

ON EXTENSIONS OF TWO MAPPINGS ASSOCIATED WITH HERMITE–HADAMARD’S INEQUALITIES FOR CONVEX FUNCTIONS

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In this paper, we introduce two new mappings closely connected with HERMITE–HADAMARD’S inequalities for convex functions and study their main properties.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let f be a given continuous function defined on a interval $[a, b]$, $a < b$. For any $x, y \in [a, b]$ and $t \in (0, 1)$, we write

$$C(t; x, y; f(s), s) = \frac{t}{(1-t)(y-x)} \int_x^{tx+(1-t)y} f(s) ds + \frac{1-t}{t(y-x)} \int_{tx+(1-t)y}^y f(s) ds,$$

where, $x \neq y$. When $x = y$, $C(t; x, x; f(s), s) = f(x)$.

When f is a continuous convex function on $[a, b]$, the author of this paper showed in [1] and [2] that the following inequalities hold true:

$$(1.1) \quad f(ta + (1-t)b) \leq C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b).$$

We define two mappings H and h by $H : (0, 1) \times [a, b] \times [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, if

$$\begin{aligned} H(t; x, y) &= (y-x)(tf(x) + (1-t)f(y)) - \frac{t}{1-t} \int_x^{tx+(1-t)y} f(s) ds \\ &\quad - \frac{1-t}{t} \int_{tx+(1-t)y}^y f(s) ds \\ &= (y-x) \left(tf(x) + (1-t)f(y) - C(t; x, y; f(s), s) \right) \end{aligned}$$

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and $h : (0, 1) \times [a, b] \times [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, if

$$\begin{aligned} h(t; x, y) &= \frac{t}{1-t} \int_x^{tx+(1-t)y} f(s) \, ds + \frac{1-t}{t} \int_{tx+(1-t)y}^y f(s) \, ds \\ &\quad - (y-x)f(tx+(1-t)y) \\ &= (y-x) \left(C(t; x, y; f(s), s) - f(tx+(1-t)y) \right), \end{aligned}$$

they are differences generated by the inequalities (1.1).

If $t = 1/2$, then inequalities (1.1), $H(t; x, y)$ and $h(t; x, y)$ reduce to

$$(1.2) \quad f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(s) \, ds \leq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2},$$

$$\tilde{H}(x, y) = (y-x)(f(x)+f(y)) - 2 \int_x^y f(s) \, ds$$

and

$$\tilde{h}(x, y) = \int_x^y f(s) \, ds - (y-x)f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right),$$

respectively.

The (1.1) are called HERMITE-HADAMARD's inequalities (see [3] and [4]). $\tilde{H}(x, y)$ and $\tilde{h}(x, y)$ are differences generated by the inequalities (1.2).

In [5], S. S. DRAGOMIR and R. P. AGARWAL gave some properties of $\tilde{H}(a, y)$ and $\tilde{h}(a, y)$ with $y \in [a, b]$; in [6], the author of this paper showed some properties of $\tilde{H}(x, b)$ and $\tilde{h}(x, b)$ with $x \in [a, b]$ and obtained some refinements of (1.2).

The aim of this paper is to study the main properties of $H(t; x, y)$ and $h(t; x, y)$, and then obtain some refinements of (1.1).

2. MAIN RESULTS

The main properties of $H(t; x, y)$ are given in the following two theorems:

Theorem 2.1. *Let f be a continuous convex function defined on $[a, b]$. For any $t \in (0, 1)$, then we have the following:*

(1) $H(t; a, y)$ is nonnegative and monotonically increasing with y on $[a, b]$, $H(t; x, b)$ is nonnegative and monotonically decreasing with x on $[a, b]$;

(2) For any $x \in (a, b)$, we have the following three refinements of the right side in (1.1) :

$$\begin{aligned} (2.1) \quad & C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\ & \leq \frac{x-a}{b-a} \left(tf(a) + (1-t)f(x) - C(t; a, x; f(s), s) \right) + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\ & \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.2) \quad & C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq \frac{b-x}{b-a} \left(tf(x) + (1-t)f(b) - C(t; x, b; f(s), s) \right) + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.3) \quad & C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x-a}{b-a} tf(a) + \frac{b-x}{b-a} (1-t)f(b) + \left(\frac{b-x}{b-a} t + \frac{x-a}{b-a} (1-t) \right) f(x) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{x-a}{b-a} C(t; a, x; f(s), s) - \frac{b-x}{b-a} C(t; x, b; f(s), s) \right) + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b).
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.2. *Let f be a continuous convex function defined on $[a, b]$. For any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, then we have the following:*

