

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $0 < a, b, c \leq 1$ then:

$$(a + b + c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) \geq 9 + 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria

$$e_1 = 3 + \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{a}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} \right) - 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 2(ab + bc + ca) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 9$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{a}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} \right) - 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 2(ab + bc + ca) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 6$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{by AM - GM: } \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{a}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} \geq 6 \\ \text{by Cauchy Schwarz: } 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 2(ab + bc + ca) \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{a}{c} + \frac{c}{a} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} - 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 2(ab + bc + ca) \geq 6$$

Equality occurred when $a = b = c = 1$.

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} & (a + b + c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) - 9 - 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) \\ &= \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{a}{b} - 2 \right) + \left(\frac{c}{a} + \frac{a}{c} - 2 \right) + \left(\frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{b} - 2 \right) - [(a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2] \\ &= (a - b)^2 \left(\frac{1}{ab} - 1 \right) + (b - c)^2 \left(\frac{1}{bc} - 1 \right) + (c - a)^2 \left(\frac{1}{ca} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{(a - b)^2(1 - ab)}{ab} + \frac{(b - c)^2(1 - bc)}{bc} + \frac{(c - a)^2(1 - ca)}{ca} \geq 0 \quad [\because 0 < a, b, c \leq 1] \end{aligned}$$

Equality when $a = b = c = 1$.