

# A UNIFIED TREATMENT OF CONVEXITY OF RELATIVE ENTROPY AND RELATED TRACE FUNCTIONS, WITH CONDITIONS FOR EQUALITY

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We consider a generalization of relative entropy derived from the Wigner–Yanase–Dyson entropy and give a simple, self-contained proof that it is convex. Moreover, special cases yield the joint convexity of relative entropy, and for  $\text{Tr } K^* A^p K B^{1-p}$  Lieb’s joint concavity in  $(A, B)$  for  $0 < p < 1$  and Ando’s joint convexity for  $1 < p \leq 2$ . This approach allows us to obtain conditions for equality in these cases, as well as conditions for equality in a number of inequalities which follow from them. These include the monotonicity under partial traces, and some Minkowski type matrix inequalities proved by Carlen and Lieb for  $\text{Tr}_1(\text{Tr}_2 A_{12}^p)^{1/p}$ . In all cases, the equality conditions are independent of  $p$ ; for extensions to three spaces they are identical to the conditions for equality in the strong subadditivity of relative entropy.

*Keywords:* Relative entropy; convex trace functions; Wigner–Yanase–Dyson entropy.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background

For matrices  $A_{12} > 0$  acting on a tensor product of two Hilbert spaces, Carlen and Lieb ([7, 8]) considered the trace function  $[\text{Tr}_1(\text{Tr}_2 A_{12}^p)^{q/p}]^{1/q}$  and proved that it is concave when  $0 \leq p \leq q \leq 1$  and convex when  $1 \leq q$  and  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . They showed that this implies that these functions and the norms they generate satisfy Minkowski type inequalities, including a natural generalization to matrices  $A_{123}$  acting on a tensor product of three Hilbert spaces. They also raised the question of the conditions for equality in their inequalities. When  $q = 1$ , we show that this can

be treated using methods developed to treat equality in the strong subadditivity of quantum entropy. Moreover, we obtain conditions for equality in a large class of related convexity inequalities, show that they are independent of  $p$  in the range  $0 < p < 2$ , and show that for inequalities involving  $A_{123}$  they are identical to the equality conditions for strong subadditivity (SSA) of quantum entropy given in [13].

These equality conditions are non-trivial and have found many applications in quantum information theory. For example, they play an important role in some recent “no broadcasting” results; see [19] and references therein. They also play a key role in Devetak and Yard’s ([9]) “quantum state redistribution” protocol which gives an operational interpretation to the quantum conditional mutual information.

Our approach to proving joint convexity of relative entropy is motivated by Araki’s relative modular operator ([5]), introduced to generalize relative entropy to more general situations including type III von Neumann algebras. It was subsequently used by Narnhofer and Thirring ([29]) to give a new proof of SSA. The argument given here is similar to that in [18, 31, 37]; however, the unified treatment for  $0 < p < 2$  leading to equality conditions, is new. Moreover, a dual treatment can be given for  $-1 < p < 1$  allowing extension to the full range  $(-1, 2)$ .

Wigner and Yanase ([42, 43]) introduced the notion of skew information of a density matrix  $\gamma$  with respect to a self-adjoint observable  $K$ ,

$$-\mathrm{Tr} \frac{1}{2} [K, \gamma^p] [K, \gamma^{1-p}] \quad (1)$$

for  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  and Dyson suggested extending this to  $p \in (0, 1)$ . Wigner and Yanase [43] proved that (1) is convex in  $\gamma$  for  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  and, in his seminal paper [20] on convex trace functions, Lieb proved joint concavity for  $p \in (0, 1)$  for the more general function

$$(A, B) \mapsto \mathrm{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-p} \quad (2)$$

for  $K$  fixed and  $A, B > 0$  positive semi-definite. This implies convexity of (1) and was a key step in the original proof ([23]) of the strong subadditivity (SSA) inequality of quantum entropy. Moreover, it leads to a proof of joint convexity of relative entropy<sup>a</sup> as well. It is less well known that Ando ([3, 4]) gave another proof which also showed that for  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , the function (2) is jointly convex in  $A, B$ . The case  $p = 2$  was considered earlier by Lieb and Ruskai ([24]). We modify what one might describe as Lieb’s extension of the Wigner–Yanase–Dyson (WYD) entropy to a type of relative entropy in a way that allows a unified treatment of the convexity and concavity of  $\mathrm{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-p}$  in the range  $p \in (0, 2]$  and includes the usual relative entropy as a special case. Our modification retains a linear term,

<sup>a</sup>In [23], only concavity of the conditional entropy was proved explicitly, but the same argument [36, Sec. V.B] yields joint convexity of the relative entropy. Independently, Lindblad ([26]) observed that this follows directly from (2) by differentiating at  $p = 1$ .

even for  $A \neq B$ . Although this might seem unnecessary for convexity and concavity questions, it is crucial to a unified treatment.