(1) *When $1/2 \leq t < 1$, $H(t; a, y)$ is convex with y on $[a, b]$ and we have the following refinement of the right side in (1.1) :*

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.4) \quad & C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(\alpha a + (1-\alpha)b) - C(t; a, \alpha a + (1-\alpha)b; f(s), s) \\
& \quad + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + \frac{1-t}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; (x-a)f(x), x) \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C\left(\alpha; a, b; (x-a)C(t; a, x; f(s), s), x\right) + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b);
\end{aligned}$$

(2) *When $0 < t \leq 1/2$, $H(t; x, b)$ is convex with x on $[a, b]$ and we have the following refinement of the right side in (1.1) :*

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.5) \quad & C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(\alpha a + (1-\alpha)b) + (1-t)f(b) - C(t; \alpha a + (1-\alpha)b, b; f(s), s) \\
& \quad + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq (1-t)f(b) + \frac{t}{\alpha(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; (b-x)f(x), x) \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{\alpha(b-a)} C\left(\alpha; a, b; (b-x)C(t; x, b; f(s), s), x\right) + C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \\
& \leq tf(a) + (1-t)f(b).
\end{aligned}$$

REMARK 1. The conditions “ $0 < t < 1/2$ ” and “ $1/2 < t < 1$ ” do not imply convexity of $H(t; a, y)$ and $h(t; x, b)$ on $[a, b]$, respectively. Indeed, we have the following simple counterexample:

EXAMPLE. Let $k = 1 + 1 \times 10^{-11}$, $t_1 = 0.002523$ and $t_2 = 1 - t_1$. Then $0 < t_1 < 1/2$, $1/2 < t_2 < 1$, $((k + 1)t_1 - t_1^2(1 - t_1)^{k-1} - 1 + (1 - t_1)^{k+1}) = ((k + 1)(1 - t_2) - (1 - t_2)^2 t_2^{k-1} - 1 + t_2^{k+1}) < 0$ and $f(s) = |s|^k$ is convex on $[-100, 100]$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} H(t_1; 0, y) &= (y - 0)(t_1 0^k + (1 - t_1)y^k) - \frac{t_1}{1 - t_1} \int_0^{(1-t_1)y} s^k ds - \frac{1 - t_1}{t_1} \int_{(1-t_1)y}^y s^k ds \\ &= \frac{1 - t_1}{t_1(k + 1)} ((k + 1)t_1 - t_1^2(1 - t_1)^{k-1} - 1 + (1 - t_1)^{k+1}) y^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

is concave with y on $[0, 100]$ and

$$\begin{aligned} H(t_2; x, 0) &= (0 - x)(t_2(-x)^k + (1 - t_2)0^k) - \frac{t_2}{1 - t_2} \int_x^{t_2x} (-s)^k ds - \frac{1 - t_2}{t_2} \int_{t_2x}^0 (-s)^k ds \\ &= \frac{t_2}{(1 - t_2)(k + 1)} ((k + 1)(1 - t_2) - (1 - t_2)^2 t_2^{k-1} - 1 + t_2^{k+1}) (-x)^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

is concave with x on $[-100, 0]$.

The main properties of $h(t; x, y)$ are embodied in the following theorem:

Theorem 2.3. *Let f be a continuous convex function defined on $[a, b]$. For any $t \in (0, 1)$, we have the following:*

(1) $h(t; a, y)$ is nonnegative and monotonically increasing with y on $[a, b]$, $h(t; x, b)$ is nonnegative and monotonically decreasing with x on $[a, b]$.

(2) We have the inequality:

$$(2.6) \quad h(t; x, y) \leq H(t; x, y), \quad a \leq x < y \leq b.$$

(3) For any $x \in (a, b)$, we have the following three refinements of the left side in (1.1):

$$\begin{aligned} (2.7) \quad & f(ta + (1 - t)b) \\ & \leq \frac{x - a}{b - a} \left(C(t; a, x; f(s), s) - f(ta + (1 - t)x) \right) + f(ta + (1 - t)b) \\ & \leq C(t; a, b; f(s), s), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2.8) \quad & f(ta + (1 - t)b) \\ & \leq \frac{b - x}{b - a} \left(C(t; x, b; f(s), s) - f(tx + (1 - t)b) \right) + f(ta + (1 - t)b) \\ & \leq C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.9) \quad & f(ta + (1-t)b) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2(b-a)} \left((x-a) \left(C(t; a, x; f(s), s) - f(ta + (1-t)x) \right) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (b-x) \left(C(t; x, b; f(s), s) - f(tx + (1-t)b) \right) \right) + f(ta + (1-t)b) \\
& \leq C(t; a, b; f(s), s).
\end{aligned}$$

REMARK 2. When we choose $t = 1/2$, (2.1) and (2.7) reduce to (2) and (10) in [5], (2.2)-(2.3) and (2.8)-(2.9) reduce to (12)-(13) and (15)-(16) in [6], respectively.

