

Three applications of AM-GM Inequality.

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Prove inequalities

(a) $(1+x)^n \leq \frac{1}{1-nx}$ for $x \in [-1, 0], n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(b) $(1+x)^r \leq 1 + \frac{rx}{1-(r-1)x}$ for $x \in \left[-1, \frac{1}{r-1}\right), r > 1$.

(c) $(1+nx)^{n+1} \geq (1+(n+1)x)^n$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}_+, n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Solution by Arkady Alt, San Jose, California, USA.

(a) By AM-GM Inequality $((1+x)^n(1-nx))^{1/(n+1)} \leq \frac{n(1+x) + 1 - nx}{n+1} = 1$.

Hence, $(1+x)^n(1-nx) \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow (1+x)^n \leq \frac{1}{1-nx}$.

(b) By AM-GM Inequality

$$\left((1+x)^{r-1} \cdot (1-(r-1)x)\right)^{1/r} \leq \frac{(1+x)(r-1) + (1-(r-1)x)}{r} = 1.$$

Hence, $(1+x)^{r-1} \leq \frac{1}{1-(r-1)x} \Leftrightarrow (1+x)^r \leq \frac{1+x}{1-(r-1)x} = 1 + \frac{rx}{1-(r-1)x}$.

(c) By AM-GM Inequality $(1+(n+1)x)^{n/(n+1)} = (1 \cdot (1+(n+1)x)^n)^{1/(n+1)} \leq \frac{1+n(1+(n+1)x)}{n+1} = 1+nx \Leftrightarrow (1+nx)^{n+1} \geq (1+(n+1)x)^n$.