

**PROBLEM OF THE WEEK. Problem No. 7 (Fall 2010 Series)**

Let  $n \geq 2$  and let  $0 < x_i < 1$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Show that

$$\prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i > 1.$$

**Solution by Angel Plaza, ULPGC, Spain**

By induction. For  $n = 2$ :  $0 < x_1, x_2 < 1$ , it is obtained

$$(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2) + x_1 + x_2 = 1 - x_1 - x_2 + x_1x_2 + x_1 + x_2 = 1 + x_1x_2 > 1.$$

Let us suppose that the inequality holds for  $0 < x_i < 1$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ .

The inequality for  $n$  numbers follows immediately by writing

$$\prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1 + \underbrace{\left( \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (1 - x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i - 1 \right)}_{>0} \underbrace{(1 - x_n)}_{>0} + \underbrace{x_n \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i}_{>0} > 1.$$