Lieb also considered  $\text{Tr } K^* A^p K B^q$  with  $p, q > 0$  and  $0 \leq p + q \leq 1$  and Ando considered  $1 < q \leq p \leq 2$ . In Sec. 2.2, we extend our results to this situation. However, we also show that for  $q \neq 1 - p$ , equality holds only under trivial conditions. Therefore, we concentrate on the case  $q = 1 - p$ .

Next, we introduce our notation and conventions. In Sec. 2, we first describe our generalization of relative entropy and prove its convexity; then consider the extension to  $q \neq 1 - p$  mentioned above; and finally prove monotonicity under partial traces including a generalization of strong subadditivity to  $p \neq 1$ . In Sec. 3, we consider several formulations of equality conditions. In Sec. 4, we show how to use these results to obtain equality conditions in the results of Lieb and Carlen ([7, 8]). For completeness, we include an appendix which contains the proof of a basic convexity result from [37] that is key to our results.

## 1.2. Notation and conventions

We introduce two linear maps on the space  $M_d$  of  $d \times d$  matrices. Left multiplication by  $A$  is denoted  $L_A$  and defined as  $L_A(X) = AX$ ; right multiplication by  $B$  is denoted  $R_B$  and defined as  $R_B(X) = XR$ . These maps are associated with the relative modular operator  $\Delta_{AB} = L_A R_B^{-1}$  introduced by Araki ([5]) in a far more general context. They have the following properties:

- (a) The operators  $L_A$  and  $R_B$  commute since

$$L_A[R_B(X)] = AXB = R_B[L_A(X)] \quad (3)$$

even when  $A$  and  $B$  do not commute.

- (b)  $L_A$  and  $R_A$  are invertible if and only if  $A$  is non-singular, in which case  $L_A^{-1} = L_{A^{-1}}$  and  $R_A^{-1} = R_{A^{-1}}$ .  
 (c) When  $A$  is self-adjoint,  $L_A$  and  $R_A$  are both self-adjoint with respect to the Hilbert–Schmidt inner product  $\langle A, B \rangle = \text{Tr } A^* B$ .  
 (d) When  $A \geq 0$ , the operators  $L_A$  and  $R_A$  are positive semi-definite, i.e.

$$\text{Tr } X^* L_A(X) = \text{Tr } X^* A X \geq 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{Tr } X^* R_A(X) = \text{Tr } X^* X A = \text{Tr } X A X^* \geq 0.$$

- (e) When  $A > 0$ , then  $(L_A)^p = L_{A^p}$  and  $(R_A)^p = R_{A^p}$  for all  $p \geq 0$ . If  $A$  is also non-singular, this extends to all  $p \in \mathbf{R}$ . More generally,  $f(L_A) = L_{f(A)}$  for  $f: (0, \infty) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$ .

To see why (e) holds, it suffices to observe that  $A > 0$  implies  $L_A$  and  $R_A$  are linear operators for which  $f(A)$  can be defined by the spectral theorem for any function  $f$  with domain in  $(0, \infty)$ . It is easy to verify that  $A|\phi_j\rangle = \alpha_j|\phi_j\rangle$  implies  $L_A|\phi_j\rangle\langle\phi_k| = \alpha_j|\phi_j\rangle\langle\phi_k|$  for  $k = 1, \dots, d$  so that the spectral decomposition of  $A$  induces one on  $L_A$  with degeneracy  $d$  and  $f(L_A)|\phi_j\rangle\langle\phi_k| = f(\alpha_k)|\phi_j\rangle\langle\phi_k|$ .

For  $R_B$  a similar argument goes through starting with left eigenvectors of  $B$  i.e.  $\langle \phi_j | B = \beta_j \langle \phi_j |$ .

If a function is homogeneous of degree 1, then convexity is equivalent to subadditivity. Thus, if  $F(\lambda A) = \lambda F(A)$ , then  $F$  is convex if and only if  $F(A) \leq \sum_j F(A_j)$  with  $A = \sum_j A_j$ . We will use this equivalence without further ado.

For  $B$  positive semi-definite, we denote the projection onto  $(\ker B)^\perp$  by  $P_{(\ker B)^\perp}$ . We will encounter expressions involving commuting positive semi-definite matrices  $A, D$  with  $\ker D \subseteq \ker A$ . We will simply write  $AD^{-1}$  for

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sqrt{A}(D + \epsilon I)^{-1} \sqrt{A} = AD^{-1}P_{(\ker D)^\perp} = AD^{-1}P_{(\ker A)^\perp} \quad (4)$$

with  $D^{-1}$  the generalized inverse.

