



COORDONATOR: ANDREI OCTAVIAN DOBRE

REDACTORI PRINCIPALI ȘI SUSȚINĂTORI PERMANENȚI AI REVISTEI

NECULAI STANCIU, ROXANA MIHAELA STANCIU ȘI NELA CICEU

Articole :

1. Solutins and hints of some problems from the Octogon Mathematical Magazine (III) - pag 2
D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu, Titu Zvonaru
2. A generalization and solutions of the problem 11670 from AMM - pag 38
D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu, Titu Zvonaru
3. Other solutions for some problems from MR – 4/2014 - pag 41
Nela Ciceu, Roxana Mihaela Stanciu
4. Metode de calcul pentru derivata unui determinant - pag 44
Boer Elena Milena

1. Solutions and hints of some problems from the Octogon Mathematical Magazine (III)

by D.M. Băținețu-Giurgiu, Bucharest, Romania

Neculai Stanciu, Buzău, Romania

and

Titu Zvonaru, Comănești, Romania

PP. 19942. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{r_a^2}{r_a - r} \geq \frac{(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)}$.

Mihály Bencze

By well-known formulas and *Bergström's* inequality we have

$$\sum \frac{r_a^2}{r_a - r} \stackrel{\text{BERGSTROM}}{\geq} \frac{(\sum r_a)^2}{\sum r_a - 3r} = \frac{(4R+r)^2}{4R+r-3r} = \frac{(4R+r)^2}{2(2R-r)}, \text{ q.e.d.}$$

PP. 20041. In all triangle ABC holds

- 1). $\sum \frac{a^2}{c(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{9}{8s}$
- 2). $\sum \frac{a^2}{(s-b)(s-c)(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4r(4R+r)}$
- 3). $\sum \frac{a^2}{(r_a+r_b+r_c)(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4(4R+r+s^2)}$
- 4). $\sum \frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2 \sin^4 \frac{A}{2}} \geq \frac{18R^2}{8R^2+r^2-s^2}$
- 5). $\sum \frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2 \cos^6 \frac{A}{2}} \geq \frac{72R^3}{(4R+r)^3 - 3s^2(2R+r)}$

Mihály Bencze

By well-known formulas and *Bergström's* inequality we have

$$1) \sum \frac{a^2}{c(b+c)^2} = \sum \frac{\left(\frac{a}{b+c}\right)^2}{c} \stackrel{\text{BERGSTROM}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a}{b+c}\right)^2}{\sum a} \stackrel{\text{NESBITT}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2}{a+b+c} = \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2s} = \frac{9}{8s};$$

$$2) \sum \frac{a^2}{(s-b)(s-c)(b+c)^2} = \sum \frac{\left(\frac{a}{b+c}\right)^2}{(s-b)(s-c)} \stackrel{\text{BERGSTROM}}{\geq} \frac{\left(\sum \frac{a}{b+c}\right)^2}{\sum (s-b)(s-c)} \stackrel{\text{NESBITT}}{\geq} \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{\sum (s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{9}{4r(4R+r)};$$

3) As above we deduce that

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{(r_a+r_b r_c)(b+c)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{r_a+r_b+r_c+r_a r_b+r_b r_c+r_c r_a} = \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4R+r+s^2};$$

4) As above we deduce that

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2 \sin^4 \frac{A}{2}} \geq \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{\sum \sin^4 \frac{A}{2}} = \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{8R^2}{8R^2+r^2-s^2} = \frac{18R^2}{8R^2+r^2-s^2};$$

5) As above we deduce that

$$\sum \frac{a^2}{(b+c)^2 \cos^6 \frac{A}{2}} \geq \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{\sum \cos^6 \frac{A}{2}} = \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{32R^3}{(4R+r)^3 - 2s^2(2R+r)} = \frac{72R^3}{(4R+r)^3 - 2s^2(2R+r)},$$

and the proof is complete.

PP.20150. If $a, b, c > 0$ then $\sum \frac{a}{(a+b+c)^2+bc} \geq \frac{9}{10(a+b+c)}$.

Mihály Bencze

By *Bergström's* inequality and AM-GM inequality we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{a}{(a+b+c)^2+bc} &= \sum \frac{a^2}{a(a+b+c)^2+abc} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{(a+b+c)^2(a+b+c)+3abc} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{(a+b+c)^3 + \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{9}} = \frac{9}{10(a+b+c)}, \end{aligned}$$

and we are done. We have equality if and only if $a = b = c$, and the proof is complete.

PP.20153. If $x, a, b, c > 0$ and $a + b + c = \frac{1}{x+1}$, then

$$\frac{a^2}{a+b} + \frac{b^2}{b+c} + \frac{c^2}{x(a+b)+(x+1)c} + \frac{x^2(a+b+c)^2}{(x+1)a+x(b+c)} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Mihály Bencze

By *Bergström's* inequality we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2}{a+b} + \frac{b^2}{b+c} + \frac{c^2}{x(a+b)+(x+1)c} + \frac{x^2(a+b+c)^2}{(x+1)a+x(b+c)} &\geq \frac{(a+b+c+x(a+b+c))^2}{2(x+1)(a+b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{(a+b+c)(1+x)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

and we are done.

PP.20160. Determine all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ for which $\prod_{k=1}^n (2^{k-1} + 1)$ is divisible by $n!$

Mihály Bencze

The product $\prod_{k=1}^n (2^{k-1} + 1)$ it contains the factor 2 at first power (since for any $k \geq 2$, $2^{k-1} + 1$ is odd). If $n \geq 4$, then $n!$ contains the factor 2 at the power at least 2. Hence $n \leq 3$. Finally, easily we get $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.

PP.20167. Solve the following equation $\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{1-\cos 2x} + \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{1+\cos 2x} = 8 - \frac{2}{\sin 2x}$.

Mihály Bencze

The given equation is written successively

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1-\cos 30^0}{1-\cos 2x} + \frac{1+\cos 30^0}{1+\cos 2x} &= 4 - \frac{2\sin 30^0}{\sin 2x} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{1-\cos 30^0}{1-\cos 2x} - 1 + \frac{1+\cos 30^0}{1+\cos 2x} - 1 &= \frac{2(\sin 2x - \sin 30^0)}{\sin 2x} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{\cos 2x - \cos 30^0}{1-\cos 2x} + \frac{\cos 30^0 - \cos 2x}{1+\cos 2x} &= \frac{2(\sin 2x - \sin 30^0)}{\sin 2x} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\cos 2x - \cos 30^0)(1+\cos 2x - 1 + \cos 2x)}{1-\cos^2 2x} &= \frac{2(\sin 2x - \sin 30^0)}{\sin 2x} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{2\sin(x+15^0)\sin(15^0-x)\cos 2x}{\sin^2 2x} &= \frac{2\sin(x-15^0)\cos(x+15^0)}{\sin 2x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sin(15^\circ - x)[\sin(x + 15^\circ) \cos 2x + \cos(x + 15^\circ) \sin 2x] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sin(15^\circ - x) \sin(x + 15^\circ + 2x) = 0.$$

Therefore we have the solutions

$$x - 15^\circ = k \cdot 180^\circ, 3x + 15^\circ = p \cdot 180^\circ, \text{ i.e. } x = k \cdot 180^\circ + 15^\circ \text{ and } x = p \cdot 60^\circ - 5^\circ$$

with $k, p \in \mathbb{Z}$.

The solution is complete.

PP.20179. Let ABC be a triangle and $A(a), B(b), C(c)$. Prove that $|\sum a(b^2 - c^2)| = 4sRr$.

Mihály Bencze

Using $\sum a(b^2 - c^2) = (a-b)(b-c)(c-a)$, then

$$|\sum a(b^2 - c^2)| = |(a-b)(b-c)(c-a)| = \|AB\| \cdot \|BC\| \cdot \|CA\| = 4sRr, \text{ q.e.d}$$

PP.20197. If $a, b, c > 0$ then $3^{n-1} (a^{4n} + b^{4n} + c^{4n}) \geq a^n b^n c^n (a + b + c)^n$.

Mihály Bencze

Solution 1. We can assume that $a \geq b \geq c$. By Chebyshev's inequality we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} a^{4n} + b^{4n} + c^{4n} &= a^{4n-1} \cdot a + b^{4n-1} \cdot b + c^{4n-1} \cdot c \geq \frac{1}{3} (a+b+c)(a^{4n-1} + b^{4n-1} + c^{4n-1}) \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3^2} (a+b+c)^2 (a^{4n-2} + b^{4n-2} + c^{4n-2}) \geq \dots \geq \frac{1}{3^n} (a+b+c)^n (a^{3n} + b^{3n} + c^{3n}), \text{ and because} \end{aligned}$$

by AM-GM inequality we have $\frac{a^{3n} + b^{3n} + c^{3n}}{3} \geq a^n b^n c^n$, we obtain the given inequality.

Solution 2. Let $f : \mathbb{R}_+^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^*$, $f(x) = x^{4n}$, which is convex on \mathbb{R}_+^* , So,

$$\begin{aligned} f(a) + f(b) + f(c) &\geq 3f\left(\frac{a+b+c}{3}\right) \Leftrightarrow a^{4n} + b^{4n} + c^{4n} \geq 3 \frac{(a+b+c)^{4n}}{3^{4n}} = \\ &= 3^{1-4n} (a+b+c)^n (a+b+c)^{3n} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 3^{1-4n} (a+b+c)^n \left(3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{abc}\right)^{3n} = \\ &= 3^{1-n} a^n b^n c^n (a+b+c)^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $3^{n-1} (a^{4n} + b^{4n} + c^{4n}) \geq a^n b^n c^n (a+b+c)^n$.

The solution is complete.

PP.20200. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{\operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{A}{2}}{\operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{2}$.

Mihály Bencze

By *Bergström's* inequality we deduce that

$$\sum \frac{\operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{A}{2}}{\operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{\left(\operatorname{tg} \frac{A}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2} \right)^2}{2 \left(\operatorname{tg} \frac{A}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2} \right)} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\operatorname{tg} \frac{A}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2} \right),$$

but $\operatorname{tg} \frac{A}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2} \geq \sqrt{3}$ (see the item 2.33. from *Bottema*, *Geometric Inequalities*, Groningen, 1969).

Hence

$$\sum \frac{\operatorname{tg}^2 \frac{A}{2}}{\operatorname{tg} \frac{B}{2} + \operatorname{tg} \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2},$$

which is an inequality stronger than inequality to prove. The solution is complete.

PP.20209. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{\sin^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq 12$.

Mihály Bencze

Using the inequality $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq \frac{1}{3}(x + y + z)^2$, we have that

$$\sum \frac{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{\sin^2 \frac{C}{2}} \geq \frac{1}{3} \left(\sum \sqrt{\frac{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{\sin \frac{C}{2}}} \right)^2,$$

so it is enough to prove the inequality

$$\sum \frac{\sqrt{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}}{\sin \frac{C}{2}} \geq 6.$$

Because $\cos \frac{A-B}{2} \leq 1$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{\sqrt{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}}{\sin \frac{C}{2}} &= \sum \frac{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{\sin \frac{C}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cos \frac{A-B}{2}}} \geq \sum \frac{2 \cos \frac{C}{2} \cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{2 \sin \frac{C}{2} \cos \frac{C}{2}} = \\ &= \sum \frac{2 \sin \frac{A+B}{2} \cos \frac{A-B}{2}}{\sin C} = \sum \frac{\sin A + \sin B}{\sin C} = \frac{\sin A}{\sin B} + \frac{\sin B}{\sin A} + \frac{\sin B}{\sin C} + \frac{\sin C}{\sin B} + \\ &+ \frac{\sin C}{\sin A} + \frac{\sin A}{\sin C} \geq 2 + 2 + 2 = 6 \text{ (we used well-known } \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} \geq 2, \text{ true for any } x, y > 0). \end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete.

PP.20212. Compute $\int_0^1 \frac{e^{x^n} dx}{e^{x^n} + e^{(1-x)^n}}$.

Mihály Bencze

Let $I = \int_0^1 \frac{e^{x^n}}{e^{x^n} + e^{(1-x)^n}} dx$ where we make the changes of variable $x = u(t) = 1 - t$,

$u'(t) = -1, u(1) = 0, u(0) = 1$. Therefore, $I = \int_0^1 \frac{e^{(1-x)^n}}{e^{(1-x)^n} + e^{x^n}} dx$, and then

$$2I = \int_0^1 \frac{e^{x^n} + e^{(1-x)^n}}{e^{x^n} + e^{(1-x)^n}} dx = \int_0^1 dx = 1, \text{ i.e. } I = \frac{1}{2}, \text{ and we are done.}$$

PP.20219. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{ab}{\sqrt{(s-a)(s-b)}} \geq 2s \left(4 - \frac{R}{r}\right)$.

Mihály Bencze

By AM-GM inequality we have $\sqrt{(s-a)(s-b)} \leq \frac{s-a+s-b}{2} = \frac{c}{2}$.

