

$$f(x) = g(x) + g'(x) + g''(x)$$

By Rolle's theorem there is a value  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$1 = \frac{1}{b-a} \ln \left( \frac{f(b)}{f(a)} \right) = \frac{\ln(f(b)) - \ln(f(a))}{b-a} = \frac{d}{dx} \ln(f(x))|_{x=c} = \frac{f'(c)}{f(c)}$$

So  $0 = f'(c) - f(c) = g'''(c) - g(c)$  which is equivalent to the claimed equality.

Albert Stadler

#### Fourth solution.

$$\left( \frac{f(b)}{f(a)} \right) = b-a \iff \frac{\ln f(b) - \ln f(a)}{b-a} = 1$$

and the Lagrange's theorem or the mean-value-theorem yields the existence of a point  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$(\ln(f(x))'|_{x=c} = 1 \iff \frac{f'(c)}{f(c)} = 1 \iff f'(c) = f(c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) &= \frac{1 + \frac{c}{\sqrt{1+c^2}}}{c + \sqrt{1+c^2}} - \frac{c}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} - \frac{1}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{3c^2}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} = \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} - \frac{c+1}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{3c^2}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} = \end{aligned}$$

The equation  $f'(c) = f(c)$  yields

$$\ln(c + \sqrt{1+c^2}) = -\frac{1}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{3c^2}{(1+c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}}$$

that is

$$2c^2 = 1 + (1+c^2)^{5/2} \ln(c + \sqrt{1+c^2})$$

Paolo Perfetti

**W6. Solution by the proposer.** Let  $S(x_N) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}}$  if series converges and  $S_f(x_N) = \infty$  if it diverges.

Let  $\tilde{D}_1 = \{x_N \mid x_N \in D_1 \text{ and } S(x_N) \neq \infty\}$ . Since  $\tilde{D}_1$  isn't empty (because for instance if  $x_n = q^{n-1}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $q \in (0, 1)$ , we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} =$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{3(n-1)}}{q^{n-1} + 4q^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2(n-1)}}{1+4q} = \frac{1}{(1+4q)(1-q^2)}$$

then  $\inf \{S(\mathbf{x}_N) \mid \mathbf{x}_N \in D_1\} = \inf \{S(\mathbf{x}_N) \mid \mathbf{x}_N \in \tilde{D}_1\}$ .

Let  $S := \inf \{S(\mathbf{x}_N) \mid \mathbf{x}_N \in \tilde{D}_1\}$ . For any  $\mathbf{x}_N \in \tilde{D}_1$  we have

$$S(\mathbf{x}_N) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+4x_2} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \frac{1}{1+4x_2} + x_2^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{y_n^3}{y_n + 4y_{n+1}} = \frac{1}{1+4x_2} + x_2^2 S(\mathbf{y}_N),$$

where  $y_n := \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_2}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $\mathbf{y}_N \in \tilde{D}_1$  ( $1 = y_1 > y_2 > \dots > y_n > \dots$  and  $S(\mathbf{y}_N) = \frac{S(\mathbf{x}_N)}{x_2^2} - \frac{1}{1+4x_2}$ ) then

$S(\mathbf{y}_N) \geq S$  and, therefore,  $S(\mathbf{x}_N) \geq \frac{1}{1+4x_2} + x_2^2 S \implies S \geq \frac{1}{1+4x_2} + x_2^2 S \iff S \geq \frac{1}{(1+4x_2)(1-x_2^2)}$ .

We will find  $\mu := \max_{x \in (0,1)} h(x)$ , where

$$h(x) := (1+4x)(1-x^2) = -4x^3 - x^2 + 4x + 1$$

Since  $h'(x) = -12x^2 - 2x + 4 = -2(3x+2)(2x-1)$  then

$$\mu = \max_{x \in (0,1)} h(x) = h\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{9}{4} \text{ and, therefore, } S(\mathbf{x}_N) \geq \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{4}{9}.$$

Since  $S(\mathbf{x}_N) = \frac{1}{(1+4q)(1-q^2)}$  for  $x_n = q^{n-1}, n \in \mathbb{N}, q \in (0,1)$ , then for  $q = \frac{1}{2}$  we obtain

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \frac{1}{\left(1+4 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\right)\left(1-\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2\right)} = \frac{4}{9}.$$

**Second solution.** If  $x_k = 2^{-k+1}$  the equality occurs. Indeed

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{-3n+3}}{2^{-n+1} + 4 \cdot 2^{-n}} = \frac{4}{3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4^n} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{4}{9}$$

Now consider the sequence  $y_1 = 1$ ,  $y_2 = \frac{1}{2} + \delta$ ,  $0 < \delta < 1/2$ ,  $y_k = 2^{-k+1}$  for  $k \geq 3$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{y_n^3}{y_n + 4y_{n+1}} &= \frac{4}{9} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{y_n^3}{y_n + 4y_{n+1}} = \\ &= \frac{x_1^3}{x_1 + 4x_2} + \frac{x_2^3}{x_2 + 4x_3} - \frac{y_1^3}{y_1 + 4y_2} - \frac{y_2^3}{y_2 + 4y_3} = \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + 4\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\frac{1}{8}}{\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{4}} - \frac{1}{1 + 4(\frac{1}{2} + \delta)} - \frac{(\frac{1}{2} + \delta)^3}{\frac{1}{2} + \delta + 4\frac{1}{4}} = \\ &= \frac{5}{12} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4}{3}\delta} - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \delta\right)^3 \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{3}\delta} = \\ &= \frac{5}{12} - \frac{1}{3} \left(1 - \frac{4}{3}\delta\right) - \frac{1}{8} \frac{2}{3} \left(1 - \frac{2}{3}\delta\right) + O(\delta^2) = \frac{1}{2}\delta + O(\delta^2) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Contradicting the statement.

