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ABOUT PROBLEM JP.235

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1) In $\triangle ABC$; I – incenter; A', B', C' - lies on circumcircle such that:

$(A, I, A'), (B, I, B'), (C, I, C')$ are collinear. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{IA'} + \frac{b}{IB'} + \frac{c}{IC'} \geq \frac{a+b+c}{R}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma

2) In $\triangle ABC$; I – incenter; A', B', C' - lies on circumcircle such that:

$(A, I, A'), (B, I, B'), (C, I, C')$ are collinear. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{IA'} + \frac{b}{IB'} + \frac{c}{IC'} = \frac{1}{2R} \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}$$

Proof.

Using the power of point I towards the circumcircle, we obtain:

$$IA \cdot IA' = (R - OI)(R + OI) = R^2 - OI^2 = R^2 - (R^2 - 2Rr) = 2Rr, \text{ so } IA \cdot IA' = 2Rr.$$

$$\text{Using } IA = \frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}, \text{ it follows } IA' = \frac{2Rr}{IA} = \frac{2Rr}{\frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}} = 2R \sin \frac{A}{2}, \text{ so } IA' = 2R \sin \frac{A}{2}$$

$$\text{We obtain } \sum \frac{a}{IA'} = \sum \frac{a}{2R \sin \frac{A}{2}} = \frac{1}{2R} \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}$$

Inequality from enunciation can be written:

$$\frac{1}{2R} \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \geq \frac{2s}{R} \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \geq 4s, \text{ which follows from:}$$

3) In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \geq 4s$$

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Proof.

With means inequality we obtain:

$$\sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \geq 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\prod \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}} = 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{abc}{\sin \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2} \sin \frac{C}{2}}} = 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{4Rrs}{\frac{r}{4R}}} = 3^3 \sqrt[3]{16R^2s} = 6^3 \sqrt[3]{2R^2s}$$

It remains to prove that:

$$6^3 \sqrt[3]{2R^2s} \geq 4s \Leftrightarrow 3^3 \sqrt[3]{2R^2s} \geq 2s \Leftrightarrow 27 \cdot 2R^2s \geq 8s^3 \Leftrightarrow 27R^2 \geq 4s^2, \text{ obviously from}$$

$$\text{Mitrinovic's inequality } s^2 \leq \frac{27R^2}{4}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

Let's find an inequality having an opposite sense:

4) In $\triangle ABC$; I – incenter; A', B', C' - lies on circumcircle such that:

$(A, I, A'), (B, I, B'), (C, I, C')$ are collinear. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{IA'} + \frac{b}{IB'} + \frac{c}{IC'} \leq \frac{a+b+c}{2r}$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution

Using Lemma, the inequality can be written:

$$\frac{1}{2R} \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{a+b+c}{2r} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2R} \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{2s}{2r} \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{2Rs}{r}$$

The triplets (a, b, c) and $\left(\frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}}, \frac{1}{\sin \frac{B}{2}}, \frac{1}{\sin \frac{C}{2}}\right)$ are reverse ordered. With Cebyshev's

inequality we obtain:

$$\sum \frac{a}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{3} \sum a \sum \frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 2s \sum \frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{2s}{3} \cdot \frac{2(R+r)}{r} = \frac{4s(R+r)}{3r} \leq \frac{2Rs}{r}$$

which follows from:

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5) *In ΔABC the following relationship holds:*

$$\sum \frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{2(R+r)}{r}$$

Proof.

Using CBS inequality, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum \frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \right)^2 &= \left(\sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{bc}}} \right)^2 = \\ &= \left(\sum \frac{\sqrt{bc}}{\sqrt{(s-b)(s-c)}} \right)^2 \leq \sum bc \sum \frac{1}{(s-b)(s-c)} = \\ &= (s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr) \cdot \frac{1}{r^2} = \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{r^2} \leq \frac{4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{r^2} = \frac{4(R+r)^2}{r^2} \end{aligned}$$

We've used:

$$\sum bc = s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr, \sum \frac{1}{(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{1}{r^2} \text{ and } s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

$$\text{It follows that } \sum \frac{1}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq \frac{2(R+r)}{r}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

The double inequality can be written:

6) *In ΔABC the following relationship holds:*

$$\frac{a+b+c}{R} \leq \frac{a}{IA'} + \frac{b}{IB'} + \frac{c}{IC'} \leq \frac{a+b+c}{2r}$$

Solution

See inequalities 1) and 4).

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

References:

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