

A NOTE ON SUMS OF INDEPENDENT UNIFORMLY  
DISTRIBUTED RANDOM VARIABLES

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**Introduction.** Let  $(t_i)$  be a sequence of independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ . We are looking for the best constants  $A_p$  and  $B_p$  such that for every sequence  $(a_i)$  of real numbers the following inequalities hold:

$$A_p \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^2 \right)^{1/2} \leq \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq B_p \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

These inequalities with the best possible constants have some importance for geometric problems and elsewhere. Some estimates for  $A_p$  and  $B_p$  were found by K. Ball [1]. The values of  $B_{2m}$  for  $m$  positive integers are known (cf. [4], Chapter 12.G).

Let  $g$  be a standard normal variable and

$$\gamma_p = (E|g|^p)^{1/p} = \sqrt{2} \left( \frac{\Gamma(\frac{p+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^{1/p}.$$

We will prove that

$$A_p = \begin{cases} \gamma_p & \text{for } p \in [1, 2], \\ \frac{3^{1/2}}{(p+1)^{1/p}} & \text{for } p \geq 2, \end{cases} \quad B_p = \begin{cases} \frac{3^{1/2}}{(p+1)^{1/p}} & \text{for } p \in [1, 2], \\ \gamma_p & \text{for } p \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

The same inequalities for a Bernoulli sequence  $(\varepsilon_i)$ , i.e. the sequence of independent symmetric random variables taking on values  $\pm 1$ , were studied by Haagerup [3]. We will not use Haagerup's results, but it should be pointed out that they immediately yield the values of some  $A_p$  and  $B_p$  (since  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} \varepsilon_i$  has the same distribution as each of  $t_i$ ).

**I. The inequalities in the real case.** We start with some well known facts about symmetric unimodal variables (cf. [2]); we present the proofs for completeness.

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DEFINITION 1. A random real variable  $X$  is called *symmetric unimodal* (s.u.) if it has a density with respect to the Lebesgue measure and the density function is symmetric and nonincreasing on  $[0, \infty)$ .

LEMMA 1. A real random variable  $X$  is s.u. if and only if there exists a probability measure  $\mu$  on  $[0, \infty)$  such that the density function  $g(x)$  of  $X$  is

$$g(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{2t} \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) d\mu(t) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

PROOF. Let  $g(x)$  be the density of some s.u. random variable. Since  $g$  is nonincreasing on  $[0, \infty)$  we can assume that  $g(x)$  is left-continuous for  $x > 0$ . We define the measure  $\nu$  on  $[0, \infty)$  by  $\nu[x, \infty) = g(x)$  for  $x > 0$  and let  $\mu(t) = 2t\nu(t)$ . We have, for  $x > 0$ ,

$$g(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) d\nu(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{2t} \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) d\mu(t).$$

For  $x < 0$  the above formula holds by symmetry.

Since

$$\int_0^{\infty} d\mu(t) = \int_0^{\infty} 2t d\nu(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \int \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) dx d\nu(t) = \int g(x) dx = 1,$$

$\mu$  is a probability measure.

If  $\mu$  and  $g(x)$  satisfy the lemma's assumptions then  $g(x)$  is obviously symmetric and monotone on  $[0, \infty)$  and since as above  $\int g(x) dx = 1$ ,  $g(x)$  is the density of some random s.u. variable.

LEMMA 2. If  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  and  $X_i$  are independent s.u. random variables, then  $X$  is s.u. In particular, if  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i$ , where the  $t_i$  are independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $X$  is symmetric unimodal.

PROOF. It suffices to prove the lemma for  $n = 2$  and proceed by induction.

Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be independent s.u. variables with density functions  $g_1, g_2$  and measures  $\mu_1, \mu_2$  as in Lemma 1. Then  $X_1 + X_2$  has the density

$$g(x) = g_1 * g_2(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{4ts} \chi_{[-t,t]} * \chi_{[-s,s]}(x) d\mu(t) d\mu(s)$$

and obviously  $g$  is symmetric and nonincreasing on  $[0, \infty)$ .

