

RMM - Inequalities Marathon 1201 - 1300

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1201. Prove without any software:

$$9 \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 25 \cdot 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam

Let be $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}}$, $f'(x) = \frac{2-\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} > 0, \forall x \in (1, e^2) \rightarrow f$ increasing on $(1, e^2)$

$$4 < 5 \Rightarrow f(4) < f(5) \Rightarrow \frac{\ln 4}{\sqrt{4}} < \frac{\ln 5}{\sqrt{5}} \Rightarrow \sqrt{5} \ln 4 < \sqrt{4} \ln 5 \Rightarrow \\ \ln 4^{\sqrt{5}} < \ln 5^{\sqrt{4}} \Rightarrow 4^{\sqrt{5}} < 5^{\sqrt{4}}$$

Analogous:

$$5^{\sqrt{6}} < 6^{\sqrt{5}}, 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 7^{\sqrt{6}} \Rightarrow 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 5^{\sqrt{4}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}} \Rightarrow \\ \frac{4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}}}{5^{\sqrt{4}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}} < 1$$

Remains to prove:

$$9 < 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{5}{3} < \sqrt{3} \text{ because } 25 < 27 \Rightarrow 2^{\frac{5}{3}} < 2^{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{4}{3} < \sqrt{2} \text{ because } 16 < 18 \Rightarrow 3^{\frac{4}{3}} < 3^{\sqrt{2}} \\ 2^{\frac{5}{3}} \cdot 3^{\frac{4}{3}} < 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}} \\ 9 = 729^{\frac{1}{3}} < 2592^{\frac{1}{3}} = (2^5 \cdot 3^4)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 2^{\frac{5}{3}} \cdot 3^{\frac{4}{3}} < 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}}$$

Solution 2 by Le Thu-Vietnam

Let be $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{x}}$

$$e < x < y \Rightarrow f(x) > f(y) \\ 0 < x < y < e \Rightarrow f(x) < f(y)$$

$$f^{xy}(x) < f^{xy}(y) \Rightarrow x^y < y^x \Rightarrow x^{\frac{\sqrt{y}}{2}} < y^{\frac{\sqrt{x}}{2}} \Rightarrow \\ x^{\sqrt{y}} < y^{\sqrt{x}} \text{ for } 0 < x < y < e^2 \approx 7.3$$

$$25 \cdot 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}} > 5^2 \cdot 2^{2\sqrt{3}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} > 9 \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}}$$

$$\text{since } 2^{\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}} > \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}\right)^2 \Leftrightarrow 4^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 25 > 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 9$$

Solution 3 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

Let be:

$f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}}$, $f'(x) = \frac{2-\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} > 0, \forall x \in (1, e^2) \rightarrow f$ increasing on $(1, e^2)$

$$2 < 3 \Rightarrow f(2) < f(3) \Rightarrow \frac{\ln 2}{\sqrt{2}} < \frac{\ln 3}{\sqrt{3}} \Rightarrow \sqrt{3} \ln 2 < \sqrt{2} \ln 3 \Rightarrow \\ \ln 2^{\sqrt{3}} < \ln 3^{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow 2^{\sqrt{3}} < 3^{\sqrt{2}}$$

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Analogous:

$$3^{\sqrt{4}} < 4^{\sqrt{3}}, 4^{\sqrt{5}} < 5^{\sqrt{4}}, 5^{\sqrt{6}} < 6^{\sqrt{5}}, 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{4}} \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 4^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{4}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 9 \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 2^{2\sqrt{3}} \cdot 25 \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$9 \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 25 \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$9 \cdot 4^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 5^{\sqrt{6}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{7}} < 25 \cdot 2^{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 3^{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 6^{\sqrt{5}} \cdot 7^{\sqrt{6}}$$

1202. If $a \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ then:

$$\frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2}}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Christos Tsifakis-Greece

$$\frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2}} - \frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{(\sin a + \cos a)^2 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)}}$$

$$\frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} \leq \frac{1 - \sqrt{\sin 2a}}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} \leq \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{\sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a})}$$

$$\frac{1}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a})}$$

$$2(\sin a + \cos a) \geq \sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a})$$

$$2(1 + \sin 2a) \geq 1 + \sin 2a + 2\sqrt{\sin 2a}$$

$$\sin 2a - 2\sqrt{\sin 2a} + 1 \geq 0$$

$$(1 - \sqrt{\sin 2a})^2 \geq 0$$

Equality holds for $a = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

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Solution 2 by Fayssal Abdelli-Bejaia-Algerie

Suppose by absurdum that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} &< \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2}} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} &< \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2}} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2} - \frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} &< \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2}} + \frac{(\sin a + \cos a)^2 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} &< \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2}} + \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} \\ \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} &> \frac{1 - \sqrt{\sin 2a}}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} &> \frac{1 - \sin 2a}{\sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a})} \\ \frac{1}{2(\sin a + \cos a)} &> \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a})} \\ 2(\sin a + \cos a) &< \sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{\sin 2a}) \\ 2(1 + \sin 2a) &< 1 + \sin 2a + 2\sqrt{\sin 2a} \\ \sin 2a - 2\sqrt{\sin 2a} + 1 &< 0 \\ (1 - \sqrt{\sin 2a})^2 &< 0. \text{False} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let $b = \sin a + \cos a, a \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = \sin^2 b + \cos^2 b &\leq \sin b + \cos b = \sqrt{2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + b\right) \leq \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \leq b &\leq \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow 1 \leq b^2 \leq 2 \\ b^2 = 1 + \sin 2a &\Rightarrow \sin 2a = b^2 - 1 \end{aligned}$$

We have to prove:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{b^2 - 1}{b} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} &\geq \sqrt{\frac{b^2 - 1}{2}} + \frac{b}{2} \\ b - \frac{1}{b} - \frac{b}{2} &\geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot (\sqrt{b^2 - 1} - 1), \quad \frac{b^2 - 2}{2b} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{b^2 - 1 - 1}{\sqrt{b^2 - 1} + 1} \\ \frac{1}{2b} &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{b^2 - 1} + 1}, \quad \sqrt{2} \cdot (\sqrt{b^2 - 1} + 1) \leq 2b \\ \sqrt{b^2 - 1} &\leq \sqrt{2}b - 1 \end{aligned}$$

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$$b^2 - 1 \leq 2b^2 - 2\sqrt{2}b + 1$$

$$b^2 - 2\sqrt{2}b + 2 \geq 0$$

$$(b - \sqrt{2})^2 \geq 0$$

Equality holds for $a = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Solution 4 by Tapas Das-India

$$x = \sin 2a \Rightarrow (\sin a + \cos a)^2 = 1 + x$$

$$\frac{\sin 2a}{\sin a + \cos a} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{\sin 2a}{2} + \frac{\sin a + \cos a}{2}}$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 1}{x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{x^2 - 1}{2} + \frac{x}{2}}, \quad x - \frac{1}{x} - x \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} - 1)$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 2}{2x} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 1 - 1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + 1}, \quad \frac{1}{2x} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + 1}$$

$$\sqrt{2} \cdot (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + 1) \leq 2x$$

$$\sqrt{x^2 - 1} \leq \sqrt{2}x - 1, \quad x^2 - 1 \leq 2x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x + 1$$

$$x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x + 2 \geq 0, \quad (x - \sqrt{2})^2 \geq 0$$

Equality holds for $a = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

1203.

$$x, y > 0, x + y = 2, a = \left[2 \log_2 \frac{2^{256}}{\binom{256}{128}} \right], [*] - GIF$$

Prove that:

$$\sqrt{a + \frac{1}{x^2}} + \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{y^2}} \geq 6$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$e^x \geq x + 1, x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow e^{-\frac{1}{1024}} > 1 - \frac{1}{1024} = \frac{1023}{1024} \Rightarrow e^{\frac{1}{1024}} < \frac{1024}{1023}$$

$$\sqrt{2n\pi} \cdot n^n \cdot e^{-n} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{12n+1}} < n! < \sqrt{2n\pi} \cdot n^n \cdot e^{-n} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{12n}}$$

$$2n\pi \cdot n^{2n} \cdot e^{-2n} \cdot e^{\frac{2}{12n+1}} < (n!)^2 < 2n\pi \cdot n^{2n} \cdot e^{-2n} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{6n}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2n \cdot 2\pi}} \cdot \frac{1}{(2n)^{2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{-2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{\frac{1}{24n+1}}} \leq \frac{1}{(2n)!} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n \cdot 2\pi}} \cdot \frac{1}{(2n)^{2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{-2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{\frac{1}{24n}}}$$

$$\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \sqrt{n} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \cdot e^{\frac{2}{12n+1}} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{24n+1}} < \frac{(n!)^2}{(2n)!} < \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \sqrt{n} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{6n}} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{24n}} <$$

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$$< \frac{(128!)^2 \cdot 2^{256}}{256!} < \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \sqrt{128} \cdot e^{1024} < \sqrt{\frac{22}{7} \cdot 128 \cdot \frac{1024}{1023}} < 16\sqrt{2} = 2^{4.5}$$

$$4 < \log_2 \frac{2^{256}}{\binom{256}{128}} < 4.5 \Rightarrow 8 < 2 \log_2 \frac{2^{256}}{\binom{256}{128}} < 9 \Rightarrow a = 8$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{x^2}} + \sqrt{a + \frac{1}{y^2}} &\stackrel{\text{MINKOVSKI}}{\geq} \sqrt{(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a})^2 + \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}\right)^2} \stackrel{\text{AM-HM}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \sqrt{(2\sqrt{a})^2 + \left(\frac{4}{x+y}\right)^2} = \sqrt{4a + \left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^2} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 8 + 4} = 6 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam

$$a = \left\lceil 2 \log_2 \frac{2^{256}}{\binom{256}{128}} \right\rceil$$

$x \in (0, 2)$. We prove that:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{8 + \frac{1}{x^2}} &\geq \frac{10-x}{3} \quad (\text{equality for } x=1) \\ \frac{8x^2 + 1}{x^2} &\geq \left(\frac{10-x}{3}\right)^2 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2(90 - (x-9)^2) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{8 + \frac{1}{x^2}} + \sqrt{8 + \frac{1}{y^2}} \geq \frac{10-x}{3} + \frac{10-y}{3} = \frac{20-2}{3} = 6$$

1204.

Let $m > 1, n \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}, k, i \in \overline{1, n}$ and $H_{n,k,m} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^{km}}$. Prove that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[m]{H_{n,k,m} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \sqrt[m-1]{\left(\binom{i}{k} \cdot i^k\right)^m} \right)^{m-1}} \geq 2(2^n - 1) - n$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria, Sidi Abdallah Lemrabott-Mauritania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By Hölder's inequality, we have

$$H_{n,k,m} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \sqrt[m-1]{\left(\binom{i}{k} \cdot i^k\right)^m} \right)^{m-1} \geq \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \frac{1}{i^{km}} \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \sqrt[m-1]{\left(\binom{i}{k} \cdot i^k\right)^m} \right)^{m-1}$$

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$$\geq \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \sqrt[m]{\frac{1}{i^{km}} \cdot \left(\sqrt[m-1]{\left(\binom{i}{k} \cdot i^k \right)^m} \right)^{m-1}} \right)^m = \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \binom{i}{k} \right)^m.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt[m]{H_{n,k,m} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=k}^n \sqrt[m-1]{\left(\binom{i}{k} \cdot i^k \right)^m} \right)^{m-1}} \geq \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=k}^n \binom{i}{k} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \sum_{i=k+1}^n \left(\binom{i+1}{k+1} - \binom{i}{k+1} \right) \right) \\ &= n + \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\binom{n+1}{k+1} - \binom{k+1}{k+1} \right) = n + \left(2^{n+1} - \binom{n+1}{0} - \binom{n+1}{1} \right) - n \\ &= 2(2^n - 1) - n, \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

1205.

$$n \in \{1, 2, \dots\} \Rightarrow \sqrt[n+1]{1 + (n+1) \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right)}} > 2$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\text{Since } \binom{2n}{n} = \binom{n}{0}^2 + \binom{n}{1}^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}^2,$$

then by the Cauchy – Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right)} &= \sqrt{\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \cdot \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}} \geq \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{n}{k}}{k+1} = \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{n+1}{k+1}}{n+1} = \frac{2^{n+1} - 1}{n+1}, \end{aligned}$$

with equality if $(k+1) \binom{n}{k} = \text{constant}$, $\forall k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$,

which is not true for any $n \geq 1$. Therefore

$$\sqrt[n+1]{1 + (n+1) \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right)}} > 2.$$

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1206. If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then prove that :

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right) < \left(1 + \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4(n+1)}\right)$$

Proposed by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} n \neq 0, n \in \mathbb{N} &\Rightarrow n \geq 1 \text{ and } \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right) \\ &< \left(1 + \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4(n+1)}\right) \\ \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{1 + \frac{1}{n+1}}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}\right)^n &\left(\frac{n+2}{n+1}\right) \left(\frac{4n^2 + 4n + 1}{4(n+1)}\right) \left(\frac{4n}{4n+1}\right) > 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{n(n+2)}{(n+1)^2}\right)^n &\cdot \frac{n(n+2)(2n+1)^2}{(4n+1)(n+1)^2} > 1 \quad (*) \\ \text{Now, } \left(\frac{n(n+2)}{(n+1)^2}\right)^n &= \left(1 + \frac{n(n+2)}{(n+1)^2} - 1\right)^n = \left(1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2}\right)^n \stackrel{\text{Bernoulli}}{\geq} \\ 1 - \frac{n}{(n+1)^2} \left(\because n+1 > 1 \Rightarrow 1 > \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{(n+1)^2} > -1 \text{ and } n \geq 1\right) & \\ = \frac{n^2 + n + 1}{(n+1)^2} \Rightarrow \text{LHS of } (*) &\geq \frac{n^2 + n + 1}{(n+1)^2} \cdot \frac{n(n+2)(2n+1)^2}{(4n+1)(n+1)^2} > 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow n(n+2)(n^2 + n + 1)(2n+1)^2 - (4n+1)(n+1)^4 &> 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow 4n^6 + 12n^5 + 8n^4 - 5n^3 - 11n^2 - 6n - 1 &> 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow (n-1)(4n^5 + 16n^4 + 24n^3 + 19n^2 + 8n + 2) + 1 &> 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because n \geq 1 \Rightarrow (*) \\ \text{is true} \therefore \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right) &< \left(1 + \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4(n+1)}\right) \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1207. If $x, y, z, t > 0, xyzt = 1$ then:

$$(x + y + z + t)^2 \leq 2 \left(xy + \frac{1}{xy}\right) \left(xz + \frac{1}{xz}\right) \left(xt + \frac{1}{xt}\right)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

For $x, y, z, t > 0$

$$(x + y + z + t)^2 \leq 2 \left(xy + \frac{1}{xy}\right) \left(xz + \frac{1}{xz}\right) \left(xt + \frac{1}{xt}\right)$$

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$$\text{Iff } (x + y + z + t)^2 \leq (xy + zt)(xz + yt)(xt + yz)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Iff } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + 2(xy + xz + xt + yz + yt + zt) &\leq \\ &\leq 2 \left(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Iff } 2(xy + xz + xt + yz + yt + zt) \leq x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + 2 \left(\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} \right) \text{ ok}$$

$$\text{Because } (x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2) \geq xy + yz + zt + tx$$

$$\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} \geq \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{1}{yz} + \frac{1}{zt} + \frac{1}{tx} = zt + xt + xy + yz$$

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{t} \geq \frac{2}{xz} + \frac{2}{yt} = 2(yt + zx)$$

Therefore it is to be true

Solution 2 by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam

$$xyzt = 1 \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} xt = \frac{1}{yz} \\ xz = \frac{1}{yt} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= 2 \left(xy + \frac{1}{xy} \right) \left(xz + \frac{1}{xz} \right) \left(xt + \frac{1}{xt} \right) = 2(xy + zt)(xz + yt)(xt + yz) = \\ &= 2(x^2yz + xz^2t + xy^2t + yzt^2)(xt + yz) \\ &= 2(x^2xyzt + x^2z^2t^2 + x^2y^2t^2 + xyztt^2 + x^2y^2z^2 + xyztz^2 + xyzy^2t + y^2z^2t^2) \\ &= 2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} + t^2 + \frac{1}{t^2} + z^2 + y^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} \right) \\ &= x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + (x^2 + y^2) + (z^2 + t^2) + \left(\frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{t^2} + \frac{1}{x^2} \right) + \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{x^2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} \right) \\ &\stackrel{AGM}{\geq} x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + 2xy + 2zt + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{yz} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{tx} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{zx} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{yt} \\ &= x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + 2xy + 2zt + 2xt + 2yz + 2yt + 2xz \\ &= (x + y + z + t)^2 = \text{LHS} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence: } (x + y + z + t)^2 \leq 2 \left(xy + \frac{1}{xy} \right) \left(xz + \frac{1}{xz} \right) \left(xt + \frac{1}{xt} \right)$$

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1208. Prove without any software:

$$\frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{9} < \log 3 < \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Adrian Popa – Romania

$$\frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{9} < \ln 3 < \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{3} \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{9} < 3^{-\frac{1}{2}} \ln 3 < \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{9} < \ln 3^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} < \frac{\pi}{3}, \quad \ln e^{\frac{\pi}{9}} < \ln 3^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} < \ln e^{\frac{\pi}{3}}$$

$$e^{\frac{\pi}{9}} < 3^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} < e^{\frac{\pi}{3}}, \quad e^{\frac{\pi}{3}} < 3^{\sqrt{3}} < e^{\pi}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} e < 3 \\ \frac{\pi}{3} < \sqrt{3} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow e^{\frac{\pi}{3}} < 3^{\sqrt{3}} \quad (1)$$

$$3^{\sqrt{3}} < \pi^e < e^{\pi} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1) and (2)} \Rightarrow \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{9} < \ln 3 < \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

It remains to prove that $e^e < e^{\pi} \Leftrightarrow e \ln \pi < \pi \ln e \Leftrightarrow \frac{\ln \pi}{\pi} < \frac{\ln e}{e}$

Let be the function $f: (0; +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x}$

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

x	0	e	π	$+\infty$
$f'(x)$		++++0	-----	
$f(x)$	$-\infty$	$\frac{1}{e}$		0

$$\Rightarrow f(e) > f(\pi) \Rightarrow \frac{\ln e}{e} > \frac{\ln \pi}{\pi} \Rightarrow \pi^e < e^{\pi}$$

Solution 2 by Jaegyuttasart Torsak-Thailand

$$\text{Prove: } \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{9} < \ln 3 < \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{3} \text{ or } \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} < \ln 3 < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$1. \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} < 1 \rightarrow \pi < 3\sqrt{3} \text{ True}$$

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$$2. \ 1 < \ln 3 \rightarrow e < 3 \text{ True}$$

$$3. \ \ln 3 = \int_0^2 \frac{dx}{1+x} \stackrel{CS}{<} \sqrt{\int_0^2 \frac{dx}{(1+x)^2} \cdot \int_0^2 dx} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$4. \ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \rightarrow 2 < \pi \text{ True}$$

$$1 \rightarrow 4; \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} < 1 < \ln 3 < \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} < \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}$$

1209.

If $0 < a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$ then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{a_i} \leq \frac{1}{a_1 a_n} \left(n(a_1 + a_n) - \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right)$$

Proposed by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The given inequality is equivalent to

$$0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{1}{a_1 a_n} \left((a_1 + a_n) - a_i \right) - \frac{1}{a_i} \right] \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{a_i} \left(\frac{a_i}{a_1} - 1 \right) \left(1 - \frac{a_i}{a_n} \right),$$

which is true because $a_1 \leq a_i \leq a_n$
for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. So the proof is complete.

1210. **If $n \geq 1$ then**

$$2 + \log \left(\frac{6((n+1)! - 1)^2}{n(2n^2 + 3n + 1)} \right) \leq 2 \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^n (k!)^2}$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By CBS inequality, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n (k!)^2 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 \geq \left(\sum_{k=1}^n k \cdot k! \right)^2 = \left(\sum_{k=1}^n [(k+1)! - k!] \right)^2 = ((n+1)! - 1)^2.$$

and since $x \geq 1 + \log(x) = \frac{2 + \log(x^2)}{2}$, $\forall x > 0$, then

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$$2 \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^n (k!)^2} \geq 2 + \log \left(\sum_{k=1}^n (k!)^2 \right) \geq 2 + \log \left(\frac{6((n+1)! - 1)^2}{n(2n^2 + 3n + 1)} \right).$$

Equality holds if $n = 1$.

1211.

If $a, x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b, b + x > 0$. Find x such that

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

Proposed by Sidi Abdellah Lemrabott-Mauritania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq \left(\frac{a}{a+x} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a}{a+x} - \frac{x}{b} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{b}{b+x} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{b+x} + \frac{x}{b} \right) \left(\frac{a}{a+x} - \frac{x}{b} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{a}{a+x} \right)^2 - 2 \left(\frac{a}{a+x} \right) \left(\frac{b}{b+x} \right) + \left(\frac{b}{b+x} \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{b}{b+x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{x}{b} \right)^2 + \frac{2x}{b+x} - \frac{b}{b+x} - \frac{x}{b} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a}{a+x} - \frac{b}{b+x} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{b}{b+x} + \frac{x}{b} \right) \left(\frac{b}{b+x} + \frac{x}{b} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{(a-b)^2 x^2}{2(a+x)^2 (b+x)^2} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{b(b+x) + x^2}{b(b+x)} \cdot \frac{x^2}{b(b+x)} \geq 0, \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{(a-b)^2 x^2}{2(a+x)^2 (b+x)^2} + \frac{b(b+x) + x^2}{2b^2 (b+x)^2} \cdot x^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $x = 0$.

1212. Find all values of $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$|a - b| + \alpha(a + b) \geq \sqrt{\beta(a^2 + b^2)}, \quad \forall a, b \geq 0$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-BenTre-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Since the given inequality is true for all $a, b \geq 0$ then it is true for $a > 0, b = 0$ which is

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equivalent to $1 + \alpha \geq \sqrt{\beta}$, also it is true for $a = b > 0$ which is equivalent to $\sqrt{2\alpha} \geq \sqrt{\beta}$.

Now, we will prove that if $\sqrt{\beta} \leq \min\{1 + \alpha, \sqrt{2\alpha}\}$ then the given inequality is true for all $a, b \geq 0$

The inequality is true if $b = 0$. Assume now that $a \geq b > 0$ and let $x := \frac{a}{b} \geq 1$.

The given inequality is equivalent to

$$f(x) = x - 1 + \alpha(x + 1) - \sqrt{\beta(x^2 + 1)}, \quad \forall x \geq 1.$$

We have

$$f'(x) = 1 + \alpha - x \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{x^2 + 1}} \geq \sqrt{\beta} - \sqrt{\beta \left(1 - \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}\right)} > 0, \text{ so } f \text{ is increasing on } [1, \infty),$$

$$\text{then } f(x) \geq f(1) = \sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2\alpha} - \sqrt{\beta}) \geq 0, \quad \forall x \geq 1.$$

Therefore, the inequality

$$|a - b| + \alpha(a + b) \geq \sqrt{\beta(a^2 + b^2)} \text{ is true for all } a, b \geq 0 \text{ if and only if } \sqrt{\beta} \leq \min\{1 + \alpha, \sqrt{2\alpha}\}.$$

1213.

1. Let $a, b > 0$. Prove that

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

2. Find value of $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$|a - b| + \sqrt{\alpha(a^2 - ab + b^2)} \geq \beta \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab}, \quad \forall a, b \geq 0$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-BenTre-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2} &= \frac{(a - b)^2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} + \sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2}} \\ &\leq \frac{(a - b)^2}{0 + \sqrt{a^2 - 2ab + b^2}} = |a - b|, \end{aligned}$$

as desired. Equality holds iff $a = b$.

2. Since the given inequality is true for all $a, b \geq 0$ then it is true for

$a = 0, b > 0$ which is

equivalent to $1 + \sqrt{\alpha} \geq \sqrt{2\beta}$, also it is true for $a = b > 0$ which is equivalent to $\sqrt{\alpha} \geq \beta$.

Now, we will prove that if $\beta \leq \min\left\{\frac{1 + \sqrt{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{\alpha}\right\}$

then the given inequality is true for all $a, b \geq 0$

• Case 1 : $\sqrt{\alpha} \leq \sqrt{2} + 1$. The inequality is true if $a = b = 0$.

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Assume now that $a \geq b > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \beta \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{\alpha(a^2 - ab + b^2)} \\ & \leq \sqrt{\alpha[2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab]} - \sqrt{\alpha(a^2 - ab + b^2)} \\ & = \frac{\sqrt{\alpha} \cdot (a - b)^2}{\sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} + \sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{\alpha} \cdot (a - b)^2}{\sqrt{2\left(a - \frac{3b}{4}\right)^2 + \frac{7b^2}{8}} + \sqrt{\left(a - \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3b^2}{4}}} \\ & \leq \frac{\sqrt{\alpha} \cdot (a - b)^2}{\sqrt{2}\left(a - \frac{3b}{4}\right) + \left(a - \frac{b}{2}\right)} \leq \frac{(\sqrt{2} + 1)(a - b)^2}{(\sqrt{2} + 1)(a - b) + \frac{(2 + \sqrt{2})b}{4}} \leq a - b = |a - b|. \end{aligned}$$

• Case 2 : $\sqrt{\alpha} \geq \sqrt{2} + 1$. The inequality is true if $a = b = 0$.

