

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0, ab + bc + ca + 2abc = 1$ then:

$$\frac{1}{a^3} + \frac{1}{b^3} + \frac{1}{c^3} \geq 2 \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right)$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

Let $a = \frac{x}{y+z}, b = \frac{y}{z+x}, c = \frac{z}{x+y}$ then $ab + bc + ca + 2abc = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{a^3} + \frac{1}{b^3} + \frac{1}{c^3} &= \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{1}{c}\right)^3 \stackrel{\text{Chebyscv}}{\geq} \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \left(\left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{c}\right)^2\right) \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca}\right) \end{aligned}$$

We need to show:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{a^3} + \frac{1}{b^3} + \frac{1}{c^3} &\geq 2 \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) \\ \text{or } \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) &\geq 2 \left(\frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \right) \\ \text{or } \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) &\geq 2 \text{ or } \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) \geq 6 \text{ or } \frac{y+z}{x} + \frac{z+x}{y} + \frac{x+y}{z} \geq 6 \text{ true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{since, } \frac{y+z}{x} + \frac{z+x}{y} + \frac{x+y}{z} &= \left(\frac{y}{x} + \frac{z}{x} + \frac{z}{y} + \frac{x}{y} + \frac{x}{z} + \frac{y}{z} \right) \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\geq} \\ &\geq 6 \left(\frac{y}{x} \cdot \frac{z}{x} \cdot \frac{z}{y} \cdot \frac{x}{y} \cdot \frac{x}{z} \cdot \frac{y}{z} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} = 6 \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $x = y = z$ or $a = b = c = \frac{1}{2}$.