

## TOTAL BOUNDEDNESS IN PROBABILISTIC NORMED SPACES

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*In this paper, we study total boundedness in probabilistic normed space and we give criterion for total boundedness and D-boundedness in these spaces. Also we show that in general a totally bounded set is not D-bounded.*

**Keywords:** Total boundedness, Probabilistic normed spaces, Triangle functions.

### 1. Introduction

In this paper, we shall consider the space of all distance probability distribution functions (briefly, d.f. 's), namely the set of all left--continuous and non--decreasing functions from  $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$  into  $[0,1]$  such that  $F(0) = 0$  and  $F(+\infty) = 1$ ; here as usual,  $\bar{\mathbb{R}} := \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, +\infty\}$ . The spaces of these functions will be denoted by  $\Delta^+$ , while the subset  $D^+ \subseteq \Delta^+$  will denote the set of all proper distance d.f. 's, namely those for which  $\ell^-F(+\infty) = 1$ . Here  $\ell^-f(x)$  denotes the left limit of the function  $f$  at the point  $x$ ,  $\ell^-f(x) := \lim_{t \rightarrow x^-} f(t)$ . For any  $a \geq 0$ ,  $\varepsilon_a$  is the d.f. given by  $\varepsilon_a = 0$  if  $x \geq a$  and  $\varepsilon_a = 1$  if  $x < a$ . In particular, under the usual point-wise ordering of functions,  $\varepsilon_0$  is the maximal element of  $\Delta^+$ . A triangle function is a binary operation on  $\Delta^+$ , namely a function  $\tau: \Delta^+ \times \Delta^+ \rightarrow \Delta^+$  that is associative, commutative, nondecreasing and which has  $\varepsilon_0$  as unit, continuity of a triangle function means continuity with respect to the topology of weak convergence in  $\Delta^+$ .

Probabilistic normed spaces were introduced by Sherstnev in 1962 [1] by means of a definition that was closely modeled on the theory of (classical) normed spaces, and used to study the problem of best approximation in statistics. Then a new definition was proposed by Alsina, Schweizer and Sklar [2]. The properties

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\*The authors would like to thank Professor Carlo Sempì for supplying useful materials during the preparation of this paper.

of these spaces were studied by several authors; here we shall mention [3-9] (but see also the survey paper [10]).

**Definition 1.1** A Probabilistic Normed space (briefly, PN space) is a quadruple  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$ , where  $V$  is a real vector space,  $\tau$  and  $\tau^*$  are continuous triangle functions with  $\tau \leq \tau^*$  and  $\nu$  is a mapping (the probabilistic norm) from  $V$  into  $\Delta^+$ , such that for every choice of  $p$  and  $q$  in  $V$  the following hold: (N1)  $\nu_p = \varepsilon_0$  if, and only if,  $p = \theta$  ( $\theta$  is the null vector in  $V$ ); (N2)  $\nu_{-p} = \nu_p$ , (N3)  $\nu_{p+q} \geq \tau(\nu_p, \nu_q)$ ; (N4)  $\nu_p \leq \tau^*(\nu_{\lambda p}, \nu_{(1-\lambda)p})$  for every  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .

A PN space is called a Šerstnev space if it satisfies (N1), (N3) and the following condition: For every  $\alpha \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x > 0$  one has

$$(NS) \quad \nu_{\alpha p}(x) = \nu_p(x/|\alpha|),$$

which clearly implies (N2) and also (N4) in the strengthened form  $\nu_p = \tau_M(\nu_{\lambda p}, \nu_{(1-\lambda)p})$ . The triple  $(V, \nu, \tau)$  where  $V$  is a real vector space,  $\tau$  is a continuous triangle functions and  $\nu$  is a mapping from  $V$  into  $\Delta^+$ , such that (N1), (NS) and (N3) hold is a Šerstnev space.

A PN space in which  $\tau = \tau_T$  and  $\tau^* = \tau_{T^*}$  for a suitable continuous  $t$ -norm  $T$  and its conorm  $T^*$  is called a *Menger PN space*. In the case of PN spaces, the concepts of boundedness are based on the consideration of the *probabilistic radius* rather than that of the *probabilistic diameter*; the probabilistic radius  $R_A$  of a set  $A \subset V$  is defined by  $R_A(+\infty) = 1$  and, for  $x > 0$ , by  $R_A(x) := \lim_{y \rightarrow x, y < x} \inf \{\nu_p(y) : p \in A\}$ . In a PN space there is an easy characterization of a  $D$ -bounded set  $A$ :  $A$  is  $D$ -bounded if, and only if, there exists a *proper* distance distribution function  $G$ , i.e. one for which  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} G(x) = 1$ , such that  $\nu_p \geq G$  for every  $p \in A$ .

