

# SOME REVERSES OF THE GENERALISED TRIANGLE INEQUALITY IN COMPLEX INNER PRODUCT SPACES

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ABSTRACT. Some reverses for the generalised triangle inequality in complex inner product spaces that improve the classical Diaz-Metcalf results and applications are given.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The following reverse of the generalised triangle inequality

$$(1.1) \quad \cos \theta \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k| \leq \left| \sum_{k=1}^n z_k \right|$$

provided the complex numbers  $z_k$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  satisfy the assumption

$$(1.2) \quad a - \theta \leq \arg(z_k) \leq a + \theta, \quad \text{for any } k \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\theta \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$  was first discovered by M. Petrovich in 1917, [5] (see [4, p. 492]) and subsequently was rediscovered by other authors, including J. Karamata [2, p. 300 – 301], H.S. Wilf [6], and in an equivalent form by M. Marden [3].

The first to consider the problem of obtaining reverses for the triangle inequality in the more general case of Hilbert and Banach spaces were J.B. Diaz and F.T. Metcalf [1] who showed that in an inner product space  $H$  over the real or complex number field, the following reverse of the triangle inequality holds

$$(1.3) \quad r \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|,$$

provided

$$0 \leq r \leq \|x_k\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, a \rangle \quad \text{for } k \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

where  $a \in H$  is a unit vector, i.e.  $\|a\| = 1$ .

The case of equality holds in (1.3) if and only if

$$(1.4) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = r \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right) a.$$

The main purpose of this paper is to investigate the same problem of reversing the generalised triangle inequality in complex inner product spaces under additional

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assumptions for the imaginary part  $\text{Im} \langle x_k, a \rangle$ . A refinement of the Diaz-Metcalf result is obtained. Applications for complex numbers are pointed out.

## 2. THE CASE OF A UNIT VECTOR

The following result holds.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be a complex inner product space. Suppose that the vectors  $x_k \in H$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  satisfy the condition*

$$(2.1) \quad 0 \leq r_1 \|x_k\| \leq \text{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle, \quad 0 \leq r_2 \|x_k\| \leq \text{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , where  $e \in H$  is such that  $\|e\| = 1$  and  $r_1, r_2 \geq 0$ . Then we have the inequality

$$(2.2) \quad \sqrt{r_1^2 + r_2^2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|,$$

where equality holds if and only if

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = (r_1 + ir_2) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right) e.$$

*Proof.* In view of the Schwarz inequality in the complex inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ , we have

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|^2 &= \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|^2 \|e\|^2 \geq \left| \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n x_k, e \right\rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n x_k, e \right\rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle + i \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle \right) \right|^2 \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle \right)^2 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now, by hypothesis (2.1)

$$(2.5) \quad \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle \right)^2 \geq r_1^2 \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right)^2$$

and

$$(2.6) \quad \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle \right)^2 \geq r_2^2 \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right)^2.$$

If we add (2.5) and (2.6) and use (2.4), then we deduce the desired inequality (2.2).

Now, if (2.3) holds, then

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\| = |r_1 + ir_2| \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right) \|e\| = \sqrt{r_1^2 + r_2^2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\|$$

and the case of equality is valid in (2.2).

Before we prove the reverse implication, let us observe that for  $x \in H$  and  $e \in H$ ,  $\|e\| = 1$ , the following identity is true

$$\|x - \langle x, e \rangle e\|^2 = \|x\|^2 - |\langle x, e \rangle|^2,$$

therefore  $\|x\| = |\langle x, e \rangle|$  if and only if  $x = \langle x, e \rangle e$ .

If we assume that equality holds in (2.2), then the case of equality must hold in all the inequalities required in the argument used to prove the inequality (1.2), and we may state that

$$(2.7) \quad \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\| = \left| \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n x_k, e \right\rangle \right|,$$

and

$$(2.8) \quad r_1 \|x_k\| = \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle, \quad r_2 \|x_k\| = \operatorname{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

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

From (2.7) we deduce

$$(2.9) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n x_k, e \right\rangle e$$

and from (2.8), by multiplying the second equation with  $i$  and summing both equations over  $k$  from 1 to  $n$ , we deduce

$$(2.10) \quad (r_1 + ir_2) \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| = \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n x_k, e \right\rangle.$$

Finally, by (2.10) and (2.9), we get the desired equality (2.3). ■

The following corollary is of interest.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $e$  a unit vector in the complex inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  and  $\rho_1, \rho_2 \in (0, 1)$ . If  $x_k \in H$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  are such that*

$$(2.11) \quad \|x_k - e\| \leq \rho_1, \quad \|x_k - ie\| \leq \rho_2 \quad \text{for each } k \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