Applying the well-known $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq xy + yz + zx$, yields that

$$\sum \frac{ab}{\sqrt{(s-a)(s-b)}} \geq 2 \sum \frac{ab}{c} = 2 \cdot \frac{\sum a^2 b^2}{abc} \geq 2 \cdot \frac{abc(a+b+c)}{abc} = 4s.$$

Therefore, it suffices to prove that

$$4s \geq 2s \left(4 - \frac{R}{r}\right) \Leftrightarrow \frac{R}{r} \geq 2, \text{ true.}$$

The proof is complete.

PP.20222. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \sqrt{\frac{b+c-a}{a}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{s^2+r^2+4Rr}{2Rr}}$.

Mihály Bencze

Using $s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr = ab + bc + ca$, $2Rr = \frac{abc}{a+b+c}$ and squaring the given inequality

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum \frac{b+c-a}{a} + 2 \sum \sqrt{\frac{(b+c-a)(c+a-b)}{ab}} \leq \frac{\sum a \sum ab}{abc} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sum \left(\frac{b+c+a}{a} - 2 \right) + 2 \sum \sqrt{\frac{2(s-a)2(s-b)}{ab}} \leq \frac{\sum a \sum ab}{abc} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sum a \sum \frac{1}{a} - 6 + 4 \sum \sin \frac{A}{2} \leq \sum a \sum \frac{1}{a} \Leftrightarrow \sum \sin \frac{A}{2} \leq \frac{3}{2}, \text{ i.e. the item 2.9. from } Bottema, \\ & \text{Geometric Inequalities, Groningen, 1969. The solution is complete.} \end{aligned}$$

PP.20223. If $a, b, c \geq 1$, then $3 \sum \sqrt{a-1} \geq \sum \sqrt{a(1+bc)}$.

Mihály Bencze

For $a = b = c = 1$ is evidently that the inequality to prove is not true. We are done.

PP.20224. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \cos(A-B) \leq \frac{s^2-7R^2-4Rr-r^2}{R^2}$.

Mihály Bencze

The statement, of problem 20224 is not true. The statement of problem 2024 is "In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \cos(A-B) \leq \frac{s^2-7R^2-4Rr-r^2}{R^2}$ ", for e.g. if ABC is an equilateral triangle with the lengths of sides equal with 1 we have

$$s = \frac{3}{2}, R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, r = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}, \text{ and then } s^2 - 7R^2 - 4Rr - r^2 = \frac{9}{4} - \frac{7}{3} - \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{12} < 0, \text{ while}$$

LHS is equal with 3. We propose the following statement

"In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \cos(A-B) \leq \frac{s^2-7R^2-Rr-r^2}{R^2}$ ",

Indeed, since $\sum \cos(A-B) = \frac{s^2+r^2+2Rr-2R^2}{2R^2}$, the last inequality it is write

$$2s^2 - 14R^2 - 2Rr - 2r^2 \geq s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr - 2R^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 12R^2 + 3r^2 + 4Rr.$$

By Gerretsen's inequality we have $s^2 \geq 16R^2 - 5r^2$, so it remains to show that $2R^2 \geq 4r^2 + 2Rr$, which yields by $R^2 \geq 4r^2$ and $R^2 \geq 2Rr$ ($R \geq 2r$, is well-known Euler's inequality). Our proof is complete.

PP.20226. In all acute triangle ABC holds $\sum \sin(A - B) \sin(A - C) \geq 0$.

Mihály Bencze

WLOG that $A \geq B \geq C$. Because $A + B + C = 180^\circ$ we deduce that $C \leq 60^\circ$.

The inequality to prove is written successively

$$\begin{aligned} & \sin(A - B) \sin(A - C) + \sin(B - C) \sin(B - A) + \sin(C - A) \sin(C - B) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sin(A - B) \sin(A - C) - \sin(B - C) \sin(A - B) + \sin(A - C) \sin(B - C) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sin(A - B) \cdot 2 \sin \frac{A - C - B + C}{2} \cos \frac{A - C + B - C}{2} + \sin(A - C) \sin(B - C) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & 2 \sin(A - B) \sin \frac{A - B}{2} \cos \frac{180^\circ - 3C}{2} + \sin(A - C) \sin(B - C) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & 2 \sin(A - B) \sin \frac{A - B}{2} \sin \frac{3C}{2} + \sin(A - C) \sin(B - C) \geq 0, \quad \text{which is true since} \\ & A \geq B \geq C \text{ and } C \leq 60^\circ. \end{aligned}$$

PP.20238. If $a, b > 0$ then $\frac{(3a-b)^2}{(3a+b)^2+4b^2} + \frac{(3b-a)^2}{(3b+a)^2+4a^2} \geq \frac{2}{5}$.

Mihály Bencze

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } & \frac{(3a-b)^2}{(3a+b)^2+4b^2} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{36a(a-b)}{(3a+b)^2+4b^2} \text{ and} \\ & \frac{(3b-a)^2}{(3b+a)^2+4a^2} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{36b(b-a)}{(3b+a)^2+4a^2}, \end{aligned}$$

the inequality to prove becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & (a-b) \left(\frac{a}{(3a+b)^2+4b^2} - \frac{b}{(3b+a)^2+4a^2} \right) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & (a-b)(4a^3+9ab^2+6a^2b+a^3-4b^3-9a^2b-6ab^2-b^3) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & (a-b)[5(a^3-b^3)-3ab(a-b)] \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a-b)^2(5a^2+2ab+5b^2) \geq 0, \text{ which is true} \\ & \text{because } 5a^2+2ab+5b^2 = (a+b)^2+4(a^2+b^2) > 0. \text{ The solution is complete.} \end{aligned}$$

PP.20244. If $a, b > 0$, then $\frac{(3a+b)^2}{2a^2+(a+b)^2} + \frac{(a+b)^2}{2a^2+b^2} \leq 4$.

Mihály Bencze

We have $\frac{(3a+b)^2}{2a^2+(a+b)^2} - \frac{8}{3} = \frac{(a-b)(3a+5b)}{3(2a^2+(a+b)^2)}$, and

$$\frac{(a+b)^2}{2a^2+b^2} - \frac{4}{3} = -\frac{(a-b)(5a-b)}{3(2a^2+b^2)}.$$

Then, the given inequality becomes

$$\frac{(a-b)(5a-b)}{3(2a^2+b^2)} - \frac{(a-b)(3a+5b)}{3(2a^2+(a+b)^2)} \geq 0,$$

which after some algebra becomes

$$(a-b)^2[(3a+b)^2+5b^2] \geq 0, \text{ true. We have equality iff } a=b.$$

PP.20256. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2(2^{\sin x} + 2^{tgx}) + 2^{1+\sin x+tgx} = 4^{x+1} - 4^{\sin x} - 4^{tgx} + x + 1.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = (2^t)^2 + t, t > 0$, the given equation is equivalent with $f(\log_2(2^{\sin x} + 2^{tgx})) = f(x+1)$, and it remains to solve the equation

$$2^{\sin x} + 2^{tgx} = 2^{x+1},$$

which we let this the last equations like an exercise to readers (a solution is $x = 0$).

PP.20257. Solve in R the equation $\log_7 \frac{3^x+5^x}{4^x+2^x+2} = 5^x + 3^x - 4^x - 2^x - 2$.

Mihály Bencze

If we consider the injective function $f(t) = 7^t - t, t > 0$, the given equation is written as follows $f(\log_7(3^x + 5^x)) = f(\log_7(4^x + 2^x + 2))$, therefore it remain to solve the equation $3^x + 5^x = 4^x + 2^x + 2$. For $x > 1$ we have $3^x + 5^x > 4^x + 2^x + 2$. We found $x = 1$, but what happens for $x < 1$ (we let this like an exercise to readers).

PP.20261. Solve in R the equation

$$2^{3^x-1} - 2 \log_2(x+1) = -3^x + x^2 + 2x + 2.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the injective function $f(t) = 2^t + t, t > 0$, then the equation to solve is written as $f(\log_2(x+1)^2) = f(3^x - 1)$, so $2^{3^x-1} = (x+1)^2$, with the solutions $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 1$.

PP.20262. Solve in R the equation

$$2^{(2^x-1)^2} - \log_2(\sqrt{x} + 1) = -4^x + 2^{x+1} + \sqrt{x}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Written the equation to solve as below

$$2^{(2^x-1)^2} + (2^x - 1)^2 = \sqrt{x} + 1 + \log_2(\sqrt{x} + 1),$$

and than using the injectivity of the function $f(t) = 2^t + t, t > 0$, we obtain that

$$(2^x - 1)^2 = \log_2(\sqrt{x} + 1).$$

Hence, $2^x + \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{\log_2(\sqrt{x} + 1) + \sqrt{x} + 1}$, and then from the injectivity of the function $g(t) = 2^t + \sqrt{t}, t > 0$, we deduce that $2^x = \sqrt{x} + 1 \Leftrightarrow 2^x - 1 = \sqrt{x}$. The last equation has the solutions $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 1$ (because \sqrt{x} is strictly concave and $2^x - 1$ is strictly convex). The solution is complete.

PP.20265. Solve in R the following system:
$$\begin{cases} x^2 + 1 = \sqrt{3y + 1} \\ y^2 + 1 = \sqrt{3z + 1} \\ z^2 + 1 = \sqrt{3x + 1} \end{cases}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Since $z^2 + 1 \geq 1$, we deduce $x \geq 0$ and analogous $y, z > 0$. If $x > 1$ then $\sqrt{3y + 1} > 2$, so $y > 1$ and then $z > 1$. Therefore $x, y, z > 1$ or $x, y, z \leq 1$. By squaring and adding the equations of system we obtain

$$x^4 + 2x^2 - 3x + y^4 + 2y^2 - 3y + z^4 + 2z^2 - 3z = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(x-1)(x^2 + 2x + 3) + y(y-1)(y^2 + 2y + 3) + z(z-1)(z^2 + 2z + 3) = 0 \quad (1)$$

We have $x^2 + 2x + 3 > 0, y^2 + 2y + 3 > 0, z^2 + 2z + 3 > 0$.

If $x, y, z > 1$, then $x(x-1) > 0, y(y-1) > 0, z(z-1) > 0$ and (1) has no solution.

If $x, y, z \leq 1$, then $x(x-1) < 0, y(y-1) < 0, z(z-1) < 0$ and (1) has no solution.

Hence $(x, y, z) \in \{(0,0,0);(1,1,1)\}$. We are done.

PP.20267. Solve in R the following equation

$$\log_6 \frac{3x+2}{2^x+3^x} = 9^x + 4^x + 2 \cdot 6^x - 9x^2 - 12x - 4.$$

Mihály Bencze

The equation to solve is written as follows

$$\log_6(3x+2) + (3x+2)^2 = \log_6(2^x + 3^x) + (2^x + 3^x)^2.$$

Using the injectivity of the function $f(t) = \log_6 t + t^2$, $t > 0$, we obtain that $2^x + 3^x = 3x + 2$. The last equation has only two solutions, namely $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 1$ (since the function $2^x + 3^x$ is strictly convex and the function $3x + 2$ is linear). The solution is complete.

PP.20269. Solve in R the following equation

$$\log_2(\cos(\cos x)) + \cos^2(\cos x) = a \cdot \cos x + 4^{a \cdot \cos x} \text{ where } a > 0.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = 2^{2t} + t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as $f(\log_2(\cos(\cos x))) = f(a \cos x)$, and it remains to solve the equation $2^{a \cos x} = \cos(\cos x)$, which we propose like an exercise to the readers (a solution is $\cos x = 0$).

PP.20270. If $a > 1$ then solve in R the equation

$$a^{2(x-2)} - \log_a((1-a)x + 4a - 3) = (1-a)^2 x^2 + (-4a^2 + 7a - 4)x + 16a^2 - 24a + 11.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = a^{2t} + t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as $f(\log_a((1-a)x + 4a - 3)) = f(x - 2)$, and it remains to solve the equation $a^{x-2} = (1-a)x + 4a - 3$, which we propose like an exercise to the readers (a solution is $x = 3$).

PP.20271. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2 \frac{\sqrt{x+7} - \sqrt{x-1}}{x^2 - 2x + 2} + 2\sqrt{x^2 + 6x - 7} = x^4 - 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 10x + 5.$$

Mihály Bencze

The given equation is equivalent with

$$\log_2 \frac{\sqrt{x+7} - \sqrt{x-1}}{x^2 - 2x + 2} + 2\sqrt{x^2 + 6x - 7} = x^4 - 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 10x - 2.$$

Considering the injective function $f(t) = t^2 + \log_2 t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as $f(\sqrt{x+7} - \sqrt{x-1}) = f(x^2 - 2x + 2)$.