**Definition 1.2** Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN-space. For each  $p$  in  $V$  and  $\lambda > 0$ , the strong  $\lambda$ -neighborhood of  $p$  is the set  $N_p(\lambda) = \{q \in V : \nu_{p-q}(\lambda) > 1 - \lambda\}$ , and the strong neighborhood system for  $V$  is the union  $\cup_{p \in V} \mathcal{N}_p$  where  $\mathcal{N}_p = \{N_p(\lambda) : \lambda > 0\}$ .

The strong neighborhood system for  $V$  determines a Hausdorff topology for  $V$  which is also first countable.

**Definition 1.3** Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space, a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $V$  is said to be strongly convergent to  $p$  in  $V$  if for each  $\lambda > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that  $p_n \in N_p(\lambda)$ , for  $n \geq N$ . Also the sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $V$  is called strongly Cauchy sequence if for every  $\lambda > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that  $\nu_{p_n - p_m}(\lambda) > 1 - \lambda$ , whenever  $m, n > N$ . A PN space  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  is said to be

strongly complete in the strong topology if and only if every strongly Cauchy sequence in  $V$  is strongly convergent to a point in  $V$ .

**Lemma 1.4** ([2]) *If  $|\alpha| \leq |\beta|$  then  $v_{\beta p} \leq v_{\alpha p}$ , for every  $p$  in  $V$ .*

**Definition 1.5** A subset  $A$  of TVS (topological vector space)  $V$  is said to be topologically bounded if for every sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  of real numbers that converges to zero as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and for every  $\{p_n\}$  of elements of  $A$ , one has  $\alpha_n p_n \rightarrow \theta$ , in the strong topology. The PN space  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  is called *characteristic* whenever  $\nu(V) \subseteq D^+$ .

**Example 1.6** The triple  $(V, \nu, \tau_\pi)$ , where  $\nu: V \rightarrow \Delta^+$  is defined by  $\nu_p(x) = \frac{x}{x + \|p\|}$  is a characteristic Šerstnev space (see [11, Theorem 9]).

**Theorem 1.7** ([11]) *A Šerstnev space  $(V, \nu, \tau)$  is a TVS if and only if it is characteristic.*

**Lemma 1.8** ([11]) *In a characteristic Šerstnev space  $(V, \nu, \tau)$  a subset  $A$  of  $V$  is topologically bounded if and only if it is  $D$ -bounded.*

**Lemma 1.9** *Let  $\tau$  be a continuous triangle function. Then for every  $F \in D^+$  and  $F < \varepsilon_0$  there exists  $G \geq F$  such that  $\tau(G, G) > F$ .*

**Proof.** Let there exists  $F \in D^+$  and  $F < \varepsilon_0$  such that for every  $G \geq F$  we have  $\tau(G, G) \leq F$ . Consider the sequence of d.f. 's defined by  $G_n = \max(\varepsilon_{\frac{1}{n}}, F)$ , then  $G_n \geq F$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , therefore  $\tau(G_n, G_n) \leq F$ . Taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality then we have  $\varepsilon_0 \leq F$  which is a contradiction.

## 2. The Main Results

**Definition 2.1** Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space and  $A \subset V$ . We say  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set if for every  $F \in D^+$  and  $F < \varepsilon_0$ , there exists a finite subset  $S_F$  of  $A$  such that

$$A \subseteq \bigcup_{p \in S_F} D_p(F). \quad (2.1)$$

Where  $D_p(F) = \{q \in V : \nu_{p-q} > F\}$ .

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space and  $A \subset V$ .  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set if and only if for every  $F \in D^+$  with  $F < \varepsilon_0$ , there exists a finite subset  $S_F$  of  $V$  such that*

$$A \subseteq \bigcup_{p \in S_F} D_p(F). \quad (2.2)$$

**Proof.** Let  $F \in D^+$ ,  $F < \varepsilon_0$  and condition (2.2) holds. By continuity of  $\tau$ , there exists  $G \geq F$  such that  $\tau(G, G) > F$ . Now, applying condition (2.2) for  $G$ , there exists a subset  $S_G = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subset \bigcup_{p_i \in S_G} D_{p_i}(G)$ . We assume that  $D_{p_j}(G) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ , otherwise we omit  $p_j$  from  $S_G$  and so we have  $A \subset \bigcup_{p_i \in S_G \setminus \{p_j\}} D_{p_i}(G)$ . For every  $i = 1, \dots, n$  we select  $q_i$  in  $D_{p_i}(G) \cap A$ , and we put  $S_F = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$ . Now for every  $q$  in  $A$ , there exists  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $v_{q-p_i} > G$ . Therefore we have (by using property N3 of a PN space),  $v_{q-q_i} \geq \tau(v_{q-p_i}, v_{p_i-q_i}) \geq \tau(G, G) > F$ . Which implies that  $A \subset \bigcup_{p_i \in S_F} D_{p_i}(F)$ . The converse is trivial.

