

By Marin Chirciu – Romania

1) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} \geq 6$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin – Ankara – Turkey

Solution We prove the following lemma:

Lemma.

2) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} = 2 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right)$$

Proof. Using $r_a = \frac{s}{s-a}$ and $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ we obtain:

$$\frac{r_a}{h_a} = \frac{\frac{s}{s-a}}{\frac{2S}{a}} = \frac{a}{2(s-a)}, \text{ wherefrom } \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} = \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{a}{2(s-a)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum \frac{b+c}{s-a} = 2 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right), \text{ which}$$

follows from the known identity in triangle $\sum \frac{b+c}{s-a} = 4 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right)$. Let's get back to the main

problem. Using the Lemma the inequality can be rewritten:

$$2 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right) \geq 6 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler's inequality)}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Solution Let's find an inequality having an opposite sense:

3) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} \leq \frac{3R}{r}$$

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Solution

Using Lemma we write the inequality:

$$2 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right) \leq \frac{3R}{r} \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler's inequality)}$$

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Equality holds if and only if the inequality is equilateral.

Remark.

We can write the double inequality:

4) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$6 \leq \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} \leq \frac{3R}{r}$$

Solution

See inequalities 1) and 3). Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

If we interchange r_a with h_a we propose:

5) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$6 \leq \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r_a} \leq \left(\frac{2R}{r}\right)^2 - 10$$

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Solution

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma.

6) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r_a} = \frac{s^2(s^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2)}{4R^2s^2}$$

Proof.

Using $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ and $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ we obtain: $\frac{h_a}{r_a} = \frac{\frac{2S}{a}}{\frac{S}{s-a}} = \frac{2(s-a)}{a}$, wherefrom

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r_a} &= \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{2(s-a)}{a} = 2 \sum \frac{(b+c)(s-a)}{a^2} \\ &= \frac{s^2(s^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2)}{4R^2r^2} \end{aligned}$$

which follows from the known identity in triangle

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$$\sum \frac{(b+c)(s-a)}{a^2} = \frac{s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr-r^2)}{8R^2r^2} \text{ and}$$

$$\sum b^2c^2(b+c)(s-a) = 2s^2[s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2)]$$

Let's get back to the main problem.

LHS inequality. Using the lemma the inequality can be written:

$$\frac{s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2)}{4R^2r^2} \geq 6 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2) \geq 24R^2r^2, \text{ which follows from}$$

Gerretsen's inequality $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$. It remains to prove that:

$$(16Rr - 5r^2)(16Rr - 5r^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2) \geq 24R^2r^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3R^2 - 7Rr + 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(3R - r) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler's inequality}$$

$R \geq 2r$. Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Using Lemma the inequality can be rewritten:

$$\frac{s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2)}{4R^2r^2} \leq \left(\frac{2R}{r}\right)^2 - 10 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2) \leq 4R^2r^2(4R^2-10r^2), \text{ which follows}$$

from Gerretsen's inequality $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$. It remains to prove that:

$$(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2) \leq 4R^2(4R^2 - 10r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3R^3 - 6R^2r + Rr^2 - 2r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(3R^2 + r^2) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler's}$$

inequality $R \geq 2r$. Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

Between $\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a}$ and $\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r_a}$ the following relationship holds:

7) In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r} \geq \frac{2r}{R} \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a}$$

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Solution Using the lemmas from above, we write the inequality:

$$\frac{s^2(s^2+2r^2-14Rr)+r^2(16R^2+2Rr+r^2)}{4R^2r^2} \geq \frac{2r}{R} \cdot 2 \left(1 + \frac{R}{r}\right) \Leftrightarrow$$

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$\Leftrightarrow s^2(s^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2) \geq 16Rr^2(R + r)$, which follows from

Gerretsen's inequality $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$. It remains to prove that:

$(16Rr - 5r^2)(16Rr - 5r^2 + 2r^2 - 14Rr) + r^2(16R^2 + 2Rr + r^2) \geq 16Rr^2(R + r) \Leftrightarrow$

$\Leftrightarrow 4R^2 - 9Rr + 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(4R - r) \geq 0$, obviously from Euler's inequality

$R \geq 2r$. Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

We write the double sequence of inequalities:

8) In ΔABC the following inequality holds:

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{r_a} \geq \frac{2r}{R} \sum \frac{b+c}{a} \cdot \frac{r_a}{h_a} \geq \frac{12r}{R}$$

See inequalities 1), 4) and 8). Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Reference:

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