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DANIEL SITARU

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Proposed by

Daniel Sitaru-Romania, Alex Szoros-Romania

Neculai Stanciu-Romania, Florică Anastase-Romania

D.M.Bătinețu-Giurgiu-Romania, Marin Chirciu-Romania

Laura Molea-Romania, Gheorghe Molea-Romania

Cristian Miu-Romania, Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Vasile Jiglău-Romania

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Solutions by

Daniel Sitaru-Romania, Alex Szoros-Romania

Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco, Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Tapas Das-India, Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria, Hikmat Mammadov-

Azerbaijan, Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India, Vivek Kumar-India

George Florin Șerban-Romania, Rovsen Pirguliyev-Azerbaijan

Neculai Stanciu-Romania, D.M.Bătinețu-Giurgiu-Romania

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PROBLEMS FOR JUNIORS

JP.436 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{18R}{ab + bc + ca} \cdot \sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c} \geq 6$$

Proposed by Alex Szoros-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Lemma. If $x, y, z > 0$ then: $\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{xyz}}{x+y+z} \geq 6$; (1)

Proof. We have: $3\left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}\right) = \left(\frac{2x}{y} + \frac{y}{z}\right) + \left(\frac{2y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}\right) + \left(\frac{2z}{x} + \frac{x}{z}\right) \geq$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{xx}{yy} \frac{y}{z}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{yy}{zz} \frac{z}{x}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{zz}{xx} \frac{x}{z}} = 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2}{yz}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{y^2}{zx}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{z^2}{xz}} = \\ &= \frac{3(x+y+z)}{\sqrt[3]{xyz}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}\right) \geq \frac{x+y+z}{3\sqrt[3]{xyz}} + \frac{3\sqrt[3]{xyz}}{x+y+z} \geq 2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{xyz}}{x+y+z} \geq 6$$

Putting $x = h_b$; $y = h_a$ and $z = h_c$, inequality (1) becomes as:

$$\frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \geq 6 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \geq 6; (2)$$

But: $w_a w_b w_c \geq h_a h_b h_c$, so (2) becomes as:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \geq 6; (3)$$

On the other hand, we have:

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$$\sum_{cyc} h_a = \sum_{cyc} \frac{2F}{a} = 2F \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a} = \frac{2F}{abc} \sum_{cyc} ab = \frac{1}{2R} \sum_{cyc} ab; \quad (4)$$

From (3) and (4) we get the conclusion:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{18R}{ab + bc + ca} \cdot \sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c} \geq 6$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The inequality in the statement can be rewritten as

$$: \frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \geq 6.$$

Since $w_a \geq h_a$ (And analogs), we have : $\sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c} \geq \sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}$

Also, by AM – GM inequality, we have : $\frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_b}{h_a} \cdot \frac{h_b}{h_a} \cdot \frac{h_a}{h_c}} = \frac{3h_b}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}$

Similarly, we have : $\frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{h_b}{h_a} \geq \frac{3h_c}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}$ and $\frac{h_a}{h_c} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} \geq \frac{3h_a}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}$

Summing up these inequalities, we obtain : $\frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} \geq \frac{h_a + h_b + h_c}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } & \frac{h_b}{h_a} + \frac{h_c}{h_b} + \frac{h_a}{h_c} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \\ & \geq \frac{h_a + h_b + h_c}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{\frac{h_a + h_b + h_c}{\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}} \cdot \frac{9\sqrt[3]{h_a h_b h_c}}{h_a + h_b + h_c}} \\ & = 6. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{18R}{ab + bc + ca} \cdot \sqrt[3]{w_a w_b w_c} \geq 6.$

JP.437 If $a, b > 0$ then:

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{8}} \right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposer

Let be the function: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; f(x) = \left(x - \frac{2ab}{a+b}\right)\left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) - (x - \sqrt{ab})\left(x - \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)$

$$f\left(\frac{2ab}{a+b}\right) = \left(\frac{2ab}{a+b} - \sqrt{ab}\right)\left(\frac{2ab}{a+b} - \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right) > 0$$

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) = \left(\frac{a+b}{2} - \sqrt{ab}\right)\left(\frac{a+b}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right) < 0$$

$$f\left(\frac{2ab}{a+b}\right) \cdot f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) < 0$$

Hence, the equation $f(x) = 0$ has real roots, then $\Delta \geq 0$

$$f(x) = 2x^2 - \left(\frac{2ab}{a+b} + \sqrt{ab} + \frac{a+b}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)x + ab + \sqrt{\frac{ab(a^2+b^2)}{2}}$$

$$\Delta \geq 0 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{2ab}{a+b} + \sqrt{ab} + \frac{a+b}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)^2 - 8\left(ab + \sqrt{\frac{ab(a^2+b^2)}{8}}\right) \geq 0$$

$$\left(\frac{2ab}{a+b} + \sqrt{ab} + \frac{a+b}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)^2 \geq 8\left(ab + \sqrt{\frac{ab(a^2+b^2)}{8}}\right)$$

Therefore,

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}$$

Equality holds for $a = b$.

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By AM-GM inequality, we have: $(x+y)^2 \geq 4xy; \forall x, y > 0$

Then,

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$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 \geq 4 \left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)$$

$$\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \geq 2 \sqrt{\frac{ab}{a+b} \cdot \frac{a+b}{4}} = \sqrt{ab}$$

Therefore,

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 \geq 4\sqrt{ab} \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)$$

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}$$

Solution 3 by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 &= \left[\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right) \right]^2 = \\ &= \left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right) \\ &\geq ab + \frac{\sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}}{2} + 2 \left[ab + \frac{\sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}}{4} \right] = 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)} \end{aligned}$$

Now,

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

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \right)^2 \geq ab$$

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right)^2 \geq 4 \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}} \right) = \frac{4\sqrt{ab}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2(a^2+b^2)}}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}}{2}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right) &\geq \sqrt{ab} \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{2(a^2+b^2)}{16}}\right) = \\ &= \sqrt{ab} \left(\frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2(a^2+b^2)}}{4}\right) = \frac{ab}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$\sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}} \geq \frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab} \text{ (AGM)}$$

$$T = \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}}; M = \frac{a+b}{2}; G\sqrt{ab}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{G^2}{M} + \frac{G}{2} + \frac{M}{2} + \frac{T}{2}\right)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2G^2 + \sqrt{4G^2T}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{G^2}{M} + G + M + T\right)^2 \geq 2G^2 + 2GT$$

$$\left(\frac{G^2}{M} + G + M + T\right)^2 \geq 8(G^2 + GT)$$

$$\left(\frac{G^2}{M} + M + (G+T)\right)^2 \geq 8G(G+T)$$

$$\left(\frac{G^2}{M} + M + (G+T)\right)^2 \geq (2G + (G+T))^2 \geq (2\sqrt{2G(G+T)})^2$$

$$\left(\frac{G^2}{M} + M + (G+T)\right)^2 \geq 8G(G+T)$$

Solution 5 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$x \leq y \leq z \leq t \Rightarrow (x+y+z+t)^2 \geq 8(xz+yt)$$

$$x = m_h, y = m_g, z = m_a, t = m_p$$

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\left(\frac{m_h}{2} + \frac{m_g}{2} + \frac{m_a}{2} + \frac{m_p}{2}\right)^2 \geq 2 \cdot \frac{2ab}{a+b} \cdot \frac{a+b}{2} + 2\sqrt{ab} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(m_h + m_g + m_a + m_p)^2 \geq 8(m_h m_a + m_g m_p)$$

Let $f(a) = 2a^2 + a(m_h + m_g + m_a + m_p) + m_h m_a + m_g m_p$

$$f(a) = (a + m_h)(a + m_a)(a + m_g)(a + m_p)$$

$$f(m_h) = (-m_h + m_g)(-m_h + m_p) \geq 0$$

$$f(-m_a) = (-m_a + m_g)(-m_a + m_p) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \Delta_f \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m_h + m_g + m_p)^2 \geq 8(m_h m_a + m_g m_p)$$

$$\left(\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \frac{a+b}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{8}}\right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2+b^2)}$$

Solution 6 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let $H = \frac{2ab}{a+b}$, $G = \sqrt{ab}$, $A = \frac{1}{2}(a+b)$, $Q = \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}}$ then

$$HA = G^2, Q^2 + G^2 = 2A^2$$

Inequality becomes as:

$$\left(\frac{H}{2} + \frac{G}{2} + \frac{A}{2} + \frac{Q}{2}\right)^2 \geq 2G^2 + 2GQ \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(H + G + A + Q)^2 \geq 8G(G + Q) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(H + A)^2 + 2(H + A)(G + Q) + (G + Q)^2 - 8G(G + Q) \geq 0; (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS_{(1)} &\geq 4HA + 4\sqrt{HA}(G + Q)^2 + (G + Q)^2 - 8G(G + Q) = \\ &= 4G^2 + 4G(G + Q)^2 + (G + Q)^2 - 8G(G + Q) = \\ &= (2G - G - Q)^2 = (G - Q)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 7 by Vivek Kumar-India

$$\frac{ab}{a+b} + \frac{a+b}{4} \geq 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{ab}{a+b}\right)\left(\frac{a+b}{4}\right)} = \sqrt{ab}$$

So, we have to prove

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$$\left(\frac{3\sqrt{ab}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{8}}\right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\left(\frac{3\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{2\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 \geq 2ab + \sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(3\sqrt{2ab} + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^2 \geq 16ab + 8\sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$18ab + a^2 + b^2 + 6\sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)} \geq 16ab + 8\sqrt{2ab(a^2 + b^2)} \Leftrightarrow$$

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

$$(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - \sqrt{2ab})^2 \geq 0$$

JP.438 Find $\lambda > 0$ so that the following relationship holds in any ΔABC .

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \lambda \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{\lambda(a+b+c)} \geq 6$$

Proposed by Alex Szoros-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

If it holds that

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \lambda \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{\lambda(a+b+c)} \geq 6, \text{ then } \Delta ABC \text{ is equilateral.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = b = c = l \\ R = 2r \end{cases}$$

$$\text{But } 6 \geq 3\lambda + \frac{9l}{3\lambda l} \geq 6 \Rightarrow 6 \geq 3\lambda + \frac{3}{\lambda} \geq 6 \Rightarrow \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} = 2 \Rightarrow \lambda = 1$$

Next, we prove that $\lambda = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) &= \left(\frac{2a}{b} + \frac{b}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{2b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{2c}{a} + \frac{a}{b}\right) \geq \\ &\geq 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{a a b}{b b c}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{b b a}{c c b}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{c c a}{a a b}} = 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{a^2}{bc}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{b^2}{ac}} + 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{c^2}{ab}} = \\ &= \frac{3(a+b+c)}{\sqrt[3]{abc}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) \geq \frac{a+b+c}{3\sqrt[3]{abc}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) + \frac{3\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq \frac{a+b+c}{3\sqrt[3]{abc}} + \frac{3\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 2$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 6; (1)$$

On the other hand, using $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2$ (Leibniz) and from CBS inequality

$$\frac{3R}{2r} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}; (2)$$

Now, from $R \geq 2r$ (Euler) and AM-GM:

$$\frac{a+b+c}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{abc} \Rightarrow \frac{3R}{2r} \geq 3 \geq \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \Rightarrow \frac{3R}{2r} \geq \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c}; (3)$$

By adding (2),(3), we get:

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c}; (4)$$

From (1) and (4), it follows that:

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 6$$

Therefore, $\lambda = 1$.

Solution 2 by George Florin Şerban-Romania

If $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral, then $R = 2r$ and

$$\frac{3R}{r} = 6 \geq 3\lambda + \frac{9a}{3\lambda a} = 3\lambda + \frac{3}{\lambda} \geq 6$$

Hence, $3\lambda + \frac{3}{\lambda} = 6$ or $3\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 3 = 0$, then $\lambda = 1$.

We must to prove:

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 6$$

We have:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt{\left(\sum_{cyc} a^2 \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{b^2} \right)} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{abc}}{a+b+c} \stackrel{Leibniz}{\leq}$$

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$$\leq \sqrt{9R^2 \cdot \frac{1}{4r^2} + \frac{9^3 \sqrt{abc}}{a+b+c}} \leq \frac{3R}{2r} + \frac{9 \cdot \frac{a+b+c}{3}}{a+b+c} = \frac{3R}{2r} + 3 \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{3R}{r}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow 3R + 6r \leq 6R \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Now, for $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9^3 \sqrt{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 6$ we prove the inequality

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{a} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{a^2}{bc}} = \frac{3a}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

$$\frac{c}{a} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{b}{c} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{b^2c}{ac}} = \frac{3b}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{c}{a} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{c^2}{ab}} = \frac{3c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

By adding, it follows

$$3 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) \geq \frac{3(a+b+c)}{\sqrt[3]{abc}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

So, we have:

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

$$= 2 \sqrt{\frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}} \cdot \frac{9^3 \sqrt{abc}}{a+b+c}} = 6$$

$$\frac{3R}{r} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{9^3 \sqrt{abc}}{a+b+c} \geq 6$$

Therefore, $\lambda = 1$.

JP.439 If x, y, z are natural numbers such that $2x^x + y^y = 3z^z$, then find

$$\frac{2021x + 2022y + 2023z}{x + y + z}$$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposer

$$\text{If } y > z \Rightarrow y \geq z + 1 \Rightarrow 3z^z = 2x^x + y^y > (z + 1)^{z+1} \geq z^{z+1} + (z + 1)z^z \geq 3z^z$$

contradiction!

$$\text{If } y < z \Rightarrow 2x^x = 3z^z - y^y > 2z^z \Rightarrow x > z \Rightarrow x \geq z + 1$$

$$3z^z = 2x^x + y^y > 2(z + 1)^{z+1} \geq 2z^{z+1} + (z + 1)z^z > 3z^z \text{ contradiction!}$$

$$\text{So, } y = z \Rightarrow x^x = z^z \Leftrightarrow x = z. \text{ Hence, } x = y = z.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{2021x + 2022y + 2023z}{x + y + z} = \frac{6066}{3} = 2022$$

Solution 2 by Rovsen Pirguliyev-Azerbaijan

$$x, y, z \in \mathbb{N}. \text{ Let } x \neq y \neq z. \max(x, y, z) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3$$

$$\text{If } z = \max(x, y, z), \text{ then } 2x^x + y^y < 2z^z + z^z = 3z^z$$

$$\text{If } y = \max(x, y, z), \text{ then } 3z^z < y \cdot y^{y-1} = y^y \text{ since } y - 1 \geq z, \text{ then } y \geq z + 1 \text{ and } y \geq 3.$$

$$\text{If } x = \max(x, y, z), \text{ then } 3z^z < x \cdot x^{x-1} = x^x.$$

In all cases we obtain a contradiction, then $x = y = z$.

Therefore,

$$\frac{2021x + 2022y + 2023z}{x + y + z} = \frac{6066}{3} = 2022$$

Solution 3 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$\frac{2021x + 2022y + 2023z}{x + y + z} = \beta$$

$$\begin{cases} z \geq 1 \\ x \geq 1 \\ y \geq 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} z^z \geq 1 \\ x^x \geq 1 \\ y^y \geq 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3z^z \geq 3 \\ 2x^x + y^y \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} 3z^z = 3 \\ 2x^x + y^y = 3 \end{cases} \text{ then } x = 1; y = 1 \text{ and } z = 1.$$

$$\beta = \frac{2021x + 2022y + 2023z}{x + y + z} = \frac{3 \cdot 2021 + 3}{3} = 2022$$

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JP.440 Solve for positive integers the equation

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

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

WLOG, we can assume that $a \leq b \leq c$ so, $1 + \frac{1}{a} \geq 1 + \frac{1}{b} \geq 1 + \frac{1}{c}$, then taking account that the greater of the numbers $1 + \frac{1}{a}, 1 + \frac{1}{b}, 1 + \frac{1}{c}$ is greater than G-M of them, we deduce that

$$1 + \frac{1}{a} \geq \sqrt[3]{2}. \text{ Hence, } a \in \{2, 3, 4\}.$$

$$\text{If } a = 2, \text{ then } 3(b+1)(c+1) = 4bc \Rightarrow c = 3 + \frac{12}{b-3} \text{ and}$$

$$(a, b, c) \in \{(2, 4, 15), (2, 5, 9), (2, 6, 7)\}.$$

$$\text{If } a = 3, \text{ then } c = 2 + \frac{6}{b-2} \text{ and } (a, b, c) \in \{(3, 3, 8), (3, 4, 5)\}.$$

If $a = 4$, then we doesn't have solutions.

Therefore,

$$(a, b, c) \in \{(2, 4, 15), (2, 5, 9), (2, 6, 7), (3, 3, 8), (3, 4, 5)\} \text{ and permutations.}$$

Solution 2 by George Florin Şerban-Romania

$$\text{If } a, b, c := 4 \Rightarrow 2 = \left(1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{c}\right) \leq \left(1 + \frac{1}{4}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^3 = \frac{125}{64}$$

$$\Rightarrow 128 \leq 125 \text{ impossible!}$$

$$\text{Let } c \in \{1, 2, 3\}.$$

$$\text{Case 1) If } c = 1 \Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \cdot 2 = 2 \Rightarrow ab + a + b + 1 = ab$$

$$a + b + 1 = 0 \text{ impossible because } a + b + 1 \geq 3 > 0$$

$$\text{Case 2) If } c = 2 \Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{3}{2} = 2 \Rightarrow 3ab + 3a + 3b + 3 = 4ab \Rightarrow ab - a - b =$$

3

$$a(b-3) = 3b+3 \Rightarrow a = \frac{3b+3}{b-3} \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow b-3 | 3b+3; b-3 | 3b+3 - 3b+9$$

$$\Rightarrow b-3 | 12 \Rightarrow b-3 \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, -1, -2\}, b-3 \geq 1-3 = -2 \Rightarrow$$

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$$b \in \{4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15, 2, 1\}$$

If $b = 1 \Rightarrow a = -3 \notin \mathbb{N}$ impossible.

If $b = 2 \Rightarrow a = -9 \notin \mathbb{N}$ impossible.

$$\text{If } b = 4 \Rightarrow a = 15 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (15, 4, 2)$$

$$\text{If } b = 5 \Rightarrow a = 9 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (9, 5, 2)$$

$$\text{If } b = 6 \Rightarrow a = 7 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (7, 6, 2)$$

$$\text{If } b = 7 \Rightarrow a = 6 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (6, 7, 2)$$

$$\text{If } b = 9 \Rightarrow a = 5 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (5, 9, 2)$$

$$\text{If } b = 15 \Rightarrow a = 4 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (4, 15, 2)$$

$$\text{Case 3) If } c = 3 \Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \cdot \frac{4}{3} = 2 \Rightarrow$$

$$2ab + 2a + 2b + 2 = 3ab \Rightarrow ab - 2a - 2b = 2$$

$$a(b - 2) = 2b + 2 \Rightarrow a = \frac{2b + 2}{b - 2} \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$b - 2 \mid 2b + 2, b - 2 \mid 2b - 4 \Rightarrow b - 2 \mid 2b + 2 - 2b + 4$$

$$b - 2 \mid 6 \Rightarrow b \in \{1, 2, 3, 6, -1\}$$

$$b - 2 \geq 1 - 2 \Rightarrow b - 2 \geq -1 \Rightarrow b \in \{3, 4, 5, 8, 1\}$$

If $b = 1 \Rightarrow a = -4 \notin \mathbb{N}$ impossible.

$$\text{If } b = 3 \Rightarrow a = 8 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (8, 3, 3)$$

$$\text{If } b = 4 \Rightarrow a = 5 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (5, 4, 3)$$

$$\text{If } b = 5 \Rightarrow a = 4 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (4, 5, 3)$$

$$\text{If } b = 8 \Rightarrow a = 3 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (3, 8, 3).$$

$$S = \{(3, 8, 3), (8, 3, 3), (3, 3, 8), (3, 4, 5), (3, 5, 4), (4, 5, 3), (4, 3, 5), (5, 3, 4),$$

$$(5, 4, 3), (2, 5, 9), (2, 9, 5), (5, 9, 2), (5, 2, 9), (9, 2, 5), (9, 5, 2), (2, 6, 7), (2, 7, 6),$$

$$(6, 2, 7), (6, 7, 2), (7, 2, 6), (7, 6, 2), (2, 4, 15), (2, 15, 4), (4, 2, 15), (4, 15, 2), (15, 2, 4), (15, 4, 2)\}$$

JP.441 Prove that if $a, b, c > 0$ then holds:

$$\frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} + \frac{b^2 + 2c^2}{c\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}} + \frac{c^2 + 2a^2}{a\sqrt{c^2 + a^2}} > 6$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposer

We have the following transforms:

$$\frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} + \frac{b^2 + 2c^2}{c\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}} + \frac{c^2 + 2a^2}{a\sqrt{c^2 + a^2}} > 6 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 2}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 1}} + \frac{\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^2 + 2}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^2 + 1}} + \frac{\left(\frac{c}{a}\right)^2 + 2}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{c}{a}\right)^2 + 1}} > 6$$

Let be the function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = \frac{x^2+2}{\sqrt{x^2+1}}$. We have:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \frac{\sqrt{(x^2 + 1)^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \stackrel{AGM}{>} 2; \text{ where}$$

$$x^2 + 1 > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

So, $f(x) \geq 2; \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. Remains to prove that $[2, \infty) \subset f(\mathbb{R})$.

