ON TRAPEZOID INEQUALITY VIA A GRÜSS TYPE RESULT AND APPLICATIONS

S.S. DRAGOMIR AND A. MCANDREW

Abstract. In this paper, we point out a Grüss type inequality and apply it for special means (logarithmic mean, identric mean, etc...) and in Numerical Analysis in connection with the classical trapezoid formula.

1. Introduction

In 1935, G. Grüss (see for example [1, p. 296]), proved the following integral inequality which gives an approximation for the integral of a product in terms of the product of integrals:

Theorem 1. *Let $f, g : [a, b] \to \mathbf{R}$ be two integrable mappings so that $\varphi \leq f(x) \leq \Phi$ and $\gamma \leq g(x) \leq \Gamma$ for all $x \in [a, b]$, where $\varphi, \Phi, \gamma, \Gamma$ are real numbers. Then we have:*

$$\left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) g(x) \, dx - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) \, dx \cdot \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b g(x) \, dx \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{4} (\Phi - \varphi)(\Gamma - \gamma) \tag{1.1}$$

and the inequality is sharp, in the sense that the constant $\frac{1}{4}$ can not be replaced by a smaller one.

For a simple proof of this fact as well as for extensions, generalizations, discrete variants etc... see the book [1, p. 296] by Mitrinović, Pečarić and Fink and the papers [2]-[7] where further references are given.

In this paper, we point out a different Grüss type inequality and apply it for special means (logarithmic mean, identric mean, etc...) and in Numerical Analysis in connection with the classical trapezoid formula.

2. A Grüss' type inequality

We start with the following result of Grüss' type.

Theorem 2. *Let $f, g : [a, b] \to \mathbf{R}$ be two integrable mappings. Then we have the following Grüss' type inequality:*

$$\left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) g(x) \, dx - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) \, dx \cdot \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b g(x) \, dx \right|$$

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$$\leq \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b \left|\left(f(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy\right)\cdot\left(g(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy\right)\right|dx. \tag{2.1}$$

The inequality (2.1) *is sharp.*

Proof. First of all, let observe that

$$I := \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b \left(f(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy\right)\cdot\left(g(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy\right)dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b \left(f(x)g(x) - g(x)\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy - f(x)\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy\right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy\right)dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)g(x)\,dx - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(x)\,dx\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy$$

$$-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy + (b-a)\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)g(x)\,dx - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(x)\,dx\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx.$$

On the other hand, by the use of modulus properties, we have

$$|I| \leq \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b \left|\left(f(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(y)\,dy\right)\cdot\left(g(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b g(y)\,dy\right)\right|dx$$

and the inequality (2.1) is proved.

Choosing $f(x) = g(x) = sgn\left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)$, the equality is satisfied in (2.1). ∎

The following corollaries are interesting.

Corollary 1. *Let* $f : [a,b] \to \mathbf{R}$ *be a differentiable mapping on* (a,b) *having the first derivative* $f' : (a,b) \to \mathbf{R}$ *bounded on* (a,b). *Then we have the inequality:*

$$\left|\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx\right|$$

$$\leq \frac{b-a}{4}\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| \tag{2.2}$$

Proof. A simple integration by parts gives that:

$$\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}(b-a)-\int_a^b f(x)\,dx=\int_a^b\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)f'(x)\,dx. \tag{2.3}$$

Applying the inequality (2.1) we get that:

$$\left|\int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a}\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)f'(x)\,dx-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)dx\cdot\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f'(x)\,dx\right|$$

$$\leq\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b\left|\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b\left(y-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)dy\right)\right.$$

$$\left.\cdot\left(f'(x)-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f'(y)\,dy\right)\right|dx.$$

As

$$\int_a^b\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)dx=0$$

we get

$$\left|\int_a^b\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)f'(x)\,dx\right|\leq\int_a^b\left|\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)\left(f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right)\right|dx$$

$$\leq\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|\int_a^b\left|\left(x-\frac{a+b}{2}\right)\right|dx$$

$$=\frac{(b-a)^2}{4}\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|. \tag{2.4}$$

Now using the equality (2.3), the inequality(2.4) becomes the desired result (2.2). ∎

Corollary 2. *Let $f:[a,b]\to\mathbf{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on (a,b) having the first derivative $f':(a,b)\to\mathbf{R}$, q-integrable on (a,b) where $p,q>1$, $\frac{1}{p}+\frac{1}{q}=1$. Then we have the inequality:*

$$\left|\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}-\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx\right|$$

$$\leq\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{b-a}{p+1}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}\left(\int_a^b\left|f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|^q dx\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}. \tag{2.5}$$

