

An interesting and useful inequality for math olympiad
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Problem(Vasile): Let $a, b, c \geq 0$. prove that:

$$(a+b+c)^3 \geq \frac{27}{4}(a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + abc) \quad (\$1)$$

I.Solution:

Because the inequality is homogeneous so we can assume $a+b+c=3$ and we must prove:

$$a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + abc \leq 4 (*)$$

Let x, y, z be a permutation of a, b, c satisfy $x \geq y \geq z \Rightarrow xy \geq xz \geq yz$

Also we have $x+y+z=3, x, y, z \geq 0$.

So use arrangement inequality we have:

$$a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + abc \leq xy.x + xz.y + yz.z + xyz = y(x+z)^2 \quad (1)$$

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

$$y(x+z)^2 = \frac{1}{2} 2y(x+z)^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{(2y+x+z+x+z)^3}{27} = 4 \quad (2)$$

From (1)(2) $\Rightarrow (*)$ is true. so completed prove.

The inequality holds when $a=b=c$ or $c=0, a=2b$ or $b=0, c=2a$ or $a=0, b=2c$.

Note that similar we also have :

$$(a+b+c)^3 \geq \frac{27}{4}(b^2a + c^2b + a^2c + abc) \quad (\$2)$$

The inequality holds when $a=b=c$ or $c=0, b=2a$ or $b=0, a=2c$ or $a=0, c=2b$.

*Use **(\\$1)** we have a solution for problem 5 in Canada math Olympiad 1999
<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?p=768&sid=da4481f13b80aeb6f70cbabd32df19ae#p768>

II.Application:

1.Problem 1(unknown in a book of can_hang2007):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c=3$. Prove that:

$$2(b^2a + cb^2 + ac^2) + 3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 4abc \geq 19$$

*Solution(me):

$$\Leftrightarrow 2(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2) + (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)(a+b+c) + 4abc \geq 19$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 4abc + 3(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2) + (a^2b + b^2c + c^2a) \geq 19$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow (a+b+c)^3 \geq 19 + 2(abc + a^2b + b^2c + c^2a)$$

Use $a+b+c=3$ we need prove:

$$abc + a^2b + b^2c + c^2a \leq 4$$

It is inequality (\$1) with $a+b+c=3$.

Completed prove. The inequality holds when $a=b=c=1$ or $c=0, b=1, a=2$ or $b=0, a=1, c=2$ or $a=0, c=1, b=2$.

2.Problem 2(nguoivn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c=3$. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{b^3+16} + \frac{b}{c^3+16} + \frac{c}{a^3+16} \geq \frac{1}{6}$$

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*Solution(unknown):

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b^3+16} = \frac{1}{16} \sum_{cyc} \left(a - \frac{ab^3}{b^3+16} \right) = \frac{1}{16} \left(3 - \sum_{cyc} \frac{ab^3}{b^3+16} \right)$$

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{ab^3}{b^3+16} &= \frac{ab^3}{b^3+8+8} \leq \frac{ab^3}{3\sqrt[3]{64b^3}} = \frac{ab^2}{12} \\ \frac{bc^3}{c^3+16} &= \frac{bc^3}{c^3+8+8} \leq \frac{bc^3}{3\sqrt[3]{64c^3}} = \frac{bc^2}{12} \\ \frac{ca^3}{a^3+16} &= \frac{ca^3}{a^3+8+8} \leq \frac{ca^3}{3\sqrt[3]{64a^3}} = \frac{ca^2}{12} \end{aligned}$$

So we have:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{a}{b^3+16} \geq \frac{1}{16} \left(3 - \frac{1}{12} \sum_{cyc} ab^2 \right) \geq \frac{1}{6} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} ab^2 \leq 4$$

It is inequality (\$2) with $a+b+c=3$.

Completed prove. The inequality holds when $c=0, a=1, b=2$ or $b=0, c=1, a=2$ or $a=0, b=1, c=2$.

3.Problem 3(hungkhtn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c \leq 3$. Prove that:

$$a\sqrt{1+b^3} + b\sqrt{1+c^3} + c\sqrt{1+a^3} \leq 5$$

*Solution(unknown):

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

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

$$b\sqrt{1+c^3} = b\sqrt{(1+c)(1-c+c^2)} \leq \frac{b(1+c+1-c+c^2)}{2} = \frac{bc^2+2b}{2}$$

$$c\sqrt{1+a^3} = c\sqrt{(1+a)(1-a+a^2)} \leq \frac{c(1+a+1-a+a^2)}{2} = \frac{ca^2+2c}{2}$$

So we need prove:

$$\frac{ab^2+bc^2+ca^2}{2} + a+b+c \leq 5 \Leftrightarrow ab^2+bc^2+ca^2 \leq 4$$

It is inequality (\$2) with $a+b+c=3$.

