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**JP.331.** In acute  $\triangle ABC$  with the lengths  $BC = a, CA = b, AB = c$ . Prove that:

$$\frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \geq 3$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi – Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \geq 3; \quad (1)$$

We have  $\cos A = \frac{b^2+c^2-a^2}{2bc} > 0$  hence  $b^2+c^2-a^2 > 0$  and similarly  $c^2+a^2-b^2 > 0$ ;

$$a^2+b^2-c^2 > 0$$

$$\begin{cases} b+c > a \\ c+a > b \\ a+b > c \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b+c-a > 0 \\ c+a-b > 0 \\ a+b-c > 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} \geq 0; \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} \geq 0; \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \geq 0$$

From AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \geq \\ & \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} \cdot \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} \cdot \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2}} = \\ & = 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{abc(b+c-a)(c+a-b)(a+b-c)}{(b^2+c^2-a^2)(c^2+a^2-b^2)(a^2+b^2-c^2)}}; \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } 0 < (b+c-a)(c+a-b) = c^2 - (a-b)^2 \leq c^2$$

$$0 < (c+a-b)(a+b-c) = a^2 - (b-c)^2 \leq a^2$$

$$0 < (a+b-c)(b+c-a) = b^2 - (c-a)^2 \leq b^2$$

Hence,  $0 \leq (b+c-a)^2(c+a-b)^2(a+b-c)^2 \leq a^2b^2c^2$  then

$$0 \leq (b+c-a)(c+a-b)(a+b-c) \leq abc \Leftrightarrow$$

$$abc(b+c-a)(c+a-b)(a+b-c) \geq (b+c-a)^2(c+a-b)^2(a+b-c)^2$$

We will to prove that:

$$(b+c-a)^2(c+a-b)^2 \geq (b^2+c^2-a^2)(c^2+a^2-b^2) \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$[c^2 - (a - b)^2]^2 \geq (c^2)^2 - (a^2 - b^2)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$c^2 - 2c^2(a - b)^2 + (a - b)^4 \geq c^4 - (a - b)^2(a + b)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$2(a - b)^2(a^2 + b^2 - c^2) \geq 0$  true because  $(a - b)^2 \geq 0$  and  $a^2 + b^2 \geq c^2 \Rightarrow (3)$  is true.

Hence,  $(b + c - a)^2(c + a - b)^2 \geq (b^2 + c^2 - a^2)(c^2 + a^2 - b^2)$  and similarly:

$$(c + a - b)^2(a + b - c)^2 \geq (c^2 + a^2 - b^2)(a^2 + b^2 - c^2)$$

$$(a + b - c)^2(b + c - a)^2 \geq (a^2 + b^2 - c^2)(b^2 + c^2 - a^2)$$

Therefore,

$$(b + c - a)^4(c + a - b)^4(a + b - c)^4 \geq (a^2 + b^2 - c^2)^2(b^2 + c^2 - a^2)^2(c^2 + a^2 - b^2)^2$$

Then

$$(b + c - a)^2(c + a - b)^2(a + b - c)^2 \geq (a^2 + b^2 - c^2)(b^2 + c^2 - a^2)(c^2 + a^2 - b^2); (4)$$

From (3),(4) it follows:

$$abc(b + c - a)(c + a - b)(a + b - c) \geq (a^2 + b^2 - c^2)(b^2 + c^2 - a^2)(c^2 + a^2 - b^2)$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{abc(b+c-a)(c+a-b)(a+b-c)}{(a^2+b^2-c^2)(b^2+c^2-a^2)(c^2+a^2-b^2)} \geq 1; (5)$$

$$\text{From (2),(5) it follows: } \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \geq 3$$

So, inequality (1) is true and we get the result.

Equality holds if and only if:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} = \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} = \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c. \\ a - b = b - c = c - a = 0 \end{cases}$$

### **Solution 2 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand**

$\triangle ABC$  acute, hence

$$a + b - c > 0, b + c - a > 0, c + a - b > 0, a^2 + b^2 - c^2 > 0,$$

$$b^2 + c^2 - a^2 > 0, c^2 + a^2 - b^2 > 0$$

We give:  $a + b - c = x, b + c - a = y, c + a - b = z$  hence,

$$\frac{x+y}{2} = b, \frac{y+z}{2} = c, \frac{z+x}{2} = a$$

$$\frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\frac{1}{2}(x+z)y}{\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y+z}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{z+x}{2}\right)^2} + \frac{\frac{1}{2}(x+y)z}{\left(\frac{z+x}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y+z}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2} + \\
 &\quad + \frac{\frac{1}{2}(y+z)x}{\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z+x}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{y+z}{2}\right)^2} = \\
 &= \frac{(x+z)y}{y^2 + xy + yz - zx} + \frac{(x+y)z}{z^2 + yz + zx - xy} + \frac{(y+z)x}{x^2 + xy + zx - yz} = \\
 &= \frac{x+z}{x+y+z-\frac{zx}{y}} + \frac{x+y}{x+y+z-\frac{xy}{z}} + \frac{y+z}{x+y+z-\frac{xy}{z}} \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{4(x+y+z)^2}{[(x+y) + (y+z) + (z+x)](x+y+z) - \frac{(x+z)xz}{y} - \frac{(x+y)xy}{z} - \frac{(y+z)yz}{x}} \geq 3 \\
 &4(x+y+z)^2 + 3 \left[ \frac{(x+z)xz}{y} + \frac{(x+y)xy}{z} + \frac{(y+z)yz}{x} \right] \geq 6(x+y+z)^2 \text{ true,}
 \end{aligned}$$

Because:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &3 \left[ \frac{(x+z)xz}{y} + \frac{(x+y)xy}{z} + \frac{(y+z)yz}{x} \right] = \\
 &= 3 \left[ \left( \frac{x^2y}{z} + \frac{x^2z}{y} \right) + \left( \frac{y^2x}{z} + \frac{y^2z}{x} \right) + \left( \frac{z^2x}{y} + \frac{z^2y}{x} \right) \right] \geq 3[2(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)] = \\
 &= 6(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq 2(x+y+z)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 3 by Rahim Shahbazov-Baku-Azerbaijan

It is enough to prove that:

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

$$abc(a+b-c)(b+c-a)(a+c-b) \geq \prod_{cyc} (b^2+c^2-a^2)$$

$$\text{Lemma: } abc \geq (a+b-c)(b+c-a)(a+c-b)$$

$$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \geq 8xyz$$

$$[(a+b-c)(b+c-a)(a+c-b)]^2 \geq \prod_{cyc} (b^2+c^2-a^2)$$

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$$\text{true from Gerretsen and } \cos A \cos B \cos C \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^2$$

**Solution 4 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{b(c+a-b)}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{c(a+b-c)}{a^2+b^2-c^2} &\geq 3 \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{cyc} a(b+c-a)(a^2+c^2-b^2)(a^2+b^2-c^2) &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ 2 \left( \sum a \right) \left[ \sum a^5 + abc \left( \sum a^2 \right) - \sum ab(a^3+b^3) \right] &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ 2 \left( \sum a \right) \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum (a-b)^2(a+b-c)^3 \right] &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \left( \sum a \right) \left[ \sum (a-b)^2(a+b-c)^3 \right] &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Which is clearly true by:

$$a+b-c > 0 \Rightarrow (a-b)^2(a+b-c)^3 \geq 0 \text{ (and analogs)}$$

Equality  $\Leftrightarrow a = b = c$ . Proved.

**Solution 5 by Marin Chirciu-Romania**

Lemma.

In acute  $\triangle ABC$  we have:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} = \frac{s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2}{s^2 - (2R+r)^2}$$

Proof.

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(b+c-a)}{b^2+c^2-a^2} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(2s-2a)}{2bccosA} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(s-a)}{bccosA} = \frac{\sum a^2(s-a)\cos B \cos C}{abc \prod \cos A} = \\ &= \frac{sr(s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2)}{R} = \frac{s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2}{4Rrs \cdot \frac{s^2 - (2R+r)^2}{4R^2}} = \frac{s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2}{s^2 - (2R+r)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Which result from:

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$$\sum_{cyc} a^2(s-a)\cos B \cos C = \frac{sr(s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2)}{R} \text{ and } \prod \cos A = \frac{s^2 - (2R+r)^2}{4R^2}$$

Let's solve the proposed problem.

Using Lemma and  $s^2 > (2R+r)^2$ , (in acute) the inequality it can be written as:

$$\frac{s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2}{s^2 - (2R+r)^2} \geq 3 \Leftrightarrow s^2 - r^2 - 2Rr - 4R^2 \geq 3s^2 - 3(2R+r)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$8R^2 + 10Rr + 2r^2 \geq 2s^2 \Leftrightarrow 4R^2 + 5Rr + r^2 \geq s^2 \text{ which result from}$$

$$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

$$\text{Remain to prove: } 4R^2 + 5Rr + r^2 \geq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

**JP.332.** If  $x_i > 1, \forall i = \overline{1, n}; n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 3$  then prove:

$$\frac{\log x_2}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2)} + \frac{\log x_3}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3)} + \dots + \frac{\log x_n}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 \dots x_{n-1}^2 x_n)} \leq \frac{\log^4 \sqrt{x_2 x_3 \dots x_n}}{\log x_1 \cdot \log(x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_n)}$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

**Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania**

$$x_i > 1 \Rightarrow \log x_i > 0$$

$$\text{Denote: } \log x_i = a_i, a_i > 0$$

$$\frac{\log x_2}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2)} + \frac{\log x_3}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3)} + \dots + \frac{\log x_n}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 \dots x_{n-1}^2 x_n)} \leq \frac{\log^4 \sqrt{x_2 x_3 \dots x_n}}{\log x_1 \cdot \log(x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_n)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{a_2}{(2a_1 + a_2)^2} + \frac{a_3}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n}{4a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

$$\frac{a_1}{(2(a_1 + a_2) - a_2)^2} + \frac{a_3}{(2(a_1 + a_2 + a_3) - a_3)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(2(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) - a_n)^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n - a_1}{4a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} = \frac{1}{4a_1} - \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

We must show that:

$$\frac{a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2} \leq \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})} - \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$



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$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2} \leq \frac{a_n}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})^2 + a_n(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1}) + a_n^2 \geq$$

$$\geq 4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})^2 + 4a_n(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$a_n^2 \geq 0 \text{ true } \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\frac{a_2}{(2a_1 + a_2)^2} + \frac{a_3}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{4a_1} - \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2)} + \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2)} - \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} + \dots + \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})}$$

$$- \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} = \frac{1}{4a_1} - \frac{1}{4(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

**Solution 2 by proposer**

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1(a_1 + a_2)} + \frac{a_3}{(a_1 + a_2)(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} = \frac{a_2 + a_3}{a_1(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)}$$

Suppose:

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1(a_1 + a_2)} + \frac{a_3}{(a_1 + a_2)(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

$$= \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n}{a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1(a_1 + a_2)} + \frac{a_3}{(a_1 + a_2)(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} +$$

$$+ \frac{a_{n+1}}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n+1})} =$$

$$= \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n}{a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} + \frac{a_{n+1}}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n+1})} =$$

$$= \frac{(a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n)^2 + a_1(a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n) + a_{n+1}(a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n) + a_1 a_{n+1}}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n+1})} =$$

$$= \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{n+1}}{a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n+1})}$$

From  $(x + y)^2 \geq 4xy \Rightarrow \frac{1}{xy} \geq \frac{4}{(x+y)^2}$  we have:

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1(a_1 + a_2)} \geq \frac{4a_2}{(2a_1 + a_2)^2}$$

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$$\frac{a_3}{(a_1 + a_2)(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} \geq \frac{4a_3}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3)^2}$$

$$\frac{a_n}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} \geq \frac{4a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2}$$

Adding up relationships, we have:

$$\frac{4a_2}{(2a_1 + a_2)^2} + \frac{4a_3}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3)^2} + \dots + \frac{4a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{a_2}{a_1(a_1 + a_2)} + \frac{a_3}{(a_1 + a_2)(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1})(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

$$= \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n}{a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a_2}{(2a_1 + a_2)^2} + \frac{a_3}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{(2a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-1} + a_n)^2}$$

$$\leq \frac{a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n}{4a_1(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)}$$

For:  $a_1 = \log x_1$ ;  $a_2 = \log x_2$ ; ...;  $a_n = \log x_n$  we get:

$$\frac{\log x_2}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2)} + \frac{\log x_3}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3)} + \dots + \frac{\log x_n}{\log^2(x_1^2 x_2^2 \dots x_{n-1}^2 x_n)} \leq \frac{\log^4 \sqrt{x_2 x_3 \dots x_n}}{\log x_1 \cdot \log(x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_n)}$$

**JP.333. In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$\sqrt{r_a r_b} + \sqrt{r_b r_c} + \sqrt{r_c r_a} \leq \sqrt{(ab + bc + ca) \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R}\right)}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution by proposer**

Using some well-known formulas

$$r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}; \cos \frac{A}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{s(s-a)}{bc}}; \cos A + \cos B + \cos C = 1 + \frac{r}{R}$$

We have:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b r_c}{bc} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{S^2}{bc(s-b)(s-c)} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{s(s-a)}{bc} = \sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 + \cos A}{2} = 2 + \frac{r}{2R}$$

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Hence,

$$2 + \frac{r}{2R} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b r_c}{bc} \stackrel{BCS}{\geq} \frac{(\sqrt{r_a r_b} + \sqrt{r_b r_c} + \sqrt{r_c r_a})^2}{ab + bc + ca}$$

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{(ab + bc + ca) \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R}\right)} \geq \sqrt{r_a r_b} + \sqrt{r_b r_c} + \sqrt{r_c r_a}$$

**JP.334.** In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$\sqrt{\frac{a+b}{a-b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b-c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+a}{c-a+b}} \leq \frac{3R}{\sqrt{2}r}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by Eldeniz Hesenov-Georgia**

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{a-b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b-c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+a}{c-a+b}} = \\ & = \frac{\sqrt{a+b}}{\sqrt{s-b}} + \frac{\sqrt{b+c}}{\sqrt{s-c}} + \frac{\sqrt{c+a}}{\sqrt{s-a}} \stackrel{BCS}{\leq} \sqrt{2s \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{s-a}} = \\ & = \sqrt{2s^2 \cdot \frac{\sum(s-b)(s-c)}{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}} = \sqrt{\frac{2s^2 \sum(s-b)(s-c)}{s^2 r^2}} \stackrel{\sum(s-b)(s-c) \leq \frac{sr}{3}}{\leq} \\ & \leq \sqrt{\frac{2s^2}{3r^2}} = \frac{s}{r} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \stackrel{(?)}{\leq} \frac{3R}{r\sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow 3\sqrt{3}R \geq 2s; (1) \\ & 27R^2 \geq 3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq (a+b+c)^2 = 4s^2 \Rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

**Solution 2 and extensions by Marin Chirciu-Romania**

$$Lhs = \left( \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{a-b+c}} \right)^2 \stackrel{BCS}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} (b+c) \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{b+c-a} = 4s \cdot \frac{4R+r}{2sr} =$$

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$$= \frac{2(4R+r) \stackrel{(1)}{9R^2}}{r} \leq \frac{9R^2}{2r^2} = Rhd$$

$$\text{Where (1)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{2(4R+r)}{r} \leq \frac{9R^2}{2r^2} \Leftrightarrow 9R^2 \geq 4r(4R+r) \Leftrightarrow 9R^2 - 16Rr - 4r^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(9R+2r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Remark. Let's find extensions inequality:

**2) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b+c-a}} \geq 3\sqrt{2}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

Proof. Using AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$\prod_{cyc} (b+c) = 2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) \text{ and } \prod_{cyc} (b+c-a) = 8r^2s$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} Lhs &= \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b+c-a}} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\prod_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b+c-a}}} = 3 \sqrt[6]{\prod_{cyc} \frac{b+c}{b+c-a}} = \\ &= 3 \sqrt[6]{\frac{\prod(b+c)}{\prod(b+c-a)}} = 3 \sqrt[6]{\frac{2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)}{8r^2s}} = 3 \sqrt[6]{\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}{4r^2}} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} 3\sqrt{2} = Rhd \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow 3 \sqrt[6]{\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}{4r^2}} \geq 3\sqrt{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}{4r^2} \geq 8 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 31r^2 - 2Rr$$

Which result from  $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$  (Gerretsen)

We must to prove  $16Rr - 5r^2 \geq 31r^2 - 2Rr \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r$  (Euler)

**3) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:**

$$3\sqrt{2} \leq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{b+c-a}} \leq \frac{3R}{r\sqrt{2}}$$

Proof. See up relationships.

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

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**Solution 3 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India**

We know that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{s-a} = \frac{4R+r}{sr} \text{ and } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{a-b+c}} \stackrel{BCS}{\leq} \sqrt{\left(\sum_{cyc} (a+b)\right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a-b+c}\right)} =$$

$$= \sqrt{2(a+b+c) \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2(s-a)}\right)} = \sqrt{2s \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{s-a}} =$$

$$= \sqrt{2s \cdot \frac{4R+r}{sr}} = \sqrt{2 \cdot \frac{4R+r}{r}} \leq \sqrt{2 \cdot \frac{4R+\frac{R}{2}}{r}} = 3\sqrt{\frac{R}{r}} = 3\sqrt{2\left(\frac{R}{2r}\right)} \leq$$

$$\leq 3\sqrt{\frac{R}{r} \left(\frac{R}{2r}\right)} = \frac{3R}{\sqrt{2}r}$$

**JP.335** If  $a, b, c > 0$  such that  $ab + bc + ca \leq 3$  then prove:

$$\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2} \geq \frac{15}{4}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

Applying some well-known result, we have:

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

$$= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) + \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \right) \geq \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) + \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a(b+c)} \geq$$

$$\geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{ab+bc+ca} + \frac{9}{a(b+c) + b(c+a) + c(a+b)} = \frac{45}{4(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \frac{15}{4}$$

**Solution 2 by George Florin Şerban-Romania**

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Applying Iranian inequality:

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} ab\right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(a+b)^2}\right) \geq \frac{9}{4} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4 \sum_{cyc} ab} \geq \frac{9}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2} = \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^2 \stackrel{\sum x^2 \geq \sum xy}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{ab} \stackrel{Bergstrom}{\geq} \frac{(1+1+1)^2}{\sum_{cyc} ab} = \frac{9}{\sum_{cyc} ab} \geq \frac{9}{3} = 3$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2} \geq \frac{15}{4}$$

### Solution 3 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

First, for  $a, b > 0$  we have:

$$\frac{1}{2a^2} + \frac{1}{2b^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{5}{4ab}; \text{ (and analogs)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2a^2} + \frac{1}{2b^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} - \frac{5}{4ab} \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{2a^4 + 2b^4 - 2a^2b^2 - ab(a^2 + b^2)}{4a^2b^2(a+b)^2} \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(a-b)^2(2a^2 + 3ab + 2b^2)}{4a^2b^2(a+b)^2} \geq 0 \text{ (true for } a, b > 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{1}{2a^2} + \frac{1}{2b^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2}\right) \geq \frac{5}{4} \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca}\right) \stackrel{Bergstrom}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{ab+bc+ca} \stackrel{ab+bc+ca \leq 3}{\geq} \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{3} = \frac{15}{4}$$

### Solution 4 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For  $a, b, c > 0$  we have:

$$\frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{1}{a(b+c)}; \frac{1}{4b^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2} \geq \frac{1}{b(c+a)}; \frac{1}{4c^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{1}{c(a+b)}$$

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

$$= \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4b^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4c^2} + \frac{1}{(a+b)^2}\right) \geq$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) + \frac{1}{a(b+c)} + \frac{1}{b(c+a)} + \frac{1}{c(a+b)} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{ab+bc+ca} + \frac{9}{2(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{3} + \frac{9}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{15}{4} \end{aligned}$$

**Solution 5 by Marian Dincă-Romania**

$$\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} = \frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} = \frac{3}{4a^2} + \frac{1}{(2a)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \right) &= \frac{3}{4} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2} + \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{1}{(2a)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \right) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) + 2 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{1}{(2a)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{(b+c)^2}} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{ab+bc+ca} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a(b+c)} \geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{9}{3} + \frac{9}{\sum a(b+c)} \geq \frac{9}{4} + \frac{9}{6} = \frac{15}{4} \end{aligned}$$

**JP.336 For all positive integers  $n > 3$  prove that:**

$$\frac{\sqrt{2n+1}-1}{2} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}+\sqrt{2n}} < \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{2}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Viet-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution by proposer**

We have clearly:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}+\sqrt{2n}} < \\ &< \frac{1}{\sqrt{0}+\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-2}+\sqrt{2n-1}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} 2S &< 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-2}+\sqrt{2n-1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}+\sqrt{2n}} = \\ &= 1 + \frac{\sqrt{1}-\sqrt{2}}{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3}}{-1} + \dots + \frac{\sqrt{2n-1}-\sqrt{2n}}{-1} = \sqrt{2n}; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

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On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} > \\
 &> \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{5}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n} + \sqrt{2n+1}} \\
 2S &> \frac{\sqrt{1} - \sqrt{2}}{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}}{-1} + \dots + \frac{\sqrt{2n} - \sqrt{2n+1}}{-1} = \sqrt{2n+1} - 1; \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

From (1),(2) it follows that conclusion.

### *Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania*

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-2} + \sqrt{2n-1}} &> \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n} + \sqrt{2n+1}} \Rightarrow \\
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-2} + \sqrt{2n-1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n} + \sqrt{2n+1}} \end{array} \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

With values from 1 to  $n$  and summing, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k-1} + \sqrt{2k}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k} + \sqrt{2k+1}} \right) < \\
 &< 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} \right) < \\
 &< \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k-2} + \sqrt{2k-1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k-1} + \sqrt{2k}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating the two sums from LHS and RHS, we obtain:

$$\sqrt{2n+1} - 1 < 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} \right) < \sqrt{2n}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\sqrt{2n+1} - 1}{2} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1} + \sqrt{2n}} < \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{2}$$



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**JP.337.** If  $a_i, b_i \in (0, 1)$ ;  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $n \geq 2$  then prove:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}}} \geq (\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

**Solution 1 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania**

We must show:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \geq n(\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2; \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} \leq \sqrt{a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}} = a_i^p \cdot b_i^q, a_i \in (0, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} \geq \log_{a_i}(a_i^p \cdot b_i^q) = p + q \log_{a_i} b_i; \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \leq \sqrt{a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}} = a_i^q \cdot b_i^p, b_i \in (0, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \geq \log_{b_i}(a_i^q \cdot b_i^p) = p + q \log_{b_i} a_i; \quad (3)$$

From (2)&(3) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n 2p + \sum_{i=1}^n q \left( \log_{a_i} b_i + \frac{1}{\log_{b_i} a_i} \right) \geq \\ &\geq 2np + 2nq; \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

From (1)&(4) we must show:  $2(p+q) \geq (\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2 \Leftrightarrow (\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 \geq 0$  true. Proved.

**Solution 2 by Adrian Popa-Romania**

$$\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} \leq \sqrt{a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}} = a_i^p \cdot b_i^q, a_i \in (0, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} \geq \log_{a_i}(a_i^p \cdot b_i^q) = p + q \log_{a_i} b_i$$

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$$\Rightarrow \log_{a_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}}} \geq \frac{1}{n} (p + q \log_{a_i} b_i)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}}} \geq p + \frac{q}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} b_i; \quad (1)$$

Similarly

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}}} \geq q + \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} a_i; \quad (2)$$

From (1)&(2) we must show:

$$p + \frac{q}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} b_i + q + \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} a_i \geq p + q + 2\sqrt{pq} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{q}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} b_i + \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} a_i \geq 2\sqrt{pq}$$

But

$$\frac{q}{n} \log_{a_i} b_i + \frac{p}{n} \log_{b_i} a_i \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{\frac{pq}{n^2} \log_{a_i} b_i \cdot \log_{b_i} a_i} = \frac{2}{n} \sqrt{pq}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{q}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} b_i + \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} a_i \geq n \cdot \frac{2}{n} \sqrt{pq} = 2\sqrt{pq}$$

### Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Suppose  $a, b \in (0, 1) \Leftrightarrow a^{2p}, a^{2q}, b^{2p}, b^{2q} \in (0, 1)$

$$\text{Let } G_1 = \sqrt{a^{2p} b^{2q}}; G_2 = \sqrt{a^{2q} b^{2p}}; H_1 = \frac{2a^{2p} b^{2q}}{a^{2p} + b^{2q}}; H_2 = \frac{2a^{2q} b^{2p}}{a^{2q} + b^{2p}}$$

Note that  $G_1, G_2, H_1, H_2 \in (0, 1)$ , we have:

$$0 < H_1 \leq G_1 \leq 1 \text{ also } \log a < 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\log H_1}{\log a} \geq \frac{\log G_1}{\log a} \Rightarrow \log_a H_1 \geq \log_a G_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \log_a H_1 \geq p \log_a a + q \log_a b$$

$$\text{Similarly: } \log_b H_2 \geq p \log_b a + q \log_b b$$

$$\log_a H_1 + \log_b H_2 \geq p + q + q \frac{\log b}{\log a} + p \frac{\log a}{\log b} \geq p + q + 2\sqrt{pq} = (\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2$$

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Thus,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \geq n(\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}}} \geq (\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2$$

**Solution 4 by proposer**

$$\log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} \stackrel{HM-GM}{\geq} \log_{a_i} \sqrt{a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}} = \log_{a_i} (a_i^p \cdot b_i^q) = p + q \log_{a_i} b_i$$

$$\log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \stackrel{HM-GM}{\geq} \log_{b_i} \sqrt{a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}} = \log_{b_i} (a_i^q \cdot b_i^p) = p + q \log_{b_i} a_i$$

Adding, we get:

$$\log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} + \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \geq 2p + q(\log_{a_i} b_i + \log_{b_i} a_i) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2p + 2q$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left( \log_{a_i} \frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}} + \log_{b_i} \frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}} \right) \geq 2np + 2nq \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log_{a_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2p} \cdot b_i^{2q}}{a_i^{2p} + b_i^{2q}}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{b_i} \sqrt[n]{\frac{2a_i^{2q} \cdot b_i^{2p}}{a_i^{2q} + b_i^{2p}}} \geq 2p + 2q \geq (\sqrt{p} + \sqrt{q})^2$$

**JP.338. In  $\Delta ABC$ ,  $P, Q \in Int(\Delta ABC)$  such that:**

$$\beta \overrightarrow{AB} + \gamma \overrightarrow{BP} + \overrightarrow{PC} = \mathbf{0} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{AQ} + \alpha \overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{BC} = \mathbf{0}, \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}; \alpha, \gamma \neq 1.$$

**Prove that  $A, P, Q$  are collinear if and only if  $\alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1$ .**

*Proposed by Florică Anastase -Romania*

**Solution 1 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria**

$$\beta \overrightarrow{AB} + \gamma \overrightarrow{BP} + \overrightarrow{PC} = \mathbf{0}; \quad (1)$$

$$\beta(\overrightarrow{AP} + \overrightarrow{PB}) + \gamma \overrightarrow{BP} + \overrightarrow{PC} = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \beta \overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma) \overrightarrow{PB} + \overrightarrow{PC} = \mathbf{0}$$

So,  $P$  is perycenter of  $(A, \beta), (B, \gamma - \beta), (C, 1)$

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If  $\beta + \gamma - \beta + 1 \neq 0, \gamma + 1 \neq 0$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} + \alpha\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{BC} = 0;$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} + \alpha\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{BQ} + \overrightarrow{QC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \overrightarrow{AQ} + (\alpha - 1)\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{QC} = 0; \quad (2)$$

So,  $Q$  is centroid of  $(A, 1), (B, 1 - \alpha), (C, 1)$

If  $1 - \alpha + 1 + 1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \alpha \neq 3$ .

