

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0, abc = 1$ and $\lambda \geq 1$, then :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + \lambda} \leq \frac{3}{\lambda + 2}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + \lambda} \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{ab(a+b) + \lambda} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{\frac{a+b}{c} + \lambda} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{x + \lambda}$$

$$\left(x = \frac{a+b}{c}, y = \frac{b+c}{a}, z = \frac{c+a}{b}\right) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\lambda + x - x}{x + \lambda} = \frac{3}{\lambda} - \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{x}{x + \lambda} \stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{3}{\lambda + 2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{x}{x + \lambda} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{6}{\lambda + 2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (x(y + \lambda)(z + \lambda))}{(x + \lambda)(y + \lambda)(z + \lambda)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{6}{\lambda + 2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{3xyz + 2\lambda \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + \lambda^2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x}{xyz + \lambda^3 + \lambda \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + \lambda^2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{6}{\lambda + 2} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 3\lambda xyz + 2\lambda^2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + \lambda^3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 6xyz + 4\lambda \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 2\lambda^2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \\ & \stackrel{?}{\geq} 6xyz + 6\lambda \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 6\lambda^2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 6\lambda^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{\lambda^3 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 6 \right) + \lambda^2 \left(2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy - 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) + \lambda \left(3xyz - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0} \quad (*)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \sum_{\text{cyc}} x &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a+b}{c} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(ab \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a - c \right) \right) = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 3abc \\ & \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{(a+b)(b+c)}{ca} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(b \left(b^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + \\ & \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \rightarrow (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet xyz = \prod_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a+b}{c} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) \rightarrow (3) \therefore \text{via (1), (2) and (3), (*)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \lambda^3 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \right) \\
 & + 2\lambda^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) + 6abc \right) \\
 & + \lambda \left(3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) \geq 0 \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \lambda^3 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \right) \\
 & + 2\lambda^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + 6abc - \left(3abc + \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 \right) \right) \\
 & + \lambda \left(3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left[\begin{aligned}
 & \lambda^3 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \right) + 2\lambda^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + 3abc - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 \right) \right) \\
 & + \lambda \left(3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} 0
 \end{aligned} \right]$$

Now, $\lambda \geq 1 \Rightarrow \lambda^3, \lambda^2 \geq \lambda$ and $\therefore \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 0$ and

$\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + 3abc - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 \right) \stackrel{\text{Schur}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{LHS of } (**)$ \geq

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \lambda \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \right) + 2\lambda \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + 3abc - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 \right) \right) \\
 & + \lambda \left(3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) \\
 & = \lambda \left(3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (a+b) - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) + 2 \left(3abc + 3abc - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \right) - 9abc \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$= \lambda \left(\begin{array}{c} 3 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 3abc - \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) + 12abc \\ - 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - 9abc \end{array} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (**) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + \lambda} \leq \frac{3}{\lambda + 2} \quad \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc = 1$$

and $\forall \lambda \geq 1, '' = ''$ iff $(a = b = c = \lambda = 1)$ (QED)