

First Application of Young's Inequality

Theorem. If each of x and y is a positive real number, and if p and q are a pair of positive real numbers such that

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1,$$

then
$$x^{\frac{1}{p}} y^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \frac{x}{p} + \frac{y}{q}.$$

Proof: Note that $p > 1$. $\therefore p-1 > 0$. $\therefore i^{p-1}$ is increasing on $[0, \infty)$, and so is $i^{\frac{1}{p-1}}$.

\therefore by Young's Inequality,

$$x^{\frac{1}{p}} y^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \int_0^x i^{p-1} + \int_0^y i^{\frac{1}{p-1}}.$$

Note that $\frac{1}{q} = 1 - \frac{1}{p} = \frac{p}{p} - \frac{1}{p} = \frac{p-1}{p}$,

and so $\frac{1}{p-1} + 1 = \frac{1}{p-1} + \frac{p-1}{p-1} = \frac{p}{p-1} = q$.

$$\therefore x^{\frac{1}{p}} y^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \frac{i^p}{p} \Big|_0^x + \frac{i^q}{q} \Big|_0^y = \frac{x}{p} + \frac{y}{q}. \quad \blacksquare$$

(end)