

About An Identity With The Condition

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Abstract. In this paper, we will mention a nice and useful identity which is very known, then we give its generalization and apply them to solve some problems.

1 Introduction

We will start with the following simple problem

Problem 1. Let a, b, c be real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} = 1.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{1+a+ab} + \frac{b}{1+b+bc} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca} = 1.$$

We will give two solutions for this problem as follows

Solution 1. (a) We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} &= \frac{c}{c+ca+abc} + \frac{a}{a+ab+abc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \\ &= \frac{c}{c+ca+1} + \frac{a}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \\ &= \frac{c}{1+c+ca} + \frac{ca}{ca+1+c} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Also similarly as above, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{1+a+ab} + \frac{b}{1+b+bc} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca} &= \frac{ca}{c+ca+1} + \frac{ab}{a+ab+1} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca} \\ &= \frac{ca}{c+ca+1} + \frac{1}{ca+1+c} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca} \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

The proofs are completed. □

Solution 2. From the given condition $abc = 1$, it follows that there exist the numbers x, y, z such that

$$a = \frac{y}{x}, b = \frac{z}{y}, c = \frac{x}{z}.$$

Then

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} &= \frac{1}{1+\frac{y}{x}+\frac{z}{x}} + \frac{1}{1+\frac{z}{y}+\frac{x}{y}} + \frac{1}{1+\frac{x}{z}+\frac{y}{z}} \\ &= \frac{x}{x+y+z} + \frac{y}{x+y+z} + \frac{z}{x+y+z} \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{1+a+ab} + \frac{b}{1+b+bc} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca} &= \frac{\frac{y}{x}}{1+\frac{y}{x}+\frac{z}{x}} + \frac{\frac{z}{y}}{1+\frac{z}{y}+\frac{x}{y}} + \frac{\frac{x}{z}}{1+\frac{x}{z}+\frac{y}{z}} \\ &= \frac{y}{x+y+z} + \frac{z}{x+y+z} + \frac{x}{x+y+z} \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

We are done. □

Both solutions above are very simple, but the second one may help us to extend the original result from three variables to four variables as follows

Problem 2. Let a, b, c, d be real numbers such that $abcd = 1$. Prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & \frac{1}{1+a+ab+abc} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc+bcd} + \frac{1}{1+c+cd+cda} + \frac{1}{1+d+da+dab} = 1. \\ \text{(b)} \quad & \frac{a}{1+a+ab+abc} + \frac{b}{1+b+bc+bcd} + \frac{c}{1+c+cd+cda} + \frac{d}{1+d+da+dab} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Solution. Also similarly the second solution of the first problem, since $abcd = 1$, there are real numbers x, y, z, t such that

$$a = \frac{y}{x}, b = \frac{z}{y}, c = \frac{t}{z}, d = \frac{x}{t}.$$

□

Furthermore, we can extend for n variables

Problem 3. Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n be real numbers such that $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n = 1$. Prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & \frac{1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2+\cdots+a_1a_2\cdots a_{n-1}} + \frac{1}{1+a_2+a_2a_3+\cdots+a_2a_3\cdots a_n} + \cdots + \frac{1}{1+a_n+a_na_1+\cdots+a_na_1\cdots a_{n-2}} = 1. \\ \text{(b)} \quad & \frac{a_1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2+\cdots+a_1a_2\cdots a_{n-1}} + \frac{a_2}{1+a_2+a_2a_3+\cdots+a_2a_3\cdots a_n} + \cdots + \frac{a_n}{1+a_n+a_na_1+\cdots+a_na_1\cdots a_{n-2}} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Solution. From $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n = 1$, it follows that there are real numbers x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n such that

