

**1022. Proposed by Elias Lampakis, Kiparissia, Greece.**

Let  $a, b, c$  be the sidelengths opposite angles  $A, B, C$  of an acute  $\triangle ABC$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a \cos(B - C)}{b \cos(C - A) + a \cos A} + \frac{b \cos(C - A)}{c \cos(A - B) + b \cos B} + \frac{c \cos(A - B)}{a \cos(B - C) + c \cos C} \geq 2.$$

**Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.**

Since  $a \cos(B - C) = R \cdot 2 \sin A \cos(B - C) = R(\sin(A + B - C) + \sin(A - B + C)) = R(\sin(180^\circ - 2C) + \sin(180^\circ - 2B)) = R(\sin 2C + \sin 2B) = 2R(\sin C \cos C + \sin B \cos 2B) = c \cos C + b \cos B$  and, similarly,  $b \cos(C - A) = a \cos A + c \cos C$  then

$$\sum_{cyclic} \frac{a \cos(B - C)}{b \cos(C - A) + a \cos A} = \sum_{cyclic} \frac{c \cos C + b \cos B}{2a \cos A + c \cos C}.$$

Let  $x := a \cos A, y := b \cos B, z := c \cos C$ . Since by Cauchy Inequality

$$\sum_{cyclic} \frac{a \cos(B - C)}{b \cos(C - A) + a \cos A} = \sum_{cyclic} \frac{y + z}{2x + z} = \sum_{cyclic} \frac{(y + z)^2}{(2x + z)(y + z)} \geq \frac{\left( \sum_{cyclic} (y + z) \right)^2}{\sum_{cyclic} (2x + z)(y + z)} =$$

$$\frac{4(x + y + z)^2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 5(xy + yz + zx)} = \frac{4(x + y + z)^2}{(x + y + z)^2 + 3(xy + yz + zx)}, \text{ and}$$

$$3(xy + yz + zx) \leq (x + y + z)^2 \text{ then } \frac{4(x + y + z)^2}{(x + y + z)^2 + 3(xy + yz + zx)} \geq \frac{4(x + y + z)^2}{2(x + y + z)^2} = 2.$$