Suppose:  $\alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1$  and let us prove  $A, P, Q$  are collinear.

$\alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1 \Leftrightarrow \alpha - 1 = \beta - \gamma$  substituted in (2):

$$\begin{cases} \overrightarrow{AQ} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{QC} = 0 \\ \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{PB} + \overrightarrow{PC} = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)(\overrightarrow{QB} - \overrightarrow{PB}) + (\overrightarrow{QC} - \overrightarrow{PC}) = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)(\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{BP}) + (\overrightarrow{QC} + \overrightarrow{CP}) = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP} + \overrightarrow{QP} = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma + 1)\overrightarrow{QP} = 0; (\alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1 \Rightarrow \alpha = \beta - \gamma + 1)$$

$$\overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + \alpha\overrightarrow{QP} = 0 \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AQ} - \beta\overrightarrow{AP} + \alpha(\overrightarrow{AQ} + \overrightarrow{AP}) = 0$$

$$(1 + \alpha)\overrightarrow{AQ} + (\alpha - \beta)\overrightarrow{AP} = 0 \Rightarrow (1 + \alpha)\overrightarrow{AQ} = (\beta - \alpha)\overrightarrow{AP} \Leftrightarrow A, P, Q \text{ are collinear.}$$

Now, suppose  $A, P, Q$  are collinear, we show that  $\alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1$

From (1) we have:

$$\beta\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{PB} + \overrightarrow{PC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow -\beta\overrightarrow{PA} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{PB} + \overrightarrow{PC} = 0$$

$$\text{So, } -\beta\overrightarrow{QA} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{QC} = (-\beta + \beta - \gamma + 1)\overrightarrow{QP}$$

$$-\beta\overrightarrow{QA} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{QC} = (1 - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP}$$

$$\text{From (2): } -\overrightarrow{QA} + (\alpha - 1)\overrightarrow{QB} + \overrightarrow{QC} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (-\beta + 1)\overrightarrow{QA} + (\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overrightarrow{QB} = (1 - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP}$$

$$(\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overrightarrow{QB} = (1 - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP} - (-\beta + 1)\overrightarrow{QA}$$

$$(\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overrightarrow{QB} = (1 - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP} + (\beta - 1)\overrightarrow{QA}$$

$$(\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overrightarrow{QB} = (1 - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP} + (\beta - 1)(\overrightarrow{QP} + \overrightarrow{PA}) =$$

$$= (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QP} + (\beta - 1)\overrightarrow{PA} = (\beta - \gamma)(\overrightarrow{QA} + \overrightarrow{AP}) + (\beta - 1)\overrightarrow{PA} =$$

$$= (\beta - \gamma - \beta + 1)\overrightarrow{AP} + (\beta - \gamma)\overrightarrow{QA};$$

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$$(\overline{AP} = \lambda \overline{QP} \Rightarrow \overline{AP} = \lambda(\overline{QA} + \overline{AP}) \Rightarrow \lambda(1 - \lambda)\overline{QP} = \lambda\overline{QA})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overline{QB} &= \lambda(1 - \gamma)\overline{QP} + \frac{(\beta - \gamma)(1 - \lambda)}{\lambda}\overline{AP} = \\ &= \lambda(1 - \gamma)\overline{QP} + (\beta - \gamma)(1 - \lambda)\overline{QP} \\ &\Rightarrow (\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1)\overline{QB} = (\lambda(1 - \beta) + (\beta - \gamma))\overline{QP} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow Q, B, P$  are collinear, so  $A, Q, B, P$  are collinear, this is impossible because  $Q, P$  inside of triangle, from (\*) it must be  $\beta - \gamma - \alpha + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1$ .

### Solution 2 by proposer

$$\overline{AQ} + \alpha\overline{QB} + \overline{BC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow (\overline{AQ} + \overline{QB} + \overline{BC}) = (\alpha - 1)\overline{BQ} \Leftrightarrow \overline{AC} = (\alpha - 1)\overline{BQ}$$

$$\overline{AQ} = \overline{AB} + \overline{BQ} = \overline{AB} + \frac{1}{\alpha - 1}\overline{AC}; \quad (1)$$

$$\beta\overline{AB} + \gamma\overline{BP} + \overline{PC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \beta\overline{AB} + \gamma(\overline{BA} + \overline{AP}) + \overline{PC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(\beta - \gamma)\overline{AB} + \gamma\overline{AP} + \overline{PC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(\beta - \gamma)\overline{AB} + (\gamma - 1)\overline{AP} + \overline{AC} = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\overline{AP} = -\frac{1}{\gamma - 1}((\beta - \gamma)\overline{AB} + \overline{AC}) = \frac{1}{1 - \gamma}((\beta - \gamma)\overline{AB} + \overline{AC}); \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2)  $A, P, Q$  are collinear if and only if exist  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\overline{AP} = \lambda\overline{AQ} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{1 - \gamma}((\beta - \gamma)\overline{AB} + \overline{AC}) = \lambda\left(\overline{AB} + \frac{1}{\alpha - 1}\overline{AC}\right) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\beta - \gamma}{1 - \gamma} = \lambda \\ \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} = \frac{\lambda}{\alpha - 1} \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \beta - \gamma = \lambda(1 - \gamma) \\ \alpha - 1 = \lambda(1 - \gamma) \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \alpha + \gamma = \beta + 1$$

### JP.339 Solve in real numbers the system:

$$\begin{cases} 11(x^4 - y^4) + 4xy(x^2 + y^2) + x = 0 \\ 2(x^4 - y^4) - 22xy(x^2 + y^2) + y = 0 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

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**Solution by proposer:**

$$\begin{cases} 11(x^4 - y^4) + 4xy(x^2 + y^2) + x = 0 \\ 2(x^4 - y^4) - 22xy(x^2 + y^2) + y = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} = -11(x^2 - y^2) - 4xy \\ \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} = -2(x^2 - y^2) + 22xy \end{cases}$$

Let be  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $z = x + yi$  with  $\frac{1}{z} = \frac{x-yi}{x^2+y^2}$  and  $z^2 = x^2 - y^2 + 2xyi$

From system we get:

$$\frac{x - yi}{x^2 + y^2} = -11(x^2 - y^2) - 4xy + 2(x^2 - y^2) - 22xyi = (-11 + 2i)(x^2 - y^2 + 2xyi)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{z} = (-11 + 2i)z^2 \Leftrightarrow z^3 = \frac{1}{(1 - 2i)^3} \Leftrightarrow z = \frac{1 + 2i}{5}$$

Therefore,  $x = \frac{1}{5}$  și  $y = \frac{2}{5}$

**JP.340 Prove that :**

$$\sin 10^\circ = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \tan 10^\circ + \frac{1}{4} \tan^2 10^\circ - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \tan^3 10^\circ$$

*Proposed by Pedro Henrique O. Pantoja-Natal-Brazil*

**Solution by proposer**

Simplifying the expression of the statement, we have:

$$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \tan 10^\circ + \frac{1}{4} \tan^2 10^\circ - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \tan^3 10^\circ = \frac{(1 + \tan^2 10^\circ)(1 - \sqrt{3} \tan 10^\circ)}{4}$$

Then  $4 \sin 10^\circ = (1 + \tan^2 10^\circ)(1 - \sqrt{3} \tan 10^\circ)$ ; (\*)

It is sufficient to prove that (\*) is true. Observe that:

$$\begin{aligned} \tan 100^\circ - \tan 10^\circ &= \frac{\sin(100^\circ - 10^\circ)}{\cos 100^\circ \cdot \cos 10^\circ} = \frac{\sin 90^\circ}{\frac{1}{2}(\cos 110^\circ + \cos 90^\circ)} = -\frac{2}{\cos 70^\circ} = \\ &= -\frac{2}{\cos(60^\circ + 10^\circ)} = -\frac{2}{\cos 60^\circ \cos 10^\circ - \sin 60^\circ \sin 10^\circ} = \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{3}\sin 10^\circ - \cos 10^\circ} = \frac{4\cos 10^\circ}{\sqrt{3}\tan 10^\circ - 1}$$

$$\text{However, } \tan 100^\circ = -\frac{1}{\tan 10^\circ}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \left(\tan 10^\circ + \frac{1}{\tan 10^\circ}\right)(1 - \sqrt{3}\tan 10^\circ) = 4\cos 10^\circ$$

$$\text{Hence, } (1 + \tan^2 10^\circ)(1 - \sqrt{3}\tan 10^\circ) = 4\sin 10^\circ$$

**JP.341 Find all positive integers  $n$  such that:  $N = \frac{2^{2n} - n^2 - 1}{n!}$  is a perfect square.**

*Proposed by Pedro Henrique O. Pantoja-Natal-Brazil*

**Solution 1 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo**

$N$  is perfect square if, first of all, is positive integer number.

$$\text{For } n \geq 5: 2^{2n} - 1 \equiv 3, 5 \pmod{10}$$

$$n^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4, 5, 6, 9 \pmod{10}$$

$$\text{Being that } n! \equiv 0 \pmod{10} \Rightarrow 2^{2n} - 1 \equiv n^2 \pmod{10}$$

$$\Rightarrow n \equiv 0 \pmod{10}, n \equiv 5 \pmod{10} \text{ .Contradiction!}$$

So,  $n < 5$ . Proving  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$  we get:

$$N = 2, \frac{11}{2}, 9, \frac{239}{24}. \text{ Therefore, } n = 3.$$

**Solution 2 by proposer**

$$\text{Suppose there is } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } m^2 = N \Leftrightarrow n^2 + n!m^2 + 1 = 2^{2n}.$$

First note that  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is odd, in fact, if  $n$  for even the left side will be odd and the even right, a contradiction.

$$\text{If } n \geq 5 \Rightarrow n!m^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}, \text{ and } n^2 \equiv 0, 14 \pmod{5} \text{ then}$$

$$n^2 + n!m^2 + 1 \equiv 0, 1, 2 \pmod{5}.$$

On the other hand,

$$2^{2n} = 4^n \equiv (-1)^n = \pm 1 \pmod{5}$$

Thus we conclude that  $n$  must be even, a contradiction. Therefore,

$$n < 5 \Rightarrow n = 1 \text{ or } n = 3.$$

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Testing  $n = 1$  does not work, and if  $n = 3$  then

$$9 + 6m^2 = 64 \Rightarrow m^2 = 9 \Rightarrow m = \pm 3.$$

Answer:  $n = 3$ .

**JP.342.** Let be  $ABCD A' B' C' D'$  cube with length side 1 and  $M \in BC$ ,  $N \in DD'$ ,  $P \in A' B'$ . Find minimum perimeter of  $\Delta MNP$ .

*Proposed by Florentin Vişescu-Romania*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

Let be  $M(x, 1, 0), N(1, 0, z), P(0, y, 1), x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$MN = \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + 1 + z^2}, MP = \sqrt{x^2 + (y-1)^2 + 1}, NP = \sqrt{y^2 + (z-1)^2 + 1}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\Delta MNP} &= MN + MP + PN = \\ &= \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + z^2 + 1} + \sqrt{(y-1)^2 + x^2 + 1} + \sqrt{(z-1)^2 + y^2 + 1} \geq \\ &\geq \sqrt{(x+y+z-3)^2 + (x+y+z)^2 + 9} \text{ (Minkowski)} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if  $x = y = z$ .

Let  $f(t) = \sqrt{(t-3)^2 + t^2 + 9} = \sqrt{2t^2 - 6t + 18}, f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$f'(t) = \frac{4t-6}{2\sqrt{2t^2-6t+18}} = \frac{2t-3}{\sqrt{2t^2-6t+18}}$$

$$f'(t) = 0 \Rightarrow t = \frac{3}{2}.$$

For  $t \in (-\infty, \frac{3}{2}), f'(t) < 0, f$  -decreasing on  $(-\infty, \frac{3}{2})$ .

For  $t \in (\frac{3}{2}, \infty), f'(t) > 0, f$  -increasing on  $(\frac{3}{2}, \infty)$ .

Then  $t = \frac{3}{2}$  minimum point  $f(t) \geq f(\frac{3}{2}), \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$f\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \sqrt{2 \cdot \frac{9}{4} - 6 \cdot \frac{3}{2} + 18} = \sqrt{\frac{18 + 4 \cdot 18 - 2 \cdot 18}{4}} = \sqrt{\frac{3 \cdot 18}{4}} = \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{6}.$$

$$\text{So } P_{\Delta MNP} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

Equality holds if and only if  $x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}$



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$M, N, P$  midpoints of  $[BC]$ ,  $[DD']$  and  $[A'B']$  respectively.

### Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let coordinate of  $M, N, P$  be  $M(1, y, 0), N(0, 1, z), P(x, 0, 1), 0 \leq x, y, z \leq 1$

$$MN = \sqrt{1^2 + (1-y)^2 + z^2} = |\vec{i} + (1-y)\vec{j} + \vec{k}|$$

$$NP = \sqrt{x^2 + 1^2 + (1-z)^2} = |x\vec{j} + \vec{k} + (1-z)\vec{i}|$$

$$PM = \sqrt{(1-x)^2 + y^2 + 1^2} = |(1-x)\vec{k} + y\vec{i} + \vec{j}|$$

$$MN + NP + PM = |\vec{MN}| + |\vec{NP}| + |\vec{PM}| \geq |\vec{MN} + \vec{NP} + \vec{PM}| =$$

$$= |(1 + 1 - z + y)\vec{i} + (1 - y + x + 1)\vec{j} + (z + 1 + 1 - x)\vec{k}|$$

$$\Rightarrow (MN + NP + PM)^2 \geq (2 - z + y)^2 + (2 - y + x)^2 + (2 - x + z)^2 =$$

$$= 12 + (y - z)^2 + (x - y)^2 + (z - x)^2$$

For  $MN + NP + PM$  to be least, we must  $y - z = x - y = z - x = 0$

$\Rightarrow x = y = z$ . Thus,

$$MN + NP + PM \geq 3\sqrt{1 + (1-x)^2 + x^2} = 3\sqrt{2} \sqrt{\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Equality when  $x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Least perimeter of  $\triangle MNP$  is  $\frac{3\sqrt{6}}{2}$  for  $M\left(1, \frac{1}{2}, 0\right), N\left(0, 1, \frac{1}{2}\right), P\left(\frac{1}{2}, 0, 1\right)$

### Solution 3 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$M \in (BC): MB = x \Rightarrow MC = 1 - x$$

$$N \in (DD'): ND = y \Rightarrow ND' = 1 - y$$

$$P \in (A'B'): PA' = z \Rightarrow PB' = 1 - z$$

$$P_{MNP} = PM + MN + NP$$

$$PM^2 = 2 + (1-z)^2 + 1; MN^2 = (1-x)^2 + y^2 + 1; PN^2 = z^2 + (1-y)^2 + 1$$

$$P_{MNP} = \min \Rightarrow (PM + MN + NP)^2 = \min \Rightarrow$$

$$PM^2 + MN^2 + NP^2 + 2PM \cdot MN + 2PM \cdot NP + 2MN \cdot NP = \min$$

$$PM^2 + MN^2 + NP^2 \geq PM \cdot MN + PM \cdot NP + MN \cdot NP$$

Equality holds when  $PM \equiv MN \equiv NP$  hence,

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$$(PM^2 + MN^2 + NP^2 + 2PM \cdot MN + 2PM \cdot NP + 2MN \cdot NP)_{\min} = 9PM^2$$

In this case  $\triangle PP'M \equiv \triangle MM'N \equiv \triangle PP'N$  hence,  $P'M \equiv M'N \equiv P'N$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (PM + MN + NP)^2 &= PM^2 + MN^2 + NP^2 + 2PM^2 + 2PN^2 + 2MN^2 = \\ &= 3(MN^2 + PN^2 + PM^2) = 6(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - x - y - z + 3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let be } f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2y - 2z$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2y - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 2z - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow z = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$f_{\min} = \frac{9}{4} \Rightarrow P_{\min}^2 = \frac{27}{2} \Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{3\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

**JP.343** In acute  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $g_a$  –Gergonne's cevian the following relationship holds:

$$\max\{g_a^2 \cdot \cos A, g_b^2 \cdot \cos B, g_c^2 \cdot \cos C\} \geq r^2 \left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right) \left(\frac{43}{9} - \frac{8R}{9r}\right)$$

*Proposed by Radu Diaconu-Romania*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

Using the following relationship:

$$g_a^2 = (s - a)^2 + 2rh_a \text{ (and analogs)}$$

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr$$

$$h_a + h_b + h_c \geq 9r \text{ and } s^2 \geq 27r^2 \text{ we have:}$$

$$g_a^2 + g_b^2 + g_c^2 = 3s^2 - 2s(a + b + c) + a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2r(h_a + h_b + h_c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$g_a^2 + g_b^2 + g_c^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - s^2 + 2r(h_a + h_b + h_c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$g_a^2 + g_b^2 + g_c^2 = s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr + 2r(h_a + h_b + h_c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$g_a^2 + g_b^2 + g_c^2 = s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr + 18r^2 = s^2 - 8Rr + 16r^2 \geq 43r^2 - 8Rr.$$

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WLOG, suppose:  $a \leq b \leq c \Rightarrow \cos A \geq \cos B \geq \cos C$  and

$(s-a)^2 \geq (s-b)^2 \geq (s-c)^2$ ;  $2rh_a \geq 2rh_b \geq 2rh_c$  hence

$$g_a^2 \geq g_b^2 \geq g_c^2$$

Applying Chebyshev's Inequality, it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} g_a^2 \cdot \cos A + g_b^2 \cdot \cos B + g_c^2 \cdot \cos C &\geq \frac{1}{3}(\cos A + \cos B + \cos C)(g_a^2 + g_b^2 + g_c^2) \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3}\left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right)(43r^2 - 8Rr) = r^2\left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right)\left(\frac{43}{3} - \frac{8R}{3r}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \max\{g_a^2 \cdot \cos A, g_b^2 \cdot \cos B, g_c^2 \cdot \cos C\} &\geq \frac{g_a^2 \cdot \cos A + g_b^2 \cdot \cos B + g_c^2 \cdot \cos C}{3} \\ &\geq r^2\left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right)\left(\frac{43}{9} - \frac{8R}{9r}\right) \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

Since in  $\triangle ABC$  (acute):  $\cos A, \cos B, \cos C > 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \max\{g_a^2 \cdot \cos A, g_b^2 \cdot \cos B, g_c^2 \cdot \cos C\} &\geq \frac{1}{3}(g_a^2 \cdot \cos A + g_b^2 \cdot \cos B + g_c^2 \cdot \cos C) \stackrel{g_a \geq h_a}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3}(h_a^2 \cos A + h_b^2 \cos B + h_c^2 \cos C) = \frac{4S^2}{3}\left(\frac{\cos A}{a^2} + \frac{\cos B}{b^2} + \frac{\cos C}{c^2}\right) = \\ &= \frac{bc(b^2 + c^2 - a^2) + ac(a^2 + c^2 - b^2) + ab(a^2 + b^2 - c^2)}{2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{3 \cdot 8 \cdot R^2} \left[ \sum bc(b^2 + c^2) - abc \sum a \right] = \\ &= \frac{(a+b+c)^2(ab+bc+ca) - 2(ab+bc+ca)^2 - 2(a+b+c)abc}{24R^2} = \\ &= \frac{(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2)(2s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) - 16Rrs^2}{24R^2} = \\ &= \frac{(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2)(s^2 - 4Rr - r^2) - 8Rrs^2}{12R^2} = \\ &= \frac{s^4 - 8Rrs^2 - (4Rr + r^2)^2}{12R^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} r^2\left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right)\left(\frac{43}{9} - \frac{8R}{9r}\right) = \frac{r(R+r)(43r-8R)}{9R} \\ (1) &\Leftrightarrow 3[s^4 - 8Rrs^2 - (4Rr + r^2)^2] \geq 4Rr(R+r)(43r-8R) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow 3s^4 - 24Rrs^2 - 3(4Rr + r^2)^2 - 4Rr(R + r)(43r - 8R) \geq 0$$

$$\text{But: } s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 = 8Rr + r(8R - 5r) \stackrel{R \geq 2r}{\geq} 8Rr + 11r^2 > 8Rr$$

$$\Rightarrow 3s^2(s^2 - 8Rr) - 3(4Rr + r^2)^2 - 4Rr(R + r)(43r - 8R) \geq$$

$$\geq 3(16Rr - 5r^2)(8Rr - 5r^2) - 3(4Rr + r^2)^2 - 4Rr(R + r)(43r - 8R) \geq 0; (2)$$

$$(2) \stackrel{t = \frac{R}{r} \geq 2}{\Leftrightarrow} 3(16t - 5)(8t - 5) - 3(4t + 1)^2 - 4t(t + 1)(43 - 8t) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 32t^3 + 196t^2 - 556t + 72 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 4(t - 2)(8t^2 + 65t - 9) \geq 0$$

$$\text{true because } t \geq 2 \Rightarrow 4(t - 2) \geq 0, 8t^2 + 65t - 9 = 8t^2 + 56t + 9(t - 1) \stackrel{t \geq 2}{>}$$

$$> 9(t - 1) \geq 9 > 0 \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true.}$$

**JP.344.** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $ab + bc + ca = 3$ .

Prove that:

$$(3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34)(3b^5 - 3b + 2c^3 + 34)(3c^5 - 3c + 2a^3 + 34) \geq 6^6$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\text{We have: } \begin{cases} 3a^5 - 3a + 6 \geq 6a^2 \\ 2b^3 + 1 \geq 3b^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34 \geq 3(2a^2 + b^2 + 9) = 3(2a^2 + b^2 + 3(ab + bc + ca)) \Rightarrow$$

$$3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34 \geq 3(a + b)(2a + b + 3c) =$$

$$= 3(a + b)[(a + c) + (a + c) + (b + c)] \geq$$

$$\geq 3(a + b) \cdot 3\sqrt{(a + c)^2(b + c)} = 9\sqrt{(a + b)^3(a + c)^2(b + c)}$$

Similarly:

$$3b^5 - 3b + 2c^3 + 34 \geq 9\sqrt{(b + c)^3(b + a)^2(a + b)}$$

$$3c^5 - 3c + 2a + 34 \geq 9\sqrt{(c + a)^3(b + c)^2(a + b)}$$

Hence

$$(3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34)(3b^5 - 3b + 2c^3 + 34)(3c^5 - 3c + 2a + 34) \geq$$

$$\geq 9^3(a + b)^2(b + c)^2(c + a)^2$$

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$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \geq \frac{8}{9}(a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) \geq \frac{8}{9}\sqrt{3(ab+bc+ca)} \cdot 3 = 8$$

Therefore,

$$(3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34)(3b^5 - 3b + 2c^3 + 34)(3c^5 - 3c + 2a + 34) \geq 6^6$$

