

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b, c > 0$, then prove that :

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

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \frac{a^2 + b^2}{a + b} + \frac{b^2 + c^2}{b + c} + \frac{c^2 + a^2}{c + a} &\leq \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{a + b + c} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{3 \sum_{cyc} a^2}{\sum_{cyc} a} &\geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{(b + c)^2 - 2bc}{b + c} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3 \sum_{cyc} a^2}{\sum_{cyc} a} + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{b + c} \geq 2 \sum_{cyc} a \rightarrow (i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{b + c} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{(s - y)(s - z)}{x} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{s^2 - s(2s - x) + yz}{x} \\ &= \frac{-s^2}{4Rs} \sum_{cyc} xy + 3s + \frac{1}{4Rs} \sum_{cyc} x^2 y^2 \\ &= \frac{(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2)^2 - 16Rrs^2 - s^2(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2) + 12Rrs^2}{4Rs} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{r(4R + r)^2 + rs^2}{4Rs} \Rightarrow \frac{3 \sum_{cyc} a^2}{\sum_{cyc} a} + 2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{b + c} - 2 \sum_{cyc} a$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1) and (3)}}{=} \frac{3(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2)}{s} + \frac{r(4R + r)^2 + rs^2}{2Rs} - 2s$$

$$= \frac{6R(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) + r(4R + r)^2 + rs^2 - 4Rs^2}{2Rs} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2R + r)s^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} r(32R^2 + 4Rr - r^2)$$

$$\text{Now, } (2R + r)s^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (2R + r)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} r(32R^2 + 4Rr - r^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2Rr - 4r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow 2r(R - 2r) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true via Euler} \Rightarrow (*) \Rightarrow (i) \text{ is true}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{a^2 + b^2}{a + b} + \frac{b^2 + c^2}{b + c} + \frac{c^2 + a^2}{c + a} &\leq \frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{a + b + c} \\ \forall a, b, c > 0, &'' = '' \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$