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Let x, y, z be real numbers such that $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$. Prove that $2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq 10$.

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First we will prove inequality that for any real $x, y, z \geq 0$ such that $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$ holds inequality $2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq 6\sqrt{2}$ ($6\sqrt{2} < 10$).

Let $s := x + y + z, p := xy + yz + zx, q := xyz$.

Since $9q \geq 4sp - s^3$ (Schur's Inequality $\sum x(x - y)(x - z) \geq 0$) and

$9 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = s^2 - 2p \Leftrightarrow 2p = s^2 - 9$ then $9q \geq 2s(s^2 - 9) - s^3 = s^3 - 18s$

and, therefore, $q \geq q_* = \max\left\{0, \frac{s^3 - 18s}{9}\right\}$.

Noting that $27 = 3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq (x + y + z)^2 = s^2 \Leftrightarrow s \leq 3\sqrt{3}$, we obtain:

1. $q_* = \frac{s^3 - 18s}{9}$ for $s \in [3\sqrt{2}, 3\sqrt{3}]$ and, therefore, for such s we have

$$6\sqrt{2} - (2(x + y + z) - xyz) = 6\sqrt{2} - 2s + q \geq 6\sqrt{2} - 2s + q_* = 6\sqrt{2} - 2s + \frac{s^3 - 18s}{9} = \frac{(s - 3\sqrt{2})(3\sqrt{2}s + s^2 - 18)}{9} \geq \frac{(s - 3\sqrt{2})(s^2 - 18)}{9} = \frac{(s - 3\sqrt{2})^2(s + 3\sqrt{2})}{9} \geq 0;$$

2. $q_* = \frac{s^3 - 18s}{9}$ for $s \in (0, 3\sqrt{2}]$ and, therefore, for such s we have

$$6\sqrt{2} - (2(x + y + z) - xyz) = 6\sqrt{2} - 2s + q \geq 6\sqrt{2} - 2s = 2(3\sqrt{2} - s) > 0.$$

Consider now two cases:

1. If $xyz > 0$ then

$$2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq 2(|x| + |y| + |z|) - |xyz| = 2(|x| + |y| + |z|) - |x| \cdot |y| \cdot |z| < 10$$

by considered above case $x, y, z \geq 0$ (because $|x|^2 + |y|^2 + |z|^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$);

2. If $xyz < 0$ then at least one of the numbers x, y, z is negative, let it be z .

Then $xy > 0, z = -|z|$ and, therefore, $2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq 2(|x| + |y|) - 2|z| + |x| \cdot |y| \cdot |z|$.

Let $f(x, y, z) := 2(x + y) - 2z + xyz$, where $x, y, z > 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$.

We will prove that for such x, y, z holds $\max f(x, y, z) = 10$.

$$\text{Since } x + y \leq \sqrt{2(x^2 + y^2)}, xy \leq \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \text{ then } f(x, y, z) \leq 2\sqrt{2(x^2 + y^2)} - 2z + z \cdot \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} =$$

$$2\sqrt{2(9 - z^2)} - 2z + z \cdot \frac{9 - z^2}{2} = 2\sqrt{2(9 - z^2)} - \frac{z^3}{2} + \frac{5z}{2}.$$

Let $h(z) := 2\sqrt{2(9 - z^2)} - \frac{z^3}{2} + \frac{5z}{2}$, where $z \in (0, 3)$.

Since $h'(z) = -2\sqrt{2} \frac{z}{\sqrt{9 - z^2}} - \frac{3z^2}{2} + \frac{5}{2}$ strictly decrease on $(0, 3)$ and $h'(1) = 0$

then $h'(z) > 0$ on $(0, 1), h'(z) < 0$ on $(1, 3)$ and, therefore,

$$\max\{h(z) \mid z \in (0, 3)\} = h(1) = 2\sqrt{2(9 - 1^2)} - \frac{1^3}{2} + \frac{5 \cdot 1}{2} = 10.$$

Hence, $2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq f(|x|, |y|, |z|) \leq 10$ and equality occurs iff $x = y = 2, z = -1$.

Combining both considered cases we can conclude that

$2(x + y + z) - xyz \leq 10$ for any real $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$

with equality iff $(x, y, z) \in \{(2, 2, -1), (2, -1, 2), (-1, 2, 2)\}$.