

Some New f -Divergence Measures and Their Basic Properties

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce some new f -divergence measures that we call t -asymmetric/symmetric divergence measure and integral divergence measure, establish their joint convexity and provide some inequalities that connect these f -divergences to the classical one introduced by Csiszar in 1963. Applications for the dichotomy class of convex functions are provided as well.

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1. Introduction

Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space satisfying $|\mathcal{A}| > 2$ and μ be a σ -finite measure on (X, \mathcal{A}) . Let \mathcal{P} be the set of all probability measures on (X, \mathcal{A}) which are absolutely continuous with respect to μ . For $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$, let $p = \frac{dP}{d\mu}$ and

$q = \frac{dQ}{d\mu}$ denote the Radon-Nikodym derivatives of P and Q with respect to μ .

Two probability measures $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ are said to be orthogonal and we denote this by $Q \perp P$ if

$$P(\{q = 0\}) = Q(\{p = 0\}) = 1.$$

Let $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$ be a convex function that is continuous at 0, i.e., $f(0) = \lim_{u \downarrow 0} f(u)$. In 1963, I. Csiszár [1] introduced the concept of f -divergence as follows.

Definition 1.1. Let $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$. Then

$$I_f(Q, P) = \int_X p(x) f \left[\frac{q(x)}{p(x)} \right] d\mu(x), \tag{1.1}$$

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is called the f -divergence of the probability distributions Q and P .

Remark 1.1. Observe that, the integrand in the formula (1.1) is undefined when $p(x) = 0$. The way to overcome this problem is to postulate for f as above that

$$0f\left[\frac{q(x)}{0}\right] = q(x) \lim_{u \downarrow 0} \left[uf\left(\frac{1}{u}\right)\right], \quad x \in X. \quad (1.2)$$

We now give some examples of f -divergences that are well-known and often used in the literature (see also [2]).

1.1 The class of χ^α -divergences

The f -divergences of this class, which is generated by the function χ^α , $\alpha \in [1, \infty)$, defined by

$$\chi^\alpha(u) = |u - 1|^\alpha, \quad u \in [0, \infty)$$

have the form

$$I_f(Q, P) = \int_X p \left| \frac{q}{p} - 1 \right|^\alpha d\mu = \int_X p^{1-\alpha} |q - p|^\alpha d\mu. \quad (1.3)$$

From this class only the parameter $\alpha = 1$ provides a distance in the topological sense, namely the *total variation distance* $V(Q, P) = \int_X |q - p| d\mu$. The most prominent special case of this class is, however, *Karl Pearson's χ^2 -divergence*

$$\chi^2(Q, P) = \int_X \frac{q^2}{p} d\mu - 1$$

that is obtained for $\alpha = 2$.

1.2 Dichotomy class

From this class, generated by the function $f_\alpha : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f_\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} u - 1 - \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} [\alpha u + 1 - \alpha - u^\alpha] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ 1 - u + u \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 1; \end{cases}$$

only the parameter $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ $\left(f_{\frac{1}{2}}(u) = 2(\sqrt{u} - 1)^2 \right)$ provides a distance, namely, the *Hellinger distance*

$$H(Q, P) = \left[\int_X (\sqrt{q} - \sqrt{p})^2 d\mu \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Another important divergence is the *Kullback-Leibler divergence* obtained for $\alpha = 1$,

$$KL(Q, P) = \int_X q \ln \left(\frac{q}{p} \right) d\mu.$$

1.3 Matsushita's divergences

The elements of this class, which is generated by the function φ_α , $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ given by

$$\varphi_\alpha(u) := |1 - u^\alpha|^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, \quad u \in [0, \infty),$$

are prototypes of metric divergences, providing the distances $[I_{\varphi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^\alpha$.

