

令  $a' = \frac{a+a_1}{2}$ ,  $b' = \frac{b+b_1}{2}$

构造

$$M = \max \left\{ \left| \frac{f(a') - f(a_1)}{a' - a_1} \right|, \left| \frac{f(b_1) - f(b')}{b_1 - b'} \right| \right\}$$

下面证  $M$  满足题意

当  $x = y$  时,

$$|f(x) - f(y)| = 0 = M|x - y|$$

显然成立

当  $x \neq y$  时,

不失一般性, 我们假设  $x < y$ ,

则有

$$a < a' < a_1 \leq x < y \leq b_1 < b' < b$$

由于  $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  是凸函数

故

$$\frac{f(a') - f(a_1)}{a' - a_1} \leq \frac{f(a') - f(y)}{a' - y} \leq \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \leq \frac{f(x) - f(b')}{x - b'} \leq \frac{f(b_1) - f(b')}{b_1 - b'}$$

则

$$\begin{cases} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \leq \frac{f(b_1) - f(b')}{b_1 - b'} \leq \left| \frac{f(b_1) - f(b')}{b_1 - b'} \right| \\ -\frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \leq -\frac{f(a') - f(a_1)}{a' - a_1} \leq \left| \frac{f(a') - f(a_1)}{a' - a_1} \right| \end{cases}$$

所以

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{|x - y|} &= \left| \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \right| \\ &= \max \left\{ \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y}, -\frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \left| \frac{f(a') - f(a_1)}{a' - a_1} \right|, \left| \frac{f(b_1) - f(b')}{b_1 - b'} \right| \right\} = M \end{aligned}$$

即

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq M|x - y|$$

即证