

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

In acute $\triangle ABC$ holds:

$$h_a(\sec B + \sec C) + h_b(\sec C + \sec A) + h_c(\sec A + \sec B) \geq 36r$$

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let $f(x) = \sec x, x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2}), f''(x) = \sec x \tan^2 x + \sec^3 x > 0,$

so f is convex $\in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$. Using Jensen inequality:

$$f(A) + f(B) + f(C) \geq 3f\left(\frac{A+B+C}{3}\right) = 3f\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \text{ or, } \sum \sec A \geq 3 \sec \frac{\pi}{3} = 6 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{1}{h_a} + \frac{1}{h_b} + \frac{1}{h_c} = \frac{1}{r}, \quad \sum h_a \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 3\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c} \stackrel{Gm-Hm}{\geq} 3 \cdot \frac{3}{\frac{1}{h_a} + \frac{1}{h_b} + \frac{1}{h_c}} = 9r \quad (2)$$

WLOG $a \geq b \geq c$ then:

$$h_a \leq h_b \leq h_c \text{ and } \sec A \geq \sec B \geq \sec C \text{ and}$$

$$\sec A + \sec B \geq \sec A + \sec C \geq \sec C + \sec B$$

$$h_a(\sec B + \sec C) + h_b(\sec C + \sec A) + h_c(\sec A + \sec B) \stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum h_a \right) \left(\sum \sec A + \sec B \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum h_a \right) \left(2 \sum \sec A \right) \stackrel{(1)\&(2)}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot 9r \cdot 2 \cdot 6 = 36r \end{aligned}$$

Equality for $a = b = c$