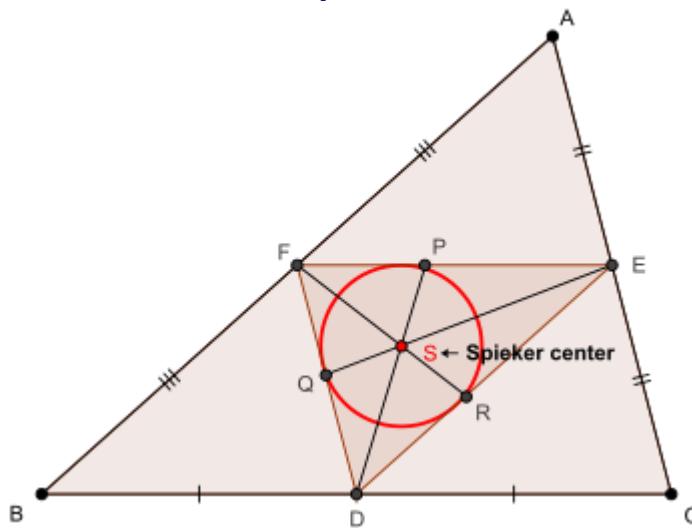


ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

**In any ΔABC with p_a, n_a, g_a
 → Spieker cevian, Nagel cevian, Gergonne cevian,
 the following relationship holds :**
 $w_a + 2p_a \leq 4m_a - w_a \leq 3p_a \leq 2m_a + n_a \leq g_a + 2n_a$

Proposed by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India



Let AS produced meet BC at X and $m(\angle BAX) = \alpha$ and $m(\angle CAX) = \beta$ (say)
 and inradius of $\Delta DEF = r'$ (say)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } 16[\Delta DEF]^2 &= 2 \sum \left(\frac{a^2}{4} \right) \left(\frac{b^2}{4} \right) - \sum \frac{a^4}{16} = \frac{1}{16} \left(2 \sum a^2 b^2 - \sum a^4 \right) = \frac{16r^2 s^2}{16} \\ \Rightarrow [\Delta DEF] &= \frac{rs}{4} \Rightarrow r' \left(\frac{\frac{a}{2} + \frac{b}{2} + \frac{c}{2}}{2} \right) = \frac{rs}{4} \Rightarrow r' = \frac{r}{2} \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \because \text{Spieker center is incenter of } \Delta DEF, \therefore m(\angle AFS) &= B + \frac{C}{2} = \frac{2B + C}{2} = \frac{B + \pi - A}{2} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{A - B}{2} \text{ and } m(\angle AES) = C + \frac{B}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{A - C}{2} \rightarrow (2) \end{aligned}$$

Via (1), (2) and using cosine law on ΔAFS and ΔAES , we arrive at :

$$\begin{aligned} AS^2 &= \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2 \frac{C}{2}} + \frac{c^2}{4} - \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin \frac{C}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{c}{2} \right) \sin \frac{A-B}{2} \\ &= \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2 \frac{B}{2}} + \frac{b^2}{4} - \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin \frac{B}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{b}{2} \right) \sin \frac{A-C}{2} \\ \Rightarrow 2AS^2 &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2 \frac{C}{2}} + \frac{c^2}{4} - \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin \frac{C}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{c}{2} \right) \sin \frac{A-B}{2} + \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2 \frac{B}{2}} + \frac{b^2}{4} \end{aligned}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$-\left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{B}{2}}\right)\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)\sin\frac{A-C}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } & \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{C}{2}}\right)\left(\frac{c}{2}\right)\sin\frac{A-B}{2} + \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{B}{2}}\right)\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)\sin\frac{A-C}{2} \\ &= \frac{r}{2} \left(4R\cos\frac{C}{2}\sin\frac{A-B}{2} + 4R\cos\frac{B}{2}\sin\frac{A-C}{2} \right) \\ &= Rr \left(2\sin\frac{A+B}{2}\sin\frac{A-B}{2} + 2\sin\frac{A+C}{2}\sin\frac{A-C}{2} \right) \\ &= Rr \left(1 - 2\sin^2\frac{B}{2} + 1 - 2\sin^2\frac{C}{2} - 2 \left(1 - 2\sin^2\frac{A}{2} \right) \right) \\ &= 2Rr \left(\frac{2a(s-b)(s-c) - b(s-c)(s-a) - c(s-a)(s-b)}{abc} \right) \\ &= \frac{Rr}{8Rrs} (2a^3 + (b+c)a^2 - 2a(b^2 + c^2) - (b+c)(b-c)^2) \\ &= \frac{4(b+c)bcs\sin^2\frac{A}{2} - 2a \cdot 2bcc\cos A}{8s} = \frac{bc \left((2s-a)\sin^2\frac{A}{2} - a \left(1 - 2\sin^2\frac{A}{2} \right) \right)}{2s} \\ &= \frac{bc \left((2s+a)\sin^2\frac{A}{2} - a \right)}{2s} = \frac{(2s+a)(s-b)(s-c)}{2s} - 2Rr \\ &\Rightarrow -\left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{C}{2}}\right)\left(\frac{c}{2}\right)\sin\frac{A-B}{2} - \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{B}{2}}\right)\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)\sin\frac{A-C}{2} \\ &\stackrel{(*)}{=} \frac{-(2s+a)(s-b)(s-c)}{2s} + 2Rr \end{aligned}$$

