

PROBLEM 120
RMM TRIANGLE MARATHON
101-200

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1. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{7}{R} - \frac{2}{r}$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin - Ankara - Turkey

Remark.

Inequality 1 can be developed:

2. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{\alpha}{R} - \frac{\beta}{r}, \text{ where } \alpha - 2\beta = 3 \text{ and } \beta \geq -2.$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{1}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum \frac{p-a}{a} = \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr} = \frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2}.$$

The inequality can be written

$$\frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2} \geq \frac{\alpha}{R} - \frac{\beta}{r} \Leftrightarrow p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr \geq 4r(\alpha r - \beta R), \text{ which follows from}$$

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

$$16Rr - 5r^2 + r^2 - 8Rr \geq 4r(\alpha r - \beta R) \Leftrightarrow (\beta + 2)R \geq (\alpha + 1)r \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r,$$

because $\alpha - 2\beta = 3$ and $\beta \geq -2$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

*For $\alpha = 7$ and $\beta = 2$ we obtain inequality 1, namely **Problem 120** from **RMM Triangle Marathon 101-200**, proposed by Mehmet Şahin - Ankara - Turkey.*

□

Remark.

Inequality 1 can be strengthened:

3. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{9}{4R - 2r}.$$

Proposed by George Apostolopoulos - Messolonghi - Greece

Proof.

Using the proven inequality at 2: $\sum \frac{1}{r_a - r} = \frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2}$, inequality can be written:

$$\frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2} \geq \frac{9}{4R - 2r}, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality } p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2.$$

It remains to prove that: $\frac{16Rr - 5r^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2} \geq \frac{9}{4R - 2r} \Leftrightarrow \frac{2R - r}{Rr} \geq \frac{9}{4R - 2r} \Leftrightarrow 8r^2 - 17Rr + 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(8R - r) \geq 0$, obviously from Euler's inequality: $R \geq 2r$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral. \square

Remark.

Inequality 3. is stronger then inequality 1.:

4. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{9}{4R - 2r} \geq \frac{7}{R} - \frac{2}{r}.$$

Proof.

The first inequality is 3., and the second inequality is equivalent with:

$$\frac{9}{4R - 2r} \geq \frac{7r - 2R}{Rr} \Leftrightarrow 8R^2 - 23Rr + 14r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(8R - 7r) \geq 0,$$

obviously from Euler's inequality: $R \geq 2r$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral. \square

Remark.

Inequality 3. can be developed:

5. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{1}{xR - yr}, \text{ where } 2x - y = \frac{2}{3} \text{ and } x \geq 0.$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using the proven identity at 2.: $\sum \frac{1}{r_a - r} = \frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2}$, the inequality can be written:

$$\frac{p^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2} \geq \frac{1}{xR - yr}, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality } p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and}$$

the observation that $xR - yr > 0$, for $2x - y = \frac{2}{3}$ and $x \geq 0$.

It remains to prove that: $\frac{16Rr - 5r^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{4Rr^2} \geq \frac{1}{xR - yr} \Leftrightarrow \frac{2R - r}{Rr} \geq \frac{1}{xR - yr} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2R - r)(xR - yr) \geq Rr \Leftrightarrow 2xR^2 - (x + 2y + 1)Rr + yr^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(4xR - yr) \geq 0,$$

obviously from Euler's inequality: $R \geq 2r$ and $2x - y = \frac{2}{3}$, $x \geq 0$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

For $x = \frac{4}{9}$ and $y = \frac{2}{3}$ we obtain inequality 3. proposed by
George Apostolopoulos - Messolonghi - Greece

□

Remark.

Inequality 5. is stronger than inequality 2.:

6. In ΔABC

$$\frac{1}{r_a - r} + \frac{1}{r_b - r} + \frac{1}{r_c - r} \geq \frac{1}{xR - yr} \geq \frac{\alpha}{R} - \frac{\beta}{r},$$

where $2x - y = \frac{2}{3}$, $x \geq 0$ and $\alpha - 2\beta = 3$, $\beta \geq 0$.

Proof.

