

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\min\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2} \leq \sqrt{s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2} \leq \max\{m_a, m_b, m_c\}$$

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W.L.O.G. let's assume that $a \leq b \leq c$. Then we have: $m_a \geq m_b \geq m_c$

$$\min\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} = m_c \text{ and } \max\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} = m_a$$

Also let $(a, b, c) = (y + z, z + x, x + y)$ which gives $x \geq y \geq z$ with $x, y, z > 0$.

$$\text{Here, } (s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2) + 8r(R - 2r) \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen+Euler}}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow s^2 - 8Rr - 11r^2 \geq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow 4(s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2) - (s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2) &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{4}(s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2) \\ &\leq s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2 \\ \therefore \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2} &\leq \sqrt{s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$i.) \text{ Let's prove that: } \min\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} = m_c \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2}$$

Squaring $m_c \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2}$ and substituting $m_c^2 = s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr - \frac{3}{4}c^2$ yields:

$$s^2 - 4Rr - 7r^2 \leq c^2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad s^2 - 4Rr = \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2} + r^2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a^2 + b^2 - c^2 \leq 12r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z(x + y + z)^2 \leq xy(x + y + 7z) \Leftrightarrow (x - z)(y - z)(x + y + 7z) + 4z^2[(x - z) + (y - z)] \geq 0 \text{ which is true because } x \geq z.$$

$$ii.) \text{ Let's prove that: } \sqrt{s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2} \leq \max\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} = m_a$$

Squaring $\sqrt{s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2} \leq m_a$ and substituting $m_a^2 = s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr - \frac{3}{4}a^2$ yields:

$$s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2 \leq s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr - \frac{3}{4}a^2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a^2 \leq 4Rr + 4r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (y + z)^2 \leq \frac{(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) + 4xyz}{x + y + z} \Leftrightarrow x^2 + \frac{4xyz}{y + z} \geq y^2 + yz + z^2. \text{ Also,}$$

$$x^2 + \frac{4xyz}{y + z} \stackrel{x \geq y}{\geq} y^2 + \frac{4y^2z}{y + z}. \text{ Thus it suffices to prove that: } y^2 + \frac{4y^2z}{y + z} \geq y^2 + yz + z^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{4y^2z}{y + z} \geq yz + z^2 \Leftrightarrow 4y^2 \geq (y + z)^2 \Leftrightarrow y \geq z \text{ which is true because } y \geq z.$$

$$\min\{m_a, m_b, m_c\} \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s^2 - 4Rr + 17r^2} \leq \sqrt{s^2 - 7Rr - 4r^2} \leq \max\{m_a, m_b, m_c\}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.