

# THE INDEX OF EXPANSIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we study the notion of an index of sub-expansions in an expansion. We prove the index inequality as an application.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{F} := \{\mathcal{S}_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  be a collection of tuples of polynomials  $f_k \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ . Then by an expansion on  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{F} := \{\mathcal{S}_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  in the direction  $x_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we mean the composite map

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_i]} : \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}$$

where

$$\gamma(\mathcal{S}) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta(\gamma(\mathcal{S})) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{pmatrix}$$

with

$$\nabla_{[x_i]}(\mathcal{S}) = \left( \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_i}, \dots, \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_i} \right).$$

The value of the  $l$  th expansion at a given value  $a$  of  $x_i$  is given by

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_i](a)}^l(\mathcal{S})$$

where  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_i](a)}^l(\mathcal{S})$  is a tuple of polynomials in  $\mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n]$ .

Similarly by an expansion in the mixed direction  $\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}]$  we mean

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}]}(\mathcal{S}) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=2}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}]} \circ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_{\sigma(1)}]}(\mathcal{S})$$

for any permutation  $\sigma : \{1, 2, \dots, l\} \longrightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, l\}$ . The value of this expansion on a given value  $a_i$  of  $x_{\sigma(i)}$  for all  $i \in [\sigma(1), \sigma(l)]$  is given by

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}](a_i)}(\mathcal{S})$$

where  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}](a_i)}(\mathcal{S})$  is tuple of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . We recall from [1] that the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z)$  is a sub-expansion of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$ , denoted  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$  if there exist some  $0 \leq m$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{k+m}(\mathcal{S}_t).$$

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We say the sub-expansion is proper if  $m + k = l$ . We denote this proper sub-expansion by  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) < (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$ . On the other hand, we say the sub-expansion is **ancient** if  $m + k > l$ . Furthermore, we say the mixed expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}}(\mathcal{S})$  is **diagonalizable** in the direction  $[x_j]$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ) at the spot  $\mathcal{S}_r \in \mathcal{F}$  with order  $k$  with  $\mathcal{S} - \mathcal{S}_r$  not a tuple of  $\mathbb{R}$  if

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}}(\mathcal{S}) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_r).$$

We call the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_r)$  the **diagonal** of the mixed expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^l [x_{\sigma(i)}}(\mathcal{S})$  of **order**  $k \geq 1$ . We denote with  $\mathcal{O}[(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_r)]$  the order of the diagonal. In this paper, we study the notion of an index of a sub-expansion in an expansion. By denoting index of the sub-expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t)$  by  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right]$ , we prove the inequality

**Theorem 1.1** (The index inequality). *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq \dots \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$  - a chain of sub-expansions of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$ . Then*

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] < \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right].$$

## 2. Sub-expansion

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{\mathcal{S}_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  be a collection of tuples of polynomials in the ring  $\mathbb{R}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ . We say the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z)$  is a sub-expansion of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$ , denoted  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$  if there exist some  $0 \leq m$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{k+m}(\mathcal{S}_t).$$

We say the sub-expansion is proper if  $m + k = l$ . We denote this proper sub-expansion by  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^k(\mathcal{S}_z) < (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_t)$ . On the other hand, we say the sub-expansion is **ancient** if  $m + k > l$ . In general, we say the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_k]}(\mathcal{S}_a)$  is a sub-expansion of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_b)$  along the directions  $[x_{\sigma(1)}], \dots, [x_{\sigma(l)}]$  each with multiplicity  $k_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l \leq n$ , where  $\sigma : \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  if and only if

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_k]}(\mathcal{S}_a) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{\otimes_{i=1}^r [x_{\sigma(i)}]^{k_i}} \circ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_b).$$

We denote this sub-expansion by

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_k]}(\mathcal{S}_a) \leq_{[x_{\sigma(1)}], \dots, [x_{\sigma(l)}]} (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_b).$$

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z)$  and  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t)$  be expansions. By the index of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z)$  in the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t)$ , denoted  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right]$ , we mean the value of  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^r(\mathcal{S}_t)$$

and we write

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right] = r.$$

We say the index is finite if and only if it exists and we write

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right] < \infty.$$

On the other hand, if no such value exists then we say the index is infinite and we write

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right] = \infty.$$

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z)$  and  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t)$  be expansions. Then

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \right] < \infty$$

if and only if  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_z) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_t)$ .

