

INEQUALITIES OF HERMITE–HADAMARD TYPE
FOR GA -CONVEX FUNCTIONS

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Abstract. Some inequalities of Hermite–Hadamard type for GA -convex functions defined on positive intervals are given.

1. Introduction

Let $I \subset (0, \infty)$ be an interval; a real-valued function $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be GA -convex (concave) on I if

$$(1.1) \quad f(x^{1-\lambda}y^\lambda) \leq (\geq) (1-\lambda)f(x) + \lambda f(y)$$

for all $x, y \in I$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

Since the condition (1.1) can be written as

$$f \circ \exp((1-\lambda)\ln x + \lambda\ln y) \leq (\geq) (1-\lambda)f \circ \exp(\ln x) + \lambda f \circ \exp(\ln y),$$

then we observe that $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is GA -convex (concave) on I if and only if $f \circ \exp$ is convex (concave) on $\ln I := \{\ln z, z \in I\}$. If $I = [a, b]$ then $\ln I = [\ln a, \ln b]$.

It is known that the function $f(x) = \ln(1+x)$ is GA -convex on $(0, \infty)$ (see [1]).

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For real and positive values of x , the *Euler gamma* function Γ and its *logarithmic derivative* ψ , the so-called *digamma function*, are defined by

$$\Gamma(x) := \int_0^{\infty} t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x) := \frac{\Gamma'(x)}{\Gamma(x)}.$$

It has been shown in [17] that the function $f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$f(x) = \psi(x) + \frac{1}{2x}$$

is *GA-concave* on $(0, \infty)$ while the function $g: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$g(x) = \psi(x) + \frac{1}{2x} + \frac{1}{12x^2}$$

is *GA-convex* on $(0, \infty)$.

If $[a, b] \subset (0, \infty)$ and the function $g: [\ln a, \ln b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex (concave) on $[\ln a, \ln b]$, then the function $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(t) = g(\ln t)$, is *GA-convex* (concave) on $[a, b]$.

Indeed, if $x, y \in [a, b]$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x^{1-\lambda}y^\lambda) &= g(\ln(x^{1-\lambda}y^\lambda)) = g[(1-\lambda)\ln x + \lambda\ln y] \\ &\leq (\geq) (1-\lambda)g(\ln x) + \lambda g(\ln y) = (1-\lambda)f(x) + \lambda f(y), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that f is *GA-convex* (concave) on $[a, b]$.

We recall the classical Hermite–Hadamard inequality that states that

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}$$

for any convex function $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

For related results, see [2]–[5] and [7]–[15].

In [17] the authors obtained the following Hermite–Hadamard type inequality.

THEOREM 1.1. *If $b > a > 0$ and $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a differentiable GA-convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} (1.2) \quad f(I(a, b)) &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{b-L(a, b)}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{L(a, b)-a}{b-a} f(a). \end{aligned}$$

The *identric mean* $I(a, b)$ is defined by

$$I(a, b) := \frac{1}{e} \left(\frac{b^b}{a^a} \right)^{\frac{1}{b-a}}$$

while the *logarithmic mean* is defined by

$$L(a, b) := \frac{b - a}{\ln b - \ln a}.$$

The differentiability of the function is not necessary in Theorem 1.1 for the first inequality from (1.2) to hold. A proof of this fact is proved below after some short preliminaries. The second inequality in (1.2) has been proved in [17] without differentiability assumption.

2. Preliminaries

We recall some facts on the lateral derivatives of a convex function.

Suppose that I is an interval of real numbers with interior $\overset{\circ}{I}$ and $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a convex function on I . Then f is continuous on $\overset{\circ}{I}$ and has finite left and right derivatives at each point of $\overset{\circ}{I}$. Moreover, if $x, y \in \overset{\circ}{I}$ and $x < y$, then $f'_-(x) \leq f'_+(x) \leq f'_-(y) \leq f'_+(y)$ which shows that both f'_- and f'_+ are nondecreasing functions on $\overset{\circ}{I}$. It is also known that a convex function must be differentiable except for at most countably many points.