Towards proving these theorems we shall need the following lemma:

Lemma 2.4. *Let g be a continuous function defined on $[a, b]$. Then we have the following:*

(1) *Let g'_- and g'_+ exist on (a, b) . When $g'_- \geq 0$ and $g'_+ \geq 0$, g is monotonically increasing on $[a, b]$. When $g'_- \leq 0$ and $g'_+ \leq 0$, g is monotonically decreasing on $[a, b]$ (see [7]).*

(2) *If g'_+ exist and it is monotonically increasing on (a, b) , then g is convex on $[a, b]$ (see [6-7]).*

3. PROOFS OF THEOREMS

Proof of Theorem 2.1. (1) The fact that $H(t; a, y)$ and $H(t; x, b)$ are nonnegative follows from (1.1).

By the continuity of f , $H(t; a, y)$ with y and $H(t; x, b)$ with x are continuous on $[a, b]$.

For any $x, y \in (a, b)$ and $t \in (0, 1)$, the right derivative of $H(t; a, y)$ with y and $H(t; x, b)$ with x are:

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.1) \quad & H'_+(t; a, y) = tf(a) + (1-t)f(y) + (y-a)(1-t)f'_+(y) \\
& - tf(ta + (1-t)y) - \frac{1-t}{t} \left(f(y) - (1-t)f(ta + (1-t)y) \right) \\
& = \frac{1}{t} \left(t(1-t)(y-a)f'_+(y) + t^2f(a) - (1-t)^2f(y) - (2t-1)f(ta + (1-t)y) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.2) \quad & H'_+(t; x, b) = -(tf(x) + (1-t)f(b)) + (b-x)tf'_+(x) \\
& - \frac{t}{1-t} \left(tf(tx + (1-t)b) - f(x) \right) + (1-t)f(tx + (1-t)b) \\
& = \frac{1}{1-t} \left(t(1-t)(b-x)f'_+(x) - (1-t)^2f(b) + t^2f(x) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (1-2t)f(tx + (1-t)b) \right),
\end{aligned}$$

respectively.

Using (3.1) and convexity of f , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.3) \quad H'_+(t; a, y) &= \frac{1}{t} \left(t^2 \left(f(a) - f(ta + (1-t)y) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (1-t)^2 \left(f(ta + (1-t)y) - f(y) \right) + t(1-t)(y-a)f'_+(y) \right) \\
 &\geq \frac{1}{t} \left(t^2(1-t)(a-y)f'_+(ta + (1-t)y) + t(1-t)^2(a-y)f'_+(y) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + t(1-t)(y-a)f'_+(y) \right) \\
 &= t(1-t)(y-a) \left(f'_+(y) - f'_+(ta + (1-t)y) \right) \geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

By the same method as in the proof of (3.3), we can show that the left derivative of $H(t; a, y)$ with y satisfies

$$(3.4) \quad H'_-(t; a, y) \geq 0, \quad y \in (a, b).$$

From (3.3)–(3.4) and (1) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $H(t; a, y)$ is monotonically increasing with y on $[a, b]$.

Using (3.2) and the convexity of f , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.5) \quad H'_+(t; x, b) &= \frac{1}{1-t} \left(t^2 \left(f(x) - f(tx + (1-t)b) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (1-t)^2 \left(f(tx + (1-t)b) - f(b) \right) + t(1-t)(b-x)f'_+(x) \right) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{1-t} \left(t^2(1-t)(x-b)f'_+(x) + t(1-t)^2(x-b)f'_+(tx + (1-t)b) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + t(1-t)(b-x)f'_+(x) \right) \\
 &= t(1-t)(b-x) \left(f'_+(x) - f'_+(tx + (1-t)b) \right) \leq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

By the same method as in the proof of (3.5), we can show that the left derivative of $H(t; x, b)$ with x satisfies

$$(3.6) \quad H'_-(t; x, b) \leq 0, \quad x \in (a, b).$$

From (3.5)–(3.6) and (1) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $H(t; x, b)$ is monotonically decreasing with x on $[a, b]$.

