

In any acute ΔABC , the following relationship holds :

$$\frac{a}{h_a} \sqrt{\tan A} + \frac{b}{h_b} \sqrt{\tan B} + \frac{c}{h_c} \sqrt{\tan C} > 2\sqrt[4]{27}$$

Proposed by Vasile Mircea Popa-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Let } f(x) = (\sin x)\sqrt{\tan x} \quad \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \text{ and then : } f''(x) \\ &= \frac{(4 \sec^2 x - 4)(\sin x)(\tan^2 x) + 4(\sin x)(\sec^2 x) - (\sec^4 x)(\sin x)}{4 \tan^{\frac{3}{2}} x} \\ &= \frac{4(\sin x)(\tan^4 x) + 3(\sin x)(\sec^2 x) - (\sin x)(\sec^2 x)(\sec^2 x - 1)}{4 \tan^{\frac{3}{2}} x} \\ &= \frac{4(\sin x)(\tan^4 x) + 3 \sin x + 3(\sin x)(\tan^2 x) - (\sin x)(\sec^2 x)(\tan^2 x)}{4 \tan^{\frac{3}{2}} x} \\ &= \frac{4(\sin x)(\tan^4 x) + 3 \sin x + 3(\sin x)(\tan^2 x) - (\sin x)(\tan^2 x) - (\sin x)(\tan^4 x)}{4 \tan^{\frac{3}{2}} x} \\ &= \frac{3(\sin x)(\tan^4 x) + 3 \sin x + 2(\sin x)(\tan^2 x)}{4 \tan^{\frac{3}{2}} x} > 0 \Rightarrow f(x) \text{ is convex} \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

Now, WLOG if we assume $a \geq b \geq c$, then : $a\sqrt{\tan A} \geq b\sqrt{\tan B} \geq c\sqrt{\tan C}$

($\because \Delta ABC$ is acute) and $\frac{1}{h_a} \geq \frac{1}{h_b} \geq \frac{1}{h_c} \therefore$ via Chebyshev,

$$\frac{a}{h_a} \sqrt{\tan A} + \frac{b}{h_b} \sqrt{\tan B} + \frac{c}{h_c} \sqrt{\tan C} \geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{h_a} \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\sqrt{\tan A} \right) \stackrel{\text{Jensen, via (1)}}{\geq}$$

$$\frac{3 \cdot 2R}{3r} \cdot \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \cdot \sqrt{\tan \frac{\pi}{3}} = \frac{2R}{r} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\sqrt{3}} \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2 \cdot 3^{\frac{3}{4}} = 2\sqrt[4]{27}$$

\forall acute ΔABC , " = " iff ΔABC is equilateral (QED)