
Inequalities Marathon

Problem 1 'India 2002' (Hassan Al-Sibyani): For any positive real numbers a, b, c show that the following inequality holds

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{c+a}{c+b} + \frac{a+b}{a+c} + \frac{b+c}{b+a}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Ok. After not so many computations i got that:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} - \frac{a+b}{c+a} - \frac{b+c}{a+b} - \frac{c+a}{b+c} \\ &= \frac{abc}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2} - \frac{a}{b} - \frac{b}{c} - \frac{c}{a} \right) \\ & \quad + \frac{abc}{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)} \left(\frac{ab}{c^2} + \frac{bc}{a^2} + \frac{ca}{b^2} - 3 \right) \end{aligned}$$

So in order to prove the above inequality we need to prove $\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2} \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}$ and $\frac{ab}{c^2} + \frac{bc}{a^2} + \frac{ca}{b^2} \geq 3$. The second inequality is obvious by AM-GM, and for the first we have:

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

where i used AM-GM and the inequality $3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq (x + y + z)^2$ for $x = \frac{a}{b}$, $y = \frac{b}{c}$, $z = \frac{c}{a}$. So the inequality is proved.

Second Solution (Raghav Grover): Substitute $\frac{a}{b} = x$, $\frac{b}{c} = y$, $\frac{c}{a} = z$ So $xyz = 1$. The inequality after substitution becomes

$$x^2z + y^2x + z^2x + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq x + y + z + 3$$

$x^2z + y^2x + z^2x \geq 3$ So now it is left to prove that $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq x + y + z$ which is easy.

Third Solution (Popa Alexandru): Bashing out it gives

$$a^4c^2 + b^4a^2 + c^4b^2 + a^3b^3 + b^3c^3 + a^3c^3 \geq abc(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + 3abc)$$

which is true because AM-GM gives :

$$a^3b^3 + b^3c^3 + a^3c^3 \geq 3a^2b^2c^2$$

and by Muirhead :

$$a^4c^2 + b^4a^2 + c^4b^2 \geq abc(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2)$$

Fourth Solution (Popa Alexandru): Observe that the inequality is equivalent with:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + bc}{a(a+b)} \geq 3$$

Now use AM-GM:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 + bc}{a(a+b)} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{\prod(a^2 + bc)}{abc \prod(a+b)}}$$

So it remains to prove:

$$\prod(a^2 + bc) \geq abc \prod(a + b)$$

Now we prove

$$(a^2 + bc)(b^2 + ca) \geq ab(c + a)(b + c) \Leftrightarrow a^3 + b^3 \geq ab^2 + a^2b \Leftrightarrow (a + b)(a - b)^2 \geq 0$$

Multiplying the similars we are done.

Problem 2 ‘*Maxim Bogdan*’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c, d > 0$ such that $a \leq b \leq c \leq d$ and $abcd = 1$. Then show that:

$$(a + 1)(d + 1) \geq 3 + \frac{3}{4d^3}$$

First Solution (Mateescu Constantin): From the condition $a \leq b \leq c \leq d$ we get that $a \geq \frac{1}{d^3}$.

$$\Rightarrow (a + 1)(d + 1) \geq \left(\frac{1}{d^3} + 1\right)(d + 1)$$

$$\text{Now let's prove that } \left(1 + \frac{1}{d^3}\right)(d + 1) \geq 3 + \frac{3}{4d^3}$$

$$\text{This is equivalent with: } (d^3 + 1)(d + 1) \geq 3d^3 + \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow [d(d - 1)]^2 - [d(d - 1)] + 1 \geq \frac{3}{4} \Leftrightarrow \left[d(d - 1) - \frac{1}{2}\right]^2 \geq 0.$$

$$\text{Equality holds for } a = \frac{1}{d^3} \text{ and } d(d - 1) - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow d = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Problem 3 ‘*Darij Grinberg*’ (Hassan Al-Sibyani): If a, b, c are three positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{a}{(b + c)^2} + \frac{b}{(c + a)^2} + \frac{c}{(a + b)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4(a + b + c)}$$

First Solution (Dimitris X):

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{ab^2 + ac^2 + 2abc} \geq \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{\sum_{sym} a^2b + 6abc}$$

So we only have to prove that:

$$4(a + b + c)^3 \geq 9 \sum_{sym} a^2b + 54abc \Leftrightarrow 4(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) + 12 \sum_{sym} a^2b + 24abc \geq 9 \sum_{sym} a^2b + 54abc \Leftrightarrow$$

$$4(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) + 3 \sum_{sym} a^2b \geq 30abc$$

$$\text{But } \sum_{sym} a^2b \geq 6abc \text{ and } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq 3abc$$

$$\text{So } 4(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) + 3 \sum_{sym} a^2b \geq 30abc$$

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru): Use Cauchy-Schwartz and Nesbitt:

$$(a + b + c) \left(\frac{a}{(b + c)^2} + \frac{b}{(c + a)^2} + \frac{c}{(a + b)^2} \right) \geq \left(\frac{a}{b + c} + \frac{b}{c + a} + \frac{c}{a + b} \right)^2 \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

Problem 4 ‘United Kingdom’ (Dimitris X): For $a, b, c \geq 0$ and $a+b+c = 1$ prove that $7(ab+bc+ca) \leq 2+9abc$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

Homogenize to

$$2(a+b+c)^3 + 9abc \geq 7(ab+bc+ca)(a+b+c)$$

Expanding it becomes :

$$\sum_{sym} a^3 + 6 \sum_{sym} a^2b + 21abc \geq 7 \sum_{sym} a^2b + 21abc$$

So we just need to show:

$$\sum_{sym} a^3 \geq \sum_{sym} a^2b$$

which is obvious by

$$a^3 + a^3 + b^3 \geq 3a^2b \text{ and similars.}$$

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru): Schur gives $1 + 9abc \geq 4(ab+bc+ca)$ and use also $3(ab+bc+ca) \leq (a+b+c)^2 = 1$ Suming is done .

Problem 5 ‘Gheorghe Szollosy, Gazeta Matematica’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Prove that:

$$\sqrt{x(y+1)} + \sqrt{y(z+1)} + \sqrt{z(x+1)} \leq \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{(x+1)(y+1)(z+1)}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Dividing with the square root on the RHS we have :

$$\sqrt{\frac{x}{(x+1)(z+1)}} + \sqrt{\frac{y}{(x+1)(y+1)}} + \sqrt{\frac{z}{(y+1)(z+1)}} \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

By AM-GM

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{x}{(x+1)(z+1)}} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{x+1} + \frac{1}{y+1} \right) \\ \sqrt{\frac{y}{(x+1)(y+1)}} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y}{y+1} + \frac{1}{x+1} \right) \\ \sqrt{\frac{z}{(y+1)(z+1)}} &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{z}{z+1} + \frac{1}{y+1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Summing we obtain

$$LHS \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(\frac{x}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x+1} \right) + \left(\frac{y}{y+1} + \frac{1}{y+1} \right) + \left(\frac{z}{z+1} + \frac{1}{z+1} \right) \right) = \frac{3}{2}$$

Problem 6 ‘—’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be positive numbers , then prove that

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq \frac{4a}{2a^2 + b^2 + c^2} + \frac{4b}{a^2 + 2b^2 + c^2} + \frac{4c}{a^2 + b^2 + 2c^2}$$

First Solution (Mateescu Constantin): By AM – GM we have $2a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4a\sqrt{bc}$
 $\implies \frac{4a}{2a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \leq \frac{4a}{4a\sqrt{bc}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{bc}}$

Add the similar inequalities $\implies RHS \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{bc}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{ca}}$ (1)

Using Cauchy-Schwarz we have $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{bc}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{ca}}\right)^2 \leq \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right)^2$

So $\frac{1}{\sqrt{ab}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{bc}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{ca}} \leq \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}$ (2)

From (1), (2) we obtain the desired result .

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru): By Cauchy-Schwartz :

$$\frac{4a}{2a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \leq \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{a}{a^2 + c^2}$$

Then we have

$$RHS \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{a+b}{a^2 + b^2} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{2}{a+b} \leq \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{1}{2a} + \frac{1}{2b}\right) = LHS$$

Problem 7 ‘—’ (Mateescu Constantin): Let a, b, c, d, e be non-negative real numbers such that $a + b + c + d + e = 5$. Prove that:

$$abc + bcd + cde + dea + eab \leq 5$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Assume $e \leq \min\{a, b, c, d\}$. Then AM-GM gives :

$$e(c+a)(b+d) + bc(a+d-e) \leq \frac{e(5-e)^2}{4} + \frac{(5-2e)^2}{27} \leq 5$$

the last one being equivalent with:

$$(e-1)^2(e+8) \geq 0$$

Problem 8 ‘Popa Alexandru’ (Popa Alexandru): Let a, b, c be real numbers such that $0 \leq a \leq b \leq c$. Prove that:

$$(a+b)(c+a)^2 \geq 6abc$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Let

$$b = xa, \quad c = yb = xya \implies x, y \geq 1$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(a+b)(a+c)^2}{3} &\geq 2abc \\ \Leftrightarrow (x+1)(xy+1)^2 \cdot a^3 &\geq 6x^2ya^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow (x+1)(xy+1)^2 \geq 6x^2y \\ &\Leftrightarrow (x+1)(4xy+(xy-1)^2) \geq 6x^2y \\ &\Leftrightarrow 4xy+(xy-1)^2 \cdot x+(xy-1)^2-2x^2y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

We have that:

$$\begin{aligned} &4xy+(xy-1)^2 \cdot x+(xy-1)^2-2x^2y \geq \\ &\geq 4xy+2(xy-1)^2-2x^2y \text{ (because } x \geq 1) \\ &= 2x^2y^2+2-2x^2y=2xy(y-1)+2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

done.