### Solution 2 by Rustam Tahmazov-Baku-Azerbaijan

$$2a^5 + (a^5 + 4) - 3a \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2a^5 + 5a - 3a = 2a^5 + 2a \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 4a^3$$

$$LHS \geq \prod_{cyc} (4a^3 + 2b^3 + 30) \geq 6^6$$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= (2a^3 + 2 + 2 + 2a^3 + 2b^3 + 2 + 24) \cdot (2 + 2b^3 + 2 + 2c^3 + 2 + 2b^3 + 24) \cdot \\ &\cdot (2 + 2 + 2c^3 + 2 + 2c^3 + 2a^3 + 24) \stackrel{Holder}{\geq} [2(a+b+c) + 2(ab+bc+ca) + 24]^3 \\ &= \left(2 \sum a + 3a\right)^3 \geq 6^6 \end{aligned}$$

$$(a+b+c)^2 \geq 3(ab+bc+ca) = 9 \Rightarrow a+b+c \geq 3$$

$$LHS \geq (2 \cdot 3 + 30) = 36^6 = 6^6$$

### Solution 3 by Eldeniz Hesenov-Georgia

$$x^5 - 2x + 4 \geq x^3 + 2; \quad (1)$$

$$x^5 - x^3 - 2x + 2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2(x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 2) \geq 0$$

$$LHS = \prod_{cyc} (2a^5 + (a^5 - 2a + 4) - a + 3 + 30 + 2b^3) \geq$$

$$\geq \prod_{cyc} (2a^5 + (a^3 + 1) + 30 - a + 2b^3) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \prod_{cyc} (2a^5 + 2a + 30 + 2b^3) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \prod_{cyc} (2 \cdot 2a^3 + 2b^3 + 30) = \prod_{cyc} (2a^3 + 2b^3 + 2a^3 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 24) \stackrel{Holder}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \left(2 \sum a + 2 \sum ab + 24\right)^3 \geq \left(2 \sum a + 30\right)^3 = (3 \cdot 2 + 30)^3 = 6^6$$

### Solution 4 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $ab + bc + ca = 3, a + b + c \geq 2$  consider:

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & (3a^5 - 3a + 2b^3 + 34)(3b^5 - 3b + 2c^3 + 34)(3c^5 - 3c + 2a + 34) \geq \\
 & \geq (2a^5 + 2a + 2b^3 + 30)(2b^5 + 2b + 2c^3 + 30)(2c^5 + 2c + 2a^3 + 30) \geq \\
 & \geq (4a^3 + 2b^3 + 30)(4b^3 + 2c^3 + 30)(4c^3 + 2a^3 + 30) = \\
 & = 2^3(a^3 + a^3 + b^3 + 15)(b^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 15)(c^3 + c^3 + a^3 + 15) \geq \\
 & \geq 2^3(9(a + b + c) + 9)^3 \geq 2^3 + 18^3 = 6^6
 \end{aligned}$$

**JP.345** If  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}; |a| = |b| = |c| = 3$  then:

$$\sum_{cyc} |a + 3| + 3 \sum_{cyc} |a^2 + 1| + \sum_{cyc} |a^3 + 3| \geq 18$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

*Solution by proposer*

$$\begin{aligned}
 6 & = 2 \cdot 3 = 2 \cdot |a| = 2 \cdot |-a| = |2 \cdot (-a)| = |-2a| = \\
 & = |a^3 + 3 - a(a^2 + 1) - (a + 3)| \leq \\
 & \leq |a^3 + 3| + |a| \cdot |a^2 + 1| + |a + 3| = \\
 & = |a^3 + 3| + 3|a^2 + 1| + |a + 3| \\
 & |a + 3| + 3|a^2 + 1| + |a^3 + 3| \geq 6
 \end{aligned}$$

By summing:

$$\sum_{cyc} |a + 3| + 3 \sum_{cyc} |a^2 + 1| + \sum_{cyc} |a^3 + 3| \geq 6 + 6 + 6 = 18$$

**SP.331.**  $\triangle ABC$  has inradius  $r$ , circumradius  $R$ , sides lengths  $a = BC$ ,

$b = AC, c = AB$ , and altitudes  $h_a, h_b, h_c$  from the vertices

$A, B, C$ , respectively. Prove that:

$$\frac{9r^2}{R} \leq \frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \leq \frac{9R}{4}$$

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Greece*

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### Solution 1 by proposer

Since  $bc = 2R \cdot h_a$ ,  $ca = 2R \cdot h_b$ ,  $ab = 2R \cdot h_c$ , the right inequality becomes

$$2 \left( \frac{ab^2}{a+b} + \frac{bc^2}{b+c} + \frac{ca^2}{c+a} \right) \leq 9R^2$$

We know that in any triangle we have  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2$

So it suffices to prove that:

$$2 \left( \frac{ab^2}{a+b} + \frac{bc^2}{b+c} + \frac{ca^2}{c+a} \right) \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\left( 2a^2 - \frac{2ab^2}{a+b} \right) + \left( 2b^2 - \frac{2bc^2}{b+c} \right) + \left( 2c^2 - \frac{2ca^2}{c+a} \right) \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{2a^3}{c+a} + \frac{2b^3}{a+b} + \frac{2c^3}{b+c} \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2$$

Using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2a^3}{c+a} + \frac{2b^3}{a+b} + \frac{2c^3}{b+c} &= 2 \left( \frac{a^4}{ca+a^2} + \frac{b^4}{ab+b^2} + \frac{c^4}{bc+c^2} \right) \geq \\ &\geq \frac{2(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{(a^2+b^2+c^2) + (ab+bc+ca)} \geq \frac{2(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{(a^2+b^2+c^2) + (a^2+b^2+c^2)} = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \end{aligned}$$

Namely,

$$\frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \leq \frac{9}{4}R$$

For the left inequality, we have (AM-GM):

$$\frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{(abc)(h_a h_b h_c)}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}}$$

We know that  $abc = 4Rrs$ ,  $R > -2r$  (Euler),  $s = \frac{a+b+c}{2} \geq 3\sqrt{3}r$ .

Also, we know that:

$$\left( \frac{1}{h_a} + \frac{1}{h_b} + \frac{1}{h_c} \right)^3 \geq \frac{27}{h_a h_b h_c}; \quad \frac{1}{h_a} + \frac{1}{h_b} + \frac{1}{h_c} = \frac{1}{r}$$

So,

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$$\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)^3 \geq \frac{27}{h_a h_b h_c} \Leftrightarrow h_a h_b h_c \geq 27r^3.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c &\geq \frac{3^3 \sqrt{(4Rrs)(27r^3)}}{\sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3^3 \sqrt{4(2r)r(3\sqrt{3}r)27r^3}}{(a+b) + (b+c) + (c+a)} = \frac{3^3 \sqrt{8 \cdot 3\sqrt{3} \cdot 27r^6}}{45} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot \sqrt{3} \cdot 3 \cdot 3r^2}{45} = \frac{27\sqrt{3}r^2}{25} \end{aligned}$$

We know that  $2s \leq 3\sqrt{3}R$ , so

$$\frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \geq \frac{9r^2}{R}$$

Namely,

$$\frac{9r^2}{R} \leq \frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \leq \frac{9R}{4}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle  $ABC$  is equilateral.

### *Solution 2 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania*

For the left hand:

$$\frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{abc \cdot h_a h_b h_c}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}}$$

We must show:

$$3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{abc \cdot h_a h_b h_c}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}} \geq \frac{3r^2}{R}; (1)$$

But  $abc = 4Rrs$ ,  $h_a h_b h_c = \frac{2s^2 r^2}{R}$  and  $(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) = 2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)$ ; (2)

From (1)&(2) we must show that:

$$3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{4Rrs \cdot 2s^2 r^2}{2R(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)}} \geq \frac{3r^2}{R} \Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2 r^3}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \geq \frac{27r^6}{R^3}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \geq \frac{27r^3}{R^3}; (3)$$



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$$s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\leq} 4R^2 + 6Rr + 4r^2 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\leq} 4R^2 + 3R^2 + R^2 = 8R^2; \quad (4)$$

From (3)&(4) we must show:

$$\frac{s^2}{2R^2} \geq \frac{27r^3}{R^3} \Leftrightarrow s^2 R \geq 2 \cdot 27r^3 \text{ true because } s^2 \geq 27r^2 \text{ (Mitrinovic), } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}$$

$$\Rightarrow s^2 R \geq 2 \cdot 27r^3$$

For the right hand, we have:

$$h_a = c \sin B = \frac{bc}{2R} \text{ and similarly, then we must show:}$$

$$\frac{1}{2R} \left( \frac{bc^2}{b+c} + \frac{ca^2}{c+a} + \frac{ab^2}{a+b} \right) \leq \frac{9R}{4} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{2bc^2}{b+c} + \frac{2ca^2}{c+a} + \frac{2ab^2}{a+b} \leq 9R^2; \quad (5)$$

$$\text{But } \frac{2bc}{b+c} \leq \frac{b+c}{2} \text{ and similarly; } \quad (6)$$

From (5)&(6) we must show:

$$\frac{(b+c)c}{2} + \frac{(a+c)a}{2} + \frac{(a+b)b}{2} \leq 9R^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + ab + bc + ca}{2} \leq 9R^2; \quad (7)$$

$$\text{But } ab + bc + ca \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2; \quad (8)$$

From (7)&(8) we get:

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2 \text{ which is true.}$$

### Solution 3 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} &\leq \frac{1}{4bc} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{a^2(b+c)^2} \leq \frac{1}{4a^2bc} \Rightarrow \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2(b+c)^2} &\leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{4a^2bc} = \frac{1}{4abc} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{4abc} \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{abc} = \frac{1}{4(abc)^2} \sum_{cyc} bc \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4(abc)^2} \sum_{cyc} a^2 \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2(b+c)^2} &\leq \frac{9R^2}{4(4RrF)^2} = \frac{9}{64F^2} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{4F^2}{a^2(b+c)^2} = \frac{9}{16} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{2F}{a}\right)^2 \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} \leq \frac{9}{16} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{h_a}{b+c}\right)^2 \leq \frac{9}{16}, \forall \Delta ABC; \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{c}{b+c}\right) h_a = \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{h_a}{b+c}\right) c \leq \sqrt{\left(\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{h_a}{b+c}\right)\right)^2 \left(\sum_{cyc} c^2\right)} = \frac{9R}{4}; \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{ch_a}{b+c} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{abch_a h_b h_c}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}} = \frac{3 \cdot 2}{\sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{ch_a}{b+c} \geq \frac{6S}{\sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}}; \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{6S}{\sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}} \geq \frac{9r^2}{R}; \quad (4)$$

$$(4) \Leftrightarrow \frac{2RS}{3r^2} \geq \sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{2Rrs}{3r^2} \geq \sqrt[3]{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{2Rs}{3r}\right)^3 \geq (a+b)(b+c)(c+a)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{2Rs}{3r}\right)^3 \geq (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{2Rs}{3r}\right)^3 \geq 2s(s^2+r^2+4Rr) - 4Rrs \Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2R^3}{27r^3} \geq s^2+r^2+2Rr$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2R^3}{27r^3} = \frac{4R^3(16Rr-5r^2)}{27r^3} \geq 4R^2+4Rr+3r^2+r^2+2Rr \geq s^2+r^2+2Rr$$

$$4R^3(16Rr-5r^2) \geq 27r^3(4R^2+6Rr+4r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2R^3(16Rr-5r^2) \geq 27r^3(2R^2+3Rr+2r^2)$$

$$(R \geq 2r \Rightarrow R^2 \geq 4r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2R(16Rr-5r^2) \geq \frac{27}{4}r(2R^2+3Rr+2r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 8R(16Rr-5r^2) \geq 27r(2R^2+3Rr+2r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 128R^2r-40Rr^2 \geq 54R^2r+81Rr^2+54r^3$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow 74R^2r - 121Rr^2 - 54r^3 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 74\left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^2 - 121\left(\frac{R}{r}\right) - 54 \geq 0; t = \frac{R}{r} \geq 2 \Rightarrow$$

$$74t^2 - 121t - 54 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (t-2)(74t+27) \geq 0 \text{ true.}$$

**Solution 4 by Agayev Seddredin-Azerbaijan**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c &= \frac{c}{b+c} \frac{2F}{a} + \frac{a}{c+a} \frac{2F}{b} + \frac{b}{a+b} \frac{2F}{c} = \\ &= 2F \left( \frac{c}{a(b+c)} + \frac{b}{b(c+a)} + \frac{c}{c(a+b)} \right) \geq \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq 2F \cdot 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}} \geq \frac{18F}{2(a+b+c)} = \frac{9F}{2s} = \frac{9sr}{2s} = \frac{9r}{2} \geq \frac{9r^2}{R}$$

$$\frac{c}{b+c} \cdot h_a + \frac{a}{c+a} \cdot h_b + \frac{b}{a+b} \cdot h_c = 2F \left( \frac{c}{a(b+c)} + \frac{b}{b(c+a)} + \frac{c}{c(a+b)} \right) \leq$$

$$\leq 2F \left( \frac{c}{2a\sqrt{bc}} + \frac{a}{2b\sqrt{ac}} + \frac{b}{2c\sqrt{ab}} \right) = 2F \left( \frac{\sqrt{bc}}{ab} + \frac{\sqrt{ac}}{bc} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{ca} \right) \leq$$

$$\leq F \left( \frac{b+c}{2ab} + \frac{a+c}{2bc} + \frac{a+b}{2ac} \right) = F \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + ab + bc + ca}{2abc} \leq$$

$$\leq F \frac{18R^2}{2abc} = \frac{abc}{4R} \frac{18R^2}{2abc} = \frac{9R}{4}$$

$$(ab + bc + ca \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2)$$

**SP.332.** Let  $a, b, c$  be the lengths of the sides of a triangle  $ABC$  with inradius  $r$  and circumradius  $R$ . Prove that:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{3\sqrt{6}R}{4r} \sqrt{R^2 - 2r^2}$$

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Greece*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\text{We know that } \frac{1}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} \right)$$

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$$\text{So, } \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{c^2}{b} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \left( c \cdot \frac{c}{a} + c \cdot \frac{c}{b} \right)$$

$$\text{And similarly: } \frac{a^2}{b+c} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left( a \cdot \frac{a}{b} + a \cdot \frac{a}{c} \right) \text{ and } \frac{b^2}{c+a} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left( b \cdot \frac{b}{c} + b \cdot \frac{b}{a} \right)$$

Adding up these three last inequalities, we get:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left[ \left( a \cdot \frac{a}{b} + a \cdot \frac{a}{c} \right) + \left( b \cdot \frac{b}{c} + b \cdot \frac{b}{a} \right) + \left( c \cdot \frac{c}{a} + c \cdot \frac{c}{b} \right) \right]; (*)$$

$$\text{Now, we will prove that: } \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \leq \frac{R}{r}$$

Consider the substitutions  $a = y + z, b = z + x, c = x + y$ , where  $x, y, z$  are positive real numbers. We know that:

$$\frac{R}{r} = \frac{abc}{4(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{4xyz}$$

$$\text{We have: } \frac{1}{(z+x)^2} + \frac{1}{(y+z)^2} \leq \frac{1}{4zx} + \frac{1}{4yz} = \frac{x+y}{4xyz}$$

And multiplying by  $(z+x)(y+z)$  both sides, we get:

$$\frac{y+z}{z+x} + \frac{z+x}{y+z} \leq \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{4xyz}$$

Namely  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \leq \frac{R}{r}$ . Similarly:  $\frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} \leq \frac{R}{r}$  and  $\frac{c}{a} + \frac{a}{c} \leq \frac{R}{r}$ . So,

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \leq \frac{R}{r} \Leftrightarrow \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2} \leq \frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2$$

$$\frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} \leq \frac{R}{r} \Leftrightarrow \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} \leq \frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2$$

$$\frac{c}{a} + \frac{a}{c} \leq \frac{R}{r} \Leftrightarrow \frac{c^2}{a^2} + \frac{a^2}{c^2} \leq \frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2$$

Applying the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we have:

$$(a^2 + b^2) \left( \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2} \right) \geq \left( a \cdot \frac{a}{b} + b \cdot \frac{b}{a} \right)^2 \Rightarrow \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2} \leq \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2}$$

$$\text{And similarly: } \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} \leq \sqrt{b^2 + c^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2}$$

$$\frac{c^2}{a^2} + \frac{a^2}{c^2} \leq \sqrt{c^2 + a^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2}$$

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From the (\*) inequality, we get:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{r^2} - 2} \left( \sqrt{a^2+b^2} + \sqrt{b^2+c^2} + \sqrt{c^2+a^2} \right)$$

But:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sqrt{a^2+b^2} + \sqrt{b^2+c^2} + \sqrt{c^2+a^2} \right)^2 &\leq 3(a^2+b^2+b^2+c^2+c^2+a^2) \\ &= 6(a^2+b^2+c^2) \Leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{a^2+b^2} + \sqrt{b^2+c^2} + \sqrt{c^2+a^2} \leq \sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}$$

It is well-known that  $a^2+b^2+c^2 \leq 9R^2$ . So

$$\sqrt{a^2+b^2} + \sqrt{b^2+c^2} + \sqrt{c^2+a^2} \leq 3\sqrt{6}R$$

Namely,

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{R^2-2r^2}{r^2}} \cdot 3\sqrt{6}R = \frac{3\sqrt{6}R}{4r} \sqrt{R^2-2r^2}$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle  $ABC$  is equilateral.

### Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

By AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$b+c \geq 2\sqrt{bc}, a+b \geq 2\sqrt{ab}, c+a \geq 2\sqrt{ca}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} &\leq \frac{a^2}{2\sqrt{bc}} + \frac{b^2}{2\sqrt{ca}} + \frac{c^2}{2\sqrt{ab}} = \frac{a^2\sqrt{a} + b^2\sqrt{b} + c^2\sqrt{c}}{2\sqrt{abc}} = \\ &= \frac{a \cdot a\sqrt{a} + b \cdot b\sqrt{b} + c \cdot c\sqrt{c}}{2\sqrt{abc}} \stackrel{BCS}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{(a^2+b^2+c^2)(a^3+b^3+c^3)}}{2\sqrt{abc}} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{(a^2+b^2+c^2)(a^3+b^3+c^3)}{abc}} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2(s^2-4Rr-r^2) \cdot 2s(s^2-6Rr-3r^2)}{4Rrs}} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{(s^2-4Rr-r^2)(s^2-6Rr-3r^2)}{Rr}} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{3\sqrt{6}R}{4r} \sqrt{R^2-2r^2} \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow &\frac{(s^2-4Rr-r^2)(s^2-6Rr-3r^2)}{Rr} \leq \frac{27R^2(R^2-2r^2)}{2r} \end{aligned}$$

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Which is true because:  $\frac{s^2 - 6Rr - 3r^2}{R} \leq \frac{3(R^2 - 2r^2)}{r}$ ; (2)

$$\Leftrightarrow r(s^2 - 6Rr - 3r^2) \leq 3R(R^2 - 2r^2)$$

Because:  $2r \leq R \Rightarrow r \leq \frac{R}{2}$ ; (3)

$$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \Rightarrow s^2 - 6Rr - 3r^2 \leq 4R^2 - 2Rr \stackrel{(4)}{\leq} 6(R^2 - 2r^2)$$

$$(4) \Leftrightarrow 2R^2 + 2Rr - 12r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2(R - 2r)(R + 3r) \geq 0 \text{ true by } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}.$$

From (3)&(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is true.

$$s^2 - 4Rr - r^2 < 9R^2; (5)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2} < 9R^2 \text{ true by: } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2} < a^2 + b^2 + c^2 < 9R^2$$

From (2)&(5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is true.

### Solution 3 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

We must to show:  $\left(\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b}\right)^2 \leq \frac{27R^2}{8r^2}(R^2 - 2r^2)$ ; (1)

From BCS inequality, we have:

$$\left(\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b}\right)^2 \leq (a^4 + b^4 + c^4) \left(\frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2}\right); (2)$$

From (1)&(2) we must show:

$$(a^4 + b^4 + c^4) \left(\frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2}\right) \leq \frac{27R^2}{8r^2}(R^2 - 2r^2); (3)$$

$$\text{But } a^4 + b^4 + c^4 \leq 54r^3(R - r); (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b)^2 \geq 4ab &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca}\right) \leq \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{4r^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{16r^2} \text{ (Leuenberger)}; (5) \end{aligned}$$

From (3), (4)&(5) we must show:

$$54R^3(R - r) \frac{1}{16r^2} \leq \frac{27R^2}{8r^2}(R^2 - 2r^2) \Leftrightarrow R(R - r) \leq R^2 - 2r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow R^2 - Rr \leq R^2 - 2r^2 \Leftrightarrow Rr \geq 2r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}$$

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### Solution 4 and extensions by Marin Chirciu-Romania

1) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{3\sqrt{6}R}{4r} \sqrt{R^2 - 2r^2}$$

Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Greece

Solution by Marin Chirciu

Lemma. 2) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} = \frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}$$

Proof. We have:

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{b+c} = \frac{\sum a^2(a+b)(a+c)}{\prod(b+c)} = \frac{4s^4(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)} = \frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}$$

Which follows from the identities:

$$\sum a^2(a+b)(a+c) = 4s^4(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)$$

$$\prod(b+c) = 2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)$$

Let's get back to the main problem.

The following inequality is much stronger by the main problem.

3) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{Rs}{2r}$$

Using Lemma, we get:

$$\frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \leq \frac{Rs}{2r} \Leftrightarrow 4r(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr) \leq R(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) \Leftrightarrow R(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) \geq 4r(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr) \Leftrightarrow s^2(R - 4r) + r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) \geq 0$$

We distinguish the cases:

Case 1) If  $(R - 4r) \geq 0$  is obviously true.

Case 2) If  $(R - 4r) < 0$ , inequality it can be write:

$$r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) \geq s^2(4r - R) \text{ which is true from}$$

$$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

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It remains to prove:

$$\begin{aligned} r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) &\geq (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(4r - R) \Leftrightarrow \\ 2R^2r + 17Rr^2 + 12r^3 &\geq -4R^3 - 4R^2r - 3Rr^2 + 16R^2 + 16Rr^2 + 12r^3 \\ \Leftrightarrow 4R^3 - 10R^2r + 4Rr^2 &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2R^2 - 5Rr + 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(2R - r) \geq 0 \\ &\text{true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}. \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

It suffices to prove:

$$\frac{Rs}{2r} \leq \frac{3\sqrt{6}R}{4r} \sqrt{R^2 - 2r^2} \Leftrightarrow 2s^2 \leq 27(R^2 - 2r^2) \text{ which follows from}$$

$$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

It remains to prove:

$$\begin{aligned} 2(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2) &\leq 27(R^2 - 2r^2) \Leftrightarrow 8R^2 + 8Rr + 6r^2 \leq 27R^2 - 54r^2 \\ \Leftrightarrow 19R^2 - 8Rr - 60r^2 &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(19R - 30r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark. The inequality can be developed.

4) In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$s \leq \frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \leq \frac{Rs}{2r}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by proposer

Lemma. In  $\triangle ABC$  the following relationship holds:

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{b+c} = \frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}$$

Proof. We have:

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{b+c} = \frac{\sum a^2(a+b)(a+c)}{\prod (b+c)} = \frac{4s^4(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)} = \frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr}$$

Which follows from the identities:

$$\sum a^2(a+b)(a+c) = 4s^4(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)$$

$$\prod (b+c) = 2s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)$$

Let's get back to the main problem.



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For RHD, using lemma, we have:

$$\frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \leq \frac{Rs}{2r} \Leftrightarrow 4r(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr) \leq R(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$R(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) \geq 4r(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr) \Leftrightarrow s^2(R - 4r) + r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) \geq 0$$

We distinguish the cases:

Case 1) If  $(R - 4r) \geq 0$  is obviously true.

Case 2) If  $(R - 4r) < 0$ , inequality it can be write:

$$r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) \geq s^2(4r - R) \text{ which is true from}$$

$$s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

It remains to prove:

$$r(2R^2 + 17Rr + 12r^2) \geq (4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)(4r - R) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2R^2r + 17Rr^2 + 12r^3 \geq -4R^3 - 4R^2r - 3Rr^2 + 16R^2 + 16Rr^2 + 12r^3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4R^3 - 10R^2r + 4Rr^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2R^2 - 5Rr + 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(2R - r) \geq 0$$

true from  $R \geq 2r$  (Euler).

