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Rogosinski–Szegő type inequalities for trigonometric sums

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Abstract

We prove that the inequalities

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1} \geq \frac{1}{384} (9 - \sqrt{137}) \sqrt{110 - 6\sqrt{137}} = -0.044419686\dots$$

and

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) + \cos(kx)}{k+1} \geq -\frac{1}{2}$$

are valid for all real numbers $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all positive integers n . The constant lower bounds are sharp. Our theorems complement a classical result of Rogosinski and Szegő, who proved in 1928 that the inequality

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\cos(kx)}{k+1} \geq -\frac{1}{2}$$

holds for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ and $n \geq 1$.

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1. Introduction

The famous Fejér–Jackson–Gronwall inequality

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx)}{k} \geq 0 \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi; n \geq 1) \quad (1.1)$$

is a classical result in the theory of trigonometric polynomials. The validity of (1.1) was conjectured by Fejér in 1910. The first proofs were published by Jackson [12] and Gronwall [11] in 1911 and 1912, respectively. In 1913, Young [21] offered an analogue of (1.1) for cosine sums:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\cos(kx)}{k} \geq -1 \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi; n \geq 1). \quad (1.2)$$

The constants given in (1.1) and (1.2) are sharp.

The inequalities of Fejér–Jackson–Gronwall and Young attracted the attention of many researchers, who presented not only new proofs but also numerous refinements and related results as well as extensions in various directions. Furthermore, it was shown that inequalities for trigonometric sums and polynomials play an important role in the theory of univalent functions as well as in other fields. For more information on this subject we refer to [5,8], [17, Chapter 4], and the references therein.

The results in this paper have been inspired by an elegant companion of (1.2), which was proved by Rogosinski and Szegő [18] in 1928, namely,

$$C_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\cos(kx)}{k+1} \geq -\frac{1}{2} \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi; n \geq 1). \quad (1.3)$$

Since $C_1(\pi) = -1/2$, it follows that the constant $-1/2$ is sharp. In 2001, Koumandos [14] presented an improvement of (1.3). He demonstrated that the lower bound $-1/2$ can be replaced by $-41/96$ if $n \geq 2$. Moreover, he offered the following converse of (1.3):

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\cos(kx)}{k+1} \leq \text{Ci}(\pi/2) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(kx)}{k+1} \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi; n \geq 1) \quad (1.4)$$

with

$$\text{Ci}(\pi/2) = - \int_{\pi/2}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(t)}{t} dt = 0.472\dots$$

This is the best possible constant in (1.4).

Interesting extensions of (1.3) are given in [6,10,18]. See also [17, Chapter 4.1.3].

In view of (1.1), (1.2), and (1.3) it is natural to look for a sharp lower bound for the sine sum

$$S_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1},$$

which holds for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all $n \geq 1$. In Section 3, we solve this problem. More precisely, we determine the best possible constants c_1 and c_2 such that the inequalities

$$S_n(x) \geq c_1 \quad \text{and} \quad S_n(x) + C_n(x) \geq c_2$$

are valid for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all $n \geq 1$.

In the final part, we present some additional inequalities. Among others, we provide sharp lower bounds for trigonometric sums in two variables.

The numerical values given in this paper have been calculated via the computer program MAPLE 13.

2. Lemmas

In order to prove our theorems we need two lemmas. The first one is due to Fejér [9].

Lemma 1. *Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n be a decreasing sequence of nonnegative real numbers satisfying*

$$2a_k \leq a_{k-1} + a_{k+1} \quad \text{for } k = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1.$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k \sin(kx) + \frac{1}{2}a_n \sin(nx) \geq 0 \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi).$$

The second lemma was proved by Brown and Hewitt [6].