For a convex function $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the subdifferential of f denoted by ∂f is the set of all functions $\varphi: I \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$ such that $\varphi(\overset{\circ}{I}) \subset \mathbb{R}$ and

$$f(x) \geq f(a) + (x - a)\varphi(a) \text{ for any } x, a \in I.$$

It is also well known that if f is convex on I , then ∂f is nonempty, $f'_-, f'_+ \in \partial f$ and if $\varphi \in \partial f$, then

$$f'_-(x) \leq \varphi(x) \leq f'_+(x) \text{ for any } x \in \overset{\circ}{I}.$$

In particular, φ is a nondecreasing function.

If f is differentiable and convex on $\overset{\circ}{I}$, then $\partial f = \{f'\}$.

Now, since $f \circ \exp$ is convex on $[\ln a, \ln b]$, it follows that f has finite lateral derivatives on $(\ln a, \ln b)$ and by gradient inequality for convex functions we have

$$(2.1) \quad f \circ \exp(x) - f \circ \exp(y) \geq (x - y) \varphi(\exp y) \exp y,$$

where $\varphi(\exp y) \in [f'_-(\exp y), f'_+(\exp y)]$ for any $x, y \in (\ln a, \ln b)$.

If $s, t \in (a, b)$ and we take in (2.1) $x = \ln t, y = \ln s$, then we get

$$(2.2) \quad f(t) - f(s) \geq (\ln t - \ln s) \varphi(s) s,$$

where $\varphi(s) \in [f'_-(s), f'_+(s)]$.

Now, if we take the integral mean on $[a, b]$ in the inequality (2.2), we get

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - f(s) \geq \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt - \ln s \right) \varphi(s) s$$

and since

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt = \ln I(a, b),$$

then we get

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(s) + (\ln I(a, b) - \ln s) \varphi(s) s$$

for any $s \in (a, b)$ and $\varphi(s) \in [f'_-(s), f'_+(s)]$. This is an inequality of interest in itself.

Now, if we take in (2.3) $s = I(a, b) \in (a, b)$ then we get the first inequality in (1.2) for GA-convex functions.

If f is differentiable and GA-convex on (a, b) , then we have from (2.3) the inequality

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(s) + (\ln I(a, b) - \ln s) f'(s) s$$

for any $s \in (a, b)$.

If we take in (2.4) $s = \frac{a+b}{2} = A(a, b)$, then we get

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(A(a, b)) - f'(A(a, b)) A(a, b) \ln \left(\frac{A(a, b)}{I(a, b)} \right).$$

If we assume that $f'(A(a, b)) \leq 0$, then, since $I(a, b) \leq A(a, b)$, we get

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(A(a, b))$$

provided that f is differentiable and GA-convex on (a, b) .

Also, if we take in (2.4) $s = L(a, b)$, then we get

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(L(a, b)) + f'(L(a, b)) L(a, b) \ln \left(\frac{I(a, b)}{L(a, b)} \right).$$

If we assume that $f'(L(a, b)) \geq 0$, then we get from (2.5) that

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(L(a, b))$$

provided that f is differentiable and GA-convex on (a, b) .

Now, if we take in (2.4) $s = \sqrt{ab} = G(a, b)$, then we get

$$(2.6) \quad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(G(a, b)) + f'(G(a, b)) G(a, b) \ln \left(\frac{I(a, b)}{G(a, b)} \right).$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \left(\frac{I(a, b)}{G(a, b)} \right) &= \ln I(a, b) - \ln G(a, b) \\ &= \frac{b \ln b - a \ln a}{b-a} - 1 - \frac{\ln a + \ln b}{2} \\ &= \frac{a+b}{2} \frac{\ln b - \ln a}{b-a} - 1 = \frac{A(a, b) - L(a, b)}{L(a, b)}, \end{aligned}$$

then (2.6) is equivalent to

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(G(a, b)) + f'(G(a, b)) G(a, b) \frac{A(a, b) - L(a, b)}{L(a, b)}.$$

If $f'(G(a, b)) \geq 0$, then we have

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \geq f(G(a, b))$$

provided that f is differentiable and GA-convex on (a, b) .

Motivated by the above results we establish in this paper other inequalities of Hermite–Hadamard type for GA-convex functions. Applications for special means are also provided.

