

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a, b > 0$ and $a + b = 2, \lambda \geq \frac{1}{2}$ then:

$$ab + \frac{1}{a^2 + b^2 + \lambda} - \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + \lambda} + \frac{1}{a^4 + b^4 + \lambda} \leq \frac{\lambda + 3}{\lambda + 2}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$ab \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 \stackrel{a+b=2}{=} 1 \quad (1)$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = \frac{a^2}{1} + \frac{b^2}{1} \stackrel{Radon}{\geq} \frac{(a+b)^2}{2} \stackrel{a+b=2}{=} 2 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{a^4}{1^3} + \frac{b^4}{1^3} \stackrel{Radon}{\geq} \frac{(a+b)^4}{8} \stackrel{a+b=2}{=} 2 \quad (3)$$

$$a^3 + b^3 = (a+b)^3 - 3ab(a+b) \stackrel{a+b=2}{=} 8 - 6ab \quad (4)$$

We need to show:

$$ab + \frac{1}{a^2 + b^2 + \lambda} - \frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + \lambda} + \frac{1}{a^4 + b^4 + \lambda}$$

$$\stackrel{(2),(3)\&(4)}{\leq} ab + \frac{1}{2 + \lambda} - \frac{1}{8 + \lambda - 6ab} + \frac{1}{\lambda + 2} = \frac{8ab + \lambda ab - 6ab - 1}{8 + \lambda - 6ab} + \frac{2}{\lambda + 2} =$$

$$= \frac{2ab + \lambda ab - 1}{8 + \lambda - 6ab} + \frac{2}{\lambda + 2} \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{2 + \lambda - 1}{8 + \lambda - 6} + \frac{2}{\lambda + 2} =$$

$$= \frac{1 + \lambda}{2 + \lambda} + \frac{2}{\lambda + 2} = \frac{\lambda + 3}{\lambda + 2}$$

Equality holds for $a=b=1$.