Lemma 2. *Let b_1, b_2, \dots be a decreasing sequence of positive real numbers satisfying*

$$b_{2k} \leq \frac{2k}{2k+1} b_{2k-1} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then, for $n \geq 1$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{2n-1} b_k \sin(kx) > 0 \quad (0 < x < \pi)$$

and

$$\sum_{k=1}^{2n} b_k \sin(kx) > 0 \quad (0 < x \leq \pi - \pi/(2n)). \tag{2.1}$$

Remark. Let $b_k = 1/(k+1)$ ($k \geq 1$). Since

$$0 < b_{k+1} < b_k \quad \text{and} \quad b_{2k} = \frac{2k}{2k+1} b_{2k-1} = \frac{1}{2k+1},$$

we conclude from Lemma 2 that

$$S_n(x) > 0 \quad (0 < x < \pi; n = 1, 3, 5, \dots). \tag{2.2}$$

3. Main results

In the previous section, we pointed out that if $n \geq 1$ is an odd integer, then S_n is positive on $(0, \pi)$. However, if n is even, then S_n attains positive and negative values on $(0, \pi)$. Our first result offers the best possible constant lower bound for $S_n(x)$, which is valid for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all $n \geq 1$. We prove the following counterpart of the Rogosinski–Szegő inequality (1.3).

Theorem 1. *For all real numbers $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all integers $n \geq 1$ we have*

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1} \geq \frac{1}{384} (9 - \sqrt{137}) \sqrt{110 - 6\sqrt{137}} = -0.044419686 \dots \tag{3.1}$$

The sign of equality holds in (3.1) if and only if

$$x = \arccos \frac{-3 - \sqrt{137}}{16} = 2.736443821 \dots \quad \text{and} \quad n = 2.$$

Proof. With regard to (2.2) it suffices to show that (3.1) is valid for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all even integers $n \geq 2$. We have

$$S_2(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{2} + \frac{\sin(2x)}{3}$$

and

$$S_2'(x) = \frac{4}{3}(\cos(x) - x_1)(\cos(x) - x_2)$$

with

$$x_1 = \frac{-3 + \sqrt{137}}{16} = 0.54 \dots \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \frac{-3 - \sqrt{137}}{16} = -0.91 \dots$$

This implies

$$S_2'(x) > 0 \quad \text{for } x \in (0, \arccos(x_1)) \cup (\arccos(x_2), \pi)$$

and

$$S_2'(x) < 0 \quad \text{for } x \in (\arccos(x_1), \arccos(x_2)).$$

Since $S_2(0) = S_2(\pi) = 0$, we obtain for all $x \in [0, \pi]$ with $x \neq \arccos(x_2)$:

$$S_2(x) > S_2(\arccos(x_2)) = \frac{1}{384}(9 - \sqrt{137})\sqrt{110 - 6\sqrt{137}} = -0.0444 \dots$$

Next, we consider the cases $n = 4, 6, 8, 10$. Let

$$S_n^*(x) = S_n(x) - \frac{44}{1000} \sin((n+2)x).$$

Each sum can be expanded using MAPLE into an expression of the form $\sin(x)$ multiplied with a polynomial of $\cos(x)$. For example,

$$S_4^*(x) = \sin(x) \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{149}{375}Y + Y^2 + \frac{376}{125}Y^3 - \frac{176}{125}Y^5 \right),$$

where $Y = \cos(x)$. We can use the Sturm theory (see [15] and [19, Chapter 79]) and MAPLE to verify that the polynomial has no root in $[-1, 1]$. Here, we offer the details for the case $n = 4$. Let

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{149}{375}x + x^2 + \frac{376}{125}x^3 - \frac{176}{125}x^5.$$

Then, $f(-1) = 0.04 \dots$ and $f(1) = 2.45 \dots$. We set

$$X_0 = f(x), \quad X_1 = f'(x) = -\frac{149}{375} + 2x + \frac{1128}{125}x^2 - \frac{176}{25}x^4.$$

Using Euclid's algorithm we conclude that there exist polynomials Q_j and X_j such that

$$\begin{aligned} X_0 &= Q_1 X_1 - X_2, \\ X_1 &= Q_2 X_2 - X_3, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} X_2 &= Q_3 X_3 - X_4, \\ X_3 &= Q_4 X_4 - X_5, \\ X_4 &= Q_5 X_5. \end{aligned}$$

