# Sharp Inequalities Involving Neuman Means of the Second Kind with Applications

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**Abstract** In this paper, we give the explicit formulas for Neuman means of the second kind  $N_{GQ}(a, b)$  and  $N_{QG}(a, b)$ , and find the best possible parameters  $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in (0, 1) (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 6)$  such that the double inequalities

$$\begin{split} \alpha_1 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_1) G(a,b) &< N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_1 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_1) G(a,b), \\ \frac{\alpha_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\alpha_2}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{QG}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\beta_2}{Q(a,b)}, \\ \alpha_3 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_3) G(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_3 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_3) G(a,b), \\ \frac{\alpha_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\alpha_4}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{GQ}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\beta_4}{Q(a,b)}, \\ \alpha_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_5) V(a,b) < N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_5) V(a,b), \\ \alpha_6 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_6) U(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_6 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_6) U(a,b), \end{split}$$

holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$ , where G(a, b) and Q(a, b) are the classical geometric and quadratic means, V(a, b), U(a, b),  $N_{QG}(a, b)$  and  $N_{GQ}(a, b)$  are Yang and Neuman mean of the second kind.

**Keywords:** geometric mean, quadratic mean, Neuman means of the second kind, Yang means, inequalities.

### 1 Introduction

For a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$ , the Schwab-Borchardt mean SB(a, b)[1, 2] is defined by

$$SB(a,b) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - a^2}}{\cos^{-1}(a/b)}, & \text{if } a < b ,\\ \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{\cosh^{-1}(a/b)}, & \text{if } a > b . \end{cases}$$

where  $\cos^{-1}(x)$  and  $\cosh^{-1}(x) = \log(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1})$  are the inverse cosine and inverse hyperbolic cosine functions, respectively.

It is well-known that SB(a, b) is strictly increasing in both a and b, nonsymmetric and homogeneous of degree 1 with respect to a and b. Many symmetric bivariate means are special cases of the Schwab-Borchardt mean, for example, the first and second Seiffert means, Neuman-Sándor mean, logarithmic mean and two Yang means [3] are respectively defined by

$$P = P(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{2\sin^{-1}\left[(a-b)/(a+b)\right]} = SB(G,A) ,$$
  
$$T = T(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{2\tan^{-1}\left[(a-b)/(a+b)\right]} = SB(A,Q) ,$$

$$M = M(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{2\sinh^{-1}\left[(a-b)/(a+b)\right]} = SB(Q,A) ,$$
  

$$L = L(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{2\tanh^{-1}\left[(a-b)/(a+b)\right]} = SB(A,G) ,$$
  

$$U = U(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{\sqrt{2}\tan^{-1}\left[(a-b)/\sqrt{2ab}\right]} = SB(G,Q) ,$$
(1)

and

$$V = V(a,b) = \frac{a-b}{\sqrt{2}\sinh^{-1}\left[(a-b)/\sqrt{2ab}\right]} = SB(Q,G) .$$
 (2)

where  $G = G(a,b) = \sqrt{ab}$ , A = A(a,b) = (a+b)/2 and  $Q = Q(a,b) = \sqrt{(a^2+b^2)/2}$  are the classical geometric, arithmetic and quadratic means of a and b.

Let X = X(a, b) and Y = Y(a, b) be the symmetric bivariate means of a and b. Then Neuman mean of the second kind  $N_{XY}(a, b)[4]$  is defined by

$$N_{XY}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ X + \frac{Y^2}{SB(X,Y)} \right].$$
 (3)

Moreover, without loss of generality, let a > b,  $v = (a - b)/(a + b) \in (0, 1)$ , then Neuman [4] gave explicit formulas

$$N_{AG}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}A\Big[1 + (1-v^2)\frac{tanh^{-1}(v)}{v}\Big], N_{GA}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}A\Big[\sqrt{1-v^2} + \frac{sin^{-1}(v)}{v}\Big]$$
$$N_{AQ}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}A\Big[1 + (1+v^2)\frac{tan^{-1}(v)}{v}\Big], N_{QA}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}A\Big[\sqrt{1+v^2} + \frac{sinh^{-1}(v)}{v}\Big]$$

and inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} G(a,b) < L(a,b) < N_{AG}(a,b) < P(a,b) < N_{GA}(a,b) < A(a,b) \\ < M(a,b) < N_{QA}(a,b) < T(a,b) < N_{AQ}(a,b) < Q(a,b) \;. \end{aligned}$$

for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$ .

