ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If x, y, z > 0 and xyz = 27, then prove that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 21x + 9}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^2 + 21y + 9}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 + 21z + 9}} \ge \frac{1}{3}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

Firstly, for all x > 0, we have

$$\sqrt{x^2 + 21x + 9} \le x + \sqrt{3x} + 3 \quad \stackrel{Squaring}{\Leftrightarrow} \quad 0 \le 2\sqrt{3x^3} - 12x + 6\sqrt{3x} = 2\sqrt{3x} \cdot \left(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{3}\right)^2,$$

which is true.

Now, since xyz=27, then there exist a,b,c>0 such that $x=\frac{3bc}{a^2}$, $y=\frac{3ca}{b^2}$, $z=\frac{3ab}{c^2}$, and

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 21x + 9}} \ge \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{x + \sqrt{3x} + 3}$$

$$= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{3(bc + a\sqrt{bc} + a^2)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\ge} \frac{1}{3} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{bc + \frac{ab + ac}{2} + a^2}$$

$$\stackrel{CBS}{\ge} \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{3\sum_{cyc} \left(bc + \frac{ab + ac}{2} + a^2\right)} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Equality holds iff x = y = z = 3.