

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

$$\frac{a-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} \geq 0$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Case 1 $a \geq b \geq c$ or $a \geq c \geq b$ or $b \geq c \geq a$ or $c \geq b \geq a$ and then :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} &= \frac{a-c+c-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} \\ &= (c-a) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{a+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+1}} \right) + (b-c) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{c+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+1}} \right) \\ &= \frac{(c-a)(b-a)}{\sqrt{(a+1)(b+1)} \cdot (\sqrt{b+1} + \sqrt{a+1})} + \frac{(b-c)^2}{\sqrt{(c+1)(b+1)} \cdot (\sqrt{b+1} + \sqrt{c+1})} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2 $b \geq a \geq c$ or $c \geq a \geq b$ and then :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} &= \frac{a-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-a+a-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} \\ &= (a-b) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{b+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{c+1}} \right) + (c-a) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{a+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{c+1}} \right) \\ &= \frac{(a-b)(c-b)}{\sqrt{(b+1)(c+1)} \cdot (\sqrt{b+1} + \sqrt{c+1})} + \frac{(c-a)^2}{\sqrt{(a+1)(c+1)} \cdot (\sqrt{a+1} + \sqrt{c+1})} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since we have considered *all possible cases* concerning the ordering of a, b, c

amongst each other, hence we conclude : $\frac{a-b}{\sqrt{b+1}} + \frac{b-c}{\sqrt{c+1}} + \frac{c-a}{\sqrt{a+1}} \geq 0$

$\forall a, b, c > 0, "$ = " iff $a = b = c$