3. New results

We start with the following result that provides in the right side of (1.2) a bound in terms of the identric mean.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA-convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then we have*

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \leq (\geq) \frac{(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) f(a) + (\ln I(a, b) - \ln a) f(b)}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ = \frac{b - L(a, b)}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{L(a, b) - a}{b-a} f(a).$$

PROOF. Since f is a GA-convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$ then $f \circ \exp$ is convex (concave) and we have

$$(3.2) \quad f(t) = f \circ \exp(\ln t) = f \circ \exp\left(\frac{(\ln b - \ln t) \ln a + (\ln t - \ln a) \ln b}{\ln b - \ln a}\right) \\ \leq (\geq) \frac{(\ln b - \ln t) f \circ \exp(\ln a) + (\ln t - \ln a) f \circ \exp(\ln b)}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ = \frac{(\ln b - \ln t) f(a) + (\ln t - \ln a) f(b)}{\ln b - \ln a}$$

for any $t \in [a, b]$.

This inequality is of interest in itself as well.

If we take the integral mean in (3.2), we get

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \\ \leq (\geq) \frac{\left(\ln b - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt\right) f(a) + \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt - \ln a\right) f(b)}{\ln b - \ln a}$$

and since

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t \, dt = \ln I(a, b),$$

then we obtain the desired result (3.1).

Now, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\ln b - \ln I(a, b)}{\ln b - \ln a} &= \frac{\ln b - \frac{b \ln b - a \ln a}{b-a} + 1}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ &= \frac{(b-a) \ln b - b \ln b + a \ln a + b - a}{(b-a)(\ln b - \ln a)} \\ &= \frac{b-a-a(\ln b - \ln a)}{(b-a)(\ln b - \ln a)} \\ &= \frac{L(a, b) - a}{b-a} \end{aligned}$$

and, similarly

$$\frac{\ln I(a, b) - \ln a}{\ln b - \ln a} = \frac{b - L(a, b)}{b - a},$$

which proves the last part of (3.1). □

If $f: (0, \infty) \supset I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is GA -convex (concave) on I , then we have the inequality

$$(3.3) \quad f(\sqrt{xy}) \leq (\geq) \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2}$$

for any $x, y \in I$.

The following refinement of (3.3), which is an inequality of Hermite–Hadamard type, holds (see [16] for an extension to GA h -convex functions). For the sake of completeness we give here a short proof.

LEMMA 3.2. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA -convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then we have*

$$(3.4) \quad f(\sqrt{ab}) \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} \, dt \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}.$$

PROOF. By the definition of GA -convex (concave) functions on $[a, b]$ we have

$$(3.5) \quad f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) \leq (\geq) (1-\lambda)f(a) + \lambda f(b)$$

for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

Integrating the inequality (3.5) on $[0, 1]$ we get

$$(3.6) \quad \int_0^1 f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) d\lambda \leq (\geq) f(a) \int_0^1 (1-\lambda) d\lambda + f(b) \int_0^1 \lambda d\lambda.$$

Since

$$\int_0^1 (1-\lambda) d\lambda = \int_0^1 \lambda d\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$$

and, by changing the variable $t = a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda$, $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$\int_0^1 f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) d\lambda = \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt,$$

then by (3.6) we get the second inequality in (3.4).

By the inequality (3.3) we have

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{aligned} f(\sqrt{ab}) &= f(\sqrt{a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda a^\lambda b^{1-\lambda}}) \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} [f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) + f(a^\lambda b^{1-\lambda})] \end{aligned}$$

for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

Integrating the inequality (3.7) on $[0, 1]$ we get

$$(3.8) \quad f(\sqrt{ab}) \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_0^1 f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) d\lambda + \int_0^1 f(a^\lambda b^{1-\lambda}) d\lambda \right].$$

Since

$$\int_0^1 f(a^\lambda b^{1-\lambda}) d\lambda = \int_0^1 f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) d\lambda = \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt,$$

then by (3.8) we get the first inequality in (3.4). □

REMARK 3.3. The inequality (3.4) can be also written for any $d > c > 0$ with $c, d \in I$ as

$$(3.9) \quad f(\sqrt{cd}) \leq (\geq) \int_0^1 f(c^{1-\lambda}d^\lambda) d\lambda \leq (\geq) \frac{f(c) + f(d)}{2}$$

provided that f is a GA -convex (concave) function on I .

