

Manfrino, Ortega, Delgado Inequalities A Mathematical Olympiad Approach

1.25 (Difference of AM and GM)

Let $p = \sqrt{a}, q = \sqrt{b}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} p &\leq \frac{1}{2}(p+q) \leq q \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{p+q}{p} &\leq 1 \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{p+q}{q} \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{p^2 - q^2}{p} &\leq p - q \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{p^2 - q^2}{q} \\ \frac{1}{4} \frac{p^2 - q^2}{p^2} &\leq (p - q)^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \frac{p^2 - q^2}{q^2} \end{aligned}$$

(Can also be proven by direct computation)

Lesson: AM-GM can be factorized

1.33 $x^4 + y^4 + 8 \geq 8xy$

Looks like a special case of 4-term AMGM, $x^4 + y^4 + p^4 + q^4 \geq 4xy pq$. Comparing coefficients, we have $p^4 + q^4 = 8, pq = 2$, hence $p = q = \sqrt{2}$

1.38 $a > 1 \implies a^n - 1 > n(a^{\frac{n+1}{2}} - a^{\frac{n-1}{2}})$

$$\begin{aligned} a^n - 1 &= (a - 1)(1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{n-1}) \\ &\geq (a - 1)(a^{1+2+\dots+n-1})^{1/n} \cdot n \\ &= n(a - 1)a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \\ &= RHS \end{aligned}$$

1.39 $(1 + a)(1 + b)(1 + c) \implies 8 \implies abc \leq 1$

$1 = \frac{1+a}{2} \frac{1+b}{2} \frac{1+c}{2} \geq \sqrt{abc}$. Now square.

$$\mathbf{1.40} \quad \frac{a^3}{b} + \frac{b^3}{c} + \frac{c^3}{a} \geq ab + bc + ca$$

By Muirhead, since $(3, -1, 0) > (1, 1, 0)$. Can also expand to get rid of the -1.

$$\mathbf{1.41} \quad a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2 \geq abc(a + b + c)$$

By Muirhead, since $(2, 2, 0) > (2, 1, 1)$.

$$\mathbf{1.42}$$

$$\mathbf{1.58} \quad x^4 + y^4 + z^2 \geq \sqrt{8}xyz$$

LHS = $x^4 + y^4 + \frac{z^2}{2} + \frac{z^2}{2}$. Now apply 4-term AMGM.

Good example of weighted AMGM