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SOLUTIONS

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JP.166. If $a, b \in [0; +\infty)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}^* \wedge n \geq 2$ then:

$$(ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \leq \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n a^k b^{n-k}}{n+1} \leq \frac{a^n + b^n}{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Nho – Nghe An – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$(ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{b^n + ab^{n-1} + a^2 b^{n-2} + \dots + a^{n-1} b + a^n}{n+1} \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \frac{a^n + b^n}{2}$$

Using Cauchy's inequality:

$$\frac{b^n + ab^{n-1} + a^2 b^{n-2} + \dots + a^{n-1} b + a^n}{n+1} \geq \sqrt[n+1]{(ab)^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}} = (ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true.}$$

If $a = b$ then (2) true. If $a \neq b$ (suppose $b > a$) we have

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow \frac{b^{n+1} - a^{n+1}}{(n+1)} \leq \frac{a^n + b^n}{2} (b - a)$$

Let $f(x) = x^n (\forall x \in [a, b])$ and $O(0, 0), A(a, 0), B(b, 0), C(a, f(a)), D(b, f(b))$ we have

$$\frac{b^{n+1} - a^{n+1}}{n+1} = \int_a^b x^n dx \leq S_{ABCD} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (OC + OD)(OB - OA) = \frac{(a^n + b^n)(b - a)}{2}$$

Proved.

Solution 2 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

Let $f(x) = x^n$ for all $x \geq 0$ and $n \geq 2$, now $f''(x) = n(n-1)x^{n-2} \geq 0$

Hence f is a convex function, by Hermite – Hadamard

$$\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^n \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b x^n dx \leq \frac{a^n + b^n}{2} \text{ where } a, b \in [0, \infty) \text{ and } b > a$$

$$\Rightarrow (ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \stackrel{AM \geq GM}{\geq} \frac{b^{n+1} - a^{n+1}}{(b-a)(n+1)} \leq \frac{a^n + b^n}{2}$$

$$(ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \leq \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n a^k b^{n-k}}{n+1} \leq \frac{a^n + b^n}{2}$$

(Proved)

Solution 3 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$1) \sum_{k=0}^n a^k b^{n-k} \geq (n+1) \sqrt[n+1]{\prod_{k=0}^n (a^k b^{(n-k)})} = (n+1) \cdot \sqrt[n+1]{a^{\sum_0^n k} \cdot b^{\sum_0^n (n-k)}} =$$

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$$(n + 1) \cdot \left[(ab)^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{n+1}} = (n + 1) \cdot (ab)^{\frac{n}{2}} \quad (\text{Left})$$

$$2) (a^n + b^n)(n + 1) \geq 2 \cdot \sum_{k=0}^n a^k b^{n-k} \rightarrow \sum_{k=0}^n (a^n + b^n - a^k b^{n-k} - a^{n-k} b^k) \geq 0$$

$\rightarrow \sum_{k=0}^n (a^k - b^k)(a^{n-k} - b^{n-k}) \geq 0$ which is true as the terms of the sum have the same sign. (Right)

JP.167. Let $OABC$ be a tetrahedron with $\angle AOB = \angle BOC = \angle COA = 90^\circ$ and let P be any point inside the triangle ABC . Denote respectively by d_a, d_b, d_c the distances from P to faces $(OBC), (OCA), (OAB)$. Prove that:

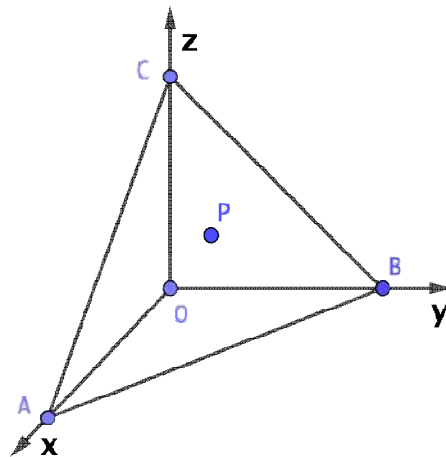
(a) $d_a^2 + d_b^2 + d_c^2 = OP^2$.

(b) $d_a d_b d_c \leq \frac{OA \cdot OB \cdot OC}{27}$

(c) $OA \cdot d_a^3 + OB \cdot d_b^3 + OC \cdot d_c^3 \geq OP^4$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India



Let $OA = a\hat{i}, OB = b\hat{j}, OC = c\hat{k}, a, b > 0$. Equation of plane ABC is: $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$

Let $P(x, y, z)$ be any point in the interior of ΔABC . Then

(a) $d_a = x, d_b = y, d_c = z$

Now, $d_a^2 + d_b^2 + d_c^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = OP^2$

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$$(b) \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} \right) \geq \left(\frac{xyz}{abc} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow xyz \leq 27abc \Rightarrow d_a d_b d_c \leq 27(OA)(OB)(OC)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (c) \quad ax^3 + by^3 + cz^3 &= (ax^3 + by^3 + cz^3) \left(\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} \right) = \\ &= x^4 + y^4 + z^4 + \left(\frac{b}{a} xy^3 + \frac{a}{b} x^3 y \right) + \left(\frac{c}{a} xz^3 + \frac{a}{c} xz^3 \right) + \left(\frac{b}{c} y^3 z + \frac{c}{b} zy^3 \right) \geq \\ &\geq x^4 + y^4 + z^4 + 2x^2 y^2 + 2x^2 z^2 + 2y^2 z^2 = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^2 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow (OA)(d_a^3) + (OB)(d_b^3) + (OC)(d_c^3) \geq OP^4 \end{aligned}$$

JP.168. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+a^3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+b^3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c^3}} \leq 1$$

Prove that:

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 12$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sqrt{a^3 + 1} = \sqrt{(a+1)(a^2 - a + 1)}$$

$$\stackrel{G \leq A}{\underset{(1)}{\leq}} \frac{(a+1)+(a^2-a+1)}{2} = \frac{a^2+2}{2}, \text{ equality at } a = 2.$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \sqrt{b^3 + 1} \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \frac{b^2+2}{2}, \text{ equality at } b = 2 \text{ \& } \sqrt{c^3 + 1} \stackrel{(3)}{\leq} \frac{c^2+2}{2}, \text{ equality at } c = 2.$$

$$(1), (2), (3) \Rightarrow \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^3+1}} \geq 2 \sum \frac{1}{a^2+2}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{2(1+1+1)^2}{\sum a^2+6} = \frac{18}{\sum a^2+6} \text{ \& } \therefore 1 \geq \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^3+1}}$$

$$\therefore 1 \geq \frac{18}{\sum a^2+6} \Rightarrow \sum a^2 \geq 12, \text{ equality when } a = b = c = 2$$

(proved)

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JP.169. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that: $a + b + c = 3$.

Prove that:

$$\frac{a^4}{b^4\sqrt{2c(a^3+1)}} + \frac{b^4}{c^4\sqrt{2a(b^3+1)}} + \frac{c^4}{a^4\sqrt{2b(c^3+1)}} \geq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\frac{a^4}{b^4\sqrt{2c(a^3+1)}} + \frac{b^4}{c^4\sqrt{2a(b^3+1)}} + \frac{c^4}{a^4\sqrt{2b(c^3+1)}} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{\sum a^2}{2}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{2c(a^3+1)}} + \frac{\left(\frac{b^2}{c^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{2a(b^3+1)}} + \frac{\left(\frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{2b(c^3+1)}} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \frac{\sum a^2}{2}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sqrt{2c(a^3+1)} = \sqrt{(c(a+1))(2a^2-2a+2)}$$

$$\stackrel{G \leq A}{\underset{(a)}{\leq}} \frac{ca + c + 2a^2 - 2a + 2}{2}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \sqrt{2a(b^3+1)} \stackrel{(b)}{\leq} \frac{ab+a+2b^2-2b+2}{2} \quad \& \quad \sqrt{2b(c^3+1)} \stackrel{(c)}{\leq} \frac{bc+b+2c^2-2c+2}{2}$$

(a), (b), (c) \Rightarrow LHS of (2) \geq

$$2 \left[\frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{ca + c + 2a^2 - 2a + 2} + \frac{\left(\frac{b^2}{c^2}\right)^2}{ab + a + 2b^2 - 2b + 2} + \frac{\left(\frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{bc + b + 2c^2 - 2c + 2} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{2 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sum ab + \sum a + 2 \sum a^2 - 6 + 6} \quad (\because 2 \sum a = 6)$$

$$= \frac{2 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sum ab + \frac{1}{3}(\sum a)^2 + 2 \sum a^2} \quad (\because \sum a = 3)$$

$$= \frac{6 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{3 \sum ab + \sum a^2 + 2 \sum ab + 6 \sum a^2} = \frac{6 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{7 \sum a^2 + 5 \sum ab}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &\geq \frac{6 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right)^2}{12 \sum a^2} \left(\because 5 \sum ab \leq 5 \sum a^2 \right) \\
 &= \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right)^2}{2 \sum a^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{\sum a^2}{2} \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sum a^2 \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \left(\sum a \right)^2 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 9 \sum a^2 \left(\because \left(\sum a \right)^2 = 9 \right) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \left(\sum a \right)^2 \left(\frac{\sum a^2 b^4}{a^2 b^2 c^2} \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 9 \sum a^2 \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \sum a^2 b^6 + 2abc \left(\sum ab^4 \right) + 2 \sum a^7 b^5 + 2abc \left(\sum a^2 b^3 \right) + \\
 &\quad + \sum a^4 b^4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 8a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum a^2 b^6 = a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\frac{b^4}{c^2} + \frac{c^4}{a^2} + \frac{a^4}{b^2} \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\underset{(i)}{\geq}} a^2 b^2 c^2 \frac{\left(\sum a^2 \right)^2}{\sum a^2} = a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Also, } 2abc \left(\sum ab^4 \right) = 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a} \right) = 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\frac{a^4}{ab} + \frac{b^4}{bc} + \frac{c^4}{ac} \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\underset{(ii)}{\geq}} 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \frac{\left(\sum a^2 \right)^2}{\sum ab} \stackrel{\sum a^2 \geq \sum ab}{\geq} 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Again, } 2 \sum a^3 b^5 + 2abc \left(\sum a^2 b^3 \right) = 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\frac{ab^3}{c^2} + \frac{bc^3}{a^2} + \frac{ca^3}{b^2} + \frac{ab^2}{c} + \frac{bc^2}{a} + \frac{ca^2}{b} \right)$$

$$= 2a^2 b^2 c^2 \left[\left(\frac{ab^3}{c^2} + \frac{bc^2}{a} \right) + \left(\frac{bc^3}{a^2} + \frac{ca^2}{b} \right) + \left(\frac{ca^3}{b^2} + \frac{ab^2}{c} \right) \right]$$

$$\stackrel{A-G}{\underset{(iii)}{\geq}} 2a^2 b^2 c^2 (2b^2 + 2c^2 + 2a^2) = 4a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Lastly, } \sum a^4 b^4 \stackrel{\sum x^2 \geq \sum xy}{\underset{(iv)}{\geq}} a^2 b^2 \cdot b^2 c^2 + b^2 c^2 \cdot c^2 a^2 + c^2 a^2 \cdot a^2 b^2 =$$

$$= a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)$$

(i) + (ii) + (iii) + (iv) \Rightarrow (3) is true (proved)

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Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^4}{b^4 \sqrt{2c(a^3+1)}} \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} a^2 \quad (1) \text{ Let } (p, q, r, m) = (\sum_{cyc} a, \sum_{cyc} ab, abc \sum_{cyc} a^2)$$

$$p = 3, q \leq 3, r \leq 1, m = p^2 - 2q = 9 - 2q. \text{ By AM-GM } \sqrt{2c(a^3+1)} \leq \frac{1}{2}(2c + a^3 + 1)$$

with equality when $c = a = 1$; same in a cyclic manner. By this and BCS we get

$$\frac{(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b^2})^2}{\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3+2c+1}{2}} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{m}{2} \quad (2). \text{ For } x, y, z > 0 \text{ we know that (AM-GM)}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{y} \geq (\sum_{cyc} x) \cdot (xyz)^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{ with } x = a^2, y = b^2, z = c^2 \text{ this } \rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{b^2} \geq m \cdot r^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\text{Now, (2)} \rightarrow \frac{2 \cdot m^2 r^{-\frac{4}{3}}}{\sum_{cyc} a^3 + 6 + 3} \geq \frac{m}{2} \text{ or } 36r^{-\frac{4}{3}} + 9q - 8qr^{-\frac{4}{3}} - 3r - 36 \geq 0 \quad (3)$$

where $\sum_{cyc} a^3 = p^3 - 3pq + 3r = 27 - 9q + 3r$. From (3) using the facts

$$q^2 \geq 3pr = 9r \text{ and } q \leq \frac{p^3+9r}{4p} = \frac{27+9r}{12} \text{ (Schur) we get the stronger inequality}$$

$$36r^{-\frac{4}{3}} + 27r^{\frac{1}{2}} - 8 \cdot \frac{27+9r}{12} \cdot r^{-\frac{4}{3}} - 3r \geq 0 \quad (4). \text{ This using the transformation}$$

$$t = r^{\frac{1}{6}} \text{ reduces to: } -3t^{14} - 36r^8 + 27t^{11} - 6t^6 + 18 \geq 0$$

$$[(4) \times r^{\frac{4}{3}} \text{ and } r^{\frac{1}{6}} \rightarrow t] \text{ or } 3(1-t) \cdot (t^{13} + t^{12} + t^{11} - 8t^{10} - 8t^9 - 8t^8 + 4t^7 + 4t^6 +$$

$$+ 6t^5 + 6t^4 + 6t^3 + 6t^2 + 6t + 6) \geq 0 \quad (5). \text{ We can observe that } 6t^3 - 6t^{10} \geq 0$$

$2t^7 - 2t^{10} \geq 0$ ($t \leq 1$) and similarly, we work with $-8t^9$ and $-8t^8$. As the rest in the

term $t^{13} + t^{12} + \dots + 6$ are all positive we see that (5) holds. Done.

JP.170. Let x, y, z be positive real numbers such that: $x + y + z = 3$. Find the minimum value of:

$$P = \frac{x^4}{y^4 \sqrt[3]{4z(x^5+1)}} + \frac{y^4}{z^4 \sqrt[3]{4x(y^5+1)}} + \frac{z^4}{x^4 \sqrt[3]{4y(z^5+1)}}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

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Solution by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\sqrt[3]{4z(x^5 + 1)} = \sqrt[3]{2z(x + 1)(2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2)}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{(Cauchy)}}{\leq} \frac{2z + x + 1 + 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2}{3}$$

$$= \frac{2z + 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 3}{3};$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \sqrt[3]{4x(y^5 + 1)} \leq \frac{2x + 2y^4 - 2y^3 + 2y^2 - y + 3}{3};$$

$$\sqrt[3]{4y(z^5 + 1)} \leq \frac{2y + 2z^4 - 2z^3 + 2z^2 - z + 3}{3};$$

$$\therefore \sum \frac{\left(\frac{x^2}{y^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt[3]{4z(x^5 + 1)}} \stackrel{\text{(Schwarz)}}{\geq} \frac{3 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{2 \sum a^4 - 2 \sum a^3 + 2 \sum a^2 + 12}$$

$$(\because a = x, b = y, c = z)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{(\sum a^4 - \sum a^3 + \sum a^2 + 6)} \quad (1)$$

Must show that: $\left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2 \geq \sum a^4 - \sum a^3 + \sum a^2 + 6$. But $\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \sum a^2$

$$\text{Must show that: } (\sum a^2)^2 \geq \sum a^4 - \sum a^3 + \sum a^2 + 6$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2 \sum a^2 b^2 + \sum a^3 - \sum a^2 - 6 \geq 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\text{Let } p = a + b + c = 3; q = ab + bc + ca, r = abc;$$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow 2(q^2 - 6r) + (27 - 9q + 3r) - (9 - 2q) - 6 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2q^2 - 7q - 9r + 12 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (q^2 - 9r) + (q - 3)(q - 4) \geq 0 \quad (**)$$

$$(**) \text{ true because: } q \leq \frac{p^2}{3} = 3, q^2 \geq 9r.$$

$$\Rightarrow (1) \geq \frac{3}{2} \cdot 1 = \frac{3}{2}.$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1.$$

Now, we will prove (2) true:

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2} \geq \sum a^2 \Leftrightarrow \left(\sum a\right)^2 \left(\frac{\sum a^2 b^4}{a^2 b^2 c^2}\right) \geq 9 \sum a^2 \quad (\because \sum a = 3)$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \sum a^2 b^6 + 2abc \sum ab^4 + 2 \sum a^3 b^5 + 2abc \sum a^2 b^3 + \sum a^4 b^4 \geq 8(abc)^2 \sum a^2 \quad (3);$$

$$\therefore \sum a^2 b^6 = (abc)^2 \sum \frac{a^4}{b^4} \stackrel{(Schwarz)}{\geq} (abc)^2 \frac{(\sum a^2)^2}{\sum a^2} = (abc)^2 \sum a^2 \quad (4);$$

$$\therefore 2abc \sum ab^4 = 2(abc)^2 \sum \frac{a^4}{ab} \stackrel{(Schwarz)}{\geq}$$

$$2(abc)^2 \frac{(\sum a^2)^2}{\sum ab} \geq 2(abc)^2 \frac{(\sum a^2)^2}{\sum a^2} = 2(abc)^2 \sum a^2 \quad (5);$$

$$\therefore 2 \sum a^3 b^5 + 2abc \sum a^2 b^3 = 2(abc)^2 \left\{ \sum \frac{ab^3}{c^2} + \sum \frac{ab^2}{c} \right\}$$

$$= 2(abc)^2 \left\{ \left[\frac{ab^3}{c^2} + \frac{bc^2}{a} \right] + \left[\frac{bc^3}{a^2} + \frac{ca^2}{b} \right] + \left[\frac{ca^3}{b^2} + \frac{ab^2}{c} \right] \right\}$$

$$\stackrel{(Cauchy)}{\geq} 2(abc)^2 (2b^2 + 2c^2 + 2a^2) = 4(abc)^2 \sum a^2 \quad (6).$$

$$\therefore \sum a^4 b^4 = \sum \{(ab)^2\}^2 \geq (abc)^2 \sum a^2 \quad (7);$$

From (4)+(5)+(6)+(7) \Rightarrow (3) true \Rightarrow (2) true.

JP.171. Let ABC be an acute triangle with perimeter 3. Prove that:

$$\frac{1}{m_a^a} + \frac{1}{m_b^b} + \frac{1}{m_c^c} \geq \frac{3}{R+r}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$LHS \stackrel{A-G}{\underset{(1)}{\geq}} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{m_a^a m_b^b m_c^c}}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sqrt[3]{m_a^a m_b^b m_c^c} = \sqrt[3]{m_a^a m_b^b m_c^c} \stackrel{\text{weight } GM \leq AM}{\leq} \frac{\sum am_a}{2s} \Rightarrow 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{m_a^a m_b^b m_c^c}} \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} \frac{3(2s)}{\sum am_a}$$

$$(1), (2) \Rightarrow LHS \geq \frac{3(2s)}{\sum am_a} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{R+r} \Leftrightarrow \sum am_a \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2s(R+r)$$

$$\therefore m_a \leq R(1 + \cos A) \text{ etc, } \sum am_a \leq \sum a^2 R \cdot 2 \frac{s(s-a)}{abc}$$

$$= \frac{2Rs}{4Rrs} \sum a^2(s-a) = \frac{1}{2r} \left(s \sum a^2 - \sum a^3 \right)$$

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$$= \frac{1}{2r} \{s \cdot 2(s^2 - 4Rr - r^2) - 2s(s^2 - 6Rr - 3r^2)\}$$

$$= \frac{s}{r} (2Rr + 2r^2) = 2s(R + r) \Rightarrow (3) \text{ is true (Proved)}$$

JP.172. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that: $abc = 1$.

Prove the inequality:

$$\frac{a^4}{b^4\sqrt{a^4+4}} + \frac{b^4}{c^4\sqrt{b^4+4}} + \frac{c^4}{a^4\sqrt{c^4+4}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3(a+b+c)}{5}}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $abc = 1$, give $a = \frac{x}{y}$; $b = \frac{y}{z}$, $c = \frac{z}{x}$

Hence $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq a + b + c$. If $\frac{xy}{z^2} + \frac{yz}{x^2} + \frac{zx}{y^2} \geq \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}$

If $(xy)^3 + (yz)^3 + (zx)^3 \geq x^3yz^2 + y^3zx^2 + z^3xy^2$ and it's true because

$$(xy)^3 + (xy)^3 + (yz)^3 \geq 3(x^2y^3z)$$

$$(yz)^3 + (yz)^3 + (zx)^3 \geq 3(y^2z^3x)$$

$$(zx)^3 + (zx)^3 + (xy)^3 \geq 3(z^2x^3y)$$

Hence, similarly $\frac{a^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{a^4} \geq \frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{a}$

Because $x^{12} + y^{12} + z^{12} \geq x^8yz^3 + y^8zx^3 + z^8xy^3$ and $\frac{a^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{a^4} \geq \frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a}$

Because $x^{12} + y^{12} + z^{12} \geq x^7z^5 + y^7x^5 + z^7y^5$ and $a^5 + b^5 + c^5 \geq \frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a}$,

$$\frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{a} \text{ consider } \frac{a^4}{b^4\sqrt{a^4+4}} + \frac{b^4}{c^4\sqrt{b^4+4}} + \frac{c^4}{a^4\sqrt{c^4+4}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3(a+b+c)}{5}}$$

$$\text{If } \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2 \geq \sqrt{\frac{3(a+b+c)}{5}} (\sqrt{a^4+4} + \sqrt{b^4+4} + \sqrt{c^4+4})$$

$$\text{If } \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2 \geq \sqrt{\frac{9}{5}} (a+b+c)(a^4+b^4+c^4+12)$$

$$\text{If } \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^4 \geq \frac{9}{5} (a+b+c)(a^4+b^4+c^4+12)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \text{If } \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{a^8}{b^8} + \frac{b^8}{c^8} + \frac{c^8}{a^8} \right) + 30 \left(\frac{a^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{a^4} \right) + 60 \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2} \right) + \\ & + 20 \left(\frac{a^6}{b^4 c^2} + \frac{b^6}{c^4 a^2} + \frac{c^6}{a^4 b^2} + \frac{a^4 c^2}{b^6} + \frac{a^4 b^2}{c^6} + \frac{b^4 a^2}{c^6} \right) \geq 9(a^5 + b^5 + c^5) + \\ & + 9 \left(\frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a} + \frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{a} \right) + 108(a + b + c) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{If } 5(a^8 + b^8 + c^8) + 40(a^5 + b^5 + c^5) + 15 \left(\frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a} \right) + 15 \left(\frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{a} \right) + \\ & + 60(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq 9(a^5 + b^5 + c^5) + 9 \left(\frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} + \frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{a} \right) + 108(a + b + c) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it's true.

Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{LHS} = \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{a^4 + 4}} + \frac{\left(\frac{b^2}{c^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{b^4 + 4}} + \frac{\left(\frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{c^4 + 4}} \stackrel{\text{(Schwarz)}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sum \sqrt{a^4 + 4}} \geq \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{3(a^4 + b^4 + c^4 + 12)}}$$

$$\text{Must show that: } \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2 \geq \sqrt{\frac{3(a+b+c)}{5}} \sqrt{3(a^4 + b^4 + c^4 + 12)};$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 5 \left(\sum \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^4 \geq 9(a + b + c)(a^4 + b^4 + c^4 + 12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 5\{a^{16}c^8 + c^{16}b^8 + b^{16}a^8\} + 20\{c^2a^{10} + a^2b^{10} + b^2c^{10} + c^8a^{10} + a^8b^{10} + b^8c^{10}\} + \\ & + 30\{b^4a^8 + a^4c^8 + c^4b^8\} + 60\{c^2a^4 + a^2b^4 + b^2c^4\} \geq 9\{a^5 + b^5 + c^5\} + \\ & + 9\{ab^4 + ac^4 + ba^4 + bc^4 + ca^4 + cb^4\} + 108\{a + b + c\} \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum a^2 \geq \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{3} \geq (a + b + c) \quad (\because a + b + c \geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc} = 3)$$

$$5 \sum a^8 \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev+Cauchy)}}{\geq} 5 \sum a^5 \quad (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 60 \sum a^2 b^4 \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev+Cauchy)}}{\geq} 60 \sum a^2 \geq 60 \sum a \quad (2)$$

$$36 \sum a^5 \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev)}}{\geq} 36 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \sum a^2 \sum a^3 \stackrel{\text{(Cauchy)}}{\geq} 36 \sum a^2 \geq 36 \sum a \quad (3)$$

$$30 \sum a^8 b^4 \geq 15 \sum a^4 c + 15 \sum a^4 b = \{9 \sum a^4 c + 9 \sum a^4 b\} + 6\{\sum a^4 c + \sum a^4 b\} \quad (4)$$

$$6 \sum a^4 c \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev)}}{\geq} 6 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \sum a \sum a^4 \stackrel{\text{(Cauchy)}}{\geq} 6 \sum a \quad (5)$$

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Same $6 \sum a^4 b \geq 6 \sum a$ (6)

$$20(\sum a^2 b^{10} + \sum a^8 b^{10}) \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev+Cauchy)}}{\geq} 40 \sum a^5 \quad (7)$$

From (1)+(2) + (3) + (4) + (5) + (6) + (7) \Rightarrow (*) true.

JP.173. Prove that in any triangle ABC,

$$\frac{1}{\sin A} + \frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} \geq \sqrt{\frac{6R}{r}}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Lahiru Samarakoon-Sri Lanka

We have to prove, $(\because \sum \frac{1}{\sin A} = \frac{s^2 R + 4Rr}{2sr})$

$$\frac{(s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr)^2}{4s^2 r^2} \geq \frac{6R}{r}$$

$$s^4 + r^4 + 16R^2 r^2 + 2s^2 r^2 + 8r^3 R + 8Rrs^2 \geq 24Rrs^2$$

$$s^2(s^2 + 2r^2 - 16Rr) + r^4 + 16R^2 r^2 + 8r^3 R \geq 0$$

Since, $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$, then we have to prove,

$$(16Rr - 5r^2)(s^2 + 2r^2 - 16Rr) + r^4 + 16R^2 r^2 + 8r^3 R \geq 0$$

again, we have to prove,

$$(16Rr - sr^2)^2 + 32Rr^3 - 10r^4 - 256R^2 r^2 + 80Rr^3 + r^4 + 16R^2 r^2 + 8r^3 R \geq 0$$

$$16r^4 + 16R^2 r^2 - 40Rr^3 \geq 0$$

$$8r^2(2R^2 - sRr + 2r^2) \geq 0$$

$$8r^2(2R - r) \underbrace{(R - 2r)}_{(+)\text{ euler}}$$

(proved)

Solution 2 by Ruanghaw Chaoka-Chiangrai-Thailand

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sin A} + \frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} \right)^2 \stackrel{??}{\geq} \frac{6R}{r}$$

$$\text{Sine' law; } \frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C} = \frac{abc}{2\Delta}$$

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$$\begin{cases} R = \frac{abc}{4\Delta} \\ r = \frac{2\Delta}{a+b+c} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{6R}{r} = \frac{3abc(a+b+c)}{4\Delta^2}$$

Now inequality becomes $(ab + bc + ca)^2 \stackrel{??}{\geq} 3abc(a + b + c)$

$$\begin{aligned} \because (ab + bc + ca)^2 &= (ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2 + 2abc(a + b + c) \\ &\geq abc(a + b + c) + 2abc(a + b + c) \\ &= 3abc(a + b + c) \text{ holds at } a = b = c \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

We must show:

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sin A} + \frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} \right)^2 \geq \frac{6R}{r} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{But } \left(\frac{1}{\sin A} + \frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} \right)^2 \geq 3 \sum \frac{1}{\sin A \sin B \sin C} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{But } \sum \frac{1}{\sin A \sin B} = \frac{2R}{r} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{From (2)+(3)} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{\sin A} + \frac{1}{\sin B} + \frac{1}{\sin C} \right)^2 \geq \frac{6R}{r} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ it's true.}$$

JP.174. Prove that in any triangle ABC,

$$\frac{h_a}{a} + \frac{h_b}{b} + \frac{h_c}{c} \geq \sqrt{6(1 + \cos A \cos B \cos C)}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Lahiru Samarakoon-Sri Lanka

$$\text{For any } \Delta ABC, \sum \frac{h_a}{a} \geq \sqrt{6(1 + \cos A \cos B \cos C)}$$

$$\prod \cos A = \frac{S^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - r^2}{4R^2} \text{ so,}$$

$$\sum \frac{2\Delta}{a^2} \geq \sqrt{6 \left(1 + \frac{S^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - r^2}{4R^2} \right)}$$

$$2\Delta \sum \frac{1}{a^2} \geq \sqrt{\frac{6(S^2 - 4Rr - r^2)}{4R^2}}$$

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$$\therefore \text{we have to prove } \frac{4\Delta^2 R^2}{a^2 b^2 c^2} \times 4 \left(\sum \frac{1}{a^2} \right)^2 \geq 3 \times \frac{2(S^2 - r^2 - 4Rr)}{(\sum a^2)}$$

$$\therefore \text{we have to prove, } a^2 b^2 c^2 \frac{(\sum a^2 b^2)^2}{(a^2 b^2 c^2)^2} \geq 3(\sum a^2)$$

$$\left(\sum a^2 b^2 \right)^2 \geq 3a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right)$$

It's true.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 3a^2 b^2 c^2 \left(\sum a^2 \right) &= 3[(a^2 b^2)(a^2 c^2) + (b^2 a^2)(b^2 c^2) + (b^2 c^2)(a^2 c^2)] \\ &\leq 3 \frac{(a^2 b^2 + b^2 c^2 + a^2 c^2)^2}{3}. \text{ So, proved} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sum \frac{h_a}{a} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \sqrt{6(1 + \cos A \cos B \cos C)}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{b^2 c^2}{8R^2 r s} \geq \sqrt{6 \left(1 + \frac{s^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - r^2}{4R^2} \right)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sum a^2 b^2)^2}{64R^4 r^2 S^2} \geq \frac{3 \sum a^2}{4R^2} \Leftrightarrow \left(\sum a^2 b^2 \right)^2 \stackrel{(2)}{\geq} 3(abc)^2 \sum a^2$$

$$(\because 4Rs = abc)$$

Let $s - a = x, s - b = y, s - c = z \therefore a = y + z, b = z + x, c = x + y$

Using the above substitution, (2) becomes (upon simplification):

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum x^8 + 4 \sum x^7 y + 4 \sum xy^7 + 4 \sum x^6 y^2 + 4 \sum x^2 y^6 + 12xyz \left(\sum x^5 \right) + \\ &+ 6xyz \left(\sum x^4 y + \sum xy^4 \right) \stackrel{(3)}{\geq} 2 \sum x^5 y^3 + 2 \sum x^3 y^5 + 5 \sum x^4 y^4 + \\ &+ 10xyz \left(\sum x^3 y^3 + \sum x^2 y^3 \right) + 4x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum x^2 \right) + 8x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum xy \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{We have, } 2 \sum x^6 y^2 + 2 \sum x^2 y^6 \stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \frac{2}{2} \sum x^2 y^2 (x^2 + y^2)(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\stackrel{A-G}{\geq (a)} 2 \sum x^2 y^2 (x^2 + y^2) \cdot xy = 2 \sum x^5 y^3 + 2 \sum x^3 y^5$$

$$\text{Also, } 2 \sum x^6 y^2 + 2 \sum x^2 y^6 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq (b)} 4 \sum x^4 y^4$$

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$$\text{Also, } \sum x^7 y + \sum xy^7 \stackrel{A-G}{\underset{(c)}{\geq}} 2 \sum x^4 y^4$$

$$\text{Again, } 12xyz(\sum x^5) = 6xyz \sum (x^5 + y^5) \stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \frac{1}{2} 6xyz \sum (x^2 + y^2)(x^3 + y^3)$$

$$\stackrel{A-G}{\underset{(d)}{\geq}} 6xyz \sum xy \cdot xy(x + y) = 6xyz \left(\sum x^3 y^2 + \sum x^2 y^3 \right)$$

$$\text{Again, } 4xyz(\sum x^4 y + \sum xy^4) = 4xyz \sum xy (x^3 + y^3)$$

$$\stackrel{(e)}{\geq} 4xyz \sum x^2 y^2 (x + y) = 4xyz \left(\sum x^3 y^2 + \sum x^2 y^3 \right)$$

$$\text{Moreover, } 2xyz(\sum x^4 y + \sum xy^4) = 2xyz(\sum z(x^4 + y^4))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \frac{2xyz}{2} \sum z(x^2 + y^2)^2 \stackrel{A-G}{\underset{(f)}{\geq}} xyz \left\{ \sum 2xyz(x^2 + y^2) \right\} = 4x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum x^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Also, } \sum x^4 y^4 \geq x^2 y^2 \cdot y^2 z^2 + y^2 z^2 \cdot z^2 x^2 + x^2 y^2 \cdot z^2 x^2$$

$$= x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum x^2 \right) \stackrel{(g)}{\geq} x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum xy \right)$$

$$\text{Also, } \sum x^8 \geq \sum x^4 y^4 \stackrel{\text{by (9)}}{\underset{(h)}{\geq}} x^2 y^2 z^2 (\sum xy)$$

$$\text{Lastly, } 3(\sum x^7 y + \sum xy^7) = 3\{\sum z(z^7 + y^7)\} \stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \frac{3}{2} \sum z(x^3 + y^3)(x^4 + y^4)$$

$$\geq \frac{3}{2} \sum zxy(x + y)(x^4 + y^4) \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3xyz \sum (x + y) x^2 y^2$$

$$= 3xyz \sum \{z^3(x^2 + y^2)\} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3xyz \sum (z^3 \cdot 2xy)$$

$$= 6x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum x^2 \right) \stackrel{(j)}{\geq} 6x^2 y^2 z^2 \left(\sum xy \right)$$

$$(a) + (b) + (c) + (d) + (e) + (f) + (g) + (h) + (j) \Rightarrow (3)$$

It is true (proved)

JP.175. Prove that in any acute triangle ABC ,

$$m_a r_a + m_b r_b + m_c r_c \leq s^2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

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Solution 1 by Bogdan Fustei-Romania

In any acute-angled ΔABC we have the following inequality:

$$m_a \leq 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$r_a = \frac{S}{p-a} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$r_b + r_c = \frac{S}{p-b} + \frac{S}{p-c} = S \left(\frac{1}{p-b} + \frac{1}{p-c} \right) = \frac{S(p-b+p-c)}{(p-b)(p-c)}$$

$$r_b + r_c = \frac{S_a}{(p-b)(p-c)}; S = \sqrt{p(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)}$$

$$r_b + r_c = \frac{a\sqrt{p(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)}}{(p-b)(p-c)} = a \sqrt{\frac{p(p-a)}{(p-b)(p-c)}}$$

$$\sin \frac{A}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{(p-b)(p-c)}{bc}} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$\cos \frac{A}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{p(p-a)}{bc}} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$\frac{\sin \frac{A}{2}}{\cos \frac{A}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{(p-b)(p-c)}{p(p-a)}} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a = 2R \sin A \text{ (and the analogs)} \\ \sin A = 2 \sin \frac{A}{2} \cos \frac{A}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a = 4R \sin \frac{A}{2} \cos \frac{A}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$r_b + r_c = 4R \sin \frac{A}{2} \cos \frac{A}{2} \cdot \frac{\cos \frac{A}{2}}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} = 4R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}$$

$$\frac{r_b+r_c}{2} = 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

So, we have the following: $m_a \leq 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}$ (and the analogs)

$$\Leftrightarrow m_a \leq \frac{r_b+r_c}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

$$m_a r_a \leq \frac{r_a(r_b+r_c)}{2} \text{ (and the analogs)}$$

But $r_a r_b + r_b r_c + r_a r_c = p^2$. Summing we have

$$m_a r_a + m_b r_b + m_c r_c \leq \frac{2p^2}{2} = p^2 \text{ for } \Delta ABC \text{ acute - angled.}$$

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Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \because \Delta ABC \text{ is acute, } \therefore m_a &\leq 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}, \text{ etc., } \therefore \sum m_a r_a \leq \sum 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} s \tan \frac{A}{2} \\ &= 2Rs \sum \cos \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{A}{2} = Rs \sum \left(\frac{a}{2R} \right) = \frac{s}{2} (\sum a) = s^2 \quad (\text{proved}) \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

$$\text{In any acute } \Delta ABC \text{ we have: } m_a \leq 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{and } r_a = \frac{s}{s-a} \quad (2). \text{ From (1)+(2)} \Rightarrow \sum m_a r_a \leq 2RS \sum \frac{\cos^2 \frac{A}{2}}{s-a} \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum m_a r_a \leq 2Rrs \sum \frac{\cos^2 \frac{A}{2}}{s-a} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{But in any } \Delta ABC \text{ we have: } \sum \frac{\cos^2 \frac{A}{2}}{s-a} = \frac{s}{2Rr} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{From (3)+(4)} \Rightarrow \sum m_a r_a \leq 2Rrs \cdot \frac{s}{2Rr} = s^2$$

Solution 4 by Marin Chirciu – Romania

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 1

2) In acute ΔABC :

$$m_a \leq 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}$$

Mircea Lascu's inequality

Proof

Let M be the middle of BC side and O the circumcenter of ΔABC . In ΔAMO we have

$$AM \leq AO + OM \Leftrightarrow m_a \leq R + R \cos A = R(1 + \cos A) = R \cdot 2 \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} = 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2}$$

Equality holds if and only if $b = c$ or if $A = 90^\circ$.

Back to the main problem:

Using Lemma 1 and $r_a = \frac{s}{s-a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum m_a r_a &\leq \sum 2R \cos^2 \frac{A}{2} \cdot \frac{s}{s-a} = 2RS \sum \frac{\cos^2 \frac{A}{2}}{s-a} = 2Rrs \sum \frac{s(s-a)}{bc} = \\ &= 2Rrs^2 \sum \frac{1}{bc} = 2Rrs^2 \cdot \frac{a+b+c}{abc} = 2Rrs^2 \cdot \frac{2s}{4Rrs} = s^2. \end{aligned}$$

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Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

Let's highlight an inequality having an opposite sense:

3) In ΔABC :

$$m_a r_a + m_b r_b + m_c r_c \geq 27r^2$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu – Romania

Solution

We prove the following lemma:

Lemma 2.

4) In ΔABC :

$$m_a \geq \frac{b^2 + c^2}{4R}$$

Tereshin's inequality

Proof

We write the power of M point (the middle of BC side) towards the circumcircle of ΔABC :

$$\begin{aligned} MA \cdot MD = MB \cdot MC &\Leftrightarrow m_a(AD - m_a) = \frac{a}{2} \cdot \frac{a}{2} \Leftrightarrow m_a \cdot AD = \frac{a^2}{4} + m_a^2 \Leftrightarrow m_a \cdot AD \\ &= \frac{b^2 + c^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

As $AD \leq 2R$ it follows $m_a \geq \frac{b^2 + c^2}{4R}$. Equality holds if $b = c$ or if $A = 90^\circ$.

Back to the main problem:

Using Lemma 2 and $r_a = \frac{S}{s-a}$ we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum m_a r_a &\geq \sum \frac{b^2 + c^2}{4R} \cdot \frac{S}{s-a} = \frac{S}{4R} \sum \frac{b^2 + c^2}{s-a} = \frac{S}{4R} \cdot \frac{2[s^2(2R + 3r) - r(4R + r)^2]}{S} = \\ &= \frac{s^2(2R+3r) - r(4R+r)^2}{2R} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Using (1) is sufficient to prove that:

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$$\frac{s^2(2R+3r)-r(4R+r)^2}{2R} \geq 27r^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2(2R+3r) \geq r(16R^2+62Rr+r^2), \text{ which follows from}$$

Gerretsen's inequality: $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$. It remains to prove that:

$$(16Rr - 5r^2)(2R + 3r) \geq r(16R^2 + 62Rr + r^2) \Leftrightarrow 2R^2 - 3Rr - 2r^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R - 2r)(2R + r) \geq 0 \text{ obviously from Euler's inequality } R \geq 2r.$$

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

Remark.

We can prove the double inequality:

1) In acute-angled ΔABC :

$$27r^2 \leq m_a r_a + m_b r_b + m_c r_c \leq s^2.$$

Solution

See inequalities 1) and 3).

Equality holds if and only if the triangle is equilateral.

JP.176. If $a, b > 0$, then:

$$(a + b) \cdot \frac{\sin x}{x} + \frac{2ab}{a + b} \cdot \frac{\tan x}{x} > \frac{4\sqrt{2}ab}{a + b}, \forall x \in \left(0; \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

Proposed by Rovsen Pirguliyev – Sumgait – Azerbaijan

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{Inequality} \Leftrightarrow (a + b)^2 \tan x + 2ab \sin x > 4\sqrt{2}abx$$

$$(a + b)^2 \tan x + 2ab(\sin x - 2\sqrt{2}x) > 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = (a + b)^2 \tan x + 2ab(\sin x - 2\sqrt{2}x), \left(0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$f'(x) = (a + b)^2 \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} + 2ab(\cos x - 2\sqrt{2})$$

$$f''(x) = 2(a + b)^2 \frac{\sin x}{\cos^3 x} - 2ab \sin x$$

$$= 2 \sin x \left(\frac{[a + b]^2}{\cos^3 x} - ab \right) = 2 \sin x \left(\frac{[a + b]^2 - ab \cos^3 x}{\cos^3 x} \right)$$

$$\geq 2ab \sin x \left(\frac{2 - \cos^3 x}{\cos^3 x} \right) > 0, \forall x \in \left(0; \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f'(x) \nearrow \text{on} \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) &\Rightarrow f'(x) > f'(0) = (a+b)^2 + 2ab(1-2\sqrt{2}) \\ &= a^2 + b^2 + 2ab(2-2\sqrt{2}) \geq 2ab(3-2\sqrt{2}) > 0 \\ \Rightarrow f(x) \nearrow \text{on} \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) &\Rightarrow f(x) > f(0) = 0 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ true.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } 0 \leq x < \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ let } f(x) &= (a+b)^2 \sin x + 2ab \tan x - 4\sqrt{2}abx \\ f'(x) &= (a+b)^2 \cos x + 2ab \sec^2 x - 4\sqrt{2}ab \geq 4ab \cos x + 2ab \sec^2 x - 4\sqrt{2}ab \\ &\geq 6ab[(\cos x)^{4ab}(\sec^2 x)^{2ab}]^{\frac{1}{6ab}} - 4\sqrt{2}ab \geq 6ab - 4\sqrt{2}ab > 0 \\ \Rightarrow f(x) \text{ is an increasing function on } &\left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow f(x) > f(0) \text{ for } 0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \Rightarrow (a+b)^2 \sin x + 2ab \tan x > 4\sqrt{2}abx &\Rightarrow (a+b) \frac{\sin x}{x} + \frac{2ab}{a+b} \cdot \frac{\tan x}{x} > \frac{4\sqrt{2}ab}{a+b} \end{aligned}$$

JP.177. If $a, b, c \geq 0$ then:

$$2(a+b+c) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Kelvin Hong-Rawang-Malaysia

$$\text{We have: } (a+b+c)(b+c+a) \stackrel{\text{Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality}}{\geq} (\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})^2$$

$$\therefore a+b+c \geq \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}. \text{ Also, that}$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{2ab - ab} = \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$$

Therefore

$$2(a+b+c) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 2(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab} = 3 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$$

Solution 2 by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

$$\therefore \text{ We know that: } (a^2 + b^2 - ab) = \frac{1}{4}(a+b)^2 + \frac{3}{4}(a-b)^2$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}(a+b)^2 + \frac{3}{4}(a-b)^2} \geq \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \\ &\Rightarrow \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \\ \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} &\geq \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \geq \sum_{cyc} a \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} (a+b) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} &\geq \sum_{cyc} (a+b) + \sum_{cyc} a \\ &\geq 3(a+b+c) \geq \frac{3}{2} \left(\sum 2a\right) \geq \frac{3}{2} \{(a+b) + (b+c) + (c+a)\} \\ &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \frac{3}{2} (2\sqrt{ab} + 2\sqrt{bc} + 2\sqrt{ac}) \\ 2(a+b+c) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} &\geq 3(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ac}) \end{aligned}$$

(proved)

Solution 3 by Boris Colakovic-Belgrade-Serbia

$$a^2 + b^2 - ab \geq ab \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq \sqrt{ab} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \quad (1)$$

$$2(a+b+c) = (a+b) + (b+c) + (c+a) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{ab} + 2\sqrt{bc} + 2\sqrt{ca} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1) and (2)} \Rightarrow \text{LHS} \geq 3(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})$$

Solution 4 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$2 \sum_{cyc} a + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{LHS (1)} = 2 \sum_{cyc} a + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{2ab - ab} = 2 \sum_{cyc} a + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$$

It suffices to show that: $\sum_{cyc} a \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$ or $\sum_{cyc} (\sqrt{a})^2 \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$

which holds (rearrangement inequality).

