

Example 9 Prove that in a ΔABC , $\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$, where a, b, c represent the magnitudes of the sides opposite to vertices A, B, C, respectively.

Solution Let the three sides of the triangle BC, CA and AB be represented by \vec{a}, \vec{b} and \vec{c} , respectively [Fig. 10.2].

We have $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$. i.e., $\vec{a} + \vec{b} = -\vec{c}$

which pre cross multiplying by \vec{a} , and

post cross multiplying by \vec{b} , gives

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{c} \times \vec{a}$$

and

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$$

respectively. Therefore,

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \vec{c} \times \vec{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = |\vec{b} \times \vec{c}| = |\vec{c} \times \vec{a}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin(\pi - C) = |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \sin(\pi - A) = |\vec{c}| |\vec{a}| \sin(\pi - B)$$

$$\Rightarrow ab \sin C = bc \sin A = ca \sin B$$

Dividing by abc , we get

$$\frac{\sin C}{c} = \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} \text{ i.e. } \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

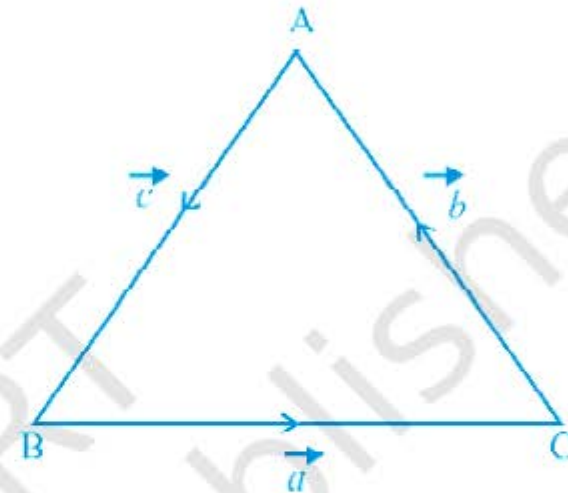


Fig. 10.2