Paolo Perfetti

**Third solution.** Q  $x_1 = 1$ , and sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is the increasing geometric progression,

$$\therefore x_n = 1 \times q^{n-1} \quad (0 < q < 1)$$

$$\text{Then } y_n = \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \frac{q^{3n-3}}{q^{n-1} + 4q^n} = \frac{q^{2n-2}}{1+4q}$$

So

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2n-2}}{1+4q} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+4q} \times \frac{1-q^{2n}}{1-q^2}$$

$$\text{Q } 0 < q < 1, n \rightarrow \infty, \therefore 1 - q^{2n} \rightarrow 1,$$

$$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+4q} \times \frac{1}{1-q^2}$$

$$f(q) = (1+4q)(1-q^2) = 1 - q^2 + 4q - 4q^3 \quad (0 < q < 1)$$

$$f'(q) = -2q + 4 - 12q^2$$

$$\text{Let } f'(q) = -2q + 4 - 12q^2 = 0, \therefore q_1 = -\frac{2}{3} \text{ (round) } q_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$\therefore$  In interval  $(0,1)$ , maximum values for  $q$  is  $f(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{9}{4}$ . If and only if  $q = \frac{1}{2}$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{9}{4} \geq \frac{1}{1+4q} \times \frac{1}{1-q^2}, \therefore (1+4q) \times (1-q^2) \leq \frac{9}{4}, \therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} \leq \frac{9}{4}.$$

When  $q = \frac{1}{2}$   $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \frac{9}{4}$ . At this time  $x_n = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$ .

Chen Jianan, Lee Xueliang, Guo Meiqun, Feng Xiaoling, Kong Huimin and Zheng Nanmin

**Fourth solution.** By the Cauchy-Schwarz-inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n (x_n + 4x_{n+1}) = \\ & = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \frac{x_n}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \frac{x_n + 4x_{n+1}}{x_n} \geq \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Again, by the Cauchy-Schwarz-inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} & \geq \frac{\left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^2}{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n (x_n + 4x_{n+1})} = \frac{\left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^2}{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n x_{n+1}} \geq \\ & \geq \frac{\left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^2}{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 + 4 \sqrt{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2 \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_{n+1}^2}} = \frac{s^2}{s + 4\sqrt{s(s-1)}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } s = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n^2.$$

The inequality  $\frac{s^2}{s+4\sqrt{s(s-1)}} \geq \frac{4}{9}$  is equivalent to each of

$$\left( s^2 - \frac{4}{9}s \right)^2 \geq \frac{256}{81}s(s-1) \text{ and } \frac{s(3s-4)^2(16+9s)}{81} \geq 0,$$

which obviously holds true. So  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} \geq \frac{4}{9}$ .

Equality holds true only if  $\frac{x_n + 4x_{n+1}}{x_n}$  is constant and  $s = \frac{4}{3}$ , which means that

$\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = c$  for some constant  $c$  implying  $x_n = c^{n-1}$  and  $s = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c^{n-2} = \frac{1}{1-c^2} = \frac{4}{3}$ . So

$$c = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } x_n = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Indeed,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_n^3}{x_n + 4x_{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{8^n}}{\frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{2}{2^n}} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4^n} = \frac{4}{9}.$$

Albert Stadler

**W7. Solution by the proposer.** Let  $F := [ABC]$ . Since  $[A_1CB_1I] = [A_1AB] - [IAB_1]$  and  $\frac{CA_1}{BC} = \frac{b}{b+c}$ ,  $\frac{AB_1}{AC} = \frac{c}{a+c}$ ,  $\frac{IB_1}{BB_1} = \frac{b}{a+b+c}$  then

$$[A_1AC] = \frac{bF}{b+c}, [ABB_1] = \frac{cF}{a+c}, [IAB_1] = \frac{b[ABB_1]}{a+b+c} = \frac{bcF}{(a+b+c)(a+c)},$$

$$\begin{aligned}[A_1CB_1I] &= \frac{bF}{b+c} - \frac{bcF}{(a+b+c)(a+c)} = \frac{bF((a+c)^2 + ab + bc - bc - c^2)}{(a+b+c)(a+c)(b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{Fab(2c+a+b)}{(a+b+c)(a+c)(b+c)} = \frac{F((a+b)^2 - c^2)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+b+c)(a+c)(b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{F(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+c)(b+c)}.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\frac{[A_1CB_1I]}{F} = \frac{(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+c)(b+c)}.$$

Now we will find  $\max \frac{(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+c)(b+c)}$ .

Due to homogeneity of  $\frac{(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{(a+c)(b+c)}$  we can assume that  $c = 1$ .