*then we have the inequality*

$$(2.12) \quad \sqrt{2 - \rho_1^2 - \rho_2^2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|,$$

*with equality if and only if*

$$(2.13) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = \left( \sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2} + i\sqrt{1 - \rho_2^2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right) e.$$

*Proof.* From the first inequality in (2.11) we deduce, by taking the square, that

$$\|x_k\|^2 + 1 - \rho_1^2 \leq 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle,$$

implying

$$(2.14) \quad \frac{\|x_k\|^2}{\sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2}} + \sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2} \leq \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle}{\sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2}}$$

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

Since, obviously,

$$(2.15) \quad 2 \|x_k\| \leq \frac{\|x_k\|^2}{\sqrt{1-\rho_1^2}} + \sqrt{1-\rho_1^2}, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

hence, by (2.14) and (2.5),

$$(2.16) \quad 0 \leq \sqrt{1-\rho_1^2} \|x_k\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

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

From the second inequality in (2.11) we deduce

$$0 \leq \sqrt{1-\rho_2^2} \|x_k\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, ie \rangle$$

for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Since

$$\operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, ie \rangle = \operatorname{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle,$$

hence

$$(2.17) \quad 0 \leq \sqrt{1-\rho_2^2} \|x_k\| \leq \operatorname{Im} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

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

Now, observe from (2.16) and (2.17), that the condition (2.1) of Theorem 1 is satisfied for  $r_1 = \sqrt{1-\rho_1^2}$ ,  $r_2 = \sqrt{1-\rho_2^2} \in (0, 1)$ , and thus the corollary is proved. ■

The following corollary may be stated as well.

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $e$  be a unit vector in the complex inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  and  $M_1 \geq m_1 > 0$ ,  $M_2 \geq m_2 > 0$ . If  $x_k \in H$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  are such that either*

$$(2.18) \quad \operatorname{Re} \langle M_1 e - x_k, x_k - m_1 e \rangle \geq 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} \langle M_2 ie - x_k, x_k - m_2 ie \rangle \geq 0$$

or, equivalently,

$$(2.19) \quad \left\| x_k - \frac{M_1 + m_1}{2} e \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} (M_1 - m_1),$$

$$\left\| x_k - \frac{M_2 + m_2}{2} ie \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} (M_2 - m_2),$$

for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , then we have the inequality

$$(2.20) \quad 2 \left[ \frac{m_1 M_1}{(M_1 + m_1)^2} + \frac{m_2 M_2}{(M_2 + m_2)^2} \right]^{1/2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \right\|.$$

The equality holds in (2.20) if and only if

$$(2.21) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n x_k = 2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{m_1 M_1}}{M_1 + m_1} + i \frac{\sqrt{m_2 M_2}}{M_2 + m_2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\| \right) e.$$

*Proof.* Firstly, remark that, for  $x, z, Z \in H$ , the following statements are equivalent.

- (i)  $\operatorname{Re} \langle Z - x, x - z \rangle \geq 0$
- and
- (ii)  $\left\| x - \frac{Z+z}{2} \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|Z - z\|.$

Using this fact, we may simply realise that (2.18) and (2.19) are equivalent. Now, from the first inequality in (2.18), we get

$$\|x_k\|^2 + m_1 M_1 \leq (M_1 + m_1) \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

implying

$$(2.22) \quad \frac{\|x_k\|^2}{\sqrt{m_1 M_1}} + \sqrt{m_1 M_1} \leq \frac{M_1 + m_1}{\sqrt{m_1 M_1}} \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

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

Since, obviously,

$$(2.23) \quad 2 \|x_k\| \leq \frac{\|x_k\|^2}{\sqrt{m_1 M_1}} + \sqrt{m_1 M_1},$$

hence, by (2.22) and (2.23)

$$(2.24) \quad 0 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{m_1 M_1}}{M_1 + m_1} \|x_k\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_k, e \rangle$$

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

Now, the proof follows the same path as the one of Corollary 1 and we omit the details. ■

### 3. THE CASE OF $m$ ORTHONORMAL VECTORS

In [1], the authors have proved the following reverse of the generalised triangle inequality in terms of orthonormal vectors.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  be orthonormal vectors in  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ , i.e., we recall that  $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = 0$  if  $i \neq j$  and  $\|e_i\| = 1$ ,  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . Suppose that the vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in H$  satisfy*

$$(3.1) \quad 0 \leq r_k \|x_j\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle, \quad j \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, m\}.$$

Then

$$(3.2) \quad \left( \sum_{k=1}^m r_k^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \leq \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|,$$

where equality holds if and only if

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right) \sum_{k=1}^m r_k e_k.$$

