

PROBLEM 288
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1. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{r_a^2}{h_a} + \frac{r_b^2}{h_b} + \frac{r_c^2}{h_c} \geq 9r.$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin - Ankara - Turkey

Proof.

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma.

2. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{r_a^2}{h_a} + \frac{h_b^2}{h_b} + \frac{r_c^2}{h_c} = \frac{2R(4R+r) - p^2}{r}.$$

Proof.

$$\text{We have } \sum \frac{r_a^2}{h_a} = \sum \frac{\left(\frac{S}{p-a}\right)^2}{\frac{2S}{a}} = \frac{S}{2} \sum \frac{a}{(p-a)^2} = \frac{rp}{2} \cdot \frac{4R(4R+r) - 2p^2}{r^2p} = \frac{2R(4R+r) - p^2}{r}$$

□

Let's prove inequality 1.

Using the Lemma, inequality 1, can be written:

$$\frac{2R(4R+r) - p^2}{r} \geq 9r \Leftrightarrow p^2 \leq 2R(4R+r) - 9r^2, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:}$$

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

It remains to prove that:

$$4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \leq 2R(4R+r) - 9r^2 \Leftrightarrow 2R^2 - Rr - 6r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(2R+3r) \geq 0,$$

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

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

□

Remark.

Inequality 1. can be strengthened:

3. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{r_a^2}{h_a} + \frac{r_b^2}{h_b} + \frac{r_c^2}{h_c} \geq \frac{9R}{2}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using the **Lemma**, inequality **3** can be written:

$$\frac{2R(4R+r)-p^2}{r} \geq \frac{9R}{2} \Leftrightarrow 2p^2 \leq 2R(4R+r)-9Rr, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:}$$

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

It remains to prove that:

$$2(4R^2+4Rr+3r^2) \leq 2R(4R+r)-9Rr \Leftrightarrow 8R^2-13Rr-6r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(8R+3r) \geq 0,$$

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

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

□

Remark.

Inequality **3.** is stronger than inequality **1.**

4. In $\triangle ABC$

$$\frac{r_a^2}{h_a} + \frac{r_b^2}{h_b} + \frac{r_c^2}{h_c} \geq \frac{9R}{2} \geq 9r.$$

Proof.

See inequality **3.** and Euler's inequality.

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

□

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