

*By Marin Chirciu – Romania*

**1) In  $\Delta ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$\cot^2 A + \cot^2 B + \cot^2 C + \frac{2r}{R} \geq 2$$

*Proposed by Rahim Shahbazov-Azerbaijan*

*Solution* We prove the following lemma:

**Lemma.**

**2) In  $\Delta ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$\sum \cot^2 A = \frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2}$$

**Proof.**

We have  $\sum \cot^2 A = \sum \frac{\cos^2 A}{\sin^2 A} = \sum \frac{1 - \sin^2 A}{\sin^2 A} = \sum \left( \frac{1}{\sin^2 A} - 1 \right) = \sum \frac{1}{\sin^2 A} - 3 =$   
 $= \frac{s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 8Rr) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2} - 3 = \frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2}$ , where

$$\sum \frac{1}{\sin^2 A} = \frac{s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 8Rr) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2}$$

Let's get back to the main problem. Using the identity

$\sum \cot^2 A = \frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2}$  we write the inequality:

$$\frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R + r)^2}{4s^2r^2} + \frac{2r}{R} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2}{4s^2r^2} + \frac{2r}{R} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$Rs^4 - s^2r(8R^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2) + Rr^2(4R + r)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$s^2[Rs^2 - r(8R^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2)] + Rr^2(4R + r)^2 \geq 0$$

We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1). If  $[Rs^2 - r(8R^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2)] \geq 0$ , the inequality is obvious.

Case 2). If  $[Rs^2 - r(8R^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2)] < 0$ , we write the inequality:

# R M M

## ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

$Rr^2(4R + r)^2 \geq s^2[r(8r^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2) - Rs^2]$ , which follows from Blundon-Gerretsen's

$$\text{inequality } 16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)}$$

It remains to prove that:

$$Rr^2(4R + r)^2 \geq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} [r(8r^2 + 18Rr - 8r^2) - R(16Rr - 5r^2)] \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 8R^2 - 19Rr + 6r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(8R - 3r) \geq 0, \text{ obviously from Euler } R \geq 2r.$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

**Remark.** Let's find an inequality having an opposite sense:

**3) In  $\Delta ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$\cot^2 A + \cot^2 B + \cot^2 C + 3 \leq \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^2$$

**Proposed by Marin Chirciu - Romania**

**Solution** Using the identity  $\sum \cot^2 A = \frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R+r)^2}{4s^2r^2}$  we write the inequality:

$$\frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R+r)^2}{4s^2r^2} + 3 \leq \frac{R^2}{r^2} \text{ which follows from Gerretsen's inequality:}$$

$$\frac{r(4R + r)^2}{R + r} \leq 16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We obtain } \frac{s^4 - s^2(8Rr + 10r^2) + r^2(4R+r)^2}{4s^2r^2} &= \frac{1}{4r^2} \left[ s^2 - (8Rr + 10r^2) + \frac{r^2(4R+r)^2}{s^2} \right] \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4r^2} \left[ 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 - (8Rr + 10r^2) + \frac{r^2(4R+r)^2}{R+r} \right] = \frac{4R^2 - 3Rr - 6r^2}{4r^2} \stackrel{R^2 - 3r^2}{\leq} \frac{R^2}{r^2} - 3. \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

**Remark.** We write the double inequality:

**4) In  $\Delta ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$2 - \frac{2r}{R} \leq \cot^2 A + \cot^2 B + \cot^2 C \leq \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^2 - 3$$

**Solution** See inequalities 2) and 3). Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

**Reference:**

**Romanian Mathematical Magazine-[www.ssmrmh.ro](http://www.ssmrmh.ro)**