogeneous barycentric coordinates and make use of standard notations of triangle geometry as in [2]. Basic results on triangle geometry can be found in [3]. The Kiepert hyperbola has equation

$$K(x, y, z) := (S_B - S_C)yz + (S_C - S_A)zx + (S_A - S_B)xy = 0 \quad (1)$$

in homogeneous barycentric coordinates. Its center, the Kiepert center

$$K_i = ((S_B - S_C)^2 : (S_C - S_A)^2 : (S_A - S_B)^2),$$

lies on the Steiner inellipse. In this paper we shall mean by a Kiepert inscribed triangle one whose vertices are on the Kiepert hyperbola \mathcal{K} . If a Kiepert inscribed triangle is perspective with ABC , it is called the Kiepert cevian triangle of its perspector. Since the Kiepert hyperbola of a triangle can be characterized as the rectangular circum-hyperbola containing the centroid, our objects of interest are Kiepert inscribed triangles whose centroids are Kiepert perspectors. We shall assume the vertices to be finite points on \mathcal{K} , and call such triangles special Kiepert inscribed triangles. We shall make frequent use of the following notations.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(t) &= ((S_B - S_C)(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)(S_C + t)) \\
 Q(t) &= ((S_B - S_C)^2(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)^2(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)^2(S_C + t)) \\
 f_2 &= S_{AA} + S_{BB} + S_{CC} - S_{BC} - S_{CA} - S_{AB} \\
 f_3 &= S_A(S_B - S_C)^2 + S_B(S_C - S_A)^2 + S_C(S_A - S_B)^2 \\
 f_4 &= (S_{AA} - S_{BC})S_{BC} + (S_{BB} - S_{CA})S_{CA} + (S_{CC} - S_{AB})S_{AB} \\
 g_3 &= (S_A - S_B)(S_B - S_C)(S_C - S_A)
 \end{aligned}$$

Here, $P(t)$ is a typical infinite point, and $Q(t)$ is a typical point on the tangent of the Steiner inellipse through K_i . For $k = 2, 3, 4$, the function f_k , is a symmetric function in S_A, S_B, S_C of degree k .

Proposition 1. *The area of a triangle with vertices $K(t_i)$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, is*

$$\left| \frac{g_3(t_1 - t_2)(t_2 - t_3)(t_3 - t_1)}{\prod(S^2 + 2(S_A + S_B + S_C)t_i + 3t_i^2)} \right| \cdot \Delta ABC.$$

Proposition 2. *A Kiepert inscribed triangle with vertices $K(t_i)$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, is special, i.e., with centroid on the Kiepert hyperbola, if and only if*

$$S^2 f'_2 + (S_A + S_B + S_C)f'_3 - 3f'_4 = 0,$$

where f'_2, f'_3, f'_4 are the functions f_2, f_3, f_4 with S_A, S_B, S_C replaced by t_1, t_2, t_3 .

We shall make use of the following simple construction.

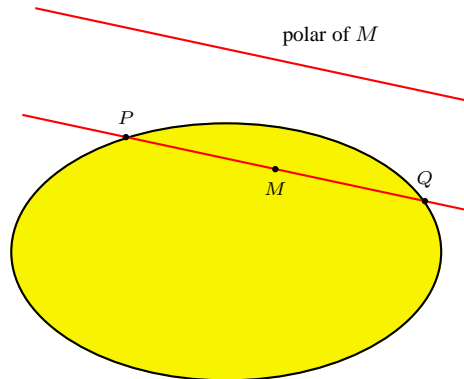


Figure 1. Construction of chord of conic with given midpoint

Construction 3. *Given a conic C and a point M , to construct the chord of C with M as midpoint, draw*

- (i) *the polar of M with respect to C ,*
- (ii) *the parallel through M to the line in (i).*

If the line in (ii) intersects C at the two real points P and Q , then the midpoint of PQ is M .

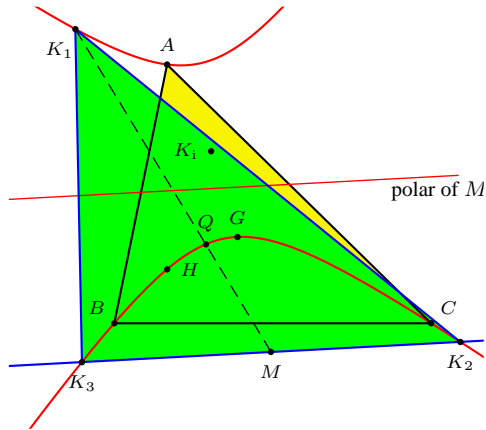


Figure 2. Construction of Kiepert inscribed triangle with prescribed centroid and one vertex

A simple application of Construction 3 gives a Kiepert inscribed triangle with prescribed centroid Q and one vertex K_1 : simply take M to be the point dividing K_1Q in the ratio $K_1M : MQ = 3 : -1$. See Figure 2.

Here is an interesting family of Kiepert inscribed triangles with prescribed centroids on \mathcal{K} .

