

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 192$, then prove that :

$$\sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} \leq 72$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{(a+4)(a^2 - 4a + 16)} \\ \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\leq} & \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a+4)} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a^2 - 4a + 16)} = \sqrt{t+12} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 4t + 48} \quad \left(t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \\ & \stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2 \leq 192}{\leq} \sqrt{(t+12)(240-4t)} \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{note : } 240 - 4t \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\geq} 240 - 4 \cdot \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2} \\ \stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2 \leq 192}{\geq} 240 - 96 > 0 \end{array} \right) \\ & \stackrel{?}{\leq} 72 \Leftrightarrow t^2 - 48t + 576 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (t-24)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \\ & \therefore \sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} \leq 72 \\ & \forall a, b, c > 0 \text{ and } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 192 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

Let $a^2 = p, b^2 = q, c^2 = r$, and $p + q + r \leq 192$ and $\sum \sqrt{a^3 + 64} = \sum \sqrt{p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64}$,

now we will show as a lemma that $\frac{32+p}{4} \geq \sqrt{p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64}$ or,

$(32+p)^2 \geq 16(p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64)$ or $u^2 - 16u + 64 \stackrel{p=u^2}{\geq} 0$ or $(u-8)^2 \geq 0$ (True).

back to the main problem:

$$\text{LHS} \stackrel{\text{lemma}}{\leq} \sum \frac{32+p}{4} = \frac{96+p+q+r}{4} \stackrel{\sum p \leq 192}{\leq} = \frac{96+192}{4} = 72$$