

1. Lemma (1).

Let a, b be real numbers.

Suppose $0 < a < 1$ and $0 < b < 1$.

Then $(1 - a)(1 - b) > 1 - (a + b)$.

Proof of Lemma (1).

Let a, b be real numbers. Suppose $0 < a < 1$ and $0 < b < 1$.

Note that $(1 - a)(1 - b) - [1 - (a + b)] = ab$.

Since $a > 0$ and $b > 0$, we have $ab > 0$.

Then $(1 - a)(1 - b) - [1 - (a + b)] > 0$.

Therefore $(1 - a)(1 - b) > 1 - (a + b)$.

2. Theorem (2).

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$.

Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$.

Remark. What is Theorem (2) saying? It says that each of the (infinitely many) statements below is true:

- Suppose $x_1, x_2 \in (0, 1)$. Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2)$.
- Suppose $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in (0, 1)$. Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)(1 - x_3) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + x_3)$.
- Suppose $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in (0, 1)$.
Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_4) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4)$.
- Suppose $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \in (0, 1)$.
Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_4)(1 - x_5) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5)$.
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So the statement of Theorem (2) is of the form

‘for any $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$, $P(n)$ is true’,

in which $P(n)$ is the predicate

‘if $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$ then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$ ’.

We shall apply mathematical induction to prove Theorem (2).

3. Proof of Theorem (2).

For each integer n greater than 1, we denote by $P(n)$ the proposition below:

'If $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$ then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$.'

- By Lemma (1), $P(2)$ is true.
- Let $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $P(k)$ is true.

(Therefore, if $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \in (0, 1)$, then the inequality

$$(1 - c_1)(1 - c_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - c_k) > 1 - (c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_k) \text{ holds.}$$

We verify that $P(k+1)$ is true:

[*Reminder.* What we are trying to do is to deduce

'if $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k, b_{k+1} \in (0, 1)$ then

$$(1 - b_1)(1 - b_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - b_k)(1 - b_{k+1}) > 1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k + b_{k+1}).$$

We expect somewhere along the argument we need to use $P(k)$.]

Suppose $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k, b_{k+1} \in (0, 1)$.

[*Ask.* Is it true that the inequality

$$(1 - b_1)(1 - b_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - b_k)(1 - b_{k+1}) > 1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k + b_{k+1})$$

holds?

Observe. There is the expression $(1 - b_1)(1 - b_2) \cdots (1 - b_k)$ in the left-hand side of the desired inequality. It seems to link up with the content of $P(k)$.]

Proof of Theorem (2).

For each integer n greater than 1, we denote by $P(n)$ the proposition below:

'If $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$ then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) > 1 - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$.'

- By Lemma (1), $P(2)$ is true.
- Let $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $P(k)$ is true.

(Therefore, if $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \in (0, 1)$, then the inequality

$$(1 - c_1)(1 - c_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - c_k) > 1 - (c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_k) \text{ holds.}$$

We verify that $P(k+1)$ is true:

Suppose $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k, b_{k+1} \in (0, 1)$.

By $P(k)$, the inequality $(1 - b_1)(1 - b_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - b_k) > 1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k)$ holds.

Note that $1 - b_{k+1} > 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - b_1)(1 - b_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - b_k)(1 - b_{k+1}) \\ & > [1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k)](1 - b_{k+1}) \\ & = 1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k) - b_{k+1} + (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k)b_{k+1} \\ & > 1 - (b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k + b_{k+1}). \end{aligned}$$

(Note that $(b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_k)b_{k+1} > 0$. It is used in the last inequality.)

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

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

4. Theorem (3).

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n \in (0, +\infty)$.

Then $(1 + t_1)(1 + t_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 + t_n) > 1 + (t_1 + t_2 + \dots + t_n)$.

Proof of Theorem (3).

Exercise in mathematical induction. (Imitate what is done in the proof of Lemma (1) and Theorem (2).)

5. Theorem (4).

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$.

Then $(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) < \frac{1}{1 + (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)}$.

6. Proof of Theorem (4). [We apply Theorem (3).]

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, 1)$.

For each $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we have $1 - x_j^2 < 1$. Then $0 < 1 - x_j < \frac{1}{1 + x_j}$.

Therefore

$$(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) < \frac{1}{1 + x_1} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + x_2} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{1}{1 + x_n}.$$

By Theorem (3), we have $(1 + x_1)(1 + x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 + x_n) > 1 + (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$.

Then

$$(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) < \frac{1}{1 + x_1} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + x_2} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{1}{1 + x_n} < \frac{1}{1 + (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)}$$

7. Summarizing the results above, we have the result below:

Theorem (5). (Weierstrass' Product Inequalities.)

Let $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. Suppose $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, +\infty)$.

Then

$$1 - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n) < (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - x_n) < \frac{1}{1 + (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)}.$$