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An Extension of a Result of J. E. Pečarić

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Presented by V. Popov

In this note we prove: Let $p=(p_1,\ldots,p_n)$, $x=(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$ and $a=(a_1,\ldots,a_n)$ be positive n-tuples of real numbers with

$$x_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_n$$
, $a_1 \leq \ldots \leq a_n$ and $x_1/a_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_n/a_n$,

and let $M_r(x; p)$ be the weighted power mean of order r. If r and s are real numbers with r < s, then the function

$$f(t) = M_r(ta + (1-t)x; p)/M_s(ta + (1-t)x; p)$$

is increasing on [0, 1].

In 1977 K.-M. Chong [1] published the following interesting refinement of the classical arithmetic mean-geometric mean inequality:

Theorem A. Let $p=(p_1,\ldots,p_n)$ and $x=(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$ be two nonnegative n-tuples of real numbers and let the function F be defined by

(1)
$$F(t) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left(\frac{t}{P_n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_j x_j + (1-t) x_i \right)^{p_i/P_n} \left(P_n = \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \right).$$

Then F is increasing on [0, 1].

An immediate consequence of this result is

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}^{p_{i}/P_{n}} \leq F(t) \leq \frac{1}{P_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i} x_{i}, \ 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

where F is defined by (1).

Recently, J. E. Pečarić [4] has discovered a generalization of Chong's Theorem. He proved

Theorem B. Let $p=(p_1,\ldots,p_n)$ and $x=(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$ be two nonnegative n-tuples of real numbers and let the function G be defined by

(2)
$$G(t) = G(t, a) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} (ta + (1-t)x_i)^{p_i/P_n} / \frac{1}{P_n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i(ta + (1-t)x_i),$$

where a is a nonnegative real number.

Then G is increasing on [0, 1].

Indeed, if we set $a = \frac{1}{P_n} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i$ in (2), then we get (1).

The aim of this paper is to establish an extension of Pečarić's result. In what follows let $p=(p_1,\ldots,p_n)$, $x=(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$ and $a=(a_1,\ldots,a_n)$ be positive *n*-tuples of real numbers with

(3)
$$x_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_n, a_1 \leq \ldots \leq a_n \text{ and } x_1/a_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_n/a_n.$$

Further we denote by $M_r(x; p)$ the well-known weighted power mean of order r which is defined by

$$M_{r}(x; p) = \left(\frac{1}{P_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i} x_{i}^{r}\right)^{1/r}, r \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\},$$

$$M_{0}(x; p) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}^{p_{i}/P_{n}};$$

see [3, pp. 74-79].

Then the following proposition holds:

Theorem. If r and s are real numbers with r < s, then the function

(4)
$$f(t) = M_r(ta + (1-t)x; p)/M_s(ta + (1-t)x; p)$$

is increasing on [0, 1].

Proof. Since the ratio given in (4) is continuous in r it suffices to prove the monotonicity of f for r and s with r < s and $r \ne 0$.

We designate by q_{\star} the function

$$g_r(t) = \log M_r(ta + (1-t)x; p),$$

then we have

$$\log f(t) = g_r(t) - g_s(t).$$

Our aim is to verify the inequality

$$g'_{r}(t) - g'_{s}(t) \ge 0$$
 for $0 \le t \le 1$.

Defining

$$h(r) = g_r'(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i [ta_i + (1-t)x_i]^{r-1} (a_i - x_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i [ta_i + (1-t)x_i]^r},$$

it remains to show that h is decreasing on R.

Next we set

$$b_i = ta_i + (1-t)x_i$$
 and $c_i = (a_i - x_i)/(ta_i + (1-t)x_i)(1 \le i \le n)$.

Then we get for h the representation

$$h(r) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i c_i b_i^r / \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i b_i^r.$$

Differentiation leads to

(5)
$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i b_i^r\right)^2 h'(r) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_i c_i \log(b_i) \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_i - \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_i c_i \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_i \log(b_i)$$

with $q_i = p_i b_i^r (1 \le i \le n)$.

A simple calculation yields for $i=1,\ldots,n-1$:

$$b_{i+1} - b_i = t(a_{i+1} - a_i) + (1-t)(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

and

$$c_{i+1} - c_i = \frac{x_i a_{i+1} - x_{i+1} a_i}{[ta_i + (1-t)x_i][ta_{i+1} + (1-t)x_{i+1}]}.$$

From (3) we obtain immediately

$$b_i \leq b_{i+1}$$
 and $c_i \geq c_{i+1} \ (1 \leq i \leq n-1)$,

and from Tchebyschef's inequality [2, pp. 43-44] we conclude that the right-hand side of (5) is nonpositive.

This completes the proof.

Remarks:

1. The Theorem also holds if we replace (3) by

$$x_1 \ge \ldots \ge x_n$$
, $a_1 \ge \ldots \ge a_n$ and $x_1/a_1 \ge \ldots \ge x_n/a_n$.

2. If we set $a_1 = ... = a_n$, r = 0 and s = 1 in (4), then the Theorem implies Pečarić's Theorem B.

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