In the recent past, the Schwab-Borchardt mean has been the subject of intensive research. In particular, many remarkable inequalities for Schwab-Borchardt mean and its generated means can be found in the literature [4-14].

In [4], Neuman found the best possible constants  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$  and  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$  such that the double inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha_1 A(a,b) + (1-\alpha_1) G(a,b) < N_{GA}(a,b) < \beta_1 A(a,b) + (1-\beta_1) G(a,b) \\ &\alpha_2 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_2) A(a,b) < N_{AQ}(a,b) < \beta_2 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_2) A(a,b) \\ &\alpha_3 A(a,b) + (1-\alpha_3) G(a,b) < N_{AG}(a,b) < \beta_3 A(a,b) + (1-\beta_3) G(a,b) \\ &\alpha_4 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_4) A(a,b) < N_{QA}(a,b) < \beta_4 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_4) A(a,b) \end{aligned}$$

hold for a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 \leq 2/3, \ \beta_1 \geq \pi/4, \ \alpha_2 \leq 2/3, \ \beta_2 \geq (\pi - 2)/[4(\sqrt{2} - 1)] = 0.689 \cdots, \ \alpha_3 \leq 1/3, \ \beta_3 \geq 1/2$  and  $\alpha_4 \leq 1/3, \ \beta_4 \geq [\log(1 + \sqrt{2}) + \sqrt{2} - 2]/[2(\sqrt{2} - 1)] = 0.356 \cdots$ Zhang et al. [11] presented the best possible parameters  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2 \in [0, 1/2]$  and  $\alpha_3, \alpha_4, \beta_3, \beta_4 \in [1, 2]$ 

[1/2, 1] such that the double inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} &G(\alpha_1 a + (1 - \alpha_1)b, \alpha_1 b + (1 - \alpha_1)a) < N_{AG}(a, b) < G(\beta_1 a + (1 - \beta_1)b, \beta_1 b + (1 - \beta_1)a) \\ &G(\alpha_2 a + (1 - \alpha_2)b, \alpha_2 b + (1 - \alpha_2)a) < N_{GA}(a, b) < G(\beta_2 a + (1 - \beta_2)b, \beta_2 b + (1 - \beta_2)a) \\ &Q(\alpha_3 a + (1 - \alpha_3)b, \alpha_3 b + (1 - \alpha_3)a) < N_{QA}(a, b) < Q(\beta_3 a + (1 - \beta_3)b, \beta_3 b + (1 - \beta_3)a) \\ &Q(\alpha_4 a + (1 - \alpha_4)b, \alpha_4 b + (1 - \alpha_4)a) < N_{AQ}(a, b) < Q(\beta_4 a + (1 - \beta_4)b, \beta_4 b + (1 - \beta_4)a) \end{aligned}$$

hold for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$ .

Guo et.al. [12] proved that the double inequalities

$$\begin{split} &A^{p_1}(a,b)G^{1-p_1}(a,b) < N_{GA}(a,b) < A^{q_1}(a,b)G^{1-q_1}(a,b) \;, \\ &\frac{p_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-p_2}{A(a,b)} < N_{GA}(a,b) < \frac{q_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-q_2}{A(a,b)} \;, \\ &A^{p_3}(a,b)G^{1-p_3}(a,b) < N_{AG}(a,b) < A^{q_3}(a,b)G^{1-q_3}(a,b) \;, \\ &\frac{p_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-p_4}{A(a,b)} < N_{AG}(a,b) < \frac{q_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-q_4}{A(a,b)} \;, \\ &Q^{p_5}(a,b)A^{1-p_5}(a,b) < N_{AQ}(a,b) < Q^{q_5}(a,b)A^{1-q_5}(a,b) \;, \\ &\frac{p_6}{A(a,b)} + \frac{1-p_6}{Q(a,b)} < N_{AQ}(a,b) < \frac{q_6}{A(a,b)} + \frac{1-q_6}{Q(a,b)} \;, \\ &Q^{p_7}(a,b)A^{1-p_7}(a,b) < N_{QA}(a,b) < Q^{q_7}(a,b)A^{1-q_7}(a,b) \;, \\ &\frac{p_8}{A(a,b)} + \frac{1-p_8}{Q(a,b)} < N_{QA}(a,b) < \frac{q_8}{A(a,b)} + \frac{1-q_8}{Q(a,b)} \;. \end{split}$$