1.4 Puri-Vincze divergences

This class is generated by the functions Φ_α , $\alpha \in [1, \infty)$ given by

$$\Phi_\alpha(u) := \frac{|1-u|^\alpha}{(u+1)^{\alpha-1}}, \quad u \in [0, \infty).$$

It has been shown in [3] that this class provides the distances $[I_{\Phi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$.

1.5 Divergences of Arimoto-type

This class is generated by the functions

$$\Psi_\alpha(u) := \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1} \left[(1+u^\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - 2^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} (1+u) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in (0, \infty) \setminus \{1\}; \\ (1+u) \ln 2 + u \ln u - (1+u) \ln(1+u) & \text{for } \alpha = 1; \\ \frac{1}{2} |1-u| & \text{for } \alpha = \infty. \end{cases}$$

It has been shown in [4] that this class provides the distances $[I_{\Psi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^{\min\left(\alpha, \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)}$ for $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$ and $\frac{1}{2}V(Q, P)$ for $\alpha = \infty$.

For f continuous convex on $[0, \infty)$ we obtain the **-conjugate* function of f by

$$f^*(u) = uf\left(\frac{1}{u}\right), \quad u \in (0, \infty)$$

and

$$f^*(0) = \lim_{u \downarrow 0} f^*(u).$$

It is also known that if f is continuous convex on $[0, \infty)$ then so is f^* .

The following two theorems contain the most basic properties of f -divergences. For their proofs we refer the reader to Chapter 1 of [5] (see also [2]).

Theorem 1.1 (Uniqueness and Symmetry Theorem). *Let f, f_1 be continuous convex on $[0, \infty)$. We have*

$$I_{f_1}(Q, P) = I_f(Q, P),$$

for all $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ if and only if there exists a constant $c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$f_1(u) = f(u) + c(u-1),$$

for any $u \in [0, \infty)$.

Theorem 1.2 (Range of Values Theorem). *Let $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous convex function on $[0, \infty)$.*

For any $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$, we have the double inequality

$$f(1) \leq I_f(Q, P) \leq f(0) + f^*(0). \quad (1.4)$$

(i) *If $P = Q$, then the equality holds in the first part of (1.4).*

If f is strictly convex at 1, then the equality holds in the first part of (1.4) if and only if $P = Q$;

(ii) *If $Q \perp P$, then the equality holds in the second part of (1.4).*

If $f(0) + f^(0) < \infty$, then equality holds in the second part of (1.4) if and only if $Q \perp P$.*

The following result is a refinement of the second inequality in Theorem 1.2 (see [2, Theorem 3]).

Theorem 1.3. Let f be a continuous convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ (f is normalised) and $f(0) + f^*(0) < \infty$. Then

$$0 \leq I_f(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f^*(0)] V(Q, P) \quad (1.5)$$

for any $Q, P \in \mathcal{P}$.

For other inequalities for f -divergence see [6], [7]-[21].

2. Some basic properties

Let f be a continuous convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ and $t \in [0, 1]$. We define the t -asymmetric divergence measure $A_{f,t}$ by

$$A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) := \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \quad (2.1)$$

and the t -symmetric divergence measure $S_{f,t}$ by

$$S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) := \frac{1}{2} [A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) + A_{f,1-t}(Q, P, W)] \quad (2.2)$$

for any $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$.

For $t = \frac{1}{2}$ we consider the mid-point divergence measure M_f by

$$\begin{aligned} M_f(Q, P, W) &:= \int_X f \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= A_{f,1/2}(Q, P, W) = S_{f,1/2}(Q, P, W), \end{aligned}$$

for any $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$.

We can also consider the integral divergence measure

$$\begin{aligned} A_f(Q, P, W) &:= \int_0^1 A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) dt = \int_0^1 S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) dt \\ &= \int_X \left(\int_0^1 f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] dt \right) w(x) d\mu(x). \end{aligned}$$

The following result contains some basic facts concerning the divergence measures above:

Theorem 2.1. Let f be a continuous convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$. Then for all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ and $t \in [0, 1]$

$$0 \leq A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \leq (1-t)I_f(Q, W) + tI_f(P, W) \quad (2.3)$$

and the mapping

$$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \ni (Q, P) \mapsto A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \in [0, \infty) \quad (2.4)$$

is convex as a function of two variables.