Let be $u \in [2, \infty)$ such that $f(x) = u$, hence,

$$u = \frac{x^2 + 2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \Leftrightarrow u\sqrt{x^2 + 1} = x^2 + 2 \Leftrightarrow x^4 + (4 - u^2)x^2 + 4 - u^2 = 0$$

Solving the above equation, we find the next solution:

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{u^2 - 4 + u\sqrt{u^2 - 1}}{2}}$$

So, for all $u \in [2, \infty)$ exists $x = \sqrt{\frac{u^2 - 4 + u\sqrt{u^2 - 1}}{2}}$ such that $f(x) = u$, which means that

$[2, \infty) \subset f(\mathbb{R})$. In this conditions the above problem has been solved.

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

We have:

$$b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = \sqrt{b^2(a^2 + b^2)} \stackrel{AGM}{<} \frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} > 2; \quad (1)$$

By adding relationships (1), we find:

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$$\frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} + \frac{b^2 + 2c^2}{c\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}} + \frac{c^2 + 2a^2}{a\sqrt{c^2 + a^2}} > 6$$

Solution 3 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Lemma. If $x > 0$ then $\frac{x^2+2}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} > 2$

Proof. We have:

$$\frac{x^2+2}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} = \sqrt{x^2+1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \stackrel{AGM}{>} 2. \text{ For } x = \frac{a}{b} \text{ we get the conclusion.}$$

Note by editor:

$$\frac{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 2}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 1}} > 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{\frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b^2}}{\frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{b}} > 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} > 2 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + 2b^2}{b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} > 6$$

Remark. The problem it can be developed.

If $a, b, c > 0$ then

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(b-c)^2 + 2a^2}{a\sqrt{(b-c)^2 + a^2}} \geq 6$$

Proof. Using Lemma and putting $x = \frac{b-c}{a}$.

Equality holds for $a = b = c$.

JP.442 For $x, y, z > 0$ prove that:

$$\sqrt{\frac{x^2z}{xy^2 + yz^2}} + \sqrt{\frac{xy^2}{yz^2 + x^2z}} + \sqrt{\frac{yz^2}{x^2z + xy^2}} > 2$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Let put $a = \frac{x}{y}, b = \frac{y}{z}, c = \frac{z}{x}$ then we get:

$$\sqrt{\frac{x^2z}{xy^2 + yz^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{\frac{x}{y}}{\frac{xy + z^2}{zx}}} = \sqrt{\frac{\frac{x}{y}}{\frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}}} = \sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}}$$

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Analogously, we can find that

$$\sqrt{\frac{xy^2}{yz^2 + x^2z}} = \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} \text{ și } \sqrt{\frac{yz^2}{x^2z + xy^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}}$$

In this conditions, the problem becomes as:

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} > 2$$

Using AM-GM inequality, we can written as:

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} = \frac{2}{\frac{b+c}{a} + 1} = \frac{2a}{a+b+c}$$

Analogously, we can find that

$$\sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} \geq \frac{2b}{a+b+c} \text{ și } \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} \geq \frac{2c}{a+b+c}$$

By adding the above relationships, it follows that

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} \geq \frac{2a+2b+2c}{a+b+c} = 2$$

Equality holds for $b+c=a, c+a=b, a+b=c \Leftrightarrow a=b=c=0$ impossible because $a, b, c > 0$.

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Denoting $xy^2 = a, yz^2 = b, zx^2 = c$ inequality becomes as

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} > 2$$

Using AM-GM inequality, we can written as:

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} \geq \frac{2}{\frac{b+c}{a} + 1} = \frac{2a}{a+b+c}$$

Analogously, we can find that

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$$\sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} \geq \frac{2b}{a+b+c} \text{ și } \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} \geq \frac{2c}{a+b+c}$$

By adding the above relationships, it follows that

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} > \frac{2a+2b+2c}{a+b+c} = 2$$

JP.443 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{w_a^4}{w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b)}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{w_b^4}{w_c^2 + w_a(w_b + w_c)}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{w_c^4}{w_a^2 + w_b(w_c + w_a)}} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{3r^2}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Lemma. If $x, y, z > 0$ then:

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{x^4}{y^2 + z(x+y)}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{y^4}{z^2 + x(y+z)}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{z^4}{x^2 + y(z+x)}} \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} x\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Proof. Using Radon's inequality, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^4}{y^2 + z(x+y)}} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{[y^2 + z(x+y)]^{\frac{1}{3}}} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum x)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{[\sum(x^2 + x(x+y))]^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \\ &= \frac{(\sum x)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{(\sum x^2 + 2\sum yz)^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \frac{(\sum x)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{(\sum x^2 + 2\sum yz)^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \frac{(\sum x)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{[(\sum x)^2]^{\frac{1}{3}}} = (\sum x)^{\frac{2}{3}} \end{aligned}$$

Denoting $x = w_a, y = w_b, z = w_c$ it is enough to prove that:

$$(\sum w_a)^{\frac{2}{3}} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{3r^2}, \text{ which follows from } \sum w_a \geq 9r.$$

Remains to prove that $(\sum 9r)^{\frac{2}{3}} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{3r^2} \Leftrightarrow (9r)^2 \geq 27 \cdot 3r^2 \Leftrightarrow 81r^2 \geq 81r^2$.

Equality holds is and only if triangle is equilateral.

Solution 2 by George Florin Șerban-Romania

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{w_a^4}{w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b)}} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{(w_a)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{(w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b))^{\frac{1}{3}}} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{(w_a)^{\frac{1}{3}+1}}{(w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b))^{\frac{1}{3}}} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum w_a)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{\sum (w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b))^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \\
 &= \frac{(\sum w_a)^{\frac{4}{3}}}{(\sum w_a)^{\frac{2}{3}}} = \left(\sum_{cyc} w_a \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = \sqrt[3]{\left(\sum_{cyc} w_a \right)^2} \stackrel{w_a \geq h_a}{\geq} \sqrt[3]{\left(\sum_{cyc} h_a \right)^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 3\sqrt[3]{3r^2} \\
 &\quad (1) \Leftrightarrow \left(\sum_{cyc} h_a \right)^2 \geq 81r^2 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} h_a \geq 9r; (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} h_a = \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R} \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} \frac{16Rr - 5r^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R} = \frac{20Rr - 4r^2}{2R} \stackrel{(3)}{\geq} 9r$$

$$(3) \Leftrightarrow 20Rr - 4r^2 \geq 18Rr \Leftrightarrow 2Rr \geq 4r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{w_a^4}{w_b^2 + w_c(w_a + w_b)}} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{3r^2}$$

JP. 444 If $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a + b + c = 1$ and $\lambda \geq 1$ then:

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b + \lambda c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c + \lambda a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a + \lambda b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{\lambda + 1}}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Using Jensen's inequality for the convex function $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}, x > 0$, we get:

$$af(b + \lambda c) + bf(c + \lambda a) + cf(a + \lambda b) \geq f(a(b + \lambda c) + b(c + \lambda a) + c(a + \lambda b))$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LHS} &= \frac{a}{\sqrt{b + \lambda c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c + \lambda a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a + \lambda b}} = af(b + \lambda c) + bf(c + \lambda a) + cf(a + \lambda b) \geq \\
 &\geq f(a(b + \lambda c) + b(c + \lambda a) + c(a + \lambda b)) = f((\lambda + 1)\sum bc) =
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\lambda+1)\Sigma bc}} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\lambda+1) \cdot \frac{(\Sigma a)^2}{3}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\lambda+1) \cdot \frac{1}{3}}} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{\lambda+1}}$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = \frac{1}{3}$.

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{\sqrt{b+\lambda c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+\lambda a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+\lambda b}} &= \frac{a^2}{a\sqrt{b+\lambda c}} + \frac{b^2}{b\sqrt{c+\lambda a}} + \frac{c^2}{c\sqrt{a+\lambda b}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{a\sqrt{b+\lambda c} + b\sqrt{c+\lambda a} + c\sqrt{a+\lambda b}}; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

But $t \rightarrow \sqrt{t}$ is concave, and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} a\sqrt{b+\lambda c} + b\sqrt{c+\lambda a} + c\sqrt{a+\lambda b} &\leq \\ &\leq (a+b+c) \sqrt{\frac{a(b+\lambda c) + b(c+\lambda a) + c(a+\lambda b)}{a+b+c}} = \\ &= \sqrt{(\lambda+1)(ab+bc+ca)}; \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

By SOS technology, we have:

$$1 = 1^2 \geq 3(ab+bc+ca) \Rightarrow ab+bc+ca \leq \frac{1}{3}; \quad (3)$$

From (1),(2) and (3) we obtain:

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+\lambda c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+\lambda a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+\lambda b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{\lambda+1}}$$

JP.445 If $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a + b + c = \lambda$ and $\lambda > 0$ then:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\lambda+a}{\lambda-a} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

We have:

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\lambda + a}{\lambda - a} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(1 + \frac{2a}{\lambda - a}\right) \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$3 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{2a}{b + c} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{a}{b} - \frac{a}{b + c}\right) \geq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{ac}{b(b + c)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

which follows from pqr – method. Denoting $p = a + b + c$, $q = ab + bc + ca$, $r = abc$, we have $q^2 = (ab + bc + ca)^2 \geq 3abc(a + b + c) = 3pr$, so $q^2 \geq 3pr$; (1)

Hence, we get:

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{ac}{b(b + c)} = \frac{1}{abc} \sum_{cyc} \frac{(ac)^2}{b + c} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \frac{1}{abc} \cdot \frac{(\sum ac)^2}{\sum(b + c)} = \frac{1}{abc} \cdot \frac{(\sum bc)^2}{2\sum a} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{q^2}{2p} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{3pr}{2p} = \frac{3}{2} = RHS$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = \frac{1}{3}$.

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\lambda + a}{\lambda - a} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(1 + \frac{2a}{b + c}\right) \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow 3 + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b + c} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b}$$

Multiplying the both sides by $ab + bc + ca$, we get :

$$3 \sum_{cyc} ab + 2 \sum_{cyc} a^2 + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{abc}{b + c} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} a^2 + 2 \sum_{cyc} ab + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2c}{b}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} ab + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{abc}{b + c} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2c}{b} \quad (1)$$

By CBS inequality, we have : $\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2c}{b} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{(ca)^2}{bc} \geq \frac{(ca + ab + bc)^2}{bc + ca + ab}$

$$= \sum_{cyc} ab \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{b + c} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \quad (\text{And analogs})$$

$$\text{Then : } LHS_{(1)} \leq \sum_{cyc} ab + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{abc}{4} \left(\frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) = 2 \sum_{cyc} ab \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2c}{b} = RHS_{(1)}.$$

So the proof is completed. Equality holds when $a = b = c = \frac{\lambda}{3}$.

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Solution 3 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} &\geq \frac{a+b}{b+c} + \frac{b+c}{c+a} + \frac{c+a}{a+b} = \frac{1+\frac{b}{a}}{\frac{b}{a}+\frac{c}{a}} + \frac{1+\frac{c}{b}}{\frac{c}{b}+\frac{a}{b}} + \frac{1+\frac{a}{c}}{\frac{a}{c}+\frac{b}{c}} = \\ &= \frac{1+\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{x}+z} + \frac{1+\frac{1}{y}}{\frac{1}{y}+x} + \frac{1+\frac{1}{z}}{\frac{1}{z}+y} = \frac{1+x}{1+zx} + \frac{1+y}{1+xy} + \frac{1+z}{1+yz} = \\ &= \frac{y(1+x)}{1+y} + \frac{z(1+y)}{1+z} + \frac{x(1+z)}{1+x}, \text{ where } \frac{a}{b} = x; \frac{b}{c} = y; \frac{c}{a} = z \\ &\quad (x+y+z)(x+1)(y+1)(z+1) \geq \\ &\geq x(1+z)^2(1+y) + y(1+x)^2(1+z) + z(1+y)^2(1+x) \\ &\quad (x+y+z) \left(2+x+y+z + \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \right) \geq \\ &\quad \geq x+y+z + \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \\ &\quad x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \geq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} + 3 \text{ true.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{\lambda+a}{\lambda-a} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(1 + \frac{2a}{b+c} \right) \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \Leftrightarrow 3 + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b+c} \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} \\ 2 \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b} - \frac{a}{b+c} \right) &\geq 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{ac}{b(b+c)} \geq \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Let $ab = x; bc = y; ca = z$, then

$$\frac{z}{b^2+y} + \frac{x}{c^2+z} + \frac{y}{a^2+x} \geq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{z^2}{xy+zy} + \frac{x^2}{yz+zx} + \frac{y^2}{xz+yx} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{2}$$

We have:

$$\frac{z^2}{xy+zy} + \frac{x^2}{yz+zx} + \frac{y^2}{xz+yx} \geq \frac{(x+y+z)^2}{2(xy+yz+zx)} \geq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx \geq 0 \text{ true } \forall x, y, z > 0$$

JP.446 Let $a > 0$ fixed. Solve for real numbers:

$$x \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12a}$$

Proposed by Laura and Gheorghe Molea-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

Firstly, we observe that $x > 0$ and $a^2 x^2 - 1 > 0$, where $x > \frac{1}{a}$.

Denoting $\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1} = t$, then $x = \frac{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}}{a}$, $t > 0$. Equation becomes as:

$$\sqrt{t^2 + 1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{t} \right) = \frac{35}{12} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{t^2 + 1} = \frac{35t}{12(t + 1)}$$

$$t^2 + 1 = \frac{1225t^2}{144t^2 + 288t + 144} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$144t^4 + 288t^3 - 937t^2 + 288t + 144 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$t^2 + 2t - \frac{937}{144} + \frac{2}{t} + \frac{1}{t^2} = 0$$

Let us denote: $t + \frac{1}{t} = k$; $k > 0$, then $t^2 + \frac{1}{t^2} = k^2 - 2$. Equation becomes:

$$k^2 + 2k - \frac{937}{144} = 0 \Leftrightarrow (k + 1)^2 = \frac{1369}{44} \Leftrightarrow k + 1 = \frac{37}{12} \Rightarrow k = \frac{25}{12}$$

$$t + \frac{1}{t} = \frac{25}{12} \Leftrightarrow 12t^2 - 25t + 12 = 0 \Rightarrow t_1 = \frac{4}{3}; t_2 = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1} = \frac{4}{3} \Rightarrow a^2 x^2 = \frac{25}{9} \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{5}{3a} > \frac{1}{a}$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1} = \frac{3}{4} \Rightarrow a^2 x^2 = \frac{25}{16} \Rightarrow x_2 = \frac{5}{4a} > \frac{1}{a}$$

$$\text{Hence, } S = \left\{ \frac{5}{3a}, \frac{5}{4a} \right\}$$

Solution 2 by Amir Sofi-Kosovo

$$x \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12a} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\frac{1}{ax}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}}} = \frac{35}{12}$$

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$$\frac{1}{ax} = u, \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{a^2 x^2}} = v; u, v > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{u} + \frac{1}{v} = \frac{35}{12} \\ u^2 + v^2 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} uv = \frac{12}{35}(u+v) \\ (u+v)^2 - 2uv = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} u+v = \frac{35}{12}uv \\ u+v = \frac{7}{5} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} uv = \frac{12}{25} \\ u+v = \frac{7}{5} \end{cases} \Rightarrow (u, v) \in \left\{ \left(\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right), \left(\frac{4}{5}, \frac{3}{5} \right) \right\} \Rightarrow x \in \left\{ \frac{5}{3a}, \frac{5}{4a} \right\}$$

Solution 3 by Tapas Das-India

$$x \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12a} \Rightarrow ax \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12}. \text{ Let } x = \sec \theta \Rightarrow$$

$$\sec \theta \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sec^2 \theta - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12} \Rightarrow \sec \theta \left(1 + \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right) = \frac{35}{12}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta + \cos \theta}{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta} = \frac{35}{24} \Rightarrow \frac{\sin \theta + \cos \theta}{\sin 2\theta} = \frac{35}{24}$$

$$\frac{(\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2}{\sin^2 2\theta} = \frac{1225}{576} \Rightarrow \frac{1 + \sin 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta} = \frac{1225}{576}$$

Let $\sin 2\theta = t$, then

$$\frac{1+t}{t^2} = \frac{1225}{576} \Leftrightarrow 1225t^2 - 576t - 576 = 0$$

$$t = \frac{576 \pm \sqrt{576^2 - 4 \cdot 1225 \cdot (-576)}}{2 \cdot 1225} \Rightarrow t = \frac{1176}{1225} \Rightarrow \sin 2\theta = \frac{1176}{1225}$$

$$\cos^2 2\theta = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta = 1 - \left(\frac{1176}{1225} \right)^2 \Rightarrow \cos 2\theta = \pm \frac{343}{1225}$$

$$2 \cos^2 \theta = 1 + \cos 2\theta = \frac{1568}{1225} \Rightarrow \cos^2 \theta = \frac{784}{1225} \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sec \theta = \frac{5}{4} \Rightarrow ax = \frac{5}{4} \Rightarrow x = \frac{5}{4a}$$

$$\cos 2\theta = -\frac{343}{1225} \Rightarrow \cos^2 \theta = \frac{441}{1225} \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{3}{5} \Rightarrow \sec \theta = \frac{5}{3} \Rightarrow ax = \frac{5}{3} \Rightarrow x = \frac{5}{3a}$$

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Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$x \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 x^2 - 1}} \right) = \frac{35}{12a}; \quad (1)$$

As $a > 0$, $RHS > 0 \Rightarrow LHS > 0 \Rightarrow x > 0 \Rightarrow ax > 0$.