Construction 4. Given a Kiepert perspector $K(t)$, construct
 (i) K_1 on \mathcal{K} and M such that the segment K_1M is trisected at K_1 and $K(t)$,
 (ii) the parallel through M to the tangent of \mathcal{K} at $K(t)$,
 (iii) the intersections K_2 and K_3 of \mathcal{K} with the line in (ii).
 Then $K_1K_2K_3$ is a special Kiepert inscribed triangle with centroid $K(t)$. See Figure 3.

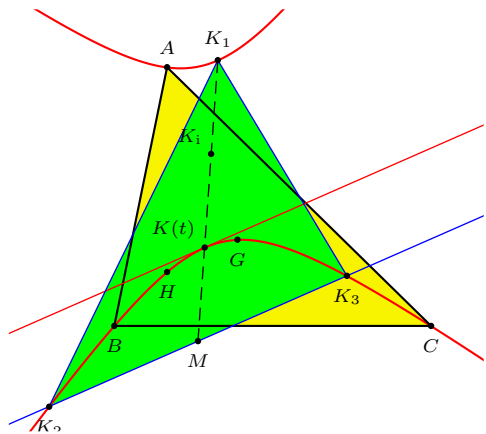


Figure 3. Kiepert inscribed triangle with centroid $K(t)$

It is interesting to note that the area of the Kiepert inscribed triangle is independent of t . It is $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}|g_3|f_2^{-\frac{3}{2}}$ times that of triangle ABC . This result and many others in the present paper are obtained with the help of a computer algebra system.

2. Special Kiepert cevian triangles

Given a point $P = (u : v : w)$, the vertices of its Kiepert cevian triangle are

$$A_P = \left(\frac{-(S_B - S_C)vw}{(S_A - S_B)v + (S_C - S_A)w} : v : w \right),$$

$$B_P = \left(u : \frac{-(S_C - S_A)wu}{(S_B - S_C)w + (S_A - S_B)u} : w \right),$$

$$C_P = \left(u : v : \frac{-(S_A - S_B)uw}{(S_C - S_A)u + (S_B - S_C)v} \right).$$

These are Kiepert perspectors with parameters t_A, t_B, t_C given by

$$t_A = -\frac{S_Bv - S_Cw}{v - w}, \quad t_B = -\frac{S_Cw - S_Au}{w - u}, \quad t_C = -\frac{S_Au - S_Bv}{u - v}.$$

Clearly, if P is on the Kiepert hyperbola, the Kiepert cevian triangle $A_P B_P C_P$ degenerates into the point P .

Theorem 5. *The centroid of the Kiepert cevian triangle of P lies on the Kiepert hyperbola if and only if P is*

- (i) *an infinite point, or*
- (ii) *on the tangent at K_i to the Steiner inellipse.*

Proof. Let $P = (u : v : w)$ in homogeneous barycentric coordinates. Applying Proposition 2, we find that the centroid of $A_P B_P C_P$ lies on the Kiepert hyperbola if and only if

$$(u + v + w)K(u, v, w)^2 L(u, v, w)P(u, v, w) = 0,$$

where

$$L(u, v, w) = \frac{u}{S_B - S_C} + \frac{v}{S_C - S_A} + \frac{w}{S_A - S_B},$$

$$P(u, v, w) = \prod((S_A - S_B)v^2 - 2(S_B - S_C)vw + (S_C - S_A)w^2).$$

The factors $u + v + w$ and $K(u, v, w)$ clearly define the line at infinity and the Kiepert hyperbola \mathcal{K} respectively. On the other hand, the factor $L(u, v, w)$ defines the line

$$\frac{x}{S_B - S_C} + \frac{y}{S_C - S_A} + \frac{z}{S_A - S_B} = 0, \tag{2}$$

which is the tangent of the Steiner inellipse at K_i .

Each factor of $P(u, v, w)$ defines two points on a sideline of triangle ABC . If we set $(x, y, z) = (-(v + w), v, w)$ in (1), the equation reduces to $(S_A - S_B)v^2 - 2(S_B - S_C)vw + (S_C - S_A)w^2$. This shows that the two points on the line BC are the intercepts of lines through A parallel to the asymptotes of \mathcal{K} , and the corresponding Kiepert cevian triangles have vertices at infinite points. This is similarly the case for the other two factors of $P(u, v, w)$. □

Remark. Altogether, the six points defined by $P(u, v, w)$ above determine a conic with equation

$$G(x, y, z) = \sum \frac{x^2}{S_B - S_C} - \frac{2(S_B - S_C)yz}{(S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B)} = 0.$$

Since

$$g_3 \cdot G(x, y, z) = -f_2(x + y + z)^2 + \sum (S_B - S_C)^2 x^2 - 2(S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B)yz,$$

this conic is a translation of the inscribed conic

$$\sum (S_B - S_C)^2 x^2 - 2(S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B)yz = 0,$$

which is the Kiepert parabola. See Figure 4.