We have the inequalities

$$0 \leq M_f(Q, P, W) \leq S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] \quad (2.5)$$

for all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ and the mapping

$$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \ni (Q, P) \mapsto S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \in [0, \infty) \quad (2.6)$$

is convex as a function of two variables.

Proof. Let $t \in [0, 1]$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. We use Jensen's integral inequality to get

$$\begin{aligned} A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) &= \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &\geq f \left(\int_X \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \right) \\ &= f \left(\int_X [(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)] d\mu(x) \right) \\ &= f \left((1-t) \int_X q(x) d\mu(x) + t \int_X p(x) d\mu(x) \right) = f(1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By the convexity of f we also have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) &= \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &\leq (1-t) \int_X f \left[\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) + t \int_X f \left[\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= (1-t)I_f(Q, W) + tI_f(P, W) \end{aligned}$$

for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$, and the inequality (2.3) is proved.

Let $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$ and such that $\alpha + \beta = 1$. If $(Q_1, P_1), (Q_2, P_2) \in \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} &A_{f,t}(\alpha(Q_1, P_1, W) + \beta(Q_2, P_2, W)) \\ &= A_{f,t}((\alpha Q_1 + \beta Q_2, \alpha P_1 + \beta P_2, W)) \\ &= \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)(\alpha Q_1 + \beta Q_2) + t(\alpha P_1 + \beta P_2)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= \int_X f \left[\frac{\alpha[(1-t)Q_1 + tP_1] + \beta[(1-t)Q_2 + tP_2]}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &\leq \alpha \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)Q_1 + tP_1}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) + \beta \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)Q_2 + tP_2}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= \alpha A_{f,t}(Q_1, P_1, W) + \beta A_{f,t}(Q_2, P_2, W), \end{aligned}$$

which proves the joint convexity of the mapping defined in (2.4).

Using the convexity of f we have

$$f \left(\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} + \frac{(1-t)p(x) + tq(x)}{w(x)} \right] \right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] + f \left[\frac{(1-t)p(x) + tq(x)}{w(x)} \right] \right\},$$

namely

$$f \left(\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] + f \left[\frac{(1-t)p(x) + tq(x)}{w(x)} \right] \right\}, \quad (2.7)$$

for $x \in X$.

By multiplying (2.7) with $w(x)$ and integrating over $\mu(x)$ we get the second inequality in (2.5).

We have, by (2.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) &= \frac{1}{2} [A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) + A_{f,1-t}(Q, P, W)] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [(1-t)I_f(Q, W) + tI_f(P, W) + tI_f(Q, W) + (1-t)I_f(P, W)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)], \end{aligned}$$

which proves the third inequality in (2.5).

The convexity of the mapping defined by (2.6) follows by the same property of the mapping defined by (2.4). \square

Corollary 2.1. Let f be a continuous convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$. Then for all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ we have the inequalities

$$0 \leq M_f(Q, P, W) \leq A_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)]. \quad (2.8)$$

The mapping

$$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \ni (Q, P) \mapsto A_f(Q, P, W) \in [0, \infty) \quad (2.9)$$

is convex as a function of two variables.

Proof. The inequality (2.8) follows by integrating over t in the inequality (2.5). Since the mapping

$$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \ni (Q, P) \mapsto S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \in [0, \infty)$$

is convex as a function of two variables for all $t \in [0, 1]$, then it remains convex if one takes the integral over $t \in [0, 1]$. \square

The following reverses of the Hermite-Hadamard inequality hold:

Lemma 2.1 (Dragomir, 2002 [9] and [10]). Let $h : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function on $[a, b]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left[h_+ \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) - h_- \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) \right] (b-a) \\ &\leq \frac{h(a) + h(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b h(x) dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} [h_-(b) - h_+(a)] (b-a) \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left[h_+ \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) - h_- \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) \right] (b-a) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b h(x) dx - h \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} [h_-(b) - h_+(a)] (b-a). \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

The constant $\frac{1}{8}$ is best possible in all inequalities.

