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# UPPER BOUNDS FOR THE DISTANCE TO FINITE-DIMENSIONAL SUBSPACES IN INNER PRODUCT SPACES

S.S. DRAGOMIR

ABSTRACT. We establish upper bounds for the distance to finite-dimensional subspaces in inner product spaces and improve some generalisations of Bessel's inequality obtained by Boas, Bellman and Bombieri. Refinements of the Hadamard inequality for Gram determinants are also given.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an inner product space over the real or complex number field  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  a subset of  $H$  and  $G(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  the *gram matrix* of  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  where  $(i, j)$ -entry is  $\langle y_i, y_j \rangle$ . The determinant of  $G(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  is called the *Gram determinant* of  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  and is denoted by  $\Gamma(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ . Thus,

$$\Gamma(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \begin{vmatrix} \langle y_1, y_1 \rangle & \langle y_1, y_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle y_1, y_n \rangle \\ \langle y_2, y_1 \rangle & \langle y_2, y_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle y_2, y_n \rangle \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \langle y_n, y_1 \rangle & \langle y_n, y_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle y_n, y_n \rangle \end{vmatrix}.$$

Following [4, p. 129 – 133], we state here some general results for the Gram determinant that will be used in the sequel.

- (1) Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset H$ . Then  $\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \neq 0$  if and only if  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is linearly independent;
- (2) Let  $M = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be  $n$ -dimensional in  $H$ , i.e.,  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is linearly independent. Then for each  $x \in H$ , the distance  $d(x, M)$  from  $x$  to the linear subspace  $M$  has the representations

$$(1.1) \quad d^2(x, M) = \frac{\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x)}{\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$$

and

$$(1.2) \quad d^2(x, M) = \|x\|^2 - \beta^T G^{-1} \beta,$$

where  $G = G(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $G^{-1}$  is the inverse matrix of  $G$  and

$$\beta^T = (\langle x, x_1 \rangle, \langle x, x_2 \rangle, \dots, \langle x, x_n \rangle),$$

denotes the transpose of the column vector  $\beta$ .

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Moreover, one has the simpler representation

$$(1.3) \quad d^2(x, M) = \begin{cases} \|x\|^2 - \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2)^2}{\|\sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i\|^2} & \text{if } x \notin M^\perp, \\ \|x\|^2 & \text{if } x \in M^\perp, \end{cases}$$

where  $M^\perp$  denotes the orthogonal complement of  $M$ .

(3) Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be a set of nonzero vectors in  $H$ . Then

$$(1.4) \quad 0 \leq \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq \|x_1\|^2 \|x_2\|^2 \cdots \|x_n\|^2.$$

The equality holds on the left (respectively right) side of (1.4) if and only if  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is linearly dependent (respectively orthogonal). The first inequality in (1.4) is known in the literature as *Gram's inequality* while the second one is known as *Hadamard's inequality*.

(4) If  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is an orthonormal set in  $H$ , i.e.,  $\langle x_i, x_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ ,  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , where  $\delta_{ij}$  is Kronecker's delta, then

$$(1.5) \quad d^2(x, M) = \|x\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2.$$

The following inequalities which involve Gram determinants may be stated as well [9, p. 597]:

$$(1.6) \quad \frac{\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_k)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_k)} \leq \cdots \leq \Gamma(x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n),$$

$$(1.7) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_k) \Gamma(x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

and

$$(1.8) \quad \Gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}(x_1 + y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \leq \Gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + \Gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

The main aim of this paper is to point out some upper bounds for the distance  $d(x, M)$  in terms of the linearly independent vectors  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  that span  $M$  and  $x \notin M^\perp$ , where  $M^\perp$  is the orthogonal complement of  $M$  in the inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ .

As a by-product of this endeavour, some refinements of the generalisations for Bessel's inequality due to several authors including: Boas, Bellman and Bombieri are obtained. Refinements for the well known Hadamard's inequality for Gram determinants are also derived.

