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This is the Published version of the following publication

Cho, Yeol Je, Dragomir, Sever S, White, A and Kim, Seong Sik (1999) Some Inequalities in 2-inner Product Spaces. RGMIA research report collection, 2 (2).

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# SOME INEQUALITIES IN 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACES

Y.J. CHO, S.S. DRAGOMIR, A. WHITE, AND S.S. KIM

ABSTRACT. In this paper we extend some results on the refinement of Cauchy-Buniakowski-Schwarz's inequality and Aczel'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:

- ( $I_1$ )  $(x, x | z) \geq 0$ ;  $(x, x | z) = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent;
- ( $I_2$ )  $(x, x | z) = (z, z | x)$ ;
- ( $I_3$ )  $(x, y | z) = (y, x | z)$ ;
- ( $I_4$ )  $(\alpha x, y | z) = \alpha (x, y | z)$  for any real number  $\alpha$ ;
- ( $I_5$ )  $(x + x', y | z) = (x, y | z) + (x', y | z)$ .

$(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)$  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

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1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 26D99; Secondary 46Cxx.

*Key words and phrases.* 2-Inner Product, Cauchy-Buniakowski-Schwarz's Inequality, Triangle Inequality, Aczel's Inequality.

This paper has been supported in part by NON-DIRECTED RESEARCH FUND, Korea Research Foundation, 1996.

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

$$(1.1) \quad (x, y | z) = \frac{1}{4} \left( \|x + y, z\|^2 - \|x - y, z\|^2 \right),$$

$$(1.2) \quad \|x + y, z\|^2 + \|x - y, z\|^2 = 2 \left( \|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2 \right).$$

Besides, if  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  is a linear 2–normed space in which condition (1.2), 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 (1.1).

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*

$$(2.1) \quad \|u, z\|^2 \leq 2(x, u | z), \quad \|v, z\|^2 \leq 2(y, v | z).$$

*Then, we have the inequality*

$$(2.2) \quad \left( 2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( 2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ + |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|.$$

*Proof.* Note that

$$(2.3) \quad (m^2 - n^2)(p^2 - q^2) \leq (mp - nq)^2$$

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

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

by (2.3), we have

$$(2.4) \quad |(x, y | z) - (x, v | z) - (u, y | z) + (u, v | z)|^2 \\ \leq \left\{ \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - \left( 2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( 2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}^2.$$

On the other hand

$$0 \leq \left( 2(x, u | z) - \|u, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|x, z\|,$$

$$0 \leq \left( 2(y, v | z) - \|v, z\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|y, z\|,$$

which imply

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

Therefore, from (2.4), we have the inequality (2.2). 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*

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} |(x, y | z)| &\leq |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)| \\ &\quad + |(x, e | z)(e, u | z)| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* If we put  $u = (x, e | z)e$  and  $v = (y, e | z)e$ , then the conditions (2.1) 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 (2.1).

Moreover,

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

so, by Theorem 2.1, we have (2.5). ■

**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*

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} |(x, y | z)|^2 &\left(2 - \|x, z\|^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(2 - \|y, z\|^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &+ |(x, y | z)| \left|1 - \|x, z\|^2 - \|y, z\|^2 + (x, y | z)\right|^2 \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* If we put  $u = (x, y | z)y$  and  $v = (y, x | z)x$ , then the inequality (2.3) holds. Moreover, we have

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

Therefore, by Theorem 2.1, we have the inequality (2.6). ■

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

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} |(x, y | z) - (x, e | z)(e, y | z)|^2 \\ \leq \left(\|x, z\|^2 - |(x, e | z)|^2\right) \left(\|y, z\|^2 - |(y, e | z)|^2\right). \end{aligned}$$

*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

$$(2.8) \quad |P(x, y, z)|^2 \leq P(x, x, z) P(y, y, z)$$

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

$$a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \mathbf{R},$$

then  $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac \leq 0$ .

