

# R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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*If  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  then :*

$$\prod \left( x^4 - x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \right) < \prod (2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2)$$

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*Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India*

*Consider:*

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2 - \left( x^4 - x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \right) &= \\ &= x^4 - x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} = f(x) \end{aligned}$$

*For  $x \leq 0$ ,  $f(x) > 0$*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } x \geq 1, f(x) &= x^3(x-1) + \frac{1}{6}(9x^2 - 15x + 9) = \\ &= x^3(x-1) + \frac{1}{6}(3x-3)^2 + \frac{1}{2}x > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } 0 < x < 1, f(x) &= x^4 - x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} = \\ &= x^2 \left( x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{5}{4}x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} = x^2 \left( x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{5}{4}(x-1)^2 + \frac{1}{4} > 0 \\ f(x) > 0 &\rightarrow 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2 > x^4 - x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \\ \prod \left( x^4 - x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \right) &< \prod (2x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 2) \end{aligned}$$