COROLLARY 1. Let  $p > q > 0$  and  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a sequence of independent symmetric unimodal random variables. Then

$$(p+1)^{1/p} \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \geq (q+1)^{1/q} \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right|^q \right)^{1/q}.$$

**Proof.** By Lemma 2, the random variable  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is s.u. Let  $g(x)$  be the density of  $X$  and  $\mu$  the measure given for  $X$  by Lemma 1. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right|^p\right)^{q/p} &= \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} |x|^p \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2t} \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) d\mu(t) dx \right)^{q/p} \\ &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |x|^p \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) dx \right) d\mu(t) \right)^{q/p}. \end{aligned}$$

So by the Jensen inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right|^p\right)^{q/p} &\geq \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |x|^p \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) dx \right)^{q/p} d\mu(t) \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{q+1}{(p+1)^{q/p}} \left( \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |x|^q \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) dx \right) d\mu(t) \\ &= \frac{q+1}{(p+1)^{q/p}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_0^\infty |x|^q \frac{1}{2t} \chi_{[-t,t]}(x) d\mu(t) dx \right) \\ &= \frac{q+1}{(p+1)^{q/p}} \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right|^q\right). \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 3. Let  $p \geq 1$  and define

$$G(t) = \begin{cases} (p+2) \frac{(t+1)^{p+1} - (t-1)^{p+1}}{t^2} - \frac{(t+1)^{p+2} - (t-1)^{p+2}}{t^3} & \text{for } t \geq 1, \\ (p+2) \frac{(1+t)^{p+1} + (1-t)^{p+1}}{t^2} - \frac{(1+t)^{p+2} - (1-t)^{p+2}}{t^3} & \text{for } 0 < t < 1. \end{cases}$$

Then  $G$  is nondecreasing on  $(0, \infty)$  if  $p \geq 2$  and nonincreasing if  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ .

The proof is based on the following lemma:

LEMMA 4. Let  $p \geq 1$  and let

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(t) &= (p-1)((1+t)^p - (1-t)^p) \\ &\quad - p((1+t)^{p-1} - (1-t)^{p-1}) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 1], \\ f_2(t) &= (1+t)^p((p^2-1)t^2 - 3pt + 3) \\ &\quad - (1-t)^p((p^2-1)t^2 + 3pt + 3) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 1], \\ f_3(t) &= (t+1)^p((p^2-1)t^2 - 3pt + 3) \\ &\quad - (t-1)^p((p^2-1)t^2 + 3pt + 3) \quad \text{for } t > 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f_1, f_2$  and  $f_3$  are nonnegative for  $p \geq 2$  and nonpositive for  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ .

*Proof.* Assume first that  $p \geq 2$ . We have

- $f_1(0) = 0$  and

$$f_1'(t) = p(p-1)t((1+t)^{p-2} - (1-t)^{p-2}) \geq 0 \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 1],$$

- $f_2(0) = 0$  and

$$f_2'(t) = (p+2)(p+1)tf_1(t) \geq 0 \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 1].$$

- $f_3(t) = 3(t^2 - 1)^2((t+1)^{p-2} - (t-1)^{p-2})$

$$+ (p-2)t[(p+2)t^2 - 3]((t+1)^{p-1} - (t-1)^{p-1})$$

$$+ (p-1)t((t+1)^{p-1} + (t-1)^{p-1})] \geq 0 \quad \text{for } t > 1.$$

For  $p \in [1, 2]$  the proof is analogous.

*Proof of Lemma 3.* Since  $G(t)$  is continuous it suffices to show that  $G(t)$  is nondecreasing (nonincreasing for  $p \in [1, 2]$ ) on  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, \infty)$ . But

$$G'(t) = \begin{cases} t^{-4}f_3(t) & \text{if } t > 1, \\ t^{-4}f_2(t) & \text{if } 0 < t < 1. \end{cases}$$

Hence  $G'(t) \geq 0$  for  $p \geq 2$  and  $G'(t) \leq 0$  for  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , by Lemma 4.

LEMMA 5. *If  $t_1, t_2, t_3$  are independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $a, b, c, d > 0$ ,  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2 + d^2$  with  $c \geq a \geq b \geq d$ , then*

$$E|t_1 + at_2 + bt_3|^p \leq E|t_1 + ct_2 + dt_3|^p \quad \text{for } p \in [1, 2]$$

and

$$E|t_1 + at_2 + bt_3|^p \geq E|t_1 + ct_2 + dt_3|^p \quad \text{for } p \geq 2.$$

