

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $x > y > z > 0$, then prove that :

$$\frac{x}{x-y} + \frac{z}{y-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} \geq 5$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x}{x-y} + \frac{z}{y-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{z})^2}{x-y+y-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} \\ &= \frac{x+z+2\sqrt{xz}}{x-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} \therefore \frac{x}{x-y} + \frac{z}{y-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} \\ &\geq \frac{t+1+2\sqrt{t}}{t-1} + \frac{t^2}{8(\sqrt{t}-1)} \quad \left(t = \frac{x}{z}\right) \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

Let $f(t) = \frac{t+1+2\sqrt{t}}{t-1} + \frac{t^2}{8(\sqrt{t}-1)} \quad \forall t \in (1, \infty)$ and then :

$$f'(t) = \frac{3t^2 - 4t\sqrt{t} - 16}{16\sqrt{t}(\sqrt{t}-1)^2} = \frac{3m^4 - 4m^3 - 16}{16m(m-1)^2} \quad (m = \sqrt{t})$$

$$= \frac{(m-2)(3m^3 + 2m^2 + 4m + 8)}{16m(m-1)^2} \therefore f'(t) = 0 \text{ has a unique root, it being } t = 4$$

($\because 3m^3 + 2m^2 + 4m + 8 > 0$) and $f''(t)|_{t=4}$

$$= \frac{t\sqrt{t}(3t^2 + 8t + 48) - t(9t^2 + 16)}{32t^2 \cdot \sqrt{t}(\sqrt{t}-1)^3} \Bigg|_{t=4} = \frac{3}{8} > 0$$

$\therefore f(t)$ attains a minima at $t = 4$ and $\therefore f'(t) \leq 0 \quad \forall t \in (1, 4]$ and $f'(t) \geq 0 \quad \forall t \in [4, \infty)$ $\therefore f(t)$ is \downarrow on $(1, 4]$ and $f(t)$ is \uparrow on $[4, \infty)$ $\therefore f(t) \geq f(4) = 5$

$$\therefore \frac{t+1+2\sqrt{t}}{t-1} + \frac{t^2}{8(\sqrt{t}-1)} \geq 5 \rightarrow (2) \therefore (1) \text{ and } (2) \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{x}{x-y} + \frac{z}{y-z} + \frac{x^2}{8z(\sqrt{xz}-z)} \geq 5 \quad \forall x > y > z > 0, \text{ iff } x = 4z \text{ (QED)}$$