Again,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2\frac{B}{2}} + \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2\frac{C}{2}} &= \frac{r^2}{4} \left(\frac{ca}{(s-c)(s-a)} + \frac{ab}{(s-a)(s-b)} \right) \\ &= \frac{r^2}{4r^2s} (ca(s-b) + ab(s-c)) = \frac{ab+ca}{4} - 2Rr \stackrel{(**)}{=} \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2\frac{B}{2}} + \frac{r^2}{4\sin^2\frac{C}{2}} \\ (\text{i}), (*), (**) \Rightarrow 2AS^2 &= \frac{b^2 + c^2 + ab + ca}{4} - \frac{(2s+a)(s-b)(s-c)}{2s} \\ &= \frac{(a+b+c)(b^2 + c^2 + ab + ca) - (2a+b+c)(c+a-b)(a+b-c)}{8s} \\ &= \frac{b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2)}{4s} \Rightarrow 2AS^2 \stackrel{\text{(ii)}}{=} \frac{b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2)}{4s} \end{aligned}$$

Via sine law on ΔAFS ,

$$\frac{r}{2\sin\frac{C}{2}\sin\alpha} = \frac{AS}{\cos\frac{A-B}{2}} = \frac{4s}{(a+b)\sin\frac{C}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow cs\sin\alpha \stackrel{(***)}{=} \frac{r(a+b)}{2AS} \text{ and via sine law on } \Delta AES, bs\sin\beta \stackrel{((****))}{=} \frac{r(a+c)}{2AS}$$

Now, $[BAX] + [BAX] = [ABC] \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}p_a cs\sin\alpha + \frac{1}{2}p_a bs\sin\beta = rs$

via (***)) and (((**))) $\Rightarrow \frac{p_a(a+b+a+c)}{4AS} = s \Rightarrow p_a = \frac{4s}{2s+a} AS$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$\Rightarrow p_a^2 \stackrel{\text{via (ii)}}{=} \frac{16s^2}{(2s+a)^2} \cdot \frac{b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2)}{8s}$$

