

proof of Minkowski inequality

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For p = 1 the result follows immediately from the triangle inequality, so we may assume p > 1.

We have

$$|a_k + b_k|^p = |a_k + b_k||a_k + b_k|^{p-1} \le (|a_k| + |b_k|)|a_k + b_k|^{p-1}$$

by the triangle inequality. Therefore we have

$$|a_k + b_k|^p \le |a_k| |a_k + b_k|^{p-1} + |b_k| |a_k + b_k|^{p-1}$$

Set $q = \frac{p}{p-1}$. Then $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, so by the Hölder inequality we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k| |a_k + b_k|^{p-1} \le \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k + b_k|^{(p-1)q}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} |b_k| |a_k + b_k|^{p-1} \le \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |b_k|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k + b_k|^{(p-1)q}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

Adding these two inequalities, dividing by the factor common to the right sides of both, and observing that (p-1)q = p by definition, we have

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k + b_k|^p\right)^{1 - \frac{1}{q}} \le \frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n} (|a_k| + |b_k|) |a_k + b_k|^{p-1}}{\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k + b_k|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \le \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |a_k|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n} |b_k|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Finally, observe that $1 - \frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{p}$, and the result follows as required. The proof for the integral version is analogous.