

Problem . Given a triangle with sides a, b, c satisfying $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$. Show that

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

Solution. Firstly, to prove the original inequality, we will show that¹

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

$$\sum_{cyc} \left[a^2 - \frac{4a^3(b+c-a)}{(b+c)^2} \right] \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca,$$

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

Without loss of generality, we may assume that $a \geq b \geq c$, then

$$\frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{b^2}{(c+a)^2} \quad \text{and} \quad (2a-b-c)^2 \geq (2b-c-a)^2.$$

Thus, using **Chebyshev's Inequality**, we have

$$\frac{a^2(2a-b-c)^2}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{b^2(2b-c-a)^2}{(c+a)^2} \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{b^2}{(c+a)^2} \right] [(2a-b-c)^2 + (2b-c-a)^2]. \quad (1)$$

Notice that

$$\frac{1}{4} [(2a-b-c)^2 + (2b-c-a)^2] - (a^2 - ab + b^2) \geq \frac{1}{8}(a+b-2c)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(a+b)^2, \quad (2)$$

And

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

which yields that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{b^2}{(c+a)^2} - \frac{1}{2} \right] [(2a-b-c)^2 + (2b-c-a)^2] \geq \\ & \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2(a+b)^2}{(a+b+2c)^2} - \frac{1}{2} \right] [(2a-b-c)^2 + (2b-c-a)^2] \\ & \geq \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{2(a+b)^2}{(a+b+2c)^2} - \frac{1}{2} \right] (a+b-2c)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

From (1), (2) and (3), we obtain

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

Using this inequality, we have to prove

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

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

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

which can be easily checked. Thus, the above statement is proved.

Now, turning back to our problem, using **Holder Inequality**, we have

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

It follows that

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{b+c}{\sqrt{b+c-a}} \right)^2 \geq \frac{\left(\sum_{cyc} a \right)^3}{\sum_{cyc} \frac{a^3(b+c-a)}{(b+c)^2}} \geq \frac{4 \left(\sum_{cyc} a \right)^3}{\sum_{cyc} ab}.$$

Moreover, by **AM-GM Inequality**, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} ab &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} \left(\sum_{cyc} ab \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} ab \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} a^2 \right)} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{\sum_{cyc} ab + \sum_{cyc} ab + \sum_{cyc} a^2}{3} \right)^3} = \frac{\left(\sum_{cyc} a \right)^3}{9}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{b+c}{\sqrt{b+c-a}} \right)^2 \geq \frac{4 \left(\sum_{cyc} a \right)^3}{\sum_{cyc} ab} \geq 36.$$

Our proof is completed. Equality holds if and only if $a = b = c = 1$.