

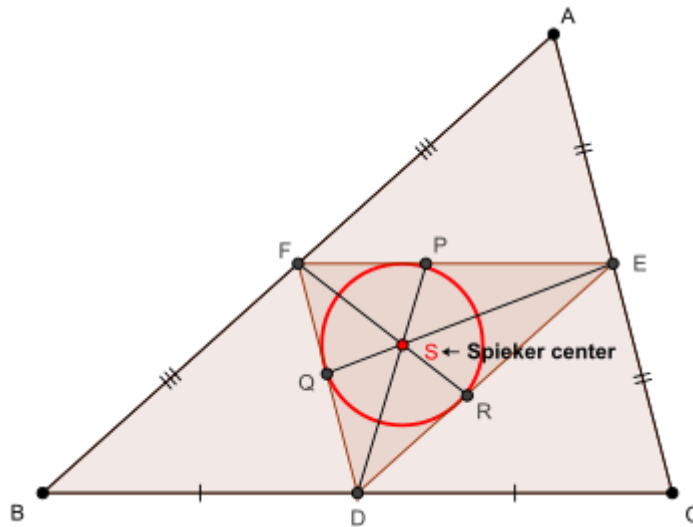
If p_a, p_b, p_c

→ Spieker cevians in $\triangle ABC$, then the following relationship holds :

$$p_a + p_b + p_c \leq w_a + w_b + w_c + \frac{4}{3} (\max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\})$$

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 $\triangle DEF = r'$ (say)

$$\text{Now, } 16[DEF]^2 = 2 \sum \left(\frac{a^2}{4}\right) \left(\frac{b^2}{4}\right) - \sum \frac{a^4}{16} = \frac{1}{16} \left(2 \sum a^2 b^2 - \sum a^4\right) = \frac{16r^2 s^2}{16}$$

$$\Rightarrow [DEF] = \frac{rs}{4} \Rightarrow r' \left(\frac{\frac{a}{2} + \frac{b}{2} + \frac{c}{2}}{2}\right) = \frac{rs}{4} \Rightarrow r' = \frac{r}{2} \rightarrow (1)$$

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

Via (1), (2) and using cosine law on $\triangle AFS$ and $\triangle AES$, we arrive at :

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \left(\frac{2r}{2\sin\frac{B}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{b}{2} \right) \sin\frac{A-C}{2} \\
 \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}{8Rs} (2a^3 + (b+c)a^2 - 2a(b^2+c^2) - (b+c)(b-c)^2) \\
 & = \frac{4(b+c)bc\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 \\
 \text{Again, } & \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{(ii)}{=} \frac{b^3+c^3-abc+a(4m_a^2)}{4s} \\
 \text{Via sine law on } \triangle AFS, & \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 c\sin\alpha & \stackrel{(***)}{=} \frac{r(a+b)}{2AS} \text{ and via sine law on } \triangle AES, b\sin\beta \stackrel{(***)}{=} \frac{r(a+c)}{2AS} \\
 \text{Now, [BAX] + [BAX]} & = [ABC] \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}p_a c\sin\alpha + \frac{1}{2}p_a b\sin\beta = rs \\
 \text{via (***) and (***)} & \Rightarrow \frac{p_a(a+b+a+c)}{4AS} = s \Rightarrow p_a = \frac{4s}{2s+a} AS \\
 \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}
 \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (\circ), (\circ\circ) \Rightarrow p_a^2 &= \frac{2s}{(2s+a)^2} \left(\frac{(s-a)(2s+a)^2}{2} + \frac{(2s+a)(b-c)^2}{2} + \frac{s(b-c)^2}{2} \right) \\ &= s(s-a) + (b-c)^2 \left(\left(\frac{s}{2s+a} \right)^2 + \frac{s}{2s+a} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ &= s(s-a) - \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} + (b-c)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{s}{2s+a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \\ &= s(s-a) + \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} \left(\frac{(4s+a)^2}{(2s+a)^2} - 1 \right) \\ &\Rightarrow p_a^2 \stackrel{(\circ\circ\circ)}{=} s(s-a) + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, } p_a \stackrel{?}{\leq} w_a + \frac{2}{3}|b-c| \Leftrightarrow p_a^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} w_a^2 + \frac{4}{9}(b-c)^2 + \frac{4}{3} \cdot w_a \cdot |b-c|$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via } (\circ\circ\circ)}{\Leftrightarrow} s(s-a) + \frac{s(3s+a)(b-c)^2}{(2s+a)^2} - s(s-a) + \frac{s(s-a)(b-c)^2}{(2s-a)^2}$$

