

Some geometric inequalities

Tran Quang Hung

Problem 1. With arbitrary triangle ABC inscribed (O) , incenter I and an arbitrary point M in small arc BC . Prove that $MA + 2OI \geq MB + MC \geq MA - 2OI$.

Proof. By the projection of vectors we have

$$MA^2 = 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \overrightarrow{MA} \Rightarrow MA = 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA}$$

similar

$$MB = 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB}, MC = 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC}$$

From them we have

$$MB + MC - MA = 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \left(\frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right) \quad (1)$$

By Cauchy-Swart inequality we have

$$-MO \left| \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right| \leq \overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \left(\frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right) \leq MO \left| \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right| \quad (2)$$

We have $MO = R$, we will calculate $\left| \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right|$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right|^2 \\ &= 3 + 2 \left(\frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right) \\ &= 3 + 2(\cos(\overrightarrow{MB}, \overrightarrow{MC}) - \cos(\overrightarrow{MB}, \overrightarrow{MA}) - \cos(\overrightarrow{MC}, \overrightarrow{MA})) \\ &= 3 - 2(\cos A + \cos B + \cos C) \quad (\text{Because } M \text{ in small arc } BC) \\ &= 3 - 2 \frac{R+r}{R} \quad (\text{Here we use the well-know equality: } \cos A + \cos B + \cos C = \frac{R+r}{R}) \\ &= \frac{R^2 - 2Rr}{R^2} \\ &= \frac{OI^2}{R^2} \quad (\text{Here we use the Euler's formula}) \end{aligned}$$

From this we have

$$MO \left| \frac{\overrightarrow{MB}}{MB} + \frac{\overrightarrow{MC}}{MC} - \frac{\overrightarrow{MA}}{MA} \right| = OI \quad (3)$$

Thus from (1), (2), (3) we have the inequality $MA + 2OI \geq MB + MC \geq MA - 2OI$ and equality when ABC is equaliteral triangle. We completed the solution. \square

Problem 2. Given are $\triangle ABC$ orthorcenter H , circumradius R , with any M on plane find minimum value of sum

$$MA^3 + MB^3 + MC^3 - \frac{3}{2}R \cdot MH^2$$

Proof. By AM-GM inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{MA^3}{R} + \frac{R^2 + MA^2}{2} &\geq \frac{MA^3}{R} + R \cdot MA \geq 2MA^2 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{MA^3}{R} &\geq \frac{3}{2}MA^2 - \frac{R^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Similar we have

$$\frac{MB^3}{R} \geq \frac{3}{2}MB^2 - \frac{R^2}{2}, \quad \frac{MC^3}{R} \geq \frac{3}{2}MC^2 - \frac{R^2}{2}$$

Thus

$$\frac{MA^3 + MB^3 + MC^3}{R} \geq \frac{3}{2}(MA^2 + MB^2 + MC^2) - \frac{3}{2}R^2 \quad (1)$$

Called O is circumcenter of ABC

$$\begin{aligned} &MA^2 + MB^2 + MC^2 \\ &= (\overrightarrow{MO} + \overrightarrow{OA})^2 + (\overrightarrow{MO} + \overrightarrow{OB})^2 + (\overrightarrow{MO} + \overrightarrow{OC})^2 \\ &= 3MO^2 + 2\overrightarrow{MO}(\overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OC}) + 3R^2 \\ &= 3MO^2 + 2\overrightarrow{MO} \cdot \overrightarrow{OH} + 3R^2 \\ &= 3MO^2 - (OM^2 + OH^2 - MH^2) + 3R^2 \\ &= 2MO^2 - OH^2 + MH^2 + 3R^2 \\ &\geq 3R^2 - OH^2 + MH^2 \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

(Here we use familiar equal of vector $\overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OC} = \overrightarrow{OH}$)

Form (1), (2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{MA^3 + MB^3 + MC^3}{R} &\geq \frac{3}{2}(3R^2 - OH^2 + MH^2) - \frac{3}{2}R^2 \\ \Rightarrow MA^3 + MB^3 + MC^3 - \frac{3}{2}R \cdot MH^2 &\geq 3R^3 - \frac{3}{2}R \cdot OH^2 = \text{const} \end{aligned}$$