Second Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $b = a + x, c = b + y = a + x + y$, sure $x, y \geq 0$
Inequality becomes

$$(2a+x)(x+y+2a)^2 - 6a(a+x)(a+x+y) \geq 0$$

But

$$(2a+x)(x+y+2a)^2 - 6a(a+x)(a+x+y) = 2a^3 + 2a^2y + 2axy + 2ay^2 + x^3 + 2x^2y + xy^2$$

which is clearly positive.

Problem 9 ‘—’ (Raghav Grover): Prove for positive reals

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+d} + \frac{c}{d+a} + \frac{d}{a+b} \geq 2$$

First Solution (Dimitris X):

$$\text{From andrescu } LHS \geq \frac{(a+b+c+d)^2}{\sum_{sym} ab + (ac+bd)}$$

So we only need to prove that:

$$(a+b+c+d)^2 \geq 2 \sum_{sym} ab + 2(ac+bd) \iff (a-c)^2 + (b-d)^2 \geq 0 \dots$$

Problem 10 ‘—’ (Dimitris X): Let a, b, c, d be REAL numbers such that $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 4$ Prove that:

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + d^3 \leq 8$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Just observe that

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + d^3 \leq 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2) = 8$$

because $a, b, c, d \leq 2$

Problem 11 ‘—’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $abc = 1$. Prove that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a^2 + 2b^2 + 3} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Using AM-GM we have :

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(a^2 + b^2) + (b^2 + 1) + 2} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2ab + 2b + 2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{ab + b + 1} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

because

$$\frac{1}{bc + c + 1} = \frac{1}{bc + c + abc} = \frac{1}{c} \cdot \frac{1}{ab + b + 1} = \frac{ab}{ab + b + 1}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{ca + a + 1} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{b} + a + 1} = \frac{b}{ab + b + 1}$$

so

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{ab + b + 1} = \frac{1}{ab + b + 1} + \frac{ab}{ab + b + 1} + \frac{b}{ab + b + 1} = 1$$

Problem 12 ‘Popa Alexandru’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a + b + c = 1$. Prove that:

$$\frac{1 + a + b}{2 + c} + \frac{1 + b + c}{2 + a} + \frac{1 + c + a}{2 + b} \geq \frac{15}{7}$$

First Solution (Dimitris X):

$$\sum \frac{1 + a + b}{2 + c} + 1 \geq \frac{15}{7} + 3 \iff \sum \frac{3 + (a + b + c)}{2 + c} \geq \frac{36}{7} \iff \sum \frac{4}{2 + c} \geq \frac{36}{7}$$

$$\text{But } \sum \frac{2^2}{2 + c} \geq \frac{(2 + 2 + 2)^2}{2 + 2 + 2 + a + b + c} = \frac{36}{7}$$

Second Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $a \geq b \geq c$ then by Chebyshev’s inequality we have

$$LHS \geq \frac{1}{3} (1 + 1 + 1 + 2(a + b + c)) \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2 + a} = \frac{5}{3} \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2 + a}$$

$$\text{By Titu’s Lemma } \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2 + a} \geq \frac{9}{7}, \text{ then } LHS \geq \frac{15}{7}$$

Problem 13 ‘Titu Andreescu, IMO 2000’ (Dimitris X): Let a, b, c be positive so that $abc = 1$

$$\left(a - 1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(b - 1 + \frac{1}{c}\right) \left(c - 1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \leq 1$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

$$\left(a - 1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(b - 1 + \frac{1}{c}\right) \left(c - 1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \leq 1$$

Substitute $a = \frac{x}{y}, b = \frac{y}{z}$

Inequality is equivalent with

$$\left(\frac{x}{y} - 1 + \frac{z}{y}\right) \left(\frac{y}{z} - 1 + \frac{x}{z}\right) \left(\frac{z}{x} - 1 + \frac{y}{x}\right) \leq 1$$

$$\iff (x + z - y)(y - z + x)(z - x + y) \leq xyz$$

WLOG, Let $x > y > z$, then $x + z > y, x + y > z$. If $y + z < x$, then we are done because

$$(x + z - y)(y - z + x)(z - x + y) \leq 0 \text{ and } xyz \geq 0$$

Otherwise if $y + z > x$, then x, y, z are side lengths of a triangle, and then we can make the substitution

$$x = m + n, y = n + t \text{ and } z = t + m$$

Inequality is equivalent with

$$8mnt \leq (m + n)(n + t)(t + m), \text{ this is true by AM-GM}$$

$$m + n \geq 2\sqrt{mn}, n + t \geq 2\sqrt{nt} \text{ and } t + m \geq 2\sqrt{tm}, \text{ multiply and we're done.}$$

Problem 14 'Korea 1998' (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = abc$. Prove that:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{b^2 + 1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^2 + 1}} \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

First Solution (Dimitris X): Setting $a = \frac{1}{x}, b = \frac{1}{y}, c = \frac{1}{z}$ the condition becomes $xy + yz + zx = 1$, and the inequality:

$$\sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{But } \sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + xy + xz + zy}} = \sum \sqrt{\frac{x}{x+y} \frac{x}{x+z}}$$

$$\text{But } \sqrt{\frac{x}{x+y} \frac{x}{x+z}} \leq \frac{\frac{x}{x+y} + \frac{x}{x+z}}{2}$$

$$\text{So } \sum \sqrt{\frac{x}{x+y} \frac{x}{x+z}} \leq \frac{\frac{x}{x+y} + \frac{y}{x+y} + \frac{x}{z+x} + \frac{z}{z+x} + \frac{y}{y+z} + \frac{z}{z+y}}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

Second Solution (Raghav Grover):

Substitute $a = \tan x, b = \tan y$ and $c = \tan z$ where $x + y + z = \pi$

And we are left to prove

$$\cos x + \cos y + \cos z \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

Which i think is very well known..

Third Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): By AM-GM we have $a + b + c \geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc}$ and since $a + b + c = abc \implies (abc)^2 \geq 27$

We rewrite the given inequality as

$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{b^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{c^2 + 1} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

Since function $f(a) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+1}}$ is concave ,we apply Jensen's inequality

$$\frac{1}{3}f(a) + \frac{1}{3}f(b) + \frac{1}{3}f(c) \leq f\left(\frac{a+b+c}{3}\right) = f\left(\frac{abc}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{(abc)^2}{3^2}+1}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \iff (abc)^2 \geq 27, \text{ QED}$$

Problem 15 ‘—’ (Dimitris X):

If $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$. Find the minimum value of $A = ab + bc + ca - 3(a + b + c)$.

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

$$ab + bc + ca = \frac{(a+b+c)^2 - a^2 - b^2 - c^2}{2} = \frac{(a+b+c)^2 - 3}{2}$$

Let $a + b + c = x$

$$\text{Then } A = \frac{x^2}{2} - 3x - \frac{3}{2}$$

We consider the second degree fuction $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{2} - 3x - \frac{3}{2}$

We obtain minimum for $f\left(\frac{-b}{2a}\right) = f(3) = -6$

Then $A_{min} = -6$,it is attained for $a = b = c = 1$

Problem 16 ‘—’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): If a, b, c are positive real numbers such that $a + b + c = 1$. Prove that

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

First Solution (keyree10): Let $f(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}}$. $f''(x) > 0$

Therefore, $\sum \frac{a}{\sqrt{1-a}} \geq \frac{3s}{\sqrt{1-s}}$, where $s = \frac{a+b+c}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$, by jensen's.

