https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6609718826240221185

(a) It is known that $x, y, z \ge 0$ and $x + y + z = \frac{1}{2}$. Prove that

$$\frac{1-x}{1+x} \cdot \frac{1-y}{1+y} \cdot \frac{1-z}{1+z} \ge \frac{1}{3}.$$

(**b**) It is known that $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ and $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = \frac{1}{2}$. Prove that $\frac{1-x_1}{1+x_1} \cdot \frac{1-x_2}{1+x_2} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{1-x_n}{1+x_n} \ge \frac{1}{3}.$

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Since (a) is particular case of (b) we will solve (b) by preliminarily reformulated it in more convenient equivalent form. Namely, by replacing $(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ with

$$\left(\frac{x_1}{2}, \frac{x_2}{2}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{2}\right)$$
 we obtain instead $\sum_{k=1}^n x_k = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1-x_k}{1+x_k} \ge \frac{1}{3}$, respectively, $\sum_{k=1}^n x_k = 1$ and $\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{2-x_k}{2+x_k} \ge \frac{1}{3}$.

Lemma. For any $x,y \ge 0$ such that $x + y \le 1$ holds inequality

(1)
$$\frac{2-x}{2+x} \cdot \frac{2-y}{2+y} \ge \frac{2-(x+y)}{2+(x+y)}$$

Proof.

Let p := x + y and q := xy. Then $\frac{2-x}{2+x} \cdot \frac{2-y}{2+y} = \frac{4-2p+q}{4+2p+q}$ and since $\frac{4-2p+q}{4+2p+q} = \frac{4-2p+q}{4+2p+q}$ $1 - \frac{4p}{4 + 2p + q} \text{ increase in } q \ge 0 \text{ then } \frac{4 - 2p + q}{4 + 2p + q} \ge \frac{4 - 2p}{4 + 2p} = \frac{2 - p}{2 + p}.$ Thus, $\frac{2-x}{2+x} \cdot \frac{2-y}{2+y} \ge \frac{2-(x+y)}{2+(x+y)}$.

We will prove that $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n \ge 0$ such that $\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k \le 1$ holds inequality

(2)
$$\prod_{k=1}^{n} \frac{2-x_k}{2+x_k} \ge \frac{2-\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k}{2+\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k}.$$

Having inequality (1) (by replacing (x,y) with (x_1,x_2)) as base of Math Induction

for any $x_1,x_2,\ldots,x_n,x_{n+1}\geq 0$ such that $\sum_{k=1}^{n+1}x_k\leq 1$ and, denoting $p:=\sum_{k=1}^nx_k\leq 1$,

 $\prod_{k=1}^{n} \frac{2-x_k}{2+x_k} \ge \frac{2-p}{2+p}$. Since $\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} x_k = p + x_{n+1}$ then applying inequality (1) we obtain

to
$$(x,y) = (p,x_{n+1})$$
 we obtain $\frac{2-p}{2+p} \cdot \frac{2-x_{k+1}}{2+x_{k+1}} \ge \frac{2-(p+x_{n+1})}{2+(p+x_{n+1})} \iff \prod_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{2-x_k}{2+x_k} \ge \frac{2-\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} x_k}{2+\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} x_k}$.

In particular if $\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k = 1$ then (2) becomes $\prod_{k=1}^{n} \frac{2 - x_k}{2 + x_k} \ge \frac{2 - 1}{2 + 1} = \frac{1}{3}$.