Solution 5 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} - 3\sqrt{ab} &\geq a + b + \sqrt{2ab - ab} - 3\sqrt{ab} = \\ &= a + b - 2\sqrt{ab} = (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 \geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} &\geq 3\sqrt{ab} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{Similarly, } b + c + \sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - bc} \geq 3\sqrt{bc} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{and } c + a + \sqrt{c^2 + a^2 - ca} \geq 3\sqrt{ca} \quad (3)$$

Adding (1), (2), (3), we get:

$$2(a + b + c) + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca})$$

Solution 6 by Seyran Ibrahimov-Maasilli-Azerbaijan

$$\sum_{cyc} a + b + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$$

$$a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3\sqrt{ab} \Rightarrow (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} - \sqrt{ab} \geq 0 \quad (\forall a, b \quad (a - b)^2 \geq 0)$$

$$\stackrel{a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab}{\Rightarrow} (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + \sqrt{ab} - \sqrt{ab} = (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 \geq 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\stackrel{(*)}{\Rightarrow} b + c + \sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - bc} \geq 3\sqrt{bc} \quad (2)$$

$$\wedge a + c + \sqrt{a^2 + c^2 - ac} \geq 3\sqrt{ac} \quad (3)$$

$$(1) + (2) + (3) \Rightarrow$$

$$2 \sum_{cyc} a + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq 3 \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{ab}$$

(Proved)

Solution 7 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Using Cauchy's inequality, we have: $a + b \geq 2\sqrt{ab}$; $b + c \geq 2\sqrt{bc}$; $c + a \geq 2\sqrt{ac}$

$$\rightarrow 2(a + b + c) \geq 2(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{ac} + \sqrt{bc}) \quad (1)$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq \sqrt{2ab - ab} = \sqrt{ab} \quad (2)$$

$$\sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - bc} \geq \sqrt{2bc - bc} = \sqrt{bc} \quad (3)$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 + c^2 - ac} \geq \sqrt{2ac - ac} = \sqrt{ac} \quad (4)$$

$\rightarrow (1) + (2) + (3) + (4)$ we proved. Equality then $a = b = c$.

Solution 8 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$2 \sum a + \sum \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 3 \left(\sum \sqrt{ab} \right)$$

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$$\therefore a^2 + b^2 - ab = \frac{1}{4}(a+b)^2 + \frac{3}{4}(a-b)^2 \geq \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}$$

$$\therefore \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - ab} \geq \frac{a+b}{2} (\because a+b \geq 0 \text{ as } a, b \geq 0) \text{ etc.}$$

$$\therefore \text{LHS of (1)} \stackrel{(a)}{\geq} 2 \sum a + \frac{1}{2} \sum (a+b) = 3 \sum a$$

$$\text{Also, RHS of (1)} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} 3 \sqrt{\sum a} \sqrt{\sum a} = 3 \sum a \stackrel{\text{by (a)}}{\leq} \text{LHS of (1) (Proved)}$$

Solution 9 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\text{For } x, y \geq 0, \text{ we have } x^2 - xy + y^2 \geq \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2$$

Hence for $a, b, c \geq 0$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & 2(a+b+c) + \sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2} + \sqrt{b^2 - bc + c^2} + \sqrt{c^2 - ca + a^2} \\ & \geq 2(a+b+c) + \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} \\ & = (a+b) + (b+c) + (c+a) + \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b+c}{2} + \frac{c+a}{2} \\ & \geq 2\sqrt{ab} + 2\sqrt{bc} + 2\sqrt{ca} + \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} = 3(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it is to be true.

JP.178. If $a, b > 0$ then:

$$a^3 + b^3 + \left(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}\right)^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{a+b+\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2+b^2}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Put $a = r \cos \theta, b = r \sin \theta, 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$. The inequality

$$a^3 + b^3 + \left(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}\right)^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{a+b+\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2+b^2}$$

$$\text{becomes } \cos^3 \theta + \sin^3 \theta + 1 + \frac{4 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta}{\cos \theta + \sin \theta + 1} > 4 \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \cos^3 \theta + \sin^3 \theta + 1 + \frac{2 \cos \theta \sin \theta [(\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 - 1]}{\cos \theta + \sin \theta + 1} > 4 \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \cos^3 \theta + \sin^3 \theta + 1 + 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta (\cos \theta + \sin \theta - 1) - 4 \cos \theta \sin \theta > 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 + \cos^3 \theta + \sin^3 \theta + 2 \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta + 2 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta - 6 \cos \theta \sin \theta > 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 + \cos \theta (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) + \sin \theta (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) + \\ + \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta - 6 \sin \theta \cos \theta > 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 + \cos \theta + \sin \theta + \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta - 6 \sin \theta \cos \theta > 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\sin \theta - \cos \theta)^2 + (\cos \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) + \\ + (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) > 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\sin \theta - \cos \theta)^2 + \cos \theta (1 - \sin \theta)^2 + \sin \theta (1 - \cos \theta)^2 > 0$$

which is true as at least one factor is positive.

Solution 2 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\text{For } a, b > 0, \text{ we have } 2(a^2 + b^2) \geq 4ab \Rightarrow 4ab + 2(a^2 + b^2) \geq 8ab \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})(a + b) + 2(a^2 + b^2) + \frac{4a^2b^2}{(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})(a + b)} \geq 8ab$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})(a + b) + 2(a^2 + b^2) + \frac{8a^2b^2}{(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})(a + b) + (a^2 + b^2)} > 8ab$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2 + b^2)(a + b) + 2(a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{8a^2b^2}{(a + b) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \geq 8ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(a^2 + b^2)(a + b)}{2} + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{4a^2b^2}{(a + b) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \geq 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^3 + b^3 + (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{(a + b) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \geq 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\text{Therefore } a^3 + b^3 + (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{(a+b)+\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \text{ (true)}$$

Solution 3 by Serban George Florin-Romania

$$a^3 + b^3 + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{4a^2b^2(a + b - \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})}{(a + b)^2 - (a^2 + b^2)} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$a^3 + b^3 + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{4a^2b^2(a + b - \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})}{2ab} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$(a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2) + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + 2ab(a + b) - 2ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} > 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

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$$(a+b)(a^2-ab+b^2+2ab) + (a^2+b^2)\sqrt{a^2+b^2} > 6ab\sqrt{a^2+b^2}$$

$$(a+b)(a^2+ab+b^2) + (a^2+b^2)\sqrt{a^2+b^2} > 6ab\sqrt{a^2+b^2} \quad | : b^3$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}+1\right) \left[\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right] + \left[\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 1\right] \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 1} > 6 \left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 1}, \frac{a}{b} = x, x > 0$$

$$(x+1)(x^2+x+1) + (x^2+1)\sqrt{x^2+1} > 6x\sqrt{x^2+1} \quad | (\forall) x > 0$$

: $x\sqrt{x^2+1}$

$$\frac{(x+1)(x^2+x+1)}{x\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{(x^2+1)\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x\sqrt{x^2+1}} > 6$$

$$\frac{(x+1)x}{x\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{(x+1)(x^2+1)}{x\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{x^2+1}{x} > 6$$

$$\frac{x+1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{x+1}{x} \sqrt{x^2+1} + \frac{x^2+1}{x} > 6$$

$$\frac{x+1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{x+1}{x} \sqrt{x^2+1} \stackrel{(M_a \geq M_g)}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{\frac{x+1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \cdot \frac{x+1}{x} \cdot \sqrt{x^2+1}} = \frac{2(x+1)}{\sqrt{x}} \stackrel{(M_a \geq M_g)}{\geq} \frac{2 \cdot 2\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} = 4$$

$$\frac{x^2+1}{x} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow x^2+1 > 2x \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x+1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} + \frac{x+1}{x} \sqrt{x^2+1} + \frac{x^2+1}{x} > 4 + 2 = 6 \quad \text{true}$$

Solution 4 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$a^3 + b^3 \geq ab(a+b) \Rightarrow$$

$$LHS \geq ab(a+b) + (\sqrt{a^2+b^2})^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{a+b+\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} \quad (*)$$

We need to prove: (*) > 4ab\sqrt{a^2+b^2}

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} + \frac{a^2+b^2}{ab} + \frac{4ab}{(a+b+\sqrt{a^2+b^2})\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} > 4 \quad (1)$$

We have

$$\frac{a+b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} + \frac{a^2+b^2}{ab} + \frac{4ab}{(a+b+\sqrt{a^2+b^2})\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} \geq 2\sqrt{\frac{ab}{a^2+b^2}} + \frac{a^2+b^2}{ab} + \frac{4ab}{(\sqrt{2}+1)(a^2+b^2)} \quad (**)$$

$$\text{Let } f(t) = 2t + \frac{1}{t^2} + \frac{4t^2}{\sqrt{2}+1} \text{ with } t = \sqrt{\frac{ab}{a^2+b^2}} \quad (0 < t \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$$

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$$\Rightarrow f'(t) = 2 - \frac{2}{t^3} + \frac{8}{1 + \sqrt{2}} \cdot t = 2 \left(\frac{2t^4[\sqrt{2} - 1] + t^3 - 1}{t^3} \right) < 0, \forall t \in \left(0, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \searrow \text{ on } \left(0, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right] \Rightarrow f(t) \geq f\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = \sqrt{2} + 2 + \frac{2}{(\sqrt{2}+1)} = 3\sqrt{2} > 4$$

$\Rightarrow (**) > 4 \Rightarrow (1)$ true. Proved.

Solution 5 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$a^3 + b^3 + \left(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}\right)^3 + \frac{4a^2b^2}{a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \stackrel{(1)}{>} 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow (a^3 + b^3)(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) + 4a^2b^2 > \\ > 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2a^4 + 2b^4 + 6a^2b^2 - 3ab(a^2 + b^2) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(2a^3 + 2b^3 - 2ab(a + b)) >$$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{>} ab(a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\because a^3 + b^3 \geq ab(a + b) \Rightarrow 2a^3 + 2b^3 - 2ab(a + b) \geq 0$$

$$\therefore \text{LHS of (2)} \stackrel{(a)}{>} 2a^4 + 2b^4 + 6a^2b^2 - 3ab(a^2 + b^2) + \frac{a+b}{2}(2a^3 + 2b^3 - 2ab(a + b))$$

$$\left(\because \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq \frac{a + b}{\sqrt{2}} > \frac{a + b}{2} \right)$$

$$= 3a^4 + 3b^4 + 4a^2b^2 - 3ab(a^2 + b^2)$$

$$\text{Also, } \because \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} < a + b, \therefore \text{RHS of (2)}$$

$$\stackrel{(b)}{<} ab(a + b)^2$$

(a), (b) \Rightarrow in order to prove (2), it suffices to prove:

$$3a^4 + 3b^4 + 4a^2b^2 - 3ab(a^2 + b^2) \geq ab(a + b)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3a^4 + 3b^4 + 2a^2b^2 - 4ab(a^2 + b^2) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3\{(a^2 + b^2)^2 - 2a^2b^2\} + 2a^2b^2 - 4ab(a^2 + b^2) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3x^2 - 4xy - 4y^2 \geq 0 \text{ (where } x = a^2 + b^2 \text{ \& } y = ab)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3x^2 - 6xy + 2xy - 4y^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 2y)(3x + 2y) \geq 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{true } \because a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab \Rightarrow x \geq 2y \text{ \& } x, y > 0$$

(Proved)

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JP.179. In acute $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{a \cos A}{b \cos B} + \frac{b \cos B}{c \cos C} + \frac{c \cos C}{a \cos A} \leq \frac{3}{8 \cos A \cos B \cos C}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a \cos A}{b \cos B} + \frac{b \cos B}{c \cos C} + \frac{c \cos C}{a \cos A} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{3}{8 \cos A \cos B \cos C} \\ (1) \Leftrightarrow & \frac{(a \cos A)(b \cos B)^2 + (b \cos B)(c \cos C)^2 + (c \cos C)(a \cos A)^2}{abc \cos A \cos B \cos C} \leq \frac{3}{8 \cos A \cos B \cos C} \\ \Leftrightarrow & 8 \sum (a \cos A)(b \cos B)^2 \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} 3abc \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } (a \cos A)(b \cos B)^2 &= \frac{a(b^2+c^2-a^2)}{2bc} \cdot b^2 \cdot \frac{(c^2+a^2-b^2)^2}{4c^2a^2} = \frac{b(b^2+c^2-a^2)(c^2+a^2-b^2)^2}{8c^3a} \\ &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{a^2b^4(b^2+c^2-a^2)(c^2+a^2-b^2)^2}{8(abc)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } (b \cos B)(c \cos C)^2 \stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{b^2c^4(c^2+a^2-b^2)(a^2+b^2-c^2)^2}{8(abc)^3} \text{ \&}$$

$$(c \cos C)(a \cos A)^2 \stackrel{(c)}{=} \frac{c^2a^4(a^2+b^2-c^2)(b^2+c^2-a^2)^2}{8(abc)^3}$$

$$\text{Let } b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = x, c^2 + a^2 - b^2 = y, a^2 + b^2 - c^2 = z$$

$$\text{Then } \sum a^2 = \sum x \Rightarrow a^2 = \frac{y+z}{2}, b^2 = \frac{z+x}{2}, c^2 = \frac{x+y}{2}$$

Using the above substitution & (a), (b), (c),

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \text{ becomes: } & \left(\frac{y+z}{2}\right) \frac{(z+x)^2}{4} \cdot xy^2 + \left(\frac{z+x}{2}\right) \frac{(x+y)^2}{4} \cdot yz^2 + \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \frac{(y+z)^2}{4} \cdot zx^2 \leq \\ & \leq 3 \left(\frac{y+z}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{z+x}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3(x+y)^2(y+z)^2(z+x)^2 \geq 8xy^2(y+z)(z+x)^2 + 8yz^2(z+x)(x+y)^2 + 8zx^2(x+y)(y+z)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3 \sum x^4y^2 + 3 \sum x^2y^4 + 6xyz \left(\sum x^3\right) + 2xyz \left(\sum x^2y\right)$$

$$\stackrel{(3)}{\geq} 2 \sum x^3y^3 + 6xyz \left(\sum xy^2\right) + 18x^2y^2z^2$$

It should be noted that, $\because (b^2 + c^2 - a^2)$ etc > 0

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($\because \Delta ABC$ is acute-angled), $\therefore x, y, z > 0$

$$\text{Now, } x^2 + z^2 x \stackrel{(i)}{\geq} 2zx^2, y^3 + x^2 y \stackrel{(ii)}{\geq} 2xy^2 \text{ \& } z^3 + y^2 z \stackrel{(iii)}{\geq} 2yz^2$$

$$(i) + (ii) + (iii) \Rightarrow \sum x^3 + \sum x^2 y \geq 2 \sum xy^2 \Rightarrow 3xyz(\sum x^3 + \sum x^2 y) \stackrel{(iv)}{\geq} 6xyz(\sum xy^2)$$

$$\text{Also, } \sum x^2 y^4 \stackrel{(v)}{\geq} xy^2 \cdot yz^2 + yz^2 \cdot zx^2 + zx^2 \cdot xy^2 = xyz(\sum x^2 y)$$

$$\text{Again, } \sum x^4 y^2 + \sum x^2 y^4 \stackrel{(vi)}{\geq} 2 \sum x^3 y^3$$

$$\text{Lastly, } 2 \sum x^4 y^2 + \sum x^2 y^4 + 3xyz(\sum x^3) \stackrel{(vii)}{\geq} 2 \cdot (3x^2 y^2 z^2) + (3x^2 y^2 z^2) + 3xyz \cdot 3xyz = 18x^2 y^2 z^2$$

$$(iv) + (v) + (vi) + (vii) \Rightarrow (3) \text{ is true}$$

(Hence proved)

Solution 2 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

We use the orthic triangle: Because ΔABC is acute let $a' = a \cos A$, $b' = b \cos B$, $c' = c \cos C$ the sides of the orthic triangle of ABC : but $R' = \frac{R}{2}$, R' = circumradii of orthic ΔABC , $r' = 2R \cos A \cos B \cos C$, r' = inradius $\Rightarrow r' = 4R' \cos A \cos B \cos C \Rightarrow \cos A \cos B \cos C = \frac{r'}{4R'} \Rightarrow$ we must show this: $\frac{a'}{b'} + \frac{b'}{c'} + \frac{c'}{a'} \leq \frac{3R'}{2r'}$, which means we

$$\text{must show } \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \leq \frac{3R}{2r} \text{ for any } \Delta \quad (1)$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right)^2 \leq (a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2}\right) \quad (2) \text{ (from Cauchy)}$$

$$\text{But } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 9R^2 \text{ and } \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \leq \frac{1}{4r^2} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{From (2)+(3)} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right)^2 \leq \frac{9R^2}{4r^2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \leq \frac{3R}{2r} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ it is true.}$$

JP.180. If $a, b \geq 0$ then:

$$\begin{cases} 4ab \leq \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \\ 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \leq (a^2 + b^2) (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

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Solution 1 by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

$$\text{Let } f(t) = 5t^2 - 8t + 5$$

$$D = 64 - 100 = -36 < 0 \because D < 0 \Rightarrow F(t) > 0$$

$$\text{Put } t = \frac{a}{b} > 0, \{a, b > 0\} \Rightarrow F(t) = 5t^2 - 8t + 5 > 0$$

$$\text{Putting } t = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$

$$5\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2}\right) - 8\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) + 5 > 0$$

$$5a^2 - 8ab + 5b^2 > 0 \Rightarrow 4a^2 + 4b^2 + 8ab < 9a^2 + 9b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 4(a+b)^2 < 9(a^2 + b^2) \Rightarrow 2(a+b) < 3\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(a+b - \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) < \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2(a+b - \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})}{(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})} < \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(2ab) < \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

$$\text{Also, if } a = b = 0, \text{ equality holds } \Rightarrow 4ab \leq \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

Proved

Multiplying both sides by $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

$$4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \leq (a^2 + b^2)(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

Proved

Solution 2 by Khaled Abd Almuty-Damascus-Syria

If $a, b \geq 0$ then:

$$1) 4ab \leq \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

$$2) 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \leq (a^2 + b^2)(a+b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

$$1) \text{ We know: } \sqrt{x+y} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}\right) \geq 2\sqrt{2}, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$$

$$\text{For } x = a^2, y = b^2: \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}\right) \geq 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \cdot \left(\frac{b+a}{ab}\right) \geq 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow (a+b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq 2\sqrt{2}ab$$

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$$(a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + a^2 + b^2 \geq a^2 + b^2 + 2\sqrt{2}ab \quad (*)$$

Let us prove that $a^2 + b^2 + 2\sqrt{2}ab \geq 4ab$

$$\frac{a^2}{ab} + \frac{b^2}{ab} + 2\sqrt{2} \geq 4, \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + 2\sqrt{2} \geq 4 \quad \left\{ \frac{a}{b} = x, \frac{b}{a} = \frac{1}{x} \right\}$$

In order to prove that: let $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$, $D =]0, +\infty[$

$$f'(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x^2} = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2}, f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, f(1) = \frac{3}{2}$$

x	0	1	$+\infty$
$f'(x)$		0	+
$f(x)$	$+\infty$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$+\infty$

$$\forall x \in]0, +\infty[: f(x) \geq \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow x + \frac{1}{x} \geq \frac{3}{2} \geq 4 - 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{So: } \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \geq 4 - 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} + 2\sqrt{2} \geq 4; a \cdot b > 0$$

$$a^2 + b^2 + 2\sqrt{2}ab \geq 4ab$$

From relation (*): $(a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + a^2 + b^2 \geq a^2 + b^2 + 2\sqrt{2}ab \geq 4ab$

$$\text{So: } (a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \cdot \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq 4ab$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \geq 4ab$$

2) From relation 1):

$$4ab \leq \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}); x\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \leq (a^2 + b^2) (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

Note if $a = 0$ and $b = 0$ the relation (1) it is true.

And if $a = 0$ and $b \neq 0$: $0 \leq a(2a)$; $2a^2 \geq 0$ it is true

Solution 3 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

Both inequalities are homogeneous so we can assume $a^2 + b^2 = 1$

$$\text{The both become: } 4ab \leq a + b + 1 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Now, } a^2 + b^2 = 1 \rightarrow a \leq 1 \wedge b \leq 1 \rightarrow a^2 \leq a \wedge b^2 \leq b \rightarrow a + b \geq 1$$

$$\text{Also } a^2 + b^2 = 1 \geq 2ab \rightarrow ab \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

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(2) $\rightarrow 4ab \leq 2 \leq a + b + 1$ which is true.

