

# Elementary Inequalities in Hypercomplex Numbers

By

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## Abstract

Es werden einige elementare Ungleichungen auf hyperkomplexe Systeme übertragen. Insbesondere werden Ungleichungen für Möbius-Transformationen in diesem allgemeinen Kontext gezeigt.

## 1. Introduction

In this paper we will extend some known inequalities for complex numbers to certain systems of hypercomplex numbers.

Let  $\mathbb{R}^s$  be the Euclidean space of vectors  $x = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}) = x_0 e_0 + x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_{s-1} e_{s-1}$ . The vectors  $e_0, \dots, e_{s-1}$  denote the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^s$ . Furthermore  $e_0$  is considered to be the real unit  $e_0 = 1$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_{s-1}$  are so-called hypercomplex units.  $x_0$  is called real part  $\text{Re}(x)$  and  $\tilde{x} = \sum_{j=1}^{s-1} x_j e_j$  is called the imaginary part  $\text{Im}(x)$ . The conjugate of  $x$  is defined by  $\bar{x} = x_0 e_0 - \tilde{x}$ , and we will further use the notation  $\text{Im}_j(x) = x_j$ . Let  $\langle x, y \rangle$  denote a bilinear product  $\mathbb{R}^s \times \mathbb{R}^s \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^s$  such that  $\langle e_0, e_j \rangle = e_j$  for  $0 \leq j \leq s-1$ ,  $\langle e_j, e_j \rangle = -e_0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq s-1$  and  $\langle e_j, e_k \rangle = -\langle e_k, e_j \rangle$  for  $0 \leq j < k \leq s-1$ . In this

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way  $H = (\mathbb{R}^s, +, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  becomes an antisymmetric hypercomplex system. One easily sees that  $\langle x, \bar{x} \rangle = \langle \bar{x}, x \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{s-1} x_j^2 = |x|^2$ , where  $|x|$  is the Euclidean norm of  $x$ .

The set  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  can be identified with  $s = 1$  or  $s = 2$ , respectively. For  $s = 4$  we obtain the quaternion algebra  $\mathbb{H}$  provided that  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle = e_3$ ,  $\langle e_2, e_3 \rangle = e_1$  and  $\langle e_3, e_1 \rangle = e_2$ . Cayley's octaves  $\mathbb{O}$ , which are a special case of  $s = 8$ , can be constructed from  $\mathbb{H}$  by the doubling method.

We set  $r = |x|$ ,  $w = |\tilde{x}|$  and  $\varphi = \arctan \frac{w}{x_0}$ . Defining the powers  $x^n = \langle x, x^{n-1} \rangle$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the relations

$$\operatorname{Re}(x^n) = r^n \cos n\varphi, \quad \operatorname{Im}_j(x^n) = r^n \frac{x_j}{w} \sin n\varphi, \quad (1)$$

hold for  $1 \leq j \leq s-1$ ,  $w \neq 0$ , (see [6]). Taking these formulas with  $n = 1$  and defining the exponential function with hypercomplex values of  $x$  by

$$e^x = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{x^k}{k!},$$

we can prove the relation

$$x = r \exp\left(\frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \varphi\right) = r \left( \cos \varphi + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \sin \varphi \right).$$

This implies De Moivre's Theorem

$$\left[ r \left( \cos \varphi + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \sin \varphi \right) \right]^n = r^n \left[ \cos(n\varphi) + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \sin(n\varphi) \right]$$

for any natural number  $n$ .

For  $x \in H$ ,  $x \neq 0$ , we define the hypercomplex logarithm of  $x$  to be

$$\varkappa_n = \log x = \log r + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} (\varphi + 2n\pi), \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Thus,  $\log x$  is an infinitely many-valued function;  $\varkappa_0$  we call the principal hypercomplex logarithm if  $0 \leq \varphi < 2\pi$ . Furthermore we can introduce logarithmic series, e.g.

$$\log(1+x) = \log |1+x| + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \arg(1+x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n}, \quad |x| < 1,$$

for which the derivation

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log(1+x) = \frac{1}{1+x} = \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n x^n, \quad |x| < 1$$

holds. We shall need the last two formulas later.

