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Ostrowski-type inequalities via *h*-convex functions with applications to special means

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Abstract

In this paper, we establish some new Ostrowski-type inequalities for absolutely continuous mappings whose first derivatives in absolute value are *h*-convex (resp. *h*-concave) and which are super-multiplicative or super-additive. Some applications to special means are given.

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Keywords: Ostrowski's inequality; h-convex; super-multiplicative; super-additive

1 Introduction

[1] Let $f : I \subset [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° , the interior of the interval I, such that $f' \in L[a, b]$, where $a, b \in I$ with a < b. If $|f'(x)| \le M$, then the following inequality holds:

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \le \frac{M}{b-a} \left[\frac{(x-a)^2 + (b-x)^2}{2} \right]. \tag{1.1}$$

This result is known in the literature as the Ostrowski inequality. For recent results and generalizations concerning Ostrowski's inequality, see [2–7] and the references therein.

Definition 1 [8] We say that $f : I \to \mathbb{R}$ is a Godunova-Levin function or that f belongs to the class Q(I) if f is nonnegative, and for all $x, y \in I$ and $t \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$f(tx + (1-t)y) \le \frac{f(x)}{t} + \frac{f(y)}{1-t}.$$
(1.2)

Definition 2 [9] We say that $f : I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is a *P*-function, or that *f* belongs to the class *P*(*I*), if *f* is nonnegative, and for all $x, y \in I$ and $t \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$f(tx + (1-t)y) \le f(x) + f(y).$$
(1.3)

Definition 3 [10] Let $s \in (0,1]$. A function $f : [0,\infty) \to [0,\infty)$ is said to be *s*-convex in the second sense if

$$f(tx + (1-t)y) \le t^s f(x) + (1-t)^s f(y)$$
(1.4)

for all $x, y \in [0, \infty)$ and $t \in [0, 1]$. This class of *s*-convex functions is usually denoted by K_s^2 .

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Definition 4 [11] Let $h: J \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative function, $h \neq 0$. We say that $f: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is an *h*-convex function, or that *f* belongs to the class SX(h, I), if *f* is nonnegative, and for all $x, y \in I$ and $t \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$f(tx + (1-t)y) \le h(t)f(x) + h(1-t)f(y).$$
(1.5)

If inequality (1.5) is reversed, then *f* is said to be *h*-concave, *i.e.*, $f \in SV(h, I)$. Obviously, if h(t) = t, then all nonnegative convex functions belong to SX(h, I) and all nonnegative concave functions belong to SV(h, I); if $h(t) = \frac{1}{t}$, then SX(h, I) = Q(I); if h(t) = 1, then $SX(h, I) \supseteq P(I)$; and if $h(t) = t^s$, where $s \in (0, 1)$, then $SX(h, I) \supseteq K_s^2$.

Remark 1 [11] Let *h* be a nonnegative function such that

$$h(\alpha) \ge \alpha \tag{1.6}$$

for all $\alpha \in (0,1)$. For example, the function $h_k(x) = x^k$, where $k \le 1$ and x > 0, has that property. If *f* is a nonnegative convex function on *I*, then for $x, y \in I$, $\alpha \in (0,1)$, we have

$$f(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y) \le \alpha f(x) + (1-\alpha)f(y) \le h(\alpha)f(x) + h(1-\alpha)f(y).$$

$$(1.7)$$

So, $f \in SX(h, I)$. Similarly, if the function h has the property $h(\alpha) \le \alpha$ for all $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, then any nonnegative concave function f belongs to the class SV(h, I).

Definition 5 [11] A function $h: J \to \mathbb{R}$ is said to be a super-multiplicative function if

$$h(xy) \ge h(x)h(y) \tag{1.8}$$

for all $x, y \in J$, when $xy \in J$.

If inequality (1.8) is reversed, then h is said to be a sub-multiplicative function. If equality is held in (1.8), then h is said to be a multiplicative function.

Definition 6 [12] A function $h: J \to \mathbb{R}$ is said to be a super-additive function if

$$h(x+y) \ge h(x) + h(y) \tag{1.9}$$

for all $x, y \in J$, when $x + y \in J$.

In [13], Sarıkaya *et al.* established the following Hadamard-type inequality for *h*-convex functions.

Theorem 1 [13] *Let* $f \in SX(h, I)$, $a, b \in I$ and $f \in L_1([a, b])$, then

$$\frac{1}{2h(\frac{1}{2})}f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \le \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx \le \left[f(a) + f(b)\right] \int_{0}^{1} h(t) \, dt. \tag{1.10}$$

For recent results related to *h*-convex functions, see [11, 13–16].

The aim of this study is to establish some Ostrowski-type inequalities for the class of functions whose derivatives in absolute value are *h*-convex and *h*-concave functions.

2 Ostrowski-type inequalities for *h*-convex functions

In order to achieve our objective, we need the following lemma [5].

