

Problem with a solution proposed by Arkady Alt , San Jose , California, USA.

Prove inequality

$$\frac{a^2}{m_a} + \frac{b^2}{m_b} + \frac{c^2}{m_c} \leq 12(2R - 3r),$$

where a, b, c and m_a, m_b, m_c be, respectively, sides and medians of triangle $\triangle ABC$, with circumradius R and inradius r .

Solution.

Let d_a be distance from the circumcenter to side a . Then by triangle inequality

$m_a \leq R + d_a$ and, since $d_a = \sqrt{R^2 - \frac{a^2}{4}}$ then we obtain:

$$m_a - R \leq \sqrt{R^2 - \frac{a^2}{4}} \Leftrightarrow m_a^2 - 2m_a R + R^2 \leq R^2 - \frac{a^2}{4} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(1) \quad 4m_a^2 - 8m_a R + a^2 \leq 0.$$

Let F and s be area and semiperimeter, respectively and let h_a, h_b, h_c be regular notation for altitudes.

Using inequality (1), we obtain

$$m_a^2 + a^2 \leq 8Rm_a \Leftrightarrow 4m_a + \frac{a^2}{m_a} \leq 8R.$$

Hence, $\sum_{cyclic} \left(4m_a + \frac{a^2}{m_a}\right) \leq 24R \Leftrightarrow \frac{a^2}{m_a} + \frac{b^2}{m_b} + \frac{c^2}{m_c} \leq 24R - 4(m_a + m_b + m_c).$

From the other hand $m_a + m_b + m_c \geq h_a + h_b + h_c = 2F\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) =$

$$\frac{F}{s}(a + b + c)\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \geq \frac{9F}{s} = 9r.$$

Thus, $\frac{a^2}{m_a} + \frac{b^2}{m_b} + \frac{c^2}{m_c} \leq 24R - 4(m_a + m_b + m_c) \leq 24R - 36r = 12(2R - 3r).$ ■