

ON SOME NEW INEQUALITIES OF HERMITE-HADAMARD  
TYPE FOR  $m$  - CONVEX FUNCTIONS

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**Abstract.** Some new inequalities for  $m$ -convex functions are obtained.

**1. Introduction**

In [71], G.H. Toader defined the  $m$ -convexity, an intermediate between the usual convexity and starshaped property.

In the first part of this section we shall present properties of  $m$ -convex functions in a similar manner to convex functions.

The following concept has been introduced in [71](see also [34]).

**Definition 1.** The function  $f : [0, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be  $m$ -convex, where  $m \in [0, 1]$ , if for every  $x, y \in [0, b]$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$  we have:

$$f(tx + m(1-t)y) \leq tf(x) + m(1-t)f(y). \quad (1.1)$$

Denote by  $K_m(b)$  the set of the  $m$ -convex functions on  $[0, b]$  for which  $f(0) \leq 0$ .

**Remark 1.** For  $m = 1$ , we recapture the concept of convex functions defined on  $[0, b]$  and for  $m = 0$  we get the concept of starshaped functions on  $[0, b]$ . We recall that  $f : [0, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is *starshaped* if

$$f(tx) \leq tf(x) \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, 1] \quad \text{and } x \in [0, b]. \quad (1.2)$$

The following lemmas hold [71].

**Lemma 1.** *If  $f$  is in the class  $K_m(b)$ , then it is starshaped.*

**Proof.** For any  $x \in [0, b]$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have:

$$f(tx) = f(tx + m(1-t) \cdot 0) \leq tf(x) + m(1-t)f(0) \leq tf(x).$$

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**Lemma 2.** *If  $f$  is  $m$ -convex and  $0 \leq n < m \leq 1$ , then  $f$  is  $n$ -convex.*

**Proof.** If  $x, y \in [0, b]$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} f(tx + n(1-t)y) &= f\left(tx + m(1-t)\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)y\right) \\ &\leq tf(x) + m(1-t)f\left(\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)y\right) \\ &\leq tf(x) + m(1-t)\frac{n}{m}f(y) \\ &= tf(x) + n(1-t)f(y) \end{aligned}$$

and the lemma is proved.

As in paper [48] due to V. G. Miheşan, for a mapping  $f \in K_m(b)$  consider the function

$$p_{a,m}(x) := \frac{f(x) - mf(a)}{x - m}$$

defined for  $x \in [0, b] \setminus \{ma\}$ , for fixed  $a \in [0, b]$ , and

$$r_m(x_1, x_2, x_3) := \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ mx_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ mf(x_1) & f(x_2) & f(x_3) \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ mx_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ m^2x_1^2 & x_2^2 & x_3^2 \end{vmatrix}},$$

where  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in [0, b]$ ,  $(x_2 - mx_1)(x_3 - mx_1) > 0$ ,  $x_2 \neq x_3$ .

The following theorem holds [48].

**Theorem 1.** *The following assertions are equivalent:*

- 1°.  $f \in K_m(b)$ ;
- 2°.  $p_{a,m}$  is increasing on the intervals  $[0, ma)$ ,  $(ma, b]$  for all  $a \in [0, b]$ ;
- 3°.  $r_m(x_1, x_2, x_3) \geq 0$ .

**Proof.**  $1^\circ \Rightarrow 2^\circ$ . Let  $x, y \in [0, b]$ . If  $ma < x < y$ , then there exists  $t \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$x = ty + m(1-t)a. \tag{1.3}$$

We thus have

$$\begin{aligned} p_{a,m}(x) &= \frac{f(x) - mf(a)}{x - ma} \\ &= \frac{f(ty + m(1-t)a) - mf(a)}{ty + m(1-t)a - ma} \\ &\leq \frac{tf(y) + m(1-t)f(a) - mf(a)}{t(y - ma)} \\ &= \frac{f(y) - mf(a)}{y - ma} \\ &= p_{a,m}(y). \end{aligned}$$

If  $y < x < ma$ , there also exists  $t \in (0, 1)$  for which (1.3) holds.

Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p_{a,m}(x) &= \frac{f(x) - mf(a)}{x - ma} \\ &= \frac{mf(a) - f(ty + m(1-t)a)}{ma - ty - m(1-t)a} \\ &\geq \frac{mf(a) - tf(y) + m(1-t)f(a)}{t(ma - y)} \\ &= \frac{f(y) - mf(a)}{y - ma} \\ &= p_{a,m}(y). \end{aligned}$$

2°  $\Rightarrow$  3°. A simple calculation shows that

$$r_m(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{p_{x_1,m}(x_3) - p_{x_1,m}(x_2)}{x_3 - x_2}.$$

Since  $p_{x_1,m}$  is increasing on the intervals  $[0, mx_1]$ ,  $(mx_1, b]$ , one obtains

$$r_m(x_1, x_2, x_3) \geq 0.$$

3°  $\Rightarrow$  1°. Let  $x_1, x_3 \in [0, b]$  and let  $x_2 = tx_3 + m(1-t)x_1$ ,  $t \in (0, 1)$ . Obviously  $mx_1 < x_2 < x_3$  or  $x_3 < x_2 < mx_1$ , hence

$$r_m(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{tf(x_3) + m(1-t)f(x_1) - f(tx_3 + m(1-t)x_1)}{t(1-t)(x_3 - mx_1)^2}$$

from where we obtain (1.1), i.e.,  $f \in K_m(b)$ .