Lemma 1 [5] Let $f : I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° where $a, b \in I$ with a < b. If $f' \in L[a, b]$, then the following equality holds:

$$f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du$$

= $\frac{(x-a)^2}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} tf' \left(tx + (1-t)a \right) dt - \frac{(b-x)^2}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} tf' \left(tx + (1-t)b \right) dt$

for each $x \in [a, b]$.

Theorem 2 Let $h: J \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative and super-multiplicative function, let $f: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° such that $f' \in L[a,b]$, where $a, b \in I$ with a < b, and $h(\alpha) \ge \alpha$. If |f'| is an h-convex function on I and $|f'(x)| \le M$, $x \in [a,b]$, then we have

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \le \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right] dt \tag{2.1}$$

for each $x \in [a, b]$.

Proof By Lemma 1 and since |f'| is *h*-convex, then we can write

$$\begin{split} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right| \, dt + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right| \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left[h(t) \left| f'(x) \right| + h(1-t) \left| f'(a) \right| \right] \, dt \\ &\quad + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left[h(t) \left| f'(x) \right| + h(1-t) \left| f'(b) \right| \right] \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{M(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[h^{2}(t) + h(t)h(1-t) \right] \, dt \\ &\quad + \frac{M(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[h^{2}(t) + h(t)h(1-t) \right] \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right] \, dt. \end{split}$$

The proof is completed.

Remark 2 In (2.1), if we choose h(t) = t, inequality (2.1) reduces to (1.1).

In the next corollary, we also make use of the beta function of Euler type, which is for x, y > 0 defined as

$$\beta(x,y) = \int_0^1 t^{x-1} (1-t)^{y-1} dt = \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}.$$

Corollary 1 In (2.1), if we choose $h(t) = t^s$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[t^{2s} + (t-t^{2})^{s} \right] dt \\ &= \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} \left[t^{2s} + t^{s} (1-t)^{s} \right] dt \\ &= \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \left[\frac{1}{2s+1} + \frac{\Gamma(s+1)\Gamma(s+1)}{\Gamma(2s+2)} \right] \\ &= \frac{M[(x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}]}{b-a} \left[\frac{\Gamma(2s+1) + s^{2}(\Gamma(s))^{2}}{(2s+1)\Gamma(2s+1)} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

One of the important results is given in the following theorem.

Theorem 3 Let $h: J \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative and super-additive function, let $f: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° such that $f' \in L[a, b]$, where $a, b \in I$ with a < b. If $|f'|^q$ is an h-convex function on [a, b], p, q > 1, $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, $h(t) \ge t$ and $|f'(x)| \le M$, $x \in [a, b]$, then

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \le \frac{Mh^{\frac{1}{q}}(1)}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{p}) \, dt \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left((x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2} \right)$$
(2.2)

for each $x \in [a, b]$.

Proof Suppose that p > 1. From Lemma 1 and using Hölder's inequality, we can write

$$\begin{split} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right| \, dt + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right| \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t^{p} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right|^{q} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t^{p} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right|^{q} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}. \end{split}$$

Since $|f'|^q$ is *h*-convex, by using the properties of *h*-convexity in the assumptions, we have

$$\begin{split} \int_{0}^{1} \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right|^{q} dt &\leq \int_{0}^{1} \left[h(t) \left| f'(x) \right|^{q} + h(1-t) \left| f'(a) \right|^{q} \right] dt \\ &\leq M^{q} \int_{0}^{1} \left[h(t) + h(1-t) \right] dt \\ &\leq M^{q} \int_{0}^{1} h(1) dt = M^{q} h(1). \end{split}$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\int_{0}^{1} \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right|^{q} dt \leq \int_{0}^{1} \left[h(t) \left| f'(x) \right|^{q} + h(1-t) \left| f'(b) \right|^{q} \right] dt$$
$$\leq M^{q} h(1)$$

and

$$\int_0^1 t^p \, dt \leq \int_0^1 h(t^p) \, dt.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \leq Mh^{\frac{1}{q}}(1) \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} h(t^{p}) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + Mh^{\frac{1}{q}}(1) \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} h(t^{p}) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} = \frac{Mh^{\frac{1}{q}}(1)}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} h(t^{p}) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} ((x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2}).$$

The proof is completed.

For example, $h(t) = t^2$ is a super-additive function for nonnegative real numbers because the square of (u + v) is always greater than or equal to the square of u plus the square of v, for $u, v \in [0, \infty)$.

Corollary 2 In (2.2), if we choose $h(t) = t^n$ with $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \ge 2$, then we have

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \le \frac{M}{b-a} \left(\frac{1}{np+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left((x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2} \right). \tag{2.3}$$

Remark 3 Since $(\frac{1}{np+1})^{\frac{1}{p}} < \frac{1}{2}$, for any $4 \ge n > p > 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then we behold that inequality (2.3) is better than inequality (1.1). Better approaches can be obtained even if it is irregular for bigger *n* and *p* numbers.

