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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

Solutions 1,2 by Tran Hong-Vietnam, Solution 3 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania, Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India, Solution 5 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand, Solution 6 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

Solution 1 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

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

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

For all $0 < x < 3$ 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*

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

Equality $\Leftrightarrow a = b = c = 1$.

Solution 2 by Tran Hong-Vietnam

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \frac{\sqrt{(a^2+2)(2+1)}}{\sqrt{(b+c+1)(2+1)}} + \frac{\sqrt{(b^2+2)(2+1)}}{\sqrt{(c+a+1)(2+1)}} + \frac{\sqrt{(c^2+2)(2+1)}}{\sqrt{(a+b+1)(2+1)}} \\ &\geq \frac{\sqrt{(a+2)^2}}{\frac{b+c+1+3}{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{(b+2)^2}}{\frac{c+a+1+3}{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{(c+2)^2}}{\frac{a+b+1+3}{2}} \\ &= \frac{2a+4}{b+c+4} + \frac{2b+4}{c+a+4} + \frac{2c+4}{a+b+4} \\ &= \frac{2a+4}{b+c+4} + 2 + \frac{2b+4}{c+a+4} + 2 + \frac{2c+4}{a+b+4} + 2 + 6 \\ &= 2(a+b+c+6) \left(\frac{1^2}{b+c+4} + \frac{1^2}{c+a+4} + \frac{1^2}{a+b+4} \right) - 6 \\ &\geq 2(a+b+c+6) \cdot \frac{(1+1+1)^2}{2(a+b+c+6)} - 6 = 9 - 6 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

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

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

----- +

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

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

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

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

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

Solution 4 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

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

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

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

$$\Leftrightarrow a^2 b^2 c^2 + 2 \sum a^2 b^2 + 3 \sum a^2 + 7 \overset{?}{\underset{(1)}{\geq}} \sum a^2 b + \sum ab^2 + 2abc + 3 \sum ab + 2 \sum a$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore it is to be true

Solution 6 by Soumitra Mandal-Chandar Nagore-India

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

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

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

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

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