Put $ax = \sec \theta$, $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$, then (1) can be written as

$$\sec^2 \theta + \csc^2 \theta + 2 \sec \theta \csc \theta = \frac{1225}{144}$$

$$\frac{4}{\sin^2 2\theta} + \frac{4}{\sin 2\theta} + 1 = \frac{1225}{144} + 1$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{\sin 2\theta} + 1 \right)^2 = \left(\frac{37}{12} \right)^2 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{\sin 2\theta} + 1 = \frac{37}{12}$$

$$\frac{2}{\sin 2\theta} = \frac{25}{12} \Rightarrow \sin 2\theta = \frac{24}{25} \Rightarrow \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta} = \frac{24}{25} \Rightarrow$$

$$12 \tan^2 \theta - 25 \tan \theta + 12 = 0$$

$$(3 \tan \theta - 4)(4 \tan \theta - 3) = 0 \Rightarrow \tan \theta \in \left\{ \frac{4}{3}, \frac{3}{4} \right\}$$

$$ax = \sec \theta = \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \theta} \Rightarrow ax \in \left\{ \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{4} \right\} \Rightarrow x \in \left\{ \frac{5}{3a}, \frac{5}{4a} \right\}$$

JP.447 If $4R + r = 1$, then prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right)$$

Proposed by Laura and Gheorghe Molea-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

We known that $r_a + r_b + r_c = 4R + r$, but $4R + r = 1$, then

$r_a + r_b + r_c = 1$. We have:

$$\sqrt{r_a r_b} \leq \frac{r_a + r_b}{2} \text{ and } \frac{4}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{1}{r_a} + \frac{1}{r_b} \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq (r_a - r_b)^2$$

By multiplying, we have:

$$\frac{4\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{r_a + r_b}{2} \left(\frac{1}{r_a} + \frac{1}{r_b} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(2 + \frac{r_a}{r_b} + \frac{r_b}{r_a} \right)$$

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Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left(2 + \frac{r_a}{r_b} + \frac{r_b}{r_a} \right) \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left(6 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a + r_b}{r_c} \right) = \frac{1}{8} \left(6 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - r_a}{r_a} \right) = \frac{1}{8} \left(3 + \frac{1}{r} \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left(3 + \frac{4R + r}{r} \right) = \frac{1}{8} \left(3 + \frac{4R}{r} + 1 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right)$$

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

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

$$\text{We have: } \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{We obtain: } \sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{3}{2}; \quad (1)$$

$$\text{On the other hand, by Euler, } \frac{R}{r} \geq 2, \text{ it follows } \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right) \geq \frac{3}{2}; \quad (2)$$

By (1) and (2), we obtain:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{r_a r_b}}{r_a + r_b} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R}{r} \right).$$

JP.448 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{3}{16} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\text{For } x, y, z > 0 \text{ we have: } \sum \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{x^3 + y^3 + z^3}{2}$$

WLOG, assume that $x^4 \geq y^4 \geq z^4 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y+z} \geq \frac{1}{z+x} \geq \frac{1}{x+y}$. From Chebyshev's inequality:

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{1}{3} (x^4 + y^4 + z^4) \left(\frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{1}{y+z} + \frac{1}{z+x} \right); (1)$$

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

From (1) and (2), we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{x^4 + y^4 + z^4}{x+y+z} \geq \frac{x^3 + y^3 + z^3}{2}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{\cos^6 \frac{A}{2} + \cos^6 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^6 \frac{C}{2}}{2}; (3)$$

$$\text{But: } \sum_{cyc} \cos^6 \frac{A}{2} = \frac{(4R+r)^3 - 3s^2(2R+r)}{32R^3}; (4)$$

From (3) and (4), it follows:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{(4R+r)^3 - 3s^2(2R+r)}{32R^3}; (5)$$

$(4R+r)^2 \geq 3s^2$ (*Doucet's*); (6). From (5) and (6), it follows

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{3s^2(4R+r-2R-r)}{32R^3} = \frac{3s^2 \cdot 2R}{32R^3} = \frac{3s^2}{16R^2}$$

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

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

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3$$

Proof.

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^4}{9 \cdot \sum \left(\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2} \right)} = \frac{\left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^4}{9 \cdot 2 \sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}} =$$

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$$= \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 = \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3$$

Equality holds if and only if ΔABC is equilateral.

Using Lemma, we get:

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\geq} \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3 \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{3}{32} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 = RHS,$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3 \geq \frac{3}{32} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 \Leftrightarrow 2(4R + r)^3 \geq 27Rs^2$$

which follows from $s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R+r)^3}{2(2R-r)}$ (*Blundon – Gerretsen*)

Remains to prove that:

$$2(4R + r)^2 \geq 27R \cdot \frac{R(4R + r)^3}{2(2R - r)} \Leftrightarrow 5R^2 - 8Rr - 4r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(R - 2r)(5R + 2r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if ΔABC is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{3}{2(\lambda + 1)} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution

Lemma. In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3$$

Proof.

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$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2})^4}{9 \cdot \sum (\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2})} = \frac{(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2})^4}{9 \cdot 2 \sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}} = \\ &= \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 = \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if ΔABC is equilateral.

Using Lemma, we get:

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\geq} \frac{1}{9(\lambda + 1)} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3 \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{3}{2(\lambda + 1)} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 = RHS,$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{18} \left(2 + \frac{r}{2R} \right)^3 \geq \frac{3}{2(\lambda + 1)} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 \Leftrightarrow 2(4R + r)^3 \geq 27Rs^2$$

which follows from $s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R+r)^3}{2(2R-r)}$ (*Blundon – Gerretsen*)

Remains to prove that:

$$2(4R + r)^2 \geq 27R \cdot \frac{R(4R + r)^3}{2(2R - r)} \Leftrightarrow 5R^2 - 8Rr - 4r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(R - 2r)(5R + 2r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if ΔABC is equilateral.

Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By Holder inequality, we have:

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} (\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}) \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} 1 \right)^2 \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^4$$

Then,

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 ; (1)$$

By AM-GM inequality, we have:

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$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 \geq 3^3 \cdot \prod_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} = 27 \left(\frac{s}{4R} \right)^2; (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we obtain:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{18} \cdot 27 \left(\frac{s}{4R} \right)^2 = \frac{3}{32} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2$$

Equality holds iff $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{1}{2 \left(\cos^2 \frac{A}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2} \right)} \left(\sum \cos^4 \frac{A}{2} \right)^2 \stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \\ &\frac{1}{18 \left(\cos^2 \frac{A}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2} \right)} \left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^4 \\ &\Rightarrow \sum \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Via A - G, } (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^3 \geq 27a^2b^2c^2$$

applying which on circumcevian triangle of the incenter of ABC,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(4R^2 \sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 &\geq 27 \prod \left(4R^2 \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right) \\ \Rightarrow \left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 &\geq 27 \cdot \frac{s^2}{16R^2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 \geq \frac{1}{18} \cdot 27 \cdot \frac{s^2}{16R^2} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{18} \left(\sum \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \right)^3 &\stackrel{(**)}{\geq} \frac{3}{32} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 \therefore (*), (**)\Rightarrow \sum \frac{\cos^8 \frac{A}{2}}{\cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}} \\ &\geq \frac{3}{32} \left(\frac{s}{R} \right)^2 \quad (\text{QED}) \end{aligned}$$

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JP.449 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \cot \frac{C}{2}} \geq 3\sqrt{3} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5 \right)$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

For $x, y, z > 0$ we have: $\sum \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{x^3+y^3+z^3}{2}$

WLOG, assume that $x^4 \geq y^4 \geq z^4 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y+z} \geq \frac{1}{z+x} \geq \frac{1}{x+y}$. From Chebyshev's inequality:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{1}{3} (x^4 + y^4 + z^4) \left(\frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{1}{y+z} + \frac{1}{z+x} \right); (1)$$

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

From (1) and (2), we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x^4}{y+z} \geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{x^4 + y^4 + z^4}{x+y+z} \geq \frac{x^3 + y^3 + z^3}{2}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \cot \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{\cot^3 \frac{A}{2} + \cot^3 \frac{B}{2} + \cot^3 \frac{C}{2}}{2}; (3)$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \cot^3 \frac{A}{2} = \frac{s(s^2 - 12Rr)}{r^3}; (4)$$

From (3) and (4), we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \cot \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{s(s^2 - 12Rr)}{r^3}; (5)$$

$$s \geq 3\sqrt{3}r \text{ (Mitrinovic's)}; s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2 \text{ (Gerretsen's)}; (6)$$

From (5) and (6) it follows that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \cot \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3}r(4Rr - 5r^2)}{r^3} = \frac{3\sqrt{3}(4R - 5r)}{r} = 3\sqrt{3} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5 \right)$$

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Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned}
 LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \cot \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \cot^2 \frac{A}{2}\right)^2}{2 \sum \cot \frac{A}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Blundon}}{=} \frac{\left(\frac{s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr}{r^2}\right)^2}{2 \cdot \frac{s}{r}} \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{2r(2R-r)(4R+r)}{R} - 2r^2 - 8Rr\right)^2}{2 \cdot \frac{s}{r}} = \frac{\left(\frac{8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2}{Rr}\right)^2}{\frac{2s}{r}} \\
 &= \frac{r(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2}{2R^2r^2s} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 3\sqrt{3} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5\right) \\
 (1) &\Leftrightarrow \frac{r(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2}{2R^2r^2s} \geq 3\sqrt{3} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5\right) \Leftrightarrow
 \end{aligned}$$

$(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2 \geq 3\sqrt{3}sR^2(4R - 5r)$ which follows from

$$s \leq \frac{3R\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ (Mitrinovic)}$$

Remains to prove that:

$$(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2) \geq 3\sqrt{3} \cdot \frac{3R\sqrt{3}}{3} \cdot R^2(4R - 5r) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2 &\geq 27R^3(4R - 5r) \Leftrightarrow 20R^4 - 57R^3r + 8R^2r^2 + 48Rr^3 + 8r^4 \\
 &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$(R - 2r)(10R^3 - 17R^2r - 26Rr^2 - 4r^3) \geq 0$ which follows from $R \geq 2r$ (Euler).

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \cot \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5\right); \lambda \geq 0$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution.

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$$\begin{aligned}
 LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{\cot^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\cot \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \cot \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum \cot^2 \frac{A}{2})^2}{(\lambda + 1) \sum \cot \frac{A}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Blundon}}{=} \frac{(s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr)^2}{(\lambda + 1) \cdot \frac{s}{r}} \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{2r(2R-r)(4R+r)}{R} - 2r^2 - 8Rr \right)^2}{(\lambda + 1) \cdot \frac{s}{r}} = \frac{(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2}{(\lambda + 1) \frac{s}{r}} \\
 &= \frac{r(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2}{(\lambda + 1)R^2r^2s} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5 \right) \\
 (1) &\Leftrightarrow \frac{r(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2}{2R^2r^2s} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{4R}{r} - 5 \right) \Leftrightarrow
 \end{aligned}$$

$(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2 \geq 3\sqrt{3}sR^2(4R - 5r)$ which follows from

$$s \leq \frac{3R\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ (Mitrinovic)}$$

Remains to prove that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2) &\geq 3\sqrt{3} \cdot \frac{3R\sqrt{3}}{3} \cdot R^2(4R - 5r) \Leftrightarrow \\
 2(8R^2 - 6Rr - 2r^2)^2 &\geq 27R^3(4R - 5r) \Leftrightarrow 20R^4 - 57R^3r + 8R^2r^2 + 48Rr^3 + 8r^4 \\
 &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$(R - 2r)(10R^3 - 17R^2r - 26Rr^2 - 4r^3) \geq 0$ which follows from $R \geq 2r$ (Euler).

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\tan^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\tan \frac{B}{2} + \tan \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{s}{9R}$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution. We have:

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\tan^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\tan \frac{B}{2} + \tan \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum \tan^2 \frac{A}{2})^2}{2 \sum \tan \frac{A}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Blundon}}{=} \frac{\left(\frac{(4R+r)^2}{s^2} - 2 \right)^2}{2 \cdot \frac{4R+r}{r}} \geq$$

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$$\geq \frac{\left(\frac{(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)} - 2\right)^2}{2 \cdot \frac{4R+r}{r}} = \frac{\left(\frac{2R-2r}{R}\right)^2}{\frac{2(4R+r)}{s}} = \frac{2s(R-r)^2}{R^2(4R+r)} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{s}{9R} = RHS$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{2s(R-r)^2}{R^2(4R+r)} \geq \frac{s}{9R} \Leftrightarrow 18(R-r)^2 \geq R(4R+r) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$14R^2 - 37Rr + 18r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(4R-9r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\tan^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\tan \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \tan \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{2s}{9(\lambda+1)R}; \lambda \geq 0$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution. We have:

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\tan^4 \frac{A}{2}}{\tan \frac{B}{2} + \lambda \tan \frac{C}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \tan^2 \frac{A}{2}\right)^2}{(\lambda+1) \sum \tan \frac{A}{2}} = \frac{\left(\frac{(4R+r)^2}{s^2} - 2\right)^2}{(\lambda+1) \cdot \frac{4R+r}{r}} \stackrel{\text{Blundon}}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \frac{\left(\frac{(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)} - 2\right)^2}{(\lambda+1) \cdot \frac{4R+r}{r}} = \frac{\left(\frac{2R-2r}{R}\right)^2}{\frac{(\lambda+1)(4R+r)}{s}} = \frac{4s(R-r)^2}{(\lambda+1)R^2(4R+r)} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{s}{9R} = RHS$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{4s(R-r)^2}{(\lambda+1)R^2(4R+r)} \geq \frac{2s}{9(\lambda+1)R} \Leftrightarrow 18(R-r)^2 \geq R(4R+r) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$14R^2 - 37Rr + 18r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(4R-9r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

JP.450 In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \geq \frac{27r}{4R+r}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

For $x, y, z > 0$ we have:

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$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2 + yz}{y^2 + z^2}} \geq \frac{9\sqrt[3]{xyz}}{x + y + z} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^2 + yz}{\sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + yz)^2(y^2 + z^2)}} \geq \frac{9}{x + y + z}$$

$$\frac{x^2 + yz}{\sqrt[3]{xyz(x^2 + yz)^2(y^2 + z^2)}} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} \frac{3(x^2 + yz)}{\sum x^2 y}$$

We must show:

$$\frac{3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx)}{x^2 y + y^2 z + z^2 x} \geq \frac{9}{(x + y + z)^3} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 3xyz \geq x^2 y + y^2 z + z^2 x$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \geq \frac{9\sqrt[3]{r_a r_b r_c}}{r_a + r_b + r_c}; (1), \quad r_a + r_b + r_c = 4R + r; (2)$$

$$\sqrt[3]{r_a r_b r_c} = \sqrt[3]{s^2 r} \geq \sqrt[3]{27r^3} = 3r; (3)$$

From (1), (2) and (3) it follows that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \geq \frac{27r}{4R + r}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}}$$

$$= \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{\sqrt[3]{(r_b^2 + r_c^2)(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)}} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)}{r_b^2 + r_c^2 + r_a^2 + r_b r_c + r_a^2 + r_b r_c}$$

$$\stackrel{A-G}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)}{2r_a^2 + r_b^2 + r_c^2 + r_b^2 + r_c^2} = \frac{3}{2(r_a^2 + r_b^2 + r_c^2)} \left(\sum r_a^2 + \sum r_b r_c \right)$$

$$= \frac{3((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2 + s^2)}{2((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{27r}{4R + r}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (4R + r)^3 - (4R + r)s^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 18r(4R + r)^2 - 36rs^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (4R + r)^3 - 18r(4R + r)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} (4R - 8r)s^2 - 27rs^2$$

(*)

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Gerretsen

$$\text{Now, RHS of } (*) \stackrel{?}{\leq} (4R - 8r)(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2)$$

$$- 27r(16Rr - 3r^2) \stackrel{?}{\leq} (4R + r)^3 - 18r(4R + r)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3t^3 - 14t^2 + 20t - 8 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \left(t = \frac{R}{r} \right) \Leftrightarrow (t - 2)^2(2t + t - 2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{true} \because t \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \because \sum \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \geq \frac{27r}{4R + r} \text{ (QED)}$$

Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The inequality in the statement can be rewritten as

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} r_a \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} r_b r_c \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \right) \geq 27r_a r_b r_c$$

By Holder's inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \left(\sum_{cyc} (y + z) \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} x(y + z) \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2 + yz}{y^2 + z^2}} \right) \geq \\ &\geq \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[9]{(y + z)^3 \cdot x^3 (y + z)^3 \cdot \frac{x^2 + yz}{y^2 + z^2}} \right)^3; \forall x, y, z > 0 \end{aligned}$$

By AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$(y + z)^6 = [2yz + (y^2 + z^2)]^2 (y + z)^2 \geq 4 \cdot 2yz(y^2 + z^2) \cdot 4yz = 32(yz)^2(y^2 + z^2) \text{ and } x^2 + yz \geq 2x\sqrt{yz}. \text{ Then,}$$

$$x^3(y + z)^6 \cdot \frac{x^2 + yz}{y^2 + z^2} \geq x^3 \cdot 32(yz)^2(y^2 + z^2) \cdot \frac{2x\sqrt{yz}}{y^2 + z^2} = 4^3 \sqrt{x^3(xyz)^5}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} S &\geq \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[9]{4^3 \sqrt{x^3(xyz)^5}} \right)^3 = 4 \left(\sqrt[18]{(xyz)^5} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[6]{x} \right)^3 \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} \\ &\geq 4 \left(\sqrt[18]{(xyz)^5} \cdot 3 \sqrt[18]{xyz} \right)^3 = 4 \cdot 27xyz \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Or } \left(\sum_{cyc} (y + z) \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} x(y + z) \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2 + yz}{y^2 + z^2}} \right) \geq 27xyz$$

Taking $x = r_a; y = r_b; z = r_c$ yields the desired result.

Equality holds if and only if ΔABC is equilateral.

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Solution 4 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc}^3 \sqrt{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} &= \sum_{cyc}^3 \sqrt{\frac{r_a^2 + r_b r_c}{r_b^2 + r_c^2}} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3}{\frac{r_b^2 + r_c^2}{r_a^2 + r_b r_c} + 1 + 1} = \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)}{2r_a^2 + (r_b + r_c)^2} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(r_a^2 + r_b r_c)}{2r_a^2 + 2(r_b^2 + r_c^2)} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sum r_a^2 + \sum r_b r_c}{\sum r_a^2} = \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{[(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2] + s^2}{(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{(4R + r)^2 - s^2}{(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{27r}{4R + r} \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{(4R + r)^2 - s^2}{(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2} &\geq \frac{27r}{4R + r} \Leftrightarrow s^2(35r - 4R) + (4R - 17r)(4R + r)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1) If $(35r - 4R) > 0$ applying Gerretsen's inequality $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$, we must to

prove $(16Rr - 5r^2)(35r - 4R) + (4R - 17r)(4R + r)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$$4R^3 - 19R^2r + 28Rr^2 - 12r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)^2(4R - 3r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Case 2) If $(35r - 4R) \leq 0$ applying Blundon-Gerretsen:

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

Remains to prove that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} (35r - 4R) + (4R - 17r)(4R + r)^2 &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 12R^2 - 41Rr + 34r^2 \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(12R - 17r) &\geq 0 \text{ which is true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds iff $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

Remark. Let's replace r_a with h_a .

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc}^3 \sqrt{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} \geq \frac{6r}{R}$$

Marin Chirciu

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Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} &= \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \stackrel{GHM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3}{\frac{h_b^2 + h_c^2}{h_a^2 + h_b h_c} + 1 + 1} = \\
 &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(h_a^2 + h_b h_c)}{2h_a^2 + (h_b + h_c)^2} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(h_a^2 + h_b h_c)}{2h_a^2 + 2(h_b^2 + h_c^2)} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sum h_a^2 + \sum h_b h_c}{\sum h_a^2} = \\
 &= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\left[\left(\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R} \right)^2 - 2 \cdot \frac{2rs^2}{R} \right] + \frac{2rs^2}{R}}{\left[\left(\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R} \right)^2 - 2 \cdot \frac{2rs^2}{R} \right]} \\
 &= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{s^4 + 2s^2 r^2 + r^2(4R + r)^2}{s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 8Rr) + r^2(4R + r)^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{6r}{R} \\
 (1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{s^4 + 2s^2 r^2 + r^2(4R + r)^2}{s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 8Rr) + r^2(4R + r)^2} &\geq \frac{4r}{R}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$s^2[s^2(R - 4r) + 2r^2(17R - 4r)] + r^2(4R + r)^2(R - 4r) \geq 0$$

We distinguish the following cases:

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

Case 2) If $(R - 4r) < 0$ inequality can be rewritten as:

$$r^2(4R + r)^2(R - 4r) \geq s^2[s^2(4r - R) + 2r^2(4r - 17R)] \text{ which follows from Blundon-}$$

Gerretsen inequality

$$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$$

Remains to prove:

$$r^2(4R + r)^2(R - 4r) \geq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} [(16Rr - 5r^2)(4r - R) + 2r^2(4r - 17R)]$$

$$16R^3 - 31R^2r - 6Rr^2 + 8r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(16R^2 + Rr - 4r^2) \geq 0$$

Equality holds iff ΔABC is equilateral.

Remark. Inequality can be stronger.

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$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} \geq \frac{27r}{4R + r}$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} &= \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \stackrel{GHM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3}{\frac{h_b^2 + h_c^2}{h_a^2 + h_b h_c} + 1 + 1} = \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(h_a^2 + h_b h_c)}{2h_a^2 + (h_b + h_c)^2} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{3(h_a^2 + h_b h_c)}{2h_a^2 + 2(h_b^2 + h_c^2)} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sum h_a^2 + \sum h_b h_c}{\sum h_a^2} = \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\left[\left(\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R}\right)^2 - 2 \cdot \frac{2rs^2}{R}\right] + \frac{2rs^2}{R}}{\left[\left(\frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{2R}\right)^2 - 2 \cdot \frac{2rs^2}{R}\right]} \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{s^4 + 2s^2 r^2 + r^2(4R + r)^2}{s^4 + s^2(2r^2 - 8Rr) + r^2(4R + r)^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{27r}{4R + r} \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow s^2[s^2(4R - 17r) + 2r^2(76R - 17r)] + r^2(4R + r)^2(4R - 17r) &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1) If $(4R - 17r) \geq 0$ inequality is obviously true.

