

0. With the help of the Bounded-Monotone Theorem and a basic result (Theorem (A)) on absolutely convergent infinite series (which you will learn in your *analysis* course), both stated below, we can ‘extend’ the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality and Triangle Inequality to analogous results for ‘square-summable infinite sequences in \mathbb{R} ’ (Theorem (B), Theorem (C) respectively).

1. **Definition.**

Let $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers.

The infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n a_j \right\}_{n=0}^\infty$ is called the **infinite series** associated to the infinite sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$.

For convenience, we usually denote the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n a_j \right\}_{n=0}^\infty$ by $\sum_{j=0}^\infty a_j$, or by $\sum a_j$.

For each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we refer to a_k as the k -th term of the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty a_j$.

When the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n a_j \right\}_{n=0}^\infty$ converges in \mathbb{R} , we may denote its limit by $\sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n$.

Warning. It may be confusing for beginners that the same symbols ‘ $\sum_{j=0}^\infty a_j$ ’ stand for two different objects: a specific infinite sequence which we call an infinite series, (in which the presence of the symbols ‘ $\sum_{j=0}^\infty$ ’, ‘ ∞ ’ have nothing to do with convergence,) and the limit of that infinite sequence. But this is standard practice in any work on infinite series.

2. **Definition.**

Let $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers.

(a) The infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty a_j$ is said to be **absolutely convergent** if the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty |a_j|$ is convergent.

(b) The infinite sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ is said to be **square-summable** if the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty a_j^2$ is convergent.

3. **Bounded-Monotone Theorem for increasing infinite sequences which are bounded above.**

Let $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers. Suppose $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ is increasing and is bounded above in \mathbb{R} .

Then $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ converges in \mathbb{R} , and its limit is the supremum of the set $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x = u_n \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Furthermore, for any upper bound β of the infinite sequence $\{u_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$, the inequality $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n \leq \beta$ holds.

Also, for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the inequality $u_k \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n$ holds.

4. **Theorem (A).**

Let $\{v_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers.

Suppose the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty v_j$ is absolutely convergent. Then the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^\infty v_j$ is convergent. Moreover the

inequality $\left| \sum_{n=0}^\infty v_n \right| \leq \sum_{n=0}^\infty |v_n|$ holds. Equality holds iff the terms of $\{v_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ are all non-negative or all non-positive.

Remark. This result is often expressed as: ‘every absolutely convergent infinite series is convergent’.

5. **Proof of Theorem (A).**

Let $\{v_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers.

Suppose the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$ is absolutely convergent.

For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $v_n^+ = \frac{|v_n| + v_n}{2}$ and $v_n^- = \frac{|v_n| - v_n}{2}$.

Note that, by definition, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $|v_n| = v_n^+ + v_n^-$, $v_n = v_n^+ - v_n^-$, and $|v_n| \geq v_n^+ \geq 0$, $|v_n| \geq v_n^- \geq 0$, .

[We study the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$, $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$. What are they really?

The infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$ is the infinite series with all terms being non-negative, obtained from the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$ by replacing all its negative terms by 0.

The infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ is the infinite series with all terms being non-negative, obtained from the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$ by first replacing all its positive terms by 0 and then multiplying every term by -1 .

So heuristically we expect ‘ $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+ - \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ ’, and ‘ $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |v_j| = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+ + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ ’. However, there is the question of convergence.]

We verify that the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$ is convergent:

- For each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} v_j^+ - \sum_{j=0}^k v_j^+ = v_{k+1}^+ \geq 0$. Then the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n v_j^+ \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is increasing.
- For each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sum_{j=0}^k v_j^+ \leq \sum_{j=0}^k |v_j| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n|$. (Why does the second inequality hold?)

Then the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n v_j^+ \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is bounded above in \mathbb{R} , by $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n|$.

- Hence, by the Bounded-Monotone Theorem, the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n v_j^+ \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is convergent in \mathbb{R} .

Similarly we verify that the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ is increasing and bounded above, and therefore convergent.

We observe that the limits $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$, $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ are both non-negative because each term in the respective infinite series is non-negative.

Now we verify that the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$ is convergent, and the inequality $\left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n \right| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n|$ holds:

- For any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{j=0}^k v_j = \sum_{j=0}^k (v_j^+ - v_j^-) = \sum_{j=0}^k v_j^+ - \sum_{j=0}^k v_j^-$.

Then, since both infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$, $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$ are convergent, the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$ and is convergent.

Moreover, the equality $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^+ - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^-$ holds.

- For any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{j=0}^k |v_j| = \sum_{j=0}^k (v_j^+ + v_j^-) = \sum_{j=0}^k v_j^+ + \sum_{j=0}^k v_j^-$.