Easily seen equal when $M \equiv O$

Thus we have $MA^3 + MB^3 + MC^3 - \frac{3}{2}R \cdot MH^2$ has minimum value iff $M \equiv O$ □

Problem 3. Given are $\triangle ABC$ with sides a, b, c and $\triangle A'B'C'$ with sides a', b', c' and area S' . With any M on plane prove that

$$\frac{a'^2}{a}MA + \frac{b'^2}{b}MB + \frac{c'^2}{c}MC \geq 4S'$$

Proof. We well know the inequality:

Given triangle ABC and $\forall x, y, z > 0$ then

$$\frac{(x + y + z)^2}{4} \geq yz \sin^2 A + zx \sin^2 B + xy \sin^2 C$$

we can replace $yz \rightarrow x, zx \rightarrow y, xy \rightarrow z$ we will get the inequality:

$$\frac{1}{4} \left(\sqrt{\frac{yz}{x}} + \sqrt{\frac{zx}{y}} + \sqrt{\frac{xy}{z}} \right)^2 \geq x \sin^2 A + y \sin^2 B + z \sin^2 C (*)$$

Now we let

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{MBMC}{bc.a'^2} = \frac{MBMC}{bc.4R'^2 \sin^2 A'} \\ y &= \frac{MCMA}{ca.b'^2} = \frac{MCMA}{ca.4R'^2 \sin^2 B'} \\ z &= \frac{MAMB}{ab.c'^2} = \frac{MAMB}{ab.4R'^2 \sin^2 C'} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we will have:

$$\sqrt{\frac{yz}{x}} = \sqrt{\frac{\frac{MCMA}{ca.b'^2} \cdot \frac{MAMB}{ab.c'^2}}{\frac{MBMC}{bc.a'^2}}} = \frac{a'}{a.b'c'} MA$$

similar we have

$$\sqrt{\frac{zx}{y}} = \frac{b'}{b.c'a'} MB, \sqrt{\frac{xy}{z}} = \frac{c'}{c.a'b'} MC$$

and using inequality (*) for triangle $A'B'C'$ and x, y, z as above we will get

$$\frac{1}{4} \left(\sum_{a,b,c} \frac{a'}{a.b'c'} MA \right)^2 \geq \sum_{a,b,c} \frac{MBMC}{bc.4R'^2 \sin^2 A'} \sin^2 A' = \frac{1}{4R'^2} \left(\sum_{a,b,c} \frac{MBMC}{bc} \right)$$

If we use well know inequality

$$\frac{MB.MC}{bc} + \frac{MC.MA}{ca} + \frac{MA.MB}{ab} \geq 1$$

then we get the consequence inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4} \left(\sum_{a,b,c} \frac{a'}{a.b'c'} MA \right)^2 &\geq \frac{1}{4R'^2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{a'}{a.b'c'} MA + \frac{b'}{b.c'a'} MB + \frac{c'}{c.a'b'} MC &\geq \frac{1}{R'} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{a'^2}{a} MA + \frac{b'^2}{b} MB + \frac{c'^2}{c} MC &\geq \frac{a'b'c'}{R'} = 4S' \end{aligned}$$

Easily seen we have equal when $\triangle A'B'C' \sim \triangle ABC$ and $M \equiv H$ (Orthocenter of triangle ABC).

□

Remark. This inequality have some nice applycations

- If $\triangle A'B'C' \equiv \triangle ABC$ we get the well know inequality $aMA + bMB + cMC \geq 4S$.
- If $\triangle A'B'C' \equiv \triangle J_a J_b J_c$ with J_a, J_b, J_c are three excenter of triangle ABC with noitice $a' = 4R \cos \frac{A}{2}, b' = 4R \cos \frac{B}{2}, c' = 4R \cos \frac{C}{2}$ and $S' = \frac{2SR}{r}$ we will get the nice inequality

$$\cot \frac{A}{2} MA + \cot \frac{B}{2} MB + \cot \frac{C}{2} MC \geq a + b + c.$$

- If $\triangle A'B'C' \equiv \triangle BCA$ we will get the non symmetry inequality

$$\frac{b^2}{a} MA + \frac{c^2}{b} MB + \frac{a^2}{c} MC \geq 4S$$

There are some nice other inequality is a consequence of this inequatlity.

