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## SOME INEQUALITIES IN 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACES

**Abstract.** In this paper we extend some results on the refinement of Cauchy-Buniakowski-Schwarz's inequality and Aczel's inequality in inner product spaces to 2-inner product spaces.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $X$  be a real linear space of dimension greater than 1 and let  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  be a real-valued function on  $X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- ( $N_1$ )  $\|x, y\| = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent;
- ( $N_2$ )  $\|x, y\| = \|y, x\|$ ;
- ( $N_3$ )  $\|\alpha x, y\| = |\alpha| \|x, y\|$  for any real number  $\alpha$ ;
- ( $N_4$ )  $\|x, y + z\| \leq \|x, y\| + \|x, z\|$ .

$\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  is called a *2-norm* on  $X$  and  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  a *linear 2-normed space* (cf. [10]). Some of the basic properties of the 2-norms are that they are nonnegative, and  $\|x, y + \alpha x\| = \|x, y\|$  for every  $x, y$  in  $X$  and every real number  $\alpha$ .

For any non-zero  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $X$ , let  $V(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  denote the subspace of  $X$  generated by  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . Whenever the notation  $V(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is used, we will understand that  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are linearly independent.

A concept which is closely related to linear 2-normed space is that of 2-inner product spaces. For a linear space  $X$  of dimension greater than 1 let  $(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)$  be a real-valued function on  $X \times X \times X$  which satisfies the following conditions:

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( $I_1$ )  $(x, x | z) \geq 0$ ;  $(x, x | z) = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent;

$$(I_2) \quad (x, x | z) = (z, z | x);$$

$$(I_3) \quad (x, y | z) = (y, x | z);$$

$$(I_4) \quad (\alpha x, y | z) = \alpha(x, y | z) \text{ for any real number } \alpha;$$

$$(I_5) \quad (x + x', y | z) = (x, y | z) + (x', y | z).$$

$(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)$  is called a 2-*inner* product and  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$  a 2-*inner product space* ([3]).

These spaces are studied extensively in [1], [2], [4]-[6] and [11]. In [3] it is shown that  $\|x, z\| = (x, x | z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is a 2-norm on  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ . Every 2-inner product space will be considered to be a linear 2-normed space with the 2-norm  $\|x, z\| = (x, x | z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . R. Ehret [9] has shown that for any 2-inner product space  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$ ,  $\|x, z\| = (x, x | z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  defines a 2-norm for which

$$(1) \quad (x, y | z) = \frac{1}{4}(\|x + y, z\|^2 - \|x - y, z\|^2),$$

$$(2) \quad \|x + y, z\|^2 + \|x - y, z\|^2 = 2(\|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2).$$

Besides, if  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  is a linear 2-normed space in which condition (2), being a 2-dimensional analogue of the parallelogram law, is satisfied for every  $x, y, z \in X$ , then a 2-inner product on  $X$  is defined on by (1).

For a 2-inner product space  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$  Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality

$$|(x, y | z)| \leq (x, x | z)^{\frac{1}{2}}(y, y | z)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \|x, z\| \|y, z\|,$$

a 2-dimensional analogue of Cauchy-Buniakowski-Schwarz's inequality, holds (cf. [3]).

## 2. Refinements of Cauchy-Schwarz's Inequality

Throughout this paper, let  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$  denote a 2-inner product space with  $\|x, z\| = (x, x | z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $\mathbf{R}$  the set of real numbers and  $\mathbf{N}$  the set of natural numbers.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $x, y, z, u, v \in X$  with  $z \notin V(x, y, u, v)$  be such that*

$$(3) \quad \|u, z\|^2 \leq 2(x, u | z), \quad \|v, z\|^2 \leq 2(y, v | z).$$

*Then, we have the inequality*

$$(4) \quad (2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ + |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|.$$

