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# Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for $n$ -times differentiable and preinvex functions

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## Abstract

In the paper, by creating an integral identity involving an  $n$ -times differentiable function, the authors establish some new Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for preinvex functions and generalize some known results.

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## 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper, let  $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$  and  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the set of all positive integers.

Let us recall some definitions of various convex functions.

**Definition 1** A function  $f : I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be convex if

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y) \quad (1)$$

holds for all  $x, y \in I$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . If the inequality (1) reverses, then  $f$  is said to be concave on  $I$ .

**Definition 2** [1] A set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be invex with respect to the map  $\eta : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , if  $y + t\eta(x, y) \in S$  for every  $x, y \in S$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

It is obvious that every convex set is invex with respect to the map  $\eta(x, y) = x - y$ , but there exist invex sets which are not convex. See [1], for example.

**Definition 3** [1] Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be an invex set with respect to  $\eta : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . For every  $x, y \in S$ , the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{xy}$  joining the points  $x$  and  $y = x + \eta(y, x)$  is defined by

$$P_{xy} = \{z | z = x + t\eta(y, x), t \in [0, 1]\}. \quad (2)$$

**Definition 4** [1] Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be an invex set with respect to  $\eta : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . A function  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be preinvex with respect to  $\eta$ , if  $f(y + t\eta(x, y)) \leq tf(x) + (1 - t)f(y)$  for every  $x, y \in S$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

Every convex function is preinvex with respect to the map  $\eta(x, y) = x - y$ , but not conversely. For properties and applications of preinvex functions, please refer to [1–3] and closely related references therein.

The most important inequality in the theory of convex functions, the well-known Hermite-Hadamard's integral inequality, may be stated as follows. If  $f$  is a convex function on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2}. \quad (3)$$

If  $f$  is concave on  $[a, b]$ , then the inequality (3) is reversed.

The inequality (3) has been generalized by many mathematicians. Some of them may be recited as follows.

**Theorem 1** [4, Theorem 2.2] *Let  $f : I^\circ \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a differentiable mapping on  $I^\circ$  and  $a, b \in I^\circ$  with  $a < b$ . If  $|f'(x)|$  is convex on  $[a, b]$ , then*

$$\left| \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)[|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|]}{8}. \quad (4)$$

**Theorem 2** [5, Theorem 1] *If  $f$  is differentiable on  $[a, b]$  such that  $|f'(x)|^q$  is a convex function on  $[a, b]$  for  $q \geq 1$ , then*

$$\left| \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{4} \left[ \frac{|f'(a)|^q + |f'(b)|^q}{2} \right]^{1/q}. \quad (5)$$

**Theorem 3** [6, Theorem 2.3] *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable on  $I^\circ$ ,  $a, b \in I^\circ$  with  $a < b$ , and  $p > 1$ . If  $|f'(x)|^{p/(p-1)}$  is convex on  $[a, b]$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \\ & \leq \frac{b-a}{16} \left( \frac{4}{p+1} \right)^{1/p} \{ [|f'(a)|^{p/(p-1)} + 3|f'(b)|^{p/(p-1)}]^{1-1/p} \\ & \quad + [3|f'(a)|^{p/(p-1)} + |f'(b)|^{p/(p-1)}]^{1-1/p} \}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

**Theorem 4** [2, Theorem 2.1] *Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a differentiable function. If  $|f'(x)|$  is preinvex on  $A$ , then for every  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$*

$$\left| \frac{f(b)+f(b+\eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|}{8} [|f'(a)| + |f'(b)|]. \quad (7)$$

**Theorem 5** [2, Theorem 4.1] *Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a twice differentiable function on  $A$ . If  $|f''(x)|$  is preinvex on  $A$  and  $f''$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ , then*

$$\left| \frac{f(b)+f(b+\eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^2}{24} [|f''(a)| + |f''(b)|]. \quad (8)$$

**Theorem 6** [2, Theorem 4.3] *Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a twice differentiable function on  $A$*

and  $|f''(x)|$  is preinvex on  $A$ . If  $q > 1$  and  $f''$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ , then

$$\left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^2}{12} \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/q} [|f''(a)|^q + |f''(b)|^q]^{1/q}. \quad (9)$$

Recently, some related inequalities for preinvex functions were also obtained in [7, 8]. Some integral inequalities of Hermite-Hadamard type for other kinds of convex functions were also established in [9–16] and references cited therein.

In this paper, by creating an integral identity involving an  $n$ -times differentiable function, the authors will establish some new Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for preinvex functions and generalize some of the above mentioned results.

## 2 A lemma

In order to obtain our main results, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 1** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . If  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -times differentiable function on  $A$  and  $f^{(n)}$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \\ & + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \\ & = \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^n}{4(n!)} \int_0^1 [(1-t)^{n-1}(2t+n-2) + (-t)^{n-1}(2t-n)] f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where the above summation is zero for  $n = 1$ .

