

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b > 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then :

$$\frac{1}{a^n} + \frac{1}{b^n} + \frac{8n(a+b)}{a+b+2} \geq 2(2n+1)$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

If $n = 0$, LHS - RHS = 0 \Rightarrow LHS = RHS and so, we now focus on $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$

and $\because n \geq 1 \therefore$ via Bernoulli, $\frac{1}{a^n} + \frac{1}{b^n} + \frac{8n(a+b)}{a+b+2}$

$$= \left(1 + \frac{1}{a} - 1\right)^n + \left(1 + \frac{1}{b} - 1\right)^n + \frac{8n(a+b)}{a+b+2} \geq$$

$$2 + n \left(\frac{1}{a} - 1 + \frac{1}{b} - 1\right) + \frac{8n(a+b)}{a+b+2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2(2n+1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{a+b-2ab}{ab} + \frac{8(a+b)}{a+b+2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a+b)^2 - 2ab(a+b) + 2(a+b) - 4ab + 8ab(a+b) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4ab(a+b) + 8ab$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a+b)^2 + 2(a+b) + 2ab(a+b-6) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \quad (*)$$

Case 1 $a+b-6 \geq 0$ and then : LHS of (*) $\geq (a+b)^2 + 2(a+b) > 0$
 \Rightarrow (*) is true (strict inequality)

Case 2 $a+b-6 < 0$ and then : LHS of (*) $\geq (a+b)^2 + 2(a+b) + \frac{(a+b)^2}{2} \cdot (a+b-6)$ $\left(\because 2ab \stackrel{A-G}{\leq} \frac{(a+b)^2}{2}\right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2t + 4 + t(t-6) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow t^2 - 4t + 4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (t-2)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true}$$

\therefore combining both cases, (*) is true $\forall a, b > 0 \therefore \frac{1}{a^n} + \frac{1}{b^n} + \frac{8n(a+b)}{a+b+2} \geq 2(2n+1)$

$\forall a, b > 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, " = " iff $n = 0$ or $a = b$ (QED)