

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0, c \leq 3, 2(ab + bc + ca) \geq \sqrt{(9 + 3abc)(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c})}$ and
 $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3(3c^2 + abc - 3ab - 9c + 9)$, then $a, b, c = ?$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3(3c^2 + abc - 3ab - 9c + 9) \\
 \Rightarrow & a^3 + b^3 + (c^3 - 9c^2 + 27c - 27) + 3ab(3 - c) = 0 \\
 \Rightarrow & a^3 + b^3 + (c - 3)^3 + 3ab(3 - c) = 0 \\
 \Rightarrow & 3ab(c - 3) + (a + b + c - 3) \left(\frac{a^2 + b^2 + (c - 3)^2 - ab - a(c - 3) - b(c - 3)}{2} \right) + 3ab(3 - c) = 0 \\
 \Rightarrow & \frac{1}{2}(a + b + c - 3) \left((a - b)^2 + (a - (c - 3))^2 + (b - (c - 3))^2 \right) \stackrel{(*)}{=} 0 \\
 \text{Now, } & (a - b)^2 + (a - (c - 3))^2 + (b - (c - 3))^2 = 0 \Rightarrow a = b = c - 3; \text{ but} \\
 & c - 3 \leq 0 \Rightarrow a, b \leq 0 \rightarrow \text{contradiction} \\
 \therefore & (a - b)^2 + (a - (c - 3))^2 + (b - (c - 3))^2 \neq 0 \therefore (*) \Rightarrow \\
 & \boxed{a + b + c - 3 = 0} \Rightarrow 9 = \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^3}{3} \therefore (9 + 3abc)(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c}) \stackrel{\text{G-H}}{\geq} \\
 & \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^3}{3} + 3abc \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{2a}{a+1} \right) = \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^3 + 9abc}{3} \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{2a^2}{a^2 + a} \right) \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\
 & \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^3 + 9abc}{3} \right) \left(\frac{2(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} a} \right) \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{=} \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^3 + 9abc}{3} \right) \left(\frac{2(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{3}} \right) \\
 & \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4(ab + bc + ca)^2 \\
 \Leftrightarrow & \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^3 + 9abc \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 \left(3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \right) \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{\Leftrightarrow} \\
 & \left(\frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a}{3} \right) \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^3 + 9abc \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 \left(3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \right) \\
 \Leftrightarrow & \boxed{\left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^3 + 9abc \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 6 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 \left(3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \right)}
 \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) yielding $2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow a = s - x, b = s - y, c = s - z$

$\therefore abc = r^2 s \rightarrow (2)$ and such substitutions $\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s - x)(s - y)$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}}^2 ab = 4Rr + r^2 \rightarrow (3) \text{ and}$$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \stackrel{\text{via (1) and (3)}}{=} s^2 - 2(4Rr + r^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2 \rightarrow (4) \therefore \text{via (1), (2), (3) and (4), (*)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (s^3 + 9r^2s)s^3 \geq 6r^2(4R + r)^2(3(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) + s^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{s^6 + 9r^2s^4 - r^2s^2(384R^2 + 192Rr + 24r^2) + 36r^3(4R + r)^3 \geq 0} \text{ and } (**)$$

$\therefore (s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove (**), it suffices to prove :}$

$$\text{LHS of (**)} \geq (s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (48Rr - 6r^2)s^4 - r^2s^2(1152R^2 - 288Rr + 99r^2)$$

$$+ r^3(6400R^3 - 2112R^2r + 1632Rr^2 - 89r^3) \stackrel{(***)}{\geq} 0 \text{ and}$$

$\therefore (48Rr - 6r^2)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove (***)}$

it suffices to prove : LHS of (***) $\geq (48Rr - 6r^2)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2$

$$\Leftrightarrow (384R^2 - 384Rr - 39r^2)s^2 \stackrel{(***)}{\geq} r(5888R^3 - 7104R^2r + 528Rr^2 - 61r^3)$$

$$\text{Now, } (384R^2 - 384Rr - 39r^2)s^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq}$$

$$(384R^2 - 384Rr - 39r^2)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} r(5888R^3 - 7104R^2r + 528Rr^2 - 61r^3)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4t^3 - 15t^2 + 12t + 4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \left(t = \frac{R}{r} \right) \Leftrightarrow (4t + 1)(t - 2)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore t \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2$$

$$\Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \therefore$$

$$\boxed{\sqrt{(9 + 3abc)(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c})} \geq 2(ab + bc + ca) \text{ with " = " iff } a = b = c} \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\text{But, } 2(ab + bc + ca) \geq \sqrt{(9 + 3abc)(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c})}$$

$$\therefore 2(ab + bc + ca) = \sqrt{(9 + 3abc)(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c})} \text{ and}$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow \boxed{a = b = c \rightarrow (***)} \therefore (**), (***) \Rightarrow a = b = c = 1 \text{ (ans)}$$