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

For Lhs, using lemma, we have:

$$\frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr)}{s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr} \geq s \Leftrightarrow 2(s^2 - 3r^2 - 4Rr) \geq s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 10Rr + 7r^2 \text{ which follows from } s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen)}.$$

$$\text{It remains to prove: } 16Rr - 5r^2 \geq 10Rr + 7r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}.$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

**SP.333.** Let  $x, y, z > 0$  be positive real numbers such that  $x + y + z = 3$ .

Find the minimum value of expression:

$$P = \frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} + \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{16}$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have:

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} &= \frac{x^2}{2x\sqrt{y} + x\sqrt{z}} + \frac{y^2}{2y\sqrt{z} + y\sqrt{x}} + \frac{z^2}{2z\sqrt{x} + z\sqrt{y}} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{(x + y + z)^2}{2x\sqrt{y} + x\sqrt{z} + 2y\sqrt{z} + y\sqrt{x} + 2z\sqrt{x} + z\sqrt{y}} = \\ &= \frac{3^2}{2(x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x}) + (y\sqrt{x} + z\sqrt{y} + x\sqrt{z})} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \geq \frac{9}{2(x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x}) + (y\sqrt{x} + z\sqrt{y} + x\sqrt{z})}; \quad (1)$$

By CBS inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x})^2 &= (\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{y} \cdot \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{z} \cdot \sqrt{zx})^2 \leq \\ &\leq (x + y + z)(xy + yz + zx) = 3(xy + yz + zx) \\ x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x} &\leq \sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)} \end{aligned}$$

And similarly:

$$y\sqrt{x} + z\sqrt{y} + x\sqrt{z} \leq \sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)}; \quad (2)$$

From (1),(2) we get:

$$\frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \geq \frac{9}{3\sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)}}; \quad (3)$$

We have inequality:

$$(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) \geq \frac{8}{9}(x + y + z)(xy + yz + zx), \text{ and } x + y + z = 3 \text{ then}$$

$$(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) \geq \frac{8(xy + yz + zx)}{3}$$

$$\text{Hence, let in (3), } t = \sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)} > 0$$

By Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we get:

$$P \geq \frac{3}{t} + \frac{8t^2}{16} = \frac{3}{t} + \frac{t^2}{18} = \frac{3}{2t} + \frac{3}{2t} + \frac{t^2}{18} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2t} \cdot \frac{3}{2t} \cdot \frac{t^2}{18}} = 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{8}} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } P_{\min} = \frac{3}{2} \text{ and equality occurs if } \begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ x = y = z > 0 \\ xy + yz + zx = 3 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1.$$

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Hence, the minimum value of expression  $P$  is  $\frac{3}{2}$  for  $x = y = z = 1$ .

### Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

By BCS inequality, we have:

$$2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z} = \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z} \leq \sqrt{3(y + y + z)} = \sqrt{3(2y + z)}$$

Similarly:

$$2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x} \leq \sqrt{3(2z + x)}$$

$$2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} \leq \sqrt{3(2x + y)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \geq \frac{x}{\sqrt{3(2y + z)}} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{3(2z + x)}} + \frac{z}{\sqrt{3(2x + y)}} =$$

$$\stackrel{\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}, t > 0}{=} x\varphi(3(2y + z)) + y\varphi(3(2z + x)) + z\varphi(3(2x + y)) =$$

$$= 3 \left[ \frac{x}{3} \varphi(3(2y + z)) + \frac{y}{3} \varphi(3(2z + x)) + \frac{z}{3} \varphi(3(2x + y)) \right] \stackrel{\text{Jensen}}{\geq}$$

$$\geq 3\varphi(3xy + 3yz + 3zx) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{3(xy + yz + zx)}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{xy + yz + zx}}; \quad (1)$$

On the other hand,

$$9(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) = 8(x + y + z)(xy + yz + zx); \quad (2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(y - z)^2 + y(z - x)^2 + z(x - y)^2 \geq 0, \quad (\text{true } \forall x, y, z > 0)$$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{\Rightarrow} \frac{(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)}{16} \geq \frac{8(x + y + z)(xy + yz + zx)}{9 \cdot 16} =$$

$$= \frac{8 \cdot 3(xy + yz + zx)}{9 \cdot 16} = \frac{xy + yz + zx}{6}$$

$$\stackrel{(1),(2)}{\Leftrightarrow} \text{Let } t = \sqrt{xy + yz + zx} \stackrel{(1),(2)}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

$$P = \frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} + \frac{y}{2\sqrt{z} + \sqrt{x}} + \frac{z}{2\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} + \frac{(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)}{16} \geq$$

$$\geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{t} + \frac{t^2}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2t} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2t} + \frac{t^2}{6} \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{3} \cdot t^2}{2t \cdot 2t \cdot 6}} = \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$P \geq \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} t = \sqrt{3} \\ x = y = z \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} xy + yz + zx = 3 \\ x = y = z \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1.$$

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### Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

By AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z} \leq (y+1) + \frac{z+1}{2} = \frac{2y+z+3}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{2\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}} \geq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{2y+z+3} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{2(\sum x)^2}{\sum x(2y+z+3)} = \frac{6}{3+\sum xy}; \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{16} = \frac{(3-x)(3-y)(3-z)}{16} = \frac{3\sum xy - xyz}{16} \stackrel{(\sum xy)^2 \geq 3xyz \sum x}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \frac{27\sum xy - (\sum xy)^2}{144}; \quad (2)$$

From (1),(2) we get:  $P \geq \frac{6}{3+a} + \frac{27a-a^2}{144}$ ; ( $a = \sum xy \leq 3$ )

$$f(a) = \frac{6}{3+a} + \frac{27a-a^2}{144}$$

$$f'(a) = \frac{-2a^3 - 15(3-a)(3+a) - 144(3-a) - 54}{144(3+a)^2} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f \downarrow \Rightarrow a \leq 3 \Rightarrow P \geq f(a) \geq f(3) = \frac{3}{2}$$

Equality when  $x = y = z = 1$ .

**SP.334** Let  $x, y, z$  be a positive real numbers such that  $x + y + z = 1$ . Prove that:

$$(3x^2 + 1)(3y^2 + 1)(3z^2 + 1) \geq 27(xy + z)(yz + x)(zx + y)$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

By CBS inequality, we have:

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} + \frac{y^2 + z^2}{2} + \frac{z^2 + x^2}{2} \geq xy + yz + zx \geq xy + yz + zx \Leftrightarrow$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2(xy + yz + zx) \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$1^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$3x + 1 \geq 3(x^2 + xy + yz + zx) = 3(x + y)(x + z)$$

$$\text{Similarly: } 3y + 1 \geq 3(y + z)(y + x)$$

$$3z^2 + 1 \geq 3(z + x)(z + y). \text{ Hence}$$

$$(3x^2 + 1)(3y^2 + 1)(3z^2 + 1) \geq 27(x + y)^2(y + z)^2(z + x)^2; \quad (1)$$

We have:  $x + y + z = 1$  then

$$\begin{cases} yz + x = yz + x(x + y + z) = (x + y)(x + z) \\ zx + y = zx + y(x + y + z) = (y + z)(y + x) \\ xy + z = xy + z(x + y + z) = (z + x)(z + y) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow (xy + z)(yz + x)(zx + y) = (x + y)^2(y + z)^2(z + x)^2; \quad (2)$$

From (1),(2) we get:

$$(3x^2 + 1)(3y^2 + 1)(3z^2 + 1) \geq 27(xy + z)(yz + x)(zx + y)$$

$$\text{Equality occurs if } \begin{cases} x + y + z = 1 \\ x = y = z > 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}.$$

### Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

$$xyz > 0; x + y + z = 1 \Rightarrow \prod (3x^2 + 1) \geq 27 \prod (xy + z)$$

$$3x^2 + 1 = 3x^2 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(3x + 1 + 1 + 1)^2}{(3 + 3 + 3 + 3)} = \frac{3(x + 1)^2}{4}$$

$$3x^2 + 1 \geq \frac{3}{4}[(x + y) + (x + z)]^2 \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\geq} 3(x + y)(x + z) = 3(yz + x)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \prod (3x^2 + 1) \geq 27 \prod (xy + z)$$

$$\text{Equality holds for } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}.$$

### Solution 3 by Eldeniz Hesenov-Georgia

$$xyz > 0; x + y + z = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$3x^2 + 1 = \frac{9x^2 + 3}{3} = \frac{9x^2 + 1 + 1 + 1}{3} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(3x + 1 + 1 + 1)^2}{12} =$$

$$= \frac{3}{4}(x + 1)^2 = \frac{3}{4}(x + y + z + x)^2; \quad (1)$$

$$\text{LHS} = \sum \frac{3}{4}(x + y + z + x)^2 \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\geq} 27 \prod (xy + z)$$

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### *Solution 4 by Abdul Aziz-Semarang-Indonesia*

$$(x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$1 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x + y)(x + z) = 3(x + yz)$$

$$\text{Similarly: } 3y^2 + 1 \geq 3(y + x)(y + z) = 3(y + xz)$$

$$3z^2 + 1 \geq 3(z + x)(z + y) = 3(z + xy)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \prod(3x^2 + 1) \geq 27 \prod(xy + z)$$

$$\text{Equality holds for } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}.$$

### *Solution 5 by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

**Lemma.** If  $x, y, z > 0$  such that  $x + y + z = 1$  then:

$$3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x + yz)$$

**Proof.** We have:  $3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x + y)(x + z)$ ; (1)

$$\Leftrightarrow 3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x^2 + xy + yx + zx) \Leftrightarrow 3x^2 + 1 \geq 3x^2 + 3(xy + yz + zx)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \text{ which follows from}$$

$$1 = x + y + z = (x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx), \text{ equality when } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}.$$

From  $x + y + z = 1$ , we get  $(x + y)(x + z) = x + yz$ ; (2) from:

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y)(x + z) &= x^2 + xy + yz + zx = x(x + y + z) = yz = \\ &= x \cdot 1 + yz = x + yz \end{aligned}$$

From (1),(2) it follows that:

$$3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x + y)(x + z) \text{ and } (x + y)(x + z) = x + yz, \text{ thus}$$

$$3x^2 + 1 \geq 3(x + yz)$$

Let's get back to the main problem.

$$\text{Using Lemma, we get: } \prod(3x^2 + 1) \geq 27 \prod(xy + z)$$

$$\text{Equality holds for } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}.$$

### *Solution 6 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam*

$$\text{Let } p = x + y = z; 0 < q = xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{p^2}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow 27q \leq 9$$

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$$0 < r = xyz \leq \frac{(x+y+z)^3}{27} = \frac{1}{27}. \text{ So,}$$

$$\prod (3x^2 + 1) \geq 27 \prod (xy + z)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3 \sum x^2 - 18 \sum x^2 y^2 - 27xyz \sum x^2 - 27xyz + 1 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3(1 - 2q) - 18(q^2 - 2r) - 27r(1 - 2q) - 27r + 1 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -18q^2 - 6q + 54qr - 18r + 4 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -9q^2 - 3q + 27qr - 9r + 2 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (27q - 9)r \geq 9q^2 + 3q - 2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (9 - 27q)r \leq 2 - 9q^2 - 3q; \quad (1)$$

$$\text{But } \begin{cases} 9 - 27q \geq 0 \\ 0 < r \leq \frac{1}{27} \end{cases} \Rightarrow (9 - 27q)r \leq (9 - 27q) \frac{1}{27} \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} 2 - 9q^2 - 3q;$$

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{3} - q \leq 2 - 9q^2 - 3q \Leftrightarrow 9q^2 + 2q - \frac{5}{3} \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$27q^2 + 6q - 5 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (3q - 1)(9q + 5) \leq 0 \text{ true by } 0 < q \leq \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow$$

$$3q - 1 \leq 0; 9q + 5 > 0 \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true.}$$

**SP.335. Let  $x, y, z > 0$  positive real numbers such that**

$$(\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})(\sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{z^3})(\sqrt{z^3} + \sqrt{x^3}) = 8$$

**Prove that:**

$$x + y + z \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)}$$

*Proposed by Hong Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

By Holder's inequality, we have:

$$(\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})(\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})(1 + 1) \geq (\sqrt{x \cdot x \cdot 1} + \sqrt{y \cdot y \cdot 1})^3$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})^2 \geq (x + y)^3$$

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Similarly:  $2(\sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{z^3})^2 \geq (y+z)^3$

$2(\sqrt{z^3} + \sqrt{x^3})^2 \geq (z+x)^3$ . Hence

$$8(\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})^2 (\sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{z^3})^2 (\sqrt{z^3} + \sqrt{x^3})^2 \geq (x+y)^3 (y+z)^3 (z+x)^3 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$8 \cdot 8^2 \geq (x+y)^3 (y+z)^3 (z+x)^3 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \leq 8$$

By CBS inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2+xy+y^2)(y^2+yz+z^2)(z^2+zx+x^2)} = \\ & = \sqrt[3]{z(x^2+xy+y^2)x(y^2+yz+z^2)y(z^2+zx+x^2)} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{z(x^2+xy+y^2) + x(y^2+yz+z^2) + y(z^2+zx+x^2)}{3} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{xy(x+y+z) + yz(xy+z) + zx(x+y+z)}{3} = \frac{(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx)}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2+xy+y^2)(y^2+yz+z^2)(z^2+zx+x^2)} \leq \frac{(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx)}{3}; \quad (1)$$

We have:  $(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{xy} \cdot 2\sqrt{yz} \cdot 2\sqrt{zx} = 8xyz \Rightarrow$

$$xyz \leq \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{8} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) + xyz \leq (x+y)(y+z)(z+x) + \frac{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{8} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) \leq \frac{9(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}{8} \leq \frac{9 \cdot 8}{8} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) \leq 9$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x+y+z)^2 &= x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2(xy+yz+zx) \geq xy+yz+zx + 2(xy+yz+zx) \\ &= 3(xy+yz+zx) \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$x+y+z \geq \sqrt{3(xy+yz+zx)}$$

Hence  $9 \geq (x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) \geq \sqrt{3(xy+yz+zx)}(xy+yz+zx) =$

$$\sqrt{3(xy+yz+zx)}^3 \Rightarrow$$



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$$81 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx)^3 \Leftrightarrow (xy + yz + zx)^3 \leq 27 \Leftrightarrow xy + yz + zx \leq 3; \quad (2)$$

From (1),(2) we get:

$$\sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)} \leq \frac{3(x + y + z)}{3} = x + y + z \Rightarrow$$

$$x + y + z \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)}$$

$$\text{Equality occurs if } \begin{cases} (\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})(\sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{z^3})(\sqrt{z^3} + \sqrt{x^3}) = 8 \\ x = y = z > 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1.$$

### Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

$$xyz \prod_{cyc} (x^2 + xy + y^2) = \prod_{cyc} z(x^2 + xy + y^2) = \prod_{cyc} (x^2z + xyz + y^2z) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq}$$

$$\stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \left( \frac{\sum (x^2z + xyz + y^2z)}{3} \right)^3 = \frac{(\sum x)^3 (\sum xy)^3}{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{xyz \prod_{cyc} (x^2 + xy + y^2)} \leq \frac{1}{3} (\sum xy) (\sum x)$$

It is suffice to prove that:  $\sum xy \leq 3$ . We have:

$$8 = \prod_{cyc} (\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3}) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 8\sqrt{(xyz)^3} \Rightarrow 1 \geq xyz$$

$$\prod_{cyc} (\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3}) = 9 \Rightarrow (\sum \sqrt{x^3}) (\sum \sqrt{(xyz)^3}) = 8 + \sqrt{(xyz)^3} \leq 9$$

$$3 \sum \sqrt{x^3} \sqrt{y^3} \leq (\sum \sqrt{x^3})^2 \Rightarrow 9 \geq \sqrt{3} \sqrt{(\sum \sqrt{(xy)^3})^3}$$

$$\text{By Power Mean Inequality } \frac{1}{3} \sum xy \leq \left( \frac{1}{3} \sum \sqrt{(xy)^3} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \leq 1 \Rightarrow \sum xy \leq 3$$

### Solution 3 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$x + y + z \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x + y + z}{\sqrt[3]{xyx}} \geq \sqrt[3]{(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)}$$

From AM-GM inequality:  $\frac{x+y+z}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz} \Rightarrow \frac{x+y+z}{\sqrt[3]{xyx}} \geq 3$ . Let us prove that:

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$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{(x^2 + xy + y^2)(y^2 + yz + z^2)(z^2 + zx + x^2)} &\leq 3 \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 + xy + yz + zx}{3} &\leq 3 \\ \Leftrightarrow 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 + xy + yz + zx &\leq 9 \end{aligned}$$

Let be the function:  $f(x, y, z) = (\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3})(\sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{z^3})(\sqrt{z^3} + \sqrt{x^3})$ , the local maximum of  $f(x, y, z) = 8$  is occurred when  $x = y = z = 1$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 + xy + yz + zx}{9} &\leq 1 \\ 8 &= \prod_{cyc} (\sqrt{x^3} + \sqrt{y^3}) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 8\sqrt{(xyz)^3} \Rightarrow 1 \geq xyz \\ \frac{1}{3} \sum xy &\leq \left(\frac{1}{3} \sum \sqrt{(xy)^3}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \leq 1 \Rightarrow \sum xy \leq 3 \end{aligned}$$

**SP.336.** Let  $x, y, z$  be a positive real numbers such that

$$(x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6) = 8$$

**Prove that:**

$$(3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)(3y^2 - 4yz + 3z^2)(3z^2 - 4zx + 3x^2) \geq 8$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

By CBS inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^6 + y^6}{2}} &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{(x^2 + y^2)(x^4 - x^2y^2 + y^4)}{2}} = \\ &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2 - xy\sqrt{3} + y^2}{2 - \sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{x^2 + xy\sqrt{3} + y^2}{2 + \sqrt{3}}} \leq \\ \frac{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} + \frac{x^2 - xy\sqrt{3} + y^2}{2 - \sqrt{3}} + \frac{x^2 + xy\sqrt{3} + y^2}{2 + \sqrt{3}}}{3} &= \frac{\frac{9}{2}x^2 - 6xy + \frac{9}{2}y^2}{3} = \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \frac{3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2}{2} \Rightarrow 3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2 \geq 2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^6 + y^6}{2}}$$

$$\text{Similarly: } 3y^2 - 4yz + 3z^2 \geq 2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{y^6 + z^6}{2}}$$

$$3z^2 - 4zx + 3x^2 \geq 2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{z^6 + x^6}{2}}. \text{ Hence,}$$

$$(3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)(3y^2 - 4yz + 3z^2)(3z^2 - 4zx + 3x^2)$$

$$\geq 8 \sqrt[3]{\frac{(x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6)}{8}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)(3y^2 - 4yz + 3z^2)(3z^2 - 4zx + 3x^2) \geq 8 \sqrt[3]{\frac{8}{8}} = 8$$

$$\text{Equality holds if } \begin{cases} (x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6) = 8 \\ x = y = z > 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1.$$

### **Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam**

$$\text{Lemma. If } x, y > 0 \text{ then } 3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2 \geq 2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^6 + y^6}{2}}; (1)$$

$$\text{Proof. (1)} \Leftrightarrow (3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)^3 \geq 4(x^6 + y^6), t = \frac{x}{y} > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$(3t^2 - 4t + 3)^3 \geq 4(t^6 + 1) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$23t^6 - 108t^5 + 225t^4 - 280t^3 + 225t^2 - 108t + 23 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(t - 1)^4(23t^2 - 16t + 23) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 23(t - 1)^4 \left[ \left( t - \frac{8}{23} \right)^2 + \frac{304}{23} \right] \geq 0$$

Which is true for  $t > 0$ . Equality holds  $\Leftrightarrow t = 1 \Leftrightarrow x = y$ . Now,

$$\Omega_1 = \prod_{cyc} (3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2) \geq 8 \sqrt[3]{\frac{(x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6)}{8}} = 8$$

$$\text{Equality holds} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x = y = z \\ (x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6) = 8 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1.$$

### **Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India**

$$\text{We first show that: } (3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)^3 \geq 4(x^6 + y^6), \forall x, y > 0; (1)$$

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Let us denote:  $x = r\cos\theta, y = r\sin\theta, r > 0, \theta \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ , then (1) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} (3 - 2\sin(2\theta))^3 &\geq 4(\sin^6\theta + \cos^6\theta) \Leftrightarrow \\ (3 - 2\sin(2\theta))^3 &\geq 4[(\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta)^3 - 3\sin^2\theta\cos^2\theta(\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta)] \Leftrightarrow \\ (3 - 2\sin 2\theta)^3 &\geq 4\left(1 - \frac{3}{4}\sin^2 2\theta\right) = 4 - 3\sin^2 2\theta \Leftrightarrow \\ 23 - 54\sin 2\theta + 36\sin^2 2\theta - 8\sin^3 2\theta &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (1 - \sin 2\theta)(8\sin^2 2\theta - 31\sin 2\theta + 23) &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (1 - \sin 2\theta)^2(23 - 8\sin 2\theta) &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Equality in (1) if and only if  $\sin 2\theta = 1 \Leftrightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{4} \Leftrightarrow x = y$ .

In view of (1):

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{cyc} (3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)^3 &\geq 4^3(x^6 + y^6)(y^6 + z^6)(z^6 + x^6) = 4^3 \cdot 8 \\ (3x^2 - 4xy + 3y^2)(3y^2 - 4yz + 3z^2)(3z^2 - 4zx + 3x^2) &\geq 8 \end{aligned}$$

Equality when  $x = y = z = 1$ .

**SP.337** Let  $x, y, z > 0$ .

1) If  $xy + yz + zx \leq 3(2\sqrt{3} - 3)$  then

$$\sqrt{\frac{xy + yz + zx}{3}} + 1 \leq \sqrt[3]{(x+1)(y+1)(z+1)}.$$

2) If  $xy + yz + zx > 3(2\sqrt{3} - 3)$  then

$$\sqrt{xy + yz + zx} + 1 < \sqrt{(x+1)(y+1)(z+1)}.$$

*Proposed by Florentin Vişescu-Romania*

*Solution by proposer*

$$\text{Let } xy + yz + zx = k > 0, z = \frac{k-xy}{x+y}$$

$$\text{Because } x, y, z > 0 \Rightarrow k - xy > 0, \text{ or } x < \frac{k}{y}.$$

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Let  $f(x) = (x+1)(y+1)(z+1) = (x+1)(y+1)\left(\frac{k-xy}{x+y} + 1\right)$ ,  $f: \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$f'(x) = (1-y^2) \left( \frac{(x+y)^2 - (y^2+k)}{(x+y)^2} \right) =$$

$$= \frac{(1-y)^2 (x+y - \sqrt{y^2+k})(x+y + \sqrt{y^2+k})}{(x+y)^2}.$$

1. If  $y = 1 \Rightarrow f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow f(x) = ct = 2(x+1)\left(\frac{k-x}{x+1} + 1\right) = 2(k+1)$ .

2. If  $y < 1 \Rightarrow 1 - y^2 > 0$ .

$$f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x + y - \sqrt{y^2+k} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{y^2+k} - y > 0.$$

We show that:  $\sqrt{y^2+k} - y < \frac{k}{y} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{y^2+k} < \frac{y^2+k}{y} \Leftrightarrow y < \sqrt{y^2+k} \Leftrightarrow y^2 < y^2+k \Leftrightarrow$

$0 < k$ , true.

$x$	0	$\sqrt{y^2+k} - y$	$\frac{k}{y}$
$f'(x)$	-----	-0	+++++
$f(x)$	$\searrow \searrow \searrow \searrow \searrow \searrow$	1	$\nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow$

$$f(\sqrt{y^2+k} - y) = (y+1)(\sqrt{y^2+k} - y + 1)^2. \quad (1)$$

Then  $f(x) \geq (y+1)(\sqrt{y^2+k} - y + 1)^2, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right), y < 1$ .

Let  $g(y) = (y+1)(\sqrt{y^2+k} - y + 1)^2, g: (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$g'(y) = (\sqrt{y^2+k} - y + 1) \cdot \frac{3y^2 - 3y\sqrt{y^2+k} - \sqrt{y^2+k} + k + 2y}{\sqrt{y^2+k}}$$

$$g'(y) = 0 \Rightarrow 3y^2 - 3y\sqrt{y^2+k} - \sqrt{y^2+k} + k + 2y = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$3y^2 + 2y + k = \sqrt{y^2+k}(3y+1) \Leftrightarrow 6y^3 + 3y^2 - 3y^2k - 2ky + k^2 - k = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(2y+1-k)(3y^2-k) = 0 \Rightarrow y_1 = \frac{k-1}{2} \text{ sau } y_2 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}}$$

a) If  $k \leq 1 \Rightarrow y_1 = \frac{k-1}{2} \leq 0$  and  $0 < y_2 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} < 1$ .

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$y$	0	$\sqrt{k/3}$	1
$g'(y)$	-----0+++++		
$g(y)$	$\searrow \searrow \searrow \searrow$	2	$\nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow$

$$g\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}}\right) = \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right) \cdot \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + k - \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right) = \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3 \quad (2)$$

Then  $f(x) \geq \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3, \forall x \in \left(0; \frac{k}{y}\right), y < 1, k \leq 1$ .

b) If  $k \in (1; 3] \Rightarrow 0 < \frac{k-1}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} \leq 1$ .

We show that:

$$\frac{k-1}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} \Leftrightarrow 3k^2 - 6k + 3 \leq 4k \Leftrightarrow 3k^2 - 10k + 3 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow k \in \left[\frac{1}{3}; 3\right], \text{ true.}$$

$y$	0	$\frac{k-1}{2}$	$\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}}$	1
$g'(y)$	++++0-----0++++			
$g(y)$	$\nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow$	3	$\searrow \searrow \searrow \searrow$	2 $\nearrow \nearrow \nearrow$

$$\lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow 0 \\ y > 0}} g(y) = (\sqrt{k} + 1)^2 \quad (3)$$

$$g\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}}\right) = \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3 \quad (2)$$

Compare  $(\sqrt{k} + 1)^2$  with  $\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3$ .

$$(\sqrt{k} + 1)^2 < \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3 \Leftrightarrow k + 2\sqrt{k} + 1 < \frac{k}{3}\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 3\frac{k}{3} + 3\sqrt{\frac{k}{z}} + 1 \Leftrightarrow k > 3(2\sqrt{3} - 3).$$

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Then  $f(x) \geq \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} + 1\right)^3, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right), y < 1, k \in (1; 3(2\sqrt{3} - 3)]$

and  $f(x) > (\sqrt{k} + 1)^2, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right), y < 1, k \in (3(2\sqrt{3} - 3); 3]$ .

c) If  $k > 3 \Rightarrow 1 < \sqrt{\frac{k}{3}} < \frac{k-1}{2}$ .