We have the following representation result:

LEMMA 3.4. Let $g: \mathbb{R} \supset [x, y] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a Lebesgue integrable function on $[x, y]$. Then for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ we have the representation

$$(3.10) \quad \int_0^1 g[(1-t)x + ty] dt = (1-\lambda) \int_0^1 g[(1-t)((1-\lambda)x + \lambda y) + ty] dt \\ + \lambda \int_0^1 g[(1-t)x + t((1-\lambda)x + \lambda y)] dt.$$

PROOF. For $\lambda = 0$ and $\lambda = 1$ the equality (3.10) is obvious.

Let $\lambda \in (0, 1)$. Observe that

$$\int_0^1 g[(1-t)(\lambda y + (1-\lambda)x) + ty] dt \\ = \int_0^1 g[((1-t)\lambda + t)y + (1-t)(1-\lambda)x] dt$$

and

$$\int_0^1 g[t(\lambda y + (1-\lambda)x) + (1-t)x] dt = \int_0^1 g[t\lambda y + (1-\lambda t)x] dt.$$

If we make the change of variable $u := (1-t)\lambda + t$, then we have $1-u = (1-t)(1-\lambda)$ and $du = (1-\lambda) dt$. Then

$$\int_0^1 g[((1-t)\lambda + t)y + (1-t)(1-\lambda)x] dt = \frac{1}{1-\lambda} \int_\lambda^1 g[uy + (1-u)x] du.$$

If we make the change of variable $u := \lambda t$, then we have $du = \lambda dt$ and

$$\int_0^1 g[t\lambda y + (1-\lambda t)x] dt = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^\lambda g[uy + (1-u)x] du.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (1 - \lambda) \int_0^1 g[(1 - t)(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)x) + ty] dt \\
 & \quad + \lambda \int_0^1 g[t(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)x) + (1 - t)x] dt \\
 & \quad = \int_\lambda^1 g[uy + (1 - u)x] du + \int_0^\lambda g[uy + (1 - u)x] du \\
 & \quad = \int_0^1 g[uy + (1 - u)x] du
 \end{aligned}$$

and the identity (3.10) is proved. \square

COROLLARY 3.5. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a Lebesgue integrable function on $[a, b]$. Then for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ we have the representation*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.11) \quad \int_0^1 f(a^{1-s}b^s) ds &= (1 - \lambda) \int_0^1 f\left([a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda]^{1-s} b^s\right) ds \\
 & \quad + \lambda \int_0^1 f\left(a^{1-s} [a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda]^s\right) ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. Using (3.10) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^1 f(a^{1-s}b^s) ds &= \int_0^1 f \circ \exp((1 - s) \ln a + s \ln b) ds \\
 &= (1 - \lambda) \int_0^1 f \circ \exp[(1 - s)((1 - \lambda) \ln a + \lambda \ln b) + s \ln b] ds \\
 & \quad + \lambda \int_0^1 f \circ \exp[(1 - s) \ln a + s((1 - \lambda) \ln a + \lambda \ln b)] ds \\
 &= (1 - \lambda) \int_0^1 f \circ \exp[(1 - s) \ln [a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda] + s \ln b] ds \\
 & \quad + \lambda \int_0^1 f \circ \exp[(1 - s) \ln a + s \ln [a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda]] ds \\
 &= (1 - \lambda) \int_0^1 f\left([a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda]^{1-s} b^s\right) ds + \lambda \int_0^1 f\left(a^{1-s} [a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda]^s\right) ds
 \end{aligned}$$

and the identity (3.11) is proved. \square

We are able now to provide a refinement of (3.4) as follows:

THEOREM 3.6. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA -convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.12) \quad f\left(\sqrt{ab}\right) &\leq (\geq) (1 - \lambda) f\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right) + \lambda f\left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right) \\
 &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt \\
 &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} [f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda) + (1 - \lambda) f(b) + \lambda f(a)] \\
 &\leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. We prove the inequalities only for the GA -convex case. Using the inequality (3.9) we have

$$f\left(\sqrt{a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f\left([a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda]^{1-s} b^s\right) ds \leq \frac{f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda) + f(b)}{2},$$

that is equivalent to

$$(3.13) \quad f\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f\left([a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda]^{1-s} b^s\right) ds \leq \frac{f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda) + f(b)}{2}$$

for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

We also have

$$f\left(\sqrt{aa^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f\left(a^{1-s} [a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda]^s\right) ds \leq \frac{f(a) + f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda)}{2},$$