Therefore it remains to solve the equation

$$\sqrt{x+7} - \sqrt{x-1} = x^2 - 2x + 2 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x+7} = \sqrt{x-1} + (x-1)^2 + 1.$$

Denoting $\sqrt{x-1} = t \geq 0$, we obtain successively

$$t^4 + t + 1 = \sqrt{t^2 + 8} \Leftrightarrow (t^4 + t + 1)^2 = t^2 + 8 \Leftrightarrow t^8 + 2t^5 + 2t^4 + 2t - 7 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow (t-1)(t^7 + t^6 + t^5 + 3t^4 + 5t^3 + 5t^2 + 5t + 7) = 0.$$

The last equation has only one positive solution $t = 1$.
Hence the given equation has only one solution $x = 2$.

PP.20274. Solve in R the equation

$$2^{x^2-x} + 3^{x^2-x} + \log_5 \left(2^{x^2-x} + 3^{x^2-x} \right) = 2 \cdot 5^{x^2-x} + \log_5 2 + x^2 - x.$$

Mihály Bencze

We considering the injective function $f(t) = t + \log_5 t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as $f(2^{x^2-x} + 3^{x^2-x}) = f(2 \cdot 5^{x^2-x})$, and it remains to solve the equation $2^{x^2-x} + 3^{x^2-x} = 2 \cdot 5^{x^2-x}$, which has the solutions $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 1$.

PP.20275. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_3 \frac{9^x + 4^x}{5^x + 2 \cdot 6^x} = -81^x + 2 \cdot 36^x + 4 \cdot 30^x + 25^x - 16^x.$$

Mihály Bencze

We considering the injective function $f(t) = 3^{2t} + t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as $f(\log_3(9^x + 4^x)) = f(\log_3(5^x + 2 \cdot 6^x))$, and it remains to solve the equation $9^x + 4^x = 5^x + 2 \cdot 6^x$, which has a solution $x = 2$ (we ask the readers there are others?).

PP.20277. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_3 \left(x + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} \right) + x^2 + 2x\sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt{x} = 7.$$

Mihály Bencze

The equation to solve is written as

$$\log_3 \left(x + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} \right) + \left(x + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} \right)^2 = \log_3 3 + 3^2,$$

and because the function $f(t) = \log_3 t + t^2$ is injective (since is increasing for $t > 0$) we obtain that

$$x + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} = 3 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{x}} = 3 - x.$$

Denoting $\sqrt{x} = t$ we have to solve the equation $\sqrt{3+t} = 3-t^2$, with $t^2 \leq 3$ and $t > 0$. After squaring the last equation yields that

$$t^4 - 6t^2 - t + 6 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (t-1)(t+2)(t^2 - t - 3) = 0,$$

and because $t_1 = -2$ and $t_2 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{13}}{2}$ doesn't satisfy the relation $t^2 \leq 3$, and

$t_3 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{13}}{2} < 0$, we deduce that the equation has one solution, and this is $x = 1$.

The solution is complete.

PP.20278. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2 \left(x^{\log_2 \frac{3}{5}} + x^{\log_2 \frac{4}{5}} \right) + x^{2\log_2 \frac{3}{5}} + x^{2\log_2 \frac{4}{5}} + 2x^{\log_2 \frac{12}{25}} = 1.$$

Mihály Bencze

We consider the function $f(t) = \log_2 t + t^2$, $t > 0$, which is strictly increasing so is injective. The equation to solve is written as follows

$f\left(x^{\log_2 \frac{3}{5}} + x^{\log_2 \frac{4}{5}}\right) = f(1)$, with $x > 0$. Hence $x^{\log_2 \frac{3}{5}} + x^{\log_2 \frac{4}{5}} = 1$, which has only one

solution $x = 4$, because the function $h(t) = t^{\log_2 \frac{3}{5}} + t^{\log_2 \frac{4}{5}}$, $t > 0$, is strictly decreasing (since the exponents are negative). We are done.

PP.20279. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2^2 \left(x + \frac{4}{x} \right) + \log_2 \left(x + \frac{4}{x} \right) - 2^{-x^4 + 7x^2 + 4x - 18} = x^8 - 14x^6 - 8x^5 + 84x^4 + 56x^3 - 229x^2 - 141x + 306 - \frac{4}{x}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the injective function $f(t) = 2^t + t^2 + t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written like that

$$f\left(\log_2 \left(x + \frac{4}{x} \right)\right) = f(-x^4 + 7x^2 + 4x - 18),$$

so it remains to solve the equation

$$x + \frac{4}{x} = 2^{-x^4 + 7x^2 + 4x - 18}.$$

Since $x + \frac{4}{x} \geq 4$, it must have $2^{-x^4 + 7x^2 + 4x - 18} \geq 2^2$, i.e.

$$x^4 - 7x^2 - 4x - 20 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-2)^2(x^2 + 4x + 5) \leq 0,$$

which that happens only if $x = 2$, which verify the equation.

Hence, we get the solution is $x = 2$. The solution is complete.

PP.20280. Solve in R the equation

$$x^n - nx + n + 1 - \frac{x}{x^2+1} = 4^{\frac{x}{x^2+1}} - \log_4(x^n - nx + n + 1), \text{ where } n \geq 1, n \in N.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = 4^t + t$, $t > 0$, the equation

$$x^n - nx + n + 1 - \frac{x}{x^2+1} = 4^{\frac{x}{x^2+1}} - \log_4(x^n - nx + n + 1), \quad n \geq 1, n \in N \text{ becomes}$$

$$f\left(\frac{x}{x^2+1}\right) = f(\log_4(x^n - nx + n + 1)).$$

So we must to solve the equation

$$\frac{x}{x^2+1} = \log_4(x^n - nx + n + 1).$$

By AM-GM inequality we obtain

$$\frac{x}{x^2+1} \leq \frac{x}{2x} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } x^n + n - 1 = x^n + \underbrace{1+1+\dots+1}_{n-1} \geq n \cdot \sqrt[n]{x^n \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \dots \cdot 1} = nx \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^n - nx + n + 1 \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow \log_4(x^n - nx + n + 1) \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Hence $x = 1$, and we are done.

PP.20281. Solve in R the equation $\log_2 \left(\frac{\log_2 \left(x + \frac{1}{x} \right)}{3x^2 - 2x^3} \right) = 2^{3x^2 - 2x^3} - x - \frac{1}{x}$.

Mihály Bencze

We have $x > 0$. We consider the function $f(t) = \log_2 t + 2^t$ ($t > 0$) which is increasing so is injective and the equation to solve becomes

$$f\left(\log_2\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)\right) = f(3x^2 - 2x^3).$$

Therefore, we must to solve the equation

$$\log_2\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) = 3x^2 - 2x^3.$$

Since $x + \frac{1}{x} \geq 2$, we have $\log_2\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \geq 1$. Also we have $3x^2 - 2x^3 \leq 1$, because the last

inequality is equivalent with $(x-1)^2(2x+1) \geq 0$.

Hence, we obtain the only one solution, and this is $x = 1$.

The solution is complete.

PP.20287. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2(\log_2(1 + \cos 4x)) + 2 \sin x \sin 5x = 2^{2^{1+\cos 6x}}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the the injective function $f(t) = 2^{2^t} + t$ ($t > 0$), and the fact $2 \sin x \sin 5x = \cos 6x - \cos 4x$, the given equation is written as follows

$$f(\log_2(\log_2(1 + \cos 4x))) = f(1 + \cos 6x),$$

so it remains to solve the equation

$$1 + \cos 4x = 2^{2^{1+\cos 6x}},$$

which we let it to readers as exercise.

PP.20288. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2^2\left(x + \frac{4}{x}\right) - 2^{-x^2+4x-2} = x^4 - 8x^3 + 20x^2 - 17x + 4 - \frac{4}{x}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Written the equation to be solved as below

$$\log_2^2\left(x + \frac{4}{x}\right) + x + \frac{4}{x} = (-x^2 + 4x - 2)^2 + 2^{-x^2+4x-2},$$

and using the injectivity of function $f(t) = 2^t + t^2$, $t > 0$, we obtain

$$\log_2\left(x + \frac{4}{x}\right) = -x^2 + 4x - 2.$$

We have

$$x + \frac{4}{x} \geq 4 \text{ and } -x^2 + 4x - 2 \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow (x-2)^2 \geq 0.$$

Hence, we find one solution, and this is $x = 2$. We are done.

PP.20289. Solve in R the equation

$$(x^2 + 1) \left(4^{\frac{x}{x^2+1}} - \log_4(x^4 - 4x + 5)\right) = x^6 + x^4 - 4x^3 + 5x^2 - 5x + 5.$$

Mihály Bencze

The given equation is writing as

$$4^{\frac{x}{x^2+1}} + \frac{x}{x^2+1} = \log_4(x^4 - 4x + 5) + x^4 - 4x + 5,$$

and like in the solution of PP.20280 we obtain the solution $x = 1$.

PP.20291. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_4 \frac{\sqrt[4]{x-1} + \sqrt[4]{3-x}}{2 + \sqrt[4]{x-2}} + \sqrt{x-1} + 2\sqrt{-x^2 + 4x - 3} (1 + 2\sqrt[4]{x-1} + 2\sqrt[4]{3-x}) + \sqrt{3-x} + 6\sqrt{-x^2 + 4x - 3} = 20 + 4\sqrt[4]{x-2} + 25\sqrt{x-2} + x + 8\sqrt[4]{(x-2)^3}.$$

Mihály Bencze

The equation to be solved is equivalent with the following

$$\log_4 \frac{\sqrt[4]{x-1} + \sqrt[4]{3-x}}{2 + \sqrt[4]{x-2}} + \sqrt{x-1} + 2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{-x^2 + 4x - 3} (1 + 2\sqrt{x-1} + 2\sqrt{3-x}) + \sqrt{3-x} + 6\sqrt{-x^2 + 4x - 3} = 16 + 36 \cdot \sqrt[4]{x-2} + 25\sqrt{x-2} + x + 8 \cdot \sqrt[4]{(x-2)^3}.$$

Evidently $x \in [2, 3]$.

We consider the injective function

$$f(t) = \log_4 t + t^2 + t^4, \quad t > 0,$$

and the equation from above is written as

$$f(\sqrt[4]{x-1} + \sqrt[4]{3-x}) = f(2 + \sqrt[4]{x-2}),$$

so we must to solve the equation

$$\sqrt[4]{x-1} + \sqrt[4]{3-x} = 2 + \sqrt[4]{x-2}.$$

Applying the inequality of means we obtain

$$2 + \sqrt[4]{x-2} = \sqrt[4]{(x-1) \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} + \sqrt[4]{(3-x) \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} \leq \frac{x-1+1+1+1+3-x+1+1+1}{4} = 2,$$

which yields $x = 2$. Hence the given equation has the solutions $x = 2$, and we are done.

PP.20302. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_2(x^2 + 2^x) + (x^2 - 1)2^{x+1} + x^4 + x^2 + 2^x = 4^x + x + 1.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the injective function $f(t) = \log_2 t + t^2 + t$, $t > 0$, the given equation is written as follows $f(x^2 + 2^x) = f(2^{x+1})$. Hence, $x^2 + 2^x = 2^{x+1} \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 2^x$, with solutions $x_1 = 2$ and $x_2 = 4$. The solution is complete.

PP.20309. Solve the equation $8^x + (x^3 + x^2 + x) 2^x = (x^2 + x + 1) 4^x + x^3$.

Mihály Bencze

The equation to solve, i.e. $8^x + (x^3 + x^2 + x) \cdot 2^x = (x^2 + x + 1) \cdot 4^x + x^3$, is written successively as follows

$$\begin{aligned} & (x^2 + x + 1) \cdot 2^x \cdot (2^x - x) - (2^x - x)(2^{2x} + x \cdot 2^x + x^2) = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & (2^x - x)(x^2 \cdot 2^x + x \cdot 2^x + 2^x - 2^{2x} - x \cdot 2^x - x^2) = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & (2^x - x)[x^2(2^x - 1) - 2^x(2^x - 1)] = 0 \Leftrightarrow (2^x - 1)(2^x - x)(2^x - x^2) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain the solutions $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 4$. The solution is complete.

PP.20306. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_3 \frac{\cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x}{\cos x} = 8^{\cos x} + 3 \cos x - 2^{\cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x} - \cos 5x - 8 \cos^3 x + 1.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = \log_3 t + 2^t + t$, $t > 0$, the equation to solve, i.e.

$\log_3 \frac{\cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x}{\cos x} = 8^{\cos x} + 3 \cos x - 2^{\cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x} - \cos 5x - 8 \cos^3 x + 1$, it is written successively

$$\begin{aligned} & f(\cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x) = f(3 \cos x) \Leftrightarrow \cos 5x + 8 \cos^3 x = 3 \cos x \\ \Leftrightarrow & \cos 5x + 4 \cos x \cdot 2 \cos^2 x - 3 \cos x = 0 \Leftrightarrow \cos 5x + 4 \cos x(1 + \cos 2x) - 3 \cos x = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \cos 5x + \cos x + 4 \cos x \cos 2x = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2 \cos 3x \cos 2x + 4 \cos x \cos 2x = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \cos 2x(\cos 3x + 2 \cos x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \cos 2x(\cos x(4 \cos^2 x - 3) + 2 \cos x) = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \cos x \cos 2x(4 \cos^2 x - 1) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \cos x \cos 2x(2(1 + \cos 2x) - 1) = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \cos x \cos 2x(2 \cos 2x + 1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\cos x = 0$, or $\cos 2x = 0$, or $\cos 2x = -\frac{1}{2}$.