Since  $a^2 + b^2 = 1$  then, denoting  $t := a+b$  obtain that

$t \leq \sqrt{2}$  ( $\iff a+b \leq \sqrt{2(a^2+b^2)}$ ),

$$\begin{aligned}(a+1)(b+1) &= 1+t + \frac{t^2-1}{2} = \frac{(t+1)^2}{2}, \frac{(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+c)(b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{(t-1)(2+t)}{2(a+1)(b+1)} = \frac{(t-1)(2+t)}{(t+1)^2}\end{aligned}$$

and, therefore,

$$\max \left( \frac{(a+b-c)(2c+a+b)}{2(a+c)(b+c)} \right) = \max_{0 < t \leq \sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{(t-1)(t+2)}{(t+1)^2} \right).$$

Since  $t+1 \leq \sqrt{2}+1 \iff \frac{1}{t+1} \geq \sqrt{2}-1$  then

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{(t-1)(t+2)}{(t+1)^2} &= \frac{t^2+t-2}{(t+1)^2} = 1 - \frac{1}{t+1} - \\ &- \frac{2}{(t+1)^2} \leq 1 - (\sqrt{2}-1) - 2(\sqrt{2}-1)^2 = 2 - \sqrt{2} - 6 + 4\sqrt{2} = 3\sqrt{2} - 4\end{aligned}$$

and equally occurs iff  $t = \sqrt{2}$ . Thus,  $\max \frac{[A_1CB_1I]}{F} = 3\sqrt{2} - 4$  and can be attained only iff  $a = b = \frac{\sqrt{2}c}{2}$  because

$$\begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \\ a + b = \sqrt{2}c \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \\ a = b \end{cases}.$$

**Second solution.**  $2\alpha + 2\beta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\alpha + \beta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ ,  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

In the  $\triangle ABI$ , set  $BI = x$ ,  $AI = y$ , set  $\angle BAI = \angle \alpha$ ,  $\angle ABI = \angle \beta$ ,

$$\frac{x}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{y}{\sin \beta} = \frac{c}{\sin(\pi - \alpha - \beta)} = \frac{c}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}$$

$$\therefore x = \sqrt{2} \sin \alpha \times c, y = \sqrt{2} \sin \beta \times$$

$$S_{\triangle ABI} = \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \sin \alpha \sin \beta c^2 \times \sin(\pi - \alpha - \beta) - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \sin \alpha \sin \beta c^2 \times$$

$$\text{Similarly available } S_{\triangle ABA_1} = \frac{1}{2} c^2 \times \frac{\sin \alpha \sin 2\beta}{\sin(\alpha+2\beta)}, S_{\triangle ABB_1} = \frac{1}{2} c^2 \times \frac{\sin 2\alpha \sin \beta}{\sin(2\alpha+\beta)}$$

Let  $S$  be  $A_1CB_1I$  except the quadrilateral area,

$$\therefore S = \frac{1}{2} c^2 \times \left[ \frac{2 \sin \alpha \sin \beta}{\sin(2\alpha+\beta)} + \frac{\sin \alpha \sin 2\beta}{\sin(\alpha+2\beta)} - \sqrt{2} \sin \alpha \sin \beta \right],$$

$$S_{\triangle ABC} = \frac{1}{2} c^2 \times \sin 2\alpha \sin 2\beta.$$

Now to make the minimum  $\frac{S}{S_{\triangle ABC}}$ , so the proportion of quadrilateral is maximized

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S}{S_{\triangle ABC}} &= \frac{\sin \beta}{\sin(2\alpha+\beta) \sin 2\beta} + \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin(\alpha+2\beta) \sin 2\alpha} - \frac{\sqrt{2} \sin \alpha \sin \beta}{\sin 2\alpha \sin 2\beta} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \sin(2\alpha+\beta) \cos \beta} + \frac{1}{2 \sin(\alpha+2\beta) \cos \alpha} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4 \cos \alpha \cos \beta} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta} + \frac{1}{2 \cos \beta \cos \alpha} - \frac{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta} = \frac{2 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta} \end{aligned}$$

Now to make the  $f(\alpha) = 2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta$  max,  $\alpha + \beta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore f(\alpha) &= 2 \cos \alpha \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{4} - \alpha \right) = 2 \cos \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cos \alpha + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sin \alpha \right) = \\ &= \sqrt{2} \cos^2 \alpha + \sqrt{2} \sin \alpha \cos \alpha = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} (2 \cos^2 \alpha - 1) + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sin 2\alpha = \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cos 2\alpha + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sin 2\alpha = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \sin \left( 2\alpha + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\max f(\alpha) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + 1, \text{ at this time } \alpha = \frac{\pi}{8} \min \frac{S}{S_{\triangle ABC}} = \frac{2 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + 1} = 5 - 3\sqrt{2}.$$

$$\text{So } \frac{S_{[A_1CB_1I]}}{S_{\triangle ABC}} = 1 - \frac{S}{S_{\triangle ABC}} = 1 - (5 - 3\sqrt{2}) = 3\sqrt{2} - 4.$$

Chen Jianan, Lee Xueliang, Guo Meiqun, Feng Xiaoling, Kong Huimin and Zheng Nanmin