These polynomials are

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(x) &= \frac{1}{5}x, & Q_2(x) &= -\frac{103125}{35344} + \frac{275}{47}x, \\ Q_3(x) &= -\frac{357348449970000}{5148121478668921} + \frac{79736064}{358752055}x, \\ Q_4(x) &= -\frac{104236754825547620551123911043120875}{52472129940572308867689346250508544} \\ &\quad - \frac{369379831972422814676531}{16192355901244106130944}x, \\ Q_5(x) &= -\frac{1969442865888389025835140188606099841603196416000}{16830136821903979543287956883081821221407460291091} \\ &\quad - \frac{2720616505509253491138522108825514268427134818304}{16830136821903979543287956883081821221407460291091}x, \\ X_2(x) &= -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{596}{1875}x - \frac{3}{5}x^2 - \frac{752}{625}x^3, \\ X_3(x) &= \frac{59736899}{53016000} - \frac{9698}{2209}x - \frac{71750411}{13254000}x^2, \\ X_4(x) &= \frac{884380447687744}{5148121478668921} + \frac{458135918437191776}{1930545554500845375}x, \\ X_5(x) &= -\frac{3269180203233183351187621808993771}{2226918144829630582320450978264000} = -1.46\dots \end{aligned}$$

We denote by $\omega(a)$ the number of sign changes in the sequence

$$X_0(a), X_1(a), X_2(a), X_3(a), X_4(a), X_5(a).$$

Setting $a = -1$ and $a = 1$, respectively, we obtain the sequences

$$0.04\dots, -0.41\dots, 0.03\dots, 0.10\dots, -0.06\dots, -1.46\dots$$

and

$$2.45\dots, 3.58\dots, -1.73\dots, -8.67\dots, 0.40\dots, -1.46\dots$$

This yields $\omega(-1) = \omega(1) = 3$. It follows that the number of distinct roots of f in $[-1, 1]$ is equal to $\omega(-1) - \omega(1) = 0$.

Hence, $S_4^*(x) \geq 0$ implying that

$$S_4(x) \geq \frac{44}{1000} \sin(6x) \geq -\frac{44}{1000} = -0.044.$$

This settles (3.1) for $n = 4$. The same method also works for $n = 6, 8, 10$.

Let $n \geq 12$. Applying Lemma 1 with $a_k = 1/(k + 1)$ leads to

$$S_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1} + \frac{\sin(nx)}{2(n+1)} + \frac{\sin(nx)}{2(n+1)} \geq \frac{\sin(nx)}{2(n+1)} \geq -\frac{1}{26} = -0.038\dots$$

The proof of Theorem 1 is complete. \square

From (1.3) and (3.1) we conclude that the function $T_n(x) = S_n(x) + C_n(x)$ satisfies

$$T_n(x) \geq -0.5444 \dots \quad (0 \leq x \leq \pi; n \geq 1). \tag{3.2}$$

Is the given constant lower bound sharp? Our second theorem reveals that the answer is “no”. Indeed, we show that the number given in (3.2) can be replaced by $-1/2$, which is the best possible constant.

Theorem 2. For all real numbers $x \in [0, \pi]$ and all integers $n \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) + \cos(kx)}{k + 1} \geq -\frac{1}{2}. \tag{3.3}$$

The sign of equality holds in (3.3) if and only if $x = \pi$ and $n = 1$.

Proof. We have $T_n(0) > 0$ and

$$T_n(\pi) = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k \frac{1}{k + 1} \geq -\frac{1}{2}$$

with equality if and only if $n = 1$. Thus, it suffices to prove

$$T_n(x) > -\frac{1}{2} \quad (0 < x < \pi; n \geq 1). \tag{3.4}$$

Let $x \in (0, \pi)$. If n is odd, then we conclude from (1.3) and (2.2) that (3.4) is valid. Next, we assume that n is even. We consider two cases.

Case 1. $0 < x \leq \pi - \pi/n$.

Applying (1.3) and (2.1) with $b_k = 1/(k + 1)$ leads to (3.4).

Case 2. $\pi - \pi/n < x < \pi$.

