

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b > 0$ and $a + b = ab$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + 2a} + \frac{1}{b^2 + 2b} + \sqrt{(1 + a^2)(1 + b^2)} \geq \frac{21}{4}$$

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Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{a^2 + 2a} + \frac{1}{b^2 + 2b} + \sqrt{(1 + a^2)(1 + b^2)} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ & \frac{4}{a^2 + b^2 + 2(a+b)} + \sqrt{1 + (a+b)^2 - 2ab + a^2b^2} \stackrel{a+b=ab}{=} \\ & \frac{4}{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab} + \sqrt{1 + (a+b)^2 - 2(a+b) + (a+b)^2} = \frac{4}{x^2} + \sqrt{2x^2 - 2x + 1} \\ & \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{21}{4} \quad (x = a + b) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{2x^2 - 2x + 1} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{21x^2 - 16}{4x^2} \\ & \quad \because a + b = ab \therefore 4(a + b) \leq (a + b)^2 \Rightarrow x \geq 4 \rightarrow (1) \\ & \quad \therefore \frac{21x^2 - 16}{4x^2} = \frac{17x^2 + 4(x^2 - 16)}{4x^2} \geq \frac{17}{4} > 0 \therefore (*) \Leftrightarrow \\ & (2x^2 - 2x + 1) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{(21x^2 - 16)^2}{16x^4} \Leftrightarrow 16x^4(2x^2 - 2x + 1) \stackrel{?}{\geq} (21x^2 - 16)^2 \\ & \quad \Leftrightarrow 32x^6 - 32x^5 - 425x^4 + 672x^2 - 256 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ & \Leftrightarrow (x - 4) \left((x - 4)(32x^4 + 224x^3 + 855x^2 + 3256x + 13040) + 52224 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ & \rightarrow \text{true via (1)} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \therefore \frac{1}{a^2 + 2a} + \frac{1}{b^2 + 2b} + \sqrt{(1 + a^2)(1 + b^2)} \geq \frac{21}{4} \\ & \quad \forall a, b > 0 \mid a + b = ab, \text{''} = \text{''} \text{ iff } a = b = 2 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$