**Third solution.** We can assume that  $AC = 1$ . We put

$$\alpha = \angle BAC (= \text{angle at } A). \text{ Then } \text{area}(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2} \tan(\alpha),$$

$$\text{area}(\triangle AA_1C) = \frac{1}{2} \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|, \text{ area}(\triangle BCB_1) = \frac{1}{2} \tan^2(\alpha) \tan\left|\frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right|,$$

$$\text{area}(\triangle ABI) = \frac{1}{2} AI \cdot BI \sin\left|\pi - \frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right| = \frac{1}{2} AI \cdot BI \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{AB \sin\left|\frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right|}{\sin\left|\frac{3\pi}{4}\right|} \cdot \frac{AB \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{\sin\left|\frac{3\pi}{4}\right|} \sin\left|\frac{3\pi}{4}\right| =$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} AB^2 \sin\left|\frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right| \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \frac{\sin\left|\frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right| \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{\cos^2 \alpha} = \frac{|\cos\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| - \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| | \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{2 \cos^2(\alpha)},$$

$$\text{area}(\diamond A_1CB_1I) = \text{area}(\triangle AA_1C) + \text{area}(\triangle BCB_1) + \text{area}(\triangle ABI) - \text{area}(\triangle ABC).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\text{area}(\diamond A_1CB_1I)}{\text{area}(\triangle ABC)} = \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{2} \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| + \frac{1}{2} \tan^2(\alpha) \tan\left|\frac{\frac{\pi}{2}-\alpha}{2}\right| + \frac{|\cos\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| - \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| | \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{2 \cos^2(\alpha)} - \frac{1}{2} \tan(\alpha)}{\frac{1}{2} \tan(\alpha)} = \\ &= \frac{\tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{\tan(\alpha)} + \tan(\alpha) \frac{1 - \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{1 + \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|} + \frac{|\cos\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| - \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right| | \sin\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{\sin(\alpha) \cos(\alpha)} - 1 = \\ &= \frac{1 - \tan^2\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{2} + \frac{2 \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{2 \cos(\alpha)} - 1 = \frac{1 - \tan^2\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{2} + \frac{2 \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{|1 + \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|^2} + \frac{1 - \tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{1 - \tan^2\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|} - 1 = \\ &\stackrel{u=\tan\left|\frac{\alpha}{2}\right|}{=} \frac{1 - u^2}{2} + \frac{2u}{(1+u)^2} + \frac{1+u^2}{2(1+u)} - 1 = f(u) \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\frac{d}{du} \left| \frac{1-u^2}{2} + \frac{2u}{(1+u)^2} + \frac{1+u^2}{2(1+u)} - 1 \right| = \frac{(1-2u-u^2)(3+u+2u^2)}{2(1+u)^3}$$

So  $f(u)$  gets minimal at the positive zero of  $1 - 2u - u^2 = 0$  or at  $u = \sqrt{2} - 1$ . If  $\tan\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) = \sqrt{2} - 1$  then  $\tan(\alpha) = 1$ .

So  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and thus the right triangle with the greatest ratio is the isosceles right triangle.

Albert Stadler

**Fourth solution.** We use the usual notations. If  $r$  is the inradius, then  $r = \frac{a+b-c}{2}$ . By bisector theorem we obtain that  $A_1C = \frac{ab}{b+c}$  and  $B_1C = \frac{ab}{a+c}$ . Yields that

$$2[A_1CB_1I] = 2[A_1CI] + 2[CB_1I] = r \left( \frac{ab}{b+c} + \frac{ab}{a+c} \right)$$

so

$$\frac{[A_1CB_1I]}{[ABC]} = \frac{a+b-c}{2} \cdot \frac{a+b+2c}{(a+c)(b+c)}$$

Because we suspect that the maximum value of this ratio is reached within an isosceles right triangle, we demonstrate that

$$\frac{(a+b-c)(a+b+2c)}{(a+c)} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3+2\sqrt{2}}$$

which yields that the greatest value is  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{3+2\sqrt{2}}$ .

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(a+b-c)(a+b+2c)}{(a+c)(b+c)} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3+2\sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow \\ & \Leftrightarrow (3+2\sqrt{2})c(a+b) - 2\sqrt{2}c(a+b) \leq 2\sqrt{2}(a^2 + b^2 + ab) + (3+2\sqrt{2})(a - 2ab + b^2) \Leftrightarrow \\ & \Leftrightarrow 3c(a+b) \leq 2\sqrt{2}(2a^2 - ab + 2b^2) + 3(a^2 - 2ab + b^2) \end{aligned}$$

and squared we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & 9(a+b)^2(a^2 + b^2) \leq 8(2a^2 - ab + 2b^2)^2 + 9(a^2 - 2ab + b^2)^2 + \\ & + 12\sqrt{2}(2a^2 - ab + 2b^2)(a^2 - 2ab + b^2) \Leftrightarrow \\ & \Leftrightarrow 32a^4 - 86a^3b + 108a^2b^2 - 86ab^3 + 32b^4 + 24\sqrt{2}a^4 - 60\sqrt{2}a^3b + 72\sqrt{2}a^2b^2 - \\ & - 60\sqrt{2}ab^3 + 24\sqrt{2}b^4 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a-b)^2(16a^2 - 11ab + 16b^2) + 6\sqrt{2}(a-b)^2(2a^2 - ab + 2b^2) \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

true, since  $16a^2 - 11ab + 16b^2 \geq 0$ ,  $2a^2 - ab + 2b^2 > 0$ . We have equality iff  $a = b$ , i.e. the triangle is isosceles right triangle.

