

S123. Prove that in any triangle with sidelengths a, b, c the following inequality holds:

$$\frac{b+c}{a} + \frac{c+a}{b} + \frac{a+b}{c} + \frac{(b+c-a)(c+a-b)(a+b-c)}{abc} \geq 7.$$

Proposed by Cezar Lupu, University of Bucharest, Romania

First solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA

Let $s = \frac{a+b+c}{2}$ is semiperimeter of a triangle with sidelengths a, b, c . Then, due to triangle inequalities $a, b, c < s$ and setting $x := s - a, y := s - b, z := s - c$ we obtain

$$a = y + z, b = z + x, c = x + y, s = x + y + z, \text{ where } x, y, z > 0.$$

Thus, original inequality becomes

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{2x+y+z}{y+z} + \frac{8xyz}{(y+z)(z+x)(x+y)} \geq 7 \iff \sum_{cyc} \frac{s+x}{s-x} + \frac{8xyz}{(s-x)(s-y)(s-z)} \geq 7 \iff$$

$$\sum_{cyc} (s+x)(s-y)(s-z) + 8xyz \geq 7(s-x)(s-y)(s-z) \iff$$

$$\sum_{cyc} (s+x)(sx+yz) + 8xyz \geq 7(xy+yz+zx-xyz) \iff 2s^3 - 8s(xy+yz+zx) + 18xyz \geq 0$$

$$(x+y+z)^3 - 4(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx) + 9xyz \geq 0 \iff$$

$$\sum_{cyc} x(x-y)(x-z) \geq 0 \text{ (**Schur's Inequality**)}.$$

Second solution by Gheorghe Pupazan, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

We make the well-known substitution $a = x + y, b = y + z$ and $c = z + x$, where $x, y, z > 0$. The inequality becomes equivalent to:

$$\frac{2x+y+z}{y+z} + \frac{x+2y+z}{z+x} + \frac{x+y+2z}{x+y} + \frac{8xyz}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)} \geq 7.$$

After multiplying both sides by $(x+y)(y+z)(z+x)$, the inequality becomes equivalent with:

$$2(x^3 + y^3 + z^3) + 6xyz \geq 2xyz \cdot \sum xy(x+y)$$

$$\iff 2 \sum x(x-y)(x-z) \geq 0$$

which is just Schur's inequality.