

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+2} ((n+2)!)^{\frac{2n+3}{(n+2)^2}} (sf(n+1))^{\frac{2n+3}{(n+2)^2} - \frac{2n+1}{(n+1)^2}} = \\
& \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+2} e^{((n+2)\ln(n+2)-n-2)\left(\frac{2}{n} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)\right)} \left(\sqrt{2\pi(n+2)}(1+o(1))\right)^{\frac{2}{n} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)}. \\
& \cdot \frac{1}{n} \frac{n}{(sf(n+1))^{\frac{2}{n^2}} (1+O(\frac{1}{n}))} = \\
& = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n(n+2)} e^{((n+2)\ln(n+2)-n-2)\frac{2}{n}} \frac{n}{(sf(n+1))^{\frac{2}{n^2}}} = \\
& = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n(n+2)} e^{2\ln n - 2 + O\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right)} e^{\frac{3}{2}} = e^{-2+\frac{3}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

Finally

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{\sqrt[n^2]{sf(n)}}{\sqrt[(n+1)^2]{sf(n+1)}} \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-2+\frac{3}{2}} = e$$

and then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n^2]{sf(n)}} \frac{\left( \frac{\frac{(n+1)\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt[(n+1)^2]{sf(n+1)}}}{\frac{n\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n^2]{sf(n)}}} - 1 \right)}{\ln \left( \frac{\frac{(n+1)\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt[(n+1)^2]{sf(n+1)}}}{\frac{n\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n^2]{sf(n)}}} \right)} \ln \left( \frac{\frac{(n+1)\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt[(n+1)^2]{sf(n+1)}}}{\frac{n\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[n^2]{sf(n)}}} \right)^n = e^{\frac{3}{4}} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = e^{\frac{3}{4}}$$

and this concludes the proof.

Paolo Perfetti

**W9. (Solution by the proposer.)** Consider recurrence

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{k} (x_n + x_{n-1} + x_{n-2} + \dots + x_{n-k+1}), n \geq k-1$$

with  $x_n \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

Easy to see that the sequence  $(x_n)_{n \geq 0}$ , originally defined by linear homogeneous recurrence of  $k$ -degree can be equivalently defined by the following linear nonhomogeneous recurrence of degree  $k-1$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{n+1} + \frac{k-1}{k}x_n + \frac{k-2}{k}x_{n-1} + \dots + \frac{1}{k}x_{n-k+2} = \\ = \frac{kx_{k-1} + (k-1)x_{k-2} + \dots + 2x_1 + x_0}{k}, n \geq k-2 \end{aligned}$$

which further, by substitution  $x_n = t_n + \delta$  — where

$$\delta = \frac{kx_{k-1} + (k-1)x_{k-2} + \dots + 2x_1 + x_0}{\binom{k}{2}},$$

can be reduced to recurrence

$$\begin{aligned} t_{n+1} + \frac{k-1}{k}t_n + \frac{k-2}{k}t_{n-1} + \dots + \frac{1}{k}t_{n-k+2} = 0 \iff \\ kt_{n+1} + (k-1)t_n + (k-2)t_{n-1} + \dots + t_{n-k+2} = 0, n \geq k-2. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Characteristic polynomial for (1) is

$$\begin{aligned} kz^{k-1} + (k-1)z^{k-2} + \dots + 2z + 1 = P'(z) \text{ where} \\ P(z) = z^k + z^{k-1} + \dots + z + 1. \end{aligned}$$

By *Gauss-Lucas theorem* for any polynomial  $Q(z)$  all roots of  $Q'$  lie within the convex hull of the roots of  $Q$ , that is within the smallest convex polygon containing the roots of  $P$ . (Everywhere further we will use notation  $e^{i\alpha}$  instead  $\cos \alpha + i \sin \alpha$ )

Since

$$P(z) = 0 \iff \begin{cases} z^{k+1} = 1 \\ z \neq 1 \end{cases} \iff z \in \left\{ e^{\frac{2j\pi}{k+1}} \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, k \right\}$$

then all roots of  $P$  are simple and lie on unite circle  $|z| = 1$  ( vertices of regular polygon, inscribed in circle  $|z| = 1$ ).

Therefore, for any root  $z$  of equation  $P'(z) = 0$  holds inequality  $|z| < 1$ .

Indeed, since  $z = \sum_{j=1}^k p_j e^{\frac{2j\pi}{k+1}}$ , where  $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j = 1, p_j \in [0, 1), j = 1, 2, \dots, k$  then

$$|z| = \left| \sum_{j=1}^k p_j e^{\frac{2j\pi}{k+1}} \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^k p_j \left| e^{\frac{2j\pi}{k+1}} \right| = \sum_{j=1}^k p_j = 1.$$

Since  $x_n = \delta + \sum_{j=1}^k c_j z_j^n$ , where  $|z_j| < 1, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \delta + \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_j^n = \delta.$$

**W10. (Solution by the proposer.)** First we will prove, using Math.

Induction, inequality for  $m = n$ , namely inequality

$$\left( \frac{a^n + b^n + c^n}{a^{n-1} + b^{n-1} + c^{n-1}} \right)^{n+1} \geq \frac{a^{n+1} + b^{n+1} + c^{n+1}}{3}, \quad n \geq 3. \quad (1)$$

1. *Base of Math. Induction.*

For  $n = 3$  we have

$$\left( \frac{a^3 + b^3 + c^3}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \right)^4 \geq \frac{a^4 + b^4 + c^4}{3}. \quad (2)$$

Assume  $a + b + c = 1$  (due to homogeneity of (2) and denote

$p := ab + bc + ca, q := abc$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + b^2 + c^2 &= 1 - 2p, a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 1 + 3q - 3p, a^4 + b^4 + c^4 = \\ &= 1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2 \end{aligned}$$

inequality (2) becomes

$$\left( \frac{1 + 3q - 3p}{1 - 2p} \right)^4 \geq \frac{1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2}{3} \iff h(q) \geq \frac{(1 - 2p)^4}{3}$$

where

$$h(q) := \frac{(1 + 3q - 3p)^4}{1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2}.$$

Noting that  $p \leq \frac{1}{3}$  ( $\iff ab + bc + ca \leq \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{3}$ ) and

$9q \geq 4p - 1$  ( $\iff \sum_{cyc} a(a - b)(a - c) \geq 0$  – Schur inequality

in 1-p-q notation) we can see that

$$\begin{aligned} h'(q) &= \frac{12(1 + 3q - 3p)^3 (1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2) - 4(1 + 3q - 3p)^4}{1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2} = \\ &= \frac{4(1 + 3q - 3p)^3 (6p^2 - 9p + 2 + 9q)}{1 + 4q - 4p + 2p^2} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$