*Proof* Since  $a, b \in A$  and  $A$  is an invex set with respect to  $\eta$ , for every  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have  $b + t\eta(a, b) \in A$ . When  $n = 1$ , integrating by parts in the right-hand side of (1) gives

$$\frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx = \frac{\eta(a, b)}{2} \int_0^1 (2t-1) f'(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt.$$

Hence, the identity (1) holds for  $n = 1$ .

When  $n = m - 1$  and  $m \geq 2$ , suppose that the identity (1) is valid.

When  $n = m$ , by the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^m}{4(m!)} \int_0^1 [(1-t)^{m-1}(2t+m-2) + (-t)^{m-1}(2t-m)] f^{(m)}(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt \\ & = \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^{m-1}}{4(m!)} \left\{ (-1)^{m-1}(2-m) f^{(m-1)}(b + \eta(a, b)) - (m-2) f^{(m-1)}(b) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - m \int_0^1 [(1-t)^{m-2}(3-2t-m) + (-t)^{m-2}(m-1-2t)] f^{(m-1)}(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^{m-1}(2-m)}{4(m!)} [f^{(m-1)}(b) + (-1)^{m-1} f^{(m-1)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \\
&\quad + \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^{m-1}}{4[(m-1)!]} \int_0^1 [(1-t)^{m-2}(2t+m-3) \\
&\quad + (-t)^{m-2}(2t-m+1)] f^{(m-1)}(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt \\
&= \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \\
&\quad + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k(1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))].
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, when  $n = m$ , the identity (1) holds. By induction, the proof of Lemma 1 is complete.  $\square$

**Remark 1** When  $n = 1$  and  $n = 2$  in (1), respectively, we obtain the identities

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \\
&= \frac{\eta(a, b)}{2} \int_0^1 (2t-1) f'(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \\
&= \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^2}{2} \int_0^1 t(1-t) f''(b + t\eta(a, b)) dt,
\end{aligned}$$

which may be found in [2].

### 3 Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for preinvex functions

Now we start out to establish some new Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for  $n$ -times differentiable and preinvex functions.

**Theorem 7** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq 2$ , let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -times differentiable function on  $A$  and  $f^{(n)}$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ . If  $|f^{(n)}|^q$  is preinvex on  $A$  for  $q \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b+\eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k(1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\
&\leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n (n-1)^{1-1/q}}{4[(n+1)!] (n+2)^{1/q}} \{ [n |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (n^2 - 2) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \\
&\quad + [(n^2 - 2) |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + n |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \}.
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

*Proof* Since  $a, b \in A$  and  $A$  is an invex set with respect to  $\eta$ , for every  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have  $b + t\eta(a, b) \in A$ . Using Lemma 1 and Hölder's inequality yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t + n - 2) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n - 2t) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right] \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left\{ \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t + n - 2) dt \right]^{1-1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t + n - 2) (|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + \left[ \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n - 2t) dt \right]^{1-1/q} \left[ \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n - 2t) (t |f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \Big\} \\ & = \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n (n-1)^{1-1/q}}{4[(n+1)!(n+2)^{1/q}} \{ [n |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (n^2 - 2) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + [(n^2 - 2) |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + n |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \}. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 7 is thus proved.  $\square$

**Corollary 1** Under the assumptions of Theorem 7,

1. if  $q = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{(n-1) |\eta(a, b)|^n}{4[(n+1)!]} [|f^{(n)}(a)| + |f^{(n)}(b)|]; \end{aligned}$$

2. if  $q = 1$  and  $n = 2$ , then the inequality (8) is valid.

**Theorem 8** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq 2$ , let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -times differentiable function on  $A$  and  $f^{(n)}$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ . If

$|f^{(n)}|^q$  is preinvex on  $A$  for  $q > 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{(k+1)!} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{16(n!)[(q+1)(q+2)]^{1/q}} \left[ \frac{4(q-1)}{nq-1} \right]^{1-1/q} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ [(n-2)^{q+2} - (n-2q-4)n^{q+1}] |f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad + [n^{q+2} - (n+2q+2)(n-2)^{q+1}] |f^{(n)}(b)|^q \Big]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + \left[ (n^{q+2} - (n+2q+2)(n-2)^{q+1}) |f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad \left. + ((n-2)^{q+2} - (n-2q-4)n^{q+1}) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q \right]^{1/q} \Big\}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