We obtain the solutions $x \in \left\{ \pm \frac{\pi}{2} + 2k\pi \mid k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \cup \left\{ \pm \frac{\pi}{4} + k\pi \mid k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \cup \left\{ \pm \frac{\pi}{6} + k\pi \mid k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$.

The solutions is complete.

PP.20312. Solve in R the equation

$$\sqrt{6 - 11x + 6x^2 - x^3} + \sqrt{12 - 19x + 8x^2 - x^3} = \sqrt{15 - 23x + 9x^2 - x^3}.$$

Mihály Bencze

We have

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3), \quad x^3 - 8x^2 + 9x - 12 = (x-1)(x-3)(x-4) \text{ and} \\ x^3 - 9x^2 + 23x - 15 = (x-1)(x-3)(x-5).$$

The condition of existence is

$$x \in \{(-\infty, 1] \cup [2, 3]\} \cap \{(-\infty, 1) \cup [3, 4]\} \cap \{(-\infty, 1) \cup [3, 5]\} = (-\infty, 1] \cup \{3\}.$$

The equation is

$$\sqrt{-(x-1)(x-2)(x-3)} + \sqrt{-(x-1)(x-3)(x-4)} = \sqrt{-(x-1)(x-3)(x-5)},$$

so we obtain the solutions $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 3$ and remains to solve the equation

$$\sqrt{2-x} + \sqrt{4-x} = \sqrt{5-x} \Leftrightarrow 2\sqrt{(2-x)(4-x)} = x-1,$$

which has no solutions in condition $x < 1$, and we are done.

PP.20314. Solve the equation

$$x^6 - 21x^5 + 175x^4 - 735x^3 + 1624x^2 - 1764x + 720 = 0.$$

Mihály Bencze

The equation to solve is written as follows

$$(x-1)(x-2)(x-3)(x-4)(x-5)(x-6) = 0,$$

so it has the solutions $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3, x_4 = 4, x_5 = 5, x_6 = 6$. The solution is complete.

PP.20316. Solve in R the following system:

$$\sqrt[4]{2-x} + \sqrt[4]{15+y} = \sqrt[4]{2-y} + \sqrt[4]{15+z} = \sqrt[4]{2-z} + \sqrt[4]{15+x} = 3.$$

Mihály Bencze

From given equation, i.e.

$$\sqrt[4]{2-x} + \sqrt[4]{15+y} = \sqrt[4]{2-y} + \sqrt[4]{15+z} = \sqrt[4]{2-z} + \sqrt[4]{15+x} = 3,$$

we have

$$\sqrt[4]{2-x} = 3 - \sqrt[4]{15+y},$$

which yields that $x = 2 - \left(3 - \sqrt[4]{15+y}\right)^4$.

Denoting $f(t) = 2 - \left(3 - \sqrt[4]{15+t}\right)^4$ we obtain that $x = f(y), y = f(z), z = f(x)$.

So $x = (f \circ f \circ f)(x)$, and because the function f is increasing yields that the fixed points of the function $f \circ f \circ f$ is the same with the fixed points of the function f .

Hence, we have to solve the equation

$$x = 2 - \left(3 - \sqrt[4]{15+x}\right)^4 \Leftrightarrow \left(3 - \sqrt[4]{15+x}\right)^4 = 2-x,$$

and denoting $x = t^4 - 15$, then

$$(3-t)^4 = 17-t^4 \Leftrightarrow t^4 - 6t^3 + 27t^2 - 54t + 32 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (t-1)(t-2)(t^2 - 3t + 16) = 0.$$

Hence $t_1 = 1, t_2 = 2$. Finally we get $x = y = z = 1$ and $x = y = z = -14$.
The solution is complete.

PP.20319. Solve in R the equation

$$x^4 + 3 + 2 \cdot 3^{x^4-5x^2+3} + 3 \cdot 9^{x^4-5x^2+3} = 5x^2 + \frac{x(2x^2+3x+4)}{(x^2+2)^2} + \log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = t + 2 \cdot 3^t + 3 \cdot 3^{2t}$, $t > 0$, the equation

$$x^4 + 3 + 2 \cdot 3^{x^4-5x^2+3} + 3 \cdot 9^{x^4-5x^2+3} = 5x^2 + \frac{x(2x^2+3x+4)}{(x^2+2)^2} + \log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2},$$

is written

$$f\left(\log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2}\right) = f(x^4 - 5x^2 + 3).$$

Therefore, it remains to solve the equation

$$\log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2} = x^4 - 5x^2 + 3, \quad x > 0.$$

If $x \in (1,2)$, then $x^4 - 5x^2 + 3 < -1$ and $\frac{x}{x^2+2} > \frac{1}{3} \Leftrightarrow \log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2} > -1$;

If $x \in (0,1) \cup (2,\infty)$, then $x^4 - 5x^2 + 3 > -1$ and $\frac{x}{x^2+2} < \frac{1}{3} \Leftrightarrow \log_3 \frac{x}{x^2+2} < -1$.

Yields that the only possible $x_1 = 1$ and $x_2 = 2$ which are indeed solutions.

This completes the proof.

PP.20321. Solve in R the equation $2x^4 - 9x^2 - 3x + 10 = \log_2 \frac{3x}{x^2+2}$.

Mihály Bencze

For to solve the equation

$$2x^4 - 9x^2 - 3x + 10 = \log_2 \frac{3x}{x^2+2},$$

we consider the injective function $f(t) = \log_2 t + 2t + 2t^2$, $t > 0$.

Then the equation to solve is written as

$$f(x^2 + 2) = f(3x).$$

So, $x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0$, and we get the solutions $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2$.

The proof is complete.

PP.20322. Solve in R the equation

$$\log_6 \frac{x^3+11x}{x^2+1} = 34 - 22x - 243x^2 - 2x^3 + 42x^4 - 3x^6.$$

Mihály Bencze

The given equation is equivalent with

$$\log_6 \frac{x^3+11x}{x^2+1} = 121 - 22x - 135x^2 - 2x^3 + 42x^4 - 3x^6.$$

Considering the injective function

$$f(t) = \log_6 t + 2t + 3t^2, t > 0,$$

the equation to solve is written as

$$f(x^3 + 11x) = f(6x^2 + 6).$$

So we must to solve the equation $x^3 + 11x = 6x^2 + 6$.

We get the solutions $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3$. The proof is complete.

PP.20323. Solve in R the equation

$$x^2 + 7 + \log_2 \frac{x^2-5x+8}{\sqrt{x-2}} + \log_3 \frac{x^2-5x+8}{2\sqrt{x-2}} = 5x + 2\sqrt{x-2}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = \log_2 t + \log_3 t + t$, the equation

$$x^2 + 7 + \log_2 \frac{x^2-5x+8}{\sqrt{x-2}} + \log_3 \frac{x^2-5x+8}{2\sqrt{x-2}} = 5x + 2\sqrt{x-2},$$

becomes

$$f(x^2 - 5x + 8) = f(2\sqrt{x-2}).$$

So we must to solve the equation

$$x^2 - 5x + 8 = 2\sqrt{x-2},$$

which by squaring becomes

$$x^4 - 10x^3 + 41x^2 - 84x + 72 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-3)^2(x^2 - 4x + 8) = 0.$$

Hence $x = 3$, and we are done.

PP.20325. Solve in R the equation

$$3x^3 + \log_2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{3x}\right) + \log_3 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{3x}\right) + 1 = 3x.$$

Mihály Bencze

Considering the injective function $f(t) = \log_2 t + \log_3 t + t$, the equation

$$3x^3 + \log_2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{3x}\right) + \log_3 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{3x}\right) + 1 = 3x,$$

Becomes

$$f(3x^3 + 1) = f(3x).$$

So it remains to solve the equation $3x^3 + 1 = 3x$, which has all roots real for e.g.

$x_1 \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right), x_2 \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$. So, you find the solutions using Cardano's formulas.

PP.20333. Prove that $\prod_{k=1}^n k! < 3^{\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{24}}$.

Mihály Bencze

We prove the given inequality, i.e.

$$\prod_{k=1}^n k! < 3^{\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{24}},$$

by mathematical induction (MI).

First, is easily demonstrated by (MI) that

$$(1) \quad 3^{2k+1} > (k+1)^4.$$

Second we prove by (MI) that

$$(2) \quad k! < 3^{\frac{k^2}{4}}.$$

For $k = 1, 2$ it is verified that (2) is true.

We suppose that $k! < 3^{\frac{k^2}{4}}$ is true and by (1) yields that

$$(k+1)! = k!(k+1) < 3^{\frac{k^2}{4}} (k+1) < 3^{\frac{k^2}{4}} \cdot 3^{\frac{2k+1}{4}} = 3^{\frac{(k+1)^2}{4}}.$$

Using (2) and the identity $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$, we obtain what we must to prove.

The proof is complete.

PP.20351. In all triangle ABC holds

$$4r^2(2R-r) + 3s^2(2R+r) \leq (4R+r)^3.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the inequality $3s^2 \leq (4R+r)^2$ (see for e.g. the item 5.5. from Bottema) to show that

$$4r^2(2R-r) + 3s^2(2R+r) \leq (4R+r)^3,$$

it suffices to prove

$$4r^2(2R-r) + (4R+r)^2(2R+r) \leq (4R+r)^3$$

$\Leftrightarrow 4r^2(2R-r) \leq (4R+r)^2(4R+r-2R-r) \Leftrightarrow 16R^3 + 8R^2r + 2r^3 \geq 3Rr^2$,
 which is true because $8R^2r \geq 16Rr^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r$. The proof is complete.

PP.20353. In all triangle ABC holds $(s^2 + r^2 + 10Rr)(4R + r) \leq 8Rs^2$.

Mihály Bencze

Since $s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr = \sum ab$ and $Rr = \frac{abc}{2\sum a}$ the given inequality becomes

$$\left(\sum ab + 6 \cdot \frac{abc}{2\sum a} \right) (4R + r) \leq 2R(\sum a)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2R \left[(\sum a)^2 - 2\sum ab - \frac{6abc}{\sum a} \right] \geq r \left(\sum ab + \frac{3abc}{\sum a} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{R}{2r} \geq \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{\sum a \sum ab + 3abc}{(\sum a)^3 - 2\sum a \sum ab - 6abc}$$

and because $R \geq 2r$, it is enough to prove that

$$4(\sum a)^3 - 8\sum a \sum ab - 24abc \geq \sum a \sum ab + 3abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4(\sum a)^3 - 9\sum a \sum ab \geq 27abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4\sum a^3 + 12\sum a^2b + 12\sum ab^2 + 24abc - 9\sum a^2b - 9\sum ab^2 - 27abc \geq 27abc$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4\sum a^3 + 3\sum a^2b + 3\sum ab^2 \geq 30abc$$

which is true because $\sum a^3 \geq 3abc$, $\sum a^2b \geq 3abc$, $\sum ab^2 \geq 3abc$, and we are done.

PP.20356. Solve in N the following system:
$$\begin{cases} 2^x = 2 + y! \\ 2^y = 2 + z! \\ 2^z = 2 + x! \end{cases}$$

Mihály Bencze

If $y > 3$, then $y! = M_4$, so $y! + 2 = M_4 + 2$, and from the first equation we get $x = 1$, then $y! = 0$, contradiction. Therefore $y \leq 3$. We obtain the solutions $(x, y, z) \in \{(2,2,2); (3,3,3)\}$, and we are done.

PP.20381. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{ab}{m_a^2 m_b^2} \leq \frac{s^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{s^2 r^2}$.

Mihály Bencze

We have $m_a^2 \geq s(s-a) \Leftrightarrow 2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2 \geq (b+c)^2 - a^2 \Leftrightarrow (b-c)^2 \geq 0$.

Denoting by F the area of triangle ABC , and using the well-known formulas

$$F = sr = \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{abc}{4R}, \sum ab = s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr,$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \frac{ab}{m_a^2 m_b^2} &\leq \sum \frac{ab}{s(s-a)s(s-b)} = \sum \frac{ab(s-c)}{s \cdot s \cdot (s-a)(s-b)(s-c)} = \sum \frac{ab(s-c)}{s \cdot F^2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{F^2} \sum \left(ab - \frac{abc}{s} \right) = \frac{1}{F^2} \left(s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr - \frac{3abc}{s} \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{F^2} \left(s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr - \frac{12Rsr}{s} \right) = \frac{s^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{s^2 r^2}, \text{ q.e.d.} \end{aligned}$$

PP.20387. Solve in R the following system:

$$\begin{cases} x^4 + 41y^2 + 72 = 10z^3 + 84x \\ y^4 + 41z^2 + 72 = 10x^3 + 84y \\ x^4 + 41x^2 + 72 = 10y^3 + 84z \end{cases}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Adding the equations of the system we obtain

$$(x-3)^2(x^2-4x+8) + (y-3)^2(y^2-4y+8) + (z-3)^2(z^2-4z+8) = 0,$$

and because

$$x^2 - 4x + 8 = (x-2)^2 + 4 > 0,$$

we have the solution $x = y = z = 3$. The solution is complete.