$\implies \frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$. Hence proved

Second Solution (geniusbliss):

By holders' inequality,

$$\left(\sum_{cyclic} \frac{a}{(b+c)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right) \left(\sum_{cyclic} \frac{a}{(b+c)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right) \left(\sum_{cyclic} a(b+c)\right) \geq (a+b+c)^3$$

thus,

$$\left(\sum_{cyclic} \frac{a}{(b+c)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right)^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{2(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \frac{3(ab+bc+ca)}{2(ab+bc+ca)} = \frac{3}{2}$$

or,

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Third Solution (Redwane Khyaoui):

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \frac{1}{3}(a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+b}}\right)$$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ is a convex function, so Jensen's inequality gives:

$$LHS \geq \frac{1}{3} \left(3 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}(a+b+c)}} \right) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Problem 17 '—' (keyree10): If a, b, c are REALS such that $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ Prove that

$$a + b + c - 2abc \leq \sqrt{2}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

Use Cauchy-Schwartz:

$$LHS = a(1 - 2bc) + (b + c) \leq \sqrt{(a^2 + (b + c)^2)((1 - 2bc)^2 + 1)}$$

So it'll be enough to prove that :

$$(a^2 + (b + c)^2)((1 - 2bc)^2 + 1) \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow (1 + 2bc)(1 - bc + 2b^2c^2) \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow 4b^2c^2 \leq 1$$

which is true because

$$1 \geq b^2 + c^2 \geq 2bc$$

done

Problem 18 '—' (Popa Alexandru): Let $x, y, z > 0$ such that $xyz = 1$. Show that:

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + x + y + z \geq 2(xy + yz + zx)$$

First Solution (great math): To solve the problem of alex, we need Schur and Cauchy inequality as demonstrated as follow

$$a + b + c \geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc} = \sqrt[3]{(abc)^2} \geq \frac{9abc}{a + b + c} \geq 2(ab + bc + ca) - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)$$

Note that we possess the another form of Schur such as

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c) + 9abc \geq 2(ab + bc + ca)(a + b + c)$$

Therefore, needless to say, we complete our proof here.

Problem 19 'Hoang Quoc Viet' (Hoang Quoc Viet): Let a, b, c be positive reals satisfying $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$. Prove that

$$(abc)^2(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) \leq 3$$

First Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet): Let

$$A = (abc)^2(a^3 + b^3 + c^3)$$

Therefore, we only need to maximize the following expression

$$A^3 = (abc)^6(a^3 + b^3 + c^3)^3$$

Using Cauchy inequality as follows, we get

$$A^3 = \frac{1}{3^6} (3a^2b) (3a^2c) (3b^2a) (3b^2c) (3c^2a) (3c^2b) (a^3 + b^3 + c^3)^3 \leq \left(\frac{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a + b + c)}{9} \right)^9$$

It is fairly straightforward that

$$a + b + c \leq \sqrt{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} = 3$$

Therefore,

$$A^3 \leq 3^3$$

which leads to $A \leq 3$ as desired. The equality case happens $\iff a = b = c = 1$

Second Solution (FantasyLover):

For the sake of convenience, let us introduce the new unknowns u, v, w as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= a + b + c \\ v &= ab + bc + ca \\ w &= abc \end{aligned}$$

Now note that $u^2 - 2v = 3$ and $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = u(u^2 - 3v) = u \left(\frac{9 - u^2}{2} \right)$.

We are to prove that $w^2 \left(u \cdot \frac{9 - u^2}{2} + 3w \right) \leq 3$.

By AM-GM, we have $\sqrt[3]{abc} \leq \frac{a + b + c}{3} \implies w \leq \frac{u^3}{3^3}$.

Hence, it suffices to prove that $u^7 \cdot \frac{9 - u^2}{2} + \frac{u^9}{3^2} \leq 3^7$.

However, by QM-AM we have $\sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{3}} \geq \frac{a + b + c}{3} \implies u \leq 3$

differentiating, u achieves its maximum when $\frac{7u^6(9 - u^2)}{2} = 0$.

Since a, b, c are positive, u cannot be 0, and the only possible value for u is 3.

Since $u \leq 3$, the above inequality is true.

Problem 20 ‘Murray Klamkin, IMO 1983’ (Hassan Al-Sibyani): Let a, b, c be the lengths of the sides of a triangle. Prove that:

$$a^2b(a - b) + b^2c(b - c) + c^2a(c - a) \geq 0$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Use Ravi substitution $a = x + y$, $b = y + z$, $c = z + x$ then the inequality becomes :

$$\frac{x^2}{y} + \frac{y^2}{z} + \frac{z^2}{x} \geq x + y + z,$$

true by Cauchy-Schwartz.

Second Solution (geniusbliss): we know from triangle inequality that $b \geq (a - c)$ and $c \geq (b - a)$ and $a \geq (c - b)$

therefore,

$$a^2b(a - b) + b^2c(b - c) + c^2a(c - a) \geq a^2(a - c)(a - b) + b^2(b - a)(b - c) + c^2(c - b)(c - a) \geq 0$$

and the last one is schur's inequality for $r = 2$ so proved with the equality holding when $a = b = c$ or for and equilateral triangle

Problem 21 'Popa Alexandru' (Popa Alexandru): Let $x, y, z \in \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$. Show that :

$$1 \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz} + \frac{2}{3(x + y + z)}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

By Am-Gm $x + y + z \geq 3\sqrt[3]{xyz}$, then

$$\frac{2}{3(x + y + z)} + \sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{2}{9\sqrt[3]{xyz}} + \sqrt[3]{xyz}$$

Since $x, y, z \in \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$, then $\frac{1}{3} \leq \sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{2}{3}$

Let $a = \sqrt[3]{xyz}$, then $a + \frac{2}{9a} \leq 1 \iff 9a^2 - 9a + 2 \leq 0 \iff 9\left(a - \frac{1}{3}\right)\left(a - \frac{2}{3}\right) \leq 0$, we're done since

$$\frac{1}{3} \leq a \leq \frac{2}{3}$$

Problem 22 'Endrit Fejzullahu' (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be side lengths of a triangle, and β is the angle between a and c . Prove that

$$\frac{b^2 + c^2}{a^2} > \frac{2\sqrt{3}c \sin \beta - a}{b + c}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): According to the Weitzenbock's inequality we have

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4\sqrt{3}S \text{ and } S = \frac{ac \sin \beta}{2}$$

Then

$b^2 + c^2 \geq 2\sqrt{3}ac \sin \beta - a^2$, dividing by a^2 , we have

$$\frac{b^2 + c^2}{a^2} \geq \frac{2\sqrt{3}c \sin \beta - a}{a}$$

Since $a < b + c \implies \frac{b^2 + c^2}{a^2} \geq \frac{2\sqrt{3}c \sin \beta - a}{a} > \frac{2\sqrt{3}c \sin \beta - a}{b + c}$

Problem 23 ‘Dinu Serbanescu, Junior TST 2002, Romania’ (Hassan Al-Sibyani): If $a, b, c \in (0, 1)$ Prove that:

$$\sqrt{abc} + \sqrt{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)} < 1$$

First Solution (FantasyLover):

Since $a, b, c \in (0, 1)$, let us have $a = \sin^2 A, b = \sin^2 B, c = \sin^2 C$ where $A, B, C \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$.

Then, we are to prove that $\sin A \sin B \sin C + \cos A \cos B \cos C < 1$.

Now noting that $\sin C, \cos C < 1$, we have $\sin A \sin B \sin C + \cos A \cos B \cos C < \sin A \sin B + \cos A \cos B = \cos(A - B) \leq 1$. ■

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru): Cauchy-Schwartz and AM-GM works fine :

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{abc} + \sqrt{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)} &= \sqrt{a}\sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{1-a}\sqrt{(1-b)(1-c)} \leq \\ &\sqrt{a+(1-a)}\sqrt{bc+(1-b)(1-c)} = \sqrt{bc+(1-b)(1-c)} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Third Solution (Redwane Khyaoui):

$$\sqrt{abc} + \sqrt{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)} \leq \frac{a+bc}{2} + \frac{1-a+(1-b)(1-c)}{2}$$

So we only need to prove that $\frac{a+bc}{2} + \frac{1-a+(1-b)(1-c)}{2} \leq 1$

$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq 2$ which is true since $a, b \in [0, 1]$

Problem 24 ‘—’ (FantasyLover): For all positive real numbers a, b, c , prove the following:

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{a+1} + \frac{1}{b+1} + \frac{1}{c+1}} - \frac{1}{\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Using p, q, r substitution ($p = a + b + c$, $q = ab + bc + ca$, $r = abc$) the inequality becomes :

$$\frac{3(p+q+r+1)}{2p+q+r} \geq \frac{9+3r}{q} \Leftrightarrow pq + 2q^2 \geq 6pr + 9r$$

which is true because is well-known that $pq \geq 9r$ and $q^2 \geq 3pr$

Second Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): After expanding the inequality is equivalent with :

$$\frac{1}{a(a+1)} + \frac{1}{b(b+1)} + \frac{1}{c(c+1)} \geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) \left(\frac{1}{a+1} + \frac{1}{b+1} + \frac{1}{c+1} \right)$$

This is true by Chebyshev’s inequality, so we’re done.

Problem 25 ‘Mihai Opincariu’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $abc = 1$. Prove that :

$$\frac{ab}{a^2 + b^2 + \sqrt{c}} + \frac{bc}{b^2 + c^2 + \sqrt{a}} + \frac{ca}{c^2 + a^2 + \sqrt{b}} \leq 1$$

First Solution (FantasyLover):

We have $a^2 + b^2 + \sqrt{c} \geq 2ab + \sqrt{c} = \frac{2}{c} + \sqrt{c}$.

Hence, it suffices to prove that $\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{\frac{1}{a}}{\frac{2}{a} + \sqrt{a}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{2 + a\sqrt{a}} \leq 1$.