Proof. Using Hölder's inequality, we have that:

$$\int_a^b \left| \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)\left(f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right)\right| dx$$

$$\leq \left(\int_a^b \left|x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right|^p dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|^q dx\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

$$= \frac{(b-a)^{\frac{1}{p}+1}}{2(p+1)^{\frac{1}{p}}} \left(\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|^q dx\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

as a simple computation shows that

$$\int_a^b \left|x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right|^p dx = \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left(\frac{a+b}{2} - x\right)^p dx + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)^p dx$$

$$= -\left.\frac{\left(\frac{a+b}{2} - x\right)^{p+1}}{p+1}\right|_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} + \left.\frac{\left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)^{p+1}}{p+1}\right|_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b$$

$$= \frac{(b-a)^{p+1}}{(p+1)2^{p+1}} + \frac{(b-a)^{p+1}}{(p+1)2^{p+1}} = \frac{(b-a)^{p+1}}{(p+1)2^p}.$$

Now, using the first part of (2.4) and the identity (2.3), we get the desired result (2.5). ∎

The following result also holds.

Corollary 3. *Let $f:[a,b]\to\mathbf{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on (a,b) and suppose that $f':(a,b)\to\mathbf{R}$ is integrable on (a,b). Then we have the inequality:*

$$\left|\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx\right| \leq \frac{1}{2}\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| dx \tag{2.6}$$

Proof. We have

$$\int_a^b \left| \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)\left(f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right)\right| dx \leq \max_{x\in(a,b)} \left|x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right|$$

$$\times \int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| dx = \frac{b-a}{2}\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| dx.$$

Using the first part of (2.4) and the identity (2.3) ,we get the desired result (2.6). ∎

3. Applications for some special means

Let us recall some special means we shall use in the sequel:

(a) *The arithmetic mean*

$$A = A(a, b) := \frac{a + b}{2}, a, b \geq 0;$$

(b) *The geometric mean*

$$G = G(a, b) := \sqrt{ab}, a, b \geq 0;$$

(c) *The harmonic mean*

$$H = H(a, b) := \frac{2}{\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}}, a, b > 0;$$

(d) *The logarithmic mean*

$$L = L(a, b) := \begin{cases} a \text{ if } b = a \\ \frac{b-a}{\ln b - \ln a} \text{ if } b \neq a, a, b > 0; \end{cases}$$

(e) *The identric mean*

$$I = I(a, b) := \begin{cases} a \text{ if } a = b \\ \frac{1}{e}\left(\frac{b^b}{a^a}\right)^{\frac{1}{b-a}} \text{ if } a \neq b, a, b > 0; \end{cases}$$

(f) *The* $p-$*logarithmic mean*

$$L_p = L_p(a, b) := \begin{cases} a \text{ if } b = a \\ \left[\frac{b^{p+1} - a^{p+1}}{(p+1)(b-a)}\right]^{\frac{1}{p}} \text{ if } b \neq a, a, b > 0 \end{cases}$$

where $p \in \mathbf{R} \backslash \{-1, 0\}$.

It is well known that

$$H \leq G \leq L \leq I \leq A \tag{3.1}$$

and the mapping $L_p$is monotonically increasing in $p \in \mathbf{R}$ with $L_0 := I$ and $L_{-1} := L$.

I. Now, let consider the inequality

$$\left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x)\, dx \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{b-a}{4} \max_{x \in (a,b)} \left| f'(x) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b-a} \right|, \tag{3.2}$$

where f is as in Corollary1.

1. Consider the mapping $f : (0, \infty) \to \mathbf{R}$, $f(x) = x^r$, $r \in \mathbf{R} \backslash \{0, -1\}$. Then for $0 < a < b$, we have

$$\frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} = A(a^r, b^r),$$

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x)\, dx = L_r^r(a, b),$$

$$f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}=rx^{r-1}-rL_{r-1}^{r-1}=r\left(x^{r-1}-L_{r-1}^{r-1}\right),$$

and by the inequality3.2 we get:

$$|A(a^r,b^r)-L_r^r(a,b)|\leq\frac{|r|(b-a)}{4}\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|x^{r-1}-L_{r-1}^{r-1}\right| \tag{3.3}$$