$$\therefore p_a^2 \stackrel{(\bullet)}{=} \frac{2s}{(2s+a)^2} (b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2) &= b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2) \\ &= (b+c)(b^2 - bc + c^2) + a(b^2 - bc + c^2) + a(b^2 + c^2 - a^2) \\ &= 2s(b^2 - bc + c^2) + a(b^2 - bc + c^2 + bc - a^2) \\ &= (2s+a)(b^2 - bc + c^2) + a\left(\frac{(b+c)^2 - (b-c)^2}{4} - a^2\right) \\ &= (2s+a)(b^2 - bc + c^2) + \frac{a(b+c+2a)(b+c-2a)}{4} - \frac{a(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a)(b^2 - bc + c^2) + \frac{a(2s-a+2a)(b+c-2a)}{4} - \frac{a(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a) \cdot \frac{4b^2 + 4c^2 - 4bc + a(b+c-2a)}{4} - \frac{a(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a). \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{4(z+x)^2 + 4(x+y)^2 - 4(z+x)(x+y) + (y+z)((z+x)+(x+y)-2(y+z))}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &- \frac{a(b-c)^2}{4} (a = y+z, b = z+x, c = x+y) \\ &= (2s+a) \cdot \frac{4x(x+y+z) + 2x(y+z) + 3(y-z)^2 - a(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a) \left(s(s-a) + \frac{3}{4}(b-c)^2 + \frac{a(s-a)}{2} \right) - \frac{a(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a) \left(s(s-a) + \frac{3}{4}(b-c)^2 + \frac{a(s-a)}{2} \right) - \frac{(a+2s-2s)(b-c)^2}{4} \\ &= (2s+a) \left(s(s-a) + \frac{(b-c)^2}{2} + \frac{a(s-a)}{2} \right) + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{2} \\ \therefore b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2) &\stackrel{(\bullet\bullet)}{=} (2s+a) \left(\frac{(s-a)(2s+a)}{2} + \frac{(b-c)^2}{2} \right) + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (\bullet), (\bullet\bullet) \Rightarrow p_a^2 = \frac{2s}{(2s+a)^2} \left(\frac{(s-a)(2s+a)^2}{2} + \frac{(2s+a)(b-c)^2}{2} + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{2} \right)$$

$$= s(s-a) + (b-c)^2 \left(\left(\frac{s}{2s+a} \right)^2 + \frac{s}{2s+a} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \right)$$

$$= s(s-a) - \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} + (b-c)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{s}{2s+a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2$$

$$= s(s-a) + \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} \left(\frac{(4s+a)^2}{(2s+a)^2} - 1 \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow p_a^2 \stackrel{(\bullet\bullet\bullet)}{=} s(s-a) + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2}$$

$$\text{Now, } m_a n_a \stackrel{?}{\geq} p_a^2 + \frac{(b-c)^2}{18} \stackrel{\text{via (\bullet\bullet\bullet)}}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left(s(s-a) + \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} \right) \left(s(s-a) + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{a} \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \left(s(s-a) + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} \right)^2 \\
& + \frac{(b-c)^4}{324} + \frac{(b-c)^2}{9} \cdot \left(s(s-a) + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} \right) \\
& \Leftrightarrow s(s-a)(b-c)^2 \left(\frac{s}{a} + \frac{1}{4} \right) + \frac{s(b-c)^4}{4a} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{s^2(3s+a)^2(b-c)^4}{(2s+a)^4} + \\
& 2s(s-a) \cdot \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} + \frac{(b-c)^4}{324} + s(s-a) \cdot \frac{(b-c)^2}{9} + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^4}{9(2s+a)^2} \\
& \Leftrightarrow s(s-a) \left(\frac{s}{a} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{2s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} - \frac{1}{9} \right) + \\
& \left(\frac{s}{4a} - \frac{s^2(3s+a)^2}{(2s+a)^4} - \frac{1}{324} - \frac{s(3s+a)}{9(2s+a)^2} \right) (b-c)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \quad (\because (b-c)^2 \geq 0) \\
& \Leftrightarrow \frac{s(s-a)(144s^3 - 52s^2a - 16sa^2 + 5a^3)}{36a(2s+a)^2} \\
& + \frac{1296s^5 - 772s^4a - 608s^3a^2 + 48s^2a^3 + 37sa^4 - a^5}{324a(2s+a)^4} \cdot (b-c)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow \frac{s(s-a)((s-a)(144s^2 + 92sa + 76a^2) + 81a^3)}{36a(2s+a)^2} + \\
& \frac{(s-a)((s-a)(1296s^3 + 1820s^2a + 1736sa^2 + 1700a^3) + 1701a^4)}{324a(2s+a)^4} \cdot (b-c)^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true (strict inequality)} \therefore m_a n_a \geq p_a^2 + \frac{(b-c)^2}{18} \rightarrow (3)$$