Reducing to a common denominator, we prove that

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{2 + a\sqrt{a}} = \frac{4(a\sqrt{a} + b\sqrt{b} + c\sqrt{c}) + ab\sqrt{ab} + bc\sqrt{bc} + ca\sqrt{ca} + 12}{4(a\sqrt{a} + b\sqrt{b} + c\sqrt{c}) + 2(ab\sqrt{ab} + bc\sqrt{bc} + ca\sqrt{ca}) + 9} \leq 1$$

Rearranging, it remains to prove that $ab\sqrt{ab} + bc\sqrt{bc} + ca\sqrt{ca} \geq 3$.

Applying AM-GM, we have $ab\sqrt{ab} + bc\sqrt{bc} + ca\sqrt{ca} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2c^2\sqrt{a^2b^2c^2}} = 3$, and we are done. ■

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru):

$$LHS \leq \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{ab}{2ab + \sqrt{c}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{2 + c\sqrt{c}} = \sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{2 + \frac{x}{y}} \leq RHS$$

Problem 26 ‘Korea 2006 First Examination’ (FantasyLover): x, y, z are real numbers satisfying the condition $3x + 2y + z = 1$. Find the maximum value of

$$\frac{1}{1 + |x|} + \frac{1}{1 + |y|} + \frac{1}{1 + |z|}$$

First Solution (dgreenb801):

We can assume $x, y,$ and z are all positive, because if one was negative we could just make it positive, which would allow us to lessen the other two variables, making the whole sum larger.

Let $3x = a, 2y = b, z = c$, then $a + b + c = 1$ and we have to maximize

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

Note that

$$\left(\frac{3}{a+c+3} + 1\right) - \left(\frac{3}{a+3} + \frac{1}{c+1}\right) = \frac{a^2c + ac^2 + 6ac + 6c}{(a+3)(c+1)(a+c+3)} \geq 0$$

So for fixed $a + c$, the sum is maximized when $c = 0$.

We can apply the same reasoning to show the sum is maximized when $b = 0$.

So the maximum occurs when $a = 1, b = 0, c = 0$, and the sum is $\frac{11}{4}$.

Problem 27 ‘Balkan Mathematical Olympiad 2006’ (dgreenb801):

$$\frac{1}{a(1+b)} + \frac{1}{b(1+c)} + \frac{1}{c(1+a)} \geq \frac{3}{1+abc}$$

for all positive reals.

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

AM-GM works :

$$(1+abc) LHS + 3 = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+abc+a+ab}{a+ab} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1+a}{ab+a} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{b(c+1)}{b+1} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{abc}} + 3\sqrt[3]{abc} \geq 6$$

Problem 28 ‘Junior TST 2007, Romania’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $ab + bc + ca = 3$. Show that :

$$\frac{1}{1+a^2(b+c)} + \frac{1}{1+b^2(c+a)} + \frac{1}{1+c^2(a+b)} \leq \frac{1}{abc}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Since $ab + bc + ca = 3 \implies abc \leq 1$

Then $1 + 3a - abc \geq 3a$

Then

$$\sum \frac{1}{1+3a-abc} \leq \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) = \frac{ab+bc+ca}{3abc} = \frac{1}{abc}$$

Problem 29 ‘Lithuania 1987’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be positive real numbers .Prove that

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

First Solution (dgreenb801): By Cauchy,

$$\sum \frac{a^3}{a^2+ab+b^2} = \sum \frac{a^4}{a^3+a^2b+ab^2} \geq \frac{(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{a^3+b^3+c^3+a^2b+ab^2+b^2c+bc^2+c^2a+ca^2}$$

This is $\geq \frac{a+b+c}{3}$ if

$$(a^4+b^4+c^4) + 2(a^2b^2+b^2c^2+c^2a^2) \geq (a^3b+a^3c+b^3a+b^3c+c^3a+c^3b) + (a^2bc+ab^2c+abc^2)$$

This is equivalent to

$$(a^2+b^2+c^2)(a^2+b^2+c^2-ab-bc-ca) \geq 0$$

$$\text{Which is true as } a^2+b^2+c^2-ab-bc-ca \geq 0 \iff (a-b)^2+(b-c)^2+(c-a)^2 \geq 0$$

Second Solution (Popa Alexandru):

Since :

$$\frac{a^3-b^3}{a^2+ab+b^2} = a-b$$

and similars we get :

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{b^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3 + b^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2}.$$

Now it remains to prove :

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{a^3 + b^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2} \geq \frac{a + b}{6}$$

which is trivial .

Problem 30 ‘—’ (dgreenb801): Given $ab + bc + ca = 1$ Show that: $\frac{\sqrt{3a^2+b^2}}{ab} + \frac{\sqrt{3b^2+c^2}}{bc} + \frac{\sqrt{3c^2+a^2}}{ca} \geq 6\sqrt{3}$

First Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet):

Let's make use of Cauchy-Schwarz as demonstrated as follows

$$\frac{\sqrt{(3a^2 + b^2)(3 + 1)}}{2ab} \geq \frac{3a + b}{2ab}$$

Thus, we have the following estimations

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{3a^2 + b^2}}{ab} \geq 2 \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right)$$

Finally, we got to prove that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a} \geq 3\sqrt{3}$$

However, from the given condition, we derive

$$abc \leq \frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

and

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{a} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{abc}} \geq 3\sqrt{3}$$

Problem 31 ‘Komal Magazine’ (Hoang Quoc Viet): Let a, b, c be real numbers. Prove that the following inequality holds

$$(a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \geq 3(a + b + c)^2$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Cauchy-Schwartz gives :

$$(a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2) = (a^2 + 1)(1 + b^2) + a^2 + b^2 + 3 \geq (a + b)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(a + b)^2 + 3 = \frac{3}{2}((a + b)^2 + 2)$$

And Cauchy-Schwartz again

$$(a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \geq \frac{3}{2}((a + b)^2 + 2)(2 + c^2) \geq \frac{3}{2}(\sqrt{2}(a + b) + \sqrt{2}c)^2 = RHS$$

Problem 32 ‘mateforum.ro’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c \geq 0$ and $a + b + c = 1$. Prove that :

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

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

Using Holder’s inequality

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

It is enough to prove that

$$1 + 3abc \geq \sum_{cyc} a(b^2 + 3c)$$

Homogenise $(a + b + c)^3 = 1$,

$$\text{Also after Homogenising } \sum_{cyc} a(b^2 + 3c) = a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + 9abc + 3 \sum_{sym} a^2b$$

$$(a + b + c)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 6abc + 3 \sum_{sym} a^2b$$

It is enough to prove that

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq a^2b + b^2c + c^2a$$

By AM-GM

$$a^3 + a^3 + b^3 \geq 3a^2b$$

$$b^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq 3b^2c$$

$$c^3 + c^3 + a^3 \geq 3c^2a$$

Then $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq a^2b + b^2c + c^2a$, done

Second Solution (manlio):

by holder.

$$(LHS)^2 (\sum a(b^2 + ac)) \geq (\sum a)^3$$

so it suffices to prove

$$\frac{1}{\sum a(b^2 + 3c)} \geq \frac{1}{1 + 3abc}$$

that is

$$\sum a^3 \geq \sum ab^2 \text{ true by AM-GM}$$

Third Solution (Apartim De):

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}; f'(t) < 0; f''(t) > 0$$

Using Jensen with weights a, b, c , we have

$$af(b^2 + 3c) + bf(c^2 + 3a) + cf(a^2 + 3b) \geq f(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + 3ab + 3bc + 3ca)$$

Now,

$$\text{By Holder, } (a^3 + b^3 + c^3) = \sqrt[3]{(a^3 + b^3 + c^3)(b^3 + c^3 + a^3)(b^3 + c^3 + a^3)} \geq ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2$$

Again,

$$3(a + b)(b + c)(c + a) + 3abc = 9abc + 3 \sum_{sym} a^2b = 3(a + b + c)(ab + bc + ca) = 3(ab + bc + ca)$$

$$\therefore 1 + 3abc = (a + b + c)^3 + 3abc > ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + 3ab + 3bc + 3ca$$

$$\therefore f(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + 3ab + 3bc + 3ca) > f(1 + 3abc)$$

QED

Problem 33 ‘*Apartim De*’ (Apartim De): If a, b, c, d be positive reals then prove that:

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2}{ab + b^2} + \frac{b^2 + c^2}{bc + c^2} + \frac{c^2 + d^2}{cd + d^2} \geq \sqrt[3]{\frac{54a}{(a+d)}}$$

First Solution (Agr 94 Math):

Write the LHS as $\frac{(\frac{a}{b})^2 + 1}{(\frac{a}{b}) + 1}$ + two other similar terms feel lazy to write them down. This is a beautiful appli-

cation of Jensen’s as the function for positive real t such that $f(t) = \frac{t^2 + 1}{t + 1}$ is convex since $\left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right)^2 \geq 0$.

