

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If  $a, b, c > 0, abc = 1$  then:

$$\sum \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{2} \geq \frac{(a+b+c+1)^2}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) = a^2(b+c) + b^2(c+a) + c^2(a+b) + 2abc \quad (1)$$

$$a^2(b+c) + a(b+c) = (b+c)(a^2+a) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{bc} \cdot 2\sqrt{a^3} = 4a\sqrt{abc} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} 4a$$

$$\sum (a^2(b+c) + a(b+c)) = \sum (a^2(b+c) + ab + ac) \geq 4 \sum a \quad (2)$$

We need to show  $\sum \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{2} \geq \frac{(a+b+c+1)^2}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}$  or

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

$$\frac{(a+b+c)^2 + 2(a+b+c) + 1 - (\sum(a+b)(a+c))}{\prod(a+b)} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$2 \left[ \left( \sum a^2 \right) + 2 \left( \sum ab \right) + 2(a+b+c) + 1 - \left( \sum (a^2 + ab + bc + ca) \right) \right] \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \\ \leq a^2(b+c) + b^2(c+a) + c^2(a+b) + 2abc$$

$$\text{or } 4 \left( \sum a \right) - 2 \left( \sum ab \right) + 2 \stackrel{abc=1}{\leq} \sum a^2(b+c) + 2$$

$$\text{or } 4 \left( \sum a \right) \leq \sum a^2(b+c) + 2 \left( \sum ab \right) \text{ or}$$

$$4 \left( \sum a \right) \leq \sum (a^2(b+c) + ab + ac) \text{ True from (2)}$$

Equality holds for  $a = b = c = 1$