Case 2) If $(4R - 17r) < 0$ inequality can be rewritten as:

$$r^2(4R + r)^2(4R - 17r) \geq s^2[s^2(17r - 4R) + 2r^2(17r - 76R)] \text{ which follows from}$$

$$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2 \leq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$$

Remains to prove:

$$r^2(4R + r)^2(R - 4r) \geq \frac{R(4R + r)^2}{2(2R - r)} [(16Rr - 5r^2)(17R - 4r) + 2r^2(17r - 76R)]$$

$$64R^3 - 124R^2r - 25Rr^2 + 34r^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(64R^2 + 4Rr - 17r^2) \geq 0$$

Which is true from $R \geq 2r$ (Euler). Equality holds iff $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{h_a^2 + h_b h_c}{h_b^2 + h_c^2}} \geq \frac{27r}{4R + r} \geq \frac{6r}{R}$$

Marin Chirciu

Solution. See up these inequalities.

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PROBLEMS FOR SENIORS

SP.436 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^3} + \frac{1}{(c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab})h_b^3} + \frac{1}{(a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc})h_c^3} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6F}$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^3} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})(ah_a)^3} = \\ &= \frac{1}{8F^3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} \geq \frac{1}{8F^3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2}} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{2b + b + c + c + a} = \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{a + 3b + 2c} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^4}{a^2 + 3ab + 2ac} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \frac{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 3(ab + bc + ca) + 2(ab + bc + ca)} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \frac{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 5(ab + bc + ca)} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{4F^3} \cdot \frac{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 5(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} = \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2}{4F^2 \cdot 6(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{24F^2} \stackrel{I-W}{\geq} \frac{4\sqrt{3}F}{24F^2} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6F} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

$$\text{Let us denote: } p = \frac{a+b+c}{2}$$

By AM-GM Inequality we have:

$$b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \leq b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} = \frac{3b}{2} + c + \frac{a}{2};$$

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Similary:

$$c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{3c}{2} + a + \frac{b}{2};$$

$$a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} \leq \frac{3a}{2} + b + \frac{c}{2};$$

$$\Rightarrow b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} + c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab} + a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} \leq 3(a + b + c);$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^3} + \frac{1}{(c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab})h_b^3} + \frac{1}{(a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc})h_c^3} \\ &= \frac{1}{8F^3} \cdot \left(\frac{a^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} + \frac{b^3}{c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab}} + \frac{c^3}{a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc}} \right) \\ & \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\geq} \frac{1}{3 \cdot 8F^3} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c)^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} + c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab} + a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc}} \\ & \geq \frac{1}{24F^3} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c)^3}{3(a + b + c)} = \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{72F^2} = \frac{2p \cdot 2p^{p \geq 3\sqrt{3}r}}{72F^2} \stackrel{\geq}{\geq} \frac{12\sqrt{3} \cdot pr}{72F^2} = \frac{12\sqrt{3} \cdot F}{72F^2} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6F} \end{aligned}$$

Proved.

Solution 3 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

$$b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} = \frac{a+3b+2c}{2}; \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^3} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{a+3b+2c}{2}\right)h_a^3} = \\ &= 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{\frac{1}{h_a^3}}{a+3b+2c} \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\geq} 2 \frac{\left(\sum \frac{1}{h_a}\right)^3}{3 \sum (a+3b+2c)} = 2 \frac{\left(\sum \frac{1}{h_a}\right)^3}{3 \cdot 6 \sum a} = \\ &= \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a}{2F}\right)^3}{9 \sum a} = \frac{1}{8F^3} \frac{(\sum a)^3}{9 \sum a} = \frac{1}{8F^3} \frac{(\sum a)^2}{9} = \frac{s^2}{72F^3} = \frac{s^2}{18F^3} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6F^2} = RHS \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Where (2)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{s^2}{18F^3} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6F^2} \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 3\sqrt{3}F \Leftrightarrow s \geq 3\sqrt{3}r \text{ (Mitrinovic).}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

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In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^n} \geq \left(\frac{s}{3}\right)^{n-2} \cdot \frac{1}{2F^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2.$$

Solution. We have:

$$b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} = \frac{a+3b+2c}{2}; \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})h_a^n} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{a+3b+2c}{2}\right)h_a^n} = 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{\frac{1}{h_a^n}}{a+3b+2c} \stackrel{Holder}{\geq} \\ &\geq 2 \cdot \frac{\left(\sum \frac{1}{h_a}\right)^n}{3^{n-2} \sum (a+3b+2c)} = 2 \cdot \frac{\left(\sum \frac{1}{h_a}\right)^n}{3^{n-2} \cdot 6 \sum a} = \frac{\left(\sum \frac{1}{h_a}\right)^n}{3^{n-1} \sum a} \\ &= \frac{1}{2^n F^n} \frac{(\sum a)^{n-1}}{3^{n-1} \sum a} = \frac{s^{n-1}}{2 \cdot 3^{n-1} F^n} = \left(\frac{s}{3}\right)^{n-2} \cdot \frac{1}{2F^n} = RHS \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

SP.437 Prove that in acute ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} - \min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \geq \frac{1}{2}(s^2 - 2R^2 - 8Rr - 3r^2)$$

Proposed by Cristian Miu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Let us first prove for acute triangle the Erdos inequality:

$$\min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \leq R + r \leq \max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\}$$

It is easy to prove that

$$\sum_{cyc} a^2 \cot A = 4F \text{ and } \sum_{cyc} a \cot A = 2(R + r)$$

So, we need to prove:

$$\min\{a, b, c\} \leq \frac{4F}{2(R+r)} \leq \max\{a, b, c\}$$

Because if x, y, z are real numbers and u, v, w are positive numbers

$$\min\left\{\frac{x}{u}, \frac{y}{v}, \frac{z}{w}\right\} \leq \frac{x+y+z}{u+v+w} \leq \max\left\{\frac{x}{u}, \frac{y}{v}, \frac{z}{w}\right\}$$

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From $\min\{a, b, c\} \leq \frac{4F}{2(R+r)} \leq \max\{a, b, c\}$, we obtain:

$$\min\{h_a, h_b, h_c\} \leq \frac{4F}{2(R+r)} \leq \max\{h_a, h_b, h_c\}$$

Now, let us prove that:

$$\min\{h_a, h_b, h_c\} \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \leq \max\{h_a, h_b, h_c\}$$

It is easy to prove that

$$\sum_{cyc} a^2 \cot A = 4F \text{ and } \sum_{cyc} \cot A = \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{4F}$$

So, we obtain that

$$\min\{h_a, h_b, h_c\} \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \leq \max\{h_a, h_b, h_c\}$$

But: $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \geq R + r$ because it is Walker's inequality:

$$s^2 \geq 2R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2$$

$$\sum_{cyc} a^2 = 2(s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)$$

Now, we can write that

$$\min\{h_a, h_b, h_c\} \leq R + r \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \leq \max\{h_a, h_b, h_c\}$$

Hence,

$$\min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \leq (R+r)^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{cyc} a^2 \leq \max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\}$$

Therefore,

$$\max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} - \min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \geq \frac{1}{2}(s^2 - 2R^2 - 8Rr - 3r^2)$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} - \min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \frac{1}{2}(s^2 - 2R^2 - 8Rr - 3r^2)$$

We have :

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$$(*) \Leftrightarrow \max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} - \min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \geq \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - (R + r)^2$$

So it suffices to prove :

$$\max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \geq \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \text{ and } \min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \leq (R + r)^2$$

WLOG, we may assume that $a \geq b \geq c$. Clearly, we have : $\max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} = h_c^2$ and $\min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} = h_a^2$.

Since $\triangle ABC$ is acute, then there are positive numbers x, y, z such that :

$$a = \sqrt{y+z}, \quad b = \sqrt{z+x}, \quad c = \sqrt{x+y}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have : } 16F^2 &= 2 \sum_{cyc} a^2 b^2 - \sum_{cyc} a^4 = 2 \sum_{cyc} (y+z)(z+x) - \sum_{cyc} (x+y)^2 \\ &= 4 \sum_{cyc} xy \text{ then : } 4F^2 = xy + yz + zx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We need to prove : } h_c^2 &= \frac{4F^2}{c^2} \geq \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \text{ or } \frac{xy + yz + zx}{x+y} \\ &\geq \frac{x+y+z}{2} \text{ or } yz + zx \geq x^2 + y^2 \end{aligned}$$

Since $a \geq b \geq c$, we have : $z \geq y \geq x$ then

$$yz + zx \geq y \cdot y + x \cdot x = x^2 + y^2. \text{ Thus, } \max\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} \geq \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2).$$

Now, since $h_a = \min\{h_a, h_b, h_c\}$, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} h_a &\leq \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} h_a = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{2R} = \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{6R} \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} \frac{4R^2 + 8Rr + 4r^2}{6R} \\ &= \frac{(R+r)(2R+2r)}{3R} \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} \frac{(R+r) \cdot 3R}{3R} = R+r. \end{aligned}$$

Then : $\min\{h_a^2, h_b^2, h_c^2\} = h_a^2 \leq (R+r)^2$. So the proof is completed.

SP.438 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} + \frac{b^3}{c + \sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab}} + \frac{c^3}{a + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc}} \geq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3} \cdot F$$

Proposed by D.M. Băținețu-Giurgiu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2}} = 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{2b + b+c+c+a} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{a+3b+2c} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{=} 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^4}{a^2+3ab+2ac} \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{2(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{a^2+b^2+c^2+3(ab+bc+ca)+2(ab+bc+ca)} = \\
 &= \frac{2(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{a^2+b^2+c^2+5(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \\
 &\geq \frac{2(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{a^2+b^2+c^2+5(a^2+b^2+c^2)} = \frac{1}{3}(a^2+b^2+c^2) \stackrel{I-W}{\geq} \\
 &\geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot 4\sqrt{3}F = \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3} \cdot F
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned}
 &b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} = \frac{a+3b+2c}{2}; \quad (1) \\
 LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{\frac{a+3b+2c}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{=} 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{a+3b+2c} \geq \\
 &\geq 2 \frac{(\sum a)^3}{3\sum(a+3b+2c)} = 2 \frac{(\sum a)^3}{3 \cdot 6\sum a} = \frac{(\sum a)^3}{9\sum a} = \frac{(\sum a)^2}{9} = \frac{4s^2}{9} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}F = RHS \\
 (2) &\Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2}{9} \geq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}F \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 3\sqrt{3}F \Leftrightarrow s \geq 3\sqrt{3}r \text{ (Mitrinovic)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^n}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} \geq \left(\frac{2s}{3}\right)^{n-1}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$$

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} b + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} = \frac{a+3b+2c}{2}; \quad (1) \\
 LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^n}{b + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^n}{\frac{a+3b+2c}{2}} \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\geq} 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^n}{a+3b+2c} \geq \\
 &\geq 2 \frac{(\sum a)^n}{3^{n-2}\sum(a+3b+2c)} = 2 \frac{(\sum a)^n}{3^{n-2} \cdot 6\sum a} = \frac{(\sum a)^n}{3^{n-1}\sum a} = \frac{(\sum a)^{n-1}}{3^{n-1}} = \left(\frac{2s}{3}\right)^{n-1} = RHS \\
 (2) &\Leftrightarrow \frac{4s^2}{9} \geq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}F \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 3\sqrt{3}F \Leftrightarrow s \geq 3\sqrt{3}r \text{ (Mitrinovic)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

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SP.439 If $x, y, z > 0$, then:

$$\frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

Proposed by D.M. Băţineţu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

$$1+t+t^2 \geq 3\sqrt[3]{1 \cdot t \cdot t^2} = 3t \Leftrightarrow t \geq \frac{1+t+t^2}{3}; \forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} &\geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+z+z^2 + \frac{1+y+y^2}{3}} = \\ &= 3 \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+x+x^2}{3(1+z+z^2) + 1+y+y^2}; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Denote: $u = 1+x+x^2$; $v = 1+y+y^2$; $w = 1+z+z^2$, inequality (1) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} &\geq 3 \sum_{cyc} \frac{u}{v+3w} = 3 \sum_{cyc} \frac{u^2}{uv+3uw} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ &\geq 3 \cdot \frac{(u+v+w)^2}{\sum(uv+3uw)} = \frac{3(u+v+w)^2}{4(uv+vw+wu)} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3 \cdot 3(uv+vw+wu)}{4(uv+vw+wu)} = \frac{9}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\text{Let } a = 1+x+x^2, \quad b = 1+y+y^2, \quad c = 1+z+z^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{By AM - GM inequality, we have: } \frac{a}{3} &= \frac{1+x+x^2}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{1 \cdot x \cdot x^2} \\ &= x \quad (\text{And analogs}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then: } \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} &\geq \frac{a}{\frac{b}{3}+c} + \frac{b}{\frac{c}{3}+a} + \frac{c}{\frac{a}{3}+b} = \\ &= 3 \left(\frac{a^2}{ab+3ca} + \frac{b^2}{bc+3ab} + \frac{c^2}{ca+3bc} \right) \stackrel{\text{Bergström}}{\geq} \frac{3(a+b+c)^2}{4(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3 \cdot 3(ab+bc+ca)}{4(ab+bc+ca)} = \frac{9}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

So the proof is completed. Equality holds iff $x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 3 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} \\
 = & \frac{(1+x+x^2)^2}{(1+x+x^2)(1+y+z+z^2)} + \frac{(1+y+y^2)^2}{(1+y+y^2)(1+z+x+x^2)} \\
 & + \frac{(1+z+z^2)^2}{(1+z+z^2)(1+x+y+y^2)} \\
 \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} & \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2))^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + \sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 \geq & \frac{3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2)}{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + \sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 = & 3 \cdot \frac{3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2)}{3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + 3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 = & 3 \cdot \frac{3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + 3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2)) - 3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))}{3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + 3\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 = & 3 - 3 \cdot \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))}{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+x+x^2)(1+y+y^2) + \sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 = & 3 - 3 \cdot \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))}{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2)) + \sum_{\text{cyc}}(1+y^2)(1+x+x^2) + \sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} & 3 - \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))}{2\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2)) + 2\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} = 3 - \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))}{4\sum_{\text{cyc}}(y(1+x+x^2))} \\
 = & 3 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{9}{4} \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} = \\
 = & \frac{1+z+x+x^2-z}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+x+y+y^2-x}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+y+z+z^2-y}{1+x+y+y^2} \geq \frac{9}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\frac{1+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} \geq$$

$$\geq \frac{9}{4} + \frac{x}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{y}{1+z+y+y^2} + \frac{z}{1+y+z+z^2}$$

Which is true, because

$$\frac{x}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{y}{1+z+y+y^2} + \frac{z}{1+y+z+z^2} \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\frac{x}{3x+z} + \frac{y}{3y+x} + \frac{z}{3z+y} \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

$$4[x(3y+x)(3z+y) + y(3x+z)(3z+y) + z(3x+z)(3y+x)] \leq$$

$$\leq 3(3x+z)(3y+x)(3y+y)$$

$$4[x(9yz + 3y^2 + 3zx + xy) + y(9xz + 3xy + 3z^2 + yz) + z(9xy + 3x^2 + 3yz + xz)]$$

$$\leq$$

$$\leq 3[(9xy + 3x^2 + 3yz + zx)(3z + y)]$$

$$108xyz + 24(xy^2 + z^2y + zx^2) + 4(x^2y + y^2z + z^2x) \leq$$

$$\leq 84xyz + 27(x^2z + z^2y + y^2x) + 9(x^2y + y^2z + z^2x)$$

$$27xyz \leq 3(x^2z + z^2y + y^2x) + 9(x^2y + y^2z + z^2x)$$

True because

$$\frac{1+z+x+x^2}{1+y+z+z^2} + \frac{1+x+y+y^2}{1+z+x+x^2} + \frac{1+y+z+z^2}{1+x+y+y^2} \geq 3$$

SP.440 If $a, b, c > 0$, then prove that:

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}}{a + b + c}$$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

We have: $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca$ and $\sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} \geq a + b + c$, then writing the inequality from the statement as:

$$\frac{\sum a^2 - \sum ab}{\sum ab} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3\sum a^2} - \sum a}{\sum a} \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum a^2 - \sum ab}{\sum ab} \geq \frac{(\sqrt{3\sum a^2})^2 - (\sum a)^2}{(\sum a)(\sqrt{3\sum a^2} + \sum a)}$$

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$$\sum \frac{(a-b)^2}{2\sum ab} \geq \sum \frac{(a-b)^2}{\sum a(\sqrt{3\sum a^2} + \sum a)}$$

It suffices to show that:

$$\frac{(a-b)^2}{2\sum ab} \geq \frac{(a-b)^2}{\sum a \cdot (\sqrt{3\sum a^2} + \sum a)}$$

If $a = b$ we have equality, if not, it suffices to prove that

$$\frac{1}{2\sum ab} \geq \frac{1}{\sum a \cdot (\sqrt{3\sum a^2} + \sum a)} \Leftrightarrow (\sum a)^2 + \sum a \cdot \sqrt{3\sum a^2} \geq 2\sum ab$$

which is true, because $(\sum a)^2 \geq 3\sum ab$ and

$$\sum a \cdot \sqrt{3\sum a^2} \geq \sum a \cdot \sum a = (\sum a)^2$$

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

We have:

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}}{a + b + c} \Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)^2 \geq 3(ab + bc + ca)^2$$

But $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca$; (1) and $(a + b + c)^2 \geq 3(ab + bc + ca)$; (2)

Multiplying (1) and (2), we find:

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

Solution 3 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

We have:

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}}{a + b + c} \Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)^2 \geq 3(ab + bc + ca)^2$$

But, it is known that

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca; \text{ (1) and } (a + b + c)^2 \geq 3(ab + bc + ca); \text{ (2)}$$

By multiplying (1) and (2), we find:

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

SP.441 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a + 2r_b} \leq \frac{3(4R - 5r)}{4R + r}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposer

$$\text{If } x, y, z > 0, \text{ then: } \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{x+2y} \leq \frac{3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}{(x+y+z)^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(1 - \frac{y}{x+2y}\right) \geq \frac{3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}{(x+y+z)^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{y}{x+2y} \cdot \sum_{cyc} y(x+2y) \geq (x+y+z)^2$$

We must show that:

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

$$((x+y+z)^2 - (xy+yz+zx))^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a+2r_b} \leq \frac{3(r_a^2+r_b^2+r_c^2)}{(r_a+r_b+r_c)^2}; (1)$$

$$r_a^2+r_b^2+r_c^2 = (4R+r)^2 - 2s^2; (2)$$

$$r_a+r_b+r_c = 4R+r; (3)$$

From (1),(2) and (3) it follows that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a+2r_b} \leq \frac{3((4R+r)^2 - 2s^2)}{(4R+r)^2} = 3 \left(1 - \frac{2s^2}{(4R+r)^2}\right); (4)$$

$$2s^2 \geq 6r(4R+r) \text{ (Doucet's)} \Rightarrow -2s^2 \leq -6r(4R+r) \Rightarrow$$

$$1 - \frac{2s^2}{(4R+r)^2} \leq 1 - \frac{6r}{4R+r} = \frac{4R-5r}{4R+r}; (5)$$

From (4),(5) we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a+2r_b} \leq \frac{3(4R-5r)}{4R+r}$$

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Lemma. In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a+2r_b} \geq \frac{9r}{4R+r}$$

Proof. We have:

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a + 2r_b - 2r_b}{r_a + 2r_b} \leq \frac{3(4R - 5r)}{4R + r} \Leftrightarrow 3 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{2r_b}{r_a + 2r_b} \leq \frac{3(4R - 5r)}{4R + r}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b}{r_a + 2r_b} \geq \frac{9r}{4R + r}$$

