

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $\sqrt{x^2 + 1} + \sqrt{y^2 + 1} - x - y = 2\sqrt{2} - 2$ then:

$$\sqrt{(x^2 + 1)(y^2 + 1)} + xy \geq 3$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } a &= \sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x, b = \sqrt{y^2 + 1} - y \\ \frac{1}{a} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x} = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + x \text{ then } a - \frac{1}{a} = -2x \text{ or } x = \frac{1 - a^2}{2a} \\ \sqrt{x^2 + 1} &= x + a = \frac{1 - a^2}{2a} + a = \frac{1 + a^2}{2a} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similary: } y = \frac{1 - b^2}{2b}, \sqrt{y^2 + 1} = \frac{1 + b^2}{2b}$$

$$\sqrt{(x^2 + 1)(y^2 + 1)} + xy = \frac{1 + a^2}{2a} \cdot \frac{1 + b^2}{2b} + \frac{1 - a^2}{2a} \frac{1 - b^2}{2b} = \frac{1 + a^2 b^2}{2ab} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + \sqrt{y^2 + 1} - x - y &= 2\sqrt{2} - 2 \text{ or } a + b = 2(\sqrt{2} - 1) \\ ab &\stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \left(\frac{a + b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2(\sqrt{2} - 1)}{2}\right)^2 = 3 - 2\sqrt{2} \text{ or } 2\sqrt{2} \leq 3 - ab \\ \text{or, } (2\sqrt{2})^2 &\leq (3 - ab)^2 \text{ or } 8 \leq 9 - 6ab + a^2 b^2 \text{ or } a^2 b^2 - 6ab + 1 \geq 0 \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We need to show: } &\sqrt{(x^2 + 1)(y^2 + 1)} + xy \geq 3 \\ \text{or } \frac{1 + a^2 b^2}{2ab} &\geq 3 \text{ (using (1)) or } a^2 b^2 - 6ab + 1 \geq 0 \text{ this is true by (2)} \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds for $a = b = \sqrt{2} - 1$ or $x = y = 1$.