

Problem. Let a, b, c be positive numbers and x, y, z be the lengths of the sides of a triangle. Prove that

$$a(y + z - x) + b(z + x - y) + c(x + y - z) \geq \frac{(x + y + z)(xbc + yca + zab)}{ax + by + cz}.$$

(Nguyen Van Huyen)

Proof. Using Ravi's substitution, we need to prove that

$$ax + by + cz \geq \frac{(x + y + z)[ab(x + y) + bc(y + z) + ca(z + x)]}{a(y + z) + b(x + z) + c(x + y)}, \quad (1)$$

where x, y and z are positive numbers.

We write the inequality (1) as

$$f(c) = z(x + y)c^2 - 2z(xa + yb)c + x(y + z)a^2 - 2xyab + y(x + z)b^2 \geq 0.$$

The quadratic $f(c)$ has the discriminant

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_c &= z(xa + yb)^2 - (x + y)[x(y + z)a^2 - 2xyab + y(x + z)b^2] \\ &= -xy(x + y + z)a^2 - xy(x + y + z)b^2 + 2abxy(x + y + z) \\ &= -xy(x + y + z)(a - b)^2 \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $f(c) \geq 0$. The proof is completed. \square

Remark 1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} &a(y + z - x) + b(z + x - y) + c(x + y - z) - \frac{(x + y + z)(xbc + yca + zab)}{ax + by + cz} \\ &= \frac{[z^2 - (x - y)^2](a - b)^2 + [x^2 - (y - z)^2](b - c)^2 + [y^2 - (z - x)^2](c - a)^2}{2(ax + by + cz)} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2.

(1) If $a = y, b = z, c = x$ the inequality becomes

$$x^2y(x - y) + y^2z(y - z) + z^2x(z - x) \geq 0.$$

This is problem 6 in the IMO 1983.

(2) If $a = x, b = y, c = z$ the inequality becomes

$$2(xy + yz + zx) \geq x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + \frac{3xyz(x + y + z)}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}.$$