**P r o o f.** Note that

$$(5) \quad (m^2 - n^2)(p^2 - q^2) \leq (mp - nq)^2$$

for every  $m, n, p, q \in \mathbf{R}$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} & |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)|^2 \\ &= |(x - u, y - v | z)|^2 \leq \|x - u, z\|^2 \|y - v, z\|^2 \\ &= (\|x, z\|^2 + \|u, z\|^2 - 2(x, u | z))(\|y, z\|^2 + \|v, z\|^2 - 2(y, v | z)), \end{aligned}$$

by (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (6) \quad & |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)|^2 \\ & \leq \{\|x, z\| \|y, z\| - (2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}\}^2. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|x, z\|, \\ 0 &\leq (2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|y, z\|, \end{aligned}$$

which imply

$$(2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|.$$

Therefore, from (6), we have the inequality (4). This completes the proof. ■

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $x, y, z, e \in X$  be such that  $\|e, z\| = 1$  and  $z \notin V(x, y, e)$ . Then*

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} |(x, y | z)| &\leq |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)| \\ &+ |(x, e | z)(e, y | z)| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

**P r o o f.** If we put  $u = (x, e | z)e$  and  $v = (y, e | z)e$ , then the conditions (3) hold. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} 2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2 &= 2(x, (x, e | z)e | z) - \|(x, e | z)e, z\|^2 \\ &= 2(x, e | z)(x, e | z) - (x, e | z)^2 = (x, e | z)(x, e | z) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

And similarly for the second condition in (3).

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} & |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)|^2 \\ &= |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(y, e | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z) + (x, e | z)(y, e | z)| \\ &= |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)|, \end{aligned}$$

so, by Theorem 2.1, we have (7). ■

**COROLLARY 2.3.** *Let  $x, y, z \in X$  be such that  $\|x, z\|^2 \leq 2, \|y, z\|^2 \leq 2$  and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ . Then*

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} & |(x, y | z)|^2 (2 - \|x, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (2 - \|y, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &+ |(x, y | z)| |1 - \|x, z\|^2 - \|y, z\|^2 + (x, y | z)|^2 \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** If we put  $u = (x, y | z)y$  and  $v = (y, x | z)x$ , then the inequality (5) holds. Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= |(x, y | z)|^2(2 - \|x, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2 - \|y, z\|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ & |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)| \\ &= |(x, y | z)||1 - \|x, z\|^2 - \|y, z\|^2 + |(x, y | z)|^2|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by Theorem 2.1, we have the inequality (8). ■

**THEOREM 2.4.** *Let  $x, y, z, e \in X$  be such that  $\|e, z\| = 1$  and  $z \notin V(x, y, e)$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} (9) \quad & |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)|^2 \\ & \leq (\|x, z\|^2 - |(x, e | z)|^2)(\|y, z\|^2 - |(y, e | z)|^2). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Consider a mapping  $P : X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  defined by  $P(x, y, z) = (x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)$  for every  $x, y, z, e \in X$ , having the properties:

- (i)  $P(x, x, z) \geq 0$ ,
- (ii)  $P(\alpha x + \beta x', y, z) = P(x, y, z) + \beta P(x', y, z)$ ,
- (iii)  $P(x, y, z) = P(y, x, z)$ .

Then Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality

$$(10) \quad |P(x, y, z)|^2 \leq P(x, x, z)P(y, y, z)$$

holds. Indeed, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 & \leq P(x + \alpha P(x, y, z)y, x + \alpha P(x, y, z)y, z) \\ & = P(x, x, z) + 2\alpha P(x, y, z)^2 + \alpha^2 P(x, y, z)^2 P(y, y, z), \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that if  $a \geq 0$  and  $a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$  then  $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac \leq 0$ . By the above inequality we deduce

$$(11) \quad P(x, y, z)^4 \leq P(x, x, z)P(y, y, z)P(x, y, z)^2.$$

If  $P(x, y, z) = 0$  then (10) holds. If  $P(x, y, z) \neq 0$  then we can devide in (11) by  $P(x, y, z)^2$  and obtain (10).

The theorem is thus proved. ■

**REMARK 2.1.** By the inequalities (5) and (9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)|^2 \\ & \leq (\|x, z\|^2 - |(x, e | z)|^2)(\|y, z\|^2 - |(y, e | z)|^2) \\ & \leq (\|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, e | z)(e, y | z)|)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|x, z\| \|y, z\| \geq |(x, e \mid z)(e, y \mid z)|$ , we get

$$|(x, y \mid z) - (x, e \mid z)(e, y \mid z)| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, e \mid z)(e, y \mid z)|$$

which yields the inequality (7).

