

ON FINITE DIFFERENCE INEQUALITY  
OF LYAPUNOV TYPE

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1. Introduction

The classical inequality of Lyapunov [1] states that if  $y(t)$  is a nontrivial solution of the differential system

$$\begin{aligned}y''(t) + p(t)y(t) &= 0, \quad a \leq t \leq b, \\y(a) = y(b) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

where  $p(t)$  is a real and continuous function defined on  $[a,b]$ , then

$$(b-a) \int_a^b |p(t)| dt > 4.$$

Write throughout  $\Delta x(n) = x(n+1) - x(n)$ .

Pachaptte has established in [2] the following discrete analogue of Lyapunov type inequality:

**Theorem A.** *Let  $p(n)$  and  $r(n)$  be real-valued functions defined on  $I = \{a, a+1, a+2, \dots, b\}$ , where  $a, b$  are integers, and  $r(n) > 0$  for  $n \in I$ . If  $x(n)$  is a solution of the equation*

$$\Delta(r(n)\Delta x(n)) + p(n)x(n) = 0, \tag{1}$$

*such that  $x(a) = x(b) = 0$ , and  $x(n) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall n \in I^0 = \{a+1, a+2, \dots, b-1\}$ , then*

$$4 \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right) \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| \right). \tag{2}$$

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The main purpose of this paper is to given some generalizations of Theorem A.

## 2. Preliminary Results

In order to prove our main results, we need the follwoing lemmas:

**Lemma 1.** If  $u, v$  are any functions defined on  $I$ , and  $m$  is a positive integer then

$$\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n) \Delta v(n) = u^m(b-1)v(b) - u^m(a)v(a) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} v(n+1) \Delta u(n)w(n)$$

where  $w(n) = u^{m-1}(n+1) + u^{m-2}(n+1)u(n) + \dots + u(n+1)u^{m-2}(n) + u^{m-1}(n)$ .

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n) \Delta v(n) \\ &= \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n)(v(n+1) - v(n)) \\ &= \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n)v(n+1) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n)v(n) \\ &= \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n)v(n+1) - \sum_{n=a-1}^{b-2} u^m(n+1)v(n+1) \\ &= u^m(b-1)v(b) - u^m(a)v(a) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} (u^m(n+1) - u^m(n))v(n+1). \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} & u^m(n+1) - u^m(n) \\ &= (u(n+1) - u(n)) \left( u^{m-1}(n+1) + u^{m-2}(n+1)u(n) + \dots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + u(n+1)u^{m-2}(n) + u^{m-1}(n) \right) \\ &= \Delta u(n)w(n). \end{aligned}$$

it follows that

$$\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} u^m(n) \Delta v(n) = u^m(b-1)v(b) - u^m(a)v(a) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} v(n+1) \Delta u(n)w(n).$$

**Lemma 2.** *Under the hypotheses of lemma 1, if  $u(n) = r(n)\Delta x(n)$ , and  $M = \max_{k \in I^0} |x(k)|$ , then*

$$|w(n)| \leq (2M)^{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^m r^{m-i}(n+1)r^{i-1}(n).$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} w(n) &= u^{m-1}(n+1) + u^{m-2}(n+1)u(n) + \cdots + u(n+1)u^{m-2}(n) + u^{m-1}(n) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m u^{m-i}(n+1)u^{i-1}(n) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m (r(n+1)\Delta x(n+1))^{m-i} (r(n)\Delta x(n))^{i-1}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} |w(n)| &\leq \sum_{i=1}^m r^{m-i}(n+1) |\Delta x(n+1)|^{m-i} r^{i-1}(n) |\Delta x(n)|^{i-1} \\ &\leq (2M)^{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^m r^{m-i}(n+1) r^{i-1}(n). \end{aligned}$$

### 3. Main Results

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $x(n)$  be a solution of the equation (1) such that  $x(a) = x(b) = 0$ , and  $x(n) \neq 0, \forall n \in I^0$ . If  $m$  is a nonnegative integer, then*

$$4 \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1) r^{i-1}(n) \right). \quad (3)$$

