



Characterizations and Applications of Semistrictly Prequasi-invex Functions

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Abstract

A new type of generalized convex functions, termed semistrictly prequasi-invex functions, is further discussed in this paper. A sufficient condition and an important application of semistrictly prequasi-invex functions are obtained.

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1. Introduction

Convexity and generalized convexity play a central role in mathematical economics and optimization theories. Therefore, the research on convexity or generalized convexity becomes one of the most important aspects in mathematical programming. A significant generalization of convex functions termed preinvex functions was introduced by (Weir,1998, p.29). Yang and Li obtained some properties of preinvex function in (Yang,2001, p.256). Yang also discussed the relationships among convexity, semistrictly convexity and strictly convexity in (Yang,1994, p.15). Recently, in (Yang,2001, p.645). Yang established characterizations of prequasi-invex functions and semistrictly prequasi-invex functions. In this paper, the relationship of prequasi-invex and semistrictly prequasi-invex function are further discussed, we obtain a new result that if a prequasi-invex function satisfies intermediate-point weakly semistrict prequasi-invexity then it is also a semistrictly prequasi-invex function. Then an important application of semistrictly prequasi-invex functions is obtained.

We give first the following definitions .

Definition 1.1 (Weir,1998, p.29) A set $K \subseteq R^n$ is said to be invex if there exist a vector function $\eta : R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$, such that

$$\forall x, y \in K, \forall \lambda \in [0,1] \Rightarrow y + \lambda\eta(x, y) \in K .$$

Definition 1.2 (Yang,2001, p.645). Let $K \subseteq R^n$ be an invex set with respect to $\eta : R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$. Let $f : K \rightarrow R$. We say that f is prequasi-invex on K , if $\forall x, y \in K, \lambda \in [0,1]$,

$$f(y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) \leq \max \{f(x), f(y)\} .$$

Definition 1.3 (Yang,2001, p.645). Let $K \subseteq R^n$ be an invex set with respect to $\eta : R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$. Let $f : K \rightarrow R$. We say that f is semistrictly prequasi-invex on K , if $\forall \lambda \in (0,1) \forall x, y \in K, f(x) \neq f(y)$,

$$f(y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) < \max \{f(x), f(y)\} .$$

Condition C. Let $\eta : R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$. We say that the function η satisfies Condition C if, for any $x, y \in K$, for any $\lambda \in [0,1]$,

$$\eta(y, y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) = -\lambda\eta(x, y),$$

$$\eta(x, y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) = (1 - \lambda)\eta(x, y).$$

Example 1.1: Let

$$\eta(x, y) = \begin{cases} x - y, (x \geq 0, y \geq 0) \\ x - y, (x < 0, y < 0) \\ -2 - y, (x > 0, y \leq 0) \\ 2 - y, (x \leq 0, y > 0) \end{cases}$$

By Example 2.2 in (Yang,2003, p.607),we know that η satisfies the Condition C. Another example that η satisfies the Condition C may refer Example 2.4 in (Yang,1995, p.901).

2. Main Results

In (Yang,2001, p.256), the authors have discussed the preinvex functions and semistrictly preinvex functions. In this section, we will discuss the properties of semistrictly prequasi-invex functions. At first, we will get a new result as follows.

Theorem 2.1 Let $K \subseteq R^n$ be an invex set with respect to $\eta: R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$ which satisfies Condition C. Let $f: K \rightarrow R$, be a prequasi-invex function for the same η , and if for each pair of $x, y \in K, f(x) \neq f(y)$ there exists an $\alpha \in (0,1)$, such that

$$f(y + \alpha\eta(x, y)) < \max \{f(x), f(y)\} \tag{1}$$

Then f is semistrictly prequasi-invex on K with respect to η .

Proof. By contradiction, we assume that f is not semistrictly prequasi-invex on K . Then there exist $x, y \in K, f(x) \neq f(y), \lambda \in (0,1)$ such that

$$f(y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) \geq \max \{f(x), f(y)\}. \tag{2}$$

Let $z = y + \lambda\eta(x, y)$. Since f is prequasi-invex, we have

$$f(z) = f(y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) \leq \max \{f(x), f(y)\} \tag{3}$$

