

**PROBLEM JP.080 RMM**  
**NUMBER 6 AUTUMN 2017**  
**ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE 2017**

MARIN CHIRCIU

1. Prove that in any triangle  $ABC$ ,

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a + b + c} \left( \frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \right) \geq 2\sqrt{3}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung - Hanoi - Vietnam*

*Proof.*

*We use the following lemma:*

**Lemma 1.**

**In  $\triangle ABC$**

$$\left( \frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \right)^2 \geq \frac{108}{5p^2 - 3r^2 - 12Rr}$$

*Proof.*

Using the inequality  $(x+y+z)^2 \geq 3(xy+yz+zx)$ , with  $x = \frac{1}{m_a}, y = \frac{1}{m_b}, z = \frac{1}{m_c}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \right)^2 &\geq 3 \left( \frac{1}{m_a m_b} + \frac{1}{m_b m_c} + \frac{1}{m_c m_a} \right) \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 3 \left( \frac{4}{2a^2 + bc} + \frac{4}{2b^2 + ca} + \frac{4}{2c^2 + ab} \right) \geq \\ &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} 12 \cdot \frac{9}{2a^2 + bc + 2b^2 + ca + 2c^2 + ab} = \frac{108}{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + ab + bc + ca} = \\ &= \frac{108}{2 \cdot 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) + p^2 + r^2 + 4Rr} = \frac{108}{5p^2 - 3r^2 - 12Rr} \end{aligned}$$

where inequality (1) follows from  $4m_b m_c \leq 2a^2 + bc$  and analogs.

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral. □

*Let's pass to solving the inequality from enuntiation.*

Using **Lemma 1** and  $\sum a = 2p, \sum a^2 = 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)$  it is enough to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{2p} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{108}{5p^2 - 3r^2 - 12Rr} \geq 12 &\Leftrightarrow 9(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)^2 \geq p^2(5p^2 - 3r^2 - 12Rr) \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow p^2(4p^2 - 15r(4R + r)) + 9r^2(4R + 2)^2 \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Case 1. If  $4p^2 - 15r(4R + r) \geq 0$  the inequality is obvious.

Case 2. If  $4p^2 - 15r(4R + r) < 0$  we write the inequality

$p^2(15r(4R+r) - 4p^2) \leq 9r^2(4R+r)^2$ , which follows from Gerretsen's inequality  $16Rr - 5r^2 \leq p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$ . It remains to prove that:

$$\begin{aligned} & (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(15r(4R+r) - 4(16Rr - 5r^2)) \leq 9r^2(4R+r)^2 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow & (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(-4Rr + 35r^2) \leq 9r^2(4R+r)^2 \Leftrightarrow 4R^3 + 5R^2r - 14Rr^2 - 24r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow & (R - 2r)(4R^2 + 13Rr + 12r^2) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r \\ & \text{Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.} \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark 1.**

*Inequality 1 can be developed:*

**3. In  $\triangle ABC$**

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a + b + c} \left( \frac{1}{m_a + m_b} + \frac{1}{m_b + m_c} + \frac{1}{m_c + m_a} \right) \geq \sqrt{3}$$

*Proof.*

*Using the following lemma:*

**Lemma 2.**

**4. In  $\triangle ABC$**

$$\left( \frac{1}{m_a + m_b} + \frac{1}{m_b + m_c} + \frac{1}{m_c + m_a} \right)^2 \geq \frac{36}{7p^2 - 5r^2 - 20Rr}.$$

*Proof.*

*Using the inequality  $(x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx)$ ,*

*with  $x = \frac{1}{m_a + m_b}, y = \frac{1}{m_b + m_c}, z = \frac{1}{m_c + m_a}$  we obtain*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \sum \frac{1}{m_b + m_c} \right)^2 \geq 3 \left( \sum \frac{1}{(m_a + m_b)(m_a + m_c)} \right) \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} 3 \cdot \frac{9}{\sum (m_a + m_b)(m_a + m_c)} = \\ & = \frac{27}{\sum (m_a^2 + m_a m_b + m_b m_c + m_c m_a)} = \frac{27}{\sum m_a^2 + 3 \sum m_b m_c} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{27}{\frac{3}{4} \sum a^2 + \frac{3}{4} \sum (2a^2 + bc)} = \\ & = \frac{36}{3 \sum a^2 + \sum bc} = \frac{36}{3 \cdot 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) + p^2 + r^2 + 4Rr} = \frac{36}{7p^2 - 5r^2 - 20Rr} \end{aligned}$$

*where inequality (1) follows from  $4m_b m_c \leq 2a^2 + bc$  and analogs.*

*Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.*

□

*Let's pass to solving inequality 3.*

*Using Lemma 2 and  $\sum a = 2p, \sum a^2 = 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)$  it is enough to prove that*

$$\left( \frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)^2}{2p} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{36}{7p^2 - 5r^2 - 20Rr} \geq 3 \Leftrightarrow 12(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)^2 \geq p^2(7p^2 - 5r^2 - 20Rr) \Leftrightarrow$$

$\Leftrightarrow p^2(5p^2 - 19r(4R+r)) + 12r^2(4R+r)^2 \geq 0$ . We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1. If  $5p^2 - 19r(4R + r) \geq 0$  inequality is obvious.

