

1036. Proposed by George Apostolopoulos, Messolonghi, Greece.

Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$\left(a^3(a+1) + b^3(b+1) + c^3(c+1) \right) \cdot \frac{(a^3+3)(b^3+3)(c^3+3)}{(a+1)(b+1)(c+1)} \geq 48.$$

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

Note that for any positive x holds inequality

$$(1) \quad \frac{x^3+3}{x+1} \geq \frac{x+3}{2}.$$

Indeed, (1) $\Leftrightarrow 2(x^3+3) - (x+1)(x+3) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (2x+3)(x-1)^2 \geq 0$.

Since $\frac{(a^3+3)(b^3+3)(c^3+3)}{(a+1)(b+1)(c+1)} \geq \frac{(a+3)(b+3)(c+3)}{8}$ remains to prove inequality

$$(2) \quad \sum_{cyc} a^3(a+1) \cdot \prod_{cyc} \frac{a+3}{2} \geq 48.$$

By AM-GM we have $\sum_{cyc} a^3(a+1) = \sum_{cyc} a^4 + \sum_{cyc} a^3 \geq 3\sqrt[3]{a^4b^4c^4} + 3\sqrt[3]{a^3b^3c^3} = 6$

and $\prod_{cyc} \frac{a+3}{2} = \frac{1}{8} \prod_{cyc} (a+3) \geq \frac{1}{8} \prod_{cyc} 4\sqrt[4]{a \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} = 8\sqrt[4]{abc} = 8$.

Hence, $\sum_{cyc} a^3(a+1) \cdot \prod_{cyc} \frac{a+3}{2} \geq 6 \cdot 8 = 48$.

1037. Proposed by George Apostolopoulos, Messolonghi, Greece.

Let P be a point inside the triangle ABC and let D, E, F be the projections of P on the sides BC, CA , and AB , respectively. Prove that

$$\frac{PA+PB+PC}{(EF \cdot FD \cdot DE)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3}$$

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

Let $R_a := PA, R_b := PB, R_c := PC$ and $a_p := EF, b_p := FD, c_p := DE$

(that is a_p, b_p, c_p are sidelengths of pedal triangle of point P). Then original inequality in the new notation becomes

$$(1) \quad \frac{R_a + R_b + R_c}{(a_p b_p c_p)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3}$$

Since quadrilateral $FAEP$ is cyclic (because $PF \perp AB$ and $PE \perp AC$)

and R_a is diameter of circumcircle of quadrilateral $FAEP$

then $\frac{a_p}{R_a} = \sin A = \frac{a}{2R}$ and, similarly, $\frac{b_p}{R_b} = \sin B = \frac{b}{2R}, \frac{c_p}{R_c} = \sin C = \frac{c}{2R}$ and inequality

(1)

$$\text{can be rewritten as } \frac{R_a + R_b + R_c}{\left(\frac{aR_a}{2R} \cdot \frac{bR_b}{2R} \cdot \frac{cR_c}{2R} \right)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow \frac{2R(R_a + R_b + R_c)}{(aR_a \cdot bR_b \cdot cR_c)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{R(R_a + R_b + R_c)}{\sqrt[3]{R_a R_b R_c}} \geq \sqrt{3} \sqrt[3]{abc} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{R_a^2}{R_b R_c}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{R} \sqrt[3]{abc} \text{ or } \sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{\frac{R_a^2}{R_b R_c}} \geq \sqrt{3} \sqrt[3]{\frac{S}{R^2}}.$$

Or, inequality (1) can be rewritten as $\frac{R_a + R_b + R_c}{(R_a \sin A \cdot R_b \sin B \cdot R_c \sin C)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\frac{R_a + R_b + R_c}{(R_a R_b R_c)^{1/3}} \geq 2\sqrt{3} (\sin A \sin B \cdot \sin C)^{1/3}.$$

Since $\frac{R_a + R_b + R_c}{(R_a R_b R_c)^{1/3}} \geq 3$ suffice to prove that $3 \geq 2\sqrt{3} (\sin A \sin B \cdot \sin C)^{1/3} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \geq (\sin A \sin B \cdot \sin C)^{1/3}.$$

We have $\frac{\sin A + \sin B + \sin C}{3} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ (because for $\sin x$ which is concave down on $[0, \pi]$

by Jensen's Inequality holds $\frac{\sin A + \sin B + \sin C}{3} \leq \sin \frac{A+B+C}{3} = \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$)

and by AM-GM $(\sin A \sin B \cdot \sin C)^{1/3} \leq \frac{\sin A + \sin B + \sin C}{3}$.

(Another way to prove inequality $\sin A + \sin B + \sin C \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}$.

First note that for any $x, y \in [0, \pi]$ holds inequality $\sin x + \sin y \leq 2 \sin \frac{x+y}{2}$.

Indeed, $\sin x + \sin y = 2 \sin \frac{x+y}{2} \cos \frac{x-y}{2} \leq 2 \sin \frac{x+y}{2}$ because

$$\frac{x+y}{2} \in [0, \pi] \text{ and } \frac{x-y}{2} \in [-\pi/2, \pi/2].$$

Using inequality $\sin x + \sin y \leq 2 \sin \frac{x+y}{2}$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sin A + \sin B + \sin C + \sin \frac{\pi}{3} &\leq 2 \sin \frac{A+B}{2} + 2 \sin \frac{C + \frac{\pi}{3}}{2} \leq 4 \sin \frac{\frac{A+B}{2} + \frac{C + \frac{\pi}{3}}{2}}{2} = \\ 4 \sin \frac{\pi + \frac{\pi}{3}}{4} &= 4 \cdot \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = 2\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow \sin A + \sin B + \sin C \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

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 $\frac{a^2}{\beta} \geq 2a - \beta, a, \beta > 0$ we obtain

$$I_1 = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{u} = \sum_{cyc} a \cdot \frac{a^2}{u} \geq \sum_{cyc} a(2a - u) = I_0 + \sum_{cyc} a(a - u) =$$

$$I_0 + \sum_{cyc} \left(a^2 - \frac{a(xb+yc)}{x+y} \right) = I_0 + a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{a(xb+yc)}{x+y} =$$

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

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 $I_{m+1} \geq I_m$.

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

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

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 $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2(1 - p)$,

$$[ABC] = \sqrt{q} \text{ and inequality (1) become } 1 - p \geq 2\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{q}.$$

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

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

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