

Problem. If a, b, c are the lengths of the sides of a triangle, then

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

(Vo Quoc Ba Can, Vasile Cirtoaje)

Solution. (Nguyen Van Huyen) If $0 < x \leq y$ and $m > 0$, then

$$\frac{x}{y} \leq \frac{x+m}{y+m}.$$

Since

$$a^2 + 2bc - a(b+c) = bc - (a-c)(b-a) \geq |a-c||b-a| - (a-c)(b-a) \geq 0.$$

We have

$$\frac{a(b+c)}{a^2+2bc} \leq \frac{a(b+c) + (b-c)^2}{a^2+2bc + (b-c)^2} = \frac{b^2 + c^2 + a(b+c) - 2bc}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}.$$

Therefore

$$\sum \frac{a(b+c)}{a^2+2bc} \leq \sum \frac{b^2 + c^2 + a(b+c) - 2bc}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} = \frac{2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} = 2.$$

The proof is completed. □