We have the reverse inequalities:

Theorem 2.2. Let f be a differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$. Then for all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ we have

$$0 \leq A_f(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) \quad (2.12)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] - A_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) \quad (2.13)$$

where

$$\Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) := \int_X \left[f' \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] (q(x) - p(x)) d\mu(x). \quad (2.14)$$

Proof. Let $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. By the inequality (2.11) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \int_0^1 f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] dt - f \left(\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left[f' \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

If we multiply this inequality by $w(x) \geq 0$ and integrate on X we get (2.12).

From (2.10) we also have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}\right) + f\left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)}\right) \right] - \int_0^1 f\left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)}\right] dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \left[f'\left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}\right) - f'\left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)}\right) \right] \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - \frac{p(x)}{w(x)}\right). \end{aligned}$$

If we multiply this inequality by $w(x) \geq 0$ and integrate on X we get (2.12). \square

Corollary 2.2. Let f be a differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. If there exists $0 < r < 1 < R < \infty$ such that the following condition holds

$$r \leq \frac{q(x)}{w(x)}, \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \leq R \text{ for } \mu\text{-a.e. } x \in X, \quad (2.15)$$

then

$$0 \leq A_f(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} [f'(R) - f'(r)] d_1(Q, P) \quad (2.16)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] - A_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} [f'(R) - f'(r)] d_1(Q, P) \quad (2.17)$$

where

$$d_1(Q, P) := \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x).$$

Proof. Since f' is increasing on $[r, R]$, then

$$|f'(t) - f'(s)| \leq f'(R) - f'(r)$$

for all $t, s \in [r, R]$.

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) &:= \int_X \left[f'\left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}\right) - f'\left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)}\right) \right] (q(x) - p(x)) d\mu(x) \\ &\leq \int_X \left| f'\left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}\right) - f'\left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)}\right) \right| |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x) \\ &\leq [f'(R) - f'(r)] \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x) \\ &= [f'(R) - f'(r)] d_1(Q, P), \end{aligned}$$

which proves the desired inequalities (2.16) and (2.17). \square

Corollary 2.3. Let f be a twice differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. If there exists $0 < r < 1 < R < \infty$ such that the condition (2.15) holds and

$$\|f''\|_{[r, R], \infty} := \sup_{t \in [r, R]} |f''(t)| < \infty, \quad (2.18)$$

then

$$0 \leq A_f(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[r, R], \infty} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W) \quad (2.19)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] - A_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[r, R], \infty} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W), \quad (2.20)$$

where

$$d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W) := \int_X \frac{(q(x) - p(x))^2}{w(x)} d\mu(x). \quad (2.21)$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) &:= \int_X \left[f' \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] (q(x) - p(x)) d\mu(x) \\
&\leq \int_X \left| f' \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right| |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x) \\
&\leq \|f''\|_{[r, R], \infty} \int_X \left| \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right| |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x) \\
&= \|f''\|_{[r, R], \infty} \int_X \frac{(q(x) - p(x))^2}{w(x)} d\mu(x),
\end{aligned}$$

which proves the desired results (2.19) and (2.20). \square

3. Further results

We have the following result for convex functions that is of interest in itself as well:

Lemma 3.1. *Let $f : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function on the interval I , $a, b \in \overset{\circ}{I}$, the interior of I , with $a < b$ and $\nu \in [0, 1]$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned}
&\nu(1-\nu)(b-a) [f'_+((1-\nu)a + \nu b) - f'_-((1-\nu)a + \nu b)] \\
&\leq (1-\nu)f(a) + \nu f(b) - f((1-\nu)a + \nu b) \\
&\leq \nu(1-\nu)(b-a) [f'_-(b) - f'_+(a)].
\end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

In particular, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4}(b-a) \left[f'_+ \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) - f'_- \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) \right] &\leq \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - f \left(\frac{a+b}{2} \right) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{4}(b-a) [f'_-(b) - f'_+(a)].
\end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

The constant $\frac{1}{4}$ is best possible in both inequalities from (3.2).

