## POW 2022-13 Inequality involving sums with different powers

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Observe that the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^2}$  and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^3}$  are absolutely convergent on  $x \ge 1$ . Because of the absolute convergence, we can reorder the sum and rewrite the left hand side by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^4} + 2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^2} \frac{1}{(x+m)^2}.$$

Rearrange the sum once more, we can write it by

$$2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \left( \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^2 (x+m)^2} \right) - \frac{1}{2(x+n)^4} \right)$$

and

$$2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^2} \left( -\frac{1}{2(x+n)^2} + \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+m)^2} \right).$$

**Proposition 1.** Let  $x_0 \ge 1$  be a real number. Then the following inequality holds:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2} \ge \frac{1}{2x_0^2} + \frac{1}{x_0}$$

*Proof.* Let consider some subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which is related to the graph of  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$ . Let  $A_n = (x_0 + n, x_0 + n + 1] \times (0, \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2})$  for nonnegative integer n and  $A = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n$ . Note that the area of A is  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2}$ , the left hand side of the desired inequality.

Let  $B = \{(x,y) : x > x_0 \land 0 < y < \frac{1}{x^2}\}, C_n = \{(x,y) : x_0 + n < x < x_0 + n + 1 \land l_n(x) < y < \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2}\}$  where the graph of  $y = l_n(x)$  is the unique line containing two points  $(x_0 + n, \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2})$  and  $(x_0 + n + 1, \frac{1}{(x_0+n+1)^2})$ . Since the function  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$  is convex, the line  $l_n$  is above the graph  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$  hence  $C_n$  is disjoint from B for every n. Also, note that each pair of  $C_n$  is disjoint. Deduce that the area of the union of B and  $C_n$  is the sum of area of B and  $C_n$ .

that the area of the union of B and  $C_n$  is the sum of area of B and  $C_n$ . From the calculus, the area of B is equal to  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{t^2} dt = \frac{1}{x_0}$ . The area of  $C_n$  is equal to  $\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{(x_0+n)^2} - \frac{1}{(x_0+n+1)^2} \right)$ . Summing all of that, the area of their union is  $\frac{1}{2x_0^2} + \frac{1}{x_0}$ . Observe that B and  $C_n$  are contained in A, so their union is contained in A. We can deduce the desired inequality by comparing area of sets which are in the containing relation.

This result also can be shown (or at least seems feasible) by drawing the shape of A, B and C by hand.



The blue area on the left side represents A. The entire box on the right side represents  $A_n$ . There are two sections of red area: the above one represents  $C_n$ , and the below one represents  $B \cap A_n$ .

Using this result, the left hand side of the above formula has the lower bound

$$2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^2} \left( -\frac{1}{2(x+n)^2} + \left( \frac{1}{2(x+n)^2} + \frac{1}{(x+n)} \right) \right) = 2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+n)^3}$$

which is obtained by replacing  $\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x+m)^2} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{((x+n)+m)^2}$  into  $\frac{1}{2(x+n)^2} + \frac{1}{(x+n)}$ .