

1. (AoPS) For any triangle with angles  $A, B, C$ , prove that

$$\sin A + \sin B + \sin C \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

*Solution:* We can apply Jensen's inequality on the function  $f(x) = \sin x$ , which is concave (flip the inequality sign) on  $[0, \pi]$ . Plugging in the three angles above, which are all less than  $\pi$  since we have a triangle, we get

$$\lambda_1 \sin A + \lambda_2 \sin B + \lambda_3 \sin C \leq \sin(\lambda_1 A + \lambda_2 B + \lambda_3 C).$$

This is true for any  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \geq 0$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i = 1$ . So we can choose all three equal to  $1/3$  to obtain

$$\frac{1}{3}(\sin A + \sin B + \sin C) \leq \sin\left(\frac{1}{3}(A + B + C)\right).$$

Since we have a triangle,  $A + B + C = \pi$ , and  $\sin(\pi/3) = \sqrt{3}/2$ . Plugging this in we get the desired result

$$\sin A + \sin B + \sin C \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

2. Prove the “AM-GM inequality”, that the arithmetic mean of non-negative real numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is always greater than or equal to their geometric mean. That is

$$\frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n} \geq \sqrt[n]{x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n}.$$

We can apply Jensen's inequality to the function  $f(x) = \log x$ , which is also concave (flip the inequality sign). Again we will choose the weights to all be equal, so in this case  $\lambda_i = 1/n$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Therefore

$$\log\left(\frac{x_1}{n} + \frac{x_2}{n} + \dots + \frac{x_n}{n}\right) \geq \frac{1}{n} \log x_1 + \frac{1}{n} \log x_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \log x_n$$

$$\log\left(\frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n}\right) \geq \log\left((x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n)^{1/n}\right)$$

$$\frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n} \geq \sqrt[n]{x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n},$$

as desired.