As we know, h-convex functions include all nonnegative convex, s-convex in the second sense, Q(I)-convex and P-convex function classes. In this respect, it is normal to obtain weaker results once compared with inequalities in referenced studies, because the inequalities written herein were considered to be more general than the above-mentioned classes, and it was taken into account to be super-multiplicative or super-additive material. In this case, the right side of inequality may be greater.

A new approach to an h-convex function is given in the following result.

Theorem 4 Let $h: J \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative and super-multiplicative function, let $f: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° such that $f' \in L[a,b]$, where $a, b \in I$ with a < b. If $|f'|^q$ is an h-convex function on $[a,b], q \ge 1$, $h(\alpha) \ge \alpha$ and $|f'(x)| \le M$, $x \in [a,b]$,

then

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{\sqrt[q]{2M}}{2(b-a)} \left((x-a)^{2} + (b-x)^{2} \right) \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$
(2.4)

for each $x \in [a, b]$.

Proof Suppose that $q \ge 1$. From Lemma 1 and using the power mean inequality, we have

$$\begin{split} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right| \, dt + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right| \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t \, dt \right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right|^{q} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t \, dt \right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} \left(\int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right|^{q} \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}. \end{split}$$

Since $|f'|^q$ is *h*-convex, we have

$$\begin{split} \int_0^1 t |f'(tx + (1-t)a)|^q dt &\leq \int_0^1 [th(t)|f'(x)|^q + th(1-t)|f'(a)|^q] dt \\ &\leq |f'(x)|^q \int_0^1 h(t)h(t) dt + |f'(a)|^q \int_0^1 h(t)h(1-t) dt \\ &\leq M^q \bigg[\int_0^1 h(t^2) dt + \int_0^1 h(t-t^2) dt \bigg]. \end{split}$$

Similarly, we can observe that

$$\begin{split} \int_0^1 t \big| f'\big(tx + (1-t)b\big) \big|^q \, dt &\leq \big| f'(x) \big|^q \int_0^1 h(t)h(t) \, dt + \big| f'(b) \big|^q \int_0^1 h(t)h(1-t) \, dt \\ &\leq M^q \bigg\{ \int_0^1 h(t^2) \, dt + \int_0^1 h(t-t^2) \, dt \bigg\}. \end{split}$$

Therefore, we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} \left(M^{q} \int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right) dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &+ \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} \left(M^{q} \int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right) dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= M\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1-\frac{1}{q}} \left(\int_0^1 (h(t^2) + h(t - t^2)) dt\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \left(\frac{(x-a)^2 + (b-x)^2}{(b-a)}\right)$$
$$= \sqrt[q]{2}M\left(\int_0^1 (h(t^2) + h(t - t^2)) dt\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \left(\frac{(x-a)^2 + (b-x)^2}{2(b-a)}\right)$$

and the proof is completed.

Remark 4

- (i) In the above inequalities, one can establish several midpoint-type inequalities by letting $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$.
- (ii) In Theorem 4, if we choose

(a) $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, then we obtain

$$\left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{\sqrt[q]{2}M(b-a)}{4} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2})\right) dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}},$$

(b) x = a, then we obtain

$$\left| f(a) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \leq \frac{\sqrt[q]{2}M(b-a)}{2} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}},$$

(c) x = b, then we obtain

$$\left| f(b) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \leq \frac{\sqrt[q]{2}M(b-a)}{2} \left(\int_{0}^{1} \left(h(t^{2}) + h(t-t^{2}) \right) \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

The following result holds for *h*-concave functions.

Theorem 5 Let $h: J \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative and super-additive function, let $f: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on I° such that $f' \in L[a, b]$, where $a, b \in I$ with a < b. If $|f'|^q$ is an h-concave function on [a, b], p, q > 1, $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, $h(t) \ge t$, then

$$\left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt[q]{2}(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}} h^{\frac{1}{q}}(\frac{1}{2})} \left[\frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+a}{2}\right) \right| + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+b}{2}\right) \right| \right]$$
(2.5)

for each $x \in [a, b]$.