PP.20392. Solve in R the following system:
$$\begin{cases} x^2 - 9y + 22 = 2\sqrt{z-4} \\ y^2 - 9z + 22 = 2\sqrt{x-4} \\ z^2 - 9x + 22 = 2\sqrt{y-4} \end{cases}.$$

Mihály Bencze

We prove first that for any $a \in R$ we have $a^4 - a^2 - 2a + 2 \geq 0$. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} a^4 - a^2 - 2a + 2 &= a^2(a-1)(a+1) - 2(a-1) = \\ &= (a-1)(a^3 + a^2 - 2) = (a-1)^2(a^2 + 2a + 2) \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

with equality for $a = 1$.

Adding the equations of the system we obtain

$$\sum (x^2 - 9x + 22 - 2\sqrt{x-4}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sum [x^2 - 8x + 16 - x + 4 - 2\sqrt{x-4} + 2] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum [(x-4)^2 - (x-4) - 2\sqrt{x-4} + 2] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum ((\sqrt{x-4})^4 - (\sqrt{x-4})^2 - 2\sqrt{x-4} + 2) = 0.$$

Therefore, by above we deduce that

$$\sqrt{x-4} = \sqrt{y-4} = \sqrt{z-4} = 1.$$

Hence $x = y = z = 5$. The solution is complete.

PP.20394. Solve in R the following equation

$$\log_3 \left(\frac{x}{6} + \frac{3}{2x} \right) = -819 + 6x - 226x^2 + 216x^3 - 28x^4 - x^6.$$

Mihály Bencze

If we consider the injective function

$$f(t) = \log_3 t + t^3 + t^2 + t,$$

the equation

$$\log_3 \left(\frac{x}{6} + \frac{3}{2x} \right) = -819 + 6x - 226x^2 + 216x^3 - 28x^4 - x^6,$$

it is written in the form

$$f(x^2 + 9) = f(6x). \text{ So, } x^2 + 9 = 6x, \text{ i.e. } x = 3, \text{ and we are done.}$$

PP.20395. Solve in R the following equation

$$2^{\cos^2 x} - 2^{\sin^2 x} + (3 - \sin^2 x \cos^2 x) \cos 2x = 0.$$

Mihály Bencze

We have

$$\begin{aligned} (3 - \sin^2 x \cos^2 x) \cos 2x &= (3(\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x)^2 - \sin^2 x \cos^2 x) \cos 2x \\ &= (3\sin^4 x + 3\cos^4 x + 5\sin^2 x \cos^2 x)(\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x) \\ &= 3\cos^6 x - 3\sin^6 x - 2\sin^4 x \cos^2 x + 2\sin^2 x \cos^4 x \\ &= 3\cos^6 x + 2\cos^4 x(1 - \sin^2 x) - 3\sin^6 x - 2\sin^4 x(1 - \sin^2 x) \\ &= \cos^6 x + 2\cos^4 x - \sin^6 x - 2\sin^4 x. \end{aligned}$$

If we consider the injective function $f(t) = 2^t + t^3 + 2t^2$, then the given equation, i.e.

$$2^{\cos^2 x} - 2^{\sin^2 x} + (3 - \sin^2 x \cos^2 x) \cos 2x = 0,$$

becomes $f(\cos x) = f(\sin x)$.

Therefore, $\cos x = \sin x$, which yields $x = \frac{\pi}{4} + k\pi$, $k \in Z$.

PP.20399. Solve in R the following equation

$$(x-6)\sqrt{x-7} = -12 + 13x - x^2.$$

Mihály Bencze

The condition of existence is $LHS \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow x \geq 7$, and also $RHS \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in [1, 12]$.

Because 7 and 12 do not verify the given equation the solutions are in the interval $(7, 12)$.

Squaring the equation we deduce

$$x^4 - 27x^3 + 212x^2 - 432x + 396 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x-11)(x^3 - 16x^2 + 36x - 36) = 0,$$

and because

$$x^3 - 16x^2 + 36x - 36 = (x-12)(x+2)(x-6) - 180 < 0, \text{ for any } x \in (6, 12),$$

we obtain $x = 11$. The solution is complete.

PP.20403. Solve in R the following system:

$$\begin{cases} 1 + \operatorname{tg}\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 3\operatorname{ctgy} \\ 1 + \operatorname{tg}\left(y + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 3\operatorname{ctgz} \\ 1 + \operatorname{tg}\left(z + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 3\operatorname{ctgx} \end{cases}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Denoting $a = \operatorname{tg}x$, $b = \operatorname{tgy}$, $c = \operatorname{tg}z$ the given system becomes

$$\begin{cases} 1 + \frac{a+1}{1-a} = \frac{3}{b} \\ 1 + \frac{b+1}{1-b} = \frac{3}{c} \\ 1 + \frac{c+1}{1-c} = \frac{3}{a} \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b = \frac{3(1-a)}{2} \\ c = \frac{3(1-b)}{2} \\ a = \frac{3(1-c)}{2} \end{cases}.$$

We obtain $c = \frac{3\left(1 - \frac{3-3a}{2}\right)}{2} = \frac{3(3a-1)}{4}$, which yields

$$a = \frac{3\left(1 - \frac{9a-3}{4}\right)}{2} \Leftrightarrow a = \frac{3}{5}.$$

Therefore, the system has the solution $x = y = z = \operatorname{arctg} \frac{3}{5}$. We are done.

PP.20407. Solve in R the following system

$$\sqrt[4]{1-x} + \sqrt[4]{16+y} = \sqrt[4]{1-y} + \sqrt[4]{16+z} = \sqrt[4]{1-z} + \sqrt[4]{16+x} = 3.$$

Mihály Bencze

If we make the substitutions $x \rightarrow x-1, y \rightarrow y-1, z \rightarrow z-1$, we obtain the system from the problem PP.20316. Proceed as there we obtain the solutions

$x = y = z = 0, x = y = z = -15$. The solution is complete.

PP.20412. Solve the equation

$$(x^2 - 6x + 5)^5 + (x^2 - 9x + 14)^5 = (2x^2 - 15x + 19)^5.$$

Mihály Bencze

Denoting $x^2 - 6x + 5 = a$ and $x^2 - 9x + 14 = b$, the given equation, i.e.

$$(x^2 - 6x + 5)^5 + (x^2 - 9x + 14)^5 = (2x^2 - 15x + 19)^5,$$

becomes successively

$$\begin{aligned} a^5 + b^5 &= (a+b)^5 \Leftrightarrow a^5 + b^5 = a^5 + 5a^4b + 10a^3b^2 + 10a^2b^3 + 5ab^4 + b^5 \\ \Leftrightarrow 5ab(a^3 + b^3 + 2a^2b + 2ab^2) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow 5ab(a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2 + 2ab) = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow 5ab(a+b) \left[\left(a + \frac{b}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{3b^2}{4} \right] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Square brackets is canceled if $a = b = 0$, what does not happen.

Hence $(x^2 - 6x + 5)(x^2 - 9x + 14)(2x^2 - 15x + 19) = 0$, so we obtain solutions

$$x \in \left\{ 1, 5, 2, 7, \frac{15 - 3\sqrt{7}}{4}, \frac{15 + 3\sqrt{7}}{4} \right\}, \text{ and we are done.}$$

PP.20430. Solve the equation

$$(1 + \sin 2x)(1 + \sin x + \cos x + \sin x \cos x) = 8(5 + 2\sqrt{6}).$$

Mihály Bencze

The given equation has no solution, because $\text{LHS} \leq (1+1)(1+1+1+1) = 8$.

PP.20453. Solve in R the equation $9^x + 15^x + 25^x + 3 \cdot 49^x = 3(21^x + 35^x)$.

Mihály Bencze

The equation $9^x + 15^x + 25^x + 3 \cdot 49^x = 3(21^x + 35^x)$ is writing $(3^x - 5^x)^2 + 3(7^x - 3^x)(7^x - 5^x) = 0$, and because $7^x - 3^x$ respectively $7^x - 5^x$ have the same sign, follows that $(7^x - 3^x)(7^x - 5^x)$ is positive. Therefore, we get the only one solution, $x = 0$.

PP.20454. Solve in R the equation

$$x^5 + 6^x + \log_6 \frac{x^5 + 6^x}{x^2 \cdot 3^x + x^3 \cdot 2^x} = x^2 (3^x + x \cdot 2^x).$$

Mihály Bencze

Writing the equation on the form

$$x^5 + 6^x + \log_6(x^5 + 6^x) = x^2 \cdot 3^x + x^3 \cdot 2^x + \log_6(x^2 \cdot 3^x + x^3 \cdot 2^x),$$

and using the fact that the function $f(t) = \log_6 t + t$, we obtain

$$x^5 + 6^x = x^2 \cdot 3^x + x^3 \cdot 2^x \Leftrightarrow (2^x - x^2)(3^x - x^3) = 0.$$

Hence we obtain the solutions

$x_1 = 2, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 4$. The solution is complete.

PP.20469. Let ABC be a triangle. If $\lambda \geq 1$ then $\sum (tg \frac{A}{4})^\lambda \geq 3(2 - \sqrt{3})^\lambda$.

Mihály Bencze

Let $f : (0, \pi) \rightarrow R_+^*$, $f(x) = \left(tg \frac{x}{4} \right)^\lambda$, convex on $(0, \pi)$, and then by Jensen's inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(A) + f(B) + f(C) &\geq 3f\left(\frac{A+B+C}{3}\right) \Rightarrow tg^\lambda \frac{A}{4} + tg^\lambda \frac{B}{4} + tg^\lambda \frac{C}{4} \geq 4 \cdot tg^\lambda \frac{A+B+C}{12} = \\ &= 3 \cdot tg^\lambda \frac{\pi}{12} = 3(2 - \sqrt{3})^\lambda, \text{ q.e.d.} \end{aligned}$$

PP.20479. In all triangle ABC holds $s^2 \geq 7r^2 + 14Rr$.

Mihály Bencze

The given inequality is not true in all triangle, for e.g. if we take an equilateral triangle with the length side 1, then $s = \frac{3}{2}$, $R = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$, $r = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}$, and we have

$$s^2 \geq 7r^2 + 14Rr \Leftrightarrow \frac{9}{4} \geq \frac{7}{12} + \frac{14}{6} \Leftrightarrow 27 \geq 7 + 28, \text{ false, and this completes the proof.}$$

PP.20524. If $a, b > 0$ then $\frac{2(a^2+2ab)}{9a^2+(a+2b)^2} + \frac{b}{2(b+2a)} \leq \frac{1}{2}$.

Mihály Bencze

The inequality to prove is written

$$\frac{1}{3} - \frac{2(a^2+2ab)}{9a^2+(a+2b)^2} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{b}{2(b+2a)} \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{4(a-b)^2}{9a^2+(a+2b)^2} + \frac{a-b}{b+2a} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a-b)[4ab+8a^2-4b^2-8ab+10a^2+4ab+4b^2] \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a-b)18a^2 \geq 0, \text{ which is true with the condition } a \geq b > 0. \text{ The solution is complete.}$$

PP.20526. If $a, b > 0$ then $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \leq \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} \leq \sqrt{2}$.

Mihály Bencze

The inequality from the statements is equivalent with

(i) $a+b \leq \sqrt{2(a^2+b^2)}$ and (ii) $(\sqrt{a^2+b^2})(\sqrt{2}-1) \leq \sqrt{2}(a+b)$.

(i) $\Leftrightarrow a^2+2ab+b^2 \leq 2(a^2+b^2) \Leftrightarrow a^2-2ab+b^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (a-b)^2 \geq 0$, true.

(ii) $(3-2\sqrt{2})(a^2+b^2) \leq 2(a^2+2ab+b^2) \Leftrightarrow a^2+b^2 \leq 2\sqrt{2}(a^2+b^2)+4ab$, true, and we are done.

PP.20530. If $a, b, c > 0$ then $\sum \sqrt{a(a+b)^3} + \sum b\sqrt{a^2+b^2} \leq 3\sqrt{2} \sum a^2$.

