

Two elementary inequalities for the proof of the Brunn-Minkowski Theorem.

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R. Schneider in the proof of the Brunn-Minkowski theorem uses the following inequality.

$$\left[(1 - \lambda)u_0^p + \lambda u_1^p \right]^{\frac{1}{p}} \left[\frac{1 - \lambda}{u_0} + \frac{\lambda}{u_1} \right] \geq 1. \quad (1)$$

Where $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$, u_0, u_1 positive real numbers and p positive integral. The elementary proof below is quite interesting.

We take

$$1 - \lambda = \frac{\mu}{\mu + \nu}, \lambda = \frac{\nu}{\mu + \nu} u_0 = x, u_1 = y$$

and (1) is transformed to

$$\left(\mu x^p + \nu y^p \right) \left(\frac{\mu}{x} + \frac{\nu}{y} \right)^p \geq \left(\mu + \nu \right)^{p+1} \quad (2)$$

From A.M-G.M follows

$$\frac{\mu}{x} + \frac{\nu}{y} \geq (\mu + \nu) \left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\frac{\mu}{\mu + \nu}} \left(\frac{1}{y} \right)^{\frac{\nu}{\mu + \nu}}$$

or

$$\left(\frac{\mu}{x} + \frac{\nu}{y} \right)^p \geq (\mu + \nu)^p \left[\left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\frac{\mu}{\mu + \nu}} \left(\frac{1}{y} \right)^{\frac{\nu}{\mu + \nu}} \right]^p$$

Also from A.M-G.M we take

$$\frac{\mu x^p + \nu y^p}{\mu + \nu} \geq \left[x^{\frac{\mu}{\mu + \nu}} \cdot y^{\frac{\nu}{\mu + \nu}} \right]^p$$

From the last two inequalities we take (2).

P.Gruber for the same proof uses the inequality

$$\left(\frac{1}{v^{d-1}} + \frac{1}{w^{d-1}}\right)^{d-1} \left(\frac{V}{v} + \frac{W}{w}\right) \geq \left(V^{\frac{1}{d}} + W^{\frac{1}{d}}\right)^d \quad (3)$$

We put:

$$\mu = V^{\frac{1}{d}}, \nu = W^{\frac{1}{d}}, p + 1 = d, \mu x^p = \frac{V}{v} \Rightarrow \frac{\mu}{x} = v^{\frac{1}{d-1}}, \nu y^p = \frac{W}{w} \Rightarrow \frac{\nu}{y} = w^{\frac{1}{d-1}}$$

in (2) and we take (3).

References

1.R.Schneider, Convex bodies: The Brunn-Minkowski Theory.Cambridge university press.

2.P.M.Gruber, Convex and Discrete Geometry Draft.