Let

$$\Theta_n(x) = \frac{1}{2} + T_n(\pi - x) = \frac{1}{2} + C_n^*(x) + S_n^*(x), \tag{3.5}$$

where

$$C_n^*(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k \frac{\cos(kx)}{k + 1} \quad \text{and} \quad S_n^*(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{k-1} \frac{\sin(kx)}{k + 1}.$$

It is enough to prove

$$\Theta_n(x) > 0 \quad \text{for } x \in (0, \pi/n). \tag{3.6}$$

If $0 < x \leq \arccos(3/4) = 0.72 \dots$, then

$$\sqrt{2}\Theta_2'''(x) = \frac{16}{3} \sin(\pi/4 + 2x) - \sin(\pi/4 + x) \geq \frac{16}{3} \sin(\pi/4) - 1 = 2.77 \dots$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_2'(x) &\leq \max\{\Theta_2'(0), \Theta_2'(\arccos(3/4))\} = -0.03 \dots < 0 \quad \text{and} \\ \Theta_2(x) &\geq \Theta_2(\arccos(3/4)) = 0.16 \dots \end{aligned}$$

If $\arccos(3/4) \leq x < \pi/2$, then

$$\Theta_2(x) = \frac{2}{3}(\cos(x) - 3/8)^2 + \frac{2}{3} \sin(x)(3/4 - \cos(x)) + \frac{7}{96} > 0.$$

This settles (3.6) for $n = 2$. For $n = 4, 6, \dots, 18$, we can verify (3.6) by applying the Sturm theory as follows.

We use $n = 4$ for illustration. $C_4^*(x)$ can be expanded into a polynomial of $Y = \cos(x)$, but $S_4^*(x)$ can only be expanded into a polynomial of Y multiplied by $\sin(x)$. We obtain

$$\Theta_4(x) = P_1(Y) + P_2(Y) \sin(x)$$

with

$$P_1(Y) = \frac{11}{30} + \frac{1}{4}Y - \frac{14}{15}Y^2 - Y^3 + \frac{8}{5}Y^4,$$

$$P_2(Y) = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{15}Y + Y^2 - \frac{8}{5}Y^3, \quad \text{and} \quad Y = \cos(x).$$

We assume (for a contradiction) that there exists a number $x_0 \in [0, \pi/4]$ such that $\Theta_4(x_0) = 0$. Then,

$$P_1(Y_0) + P_2(Y_0) \sin(x_0) = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad Y_0 = \cos(x_0).$$

Since P_1 is positive on $[\cos(\pi/4), 1]$, we obtain $P_2(y_0) \sin(x_0) < 0$. Thus, $P_2(y_0) < 0$. Using

$$\sin(x_0) \leq \sin(\pi/4) < 0.807$$

gives

$$P_1(Y_0) + (0.807)P_2(Y_0) < P_1(Y_0) + P_2(Y_0) \sin(x_0) = 0. \tag{3.7}$$

The function

$$\Theta_4^*(Y) = P_1(Y) + (0.807)P_2(Y)$$

is a polynomial with $\Theta_4^*(1) = 0.10 \dots$. Applying Sturm’s theory reveals that Θ_4^* has no zero on $[\cos(\pi/4), 1]$. It follows that Θ_4^* is positive on $[\cos(\pi/4), 1]$. This contradicts (3.7). Therefore, Θ_4 has no zero on $[0, \pi/4]$, so that $\Theta_4(0) = 0.28 \dots$ implies that (3.6) holds for $n = 4$. The same procedure can be used to prove (3.6) for n up to 18.

It remains to show that (3.6) holds for all even numbers $n \geq 20$. Let $0 < x < \pi/20$. We define for $k \in \mathbf{N}$:

$$\Delta_k(x) = \sum_{\nu=1}^k (-1)^\nu \cos(\nu x).$$

Then,

$$\Delta_k(x) = \frac{-\cos(x/2) + (-1)^k \cos((2k + 1)x/2)}{2 \cos(x/2)}$$

$$\geq \frac{-2}{2 \cos(x/2)} > -\frac{1}{\cos(\pi/40)} = -1.003 \dots \tag{3.8}$$

Let

$$g(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{20} \left(\frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{22} \right) (-1)^k \cos(kx).$$

