

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

JP.574 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{27}{8} \leq \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} \geq \frac{27R}{16r}$$

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Solution by proposer

Lemma: In $\triangle ABC$:

$$\frac{(a+b+c)^3}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} = \frac{4p^2}{p^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} &= \frac{(2p)^2}{\sum a \sum bc - abc} = \\ &= \frac{8p^3}{2p(p^2 + r^2 + 4Rr) - 4Rrp} = \frac{4p^2}{p^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \end{aligned}$$

Let's get back to the main problem. Using the Lemma we obtain:

Right hand inequality:

$$\frac{(a+b+c)^3}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} = \frac{4p^2}{p^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{27R}{16r},$$

$$\text{where (1)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{4p^2}{p^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \leq \frac{27R}{16r} \Leftrightarrow p^2(27R - 16r) + 27Rr(2R + r) \geq 0.$$

We distinguish the cases:

Case 1. If $(27R - 16r) \geq 0$ the inequality is obvious.

Case 2. If $(27R - 16r) < 0$ the inequality can be rewritten:

$$27Rr(2R + r) \geq p^2(16r - 27R), \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:}$$

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2.$$

It remains to prove that:

$$27Rr(2R + r) \geq (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(16r - 27R) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$54R^3 - 47R^2r - 74Rr^2 - 96r^3 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(54R^2 + 61Rr + 48r^2) \geq 0, \text{ see } R \geq 2r, \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

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Left hand inequality:

$$\frac{(a+b+c)^3}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} = \frac{4p^2}{p^2+r^2+2Rr} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \frac{27}{8},$$

where (2) $\Leftrightarrow \frac{2p^2}{p^2+r^2+2Rr} \geq \frac{27}{8} \Leftrightarrow 5p^2 \geq 27r(2R+r)$, which follows from Gerretsen's

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

$$5(16Rr - 5r^2) \geq 27r(2R+r) \Leftrightarrow 26R \geq 54r \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r, \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.