

7. The answer is  $a = 3, b = 1, c = 2$  and  $a = b \in \mathbb{Q}^+, c = 1$ .

Applying induction on  $n$  by using Bernoulli's inequality gives

$$\frac{n^{r+1}}{r+1} \leq S_r(n) \leq \frac{(n+1)^{r+1}}{r+1}$$

for all positive integer  $n$  and positive rational number  $r$ .

As  $S_a(n) = (S_b(n))^c$  letting  $r = a$  and  $r = b$  gives that

$$\frac{n^{a+1}}{a+1} \leq \left(\frac{(n+1)^{b+1}}{b+1}\right)^c \text{ and } \left(\frac{n^{b+1}}{b+1}\right)^c \leq \frac{(n+1)^{a+1}}{a+1}$$

i.e.

$$\frac{n^{(b+1)c}}{(n+1)^{a+1}} \leq \frac{(b+1)^c}{a+1} \leq \frac{(n+1)^{(b+1)c}}{n^{a+1}}$$

holds for infinitely many positive integers  $n$ . By letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the last inequality, we obtain that  $(b+1)c = a+1$  and  $(b+1)^c = a+1$ . If  $c = 1$ , then  $a = b$  and we get the trivial solutions.

If  $c > 1$ , then  $c = (b+1)^{c-1}$  implies that  $b$  is an integer since  $c$  is an integer. As  $b \geq 1$ , we get that  $c \geq 2^{c-1}$  and hence  $c = 2$ . This leads to  $b = 1, a = 3$  and this solution clearly satisfies the condition.