

Denote by $P(n)$ the proposition below:

(I)

- Suppose s, t, u, v are non-negative real numbers.

$$\text{We have } (s^2 + t^2)(u^2 + v^2) - (su + tv)^2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (II)} \geq 0.$$

$$\text{Then } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (III)} \geq \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (IV)}.$$

Hence $P(2)$ is true.

- Let $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $P(m)$ is true. We verify that $P(m + 1)$ is true below:

$$\text{Suppose } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (V)}.$$

$$\text{Define } A = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^m a_j^2}, B = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^m b_j^2}, C = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (VI)}.$$

Note that A, B, C are non-negative real numbers.

$$\text{By } P(2), \text{ we have } \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} a_j^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} b_j^2 \right) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (VII)} \geq (AB + a_{m+1}b_{m+1})^2.$$

$$\text{By } P(m), \text{ we have } AB \geq C^2. \text{ Then } AB + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (VIII)} \geq \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (IX)} + a_{m+1}b_{m+1} = \sum_{j=1}^{m+1} a_j b_j \geq 0.$$

$$\text{Therefore } \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} a_j^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} b_j^2 \right) \geq (AB + a_{m+1}b_{m+1})^2 \geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} a_j b_j \right)^2.$$

Hence $P(m + 1)$ is true.

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction, $P(n)$ is true for any $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$.

- (b) By applying the result above together with the Triangle Inequality for the reals, or otherwise, prove the statement (T) below:

(T) Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ are real numbers.

$$\text{Then } \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_j^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n b_j^2 \right) \geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_j b_j \right)^2.$$

Remark. Generalize the argument for the statement (T) to give a proof for the statement (T'):

(T') Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ are complex numbers.

$$\text{Then } \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |z_j|^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |w_j|^2 \right) \geq \left| \sum_{j=1}^n z_j \overline{w_j} \right|^2.$$

4. The various parts in this question are concerned with applications of the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality. They are independent of each other.

(a) Suppose x, y, z are real numbers. Prove that $yz + zx + xy \leq (y + z - x)^2 + (z + x - y)^2 + (x + y - z)^2$.

(b) Let $a > 0$. Prove that $\frac{a^n}{1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{2n}} \leq \frac{1}{2n + 1}$.

(c) Let n be a positive integer. Prove that $\sum_{k=0}^n \sqrt{\binom{n}{k}} \leq \sqrt{2^n(n + 1)}$.

5. (a) By applying the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality, or otherwise, prove the statement (#):

(#) Suppose a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n are positive real numbers. Then $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k^2}$.

- (b) \diamond Hence, or otherwise, prove the statements below:

- i. Let b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n be positive real numbers. Suppose $\sum_{k=1}^n b_k = S$. Then $\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{b_k} \leq \sqrt{nS}$.
- ii. Let c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n be positive real numbers. Suppose $\sum_{k=1}^n c_k = 1 + \frac{1}{2n}$. Then $\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{2c_k + 1} \leq n + 1$.

6. (a) Fill in the blanks in the passage below so as to give the statement for the **Arithmetico-geometrical Inequality**:

Let (I) be (II) greater than 1. Suppose (III) are (IV) real numbers. Then (V) $\geq \sqrt[n]{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{n-1} a_n}$. Moreover, equality holds (VI).

(b) Consider the statement (T):

(T) Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k be positive real numbers, and r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k be positive rational numbers. Suppose $r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k = 1$. Then $r_1 x_1 + r_2 x_2 + \dots + r_k x_k \geq x_1^{r_1} x_2^{r_2} \cdots x_k^{r_k}$.

Fill in the blanks in the block below, all labelled by capital-letter Roman numerals, with appropriate words so that it gives a proof for the statement (T), with the help of the Arithmetic-Geometric Inequality. (The 'underline' for each blank bears no definite relation with the length of the answer for that blank.)

Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k be positive real numbers, and r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k be positive rational numbers. Suppose $r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k = 1$.

Since (I) are rational numbers, (II) some integers (III) such that $r_1 = \frac{M_1}{N_1}$, (IV).

Without loss of generality, we may assume $N_1 = N_2 = \dots = N_k$. Write $N = N_1$.

Since r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k are (V), we may assume, without loss of generality, that M_1, M_2, \dots, M_k, N are positive.

Since $r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k = 1$, we have N (VI).

By the Arithmetic-Geometric Inequality, we have

$$r_1 x_1 + r_2 x_2 + \dots + r_k x_k = \text{(VII)} \geq \text{(VIII)}$$

(c) By applying the statement (T), or otherwise, prove the statement (T'):

(T') Suppose x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k are positive real numbers, and s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k are positive rational numbers.

