

**Inequality in a right triangle.**

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Let  $x$  and  $y$  be legs and  $h$  the hypotenuse of a right triangle. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{2h+x+y} + \frac{1}{h+2x+y} + \frac{1}{h+x+2y} < \frac{h}{2xy}.$$

**Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.**

Assume  $h = 1$  (due homogeneity of the inequality). Then the inequality becomes

$$(1) \quad \frac{1}{2+x+y} + \frac{1}{1+2x+y} + \frac{1}{1+x+2y} \leq \frac{1}{2xy}.$$

Since  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  then denoting  $p := x+y, q := xy \leq \frac{1}{2}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2+x+y} + \frac{1}{1+2x+y} + \frac{1}{1+x+2y} &= \\ \frac{11(x+y) + 11xy + 5(x^2 + y^2) + 5}{2(x^3 + y^3) + 7xy(x+y) + 7(x^2 + y^2) + 16xy + 7(x+y) + 2} &= \\ \frac{11(x+y) + 11xy + 10}{2(x+y)(1-xy) + 7xy(x+y) + 9 + 16xy + 7(x+y)} &= \\ \frac{11p + 11q + 10}{2p(1-q) + 7qp + 9 + 16q + 7p} &= \frac{11p + 11q + 10}{9p + 16q + 5pq + 9}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have  $\frac{1}{2xy} - \frac{1}{2+x+y} - \frac{1}{1+2x+y} - \frac{1}{1+x+2y} =$

$$\frac{1}{2q} - \frac{11p + 11q + 10}{9p + 16q + 5pq + 9} = \frac{9 + 9p - 4q - 17pq - 22q^2}{2q(9p + 16q + 5pq + 9)} > 0 \text{ because}$$

$$9 + 9p - 4q - 17pq - 22q^2 \geq 9 + 9p - 4 \cdot \frac{1}{2} - 17p \cdot \frac{1}{2} - 22 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{3}{2} > 0.$$