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\forall a, b \geq 0, 4ab \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \text{ \&}$$

$$4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} (a^2 + b^2)(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2})$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow 4ab \leq (a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + a^2 + b^2 \Leftrightarrow (a - b)^2 + (a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \stackrel{(1a)}{\geq} 2ab$$

$$\because (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 \geq 0, \therefore a + b \stackrel{(a)}{\geq} 2\sqrt{ab}$$

$$\because a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab \text{ (as } (a - b)^2 \geq 0),$$

$$\therefore \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \sqrt{2ab} \text{ (}\because a, b \geq 0)$$

$$(a).(b) \Rightarrow (a + b)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq 2\sqrt{2}ab$$

$$\text{(}\because a + b \geq 0 \text{ as } a, b \geq 0 \text{ \& } \sqrt{ab} \geq 0 \text{ as } a, b \geq 0)$$

$$\stackrel{?}{\geq} 2ab \Leftrightarrow 2ab(\sqrt{2} - 1) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\because ab \geq 0 \text{ (}\because a, b \geq 0) \text{ \& } \sqrt{2} - 1 > 0$$

\therefore (1) is proved

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2)(a + b) + (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \stackrel{(2a)}{\geq} 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\text{Now, } (a^2 + b^2)(a + b) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a + b)$$

$$\stackrel{(c)}{\geq} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}\sqrt{2ab}(2\sqrt{ab})$$

$$\text{(}\because a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab \text{ as } (a - b)^2 \geq 0 \text{ \& } a + b \geq 2\sqrt{ab} \text{ as } (\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 \geq 0)$$

$$= 2\sqrt{2}ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\text{Also, } (a^2 + b^2)\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \stackrel{(d)}{\geq} 2ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \text{ (}\because a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab)$$

$$(c) + (d) \Rightarrow \text{RHS of (2)} \geq 2ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(1 + \sqrt{2})$$

$$\geq 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \text{ (}\because 1 + \sqrt{2} > 2 \text{ \& } ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq 0 \text{ as } a, b \geq 0)$$

\Rightarrow (2) is true. (Done).

Solution 5 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

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$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}(a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \geq 4ab \quad (1)$$

$$\text{We have: } \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \geq \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{LHS}_{(1)} \geq \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{2}} \left(a+b + \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) (a+b)^2$$

$$\geq \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot 4ab \geq 4ab \Rightarrow (1) \text{ true, equality} \Leftrightarrow a = b = 0.$$

Using (1) we have

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \cdot \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \geq 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2) (a + b + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}) \geq 4ab\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Proved.

SP.166. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ and $a_k \in \mathbb{R}, \forall k = \overline{1, n}$. Find:

$$\Omega = \int \ln \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (x - a_k) \right) dx$$

$$(x > \max\{a_k | \forall k = \overline{1, n}\})$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Nho –Nghe An – Vietnam

Solution by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\Omega = \int \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (x - a_k) \right) dx = \sum_{k=1}^n \int \ln(x - a_k) dx$$

$$\text{Let } I = \int \ln(x - a_k) dx. \quad (x > \max\{a_k | k = 1, 2, \dots, n\})$$

$$= x \ln(x - a_k) - \int \frac{x}{x - a_k} dx = x \ln(x - a_k) - \int \left(1 + \frac{a_k}{x - a_k} \right) dx$$

$$= x \ln(x - a_k) - x - a_k \ln(x - a_k) + C$$

$$= (x - a_k) \ln(x - a_k) - x + C \quad (C: \text{const})$$

$$\Rightarrow \Omega = -nx + \sum_{k=1}^n (x - a_k) \ln(x - a_k) + D;$$

(D: const)

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SP.167. Let x, y, z be positive real numbers such that: $xyz = 1$. Prove that:

$$\frac{x}{\sqrt{2(x^4 + y^4)} + 4xy} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{2(y^4 + z^4)} + 4yz} + \frac{z}{\sqrt{2(z^4 + x^4)} + 4zx} + \frac{2(x + y + z)}{3} \geq \frac{5}{2}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Bao Truong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{2(a^4 + b^4)} + 4ab} &\geq \sum \frac{a}{2(a^2 + b^2 + ab)} = \sum \frac{a}{2\left[\frac{3}{2}(a+b)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(a-b)^2 - 3ab\right]} \\ &\geq \\ &\geq \sum \frac{a}{3(a+b)^2 - 6ab} \Rightarrow \sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{2(a^4 + b^4)} + 4ab} + \sum \frac{3(a+b)^2 - 6ab}{9(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{2}{3} \sum \frac{\sqrt{a}}{a+b} \\ &\geq \\ &\geq \frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{\prod(a+b)}} \geq \frac{3}{(a+b+c)} \Rightarrow \sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{2(a^4 + b^4)} + 4ab} + \frac{2}{3} \sum a \geq \\ &\geq \frac{3}{\sum a} + \frac{2}{3} \sum \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2} - 1 + \frac{2}{3} \sum a \geq \frac{3}{\sum a} + \frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{\prod(a+b)^2}} + \frac{2}{3} \sum a - 1 \\ \sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{2(a^4 + b^4)} + 4ab} + \frac{2}{3} \sum a &\geq \frac{3}{\sum a} + \frac{9}{2(\sum a)^2} + \frac{2}{3} \sum a - 1 = \frac{3}{\sum a} + \frac{\sum a}{3} + \\ &+ \frac{9}{2(\sum a)^2} + \frac{\sum a}{6} + \frac{\sum a}{6} - 1 \Rightarrow \sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{2(a^4 + b^4)} + 4ab} + \frac{2}{3} \sum a \geq 2 + \frac{3}{2} - 1 = \frac{5}{2} \text{ (R.H.D.)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$x, y, z > 0 \wedge xyz = 1 \rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{\sqrt{2(x^4 + y^4)} + 4xy} + \frac{2\sum_{cyc} x}{3} \geq \frac{5}{2} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } (p, q, r) = (\sum_{cyc} x, \sum_{cyc} xy, xyz). \quad r = 1, p \geq 3, q \geq 3. \text{ (AM-GM)}$$

Because $\left[\sqrt{2(x^4 + y^4)}\right]^2 - 4(x^2 + y^2 - xy)^2 = -2(x - y)^4 \leq 0$, (1) can be written as

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(\sqrt{x})^2}{2(x^2 + y^2 + xy)} + \frac{2p}{3} - \frac{5}{2} \geq 0. \text{ Using BCS we need to show that: } \frac{9}{(2p^2 - 3q)} + \frac{4p}{3} - 5 \geq 0.$$

(2) because $(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z})^2 \geq 3^2$ and $\sum_{cyc} (x^2 + y^2 + xy) = 2p^2 - 3q$. (2) reduces to

$(4p - 15)(2p^2 - 3q) + 27 \geq 0$. (3). As $p^2 - 3q \geq 0$ if $4p - 15 \geq 0$ we are done. If

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$4p - 15 < 0$ then (3) reduces to: $8p^3 - 30p^2 + 3q(15 - 4p) + 27$ which must be ≥ 0 . We know that $q^2 \geq 3pr = 3p$ and as $15 - 4p > 0$ it suffices to show that

$$8p^3 - 30p^2 + 3\sqrt{3}p(15 - 4p) + 27 = f(p) \geq 0, f(3) = 0, f'(p) = \frac{3}{2\sqrt{p}} \cdot g(p),$$

$$g(p) = 16p^{\frac{5}{2}} - 40p^{\frac{3}{2}} - 12\sqrt{3}p + 15\sqrt{3}; g'(p) = 40p^{\frac{3}{2}} - 60p^{\frac{1}{2}} + 12\sqrt{3} \text{ and}$$

$$g''(p) = \frac{30(2p-1)}{\sqrt{p}} \geq 0 \text{ so easily we can deduce that } g(p) > 0 \rightarrow f'(p) > 0 \rightarrow$$

$$f(p) \uparrow \rightarrow f(p) > f(3) = 0. \text{ Done!}$$

SP.168. Let x, y, z be positive real numbers.

Find the minimum possible value of:

$$\frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} + 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Kelvin Kong-Malaysia

$$\text{I will prove that } A = \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} + 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}} \geq 3$$

$$\text{Let } B = \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x}, C = 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}}$$

$$C = \sqrt{\frac{2}{x+y}} \sqrt{(y+z) + (z+x)} \geq \sqrt{\frac{2}{x+y}} \sqrt{2\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}} = \frac{2^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}}{\sqrt{x+y}}$$

By using QM-AM inequality: $\sqrt{\frac{x^2+y^2}{2}} \geq \frac{x+y}{2}$, we have $x^2 + y^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2$

$$B = \frac{x^2 + y^2 + xz + yz}{(y+z)(z+x)} \geq \frac{\frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2 + (x+y)z}{(y+z)(z+x)} = \frac{(x+y)[(y+z) + (z+x)]}{2(y+z)(z+x)}$$

$$B \geq \frac{(x+y) \cdot 2\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}}{2(y+z)(z+x)} = \frac{x+y}{\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}}$$

Therefore

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$$\begin{aligned}
 A = B + C &\geq \frac{x+y}{\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}} + \frac{\sqrt[4]{(y+z)(z+x)}}{\sqrt{x+y}} + \frac{\sqrt[4]{(y+z)(z+x)}}{\sqrt{x+y}} \\
 &\geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{x+y}{\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[4]{(y+z)(z+x)}}{\sqrt{x+y}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[4]{(y+z)(z+x)}}{\sqrt{x+y}}} = 3
 \end{aligned}$$

In conclusion: $A = \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} + 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}} \geq 3$ where equality holds when $x = y = z$.

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} &= \frac{x(z+x) + y(y+z)}{(y+z)(z+x)} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} \frac{4\{x^2 + y^2 + z(x+y)\}}{(2z+x+y)^2} \stackrel{Chebyshev}{\geq} \frac{4\left[\frac{1}{2}(x+y)^2 + z(x+y)\right]}{(2z+x+y)^2} \\
 &= \frac{2(x+y)(2z+x+y)}{(2z+x+y)^2} = \frac{2(x+y)}{2z+x+y}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} + 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}} \geq \frac{2(x+y)}{2z+x+y} + \sqrt{\frac{2z+x+y}{2(x+y)}} + \sqrt{\frac{2z+x+y}{2(x+y)}}$$

$$\stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{2(x+y)(2z+x+y)}{2(x+y)(2z+x+y)}} = 3$$

\Rightarrow regd. min value = 3, which occurs at $x = y = z$.

Solution 3 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$P = \frac{x}{y+z} + \frac{y}{z+x} + 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{x+y}} = \frac{x^2}{xy+xz} + \frac{y^2}{yz+yx} + 2\sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}}$$

$$\stackrel{(Schwarz)}{\geq} \frac{(x+y)^2}{2xy+z(x+y)} + 2\sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}}$$

$$\geq \frac{2(x+y)^2}{(x+y)^2 + 2z(x+y)} + \sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}} + \sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}}$$

$$= \frac{2(x+y)}{x+y+2z} + \sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}} + \sqrt{\frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}}$$

$$\stackrel{(Schwarz)}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{2(x+y)}{x+y+2z} \cdot \frac{x+y+2z}{2(x+y)}} = 3$$

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$$\Rightarrow P_{\min} = 3 \Leftrightarrow x = y = z$$

SP.169. Prove that for all non-negative real numbers a, b, c

$$\sqrt{\frac{a^2 + 2}{b + c + 1}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2 + 2}{c + a + 1}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2 + 2}{a + b + 1}} \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{Suppose: } a + b + c = 3 \Rightarrow 0 < a, b, c < 3$$

$$\text{Inequality} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{\frac{a^2+2}{4-a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2+2}{4-b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2+2}{4-c}} \geq 3. \quad (1)$$

$$\text{For all } 0 < x < 3 \text{ we have: } \sqrt{\frac{x^2+2}{4-x}} \geq \frac{1}{2}(x+1) \quad (*)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x^2+2}{4-x} \geq \frac{1}{2}(x+1)^2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{(x-1)^2(x+4)}{4-x} \geq 0. \quad (\text{True because } 0 < x < 3)$$

Using (*) with $0 < a, b, c < 3$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + 2}{4 - a}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2 + 2}{4 - b}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2 + 2}{4 - c}} &\geq \frac{1}{2}(a + 1) + \frac{1}{2}(b + 1) + \frac{1}{2}(c + 1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(a + b + c + 3) = \frac{6}{2} = 3. \text{ Proved. Equality} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= \frac{\sqrt{(a^2 + 2)(2 + 1)}}{\sqrt{(b + c + 1)(2 + 1)}} + \frac{\sqrt{(b^2 + 2)(2 + 1)}}{\sqrt{(c + a + 1)(2 + 1)}} + \frac{\sqrt{(c^2 + 2)(2 + 1)}}{\sqrt{(a + b + 1)(2 + 1)}} \\ &\geq \frac{\sqrt{(a + 2)^2}}{\frac{b + c + 1 + 3}{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{(b + 2)^2}}{\frac{c + a + 1 + 3}{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{(c + 2)^2}}{\frac{a + b + 1 + 3}{2}} = \frac{2a + 4}{b + c + 4} + \frac{2b + 4}{c + a + 4} + \frac{2c + 4}{a + b + 4} \\ &= \frac{2a + 4}{b + c + 4} + 2 + \frac{2b + 4}{c + a + 4} + 2 + \frac{2c + 4}{a + b + 4} + 2 + 6 \\ &= 2(a + b + c + 6) \left(\frac{1^2}{b + c + 4} + \frac{1^2}{c + a + 4} + \frac{1^2}{a + b + 4} \right) - 6 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\geq 2(a+b+c+6) \cdot \frac{(1+1+1)^2}{2(a+b+c+6)} - 6 = 9 - 6 = 3$$

Proved. Equality $\Leftrightarrow a = b = c$.

Solution 3 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania

We know that for any real numbers $x, y, z > 0$ we have that $\sqrt{\frac{x^2+y^2+z^2}{3}} \geq$

$$\geq \frac{x+y+z}{3} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{\frac{a^2+1+1}{3}} \geq \frac{a+2}{3} \Rightarrow \sqrt{a^2+2} \geq \frac{a+2}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$> \sqrt{\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}} \geq \frac{a+2}{\sqrt{3(b+c+1)}}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{b^2+2}{a+c+1}} \geq \frac{b+2}{\sqrt{3(a+c+1)}}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}} \geq \frac{c+2}{\sqrt{3(a+b+1)}}$$

----- +

$$\sqrt{\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2+2}{a+c+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}} \geq \sum \frac{a+2}{\sqrt{3(b+c+1)}} \quad (1)$$

$$\sqrt{3(b+c+1)} \leq \frac{b+c+4}{2} > \frac{a+2}{\sqrt{3(b+c+1)}} \geq \frac{2a+4}{b+c+4} >$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum \frac{a+2}{\sqrt{3(b+c+1)}} \geq 2 \sum \frac{a+2}{b+2+c+2} \quad (2), \text{ we know also, that}$$

$$\sum \frac{x}{y+z} \geq \frac{3}{2}, \text{ we put } x = a+2, y = b+2, z = c+2 > 2 \sum \frac{a+2}{b+2+c+2} \geq 3 \quad (3)$$

$$(1)(2)(3) \sqrt{\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2+2}{a+c+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}} \geq 3. \quad (Q.E.D.)$$

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\because a, b, c \geq 0, \frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}, \text{ etc} > 0$$

$$\therefore \text{ by A-G, LHS} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{(a^2+2)(b^2+2)(c^2+2)}{(b+c+1)(c+a+1)(a+b+1)}} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow (a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} (b + c + 1)(c + a + 1)(a + b + 1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a^2b^2c^2 + 2 \sum a^2b^2 + 3 \sum a^2 + 7 \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sum a^2b + \sum ab^2 + 2abc + 3 \sum ab + 2 \sum a$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{1}{2}a^2(b-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(a^2b^2 + a^2) \stackrel{(i)}{\geq} a^2b$$

$$\frac{1}{2}b^2(c-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(b^2c^2 + b^2) \stackrel{(ii)}{\geq} b^2c$$

$$\frac{1}{2}c^2(a-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(c^2a^2 + c^2) \stackrel{(iii)}{\geq} c^2a$$

$$\frac{1}{2}b^2(a-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(a^2b^2 + b^2) \stackrel{(iv)}{\geq} ab^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}c^2(b-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(b^2c^2 + c^2) \stackrel{(v)}{\geq} bc^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}a^2(c-1)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(c^2a^2 + a^2) \stackrel{(vi)}{\geq} ca^2$$

$$\text{Also, } \because \frac{1}{2}[\sum(a-b)^2] \geq 0, \therefore \sum a^2 \stackrel{(vii)}{\geq} \sum ab$$

$$\because \sum(a-1)^2 \geq 0, \therefore \sum a^2 + 3 \stackrel{(viii)}{\geq} 2 \sum a$$

$$\because (abc-1)^2 \geq 0, \therefore a^2b^2c^2 + 1 \stackrel{(ix)}{\geq} 2abc$$

$$\because \sum(ab-1)^2 \geq 0, \therefore \sum a^2b^2 + 3 \stackrel{(x)}{\geq} 2 \sum ab$$

(i) + (ii) + (iii) + (iv) + (v) + (vi) + (vii) + (viii) + (ix) + (x) \Rightarrow (1) is true (proved)

Solution 5 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $a, b, c \geq 0$, we have

$$(a^2 + 1 + 1)(b^2 + 1 + 1) \geq (a + b + 1)^2$$

$$(b^2 + 1 + 1)(c^2 + 1 + 1) \geq (b + c + 1)^2$$

$$(c^2 + 1 + 1)(a^2 + 1 + 1) \geq (c + a + 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \geq (a + b + 1)(b + c + 1)(c + a + 1)$$

$$\text{Hence } \sqrt{\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2+2}{c+a+1}} + \sqrt{\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{2 \sqrt{\left(\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}\right) \left(\frac{b^2+2}{c+a+1}\right) \left(\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}\right)}} \geq 3$$

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$$\text{Iff } \sqrt[6]{\left(\frac{a^2+2}{b+c+1}\right)\left(\frac{b^2+2}{c+a+1}\right)\left(\frac{c^2+2}{a+b+1}\right)} \geq 1 \text{ and it is to be true.}$$

Therefore, it is to be true

Solution 6 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

$$(a^2 + 1 + 1)(b^2 + 1 + 1) \geq (\sqrt{a^2 \cdot 1} + \sqrt{b^2 \cdot 1} + \sqrt{1 \cdot 1})^2 = (a + b + 1)^2$$

$$\text{Similarly, } (b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \geq (b + c + 1)^2 \text{ and } (c^2 + 2)(a^2 + 2) \geq (c + a + 1)^2$$

Multiplying the above we have $\prod_{\text{cyc}}(a^2 + 2) \geq \prod_{\text{cyc}}(a + b + 1)$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + 2}{b + c + 1}} \stackrel{AM \geq GM}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\prod_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + 2}{b + c + 1}}} = 3$$

SP.170. Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers such that $a + b + c + d = 2$.

Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b + \sqrt[3]{cda}}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c + \sqrt[3]{dab}}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{d + \sqrt[3]{abc}}} + \frac{d}{\sqrt{a + \sqrt[3]{bcd}}} \geq 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Using Cauchy's inequality, we have:

$$\text{LHS} \geq \frac{a}{\sqrt{b + \frac{c+d+a}{3}}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c + \frac{a+b+d}{3}}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{d + \frac{a+b+c}{3}}} + \frac{d}{\sqrt{a + \frac{b+c+d}{3}}} =$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{1+b}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{1+c}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{1+d}} + \frac{d}{\sqrt{1+a}} \right) \quad (*)$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x}} \quad (0 < x < 2) \Rightarrow f''(x) = \frac{3}{4(1+x)^{\frac{5}{2}}} > 0 \quad (\forall x \in (0, 2));$$

Using Jensen's inequality:

$$2 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \left[\frac{a}{b} f(b) + \frac{b}{c} f(c) + \frac{c}{d} f(d) + \frac{d}{a} f(a) \right] \geq 2 \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} f\left(\frac{ab + bc + cd + da}{2}\right) =$$

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$$= 2\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{ab+bc+cd+da}{2}}} = \sqrt{12} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2+ab+bc+cd+da}} \quad (**)$$

Because:

$$4 - 4(ab + bc + cd + da) = (a + b + c + d)^2 - 4(ab + bc + cd + da) = \\ = (a - b + c - d)^2 \geq 0 \rightarrow ab + bc + cd + da \leq 1;$$

$$\Rightarrow (**)\geq \sqrt{12} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2+1}} = 2. \text{ Proved. Equality} \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = d = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Solution 2 by Minh Tam Le-Vietnam

$$\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{a}{\sqrt{b + \sqrt[3]{acd}}} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \frac{(\sum a)^2}{\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a^3 \sqrt{b + \sqrt{acd}}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{4}{a \sqrt{b + \frac{a+c+d}{3}}} \\ = \frac{4}{\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a \sqrt{\frac{2+2b}{3}}} = \frac{4}{\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{a}{3} \sqrt{3(2+2b)}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \frac{4}{\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{a}{3} \left(\frac{3+2+2b}{2}\right)} = \\ = \frac{4}{\frac{5 \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a}{6} + \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{dab}{3}} = \frac{4}{\frac{5}{3} + \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} \frac{dab}{3}} \geq 2 \quad (*)$$

$$(*) \quad 2 \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} ab = (\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a)^2 - \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a^2 - 2ac + 2bd = 4 - [(a+c)^2 + (b+d)^2]$$

$$\stackrel{CBS}{\leq} 4 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} a \right)^2 = 2 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc}^{a,b,c,d} ab \leq 1$$

SP.171. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that: $abc = 1$. Find the minimum value of:

$$P = \frac{a^4}{b^5 \sqrt{5(a^4 + 4)}} + \frac{b^4}{c^5 \sqrt{5(b^4 + 4)}} + \frac{c^4}{a^5 \sqrt{5(c^4 + 4)}}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ we have

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$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^4 &\geq \left(\frac{a^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{a^4} + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2}\right)\right)^2 \\ &\geq 9\left(\frac{a^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{a^4} + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } &\frac{a^4}{b^5\sqrt{5(a^4+4)}} + \frac{b^4}{c^4\sqrt{5(b^4+4)}} + \frac{c^4}{a^5\sqrt{5(c^4+4)}} \\ &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{5(a^4b^2 + 4b^2)} + \sqrt{5(b^4c^2 + 4c^2)} + \sqrt{5(c^4a^2 + 4a^2)}} \\ &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{\sqrt{15(a^4b^2 + b^4c^2 + c^4a^2 + 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2))}} \geq \frac{3}{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2}\right)^2}{15(a^4b^2 + b^4c^2 + c^4a^2 + 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2))} \geq \frac{9}{25}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{9\left(\frac{a^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{a^4} + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2}\right)\right)}{15(a^4b^2 + b^4c^2 + c^4a^2 + 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2))} \geq \frac{9}{25}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{\frac{a^4}{b^5} + \frac{b^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{a^4} + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2}\right)}{a^4b^2 + b^4c^2 + c^4a^2 + 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} \geq \frac{3}{5} \text{ ok}$$

and if is to be true, because

$$\begin{aligned} &5\left(\frac{a^4}{b^4} + \frac{b^4}{c^4} + \frac{c^4}{a^4}\right) + 7(a^4b^2 + b^4c^2 + c^4a^2) = \\ &= 5(a^8c^4 + b^8a^4 + c^8b^4) + 7(a^4b^2 + b^4a^2 + c^4a^2) \\ &\geq 10(a^5c + c^5b + b^5a) + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2}\right) = 10\left(\frac{a^4}{b} + \frac{b^4}{c} + \frac{c^4}{a}\right) + 2\left(\frac{a^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2}\right) \\ &\geq 6\left(\frac{a^4}{b} + \frac{b^4}{c} + \frac{c^4}{a}\right) + 6(a^2 + b^2 + c^2): \frac{a^4}{b} + \frac{a^4}{b} + \frac{b^2}{a^2} \geq 3a^2 \\ &\geq 12(a^2 + b^2 + c^2): \frac{a^4}{b} + \frac{b^4}{c} + \frac{c^4}{a} \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it's minimum is $\frac{3}{5}$.

