

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$, then prove that :

$$\frac{a^4}{a^3 + 2b^3} + \frac{b^4}{b^3 + 2c^3} + \frac{c^4}{c^3 + 2a^3} \geq \frac{a + b + c}{3}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} - \text{RHS} &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{a^4}{a^3 + 2b^3} - \frac{a}{3} \right) = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{2a(a^3 - b^3)}{3(a^3 + 2b^3)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{a(a^3 + 2b^3 - 3b^3)}{a^3 + 2b^3} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{3} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{ab^3}{a^3 + 2b^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{ab^3}{a^3 + 2b^3} &\leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{ab^3}{ab(a+b) + b^3} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{ab^2}{a^2 + ab + b^2} \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\leq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{b \cdot \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}}{\frac{3}{4} \cdot (a+b)^2} \\ &\left(\because a^2 + ab + b^2 = \frac{3}{4} \cdot (a+b)^2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot (a-b)^2 \right) = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{a^4}{a^3 + 2b^3} + \frac{b^4}{b^3 + 2c^3} + \frac{c^4}{c^3 + 2a^3} &\geq \frac{a + b + c}{3} \quad \forall a, b, c > 0, \\ &\text{"="} \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$