$$- \frac{4}{9}(b-c)^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{4}{3} \cdot w_a \cdot |b-c|$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{s(3s+a)}{(2s+a)^2} + \frac{s(s-a)}{(2s-a)^2} - \frac{4}{9} \right) |b-c| \stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{4}{3} \cdot w_a \quad (\because |b-c| \geq 0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(20s^4 - 18s^3a - s^2a^2 - a^4)|b-c| \stackrel{?}{\leq} w_a}{9(4s^2 - a^2)^2} \leq \frac{w_a}{3}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(s-a)(20s^3 + 2s^2a + sa^2 + a^3)|b-c| \stackrel{?}{\leq} w_a}{3(4s^2 - a^2)^2} \leq w_a$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(s-a)^2(20s^3 + 2s^2a + sa^2 + a^3)^2(b-c)^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} s(s-a) - \frac{s(s-a)(b-c)^2}{(2s-a)^2}}{9(4s^2 - a^2)^4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(s-a)(20s^3 + 2s^2a + sa^2 + a^3)^2 + 9s(2s-a)^2(2s+a)^4}{9(4s^2 - a^2)^4} \cdot (b-c)^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} s \text{ and}$$

$\therefore (b-c)^2 < a^2 \therefore$ in order to prove this, it suffices to prove :

$$9s(4s^2 - a^2)^4 \stackrel{?}{>} a^2(s-a)(20s^3 + 2s^2a + sa^2 + a^3)^2 + 9sa^2(2s-a)^2(2s+a)^4$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2304t^9 - 3280t^7 - 256t^6 + 1044t^5 + 288t^4 - 69t^3 - 33t^2 + t + 1 \stackrel{?}{>} 0$$

$$\left(t = \frac{s}{a}\right) \Leftrightarrow (t-1) \left(\frac{2212t^8 + 92(t^8 - t^6) + 884(t^7 - t^6) + 1232(t^7 - t^5) + 188(t^7 - t^4) + 100t^3 + 28t^2 + 2(t^2 - t) + t^2 - 1}{9} \right) \stackrel{?}{>} 0$$

\rightarrow true $\therefore t = \frac{s}{a} > 1 \therefore p_a \leq w_a + \frac{2}{3}|b-c|$ and analogs

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{p_a + p_b + p_c \leq w_a + w_b + w_c + \frac{2}{3}(|a-b| + |b-c| + |c-a|)} \rightarrow (m)$$

Now, we shall prove that : $\frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|)$
 $= \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (1) $a \geq b \geq c \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(b-c + a-c + a-b)$
 $= a-c = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (2) $a \geq c \geq b \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(c-b + a-c + a-b)$
 $= a-b = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (3) $b \geq c \geq a \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(b-c + c-a + b-a)$
 $= b-a = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (4) $b \geq a \geq c \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(b-c + a-c + b-a)$
 $= b-c = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (5) $c \geq a \geq b \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(c-b + c-a + a-b)$
 $= c-b = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}$

Case (6) $c \geq b \geq a \therefore \frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(c-b + c-a + b-a)$
 $= c-a = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\} \therefore$ combining all 6 cases, we conclude :

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2}(|b-c| + |c-a| + |a-b|) = \max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}} \rightarrow (n) \therefore (m) \text{ and } (n)$$

$\Rightarrow p_a + p_b + p_c \leq w_a + w_b + w_c + \frac{4}{3}(\max\{a, b, c\} - \min\{a, b, c\}) \forall \Delta ABC,$
with equality iff ΔABC is equilateral (QED)