First inequality is 5., and the second inequality is equivalent with:

$$\frac{1}{xR - yr} \geq \frac{\alpha}{R} - \frac{\beta}{r} \Leftrightarrow Rr \geq (xR - yr)(\alpha - \beta R) \Leftrightarrow \beta x R^2 + (1 - \alpha x - \beta y)Rr + \alpha yr^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(2\beta x R - \alpha yr) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r \text{ and } 2x - y = \frac{2}{3},$$

$x \geq 0$, and $\alpha - 2\beta = 3$, $\beta \geq 0$, which lead to $(2x - y)(\alpha - 2\beta) = 2$, wherefrom

$$-\alpha y - 4\beta x = 2(1 - \alpha x - \beta y), \text{ thus motivating the last inequality.}$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

For $x = \frac{4}{9}$, $y = \frac{2}{3}$, $\alpha = 7$ and $\beta = 2$ its obtained the double inequality 4.

□

Remark.

We can propose inequalities with sums having the form $\sum \frac{a^n}{r_a - r}$, where $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$.

7. In ΔABC

$$3\sqrt{3} \leq \sum \frac{a}{r_a - r} \leq 3\sqrt{3} \cdot \frac{R}{2r}$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p - a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain $\sum \frac{a}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum (p - a) = \frac{p}{r}$.

The double inequality follows from Mitrinović's inequalities: $3\sqrt{3} \cdot r \leq p \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot R$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

8. In ΔABC

$$18r \leq \sum \frac{a^2}{r_a - r} \leq 9R.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum a(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 2r(4R+r) = 2(4R+r).$$

The double inequality follows from Euler's inequality $R \geq 2r$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

9. In $\triangle ABC$

$$12pr \leq \sum \frac{a^3}{r_a - r} \leq 6pR.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a^3}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum a^2(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 4pr(R+r) = 4p(R+r).$$

The double inequality follows from Euler's inequality $R \geq 2r$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

10. In $\triangle ABC$

$$(6r)^3 \leq \sum \frac{a^4}{r_a - r} \leq (3R)^3.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a^4}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum a^3(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 2r \left[p^2(2R+3r) - r(4R+r)^2 \right] = 2p^2(2R+3r) - 2r(4R+r)^2.$$

The first inequality follows from the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We obtain } 2p^2(2R+3r) - 2r(4R+r)^2 &\geq 2(16Rr - 5r^2)(2R+3r) - 2r(4R+r)^2 = \\ &= 4r(8R^2 + 15Rr - 8r^2) \geq 4r \cdot 54r^2 = 216r^3 = (6r)^3. \end{aligned}$$

For the second inequality we use the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We obtain } 2p^2(2R+3r) - 2r(4R+r)^2 &\leq 2(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(2R+3r) - 2r(4R+r)^2 = \\ &= 16R^3 + 8R^2r + 20Rr^2 + 16r^3 \leq 16R^3 + 4R^3 + 5R^3 + 2R^3 = 27R^3 = (3R)^3. \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

11. In $\triangle ABC$

$$18p \cdot (2r)^3 \leq \sum \frac{a^5}{r_a - r} \leq 18p \cdot R^3.$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a^5}{r_a - r} &= \frac{1}{r} \cdot \sum a^4(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 4pr \left[p^2(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right] = \\ &= 4p \left[p^2(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality follows from the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 4p \left[p^2(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right] &\geq 4pr \left[(16Rr - 5r^2)(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right] \\ &= 16pr(R^2 + 4Rr - 3r^2) \geq 16pr \cdot (4r^2 + 8r^2 - 3r^2) = 16pr \cdot 9r^2 = 144pr^3 = 18p \cdot (2r)^3. \\ &= 4r(8R^2 + 15Rr - 8r^2) \geq 4r \cdot 54r^2 = 216r^3 = (6r)^3. \end{aligned}$$

For the second inequality we use the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 4p \left[p^2(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right] &\leq 4p \left[(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(R+2r) - r(12R^2 + 11Rr + 2r^2) \right] = \\ &= 16p(R^3 + r^3) \leq 16p \cdot \left(R^3 + \frac{R^3}{8} \right) = 18p \cdot R^3 \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

Remark.

We can propose inequalities with sums having the form $\sum \frac{a^n(b+c)}{r_a - r}$, where $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$.