Let  $n$  be a positive integer,  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_{s-1})$ ,  $s \geq 2$ , a given hypercomplex number and consider the mapping defined by  $a \mapsto x$  :

$$x^n = a, \quad |x| = |a| = 1. \quad (2)$$

We shall try to find  $x = (x_0, \dots, x_{s-1}) \in H$  which satisfy (2). Using formula (1) we see that

$$a_0 = \operatorname{Re}(x^n) = \cos n\varphi, \quad (3)$$

$$a_j = \operatorname{Im}_j(x^n) = \frac{x_j}{w(x)} \sin n\varphi, \quad 1 \leq j \leq s-1, \text{ where} \quad (4)$$

$$\varphi = \arg x = \arctan \frac{w(x)}{x_0}, \quad w(x) \neq 0. \quad (5)$$

With these three equations, we obtain  $x_0 = w(x) \cos(\arccos a_0/n)$ . Then, taking  $w(x) = \sqrt{1 - x_0^2}$  the last relation yields

$$x_0 = \cos\left(\frac{\arccos a_0}{n}\right). \quad (6)$$

Using (3), we can write (4) in the form  $x_j/w(x) = a_j/w(a)$ . Taking into account  $w = \sqrt{1 - x_0^2}$  and (6), this implies

$$x_j = \frac{a_j}{w(a)} \sin\left(\frac{\arccos a_0}{n}\right), \quad 1 \leq j \leq s-1, \quad s \geq 2. \quad (7)$$

We thus have

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $a$  and  $x$  be hypercomplex numbers of Euclidean norm 1 and let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then for any given  $a \in H$  there exists a unique  $x = (x_0, \dots, x_{s-1}) \in H$  according (6) and (7) such that  $x^n = a$  (We always take the principle values of the trigonometric functions).*

## 2. A Special Analytic Inequality

Now we want to extend some specific inequalities to the hypercomplex numbers  $x = (x_0, \dots, x_{s-1}) \in H$ ,  $s \geq 1$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $x$  be a hypercomplex number such that  $|x| \leq 1$ , then*

$$\frac{|x|}{1 + |x|} \leq |\log(1 + x)| \leq |x| \frac{1 + |x|}{|1 + x|}.$$

*Proof:* The right-hand inequality can be shown as for complex numbers. For proving the left-hand inequality we take an arbitrary but fixed point  $x$

on the hyper sphere  $|x + 1| = C, 0 < C < 2, C \in \mathbb{R}$ , which extends from the real axis to the unit sphere. The function  $|x|/(1 + |x|)$  as well as  $|\log(1 + x)|$  (which is the principal value of the hypercomplex logarithm) are continuous along  $|x + 1| = C$ , and differentiable for  $|x + 1| < C$ . By introducing  $\Phi = \arg(x + 1)$  as independent variable, the cosine rule yields

$$|x|^2 = |x + 1|^2 + 1 - 2|x + 1| \cos \Phi \text{ resp. } |x| \frac{d|x|}{d\Phi} = |1 + x| \sin |\Phi|.$$

The function

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{d\Phi} \left[ |\log(1 + x)|^2 - \left( \frac{|x|}{1 + |x|} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= 2\Phi - 2 \frac{|x|}{(1 + |x|)^3} \frac{d|x|}{d\Phi} = 2\Phi - 2 \frac{|1 + x|}{1 + |x|^3} \sin \Phi \end{aligned}$$

does not vanish for  $\Phi = 0$ . This is a contradiction because Rolle's theorem implies that the derivation must vanish somewhere in the interior. From this the result follows immediately.

### 3. Möbius-Transformations in Hypercomplex Number Systems

In this section we will study four types of Möbius-Transformations in quaternions  $\mathbb{H}$  or octaves  $\mathbb{O}$ . We will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $|a| < 1$ . Then the Möbius-Transformations*

$$\begin{aligned} T_1(x) &= (x - a)(\bar{a}x - 1)^{-1}, & T_3(x) &= (\bar{a}x - 1)^{-1}(x - a), \\ T_2(x) &= (x - a)(x\bar{a} - 1)^{-1}, & T_4(x) &= (x\bar{a} - 1)^{-1}(x - a) \end{aligned}$$

*map the unit ball bijectively onto itself.*

*Proof:* We will prove the statement only for the function  $T_1(x)$  in  $\mathbb{O}$ . All other cases can be shown along the same lines. Let  $R$  be the boundary and  $I$  be the interior of the unit ball.

