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LOWER BOUND AND UPPER BOUND OF OPERATORS
ON BLOCK WEIGHTED SEQUENCE SPACES

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Abstract. Let $A = (a_{n,k})_{n,k \geq 1}$ be a non-negative matrix. Denote by $L_{v,p,q,F}(A)$ the supremum of those L that satisfy the inequality

$$\|Ax\|_{v,q,F} \geq L\|x\|_{v,p,F},$$

where $x \geq 0$ and $x \in \ell_p(v, F)$ and also $v = (v_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is an increasing, non-negative sequence of real numbers. If $p = q$, we use $L_{v,p,F}(A)$ instead of $L_{v,p,p,F}(A)$. In this paper we obtain a Hardy type formula for $L_{v,p,q,F}(H_\mu)$, where H_μ is a Hausdorff matrix and $0 < q \leq p \leq 1$. Another purpose of this paper is to establish a lower bound for $\|A_W^{NM}\|_{v,p,F}$, where A_W^{NM} is the Nörlund matrix associated with the sequence $W = \{w_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ and $1 < p < \infty$. Our results generalize some works of Bennett, Jameson and present authors.

Keywords: lower bound, weighted sequence space, Hausdorff matrix, Euler matrix, Cesàro matrix, Hölder matrix, Gamma matrix

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let $v = (v_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ be an increasing, non-negative sequence of real numbers with $v_1 = v_2 = 1$ and $\sum_{n=1}^\infty v_n/n = \infty$. For $p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$, let $\ell_p(v)$ denote the space of all real sequences $x = \{x_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$, such that

$$\|x\|_{v,p} := \left(\sum_{k=1}^\infty v_k x_k^p \right)^{1/p} < \infty.$$

Next, assume that F is a partition of positive integers. If $F = (F_n)$, where each (F_n) is a finite interval of positive integers and

$$\max F_n < \min F_{n+1} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots),$$

we denote by $\ell_p(v, F)$ the space of all real sequences $x = \{x_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ such that

$$\|x\|_{v,p,F} := \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k |\langle x, F_k \rangle|^p \right)^{1/p} < \infty,$$

where $\langle x, F_k \rangle = \sum_{j \in F_k} x_j$. This space is called the block weighted sequence space (see [1]).

For a certain I_n such as $I_n = \{n\}$, $I = (I_n)$ is a partition of positive integers, $\ell_p(w, I) = \ell_p(w)$, and also $\|x\|_{w,p,F} = \|x\|_{w,p}$.

We write $x \geq 0$ if $x_k \geq 0$ for all k . We also write $x \uparrow$ for the case that $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n \leq \dots$. The symbol $x \downarrow$ is defined in a similar way. For $p, q \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$, the lower bound involved here is the number $L_{w,p,q,F}(A)$ which is defined as the supremum of those L that obey the inequality

$$\|Ax\|_{v,q,F} \geq L \|x\|_{v,p,F},$$

where $x \geq 0$, $x \in \ell_p(v, F)$, and $A = (a_{n,k})_{n,k \geq 1}$ is a non-negative matrix operator from $\ell_p(v, F)$ into $\ell_q(v, F)$. Also, we consider the upper bounds U of the form

$$\|Ax\|_{v,p,F} \leq U \|x\|_{v,p,I}$$

for all non-negative sequences x in $\ell_p(v, I)$. We seek the smallest possible value of U , and denote the best upper bound by $\|A\|_{v,p,F}$ for a matrix operator A from $\ell_p(v, I)$ into $\ell_p(v, F)$. Obviously, we have

$$L_{v,p,F}(A) \leq \|A\|_{v,p,F}.$$

In Section 2 we generalize some techniques obtained by Chen and the present authors in [6], [12] and deduce a lower bound for the Hausdorff matrices. In Section 3, we also generalize Theorem 2.4 of [14] (also, Theorem 2.1 of [9]) to matrix operators from $\ell_p(v, I)$ into $\ell_p(v, F)$ and study the upper bound problem for some Nörlund matrices.

