

# POW 2022-19

## Inequality for Twice Differentiable Functions

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*Lemma.* The following holds for any differentiable function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

If  $f'(x) \geq d$  for  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f(x) - f(a) \geq d(x - a)$  for  $x \in (a, b)$

$$\text{pf. } f(x) - f(a) = \int_a^x f'(t) dt \geq \int_a^x d dt = f(x) - f(a)$$

Let  $g(x) = \left[ \int_0^x f(t) dt \right]^2 - \int_0^x [f(t)]^3 dt$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Clearly  $g(0) = 0$ .

$$\text{Then } g'(x) = 2f(x) \int_0^x f(t) dt - [f(x)]^3 = f(x) \left[ 2 \int_0^x f(t) dt - \{f(x)\}^2 \right].$$

Since  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(x) \in [0, 1]$ ,  $f(x) \geq 0$  whenever  $x \geq 0$  (by lemma).

Let  $h(x) = 2 \int_0^x f(t) dt - \{f(x)\}^2$ . Clearly  $h(0) = 0$ .

$h'(x) = 2f(x) - 2f(x)f'(x) = 2f(x)[1 - f'(x)] \geq 0$  whenever  $x \geq 0 \because f'(x) \in [0, 1]$ .  
Since  $h(0) = 0$  and  $h'(x) \geq 0$  whenever  $x \geq 0$ ,  $h(x) \geq 0$  whenever  $x \geq 0$  (by lemma).

$g(0) = 0$  and  $g'(x) = f(x)h(x) \geq 0$  whenever  $x \geq 0 \Rightarrow g(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \geq 0$ .

$$\therefore g(1) = \left[ \int_0^1 f(x) dx \right]^2 - \int_0^1 [f(x)]^3 dx \geq 0, \text{ i. e. } \left[ \int_0^1 f(x) dx \right]^2 \geq \int_0^1 [f(x)]^3 dx.$$