

One equivalent of Schure's Inequality.

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Let x, y, z be three non-negative real numbers such that $xy + yz + zx + xyz = 4$.

Prove that: $x + y + z \geq xy + yz + zx$. When does equality occur?

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Noting that the inequality obviously holds if at least one of the x, y, z equal to zero..

(indeed, let $z = 0$ then $xy + yz + zx + xyz = 4$ becomes $xy = 4$ and since

$x + y \geq 2\sqrt{xy} = 4$ then $x + y + z \geq xy + yz + zx$) we assume further that $x, y, z > 0$.

Lemma.

All positive solutions of equation $xy + yz + zx + xyz = 4$ can be represented in the form

$$x = \frac{2a}{1-a}, y = \frac{2b}{1-b}, z = \frac{2c}{1-c} \text{ where } a, b, c > 0 \text{ and } a + b + c = 1.$$

Proof.

First note that $x + 2 = \frac{2}{1-a} \Leftrightarrow 1 - a = \frac{2}{x+2} \Leftrightarrow a = 1 - \frac{2}{x+2} = \frac{x}{x+2}$ and, similarly,

we obtain $b = \frac{y}{y+2}, c = \frac{z}{z+2}$. Also note that $a + b + c = 1 \Leftrightarrow \sum(1-a) = 2 \Leftrightarrow$

$$\sum \frac{2}{x+2} = 2 \Leftrightarrow xy + yz + zx + xyz = 4.$$

Then by **Lemma** $x + y + z \geq xy + yz + zx \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{2a}{1-a} \geq \sum \frac{2b}{1-b} \cdot \frac{2c}{1-c} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\sum \frac{a}{1-a} \geq 2 \sum \frac{ab}{(1-a)(1-b)} \Leftrightarrow \sum a(1-b)(1-c) \geq 2 \sum ab(1-c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum a(a+bc) \geq 2 \sum ab(1-c) \Leftrightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 3abc \geq 2(ab + bc + ca) - 6abc \Leftrightarrow$$

$9abc \geq 4(ab + bc + ca) - 1$, where latter inequality is Schur's Inequality

$$\sum a(a-b)(a-c) \geq 0 \text{ normalized by } a + b + c = 1.$$

(in homogeneous form $9abc \geq 4(a+b+c)(ab+bc+ca) - (a+b+c)^3$).

Since for $a, b, c > 0$ equality in Schure's Inequality occurs iff $a = b = c$ then

in case $x, y, z > 0$ original inequality equality occurs iff $x = y = z$,

that is iff $x = y = z = 1$ (because the constraint becomes equation

$$3x^2 + x^3 = 4 \text{ which in positive } x \text{ has only one solution } x = 1).$$

If we allow zero values for x, y, z we have more cases of equality, namely

if $x = y = z = 0$ or if $(x, y, z) \in \{(2, 2, 0), (2, 0, 2), (0, 2, 2)\}$.