Neculai Stanciu

**W8. Solution by the proposer.** Note that  $\Delta(x^2, y^2, z^2) = (x+y+z)(x+y-z)(x-y+z)(-x+y+z)$  and for positive  $x, y, z$  we have equivalency

$$\Delta(x^2, y^2, z^2) > 0 \iff \begin{cases} x+y > z \\ y+z > x \\ z+x > y \end{cases}.$$

Due symmetry and homogeneity of  $\Delta(a^n, b^n, c^n) > 0$  WLOG we assume that  $a \geq b \geq 1$ .

Then for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$\begin{cases} \Delta(a^{2n}, b^{2n}, c^{2n}) > 0 \\ a \geq b \geq c = 1 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} b^n + 1 > a^n \\ a \geq b \geq c = 1 \end{cases}.$$

Suppose that  $a > b$ , then

$$a^n = (b + (a-b))^n > b^n + n(a-b)b^{n-1} > b^n + n(a-b) > b^n + 1$$

for any  $n > \frac{1}{a-b}$ . It is contradict to  $b^n + 1 > a^n$  which holds for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus  $a = b$  and, therefore, triangle should be isosceles with two equal sides, which not less than third one.

Let now  $a = b \geq c$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(a^n, b^n, c^n) &= 2a^n b^n + 2b^n c^n + 2c^n a^n - a^{2n} - b^{2n} - c^{2n} = \\ &= 4c^n a^n - c^{2n} \geq 3c^{2n} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Second solution.** 1). When  $a = b = c$ ,  $V(a^n, b^n, c^n) = V(a^n, a^n, a^n) = 2a^n a^n + 2a^n a^n + 2a^n a^n - (a^n)^2 - (a^n)^2 - (a^n)^2 = 6a^{2n} - 3a^{2n} = 3a^{2n} > 0$ .

2). When  $b = c > a$ ,  
 $V(a^n, b^n, c^n) = V(a^n, b^n, b^n) = 2a^n b^n + 2b^n b^n + 2d^n b^n - (a^n)^2 - (b^n)^2 - (b^n)^2 = 2b^{2n} + 4a^n b^n - a^{2n} - 2b^{2n} = 4a^n b^n - a^{2n} = a^n(4b^n - a^n)$ , Qb > a,  $\therefore 4b^n > a^n$ ,  
 $\therefore a^n(4b^n - a^n) > 0$ ,  $\therefore (a^n, b^n, c^n) > 0$ .

Chen Jianan, Lee Xueliang, Guo Meiqun, Feng Xiaoling, Kong Huimin and Zheng Nanmin

**Third solution.** By symmetry we can assume that  $a \leq b \leq c$ . We distinguish two cases:

a).  $b < c$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta(a^n, b^n, c^n) &= -(a^n - b^n)^2 + 2c^n(a^n + b^n) - c^{2n} \leq 2c^n(a^n + b^n) - c^{2n} = \\ &= c^{2n} \left( -1 + 2 \frac{a^n + b^n}{c^n} \right) < 0\end{aligned}$$

if  $n$  is sufficiently big, since  $\frac{a}{c-1} < 1$ ,  $\frac{b}{c} < 1$ .

b).  $b = c$

$$\Delta(a^n, b^n, b^n) = 4a^n b^n - a^{2n} = a^n(4b^n - a^n) > 0,$$

for all natural numbers  $n$ . So  $\Delta(a^n, b^n, c^n) > 0$  for any natural number  $n$  if and only if  $a, b, c$  form the sides of an isosceles triangle whose third side is smaller than the two legs or  $a, b, c$  form the sides of an equilateral triangle.

Albert Stadle

**W9. Solution by the proposer.** a) Follows immediately from inequality  $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$ . Really,

$$\begin{aligned}R^2 - 4r^2 &\geq \frac{1}{5} \cdot (s^2 - 27r^2) \iff s^2 \leq 5R^2 + 7r^2 \iff \\ 0 &\leq (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 - s^2) + (R - 2r)^2.\end{aligned}$$

b) Recall ([1]), that a triple  $(R, r, s)$  of positive real numbers can determine a triangle, where  $R$ ,  $r$ , and  $s$  be a circumradius, inradius and semiperimeter respectively iff  $(R, r, s) \in \bar{\Delta} := \{(R, r, s) \mid R \geq 2r \text{ and } L(R, r) \leq s^2 \leq M(R, r)\}$  where

$$L(R, r) = 2R^2 + 10Rr - r^2 - 2(R - 2r)\sqrt{R(R - 2r)}$$

and

$$M(R, r) = 2R^2 + 10Rr - r^2 + 2(R - 2r)\sqrt{R(R - 2r)}.$$

Since a triangle is equilateral iff  $R = 2r$  then set

$$\Delta := \{(R, r, s) \mid (R, r, s) \in \bar{\Delta} \text{ and } R \neq 2r\}$$

determine all non-equilateral triangles.

