

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

In acute $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} - \sqrt{3} \right) \geq \cot B + \cot C$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\text{Let } u = \tan \frac{B}{2} > 0, v = \tan \frac{C}{2} > 0 \text{ then } \sin B = \frac{2u}{1+u^2}, \cos B = \frac{1-u^2}{1+u^2}$$

$$\frac{2 - \cos B}{\sin B} = \frac{2 - \frac{1-u^2}{1+u^2}}{\frac{2u}{1+u^2}} = \frac{1+3u^2}{2u} = \frac{1}{2u} + \frac{3u}{2} \text{ similarly:}$$

$$\frac{2 - \cos C}{\sin C} = \frac{1}{2v} + \frac{3v}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} - \sqrt{3} \right) - \cot B + \cot C = \\ & = 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin B} - \frac{1}{2} \cot B \right) + 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin C} - \frac{1}{2} \cot C \right) - 2\sqrt{3} = \\ & = 2 \frac{2 - \cos B}{2 \sin B} + 2 \frac{2 - \cos C}{2 \sin C} - 2\sqrt{3} = \frac{1}{2u} + \frac{3u}{2} + \frac{1}{2v} + \frac{3v}{2} - 2\sqrt{3} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\ & \geq 2 \sqrt{\frac{1}{2u} \cdot \frac{3u}{2}} + 2 \sqrt{\frac{1}{2v} \cdot \frac{3v}{2}} - 2\sqrt{3} = \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{3} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So: } 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} - \sqrt{3} \right) \geq \cot B + \cot C$$

$$\text{Equality holds for } A = B = C = \frac{\pi}{3}.$$