

**Problem 11306**

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Proposed by A. Rosoiu (Romania).

Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be the lengths of the sides of a nondegenerate triangle, let  $p = (a + b + c)/2$ , and let  $r$  and  $R$  be the inradius and circumradius of the triangle, respectively. Show that

$$\frac{a}{2} \cdot \frac{4r - R}{R} \leq \sqrt{(p - b)(p - c)} \leq \frac{a}{2}$$

and determine the cases of equality.

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

Since

$$r = \frac{A}{p}, \quad R = \frac{abc}{4A}, \quad A = \sqrt{p(p - a)(p - b)(p - c)}$$

then

$$\frac{4r - R}{2R} = 2 \cdot \frac{A}{p} \cdot \frac{4A}{abc} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{8(p - a)(p - b)(p - c)}{abc} - \frac{1}{2}.$$

Moreover letting

$$x = b + c - a = 2(p - a), \quad y = c + a - b = 2(p - b), \quad z = a + b - c = 2(p - c)$$

the inequalities become

$$\frac{8xyz}{(x + y)(y + z)(x + z)} - \frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{y}\sqrt{z}}{y + z} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Note that since the triangle is nondegenerate then  $x, y, z$  are positive real numbers.

The first inequality is equivalent to

$$\frac{8xyz}{(x + y)(y + z)(x + z)} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{y}\sqrt{z}}{y + z} = \frac{(\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z})^2}{2(y + z)}$$

that is

$$xyz \leq \frac{x + y}{2} \cdot \frac{x + z}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}}{2} \right)^2$$

which holds because

$$\sqrt{xy} \leq \frac{x + y}{2}, \quad \sqrt{xz} \leq \frac{x + z}{2}, \quad \sqrt{yz} \leq \left( \frac{\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}}{2} \right)^2$$

by AGM inequality. Equality holds iff  $x = y = z$  that is when  $a = b = c$ .

The second inequality is equivalent to

$$\sqrt{yz} \leq \frac{y + z}{2}$$

which holds by AGM inequality. Equality holds iff  $y = z$  that is when  $b = c$ . □