

R M M

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE
www.ssmrmh.ro



If $x > 0$ then:

$$x^2 - 3x + 1 \geq \log x^x - x^{x+1}$$

Proposed by Lazaros Zacharidis-Thessaloniki-Greece

Solution by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$x^2 - 3x + 1 \geq \log x^x - x^{x+1} \quad (1)$$

Am-Gm

$$x^2 + 1 \stackrel{\text{Am-Gm}}{\geq} 2x \text{ so (1) becomes the stronger inequality}$$

$$-x - x \log x + x^{x+1} \geq 0 \text{ or } x > 0 \Rightarrow -1 - \log x + x^x \geq 0$$

$$\text{Consider the function } f(x) = x^x - \log x - 1, f'(x) = x^x(1 + \log x) - \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{If } x < 1 \text{ then } x^x < 1; 1 + \log x < 1; \frac{1}{x} > 1 \Rightarrow f'(x) < 0$$

$$\text{If } x > 1 \text{ then } f'(x) > 0, f'(1) = 0.$$

Therefore $f(x) \uparrow, x \in [1, \infty); f(x) \downarrow, x \in (0, 1]$ hence: $f(1) = 0$ is a global min on $(0, \infty)$

$$\text{because } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = +\infty; \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = +\infty.$$

$$\text{Now: } f(x) \geq f(0) = 0. \text{ Done!}$$

Note by editor:

Many thanks to Florică Anastase-Romania for typed solution.