Completed prove.the inequality holds when $c=0, a=1, b=2$ or

$b=0, c=1, a=2$ or $a=0, b=1, c=2$.

4.Problem 4(lilteevn):

Let $a, b, c > 0, a+b+c=3$. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{b^2+\sqrt{c}} + \frac{b}{c^2+\sqrt{a}} + \frac{c}{a^2+\sqrt{b}} \geq \frac{3}{3-\sqrt[3]{abc}}$$

Posted in <http://boxmath.vn/4rum/f22/bat-dang-thuc-chao-mung-ngay-30-4-a-29346/>

*Solution(songvuive):

Use Cauchy inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{b^2+\sqrt{c}} + \frac{b}{c^2+\sqrt{a}} + \frac{c}{a^2+\sqrt{b}} &= \frac{a^2}{ab^2+a\sqrt{c}} + \frac{b^2}{bc^2+b\sqrt{a}} + \frac{c^2}{ca^2+c\sqrt{b}} \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{ab^2+a\sqrt{c}+bc^2+b\sqrt{a}+ca^2+c\sqrt{b}} = \frac{9}{ab^2+a\sqrt{c}+bc^2+b\sqrt{a}+ca^2+c\sqrt{b}} \end{aligned}$$

So we need prove:

$$\begin{aligned} 3(3-\sqrt[3]{abc}) &\geq ab^2+a\sqrt{c}+bc^2+b\sqrt{a}+ca^2+c\sqrt{b} \\ \Leftrightarrow 9 &\geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc}+ab^2+a\sqrt{c}+bc^2+b\sqrt{a}+ca^2+c\sqrt{b} \end{aligned}$$

Use AM-GM inequality we have: $3\sqrt[3]{abc} \leq abc+1+1$

Use Cauchy inequality we have:

$$a\sqrt{c}+b\sqrt{a}+c\sqrt{b} \leq \sqrt{(a+b+c)(ab+ac+bc)} \leq \sqrt{\frac{(a+b+c)^3}{3}} = 3$$

So we need prove:

$$4 \geq ab^2+bc^2+ca^2+abc$$

it is inequality (\$2) with $a+b+c=3$.

Completed prove.The inequality holds when $a=b=c=1$.

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5.Problem 5(nguoi vn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a + b + c = 3$. Prove that:

$$(ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3)(ab + ac + bc) \leq 16$$

*Solution(unknown):

$$\Leftrightarrow (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3)^2 (ab + ac + bc)^2 \leq 256$$

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3)^2 (ab + ac + bc)^2 &= \frac{1}{2} 2(ab + ac + bc)^2 (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{[(2(ab + ac + bc))^2 + 2(ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3)]^3}{27} = \frac{4}{27} [(ab + ac + bc)^2 + (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3)]^3 \end{aligned}$$

So we need to prove:

$$(ab + ac + bc)^2 + (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3) \leq 12$$

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} (ab + ac + bc)^2 + (ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3) &= (a^2b^2 + ab^3) + (b^2c^2 + bc^3) + (a^2c^2 + ca^3) + 2abc(a + b + c) \\ &= ab^2(a + b) + bc^2(b + c) + ca^2(c + a) + 6abc = ab^2(3 - c) + bc^2(3 - a) + ca^2(3 - b) + 6abc \\ &= 3(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2) - abc(a + b + c) + 6abc = 3(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + abc) \end{aligned}$$

So we need prove:

$$ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + abc \leq 4$$

It is inequality (\$2) with $a + b + c = 3$.

Completed prove. The inequality holds when $a = 0, b = 1, c = 2$ or $b = 0, c = 1, a = 2$ or $c = 0, a = 1, b = 2$.

6.Problem 6(sieubebuvietnam):

Let $a, b, c > 0, a + b + c = 1$. Prove that:

$$\frac{ab}{b+c} + \frac{bc}{c+a} + \frac{ca}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{6(ab+ac+bc)}$$

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<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=52&t=469347>

*Solution(me):

We have:

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

Use Cauchy inequality we have:

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

So:

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

Lemma (unknown): $a, b, c > 0 \Rightarrow abc(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \leq \frac{1}{81}(a+b+c)^5$

*Solution(unknown)

Posted

in <http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=52&t=449336>

Because the inequality is homogeneous so we can assume $a+b+c=3$ and we must prove:

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

Assume a is $\max(a, b, c)$

let $t = \frac{b+c}{2}$
we have:

$$abc(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - at^2(a^2 + 2t^2) = -a^3 \frac{(b-c)^2}{4} - a \frac{(b-c)^4}{8} \leq 0$$

So we need prove:

$$at^2(a^2 + 2t^2) \leq 3$$

with $a+2t=1, t \leq 1$

$$\Leftrightarrow (t-1)^2(4t^3 - 6t^2 + 2t + 1) \geq 0 \text{ (it is true with } t \leq 1)$$

Now return our problem, use lemma with $a+b+c=1$ we have :

$$abc(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \leq \frac{1}{81}$$

But:

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

So:

$$\frac{abc(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + ab + ac + bc} \leq \frac{\frac{1}{81}}{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{1}{54}$$

So if we want to prove (*) we must prove:

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$$a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + abc \leq \frac{4}{27}$$

It is inequality (\$1) with $a + b + c = 1$.

