

**1038. Proposed by D. M. Băţineţu-Giurgiu, Matei Basarab National College, Bucharest,**

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Let  $m$  be a nonnegative real number and  $x, y$  be positive real numbers. Prove that, for any triangle  $ABC$  with side lengths  $a, b, c$  where  $[ABC]$  denotes the area of triangle,

$$\frac{a^{m+2}}{(xb+yc)^m} + \frac{b^{m+2}}{(xc+ya)^m} + \frac{c^{m+2}}{(xa+yb)^m} \geq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{(x+y)^m} \cdot [ABC].$$

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

Let  $u := \frac{xb+yc}{x+y}, v := \frac{xc+ya}{x+y}, w := \frac{xa+yb}{x+y}$  and  $I_m := \frac{a^{m+2}}{u^m} + \frac{b^{m+2}}{v^m} + \frac{c^{m+2}}{w^m}$

then  $\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^{m+2}}{(xb+yc)^m} \geq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{(x+y)^m} \cdot [ABC] \Leftrightarrow I_m \geq 4\sqrt{3} \cdot [ABC]$ .

We will prove that  $I_{m+1} \geq I_m$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

Noting that  $I_0 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$  and using inequality  $\frac{\alpha^2}{\beta} \geq 2\alpha - \beta, \alpha, \beta > 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{u} = \sum_{cyc} a \cdot \frac{a^2}{u} \geq \sum_{cyc} a(2a - u) = I_0 + \sum_{cyc} a(a - u) = \\ I_0 &+ \sum_{cyc} \left( a^2 - \frac{a(xb+yc)}{x+y} \right) = I_0 + a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(xb+yc)}{x+y} = \end{aligned}$$

$$I_0 + (a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) \geq I_0.$$

Taking inequality  $I_1 \geq I_0$  as base of Math Induction and assuming for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  that  $I_m \geq I_{m-1}$  we will prove that  $I_{m+1} \geq I_m$ .

$$\text{We have } I_{m+1} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^{m+3}}{u^{m+1}} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^{m+1}}{u^m} \cdot \frac{a^2}{u} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^{m+1}}{u^m} (2a - u) = I_m + \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{a^{m+2}}{u^m} - \frac{a^{m+1}}{u^{m-1}} \right) =$$

$$I_m + (I_m - I_{m-1}) \geq I_m. \blacksquare$$

Since  $(I_m)_{m \geq 0}$  is increasing sequence then  $I_m \geq I_0 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$  and

$$(1) \quad a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4\sqrt{3} \cdot [ABC] \text{ (Weitzenböck's inequality)}$$

we obtain  $I_m \geq 4\sqrt{3} \cdot [ABC]$ .

(Or, direct proof of inequality  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4\sqrt{3} \cdot [ABC]$  :

Let  $x := s - a, y := s - b, z := s - c$  where  $s$  is semiperimeter and let  $p := xy + yz + zx, q := xyz$ . Also, assume (due to homogeneity) that  $s := 1$ . Then  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2(1 - p), [ABC] = \sqrt{q}$  and inequality (1) become  $1 - p \geq 2\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{q}$ .

Since  $p^2 = (xy + yz + zx)^2 \geq 3xyz(x + y + z) = 3q$  and

$$1 = (x + y + z)^2 \geq 3(xy + yz + zx) = p$$

we obtain  $1 - p - 2\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{q} = 1 - 3p + 2(p - \sqrt{3q}) \geq 0$ .