

O369. Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2 + bc}{b + c} + \frac{b^2 + ca}{c + a} + \frac{c^2 + ab}{a + b} \geq \sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}.$$

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Let  $p := ab + bc + ca, q := abc$  and let  $a + b + c = 1$  (due to homogeneity).

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + bc}{b + c} &= \frac{1}{p - q} \sum_{cyc} (a^2 + bc)(1 - b)(1 - c) = \frac{1}{p - q} \sum_{cyc} (a^2 + bc)(a + bc) = \\ &= \frac{1}{p - q} (a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 3abc + abc(a + b + c) + a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2) = \\ &= \frac{1 + 3q - 3p + 3q + q + p^2 - 2q}{p - q} = \frac{1 + 5q - 3p + p^2}{p - q} \end{aligned}$$

and inequality becomes

$$\frac{1 - 3p + p^2 + 5q}{p - q} \geq \sqrt{3(1 - 2p)}.$$

Also note that  $0 < p \leq \frac{1}{3}$  (because  $ab + bc + ca \leq \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{3}$ ) and  $q \geq \frac{(1 - p)(4p - 1)}{6}$

(Schure Inequality  $\sum_{cyc} a^2(a - b)(a - c) \geq 0$  in 1-p-q notation).

Since  $\frac{1 - 3p + p^2 + 5q}{p - q}$  increasing in  $q > 0$  and  $q \geq \max\left\{0, \frac{(1 - p)(4p - 1)}{6}\right\}$

then

$$\frac{1 - 3p + p^2 + 5q}{p - q} \geq \frac{1 - 3p + p^2 + 5 \cdot \frac{(1 - p)(4p - 1)}{6}}{p - \frac{(1 - p)(4p - 1)}{6}} = \frac{1 + 7p - 14p^2}{4p^2 + p + 1}$$

and suffices to prove inequalities:

$$\frac{1 + 7p - 14p^2}{4p^2 + p + 1} \geq \sqrt{3(1 - 2p)} \iff (1 + 7p - 14p^2)^2 \geq 3(1 - 2p)(4p^2 + p + 1)^2$$

$$\text{for } p \in [1/4, 1/3]$$

and

$$\frac{1 - 3p + p^2}{p} \geq \sqrt{3(1 - 2p)} \text{ for } p \in (0, 1/4].$$