If the space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  is complex and more information is available for the imaginary part, then the following result may be stated as well.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $e_1, \dots, e_m \in H$  be an orthonormal family of vectors in the complex inner product space  $H$ . If the vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in H$  satisfy the conditions*

$$(3.4) \quad 0 \leq r_k \|x_j\| \leq \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle, \quad 0 \leq \rho_k \|x_j\| \leq \operatorname{Im} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle$$

for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , then we have the following reverse of the generalised triangle inequality;

$$(3.5) \quad \left[ \sum_{k=1}^m (r_k^2 + \rho_k^2) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \leq \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|.$$

The equality holds in (3.5) if and only if

$$(3.6) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right) \sum_{k=1}^m (r_k + i\rho_k) e_k.$$

*Proof.* Before we prove the theorem, let us recall that, if  $x \in H$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  are orthogonal vectors, then the following identity holds true:

$$(3.7) \quad \left\| x - \sum_{k=1}^m \langle x, e_k \rangle e_k \right\|^2 = \|x\|^2 - \sum_{k=1}^m |\langle x, e_k \rangle|^2.$$

As a consequence of this identity, we note the *Bessel inequality*

$$(3.8) \quad \sum_{k=1}^m |\langle x, e_k \rangle|^2 \leq \|x\|^2, x \in H.$$

The case of equality holds in (3.8) if and only if (see (3.7))

$$(3.9) \quad x = \sum_{k=1}^m \langle x, e_k \rangle e_k.$$

Applying Bessel's inequality for  $x = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j$ , we have

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|^2 &\geq \sum_{k=1}^m \left| \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^n x_j, e_k \right\rangle \right|^2 = \sum_{k=1}^m \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \left| \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right) + i \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Im} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right) \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right)^2 + \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Im} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right)^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Now, by the hypothesis (3.4) we have

$$(3.11) \quad \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right)^2 \geq r_k^2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2$$

and

$$(3.12) \quad \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{Im} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right)^2 \geq \rho_k^2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2.$$

Further, on making use of (3.10) – (3.12), we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|^2 &\geq \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ r_k^2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 + \rho_k^2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 \sum_{k=1}^m (r_k^2 + \rho_k^2), \end{aligned}$$

which is clearly equivalent to (3.5).

Now, if (3.6) holds, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|^2 &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 \left\| \sum_{k=1}^m (r_k + i\rho_k) e_k \right\|^2 \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 \sum_{k=1}^m |r_k + i\rho_k|^2 \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right)^2 \sum_{k=1}^m (r_k^2 + \rho_k^2), \end{aligned}$$

and the case of equality holds in (3.5).

Conversely, if the equality holds in (3.5), then it must hold in all the inequalities used to prove (3.5) and therefore we must have

$$(3.13) \quad \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|^2 = \sum_{k=1}^m \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \langle x_j, e_k \rangle \right|^2$$

and

$$(3.14) \quad r_k \|x_j\| = \operatorname{Re} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle, \quad \rho_k \|x_j\| = \operatorname{Im} \langle x_j, e_k \rangle$$

for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

Using the identity (3.7), we deduce from (3.13) that

$$(3.15) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \sum_{k=1}^m \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^n x_j, e_k \right\rangle e_k.$$

Multiplying the second equality in (3.14) with the imaginary unit  $i$  and summing the equality over  $j$  from 1 to  $n$ , we deduce

$$(3.16) \quad (r_k + i\rho_k) \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| = \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^n x_j, e_k \right\rangle$$

for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

Finally, utilising (3.15) and (3.16), we deduce (3.6) and the theorem is proved. ■

The following corollaries are of interest.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  be orthonormal vectors in the complex inner product space  $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  and  $\rho_k, \eta_k \in (0, 1)$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in H$  are such that*

$$\|x_j - e_k\| \leq \rho_k, \quad \|x_j - ie_k\| \leq \eta_k$$

*for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , then we have the inequality*

$$(3.17) \quad \left[ \sum_{k=1}^m (2 - \rho_k^2 - \eta_k^2) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \leq \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|.$$

The case of equality holds in (3.17) if and only if

$$(3.18) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right) \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \sqrt{1 - \rho_k^2} + i\sqrt{1 - \eta_k^2} \right) e_k.$$

The proof employs Theorem 3 and is similar to the one from Corollary 1. We omit the details.

