

Let's define a sequence  $b_i$  such that  $b_0 = 2$  and for all non-negative integers  $n$

$$b_{n+1} = b_n^2 - b_n + 1.$$

We will now prove that

$$3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$$

is satisfied for all positive integers  $n$ . We know that  $3^{2^n} = (3^{2^{n-1}})^2$  and  $b_{n+1} - 1 = b_n^2 - b_n$ . Let's break this inequality into two parts.

We will first prove  $3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1$  for all positive integers  $n$ . Base case: If  $n = 1$ , then  $3^{2^0} = 3$  and  $b_2 - 1 = 7 - 1 = 6$ . Thus, the inequality is satisfied for  $n = 1$  since  $3 < 6$ . For the inductive step, assume that  $3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1$  is satisfied for a positive integer  $n$ . We will now prove that this inequality is still satisfied for  $n + 1$ . Plugging in  $n + 1$ , we have  $3^{2^n} = 3^{2^{n-1}} \cdot 3^{2^{n-1}}$  and  $b_{n+2} - 1 = b_{n+1}^2 - b_{n+1} = (b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1})$ .

Thus, we want to prove

$$3^{2^{n-1}} \cdot 3^{2^{n-1}} < (b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1}).$$

Since we know that  $3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1$ ,  $3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1}$  is also true. Since  $n$  is positive,  $2^{2^{n-1}}$ ,  $b_{n+1}$ ,  $b_{n+1}$  are all positive. Thus, we can multiply the two inequalities together and get

$$3^{2^{n-1}} \cdot 3^{2^{n-1}} < (b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1})$$

which is what we wanted to prove. Thus, we know  $3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1$  is satisfied for all positive integers  $n$ .

We will now prove  $b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$  for all positive integers  $n$ . Base case: If  $n = 1$ , then  $3^{2^1} = 9$  and  $b_2 - 1 = 7 - 1 = 6$ . Thus, the inequality is satisfied for  $n = 1$  since  $6 < 9$ . For the inductive step, assume that  $b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$  is satisfied for a positive integer  $n$ . We will now prove that this inequality is still satisfied for  $n + 1$ . Plugging in  $n + 1$ , we have  $3^{2^{n+1}} = 3^{2^n} \cdot 3^{2^n}$  and

$$b_{n+2} - 1 = b_{n+1}^2 - b_{n+1} = (b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1}).$$

Thus, we want to prove

$$(b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1}) < 3^{2^n} \cdot 3^{2^n}.$$

We know that  $b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$ . Thus,  $b_{n+1} \leq 3^{2^n}$  since  $b_{n+1}$  and  $3^{2^n}$  are both integers and thus differ by no less than 1. Since  $n$  is positive,  $2^{2^{n-1}}$ ,  $b_{n+1}$ ,  $b_{n+1}$  are all positive. If  $b_{n+1} < 3^{2^n}$ , then we can multiply the two inequalities together to get

$$(b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1}) < 3^{2^n} \cdot 3^{2^n}.$$

If  $b_{n+1} = 3^{2^n}$ , then multiplying left hand side by  $b_{n+1} - 1$  and the right hand side by  $3^{2^n}$  will guarantee

$$(b_{n+1} - 1)(b_{n+1}) < 3^{2^n} \cdot 3^{2^n}$$

since  $b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$ . Thus, we have proven both cases, which means  $b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$  is satisfied for all positive integers  $n$ .

Since both parts were proved, we have proved that

$$3^{2^{n-1}} < b_{n+1} - 1 < 3^{2^n}$$

is satisfied for all positive integers  $n$ . For every expression in this inequality, we will now take its inverse, reverse its sign, then add 1. We then get

$$1 - \frac{1}{3^{2^{n-1}}} < 1 - \frac{1}{b_{n+1} - 1} < 1 - \frac{1}{3^{2^n}}$$