Problem 4. Let M be an arbitrary point inside equaliteral triangle ABC . Find min value of

$$\frac{1}{MA} + \frac{1}{MB} + \frac{1}{MC}$$

Proof. We can assume ABC is an equaliteral triangle with side 1, let barycentric coordinates of M is $(x, y, z), x + y + z = 1$ because M inside triangle $\Rightarrow x, y, z > 0$ By distance formula we have $MA^2 = \frac{y+z}{x+y+z} a^2 - \frac{yz+zx+xy}{(x+y+z)^2} a^2 =$ by $x+y+z=1$ and $a=1 \Rightarrow MA = \sqrt{y^2+yz+z^2}$, similarly $MB = \sqrt{z^2+zx+x^2}, MC = \sqrt{x^2+xy+y^2}$ therefore we need find min value of

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{y^2+yz+z^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2+zx+x^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+xy+y^2}}$$

when $x, y, z > 0, x + y + z = 1$, we will solve it with Lagrange multipliers

WLOG $0 \leq x \leq y \leq z < 1$

Case 1: $x = 0$ we have to prove

$$f(y, z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^2+yz+z^2}} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \geq 4 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

indeed

$$f(y, z) \geq f(\sqrt{yz}, \sqrt{yz}) \geq f\left(\frac{y+z}{2}, \frac{y+z}{2}\right) = 4 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

Case 2: $0 < x \leq y \leq z < 1$

$$F(x, y, z, \lambda) = \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+xy+y^2}} + \lambda(x+y+z-1)$$

$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 0$, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 0$, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z} = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2x+y}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} + \frac{2x+z}{\sqrt{(z^2+zx+x^2)^3}} \right] + \lambda &= 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2y+x}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} + \frac{2y+z}{\sqrt{(y^2+yz+z^2)^3}} \right] + \lambda &= 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2z+x}{\sqrt{(z^2+zx+x^2)^3}} + \frac{2z+y}{\sqrt{(y^2+yz+z^2)^3}} \right] + \lambda &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Adding

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{x+y}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} + \frac{y+z}{\sqrt{(y^2+yz+z^2)^3}} + \frac{z+x}{\sqrt{(z^2+zx+x^2)^3}} \right]$$

Inserting λ in first we get

$$x \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(y^2+yz+z^2)^3}}$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} y \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(z^2+zx+x^2)^3}} \\ z \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+y^2)^3}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2+xy+z^2)^3}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$y^2(z^2+zx+x^2)^3 = z^2(x^2+xy+y^2)^3$$

We put $y = ax, z = bx$, where $1 \leq a \leq b$

$$a^2(b^2+b+1)^3 = b^2(a^2+a+1)^3$$

we get $a = b$ Hence $y = z$ as necessary for critical points in the interior of the region $0 < x, y, z < 1$

We have to prove

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{x^2+xy+y^2}} + \frac{1}{y\sqrt{3}} \geq 4 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

where $x + 2y = 1$

$$g(y) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3y^2-3y+1}} + \frac{1}{y\sqrt{3}} \geq 4 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

where

$$\frac{1}{3} \leq y \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

since $x \leq y \leq z$ By differentiation it is easily checked that the absolute minimum of $g(y)$ on $\left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}\right]$ is $4 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} = g(1/2)$.

Thus $\frac{1}{MA} + \frac{1}{MB} + \frac{1}{MC}$ get min value $\Leftrightarrow M(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and others permutation $\Leftrightarrow M$ concur three midpoint of three side. \square

Problem 5. Suppose a, b, c are sidelengths of a triangle and m_a, m_b, m_c are its medians. Prove the inequality

$$\frac{m_a}{a^2} + \frac{m_b}{b^2} + \frac{m_c}{c^2} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{2abc}$$

Proof. This inequality equivalent

$$\left(\frac{m_a bc}{a} + \frac{m_b ca}{b} + \frac{m_c ab}{c}\right)^2 \geq \frac{3}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2$$

we have

$$\left(\frac{m_a bc}{a} + \frac{m_b ca}{b} + \frac{m_c ab}{c}\right)^2 \geq 3\left(\sum \frac{(m_b ca) \cdot (m_c ab)}{bc}\right) = 3\left(\sum a^2 m_b m_c\right)$$

we will prove

$$3\left(\sum a^2 m_b m_c\right) \geq \frac{3}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2 \Leftrightarrow 4\left(\sum a^2 m_b m_c\right) \geq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2$$