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $(V, v, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space and  $A \subset V$ . If  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set then so is its closure  $\bar{A}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $F \in D^+$ ,  $F < \varepsilon_0$ , then there exists a finite subset  $S_G = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  of  $V$  with  $G \geq F$  and  $\tau(G, G) > F$ , such that  $A \subset \bigcup_{q_i \in S_G} D_{q_i}(G)$ . Since for every  $r$  in  $\bar{A}$ ,  $N_r(\frac{1}{n}) \cap A$  is non-empty for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (see Definition 1.2 and first countability property) therefore we can find  $p \in A$  such that  $v_{p-r} \geq G$  and there exists  $1 \leq i \leq n$  such that  $v_{p-q_i} \geq G$ , therefore  $v_{r-q_i} \geq \tau(v_{p-r}, v_{p-q_i}) \geq \tau(G, G) > F$ .

Hence  $\bar{A} \subset \bigcup_{q_i \in S_F} D_{q_i}(F)$ , i.e.  $\bar{A}$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded set.

**Theorem 2.4** *Let  $(V, v, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space and  $A \subset V$ .  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set if and only if every sequence in  $A$  has a strongly Cauchy subsequence.*

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set. Let  $\{p_n\}$  be a sequence in  $A$ . For every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a finite subset  $S_{F_k}$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subset \bigcup_{q \in S_{F_k}} D_q(F_k)$ , here  $F_k = \varepsilon_{\frac{1}{k}}$ . Hence, for  $k=1$ , there exists  $q_1 \in S_{F_1}$  and a subsequence  $\{p_{1,n}\}$  of  $\{p_n\}$  such that  $p_{1,n} \in D_{q_1}(F_1)$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Similarly, there exists  $q_2 \in S_{F_2}$  and a subsequence  $\{p_{2,n}\}$  of  $\{p_{1,n}\}$  such that  $p_{2,n} \in D_{q_2}(F_2)$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Continuing this process, we get  $q_k \in S_{F_k}$  and subsequences  $\{p_{k,n}\}$  of  $\{p_{k-1,n}\}$  such that  $p_{k,n} \in D_{q_k}(F_k)$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now we consider the subsequence  $\{p_{n,n}\}$  of  $\{p_n\}$ . For every  $F \in D^+$  and  $F < \varepsilon_0$ , by continuity of  $\tau$ ,

there exists an  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\tau(F_{n_0}, F_{n_0}) > F$  and  $F_{n_0} \geq F$ . Therefore for every  $k, m \geq n_0$ , we have

$$v_{p_{k,k}-p_{m,m}} \geq \tau(v_{p_{k,k}-q_{n_0}}, v_{q_{n_0}-p_{m,m}}) \geq \tau(F_{n_0}, F_{n_0}) > F.$$

Hence  $\{p_{n,n}\}$  is a strongly Cauchy sequence. Conversely, suppose that  $A$  is not a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set. Then there exists  $F \in D^+$  such that for every finite subset  $S_F$  of  $V$ ,  $A$  is not a subset of  $\bigcup_{q \in S_F} D_q(F)$ . Fix  $p_1 \in A$ . Since  $A$  is not a subset of  $\bigcup_{q \in \{p_1\}} D_q(F)$ , there exists  $p_2 \in A$  such that  $v_{p_1-p_2} \leq F$ . Since  $A$  is not a subset of  $\bigcup_{q \in \{p_1, p_2\}} D_q(F)$ , there exists a  $p_3 \in A$  such that  $v_{p_1-p_3} \leq F$  and  $v_{p_2-p_3} \leq F$ . Continuing this process, we construct a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  of distinct points in  $A$  such that  $v_{p_i-p_j} \leq F$ , for every  $i \neq j$ . Therefore  $\{p_n\}$  has not strongly Cauchy subsequence.

Every probabilistic strongly totally bounded set is not D-bounded set, in general, as can see from the next example.