Thus, we get that $LHS \geq \frac{\left(\frac{\sum \frac{a}{b} - \frac{d}{a}}{3}\right)^2 + 1}{\sum \frac{a}{b} - \frac{d}{a} + 3}$

I would like to write $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{d} = K$ for my convenience with latexing.

so we have $\frac{\left(\frac{K}{3}\right)^2 + 1}{K + 3} = \frac{K + \frac{9}{K}}{1 + \frac{3}{K}} \geq \frac{6}{1 + \frac{3}{K}}$

This is from $K + \frac{9}{K} \geq 6$ by AM GM.

Now $K = \sum \frac{a}{b} - \frac{d}{a} \geq 3\left(\frac{d}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$ by AM GM.

Thus, we have $\frac{6}{1 + \frac{3}{K}} \geq \frac{6a^{\frac{1}{3}}}{a^{\frac{1}{3}} + d^{\frac{1}{3}}} \geq \frac{3a^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\frac{a+d}{2}} = \left(\frac{54a}{a+d}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

Problem 34 ‘—’ (Raghav Grover): If a and b are non negative real numbers such that $a \geq b$. Prove that

$$a + \frac{1}{b(a-b)} \geq 3$$

First Solution (Dimitris X):

If $a \geq 3$ the problem is obviously true.

Now for $a < 3$ we have :

$$a^2b - ab^2 - 3ab + 3b^2 + 1 \geq 0 \iff ba^2 - (b^2 + 3b)a + 3b^2 + 1 \geq 0$$

It suffices to prove that $D \leq 0 \iff b^4 + 6b^3 + 9b^2 - 12b^3 - 4b \iff b(b-1)^2(b-4) \leq 0$ which is true.

Second Solution (dgreenb801):

$$a + \frac{1}{b(a-b)} = b + (a-b) + \frac{1}{b(a-b)} \geq 3 \text{ by AM-GM}$$

Third Solution (geniusbliss):

since $a \geq b$ we have $\frac{a}{2} \geq \sqrt{b(a-b)}$ square this and substitute in this denominator we get,

$$\frac{a}{2} + \frac{a}{2} + \frac{4}{a^2} \geq 3 \text{ by AM-GM so done.}$$

Problem 35 ‘Vasile Cirtoaje’ (Dimitris X):

$$(a^2 - bc)\sqrt{b+c} + (b^2 - ca)\sqrt{c+a} + (c^2 - ab)\sqrt{a+b} \geq 0$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): Denote $\frac{a+b}{2} = x^2, \dots$, then the inequality becomes :

$$\sum_{cyc} xy(x^3 + y^3) \geq \sum_{cyc} x^2 y^2 (x + y)$$

which is equivalent with :

$$\sum_{cyc} xy(x+y)(x-y)^2 \geq 0$$

Problem 36 ‘Cezar Lupu’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} = \sqrt{abc}$. Prove that:

$$abc \geq \sqrt{3(a+b+c)}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} = \sqrt{abc} \iff ab + bc + ca = abc\sqrt{abc}$$

By Am-Gm

$$(ab + bc + ca)^2 \geq 3abc(a + b + c)$$

Since $ab + bc + ca = abc\sqrt{abc}$, we have

$$(abc)^3 \geq 3abc(a + b + c) \implies abc \geq \sqrt{3(a + b + c)}$$

Problem 37 ‘Pham Kim Hung’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers satisfying $a + b + c + d = 4$. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{11+a^2} + \frac{1}{11+b^2} + \frac{1}{11+c^2} + \frac{1}{11+d^2} \leq \frac{1}{3}$$

First Solution (Apartim De):

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{11+x^2} \iff f''(x) = \frac{6(x^2 - \frac{11}{3})}{(11+x^2)^3}$$

$$(x^2 - \frac{11}{3}) = \left(x - \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right) \left(x + \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right)$$

$$\text{If } x \in \left(-\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right), f''(x) < 0$$

Thus within the interval $\left(-\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right)$, the quadratic polynomial is negative

thereby making $f''(x) < 0$, and thus $f(x)$ is concave within $\left(-\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right)$.

Let $a \leq b \leq c \leq d$. If all of $a, b, c, d \in \left(0, \sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\right)$,

Then by Jensen, $f(a) + f(b) + f(c) + f(d) \leq 4f\left(\frac{a+b+c+d}{4}\right) = 4f(1) = \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-2x}{(11+x^2)^3} < 0 \text{ (for all positive } x)$$

At most 2 of a, b, c, d (namely c & d) can be greater than $\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}$

In that case,

$$f(a) + f(b) + f(c) + f(d) < f(a-1) + f(b-1) + f(c-3) + f(d-3) < 4f\left(\frac{a+b+c+d-8}{4}\right) = 4f(-1) = \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$$

QED

Problem 38 ‘*Cruce Mathematicorum*’ (Apartim De): Let R, r, s be the circumradius, inradius, and semiperimeter, respectively, of an acute-angled triangle. Prove or disprove that

$$s^2 \geq 2R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2$$

When does equality occur?

First Solution (Virgil Nicula):

Proof. I'll use the remarkable linear-angled identities

$$\left\| \begin{array}{l} a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2 \cdot (p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) \quad (1) \\ 4S = (b^2 + c^2 - a^2) \cdot \tan A \quad (2) \\ \sin 2A + \sin 2B + \sin 2C = \frac{2S}{R^2} \quad (3) \\ \cos A + \cos B + \cos C = 1 + \frac{r}{R} \quad (4) \end{array} \right\| \text{. There-}$$

fore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum a^2 &= \sum (b^2 + c^2 - a^2) \stackrel{(2)}{=} 4S \cdot \sum \frac{\cos A}{\sin A} = 8S \cdot \sum \frac{\cos^2 A}{\sin 2A} \stackrel{C.B.S.}{\geq} 8S \cdot \frac{(\sum \cos A)^2}{\sum \sin 2A} \stackrel{(3) \wedge (4)}{=} 8S \cdot \frac{\left(1 + \frac{r}{R}\right)^2}{\frac{2S}{R^2}} = \\ &= 4(R+r)^2 \implies \boxed{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 4(R+r)^2} \stackrel{(1)}{\implies} 2 \cdot (p^2 - r^2 - 4Rr) \geq 4(R+r)^2 \implies \boxed{p^2 \geq 2R^2 + 8Rr + 3r^2} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 39 ‘*Russia 1978*’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $0 < a < b$ and $x_i \in [a, b]$. Prove that

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n) \left(\frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{x_n} \right) \leq \frac{n^2(a+b)^2}{4ab}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

We will prove that if $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in [a, b]$ ($0 < a < b$) then

$$(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) \left(\frac{1}{a_1} + \frac{1}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n} \right) \leq \frac{(a+b)^2}{4ab} n^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} P &= (a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) \left(\frac{1}{a_1} + \frac{1}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n} \right) = \left(\frac{a_1}{c} + \frac{a_2}{c} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{c} \right) \left(\frac{c}{a_1} + \frac{c}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{c}{a_n} \right) \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{a_1}{c} + \frac{c}{a_1} + \frac{a_2}{c} + \frac{c}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{c} + \frac{c}{a_n} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Function $f(t) = \frac{c}{t} + \frac{t}{c}$ have its maximum on $[a, b]$ in a or b . We will choose c such that $f(a) = f(b)$, $c = \sqrt{ab}$.

Then $f(t) \leq \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{a}}$. Then

$$P \leq n^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = n^2 \frac{(a+b)^2}{4ab}$$

Problem 40 ‘—’ (keyree10): a, b, c are non-negative reals. Prove that

$$81abc \cdot (a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \leq (a + b + c)^5$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

$$81abc(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \leq 27 \frac{(ab + bc + ca)^2}{a + b + c} (a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \leq (a + b + c)^5$$

By p,q,r the last one is equivalent with :

$$p^6 - 27q^2p^2 + 54q^3 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (p^2 - 3q)^2 \geq 0$$

Problem 41 ‘mateforum.ro’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a^3 + b^3 + 3c = 5$. Prove that :

$$\sqrt{\frac{a+b}{2c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b+c}{2a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c+a}{2b}} \leq \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}$$

First Solution (Sayan Mukherjee):

$$a^3 + 1 + 1 + b^3 + 1 + 1 + 3c = 9 \geq 3a + 3b + 3c \implies a + b + c \leq 3 \text{ (AM-GM)}$$

$$\text{Also } abc \leq \left(\frac{a+b+c}{3} \right)^3 = 1 \text{ (AM-GM)}$$

Applying CS on the LHS;

$$\left[\sum \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{2c}} \right]^2 \leq (a+b+c) \left(\sum \frac{1}{a} \right)$$

It is left to prove that $\sum \frac{1}{a} \geq \sum a$

But this $\implies \sum \frac{1}{a} \geq 3$

Which is perfectly true, as from AM-GM on the LHS;

$$\sum \frac{1}{a} \geq 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{abc}} \geq 3 [\cdot \cdot \cdot abc \leq 1]$$

