

## A METHOD FOR SOLVING SYMMETRIC INEQUALITIES.

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The method is applicable to certain broad categories of symmetric inecuții. We have chosen as an example a few inecuții appeared in collections and in [1].

1. If  $a, b, c$  are real numbers such that  $a + b + c = 1$ , then  $15(ab+bc+ca) - 27abc \leq 4$ .

Solution. The Inequality  $15(ab+bc+ca) - 27abc \leq 4$  it is equivalent to  $\frac{5}{9}(ab+bc+ca) - abc \leq \frac{4}{27}$ .

Let  $f$  be a polynomial which has roots  $a, b, c$ , we have  $f(t) = (t-a)(t-b)(t-c) = t^3 - (a+b+c)t^2 + (ab+bc+ca)t - abc$ . If  $a + b + c = 1$  then we have  $f(t) = t^3 - t^2 + (ab+bc+ca)t - abc$ . Taking into account the inequality C-B-S one obtains  $t^3 - t^2 + (ab+bc+ca)t - abc \leq \frac{1}{27} [3t - (a + b + c)]^3$ . For  $t = \frac{5}{9}$  one obtains  $(\frac{5}{9})^3 - (\frac{5}{9})^2 + (ab+bc+ca)\frac{5}{9} - abc \leq \frac{1}{27} (\frac{2}{3})^3$  where it appears  $\frac{5}{9}(ab+bc+ca) - abc \leq \frac{4}{27}$ . Egalitatea se obține pentru  $a = b = c = \frac{1}{3}$ .

2. If  $a, b, c$  are real numbers such that  $ab + bc + ca = 2$ , then

$$2abc(a+b+c) - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{64}{27}.$$

Solution. Let  $f$  be a polynomial that has roots  $bc, ab, ca$ , then  $f(t) = (t-ab)(t-bc)(t-ca) = t^3 - (ab+bc+ca)t^2 + abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2$ . If  $ab + bc + ca = 2$  then we have  $f(t) = t^3 - 2t^2 + abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2$ . Taking into account the inequality C-B-S one obtains  $t^3 - 2t^2 + abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{1}{27} [3t - (ab + bc + ca)]^3$ . For  $t = 2$  one obtains

$$8 - 8 + abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{1}{27}(4)^2 \text{ where it appears } 2abc(a+b+c) - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{64}{27}.$$

Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}$ .

3. If  $a, b, c$  are real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 4$ , then

$$\frac{5}{3}(a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2) - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{176}{27}.$$

Solution. Let  $f$  be a polynomial that has roots  $a^2, b^2, c^2$ , then  $f(t) = (t-a^2)(t-b^2)(t-c^2) = t^3 - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)t^2 + (a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2)t - (abc)^2$ . If  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 4$  then we have  $f(t) = t^3 - 4t^2 + (a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2)t - (abc)^2$ . Taking into account the inequality C-B-S one obtains  $t^3 - 4t^2 + abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{1}{27} [3t - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)]^3$ . For  $t = \frac{5}{3}$  one obtains

$$\frac{125}{27} - \frac{100}{9} + \frac{5}{3} abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{1}{27} \text{ where it appears } \frac{5}{3} abc(a+b+c)t - (abc)^2 \leq \frac{176}{27}.$$

Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{\sqrt{12}}{3}$ .

4. Either a, b, c three strictly positive real numbers that satisfy the condition:

$$ab + bc + ca + 2abc = 1. \quad (1)$$

To point out that:

$$a) \quad ab + bc + ca \geq \frac{3}{4}; \quad b) \quad a + b + c \geq \frac{3}{2}; \quad c) \quad \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq 4(a + b + c)$$

Solution.

$$a) \text{ From } 1 = ab + bc + ca + 2abc \geq 4\sqrt[4]{2a^3b^3c^3} \Leftrightarrow a^3b^3c^3 \leq \frac{1}{512} \Leftrightarrow abc \leq \frac{1}{8}. \quad (2)$$

Observation. At the dam for the junior Balkan Olympiad was given the following inequality: Either x, y, z three strictly positive real numbers such that  $\frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{1}{1+y} + \frac{1}{1+z} = 2$ . To show that  $8xyz \leq 1$ . How the relation is equivalent to  $xy + yz + zx + 2xyz = 1$  the relationship (2) is a solution of the problem.

From (1) we have  $abc = \frac{1-ab-bc-ca}{2}$  and substituting in the (2) one obtains

$$\frac{1-ab-bc-ca}{2} \leq \frac{1}{8} \text{ where it appears } ab + bc + ca \geq \frac{3}{4}. \quad (3)$$

b) Let f be a polynomial which has roots a,b,c, then  $f(t)=(t-a)(t-b)(t-c) = t^3 - (a+b+c)t^2 + (ab+bc+ca)t - abc \Leftrightarrow 2t^3 - 2(a+b+c)t^2 + 2(ab+bc+ca)t - 2abc = 2(t-a)(t-b)(t-c)$ .

