

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

SP.585 Let $f: [n-1, n] \rightarrow [n, n+1]$ be a continuous function such that

$$\int_{n-1}^n (1 + xf'(x)) dx \leq nf(n) - (n-1)f(n-1),$$

then prove:

$$\int_{n-1}^n \frac{dx}{f(x)} \leq \frac{2}{n+1}, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Proposed by by Marian Ursărescu and Florică Anastase – Romania

Solution by proposer

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{n-1}^n (1 + xf'(x)) dx &\leq nf(n) - (n-1)f(n-1) \Rightarrow \\ nf(n) - (n-1)f(n-1) - \int_{n-1}^n xf'(x) dx &\geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

But, using Integration by Parts method, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{n-1}^n xf'(x) dx &= xf(x)|_{n-1}^n - \int_{n-1}^n f(x) dx \\ \int_{n-1}^n xf'(x) dx &= nf(n) - (n-1)f(n-1) - \int_{n-1}^n f(x) dx \\ \int_{n-1}^n f(x) dx &= nf(n) - (n-1)f(n-1) - \int_{n-1}^n xf'(x) dx \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

For all $x \in [n-1, n]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ we have $\frac{(f(x)-n)(f(x)-n-1)}{f(x)} \leq 0$ or

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - (2n+1) + \frac{n(n+1)}{f(x)} &\leq 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{f(x)} \leq \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)} - \frac{1}{n(n+1)} f(x) \Leftrightarrow \\ \int_{n-1}^n \frac{1}{f(x)} dx &\leq \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)} \int_{n-1}^n dx - \frac{1}{n(n+1)} \int_{n-1}^n f(x) dx \Leftrightarrow \\ \int_{n-1}^n \frac{1}{f(x)} dx &\leq \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)} (n(n-1)) - \frac{1}{n(n+1)} \Leftrightarrow \\ \int_{n-1}^n \frac{1}{f(x)} dx &\leq \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)} - \frac{1}{n(n+1)} \Leftrightarrow \int_{n-1}^n \frac{1}{f(x)} dx \leq \frac{2}{n+1} \end{aligned}$$