Then $\frac{s_1 x_1 + s_2 x_2 + \dots + s_k x_k}{s_1 + s_2 + \dots + s_k} \geq (x_1^{s_1} x_2^{s_2} \cdots x_k^{s_k})^{1/(s_1 + s_2 + \dots + s_k)}$.

7. The various parts in this question are concerned with applications of the Arithmetico-geometrical Inequality. They are independent of each other.

(a) Suppose w, x, y, z are real numbers. Prove that $\frac{w^4 + x^2 y^2 + y^2 z^2 + z^2 x^2}{4} \geq wxyz$.

(b) Let a, b, c be positive real numbers. Suppose $a + b + c = 1$. Prove that $\left(\frac{1}{a} - 1\right) \left(\frac{1}{b} - 1\right) \left(\frac{1}{c} - 1\right) \geq 8$.

(c) Let n be a positive integer.

i. Prove that $n^n \geq 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n - 3) \cdot (2n - 1)$.

ii. Hence deduce that $(n^2 + n)^n \geq (2n)!$.

8. Here we take for granted the result (†) known as the **Area Comparison Theorem** in the calculus of one real variable.

(†) Let a, b be real numbers, with $a \leq b$, and let f, g be real-valued functions of one real variable whose domains contain the interval $[a, b]$. Suppose f, g are continuous on $[a, b]$. Further suppose that $f(x) \leq g(x)$ for any $x \in [a, b]$.

Then $\int_a^b f(t) dt \leq \int_a^b g(t) dt$.

Let $h : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Suppose that for any $x \in [0, +\infty)$,

$$h(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad h(x) \geq 1 + \int_0^x 2uh(u) du.$$

(a) Consider the statement (J):

(J) For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $h(x) \geq \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^{2j}}{j!}$ for any $x \in [0, +\infty)$.

Fill in the blanks in the block below, all labelled by capital-letter Roman numerals, with appropriate words so that it gives a proof for the statement (J), with the help of the Area Comparison Theorem. (The ‘underline’ for each blank bears no definite relation with the length of the answer for that blank.)

Denote by $P(n)$ the proposition that _____ (I) _____.

- For any $x \in [0, +\infty)$, $h(x) \geq 0$.

Then, for any $x \in [0, +\infty)$, we have $h(x) \geq 1 + \int_0^x 2uh(u)du \geq$ _____ (II) _____.

Hence $P(0)$ is true.

- Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$. _____ (III) _____

We have $h(x) \geq \sum_{j=0}^k \frac{u^{2j}}{j!}$ for any $x \in [0, +\infty)$.

For any $x \in (0, +\infty)$, we have $h(x) \geq$ _____ (IV) _____ \geq _____ (V) _____

Hence _____ (VI) _____.

By the Principle of Mathematical Induction, $P(n)$ is true for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(b) Prove that $h(\sqrt{e}) \geq e^e$.

9. In this question, we are going to prove the existence of the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k}$ and find its value.

Here we take for granted the result known as the **Area Comparison Theorem** in the *calculus of one real variable*.

We further take for granted the result (‡) known as the **Sandwich Rule** in the *calculus of one real variable*:

(‡) Let $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{v_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{w_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be infinite sequences of real numbers. Suppose $u_n \leq v_n \leq w_n$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Further suppose that both $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{w_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ converge in \mathbb{R} , and converge to the same limit, say, ℓ . Then $\{v_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ converges to ℓ also.

(a)◇ Apply mathematical induction to prove that $\sum_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} = \sum_{k=n+1}^{2n} \frac{1}{k}$ for any positive integer n .

(b)♣ Prove the statement (‡), by considering appropriate definite integrals:

(‡) Let x be a real number. Suppose $x > 1$. Then $\ln \left(\frac{x+1}{x} \right) \leq \frac{1}{x} \leq \ln \left(\frac{x}{x-1} \right)$.

(c) Applying the statement (‡), or otherwise, deduce that $\ln \left(\frac{2n+1}{n+1} \right) \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^{2n} \frac{1}{k} \leq \ln(2)$ for any positive integer n .

(d) Hence, or otherwise, prove that the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k}$ exists and find its value.

(e)♣ Let n be a positive integer. Prove that $\left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{2n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} \right| \leq \frac{1}{n}$.

Hint.

- When n is even, group up pairs of consecutive terms in the sum, and simplify to give a sum of $n/2$ positive number. Now spot which of these $n/2$ numbers is the largest.
- When n is odd, first leave out the first term, and then proceed in the same way described above on the rest of the terms in the sum.

(f)◇ Hence, or otherwise, prove that the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k}$ exists and find its value.

Hint. What can be said about the difference $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} - \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k}$ for each positive integer n ?