

531. SOME INEQUALITIES FOR TRIANGLE ELEMENTS\*

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The student M. S. Jovanović has submitted the paper entitled as above to the Editorial Committee. Ž. M. Mitrović and M. S. Stanković, who looked through the paper, have noticed that some results of Jovanović can be generalized by introducing a parameter  $k$ . The idea of Mitrović and Stanković has been carried out in this text.

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Several inequalities for triangle elements, designated by capital letters starting from (A) are proved in this paper. The designations from the book [1] are used in this paper. Due to space, proofs of some inequalities are omitted.

$$(A) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a}{r_a - r} \right)^k \geq 3^{\frac{k}{2} + 1} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .

*Proof.* Since

$$(1) \quad r_a - r = 4R \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{a}{r_a - r} = \cotg \frac{\alpha}{2},$$

we have

$$(2) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a}{r_a - r} \right)^k = \sum \cotg^k \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Let us consider the function

$$(3) \quad f(x) = \cotg^k x \quad \left( 0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad k \geq 1 \right)$$

and its second derivative

$$f''(x) = \frac{k + \cos 2x}{\sin^4 x} \cotg^{k-2} x > 0.$$

Hence, function  $f$  is convex, so that

$$(4) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \cotg^k x_i \geq 3 \cotg^k \frac{1}{3} (x_1 + x_2 + x_3).$$

If we put in (4)  $x_1 = \frac{\alpha}{2}$ ,  $x_2 = \frac{\beta}{2}$ ,  $x_3 = \frac{\gamma}{2}$ , we get

$$(5) \quad \sum \cotg^k \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq 3 \cotg^k \frac{\pi}{6} = 3^{\frac{k}{2} + 1}.$$

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From (2) and (5) (A) follows.

$$(B) \quad \sum \left( \frac{r_b + r_c}{r_a - r} \right)^k \geq 3^{k+1} \quad \left( k \geq \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1/2$ .

**Proof.** On the basis of (1) and

$$(6) \quad r_b + r_c = 4R \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2},$$

we get

$$(7) \quad \frac{r_b + r_c}{r_a - r} = \cot g^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \sum \left( \frac{r_b + r_c}{r_a - r} \right)^k = \sum \cot g^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Since, in virtue of (5),

$$(8) \quad \sum \cot g^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq 3^{k+1},$$

from (7) and (8) we obtain (B).

$$(C) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a^2}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k \geq 3 R^k \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .

**Proof.** Since, on the basis of (6),  $\frac{a^2}{r_b + r_c} = 4R \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2}$ , we have

$$(9) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a^2}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k = (4R)^k \sum \sin^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Due to (see [1])  $\sum \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq \frac{3}{4}$ , we have

$$(10) \quad \sum \sin^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq 3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)^k \geq \frac{3}{4^k}.$$

From (9) and (10), (C) follows.

$$(D) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a^2}{r_a - r} \right)^k \leq 3 (3R)^k \quad \left( k \leq \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1/2$ .

**Proof.** From (1) we have  $\frac{a^2}{r_a - r} = 4R \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2}$ , i. e.,

$$(11) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a^2}{r_a - r} \right)^k = (4R)^k \sum \cos^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Let us consider the function

$$(12) \quad f(x) = \cos^{2k} x \quad \left( 0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad k \leq \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Since

$$f''(x) = 2k(2k \sin^2 x - 1) \cos^{2k-2} x < 0,$$

we conclude that  $f$  is concave and we have

$$(13) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \cos^{2k} x_i \leq 3 \cos^{2k} \frac{1}{3} (x_1 + x_2 + x_3).$$

If we put  $x_1 = \frac{\alpha}{2}$ ,  $x_2 = \frac{\beta}{2}$ ,  $x_3 = \frac{\gamma}{2}$  in (13), we obtain:

$$(14) \quad \sum \cos^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq 3 \cos^{2k} \frac{\pi}{6} = \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)^{2k}.$$

From (11) and (14) we get (D).

$$(E) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k \geq 3^{1 - \frac{k}{2}} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

**Proof.** On the basis of (6) is  $\frac{a}{r_b + r_c} = \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2}$ , i. e.

$$(15) \quad \sum \left( \frac{a}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k = \sum \operatorname{tg}^k \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Due to ([1])  $\sum \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq \sqrt{3}$ , we have

$$(16) \quad \sum \operatorname{tg}^k \frac{\alpha}{2} \geq 3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)^k \geq 3^{1 - k/2}.$$

From (15) and (16) (E) follows.

$$(F) \quad \sum \left( \frac{h_b + h_c}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k \leq 3 \quad (0 < k \leq 1).$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Since

$$(17) \quad h_b + h_c = 8R \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\beta - \gamma}{2},$$

from (6) and (17) we have

$$(18) \quad \frac{h_b + h_c}{r_b + r_c} = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\beta - \gamma}{2} \leq 2 \sin \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Analogously to (18) we get

$$(19) \quad \frac{h_c + h_a}{r_c + r_a} \leq 2 \sin \frac{\beta}{2}, \quad \frac{h_a + h_b}{r_a + r_b} \leq 2 \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}.$$