Now, using Lemma and Bergstrom's inequality, we have:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b}{r_a + 2r_b} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b^2}{r_a r_b + 2r_b^2} \geq \frac{(\sum r_b)^2}{\sum (r_a r_b + 2r_b^2)} = \frac{(4R + r)^2}{s^2 + 2[(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2]} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \frac{9r}{4R + r}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(4R + r)^2}{s^2 + 2[(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2]} \geq \frac{9r}{4R + r} \Leftrightarrow 27rs^2 + (4R + r)^3 \geq 18r(4R + r)^2$$

which follows from $s^2 \geq \frac{r(4R+r)^2}{R+r}$ (Gerretsen)

Remains to prove that:

$$27r \cdot \frac{r(4R + r)^2}{R + r} + (4R + r)^3 \geq 18r(4R + r)^2 \Leftrightarrow 4R^2 - 13Rr + 10r^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(4R - 5r) \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler).}$$

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a}{r_a + \lambda r_b} \leq \frac{3}{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{4(\lambda + 1)R + (1 - 8\lambda)r}{4R + r}, \frac{1}{2} \leq \lambda \leq \frac{7}{2}$$

Solution. Lemma. In ΔABC the following relationship holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b}{r_a + \lambda r_b} \geq \frac{27r}{(\lambda + 1)(4R + r)}$$

Proof. We have:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_a + \lambda r_b - \lambda r_b}{r_a + \lambda r_b} \leq \frac{3}{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{4(\lambda + 1)R + (1 - 8\lambda)r}{4R + r} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$3 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{\lambda r_b}{r_a + \lambda r_b} \leq \frac{3}{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{4(\lambda + 1)R + (1 - 8\lambda)r}{4R + r} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b}{r_a + \lambda r_b} \geq \frac{27r}{(\lambda + 1)(4R + r)}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b}{r_a + \lambda r_b} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{r_b^2}{r_a r_b + \lambda r_b^2} \geq \frac{(\sum r_b)^2}{\sum (r_a r_b + \lambda r_b^2)} = \frac{(4R + r)^2}{s^2 + \lambda[(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2]} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{27r}{(\lambda + 1)(4R + r)}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(4R + r)^2}{s^2 + \lambda[(4R + r)^2 - 2s^2]} \geq \frac{27r}{(\lambda + 1)(4R + r)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$(2\lambda - 1)27rs^2 + (\lambda + 1)(4R + r)^3 \geq 27\lambda r(4R + r)^2$ which follows from

$$s^2 \geq \frac{r(4R + r)^2}{R + r} \text{ (Gerretsen)}$$

Remains to prove that:

$$(2\lambda - 1)27r \cdot \frac{r(4R + r)^2}{R + r} + (\lambda + 1)(4R + r)^3 \geq 27\lambda r(4R + r)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4(\lambda + 1)R^2 + (5 - 22\lambda)Rr + (28\lambda - 26)r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(R - 2r)[4(\lambda + 1)R + (13 - 14\lambda)r] \geq 0 \text{ true from } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler) and } \lambda \leq \frac{7}{2}.$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Note. For $\lambda = 2$ we get the Problem SP441. From RMM 30, Autumn 2023, proposed by Marian Ursărescu

SP.442 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+a-c}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+b-a}{c}} \leq \sqrt{8 + \frac{2r}{R}}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

We must to prove:

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} \right)^2 \leq 8 + \frac{2r}{R}; (1)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} &= \sqrt{\frac{2R(\sin A + \sin B - \sin C)}{2R \sin A}} = \sqrt{\frac{4 \sin \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2} \sin \frac{C}{2}}{2 \sin \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2}}} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \sin \frac{C}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2}}{\cos \frac{A}{2}}} \\ \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} \right)^2 &= \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{2 \sin \frac{C}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2}}{\cos \frac{A}{2}}} \right)^2 = \\ &= \frac{\left(\cos \frac{B}{2} \sqrt{\sin C} + \cos \frac{C}{2} \sqrt{\sin A} + \cos \frac{A}{2} \sqrt{\sin B} \right)^2}{\cos \frac{A}{2} \cos \frac{B}{2} \cos \frac{C}{2}} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{(\sin A + \sin B + \sin C) \left(\cos^2 \frac{A}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{B}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{C}{2} \right)}{\cos \frac{A}{2} \cos \frac{B}{2} \cos \frac{C}{2}} = \frac{\frac{s}{R} \cdot \frac{4R+r}{2R}}{\frac{s}{4R}} = \frac{8(4R+r)}{R} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+a-c}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+b-a}{c}} \leq \sqrt{8 + \frac{2r}{R}}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+a-c}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+b-a}{c}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\left(\frac{a+c-b}{ca} + \frac{b+a-c}{ba} + \frac{c+b-a}{ac} \right) (a+b+c)} = \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{2 \cos^2 \frac{B}{2}}{s} + \frac{2 \cos^2 \frac{C}{2}}{s} + \frac{2 \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}}{s} \right) \cdot 2s} = \sqrt{4 \sum_{cyc} \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}} = \\ &= \sqrt{2 \left(4 + \frac{r}{R} \right)} = \sqrt{8 + \frac{2r}{R}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{\frac{a+c-b}{a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+a-c}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+b-a}{c}} \leq \sqrt{8 + \frac{2r}{R}}$$

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SP.443 Determine all functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ continuous such that

$$f(4x) \cdot f(3x) = 2^x; \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$f(4x) \cdot f(3x) = 2^x; \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow \log_2 f(4x) + \log_2 f(3x) = \log_2 2^x = x$$

$$\text{Let } g(x) = \log_2 f(x), \text{ then } g(4x) + g(3x) = x$$

$$x \rightarrow \frac{x}{4}: g(x) + g\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) = \frac{x}{4}$$

$$x \rightarrow \frac{3}{4}x: g\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) + g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = \frac{x}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\text{Hence, } g(x) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = \frac{x}{4} \left(1 - \frac{3}{4}\right) = \frac{x}{16}$$

$$\text{Let } \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 = a; a \in (0, 1), \text{ then}$$

$$g(x) - g(ax) = \frac{x}{16}$$

$$g(ax) - g(a^2x) = \frac{1}{16} \cdot ax$$

.....

$$g(a^{n-1}x) - g(a^n x) = \frac{1}{16} a^{n-1}x$$

Therefore,

$$g(x) - g(a^n x) = \frac{1}{16} x(1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{n-1})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g(x) - g(a^n x)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{16} x \cdot \frac{a^n - 1}{a - 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x) - g(0) = \frac{1}{16} \cdot \frac{x}{1 - a} = \frac{1}{16} \cdot \frac{x}{1 - \frac{9}{16}} = \frac{x}{7}$$

$$g(0) = \log_2 f(0) = \log_2 1$$

$$\text{So, } g(x) = \frac{x}{7}, \text{ then } f(x) = 2^{\frac{x}{7}}.$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\text{Replacing } x \text{ by } \frac{x}{4}, \text{ we get: } f(x) \cdot f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) = 2^{\frac{x}{4}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Replacing } x \text{ by } \frac{3x}{16}, \text{ we get: } f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) \cdot f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right) = 2^{\frac{3x}{16}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1) and (2) we obtain: } \frac{f(x)}{f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right)} = 2^{\frac{x}{16}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (3)$$

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Replacing x by $\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^k x$, ($k \in \mathbb{N}$) in (3), we get : $\frac{f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^k x\right)}{f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{k+1} x\right)} = 2^{\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^k \cdot \frac{x}{16}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

Multiplying this relation for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we obtain : $\frac{f(x)}{f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x\right)}$

$$= 2^{\frac{x}{16} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^k}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Thus, $f(x) = 2^{\frac{x}{16} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n}{1 - \frac{9}{16}}} \cdot f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x\right) = 2^{\frac{x}{7} \left(1 - \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n\right)} \cdot f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x\right), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

Since f is continuous on \mathbb{R} then $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \left(2^{\frac{x}{7} \left(1 - \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n\right)} \cdot f\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x\right) \right) = 2^{\frac{x}{7}} \cdot f(0)$

$$= c \cdot 2^{\frac{x}{7}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ where } c = f(0).$$

Replacing in the given equation, we obtain : $\left(c \cdot 2^{\frac{4x}{7}}\right) \cdot \left(c \cdot 2^{\frac{3x}{7}}\right) = 2^x$ or $c^2 = 1$ then $c = 1$ ($\because f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$)

Therefore, $f(x) = 2^{\frac{x}{7}}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Solution 3 by Ruxandra Daniela Tonilă-Romania

$$f(4x) \cdot f(3x) = 2^x \Leftrightarrow \log f(4x) + \log f(3x) = x \log 2$$

$$\log f(4x) + \log f(3x) - \frac{7x}{7} \log 2 = 0$$

$$\log f(4x) - \frac{4x}{7} \log 2 + \log f(3x) - \frac{3x}{7} \log 2 = 0$$

$$\log \left(\frac{f(4x)}{2^{\frac{4x}{7}}} \right) + \log \left(\frac{f(3x)}{2^{\frac{3x}{7}}} \right) = 0$$

Let be $g : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g(x) = \log \left(\frac{f(x)}{2^{\frac{x}{7}}} \right)$, then

$$g(4x) + g\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) = 0$$

$$x \rightarrow \frac{x}{4} : g\left(\frac{3x}{4}\right) + g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = 0 \stackrel{(-)}{\Rightarrow} g(x) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = 0$$

$$x \rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x : g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = 0$$

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$$x \rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n x: g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n x\right) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right) = 0 \stackrel{(+)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$g(x) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right) = 0 \Rightarrow g(x) = g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right); \forall x \in (0, \infty), n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Since $g(x) = h(t(x))$, where $h(x) = \log x$ and $t(x) = \frac{f(x)}{2^x}$ are continuous, so $g(x)$ is

continuous too, (1).

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right) &\Leftrightarrow g(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right) \stackrel{(1)}{=} \\ &= g\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n+2} x\right) = g(0) = \log(f(0)) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(4x) \cdot f(3x) = 2^x \Leftrightarrow (f(0))^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \log(f(0)) = 0$$

$$\text{Hence, } g(x) = 0, \forall x \in (0, \infty) \Leftrightarrow \log\left(\frac{f(x)}{2^x}\right) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f(x) = 2^{\frac{x}{7}}$$

Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let $g(x) = \log_2 f(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. As $f(x)$ is continuous on \mathbb{R} , $g(x)$ is continuous in \mathbb{R} .

$$\text{Since, } f(4x) \cdot f(3x) = 2^x \Rightarrow \log_2 f(4x) + \log_2 f(3x) = x$$

$$\Rightarrow g(4x) + g(3x) = x, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}; \quad (1)$$

$$g(0) = 0$$

$$x \rightarrow \frac{3}{4}x: g(3x) - g\left(\frac{3^2}{4}x\right) = \frac{3}{4}x; \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2) we get:

$$g(4x) - g\left(\frac{3^2}{4}x\right) = \frac{1}{4}x$$

$$g(x) - g\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x\right) = \frac{1}{4^2}x$$

$$g(x) - g\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right) = \frac{1}{16}x; \quad (3)$$

Putting $x \rightarrow \frac{9}{16}x, \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^2 x, \dots, (9 \cdot 16)^n x$ in (3), we get:

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$$g\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right) - g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^2 x\right) = \frac{1}{16}\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right)$$

$$g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^2 x\right) - g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^3 x\right) = \frac{1}{16}\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^2 x$$

.....

$$g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x\right) - g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{n+1} x\right) = \frac{1}{16}\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n x$$

Adding the above relationships, we get:

$$g(x) - g\left(\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{n+1} x\right) = \frac{x}{16}\left[1 + \frac{9}{16} + \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^n\right]$$

Taking limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$g(x) = \frac{x}{16} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \frac{9}{16}} = \frac{x}{7} \Rightarrow \log_2 f(x) = \frac{x}{7} \Rightarrow f(x) = 2^{\frac{x}{7}}$$

SP.444 If $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc = 1$ then:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{b^6 + 7b^4 + 7b^2 + 1} \geq 24$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Lemma. If $a > 0$ then

$$\frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{a^6 + 7a^4 + 7a^2 + 1} \geq 8a$$

Proof. We have:

$$\frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{a^6 + 7a^4 + 7a^2 + 1} \geq 8a \Leftrightarrow$$

$$a^8 - 8a^7 + 28a^6 - 56a^5 + 70a^4 - 56a^3 + 28a^2 - 8a + 1 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a - 1)^8 \geq 0. \text{ Equality holds for } a = 1.$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{b^6 + 7b^4 + 7b^2 + 1} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 3^3 \sqrt{\prod_{cyc} \frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{a^6 + 7a^4 + 7a^2 + 1}} \stackrel{Lemma}{\geq}$$

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$$\geq 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\prod_{cyc} 8a} = 24$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = 1$.

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Firstly, let's prove that;

$$\frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{a^6 + 7a^4 + 7a^2 + 1} \geq 8a, \forall a > 0; (1)$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow a^8 - 8a^7 + 28a^6 - 56a^5 + 70a^4 - 56a^3 + 28a^2 - 8a + 1 \geq 0$$

$\Leftrightarrow (a - 1)^8 \geq 0$ which is true.

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{b^6 + 7b^4 + 7b^2 + 1} &\stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\prod_{cyc} \frac{a^8 + 28a^6 + 70a^4 + 28a^2 + 1}{a^6 + 7a^4 + 7a^2 + 1}} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \\ &\geq 3^3 \sqrt[3]{\prod_{cyc} 8a} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} 24 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = 1$.

SP.445 If $x, y, z > 0$ and $\lambda \geq 3$ then:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\lambda}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Using Holder's inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \sum_{cyc} x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2) \\ \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} x \right)^3 \Leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

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$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \right)^2 \sum_{cyc} x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2) \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} x \right)^3 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \right)^2 \geq \frac{(\sum_{cyc} x)^3}{\sum_{cyc} x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2)} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{9}{\lambda^2}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sum_{cyc} x)^3}{\sum_{cyc} x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2)} \geq \frac{9}{\lambda^2} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda^2(\sum x)^3 \geq 9\sum x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda^2\sum x^3 + (3\lambda^2 - 36)\sum yz(y + z) \geq (21\lambda^2 - 216)xyz \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda^2\sum x^3 + (216 - 21\lambda^2)xyz \geq (36 - 3\lambda^2)\sum yz(y + z)$$

which is true from $\sum x^3 + 3xyz \geq \sum yz(y + z)$; (Schur's) $\cdot \lambda^2 \Rightarrow$

$$\lambda^2\sum x^3 + 3\lambda^2xyz + (216 - 24\lambda^2)xyz \geq \lambda^2\sum yz(y + z) + (216 - 24\lambda^2)xyz \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda^2\sum x^3 + (216 - 21\lambda^2)xyz \geq \lambda^2\sum yz(y + z) + (216 - 24\lambda^2)xyz \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda^2yz(y + z) + (216 - 24\lambda^2)xyz \geq (36 - 3\lambda^2)\sum yz(y + z) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(4\lambda^2 - 36)\sum yz(y + z) + (216 - 24\lambda^2)xyz \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4(\lambda^2 - 9)\sum yz(y + z) + 24(9 - \lambda^2)xyz \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4(\lambda^2 - 9)[\sum yz(y + z) - 6xyz] \geq 0 \text{ which is true from } (\lambda^2 - 9) \geq 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\sum yz(y + z) \geq 6xyz \text{ (AM - GM). Equality holds for } x = y = z.$$

Solution 2 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

Applying Holder's inequality, we have:

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \right)^2 \left\{ \sum_{cyc} x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2) \right\} \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} x \right)^3$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{(x + y + z)^3}{4\sum xy(x + y) + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz}}$$

We need to prove that:

$$\frac{(x + y + z)^3}{4\sum xy(x + y) + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \geq \frac{9}{\lambda^2} \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$\lambda^2(x+y+z)^3 \geq 36 \sum_{cyc} xy(x+y) + 27(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz$$

$$(\lambda^2 - 9)\{(x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz\} + 9\{(x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz\} \geq$$

$$(\lambda^2 - 9)\{(x+y+z)^3 - 27xyz\} + 9(p^3 - 4pq + 9r) \geq 0$$

Which is true, where $p = x + y + z$, $q = xy + yz + zx$ and $p^3 - 4pq + 9r \geq 0$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\lambda}$$

Solution 3 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\lambda}; \quad (1)$$

Denote $(p, q, r) = (\sum x, \sum xy, xyz)$. We can assume WLOG, $p = 3$, then $q \leq 3$, $r \leq 1$.

The function $f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$ is convex on $(0, \infty)$ so by applying generalized Jensen's inequality

with weights x, y, z , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} &\geq \frac{x+y+z}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum [x(4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2)]}{x+y+z}}} \\ &= \frac{3}{\sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot 3(q-r) + 3r(\lambda^2 - 8)}{3}}} \end{aligned}$$

Because $\sum(xy^2 + xz^2) = pq - 3r$

It suffices to show after squaring that $\lambda^2 \geq 4q - 12r + r\lambda^2$ or

$$f(\lambda) = 4q - 12r - (1-r)\lambda^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow f(\lambda) \searrow. \text{ So,}$$

$f(\lambda) \leq f(3) = 4q - 3r - 9 \stackrel{?}{\leq} 0$ which is true from 3 rd degree Schur's inequality.

Equality holds for $x = y = z$.

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{x\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{4xy^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)xyz + 4z^2x}} \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{(4xy^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)xyz + 4z^2x)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{cyc} x)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{(4 \sum_{cyc} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{cyc} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)^3}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{9}{\lambda^2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 6xyz}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{9}{\lambda^2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 6xyz - 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 - 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y - 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{9 - \lambda^2}{\lambda^2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3xyz - \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3xyz(9 - \lambda^2)}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{9 - \lambda^2}{\lambda^2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3xyz - \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \\
 & + \frac{\lambda^2 - 9}{\lambda^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3(\lambda^2 - 9)xyz}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \\
 & \text{Now, Schur} \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3xyz - \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y \geq 0 \\
 & \therefore \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 + 3xyz - \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \text{LHS of } (*) \\
 & \geq \frac{\lambda^2 - 9}{\lambda^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3(\lambda^2 - 9)xyz}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \\
 & \because \lambda \geq 3 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - 9 \geq 0 \stackrel{?}{\Leftrightarrow} \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \geq \frac{3xyz}{4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3(\lambda^2 - 8)xyz} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + 3\lambda^2 xyz - 24xyz \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3\lambda^2 xyz \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 6xyz \rightarrow \text{true} \\
 & \because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y + \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^2 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3xyz + 3xyz = 6xyz \therefore (*) \text{ is true} \Rightarrow \forall x, y, z > 0 \text{ and } \lambda \\
 & \geq 3, \sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{4y^2 + (\lambda^2 - 8)yz + 4z^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\lambda} \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

SP.446 If $x, y \geq 0, x + y > 0$ then in any convex quadrilateral with sides a, b, c, d and r –inradii, holds:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (a^2x + b^2y)^6 + (b^2x + c^2y)^6 + (c^2x + d^2y)^6 + (d^2x + a^2y)^6 \\
 & \geq 4^7(x + y)^6 r^{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposers

$$\begin{aligned}
 LHS &= \frac{(a^2x + b^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(b^2x + c^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(c^2x + d^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(d^2x + a^2y)^6}{1^5} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \\
 &\geq \frac{(a^2x + b^2y + b^2x + c^2y + c^2x + d^2y + d^2x + a^2y)^6}{(1 + 1 + 1 + 1)^5} = \\
 &= \frac{(a^2(x + y) + b^2(x + y) + c^2(x + y) + d^2(x + y))^6}{4^5} = \\
 &= \frac{(x + y)^6(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)^6}{4^5} = \\
 &= \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^5} \cdot \left(\frac{a^2}{1} + \frac{b^2}{1} + \frac{c^2}{1} + \frac{d^2}{1}\right)^6 \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\
 &\geq \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^5} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c + d)^{12}}{(1 + 1 + 1 + 1)^6} = \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^5} \cdot \frac{(2s)^{12}}{4^6} = \\
 &= \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^{11}} \cdot 4^6 \cdot s^{12} \stackrel{\text{Mitrinovic}}{\geq} \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^5} \cdot \left(4r \cdot \tan \frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{12} = \\
 &= \frac{(x + y)^6}{4^5} \cdot 4^{12} \cdot r^{12} = 4^7(x + y)^6 \cdot r^{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for square: $a = b = c = d$; $r = \frac{a}{2}$.