**COROLLARY 2.5.** *Let  $x, y, z, e \in X$  be such that  $\|e, z\| = 1$  and  $z \notin V(x, y, e)$ . Then*

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} & (\|x + y, z\|^2 - |(x + y, e \mid z)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \leq (\|x, z\|^2 - |(x, e \mid z)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} + (\|y, z\|^2 - |(y, e \mid z)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

**P r o o f.** If we define  $S : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  by  $S(x, z) = P(x, x, z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for every  $x, y \in X$  and use the triangle inequality for  $S(x, z)$ , then we have (12). ■

**COROLLARY 2.6.** *For every non-zero  $x, y, z, u \in X$ , with  $z \notin V(x, y, u)$ , we have*

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{(x, y \mid z)}{\|x, z\| \|y, z\|} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{(y, u \mid z)}{\|y, z\| \|u, z\|} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{(u, x \mid z)}{\|u, z\| \|x, z\|} \right|^2 \\ & \leq 1 + 2 \left| \frac{(x, y \mid z)(y, u \mid z)(u, x \mid z)}{\|x, z\|^2 \|y, z\|^2 \|u, z\|^2} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

For the proof of next theorem, we need the following lemma.

**LEMMA 2.7.** *For every non-zero  $x, y, z \in X$  with  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , we have*

$$(14) \quad (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|) \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\| \leq 2\|x - y, z\|.$$

**P r o o f.** Since

$$\frac{\|x, z\|}{\|y, z\|} + \frac{\|y, z\|}{\|x, z\|} \geq 2,$$

we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|)^2 - (x, y \mid z) \left( \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|y, z\|} + \frac{\|y, z\|}{\|x, z\|} \right) - 2(x, y \mid z) \\ & \leq 2\|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2 - 4(x, y \mid z) \end{aligned}$$

which implies (14). ■

**THEOREM 2.8.** *For every non-zero  $x, y, z \in X$  with  $z \notin V(x, y)$  we have*

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} & (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|)^2 \left( \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} + \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 \right) \\ & \leq 8(\|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** By (14) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|)^2 & \left( \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} + \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 \right) \\ & \leq 4(\|x - y, z\|^2 + \|x + y, z\|^2) \end{aligned}$$

and, by a 2-dimensional analogue of the parallelogram law, we get (15). ■

**REMARK 2.2.** For some similar results in inner product spaces, see [7].

### 3. Aczel's Inequality

In this section, we shall point out some results in 2-inner product spaces in connection to Aczel's inequality [12]. For some other similar results in inner products, see [8]. We note that the results obtained here, in 2-inner product spaces used different techniques as those in [8].

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$  be a 2-inner product space,  $M_1, M_2 \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x, y, z \in X$  such that  $\|x, z\| \leq |M_1|$ ,  $\|y, z\| \leq |M_2|$ , then*

$$(16) \quad (M_1^2 - \|x, z\|^2)(M_2^2 - \|y, z\|^2) \leq (|M_1 M_2| - (x, y | z))^2.$$

**Proof.** Using the elementary inequality (5), we get

$$0 \leq (M_1^2 - \|x, z\|^2)(M_2^2 - \|y, z\|^2) \leq (|M_1 M_2| - \|x, z\| \|y, z\|)^2$$

and, by Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality,

$$0 \leq |M_1 M_2| - \|x, z\| \|y, z\| \leq |M_1 M_2| - (x, y | z)$$

implying (16). ■

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *If  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $M > 0$  are such that  $\|x, z\|, \|y, z\| \leq M$ , then we have the inequality*

$$(17) \quad 0 \leq \|x, z\|^2 \|y, z\|^2 - (x, y | z)^2 \leq M^2 \|x - y, z\|^2$$

*which is a counterpart of Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality.*

Another result similar to the generalization (16) of Aczel's inequality, is the following one

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $(X, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot))$  be a 2-inner product space,  $M_1, M_2 \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x, y, z \in X$  such that  $\|x, z\| \leq |M_1|$ ,  $\|y, z\| \leq |M_2|$ . Then*

$$(18) \quad (|M_1| - \|x, z\|)^{\frac{1}{2}} (|M_2| - \|y, z\|)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq |M_1 M_2|^{\frac{1}{2}} - |(x, y | z)|^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

