

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

$$\frac{(bc)^{2024} + c^{2022}a^{2026}}{a+b} + \frac{(ca)^{2024} + a^{2022}b^{2026}}{b+c} + \frac{(ab)^{2024} + b^{2022}c^{2026}}{a+c} \geq 3$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(bc)^{2024} + c^{2022}a^{2026}}{a+b} + \frac{(ca)^{2024} + a^{2022}b^{2026}}{b+c} + \frac{(ab)^{2024} + b^{2022}c^{2026}}{a+c} \\ = & \left(\frac{c^{2022}a^{2026}}{a+b} + \frac{(ca)^{2024}}{b+c} \right) + \left(\frac{b^{2022}c^{2026}}{a+c} + \frac{(bc)^{2024}}{a+b} \right) + \left(\frac{a^{2022}b^{2026}}{b+c} + \frac{(ab)^{2024}}{a+c} \right) \\ = & c^{2022}a^{2024} \cdot \left(\frac{a^2}{a+b} + \frac{c^2}{b+c} \right) + b^{2022}c^{2024} \cdot \left(\frac{c^2}{c+a} + \frac{b^2}{a+b} \right) \\ & + a^{2022}b^{2024} \cdot \left(\frac{b^2}{b+c} + \frac{a^2}{c+a} \right) \\ \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} & c^{2022}a^{2024} \cdot \frac{(c+a)^2}{(a+b) + (b+c)} + b^{2022}c^{2024} \cdot \frac{(b+c)^2}{(c+a) + (a+b)} \\ & + a^{2022}b^{2024} \cdot \frac{(a+b)^2}{(b+c) + (c+a)} \\ \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} & 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{(abc)^{4046} \cdot \frac{(a+b)^2}{(b+c) + (c+a)} \cdot \frac{(b+c)^2}{(c+a) + (a+b)} \cdot \frac{(c+a)^2}{(a+b) + (b+c)}} \\ \stackrel{abc=1}{=} & 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{abc} \cdot \frac{(a+b)^2}{(b+c) + (c+a)} \cdot \frac{(b+c)^2}{(c+a) + (a+b)} \cdot \frac{(c+a)^2}{(a+b) + (b+c)}} \\ \therefore & \frac{(bc)^{2024} + c^{2022}a^{2026}}{a+b} + \frac{(ca)^{2024} + a^{2022}b^{2026}}{b+c} + \frac{(ab)^{2024} + b^{2022}c^{2026}}{a+c} \\ \geq & 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{abc} \cdot \frac{(a+b)^2}{(b+c) + (c+a)} \cdot \frac{(b+c)^2}{(c+a) + (a+b)} \cdot \frac{(c+a)^2}{(a+b) + (b+c)}} \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

Assigning $b+c = x, c+a = y, a+b = z \Rightarrow x+y-z = 2c > 0, y+z-x = 2a > 0$ and $z+x-y = 2b > 0 \Rightarrow x+y > z, y+z > x, z+x > y \Rightarrow x, y, z$ form sides of a triangle with semiperimeter, circumradius and inradius = s, R, r (say)

$$\text{yielding } 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \Rightarrow a = s-x, b = s-y, c = s-z$$

$$\therefore abc = (s-x)(s-y)(s-z) \Rightarrow abc = r^2s \text{ and via such substitutions,}$$

$$\text{RHS of (1)} \geq 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{r^2s} \cdot \frac{z^2}{x+y} \cdot \frac{x^2}{y+z} \cdot \frac{y^2}{z+x}} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3 \Leftrightarrow \frac{16R^2r^2s^2}{r^2s \cdot 2s(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow s^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} 8R^2 - 2Rr - r^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - 3r^2 - 2(2R+r)(R-2r) \stackrel{?}{\leq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \because s^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - 3r^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\leq} 0 \text{ and } -2(2R+r)(R-2r) \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\leq} 0 \\
 & \Rightarrow \text{RHS of (1)} \geq 3 \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\Rightarrow} \\
 & \frac{(bc)^{2024} + c^{2022}a^{2026}}{a+b} + \frac{(ca)^{2024} + a^{2022}b^{2026}}{b+c} + \frac{(ab)^{2024} + b^{2022}c^{2026}}{a+c} \geq 3 \\
 & \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc = 1, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$