Solution 2 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$x, y \geq 0, x + y > 0, ABCD$ – quadrilateral convex with sides a, b, c, d and r – inradii.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{(a^2x + b^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(b^2x + c^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(c^2x + d^2y)^6}{1^5} + \frac{(d^2x + a^2y)^6}{1^5} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \\
 &\geq \frac{(a^2x + b^2y + b^2x + c^2y + c^2x + d^2y + d^2x + a^2y)^6}{(1 + 1 + 1 + 1)^5} = \\
 &= \frac{(a^2(x + y) + b^2(x + y) + c^2(x + y) + d^2(x + y))^6}{4^5} = \\
 &= \frac{(x + y)^6(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)^6}{4^5}
 \end{aligned}$$

We must to prove that:

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)^6(x + y)^6 \geq 4^{12}(x + y)^6 \cdot r^{12} \quad | : (x + y)^6$$

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$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)^6 \geq 4^{12} r^{12} \Leftrightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 \geq 16r^2$$

$ABCD$ – circumscribed, then $F^2 = abcd = r^2 s^2$

$$abcd = r^2 \cdot \frac{(a + b + c + d)^2}{4}$$

$$\frac{a + b + c + d}{4} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} \sqrt[4]{abcd} \Rightarrow (a + b + c + d)^2 \geq 16\sqrt{abcd} \mid \cdot \frac{r^2}{4}$$

$$\frac{r^2}{4} \cdot (a + b + c + d)^2 \geq 4r^2\sqrt{abcd} \Rightarrow abcd \geq 4r^2\sqrt{abcd} \mid : \sqrt{abcd}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{abcd} \geq 4r^2$$

Hence,

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 4\sqrt{abcd} > 4 \cdot 4r^2 = 16r^2 (\text{true.})$$

SP.447 If $x \geq 0$ then:

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq \cosh x \cdot 2^{\operatorname{sech} x}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

If $f: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex function then by Jensen's inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot f(e^{-x}) + \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot f(e^x) &\geq f\left(\frac{e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot e^{-x} + \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot e^x\right) = \\ &= f\left(\frac{2}{e^x + e^{-x}}\right) = f\left(\frac{1}{\cosh x}\right) = f(\operatorname{sech} x); \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Let be $f: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = 2^x$, then $f'(x) = 2^x \log 2$ and

$f''(x) = 2^x \log^2 2 > 0 \Rightarrow f$ –convex function hence, by (1) it follows that:

$$\frac{e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot 2^{e^{-x}} + \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot 2^{e^x} \geq 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1}}{\cosh x} + \frac{e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1}}{\cosh x} \geq 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq \cosh x \cdot 2^{\operatorname{sech} x}$$

Equality holds for $x = 0$.

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} \cdot e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1}} =$$

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$$= 2\sqrt{e^x e^{-x} 2^{e^x + e^{-x} - 2}} = 2 \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 2^{\frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}} = 2^{\cosh x} \geq \cosh x \text{ (because } 2^t > t \text{)}$$

$$\cosh x = 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \cdot \cosh x = \cosh x (1 - 2^{\sinh x})$$

$$\cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} \geq \sqrt{e^x \cdot e^{-x}} = 1$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = 1 - 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \log 2 (\operatorname{sech} x \tanh x)$$

$$f'(x) > 0, \forall x \geq 0 \Rightarrow f \nearrow \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(0) \Rightarrow 1 - 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \geq 0$$

$$\cosh x (1 - 2^{\sinh x}) > 0 \Rightarrow \cosh x > 2^{\sinh x} \cosh x$$

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq \cosh x$$

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq 2^{\operatorname{sech} x} \cdot \cosh x$$

Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The function $f(x) = 2^x$ is convex on $(0, \infty)$ ($\therefore f''(x) = (\log 2)^2 \cdot 2^x \geq 0$)

By Jensen's inequality, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\cosh x} (e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1}) &= \frac{e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot f(e^{-x}) + \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot f(e^x) \geq \\ &\geq f\left(\frac{e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot e^{-x} + \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \cdot e^x\right) = f(\operatorname{sech} x) = 2^{\operatorname{sech} x}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq \cosh x \cdot 2^{\operatorname{sech} x}, \quad \forall x \geq 0.$$

Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Firstly, we show that:

$$2^t \geq t \cdot 2^{\frac{1}{t}}, \forall t \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow t \log 2 \geq \log t + \frac{1}{t} \log 2$$

$$\text{Let } f(t) = \left(t - \frac{1}{t}\right) \log 2 + \log t, t \geq 1, \text{ then } f'(t) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{t^2}\right) \log 2 + \frac{1}{t} \geq 0, \forall t \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f \text{ - strictly increasing on } [1, \infty) \Rightarrow f(t) \geq f(1) = 0, \forall t \geq 1.$$

Equality when $t = 1$. Now, for $x \geq 0$

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} \cdot e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1}} =$$

$$= 2\sqrt{e^x e^{-x} 2^{e^x + e^{-x} - 2}} = 2^{\cosh x} \geq \cosh x \frac{1}{e^{\cosh x}} \Rightarrow$$

$$e^x \cdot 2^{e^{-x}-1} + e^{-x} \cdot 2^{e^x-1} \geq \cosh x e^{\cosh x}$$

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SP.448 If $x, y, z > 0$ and $\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{y+1} + \frac{1}{z+1} = \frac{3}{2}$ then:

$$\frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} + \frac{\sqrt{y^2+1}}{y^2-y+1} + \frac{\sqrt{z^2+1}}{z^2-z+1} \leq 3\sqrt{2}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$(x-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 \leq 2x^2 - 2x + 2$$

$$\frac{1}{x^2+1} \geq \frac{1}{2x^2-2x+2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2-x+1} \leq \frac{2}{x^2+1}; \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{x+1}{x^2-x+1} = \frac{x \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1}{x^2-x+1} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{(x^2+1^2)(1^2+1^2)}}{x^2-x+1} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{2}{x^2+1} \cdot \sqrt{2(x^2+1)} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{x^2+1}}$$

$$\frac{x+1}{x^2-x+1} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{x+1}$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} \leq 2\sqrt{2} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{x+1} = 2\sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

Equality holds for $x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Lemma. If $x > 0$ then:

$$\frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{x+1}$$

Proof.

$$\left| \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{x+1} \right|^2 \Leftrightarrow 7x^4 - 18x^3 + 22x^2 - 18x + 7 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x-1)^2(7x^2 - 4x + 7) \geq 0. \text{ Equality holds for } x = 1.$$

Now, using Lemma and summing, we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x^2-x+1} \leq 2\sqrt{2} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{x+1} = 2\sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

Equality holds for $x = y = z = 1$.

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SP.449 If $a, b \geq 0$ then:

$$\sqrt{2^{a+b}} - 2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{a+b}} - 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6^{a+b}}} - \frac{1}{6^{\sqrt{ab}}} \geq 0$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Let be $f: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = 2^x + 3^x + 6^{-x}$, then

$$f'(x) = 2^x \log 2 + 3^x \log 3 - 6^{-x} \log 6 \text{ and}$$

$$f''(x) = 2^x \log^2 2 + 3^x \log^2 3 + 6^{-x} \log^2 6 \Rightarrow f''(x) > 0 \Rightarrow f' \text{ -increasing function,}$$

then

$$f'(x) \geq f'(0) \Rightarrow f'(x) \geq \log 2 + \log 3 - \log 6 = 0 \Rightarrow f \text{ -increasing.}$$

$$\sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{a+b}{2} \Rightarrow f'(\sqrt{ab}) \leq f'\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + 6^{-\sqrt{ab}} \leq 2^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 3^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 6^{-\frac{a+b}{2}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{6^{\sqrt{ab}}} \leq 2^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 3^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + \frac{1}{6^{\frac{a+b}{2}}}$$

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{2^{a+b}} - 2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{a+b}} - 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6^{a+b}}} - \frac{1}{6^{\sqrt{ab}}} \geq 0$$

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

Let $f(x) = 2^x + 3^x + 6^{-x}$, then $f'(x) = 2^x \log 2 + 3^x \log 3 - 6^{-x} \log 6$ and

$$f''(x) = 2^x \log^2 2 + 3^x \log^2 3 + 6^{-x} \log^2 6 \Rightarrow f''(x) > 0 \Rightarrow f' \text{ -increasing function.}$$

Now, $f'(x) > f'(0)$, $f'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow f'(x) > 0 \Rightarrow f \text{ -increasing.}$

$$\frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab} \text{ (AM - GM)} \Rightarrow f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \geq f(\sqrt{ab})$$

$$2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + 6^{-\sqrt{ab}} \leq 2^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 3^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 6^{-\frac{a+b}{2}} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{6^{\sqrt{ab}}} \leq 2^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + 3^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + \frac{1}{6^{\frac{a+b}{2}}}$$

Therefore,

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$$\sqrt{2^{a+b}} - 2^{\sqrt{ab}} + 3^{\sqrt{a+b}} - 3^{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6^{a+b}}} - \frac{1}{6^{\sqrt{ab}}} \geq 0$$

SP.450 In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$4s^2 + 2\left(s - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 \geq 108r^2$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\begin{aligned} & 4s^2 + 2\left(s - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 = \\ &= 4 \cdot \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{4} + 2\left(\frac{a+b+c}{2} - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 = \\ &= (a+b+c)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(a+b-2c)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 = \\ &= a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2ab + 2bc + 2ca + \frac{a^2}{2} + \frac{b^2}{2} + 2c^2 + \\ &\quad + ab - 2ac - 2bc + \frac{3}{2}a^2 + \frac{3}{2}b^2 - 3ab = \\ &= a^2 + 2a^2 + b^2 + 2b^2 + 3c^2 = 3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \stackrel{I-W}{\geq} \\ &\geq 3 \cdot 4\sqrt{3} \cdot F = 12\sqrt{3}rs \stackrel{\text{Mitrinovic}}{\geq} 12\sqrt{3} \cdot r \cdot 3\sqrt{3} \cdot r = 108r^2 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c$.

Solution 2 by Marin Chirciu-Romania

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

$$4s^2 + 2\left(s - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 = 3 \sum_{cyc} a^2$$

Proof. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} 4s^2 + 2\left(s - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 &= 4\left(\frac{a+b+c}{2}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{a+b+c-3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 = \\ &= \sum_{cyc} a^2 + 2 \sum_{cyc} bc + 2 \sum_{cyc} a^2 - 2 \sum_{cyc} bc = 3 \sum_{cyc} a^2 \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma, inequality becomes as

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$$3 \sum_{cyc} a^2 \geq 108r^2 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} a^2 \geq 36r^2 \text{ (J. Neuberg, 1906)}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Remark. The problem can be developed.

In $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$108r^2 \leq 4s^2 + 2\left(s - \frac{3c}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(a-b)^2 \leq 27R^2$$

Solution. Using Lemma, inequality becomes:

$$108r^2 \leq 3 \sum_{cyc} a^2 \leq 27R^2 \Leftrightarrow 26r^2 \leq \sum_{cyc} a^2 \leq 9R^2 \text{ (J. Neuberg, 1906)}$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

UNDERGRADUATE PROBLEMS

UP.436 Let $f, g: (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be continuous functions such that

$$g(x) \int_0^x f(t) dt = f(x) \int_0^x g(t) dt = 1; \forall x \in (0, \infty)$$

Prove that exists $a, b \in (0, \infty)$ such that

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) \geq \frac{a+1}{\sqrt{2a+b}}, \text{ where } \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 3$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Because f, g are continuous functions, from hypothesis we deduce that f, g are differentiable functions, then:

$$(1) \begin{cases} f(x) = -\frac{g'(x)}{g^2(x)} \\ g(x) = -\frac{f'(x)}{f^2(x)} \end{cases}; \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} = \frac{g'(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists a \in (0, \infty): \log f(x) = \log(a \cdot g(x)) \Rightarrow f(x) = a \cdot g(x)$$

From (1) we obtain that

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$$a \cdot g^3(x) = -g'(x) \Leftrightarrow \frac{g'(x)}{g^3(x)} = -a$$

By integrating, we have:

$$\exists b \in (0, \infty): \frac{1}{2g^2(x)} = ax + \frac{b}{2}, \Leftrightarrow g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2ax + b}} \text{ and } f(x) = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2ax + b}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) &= (a+1) \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a\alpha + b}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} (a+1) \cdot \frac{9}{\sum \sqrt{2a\alpha + b}} \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\geq} \\ &\geq (a+1) \cdot \frac{9}{\sqrt{3(2a(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) + 3b)}} = \frac{9(a+1)}{3\sqrt{2a+b}} = \frac{3(a+1)}{\sqrt{2a+b}} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\text{For any } x \in (0, \infty), \text{ we have: } \frac{f(x)}{\int_0^x f(t) dt} = \frac{g(x)}{\int_0^x g(t) dt}.$$

$$\text{Integrating this relation, we obtain: } \log \left(\int_0^x f(t) dt \right) = \log \left(c \cdot \int_0^x g(t) dt \right), \forall x$$

$\in (0, \infty)$ where $c > 0$.

$$\text{Then: } \int_0^x f(t) dt = c \cdot \int_0^x g(t) dt, \forall x \in (0, \infty). \text{ Deriving this relation, we obtain}$$

$$: f(x) = c \cdot g(x), \forall x \in (0, \infty)$$

$$\text{Replacing in (1), we get: } cg(x) \int_0^x g(t) dt = 1, \forall x \in (0, \infty).$$

Integrating this relation, we get:

$$\frac{c}{2} \left(\int_0^x g(t) dt \right)^2 = x + d, \forall x \in (0, \infty), \text{ where } d > 0.$$

$$\text{Then: } \int_0^x g(t) dt = \sqrt{\frac{2(x+d)}{c}}, \forall x \in (0, \infty). \text{ Deriving this relation, we obtain}$$

$$: g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c(x+d)}}, \forall x \in (0, \infty)$$

$$\text{Thus, } g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c(x+d)}} \text{ and } f(x) = c \cdot g(x) = \sqrt{\frac{c}{2(x+d)}}, \forall x \in (0, \infty)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then, } \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) &= \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} \left(\sqrt{\frac{c}{2(\alpha+d)}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c(\alpha+d)}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} \frac{c+1}{\sqrt{2c(\alpha+d)}} \end{aligned}$$

The function $h(x)$

$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ is convex on $(0, \infty)$, then by Jensen's inequality, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) &= \frac{c+1}{3} \sum_{cyc} h(2c(\alpha+d)) \geq (c+1) \cdot h\left(\frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} 2c(\alpha+d)\right) \\ &= (c+1) \cdot h(2c+2cd) = \frac{c+1}{\sqrt{2c+2cd}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there exists $a, b \in (0, \infty)$ such that

$$\frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) \geq \frac{a+1}{\sqrt{2a+b}}$$

Solution 3 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$g(x) \cdot \int_0^x f(t) dt = 1 \Rightarrow \int_0^x f(t) dt = \frac{1}{g(x)}, \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$f(x) = -\frac{g'(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$f(x) \cdot \int_0^x g(t) dt = 1 \Rightarrow \int_0^x g(t) dt = \frac{1}{f(x)} \Rightarrow f g(x) = -\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}$$

$$g'(x) = \frac{-f''(x)f^2(x) + 2f(x)(f'(x))^2}{f^4(x)} \text{ and } g^2(x) = \frac{(f'(x))^2}{f^4(x)}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{f''(x)f^2(x) - 2f(x)(f'(x))^2}{f^4(x)} \cdot \frac{f^4(x)}{(f'(x))^2}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{f''(x)f^2(x)}{(f'(x))^2} - 2f(x) \Rightarrow 3 = \frac{f''(x)f^2(x)}{(f'(x))^2}$$

$$2 = \frac{f''(x)f(x) - (f'(x))^2}{(f'(x))^2} \Big| \int \Rightarrow 2x + c = -\frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$$

$$\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} = -\frac{1}{2x+c} \Big| \int \Rightarrow \log f(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \log(2x+c) \Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2x+c}}$$

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$$f'(x) = -\frac{(\sqrt{2x+c})'}{2x+c} = -\frac{1}{(2x+c)\sqrt{2x+c}}$$

$$g(x) = -\frac{f'(x)}{f^2(x)} = \frac{1}{(2x+c)\sqrt{2x+c}} \cdot (2x+c) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2x+c}} = f(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} (f(\alpha) + g(\alpha)) = \frac{2}{3} \sum_{cyc} f(\alpha) = \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\alpha+c}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\beta+c}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\gamma+c}} \right)$$

Let $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2x+c}} \Rightarrow f'(x) = -(2x+c)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \Rightarrow f''(x) = 3(2x+c)^{-\frac{5}{2}} > 0, \forall x > 0$

$\Rightarrow f$ – convex function. So,

$$f(\alpha) + f(\beta) + f(\gamma) \geq 3f\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta + \gamma}{3}\right)$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \sum_{cyc} f(\alpha) \geq \frac{2}{3} \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \cdot \frac{\alpha + \beta + \gamma}{3} + c}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2+c}} \Rightarrow a = b = 1.$$

UP. 437 Let $ABCD$ be a bicentric quadrilateral, R and r its exradius and inradius, a, b, c , and d its sides (in this order) and e, f its diagonals.

Prove that :

$$\frac{R^2 - Rr + r^2\sqrt{2}}{r^2} \geq \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2}$$

Proposed by Vasile Jiglaŭ-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

In order to prove the inequality, we'll use the following known formulas :

$$e + f = \frac{s}{2R} (\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r), ef = 2r (\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r); (1)$$

We'll use the inequality of Blundon's inequality $s \leq \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r$; (2)

From the formulas (1) we get:

$$\frac{(e+f)^2}{ef} = \frac{s^2}{4R^2} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)^2}{2r(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)} = \frac{s^2(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{8R^2r}$$

This imply:

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$$\frac{e^2 + f^2}{ef} + 2 = \frac{s^2(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{8R^2r} \Rightarrow 2 + \frac{e^2 + f^2}{ef} = \frac{s^2(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{8R^2r}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + \sqrt{2 + \frac{e^4 + f^4}{e^2f^2}} = \frac{s^2(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{8R^2r} \leq \frac{(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)^3}{8R^2r}$$

(I've used Blundon's inequality (2)). We obtain :

$$\sqrt{2 + \frac{e^4 + f^4}{e^2f^2}} \leq \frac{(4R^2 + r^2)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + 3r(4R^2 + r^2) + 3r^2\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r^3}{8R^2r} - 2 =$$

$$= \frac{(R^2 + r^2)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - R^2r + r^3}{2R^2r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2} = \frac{e^4 + f^4}{e^2f^2} \leq \left[\frac{(R^2 + r^2)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - R^2r + r^3}{2R^2r} \right]^2 - 2$$

which becomes after calculation equivalent to:

$$\frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2} \leq \frac{2R^6 + R^4r^2 + 2R^2r^4 + r^6 - r(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}}{2R^4r^2}$$

It is sufficient to prove that:

$$\frac{2R^6 + R^4r^2 + 2R^2r^4 + r^6 - r(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}}{2R^4r^2} \leq \frac{R^2 - Rr + r^2\sqrt{2}}{r^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2R^6 + R^4r^2 + 2R^2r^4 + r^6 - r(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} \leq 2R^6 - 2R^5r + 2\sqrt{2}R^4r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2R^5 - (2\sqrt{2} - 1)R^4r + 2R^2r^3 + r^5 \leq (R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow [2R^2 - (2\sqrt{2} - 1)R^4r + 2R^2r^3 + r^2]^2 \leq [(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}]^2$$

(because both terms are positive in the previous inequality) . After computation , this

becomes equivalent to

$$(R - r\sqrt{2})[(2\sqrt{2} - 1)R^4 - (2\sqrt{2} - 2)R^3r + (2\sqrt{2} - 2)R^2r^2 - (\sqrt{2} - 1)Rr^3 + (\sqrt{2} - 1)r^4]$$

$$\geq 0$$

$$\left(\frac{R}{r\sqrt{2}} - 1\right) [(8\sqrt{2} - 4)\left(\frac{R}{r\sqrt{2}} - 1\right)^4 + (36\sqrt{2} - 24)\left(\frac{R}{r\sqrt{2}} - 1\right)^3 + (64\sqrt{2} - 52)\left(\frac{R}{r\sqrt{2}} - 1\right)^2 +$$

$$+ (53\sqrt{2} - 50)\left(\frac{R}{r\sqrt{2}} - 1\right) + (18\sqrt{2} - 19)] \geq 0$$

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which is true because of the Euler's inequality for bicentric quadrilaterals $R \geq r\sqrt{2}$, and because all the coefficients in the second paranthesis are positive, qed .