Problem 42 ‘—’ (Sayan Mukherjee): Let $a, b, c > 0$ PT: If a, b, c satisfy $\sum \frac{1}{a^2+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ Then we always have:

$$\sum \frac{1}{a^3+2} \leq \frac{1}{3}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

$$a^3 + a^3 + 1 \geq 3a^2 \implies a^3 + a^3 + 1 + 3 \geq 3a^2 + 3 \implies \frac{1}{3(a^2+1)} \geq \frac{1}{2(a^3+2)} \implies \frac{1}{3} \geq \sum \frac{1}{a^3+2}$$

Problem 43 ‘Russia 2002’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be positive real numbers with sum 3. Prove that

$$\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c} \geq ab + bc + ca$$

First Solution (Sayan Mukherjee):

$$2(ab + bc + ca) = 9 - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)$$

as $a + b + c = 9$. Hence the inequality

$$\implies 2 \sum \sqrt{a} \geq 9 - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)$$

$$\implies \sum (a^2 + \sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a}) \geq 9$$

Perfectly true from AGM as :

$$a^2 + \sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a} \geq 3a$$

Problem 44 ‘India 2002’ (Raghav Grover): For any natural number n prove that

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{1}{n^2+1} + \frac{1}{n^2+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2+n} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2n}$$

First Solution (Sayan Mukherjee):

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{n^2+k} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k^2}{n^2k+k^2} \geq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n k}{n^2 \sum_{k=1}^n k + \sum_{k=1}^n k^2} = \frac{3(n^2+n)}{2(3n^2+2n+1)} > \frac{1}{2}$$

As it is equivalent to $:3n^2 + 3n > 3n^2 + 2n + 1 \implies n > 1$

For the 2nd part;

$\sum \frac{k}{n^2+k} = \sum 1 - \frac{n^2}{n^2+k} = n - n^2 \sum \frac{1}{n^2+k}$ and then use AM-HM for $\sum \frac{1}{n^2+k}$ So we get the desired result.

Problem 45 ‘—’ (Sayan Mukherjee): For $a, b, c > 0; a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ find P_{min} if:

$$P = \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2 b^2}{c^2}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

Let $x = \frac{ab}{c}, y = \frac{bc}{a}$ and $z = \frac{ca}{b}$

Then Obviously By Am-Gm

$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq xy + yz + zx = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$, then $P_{min} = 1$

Problem 46 ‘—’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c be positive real numbers such that $a + b + c = 3$. Prove that

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

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): We start with a nice use of AM-GM :

$$\frac{a^2}{a+2b^2} = \frac{a^2 + 2ab^2 - 2ab^2}{a+2b^2} = \frac{a(a+2b^2)}{a+2b^2} - \frac{2ab^2}{a+2b^2} \geq a - \frac{2}{3}\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2}$$

Suming the similars we need to prove :

$$\sqrt[3]{a^2b^2} + \sqrt[3]{b^2c^2} + \sqrt[3]{c^2a^2} \leq 3$$

By AM-GM :

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt[3]{a^2b^2} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{2ab+1}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \left(2 \sum_{cyc} ab + 3 \right) \leq 3 \Leftrightarrow ab + bc + ca \leq 3 \Leftrightarrow 3(ab + bc + ca) \leq (a + b + c)^2$$

Problem 47 ‘mateforum.ro’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a + b + c \leq \frac{3}{2}$. Prove that :

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \leq \frac{a}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{b}{(c+a)^2} + \frac{c}{(a+b)^2}$$

First Solution:

WLOG $a \geq b \geq c$

Then By Chebyshev's inequality we have

$$RHS \geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot LHS \cdot \left(\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} \right)$$

It is enough to show that

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

By Cauchy Schwartz

$$\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} \geq \frac{9}{2(a+b+c)} \geq 3 \iff a+b+c \leq \frac{3}{2}, \text{ done}$$

Problem 48 'USAMO 2003' (Hassan Al-Sibyani): Let a, b, c be positive real numbers. Prove that:

$$\frac{(2a+b+c)^2}{2a^2+(b+c)^2} + \frac{(2b+a+c)^2}{2b^2+(a+c)^2} + \frac{(2c+a+b)^2}{2c^2+(a+b)^2} \leq 8$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

Suppose $a+b+c=3$

The inequality is equivalent with :

$$\frac{(a+3)^2}{2a^2+(3-a)^2} + \frac{(b+3)^2}{2b^2+(3-b)^2} + \frac{(c+3)^2}{2c^2+(3-c)^2} \leq 8$$

For this we prove :

$$\frac{(a+3)^2}{2a^2+(3-a)^2} \leq \frac{4}{3}a + \frac{4}{3} \iff 3(4a+3)(a-1)^2 \geq 0$$

done.

Problem 49 'Marius Măinean' (Popa Alexandru): Let $x, y, z > 0$ such that $x+y+z=xyz$. Prove that :

$$\frac{x+y}{1+z^2} + \frac{y+z}{1+x^2} + \frac{z+x}{1+y^2} \geq \frac{27}{2xyz}$$

First Solution (socrates): Using Cauchy-Schwarz and AM-GM inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x+y}{1+z^2} + \frac{y+z}{1+x^2} + \frac{z+x}{1+y^2} &= \frac{(x+y)^2}{x+y+(x+y)z^2} + \frac{(y+z)^2}{y+z+(y+z)x^2} + \frac{(z+x)^2}{z+x+(z+x)y^2} \geq \frac{((x+y)+(y+z)+(z+x))^2}{2(x+y+z) + \sum x^2(y+z)} = \\ &= \frac{4(x+y+z)^2}{2xyz + \sum x^2(y+z)} = \frac{4(x+y+z)^2}{\prod(x+y)} \geq 4(x+y+z)^2 \cdot \frac{27}{8} \frac{1}{(x+y+z)^3} = \frac{27}{2xyz} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 50 ‘—’ (socrates): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $ab + bc + ca = 1$. Prove that :

$$abc(a + \sqrt{a^2 + 1})(b + \sqrt{b^2 + 1})(c + \sqrt{c^2 + 1}) \leq 1$$

First Solution (dgreenb801): Note that $\sqrt{a^2 + 1} = \sqrt{a^2 + ab + bc + ca} = \sqrt{(a + b)(a + c)}$
 Also, by Cauchy, $(a + \sqrt{(a + b)(a + c)})^2 \leq (a + (a + b))(a + (a + c)) = (2a + b)(2a + c)$
 So after squaring both sides of the inequality, we have to show

$$1 = (ab + bc + ca)^6 \geq a^2 b^2 c^2 (2a + b)(2a + c)(2b + a)(2b + c)(2c + a)(2c + b) = \\ (2ac + bc)(2ab + bc)(2bc + ac)(2ab + ac)(2cb + ab)(2ca + ab)$$

, which is true by AM-GM.

Problem 51 ‘Asian Pacific Mathematics Olympiad’ (dgreenb801): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $abc = 8$. Prove that:

$$\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(1 + a^3)(1 + b^3)}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{(1 + b^3)(1 + c^3)}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{(1 + c^3)(1 + a^3)}} \geq \frac{4}{3}$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru): By AM-GM :

$$\sqrt{a^3 + 1} \leq \frac{a^2 + 2}{2}.$$

Then we have :

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(a^3 + 1)(b^3 + 1)}} \geq 4 \sum_{cyc} \frac{a^2}{(a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)}$$

So we need to prove

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

which is equivalent with :

$$a^2 b^2 + b^2 c^2 + c^2 a^2 + 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq 72.$$

, true by AM-GM

Problem 52 ‘Lucian Petrescu’ (Popa Alexandru): Prove that in any acute-angled triangle ABC we have :

$$\frac{a + b}{\cos C} + \frac{b + c}{\cos A} + \frac{c + a}{\cos B} \geq 4(a + b + c)$$

First Solution (socrates): The inequality can be rewritten as

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

or

$$\sum_{cyclic} a \left(\frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} + \frac{c^2}{c^2 + a^2 - b^2} \right) \geq 2(a + b + c)$$

Applying Cauchy Schwarz inequality we get

$$\sum_{cyclic} a \left(\frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} + \frac{c^2}{c^2 + a^2 - b^2} \right) \geq \sum a \frac{(b+c)^2}{(a^2 + b^2 - c^2) + (c^2 + a^2 - b^2)}$$

or

$$\sum_{cyclic} a \left(\frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2 - c^2} + \frac{c^2}{c^2 + a^2 - b^2} \right) \geq \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{2a}$$

So, it is enough to prove that

$$\sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{2a} \geq 2(a+b+c)$$

which is just CS as above.

Second Solution (Mateescu Constantin):

From the law of cosinus we have $a = b \cos C + c \cos B$ and $c = b \cos A + a \cos B$.

$\implies \frac{a+c}{\cos B} = a+c + \frac{b(\cos A + \cos C)}{\cos B} = a+c + 2R \tan B (\cos A + \cos C)$. Then:

$\sum \frac{a+c}{\cos B} = 2(a+b+c) + 2R \sum \tan B \cdot (\cos A + \cos C)$ and the inequality becomes:

$$2R \sum \tan B (\cos A + \cos C) \geq 2 \sum a = 4R \sum \sin A$$

$$\iff \sum \tan B \cos A + \sum \tan B \cos C \geq 2 \sum \sin A = 2 \sum \tan A \cos A$$

Wlog assume that $A \leq B \leq C$. Then $\cos A \geq \cos B \geq \cos C$ and $\tan A \leq \tan B \leq \tan C$, so

$\sum \tan A \cos A \leq \sum \tan B \cos A$ and $\sum \tan A \cos A \leq \sum \tan B \cos C$, according to rearrangement inequality.

