

Refinements of Aczél-Popoviciu and Bellman Inequalities

JinYan Miao and Silvestru Sever Dragomir

Abstract Some refinements of the celebrated Aczél-Popoviciu and Bellman inequalities in both discrete and Lebesgue integral forms are provided. We also express Hölder and Aczél-Popoviciu inequalities in a monotonous sequence $S(m)$, and the special case $S(0) \geq S(+\infty)$ is our refinement.

AMS Subject Classification (2020) 26D15

Keywords Aczél Inequality; Aczél-Popoviciu Inequality; Bellman Inequality

1 Introduction

The following theorem is well known in the literature as Hölder inequality [6].

Theorem 1.1. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, n$. Then*

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q} \geq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i, \quad (1.1)$$

abbreviating as $A \geq B$.

The theorem below is known as Aczél-Popoviciu inequality, see [1], [7].

Theorem 1.2. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ such that $a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p > 0, b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q > 0$. Then*

$$\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q} \leq a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i, \quad (1.2)$$

abbreviating as $A' \leq B'$.

The case when $p = q = 2$, provides Aczél inequality.

The following theorem is the famous Minkowski inequality [6].

Theorem 1.3. *Let $p > 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then*

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \geq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad (1.3)$$

abbreviating as $C \geq D$.

A converse of this result is incorporated in the theorem below and is known as Bellman inequality [2]:

Theorem 1.4. *Let $p > 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ such that $a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p > 0$, $b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p > 0$. Then*

$$\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \left((a_1 + b_1)^p - \sum_{i=2}^n (a_i + b_i)^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad (1.4)$$

abbreviating as $C' \leq D'$.

The comparison between two sides of Aczél inequality and CBS inequality was first considered in [3]. A similar comparison for Aczél-Popoviciu inequality and Hölder inequality is established in [5]. Theorem 5 in [5] can also be seen as a comparison between the two sides of Bellman inequality and Minkowski inequality to some extent.

Motivated by these results, in the following, we prove refinements of Aczél-Popoviciu inequality and of Bellman inequality in both discrete and integral forms.

2 The discrete case

The following inequality is a refinement of Aczél-Popoviciu inequality:

Theorem 2.1. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ be such that*

$$a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p > 0, \quad b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q > 0. \quad (2.1)$$

Then

$$(0 \leq) \frac{\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}}{a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i} \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}} \leq 1. \quad (2.2)$$

Proof. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{1/q} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q\right)^{1/q} = \\
 & = \left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} \left(a_1^p + \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{1/q} \left(b_1^q + \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{1/q} \\
 & = \left(a_1^{2p} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^2\right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^2\right)^{1/q} \\
 & = \left(a_1^{2p} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{2/p}\right]^p\right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{2/q}\right]^q\right)^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Utilize Aczél-Popoviciu inequality for four numbers to get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(a_1^{2p} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{2/p}\right]^p\right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{2/q}\right]^q\right)^{1/q} \leq \\
 & \leq a_1^2 b_1^2 - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{2/p} \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q\right)^{2/q} \leq a_1^2 b_1^2 - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i\right)^2 \\
 & = \left(a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i\right) \left(a_1 b_1 + \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i\right) = \left(a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i\right) \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i.
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves the desired result (2.2). $\square$

The following inequality abbreviated as $C + C' \leq D + D'$ can be stated as well:

Theorem 2.2. Let $p > 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ be such that

$$a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p > 0, \quad b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p > 0. \quad (2.3)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (0 \leq) & \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p\right)^{1/p} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^p\right)^{1/p} \leq \\
 & \leq \left((a_1 + b_1)^p - \sum_{i=2}^n (a_i + b_i)^p\right)^{1/p} - \left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} - \left(b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p\right)^{1/p}. \quad (2.4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Use the proof by contradiction. Assume that the strict inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} + \left(b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p\right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p\right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p\right)^{1/p} > \\
 & > \left((a_1 + b_1)^p - \sum_{i=2}^n (a_i + b_i)^p\right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^p\right)^{1/p}
 \end{aligned}$$

holds for some sequences.

From the fact that $C \geq D \geq D' \geq C' > 0$ and the assumption $C + C' > D + D'$ above, we claim that

$$C^p + C'^p > (D + D' - C')^p + C'^p$$

and

$$(D + D' - C')^p + C'^p \geq D^p + D'^p.$$

The second inequality is due to the fact that $(D + D' - C')$, C' majorizes D , D' and that $f(x) = x^p$ ($p > 1$) is a convex function on $[0, \infty)$.