Using the Sturm theory we can verify that $g(x) + 0.29$ has no root on $[0, \pi/20]$. Since $g(0) + 0.29 = 0.006 \dots$, we obtain

$$g(x) > -0.29. \tag{3.9}$$

We have

$$0.34 + C_n^*(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{n-19} a_k b_k \tag{3.10}$$

with

$$a_1 = 0.34 + C_{20}^*(x), \quad a_k = (-1)^{k-1} \frac{\cos((k+19)x)}{22} \quad (k = 2, 3, \dots, n-19),$$

and

$$b_1 = b_2 = 1, \quad b_k = \frac{22}{k+20} \quad (k = 3, 4, \dots, n-19).$$

Applying (3.8) and (3.9) leads to

$$A_k = \sum_{v=1}^k a_v = 0.34 + g(x) + \frac{1}{22} \Delta_{k+19}(x) > 0.34 - 0.29 - \frac{1.004}{22} = 0.0043 \dots \tag{3.11}$$

From (3.10) and (3.11) we obtain by summation by parts

$$0.34 + C_n^*(x) = \sum_{v=1}^{n-19} A_v(b_v - b_{v+1}) + A_{n-19}b_{n-18}. \tag{3.12}$$

Since

$$b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq b_{n-19} > b_{n-18} = 0,$$

we conclude from (3.11) and (3.12) that

$$C_n^*(x) \geq -0.34. \tag{3.13}$$

Using (2.2) and (3.13) we get from (3.5):

$$\Theta_n(x) > \frac{1}{2} - 0.34 + S_n^*(x) = 0.16 + S_{n-1}(\pi - x) - \frac{\sin(nx)}{n+1} > 0.16 - \frac{1}{n+1} > 0.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2. □

4. Concluding remarks

From (2.2) we conclude that the sums $S_{2m-1}(x)$ and $S_{2m-1}(\pi - x)$ are positive for $x \in (0, \pi)$. This leads to

Corollary 1. For all real numbers $\mu \in [-1, 1]$, $x \in (0, \pi)$ and all integers $m \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\sin((2k-1)x)}{2k} + \mu \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{\sin(2kx)}{2k+1} > 0. \tag{4.1}$$

An inequality closely related to (4.1) is given in [16].

Summation by parts yields

$$\sum_{k=1}^{2m+1} a_k \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{2m+1} S_k(x)(a_k - a_{k+1}) + S_{2m+1}(x)a_{2m+2}.$$

We assume that $a_{2k} = a_{2k+1}$ for $k = 1, \dots, m$ and $a_{2m+2} = 0$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{2m+1} a_k \frac{\sin(kx)}{k+1} &= a_1 \frac{\sin(x)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^m a_{2k+1} \left(\frac{\sin(2kx)}{2k+1} + \frac{\sin((2k+1)x)}{2k+2} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \text{ odd}}}^{2m+1} S_k(x)(a_k - a_{k+1}). \end{aligned}$$

Applying this identity and (2.2) gives

Corollary 2. *If $b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq b_{m+1} > 0$, then, for $x \in (0, \pi)$,*

$$b_1 \frac{\sin(x)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^m b_{k+1} \left(\frac{\sin(2kx)}{2k+1} + \frac{\sin((2k+1)x)}{2k+2} \right) > 0.$$

Setting $b_k = 1/\binom{2m+1}{k}$ ($k = 1, \dots, m+1$) we obtain the following special case:

$$\frac{\sin(x)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{k+1}{\binom{2m}{k}} \left(\frac{\sin(2kx)}{2k+1} + \frac{\sin((2k+1)x)}{2k+2} \right) > 0 \quad (0 < x < \pi; m \geq 1).$$

Additional inequalities for trigonometric polynomials involving binomial coefficients are given in [2] and [3].

Inequality (2.2) and the product formula

$$2 \sin(x) \cos(y) = \sin(x - y) + \sin(x + y) \tag{4.2}$$

lead to a lower bound for a trigonometric sum in two variables involving sine and cosine.