2. Consider the mapping $f:(0,\infty)\to\mathbf{R}$, $f(x)=\frac{1}{x}$. Then for $0<a<b$, we have

$$\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}=\frac{A(a,b)}{G^2(a,b)},$$

$$\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx=\frac{1}{L(a,b)},$$

$$f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}=-\frac{1}{x^2}+\frac{1}{ab}=\frac{x^2-G^2}{G^2x^2}$$

$$\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|=\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left\{\frac{\left|b^2-ab\right|}{ab\cdot b^2},\frac{\left|a^2-ab\right|}{ab\cdot a^2}\right\}$$

$$=\frac{(b-a)}{ab}\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left\{\frac{1}{b},\frac{1}{a}\right\}=\frac{(b-a)}{a^2b}$$

and by the inequality (3.2)we get

$$\left|\frac{A}{G^2}-\frac{1}{L}\right|\leq\frac{(b-a)^2}{4aG^2}$$

which is equivalent to

$$0\leq LA-G^2\leq\frac{(b-a)^2}{4a}L. \tag{3.4}$$

3. Consider the mapping $f:(0,\infty)\to\mathbf{R}$, $f(x)=\ln x$. Then for $0<a<b$, we have

$$\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}=\ln G,$$

$$\frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx=\ln I,$$

$$f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}=\frac{1}{x}-\frac{1}{L},$$

$$\max_{x\in(a,b)}\left|f'(x)-\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right|=\frac{1}{a}-\frac{1}{L}=\frac{L-a}{aL}$$

and by the inequality (3.2) we get

$$|\ln G-\ln I|\leq\left(\frac{L-a}{aL}\right)$$

which is equivalent to:

$$1 \leq \frac{I}{G} \leq \exp\left(\frac{L-a}{aL}\right) \tag{3.5}$$

II. Now, let consider the inequality:

$$\left|\frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(x)\,dx\right|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2}\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| dx \tag{3.6}$$

1. Consider the mapping $f:(0,\infty)\to\mathbf{R}$ $f(x)=x^2$, $r\in\mathbf{R}\setminus\{0,-1\}$ and $0<a<b$. Then

$$\int_a^b \left|f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right| dx = |r|\int_a^b \left|x^{r-1} - L_{r-1}^{r-1}\right| dx.$$

For simplicity, let assume that $r>1$. Then

$$\int_a^b \left|x^{r-1} - L_{r-1}^{r-1}\right| dx = \int_a^{L_{r-1}} \left(L_{r-1}^{r-1} - x^{r-1}\right) dx + \int_{L_{r-1}}^b \left(x^{r-1} - L_{r-1}^{r-1}\right) dx$$

$$= L_{r-1}^{r-1}\left(L_{r-1}-a\right) - \left.\frac{x^r}{r}\right|_a^{L_{r-1}} + \left.\frac{x^r}{r}\right|_{L_{r-1}}^b - \left(b-L_{r-1}\right)L_{r-1}^{r-1}$$

$$= L_{r-1}^r - aL_{r-1}^{r-1} - \frac{L_{r-1}^r - a^r}{r} + \frac{b^r - L_{r-1}^r}{r} - \left(b-L_{r-1}\right)L_{r-1}^{r-1}$$

$$= \frac{b^r+a^r}{r} - L_{r-1}^{r-1}(a+b) + \frac{2L_{r-1}^r}{r} = \frac{2}{r}\left[A\left(a^r,b^r\right) - rL_{r-1}^{r-1}A + L_{r-1}^r\right]$$

and by the inequality (3.6) we get

$$0 \leq A\left(a^r,b^r\right) - L_r^r(a,b) \leq \left[A\left(a^r,b^r\right) - rL_{r-1}^{r-1}A + L_{r-1}^r\right] \tag{3.7}$$

or

$$rL_{r-1}^{r-1}A \leq L_r^r(a,b) + L_{r-1}^r(a,b). \tag{3.8}$$

Similar results can be obtained for $r\leq 1$, $r\neq 0,-1$.

We shall omit the details.

2. Consider the mapping $f:(a,b)\to\mathbf{R}$, $f(x)=\frac{1}{x}$. Then for $0<a<b$ we have:

$$\int_a^b \left|\frac{x^2-G^2}{G^2x^2}\right| dx = \frac{1}{G^2}\int_a^b \left|\frac{x^2-G^2}{x^2}\right| dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{G^2}\left[\int_a^G \frac{G^2-x^2}{x^2}dx + \int_G^b \frac{x^2-G^2}{x^2}dx\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{G^2}\left[G^2 \left.\frac{x^{-1}}{-1}\right|_a^G - (G-a) + (b-G) - G^2 \left.\frac{x^{-1}}{-1}\right|_G^b\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{a^2}\left[-\frac{G^2}{G} + \frac{G^2}{a} + b + a - 2G + \frac{G^2}{b} - \frac{G^2}{G}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{G^2}\left[b + a - 2G - 2G + G^2\left(\frac{a+b}{ab}\right)\right] = \frac{4}{G^2}(A-G) = \frac{4(A-G)}{G^2}$$

and by inequality (3.6) we get:

$$\left|\frac{A}{G^2} - \frac{1}{L}\right| \le \frac{2(A-G)}{G^2}$$

i.e.,

$$0 \le AL - G^2 \le 2L(A-G) \tag{3.9}$$

or equivalently:

$$2LG \le G^2 + AL \tag{3.10}$$

which is a very interesting inequality amongst A, L and G.