**Corollary 4.** Let  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  be as in Corollary 3 and  $M_k \geq m_k > 0$ ,  $N_k \geq n_k > 0$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in H$  are such that either

$$\operatorname{Re} \langle M_k e_k - x_j, x_j - m_k e_k \rangle \geq 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} \langle N_k i e_k - x_j, x_j - n_k i e_k \rangle \geq 0$$

or, equivalently,

$$\left\| x_j - \frac{M_k + m_k}{2} e_k \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} (M_k - m_k),$$

$$\left\| x_j - \frac{N_k + n_k}{2} i e_k \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} (N_k - n_k)$$

for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , then we have the inequality

$$(3.19) \quad 2 \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ \frac{m_k M_k}{(M_k + m_k)^2} + \frac{n_k N_k}{(N_k + n_k)^2} \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \leq \left\| \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right\|.$$

The case of equality holds in (3.19) if and only if

$$(3.20) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = 2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_j\| \right) \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \frac{\sqrt{m_k M_k}}{M_k + m_k} + i \frac{\sqrt{n_k N_k}}{N_k + n_k} \right) e_k.$$

The proof employs Theorem 3 and is similar to the one in Corollary 2. We omit the details.

#### 4. APPLICATIONS FOR COMPLEX NUMBERS

The following reverse of the generalised triangle inequality with a clear geometric meaning may be stated.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  be complex numbers with the property that

$$(4.1) \quad 0 \leq \varphi_1 \leq \arg(z_k) \leq \varphi_2 < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Then we have the inequality

$$(4.2) \quad \sqrt{\sin^2 \varphi_1 + \cos^2 \varphi_2} \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k| \leq \left| \sum_{k=1}^n z_k \right|.$$

The equality holds in (4.2) if and only if

$$(4.3) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n z_k = (\cos \varphi_2 + i \sin \varphi_1) \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k|.$$



*Proof.* Let  $z_k = a_k + ib_k$ . We may assume that  $b_k \geq 0$ ,  $a_k > 0$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , since, by (4.1),  $\frac{b_k}{a_k} = \tan[\arg(z_k)] \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . By (4.1), we obviously have

$$0 \leq \tan^2 \varphi_1 \leq \frac{b_k^2}{a_k^2} \leq \tan^2 \varphi_2, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

from where we get

$$\frac{b_k^2 + a_k^2}{a_k^2} \leq \frac{1}{\cos^2 \varphi_2}, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad \varphi_2 \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

and

$$\frac{a_k^2 + b_k^2}{a_k^2} \leq \frac{1 + \tan^2 \varphi_1}{\tan^2 \varphi_1} = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \varphi_1}, \quad k \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad \varphi_1 \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

giving the inequalities

$$|z_k| \cos \varphi_2 \leq \operatorname{Re}(z_k), \quad |z_k| \sin \varphi_1 \leq \operatorname{Im}(z_k)$$

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

Now, applying Theorem 1 for the complex inner product  $\mathbb{C}$  endowed with the inner product  $\langle z, w \rangle = z \cdot \bar{w}$  for  $x_k = z_k$ ,  $r_1 = \cos \varphi_2$ ,  $r_2 = \sin \varphi_1$  and  $e = 1$ , we deduce the desired inequality (4.2). The case of equality is also obvious by Theorem 1 and the proposition is proven. ■

Another result that has an obvious geometrical interpretation is the following one.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $e \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|z| = 1$  and  $\rho_1, \rho_2 \in (0, 1)$ . If  $z_k \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  are such that*

$$(4.4) \quad |z_k - c| \leq \rho_1, \quad |z_k - ic| \leq \rho_2 \quad \text{for each } k \in \{1, \dots, n\},$$

*then we have the inequality*

$$(4.5) \quad \sqrt{2 - \rho_1^2 - \rho_2^2} \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k| \leq \left| \sum_{k=1}^n z_k \right|,$$

*with equality if and only if*

$$(4.6) \quad \sum_{k=1}^n z_k = \left( \sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2} + i\sqrt{1 - \rho_2^2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k| \right) e.$$

The proof is obvious by Corollary 1 applied for  $H = \mathbb{C}$ .

**Remark 1.** *If we choose  $e = 1$ , and for  $\rho_1, \rho_2 \in (0, 1)$  we define  $\bar{D}(1, \rho_1) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - 1| \leq \rho_1\}$ ,  $\bar{D}(i, \rho_2) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - i| \leq \rho_2\}$ , then obviously the intersection*

$$S_{\rho_1, \rho_2} := \bar{D}(1, \rho_1) \cap \bar{D}(i, \rho_2)$$

*is nonempty if and only if  $\rho_1 + \rho_2 > \sqrt{2}$ .*

*If  $z_k \in S_{\rho_1, \rho_2}$  for  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , then (4.5) holds true. The equality holds in (4.5) if and only if*

$$\sum_{k=1}^n z_k = \left( \sqrt{1 - \rho_1^2} + i\sqrt{1 - \rho_2^2} \right) \sum_{k=1}^n |z_k|.$$

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