Corollary 3. *For all real numbers x and y with $0 \leq x - y \leq \pi$ and $0 \leq x + y \leq \pi$ and all odd integers $n \geq 1$ we have*

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) \cos(ky)}{k+1} \geq 0. \tag{4.3}$$

We denote the sum given in (4.3) by $U_n(x, y)$. Let $x_0, y_0 \in [0, \pi]$ and let $n \geq 1$ be odd.

Case 1. $0 \leq x_0 + y_0 \leq \pi$.

Let $y_0 \leq x_0$. Then we have for $y \in [0, y_0]$:

$$0 \leq x_0 - y \leq \pi \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq x_0 + y \leq \pi.$$

Applying Corollary 3 gives

$$\int_0^{y_0} U_n(x_0, y) dy = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx_0) \sin(ky_0)}{k(k+1)} \geq 0.$$

This also holds for $y_0 \geq x_0$.

Case 2. $\pi \leq x_0 + y_0 \leq 2\pi$.

Let $x_0 \leq y_0$. Then, for $y \in [y_0, \pi]$:

$$0 \leq y - x_0 \leq \pi \leq x_0 + y \leq 2\pi.$$

If $0 \leq a \leq \pi \leq b \leq 2\pi$, then (2.2) leads to $S_n(-a) \leq 0$ and $S_n(b) \leq 0$. This yields

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{y_0}^{\pi} [S_n(x_0 - y) + S_n(x_0 + y)] dy = \int_{y_0}^{\pi} U_n(x_0, y) dy = - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx_0) \sin(ky_0)}{k(k+1)} \leq 0.$$

The last inequality is also valid if $x_0 \geq y_0$. Hence, we obtain

Corollary 4. For all real numbers $x \in [0, \pi]$ and $y \in [0, \pi]$ and all odd integers $n \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) \sin(ky)}{k(k+1)} \geq 0. \tag{4.4}$$

Inequality (4.4) is a striking companion of

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) \sin(ky)}{k^2} \geq 0, \tag{4.5}$$

which holds for all $x, y \in [0, \pi]$ and $n \geq 1$. This result is due to Koschmieder [13]. We note that on contrary to (4.5) inequality (4.4) is not valid if n is even.

Using (4.2) and Theorem 1 yields a sharp lower bound for $U_n(x, y)$, which is valid for all positive integers n . The following extension of Theorem 1 is valid.

Corollary 5. For all real numbers x and y with $0 \leq x - y \leq \pi$ and $0 \leq x + y \leq \pi$ and all integers $n \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) \cos(ky)}{k+1} \geq \frac{1}{384} (9 - \sqrt{137}) \sqrt{110 - 6\sqrt{137}} = -0.044419686 \dots \tag{4.6}$$

The sign of equality holds in (4.6) if and only if

$$x = \arccos \frac{-3 - \sqrt{137}}{16} = 2.736443821 \dots, \quad y = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad n = 2.$$

If we apply Theorem 2 and the identities (4.2) and

$$2 \cos(x) \cos(y) = \cos(x - y) + \cos(x + y),$$

then we obtain

Corollary 6. For all real numbers x and y with $0 \leq x - y \leq \pi$ and $0 \leq x + y \leq \pi$ and all integers $n \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sin(kx) \cos(ky)}{k+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\cos(kx) \cos(ky)}{k+1} \geq -\frac{1}{2}. \tag{4.7}$$

The sign of equality holds in (4.7) if and only if $x = \pi$, $y = 0$, and $n = 1$.

More inequalities for trigonometric sums in two variables can be found in [1,4,13,20].

We conclude with an inequality for infinite series involving binomial coefficients. A result of Chu [7] states that

$$\sum_{v=0}^{\infty} \binom{t}{v} \binom{-t}{v} = \frac{\sin(\pi t)}{\pi t}.$$

We set $t = kx$ with $x \in (0, 1)$, multiply by $k/(k + 1)$, and sum from $k = 1$ to $k = n$. Since convergent series may be added term by term, an application of (2.2) leads to

Corollary 7. For all real numbers $x \in (0, 1)$ and all odd integers $n \geq 1$ we have

$$\sum_{v=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{k+1} \binom{kx}{v} \binom{-kx}{v} > 0.$$

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