hold for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $p_1 \le 2/3$ ,  $q_1 \ge 1$ ,  $p_2 \le 0$ ,  $q_2 \ge 1/3$ ,  $p_3 \le 1/3$ ,  $q_3 \ge 1$ ,  $p_4 \le 0$ ,  $q_4 \ge 2/3$ ,  $p_5 \le 2/3$ ,  $q_5 \ge 2\log(\pi+2)/\log 2 - 4 = 0.7244 \cdots$ ,  $p_6 \le \left[6+2\sqrt{2}-(1+\sqrt{2})\pi\right]/(\pi+2) = 0.2419 \cdots$ ,  $q_6 \ge 1/3$ ,  $p_7 \le 1/3$ ,  $q_7 \ge 2\log\left[\sqrt{2}+\log(1+\sqrt{2})\right]/\log 2 - 2 = 0.3977 \cdots$  and  $p_8 \le \left[2+\sqrt{2}-(1+\sqrt{2})\log(1+\sqrt{2})\right]/\left[\sqrt{2}+\log(1+\sqrt{2})\right] = 0.5603 \cdots$ ,  $q_8 \ge 2/3$ .

Let a > b > 0,  $u = (a - b)/\sqrt{2ab} \in (0, +\infty)$ . Then from (1)-(3) we gave the explicit formulas

$$N_{QG}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}G(a,b) \left[ \sqrt{1+u^2} + \frac{\sinh^{-1}(u)}{u} \right].$$
 (4)

$$N_{GQ}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2}G(a,b) \left[ 1 + (1+u^2)\frac{\tan^{-1}(u)}{u} \right].$$
(5)

The main purpose of this paper is to find the best possible parameters  $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in (0, 1) (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 6)$  such that the double inequalities

$$\begin{split} \alpha_1 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_1) G(a,b) < N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_1 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_1) G(a,b) , \\ \frac{\alpha_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\alpha_2}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{QG}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\beta_2}{Q(a,b)} , \\ \alpha_3 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_3) G(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_3 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_3) G(a,b) , \\ \frac{\alpha_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\alpha_4}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{GQ}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1-\beta_4}{Q(a,b)} , \\ \alpha_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_5) V(a,b) < N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_5) V(a,b) , \\ \alpha_6 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_6) U(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_6 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_6) U(a,b) . \end{split}$$

hold for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$ .

#### 2 Lemma

In order to prove our main results we need several lemmas, which we present in this section.

**Lemma 2.1** (see[15]) For  $-\infty < a < b < +\infty$ , let  $f, g : [a, b] \to R$  be continuous on [a, b], and be differentiable on (a, b), let  $g'(x) \neq 0$  on (a, b). If f'(x)/g'(x) is increasing (decreasing) on (a, b), then so are

$$\frac{f(x) - f(a)}{g(x) - g(a)}, \quad \frac{f(x) - f(b)}{g(x) - g(b)}$$

If f'(x)/g'(x) is strictly monotone, then the monotonicity in the conclusion is also strict.

**Lemma 2.2** (see [16]). Suppose that the power series  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  and  $g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n$  have the radius of convergence r > 0 with  $a_n, b_n > 0$  for all  $n = 0, 1, 2, \cdots$ . Let h(x) = f(x)/g(x), if the sequence series  $\{a_n/b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is (strictly) increasing (decreasing), then h(x) is also (strictly) increasing (decreasing) on (0, r).

Lemma 2.3 (1) (See [17], Lemma 2.4) The function

$$\varphi_1(x) = \frac{2x + \sinh(2x) - 4\sinh(x)}{\sinh(2x) - 2\sinh(x)}$$

is strictly increasing from  $(0, +\infty)$  onto(2/3, 1).

(2)(See [17], Lemma 2.6) The function

$$\varphi_2(x) = \frac{\sinh(x)\cosh(x) - x}{\left[\cosh(x) - 1\right] \left[x + \sinh(x)\cosh(x)\right]}$$

is strictly decreasing from  $(0, +\infty)$  onto (0, 2/3).