*Proof.* Since

$$|x|^p = \frac{d^3}{dx^3} \left( \frac{x^3|x|^p}{(p+1)(p+2)(p+3)} \right)$$

we easily check by integrating by parts that for

$$c_p = \frac{1}{4(p+1)(p+2)(p+3)}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} E|t_1 + at_2 + bt_3|^p &= \frac{1}{8} \int_{-1}^1 \int_{-1}^1 \int_{-1}^1 |x_1 + ax_2 + bx_3|^p dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 \\ &= c_p \left( \frac{(a+b+1)^3|a+b+1|^p + (a-b-1)^3|a-b-1|^p}{ab} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{(a-b+1)^3|a-b+1|^p + (a+b-1)^3|a+b-1|^p}{ab} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $k = a^2 + b^2$ ,  $s = 2ab$ . Then  $a - b = \sqrt{k - s}$ ,  $a + b = \sqrt{k + s}$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(s) &= E|t_1 + at_2 + bt_3|^p \\
 &= 2c_p \left( \frac{(\sqrt{k+s}+1)^3|\sqrt{k+s}+1|^p + (\sqrt{k-s}-1)^3|\sqrt{k-s}-1|^p}{s} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{(\sqrt{k-s}+1)^3|\sqrt{k-s}+1|^p + (\sqrt{k+s}-1)^3|\sqrt{k+s}-1|^p}{s} \right) \\
 &= 2c_p \frac{g(s)}{s}.
 \end{aligned}$$

We are to show that for fixed  $k$ ,  $f(s)$  is nondecreasing if  $p \geq 2$  (nonincreasing if  $p \in [1, 2]$ ) on  $(0, k)$ .

Since  $g(0) = 0$  it suffices to prove that  $g'(s)$  is nondecreasing (nonincreasing). We have

$$g''(s) = \frac{p+3}{4} (G(\sqrt{k+s}) - G(\sqrt{k-s})),$$

where  $G(t)$  was defined in Lemma 3. Hence  $g''(s) \geq 0$  for  $p \geq 2$  and  $g''(s) \leq 0$  for  $p \in [1, 2]$  (by Lemma 3) and the proof is complete.

**COROLLARY 2.** *If  $X$ ,  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  are independent random variables,  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  are uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ ,  $X$  is symmetric unimodal and  $a, b, c, d > 0$ ,  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2 + d^2$  with  $c \geq a \geq b \geq d$ , then*

$$E|X + at_1 + bt_2|^p \leq E|X + ct_1 + dt_2|^p \quad \text{for } p \in [1, 2]$$

and

$$E|X + at_1 + bt_2|^p \geq E|X + ct_1 + dt_2|^p \quad \text{for } p \geq 2.$$

**PROOF.** Let  $g(x)$  be the density function of  $X$  and  $\mu$  be the measure given by Lemma 1. Let  $t_3$  be a random variable independent of  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ . We have, for  $p \in [1, 2]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 E|X + at_1 + bt_2|^p &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} E|x + at_1 + bt_2|^p g(x) dx \\
 &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{2s} \int_{-s}^s E|t + at_1 + bt_2|^p dt d\mu(s) \\
 &= \int_0^{\infty} E|st_3 + at_1 + bt_2|^p d\mu(s) \\
 &\leq \int_0^{\infty} E|st_3 + ct_1 + dt_2|^p d\mu(s) = E|X + ct_1 + dt_2|^p.
 \end{aligned}$$

The second equality follows from Fubini's theorem, and the inequality is a consequence of Lemma 5.

For  $p \geq 2$  we proceed in the same way.

DEFINITION 2. Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  be two sequences of real numbers. We say that  $x$  is *majorized* by  $y$  and write  $x \prec y$  if  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i^* \leq \sum_{i=1}^k y_i^*$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ , where  $(x_i^*)$  and  $(y_i^*)$  are the nonincreasing rearrangements of  $x$  and  $y$ .

PROPOSITION 1. Let  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  be two sequences of real numbers such that  $(a_i^2) \prec (b_i^2)$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be a sequence of independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ . Then

$$\left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \leq \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n b_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \quad \text{for } p \in [1, 2]$$

and

$$\left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \geq \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n b_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \quad \text{for } p \geq 2.$$

PROOF. By the lemma of Muirhead (cf. [4], Chapter 1.B) it suffices to prove the inequalities if  $a_i^2 = b_i^2$  for  $i \neq j, k$ ,  $a_j^2 = tb_j^2 + (1-t)b_k^2$  and  $a_k^2 = tb_k^2 + (1-t)b_j^2$  for some  $j, k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $t \in (0, 1)$ . By symmetry we can also assume that  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are nonnegative. So finally Proposition 1 follows from Corollary 2 if we set  $X = \sum_{i \neq j, k} a_i t_i$ .

Let  $g$  be a standard normal variable and

$$\gamma_p = (E|g|^p)^{1/p} = \sqrt{2} \left( \frac{\Gamma(\frac{p+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^{1/p}.$$

We have the following

THEOREM 1. If  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  is a sequence of independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ , and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers, then

$$\left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^2\right)^{1/2} \leq \gamma_p^{-1} \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \quad \text{for } p \in [1, 2]$$

and

$$\left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p\right)^{1/p} \leq \gamma_p \left(E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^2\right)^{1/2} \quad \text{for } p \in [2, \infty).$$

The above constants are the best possible.

