

**CHU'S 1303 IDENTITY IMPLIES BOMBIERI'S 1990 NORM-INEQUALITY**  
**[Via An Identity of Beauzamy and Dégot]**

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*Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth (Matthew V.5)*

Inequalities are deep, while *equalities* are shallow. Nevertheless, it sometimes happens that a deep inequality, **A**, follows from a mere *equality* **B**, which, in turn, follows from a more general, and *trivial*<sup>2</sup> identity **C**.

In this note we demonstrate this, following [3], with **A**:= Bombieri's norm inequality[2]<sup>3</sup>, **B**:= an identity of Reznick[5], and **C** := an identity of Beauzamy and Dégot[3]. This exposition differs from the original only in the punch line: I give a 1-line proof of **C**, using Chu's identity.

Let  $P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be two polynomials in  $n$  variables:

$$P = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} x_1^{i_1} \cdots x_n^{i_n} \quad , \quad Q = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} b_{i_1, \dots, i_n} x_1^{i_1} \cdots x_n^{i_n} \quad .$$

The *Bombieri inner product*[2] is defined by

$$[P, Q] := \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} (i_1! \cdots i_n!) \cdot a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} b_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \quad ,$$

and the *Bombieri norm*, by:  $\|P\| := \sqrt{[P, P]}$  .

**Bombieri's Inequality A:** Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be any *homogeneous* polynomials in  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , then

$$\|PQ\| \geq \|P\| \|Q\| \quad .$$

In order to state **B** and **C**, we need to introduce the following notation.  $D_i := \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ , ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ),  $P^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)} := D_1^{i_1} \cdots D_n^{i_n} P$ , and for any polynomial  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $A(D_1, \dots, D_n)$  denotes the linear partial differential operator with constant coefficients obtained by replacing  $x_i$  by  $D_i$ .

**A** follows almost immediately from([5][3]):

**Reznick's Identity B:** For any polynomials  $P, Q$  in  $n$  variables:

$$\|PQ\|^2 = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} \frac{\|P^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}(D_1, \dots, D_n)Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|^2}{i_1! \cdots i_n!} \quad .$$

**Beauzamy and Dégot's Identity C:** For any polynomials  $P, Q, R, S$  in  $n$  variables:

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<sup>2</sup> Trivial to verify, not to conceive!

<sup>3</sup> It was needed by Beauzamy and Enflo in their research on deep questions on Banach spaces. It also turned out to have far reaching applications to computer algebra![1].

$$[PQ, RS] = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} \frac{[R^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}(D_1, \dots, D_n)Q(x_1, \dots, x_n), P^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}(D_1, \dots, D_n)S(x_1, \dots, x_n)]}{(i_1! \dots i_n!)} .$$

**Proof of B  $\Rightarrow$  A:** Pick the terms for which  $i_1 + \dots + i_n$  equals the (total) degree of  $P$ , let's call it  $p$ , and note that for those  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ ,  $P^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (i_1! \dots i_n!)a_{i_1, \dots, i_n}$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i_1 + \dots + i_n = p} \frac{\|P^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)}(D_1, \dots, D_n)Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|^2}{i_1! \dots i_n!} &= \sum_{i_1 + \dots + i_n = p} \|a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|^2 \cdot (i_1! \dots i_n!) \\ &= \left( \sum_{i_1 + \dots + i_n = p} (a_{i_1, \dots, i_n})^2 \cdot (i_1! \dots i_n!) \right) \|Q(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|^2 = \|P\|^2 \|Q\|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

**Proof of C  $\Rightarrow$  B:** Take  $R = P$  and  $S = Q$ .

**Proof of C:** Both sides are linear in  $P$ , in  $Q$ , in  $R$ , and in  $S$ , so it suffices to take them all to be typical monomials, ( $P = x_1^{p_1} \dots x_n^{p_n}$ , and similarly for  $Q, R$ , and  $S$ ), for which the assertion follows immediately by applying Chu's[4] identity<sup>4</sup>

$$\sum_{i \geq 0} \binom{r}{i} \binom{s}{p-i} = \binom{r+s}{p} ,$$

to  $r = r_t, s = s_t, p = p_t, (t = 1 \dots n)$ , (using  $i_t$  for  $i$ ), and taking their product. Q.E.D.

## References

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3. B. Beuzamy and J. Dégot, *Differential Identities*, I.C.M., Paris, preprint.
4. Chu Chi-kie, manuscript, 1303, China. (See J. Needham, *Science and Civilization in China*, v. 3, Cambridge University Press, New York, 1959.)
5. B. Reznick, *An inequality for products of polynomials*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **117**(1993), 1063-1073.

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<sup>4</sup> Rediscovered in the 18th century by Vandermonde. Proved by counting, in two different ways, the number of ways of picking  $p$  lucky winners out of a set of  $r$  boys and  $s$  girls.