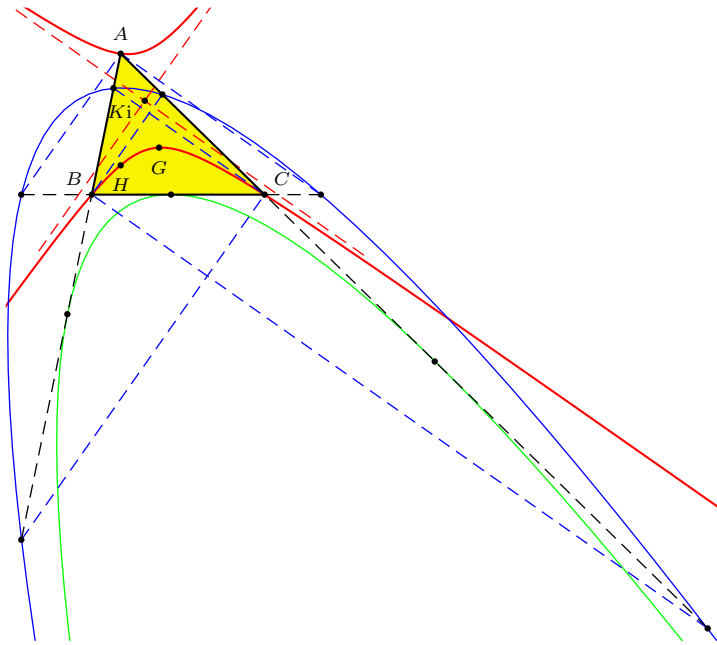


Figure 4. Translation of Kiepert parabola

3. Kiepert cevian triangles of infinite points

Consider a typical infinite point

$$P(t) = ((S_B - S_C)(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)(S_C + t))$$

in homogeneous barycentric coordinates. It can be easily verified that $P(t)$ is the infinite point of perpendiculars to the line joining the Kiepert perspector $K(t)$ to the orthocenter H .¹ The Kiepert cevian triangle of $P(t)$ has vertices

¹This is the line $\sum S_A(S_B - S_C)(S_A + t)x = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A(t) &= \left(\frac{(S_B - S_C)(S_B + t)(S_C + t)}{S_B + S_C + 2t} : (S_C - S_A)(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)(S_C + t) \right), \\
 B(t) &= \left((S_B - S_C)(S_A + t) : \frac{(S_C - S_A)(S_C + t)(S_A + t)}{S_C + S_A + 2t} : (S_A - S_B)(S_C + t) \right), \\
 C(t) &= \left((S_B - S_C)(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)(S_B + t) : \frac{(S_A - S_B)(S_A + t)(S_B + t)}{S_C + S_A + 2t} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

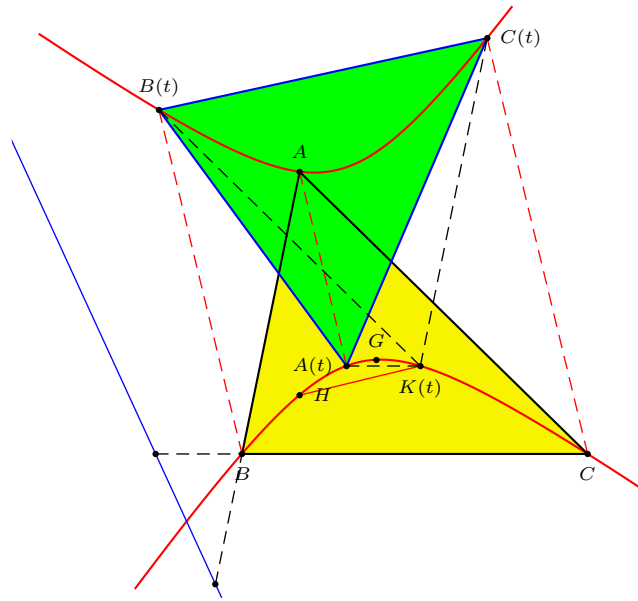


Figure 5. The Kiepert cevian triangle of $P(t)$ is the same as the Kiepert parallelian triangle of $K(t)$

It is also true that the line joining $A(t)$ to $K(t)$ is parallel to BC ;² similarly for $B(t)$ and $C(t)$. Thus, we say that the Kiepert cevian triangle of the infinite point $P(t)$ is the same as the Kiepert parallelian triangle of the Kiepert perspector $K(t)$. See Figure 5. It is interesting to note that the area of triangle $A(t)B(t)C(t)$ is equal to that of triangle ABC , but the triangles have opposite orientations.

Now, the centroid of triangle $A(t)B(t)C(t)$ is the point

$$\left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_{AB} + S_{AC} - 2S_{BC} - (S_B + S_C - 2S_A)t} : \cdots : \cdots \right),$$

which, by Theorem 5, is a Kiepert perspector. It is $K(s)$ where s is given by

$$2f_2 \cdot st + f_3 \cdot (s + t) - 2f_4 = 0. \tag{3}$$

Proposition 6. *Two distinct Kiepert perspectors have parameters satisfying (3) if and only if the line joining them is parallel to the orthic axis.*

²This is the line $-(S_A + t)(S_B + S_C + 2t)x + (S_B + t)(S_C + t)(y + z) = 0$.