Case 2. If  $5p^2 - 19r(4R + r) < 0$  inequality can be rewritten

$p^2(19r(4R + r) - 4p^2) \leq 12r^2(4R + r)^2$ , which follows from Gerretsen's inequality

$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$ . It remains to prove that:

$$\begin{aligned} & (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(19r(4R + r) - 5(16Rr - 5r^2)) \leq 9r^2(4R + r)^2 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow & (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(-4Rr + 44r^2) \leq 12r^2(4R + r)^2 \Leftrightarrow 4R^3 + 8R^2r - 17Rr^2 - 30r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow & (R - 2R)(4R^2 + 16Rr + 15r^2) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r. \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.  $\square$

**Remark 2.**

*Inequality 3. can be developed:*

**5. In  $\triangle ABC$**

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a + b + c} \left( \frac{1}{m_a + \lambda m_b} + \frac{1}{m_b + \lambda m_c} + \frac{1}{m_c + \lambda m_a} \right) \geq \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{1 + \lambda}, \text{ where } \lambda \geq 0$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania*

*Proof.*

*We use the following lemma:*

**Lemma 3.**

**6. In  $\triangle ABC$ , for  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,**

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{1}{m_a + \lambda m_b} + \frac{1}{m_b + \lambda m_c} + \frac{1}{m_c + \lambda m_a} \right)^2 \geq \\ & \geq \frac{108}{(5\lambda^2 + 11\lambda + 5)p^2 - (3\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 3)r^2 - (12\lambda^2 + 36\lambda + 12)Rr} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.*

*Using the inequality  $(x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx)$ ,*

*with  $x = \frac{1}{m_a + \lambda m_b}, y = \frac{1}{m_b + \lambda m_c}, z = \frac{1}{m_c + \lambda m_a}$  we obtain*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \sum \frac{1}{m_b + \lambda m_c} \right)^2 \geq 3 \left( \sum \frac{1}{(m_a + \lambda m_b)(\lambda m_a + m_c)} \right) \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} 3 \cdot \frac{9}{\sum (m_a + \lambda m_b)(\lambda m_a + m_c)} = \\ & = \frac{27}{\sum (\lambda m_a^2 + \lambda^2 m_a m_b + \lambda m_b m_c + m_c m_a)} = \frac{27}{\lambda \sum m_a^2 + (\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1) \sum m_b m_c} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \\ & \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{27}{\frac{3\lambda}{4} \sum a^2 + \frac{\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1}{4} \sum (2a^2 + bc)} = \frac{108}{(2\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 2) \sum a^2 + (\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1) \sum bc} = \\ & = \frac{108}{(2\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 2) \cdot 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) + (\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1)(p^2 + r^2 + 4Rr)} = \\ & = \frac{108}{(5\lambda^2 + 11\lambda + 5)p^2 - (3\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 3)r^2 - (12\lambda^2 + 36\lambda + 12)Rr} \end{aligned}$$

*where inequality (1) follows from  $4m_b m_c \leq 2a^2 + bc$  and analogs.*

*Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.*

□

Let's pass to solve inequality **5**.

Using **Lemma 3** and  $\sum a = 2p$ ,  $\sum a^2 = 2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)$  it is enough to prove that

$$\left(\frac{2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{2p}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{108}{(5\lambda^2 + 11\lambda + 5)p^2 - (3\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 3)r^2 - (12\lambda^2 + 36\lambda + 12)Rr} \geq \frac{12}{1 + \lambda}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 9(\lambda+1)^2(p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)^2 \geq p^2((5\lambda^2 + 11\lambda + 5)p^2 - (36\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 3)r^2 - (12\lambda^2 + 36\lambda + 12)Rr)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p^2((4\lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 4)p^2 - 3(5\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 5)r(4Rr + r)) + 9(\lambda + 1)^2 r^2 (4R + r)^2 \geq 0$$

We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1. If  $(4\lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 4)p^2 - 3(5\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 5)r(4R + r) \geq 0$  inequality is obvious.

Case 2. If  $(4\lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 4)p^2 - 3(5\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 5)r(4R + r) < 0$  we write the following inequality:

$$p^2(3(5\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 5)r(4R + r) - (4\lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 4)p^2) \leq 9(\lambda + 1)^2 r^2 (4R + r)^2$$

which follows from Blundon-Gerretsen's inequality  $16Rr - 5r^2 \leq p^2 \leq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)}$

It remains to prove that:

$$\frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} \cdot (3(5\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 5)r(4R + r) - (4\lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 4)p^2) \leq 9(\lambda + 1)^2 r^2 (4R + r)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (4\lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 4)R^2 + (\lambda^2 + 10\lambda + 1)Rr - (18\lambda^2 + 36\lambda + 18)r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)((4\lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 4)R + (9\lambda^2 + 18\lambda + 9)r) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

**Note.**

For  $\lambda = 0$  in inequality **5**. we obtain inequality **1.**, and for the case  $\lambda = 1$  we obtain **3**.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT, "THEODOR COSTESCU" NATIONAL ECONOMIC COLLEGE, DROBETA  
TURNU - SEVERIN, MEHEDINTI.

E-mail address: dansitaru63@yahoo.com