

## AN INTRODUCTION TO INEQUALITIES

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### 1. PROPERTIES

- For any two real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , we can have any one of the following three relations:
  - $a > b$
  - $a < b$
  - $a = b$
- No square is negative!

$$a^2 \geq 0, \forall a \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- A.M.-G.M. Inequality: For any two numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , we have  $\frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab}$ .

### 2. PROBLEMS

- Which of the fractions  $\frac{4567890123}{780123456}$  and  $\frac{4567890124}{780123458}$  is greater?
- A man receives  $\frac{p}{q}$ th part of Rs.  $a$  and  $\frac{q}{p}$ th part of Rs.  $a$ . He then gives away Rs.  $2a$ . Show that the man cannot lose in the transaction.
- Determine which of the two numbers  $1000^{1000}$  and  $1001^{999}$  is greater?
- Prove that  $3^{200} > 2^{300}$ .
- Which is larger,  $9\sqrt{9!}$  or  $10\sqrt{10!}$ ?
- If  $p$  and  $q$  are positive real numbers such that  $p + q = 1$ , then prove that

$$\left(p + \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 + \left(q + \frac{1}{q}\right)^2 \geq \frac{25}{2}.$$

- If  $a, b$  and  $c$  are three real, then show that  $a^4 + b^4 + c^2 \geq 2\sqrt{2}abc$ .
- Three positive numbers  $a, b$  and  $c$  satisfy  $a \geq b \geq c$  and  $a + b + c \geq 1$ . Prove that  $a^2 + 3b^2 + 5c^2 \leq 1$ .
- If  $a, b$  and  $c$  are three real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ , then prove that

$$-\frac{1}{2} \leq ab + bc + ca \leq 1.$$

- Determine which of the following two numbers is bigger:

$$\sqrt{5 + \sqrt{21}} + \sqrt{8 + \sqrt{55}} \text{ and } \sqrt{7 + \sqrt{33}} + \sqrt{9 + \sqrt{65}}.$$

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