

**Inequalities**

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Let  $x, y, z$  be non-negative reals such that  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = 4$ .

Show that  $xyz \leq xy + yz + zx \leq xyz + 2$ .

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

First note that by AM-GM inequality  $4 - xyz = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq 3(x^2 y^2 z^2)^{1/3} \iff$

$$3(xyz)^{2/3} + xyz - 4 \leq 0 \iff \left( (xyz)^{1/3} - 1 \right) \left( (xyz)^{1/3} + 2 \right)^2 \leq 0 \iff xyz \leq 1.$$

Then  $xy + yz + zx \geq 3(x^2 y^2 z^2)^{1/3}$  and since  $(xyz)^{2/3} \geq xyz$  we obtain  $xy + yz + zx \geq 3xyz \geq xyz$ .

Also note that inequality  $xy + yz + zx \leq xyz + 2$  holds if at least one of variables  $x, y, z$

equal to zero. Indeed, let  $z = 0$ . Then  $x^2 + y^2 = 4$  and, therefore,  $xy \leq \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} = 2$ .

Thus, remains to prove inequality  $xy + yz + zx \leq xyz + 2$  for  $x, y, z > 0$ .

Since all positive solutions of equation  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = 4$  can be represented in the

form  $x = 2 \cos \alpha, y = 2 \cos \beta, z = 2 \cos \gamma$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in (0, \pi/2)$  and  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = \pi$  then

$$xy + yz + zx \leq xyz + 2 \text{ becomes } 4 \sum \cos \alpha \cos \beta \leq 8 \cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma + 2 \iff$$

$$(1) \quad 2 \sum \cos \alpha \cos \beta \leq 4 \cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma + 1.$$

Let  $ABC$  be some triangle with angles  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $R, r, s$  be, respectively, circumradius, inradius

and semiperimeter of  $\triangle ABC$ . Then, since  $\cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma = \frac{s^2 - (2R + r)^2}{4R^2}$  and

$$\sum \cos \alpha \cos \beta = \frac{s^2 + r^2 - 4R^2}{2R^2} \text{ inequality (1) becomes}$$

$$\frac{s^2 + r^2 - 4R^2}{2R^2} \leq \frac{s^2 - (2R + r)^2}{R^2} + 1 \iff s^2 + r^2 - 4R^2 \leq 2 \left( s^2 - (2R + r)^2 \right) +$$

$$2R^2 \iff 2 \left( s^2 - (2R + r)^2 \right) + 2R^2 - (s^2 + r^2 - 4R^2) = -2R^2 - 8Rr - 3r^2 + s^2$$

$$2R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2 \leq s^2 \text{ (Walker's Inequality*for acute angled triangle).}$$

My proof of the **Walker's Inequality**.

First we will prove that in any acute angled triangle holds inequality  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4(R + r)^2$ .

$$\text{We have } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4(R + r)^2 \iff 4R^2 (\sin^2 A + \sin^2 B + \sin^2 C) \geq 4R^2 \left( 1 + \frac{r}{R} \right)^2 \iff$$

$$\sin^2 A + \sin^2 B + \sin^2 C \geq (\cos A + \cos B + \cos C)^2 \iff$$

$$\sum_{cyc} (1 - \cos^2 A) \geq \sum_{cyc} \cos^2 A + 2 \sum_{cyc} \cos B \cos C \iff \sum_{cyc} (\cos A + \cos B)^2 \leq 3.$$

Since by Cauchy Inequality

$$(\cos A + \cos B)^2 \leq (a \cos B + b \cos A) \left( \frac{\cos B}{a} + \frac{\cos A}{b} \right) = c \left( \frac{\cos B}{a} + \frac{\cos A}{b} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \sum_{cyc} (\cos A + \cos B)^2 &\leq \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{c \cos B}{a} + \frac{c \cos A}{b} \right) = \frac{c \cos B}{a} + \frac{c \cos A}{b} + \\ &\frac{a \cos C}{c} + \\ &\frac{a \cos B}{c} + \frac{b \cos A}{c} + \frac{b \cos C}{a} = \sum_{cyc} \left( \frac{c \cos B + b \cos C}{a} \right) = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{a} = 3. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $ab + bc + ca = s^2 + 4Rr + r^2$  we obtain

$$4s^2 = (a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca) \geq 4(R + r)^2 + 2(s^2 + 4Rr + r^2) = 4R^2 + 16Rr + 6r^2 + 2s^2 \iff s^2 \geq 2R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2.$$