

INEQUALITY IN TRIANGLE 867
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1. Let ABC be a triangle. Prove that:

$$\sum r_a(h_b + h_c)^2 \geq 12sS.$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin - Ankara - Turkey

Proof.

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 1.

2) In $\triangle ABC$: $\sum r_a(h_b + h_c)^2 = \frac{s^2(s^2 - 3r^2)}{R}$.

Proof.

Using $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ and $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum r_a(h_b + h_c)^2 &= \sum \frac{S}{s-a} \left(\frac{2S}{b} + \frac{2S}{c} \right)^2 = 4S^3 \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{b^2c^2(s-a)} = 4r^3s^3 \cdot \frac{s^2 - 3r^2}{4sRr^3} = \\ &= \frac{s^2(s^2 - 3r^2)}{R}. \end{aligned}$$

In the above equality we've used: $\sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{b^2c^2(s-a)} = \frac{s^2 - 3r^2}{4sRr^3}$, which follows from:

$$\sum a^2(b+c)^2(s-b)(s-c) = 4s^2Rr(s^2 - 3r^2), abc = 4Rrs \text{ and } \prod (s-a) = r^2s.$$

□

Let's get back to the main problem:

*Using **Lemma 1** the inequality can be written:*

$$\frac{s^2(s^2 - 3r^2)}{R} \geq 12rs^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 12Rr + 3r^2, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality}$$

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

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

Remark.

Let's emphasises an inequality having an opposite sense.

3) In $\triangle ABC$: $\sum r_a(h_b + h_c)^2 \leq 6Rs^2$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

Using **Lemma 1** we write the inequality:

$$\frac{s^2(s^2 - 3r^2)}{R} \leq 6Rs^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \leq 6R^2 + 3r^2, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality}$$

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

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

Remark.

We can write the double inequality:

$$4) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : 12rs^2 \leq \sum r_a(h_b + h_c)^2 \leq 6Rs^2.$$

Proof.

See inequalities 1) and 3).

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

Remark.

Changing r_a with h_a we can build inequalities similar to those above.

$$5) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : \sum h_a(r_a + r_c)^2 \geq 12sS$$

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Proof.

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 2.

$$6) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : \sum h_a(r_b + r_c)^2 = 4s^2(2R - r).$$

Proof.

Using $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ and $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum h_a(r_b + r_c)^2 &= \sum \frac{2S}{a} \left(\frac{S}{s-b} + \frac{S}{s-c} \right)^2 = 2S^3 \sum \frac{a}{(s-b)^2(s-c)^2} = \\ &= 2r^3 s^3 \cdot \frac{2(2R-r)}{sr^3} = 4s^2(2R-r) \end{aligned}$$

In the above inequality we've used: $\sum \frac{a}{(s-b)^2(s-c)^2} = \frac{2(2R-r)}{sr^3}$

which follows from: $\sum a(s-a)^2 = 2sr(2R-r)$ and $\prod (s-a) = r^2 s$. □

Let's get back to the main problem:

Using **Lemma 2** we write the inequality:

$$4s^2(2R-r) \geq 12rs^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r).$$

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

Remark.

Let's emphasises an inequality having an opposite sense.

$$7) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : \sum h_a(r_b + r_c)^2 \leq 2R(4R + r)^2.$$

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Proof.

Using Lemma 2 we write the inequality:

$$4s^2(2R-r) \leq 2R(4R+r)^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)}, \text{ which is Blundon-Gerretsen's inequality.}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

Remark.

We can write the double inequality:

$$8) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : 12rs^2 \leq \sum h_a(r_b + r_c)^2 \leq 2R(4R + r)^2.$$

Proof.

See inequalities 5) and 7).

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

$$9) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : 324r^3 \leq \sum r_a(r_b + r_c)^2 \leq \frac{81R^3}{2}$$

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Proof.

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 3.

$$10) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : \sum r_a(r_b + r_c)^2 = 4s^2(R + r).$$

Proof.

Using $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum r_a(r_b + r_c)^2 &= \sum \frac{S}{s-a} \left(\frac{S}{s-b} + \frac{S}{s-c} \right)^2 = S^3 \sum \frac{1}{s-a} \cdot \frac{a^2}{(s-b)^2(s-c)^2} = \\ &= \frac{S^3}{\prod(s-a)} \sum \frac{a^2}{(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{r^3 s^3}{r^2 s} \cdot \frac{4(R+r)}{r} = 4s^2(R+r). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{In the above inequality we've used: } \sum \frac{a^2}{(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{4(R+r)}{r}$$

$$\text{which follows from: } \sum a^2(s-a) = 2sr(R+r) \text{ and } \prod(s-a) = r^2 s.$$

□

Let's get back to the main problem:

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

$$324r^3 \leq 4s^2(R+r) \leq \frac{81R^3}{2}, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:}$$

$$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r.$$

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

$$11) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : 48s^2 \cdot \frac{r^3}{R^2} \leq \sum h_a(h_b + h_c)^2 \leq 12s^2r.$$

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Proof.

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 4.

$$12) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : \sum h_a(h_b + h_c)^2 = \frac{r}{R^2} \cdot s^2(s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr).$$

Proof.