Thus,

$$\max K = \min_{(R, r, s) \in \Delta} \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} = \min_{R > 2r} \left( \min_s \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} \right) = \min_{R > 2r} \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{M(R, r) - 27r^2} =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \min_{R>2r} \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{2R^2 + 10Rr - 28r^2 + 2(R-2r)\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} = \min_{R>2r} \frac{R+2r}{2R-14r+2\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} = \\
&= \min_{R>2r} \frac{1+\frac{2r}{R}}{2-7\cdot\frac{2r}{R}+2\sqrt{1-\frac{2r}{R}}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Denoting  $t := \sqrt{1 - \frac{2r}{R}}$  we obtain that  $t \in (0, 1)$  and, therefore,

$$K_* := \max K = \min_{t \in (0,1)} \frac{2-t^2}{9+2t-7t^2} = \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{8},$$

because  $\frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}$  is smallest real  $k$  for which equation  $\frac{2-t^2}{9+2t-7t^2} = k$  have solution in  $(0, 1)$ .

Indeed, if equation  $\frac{2-t^2}{9+2t-7t^2} = k$  have solution then

$$2-t^2 = k(9+2t-7t^2) \iff (7k-1)t^2 - 2kt - 9k + 2 = 0$$

yields

$$k^2 + (7k-1)(9k-2) = 64k^2 - 23k + 2 \geq 0 \implies k \geq \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}.$$

Since for  $k_* := \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}$  equation

$$\frac{2-t^2}{9+2t-7t^2} = k_*$$

have only solution

$$t_* = \frac{k_*}{7k_*-1} = \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{33+7\sqrt{17}} = \frac{5-\sqrt{17}}{2} \in (0, 1)$$

then

$$K_* = \min_{t \in (0,1)} \frac{2-t^2}{9+2t-7t^2} = \frac{2-t_*^2}{9+2t_*-7t_*^2} = \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}.$$

So, for any triangle holds inequality

$$R^2 - 4r^2 \geq \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128} (s^2 - 27r^2)$$

and not exist constant  $K > \frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}$  which provide inequality in (b).

c)  $\lim_{R \rightarrow 2r} \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} = \frac{2}{9}$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{2R^2 + 10Rr - 28r^2 + 2(R-2r)\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} \leq \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{2R^2 + 10Rr - 28r^2 - 2(R-2r)\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} \iff \\ & \frac{R+2r}{2R+14r+2\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} \leq \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} \leq \frac{R+2r}{2R+14r-2\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} \text{ and} \\ & \lim_{R \rightarrow 2r} \frac{R+2r}{2R+14r+2\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} = \lim_{R \rightarrow 2r} \frac{R+2r}{2R+14r-2\sqrt{R(R-2r)}} = \frac{2}{9}. \end{aligned}$$

[1] D.S.Mitrinovic,J.E.Pecaric,V.Volnec.Recent Advances In Geometric Inequalities.

**Second solution.** Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be the sides of the triangle, and let  $\Delta$  be its area. Then

$$s = \frac{a+b+c}{2}, \Delta = \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}, R = \frac{abc}{4\Delta}, r = \frac{\Delta}{s}$$

Let  $x = b+c-a, y = c+a-b, z = a+b-c$ . Then  $x \geq 0, y \geq 0, z \geq 0, x+y=2c, y+z=2a, z+x=2b, x+y+z=a+b+c$ . We express  $s, R, r$  in terms of  $x, y, z$ :  $s = \frac{x+y+z}{2}, \Delta = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{xyz(x+y+z)}, R = \frac{abc}{4\Delta} = \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{8\sqrt{xyz(x+y+z)}}, r = \frac{\Delta}{s} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{xyz}{x+y+z}}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y, z) &:= \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} = \frac{\frac{(x+y)^2(y+z)^2(z+x)^2}{64xyz(x+y+z)} - \frac{xyz}{x+y+z}}{\left(\frac{x+y+z}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{27xyz}{4(x+y+z)}} = \\ &= \frac{(x+y)^2(y+z)^2(z+x)^2 - 64(xy whole)^2}{17xyz((x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz)} = \\ &= \frac{((x+y)(y+z)(z+x) - 8xyz)((x+y)(y+z)(z+x) + 8xyz)}{16xyz((x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz)} \end{aligned}$$

$f(x, y, z)$  is a symmetric function in  $x, y, z$ . We can assume without loss of generality that  $x \leq y \leq z$ . We claim that

$$f(x, y, z) \geq f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{x+y}{2}, z\right) \text{ if } z \geq \frac{x+y}{2}$$