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Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^4}{b^5 \sqrt{5(a^2+4)}} \quad (1)$$

Let $(p, q, r) = (\sum_{cyc} a, \sum_{cyc} ab, abc)$. $r = 1$. As $\sqrt{5(a^2+4)} \leq \frac{1}{2}(a^2+9)$ (AM-GM)

and using BCS in (1) in the form $\sum_{cyc} \frac{\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{b \sqrt{s(a^2+4)}} = P$

we get $P \geq \frac{2\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2}{b \sum_{cyc} (a^2+9)}$ (2)

We will show RHS of (2) $\geq \frac{3}{5}$. We know that for $\begin{cases} xyz = 1 \\ x, y, z > 0 \end{cases}$ $\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{y} \geq x + y + z$ so,

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)^2 \geq \left(\sum_{cyc} a^2\right)^2 \geq \left[\frac{(\sum_{cyc} a)^2}{3}\right]^2 = \frac{p^4}{9} \quad (2) \text{ reduces to the (stronger) inequality}$$

$$\frac{\frac{1}{9}p^4}{(\sum_{cyc} ac^2)+9p} \geq \frac{3}{10} \text{ or } \frac{10}{9}p^4 - 3 \sum_{cyc} ac^3 - 27p \geq 0. \text{ But } \sum_{cyc} ac^2 \leq \sum_{cyc} a^3$$

(rearrangement) so it suffices to show that

$$\frac{10}{9}p^4 - 3(p^3 - 3pq + 3) - 27p \geq 0 \text{ or } \frac{10}{9}p^4 - 3p^3 - 27p + 9(pq - 1) \geq 0$$

As $pq \geq 9$ (for $r = 1, p \geq 3, q \geq 3$) it is enough that $\frac{10}{9}p^4 - 3p^3 - 27p + 72 \geq 0$

$$\text{or } 10p^4 - 27p^3 - 243p + 648 \geq 0 \text{ or } (p-3)(10p^3 + 3p^2 + 9p - 216) \geq 0$$

which clearly holds for $p \geq 3$. Done! $\left[P_{\min} = \frac{3}{5}\right]$

SP.172. Prove that for any real numbers x, y, z :

$$(x + y + z)(y + z - x)(z + x - y)(x + y - z) \leq 4y^2z^2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Lemma: For $x, y, z \geq 0$ we have:

$$(x + y - z)(y + z - x)(z + x - y) \leq xyz \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } P(x, y, z) = (x + y + z)(x + y - z)(y + z - x)(z + x - y) - 4y^2z^2$$

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$$\Rightarrow P(\pm x, \pm y, \pm z) = P(x, y, z) \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$$

\Rightarrow Suppose $x, y, z \geq 0$ and $x \leq y \leq z$. Then,

$$(x + y + z)(x + y - z)(y + z - x)(z + x - y) \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} (x + y + z)xyz$$

Must show that: $(x + y + z)xyz \leq 4y^2z^2$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(x + y + z) \leq 4yz \quad (*)$$

$$x(x + y + z) \leq y(2y + z) \stackrel{(2)}{\leq} 4yz$$

\because If $y = 0$ then (2) true. \because If $y > 0$ then (2) $\Leftrightarrow 2y + z \leq 4z$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2y \leq 3z \quad (\text{true because } 0 < y \leq z \Rightarrow 2y \leq 2z < 3z)$$

Now, we must show (1) true:

If $x + y - z < 0$ or $x + z - y < 0$ or $y + z - x < 0$ then (1) true.

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} x + y - z < 0 \\ x + z - y < 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 2x < 0 \Rightarrow x < 0 \quad (\text{contrary})$$

(etc).

If $x + y - z, x + z - y, y + z - x > 0$ then

$$(m + n)(n + p)(p + m) \stackrel{(\text{Cauchy})}{\geq} 8mnp \quad (m, n, p > 0)$$

Let $m = x + y - z, n = x + z - y, p = y + z - x$, we proved.

Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$(x + y + z)(y + z - x)(z + x - y)(x + y - z) \leq 4y^2z^2 \quad (1)$$

(1) reduces to $-(x^2 + y^2 - z^2)^2 \leq 0$ which is true.

SP.173. Prove that for any positive real numbers x, y, z :

$$\frac{x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} + y^2\sqrt{z^2 + x^2} + z^2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{x^3 + y^3 + z^3} \leq \sqrt{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

$$\rightarrow x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} = \sqrt{2}x^3 \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2x^2}} \Rightarrow \sqrt{2}x^3 \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2x^2}} \stackrel{GM \leq AM}{\leq} \sqrt{2}x^3 \left(\frac{y^2 + z^2 + 2x^2}{4x^2} \right)$$

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$$\leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}x(y^2 + z^2 + 2x^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} = \sqrt{2}x^3\sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2x^2}} \leq \frac{x}{2\sqrt{2}}(y^2 + z^2 + 2x^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc(x,y,z)} x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \leq \sum_{cyc(x,y,z)} \frac{x}{2\sqrt{2}}(y^2 + z^2 + 2x^2) \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}\sum (xy^2 + xz^2 + 2x^3)$$

Now, $\because (x - y)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - xy \geq xy \Rightarrow (x + y)(x^2 + y^2 - xy) \geq xy(x + y)$

$$\Rightarrow (x^3 + y^3) \geq (x^2y + xy^2) \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} (x^2y + xy^2) \leq \sum_{cyc} (x^3 + y^3) \leq 2 \sum_{cyc} x^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc(x,y,z)} x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}(2 \sum x^3 + 2x^3) \leq \left(\frac{4 \sum x^3}{2\sqrt{2}}\right)$$

$$\therefore \sum_{cyc(x,y,z)} x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \leq \sqrt{2}(x^3 + y^3 + z^3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} + y^2\sqrt{z^2 + x^2} + z^2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{(x^3 + y^3 + z^3)} \leq \sqrt{2}$$

(proved) Equality when $x = y = z$.

Solution 2 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

We know, $2 \sum_{cyc} x^3 \geq \sum_{cyc} xy(x + y)$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{cyc} x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}{\sum_{cyc} x^3} &= \frac{\sum_{cyc} x^2\sqrt{xy^2 + xz^2}}{\sum_{cyc} x^3} \stackrel{\text{CAUCHY SCHWARZ}}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{(\sum_{cyc} x^3)(\sum_{cyc} xy(x + y))}}{\sum_{cyc} x^3} \\ &\leq \frac{\sqrt{2(\sum_{cyc} x^3)(\sum_{cyc} x^3)}}{\sum_{cyc} x^3} = \sqrt{2} \text{ (proved)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Let $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3$.

$$\because x^2\sqrt{3 - x^2} \leq \frac{3x + x^3}{2\sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{(x^2 - 1)^2}{2\sqrt{2}} \geq 0 \text{ (true)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum x^2\sqrt{3 - x^2} \leq \frac{3(x + y + z) + (x^3 + y^3 + z^3)}{2\sqrt{2}} \quad (*)$$

$$3(x + y + z) = (x + y + z)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \stackrel{\text{(Chebyshev)}}{\leq} 3(x^3 + y^3 + z^3)$$

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$\Leftrightarrow x + y + z \leq x^3 + y^3 + z^3$. Hence,

$$(*) \leq \frac{4(x^3+y^3+z^3)}{2\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}(x^3 + y^3 + z^3). \text{ Proved.}$$

Solution 4 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For all $a, b, c > 0$, we have this fact $\sqrt{\frac{2(a^6+a^3b^3+a^3c^3)}{3}} \geq \sqrt{a^4a^2 + a^4c^2}$

$$\text{If } \frac{2(a^6+a^3b^3+a^3c^3)}{3} \geq a^4b^2 + a^4c^2$$

If $2(a^4 + ab^3 + ac^3) \geq 3(a^2b^2 + a^2c^2)$ and it's true. Because

$a^4 + ab^3 + ab^3 \geq 3a^2b^2, a^4 + ac^3 + ac^3 \geq 3a^2c^2$. Consider for $x, y, z > 0$, we get

$$\text{that } \frac{x^2\sqrt{y^2+z^2} + y^2\sqrt{z^2+x^2} + z^2\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{x^3+y^3+z^3} \leq \sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{If } \sqrt{x^4y^2 + x^4z^2} + \sqrt{y^4z^2 + y^4x^2} + \sqrt{z^4x^2 + z^4y^2} \leq \sqrt{2}(x^3 + y^3 + z^3)$$

$$= \sqrt{2(x^3 + y^3 + z^3)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{2(x^6 + y^6 + z^6) + 2((xy)^3 + (yz)^3 + (zx)^3)}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{3x^2}{3}((x^6 + x^3y^3 + x^3z^3) + (y^3 + y^3x^3 + y^3z^3) + (z^3 + z^3x^3 + z^3y^3))}$$

$$\text{If } \sqrt{x^4y^2 + x^4z^2} + \sqrt{y^4x^2 + y^4z^2} + \sqrt{z^4x^2 + z^4y^2} \leq$$

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{2(x^6 + x^3y^3 + x^3z^3)}{3}} + \sqrt{\frac{2(y^6 + y^3z^3 + y^3x^3)}{3}} + \sqrt{\frac{2(z^6 + z^3x^3 + z^3y^3)}{3}}$$

and it's true. Therefore, it's true.

Solution 5 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sum x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} = \sum x\sqrt{x^2y^2 + x^2z^2} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt{\sum x^2} \sqrt{2\sum x^2y^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\sum x^2\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}{\sum x^3}$$

$$\leq \frac{\sqrt{\sum x^2} \sqrt{2\sum x^2y^2}}{\sum x^3} \stackrel{?}{\leq} \sqrt{2} \Leftrightarrow (\sum x^3)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} (\sum x^2)(\sum x^2y^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum x^6 + 2\sum x^3y^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sum x^4y^2 + \sum x^2y^4 + 3x^2y^2z^2$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum x^6 + 3x^2y^2z^2 \stackrel{Schur}{\geq} \sum x^4y^2 + \sum x^2y^4 \text{ \& } 2\sum x^3y^3 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 6x^2y^2z^2$$

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$$\begin{aligned} (i)+(ii) &\Rightarrow \sum x^6 + 3x^2y^2z^2 + 2\sum x^3y^3 \geq \sum x^4y^2 + \sum x^2y^4 + 6x^2y^2z^2 \\ &\Rightarrow \sum x^6 + 2\sum x^3y^3 \geq \sum x^4y^2 + \sum x^2y^4 + 3x^2y^2z^2 \\ &\Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true (Hence proved)} \end{aligned}$$

SP.174. Prove that for any positive real numbers a, b, c, x, y, z :

$$(a^3 + 3x^3)(b^3 + 3y^3)(c^3 + 3z^3) \geq (ayz + bzx + cxy + xyz)^3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Viet Hung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Nguyen Tan Phat-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} &(a^3 + 3x^3)(b^3 + 3y^3)(c^3 + 3z^3) = \\ &= (a^3 + x^3 + x^3 + x^3)(y^3 + b^3 + y^3 + y^3)(z^3 + z^3 + c^3 + z^3) \end{aligned}$$

Using Holder's inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &(a^3 + x^3 + x^3 + x^3)(y^3 + b^3 + y^3 + y^3)(z^3 + z^3 + c^3 + z^3) \geq (ayz + bzx + cxy + xyz)^3 \\ &\Rightarrow (a^3 + 3x^3)(b^3 + 3y^3)(c^3 + 3z^3) \geq (ayz + bzx + cxy + xyz)^3 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Using Cauchy's inequality:

$$\because \frac{a^3}{(a^3+3x^3)} + \frac{y^3}{(b^3+3y^3)} + \frac{z^3}{(c^3+3z^3)} \geq \frac{3ayz}{\sqrt[3]{(a^3+3x^3)(b^3+3y^3)(c^3+3z^3)}} \quad (1)$$

$$\because \frac{x^3}{(a^3+3x^3)} + \frac{b^3}{(b^3+3y^3)} + \frac{z^3}{(c^3+3z^3)} \geq \frac{3bxz}{\sqrt[3]{(a^3+3x^3)(b^3+3y^3)(c^3+3z^3)}} \quad (2)$$

$$\because \frac{x^3}{(a^3+3x^3)} + \frac{y^3}{(b^3+3y^3)} + \frac{c^3}{(c^3+3z^3)} \geq \frac{3xyc}{\sqrt[3]{(a^3+3x^3)(b^3+3y^3)(c^3+3z^3)}} \quad (3)$$

$$\because \frac{x^3}{(a^3+3x^3)} + \frac{y^3}{(b^3+3y^3)} + \frac{z^3}{(c^3+3z^3)} \geq \frac{3xyz}{\sqrt[3]{(a^3+3x^3)(b^3+3y^3)(c^3+3z^3)}} \quad (4)$$

From (1)+(2)+(3)+(4) we have:

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{(a^3 + 3x^3)(b^3 + 3y^3)(c^3 + 3z^3)} \geq (xyz + xyc + bxz + ayz) \Rightarrow \text{Proved.}$$

SP.175. Let x, y, z be positive real numbers such that:

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$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz = 1$. Find the minimum value of:

$$P = \frac{x^3}{1 + 3y - 2yz} + \frac{y^3}{1 + 3z - 2zx} + \frac{z^3}{1 + 3x - 2xy}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \sum \frac{x^4}{x + 3xy - 2xyz} \stackrel{\text{(Schwarz)}}{\geq} \\ &= \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sum x + 3\sum xy - 6xyz} = \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sum x + 3\sum xy + 3\sum(\sum x^2 - 1)} \\ &\geq \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sqrt{3\sum x^2} + 6\sum x^2 - 3} = \frac{t^4}{\sqrt{3}t + 6t^2 - 3}; \left(t = \sqrt{\sum x^2} \right) \\ &\therefore (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^3 \geq 27x^2y^2z^2 \Rightarrow t^6 \geq 27(xyz)^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow t^3 \geq 3\sqrt{3}xyz \Leftrightarrow xyz \leq \frac{t^3}{3\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 1 = 2xyz + \sum x^2 \leq 2 \cdot \frac{t^3}{3\sqrt{3}} + t^2 \Leftrightarrow t \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \approx 0.8660$$

$$\text{Let } f(t) = \frac{t^4}{\sqrt{3}t + 6t^2 - 3}; t \in \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; +\infty \right) \Rightarrow f'(t) = \frac{3t^3(4t^2 + \sqrt{3}t - 4)}{(6t^2 + \sqrt{3}t - 3)^2}$$

$$f'(t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4t^2 + \sqrt{3}t - 4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} t = \frac{\sqrt{67} - \sqrt{3}}{8} \approx 0,8067 \notin \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; +\infty \right) \\ t = \frac{-\sqrt{67} - \sqrt{3}}{8} \notin \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; +\infty \right) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(t) > 0 \forall t \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \Rightarrow f(t) \nearrow \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; +\infty \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \geq f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{16} \Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{3}{16} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\sum x^2 = 1 - 2xyz \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3\sqrt[3]{x^2y^2z^2} \Rightarrow 1 - 2p^3 \geq 3p^2 \text{ (where } p = \sqrt[3]{xyz}\text{)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2p^3 + 3p^2 - 1 \leq 0 \Rightarrow (2p - 1)(p + 1)^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow p \leq \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow xyz \leq \frac{1}{8}$$

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$$\Rightarrow -2xyz \geq -\frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow 1 - 2xyz = \sum x^2 \geq \frac{3}{4} \Rightarrow \sqrt{3 \sum x^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } 1 + 3x - 2xy &= \sum x^2 + 2xyz + 3x - 2xy \\ &= (x - y)^2 + z^2 + 2xyz + 3x > 0 \quad (\because x, y, z > 0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } 1 + 3y - 2yz > 0 \text{ \& } 1 + 3z - 2xz > 0$$

$$\therefore p = \frac{x^4}{x + 3xy - 2xyz} + \frac{y^4}{y + 3yz - 2xyz} + \frac{z^4}{z + 3zx - 2xyz}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sum x + 3 \sum xy - 6xyz} \geq \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sqrt{3 \sum x^2} + 3 \sum x^2 - 6xyz}$$

$$\left(\because \left(\sum x \right)^2 \leq 3 \sum x^2 \text{ \& } \sum xy \leq \sum x^2 \right)$$

$$= \frac{(\sum x^2)^2}{\sqrt{3 \sum x^2} + 3 \sum x^2 + 3 \sum x^2 - 3} \left(\because -2xyz = \sum x^2 - 1 \right)$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{t^2}{3}\right)^2}{t + t^2 + t^2 - 3} \quad (\text{where } t = \sqrt{3 \sum x^2})$$

$$\stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{16} \Leftrightarrow \frac{t^4}{9(2t^2 + t - 3)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{16} \Leftrightarrow 16t^4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 27(2t^2 + t - 3)$$

$$\left(\because 2t^2 + t - 3 = (t - 1)(2t + 3) > 0 \right)$$

$$\left(\text{as } t = \sqrt{3 \sum x^2} \geq \frac{3}{2} > 1 \text{ (from (1))} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 16t^4 - 54t^2 - 27t + 81 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (2t - 3)(8t^3 + 12t^2 - 9t - 27) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{true} \because t = \sqrt{3 \sum x^2} \stackrel{\text{by(1)}}{\geq} \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow (2t - 3) \geq 0 \text{ \& } 8t^3 + 12t^2 - 9t - 27$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (8t^3 - 27) + 3t(4t - 3) = (2t - 3)(4t^2 + 6t + 9) + 3t(2(2t - 3) + 3) \\ &> 0 \text{ as } t \geq \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore p \geq \frac{3}{16} \Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{3}{16} \text{ \& the minimum occurs when } x = y = z \text{ \& } 3x^2 + 2x^3 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{when } (2x - 1)(x + 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \text{when } x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}$$

Solution 3 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2) + 2xyz = 1 \quad (T)$$

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$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^3}{1+3y-2yz} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } (p, q, r, m) = (\sum_{cyc} x, \sum_{cyc} xy, xyz, \sum_{cyc} x^2)$$

$$\text{From (T): } m + 2r = 1. \text{ But } m \geq 3r^{\frac{2}{3}} \rightarrow 3r^{\frac{2}{3}} + 2r - 1 \leq 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\rightarrow (\sqrt[3]{r} + 1)^2 (2\sqrt[3]{r} - 1) \leq 0 \text{ or } r \leq \frac{1}{8} \text{ which means } m \geq \frac{3}{4} \text{ and } m < 1 \text{ as } r > 0. \text{ We will}$$

$$\text{show that } P \geq \frac{3}{16}. \quad (1) \rightarrow P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^4}{x+3yz-2xyz} \stackrel{(BCS)}{\geq} \frac{m^2}{p+3q-6r} \geq \frac{3}{16} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{But } m = p^2 - 2q, r = \frac{1-m}{2} \text{ so, (2)} \rightarrow 32m^2 - 9m - 9p^2 - 6p + 18 \geq 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{But } \frac{p^2}{3} \leq m \text{ so, (3) becomes the stronger inequality}$$

$$32m^2 - 9m - 27m - 6\sqrt{3m} + 18 \geq 0 \text{ or } 32m^2 - 36m - 6\sqrt{3m} + 18 \geq 0 \quad (4) \text{ with}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \leq m < 1. \text{ Let } m = \frac{t^2}{3} \text{ with } \frac{3}{2} \leq t < \sqrt{3} \quad (4) \rightarrow 16t^4 - 54t^2 - 27t + 81 \geq 0$$

$$\text{or } (2t-3) \left[\frac{1}{2}(2t-3)(8t^2 + 24t + 27) + \frac{27}{2} \right] \geq 0 \text{ which is true for } t \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{Equality for } x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}. \text{ Done!}$$

SP.176. Prove that if $m \in [0, \infty), x, y, z, t \in (0, \infty)$, then in any triangle ABC , with the usual notations holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(xm_a^2 + ym_b^2)^{m+1}}{(zb^2 + twc_c^2)^m} \geq \frac{3^{m+\frac{3}{2}}(x+y)^{m+1}}{(4z+3t)^m} S$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu – Romania

