

W23. Daniel Sitaru

Prove that if $a, b, c \in (0, 1]$ then:

$$(e^{a^2} - 1)(e^{b^2} - 1)(e^{c^2} - 1) \leq (e - 1)^3 a^2 b^2 c^2.$$

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

Since $e^x \geq 1 + x$ for any real x then in particular for any $x \in [0, 1]$ holds inequality

$$e^{-x} \geq 1 - x \Leftrightarrow 1 - e^x + xe^x \geq 0 \text{ (with equality iff } x = 0).$$

Let $h(x) := \frac{e^x - 1}{x}, x \in (0, 1]$. Since $h'(x) = \frac{xe^x - e^x + 1}{x^2} > 0$ for any $x \in (0, 1]$ then

function $h(x)$ strictly increasing on $(0, 1]$ and, therefore, $h(x) \leq h(1) \Leftrightarrow$

$$\frac{e^x - 1}{x} \leq \frac{e^1 - 1}{1} = e - 1 \Leftrightarrow e^x - 1 \leq (e - 1)x \text{ with equality only if } x = 1.$$

Hence, $(e^{a^2} - 1)(e^{b^2} - 1)(e^{c^2} - 1) \leq (e - 1)^3 a^2 b^2 c^2$.