

离散 Opial 型极值问题

汤继尧

(湖南省雅礼中学, 410007)

在新星征解第 19 期问题中, 笔者提出了如下离散 Opial 型极值问题:

题 1. 给定正整数 $n \geq 4$, 设实数 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1]$. 求 $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i |x_i - x_{i+1}|$ 的最大值, 其中 $x_{n+1} = x_1$.

后来, 冷岗松教授建议笔者进一步研究二阶差分及二次情况的变式, 于是就有了下面两个结果.

题 2. 设 $n \geq 3$ 是给定正整数, $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1]$. 求

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i |x_i - 2x_{i+1} + x_{i+2}|$$

的最大值, 其中 $x_{n+1} = x_1, x_{n+2} = x_2$.

解 由 S 的对称性, 不妨设 $\Delta^2 x_n = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{\Delta^2 x_i \mid \Delta^2 x_i = x_i - 2x_{i+1} + x_{i+2}\}$.

定义数列 i_j 与 a_j 如下:

$$a_1 = 0, \quad i_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{若 } \Delta^2 x_{a_j+1} \leq 0 \\ 2, & \text{若 } \Delta^2 x_{a_j+1} > 0 \end{cases}, \quad a_{j+1} = a_j + i_j.$$

注意到 $\Delta^2 x_n = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{\Delta^2 x_i\}$, 故存在正整数 k , 使得 $a_{k+1} = n + 1$.

对 $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$, 若 $\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1} \leq 0$, 则

$$\begin{aligned} x_{a_j+1} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1}| &\leq \left(\frac{x_{a_j+1} - \Delta^2 x_{a_j+1}}{2} \right)^2 \\ &= \left(x_{a_j+2} - \frac{x_{a_j+3}}{2} \right)^2 \leq 1 = i_j. \end{aligned}$$

若 $\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1} > 0$, 则

$$\begin{aligned} x_{a_j+1} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1}| + x_{a_j+2} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+2}| &\leq \Delta^2 x_{a_j+1} + 2x_{a_j+2} \\ &= x_{a_j+1} + x_{a_j+3} \leq 2 = i_j. \end{aligned}$$

收稿日期: 2017-07-28; 修订日期: 2017-09-30.

从而,

$$S = \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \leq \sum_{j=1}^k i_j = n,$$

其中,

$$b_j = \begin{cases} x_{a_j+1} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1}|, & \text{若 } i_j = 1; \\ x_{a_j+1} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+1}| + x_{a_j+2} |\Delta^2 x_{a_j+2}|, & \text{若 } i_j = 2. \end{cases}$$

当 n 为奇数时, 取 $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (1, 1, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 1, 0)$ 时等号成立;

当 n 为偶数时, 取 $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (1, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 1, 0)$ 时等号成立.

综上, S 的最大值为 n . □

题 3. 设 $n \geq 4$ 是偶数, $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1]$. 求 $S = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i |x_i^2 - x_{i+1}^2|$ 的最大值, 其中 $x_{n+1} = x_1$.

解 由 S 的对称性, 不妨设 $x_n = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{x_i\}$.

定义数列 i_j 与 a_j 如下:

$$a_1 = 0, \quad i_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{若 } x_{a_j+1} \leq x_{a_j+2} \\ 2 & \text{若 } x_{a_j+1} > x_{a_j+2} \end{cases}, \quad a_{j+1} = a_j + i_j.$$

注意到 $x_n = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{x_i\}$, 故存在正整数 k , 使得 $a_{k+1} = n + 1$.

对 $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$, 若 $x_{a_j+1} \leq x_{a_j+2}$, 则 $i_j = 1$, 从而

$$\begin{aligned} x_{a_j+1} |x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2| &\leq x_{a_j+1} (1 - x_{a_j+1}^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x_{a_j+1} (1 + x_{a_j+1}) (2 - 2x_{a_j+1}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_{a_j+1} + 1 + x_{a_j+1} + 2 - 2x_{a_j+1}}{3} \right)^3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} < \frac{16}{27} i_j. \end{aligned}$$

若 $x_{a_j+1} > x_{a_j+2}$, 则 $i_j = 2$, 从而,

$$\begin{aligned} &x_{a_j+1} |x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2| + x_{a_j+2} |x_{a_j+2}^2 - x_{a_j+3}^2| \\ &\leq x_{a_j+1} (x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2) + \max\{x_{a_j+2}^3, x_{a_j+2} (1 - x_{a_j+2}^2)\}. \end{aligned}$$

又由于

$$x_{a_j+1} (x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2) + x_{a_j+2}^3 \leq 1 - x_{a_j+2}^2 + x_{a_j+2}^3 \leq 1 < \frac{16}{27} i_j,$$

$$\begin{aligned} &x_{a_j+1} (x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2) + x_{a_j+2} (1 - x_{a_j+2}^2) \\ &\leq 1 - x_{a_j+2}^2 + x_{a_j+2} (1 - x_{a_j+2}^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (1 + x_{a_j+2})^2(1 - x_{a_j+2}) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(1 + x_{a_j+2})^2(2 - 2x_{a_j+2}) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{(1 + x_{a_j+2}) \cdot 2 + 2 - 2x_{a_j+2}}{3} \right)^3 \\
&= \frac{32}{27} = \frac{16}{27}i_j.
\end{aligned}$$

故

$$S = \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \leq \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{16}{27}i_j = \frac{16}{27}n,$$

其中,

$$b_j = \begin{cases} x_{a_j+1}|x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2|, & \text{若 } i_j = 1; \\ x_{a_j+1}|x_{a_j+1}^2 - x_{a_j+2}^2| + x_{a_j+2}|x_{a_j+2}^2 - x_{a_j+3}^2|, & \text{若 } i_j = 2. \end{cases}$$

当 $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (1, \frac{1}{3}, 1, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, 1, \frac{1}{3})$ 时取到等号. □