

U167. Let  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function such that  $f(1) = 0$ . Prove that

$$\left| \int_0^1 xf(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{1}{6} \max_{x \in [0,1]} |f'(x)|.$$

*Proposed by Duong Viet Thong, National Economics University, Ha Noi, Vietnam*

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

Using integration by parts we obtain  $\int_0^1 xf(x) dx = \left( \frac{x^2}{2} \cdot f(x) \right)_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{x^2 f'(x)}{2} dx =$

$-\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 x^2 f'(x) dx$ . Since by condition  $f(x)$  is continuously differentiable then

$$M := \max_{x \in [0,1]} |f'(x)| \text{ and, therefore, } \left| \int_0^1 xf(x) dx \right| = \left| -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 x^2 f'(x) dx \right| =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left| \int_0^1 x^2 f'(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 x^2 |f'(x)| dx \leq \frac{M}{2} \int_0^1 x^2 dx = \frac{1}{6} \max_{x \in [0,1]} |f'(x)| ..$$

*Also solved by Michel Bataille, France; Daniel Lasaosa, Universidad Pública de Navarra, Spain; Carlo Pagano, Università di Roma “Tor Vergata”, Roma, Italy; Perfetti Paolo, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università degli studi di Tor Vergata Roma, Italy.*