PROOF. Let  $p \in [1, 2]$ . By Proposition 1,

$$E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p \geq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 \right)^{p/2} E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} t_i \right|^p.$$

But by the central limit theorem  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n (1/\sqrt{n}) t_i \right|^p = (\sqrt{1/3} \gamma_p)^p$  so

$$\left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \geq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 \right)^{1/2} \sqrt{1/3} \gamma_p = \gamma_p \left( E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

This proves the first inequality of the theorem. The second one can be established in an analogous way.

The central limit theorem shows that these constants cannot be improved. As a corollary from Proposition 1 we get the following answer to a question posed by A. Pełczyński:

**PROPOSITION 2.** *If  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  is a sequence of independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$ ,  $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n$  is a Bernoulli sequence of random variables and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers, then*

$$\frac{1}{2} E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i \right| \leq E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right| \leq \frac{2}{3} E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i \right|.$$

*The above constants are optimal.*

**PROOF.** Since for fixed  $a$  the function  $b \mapsto E|at_1 + bt_2|$  is symmetric and convex it takes its maximal value on  $[-|a|, |a|]$  at  $b = |a|$ . Hence

$$E|at_1 + bt_2| \leq \max(|a|, |b|) E|t_1 + t_2| = \frac{2}{3} \max(|a|, |b|).$$

Let us first prove the second inequality of the proposition. By symmetry we can assume that  $a_1 \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq 0$ . There are two possibilities:

Case 1:  $a_1^2 \geq \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2$ . Proposition 1 then yields

$$E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right| \leq E \left| a_1 t_1 + \left( \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2 \right)^{1/2} t_2 \right|.$$

Hence since  $E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i \right| \geq a_1$ , by (1) the inequality holds.

Case 2:  $a_1^2 < \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2$ . From Proposition 1 we deduce that

$$E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i t_i \right| \leq E \left| \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2}{2}} t_1 + \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2}{2}} t_2 \right| = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2}.$$

This combined with the Khinchin inequality

$$\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2} \leq \sqrt{2} E \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i \right| \quad (\text{cf. [5]})$$

completes the proof in this case.

Let  $\sigma = \sigma(\text{sign}(t_1), \dots, \text{sign}(t_n))$ . Then  $E((t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \sigma)$  has the same distribution as  $\frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n)$  and the first inequality of the proposition is a simple consequence of the Jensen inequality.

To see that the constants are optimal it suffices to take  $n = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 1$  for the first inequality and  $n = 2$ ,  $a_1 = a_2 = 1$  for the second.

**II. The vector case.** In the sequel we will consider the linear space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . The Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  will be denoted by  $|\cdot|$ . We will consider some analogues in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of unimodal real variables. Our definitions are different from what can be found in the literature (cf. [2]).

DEFINITION 3. Let  $X$  be a bounded random vector with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

We call  $X$  *convex-uniform* (c.u.) if  $X$  is uniformly distributed on some open bounded convex symmetric set  $A_X$ , i.e. for each measurable set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\Pr(X \in B) = \frac{|B \cap A_X|}{|A_X|}.$$

We say that  $X$  is *semi-convex-uniform* (s.c.u.) if  $X$  has a density  $g$  and there exist a natural number  $k$ , functions  $g_1, \dots, g_k$ , and nonnegative numbers  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i = 1$  such that  $g = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i g_i$  and  $g_i$  is the density of some c.u. random vector  $X_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

$X$  is *approximately-convex-uniform* (a.c.u.) if there exist  $M > 0$  and a sequence  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  of s.c.u. random vectors bounded in norm by  $M$  converging in distribution to  $X$ .

LEMMA 6. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent convex-uniform random vectors with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $X + Y$  is a.c.u.