Assume now that $a \geq b > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{2} \left(\beta \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{\alpha(a^2 - ab + b^2)} \right) \\ & \leq (1 + \sqrt{\alpha}) \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{2\alpha(a^2 - ab + b^2)} \\ & = \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{\alpha} \left(\sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 2ab} - \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} \right) \\ & \leq \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - (\sqrt{2} + 1) \left(\sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 2ab} - \sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} \right) \\ & = \sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} + 1) \left(\sqrt{2(a^2 + b^2) - 3ab} - \sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2} \right) \leq \sqrt{2} \cdot |a - b|, \end{aligned}$$

the proof of the last line is similar to the first case.

So the proof is complete and the condition on α, β is $\beta \leq \min \left\{ \frac{1 + \sqrt{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{\alpha} \right\}$

1214. Prove that :

$$\left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right)^n \geq e^{1 - F_{n+2}}, \text{ where } F_k \text{ is } k\text{-th Fibonacci number}$$

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

Solution 1 by Tapas Das-India

$$\text{Let } f(t) = e^t - (t - 1), t > 0$$

$$\therefore f'(t) = e^t - 1 > 0$$

$$f(t) \text{ is increasing function, } e^t > (t - 1) \quad (1)$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(1)^2}{F_k} & \geq \frac{(1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1)^2}{\sum F_k} = \frac{n^2}{F(n+2) - 1} \\ \therefore \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right)^n & \geq \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \frac{n^2}{F(n+2) - 1} \right)^n = \left[\frac{1}{e \frac{F(n+2) - 1}{n}} \right]^n \end{aligned}$$

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$$\geq \left[\frac{1}{e \cdot e^{\frac{F_{n+2}-1}{n}}} \right]^n \quad [\text{using relation (1)}] = \left[e^{\frac{1-F_{n+2}}{n}} \right]^n = e^{(1-F_{n+2})}$$

Note :

$$F(n) = F(n+2) - F(n+1)$$

$$F(n-1) = F(n+1) - F(n)$$

$$F(1) = F(3) - F(2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sum} &= F(n+2) - F(2) \text{ ---- adding all equation} \\ &= F(n+2) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right)^n &\geq e^{1-F_{n+2}} \Leftrightarrow n \cdot \ln \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right) \geq 1 - F_{n+2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \ln \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right) &\geq \frac{1 - F_{n+2}}{n} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} e^{\frac{1-F_{n+2}}{n}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, LHS of } (*) &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \frac{n^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n F_k} = \frac{n}{e(F_{n+2} - 1)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} e^{\frac{1-F_{n+2}}{n}} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{n}{ex} &\stackrel{?}{\geq} e^{\frac{-x}{n}} \quad (x = F_{n+2} - 1) \Leftrightarrow e^{\frac{x}{n}-1} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{x}{n} \quad (**) \end{aligned}$$

But, $\because e^\theta \geq 1 + \theta \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R} \therefore e^{\frac{x}{n}-1} \geq 1 + \frac{x}{n} - 1 = \frac{x}{n} \Rightarrow (**)$ $\Rightarrow (*)$ is true

$$\therefore \left(\frac{1}{n \cdot e} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{F_k} \right)^n \geq e^{1-F_{n+2}} \quad (\text{QED})$$

1215. If $x > -1$ then:

$$\frac{x^2}{2} \cdot \min \left(1, \frac{1}{1+x} \right) \leq x - \ln(1+x) \leq \frac{x^2}{2} \cdot \max \left(1, \frac{1}{1+x} \right)$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

For $x > -1$, let

$$f(x) = x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$f'(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{1+x} - x = \frac{1-x^2-1}{1+x} = \frac{-x^2}{1+x}$$

$\Rightarrow f'(x) < 0; \forall x > -1, x \neq 0 \Rightarrow f(x)$ decreases on $(-1, \infty)$

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$$\text{For } -1 < x \leq 0, f(x) \leq f(x) \Rightarrow 0 \leq x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{2} \leq x - \log(1+x)$$

$$\text{For } x > 0, f(x) < f(0) \Rightarrow x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2}{2} < 0 \Rightarrow x - \log(1+x) < \frac{x^2}{2}$$

For $x > -1$, let

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)} = x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2 - 1 + 1}{2(1+x)} \\ &= x - \log(1+x) - \frac{1}{2}(x-1) - \frac{1}{2(1+x)} = \frac{1}{2}(x+1) - \log(1+x) - \frac{1}{2(1+x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$g'(x) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{1}{2(1+x)^2} = \frac{(1+x)^2 - 2(1+x) + 1}{2(1+x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)^2} > 0, \forall x > 0, x \neq 0 \Rightarrow g(x) \text{ increases on } (-1, \infty)$$

$$\text{For } -1 < x \leq 0, g(x) \leq g(0) = 0 \Rightarrow x - \log(1+x) \leq \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)}$$

$$\text{For } x > 0, g(x) > g(0) \Rightarrow x - \log(1+x) - \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x - \log(1+x) > \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)}$$

Thus, for $-1 < x \leq 0$

$$\frac{x^2}{2} \leq x - \log(1+x) < \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)}$$

$$\text{For } -1 < x \leq 0, \min\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} = 1 \text{ and } \max\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} = \frac{1}{1+x}$$

Thus, for $-1 < x \leq 0$

$$\frac{x^2}{2} \min\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} \leq x - \log(1+x) \leq \frac{x^2}{2} \max\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} \quad (1)$$

For $x > 0$,

$$\frac{x^2}{2(1+x)} \leq x - \log(1+x) \leq \frac{x^2}{2}$$

Also, for $x > 0$

$$\min\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} = \frac{1}{1+x} \text{ and } \max\left\{1, \frac{1}{1+x}\right\} = 1$$

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Thus, for $x > 0$,

$$\frac{x^2}{2} \min \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{1+x} \right\} \leq x - \log(1+x) \leq \frac{x^2}{2} \max \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{1+x} \right\} \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2), inequality follows for all $x > -1$.

1216. If $x, y, z > 0$ and $p, q, r \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right]$ are such that

$$x + y + z = p + q + r = 1 \text{ then prove that: } xyz \leq \frac{1}{8}(px + qy + rz)$$

Proposed by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

Solution by proposer

Let's pay attention: $\frac{1}{2} - q \leq p \leq \frac{1}{2}$

Then for the function: $f(p) = px + qy + (1 - p - q)z$

We have: $f(p) \geq \min \left[f\left(\frac{1}{2} - q\right), f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right]$

$$= \min \left[\left(\frac{1}{2} - q \right) x + qy + \frac{1}{2}z, \frac{1}{2}x + qy + \left(\frac{1}{2} - q \right) z \right]$$

$$\geq \min \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}z, \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{2}z, \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y \right)$$

$$\text{Let: } \min \left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}z, \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{2}z, \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y \right) = \frac{1}{2}(x + z)$$

Consequently: $px + qy + rz \geq \frac{1}{2}(x + z)$

$$\geq (x + z)2(x + z)(1 - (x + z)) = 2(x + z)^2y \geq 8xyz$$

$$\text{or } \Rightarrow xyz \leq \frac{1}{8}(px + qy + rz)$$

1217. If $n \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ and $x \in (0, 1)$, then prove that

$$\frac{8 \left(\frac{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \dots + \sqrt{n}}{n} \right)^2}{2x + n + 1} + \ln \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[n]{n!}} \right) < 2$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Firstly, we will prove the lemma that if $x \in (0, 1)$ then we have $\frac{4}{x+1} + \ln(x) < 2$.

Let $f(t) = \frac{4}{t+1} + \ln(t), t \in (0, 1]$.

We have $f'(t) = -\frac{4}{(t+1)^2} + \frac{1}{t} = \frac{(t-1)^2}{t(t+1)^2} \geq 0$, then f is

strictly increasing on $(0, 1]$, thus $\frac{4}{x+1} + \ln(x) = f(x) < f(1) = 2, \forall x \in (0, 1)$.

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Now let $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Since $\frac{x}{k} \in (0, 1)$, then $\frac{4}{\frac{x}{k} + 1} + \ln\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) < 2, \forall k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Adding this result for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we obtain

$$4 \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{x+k} + \ln\left(\frac{x^n}{n!}\right) < 2n \text{ or } \frac{4}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{x+k} + \ln\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[n]{n!}}\right) < 2.$$

By CBS inequality, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{x+k} \geq \frac{(\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \dots + \sqrt{n})^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n (x+k)} = \frac{n \left(\frac{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \dots + \sqrt{n}}{n} \right)^2}{x + \frac{n+1}{2}}.$$

Therefore

$$\frac{8 \left(\frac{\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \dots + \sqrt{n}}{n} \right)^2}{2x + n + 1} + \ln\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt[n]{n!}}\right) < 2.$$

1218. If $0 \leq a, b, c, d \leq 4, a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 30$ then find $\min \Omega$

$$\Omega = \sqrt{a^3 + b^3 + c^3} + \sqrt{b^3 + c^3 + d^3} + \sqrt{c^3 + d^3 + a^3} + \sqrt{d^3 + a^3 + b^3}$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $s := a + b + c + d$.

By CBS inequality, we have

$$\sqrt{b^3 + c^3 + d^3} = \frac{\sqrt{(b^3 + c^3 + d^3)(b + c + d)}}{\sqrt{b + c + d}} \geq \frac{b^2 + c^2 + d^2}{\sqrt{b + c + d}} = \frac{30 - a^2}{\sqrt{s - a}}.$$

then by using Jensen's inequality on the convex function $x \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &\geq \sum_{cyc} (30 - a^2) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{s - a}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{(\sum_{cyc} (30 - a^2))^3}{\sum_{cyc} (30 - a^2)(s - a)}} = \sqrt{\frac{90^3}{60s + \sum_{cyc} a^3}} \\ &= \frac{270\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{\sum_{cyc} (a^3 + 60a)}} \end{aligned}$$

and since

$$a^3 + 60a = \frac{11\sqrt{30}}{4} a^2 + \frac{105\sqrt{30}}{8} - \left(\frac{7\sqrt{30}}{4} - a\right) \left(a - \frac{\sqrt{30}}{2}\right)^2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{30}}{8} (22a^2 + 105),$$

then

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$$\Omega \geq \frac{270\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{30}}{8} (22a^2 + 105)}} = \frac{270\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{135\sqrt{30}}} = 6\sqrt[4]{750}.$$

Therefore $\min \Omega = 6\sqrt[4]{750}$ reached at $a = b = c = d = \frac{\sqrt{30}}{2}$.

1219.

Let $a, b, c \geq 0$ such that $a + b + c = 1$. Find the maximum value of P :

$$P = \sqrt{3a^2 + a + 1} + \sqrt{3b^2 + b + 1} + \sqrt{3c^2 + c + 1}$$

Proposed by Tran Quoc Thinh-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $f(x) = \sqrt{3x^2 + x + 1}$, $x \in [0, 1]$.

We have $f''(x) = \frac{11}{4\sqrt{(3x^2 + x + 1)^3}} > 0$, then f is convex

on $[0, 1]$, which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{3x^2 + x + 1} = f(x) &= f((1-x) \cdot 0 + x \cdot 1) \leq (1-x) \cdot f(0) + x \cdot f(1) \\ &= 1 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)x, x \in [0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\sqrt{3b^2 + b + 1} \leq 1 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)b \text{ and } \sqrt{3c^2 + c + 1} \leq 1 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)c.$$

then

$$P \leq 3 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)(a + b + c) = 2 + \sqrt{5}.$$

So the maximum value of P is $2 + \sqrt{5}$ reached at $a = 1, b = c = 0$ and permutations.

1220. If $x \geq 0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n > 0$ then:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i^{\cosh x} \cdot b_i^{\sinh x}) \frac{1}{e^x} \leq \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right)^{\cosh x} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \right)^{\sinh x} \right) \frac{1}{e^x}$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Solution by Adrian Popa

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right)^{\frac{\cosh x}{e^x}} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \right)^{\frac{\sinh x}{e^x}} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(a_i \frac{\cosh x}{e^x} \right)^{\frac{e^x}{\cosh x}} \right)^{\frac{\cosh x}{e^x}} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(b_i \frac{\sinh x}{e^x} \right)^{\frac{e^x}{\sinh x}} \right)^{\frac{\sinh x}{e^x}} \geq$$

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$$\therefore \left[\begin{array}{l} \cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} \\ \sinh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \sinh x + \cosh x = e^x \Rightarrow \frac{\sinh x}{e^x} + \frac{\cosh x}{e^x} = 1$$

$$\stackrel{J.Holder}{\geq} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\cosh x}{e^x} \cdot b_i \frac{\sinh x}{e^x} = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i^{\sinh x} \cdot b_i^{\cosh x}) e^{\frac{1}{e^x}}$$

$$\text{Holder's inequality: } \sum_i^n x_i y_i \leq (\sum_i^n x_i^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \cdot (\sum_i^n y_i^q)^{\frac{1}{q}} \text{ with } \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

$$\text{In our case: } \left. \begin{array}{l} x_i = a_i \frac{\cosh x}{e^x} \\ y_i = b_i \frac{\sinh x}{e^x} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} p = \frac{e^x}{\cosh x} \\ q = \frac{e^x}{\sinh x} \end{array} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

1221. If $x, y > 0$ then: $\Gamma(x + 5) \cdot \Gamma(y + 7) \leq 11! \cdot \Gamma(x + y)$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$\text{If } x, y > 0 \text{ then } \Gamma(x + 5) \cdot \Gamma(y + 7) \leq 11! \cdot \Gamma(x + y)$$

The inequality holds if: $0 < x < 7, 0 < y < 5$ or $x > 7, y > 5$

If $x = 7$ or $y = 5$ the inequality is satisfied with equality

If $0 < x < 7, y > 5$ or $x > 7, 0 < y < 5$ the inequality is reversed

Consider the functions: $\alpha(u), \mu(u), c(u), u \in [0; 1], \alpha(u) \geq 0,$

$\mu(u), c(u)$ have opposite monotonicity

If μ is increasing and c is decreasing: $u > v$ then $\mu(u) - \mu(v) \geq 0, c(u) - c(v) \leq 0$
 $u < v$ then $\mu(u) - \mu(v) \leq 0, c(u) - c(v) \geq 0$

If μ is decreasing and c is increasing: $u > v$ then $\mu(u) - \mu(v) \leq 0, c(u) - c(v) \geq 0$
 $u < v$ then $\mu(u) - \mu(v) \geq 0, c(u) - c(v) \leq 0$

$$\forall u, v \in [0; 1] \text{ and } (\mu(u) - \mu(v))(c(u) - c(v)) \leq 0$$

Since $\alpha(u) \geq 0$ then we have

$$\alpha(u)\alpha(v)(\mu(u) - \mu(v))(c(u) - c(v)) \leq 0, \forall u, v \in [0; 1]$$

Integrate, $\int_0^1 \int_0^1 du dv \Rightarrow$

$$\int_0^1 \alpha(v) dv \int_0^1 \alpha(u)\mu(u)c(u)du - \int_0^1 \alpha(u)\mu(u)du \int_0^1 \alpha(v)c(v)dv -$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_0^1 \alpha(u)c(u) du \int_0^1 \alpha(v) \mu(v)dv + \int_0^1 \alpha(u) du \int_0^1 \alpha(v) \mu(v)c(v)dv \leq 0 \\
 & \Rightarrow \int_0^1 \alpha(u) du \int_0^1 \alpha(u)\mu(u)c(u) du \leq \int_0^1 \alpha(u) \mu(u)du \int_0^1 \alpha(u)c(u) du
 \end{aligned}$$

(i) Set $\alpha(u) = u^{x-1}(1-u)^{y-1}$, $\mu(u) = u^{7-x}$, $c(u) = (1-u)^{5-y}$, $0 < x < 7, 0 < y < 5$
 ≥ 0 *increasing* *decreasing*

$\mu(u), c(u)$ have opposite monotonicity

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 u^{x-1} (1-u)^{y-1} du \int_0^1 u^{x-1} (1-u)^{y-1} u^{7-x} (1-u)^{5-y} du &= \beta(x, y)\beta(7, 5) = \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 u^{x-1} (1-u)^{y-1} u^{7-x} du \int_0^1 u^{x-1} (1-u)^{y-1} (1-u)^{5-y} du &= \beta(7, y)\beta(x, 5) = \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(x+y)\Gamma(12) \geq \Gamma(7+y)\Gamma(5+x)$$

(ii) Set $\alpha(u) = u^{7-1}(1-u)^{5-1}$, $\mu(u) = u^{x-7}$, $c(u) = (1-u)^{y-5}$, $x > 7, y > 5$
 ≥ 0 *increasing* *decreasing*

$\mu(u), c(u)$ have opposite monotonicity

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 u^{7-1} (1-u)^{5-1} du \int_0^1 u^{7-1} (1-u)^{5-1} u^{x-7} (1-u)^{y-5} du &= \beta(7, 5)\beta(x, y) = \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 u^{7-1} (1-u)^{5-1} u^{x-7} du \int_0^1 u^{7-1} (1-u) (1-u)^{y-5} du &= \beta(x, 5)\beta(7, y) = \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(x+y)\Gamma(12) \geq \Gamma(7+y)\Gamma(5+x)$$

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(iii) Set $\alpha(u) = u^{x-1}(1-u)^{5-1}$, $\mu(u) = u^{7-x}$, $c(u) = (1-u)^{y-5}$, $0 < x < 7, y > 5$
 ≥ 0 increasing decreasing

$\mu(u), c(u)$ have opposite monotonicity

$$\int_0^1 u^{x-1}(1-u)^{5-1} du \int_0^1 u^{x-1}(1-u)^{5-1} u^{7-x}(1-u)^{y-5} du = \beta(x, 5)\beta(7, y) =$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(y)\Gamma(7)}{\Gamma(7+y)}$$

$$\int_0^1 u^{x-1}(1-u)^{5-1} u^{7-x} du \int_0^1 u^{x-1}(1-u)^{5-1}(1-u)^{y-5} du = \beta(7, 5)\beta(x, y) =$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(12)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(x+y)\Gamma(12) \leq \Gamma(7+y)\Gamma(5+x)$$

(iv) Set $\alpha(u) = u^{7-1}(1-u)^{y-1}$, $\mu(u) = u^{x-7}$, $c(u) = (1-u)^{5-y}$, $x > 7, 0 < y < 5$
 ≥ 0 increasing decreasing

$\mu(u), c(u)$ have opposite monotonicity

$$\int_0^1 u^{7-1}(1-u)^{y-1} du \int_0^1 u^{7-1}(1-u)^{y-1} u^{x-7}(1-u)^{5-y} du = \beta(7, y)\beta(x, 5) =$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(5)\Gamma(x)}{\Gamma(5+x)}$$

$$\int_0^1 y^{7-1}(1-u)^{y-1} u^{x-7} du \int_0^1 u^{7-1}(1-u)^{y-1}(1-u)^{5-y} du = \beta(x, y)\beta(7, 5) =$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(7+5)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(7)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(7+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(5+x)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(7+5)}{\Gamma(12)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(x+y)\Gamma(12) \leq \Gamma(7+y)\Gamma(5+x)$$

$$\text{Therefore } \Rightarrow \Gamma(x+5) \cdot \Gamma(y+7) \leq 11! \cdot \Gamma(x+y)$$

1222. If $a, b, c \geq 0$ such that $a + b + c + \sqrt[3]{abc} = 2$.

Find the maximum value of $P = \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} - \sqrt[3]{abc}$

Proposed by Phan Ngoc Chau-Vietnam

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Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Applying Schur's inequality on the triple $(\sqrt[3]{a}, \sqrt[3]{b}, \sqrt[3]{c})$, we have

$$a + b + c + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} \geq \sqrt[3]{ab}(\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b}) + \sqrt[3]{bc}(\sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c}) + \sqrt[3]{ca}(\sqrt[3]{c} + \sqrt[3]{a})$$

$$\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sqrt[3]{ab} \cdot 2\sqrt[6]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{bc} \cdot 2\sqrt[6]{bc} + \sqrt[3]{ca} \cdot 2\sqrt[6]{ca} = 2(\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca}).$$

Then

$$P = \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} - \sqrt[3]{abc} \leq \frac{a + b + c + \sqrt[3]{abc}}{2} = 1.$$

The maximum value of P is 1, it reaches at

$$a = b = c = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } a = b = 1, c = 0 \text{ and permutations.}$$

1223. Let $a, b, c \geq 0$ such that $a + b + c + \sqrt[3]{abc} = 4$.

Find the maximum value of P :

$$P = \sqrt{a(4a + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)} + \sqrt{b(4b + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)} + \sqrt{c(4c + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)}$$

Proposed by Pham Ngoc Chau-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

If two of the numbers a, b, c are zero then we have

$$P = 6\sqrt{2}. \text{ Assume now that } ab + bc + ca > 0.$$

By AM - GM inequality, we have

$$2\sqrt{a(4a + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)} \leq \sqrt[3]{a^2(2\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[6]{bc})} + \frac{\sqrt[3]{a} \cdot (4a + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)}{2\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[6]{bc}}$$

$$= 4a + \frac{2\sqrt[3]{a} \cdot (2\sqrt[3]{abc} + 1)}{2\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[6]{bc}}$$

$$\leq 4a + \frac{2\sqrt[3]{a} \cdot (2\sqrt[3]{abc} + 1)}{2\sqrt[3]{a} + \frac{2\sqrt[3]{bc}}{\sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c}}} = 4a + \frac{(\sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ca})(2\sqrt[3]{abc} + 1)}{\sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{bc} + \sqrt[3]{ca}}.$$

Then

$$\sqrt{a(4a + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} + 2)} \leq 2a + \frac{\sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{ca}}{2(\sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{bc} + \sqrt[3]{ca})} \cdot (2\sqrt[3]{abc} + 1) \text{ (and analogs)}$$

Adding this inequality with the similar ones, we obtain

$$P \leq 2a + 2b + 2c + 2\sqrt[3]{abc} + 1 = 9.$$

So the maximum value of P is 9, it reaches at $a = b = c = 1$.