that is equivalent to

$$(3.14) \quad f\left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f\left(a^{1-s} [a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda]^s\right) ds \leq \frac{f(a) + f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda)}{2}$$

for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

If we multiply (3.13) by $1 - \lambda$ and (3.14) by λ and add the obtained inequalities, we get, by the identity (3.11), that

$$(1 - \lambda) f\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right) + \lambda f\left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f(a^{1-s} b^s) ds$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq (1-\lambda) \frac{f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) + f(b)}{2} + \lambda \frac{f(a) + f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda)}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) + (1-\lambda)f(b) + \lambda f(a)] \end{aligned}$$

for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, which proves the second and the third inequality in (3.12).

By the *GA*-convexity we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1-\lambda) f\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right) + \lambda f\left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right) \\ \geq f\left[\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right)^{1-\lambda} \left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right)^\lambda\right] = f\left(a^{\frac{1}{2}} b^{\frac{1}{2}}\right), \end{aligned}$$

which proves the first inequality in (3.12).

By the *GA*-convexity we also have

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} [f(a^{1-\lambda}b^\lambda) + (1-\lambda)f(b) + \lambda f(a)] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [(1-\lambda)f(a) + \lambda f(b) + (1-\lambda)f(b) + \lambda f(a)] \\ &= \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the last inequality in (3.12). \square

COROLLARY 3.7. *With the assumptions of Theorem 3.6 we have*

$$\begin{aligned} f(\sqrt{ab}) &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(a^{\frac{1}{4}} b^{\frac{3}{4}}\right) + f\left(a^{\frac{3}{4}} b^{\frac{1}{4}}\right) \right] \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \left[f(\sqrt{ab}) + \frac{f(b) + f(a)}{2} \right] \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

4. Related results

The following result also holds:

THEOREM 4.1. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA -convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then for any $t \in [a, b]$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.1) \quad & \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \left[f(t) + \frac{f(b)(\ln b - \ln t) + f(a)(\ln t - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \right] \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. We give a proof only for the GA -convex case. From the inequality (2.2) we have that

$$(4.2) \quad f(t) - f(s) \geq (\ln t - \ln s) f'_+(s) s$$

for any $s \in (a, b)$ and $t \in [a, b]$.

We divide (4.2) by $s > 0$ and integrate on $[a, b]$ over s to get

$$(4.3) \quad f(t) \int_a^b \frac{1}{s} ds - \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \geq \left(\int_a^b f'_+(s) ds \right) \ln t - \int_a^b f'_+(s) \ln s ds$$

for any $t \in [a, b]$.

However,

$$\int_a^b \frac{1}{s} ds = \ln b - \ln a, \quad \int_a^b f'_+(s) ds = f(b) - f(a)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^b f'_+(s) \ln s ds \\
 & = f(s) \ln s \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds = f(b) \ln b - f(a) \ln a - \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by (4.3) we get

$$\begin{aligned} f(t)(\ln b - \ln a) - \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \\ \geq (f(b) - f(a)) \ln t - f(b) \ln b + f(a) \ln a + \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds, \end{aligned}$$

which can be written as

$$f(t)(\ln b - \ln a) + f(b)(\ln b - \ln t) + f(a)(\ln t - \ln a) \geq 2 \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds$$

and the first inequality in (4.1) is proved.

Using (3.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) + \frac{f(b)(\ln b - \ln t) + f(a)(\ln t - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ \leq \frac{(\ln b - \ln t)f(a) + (\ln t - \ln a)f(b)}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ + \frac{f(b)(\ln b - \ln t) + f(a)(\ln t - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} = f(a) + f(b) \end{aligned}$$

for any $t \in [a, b]$. That proves the last part of (4.1). \square

By taking the integral mean in the inequality (4.1) we have:

COROLLARY 4.2. *With the assumptions of Theorem 4.1 we have*

$$\begin{aligned} (4.4) \quad \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \\ + \frac{1}{2} \frac{f(b)(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) + f(a)(\ln I(a, b) - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since a simple calculation reveals (see the proof of Theorem 3.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(b)(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) + f(a)(\ln I(a, b) - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \\ = \frac{L(a, b) - a}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{b - L(a, b)}{b-a} f(a), \end{aligned}$$

then the inequality (4.4) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{L(a,b) - a}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{b - L(a,b)}{b-a} f(a) \right] \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

