A Roundabout Proof of Schwarz's Inequality

1 Introduction

I will show a roundabout proof of Schwarz's Inequality.

Theorem 1. H is a inner product space. Then

$$|(u,v)| \le ||u|| ||v|| \ (\forall u \in H, \forall v \in H)$$

We can gave a proof of the above theorem without the following assumption

$$u \neq 0 \ then \ ||u|| \neq 0 \ (\forall u \in H) \tag{1}$$

2 A proof

Firstly, the above theorem is obviously true when (u,v)=0. So we can assume $(u,v)\neq 0$. Let $\theta\in [0,2\pi)$ be a argument of (u,v) and let $u':=exp(i(-\theta))u$. $exp(i(-\theta))(u,v)$ is a real positive number. So, if u',v satisfies Shuwartz' inequality, u,v satisfies the one since

$$|(u,v)| = |exp(i(-\theta))(u,v)|$$

$$= exp(i(-\theta))(u,v)$$

$$= (u',v)$$

$$\leq ||u'|||v||$$

$$= ||u||||v||$$
(2)

So we can assume

$$(u,v) \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } (u,v) > 0$$
 (3)

Hereafter, on these assumptions, we will show

- If $||u||||v|| \neq 0$, the above theorem is true
- $||u||||v|| \neq 0$

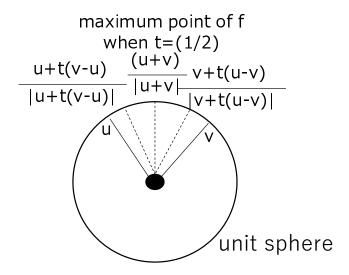


Figure 2.1: Image of poins on unit sphere

2.1 The theorem is true when u and v have not zero norm

In this case, we can assume u,v is in unit sphere. The above theorem claims that $(\frac{u}{||u||},\frac{v}{||v||})$ reachs the maximum value 1 when u=v on unit sphere $\{u\in H|\ ||u||=1\}$. By seeing Figure2.1 so we can guess

$$f: [0,1] \ni t \mapsto \frac{(u+t(v-u), v+t(u-v))}{(||u+t(v-u)||)(||v+t(u-v)||)} \in \mathbb{R}$$
 (4)

reachs the maximum value 1 at $t = \frac{1}{2}$.

The following is true

$$f(0) = (u, v) \tag{5}$$

It is enought to show the following proposition

Proposition 1.

$$f_p: [0,1] \ni t \mapsto \frac{(u+t(v-u), v+t(u-v))}{((||u+t(v-u)||+p)(||v+t(u-v)||+p))} \in \mathbb{R}$$
 (6)

reachs the maximum at $t = \frac{1}{2}$ for all p > 0.

Actually, if Proposition 1 is true, then $f_p(0) \leq f_p(\frac{1}{2}) \ (\forall p > 0)$. So

$$\frac{(u,v)}{(1+p)^2} \le \left(\frac{\frac{1}{4}||u+v||^2}{\left(\frac{1}{2}||u+v||+p\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}||u+v||+p\right)}\right) \ (\forall p > 0) \tag{7}$$

Since (u, v) > 0, ||u + v|| > 0. Reaching $p \to 0$, we get Shwartz Inequality

$$(u,v) \le 1 = ||u||||v|| \tag{8}$$

So, hereafter, we will show Proposition 1.

We define

$$a: \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (u + t(v - u), v + t(u - v)) \in \mathbb{R}$$
(9)

So, we get

$$a(t) = -||u - v||^2 t^2 + ||u - v||^2 t + (u, v) \ (\forall t \in \mathbb{R})$$
 (10)

So a reachs the maximum at $t = \frac{1}{2}$. We notice a reachs the maximum at $t = \frac{1}{2}$ even if u, v is not in unit sphere.

$$||u + t(v - u)||^2 = ||v + t(u - v)||^2 = ||v - u||^2 t^2 + (2(u, v) - 2)t + 1$$
 (11)

and

$$||v - u||^2 = -(2(u, v) - 2)$$
(12)

So if we define

$$b: \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto ((||u + t(v - u)|| + p)(||v + t(u - v)|| + p)) \in \mathbb{R}$$
 (13)

then b reachs the minimum at $t = \frac{1}{2}$. So the theorem is true when $||u|| ||v|| \neq 0$.

2.2 u and v have not zero norm

We will show $||u||||v|| \neq 0$. Firstly we assume ||u|| = ||v|| = 0. Then

$$a(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}(u, v) \ge a(0) = (u, v) \tag{14}$$

So (u, v) = 0, this contradicts with (3). Secondly we assume ||u|| = 0, $||v|| \neq 0$. We can assume ||v|| = 1. We define for positive number p

$$a_p: \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (pu + t(v - pu), v + t(pu - v)) \in \mathbb{R}$$
 (15)

Similarly to the above discussion a_p reachs the maximum at $t = \frac{1}{2}$.

$$0 \le a_{\frac{1}{(u,v)}}(\frac{1}{2}) - a(0) = 1 - 2\frac{1}{(u,v)}(u,v) = -1 \tag{16}$$

This is a contradiction. So $||u||||v|| \neq 0$.