

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = 3$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2 + 1}} \geq \sqrt{3}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Let $x = \frac{1}{a}, y = \frac{1}{b}, z = \frac{1}{c}$ and then : $\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{x} \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{=} 3 \rightarrow (1)$

$$\left(\frac{1}{x} = a < 3 \Rightarrow x > \frac{1}{3} \text{ and analogs} \right)$$

We shall now prove that : $\frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \forall x \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \infty\right)$

If $\frac{1}{3} < x \leq \frac{2}{5}$, then : $\frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \leq 0 < \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}}$ and so, we now focus on $x > \frac{2}{5}$

and then : $\frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^4}{x^2 + 2} \geq \frac{(5x - 2)^2}{27} \Leftrightarrow 27x^4 \geq (x^2 + 2)(5x - 2)^2$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^4 + 10x^3 - 27x^2 + 20x - 4 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 1)^2 (x^2 + 4(3x - 1)) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\therefore \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \forall x \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \infty\right) \text{ and analogs} \rightarrow (2)$$

Now, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2 + 1}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{x^2} + 1}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \right)$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (2)}}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \right) = \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{2}{3\sqrt{3}} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{x} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{=} \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{6}{3\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2 + 1}} \geq \sqrt{3}$$

$$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a + b + c = 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

Lemma:

If $x \in (0, 3)$ then:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2 + 1}} \geq \frac{5 - 2x}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Proof:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2+1}} \geq \frac{5-2x}{3\sqrt{3}} \Leftrightarrow (5-2x)^2(2x^2+1) \leq 27$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 8x^4 - 40x^3 + 54x^2 - 20x - 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2(4x^2 - 12x - 1) \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2[(2x-3)^2 - 10] \leq 0 \text{ true. (as } 2x-3 < 3)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2+1}} \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{5-2a}{3\sqrt{3}} = \frac{15-2 \cdot 3}{3\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{3}$$

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