(3)(See [17], Lemma 2.5) The function

$$\varphi_3(x) = \frac{2x - \sin(2x)}{\sin(x) \left[1 - \cos(x)\right]}$$

is strictly increasing from  $(0, \pi/2)$  onto $(8/3, \pi)$ .

(4)(See [17], Lemma 2.8) The function

$$\varphi_4(x) = \frac{\sin(x)\cos(x) - x}{\left[1 - \cos(x)\right] \left[x + \sin(x)\cos(x)\right]}$$

is strictly decreasing from  $(0, \pi/2)$  onto(-1, -2/3).

Lemma 2.4 The function

$$\varphi_5(x) = \frac{x\sinh(2x) - 2x^2}{x\sinh(2x) - \cosh(2x) + 1}$$

is strictly decreasing from  $(0, +\infty)$  onto(1, 2).

**Proof.** Let  $f_1(x) = x \sinh(2x) - 2x^2$ ,  $g_1(x) = x \sinh(2x) - \cosh(2x) + 1$ . Then simple computations lead to  $f_1(x) = f_1(x) - f_2(0^+)$ 

$$\varphi_{5}(x) = \frac{f_{1}(x)}{g_{1}(x)} = \frac{f_{1}(x) - f_{1}(0^{+})}{g_{1}(x) - g_{1}(0^{+})}.$$
(6)  

$$\frac{f_{1}'(x)}{g_{1}'(x)} = \frac{\sinh(2x) + 2x\cosh(2x) - 4x}{2x\cosh(2x) - \sinh(2x)}$$

$$= \frac{2x\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{2n}}{(2n)!} x^{2n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1} - 4x}{2x\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{2n}}{(2n)!} x^{2n} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}}$$
(7)  

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1) \times 2^{2n+2}}{2^{2n+2}} x^{2n+1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+2) \times 2^{2n+4}}{2^{2n+4}} x^{2n}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1) \times 2^{2n+2}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}}{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \times 2^{2n+2}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}} = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+2) \times 2^{2n+4}}{(2n+3)!} x^{2n}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1) \times 2^{2n+4}}{(2n+3)!} x^{2n}}.$$

Let

$$a_n = \frac{(n+2) \times 2^{2n+4}}{(2n+3)!} > 0, b_n = \frac{(n+1) \times 2^{2n+4}}{(2n+3)!} > 0.$$
(8)

and

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{b_{n+1}} - \frac{a_n}{b_n} = -\frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)} < 0.$$
(9)

for all  $n \ge 0$ .

It follows from Lemma 2.2 and (7)-(9) that  $f'_1(x)/g'_1(x)$  is strictly decreasing on  $(0, +\infty)$ . Note that

$$\varphi_5(0^+) = \frac{a_0}{b_0} = 2, \varphi_5(+\infty) = 1.$$
 (10)

Therefore, Lemma 2.4 follows easily from Lemma 2.1 and (6), (10) together with the monotonicity of  $f'_1(x)/g'_1(x)$ .

Lemma 2.5 The function

$$\varphi_6(x) = \frac{x^2 + x\sin(x)\cos(x) - 2\sin^2(x)}{\sin(x)[x - \sin(x)]}$$

is strictly increasing from  $(0, \pi/2)$  onto  $(0, (\pi^2 - 8)/[2(\pi - 2)])$ .

**Proof.** The function  $\varphi_6(x)$  can be rewritten as

$$\varphi_6(x) = \frac{x}{\sin(x)} + \frac{x + x\cos(x) - 2\sin(x)}{x - \sin(x)} = \varphi_7(x) + \varphi_8(x) . \tag{11}$$

where  $\varphi_7(x) = x / \sin(x)$  and  $\varphi_8(x) = [x + x \cos(x) - 2\sin(x)] / [x - \sin(x)].$ 

Let  $f_2(x) = x + x \cos(x) - 2\sin(x)$ ,  $g_2(x) = x - \sin(x)$ ,  $f_3(x) = 1 - \cos(x) - x \sin(x)$  and  $g_3(x) = 1 - \cos(x)$ . Then simple computations lead to

$$\varphi_8(x) = \frac{f_2(x)}{g_2(x)} = \frac{f_2(x) - f_2(0^+)}{g_2(x) - g_2(0^+)} \,. \tag{12}$$

$$\frac{f_2'(x)}{g_2'(x)} = \frac{f_3(x)}{g_3(x)} = \frac{f_3(x) - f_3(0^+)}{g_3(x) - g_3(0^+)} .$$
(13)

and

$$\frac{f_3'(x)}{g_3'(x)} = -\frac{x}{\tan(x)} .$$
(14)