$y$	0							1
$g'(y)$	+++++							
$g(y)$	3	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗

$$\lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow 0 \\ y > 0}} g(y) = (\sqrt{k} + 1)^2. (3)$$

Then  $f(x) > (\sqrt{k} + 1)^2, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right), y < 1, k \in (3, \infty)$ .

3) If  $y > 1 \Rightarrow 1 - y^2 < 0$ .

$x$	0	$\sqrt{y^2 + k} - y$						$\frac{k}{y}$				
$f'(x)$	+++++0-----											
$f(x)$	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	4	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘

$$\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ x > 0}} f(x) = (y + 1) \left(\frac{k}{y} + 1\right). (4), \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{k}{y}} f(x) = \left(\frac{k}{y} + 1\right) (y + 1). (4')$$

Then  $f(x) > (y + 1) \left(\frac{k}{y} + 1\right), \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{k}{y}\right), y > 1$ .

$$\text{Let } h(y) = (y + 1) \left(\frac{k}{y} + 1\right), h: (1; \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}. h'(y) = \frac{k}{y} + 1 - \frac{k}{y^2} (y + 1)$$

$$= \frac{k}{y} + 1 - \frac{k}{y} - \frac{k}{y^2} = \frac{y^2 - k}{y^2}. h'(y) = 0 \Rightarrow y^2 = k \Rightarrow y = \sqrt{k}.$$

a) If  $k \in (0; 1] \Rightarrow y = \sqrt{k} \leq 1$ .

$y$	0							$\infty$
$h'(y)$	+++++							
$h(y)$	5	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗





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$$\begin{aligned}
 LHS &= \frac{1}{2} [2|1 + e^{2i\theta}| + |1 + e^{4i\theta}| + |1 + e^{8i\theta}| + |1 + e^{10i\theta}|] = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} [2|1 + e^{2i\theta}| + |e^{2i\theta}| |1 + e^{4i\theta}| + |1 + e^{6i\theta}| + |1 + e^{8i\theta}| |e^{2i\theta}| + |1 + e^{10i\theta}|] = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} [|1 + e^{2i\theta}| + |-e^{2i\theta} - e^{6i\theta}| + |1 + e^{6i\theta}| + |1 + e^{2i\theta}| + |-e^{2i\theta} - e^{-10i\theta}| \\
 &\quad + |1 + e^{10i\theta}|] \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{1}{2} [|1 + e^{2i\theta} - e^{2i\theta} - e^{6i\theta} + 1 + e^{6i\theta}| + |1 + e^{2i\theta} - e^{2i\theta} - e^{10i\theta} + 1 + e^{10i\theta}|] = 2 \\
 |1 + \cos(nt) + i\sin(nt)| + |1 + \cos(2nt) + i\sin(2nt)| + |1 + \cos(3nt) + i\sin(3nt)| &= \\
 &= |1 + e^{int}| + |e^{int}| |1 + e^{2nit}| + |1 + e^{3nit}| \stackrel{e^{int}=1}{=} \\
 &= |1 + e^{int}| + |-e^{int} - 3e^{3int}| + |1 + e^{3nit}| \geq 1 + e^{int} - e^{int} - e^{3int} + 1 + e^{3int} = 2
 \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 2 by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned}
 &|1 + \cos nt + i \sin nt| + |1 + \cos 2nt + i \sin 2nt| + \\
 &\quad + |1 + \cos 3nt + i \sin 3nt| \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow \\
 &\left| 2\cos^2 \frac{nt}{2} + 2i\sin \frac{nt}{2} \cos \frac{nt}{2} \right| + \left| 2\cos^2 nt + 2i\sin nt \cos nt \right| \\
 &\quad + \left| 2\cos^2 \frac{3nt}{2} + 2i\sin \frac{3nt}{2} \cos \frac{3nt}{2} \right| \geq 2 \\
 &2 \left| \cos \frac{nt}{2} \right| + 2|\cos nt| + 2 \left| \cos \frac{3nt}{2} \right| \geq 2 \\
 &\left| \cos \frac{nt}{2} \right| + |\cos nt| + \left| \cos \frac{3nt}{2} \right| \geq 1 \stackrel{\frac{nt}{2}=\alpha}{\Rightarrow} |\cos \alpha| + |\cos 2\alpha| + |\cos 3\alpha| \geq 1 \\
 &|\cos \alpha| + |2\cos^2 \alpha - 1| + |4\cos^3 \alpha - 3\cos \alpha| \geq 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote  $\cos \alpha = x \in [-1, 1] \Rightarrow |x| + |2x^2 - 1| + |x||4x^2 - 3| \geq 1$

Case 1)  $x \in \left[0, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right]: x - 2^2 + 1 - 4x^3 + x \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow -2x(2x^2 + x - 2) \geq 0$  true from

$$2x^2 + x - 2 \leq 0, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right]$$

Case 2)  $x \in \left[\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right]: x + 2x^2 - 1 - 4x^3 + 3x \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow (x - 1)(x + 1)(2x - 1) \leq 0$  true.

Case 3)  $x \in \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 1\right]: x + 2x^2 - 1 + 4x^3 - 3x - 1 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2x^3 + x^2 - x - 1 \geq 0$

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Let  $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 - x - 1, f'(x) = 6x^2 + 2x - 1 \geq 0, \forall x \in \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 1\right] \Rightarrow$

$$f(x) \geq f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) > 0$$

**Solution 3 by Marian Dincă-Romania**

Let  $\cos(nt) + i\sin(nt) = z, z \in \mathbb{C}, |z| = 1 = |-z|$

$$\begin{aligned} & |1 + \cos(nt) + i\sin(nt)| + |1 + \cos(2nt) + i\sin(2nt)| + |1 + \cos(3nt) + i\sin(3nt)| \\ &= |1 + z| + |1 + z^2| + |1 + z^3| = |1 + z| + |-z| |1 + z^2| + |1 + z^3| = \\ &= |1 + z| + |-z - z^3| + |1 + z^3| \geq |1 + z - z - 3z + 1 + z^3| = |2| = 2 \end{aligned}$$

Use triangle inequality:  $|x| + |y| + |z| \geq |x + y + z|, \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}$

**Solution 4 by proposer**

Let  $a = \cos t + i \sin t \in \mathbb{C}; |a| = 1 \Rightarrow |a^n| = 1$

$$a^n = \cos nt + i \sin nt;$$

$$a^{2n} = \cos 2nt + i \sin 2nt; a^{3n} = \cos 3nt + i \sin 3nt$$

Inequality asked can be written:

$$\begin{aligned} & |1 + a^n| + |1 + a^{2n}| + |1 + a^{3n}| \geq 2 \\ & 2 = 2 \cdot 1 = 2 \cdot |a^n| = 2|-a^n| = |-2a^n| = \\ &= |a^{3n} + 1 - a^n(a^{2n} + 1) - (a^n + 1)| \leq |a^{3n} + 1| + |a^n| \cdot |a^{2n} + 1| + |a^n + 1| = \\ &= |a^{3n} + 1| + 1 \cdot |a^{2n} + 1| + |a^n + 1| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence: } |1 + a^n| + |1 + a^{2n}| + |1 + a^{3n}| \geq 2$$

**SP.339. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} = \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} = \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7; \quad (1)$$

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$$\text{Let } \begin{cases} x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x \geq 0 \\ 4x - 3x^4 \geq 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x(x^2 - 2x + 2) \geq 0 \\ x(3x^3 - 4) \geq 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq x \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{3}}$$

$$\text{We have: } x^2 - x + 1 = \left(x^2 - x + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \frac{3}{4} = \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \geq \frac{3}{4} > 0$$

Hence, by AM-GM inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} = \\ & \sqrt{x(x^2 - 2x + 2)} + 3\sqrt[3]{(x^2 - x + 1) \cdot 1 \cdot 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{x(4 - 3x^3) \cdot 1 \cdot 1} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{x + x^2 - 2x + 2}{2} + x^2 - 2x + 2 + 1 + 1 + \frac{2(x + (4 - 3x^3) + 1 + 1)}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} \leq \frac{-3x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 14}{2}; \quad (2)$$

From (1),(2) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7 & \leq \frac{-3x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 14}{2} \Leftrightarrow x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ & x(x+2)(x-1)^2 \leq 0; \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

Because  $x \geq 0$  then  $x(x+2) \geq 0$ ,  $(x-1)^2 \geq 0$  then  $x(x+2)(x-1)^2 \geq 0$ ; (4)

From (3),(4) it follows that:  $x(x+2)(x-1)^2 = 0$

Equality  $x(x+2)(x-1)^2 = 0$  holds for:

$$\begin{cases} x = x^2 - 2x + 2 \\ x^2 - x + 1 = 1 \\ x = 4 - 3x^3 = 1 \\ x(x+2)(x-1)^2 = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} (x-1)(x-2) = 0 \\ x(x-1) = 0 \\ 3x^3 + x - 4 = 0 \\ x(x+2)(x-1)^2 = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow x = 1$$

Hence, the solution of equation is  $S = \{1\}$ .

### Solution 2 by Agayev Seddredin-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} & = \sqrt{x(x^2 - 2x + 2)} \leq \frac{x + x^2 - 2x + 2}{2} = \frac{x^2 - x + 2}{2} \\ \sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} & = \sqrt[3]{(x^2 - x + 1) \cdot 1 \cdot 1} \leq \frac{x^2 - x + 1 + 1 + 1}{3} = \frac{x^2 - x + 3}{3} \\ \sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} & = \sqrt[4]{(4x - 3x^4) \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} \leq \frac{4x - 3x^4 + 1 + 1 + 1}{4} = \frac{3 + 4x - 3x^4}{4} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7 &\leq \frac{x^2 - x + 2}{2} + 3 \frac{x^2 - x + 3}{3} + 2 \frac{3 + 4x - 3x^4}{4} \\ &\Rightarrow 4x^4 - 3x^3 - 3x^2 - x + 3 \leq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (x - 1)^2(4x^2 + 5x + 3) \leq 0 \Rightarrow x = 1. \end{aligned}$$

### **Solution 3 by Nikos Ntorvas-Greece**

It must be:  $x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x \geq 0, 4x - 3x^4 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow x(x^2 - 2x + 2) \geq 0, x(3x^3 - 4) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$$x((x - 1)^2 + 1) \geq 0, 3x \left( x^3 - \frac{4}{3} \right) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in \left[ 0, \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{3}} \right]$$

$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} = \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7; \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{x + 2 + x^2 - 2x}{2} + (x^2 - x + 1) + 1 + 1 + \frac{2(x + (4 - 3x^3) + 1 + 1)}{4} \Leftrightarrow \\ &I \leq \frac{-3x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 14}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7 \leq \frac{-3x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 14}{2} \Leftrightarrow x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$x(x^3 - 3x + 2) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow x(x + 2)(x - 1)^2 \leq 0$$

$$\text{But } x(x + 2)(x - 1)^2 \geq 0 \text{ because } x \in \left[ 0, \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{3}} \right]$$

$$\text{It must be: } x(x + 2)(x - 1)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = -2, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 1$$

$$\text{For } x_1 = -2: -2 \notin \left[ 0, \sqrt[3]{\frac{4}{3}} \right]. \text{ False!}$$

$$\text{For } x_2 = 0: \text{ from (1) we have: } 3 = 7. \text{ False!}$$

$$\text{For } x_3 = 1: \text{ from (1) we have that: } 6 = 6. \text{ True!}$$

The unique solution of (1) is  $x = 1$ .

**SP.340. Find all pairs of integers  $(x, y)$  such that**

$$x^4 - 2x^2 - y^2 - 5y - 3 = 0$$

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Messolonghi-Greece*

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### *Solution 1 by proposer*

We have:

$$x^4 - 2x^2 - y^2 - 5y - 3 = 0$$

$$x^4 + (x^2y - x^2y) + (x^2 - 3x^2) - y - y^2 - 3y - 3 = y$$

$$(x^4 - x^2y - 3x^2) + (x^2y - y^2 - 3y) + (x^2 - y - 3) = y$$

$$y = (x^2 - y - 3)(x^2 + y + 1).$$

Denote:  $t = x^2 - y - 3$  then  $x^2 = t + y + 3$  and

$$y = t(t + 2y + 4) \Leftrightarrow y(1 - 2t) = t^2 + 4t$$

$$\text{So, } y = \frac{t^2 + 4t}{-2t + 1}; \left( \text{if } t = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow y \cdot 0 = \frac{1}{4} + 2 \Rightarrow t \neq \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$y = \frac{t^2 + 4t}{-2t + 1} = -\frac{t}{2} - \frac{9}{4} + \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{-2t + 1}$$

$$4y = -2t - 9 + \frac{9}{-2t + 1}$$

Since  $y$  is an integer, we see that  $-2t + 1$  divides 9, so

$$-2t + 1 \in \{\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9\}$$

We get  $t \in \{-1, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and hence

$$(x, y) \in \{(1, -1), (-1, -1), (1, -4), (-1, -4)\}$$

### *Solution 2 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo*

$$x^4 - 2x^2 + 1 = y^2 + 5y + 4$$

$$\left(2(x^2 - 1)\right)^2 = (2y)^2 + 2 \cdot 2y \cdot 5 + 5^2 - 9$$

$$\left(2(x^2 - 1)\right)^2 - (2y + 5)^2 = -9$$

$$(2y + 5)^2 - \left(2(x^2 - 1)\right)^2 = 9$$

$$(2y + 5 + 2x^2 - 2)(2y + 5 - 2x^2 + 2) = 9$$

$$\text{For } x_{1,2} = \pm 1 \Rightarrow y_1 = -1, y_2 = -4$$

Let  $x \neq 1$ , distinguish the following cases:

$$1) \begin{cases} 2y + 5 + 2x^2 - 2 = 9 \\ 2y + 5 - 2x^2 + 2 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 4y + 10 = 10 \Rightarrow y = 0 \Rightarrow$$

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$$2x^2 = 6 \text{ (no solution in } \mathbb{Z} \text{)}$$

$$2) \begin{cases} 2y + 5 - 2x^2 - 2 = -1 \\ 2y + 5 - 2x^2 + 2 = -9 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 4y + 10 = -10 \Rightarrow y = -5 \Rightarrow$$

$$2x^2 = 6 \text{ (no solution in } \mathbb{Z} \text{)}$$

### **Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India**

$$x^4 - 2x^2 - y^2 - 5y - 3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x^2 - 1)^2 = y^2 + 5y + 4; \quad (1)$$

$$y^2 + 5y + 4 - (x^2 - 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow y_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( -5 \pm \sqrt{9 + 4(x^2 - 1)^2} \right)$$

For  $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $9 + 4(x^2 - 1)^2$  must be a perfect square of an odd integer. Thus,

$$t^2 = 4(x^2 - 1)^2 + 9 \Rightarrow t^2 - (x^2 - 1)^2 = 9 \text{ this is possible if}$$

$$t^2 = 25, (2x^2 - 2)^2 = 16 \Rightarrow t = \pm 5, 2x^2 = \pm 4 \Rightarrow t = \pm 5, 2x^2 \in \{-1, 3\} \text{ -impossible.}$$

$$\text{Next, } t^2 = 9, (x^2 - 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow t = \pm 3, x = \pm 1$$

$$\text{When } x = 1, y^2 + 5y + 4 = 0 \stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow} y \in \{-4, -1\}$$

Therefore,

$$S = \{(1, -1), (1, -4), (-1, -1), (-1, -4)\}$$

**SP.341. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that**

**$abc + ab + bc + ca = 4$ . Find the maximum value of expression:**

$$T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^5 + c^3 - 2b^2 + 26}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^5 + a^3 - 2c^2 + 26}}$$

**Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat-Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam**

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\begin{aligned} a^5 - a^2 - 3a + 3 &= a^4(a - 1) + a^3(a - 1) + a^2(a - 1) - 3(a - 1) = \\ &= (a - 1)(a^4 + a^3 + a^2 - 3) = (a - 1)(a^3 + 2a^2 + 3a + 3) \geq 0; \forall a > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, } a^5 - a^2 - 3a + 3 \geq 0 \Rightarrow a^5 - a^2 + 3 \geq 3a \Rightarrow$$

$$2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26 \geq b^3 + 2 + 6a + 18 \geq 3b + 6a + 18$$

$$2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26 \geq 3(b + 2a + 6) \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3(b + 2a + 6)}}; \quad (1)$$

Using BCS inequality, we have:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{9(b + 2a + 6)}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{b + 2a + 6} \right) \stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left( \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{b + 2a + 6} \right)$$

Similarly:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^5 + c^3 - 2b^2 + 26}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left( \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{c + 2b + 6} \right)$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^5 + a^3 - 2c^2 + 26}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left( \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{a + 2c + 6} \right). \text{ Hence,}$$

$$T \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left( \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{b + 2a + 6} + \frac{1}{c + 2b + 6} + \frac{1}{a + 2c + 6} \right); \quad (2)$$

We have:  $abc + ab + bc + ca = 4 \Leftrightarrow$

$$abc + 2ab + 2bc + 2ca + 4a + 4b + 4c + 8 =$$

$$= ab + 2a + 2b + 4 + bc + 2b + 2c + 4 + ca + 2c + 2a + 4 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a + 2)(b + 2)(c + 2) = (a + 2)(b + 2) + (b + 2)(c + 2) + (c + 2)(a + 2) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{a + 2} + \frac{1}{b + 2} + \frac{1}{c + 2} = 1$$

Hence, using inequality  $\frac{1}{x+y+z} \leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \right); \forall x, y, z > 0$  we have:

$$\frac{1}{b + 2a + 6} + \frac{1}{c + 2b + 6} + \frac{1}{a + 2c + 6} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{(a + 2) + (a + 2) + (b + 2)} + \frac{1}{(b + 2) + (b + 2) + (c + 2)}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{(c + 2) + (c + 2) + (a + 2)} \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{1}{a + 2} + \frac{1}{a + 2} + \frac{1}{b + 2} \right) + \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{1}{b + 2} + \frac{1}{b + 2} + \frac{1}{c + 2} \right) + \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{1}{c + 2} + \frac{1}{c + 2} + \frac{1}{a + 2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1}{a + 2} + \frac{1}{b + 2} + \frac{1}{c + 2} \right) = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{b + 2a + 6} + \frac{1}{c + 2b + 6} + \frac{1}{a + 2c + 6} \leq \frac{1}{3}; \quad (3)$$

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From (2),(3) it follows that:

$$T \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left( \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Rightarrow T_{max} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{Equality occurs if } \begin{cases} a = b = c > 0 \\ abc + ab + bc + ca = 4 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1.$$

Hence, the maximum value of expression  $T$  is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$  when  $a = b = c = 1$ .

### Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

- $a, b, c > 0$ ,  $abc + ab + bc + ca = 4 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{a+2} + \frac{1}{b+2} + \frac{1}{c+2} = 1$ ; (1)

- $2a^5 - 2a^2 + 3 \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} 3a^2 \Leftrightarrow 2a^5 - 5a^2 + 3 \geq 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a-1)^2(2a^3 + 4a^2 + 6a + 3) \geq 0 \text{ (true for } a > 0)$$

- $b^3 \stackrel{(3)}{\geq} 3b - 2 \Leftrightarrow b^3 - 3b + 2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (b-1)^2(b+2) \geq 0$  (true for  $a > 0$ )

$$\rightarrow 2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26 = 2a^5 - 2a^2 + 3 + b^3 + 23 \stackrel{\text{By (2),(3)}}{\geq} 3a^2 + 3b - 2 + 23$$

$$= 3a^2 + 3b + 21 \stackrel{a^2 \geq 2a-1}{\geq} 3(2a-1) + 3b + 21 = 6a + 3b + 18$$

$$= 3(2a + b + 6)$$

$$\rightarrow 2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26 \geq 3(2a + b + 6); \text{ (and analogs)}$$

$$\rightarrow T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^5 + c^3 - 2b^2 + 26}}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^5 + a^3 - 2c^2 + 26}} \stackrel{B.C.S}{\geq}$$

$$\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2a^5 + b^3 - 2a^2 + 26} + \frac{1}{2b^5 + c^3 - 2b^2 + 26} + \frac{1}{2c^5 + a^3 - 2c^2 + 26}}$$

$$\leq \sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3(2a + b + 6)} + \frac{1}{3(2b + c + 6)} + \frac{1}{3(2c + a + 6)}} =$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2a + b + 6} + \frac{1}{2b + c + 6} + \frac{1}{2c + a + 6}} =$$



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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sqrt{\sum \frac{1}{a+2+a+2+b+2}} \stackrel{\text{Cauchy-Schwarz}}{\leq} \sqrt{\frac{1}{9} \left( \sum \frac{3}{a+2} \right)} = \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{1}{a+2}} \stackrel{\text{By (1)}}{=} \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}};
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } P \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \rightarrow P_{\max} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} abc + ab + bc + ca = 4 \\ a = b = c = 1 \end{cases} \leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1.$$

**SP.342.** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a + b + c + 1 = 4abc$ .

Find the maximum value of expression:

$$S = \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2a^5 - 2a^3 + b^2 + 26}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2b^5 - 2b^3 + c^2 + 26}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2c^5 - 2c^3 + a^2 + 26}}$$

*Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat-Tung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$\begin{aligned}
 2a^5 - 2a^3 - 4a + a &= 2(a^5 - a^3 - 2a + 2) = 2[a^4(a-1) + a^3(a-1) - 2(a-1)] = \\
 &= 2(a-1)^2(a^3 + 2a^2 + 2a + 2) \geq 0; \forall a > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a^5 - 2a^3 - 4a + a > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a^5 - 2a^3 + b^2 + 26 \geq 4a + 21 + (b^2 + 1) \geq 4a + 21 + 2b$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2a^5 - 2a^3 + b^2 + 26}} &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4a + 2b + 21}} = 9 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{27} \cdot \frac{1}{27} \cdot \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21}} \leq \\
 &\leq 3 \left( \frac{2}{27} + \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2b^5 - 2b^3 + c^2 + 26}} \leq 3 \left( \frac{2}{27} + \frac{1}{4b + 2c + 21} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2c^5 - 2c^3 + a^2 + 26}} \leq 3 \left( \frac{2}{27} + \frac{1}{4c + 2a + 21} \right)$$

$$\text{Hence, } S \leq 3 \left( \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21} + \frac{1}{4b + 2c + 21} + \frac{1}{4c + 2a + 21} \right); \quad (1)$$

$$a + b + c + 1 = 4abc \Leftrightarrow 2(a + b + c + 1) = 8abc$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &4ab + 2a + 2b + 1 + 4bc + 2b + 2c + 1 + 4ca + 2c + 2a + 1 \\
 &= 8abc + 4ab + 4bc + 4ca + 2a + 2b + 2c + 1 \\
 &(2a + 1)(2b + 1) + (2b + 1)(2c + 1) + (2c + 1)(2a + 1) \\
 &= (2a + 1)(2b + 1)(2c + 1) \\
 &\frac{1}{2a + 1} + \frac{1}{2b + 1} + \frac{1}{2c + 1} = 1; \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, using inequality  $\frac{1}{x+y+z} \leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \right)$ ,  $\forall x, y, z > 0$  and from (2) we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21} + \frac{1}{4b + 2c + 21} + \frac{1}{4c + 2a + 21} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 3 + 9 + 9} + \frac{1}{4b + 2c + 3 + 9 + 9} + \frac{1}{4c + 2a + 3 + 9 + 9} \leq \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 3} + \frac{1}{4b + 2c + 3} + \frac{1}{4c + 2a + 3} \right) \leq \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2(2a + 1) + 2b + 1} + \frac{1}{2(2b + 1) + 2c + 1} + \frac{1}{2(2c + 1) + 2a + 1} \right) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1}{2a + 1} + \frac{1}{2b + 1} + \frac{1}{2c + 1} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 \right) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

From (1) we have:

$$S \leq 3 \left( \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{9} \right) = 3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} = 1 \Rightarrow S_{Max} = 1.$$

$$\text{Equality occurs if } \begin{cases} a + b + c + 1 = 4abc \\ a = b = c > 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1.$$

Therefore,

$$S_{Max} = 1 \text{ when } a = b = c = 1.$$

### **Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco**

$$2a^5 - 2a^3 + 4 \geq 4a \Leftrightarrow (a - 1)^2(2a^3 + 4a^2 + 4a + 4) \geq 0$$

$$b^2 + 1 \geq 2b \Leftrightarrow (b - 1)^2 \geq 0$$

$$2a^5 - 2a^3 + b^2 + 26 \geq 4a + 2b + 21 \text{ (and analogs)}$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{2a^5 - 2a^3 + b^2 + 26}} \leq \sum \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21}} \stackrel{\text{Holder } 3}{\leq} \sqrt[3]{9 \sum \frac{1}{4a + 2b + 21}} =$$

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$$= \sqrt[3]{9 \sum \frac{1}{2(2a+7) + (2b+7)}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt[3]{\sum \left( \frac{2}{2a+7} + \frac{1}{2b+7} \right)} = \sqrt[3]{3 \sum \frac{1}{2a+7}}$$

$$\bullet \quad 4abc = \sum a + 1 \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 4\sqrt[4]{abc} \Rightarrow abc \geq 1 \Rightarrow \sum a \geq 3 \text{ and } \sum ab \geq 3 \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum \frac{1}{2a+7} = \frac{\sum(2a+7)(2b+7)}{\prod(2a+7)} = \frac{4 \sum ab + 28 \sum a + 147}{8abc + 28 \sum ab + 98 \sum a + 343} \leq$$

$$\left( abc \geq 1, \sum a \geq 3, \sum ab \geq 3 \right)$$

$$\leq \frac{4 \sum ab + 28 \sum a + 147}{3(4 \sum ab + 28 \sum a + 147)} = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow \max\{S\} = 1.$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c = 1$ .

