

Problem. Let a, b, c be non-negative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\sqrt{\frac{8a(b+c)+9bc}{(2b+c)(2c+b)}} + \sqrt{\frac{8b(c+a)+9ca}{(2c+a)(2a+c)}} + \sqrt{\frac{8c(a+b)+9ab}{(2a+b)(2b+a)}} \geq 5.$$

(Vo Quoc Ba Can)

Solution. (Nguyen Van Huyen) We will show that

$$\sqrt{\frac{8a(b+c)+9bc}{(2b+c)(2c+b)}} \geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{17a^2 - b^2 - c^2 + 20(ab + bc + ca)}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 4(ab + bc + ca)}. \quad (1)$$

Indeed, setting

$$X = 17a^2 - b^2 - c^2 + 20(ab + bc + ca).$$

If $X \leq 0$, then (1) holds. Otherwise

$$\begin{aligned} & 9[8a(b+c)+9bc][a^2+b^2+c^2+4(ab+bc+ca)]^2 - (2b+c)(2c+b)X^2 \\ &= (3X + 91a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 58ab + 18bc + 58ca)(b-c)^2(b+c-a)^2 \\ &+ 2[2bc(15b^2 + 58bc + 15c^2) + 15ab(c+a-b)^2 + 15ac(a+b-c)^2](b-c)^2 \\ &\quad + 72a[c(a-b)^2(a+b-c)^2 + b(a-c)^2(c+a-b)^2] \\ &\quad + 18bc[2a^2 - b^2 - c^2 - a(b+c) + 2bc]^2 \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, inequality (1) is true. Which gives

$$\sum \sqrt{\frac{8a(b+c)+9bc}{(2b+c)(2c+b)}} \geq \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{17a^2 - b^2 - c^2 + 20a(b+c) + 20bc}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 4(ab + bc + ca)} = 5.$$

The proof is completed. □