Since the function  $x \to x/\tan(x)$  is strictly decreasing on  $(0, \pi/2)$ , hence Lemma 2.1 and (12)-(14) lead to that  $\varphi_8(x)$  is strictly increasing on  $(0, \pi/2)$ . From (11) and the fact that the function  $\varphi_7(x) = x/\sin(x)$ is strictly increasing on  $(0, \pi/2)$  together with the monotonicity of  $\varphi_8(x)$  we can reach the conclusion that  $\varphi_6(x)$  is strictly increasing on  $(0, \pi/2)$ .

Note that

$$\varphi_6(0^+) = 0, \varphi_6(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{\pi^2 - 8}{2(\pi - 2)}.$$
 (15)

Therefore, Lemma 2.5 follows easily from (15) and the monotonicity of  $\varphi_6(x)$ .

## 3 Main Results

Theorem 3.1 The double inequalities

$$\alpha_1 Q(a,b) + (1 - \alpha_1) G(a,b) < N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_1 Q(a,b) + (1 - \beta_1) G(a,b) .$$
(16)

$$\frac{\alpha_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1 - \alpha_2}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{QG}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_2}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1 - \beta_2}{Q(a,b)} .$$
(17)

hold for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 \leq 1/3$ ,  $\beta_1 \geq 1/2$ ,  $\alpha_2 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_2 \geq 2/3$ .

**Proof.** We clearly see that inequalities (16) and (17) can be rewritten as

$$\alpha_1 < \frac{N_{QG}(a,b) - G(a,b)}{Q(a,b) - G(a,b)} < \beta_1 .$$
(18)

and

$$\alpha_2 < \frac{1/N_{QG}(a,b) - 1/Q(a,b)}{1/G(a,b) - 1/Q(a,b)} < \beta_2 .$$
(19)

respectively.

Since both the geometric mean G(a, b) and quadratic mean Q(a, b) are symmetric and homogeneous of degree 1, without loss of generality, we assume that a > b > 0. Let  $u = (a - b)/\sqrt{2ab} \in (0, +\infty)$ . Then from (4) and (18)-(19) together with  $Q(a, b) = G(a, b)\sqrt{1 + u^2}$  we have

$$\alpha_1 < \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1+u^2} + \frac{\sinh^{-1}(u)}{u} \right] - 1}{\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1} < \beta_1 .$$
(20)

and

$$\alpha_2 < \frac{u\sqrt{1+u^2} - \sinh^{-1}(u)}{(\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1)\left[u\sqrt{1+u^2} + \sinh^{-1}(u)\right]} < \beta_2 .$$
(21)

respectively.

Let  $x = \sinh^{-1}(u)$ . Then  $x \in (0, +\infty)$ ,

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + u^2} + \frac{\sinh^{-1}(u)}{u} \right] - 1}{\sqrt{1 + u^2} - 1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{2x + \sinh(2x) - 4\sinh(x)}{\sinh(2x) - 2\sinh(x)} = \frac{1}{2} \varphi_1(x) .$$
(22)

$$\frac{u\sqrt{1+u^2} - \sinh^{-1}(u)}{(\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1)\left[u\sqrt{1+u^2} + \sinh^{-1}(u)\right]} = \frac{\sinh(x)\cosh(x) - x}{[\cosh(x) - 1][x + \sinh(x)\cosh(x)]} = \varphi_2(x) .$$
(23)

where the functions  $\varphi_1(x)$  and  $\varphi_2(x)$  are defined as in Lemma 2.3(1) and (2).

Therefore, inequality (16) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 \leq 1/3$  and  $\beta_1 \geq 1/2$  follows from (20) and (22) together with Lemma 2.3(1), inequality (17) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_2 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_2 \geq 2/3$  follows from (21) and (23) together with Lemma 2.3(2).

Theorem 3.2 The double inequalities

$$\alpha_3 Q(a,b) + (1 - \alpha_3) G(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_3 Q(a,b) + (1 - \beta_3) G(a,b) .$$
(24)

$$\frac{\alpha_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1 - \alpha_4}{Q(a,b)} < \frac{1}{N_{GQ}(a,b)} < \frac{\beta_4}{G(a,b)} + \frac{1 - \beta_4}{Q(a,b)} .$$
(25)

holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_3 \leq 2/3$ ,  $\beta_3 \geq \pi/4$ ,  $\alpha_4 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_4 \geq 1/3$ .