Adding up these 2 inequalities yields the conclusion.

Third Solution (Popa Alexandru):

$$LHS \geq \frac{(2(a+b+c))^2}{(a+b)\cos C + (b+c)\cos A + (c+a)\cos B} = 4(a+b+c)$$

Problem 53 ‘—’ (socrates): Given $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n > 0$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1$, prove that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i + n}{1 + x_i^2} \leq n^2$$

First Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet):

Without loss of generality, we may assume that

$$x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n$$

Therefore, we have

$$nx_1 - 1 \geq nx_2 - 1 \geq \dots \geq nx_n - 1$$

and

$$\frac{x_1}{x_1^2 + 1} \geq \frac{x_2}{x_2^2 + 1} \geq \dots \geq \frac{x_n}{x_n^2 + 1}$$

Hence, by Chebyshev inequality, we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(nx_i - 1)x_i}{x_i^2 + 1} \geq \frac{1}{n} \left[n \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) - n \right] \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{x_i^2 + 1} \right) = 0$$

Thus, we get the desired result, which is

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i + n}{1 + x_i^2} \leq n^2$$

Problem 54 ‘Hoang Quoc Viet’ (Hoang Quoc Viet): Let a, b, c be positive reals satisfying $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$. Prove that

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

First Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet):

Using Cauchy Schwartz, we get

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3}{2b^2 + c^2} \geq \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2}{2 \sum_{cyc} ab^2 + \sum_{cyc} ac^2}$$

Hence, it suffices to prove that

$$ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 \leq 3$$

and

$$a^2b + b^2c + c^2a \leq 3$$

However, applying Cauchy Schwartz again, we obtain

$$a(ab) + b(bc) + c(ca) \leq \sqrt{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)((ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2)}$$

In addition to that, we have

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

Hence, we complete our proof.

Problem 55 ‘Iran 1998’ (saif): Let $x, y, z > 1$ such that $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = 2$ prove that:

$$\sqrt{x + y + z} \geq \sqrt{x - 1} + \sqrt{y - 1} + \sqrt{z - 1}$$

First Solution (beautifulliar):

Note that you can substitute $\sqrt{x-1} = a, \sqrt{y-1} = b, \sqrt{z-1} = c$ then you need to prove that $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 3} \geq a + b + c$ while you have $\frac{1}{a^2+1} + \frac{1}{b^2+1} + \frac{1}{c^2+1} = 2$ or equivalently $a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2 + 2a^2b^2c^2 = 1$. next, substitute $ab = \cos x, bc = \cos y, ca = \cos z$ where x, y, z are angles of triangle. since you need to prove that $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 3} \geq a + b + c$ then you only need to prove that $3 \geq 2(ab + bc + ca)$ or $\cos x + \cos B + \cos C \leq \frac{3}{2}$ which is trivial.

Second Solution (Sayan Mukherjee):

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = 2 \implies \sum \frac{x-1}{x} = 1$$

Hence $(x+y+z) \sum \frac{x-1}{x} \geq \left(\sum \sqrt{x-1} \right)^2$ (From CS)

$$\implies \sqrt{x+y+z} \geq \sum \sqrt{x-1}$$

Problem 56 ‘IMO 1998’ (saif): Let $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n > 0$ such that $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n < 1$. prove that

$$\frac{a_1 \cdot a_2 \dots a_n (1 - a_1 - a_2 - \dots - a_n)}{(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)(1 - a_1)(1 - a_2) \dots (1 - a_n)} \leq \frac{1}{n^{n-1}}$$

First Solution (beautifulliar):

Let $a_{n+1} = 1 - a_1 - a_2 - \dots - a_n$ the we arrive at $\frac{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n a_{n+1}}{(1 - a_1)(1 - a_2) \dots (1 - a_n)} \leq \frac{1}{n^{n+1}}$ (it should be n^{n+1} right?) which follows from am-gm $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n \geq n \sqrt[n]{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n}, a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{n+1} \geq n \sqrt[n]{a_2 a_3 \dots a_{n+1}}, a_1 + a_3 + \dots + a_{n+1} \geq n \sqrt[n]{a_1 a_3 \dots a_{n+1}}$, and so on... you will find it easy.

Problem 57 ‘—’ (beautifulliar): Let n be a positive integer. If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are real numbers such that $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = 0$ and also $y = \max\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ and also $z = \min\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, prove that

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 + nyz \leq 0$$

First Solution (socrates):

$(x_i - y)(x_i - z) \leq 0 \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ so $\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2 + yz) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n (y+z)x_i = 0$ and the conclusion follows.

Problem 58 ‘Pham Kim Hung’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Suppose that x, y, z are positive real numbers and $x^5 + y^5 + z^5 = 3$. Prove that

$$\frac{x^4}{y^3} + \frac{y^4}{z^3} + \frac{z^4}{x^3} \geq 3$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

By a nice use of AM-GM we have :

$$10 \left(\frac{x^4}{y^3} + \frac{y^4}{z^3} + \frac{z^4}{x^3} + 3(x^5 + y^5 + z^5) \right)^2 \geq 19 \left(\sqrt[19]{x^{100}} + \sqrt[19]{y^{100}} + \sqrt[19]{z^{100}} \right)$$

So it remains to prove :

$$3 + 19 \left(\sqrt[19]{x^{100}} + \sqrt[19]{y^{100}} + \sqrt[19]{z^{100}} \right) \geq 20(x^5 + y^5 + z^5)$$

which is true by AM-GM .

Problem 59 ‘China 2003’ (bokagadha): $x, y,$ and z are positive real numbers such that $x + y + z = xyz$. Find the minimum value of:

$$x^7(yz - 1) + y^7(xz - 1) + z^7(xy - 1)$$

First Solution (Popa Alexandru):

By AM-GM and the condition you get

$$xyz \geq 3\sqrt{3}$$

Also observe that the condition is equivalent with

$$yz - 1 = \frac{y + z}{x}$$

So the

$$LHS = x^6(y + z) + y^6(z + x) + z^6(x + y) \geq 6^6 \sqrt{x^{14}y^{14}z^{14}} \geq 216\sqrt{3}$$

Problem 60 ‘Austria 1990’ (Rofler):

$$\sqrt{2\sqrt{3\sqrt{4\sqrt{\dots\sqrt{N}}}}} < 3 \quad \forall N \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 2}$$

First Solution (Brut3Forc3): We prove the generalization $\sqrt{m\sqrt{(m+1)\sqrt{\dots\sqrt{N}}}} < m + 1$, for $m + 2$. For $m = N$, this is equivalent to $\sqrt{N} < N + 1$, which is clearly true. We now induct from $m = N$ down. Assume that $\sqrt{(k+1)\sqrt{(k+2)\sqrt{\dots\sqrt{N}}}} < k + 2$. Multiplying by k and taking the square root gives $\sqrt{k\sqrt{(k+1)\sqrt{\dots\sqrt{N}}}} < \sqrt{k(k+2)} < k + 1$, completing the induction.

Problem 61 ‘Tran Quoc Anh’ (Sayan Mukherjee): Given $a, b, c \geq 0$ Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{b^2+4bc+c^2}} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt{a+b+c}}$$

First Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet): Using Cauchy inequality, we get

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{a+b}{b^2+4bc+c^2}} \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{2(a+b)}{3(b+c)^2}} \geq \sum_{cyc} 3\sqrt[6]{\frac{8}{27(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}}$$

However, we have

$$(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \leq \frac{8(a+b+c)^3}{27}$$

Hence, we complete our proof here.

Problem 62 ‘Popa Alexandru’ (Popa Alexandru): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $a + b + c = 1$. Show that :

$$\frac{a^2+ab}{1-a^2} + \frac{b^2+bc}{1-b^2} + \frac{c^2+ca}{1-c^2} \geq \frac{3}{4}$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $a + b = x$, $b + c = y$, $c + a = z$, given inequality becomes

$$\sum \frac{x}{y} + \sum \frac{x}{x+y} \geq \frac{9}{2}$$

Then By Cauchy Schwartz

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{y} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{x+y} \geq \frac{(\sum x)^4}{(\sum xy)(\sum xy + \sum x^2)} \geq \frac{8(\sum x)^4}{(\sum xy + (\sum x)^2)^2} \geq \frac{9}{2}$$

Second Solution (Hoang Quoc Viet): Without too many technical terms, we have

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{x+y}{4y} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{x+y} \right) \geq \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \geq 3$$

Therefore, it is sufficient to check that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{y} \geq 3$$

which is Cauchy inequality for 3 positive reals.