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{We have: } \sum w_a^2 \leq \sum s(s-a) = s^2 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Then, LHS} \stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(x \sum m_a^2 + y \sum m_b^2)^{m+1}}{(z \sum a^2 + t \sum w_a^2)^m}$$

$$= \frac{[(x+y) \sum m_a^2]^{m+1}}{(z \sum a^2 + t \sum w_a^2)^m} = \frac{\left[(x+y) \cdot \frac{3}{4} \sum a^2 \right]^{m+1}}{(z \sum a^2 + t \sum w_a^2)^m} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4} \right)^{m+1} \cdot (x+y)^{m+1} \cdot (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{(z \sum a^2 + t s^2)^m}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{\left(za^2 + \frac{3}{4}t \sum a^2\right)^m} \left(\because 4s^2 = \left(\sum a\right)^2 \leq 3 \sum a^2\right) \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{\left(z + \frac{3}{4}\right)^m (\sum a^2)^m} = \frac{3^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1}}{4 \cdot (4z+3t)^m} \cdot (\sum a^2)^{m+1} \stackrel{\text{(Weitzenbock)}}{\geq} \\ &\quad \frac{3^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1} \cdot 4\sqrt{3}S}{4(4z+3t)^m} = \frac{3^{m+\frac{3}{2}} (x+y)^{m+1} S}{(4z+3t)^m} \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad \text{(proved)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &\stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(x+y)^{m+1} (\sum m_a^2)^{m+1} \sum w_a^2 \leq s^2}{(z \sum a^2 + t \sum w_a^2)^m} \geq \frac{(x+y)^{m+1} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{(z \sum a^2 + ts^2)^m} \\ &\stackrel{4s^2 \leq 3 \sum a^2}{\geq} \frac{(x+y)^{m+1} \cdot 3^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{4^{m+1} \left(z \sum a^2 + t \cdot \frac{3}{4} \sum a^2\right)^m} = \frac{4^m (x+y)^{m+1} \cdot 3^{m+1} \cdot (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{4^{m+1} (4z+3t)^m (\sum a^2)^m} \\ &= \frac{3^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{4(4z+3t)^m} \stackrel{\text{Ionescu-Weitzenbock}}{\geq} \frac{3^{m+1} (x+y)^{m+1} 4\sqrt{3}S}{4(4z+3t)^m} = \\ &\quad = \frac{3^{m+\frac{3}{2}} (x+y)^{m+1}}{(4z+3t)^m} S \quad \text{(Proved)} \end{aligned}$$

SP.177. Prove that if $m \in [0, \infty)$, $x, y, z, t \in (0, \infty)$, then in any triangle ABC , with the usual notations holds:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(xa^2 + ym_b^2)^{m+1}}{(zh_c^2 + th_a^2)^m} \geq \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{3^{m-\frac{1}{2}}(z+t)^m} S$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu – Romania

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{LHS} \stackrel{\text{(Radon)}}{\geq} \frac{(x \sum a^2 + y \sum m_b^2)^{m+1}}{\{(z+t) \sum h_a^2\}^m}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &\geq \frac{(x \sum a^2 + y \sum m_b^2)^{m+1}}{(z+t)^m (\sum w_a^2)^m} \left(\because h_a \leq m_a, \text{ etc} \Rightarrow \sum h_a^2 \leq \sum m_a^2 \right) \\
 &\geq \frac{\left(x \sum a^2 + \frac{3}{4} y \sum a^2\right)^{m+1}}{(a+t)^m (s^2)^m} \left(\because \sum w_a^2 \leq \sum s(s-a) = s^2 \right) \\
 &= \frac{(\sum a^2)^{m+1} (4x+3y)^{m+1}}{4(z+t)^m (4s^2)^m} \geq \frac{(\sum a^2)^{m+1} (4x+3y)^{m+1}}{4(z+t)^m (3 \sum a^2)^m} \\
 &= \frac{(\sum a^2)(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{4 \cdot 3^m (z+t)^m} \stackrel{\text{Finsler-Hadwiger}}{\geq} \frac{4\sqrt{3}S(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{4 \cdot 3^m (z+t)^m} = \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{3^{m-\frac{1}{2}}(z+t)^m} \cdot S
 \end{aligned}$$

(proved)

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LHS} &\stackrel{\text{Radon}}{\geq} \frac{(x \sum a^2 + y \sum m_a^2)^{m+1}}{(z \sum h_a^2 + \sum h_a^2)^m} = \frac{(x \sum a^2 + y \cdot \frac{3}{4} \sum a^2)^{m+1}}{(z+t)^m (\sum h_a^2)^m} = \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{4^{m+1} (z+t)^m (4r^2 s^2 \sum \frac{1}{a^2})^m} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Goldstone}}{\geq} \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{4^{m+1} (z+t)^m \left(\frac{4r^2 s^2 \cdot 4R^2 s^2}{16R^2 r^2 s^2}\right)^m} = \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{(4s^2)^m \cdot 4(z+t)^m} \\
 &\geq \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)^{m+1}}{(3 \sum a^2)^m \cdot 4(z+t)^m} \left(\because 4s^2 = \left(\sum a\right)^2 \leq 3 \sum a^2 \right) \\
 &= \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum a^2)}{3^m \cdot 4(z+t)^m} \stackrel{\text{Ionescu-Weitzenbock}}{\geq} \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} \cdot 4\sqrt{3}S}{3^m \cdot 4(z+t)^m} = \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{3^{m-\frac{1}{2}}(z+t)^m} S
 \end{aligned}$$

(proved)

SP.178. Show that:

If $m \in [0, \infty)$, $x, y, z, t \in (0, \infty)$, then in any triangle ABC , with usual notations holds:

$$\sum_{\text{cyclic}} \frac{(xa^2 + ym_b^2)^{m+1}}{(zm_c^2 + tm_a^2)^m} \geq \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1}}{3^{m-\frac{1}{2}}(z+t)^m} S$$

Proposed by D.M. Băţineţu – Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu – Romania

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Solution by the authors

By $\sum_{cyclic} m_a^2 = \frac{3}{4} \sum_{cyclic} a^2$, and J. Radon's inequality, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyclic} \frac{(xa^2 + ym_b^2)^{m+1}}{(zm_c^2 + tm_a^2)^m} &\stackrel{RADON}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{cyclic}(xa^2 + ym_b^2))^{m+1}}{(\sum_{cyclic}(zm_c^2 + tm_a^2))^m} = \\ &= \frac{(x \sum_{cyclic} a^2 + y \sum_{cyclic} m_b^2)^{m+1}}{(z+t)^m (\sum_{cyclic} m_a^2)^m} = \frac{(x \sum_{cyclic} a^2 + \frac{3y}{4} \sum_{cyclic} a^2)^{m+1}}{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^m (z+t)^m (\sum_{cyclic} a^2)^m} = \\ &= \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum_{cyclic} a^2)^{m+1}}{4^{m+1} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^m (z+t)^m (\sum_{cyclic} a^2)^m} = \frac{(4x+3y)^{m+1} (\sum_{cyclic} a^2)}{4 \cdot 3^m \cdot (z+t)^m} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

By Ion Ionescu – Weitzenböck inequality, we have: $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4\sqrt{3}S$ (2)

From (1) and (2) we obtain:

$$\sum_{cyclic} \frac{(xa^2 + ym_b^2)^{m+1}}{(zm_c^2 + tm_a^2)^m} \geq \frac{(4x + 3y)^{m+1}}{3^{m-\frac{1}{2}}(z+t)^m} S$$

Q.E.D.

SP.179. If $x \in [0, 1)$ then:

$$\cos x \leq x^3 + \tan^3 x + \sin^{-1} x + e^x$$

Proposed by Seyran Ibrahimov-Maasilli-Azerbaijan

Solution by Tran Hong-Vietnam

Let $f(x) = x^3 + \tan^3 x + \sin^{-1} x + e^x - \cos x; \forall x \in [0, 1)$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = 3x^2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} + \sin x + 3 \tan^2 x \cdot \sec^2 x > 0, \forall x \in [0, 1) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \nearrow \text{ on } [0, 1) \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Proved.}$$

SP.180. If $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+ \wedge x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ then:

$$\sqrt[4]{x+y} + \sqrt[4]{x+z} + \sqrt[4]{y+z} \leq \sqrt[4]{54\sqrt{3^{n+1}}}$$

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Proposed by Seyran Ibrahimov-Maasilli-Azerbaijan

Solution 1 by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

Using Power mean inequality, with $f_m = \sqrt[m]{\frac{a_1^m + a_2^m + \dots + a_k^m}{k}}$

if $m > n \Rightarrow f_m \geq f_n$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[m]{\frac{a_1^m + a_2^m + \dots + a_k^m}{k}} \geq \sqrt[n]{\frac{a_1^n + a_2^n + \dots + a_k^n}{k}} \quad (1)$$

Putting $a_1 = (x + y), a_2 = (y + z), a_3 = (x + z)$

$$m = 1, n = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}[(x + y) + (y + z) + (x + z)] \geq \left\{ \frac{\sqrt[4]{x + y} + \sqrt[4]{y + z} + \sqrt[4]{x + z}}{3} \right\}^4$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \frac{2(x + y + z)}{3} \right\}^{\frac{1}{4}} \geq \frac{1}{3}[\sqrt[4]{x + y} + \sqrt[4]{y + z} + \sqrt[4]{x + z}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{x + y} + \sqrt[4]{y + z} + \sqrt[4]{x + z} \leq 3 \left\{ \frac{2(x + y + z)}{3} \right\}^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Know that, $(x + y + z)^2 \leq 3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \leq 3(3^n) \Rightarrow (x + y + z) \leq \sqrt{3^{n+1}} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{x + y} + \sqrt[4]{y + z} + \sqrt[4]{x + z} \leq \sqrt[4]{54 \cdot 3^{n+1}}$$

(Proved)

Solution 2 by Myagmarsuren Yadamsuren-Darkhan-Mongolia

$$\frac{a + b}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{2}} \Rightarrow a + b \leq \sqrt{4(a^2 + b^2)}$$

$$\sum \sqrt[4]{x + y} \leq \sum \sqrt[4]{\sqrt{4 \cdot \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}} = \sum \sqrt[4]{2} \cdot \sqrt[8]{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} =$$

$$= \sqrt[4]{2} \cdot \sum \sqrt[8]{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt[4]{2} \cdot \sqrt{3 \cdot \sum \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sqrt[4]{18} \cdot \sqrt{\sum \sqrt[4]{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt[4]{18} \cdot \sqrt{\sqrt{3 \cdot \sum \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}}} = \\
 &= \sqrt[4]{54} \cdot \sqrt[4]{\sum \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt[4]{54} \cdot \sqrt[8]{3 \sum \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} = \\
 &= \sqrt[4]{54} \cdot \sqrt[8]{\sum x^2 \cdot 3} = \sqrt[4]{54 \cdot \sqrt{3^{n+1}}} \\
 & \quad x = y = z = \sqrt{3^{n-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{For } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3^n \Rightarrow (x + y + z)^2 \leq 3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = 3^{n+1} \\
 &\Rightarrow x + y + z \leq \sqrt{3^{n+1}} \Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{x+y} + \sqrt[4]{y+z} + \sqrt[4]{z+x} \\
 &= (x+y)^{\frac{1}{4}} + (y+z)^{\frac{1}{4}} + (z+x)^{\frac{1}{4}} \leq \frac{(x+y+y+z+z+x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}{3^{\frac{1}{4}-1}} = 3^{\frac{3}{4}}(2(x+y+z))^{\frac{1}{4}} \\
 &\leq 3^{\frac{3}{4}} \times 2^{\frac{1}{4}} \times \left(3^{\frac{(n+1)}{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = (3^3 \times 2)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(3^{\frac{x+1}{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt[4]{54\sqrt{3^{n+1}}} \text{ ok}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it is true.

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LHS} &\stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\sum \sqrt{x+y}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{2} \sum x} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{2} \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\sum x^2}} = \\
 &= \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\sqrt{6} \sqrt{\sqrt{3} 3^{\frac{n}{2}}}} \left(\because \sum x^2 = 3^n\right) \\
 &= 3^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{6^2} \frac{1}{3^4} \frac{n}{3^4}} = 3^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2^2} \cdot 3 \cdot \left(\frac{3+n}{4}\right)} = 3^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2^2} \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{n+1}{4} \cdot 3^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \sqrt[4]{9^4 \sqrt{6}} \sqrt[4]{3^{n+1}} = \sqrt[4]{54 \cdot \sqrt{3^{n+1}}} \\
 & \quad \text{(proved)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 5 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

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$$\text{Let } f(t) = \sqrt[4]{t}, t > 0 \Rightarrow f'(t) = -\frac{3}{16}t^{-\frac{7}{4}} < 0 \forall t > 0$$

Using Jensen's inequality, we have

$$f(x+y) + f(x+z) + f(y+z) \leq 3f\left(\frac{2(x+y+z)}{3}\right) = 3\sqrt[4]{\frac{2}{3}(x+y+z)}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{BCS}}{\leq} 3\sqrt[4]{\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{3(x^2+y^2+z^2)}} = 3\sqrt[4]{\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{3^{n+1}}} = \sqrt[4]{54\sqrt{3^{n+1}}}$$

(proved)

Solution 6 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

$$\text{We must show: } (\sqrt[4]{x+y} + \sqrt[4]{x+z} + \sqrt[4]{y+z})^4 \leq 54\sqrt{3^{n+1}} \quad (1)$$

From Hölder's inequality, we have:

$$(\sqrt[4]{x+y})^4 + (\sqrt[4]{x+z})^4 + (\sqrt[4]{y+z})^4 \geq \frac{(\sqrt[4]{x+y} + \sqrt[4]{x+z} + \sqrt[4]{y+z})^4}{2z} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(\sqrt[4]{x+y} + \sqrt[4]{x+z} + \sqrt[4]{y+z})^4 \leq 54(x+y+z) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1)+(2) we must show: } x+y+z \leq \sqrt{3^{n+1}} \Leftrightarrow (x+y+z)^2 \leq 3^{n+1} \quad (3)$$

From Cauchy's inequality, we have:

$$3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq (x+y+z)^2 \Rightarrow (x+y+z)^2 \leq 3^{n+1} \Rightarrow (3) \text{ it's true.}$$

UP.166. Solve the equation in \mathbb{R} :

$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} = \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

$$\text{Domain} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x > 0 \\ 4x - 3x^4 > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x = x(x^2 - 2x + 2) = x[(x-1)^2 + 1]$$

$$\therefore x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x > 0 \Rightarrow x[(x-1)^2 + 1] > 0 \Rightarrow x > 0$$

$$GM \leq AM \sqrt{x^2 - 2x^2 + 2x} \leq \frac{(x^2 - 2x^2 + 2x) + 1}{2}$$

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$$\sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} \leq \left(\frac{x^2 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1}{2} \right) \quad (a)$$

Equality holds when $x^2 - 2x^2 + 2x = 1$ (1)

Again, using $GM \leq AM$

$$3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} \leq (x^2 - x + 1) + 1 + 1 \leq (x^2 - x + 3) \quad (2)$$

Equality holds when $x^2 - x + 1 = 1$ (2)

Again, using $GM \leq AM$

$$2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} \leq 2 \left\{ \frac{(4x - 3x^4) + 1 + 1 + 1}{4} \right\}$$

$$\leq \left(\frac{4x - 3x^4 + 3}{2} \right) \quad (3)$$

Equality holds when $4x - 3x^4 = 1$ (3)

Adding (1), (2), (3):

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x} + 3\sqrt[3]{x^2 - x + 1} + 2\sqrt[4]{4x - 3x^4} \leq \\ & \leq \left(\frac{x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 1}{2} \right) + (x^2 - x + 3) + \left(\frac{4x - 3x^4 + 3}{2} \right) \\ & \Rightarrow \frac{x^4 - 3x^3}{2} + 7 \leq \frac{-3x^4 + 4x + 10 + x^3}{2} \\ & \Rightarrow x^4 - 3x^3 + 14 \leq -3x^4 + 4x + 10 + x^3 \\ & \Rightarrow 4x^4 - 4x^3 - 4x + 4 \leq 0 \\ & \Rightarrow x^4 - x^3 - x + 1 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x^3(x - 1) - 1(x - 1) \leq 0 \\ & \Rightarrow (x^3 - 1)(x - 1) \leq 0 \Rightarrow (x - 1)(x^2 + x + 1)(x - 1) \leq 0 \\ & \Rightarrow (x - 1)^2(x^2 + x + 1) \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\because x^2 + x + 1 = \left(x + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} > 0 \Rightarrow (x - 1)^2 \leq 0$$

$$(x - 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1 \quad (4)$$

From (1), (2), (3) & (4):

The only real solution is $x = 1$.

UP.167. Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that: $abc = 1$.

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Find the maximum value of:

$$P = \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3b^4 - 4b + 2c^2 + 11}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3c^4 - 4c + 2a^2 + 11}}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} 3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11 &= \{a^4 - 4a^3 + 6a^2 - 4a + 1\} + \{2a^4 + 4a^3 - 6a^2 + 10 + 2b^2\} \\ &= (a - 1)^4 + 2(a^4 + 2a^3 - 3a^2 + b^2 + 5) \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq 2(a^4 + 2a^3 - 4a^2 + a^2 + b^2 + 5) \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} 4(a + ab + 1)$$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow a^4 + 2a^3 - 4a^2 + 2ab + 5 \geq 2(a + ab + 1)$$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow a^4 + 2a^3 - 4a^2 + 5 \geq 2(a + 1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a^4 + 2a^3 - 4a^2 - 2a + 3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a - 1)^2(a + 1)(a + 3) \geq 0 \text{ (true with } a > 0)$$

Hence: $3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11 \geq 4(a + ab + 1)$, etc. Now,

$$\text{Let } f(t) = \sqrt[3]{t}, t > 0 \Rightarrow f'(t) = -\frac{2}{9}t^{-\frac{5}{3}} < 0 \text{ (}\forall t > 0)$$

Using Jensen's inequality, we have: $P \leq 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{Q}{3}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore Q &= \frac{1}{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3b^4 - 4b + 2c^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3c^4 - 4c + 2a^2 + 11} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a + ab + 1} + \frac{1}{b + bc + 1} + \frac{1}{c + ca + 1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a + ab + 1} + \frac{a}{a + ab + 1} + \frac{ab}{a + ab + 1} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1 + a + ab}{1 + a + ab} \right) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow P \leq 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4 \cdot 3}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{12}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}}. \text{ Equality } \Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1.$$

Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$(1) P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11}}$$

As $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}, x > 0$ is concave $\left(f''(x) = -\frac{2}{9}x^{-\frac{5}{3}}\right)$ we have by Jensen that

$$P \leq 3 \left[\frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{ or } 3 \left(\frac{P}{3} \right)^3 \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11}.$$

Now we have successively

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$$3a^4 + 3 \geq 6a^2 \rightarrow \frac{P^3}{9} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{6a^2 - 4a + 2b^2 + 8}$$

$$2a^2 + 2b^2 \geq 4ab \rightarrow \frac{P^3}{9} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{4a^2 - 4a + 4ab + 8} \text{ or}$$

$$\frac{4}{9} P^3 \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2 - a + ab + 2}. \text{ Also, } a^2 + 1 \geq 2a \text{ so, the last inequality becomes}$$

$$\frac{4}{9} P^3 \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a+ab+1} = 1 \text{ because } abc = 1. \text{ Therefore } P \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}} \text{ which is the required}$$

maximum for $a = b = c = 1$.