Indeed

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{x+y}{2}, z\right) = \frac{(x+y)^2\left(\frac{x+y}{2}+z\right)^4 - 4(x+y)^4z^2}{4(x+y)^2z\left((x+y+z)^3 - \frac{27}{4}(x+y)^2z\right)} =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right)^4 - 4(x+y)^2 z^2}{z \left(4(x+y+z)^3 - 27(x+y)^3 z\right)} = \\
&= \frac{\left(\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right)^2 - 2(x+y)z\right) \left(\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right)^2 + 2(x+y)z\right)}{z(x+y-2z)^2 (4x+4y+z)} = \\
&= \frac{(x+y)^2 + 12(x+y)z + 4z^2}{16z(4(x+y)+z)} \\
f(x,y,z) - f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{x+y}{2}, z\right) &= \frac{(x+y)^2 (y+z)^2 (z+x)^2 - 64(xyz)^2}{16xyz \left((x+y+z)^2 - 27xyz\right)} - \\
&- \frac{(x+y)^2 + 12(x+y)z + 4z^2}{16z(4(x+y+z))} = \\
&= \frac{(x-y)^2 (x+y+z) \left(z^4 + 5(x+y)z^3 + (4x^2 - 3xy + 4y^2)z^2 - 6xy(x+y)z - xy(x+y)^2\right)}{16xyz \left((x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz\right) (4x+4y+z)}
\end{aligned}$$

as is easily verified. By the AM-GM inequality  $(x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz \geq 0$ . It is sufficient to prove that

$$g(x,y,z) := z^4 + 5(x+y)z^3 + (4x^2 - 3xy + 4y^2)z^2 - 6xy(x+y)z - xy(x+y)^2 \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

for  $z \geq \frac{x+y}{2}$ .

We note that

$$g\left(x, y, \frac{x+y}{2}\right) = \frac{27}{16} (x^2 - y^2)^2 \geq 0$$

Furthermore

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial}{\partial z} g(x,y,z) &= 4z^3 + 15(x+y)z^2 + 2(4x^2 - 3xy + 4y^2)z - 6xy(x+y) \geq \\
&\geq 4\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^3 + 15(x+y)\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 + 2(4x^2 - 3xy + 4y^2)\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) - 6xy(x+y) = \\
&= \frac{1}{4}(x+y)(33x^2 - 2xy + 33y^2) \geq 0 \text{ for } z \geq \frac{x+y}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

So

$$g(x, y, z) = g\left(x, y, \frac{x+y}{2}\right) + \int_{\frac{x+y}{2}}^z \frac{\theta}{\theta t} g(x, y, t) dt \geq 0$$

and (2) and thus (1) follows.

We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,y,z>0} f(x, y, z) &= \min_{t,z>0} f(t, t, z) = \min_{x,z>0} \frac{(2t^2) + 12(2t)z + 4z^2}{16z(4(2t) + z)} = \\ &= \min_{t,z>0} \frac{t^2 + 6tz + z^2}{4z(8t + z)} = \min_{z>0} \frac{1 + 6z + z^2}{4z(8 + z)} \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\frac{d}{dz} \cdot \frac{1 + 6z + z^2}{4z(8 + z)} = \frac{z^2 - z - 4}{2z^2(8 + z)^2}$$

So the minimum is assumed for  $z = \frac{1+\sqrt{17}}{2}$  so that

$$\min_{x,y,z>0} f(x, y, z) = \min_{z>0} \frac{1 + 6z + z^2}{4z(8 + z)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow \frac{1+\sqrt{17}}{2}} \frac{1 + 6z + z^2}{4z(8 + z)} = \frac{23 + \sqrt{17}}{128} \approx 0,211899 > 0.2$$

So the maximum value for the constant K equals  $\frac{23+\sqrt{17}}{128}$ . This proves a) and b). We have, by the AM-GM inequality,

$$R = \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{8\sqrt{xyz}(x+y+z)} \geq \frac{2\sqrt{xy}2\sqrt{yz}2\sqrt{zx}}{8\sqrt{xyz}(x+y+z)} = \frac{\sqrt{xyz}}{\sqrt{(x+y+z)}} = 2r$$

with equality if and only if  $x = y = z$ . So, by (1),

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow 2r} \frac{R^2 - 4r^2}{s^2 - 27r^2} = \lim_{z \rightarrow t} (t, t, z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow t} \frac{t^2 + 6tz + z^2}{4z(8t + z)} = \frac{2}{9} = 0, \bar{2}$$

Albert Stadler

**Third solution. a).** Letting  $a, b, c$  be the sides of the triangle, we know that a).

$r = \sqrt{(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)/s}$ ,  $R = 2(abc)/(r(a+b+c))$ . Moreover we define the classical change  $x = b + c - a$  and cyclic. By observing that

$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) = (x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) - xyz$ , the inequality becomes

$$\frac{((x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) - xyz)^2}{64(x+y+z)xyz} - \frac{xyz}{x+y+z} \geq \frac{1}{5} \left( \frac{(x+y+z)^2}{4} - \frac{27xyz}{4(x+y+z)} \right)$$

Now we define the new variables

$$x+y+z = 3u, \quad xy+yz+zx = 3v^2, \quad xyz = w^3$$

Trivial AGM yields  $w \leq v \leq u$ . The inequality becomes

$$\frac{3}{64} \frac{13w^6 + w^3(-10uv^2 - 48u^3) + 45u^2v^4}{uw^3} \geq 0$$

or

$$P(w^3) = 13w^6 + w^3(-10uv^2 - 48u^3) + 45u^2v^4 \geq 0$$

The minimum od the parabola  $P(w^3)$  occurs at  $w_0^3 = \frac{24}{13}u^3 + \frac{5}{13}uv^2$  but this is forbidden because  $w^3 \leq v^3 \leq u^3$ . This means that the range of the values of  $w^3$  is contained in  $[0, w_0^3)$  and in this interval the parabola decreases. It follows that  $P(w^3) \geq 0$  if and only if it holds at the extreme value of  $w^3$  and the standard theory states that this happens when  $x = y$  or cyclic. If  $x = y$  the inequality becomes

$$\frac{1}{16} \frac{(5y^2 - 2yz + z^2)(y - z)^2}{(2y + z)z} \geq 0$$

which clearly holds.

