

**PROBLEM JP.152**  
**ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE**  
**NO. 11, WINTER EDITION 2018**

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1. Let  $ABC$  be a triangle,  $h_a, h_b, h_c$  denote the lengths of altitudes,  $l_a, l_b, l_c$  denote the lengths of inner bisectors, and  $r_a, r_b, r_c$  be its exradii. Prove that:

$$\frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} \geq 3$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung - Hanoi - Vietnam*

*Proof.*

*We prove the following lemma:*

**Lemma.**

**2) In  $\triangle ABC$ :**

$$\frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} = \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2}{4Rr}$$

*Proof.*

Using  $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ ,  $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ ,  $l_a = \frac{2bc}{b+c} \cos \frac{A}{2}$ ,  $\cos^2 \frac{A}{2} = \frac{s(s-a)}{bc}$ , we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} &= \sum \frac{\frac{2S}{a} \cdot \frac{S}{s-a}}{\left(\frac{2bc}{b+c} \cos \frac{A}{2}\right)^2} = \frac{2S^2}{4abcs} \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{(s-a)^2} = \\ &= \frac{r}{8R} \cdot \frac{2(8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2)}{r^2} = \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2}{4Rr} \end{aligned}$$

□

*Let's return to the main problem:*

The inequality we have to prove:  $\frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2}{4Rr} \geq 3 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \leq 8R^2 - 4Rr + 3r^2$

*which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:  $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$*

*It remains to prove that:*

$4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \leq 8R^2 - 4Rr + 3r^2 \Leftrightarrow 4R^2 \geq 8Rr \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r$  (Euler's inequality).

□

**Remark.**

*The inequality can be strengthened.*

**3) In  $\triangle ABC$  :**

$$\frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} \geq \frac{R}{r} + 1$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania*

*Proof.*

Using **Lemma** and Gerretsen's inequality:  $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} &= \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2}{4Rr} \geq \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - 3r^2}{4Rr} = \\ &= \frac{4R^2 + 4Rr}{4Rr} = \frac{R}{r} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

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

□

**Remark.**

*Inequality 3) is stronger than inequality 1):*

**4) In  $\triangle ABC$ :**

$$\frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} \geq \frac{R}{r} + 1 \geq 3.$$

*Proof.*

*See inequality 3) is  $\frac{R}{r} + 1 \geq 3 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r$  (Euler's inequality).*

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

□

**Remark.**

*Let's emphasises an inequality having an opposite sense:*

**5) In  $\triangle ABC$  :**

$$\frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} \leq 2 \left( \frac{R}{2} - \frac{r}{R} \right)$$

*Proof.*

Using **Lemma** and Gerretsen's inequality:  $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} &= \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - s^2}{4Rr} \leq \frac{8R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2}{4Rr} = \\ &= \frac{8R^2 - 8Rr + 8r^2}{4Rr} = \frac{2(R^2 - Rr + r^2)}{Rr} \leq \frac{2(R^2 - r^2)}{Rr} = 2 \left( \frac{R}{r} - \frac{r}{R} \right). \end{aligned}$$

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

□

**Remark.**

*We can write the double inequality:*

**6) In  $\Delta ABC$ :**

$$\frac{R}{r} + 1 \leq \frac{h_a r_a}{l_a^2} + \frac{h_b r_b}{l_b^2} + \frac{h_c r_c}{l_c^2} \leq 2 \left( \frac{R}{r} - \frac{r}{R} \right)$$

***Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania***

*Proof.*

*See inequalities 3) and 5).*

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

□

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