The following corollary holds for starshaped functions.

**Corollary 1.** Let  $f : [0, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The following statements are equivalent

- (i)  $f$  is starshaped;
- (ii) The mapping  $p(x) := \frac{f(x)}{x}$  is increasing on  $(0, b]$ .

The following lemma is also interesting in itself.

**Lemma 3.** If  $f$  is differentiable on  $[0, b]$ , then  $f \in K_m(b)$  if and only if:

$$\begin{cases} f'(x) \geq \frac{f(x) - mf(y)}{x - my} & \text{for } x > my, y \in (0, b], \\ f'(x) \leq \frac{f(x) - mf(y)}{x - my} & \text{for } 0 \leq x < my, y \in (0, b]. \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

**Proof.** The mapping  $p_{y,m}$  is increasing on  $(my, b]$  iff  $p'_{y,m}(x) \geq 0$ , which is equivalent with the condition (1.4).

**Corollary 2.** If  $f$  is differentiable in  $[0, b]$ , then  $f$  is starshaped iff  $f'(x) \geq \frac{f(x)}{x}$  for all  $x \in (0, b]$ .

The following inequalities of Hermite-Hadamard type for  $m$ -convex functions hold [34].

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $m$ -convex function with  $m \in (0, 1]$ . If  $0 \leq a < b < \infty$  and  $f \in L_1[a, b]$ , then one has the inequality:*

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \min \left\{ \frac{f(a) + mf\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)}{2}, \frac{f(b) + mf\left(\frac{a}{m}\right)}{2} \right\}. \quad (1.5)$$

**Proof.** Since  $f$  is  $m$ -convex, we have

$$f(tx + m(1-t)y) \leq tf(x) + m(1-t)f(y), \text{ for all } x, y \geq 0,$$

which gives:

$$f(ta + (1-t)b) \leq tf(a) + m(1-t)f\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)$$

and

$$f(tb + (1-t)a) \leq tf(b) + m(1-t)f\left(\frac{a}{m}\right)$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Integrating on  $[0, 1]$  we obtain

$$\int_0^1 f(ta + (1-t)b) dt \leq \frac{[f(a) + mf\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)]}{2}$$

and

$$\int_0^1 f(tb + (1-t)a) dt \leq \frac{[f(b) + mf\left(\frac{a}{m}\right)]}{2}.$$

However,

$$\int_0^1 f(ta + (1-t)b) dt = \int_0^1 f(tb + (1-t)a) dt = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

and the inequality (1.5) is obtained.

Another result of this type which holds for differentiable functions is embodied in the following theorem [34].

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $m$ -convex function with  $m \in (0, 1]$ . If  $0 \leq a < b < \infty$  and  $f$  is differentiable on  $(0, \infty)$ , then one has the inequality:*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(mb)}{m} - \frac{b-a}{2} f'(mb) &\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \\ &\leq \frac{(b-ma)f(b) - (a-mb)f(a)}{2(b-a)}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

**Proof.** Using Lemma 3, we have for all  $x, y \geq 0$  with  $x \geq my$  that

$$(x - my) f'(x) \geq f(x) - mf(y). \quad (1.7)$$

Choosing in the above inequality  $x = mb$  and  $a \leq y \leq b$ , then  $x \geq my$  and

$$(mb - my) f'(mb) \geq f(mb) - mf(y).$$

Integrating over  $y$  on  $[a, b]$ , we get

$$m \frac{(b-a)^2}{2} f'(mb) \geq (b-a) f(mb) - m \int_a^b f(y) dy,$$

thus proving the first inequality in (1.6).

Putting in (1.7)  $y = a$ , we have

$$(x - ma) f'(x) \geq f(x) - mf(a), \quad x \geq ma.$$

Integrating over  $x$  on  $[a, b]$ , we obtain the second inequality in (1.6).

**Remark 2.** The second inequality from (1.6) is also valid for  $m = 0$ . That is, if  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a differentiable starshaped function, then for all  $0 \leq a < b < \infty$  one has:

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \frac{bf(b) - af(a)}{2(b-a)},$$

which also holds from Corollary 2.