(i)  $T_1$  is invertible on  $R \cup I$ :

Let  $|y| \leq 1, |a| < 1$  and  $(x - a)(\bar{a}x - 1)^{-1} = y$ . From this it follows that

$$x - y(\bar{a}x) = a - y.$$

Each number  $x \in \mathbb{O}$  can be considered as a vector  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^8$ . Let  $b$  be a fixed number. Then the functions  $x \rightarrow bx$  and  $x \rightarrow xb$  are

linear mappings from  $\mathbb{R}^8$  to  $\mathbb{R}^8$ . We will denote by  $[b]_l, [b]_r \in \mathbb{R}^{8 \times 8}$  the corresponding matrices. Using this matrix notation, the last equation can be written as

$$(E - [y]_l[\bar{a}]_l)x = a - y,$$

where  $E$  denotes the unit matrix. This equation can be solved uniquely, if and only if  $\det(E - [y]_l[\bar{a}]_l) \neq 0$ , i.e. if there is no eigenvalue 1 of  $[y]_l[\bar{a}]_l$ .

Consider that 1 is an eigenvalue and  $v$  be the corresponding eigenvector. From this follows  $[y]_l[\bar{a}]_l v = v$ , thus  $y(av) = v$ . We obtain  $|y| \cdot |\bar{a}| = 1$ , which is a contradiction to  $|y| \leq 1, |a| < 1$ .

(ii)  $T_1$  maps  $R$  onto  $R$ :

Let  $|x| = 1$ . This implies

$$|T_1(x)| = \left| \frac{x - a}{\bar{a}x - 1} \right| = \left| \frac{x - a}{\bar{a} - \bar{x}} \right| \frac{1}{|x|} = 1,$$

since  $x^{-1} = \bar{x}$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(iii)  $T_1^{-1}$  maps  $R$  onto  $R$ :

From  $|y| = 1$  follows

$$|x - a|^2 = |\bar{a}x - 1|^2.$$

Thus

$$(x - a)(\bar{x} - \bar{a}) = (\bar{a}x - 1)(\bar{x}a - 1).$$

A simple computation verifies the identity

$$\bar{a}x - a\bar{x} + \bar{x}a - x\bar{a} = 0 \tag{8}$$

for all  $x$  and  $a$ . Thus we obtain

$$(1 - |x|^2)(1 - |a|^2) = 0.$$

The second factor of this product is  $\neq 0$ , thus  $|x| = 1$ .

(iv)  $T_1$  maps  $I$  into  $I$ : From (8) we derive

$$1 - \frac{|x - a|^2}{|\bar{a}x - 1|^2} = \frac{(1 - |a|^2)(1 - |x|^2)}{|\bar{a}x - 1|^2}$$

and

$$1 - \left( \frac{|x| \pm |a|}{1 \pm |a||x|} \right)^2 = \frac{(1 - |a|^2)(1 - |x|^2)}{(1 \pm |a||x|)^2}.$$

In the last equation either the upper or the lower sign is true. Applying the triangle inequality

$$1 - |a||x| \leq |1 - \bar{a}x| \leq 1 + |a||x|$$

to the upper relations we obtain

$$1 - \left( \frac{|x| - |a|}{1 - |x||a|} \right)^2 \geq 1 - |T_1(x)|^2 \geq 1 - \left( \frac{|x| + |a|}{1 + |x||a|} \right)^2.$$

From this we derive

$$\left( \frac{|x| - |a|}{1 - |x||a|} \right)^2 \leq |T_1(x)|^2 \leq \left( \frac{|x| + |a|}{1 + |x||a|} \right)^2 < 1.$$

