

O383. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{a+b}{6c} + \frac{b+c}{6a} + \frac{c+a}{6b} + 2 \geq \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{2c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{2a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+a}{2b}}.$$

*Proposed by Marius Stănean, Zalău, România*

*Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA, USA*

$$\text{Since } 2 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{6c} \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{2c}} \iff \left(2 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{6c}\right)^2 \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{2c} + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{(a+b)(b+c)}{ca}}$$

and

$$\sqrt{\frac{(a+b)(b+c)}{ca}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a+b}{a} + \frac{b+c}{c}\right) = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{b}{c}\right)$$

then

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{(a+b)(b+c)}{ca}} \leq 3 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{b}{a} + \frac{b}{c}\right) = 3 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{2c}$$

and

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{2c} + \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{(a+b)(b+c)}{ca}} \leq 3 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{c}.$$

Thus, suffice to prove inequality

(1)

$$\left(2 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{6c}\right)^2 \geq 3 + \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{c}.$$

Let  $t := \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{6c}$ . Since

$$t + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{a+b}{c} + 1\right) = \frac{1}{6} (a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right)$$

and  $(a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \geq 9$  then  $t + \frac{1}{2} \geq \frac{9}{6} \iff t \geq 1$  and (1) becomes

$$(2+t)^2 \geq 3+6t \iff (t-1)^2 \geq 0.$$

Since  $t = 1 \iff a = b = c$  then equality in original inequality occurs iff  $a = b = c$ .

*Also solved by Daniel Lasoasa, Pamplona, Spain; Utsab Sarkar, West Bengal, India; Ghenghea Daniel; Nicușor Zlota, "Traian Vuia" Technical College, Focșani, Romania; Nikolaos Eugenidis, M.N.Raptou High School, Larissa, Greece; Sushanth Sathish Kumar, Jeffery Trail Middle School, Irvine, CA, USA; Li Zhou, Polk State College, USA.*