Throughout the paper, we denote the conjugate exponent of p by p^* , so that $p^* = p/(p-1)$. We also suppose that $F_1 = \{1\}$.

2. HAUSDORFF MATRIX OPERATOR

In this part, we are interested in the problem of finding the exact value of $L_{v,p,q,F}(A)$ for the case $A = H_\mu$, where $d\mu$ is a Borel probability measure on $[0,1]$ and $H_\mu = H_\mu(\theta) = (h_{n,k}(\theta))_{n,k \geq 1}$ is the Hausdorff matrix associated with $d\mu$, defined by

$$h_{n,k}(\theta) = \begin{cases} \binom{n-1}{k-1} \int_0^1 \theta^{k-1} (1-\theta)^{n-k} d\mu(\theta), & 1 \leq k \leq n, \\ 0, & k > n. \end{cases}$$

Clearly $h_{n,k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \Delta^{n-k} \mu_k$ for $n \geq k \geq 1$, where

$$\mu_k = \int_0^1 \theta^{k-1} d\mu(\theta) \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots)$$

and $\Delta^{n-k} \mu_k = \mu_k - \mu_{k+1}$.

The Hausdorff matrices contain some famous classes of matrices. These classes are as follows:

- (i) Choice $d\mu(\theta) = \alpha(1-\theta)^{\alpha-1} d\theta$ gives the Cesàro matrix of order α ;
- (ii) choice $d\mu(\theta) =$ point evaluation at $\theta = \alpha$ gives the Euler matrix of order α ;
- (iii) choice $d\mu(\theta) = (|\log \theta|^{\alpha-1} / \Gamma(\alpha)) d\theta$ gives the Hölder matrix of order α ;
- (iv) choice $d\mu(\theta) = \alpha\theta^{\alpha-1} d\theta$ gives the Gamma matrix of order α .

The Cesàro, Hölder and Gamma matrices have non-negative entries whenever $\alpha > 0$, and also the Euler matrix is non-negative when $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$.

In this section we exhibit a Hardy type formula for $L_{v,p,q,F}(H_\mu)$, where $0 < q \leq p \leq 1$. In particular, we apply our results to the Cesàro matrices, Hölder matrices and Gamma matrices which were recently considered in [2], [4], [5], [6], and [8] on the ℓ_p spaces and in [7], [10], [11], [12] on the usual weighted sequence spaces $\ell_p(v)$.

Proposition 2.1. *Let $0 < p < 1$ and let $A = (a_{n,k})$ be a lower triangular matrix with non-negative entries. If*

$$\sup_{n \geq 1} \sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k} = R$$

and

$$\inf_{k \geq 1} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} a_{n,k} = C > 0,$$

then $\|Ax\|_{v,p,F} \geq L\|x\|_{v,p,I}$ with

$$L \geq R^{1/p^*} C^{1/p}.$$

Proof. Applying Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k} v_k x_k^p &= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k}^{1-p} (a_{n,k} v_k^{1/p} x_k)^p \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k} \right)^{1-p} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k} v_k^{1/p} x_k \right)^p \\ &\leq R^{1-p} \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_{n,k} v_k^{1/p} \right)^p. \end{aligned}$$

Since v is increasing, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R^{1-p} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{i \in F_n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_{i,j} x_j \right)^p &= R^{1-p} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{i \in F_n} \sum_{j=1}^i a_{i,j} x_j \right)^p \\ &\geq R^{1-p} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i \in F_n} \sum_{j=1}^i a_{i,j} v_j^{1/p} x_j \right)^p \\ &\geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i \in F_n} \sum_{j=1}^i a_{i,j} v_j x_j^p \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} v_j x_j^p \left(\sum_{n=j}^{\infty} a_{n,j} \right) \geq C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k \left(\sum_{j \in I_k} x_j \right)^p, \end{aligned}$$

and this leads to the desired inequality. □

For $\alpha \geq 0$, let $E(\alpha) = (e_{n,k}(\alpha))_{n,k \geq 1}$ denote the Euler matrix, defined by

$$e_{n,k}(\alpha) = \begin{cases} \binom{n-1}{k-1} \alpha^{k-1} (1-\alpha)^{n-k}, & n \geq k, \\ 0, & n < k \end{cases}$$