Proof. The orthic axis $S_Ax + S_By + S_Cz = 0$ has infinite point

$$P(\infty) = (S_B - S_C : S_C - S_A : S_A - S_B).$$

The line joining $K(s)$ and $K(t)$ is parallel to the orthic axis if and only if

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{S_{A+s}} & \frac{1}{S_{B+s}} & \frac{1}{S_{C+s}} \\ \frac{1}{S_{A+t}} & \frac{1}{S_{B+t}} & \frac{1}{S_{C+t}} \\ S_B - S_C & S_C - S_A & S_A - S_B \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

For $s \neq t$, this is the same condition as (3). □

This leads to the following construction.

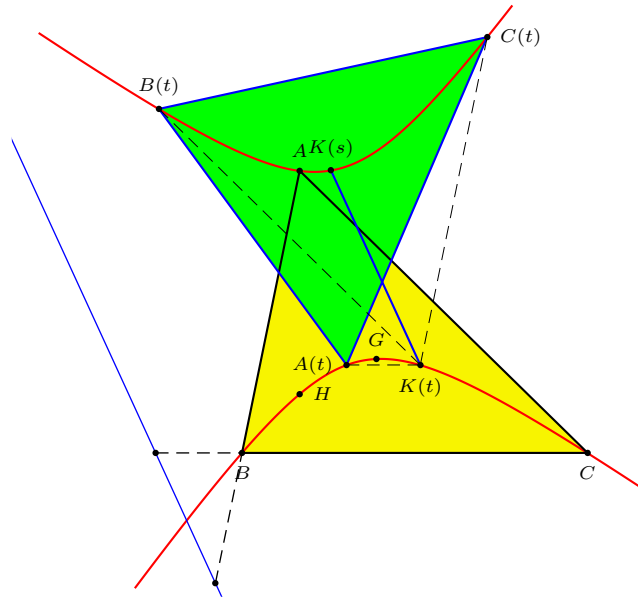


Figure 6. The Kiepert cevian triangle of $P(t)$ has centroid $K(s)$

Construction 7. Given a Kiepert perspector $K(s)$, to construct a Kiepert cevian triangle with centroid $K(s)$, draw

- (i) the parallel through $K(s)$ to the orthic axis to intersect the Kiepert hyperbola again at $K(t)$,
- (ii) the parallels through $K(t)$ to the sidelines of the triangle to intersect \mathcal{K} again at $A(t)$, $B(t)$, $C(t)$ respectively.

Then, $A(t)B(t)C(t)$ has centroid $K(s)$. See Figure 6.

4. Special Kiepert inscribed triangles with common centroid G

We construct a family of Kiepert inscribed triangles with centroid G , the centroid of the reference triangle ABC . This can be easily accomplished with the help

of Construction 3. Beginning with a Kiepert perspector $K_1 = K(t)$ and $Q = G$, we easily determine

$$M = ((S_A+t)(S_B+S_C+2t) : (S_B+t)(S_C+S_A+2t) : (S_C+t)(S_A+S_B+2t)).$$

The line through M parallel to its own polar with respect to \mathcal{K}^3 has equation

$$\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_A + t}x + \frac{S_C - S_A}{S_B + t}y + \frac{S_A - S_B}{S_C + t}z = 0. \tag{4}$$

As t varies, this line envelopes the conic

$$\begin{aligned} &(S_B - S_C)^4x^2 + (S_C - S_A)^4y^2 + (S_A - S_B)^4z^2 \\ &- 2(S_B - S_C)^2(S_C - S_A)^2xy - 2(S_C - S_A)^2(S_A - S_B)^2yz \\ &- 2(S_A - S_B)^2(S_B - S_C)^2zx = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which is the inscribed ellipse \mathcal{E} tangent to the sidelines of ABC at the traces of

$$\left(\frac{1}{(S_B - S_C)^2} : \frac{1}{(S_C - S_A)^2} : \frac{1}{(S_A - S_B)^2} \right),$$

and to the Kiepert hyperbola at G , and to the line (4) at the point

$$((S_A + t)^2 : (S_B + t)^2 : (S_C + t)^2).$$

It has center

$$((S_C - S_A)^2 + (S_A - S_B)^2 : (S_A - S_B)^2 + (S_B - S_C)^2 : (S_B - S_C)^2 + (S_C - S_A)^2),$$

the inferior of the Kiepert center K_i . See Figure 7.