*Proof* For every  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have  $b + t\eta(a, b) \in A$ . By Lemma 1 and Hölder's inequality, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t+n-2) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n-2t) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right] \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left\{ \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{q(n-1)/(q-1)} dt \right]^{1-1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_0^1 (2t+n-2)^q (t |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \\ & \quad \left. + \left[ \int_0^1 t^{q(n-1)/(q-1)} dt \right]^{1-1/q} \left[ \int_0^1 (n-2t)^q (t |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \right\} \\ & = \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{16(n!)[(q+1)(q+2)]^{1/q}} \left[ \frac{4(q-1)}{nq-1} \right]^{1-1/q} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ [(n-2)^{q+2} - (n-2q-4)n^{q+1}] |f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad + [n^{q+2} - (n+2q+2)(n-2)^{q+1}] |f^{(n)}(b)|^q \Big]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + \left[ (n^{q+2} - (n+2q+2)(n-2)^{q+1}) |f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad \left. + ((n-2)^{q+2} - (n-2q-4)n^{q+1}) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q \right]^{1/q} \Big\}. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 8 is thus proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 9** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq 2$ , let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -times differentiable function on  $A$  and  $f^{(n)}$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ . If  $|f^{(n)}|^q$  is preinvex on  $A$  for  $q > 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)[(nq - q + 1)(nq - q + 2)]^{1/q}} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \frac{(q-1)[n^{(2q-1)/(q-1)} - (n-2)^{(2q-1)/(q-1)}]}{2(2q-1)} \right\}^{1-1/q} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ [|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (nq - q + 1)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + [(nq - q + 1)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

*Proof* Since  $a, b \in A$  and  $A$  is an invex set with respect to  $\eta$ , for every  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have  $b + t\eta(a, b) \in A$ . Utilizing Lemma 1 and Hölder's inequality results in

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t + n - 2) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n - 2t) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right] \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left\{ \left[ \int_0^1 (2t + n - 2)^{q/(q-1)} dt \right]^{1-1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{q(n-1)} (t |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \\ & \quad \left. + \left[ \int_0^1 (n - 2t)^{q/(q-1)} dt \right]^{1-1/q} \left[ \int_0^1 t^{q(n-1)} (t |f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t) |f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \right\} \\ & = \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)[(nq - q + 1)(nq - q + 2)]^{1/q}} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \frac{(q-1)[n^{(2q-1)/(q-1)} - (n-2)^{(2q-1)/(q-1)}]}{2(2q-1)} \right\}^{1-1/q} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ [|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (nq - q + 1)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + [(nq - q + 1)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + |f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

The proof of Theorem 9 is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 10** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq 2$ , let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an open invex set with respect to  $\eta : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in A$  with  $\eta(a, b) \neq 0$  for all  $a \neq b$ . Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -times differentiable function on  $A$  and  $f^{(n)}$  is integrable on the  $\eta$ -path  $P_{bc}$  for  $c = b + \eta(a, b)$ . If  $|f^{(n)}|^q$  is preinvex on  $A$  for  $q > 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{(k+1)!} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{24(n!)} \left[ \frac{6(q-1)(nq-2)(n-1)}{(nq-1)(nq+q-2)} \right]^{1-1/q} \\ & \quad \times \{ [(3n-2)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (3n-4)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + [(3n-4)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (3n-2)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

*Proof* Since  $a, b \in A$  and  $A$  is an invex set with respect to  $\eta$ , for every  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have  $b + t\eta(a, b) \in A$ . Employing Lemma 1 and Hölder's inequality leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(b) + f(b + \eta(a, b))}{2} - \frac{1}{\eta(a, b)} \int_b^{b + \eta(a, b)} f(x) dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{[\eta(a, b)]^k (1-k)}{4[(k+1)!]} [f^{(k)}(b) + (-1)^k f^{(k)}(b + \eta(a, b))] \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{n-1} (2t+n-2) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^1 t^{n-1} (n-2t) |f^{(n)}(b + t\eta(a, b))| dt \right] \\ & \leq \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{4(n!)} \left\{ \left[ \int_0^1 (1-t)^{q(n-1)/(q-1)} (2t+n-2) dt \right]^{1-1/q} \right. \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_0^1 (2t+n-2) (t|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (1-t)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \\ & \quad + \left[ \int_0^1 t^{q(n-1)/(q-1)} (n-2t) dt \right]^{1-1/q} \left[ \int_0^1 (n-2t) (t|f^{(n)}(a)|^q \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (1-t)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q) dt \right]^{1/q} \Big\} \\ & = \frac{|\eta(a, b)|^n}{24(n!)} \left[ \frac{6(q-1)(nq-2)(n-1)}{(nq-1)(nq+q-2)} \right]^{1-1/q} \{ [(3n-2)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q \\ & \quad + (3n-4)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} + [(3n-4)|f^{(n)}(a)|^q + (3n-2)|f^{(n)}(b)|^q]^{1/q} \}. \end{aligned}$$

The proof of Theorem 10 is complete.  $\square$

#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.



# Authors' contributions

All authors contributed equally to the manuscript and read and approved the final manuscript.

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