

**Problem statement\*** Suppose  $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  except when  $n$  is a square, and  $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$  when  $n$  is a square. The series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $\alpha_n$  is therefore:

$$1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{6^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \frac{1}{8^2} + \frac{1}{9^{3/2}} + \dots$$

Does this series converge?

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\* This series occurs in a text first published in 1908 by Thomas John l'Anson Bromwich, M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S., "based on courses of lectures given at Queen's College, Galway". A knowledge of history is valuable for scholars in all fields!