**Proof.**We clearly see that inequalities (24) and (25) can be rewritten as

$$\alpha_3 < \frac{N_{GQ}(a,b) - G(a,b)}{Q(a,b) - G(a,b)} < \beta_3 .$$
(26)

and

$$\alpha_4 < \frac{1/N_{GQ}(a,b) - 1/Q(a,b)}{1/G(a,b) - 1/Q(a,b)} < \beta_4 .$$
(27)

respectively.

Since both the geometric mean G(a, b) and quadratic mean Q(a, b) are symmetric and homogeneous of degree 1, without loss of generality, we assume that a > b > 0. Let  $u = (a - b)/\sqrt{2ab} \in (0, +\infty)$ . Then from (5) and (26)-(27) together with  $Q(a, b) = G(a, b)\sqrt{1 + u^2}$  we have

$$\alpha_3 < \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + (1+u^2) \frac{\tan^{-1}(u)}{u} \right] - 1}{\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1} < \beta_3 .$$
(28)

and

$$\alpha_4 < \frac{2u\sqrt{1+u^2} - [u + (1+u^2)\tan^{-1}(u)]}{(\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1)\left[u + (1+u^2)\tan^{-1}(u)\right]} < \beta_4 .$$
<sup>(29)</sup>

respectively.

Let  $x = \tan^{-1}(u)$ . Then  $x \in (0, \pi/2)$ ,

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}\left[1+(1+u^2)\frac{\tan^{-1}(u)}{u}\right]-1}{\sqrt{1+u^2}-1} = \frac{1}{4}\frac{2x-\sin(2x)}{\sin(x)[1-\cos(x)]} = \frac{1}{4}\varphi_3(x) .$$
(30)

$$\frac{2u\sqrt{1+u^2} - [u + (1+u^2)\tan^{-1}(u)]}{(\sqrt{1+u^2} - 1)\left[u + (1+u^2)\tan^{-1}(u)\right]}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{\sin(x)\cos(x) - x}{[1 - \cos(x)][x + \sin(x)\cos(x)]} = 1 + \varphi_4(x) .$$
(31)

where the functions  $\varphi_3(x)$  and  $\varphi_4(x)$  are defined as in Lemma 2.3(3) and 2.3(4).

Therefore, inequality (24) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_3 \leq 2/3$  and  $\beta_3 \geq \pi/4$  follows from (28) and (30) together with Lemma 2.3(3), inequality (25) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_4 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_4 \geq 1/3$  follows from (29) and (31) together with Lemma 2.3(4).

Theorem 3.3 The double inequalities

$$\alpha_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\alpha_5)V(a,b) < N_{QG}(a,b) < \beta_5 Q(a,b) + (1-\beta_5)V(a,b) .$$
(32)

holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_5 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_5 \geq 1/2$ .

**Proof.** We clearly see that inequalities (32) can be rewritten as

$$\alpha_5 < \frac{N_{QG}(a,b) - V(a,b)}{Q(a,b) - V(a,b)} < \beta_5 .$$
(33)

Since both the geometric mean G(a, b) and quadratic mean Q(a, b) are symmetric and homogeneous of degree 1, without loss of generality, we assume that a > b > 0. Let  $u = (a - b)/\sqrt{2ab} \in (0, +\infty)$ . Then from (4) and (33) together with  $Q(a, b) = G(a, b)\sqrt{1 + u^2}$  we have

$$\alpha_5 < \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1+u^2} + \frac{\sinh^{-1}(u)}{u} \right] - \frac{u}{\sinh^{-1}(u)}}{\sqrt{1+u^2} - \frac{u}{\sinh^{-1}(u)}} < \beta_5 .$$
(34)

Let  $x = \sinh^{-1}(u)$ . Then  $x \in (0, +\infty)$ ,

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}\left[\sqrt{1+u^2} + \frac{\sinh^{-1}(u)}{u}\right] - \frac{u}{\sinh^{-1}(u)}}{\sqrt{1+u^2} - \frac{u}{\sinh^{-1}(u)}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\frac{x\sinh(2x) - 2x^2}{x\sinh(2x) - \cosh(2x) + 1} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\varphi_5(x) .$$
(35)

where the functions  $\varphi_5(x)$  is defined as in Lemma 2.4.

