

# AM-GM inequality

The *arithmetic mean-geometric mean (AM-GM) inequality* states that for positive real numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \geq \left( \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^{\frac{1}{n}},$$

that is, the **arithmetic mean** of a set is always greater than or equal to its **geometric mean**, with equality if and only if all of the  $x_i$  are equal.

For example, the case  $n = 2$  states that if we have two positive numbers  $x$  and  $y$ , they satisfy:

$$\frac{x+y}{2} \geq \sqrt{xy}$$

with equality if and only if  $x = y$ .