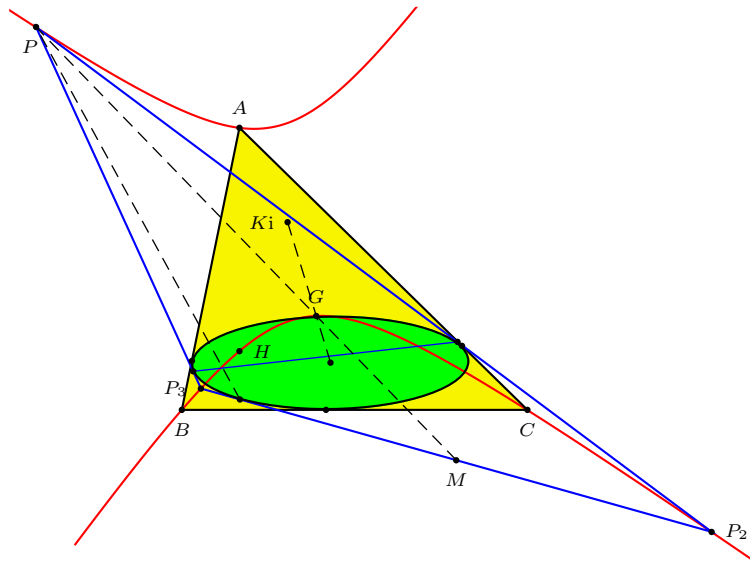


Figure 7. Poristic triangles with common centroid G

³The polar of M has equation $\sum(S_B - S_C)(S_{AA} - S^2 - 2(S_B + S_C)t - 2t^2)x = 0$ and has infinite point $((S_A + t)(S_A(S_B + S_C - 2t) - (S_B + S_C)(S_B - S_C + t)) : \dots : \dots)$.

Theorem 8. *A poristic triangle completed from a point on the Kiepert hyperbola outside the inscribed ellipse \mathcal{E} (with center the inferior of K_i) has its center at G and therefore has \mathcal{K} as its Kiepert hyperbola.*

More generally, if we replace G by a Kiepert perspector K_g , the envelope is a conic with center which divides $K_i K_g$ in the ratio $3 : -1$. It is an ellipse inscribed in the triangle in Construction 4.

5. A family of special Kiepert cevian triangles

5.1. *Triple perspectivity.* According to Theorem 5, there is a family of special Kiepert cevian triangles with perspectors on the line (2) which is the tangent of the Steiner inellipse at K_i . Since this line also contains the Jerabek center

$$J_e = (S_A(S_B - S_C)^2 : S_B(S_C - S_A)^2 : S_C(S_A - S_B)^2),$$

its points can be parametrized as

$$Q(t) = ((S_B - S_C)^2(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)^2(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)^2(S_C + t)).$$

The Kiepert cevian triangle of $Q(t)$ has vertices

$$\begin{aligned} A'(t) &= \left(\frac{(S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B)(S_B + t)(S_C + t)}{S_A + t} : (S_C - S_A)^2(S_B + t) : (S_A - S_B)^2(S_C + t) \right), \\ B'(t) &= \left((S_B - S_C)^2(S_A + t) : \frac{(S_A - S_B)(S_B - S_C)(S_C + t)(S_A + t)}{S_B + t} : (S_A - S_B)^2(S_C + t) \right), \\ C'(t) &= \left((S_B - S_C)^2(S_A + t) : (S_C - S_A)^2(S_B + t) : \frac{(S_B - S_C)(S_C - S_A)(S_A + t)(S_B + t)}{S_C + t} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 9. *The Kiepert cevian triangle of $Q(t)$ is triply perspective to ABC . The three perspectors are collinear on the tangent of the Steiner inellipse at K_i .*

Proof. The triangles $B'(t)C'(t)A'(t)$ and $C'(t)A'(t)B'(t)$ are each perspective to ABC , at the points

$$Q'(t) = \left(\frac{S_C + t}{S_C - S_A} : \frac{S_A + t}{S_A - S_B} : \frac{S_B + t}{S_B - S_C} \right),$$

and

$$Q''(t) = \left(\frac{S_B + t}{S_A - S_B} : \frac{S_C + t}{S_B - S_C} : \frac{S_A + t}{S_C - S_A} \right)$$

respectively. These two points are clearly on the line (2). \square

5.2. *Special Kiepert cevian triangles with the same area as ABC .* The area of triangle $A'(t)B'(t)C'(t)$ is

$$\frac{(f_2 \cdot t^2 + f_3 \cdot t - f_4)^3}{\prod (f_2 \cdot (S_A + t)^2 - (S_C - S_A)^2(S_A - S_B)^2)}$$

Among these, four have the same area as the reference triangle.

5.2.1. $t = \frac{S_A(S_B+S_C)-2S_{BC}}{S_B+S_C-2S_A}$. The points

$$Q(t) = (-2(S_B - S_C) : S_C - S_A : S_A - S_B),$$

$$Q'(t) = (S_B - S_C : -2(S_C - S_A) : S_A - S_B),$$

$$Q''(t) = (S_B - S_C : S_C - S_A : -2(S_A - S_B)),$$

give the Kiepert cevian triangle

$$A'_1 = (- (S_B - S_C) : 2(S_C - S_A) : 2(S_A - S_B)),$$

$$B'_1 = (2(S_B - S_C) : - (S_C - S_A) : 2(S_A - S_B)),$$

$$C'_1 = (2(S_B - S_C) : 2(S_C - S_A) : - (S_A - S_B)).$$

This has centroid

$$K \left(-\frac{f_3}{2f_2} \right) = \left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_B + S_C - 2S_A} : \frac{S_C - S_A}{S_C + S_A - 2S_B} : \frac{S_A - S_B}{S_A + S_B - 2S_C} \right).$$

$A'(t)B'(t)C'(t)$ is also the Kiepert cevian triangle of the infinite point $P(\infty)$ (of the orthic axis). See Figure 8.

