

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{R}{2r} \right)^{-2} - \frac{15}{4} \leq \cos 2A + \cos 2B + \cos 2C \leq 5 - \frac{13}{2} \left(\frac{R}{2r} \right)^{-2}$$

Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Greece

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \cos 2A + \cos 2B + \cos 2C &= 2 \cos(A+B) \cos(A-B) + \cos 2C \\ &= 2 \cos(\pi - C) \cos(A-B) + 2 \cos^2 C - 1 \\ &= -2 \cos C (\cos(A-B) - \cos C) - 1 \\ &= -2 \cos C (\cos(A-B) + \cos(A+B)) - 1 \\ &= -4 \cos A \cos B \cos C - 1 \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{From (1): } \cos 2A + \cos 2B + \cos 2C &= -4 \cos A \cos B \cos C - 1 = \\ &= 4 \frac{(2R+r)^2 - s^2}{4R^2} - 1 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\leq} \frac{4R^2 + 4Rr + r^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2}{R^2} - 1 = \\ &= \frac{3R^2 - 12Rr + 6r^2}{R^2} = 3 - 12 \frac{r}{R} + 6 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 = 5 - 2 - 12 \frac{r}{R} + 6 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 = \\ &= 5 - 8 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 - 24 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{r}{R} \right) + 6 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\leq} \\ &\leq 5 - 8 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - 24 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 + 6 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 = 5 - 26 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 = 5 - \frac{13}{2} \cdot 4 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 = 5 - \frac{13}{2} \left(\frac{R}{2r} \right)^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{From (1): } \cos 2A + \cos 2B + \cos 2C &= -4 \cos A \cos B \cos C - 1 = \\ &= 4 \frac{(2R+r)^2 - s^2}{4R^2} - 1 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} \frac{(2R+r)^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - 3r^2}{R^2} - 1 = \\ &= \frac{-2r^2 - R^2}{R^2} = -2 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - 1 = -2 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{15}{4} - \frac{11}{4} \right) = \\ &= \frac{11}{4} - 2 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - \frac{15}{4} = 11 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 - 2 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - \frac{15}{4} \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} \\ &\geq 11 \cdot \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - 2 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - \frac{15}{4} = 9 \left(\frac{r}{R} \right)^2 - \frac{15}{4} = \frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{2r}{R} \right)^2 - \frac{15}{4} = \frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{R}{2r} \right)^{-2} - \frac{15}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for: $a = b = c$.