

STEP II, 2023, Q8 MS

Question		Answer	Mark
8	(i)	Let vertices be numbered 1 to 4 and edges be e_{ij} , where $i < j$. Then perimeters equal is $ e_{12} + e_{23} + e_{13} = e_{12} + e_{24} + e_{14} $ $= e_{13} + e_{34} + e_{14} $ $= e_{24} + e_{34} + e_{23} $	M1
		which implies $ e_{12} + e_{23} + e_{13} + e_{12} + e_{24} + e_{14} $ $= e_{13} + e_{34} + e_{14} + e_{24} + e_{34} + e_{23} $ so $2 e_{12} + (e_{23} + e_{13} + e_{24} + e_{14})$ $= 2 e_{34} + (e_{13} + e_{14} + e_{24} + e_{23})$ and so $ e_{12} = e_{34} $	A1
		and by permutations of this argument, all pairs of opposite sides are equal.	E1
		if $ e_{12} = e_{34} $, $ e_{13} = e_{24} $, $ e_{14} = e_{23} $, then all perimeters are trivially equal	B1
			[4]
	(ii)	$ a ^2 = b - c ^2$	M1
		$= b ^2 + c ^2 - 2b \cdot c$	A1
		From the equivalent results to (ii) using the other pairs of opposite sides	M1
		$a \cdot b + a \cdot c = \frac{1}{2}(a ^2 + b ^2 - c ^2) + \frac{1}{2}(a ^2 + c ^2 - b ^2) = a ^2$	A1
			[4]
	(iii)	$16 a - g ^2 = 3a - b - c ^2$	M1
		$= 9 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - 6a \cdot (b + c) + 2b \cdot c$	
		$= 9 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - 6 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - a ^2$	M1
		using previous results	
		$= 2(a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2)$	A1
		but this is symmetric in a, b, c so g equidistant from A, B and C.	A1
		$16 g ^2 = a + b + c ^2$ $= a ^2 + 2a \cdot (b + c) + b + c ^2$ $= a ^2 + 2 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 + 2b \cdot c$ $= 3 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - a ^2$ $= 2(a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2)$	B1
		So G equidistant from O also.	
			[5]
	(iv)	$ a - b - c ^2 = a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - 2a \cdot (b + c) + 2b \cdot c$	M1
		$= a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - 2 a ^2 + b ^2 + c ^2 - a ^2$	M1
		$= 2(b ^2 + c ^2 - a ^2)$	A1
		which must be non-negative, so $\cos(\text{BAC}) \geq 0$	M1
		and symmetry implies no angle obtuse	A1
		If e.g. BAC was a right angle, would have $ a - b - c ^2 = 0$, so $a = b + c$	M1
		so O, A, B, C all in one plane, so not a tetrahedron.	A1
			[7]



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