

Inequality

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Let $x, y, z > 1$, prove that:

$$\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{y^2 - 1} + \sqrt{z^2 - 1} \leq (xy + yz + zx)/2.$$

Generalize!

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We will prove that for any real $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n > 1$, where $n \geq 2$, holds inequality

$$(1) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{x_k^2 - 1} \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k x_{k+1} \quad (\text{here } x_{n+1} = x_1).$$

Let $a_k := \sqrt{x_k^2 - 1}, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then $x_k = \sqrt{a_k^2 + 1}, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and **(1)** \Leftrightarrow

$$(2) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{a_k^2 + 1} \cdot \sqrt{a_{k+1}^2 + 1}, \text{ where } a_k > 0, k = 1, 2, \dots, n \text{ and}$$

$$a_{n+1} = a_1.$$

Using Cauchy Inequality we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{a_k^2 + 1} \cdot \sqrt{a_{k+1}^2 + 1} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{a_k^2 + 1} \cdot \sqrt{1 + a_{k+1}^2} \geq \\ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (a_k \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot a_{k+1}) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (a_k + a_{k+1}) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k. \end{aligned}$$