

S276. Let a, b, c be real numbers such that

$$\frac{2}{a^2 + 1} + \frac{2}{b^2 + 1} + \frac{2}{c^2 + 1} \geq 3.$$

Prove that $(a - 2)^2 + (b - 2)^2 + (c - 2)^2 \geq 3$.

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Notice that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{2}{a^2 + 1} \geq 3 \iff \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{2}{a^2 + 1} - 1 \right) \geq 0 \iff \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - a^2}{1 + a^2} \geq 0.$$

Now, the key part is to see that

$$\begin{aligned} (a - 2)^2 - \frac{2}{a^2 + 1} &= \frac{a^4 - 4a^3 + 5a^2 - 4a + 2}{a^2 + 1} = \frac{a^4 - 4a^3 + 6a^2 - 4a + 1 + (1 - a^2)}{a^2 + 1} \\ &= \frac{(a - 2)^4}{a^2 + 1} + \frac{1 - a^2}{1 + a^2}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\sum_{cyc} (a - 2)^2 = \sum_{cyc} \frac{2}{a^2 + 1} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{(a - 2)^4}{a^2 + 1} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{1 - a^2}{1 + a^2} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{2}{a^2 + 1} \geq 3.$$

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