

Generalizations of the Hardy—Littlewood inequality. II

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1. G. H. HARDY and J. E. LITTLEWOOD [2] proved the following

Theorem A. Suppose that $a_n \geq 0$ ($n=1, 2, \dots$) and that c is a real number. Set

$$A_{m,n} = \sum_{v=m}^n a_v.$$

If $p > 1$ we have

$$(1) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} A_{1,n}^p \leq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} (n \cdot a_n)^p \quad \text{with } c > 1, *$$

$$(2) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} A_{n,\infty}^p \leq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} (n \cdot a_n)^p \quad \text{with } c < 1;$$

and if $0 < p < 1$ we have

$$(3) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} A_{1,n}^p \geq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} (n \cdot a_n)^p \quad \text{with } c > 1,$$

$$(4) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} A_{n,\infty}^p \geq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} (n \cdot a_n)^p \quad \text{with } c < 1.$$

The inequalities (1) and (2) were generalized by H. P. MULHOLLAND [4], moreover (3) and (4) by CHEN YUNG MING [1], replacing the function x^p in (1)—(4) by more general functions, notably they proved inequalities of the following type

$$(5) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} \Phi(A_{1,n}) \leq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} \Phi(na_n),$$

$$(6) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} \Psi(A_{1,n}) \geq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-c} \Psi(na_n)$$

under certain conditions on the functions $\Phi(x)$, $\Psi(x)$ and C .

*) K denotes a positive absolute constant, not necessarily the same at each occurrence.

Theorem A was generalized in another direction by L. LEINDLER [3], who replaced in (1)—(4) the sequence $\{n^{-c}\}$ by an arbitrary sequence $\{\lambda_n\}$; for instance he proved the following inequality:

$$(7) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n A_{1,n}^p \leq p^p \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n^{1-p} \left(\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \lambda_m \right)^p a_n^p$$

with $p \geq 1$ and $\lambda_n > 0$.

In the present paper we prove a theorem which contains all of these results.

2. We use the following notations:

- a) $\Phi(x)$ ($x \geq 0$) denotes a non-negative function such that $\varphi(x) = \Phi(x)/x$ is increasing and, for some $k > 1$, $f(x) = \Phi(x)/x^k$ is decreasing.
- b) $\Psi(x)$ ($x \geq 0$) denotes a non-negative function increasing to infinity such that $\varrho(x) = \Psi(x)/x$ is decreasing to zero, when x is increasing from zero to infinity.
- c) $A_{m,n} = \sum_{i=m}^n \lambda_i$ ($1 \leq m \leq n \leq \infty$).

3. We prove the following

Theorem. *If $a_n \geq 0$ and $\lambda_n > 0$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$), then*

$$(8) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Phi(A_{1,n}) \leq K_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Phi\left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{n,\infty}\right),$$

and

$$(9) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Phi(A_{n,\infty}) \leq K_2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Phi\left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{1,n}\right),$$

where K_1 and K_2 are constants depending on Φ ; furthermore

$$(10) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi\left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{n,\infty}\right) \leq C_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi(A_{1,n})$$

and

$$(11) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi\left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{1,n}\right) \leq C_2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi(A_{n,\infty}),$$

where C_1 and C_2 are positive absolute constants.

4. We remark that this theorem implies LEINDLER's theorem [3] and several results of CHEN YUNG MING [1] and H. P. MULHOLLAND [4]; the method of proof of (10) and (11) is similar to that of LEINDLER's theorem.

5. We require the following lemmas:

Lemma 1. *If $\Phi(x)$ and $\varphi(x)$ are the functions defined above and $a_v \geq 0$, then*

$$\Phi(A_{1,n}) \leq K \sum_{v=1}^n a_v \varphi(A_{1,v}).$$

Lemma 2. If $\Phi(x)$ and $\varphi(x)$ are the functions defined above, and $a_v \geq 0$, then for every natural number N

$$\Phi(A_{n,N}) \leq K \sum_{v=n}^N a_v \varphi(A_{v,N}).$$

Lemma 3. If $b_n > 0$, $c_n \geq 0$, $a_n \geq 0$ ($n=1, 2, \dots$) and if for every natural number N

$$\sum_{n=1}^N b_n \Phi(A_{n,N}) \leq K \sum_{n=1}^N c_n,$$

then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \Phi(A_{n,\infty}) \leq K \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n.$$

6. Proof of Lemma 1. Let $f(x)$ be the function defined above, in point 2, and write A_n instead of $A_{1,n}$. Then

$$\Phi(A_n) = \Phi(A_1) + \Phi(A_2) - \Phi(A_1) + \dots + \Phi(A_n) - \Phi(A_{n-1});$$

as

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(A_m) - \Phi(A_{m-1}) &= f(A_m)A_m^k - f(A_{m-1})A_{m-1}^k \leq \\ &\leq kf(A_m)A_m^{k-1}(A_m - A_{m-1}) = k\varphi(A_m)a_m \quad \text{for } m \geq 2, \end{aligned}$$

and $\Phi(A_1) \leq k\varphi(A_1)a_1$, we obtain the assertion.