**SP.343** If  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}; |a| = |b| = |c| = 5$  then:

$$\sum_{cyc} |a+5| + 5 \sum_{cyc} |a^{10}+1| + \sum_{cyc} |a^{11}+5| \geq 30$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

$$10 = 2|a| = 2|-a| = |-2a| = |a^{11} + 5 - a(a^{10} + 1) - (a + 5)| \leq$$

$$\leq |a^{11} + 5| + |a| \cdot |a^{10} + 1| + |a + 5| = |a^{11} + 5| + 5|a^{10} + 1| + |a + 5|$$

$$|a + 5| + 5|a^{10} + 1| + |a^{11} + 5| \geq 10$$

By summing:

$$\sum_{cyc} |a+5| + 5 \sum_{cyc} |a^{10}+1| + \sum_{cyc} |a^{11}+5| \geq 10 + 10 + 10 = 30$$

**Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco**

$$|a+5| + 5|a^{10}+1| + |a^{11}+5| = |a+5| + |a||a^{10}+1| + |a^{11}+5| =$$

$$= |a+5| + |a^{11}+a| + |a^{11}+5| \geq |(a+5) + (a^{11}+a) - (a^{11}+5)| =$$

$$= 2|a| = 10. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} |a+5| + 5 \sum_{cyc} |a^{10}+1| + \sum_{cyc} |a^{11}+5| \geq 10 + 10 + 10 = 30$$

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**SP.344** If  $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$  prove that:

$$\frac{n}{n+2} + \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx \geq 2 \int_0^1 \tan^{-1}(x^n) \sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x} dx$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

*Solution 1 by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afghanistan*

$$|\tan^{-1}x| < \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow (\tan^{-1})^{\frac{n}{2}} \geq \tan^{-1}x, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\tan^{-1}x \geq (\tan^{-1})^{\frac{2}{n}} \Rightarrow \tan^{-1}x \geq (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 \Rightarrow \int_0^1 \tan^{-1}x dx \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx$$

$$\left[ x \tan^{-1}x - \frac{1}{2} \log(x^2 + 1) \right]_0^1 \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2 \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx; (I)$$

$$\frac{n}{n+2} \geq \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{4n}{n+2} \geq \pi - 2 \log 2 \Leftrightarrow 4n \geq (\pi - \log 4)(n+2) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4n \geq \frac{175}{100}(n+2) \Leftrightarrow 400n \geq 175n + 350 \Leftrightarrow 225n \geq 350 (\text{true}), \forall n \geq 2; (II)$$

$$(I), (II): \frac{n}{n+2} \geq \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2 \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{n}{n+2} \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx; (III)$$

$$\frac{n}{n+2} \geq \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{n}{n+2} + \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx \geq \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx + \int_0^1 (\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 dx; (IV)$$

$$(\tan^{-1}(x^n) - \sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x})^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$

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$$(\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 + \left(\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\right)^2 - 2\tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\tan^{-1}(x^n)^2 + \left(\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\right)^2 \geq 2\tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}$$

$$\int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx + \int_0^1 \left(\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\right)^2 dx \geq 2 \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}) dx; (V)$$

$$(IV), (V): \frac{n}{n+2} + \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx \geq \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx + \int_0^1 \left(\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\right)^2 dx \geq \\ \geq 2 \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}) dx$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{n}{n+2} + \int_0^1 (\tan^{-1}(x^n))^2 dx \geq 2 \int_0^1 \tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x} dx$$

**Solution 2 by proposer**

$$\tan x \geq x, \forall x \in [0, 1] \Rightarrow \tan^{-1}x \leq x, \forall x \in [0, 1]$$

$$\left(\sqrt[n]{x} - \tan^{-1}(x^n)\right)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\sqrt[n]{x^2} - 2\sqrt[n]{x}\tan^{-1}(x^n) + \left(\tan^{-1}(x^n)\right)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\sqrt[n]{x^2} + \left(\tan^{-1}(x^n)\right)^2 \geq 2\sqrt[n]{x}\tan^{-1}(x^n) \geq 2\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\tan^{-1}(x^n)$$

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt[n]{x^2} dx + \int_0^1 \left(\tan^{-1}(x^n)\right)^2 dx \geq 2 \int_0^1 \sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x}\tan^{-1}(x^n) dx$$

$$\frac{n}{n+2} + \int_0^1 \left(\tan^{-1}(x^n)\right)^2 dx \geq 2 \int_0^1 \tan^{-1}(x^n)\sqrt[n]{\tan^{-1}x} dx; n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$$

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**SP.345 Prove that in any triangle  $ABC$ ,**

$$\left(\frac{b+c-a}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c+a-b}{b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{a+b-c}{c}\right)^2 + \frac{8r}{R} \geq 7$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

**Lemma 1.** For all non-negative real numbers  $x, y, z$  then

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz + 1 \geq 2(xy + yz + zx)$$

**Darij Grinberg**

**Proof.** Since  $(y-1)(z-1) \cdot (z-1)(x-1)(x-1)(y-1) \geq 0$  so we can assume

$(y-1)(z-1) \geq 0$ . Then we have:

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz + 1 - 2(xy + yz + zx) = (x-1)^2 + (y-z)^2 + 2x(y-1)(z-1) \geq 0$$

**Lemma 2.** In any triangle  $ABC$  we always have:

$$(a) \frac{h_a h_b}{r_a r_b} + \frac{h_b h_c}{r_b r_c} + \frac{h_c h_a}{r_c r_a} = 2 \left(2 - \frac{r}{R}\right)$$

$$(b) \frac{h_a h_b h_c}{r_a r_b r_c} = \frac{2r}{R}$$

**Proof.** (a)  $\sum_{cyc} \frac{h_a h_b}{r_a r_b} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{4(s-a)(s-b)}{ab} = \sum_{cyc} 4 \sin^2 \frac{C}{2} = \sum_{cyc} 2(1 - \cos C) = 2 \left(2 - \frac{r}{R}\right)$

$$(b) \frac{h_a h_b h_c}{r_a r_b r_c} = \frac{8(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}{abc} = \frac{2r}{R}$$

Come back to the main problem.

We apply lemma 1 for  $(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{h_a}{r_a}, \frac{h_b}{r_b}, \frac{h_c}{r_c}\right)$  and use lemma 2 to obtain:

$$\left(\frac{h_a}{r_a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{h_b}{r_b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{h_c}{r_c}\right)^2 + \frac{4r}{R} + 1 \geq 4 \left(2 - \frac{r}{R}\right)$$

Note that  $\frac{h_a}{r_a} = \frac{b+c-a}{a}$

Therefore this inequality is equivalent to the desired result and we are done.

**Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam**

**Lemma:** If  $a, b, c$  are non-negative numbers, then

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$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2abc + 1 \geq 2(ab + bc + ca); (1)$$

**Proof.** Among the numbers  $1 - a, 1 - b, 1 - c$  there are always two of them with the same sign; let us say  $(1 - b)(1 - c) \geq 0$ . We have:

$$\begin{aligned} & a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2abc + 1 - 2(ab + bc + ca) = \\ & = (a - 1)^2 + (b - c)^2 + 2a + 2abc - 2(ab + ac) = \\ & = (a - 1)^2 + (b - c)^2 + 2a(1 - b)(1 - c) \geq 0, \text{ which is clearly true.} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c$ . Now, let us denote:

$$x = \frac{b + c - a}{a}, y = \frac{a + c - b}{b}, z = \frac{a + b - c}{c} \Rightarrow x, y, z > 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2 + x} + \frac{1}{2 + y} + \frac{1}{2 + z} = 1 \Rightarrow xy + yz + zx + xyz = 4$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum \left( \frac{b+c-a}{a} \right)^2 + \frac{8r}{R} \geq 7 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 4xyz \geq 7 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz \geq 7 - 2xyz; (2). \text{ Using Lemma with } a = x, b = y, c = z \Rightarrow$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz + 1 \geq 2(xy + yz + zx) \Rightarrow$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xyz \geq 2(xy + yz + zx) - 1; (3)$$

From (2),(3) we need to prove:

$$2(xy + yz + zx) - 1 = 7 - 2xyz \Leftrightarrow xy + yz + zx = 4(\text{true}) \Rightarrow (2) - \text{true}.$$

### **Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco**

Let  $a = x + y, b = y + z, c = z + x; x, y, z > 0$ . We have:

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{xyz}{x + y + z}}, R = \frac{(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)}{4\sqrt{xyz(x + y + z)}}$$

$$\sum \left( \frac{b + c - a}{a} \right)^2 + \frac{8r}{R} \geq 7; (*) \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{4z^2}{(x + y)^2} + \frac{32xyz}{(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)} \geq 7 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4 \sum z^2(y + z)^2(z + x)^2 + 32xyz \prod (x + y) \geq 7 \prod (x + y)^2$$

- $\sum z^2(y + z)^2(z + x)^2 = \sum x^6 + 2 \sum x^5y + \sum x^4y^2 + 4xyz \sum x^3 + 2xyz \sum x^2y + 3(xyz)^2$

- $xyz \prod (x + y) = xyz \sum x^2y + 2(xyz)^2$

- $\prod (x + y)^2 = \sum x^4y^2 + 6xyz \sum x^2y + 2 \sum x^3y^3 + 2xyz \sum x^3 + 10(xyz)^2$

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$$(*) \Leftrightarrow 4 \sum x^6 + 8 \sum x^5y + 2xyz \sum x^3 + 6(xyz)^2 \\ \geq 3 \sum x^4y^2 + 2xyz \sum x^2y + 14 \sum x^3y^3$$

By Schur's inequality, we have:

$$\sum x^2(x^2 - y^2)(x^2 - z^2) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2 \sum x^6 + 6(xyz)^2 \geq 2 \sum x^4y^2; (1)$$

$$\sum x^4(x - y)(x - z) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2 \sum x^6 + 2xyz \sum x^3 \geq 2 \sum x^5y; (2)$$

From (1),(2) it follows that:

$$4 \sum x^6 + 8 \sum x^5y + 2xyz \sum x^3 + 6(xyz)^2 \geq 10 \sum x^5y + 2 \sum x^4y^2 \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \\ \geq 3 \sum x^4y^2 + 2 \sum x^3y^2z + 14 \sum x^3y^3 \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow 10 \sum x^5y \geq \sum x^4y^2 + 2 \sum x^3y^2z + 7 \sum x^3y^3$$

Which is true from Murihead inequality: [5, 1, 0] majories [4, 2, 0], [3, 2, 1], [3, 3, 0].

**UP.331** If  $a, b, c \in (0, 1), n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$  then prove:

$$\sum_{cyc} (1 - \sqrt[n]{sina}) \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - sinasinb}{2n + 1 - sinasinb}$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

**Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania**

$$\sqrt[n]{sina} = \sqrt[n]{1 \cdot 1 \cdot \dots \cdot 1 \cdot sina} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{1 + 1 + \dots + 1 + sina}{n} = \frac{n - 1 + sina}{n} \Rightarrow \\ 1 - \sqrt[n]{sina} \geq 1 - \frac{n - 1 + sina}{n} = \frac{1 - sina}{n}$$

We need to prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - sina}{n} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - sinasinb}{2n + 1 - sinasinb}; (*)$$

We must to prove:



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$$\frac{1 - \sin a}{2n} + \frac{1 - \sin b}{2n} \geq \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$1 - \sin a + 1 - \sin b \geq 1 - \sin a \sin b \Leftrightarrow$$

$$1 - \sin a - \sin b + \sin a \sin b \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(1 - \sin a)(1 - \sin b) \geq 0. \text{ So,}$$

$$\frac{1 - \sin a}{2n} + \frac{1 - \sin b}{2n} \geq \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b}; \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{1 - \sin b}{2n} + \frac{1 - \sin c}{2n} \geq \frac{1 - \sin b \sin c}{2n + 1 - \sin b \sin c}; \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{1 - \sin c}{2n} + \frac{1 - \sin a}{2n} \geq \frac{1 - \sin c \sin a}{2n + 1 - \sin c \sin a}; \quad (3)$$

Adding these three relations, we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a}{n} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b}$$

**Solution by proposer**

$$\sum_{cyc} (1 - \sqrt[n]{\sin a}) \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b}$$

$$3 - \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[n]{\sin a} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b}$$

$$3 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b} \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[n]{\sin a}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left(1 - \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b}\right) \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[n]{\sin a}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{2n}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b} \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[n]{\sin a}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2n + 1 - \sin a \sin b} \geq \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[n]{\sin a}; \quad (1)$$

Let be the function  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$f(x) = 4n - (2n + 1)(\sqrt[n]{x} + \sqrt[n]{\alpha}) + \alpha x(\sqrt[n]{x} + \sqrt[n]{\alpha}), \alpha \in [0, 1]$$

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$$f'(x) = -\frac{2n+1}{n\sqrt[n]{x^{n-1}}} + \alpha(\sqrt[n]{x} + \sqrt[n]{\alpha}) + \frac{\alpha}{n}\sqrt[n]{x}$$

$$f''(x) = \frac{2n+1}{n^2 \cdot x\sqrt[n]{x^{n-1}}} + \frac{(n+1)\alpha}{n^2\sqrt[n]{x^{n-1}}}$$

$$f''(x) > 0 \Rightarrow f'_{[0,1]} - \text{increasing}; f'(1) = -2 + \alpha(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) - \frac{1-\alpha}{n}$$

$$\alpha \in [0, 1], \alpha(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) \leq 2 \Rightarrow f'(1) \leq 0 \Rightarrow f_{[0,1]} - \text{decreasing} \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(1), \forall x \in [0, 1]$$

$$f(1) = 4n - (2n+1)(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) + \alpha(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) \geq 0, \forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$$

$$\text{Let } g(\alpha) = 4n - (2n+1)(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) + \alpha(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1) \geq 0, \forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$$

$$g'(\alpha) = \frac{-(2n+1) + \sqrt[n]{\alpha^{n-1}}((n+1)\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + 1)}{n\sqrt[n]{\alpha^{n-1}}} \leq 0, \forall \alpha \in [0, 1] \Rightarrow g - \text{decreasing}$$

$$f(1) = g(\alpha) \geq g(1) = 0$$

$$\text{We have: } f(\beta) = 4n - (2n+1)(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + \sqrt[n]{\beta}) + \alpha\beta(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + \sqrt[n]{\beta}) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4n \geq (2n+1 - \alpha\beta)(\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + \sqrt[n]{\beta}) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2n+1 - \alpha\beta} \geq \frac{\sqrt[n]{\alpha} + \sqrt[n]{\beta}}{4n}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2n+1 - \sin a \sin b} \geq \frac{\sqrt[n]{\sin a} + \sqrt[n]{\sin b}}{4n} \quad (\text{and analogs}); \quad (2)$$

From (1), (2) we get

$$\sum_{cyc} (1 - \sqrt[n]{\sin a}) \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - \sin a \sin b}{2n+1 - \sin a \sin b}$$

**UP.332** Let  $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}, (y_n)_{n \geq 1}$  be sequences of positive real numbers such that:

$$x_1 > 1, x_{n+1} = \frac{1 + (n-1)x_n^n}{nx_n^{n-1}}; y_1 > 0, y_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)n^n y_n}{y_n^n + n^n(n-1)}$$

$$\text{Find: } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{x_n + y_n}{y_n} \right)^{\sqrt[n]{n}}$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

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### Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$n = 1 \Rightarrow x_2 = \frac{1 + 0 \cdot x_1^1}{1 \cdot x_1^0} = 1$$

$$n = 2 \Rightarrow x_3 = \frac{1 + x_2^2}{2 \cdot x_2^1} = 1$$

Suppose that  $x_n = 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1+(n-1) \cdot 1^n}{n \cdot 1^{n-1}} = 1$ .

So,  $x_n = 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now,

$$n = 1 \Rightarrow y_2 = \frac{2 \cdot 1^1 \cdot y_1}{y_1^1 + 1^1 \cdot 0} = \frac{2y_1}{y_1} = 2$$

$$n = 2 \Rightarrow y_3 = \frac{3 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 2}{2^2 + 2^2 \cdot 1} = \frac{24}{8} = 3$$

Suppose that  $y_n = n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then we have:

$$y_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1) \cdot n^n \cdot n}{n^n + n^n(n-1)} = \frac{(n+1)n^{n+1}}{n^n(1+n-1)} = n+1.$$

So,  $y_n = n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{x_n + y_n}{y_n} \right)^{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{x_n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1+n}{n} \right)^{\sqrt{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n \right]^{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n}} = e^0 = 1$$

### Solution 2 by proposer

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1 + (n-1)x_n^n}{nx_n^{n-1}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \frac{\sqrt[n]{x_n^{n(n-1)}}}{x_n^{n-1}} = 1 \Rightarrow x_n \geq 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}; \quad (1)$$

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{1 + (n-1)x_n^n}{nx_n^{n-1}} - x_n = \frac{1 + (n-1)x_n^n - nx_n^n}{nx_n^{n-1}} = \frac{1 - x_n^n}{nx_n^{n-1}} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} 0, \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow$$

$(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$  – decreasing; (2) and  $x_n \in (1, x_1)$ .

From (1),(2) we get  $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$  – convergent; (3)

$$y_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)n^n y_n}{y_n^n + n^n(n-1)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{y_{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{n^n y_n}{y_n^n + n^n(n-1)} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n+1}{y_{n+1}} &= \frac{y_n^n + n^n(n-1)}{n^n y_n} = \frac{y_n^{n-1}}{n^n} + \frac{n-1}{y_n} = \frac{1}{n \left(\frac{n}{y_n}\right)^{n-1}} + \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{y_n} = \\ &= \frac{1}{n x_n^{n-1}} + \frac{(n-1)x_n}{n} = \frac{1 + (n-1)x_n^n}{n x_n^{n-1}} = x_{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\frac{n}{y_n} = x_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow y_n = \frac{n}{x_n} \stackrel{(3)}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}} y_n = +\infty$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x_n + y_n}{y_n}\right)^{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{x_n}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{x_n}{y_n}\right)^{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{x_n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\left(1 + \frac{x_n}{y_n}\right)^{\frac{y_n}{x_n}}\right]^{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{y_n}} = e^{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{y_n \sqrt{n}}\right)} = \\ &= e^{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x_n}{\sqrt{n}}} \stackrel{(3)}{=} 1 \end{aligned}$$

**UP.333.** If  $x_p = a_p + ib_p, p = \overline{1, 4}$  are roots of the equation:

$$x^4 - 2(k+1)x^3 + 2(k+1)^2x^2 - 2(k^2+1)(k+1)x + (k^2+1)^2 = 0,$$

$k \in \mathbb{R}^*$  then prove:

$$\sum_{p=1}^4 \operatorname{arctg} \frac{a_p}{|b_p|} = \pi + 2 \left(\frac{k - |k|}{k}\right) \operatorname{arctg} k.$$

*Proposed by Florentin Vişescu-Romania*

**Solution by proposer**

How  $k \in \mathbb{R}^*, \exists! \alpha \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}; \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \setminus \{0\}$ , such that  $k = \operatorname{tg} \alpha$  then

$$x^4 - 2(\operatorname{tg} \alpha + 1)x^3 + 2(\operatorname{tg} \alpha + 1)^2x^2 - 2(\operatorname{tg}^2 \alpha + 1)(\operatorname{tg} \alpha + 1)x + (\operatorname{tg}^2 \alpha + 1)^2 = 0$$

or

$$x^4 - 2\left(\frac{\sin \alpha + \cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha}\right)x^3 + 2\left(\frac{\sin \alpha + \cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha}\right)^2x^2 - 2\frac{1}{\cos^2 \alpha}\left(\frac{\sin \alpha + \cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha}\right)x + \frac{1}{\cos^4 \alpha} = 0.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &(\operatorname{xcos} \alpha)^4 - 2(\operatorname{xcos} \alpha)^3(\operatorname{cos} \alpha + \operatorname{sin} \alpha) + 2(\operatorname{xcos} \alpha)^2(\operatorname{cos} \alpha + \operatorname{sin} \alpha)^2 \\ &- 2\operatorname{xcos} \alpha(\operatorname{cos} \alpha + \operatorname{sin} \alpha) + 1 = 0 \text{ sau } (\operatorname{xcos} \alpha)^2 - 2\operatorname{xcos} \alpha(\operatorname{cos} \alpha + \operatorname{sin} \alpha) + \end{aligned}$$

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$$+2(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha)^2 - 2\frac{\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha}{x\cos\alpha} + \frac{1}{(x\cos\alpha)^2} = 0.$$

Denote  $x\cos\alpha + \frac{1}{x\cos\alpha} = y$  we get:

$$(x\cos\alpha)^2 + \frac{1}{(x\cos\alpha)^2} = y^2 - 2.$$

$$\text{Hence } y^2 - 2(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha)y + 4\sin\alpha\cos\alpha = 0$$

$$\text{Or } (y - 2\sin\alpha)(y - 2\cos\alpha) = 0.$$

So  $x\cos\alpha + \frac{1}{x\cos\alpha} = 2\cos\alpha$  or  $x\cos\alpha + \frac{1}{x\cos\alpha} = 2\sin\alpha$ , Hence

$$x^2\cos^2\alpha - 2x\cos^2\alpha + 1 = 0 \text{ or } x^2\cos^2\alpha - 2x\cos\alpha\sin\alpha + 1 = 0 \text{ with roots}$$

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{\cos\alpha \pm i\sin\alpha}{\cos\alpha} \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R} \text{ or } x_{3,4} = \frac{\sin\alpha \pm i\cos\alpha}{\cos\alpha} \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}.$$

Therefore,  $x_{1,2} = 1 \pm itg\alpha$  si  $x_{3,4} = tg\alpha \pm i$ ,  $\alpha \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}; \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \setminus \{0\}$

$$x_{1,2} = 1 \pm ki \text{ si } x_{3,4} = k \pm i, k \in \mathbb{R}^*.$$

$$\sum_{p=1}^4 \arctg \frac{a_p}{|b_p|} = 2\arctg \frac{1}{|k|} + 2\arctg k = 2 \left( \arctg \frac{1}{|k|} + \arctg k \right)$$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctg|k| + \arctg k \right) =$$

$$= \pi + 2(\arctg k - \arctg|k|) = \begin{cases} \pi, k > 0 \\ \pi + 4\arctg k, k < 0 \end{cases} = \pi + 2 \left( \frac{k - |k|}{k} \right) \arctg k.$$

**UP.334.** Let be  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  si  $A_n \in M_{8n}(\mathbb{Q})$ , such that

$$\det(A_n^4 + 2A_n^2(1 - n^2 - k) + (1 + n^2 + k)^2 I_{8n}) = 0, \forall k = \overline{1, 2n}. \text{ Find:}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \det \left( \frac{1}{n} A_n \right).$$

*Proposed by Florentin Vişescu-Romania*

**Solution by proposer**

$$\text{Let be } x^4 + 2x^2(1 - n^2 - k) + (1 + n^2 + k)^2 = 0, k = \overline{1, 2n}.$$

Denote  $x^2 = y$  we get:

$$y^2 + 2y(1 - n^2 - k) + (1 + n^2 + k)^2 = 0, k = \overline{1, 2n}.$$

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$$\Delta = 4(1 - n^2 - k)^2 - 4(1 + n^2 + k)^2 = -16(n^2 + k), k = \overline{1, 2n}.$$

$$y_{1,2} = \frac{-2(1 - n^2 - k) \pm 4i\sqrt{n^2 + k}}{2} = (\sqrt{n^2 + k} \pm i)^2.$$

Hence

$$x^2 = (\sqrt{n^2 + k} + i)^2 \Rightarrow x_{1,2} = \pm (\sqrt{n^2 + k} + i)$$

$$x^2 = (\sqrt{n^2 + k} - i)^2 \Rightarrow x_{3,4} = \pm (\sqrt{n^2 + k} - i).$$

How  $k = \overline{1, 2n} \Rightarrow \sqrt{n^2 + k} \in R \setminus Q$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \det(A_n^4 + 2A_n^2(1 - n^2 - k) + (1 + n^2 + k)^2 I_{8n}) \\ &= \det(A_n - x_1 I_{8n})(A_n - x_2 I_{8n})(A_n - x_3 I_{8n})(A_n - x_4 I_{8n}) \\ &= \det(A_n - x_1 I_{8n}) \det(A_n - x_2 I_{8n}) \\ & \quad \det(A_n - x_3 I_{8n}) \det(A_n - x_4 I_{8n}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

So, at least one is accepted  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  root of characteristic polynomial  $A_n(p_{A_n}(X))$ .

How  $p_{A_n}(X) \in Q[X]$  then:

All the numbers  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  are roots of  $p_{A_n}(X), k = \overline{1, 2n}$ .