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

With usual notation, the following identities are well known :

$$ef = 2r(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r) \quad \text{and} \quad e + f = \frac{s(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{2R}$$

Using these identities, we get :

$$\frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2} = \left(\frac{(e+f)^2}{ef} - 2 \right)^2 - 2 = \left(\frac{s^2(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)}{8R^2r} - 2 \right)^2 - 2.$$

By W.J. Blundon and R.H. Eddy's inequality, we have : $s \leq \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then : } \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2} &\leq \left(\frac{(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + r)^3}{8R^2r} - 2 \right)^2 - 2 \\ &= \left(\frac{(R^2 + r^2)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r(R^2 - r^2)}{2R^2r} \right)^2 - 2 \\ &= \frac{2R^6 + R^4r^2 + 2R^2r^4 + r^6 - r(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}}{2R^4r^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So it suffices to prove that : } &\frac{R^2 - Rr + \sqrt{2}r^2}{r^2} \\ &\geq \frac{2R^6 + R^4r^2 + 2R^2r^4 + r^6 - r(R^4 - r^4)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}}{2R^4r^2} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Let $x := \frac{R}{\sqrt{2}r}$. By L. Fejes Tóth inequality, we have : $R \geq \sqrt{2}r$ or $x \geq 1$

$$\text{Then, we have : } (1) \Leftrightarrow 2x^2 - \sqrt{2}x + \sqrt{2} \geq \frac{16x^6 + 4x^4 + 4x^2 + 1 - (4x^4 - 1)\sqrt{8x^2 + 1}}{8x^4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow (4x^4 - 1)(\sqrt{8x^2 + 1} - 3) &\geq 8\sqrt{2}x^5 - 8(\sqrt{2} + 1)x^4 + 4x^2 + 4 \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{8(4x^4 - 1)(x - 1)(x + 1)}{\sqrt{8x^2 + 1} + 3} &\geq 4(x - 1)(2\sqrt{2}x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 - x - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Since $x \geq 1$ and $\sqrt{8x^2 + 1} \leq 2\sqrt{2}x + 1$, so it suffices to prove : $\frac{(4x^4 - 1)(x + 1)}{\sqrt{2}x + 2}$

$$\geq 2\sqrt{2}x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 - x - 1$$

Or $2(2 - \sqrt{2})x^4 + 2(2 + \sqrt{2})x^3 + (4 + \sqrt{2})x^2 + (\sqrt{2} - 1)x + 1 \geq 0$ which is true.

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{R^2 - Rr + \sqrt{2}r^2}{r^2} \geq \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2}.$$

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Solution 3 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

If $m =$ product of the lengths of the diagonals, then : $\frac{m}{4r^2} - \frac{4R^2}{m} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow m^2 - 4mr^2 - 16R^2r^2 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \frac{4r^2 \pm \sqrt{16r^4 + 64R^2r^2}}{2}$$

$$= 2r^2 \pm 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}$$

$$= 2r\left(r + \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) (\because m > 0) \therefore m = ef \stackrel{(a)}{=} 2r\left(r + \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right)$$

Proof : Via Ptolemy's 2nd theorem, $\frac{e}{f} = \frac{ad + bc}{ab + cd}$ and hence, $\frac{f}{e} = \frac{ab + cd}{ad + bc} \Rightarrow \frac{e}{f} + \frac{f}{e}$

$$= \frac{(ab + cd + ad + bc)^2 - 2(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}{(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}$$

$$= \frac{(a(b + d) + c(b + d))^2 - 2(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}{(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}$$

$$= \frac{((a + c)(b + d))^2 - 2(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}{(ab + cd)(ad + bc)} \stackrel{a+c=b+d=s}{=} \frac{s^4 - 2(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}{(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{e}{f} + \frac{f}{e} \stackrel{(*)}{=} \frac{s^4 - 2(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}{(ab + cd)(ad + bc)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } (ab + cd)(ad + bc) &= bd(a^2 + c^2) + ac(b^2 + d^2) = bd(s^2 - 2ac) + ac(s^2 - 2bd) \\ &= s^2(ac + bd) - 4r^2s^2 \stackrel{\text{Ptolemy}}{=} s^2ef - 4r^2s^2 \stackrel{\text{via (a)}}{=} s^2 \cdot 2r\left(r + \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) - 4r^2s^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (ab + cd)(ad + bc) \stackrel{(**)}{=} 2rs^2\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right) \therefore (*), (**) \Rightarrow \frac{e}{f} + \frac{f}{e}$$

$$= \frac{s^4 - 4rs^2\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}{2rs^2\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)} = \frac{s^2 - 4r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}{2r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)} \Rightarrow \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2}$$

$$= \left(\frac{e}{f} + \frac{f}{e}\right)^2 - 2$$

$$= \left(\frac{s^2 - 4r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}{2r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}\right)^2 - 2$$

$$= \frac{s^4 + 8r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) - 8s^2r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}{4r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right)} \stackrel{\text{Blundon-Eddy}}{\leq}$$

$$\frac{s^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 + 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) + 8r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) - 8s^2r\left(\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} - r\right)}{4r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{s^2\left(4R^2 + 10r^2 - 6r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right) + 8r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right)}{4r^2\left(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}\right)}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Blundon-Eddy} \leq \frac{(4R^2 + 2r^2 + 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2})(4R^2 + 10r^2 - 6r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}) + 8r^2(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2})}{4r^2(4R^2 + 2r^2 - 2r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2})} \\
 & = \frac{2R^4 + 4R^2r^2 + 3r^4 - r(2R^2 + r^2)\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2} + R^2 - Rr + r^2\sqrt{2}}{r^2(2R^2 + r^2 - r\sqrt{4R^2 + r^2})} \leq \frac{R^2 - Rr + r^2\sqrt{2}}{r^2} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 2R^3 + 3R^2r + Rr^2 + 3r^3 - r\sqrt{2}(2R^2 + r^2) \stackrel{?}{\leq} \sqrt{4R^2 + r^2}(R^2 + Rr + r^2 - r^2\sqrt{2}) \\
 & \text{Now, } 2R^3 + 3R^2r + Rr^2 + 3r^3 - r\sqrt{2}(2R^2 + r^2) \stackrel{\text{L.Fejes Toth, 1948}}{\geq} 2R^2 \cdot r\sqrt{2} + 3R^2r + r\sqrt{2} \cdot r^2 \\
 & \quad + 3r^3 - r\sqrt{2}(2R^2 + r^2) = 3R^2r + 3r^3 > 0 \text{ and } R^2 + Rr + r^2 - r^2\sqrt{2} \\
 & \quad \stackrel{\text{L.Fejes Toth, 1948}}{\geq} R^2 + r\sqrt{2} \cdot r + r^2 - r^2\sqrt{2} = R^2 + r^2 > 0 \therefore (\bullet) \\
 & \Leftrightarrow (2R^3 + 3R^2r + Rr^2 + 3r^3 - r\sqrt{2}(2R^2 + r^2))^2 \\
 & \leq (4R^2 + r^2)(R^2 + Rr + r^2 - r^2\sqrt{2})^2 \\
 & \quad \Leftrightarrow (2R^3 + 3R^2r + Rr^2 + 3r^3)^2 + 2r^2(2R^2 + r^2)^2 \\
 & \quad - 2\sqrt{2}r(2R^2 + r^2)(2R^3 + 3R^2r + Rr^2 + 3r^3) \\
 & \leq (4R^2 + r^2)((R^2 + Rr + r^2)^2 + 2r^4 - 2\sqrt{2}r^2(R^2 + Rr + r^2)) \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 2\sqrt{2}r(4R^5 + 2R^4r + 4R^2r^3 + 2r^5) \geq r(4R^5 + 8R^4r + 8R^3r^2 + 12R^2r^3 + 4Rr^4 + 8r^5) \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 8(4R^5 + 2R^4r + 4R^2r^3 + 2r^5)^2 - (4R^5 + 8R^4r + 8R^3r^2 + 12R^2r^3 + 4Rr^4 + 8r^5)^2 \geq 0 \\
 & \Leftrightarrow 7t^{10} + 4t^9 - 6t^8 + 2t^7 - 10t^6 - 12t^5 - 9t^4 - 14t^3 - 5t^2 - 4t - 2 \\
 & \geq 0 \left(t = \frac{R}{r} \right) \\
 & \Leftrightarrow (t^2 - 2)(7t^8 + 4t^7 + 8t^6 + 10t^5 + 6t^4 + 8t^3 + 3t^2 + 2t + 1) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \\
 & \therefore t \stackrel{\text{L.Fejes Toth, 1948}}{\geq} \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow (\bullet) \text{ is true} \Rightarrow \frac{R^2 - Rr + r^2\sqrt{2}}{r^2} \geq \frac{e^2}{f^2} + \frac{f^2}{e^2} \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

UP.438 If $t \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ and $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}, (b_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be positive real sequences such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{na_n} = a \in \mathbb{R}_+^*, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} = b \in \mathbb{R}_+^*. \text{ Find:}$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1} b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} - \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^t} \right)$$

Proposed by D.M. Băţineţu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

We have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^{t+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1} b_{n+1}}}{n^{n(t+1)}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1} b_{n+1}}{(n+1)^{(n+1)(t+1)}} \cdot \frac{n^{n(t+1)}}{a_n b_n} =$$

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$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{na_n} \cdot \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^{(n+1)(t+1)} = ab \cdot \frac{1}{e^{t+1}} = \frac{ab}{e^{t+1}}$$

If $u_n = \frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} \cdot \frac{n^t}{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}, \forall n \geq 2$ then $u_n = \frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} \cdot \frac{n^{t+1}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}} \cdot \frac{n+1}{n}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}{a_n b_n} \cdot \frac{n^{nt}}{(n+1)^{nt}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{na_n} \cdot \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \cdot \frac{n^{t+1}}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}} = ab \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^{nt+t+1} \cdot \frac{(n+1)^{t+1}}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}} = \\ &= abe^{-t} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{t+1}}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}} = abe^{-t} \cdot \frac{e^{t+1}}{ab} = e \end{aligned}$$

We denote: $B_n = \frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} - \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^t} = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^t} (u_n - 1) =$

$$= \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^t} \cdot \frac{u_n - 1}{\log u_n} \cdot \log u_n = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^{t+1}} \cdot \frac{u_n - 1}{\log u_n} \cdot \log u_n^n; \forall n \geq 2$$

Hence,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^{t+1}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n - 1}{\log u_n} \cdot \log \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^n \right) = \frac{ab}{e^{t+1}} \cdot 1 \cdot \log e = \frac{ab}{e^{t+1}}$$

Solution 2 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^t} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} \cdot \frac{n^t}{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}} - 1 \right) = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}}{n^{t+1}} \cdot n \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n b_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^t - 1 \right); \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{a_n}{n^n}} \stackrel{C-D}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{a_{n+1}}{na_n} = \\ &= \frac{1}{e} \cdot 1 \cdot a = \frac{a}{e}; \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{b_n}}{n^t} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{b_n}{n^{nt}}} \stackrel{C-D}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{n+1}}{(n+1)^{(n+1)t}} \cdot \frac{n^{nt}}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^{tn} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \right]^t \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} = \frac{1}{e^t} \cdot 1 \cdot b = \frac{b}{e^t}; \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t - 1 \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(e^{\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t} - 1 \right) = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \frac{e^{\log\left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t\right)} - 1}{\log\left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t\right)} \cdot \log\left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t\right) = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \log\left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^t\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \log\left(\left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^{nt} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}}\right)^n\right) = \\ &= \log\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n\right)^t \frac{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}{a_nb_n} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}\right) = \\ &= \log\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^t} \cdot \frac{a_{n+1}}{na_n} \cdot \frac{b_{n+1}}{n^t b_n} \cdot \frac{n^{t+1}}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}\right) \stackrel{(2),(3)}{=} \log\left(\frac{1}{e^t} \cdot ab \cdot \frac{e}{a} \cdot \frac{e^t}{b}\right) = \log e = 1; (4) \end{aligned}$$

From (1) to (4), it follows that

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}}{n^t} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}b_{n+1}}}{(n+1)^t} \cdot \frac{n^t}{\sqrt[n]{a_nb_n}} - 1 \right) = \frac{ab}{e^{t+1}}$$

UP.439 If $f(x) = \frac{1-\sqrt{1-2x}}{2}$, $f_n^{-1} = \underbrace{f^{-1} \circ f^{-1} \circ \dots \circ f^{-1}}_{n\text{-times}}$ then find:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f_n^{-1}(x) dx$$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

We have: $f'(x) = -2x^2 - 2x$ and by mathematical induction principle, we get:

$$f_n^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2} - 2^{2^n-1} \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^{2^n}$$

Indeed, for $n = 1$, we have $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} - 2 \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2$ true!

We assume that is true for $n = k$, and for $n = k + 1$, we have:

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

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

Therefore,

$$\int_0^1 f_n^{-1}(x) dx = \left(\frac{1}{2}x - 2^{2k-1} \cdot \frac{1}{2^n + 1} \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2^{k+1}} \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4(2^n + 1)}$$

$$\text{Hence } \Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f_n^{-1}(x) dx = \frac{1}{4}$$

Solution 2 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Say } x = f(s) \Rightarrow dx &= \frac{ds}{1 - \sqrt{1 - 2s}} \Rightarrow \Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 2s}} f_{n-1}^{-1}(s) ds \stackrel{s=f(u)}{=} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{(1 - 2u)^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}}} f_{n-2}^{-1}(u) du = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^3} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{(1 - 2s)^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}}} f_{n-3}^{-1}(s) ds = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{s}{(1 - 2s)^{\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2^k}}} ds \stackrel{u=2s}{=} \frac{1}{4} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \int_0^1 \left[(1 - u)^{\frac{1}{2^n} - 1} - (1 - u)^{\frac{1}{2^n}} \right] du = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \left[\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2^n}} - \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2^n} + 1} \right] = \frac{1}{4} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^n + 1} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} f_n^{-1}(x) dx = \frac{1}{4}$$

UP.440 Find a closed form:

$$\Omega = \left(\int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - x^9}{x^{40} + 1} dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - 2x^9}{x^{40} + 4} dx \right)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - x^9}{x^{40} + 1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^{20}(x^9 - x^{-11})}{x^{20}(x^{20} + x^{-20})} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^{10-1} - x^{-10-1}}{(x^{10} + x^{-10})^2 - 2} dx =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{(x^{10} + x^{-10})'}{(x^{10} + x^{-10})^2 - 2} dx = \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{x^{10} + x^{-10} - \sqrt{2}}{x^{10} + x^{-10} + \sqrt{2}} \right| \Big|_0^1 = \\
 &= \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right) \\
 \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - 2x^9}{x^{40} + 4} dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^{20}(x^9 - 2x^{-11})}{x^{20}(x^{20} + 4x^{-20})} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^{10-1} - 2x^{-10-1}}{(x^{10} + 2x^{-10})^2 - 4} dx = \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{(x^{10} + 2x^{-10})'}{(x^{10} + 2x^{-10})^2 - 2^2} dx = \frac{1}{40} \log \left| \frac{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} - 2}{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} + 2} \right| \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{40} \log \left(\frac{1}{5} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{800\sqrt{2}} \log \left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right) \cdot \log \left(\frac{1}{5} \right)$$

Solution 2 by Timson Folorunsho-Nigeria

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_1 &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - x^9}{x^{40} + 1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^9((x^{10})^2 - 1)}{(x^{10})^4 + 1} dx \stackrel{y=x^{10}}{=} \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{y^2 - 1}{y^4 + 1} dy = \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1 - \frac{1}{y^2}}{y^2 + \frac{1}{y^2}} dy = \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1 - \frac{1}{y^2}}{\left(y + \frac{1}{y}\right)^2 - 2} dy \stackrel{u=y+\frac{1}{y}}{=} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{10} \int_2^\infty \frac{du}{(u - \sqrt{2})(u + \sqrt{2})} = -\frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \int_2^\infty \left(\frac{1}{u - \sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{u + \sqrt{2}} \right) du = \\
 &= -\frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{u - \sqrt{2}}{u + \sqrt{2}} \right| \Big|_2^\infty = \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right| \\
 I_2 &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - 2x^9}{x^{40} + 4} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^9((x^{10})^2 - 2)}{(x^{10})^4 + 4} dx \stackrel{u=x^{10}}{=} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{u^2 - 2}{u^4 + 4} du = \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1 - \frac{2}{u^2}}{u^2 + \frac{4}{u^2}} du = \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1 - \frac{2}{u^2}}{\left(u + \frac{2}{u}\right)^2 - 4} du \stackrel{u+\frac{2}{u}}{=} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} \int_\infty^3 \frac{dv}{v^2 - 4} = \frac{1}{10} \int_\infty^3 \frac{dv}{(v - 2)(v + 2)} = \frac{1}{40} \int_\infty^3 \left(\frac{1}{v - 2} - \frac{1}{v + 2} \right) dv = \\
 &= \frac{1}{40} \log \left| \frac{v - 2}{v + 2} \right| \Big|_\infty^3 = \frac{1}{40} \log \frac{1}{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Omega = I_1 \cdot I_2 = \frac{1}{800\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right| \cdot \log \frac{1}{5}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } k \geq 1, \text{ let } I(k) &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - kx^9}{x^{40} + k^2} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^9(x^{20} - k)}{x^{40} + k^2} dx \stackrel{x^{10}=t}{=} \\ &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{t^2 - k}{t^4 + k^2} dt = \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1 - \frac{k}{t^2}}{t^2 + \frac{k^2}{t^2}} dt \stackrel{t + \frac{k}{t} = u}{=} \frac{1}{10} \int_{\infty}^{1+k} \frac{du}{u^2 - 2k} = \\ &= \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2k}} \log \left| \frac{u - \sqrt{2k}}{u + \sqrt{2k}} \right| \Big|_{\infty}^{1+k} = \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2k}} \log \left| \frac{1+k - \sqrt{2k}}{1+k + \sqrt{2k}} \right| \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &= I(1)I(2) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right| \cdot \frac{1}{20 \cdot 2} \log \left| \frac{3 - 2}{3 + 2} \right| = \\ &= \frac{1}{800\sqrt{2}} \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1} \right) \log \frac{1}{5} = -\frac{1}{400\sqrt{2}} \log(\sqrt{2} - 1) \log 5 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Yen Tung Chung-Taichung-Taiwan

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - x^9}{x^{40} + 1} dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^9 - x^{-11}}{x^{20} + x^{-20}} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^9 - x^{-11}}{(x^{10} + x^{-10})^2 - 2} dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(x^{10} + x^{-10})^2 - 2} d(x^{10} + x^{-10}) = \\ &= \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{x^{10} + x^{-10} - \sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{x^{10} + x^{-10} + \sqrt{2}} \right) d(x^{10} + x^{-10}) = \\ &= \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{x^{10} + x^{-10} - \sqrt{2}}{x^{10} + x^{-10} + \sqrt{2}} \right| \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left| \frac{x^{20} - \sqrt{2}x^{10} + 1}{x^{20} + \sqrt{2}x^{10} + 1} \right| \Big|_0^1 = \\ &= \frac{1}{20\sqrt{2}} \log \left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right) \\ \int_0^1 \frac{x^{29} - 2x^9}{x^{40} + 4} dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^9 - 2x^{-11}}{x^{20} + 4x^{-20}} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^9 - 2x^{-11}}{(x^{10} + 2x^{-10})^2 - 4} dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(x^{10} + 2x^{-10})^2 - 4} d(x^{10} + 2x^{-10}) = \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{40} \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} - 2} - \frac{1}{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} + 2} \right) d(x^{10} + 2x^{-10}) = \\
 &= \frac{1}{40} \log \left| \frac{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} - 2}{x^{10} + 2x^{-10} + 2} \right| \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{40} \log \frac{1}{5} = -\frac{1}{40} \log 5
 \end{aligned}$$

UP.441 If $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \left[-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right]$, f -continuous, then:

$$\int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} \sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} dx + \int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} f(x) dx \leq \frac{75}{2}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Denote $f(x) = y; y \in \left[-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right]$ then $2y \in [-5, 5]$ and

$-2y \in [-5, 5], 15 - 2y \in [10, 20]$, hence $15 - 2y > 0$.

