

POW 2021-16 Optimal constant

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September 27, 2021

Problem

For a given positive integer n and a real number a , find the maximum constant b such that

$$x_1^n + x_2^n + \cdots + x_n^n + ax_1x_2 \cdots x_n \geq b(x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n)^n$$

for any non-negative x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n

sol

problem of equation can be expressed like following;

$$\frac{x_1^n + x_2^n + \cdots + x_n^n + ax_1x_2 \cdots x_n}{(x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n)^n} \geq b$$

For $x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n = T > 0$ and $f(x) = x_1^n + x_2^n + \cdots + x_n^n + ax_1x_2 \cdots x_n$,

$$\max(b) = \min\left(\frac{f(x)}{T^n}\right).$$

Therefore $\max(b) = \min$ (local extremum, boundary value) for $\frac{f(x)}{T^n}$

1) minimum of Boundary value

Boundary value means value of boundary conditions

Boundary conditions means that (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) such that there exists $x_i = 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

ex) $\left(\frac{T}{n-1}, \frac{T}{n-1}, \dots, \frac{T}{n-1}, 0\right)$ or for $n=4$, $\left(\frac{T}{2}, \frac{T}{4}, \frac{T}{4}, 0\right)$

so boundary conditions expressed like following;

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{n-1}, 0) \text{ such that } y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_{n-1} = T$$

$$\text{So, } f(x) / T^n = y_1^n + y_2^n + \dots + y_{n-1}^n$$

by AM-GM(arithmetic Mean-Geometric Mean inequality)

$$\therefore \min \left(\frac{f(x)}{T^n}\right) = \frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}} \text{ such that } y_1 = y_2 \dots = y_{n-1} = \frac{T}{n-1}$$

2)minimum of local extremum (except boundary condition)

By lagrange multiplier method, local extreme points satisfy following condition;

For $f(x) = x_1^n + x_2^n + \dots + x_n^n + ax_1x_2 \dots x_n$, $g(x) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n - T = 0$,

There exists λ such that $\nabla f = \lambda * \nabla g$

$$\left(\nabla f = \left(\frac{\delta f}{\delta x_1}, \frac{\delta f}{\delta x_2}, \dots, \frac{\delta f}{\delta x_n}\right) \text{ such that } \frac{\delta f}{\delta x_i} = nx_i^{n-1} + ax_1 \dots (x_i - 1) * (x_i + 1) \dots x_n, \nabla g = (1, 1, \dots, 1) \right)$$

Assume that different x_1, x_2, x_3 exist such that $\nabla f = \lambda * \nabla g$ ($x_1 \neq x_2, x_1 \neq x_3, x_2 \neq x_3$)

$$nx_1^{n-1} + ax_2x_3 \dots x_n = \lambda \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

$$nx_2^{n-1} + ax_1x_3 \dots x_n = \lambda \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

$$nx_3^{n-1} + ax_1x_2 \dots x_n = \lambda \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

$$(1) * x_1 = (2) * x_2 \Rightarrow n(x_1^{n-1} + x_1^{n-2}x_2 \dots + x_1x_2^{n-2} + x_2^{n-1}) = \lambda \quad \dots \quad (a)$$

$$(1) * x_2 = (3) * x_3 \Rightarrow n(x_1^{n-1} + x_1^{n-2}x_3 \dots + x_1x_3^{n-2} + x_3^{n-1}) = \lambda \quad \dots \quad (b)$$

$$(a)=(b) \Rightarrow x_1^{n-2} + x_1^{n-3}(x_2 + x_3) \dots + (x_2^{n-2} + x_2^{n-1}x_3 + \dots + x_3^{n-2}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0 \Rightarrow \text{boundary condition !!}$$

Excepting boundary condition, there not exist three different x_1, x_2, x_3 and at most exist two different x_1, x_2 .

$$\text{For only one } x_1 \text{ exist such that } x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = \frac{T}{n}, \therefore \frac{f(x)}{T^n} = \frac{a+n}{n^n}$$

Now see only two different x_1, x_2 exist ($x_1=X, x_2=Y, n$ is greater than 2)

Assume $x_1=X, x_2=Y$ such that $X > Y, x_i = X$ or Y for $i=3, \dots, n$, and $pX + qY = T, p + q = n, p, q \geq 1$. (it means that $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (X, Y, \dots, X, Y, Y)$ such that $x_1=x_3\dots=x_{p+1}=X, x_2=x_{p+2}=\dots=x_n=Y$)

$$\frac{f(X, Y, \dots, X, Y, Y)}{T^n} = \frac{pX^n + qY^n + aX^p Y^q}{T^n} = \frac{(1) * X * \frac{p}{n} + (2) * Y * \frac{p}{n}}{T^n} = \frac{\lambda}{nT^{n-1}}$$