Proof. The case $\nu = 0$ or $\nu = 1$ reduces to equality in (3.1).

Since f is convex on I it follows that the function is differentiable on $\overset{\circ}{I}$ except a countably number of points, the lateral derivatives f'_\pm exists in each point of $\overset{\circ}{I}$, they are increasing on $\overset{\circ}{I}$ and $f'_- \leq f'_+$ on $\overset{\circ}{I}$.

For any $x, y \in \overset{\circ}{I}$ we have for the Lebesgue integral

$$f(x) = f(y) + \int_y^x f'(s) ds = f(y) + (x-y) \int_0^1 f'((1-t)y + tx) dt. \tag{3.3}$$

Assume that $a < b$ and $\nu \in (0, 1)$. By (3.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&f((1-\nu)a + \nu b) \\
&= f(a) + \nu(b-a) \int_0^1 f'((1-t)a + t((1-\nu)a + \nu b)) dt
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&f((1-\nu)a + \nu b) \\
&= f(b) - (1-\nu)(b-a) \int_0^1 f'((1-t)b + t((1-\nu)a + \nu b)) dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

If we multiply (3.4) by $1 - \nu$, (3.4) by ν and add the obtained equalities, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} f((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) &= (1 - \nu)f(a) + \nu f(b) \\ &+ (1 - \nu)\nu(b - a) \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt \\ &- (1 - \nu)\nu(b - a) \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt, \end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to

$$(1 - \nu)f(a) + \nu f(b) - f((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) = (1 - \nu)\nu(b - a) \quad (3.6)$$

$$\times \int_0^1 [f'((1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) - f'((1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b))] dt. \quad (3.7)$$

That is an equality of interest in itself.

Since $a < b$ and $\nu \in (0, 1)$, then $(1 - \nu)a + \nu b \in (a, b)$ and

$$(1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \in [a, (1 - \nu)a + \nu b]$$

while

$$(1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \in [(1 - \nu)a + \nu b, b]$$

for any $t \in [0, 1]$.

By the monotonicity of the derivative we have

$$f'_+((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \leq f'((1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) \leq f'_-(b) \quad (3.8)$$

and

$$f'_+(a) \leq f'((1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) \leq f'_-((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \quad (3.9)$$

for any $t \in [0, 1]$.

By integrating the inequalities (3.8) and (3.9) we get

$$f'_+((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \leq \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt \leq f'_-(b)$$

and

$$f'_+(a) \leq \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt \leq f'_-((1 - \nu)a + \nu b),$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} f'_+((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) - f'_-((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) &\leq \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)b + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt \\ &- \int_0^1 f'((1 - t)a + t((1 - \nu)a + \nu b)) dt \leq f'_-(b) - f'_+(a). \end{aligned}$$

Making use of the equality (3.6) we obtain the desired result (3.1).

If we consider the convex function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = \left|x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right|$, then we have $f'_+\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) = 1$, $f'_-\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) = -1$ and by replacing in (3.2) we get in all terms the same quantity $\frac{1}{2}(b - a)$ which show that the constant $\frac{1}{4}$ is best possible in both inequalities from (3.2). \square

Corollary 3.1. *If the function $f : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a differentiable convex function on $\overset{\circ}{I}$, then for any $a, b \in \overset{\circ}{I}$ and $\nu \in [0, 1]$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1 - \nu)f(a) + \nu f(b) - f((1 - \nu)a + \nu b) \\ &\leq \nu(1 - \nu)(b - a)[f'(b) - f'(a)]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Proof. If $a < b$, then the inequality (3.10) follows by (3.1). If $b < a$, then by (3.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1 - \nu) f(b) + \nu f(a) - f((1 - \nu)b + \nu a) \\ &\leq \nu(1 - \nu)(b - a)[f'(b) - f'(a)] \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

for any $\nu \in [0, 1]$. If we replace ν by $1 - \nu$ in (3.11), then we get (3.10). \square

We can prove now the following reverse of the second inequality in (2.3) and the first inequality in (2.5).

