

INEQUALITIES RELATED WITH CARLSON'S INEQUALITY

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Abstract. We prove a generalization of Carlson's inequality. We improve a previous equivalent inequality of Carlson's inequality and give some examples.

1. Introduction

Let $\{a^n\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ be a sequence of nonnegative numbers and f a measurable function on $[0, \infty)$. In 1934, Carlson [4] proved that the somewhat curious inequalities

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n < \sqrt{\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \quad (1)$$

and

$$\int_0^{\infty} |f(x)| dx \leq \sqrt{\pi} \left(\int_0^{\infty} f^2(x) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^{\infty} x^2 f^2(x) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \quad (2)$$

hold and $C = \sqrt{\pi}$ is the best possible in both cases.

In 1936 Hardy [6] presented two simpler proofs of (1) and (2). He has also showed there that the inequality

$$\left(f(0) \right)^4 \leq 4 \int_0^{\infty} f^2(x) dx \int_0^{\infty} f'^2(x) dx \quad (3)$$

is equivalent with (2). We have equality in (3) when f is an exponential. The inequality (3) is also given as an exercise in variational methods in [HLP, page 194(Th.263)]. In particular Hardy observed that (1) follows in fact from Schwarz inequality $\sum x_n y_n \leq \left(\sum x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum y_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ applied to the sequences $x_n = a_n(\alpha + \beta n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and $y_n = (\alpha + \beta n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. We remark here that (1),(2) and their generalizations have application to some moment problems (see [8]), in the interpolation theory (see [5],[9],[10]) and optimal reconstruction of a sampling signal (see [3]).

The aim of this paper is give further generalizations and related related results of (2) and (3). The main results (Theorems 2.1,2.3,2.4) are stated and proved in Section 2. In Section 3 we prove other results and present some conclusions and remarks.

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2. Integral Inequalities Related with Carlson's Inequality

Theorem 2.1. *Let $f, g : [0, \infty] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be Lebesgue measurable functions and g be differentiable. If $g(0) = 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = \infty$ and $0 < m = \inf_{x \in [0, \infty)} g'(x) < \infty$, then*

$$\left(\int_0^\infty f(x) dx \right)^4 \leq \frac{\pi^2}{m^2} \int_0^\infty f^2(x) dx \int_0^\infty g^2(x) f^2(x) dx \quad (4)$$

Proof. Let $\lambda > 0$ and let $S = \int_0^\infty f^2(x) dx$ and $T = \int_0^\infty g^2(x) f^2(x) dx$.

If $S = \infty$ or $T = \infty$, then (4) holds trivially so we may without loss of generality assume that $S < \infty$ and $T < \infty$. By using the Schwarz inequality and elementary calculations we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_0^\infty f(x) dx \right)^2 &= \left(\int_0^\infty f(x) \sqrt{\frac{\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} g^2(x)}{g'(x)}} \sqrt{\frac{g'(x)}{\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} g^2(x)}} dx \right)^2 \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty \frac{\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} g^2(x)}{g'(x)} f^2(x) dx \int_0^\infty \frac{g'(x) dx}{\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} g^2(x)} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{m} (\lambda S + \frac{1}{\lambda} T) \arctan \frac{g(x)}{\lambda} \Big|_0^\infty = \frac{\pi}{2m} (\lambda S + \frac{1}{\lambda} T) \end{aligned}$$

By choosing $\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{T}{S}}$ we obtain that

$$\left(\int_0^\infty f(x) dx \right)^2 \leq \frac{\pi}{m} \sqrt{ST}$$

and (4) is proved.

Remark 2.2. The inequality (4) is a generalization of Carlson inequality (2). We get it just by taking $g(x) = x$.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be Lebesgue measurable function and $p, q \in [0, 2)$. Then*

$$\left(\int_0^1 f(x) dx \right)^4 \leq B^2\left(\frac{2-p}{2}, \frac{2-q}{2}\right) \int_0^1 x^p f^2(x) dx \int_0^1 (1-x)^q f^2(x) dx \quad (5)$$

where $B\left(\frac{2-p}{2}, \frac{2-q}{2}\right)$ is the Euler beta function.

Proof. Let $\lambda > 0$ and let $S = \int_0^1 x^p f^2(x) dx$ and $T = \int_0^1 (1-x)^q f^2(x) dx$.

If $S = \infty$ or $T = \infty$, then (5) holds trivially so we may without loss of generality assume that $S < \infty$ and $T < \infty$. By using the Schwarz inequality and elementary calculations we find that

$$\left(\int_0^1 f(x) dx \right)^2 = \left(\int_0^1 f(x) \sqrt{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda} (1-x)^q} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda} (1-x)^q}} dx \right)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \int_0^1 (\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q) f^2(x) dx \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q} \\ &= \left(\lambda S + \frac{1}{\lambda} T \right) \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q} \end{aligned}$$

By arithmetic mean - geometric mean inequality we get

$$\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q \leq 2x^{p/2}(1-x)^{q/2}, \quad x \in [0, 1]$$

i.e.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q} \leq \frac{1}{2} x^{-p/2} (1-x)^{-q/2}, \quad x \in (0, 1).$$

Thus

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\lambda x^p + \frac{1}{\lambda}(1-x)^q} \leq \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{2-p}{2}, \frac{2-q}{2}\right)$$

and

$$\left(\int_0^1 f(x) dx \right)^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} B\left(\frac{2-p}{2}, \frac{2-q}{2}\right) \left(\lambda S + \frac{1}{\lambda} T \right).$$

For $\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{T}{S}}$ we obtain (5).

