

# A GENERAL INEQUALITY

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**Problem.** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{9}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

(Vasile Cîrtoaje, 2000)

## 1. A general problem

**Problem 1.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\sum \frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} \geq \frac{(28k + 1)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 2(14k - 13)(ab + bc + ca)}{3(a + b + c)^2 [k(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + (1 - k)(ab + bc + ca)]}, \quad (1)$$

for all  $0 \leq k \leq k_0$ , with  $k_0$  is a root of the equation  $281k^3 - 2226k^2 + 780k - 88 = 0$ .

(Nguyen Van Huyen, 2020)

For  $k \neq \frac{1}{3}$ , we can write inequality (1) as

$$\sum \frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{\frac{k+1}{3(3k-1)}}{k(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + (1 - k)(ab + bc + ca)} \geq \frac{\frac{4(7k-2)}{3k-1}}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

If  $k = 0$ , we get

**Problem 2.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{1}{3(ab + bc + ca)} + \frac{8}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

(Vo Quoc Ba Can, 2010)

**Problem 3.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{21}{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) + 5(ab + bc + ca)}.$$

(Vo Quoc Ba Can, 2010)

If  $k = \frac{1}{2}$ , we get

**Problem 4.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\sum \frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + ab + bc + ca} \geq \frac{12}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

(Pham Huu Hoai, 2020)

If  $k = 1$ , we get

**Problem 5.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} + \frac{1}{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} \geq \frac{10}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

(wya, 2010)

## 2. Some other stronger results

**Problem 6.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2 + \frac{(a-b)^2}{23}} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2 + \frac{(b-c)^2}{23}} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2 + \frac{(c-a)^2}{23}} \geq \frac{9}{(a + b + c)^2}.$$

(Nguyen Van Huyen, 2019)

**Problem 7.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{31(a + b + c)^2 - 12(ab + bc + ca)}{3(a + b + c)^4}.$$

(Nguyen Van Huyen, 2019)

## 3. Similar type

**Problem 8.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{5}{3(ab + bc + ca)} + \frac{4}{3(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}.$$

(Duong Duc Lam)

**Problem 9.** Let  $a, b, c$  be nonnegative real numbers, no two of which are zero. Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{1}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 + ca + a^2} + \frac{2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \geq \frac{10}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + ab + bc + ca}.$$

(Pham Huu Hoai, 2020)