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A NOTE ON THE HÖLDER INEQUALITY

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[Abstract](#)

[Contents](#)



[Home Page](#)

[Go Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Quit](#)



Abstract

In the present paper the authors present some new results concerning the Hölder inequality.

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A Note on the Hölder Inequality

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In the following, (Ω, \mathcal{F}) is a measure space and μ is a positive measure on Ω . Let $f, g : \Omega \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be two measurable functions. For $p, q \geq 1$ such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, the classical Hölder's integral inequality is the following one ([2], [3])

$$(1) \quad \int_{\Omega} f(x)g(x)d\mu(x) \leq \left(\int_{\Omega} f^p(x)d\mu(x) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_{\Omega} g^q(x)d\mu(x) \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Inequality (1) may be written equivalently as

$$(2) \quad \|fg\|_1 \leq \|f\|_p \|g\|_q,$$

where

$$\|f\|_p = \left(\int_{\Omega} f^p(x)d\mu(x) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Title Page	
Contents	
	
	
Go Back	
Close	
Quit	
Page 2 of 6	

The classical proof of (1) is based on Young's inequality

$$(3) \quad uv \leq \frac{u^p}{p} + \frac{v^q}{q},$$

where $u, v \geq 0$ and $p, q \geq 1$ such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$.

Moreover, recently the following result about (3) were obtained in ([1]):

Lemma 1. Let $u, v \geq 0$ and $p, q \geq 1$ such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$. Then for $p \geq 2$

$$(4) \quad P(u, v) \leq \frac{1}{2} u^{2-p} (v - u^{p-1})^2,$$

where

$$P(u, v) = \frac{u^p}{p} + \frac{v^q}{q} - uv.$$

If $p \in (1, 2]$, then the reverse inequality in (4) is valid. For $p = 2$ we have the identity in (4).

First, we shall give a new proof of Lemma 1.

Proof. Inequality (4) is equivalent to the following

$$\frac{1}{2} u^{2-p} v^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p} \right) u^p - \frac{v^q}{q} \geq 0,$$

i.e.

$$(5) \quad \frac{u^{2-p}}{q} \left(\frac{q}{2} v^2 + \frac{q(p-2)}{2p} u^{2(p-1)} - v^q u^{p-2} \right) \geq 0.$$



A Note on the Hölder Inequality

J. Pečarić and V. Šimić

[Title Page](#)

[Contents](#)



[Go Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Quit](#)

[Page 3 of 6](#)

Let us denote by $Q(u, v)$ the left-hand side of (5). Observe that

$$\frac{q}{2} + \frac{q(p-2)}{2p} = 1.$$

Suppose that $p \geq 2$, that is $q \leq 2$. Using the known arithmetic-geometric inequality ([2], [3]) we obtain

$$\frac{q}{2}v^2 + \frac{q(p-2)}{2p}u^{2(p-1)} \geq (v^2)^{\frac{q}{2}}(u^{2(p-1)})^{\frac{q(p-2)}{2p}} \equiv v^q u^{p-2}.$$

Thus $Q(u, v) \geq 0$ and (5) is valid. For $p \in (1, 2]$ applying the reverse arithmetic-geometric inequality we have the reverse inequality in (5). \square

We will prove the next theorem.

Theorem 2. Suppose that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ for $1 < q \leq 2 \leq p < \infty$. Then the following inequalities are valid

$$(6) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left\| g^{2-q} \left(f \|g\|_q^{\frac{q}{p}} - g^{q-1} \|f\|_p \right)^2 \right\|_1}{\|f\|_p \|g\|_q^{\frac{q}{p}}} \leq \|f\|_p \|g\|_q - \|fg\|_1$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left\| f^{2-p} \left(g \|f\|_p^{\frac{p}{q}} - f^{p-1} \|g\|_q \right)^2 \right\|_1}{\|f\|_p^{\frac{p}{q}} \|g\|_q}.$$

Proof. If we set in (4)

$$(7) \quad u = \frac{f(x)}{\|f\|_p}, \quad v = \frac{g(x)}{\|g\|_q},$$



A Note on the Hölder Inequality

J. Pečarić and V. Šimić

[Title Page](#)

[Contents](#)

[◀◀](#)

[▶▶](#)

[◀](#)

[▶](#)

[Go Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Quit](#)

[Page 4 of 6](#)

we obtain

$$\frac{1}{p} \frac{f^p(x)}{\|f\|_p^p} - \frac{f(x) g(x)}{\|f\|_p \|g\|_q} + \frac{1}{q} \frac{g^q(x)}{\|g\|_q^q} \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{f^{2-p}(x)}{\|f\|_p^{2-p}} \left(\frac{g(x)}{\|g\|_q} - \frac{f^{p-1}(x)}{\|f\|_p^{p-1}} \right)^2.$$

Integrating the last inequality, we obtain

$$1 - \frac{\|fg\|_1}{\|f\|_p \|g\|_q} \leq \frac{1}{2\|f\|_p^{2-p}} \left\| f^{2-p} \left(\frac{g}{\|g\|_q} - \frac{f^{p-1}}{\|f\|_p^p} \right)^2 \right\|_1,$$

i.e.,

$$\|f\|_p \|g\|_q - \|fg\|_1 \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left\| f^{2-p} \left(g\|f\|_p^{\frac{p}{q}} - f^{p-1}\|g\|_q \right)^2 \right\|_1}{\|f\|_p^{\frac{p}{q}} \|g\|_q},$$

which proves the right-hand side of (6).

For the left-hand side of (6) we use the reverse of the inequality in (4). After the substitutions $u \rightarrow v$, $v \rightarrow u$, $p \rightarrow q$ and $q \rightarrow p$ we have

$$P(u, v) \geq \frac{1}{2} v^{2-q} (u - v^{q-1})^2.$$

For u and v from (7) we can similarly obtain the first inequality in (6). \square



A Note on the Hölder Inequality

J. Pečarić and V. Šimić

[Title Page](#)

[Contents](#)



[Go Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Quit](#)

[Page 5 of 6](#)

References

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A Note on the Hölder Inequality

J. Pečarić and V. Šimić

[Title Page](#)

[Contents](#)



[Go Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Quit](#)

[Page 6 of 6](#)