Theorem 3.1. *Let f be a differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$. Then for all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ and $t \in [0, 1]$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1 - t) I_f(Q, W) + t I_f(P, W) - A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \\ &\leq t(1 - t) \Delta_{f'}(Q, P, W) \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

and

$$0 \leq S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \right) \Delta_{f',t}(Q, P, W), \quad (3.13)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{f',t}(Q, P, W) &= \int_X (q(x) - p(x)) \\ &\times \left[f' \left((1 - t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left((1 - t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] d\mu(x). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From the inequality (3.12) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1 - t) f \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) + t f \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f \left((1 - t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \\ &\leq t(1 - t) \left[f' \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

If we multiply this inequality by $w(x) \geq 0$ and integrate on X we get (3.12).

For any $x, y \in \mathring{I}$ we have

$$0 \leq \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2} - f \left(\frac{x + y}{2} \right) \leq \frac{1}{4} (x - y) [f'(x) - f'(y)]. \quad (3.15)$$

If in this inequality we take $x = (1 - t)a + tb$, $y = (1 - t)b + ta$ with $a, b \in \mathring{I}$ and $t \in [0, 1]$, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{f((1 - t)a + tb) + f((1 - t)b + ta)}{2} - f \left(\frac{a + b}{2} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} ((1 - t)a + tb - (1 - t)b - ta) \\ &\quad \times [f'((1 - t)a + tb) - f'((1 - t)b + ta)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \right) (b - a) [f'((1 - t)a + tb) - f'((1 - t)b + ta)]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

From this inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[f \left((1 - t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) + f \left((1 - t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] \\ &\quad - f \left(\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left[f' \left((1 - t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left((1 - t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

If we multiply this inequality by $w(x) \geq 0$ and integrate on X we get (3.12). \square

Corollary 3.2. Let f be a differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. If there exists $0 < r < 1 < R < \infty$ such that the condition (2.15) holds, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1-t)I_f(Q, W) + tI_f(P, W) - A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \\ &\leq t(1-t)[f'(R) - f'(r)]d_1(Q, P) \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| [f'(R) - f'(r)] d_1(Q, P) \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

Proof. The inequality (3.17) is obvious. For (3.18), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \right) \Delta_{f',t}(Q, P, W) &= \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| |\Delta_{f',t}(Q, P, W)| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| \\ &\times \left| f' \left((1-t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left((1-t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right| d\mu(x) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)] \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| d\mu(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| [f'(R) - f'(r)] d_1(Q, P). \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 3.3. Let f be a twice differentiable convex function on $[0, \infty)$ with $f(1) = 0$ and $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$. If there exists $0 < r < 1 < R < \infty$ such that the conditions (2.15) and (2.18) hold, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (1-t)I_f(Q, W) + tI_f(P, W) - A_{f,t}(Q, P, W) \\ &\leq t(1-t)\|f''\|_{[r,R],\infty} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W) \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

and

$$0 \leq S_{f,t}(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \leq \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right|^2 \|f''\|_{[r,R],\infty} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W). \quad (3.20)$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \right) \Delta_{f',t}(Q, P, W) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| \\ &\times \left| f' \left((1-t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f' \left((1-t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right| d\mu(x) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \|f''\|_{[r,R],\infty} \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| \\ &\times \left| (1-t) \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} + t \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - (1-t) \frac{q(x)}{w(x)} - t \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right| d\mu(x) \\ &= \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right|^2 \|f''\|_{[r,R],\infty} \int_X |q(x) - p(x)| \frac{|q(x) - p(x)|}{w(x)} d\mu(x) \\ &= \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right|^2 \|f''\|_{[r,R],\infty} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W), \end{aligned}$$