$$a_1 = \frac{x_2}{x_1}, a_2 = \frac{x_3}{x_2}, \dots, a_n = \frac{x_1}{x_n}$$

Then

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1 + a_1 + a_1 a_2 + \cdots + a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{n-1}} &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{x_2}{x_1} + \frac{x_3}{x_1} + \cdots + \frac{x_n}{x_1}} = \frac{x_1}{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n} \\ \frac{1}{1 + a_2 + a_2 a_3 + \cdots + a_2 a_3 \cdots a_n} &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{x_3}{x_2} + \frac{x_4}{x_2} + \cdots + \frac{x_1}{x_2}} = \frac{x_2}{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n} \\ &\dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \\ \frac{1}{1 + a_n + a_n a_1 + \cdots + a_n a_1 \cdots a_{n-2}} &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{x_1}{x_n} + \frac{x_2}{x_n} + \cdots + \frac{x_{n-1}}{x_n}} = \frac{x_n}{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n} \end{aligned}$$

Summing up these relations we obtain the desired result.

(b) Similar to the part (a).

□

2 Applications

Now we will use the above results to prove the problems below

Problem 4. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \quad \frac{1}{3 + 2a^2 + b^2} + \frac{1}{3 + 2b^2 + c^2} + \frac{1}{3 + 2c^2 + a^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{a}{3 + 2a^2 + b^2} + \frac{b}{3 + 2b^2 + c^2} + \frac{c}{3 + 2c^2 + a^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Solution. (a) Using the AM-GM inequality we get

$$\frac{1}{3 + 2a^2 + b^2} = \frac{1}{2 + (1 + a^2) + (a^2 + b^2)} \leq \frac{1}{2 + 2a + 2ab}$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3 + 2b^2 + c^2} &\leq \frac{1}{2 + 2b + 2bc} \\ \frac{1}{3 + 2c^2 + a^2} &\leq \frac{1}{2 + 2c + 2ca} \end{aligned}$$

Adding up these relations and using the result of the part (a) of problem 1, we obtain the desired inequality.

(b) We do similarly as above and using the part (b) of problem 1.

□

Problem 5. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \quad \frac{1}{(a+2)^3 + (a+b+1)^3 + 27} + \frac{1}{(b+2)^3 + (b+c+1)^3 + 27} + \frac{1}{(c+2)^3 + (c+a+1)^3 + 27} \leq \frac{1}{27}.$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{a}{(a+2)^3 + (a+b+1)^3 + 27} + \frac{b}{(b+2)^3 + (b+c+1)^3 + 27} + \frac{c}{(c+2)^3 + (c+a+1)^3 + 27} \leq \frac{1}{27}.$$

Solution. (a) Applying AM-GM inequality we obtain

$$\frac{1}{(a+2)^3 + (a+b+1)^3 + 27} \leq \frac{1}{27a + 27ab + 27}$$

Similarly

$$\frac{1}{(b+2)^3 + (b+c+1)^3 + 27} \leq \frac{1}{27b + 27bc + 27}$$

$$\frac{1}{(c+2)^3 + (c+a+1)^3 + 27} \leq \frac{1}{27c + 27ca + 27}$$

Summing up these inequalities and using the part (a) of problem 1, the conclusion follows.

(b) We do similarly as above and using the part (b) of problem 1. □

Problem 6. Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers such that $abcd = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{6 + 3a^3 + 2b^3 + c^3} + \frac{1}{6 + 3b^3 + 2c^3 + d^3} + \frac{1}{6 + 3c^3 + 2d^3 + a^3} + \frac{1}{6 + 3d^3 + 2a^3 + b^3} \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{6 + 3a^3 + 2b^3 + c^3} + \frac{b}{6 + 3b^3 + 2c^3 + d^3} + \frac{c}{6 + 3c^3 + 2d^3 + a^3} + \frac{d}{6 + 3d^3 + 2a^3 + b^3} \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

Solution. (a) Applying AM-GM inequality yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{6 + 3a^3 + 2b^3 + c^3} &= \frac{1}{3 + (1 + 1 + a^3) + (1 + a^3 + b^3) + (a^3 + b^3 + c^3)} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3 + 3a + 3ab + 3abc} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\frac{1}{6 + 3b^3 + 2c^3 + d^3} \leq \frac{1}{3 + 3b + 3bc + 3bcd},$$

$$\frac{1}{6 + 3c^3 + 2d^3 + a^3} \leq \frac{1}{3 + 3c + 3cd + 3cda},$$

$$\frac{1}{6 + 3d^3 + 2a^3 + b^3} \leq \frac{1}{3 + 3d + 3da + 3dab}.$$

Adding up these relations and using the part (a) of problem 2, we get the desired result.