3. Consider the mapping $f : (a,b) \to \mathbf{R}$, $f(x) = \ln x$. Then for $0 < a < b$, we have:

$$\int_a^b \left|\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{L}\right| dx = \int_a^b \frac{|x-L|}{xL} dx = \int_a^L \frac{(L-x)}{xL} dx + \int_L^b \frac{x-L}{xL} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L}\left[L \ln x|_a^L - (L-a) + (b-L) - L \ln x|_L^b\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{L}\left[L \ln L - L \ln a - L + a + b - L - L \ln b + L \ln L\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{L}\left[2L \ln L - L(\ln a + \ln b) + a + b - 2L\right]$$

and then by the inequality (3.6) we get

$$|\ln G - \ln I| \le \frac{1}{2L}\left[2L \ln L - L(\ln a + \ln b) + a + b - 2L\right]$$

$$= \ln L - \frac{\ln a + \ln b}{2} + \frac{A}{L} - 1 = \ln L - \ln G + \frac{A-L}{L}$$

$$= \ln\left[\left(\frac{L}{G}\right)\exp\left(\frac{A-L}{L}\right)\right]$$

i.e.,

$$1 \le \frac{I}{G} \le \frac{L}{G}\exp\left(\frac{A-L}{L}\right) \tag{3.11}$$

which implies

$$1 \le \frac{I}{L} \le \exp\left(\frac{A-L}{L}\right). \tag{3.12}$$

4. Applications for the trapezoid formula

In this section we shall assume that $f : I \subseteq \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is a differentiable mapping whose derivative is satisfying the following condition:

$$|f(b) - f(a) - (b-a) f'(x)| \leq \Omega (b-a)^2, \Omega > 0 \tag{4.1}$$

for all $a, b \in I$ and x between a and b.

If f' is $M-$lipschitzian, i.e.,

$$|f'(u) - f'(v)| \leq M |u - v|, M > 0$$

then

$$|f(b) - f(a) - (b-a) f'(x)| = |f'(c) - f'(x)| |b-a|$$

$$\leq M |b-a| |c-x| \leq M (b-a)^2$$

where c is between a and b, too. Consequently, the mappings having the first derivative lipschitzian satisfy the condition (4.1).

The following trapezoid formula holds.

Theorem 3. *Let $f : [a,b] \to \mathbf{R}$ be a differentiable mapping on (a,b) whose derivative $f' : (a,b) \to \mathbf{R}$ is satisfying the above condition (4.1)on (a,b). If $I_h : a = x_0 < x_1 < ... < x_{n-1} < x_n = b$ is a division of $[a,b]$ and $h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i, i = 0, ..., n-1$, then we have:*

$$\int_a^b f(t)\, dt = A_{T,I_h}(f) + R_{T,I_h}(f) \tag{4.2}$$

where

$$A_{T,I_h}(f) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})}{2} h_i \tag{4.3}$$

and the remainder $R_{T,I_h}(f)$ satisfies the estimation:

$$|R_{T,I_h}(f)| \leq \frac{\Omega}{4} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} h_i^3. \tag{4.4}$$

Proof. Applying Corollary 1 on the interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ we can write:

$$\left| (x_{i+1} - x_i) \frac{f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})}{2} - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(t)\, dt \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{x_{i+1} - x_i}{4} \max_{x \in (x_i, x_{i+1})} \left| f'(x) - \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i)}{x_{i+1} - x_i} \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{\Omega (x_{i+1} - x_i)^3}{4}$$

i.e.,

$$\left| \frac{f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})}{2} h_i - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(t)\, dt \right| \leq \frac{\Omega h_i^3}{4}$$

for all $i = 0, ..., n-1$.

Summing the above inequality and using the generalized triangle inequality, we get the approximation (4.2) and the remainder satisfies the estimation (4.4). ∎

Remark 1. *We have got in this way a trapezoid formula for a class larger than the class $C^2[a,b]$ for which the usual trapezoid formula works with the remainder term satisfying the estimation*

$$|R_{T,I_h}(f)| \leq \frac{\|f''\|_\infty}{12} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} h_i^3$$

where $\|f''\|_\infty = \sup_{t\in(a,b)} |f''(t)| < \infty$.

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School of Communications and Informatics, Victoria University of Technology, PO Box 14428, MC Melbourne City, Victoria 8001, Australia
E-mail address: {sever, amca}@matilda.vu.edu.au
URL: http://matilda.vu.edu.au/~rgmia/dragomirweb.html