

ON SOME STIELTJES INTEGRAL INEQUALITIES

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In the theory of the differential and integral equations the famous Bellman-Gronwall inequality, its generalizations and similar inequalities have several applications.

Usually these inequalities are of the following form:
Under suitable assumptions from

$x(t) \leq F(t, \int_{\alpha}^t g(t,s,x(s)) ds)$ we come to the inequality

$x(t) \leq F_1(t, \int_{\alpha}^t h(t,s) ds).$

Recently in some papers we find the problem whether these inequalities are valid also for Stieltjes integrals (see e.g. P.G. Das - R.R. Sharma, Some Stieltjes integral inequalities, Journal of Math. Anal. and Appl. 73(1980), 423-433 and its references). In these papers special inequalities are investigated.

Naturally it arises the question to find a method which can be applied on several known inequalities to extend them to the Stieltjes integral case.

We tried the method sketched briefly in the following (here we use Riemann - Stieltjes integral):

Suppose that $x(t) \leq F(t, \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))d\phi(s))$, where

$\phi: [a, b] \rightarrow R$ is monotone. Assume that we have a sequence of continuously differentiable monotone functions $\{\phi_n\}$ with the property: $\phi_n(x) \rightarrow \phi(x)$, for $x \in [a, b]$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$.

Hence we obtain

$$x(t) \leq F(t, \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))d\phi(s)) = F(t, \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))d\phi_n(s) + \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))d(\phi(s) - \phi_n(s))) \leq F(t, \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))\phi'_n(s)ds + \epsilon_n(t)).$$

If $\epsilon_n(t) \leq 0$ and F is an increasing function in its second variable then

$$x(t) \leq F(t, \int_a^t g(t,s,x(s))\phi'_n(s)ds)$$

hence

$$x(t) \leq F_1(t, \int_a^t h_1(t,s,\phi'_n(s))ds).$$

If the right hand side may be written in the form

$$F_1(t, \int_a^t h_2(t,s)\phi'_n(s)ds) \quad \text{or} \quad F_1(t, \int_a^t h_2(t,s)d\phi_n(s)),$$

then applying the Helly-Bray theorem we have

$$x(t) \leq F_1(t, \int_a^t h_1(t,s) d\phi(s)).$$

$\varepsilon_n(t) \leq 0$ is not true in general. It is valid e.g. if $g(u,v,w) \geq 0$ and $\phi - \phi_n$ is a monotone decreasing function, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. (But using Fubini's theorem we obtain that a singular monotone function can't be a limit of continuously differentiable monotone functions with $\phi'_n(x) \geq \phi'_{n+1}(x)$.)

The wanted sequence $\{\phi_n\}$ may be constructed from polynomials too. We use S.W. Young's theorem (Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (73(1967), 642-643.)).

Suppose that n is a positive integer, $x_{i-1} < x_i$ and $y_{i-1} < y_i$, $i=1, \dots, n$, then there exists a polynomial P such that $P(x_i) = y_i$, $i=0, 1, \dots, n$, and P is monotone in each of the intervals $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$, $i=1, \dots, n$.

By the aid of this theorem we sketch our construction. For the sake of simplicity suppose that ϕ is a continuous and strictly monotone increasing function.

Divide the interval $[a, b]$ into equal parts:

$a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{2^n} = b$. Put $y_k = \phi(x_{k-1})$ if $k=1, 2, \dots, 2^n$ and choose $y_{0n} < \phi(x_0)$. Then $y_{0n} < y_1 < \dots < y_{2^n}$. From the above mentioned theorem we come to a polynomial ϕ_n with $\phi_n(x_k) = y_k$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, 2^n$, $\phi_n(x_0) = y_{0n}$ and as ϕ_n increases on every interval $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$, it is increasing on $[a, b]$.

Constructing these polynomials on $n = 1, 2, \dots, k, \dots$ it is clear that $\phi_n(x) < \phi(x)$ and $\phi_n(x) \rightarrow \phi(x)$ if $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $y_{0n} \rightarrow \phi(a)$. (With a slight modification of the construction we can obtain a sequence of polynomials having the property $\phi_n(x) \leq \phi_{n+1}(x)$ too.)

It is easy to see that the construction goes also if ϕ is monotone nondecreasing and continuous from the left. (One can construct such sequence $\{\phi_n\}$ in another way too.)

As an application let us have an inequality of Deo (1971): If the functions x, a, k are defined on $J = [\alpha, \beta], k(t) \geq 0$, the function $g : I \rightarrow R$ is monotone nondecreasing positive subadditive and submultiplicative, $x(J) \subset I$; the function h is defined on an interval $\Delta, 0 \in \Delta, h(\Delta) \subset I$, and h is monotone nondecreasing.

Suppose further that

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s)) ds \right) \quad \text{for } t \in J \text{ then}$$

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + b(t)h \left\{ G^{-1} \left[\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(b(s)) ds + \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \left. + G \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(a(s)) ds \right) \right] \right\}, \quad \text{where } G(u) = \int_{u_0}^u \frac{ds}{g(s)}, \quad u \in \Delta.$$

By the above sketched method this inequality is valid for Stieltjes integrals too with function ϕ which is monotone nondecreasing and continuous from the left:

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s)) d\phi(s) \right) = a(t) +$$

$$+ b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s)) d(\phi(s) - \phi_n(s)) + \int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s)) d\phi_n(s) \right) \leq$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq a(t) + b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s))d(\phi(s) - \phi_n(s)) \right) + \\ &+ b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s))d\phi_n(s) \right) \leq a(t) + A + \\ &+ b(t)h \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(x(s))\phi'_n(s)ds \right), \end{aligned}$$

$A \geq 0$ fixed number, $n \geq N(A)$.

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &\leq a(t) + A + b(t)h \left\{ G^{-1} \left[\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(b(s))d\phi(s) + \right. \right. \\ &\left. \left. + G \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(a(s) + A)d\phi(s) \right) \right] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since this is true for every $A \geq 0$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &\leq a(t) + b(t)h \left\{ G^{-1} \left[\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(b(s))d\phi(s) + \right. \right. \\ &\left. \left. + G \left(\int_{\alpha}^t k(s)g(a(s))d\phi(s) \right) \right] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

There are problems if the function ϕ'_n appears repeatedly in the obtained inequality. For example the following inequality was published by Gamidov in 1969.

If α, v_i, φ_i are continuous positive functions on $[a, b]$ and

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + \sum_{i=1}^k v_i(t) \int_{\alpha}^t \varphi_i(s) x(s) ds, \quad \text{then}$$

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + v(t) \int_{\alpha}^t \sum_{i=1}^k \varphi_i(s) a(s) \exp\left(\int_s^t \varphi_i(u) v(u) du\right) ds,$$

$$\text{where } v(t) = \sup_{1 \leq i \leq k} v_i(t).$$

In this case applying our method we come to the inequality:

$$x(t) \leq a(t) + v(t) \int_{\alpha}^t \sum_{i=1}^k \varphi_i(s) a(s) \exp\left(\int_s^t \sum_{i=1}^k \varphi_i(u) d\phi_n(u)\right) d\phi_n(s),$$

and the problem is whether the right-hand side tends to

$$a(t) + v(t) \int_{\alpha}^t \sum_{i=1}^k \varphi_i(s) a(s) \exp\left(\int_s^t \sum_{i=1}^k \varphi_i(u) d\phi(u)\right) d\phi(s)$$

or not.

In this and in similar cases the Lebesgue-Stieltjes or more general integral may be useful but this question will be treated in another note.