(b) We do similarly as above and note that the part (b) of problem 2. □

Problem 7. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+c+ca)^2} \geq \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{b}{(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{c}{(1+c+ca)^2} \geq \frac{1}{a+b+c}.$$

Solution. (a) By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+c+ca)^2} &\geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) We also use Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{b}{(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{c}{(1+c+ca)^2} &= \frac{\left(\frac{a}{1+a+ab}\right)^2}{a} + \frac{\left(\frac{b}{1+b+bc}\right)^2}{b} + \frac{\left(\frac{c}{1+c+ca}\right)^2}{c} \\ &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{1}{1+a+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca}\right)^2}{a+b+c} \\ &= \frac{1}{a+b+c} \end{aligned}$$

and we are done. □

Problem 8. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad &\frac{a}{(1+a+ab)^3} + \frac{b}{(1+b+bc)^3} + \frac{c}{(1+c+ca)^3} \geq \frac{1}{(a+b+c)^2}. \\ \text{(b)} \quad &\frac{a^2}{(1+a+ab)^3} + \frac{b^2}{(1+b+bc)^3} + \frac{c^2}{(1+c+ca)^3} \geq \frac{1}{3(a+b+c)}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution. (a) Applying Holder's inequality and using the part (a) of problem 1, we obtain

$$\left[\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{(1+a+ab)^3} \right] (a+b+c)(a+b+c) \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{1+a+ab} \right)^3 = 1$$

It follows that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{(1+a+ab)^3} \geq \frac{1}{(a+b+c)^2}.$$

(b) Also according to Holder's inequality and note that the part (a) of problem 1, we have

$$\left[\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{(1+a+ab)^3} \right] (a+b+c)(1+1+1) \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{1+a+ab} \right)^3 = 1$$

Therefore

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{(1+a+ab)^3} \geq \frac{1}{3(a+b+c)}.$$

The conclusion follows. □

Problem 9. Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n be positive real numbers such that $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n = 1$. Prove that

$$\text{(a)} \quad \frac{1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2} + \frac{1}{1+a_2+a_2a_3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{1+a_n+a_na_1} > 1.$$

(Russia, 2004)

$$\text{(b)} \quad \frac{a_1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2} + \frac{a_2}{1+a_2+a_2a_3} + \cdots + \frac{a_n}{1+a_n+a_na_1} > 1.$$

Solution. (a) Since $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n > 0$ so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2} &> \frac{1}{1+a_1+a_1a_2+\cdots+a_1a_2\cdots a_{n-1}} \\ \frac{1}{1+a_2+a_2a_3} &> \frac{1}{1+a_2+a_2a_3+\cdots+a_2a_3\cdots a_n} \\ \dots & \dots \dots \\ \frac{1}{1+a_n+a_na_1} &> \frac{1}{1+a_n+a_na_1+\cdots+a_na_1\cdots a_{n-2}} \end{aligned}$$

Summing up these inequalities and using the part (a) of problem 3, we get immediately the required inequality.

