

If $a \in U$, $b \in W$, then write $a = 3k_1$, and $b = 3k_2 + 2$, and take $c_1 = 3k_1 + 1$ and $c_2 = 3k_2 + 1$ as the required elements in V .

If $a \in V$, $b \in W$, then write $a = 3k_1 + 1$ and $b = 3k_2 + 2$, and take $c_1 = 3k_1$ and $c_2 = 3(k_2 + 1)$ as the required elements in U .

Therefore, U , V , and W satisfy the prescribed condition.

3. (V. Karamzin) Let a , b , and c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that $2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + a + b + c \geq ab + bc + ca + 6$.

Solved by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA, USA; George Apostolopoulos, Messolonghi, Greece; Michel Bataille, Rouen, France; and Edward T.H. Wang, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON. We give Alt's version.

Since $a + b + c \geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc} = 3$ and $ab + bc + ca \geq 3\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2} = 3$ by the AM–GM Inequality, then we have

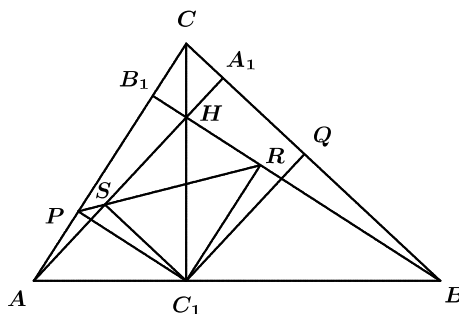
$$\begin{aligned} & 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + a + b + c - (ab + bc + ca) - 6 \\ &= 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) + a + b + c + ab + bc + ca - 6 \\ &= (a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2 \\ &\quad + (a + b + c - 3) + (ab + bc + ca - 3) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

5. (I. Voronovich) Let AA_1 , BB_1 , and CC_1 be the altitudes of an acute triangle ABC . Prove that the feet of the perpendiculars from C_1 to the segments AC , BC , BB_1 , and AA_1 are collinear.

Solved by Miguel Amengual Covas, Cala Figuera, Mallorca, Spain; Michel Bataille, Rouen, France; Geoffrey A. Kandall, Hamden, CT, USA; and Titu Zvonaru, Comănești, Romania. We give Kandall's version.

Let P , Q , R , S be the feet of the perpendiculars from C_1 to AC , BC , BB_1 , AA_1 , respectively, and let the orthocentre of ABC be H . Draw PS and SR .

The quadrilaterals $APSC_1$ and $SHRC_1$ are cyclic, and so $\angle PSA = \angle PC_1A = 90^\circ - \angle CAB$ and $\angle HSR = \angle HC_1R = 90^\circ - \angle RC_1B = \angle RBA = 90^\circ - \angle CAB$. Thus, $\angle PSA = \angle HSR$, that is, the points P , S , and R are collinear. The proof that S , R , and Q are collinear is analogous. Therefore, P , S , R , and Q are collinear.



7. (I. Zhuk) Let x , y , and z be real numbers greater than 1 such that

$$\begin{aligned}xy^2 - y^2 + 4xy + 4x - 4y &= 4004, \\xz^2 - z^2 + 6xz + 9x - 6z &= 1009.\end{aligned}$$

Determine all possible values of $xyz + 3xy + 2xz - yz + 6x - 3y - 2z$.

Solved by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA, USA; Konstantine Zelator, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA; and Titu Zvonaru, Comănești, Romania. We give Zelator's solution.

The first equation is equivalent to $x(y^2 + 4y + 4) = 4004 + y^2 + 4y$, or $x(y + 2)^2 = 4000 + (y + 2)^2$, and we obtain

$$x = \frac{4000}{(y + 2)^2} + 1. \quad (3)$$

By similar manipulations of the second equation we obtain

$$x = \frac{1000}{(z + 3)^2} + 1. \quad (4)$$

Note that both (3) and (4) are consistent with the hypothesis that $x > 1$, $y > 1$, and $z > 1$.

By (3) and (4) we have

$$\frac{4000}{(y + 2)^2} = \frac{1000}{(z + 3)^2} \iff \left(\frac{y + 2}{z + 3}\right)^2 = 4,$$

and since $\frac{y + 2}{z + 3} > 0$ we have $\frac{y + 2}{z + 3} = 2$ and $y = 2z + 4$.

Next, we write

$$\begin{aligned}Q(x, y, z) &= xyz + 3xy + 2xz - yz + 6x - 3y - 2z \\&= (xyz + 3xy + 2xz + 6x) + (-yz - 3y - 2z) \\&= Q_1(x, y, z) + Q_2(x, y, z).\end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

We have $Q_1(x, y, z) = x(yz + 3y + 2z + 6)$. Substituting $y = 2z + 4$ yields $Q_1(x, y, z) = 2x(z + 3)^2$, and then by (4) we obtain

$$Q_1(x, y, z) = 2000 + 2(z + 3)^2. \quad (6)$$

Next we substitute $y = 2z + 4$ into $Q_2(x, y, z) = -yz - 3y - 2z$ to obtain

$$Q_2(x, y, z) = 6 - 2(z + 3)^2. \quad (7)$$

By virtue of (5), (6), and (7) we have $Q(x, y, z) = 2006$.

Thus, the expression $Q(x, y, z)$ has a fixed value, namely 2006, so the set of all possible values of $Q(x, y, z)$ is the singleton set $\{2006\}$.