

PROPERTIES OF BOUNDED CONVEX SEQUENCES

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Abstract. Some properties of the bounded convex sequences of order $m \geq 2$ are considered in this paper. As it is shown, these properties are in direct connection with the convergence of a certain class of series.

1. Introduction. When studying convergence conditions, summability and other properties of series the knowledge of sequence properties is of a decisive importance. Due to their specific nature, different classes of sequences, for example classes of bounded convergent, convex, star-shaped and other sequences (see for example [1] — [16]) are studied hardly. In this paper some properties of bounded convex sequences with order of convexity $m (\geq 2)$ and their relation with a certain class of real series is considered.

Let us first introduce some notation and definitions. Denote by S_m the class of real sequences (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, with the following properties

$$(1.1) \quad M_2 \leq a \leq M_1, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (M_1, M_2 = \text{const.}),$$

and

$$(1.2) \quad \nabla^r a_n \geq 0, \quad r = 2, \dots, m \quad (m \geq 2); \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

where

$$\nabla^r a_n = (-1)^r \Delta^r a_n, \quad (\Delta a_n = a_{n+1} - a_n, \quad \Delta^r a_n = \Delta(\Delta^{r-1} a_n)).$$

Let $(s)_p = s(s+1) \dots (s+p-1)$ and $V_n^r = \binom{n+r}{r}$ for each $p = 1, 2, \dots$, $s = 0, 1, \dots$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. We shall also quote some results, known in the literature which are in relation to those obtained in this paper.

For sequences belonging to S_2 class, the following result is proved in paper [13]:

THEOREM A. *The sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belongs to S_2 class if and only if there is a sequence (b_n) , $n \in N_0$, such that*

$$a_n = \sum_{k=0}^n (n-k+1) b_k, \quad n \geq 0,$$

$$b_k \geq 0 \quad \text{for } k \geq 2,$$

$$n \sum_{k=0}^n b_k \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)b_{k+1} + 1 < +\infty.$$

The following results can be found, for example in the paper [10]:

THEOREM B. Let the sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, satisfy the following properties: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ and $\nabla^2 a_n \geq 0$ for $n = 0, 1, \dots$. Then $\nabla a_n \geq 0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \nabla a_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \nabla^2 a_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \nabla a_n = a_0.$$

THEOREM C. For any convergent series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$, we have $na_n \rightarrow 0$ in the sense of Cesàro.

The following result is given in monograph [3]:

THEOREM D. If a sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belongs to S_2 class, then:

(a) the sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$ is decreasing;

(b) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \nabla a_n = 0$;

(c) the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \nabla^2 a_n$ is a convergent one and its sum is

$$a_0 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n.$$

2. Main results. Before presenting the main results of this paper, we shall prove several lemmas giving specific properties of the sequences belonging to S_m class.

LEMMA 1. If a sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belongs to $S_m (m \geq 2)$ class then the following inequality

$$(2.1) \quad 0 \leq \nabla^r a_n \leq (M_1 - M_2) \frac{V_n^r}{V_{2r}^r} = (M_1 - M_2) \frac{(2r)!}{r!(n+r+1)^r},$$

holds for $r = 1, \dots, m-1$.

Proof. As $\nabla^r a_n \geq 0$, for $r = 2, \dots, m$ the inequality

$$(2.2) \quad \nabla^{r-1} a_n \geq \nabla^{r-1} a_{n+1} \quad (n = 0, 1, \dots).$$

is valid. According to Theorem D we conclude that the following implication

$$(2.3) \quad (a_n) \in S_2 \Rightarrow \nabla a_n \geq 0$$

holds.

As (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belongs to S_m class $\nabla^r a_n \geq 0$ holds for $r = 2, \dots, m$, then, taking into account (2.3), we prove the left inequality in (2.1). The right side of the inequality (2.1) shall be proved by means of mathematical induction. For $r = 1$ we have

$$(M_1 - M_2)V_n^1 = (M_1 - M_2)(n+1) =$$

$$= M_1(n+1) - M_2(n+1) \geq \sum_{k=0}^n a_k - M_2(n+1) =$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n (k+1)\nabla a_k + (n+1)a_{n+1} - M_2(n+1) \geq \nabla a_n \sum_{k=0}^n (k+1) = V_n^2 \nabla a_n,$$

i.e.

$$0 \leq \nabla a_n \leq (M_1 - M_2) \frac{V_n^1}{V_n^2}.$$

Let us suppose that (2.1) is valid for some $r = p (1 \leq p \leq m-2)$, i.e.

$$(2.4) \quad 0 \leq \nabla^p a_n \leq (M_1 - M_2) \frac{V_n^p}{V_{2p}^p}.$$

According to equality $\sum_{i=0}^k V_i^S = V_k^{S+1}$ and the inductive assumption (2.4)

we have

$$(M_1 - M_2)V_n^{p+1} = (M_1 - M_2) \sum_{k=0}^n V_k^p \geq \sum_{k=0}^n V_k^{2p} \nabla^p a_k =$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n V_k^{2p+1} \nabla^{p+1} a_k + V_n^{2p+1} \nabla^p a_{n+1} \geq \nabla^{p+1} a_n V_n^{2p+2},$$

i.e.,

$$\nabla^{p+1} a_n \geq (M_1 - M_2) \frac{V_n^{p+1}}{V_n^{2p+2}},$$

which had to be proved.