(b) We do similarly as above and using the part (b) of problem (3). □

Problem 10. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{a+ab+2} + \frac{1}{b+bc+2} + \frac{1}{c+ca+2} \leq \frac{3}{4}.$$

(Mathematical Reflections)

$$(b) \frac{a}{a+ab+2} + \frac{b}{b+bc+2} + \frac{c}{c+ca+2} \leq \frac{9+a+b+c}{16}.$$

Solution. (a) Using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality gives us

$$\frac{16}{a+ab+2} = \frac{(3+1)^2}{(a+ab+1)+1} \leq \frac{3^2}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1^2}{1}$$

or

$$\frac{1}{a+ab+2} \leq \frac{9}{16(a+ab+1)} + \frac{1}{16}.$$

Similarly

$$\frac{1}{b+bc+2} \leq \frac{9}{16(b+bc+1)} + \frac{1}{16},$$

$$\frac{1}{c+ca+2} \leq \frac{9}{16(c+ca+1)} + \frac{1}{16}.$$

Adding these relations and using the part (a) of problem 1 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{a+ab+2} + \frac{1}{b+bc+2} + \frac{1}{c+ca+2} &\leq \frac{9}{16} \left(\frac{1}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{b+bc+1} + \frac{1}{c+ca+1} \right) + \frac{3}{16} \\ &= \frac{9}{16} + \frac{3}{16} \\ &= \frac{3}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) We do similarly as above and using the part (b) of problem 1. □

Problem 11. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{a^2}{a+ab+1} + \frac{b^2}{b+bc+1} + \frac{c^2}{c+ca+1} \geq 1,$$

$$(b) \frac{\sqrt{a}}{a+ab+1} + \frac{\sqrt{b}}{b+bc+1} + \frac{\sqrt{c}}{c+ca+1} \leq 1.$$

Solution 1. (a) By AM-GM inequality we have

$$\frac{a^2}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{a+ab+1} \geq \frac{2a}{a+ab+1},$$

$$\frac{b^2}{b+bc+1} + \frac{1}{b+bc+1} \geq \frac{2b}{b+bc+1},$$

$$\frac{c^2}{c+ca+1} + \frac{1}{c+ca+1} \geq \frac{2c}{c+ca+1}.$$

Adding up these inequalities and using two familiar identities we obtain the required result.

(b) We also use AM-GM inequality to get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{a}}{a+ab+1} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{a+ab+1} \right), \\ \frac{\sqrt{b}}{b+bc+1} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{b}{b+bc+1} + \frac{1}{b+bc+1} \right), \\ \frac{\sqrt{c}}{c+ca+1} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{c}{c+ca+1} + \frac{1}{c+ca+1} \right).\end{aligned}$$

Summing up these relations and note that the familiar identities yields the desired result. \square

LỜI GIẢI 2. We will apply Cauchy-Schwarz inequality be the following way

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}&\left(\frac{a^2}{a+ab+1} + \frac{b^2}{b+bc+1} + \frac{c^2}{c+ca+1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{b+bc+1} + \frac{1}{c+ca+1} \right) \\ &\geq \left(\frac{a}{a+ab+1} + \frac{b}{b+bc+1} + \frac{c}{c+ca+1} \right)^2 = 1.\end{aligned}$$

This combines with two familiar identities above to give us the required inequality.

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}&\left(\frac{\sqrt{a}}{a+ab+1} + \frac{\sqrt{b}}{b+bc+1} + \frac{\sqrt{c}}{c+ca+1} \right)^2 \\ &\leq \left(\frac{a}{a+ab+1} + \frac{b}{b+bc+1} + \frac{c}{c+ca+1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{a+ab+1} + \frac{1}{b+bc+1} + \frac{1}{c+ca+1} \right) \\ &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

This combines with two familiar identities above, the desired inequality follows. \square

Remark 1. By the similar way, we can show that more general results as follows: If $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc = 1$ then for all positive integers n ,

$$(a) \quad \frac{a^n}{a+ab+1} + \frac{b^n}{b+bc+1} + \frac{c^n}{c+ca+1} \geq 1,$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{a+ab+1} + \frac{\sqrt[n]{b}}{b+bc+1} + \frac{\sqrt[n]{c}}{c+ca+1} \leq 1.$$