For  $t = -\frac{1}{2}$  one obtains  $-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) - (ab+bc+ca) + 2abc = 2(-\frac{1}{2}-a)(-\frac{1}{2}-b)(-\frac{1}{2}-c)$

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

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5}{4} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) \leq \frac{2}{27}(\frac{3}{2}+a+b+c)^3 \Leftrightarrow \frac{5}{4} + \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c) \leq \frac{2}{27} \left[ \frac{27}{8} + \frac{27}{4}(a+b+c) + \frac{9}{2}(a+b+c)^2 + (a+b+c)^3 \right] \Leftrightarrow 2(a+b+c)^3 + 9(a+b+c)^2 - 27 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a+b+c+3)^2 [2(a+b+c) - 3]$$

$\geq 0$  where it appears  $a + b + c \geq \frac{3}{4}$ . Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$c) \quad \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq 4(a + b + c) \Leftrightarrow ab + bc + ca \geq 4abc(a + b + c) \quad (4)$$

Let f be a polynomial which has roots ab, bc, ca, then  $f(t)=(t-ab)(t-bc)(t-ca) = t^3 - (ab+bc+ca)t^2 + (a+b+c)abct - a^2b^2c^2$ . We do  $t = \frac{1}{4}$  and we note with  $A = ab + bc + ca - 4abc(a + b + c)$ ,  $B = ab + bc + ca$  and with  $C = abc$  and one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{64} - \frac{1}{16} A - a^2 b^2 c^2 &\leq \frac{1}{27} \left(\frac{3}{4} - B\right)^3 \Leftrightarrow A \geq \frac{1}{4} - 16 a^2 b^2 c^2 - \frac{16}{27} \left(\frac{3}{4} - B\right)^3 \Leftrightarrow A \\ &\geq \frac{16B^3 - 144B^2 + 243B - 108}{27} \Leftrightarrow A \geq \frac{1}{27}(4B^2 - 33B + 36)(4B - 3). \text{ Because } B = 1 - 2C \text{ one obtains} \\ A &\geq \frac{4}{27}(4C^2 + 5C + 1)(4B - 3). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Results } ab + bc + ca - 4abc(a + b + c) \geq \frac{4}{27}[4(abc)^2 + 5abc + 1][4(ab + bc + ca - 3)].$$

Taking into account the (3) one obtains  $ab + bc + ca - 4abc(a + b + c) \geq 0$ .

Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{1}{2}$ .

The results obtained are solving a problem at O.B.M. J 2006 and a problem proposed by Mircea Lascu and Marian Tetiva from [1].

5. Either  $x, y, z$  with positive real numbers such that:

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz = 1. \quad (1)$$

To show that: a)  $x + y + z \leq \frac{3}{2}$ ; b)  $xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{3}{4} \leq x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ ; c)  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{3}{2}$ ; d)  $xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{x + y + z}{2}$ ; e)  $xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{1}{2} + 2xyz$ .

$$\text{Solution. From } 1 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz \geq 4\sqrt[4]{2a^3b^3c^3} \Leftrightarrow x^3y^3z^3 \leq \frac{1}{512} \Leftrightarrow xyz \leq \frac{1}{8}. \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1) we have } xyz = \frac{1 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2}{2} \text{ and substituting in the (2) one obtains } \frac{1 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2}{2} \leq \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\text{where it appears } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq \frac{3}{4}. \quad (3)$$

To prove the point a). Let  $f$  be a polynomial which has roots  $x, y, z$ , we have

$$f(t) = (t-x)(t-y)(t-z) = t^3 - (x+y+z)t^2 + (xy+yz+zx)t - xyz. \quad (4)$$

$$\text{From (1) we have } xyz = \frac{1 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2}{2} \text{ and substituting in a tie and one obtains}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2t^3 - 2(x + y + z)t^2 + 2(xy + yz + zx)t - 1 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 2(t - a)(t - b)(t - c).$$

We do  $t = 1$  and note  $S = x + y + z$  and using the inequality C-B-S one obtains

$$1 - 2S + S^2 \leq \frac{2}{27} (3 - S)^3 \Leftrightarrow (S + 3)^2(2S - 3) \leq 0 \Rightarrow 2S - 3 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x + y + z \leq \frac{3}{2}.$$

Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{1}{2}$ .

