

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

JP. 581 If $x, y, z \geq 0$ then:

$$\frac{[3^x] \cdot [3^y]}{[3^{x+y}]} + \frac{[3^y] \cdot [3^z]}{[3^{y+z}]} + \frac{[3^z] \cdot [3^x]}{[3^{z+x}]} \leq 3$$

$[*]$ - great integer function.

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by proposer

Lemma: If $a, b \in [0, \infty)$ then:

$$[a] \cdot [b] \leq [a \cdot b] \quad (1)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} [a] \leq a; [b] \leq b &\Rightarrow [a] \cdot [b] \leq ab \\ &\Rightarrow [[a] \cdot [b]] \leq [a \cdot b] \Rightarrow [a] \cdot [b] \leq [a \cdot b] \end{aligned}$$

Back to the problem:

We take in (1): $a = 3^x; b = 3^y$

$$[3^x] \cdot [3^y] \leq [3^x \cdot 3^y] \Rightarrow \frac{[3^x] \cdot [3^y]}{[3^{x+y}]} \leq 1 \quad (2)$$

Analogous:

$$\frac{[3^y] \cdot [3^z]}{[3^{y+z}]} \leq 1 \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{[3^z] \cdot [3^x]}{[3^{z+x}]} \leq 1 \quad (4)$$

By adding (2); (3); (4):

$$\frac{[3^x] \cdot [3^y]}{[3^{x+y}]} + \frac{[3^y] \cdot [3^z]}{[3^{y+z}]} + \frac{[3^z] \cdot [3^x]}{[3^{z+x}]} \leq 3$$

Equality holds for $x, y, z \in \mathbb{N}$.