From (18) and (19) we get:

$$(20) \quad \sum \left( \frac{h_b + h_c}{r_b + r_c} \right)^k \leq 2^k \sum \sin^k \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Let us consider the function

$$(21) \quad f(x) = \sin^k x \quad \left(0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad 0 < k \leq 1\right).$$

Since  $f''(x) = k(k \cos^2 x - 1) \sin^{k-2} x < 0$ , function  $f$  is concave, so that we have:

$$(22) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \sin^k x_i \leq 3 \sin^k \frac{1}{3} (x_1 + x_2 + x_3).$$

If we put in (22)  $x_1 = \frac{\alpha}{2}$ ,  $x_2 = \frac{\beta}{2}$ ,  $x_3 = \frac{\gamma}{2}$ , we get

$$(23) \quad \sum \sin^k \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq 3 \sin^k \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{3}{2^k}.$$

From (20) and (23) we get (F).

$$(G) \quad \sum \left( \frac{h_b + h_c}{r + r_a} \right)^k \leq 3 \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)^k \quad \left( 0 < k \leq \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1/2$ .

**Proof.** From

$$(24) \quad r + r_a = 4R \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\beta - \gamma}{2}$$

and (17) it follows:

$$(25) \quad \frac{h_b + h_c}{r + r_a} = 2 \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \sum \left( \frac{h_b + h_c}{r + r_a} \right)^k = 2^k \sum \cos^{2k} \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

On the basis of (14) and (25) we get inequality (G).

(H)

$$1^\circ \quad \prod (r_b + r_c) \leq 27 R^3,$$

$$2^\circ \quad \prod \frac{r_a - r}{r_b + r_c} \leq \frac{1}{27},$$

$$3^\circ \quad \prod \frac{h_b + h_c}{r_a + h_a} \leq 1,$$

$$4^\circ \quad \prod \frac{r_a + h_a}{b + c} \leq \frac{3}{8} \sqrt{3}.$$

In  $1^\circ$ ,  $2^\circ$ ,  $3^\circ$ ,  $4^\circ$  equality holds if the triangle is equilateral.

**Proof.**  $1^\circ$  Since  $r_b + r_c = 4R \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2}$ , we have

$$\prod (r_b + r_c) = (4R)^3 \prod \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq 27 R^3.$$

$2^\circ$  From (1) and (6) we get

$$\frac{r_a - r}{r_b + r_c} = \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \prod \frac{r_a - r}{r_b + r_c} = \prod \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq \frac{1}{27}.$$

3° Since

$$(26) \quad r_a + h_a = 4R \cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2} \cos \frac{\beta - \gamma}{2},$$

from (17) and (26) it follows:

$$\frac{h_b + h_c}{r_a + h_a} = 2 \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}$$

i. e.

$$\prod \frac{h_b + h_c}{r_a + h_a} = 8 \prod \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq 1.$$

4° Since

$$(27) \quad b + c = 4R \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} \cos \frac{\beta - \gamma}{2},$$

on the basis of (24) we get

$$\frac{r_a + h_a}{b + c} = \frac{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha}{2}} \Rightarrow \prod \frac{r_a + h_a}{b + c} = \prod \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq \frac{3}{8} \sqrt{3}.$$

$$(I) \quad \sum \left( \frac{r + r_a}{b + c} \right)^k \leq 3^{1 - \frac{k}{2}} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

**Proof.** From (24) and (27) we get:

$$(28) \quad \frac{r + r_a}{b + c} = \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \sum \left( \frac{r + r_a}{b + c} \right)^k = \sum \operatorname{tg}^k \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

From (28) and (16) we get inequality (I).

$$(J) \quad \sum \frac{r_a + h_a}{r + r_a} \geq \frac{9}{2}.$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle.*

**Proof.** From (24) and (26) we get:

$$\frac{r_a + h_a}{r + r_a} = \frac{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}} \Rightarrow \sum \frac{r_a + h_a}{r + r_a} = \sum \frac{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}.$$

Since (see [1])

$$\sum \frac{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}} \geq \frac{9}{2},$$

we obtain inequality (J).

(K)

$$1^\circ \quad \sum \left( \frac{r_a+r}{h_a-r} \right)^k \geq 3 \cdot 2^k \quad (k \geq 1),$$

$$2^\circ \quad \sum \left( \frac{r_a-r}{h_a-2r} \right)^k \geq 3 \cdot 6^k \quad (k \geq 1),$$

$$3^\circ \quad \prod \frac{h_a-r}{r_b+r_c} \leq \frac{1}{27}.$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k=1$ .