1224. If $0 \leq x, y, z \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$, $x + y + z = \frac{\pi}{4}$ then:

$$1 + \tan x \cdot \tan y \cdot \tan z > 4\sqrt{\tan x \cdot \tan y \cdot \tan z}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru - Romania

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Solution by Tapas Das – India

$$x + y + z = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\therefore \tan(x + y + z) = 1$$

$$\frac{\tan x + \tan y + \tan z - \tan x \tan y \tan z}{1 - \tan x \tan y - \tan y \tan z - \tan z \tan x} = 1$$

$$\therefore 1 + \tan x \tan y \tan z$$

$$= \tan x + \tan y + \tan z + \tan x \tan y + \tan y \tan z + \tan z \tan x$$

$$\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 3(\tan x \tan y \tan z)^{\frac{1}{3}} + 3(\tan x \tan y \tan z)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 6 \cdot \sqrt{(\tan x \tan y \tan z)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot (\tan x \tan y \tan z)^{\frac{2}{3}}} = 6\sqrt{\tan x \tan y \tan z}$$

$$> 4\sqrt{\tan x \tan y \tan z}$$

1225. If $1 \leq a, b, c \leq 2, 3 \leq d, e, f \leq 4$ then:

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(d^2 + e^2 + f^2) \leq (ad + be + cf)^2 + 81$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\text{Iff } a^2e^2 + a^2f^2 + b^2d^2 + b^2f^2 + c^2d^2 + c^2e^2$$

$$\leq 2(abde + acdf + bcef) + 81 \text{ ok}$$

$$\text{Because } a^2e^2 + b^2d^2 \leq 2abde + 27$$

$$a^2f^2 + c^2d^2 \leq 2acdf + 27$$

$$\text{and } b^2f^2 + c^2e^2 \leq 2bcef + 27$$

$$\text{Because } a^2e^2 + b^2d^2 \leq 2cbde + 27$$

$$\text{Iff } a^2e^2abde + b^2d^2 - abde \leq 27$$

$$\text{Iff } ae(ae - bd) + bdcbf - ae \leq 27$$

$$(ae - bd)^2 \leq 27 \text{ ok}$$

$$\text{Because } 1 \leq ab \leq 2, 3 \leq de \leq 4$$

$$\text{Hence } 3 \leq ae \leq 8, 8 \leq bd \leq 8, -8 \leq -bd \leq -3$$

$$-f \leq ae - bd \leq 5, (ae - bd)^2 \leq 25 \leq 27$$

Therefore it is to be true

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Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(d^2 + e^2 + f^2) - (ad + be + cf)^2 - 81$$

$$= (ac - bd)^2 + (bf - ec)^2 + (af - cd)^2 - 81 < 25 + 25 + 25 - 81 < 0$$

$$\therefore (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(d^2 + e^2 + f^2) \leq (ad + be + cf)^2 + 81$$

$$\text{Now } 1 < a < 2, 3 < e < 4, 3 < ae < 8, 1 < b < 2, 3 < d < 4$$

$$3 < bd < 8, \quad -8 < -bd < -3$$

$$\therefore (ae - bd) < 8 - 3 = 5$$

$$\therefore (ae - bd)^2 < 25$$

$$\therefore (bf - ec)^2 < 25$$

$$(af - cd)^2 < 25$$

Solution 3 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Suppose: $\vec{u}(a, b, c), \vec{v}(d, e, f)$:

$$\|\vec{u}\|^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2, \|\vec{v}\|^2 = d^2 + e^2 + f^2 \text{ so:}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = ad + be + cf$$

$$\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})^2 + 81$$

$$\|\vec{u}\|^2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \|\vec{u}\|^2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 \cdot \cos^2 \theta + 81$$

$$\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \stackrel{?}{\leq} 81$$

$$\|\vec{u}\|^2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 \cdot \sin^2 \theta \stackrel{?}{\leq} 81 \Rightarrow \|\vec{u} \wedge \vec{v}\|^2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} 81$$

$$\vec{u} \wedge \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{vmatrix} = (bf - ce)\vec{i} - (af - dc)\vec{j} + (ae - bd)\vec{k}$$

$$\|\vec{u} \wedge \vec{v}\|^2 = (bf - ce)^2 + (af - dc)^2 - (ae - bd)^2$$

Because: $1 \leq a, b, c \leq 2, 3 \leq d, e, f \leq 4$

$$3 \leq a \cdot e \leq 8, 3 \leq bd \leq 8 \Rightarrow -8 \leq -bd \leq -3 \Rightarrow -s \leq ae - bd \leq 5$$

$$(ae - bd)^2 \leq 25 \leq 27 \text{ in a similar way } (ab - dc)^2 \leq 27$$

$$(ae - bd)^2 \leq 27$$

$$\text{So: } \|\vec{u} \wedge \vec{v}\| \leq 3 \cdot 27$$

$$\|\vec{u} \wedge \vec{v}\|^2 \leq 81$$

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1226. If $a, b, c > 0$ such that $abc = 1$, then prove that :

$$\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} \geq \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{27 + \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{a} - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & \frac{2}{b} - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & \frac{2}{c} - c^2 \end{pmatrix}}}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{a} - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & \frac{2}{b} - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & \frac{2}{c} - c^2 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \\ & (2bc - a^2) \left((2ca - b^2)(2ab - c^2) - a^4 \right) + c^2 (a^2b^2 - c^2(2ab - c^2)) \\ & \quad + b^2 (c^2a^2 - b^2(2ca - b^2)) \\ & = a^6 + b^6 + c^6 + 2a^3b^3 + 2b^3c^3 + 2c^3a^3 + 9a^2b^2c^2 - 6abc(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \\ & = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 \right)^2 + 9a^2b^2c^2 - 6abc \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 \right) = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 3abc \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore & \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{27 + \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{a} - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & \frac{2}{b} - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & \frac{2}{c} - c^2 \end{pmatrix}}} = \\ & \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{27 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 - 3abc \right)^2}} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3 + 24abc}} \\ & \stackrel{?}{\leq} \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sqrt[3]{24xyz + \sqrt[3]{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^9 + 24x^3y^3z^3}} \\ & (x = \sqrt[3]{a}, y = \sqrt[3]{b}, z = \sqrt[3]{c} \text{ and } xyz = 1 \because abc = 1) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 - 24xyz \stackrel{?}{\geq} \sqrt[3]{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^9 + 24x^3y^3z^3}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 - 24xyz \right) \stackrel{?}{\underset{(*)}{\geq}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^9 + 24x^3y^3z^3$$

Assigning $y + z = X, z + x = Y, x + y = Z \Rightarrow X + Y - Z = 2z > 0, Y + Z - X = 2x > 0$ and $Z + X - Y = 2y > 0 \Rightarrow X + Y > Z, Y + Z > X, Z + X > Y$
 $\Rightarrow X, Y, Z$ form sides of a triangle with semiperimeter, circumradius and inradius

$$= s, R, r \text{ (say) yielding } 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = \sum_{\text{cyc}} X = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = s \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = s - X, y = s - Y, z = s - Z \text{ and such substitutions } \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s - X)(s - Y) \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy = 4Rr + r^2 \rightarrow (2) \text{ and}$$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 - 3 \prod_{\text{cyc}} (y + z) \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{=} s^3 - 3XYZ = s^3 - 12Rrs$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 = s^3 - 12Rrs \rightarrow (3) \text{ and also, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y^3 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^3 - 3xyz \prod_{\text{cyc}} (y + z)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (2) and (3)}}{=} (4Rr + r^2)^3 - 3r^2s \cdot 4Rrs \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y^3 = (4Rr + r^2)^3 - 12Rr^3s^2 \rightarrow (4)$$

$$\therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^9 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right)^3 - 3(x^3 + y^3)(y^3 + z^3)(z^3 + x^3)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right)^3 - 3 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y^3 \right) - x^3y^3z^3 \right)$$

$$\therefore (*) \Leftrightarrow \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 - 24xyz \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq}$$

$$\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right)^3 - 3 \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3y^3 \right) - x^3y^3z^3 \right) + 24x^3y^3z^3$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1),(3) and (4)}}{\Leftrightarrow} (s^3 - 24r^2s)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} (s^3 - 12Rrs)^3 + 27r^6s^3$$

$$- 3(s^3 - 12Rrs) \left((4Rr + r^2)^3 - 12Rr^3s^2 \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (3R - 6r)s^6 - r(36R^2 + 3Rr - 144r^2)s^4$$

$$+ r^2s^2(160R^3 + 48R^2r + 3Rr^2 - 1154r^3) - 3Rr^3(4R + r)^3 \stackrel{?}{\underset{(*)}{\geq}} 0 \text{ and}$$

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$\therefore (3R - 6r)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen + Euler}}{\geq} 0 \therefore$ in order to prove (*),

it suffices to prove : LHS of (*) $\geq (3R - 6r)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3$

$$\Leftrightarrow (108R - 120r)(R - 2r)s^4 - 6r^2s^4 + rs^2(160R^3 + 48R^2r + 3Rr^2 - 1154r^3) - 3Rr^2(4R + r)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

(**)

Now, LHS of (**) $\stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (108R - 120r)(R - 2r)(16Rr - 5r^2)s^2 - 6r^2s^2(4R^2 + 4Rr + 3r^2) + rs^2(160R^3 + 48R^2r + 3Rr^2 - 1154r^3) - 3Rr^2(4R + r)^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1888R^3 - 5892R^2r + 5499Rr^2 - 2372r^3)s^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3Rr(4R + r)^3$$

(***)

$$\therefore 1888R^3 - 5892R^2r + 5499Rr^2 - 2372r^3$$

$$= (R - 2r)(1888R^2 - 2116Rr + 1267r^2) + 162r^3 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 162r^3 > 0$$

$$\therefore \text{LHS of (***)} \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq}$$

$$(1888R^3 - 5892R^2r + 5499Rr^2 - 2372r^3)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3Rr(4R + r)^3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 30016t^4 - 103856t^3 + 117408t^2 - 65450t + 11860 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \quad \left(t = \frac{R}{r}\right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (t - 2) \left((t - 2)(30016t^2 + 16208t + 62176) + 118422 \right) \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore t \geq 2$$

$\Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (*) \Rightarrow (\bullet)$ is true

$$\therefore \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} \geq \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{27 + \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{a} - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & \frac{2}{b} - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & \frac{2}{c} - c^2 \end{pmatrix}}}$$

$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc = 1, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)}$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{a} - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & \frac{2}{b} - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & \frac{2}{c} - c^2 \end{pmatrix} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 2bc - a^2 & c^2 & b^2 \\ c^2 & 2ca - b^2 & a^2 \\ b^2 & a^2 & 2ab - c^2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (2bc - a^2)[(2ca - b^2)(2ab - c^2) - a^4] - c^2[c^2(2ab - c^2) - a^2b^2] \\ &\quad + b^2[c^2a^2 - b^2(2ca - b^2)] \\ &= a^6 + b^6 + c^6 + 2(a^3b^3 + b^3c^3 + c^3a^3) - 6abc(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) + 9(abc)^2 \\ &= (a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc)^2 = (a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3)^2. \end{aligned}$$

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So it suffices to prove that

$$\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} \geq \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{24 + a^3 + b^3 + c^3}}.$$

By AM – GM inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c} &= \sqrt[3]{a + b + c + 3(\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b})(\sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c})(\sqrt[3]{c} + \sqrt[3]{a})} \\ &\geq \sqrt[3]{a + b + c + 3 \cdot 8\sqrt[3]{abc}} = \sqrt[3]{a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3(a + b)(b + c)(c + a) + 24} \\ &\geq \sqrt[3]{a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3 \cdot 8abc + 24} = \sqrt[3]{24 + \sqrt[3]{24 + a^3 + b^3 + c^3}}, \end{aligned}$$

so the proof is complete. Equality holds iff $a = b = c = 1$.

1227. If $a, b \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ then:

$$|a + b - 2 - 2i|^n \leq 2^{n-1}(|a - 1 - i|^n + |b - 1 - i|^n)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

$$|a + b - 2 - 2i|^n \leq 2^{n-1}(|a - 1 - i|^n + |b - 1 - i|^n)$$

We will use Clarkson's Inequality

If we let

$$z = a - (1 + i) \text{ and } w = b - (1 + i)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} |a + b - 2 - 2i|^n &= |z + w|^n \leq |z + w|^n + |z - w|^n \leq \\ &\leq 2^{n-1}(|z|^n + |w|^n) = 2^{n-1}(|a - 1 - i|^n + |b - 1 - i|^n) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$|a + b - 2 - 2i|^n \leq 2^{n-1}(|a - 1 - i|^n + |b - 1 - i|^n)$$

Note

The second-to-last inequality follows Clarkson's inequality

1228. If $0 \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ then:

$$\arcsin(\cos^2 x) \leq \frac{2 \cos^2 x}{1 + \sin x}$$

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Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\sin^{-1}(\cos^2 x) \leq \frac{2 \cos^2 x}{1 + \sin x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sin^{-1}(1 - \sin^2 x) \leq 2(1 - \sin x) \Leftrightarrow \sin^{-1}(1 - t^2) \leq 2(1 - t)$$

$$\text{Let } f(t) = \sin^{-1}(1 - t^2) - 2(1 - t)$$

$$f'(t) = \frac{-2t}{\sqrt{1-(1-t^2)^2}} + 2 = \frac{-2t}{\sqrt{(2-t^2)t^2}} + 2 = 2 \left[1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2-t^2}} \right] > 0 \text{ for } 0 < t < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \text{ increases on } [0, 1]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) \leq f(1) = 0 \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 1 \Rightarrow \sin^{-1}(1 - t^2) \leq 2(1 - t) \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

Solution 2 by David Chatarasvili-Georgia

Consider the function: $f(x) = \arcsin(\cos^2 x) \cdot \frac{2 \cos^2 x}{1 + \sin x}$

$$x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-2 \cos x \sin x}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x}} - \frac{-4 \cos x \sin x (1 + \sin x) - \cos x (2 \cos^2 x)}{(1 + \sin x)^2} =$$

$$= \frac{2 \cos x (2 \sin x (1 + \sin x) + \cos^2 x)}{(1 + \sin x)^2} - \frac{2 \sin x \cdot \cos x}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x}} =$$

$$= \frac{2 \cos (2 \sin x + 2 \sin^2 x + 1 - \sin^2 x)}{(1 + \sin x)^2} - \frac{2 \sin x \cdot \cos x}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x}} =$$

$$= 2 \cos x \left(1 - \frac{\sin x}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x}} \right) = \frac{2 \cos x (\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x} - \sin x)}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x}}$$

$$f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \cos x = 0 \\ \sqrt{1 - \cos^4 x} = \sin x \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow x = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi k, k \in \mathbb{Z}, x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow 1 - \cos^4 x = \sin x \left(\sin x \geq 0; x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \right)$$

$$1 - (1 - \sin^2 x)^2 = 1 - (1 - 2 \sin^2 x + \sin^4 x) = 2 \sin^2 x - \sin^4 x =$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \sin^2 x \cdot \cos^2 x = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \sin x = 0 \\ \cos x = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \sin x = 0$$

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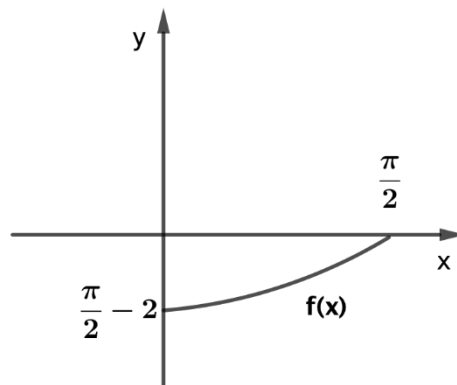
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$$x = \pi k, k \in \mathbb{Z}; x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow x = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, x = \frac{\pi}{2} \\ f'(x) \geq 0; \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \end{cases} \Rightarrow f(x) \text{ strictly increasing function}$$

$$f(0) = \arcsin 1 - \frac{2}{1} = \frac{\pi}{2} - 2 < 0, \quad f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \arcsin 0 - 0 = 0$$



$$\max_{x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]} f(x) = f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] f(x) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \arcsin(\cos^2 x) - \frac{2 \cos^2 x}{1 + \sin x} \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \arcsin(6 \cos^2 x) \leq \frac{2 \cos^2 x}{1 + \sin x}; \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$$

1229. If $a, b, c > 0, 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + b^2\right) \geq 7 + 5e^{(2c + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)}$ and

$$27\left(\frac{a}{2c+a} + \frac{b}{2a+b} + \frac{c}{2b+c}\right) = 2\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + 21, \text{ then } a, b, c = ?$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} 2\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + 21 &\stackrel{?}{\geq} 27\left(\frac{a}{2c+a} + \frac{b}{2a+b} + \frac{c}{2b+c}\right) \\ \Leftrightarrow 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b} + 21 &\stackrel{?}{\geq} 27 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{b+2a-2a}{2a+b} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b} + 27 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{2a+b} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 30 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b} + 27 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\frac{a}{b}}{2 \cdot \frac{a}{b} + 1} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 30 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 27 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{x}{2x+1} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 30 \quad \left(x = \frac{a}{b}, y = \frac{b}{c}, z = \frac{c}{a}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow 4xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} (x^2y + xy^2) + 48xyz + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 16 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 15$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) - 6xyz + 48xyz + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 16 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + 15$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + 27 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \quad (\because xyz = 1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 2 \right) + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + 27 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 2 \right) + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + 27 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 2 \right) + 27 \stackrel{?}{\underset{(*)}{\geq}} 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 3 \right)$$

Now, $\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \geq 3xyz \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \geq \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x}$

$$\therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \leq \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 2 \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \text{ and}$$

$$\therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 3 = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b} - 3 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 0, \therefore 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 3 \right)$$

$$\leq 12 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x + \left(\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 2 \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 3 \right) \stackrel{?}{\leq} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x - 2 \right) + 27$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 27 + \frac{p^4}{9} \left(\frac{p^2}{3} - 2 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 12 \cdot \frac{p^2}{3} + \left(\frac{p^4}{9} - 2p \right) \left(\frac{p^2}{3} - 3 \right) \quad \left(\text{where } p = \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{p^4 + 6p^3 - 12p^2 - 18p + 81}{27} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{(p-3)^2(p+3)(p+9)}{27} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\therefore p = \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} = \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b}} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true}$$

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$$\therefore 2\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + 21 \geq 27\left(\frac{a}{2c+a} + \frac{b}{2a+b} + \frac{c}{2b+c}\right), " = " \text{ iff } x = y = z \text{ and } \sqrt[3]{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b}} = 3$$

$$\rightarrow (1) \text{ Now, } \sqrt[3]{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b}} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 (" = " \text{ iff } a = b = c) \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a}{b}} = 3 \text{ iff } a = b = c$$

$$\text{and also } x = y = z \text{ iff } \frac{a}{b} = \frac{b}{c} = \frac{c}{a} \Rightarrow \text{iff } a = b = c \rightarrow (2)$$

$$\text{So, (1) and (2)} \Rightarrow 27\left(\frac{a}{2c+a} + \frac{b}{2a+b} + \frac{c}{2b+c}\right) = 2\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right) + 21 \\ \Rightarrow \boxed{a = b = c}$$

$$\text{Let } f(m) = e^m - 1 - m - \frac{m^2}{2} \quad \forall m \geq 0 \text{ and then : } f'(m) = e^m - 1 - m \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(m) \text{ is } \uparrow \text{ on } [0, \infty) \Rightarrow f(m) \geq f(0) = 1 - 1 = 0 \therefore e^m \geq 1 + m + \frac{m^2}{2} \quad \forall m \geq 0 \rightarrow (\bullet)$$

$$\text{Via } (\bullet), 7 + 5e^{(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)} - 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) \geq \\ 7 + 5\left(1 + \left(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3\right) + \left(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3\right)^2\right) - 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) \\ = \frac{16a^6 - 50a^5 + 42a^4 + 12a^3 - 25a^2 + 5}{a^4} \\ = \frac{(a-1)^2((16a^2 + 14a + 2)(a-1)^2 + 3)}{a^4} \geq 0 \quad \because a > 0$$

$$\therefore \boxed{4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) \leq 7 + 5e^{(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)}} \text{, " = " iff } 2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3 = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \text{iff } \frac{(2a+1)(a-1)^2}{a^2} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{" = " \text{ iff } a = 1} \rightarrow (3)$$

$$\text{Now, } \because a = b = c \therefore 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + b^2\right) \geq 7 + 5e^{(2c + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)} \Rightarrow \\ 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) \geq 7 + 5e^{(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)}, \text{ but via (3), } 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) \leq 7 + 5e^{(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)} \\ \therefore 4\left(\frac{2}{a} + a^2\right) = 7 + 5e^{(2a + \frac{1}{a^2} - 3)} \text{ and via (3), } \boxed{a = 1} \therefore a = b = c = 1 \text{ (ans)}$$

1230. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{If } x > 0 \\ n \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \end{array} \right\}$, then the following relationship holds :

$$\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)^x + 2\left(\frac{x+1}{x+2}\right)^{x+1} + \dots + n\left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1}\right)^{x+n} > \frac{n(n+1)}{2e}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\text{Let } f(m) = \ln m - 1 + \frac{1}{m} \quad \forall m > 0 \text{ and then : } f'(m) = \frac{m-1}{m^2}$$

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Case 1 $m \leq 1$ and then : $f'(m) \leq 0 \forall m \leq 1 \Rightarrow f(m)$ is $\downarrow \forall m \in (0, 1]$
 $\Rightarrow f(m) \geq f(1) = 0$

Case 2 $m \geq 1$ and then : $f'(m) \geq 0 \forall m \geq 1 \Rightarrow f(m)$ is $\uparrow \forall m \in [1, \infty)$

$\Rightarrow f(m) \geq f(1) = 0 \therefore$ combining both cases, $\ln m \geq 1 - \frac{1}{m} \forall m > 0, " = " \text{ iff } m = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} (x+n) \ln \left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1} \right) &> (x+n) \left(1 - \frac{x+n+1}{x+n} \right) \\ \left(\text{strict inequality } \because \frac{x+n}{x+n+1} &\neq 1 \right) \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1} \right)^{x+n} > -1 \\ \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1} \right)^{x+n} &> \frac{1}{e} \forall x > 0 \text{ and } \forall n \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \\ \therefore \left(\frac{x}{x+1} \right)^x, \left(\frac{x+1}{x+2} \right)^{x+1}, \dots, &\left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1} \right)^{x+n} > \frac{1}{e} \\ \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x}{x+1} \right)^x + 2 \left(\frac{x+1}{x+2} \right)^{x+1} + \dots + n &\left(\frac{x+n}{x+n+1} \right)^{x+n} > \frac{1}{e} + \frac{2}{e} + \dots + \frac{n}{e} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2e} \\ &\text{(QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1231. If $n \in \{3, 4, 5, \dots\}$, then the following relationship holds :

$$n^n < (n!)^2 < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3} \right)^{n-1}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Via Stirling's approximation, $n^n < (n!)^2 < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3} \right)^{n-1}$

$$\Leftrightarrow n^n < 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^{2n} < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3} \right)^{n-1}$$

$$\text{Now, } n^n < 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^{2n} \Leftrightarrow 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e^2} \right)^n > 1 \Leftrightarrow \ln(2\pi) + \ln(n) + n(\ln(n) - 2) > 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln(2\pi) + (n+1)\ln(n) - 2n > 0 \quad (i)$$

Let $f(n) = \ln(2\pi) + (n+1)\ln(n) - 2n$ be a continuous function and then :

$$f'(n) = \ln(n) + \frac{1}{n} - 1 \text{ and } f''(n) = \frac{n-1}{n^2}$$

Case 1 $n \leq 1$ and then : $f''(n) \leq 0 \forall n \leq 1 \Rightarrow f'(n)$ is $\downarrow \forall n \in (0, 1]$
 $\Rightarrow f'(n) \geq f'(1) = 0$

Case 2 $n \geq 1$ and then : $f''(n) \geq 0 \forall n \geq 1 \Rightarrow f'(n)$ is $\uparrow \forall n \in [1, \infty)$,
 $\Rightarrow f'(n) \geq f'(1) = 0 \therefore \forall n > 0, f'(n) \geq 0 (" = " \text{ iff } n = 1) \Rightarrow \forall n \geq 3, f'(n) > 0$
 $\Rightarrow \forall n \geq 3, f(n) \geq f(3) = \ln(2\pi) + 4\ln(3) - 6 \approx 0.2323 > 0 \Rightarrow (i) \text{ is true}$

$$\Rightarrow \forall n \geq 3, n^n < 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^{2n} \Rightarrow \forall n \in \{3, 4, 5, \dots\}, \boxed{(n!)^2 > n^n}$$

$$\text{Again, } 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^{2n} < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3} \right)^{n-1} \Leftrightarrow 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e^2} \right)^n < \left(\frac{n+1}{3} \right)^{n-1}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \ln(2\pi) + \ln(n) + n \ln(n) - 2n < (n-1) \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (n-1) \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right) - \ln(2\pi) - (n+1) \ln(n) + 2n > 0 \quad \text{(ii)}$$

Let $F(n) = (n-1) \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right) - \ln(2\pi) - (n+1) \ln(n) + 2n$ be a continuous

function and then : $F'(n) = \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right) - \ln(n) + \frac{n-1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n} + 1$ and

$$F''(n) = \frac{2n^2 + n + 1}{n^2(n+1)^2} > 0 \quad \forall n \geq 3 \Rightarrow F'(n) \text{ is } \uparrow \quad \forall n \geq 3$$

$$\Rightarrow F'(n) \geq F'(3) \approx 0.3557 > 0 \Rightarrow F(n) \text{ is } \uparrow \quad \forall n \geq 3 \Rightarrow F(n) \geq F(3) \approx 0.343 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{(ii) is true} \Rightarrow \forall n \geq 3, 2\pi n \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^{2n} < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right)^{n-1} \Rightarrow \forall n \in \{3, 4, 5, \dots\},$$

$$\boxed{(n!)^2 < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right)^{n-1}} \quad \therefore n^n < (n!)^2 < n^n \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{3}\right)^{n-1} \quad \forall n \in \{3, 4, 5, \dots\} \quad \text{(QED)}$$

1232. If $a \geq b \geq c > 0$, then :

$$108 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) \leq 189 + 5 \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right)^3$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} - \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) &= \frac{b^2 - a^2}{ab} + \frac{c^2 - b^2}{bc} + \frac{a^2 - c^2}{ac} \\ &= \frac{c(b+a)(b-a) + c^2(a-b) + ab(a-b)}{abc} = \frac{(b-a)(bc+ac-c^2-ab)}{abc} \\ &= \frac{(b-a)(b(c-a) - c(c-a))}{abc} = \frac{(b-a)(c-a)(b-c)}{abc} = \frac{(a-b)(b-c)(a-c)}{abc} \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq 0 \quad (\because a \geq b \geq c > 0) \Rightarrow x + y + z \geq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \quad \left(x = \frac{b}{a}, y = \frac{c}{b}, z = \frac{a}{c} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \rightarrow (1) \quad (\because xyz = 1) \text{ and also, } \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2 \geq 3xyz \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \geq \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \rightarrow (2) \quad (\because xyz = 1)$$

$$\text{Now, } 189 + 5 \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right)^3 - 108 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) = 189 + 5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^3 - 108 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\geq} 189 + 5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 108 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 189 + \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \left(5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 45 - 63 \right) \stackrel{\text{via (1) and (2)}}{\geq} \\
 &189 + \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \cdot \left(5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 45 \right) - 63 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \\
 &\left(\because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{xyz} \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 \Rightarrow 5 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 45 \geq 0 \right) \\
 &= 189 + t \cdot \left(\frac{5t^4}{9} - 45 \right) - 63 \cdot \frac{t^2}{3} \left(\text{where } t = \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \right) \\
 &= \frac{5t^5 - 189t^2 - 405t + 1701}{9} \\
 &= \frac{(t-3) \left((t-3)(5t^3 + 30t^2 + 135t + 351) + 486 \right)}{9} \geq 0 \\
 &\left(\because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{xyz} \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 \Rightarrow t = \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x} \geq \sqrt{3 \cdot 3} \Rightarrow t \geq 3 \right) \\
 &\therefore 108 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) \leq 189 + 5 \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right)^3 \\
 &\forall a \geq b \geq c > 0, \text{''} = \text{''} \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $x := \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}$. By AM – GM inequality, we have $x \geq 3$.

