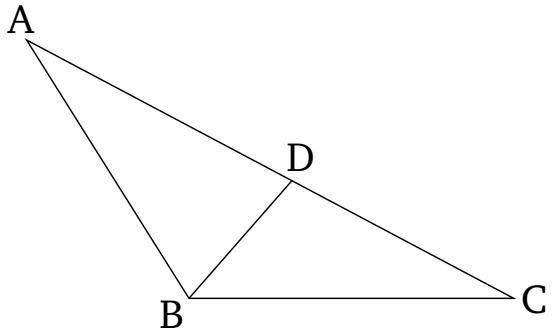
Book 1
Proposition 18

In any triangle, the greater side subtends the greater angle.



For let ABC be a triangle having side AC greater than AB. I say that angle ABC is also greater than BCA.

For since AC is greater than AB, let AD be made equal to AB [Prop. 1.3], and let BD have been joined.

And since angle ADB is external to triangle BCD, it is greater than the internal and opposite (angle) DCB [Prop. 1.16]. But ADB (is) equal to ABD, since side AB is also equal to side AD [Prop. 1.5]. Thus, ABD is also greater than ACB. Thus, ABC is much greater than ACB.

Thus, in any triangle, the greater side subtends the greater angle. (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.