

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

(a) If  $a, b, c > 0$ , then prove the inequality :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 \text{ is false !}$$

(b) If  $a, b, c > 0$ , then prove the inequality :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 \text{ is true !}$$

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*Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a - c)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (b - c)^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \left( 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) + \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a - b)^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \geq 0 \\ &\therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 \text{ is false; reverse inequality is true}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Again, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \frac{1}{8} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a - c| + |b - c|)^2 \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \frac{1}{8} \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a - c)^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} (b - c)^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \right) \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \frac{1}{8} \left( 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a - b)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\text{cyc}} |a - c||b - c| \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{8} ((|a-b| - |b-c|)^2 + (|b-c| - |c-a|)^2 + (|c-a| - |a-b|)^2) \geq 0$$

$$\therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - \frac{1}{8} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a-c| + |b-c|)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (|a-c| + |b-c|)^2 \text{ is true}} \text{ " = " iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)}$$