Problem 12 (Nguyen Viet Hung). Let a, b, c be real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$\frac{a+ab+1}{(a+ab+1)^2+1} + \frac{b+bc+1}{(b+bc+1)^2+1} + \frac{c+ca+1}{(c+ca+1)^2+1} \leq \frac{9}{10}.$$

(Mathematical Reflections)

Solution. The desired inequality is equivalent to

$$\frac{\frac{1}{1+a+ab}}{\frac{1}{(1+a+ab)^2} + 1} + \frac{\frac{1}{1+b+bc}}{\frac{1}{(1+b+bc)^2} + 1} + \frac{\frac{1}{1+c+ca}}{\frac{1}{(1+c+ca)^2} + 1} \leq \frac{9}{10}$$

We put $\frac{1}{1+b+bc} = x$, $\frac{1}{1+c+ca} = y$, $\frac{1}{1+a+ab} = z$ and since the condition $abc = 1$, then

$$x + y + z = 1.$$

Our inequality becomes

$$\frac{x}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{y}{y^2 + 1} + \frac{z}{z^2 + 1} \leq \frac{9}{10} \quad (1)$$

Among these numbers $x - \frac{1}{3}$, $y - \frac{1}{3}$, and $z - \frac{1}{3}$, there exist two numbers that both of them are not positive or not negative. Without loss of generality suppose they are $y - \frac{1}{3}$, and $z - \frac{1}{3}$. Then we have

$$\left(y - \frac{1}{3}\right) \left(z - \frac{1}{3}\right) \geq 0$$

or

$$y^2 + z^2 \leq \frac{1}{9} + \left(y + z - \frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{9} + \left(\frac{2}{3} - x\right)^2 \quad (2)$$

(1) is equivalent to

$$\frac{x}{x^2 + 1} \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{y}{y^2 + 1}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{z}{z^2 + 1}\right) - \frac{1}{10}$$

or

$$\frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{5} \leq \frac{(y-1)^2}{y^2 + 1} + \frac{(z-1)^2}{z^2 + 1}$$

Using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and remark (2) we get

$$\frac{(y-1)^2}{y^2 + 1} + \frac{(z-1)^2}{z^2 + 1} \geq \frac{(y+z-2)^2}{y^2 + z^2 + 2} = \frac{(1+x)^2}{\frac{1}{9} + \left(\frac{2}{3} - x\right)^2 + 2} = \frac{9(1+x)^2}{23 - 12x + 9x^2}$$

It remains to prove that

$$\frac{9(1+x)^2}{23 - 12x + 9x^2} \geq \frac{1 + 10x + x^2}{5(1+x^2)}$$

But this is equivalent to

$$(3x-1)^2(2x^2 + 2x + 11) \geq 0,$$

which is obvious true and we are done. The equality occurs iff $x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$, i.e. $a = b = c = 1$. \square

To end this article, we invite readers practise the following problems

3 Proposed problems

Excercise 1. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc^2 = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{1+a+ab+abc} + \frac{1}{1+b+bc+bc^2} + \frac{1}{1+c+c^2+c^2a} + \frac{1}{1+c+ca+cab} = 1.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{1+a+ab+abc} + \frac{b}{1+b+bc+bc^2} + \frac{c}{1+c+c^2+c^2a} + \frac{c}{1+c+ca+cab} = 1.$$

Excercise 2. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{6+2a^3+b^3} + \frac{1}{6+2b^3+c^3} + \frac{1}{6+2c^3+a^3} \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{6+2a^3+b^3} + \frac{b}{6+2b^3+c^3} + \frac{c}{6+2c^3+a^3} \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

