

Inequality in triangle involving medians

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8313943/8313943-6369046791299624961>

Let m_a, m_b, m_c be lengths of the medians of a triangle ABC . Prove that

$$\frac{9}{4R+r} \leq \frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \leq \frac{1}{r}.$$

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

Let h_a, h_b, h_c be lengths of heights of a triangle ABC and F be its area

Since $m_x \geq h_x, xh_x = F, x \in \{a, b, c\}$ and $F = sr$, where s is semiperimeter,

$$\text{then } \frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \leq \frac{1}{h_a} + \frac{1}{h_b} + \frac{1}{h_c} = \frac{a}{2F} + \frac{b}{2F} + \frac{c}{2F} = \frac{s}{F} = \frac{1}{r}.$$

Since by Cauchy Inequality $\frac{1}{m_a} + \frac{1}{m_b} + \frac{1}{m_c} \geq \frac{9}{m_a + m_b + m_c}$ remains to

prove inequality

$$(1) \quad m_a + m_b + m_c \leq 4R + r.$$

$$\text{Noting that } (m_a + m_b + m_c)^2 = \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{4} + 2 \sum_{cyc} m_a m_b,$$

$$m_a m_b \leq \frac{2c^2 + ab}{4} \quad [1]$$

$$\text{and } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2(s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr), ab + bc + ca = s^2 + 4Rr + r^2,$$

$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$ (Gerretsen's Inequality) and $R \geq 2r$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (m_a + m_b + m_c)^2 &\leq \frac{7(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 2(ab + bc + ca)}{4} = \frac{7 \cdot 2(s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) + 2(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2)}{4} = \\ &= \frac{16s^2 - 12r^2 - 48Rr}{4} = 4s^2 - 3r^2 - 12Rr \leq \\ &= 4(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2) - 3r^2 - 12Rr = \\ &= 16R^2 + 4Rr + 9r^2 = 16R^2 + 8Rr + r^2 - (4Rr - 8r^2) = \\ &= (4R + r)^2 - 4r(R - 2r) \leq (4R + r)^2. \end{aligned}$$

1. Sidelengths majorant for product of two medians—**problem 5291, SSMA**

February 2014,

two solutions in May issue 2014, p.6,7

<http://ssma.play-cello.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/May-2014-2.pdf>,

or

[http://www.equationroom.com/Publications/Suggested%20problems%20\(with%20solutions\)/](http://www.equationroom.com/Publications/Suggested%20problems%20(with%20solutions)/In%20School%20Science%20and%20Mathematics%20Journal%20(SSMJ)/5291-)

[In%20School%20Science%20and%20Mathematics%20Journal%20\(SSMJ\)/5291-](http://www.equationroom.com/Publications/Suggested%20problems%20(with%20solutions)/In%20School%20Science%20and%20Mathematics%20Journal%20(SSMJ)/5291-)

[Solutions%20May-2014.pdf](http://www.equationroom.com/Publications/Suggested%20problems%20(with%20solutions)/In%20School%20Science%20and%20Mathematics%20Journal%20(SSMJ)/5291-2%20my%20solutions.pdf)

and two my solutions

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