How that roots are different two by two, we have:

$$p_{A_n}(X) = \prod_{k=1}^{2n} (X^4 + 2X^2(1 - n^2 - k) + (1 + n^2 + k)^2) = \det(A_n) = p_{A_n}(0)$$

$$\prod_{k=1}^{2n} (1 + n^2 + k)^2 = \left( \prod_{k=1}^{2n} (1 + n^2 + k) \right)^2.$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \det\left(\frac{1}{n} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{8n} \det(A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{8n} \left( \prod_{k=1}^{2n} (1 + n^2 + k) \right)^2 =$$

$$\left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{4n} \prod_{k=1}^{2n} (1 + n^2 + k) \right)^2 = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{1 + n^2 + k}{n^2} \right)^2.$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{1 + n^2 + k}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^{2n} \left(1 + \frac{k+1}{n^2}\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\ln(\prod_{k=1}^{2n} (1 + \frac{k+1}{n^2}))} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\sum_{k=1}^{2n} \ln(1 + \frac{k+1}{n^2})}$$

Now,

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Let be the functions  $f, g: [0; \infty) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ ,  $f(x) = \ln(x+1) - x$  si  $g(x) = \ln(x+1) - x + \frac{x^2}{2}$ .

$$\text{Hence } f'(x) = \frac{-x}{x+1} \leq 0, \forall x \in [0; \infty)$$

$$g'(x) = \frac{x^2}{x+1} \geq 0, \forall x \in [0; \infty).$$

So,  $f$  –decreasing function and  $g$  –increasing function. Hence

$$f(x) \leq f(0) = 0, \forall x \in [0; \infty) \text{ si } g(x) \geq g(0) = 0, \forall x \in [0; \infty).$$

$$\text{Then, we have: } x - \frac{x^2}{2} \leq \ln(x+1) \leq x, \forall x \in [0; \infty).$$

For  $x = \frac{k+1}{n^2} \in [0; \infty)$  it follows that:

$$\frac{k+1}{n^2} - \frac{\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2}\right)^2}{2} \leq \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \leq \frac{k+1}{n^2}. \text{ Hence}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \frac{k+1}{n^2} - \frac{\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2}\right)^2}{2} \right) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \right) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \frac{k+1}{n^2} \right)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \frac{k+1}{n^2} - \frac{\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2}\right)^2}{2} \right) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \right) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \frac{k+1}{n^2} \right)$$

Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{2} - 1}{n^2} - \frac{\frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)(4n+3)}{6} - 1}{2n^4} \right)$$

$$\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \right) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{2} - 1}{n^2} \right)$$

Hence

$$2 \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \right) \leq 2 \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left( \ln\left(\frac{k+1}{n^2} + 1\right) \right) = 2.$$

Therefore,

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{1+n^2+k}{n^2} = e^2 \text{ deci, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \det \left( \frac{1}{n} A_n \right) = e^4.$$

**UP.335** If  $a, b, c \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ ,  $a + b + c = \pi$  then prove:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \int_i^{i+1} \frac{dx}{(ae^{\tan a} x^2 + be^{\tan b} x + ce^{\tan c})(e^c \tan c x^2 + e^b \tan b x + e^a \tan a)} \leq \frac{3n}{(n+1)\pi^2}$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

**Solution by proposer**

$$\begin{aligned} & (ae^{\tan a} x^2 + be^{\tan b} x + ce^{\tan c})(e^c \tan c x^2 + e^b \tan b x + e^a \tan a) = \\ & (ae^{\tan a} x^2 + be^{\tan b} x + ce^{\tan c})(e^a \tan a + e^b \tan b x + e^c \tan c x^2) \stackrel{BCS}{\geq} \\ & \geq \left( \sqrt{ae^{a+\tan a} \tan a} + \sqrt{be^{b+\tan b} \tan b} + \sqrt{ce^{c+\tan c} \tan c} \right)^2 x^2 \geq \\ & \geq \left( \sqrt{a \tan a (1+a)(1+\tan a)} + \sqrt{b \tan b (1+b)(1+\tan b)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sqrt{c \tan c (1+c)(1+\tan c)} \right)^2 x^2 \\ & \geq (a \tan a + b \tan b + c \tan c)^2 x^2 = \left( (a+b+c) \left( \frac{a \tan a + b \tan b + c \tan c}{a+b+c} \right) \right)^2 x^2 \geq \\ & \geq \left( (a+b+c) \tan \left( \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a+b+c} \right) \right)^2 x^2 \geq \\ & \geq \left( (a+b+c) \tan \left( \frac{a+b+c}{3} \right) \right)^2 x^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{1}{(ae^{\tan a} x^2 + be^{\tan b} x + ce^{\tan c})(e^c \tan c x^2 + e^b \tan b x + e^a \tan a)} \leq \frac{3}{\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^n \int_i^{i+1} \frac{dx}{(ae^{\tan a} x^2 + be^{\tan b} x + ce^{\tan c})(e^c \tan c x^2 + e^b \tan b x + e^a \tan a)} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{3}{\pi^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \int_i^{i+1} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \Big|_i^{i+1} = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{i} - \frac{1}{i+1} \right) = \frac{3n}{(n+1)\pi^2} \end{aligned}$$



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So,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \int_i^{i+1} \frac{dx}{(a \tan x^2 + b \tan x + c \tan c)(e^c \tan c x^2 + e^b \tan b x + e^a \tan a)} \leq \frac{3n}{(n+1)\pi^2}$$

**UP.336** If  $0 < a < b < \frac{\pi}{2}$  then prove:

$$\frac{(b-a)3\sqrt[3]{4(a+b)}}{\sqrt[3]{4(a+b)} - \sin 4(a+b)} < \cot 2a - \cot 2b + \frac{\pi}{4}$$

*Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania*

*Solution by proposer*

$$f: \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = 1 - \cos 4x \text{ -continuous}$$

$$g: (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty), g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}} = x^{-\frac{1}{3}}, g'(x) = -\frac{1}{3}x^{-\frac{4}{3}} < 0, g''(x) = \frac{4}{9}x^{-\frac{7}{3}} > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$g$  -convex function.

Applying Jensen integral inequality, we get:

$$g\left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b g(f(x)) dx \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx}} \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{f(x)}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b (1 - \cos 4x) dx}} \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1 - \cos 4x}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{b-a} \left(b-a - \frac{\sin 4b - \sin 4a}{4}\right)}} \leq \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1 - \cos 4x}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1 - \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{\sin 4b - \sin 4a}{b-a}}} \leq \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1 - \cos 4x}} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1-\frac{1}{2}\cdot\frac{\sin 2(b-a)\cos 2(a+b)}{b-a}}} \leq \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}}$$

$$u(t) = \frac{\sin t}{t}, t \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \Rightarrow u'(t) = \frac{t \cos t - \sin t}{t^2}$$

$$v(t) = t \cos t - \sin t \Rightarrow v'(t) = -t \sin t < 0, \forall t \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \Rightarrow v(t) < v(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u'(t) < 0 \Rightarrow u(t) = \frac{\sin t}{t} \text{ -- decreasing } \Rightarrow \frac{\sin 2(a+b)}{2(a+b)} < \frac{\sin 2(b-a)}{2(b-a)} \Rightarrow$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sin 2(b-a)\cos 2(a+b)}{b-a} < 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sin 2(b+a)\cos 2(a+b)}{b+a}; (*)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1-\frac{1}{2}\cdot\frac{\sin 2(b-a)\cos 2(a+b)}{b-a}}} = \\ & = \frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1-\frac{\sin 2(b-a)}{2(b-a)} \cdot \cos 2(a+b)}} \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1-\frac{\sin 2(b+a)}{2(b+a)} \cdot \cos 2(a+b)}} = \\ & = \frac{b-a}{\sqrt[3]{1-\frac{\sin 4(a+b)}{4(a+b)}}} = \frac{(b-a)^3 \sqrt[3]{4(a+b)}}{\sqrt[3]{4(a+b) - \sin 4(a+b)}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\frac{(b-a)^3 \sqrt[3]{4(a+b)}}{\sqrt[3]{4(a+b) - \sin 4(a+b)}} \leq \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}}; (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} + \frac{1}{\sin^2 x} & \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{\sin^2 x \cos^2 x}} = \frac{6}{\sqrt[3]{2(4\sin^2 x \cos^2 x)}} = \\ & = \frac{6}{\sqrt[3]{2\sin^2 2x}} = \frac{6}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$6 \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}} < \int_a^b dx + \int_a^b \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} dx + \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sin^2 x} dx \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}} &< \frac{1}{6} [(b-a) + (\tan b - \tan a) + (\cot a - \cot b)] < \\
 &< \frac{1}{6} (\tan b - \tan a) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\tan a \tan b}\right) + \frac{\pi}{12} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{\sin b}{\cos b} - \frac{\sin a}{\cos a}\right) \cdot \frac{1 + \tan a \tan b}{\tan a \tan b} + \frac{\pi}{12} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{\sin(b-a) \cdot \cos a \cos b + \sin a \sin b}{\cos a \cos b \sin a \sin b} + \frac{\pi}{12} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{4 \sin(b-a) \cos(b-a)}{4 \sin a \sin b \cos a \cos b} + \frac{\pi}{12} = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{2 \sin(2b-2a)}{\sin 2a \sin 2b} + \frac{\pi}{12} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{\sin 2b \cos 2a - \sin 2a \cos 2b}{\sin 2a \sin 2b} + \frac{\pi}{12} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{\cos 2a}{\sin 2a} - \frac{\cos 2b}{\sin 2b}\right) + \frac{\pi}{12} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} (\cot 2a - \cot 2b) + \frac{\pi}{12}. \text{ Hence,}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$3 \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{1-\cos 4x}} < \cot 2a - \cot 2b + \frac{\pi}{4}; \quad (2)$$

From (1), (2) it follows that:

$$\frac{(b-a)3\sqrt[3]{4(a+b)}}{\sqrt[3]{4(a+b)-\sin 4(a+b)}} < \cot 2a - \cot 2b + \frac{\pi}{4}$$

**UP.337.** If  $0 < a \leq b$  then:

$$\int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{yz dx dy dz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} \leq \frac{(b-a)^2(b+a)}{12} \cdot \log\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania*

**Solution 1 by Abdul Hannan-Tezpur-India**

$$0 < \frac{yz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} \frac{yz}{6\sqrt[6]{x^6 y^4 z^2}} = \frac{\sqrt[3]{yz^2}}{6x} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} \frac{\frac{y+z+z}{3}}{6x} = \frac{y+2z}{18x}$$

Therefore,

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$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{yz dx dy dz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} &\leq \frac{1}{18} \left[ \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{y}{x} dx dy dz + \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{2z}{x} dx dy dz \right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{18} \left[ \left( \int_a^b \frac{dx}{x} \right) \left( \int_a^b y dy \right) \left( \int_a^b dz \right) + \left( \int_a^b \frac{dx}{x} \right) \left( \int_a^b dy \right) \left( \int_a^b 2z dz \right) \right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{18} \left[ \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \left( \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \right) (b - a) + \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) (b - a) (b^2 - a^2) \right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{18} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) (b^2 - a^2) (b - a) = \frac{(b - a)^2 (b + a)}{12} \cdot \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 2 by proposer

First, we prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$  then:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{18yz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} \leq \frac{y + 2z}{x} &\Leftrightarrow 18xyz \leq (y + 2z)(3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2) \\ (y + 2z)(3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2) &= \\ &= 3x^2y + 2y^3 + yz^2 + 6x^2z + 4zy^2 + 2z^3 \geq \\ &\geq 18 \cdot \sqrt[18]{(x^2y)^3 \cdot (y^3)^2 \cdot yz^2 \cdot (x^2z)^6 \cdot (zy^2)^4 \cdot (z^3)^2} = \\ &= 18 \sqrt[18]{(xyz)^{18}} = 18xyz \end{aligned}$$

By integration:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{18yz dx dy dz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} &\leq \int_a^b \frac{1}{x} dx \cdot \int_a^b y dy \cdot \int_a^b dz + \\ &+ 2 \int_a^b \frac{1}{x} dx \cdot \int_a^b dy \cdot \int_a^b z dz \\ 18 \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{yz dx dy dz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} &\leq (\log b - \log a) \cdot \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \cdot (b - a) + \\ &+ 2(\log b - \log a) \cdot (b - a) \cdot \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} = \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \cdot (b^2 - a^2) \cdot (b - a) = \frac{3}{2} (b - a)^2 (b + a) \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \\ \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{yz dx dy dz}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} &\leq \frac{(b - a)^2 (b + a)}{12} \cdot \log \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

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UP.338 Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 12$ .

Prove that:

$$\left(\frac{a^2}{bc} + \frac{b^2}{ca} + \frac{c^2}{ba}\right) \left(\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}}\right) \geq 12$$

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Messolonghi-Greece*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

We have:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(a+1)(a^2-a+1)}} \geq \frac{1}{\frac{(a+1)+(a^2-a+1)}{2}} = \frac{2}{a^2+2}$ . So

$$\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} \geq \frac{2a^2}{a^2+2} \text{ and similarly: } \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} \geq \frac{2b^2}{b^2+2}; \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} \geq \frac{2c^2}{c^2+1}.$$

Adding up these last inequalities, we obtain:

$$\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} \geq 2 \left( \frac{a^2}{a^2+2} + \frac{b^2}{b^2+2} + \frac{c^2}{c^2+2} \right)$$

Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} &\geq 2 \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{(a^2+b^2+c^2)+6} = 2 \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{18} = \\ &= \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2+2(ab+bc+ca)}{9} \geq \frac{(ab+bc+ca)+2(ab+bc+ca)}{2} = \\ &= \frac{ab+bc+ca}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Now, we will prove that  $ab+bc+ca \geq \frac{3abc(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{a^3+b^3+c^3}$  or

$$(a^3+b^3+c^3)(ab+bc+ca) \geq 3abc(a^2+b^2+c^2)$$

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} &(a^3+b^3+c^3)(ab+bc+ca) - 3abc(a^2+b^2+c^2) = \\ &= a^4b + ab^4 + b^4c + bc^4 + c^4a + ca^4 - 2a^3bc - 2ab^3c - 2abc^3 = \\ &= ab(a^3-c^3) + ca(a^3-b^3) + ab(b^3-c^3) + bc(b^3-a^3) + ca(c^3-b^3) \\ &\quad + bc(c^3-a^3) = \\ &= (a^3-b^3)(ac-bc) + (b^3-c^3)(ab-ca) + (c^3-a^3)(bc-ab) = \\ &= c(a-b)^2(a^2+ab+b^2) + a(b-c)^2(b^2+bc+c^2) + b(b-c)^2(c^2+ca+a^2) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{So, } \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} \geq \frac{3abc(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{a^3+b^3+c^3} = \frac{12abc}{a^3+b^3+c^3} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{a^3+b^3+c^3}{abc} \left( \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} \right) \geq 12$$

$$\left( \frac{a^2}{bc} + \frac{b^2}{ca} + \frac{c^2}{ba} \right) \left( \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{b^3+1}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{c^3+1}} \right) \geq 12$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c = 12$ .

### Solution 2 by Rustam Tahmazov-Baku-Azerbaijan

$$\text{Lhs} = \frac{1}{abc} (a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \sum \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} \geq 12 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \sum \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} \geq 12abc$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} &= \sum \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(a+1)(a^2-a+1)}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum \frac{2a^2}{(a+1) + (a^2-a+1)} = \\ &= \sum \frac{2a^2}{a^2+2} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 2 \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{\sum a^2+6} = \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{9}; (1) \end{aligned}$$

By power-mean inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{a^3+b^3+c^3} &\geq \frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{9}}; \sqrt[3]{(a^3+b^3+c^3)^2} \geq \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{\sqrt[3]{9}} \\ \Rightarrow a^3+b^3+c^3 &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{3} = 4(a+b+c); (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (1)&(2) we get:

$$\text{Lhs} \geq 4(a+b+c) \cdot \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{9} \geq 12abc$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b+c)^3 \geq 27abc \text{ true from AM-GM.}$$

### UP.339 Prove that for any positive real numbers $a, b, c$

$$\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) \geq \frac{9(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{2(a+b+c)}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam

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### *Solution 1 by proposer*

**Lemma 1.** For any positive real numbers  $a, b, c$  then

$$\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)}{ab + bc + ca}$$

**Proof.** The inequality is equivalent to

$$(ab + bc + ca) \left( \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \right) \geq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)$$

$$\text{Or } \frac{a^3c}{b} + \frac{b^3a}{c} + \frac{c^3b}{a} \geq a^2b + b^2c + c^2a$$

This follows from the AM-GM inequality as follows

$$\frac{a^3c}{b} + \frac{b^3a}{c} \geq 2a^2b,$$

$$\frac{b^3a}{c} + \frac{c^3b}{a} \geq 2b^2c,$$

$$\frac{c^3b}{a} + \frac{a^3c}{b} \geq 2c^2a.$$

Using the above lemma, it's enough to show that

$$\frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)}{ab + bc + ca} + \frac{1}{2}(a + b + c) \geq \frac{9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{2(a + b + c)}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)}{ab + bc + ca} - \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{a + b + c} &\geq \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{2(a + b + c)} - \frac{1}{2}(a + b + c) \\ \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)[(a + b + c)^2 - 3(ab + bc + ca)]}{(ab + bc + ca)(a + b + c)} &\geq \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - (a + b + c)^2}{2(a + b + c)} \\ \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)}{ab + bc + ca} &\geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca \end{aligned}$$

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) \left( \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} - 1 \right) \geq 0$$

The last inequality is clearly true and we are done.

### *Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam*

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} - (a + b + c) &= \left( \frac{a^2}{b} - 2a + b \right) + \left( \frac{b^2}{c} - 2b + c \right) + \left( \frac{c^2}{a} - 2c + a \right) = \\ &= \frac{(a-b)^2}{b} + \frac{(b-c)^2}{c} + \frac{(c-a)^2}{a} \\ \frac{9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{2(a+b+c)} - \frac{3(a+b+c)}{2} &= \frac{9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 3(a+b+c)^2}{2(a+b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{6(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)}{2(a+b+c)} = \frac{3[(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2]}{2(a+b+c)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) &\geq \frac{9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{3(a+b+c)} \Leftrightarrow \\ \frac{(a-b)^2}{b} + \frac{(b-c)^2}{c} + \frac{(c-a)^2}{a} &\geq \frac{3[(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2]}{2(a+b+c)} \Leftrightarrow \\ \left( \frac{1}{b} - \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)} \right) (a-b)^2 &+ \left( \frac{1}{c} - \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)} \right) (b-c)^2 \\ &+ \left( \frac{1}{a} - \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)} \right) (c-a)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \frac{2(a+c)-b}{2b(a+b+c)} (a-b)^2 &+ \frac{2(a+b)-c}{2c(a+b+c)} (b-c)^2 + \frac{2(b+c)-a}{2a(a+b+c)} (c-a)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ S &= \sum \frac{2(a+c)-b}{2b(a+b+c)} (a-b)^2 \geq 0; (1) \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote:  $S_a = \frac{2(a+c)-b}{2b(a+b+c)}$ ,  $S_b = \frac{2(a+b)-c}{2c(a+b+c)}$ ,  $S_c = \frac{2(b+c)-a}{2a(a+b+c)}$

If  $a \geq b \geq c$  then  $S_a > 0, S_c > 0$

$$S_a + 2S_b = \frac{2(a+c)-b}{2b(a+b+c)} + 2 \cdot \frac{2(b+c)-a}{2a(a+b+c)} > 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$a(2a + 2b - c) + 2c(2b + 2c - a) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2a^2 + 2ab + 2bc + 4c^2 - 3ac \geq 0 \text{ true by } 2a^2 + 2c^2 = 2(a^2 + c^2) \geq 4ac > 3ac \Rightarrow$$

$$2a^2 + 2ab + 2bc + 4c^2 > 2a^2 + 2c^2 > 3ac$$

Similarly:  $S_c + 2S_b > 0 \xrightarrow{\text{S.O.S.}} S \geq 0; (2)$

If  $a \leq b \leq c$  then  $S_b > 0$



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$$S_a + S_b = \frac{2(a+c) - b}{2b(a+b+c)} + \frac{2(a+b) - c}{2c(a+b+c)} > 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$a(2a + 2b - c) + c(2b + 2c - a) > 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2a^2 + 2c^2 - 2ac + 2ab + 2bc \geq 0 \text{ true by } 2a^2 + 2b^2 \geq 4ac > 2ac \Rightarrow$$

$$2a^2 + 2c^2 - 2ac + 2ab + 2bc > 2a^2 + 2c^2 - 2ac > 0$$

Similarly:  $S_b + S_c > 0 \xrightarrow{S.O.S.} S \geq 0$ ; (3)  $\Rightarrow S \geq 0, \forall a, b, c > 0 \Rightarrow$  (1) is true.

### Solution 3 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For  $a, b, c > 0$ , we have  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) \geq \frac{9}{2} \cdot \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{a+b+c}$

$$(a+b+c) \left( \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) \right) \geq \frac{9}{2}(a^2+b^2+c^2)$$

$$2(a+b+c) \left( \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \right) + (a+b+c)^2 \geq 9(a^2+b^2+c^2)$$

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

$$\text{and since } \left( \frac{a^3}{b} + ab \right) + \left( \frac{b^3}{c} + bc \right) + \left( \frac{c^3}{a} + ca \right) \geq 2(a^2+b^2+c^2)$$

$$\text{We will show } \frac{a^2c}{b} + \frac{c^2b}{a} + \frac{b^2a}{c} \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2$$

$$\text{Iff } a^3c^2 + c^3b^2 + b^3a^2 \geq a^3bc + b^3ca + c^3ab$$

Select  $a \leq b \leq c$ ;  $a, ax, axy, x, y \geq 1$

$$a^3(axy)^2 + (axy)^2 + (axy)^2(ax)^2 + (ax)^3a^2$$

$$\geq a^3(axaxy) + (ax)^3(aaxy) + (axy)^3(aax)$$

$$\text{Iff } x^2y^2 + x^5y^3 + x^3 \geq x^2y + x^4y + x^4y^3$$

$$y^2 + x^3y^3 + x \geq y + x^2y + x^2y^3$$

$$y(y-1) + x^2y^3(x-1) \geq x(xy-1) \geq xy(x-1) \text{ true.}$$

$$y(y-1) + (x-1)(x^2y^3 - xy) = (x-1)xy(xy^2 - 1) \geq 0 \text{ true.}$$

### Solution 4 by Abdul Hannan-Tezpur-India

$$\text{Claim: } \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{ab+bc+ca}; \quad (1)$$

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**Proof:** (1)  $\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a}\right)(ab + bc + ca) \geq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum a^3 + \sum a^2c + \sum \frac{a^3c}{b} \geq \sum a^3 \sum a^2b + \sum a^2c$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{a^3c}{b} \geq \sum a^2b \Leftrightarrow \sum a^4c^2 \geq a^3b^2c$$

Which is true by  $\sum x^2 \geq \sum xy$ ,  $x = a^2c$ ,  $y = b^2a$ ,  $z = c^2b$

So, it is enough to prove that

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

$$\Leftrightarrow (a + b + c)^2 \left( \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \geq \frac{9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{2}$$

Let  $k = \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} \geq 1$ . To prove:

$$(k + 2) \left( k + \frac{1}{2} \right) \geq \frac{9k}{2} \Leftrightarrow (k - 1)^2 \geq 0 \text{ which is true.}$$

### Solution 5 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

**Lemma.** If  $a, b, c > 0$  then  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{ab+bc+ca}$

**Proof.** We have:  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{ab+bc+ca} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\left( \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \right) (ab + bc + ca) \geq (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum a^3 + \sum ab^2 + \sum \frac{ab^3}{c} \geq \sum a^3 + \sum ab^2 + \sum a^2b \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum \frac{ab^3}{c} \geq \sum a^2b \Leftrightarrow \sum a^2b^4 \geq abc \sum a^2b \Leftrightarrow$$

$$a^2(b^2 - ca)^2 + b^2(c^2 - ab)^2 + c^2(a^2 - bc)^2 \geq 0$$

Equality holds if and only if  $a = b = c$ .

Let's get back to the main problem.

$$LHS = \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + n(a + b + c) \geq \frac{(a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{ab + bc + ca} + n(a + b + c) \geq$$

$$\stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 3(n + 1) \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a + b + c} = RHS,$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) &\Leftrightarrow \frac{(a+b+c)(a^2+b^2+c^2)}{ab+bc+ca} + n(a+b+c) \geq 3(n+1) \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{a+b+c} \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum a \sum a^2}{\sum bc} + n \sum a \geq 3(n+1) \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum a} \Leftrightarrow \sum a \left( \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum bc} + n \right) \geq 3(n+1) \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum a} \Leftrightarrow \\
 &\quad \left( \sum a \right)^2 \left( \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum bc} + n \right) \geq 3(n+1) \sum a^2 \Leftrightarrow \\
 &\quad \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum a^2} \left( \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum bc} + n \right) \geq 3(n+1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum a^2 + 2 \sum bc}{\sum a^2} \left( \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum bc} + n \right) \geq 3(n+1) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \left( 1 + \frac{2}{t} \right) (t+n) \geq 3(n+1) \Leftrightarrow (t+2)(t+n) \geq 3(n+1)t \\
 &\Leftrightarrow t^2 - (2n+1)t + 2n \geq 0, \text{ which follows from } t \geq 1 \geq 2n, \text{ where} \\
 &\quad t = \frac{\sum a^2}{\sum bc}, \text{ equality for } t = 1 \Leftrightarrow \sum a^2 = \sum bc \Leftrightarrow \\
 &\quad (a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = b = c.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note. For  $n = \frac{1}{2}$ , we obtain Problem UP.339,RMM, proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam.

