

A new refinement of Jensen's inequality

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ABSTRACT. Using the Popoviciu's inequality, in this paper we present a new refinement of Jensen's inequality (see [1] and [2]).

Theorem 1. (Popoviciu, T.). If $f : I \rightarrow R$ ($I \subseteq R$) is a convex function, $x_i \in I$, $\lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$), $k \in \{2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f\left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1}x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}\right) \leq \\ & \leq \binom{n-2}{k-2} \left(\binom{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i\right) f\left(\frac{\lambda_1x_1 + \dots + \lambda_nx_n}{\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n}\right) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Main Results

Theorem 2. (A refinement of Jensen's inequality). If $f : I \rightarrow R$ ($I \subseteq R$), is a convex function $x_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$), $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \geq \frac{n-k}{n-1} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} + \frac{k-1}{n-1} f\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}\right) \geq \\ & \geq \frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i\right)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f\left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1}x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}\right) \geq f\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}\right) \end{aligned}$$

If f is concave, then holds the reverse inequalities.

Proof. Using the Jensen's inequality we obtain the following majorization

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i\right) f\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}\right) \leq \\ & \leq \frac{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) = \frac{n-1}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Using again the Jensen's inequality we obtain the following minorization:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f\left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1}x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}\right)}{\sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k})} \geq \\ & \geq f\left(\frac{\sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) \frac{\lambda_{i_1}x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}}{\sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k})}\right) = f\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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because

$$\sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)$$

So we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}} \right) &\geq \\ &\geq \binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right) f \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Using (1) and (2) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n-2}{k-2} \left(\frac{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right) f \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right) \right) &\leq \\ &\leq \binom{n-2}{k-2} \frac{n-1}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Using (1) and (3) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n-2}{k-2} \left(\frac{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right) f \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right) \right) &\geq \\ &\geq \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}} \right) \geq \\ &\geq \binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right) f \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Dividing by $\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)$ from (4) and (5) we obtain the desired inequalities.

Remark. If we consider

$$y_k = \frac{n-k}{n-1} \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} + \frac{k-1}{n-1} f \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right)$$

then from Jensen's inequality we obtain that $y_1 \geq y_2 \geq \dots \geq y_n$ which offer a lot of refinements of Jensen's inequality.

If we consider

$$z_k = \frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) f \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}} \right)$$

then $z_1 \geq z_2 \geq \dots \geq z_n$ which offer again a lot of refinements of Jensen's inequality.

Corollary 2.1. (A refinement of weighted arithmetical - geometrical means inequality). If $x_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} &\geq \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} x_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} x_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}} \right)^{\frac{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}{\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)}} \geq \\ &\geq \prod_{i=1}^n \left(x_i^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{n-k}{(n-1) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)}} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{k-1}{n-1}} \geq \left(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. In Theorem 2 we consider $f(x) = \ln x$.

Corollary 2.2. (A refinement of power mean inequality.) If $x_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$); $s \geq p > 0$ and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^s}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{s}} &\geq \left(\frac{n-k}{n-1} \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^s}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} + \frac{k-1}{n-1} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^p}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{s}{p}} \right)^{\frac{1}{s}} \geq \\ &\geq \left(\frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}) \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} x_{i_1}^p + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} x_{i_k}^p}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}} \right)^{\frac{s}{p}} \right)^{\frac{1}{s}} \geq \\ &\geq \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^p}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. In Theorem 2 first we take $f(y) = y^t$ which is convex for $t \geq 1$, $\lambda_i, y_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) after then we consider $t = \frac{s}{p}$, and $y_i = x_i^p$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

Corollary 2.3. (A refinement of Minkowski's inequality). If $a_i, b_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$); $p \geq 1$ and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} &\leq \left(\frac{n-k}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^p + \frac{k-1}{n-1} \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \\ &\leq \left(\frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1}} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \left((a_{i_1}^p + \dots + a_{i_k}^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} + (b_{i_1}^p + \dots + b_{i_k}^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The function $f(y) = \left(1 + y^{\frac{1}{p}}\right)^p$ is concave, $y_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$). We take $y_i = x_i^p$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and after then $\lambda_i = a_i^p$, $x_i = \frac{b_i}{a_i}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