If we combine the two inequalities above, we have

$$C^p + C'^p > D^p + D'^p,$$

which is

$$\left[\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \right]^p + \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \right]^p > 2(a_1 + b_1)^p.$$

However, by reverse Minkowski inequality for positive numbers $x_i, y_i, i = 1, 2$,

$$\left(x_1^{1/p} + x_2^{1/p} \right)^p + \left(y_1^{1/p} + y_2^{1/p} \right)^p \leq ((x_1 + y_1)^{1/p} + (x_2 + y_2)^{1/p})^p, \quad p > 1, \quad (2.5)$$

we have that

$$\left[\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(b_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \right]^p + \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p \right)^{1/p} \right]^p \leq 2(a_1 + b_1)^p.$$

So the assumption is wrong, hence the inequality (2.4) is proved. $\square$

There's another refinement for Theorem 2.1 as follows:

Proposition 2.3. Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ be such that the condition (2.1) is valid. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (0 \leq) & \frac{\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}}{a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i} \\ & \leq \frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right) \left(a_1^2 b_1^2 + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \right)}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q} \left(a_1^{2p} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^2 \right)^{1/q}} \quad (2.6) \\ & \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}} \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. For the second inequality, it's obvious that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(a_1^{2p} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^2 \right)^{1/q} \geq \\ & \geq a_1^2 b_1^2 + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2/p} \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2/q} \geq a_1^2 b_1^2 + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

For the first inequality, the proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.1. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q} \\ & \times \left(a_1^{2p} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^2 \right)^{1/q} = \\ & = \left(a_1^{2p} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^2 \right)^{1/q} \\ & \times \left(a_1^{2p} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{2q} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^2 \right)^{1/q} \\ & = \left(a_1^{4p} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^4 \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{4q} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^4 \right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

Utilize Aczél-Popoviciu inequality for four numbers to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(a_1^{4p} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{4/p} \right]^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{4q} - \left[\left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{4/q} \right]^q \right)^{1/q} \leq \\ & \leq a_1^4 b_1^4 - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{4/p} \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{4/q} \leq a_1^4 b_1^4 - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^4 \\ & = \left[a_1^2 b_1^2 + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \right] \left[a_1^2 b_1^2 - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \right] \\ & = \left[a_1^2 b_1^2 + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \right] \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right) \left(a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the desired result (2.6). $\square$

Furthermore, defining

$$S(m) = \frac{\prod_{k=0}^m \left((a_1 b_1)^{2^k} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^{2^k} \right)}{\prod_{k=0}^m \left(a_1^{p 2^k} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2^k} \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{q 2^k} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2^k} \right)^{1/q}},$$

we have the following conclusions.

Lemma 2.4. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ be such that the condition (2.1) is valid. Then*

$$S(+\infty) = \frac{\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}}{a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i}.$$

Proof. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} S(m) \cdot \frac{a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i}{\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}} &= \\ &= \frac{(a_1 b_1)^{2^{m+1}} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^{2^{m+1}}}{\left(a_1^{p 2^{m+1}} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{q 2^{m+1}} - \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/q}} \\ &= L(m). \end{aligned}$$

Let $m \rightarrow +\infty$, $L(m) = 1$, thus the conclusion is proved. $\square$

Theorem 2.5. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $a_i, b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ be such that the condition (2.1) is valid. Then*

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}} = S(0) \geq S(1) \geq \dots \geq S(+\infty) = \frac{\left(a_1^p - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^q - \sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{1/q}}{a_1 b_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i}.$$

Proof. Note that

$$\frac{S(m)}{S(m+1)} = \frac{\left(a_1^{p 2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{q 2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/q}}{(a_1 b_1)^{2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^{2^{m+1}}},$$

while

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(a_1^{p2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/p} \left(b_1^{q2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2^{m+1}} \right)^{1/q} \geq \\ & \geq (a_1 b_1)^{2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^p \right)^{2^{m+1}/p} \left(\sum_{i=2}^n b_i^q \right)^{2^{m+1}/q} \\ & \geq (a_1 b_1)^{2^{m+1}} + \left(\sum_{i=2}^n a_i b_i \right)^{2^{m+1}}, \end{aligned}$$

so $\frac{S(m)}{S(m+1)} \geq 1$, and the inequality chain is proved. $\square$

As can be seen, there are infinite terms between Hölder and Aczél-Popoviciu inequalities, and Proposition 2.3 is one case.

3 Integral version

The integral forms of Aczél-Popoviciu type inequalities are considered in [4], [8], [9], [10] for Riemann integrable functions or Lebesgue integrable functions. The theorem below is the Lebesgue integral form of Aczél-Popoviciu inequality.

Theorem 3.1. *Let $p, q > 1$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $f \in L^p[a, b]$, $g \in L^q[a, b]$ such that*

$$\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \leq A^p, \quad \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \leq B^q \quad (3.1)$$

holds for some positive constants A, B . Then

$$(0 \leq) \left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(B^q - \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q} \leq AB - \int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx. \quad (3.2)$$

With similar idea, we consider the integral version of Theorem 2.1 as follows.

