

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Let $a, b, c > 0$. Prove that
 $a^b + b^c + c^a > 1$

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If at least one of the numbers a, b and c is greater than or equal to 1,
inequality occurs.

Assume now that $a, b, c < 1$. By Bernoulli's inequality, we have

$$a^b = \frac{a}{[1 + (a - 1)]^{1-b}} \geq \frac{a}{1 + (a - 1)(1 - b)} = \frac{a}{a + b - ab} > \frac{a}{a + b + c} \quad (\text{and analogs})$$

Therefore

$$a^b + b^c + c^a > \frac{a}{a + b + c} + \frac{b}{a + b + c} + \frac{c}{a + b + c} = 1,$$

which completes the proof.