Indeed turn into triangle with three side m_a, m_b, m_c we need prove:

$$\sum 4m_a^2 \frac{3}{4} b \frac{3}{4} c \geq (m_a^2 + m_b^2 + m_c^2)^2 \Leftrightarrow \sum (2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2)bc \geq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2$$

by equivalent transformation we have

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{1}{2}(a^2 - (b - c)^2)(b - c)^2 \geq 0$$

which is true because $a > |b - c|, b > |c - a|, c > |a - b|$ with any triangle ABC . \square

Problem 6. Let triangle ABC and X, Y, Z are arbitrary points on segment BC, CA, AB . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{S_{AYZ}} + \frac{1}{S_{BZX}} + \frac{1}{S_{CXY}} \geq \frac{3}{S_{XYZ}}$$

Lemma 6.1. Let $a, b, c > 0$ be positive real numbers then

$$\frac{1}{a(1+b)} + \frac{1}{b(1+c)} + \frac{1}{c(1+a)} \geq \frac{3}{1+abc}$$

Proof. We have

$$(1+abc)\left(\frac{1}{a(1+b)} + \frac{1}{b(1+c)} + \frac{1}{c(1+a)}\right) + 3 = \sum \frac{1+a}{a(1+b)} + \sum \frac{b(c+1)}{1+b} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{abc}} + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} \geq 6$$

So we are done. In fact the ineq could be better and stronger as

$$\frac{1}{a(1+b)} + \frac{1}{b(1+c)} + \frac{1}{c(1+a)} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{abc}(1+\sqrt[3]{abc})}$$

\square

Proof. We let $\frac{BX}{BC} = x, \frac{CY}{CA} = y, \frac{AZ}{AB} = z, S_{ABC} = S, 0 < x, y, z < 1$ we will have

$$\frac{S_{AYZ}}{S} = z(1-y), \frac{S_{BZX}}{S} = x(1-z), \frac{S_{CXY}}{S} = y(1-x)$$

Thus we have

$$S_{XYZ} = S - S_{AYZ} - S_{BZX} - S_{CXY} = S - S(z(1-y) + x(1-z) + y(1-x)) = S(xyz - (x-1)(y-1)(x-1))$$

Thus we need to prove

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{S_{AYZ}} + \frac{1}{S_{BZX}} + \frac{1}{S_{CXY}} \geq \frac{3}{S_{XYZ}} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \frac{S}{z(1-y)} + \frac{S}{x(1-z)} + \frac{S}{y(1-x)} \geq \frac{3S}{xyz + (1-x)(1-y)(1-z)} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \frac{xy}{(1-y)} + \frac{yz}{(1-z)} + \frac{zx}{(1-x)} \geq \frac{3}{1 + \frac{(1-x)(1-y)(1-z)}{xyz}} \end{aligned}$$

Now let $\frac{1-x}{x} = a > 0, \frac{1-y}{y} = b > 0, \frac{1-z}{z} = c > 0$ we will get $\frac{1}{(a+1)b} + \frac{1}{(b+1)c} + \frac{1}{(c+1)a} \geq \frac{3}{1+abc}$ now replace $a \rightarrow b, b \rightarrow c, c \rightarrow a$ we will get our above lemma. \square

Problem 7. Given two triangles ABC and $A'B'C'$ with ares S, S' resp prove that

$$aa' + bb' + cc' \geq 4\sqrt{3SS'}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} (\sum aa')^2 & \geq 3(\sum bb'cc') = 12SS'(\sum \frac{1}{\sin A \sin A'}) = 24SS' \sum \frac{1}{\cos(A-A') - \cos(A+A')} \geq \\ & \geq 24SS' \sum \frac{1}{1 - \cos(A+A')} = 12SS' \sum \frac{1}{\sin^2 \frac{A+A'}{2}} \geq 48SS' \Rightarrow aa' + bb' + cc' \geq 4\sqrt{3SS'} \end{aligned}$$

In the last inequality we easily seen $\sum \frac{A+A'}{2} = \pi$ thus they are three angle of a triangle therefore apply the inequality $\sum \frac{1}{\sin^2 A} \geq 4$ for them, we are done. \square