

Triangle Rhyme

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 $(2(10^n)/(p-1))^{1/(p-1)}$ , and if we use  $S_m - g(m+1)$  to approximate S, we obtain n place accuracy if  $m > (2(10)^n)^{1/p}$ .

The case p = 1 ignored in Example 2 can be dealt with even though the natural logorithm has not been introduced (see, e.g., [1], p. 566).

EXAMPLE 3. Given  $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} n(n^2 - 7)^{-5/2}$ , let  $g(x) = -(x^2 - 7)^{-3/2}/3$ . Then if  $x > \sqrt{83.3}, -g(x) < .5(10)^{-3}$ , so that  $S_{10}$  approximates S accurately to three decimal places by (1).

In the above example a nice antiderivative g was readily apparent. If this is not the case, comparison techniques can sometimes be used by noting that if  $0 < f_1(n) \le f_2(n)$  for  $n \ge k$  and  $E_n^i$  is the error term for  $f_i$  (i = 1, 2), then  $E_n^1 < E_n^2$  for  $n \ge k$ . Our next example illustrates this.

EXAMPLE 4. The sum of the first 41 terms,  $S_{41}$ , approximates  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n^3 + 5n - 7)^{-4/3}$  accurately to at least 5 decimal places. To see this, note that  $(n^3 + 5n - 7)^{-4/3} < n^{-4}$  for  $n \ge 2$ . Thus, if  $E_n$  denotes the error term for  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n^{-4}$ , then by Example 2,  $E_m < .5(10)^{-5}$  if  $m^{-3}/3 < .5(10)^{-5}$  or  $m \ge 41$ . We thereby obtain 5-place accuracy for the original series.

None of the preceding—examples or theory—requires the concept of the definite integral. However, if the definite and improper integrals have been introduced, the Integral Test is an immediate corollary to Theorem (A). Since  $\ln x$  and  $e^x$  would then be available, we could consider examples of the following type.

EXAMPLE 5. Inequality (1) assures us that  $S_4$  approximates  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n^2} n$  accurately to 4 places, since if  $g(x) = -e^{-x^2}/2$ ,  $-g(m) < .5(10)^{-4}$  when  $m \ge 4 > 2\sqrt{\ln 10}$ .

## Reference

[1] Howard Anton, Calculus with Analytical Geometry, Wiley, New York, 1980.

## **Triangle Rhyme**

**DWIGHT PAINE** 

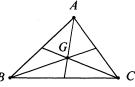
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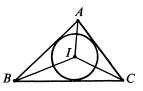
Let's talk about a **triangle**; We'll call it *ABC*,

R С

To bisect all the angles Takes a dreadful steady eye,

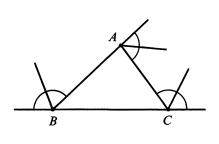


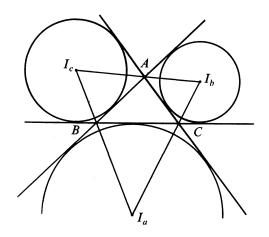
With medians converging To the centroid, labeled G.



But all the **angle bisectors** Meet at the **incenter** *I*.

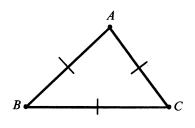
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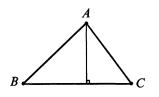


There are external bisectors, Besides the other three,

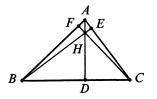
And they meet at the excenters:  $I_a$ ,  $I_b$ ,  $I_c$ .



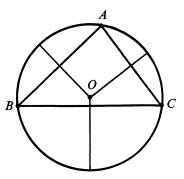
The **perpendicular bisectors** Through the sides must go,



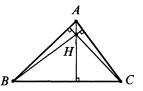
Although the **altitudes** are three, Remarks my daughter Rachel,



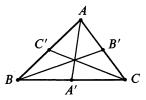
Their feet are often labeled D, E, F (as in this rhyme),



All radiating outward From the circumcenter *O*.

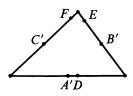


One point'll lie on all of them: The orthocenter H'll.

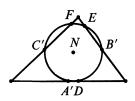


And medians too have feet That we can call A, B, C prime.

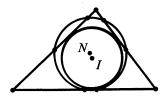
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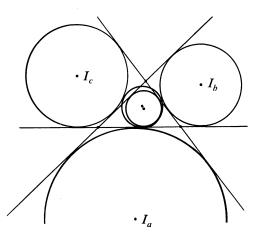


Those feet (I mean all six of them) Can all be found again



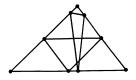
Around the **nine-point circle** With its nine-point center N.



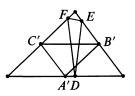


The nine-point circle, by the way, Does something *hard* to do:

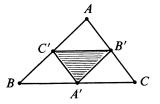
It *touches* the **incircle** And the three **excircles**, too!



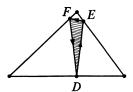
The medial and orthic Are triangles inscribed:



"ABC-prime and DEF" Is how they are described.

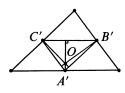


The medial is shaped just like Its parent *ABC*;

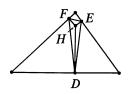


The orthic makes the shortest path To touch the sides (all three).

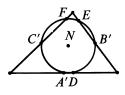
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The medial has altitudes That neatly meet at *O*;



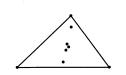
The orthic's angle bisectors Through H are sure to go.



And since the corners of them both Are nine-point-circle feet,



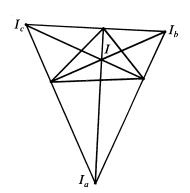
Their perpendicular bisectors At N are sure to meet.



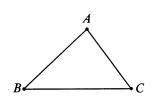
So triangles have centers; Almost more than we can bear! But not all helter-skelter— There's amazing order there.



Four centers on the **Euler line** Must lie in strict array, With N halfway from O to H, And G a third away.



Four others on an **orthocentric Quadrangle** are found: Incenter in the middle, With excenters all around.



Who'd ever think a triangle— Just lowly *ABC*— Had all these beauties hidden For us to find and see?

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