So we need to minimum of λ

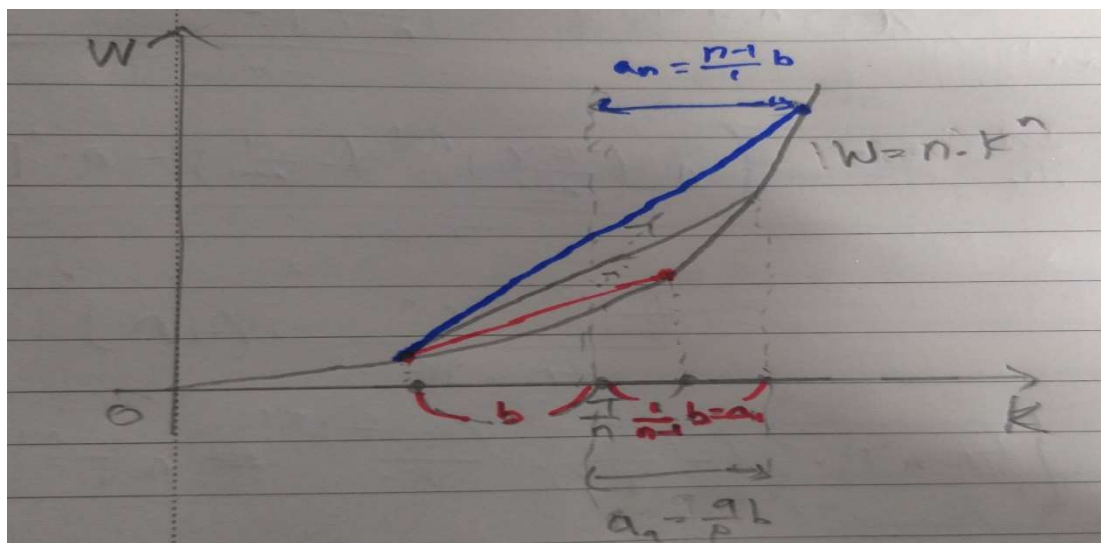
By Using above condition, we can get

$$X > Y \Rightarrow \frac{T - qY}{p} > Y \text{ and } X > \frac{T - pX}{q} \Rightarrow T > X > \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

Let $X = T/n + a, Y = T/n - b$ such that $pa = qb, a, b > 0 \equiv pX + qY = T$

$$(a) * (X - Y) \Rightarrow \frac{n(X^n - Y^n)}{X - Y} = \lambda$$

λ is the gradient of $w = nk^n$.



Although there exist not critical point of $p = n-1, q = 1$, its λ such that $p = n-1, q = 1$ and $(n-1)X + Y = T$ is always lower than λ of critical value

So, for a given $b, p = n-1, q = 1$ to get min λ ($a = \frac{q}{p}b = \frac{1}{n-1}b$)

For $(n-1)X+Y=T$ ($p = n-1, q = 1$)

$$\lambda = \frac{n(X^n - Y^n)}{X - Y} = n\left(\left(\frac{T - Y}{n - 1}\right)^n - Y^n\right) / \frac{T - nY}{n - 1}$$

$$\frac{d\lambda}{dY} = n(n-1) \left\{ \frac{n\left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^{n-1} \left(-\frac{1}{n-1}\right) - nY^{n-1}}{T - nY} + \frac{n\left(\left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^n - Y^n\right)}{(T - nY)^2} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1)}{(T-nY)^2} \{nY\left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^{n-1} + Y^{n-1}((n^2 - n)Y - nT)\}$$

$$= \frac{(n^2)(n-1)}{(T-nY)^2} Y \left\{ \left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^{n-1} + (n-1)Y^{n-1} - TY^{n-2} \right\} \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

As $\frac{(n^2)(n-1)}{(T-nY)^2} Y > 0$ for $\frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$, Let $h(Y) = \left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^{n-1} + (n-1)Y^{n-1} - TY^{n-2}$

$$\frac{dh}{dY} = (n-1) \left(\frac{T-Y}{n-1}\right)^{n-2} \left(-\frac{1}{n-1}\right) + (n-1)^2 Y^{n-2} - (n-2)TY^{n-3}$$

$$= -X^{n-2} + (n-1)^2 Y^{n-2} - (n-2)((n-1)X + Y)Y^{n-3}$$

$$= (n^2 - 3n + 3)Y^{n-2} - (n^2 - 3n + 2)XY^{n-3} - X^{n-2}$$

As $Y^{n-2} < XY^{n-3} < X^{n-2}$ for $\frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$

$$\frac{dh}{dY} < 0 \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

So $h(Y)$ is decreasing function and $h(0) = \left(\frac{T}{n-1}\right)^{n-1}$ & $h\left(\frac{T}{n}\right) = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow h(Y) > 0 \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d\lambda}{dY} = \frac{(n^2)(n-1)}{(T-nY)^2} Y h(Y) > 0 \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \text{ is increasing function and } \lambda(0) = n\left(\frac{T}{n-1}\right)^{n-1} < \lambda(Y) \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\lambda(0)}{nT^{n-1}} = \frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}} \leq \min\left(\frac{f(x)}{T^n}\right) = \frac{\lambda}{nT^{n-1}} \text{ for } \frac{T}{n} > Y > 0$$

Therefore $\min\left(\frac{f(x)}{T^n}\right)$ of critical points such that two different exist is always greater than $\min\left(\frac{f(x)}{T^n}\right)$ of boundary condition ($= \frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}}$)

Conclusively, $\max(b) = \min\left(\frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}}, \frac{a+n}{n^n}\right)$ for $n \geq 2$

for $n = 1$

$$\frac{x+ax}{x} \geq b \Rightarrow \therefore \max(b) = a+1$$

for $n \geq 2$

$$\therefore \max(b) = \frac{1}{(n-1)^{n-1}} \text{ for } a \geq \frac{n^n}{(n-1)^{n-1}} - n$$

$$\max(b) = \frac{a+n}{n^n} \text{ for } a \leq \frac{n^n}{(n-1)^{n-1}} - n$$