*Proof.* This is a simple consequence of the notion sub-expansions of an expansion and the index of an expansion.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ ,  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$  and  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_3)$  be expansions. If  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_3) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \right] < \infty$  and  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] < \infty$  then

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_3) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] < \infty.$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_3) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \right] < \infty$  and  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] < \infty$ . Then there exist some  $r, s \in \mathbb{N}$  such that we can write

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^r(\mathcal{S}_3)$$

and

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2).$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \\ &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r+s-1}(\mathcal{S}_3) \end{aligned}$$

so that  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_3) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] < \infty$ .  $\square$

*Remark 2.5.* Next we show that the index of a sub-expansion in an expansion decreases with further expansions.

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$ . If there exists an  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_2)$  then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] &< \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \right. \\ &\left. : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$  then there exists some  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2).$$

Under the regularity condition  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_2)$  there exists some  $u \in \mathbb{N}$  such that we can write

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{l+u}(\mathcal{S}_2)$$

so that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{l+u}(\mathcal{S}_2)$$

and  $u < u + l = s$ . The claimed inequality follows by making the substitutions

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] &= u \text{ and } \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : \right. \\ \left. (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] &= s. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

*Remark 2.7.* Next we relate the index of the smallest sub-expansion in a collection of chains of sub-expansion in their mother expansion to the index of other sub-expansions in other sub-expansion.

**Theorem 2.8.** *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq \dots \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$  - a chain of sub-expansions of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) \right. \\ &\left. : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right] - (n-2). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By appealing to Proposition 2.3 then  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right] < \infty$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and there must exist some  $r_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{n-1}) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_1}(\mathcal{S}_n).$$

Again there exists some  $r_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{n-2}) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_2}(\mathcal{S}_{n-1})$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{n-2}) &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_2}(\mathcal{S}_{n-1}) \\ &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_1+r_2-1}(\mathcal{S}_n). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly there exists some  $r_3 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{n-3}) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_3}(\mathcal{S}_{n-2})$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{n-3}) &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_3}(\mathcal{S}_{n-2}) \\ &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_1+r_2+r_3-2}(\mathcal{S}_n). \end{aligned}$$

By repeating this argument and taking cognisance of the fact  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right] < \infty$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , we obtain

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r_1+r_2+r_3+\dots+r_{n-1}-(n-2)}(\mathcal{S}_n)$$

and it follows that

$$\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} r_{n-i} - (n-2).$$

The claim follows since  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right] = r_{n-i}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ .  $\square$

We now obtain an important inequality as a consequence of Theorem 2.8 relating the index of the smallest sub-expansion in their mother expansion to local indices in each sub-expansion of the sub-expansions in the chain.

**Corollary 2.9** (The index inequality). *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq \dots \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$  - a chain of sub-expansions of the expansion  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n)$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_n) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] &< \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_{i+1}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_i) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.10.** *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$  - a sub-expansion of the expansion. If there exists some  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ , then*

$$s + 1 = \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] + \left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \right].$$

*Proof.* Under the condition  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$ , it follows that there exists some  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^l(\mathcal{S}_2)$$

so that  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] = l$ . Again  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1)$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  implies that there exist some  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that we can write

$$(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) = (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^r(\mathcal{S}_1)$$

so that  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \right] = r$ . It follows that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^r(\mathcal{S}_1) \\ &= (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^{r+l-1}(\mathcal{S}_2) \end{aligned}$$

and we can further write  $s + 1 = r + l$ . The claim follows by the following substitutions  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right] = l$  and  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \right] = r$ .  $\square$

## 2.1. Applications to additive number theory.

*Remark 2.11.* Next we state a consequence of this result which one can view as an application to theory of partitions in additive number theory.

**Corollary 2.12.** *Let  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2)$  such that  $(\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \leq (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ . If  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_2) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) \right]$  and  $\left[ (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}(\mathcal{S}_1) : (\gamma^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \gamma \circ \nabla)_{[x_j]}^s(\mathcal{S}_2) \right]$  are both prime numbers, then  $s + 1$  can be written as a sum of two prime numbers.*

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