

Problem 11819

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Proposed by C. Lupu (USA).

Let f be a continuous, nonnegative function on $[0, 1]$. Show that

$$\int_0^1 f^3(x) dx \geq 4 \left(\int_0^1 x^2 f(x) dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 x f^2(x) dx \right).$$

Solution proposed by Roberto Tauraso, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", via della Ricerca Scientifica, 00133 Roma, Italy.

We will show a more general result.

Let f and g be continuous, nonnegative functions on $[0, 1]$ and let a and b be nonnegative real numbers. Then

$$\left(\int_0^1 f^{a+b}(x) dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 g^{a+b}(x) dx \right) \geq \left(\int_0^1 f^a(x)g^b(x) dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 f^b(x)g^a(x) dx \right).$$

The required inequality follows by taking $g(x) = x$, $a = 2$, and $b = 1$.Let A, B be nonnegative real numbers then

$$(A^a - B^a)(A^b - B^b) \geq 0$$

which implies that

$$A^{a+b} + B^{a+b} \geq A^a B^b + A^b B^a.$$

Let $A = f(x)g(y)$ and $B = f(y)g(x)$ then by integrating over $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=0}^1 (f(x)g(y))^{a+b} dx dy + \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=0}^1 (f(y)g(x))^{a+b} dx dy \\ & \geq \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=0}^1 (f(x)g(y))^a (f(y)g(x))^b dx dy + \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=0}^1 (f(x)g(y))^b (f(y)g(x))^a dx dy \end{aligned}$$

that is

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_0^1 f^{a+b}(x) dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 g^{a+b}(y) dy \right) + \left(\int_0^1 f^{a+b}(y) dy \right) \left(\int_0^1 g^{a+b}(x) dx \right) \\ & \geq \left(\int_0^1 f^a(x)g^b(x) dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 f^b(y)g^a(y) dy \right) + \left(\int_0^1 f^a(y)g^b(y) dy \right) \left(\int_0^1 f^b(x)g^a(x) dx \right), \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete. □