

Prekopa-Leindler inequality

written by Nada Ali on Functor Network

original link: <https://functor.network/user/409/entry/128>

Theorem (Prekopa-Leindler inequality (an integral form of the Brunn-Minkowski inequality)) Let $0 < \lambda < 1$ and f , g , and h be nonnegative integrable function on \mathbb{R}^n such that

$$h((1 - \lambda)x + \lambda y) \geq f(x)^{1-\lambda}g(y)^\lambda \quad (1)$$

for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then, we have:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h(x)dx \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n}\right)^{1-\lambda} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x)dx\right)^\lambda \quad (2)$$

Proof. We assume that A , B and $A + B$ are measurable sets, and we shift them such that $A \cap B = \phi$, and so

$$A + B \geq A \cup B \quad (3)$$

and so by almost disjointedness we get

$$\mu(A + B) \geq \mu(A) + \mu(B) \quad (4)$$

Now we show the inequality by induction:

1. Basic Step $n = 1$: Define the set

$$L_h(t) = x : h(x) \geq t \quad (5)$$

and similarly,

$$L_f(t) = x : f(x) \geq t \quad (6)$$

$$L_g(t) = y : g(y) \geq t \quad (7)$$

From 3, we get

$$L_h(t) \supseteq \lambda L_f(t) + (1 - \lambda)L_g(t) \quad (8)$$

and so from 4, we get

$$\mu(L_h(t)) \geq \mu(\lambda L_f(t)) + \mu((1 - \lambda)L_g(t)) \quad (9)$$

and since we are only considering the one dimensional ($n=1$) case, we get

$$\mu(L_h(t)) \geq \lambda\mu(L_f(t)) + (1 - \lambda)\mu(L_g(t)) \quad (10)$$

Without loss of generality, assume that $f \geq 0$, then by Fubini's theorem we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} h(x)dx = \int_{t \geq 0} \mu(L_h(t))dt \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}} h(x)dx &= \int_{t \geq 0} \mu(L_h(t))dt \\
&\geq \int_{t \geq 0} (\lambda \mu(L_f(t)) + (1 - \lambda) \mu(L_g(t)))dt \\
&= \lambda \int_{t \geq 0} \mu(L_f(t))dt + (1 - \lambda) \int_{t \geq 0} \mu(L_g(t))dt \\
&= \lambda \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x)dx + (1 - \lambda) \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(y)dy
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Now, from (??, below), we get that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} h(x)dx \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x)dx \right)^{\lambda} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x)dx \right)^{1-\lambda} \tag{13}$$

2. Inductive Step: Suppose the inequality holds for \mathbb{R}^n , now we show it also holds true for \mathbb{R}^{n+1} :

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$

Set

$$\gamma = \lambda \alpha + (1 - \lambda) \beta \tag{14}$$

Define the following function for any constant c :

$$h_c(x) = h(c, x) \tag{15}$$

where $(c, x) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$. Similarly,

$$f_c(x) = f(c, x) \tag{16}$$

$$g_c(y) = g(c, y) \tag{17}$$

Hence, from (14) and (15), we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
h_{\gamma}(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) &= h(\lambda \alpha + (1 - \lambda) \beta, \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \\
&= h(\lambda(\alpha, x) + (1 - \lambda)(\beta, y))
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

From (1), we get:

$$h_{\gamma}(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq f(\alpha, x)^{\lambda} g(\beta, y)^{1-\lambda} \tag{19}$$

From (16) and (17), we finally get:

$$h_{\gamma}(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq f_{\alpha}(x)^{\lambda} g_{\beta}(y)^{1-\lambda} \tag{20}$$

Recall that the induction hypothesis applied to the function $f_{\gamma}, f_{\alpha}, g_{\beta}$ is

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h(x)dx \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)dx \right)^{\lambda} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x)dx \right)^{1-\lambda} \tag{21}$$

For simplicity, set

$$\begin{aligned} H(\gamma) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h_\gamma(z) dz \\ F(\alpha) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_\alpha(z) dz \\ G(\beta) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g_\beta(z) dz \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

We rewrite (21) using (22) and (14)

$$H(\lambda\alpha + (1-\lambda)\beta) \geq F(\alpha)^\lambda G(\beta)^{1-\lambda} \tag{23}$$

Notice that in the basic case ($n=1$), we proved the statement for any fixed $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, and so the functions H, F , and G satisfy the hypothesis for the one-dimensional case. Thus, we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} H(\gamma) d\gamma \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} F(\alpha) d\alpha \right)^\lambda \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} G(\beta) d\beta \right)^{1-\lambda} \tag{24}$$

Finally, applying Fubini's theorem, we get:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n+1}} h(x) dx \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n+1}} f(x) dx \right)^\lambda \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n+1}} g(x) dx \right)^{1-\lambda} \tag{25}$$

Therefore, from steps 1 and 2 and via induction, we conclude that for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h(x) dx \geq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) dx \right)^\lambda \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x) dx \right)^{1-\lambda} \tag{26}$$

□