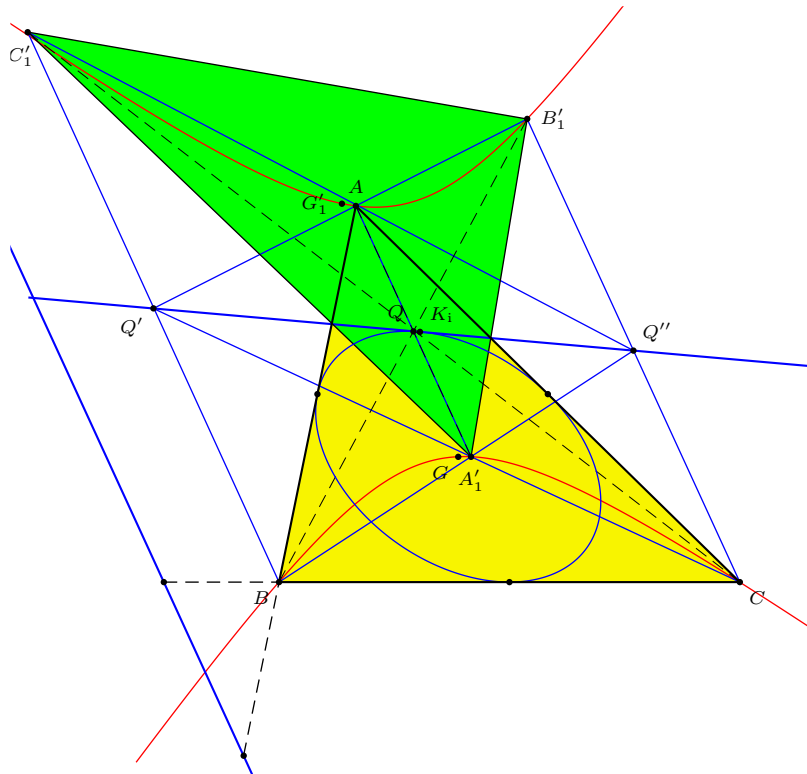


Figure 8. Oppositely oriented triangle triply perspective with ABC at three points on tangent at K_1

5.2.2. $t = \infty$. With the Kiepert center $K_i = Q(\infty)$, we have the points

$$Q(\infty) = ((S_B - S_C)^2 : (S_C - S_A)^2 : (S_A - S_B)^2),$$

$$Q'(\infty) = \left(\frac{1}{S_A - S_B} : \frac{1}{S_B - S_C} : \frac{1}{S_C - S_A} \right),$$

$$Q''(\infty) = \left(\frac{1}{S_C - S_A} : \frac{1}{S_A - S_B} : \frac{1}{S_B - S_C} \right),$$

The points $Q'(\infty)$ and $Q''(\infty)$ are the intersection with the parallels through B , C to the line joining A to the Steiner point $S_t = \left(\frac{1}{S_B - S_C} : \frac{1}{S_C - S_A} : \frac{1}{S_A - S_B} \right)$. These points give the Kiepert cevian triangle which is the image of ABC under the homothety $h(K_i, -1)$:

$$A'_2 = ((S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B) : (S_C - S_A)^2 : (S_A - S_B)^2),$$

$$B'_2 = ((S_B - S_C)^2 : (S_A - S_B)(S_B - S_C) : (S_A - S_B)^2),$$

$$C'_2 = ((S_B - S_C)^2 : (S_C - S_A)^2 : (S_C - S_A)(S_B - S_C)),$$

which has centroid

$$K \left(-\frac{S_A + S_B + S_C}{3} \right) = \left(\frac{1}{S_B + S_C - 2S_A} : \frac{1}{S_C + S_A - 2S_B} : \frac{1}{S_A + S_B - 2S_C} \right).$$

The points $Q'(t)$, $Q''(t)$ and G'_2 are on the Steiner circum-ellipse. See Figure 9.

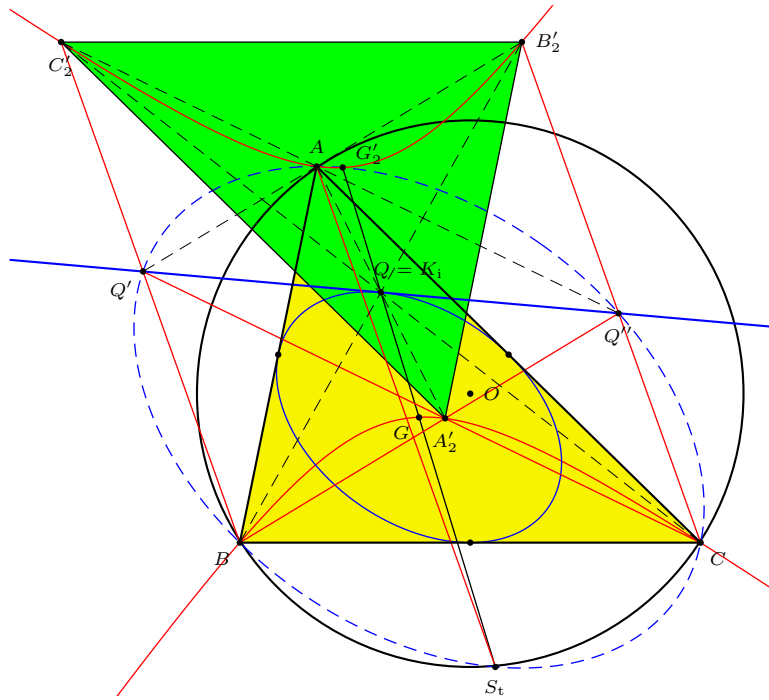


Figure 9. Oppositely congruent triangle triply perspective with ABC at three points on tangent at K_i

