

Theorem 0.0.1 (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality).

1. (definite integrals) Let f and g be real functions which are continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$. Then:

$$\left(\int_a^b f(t)g(t) \, dt\right)^2 \leq \int_a^b f^2(t) \, dt \int_a^b g^2(t) \, dt.$$

As a corollary, we have

$$\left(\int_a^b f(t) \, dt\right)^2 \leq (b-a) \int_a^b f^2(t) \, dt.$$

2. (expectations) For any two random variables X and Y ,

$$[\mathbb{E}(XY)]^2 \leq \mathbb{E}(X^2)\mathbb{E}(Y^2),$$

or equivalently,

$$|\mathbb{E}(XY)| \leq \sqrt{\mathbb{E}(X^2)\mathbb{E}(Y^2)}.$$