Using $h_a = \frac{2S}{a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum h_a(h_b + h_c)^2 &= \sum \frac{2S}{a} \left(\frac{2S}{b} + \frac{2S}{c} \right)^2 = 8S^3 \sum \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{(b+c)^2}{b^2c^2} = \frac{8S^3}{abc} \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{bc} = \\ &= \frac{8r^3s^3}{4Rrs} \cdot \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr}{2Rr} = \frac{r}{R^2} \cdot s^2(s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{In the above equality we've used: } \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{bc} = \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr}{2Rr}$$

$$\text{which follows from: } \sum a(b+c)^2 = 2s(s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr) \text{ and } abc = 4Rrs. \quad \square$$

Let's get back to the main problem:

Using **Lemma 4** the double inequality can be written:

$$48s^2 \cdot \frac{r^3}{R^2} \leq \frac{r}{R^2} \cdot s^2(s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr) \leq 12s^2r, \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality}$$

$$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ and Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r.$$

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

$$13) \text{ In } \triangle ABC : \sum r_a^2(h_b + h_c)^2 \geq 36S^2$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

With means inequality we have:

$$(1) \quad \sum r_a^2(h_b + h_c)^2 \geq \sum r_a^2 \cdot 4h_b h_c = 4 \sum r_a^2 h_b h_c = \frac{8r}{R} \cdot s^2(8R^2 + 2Rr - s^2)$$

which follows from: $\sum r_a^2 h_b h_c = \frac{2r}{R} \cdot s^2(8R^2 + 2Rr - s^2)$, because:

$$\sum r_a^2 h_b h_c = \sum \left(\frac{S}{s-a}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{2S}{b} \cdot \frac{2S}{c} = 4S^4 \sum \frac{1}{bc(s-a)^2},$$

$$\sum \frac{1}{bc(s-a)^2} = \frac{\sum a(s-b)^2(s-c)^2}{abc \prod (s-a)},$$

$$\sum a(s-b)^2(s-c)^2 = 2sr^2(8R^2 + 2Rr - s^2), abc = 4Rrs, \prod (s-a) = sr^2.$$

In order to prove $\sum r_a^2(h_b + h_c)^2 \geq 36S^2$ *using (1) it suffices to prove that:*

$$\frac{8r}{R} \cdot s^2(8R^2 + 2Rr - s^2) \geq 36S^2 \Leftrightarrow 2s^2 \leq 16R^2 - 5Rr, \text{ true from}$$

Gerretsen's inequality $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$ *and Euler's inequality* $R \geq 2r$.

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

$$14) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : \sum h_a^2(r_b + r_c)^2 \geq 36S^2$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania

Proof.

With means inequality we have:

$$(1) \quad \sum h_a^2(r_b + r_c)^2 \geq \sum h_a^2 \cdot 4r_b r_c = 4 \sum h_a^2 r_b r_c = \frac{s^2}{R^2} \cdot [s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 12Rr) + r^3(4Rr + r)]$$

which follows from: $\sum h_a^2 r_b r_c = \frac{s^2}{4R^2} \cdot [s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 12Rr) + r^3(4Rr + r)]$, because

$$\sum h_a^2 r_b r_c = \sum \left(\frac{2S}{a}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{S}{s-b} \cdot \frac{S}{s-c} = 4S^4 \sum \frac{1}{a^2(s-b)(s-c)},$$

$$\sum \frac{1}{a^2(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{\sum b^2 c^2 (s-a)}{(abc)^2 \prod (s-a)},$$

$$\sum b^2 c^2 (s-a) = s[s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 12Rr) + r^3(4Rr + r)], abc = 4Rrs, \prod (s-a) = sr^2.$$

In order to prove $\sum h_a^2(r_b + r_c)^2 \geq 36S^2$ *using (1) it suffices to prove that:*

$$\frac{s^2}{R^2} \cdot [s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 12Rr) + r^3(4Rr + r)] \geq 36S^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$s^4 + s^2(2R^2 - 12Rr) + r^3(4Rr + r) \geq 36R^2 r^2, \text{ true from Gerretsen's inequality}$$

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

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

$$15) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : \sum r_a^2(r_b + r_c)^2 \geq 36Sr^2.$$

Proof.

With means inequality we have:

$$\sum r_a^2(r_b+r_c)^2 \geq \sum r_a^2 \cdot 4r_b r_c = 4r_a r_b r_c \sum r_a = 4 \cdot s^2 r(4R+r) \geq 4 \cdot s^2 r \cdot 9r = 36Sr^2.$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

$$\mathbf{16) \text{ In } \Delta ABC : \sum h_a^2(h_b + h_c)^2 \geq \left(\frac{12Sr}{R}\right)^2}$$

Proof.

With means inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum h_a^2(h_b + h_c)^2 &\geq \sum h_a^2 \cdot 4h_b h_c = 4h_a h_b h_c \sum h_a = 4 \cdot \frac{s^2 r^2}{R} \cdot \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2r} \geq \\ &\geq 4 \cdot \frac{s^2 r^2}{R} \cdot \frac{36r^2}{2R} = \frac{144S^2 r^2}{R^2} = \left(\frac{12Sr}{R}\right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

□

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