**Example 2.5** The quadruple  $(\mathbb{R}, v, \tau_\pi, \tau_\pi^*)$  where  $v: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \Delta^+$  is defined by  $v_p(x) = 0$  if  $x = 0$ ,  $v_p(x) = \exp(-\sqrt{|p|})$ , if  $0 < x < +\infty$  and  $v_p(x) = 1$  if  $x = \infty$ . And  $v_0 = \varepsilon_0$  is a PN space (see, [12]). In this space, since the set  $\{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  has strongly Cauchy subsequence then it is probabilistic strongly totally bounded but it is not D-bounded set (note that  $v_p(x) = \exp(-\sqrt{|p|}) < 1$ , for all  $p \neq 0$ ). Note that in this space only  $\{0\}$  is a D-bounded set.

**Lemma 2.6** *In a characteristic Šerstnev space  $(V, v, \tau)$  every strongly Cauchy sequence is topologically bounded set.*

**Proof.** Let  $\{p_m\}$  be a strongly Cauchy sequence. Then there exists a  $n_0$  such that for every  $m, n \geq n_0$ ,  $v_{p_m-p_n} \geq \varepsilon_{\frac{1}{m+n}}$ . Now let  $\alpha_m \rightarrow 0$  and  $0 < \alpha_m < 1$ , then we

have (by using a property of Šerstnev space in which  $v_{\alpha_m p}(x) = v_p(x/\alpha_m) > v_p(x)$ )

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\alpha_m p_m} &\geq \tau(v_{\alpha_m(p_m-p_{n_0})}, v_{\alpha_m p_{n_0}}) \geq \tau(v_{p_m-p_{n_0}}, v_{\alpha_m p_{n_0}}) \\ &\geq \tau(\varepsilon_{\frac{1}{m+n_0}}, v_{\alpha_m p_{n_0}}) \rightarrow \tau(\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0) = \varepsilon_0, \end{aligned}$$

as  $m$  tends to infinity.

**Lemma 2.7** *In a characteristic Šerstnev space  $(V, \nu, \tau)$  every probabilistic strongly totally bounded set is D-bounded.*

**Proof.** We show that if  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set then it is topologically bounded, and so by Lemma 1.8, it is D-bounded. If  $A$  is not topologically bounded, there exists a sequence  $\{p_m\} \subseteq A$  and a real sequence  $\alpha_m \rightarrow 0$  such that  $\alpha_m p_m$  doesn't tend to the null vector in  $V$ . There is an infinite set  $J \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  such that the sequence  $\{\alpha_m p_m\}_{m \in J}$  stays off a neighborhood of the origin. Since  $\{p_m\}$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded, then has a Cauchy subsequence say  $\{p_{m_l}\}$  which by Lemma 2.6 is topologically bounded and since  $\alpha_{m_l} \rightarrow 0$  then  $\nu_{\alpha_{m_l} p_{m_l}} \rightarrow \varepsilon_0$  and hence  $\{\alpha_{m_l} p_{m_l}\}$  is a strongly Cauchy subsequence of  $\{\alpha_m p_m\}$ . Then  $\{\alpha_m p_m\}$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded and so is  $\{\alpha_m p_m\}_{m \in J}$ , therefore there is a strong Cauchy subsequence of  $\{\alpha_m p_m\}_{m \in J}$ , say  $\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_k}$  which stays off a neighborhood of the origin, hence it doesn't tend to the null vector in  $V$ , on the other hand, since  $\{\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_k}\}$  is a strongly Cauchy sequence then there is a  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every  $k, t \geq k_0$  we have  $\nu_{p_{m_k} - p_{m_t}} \geq \varepsilon \frac{1}{k+t}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_k}} &\geq \tau(\nu_{\alpha_{m_k} (p_{m_k} - p_{m_{k_0}})}, \nu_{\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_{k_0}}}) \geq \tau(\nu_{p_{m_k} - p_{m_{k_0}}}, \nu_{\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_k}}) \geq \tau(\varepsilon \frac{1}{k+k_0}, \nu_{\alpha_{m_k} p_{m_k}}) \\ &\rightarrow \tau(\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0) = \varepsilon_0, \end{aligned}$$

as  $k$  tends to infinity. Which is a contradiction.

Every D-bounded set is not probabilistic strongly totally bounded set, in general, as can see from the next example.

