

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, ab + bc + ca > 0$ and $a + b + c = 3$. Prove that :

$$\frac{13a - 4bc}{b + c} + \frac{13b - 4ca}{c + a} + \frac{13c - 4ab}{a + b} \leq \frac{27}{2} \cdot \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca}$$

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Let $p := a + b + c = 3, q := ab + bc + ca \leq \frac{p^2}{3} = 3, r := abc$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{13a - 4bc}{b + c} &= \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{13p - 4q}{b + c} - 13 + 4a \right) = (13 \cdot 3 - 4q) \cdot \frac{p^2 + q}{pq - r} - 39 + 12 = \\ &= \frac{(39 - 4q)(9 + q)}{3q - r} - 27 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{27}{2} \cdot \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{ab + bc + ca} = \frac{27(9 - 2q)}{2q} \Leftrightarrow r \leq \frac{q(27 - 6q + 8q^2)}{243}. \end{aligned}$$

From the known identity

$$0 \leq (a - b)^2(b - c)^2(c - a)^2 = -27r^2 + 2(9pq - 2p^3)r + p^2q^2 - 4q^3$$

It follows

$$r \leq \frac{-2p^3 + 9pq + 2\sqrt{(p^2 - 3q)^3}}{27} = \frac{-18 + 9q + 2\sqrt{3(3 - q)^3}}{9}.$$

So it suffices to prove that

$$\frac{-18 + 9q + 2\sqrt{3(3 - q)^3}}{9} \leq \frac{q(27 - 6q + 8q^2)}{243} \Leftrightarrow 27\sqrt{3(3 - q)^3} \leq (3 - q)(81 - 9q - 4q^2)$$

$$\stackrel{3-q \geq 0}{\Leftrightarrow} 27^2 \cdot 3(3 - q) \leq (81 - 9q - 4q^2)^2 \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq q(q + 9)(4q - 9)^2,$$

which is true and the proof is complete. Equality holds iff ($q = 3 \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1$) and

$$\left(q = \frac{9}{4} \Leftrightarrow a = b = \frac{1}{2}, c = 2 \right) \text{ and its permutations.}$$