

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{1-a} + \frac{1}{1-b} + \frac{1}{1-c} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3} + 9}{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1-a} + \frac{1}{1-b} + \frac{1}{1-c} &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1+a}{1-a^2} \stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2=1}{=} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1+a}{b^2+c^2} \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{b^2+c^2} + \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{9}{2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2} + \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} \stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2=1}{=} \\ &\quad \frac{9}{2} + \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3\sqrt{3} + 9}{2} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \left[\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} \right] \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Assigning $b+c=x, c+a=y, a+b=z \Rightarrow x+y-z=2c>0, y+z-x=2a>0$ and $z+x-y=2b>0 \Rightarrow x+y>z, y+z>x, z+x>y \Rightarrow x, y, z$ form sides of a triangle with semiperimeter, circumradius and inradius = s, R, r (say);

$$\text{so } 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow a = s - x, b = s - y, c = s - z$$

$$\therefore abc = r^2s \rightarrow (2) \text{ and such substitutions } \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s-x)(s-y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = 4Rr + r^2 \rightarrow (3), \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \stackrel{\text{via (1) and (3)}}{=}$$

$$s^2 - 2(4Rr + r^2) \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2 \rightarrow (4), \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 &= \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 - 2abc \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \stackrel{\text{via (1),(2) and (3)}}{=} (4Rr + r^2)^2 - 2r^2 s \cdot s \\ &\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 = r^2 ((4R+r)^2 - 2s^2) \rightarrow (5) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b^2+c^2} &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^4}{a^3b^2+a^3c^2} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a^3b^2+a^2b^3)} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a^2b^2(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a - c))} = \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b^2) - abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2=1}{=} \\ &\quad \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2}} \Leftrightarrow 4 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \right)^5 \geq 27 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 \right) - abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 \\ &\quad \stackrel{\text{via (1),(2),(3),(4) and (5)}}{\Leftrightarrow} \end{aligned}$$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

$$\begin{aligned}
& 4(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2)^5 - 27 \left(sr^2((4R+r)^2 - 2s^2) - r^2s(4Rr+r^2) \right)^2 \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} 0 \text{ and :} \\
& P = 4(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^5 + 4r(40R - 35r)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^4 \\
& \quad + 4r^2(640R^2 - 1120Rr + 463r^2)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3 \\
& + 4r^3(5120R^3 - 13008R^2r + 10572Rr^2 - 3025r^3)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \\
& \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \because 5120t^3 - 13008t^2 + 10572t - 3025 \left(t = \frac{R}{r} \right) \\ = (t-2)(5120t^2 - 2768t + 5036) + 7047 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 7047 > 0 \end{array} \right) \\
& \therefore \text{in order to prove } (**), \text{ it suffices to prove : LHS of } (**) \geq P \Leftrightarrow \\
& (4688R^4 - 14680R^3r + 18093R^2r^2 - 10750Rr^3 + 2495r^4)s^2 \stackrel{(***)}{\geq} \\
& r(73728R^5 - 248832R^4r + 337536R^3r^2 - 232020R^2r^3 + 77085Rr^4 - 9117r^5) \\
& \quad \because 4688t^4 - 14680t^3 + 18093t^2 - 10750t + 2495 \\
& = (t-2)(4688t^3 - 5304t^2 + 7485t + 4220) + 10935 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 10935 > 0 \\
& \quad \therefore \text{LHS of } (*** \text{ Rouche}) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \\
& (4688R^4 - 14680R^3r + 18093R^2r^2 - 10750Rr^3) \left(\frac{2R^2 + 10Rr - r^2}{-2(R-2r)\sqrt{R^2 - 2Rr}} \right) \\
& \quad \stackrel{?}{\geq} \text{RHS of } (*** \text{ Rouche}) \\
& \Leftrightarrow 9376R^6 - 56208R^5r + 133530R^4r^2 - 163426R^3r^3 \\
& \quad + 111417R^2r^4 - 41385Rr^5 + 6622r^6 \\
& \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2(R-2r)\sqrt{R^2 - 2Rr} \left(4688R^4 - 14680R^3r + 18093R^2r^2 - 10750Rr^3 \right) + 2495r^4 \Leftrightarrow \\
& (R-2r)(9376R^5 - 37456R^4r + 58618R^3r^2 - 46190R^2r^3 + 19037Rr^4 - 3311r^5) \\
& \quad \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2(R-2r)\sqrt{R^2 - 2Rr} \left(4688R^4 - 14680R^3r + 18093R^2r^2 - 10750Rr^3 \right) + 2495r^4 \\
& \quad \text{and } \because 9376t^5 - 37456t^4 + 58618t^3 - 46190t^2 + 19037t - 3311r^5 \\
& = (t-2)(24t^4 + 9352t^3(t-2) + 21210t^2 - 3770t + 11497) + 19683 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} \\
& 19683 > 0 \text{ and } \because R-2r \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove } (****), \text{ it suffices to prove :} \\
& (9376R^5 - 37456R^4r + 58618R^3r^2 - 46190R^2r^3 + 19037Rr^4 - 3311r^5)^2 \\
& > 4(R^2 - 2Rr)(4688R^4 - 14680R^3r + 18093R^2r^2 - 10750Rr^3 + 2495r^4)^2 \\
& \Leftrightarrow 24002560t^9 - 139530240t^8 + 351802368t^7 - 468261888t^6 + 276650496t^5 \\
& + 91963584t^4 - 285463896t^3 + 214237449t^2 - 76262814t + 10962721 \boxed{>} 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow (t-2)((t-2)Q + 2554105446) + 387420489 > 0, \text{ where } Q = \\
& 2242560t^7 + 21760000(t-2) + 81712128t^5 + 32666624t^4 + 80468480t^3 \\
& + 283171008t^2 + 525346216t + 1182938281 \rightarrow \text{true } \because t \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2 \Rightarrow (****) \\
& \Rightarrow (**) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \because \frac{1}{1-a} + \frac{1}{1-b} + \frac{1}{1-c} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{3} + 9}{2}, \\
& \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1, \text{ iff } a = b = c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \text{ (QED)}
\end{aligned}$$