Proof of Lemma 2. Let us write B_n for $A_{n,N}$ ($N \geq n$). Then

$$\Phi(B_n) = \Phi(B_n) - \Phi(B_{n+1}) + \dots + \Phi(B_{N-1}) - \Phi(B_N) + \Phi(B_N);$$

using the estimations

$$\Phi(B_m) - \Phi(B_{m+1}) = f(B_m)B_m^k - f(B_{m+1})B_{m+1}^k \leq k\varphi(B_m)(B_m - B_{m+1}) = k\varphi(B_m)a_m,$$

and

$$\Phi(B_N) \leq k\varphi(B_N)a_N,$$

we obtain the assertion.

Proof of Lemma 3. This can be done by an easy computation.

7. Proof of the Theorem. Inequality (8). Applying Lemma 1 we obtain that

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi(A_{1,n}) \leq k \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \sum_{v=1}^n a_v \varphi(A_{1,v}) = \sum_1$$

holds for every natural number N .

Interchanging the order of the summations we have

$$\sum_{1} = k \sum_{v=1}^N a_v \varphi(A_{1,v}) A_{v,N} = k \sum_{v=1}^N t^{-1} \left\{ t \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} A_{v,N} \varphi(A_{1,v}) \lambda_v \right\}.$$

Since

$$(12) \quad x\varphi(y) \cong x\varphi(x) + y\varphi(y) = \Phi(x) + \Phi(y) \quad \text{for } x \cong 0, y \cong 0$$

and

$$(13) \quad \Phi(tx) = f(tx)t^k x^k \cong t^k f(x)x^k = t^k \Phi(x) \quad \text{for } t \cong 1, x \cong 0,$$

we obtain

$$(14) \quad \sum_{1} \cong k \sum_{v=1}^N t^{-1} \left\{ \Phi \left(t \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} A_{v,N} \right) \lambda_v + \Phi(A_{1,v}) \lambda_v \right\} \cong \\ \cong k \sum_{v=1}^N \left\{ t^{k-1} \Phi \left(\frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} A_{v,N} \right) \lambda_v + t^{-1} \Phi(A_{1,v}) \lambda_v \right\}.$$

Hence, choosing t such that $1 - kt^{-1}$ be positive, we obtain

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi(A_{1,n}) \cong \frac{k \cdot t^{k-1}}{1 - k \cdot t^{-1}} \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi \left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{n,N} \right),$$

which proves (8).

Inequality (9). Applying Lemma 2 we have, for an arbitrary natural number N ,

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi(A_{n,N}) \cong k \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \sum_{v=n}^N a_v \varphi(A_{v,N}) = \sum_2.$$

Interchanging the order of the summations we obtain

$$\sum_2 = k \sum_{v=1}^N a_v \varphi(A_{v,N}) A_{1,n} = k \sum_{v=1}^N t^{-1} \left\{ t \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} A_{1,n} \varphi(A_{v,N}) \lambda_v \right\}.$$

Using (12) and (13), similarly to (14), we have

$$\sum_2 \cong k \sum_{v=1}^N \left\{ t^{k-1} \Phi \left(\frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} A_{1,v} \right) \lambda_v + t^{-1} \Phi(A_{v,N}) \lambda_v \right\}.$$

Hence, if $1 - kt^{-1} > 0$ we get

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi(A_{n,N}) \cong \frac{kt^{k-1}}{1 - kt^{-1}} \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n \Phi \left(\frac{a_n}{\lambda_n} A_{1,n} \right),$$

and using Lemma 3, we obtain (9).

Inequality (10). We may suppose that the series on the right-hand side is convergent, and thus we can define a sequence $\{m_n\}$ in the following way:

Let $m_0=0$ and for $n \geq 1$ let m_n be the smallest natural number $k (> m_{n-1})$ such that $A_{m_{n-1}+1, k} \cong A_{k+1, \infty}$. Then $A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}} \cong A_{m_{n+1}+1, \infty}$, and

$$(15) \quad A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}} \cong 2A_{m_n+1, m_{n+2}},$$

and

$$(16) \quad A_{m_n+1, \infty} \cong 2A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}.$$

We first show that

$$(17) \quad \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{m_n+1, \infty} \cdot \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) \cong 2\Psi(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}})A_{m_n+1, \infty}.$$

We use the following notations:

$$\tau_v^{(n)} = \frac{A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}}{\lambda_v}$$