Completed prove. The inequality holds when $a = b = c = \frac{1}{3}$

7. Problem 7 (a problem in Inequalities with Beautiful Solutions):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a + b + c = 3$. Prove that:

$$\frac{1}{ab^2 + 8} + \frac{1}{bc^2 + 8} + \frac{1}{ca^2 + 8} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

*Solution (can_hang or Vasile):

After expanding, this simplifies to:

$$64 \geq r^3 + (16 - 5r)A + 5r(A + B)$$

With $r = abc, A = ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2, B = a^2b + b^2c + c^2a$

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

$$3 = a + b + c \geq 3\sqrt[3]{abc} \Rightarrow r \leq 1$$

Use Schur inequality we have:

$$27 = (a + b + c)^3 \geq 3abc + 4(a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + b^2a + c^2b + a^2c) \Rightarrow A + B \leq \frac{9(3 - r)}{4}$$

Use inequality (\$2) with $a + b + c = 3$, we have:

$$A \leq 4 - r$$

So we need prove:

$$64 \geq r^3 + (16 - 5r)(4 - r) + \frac{15r(9 - r)}{4} \Leftrightarrow r(r - 1)(4r + 9) \leq 0$$

It is true because $r \leq 1$.

Completed prove. The inequality holds when $a = b = c = 1$ or $a = 0, b = 1, c = 2$ or $b = 0, c = 1, a = 2$ or $c = 0, a = 1, b = 2$.

8. Problem 8 (nguoivn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a + b + c = 3$. Prove that:

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

*Solution (in a book of can_hang2007 and nguoivn):

Use AM-GM inequality we have:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b+c}{2\sqrt{2}} \geq \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+c}} \geq \frac{6-b-c}{4\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b+c}} \geq \frac{6ab - ab(b+c)}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

Similar we have:

$$\frac{bc}{\sqrt{c+a}} \geq \frac{6bc - bc(c+a)}{4\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } \frac{ca}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \frac{6ca - ca(a+b)}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

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So we need prove:

$$6\sum ab + 4 - 3abc - \sum_{cyc} ab^2 \geq 2(a+b)(a+c)(b+c)$$

We have $2(a+b)(a+c)(b+c) = 2[(a+b+c)(ab+ac+bc) - abc] = 6\sum ab - 2abc$

So we need prove:

$$4 \geq ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2 + abc$$

It is (\$2) inequality with $a+b+c=3$.

Completed prove.the inequality holds when $a=b=c=1$ or $a=0, b=1, c=2$ or $b=0, c=1, a=2$ or $c=0, a=1, b=2$.

III. Proposed problem:

1. Problem 1(nguoivn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c=3$. Prove that:

$$(2+ab^2)^2(2+bc^2)^3(2+ca^2)^2 \leq 3456$$

2. Problem 2(hungkhtn):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c > 0$. Prove that:

$$\frac{a}{4a+4a+c} + \frac{b}{4b+4c+a} + \frac{c}{4c+4a+b} \leq \frac{1}{3}$$

Hint: assume $a+b+c=3$ and expand

3. Problem 3(a problem in Inequalities with Beautiful Solutions):

Let $0 \leq a, b, c \leq 1$. Prove that:

$$a(1-b^2) + b(1-c^2) + c(1-a^2) \leq \frac{5}{4}$$

4. Problem 4(sieubebuvietnam):

Let $a, b, c > 0, a+b+c=1$. Prove that:

$$\frac{ab}{b+c} + \frac{bc}{c+a} + \frac{ca}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{162abc(a^2+b^2+c^2)}$$

Hint(me): Posted in

<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=52&t=469347>

5. Problem 5(unknown):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a+b+c=3$. Prove that:

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

Hint(me):posted in

<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=52&t=468841>

6.Problem 6(nguoivn+quykhtn-qa1):

Let $a, b, c \geq 0, a + b + c = 3$. Prove that:

$$(a + bc^3)(b + ca^3)(c + ab^3) \leq 16$$

Hint(quykhtn-qa1):posted in

<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=51&t=213849>

Please contact me if there are some mistakes.

Email:crycry.tara1995@yahoo.com

Thank you and best regards.

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