**UP.340** If  $0 < a \leq b$ ;  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow [1, \infty)$ ;  $f$  continuous, then:

$$3(b-a)^2 \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq 2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

We prove by induction that:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in [1, \infty)$ ;  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  implies:

$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n \leq n - 1 + x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$$

Checking:  $n = 1$ ;  $x_1 \leq 1 - 1 + x_1 \Leftrightarrow x_1 \leq x_1$

$n = 2$ :  $x_1 + x_2 \leq 1 + x_1 x_2 \Leftrightarrow (x_1 - 1)(x_2 - 1) \geq 0$ . True.

$P(k)$ :  $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k \leq k - 1 + x_1 x_2 \dots x_k$  (1)

Suppose that it's true:

$P(k+1)$ :  $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k + x_{k+1} \leq k + x_1 x_2 \dots x_k x_{k+1}$  (to prove)

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$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k + x_{k+1} \stackrel{P(k)}{\leq} k - 1 + x_1 x_2 \dots x_k + x_{k+1}$$

Remains to prove that:

$$k - 1 + x_1 x_2 \dots x_k + x_{k+1} \leq k + x_1 x_2 \dots x_k x_{k+1}$$

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_k x_{k+1} - x_1 x_2 \dots x_k - x_{k+1} + 1 \geq 0$$

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_k (x_{k+1} - 1) - (x_{k+1} - 1) \geq 0$$

$$(x_{k+1} - 1)(x_1 x_2 \dots x_k - 1) \geq 0 \text{ which is true because}$$

$$x_{k+1} \geq 1; x_1 x_2 \dots x_k \geq 1$$

$$P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$$

In (1) we take:  $x_1 \rightarrow f(x); x_2 \rightarrow f(y); x_3 \rightarrow f(z)$

$$f(x) + f(y) + f(z) \leq 2 + f(x)f(y)f(z) \quad (2)$$

By integration in (2):

$$\int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b (f(x) + f(y) + f(z)) dx dy dz \leq \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b 2 dx dy dz +$$

$$+ \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b f(x)f(y)f(z) dx dy dz$$

$$3 \int_a^b f(x) dx \int_a^b \int_a^b dy dz \leq 2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3$$

$$3(b-a)^2 \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq 2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3$$

Equality holds for  $a = b$  or  $f(x) \equiv 1$ .

### **Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India**

Let  $g(x) = f(x) - 1$ , then  $g(x) \geq 0, \forall x \in [a, b]$ .

Also,  $g(x)$  is continuous function on  $[a, b]$ . Let:

$$A = \int_a^b g(x) dx \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx = (b-a) + A$$

Consider

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$$2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3 - 3(b-a)^2 \int_a^b f(x) dx = 2(b-a)^3 +$$

$$+ [(b-a)^3 + 3(b-a)^2 A + 3(b-a)A^2 + a^3 - 3(b-a)^3 - 3(b-a)^2 A] =$$

$$= 3(b-a)A^2 + A^3 \geq 0, (A \geq 0)$$

Therefore,

$$3(b-a)^2 \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq 2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3$$

**Solution 3 by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afghanistan**

$$t = \int_a^b dx = b - a \geq 0, u = \int_a^b f(x) dx > 0$$

$$f(x) \geq 1 \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx \geq \int_a^b dx \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx \geq b - a \Rightarrow u \geq t \Rightarrow u - t \geq 0$$

$$\begin{cases} f(x) \geq 1 \\ 0 < a \leq b \end{cases} \Rightarrow 2t + u \geq 0 \Rightarrow t + u \geq -t \Rightarrow -t(u - t) \leq (u - t)(u + t) \Rightarrow$$

$$-tu + t^2 \leq u^2 - t^2 \Rightarrow 2t^2 \leq u^2 + tu \Rightarrow 3t^2 \leq u^2 + tu + t^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$3t^2(u - t) \leq (u - t)(u^2 + tu + t^2) \Rightarrow 3t^2u - 3t^3 \leq u^3 - t^3 \Rightarrow$$

$$3t^2u \leq 2t^3 + u^3 \Leftrightarrow 3t^2u \leq 2t^3 + u^3$$

Therefore,

$$3(b-a)^2 \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq 2(b-a)^3 + \left( \int_a^b f(x) dx \right)^3$$

**UP.341. Find:**

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x (1 + \cos^n x)} dx \right)$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

**Solution by proposer**

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x (1 + \cos^n x)} dx = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin x \cdot \cos^{n-1} x}{\cos^n x (1 + \cos^n x)} dx = -\frac{1}{n} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{(\cos^n x)'}{\cos^n x (1 + \cos^n x)} dx =$$

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$$y = \cos^n x; dy = (\cos^n x)' dx$$

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow y = 1; x = \frac{\pi}{3} \Rightarrow y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$= -\frac{1}{n} \int_1^{\frac{1}{2^n}} \frac{dy}{y(y+1)} = \frac{1}{n} \int_{\frac{1}{2^n}}^1 \left(\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{y+1}\right) dy = \frac{1}{n} \left(\ln 1 - \ln \frac{1}{2^n} - \ln \frac{1}{2} + \ln \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)\right) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \left(\ln 2 + \ln \frac{1 + \frac{1}{2^n}}{\frac{1}{2^n}}\right) = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \ln \left(\frac{2^n + 1}{2}\right)$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^n}{2}\right) \stackrel{\text{CESARO-STOLZ}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^{n+1}}{2}\right) - \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^n}{2}\right)}{n + 1 - n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^{n+1}}{1 + 2^n}\right) = \ln 2$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^{n+1}}{2}\right) - \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^n}{2}\right)}{n + 1 - n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2^{n+1}}{1 + 2^n}\right) = \ln 2$$

**UP.342. Prove that if  $0 < a \leq b$  then:**

$$\left(\int_a^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx\right)^2 \geq \left(\int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx\right) \left(\int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx\right)$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania*

**Solution 1 by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afghanistan**

$$(a - b)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow a^2 - 2ab + b^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow a^2 + 2ab + b^2 \geq 4ab \Rightarrow (a + b)^2 \geq 4ab \Rightarrow$$

$$a + b \geq 2\sqrt{ab} \Rightarrow \frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab}; \text{ (I)}$$

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow a + b \leq 2b \Rightarrow \frac{a+b}{2} \leq b; \text{ (II)}$$

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow a^2 \leq ab \Rightarrow a \leq \sqrt{ab}; \text{ (III)}$$

$$\int_a^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx = \underbrace{\int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_A + \underbrace{\int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_B + \underbrace{\int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_C = A + B + C$$

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$$\int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx = \underbrace{\int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_C + \underbrace{\int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_B + \underbrace{\int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_C = C + B + C$$

$$= 2C + B$$

$$\int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx = \underbrace{\int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_A + \underbrace{\int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_B + \underbrace{\int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx}_A = A + B + A$$

$$= 2A + B$$

$$\left( \int_a^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx \right)^2 \geq \left( \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx \right) \left( \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx \right) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(A + B + C)^2 \geq (2C + B)(2A + B) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$A^2 + B^2 + C^2 + 2AB + 2BC + 2CA \geq 4AC + 2CB + 2BA + B^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$A^2 + C^2 + 2AC \geq 4AC \Leftrightarrow (A - C)^2 \geq 0$$

**Solution 2 by Nassim Nicholas Taleb-New York-USA**

$$\text{Let } G[x] = \int \frac{\log x}{x} dx$$

$$(G(b) - G(a))^2 \geq \left( \left( G(b) - G\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right) + \left( G(b) - G(\sqrt{ab}) \right) \right) \cdot$$

$$\cdot \left( \left( G\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - G(a) \right) + G(\sqrt{ab}) - G(a) \right) \cdot \left( G(a) + G(b) - G\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - G(\sqrt{ab}) \right)^2$$

$$\geq 0$$

**Solution 3 by proposer**

$$0 < a \leq \sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{a+b}{2} \leq b$$

Denote:

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$$u = \int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx; v = \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx; w = \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx$$

$$\int_{\sqrt{ab}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx = \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \frac{\log x}{x} dx = v + w$$

$$\int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx = \int_a^{\sqrt{ab}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx + \int_{\sqrt{ab}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \frac{\log x}{x} dx = u + v$$

Inequality to prove can be written:

$$(u + v + w)^2 \geq (w + v + w)(u + v + u)$$

$$(u + v + w)^2 \geq (v + 2w)(v + 2u)$$

$$u^2 + v^2 + w^2 + 2uv + 2uw + 2vw \geq v^2 + 2uv + 2vw + 4wu$$

$$u^2 + w^2 - 2uw \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (u - w)^2 \geq 0$$

Equality holds for  $a = b$ .

**UP.343** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ .

**Prove that:**

$$2(a^4 + b^4 + c^4) - (a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \geq 3abc$$

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Messolonghi-Greece*

**Solution by proposer**

We will prove that:

**Lemma.** If  $a, b, c$  are real numbers, then

$$2(a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq 3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc)$$

**Proof.** We have:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2(a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) = \\ &= 2a^3 + 2a(b^2 + c^2) + 2b^3 + 2b(c^2 + a^2) + 2c^3 + 2c(a^2 + b^2) - 3a^3 - 3b^3 - 3c^3 - 9abc = \\ &= [-a^3 + a^2(b + c) - abc] + [-b^3 + b^2(c + a) - abc] + [-c^3 + c^2(a + b) - abc] = \\ &= [a^2(b + c) - a(b + c)^2 + bc(b + c)] + [b^2(c + a) - b(c + a)^2 + ca(c + a)] + \\ &+ [c^2(a + b) - c(a + b)^2 + ab(a + b)] = -a(a - b)(a - c) - b(b - a)(b - c) - \\ &- c(c - a)(c - b) + (b + c)(a - b)(a - c) + (c + a)(b - a)(b - c) + \end{aligned}$$



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$$+(a+b)(c-a)(c-b) = (b+c-a)(a-b)(a-c) + (c+a-b)(b-a)(b-c) + (a+b-c)(c-a)(c-b)$$

Putting  $b+c-a = x, c+a-b = y, a+b-c = z$  we have:

$$\frac{1}{4}[x(x-y)(x-z) + y(y-x)(y-z) + z(z-x)(z-y)] \geq 0$$

Because we have the well-known Schur's inequality. The lemma is completely solved.

Now,  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3$ , so  $3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \leq 2(a+b+c) \cdot 3$

$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \leq 2(a+b+c)$ . Also we have the well-known inequality:

$$(a+b+c)^2 \leq 3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \Leftrightarrow a+b+c \leq 3. \text{ So,}$$

$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \leq 6$ . Also we have:

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2 \leq 3(a^4 + b^4 + c^4), \text{ so } a^4 + b^4 + c^4 \geq 3 \Leftrightarrow 2(a^4 + b^4 + c^4) \geq 6.$$

So,  $2(a^4 + b^4 + c^4) \geq a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \Leftrightarrow$

$$2(a^4 + b^4 + c^4) - (a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \geq 3abc.$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c = 1$ .

**UP.344** Let  $a, b, c$  be non-negative real numbers, no two of which are zero.

Prove that:

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

*Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by proposer**

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we have

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{a^2 + 2(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{\sum(a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2)}$$

It suffices to show that  $\frac{(a+b+c)^2}{\sum(a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2)} \geq \frac{1}{a+b+c}$ . This is equivalent to

$$(a+b+c)^3 \geq \sum_{cyc} (a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2)$$

Or

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$$3(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \geq 2a(b^2+c^2) + 2b(c^2+a^2) + 2c(a^2+b^2) + 12abc$$

$$a(b^2+c^2) + b(c^2+a^2) + c(a^2+b^2) \geq 6abc$$

$$a(b-c)^2 + b(c-a)^2 + c(a-b)^2 \geq 0 \text{ which is obvious and we are done.}$$

The equality holds for  $a = b = c$  or  $(a, b, c) = (x, 0, 0)$  with  $x > 0$  and its permutations.

### Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a}{a^2+2(b+c)^2} &\stackrel{BCS}{\geq} \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum(a^3+2a(b+c)^2)} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{1}{\sum a} \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow (\sum a)^3 &\geq \sum a^3 + 2 \sum a^2b + 12abc \Leftrightarrow \sum a^2b \geq 6abc \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum a(b-c)^2 \geq 0 \text{ (true)}. \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 3 by Rohan Shinde-Bangalore-India

First of all note that by Murihead inequality, since  $\{2, 1, 0\}$  majorities  $\{1, 1, 1\}$

$$a^2b + b^2a + a^2c + ac^2 + b^2c + bc^2 \geq 6abc$$

$$6abc - (a^2b + b^2a + a^2c + ac^2 + b^2c + bc^2) + (a+b+c)^3 \leq (a+b+c)^3$$

$$\frac{1}{6abc - (a^2b + b^2a + a^2c + ac^2 + b^2c + bc^2) + (a+b+c)^3} \geq \frac{1}{(a+b+c)^3}; (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{a}{a^2+2(b+c)^2} + \frac{b}{b^2+2(a+c)^2} + \frac{c}{c^2+2(a+b)^2} = \\ &= \frac{a^2}{a^3+2a(b+c)^2} + \frac{b^2}{b^3+2b(a+c)^2} + \frac{c^2}{c^3+2c(a+b)^2} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{a^3+b^3+c^3+2a(b+c)^2+2b(c+a)^2+2c(a+b)^2} = \\ &= \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{(a+b+c)^3+6abc-(a^2b+ab^2+b^2c+bc^2+c^2a+ca^2)} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{(a+b+c)^3} = \frac{1}{a+b+c} \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 4 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

We must show that:

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

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Let  $f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = \frac{1}{x}, f'(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}, f''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3} > 0 \Rightarrow f$  –convex and from Jensen:

$$p_1 f(x_1) + p_2 f(x_2) + p_3 f(x_3) \geq f(p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + p_3 x_3), p_1 + p_2 + p_3 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{a+b+c} \cdot \frac{1}{a^2+2(b+c)^2} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{a+b+c}{a^3+b^3+c^3+2a(b+c)^2+2b(c+a)^2+2c(a+b)^2}; (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (1),(2) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{a+b+c}{a^3+b^3+c^3+2a^2b+2ab^2+2b^2c+2bc^2+2c^2a+2ca^2+12abc} \geq \frac{1}{(a+b+c)^3} \\ &\Leftrightarrow (a+b+c)^3 \geq a^3+b^3+c^3+2ab(a+b)+2bc(b+c)+2ca(c+a)+12abc \\ &\Leftrightarrow ab(a+b)+bc(b+c)+ca(c+a) \geq 6abc, \text{ which is true because:} \end{aligned}$$

$$ab(a+b)+bc(b+c)+ca(c+a) \geq 2(ab\sqrt{ab}+bc\sqrt{bc}+ca\sqrt{ca}) \geq 6\sqrt[3]{a^3b^3c^3} = 6abc$$

**Solution 5 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam**

$$\begin{aligned} &\bullet \frac{a}{a^2+2(b+c)^2} + \frac{b}{b^2+2(c+a)^2} + \frac{c}{c^2+2(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{1}{a+b+c}; \\ &\Leftrightarrow (a+b+c) \left( \sum a(b^2+2(c+a)^2)(c^2+2(a+b)^2) \right) \\ &\quad - (a^2+2(b+c)^2)(b^2+2(c+a)^2)(c^2+2(a+b)^2) \geq 0; \\ &\Leftrightarrow 6 \sum ab(a^4+b^4) + 6 \sum a^2b^2(a^2+b^2) + 4abc(a^3+b^3+c^3) \\ &\quad - 30a^2b^2c^2 - 9abc(a^2b+ab^2+b^2c+bc^2+c^2a+ca^2) \geq 0; (1) \end{aligned}$$

By AM-GM we have:

- $3(a^5b + a^4c^2 + b^2c^4) \geq 3 \cdot 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{a^9b^3c^6} = 9abc(a^2c); (2)$
- $3(b^5c + b^4a^2 + c^2a^4) \geq 9abc(b^2a); (3)$
- $3(c^5a + c^4b^2 + a^2b^4) \geq 9abc(c^2b); (4)$
- $3(b^5a + b^4c^2 + a^2c^4) \geq 9abc(b^2c); (5)$
- $3(c^5b + c^4a^2 + b^2a^4) \geq 9abc(c^2a); (6)$
- $3(a^5c + a^4b^2 + c^2b^4) \geq 9abc(a^2b); (7)$

$$\stackrel{(3)+(4)+(5)+(6)+(7)}{\Rightarrow} 3 \sum ab(a^4+b^4) + 6 \sum a^2b^2(a^2+b^2) \geq 9abc \sum (a^2b+ab^2); (8)$$

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$$\bullet \quad 3 \sum ab(a^4 + b^4) =$$

$$3(a^5b + ab^5 + b^5c + c^5b + a^5c + c^5a) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 3 \cdot 6 \cdot \sqrt[6]{a^{12}b^{12}c^{12}} = 18a^2b^2c^2; \quad (9)$$

$$\bullet \quad 4abc(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 4abc \cdot 3 \cdot abc = 12abc; \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{(9)+(10)}{\Rightarrow} 3 \sum ab(a^4 + b^4) + 4abc(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \geq 18abc + 12abc \\ & = 30abc; \quad (11) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{(10)+(11)}{\Rightarrow} 6 \sum ab(a^4 + b^4) + 6 \sum a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2) + 4abc(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \\ & \geq 30a^2b^2c^2 + 9abc(a^2b + ab^2 + b^2c + bc^2 + c^2a + ca^2); \end{aligned}$$

→ (1) is true. Proved.

### Solution 6 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Using Bergstrom Inequality, we have:

$$LHS = \sum \frac{a}{a^2 + 2(b+c)^2} = \sum \frac{a^2}{a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum [a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2]} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{1}{\sum a} = RHS$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum [a^3 + 2a(b+c)^2]} \geq \frac{1}{\sum a} \Leftrightarrow (\sum a)^3 \geq \sum a^3 + 2 \sum a(b+c)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum a^3 + 3 \prod (b+c) \geq \sum a^3 + 2 \sum a(b+c)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum a^3 + 3 [\sum bc(b+c) + 2abc] \geq \sum a^3 + 2 [\sum bc(b+c) + 6abc]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum bc(b+c) \geq 6abc \Leftrightarrow 3 \sum bc(b+c) + 6abc \geq 2 \sum bc(b+c) + 12abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum bc(b+c) \geq 6abc \Leftrightarrow \sum a(b-c)^2 \geq 0, \text{ (true).}$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c$ .

Remark. Inequality can be developed.

If  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 2$  then:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{a^2 + \lambda a(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{9}{(1+4\lambda)(a+b+c)}$$

**Solution.**

Using Bergstrom Inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \sum \frac{a}{a^2 + \lambda(b+c)^2} = \sum \frac{a^2}{a^3 + \lambda a(b+c)^2} \\ &\geq \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum [a^3 + \lambda a(b+c)^2]} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{9}{(1+4\lambda)\sum a} = RHS \end{aligned}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum [a^3 + \lambda a(b+c)^2]} \geq \frac{9}{(1+4\lambda)\sum a}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1+4\lambda) \left(\sum a\right)^3 \geq 9 \sum a^3 + 9\lambda \sum a(b+c)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1+4\lambda) \sum a^3 + 3(1+4\lambda) \prod (b+c) \geq 9 \sum a^3 + 9\lambda \sum a(b+c)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1+4\lambda) \sum a^3 + 3(1+4\lambda) \left[ \sum bc(b+c) + 2abc \right]$$

$$\geq 9 \sum a^3 + 9\lambda \left[ \sum bc(b+c) + 6abc \right]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (4\lambda - 8) \sum a^3 + 3(\lambda + 1) \sum bc(b+c) \geq (30\lambda - 6)abc, \text{ which is true from Schur's}$$

$$\text{inequality: } \sum a^3 \geq \sum bc(b+c) - 3abc, \lambda \geq 2.$$

It is enough to prove that:

$$(4\lambda - 8) \left( \sum bc(b+c) - 3abc \right) + 3(\lambda + 1) \sum bc(b+c) \geq (30\lambda - 6)abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (7\lambda - 5) \sum bc(b+c) \geq (42\lambda - 30)abc \Leftrightarrow (7\lambda - 5) \sum bc(b-c)^2 \geq 0, \text{ which follows}$$

$$\text{from: } \sum bc(b-c)^2 \geq 0 \text{ and } (7\lambda - 5) \geq 0 \text{ true, because } \lambda \geq 2.$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c$ .

**Note.** For  $\lambda = 2$  we obtain Problem UP.344 from R.M.M.-2021, proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung-Hanoi-Vietnam.

**UP.345** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ .

**Prove that:  $(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) - 2abc \leq 6$**

*Proposed by George Apostolopoulos-Messolonghi-Greece*

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### *Solution by proposer*

We will prove that:

**Lemma.** If  $a, b, c$  are real numbers, then:

$$2(a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq 3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc)$$

**Proof.** We have:  $2(a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc) =$

$$= 2a^3 + 2a(b^2 + c^2) + 2b^3 + 2b(c^2 + a^2) + 2c^3 + 2c(a^2 + b^2) - 3a^3 - 3b^3 - 3c^3 - 9abc =$$

$$= [-a^3 + a^2(b + c) - abc] + [-b^3 + b^2(c + a) - abc] + [-c^3 + c^2(a + b) - abc] =$$

$$= [a^2(b + c) - a(b + c)^2 + bc(b + c)] + [b^2(c + a) - b(c + a)^2 + ca(c + a) +$$

$$+ [c^2(a + b) - c(a + b)^2 + ab(a + b)] =$$

$$= -a(a - b)(a - c) - b(b - a)(b - c) - c(c - a)(c - b) + (b + c)(a - b)(a - c) +$$

$$+ (c + a)(b - a)(b - c) + (a + b)(c - a)(c - b) =$$

$$(b + c - a)(a - c)(b - c) + (c + a - b)(b - a)(b - c) + (a + b - c)(c - a)(c - b)$$

We putting:  $b + c - a = x, c + a - b = y, a + b - c = z$  then we have:

$$\frac{1}{4}[x(x - y)(x - z) + y(y - z)(y - x) + z(z - x)(z - y)] \geq 0$$

Because we have the well-known Schur's inequality. The lemma is completely solved.

Now,  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ , so  $3(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc) \leq 2(a + b + c) \cdot 3$

$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \leq 2(a + b + c)$ . Also we have the well-known inequality

$$(a + b + c)^2 \leq 3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \Leftrightarrow a + b + c \leq 3. \text{ So,}$$

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \leq 6; \quad (1)$$

Also we have:

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \geq ab(a + b) + bc(b + c) + ca(c + a)$$

$$\text{So, } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc \geq (a + b)(b + c)(c + a) - 2abc; \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1)\&(2) we have: } (a + b)(b + c)(c + a) - 2abc \leq 6$$

Equality holds when  $a = b = c = 1$ .

### *Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco*

$$\sum a \stackrel{BCS}{\leq} \sqrt{3 \sum a^2} \Rightarrow 9 \geq (\sum a)(\sum a^2) = \sum a^3 + \sum a^2 b \stackrel{Schur's}{\geq}$$

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$$\geq 2 \sum a^2 b - 3abc \geq 2 \sum a^2 b - \frac{1}{2} \sum a^2 b \Rightarrow 9 \geq \frac{3}{2} \sum a^2 b \Rightarrow \sum a^2 b \leq 6.$$

**Solution 3 by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam**

$$3 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3} = \frac{p^2}{3} \Rightarrow 0 < p \leq 3$$

$$\text{Now, } (a+b)(b+c)(c+a) - 2abc \leq 6 \Leftrightarrow pq - r - 2r \leq 6 \Leftrightarrow pq \leq 6 + 3r$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p \left( \frac{p^2 - 3}{2} \right) - 6 \leq 3r \Leftrightarrow \frac{p^3 - 3p}{6} - 2 \leq r; (1)$$

On the other hand, by Schur's inequality, we have:

$$r \geq \frac{p(4q - p^2)}{9} = \frac{p(p^2 - 6)}{9}; (2)$$

$$\text{From (1),(2) we need to prove: } \frac{p(p^2 - 6)}{9} \geq \frac{p^3 - 3p}{6} - 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{p^3}{18} + \frac{p}{6} - 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{18}(p-3)(p^3 + 3p + 12) \leq 0, \text{ which is true by } 0 < p \leq 3 \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true.}$$

**Solution 4 by Ruxandra Daniela Tonilă-Romania**

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3} \Leftrightarrow 3 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3} \Leftrightarrow 9 \geq (a+b+c)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3 \geq a+b+c \Leftrightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq a+b+c; (1)$$

$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) = (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - abc$$

$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) - 2abc = (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - 3abc$$

$$\text{So, we need to prove that: } (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - 3abc \leq 6$$

$$(1): \begin{cases} a+b+c \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \\ ab+bc+ca \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) \leq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) \leq 9; (2)$$

$$a+b+c \leq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{a+b+c}{3} \leq 1 \Rightarrow 1 \geq \frac{a+b+c}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{abc}$$

$$\Rightarrow abc \leq 1 \Rightarrow 3abc \leq 3; (3)$$

From (1),(2), we get:

$$(a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - 3abc \leq 9 - 3 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - 3abc \leq 6 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) - 2abc \leq 6$$

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*It's nice to be important but more important it's to be nice.*

*At this paper works a TEAM.*

*This is RMM TEAM.*

*To be continued!*

*Daniel Sitaru*