

Problem 11245

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Consider an acute triangle with sides of lengths a , b and c and with an inradius of r and circumradius of R . Show that

$$\frac{r}{R} \leq \frac{\sqrt{2(2a^2 - (b-c)^2)(2b^2 - (c-a)^2)(2c^2 - (a-b)^2)}}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", via della Ricerca Scientifica, 00133 Roma, Italy.

We show that the inequality holds for *all* triangles by using the method described by Stanley Rabinowitz in his paper *On The Computer Solutions of Symmetric Homogeneous Triangle Inequalities*. We will use the following notation:

$$[r_1, r_2, r_3] \equiv \sum_{\text{sym}} x^{r_1} y^{r_2} z^{r_3}$$

where $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq r_3 \geq 0$.

We first transform the symmetric homogeneous triangle inequality into a symmetric homogeneous inequality with variables x , y , and z by using the identities

$$R = abc/4A, \quad r = A/s, \quad A^2 = s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c), \quad s = (a+b+c)/2$$

and via the equations:

$$a = (y+z)/2, \quad b = (z+x)/2, \quad c = (x+y)/2.$$

The new variables are positive real numbers because

$$x = b+c-a, \quad y = c+a-b, \quad z = a+b-c.$$

Squaring, expanding out and collecting like terms, we obtain the following inequality expressed as simple symmetric sums

$$105[4, 4, 4] + 264[5, 4, 3] + 88[6, 3, 3] + 48[7, 3, 2] + 9[8, 2, 2] \leq \\ 136[5, 5, 2] + 106[6, 4, 2] + 176[6, 5, 1] + 7[6, 6, 0] + 72[7, 4, 1] + 8[7, 5, 0] + 8[8, 3, 1] + [8, 4, 0].$$

This inequality can be easily verified by some applications of Muirhead's inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} 9[8, 2, 2] &\leq 8[8, 3, 1] + [8, 4, 0] \\ 48[7, 3, 2] &\leq 48[7, 4, 1] \\ 88[6, 3, 3] &\leq 88[6, 5, 1] \\ 264[5, 4, 3] &\leq 136[5, 5, 2] + 106[6, 4, 2] + 22[6, 5, 1] \\ 105[4, 4, 4] &\leq 66[6, 5, 1] + 7[6, 6, 0] + 24[7, 4, 1] + 8[7, 5, 0]. \end{aligned}$$

Note that, again by Muirhead's inequality, the equality holds if and only if $x = y = z$ that is when the triangle is equilateral. \square