To prove the point d). In (4) we do  $t = \frac{1}{2}$  and using the inequality C-B-S one obtains:

$$\frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{4}(x+y+z) + \frac{1}{2}(xy+yz+zx) - xyz \leq \frac{1}{27} \left( \frac{3}{2} - (x+y+z) \right)^3 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$-\frac{1}{4}[(x+y+z) - 2(xy+yz+zx)] \leq xyz - \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{27} \left( \frac{3}{2} - (x+y+z) \right)^3$$

Taking into account the fact that  $xyz = \frac{1-x^2-y^2-z^2}{2}$  și de  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq \frac{(x+y+z)^2}{3}$  we find that

$$108[(x+y+z) - 2(xy+yz+zx)] \geq [2(x+y+z)^2 + 3(x+y+z) + 18][3-2(x+y+z)]$$

$$\text{How } x+y+z \leq \frac{3}{2} \text{ results } (x+y+z) - 2(xy+yz+zx) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow xy+yz+zx \leq \frac{x+y+z}{2}$$

Equality is obtained for  $a = b = c = \frac{1}{2}$ . To prove the point e).

$$\text{Because } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xyz = 1 \text{ results } 2xyz = 1 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2 \text{ and then } xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{1}{2} + 2xyz \Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

In (4) we do  $t = x + y + z = S$  and one obtains  $S^3 - S^2 + (xy + yz + zx)S - xyz = (x+y)(y+z)(z+x)$

$$\Leftrightarrow S^3 - S(S^2 - xy - yz - zx) - xyz = (x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \Leftrightarrow S^3 - S(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) - xyz = (x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \quad (5)$$

Because  $x + y \geq 2\sqrt{xy}$ ,  $y + z \geq 2\sqrt{yz}$ ,  $z + x \geq 2\sqrt{zx}$  results  $(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \geq 8xyz$

Then (5) becomes  $S^3 - S(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) - xyz \geq 8xyz \Leftrightarrow$

$S(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) \leq S^3 - 9xyz$ . To show that  $\frac{S^3 - 9xyz}{S} \leq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow 2S^3 - 18xyz - 3S \leq 0$ . Taking into account that  $xyz = \frac{1-x^2-y^2-z^2}{2}$  and the fact that  $3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \geq S^2$  inequality becomes  $2S^3 - 18(1 - \frac{S^2}{3}) - 3S \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2S^3 + 3S^2 - 3S - 9 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (S^2 + 3S + 3)(2S - 3) \leq 0$  is true because  $x + y + z \leq \frac{3}{2}$ . Results  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow xy + yz + zx \leq \frac{1}{2} + 2xyz$ . Points a, b, c) and e) are a problem proposed by M.Tetiva and the point d)

a problem of O.Purcaru, the short list 2003 din [1].

6. Either a, b, c, d positive numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1$ . To show that  $ab + cd + (a+b)(c+d) \leq \frac{5}{4} + 4abcd$ .

Solution. We note with  $S = ab + cd + (a+b)(c+d)$  and with  $P = abcd$ .

Consider the polynomial  $f(x) = x^4 - (a+b+c+d)x^3 + Sx^2 - (abc+abd+acd+bcd)x + P = (x-a)(x-b)(x-c)(x-d)$ .

We have  $|f(it)|^2 = |t^4 - i(a + b + c + d)t^3 - St^2 - i(abc + abd + acd + bcd)t + P|$  (1)

But  $|A + iB| \geq A \Leftrightarrow |A + iB|^2 \geq A^2 \Leftrightarrow |A + iB|\overline{|A + iB|} \geq A^2 \Leftrightarrow A^2 + B^2 \geq A^2$ .

Equality is obtained for  $q = 0$ .

The relationship (1) becomes  $|f(it)|^2 \geq |t^4 - St^2 + abcd|^2$  (2)

But  $|f(it)|^2 = |f(it)|\overline{|f(it)|} = (it-a)(it-b)(it-c)(it-d)(-it-a)(-it-b)(-it-c)(-it-d) = (t^2 + a^2)(t^2 + b^2)(t^2 + c^2)(t^2 + d^2)$ . (3)

From (2) and (3) we find  $|t^4 - St^2 + abcd|^2 \leq (t^2 + a^2)(t^2 + b^2)(t^2 + c^2)(t^2 + d^2)$  (4)

The inequality one obtains environments  $(t^2 + a^2)(t^2 + b^2)(t^2 + c^2)(t^2 + d^2) \leq \frac{1}{256} (4t^2 + a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)^4 = \frac{1}{256} (4t^2 + 1)^4$  and (4) becomes  $|t^4 - St^2 + abcd|^2 \leq \frac{1}{256} (4t^2 + 1)^4$ .

In this latter connection we do  $t = \frac{1}{2}$  and one obtains

$\left| \frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{4}S + P \right| \leq \frac{1}{4} \Leftrightarrow \left| S - 4P - \frac{1}{4} \right| \leq 1$  where it appears  $S \leq \frac{5}{4} + 4P$ . It is observed that the complex of (1) for  $t = 1/2$  is 0. So equality can be achieved. Equality is obtained for  $a=b=c=d = \frac{1}{2}$ .

In all examples presented dificultați that arise in solving inequalities are sometimes in finding the values of  $t$  and intermediate stages must go through them.

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