

# Inequality

bowen

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# 1 Basics

## 1.1 Methodology

1. scaling
2. Algebraic Approach
  - Identity
  - Straight Computation
  - Rotation-Symmetric series pairing

- (a)  $|a| \geq a \geq -|a|$
- (b)  $|a| - |b| \leq |a \pm b| \leq |a| + |b|$
- (c)  $a \geq b, b \geq c$  then  $a \geq c$
- (d)  $a, b \geq 0$ , then  $a \cdot b \geq 0$
- (e)  $a \geq b > 0, c > 0$ , then  $\frac{a}{c} \geq \frac{b}{c}$
- (f) (Lagrange Identity)  $\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (a_i b_j - a_j b_i)^2 \geq 0$

3. Function Aspects

- Monotone
- Convexity
- Tangent-Line scaling
- Critical Points

- (a) Continuous  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ , if  $f'(x) \geq 0$ , then  $f(a) \geq f(b)$ , equality attains when  $f$  is constant function.
- (b)  $f''(x) \geq 0$  on  $[a, b]$ , then  $r \cdot f(a) + (1 - r)f(b) \geq f(r \cdot a + (1 - r) \cdot b)$

Take  $s \in [0, 1]$ , let  $g(s) = rf((1 - s)a + s(ra + (1 - r)b)) + (1 - r)f((1 - s)b + s(rb + (1 - r)a))$   
Then  $g(0) = rf(a) + (1 - r)f(b) = LHS$ ;  $g(1) = f(ra + (1 - r)b) = RHS$   
And  $g'(r) \leq 0$ , then  $g(0) \geq g(1)$ .

- (c) (Jensen)  $\sum w_i = 1$ ,  $f$  is convex, then

$$f(\sum w_i \cdot x_i) \leq \sum w_i f(x_i)$$

4. Combinatorial Methods

- Adjustment/ Polishing
- Inclusion-Exclusion
- Method of Area
- Probabilistics

5. Analysis Methods

- Taylor Expansion
- Scaling Integrals
- Maximum Modulo Principle

6. Adv Algebra Methods

- Canonical Form
- Eigenvalues and Rayleigh Quotient

## 1.2 Examples

1.  $xyz = 1$ , show

$$1 < \frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{1}{1+y} + \frac{1}{1+z} < 2$$

Notice  $S = \frac{3+2(x+y+z)+(xy+yz+zx)}{2+x+y+z+xy+yz+zx} > 1$  is trivial and less than 2 is also trivial by comparing each term.

## 2 Convex-Concave

### 3 Mean Inequality Chain

#### 3.1 QM-AM-GM-HM

1. For nonnegative  $x_i$ ,

$$\frac{\sum x_i}{n} \geq (\prod x_i)^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

2. (Weighted) For nonnegative  $x_i$  and  $a_i > 0$  with  $\sum a_i = 1$ , then

$$\sum a_i \cdot x_i \geq \prod x_i^{a_i}$$

#### 3.2 Power Mean

1. Define **Power-Mean** as, for  $x_i > 0$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $A_r = (\frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i)^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$

If  $s < r$ , then  $A_s \leq A_r$ , equality attains when  $x_i$  are equal.

2. Two Variations

- $a_i, b_i > 0$ , we have

$$\sum \frac{a_i^2}{b_i} \geq \frac{(\sum a_i)^2}{\sum b_i}$$

- For  $m > 0$ , we have

$$\sum \frac{a_i^{m+1}}{b_i^m} \geq \frac{(\sum a_i)^{m+1}}{(\sum b_i)^m}$$

#### 3.3 Maclaurin's Inequality

## 4 Cauchy-Schwarz

### 4.1 Cauchy-Schwarz

For real  $a_i, b_i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have

$$(\sum a_i^2)(\sum b_i^2) \geq (\sum a_i b_i)^2$$

### 4.2 Aczel

If  $A, B > 0$ ,  $A^2 \geq \sum a_i^2$ ,  $B^2 \geq \sum b_i^2$  then

$$\sqrt{(A^2 - \sum a_i^2)(B^2 - \sum b_i^2)} \leq AB - \sum a_i b_i$$

Sol1: We can apply on  $n = 1$  case and convert to the norm and then apply Cauchy.

Sol2: Consider the  $\Delta \geq 0$  of  $(AX + B)^2 - \sum(a_i X + b_i)^2$

### 4.3 Titu's

For real number  $a_i$  and positive  $b_i$ , we have

$$\sum \frac{a_i^2}{b_i} \geq \frac{(\sum a_i)^2}{\sum b_i}$$

Equality attains when  $\frac{a_i}{b_i} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$

### 4.4 Holder

### 4.5 Carlson Inequality

### 4.6 Minkowski Inequality

### 4.7 Examples

1.  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq a + b + c$  for  $a, b, c > 0$   
Directly from Titu

2.  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq a + b + c + \frac{4(a-b)^2}{a+b+c}$  for  $a, b, c > 0$

## 5 Order Inequality

### 5.1 Rearrangement

Given  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$  and  $b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$ , we have

$$\sum_i a_i b_{n+1-i} \leq \sum_i a_{\sigma(i)} b_{\sigma(i)} \leq \sum_i a_i b_i$$

### 5.2 Chebyshev

If sequence  $a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_n$  and  $b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_n$  are similarly sorted, we have

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i a_i b_i \leq \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_i a_i \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_i b_i \right)$$

If one is reversed, the inequality sign reversed.

### 5.3 Majorization

Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ,  
 $x \succ y$  if

$$\sum_{i=1}^k x_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^k y_i$$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

If  $x \succ y$  and  $f$  is convex, we have

$$\sum_i f(x_i) \geq \sum_i f(y_i)$$

## 6 Bernoulli Inequality

## 7 Schur Inequality

Notice that Schur only works for 3 variable inequalities

### 7.1 Basic Schur

1. For  $x, y, z \geq 0$  and  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$a^r(a-b)(a-c) + b^r(b-a)(b-c) + c^r(c-a)(c-b) \geq 0$$

2. Two Variations(Algebraic Manipulation)

- $\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^3 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} [x^2(y+z)] + 3xyz \geq 0$
- $(\sum_{\text{cyc}} x)^3 - 4 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy + 9xyz \geq 0$

### 7.2 pqr Inequality

Let  $p = x + y + z$ ,  $q = xy + yz + zx$ ,  $r = xyz$  where  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , we have

- $p \geq \sqrt[3]{r}$
- $q \geq 3\sqrt[3]{r^2}$
- $p^2 \geq 3q$
- $q^2 \geq 3pr$
- $p^3 - 4pq + 9r \geq 0$

## 8 Lagrange Multiplier

## 9 Merge and Adjustment

Given a constraint on sum of  $x_i$ , we want to find the extremum of  $\sum_i f(x_i)$

We first have to identify the convexity-concavity of  $f$ , take the second derivative identify the intervals on  $I$  where is concave and convex.