(2) For any $x \in (a, b)$, from the monotonically increasing properties of $H(t; a, y)$ with y on $[a, b]$ and the mapping $H(t; x, y)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 = H(t; a, a) &\leq H(t; a, x) = (x-a) \left(tf(a) + (1-t)f(x) - C(t; a, x; f(s), s) \right) \\
 &\leq H(t; a, b) = (b-a) \left(tf(a) + (1-t)f(b) - C(t; a, b; f(s), s) \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies the inequalities (2.1).

From the monotonically decreasing properties of $H(t; x, b)$ with x on $[a, b]$ and the same method as in the proof of (2.1), we can prove (2.2). Expression of (2.1) plus (2.2) and a simple manipulation yields (2.3).

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.2. (1) For $1/2 \leq t < 1$, the continuity of $H(t; a, y)$ with y on $[a, b]$ has been proved in the proof of Theorem 2.1.

For $\forall y_1, y_2 \in (a, b), y_1 < y_2$, from (3.1), $1/2 \leq t < 1$ and convexity of f , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& t(H'_+(t; a, y_2) - H'_+(t; a, y_1)) \\
&= t(1-t)((y_2 - a)f'_+(y_2) - (y_1 - a)f'_+(y_1)) + (1-t)^2(f(y_1) - f(y_2)) \\
&\quad + (2t-1)\left(f(ta + (1-t)y_1) - f(ta + (1-t)y_2)\right) \\
&\geq t(1-t)(y_1 - a)(f'_+(y_2) - f'_+(y_1)) + t(1-t)(y_2 - y_1)f'_+(y_2) \\
&\quad + (1-t)^2(y_1 - y_2)f'_+(y_2) + (2t-1)(1-t)(y_1 - y_2)f'_+(ta + (1-t)y_2) \\
&= t(1-t)(y_1 - a)(f'_+(y_2) - f'_+(y_1)) \\
&\quad + (2t-1)(1-t)(y_2 - y_1)\left(f'_+(y_2) - f'_+(ta + (1-t)y_2)\right) \geq 0,
\end{aligned}$$

which implies that $H'_+(t; a, y)$ is monotonically increasing with y on (a, b) . By (2) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $H(t; a, y)$ is convex with y on $[a, b]$.

For any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, using the nonnegativity and convexity properties of $H(t; a, y)$ and (1.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.7) \quad 0 &\leq \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} H(t; a, \alpha a + (1-\alpha)b) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; H(t; a, y), y) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} (\alpha H(t; a, a) + (1-\alpha)H(t; a, b)).
\end{aligned}$$

From mapping $H(t; x, y)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.8) \quad & \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} H(t; a, \alpha a + (1-\alpha)b) \\
&= tf(a) + (1-t)f(\alpha a + (1-\alpha)b) - C(t; a, \alpha a + (1-\alpha)b; f(s), s),
\end{aligned}$$

$$(3.9) \quad \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; H(t; a, y), y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} \left(tf(a)C(\alpha; a, b; (y-a), y) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (1-t)C(\alpha; a, b; (y-a)f(y), y) - C(\alpha; a, b; (y-a)C(t; a, y; f(s), s), y) \right) \\
 &= tf(a) + \frac{1-t}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; (x-a)f(x), x) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} C(\alpha; a, b; (x-a)C(t; a, x; f(s), s), x)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.10) \quad &\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)(b-a)} (\alpha H(t; a, a) + (1-\alpha)H(t; a, b)) \\
 &= \frac{1}{b-a} H(t; a, b) = tf(a) + (1-t)f(b) - C(t; a, b; f(s), s).
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.7)–(3.10), a simple manipulation yields (2.4).

(2) For $0 < t \leq 1/2$, the continuity of $H(t; x, b)$ with x on $[a, b]$ has been proved in the proof of Theorem 2.1.