**Proof.** Let  $M = \max_{k \in I^0} |x(k)|$ . Then  $M > 0$ , since  $x(n) \neq 0, \forall n \in I^0$ . From the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) &= \sum_{n=a}^{k-1} \Delta x(n), \quad k \in I^0. \\ x(k) &= - \sum_{n=k}^{b-1} \Delta x(n), \quad k \in I^0, \end{aligned}$$

it follows that

$$2|x(k)| \leq \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)|, \quad k \in I^0.$$

Hence

$$2M \leq \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)|,$$

so that

$$(2M)^{2m+2} \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} r^{-\frac{2m-1}{2m+2}}(n) r^{\frac{2m+1}{2m+2}}(n) |\Delta x(n)| \right)^{2m+2}.$$

Using Hölder's inequality with indices  $\frac{2m+2}{2m+1}, 2m+2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2M)^{2m+2} &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} (r^{-\frac{2m-1}{2m+2}}(n))^{\frac{2m+2}{2m+1}} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} (r^{\frac{2m+1}{2m+2}}(n) |\Delta x(n)|)^{2m+2} \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} r^{2m+1}(n) |\Delta x(n)|^{2m+2} \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} (r(n) \Delta x(n))^{2m+1} \Delta x(n) \right). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Lemma 1 that

$$(2M)^{2m+2} \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} (x(n+1) \Delta(r(n) \Delta x(n)) w(n)) \right), \quad (4)$$

where  $w(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{2m} (r(n+1) \Delta x(n+1))^{2m-i} (r(n) \Delta x(n))^i$ , Since  $\Delta(r(n) \Delta x(n)) =$

$-p(n)x(n)$ , it follows from (4), and lemma 2 that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2M)^{2m+2} &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} x(n+1)p(n)x(n)w(n) \right) \\
 &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |x(n+1)| |p(n)| |x(n)| |w(n)| \right) \\
 &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} M^2 \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| |w(n)| \right) \\
 &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} M^2 \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| (2M)^{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n) r^{i-1}(n) \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$4 \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1) r^{i-1}(n) \right).$$

This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Remark 1.** In the special case  $m = 0$ , the inequality (3) reduces to the inequality (2) in Theorem A.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $p_1(n)$ ,  $p_2(n)$ ,  $r(n)$  be real-valued functions defined on  $I$ , and  $r(n) > 0$  for  $n \in I = \{a, a+1, \dots, b\}$ . Let  $x(n)$  be a solution of the equation  $\Delta(r(n)\Delta x(n)) + p_1(n)\Delta x(n) + p_2(n)x(n) = 0$  such that  $x(a) = x(b) = 0$  and  $x(n) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall n \in I^0$ . If  $m$  is a nonnegative integer, then

$$4 \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} (2|p_1(n)| + |p_2(n)|) \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1) r^{i-1}(n) \right). \quad (5)$$

**Proof.** As in the proof of theorem 1, we have

$$(2M)^{2m+2} \leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} x(n+1) \Delta(r(n)\Delta x(n)) w(n) \right)$$

Since  $-\Delta(r(n)\Delta x(n)) = p_1(n)\Delta x(n) + p_2(n)x(n)$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (2M)^{2m+2} &\leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-2} x(n+1)(p_1(n)\Delta x(n) + p_2(n)x(n))w(n)\right) \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |x(n+1)|(|p_1(n)||\Delta x(n)|\right. \\ &\quad \left.+ |p_2(n)||x(n)|)|w(n)|\right) \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-2} M(|p_1(n)|2M + |p_2(n)|M)|w(n)|\right) \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-2} M^2(2|p_1(n)| + |p_2(n)|)(2M)^{2m}\right. \\ &\quad \left.\sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1)r^{i-1}(n)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$4 \leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-2} (2|p_1(n)| + |p_2(n)|) \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1)r^{i-1}(n)\right).$$

**Remark 2.** The inequality (5) reduces to the inequality (3) when  $p_1(n) \equiv 0$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $x(n)$  be a solution of the equation (1) such that  $x(a) = \sigma_1 x(a+1)$ ,  $x(b) = \sigma_2 x(b-1)$ , where  $-1 \leq \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \leq 1$ , and  $x(n) \neq 0$ .  $\forall n \in I^0$ . If  $m$  is a nonnegative integer, then

$$\begin{aligned} &(2 - |\sigma_1| - |\sigma_2|)^{2m+2} \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)}\right)^{2m+1} \left(r^{2m+1}(b-1)(1 - \sigma_2)^{2m+1}|\sigma_2| \right. \\ &\quad \left.+ r^{2m+1}(a)(1 - \sigma_1)^{2m+1}|\sigma_1| + \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)|2^{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i}(n+1)r^{i-1}(n)\right) \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