(cf. [2, p. 410]). For $\Omega \subset (0, 1]$ we have

$$\int_{\Omega} e_{n,k}(\theta) \, d\mu(\theta) = \mu(\Omega) \times \int_0^1 e_{n,k}(\theta) \, d\lambda(\theta),$$

where $d\lambda = (\chi_{\Omega}/\mu(\Omega)) \, d\mu$ is a Borel probability measure on $[0, 1]$ with $\lambda(\{0\}) = 0$. Hence the second part of ([3, Proposition 19.2]) can be generalized in the following way.

Proposition 2.2. *Suppose that $0 < p \leq 1$, $\Omega \subseteq [0, 1]$ and $d\mu$ is any Borel probability measure on $[0, 1]$. If $\mu(\{0\}) = 0$ or $\Omega \subset (0, 1]$, then the sequence $\|\{\int_{\Omega} e_{n,k}(\theta) \, d\mu(\theta)\}_{n=k}^{\infty}\|_{v,p}$ increases with k .*

Proposition 2.3. *Let $0 < p \leq 1$. Then $L_{v,p,F}(E(\alpha)) \geq \alpha^{-1/p}$ for $0 < \alpha \leq 1$.*

Proof. We have $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_{n,k}(\alpha) = 1$ ($n \geq 1$) and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e_{n,k}(\alpha) = \alpha^{-1}$ ($k \geq 1$). Applying Proposition 2.1 to the case that $R = 1$ and $C = \alpha^{-1}$ we deduce that $L_{v,p,F}(E(\alpha)) \geq \alpha^{-1/p}$ for $0 < p < 1$. For $p = 1$, from the Fubini theorem and the monotonicity of (v_n) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \|E(\alpha)x\|_{v,1,F} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \langle E(\alpha)x, F_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{i \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_{i,k}(\alpha) x_k \right) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} v_i \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e_{n,i}(\alpha) \right) \left(\sum_{j \in I_i} x_j \right) \geq \alpha^{-1} \|x\|_{v,1,I}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the desired inequality. This completes the proof. \square

Now we are ready to introduce the basic theorem of this section.

Theorem 2.4. *We have*

$$(2.1) \quad L_{v,p,q,F}(H_\mu) \geq \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \quad (0 < q \leq p \leq 1).$$

Moreover, the following statements are true:

- (i) For $p = q = 1$, (2.1) is an equality.
- (ii) For $0 < q < p \leq 1$ and $F_n = I_n$, (2.1) is an equality if and only if $\mu(\{0\}) + \mu(\{1\}) = 1$ or the right-hand side of (2.1) is infinity.

Proof. Consider (2.1). Let $x \geq 0$ with $\|x\|_{v,p,F} = 1$. Then $\|x\|_{v,q,F} \geq \|x\|_{v,p,F} = 1$. Applying Minkowski's inequality and Proposition 2.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|H_\mu x\|_{v,q,F} &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n |\langle H_\mu x, F_n \rangle|^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_{j,k}(\theta) x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \binom{j-1}{k-1} \int_0^1 \theta^{k-1} (1-\theta)^{j-k} d\mu(\theta) x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\int_0^1 \sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_{j,k}(\theta) x_k d\mu(\theta) \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \int_0^1 \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_{j,k}(\theta) x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} d\mu(\theta) \\
&= \int_0^1 \|E(\theta)x\|_{v,q,F} d\mu(\theta) \\
&\geq \left(\int_0^1 \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right) \|x\|_{v,q,F} \geq \int_0^1 \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta).
\end{aligned}$$

This leads to (2.1).