Then by the above inequality we deduce

$$(2.9) \quad P(x, y, z)^4 \leq P(x, x, z) P(y, y, z) P(x, y, z)^2.$$

If  $P(x, y, z) = 0$  then (2.8) holds.

If  $P(x, y, z) \neq 0$  then we can divide in (2.9) by  $P(x, y, z)$  and obtain (2.8).

The theorem is thus proved.  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 2.1.** *By the inequalities (2.3) and (2.7), we have*

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

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

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

which yields the inequality (2.5).

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

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left( \|x + y, z\|^2 - |(x + y, e | z)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \left( \|x, z\|^2 - |(x, e | z)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left( \|y, z\|^2 - |(y, e | z)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* 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 (2.10).  $\blacksquare$

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

$$(2.11) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left| \frac{(x, y | z)}{\|x, z\| \|y, z\|} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{(y, u | z)}{\|y, z\| \|u, z\|} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{(u, x | z)}{\|u, z\| \|x, z\|} \right|^2 \\ &\leq 1 + 2 \left| \frac{(x, y | z)(y, u | z)(u, x | z)}{\|x, z\|^2 \|y, z\|^2 \|u, z\|^2} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

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*

$$(2.12) \quad (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|) \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\| \leq 2 \|x - y, z\|.$$

*Proof.* Since

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

we have the inequality

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

which implies (2.12). ■

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

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{aligned} & (\|x, z\| + \|y, z\|)^2 \left( \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} + \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|^2 \right) \\ & \leq 8 (\|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By (2.12) 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 (2.13). ■

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

### 3. AĆZEL'S INEQUALITY

In this section, we shall point out some results in 2-inner product spaces in connection to Aćzel'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*

$$\|x, z\| \leq |M_1|, \quad \|y, z\| \leq |M_2|,$$

then

$$(3.1) \quad (M_1^2 - \|x, z\|^2) (M_2^2 - \|y, z\|^2) \leq (|M_1 M_2| - (x, y | z))^2.$$

*Proof.* Using the elementary inequality (2.3), we get

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

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 (3.1). ■

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

$$(3.2) \quad 0 \leq \|x, z\|^2 \|y, z\|^2 - (x, y | z)^2 \leq M^2 \|x - y, z\|^2$$

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

Another similar results to the generalization (3.1) of Aczel's inequality is the following one

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

$$(3.3) \quad (|M_1| - \|x, z\|)^{\frac{1}{2}} (|M_2| - \|y, z\|)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq |M_1 M_2|^{\frac{1}{2}} - |(x, y | z)|^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

*Proof.* Applying (2.3) 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 (3.3). ■

**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*

$$(3.4) \quad 0 \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, y | z)| \\ \leq M \left( \|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - 2 |(x, y | z)|^{1/2} \right).$$

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

$$(3.5) \quad \|x, z\|^2 > \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|x, z\|_i^2$$

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

$$(3.6) \quad \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - |(x, y | z)| \\ (3.7) \quad \geq \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|x, z\|_i \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \|y, z\|_i - |(x, y | z)| \right] \geq 0$$

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

*Proof.* Let  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  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 (3.5), 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  $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathbf{R}$ .

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

$$(3.8) \quad \left( \|x, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i^2 \right) \left( \|y, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|y, z\|_i^2 \right) \\ \geq \left( (x, y | z) - \sum_{i=0}^n (x, y | z)_i \right)^2.$$

Using Aczel'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

$$(3.9) \quad \left( \|x, z\| \|y, z\| - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i \|y, z\|_i \right)^2 \\ \geq \left( \|x, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|x, z\|_i^2 \right) \left( \|y, z\|^2 - \sum_{i=0}^n \|y, z\|_i^2 \right)$$

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 (3.8) and (3.9) we deduce

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

which implies (3.6), 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*

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



$$\geq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left[ (\|x, z\|_i + \|y, z\|_i)^2 - \|x + y, z\|_i^2 \right] \geq 0, x, y, z \in X.$$

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

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

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

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

**Corollary 3.8.** Let  $(\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)_1, (\cdot, \cdot | \cdot)_2$  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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