Corollary 2.4. (A refinement of Huygen's inequality). If $a_i, b_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\prod_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \geq \left(\prod_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{n-k}{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \left(\prod_{i=1}^n a_i^{\lambda_i} + \prod_{i=1}^n b_i^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{k-1}{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \geq \\ & \geq \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \left((a_{i_1}^{\lambda_{i_1}} \dots a_{i_k}^{\lambda_{i_k}})^{\frac{1}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}} + (b_{i_1}^{\lambda_{i_1}} \dots b_{i_k}^{\lambda_{i_k}})^{\frac{1}{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}} \right)^{\frac{\lambda_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k}}{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \geq \\ & \geq \left(\prod_{i=1}^n a_i^{\lambda_i} + \prod_{i=1}^n b_i^{\lambda_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The function $f(y) = \ln(1 + e^y)$ is convex, $y_i, \lambda_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$). We consider $x_i = e^{y_i}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and after then $x_i = \frac{b_i}{a_i}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

Corollary 2.5. (A refinement of Hölder's inequality). If $a_i, b_i, \lambda_i > 1$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$), $\alpha, \beta > 1$, $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1$, and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i b_i \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha \right) \cdot \\ & \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha \right)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (\lambda_{i_1} a_{i_1}^\alpha + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} a_{i_k}^\alpha) \left(\frac{\lambda_{i_1} a_{i_1} b_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} a_{i_k} b_{i_k}}{\lambda_{i_1} a_{i_1}^\alpha + \dots + \lambda_{i_k} a_{i_k}^\alpha} \right)^\beta \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \leq \\ & \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha \right) \left(\frac{n-k}{n-1} \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i b_i^\beta}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha} + \frac{k-1}{n-1} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i b_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha} \right)^\beta \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i^\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i b_i^\beta \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. In Corollary 2.2 we take $s = 1$, and $p \in (0, 1)$ for $\mu_i y_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$). After then we consider $p + r = 1$, $\mu_i = \lambda_i x_i$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

Again we substitute $y_i = \frac{z_i}{x_i}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and finally $x_i = a_i^\alpha$, $z_i = b_i^\beta$, $r = \frac{1}{\alpha}$, $p = \frac{1}{\beta}$, $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1$.

Remark. If in Corollary 2.5 we take $\lambda_i = \frac{1}{n}$, $\alpha = \beta = 2$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) then we obtain a refinement of Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality.

Corollary 2.6. (A refinement of Young's inequality). If $a_i > 0$, $\lambda_i > 1$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) such that $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} = 1$ and $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^n a_i & \leq \frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1}} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda_{i_1}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\lambda_{i_k}} \right) (a_{i_1} \dots a_{i_k})^{\frac{1}{\lambda_{i_1}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\lambda_{i_k}}} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{n-k}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i^{\lambda_i}}{\lambda_i} + \frac{k-1}{n-1} \prod_{i=1}^n a_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i^{\lambda_i}}{\lambda_i} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The function $f(y) = e^y$ is convex, therefore if $p_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$), $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$, then from Theorem 2 we get:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i y_i} & \leq \frac{1}{\binom{n-1}{k-1}} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} (p_{i_1} + \dots + p_{i_k}) \cdot e^{\frac{p_{i_1} y_{i_1} + \dots + p_{i_k} y_{i_k}}{p_{i_1} + \dots + p_{i_k}}} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{n-k}{n-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i e^{y_i} \right) + \frac{k-1}{n-1} e^{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i y_i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^n p_i e^{y_i} \end{aligned}$$

In this we take $p_i = \frac{1}{\lambda_i}$, $y = \ln a_i^{\lambda_i}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and we obtain the desired result.

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