

Inequalities and second derivatives

Theorems

A. If $f''(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$ then $f(x)$ is convex on $[a, b]$, in particular, $f(pa + qb) < pf(b) + qf(a) \quad \forall p, q \in [0, 1]$ such that $p + q = 1$.

B. (Jensen's inequality) Let $f(x)$ be convex and numbers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n positive with the sum 1. Then $f(a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n) \leq a_1f(x_1) + \dots + a_nf(x_n)$.

1. Prove that

a) $\cos \frac{x+y}{2} \geq \frac{\cos x + \cos y}{2} \quad \forall x, y \in \left[\frac{-\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2} \right]$

b) $\sqrt{\frac{x+y+z}{3}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}}{3} \quad \forall x, y, z > 0$

c) $e^{0.3x+0.7y} \leq 0.3e^x + 0.7e^y \quad \forall x, y$

d) $\tan 50^\circ + \tan 51^\circ + \tan 52^\circ + \dots + \tan 70^\circ > 21\sqrt{3}$

2. Prove that a) $\ln \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n} \geq \frac{\ln x_1 + \ln x_2 + \dots + \ln x_n}{n}$

b) $\frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n} \geq \sqrt[n]{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n}$

3. $a^a b^b c^c d^d \geq \left(\frac{a+b+c+d}{4} \right)^{a+b+c+d}$ (a, b, c, d are all positive)

Credit problems

SD1. Given positive numbers p and q such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, prove that $ab \leq \frac{a^p}{p} + \frac{b^q}{q}$ for all positive numbers a, b .

SD2. Polynomials P and Q are quadratic, and inequalities $P(x) \leq 0$ and $Q(x) \leq 0$ has no common solutions. Prove that there exist positive numbers a and b such that the polynomial $aP + bQ$ is positive for all x .

SD3. Let all $a_i > 0$, $s = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n$. Prove that $\frac{a_1}{s-a_1} + \frac{a_2}{s-a_2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{s-a_n} \geq \frac{n}{n-1}$

SD4. Let $a; b; c; d; e > 0$ be real numbers such that $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = d^2 + e^2$ and $a^4 + b^4 + c^4 = d^4 + e^4$. Compare the numbers $a^3 + b^3 + c^3$ and $d^3 + e^3$.

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