Now, $(2m_a + n_a)^2 - 9p_a^2 = 4m_a^2 + n_a^2 + 4m_a n_a - 9p_a^2 \stackrel{\text{via (3)}}{\geq}$

$$\begin{aligned}
& 4s(s-a) + (b-c)^2 + s(s-a) + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{a} + 4p_a^2 + \frac{2(b-c)^2}{9} - 9p_a^2 \\
& \stackrel{\text{via (3)}}{=} 5s(s-a) + \frac{11(b-c)^2}{9} + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{a} - 5s(s-a) - \frac{5s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} \\
& = \left(\frac{11}{9} + \frac{s}{a} - \frac{5s(3s+a)}{(2s+a)^2} \right) \cdot (b-c)^2 = \frac{36s^3 - 55s^2a + 8sa^2 + 11a^3}{9a(2s+a)^2} \cdot (b-c)^2 \\
& = \frac{(s-a)((36s+17a)+6a^2)}{9a(2s+a)^2} \cdot (b-c)^2 \geq 0 \therefore (2m_a + n_a)^2 \geq 9p_a^2
\end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow 2m_a + n_a \geq 3p_a$ and analogs $\rightarrow (4)$

Also, $p_a^2 - m_a^2 \stackrel{\text{via (4)}}{=} \frac{2s}{(2s+a)^2} (b^3 + c^3 - abc + a(4m_a^2)) - m_a^2$

$$\begin{aligned}
& = \frac{2s}{(2s+a)^2} (b^3 + c^3 - abc) - \left(1 - \frac{8sa}{(2s+a)^2} \right) m_a^2 \\
& = \frac{4(a+b+c)(b^3 + c^3 - abc) - (2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2)(b+c)^2}{4(2s+a)^2} \\
& = \frac{a^2(b-c)^2 + 4a(b+c)(b-c)^2 + 2(b^2 - c^2)^2}{4(2s+a)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$= \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{4(2s + a)^2} ((a^2 + 2a(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) + (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})^2) + ((\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})^2 + 2a(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) + a^2) - a^2)$$

$$= \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{4(2s + a)^2} (2(a + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})^2 - a^2) = \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2(8s^2 - a^2)}{4(2s + a)^2}$$

$$\therefore p_a^2 - m_a^2 \stackrel{(\blacksquare)}{=} \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2(8s^2 - a^2)}{4(2s + a)^2} \stackrel{s > a}{\geq} 0 \Rightarrow p_a \geq m_a \geq w_a \Rightarrow w_a \leq p_a$$

\therefore in order to prove : $\frac{p_a^2 - m_a^2}{p_a + m_a} \leq \frac{m_a^2 - w_a^2}{m_a + w_a}$, it suffices to prove :

$$\frac{p_a^2 - m_a^2}{p_a^2 - m_a^2} \leq \frac{m_a^2 - w_a^2}{m_a^2 - w_a^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2(8s^2 - a^2)}{4(2s + a)^2} \leq s(s - a) + \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{4} - \left(s(s - a) - \frac{s(s - a)(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{4} \left(1 + \frac{4s(s - a)}{(2s - a)^2} \right) = \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{4} \cdot \frac{(2s - a)^2 + 4s(s - a)}{(2s - a)^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow ((2s - a)^2 + 4s(s - a))(2s + a)^2 \geq (8s^2 - a^2)(2s - a)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 16s^3 - 12s^2a - 4sa^2 + a^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (s - a)(16s^2 + 4sa) + a^3 \geq 0$$

\rightarrow true (strict) since $s > a$

$$\therefore \frac{p_a^2 - m_a^2}{p_a + m_a} \leq \frac{m_a^2 - w_a^2}{m_a + w_a} \Rightarrow [p_a + w_a \leq 2m_a] \text{ and analogs} \rightarrow (5)$$

$$\text{Also, } p_a^2 - m_a^2 = \frac{(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2(8s^2 - a^2)}{4(2s + a)^2} \stackrel{s > a}{\geq} 0 \Rightarrow p_a \geq m_a \Rightarrow p_a w_a \geq m_a w_a$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Lascau + A-G}}{\geq} s(s - a) \rightarrow (6)$$