**Proof.** Let  $M = \max_{k \in I} |x(k)|$ . Then  $M > 0$ , since  $x(n) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall n \in I^0$ . We have

$$x(k) = \sum_{n=a}^{k-1} \Delta x(n) + x(a), \text{ and } x(k) = x(b) - \sum_{n=k}^{b-1} \Delta x(n),$$

so that

$$|x(k)| \leq \sum_{n=a}^{k-1} |\Delta x(n)| + |x(a)| \text{ and } |x(k)| \leq x(b) + \sum_{n=k}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)|.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 2|x(k)| &\leq \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)| + |x(a)| + |x(b)| \\ &= \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)| + |\sigma_1||x(a+1)| + |\sigma_2||x(b-1)| \\ &\leq \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)| + (|\sigma_1| + |\sigma_2|)M, \quad k \in I, \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$2M \leq \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)| + (|\sigma_1| + |\sigma_2|)M.$$

On subtraction and rise to the power  $2m+2$ , where  $m > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2 - |\sigma_1| - |\sigma_2|)^{2m+2} M^{2m+2} &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} |\Delta x(n)| \right)^{2m+2} \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} r^{\frac{-2m-1}{2m+2}}(n) r^{\frac{2m+1}{2m+2}}(n) |\Delta x(n)| \right)^{2m+2} \end{aligned}$$

Using lemma 1, lemma 2 and applying Hölder's inequality to infer

$$\begin{aligned} (2 - |\sigma_1| - |\sigma_2|)^{2m+2} M^{2m+2} &\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} r^{2m+1}(n) |\Delta x(n)|^{2m+2} \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} (r(n) \Delta x(n))^{2m+2} \Delta x(n) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( (r(b-1)\Delta x(b-1))^{2m+1} x(b) - (r(a)\Delta x(a))^{2m+1} x(a) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} x(n+1)\Delta(r(n)\Delta x(n))w(n) \right) \\
&= \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( (r(b-1)\Delta x(b-1))^{2m+1} x(b) - (r(a)\Delta x(a))^{2m+1} x(a) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} x(n+1)p(n)x(n)w(n) \right) \\
&\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \left( r^{2m+1}(b-1)|\Delta x(b-1)|^{2m+1}|x(b)| \right. \\
&\quad \left. + r^{2m+1}(a)|\Delta x(a)|^{2m+1}|x(a)| + \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |x(n+1)||p(n)||x(n)||w(n)| \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
|\Delta x(b-1)|^{2m+1} &= |x(b) - x(b-1)|^{2m+1} \\
&= |\sigma_2 x(b-1) - x(b-1)|^{2m+1} \leq |\sigma_2 - 1|^{2m+1} M^{2m+1} \\
|x(b)| &= |\sigma_2 x(b-1)| \leq \sigma_2 M \\
|\Delta x(a)|^{2m+1} &= |x(a+1) - x(a)|^{2m+1} \\
&= |x(a+1) - \sigma_1 x(a+1)|^{2m+1} \leq |1 - \sigma_1|^{2m+1} M^{2m+1} \\
|x(a)| &= |\sigma_1 x(a+1)| \leq |\sigma_1| M,
\end{aligned}$$

substituting these facts to (7) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&(2 - |\sigma_1| - |\sigma_2|)^{2m+2} M^{2m+2} \\
&\leq \left( \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \frac{1}{r(n)} \right)^{2m+1} \cdot \left( r^{2m+1}(b-1)(1 - \sigma_2)^{2m+1} |\sigma_2| M^{2m+2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + r^{2m+1}(a)(1 - \sigma_1)^{2m+1} |\sigma_1| M^{2m+2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{n=a}^{b-2} |p(n)| M^2 (2M)^{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{2m+1} r^{2m+1-i} (n+1) r^{i-1}(n) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Dividing both sides by  $M^{2m+2}$  we get the desired inequality.

**Remark 3.** When  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 0$ , the inequality (6) reduced to the inequality (3).

### References

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