5.2.3. $t = \frac{-f_3}{2f_2}$. $Q(t)$ is the infinite point of the line (2).

$$Q(t) = ((S_B - S_C)(S_B + S_C - 2S_A) : (S_C - S_A)(S_C + S_A - 2S_B) : (S_A - S_B)(S_A + S_B - 2S_C)),$$

$$Q'(t) = ((S_B - S_C)(S_A + S_B - 2S_C) : (S_C - S_A)(S_B + S_C - 2S_A) : (S_A - S_B)(S_C + S_A - 2S_B)),$$

$$Q''(t) = ((S_B - S_C)(S_C + S_A - 2S_B) : (S_C - S_A)(S_A + S_B - 2S_C) : (S_A - S_B)(S_B + S_C - 2S_A)).$$

These give the Kiepert cevian triangle

$$A'_3 = \left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_B + S_C - 2S_A} : \frac{S_C - S_A}{S_A + S_B - 2S_C} : \frac{S_A - S_B}{S_C + S_A - 2S_B} \right),$$

$$B'_3 = \left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_A + S_B - 2S_C} : \frac{S_C - S_A}{S_C + S_A - 2S_B} : \frac{S_A - S_B}{S_B + S_C - 2S_A} \right),$$

$$C'_3 = \left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{S_C + S_A - 2S_B} : \frac{S_C - S_A}{S_B + S_C - 2S_A} : \frac{S_A - S_B}{S_A + S_B - 2S_C} \right),$$

with centroid

$$\left(\frac{S_B - S_C}{(S_B - S_C)^2 + 2(S_C - S_A)(S_A - S_B)} : \dots : \dots \right).$$

See Figure 10.

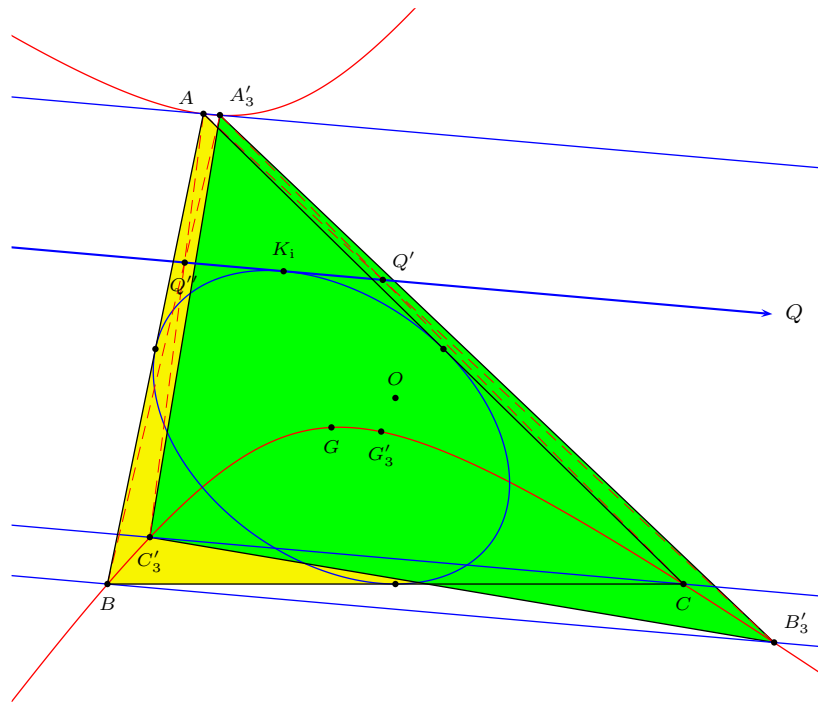


Figure 10. Triangle triply perspective with ABC (with the same orientation) at three points on tangent at K_1

5.2.4. $t = -S_A$. For $t = -S_A$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(t) &= (0 : S_C - S_A : -(S_A - S_B)), \\ Q'(t) &= (-(S_B - S_C) : 0 : S_A - S_B), \\ Q''(t) &= (S_B - S_C : -(S_C - S_A) : 0). \end{aligned}$$

These points are the intercepts Q_a, Q_b, Q_c of the line (2) with the sidelines BC, CA, AB respectively. The lines AQ_a, BQ_b, CQ_c are the tangents to \mathcal{K} at the vertices. The common Kiepert cevian triangle of Q_a, Q_b, Q_c is ABC oppositely oriented as ACB, CBA, BAC , triply perspective with ABC at Q_a, Q_b, Q_c respectively.