Solution 3 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

for $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc = 1$, we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3b^4 - 4b + 2c^2 + 11}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{3c^4 - 4c + 2a^2 + 11}} \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}}$$

$$\text{If } \sqrt[3]{3^2 \left(\frac{1}{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3b^4 - 4b + 2c^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3c^4 - 4c + 2a^2 + 11} \right)} \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}}$$

$$\text{If } 3^2 \left(\frac{1}{3a^4 - 4a + 2b^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3b^4 - 4b + 2c^2 + 11} + \frac{1}{3c^4 - 4c + 2a^2 + 11} \right) \leq \frac{9}{4}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{2a^4 + 2b^2 + 8} + \frac{1}{2b^4 + 2c^2 + 8} + \frac{1}{2c^4 + 2a^2 + 8} \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{a^4 + b^2 + 4} + \frac{1}{b^4 + c^2 + 4} + \frac{1}{c^4 + a^2 + 4} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{2a^2 + b^2 + 3} + \frac{1}{2b^2 + c^2 + 3} + \frac{1}{2c^2 + a^2 + 4} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{ab+a+1} + \frac{1}{bc+b+1} + \frac{1}{ca+c+1} \leq 1$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{\frac{x}{z} + \frac{x}{y} + 1} + \frac{1}{\frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} + 1} + \frac{1}{\frac{z}{y} + \frac{z}{x} + 1} \leq 1, a = \frac{x}{y}, b = \frac{y}{z}, c = \frac{z}{x}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{yz}{xy+xz+yz} + \frac{xz}{yz+xy+xz} + \frac{xx}{zx+yz+xy} = \frac{xy+yz+zx}{xy+yz+zx} = 1 \text{ ok}$$

Therefore, it's true (Its maximum is $\sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}}$)

UP. 168. Let be $a > 0$ and $f: (-\infty, -a - 1) \cup (-a, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$;

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + (2a+1)x + a^2 + a}. \text{ Find:}$$

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n^2]{\left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^{(n)}(k) \right|}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution 1 by Naren Bhandari-Bajura-Nepal

For $a > 0$, defined

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{(x^2 + 2xa + a^2) + (x + a)} = \frac{1}{(x + a)^2 + (x + a)} = \\ &= \frac{1}{(x + a + 1)(x + a)} = \frac{1}{x + a} - \frac{1}{x + a + 1} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} f^n(x) &= \underbrace{\frac{d}{dx} \left(\dots \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x+a} - \frac{1}{x+a+1} \right) \right) \right) \dots \right)}_{n \text{ times}} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(x+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(x+a+1)^{n+1}} = (-1)^n n! \left[\frac{1}{(x+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{1}{(x+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

replacing x by k and thus

$$\left(\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) \right)_{>0}^{\frac{1}{n^2}} = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^p \left[\frac{n!}{(k+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{n!}{(k+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{n^2}}$$

Since the partial sum of

$$\sum_{k=1}^p \left[\frac{n!}{(k+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{n!}{(k+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] = \frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} - \frac{n!}{(p+a+1)^{n+1}}$$

As $p \rightarrow \infty$ and hence the

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p \left[\frac{n!}{(k+1)^{n+1}} - \frac{n!}{(k+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] = \frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} - 0$$

Finally, we obtain that

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$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p \left[\frac{n!}{(k+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{n!}{(k+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] = \frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} - 0$$

Finally, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} = \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sim \sqrt{2\pi n}}{(a+1)^{n+1}} \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^n \right)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2n^2}} \cdot n^{\frac{1+2n}{n^2}}}{e^{\frac{n}{n^2}} (a+1)^{\frac{n+1}{n^2}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left(\frac{(1+2n) \log n}{n^2} \right) = e^0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$x^2 + (2a+1)x + a^2 + a = (x+a)^2 + x + a = (x+a+1)(x+a)$$

$$\therefore f(x) = \frac{1}{x+a} - \frac{1}{x+a+1}$$

$$f^n(x) = \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(x+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(x+a+1)^{n+1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) = \sum_{k=1}^p \left[\frac{(-1)^n n!}{(k+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(k+a+1)^{n+1}} \right] =$$

$$= (-1)^n n! \left[\frac{1}{(1+a)^{n+1}} - \frac{1}{(1+a+p)^{n+1}} \right]$$

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) = \frac{(-1)^n n!}{(1+a)^{n+1}}$$

$$\left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) \right| = \frac{n!}{(1+a)^{n+1}} \Rightarrow n^2 \sqrt{\left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) \right|} = \frac{(n!)^{\frac{1}{n^2}}}{(1+a)^{\frac{n+1}{n^2}}}$$

$$\text{For } n \geq 2, 2^{n-1} \leq n! \leq n^n$$

$$(2^{n-1})^{\frac{1}{n^2}} \leq (n!)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} \leq (n^n)^{\frac{1}{n^2}}$$

$$\text{Or } 2^{\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n^2}} \leq (n!)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} \leq n^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n^2}} = 1, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1 \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n!)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} = 1$$

$$\text{Also, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1+a)^{\frac{(n+1)}{n^2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1+a)^{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}} = 1$$

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$$\text{Thus, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \sqrt{\left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^n(k) \right|} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$$

Solution 3 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania

Let be $a > 0$ and $f: (-\infty; -a-1) \cup (-a; +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + (2a+1)x + a^2 + a}. \text{ Find:}$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \sqrt{\left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^{(n)}(k) \right|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{x^2 + 2 \cdot x \cdot \frac{2a+1}{2} + \frac{4a^2 + 4a + 1}{4} + a^2 + a - \frac{4a^2 + 4a + 1}{4}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\left(x + \frac{2a+1}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{(x+a)(x+a+1)} = \frac{x+a+1 - (x+a)}{(x+a)(x+a+1)} = \frac{1}{x+a} - \frac{1}{x+a+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$> f^{(n)}(x) = n! \cdot (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{(x+a)^{n+1}} + (-1)^{n+1} \cdot n! \cdot \frac{1}{(x+a+1)^{n+1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^p f^{(n)}(k) = n! \cdot (-1)^n \cdot \left(\frac{1}{(a+1)^{n+1}} - \frac{1}{(p+a+1)^{n+1}} \right) \Rightarrow \left| \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^p f^{(n)}(k) \right| =$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n^2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln\left(\frac{n!}{(a+1)^{n+1}}\right)}{n^2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln \frac{n+1}{a+1}}{2n+1}} =$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln \frac{n+2}{n+1}}{2}} = e^0 = 1 > \Omega = 1$$

UP.169. Let be the sequence $x_1 > 0$ and $x_1^p + x_2^p + \dots + x_n^p = \frac{1}{p+1 \sqrt{x_{n+1}}}$,

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, p \in \mathbb{N}^*$. Find:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} \cdot x_n^{p^2+p+1}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution 1 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

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$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}} = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k^p = \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_n}} + x_n^p \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_n}} = x_n^p > 0$$

$\therefore x_n > x_{n+1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, hence $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is decreasing, hence bounded

$$\text{Let } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l \text{ then } \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{l}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{l}} + l^p \Rightarrow l = 0$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} \cdot x_n^{p^2+p+1} \Rightarrow \sqrt[p+1]{\Omega} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\frac{1}{x_n^{p^2+p+1}}} \stackrel{\text{CAESARO STOLZ}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1-n}{\frac{1}{x_n^{p^2+p+1}} - \frac{1}{x_{n-1}^{p^2+p+1}}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_n}} + x_n^p \right)^{p^2+p+1} - \frac{1}{x_n^{p^2+p+1}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} \right)^{p^2+p+1} - \frac{1}{x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{p^2+p+1} \Rightarrow \Omega = \frac{1}{(p^2+p+1)^{p+1}} \text{ (Answer)}$$

Solution 2 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} x_n^{p^2+p+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} x_n^{(p+1)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{x_n^p} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{p+1} x_n^{(p+1)^2} x_n}{x_n^{p+1}} \quad (1)$$

$$x_1^p + \dots + x_n^p = \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}} > \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_n}} + x_n^p = \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}}$$

we prove by using the Mathematical induction that $x_n > 0; \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$:

1. we prove that $P(0)$: " $x_0 > 0$ " is true (true).

2. we suppose that $P(n)$: " $x_n > 0$ " is true

3. we prove that $P(n+1)$: " $x_{n+1} > 0$ " is true by using $P(n)$:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}} = x_n^p + \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_n}}; x_n > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}}} > 0 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} > 0 \Rightarrow \text{true} \Rightarrow x_n > 0; \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

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$$\frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} + x_n^p = \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_{n+1}}} > \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_{n+1}}} - \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} = x_n^p > 0 > \sqrt[p+1]{x_{n+1}} < \sqrt[p+1]{x_n}$$

$> x_{n+1} < x_n > (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a decreasing sequence, $x_n > 0 > |l \in \mathbb{R}$ such that:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l = \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{l}} = l^p + \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{l}} \Rightarrow l = 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} x_n^{p^2+p+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x_n^{p+1} \cdot n \cdot \sqrt[p+1]{x_n}}{x_n} \right)^{p+1} \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n^p \cdot n \cdot \sqrt[p+1]{x_n})^{p+1} = L^{p+1}$$

$$x_n^p = \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_{n+1}}} - \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \Rightarrow L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(\frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_{n+1}}} - \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \right) \cdot n \cdot \sqrt[p+1]{x_n} \right) = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(n \cdot \left(\sqrt[p+1]{\frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}}} - 1 \right) \right) \quad (2)$$

$$x_n^p = \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_{n+1}}} - \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[p+1]{\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n}} = 1$$

$$(2) \Rightarrow L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot \frac{\frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}} - 1}{\left(\sqrt[p+1]{\frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}}} \right)^0 + \dots + \left(\sqrt[p+1]{\frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}}} \right)^p} = \frac{1}{p+1} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{x_n}{x_{n+1}} - 1 \right) = \\ = \frac{1}{p+1} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(\frac{x_n^{p^2+p+1}}{x_n^{p+1}} \right)^{p+1} - 1 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{p+1} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} (p+1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}}} \stackrel{\text{Stolz Cesaro}}{=} \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x_{n+1}^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} - x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1}^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} - x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(x_n^p + \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \right)^{p^2+p+1} - x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \right)^{p^2+p+1} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{x_n^p + \frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}}}{\frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}}} \right)^{p^2+p+1} - 1 \right) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{p+1\sqrt{x_n}} \right)^{p^2+p+1} \cdot \frac{\left(x_n^{p+\frac{1}{p+1}} + 1 \right)^{p^2+p+1} - 1}{x_n^{p+\frac{1}{p+1}}} \cdot x_n^{p+\frac{1}{p+1}} = \\
 &= (p^2 + p + 1) \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n^{\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} \cdot x_n^{-\frac{p^2+p+1}{p+1}} = p^2 + p + 1 \\
 \Rightarrow L &= \frac{1}{p^2 + p + 1} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{p+1} \cdot x_n^{p^2+p+1} = \frac{1}{(p^2 + p + 1)^{p+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

UP.170. Find:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(nx) \ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution 1 by Sagar Kumar-Patna Bihar-India

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 \frac{\tan^{-1}(nx) \ln(1+x)}{(1+x^2)} dx = I$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$\text{Put } x = \tan \theta$$

$$dx = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1 + \tan \theta) \quad (1)$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln \left(\frac{1 + \tan \theta + 1 - \tan \theta}{1 + \tan \theta} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$(1) + (2)$$

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$$I = \frac{\pi^2}{16} \ln 2$$

Solution 2 by Avishek Mitra-India

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 \tan^{-1}(nx) \frac{\ln(1+x)}{(1+x^2)} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x)}{(1+x^2)} dx$$

$$\text{Let } I = \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x) dx}{(1+x^2)} = [\ln(1+x) \cdot \tan^{-1} x]_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{\tan^{-1} x dx}{(1+x)}$$

$$[\text{let } x = \tan z \Rightarrow dx = \sec^2 z dz]$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4} \ln 2 - \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{z \cdot \sec^2 z dz}{(1 + \tan z)} = \frac{\pi}{4} \ln 2 - \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{z dz}{\cos z (\sin z + \cos z)}$$

$$\text{Let } I_1 = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{z dz}{\cos z (\sin z + \cos z)} = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - z\right)}{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - z\right) \left[\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - z\right) + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - z\right)\right]} dz$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{dz}{\cos z (\sin z + \cos z)} - I_1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 2I_1 = \frac{\pi}{4} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{\sec^2 z dz}{(1 + \tan z)} = \frac{\pi}{4} [\ln(1 + \tan z)]_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln 2 \Rightarrow I_1 = \frac{\pi}{8} \ln 2$$

$$\text{Hence } I = \frac{\pi}{4} \ln 2 - \frac{\pi}{8} \ln 2 = \frac{\pi}{8} \ln 2$$

$$\text{Hence } \Omega = \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{8} \ln 2 = \frac{\pi^2}{16} \ln 2 \text{ (answer)}$$

Solution 3 by Abdul Mukhtar-Nigeria

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan(nx) \ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx = \int_0^1 \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1}(nx) \right) \times \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$\text{we know } n = \infty \Rightarrow \tan^{-1}(\infty \cdot x) = \tan^{-1}(\infty) = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$\text{let } x = \tan \theta$$

$$dx = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{\ln(1+\tan\theta)}{1+\tan^2\theta} \cdot \sec^2\theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1+\tan\theta) d\theta \\ \text{Set } \phi &= \frac{\pi}{4} - \theta \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^0 \ln\left(1+\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}-\phi\right)\right) - d\phi \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln\left(1+\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}-\phi\right)\right) d\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \left(1 + \frac{1-\tan\phi}{1+\tan\phi}\right) d\phi \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln\left(\frac{2}{1+\tan\phi}\right) d\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln 2 d\phi - \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1+\tan\phi) d\phi \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow 2I &= \frac{\pi}{4} \ln 2 \Rightarrow I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1+\tan\phi) d\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{\pi}{8} \ln 2\right) \Rightarrow \frac{\pi^2}{16} \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Shivam Sharma-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \int_0^1 \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nx \tan(nx)\right) \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x^2} dx \\ \text{Let } x &= \tan\theta \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1+\tan\theta) d\theta \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \ln\left(1+\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}-\theta\right)\right) d\theta \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln\left(1 + \left(\frac{1-\tan\theta}{1+\tan\theta}\right)\right) d\theta \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(2) d\theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(1+\tan\theta) d\theta \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \ln(2) - \Omega \\ &\quad \text{(OR)} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Omega = \frac{\pi}{4} \ln(2) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} d\theta$$

(OR)

$$\Omega = \frac{\pi^2}{16} \ln(2) \quad (\text{Answer})$$

UP.171. Find that in any acute-angled ΔABC the following inequality holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \left(\frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C}, \frac{\sin B}{\sin A + \sin C}, \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} \right) &\leq \frac{\cos A + \cos B + \cos C}{3} \leq \\ &\leq \max \left(\frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C}, \frac{\sin B}{\sin A + \sin C}, \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\text{Let } T = \left\{ \frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C}; \frac{\sin B}{\sin A + \sin C}; \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} \right\}$$

$$\text{Suppose: } A \leq B \leq C \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a \leq b \leq c \\ \sin A \leq \sin B \leq \sin C \end{cases}; \text{ (with } A, B, C: \text{ acute angled)}$$

We will prove that:

$$\min T \stackrel{(*)}{\leq} \frac{\cos A + \cos B + \cos C}{3} \stackrel{(**)}{\leq} \max T$$

First:

$$\therefore \min T = \frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C} = \frac{a}{b+c} \quad (1)$$

$$\therefore \frac{\cos A + \cos B + \cos C}{3} = \frac{a^2b + b^2a + a^2c + c^2a + b^2c + c^2b - (a^3 + b^3 + c^3)}{6abc} \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 6bca^2 &\leq (b+c)\{a^2b + b^2a + a^2c + c^2a + b^2c + c^2b - (a^3 + b^3 + c^3)\} \\ \Leftrightarrow (a+b+c)\{b(a^2 - c^2) + c(a^2 - b^2) - 2a(b^2 - bc + c^2) + b^3 + c^3\} &\leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a+b+c)\{b(a^2 - c^2) + c(a^2 - b^2) + (b^2 - bc + c^2)(b+c-2a)\} \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (b-a)\{(b-c)^2 - ac\} + (c-a)\{(b-c)^2 - ab\} \leq 0 \quad (3)$$

$$(b-c)^2 - ac \leq (b-c)^2 - a^2 = -(b+a-c)(c+a-b) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (b-a)\{(b-c)^2 - ac\} \leq 0 \quad (4)$$

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$$(b-c)^2 - ab \leq (b-c)^2 - a^2 = -(b+c-c)(c+a-b) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (c-a)\{(b-c)^2 - ab\} \leq 0 \quad (5)$$

(4),(5)

\Rightarrow (3) true \Rightarrow (*) true.

$$\text{Second: } \frac{\cos A + \cos B + \cos C}{3} \leq \frac{\frac{3}{2}}{3} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (6)$$

$$\max T = \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} = \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{1}{2} \quad (7)$$

(6),(7)

\Rightarrow (***) true. Hence: For any acute-angled ΔABC .

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\min \left(\frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C}, \frac{\sin B}{\sin A + \sin C}, \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} \right) \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{\sum \cos A}{3} \leq$$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \max \left(\frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C}, \frac{\sin B}{\sin A + \sin C}, \frac{\sin C}{\sin A + \sin B} \right)$$

$$\text{RHS of (2)} \geq \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{\sin A}{\sin B + \sin C} = \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{a}{b+c} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \frac{\sum a(c+a)(a+b)}{2s(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} = \frac{\sum a(\sum ab + a^2)}{3 \cdot 2s(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)}$$

$$= \frac{(\sum ab)(2s) + 2s(s^2 - 6Rr - 3r^2)}{3 \cdot 2s(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)}$$

$$= \frac{2s^2 - 2Rr - 2r^2}{3(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{\sum \cos A}{3} = \frac{R+r}{3R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow R(2s^2 - 2Rr - 2r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} (R+r)(s^2 + 2Rr + r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R-r)s^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} (R+r)(2Rr + r^2) + R(2Rr + 2r^2)$$

$$\stackrel{(2a)}{=} 2R^2r + Rr^2 + 2Rr^2 + r^3 + 2R^2r + 2Rr^2 = 4R^2r + 5Rr^2 + r^3$$

$$\text{Now, LHS of (2a)} \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (R-r)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4R^2r + 5Rr^2 + r^3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 16R^2 - 21Rr + 5r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4R^2 + 5Rr + r^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 12R^2 - 26Rr + 4r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow 6R^2 - 13Rr + 2r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (R-2r)(6R-r) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because R \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2r \Rightarrow (2a) \text{ \& hence (1) is true}$$

We shall now focus on proving (1), which is:

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$$3 \min \left(\frac{a}{b+c}, \frac{b}{c+a}, \frac{c}{a+b} \right) \stackrel{(1a)}{\leq} 1 + \frac{\Delta}{s} \cdot \frac{4\Delta}{abc}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{4s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}{sabc} = 1 + \frac{4xyz}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

(where $s - a = x, s - b = y, s - c = z$)

$$= \frac{6xyz + \sum x^2y + \sum xy^2}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

$$\text{Case 1) } \min \left(\frac{a}{b+c}, \frac{b}{c+a}, \frac{c}{a+b} \right) = \frac{a}{b+c}$$

$$\therefore \frac{a}{b+c} \leq \frac{b}{c+a} \Rightarrow a \leq b \Rightarrow y+z \leq z+x \Rightarrow x \geq y$$

$$\& \frac{a}{b+c} \leq \frac{c}{a+b} \Rightarrow a \leq c \Rightarrow y+z \leq x+y \Rightarrow x \geq z$$

$$\text{Now, (1a)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3(y+z)}{2x+y+z} \leq \frac{6xyz + \sum x^2y + \sum xy^2}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^3y + x^3z + 4x^2yz - 2y^2z^2 - xy^3 - xz^3 - y^3z - yz^3 \stackrel{(1b)}{\geq} 0$$

$$\text{Now, } 2x^2yz - 2y^2z^2 = 2yz(x^2 - yz) \geq 0 \quad (\because x \geq yz),$$

$$x^2yz - y^3z = yz(x^2 - y^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because x \geq y),$$

$$x^2yz - yz^3 = yz(x^2 - z^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because x \geq z),$$

$$x^3y - xy^3 = xy(x^2 - y^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because x \geq y),$$

$$x^3z - xz^3 = xz(x^2 - z^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because x \geq z)$$

Adding the last 5 inequalities, (1b) & hence (1a) & hence (1) is true.

$$\text{Case 2) } \min \left(\frac{a}{b+c}, \frac{b}{c+a}, \frac{c}{a+b} \right) = \frac{b}{c+a}$$

$$\therefore \frac{b}{c+a} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} \Rightarrow b \leq a \Rightarrow z+x \leq y+z \Rightarrow y \geq x \&$$

$$\frac{b}{c+a} \leq \frac{c}{a+b} \Rightarrow b \leq c \Rightarrow z+x \leq x+y \Rightarrow y \geq z$$

$$\text{Now, (1a)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3(z+x)}{x+2y+z} \leq \frac{6xyz + \sum x^2y + \sum xy^2}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow xy^3 + y^3z + 4xy^2z - 2z^2x^2 - xz^3 - yz^3 - x^3y - x^3z \stackrel{(1c)}{\geq} 0$$

$$\text{Now, } 2xy^2z - 2z^2x^2 = 2zx(y^2 - zx) \geq 0 \quad (\because y \geq z, x),$$

$$xy^2z - xz^3 = zx(y^2 - z^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because y \geq z),$$

$$xy^2z - x^3z = xz(y^2 - x^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because y \geq x),$$

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$$y^3z - yz^3 = yz(y^2 - z^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because y \geq z),$$

$$xy^3 - x^3y = xy(y^2 - x^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because y \geq x)$$

Adding the last 5 inequalities, (1c) & hence, (1a) & hence, (1) is true.

$$\text{Case 3) } \min\left(\frac{a}{b+c}, \frac{b}{c+a}, \frac{c}{a+b}\right) = \frac{c}{a+b}$$

$$\therefore \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} \Rightarrow c \leq a \Rightarrow x + y \leq y + z \Rightarrow z \geq x \text{ \&}$$

$$\frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{b}{c+a} \Rightarrow c \leq b \Rightarrow x + y \leq z + x \Rightarrow z \geq y$$

$$\text{Now, (1a)} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3(x+y)}{x+y+2z} \leq \frac{6xyz + \sum x^2y + \sum xy^2}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow yz^3 + zx^3 + 4xyz^2 - x^3y - x^3z - 2x^2y^2 - xy^3 - y^3z \stackrel{(1d)}{\geq} 0$$

$$\text{Now, } 2xyz^2 - 2x^2y^2 = 2xy(z^2 - xy) \geq 0 \quad (\because z \geq x, y),$$

$$xyz^2 - xy^3 = xy(z^2 - y^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because z \geq x),$$

$$xyz^2 - x^3y = xy(z^2 - x^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because z \geq x),$$

$$yz^3 - y^3z = yz(z^2 - y^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because z \geq y)$$

$$xz^3 - x^3z = xz(z^2 - x^2) \geq 0 \quad (\because z \geq x)$$

Adding the last 5 inequalities, (1d) & hence (1a) & hence (1) is true.

Combining the 3 cases, (1) is always true.

(This completes the proof)

UP.172. Let be $A \in M_5(\mathbb{R})$, invertible such that: $\det(A^2 + I_5) = 0$.

Prove that:

$$\text{Tr } A^* = 1 + \det A \cdot \text{Tr } A^{-1}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{As } \det(A^2 + I_5) = 0$$

$$\det[(A + iI_5)(A - iI_5)] = 0 \Rightarrow \det(A + iI_5) = 0 \text{ or } \det(A - iI_5) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow i$ or $-i$ is an eigenvalue of A .

