

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3$ then:

$$\frac{a^3}{b^2 - 2b + 3} + \frac{2b^3}{c^3 + a^2 - 2a - 3c + 7} + \frac{3c^3}{a^4 + b^4 + a^2 - 2b^2 - 6a + 11} \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$b^2 - 2b + 3 = (b^2 + 1) - 2b + 2 \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2b - 2b + 2 = 2 \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} c^3 + a^2 - 2a - 3c + 7 &= (c^3 + 1 + 1) + (a^2 + 1) - 2a - 3c + 4 \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\ &\geq 3c + 2a - 2a - 3c + 4 = 4 \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^4 + b^4 + a^2 - 2b^2 - 6a + 11 &= \\ &= (a^4 + a^2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1) + (b^4 + 1) - 2b^2 - 6a + 6 \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\ &\geq 6a + 2b^2 - 2b^2 - 6a + 6 = 6 \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^3}{b^2 - 2b + 3} + \frac{2b^3}{c^3 + a^2 - 2a - 3c + 7} + \frac{3c^3}{a^4 + b^4 + a^2 - 2b^2 - 6a + 11} &\stackrel{(1),(2),(3)}{\leq} \\ &\leq \frac{a^3}{2} + \frac{2b^3}{4} + \frac{3c^3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) = \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Equality for $a = b = c = 1$