Since $\left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right) - \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right) = \frac{(a-b)(a-c)(b-c)}{abc} \geq 0$,

then $\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \geq x$, and

$$189 + 5 \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right)^3 \geq 189 + 5x^3 = 108x + (x-3)(5x^2 + 15x - 63)$$

$$\stackrel{x \geq 3}{\geq} 108x = 108 \left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \right),$$

which completes the proof. Equality holds iff $a = b = c$.

Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $x := \frac{b}{a}$, $y := \frac{c}{b}$, $z := \frac{a}{c}$ and $p := x + y + z$, $q := xy + yz + zx$, $r := xyz = 1$.

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The desired inequality is equivalent to

$$108q \leq 189 + 5p^3.$$

By AM – GM inequality, we have $p \geq 3\sqrt[3]{r} = 3$.

Also by Schur's inequality, we have $4pq \leq p^3 + 9r$, then

$$108q \leq \frac{27(p^3 + 9)}{p} = 189 + 5p^3 - \frac{(p-3)^2(5p^2 + 3p - 27)}{p} \stackrel{p \geq 3}{\leq} 189 + 5p^3,$$

which completes the proof. Equality holds iff $a = b = c$.

1233. If $x, y, z \geq 0$ then:

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

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let be $\omega \in \mathbb{C}, \omega^3 = 1, \omega \neq 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + z^2 + xz &= |x + \omega z|^2, & y^2 + z^2 + yz\sqrt{3} &= |iy - \omega z|^2 \\ \sqrt{x^2 + z^2 + xz} + \sqrt{y^2 + z^2 + yz\sqrt{3}} &= |x + \omega z| + |iy - \omega z| \geq \\ &\geq |x + \omega z + iy - \omega z| = |x + iy| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $x = y = z = 0$.

Solution 2 by proposer

Let be $M \in \text{Int}(\Delta ABC)$ such that:

$$m(\sphericalangle AMB) = 90^\circ, m(\sphericalangle BMC) = 150^\circ, m(\sphericalangle CMA) = 120^\circ$$

$$\begin{cases} AC^2 = x^2 + z^2 - 2xz\cos 120^\circ = x^2 + z^2 + xz \\ BC^2 = y^2 + z^2 - 2yz\cos 150^\circ = y^2 + z^2 + yz\sqrt{3} \\ AB^2 = x^2 + y^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} AC = \sqrt{x^2 + z^2 + xz} \\ BC = \sqrt{y^2 + z^2 + yz\sqrt{3}}, & AC + BC \geq AB \Rightarrow \\ AB = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \end{cases}$$

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

Equality holds for $x = y = z = 0$.

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1234. If $x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$, then : $2 \sin x + \tan x < 3x + (\ln x) \cdot \ln(1 - x)$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right), \tan x &< \frac{4x}{3} \Leftrightarrow 3 \sin x < 4x \cos x \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{3}{2} \cdot 2 \sin x \cos x &< 2x \cdot 2 \cos^2 x \Leftrightarrow \frac{3}{2} \cdot \sin 2x < 2x \cdot (1 + \cos 2x) \\ \Leftrightarrow \boxed{2y(1 + \cos y) &> 3 \sin y} \quad \left(0 < y = 2x < \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } F(y) = \sin y - y + \frac{y^3}{6} - \frac{y^5}{120} \quad \forall y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\therefore F'(y) = \cos y - \frac{y^4}{24} + \frac{y^2}{2} - 1 \text{ and } F''(y) = -\left(\sin y - \left(y - \frac{y^3}{6}\right)\right)$$

$$\text{Let } P(y) = \sin y - y + \frac{y^3}{6} \quad \forall y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \therefore P'(y) = \cos y + \frac{y^2}{2} - 1 \text{ and}$$

$$P''(y) = y - \sin y \geq 0 \Rightarrow P'(y) \text{ is } \uparrow \text{ on } \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \Rightarrow P'(y) \geq P'(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P(y) \text{ is } \uparrow \text{ on } \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \Rightarrow P(y) \geq P(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin y \geq y - \frac{y^3}{6} \quad \forall y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow F''(y) \leq 0 \Rightarrow F'(y) \text{ is } \downarrow \text{ on } \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \Rightarrow F'(y) \leq F'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow F(y) \text{ is } \downarrow \text{ on } \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow F(y) \leq F(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin y \leq y - \frac{y^3}{6} + \frac{y^5}{120} \quad \forall y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\therefore \forall y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right), \boxed{\sin y > y - \frac{y^3}{6}} \text{ and } \boxed{\sin y < y - \frac{y^3}{6} + \frac{y^5}{120}}$$

$$\therefore \text{via (2), RHS of } (\bullet) < 3y - \frac{y^3}{2} + \frac{y^5}{40} < 2y(1 + \cos y) \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\cos y > \frac{1}{2} - \frac{y^2}{4} + \frac{y^4}{80}}$$

$$\text{Let } f(y) = \cos y - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{y^4}{80} \quad \forall y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$$

$$\therefore f'(y) = -\sin y - \frac{y^3}{20} + \frac{y}{2} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{<} -y + \frac{y^3}{6} - \frac{y^3}{20} + \frac{y}{2} = -\frac{y}{2} + \frac{7y^3}{60} = -\frac{y}{2} \left(\frac{30 - 7y^2}{30}\right)$$

$$< 0 \left(\because 30 - 7y^2 \geq 30 - \frac{7\pi^2}{4} > 0\right) \Rightarrow f(y) \text{ is } \downarrow \text{ on } \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow f(y) \geq f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\pi^2}{16} - \frac{\pi^4}{16 \cdot 80} \approx .0407 > 0 \Rightarrow \cos y - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{y^4}{80} > 0 \quad \forall y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\bullet\bullet) \Rightarrow (\bullet) \text{ is true } \therefore \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right), \tan x < \frac{4x}{3} \Rightarrow 2 \sin x + \tan x < 2x + \frac{4x}{3}$$

$$= \frac{10x}{3} < 3x + (\ln x) \cdot \ln(1 - x) \Leftrightarrow \boxed{(\ln x) \cdot \ln(1 - x) > \frac{x}{3}}$$

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Let $g(x) = -\ln(1-x) - \left(x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3}\right) \forall x \in [0, \frac{\pi}{4}] \therefore g'(x) = \frac{x^3}{1-x} \geq 0 \Rightarrow g(x)$

is \uparrow on $[0, \frac{\pi}{4}] \Rightarrow g(x) \geq g(0) = 0 \Rightarrow -\ln(1-x) > x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} \forall x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4})$

Let $h(x) = -\ln x - \left(1-x + \frac{(1-x)^2}{2}\right) \forall x \in (0, 1] \therefore h'(x) = -\left(x + \frac{1}{x} - 2\right) \leq 0$

$\Rightarrow h(x)$ is \downarrow on $(0, 1] \Rightarrow h(x) \geq h(1) = 0 \Rightarrow -\ln x \geq 1-x + \frac{(1-x)^2}{2} \forall x \in (0, 1]$

$\therefore -\ln x > 1-x + \frac{(1-x)^2}{2} \forall x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4}) \therefore (i). (ii) \Rightarrow (\ln x) \cdot \ln(1-x)$

$= (-\ln x) \cdot (-\ln(1-x)) > \left(x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3}\right) \left(1-x + \frac{(1-x)^2}{2}\right) \stackrel{?}{>} \frac{x}{3}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x(2x^4 - 5x^3 - 15x + 14)}{12} \stackrel{?}{>} 0 \quad (**)$$

Now, $2x^4 - 5x^3 - 15x + 14 = \frac{5x-4}{625}(250x^3 - 425x^2 - 340x - 2147) + \frac{162}{625}$

$\therefore x < \frac{\pi}{4} < \frac{4}{5} \therefore 250x^3 - 425x^2 - 340x - 2147$

$< 250x^2 \cdot \frac{4}{5} - 425x^2 - 340x - 2147 = -225x^2 - 340x - 2147 < 0$ and

$\therefore 5x-4 < 0 \therefore \frac{5x-4}{625}(250x^3 - 425x^2 - 340x - 2147) + \frac{162}{625} > 0 + \frac{162}{625} > 0$

$\Rightarrow (**) \Rightarrow (*)$ is true $\therefore 2 \sin x + \tan x < 3x + (\ln x) \cdot \ln(1-x) \forall x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4})$ (QED)

1235.

If $n \in \mathbb{N}^* - \{1\}$, then the following relationship holds :

$$\binom{2n}{n} \geq 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\text{If } n = 2, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{4}{2} - \left(1 + 4 + \binom{4}{0}\right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} = 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 2$$

$$\text{If } n = 3, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{6}{3} - \left(1 + 9 + \binom{6}{1}\right) = 20 - 10 - 6 = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 3$$

$$\text{If } n = 4, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{8}{4} - \left(1 + 16 + \binom{8}{2}\right) = 70 - 17 - 28$$

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$$= 25 \Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 4$$

$$\text{If } n = 5, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{10}{5} - \left(1 + 25 + \binom{10}{3}\right)$$

$$= 252 - 26 - 120 = 106 \Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 5$$

$$\text{If } n = 6, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{12}{6} - \left(1 + 36 + \binom{12}{4}\right)$$

$$= 924 - 37 - 495 > 0 \Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 6$$

$$\text{If } n = 7, \binom{2n}{n} - \left(1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2}\right) = \binom{14}{7} - \left(1 + 49 + \binom{14}{5}\right)$$

$$= 3432 - 50 - 2002 > 0 \Rightarrow \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n = 7$$

We now consider $n \geq 8; n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ and then : $\boxed{\binom{2n}{n} - \binom{2n}{n-2}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n \cdot (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n)(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n)} \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n \cdot (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n-2))(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n(n+1)(n+2))} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n}{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n} - \frac{(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n}{(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n} \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n-2)(n-1)n}{(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n} \cdot \left(\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{n(n-1)} - 1\right) = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n-2)}{(n+3)(n+4) \dots 2n} \cdot \frac{4n+2}{n^2-n} \\ &= \frac{2n}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n+3}{1} \cdot \frac{n+4}{2} \cdot \frac{n+5}{3} \cdot \frac{4n+2}{n^2-n} \cdot \frac{(n+6)(n+7) \dots (2n-1)}{4 \cdot 5 \dots (n-3)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{2n}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n+3}{1} \cdot \frac{n+4}{2} \cdot \frac{n+5}{3} \cdot \frac{4n+2}{n^2-n} \cdot \prod_{k=6}^{n-1} \frac{n+k}{k-2}$$

$$> \frac{2n}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n+3}{1} \cdot \frac{n+4}{2} \cdot \frac{n+5}{3} \cdot \frac{4n+2}{n^2-n} \left(\because \frac{n+k}{k-2} > 1 \forall k \in \{6, 7, \dots, (n-1)\} \right)$$

$$\boxed{> 1 + n^2} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{n^5 + 59n^4 + 203n^3 + 343n^2 + 114n > 0} \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\therefore \binom{2n}{n} > 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \text{ for } n \geq 8; n \in \mathbb{N}^* \therefore \text{combining all cases,}$$

$$\binom{2n}{n} \geq 1 + n^2 + \binom{2n}{n-2} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^* - \{1\}, " = " \text{ iff } n = 2 \text{ (QED)}$$

1236.

If $x > 0$, then :

$$\pi(1 + (\arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x)^{-1}) > 8 + 2(\ln^2 \arctan x + \ln^2 \operatorname{arccot} x)$$

Proposed by Rovsen Pirgulyev-Azerbaijan

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Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } F(x) &= \pi(1 + (\arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x)^{-1}) - 8 \\ &\quad - 2(\ln^2 \arctan x + \ln^2 \operatorname{arccot} x) \quad \forall x > 0 \\ \therefore F'(x) &= \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{4(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2(\arctan x) \ln(\arctan x) - 4(\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x) \ln(\operatorname{arccot} x) + \pi \left(\frac{\operatorname{arccot} x}{-\arctan x} \right)}{(x^2 + 1)(\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} \\ &\frac{4(\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x) \ln(\operatorname{arccot} x) - 4(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2(\arctan x) \ln(\arctan x) - \pi \left(\frac{\operatorname{arccot} x}{-\arctan x} \right)}{(\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} \\ &= 4 \left(\frac{\ln(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{\operatorname{arccot} x} - \frac{\ln(\arctan x)}{\arctan x} - \frac{\pi (\operatorname{arccot} x - \arctan x)}{4 (\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} \right) \\ &= 4 \left(\frac{\ln(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{\operatorname{arccot} x} - \frac{\ln(\arctan x)}{\arctan x} - \frac{1(\operatorname{arccot} x + \arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x - \arctan x)}{2 (\arctan x)^2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} \right) \\ &= 4 \left(\frac{\ln(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{\operatorname{arccot} x} - \frac{\ln(\arctan x)}{\arctan x} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{(\arctan x)^2} - \frac{1}{(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} \right) \right) \\ &= 4 \left(\left(\frac{1}{2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} + \frac{\ln(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{\operatorname{arccot} x} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2(\arctan x)^2} + \frac{\ln(\arctan x)}{\arctan x} \right) \right) \\ &\Rightarrow F'(x) = \frac{4}{x^2 + 1} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1}{2(\operatorname{arccot} x)^2} + \frac{\ln(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{\operatorname{arccot} x} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2(\arctan x)^2} + \frac{\ln(\arctan x)}{\arctan x} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(m) &= \frac{1}{2m^2} + \frac{\ln m}{m} \quad \forall m > 0 \therefore f'(m) = \frac{m-1-m \ln m}{m^3} = \frac{m-1}{m^3} - \frac{\ln m}{m^2} \\ &\leq \frac{m-1}{m^3} - \frac{1-\frac{1}{m}}{m^2} \quad \left(\because \ln m \geq 1 - \frac{1}{m} \quad \forall m > 0 \right) = 0 \therefore \frac{m-1-m \ln m}{m^3} \leq 0 \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

Case 1 $0 < x \leq 1$ and then : $\operatorname{arccot} x \geq \arctan x$ and $F'(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{4}{x^2 + 1} \cdot (f(\operatorname{arccot} x) - f(\arctan x)) \stackrel{\text{MVT}}{=} \\ &\frac{4}{x^2 + 1} \cdot (\operatorname{arccot} x - \arctan x) \cdot \frac{\xi - 1 - \xi \ln \xi}{\xi^3} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\leq} 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) \text{ is } \downarrow \text{ on } (0, 1] \Rightarrow F(x) \geq F(1) = \pi \left(1 + \frac{16}{\pi^2} \right) - 8 - 4 \ln^2 \frac{\pi}{4} \approx .0011 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi(1 + (\arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x)^{-1}) > 8 + 2(\ln^2 \arctan x + \ln^2 \operatorname{arccot} x)$$

Case 2 $x \geq 1$ and then : $\arctan x \geq \operatorname{arccot} x$ and $F'(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\frac{4}{x^2 + 1} \cdot (f(\arctan x) - f(\operatorname{arccot} x)) \stackrel{\text{MVT}}{=} \\ &-\frac{4}{x^2 + 1} \cdot (\arctan x - \operatorname{arccot} x) \cdot \frac{\xi - 1 - \xi \ln \xi}{\xi^3} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\geq} 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) \text{ is } \uparrow \text{ on } [1, \infty) \Rightarrow F(x) \geq F(1) = \pi \left(1 + \frac{16}{\pi^2} \right) - 8 - 4 \ln^2 \frac{\pi}{4} \approx .0011 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi(1 + (\arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x)^{-1}) > 8 + 2(\ln^2 \arctan x + \ln^2 \operatorname{arccot} x)$$

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\therefore combining both cases, $\pi(1 + (\arctan x)(\operatorname{arccot} x)^{-1})$
 $> 8 + 2(\ln^2 \arctan x + \ln^2 \operatorname{arccot} x) \forall x > 0$ (QED)

1237. If $x, y, z > 1, m, n, p \geq 1$ then:

$$(x-1)^{m+n+p} + x^{m+n} + x^{n+p} + x^{p+m} + 1 \leq x^{m+n+p} + x^m + x^n + x^p$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

We first show that: $x^m + 1 \leq (x+1)^m \quad \forall x > 0, m \geq 1$

Let $f(x) = x^m + 1 - (x+1)^m, x \geq 0 \Rightarrow f'(x) = mx^{m-1} - m(x+1)^{m-1} \leq 0, x > 0$

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ decreases on $[0, \infty)$

Thus, $f(x) \leq f(0) \quad \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow x^m + 1 - (x+1)^m \leq 0; \forall x > 0$

$\Rightarrow (x-1)^m + 1 \leq x^m; \forall x > 1 \Rightarrow (x-1)^m \leq x^m - 1; \forall x > 1, m \geq 1$

Thus, for $x > 1, m, n, p \geq 1$

$(x-1)^m(x-1)^n(x-1)^p \leq (x^m - 1)(x^n - 1)(x^p - 1)$

$\Rightarrow (x-1)^{m+n+p} \leq x^{m+n+p} - x^{m+n} - x^{m+p} - x^{n+p} + x^m + x^n + x^p - 1$

$\Rightarrow (x-1)^{m+n+p} + x^{m+n} + x^{m+p} + x^{n+p} + 1 \leq x^{m+n+p} + x^m + x^n + x^p$

1238. If $x, y, z > 0$ then: $e(x^x + y^y + z^z) \geq 3\sqrt[3]{e^{x+y+z}}$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Let $f(x) = x(\ln x - 1) + 1; \forall x > 0$

$f'(x) = \ln x - 1 + x\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \ln x \Rightarrow f'(x) < 0$ for $0 < x < 1, > 0$ if $x > 1$

Thus, for $0 < x \leq 1, f(1) \leq f(x)$ and for $x \geq 1, f(1) \leq f(x)$

$\Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(1) = 0; \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow x(\ln x - 1) + 1 \geq 0; \forall x > 0$

$\Rightarrow x \ln x \geq x - 1 \Rightarrow \ln(x^x) \geq x - 1 \Rightarrow x^x \geq e^{x-1}; \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow ex^x \geq e^x$

Thus, for $x, y, z > 0$

$e(x^x + y^y + z^z) \geq e^x + e^y + e^z \geq 3(e^x e^y e^z)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 3(e^{x+y+z})^{\frac{1}{3}}$

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$$\Rightarrow e(x^x + y^y + z^z) \geq 3 \left(e^{\frac{x+y+z}{3}} \right)$$

Equality when $x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 2 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan

The inequality of arithmetic and geometric means gives $\sqrt[3]{e^x e^y e^z} \leq \frac{e^x + e^y + e^z}{3}$

$$\text{So, } 3\sqrt[3]{e^{x+y+z}} \leq e^x + e^y + e^z$$

The study of variations of the function $f: x \rightarrow 1 + x \ln(x) - x$

Shows that the minimum of this function on, \mathbb{R}^{+*} is 0 (for $x = 1$)

So, $x \leq 1 + x \ln(x) - x, y \leq 1 + y \ln(y) - y$ and $z \leq 1 + z \ln(z) - z$

$$\text{So, } e^x \leq e \cdot x^x, e^y \leq e \cdot y^y \text{ and } e^z \leq e \cdot z^z$$

$$\text{So, } e^x + e^y + e^z \leq e \cdot (x^x + y^y + z^z)$$

$$\text{Finally: } 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{e^{x+y+z}} \leq e \cdot (x^x + y^y + z^z)$$

Solution 3 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$e \cdot (x^x + y^y + z^z) \geq 3 \cdot \left(e^{\frac{x+y+z}{3}} \right), e \cdot (e^{x \ln(x)} + e^{y \ln(y)} + e^{z \ln(z)}) \geq 3 \left(e^{\frac{x+y+z}{3}} \right)$$

$$e^{1+x \ln(x)} + e^{1+y \ln(y)} + e^{1+z \ln(z)} \geq 3 \cdot \left(e^{\frac{x+y+z}{3}} \right)$$

$$f(x) = 1 + x \ln(x), 'f(x) = \ln(x) + 1 \Rightarrow ''f(x) = \frac{1}{x} > 0$$

$$l_1 \geq 3 \cdot e^{1+\left(\frac{x+y+z}{3}\right) \ln\left(\frac{x+y+z}{3}\right)}, \quad l_1 \geq e \cdot \left(\frac{x+y+z}{3} \right)$$

$$1 + x \ln(x) \stackrel{?}{\geq} x, \quad x \ln(x) \geq x - 1, \quad x \ln(x) - x + 1 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$f(x) = x \ln(x) - x + 1, x > 0, \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 1, \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = +\infty$$

$$'f(x) = \ln(x) + 1 - 1 = \ln(x)$$

x	0	1	$+\infty$
$f'(x)$	-----	0	+++++
$f(x)$			

Solution 4 by Pin Reak Smey-Indonesia

We have $ex^x \geq e^x \Leftrightarrow \ln e + \ln x^x \geq x \Leftrightarrow 1 + x \ln x - x \geq 0$

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Let $f(x) = 1 + x \ln x - x$, $f'(x) = \ln x$

x	0	1	$+\infty$
$f'(x)$	- - - - -	0	+ + + + +
$f(x)$			

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \geq 0 \Rightarrow f(1) = 0$$

$$e^{x^x} \geq e^x, \forall x > 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} e^{x^x} \geq \sum_{cyc} e^x$$

But $\sum_{cyc} e^x \geq 3\sqrt[3]{e^{x+y+z}}$, thus $\sum_{cyc} e^{x^x} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{e^{x+y+z}}$

1239. If $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ then:

$$2(5 - x - y - z)^2 + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq 35$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by George Florin Șerban-Romania

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \frac{(x + y + z)^2}{3}$$

$$S = x + y + z$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \cdot (5 - S)^2 + 14 \sum_{cyc} x^2 \geq 2(5 - S)^2 + \frac{14S^2}{3} \geq 35 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 50 - 20S + 2S^2 + \frac{14S^2}{3} \geq 35 \Rightarrow 150 - 60S + 6S^2 + 14S^2 \geq 105 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 20S^2 - 60S + 45 \geq 0 | : 5$$

$$\Rightarrow 4S^2 - 12S + 9 \geq 0 \Rightarrow (2S - 3)^2 \geq 0$$

true, $(\forall) S \in \mathbb{R}$

Then $2 \cdot (5 - x - y - z)^2 + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq 35, (\forall) x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

Solution 2 by George Florin Șerban-Romania

The second method:

$$2 \cdot (5 - x - y - z)^2 + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq 35$$

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$$2 \cdot (25 - 10 \sum_{cyc} x + (x + y + z)^2 + 14 \sum_{cyc} x^2 \geq 35$$

$$50 - 20 \sum_{cyc} x + 2 \sum_{cyc} x^2 + 4 \sum_{cyc} xy + 14 \sum_{cyc} x^2 - 35 \geq 0$$

$$16 \sum_{cyc} x^2 + 4 \sum_{cyc} xy - 20 \sum_{cyc} x + 15 \geq 0$$

$$\left(x + 2y - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \left(y + 2z - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \left(z + 2x - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 +$$

$$+ 11\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 11\left(y - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 11\left(z - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 =$$

$$= x^2 + 4y^2 + \frac{9}{4} + 4xy - 6y - 3x + y^2 + 4z^2 + \frac{9}{4} +$$

$$+ 11x^2 - 11x + \frac{11}{4} + 11y^2 - 11y + \frac{11}{4} + 11z^2 - 11z + \frac{11}{4} =$$

$$= 16 \sum_{cyc} x^2 + 4 \sum_{cyc} xy - 20 \sum_{cyc} x + 15 \geq 0$$

true, because $\left(x + 2y - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \geq 0, (\forall)x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\left(y + 2z - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \geq 0; (\forall)y, z \in \mathbb{R}, \left(z + 2x - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \geq 0$$

$(\forall)y \in \mathbb{R}, \left(z - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \geq 0; (\forall)z \in \mathbb{R}$. Equality is if $x - \frac{1}{2} = y - \frac{1}{2} = z - \frac{1}{2} = 0$

$$x + 2y - \frac{3}{2} = y + 2z - \frac{3}{2} = z + 2x - \frac{3}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow x = y = z = \frac{1}{2} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$2(5 - x - y - z)^2 + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq 35$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2[25 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 10x - 10y - 10z + 2xy + 2yz + 2zx] +$$

$$+ 14x^2 + 14y^2 + 14z^2 \geq 35$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 16x^2 + 16y^2 + 16z^2 + 4xy + 4yz + 4zx -$$

$$- 20x + 20y - 20z + 15 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3(4x^2 - 4x + 1) + 3(4y^2 - 4y + 1) + 3(4z^2 - 4z + 1) +$$

$$+ 2(1 + x^2 + y^2 + 2xy - 2x - 2y) +$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &+2(1 + y^2 + z^2 + 2yz - 2y - 2z) + \\
 &+2(1 + z^2 + x^2 + 2zx - 2z - 2x) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 3[(2x - 1)^2 + (2y - 1)^2 + (2z - 1)^2] + \\
 &+2[(1 - x - y)^2 + (1 - y - z)^2 + (1 - z - x)^2] \geq 0 \\
 &\text{which is true and equality when } x = y = z = \frac{1}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$\begin{aligned}
 &2(5 - (x + y + z))^2 + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 35 \\
 &2[25 - 10(x + y + z) + (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) + 2(xy + yz + zx)] + 14(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 35 \\
 &16 \underbrace{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}_A + 4 \underbrace{(xy + yz + zx)}_B - 20 \underbrace{(x + y + z)}_\gamma + 15 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P_1 = 16A + 4B - 20\gamma + 15 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

but: $(x + y + z)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2(xy + yz + zx)$

$\gamma^2 = A + 2B$, but $B \leq A$ (Cauchy Schwarz inequality)

$$\gamma^2 \leq 3A, A \geq \frac{1}{3}\gamma^2, B = \frac{\gamma^2 - A}{2}$$

$$P_1 = 16A + 4\left(\frac{\gamma^2 - A}{2}\right) - 20\gamma + 15 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$P_1 = 16A + 2(\gamma^2 - A) - 20\gamma + 15 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$P_1 = 2\gamma^2 - 20\gamma + 14A + 15 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$P_1 = 2\left(\gamma^2 - 10\gamma + 7A + \frac{15}{2}\right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$A \geq \frac{1}{3}\gamma^2. \text{ So: } l_1 \geq 2\left(\gamma^2 - 10\gamma + \frac{7}{3}\gamma^2 + \frac{15}{2}\right), l_1 \geq 2\left(\frac{10}{3}\gamma^2 - 10\gamma + \frac{15}{2}\right)$$

$$\Delta = 100 - 4\left(\frac{10}{3}\right)\left(\frac{15}{2}\right) = 100 - 100 = 0. \text{ So: } \frac{10}{3}\gamma^2 - 10\gamma + \frac{15}{2} \geq 0, \forall \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$$

and then: $l_1 \geq 0$

1240.

