

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

$$\frac{a^7c^2 + b^9}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^7a^2 + c^9}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^7b^2 + a^9}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} \geq 3$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Let } a = \frac{1}{x}, b = \frac{1}{y}, c = \frac{1}{z} \text{ and then : } \frac{a^7c^2}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} \stackrel{\frac{1}{ab} = xy}{=} \frac{\frac{1}{x^7z^2} \cdot xy}{\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{y^3}} \\
 & = \frac{\frac{1}{x^4} \cdot \frac{y}{x^2z^2}}{\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{y^3}} \stackrel{y = \frac{1}{zx}}{=} \frac{\frac{1}{x^4} \cdot \frac{1}{x^3z^3}}{\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{y^3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{x^4} \cdot \frac{y^3}{z^3}}{\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{y^3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{x^4} \cdot \left(\frac{y}{z}\right)^4}{\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{y^3}} \stackrel{\frac{1}{zx} = y}{=} \frac{y^4 \cdot y^4}{x^3y \cdot xy + y^4 \cdot xy} \\
 & = \frac{y^8}{xy^2(x^3 + y^3)} \Rightarrow \frac{a^7c^2}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} = \frac{y^6}{x(x^3 + y^3)} \text{ and analogously,} \\
 & \frac{b^7a^2}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} = \frac{z^6}{y(y^3 + z^3)} \text{ and } \frac{c^7b^2}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} = \frac{x^6}{z(z^3 + x^3)} \\
 & \therefore \frac{a^7c^2}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^7a^2}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^7b^2}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} \\
 & = \frac{y^6}{x(x^3 + y^3)} + \frac{z^6}{y(y^3 + z^3)} + \frac{x^6}{z(z^3 + x^3)} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (x(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 - z^3))} \\
 & = \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3)^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3) - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y} \geq \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3)^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3) - 3} \\
 & \left(\because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{(xyz)^4} \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 \right) \geq \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3)^2}{\sqrt[3]{9 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \cdot (\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3) - 3}} \\
 & \left(\because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\geq} \frac{1}{9} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \leq \sqrt[3]{9 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3} \right) = \frac{t^2}{t \cdot \sqrt[3]{9t} - 3} \left(t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 2t^2 + 9 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3t \cdot \sqrt[3]{9t} \Leftrightarrow (2t^2 + 9)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 243t^4 \Leftrightarrow 8t^6 - 135t^4 + 486t^2 + 729 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\
 & \Leftrightarrow (t - 3)^2(8t^4 + 48t^3 + 81t^2 + 54t + 81) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true,} \\
 & \text{" = " iff } t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 = 3 \text{ and } \because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3xyz \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 \therefore \text{" = " iff } x = y = z = 1 \\
 & \therefore \frac{a^7c^2}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^7a^2}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^7b^2}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} \geq \frac{3}{2}, \text{" = " iff } a = b = c = 1 \rightarrow (1) \\
 & \text{Now, } a^4 + b^4 + b^4 + b^4 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 4ab^3, b^4 + c^4 + c^4 + c^4 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 4bc^3,
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$c^4 + a^4 + a^4 + a^4 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 4ca^3 \therefore 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4 \geq 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^3 \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^3 \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4 \rightarrow (i)$$

We have :

$$\frac{b^9}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{c^9}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{a^9}{ac(a^3 + c^3)}$$

$$= \frac{b^8}{a^4 + ab^3} + \frac{c^8}{b^4 + bc^3} + \frac{a^8}{c^4 + ca^3} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^3} \stackrel{\text{via (i)}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4)^2}{2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^4 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} \frac{3}{2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{(abc)^4} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{b^9}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{c^9}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{a^9}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} \geq \frac{3}{2}, \text{''} = \text{'' iff } a = b = c = 1 \rightarrow (2)$$

$$\therefore (1) + (2) \Rightarrow \frac{a^7c^2 + b^9}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^7a^2 + c^9}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^7b^2 + a^9}{ac(a^3 + c^3)} \geq 3,$$

'' = '' iff $a = b = c = 1$ (QED)