

Cal Poly Department of Mathematics

Puzzle of the Week

May 8 - May 20, 2015

From Tom O'Neil:

Find the minimum value of the quantity

$$\left(r - 1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{s}{r} - 1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{t}{s} - 1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{t} - 1\right)^2$$

where r, s, t are real numbers such that $1 \leq r \leq s \leq t \leq 4$.

Solutions should be submitted to Morgan Sherman:

*Dept. of Mathematics, Cal Poly
Email: sherman1 -AT- calpoly.edu
Office: bldg 25 room 310*

before the due date above. Those with correct and complete solutions will have their names listed on the puzzle's web site (see below) as well as in next week's email announcement. Anybody is welcome to make a submission.

<http://www.calpoly.edu/~sherman1/puzzleoftheweek>