Therefore, inequality (32) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_5 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_5 \geq 1/2$  follows from (34) and (35) together with Lemma 2.4.

Theorem 3.4 The double inequalities

$$\alpha_6 Q(a,b) + (1 - \alpha_6) U(a,b) < N_{GQ}(a,b) < \beta_6 Q(a,b) + (1 - \beta_6) U(a,b) .$$
(36)

holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_6 \leq 0, \beta_6 \geq (\pi^2 - 8)/[4(\pi - 2)] = 0.4094 \cdots$ . **Proof.**We clearly see that inequalities (36) can be rewritten as

$$\alpha_6 < \frac{N_{GQ}(a,b) - U(a,b)}{Q(a,b) - U(a,b)} < \beta_6 .$$
(37)

Since both the geometric mean G(a, b) and quadratic mean Q(a, b) are symmetric and homogeneous of degree 1, without loss of generality, we assume that a > b > 0. Let  $u = (a - b)/\sqrt{2ab} \in (0, +\infty)$ . Then from (5) and (36) together with  $Q(a, b) = G(a, b)\sqrt{1 + u^2}$  we have

$$\alpha_6 < \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + (1+u^2) \frac{\tan^{-1}(u)}{u} \right] - \frac{u}{\tan^{-1}(u)}}{\sqrt{1+u^2} - \frac{u}{\tan^{-1}(u)}} < \beta_6 .$$
(38)

Let  $x = \tan^{-1}(u)$ . Then  $x \in (0, \pi/2)$ ,

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}\left[1+(1+u^2)\frac{\tan^{-1}(u)}{u}\right]-\frac{u}{\tan^{-1}(u)}}{\sqrt{1+u^2}-\frac{u}{\tan^{-1}(u)}} = \frac{1}{2}\varphi_6(x),$$
(39)

where the function  $\varphi_6(x)$  is defined as in Lemma 2.5.

Therefore, inequality (36) holds for all a, b > 0 with  $a \neq b$  if and only if  $\alpha_6 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_6 \geq (\pi^2 - 8)/[4(\pi - 2)] = 0.4094 \cdots$  follows from (37)-(39) together with Lemma 2.5.

## 4 Applications

In this section, we will establish several sharp inequalities involving the hyperbolic, inverse hyperbolic, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions by use of Theorems 3.1-3.4.

From (3) we clearly see that

$$N_{QG}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2} \Big[ Q(a,b) + \frac{G^2(a,b)}{V(a,b)} \Big], \ N_{GQ}(a,b) = \frac{1}{2} \Big[ G(a,b) + \frac{Q^2(a,b)}{U(a,b)} \Big].$$
(40)

Let a > b and  $x = \sinh^{-1}\left(\frac{a-b}{\sqrt{2ab}}\right) \in (0,\infty)$ . Then simple computations lead to

$$\frac{Q(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \cosh(x), \frac{V(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \frac{\sinh(x)}{x}, \frac{U(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \frac{\sinh(x)}{\tan^{-1}\left[\sinh(x)\right]}.$$
(41)

Theorems 3.1-3.4 and (40)-(41) lead to Theorem 4.1.

Theorem 4.1 The double inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\alpha_1\cosh(x) + 2(1-\alpha_1) < \cosh(x) + \frac{x}{\sinh(x)} < 2\beta_1\cosh(x) + 2(1-\beta_1), \\ & \frac{1}{2} \big[ \alpha_2\cosh(x) + (1-\alpha_2) \big] < 1 - \frac{2x}{\sinh(2x) + 2x} < \frac{1}{2} \big[ \beta_2\cosh(x) + (1-\beta_2) \big], \\ & 2\alpha_3\cosh(x) + (1-2\alpha_3) < \cosh(x)\coth(x)\tan^{-1}\big[\sinh(x)\big] < 2\beta_3\cosh(x) + (1-2\beta_3), \\ & \frac{\alpha_4\cosh(x) + (1-\alpha_4)}{2\cosh(x)} < \frac{1}{1+\cosh(x)\coth(x)\tan^{-1}\big[\sinh(x)\big]} < \frac{\beta_4\cosh(x) + (1-\beta_4)}{2\cosh(x)}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2\alpha_5 \cosh(x) + 2(1-\alpha_5) \frac{\sinh(x)}{x} &< \cosh(x) + \frac{x}{\sinh(x)} < 2\beta_5 \cosh(x) + 2(1-\beta_5) \frac{\sinh(x)}{x}, \\ 2\alpha_6 \cosh(x) + 2(1-\alpha_6) \frac{\sinh(x)}{\tan^{-1} \left[\sinh(x)\right]} &< 1 + \cosh(x) \coth(x) \tan^{-1} \left[\sinh(x)\right] \\ &< 2\beta_6 \cosh(x) + 2(1-\beta_6) \frac{\sinh(x)}{\tan^{-1} \left[\sinh(x)\right]}. \end{aligned}$$

