

New inequalities for fractional integrals and their applications

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Abstract: In this paper, we establish some Hermite–Hadamard-type, Bullen-type, and Simpson-type inequalities for fractional integrals. Some applications for the beta function are also given.

Key words: Hermite–Hadamard inequality, Bullen inequality, Simpson inequality, fractional integral, convex function

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, let $a < b$ in \mathbb{R} .

The inequality

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \quad (1.1)$$

which holds for all convex functions $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is known in the literature as the Hermite–Hadamard inequality [7].

For some results that generalize, improve, and extend the inequality (1.1), see [1–6, 8–16].

Tseng et al. [12] established the following Hermite–Hadamard-type inequality that refines the inequality (1.1).

Theorem A Suppose that $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a convex function on $[a, b]$. Then we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right) \right] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \right] \leq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

The third inequality in (1.2) is known in the literature as the Bullen inequality.

Dragomir and Agarwal [4] established the following results connected with the second inequality in the inequality (1.1).

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Theorem B Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable function on (a, b) with $a < b$. If $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$, then we have

$$\left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{8} (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|) \tag{1.3}$$

which is the trapezoid inequality provided $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$.

Kirmaci and Özdemir [10] established the following results connected with the first inequality in the inequality (1.1).

Theorem C Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{8} (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|) \tag{1.4}$$

which is the midpoint inequality provided $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$.

In what follows we recall the following definitions [11].

Definition 1.1 Let $f \in L_1[a, b]$. The Riemann–Liouville integrals $J_{a^+}^\alpha f$ and $J_{b^-}^\alpha f$ of order $\alpha > 0$ with $a \geq 0$ are defined by

$$J_{a^+}^\alpha f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^x (x-t)^{\alpha-1} f(t) dt \quad (x > a)$$

and

$$J_{b^-}^\alpha f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_x^b (t-x)^{\alpha-1} f(t) dt \quad (x < b),$$

respectively. Here, $\Gamma(\alpha)$ is the gamma function and $J_{a^+}^0 f(x) = J_{b^-}^0 f(x) = f(x)$.

Sarikaya et al. [11] established the following Hermite–Hadamard-type inequalities for fractional integrals:

Theorem D Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be positive with $0 \leq a < b$ and $f \in L_1[a, b]$. If f is a convex function on $[a, b]$, then

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \tag{1.5}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Theorem E Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{2^\alpha - 1}{2^{\alpha+1}(\alpha+1)} (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|) \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Zhu et al. [16] established the following fractional integral inequality with the first inequality of (1.5):

Theorem F Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b - a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - f\left(\frac{a + b}{2}\right) \right| \\ & \leq \frac{(b - a)}{4(\alpha + 1)} \left(\alpha + 3 - \frac{1}{2^{\alpha - 1}} \right) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|) \end{aligned} \tag{1.7}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Remark 1.2

1. The assumption $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is positive with $0 \leq a < b$ in Theorem D can be weakened as $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $a < b$.
2. In Theorem F, let $\alpha = 1$. Then we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - f\left(\frac{a + b}{2}\right) \right| \leq \frac{3(b - a)}{8} (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|). \tag{1.8}$$

Thus, the upper bound in the inequality (1.4) is smaller than that in the inequality (1.8) and Theorem F cannot reduce to Theorem C.

In this paper, we establish some Hermite–Hadamard-type, Bullen-type, and Simpson-type inequalities for fractional integrals that improve the inequality (1.7) and generalize Theorem C.

2. Hermite–Hadamard-type inequality for fractional integrals

Theorem 2.1 Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have the following Hermite–Hadamard-type inequality for fractional integrals:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b - a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - f\left(\frac{a + b}{2}\right) \right| \\ & \leq \frac{(b - a)}{4(\alpha + 1)} \left(\alpha - 1 + \frac{1}{2^{\alpha - 1}} \right) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|) \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Proof Define

$$h_1(x) = \begin{cases} (b - x)^\alpha - (x - a)^\alpha - (b - a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[a, \frac{a + b}{2} \right) \\ (b - x)^\alpha - (x - a)^\alpha + (b - a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[\frac{a + b}{2}, b \right] \end{cases}.$$