REMARK 4.3. Taking specific values for $t \in [a, b]$ in (4.1) we get the following results:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{f(b) (\ln b - \ln \frac{a+b}{2}) + f(a) (\ln \frac{a+b}{2} - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \right] \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} \left[f(\sqrt{ab}) + \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} f(I(a,b)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{f(b) (\ln b - \ln I(a,b)) + f(a) (\ln I(a,b) - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[f(I(a,b)) + \frac{L(a,b) - a}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{b - L(a,b)}{b-a} f(a) \right] \\ &\leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds &\leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} f(L(a,b)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{f(b) (\ln b - \ln L(a,b)) + f(a) (\ln L(a,b) - \ln a)}{\ln b - \ln a} \right] \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, observe that

$$f(b)(\ln b - \ln t) + f(a)(\ln t - \ln a) = 0$$

iff

$$\ln t = \frac{f(b)\ln b - f(a)\ln a}{f(b) - f(a)} = \ln \left(\frac{bf(b)}{af(a)} \right)^{\frac{1}{f(b)-f(a)}},$$

which is equivalent to

$$t = \left(\frac{bf(b)}{af(a)} \right)^{\frac{1}{f(b)-f(a)}}.$$

Therefore, if

$$t = \left(\frac{bf(b)}{af(a)} \right)^{\frac{1}{f(b)-f(a)}} \in [a, b],$$

then by (4.1) we get

$$\frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{2} f \left(\left(\frac{bf(b)}{af(a)} \right)^{\frac{1}{f(b)-f(a)}} \right) \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}.$$

The following result also holds.

THEOREM 4.4. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA-convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then for any $t \in [a, b]$ we have*

$$(4.5) \quad \frac{1}{2} \left[f(t) + \frac{f(b)b(\ln b - \ln t) + af(a)(\ln t - \ln a)}{b-a} \right] - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \\ \geq (\leq) \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds - \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \ln t \right].$$

PROOF. We give a proof only for the GA-convex case.

Integrating (4.2) with respect to s we get

$$(4.6) \quad f(t)(b-a) - \int_a^b f(s) ds \geq \ln t \int_a^b f'_+(s) s ds - \int_a^b f'_+(s) s \ln s ds$$

for any $t \in [a, b]$.

Observe that, integrating by parts, we have

$$\int_a^b f'_+(s) s \, ds = bf(b) - af(a) - \int_a^b f(s) \, ds$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f'_+(s) s \ln s \, ds &= f(b) b \ln b - f(a) a \ln a - \int_a^b (s \ln s)' f(s) \, ds \\ &= f(b) b \ln b - f(a) a \ln a - \int_a^b (\ln s + 1) f(s) \, ds \\ &= f(b) b \ln b - f(a) a \ln a - \int_a^b f(s) \ln s \, ds - \int_a^b f(s) \, ds. \end{aligned}$$

Using the inequality (4.6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} f(t)(b-a) - \int_a^b f(s) \, ds &\geq \ln t \left(bf(b) - af(a) - \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \right) \\ &\quad - f(b) b \ln b + f(a) a \ln a + \int_a^b f(s) \ln s \, ds + \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \\ &= bf(b) \ln t - af(a) \ln t - \ln t \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \\ &\quad - f(b) b \ln b + f(a) a \ln a + \int_a^b f(s) \ln s \, ds + \int_a^b f(s) \, ds, \end{aligned}$$

that is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} f(t)(b-a) - bf(b) \ln t + af(a) \ln t + f(b) b \ln b - f(a) a \ln a \\ - 2 \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \geq \int_a^b f(s) \ln s \, ds - \ln t \int_a^b f(s) \, ds, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} f(t)(b-a) + f(b) b (\ln b - \ln t) + af(a) (\ln t - \ln a) \\ - 2 \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \geq \int_a^b f(s) \ln s \, ds - \ln t \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \end{aligned}$$

for any $t \in [a, b]$ and the inequality (4.5) is proved. □

COROLLARY 4.5. Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA-convex function on $[a, b]$. Then

$$(4.7) \quad \frac{bf(b)(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) + af(a)(\ln I(a, b) - \ln a)}{b-a} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds - \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \ln I(a, b).$$

Moreover, if f is nondecreasing then

$$(4.8) \quad \frac{bf(b)(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) + af(a)(\ln I(a, b) - \ln a)}{b-a} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds - \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \ln I(a, b) \geq 0.$$

PROOF. Integrating over t on $[a, b]$ and dividing by $b-a$ in (4.5) we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{f(b)b \left(\ln b - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt \right) + af(a) \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt - \ln a \right)}{b-a} \right]$$

$$- \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \geq (\leq) \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds \right.$$

$$\left. - \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt \right],$$

that is equivalent to (4.7).