The above two inequalities imply that

$$f(z) = \max \{f(x), f(y)\} \tag{4}$$

We note that the pair $x, z \in K$ and $y, z \in K$, such that $f(x) \neq f(z), f(z) \neq f(y)$. From inequality (1), there exists an $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in (0,1)$, such that

$$f(z + \beta_1\eta(x, z)) < \max \{f(x), f(z)\} \tag{5}$$

$$f(y + \beta_2\eta(z, y)) < \max \{f(z), f(y)\} \tag{6}$$

Denote

$$\bar{x} = z + \beta_1\eta(x, z), \quad \bar{y} = y + \beta_2\eta(z, y)$$

Then, from(4)-(6), we have

$$f(z) > f(\bar{x}), \quad f(z) > f(\bar{y}) \tag{7}$$

And from condition C,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &= z + \beta_1\eta(x, z) = y + \lambda\eta(x, y) + \beta_1\eta(x, y + \lambda\eta(x, y)) \\ &= y + [\lambda + \beta_1(1 - \lambda)]\eta(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{y} &= y + \beta_2\eta(z, y) = y + \beta_2\eta(y + \lambda\eta(x, y), y) \\ &= y + \beta_2\eta(y + \lambda\eta(x, y), y + \lambda\eta(x, y) - \lambda\eta(x, y)) \\ &= y + \beta_2\eta(y + \lambda\eta(x, y), y + \lambda\eta(x, y) + \eta(y, y + \lambda\eta(x, y))) \\ &= y + \beta_2\lambda\eta(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

Let $u_1 = \lambda + \beta_1(1 - \lambda)$, $u_2 = \beta_2\lambda$, $u = (\lambda - u_2)/(u_1 - u_2)$.

It is easy to verify that $u_1, u_2, u \in (0, 1)$. Again from Condition C,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{y} + u\eta(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) &= y + u_2\eta(x, y) + u\eta(y + u_1\eta(x, y), y + u_2\eta(x, y)) \\ &= y + u_2\eta(x, y) + u\eta(y + u_1\eta(x, y), y + u_1\eta(x, y) + (u_2 - u_1)\eta(x, y)) \\ &= y + u_2\eta(x, y) - u[(u_2 - u_1)/(1 - u_1)]\eta(x, y + u_1\eta(x, y)) \\ &= y + [u_2 - u(u_2 - u_1)]\eta(x, y) = y + \lambda\eta(x, y) = z \end{aligned}$$

Since f is prequasi-convex function on K , this implies

$$f(z) \leq \max\{f(\bar{x}), f(\bar{y})\}$$

Which contradicts (7). This completes the proof.

Remark1. From the Theorem 2.1, we obtain a sufficient condition of semistrictly prequasi-convex functions, and we also see that a uniform $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is not necessary for inequality (1) in Theorem 2.1.

Let the problem of minimum $f(x)$ subject to $x \in K$ be denoted by (P). Now, we can discuss an application of semistrictly prequasi-convex functions to the problem (P).

Theorem 2.2 Let $K \subseteq R^n$ be a nonempty invex set with respect to $\eta: R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$ and $f: K \rightarrow R$ be a semistrictly prequasi-convex function with respect to η . If \bar{x} is a local minimum to the problem (P), then \bar{x} is a global one.

Proof. If \bar{x} is a local minimum to the problem (P), then there exists a neighborhood $U \in R^n$ with $\bar{x} \in U$ and

$$f(\bar{x}) \leq f(x), \forall x \in K \cap U \quad (8)$$

Assume that \bar{x} is not a global one of (P), then there exists $\hat{x} \in K$ with

$$f(\hat{x}) < f(\bar{x}) \quad (9)$$

Since $K \subseteq R^n$ be a nonempty invex set with respect to $\eta: R^n \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$ and $f: K \rightarrow R$ be a semistrictly prequasi-convex function, then $\forall \lambda \in (0, 1)$

$$f(\bar{x} + \lambda\eta(\hat{x}, \bar{x})) < \max\{f(\hat{x}), f(\bar{x})\} = f(\bar{x}) \quad (10)$$

i.e., for any $\forall \lambda \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$f(\bar{x} + \lambda\eta(\hat{x}, \bar{x})) < f(\bar{x})$$

$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\bar{x} + \lambda\eta(\hat{x}, \bar{x})) = \bar{x}$, so there exists a δ and $0 < \delta < 1$ and for all $\lambda \in (0, \delta)$ with $\bar{x} + \lambda\eta(\hat{x}, \bar{x}) \in K \cap U$. Then (10) is contrary to (8). This completes the proof.

Remark 2. From Theorem 2.2, we can conclude that the class of semistrictly prequasi-convex functions constitutes an important class of generalized convex functions in mathematical programming.

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