Using integration by parts, we have the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_1(x) f'(x) dx \tag{2.2} \\
 = & \frac{\alpha}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b [(x-a)^{\alpha-1} + (b-x)^{\alpha-1}] f(x) dx - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \\
 = & \frac{\alpha\Gamma(\alpha)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \\
 = & \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \frac{b-x}{b-a}a + \frac{x-a}{b-a}b \quad (x \in [a, b]). \tag{2.3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \tag{2.4} \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & |f'(a)| \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx := M_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \tag{2.5} \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & |f'(b)| \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx := M_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, using simple computation, the identities (2.3) – (2.5) and the convexity of $|f'|$, we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_1(x) f'(x) dx \right| \tag{2.6} \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b |h_1(x)| |f'(x)| dx \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & \quad + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & \leq \frac{M_1 + M_2}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \\
 & = \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx \\
 & = \frac{(b-a)}{4(\alpha+1)} \left(\alpha - 1 + \frac{1}{2^{\alpha-1}} \right) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|).
 \end{aligned}$$

The inequality (2.1) follows from the identity (2.2) and the inequality (2.6).
 This completes the proof. □

Remark 2.2

1. The inequality (2.1) improves the inequality (1.5) since

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha - 1 + \frac{1}{2^{\alpha-1}} \\
 & = \alpha + 3 - \frac{2^{\alpha+1} - 1}{2^{\alpha-1}} \\
 & < \alpha + 3 - \frac{1}{2^{\alpha-1}} \quad (\alpha > 0).
 \end{aligned}$$

2. In Theorem 2.1, let $\alpha = 1$. Then Theorem 2.1 reduces to Theorem C.

3. The inequality for fractional integrals with $\frac{1}{2} [f(\frac{3a+b}{4}) + f(\frac{a+3b}{4})]$

Theorem 3.1 Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have the following inequality for fractional integrals with $\frac{f(\frac{3a+b}{4}) + f(\frac{a+3b}{4})}{2}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right) \right] \right| \tag{3.1} \\
 & \leq \left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3^{\alpha+1} - 2^{\alpha+1} + 1}{4^{\alpha+1}(\alpha+1)} - \frac{1}{2(\alpha+1)} \right) (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)
 \end{aligned}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Proof Define

$$h_2(x) = \begin{cases} (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in [a, \frac{3a+b}{4}) \\ (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha, & x \in [\frac{3a+b}{4}, \frac{a+3b}{4}) \\ (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in [\frac{a+3b}{4}, b] \end{cases}.$$

Using integration by parts, we have the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_2(x) f'(x) dx & (3.2) \\ = & \frac{\alpha}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b [(x-a)^{\alpha-1} + (b-x)^{\alpha-1}] f(x) dx - \frac{f(\frac{3a+b}{4}) + f(\frac{a+3b}{4})}{2} \\ = & \frac{\alpha\Gamma(\alpha)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - \frac{f(\frac{3a+b}{4}) + f(\frac{a+3b}{4})}{2} \\ = & \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] - \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx & (3.3) \\ & + \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\ = & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\ & + \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\ = & |f'(a)| \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx := N_1. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx & (3.4) \\ & + \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\ = & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\ & + \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\ = & |f'(b)| \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx := N_2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} [(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & |f'(a)| \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] dx := N_3.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} [(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & |f'(b)| \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] dx := N_4.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Now, using simple computation and the identities (2.3) and (3.3) – (3.6), we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_2(x) f'(x) dx \right| \\
 \leq & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b |h_2(x)| |f'(x)| dx \\
 = & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} [(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + (b-a)^\alpha] |f'(x)| dx
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \frac{N_1 + N_2 + N_3 + N_4}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \\
 &= \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} [(b-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + (x-a)^\alpha] dx \\
 &\quad + \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} [(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha] dx \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3^{\alpha+1} - 2^{\alpha+1} + 1}{4^{\alpha+1}(\alpha+1)} - \frac{1}{2(\alpha+1)} \right) (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|).
 \end{aligned}$$

The inequality (3.1) follows from the identity (3.2) and the inequality (3.7).

This completes the proof. □

Remark 3.2 In Theorem 3.1, let $\alpha = 1$. Then the inequality (3.1) reduces to the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} \right| \\
 &\leq \frac{(b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)}{16}
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the second inequality in (1.2) provided $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$.