which proves (3.20). □

4. Examples

Consider the *dichotomy class* generated by the function $f_\alpha : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is given by

$$f_\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} u - 1 - \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} [\alpha u + 1 - \alpha - u^\alpha] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ 1 - u + u \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{f_\alpha, t}(Q, P, W) &= \int_X f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= \begin{cases} -\int_X w(x) \ln \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} \left[1 - \int_X [(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)]^\alpha w^{1-\alpha}(x) d\mu(x) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \int_X [(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)] \ln \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} M_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) &= \int_X f \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right] w(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= \begin{cases} -\int_X w(x) \ln \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right] d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} \left[1 - \int_X \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2} \right]^\alpha w^{1-\alpha}(x) d\mu(x) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \int_X \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2} \right] \ln \left[\frac{q(x) + p(x)}{2w(x)} \right] d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Let us recall the following special means:

a) The *arithmetic mean*

$$A(a, b) := \frac{a+b}{2}, \quad a, b > 0,$$

b) The *geometric mean*

$$G(a, b) := \sqrt{ab}; \quad a, b \geq 0,$$

c) The *harmonic mean*

$$H(a, b) := \frac{2}{\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}}; \quad a, b > 0,$$

d) The *identric mean*

$$I(a, b) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{e} \left(\frac{b^b}{a^a} \right)^{\frac{1}{b-a}} & \text{if } b \neq a; \quad a, b > 0 \\ a & \text{if } b = a \end{cases}$$

e) The *logarithmic mean*

$$L(a, b) := \begin{cases} \frac{b-a}{\ln b - \ln a} & \text{if } b \neq a \\ a & \text{if } b = a \end{cases}; \quad a, b > 0$$

f) The *p -logarithmic mean*

$$L_p(a, b) := \begin{cases} \left(\frac{b^{p+1} - a^{p+1}}{(p+1)(b-a)} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} & \text{if } b \neq a, \quad p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1, 0\}; \quad a, b > 0. \\ a & \text{if } b = a \end{cases}$$

If we put $L_0(a, b) := I(a, b)$ and $L_{-1}(a, b) := L(a, b)$, then it is well known that the function $\mathbb{R} \ni p \mapsto L_p(a, b)$ is monotonic increasing on \mathbb{R} .

We observe that for $p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1, 0\}$ we have

$$\int_0^1 [(1-t)a + tb]^p dt = L_p^p(a, b), \quad \int_0^1 [(1-t)a + tb]^{-1} dt = L^{-1}(a, b)$$

and

$$\int_0^1 \ln [(1-t)a + tb] dt = \ln I(a, b).$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 [(1-t)a + tb] \ln [(1-t)a + tb] dt \\ &= \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b t \ln t dt = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \ln t d(t^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \left[b^2 \ln b - a^2 \ln a - \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \left[\frac{b^2 \ln b^2 - a^2 \ln a^2}{2} - \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{b-a} \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \left[\frac{b^2 \ln b^2 - a^2 \ln a^2}{b^2 - a^2} - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (b+a) \ln I(a^2, b^2) = \frac{1}{2} A(a, b) \ln I(a^2, b^2). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) &:= \int_0^1 A_{f_\alpha, t}(Q, P, W) dt \\ &= \int_X \left(\int_0^1 f \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] dt \right) w(x) d\mu(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \begin{cases} -\int_X \left(\int_0^1 \ln \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] dt \right) w(x) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} \left[1 - \int_X \left(\int_0^1 \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right]^\alpha dt \right) w(x) d\mu(x) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \int_X \int_0^1 \left(\left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] \ln \left[\frac{(1-t)q(x) + tp(x)}{w(x)} \right] \right) w(x) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \\
&= \begin{cases} -\int_X \ln I \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}, \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) w(x) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} \left[1 - \int_X L_\alpha^\alpha \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}, \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) w(x) d\mu(x) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \frac{1}{2} \int_X A \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)}, \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \ln I \left(\left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right)^2, \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right)^2 \right) w(x) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