Theorem 3.2. *With the assumptions of Theorem 3.1 we have*

$$\begin{aligned} (0 \leq) & \frac{\left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(B^q - \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q}}{AB - \int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx} \\ & \leq \frac{AB + \int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx}{\left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(B^q + \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q}} \leq 1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Proof. The second inequality is obvious due to the discrete and integral version of Hölder inequality. For the first inequality, observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(B^q - \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q} \\
 & \times \left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(B^q + \int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q} = \\
 & = \left(A^{2p} - \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^2 \right)^{1/p} \left(B^{2q} - \left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^2 \right)^{1/q} \\
 & = \left(A^{2p} - \left[\left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{2/p} \right]^p \right)^{1/p} \left(B^{2q} - \left[\left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{2/q} \right]^q \right)^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Utilize Aczél-Popoviciu inequality for four numbers to get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(A^{2p} - \left[\left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{2/p} \right]^p \right)^{1/p} \left(B^{2q} - \left[\left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{2/q} \right]^q \right)^{1/q} \leq \\
 & \leq A^2 B^2 - \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{2/p} \left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^q dx \right)^{2/q} \\
 & \leq A^2 B^2 - \left(\int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx \right)^2 \\
 & = \left(AB + \int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx \right) \left(AB - \int_a^b |f(x)g(x)| dx \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves the desired result (3.3). □

Similarly, we also consider integral version for Theorem 3.1.

Theorem 3.3. Let $p > 1$ and $f, g \in L^p[a, b]$ such that

$$\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \leq A^p, \quad \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \leq B^p \tag{3.4}$$

holds for some positive constants A, B . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (0 \leq) & \left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p + \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\
 & - \left((A + B)^p + \int_a^b |f(x) + g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\
 & \leq \left((A + B)^p - \int_a^b |f(x) + g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\
 & - \left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} - \left(B^p - \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.2. Use the proof by contradiction. Assume that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p - \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & + \left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p + \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} > \\ & > \left((A+B)^p + \int_a^b |f(x) + g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & + \left((A+B)^p - \int_a^b |f(x) + g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \end{aligned}$$

holds for some functions. Based on this assumption and similar discussion in Theorem 2.2, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p - \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \right]^p \\ & + \left[\left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p + \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \right]^p \\ & > 2(A+B)^p. \end{aligned}$$

However, by reverse Minkowski inequality (2.5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\left(A^p - \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p - \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \right]^p \\ & + \left[\left(A^p + \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} + \left(B^p + \int_a^b |g(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \right]^p \\ & \leq 2(A+B)^p. \end{aligned}$$

So the assumption is wrong, hence the inequality (3.5) is proved. $\square$

Remark 3.1. In [3], [5], the difference between two sides of Aczél-Popoviciu inequality and Hölder inequality is compared, in this paper, we compare the ratio of two sides in Aczél-Popoviciu inequality and Hölder inequality in Theorem 2.1 and Proposition 2.3. Inequality $0 \leq C^p - D^p \leq D'^p - C'^p$ is proved in [5] and we prove $0 \leq C - D \leq D' - C'$ in Theorem 2.2.

Acknowledgement

The authors would like to appreciate referee(s) for pointing out some error in the manuscript.

References

- [1] J. Aczél, *Some general methods in the theory of functional equations in one variable. New applications of functional equations*, Usp. Mat. Nauk (N.S.) **11**, **3** (69) (1965), 3-68 (Russian).
- [2] R. Bellman, *On an inequality concerning an indefinite form*, Am. Math. Mon. **63** (1965), 108-109.
- [3] S. S. Dragomir, Y. J. Cho, *On Aczél's inequality for real numbers*, Tamkang J. Math. **32** (2) (2001), 137-142.
- [4] Y. Lou, Y. Zheng, *The generalization of Aczél's inequality for integrals*, J. Math. Technol. **10** (2) (1994), 9-12 (Chinese).
- [5] M. Matić, J. E. Pečarić, *On Popoviciu's and Bellman's inequality*, Nonlinear Funct. Anal. Appl. **5** (1) (2000), 85-91.
- [6] D. S. Mitrinović, J. E. Pečarić, A. M. Fink, *Classical and New Inequalities in Analysis*, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, 1993.
- [7] T. Popoviciu, *On an inequality*, Gaz. Mat. Fiz., Ser. A **11** (64) (1959), 451-461 (Romanian).
- [8] J. F. Tian, *Reversed Version of a generalized Aczél's inequality and its application*, J. Inequal. Appl. **202** (2012).
- [9] J. F. Tian, S. H. Wu, *New refinements of generalized Aczél's inequality and their applications*, J. Math. Inequal. **10** (1) (2016), 247-259.
- [10] W. Yang, *Refinements of generalized Aczél-Popoviciu's inequality and Bellman's inequality*, Comput. Math. Appl. **59** (2010), 3570-3577.

JinYan Miao

ISILC, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

E-mail: s8090313@live.vu.edu.au; 954599851@qq.com

Silvestru Sever Dragomir

ISILC, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

E-mail: sever.dragomir@vu.edu.au

Received: 22.05.2025

Accepted: 15.06.2025