

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, ab + bc + ca > 0$. Prove that

$$\frac{a^2 + bc}{b + c + 2a} + \frac{b^2 + ca}{c + a + 2b} + \frac{c^2 + ab}{a + b + 2c} \geq \frac{a + b + c}{2}$$

Proposed by Phan Ngoc Chau-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have

$$2(a + b + c) \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + bc}{b + c + 2a} = \sum_{cyc} (a^2 + bc) + \sum_{cyc} \frac{(a^2 + bc)(b + c)}{b + c + 2a}.$$

By CBS inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc(b + c)}{b + c + 2a} &\geq \frac{(\sum_{cyc} bc)^2}{\sum_{cyc} bc \left(1 + \frac{2a}{b + c}\right)} \stackrel{HM-AM}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{cyc} bc)^2}{\sum_{cyc} \left(bc + \frac{a(b + c)}{2}\right)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} bc \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2(b + c)}{b + c + 2a} &\geq \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{\sum_{cyc} \left(1 + \frac{2a}{b + c}\right)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} bc \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} bc \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{2abc}{b + c} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(b - c)^2}{b + c} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using the results, we get

$$2(a + b + c) \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + bc}{b + c + 2a} \geq \sum_{cyc} a^2 + 2 \sum_{cyc} bc = (a + b + c)^2$$

as desired. Equality holds iff $(a = b = c > 0)$ and $(a = b > 0, c = 0)$ and its permutations.