

Arc Midpoint Computation Welcomes Trig Interpretation

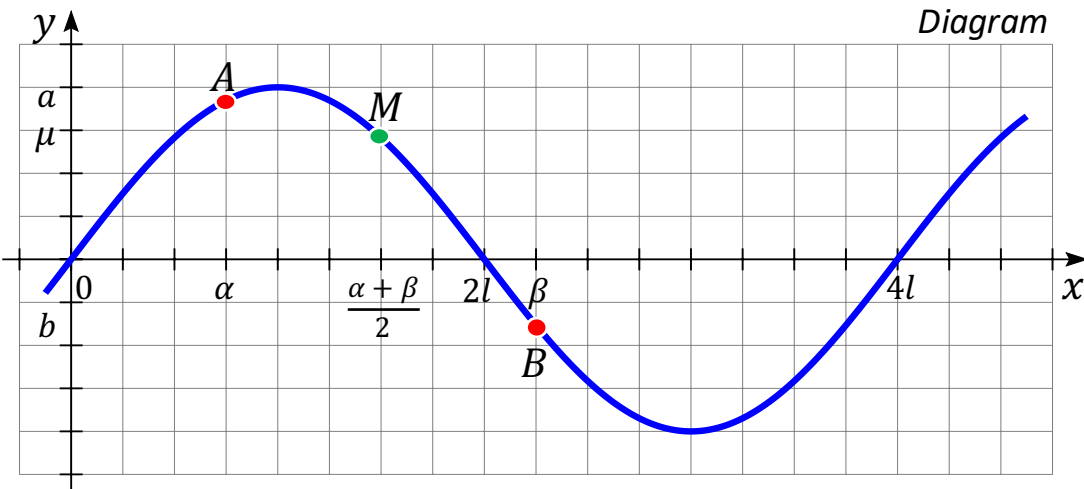
Gregory V. Akulov, teacher, Luther College High School, Regina, Saskatchewan
 Oleksandr G. Akulov, MM in OR, BMath, Vancouver, British Columbia

Sinusoidal functions and their graphs, described in Mathematics, are tightly related to the real processes involving repeating cycles, that are analyzed and imitated in Sciences. Sinusoid, a remarkable line of many amazing properties, models and visualizes this special type of wavelike relationships. Sine curve can be used to interpret wide spectrum of matters: the hours of daylight, the height of tides, transmission of sound, displacement of pendulum, circular motion, and it also gives the trigonometric interpretation of the arc midpoint computation. <http://mathcentral.uregina.ca/RR/database/RR.09.10/akulov2.html>

Consider sinusoid having period $4l$ and amplitude r . For its points $A(\alpha, a)$, $B(\beta, b)$ and $M\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}, \mu\right)$, $0 \leq \alpha < \beta \leq 4l$, see Diagram, show that

$$2\mu = \pm\sqrt{(r+a)(r+b)} \pm \sqrt{(r-a)(r-b)},$$

where the first radical has " - " iff $3l \in [\alpha, \beta]$,
 and the second radical has " + " iff $l \in [\alpha, \beta]$.



Example. If $r = 65$, $a = 56$, $b = -16$, for A and B located as shown,
 $2\mu = \sqrt{(65+56)(65-16)} + \sqrt{(65-56)(65+16)}$, hence $\mu = 52$.