

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

$$\sum_{cyc} (b+c)(a^2+b^2+ab) \geq \frac{9}{4} \prod_{cyc} (a+b)$$

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Lemma:

$$\forall x, y > 0, x^2 + xy + y^2 \geq \frac{3}{4}(x+y)^2$$

Proof:

$$x^2 + y^2 + xy = (x+y)^2 - xy \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} (x+y)^2 - \frac{(x+y)^2}{4} = \frac{3}{4}(x+y)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (b+c)(a^2+b^2+ab) &\stackrel{Lemma}{\geq} \sum (b+c) \frac{3}{4}(a+b)^2 = \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \sum (a+b)^2(b+c) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} \frac{9}{4} \sqrt[3]{(a+b)^3(b+c)^3(c+a)^3} = \\ &= \frac{9}{4}(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a=b=c$.