If $x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$ then: $2 \sin x + \tan x < 3x + \ln x \cdot \ln(1 - x)$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

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Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Using the well known inequality, $\ln t \leq t - 1, \forall t > 0$,
we have $-\ln x > 1 - x > 0$ and,

$$-\ln(1-x) > x > 0, \text{ then } \ln x \cdot \ln(1-x) > (1-x)x, \forall x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right).$$

So it suffices to prove that $f(x) = 4x - x^2 - 2 \sin x - \tan x \geq 0, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right]$.

We have

$$f''(x) = -2(1 - \sin x) - 2(1 + \tan^2 x) \tan x < 0, \text{ then } f \text{ is concave on } \left[0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right], \text{ and}$$

$$f(x) \geq \min \left\{ f(0), f\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \right\} = \min \left\{ 0, \pi - \frac{\pi^2}{16} - \sqrt{2} - 1 \right\} = 0, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{4}\right],$$

which completes the proof.

1241. If $n \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$, then prove that

$$1 + \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{n(n+1)^2}{4}} > 2^n \sqrt[n]{n!}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By CBS inequality, we have

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \geq \frac{n^2}{1 + 2 + \dots + n} = \frac{2n}{n+1}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{n(n+1)^2}{4}} &\geq 1 + \frac{2n}{n+1} \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{n(n+1)^2}{4}} \\ &= 1 + n \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{2n}{n+1}} \stackrel{n > 1}{\succ} 1 + n = \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{1 + 2 + \dots + n}{n} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\succ} 2 \cdot \sqrt[n]{1 \cdot 2 \dots n} = 2 \cdot \sqrt[n]{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

1242.

Let $a, b, c \in [0, 2023]$. Find the max and min value of the expression :

$$P = a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 2024abc$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Vietnam

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Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By AM – GM inequality, we have

$$P \geq 3abc - 2024abc = -2021abc \geq -2021 \cdot 2023^3,$$

then the min value of P is $-2021 \cdot 2023^3$, reached at $a = b = c = 2023$.

Now, let $f(a) = P$, we have $f''(a) = 6a \geq 0$, then f is convex on $[0, 2023]$, and

$$P \leq \max\{f(0), f(2023)\} = \max\{b^3 + c^3, 2023^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 2024 \cdot 2023bc\}.$$

Also, we have $b^3 + c^3 \leq 2 \cdot 2023^3$, and if $g(b) = 2023^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 2024 \cdot 2023bc$,

then g is convex on $[0, 2023]$, and $g(b) \leq \max\{g(0), g(2023)\}$

$$= \max\{2023^3 + c^3, 2 \cdot 2023^3 + c^3 - 2024 \cdot 2023^2c\} \stackrel{c \leq 2023}{\leq} 2 \cdot 2023^3,$$

then the max value of P is $2 \cdot 2023^3$, reached at $a = b = 2023, c = 0$ and permutations.

1243. If $a, b, c > 0$ then:

$$\sqrt[3]{4a} + \sqrt[3]{9b} + \sqrt[3]{25c} \leq \sqrt[3]{100(a+b+c)}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by George Florin Şerban – Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{4a} + \sqrt[3]{9b} + \sqrt[3]{25c} &= \sqrt[3]{2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{5} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5} \cdot \sqrt[3]{c} \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\leq} \\ &\leq \left(\sqrt[3]{2^3} + \sqrt[3]{3^3} + \sqrt[3]{5^3}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \left(\sqrt[3]{2^3} + \sqrt[3]{3^3} + \sqrt[3]{5^3}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \left(\sqrt[3]{a^3} + \sqrt[3]{b^3} + \sqrt[3]{c^3}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = \\ &= (2 + 3 + 5)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot (2 + 3 + 5)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot (a + b + c)^{\frac{1}{3}} = \\ &= \sqrt[3]{10 \cdot 10 \cdot (a + b + c)} = \sqrt[3]{100(a + b + c)} \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\sqrt[3]{4a} + \sqrt[3]{9b} + \sqrt[3]{25c} \leq \sqrt[3]{100(a + b + c)}$$

$(\forall) a, b, c > 0$, true

Solution 2 by Michel Sterghiou – Greece

$$\sqrt[3]{4a} + \sqrt[3]{9b} + \sqrt[3]{25c} \leq \sqrt[3]{100(a + b + c)} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } a = 2x, b = 3y, c = 5z \quad (1) \rightarrow 2\sqrt[3]{x} + 3\sqrt[3]{y} + 5\sqrt[3]{z} \leq \sqrt[3]{100(2x + 3y + 5z)} \quad (2)$$

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Using the fact that if $(t) = \sqrt[3]{t}$ $(0, +\infty)$ is concave we have by generalize Jensen

$$LHS (2) \leq (2 + 3 + 5) \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{2x+3y+5z}{2+3+5}} = \sqrt[3]{1000 \cdot \frac{a+b+c}{10}} = \sqrt[3]{100(a+b+c)} = RHS \text{ of (2).}$$

Equality for $a = 2, b = 3, c = 5$.

1244. If $a, b, c, d, e > 0$ then:

$$\frac{a+b+c}{d+e} + \frac{b+c+d}{e+a} + \frac{c+d+e}{a+b} + \frac{d+e+a}{b+c} + \frac{e+a+b}{c+d} \geq \frac{15}{2}$$

(Vasic's variant)

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Serban George Florin-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a+b+c}{d+e} + 1 + \frac{b+c+d}{e+a} + 1 + \frac{c+d+e}{a+b} + 1 + \\ & + \frac{d+e+a}{b+c} + 1 + \frac{e+a+b}{c+d} + 1 \geq \frac{15}{2} + 5 \\ & \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{d+e} + \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{e+a} + \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{a+b} + \\ & + \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{b+c} + \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{c+d} \geq \frac{15+10}{2} = \frac{25}{2} \\ & (a+b+c+d+e) \left(\frac{1}{d+e} + \frac{1}{e+a} + \frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+d} \right) \geq \frac{25}{2} \\ & (a+b+c+d+e) \left(\frac{1}{d+e} + \frac{1}{e+a} + \frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+d} \right) \geq \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} (a+b+c+d+e) \cdot \frac{(1+1+1+1+1)^2}{d+e+e+a+a+b+b+c+c+d} = \\ & = \frac{25(a+b+c+d+e)}{2a+2b+2c+2d+2e} = \frac{25(a+b+c+d+e)}{2(a+b+c+d+e)} = \frac{25}{2}, \text{ true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a+b+c}{d+e} + \frac{b+c+d}{e+a} + \frac{c+d+e}{a+b} + \frac{d+e+a}{b+c} + \frac{e+a+b}{c+d} \geq \frac{15}{2}, (\forall) a, b, c, d, e > 0$$

Equality is if $a = b = c = d = e$.

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

$$\text{Let } (a+b+c+d+e) = x$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \therefore LHS &= \frac{a+b+c}{x-(a+b+c)} + \frac{b+c+d}{x-(b+c+d)} + \frac{c+d+e}{x-(c+d+e)} + \\ &\quad + \frac{d+e+a}{x-(d+e+a)} + \frac{e+a+b}{x-(e+a+b)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } f(p) = \frac{p}{x-p}, p > 0$$

$$\therefore f'(p) = \frac{x}{(x-p)^2} \therefore f''(p) = \frac{2x}{(x-p)^3} > 0$$

$\therefore f$ is convex, using Jensen inequality

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+b+c) + f(b+c+d) + f(c+d+e) + f(d+e+a) + f(e+a+b) &\geq \\ &\geq 5f\left(\frac{3a+3b+3c+3d+3e}{5}\right) = 5f\left(\frac{3x}{5}\right) = 5 \cdot \frac{\frac{3x}{5}}{x-\frac{3x}{5}} = 5 \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{15}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Sakthi Vel-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a+b+c}{d+e} &= \frac{a+b+c}{d+e} + \frac{d+e}{d+e} - 1 = \frac{a+b+c+d+e}{d+e} - 1 \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b+c}{d+e} &= (a+b+c+d+e) \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{d+e} - 5 \\ &\geq (a+b+c+d+e) \frac{(1+1+1+1+1)^2}{2(a+b+c+d+e)} - 5 = \frac{25}{2} - 5 = \frac{15}{2} \end{aligned}$$

1245. If $a, b, c, \alpha \geq 1$ then:

$$\frac{a}{c} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \alpha(ab + bc + ca) \geq (1 + \alpha)(a + b + c)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } x, y, \alpha \geq 1, x\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{y}\right)(y-1) &\geq 0 \Rightarrow \alpha xy + \frac{x}{y} - x - \alpha x \geq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} + \alpha xy \geq (1 + \alpha)x \\ &\quad \therefore \\ &\quad \frac{a}{c} + \alpha ac \geq (1 + \alpha)a \end{aligned}$$

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$$\frac{b}{a} + \alpha ab \geq (1 + \alpha)b$$

$$\text{and } \frac{c}{b} + \alpha bc \geq (1 + \alpha)c$$

Adding above inequalities the desired inequality.

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

We need to show,

$$\frac{a}{c} + \frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \alpha(ab + bc + ca) \geq (1 + \alpha)(a + b + c)$$

$$\left[\frac{a}{c} + \alpha ac - (1 + \alpha)a \right] + \left[\frac{b}{a} + \alpha ab - (a + \alpha)b \right] + \left[\frac{c}{b} + \alpha bc - (1 + \alpha)c \right] \geq 0$$

$$\text{or, } a \left[\frac{1}{c} + \alpha c - (1 + \alpha) \right] + b \left[\frac{1}{a} + \alpha a - (1 + \alpha) \right] + c \left[\frac{1}{b} + \alpha b - (1 + \alpha) \right] \geq 0$$

$$\text{or, } a \left[\frac{(1-c)(1-c\alpha)}{c} \right] + b \left[\frac{(1-a)(1-a\alpha)}{a} \right] + c \left[\frac{(1-b)(1-b\alpha)}{b} \right] \geq 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{a}{c}(1-c)(1-c\alpha) + \frac{b}{a}(1-a)(1-a\alpha) + \frac{c}{b}(1-b)(1-b\alpha) \geq 0$$

This is true. Since, $c \geq 1, \alpha \geq 1 \therefore c\alpha \geq 1$

$$\therefore (1-c) \leq 0, (1-c\alpha) \leq 0$$

$$\therefore (1-c)(1-c\alpha) \geq 0 \text{ (analog)}$$

1246.

If $x, y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$, then :

$$\begin{aligned} (\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \tan y) &\stackrel{(*)}{\leq} (\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y) \\ &\stackrel{(**)}{\leq} (\sin x + \tan y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y) \end{aligned}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

If $x = y = 0$, then : LHS of (*) = RHS of (*) = 0 and LHS of (**)

$$= \text{RHS of (**)} = 0$$

If $x = 0, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$, then : LHS of (*) = RHS of (*) = $y \sin y \tan y$ and LHS of (**)

$$= \text{RHS of (**)} = y \sin y \tan y$$

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If $y = 0, x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$, then : LHS of (*) = RHS of (*) = $x \sin x \tan x$ and LHS of (**)

$$= \text{RHS of (**)} = x \sin x \tan x$$

We now consider $x, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ and

$$(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \tan y) \leq (\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{\tan x + \sin y} - 1 \leq \frac{(\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)} - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\tan y - y + y - \sin y}{\tan x + \sin y} \leq$$

$$\frac{x \sin x + \sin x \tan y + xy + y \tan y - x \sin x - y \sin x - x \sin y - y \sin y}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(\tan y - y) \sin x + x(y - \sin y) + y((\tan y - y) + (y - \sin y))}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)}$$

$$\geq \frac{(\tan y - y) + (y - \sin y)}{\tan x + \sin y}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\tan y - y) \left(\frac{y + \sin x}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)} - \frac{1}{\tan x + \sin y} \right)$$

$$+ (y - \sin y) \left(\frac{1}{\sin x + \sin y} - \frac{1}{\tan x + \sin y} \right) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tan y \\ -y \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\tan x \sin x + y \tan x + \sin x \sin y + y \sin y - x \sin x - x \sin y - y \sin x - y \sin y}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right)$$

$$+ (y - \sin y) \left(\frac{\tan x - \sin x}{(\sin x + \sin y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \tan y \\ -y \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\sin x (\tan x - x) + y((\tan x - x) + (x - \sin x)) - \sin y (x - \sin x)}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right)$$

$$+ (y - \sin y) \left(\frac{\tan x - \sin x}{(\sin x + \sin y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\tan y - y) \left(\frac{(\tan x - x)(\sin x + y) + (y - \sin y)(x - \sin x)}{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right)$$

$$+ (y - \sin y) \left(\frac{\tan x - \sin x}{(\sin x + \sin y)(\tan x + \sin y)} \right) \geq 0$$

\rightarrow true $\because \tan x > x > \sin x$ and $\tan y > y > \sin y \forall x, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$

$\therefore (\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \tan y) < (\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y)$

and combining all cases,

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$$\boxed{(\sin x + \sin y)(x + y)(\tan x + \tan y) \leq (\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y) \forall x, y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]},$$

$$" = " \text{ iff } (x = y = 0) \text{ or } \left(x = 0, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right) \text{ or } \left(y = 0, x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right)$$

$$\text{Again, } \boxed{(\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y) \leq (\sin x + \tan y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\sin x + \tan y}{\sin x + y} - 1 \geq \frac{x + \tan y}{x + y} - 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{\tan y - y}{\sin x + y} \geq \frac{\tan y - y}{x + y}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\tan y - y) \left(\frac{x + y - \sin x - y}{(x + y)(\sin x + y)} \right) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\frac{(\tan y - y)(y - \sin y)}{(x + y)(\sin x + y)} \geq 0} \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\because \tan y > y > \sin y \forall x, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\therefore (\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y) < (\sin x + \tan y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y)$$

and combining all cases,

$$\boxed{(\sin x + y)(x + \tan y)(\tan x + \sin y) \leq (\sin x + \tan y)(x + y)(\tan x + \sin y) \forall x, y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]},$$

$$" = " \text{ iff } (x = y = 0) \text{ or } \left(x = 0, y \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right) \text{ or } \left(y = 0, x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right) \text{ (QED)}$$

1247. If $x, y, z > 0, x + y + z = 1$ and $\lambda \geq \frac{2}{5}$, then :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{2\lambda x^2 + 6\lambda xy + (2\lambda + 1)y^2} \leq \sqrt{10\lambda + 1}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{2\lambda x^2 + 6\lambda xy + (2\lambda + 1)y^2} &\stackrel{?}{\leq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\left(\frac{x+y}{2} \right) \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} \right) \\ \Leftrightarrow y \cdot \frac{(t_1 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} &+ z \cdot \frac{(t_2 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} + x \cdot \frac{(t_3 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} \\ &\stackrel{?}{\geq} y \cdot \sqrt{2\lambda t_1^2 + 6\lambda t_1 + 2\lambda + 1} + z \cdot \sqrt{2\lambda t_2^2 + 6\lambda t_2 + 2\lambda + 1} \\ &+ x \cdot \sqrt{2\lambda t_3^2 + 6\lambda t_3 + 2\lambda + 1} \quad \left(t_1 = \frac{x}{y}, t_2 = \frac{y}{z}, t_3 = \frac{z}{x} \right) \\ \Leftrightarrow y \left(\frac{(t_1 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} - \sqrt{2\lambda t_1^2 + 6\lambda t_1 + 2\lambda + 1} \right) \\ &+ z \left(\frac{(t_2 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} - \sqrt{2\lambda t_2^2 + 6\lambda t_2 + 2\lambda + 1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$+x \left(\frac{(t_3 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} - \sqrt{2\lambda t_3^2 + 6\lambda t_3 + 2\lambda + 1} \right) \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} 0$$

Let $f(t) = \frac{(t + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} - \sqrt{2\lambda t^2 + 6\lambda t + 2\lambda + 1} \forall t > 0$ and $\forall \lambda \geq \frac{2}{5}$ and

then : $f''(t) = \frac{\lambda(5\lambda - 2)}{(2\lambda t^2 + 6\lambda t + 2\lambda + 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \stackrel{\lambda \geq \frac{2}{5}}{\geq} 0 \Rightarrow f(t)$ is convex \therefore via

weighted Jensen's inequality, $\frac{y \cdot f(t_1) + z \cdot f(t_2) + x \cdot f(t_3)}{x + y + z} \geq f\left(\frac{yt_1 + zt_2 + xt_3}{x + y + z}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow y \cdot f(t_1) + z \cdot f(t_2) + x \cdot f(t_3) \geq f\left(\frac{y \cdot \frac{x}{y} + z \cdot \frac{y}{z} + x \cdot \frac{z}{x}}{x + y + z}\right) (\because x + y + z = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LHS of } (*) \geq f(1) = \frac{(1 + 1)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} - \sqrt{2\lambda \cdot 1^2 + 6\lambda \cdot 1 + 2\lambda + 1} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{2\lambda x^2 + 6\lambda xy + (2\lambda + 1)y^2} &\leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{(x + y)}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} \right) \\ &= \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{2(x + y + z)}{2} \stackrel{x + y + z = 1}{=} \sqrt{10\lambda + 1}, \text{ i. e., } \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{2\lambda x^2 + 6\lambda xy + (2\lambda + 1)y^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{10\lambda + 1} \forall x, y, z > 0 \mid x + y + z = 1 \text{ and } \lambda \geq \frac{2}{5}, " = " \text{ iff } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3} \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1248. Prove that:

$$n \in \{2, 3, \dots\} \Rightarrow \sqrt[n+1]{1 + (n + 1) \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(2^2 + \left(\frac{2^2}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2^3}{3}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2^{n+1}}{n+1}\right)^2 \right)}} > 3$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Since $\binom{2n}{n} = \binom{n}{0}^2 + \binom{n}{1}^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}^2$, then by the Cauchy – Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(2^2 + \left(\frac{2^2}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2^3}{3}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2^{n+1}}{n+1}\right)^2 \right)} &= \sqrt{\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \cdot \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{2^{k+1}}{k+1}\right)^2} \\ &\geq \sum_{k=0}^n 2^{k+1} \cdot \frac{\binom{n}{k}}{k+1} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n 2^{k+1} \cdot \frac{\binom{n+1}{k+1}}{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+1} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \cdot 2^k \cdot 1^{n+1-k} = \frac{(2 + 1)^{n+1} - 1}{n+1} = \frac{3^{n+1} - 1}{n+1}, \end{aligned}$$

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with equality if $\frac{k+1}{2^{k+1}} \binom{n}{k} = \text{constant}$,

$\forall k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$, which is not true for any $n \geq 2$.

Therefore

$$\sqrt[n+1]{1 + (n+1) \sqrt{\binom{2n}{n} \left(2^2 + \left(\frac{2^2}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2^3}{3}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2^{n+1}}{n+1}\right)^2 \right)}} > 3$$

1249. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x + y = x^2 + y^2$.

Find the maximum and the minimum value of $A = x^3 + y^3$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have $x + y = x^2 + y^2 \geq 0$ then $A = x^3 + y^3 = (x + y) \left[\left(x - \frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3y^2}{4} \right] \geq 0$,

so the minimum value of A is 0, for $x = y = 0$.

Now by AM – GM inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 4(x+y)^3 A &= (x+y)^2 \cdot (x+y)^2 \cdot 4(x^2 - xy + y^2) \leq \\ &\leq \left(\frac{(x+y)^2 + (x+y)^2 + 4(x^2 - xy + y^2)}{3} \right)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$= 8(x^2 + y^2)^3$, then $A \leq 2$, so the maximum value of A is 2, for $x = y = 1$.

1250. Let $x, y \geq 0$ such that $x + y = 1$.

Find the maximum and the minimum value of $P = \sin(\sqrt{x}) + \sin(\sqrt{y})$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Since $t \rightarrow \sin t$ is increasing and concave on $[0, 1]$

then by Jensen's inequality, we have

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$$P = \sin(\sqrt{x}) + \sin(\sqrt{y}) \leq 2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}}{2}\right) \leq 2 \sin\left(\sqrt{\frac{x+y}{2}}\right) = 2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right),$$

so the maximum value of P is $2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$, for $x = y = \frac{1}{2}$.

Also, by Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\sin(\sqrt{x}) \stackrel{\sqrt{x} \geq x}{\geq} \sin(x) = \sin(x \cdot 1 + y \cdot 0) \geq x \sin 1 + y \sin 0 = x \sin 1.$$

Similarly, we have $\sin(\sqrt{y}) \geq y \sin 1$.

Then $P \geq (x + y) \sin 1 = \sin 1$, so the minimum value of P is $\sin 1$,

for $x = 1$ and $y = 0$ or $x = 0$ and $y = 1$.

1251. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Find the maximum and the minimum value of
 $A = \sin x + \sin y + \sin(x + y)$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

If M is the maximum value of A for $x = x_0$ and $y = y_0$ then we have

$$A = -[\sin(-x) + \sin(-y) + \sin(-x - y)] \geq -M, \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R},$$

so $-M$ is the minimum value of P for $x = -x_0$ and $y = -y_0$.

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 2 \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) + \sin(x+y) = 2 \left[\cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \right] \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \\ &= 4 \cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right), \quad \text{where } z = \pi - (x+y). \end{aligned}$$

If $\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right), \cos\left(\frac{y}{2}\right), \cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \leq 0$, we have $A \leq 0$. WLOG we assume that $\cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \geq 0$.

$$\text{We have } A = 2 \left[\cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \right] \cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \leq 2 \left[1 + \sin\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \right] \cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right)$$

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$$\stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{(2+1) \left(\frac{1}{2} + \sin^2\left(\frac{z}{2}\right)\right) \cos\left(\frac{z}{2}\right)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sqrt{3} \left[\left(\frac{1}{2} + \sin^2\left(\frac{z}{2}\right)\right) + \cos^2\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \right] = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2},$$

with equality for $\cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) = 1$, $\sin^2\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} = \cos^2\left(\frac{z}{2}\right)$, $\sin\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$x, y \equiv \frac{\pi}{3} \pmod{2\pi}$. So the maximum value of A is $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for $x, y \equiv \frac{\pi}{3} \pmod{2\pi}$ and

the minimum value of A is $-\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for $x, y \equiv -\frac{\pi}{3} \pmod{2\pi}$.