4. Bullen-type inequality for fractional integrals

Theorem 4.1 Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have the following Bullen-type inequality for fractional integrals:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left| \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \left[\frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{4^\alpha - 3^\alpha + 1}{4^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \right| \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\alpha+1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha + 1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{3^{\alpha+1} + 1}{4^{\alpha+1}} \right) (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Proof Define

$$h_3(x) = \begin{cases} (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[a, \frac{a+b}{2} \right) \\ (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[\frac{a+b}{2}, b \right] \end{cases} .$$

Using integration by parts, we have the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_3(x) f'(x) dx \tag{4.2} \\
 &= \frac{\alpha}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b [(x-a)^{\alpha-1} + (b-x)^{\alpha-1}] f(x) dx \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{4^\alpha - 3^\alpha + 1}{4^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{4^\alpha - 3^\alpha + 1}{4^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{4^\alpha - 3^\alpha + 1}{4^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \tag{4.3} \\
 &+ \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &= \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &+ \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &= |f'(a)| \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := P_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \tag{4.4} \\
 &+ \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &= \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &+ \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &= |f'(b)| \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := P_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & |f'(a)| \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := P_3.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & |f'(b)| \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := P_4.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

Now, using simple computation and the identities (2.3) and (4.3) – (4.6), we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_3(x) f'(x) dx \right| \\
 \leq & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b |h_3(x)| |f'(x)| dx \\
 = & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+3b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha - 1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+3b}{4}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha-1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 \leq & \frac{P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \\
 = & \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{3a+b}{4}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{3^\alpha-1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx \\
 & + \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{3a+b}{4}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{3^\alpha-1}{4^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx \\
 = & \frac{1}{\alpha+1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha+1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{3^{\alpha+1}+1}{4^{\alpha+1}} \right) (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|).
 \end{aligned}$$

The inequality (4.1) follows from the identity (4.2) and the inequality (4.7).

This completes the proof. □

Remark 4.2 In Theorem 4.1, let $\alpha = 1$. Then the inequality (4.1) reduces to the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \right] \right| \\
 \leq & \frac{(b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)}{16}
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the Bullen-type inequality provided $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$.

5. Simpson-type inequality for fractional integrals

Theorem 5.1 Under the assumptions of Theorem B, then we have the following Bullen-type inequality for fractional integrals:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - \left[\frac{5^\alpha-1}{6^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{6^\alpha-5^\alpha+1}{6^\alpha} \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \right] \right| \\
 \leq & \left[\frac{1}{\alpha+1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha+1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{5^{\alpha+1}+1}{6^{\alpha+1}} \right) + \left(\frac{5^\alpha-1}{12 \cdot 6^\alpha} \right) \right] (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.1}$$

for $\alpha > 0$.

Proof Define

$$h_4(x) = \begin{cases} (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha-1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[a, \frac{a+b}{2} \right) \\ (b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha-1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha, & x \in \left[\frac{a+b}{2}, b \right] \end{cases} .$$

Using integration by parts, we have the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_4(x) f'(x) dx \tag{5.2} \\
 &= \frac{\alpha}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b [(x-a)^{\alpha-1} + (b-x)^{\alpha-1}] f(x) dx \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{6^\alpha - 5^\alpha + 1}{6^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{6^\alpha - 5^\alpha + 1}{6^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} [J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) + J_{b^-}^\alpha f(a)] \\
 &\quad - \left[\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{6^\alpha - 5^\alpha + 1}{6^\alpha} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \tag{5.3} \\
 &+ \int_{\frac{a+5b}{6}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &= \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &+ \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 &= |f'(a)| \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := Q_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \tag{5.4} \\
 &+ \int_{\frac{a+5b}{6}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &= \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &+ \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 &= |f'(b)| \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := Q_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+5b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(a)| dx \\
 = & |f'(a)| \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := Q_3.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+5b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{x-a}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 & + \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] \frac{b-x}{b-a} |f'(b)| dx \\
 = & |f'(b)| \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx := Q_4.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.6}$$