## 2. UPPER BOUNDS FOR $d(x, M)$

The following result may be stated.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be a linearly independent system of vectors in  $H$  and  $M := \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ . If  $x \notin M^\perp$ , then*

$$(2.1) \quad d^2(x, M) < \frac{\|x\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2}$$

or, equivalently,

$$(2.2) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) < \frac{\|x\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2} \cdot \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

*Proof.* If we use the Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz type inequality

$$(2.3) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|y_i\|^2,$$

that can be easily deduced from the obvious identity

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|y_i\|^2 - \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \right\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \|\overline{\alpha_i} x_j - \overline{\alpha_j} x_i\|^2,$$

we can state that

$$(2.5) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2.$$

Note that the equality case holds in (2.5) if and only if, by (2.4),

$$(2.6) \quad \overline{\langle x, x_i \rangle} x_j = \overline{\langle x, x_j \rangle} x_i$$

for each  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Utilising the expression (1.3) of the distance  $d(x, M)$ , we have

$$(2.7) \quad d^2(x, M) = \|x\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2} \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^2}.$$

Since  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  are linearly independent, hence (2.6) cannot be achieved and then we have strict inequality in (2.5).

Finally, on using (2.5) and (2.7) we get the desired result (2.1). ■

**Remark 1.** *It is known that (see (1.4)) if not all  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  are orthogonal on each other, then the following result which is well known in the literature as Hadamard's inequality holds:*

$$(2.8) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) < \|x_1\|^2 \|x_2\|^2 \cdots \|x_n\|^2.$$

*Utilising the inequality (2.2), we may write successively:*

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(x_1, x_2) &\leq \frac{\|x_1\|^2 \|x_2\|^2 - |\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle|^2}{\|x_1\|^2} \|x_1\|^2 \leq \|x_1\|^2 \|x_2\|^2, \\ \Gamma(x_1, x_2, x_3) &< \frac{\|x_3\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^2 \|x_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^2 |\langle x_3, x_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \|x_i\|^2} \Gamma(x_1, x_2) \\ &\leq \|x_3\|^2 \Gamma(x_1, x_2) \\ &\dots\dots\dots \\ \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) &< \frac{\|x_n\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|x_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\langle x_n, x_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|x_i\|^2} \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \\ &\leq \|x_n\|^2 \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the above inequalities, we deduce

$$(2.9) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) < \|x_1\|^2 \prod_{k=2}^n \left( \|x_k\|^2 - \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \|x_i\|^2} \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |\langle x_k, x_i \rangle|^2 \right) \\ \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \|x_j\|^2,$$

valid for a system of  $n \geq 2$  linearly independent vectors which are not orthogonal on each other.

In [7], the author has obtained the following inequality.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $z_1, \dots, z_n \in H$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{K}$ . Then one has the inequalities:

$$(2.10) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \leq \begin{cases} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\alpha_i|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|z_i\|^2; \\ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^{2\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \|z_i\|^{2\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \\ \text{where } \alpha > 1, \frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1; \\ \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|z_i\|^2; \\ \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} \{|\alpha_i \alpha_j|\} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|; \\ \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^\gamma \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^{2\gamma} \right]^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|^\delta \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta}} \\ \text{where } \gamma > 1, \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\delta} = 1; \\ \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \right] \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|; \end{cases}$$

where any term in the first branch can be combined with each term from the second branch giving 9 possible combinations.

Out of these, we select the following ones that are of relevance for further consideration

$$(2.11) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \\ \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|z_i\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 + \max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle| \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \right] \\ \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \left( \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|z_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle| \right)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.12) \quad & \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \\
 & \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|z_i\|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 + \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^4 \right]^{1/2} \\
 & \quad \times \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|z_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the last inequality in (2.11) follows by the fact that

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| \right)^2 \leq n \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2,$$

while the last inequality in (2.12) is obvious.

Utilising the above inequalities (2.11) and (2.12) which provide alternatives to the Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz inequality (2.3), we can state the following results.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $M$  and  $x$  be as in Theorem 1. Then*

$$(2.13) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

or, equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.14) \quad & \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \\
 & \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
 & \quad \times \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Utilising the inequality (2.12) for  $\alpha_i = \langle x, x_i \rangle$  and  $z_i = x_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we can write:

$$(2.15) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]$$

for any  $x \in H$ .