Then since all three infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^+$, $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j^-$, $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |v_j|$ are convergent, the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} v_j$, the equality

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^+ + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^- \text{ holds.}$$

- By the Triangle Inequality for real numbers, we have

$$\left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n \right| = \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^+ - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^- \right| \leq \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^+ \right| + \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^- \right| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^+ + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n^- = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n|.$$

The argument for the necessary and sufficient conditions for the equality $\left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n \right| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |v_n|$ to hold is left as an exercise.

6. Theorem (B). (Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality for ‘square-summable infinite sequences in \mathbb{R} ’.)

Let $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be infinite sequences of real numbers, neither of them being the zero sequence.

Suppose $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are square-summable. Then the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j y_j$ is absolutely convergent, and the statements below hold:

(a) The inequality $\left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| \leq \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ holds.

(b) The statements (\star_1) , (\star_2) are logically equivalent:

$$(\star_1) \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

(\star_2) There exist some $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$, not both zero, such that $p x_j + q y_j = 0$ for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$. (The infinite sequences $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are ‘linearly dependent over \mathbb{R} ’.)

Remark. In the context of the statement of Theorem (B), if one of the infinite sequences $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is the zero sequence, then the inequality in (a) trivially reduces to the equality in (\star_1) of (b).

7. Proof of Theorem (B).

Let $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be infinite sequences of real numbers, neither of them being the zero sequence.

Suppose $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are square-summable.

We verify that the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j y_j$ is absolutely convergent:

- The infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n |x_j y_j| \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is increasing. (Why?)

- For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, by the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality, the inequality $\sum_{j=0}^n |x_j y_j| \leq \left(\sum_{j=0}^n x_j^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{j=0}^n y_j^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ holds.

Also, by assumption, the inequalities $\sum_{j=0}^n x_j^2 \leq \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j^2$, $\sum_{j=0}^n y_j^2 \leq \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} y_j^2$ hold. (Why?)

Therefore the infinite sequence $\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^n |x_j y_j| \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is bounded above by $\left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

- Hence by the Bounded-Monotone Theorem, the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |x_j y_j|$ is convergent.

Moreover, the inequality $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |x_n y_n| \leq \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ holds.

By definition, the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j y_j$ is absolutely convergent.

(a) By Theorem (A), the infinite series $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x_j y_j$ is convergent, and the inequality $\left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |x_n y_n|$ holds.

$$\text{Hence } \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |x_n y_n| \leq \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

(b) i. $[(\star_2) \implies (\star_1)?]$

Suppose there exist some $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$, not both zero, such that $px_j + qy_j = 0$ for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$.

Without loss of generality, assume $p \neq 0$.

$$\text{Then } \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| = \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} -\frac{q}{p} \cdot y_n^2 \right| = \frac{|q|}{|p|} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{|q|^2}{|p|^2} \cdot y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

ii. $[(\star_1) \implies (\star_2)?]$

$$\text{Suppose } \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

$$\text{Then } \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |x_n y_n|, \text{ and } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |x_n y_n| = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

By the former, the terms of $\{x_n y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are all non-negative or all non-positive.

Without loss of generality, assume the terms of $\{x_n y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are all non-negative.

$$\text{Then } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \text{ Therefore } \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right)^2 = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right) \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right).$$

$$\text{Define the polynomial } f(t) \text{ by } f(t) = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right) t^2 + 2 \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right) t + \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right).$$

$f(t)$ is a quadratic polynomial with real coefficient. Its discriminant is 0. Then $f(t)$ has exactly one repeated real root, which we denote by r . We have

$$0 = f(r) = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right) r^2 + 2 \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n y_n \right) r + \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x_n^2 r^2 + 2x_n y_n r + y_n^2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x_n r + y_n)^2.$$

Then, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $rx_n + y_n = 0$.

8. Theorem (C). (Triangle Inequality for ‘square-summable infinite sequences in \mathbb{R} ’)

Let $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}, \{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be infinite sequences of real numbers, neither of them being the zero sequence.

Suppose $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}, \{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are square-summable. Then the infinite sequence $\{x_n + y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is square-summable, and the statements below hold:

(a) The inequality $\left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x_n + y_n)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ holds.

(b) The statements $(\star_1), (\star_2)$ are logically equivalent:

$$(\star_1) \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x_n + y_n)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

(\star_2) There exist non-negative real numbers s, t , not both zero, such that $sx_j = ty_j$ for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$. (One of the infinite sequences $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}, \{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is a non-negative scalar multiple of the other.)

Remark. In the context of the statement of Theorem (C), if one of the infinite sequences $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}, \{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is the zero sequence, then the inequality in (a) trivially reduces to the equality in (\star_1) of (b).

The proof of Theorem (C), as an application of Theorem (C), can be done in a similar way as the proof of the Triangle Inequality for real vectors as an application of the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality for real vectors.