hold for all x > 0 if and only if  $\alpha_1 \le 1/3$ ,  $\beta_1 \ge 1/2$ ,  $\alpha_2 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_2 \ge 2/3$ ,  $\alpha_3 \le 2/3$ ,  $\beta_3 \ge \pi/4$ ,  $\alpha_4 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_4 \ge 1/3$ ,  $\alpha_5 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_5 \ge 1/2$ ,  $\alpha_6 \le 0$  and  $\beta_6 \ge (\pi^2 - 8)/[4(\pi - 2)]$ . Let a > b and  $x = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a-b}{\sqrt{2ab}}\right) \in (0, \pi/2)$ . Then it is not difficult to verify that

$$\frac{Q(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \sec(x), \frac{V(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \frac{\tan(x)}{\sinh^{-1} [\tan(x)]}, \frac{U(a,b)}{G(a,b)} = \frac{\tan(x)}{x}.$$
(42)

From Theorems 3.1-3.4 and (40), (42) we get Theorem 4.2 immediately.

Theorem 4.2 The double inequalities

$$2\alpha_{1} \sec(x) + 2(1 - \alpha_{1}) < \sec(x) + \frac{\sinh^{-1} [\tan(x)]}{\tan(x)} < 2\beta_{1} \sec(x) + 2(1 - \beta_{1}),$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [\alpha_{2} + (1 - \alpha_{2})\cos(x)] < \frac{\tan(x)}{\sec(x)\tan(x) + \sinh^{-1} [\tan(x)]} < \frac{1}{2} [\beta_{2} + (1 - \beta_{2})\cos(x)],$$

$$2\alpha_{3} \sec(x) + 2(1 - \alpha_{3}) < 1 + \frac{2x}{\sin(2x)} < 2\beta_{3} \sec(x) + 2(1 - \beta_{3}),$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [\alpha_{4} + (1 - \alpha_{4})\cos(x)] < 1 - \frac{2x}{\sin(2x) + 2x} < \frac{1}{2} [\beta_{4} + (1 - \beta_{4})\cos(x)],$$

 $2\alpha_5 \sec(x) + 2(1-\alpha_5) \frac{\tan(x)}{\sinh^{-1} \left[\tan(x)\right]} < \sec(x) + \frac{\sinh^{-1} \left[\tan(x)\right]}{\tan(x)} < 2\beta_5 \sec(x) + 2(1-\beta_5) \frac{\tan(x)}{\sinh^{-1} \left[\tan(x)\right]},$ 

$$2\alpha_6 \sec(x) + 2(1-\alpha_6)\frac{\tan(x)}{x} < 1 + \frac{2x}{\sin(2x)} < 2\beta_6 \sec(x) + 2(1-\beta_6)\frac{\tan(x)}{x}.$$

hold for all  $x \in (0, \pi/2)$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 \le 1/3$ ,  $\beta_1 \ge 1/2$ ,  $\alpha_2 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_2 \ge 2/3$ ,  $\alpha_3 \le 2/3$ ,  $\beta_3 \ge \pi/4$ ,  $\alpha_4 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_4 \ge 1/3$ ,  $\alpha_5 \le 0$ ,  $\beta_5 \ge 1/2$ ,  $\alpha_6 \le 0$  and  $\beta_6 \ge (\pi^2 - 8)/[4(\pi - 2)]$ .

Acknowledgments. This research was supported by the Natural Science Foundation of Zhejiang Broadcast and TV University under Grant XKT-15G17.

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