Mihály Bencze

After multiply with $\sqrt{2}$ the inequality to prove becomes

$$\sum (a+b)\sqrt{(2a)(a+b)} + \sum \sqrt{(2b^2)(a^2+b^2)} \leq 6\sum a^2.$$

By AM-GM inequality we obtain that

$$\sum (a+b)\sqrt{(2a)(a+b)} + \sum \sqrt{(2b^2)(a^2+b^2)} \leq \sum \frac{(a+b)(2a+a+b)}{2} +$$

$$+ \sum \frac{2b^2+a^2+b^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum (3a^2+b^2+4ab+a^2+3b^2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum (4a^2+4b^2+4ab) =$$

$$= \sum 2a^2 + \sum 2a^2 + 2\sum ab = 4\sum a^2 + 2\sum ab, \text{ so it is suffices to prove that}$$

$$4\sum a^2 + 2\sum ab \leq 6\sum a^2 \Leftrightarrow \sum ab \leq \sum a^2, \text{ which is true.}$$

The equality occurs iff $a = b = c$. Q.E.D.

PP.20531. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{a^2}{bc} \geq \frac{2(2R-r)}{R}$.

Mihály Bencze

$$\text{Because } \sum \frac{a^2}{bc} = \frac{\sum a^3}{abc} = \frac{2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr)}{4Rrs} = \frac{s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr}{2Rr},$$

then the given inequality, i.e. $\sum \frac{a^2}{bc} \geq \frac{2(2R-r)}{R}$, is equivalent with

$$\frac{s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr}{2Rr} \geq \frac{4R - 2r}{R} \Leftrightarrow s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr \geq 8Rr - 4r^2 \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 14Rr - r^2.$$

By Gerretsen inequality we have $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$, so it suffices to show that $16Rr - 5r^2 \geq 14Rr - r^2 \Leftrightarrow 2Rr \geq 4r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r$, i.e. Euler's inequality. Q.E.D.

PP.20564. Solve in R the equation $\sum_{k=1}^n (\cos kx)^2 = n$.

Mihály Bencze

Since, $\cos^2 kx \leq 1$ and, $\sum_{k=1}^n \cos^2 kx = n$, we deduce that

$$\cos^2 kx = 1 \Leftrightarrow \cos kx = \pm 1. \text{ Therefore, } kx \in \pi\mathbb{Z} \Leftrightarrow x \in \frac{\pi}{k}\mathbb{Z} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{n\pi}{k}, k = \overline{1, n}, n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

PP.20566. Solve in R the equation

$$(\sqrt[5]{x+2} - \sqrt[5]{2x+1} + \sqrt[5]{4x+7})^5 = 3x+8.$$

Mihály Bencze

Denoting $x+2 = a^5$, $2x+1 = b^5$, $4x+7 = c^5$, the given equation, i.e.

$$(\sqrt[5]{x+2} - \sqrt[5]{2x+1} + \sqrt[5]{4x+7})^5 = 3x+8, \text{ is written successively}$$

$$(a-b+c)^5 = a^5 - b^5 + c^5 \Leftrightarrow (a-b+c)^5 - c^5 = a^5 - b^5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a-b)[(a-b+c)^4 + c(a-b+c)^3 + c^2(a-b+c)^2 + c^3(a-b+c) + c^4 - a^4 - a^3b -$$

$$- a^2b^2 - ab^3 - b^4] = 0. \text{ We obtain } a-b=0 \Leftrightarrow x+2=2x+1, \text{ so } x_1=1 \text{ and it remains to}$$

$$\text{solve } [a-(b-c)]^4 + c[a-(b-c)]^3 + c^2[a-(b-c)]^2 + c^3[a-(b-c)] + c^4 - a^4 -$$

$$- a^3b - a^2b^2 - ab^3 - b^4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow -4a^3(b-c) + 6a^2(b-c)^2 - 4a(b-c)^3 + (b-c)^4 +$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + a^3c - 3a^2c(b-c) + 3ac(b-c)^2 - c(b-c)^3 + a^2c^2 - 2ac^2(b-c) + c^2(b-c)^2 + ac^3 - \\
& - c^3(b-c) + c^4 - a^3b - a^2b^2 - ab^3 - b^4 = 0. \text{ Since,} \\
& a^3c + a^2c^2 + ac^3 + c^4 - a^3b - a^2b^2 - ab^3 - b^4 = -(b-c)(b^3 + b^2c + bc^2 + c^3) - \\
& - a^2(b-c)(b+c) - a^3(b-c), \text{ we obtain } b = c \Leftrightarrow 2x+1 = 4x+7, \text{ which yields } x_2 = 3, \\
& \text{and it remains } 4a^3 - 6a^2b + 6a^2c + 4ab^2 - 8abc + 4ac^2 - b^3 + 3b^2c - 3bc^2 + c^3 + 3a^2c - \\
& - 3abc + 3ac^2 + b^2c - 2bc^2 + c^3 + 2ac^2 - bc^2 + c^3 + c^3 + b^3 + b^2c + bc^2 + c^3 + ab^2 + \\
& + abc + ac^2 + a^2b + a^2c + a^3 = 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow 5a^3 + 5c^3 + 10a^2c + 10ac^2 - 5a^2b - 10abc - 5bc^2 + 5ab^2 + 5b^2c = 0 \\
& \Leftrightarrow 5(a+c)(a^2 - ac + c^2 + 2ac - ab - bc + b^2) = 0 \quad (1)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $a = -c \Leftrightarrow x + 2 + 4x + 7 = 0$, so we obtain $x_3 = -\frac{9}{5}$.

The second bracket from (1) is written $(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (a+c)^2 = 0$, so $a = b, b = c$ and $a = -c$, i.e. $a = b = c = 0$, which does not exist.

Therefore, we obtain $x \in \left\{1, 3, -\frac{9}{5}\right\}$, and the solution is complete.

PP.20568. Solve in R the equation

$$512 \sin^9 x + 54 \sin 3x + 57\sqrt{3} = 216 \sin x + 54\sqrt{3} \cos 2x.$$

Mihály Bencze

Using the well-known formulas $\cos 2x = 1 - 2\sin^2 x$ and respectively $\sin 3x = 3\sin x - 4\sin^3 x$, then the given equation is written as follows

$$(8\sin^3 x)^3 = (6\sin x - \sqrt{3})^3. \text{ So, } 8\sin^3 x = 6\sin x - \sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow \sin 3x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

Hence, $x = (-1)^k \frac{\pi}{9} + \frac{k\pi}{3}$, where k is positive integer. We are done.

PP.20574. Solve in R the following system:

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{y^2+4y+7} = \sqrt{z+1} \\ \sqrt{y+1} + \sqrt{z^2+4z+7} = \sqrt{x+1} \\ \sqrt{z+1} + \sqrt{x^2+4x+7} = \sqrt{y+1} \end{cases} .$$

Mihály Bencze

Adding up the equations of the system to solve we obtain

$$\sqrt{x^2+4x+7} + \sqrt{y^2+4y+7} + \sqrt{z^2+4z+7} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{(x+2)^2+3} + \sqrt{(y+2)^2+3} + \sqrt{(z+3)^2+7} = 0,$$

which doesn't solutions in real numbers, so the system doesn't solutions in the set of real numbers. The solution is complete.

PP.20590. Solve in R the following system:

$$\begin{cases} 2(\sqrt{2}x + 2y) = x^2 + z^2 + 6 \\ 2(\sqrt{2}y + 2z) = y^2 + x^2 + 6 \\ 2(\sqrt{2}z + 2x) = z^2 + y^2 + 6 \end{cases} .$$

Mihály Bencze

Adding up the equations of the system to solve we obtain $\sum 2x^2 + 18 = 2\sqrt{2}\sum x + 4\sum x \Leftrightarrow \sum (x^2 - (\sqrt{2} + 2)x + 3) = 0$. Because the equation $x^2 - (\sqrt{2} + 2)x + 3 = 0$, has the discriminant negative, we get that the system doesn't real solutions, and we are done.

PP.20601. Compute $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(\sin^3 x + \sin^2 x + \sin x)(\sin x + \cos x)}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx$.

Mihály Bencze

Let $I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(\sin^3 x + \sin^2 x + \sin x)(\sin x + \cos x)}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx$, where we make the changes of variable $x = \frac{\pi}{2} - t$, and we deduce that

$$I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(\cos^3 x + \cos^2 x + \cos x)(\sin x + \cos x)}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx . \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2I &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(\sin^3 x + \cos^3 x + \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x + \sin x + \cos x)(\sin x + \cos x)}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(\sin x + \cos x)^2 (\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x - \sin x \cos x)}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin x + \cos x)^2 dx + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (1 + 2 \sin x \cos x) dx + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \\
 &= x \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} + \sin^2 x \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} + 1 + J
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Where $J = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{2 - \sin x \cos x} dx = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{2(\sin x + \cos x)}{4 - 2 \sin x \cos x} dx = 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x + \cos x}{3 + (\sin x - \cos x)^2} dx,$

and we make the change of variable

$$t = u(x) = \sin x - \cos x, u'(x) = \cos x + \sin x, u(0) = -1, u\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1, \text{ so } J = 2 \int_{-1}^1 \frac{t}{3+t^2} dt = 0,$$

which yields that $2I = \frac{\pi}{2} + 1$. Hence, $I = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}$.

PP.20608. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{1}{(a^2+bc)(b^2+ca)} \leq \frac{3s^2-r^2-4Rr}{8s^2Rr(s^2+r^2+2Rr)}$.

Mihály Bencze

Denoting with F the area of triangle ABC , and using the well-known formula $\sum ab = s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 3s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr &= 2s^2 + s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr = \frac{(\sum a)^2}{2} + \frac{4s^2 - 2(s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr)}{2} \\
 &= \frac{(\sum a)^2}{2} + \frac{(\sum a)^2 - 2\sum ab}{2} = \frac{(\sum a^2) + \sum a^2}{2} = \sum a^2 + \sum ab. \\
 8s^2 Rr(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) &= 8s^2 \cdot \frac{abc}{4F} \cdot \frac{F}{s} (s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr - 2Rr) = \\
 &= 2sabc \left(\sum ab - \frac{abc}{2s} \right) = abc \sum a \sum ab - a^2 b^2 c^2 \\
 &= abc \sum a^2 b + abc \sum ab^2 + 2a^2 b^2 c^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since,

$$\sum \frac{1}{(a^2 + bc)(b^2 + ca)} = \frac{\sum a^2 + \sum ab}{2a^2 b^2 c^2 + \sum a^3 b^3 + abc \sum a^3},$$

then the inequality to prove, i.e.

$$\sum \frac{1}{(a^2 + bc)(b^2 + ca)} \leq \frac{3s^2 - r^2 - 4Rr}{8s^2 Rr(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr)},$$

becomes

$$\frac{\sum a^2 + \sum ab}{abc \sum a^2 b + abc \sum ab^2 + 2a^2 b^2 c^2} \geq \frac{\sum a^2 + \sum ab}{2a^2 b^2 c^2 + \sum a^3 b^3 + abc \sum a^3}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow abc \sum a^3 + \sum a^3 b^3 \geq abc \sum a^2 b + abc \sum ab^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow abc(\sum a^3 + 3abc - \sum a^2 b - \sum ab^2) + (\sum a^3 b^3 - 3a^2 b^2 c^2) \geq 0, \text{ which is true, because}$$

the first bracket is positive by Schur inequality and the second bracket is also positive by AM-GM inequality.

PP.20611. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum \frac{a(a^{n+1}-1)}{(a-1)(b+c-a)} \geq \frac{a^{n+1}-1}{a-1} + \frac{b^{n+1}-1}{b-1} + \frac{c^{n+1}-1}{c-1}$ when $a, b, c \in (0, 1) \cup (1, +\infty)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Mihály Bencze

Denoting $x = \frac{a^{n+1}-1}{a-1}, y = \frac{b^{n+1}-1}{b-1}, z = \frac{c^{n+1}-1}{c-1}$ we have $x + y > 0$ and $x - y = a^n - b^n + a^{n-1} - b^{n-1} + \dots + a - b = (a - b)E_{ab}$, with $E_{ab} > 0$.

We have

$$\sum \frac{ax}{b+c-a} - \sum x = \sum \frac{x(a-b-c+a)}{b+c-a} = \sum \left(\frac{x(a-b)}{b+c-a} + \frac{x(a-c)}{b+c-a} \right) =$$

$$= \sum \frac{x(a-b)}{b+c-a} + \sum \frac{y(b-a)}{c+a-b} = \sum (a-b) \left(\frac{x}{b+c-a} - \frac{y}{c+a-b} \right) =$$

$$= \sum (a-b) \cdot \frac{x(a-b) + y(a-b) + c(x-y)}{(b+c-a)(c+a-b)} = \sum \frac{(a-b)^2(x+y) + c(a-b)^2 E_{ab}}{(b+c-a)(c+a-b)} \geq 0.$$

We have equality if and only if $a = b = c$. The solution is complete.

PP.20618. The sides of triangle ABC are natural numbers. Prove that

$$\sqrt{\sum \frac{(b+c)^2 w_a^2}{bc}} \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Mihály Bencze

Since, $w_a = \frac{2bc \cos \frac{A}{2}}{b+c}$ and $\cos \frac{A}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{s(s-a)}{bc}}$, we obtain that

$$\sum \frac{(b+c)^2 w_a^2}{bc} = \sum \frac{(b+c)^2}{bc} \cdot \frac{4b^2 c^2}{(b+c)^2} \cdot \frac{s(s-a)}{bc} = 4s \sum (s-a) = 4s^2.$$

Hence the statement is true in a weaker condition, i.e. the perimeter of given triangle to be natural number. The solution is complete.