Using Abel's lemma we directly obtain the following result:

LEMMA 2. For each sequence of real numbers (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, the equality

$$(2.5) \quad a_n = a_0 - \sum_{k=1}^n V_{n-k}^k \nabla^k a_{n-k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n-p-1} V_k^p \nabla^{p+1} a_k, \quad \left(\sum_{k=1}^0 = 0 \right),$$

holds, where $p < n$.

LEMMA 3. Let the sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belong to the class $S_m(m \geq 2)$. Then, equalities

$$(2.6) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} V_{n-k}^k \nabla^k a_{n-k} = 0,$$

for $k = 1, \dots, m-1$, and

$$(2.7) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^n V_k^{m-1} \nabla^m a_k = a_0 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$

hold.

Proof. For $m = 2$ Lemma 3 is proved in Theorem A (i.e. Theorem D). Assume that Lemma 3 holds for $k = 1, \dots, m-2$. According to Lemma 2 we have:

$$a_n = a_0 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-2} V_{n-k}^k \nabla^k a_{n-k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n-m+1} V_k^{m-2} \nabla^{m-1} a_k,$$

and by the inductive assumption

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} V_{n-k}^k \nabla^k a_{n-k} = 0$$

for $k = 1, \dots, m-2$. On this basis, we conclude that the series $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k^{m-2} \nabla^{m-1} a_k$ is a convergent one. According to Theorem C we obtain a sequence $(n V_n^{m-2} \nabla^{m-1} a_n)$, i.e. $(V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n)$ which tends to zero in Cesàro sense. In other words the equality

$$(2.8) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{V_0^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_0 + \dots + V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n}{n+1} = 0,$$

holds. Let us prove that the sequence $(V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n)$ tends toward zero. Assume that it is not true. Then, there would be a constant $C(\geq 0)$ such that beginning from some index n the inequality $V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n \geq C$ holds. According to (2.2) for each $k \leq n$ the following inequality

$$\Delta^{m-1} a_k \geq \nabla^{m-1} a_n \geq \frac{C}{V_n^{m-1}}$$

holds. On the other hand, the relation

$$\frac{V_0^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_0 + \dots + V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n}{n+1} \geq C \frac{V_n^m}{(n+1) V_n^{m-1}} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{C}{m} \neq 0,$$

is in opposition with equality (2.8). It contradicts the assumption that the sequence $(V_n^{m-1} \nabla^{m-1} a_n)$ does not tend to zero. It also means that (2.6) holds even for $k = m-1$. If we substitute $p = m-1$ in (2.5), the assumption (2.7) is directly obtained from the equality

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-m} V_k^{m-1} \nabla^m a_k = a_0 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} V_{n-k}^k \nabla^k a_{n-k} - a_n.$$

From paper [14] we directly obtain the following result.

LEMMA 4. The sequence of real numbers (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, has the property $\nabla^r a_n \geq 0$, if and only if there is a sequence (b_n) , $n \in N_0$, so that $b_n \geq 0$ for $n \geq r$ for which equality

$$(2.9) \quad a_n = (-1)^r \sum_{k=0}^n V_{n-k}^{r-1} b_k$$

holds.

According to the given lemmas we immediately obtain the following result:

THEOREM 1. The sequence (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, belongs to S_m class if and only if there is a sequence (b_n) , $n \in N_0$, such that:

$$(2.10) \quad a_n = (-1)^m \sum_{k=0}^n V_{n-k}^{m-1} b_k$$

$$(2.11) \quad (-1)^{m+j} \sum_{k=0}^n V_{n-k}^{m-j-1} b_k \geq 0 \quad \text{for } j = 2, \dots, m-1; n \geq j$$

$$(2.12) \quad b_k \geq 0 \quad \text{for } k \geq m,$$

$$(2.13) \quad V_{n-k}^k \sum_{i=0}^n V_{n-i}^{k-1} b_i \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0, \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, m-1,$$

and

$$(2.14) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k^{m-1} b_{k+m} \text{ is convergent.}$$

COROLLARY 1. The sequence of real numbers (a_n) , $n \in N_0$, has the following properties $\nabla^r a_n \geq 0$, for $r = 2, \dots, m$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$, if and only if there is a sequence (b_n) , $n \in N_0$, such that properties (2.10) – (2.13) and $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k^{m-1} b_{k+m} = a_0$ are satisfied.

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