

The real numbers a, b, c, d are such that $a \geq b \geq c \geq d > 0$, $a+b+c+d=1$

Prove that

$$(a+2b+3c+4d)a^a b^b c^c d^d < 1$$

Let's observe $a^a b^b c^c d^d$.

$$\begin{aligned} a^a b^b c^c d^d &= e^{\ln(a^a b^b c^c d^d)} \\ &= e^{a \ln a + b \ln b + c \ln c + d \ln d} \end{aligned}$$

Now, observe $a \ln a + b \ln b + c \ln c + d \ln d$.

We know that \ln is a concave down function and $a+b+c+d=1$, so we can use Jensen's inequality and write

$$\begin{aligned} a \ln a + b \ln b + c \ln c + d \ln d &\leq \ln(a \cdot a + b \cdot b + c \cdot c + d \cdot d) \\ &= \ln(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2) \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} e^{a \ln a + b \ln b + c \ln c + d \ln d} &\leq e^{\ln(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2)} \\ &= a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 \end{aligned}$$

So, we can write

$$(a+2b+3c+4d) a^a b^b c^c d^d \leq (a+2b+3c+4d)(a^2+b^2+c^2+d^2) =$$

$$= a^2(a+2b+3c+4d) + b^2(a+2b+3c+4d) +$$

$$+ c^2(a+2b+3c+4d) + d^2(a+2b+3c+4d) \leq$$

Now, note that since $a \geq b \geq c \geq d > 0$,

$$(a+2b+3c+4d) \leq$$

$$(a+3b+3c+3d) \leq \quad (I)$$

$$(3a+b+3c+3d) \leq \quad (II)$$

$$(3a+3b+c+3d) \leq \quad (III)$$

$$(3a+3b+3c+d) \leq \quad (IV)$$

$$(\leq a^2 \cdot I + b^2 \cdot II + c^2 \cdot III + d^2 \cdot IV \Rightarrow)$$

Let's denote $a = \alpha_1$ $b = \alpha_2$ $c = \alpha_3$ $d = \alpha_4$

$\sigma(j)$ is denoting the random permutation of first j numbers - $1, 2, \dots, j$

$$C = \sum \alpha_{\sigma(j)}^3 + \sum 3 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)}^2 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)} <$$

$$< \sum \alpha_{\sigma(j)}^3 + \sum 3 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)}^2 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)} + \sum 6 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)} \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)} \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(j)}$$

Where $\alpha_{\sigma(i)} \neq \alpha'_{\sigma(i)} \neq \alpha''_{\sigma(i)} \neq \alpha_{\sigma(i)}$

Then notice that

$$\sum \alpha_{\sigma(i)}^3 + \sum 3 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(i)}^2 \cdot \alpha'_{\sigma(i)} + \sum 6 \cdot \alpha_{\sigma(i)} \cdot \alpha'_{\sigma(i)} \cdot \alpha''_{\sigma(i)} =$$
$$= (a+b+c+d)^3 = 1$$

Proven!