According to Corollary 2.1 we have

$$0 \leq M_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \leq A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_{f_\alpha}(Q, W) + I_{f_\alpha}(P, W)] \quad (4.1)$$

and the mapping

$$\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \ni (Q, P) \mapsto A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \in [0, \infty) \quad (4.2)$$

is convex.

Observe also that

$$f'_\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{1}{u} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (1 - u^{\alpha-1}) & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 1, \end{cases}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{f'_\alpha}(Q, P, W) &:= \int_X \left[f'_\alpha \left(\frac{q(x)}{w(x)} \right) - f'_\alpha \left(\frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \right) \right] (q(x) - p(x)) d\mu(x) \\
&= \begin{cases} \int_X \frac{(q(x) - p(x))^2}{p(x)q(x)} w(x) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \int_X \frac{q^{\alpha-1}(x) - p^{\alpha-1}(x)}{w^\alpha(x)} (q(x) - p(x)) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \int_X (q(x) - p(x)) \ln \left(\frac{q(x)}{p(x)} \right) d\mu(x) & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

For all $Q, P, W \in \mathcal{P}$ we have by Theorem 2.2 that

$$0 \leq A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) - M_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \Delta_{f'_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \quad (4.3)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_{f_\alpha}(Q, W) + I_{f_\alpha}(P, W)] - A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \leq \frac{1}{8} \Delta_{f'_\alpha}(Q, P, W). \quad (4.4)$$

If there exists $0 < r < 1 < R < \infty$ such that the following condition holds

$$r \leq \frac{q(x)}{w(x)}, \frac{p(x)}{w(x)} \leq R \text{ for } \mu\text{-a.e. } x \in X, \quad ((r,R))$$

then by Corollary 2.2

$$0 \leq A_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) - M_{f_\alpha}(Q, P, W) \quad (4.5)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{8} d_1(Q, P) \begin{cases} \frac{R-r}{rR} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{R^{\alpha-1} - r^{\alpha-1}}{\alpha-1} & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \ln\left(\frac{R}{r}\right) & \text{for } \alpha = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4.6)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] - A_f(Q, P, W) \quad (4.7)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{8} d_1(Q, P) \begin{cases} \frac{R-r}{rR} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{R^{\alpha-1} - r^{\alpha-1}}{\alpha-1} & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \ln\left(\frac{R}{r}\right) & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases} \quad (4.8)$$

Further, since

$$f''_\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{u^2} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ u^{\alpha-2} & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \frac{1}{u} & \text{for } \alpha = 1, \end{cases}$$

hence by Corollary 2.3 we have

$$0 \leq A_f(Q, P, W) - M_f(Q, P, W) \quad (4.9)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{8} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r^2} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ R^{\alpha-2} & \text{for } \alpha \geq 2; \\ r^{\alpha-2} & \text{for } \alpha < 2, \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \frac{1}{r} & \text{for } \alpha = 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.10)$$

and

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [I_f(Q, W) + I_f(P, W)] - A_f(Q, P, W) \quad (4.11)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{8} d_{\chi^2}(Q, P, W) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r^2} & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ R^{\alpha-2} & \text{for } \alpha \geq 2; \\ r^{\alpha-2} & \text{for } \alpha < 2, \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ \frac{1}{r} & \text{for } \alpha = 1. \end{cases} \quad (4.12)$$

The interested reader may apply the above general results for other particular divergences of interest generated by the convex functions provided in the introduction. We omit the details.

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