## 2. The New Results

We will now point out some new results of the Hermite-Hadamard type.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $m$ -convex function with  $m \in (0, 1]$  and  $0 \leq a < b$ . If  $f \in L_1[a, b]$ , then one has the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) &\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{f(x) + mf\left(\frac{x}{m}\right)}{2} dx \\ &\leq \frac{m+1}{4} \left[ \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} + m \cdot \frac{f\left(\frac{a}{m}\right) + f\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)}{2} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

**Proof.** By the  $m$ -convexity of  $f$  we have that

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(x) + mf\left(\frac{y}{m}\right) \right]$$

for all  $x, y \in [0, \infty)$ .

If we choose  $x = ta + (1 - t)b$ ,  $y = (1 - t)a + tb$ , we deduce

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(ta + (1-t)b) + mf\left((1-t)\cdot\frac{a}{m} + t\cdot\frac{b}{m}\right) \right]$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

Integrating over  $t \in [0, 1]$  we get

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ \int_0^1 f(ta + (1-t)b) dt + m \int_0^1 f\left((1-t)\cdot\frac{a}{m} + t\cdot\frac{b}{m}\right) dt \right]. \quad (2.2)$$

Taking into account that

$$\int_0^1 f(ta + (1-t)b) dt = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx,$$

and

$$\int_0^1 f\left(t\cdot\frac{a}{m} + (1-t)\cdot\frac{b}{m}\right) dt = \frac{m}{b-a} \int_{\frac{a}{m}}^{\frac{b}{m}} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) dx,$$

we deduce from (2.2) the first part of (2.1).

By the  $m$ -convexity of  $f$  we also have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(ta + (1-t)b) + mf\left((1-t)\cdot\frac{a}{m} + t\cdot\frac{b}{m}\right) \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ tf\left(\frac{a}{m}\right) + m(1-t)f\left(\frac{b}{m}\right) + m(1-t)f\left(\frac{a}{m}\right) + m^2tf\left(\frac{b}{m^2}\right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

Integrating the inequality (2.3) over  $t$  on  $[0, 1]$ , we deduce

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{f(x) + mf\left(\frac{x}{m}\right)}{2} dx \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{f(a) + mf\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)}{2} + \frac{mf\left(\frac{a}{m}\right) + m^2f\left(\frac{b}{m^2}\right)}{2} \right]. \quad (2.4)$$

By a similar argument we can state:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \frac{f(x) + mf\left(\frac{x}{m}\right)}{2} dx \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \left[ f(a) + f(b) + 2m \left( f\left(\frac{a}{m}\right) + f\left(\frac{b}{m}\right) \right) + m^2 \left( f\left(\frac{a}{m^2}\right) + f\left(\frac{b}{m^2}\right) \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

and the proof is completed.

**Remark 3.** For  $m = 1$ , we can drop the assumption  $f \in L_1[a, b]$  and (2.1) exactly becomes the Hermite-Hadamard inequality.

The following result also holds.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $m$ -convex function with  $m \in (0, 1]$ . If  $f \in L_1 [am, b]$  where  $0 \leq a < b$ , then one has the inequality:*

$$\frac{1}{m+1} \left[ \int_a^{mb} f(x) dx + \frac{mb-a}{b-ma} \int_{ma}^b f(x) dx \right] \leq (mb-a) \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}. \quad (2.6)$$

**Proof.** By the  $m$ -convexity of  $f$  we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} f(ta + m(1-t)b) &\leq tf(a) + m(1-t)f(b), \\ f((1-t)a + mtb) &\leq (1-t)f(a) + mtf(b), \\ f(tb + (1-t)ma) &\leq tf(b) + m(1-t)f(a) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$f((1-t)b + tma) \leq (1-t)f(b) + mtf(a)$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $a, b$  as above.

If we add the above inequalities we get

$$\begin{aligned} &f(ta + m(1-t)b) + f((1-t)a + mtb) \\ &+ f(tb + (1-t)ma) + f((1-t)b + tma) \\ &\leq f(a) + f(b) + m(f(a) + f(b)) = (m+1)(f(a) + f(b)). \end{aligned}$$

Integrating over  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^1 f(ta + m(1-t)b) dt + \int_0^1 f((1-t)a + mtb) dt \\ &+ \int_0^1 f(tb + m(1-t)a) dt + \int_0^1 f((1-t)b + mta) dt \\ &\leq (m+1)(f(a) + f(b)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

As it is easy to see that

$$\int_0^1 f(ta + m(1-t)b) dt = \int_0^1 f((1-t)a + mtb) dt = \frac{1}{mb-a} \int_a^{mb} f(x) dx$$

and

$$\int_0^1 f(tb + m(1-t)a) dt = \int_0^1 f((1-t)b + mta) dt = \frac{1}{b-ma} \int_{ma}^b f(x) dx,$$

from (2.7) we deduce the desired result, namely, the inequality (2.6).

**Remark 4.** For an extensive literature on Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities, see the references enclosed.

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