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If $a, b, c > 0$ and $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{3}{2}(a + b + c) = \frac{15}{2}$, then prove that :

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 3$$

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Firstly, $\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab\right)^3 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 27a^2b^2c^2 \Rightarrow abc \leq \sqrt{\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^3}{27}} \rightarrow (1)$ and also,

$$\frac{15}{2} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{1}{a} + a\right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^2 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 6 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^2 \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \leq 3 \rightarrow (2)$$

Now, we assume : $\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 > 3$ and we have : $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{3}{2}(a + b + c) = \frac{15}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + \frac{3}{2}abc \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right) = \frac{15}{2}abc \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \frac{3}{2}abc \left(5 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\leq} \frac{3}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^3}{27}} \cdot \left(5 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right) \left(\because \text{via (2), } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \leq 3 < 5 \Rightarrow 5 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a > 0\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{3}} \cdot \left(5 - \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}\right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via assumption}}{<} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{3}} \cdot \left(5 - \sqrt{3 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{\frac{t}{3}} \cdot (5 - \sqrt{3 + 2t}) - 2 > 0} \rightarrow (*) \left(t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab\right)$$

Now, $t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \leq \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^2 \stackrel{\text{via (2)}}{\leq} \frac{1}{3} \cdot 9 \Rightarrow \boxed{0 < t \leq 3} \rightarrow (3)$ and we denote

$$f(t) = \sqrt{\frac{t}{3}} \cdot (5 - \sqrt{3 + 2t}) - 2 \quad \forall t \in (0, 3] \text{ and then : } f'(t) = \frac{5 \cdot \sqrt{2t + 3} - (4t + 3)}{2 \cdot \sqrt{3t(2t + 3)}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{25(2t+3) - (4t+3)^2}{2 \cdot \sqrt{3t(2t+3)} \cdot (5 \cdot \sqrt{2t+3} + (4t+3))} = \frac{-2(8t^2 - 13t - 33)}{2 \cdot \sqrt{3t(2t+3)} \cdot (5 \cdot \sqrt{2t+3} + (4t+3))} \\
 &= \frac{(3-t)(8t+11)}{\sqrt{3t(2t+3)} \cdot (5 \cdot \sqrt{2t+3} + (4t+3))} \stackrel{\text{via (3)}}{\geq} 0 \Rightarrow f'(t) \geq 0 \forall t \in (0, 3]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \text{ is } \uparrow \text{ on } (0, 3] \Rightarrow f(t) \leq f(3) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{\frac{t}{3}} \cdot (5 - \sqrt{3+2t}) - 2 \leq 0}$$

which contradicts (*) and hence, we conclude that our assumption is incorrect
 $\Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}$