Proof Suppose that p > 1. From Lemma 1 and using Hölder's inequality, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)a) \right| \, dt + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \int_{0}^{1} t \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right| \, dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \frac{(x-a)^2}{b-a} \left(\int_0^1 t^p \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \cdot \left(\int_0^1 \left| f'(tx+(1-t)a) \right|^q \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} + \frac{(b-x)^2}{b-a} \left(\int_0^1 t^p \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \cdot \left(\int_0^1 \left| f'(tx+(1-t)b) \right|^q \, dt \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$
(2.6)

However, since $|f'|^q$ is *h*-concave, using inequality (1.10), we have

$$\left(\int_{0}^{1} \left| f'\left(tx + (1-t)a\right) \right|^{q} dt \right) \le \frac{1}{2h(\frac{1}{2})} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+a}{2}\right) \right|^{q}$$
(2.7)

and

$$\left(\int_{0}^{1} \left| f'(tx + (1-t)b) \right|^{q} dt \right) \le \frac{1}{2h(\frac{1}{2})} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+b}{2}\right) \right|^{q}.$$
(2.8)

By combining the numbered inequalities above, we obtain

$$\begin{split} \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \frac{1}{(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}} \left(\frac{1}{2h(\frac{1}{2})} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+a}{2}\right) \right| \\ &\quad + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \frac{1}{(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}} \left(\frac{1}{2h(\frac{1}{2})} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+b}{2}\right) \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt[q]{2}(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}h^{\frac{1}{q}}(\frac{1}{2})} \left[\frac{(x-a)^{2}}{b-a} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+a}{2}\right) \right| + \frac{(b-x)^{2}}{b-a} \left| f'\left(\frac{x+b}{2}\right) \right| \right]. \end{split}$$

The proof is completed.

A midpoint-type inequality for functions whose derivatives in absolute value are h-concave may be established from the result above as follows.

Corollary 3 In (2.5), if we choose $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, then we get

$$\left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{b-a}{\sqrt[q]{2^{2q+1}(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}} h^{\frac{1}{q}}(\frac{1}{2})}} \left[\left| f'\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) \right| + \left| f'\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right) \right| \right].$$
(2.9)

For instance, if h(t) = t, then we obtain

$$\left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_{a}^{b} f(u) \, du \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{b-a}{4(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}} \left[\left| f'\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) \right| + \left| f'\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right) \right| \right], \tag{2.10}$$

where $|f'|^q$ is an h-concave function on [a, b], p, q > 1.

3 Applications to special means

We consider the means for arbitrary positive numbers *a*, *b* ($a \neq b$) as follows.

The arithmetic mean:

$$A(a,b) = \frac{a+b}{2}$$

The generalized log-mean:

$$L_p(a,b) = \left[\frac{b^{p+1} - a^{p+1}}{(p+1)(b-a)}\right]^{\frac{1}{p}}, \quad p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1,0\}.$$

The identric mean:

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

Now, using the result of Section 2, we give some applications to special means of real numbers.

In [11], the following example is given.

Example 1 [11] Let *h* be a function defined by $h(x) = (c + x)^{p-1}$, $x \ge 0$. If c = 0, then the function *h* is multiplicative. If $c \ge 1$, then for $p \in (0, 1)$ the function *h* is super-multiplicative and for p > 1 the function *h* is sub-multiplicative.

Hence, for c = 1, $p \in (0, 1)$, we have $h(t) = (1 + t)^{p-1}$, $t \ge 0$, is super-multiplicative. Let $f(x) = x^n$, x > 0, $|n| \ge 2$, be an *h*-convex function.

Proposition 1 Let $0 < a < b, p \in (0, 1)$ and $|n| \ge 2$. Then

$$\left|A^{n}(a,b)-L_{n}^{n}(a,b)\right| \leq \frac{M(b-a)}{4} \left[\int_{0}^{1} \left(1+t^{2}\right)^{p-1} dt + \int_{0}^{1} \left(1+t-t^{2}\right)^{p-1} dt\right].$$

Proof The inequality is derived from (2.1) with $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$ applied to the *h*-convex functions $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = x^n$, $|n| \ge 2$, and $h : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$, $h(t) = (1 + t)^{p-1}$, $p \in (0, 1)$. The details are disregarded.

Proposition 2 *Let* $0 < a < b, p \in (0,1), q > 1$ *and* $|n| \ge 2$. *Then*

$$\left|A^{n}(a,b)-L_{n}^{n}(a,b)\right| \leq \frac{\sqrt[p]{2}M(b-a)}{8} \left[\int_{0}^{1} (1+t^{2})^{p-1} dt + \int_{0}^{1} (1+t-t^{2})^{p-1} dt\right]^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Proof The inequality is derived from (2.3) with $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$ applied to the *h*-convex functions $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = x^n$, $|n| \ge 2$, and $h : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$, $h(t) = (1 + t)^{p-1}$, $p \in (0, 1)$. The details are disregarded.

Proposition 3 Let 0 < a < b and p, q > 1. Then we have

$$\left| \ln(A(a,b)+1) - (b-a)\ln I(a+1,b+1) \right| \le \frac{b-a}{4(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}} \left[\frac{1}{3a+b+4} + \frac{1}{a+3b+4} \right]$$

Proof The inequality is derived from (2.10) applied to the concave function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = \ln(x + 1)$. The details are disregarded.

Competing interests

The author declares that they have no competing interests.

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