**Proof.** 1° Since

$$(29) \quad h_a-r = 4R \sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2} \cos \frac{\beta-\gamma}{2},$$

on the basis of (24) we get

$$(30) \quad \frac{r_a+r}{h_a-r} = \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}} \Rightarrow \sum \left( \frac{r_a+r}{h_a-r} \right)^k = \sum \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^k.$$

Since

$$\sum \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^k \geq 3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^k = 3 \left[ \frac{1}{3} \sum \left( \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\gamma}{2} - 1 \right) \right]^k,$$

and due to ([1])  $\sum \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{ctg} \frac{\gamma}{2} \geq 9$ , we obtain

$$(31) \quad \sum \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^k \geq 3 \cdot 2^k.$$

Inequality in 1° follows from (30) and (31).

$$(L) \quad \sum \left( \frac{b+c}{h_a-r} \right)^k \geq 3 \cdot 12^{k/2} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Equality holds for the equilateral triangle and  $k=1$ .

$$(M) \quad \sum \left( \frac{r_a}{h_a+2r_a} \right)^k \geq 3^{1-k} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k=1$ .

**Proof.** Using

$$(32) \quad h_a+2r_a = 8R \cos^2 \frac{\beta}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\gamma}{2}$$

and (26), we find

$$\frac{h_a + r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \operatorname{tg} \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg} \frac{\gamma}{2} \right),$$

i. e.,

$$\sum \left( 1 - \frac{r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum \left( 1 + \operatorname{tg} \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg} \frac{\gamma}{2} \right) = 2,$$

i. e.

$$\sum \frac{r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} = 1.$$

$$\text{Then } \sum \left( \frac{r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \right)^k \geq 3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \right)^k = 3^{1-k}.$$

$$(N) \quad \sum \left( \frac{h_a - 2r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \right)^k \geq 3^{1-2k} \quad \left( k \geq \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Equality holds if the triangle is equilateral and  $k = 1/2$ .

$$(O) \quad \sum \left( \frac{r_b + r_c}{h_a + 2r_a} \right)^k \geq 3 \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^k \quad (k \geq 1).$$

Equality holds if the triangle is equilateral and  $k = 1$ .

**Proof.** From (6) and (39) we have:

$$\frac{r_b + r_c}{h_a + 2r_a} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^2,$$

i. e.,

$$\sum \left( \frac{r_b + r_c}{h_a + 2r_a} \right)^k = \frac{1}{2^k} \sum \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\cos \frac{\beta}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}} \right)^{2k} \geq \frac{3}{2^k} \prod \left( \sec \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)^{\frac{2k}{3}} \geq 3 \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^k.$$

$$(P) \quad \sum \frac{r + r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \leq \frac{4}{3}.$$

Equality holds for an equilateral triangle.

**Proof.** From (24) and (32) we have:

$$\frac{r + r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\gamma}{2} \right),$$

i. e.

$$(33) \quad \sum \frac{r + r_a}{h_a + 2r_a} = \frac{1}{2} \sum \left( 1 - \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\gamma}{2} \right).$$

Since

$$(34) \quad \sum \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{\gamma}{2} \geq \frac{1}{3} \left( \sum \operatorname{tg} \frac{\beta}{2} \operatorname{tg} \frac{\gamma}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{3},$$

from (33) and (34) we get the inequality (P).

$$(Q) \quad \prod \frac{h_a - r}{b + c} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{72}.$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle.*

**Proof.** From (27) and (29) we have:

$$(35) \quad \frac{h_a - r}{b + c} = \frac{\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha}{2}} \Rightarrow \prod \frac{h_a - r}{b + c} = \prod \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$

Since (I1)  $\prod \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\prod \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{9}$ , we have

$$(36) \quad \prod \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \operatorname{tg} \frac{\alpha}{2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{72}.$$

From (35) and (36) we get the inequality (Q).

$$(R) \quad 1^\circ \quad \sum \left( \frac{h_a - r}{h_a + r_a} \right)^k \geq 3^{1-k} \quad (k \geq 1),$$

$$2^\circ \quad \prod \frac{h_a - r}{h_a + r_a} \leq \frac{1}{27}.$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

$$(S) \quad \sum \left( \frac{w_a}{h_b + h_c} \right)^k \geq \left( \frac{r}{4R} \right)^{k/3} \quad (k > 0).$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

$$(T) \quad \sum \frac{w_a}{h_a + 2r_a} \geq 1.$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle.*

$$(U) \quad \sum \left( \frac{w_a}{h_a - 2r} \right)^k \geq 3^{k+1} \quad (k \geq 1).$$

*Equality holds for an equilateral triangle and  $k = 1$ .*

#### REFERENCE

1. O. BOTTEMA, R. Ž. ĐORĐEVIĆ, R. R. JANIĆ, D. S. MITRINOVIĆ, P. M. VASIĆ: *Geometric Inequalities*. Groningen 1969.