

Proof methods for 6403

1. Establish the LHS of the inequality as follows.

Show first that $r_A = \frac{R}{2}(1 - \cos \alpha)$, whence $r_A + r_B + r_C = \frac{R}{2}[3 - (\cos \alpha + \cos \beta + \cos \gamma)]$.

Substitute $\pi - (\alpha + \beta)$ for γ and simplify.

The requirement now is to maximise the expression in the round bracket.

Obtain partial derivatives of the expression with respect to α, β respectively. Set each equal to zero. Solve the resulting equation pair. You should find that the greatest value in the required interval is obtained when $\alpha = \beta = \frac{\pi}{3}$. This yields the result.

Establish the RHS of the inequality by exhausting cases. You should find that the greatest value of the sum is obtained as one angle approaches π .

2. Establish that: $\tan \alpha = \frac{a}{2(R-2r_A)}$, etc.; $a = 4\sqrt{r_A(R-r_A)}$, etc. .

Use the identity $\tan \theta + \tan \varphi + \tan \omega = \tan \theta \tan \varphi \tan \omega$, where $\theta + \varphi + \omega = \pi$.

The result follows by substitution.

Note in passing the standard identity $abc = 2(a + b + c)Rr$, which would enable us to rewrite equation 2. In terms of r .

3. Establish the LHS of the inequality as follows.

Establish that by similar triangles $\frac{\rho_A}{r} = \frac{1 - \sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}{1 + \sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}$, etc..

For the choice made in the next line, which is not perhaps the obvious one, the author is indebted to [1].

Let φ_A be $\frac{\pi - \alpha}{4}$. Writing t_A for $\tan \varphi_A$, show that $\frac{\rho_A}{r} = t_A^2$, etc. **[3.1]**

The problem reduces to showing that $\frac{\rho_A + \rho_B + \rho_C}{r} = t_A^2 + t_B^2 + t_C^2 \geq 1$. **[3.2]**

Since $\varphi_A + \varphi_B + \varphi_C = \frac{\pi}{2}$, $\tan(\varphi_A + \varphi_B + \varphi_C) = \frac{t_A + t_B + t_C - t_A t_B t_C}{1 - t_A t_B - t_B t_C - t_C t_A} = \infty$.

Therefore $t_A t_B + t_B t_C + t_C t_A = 1$. **[3.3]**

Split the sum of the squares in **[3.2]** like this: $\frac{1}{2}(t_A^2 + t_B^2) + \frac{1}{2}(t_B^2 + t_C^2) + \frac{1}{2}(t_C^2 + t_A^2)$.

Pairing terms in **[3.2]**, **[3.3]**, you will have proved the result if you can show that

$$\frac{1}{2}(t_A^2 + t_B^2) \geq t_A t_B, \text{ etc. .}$$

All that is needed now is to use the classic inequality $x^2 + y^2 \geq 2xy$ for $x > y$.

Establish the RHS of the inequality by exhausting cases. As in **1.**, the greatest value of the sum is obtained as one angle approaches π .

4. From **[3.1]** you have $\rho_A = t_A^2 r$, etc.

Use **[3.2]** with equality and the result comes out.

6. The following proof is given complete, but a shorter one may be possible.

Again, let $c = \cos \frac{\pi}{n}$. Then, from **[5.1]**:

$$S_1 = 2(\tau + \sigma) = 8c,$$

$$S_2 = r + R = 1 + 4c + 3c^2.$$

Let $c = 1 - \delta$.

Then:

$$S_1 = 8 - 8\delta,$$

$$S_2 = 8 - 10\delta + 3\delta^2,$$

$$S_1 - S_2 = \delta(2 - 3\delta). \text{ [5.2]}$$

Since $n \geq 3$, $\frac{1}{2} \leq c < 1$, $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{2}$. [5.3]

From [5.3] both factors on the right in [5.2] are positive, i.e. $S_1 > S_2$ and $2(\rho + \sigma) > r + R$ as required.

Paul Stephenson

28.4.21