12. In $\triangle ABC$

$$(6r)^2 \leq r \sum \frac{a(b+c)}{r_a - r} \leq (3R)^2.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a(b+c)}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum (b+c)(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) = \frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{r}.$$

The first inequality follows from the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$r \sum \frac{a(b+c)}{r_a - r} = r \cdot \frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{r} = 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) \geq 2(16Rr - 5r^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) =$$

$$= 12r(2R - r) \geq 12R \cdot 3r = (6r)^2.$$

For the second inequality we use the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} r \sum \frac{a(b+c)}{r_a - r} &= r \cdot \frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{r} = 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) \geq 2(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) = \\ &= 8R^2 + 4r^2 \leq 9R^2 = (3R)^2. \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

13. In $\triangle ABC$

$$36\sqrt{3} \cdot Rr \leq \sum \frac{a^2(b+c)}{r_a - r} \leq 18\sqrt{3} \cdot R^2.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a^2(b+c)}{r_a - r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum a(b+c)(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot 12pRr = 12pR.$$

The double inequality follows from Mitrinović's inequalities: $3\sqrt{3} \cdot r \leq p \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot R$.

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality. □

14. In $\triangle ABC$

$$(6r)^4 \leq 3 \sum \frac{a^3(b+c)}{r_a - r} \leq (3R)^4.$$

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a^3(b+c)}{r_a - r} &= \frac{1}{r} \sum a^2(b+c)(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot [2p^2(2Rr + r^2) + 2r^2(4R + r)^2] = \\ &= \frac{2p^2(2Rr + r^2) + 2r^2(4R + r)^2}{r}. \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality follows from the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \sum \frac{a^3(b+c)}{r_a - r} &= 3 \cdot \frac{2p^2(2Rr + r^2) + 2r^2(4R + r)^2}{r} \geq 3 \cdot \frac{2(16Rr - 5r^2)(2Rr + r^2) + 2r^2(4R + r)^2}{r} \\ &= 3 \cdot 4r^2(24R^2 + 7Rr - 2r^2) \geq 12r^2(24 \cdot 4r^2 + 7r \cdot 2r - 2r^2) = 12r^2 \cdot 108r^2 = 1296r^4 = (6r)^4. \end{aligned}$$

For the second inequality we use the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

$$3 \sum \frac{a^3(b+c)}{r_a-r} \stackrel{\text{We obtain}}{=} 3 \cdot \frac{2p^2(2Rr+r^2)+2r^2(4R+r)^2}{r} \leq 3 \cdot \frac{2(4R^2+4Rr+3r^2)(2Rr+r^2)+2r^2(4R+r)^2}{r}$$

$$= 3 \cdot r(16R^3+56R^2r+36Rr^2+8r^3) \leq 3r(16R^3+28R^3+9R^3+R^3) \leq \frac{3R}{2} \cdot 54R^3 = 81R^4 = (3R)^4$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality.

□

15. In $\triangle ABC$

$$p(12r)^3 \leq 6 \sum \frac{a^4(b+c)}{r_a-r} \leq p(6R)^3.$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using the formulas $r_a = \frac{S}{p-a}$ and $r = \frac{S}{p}$ we obtain

$$\sum \frac{a^4(b+c)}{r_a-r} = \frac{1}{r} \sum a^3(b+c)(p-a) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot [4p^3(Rr+r^2)+4p(-4R^2r^2+3Rr^3+r^4)] =$$

$$= 4p^3(R+r) + 4p(-4R^2r + 3Rr^2 + r^3).$$

The first inequality follows from the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$6 \sum \frac{a^4(b+c)}{r_a-r} = 6 [4p^3(R+r)+4p(-4R^2r+3Rr^2+r^3)] = 24p [p^2(R+r)-4R^2r+3Rr^2+r^3]$$

$$\geq 24p [(16Rr-5r^2)(R+r) - 4R^2r + 3Rr^2 + r^3] = 48pr(12R^2 + 14Rr - 4r^2) \geq$$

$$\geq 48pr(24r^2 + 14r^2 - 2r^2) = 48pr \cdot 36r^2 = 1728pr^3 = p(12r)^3.$$

For the second inequality we use the above identity, Gerretsen's inequality:

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality: } R \geq 2r.$$

We obtain

$$6 \sum \frac{a^4(b+c)}{r_a-r} = 6 [4p^3(R+r)+4p(-4R^2r+3Rr^2+r^3)] = 24p [p^2(R+r)-4R^2r+3Rr^2+r^3] \leq$$

$$\leq 24p [(4R^2+4Rr+3r^2)(R+r)-4R^2r+3Rr^2+r^3] = 12p \cdot (8R^3+8R^2r+20Rr^2+8r^3) \leq$$

$$\leq 12p(8R^3 + 4R^3 + 5R^3 + R^3) = 12p \cdot 18R^3 = 216pR^3 = p(6R)^3.$$

The equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

We've obtained a refinement of Euler's inequality.

□