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As characteristic equation of A it has real coefficients, both $i, -i$ are eigenvalues of

A . Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ be other eigenvalues of A .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(A^*) &= (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3)(i - i) + \lambda_1\lambda_2 + \lambda_1\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_3 + i(-i) \\ &= \lambda_1\lambda_2 + \lambda_1\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_3 + 1. \text{ Also, } \det A = \lambda_1\lambda_2\lambda_3(i)(-i) = \lambda_1\lambda_2\lambda_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Tr}(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2} + \frac{1}{\lambda_3} + \frac{1}{i} - \frac{1}{i} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_2} + \frac{1}{\lambda_3}$$

$$\det(A) \text{tr}(A^{-1}) = \lambda_1\lambda_2 + \lambda_1\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_3$$

$$\text{Thus, } \text{tr}(A^*) = 1 + \det(A) \text{tr}(A^{-1})$$

UP.173. Find:

$$\Omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{6 - 2 \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i+1} \binom{2i}{i} + 3 \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i}}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} 6 - 2 \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i+1} \binom{2i}{i} + 3 \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} &= 6 + \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1} = \\ &= 6 + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1} + \binom{2n}{n} \cdot \frac{3n+1}{n+1} = 6 + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1} + \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} \cdot \frac{3n+1}{n+1} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} \cdot \frac{3n+1}{n+1} = 3 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2}$$

$$\text{Let } x_n = \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} > \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = \frac{(2n+2)!}{((n+1)!)^2} \cdot \frac{(n!)^2}{(2n)!} = \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(n+1)(n+1)} >$$

$$> \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = 4 > 1 > \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \infty > \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} = \infty >$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} \cdot \frac{3n+1}{n+1} = \infty \stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(6 - \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i+1} \cdot \binom{2i}{i} + 3 \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} \right) = \infty \Rightarrow$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &> \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{6 - 2 \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i+1} \cdot \binom{2i}{i} + 3 \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i}} = \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(6 - 2 \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i+1} \binom{2i}{i} + 3 \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \stackrel{\infty^0}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln(6 + \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1})}{n}} \stackrel{\text{Stolz Cesaro}}{=} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln\left(\frac{6 + \sum_{i=2}^{n+1} \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1}}{6 + \sum_{i=2}^n \binom{2i}{i} \cdot \frac{3i+1}{i+1}}\right)}{1}} \stackrel{\text{Stolz Cesaro}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\binom{2n+4}{n+2} \cdot \frac{3n+7}{n+3}}{\binom{2n+2}{n+1} \cdot \frac{3n+4}{n+2}} = \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+4)!}{(n+2)!(n+2)!} \cdot \frac{3n+7}{n+3} \cdot \frac{n+2}{3n+4} \cdot \frac{(n+1)!(n+1)!}{(2n+2)!} = \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+3)(2n+4)}{(n+2)(n+2)} = 4 \Rightarrow \Omega = 4
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Pierre Mounir-Cairo-Egypt

$$\begin{aligned}
 L &= \sqrt[n]{6 - 2 \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{1}{k+1}\right) \binom{2k}{k} + 3 \sum_{k=2}^n \binom{2k}{k}} \\
 &= \sqrt[n]{6 + \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{3k+1}{k+1}\right) \binom{2k}{k}} = \sqrt[n]{1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{3k+1}{k+1}\right) \binom{2k}{k}} \\
 \text{Let } S_n &= 1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{3k+1}{k+1}\right) \binom{2k}{k} \Rightarrow L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{S_n} \\
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_{n+1}}{S_n} &\stackrel{SC}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_{n+1} - S_n}{S_n - S_{n-1}} \quad (S_n \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(\frac{3n+4}{n+2}\right) \binom{2n+2}{n+1}}{\left(\frac{3n+1}{n+1}\right) \binom{2n}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3n+4)(n+1)(2n+2)!(n!)^2}{(3n+1)(n+2)(2n)!(n+1)!^2} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3n+4)(n+1)(2n+2)(2n+1)}{(3n+1)(n+2)(n+1)^2} = 4 \\
 \therefore L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{S_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_{n+1}}{S_n} = 4
 \end{aligned}$$

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UP.174. If $f: [a, b] \rightarrow [1, \infty)$; $0 < a \leq b$; f integrable then:

$$\int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \frac{3 + f(x) + f(y) + f(z)}{f(x)f(y) + f(y)f(z) + f(z)f(x)} dx dy dz \leq (b - a)^3 + \left(\int_a^b \frac{dx}{f(x)} \right)^3$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by proposer

$$f(x); f(y); f(z) \in [1, \infty) \Rightarrow f(x) \geq 1; f(y) \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x)(f(y) - 1) + f(y)(f(x) - 1) \geq 0$$

$$2f(x)f(y) - f(x) - f(y) \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

$$f(x) \geq 1; f(y) \geq 1 \Rightarrow f(x)f(y) - 1 \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

By (1); (2):

$$\sum_{cyc} (f(x)f(y) - 1)(2f(x)f(y) - f(x) - f(y)) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{f(x) + f(y) + 2f^2(x)f^2(y) - 2f(x)f(y) - f^2(x)f(y) - f(x)f^2(y)}{2f(x)f(y)} \right) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2f(x)f(y)} + f(x)f(y) - 1 - \frac{f(x)}{2} - \frac{f(y)}{2} \right) \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2f(x)f(y)} + \sum_{cyc} f(x)f(y) \geq 3 + \sum_{cyc} f(x)$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{f(x)} + \sum_{cyc} f(x)f(y) \geq 3 + \sum_{cyc} f(x)$$

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} f(x)f(y) \right) \frac{1}{f(x)f(y)f(z)} + \sum_{cyc} f(x)f(y) \geq 3 + \sum_{cyc} f(x)$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{f(x)f(y)f(z)} \geq \frac{3 + f(x) + f(y) + f(z)}{f(x)f(y) + f(y)f(z) + f(z)f(x)}$$

$$\int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \left(\frac{3 + f(x) + f(y) + f(z)}{f(x)f(y) + f(y)f(z) + f(z)f(x)} \right) dx dy dz \leq$$

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$$\leq \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b dx dy dz + \int_a^b \int_a^b \int_a^b \left(\frac{dx dy dz}{f(x)f(y)f(z)} \right) = (b-a)^3 + \left(\int_a^b \frac{dx}{f(x)} \right)^3$$

UP.175. In acute $\triangle ABC$ the following relationship holds:

$$\frac{b^2 + c^2 + 2bc}{b^2 + c^2 - a^2} + \frac{c^2 + a^2 + 2ca}{c^2 + a^2 - b^2} + \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} > 9$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \frac{(b+c)^2}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{(c+a)^2}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{(a+b)^2}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \\ &\geq \frac{4bc}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{4ca}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{4ab}{a^2+b^2-c^2} \\ &= \frac{2}{\cos A} + \frac{2}{\cos B} + \frac{2}{\cos C} = 2 \left(\frac{1}{\cos A} + \frac{1}{\cos B} + \frac{1}{\cos C} \right) \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{p^2+r^2-4R^2}{p^2-(2R-r)^2} \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

We prove

$$(*) \geq 12$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow p^2 + r^2 - 4R^2 \geq 6p^2 - 6(2R-r)^2 &\Leftrightarrow p^2 + r^2 - 4R^2 \geq 6p^2 - 6(4R^2 - 4Rr + r^2) \\ &\Leftrightarrow 20R^2 + 7r^2 + 24Rr \geq 5p^2 \end{aligned}$$

Which is true because

$$p^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2 \Leftrightarrow 5p^2 \leq 20R^2 + 20Rr + 15r^2 \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} 20R^2 + 24Rr + 7r^2$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow 4Rr \geq 8r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r \Rightarrow (*) \geq 12 > 9. \text{ Proved.}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\frac{b^2 + c^2 + 2bc}{b^2 + c^2 - a^2} + \frac{c^2 + a^2 + 2ca}{c^2 + a^2 - b^2} + \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} \geq 12$$

$$\text{Let } b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = x, c^2 + a^2 - b^2 = y, a^2 + b^2 - c^2 = z \therefore a^2 = \frac{y+z}{2}, b^2 = \frac{z+x}{2}, c^2 = \frac{x+y}{2}$$

$$\text{Now, LHS} \frac{b^2+c^2-a^2+a^2+2bc}{b^2+c^2-a^2} + \frac{c^2+a^2-b^2+b^2+2ca}{c^2+a^2-b^2} + \frac{a^2+b^2-c^2+c^2+2ab}{a^2+b^2-c^2} =$$

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$$= 3 + \sum \frac{a^2}{b^2 + c^2 - a^2} + \sum \frac{2bc}{b^2 + c^2 - a^2} = 3 + \sum \frac{a^2}{b^2 + c^2 - a^2} + \sum \frac{2bc}{2bc \cos A} =$$

$$= 3 + \sum \left(\frac{y+z}{x} \right) + \sum \frac{1}{\cos A}$$

(using above substitution) ^{Bergstrom} $\geq 3 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sum \left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x}\right) + \frac{9}{\sum \cos A} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 + 3 + \frac{9}{\sum \cos A} \geq 6 + \frac{9}{\frac{3}{2}}$

$(\because \sum \cos A \leq \frac{3}{2}) = 12 > 9$ (equality when ΔABC is equilateral)

Solution 3 by Lahiru Samarakoon-Sri Lanka

$$\sum \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ba}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} > 9$$

for acute ABC, $\cos A, \cos B, \cos C > 0$ then:

$$LHS = \sum \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ba}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum \frac{4ba}{2ba \cos C} = \frac{2 \sum \cos A \cos B}{\prod \cos A}$$

We have to prove, $2 \sum \cos A \cos B > 9 \prod \cos A$

$$\frac{2(s^2 + r^2 - 4R^2)}{4R^2} > \frac{9(s^2 - 4R^2 - 4Rr - r^2)}{4R^2}$$

$$28R^2 + 36Rr + 11r^2 > 7S^2$$

Since, $s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2$, then we have to prove,

$$28R^2 + 36Rr + 11r^2 > 7(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3Rr)$$

$$8Rr > 10r^2$$

$$R > \frac{10}{8}r \text{ it's true (proved)}$$

Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$b^2 + c^2 + 2bc \geq 2bc + 2bc = 4bc$$

$$b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = 2bc \cos A, \text{ etc}$$

$$\therefore LHS \geq \frac{4bc}{2bc \cos A} + \frac{4ca}{2ac \cos B} + \frac{4ab}{2ab \cos C}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\cos A} + \frac{2}{\cos B} + \frac{2}{\cos C} \quad (1)$$

For $0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$, let

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$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\cos x} = \sec x$$

$$f'(x) = \sec x \tan x$$

$$f''(x) = \sec x \tan^2 x + \sec^3 x > 0, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{1}{3}(\sec A + \sec B + \sec C) \geq \sec\left(\frac{A+B+C}{3}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sec A + \sec B + \sec C \geq 6 \quad (2)$$

From (1), (2): LHS $\geq 12 > 9$

UP.176. Let a, b be positive real numbers such that: $a + b = 2$. Find the minimum value of:

$$P = \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + 2} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab}$$

Proposed by Hoang Le Nhat Tung – Hanoi – Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \frac{1}{(a+b)[(a+b)^2 - 3ab] + 2} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2(4-3ab) + 2} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} = \frac{1}{10-6ab} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } t = \sqrt[3]{ab} \Rightarrow t^3 = ab \quad (0 < t \leq 1, \text{ because: } 0 < ab \leq \frac{(a+b)^2}{4} = 1)$$

$$P = f(t) = \frac{1}{10-6t^3} + \frac{1}{t^3} + t \Rightarrow f'(t) = 1 - \frac{3}{t^4} + \frac{9t^2}{2(3t^3-5)^3} < 0, \forall t \in (0, 1]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \searrow \text{ on } (0; 1] \Rightarrow f(t) \geq f(1) = \frac{9}{4} \Rightarrow P_{\min} = \frac{9}{4} \Leftrightarrow a = b = 1.$$

Solution 2 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $a, b > 0$ and $a + b = 2 \Rightarrow ab \leq 1$. Give $ab = x^3 \leq 1 \Rightarrow x^3 \leq x \leq 1$

$$\text{Consider } \frac{1}{a^3+b^3+2} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} = \frac{1}{(a+b)^3-3ab(a+b)+2} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} = \frac{1}{10-6ab} + \frac{1}{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ab} \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{1}{5-3x^3} + \frac{2}{x^3} + 2x \geq \frac{9}{2}$$

$$\text{Iff } 2x^3 + 20 - 12x^3 + 20x^4 - 12x^7 \geq 45x^3 - 27x^6$$

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$$\text{Iff } (12x^6 - 12x^7) + (20x^4 - 20x^3) + (15x^6 - 15x^3) + (20 - 20x^3) \geq 0$$

$$\text{Iff } 12x^6(1-x) - 20x^3(1-x) - 15x^3(1-x^3) + 20(1-x^3) \geq 0$$

$$\text{Iff } 12x^6 - 20x^3 - 15x^3(1+x+x^2) + 20(1+x+x^2) \geq 0$$

$$\text{Iff } 12x^6 + 20x^2 + 20x + 20 \geq 35x^3 + 15x^4 + 15x^5 \text{ and it is to be true.}$$

$$\text{Because } (10x^6 + 2) + (2x^6 + 1) \geq 12x^5 + 3x^4 \geq 15x^5$$

$$20x^2 \geq 15x^4 + 5x^3$$

$$20x \geq 20x^3$$

$$10 \geq 10x^3$$

Therefore, it's minimum is $\frac{9}{4}$.

UP.177. If $x, y, z, t > 1$ then:

$$(\log_{xzt} x)(\log_{xyt} y)(\log_{xyz} z)(\log_{yzt} t) < \frac{1}{16}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= \frac{1}{\log_x(zxt)} \cdot \frac{1}{\log_y(xyt)} \cdot \frac{1}{\log_z(xyz)} \cdot \frac{1}{\log_t(yzt)} = \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_x z + \log_x t} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_y x + \log_y t} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_z x + \log_z y} \right) \\ &\cdot \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_t y + \log_t z} \right) = \frac{1}{(1 + \log_x z + \log_x t)(1 + \log_y x + \log_y t)(1 + \log_z x + \log_z y)(1 + \log_t y + \log_t z)} \quad (*) \\ &1 + \log_x z + \log_x t \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\log_x z \cdot \log_x t} \\ &1 + \log_y x + \log_y t \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\log_y x \cdot \log_y t} \\ &1 + \log_z x + \log_z y \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\log_z x \cdot \log_z y} \\ &1 + \log_t y + \log_t z \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\log_t y \cdot \log_t z} \\ \Rightarrow (*) &\leq \frac{1}{3^4 \sqrt[3]{\log_x z \cdot \log_x t \cdot \log_y x \cdot \log_y t \cdot \log_z x \cdot \log_z y \cdot \log_t y \cdot \log_t z}} = \frac{1}{3^4} < \frac{1}{16}. \text{ Proved.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Amit Dutta-Jamshedpur-India

$$\because AM \geq GM$$

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$$\log x + \log z + \log t \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\log x \log z \log t} \Rightarrow \log(xzt) \geq \sqrt[3]{(\log x)(\log z)(\log t)}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \log(xyt) \geq \sqrt[3]{(\log x)(\log y)(\log t)}$$

$$\log(xyz) \geq \sqrt[3]{(\log x)(\log y)(\log z)}$$

$$\log(yzt) \geq \sqrt[3]{(\log y)(\log z)(\log t)}$$

$$\text{Let } P = (\log_{xzt} x)(\log_{xyt} y)(\log_{xyz} z)(\log_{yzt} t)$$

$$P = \left(\frac{\log x}{\log x + \log z + \log t}\right) \left(\frac{\log y}{\log x + \log y + \log t}\right) \left(\frac{\log z}{\log x + \log y + \log z}\right) \left(\frac{\log t}{\log y + \log z + \log t}\right)$$

$$P \stackrel{AM > GM}{<} \left(\frac{\log x}{3\sqrt[3]{\log x \log z \log t}}\right) \left(\frac{\log y}{3\sqrt[3]{\log x \log y \log t}}\right) \left(\frac{\log z}{3\sqrt[3]{\log x \log y \log z}}\right) \left(\frac{\log t}{3\sqrt[3]{\log y \log z \log t}}\right)$$

$$P < \frac{1}{81} < \frac{1}{16} \quad (\text{proved})$$

Solution 3 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $x, y, z, t > 1$, we have: $(\log_{xzt} x)(\log_{ytx} y)(\log_{zxy} z)(\log_{tyz} t) =$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_x z + \log_x t}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_y t + \log_y x}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_z x + \log_z y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + \log_t y + \log_t z}\right)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{(1+1+1)^4} = \frac{1}{3^4} = \frac{1}{81} < \frac{1}{16} \quad \text{Ok}$$

Therefore, it is to be true

$$1 = (\log_x z)(\log_y x)(\log_z y)(1)$$

$$1 = (\log_x t)(\log_z x)(\log_t z)(1)$$

$$1 = (\log_y t)(\log_t z)(\log_z t)(1)$$

UP.178. Let be $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Find: $\Omega = e^A \cdot (e^B)^{-1}$; (e^A – exponential matrix)

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, B^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ n & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 e^A &= I + A + \frac{1}{2!}A^2 + \frac{1}{3!}A^3 + \dots \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2!} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{3!} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \dots \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & e \end{pmatrix} = e \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } e^B = \begin{pmatrix} e & 0 \\ e & e \end{pmatrix} = e \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega = e^A(e^B)^{-1} = e \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left(e^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

UP.179. If in ΔABC , $a \geq b \geq c$ then the following relationship holds:

$$\sqrt[5]{\frac{m_a}{m_b}} + \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_b}{m_c}} + \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_c}{m_a}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_a}{m_c}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_b}{m_a}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_c}{m_b}} < 1$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by proposer

First, we prove that if $x \leq y \leq z$ then:

$$\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \geq \frac{y}{x} + \frac{z}{y} + \frac{x}{z} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{x}{y} - \frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} - \frac{z}{y} + \frac{z}{x} - \frac{x}{z} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 - y^2}{xy} + \frac{y^2 - z^2}{2y} + \frac{z^2 - x^2}{xz} \geq 0$$

$$z(x^2 - y^2) + x(y^2 - z^2) + y(z^2 - x^2) \geq 0$$

$$x^2z - zy^2 + xy^2 - xz^2 + yz^2 - yx^2 \geq 0$$

$$xz(x - z) + y^2(x - z) + y(z - x)(z + x) \geq 0$$

$$(x - z)(xz + y^2 - yz - yx) \geq 0$$

$$(x - z)[y(y - x) - z(y - x)] \geq 0$$

$$(x - z)(y - x)(y - z) \geq 0$$

$$(z - x)(y - x)(z - y) \geq 0 \text{ which is true because,}$$

$$z - x \geq 0; y - x \geq 0, z - y \geq 0$$

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$$\text{By } a \leq b \leq c \Rightarrow m_a \geq m_b \geq m_c \Rightarrow \sqrt[5]{m_a} \leq \sqrt[5]{m_b} \leq \sqrt[5]{m_c}$$

We take in (1):

$$x = \sqrt[5]{m_a}; y = \sqrt[5]{m_b}; z = \sqrt[5]{m_c}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt[5]{m_a}}{\sqrt[5]{m_b}} + \frac{\sqrt[5]{m_b}}{\sqrt[5]{m_c}} + \frac{\sqrt[5]{m_c}}{\sqrt[5]{m_a}} \geq \frac{\sqrt[5]{m_b}}{\sqrt[5]{m_a}} + \frac{\sqrt[5]{m_c}}{\sqrt[5]{m_b}} + \frac{\sqrt[5]{m_a}}{\sqrt[5]{m_c}}$$

$$\sqrt[5]{\frac{m_a}{m_b}} + \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_b}{m_c}} + \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_c}{m_a}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_a}{m_c}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_b}{m_a}} - \sqrt[5]{\frac{m_c}{m_b}} < 1$$

UP.180. If $f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ such that exists

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{xf(x)} = a > 0 \text{ and exists } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} \text{ then find:}$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left((f(x))^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \cdot \left(\frac{(f(x+1))^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right) \right)$$

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu – Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu – Romania

Solution 1 by Pierre Mounir Cairo-Egypt

$$\text{Given: } f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty), \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{xf(x)} = a > 0$$

$$\text{Find: } \Omega = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \left[\frac{f(x+1)^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right]$$

We'll make use of the following two theorems of Cauchy:

(1) Let f be defined on (a, ∞) , and $f(x) > 0 \forall x$ and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{f(x)} \text{ exists, then } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{f(x)}$$

(2) Let f be defined on (a, ∞) and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [f(x+1) - f(x)]$

$$\text{exists, then } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [f(x+1) - f(x)]$$

Now, let $g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{x^x}$, then $g(x) > 0$ ($x, f(x) > 0$)

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(x+1)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{(x+1)^{x+1}} \times \frac{x^x}{f(x)}$$

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$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)}{xf(x)} \times \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{x+1}} = a \times \frac{1}{e} = \frac{a}{e}$$

\therefore According to theorem (1) above:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{f(x)}{x^x} \right]^{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(x+1)}{g(x)} = \frac{a}{e}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} = \frac{a}{e} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1)^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{x+1} \quad (x \rightarrow x+1)$$

Also, let $h(x) = \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2}$, then:

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [h(x+1) - h(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{f(x+1)^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right] =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x+1} \times \frac{f(x+1)^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{x+1} - \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} \times \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} = 0 \times \frac{a}{e} - 0 \times \frac{a}{e} = 0$$

\therefore According to theorem (2) above:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h(x)}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [h(x+1) - h(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^3} \rightarrow (*)$$

$$\therefore \Omega = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \left[\frac{f(x+1)^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \times \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [h(x+1) - h(x)]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \times \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^3} \quad [\text{from } (*)]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)^{\frac{2}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x}} \times \frac{1}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)^{\frac{3x+1}{x(x+1)}}}{(x)^{\frac{3x+1}{x+1}}} \times \frac{(x)^{\frac{3x+1}{x+1}}}{x^3}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} \right]^{\frac{3x+1}{x+1}} \times \left(x^{\frac{1}{x}} \right)^{-\frac{2x}{x+1}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} \right]^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x+1}{x+1}} \times \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{\frac{1}{x}} \right)^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{2x}{x+1}} \\
 &= \left(\frac{a}{e} \right)^3 \times (1)^{-2} = \left(\frac{a}{e} \right)^3
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Shafiqur Rahman-Bangladesh

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Omega &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (f(x))^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \left(\frac{(f(x+1))^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right) = \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(x^{-\frac{2}{x+1}} \left(\frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} \right)^{\frac{2}{1+\frac{1}{x}}} \left(x^2 \left(\frac{\left(\frac{(f(x+1))^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{x+1} \right)}{x+1} - \frac{\left(\frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x} \right)}{x} \right) \right) \right) \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(\frac{f(x+1)}{(x+1)^{x+1}} \right)^2 \left(-\frac{f(x+1)}{(x+1)^{x+1}} \right) \right) = -\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{f(x+1)}{xf(x)} \right)^3 \\
 &\quad \left(1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^{x+1} \\
 \therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (f(x))^{\frac{2}{x+1}} \left(\frac{(f(x+1))^{\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} - \frac{(f(x))^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^2} \right) &= \left(\frac{a}{e} \right)^3
 \end{aligned}$$