Now, consider (i). Let $e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots)$. Then $e_2 \geq 0$ and $\|e_2\|_{v,1,F} = 1$. Since v is increasing and $v_1 = v_2 = 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|H_\mu e_2\|_{v,1,F} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n |\langle H_\mu e_2, F_n \rangle| = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} h_{j,2}(\theta) \right) \\
&= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \int_0^1 \binom{j-1}{2-1} \theta(1-\theta)^{j-2} d\mu(\theta) \right) \\
&= \int_0^1 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} e_{j,2}(\theta) \right) d\mu(\theta) \\
&\geq \int_0^1 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{j \in F_n} e_{j,2}(\theta) d\mu(\theta) \\
&\geq \int_0^1 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} e_{n,2}(\theta) d\mu(\theta) = \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1} d\mu(\theta).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$L_{v,1,F}(H_\mu) \leq \int_{(0,1]} \frac{1}{\theta} d\mu(\theta).$$

Combining this with (2.1), we obtain (i).

Now, consider (ii). Obviously, (2.1) is an equality, if its right-hand side is infinity. For the case that $\mu(\{0\}) + \mu(\{1\}) = 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|H_\mu e_2\|_{v,q,F} &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n |\langle H_\mu e_2, F_n \rangle|^q \right)^{1/q} = \left(\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} h_{j,2}(\theta) \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&\geq \left(\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \sum_{j \in F_n} h_{j,2}^q(\theta) \right)^{1/q} \geq \left(\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n h_{n,2}^q(\theta) \right)^{1/q} \\
&= \left(\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} v_n \left(\binom{n-1}{1} \int_0^1 \theta(1-\theta)^{n-2} d\mu(\theta) \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&= \mu(\{1\}) = \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta),
\end{aligned}$$

where e_2 is defined as above. This implies that

$$L_{v,p,q,F}(H_\mu) \leq \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta)$$

and consequently, (2.1) is an equality.

Conversely, let $0 < q < p \leq 1$, $F_n = I_n$, and assume that $\mu(\{0\}) + \mu(\{1\}) \neq 1$, and also

$$\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) < \infty.$$

Then $\mu((0,1)) \neq 0$. Since $0 < q < 1$, we have

$$(2.2) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-\theta)^n < \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-\theta)^{nq}, \quad \theta \in (0,1)$$

Applying (2.2), Minkowski's inequality and the monotonicity of v , we have

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) &= \int_{(0,1]} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-\theta)^n \right)^{1/q} d\mu(\theta) \\ &< \int_{(0,1]} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-\theta)^{nq} \right)^{1/q} d\mu(\theta) \\ &\leq \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} (1-\theta)^n d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_q \\ &\leq \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} (1-\theta)^n d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q}. \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of (2.3) we can find $0 < \beta < 1$ such that

$$(2.4) \quad \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) < \beta \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} (1-\theta)^n d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q}.$$

We claim that

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} &L_{v,p,q,F}(H_\mu) \\ &\geq \min \left(\beta^{(q-p)/q} \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta), \beta \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} (1-\theta)^n d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x \geq 0$ with $\|x\|_{v,p,F} = 1$. We divide the proof into two cases: $x_{k_0} \geq \beta$ for some k_0 or $x_k < \beta$ for all k . For the first case, applying Proposition 2.2 it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|H_\mu x\|_{v,q,F} &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n |\langle H_\mu x, F_n \rangle|^q \right)^{1/q} = \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_{j,k} x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \sum_{j \in F_n} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_{j,k} x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \geq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_{n,k} x_k \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq x_{k_0} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n h_{n,k_0}^q \right)^{1/q} \geq \beta \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} e_{n,k_0}(\theta) d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=k_0}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q} \\ &\geq \beta \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} e_{n,1}(\theta) d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q} = \beta \left\| \left\{ \int_{(0,1]} (1-\theta)^n d\mu(\theta) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \right\|_{v,q}. \end{aligned}$$