1252. If $(a > 0$ and $A = a^2 + a^4 + \frac{1}{a^6})$, then :

$$1620A \leq 3645 + 5 \left(\frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right)^5$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} A &\stackrel{?}{\leq} \frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \Leftrightarrow 5A^3 - 108A + 189 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow (A-3)((A-3)(5A+30)+27) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because A = a^2 + a^4 + \frac{1}{a^6} \\ &\stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{a^2 \cdot a^4 \cdot \frac{1}{a^6}} = 3 \therefore 1620A - \left(3645 + 5 \left(\frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right)^5 \right) \\ &\leq 1620 \left(\frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right) - \left(3645 + 5 \left(\frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right)^5 \right) \stackrel{?}{\leq} 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow t^5 - 324t + 729 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \left(t = \frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right) \\ &\Leftrightarrow (t-3)((t-3)(t^3 + 6t^2 + 27t + 108) + 81) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because t = \frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \geq A \\ &= a^2 + a^4 + \frac{1}{a^6} \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{a^2 \cdot a^4 \cdot \frac{1}{a^6}} = 3 \\ &\therefore 1620A \leq 3645 + 5 \left(\frac{189 + 5A^3}{108} \right)^5, \text{''} = \text{''} \text{ iff } a = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1253. If $0 < a \leq b \leq c \leq \frac{1}{e}$ then: $a^{a(b^b-c^c)} \cdot b^{b(c^c-a^a)} \cdot c^{c(a^a-b^b)} \leq 1$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

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Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let $x = a^a$, $y = b^b$, $z = c^c$ and $f(x) = x^x$, $x \in (0, \frac{1}{e}]$.

We have $f'(x) = \ln(xe) \cdot x^x \leq 0$,

then f is decreasing on $(0, \frac{1}{e}]$ and $0 < z \leq y \leq x \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 1$.

The problem becomes to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} x^{y-z} \cdot y^{z-x} \cdot z^{x-y} \leq 1 &\Leftrightarrow (y-z) \cdot \ln x + (z-x) \cdot \ln y + (x-y) \cdot \ln z \leq 0, \\ \Leftrightarrow (y-z)(\ln x - \ln y) &\leq (x-y)(\ln y - \ln z) \Leftrightarrow (y-z) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \leq (x-y) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{y}{z}\right), \end{aligned}$$

Using the known inequality, $1 - \frac{1}{t} \leq \ln t \leq t - 1$, $\forall t > 0$, we have

$$(y-z) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \leq (y-z) \cdot \left(\frac{x}{y} - 1\right) = (x-y) \left(1 - \frac{z}{y}\right) \leq (x-y) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{y}{z}\right),$$

which completes the proof. Equality holds iff $a = b = c$.

1254.

If $x, y, z \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ such that $x + y + z = -\frac{3}{4}$ and

$\lambda \geq \frac{5}{4}$ then find the maximum value of

$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{4x^2+4x+\lambda}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Since $2x+1, 2y+1, 2z+1 \geq 0$, then we have

$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{(2x+1)^2 + \frac{1}{4} + (\lambda - \frac{5}{4})} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{(2x+1) + (\lambda - \frac{5}{4})} = \sum_{cyc} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda - \frac{5}{4}}{2x + \lambda - \frac{1}{4}}\right)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 3 - \left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right) \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2x + \lambda - \frac{1}{4}} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 3 - \frac{9\left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)}{2(x + y + z) + 3\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{4}\right)} = \\
 &= 3 - \frac{9\left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)}{-\frac{3}{2} + 3\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{4}\right)} = \frac{6}{4\lambda - 3},
 \end{aligned}$$

so the maximum value of P is $\frac{6}{4\lambda - 3}$, for $x = y = z = -\frac{1}{4}$.

1255. If $x, y, z > 0, x + y^3 + z^5 \geq x^2 + y^4 + z^6$ then:

$$x + y + z \leq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Using the AM – GM inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 3 + x + y^3 + z^5 &\geq 3 + x^2 + y^4 + z^6 = (1 + x^2) + \frac{1 + 3y^4}{4} + \frac{3 + y^4}{4} + \frac{1 + 5z^6}{6} + \frac{5 + z^6}{6} \\
 &\geq 2x + \sqrt[4]{1 \cdot (y^4)^3} + \sqrt[4]{1^3 \cdot y^4} + \sqrt[6]{1 \cdot (z^6)^5} + \sqrt[6]{1^5 \cdot z^6} = 2x + y^3 + y + z^5 + z.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then $3 \geq x + y + z$. Equality holds iff $x = y = z = 1$.

1256. If $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}, 2^a + 2^b + 2^c \geq 3^a + 3^b + 3^c$ then:

$$a + b + c \leq 0$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By using the Mean Value Theorem for $f(x) = e^{ax}$ on the interval $[\ln 2, \ln 3]$, there exists $c \in (\ln 2, \ln 3)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 3^a - 2^a &= f(\ln 3) - f(\ln 2) = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) f'(c) = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \cdot ae^{ac} = \\
 &= \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \cdot [a + a(e^{ac} - 1)] \geq \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \cdot a,
 \end{aligned}$$

because a and $e^{ac} - 1$ have the same sign for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\Rightarrow 3^a - 2^a \geq \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \cdot a \text{ (and analogs)}$$

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$$\Rightarrow 0 \geq (3^a - 2^a) + (3^b - 2^b) + (3^c - 2^c) \geq \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \cdot (a + b + c).$$

Therefore $a + b + c \leq 0$. Equality holds iff $a = b = c = 0$.

1257.

If $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a, b > 0 \\ n \in \{2, 3, \dots\} \end{array} \right\}$, then :

$$1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} > \frac{n(n + 1)}{2(2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}}}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} (2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}} &= (1^1 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{1}{1+2+3+\dots+n}} \quad \text{Weighted GM} > \text{Weighted HM} \\ &> \frac{1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n}{\frac{1}{1} + \frac{2}{2} + \frac{3}{3} + \dots + \frac{n}{n}} \therefore (2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}} > \frac{n(n+1)}{2n} \rightarrow (1) \\ \text{Also, } 1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} \\ &= 1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b + 3a} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b + 8a} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb + (n^2 - 1)a} \\ &= \underbrace{1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1}_{n \text{ terms}} + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{(k^2 - 1)a}{a + kb} = n + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{(k^2 - 1)a}{a + kb} \\ &\therefore 1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} > n \rightarrow (2) \\ &\therefore \left((2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}} \right) \left(1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} \right) \\ &\quad \text{via (1) and (2)} > \frac{n(n+1)}{2n} \cdot n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ &\Rightarrow 1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} > \frac{n(n+1)}{2(2^2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \dots \cdot n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}}} \\ &\quad \forall \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a, b > 0 \\ n \in \{2, 3, \dots\} \end{array} \right\} \quad (\text{QED}) \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} 1 + \frac{2(2a + b)}{a + 2b} + \frac{3(3a + b)}{a + 3b} + \dots + \frac{n(na + b)}{a + nb} &= \\ &= 1 + \left(1 + \frac{3a}{a + 2b} \right) + \left(1 + \frac{8a}{a + 3b} \right) + \dots + \left(1 + \frac{(n^2 - 1)a}{a + nb} \right) > 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 = n. \end{aligned}$$

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So it suffices to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} (2^2 \cdot 3^3 \dots n^n)^{\frac{2}{n(n+1)}} &\geq \frac{n+1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad 2 \cdot \ln(2) + 3 \cdot \ln(3) + \dots + n \cdot \ln(n) \\ &\geq \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

The function $f(x) = x \cdot \ln(x)$, x

> 0 , is convex on $(0, \infty)$, then by Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2\ln(2) + 3\ln(3) + \dots + n\ln(n) &= \sum_{k=1}^n f(k) \geq nf\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n k\right) = nf\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

So the proof is complete.

1258.

If $a, b > 0$ prove that

$$\left(\frac{2b}{b+2a} + \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2} + \frac{4(a^2+1)}{3(1+ab)} \right) \cdot \sqrt[9]{\frac{a^2(b+2a)^2(9+2a^2+2b^2+5ab)^4}{b^4(a^2+1)^4}} \geq 9\sqrt[9]{3}$$

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

By AM – GM inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2b}{b+2a} + \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2} + \frac{4(a^2+1)}{3(1+ab)} &= 2 \cdot \frac{b}{b+2a} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2} + 4 \cdot \frac{a^2+1}{3(1+ab)} \\ &\geq 9 \sqrt[9]{\left(\frac{b}{b+2a}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2}\right)^3 \cdot \left(\frac{a^2+1}{3(1+ab)}\right)^4} \\ &= 9 \sqrt[9]{\frac{3b^4(a^2+1)^4}{a^2(b+2a)^2(9+9ab)^4}} \\ &= 9 \sqrt[9]{\frac{3b^4(a^2+1)^4}{a^2(b+2a)^2(9+4ab+5ab)^4}} \geq 9 \sqrt[9]{\frac{3b^4(a^2+1)^4}{a^2(b+2a)^2(9+2a^2+2b^2+5ab)^4}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{2b}{b+2a} + \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 + \frac{4(a^2+1)}{3(1+ab)}} \right)^9 \sqrt{\frac{a^2(b+2a)^2(9+2a^2+2b^2+5ab)^4}{b^4(a^2+1)^4}} \geq 9\sqrt[3]{3}.$$

Equality holds iff $a = b$.

1259. If $x, y, z \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ such that $x + y + z = -\frac{3}{4}$ and $\lambda \geq \frac{5}{4}$ then find the maximum value

$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{4x^2+4x+\lambda}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Since $2x+1, 2y+1, 2z+1 \geq 0$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{\left[(2x+1)^2 + \frac{1}{4}\right] + \left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+1}{(2x+1) + \left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)} \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda - \frac{5}{4}}{2x + \lambda - \frac{1}{4}}\right) \\ &= 3 - \left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right) \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2x + \lambda - \frac{1}{4}} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 3 - \frac{9\left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)}{2(x+y+z) + 3\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{4}\right)} = \\ &= 3 - \frac{9\left(\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\right)}{-\frac{3}{2} + 3\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{4}\right)} = \frac{6}{4\lambda - 3} \end{aligned}$$

so the maximum value of P is $\frac{6}{4\lambda - 3}$, for $x = y = z = -\frac{1}{4}$.

1260. If $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $3x + y + 2z \geq 3$ and $-x + 2y + 4z \geq 5$, then find the $\min(x + 2y + 4z)$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have $x + 2y + 4z = \frac{4}{7}(3x + y + 2z) + \frac{5}{7}(-x + 2y + 4z) \geq \frac{4}{7} \cdot 3 + \frac{5}{7} \cdot 5 = \frac{37}{7}$,

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so the minimum value of $x + 2y + 4z$ is $\frac{37}{7}$, for $x = \frac{1}{7}, y = \frac{18}{7} - 2t, z = t, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

1261. If $a, b, c \in [0, 1]$ then find:

$$\min \Omega, \quad \max \Omega, \quad \Omega = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - abc$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Let be $f: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz$

$$f''_{xx} = 2 > 0, f''_{yy} = 2 > 0, f''_{zz} = 2 > 0$$

f convex in each variable on $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ – compact.

By Gireaux's theorem f – has a minimum and a maximum value in one of the points:

$(0, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1), (1, 1, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(0, 0, 0) &= 0, f(1, 0, 0) = f(0, 1, 0) = f(0, 0, 1) = 1, \\ f(1, 1, 0) &= f(0, 1, 1) = f(1, 0, 1) = f(1, 1, 1) = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\min \Omega = 0, \max \Omega = 2$$

1262. If $x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ then:

$$2(\sin^2 x + \csc^2 x)^2 + 2(\cos^2 x + \sec^2 x)^2 \geq 25$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam

$$x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$2\left(\sin^2(x) + \frac{1}{\sin^2(x)}\right)^2 + 2\left(\cos^2(x) + \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)}\right)^2 \geq 25?$$

$$* a = \sin^2(x), b = \cos^2(x), a + b = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2\left(a + \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 + 2\left(b + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2 \geq 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\left(a + \frac{1}{a} + b + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2$$

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$$= \left(1 + \frac{a+b}{ab}\right)^2 \geq \left(1 + \frac{1}{\frac{(a+b)^2}{4}}\right)^2 = 25$$

Equality holds iff $a = b = \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{\pi}{4}$

1263. If $1 + a + b \neq 0$, then :

$$a^2 + b^2 + \left(\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right)^2 \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$a^2 + b^2 + \left(\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right)^2 = |a|^2 + |b|^2 + \left|\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right|^2$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{3} \left(|a| + |b| + \left|\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right|\right)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{|a| + |b| + \left|\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3} \quad (*)$$

Now, triangle inequality $\Rightarrow \forall a, b \in \mathbb{C} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0$, we have :

$$|a| + |b| + \left|\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right| \geq \left|a + b + \frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left|\frac{a + b + (a + b)^2 + 6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b}\right| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{|a^2 + b^2 + ab + 6| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3|1 + a + b|} \quad (**)$$

Now, $a^2 + b^2 + ab + 6 \geq \frac{3}{4}(a + b)^2 + 6 \geq 6 > 0 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0$

$$\therefore |a^2 + b^2 + ab + 6| = a^2 + b^2 + ab + 6 \geq \frac{3}{4}(a + b)^2 + 6$$

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0 \rightarrow (1)$$

Also, $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0$, we have via triangle inequality,

$$3|1 + a + b| \leq 3(1 + |a + b|) \rightarrow (2) \therefore (1), (2)$$

\Rightarrow in order to prove $(**) \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0$, it suffices to prove :

$$\frac{3}{4}(a + b)^2 + 6 \geq 3(1 + |a + b|) \Leftrightarrow |a + b|^2 + 8 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4 + 4|a + b|$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |a + b|^2 - 4|a + b| + 4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (|a + b| - 2)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \Rightarrow (**) \Rightarrow (*)$$

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$$\text{is true } \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0 \therefore a^2 + b^2 + \left(\frac{6 - a - b - ab}{1 + a + b} \right)^2 \geq 3$$

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid 1 + a + b \neq 0, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

1264. If $\cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0$, then :

$$\cos^2 a + \cos^2 b + \cos^2 c \leq 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \cos^2 a + \cos^2 b + \cos^2 c &\leq 2 \stackrel{\cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0}{\Leftrightarrow} \\ \cos^2 a + \cos^2 b + (-\cos a - \cos b)^2 &\leq 2 \Leftrightarrow 2(\cos^2 a + \cos^2 b) + 2 \cos a \cos b \leq 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \cos^2 a + \cos^2 b + \cos a \cos b \leq 1 \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 1} \quad \cos a, \cos b \geq 0 \text{ and then : LHS of } (*) &= (\cos a + \cos b)^2 - \cos a \cos b \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad (-\cos c)^2 - \cos a \cos b &\leq \cos^2 c \quad (\because \cos a \cos b \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 2} \quad \cos a, \cos b \leq 0 \text{ and then : LHS of } (*) &= (\cos a + \cos b)^2 - \cos a \cos b \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad (-\cos c)^2 - \cos a \cos b &\leq \cos^2 c \quad (\because \cos a \cos b \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 3i} \quad \cos a \geq 0, \cos b \leq 0; \cos c \geq 0; \text{ LHS of } (*) &= \cos^2 b + \cos a (\cos a + \cos b) \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad \cos^2 b - \cos a \cos c &\leq \cos^2 b \quad (\because \cos a \cos c \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 3ii} \quad \cos a \geq 0, \cos b \leq 0, \cos c \leq 0; \text{ LHS of } (*) &= \cos^2 a + \cos b (\cos a + \cos b) \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad \cos^2 a - \cos b \cos c &\leq \cos^2 a \quad (\because \cos b \cos c \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 4i} \quad \cos a \leq 0, \cos b \geq 0; \cos c \geq 0; \text{ LHS of } (*) &= \cos^2 a + \cos b (\cos a + \cos b) \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad \cos^2 a - \cos b \cos c &\leq \cos^2 a \quad (\because \cos b \cos c \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 4ii} \quad \cos a \leq 0, \cos b \geq 0; \cos c \leq 0; \text{ LHS of } (*) &= \cos^2 b + \cos a (\cos a + \cos b) \\ \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \quad \cos^2 b - \cos a \cos c &\leq \cos^2 b \quad (\because \cos a \cos c \geq 0) \leq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{ combining all cases, } (*) \text{ is true } \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \therefore \cos a + \cos b + \cos c = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \cos^2 a + \cos^2 b + \cos^2 c \leq 2 \quad \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1265. If $a + b \neq 0$, then :

$$|a| + |b| + \left| \frac{3 - ab}{a + b} \right| \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Via triangle inequality, $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{C} \mid a + b \neq 0$, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} |a| + |b| + \left| \frac{3 - ab}{a + b} \right| &\geq \left| a + b + \frac{3 - ab}{a + b} \right| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3 \Leftrightarrow |(a + b)^2 + 3 - ab| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3|a + b| \\ &\Leftrightarrow |a^2 + b^2 + ab + 3| \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3|a + b| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, } a^2 + b^2 + ab + 3 \geq \frac{3}{4}(a + b)^2 + 3 \geq 3 > 0 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a + b \neq 0$$

$$\therefore |a^2 + b^2 + ab + 3| = a^2 + b^2 + ab + 3 \geq \frac{3}{4}(a + b)^2 + 3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3|a + b|$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |a + b|^2 + 4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4|a + b| \Leftrightarrow (|a + b| - 2)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true}$$

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a + b \neq 0 \therefore |a| + |b| + \left| \frac{3 - ab}{a + b} \right| \geq 3 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a + b \neq 0,$$

" = " iff $(a = b = 1)$ or $(a = b = -1)$ (QED)

1266. If $x + 1 \neq 0$, then :

$$x^{2024} + \left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^{2024} \geq 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

For $\alpha = -1$ and $\forall n \geq 1$, $(1 + \alpha)^n - 1 - n\alpha = n - 1 \geq 0$ and

$\forall \alpha > -1$ and $\forall n \geq 1$, $(1 + \alpha)^n \geq 1 + n\alpha$

$\therefore \forall \alpha \geq -1$ and $\forall n \geq 1$, $(1 + \alpha)^n \geq 1 + n\alpha \rightarrow (1)$

Now, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$, $x^{2024} + \left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^{2024}$

$$= \left(1 + (x^2 - 1) \right)^{1012} + \left(1 + \left(\left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^2 - 1 \right) \right)^{2024}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\geq} 1 + 1012(x^2 - 1) + 1 + 1012 \left(\left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^2 - 1 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1012(x^2 - 1) + 1012 \left(\left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^2 - 1 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + \left(\frac{x - 3}{x + 1} \right)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow x^2(x+1)^2 + (x-3)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2(x+1)^2 \Leftrightarrow x^4 + 2x^3 - 10x + 7 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2(x^2 + 4x + 7) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2 \left((x^2 + 4x + 4) + 3 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2((x+2)^2 + 3) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore x^{2024} + \left(\frac{x-3}{x+1}\right)^{2024} \geq 2 \\ &\quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}, " = " \text{ iff } x = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Eric Dimitrie Cismaru-Romania

Using Radon's Inequality, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(x^2)^{1012}}{1^{1011}} + \frac{\left[\left(\frac{x-3}{x+1}\right)^2\right]^{1012}}{1^{1011}} &\geq \frac{\left[x^2 + \left(\frac{x-3}{x+1}\right)^2\right]^{1012}}{2^{1011}} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + \left(\frac{x-3}{x+1}\right)^2 \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^2 + \left(\frac{x-3}{x+1}\right)^2 \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + \frac{x^2 - 6x + 9}{x^2 + 2x + 1} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 6x + 9 \geq 2x^2 + 4x + 2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^4 + 2x^3 + 7 \geq 10x \Leftrightarrow x^4 + 2x^3 - 10x + 7 = x^4 + 3x^3 - x^3 - 7x - 3x + 7 = \\ &= x^3(x-1) + 3x(x-1)(x+1) - 7(x-1) = \\ &= (x-1)[x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x - 7] = (x-1)[(x+1)^3 - 2^3] = \\ &= (x-1)^2[(x+1)^2 + 2(x+1) + 4] = \\ &= (x-1)^2(x^2 + 4x + 7) = (x-1)^2[(x+2)^2 + 3] \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

so our inequality is proven. Equality holds iff $x = 1$ (if $(x+2)^2 + 3 = 0$, we would have $(x+2)^2 = -3 \geq 0$, impossible).

1267. If $x, y > 0, k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ then:

$$\sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n \left(\frac{m}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{y}}{n^2} \right) \sqrt{\frac{x}{m^2} + \frac{n^4}{y}} \right) \geq \sqrt{2}k(k+1)$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria

Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

$$\sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n \left(\frac{m}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{y}}{n^2} \right) \sqrt{\frac{x}{m^2} + \frac{n^4}{y}} \right) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n \left(\frac{m}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{y}}{n^2} \right) \sqrt{2 \sqrt{\frac{x}{m^2} \cdot \frac{n^4}{y}}} \right) =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n \left(\frac{m}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{y}}{n^2} \right) \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{x} \cdot n^2}{m} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}} \right) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\
 &\geq 2\sqrt{2} \sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n \sqrt{\frac{m}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{n^2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x} \cdot n^2}{m} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}} \right) = 2\sqrt{2} \sum_{n=1}^k \left(\sum_{m=1}^n 1 \right) = \\
 &= 2\sqrt{2} \sum_{n=1}^k n = 2\sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \sqrt{2}k(k+1)
 \end{aligned}$$

1268. If $a, b, c > 0$, then :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{a} + \frac{a}{b} + ab^2 \geq \sqrt{3(1 + a^2 + b^2)} &\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{b + a^2 + a^2b^3}{ab} \right)^2 \geq 3(1 + a^2 + b^2) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow a^4b^6 + 2a^4b^3 + a^4 + 2a^2b + b^2 \geq 3a^4b^2 + a^2b^4 + 3a^2b^2 \rightarrow (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, $a^4b^3 + a^4b^3 + a^4 \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 3a^4b^2 \Rightarrow 2a^4b^3 + a^4 \geq 3a^4b^2 \rightarrow (i) \therefore (i) \Rightarrow$
in order to prove (1), it suffices to prove : $a^4b^5 + 2a^2 + b \geq a^2b^3 + 3a^2b$
 $\Leftrightarrow a^4b^5 + b + 2a^2 + a^2b^3 \geq 2a^2b^3 + 3a^2b \rightarrow (2)$

Now, $a^4b^5 + b \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 2a^2b^3 \rightarrow (ii) \therefore (ii) \Rightarrow$ to prove (2), it suffices to prove :
 $2a^2 + a^2b^3 \geq 3a^2b \Leftrightarrow b^3 - 3b + 2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (b+2)(b-1)^2 \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore b > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true } \therefore \frac{1}{a} + \frac{a}{b} + ab^2 &\geq \sqrt{3(1 + a^2 + b^2)} \forall a, b, c > 0, \\
 \text{"=" iff } a = b = c = 1 &\text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

1269. Prove that:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n e^{k \cdot k!} > \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{e}} \cdot e^{\frac{\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}}{n}}, \quad n \geq 2, n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria

Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Lemma 1:

$$1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + n \cdot n! = (n+1)! - 1, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

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Proof: For $n = 1 \rightarrow 1 \cdot 1! = (1 + 1)! - 1$. True.

$$P(n): \sum_{k=1}^n k \cdot k! = (n + 1)! - 1$$

\rightarrow suppose true

$$P(n + 1): \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k \cdot k! = (n + 2)! - 1$$

\rightarrow to prove

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k \cdot k! &= \sum_{k=1}^n k \cdot k! + (n + 1)(n + 1)! = (n + 1)! - 1 + (n + 1)(n + 1)! \\ &= (n + 1)! (n + 1 + 1) - 1 = (n + 2)! - 1 \\ &P(n) \rightarrow P(n + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2:

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Proof:

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot a^{n-k} \cdot b^k$$

For $a = b = 1$:

$$(1 + 1)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \cdot 1^{n-k} \cdot 1^k$$

$$2^n = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}$$

Lemma 3:

$$(n + 1)! \geq 2^n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Proof: For $n = 0 \rightarrow 1! > 2^0$. True.

$$P(n): (n + 1)! \geq 2^n$$

\rightarrow suppose true

$$P(n + 1): (n + 2)! \geq 2^{n+1}$$

\rightarrow to prove

$$(n + 2)! = (n + 1)! (n + 2) \geq 2^n (n + 2) \geq 2^{n+1} \Leftrightarrow n + 2 \geq 2 \\ P(n) \rightarrow P(n + 1)$$

Back to the problem:

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$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n e^{k \cdot k!} &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} n \sqrt[n]{\prod_{k=1}^n e^{k \cdot k!}} = n \sqrt[n]{e^{\sum_{k=1}^n k \cdot k!}} \stackrel{\text{Lemma 1}}{\cong} n \sqrt[n]{e^{(n+1)!-1}} = \\ &= \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{e}} \cdot \sqrt[n]{e^{(n+1)!}} > \frac{n}{\sqrt[n]{e}} \cdot e^{\frac{\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}}{n}} \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow \sqrt[n]{e^{(n+1)!}} > e^{\frac{\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}}{n}} &\stackrel{\text{Lemma 2}}{\Leftrightarrow} \sqrt[n]{e^{(n+1)!}} > e^{\frac{2^n}{n}} \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow \sqrt[n]{e^{(n+1)!}} > \sqrt[n]{e^{2^n}} &\Leftrightarrow (n+1)! > 2^n. \text{ True by Lemma 3.} \end{aligned}$$

1270. If $x, y, z > 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 3y$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{4}{(y+2)^2} + \frac{8}{(z+3)^2} \geq 1$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z^2}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(z+1+1+1)^2}{4} \Rightarrow (z+3)^2 \leq 4(z^2+3) \\ \therefore \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{8}{(z+3)^2} &\geq \frac{1}{2(x^2+1)} + \frac{8}{4(z^2+3)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2(x^2+1)} + \frac{1}{z^2+3} + \frac{1}{z^2+3} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{9}{2(x^2+z^2)+8} \\ x^2+y^2+z^2 \leq 3y &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2(3y-y^2)+8} \geq \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{4}{(y+2)^2} + \frac{8}{(z+3)^2} - 1 \\ &\geq \frac{6y-2y^2+8}{9} + \frac{4}{(y+2)^2} - 1 \\ &= \frac{9(y+2)^2 + 4(6y-2y^2+8) - (6y-2y^2+8)(y+2)^2}{(6y-2y^2+8)(y+2)^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow 9(y+2)^2 + 4(6y-2y^2+8) - (6y-2y^2+8)(y+2)^2 &\stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \\ \left(\because 6y-2y^2+8 = 2(3y-y^2)+8 \stackrel{x^2+y^2+z^2 \leq 3y}{\geq} 2x^2+2z^2+8 > 0 \right) & \\ \Leftrightarrow 2y^4 + 2y^3 - 23y^2 + 4y + 36 &\stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (y-2)^2(2y^2+10y+9) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{4}{(y+2)^2} + \frac{8}{(z+3)^2} &\geq 1 \forall x, y, z > 0 \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 3y, \\ \text{"=" iff } x = z = 1 \text{ and } y = 2 &\text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1271. If $x, y, z > 0$ and $xyz = 1$, then prove that :

$$\frac{(\sqrt{2}x)^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{(\sqrt{2}y)^2}{(1+yz)(1+xy)} + \frac{(\sqrt{2}z)^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

Proposed by Lamiye Quliyeva-Azerbaijan

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} &\stackrel{xyz=1}{=} \frac{x^2}{(xyz+xz)(xyz+xy)} = \frac{1}{yz(y+1)(z+1)} \\ &\stackrel{xyz=1}{=} \frac{x(x+1)}{(x+1)(y+1)(z+1)} \text{ and analogs} \\ \therefore \frac{x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{y^2}{(1+yz)(1+xy)} + \frac{z^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} \\ &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{x(x+1)}{(x+1)(y+1)(z+1)} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3}{4} \Leftrightarrow 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3xyz + 3 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \\ \text{Now, } 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x &\geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} \\ 3\sqrt[3]{x^2y^2z^2} + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 3\sqrt[3]{xyz} &\stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3 + 3 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \stackrel{xyz=1}{=} 3xyz + 3 + 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \\ \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \therefore \frac{x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{y^2}{(1+yz)(1+xy)} + \frac{z^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} &\geq \frac{3}{4} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{(\sqrt{2}x)^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{(\sqrt{2}y)^2}{(1+yz)(1+xy)} + \frac{(\sqrt{2}z)^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} &\geq \frac{3}{2} \\ \forall x, y, z > 0 \mid xyz = 1, " = " \text{ iff } x = y = z = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam

$$\frac{2x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{2y^2}{(1+yz)(1+xy)} + \frac{2z^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

** $x + y + z \geq 3\sqrt[3]{xyz} = 3$. And:*

$$(x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) \Rightarrow 2(xy + yz + zx) \leq \frac{2(x+y+z)^2}{3}$$

$$*(1+xz)(1+xy) = xxyz + xy + xz + 1 = x + xy + xz + xyz = x(1+y)(1+z) \Rightarrow$$

$$(1+yz)(1+xy) = y(1+x)(1+z), (1+xz)(1+yz) = z(1+x)(1+y) \Rightarrow$$

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$$\frac{2x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{2y^2}{(1+xy)(1+yz)} + \frac{2z^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom's}}{\geq}$$

$$\geq \frac{2(x+y+z)^2}{x(1+y)(1+z) + y(1+x)(1+z) + z(1+x)(1+y)} =$$

$$= \frac{2(x+y+z)^2}{x+y+z+3xyz+2(xy+yz+zx)} \geq \frac{2(x+y+z)^2}{\frac{2}{3}(x+y+z)^2 + (x+y+z)+3}$$

$$\because f(t) = \frac{2t^2}{\frac{2}{3}t^2 + t + 3}, t \geq 3, f'' = \frac{18t(t+6)}{(2t^2+3t+9)^2} > 0 \forall t \geq 3 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{2x^2}{(1+xz)(1+xy)} + \frac{2y^2}{(1+xy)(1+yz)} + \frac{2z^2}{(1+xz)(1+yz)} \geq \frac{2}{3}$$

Equality holds iff : $x=y=z=1$

1272. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^2 + b^2 \leq a + b$, then prove that :

$$a(a+1) + b(b+1) \leq 4$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} a + b &\geq a^2 + b^2 \geq \frac{(a+b)^2}{2} \Rightarrow 2 \geq a + b \quad (\because a + b \geq a^2 + b^2 \geq 0) \\ \Rightarrow 4 &\geq 2a + 2b \stackrel{a+b \geq a^2+b^2}{\geq} a + b + a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow 4 \geq a(a+1) + b(b+1), \end{aligned}$$

" = " iff $a = b = 1$ (QED)

1273. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^2 + b^2 + a + b = ab$, then prove that :

$$a^3 + b^3 \geq -16$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } x &= a + b \text{ and then : } a^2 + b^2 + a + b = ab \Rightarrow -x = a^2 + b^2 - ab \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b)^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{4} \Rightarrow x^2 + 4x \leq 0 \Rightarrow x(x+4) \leq 0 \Rightarrow -4 \leq x \leq 0 \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } a^3 + b^3 &= (a+b)^3 - 3ab(a+b) \stackrel{a^2+b^2+a+b=ab}{=} x^3 - 3x(a^2 + b^2 + a + b) \\ &\geq x^3 - 3x \left(\frac{(a+b)^2}{2} + a + b \right) \left(\because -3x \geq 0 \text{ and } a^2 + b^2 \geq \frac{(a+b)^2}{2} \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} -16 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow x^3 - 3x \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + x \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} -16 \Leftrightarrow x^3 + 6x^2 - 32 \stackrel{?}{\leq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (x+4)^2(x-2) \stackrel{?}{\leq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

via (1)

$$\therefore x \leq 0 < 2 \Rightarrow x - 2 < 0, " = " \text{ iff } x = a + b = -4$$

and for $a = b \Rightarrow \text{iff } a = b = -2 \therefore a^3 + b^3 \geq -16$

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a^2 + b^2 + a + b = ab, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = -2 \text{ (QED)}$$

1274. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^5 + b^5 = a^2 + b^2$, then prove that :

$$a^3 + b^3 \leq 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} a^4 - a^3b + a^2b^2 - ab^3 + b^4 &= a^3(a-b) - b^3(a-b) + a^2b^2 = \\ (a-b)^2(a^2 + b^2 + ab) + a^2b^2 &= (a-b)^2 \left(\frac{3}{4}(a+b)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(a-b)^2 \right) + a^2b^2 \geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow a^4 - a^3b + a^2b^2 - ab^3 + b^4 &\geq 0 \Rightarrow (a^2 + b^2)^2 - a^2b^2 - ab(a^2 + b^2) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - y^2 - xy \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} 0 \quad (x = a^2 + b^2, y = ab)$$

$$\text{Now, } a^5 + b^5 = a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow (a+b)(a^4 - a^3b + a^2b^2 - ab^3 + b^4) = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b)(x^2 - y^2 - xy) \stackrel{(*)}{=} x \text{ and (1) suggests 2 cases :}$$

Case (i) $x^2 - y^2 - xy = 0$ and then : via (*), $x = 0$ and plugging $x = 0$ in $x^2 - y^2 - xy = 0$, we get : $y = 0 \therefore a^2 + b^2 = ab = 0 \Rightarrow (a+b)(a^2 + b^2 - ab) = 0 \Rightarrow a^3 + b^3 = 0 \therefore a^3 + b^3 < 2$

Case (ii) $x^2 - y^2 - xy > 0$ and then : via (*), $a + b = \frac{x}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 + b^3 - 2 &= (a+b)(a^2 + b^2 - ab) - 2 = \frac{x(x-y)}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} - 2 = -\frac{x^2 - xy - 2y^2}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} \\ &= -\frac{(x-2y)(x+y)}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} = -\frac{(a^2 + b^2 - 2ab)(a^2 + b^2 + ab)}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} = \\ &= -\frac{(a-b)^2 \left(\frac{3}{4}(a+b)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(a-b)^2 \right)}{x^2 - y^2 - xy} \leq 0 \therefore a^3 + b^3 \leq 2 \text{ and combining both cases,} \end{aligned}$$

$$a^3 + b^3 \leq 2 \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a^5 + b^5 = a^2 + b^2, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

1275. If $a, b, c > 0$, $\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \leq 3$ then:

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

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Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(a+1)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+1)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+1)^2} &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \sum \frac{1}{(2\sqrt{a})^2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sum \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{4} \sum \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right)^2} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \sum \sqrt{\left(3\left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2}\right)\right)} \leq \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{9} = \frac{3}{4} \left(\text{since, } \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \leq 3\right) \end{aligned}$$

1276. If $a, b, c > 0$, $\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \leq 3$ then:

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(a+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c+a)^2} &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \sum \frac{1}{4ab} = \frac{1}{4} \sum \frac{1}{ab} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \sum \frac{1}{a^2} \leq \frac{3}{4} \left(\text{since } \sum \frac{1}{a^2} \leq 3\right) \end{aligned}$$

1277. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $ab(a^3 + b^3) = 2$, then prove that :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + b^2 \geq 2 &\Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2)^5 \geq 32 \stackrel{4=(ab(a^3+b^3))^2}{=} 8 \left(ab(a^3 + b^3)\right)^2 \\ &= 8a^2b^2(a+b)^2(a^2 + b^2 - ab)^2 = 8a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2 + 2ab)(a^2 + b^2 - ab)^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^5 \geq 8y^2(x+2y)(x-y)^2 \quad (x = a^2 + b^2, y = ab) \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^5 - 8x^3y^2 + 24xy^4 - 16y^5 \geq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^5 - 2x^4y + 2x^4y - 4x^3y^2 - 4x^3y^2 + 8x^2y^3 - 8x^2y^3 \\ &\quad + 16xy^4 + 8xy^4 - 16y^5 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ x^4(x-2y) + 2x^3y(x-2y) - 4x^2y^2(x-2y) - 8xy^3(x-2y) + 8y^4(x-2y) &\geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow (x-2y)(x^4 + 2x^3y - 4x^2y^2 - 8xy^3 + 8y^4) &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow (x - 2y)(x(x - 2y)(x^2 + 4xy + 4y^2) + 8y^4) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2 - 2ab) \left((a^2 + b^2)(a^2 + b^2 - 2ab)b^2(a^2 + b^2 + 2ab)^2 + 8a^4b^4 \right) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a - b)^2 \left((a^2 + b^2)(a - b)^2(a + b)^4 + 8a^4b^4 \right) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true } \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\therefore a^2 + b^2 \geq 2 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid ab(a^3 + b^3) = 2, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

1278. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = 6$, then prove that :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

We shall prove that : $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^3 + 1}} \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \frac{7 - 2x}{9} \forall x \in (0, 6)$ and we note that if

$x \in \left[\frac{7}{2}, 6 \right)$, then : RHS of (*) $\leq 0 <$ LHS of (*) \Rightarrow (*) is true and so, we now

focus on : $x \in \left(0, \frac{7}{2} \right)$ and then : $\frac{7 - 2x}{9} > 0 \therefore (*) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^3 + 1}} \geq \frac{(7 - 2x)^2}{81}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4x^5 - 28x^4 + 49x^3 + 4x^2 - 28x - 32 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 2)^2(4x^3 - 12x^2 - 15x - 8)$$

$$\leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 2)^2 \left((x - 4)(2x + 1)^2 - 4 \right) \leq 0 \rightarrow \text{true } \because x < \frac{7}{2} < 4$$

$\Rightarrow (x - 4)(2x + 1)^2 - 4 < 0 \therefore (*)$ is true is true and combining both cases,

(*) is true $\forall x \in (0, 6)$ and via (*), $\frac{a}{\sqrt{b^3 + 1}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c^3 + 1}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^3 + 1}} \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a(7 - 2b)}{9}$

$$= \frac{7}{9} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a - \frac{2}{9} \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \geq \frac{7}{9} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a - \frac{2}{27} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \stackrel{a+b+c=6}{=} \frac{7}{9} \cdot 6 - \frac{2}{27} \cdot 36 = 2$$

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

$$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a + b + c = 6, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 2 \text{ (QED)}$$

1279. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = 3$, then prove that :

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + \frac{ab + bc + ca}{a^2b + b^2c + c^2a} \geq 4$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

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Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= s, R, r \text{ (say);} \\ \text{so } 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow a = s - x, b = s - y, c = s - z \\ \therefore abc &= r^2 s \rightarrow (2) \text{ and such substitutions } \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s - x)(s - y) \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2 \rightarrow (4), \text{ and } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2$$

$$= \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 - 2abc \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \stackrel{\text{via (1),(2) and (3)}}{=} (4Rr + r^2)^2 - 2r^2 s \cdot s$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 = r^2 ((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2) \rightarrow (5)$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{(9 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 2(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2)^2}{9(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2)}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2} \stackrel{\text{via (1),(3),(4) and (5)}}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

$$\frac{(9(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) - 2s^2)^2}{9s^2} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{r^2(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2)((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2)}{(4Rr + r^2)^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 9s^6 + (320R^2 + 88Rr + 2r^2)s^4 - r(7488R^3 + 5616R^2r + 1404Rr^2 + 117r^3)s^2 + 162r^2(4R + r)^4 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \text{ and } \therefore 9(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{in order to}$$

prove (*), it suffices to prove : LHS of (*) $\geq 9(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^3$

$$\Leftrightarrow (320R^2 + 520Rr - 133r^2)s^4 - r(7488R^3 + 12528R^2r - 2916Rr^2 + 792r^3)s^2 + r^2(41472R^4 + 78336R^3r - 19008R^2r^2 + 13392Rr^3 - 963r^4) \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} 0 \text{ and}$$

$\therefore (320R^2 + 520Rr - 133r^2)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \therefore$ in order to prove (**), it suffices to prove : LHS of (**) \geq

$$(320R^2 + 520Rr - 133r^2)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \Leftrightarrow (1376R^3 + 456R^2r - 3270Rr^2 + 269r^3)s^2$$

$$\stackrel{(***)}{\geq} r(20224R^4 + 1792R^3r - 45120R^2r^2 + 10444Rr^3 - 1181r^4) \text{ and } \therefore 1376R^3 + 456R^2r - 3270Rr^2 + 269r^3$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (R - 2r)(1376R^2 + 3208Rr + 3146r^2) + 6561r^3 \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 6561r^3 > 0 \\
 \therefore \text{LHS of (***)} &\stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (1376R^3 + 456R^2r - 3270Rr^2 + 269r^3)(16Rr - 5r^2) \\
 &\stackrel{?}{\geq} r(20224R^4 + 1792R^3r - 45120R^2r^2 + 10444Rr^3 - 1181r^4) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow 896t^4 - 688t^3 - 4740t^2 + 5105t - 82 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \left(t = \frac{R}{r} \right) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (t - 2) \left((t - 2)(896t^2 + 2896t + 3260) + 6561 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because t \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2 \\
 \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} &\therefore \frac{9 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 2(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a} \geq \frac{\sqrt{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2)}}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Reverse CBS}}{\geq} \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{\Rightarrow} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 2 \geq \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b} \\
 &\geq 2 + \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} + \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b} \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 2 + 2 = 4 \therefore a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + \frac{ab + bc + ca}{a^2 b + b^2 c + c^2 a} \geq 4 \\
 &\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a + b + c = 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}
 \end{aligned}$$

**1280. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^2 + b^2 + ab = 3(a + b)$, then prove that :
 $a^3 + b^3 \leq 27$**

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

If $a = 0$, then : $b^2 = 3b \Rightarrow b = 0$ or $b = 3$; similarly, if $b = 0$, then :
 $a^2 = 3a \Rightarrow a = 0$ or $a = 3$. So, if $(a, b) = (0, 0)$ or $(0, 3)$ or $(3, 0)$, we see that :
 $a^3 + b^3 \leq 27$ is true, " = " iff $(a = 3, b = 0)$ or $(a = 0, b = 3)$ and we
now shift our attention to : $a \neq 0, b \neq 0 \dots$ then : $a^2 + b^2 + ab =$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &b^2(t^2 + t + 1) \left(t = \frac{a}{b} \right) = b^2 \left(\left(t + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \right) \geq \frac{3b^2}{4} > 0 \quad (\because b \neq 0) \\
 &\Rightarrow 3(a + b) = a^2 + b^2 + ab > 0 \therefore a^3 + b^3 \leq 27 \quad \begin{matrix} \because a^2 + b^2 + ab = 3(a + b) \\ \Leftrightarrow \end{matrix} \\
 &a^3 + b^3 \leq \left(\frac{a^2 + b^2 + ab}{a + b} \right)^3 \Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2 + ab)^3 \geq (a^3 + b^3)(a + b)^3 \\
 &\quad \left(\because a^2 + b^2 + ab > 0 \text{ and } a + b > 0 \right) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (a^2 + b^2 + ab)^3 \geq (a^2 + b^2 - ab)(a + b)^4 = (a^2 + b^2 - ab)(a^2 + b^2 + 2ab)^2 \\
 &\quad \Leftrightarrow (x + y)^3 \geq (x - y)(x + 2y)^2 \Leftrightarrow y^2(3x + 5y) \geq 0 \\
 &\Leftrightarrow a^2 b^2(3a^2 + 3b^2 + 5ab) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow a^2 b^4(3t^2 + 5t + 3) \geq 0 \quad \left(\begin{matrix} x = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and} \\ y = ab \end{matrix} \right) \\
 &\rightarrow \text{true (strict inequality)} \because a^2 b^4 > 0 \quad (\because a, b \neq 0) \text{ and discriminant of}
 \end{aligned}$$

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$3t^2 + 5t + 3 - 25 - 36 < 0 \Rightarrow 3t^2 + 5t + 3 > 0 \therefore a^3 + b^3 < 27$ for $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$
and combining all cases, $a^3 + b^3 \leq 27 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a^2 + b^2 + ab = 3(a + b)$,
" = " iff $(a = 3, b = 0)$ or $(a = 0, b = 3)$ (QED)

1281. If $a \geq b \geq c > 0$, then prove that :

$$a^2b(a - b) + b^2c(b - c) + c^2a(c - a) \geq 0$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Let $b = c + x$ ($x \geq 0$) and $a = b + y$ ($y \geq 0$) = $c + x + y$ and then :

$$a^2b(a - b) + b^2c(b - c) + c^2a(c - a) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (c + x + y)^2(c + x)y + (c + x)^2cx + c^2(c + x + y)(-x - y) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow c^2x^2 + c^2xy + c^2y^2 + cx^3 + 3cx^2y + 4cxy^2 + cy^3 + x^3y + 2x^2y^2 + xy^3 \geq 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{true} \because c > 0 \text{ and } x, y \geq 0 \therefore a^2b(a - b) + b^2c(b - c) + c^2a(c - a) \geq 0$$

$$\forall a \geq b \geq c > 0, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c \text{ (QED)}$$

1282. If $x, y, z > 0, x + y + z = 1$ and $\lambda \geq \frac{2}{27}$, then :

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\lambda - x^3}{x} \geq \frac{27\lambda - 1}{3}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

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

$$\text{yielding } 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = 2s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{(*)}{=} s \Rightarrow x = s - a, y = s - b, z = s - c$$

$$\therefore xyz \stackrel{(**)}{=} r^2s \text{ and, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s - a)(s - b) = 4Rr + r^2 \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \stackrel{(***)}{=} 4Rr + r^2$$

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$$\text{and also, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \stackrel{\text{via } (*) \text{ and } (**)}{=} s^2 - 2(4Rr + r^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \stackrel{(***)}{=} s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2$$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\lambda - x^3}{x} \geq \frac{27\lambda - 1}{3} \Leftrightarrow \lambda \left(\frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy - 9xyz}{xyz} \right) \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 - \frac{1}{3} \stackrel{x+y+z=1}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

$$\lambda \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy) - 9xyz}{xyz} \right) \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)^2} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{Now, } \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \stackrel{A-G}{\geq} 9xyz \Rightarrow \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy) - 9xyz}{xyz} \geq 0 \text{ and } \therefore \lambda \geq \frac{2}{27}$$

$$\therefore \text{LHS of } (*) \geq \frac{2}{27} \left(\frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy) - 9xyz}{xyz} \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)^2} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via } (*), (**), (***) \text{ and } (****)}{\Leftrightarrow} \frac{2}{27} \frac{s(4Rr + r^2) - 9r^2s}{r^2s} \stackrel{?}{\geq} \frac{3(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2) - s^2}{3s^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{s^2(4R - 8r)}{9r} \stackrel{?}{\geq} s^2 - 12Rr - 3r^2$$

$$\text{Again, } s^2 - 12Rr - 3r^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\leq} \underbrace{4R^2 - 8Rr}_{(i)} \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{s^2(4R - 8r)}{9r} \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} \frac{(4R - 8r)(16R - 5r)}{9} \quad (ii)$$

$\therefore (i), (ii) \Rightarrow$ in order to prove $(**)$, it suffices to prove :

$$\frac{(4R - 8r)(16R - 5r)}{9} \geq 4R^2 - 8Rr \Leftrightarrow 4(R - 2r)(7R - 5r) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true via Euler}$$

$$\Rightarrow (***) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\lambda - x^3}{x} \geq \frac{27\lambda - 1}{3} \quad \forall x, y, z > 0 \mid x + y + z = 1$$

$$\text{and } \lambda \geq \frac{2}{27}, " = " \text{ iff } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3} \text{ (QED)}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

The given inequality can be rewritten as follows

$$\lambda \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} - 9 \right) \geq x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - \frac{1}{3}$$

Since $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \geq \frac{9}{x+y+z} = 9$, so it suffices to prove that

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$$\frac{2}{27} \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} - 9 \right) \geq x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - \frac{1}{3} \text{ or}$$

$$\frac{2}{27} \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \right) + 2(xy + yz + zx) \geq \frac{4}{3} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet LHS_{(1)} &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{\frac{4}{27} \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \right) (xy + yz + zx)} = \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{\frac{(xy + yz + zx)^2}{3xyz}} \\ &\geq \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{x + y + z} = \frac{4}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

So the proof is complete. Equality holds iff $x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$.

1283. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $\lambda \geq \frac{1}{2}$ then:

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{ab + \lambda b^2}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{bc + \lambda c^2}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{ca + \lambda a^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt{\lambda + 1}}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{\sqrt{ab + \lambda b^2}} &= 2\sqrt{\lambda + 1} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{2\sqrt{b(\lambda + 1) \cdot (a + \lambda b)}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \\ &\geq 2\sqrt{\lambda + 1} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b(\lambda + 1) + (a + \lambda b)} \geq \\ &\stackrel{CBS}{\geq} 2\sqrt{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{\sum_{cyc} a[a + (1 + 2\lambda)b]} = 2\sqrt{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{(\sum_{cyc} a)^2 + (2\lambda - 1) \sum_{cyc} bc} \geq \\ &\geq 2\sqrt{\lambda + 1} \cdot \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{(\sum_{cyc} a)^2 + (2\lambda - 1) \cdot \frac{(\sum_{cyc} a)^2}{3}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{\lambda + 1}} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds iff $a = b = c$.