Problem 63 ‘India 2007’ (Sayan Mukherjee): For positive reals a, b, c . Prove that:

$$(a+b+c)^2(ab+bc+ca)^2 \leq 3(a^2+ab+b^2)(b^2+bc+c^2)(c^2+ac+a^2)$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): I’ve got an SOS representation of :

$$RHS - LHS = \frac{1}{2}((x+y+z)^2(x^2y^2+y^2z^2+z^2x^2-xyz(x+y+z)) + (xy+yz+zx)(x^2+y^2+z^2-xy-yz-zx))$$

So I may assume that the inequality is true for reals

Problem 64 ‘Popa Alexandru’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $(a + b)(b + c)(c + a) = 1$. Show that :

$$\frac{3}{16abc} \geq a + b + c \geq \frac{2}{3} \geq \frac{16abc}{3}$$

First Solution (Apartim De): By AM-GM, $\frac{(a + b)(b + c)(c + a)}{8} \geq abc \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{8} \geq abc \Leftrightarrow \frac{2}{3} \geq \frac{16}{3}abc$ By AM-GM,

$$(a + b) + (b + c) + (c + a) \geq 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a + b + c) \geq \frac{3}{2} > \frac{2}{3}$$

Lemma: We have for any positive reals x, y, z and vectors $\overrightarrow{MA}, \overrightarrow{MB}, \overrightarrow{MC}$

$$\left(x\overrightarrow{MA} + y\overrightarrow{MB} + z\overrightarrow{MC} \right)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x + y + z)(xMA^2 + yMB^2 + zMC^2) \geq (xyAB^2 + yzBC^2 + zxCA^2)$$

Now taking $x = y = z = 1$ and M to be the circumcenter of the triangle with sides p, q, r such that $pqr = 1$, and the area of the triangle = Δ , we have by the above lemma,

$$9R^2 \geq p^2 + q^2 + r^2 \geq 3(pqr)^{\frac{2}{3}} = 3 \Leftrightarrow 3R^2 \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow 16\Delta^2 \leq 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (p + q + r)(p + q - r)(q + r - p)(r + p - q) \leq 3$$

Now plugging in the famous Ravi substitution i.e,

$$p = (a + b); q = (b + c); r = (c + a)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a + b + c) \leq \frac{3}{16abc}$$

Problem 65 ‘IMO 1988 shortlist’ (Apartim De): In the plane of the acute angled triangle ΔABC , L is a line such that u, v, w are the lengths of the perpendiculars from A, B, C respectively to L . Prove that

$$u^2 \tan A + v^2 \tan B + w^2 \tan C \geq 2\Delta$$

where Δ is the area of the triangle.

First Solution (Hassan Al-Sibyani): Consider a Cartesian system with the x -axis on the line BC and origin at the foot of the perpendicular from A to BC , so that A lies on the y -axis. Let A be $(0, \alpha), B(-\beta, 0), C(\gamma, 0)$, where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma > 0$ (because ABC is acute-angled). Then

$$\tan B = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

$$\tan C = \frac{\alpha}{\gamma}$$

$$\tan A = -\tan(B + C) = \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma}$$

here $\tan A > 0$, so $\alpha^2 > \beta\gamma$. Let L have equation $x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta + p = 0$

Then

$$u^2 \tan A + v^2 \tan B + w^2 \tan C$$

$$= \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma} (\alpha \sin \theta + p)^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} (-\beta \cos \theta + p)^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\gamma} (\gamma \cos \theta + p)^2$$

$$= \alpha^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2\alpha p \sin \theta + p^2 \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma} + \alpha(\beta + \gamma) \cos^2 \theta + \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\beta\gamma} p^2$$

$$= \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\beta\gamma(\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma)} (\alpha^2 p^2 + 2\alpha p \beta \gamma \sin \theta + \alpha^2 \beta \gamma \sin^2 \theta + \beta \gamma (\alpha^2 - \beta \gamma) \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$= \frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)}{\beta\gamma(\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma)} [(\alpha p + \beta\gamma \sin \theta)^2 + \beta\gamma(\alpha^2 - \beta\gamma)] \geq \alpha(\beta + \gamma) = 2\Delta$$

with equality when $\alpha p + \beta\gamma \sin \theta = 0$, i.e., if and only if L passes through $(0, \beta\gamma/\alpha)$, which is the orthocenter of the triangle.

Problem 66 ‘—’ (Hassan Al-Sibyani): For positive real number a, b, c such that $abc \leq 1$, Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq a + b + c$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): It is easy to prove that

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{a + b + c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

and since $abc \leq 1$ then $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq a + b + c$, as desired.

Problem 67 ‘Endrit Fejzullahu’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let a, b, c, d be positive real numbers such that $a + b + c + d = 4$. Find the minimal value of :

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^4}{(b+1)(c+1)(d+1)}$$

First Solution (Sayan Mukherjee): From AM-GM,

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \sum_{cyc} \left[\frac{a^4}{(b+1)(c+1)(d+1)} + \frac{b+1}{16} + \frac{c+1}{16} + \frac{d+1}{16} \right] \geq \sum_{cyc} \left[\frac{4a}{8} \right] \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left[\frac{a^4}{(b+1)(c+1)(d+1)} \right] &\geq \frac{a+b+c+d}{2} - \frac{3}{16}(a+b+c+d) - 4 \cdot \frac{3}{16} \\ \therefore \sum_{cyc} \left[\frac{a^4}{(b+1)(c+1)(d+1)} \right] &\geq \frac{4}{2} - \frac{6}{4} = 2 - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

So $P_{min} = \frac{1}{2}$

Problem 68 ‘—’ (Sayan Mukherjee): Prove that

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x}{7 + z^3 + y^3} \leq \frac{1}{3} \forall x, y, z \geq 0$$

First Solution (Toang Huc Khein):

$$\sum \frac{x}{7+y^3+z^3} \leq \sum \frac{x}{6+x^3+y^3+z^3} \leq \sum \frac{x}{3(x+y+z)} = \frac{1}{3} \text{ because } x^3+y^3+z^3+6 \geq 3(x+y+z) \Leftrightarrow \sum (x-1)^2(x+2) \geq 0$$

Problem 69 ‘Marius Maine’ (Toang Huc Khein): Let $x, y, z > 0$ with $x + y + z = 1$. Then :

$$\frac{x^2 - yz}{x^2 + x} + \frac{y^2 - zx}{y^2 + y} + \frac{z^2 - xy}{z^2 + z} \leq 0$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu):

$$\frac{x^2 - yz}{x^2 + x} = 1 - \frac{x + yz}{x^2 + x}$$

Inequality is equivalent with :

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x + yz}{x^2 + x} \geq 3$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x + yz}{x^2 + x} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{x + 1} + \sum_{cyc} \frac{yz}{x^2 + x}$$

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{x + 1} \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

And

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{yz}{x^2 + x} \geq \frac{(xy + yz + zx)^2}{x^2yz + y^2xz + z^2xy + 3xyz} = \frac{(xy + yz + zx)^2}{4xyz} \geq \frac{3}{4} \Leftrightarrow (xy + yz + zx)^2 \geq 3xyz$$

This is true since $x + y + z = 1$ and $(xy + yz + zx)^2 \geq 3xyz(x + y + z)$

Second Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let us observe that by Cauchy-Schwartz we have :

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{x + yz}{x^2 + x} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{x(x + y + z) + yz}{x(x + 1)} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{(x + y)(x + z)}{x(x + y + x + z)} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\frac{x}{x+y} + \frac{x}{x+z}} \geq \frac{(1 + 1 + 1)^2}{3} = \frac{9}{3} = 3$$

Then we can conclude that :

$$LHS = \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^2 + x}{x^2 + x} - \sum_{cyc} \frac{x + yz}{x^2 + x} \leq 3 - 3 = 0$$

Problem 70 ‘Claudiu Mandrila’ (Endrit Fejzullahu): Let $a, b, c > 0$ such that $abc = 1$. Prove that :

$$\frac{a^{10}}{b + c} + \frac{b^{10}}{c + a} + \frac{c^{10}}{a + b} \geq \frac{a^7}{b^7 + c^7} + \frac{b^7}{c^7 + a^7} + \frac{c^7}{a^7 + b^7}$$

First Solution (Sayan Mukherjee): Since $abc = 1$ so, we have:

$$\sum \frac{a^{10}}{b+c} = \sum \frac{a^7}{b^3c^3(b+c)} \geq \sum \frac{a^7}{\frac{1}{64}(b+c)^6 \cdot (b+c)}$$

So we are only required to prove that: $(b+c)^7 \leq 2^6b^7 + 2^6c^7$

But, from Holder;

$$(b^7 + c^7)^{\frac{1}{7}}(1+1)^{\frac{6}{7}} \geq b+c \text{ Hence we are done}$$

Problem 71 ‘Hojoo Lee, *Cruz Mathematicorum*’ (Sayan Mukherjee): Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}^+$; Prove that:

$$\frac{2}{abc}(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) + \frac{9(a+b+c)^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \geq 33$$

First Solution (Endrit Fejzullahu): Inequality is equivalent with :

$$((a+b+c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 9abc) ((a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2) \geq 0$$