

## Olympiad problems

O295. Let  $a, b, c, x, y, z$  be positive real numbers such that  $x + y + z = 1$  and

$$2ab + 2bc + 2ca > a^2 + b^2 + c^2.$$

Prove that

$$a(x + 3yz) + b(y + 3xz) + c(z + 3xy) \leq \frac{2}{3}(a + b + c).$$

*Proposed by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA*

*Solution by Li Zhou, Polk State College, USA*

Using  $x + y + z = 1$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} B &= 2(a + b + c) - 3[a(x + 3yz) + b(y + 3xz) + c(z + 3xy)] \\ &= 2(a + b + c)(x + y + z)^2 - 3 \sum_{cyc} a [x(x + y + z) + 3yz] \\ &= 2au^2 + avw + 2bv^2 + bwu + 2cw^2 + cvw, \end{aligned}$$

where  $u = y - z$ ,  $v = z - x$ , and  $w = x - y$ . Replacing  $w$  by  $-(u + v)$ , we obtain further

$$B = (2c + 2a - b)u^2 + (5c - a - b)uv + (2b + 2c - a)v^2.$$

Now the discriminant

$$(5c - a - b)^2 - 4(2c + 2a - b)(2b + 2c - a) = 9(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2ab - 2bc - 2ca) < 0.$$

Also,  $(2c + 2a - b) + (2b + 2c - a) = a + b + 4c > 0$ . So both  $2c + 2a - b > 0$  and  $2b + 2c - a > 0$ . Therefore,  $B \geq 0$ , completing the proof.

*Also solved by Daniel Lasaosa, Universidad Pública de Navarra, Spain; Khakimboy Egamberganov, Academic Lyceum S.H.Sirojiddinov, Tashkent, Uzbekistan; Nicușor Zlota, "Traian Vuia" Technical College, Focșani, Romania; Paolo Perfetti, Università degli studi di Tor Vergata Roma, Roma, Italy.*