PP.20620. Let ABC be a triangle. Prove that the inequalities $\sum am_a^2 \geq 9sR$ and $s^2 + 5r^2 \geq 16Rr$ are equivalent.

Mihály Bencze

By usual formulas we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 4\sum am_a^2 &= \sum a(2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2) = 2\sum a^2b + 2\sum ab^2 + 4abc - 4abc - \sum a^3 \\ &= 2(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) - 16Rrs - \sum a^3 = 4s(s^2 + r^2 + 2Rr) - 16Rrs - 2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr) \\ &= 2s(s^2 + 5r^2 + 2Rr), \text{ and then we have that} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum am_a^2 \geq 9srR \Leftrightarrow 2s(s^2 + 5r^2 + 2Rr) \geq 36srR \Leftrightarrow s^2 + 5r^2 \geq 16Rr, \text{ and we are done.}$$

The inequality $s^2 + 5r^2 \geq 16Rr$, is well-known inequality of Gerretsen. The solution is complete.

PP.20621. In all triangle ABC holds $\sum a \cos 2A \geq 2s \left(\frac{r}{R} - 1\right)$.

Mihály Bencze

Since $\sum a^3 = 2s(s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr)$, the inequality to prove is written successively

$$\begin{aligned} \sum a(1 - 2\sin^2 A) &\geq 2s\left(\frac{r}{R} - 1\right) \Leftrightarrow 2s - 2\sum \frac{a^3}{4R^2} \geq 2s\left(\frac{r}{R} - 1\right) \\ \Leftrightarrow 1 - \frac{s^2 - 3r^2 - 6Rr}{2R^2} &\geq \frac{r}{R} - 1 \Leftrightarrow 4R^2 - s^2 + 3r^2 + 6Rr \geq 2Rr \end{aligned}$$

$\Leftrightarrow s^2 \leq 4R^2 + 3r^2 + 4Rr$, which is true (see for e.g. the item 5.8. from Bottema). The solution is complete.

PP.20623. Solve in R the following system:
$$\begin{cases} (x + y - 1)^2 + 1 = 2yz \\ (y + z - 1)^2 + 1 = 2zx \\ (z + x - 1)^2 + 1 = 2xy \end{cases} .$$

Mihály Bencze

Adding up the equations of system we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 + 2xy + 2yz + 2zx - 4x - 4y - 4z + 6 &= 2xy + 2yz + 2zx \\ \Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2y - 2z + 3 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)^2 + (y-1)^2 + (z-1)^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $x = y = z = 1$, and we are done.

PP.20633. If $a_k > 1$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$), then

$$\prod_{cyclic} \left(\frac{n-1}{a_2^{n-1} + a_3^{n-1} + \dots + a_n^{n-1}} \right)^{\log_{a_1} \sqrt[n-1]{n-1}} \leq \frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}}.$$

Mihály Bencze

By AM-GM inequality we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^3 + 3 \sum_{cyclic} \frac{1}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3} \geq 4 \cdot \sqrt[4]{\left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^3 \right) \left(\sum_{cyclic} \frac{1}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3} \right)^3} \quad (1)$$

By J. Radon's inequality we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k^3 \geq \frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^3}{n^2} \quad (2)$$

Also by H. Bergström's inequality we have

$$\sum_{cyclic} \frac{1}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3} \geq \frac{n^2}{\sum_{cyclic} (a_1 + a_2 + a_3)} = \frac{n^2}{3 \sum_{k=1}^n a_k} \quad (3)$$

By (1), (2) and (3) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k^3 + 3 \sum_{cyclic} \frac{1}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3} &\geq 4 \cdot \sqrt[4]{\frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^3}{n^2} \cdot \frac{n^6}{3^3 \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_k \right)^3}} \\ &= 4 \cdot \sqrt[4]{\frac{n^4}{3^3}} = \frac{4n}{3} \sqrt[4]{3}, \text{ q.e.d.} \end{aligned}$$

PP.20636. If $x, y, z > 0$ then $\sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{(x+2y)(x+2z)}} \geq 1$.

Mihály Bencze

By AM-GM inequality we have

$$\sqrt{(x+2y)(x+2z)} \leq \frac{x+2y+x+2z}{2} = x+y+z, \text{ so}$$

$$\sum \frac{x}{\sqrt{(x+2y)(x+2z)}} \geq \sum \frac{x}{x+y+z} = 1, \text{ and we are done.}$$

PP.20637. If $x, y, z > 0$ then $\sum \frac{x((x^2-yz))}{\sqrt{(x+2y)(x+2z)}} \geq \sum x^2 - \sum xy$.

Mihály Bencze

By AM-GM inequality we have

$$\sqrt{(x+2y)(x+2z)} \leq \frac{x+2y+x+2z}{2} = x+y+z = \sum x.$$

Writing other two similar inequalities yields that it suffices to prove that

$$\sum x(x^2 - yz) \geq (\sum x)(\sum x^2 - \sum xy).$$

The last relation yields from well-known identity

$$\sum x^3 - 3xyz = (\sum x)(\sum x^2 - \sum xy), \text{ and the proof is complete.}$$

PP.20650. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{F_k}{F_{n+2}-F_{k-1}} \right)^2 \geq \frac{n}{(n-1)^2}$, where F_k denote the k^{th} Fibonacci number.

Mihály Bencze

By well-known identity $X_n = \sum_{k=1}^n F_k = F_{n+2} - 1$, the inequality to prove becomes

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{F_k}{X_n - F_k} \right)^2 \geq \frac{n}{(n-1)^2}.$$

By *H. Bergström's* inequality we have

$$(1) \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{F_k}{X_n - F_k} \right)^2 \geq \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{F_k}{X_n - F_k} \right)^2, \text{ but}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{F_k}{X_n - F_k} &\Leftrightarrow S_n + n = \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{F_k}{X_n - F_k} + 1 \right) = X_n \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{X_n - F_k} \stackrel{\text{BERGSTROM}}{\geq} \\ &\geq X_n \cdot \frac{n^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n (X_n - F_k)} = X_n \cdot \frac{n^2}{nX_n - X_n} = \frac{n^2}{n-1} \Leftrightarrow (2) S_n \geq \frac{n^2}{n-1} - n = \frac{n}{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

From (1) and (2) we get the inequality to prove, and we are done.

2. A GENERALIZATION AND SOLUTIONS OF THE PROBLEM 11670 FROM AMM

by **D.M. BĂTINEȚU-GIURGIU**, "Matei Basarab" National College,
Bucharest,

NECULAI STANCIU, "George Emil Palade" General School, Buzău,

and

TITU ZVONARU, Comănești, ROMANIA

11670. *Proposed by Miranda Bakke, Benson Wu, and Bogdan Suceavă, California State University, Fullerton, CA. Prove that if $n \geq 3$ and $a_1, \dots, a_n > 0$, then*

$$\frac{(n-1)}{4} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \geq \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} \frac{a_j a_k}{a_j + a_k},$$

with equality if and only if all a_j are equal.

Let $M_{<} = \{(i, j) \mid i < j, i, j = \overline{1, n}\}$ and $M_{>} = \{(i, j) \mid i > j, i, j = \overline{1, n}\}$.

Proposition. If $n \in \mathbb{N}^* - \{1\}$, $a \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $x_k \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $k = \overline{1, n}$, $X_n = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$, then:

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in M_{<}} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) = \sum_{(i,j) \in M_{>}} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) = (n-1)(na + b)X_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*.$$

Proof. We observe that in $M_{<}$ every $k = \overline{1, n}$ is in $(k-1)$ pairs (i, k) with $i < k$ and is in $(n-k)$ pairs (k, j) with $k < j$, so k is in $(n-1)$ pairs (i, j) with $i \neq j, i, j = \overline{1, n}$.

Also in $M_{>}$ every $k = \overline{1, n}$ is in $(k-1)$ pairs (k, i) with $k > i$ and is in $(n-k)$ pairs (j, k) with $j > k$, so k is in $(n-1)$ pairs (i, j) with $i \neq j, i, j = \overline{1, n}$.

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{(i,j) \in M_{<}} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) &= \sum_{(i,j) \in M_{>}} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) = \\ &= \sum_{(i,j) \in M_{<}} (aX_n + bx_i + aX_n + bx_j) = (n-1) \sum_{k=1}^n (aX_n + bx_k) = \\ &= (n-1)(naX_n + b \sum_{k=1}^n x_k) = (n-1)(na + b)X_n, \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete.

Theorem. If $n \in N^* - \{1\}$, $a \in R_+$, $b \in R^*$, $x_k \in R_+$, $k = \overline{1, n}$, $X_n = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$, such that $aX_n + b \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} x_k \in R_+$, then:

$$(n-1)(an+b)X_n \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \frac{a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)}, \forall n \in N^*,$$

$$(n-1)(an+b)X_n \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in M_>} \frac{a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)}, \forall n \in N^*$$

with equality if and only if $x_i = x_j, \forall i, j = \overline{1, n}$.

Proof. By the above proposition the inequality to prove is equivalent with:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \frac{a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \left(2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j) - 4 \cdot \frac{a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)} \right) \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \frac{(2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j))^2 - 4(a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j)}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)} \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \frac{4a^2 X_n^2 + 4ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2(x_i + x_j)^2 - 4a^2 X_n^2 - 4ab(x_i + x_j)X_n - 4b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)} \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow & b^2 \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} \frac{(x_i - x_j)}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)} \geq 0, \text{ which is true,} \end{aligned}$$

with equality if and only if $x_i = x_j, \forall i, j = \overline{1, n}$.

If we taking account that:

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in M_<} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)) = \sum_{(i,j) \in M_>} (2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)), \forall n \in N^*,$$

we also obtain that:

$$(n-1)(an+b)X_n \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in M_>} \frac{a^2 X_n^2 + ab(x_i + x_j)X_n + b^2 x_i x_j}{2aX_n + b(x_i + x_j)}, \forall n \in N^*,$$

with equality if and only if $x_i = x_j, \forall i, j = \overline{1, n}$.

Observation. For $a = 0, b = 1$ we obtain the problem 11670 from AMM.

Solution 1:

In the set of the pairs $(i, j), i < j, i, j = \overline{1, n}$ the element $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is in $(k-1)$ pairs with $i < k$ and is in $(n-k)$ pairs with $k < i$, i.e. is in $n-k+k-1 = n-1$ pairs, and then:

$$\sum_{\substack{i, j=1 \\ i < j}}^n (x_i + x_j) = (n-1) \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \quad (1)$$

By the AM-HM inequality we have that:

$$\frac{x+y}{2} \geq \frac{2xy}{x+y}, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \quad (2)$$

Therefore:

$$x_i + x_j \geq 4 \cdot \frac{x_i x_j}{x_i + x_j}, \forall i, j = \overline{1, n} \quad (3)$$

Yields that:

$$\sum_{\substack{i, j=1 \\ i < j}}^n (x_i + x_j) \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{\substack{i, j=1 \\ i < j}}^n \frac{x_i x_j}{x_i + x_j}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^* \quad (4)$$

By the above we deduce that:

$$(n-1) \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = \sum_{\substack{i, j=1 \\ i < j}}^n (x_i + x_j) \geq 4 \cdot \sum_{\substack{i, j=1 \\ i < j}}^n \frac{x_i x_j}{x_i + x_j}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*,$$

and because in AM-HM inequality we have equality if and only if $x_i = x_j, \forall i, j = \overline{1, n}$, the problem 11670 from AMM is proved.

Solution 2:

We use the AM-HM inequality, i.e.:

$$\frac{2ab}{a+b} \leq \frac{a+b}{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{a+b} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} \right), \text{ with equality iff } a = b.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} \frac{a_j a_k}{a_j + a_k} &\leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} a_j a_k \left(\frac{1}{a_j} + \frac{1}{a_k} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} (a_j + a_k) = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} ((n-1)a_1 + (n-2)a_2 + \dots + 2a_{n-2} + a_{n-1} + a_2 + \dots + (n-3)a_{n-2} + (n-2)a_{n-1} + (n-1)a_n) \\ &= \frac{n-1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k. \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds iff all a_j are equal.

3. Other solutions for some problems from MR-4/2014

By Nela Ciceu, Roșiori, Bacău, Romania

and

Roxana Mihaela Stanciu, Buzău, Romania

J307. Prove that for each positive integer n there is a perfect square whose sum of digits is equal to 4^n .

Proposed by Mihaly Bencze, Brasov, Romania

Solution:

It is well-known the fact that for any $n \equiv 0,1,4,7 \pmod{9}$ there is a perfect square whose sum of digits is equal to n (see for e.g. the book "Mathematical Olympiad Challenges", p. 243, by *Titu Andreescu* and *Răzvan Gelcă* or *Crux Mathematicorum* no. 3/2013, p. 128).