The next theorem is somehow an improvement of inequality (3).

Theorem 2.4. *Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable, with its derivative integrable and*

$$C|f(0)| \leq \int_0^1 f(x) dx,$$

where $C > 1$. Then

$$f^4(0) \leq \frac{1}{C^2(C-1)^2} \int_0^1 f^2(x) dx \int_0^1 f'^2(x) dx. \quad (6)$$

Proof. By hypothesis and Schwarz inequality we have

$$f^2(0) \leq \frac{1}{C^2} \int_0^1 f^2(x) dx. \quad (7)$$

On the other hand

$$|f(t) - f(0)| = \left| \int_0^t f'(x) dx \right| \leq \int_0^t |f'(x)| dx \leq \left(\int_0^1 f'^2(x) dx \right)^{1/2}$$

for $t \in [0, 1]$. Integrating on $[0, 1]$ we get

$$\int_0^1 |f(t) - f(0)| dt \leq \left(\int_0^1 f'^2(x) dx \right)^{1/2} \quad (8)$$

But by hypothesis we have

$$\begin{aligned} (C-1)|f(0)| &\leq \int_0^1 f(t)dt - |f(0)| \leq \left| \int_0^1 f(t)dt \right| - |f(0)| \\ &\leq \left| \int_0^1 (f(t) - f(0))dt \right| \leq \int_0^1 |f(t) - f(0)|dt. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

From (8) and (9) we have

$$f^2(0) \leq \frac{1}{(C-1)^2} \int_0^1 f'^2(x)dx, \quad (10)$$

(7) and (10) give (6) and the proof is over.

3. Final Conclusions, Examples and Remarks

Corollary 3.1. *If f satisfies the conditions of Theorem 2.4 and is an increasing function on $[0,1]$ and $C_1 > 0$, then*

$$f^4(0) \leq \frac{1}{C^2(C-1)^2 C_1^2} \left(\int_0^1 \left((x - \frac{1}{2})^{2n+1} + C_1 \right) f(x) dx \right)^2 \int_0^1 f'^2(x) dx \quad (11)$$

where $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. Because

$$\int_0^1 \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} f(x) dx = \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{2} - x \right)^{2n+1} f(1-x) dx$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \int_0^1 \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} f(x) dx &= \int_0^1 \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} (f(x) - f(1-x)) dx \\ &= \int_0^{1/2} \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} (f(x) - f(1-x)) dx + \int_{1/2}^1 \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} (f(x) - f(1-x)) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since f is increasing on $[0,1]$ it is easy to see that

$$\int_0^1 \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} f(x) dx \geq 0$$

and then

$$\int_0^1 \left(\left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} + C_1 \right) f(x) dx \geq C_1 \int_0^1 f(x) dx.$$

Hence

$$|f(0)| \leq \frac{1}{C} \int_0^1 f(x) dx \leq \frac{1}{CC_1} \int_0^1 \left(\left(x - \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2n+1} + C_1 \right) f(x) dx$$

or equivalently

$$f^2(0) \leq \frac{1}{C^2 C_1^2} \left(\int_0^1 \left((x - \frac{1}{2})^{2n+1} + C_1 \right) f(x) dx \right)^2. \tag{12}$$

Using (10) and (12) we get (11) and the proof is over.

Example 3.2. If $C = 2$ and $C_1 = \frac{1}{2^{2n+1}}$ the inequality (9) becomes

$$f^4(0) \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\int_0^1 \left((2x - 1)^{2n+1} + 1 \right) f(x) dx \right)^2 \int_0^1 f'^2(x) dx.$$

Corollary 3.3. If g is a convex function that satisfies the conditions of Th.2.1 then

$$\left(\int_0^\infty f(x) dx \right)^4 \leq \frac{\pi^2}{g'(0)} \int_0^\infty f^2(x) dx \int_0^\infty g^2(x) f^2(x) dx \tag{13}$$

Proof. The proof follows directly from (2) because in this case $\frac{g(x)}{g'(0)} \geq x \forall x > 0$.

Example 3.4. There are functions that satisfy the conditions of Theorem 2.1 but for which the proof of the inequality does not follow trivially from Carlson's inequality (2) like in Corollary (3.3). One of these is

$$g(x) = \ln \frac{(x + 1) \exp x}{x^2 + 1}$$

Remark 3.5. The Hardy's idea presented in our introduction was very important for the proof of Theorems 2.1 and 2.3. This idea of proof is completely different from the original proof of Carlson, who in fact remarked that (1) does not follow from Hölder's inequality in the following way:

$$\sum_{n=1}^\infty a_n \leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty n^{2h} a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty n^{-h} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = C(h) \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty n^{2h} a_n^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

, because $C(h) \rightarrow \infty$ when $h \rightarrow 1+$.

Remark 3.6. A generalization of (2) in a different direction was recently done in [2]. Some other generalizations of Carlson's inequalities can be found in the books [11], [1] and the references given there.

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