

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

NESBITT'S TYPE INEQUALITIES WITH CONSTRAINT

By Florentin Vişescu-Romania

Let $a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$ such that at most one is zero. Prove that:

1. If $8(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) = 11(ab + bc + ca)$ then:

$$\frac{69}{40} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{51}{28}$$

2. If $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2(ab + bc + ca)$ then:

$$2 \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{12}{5} \quad (\text{CRUX 46-3 Lorian Saceanu 4524})$$

3. If $5(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) = 17(ab + bc + ca)$ then:

$$\frac{17}{5} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{15}{4}$$

4. If $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 4(ab + bc + ca)$ then:

$$4 \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{3(3\sqrt{2} + 16)}{4}$$

We will prove that:

Lemma 1:

If $a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$ such that at most one is zero then denoting $a + b + c = p$,

$ab + bc + ca = q$ and $abc = r$, we have:

$$(1) \quad p^2 \geq 3q$$

$$(2) \quad p^2 \in [3q, 4q] \Rightarrow r \in \left[\frac{9pq - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}; \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

$$(3) \quad p \in [4q, \infty) \Rightarrow r \in \left[0, \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

Proof.

The equation that has a, b, c as roots is

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

$x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$. We consider the function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$f(x) = x^3 - px^2 + qx - r$. In order that $f(x) = 0$ to have three real positive roots it must that:

$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 2px + q = 0$ to have real positive roots.

Then $\Delta = 4p^2 - 12q \geq 0 \Rightarrow p^2 \geq 3q$ (1)

Let $x_{1,2} = \frac{2p \pm 2\sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{6} = \frac{p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}$ the root of $f'(x) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f\left(\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) &= \left(\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right)^3 - p\left(\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right)^2 + q\left(\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) - r = \\ &= \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} - r \text{ and} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) &= \left(\frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right)^3 - p\left(\frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right)^2 + q\left(\frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) + r \\ &= \frac{9pq - 3p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} - r \end{aligned}$$

Obviously $f(0) = -r$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$

Then, according to Rolle's sequence and taking into account that:

$\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3} \leq \frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}$ we obtain:

$$f\left(\frac{p + \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) \leq 0 \Rightarrow r \geq \frac{9p^2 - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}$$

$$f\left(\frac{p - \sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{3}\right) \geq 0 \Rightarrow r \leq \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}$$

$$f(0) \leq 0 \Rightarrow -r \leq 0 \Rightarrow r \geq 0$$

In conclusion $r \in \left[\frac{9pq - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}; \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right] \cap [0, \infty)$

Taking into account that $p^2 \geq 3q$ we prove that $9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \geq 0$, namely

$$2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \geq 2p^3 - 9pq$$

We prove that $2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \geq p(2p^2 - 9q)$

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

If $2p^2 - 9q \leq 0$ namely $p^2 \leq \frac{9}{2}q$ the inequality is obvious. If $p^2 \geq \frac{9}{2}q$ the inequality is equivalent with $4(p^2 - 3q)^3 \geq p^2(2p^2 - 9q)^2 \Leftrightarrow q^2(p^2 - 4q) \geq 0$ true.

We study the expression's sign $9pq - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}$

We establish the relationship between p^2 and q in order that the expression to be positive.

$$\begin{aligned} 9pq - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \geq 0 &\Leftrightarrow 9pq - 2p^3 \geq 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow p(9q - 2p^2) \geq 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Obviously for $p^2 > \frac{9}{2}q$ the expression is negative.

For $p^2 \leq \frac{9}{2}q$ (and $p^2 \geq 3q$) the inequality is equivalent with $p^2(9q - 2p^2)^2 \geq 4(p^2 - 3q)^3$

$$\Leftrightarrow q^2(4q - p^2) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow p^2 \leq 4q$$

Hence for $p^2 \in [3q, 4q]$ the expression we study is positive and for $p^2 \in [4q, \infty)$ the expression is negative.

We obtain:

$$\text{For } p^2 \in [3q, 4q] \Rightarrow r \in \left[\frac{9pq - 2p^3 - 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}; \frac{9pq - 3p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

$$\text{For } p^2 \in [4q, \infty) \Rightarrow r \in \left[0, \frac{9pq - 2p^3 + 2(p^2 - 3q)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

Lemma 2.

If $a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$ such that at most one is zero, then denoting $a + b + c = p$, $ab + bc + ca = q$ and $abc = r$ we have:

(1) It exist $t \in [0, 1)$ such that $\frac{p^2}{q} = \frac{3}{1-t^2}$

(2) If $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[\frac{(t+1)^2(1-2t)}{27}; \frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27} \right]$

(3) If $t \in [\frac{1}{2}; 1) \Rightarrow \frac{r}{s^3} \in \left[0, \frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27} \right]$

Proof.