For $\forall x_1, x_2 \in (a, b), x_1 < x_2$, from (3.2), $0 < t \leq 1/2$ and convexity of f , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(1-t)(H'_+(t; x_2, b) - H'_+(t; x_1, b)) \\
 &= t(1-t)(b-x_2)(f'_+(x_2) - f'_+(x_1)) - t(1-t)(x_2-x_1)f'_+(x_1) \\
 &\quad + t^2(f(x_2) - f(x_1)) \\
 &\quad + (1-2t)\left(f(tx_2 + (1-t)b) - f(tx_1 + (1-t)b)\right) \\
 &\geq t(1-t)(b-x_2)(f'_+(x_2) - f'_+(x_1)) - t(1-t)(x_2-x_1)f'_+(x_1) \\
 &\quad + t^2(x_2-x_1)f'_+(x_1) + (1-2t)t(x_2-x_1)f'_+(tx_1 + (1-t)b) \\
 &= t(1-t)(b-x_2)(f'_+(x_2) - f'_+(x_1)) \\
 &\quad + (1-2t)t(x_2-x_1)\left(f'_+(tx_1 + (1-t)b) - f'_+(x_1)\right) \geq 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies that $H'_+(t; x, b)$ is monotonically increasing with x on (a, b) . By (2) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $H(t; x, b)$ is convex with x on $[a, b]$.

Using the nonnegativity and convexity properties of $H(t; x, b)$ and the same method as in the proof of (2.4), we can prove (2.5).

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.2.

Proof of Theorem 2.3. (1) The fact that $h(t; a, y)$ and $h(t; x, b)$ are nonnegative follows from (1.1).

By the continuity of f , $h(t; a, y)$ with y and $h(t; x, b)$ with x are continuous on $[a, b]$.

For any $x \in (a, b)$, using convexity of f , the left derivative of $h(t; x, b)$ with x holds the following

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.11) \quad h'_-(t; x, b) &= \frac{t}{1-t} \left(tf(tx + (1-t)b) - f(x) \right) - (1-t)f(tx + (1-t)b) \\
&\quad + f(tx + (1-t)b) - (b-x)tf'_-(tx + (1-t)b) \\
&= \frac{t}{1-t} \left(f(tx + (1-t)b) - f(x) \right) - (b-x)tf'_-(tx + (1-t)b) \\
&\leq \frac{t}{1-t} \left(-(1-t)(x-b)f'_-(tx + (1-t)b) \right) - (b-x)tf'_-(tx + (1-t)b) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

By the same method as in the proof of (3.11), we can show that the right derivative of $h(t; x, b)$ with x in (a, b) satisfies

$$(3.12) \quad h'_+(t; x, b) \leq 0, \quad x \in (a, b).$$

From (3.11)–(3.12) and (1) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $h(t; x, b)$ is monotonically decreasing with x on $[a, b]$.

By the same method as in the proof of (3.11), we can prove

$$(3.13) \quad h'_+(t; a, y) \geq 0, \quad h'_-(t; a, y) \geq 0, \quad y \in (a, b).$$

Using (3.13) and (1) in the Lemma 2.4, we get that $h(t; a, y)$ is monotonically increasing with y on $[a, b]$.

(2) By (1.2) and $x < y$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.14) \quad &\frac{t}{1-t} \int_x^{tx+(1-t)y} f(s) \, ds \\
&\leq \frac{t}{1-t} (tx + (1-t)y - x) \frac{f(tx + (1-t)y) + f(x)}{2} \\
&= t(y-x) \frac{f(tx + (1-t)y) + f(x)}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.15) \quad &\frac{1-t}{t} \int_{tx+(1-t)y}^y f(s) \, ds \\
&\leq \frac{1-t}{t} (y - (tx + (1-t)y)) \frac{f(tx + (1-t)y) + f(y)}{2} \\
&= (1-t)(y-x) \frac{f(tx + (1-t)y) + f(y)}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Expression of (3.14) plus (3.15) and a simple manipulation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
&2 \left(\frac{t}{1-t} \int_x^{tx+(1-t)y} f(s) \, ds + \frac{1-t}{t} \int_{tx+(1-t)y}^y f(s) \, ds \right) \\
&\leq (y-x) \left(tf(x) + (1-t)f(y) + f(tx + (1-t)y) \right),
\end{aligned}$$

which implies the inequality (2.6).

(3) For any $x \in (a, b)$, from the monotonically decreasing property of $h(t; x, b)$ with x on $[a, b]$ and the definition of the mapping h , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = h(t; b, b) &\leq h(t; x, b) = (b - x) \left(C(t; x, b; f(s), s) - f(tx + (1 - t)b) \right) \\ &\leq h(t; a, b) = (b - a) \left(C(t; a, b; f(s), s) - f(ta + (1 - t)b) \right), \end{aligned}$$

which implies the inequalities (2.8).

From the monotonically increasing property of $h(t; a, y)$ with y on $[a, b]$ and the same method as in the proof of (2.8), we can prove (2.7). Expression of (2.7) plus (2.8) and a simple manipulation yields (2.9).

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.3.

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