b). It is equivalent to find the smallest number  $Q$  such that

$$Q \frac{((x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) - xyz)^2}{64(x+y+z)xyz} - \frac{xyz}{x+y+z} \geq \frac{1}{5} \left( \frac{(x+y+z)^2}{4} - \frac{27xyz}{4(x+y+z)} \right)$$

which is equivalent via the change  $x = b + c - a$  and cyclic to

$$\frac{1}{64} \frac{9Qu^2v^4 - w^3(48u^3 + 2Quv^2) + w^6(48 - 7Q)}{uw^3} \geq 0$$

which is equivalent to to  $P(v^2) = 9Qu^2v^4 - 2Quv^2w^3 - w^348u^3 + w^6(48 - 7Q) \geq 0$ . The minimum of the parabola  $P(v^2)$  occurs at

$$v^2 = \frac{w^3}{9u} \leq \frac{v^3}{9v} = \frac{v^2}{9}$$

This means that the range of the parabola is contained in  $(0, w^3/(9u))$  and in this range the parabola decreases. Therefore the inequality holds if and only if it holds when  $v^2$  assumes its maximum value. This in turn holds when at least two of the variables  $x, y, z$  are equal so we suppose  $z = y$  and get

$$\frac{1}{16} (y - z)^2 \frac{Qy^2 + 6yz - 32yz + Qz^2 - 4z^2}{(2y + z)z} \geq 0$$

If  $Q \geq 16/3$  every addend of the numerator is nonnegative. If  $Q < 16/3$  we need

$$2\sqrt{Q(Q-4)} \geq 6Q - 32 \iff \frac{23 - \sqrt{17}}{4} \leq Q \leq \frac{23 + \sqrt{17}}{4}$$

and since  $16/3 < (23 + \sqrt{17})/4$  it follows that the searched number  $Q$  is  $(23 - \sqrt{17})/4$ . The greatest  $K$  is then  $(23 + \sqrt{17})/128$

c). The limit is  $2/9$ . Indeed we have  $R = 2r$  if and only if the triangle is equilateral so we let  $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (p, p, p)$  in

$$F(x, y, z) \doteq \frac{\frac{((x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx)-xyz)^2}{64(x+y+z)xyz} - \frac{xyz}{x+y+z}}{\left(\frac{(x+y+z)^2}{4} - \frac{27xyz}{4(x+y+z)}\right)} - \frac{2}{9} \doteq \frac{F_1(x, y, z)}{F_2(x, y, z)}$$

and make the limit

$$\lim_{(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \rightarrow (0, 0, 0)} F(p + \alpha, p + \beta, p + \gamma)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(p + \alpha, p + \beta, p + \gamma) &= \\ &= -96p^4(\alpha^3 + \beta^3 + \gamma^3) - 576p^4\gamma\beta\alpha + 144p^4 \sum_{\text{sym}} \alpha^2\beta + O((\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2)^2) \\ F_2(p + \alpha, p + \beta, p + \gamma) &= \\ &= 3888p^5 \sum_{\text{cyc}} (\alpha^2 - \alpha\beta) + 5616p^4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \alpha^3 + 1296p^4 \sum_{\text{sym}} \alpha^2\beta - 24624p^4\alpha\beta\gamma + \\ &\quad + O((\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2)^2) \end{aligned}$$

The linear change of coordinates

$$r = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{\beta}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad s = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{\beta}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad t = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}\gamma,$$

sets  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  as functions of  $(r, s, t)$  as (it diagonalizes the leading quadratic term of  $F_2$ )

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &\rightarrow 72p^4\sqrt{6}t^3 - 216p^4s^2t\sqrt{6} + O((r^2 + s^2 + t^2)^2) \\ F_2 &\rightarrow 5832p^5(s^2 + t^2) + 9720\sqrt{3}p^4r(s^2 + t^2) - 1944p^4s^2\sqrt{6}t + 648p^4t^3\sqrt{6} + O((r^2 + s^2 + t^2)^2) \end{aligned}$$

We observe that  $|F_1| \leq Ct(s^2 + t^2)$  while  $F_2 = 5832p^5(s^2 + t^2) + o(r^2 + s^2 + t^2)$  and then the limit equals zero proving the result.

Paolo Perfetti

**W10. Solution by the proposer.** Evidently

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2abc = 1 \iff \frac{a}{bc} + \frac{b}{ca} + \frac{c}{ab} + 2 = \frac{1}{abc}$$

If we call  $\frac{a}{bc} = x$ ,  $\frac{b}{ca} = y$ ,  $\frac{c}{ab} = z$ , we can read the constraint as

$$x + y + z + 2 = xyz$$