

If

$$\sin A + \sin^2 A + \sin^3 A = 1$$

prove that

$$\cos^6 A - 4 \cos^4 A + 8 \cos^2 A = 4.$$

Solution:

We'll use the following trigonometric identity

$$\sin^2 A = 1 - \cos^2 A.$$

Thus we have

$$\sin A + \sin^2 A + \sin^3 A = 1,$$

$$\sin A + 1 - \cos^2 A + \sin^3 A = 1,$$

$$\sin A + \sin^3 A - \cos^2 A = 0,$$

$$\sin A (1 + \sin^2 A) = \cos^2 A,$$

$$\sin A (2 - \cos^2 A) = \cos^2 A,$$

$$(\sin A (2 - \cos^2 A))^2 = (\cos^2 A)^2,$$

$$\sin^2 A (2 - \cos^2 A)^2 = \cos^4 A,$$

$$(1 - \cos^2 A)(4 - 4 \cos^2 A + \cos^4 A) = \cos^4 A,$$

$$4 - 4 \cos^2 A + \cos^4 A - 4 \cos^2 A + 4 \cos^4 A - \cos^6 A = \cos^4 A,$$

$$4 = 8 \cos^2 A - 4 \cos^4 A + \cos^6 A,$$

$$\boxed{\cos^6 A - 4 \cos^4 A + 8 \cos^2 A = 4}$$