As for the second case, we have

$$x_k^q \geq \beta^{q-p} x_k^p \quad (\forall k \geq 1).$$

This implies

$$\|x\|_{v,q} = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k x_k^q \right)^{1/q} \geq \beta^{(q-p)/q} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k x_k^p \right)^{1/q} = \beta^{(q-p)/q}.$$

Applying (2.1), we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \|H_\mu x\|_{v,q,F} &\geq \left(\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right) \|x\|_{v,q,F} \\ &= \left(\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} x_j \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq \left(\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \sum_{j \in F_n} x_j^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq \left(\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n x_n^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq \beta^{(q-p)/q} \left(\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, no matter which case occurs, $\|H_\mu x\|_{v,q,F}$ is always greater than or equal to the minimum stated at the right-hand side of (2.5). This leads to (2.5). It is clear that $\beta^{(q-p)/q} > 1$. Putting (2.4) and (2.5) together, we get (ii). This completes the proof. \square

In the sequel, we present several special cases of Theorem 2.4.

Let $d\mu(\theta) = \alpha(1 - \theta)^{\alpha-1} d\theta$, where $\alpha > 0$. Then H_μ reduces to the Cesàro matrix $C(\alpha)$ (see [2, p. 410]). For $0 < q \leq 1$, we have

$$\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) = \alpha \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} (1 - \theta)^{\alpha-1} d\theta = \infty.$$

Applying (2.1), we get the following result.

Corollary 2.5. *Let $\alpha > 0$. Then $L_{v,p,q,F}(C(\alpha)) = \infty$ for $0 < q \leq p \leq 1$.*

Next, consider the case $d\mu(\theta) = (|\log \theta|^{\alpha-1} / \Gamma(\alpha)) d\theta$, where $\alpha > 0$. For this case, H_μ reduces to the Hölder matrix $H(\alpha)$ (see [2, p. 410]). We have

$$\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) = \infty \quad (0 < q \leq 1).$$

Hence, the following corollary is a consequence of (2.1).

Corollary 2.6. *Let $\alpha > 0$. Then $L_{v,p,q,F}(H(\alpha)) = \infty$ for $0 < q \leq p \leq 1$.*

The third special case that we consider is $d\mu(\theta) = \alpha\theta^{\alpha-1} d\theta$, where $\alpha > 0$. Then H_μ becomes the Gamma matrix $\Gamma(\alpha)$ (see [2, p. 410]). We have

$$\int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q} d\mu(\theta) = \alpha \int_{(0,1]} \theta^{-1/q+\alpha-1} d\theta = \begin{cases} \infty, & \alpha \leq 1/q, \\ \frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1/q}, & \alpha > 1/q \end{cases}$$

Applying Theorem 2.1, we get the following corollary.

Corollary 2.7. *Let $\alpha > 0$ and $0 < q \leq p \leq 1$. Then $L_{v,p,q,F}(\Gamma(\alpha)) = \infty$ for $\alpha \leq 1/q$. Also, we have $L_{v,p,q,F}(\Gamma(\alpha)) \geq \alpha/(\alpha - 1/q)$ for $\alpha > 1/q$.*

3. NÖRLUND MATRIX OPERATOR

Let $W = (w_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of non-negative numbers with $w_1 > 0$, set $W_n = \sum_{k=1}^n w_k$, $n \geq 1$, and define the Nörlund matrix associated with $W = (w_n)$, $A_W^{NM} := A(w_n) = (a_{n,k})$, by

$$a_{n,k} = \begin{cases} \frac{w_{n-k+1}}{W_n}, & 1 \leq k \leq n, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Notice that $A(w_n) = A(cw_n)$ for any $c > 0$, so we may as well assume that $w_1 = 1$. When all the w_n are 1, A_W^{NM} is the Cesàro matrix.

