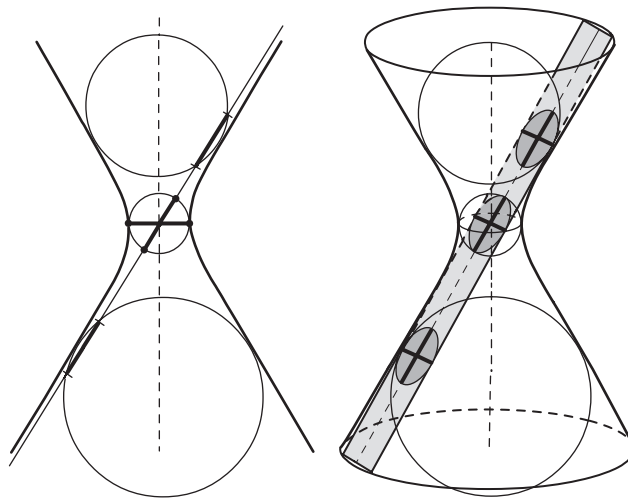


## Proof Without Words: Surprising Property of Hyperbolas

For each member of the family of hyperbolas with the same pair of vertices, every circle tangent to both branches intersects each asymptote along a chord of constant length, regardless of the location of the circle and the angle between the asymptotes. This constant length is the distance between vertices.



—TOM M. APOSTOL AND MAMIKON A. MNATSAKIAN  
*Project Mathematics!*  
253-37 CALTECH  
PASADENA, CA 91125