

Problem 12154

(American Mathematical Monthly, Vol.127, January 2020)

Proposed by M. Lukarevski (North Macedonia).

Let r_a , r_b , and r_c be the exradii of a triangle with circumradius R and inradius r . Prove

$$\frac{r_a}{r_b + r_c} + \frac{r_b}{r_c + r_a} + \frac{r_c}{r_a + r_b} \geq 2 - \frac{r}{R}.$$

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

Solution. Let s be the semiperimeter of the triangle and let A be its area. Then we have that

$$r = \frac{A}{s}, \quad r_a = \frac{A}{s-a}, \quad r_b = \frac{A}{s-b}, \quad r_c = \frac{A}{s-c}, \quad R = \frac{abc}{4A}$$

and the inequality can be written as

$$\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{(s-a)(2s-b-c)} + \frac{(s-a)(s-c)}{(s-b)(2s-a-c)} + \frac{(s-a)(s-b)}{(s-c)(2s-a-b)} \geq 2 - \frac{4A^2}{sabc}.$$

Let $x = (b+c-a)/2 > 0$, $y = (c+a-b)/2 > 0$, and $z = (a+b-c)/2 > 0$ then

$$a = x+y, \quad b = y+z, \quad c = z+x, \quad s = x+y+z, \quad A^2 = xyz(x+y+z)$$

and the inequality becomes

$$\frac{xy}{z(x+y)} + \frac{yz}{x(y+z)} + \frac{zx}{y(z+x)} \geq 2 - \frac{4xyz}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

or

$$x^3y^3 + z^3x^3 + y^3z^3 + 3x^2y^2z^2 \geq xyz^2(yz+zx) + xy^2z(yz+xy) + x^2yz(zx+xy),$$

which holds by Schur's inequality

$$X^3 + Z^3 + Y^3 + 3XYZ \geq XY(X+Y) + XZ(X+Z) + YZ(Y+Z)$$

where $X = yz$, $Y = zx$, $Z = xy$. □