Using the properties of the functions $\Psi(x)$, $\varrho(x)$ we get:

$$(18) \quad \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{m_n+1, \infty} \cdot \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) \cong A_{m_n+1, \infty} \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} a_v \varrho(\tau_v^{(n)} a_v).$$

Let v_i, \bar{v}_j denote the subscripts such that $m_n+1 \leq v_i, \bar{v}_j \leq m_{n+1}$, and

$$\tau_{v_i}^{(n)} a_{v_i} \cong A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}, \quad \tau_{\bar{v}_j}^{(n)} a_{\bar{v}_j} > A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} a_v \varrho(\tau_v^{(n)} a_v) &= \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \frac{a_v \tau_v^{(n)} \varrho(\tau_v^{(n)} a_v)}{\tau_v^{(n)}} \cong \sum_i^{(1)} \frac{A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}} \varrho(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}})}{\tau_{v_i}^{(n)}} + \\ &+ \sum_j^{(2)} \varrho(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}) a_{\bar{v}_j} \cong A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}} \varrho(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}) \sum_i^{(1)} \frac{1}{\tau_{v_i}^{(n)}} + \\ &+ \varrho(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}) \sum_j^{(2)} a_{\bar{v}_j} \cong 2\Psi(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}). \end{aligned}$$

thus, by (18), we get (17). Using (15), (16) and (17) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{v, \infty} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) &\cong 2A_{m_n+1, \infty} \Psi(A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}}) \cong \\ &\cong 2A_{m_n+1, \infty} \Psi(A_{1, m_{n+1}}) \cong 4A_{m_n+1, m_{n+1}} \Psi(A_{1, m_{n+1}}) \cong 8 \sum_{k=m_n+1}^{m_{n+2}} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\sum_{v=1}^k a_v \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\sum_{v=1}^{\infty} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{v, \infty} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) \leq 8 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{v=m_{n+1}}^{m_{n+2}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(\sum_{k=1}^v a_k \right) \leq 16 \sum_{v=1}^{\infty} \lambda_v \Psi \left(\sum_{k=1}^v a_k \right),$$

which gives (10).

Inequality (11). We distinguish two cases. First we suppose

$$A_{1, \infty} < \infty.$$

We define a sequence of integers μ_0, μ_1, \dots . We set $\mu_0=0, \mu_1=1$ and if μ_n has already been defined we choose $\mu'_{n+1}=k$, where $k (> \mu_n)$ denotes the smallest integer satisfying

$$(19) \quad A_{\mu_{n+1}, k} \geq 3A_{\mu_{n-1}+1, \mu_n}$$

provided such a k exists. If $\mu'_{n+1} > \mu_n + 1$ then let $\mu_{n+1} = \mu'_{n+1} - 1$ and if $\mu'_{n+1} = \mu_n + 1$ then let $\mu_{n+1} = \mu_n + 1$. If there exists no natural number k with (19) then let $\mu_{n+1} = \infty$. It is clear that this inductive definition always stops at some $n = N_0$, that is $\mu_{N_0} = \infty$ holds. For in opposite case, by the definition of μ_n , the inequality

$$(20) \quad 3I_{n-2} \leq I_{n-1} + I_n$$

holds for all $2 \leq n < N_0$, where $I_n = A_{\mu_{n+1}, \mu_{n+1}}$ and inequality (20) for infinitely many n would imply $\Sigma \lambda_k = \infty$ contrary to the assumption. By (20) we have for $1 \leq n < N_0 - 1$

$$(21) \quad A_{1, \mu_n} \leq 3I_{n-1} + I_n$$

and

$$(22) \quad A_{1, \mu_{N_0}} \leq 3I_{N_0-3} + 5I_{N_0-2}.$$

Next we remark that

$$(23) \quad \sum_{v=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{1, v} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) \leq 2A_{1, \mu_{n+1}} \Psi (A_{\mu_{n+1}, \mu_{n+1}}).$$

By the properties of the functions $\Psi(x), \varrho(x)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{1, v} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) &\leq \sum_{v=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} \lambda_v \Psi \left(A_{1, \mu_{n+1}} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) = \\ &= A_{1, \mu_{n+1}} \sum_{v=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} a_v \varrho \left(A_{1, \mu_{n+1}} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right) \leq A_{1, \mu_{n+1}} \sum_{v=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} a_v \varrho \left(A_{\mu_{n+1}, \mu_{n+1}} \frac{a_v}{\lambda_v} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, applying the idea of proof of (17), we obtain (23) immediately.