Now, if f is nondecreasing on $[a, b]$, then by Čebyšev inequality for synchronous functions, we have

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds \geq \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t dt$$

that proves (4.8). □

COROLLARY 4.6. *Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA -convex function on $[a, b]$. Then*

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[f(\exp(\mu_f)) + \frac{f(b)b(\ln b - \mu_f) + af(a)(\mu_f - \ln a)}{b - a} \right] \geq \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) ds$$

provided that

$$\mu_f := \frac{\int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds}{\int_a^b f(s) ds} \in [\ln a, \ln b].$$

PROOF. Follows from (4.5) by taking

$$\ln t = \frac{\int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds}{\int_a^b f(s) ds} \in [\ln a, \ln b]. \quad \square$$

REMARK 4.7. If we take $t = \sqrt{ab}$ in (4.5), then we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left[f(\sqrt{ab}) + \frac{f(b)b + af(a)}{2L(a, b)} \right] - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \\ & \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds - \left(\frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \ln \sqrt{ab} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

If we take $t = I(a, b)$ in (4.5), then we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left[f(I(a, b)) + \frac{f(b)b(\ln b - \ln I(a, b)) + af(a)(\ln I(a, b) - \ln a)}{b - a} \right] \\ & - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) \ln s ds \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \left(\frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(s) ds \right) \ln I(a, b) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

We use the following results obtained by the author in [5] and [6].

LEMMA 4.8. Let $h: [\alpha, \beta] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function on $[\alpha, \beta]$. Then we have the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.9) \quad & \frac{1}{8} \left[h'_+ \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) - h'_- \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \right] (\beta - \alpha) \\
 & \leq \frac{h(\alpha) + h(\beta)}{2} - \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha} \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} h(t) dt \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{8} [h'_-(\beta) - h'_+(\alpha)] (\beta - \alpha)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.10) \quad & \frac{1}{8} \left[h'_+ \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) - h'_- \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \right] (\beta - \alpha) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha} \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} h(t) dt - h \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{8} [h'_-(\beta) - h'_+(\alpha)] (\beta - \alpha).
 \end{aligned}$$

The constant $\frac{1}{8}$ is the best possible in (4.9) and (4.10).

Finally, we have

THEOREM 4.9. Let $f: (0, \infty) \supset [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a GA-convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.11) \quad & \frac{1}{8} \left[f'_+ \left(\sqrt{ab} \right) - f'_- \left(\sqrt{ab} \right) \right] \sqrt{ab} (\ln b - \ln a) \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{8} [f'_-(b)b - f'_+(a)a] (\ln b - \ln a)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.12) \quad & \frac{1}{8} \left[f'_+ \left(\sqrt{ab} \right) - f'_- \left(\sqrt{ab} \right) \right] \sqrt{ab} (\ln b - \ln a) \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds - f \left(\sqrt{ab} \right) \\
 & \leq (\geq) \frac{1}{8} [f'_-(b)b - f'_+(a)a] (\ln b - \ln a).
 \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. Consider the function $h: [\ln a, \ln b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $h(t) = f \circ \exp(t)$. Since f is a GA -convex (concave) function on $[a, b]$, then we have the lateral derivatives

$$h'_\pm(t) = (f'_\pm \circ \exp(t)) \exp t, \quad t \in [\ln a, \ln b].$$

If we apply the inequality (4.9) for the convex function $f \circ \exp$ on the interval $[\ln a, \ln b]$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{8} \left[f'_+ \circ \exp \left(\frac{\ln a + \ln b}{2} \right) - f'_- \circ \exp \left(\frac{\ln a + \ln b}{2} \right) \right] \exp \left(\frac{\ln a + \ln b}{2} \right) (\ln b - \ln a) \\ & \leq \frac{f \circ \exp(\ln a) + f \circ \exp(\ln b)}{2} - \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_{\ln a}^{\ln b} f \circ \exp(t) dt \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} [(f'_- \circ \exp(\ln b)) \exp(\ln b) - (f'_+ \circ \exp(\ln a)) \exp(\ln a)] (\ln b - \ln a), \end{aligned}$$