In this section we focus on the evaluation of the norm of A_W^{NM} as a matrix operator from $\ell_p(v, I)$ into $\ell_p(v, F)$. We indicate that the operator norm of A_W^{NM} is no less than $\max(1, \alpha p / (p - 1))$, where $\alpha = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n w_n / W_n$ and $1 < p < \infty$ (see Theorem 3.2). Our result generalizes [14, Theorem 2.4].

Proposition 3.1. *If $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ are series with positive terms, $\sum a_n$ is divergent and $b_n/a_n \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, then $\sum b_n / \sum a_n \rightarrow 1$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$.*

Proof. See Lemma 2 of [9]. □

Theorem 3.2. *Suppose that $W = (w_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is a non-negative, non-increasing sequence of real numbers with $w_1 = 1$. Then*

$$\|A_W^{NM}\|_{v,p,F} \geq \max\left(1, \frac{\alpha p}{p-1}\right)$$

where $\alpha = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n w_n / W_n$ and $1 < p < \infty$.

Proof. Fix $\delta \in (0, 1)$, and suppose $N \geq 1$ is sufficiently large so that $w_n / W_n \geq ((1 - \delta)/n)\alpha$ for all $n \geq N$. Then $(w_{n-k+1})/W_n \geq ((1 - \delta)/n)\alpha$ for all $n \geq N$ and $1 \leq k \leq n$, because the w_j are non-increasing.

Suppose $M > N$ and define $x = (x_k)$ by

$$x_k = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{k^{1/p}}, & N \leq k \leq M, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Using conventional notation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A_W^{NM})x\|_{v,p,F}^p &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n |\langle A_W^{NM} x, F_n \rangle|^p \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \left(\sum_{j \in F_n} \sum_{k=1}^j \frac{w_{j-k+1}}{W_j} x_k \right)^p \\ &\geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \sum_{j \in F_n} \left(\frac{1}{W_j} \sum_{k=1}^j w_{j-k+1} x_k \right)^p \\ &\geq \sum_{n=N}^M v_n \left(\frac{1}{W_n} \sum_{k=N}^n w_{n-k+1} x_k \right)^p \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \sum_{n=N}^M v_n \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=N}^n \frac{1}{k^{1/p}} \right)^p \\
&\geq \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \sum_{n=N}^M v_n \left(\frac{1}{n} \int_N^n \frac{1}{x^{1/p}} dx \right)^p \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p-1} \right)^p \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \sum_{n=N}^M \frac{v_n}{n^p} (n^{1-1/p-N^{1-1/p}})^p \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p-1} \right)^p \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \zeta_M \sum_{n=N}^M \frac{v_n}{n} \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p-1} \right)^p \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \zeta_M \sum_{n=N}^M v_n \left(\sum_{j \in I_n} \frac{1}{j} \right) \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p-1} \right)^p \alpha^p(1-\delta)^p \zeta_M \|x\|_{v,p,I}^p,
\end{aligned}$$

where $\zeta_M \rightarrow 1$ as $M \rightarrow \infty$, by Proposition 3.1.

It follows that the operator norm of A_W^{NM} is no less than $(1-\delta)\alpha p/(p-1)$, and since δ was arbitrary, the operator norm of A_W^{NM} is no less than $\alpha p/(p-1)$. Since $\|A_W^{NM} e_1\|_{v,p,F} \geq 1$ where $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots)$ (note that $A_W^{NM} e_1$ is the first column of A_W^{NM} and $v_1 = 1$, and also $F_1 = \{1\}$), it follows that the operator norm of A_W^{NM} is no less than 1, either. This completes the proof of the statement. \square

Theorem 3.2 also generalizes ([7, Corollary 2.7.9]).

Corollary 3.3. *If the (w_n) of Theorem 3.2 tend to a positive limit, then*

$$\|A_W^{NM}\|_{v,p,F} \geq \frac{p}{p-1} \quad \forall p > 1.$$

Proof. It is easy to see that if (w_n) tends to a positive limit, then $nw_n/W_n \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. \square

Corollary 3.3 is an analogue of ([13, Corollary 3.3]) which is obtained in a different way.

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