We will start from $(5 - 6y)^2 \geq 0; \forall y \in \left[-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right] \Leftrightarrow$

$$25 + 36y^2 - 60y \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 200 - 32y^2 \leq 225 - 60y + 4y^2$$

$$200 - 32y^2 \leq (15 - 2y)^2 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{200 - 32y^2} \leq 15 - 2y$$

$$\sqrt{200 - 32y^2} + 2y \leq 15 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{200 - 32f^2(x)} + 2f(x) \leq 15$$

$$2\sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} + 2f(x) \leq 15 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} + f(x) \leq \frac{15}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$\int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} \sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} dx + \int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} f(x) dx \leq \int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} \frac{15}{2} dx = \frac{75}{2}$$

Equality holds for $f(x) = \frac{5}{6}; \forall x \in \left[-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right]$.

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

With CBS inequality, we have:

$$\sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} + f(x) = \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{25 - 4f^2(x)} + \frac{1}{2} [2f(x)] \leq$$

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$$\leq \sqrt{(\sqrt{2})^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2} \cdot \sqrt{25 - 4f^2(x) + [2f(x)]^2} = \frac{15}{2}; \quad (*)$$

Integrating (*) on $\left[-\frac{5}{2}; \frac{5}{2}\right]$, we obtain:

$$\int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} \sqrt{50 - 8f^2(x)} dx + \int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} f(x) dx \leq \int_{-\frac{5}{2}}^{\frac{5}{2}} \frac{15}{2} dx = \frac{75}{2}$$

Equality holds for $f(x) = \frac{5}{6}; \forall x \in \left[-\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right]$.

UP.442 If $(H_n)_{n \geq 1}$, $H_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$, then compute

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-2H_n} \sum_{k=2}^n \sqrt[k]{k!}$$

Proposed by D.M. Băținețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

We have:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-2H_n} \sum_{k=2}^n \sqrt[k]{k!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=2}^n \sqrt[k]{k!}}{e^{2H_n}} \stackrel{c-s}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{n+1} \sqrt{(n+1)!}}{e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}}$$

We know that, if $x_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} - \log(n+1)$, then $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent and

his limit is γ . Furthermore, by Lagrange, for $x \rightarrow e^{2x}$, $x \in [H_n, H_{n+1}]$, we have

$$e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n} = (2H_{n+1} - 2H_n) 2e^{c_n} = \frac{4e^{2c_n}}{n+1}, c_n \in (H_n, H_{n+1}); \quad (1)$$

But $x \rightarrow e^{2x}$ is increasing, and we obtain:

$$\frac{4e^{2H_n}}{n+1} \leq e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n} \leq \frac{4e^{2H_{n+1}}}{n+1}$$

We obtain:

$$\frac{(n+1)^{n+1} \sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4e^{2H_{n+1}}} \leq \frac{n^{n+1} \sqrt{(n+1)!}}{e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}} \leq \frac{(n+1)^{n+1} \sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4e^{2H_n}}; \quad (1)$$

But we have: $H_n = x_n + \log(n+1) \Rightarrow e^{2H_n} = (n+1)^2 \cdot e^{2x_n}; \quad (2)$ and

$e^{2H_{n+1}} = (n+2)^2 \cdot e^{2x_{n+1}}; \quad (3)$. Then (1) gets:

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$$\frac{(n+1)^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4(n+2)^2 e^{2x_{n+1}}} \leq \frac{n^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!}}{e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}} \leq \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4(n+1)^2 e^{2x_n}}; \quad (3)$$

It is well known that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} = \frac{1}{e}$$

We have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4(n+2)^2 e^{2x_{n+1}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!}}{4(n+1)^2 e^{2x_n}} = \frac{1}{4e^{2\gamma+1}}$$

UP.443 Determine all the derivable functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which satisfy

$$\frac{f(x^3) - f(0)}{f(x) - f(0)} = x^2, \forall x \neq 0$$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution by proposer

We have:

$$\frac{f(x^3) - f(0)}{x^3} = \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x}$$

Replacing x with $x^{\frac{1}{3}}$, we deduce that

$$\frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x} = \frac{f\left(x^{\frac{1}{3}}\right) - f(0)}{x^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \frac{f\left(x^{\frac{1}{9}}\right) - f(0)}{x^{\frac{1}{9}}} = \dots = \frac{f\left(x^{\frac{1}{3^n}}\right) - f(0)}{x^{\frac{1}{3^n}}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x^{\frac{1}{3^n}} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } x > 0 \\ 0, & \text{for } x = 0 \\ -1, & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Hence, by continuity it follows that

$$\frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x} = \begin{cases} f(1) - f(0), & \text{for } x > 0 \\ f(0) - f(-1), & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} f(0) + (f(1) - f(0))x, & \text{for } x > 0 \\ f(0), & \text{for } x = 0 \\ f(0) - f(-1), & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

The derivability of f in 0 imply $f(1) - f(0) = f(0) - f(-1) = f'(0)$.

Hence, $f(x) = f'(0)x + f(0), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.

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UP.444 Find:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}}$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{n^n}{n!}} \stackrel{CDA}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{n^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^n = e$$

Denote: $\gamma_n = H_n - \log n$; $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_n = \gamma$

$$\begin{aligned} (e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} &= e^{2H_n} (e^{2(H_{n+1}-H_n)} - 1) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \\ &= e^{2H_n} \cdot \left(e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \frac{e^{2H_n}}{n^2} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1}{2} \cdot \frac{2n}{n+1} = \\ &= e^{2H_n} \cdot e^{-2 \log n} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1}{2} \cdot \frac{2n}{n+1} = \\ &= e^{2\gamma_n} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1}{2} \cdot \frac{2n}{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(e^{2\gamma_n} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1}{2} \cdot \frac{2n}{n+1} \right) = 2e^{1+2\gamma}$$

Solution 2 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_n}}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} (e^{2(H_{n+1}-H_n)} - 1) = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_n}}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \left(e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_n}}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{2}{n+1}} - 1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{n+1} = \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \cdot 2e^{2H_n}}{(n+1)^n \sqrt[n]{n!} \cdot n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2e^{2H_n}}{n(n+1)} \cdot \sqrt[n]{n^n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{n^n}{n!}} \stackrel{C-D}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1} \cdot n!}{(n+1)! \cdot n^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)n!}{(n+1)!} \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^n = e$$

Hence, we have:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2e \cdot e^{2H_n}}{n(n+1)} = 2e \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_n}}{n(n+1)} = 2e \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2(\gamma + \log n)}}{n(n+1)} =$$

$$= 2e \cdot e^{2\gamma} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n(n+1)} = 2e^{2\gamma+1}$$

Solution 3 by Ruxandra Daniela Tonilă-Romania

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}}{(n+1)^2 - n^2} \cdot \frac{(n+1)^2 - n^2}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \Omega_1 \cdot \Omega_2$$

$$\Omega_1 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_{n+1}} - e^{2H_n}}{(n+1)^2 - n^2} \stackrel{C-S}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2H_n}}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{2(\log n + \gamma)}}{n^2} =$$

$$= e^{2\gamma} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{\log n^2}}{n^2} = e^{2\gamma}; \quad (1)$$

$$\Omega_2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2 - n^2}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2n+1)^n}{n!}} \stackrel{C-D}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+3)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{(2n+1)^n} =$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{2}{2n+1}\right)^n \cdot \frac{2n+3}{n+1} = 2e; \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we find that: $\Omega = 2e^{2\gamma+1}$

UP.445 Solve for real numbers:

$$e^2 \Omega^2(a) - 6e \Omega(a) + 8 = 0, \text{ where}$$

$$\Omega(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt[n]{a} - 1) \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2n-1)!!}{n^n}} \stackrel{CDA}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+1)!!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{(2n-1)!!} =$$

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$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{2}{e}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(a) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt[n]{a} - 1) \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{\frac{\log a}{n}} - 1}{\frac{\log a}{n}} \cdot \log a \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} = \\ &= 1 \cdot \log a \cdot \frac{2}{e} = \frac{2 \log a}{e} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$e^2 \Omega^2(a) - 6e\Omega(a) + 8 = 0 \Leftrightarrow e^2 \cdot \frac{4 \log^2 a}{e^2} - 6e \cdot \frac{2 \log a}{e} + 8 = 0$$

$$\log^2 a - 3 \log a + 2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \log a \in \{1; 2\}$$

Therefore $a \in \{e; e^2\}$

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(a) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt[n]{a} - 1) \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a} - 1}{\frac{1}{n}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{a} - 1}{\frac{1}{n}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} = \log a \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n}; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

For the second limit from (1), use D'Alembert, and we find:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2n-1)!!}{n^n}} \stackrel{D'A}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+1)!!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{(2n-1)!!} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{2}{e} \Rightarrow e\Omega(a) = 2 \log a \end{aligned}$$

The equation $e^2 \Omega^2(a) - 6e\Omega(a) + 8 = 0$ provides

$e\Omega(a) = 2$ or $e\Omega(a) = 4$. Therefore, $a \in \{e, e^2\}$.

UP.446 Find:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^3 \cdot \sqrt[n]{n!} \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{n^3}$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

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Solution 1 by proposers

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{n!}{n^n}} \stackrel{CDA}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{1}{e} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2n-1)!!}{n^n}} \stackrel{CDA}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+1)!!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{(2n-1)!!} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{2}{e}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^3 \cdot \sqrt[n]{n!} \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{n^3} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n^2}}{\frac{1}{n^2}} \cdot \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n^3}}{\frac{1}{n^3}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{1}{e} \cdot \frac{2}{e} = \frac{2}{e^2}\end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Daniel Văcaru-Romania

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \sin \frac{1}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n^2}}{\frac{1}{n^2}} = 1$$

We must calculate

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{n!}{n^n}} \stackrel{D'A}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{1}{e} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2n-1)!!}{n^n}} \stackrel{D'A}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+1)!!}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n^n}{(2n-1)!!} = \frac{2}{e}\end{aligned}$$

Then we have with notation

$$\begin{aligned}x_n &= \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} \text{ and } y_n = \frac{\sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!}}{n} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot \sqrt[n]{n!} \cdot \sqrt[n]{(2n-1)!!} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{n^3} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n^3}}{\frac{1}{n^3}} \cdot \frac{1}{x_n} \cdot \frac{1}{y_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n y_n \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n^3}}{\frac{1}{n^3}} = \frac{2}{e^2}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\Omega = \frac{2}{e^2}$.

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UP.447 Find:

$$\Omega(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{5H_n} \cdot \left(\sqrt[n^2]{a} - 1 \right) \cdot \sin^3 \frac{1}{n}; a > 0$$

Proposed by D.M. Băținețu-Giurgiu, Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by proposers

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(a) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{5H_n} \cdot \left(\sqrt[n^2]{a} - 1 \right) \cdot \sin^3 \frac{1}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{5H_n}}{n^5} \cdot n^5 \cdot \left(\sqrt[n^2]{a} - 1 \right) \cdot \sin^3 \frac{1}{n} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{5H_n}}{e^{5 \log n}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n^2]{a} - 1}{\frac{1}{n^2}} \cdot \frac{\sin^3 \frac{1}{n}}{\frac{1}{n^3}} = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{5H_n - 5 \log n} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n^2]{a} - 1}{\frac{1}{n^2}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sin \frac{1}{n}}{\frac{1}{n}} \right)^3 = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{5\gamma n} \cdot \log a \cdot 1^3 = e^{5\gamma} \cdot \log a \end{aligned}$$

UP.448 If $m \in [1, \infty)$, $a_k \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$, $k = \overline{1, n}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}^* - \{1, 2\}$ and

$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k = s \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$, then:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^m \geq s \left(\prod_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^{\frac{m-1}{n}}$$

Proposed by D.M. Băținețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

By AM-GM inequality and by $\sum_{k=1}^n a_k = s$, we have:

$$s \geq n \cdot \sqrt[n]{\prod_{k=1}^n a_k} \Leftrightarrow \frac{s}{n} \geq \sqrt[n]{\prod_{k=1}^n a_k} \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{s}{n} \right)^n \geq \prod_{k=1}^n a_k$$

By J. Radon's inequality, we have:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^m \geq \frac{1}{n^{m-1}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^m = \frac{s^m}{n^{m-1}} = s \cdot \left(\frac{s}{n} \right)^{m-1} \geq s \left(\prod_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^{\frac{m-1}{n}}$$

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Solution 2 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$\left(\prod_{k=1}^n a_k\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{\prod_{k=1}^n a_k} \stackrel{AGM}{\leq} \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$$

We must to prove that:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^m > (a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) \cdot \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)^{m-1}}{n^{m-1}} = \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)^m}{n^{m-1}}$$

But from Radon's inequality we have:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^m = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^m}{1^{m-1}} > \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)^m}{n^{m-1}} \text{ true.}$$

UP.449 Prove that:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2^k \sqrt[k]{n}} \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}, \text{ where } n, k \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

First, we prove that

$$n+1 \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}; n, k \in \mathbb{N}$$

We have: $0 \leq (n-1)(k-1) = nk - (n-k+1) \Rightarrow n-k+1 \leq nk$, and then

$$\prod_{i=1}^k (n-i+1) \leq \prod_{i=1}^k ni \Leftrightarrow \prod_{i=1}^k (n-i+1) \leq n^k \prod_{i=1}^k i$$

$$\frac{\prod_{i=1}^k (n-i+1)}{\prod_{i=1}^k i} \leq n^k$$

It is known that: $\frac{\prod_{i=1}^k (n-i+1)}{\prod_{i=1}^k i} = \binom{n}{k}$, then $\binom{n}{k} \leq n^k$. So, $\binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^k \leq 1$.

In these conditions, we can write

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^k \leq n+1$$

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From Newton's binomial theorem, we have:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^k = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \leq n + 1 \Leftrightarrow 1 + \frac{1}{n} \leq \sqrt[n]{n+1}; (1)$$

So,

$$n + 1 \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}; n, k \in \mathbb{N}; (1)$$

Now, let be the function $f: [1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = \sqrt[k]{x+1} - \sqrt[k]{x}$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1) - f(x_2) &= (\sqrt[k]{x_1+1} - \sqrt[k]{x_1}) - (\sqrt[k]{x_2+1} - \sqrt[k]{x_2}) = \\ &= (\sqrt[k]{1+x_1} - \sqrt[k]{1+x_2}) - (\sqrt[k]{x_1} - \sqrt[k]{x_2}) = \\ &= \frac{x_1 - x_2}{\sqrt[k]{(1+x_1)^{k-1} + \sqrt[k]{(1+x_1)^{k-2}(1+x_2)} + \dots + \sqrt[k]{(1+x_1)(1+x_2)^{k-2} + \sqrt[k]{(1+x_2)^{k-1}}}} \\ &= \frac{x_1 - x_2}{\sqrt[k]{x_1^{k-1} + \sqrt[k]{x_1^{k-2} \cdot x_2} + \dots + \sqrt[k]{x_1 x_2^{k-2} + \sqrt[k]{x_2^{k-1}}}} \end{aligned}$$

Because $\text{sgn}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) = -\text{sgn}(x_1 - x_2)$, then f is decreasing on $[0, \infty)$.

So, we have: $f(n) < f(n-1); \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^* \Leftrightarrow \sqrt[k]{n+1} - \sqrt[k]{n} < \sqrt[k]{n} - \sqrt[k]{n-1}$

$$\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1} < 2\sqrt[k]{n} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} < n+1; (2)$$

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

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}; n, k \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The function $f(x) = \sqrt[k]{x}$, $k \geq 2$ is concave on $(0, \infty)$ because

$$f''(x) = -\frac{k-1}{k^2 \cdot \sqrt[k]{x^{2k-1}}} \leq 0, \forall x > 0$$

By Jensen's inequality, we have

$$f(n+1) + f(n-1) \leq 2f\left(\frac{(n+1) + (n-1)}{2}\right) = 2f(n)$$

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Then,

$$\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1} \leq 2\sqrt[k]{n} \text{ or } \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} \leq 1; \forall k \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} = \frac{(n+1) + (n-1)}{2n} + \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} = 1 + \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} 1 = n + 1$$

So, it suffices to prove that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1} \geq n + 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

If $n = 1$, we have equality. Assume that $n \geq 2$. We have:

$$\sqrt[k]{k+1} \geq 1, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}, k \geq 2 \Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1} \geq 2 \sum_{k=2}^n 1 = 2 + (n-1) = n + 1$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2\sqrt[k]{n}} \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } f(x) = (x+1)^{\frac{1}{k}} \text{ and } g(x) = x^{\frac{1}{k}}, x \in [n-1, n]$$

By Cauchy's mean value theorem, there exists some $c \in (n-1, n)$ such that

$$\frac{f(n) - f(n-1)}{g(n) - g(n-1)} = \frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)} \Rightarrow \frac{(n+1)^{\frac{1}{k}} - n^{\frac{1}{k}}}{n^{\frac{1}{k}} - (n-1)^{\frac{1}{k}}} = \frac{(c+1)^{1-\frac{1}{k}}}{c^{1-\frac{1}{k}}} = \left(\frac{c}{c+1}\right)^{1-\frac{1}{k}} \leq 1; \forall k \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (n+1)^{\frac{1}{k}} - n^{\frac{1}{k}} \leq n^{\frac{1}{k}} - (n-1)^{\frac{1}{k}}$$

$$(n+1)^{\frac{1}{k}} + (n-1)^{\frac{1}{k}} \leq 2n^{\frac{1}{k}} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{(n+1)^{\frac{1}{k}} + (n-1)^{\frac{1}{k}}}{2n^{\frac{1}{k}}} \leq 1$$

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$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2^k \sqrt[n]{n}} \leq n+1; \quad (1)$$

For $k \geq 2, (1+k)^{\frac{1}{k}} \geq 1 \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1} = 2 + \sum_{k=2}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1} \geq 2 + (n-1) = n+1; \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2) it follows that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt[k]{n+1} + \sqrt[k]{n-1}}{2^k \sqrt[n]{n}} \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[k]{k+1}$$

UP.450 If $A_1 A_2 \dots A_n$ ($n \geq 3$) is a convex polygon with the inradius r and the lengths sides $A_k A_{k+1} = a_k, k = \overline{1, n}, A_{n+1} = A_1$. If $h_k \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ such that $a_k h_k = (n-1)F, k = \overline{1, n}$, then:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{h_k - (n-1)r}{h_k + (n-1)r} \geq \frac{n(n-2)}{n+2}$$

Proposed by D.M. Băţineţu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposers

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{h_k - (n-1)r}{h_k + (n-1)r} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{h_k a_k - (n-1)ra_k}{h_k a_k + (n-1)ra_k} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(n-1)F - (n-1)ra_k}{(n-1)F + (n-1)ra_k} = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{F - ra_k}{F + ra_k} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} B_n + n &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{F - ra_k}{F + ra_k} + 1 \right) = 2F \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F + ra_k} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} 2F \cdot \frac{(1+1+\dots+1)^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n (F + ra_k)} = \\ &= \frac{2n^2 F}{nF + r \sum_{k=1}^n a_k} = \frac{2n^2 F}{nF + 2rs} = \frac{2n^2}{n+2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

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$$B_n \geq \frac{2n^2}{n+2} - n = \frac{n(n-2)}{n+2}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $s = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k = \frac{F}{r}$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{h_k - (n-1)r}{h_k + (n-1)r} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\frac{(n-1)sr}{a_k} - (n-1)r}{\frac{(n-1)sr}{a_k} + (n-1)r} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{s - a_k}{s + a_k} = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{2s}{s + a_k} - 1 \right) \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 2s \cdot \frac{n^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n (s + a_k)} - n = \frac{2s \cdot n^2}{ns + 2s} - n = \frac{n(n-2)}{n+2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{h_k - (n-1)r}{h_k + (n-1)r} \geq \frac{n(n-2)}{n+2}$$