

CHAPTER 8 RIGHT TRIANGLES

8-1 : Similarity in right triangles

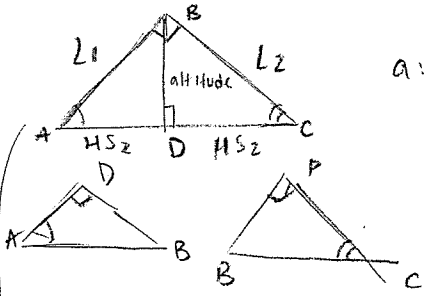
Objectives: 1. What is the geometric mean?

2. What relationships exist when the altitude is drawn to the hypotenuse of a right triangle?

I. THE GEOMETRIC MEAN

$l = leg$
 $HS = hypotenuse\ segment$

$a : x = x : d \quad x^2 = a d$
 x is the mean.



Recall: Last pg back.

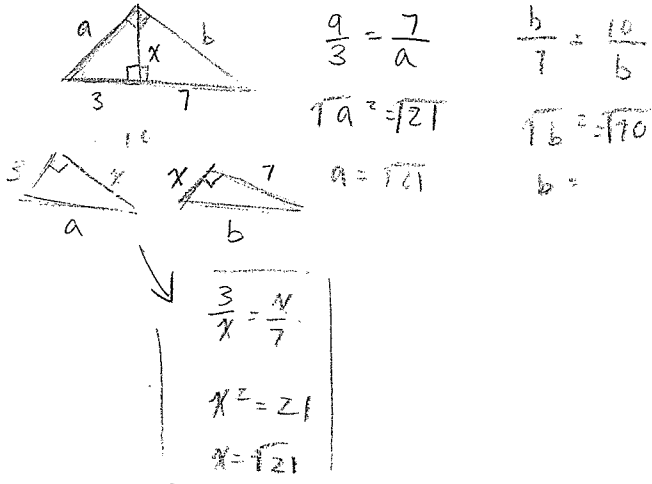
II. DISCOVERY:

- $\triangle ADB \sim \triangle BDC$ b/c of AA. similarity postulate.
- $\triangle ADB \sim \triangle ABC$
- $\triangle BDC \sim \triangle ABC$
- (transitive prop)

THEOREM: If the altitude is drawn to the hypotenuse of a right triangle, then the two triangles formed are similar to the original triangle and to each other.

iii. DISCOVERY:

Can we write a proportion to find the length of the altitude?



Can we write a proportion to find the short leg, "a"?

L_1 $\frac{a}{3} = \frac{10}{a}$ Let $a = \text{short leg } (L_1)$
 HS_1 $\frac{a}{3} = \frac{10}{a}$
 $\sqrt{a^2} = \sqrt{30}$
 $a = \sqrt{30}$

~~short leg~~
 short leg is geo. mean
 bet. hyp and HS_1
 (hypotenuse segment 1)

Can we write a proportion to find the long leg, "b"?

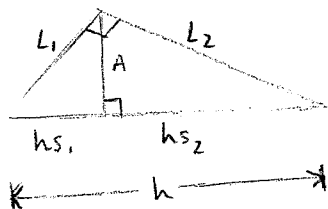
L_2 $\frac{b}{7} = \frac{10}{b}$
 HS_2 $\frac{b}{7} = \frac{10}{b}$
 $\sqrt{b^2} = \sqrt{70}$
 $b = \sqrt{70}$

TWO COROLLARIES:

COROLLARY:

1. When the altitude is drawn to the hypotenuse of a right triangle, the length of the altitude is the geometric mean between the segments of the hypotenuse.
2. When the altitude is drawn to the hypotenuse of a right triangle, each leg is the geometric mean between the hypotenuse and the segment of the hypotenuse that is adjacent to that leg.

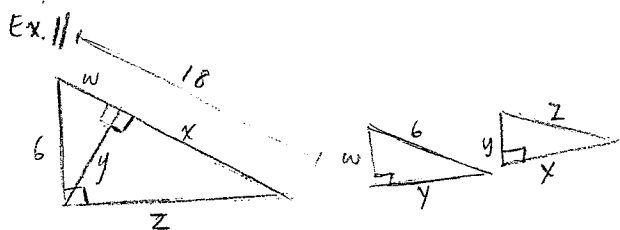
Summary : 3 relationships



$$\textcircled{1} \frac{hs_1}{A} = \frac{A}{hs_2}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \frac{h}{L_1} = \frac{L_1}{hs_1}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \frac{h}{L_2} = \frac{L_2}{hs_2}$$



$$\frac{w}{6} = \frac{6}{18}$$

$$w = 2$$

$$\frac{x}{y} = \frac{y}{w}$$

$$y = 4\sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{18}{z} = \frac{z}{x}$$

$$x = 16$$

$$\frac{z}{16} = \frac{18}{z}$$

$$z^2 = 288$$

$$z = 12\sqrt{2}$$

geo. mean between 2 and 8

2 ways

Proposition

$$\frac{z}{x} = \frac{x}{y} \quad \sqrt{x^2 - 18}$$

$$x = \pm \sqrt{18}$$

$$x = 3\sqrt{2}$$

Equation

$$x^2 = ad$$

$$x^2 = (2)(9)$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{18}$$

$$x = 3\sqrt{2}$$

Simplify

- perfect squares in radicand
- no $\sqrt{\quad}$ in the denominator
- no fraction in the radicand