Now, using simple computation and the identities (2.3) and (5.3) – (5.6), we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b h_4(x) f'(x) dx \right| \\
 \leq & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^b |h_4(x)| |f'(x)| dx \\
 = & \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+b}{2}}^{\frac{a+5b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{a+5b}{6}}^b \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] |f'(x)| dx
 \end{aligned} \tag{5.7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \frac{Q_1 + Q_2 + Q_3 + Q_4}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \\
 &= \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_a^{\frac{5a+b}{6}} \left[(b-x)^\alpha - (x-a)^\alpha - \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx \\
 &\quad + \frac{|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|}{2(b-a)^\alpha} \int_{\frac{5a+b}{6}}^{\frac{a+b}{2}} \left[(x-a)^\alpha - (b-x)^\alpha + \frac{5^\alpha - 1}{6^\alpha} (b-a)^\alpha \right] dx \\
 &= \left[\frac{1}{\alpha + 1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha + 1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{5^{\alpha+1} + 1}{6^{\alpha+1}} \right) + \left(\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{12 \cdot 6^\alpha} \right) \right] (b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|).
 \end{aligned}$$

The inequality (5.1) follows from the identity (5.2) and the inequality (5.7).

This completes the proof. □

Remark 5.2 In Theorem 5.1, let $\alpha = 1$. Then the inequality (5.1) reduces to the inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left| \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt - \frac{1}{6} \left[f(a) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(b) \right] \right| \\
 &\leq \frac{5(b-a) (|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|)}{72}
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the Simpson-type inequality provided $|f'|$ is convex on $[a, b]$.

6. Applications for the beta function

Throughout this section, let $\alpha > 0$, $\rho \geq 3$, $a = 0$, $b = 1$, $\Gamma(\alpha)$ be the gamma function, and $f(x) = x^{\rho-1}$ ($x \in [0, 1]$). Then $|f'|$ is convex on $[0, 1]$.

Let us recall the beta function

$$B(p, q) = \int_0^1 x^{p-1} (1-x)^{q-1} dx \quad (p, q > 0).$$

Remark 6.1 In Sections 2–5, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} J_{a^+}^\alpha f(b) \\
 &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^1 (1-x)^{\alpha-1} x^{\rho-1} dx = \frac{\alpha}{2} B(\rho, \alpha)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{2(b-a)^\alpha} J_b^\alpha f(a) \\
 &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^1 x^{\alpha+\rho-2} dx = \frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha + \rho - 1)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Using Theorems 2.1–5.1 and Remark 6.1, we have the following propositions:

Proposition 1 *In Theorem 2.1, the following inequality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\alpha}{2} B(\rho, \alpha) + \frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha + \rho - 1)} - \frac{1}{2^{\rho-1}} \right| \\ & \leq \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{2^\alpha - 1}{2^{\alpha+1}(\alpha + 1)} \right) (\rho - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 2 *In Theorem 3.1, the following inequality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\alpha}{2} B(\rho, \alpha) + \frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha + \rho - 1)} - \frac{3^{\rho-1} + 1}{2 \cdot 4^{\rho-1}} \right| \\ & \leq \left[\frac{3^{\alpha+1} + 1}{4^{\alpha+1}(\alpha + 1)} + \frac{1}{8} - \frac{2^\alpha + 1}{2^{\alpha+1}(\alpha + 1)} \right] (\rho - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 3 *In Theorem 4.1, the following inequality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\alpha}{2} B(\rho, \alpha) + \frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha + \rho - 1)} - \left(\frac{3^\alpha - 1}{2^{\rho-1} 4^\alpha} + \frac{4^\alpha - 3^\alpha + 1}{2 \cdot 4^\alpha} \right) \right| \\ & \leq \frac{\rho - 1}{\alpha + 1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha + 1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{3^{\alpha+1} + 1}{4^{\alpha+1}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 4 *In Theorem 5.1, the following inequality holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\alpha}{2} B(\rho, \alpha) + \frac{\alpha}{2(\alpha + \rho - 1)} - \left(\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{2^{\rho-1} 6^\alpha} + \frac{6^\alpha - 5^\alpha + 1}{2 \cdot 6^\alpha} \right) \right| \\ & \leq \frac{\rho - 1}{\alpha + 1} \left(\frac{2^\alpha + 1}{2^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{5^{\alpha+1} + 1}{6^{\alpha+1}} \right) + \left(\frac{5^\alpha - 1}{12 \cdot 6^\alpha} \right). \end{aligned}$$

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