

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

$$\frac{a^3 - b^3}{a + 3b} + \frac{b^3 - c^3}{b + 3c} + \frac{c^3 - a^3}{c + 3a} \geq 0$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^3 - b^3}{a + 3b} + \frac{b^3 - c^3}{b + 3c} + \frac{c^3 - a^3}{c + 3a} &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^3}{a + 3b} - \frac{1}{27} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{(27b^3 + a^3) - a^3}{a + 3b} = \\ &= \frac{28}{27} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^4}{a^2 + 3ab} - \frac{1}{27} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a^2 + 9b^2 - 3ab) \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{28}{27} \cdot \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} - \frac{1}{27} \cdot \left(10 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) = \\ &= \frac{28x^2 - (x + 3y)(10x - 3y)}{27(x + 3y)} \left(x = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2, y = \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) = \frac{18x^2 - 27xy + 9y^2}{27(x + 3y)} \\ &= \frac{9(2x^2 - 3xy + y^2)}{27(x + 3y)} = \frac{9(x - y)(2(x - y) + y)}{27(x + 3y)} \geq 0 \because x \geq y > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{as } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \therefore \frac{a^3 - b^3}{a + 3b} + \frac{b^3 - c^3}{b + 3c} + \frac{c^3 - a^3}{c + 3a} \geq 0, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)}$$