**Proof.** Applying (5) for  $m = \sqrt{|M_1|}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{|M_2|}$ ,  $n = \sqrt{\|x, z\|}$ ,  $q = \sqrt{\|y, z\|}$  and using Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality for 2-inner products we deduce, (18). ■

**COROLLARY 3.4.** Suppose that  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $M > 0$  are such that  $\|x, z\|, \|y, z\| \leq M$ . Then we have the following converse of Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality

$$(19) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, y | z)| \\ &\leq M(\|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - 2|(x, y | z)|^{1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

**THEOREM 3.5.** Let  $(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)$  be a 2-inner product and  $\{(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  a sequence of 2-inner products satisfying

$$(20) \quad \|x, z\|^2 > \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|x, z\|_i^2$$

for all  $x, z$ , being linearly independent. Then we have the following refinement of Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality

$$(21) \quad \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, y | z)| \geq \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|x, z\|_i \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|y, z\|_i - |(x, y | z)| \right] \geq 0$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Define the mapping

$$(x, y | z)_n = (x, y | z) - \sum_{i=0}^n (x, y | z)_i, \quad x, y, z \in X.$$

We observe, by (20), that the mapping  $(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)_n$  satisfies the properties

- (i)  $(x, x | z)_n \geq 0$ ,
- (ii)  $(\alpha x + \beta x', y | z)_n = \alpha(x, y | z)_n + \beta(x', y | z)_n$ ,
- (iii)  $(x, y | z)_n = (y, x | z)_n$

for every  $x, x', y, z \in X$  and  $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathbb{R}$ .

By a similar proof to that in Theorem 2.4, we can state Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality

$$(x, x | z)_n (y, y | z)_n \geq |(x, y | z)_n|^2, \quad x, y, z \in X,$$

that is

$$(22) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left( \|x, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i^2 \right) \left( \|y, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|y, z\|_i^2 \right) \\ &\geq \left( (x, y | z) - \sum_{i=0}^n (x, y | z)_i \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using Aczel's inequality [12]

$$\left( a^2 - \sum_{i=0}^m a_i^2 \right) \left( b^2 - \sum_{i=0}^m b_i^2 \right) \leq \left( ab - \sum_{i=0}^m a_i b_i \right)^2,$$

where  $a, b, a_i, b_i \in \mathbf{R}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, m$ ; we can prove that

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left( \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i \right)^2 \\ & \geq \left( \|x, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i^2 \right) \left( \|y, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|y, z\|_i^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Since, by Cauchy-Buniakowski-Schwarz's inequality,

$$\|x, z\| \|y, z\| \geq \left( \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i^2 \sum_{i=0}^n \|y, z\|_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \geq \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i,$$

then, by (22) and (23), we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i \\ & = \left| \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i \right| \geq |(x, y | z)| - \sum_{i=0}^n |(x, y | z)_i| \end{aligned}$$

which implies (21), by using the inequality

$$\|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i - |(x, y | z)_i| \geq 0.$$

The theorem is thus proved. ■

The following corollaries are interesting as refinements of the triangle inequality for 2-norms generated by 2-inner products.

**COROLLARY 3.6.** *With the assumptions from Theorem, we have the following refinement of the triangle inequality*

$$\begin{aligned} & (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|)^2 - \|x + y, z\|^2 \\ & \geq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} [(\|x, z\|_i + \|y, z\|_i)^2 - \|x + y, z\|_i^2] \geq 0, \quad x, y, z \in X. \end{aligned}$$

**COROLLARY 3.7.** *Let  $(., . | .)_1, (., . | .)_2$  be two 2-inner products such that*

$$\|x, z\|_2 > \|x, z\|_1$$

*for all  $x, z$  being linearly independent in  $X$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x, z\|_2 \|y, z\|_2 - |(x, y | z)_2| \\ & \geq \|x, z\|_1 \|y, z\|_1 - |(x, y | z)_1| \geq 0, \quad x, y, z \in X. \end{aligned}$$

**COROLLARY 3.8.** *Let  $(., . | .)_1, (., . | .)_2$  be as above. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & (\|x, z\|_2 + \|y, z\|_2)^2 - \|x + y, z\|_2^2 \\ & \geq (\|x, z\|_1 + \|y, z\|_1)^2 - \|x + y, z\|_1^2 \geq 0, x, y, z \in X. \end{aligned}$$

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