On the other hand we have

$$4^{3p} - 1 = 64^p - 1 = M(64 - 1) = M9, \quad 4^{3p+1} - 4 = 4(4^{3p} - 1) \quad \text{and} \quad 4^{3p+2} - 7 = 16(4^{3p} - 1) + 9.$$

The conclusion of the problem yields now easily

- for n of the form $3p$ we choose a perfect square with the sum of digits $9k + 1$,
where $k = \frac{4^{3p} - 1}{9}$;
- for n of the form $3p + 1$ we choose a perfect square with the sum of digits $9k + 4$,
where $k = \frac{4^{3p+1} - 4}{9}$;
- for n of the form $3p + 2$ we choose a perfect square with the sum of digits $9k + 7$, where $k = \frac{4^{3p+2} - 7}{9}$.

J312. Let ABC be a triangle with circumcircle Γ and let P be a point in its interior. Let M be the midpoint of side BC and let lines AP, BP, CP intersect BC, CA, AB at X, Y, Z , respectively. Furthermore, let line YZ intersect Γ at points U and V . Prove that M, X, U, V are concyclic.

Proposed by Cosmin Pohoata, Princeton University, USA

Solution:

We denote

$$x = \frac{XB}{XC}, y = \frac{YC}{YA}, z = \frac{ZA}{ZB}.$$

We have

$$BX = \frac{ax}{x+1}, \text{ and by Ceva's Theorem yields that } xyz = 1.$$

If $YZ \parallel BC$, then $yz = 1$, i.e. $X \equiv M$ and we have nothing to prove.

We assume that $YZ \cap BC = \{N\}$ such that we have the order $N - B - C$.

Applying the Theorem of Menelaus in triangle ABC with the transversal $N - Z - Y$ we obtain

$$\frac{NB}{NC} \cdot \frac{YC}{YA} \cdot \frac{ZA}{ZB} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{NB}{NB+a} = \frac{1}{yz}, \text{ so } NB = \frac{a}{yz-1}.$$

Using the power of point N with respect to circumcircle of the triangle ABC we obtain

$$NU \cdot NV = NB \cdot NC.$$

The concyclicity of the points M, X, U, V is successively equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & NX \cdot NM = NU \cdot NV \\ \Leftrightarrow & NX \cdot NM = NB \cdot NC \\ \Leftrightarrow & (NB + BX)(NB + BM) = NB(NB + BC) \\ \Leftrightarrow & \left(\frac{a}{yz-1} + \frac{ax}{x+1} \right) \left(\frac{a}{yz-1} + \frac{a}{2} \right) = \frac{a}{yz-1} \left(\frac{a}{yz-1} + a \right) \\ \Leftrightarrow & \frac{(x+1+xyz-x)(2+yz-1)}{2(x+1)} = yz \\ \Leftrightarrow & \frac{yz+1}{x+1} = yz \Leftrightarrow yz+1 = xyz+yz, \text{ true, and the proof is complete.} \end{aligned}$$

O310. Let ABC be a triangle and let P be a point in its interior. Let X, Y, Z be the intersections of AP, BP, CP with sides BC, CA, AB , respectively. Prove that

$$\frac{XB}{XY} \cdot \frac{YC}{YZ} \cdot \frac{ZA}{ZX} \leq \frac{R}{2r}.$$

Proposed by Titu Andreescu, University of Texas at Dallas, USA

Solution:

With the notations of O310 we reformulated a problem proposed by Dan Ștefan Marinescu in RMT, No. 2/2001, page 51, which requires to demonstrate that

$$XY \cdot YZ \cdot ZX \geq 8 \cdot BX \cdot CY \cdot AZ \cdot \sin \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2} \sin \frac{C}{2}, \quad (1).$$

Since $8 \sin \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{B}{2} \sin \frac{C}{2} = \frac{2r}{R}$, the relation (1) it can write $\frac{XB}{XY} \cdot \frac{YC}{YZ} \cdot \frac{ZA}{ZX} \leq \frac{R}{2r}$, i.e. exactly q.e.d.

S307. Let ABC be a triangle such that $\angle ABC - \angle ACB = 60^\circ$. Suppose that the length of the altitude from A is $\frac{1}{4}BC$. Find $\angle ABC$.

Proposed by Omer Cerrahoglu and Mircea Lascu, Romania

Solution:

We denote the altitude from A with h .

By the hypothesis $h = \frac{a}{4}$, Sine Law and well known formulas we deduce successively

$$\sin B = \frac{h}{c} \Leftrightarrow 4 \sin B \sin C = \sin A \Leftrightarrow 2 \cos(B - C) - 2 \cos(B + C) = \sin(B + C)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sin(B + C) + 2 \cos(B + C) - 1 = 0, \quad (1).$$

Denoting $t = \tan \frac{B+C}{2}$, yields that $t > 0$, and by (1) we obtain the equation

$$3t^2 - 2t - 1 = 0, \text{ with only one convenient root, i.e. } t = 1.$$

We deduce $B + C = 90^\circ$ which with the hypothesis $B - C = 60^\circ$, yields $B = 75^\circ$ (and $A = 90^\circ, C = 15^\circ$).

4. Metode de calcul pentru derivata unui determinant

Prof. Boer Elena Milena, Școala Gimnazială Vulcan, Jud. Brașov

Metoda 1.

Teoremă

Fie $a_{ij}: R \rightarrow R$ funcții derivabile pe R , $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, iar $a: R \rightarrow R$,

$$a(x) = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11}(x) & a_{12}(x) & \dots & a_{1n}(x) \\ a_{21}(x) & a_{22}(x) & \dots & a_{2n}(x) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1}(x) & a_{n2}(x) & \dots & a_{nn}(x) \end{vmatrix}, x \in R$$

Atunci $a(x)$ este o funcție derivabilă pe R și

$$a'(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n \begin{vmatrix} a_{11}(x) & a_{12}(x) & \dots & a_{1n}(x) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a'_{j1}(x) & a'_{j2}(x) & \dots & a'_{jn}(x) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1}(x) & a_{n2}(x) & \dots & a_{nn}(x) \end{vmatrix}, (\forall) x \in R$$

Demonstrație: Faptul ca funcția $a(x)$ este derivabilă pe R rezulta din aceea că dacă funcțiile b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n sunt funcții derivabile pe R , atunci funcția $b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot \dots \cdot b_n$ este derivabilă pe R și

$$(b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot \dots \cdot b_n)' = \sum_{j=1}^n b_1 \cdot b_2 \cdot \dots \cdot b_j' \cdot \dots \cdot b_n$$

În continuare, conform formulei lui Leibniz, avem:

$$a(x) = \sum_{\varphi \in P_n} \text{sgn}(\varphi) a_{1\varphi(1)}(x) \cdot a_{2\varphi(2)}(x) \cdot \dots \cdot a_{n\varphi(n)}(x), \quad (\forall) x \in R \quad (1)$$

unde, $\text{sgn}(\varphi)$ reprezintă funcția signum (semn), adică $\text{sgn}(\varphi) = (-1)^{N(\varphi)}$, unde $N(\varphi)$ este numărul de inversări în permutația φ .

Din (1), prin derivare rezultă:

$$a'(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\varphi \in P_n} \text{sgn}(\varphi) a_{1\varphi(1)}(x) \cdot a_{2\varphi(2)}(x) \cdot \dots \cdot a'_{n\varphi(j)}(x) \cdot \dots \cdot a_{n\varphi(n)}(x),$$

(\forall) $x \in R$

adică tocmai relația de demonstrat.

Metoda 2

O altă metodă de aflare a derivatei unui determinant pentru o matrice A , este să folosim formula lui Jacobi bazată matricea reciprocă a matricei A și pe derivata acesteia.

Lemă: Fie A și B două matrici pătratice având dimensiunea n . Atunci:

$$\sum_k \sum_j A_{kj} B_{kj} = Tr(A^t B)$$

(1)

A^t - fiind transpusa matricei A .

Demonstrație:

$$(A^t B)_{ij} = \sum_k (A^t)_{ik} B_{kj}$$

$$(A^t)_{ik} = A_{ki}$$

$$(A^t B)_{ij} = \sum_k A_{ki} B_{kj}$$

$$Tr(A^t B) = \sum_j (A^t B)_{jj} = \sum_j \left(\sum_k A_{kj} B_{kj} \right) = \sum_k \sum_j A_{kj} B_{kj}$$

Teoremă (formula lui Jacobi) : Fie o matrice pătratică A , având dimensiunea n . Vom nota cu $\det(A)$ determinantul asociat matricei A . Diferențiala lui $\det(A)$ este data de relația:

(2)

$$d(\det(A)) = Tr(A^* dA)$$

Unde A^* reprezintă matricea adjunctă : $A^* = C^t$, C fiind complementul algebraic al matricei A .

Demonstrație:

Pe baza formulei lui Laplace

(3)

$$\det(A) = \sum_j A_{ij} (A^*)_{ij}^t$$

Determinantul matricei A poate fi considerat ca fiind o funcție de elementele matricei A :

$$\det(A) = F(A_{ij})$$

Prin urmare, diferențiala determinantului poate fi scris sub forma:

$$d(\det(A)) = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{\partial F}{\partial A_{ij}} dA_{ij}$$

Pe baza relației de mai sus:

$$\frac{\partial \det(A)}{\partial A_{ij}} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial A_{ij}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial A_{ij}} \left[\sum_k A_{ik} (A^*)_{ik}^t \right] = \sum_k \frac{\partial [A_{ik} (A^*)_{ik}^t]}{\partial A_{ij}} \quad (4)$$

Ținând seama de derivata produsului obținem:

$$\frac{\partial [A_{ik} (A^*)_{ik}^t]}{\partial A_{ij}} = \frac{\partial A_{ik}}{\partial A_{ij}} (A^*)_{ik}^t + A_{ik} \frac{\partial (A^*)_{ik}^t}{\partial A_{ij}} \quad (5)$$

Dar, $\frac{\partial (A^*)_{ik}^t}{\partial A_{ij}} = 0$, deoarece elementul ij al matricei adjunct, sigur nu conține nici un element de pe linia i sau coloana j a matricei originale A.

Pe de alta parte:

(6)

$$\frac{\partial A_{ik}}{\partial A_{ij}} = \delta_{jk}$$

Notam cu δ_{jk} simbolul lui Kronecker

$$\delta_{jk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{dacă } j = k \\ 0 & \text{dacă } j \neq k \end{cases}$$

Din relațiile (4) și (5) rezultă:

(7)

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial A_{ij}} = \frac{\partial \det(A)}{\partial A_{ij}} = \sum_k \delta_{kj} (A^*)_{ik}^t = (A^*)_{ij}^t$$

Pentru diferențiala determinantului A obținem astfel:

$$d(\det(A)) = \sum_i \sum_j (A^*)_{ij}^t dA_{ij}$$

Ținând cont de lema demonstrată mai sus

$$\sum_i \sum_j (A^*)_{ij}^t dA_{ij} = \text{Tr}[(A^*)^{TT} dA] = \text{Tr}(A^* dA)$$

Astfel teorema este demonstrată

Calculul derivatei unui determinant folosind ambele metode:

Enunț : Să se calculeze derivata determinantului pentru matricea :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 & x+2 & x \\ 0 & x & x+1 \\ 1 & 1 & x^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Rezolvare:

Metoda 1

$$f(x) = \begin{vmatrix} x^2 & x+2 & x \\ 0 & x & x+1 \\ 1 & 1 & x^3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \begin{vmatrix} 2x & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & x & x+1 \\ 1 & 1 & x^3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x^2 & x+2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & x^3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x^2 & x+2 & x \\ 0 & x & x+1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3x^2 \end{vmatrix} = \\ & (2x^5 + x + 1 - x - 2x^2 - 2x) + (x^5 + x + 2 - x - x^2) + 3x^5 = \\ & 6x^5 - 3x^2 - 2x + 3 \end{aligned}$$

Metoda 2

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 & x+2 & x \\ 0 & x & x+1 \\ 1 & 1 & x^3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 2x & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3x^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

În matricea B am derivat fiecare element al matricei A.

$$A^* = \begin{pmatrix} x^4 - x - 1 & x + 1 & -x \\ -x^4 - 2x^3 & x^5 - x & -x^2 + x + 2 \\ 3x + 2 & -x^3 - x^2 & x^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Se înmulțește fiecare element din A^* cu fiecare element corespunzător din B ($a^*_{ij} * b_{ij}$) și se obține derivata determinantului:

$$2x(x^4 - x - 1) + 1(x + 1) + 1(-x) + 0(-x^4 - 2x^3) + 1(x^5 - x) + 1(-x^2 + x + 2) + 0(3x + 2) + 0(-x^3 - x^2) + x^3 \cdot 3x^2 = 6x^5 - 3x^2 - 2x + 3$$

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