

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6623654257499471872>

Let  $a, b, c \in \left[ \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right]$ . Prove that  $2 \leq \frac{a+b}{1+c} + \frac{b+c}{1+a} + \frac{c+a}{1+b} \leq 3$ .

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

1.  $\sum \frac{a+b}{1+c} \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow \sum \left( \frac{a+b}{1+c} + 1 \right) \geq 5 \Leftrightarrow (a+b+c+1) \sum \frac{1}{1+a} \geq 5$ .

Since by Cauchy Inequality  $\sum \frac{1}{1+a} \geq \frac{9}{3+a+b+c}$  then

$$(a+b+c+1) \sum \frac{1}{1+a} \geq \frac{9(a+b+c+1)}{a+b+c+3} = 9 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{a+b+c+3} \right) \geq 9 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{3+1/2+3} \right) = 5.$$

2. Let  $F(a, b, c) := \frac{a+b}{1+c} + \frac{b+c}{1+a} + \frac{c+a}{1+b}$  and  $f(x) := F(a, b, x)$ .

Since  $f''(x) = \frac{2(a+b)}{(x+1)^3} \geq 0$  then  $f(x)$  is concave up function and,

therefore, due to symmetry of  $F(a, b, c)$ , we have

$$\max_{a,b,c \in [1/2, 1]} F(a, b, c) = \max \{F(1, 1, 1), F(1, 1, 1/2), F(1, 1/2, 1/2), F(1/2, 1/2, 1/2)\} = F(1, 1, 1) = 3.$$