**Example 2.8** Let  $\nu: l^\infty \rightarrow \Delta^+$  via  $\nu_p := \varepsilon_{\|p\|}$  for every  $p \in l^\infty$ . Let  $\tau, \tau^*$  be continuous triangle functions such that  $\tau \leq \tau^*$  and  $\tau(\varepsilon_a, \varepsilon_b) = \varepsilon_{a+b}$ , for all  $a, b > 0$ . For instance, it suffices to take  $\tau = \tau_T$  and  $\tau^* = \tau_{T^*}$ , where  $T$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $T^*$  is its  $t$ -conorm. Then  $(l^\infty, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  is a PN space (see [6, Example 1.1]). Suppose  $A = \{p: \|p\| = 1, p \in l^\infty\}$ ,  $A$  is D-bounded set but not probabilistic strongly totally bounded set. In fact

$$R_A(x) = \lim_{y \rightarrow x, y < x} \inf \{\varepsilon_{\|p\|}(y) : p \in A\} = \rightarrow 1, (x \rightarrow +\infty).$$

therefore  $A$  is D-bounded. Let  $\{p_n\}_1^\infty$  is a sequence of  $A$ , where

$$p_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, \dots), p_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, \dots), \dots, p_n = (0, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, \dots), \dots$$

In view of Definition 1.3., It is obvious that  $\{p_n\}_1^\infty$  is not strongly Cauchy sequence. By Theorem 2.4., we have that  $A$  is not probabilistic strongly totally bounded set.

**Theorem 2.9** *Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space. If  $A$  and  $B$  are two probabilistic strongly totally bounded subsets of  $V$ . Then*

(i)  $A \cup B$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded;

(ii)  $A + B$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded, where the set  $A+B$  given by  $A + B := \{p + q : p \in A, q \in B\}$ .

**Proof.** (i). By Definition 2.1., for every  $F \in D^+$  and  $F < \varepsilon_0$ , there exist finite subset  $S_F$  of  $A$  and  $S'_F$  of  $B$  such that  $A \subseteq \bigcup_{p \in S_F} D_p(F)$  and  $B \subseteq \bigcup_{p \in S'_F} D_p(F)$ ,

where  $D_p(F) = \{q \in V : \nu_{p-q} > F\}$ .

So we have that  $A \cup B \subseteq \bigcup_{p \in S_F} D_p(F) \cup (\bigcup_{p \in S'_F} D_p(F)) = \bigcup_{p \in S_F \cup S'_F} D_p(F)$ . Thus  $A \cup B$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded.

(ii). Let  $\{c_n\}$  is a sequence of  $A + B$ . Suppose  $c_n = p_n + q_n$ , where  $\{p_n\} \in A$  and  $\{q_n\} \in B$ . Because  $A$  and  $B$  are probabilistic strongly totally bounded subsets, by Theorem 2.4., there exist subsequence  $\{p_{k,n}\}$  of  $\{p_n\}$  and  $\{q_{k,n}\}$  of  $\{q_n\}$ , where  $\{p_{k,n}\}$  and  $\{q_{k,n}\}$  are both strongly Cauchy subsequences, i.e.,  $\nu_{p_{k,n}-p_{k,m}} \rightarrow \varepsilon_0$ ,  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\nu_{q_{k,n}-q_{k,m}} \rightarrow \varepsilon_0$ ,  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ . So

$$\nu_{c_{k,n}-c_{k,m}} = \nu_{(p_{k,n}+q_{k,n})-(p_{k,m}+q_{k,m})} = \nu_{(p_{k,n}-p_{k,m})+(q_{k,n}-q_{k,m})}$$

$$\geq \tau(\nu_{(p_{k,n}-p_{k,m})}, \nu_{(q_{k,n}-q_{k,m})}) \rightarrow \tau(\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0) = \varepsilon_0,$$

as  $m, n$  tends to infinity, i.e., the subsequence  $\{c_{k,n}\}$  of  $\{c_n\}$  is a strongly Cauchy subsequence. By Theorem 2.4. we have that  $A + B$  is probabilistic strongly totally bounded.

**Corollary 2.10.** *Let  $(V, \nu, \tau, \tau^*)$  be a PN space. Let  $A_i$  be probabilistic strongly totally bounded, where  $i=1,2,3,\dots,n$ . Then we have that  $\cup_{i=1}^n A_i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n A_i$  are all probabilistic strongly totally bounded, where  $\sum_{i=1}^n A_i := A_1 + A_2 + \dots + A_n$ .*

### 3. Conclusions

In this paper, we studied the concept of total boundedness in PN space and its relation to D-boundedness. We proved that  $A$  is a probabilistic strongly totally bounded set if and only if every sequence in  $A$  has a strongly Cauchy

subsequence .Next we showed that every probabilistic strongly totally bounded set is not  $D$ -bounded set , in general.

### Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the referees for giving useful suggestions for the improvement of this paper.

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