

3. (Jensen's Inequality)

(a) Solutions: If f is a concave function, then

$$\mathbb{E}(f(X)) \leq f(\mathbb{E}(X)) \quad (1)$$

This follows naturally from the original Jensen's inequality because if f is concave, then $-f$ will be convex, and we can apply the Jensen's equality to $-f$, we would obtain the equality for concave function f as above.

(b)

Proof. Let $G_n = \sqrt[n]{\prod_{i=1}^n x_i}$ be the geometric mean and $A_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ be the arithmetic mean of a collection of n positive real numbers $\{x_i\}$.

$$\log A_n = \log \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) \quad (2)$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log x_i \quad (3)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\log x_i^{1/n} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$= \log \left(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{1/n} \right) \quad (5)$$

$$= \log G_n \quad (6)$$

$$A_n \geq G_n \quad (7)$$

From (2) to (3) we have used the inequality in (a) where $f(x) = \log x$. (7) is obtained when we take the exponential of $\log A_n$ and $\log G_n$ respectively.

(c)

Proof. let $f(x) = \sin x$ where $0 < x < \pi$. Because $f''(x) = -\sin x < 0$ when $0 < x < \pi$, $f(x)$ is concave in the interval $(0, \pi)$. We can apply the inequality in (a),

$$\frac{1}{3} (\sin A + \sin B + \sin C) \leq \sin \frac{1}{3} (A + B + C) \quad (8)$$

$$\leq \sin 60^\circ \quad (9)$$

$$\leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad (10)$$

$$\sin A + \sin B + \sin C \leq \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad (11)$$