(v)  $T_1^{-1}$  maps  $I$  into  $I$ :

Consider, there is an  $x = T_1^{-1}(y)$  with  $y \in I, x \notin I$ . Let  $y_0 = 0 \in I$ , then we have  $x_0 = T_1^{-1}(y_0) = a \in I$ . We consider the straight line  $\overline{y_0 y} \subset I$ . Since  $T_1^{-1}$  is continuous, there must exist a  $\tilde{y} \in \overline{y_0 y}$  with  $T_1^{-1}(\tilde{y}) = \tilde{x} \in R$ . From this we obtain  $\tilde{y} = T_1(\tilde{x}) \in R$ , which is a contradiction to  $\tilde{y} \in \overline{y_0 y} \subset I$ .

From the steps (i)–(v) we conclude the theorem.  $\square$

#### 4. Further Analytic Inequalities

Recall that we have introduced the exponential function by the power series which converges absolutely for all  $x \in \mathbb{H}$ . An alternative definition of the exponential function is

$$e^x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{x}{n} \right)^n.$$

It can be expanded by the binomial theorem and the convergence proof can be carried through as in the usual case.

For a natural number  $n$  and any hypercomplex number  $x \neq 0$  the following result can be shown by induction:

$$\left| e^x - \left( 1 + \frac{x}{n} \right)^n \right| < \left| e^{|x|} - \left( 1 + \frac{|x|}{n} \right)^n \right| < e^{|x|} \frac{|x|^2}{2n}.$$

**Proposition 4.1.** *Suppose that  $a_n \in H$  with  $a_n = \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{1}{n!}\right)$ . Then the estimate*

$$\left| \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \langle a_k, x^k \rangle - (a_0 + \langle a_1, x \rangle + \cdots + \langle a_n, x^n \rangle) \right| \leq N|x|^{n+1}e^{|x|}$$

*holds for any natural number  $n$  and  $x \in H$ .*

*Proof:* We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \langle a_k, x^k \rangle - (a_0 + \langle a_1, x \rangle + \cdots + \langle a_n, x^n \rangle) \right| = \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right| \\ & \leq M_1 \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{|x|^k}{k!} = M|x|^{n+1} e^{|x|}, \quad M \in \mathbb{R}^+. \end{aligned}$$

In the following we list a few inequalities for elementary functions in hypercomplex variables  $x = x_0 e_0 + \tilde{x} \in H$ . We use the definition of *hypercomplex sine* and *cosine* functions by Taylor series or by the generalized Euler formula

$$e^{\left(\frac{\tilde{x}}{w}\varphi\right)} = \cos \varphi + \frac{\tilde{x}}{w} \sin \varphi,$$

which links the exponential function with the trigonometric functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin x &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} x^{2k+1}, & \cos x &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} x^{2k}, \\ \sin x &= -\frac{\tilde{x}}{2w} (e^{\frac{\tilde{x}}{w}x} e^{-\frac{\tilde{x}}{w}x}), & \cos x &= \frac{1}{2} (e^{\frac{\tilde{x}}{w}x} + e^{-\frac{\tilde{x}}{w}x}). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the *hypercomplex hyperbolic* functions are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \sinh x &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}, & \cosh x &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!}, \\ \sinh x &= \frac{1}{2} (e^x - e^{-x}), & \cosh x &= \frac{1}{2} (e^x + e^{-x}). \end{aligned}$$

With these obvious definitions most of the familiar real- and complex valued trigonometric resp. hyperbolic inequalities can be extended to the hypercomplex system  $H$  (For details we refer to [5]).

**Proposition 4.2.** *If  $|x| < 1$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} |\sin x| &\leq \frac{|x|}{2} \left( e - \frac{1}{e} \right), & |\cos x| &< \frac{1}{2} \left( e + \frac{1}{e} \right), \\ |\sinh x| &\leq \frac{|x|}{2} \left( e - \frac{1}{e} \right), & |\cosh x| &< \frac{1}{2} \left( e + \frac{1}{e} \right), \\ \text{and } (3-e)|x| &\leq |e^x - 1| \leq (e-1)|x|. \end{aligned}$$

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