Using (23) we get

$$(24) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{N_0-1} \sum_{\nu=\mu_n+1}^{\mu_{n+1}} \lambda_\nu \Psi \left(A_{1,\nu} \frac{a_\nu}{\lambda_\nu} \right) \leq 2 \sum_{n=0}^{N_0-1} A_{1,\mu_{n+1}} \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) = \sum_3.$$

By the definition of the sequence $\{\mu_n\}$ and by (21) we have

$$(25) \quad \sum_3 \leq 2 \sum_{n=0}^1 A_{1,\mu_{n+1}} \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) + 2 \sum_{n=2}^{N_0-2} A_{1,\mu_{n+1}} \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) + 2A_{1,\mu_{N_0}} \Psi(A_{\mu_{N_0-1}+1,\infty}) = \sum_4 + \sum_5 + \sum_6.$$

Using (19) and (21) we get

$$(26) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_5 &\leq 2 \sum_{n=2}^{N_0-2} (A_{1,\mu_{n-1}} + A_{\mu_{n-1}+1,\mu_n}) \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) \leq \\ &\leq 2 \sum_{n=2}^{N_0-2} (3A_{\mu_{n-2}+1,\mu_{n-1}} + 2A_{\mu_{n-1}+1,\mu_n} + A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}) \leq \\ &\leq 2 \sum_{n=2}^{N_0-2} (3A_{\mu_{n-2}+1,\mu_{n-1}} + 5A_{\mu_{n-1}+1,\mu_n} + \lambda_{\mu_n+1}) \Psi(A_{\mu_n+1,\mu_{n+1}}). \end{aligned}$$

An easy computation gives by (19) and (21) that

$$(27) \quad \sum_4 \leq 2[5\lambda_1 \Psi(A_{1,\infty}) + \lambda_2 \Psi(A_{2,\infty})].$$

By (22) we obtain

$$(28) \quad A_{1,\mu_{N_0}} \Psi(A_{\mu_{N_0-1}+1,\infty}) \leq (3A_{\mu_{N_0-3}+1,\mu_{N_0-2}} + 5A_{\mu_{N_0-2}+1,\mu_{N_0-1}}) \Psi(A_{\mu_{N_0-1}+1,\infty}).$$

Using (26), (27), (28) we get

$$\sum_4 + \sum_5 + \sum_6 \leq 18 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi \left(\sum_{k=n}^{\infty} a_k \right),$$

which by (24) and (25) gives (11) in case $\sum \lambda_k < \infty$.

If $\sum \lambda_n = \infty$ then we define another index-sequence $\{m_n\}$. Let $m_0 = 0$ and $m_1 = 1$. If $m_0 < m_1 < \dots < m_n$ ($n \geq 1$) have been defined, then let m_{n+1} be the smallest natural number k with

$$(29) \quad A_{m_n+1,k} \leq 2A_{m_{n-1}+1,m_n}$$

By the definition of m_n we have

$$(30) \quad A_{1,m_{n+1}-1} \leq A_{m_{n+1},m_{n+1}-1} + 2A_{m_{n-1},m_n},$$

$$(31) \quad A_{1,m_2-1} \leq 3\lambda_1,$$

$$(32) \quad A_{m_{n-1},m_{n+1}-1} \leq 3A_{m_{n-1},m_n}.$$

First we remark that similarly to the proof of (17) and (23) we obtain the following inequalities

$$(33) \quad \sum_{k=m_n}^{m_{n+1}-1} \lambda_k \cdot \Psi \left(\Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_{n+1}-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) \leq 2\Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_{n+1}-1} \Psi(A_{m_n, m_{n+1}-1}),$$

$$(34) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{m_2-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{1, m_2-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) \leq 2\Lambda_{1, m_2-1} \Psi(A_{1, m_2-1}).$$

By the definition of sequence $\{m_n\}$ and by (30) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{1, k} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=m_n}^{m_{n+1}-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{1, m_{n+1}-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) \leq \\ & \leq \sum_{k=1}^{m_2-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{1, m_2-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{k=m_n}^{m_{n+1}-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left[\frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} (\Lambda_{m_{n+1}, m_{n+1}-1} + 2\Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_n}) \right] = \Sigma_7. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\Psi(2x) \leq 2\Psi(x)$,

$$\Sigma_7 \leq \sum_{k=1}^{m_2-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{1, m_2-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) + 2 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{k=m_n}^{m_{n+1}-1} \lambda_k \Psi \left(\Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_{n+1}-1} \frac{a_k}{\lambda_k} \right) = \Sigma_8.$$

By (33) and (34),

$$\Sigma_8 \leq 2\Lambda_{1, m_2-1} \Psi(A_{1, m_2-1}) + 4 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_{n+1}-1} \Psi(A_{m_n, m_{n+1}-1}) = \Sigma_9.$$

Using (31), (32) we get

$$\Sigma_9 \leq 6\lambda_1 \Psi(A_{1, \infty}) + 12 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \Lambda_{m_{n-1}, m_n} \Psi(A_{m_n, \infty}) \leq 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \Psi \left(\sum_{v=n}^{\infty} a_v \right),$$

which is the required inequality (11). The proof is complete.

References

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