Now, since, by the representation formula (1.3)

$$(2.16) \quad d^2(x, M) = \|x\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\|\sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i\|^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2,$$

for  $x \notin M^\perp$ , hence, by (2.15) and (2.16) we deduce the desired result (2.13). ■

**Remark 2.** In 1941, R.P. Boas [2] and in 1944, R. Bellman [1], independent of each other, proved the following generalisation of Bessel's inequality:

$$(2.17) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle y, y_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|y\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|y_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle y_i, y_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right],$$

provided  $y$  and  $y_i$  ( $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ) are arbitrary vectors in the inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ . If  $\{y_i\}_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}}$  are orthonormal, then (2.17) reduces to Bessel's inequality.

In this respect, one may see (2.13) as a refinement of the Boas-Bellman result (2.17).

**Remark 3.** On making use of a similar argument to that utilised in Remark 1, one can obtain the following refinement of the Hadamard inequality:

$$(2.18) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq \|x_1\|^2 \prod_{k=2}^n \left( \|x_k\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |\langle x_k, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq k-1} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq k-1} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right) \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \|x_j\|^2.$$

Further on, if we choose  $\alpha_i = \langle x, x_i \rangle$ ,  $z_i = x_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  in (2.11), then we may state the inequality

$$(2.19) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \left( \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right).$$

Utilising (2.19) and (2.16) we may state the following result as well:

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $M$  and  $x$  be as in Theorem 1. Then

$$(2.20) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|}$$

or, equivalently,

$$(2.21) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|} \times \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

**Remark 4.** The above result (2.20) provides a refinement for the following generalisation of Bessel's inequality:

$$(2.22) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right],$$

obtained by the author in [7].

One can also provide the corresponding refinement of Hadamard's inequality (1.4) on using (2.21), i.e.,

$$(2.23) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq \|x_1\|^2 \prod_{k=2}^n \left( \|x_k\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |\langle x_k, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq k-1} \|x_i\|^2 + (k-2) \max_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq k-1} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|} \right) \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \|x_j\|^2.$$

### 3. OTHER UPPER BOUNDS FOR $d(x, M)$

In [8, p. 140] the author obtained the following inequality that is similar to the Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz result.

**Lemma 2.** Let  $z_1, \dots, z_n \in H$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{K}$ . Then one has the inequalities:

$$(3.1) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle| \leq \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle| \right]; \\ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^{2p} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle| \right)^q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ \quad \text{where } p > 1, \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1; \\ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\alpha_i|^2 \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|. \end{cases}$$

We can state and prove now another upper bound for the distance  $d(x, M)$  as follows.



**Theorem 4.** Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $M$  and  $x$  be as in Theorem 1. Then

$$(3.2) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right]}$$

or, equivalently,

$$(3.3) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right]} \cdot \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

*Proof.* Utilising the first branch in (3.1) we may state that

$$(3.4) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right]$$

for any  $x \in H$ .

Now, since, by the representation formula (1.3) we have

$$(3.5) \quad d^2(x, M) = \|x\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i \right\|^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2,$$

for  $x \notin M^\perp$ , hence, by (3.4) and (3.5) we deduce the desired result (3.2). ■

**Remark 5.** In 1971, E. Bombieri [3] proved the following generalisation of Bessel's inequality, however not stated in the general form for inner products. The general version can be found for instance in [9, p. 394]. It reads as follows: if  $y, y_1, \dots, y_n$  are vectors in the inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ , then

$$(3.6) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle y, y_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|y\|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle y_i, y_j \rangle| \right\}.$$

Obviously, when  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  are orthonormal, the inequality (3.6) produces Bessel's inequality.

In this respect, we may regard our result (3.2) as a refinement of the Bombieri inequality (3.6).

**Remark 6.** *On making use of a similar argument to that in Remark 1, we obtain the following refinement for the Hadamard inequality:*

$$(3.7) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq \|x_1\|^2 \prod_{k=2}^n \left[ \|x_k\|^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |\langle x_k, x_i \rangle|^2}{\max_{1 \leq i \leq k-1} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right]} \right] \\ \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \|x_j\|^2.$$

Another different Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz type inequality is incorporated in the following lemma [6].

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $z_1, \dots, z_n \in H$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{K}$ . Then*

$$(3.8) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^p \right)^{\frac{2}{p}} \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|^q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

for  $p > 1$ ,  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ .

If in (3.8) we choose  $p = q = 2$ , then we get

$$(3.9) \quad \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i z_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle z_i, z_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Based on (3.9), we can state the following result that provides yet another upper bound for the distance  $d(x, M)$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $M$  and  $x$  be as in Theorem 1. Then*

$$(3.10) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

or, equivalently,

$$(3.11) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \\ \leq \frac{\|x\|^2 \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, x_i \rangle|^2}{\left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \cdot \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Similar comments apply related to Hadamard's inequality. We omit the details.

## 4. SOME CONDITIONAL BOUNDS

In the recent paper [5], the author has established the following reverse of the Bessel inequality.

Let  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an inner product space over the real or complex number field  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$  a finite family of orthonormal vectors in  $H$ ,  $\varphi_i, \phi_i \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $i \in I$  and  $x \in H$ . If

$$(4.1) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left\langle \sum_{i \in I} \phi_i e_i - x, x - \sum_{i \in I} \varphi_i e_i \right\rangle \geq 0$$

or, equivalently,

$$(4.2) \quad \left\| x - \sum_{i \in I} \frac{\varphi_i + \phi_i}{2} e_i \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i \in I} |\phi_i - \varphi_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

then

$$(4.3) \quad (0 \leq) \|x\|^2 - \sum_{i \in I} |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i \in I} |\phi_i - \varphi_i|^2.$$

The constant  $\frac{1}{4}$  is best possible in the sense that it cannot be replaced by a smaller constant.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be a linearly independent system of vectors in  $H$  and  $M := \operatorname{span} \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ . If  $\gamma_i, \Gamma_i \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $x \in H \setminus M^\perp$  is such that*

$$(4.4) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \Gamma_i x_i - x, x - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i x_i \right\rangle \geq 0,$$

then we have the bound

$$(4.5) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{1}{4} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (\Gamma_i - \gamma_i) x_i \right\|^2$$

or, equivalently,

$$(4.6) \quad \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \leq \frac{1}{4} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (\Gamma_i - \gamma_i) x_i \right\|^2 \Gamma(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

*Proof.* It is easy to see that in an inner product space for any  $x, z, Z \in H$  one has

$$\left\| x - \frac{z + Z}{2} \right\|^2 - \frac{1}{4} \|Z - z\|^2 = \operatorname{Re} \langle Z - x, x - z \rangle,$$

therefore, the condition (4.4) is actually equivalent to

$$(4.7) \quad \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\Gamma_i + \gamma_i}{2} x_i \right\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (\Gamma_i - \gamma_i) x_i \right\|^2.$$

Now, obviously,

$$(4.8) \quad d^2(x, M) = \inf_{y \in M} \|x - y\|^2 \leq \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\Gamma_i + \gamma_i}{2} x_i \right\|^2$$

and thus, by (4.7) and (4.8) we deduce (4.5).

The last inequality is obvious by the representation (1.2). ■

**Remark 7.** Utilising various Cauchy-Bunyakovsky-Schwarz type inequalities we may obtain more convenient (although coarser) bounds for  $d^2(x, M)$ . For instance, if we use the inequality (2.11) we can state the inequality:

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (\Gamma_i - \gamma_i) x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\Gamma_i - \gamma_i|^2 \left( \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right),$$

giving the bound:

$$(4.9) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n |\Gamma_i - \gamma_i|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + (n-1) \max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right],$$

provided (4.4) holds true.

Obviously, if  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is an orthonormal family in  $H$ , then from (4.9) we deduce the reverse of Bessel's inequality incorporated in (4.3).

If we use the inequality (2.12), then we can state the inequality

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (\Gamma_i - \gamma_i) x_i \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\Gamma_i - \gamma_i|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right],$$

giving the bound

$$(4.10) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n |\Gamma_i - \gamma_i|^2 \left[ \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|^2 + \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n} |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right],$$

provided (4.4) holds true.

In this case, when one assumes that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is an orthonormal family of vectors, then (4.10) reduces to (4.3) as well.

Finally, on utilising the first branch of the inequality (3.1), we can state that

$$(4.11) \quad d^2(x, M) \leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n |\Gamma_i - \gamma_i|^2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n |\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \right],$$

provided (4.4) holds true.

This inequality is also a generalisation of (4.3).

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SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS, VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY,  
PO Box 14428, MCMC 8001, VIC, AUSTRALIA.

*E-mail address:* `sever@matilda.vu.edu.au`

*URL:* <http://rgmia.vu.edu.au/SSDragomirWeb.html>