

In any ΔABC , the following relationship holds :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1 + \cot \frac{B}{2} \cdot \cot \frac{C}{2}} \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1 + \cot \frac{B}{2} \cdot \cot \frac{C}{2}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{s^2}{r_b r_c}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{s(s-a)}{s(s-a) + s^2} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{2s-a-s}{2s-a} \\ & = 3 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{s}{b+c} = 3 - s \cdot \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + a^2)}{2s(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} = 3 - \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab) + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{2(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} \\ & = 3 - \frac{4s^2 + s^2 + 4Rr + r^2}{2(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} = \frac{s^2 + 8Rr + 5r^2}{2(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} \stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{3}{4} \Leftrightarrow s^2 - 10Rr - 7r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ & \Leftrightarrow s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2 + 6r(R-2r) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \text{ and} \\ & \quad 6r(R-2r) \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1 + \cot \frac{B}{2} \cdot \cot \frac{C}{2}} \leq \frac{3}{4} \\ & \quad \forall \Delta ABC, " = " \text{ iff } \Delta ABC \text{ is equilateral (QED)} \end{aligned}$$