6. Special Kiepert inscribed triangles with two given vertices

Construction 10. Given two points K_1 and K_2 on the Kiepert hyperbola \mathcal{K} , construct

- (i) the midpoint M of K_1K_2 ,
- (ii) the polar of M with respect to \mathcal{K} ,
- (iii) the reflection of the line K_1K_2 in the polar in (ii).

If K_3 is a real intersection of \mathcal{K} with the line in (iii), then the Kiepert inscribed triangle $K_1K_2K_3$ has centroid on \mathcal{K} . See Figure 11.

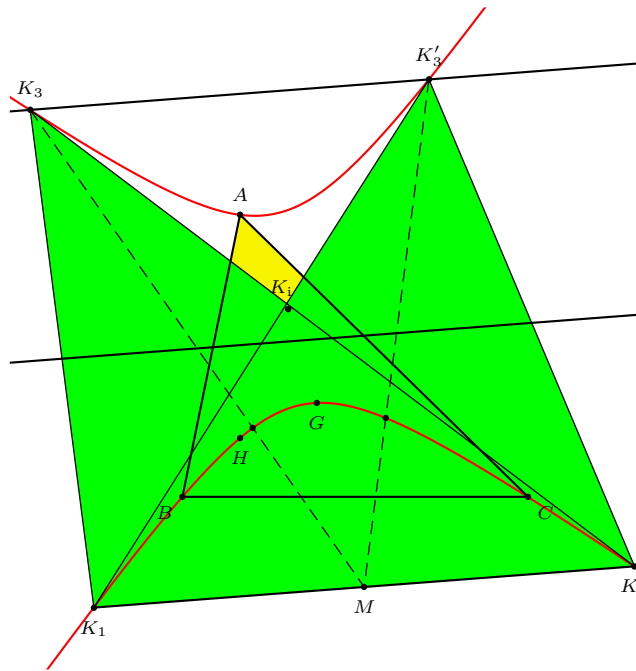


Figure 11. Construction of special Kiepert inscribed triangles given two vertices K_1, K_2

Proof. A point K_3 for which triangle $K_1K_2K_3$ has centroid on \mathcal{K} clearly lies on the image of \mathcal{K} under the homothety $h(M, 3)$. It is therefore an intersection of \mathcal{K} with this homothetic image. If $M = (u : v : w)$ in homogeneous barycentric coordinates, this homothetic conic has equation

$$(u + v + w)^2 K(x, y, z) + 2(x + y + z) \left(\sum ((S_B - S_C)vw + (S_C - S_A)(3u + w)w + (S_A - S_B)(3u + v)v)x \right) = 0.$$

The polar of M in \mathcal{K} is the line

$$\sum ((S_A - S_B)v + (S_C - S_A)w)x = 0. \tag{5}$$

The parallel through M is the line

$$\sum (3(S_B - S_C)vw + (S_C - S_A)(u - w)w + (S_A - S_B)(u - v)v)x = 0. \tag{6}$$

The reflection of (6) in (5) is the radical axis of \mathcal{K} and its homothetic image above. \square

If there are two such real intersections K_3 and K'_3 , then the two triangles $K_1K_2K_3$ and $K_1K_2K'_3$ clearly have equal area. These two intersections coincide if the line in Construction 10 (iii) above is tangent to \mathcal{K} . This is the case when K_1K_2 is a tangent to the hyperbola

$$4f_2 \cdot K(x, y, z) - 3g_3 \cdot (x + y + z)^2 = 0,$$

which is the image of \mathcal{K} under the homothety $h(K_1, 2)$. See Figure 12.

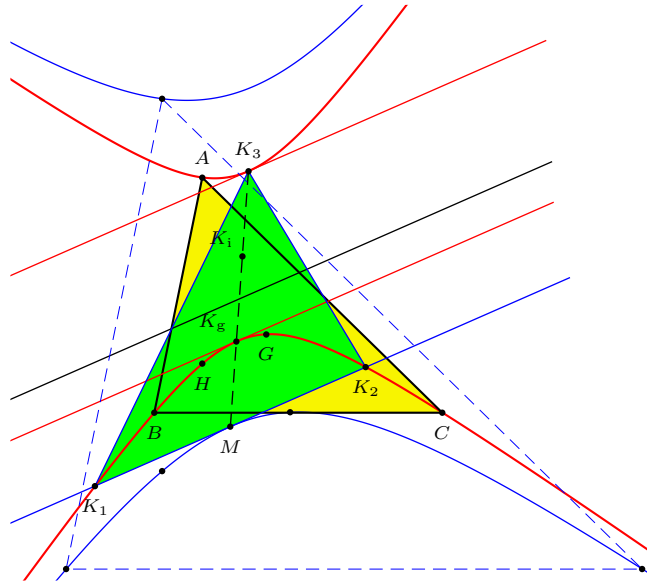


Figure 12. Family of special Kiepert inscribed triangles with K_1, K_2 uniquely determining K_3

The resulting family of special Kiepert inscribed triangles is the same family with centroid $K(t)$ and one vertex its antipode on \mathcal{K} , given in Construction 4.

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