

# ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

**If  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $a + b + c = 3$ , then prove that :**

$$\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} + 5 \geq (a + b)(b + c)(c + a)$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

**Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India**

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{a} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 &\stackrel{\text{GM-HM}}{\geq} \frac{3a}{2a+1} \text{ and analogs } \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} + 5 \geq \\ &\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{3a^2}{2a^2+a} + 5 \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{3(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{2\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} a} + 5 \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{=} \\ &\frac{\frac{3}{27}(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^5}{2\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{3}} + \frac{5}{27} \cdot \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^3 = \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^5}{18\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 3(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2} + \frac{5}{27} \cdot \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^3 \\ &\stackrel{?}{\geq} (a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \\ \Leftrightarrow &\frac{27(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^5}{18\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 3(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2} + 5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 27(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \end{aligned}$$

Assigning  $b + c = x, c + a = y, a + b = z \Rightarrow x + y - z = 2c > 0, y + z - x = 2a > 0$  and  $z + x - y = 2b > 0 \Rightarrow x + y > z, y + z > x, z + x > y \Rightarrow x, y, z$  form sides of a triangle with semiperimeter, circumradius and inradius =  $s, R, r$  (say);

so  $2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow a = s - x, b = s - y, c = s - z$  and

such substitutions  $\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s-x)(s-y) \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = 4Rr + r^2 \rightarrow (2)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 &= \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a\right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \stackrel{\text{via (1) and (2)}}{=} s^2 - 2(4Rr + r^2) \\ &\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2 \rightarrow (3) \end{aligned}$$

Now, via (1) and (3), (\*)  $\Leftrightarrow \frac{27s^5}{18(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) + 3s^2} + 5s^3 \geq 27 \cdot 4Rr$

$$\Leftrightarrow 11s^4 - (249Rr + 15r^2)s^2 + 324Rr^2(4R + r) \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} 0 \text{ and } \therefore$$

$11(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0, \therefore$  in order to prove (\*\*), it suffices to prove :

$$\text{LHS of } (**)\geq 11(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (103R - 125r)s^2 \stackrel{(***)}{\geq} r(1520R^2 - 2084Rr + 275r^2)$$

Again,  $(103R - 125r)s^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (103R - 125r)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq}$

$$r(1520R^2 - 2084Rr + 275r^2) \Leftrightarrow 128R^2 - 431Rr + 350r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(128R - 175r) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because R \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2r \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true}$$

$$\therefore \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} + 5 \geq (a+b)(b+c)(c+a)$$

$$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a+b+c=3, " = " \text{ iff } a=b=c=1 \text{ (QED)}$$

**Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco**

By AM – GM inequality, we have

$$a^3 + 3\sqrt[3]{a} \geq 4\sqrt[4]{a^3 \cdot (\sqrt[3]{a})^3} = 4a \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{a} \geq \frac{4a - a^3}{3} \text{ (and analogs)}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} + 5 &\geq \frac{4(a+b+c) - (a^3 + b^3 + c^3)}{3} + 5 \\ &= \frac{4 \cdot 3 - (a+b+c)^3 + 3(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}{3} + 5 \\ &= (a+b)(b+c)(c+a), \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds iff  $a = b = c = 1$ .