Proof. Let  $A_X$  and  $A_Y$  be the convex sets from Definition 3. For  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  define

$$P_v = \{(x, y) \in A_X \times A_Y : x + y = v\},$$

$$F_v = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n : x + y = v\}.$$

There exists a constant  $K$  such that  $X + Y$  has a density  $g$  given by

$$g(v) = K \lambda_{2n-1}(P_v),$$

where  $\lambda_{2n-1}$  is the Lebesgue measure on the  $(2n-1)$ -dimensional subspace  $F_v$ . First we show that for each  $a > 0$  the set

$$S_a = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n : g(v) \geq a\}$$

is convex. Indeed, let  $v, w \in S_a$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since

$$P_{\alpha v + (1-\alpha)w} \supset \alpha P_v + (1-\alpha)P_w$$

we get by the Brunn–Minkowski inequality (cf. [2])

$$g(\alpha v + (1 - \alpha)w) = K\lambda_{2n-1}(P_{\alpha v+(1-\alpha)w}) \geq K\lambda_{2n-1}(P_v)^\alpha \lambda_{2n-1}(P_w)^{1-\alpha} \geq g(v)^\alpha g(w)^{1-\alpha} \geq a^\alpha a^{1-\alpha} = a.$$

Since the sets  $A_X$  and  $A_Y$  are bounded, so is the function  $g$  and there exists a number  $M$  such that  $S_a = \emptyset$  for  $a > M$ . For a natural number  $j$  define

$$f_j = \sum_{k=0}^{jM} \Pr(g(X + Y) \in (k/j, (k + 1)/j]) \varrho_{k/j},$$

where  $\varrho_a$  is the density of a random vector uniformly distributed on  $S_a$ . Then  $f_j$  is the density of some semi-convex-uniform random vector  $Z_j$ . It is easy to observe that the sequence  $Z_j$  is uniformly bounded and converges in distribution to  $X + Y$ . And this means that  $X + Y$  is a.c.u.

**COROLLARY 3.** *If  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  is a sequence of independent a.c.u. random variables with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^k X_i$  is an a.c.u. random vector.*

**Proof.** For  $k = 2$  the corollary is a simple consequence of Lemma 6, for  $k > 2$  we proceed by induction.

**LEMMA 7.** *If  $p > q > 0$  and  $X$  is a convex-uniform random vector with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then*

$$\left(\frac{p+n}{n}\right)^{1/p} (E\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \geq \left(\frac{q+n}{n}\right)^{1/q} (E\|X\|^q)^{1/q}.$$

**Proof.** With the notation of Definition 3,

$$E\|X\|^p = \frac{1}{|A_X|} \int_{A_X} \|x\|^p dx.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \varepsilon)^{n+p} \int_{A_X} \|x\|^p dx &= \int_{(1+\varepsilon)A_X} \|x\|^p dx = \left( \int_{A_X} + \int_{(1+\varepsilon)A_X - A_X} \right) \|x\|^p dx \\ &\geq \int_{A_X} \|x\|^p dx + |(1 + \varepsilon)A_X - A_X|^{1-p/q} \left( \int_{(1+\varepsilon)A_X - A_X} \|x\|^q dx \right)^{p/q} \\ &= \int_{A_X} \|x\|^p dx + (((1 + \varepsilon)^n - 1)|A_X|)^{1-p/q} \left( (1 + \varepsilon)^{n+q} - 1 \right) \int_{A_X} \|x\|^q dx)^{p/q}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{(1 + \varepsilon)^{n+p} - 1}{(1 + \varepsilon)^n - 1}\right)^{1/p} \left(\frac{1}{|A_X|} \int_{A_X} \|x\|^p dx\right)^{1/p} \\ &\geq \left(\frac{(1 + \varepsilon)^{n+q} - 1}{(1 + \varepsilon)^n - 1}\right)^{1/q} \left(\frac{1}{|A_X|} \int_{A_X} \|x\|^q dx\right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

The inequality of the lemma is obtained by letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.** *If  $p > q > 0$  and  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  are independent a.c.u. random vectors with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then for  $S = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i$ ,*

$$\left(\frac{p+n}{n}\right)^{1/p} (E\|S\|^p)^{1/p} \geq \left(\frac{q+n}{n}\right)^{1/q} (E\|S\|^q)^{1/q}.$$

**Proof.** According to Corollary 3 we can assume that  $k = 1$ . By an approximation argument it suffices to prove the inequality for  $S$  a s.c.u. random vector. But in this case it is a simple consequence of Lemma 7 and the Jensen inequality.

Finally, since  $x_i t_i$  is an a.c.u. random vector we obtain the following corollary:

**COROLLARY 4.** *If  $p > q > 0$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_k$  are independent random variables uniformly distributed on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then for  $S = \sum_{i=1}^k t_i x_i$ ,*

$$\left(\frac{p+n}{n}\right)^{1/p} (E\|S\|^p)^{1/p} \geq \left(\frac{q+n}{n}\right)^{1/q} (E\|S\|^q)^{1/q}.$$

**Remark.** The above results are also valid for  $p > q > -n$  and the proofs are very similar.

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