

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a^3b^3(1+a^4)(1+b^4) \geq 4$, then prove that :

$$a^2 + b^2 \geq 2$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } ab &\leq \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } xy \leq \frac{(x+y)^2}{4} \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} \\ \therefore a^3b^3(1+a^4)(1+b^4) &= ab(b^2 + b^2a^4)(a^2 + a^2b^4) \leq \\ &\frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} \cdot (b^2 + b^2a^4)(a^2 + a^2b^4) \quad (\because b^2 + b^2a^4, a^2 + a^2b^4 > 0) \\ &\leq \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} \cdot \frac{(a^2 + b^2 + a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2))^2}{4} \\ &= \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} \cdot \frac{(a^2 + b^2)^2 + a^4b^4(a^2 + b^2)^2 + 2a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2)^2}{4} \\ &\leq \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} \cdot \frac{(a^2 + b^2)^2 + \frac{(a^2+b^2)^4}{16} \cdot (a^2 + b^2)^2 + \frac{(a^2+b^2)^2}{2} (a^2 + b^2)^2}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$(\because (a^2 + b^2)^2 > 0) \therefore 4 \leq a^3b^3(1+a^4)(1+b^4) \leq \frac{t(t^2 + \frac{t^6}{16} + \frac{t^4}{2})}{8} \quad (t = a^2 + b^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow t^7 + 8t^5 + 16t^3 - 512 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (t-2)(t^6 + 2t^5 + 12t^4 + 24t^3 + 64t^2 + 128t + 256) \geq 0$$

$\Rightarrow t = a^2 + b^2 \geq 2$ ($\because t > 0$) $\therefore a^2 + b^2 \geq 2$ whenever $a^3b^3(1+a^4)(1+b^4) \geq 4$
and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, " = " iff $(a = b = 1)$ or $(a = b = -1)$ (QED)