that is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} (4.13) \quad & \frac{1}{8} [f'_+ (\sqrt{ab}) - f'_- (\sqrt{ab})] \sqrt{ab} (\ln b - \ln a) \\ & \leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_{\ln a}^{\ln b} f \circ \exp(t) dt \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} [f'_-(b)b - f'_+(a)a] (\ln b - \ln a). \end{aligned}$$

If we change the variable $s = \exp t$, then $t = \ln s$ and $dt = \frac{ds}{s}$. Therefore

$$\int_{\ln a}^{\ln b} f \circ \exp(t) dt = \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds$$

and by (4.13) we get the desired inequality (4.11).

The inequality (4.12) follows by (4.10). □

REMARK 4.10. If the function $f: (0, \infty) \supset I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable and GA -convex on $[a, b] \subset I$, then we have the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} (4.14) \quad & 0 \leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} [f'(b)b - f'(a)a] (\ln b - \ln a) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(4.15) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(s)}{s} ds - f(\sqrt{ab}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} [f'(b)b - f'(a)a] (\ln b - \ln a). \end{aligned}$$

5. Some applications

Let $p \neq 0$ and consider the convex function $g(t) = \exp(pt)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Then the function $f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(t) = g(\ln t) = \exp(p \ln t) = t^p$, is a *GA*-convex function on $(0, \infty)$. Observe that for $0 < a < b$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b t^p dt &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p+1} \frac{b^{p+1} - a^{p+1}}{b-a}, & p \neq -1, \\ \frac{\ln b - \ln a}{b-a}, & p = -1, \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} L_p^p(a, b), & p \neq -1, \\ L^{-1}(a, b), & p = -1, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where $L_p(a, b)$ ($p \neq -1$) is the *p-logarithmic mean* and L is the logarithmic mean defined in the introduction.

Using the inequality

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \leq \frac{b - L(a, b)}{b-a} f(b) + \frac{L(a, b) - a}{b-a} f(a)$$

for $f(t) = t^p$ ($p \neq 0$), we get

$$L_p^p(a, b) \leq \frac{b - L(a, b)}{b-a} b^p + \frac{L(a, b) - a}{b-a} a^p$$

for $p \neq 0$, where $L_{-1}^{-1}(a, b) := L^{-1}(a, b)$.

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt &= \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b t^{p-1} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \frac{b^p - a^p}{b-a} = L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b), \quad p \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

If we use the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\sqrt{ab}\right) &\leq (1-\lambda) f\left(a^{\frac{1-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda+1}{2}}\right) + \lambda f\left(a^{\frac{2-\lambda}{2}} b^{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\ln b - \ln a} \int_a^b \frac{f(t)}{t} dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [f(a^{1-\lambda} b^\lambda) + (1-\lambda) f(b) + \lambda f(a)] \leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

for $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ and $f(t) = t^p$ ($p \neq 0$), then we get

$$\begin{aligned} G^p(a, b) &\leq (1-\lambda) G^p(a^{1-\lambda}, b^{\lambda+1}) + \lambda G^p(a^{2-\lambda}, b^\lambda) \\ &\leq L(a, b) L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[G^p(a^{2(1-\lambda)}, b^{2\lambda}) + (1-\lambda) b^p + \lambda a^p \right] \leq \frac{a^p + b^p}{2} \end{aligned}$$

for $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

If we use the inequalities (4.14) and (4.15) for $f(t) = t^p$ ($p \neq 0$), then we get

$$0 \leq \frac{a^p + b^p}{2} - L(a, b) L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b) \leq \frac{1}{8} p^2 \frac{L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b)}{L(a, b)} (b-a)^2$$

and

$$0 \leq L(a, b) L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b) - G^p(a, b) \leq \frac{1}{8} p^2 \frac{L_{p-1}^{p-1}(a, b)}{L(a, b)} (b-a)^2.$$

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