According to Lemma 1 (1) $\frac{p^2}{q} \geq 3$. We prove that it exists $t \in [0, 1)$ such that $\frac{p^2}{q} = \frac{3}{1-t^2}$

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 - t^2 = \frac{3q}{p^2} \Leftrightarrow t^2 = \frac{p^2 - 3q}{p^2} \Rightarrow t = \pm \frac{\sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{p}$$

We choose $t \in \frac{\sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{p}$ and we prove $t \in [0, 1)$

Obviously $t \geq 0$. We prove $t < 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{\sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{p} < 1 \Leftrightarrow p^2 - 3q < p^2 \Leftrightarrow -3q < 0 \Leftrightarrow q > 0$

true ($a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$ at most one is zero)

So, it exists $t \in [0, 1)$ such that $\frac{p^2}{q} = \frac{3}{1-t^2}$ (1), $t \in \frac{\sqrt{p^2 - 3q}}{p}$

According to Lemma 1

$$(2) \frac{p^2}{q} \in [3, 4] \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[\frac{9\frac{q}{p^2} - 2 - 2\left(1 - 3\frac{q}{p^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}; \frac{9\frac{q}{p^2} - 2 + 2\left(1 - 3\frac{q}{p^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

$$(3) \frac{p^2}{q} \in [4, \infty) \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[0, \frac{9\frac{q}{p^2} - 2 + 2\left(1 - 3\frac{q}{p^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

We replace in these relationships $\frac{p^2}{q} = \frac{3}{1-t^2}$ and we obtain:

$$(2) \frac{3}{1-t^2} \in [3, 4] \Rightarrow \frac{3}{p^3} \in \left[\frac{9\frac{1-t^2}{3} - 2 - 2\left(1 - 3\frac{1-t^2}{3}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27}; \frac{9\frac{1-t^2}{3} - 2 + 2\left(1 - 3\frac{1-t^2}{3}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

$$(3) \frac{3}{1-t^2} \in [4, \infty) \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[0, \frac{9\frac{1-t^2}{3} - 2 + 2\left(1 - 3\frac{1-t^2}{3}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{27} \right]$$

After we make the calculus the relationship becomes:

$$(2) t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right] \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[\frac{-2t^3 - 3t^2 + 1}{27}; \frac{2t^3 - 3t^2 + 1}{27}\right]$$

$$(3) t \in \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right) \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[0, \frac{2t^3 - 3t^2 + 1}{27}\right]$$

or

$$(2) t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right] \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[\frac{(t+1)^2(1-2t)}{27}; \frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27}\right] = D_1$$

$$(3) t \in \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right) \Rightarrow \frac{r}{p^3} \in \left[0, \frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27}\right] = D_2$$

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

NESBITT WITH CONSTRAINT

Theorem.

Let $a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$ such that at most one is zero. Let $a + b + c = p$,

$ab + bc + ca = q, abc = r$ and $t \in [0, 1)$ such that $\frac{p^2}{q} = \frac{3}{1-t^2}$

(1) If $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ then:

$$\frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 + t + 2}{(t+1)(2-t)} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 - t + 2}{(1-t)(t+2)}$$

(2) If $t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1)$ then:

$$\frac{1+2t^2}{1-t^2} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 - t + 2}{(1-t)(t+2)}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} &= \frac{a}{p-a} + \frac{b}{p-b} + \frac{c}{p-c} = \\ &= \frac{a(p-b)(p-c) + b(p-a)(p-c) + c(p-a)(p-b)}{(p-a)(p-b)(p-c)} = \\ &= \frac{p^3 - 2pq + 3r}{pq - r} = \frac{1 - 2\frac{q}{p^2} + 3\frac{r}{p^3}}{\frac{q}{p^2} - \frac{r}{p^3}} = \\ &= \frac{1 - 2\frac{1-t^2}{3} + 3\frac{r}{p^3}}{\frac{1-t^2}{3} - \frac{r}{p^3}} = \frac{\frac{3-2+2t^2}{3} + 3\frac{r}{p^3}}{\frac{1-t^2}{3} - \frac{r}{p^3}} = \frac{\frac{1+t^2}{3} + 3\frac{r}{p^3}}{\frac{1-t^2}{3} - \frac{r}{p^3}} \end{aligned}$$

We denote $\frac{r}{p^3} = x$ and we consider the function:

$$f(x) = \frac{\frac{1+2t^2}{3} + 3x}{\frac{1-t^2}{3} - x}; f: D_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ if } t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \text{ or } f: D_2 \rightarrow \text{ if } t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1)$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{3\left(\frac{1-t^2}{3} - x\right) + \left(\frac{1+2t^2}{3} + 3x\right)}{\left(\frac{1-t^2}{3} - x\right)^2} = \frac{1-t^2 - 3x + \frac{1+2t^2}{3} + 3x}{\left(\frac{1-t^2}{3} - x\right)^2}$$

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

www.ssmrmh.ro

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

So, f strictly increasing on D_1 and D_2

Then

(1) for $t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right]$

$$f\left(\frac{(t+1)^2(1-2t)}{27}\right) \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq f\left(\frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27}\right)$$

(2) for $t \in \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$

$$f(0) \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq f\left(\frac{(t-1)^2(2t+1)}{27}\right)$$

namely, after calculus

(1) For $t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right]$

$$\frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 + t + 2}{(t+1)(2-t)} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 - t + 2}{(1-t)(2+t)}$$

(2) For $t \in \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$

$$\frac{1+2t^2}{1-t^2} \leq \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{3}{2} \frac{2t^2 - t + 2}{(1-t)(2+t)}$$

Observation. For $t = \frac{1}{3}$ we obtain ex 1), $t = \frac{1}{2}$ we obtain ex 2), $t = \frac{2}{3}$ we obtain ex 3) and for

$t = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ we obtain ex 4).

Reference:

Romanian Mathematical Magazine-www.ssmrmh.ro