$\stackrel{\text{via } (\dots) \text{ and } (6)}{\geq}$

$$9s(s - a) + \frac{9s(3s + a)(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{(2s + a)^2} + s(s - a) - \frac{s(s - a)(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{(2s - a)^2} + 6s(s - a)$$

$$\stackrel{?}{\geq} 16m_a^2 = 16s(s - a) + 4(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{9s(3s + a)(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{(2s + a)^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{s(s - a)(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2}{(2s - a)^2} + 4(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{9s(3s + a)}{(2s + a)^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{s(s - a) + 4(2s - a)^2}{(2s - a)^2} (\because (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})^2 \geq 0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 20t^4 - 36t^3 + 13t^2 + 5t - 2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \quad (t = \frac{s}{a})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (t - 1)((t - 1)(20t^2 + 4t + 1) + 3) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true (strict)} \because t > 1$$

$$\therefore [3p_a + w_a \geq 4m_a] \text{ and analogs} \rightarrow (7)$$

Finally, $a n_a^2 \cdot a g_a^2 \geq a^2 s^2 (s - a)^2 \Leftrightarrow$

$$(b^2(s - c) + c^2(s - b) - a(s - b)(s - c)) \begin{pmatrix} b^2(s - b) + c^2(s - c) \\ -a(s - b)(s - c) \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{(a)}{\geq} a^2 s^2 (s - a)^2$$

Let $s - a = x, s - b = y$ and $s - c = z \therefore s = x + y + z \Rightarrow a = y + z, b = z + x$
and $c = x + y$ and via such substitutions, (a) \Leftrightarrow

$$(z(z + x)^2 + y(x + y)^2 - yz(y + z))(y(z + x)^2 + z(x + y)^2 - yz(y + z))$$

$$\geq x^2(y + z)^2(x + y + z)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow xy^2 + xz^2 + y^3 + z^3 \geq 2xyz + yz(y + z) \Leftrightarrow x(y - z)^2 + (y + z)(y - z)^2 \geq 0$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$\rightarrow \text{true} \Rightarrow (a) \text{ is true} \Rightarrow n_a g_a \stackrel{(b)}{\geq} s(s - a)$

Also, Stewart's theorem $\Rightarrow b^2(s - c) + c^2(s - b) = a n_a^2 + a(s - b)(s - c)$ and

$b^2(s - b) + c^2(s - c) = a g_a^2 + a(s - b)(s - c)$ and adding these two, we get :

$$(b^2 + c^2)(2s - b - c) = a n_a^2 + a g_a^2 + 2a(s - b)(s - c) \Rightarrow 2a(b^2 + c^2)$$

$$= 2a(n_a^2 + g_a^2) + a(a + b - c)(c + a - b)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(b^2 + c^2) = 2(n_a^2 + g_a^2) + a^2 - (b - c)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2 + (b - c)^2 = 2(n_a^2 + g_a^2) \Rightarrow 4m_a^2 + (b - c)^2 = 2(n_a^2 + g_a^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(b - c)^2 + 4s(s - a) = 2(n_a^2 + g_a^2) \Rightarrow n_a^2 + g_a^2 = (b - c)^2 + 2s(s - a)$$

$$\Rightarrow n_a^2 + g_a^2 + 2n_a g_a \stackrel{\text{via (b)}}{\geq} (b - c)^2 + 4s(s - a) \Rightarrow (n_a + g_a)^2 \geq 4m_a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow [n_a + g_a \geq 2m_a] \text{ and analogs} \rightarrow (8)$$

Now, $w_a + 2p_a \leq 4m_a - w_a$ is equivalent to (5) and then :

$4m_a - w_a \leq 3p_a$ is equivalent to (7) and also,

$3p_a \leq 2m_a + n_a$ is equivalent to (4) and finally,

$2m_a + n_a \leq g_a + 2n_a$ is equivalent to (8)

$\therefore w_a + 2p_a \leq 4m_a - w_a \leq 3p_a \leq 2m_a + n_a \leq g_a + 2n_a \forall \Delta ABC$ (QED)