Excercise 3. Prove the following identity holds

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\sqrt[8]{2} + \sqrt[4]{2} + \sqrt{2} - 2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[8]{32} + \sqrt[8]{2} + \sqrt[4]{8} + \sqrt[4]{2} - \sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[8]{128} + \sqrt[8]{32} + \sqrt[8]{8} + \sqrt[8]{2} + \sqrt[4]{2} + 2} \\ & + \frac{1}{\sqrt[8]{128} + \sqrt[8]{32} + 2\sqrt[8]{8} + 3\sqrt[8]{2} + \sqrt[4]{8} + 2\sqrt[4]{2} + \sqrt{2} + 4} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Excercise 4. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{(a+b)^2 + (a+1)^2 + 4} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2 + (b+1)^2 + 4} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2 + (c+1)^2 + 4} \leq \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{(a+b)^2 + (a+1)^2 + 4} + \frac{b}{(b+c)^2 + (b+1)^2 + 4} + \frac{c}{(c+a)^2 + (c+1)^2 + 4} \leq \frac{1}{4}.$$

Excercise 5. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that for every positive integers $n \geq 2$,

$$(a) \frac{1}{3(n-1) + 2a^n + b^n} + \frac{1}{3(n-1) + 2b^n + c^n} + \frac{1}{3(n-1) + 2c^n + a^n} \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{3(n-1) + 2a^n + b^n} + \frac{b}{3(n-1) + 2b^n + c^n} + \frac{c}{3(n-1) + 2c^n + a^n} \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

Excercise 6. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that for every positive integers $n \geq 2$,

$$(a) \frac{1}{(1+a+ab)^n} + \frac{1}{(1+b+bc)^n} + \frac{1}{(1+c+ca)^n} \geq \frac{1}{3^{n-1}}.$$

$$(b) \frac{1}{(1+a+ab)^n} + \frac{1}{(1+b+bc)^n} + \frac{1}{(1+c+ca)^n} \geq \frac{1}{3^{n-2}(a^2+b^2+c^2)}.$$

Excercise 7. Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers such that $abcd = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{(1+a+ab+abc)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+b+bc+bcd)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+c+cd+cda)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+d+da+dab)^2} \geq \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{(1+a+ab+abc)^2} + \frac{b}{(1+b+bc+bcd)^2} + \frac{c}{(1+c+cd+cda)^2} + \frac{d}{(1+d+da+dab)^2} \geq \frac{1}{a+b+c+d}.$$

Excercise 8. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{(a+1)^2 + b^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{(b+1)^2 + c^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{(c+1)^2 + a^2 + 1} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

(Mathematical Reflections)

$$(b) \frac{a}{(a+1)^2 + b^2 + 1} + \frac{b}{(b+1)^2 + c^2 + 1} + \frac{c}{(c+1)^2 + a^2 + 1} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Excercise 9. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{a^2 + 2ab + 3} + \frac{1}{b^2 + 2bc + 3} + \frac{1}{c^2 + 2ca + 3} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{a^2 + 2ab + 3} + \frac{b}{b^2 + 2bc + 3} + \frac{c}{c^2 + 2ca + 3} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Excercise 10. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{a(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{1}{b(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{1}{c(1+c+ca)^2} \geq \frac{1}{a+b+c}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{b(1+a+ab)^2} + \frac{b}{c(1+b+bc)^2} + \frac{c}{a(1+c+ca)^2} \geq \frac{1}{ab+bc+ca}.$$

Excercise 11. Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers such that $abcd = 1$. Prove that

$$(a) \frac{1}{2+a+ab+abc} + \frac{1}{2+b+bc+bcd} + \frac{1}{2+c+cd+cda} + \frac{1}{2+d+da+dab} \leq \frac{4}{5}.$$

$$(b) \frac{a}{2+a+ab+abc} + \frac{b}{2+b+bc+bcd} + \frac{c}{2+c+cd+cda} + \frac{d}{2+d+da+dab} \leq \frac{16+a+b+c+d}{25}.$$

Excercise 12. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$\frac{b+bc-2}{(a+ab+1)^2} + \frac{c+ca-2}{(b+bc+1)^2} + \frac{a+ab-2}{(c+ca+1)^2} \geq 0.$$

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