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1284. If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^3 + b^3 + a^2 + b^2 = 4$, then prove that :

$$a^4 + b^4 \geq 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 + b^3 + a^2 + b^2 = 4 &\Rightarrow (a+b)^3 - 3ab(a+b) + (a+b)^2 - 2ab = 4 \\ &\Rightarrow x^3 - 3xy + x^2 - 2y = 4 \quad (x = a+b, y = ab) \Rightarrow x^3 + x^2 - 4 = y(3x+2) \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 4}{3x+2} = y \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{if } 3x+2 = 0, \text{ then : } x = -\frac{2}{3}, \text{ but } x^3 + x^2 - 4 \neq 0 \text{ for} \\ x = -\frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow 3x+2 \neq 0 \end{array} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{x^2}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{4(x^3 + x^2 - 4) - x^2(3x+2)}{4(3x+2)} \leq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{(3x+2)(x-2)((x+2)^2 + 4)}{(3x+2)^2} \leq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \boxed{-\frac{2}{3} < x \leq 2} \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } a^4 + b^4 &= (a^2 + b^2)^2 - 2a^2b^2 = (x^2 - 2y)^2 - 2y^2 = x^4 - 4x^2y + 2y^2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{=} x^4 - 4x^2 \cdot \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 4}{3x+2} + 2 \left(\frac{x^3 + x^2 - 4}{3x+2} \right)^2 \geq 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{x^6 + 4x^5 + 2x^4 - 32x^3 + 2x^2 + 24x - 24}{(3x+2)^2} \leq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow x^6 + 4x^5 + 2x^4 - 32x^3 + 2x^2 + 24x - 24 \leq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow (x-2)(x^5 + 6x^4 + 14x^3 - 4x^2 - 6x + 12) \leq 0 \text{ and so, it suffices to prove :} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &x^5 + 6x^4 + 14x^3 - 4x^2 - 6x + 12 \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} 0 \quad (\because x-2 \leq 0 \text{ via (1)}) \text{ and} \\ &\because x^4 - 4x^2 + 4 = (x^2 - 2)^2 \geq 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove } (*), \text{ it suffices to prove :} \\ &x^5 + 5x^4 + 14x^3 - 6x + 8 > 0 \Leftrightarrow 81x^5 + 405x^4 + 1134x^3 - 486x + 648 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow (3x-1)^2 \left(9x^3 + 51x^2 + 159x + \frac{301}{3} \right) + \frac{1643}{3} - 43x \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} 0 \\ \text{Now, } \frac{1643}{3} - 43x &\stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\geq} \frac{1643}{3} - 86 > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1643}{3} - 43x > 0 \rightarrow \text{(i) and also,} \end{aligned}$$

$$9x^3 + 6x^2 = 3x^2(3x+2) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{(ii)} \quad \left(\because 3x+2 \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{>} 0 \right) \therefore \text{(i), (ii)} \Rightarrow$$

in order to prove (**), it suffices to prove :

$$45x^2 + 159x + \frac{301}{3} > 0 \Leftrightarrow 135x^2 + 477x + 301 > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow (3x+2)(15(3x+2) + 99) + 43 > 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because 3x+2 \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{>} 0 \Rightarrow (**)\Rightarrow (*) \\ &\text{is true} \therefore a^4 + b^4 \geq 2 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \mid a^3 + b^3 + a^2 + b^2 = 4, \text{''} = \text{''} \text{ iff } a = b = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1285. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = 3$, then prove that :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Let $x = \frac{1}{a}, y = \frac{1}{b}, z = \frac{1}{c}$ and then : $\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{x} \stackrel{a+b+c=3}{=} 3 \rightarrow (1)$

$$\left(\frac{1}{x} = a < 3 \Rightarrow x > \frac{1}{3} \text{ and analogs} \right)$$

We shall now prove that : $\frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \forall x \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \infty\right)$

If $\frac{1}{3} < x \leq \frac{2}{5}$, then : $\frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \leq 0 < \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}}$ and so, we now focus on $x > \frac{2}{5}$

and then : $\frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^4}{x^2 + 2} \geq \frac{(5x - 2)^2}{27} \Leftrightarrow 27x^4 \geq (x^2 + 2)(5x - 2)^2$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^4 + 10x^3 - 27x^2 + 20x - 4 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 1)^2 (x^2 + 4(3x - 1)) \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$\therefore \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \geq \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \forall x \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \infty\right) \text{ and analogs} \rightarrow (2)$$

Now, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2 + 1}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{x^2} + 1}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2}} \right)$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (2)}}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{5x - 2}{3\sqrt{3}} \right) = \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{2}{3\sqrt{3}} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{x} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{=} \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{6}{3\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{3}$$

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

$$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a + b + c = 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

Lemma:

If $x \in (0, 3)$ then:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2 + 1}} \geq \frac{5 - 2x}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

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Proof:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2+1}} \geq \frac{5-2x}{3\sqrt{3}} \Leftrightarrow (5-2x)^2(2x^2+1) \leq 27$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 8x^4 - 40x^3 + 54x^2 - 20x - 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2(4x^2 - 12x - 1) \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2[(2x-3)^2 - 10] \leq 0 \text{ true. (as } 2x-3 < 3)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2+1}} \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{5-2a}{3\sqrt{3}} = \frac{15-2 \cdot 3}{3\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{3}$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = 1$.

1286. If $a, b, c > 0$, then prove that :

$$\frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} + 4 \left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) \geq 9$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} + 4 \left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \left(\frac{a^3}{2bc} + \frac{a^3}{2bc} + \frac{4}{a^2} \right) \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt[3]{\frac{a^4}{b^2c^2}} \\ &= \frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} \frac{9\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2}}{\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2}} = 9, \therefore \frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} + 4 \left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) \geq 9 \end{aligned}$$

$\forall a, b, c > 0$, " = " iff $a = b = c$ and for $a^5 = 8a^2$ and analogs

\Rightarrow iff $a = b = c = 2$ (QED)

1287. If $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $(a+1)(b+1)(c+1) = 8$, then prove that :

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

We assert that $\forall x, y, z \geq 0$, we have : $\sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{x+y+z}{3} \rightarrow (1)$

When $x = y = z = 0$, then trivially (1) is true. When exactly two among x, y, z

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= 0 and WLOG we may assume $y = z = 0$ ($x > 0$), then :

$$\frac{x+y+z}{3} = \frac{x}{3} > 0 = \sqrt[3]{xyz} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true}$$

When exactly one among $x, y, z = 0$ and WLOG we may assume $x = 0$ ($y, z > 0$),

then : $\frac{x+y+z}{3} = \frac{y+z}{3} > 0 = \sqrt[3]{xyz} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true}$. When $x, y, z > 0$, (1) is true

by AM – GM and so, $\forall x, y, z \geq 0$, we have : $\sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{x+y+z}{3}$

Now, $(a+1)(b+1)(c+1) = 8 \Rightarrow (a+1)^2(b+1)^2(c+1)^2 = 64 \Rightarrow 4$

$$= \sqrt[3]{(a+1)^2(b+1)^2(c+1)^2} \stackrel{\text{via (1)}}{\leq} \frac{(a+1)^2 + (b+1)^2 + (c+1)^2}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq 9 \rightarrow (2)$$

$$\boxed{\text{Case 1}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \leq 3 \text{ and so, via (2), } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq 9 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq 9 - 6 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3$$

$$\boxed{\text{Case 2}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq 3 \text{ and then : } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 \left(\Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a-b)^2 \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \right)$$

$$\geq \frac{9}{3} \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3 \therefore \text{combining both cases, } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3$$

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \mid (a+1)(b+1)(c+1) = 8 \text{ (QED)}$$

1288. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc = 1$, then prove that :

$$\frac{a}{b^{2024}} + \frac{b}{c^{2024}} + \frac{c}{a^{2024}} \geq a + b + c$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b^{2024}} + \frac{b}{c^{2024}} + \frac{c}{a^{2024}} &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^{2024}}{\frac{1}{a}} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{c}\right)^{2024}}{\frac{1}{b}} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^{2024}}{\frac{1}{c}} \stackrel{\text{Holder}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a}\right)^{2024}}{3^{2022} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a}\right)} \\ &= \frac{\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a}\right)^{2021}}{3^{2022}} \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab\right)^2 \cdot \left(3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{abc}}\right)^{2021}}{3^{2022}} \geq \frac{3abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a}{a^2 b^2 c^2} \quad (\because abc = 1) \\ &= \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a}{abc} \stackrel{abc=1}{=} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \therefore \frac{a}{b^{2024}} + \frac{b}{c^{2024}} + \frac{c}{a^{2024}} \geq a + b + c \\ &\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc = 1, "=" \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1289. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 192$, then prove that :

$$\sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} \leq 72$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong

Solution 1 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} &= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{(a+4)(a^2 - 4a + 16)} \\ &\stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\leq} \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a+4)} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} (a^2 - 4a + 16)} = \sqrt{t+12} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 4t + 48} \quad \left(t = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right) \\ &\stackrel{a^2+b^2+c^2 \leq 192}{\leq} \sqrt{(t+12)(240-4t)} \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{note : } 240 - 4t \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\geq} 240 - 4 \cdot \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2} \\ a^2+b^2+c^2 \leq 192 \\ \geq 240 - 96 > 0 \end{array} \right) \\ &\stackrel{?}{\leq} 72 \Leftrightarrow t^2 - 48t + 576 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (t-24)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \\ &\therefore \sqrt{a^3 + 64} + \sqrt{b^3 + 64} + \sqrt{c^3 + 64} \leq 72 \\ &\forall a, b, c > 0 \text{ and } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq 192 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Tapas Das-India

Let $a^2 = p, b^2 = q, c^2 = r$, and $p + q + r \leq 192$ and $\sum \sqrt{a^3 + 64} = \sum \sqrt{p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64}$,

now we will show as a lemma that $\frac{32+p}{4} \geq \sqrt{p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64}$ or,

$(32+p)^2 \geq 16(p^{\frac{3}{2}} + 64)$ or $u^2 - 16u + 64 \stackrel{p=u^2}{\geq} 0$ or $(u-8)^2 \geq 0$ (True).

back to the main problem:

$$\text{LHS} \stackrel{\text{lemma}}{\leq} \sum \frac{32+p}{4} = \frac{96+p+q+r}{4} \stackrel{\sum p \leq 192}{\leq} = \frac{96+192}{4} = 72$$

1290. If $a, b, c > 0$, $(a+1)(b+1)(c+1) = 8$ then:

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mirsadix Muzefferov-Azerbaijan

Let $1+a = x, \quad 1+b = y, \quad 1+c = z$

Then $xyz = 8$.

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$$x + y + z \geq 3\sqrt[3]{xyz} = 3 \cdot 2 = 6$$

$$(x - 1)^2 + (y - 1)^2 + (z - 1)^2 \geq 3 \text{ (to prove)}$$

$$\frac{(x - 1)^2}{1} + \frac{(y - 1)^2}{1} + \frac{(z - 1)^2}{1} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(x + y + z - 3)^2}{1 + 1 + 1} \geq \frac{(6 - 3)^2}{3} = 3$$

Equality holds for $a = b = c = 1$.

1291. If $a, b > 0$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2} \geq \frac{24(a^2 + b^2)}{(a + b)^4}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} (a^2 + b^2 + 2ab)^2 &\stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 8ab(a^2 + b^2) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{24(a^2 + b^2)}{(a + b)^4} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{24(a^2 + b^2)}{8ab(a^2 + b^2)} = \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} - \frac{2}{ab} - \left(\frac{1}{ab} - \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab}{a^2b^2} - \frac{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab}{ab(a^2 + b^2)} = \frac{(a - b)^2(a^2 + b^2 - ab)}{a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2)} \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} \\ &\frac{(a - b)^2(2ab - ab)}{a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2)} = \frac{(a - b)^2}{ab(a^2 + b^2)} \geq 0 \therefore \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2} \geq \frac{24(a^2 + b^2)}{(a + b)^4} \end{aligned}$$

$\forall a, b > 0, " = " \text{ iff } a = b \text{ (QED)}$

1292. If $a, b, c > 0$, $ab + bc + ca = abc$ then:

$$\frac{a^4 + b^4}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^4 + c^4}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^4 + a^4}{ac(c^3 + a^3)} \geq 1$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\frac{a^4 + b^4}{ab(a^3 + b^3)} + \frac{b^4 + c^4}{bc(b^3 + c^3)} + \frac{c^4 + a^4}{ac(c^3 + a^3)} \stackrel{\text{CEBYSHEV}}{\geq}$$

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$$\geq \sum \frac{1}{2} \frac{(a+b)(a^3+b^3)}{ab(a^3+b^3)} \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum \frac{a+b}{ab} = \sum \frac{1}{a} = \frac{\sum ab}{abc} = 1$$

Equality holds for: $a = b = c$.

1293. If $a, b > 0$ then:

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{a^2 + \frac{1}{b^2}} + \sqrt{b^2 + \frac{1}{a^2}} \geq \\ & \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \sqrt{\frac{2a}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{2b}{a}} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2 \sqrt{\sqrt{\left(\frac{2a}{b}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2b}{a}\right)}} = 2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a = b$.

1294. If $a, b, c > 0, a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = abc$ then:

$$\frac{a}{a^2 + bc} + \frac{b}{b^2 + ca} + \frac{c}{c^2 + ab} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution 1 by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{a^2 + bc} + \frac{b}{b^2 + ca} + \frac{c}{c^2 + ab} & \stackrel{AM-HM}{\leq} \frac{1}{4} \sum \left(\frac{a}{a^2} + \frac{a}{bc} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \sum \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{abc} \\ & = \frac{1}{4} \frac{ab + bc + ca}{abc} + \frac{1}{4} \leq \frac{1}{4} \frac{\sum a^2}{abc} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{since } \sum a^2 = abc) \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\text{LHS} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^2 + bc - bc}{a(a^2 + bc)} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a} - \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{b^2 c^2}{a^3 bc + ab^2 c^2} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\leq}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{abc} - \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \leq \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{abc} - \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 + abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2} \\ a^2+b^2+c^2 = abc & \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab}{abc} - \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{2a^2b^2c^2} = \frac{2abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - (\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{2a^2b^2c^2} \Rightarrow \text{LHS} - \text{RHS} \leq \\ & \frac{2abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - (\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{2a^2b^2c^2} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab - (\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2 - a^2b^2c^2}{2a^2b^2c^2} \\ & = -\frac{1}{2a^2b^2c^2} \cdot \left(abc - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 = \frac{-1}{2a^2b^2c^2} \cdot \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 \leq 0 \\ & \quad \because \frac{a}{a^2+bc} + \frac{b}{b^2+ca} + \frac{c}{c^2+ab} \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ & \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = abc, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 3 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1295. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $ab + bc + ca = 3$, then prove that :

$$\frac{1}{1+a^2(b+c)} + \frac{1}{1+b^2(c+a)} + \frac{1}{1+c^2(a+b)} \leq \frac{1}{abc}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$3 = ab + bc + ca \stackrel{\text{A-G}}{\geq} 3\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2} \Rightarrow abc \leq 1 \rightarrow \text{(i)}$$

$$\text{Now, LHS} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1+a(3-bc)} \quad (\because a(b+c) = 3 - bc \text{ and analogs})$$

$$= \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{1-abc+3a} \stackrel{\text{via (i)}}{\leq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{3a} = \frac{1}{3abc} \cdot \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \frac{3}{3abc}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{1+a^2(b+c)} + \frac{1}{1+b^2(c+a)} + \frac{1}{1+c^2(a+b)} \leq \frac{1}{abc}$$

$$\forall a, b, c > 0 \mid ab + bc + ca = 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)}$$

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1296.

If $a, b, c \geq 0$ and $a + b + c = 3$, then prove that :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sqrt{a + (b - c)^2} + \sqrt{b + (c - a)^2} + \sqrt{c + (a - b)^2} \right)^2 \geq \\ & \sum_{\text{cyc}} a + \sum_{\text{cyc}} (b - c)^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{ab} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} \sqrt{ab} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 9 \\ & \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \stackrel{?}{\geq} 9 \quad (\sqrt{a} = x, \sqrt{b} = y, \sqrt{c} = z) \\ & \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 + \frac{2}{3} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 \\ & \left(\because \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = 3 \right) \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 + 6 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - 6 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \\ & + 2 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 y + \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^3 + xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \right) \stackrel{?}{\geq} 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + 6 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \\ & \Leftrightarrow 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - 5 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 y + \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^3 + xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \quad (*) \\ & \text{Now, via Schur, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 y + \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^3 \Rightarrow \text{LHS of } (*) \geq \\ & \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 y + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy^3 - 5 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 - 5 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \\ & (\because x^3 y + xy^3 - 2x^2 y^2 = xy(x - y)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x^3 y + xy^3 \geq 2x^2 y^2 \text{ and analogs}) \\ & = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (x^2 - y^2)^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true} \\ & \therefore \left(\sqrt{a + (b - c)^2} + \sqrt{b + (c - a)^2} + \sqrt{c + (a - b)^2} \right)^2 \geq 9 \\ & \Rightarrow \sqrt{a + (b - c)^2} + \sqrt{b + (c - a)^2} + \sqrt{c + (a - b)^2} \geq 3 \\ & \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a + b + c = 3, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1297. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc \geq 1$, then prove that :

$$a + b + c \geq \frac{1+a}{1+b} + \frac{1+b}{1+c} + \frac{1+c}{1+a}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + c &\geq \frac{1+a}{1+b} + \frac{1+b}{1+c} + \frac{1+c}{1+a} \\ \Leftrightarrow a \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+b}\right) - \frac{1}{1+b} + b \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+c}\right) - \frac{1}{1+c} + c \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+a}\right) - \frac{1}{1+a} &\geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{ab-1}{1+b} + \frac{bc-1}{1+c} + \frac{ca-1}{1+a} &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (ab-1)(1+c)(1+a) + (bc-1)(1+a)(1+b) + (ca-1)(1+b)(1+c) &\geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a + 3abc - 3 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a &\stackrel{(*)}{\geq} 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\because abc \geq 1 \therefore abc \sum_{\text{cyc}} a - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a + 3abc - 3 \geq 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove } (*),$$

$$\text{it suffices to prove : } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a$$

$$\boxed{\text{Case 1}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \text{ and then : } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^2}{\frac{1}{b}} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{a}}$$

$$= abc \cdot \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab} \stackrel{\substack{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \\ \text{and} \\ \because abc \geq 1}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a$$

$$\boxed{\text{Case 2}} \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \text{ and then : } \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{a^2b^2}{b} \stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a}$$

$$\stackrel{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \therefore \text{combining both cases,}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (***) \Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true } \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc \geq 1 \Rightarrow a + b + c &\geq \frac{1+a}{1+b} + \frac{1+b}{1+c} + \frac{1+c}{1+a} \\ \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid abc \geq 1, " = " \text{ iff } a = b = c = 1 &\text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

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1298. If $a, b, c > 0$ and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3$, then prove that :

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

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{b+2c} + \frac{b^2}{c+2a} + \frac{c^2}{a+2b} &= \frac{a^4}{a^2b+2ca^2} + \frac{b^4}{b^2c+2ab^2} + \frac{c^4}{c^2a+2bc^2} \\ &\stackrel{\text{Bergstrom}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} (a(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 - c^2 - a^2))} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b + \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 + (\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2) - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2b - \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3} \stackrel{\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab^2 \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^3}{\geq} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)^2}{(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2)} = \frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a} = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2}{3}} \cdot \sqrt{3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2}}{\sum_{\text{cyc}} a} \stackrel{\substack{a^2+b^2+c^2 \geq 3 \\ \text{and} \\ 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \geq (\sum_{\text{cyc}} a)^2}}{\geq} = 1 \\ \therefore \frac{a^2}{b+2c} + \frac{b^2}{c+2a} + \frac{c^2}{a+2b} &\geq 1 \quad \forall a, b, c > 0 \mid a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3, \\ &\text{"=" iff } a = b = c = 1 \text{ (QED)} \end{aligned}$$

1299. If $a, b, c \geq 0$ and $a + b + c = 1$, then prove that :

$$ab + bc + ca \geq 8(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2)$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Case 1 Exactly 2 among a, b, c equal zero and WLOG we may assume $b = c = 0$ ($a = 1$) and then : LHS = RHS = 0

Case 2 Exactly 1 among a, b, c equals zero and WLOG we may assume $a = 0$ ($b + c = 1$ with $b, c > 0$) and then : LHS - RHS $\stackrel{b+c=1}{=} 1$
 $bc(b+c)^4 - 8b^2c^2(b^2+c^2) = bc((b^2+c^2+2bc)^2 - 8bc(b^2+c^2))$
 $= bc((b^2+c^2)^2 + 4b^2c^2 - 4bc(b^2+c^2)) = bc(b^2+c^2-2bc)^2 = bc(b-c)^4 \geq 0$
 \Rightarrow LHS \geq RHS

Case 3 $a, b, c > 0$ and assigning $b + c = x, c + a = y, a + b = z \Rightarrow$
 $x + y - z = 2c > 0, y + z - x = 2a > 0$ and $z + x - y = 2b > 0 \Rightarrow x + y > z,$

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$y + z > x, z + x > y \Rightarrow x, y, z$ form sides of a triangle with semiperimeter, circumradius and inradius = s, R, r (say); so $2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x = 2s$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a = s \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow a = s - x, b = s - y, c = s - z \therefore abc = r^2 s \rightarrow (2)$$

and such substitutions $\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = \sum_{\text{cyc}} (s - x)(s - y) \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab = 4Rr + r^2 \rightarrow (3),$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \stackrel{\text{via (1) and (3)}}{=} s^2 - 2(4Rr + r^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 = s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2 \rightarrow (4), \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 = \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right)^2 - 2abc \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)$$

$\stackrel{\text{via (1),(2) and (3)}}{=} (4Rr + r^2)^2 - 2r^2 s \cdot s \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 = r^2((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2) \rightarrow (5)$

$$\therefore ab + bc + ca \geq 8(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a^2 b^2 + b^2 c^2 + c^2 a^2) \stackrel{a+b+c=1}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

$$\left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a \right)^4 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} ab \right) \geq 8 \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 \right) \left(\sum_{\text{cyc}} a^2 b^2 \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{via (1),(3),(4) and (5)}}{\Leftrightarrow} (4Rr + r^2)s^4 \geq 8r^2(s^2 - 8Rr - 2r^2)((4R + r)^2 - 2s^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (4R + 17r)s^4 - rs^2(128R^2 + 192Rr + 40r^2) + 16r^2(4R + r)^3 \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\because (4R + 17r)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} 0 \therefore \text{in order to prove } (*),$$

it suffices to prove : LHS of (*) $\geq (4R + 17r)(s^2 - 16Rr + 5r^2)^2$

$$\Leftrightarrow (312R - 210r)s^2 \stackrel{(**)}{\geq} r(2944R^2 - 2812Rr + 409r^2)$$

$$\text{Now, } (312R - 210r)s^2 \stackrel{\text{Gerretsen}}{\geq} (312R - 210r)(16Rr - 5r^2) \stackrel{?}{\geq}$$

$$r(2944R^2 - 2812Rr + 409r^2) \Leftrightarrow 2048R^2 - 2108Rr + 641r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 994R^2 + 1054R(R - 2r) + 641r^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \because R \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{\geq} 2r \Rightarrow (**)\Rightarrow (*) \text{ is true}$$

$$\therefore ab + bc + ca > 8(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a^2 b^2 + b^2 c^2 + c^2 a^2) \text{ and combining all cases,}$$

$$ab + bc + ca \geq 8(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a^2 b^2 + b^2 c^2 + c^2 a^2) \forall a, b, c \geq 0 \mid a + b + c = 1,$$

$$" = " \text{ iff } (a = 1, b = c = 0) \text{ and permutations and } \left(a = 0, b = c = \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

and permutations (QED)

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1300. If $a, b > 0$ and $a^2 + b^2 \geq 2$, then prove that :

$$\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{a} + 7(a + b) \geq 16$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Let $x = a + b$ and $y = ab \therefore a^2 + b^2 \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 - 2y \geq 2$

$\Leftrightarrow 2y \leq x^2 - 2 \rightarrow (i)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{a} + 7(a + b) &= \frac{(a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)}{ab} + 7(a + b) = \frac{x(x^2 - 3y)}{y} + 7x \\ &= \frac{x^3 + 4xy}{y} \stackrel{?}{\geq} 16 \Leftrightarrow x^3 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 4y(4 - x) \end{aligned}$$

Case 1 $4 - x \leq 0$ and $\therefore x, y > 0 \therefore$ LHS of $(*) > 0$ and RHS of $(*) \leq 0 \Rightarrow$
LHS of $(*) >$ RHS of $(*)$

Case 2 $4 - x > 0$ and then : $4y(4 - x) \stackrel{\text{via (i)}}{\leq} (8 - 2x)(x^2 - 2) \stackrel{?}{\leq} x^3 \Leftrightarrow$

$3x^3 - 8x^2 - 4x + 16 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \Leftrightarrow (3x + 4)(x - 2)^2 \stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore x = a + b > 0$
 $\Rightarrow (*)$ is true \therefore combining both cases, $(*)$ is true $\forall x, y > 0$ constrained by (i)

$$\therefore \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{a} + 7(a + b) \geq 16 \forall a, b > 0 \mid a^2 + b^2 \geq 2 \text{ (QED)}$$

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It's nice to be important but more important it's to be nice.

At this paper works a TEAM.

This is RMM TEAM.

To be continued!

Daniel Sitaru