## 2. WYD Entropy Revisited and Extended

### 2.1. Generalization of relative entropy

We now introduce the family of functions

$$g_p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p(1-p)}(x - x^p) & p \neq 1 \\ x \log x & p = 1, \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

which are well-defined for  $x > 0$  and  $p \neq 0$ . We will consider  $p \in (0, 2]$  although it would suffice to consider  $p \in [\frac{1}{2}, 2]$ . For  $A, B$  strictly positive we define

$$J_p(K, A, B) \equiv \text{Tr} \sqrt{B} K^* g_p(L_A R_B^{-1})(K \sqrt{B}) \quad (6)$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p(1-p)}(\text{Tr} K^* A K - \text{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-p}) & p \in (0, 1) \cup (1, 2), \\ \text{Tr} K K^* A \log A - \text{Tr} K^* A K \log B & p = 1, \\ -\frac{1}{2}(\text{Tr} K^* A K - \text{Tr} A K B^{-1} K^* A) & p = 2. \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

When  $p = 1$  and  $K = I$ , (6) reduces to the usual relative entropy, i.e.

$$J_1(I, A, B) = H(A, B) = \text{Tr} A(\log A - \log B). \quad (8)$$

For  $p \neq 1$ , the function  $J_p(K, A, B)$  differs from that considered by Lieb ([20]) and Ando ([3, 4]) by the seemingly irrelevant linear term  $\text{Tr} K^* A K$  and the factor  $\frac{1}{p(1-p)}$ . However, this minor difference allows us to give a unified treatment of  $p \in (0, 2]$  because of the extension by continuity to  $p = 1$  and the sign change there.

One might expect to associate the exchange  $A \leftrightarrow B$  with the symmetry  $p \leftrightarrow (1-p)$  around  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ . However, there are several subtleties due to the linear term, the exchange  $K \leftrightarrow K^*$ , and the case  $p = 1$ . Therefore, we use instead the observation

that

$$\begin{aligned} J_p(K^*, B, A) &= \text{Tr} \sqrt{A} K g_p(L_B R_A^{-1})(K^* \sqrt{A}) \\ &= \text{Tr} \sqrt{B} K^* \tilde{g}_{1-p}(L_A R_B^{-1})(K \sqrt{B}) \\ &= \tilde{J}_{1-p}(K, A, B) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where, for  $-1 \leq p < 1$ , we define

$$\tilde{g}_p(x) = x g_{1-p}(x^{-1}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p(1-p)}(1-x^p) & p \neq 0 \\ -\log x & p = 0 \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

and  $\tilde{J}_p(K, A, B) = \text{Tr} \sqrt{B} K^* \tilde{g}_p(L_A R_B^{-1})(K \sqrt{B})$ .

The functions  $J_p(K, A, B)$  and  $\tilde{J}_p(K, A, B)$  have been considered before, usually with  $K = I$ , in the context of information geometry ([2, Sec. 7.2] and references therein) and by Petz ([31]) who used the term “quasi-entropy”. What is novel here is that we present a simple unified proof of joint convexity in  $A, B$  that easily yields equality conditions, shows that they are independent of  $p$ , and can be extended to other functions.

The special case  $J_p(I, A, I)$  is equivalent<sup>b</sup> to the Tsallis ([40]) entropy. When  $K = K^*$ , the relation

$$J_p(K, A, A) = -\frac{1}{2p(1-p)} \text{Tr} [K, A^p][K, A^{1-p}] \quad (11)$$

yields the original WYD information (up to a constant) and extends it to the range  $(0, 2]$ . Moreover,  $K = K^*$  implies that  $J_p(K, A, A) = \tilde{J}_{1-p}(K, A, A)$ . Although neither  $g_p(w)$  nor  $\tilde{g}_{1-p}(w)$  is positive, their average<sup>c</sup>  $G_p(w) \equiv \frac{1}{2}[g_p(w) + w g_p(w^{-1})] \geq 0$  on  $(0, \infty)$ . Therefore, when  $K = K^*$ ,

$$J_p(K, A, A) = \text{Tr}(K \sqrt{A})^* G_p(L_A R_A^{-1})(K \sqrt{A}) \geq 0. \quad (12)$$

The function  $J_p(I, A, B)$  is a more appealing generalization of relative entropy than  $\text{Tr} A^p B^{1-p}$  because of Proposition 1, which one can consider to be a generalization of Klein’s inequality ([17]). It allows one to use  $J_p(I, A, B)$  as a pseudo-metric, as is commonly done with the relative entropy.

**Proposition 1.** *When  $U$  is unitary and  $A, B > 0$  with  $\text{Tr} A = \text{Tr} B = 1$ , then  $J_p(U, A, B) \geq 0$  with equality if and only if  $A = U^* B U$ .*

**Proof.** When  $U$  is unitary,

$$J_p(U, A, B) = J_p(I, U^* A U, B) = J_p(I, A, U B U^*). \quad (13)$$

<sup>b</sup>This was pointed out by Karol Zyczkowski.

<sup>c</sup>The definition of  $\tilde{g}_p$  in (10) differs from that in [18] by the exchange  $\tilde{g}_p \leftrightarrow \tilde{g}_{1-p}$  so that in [18]  $G(w) = \frac{1}{2}[g(w) + \tilde{g}(w)]$  for any  $g$ . In the convention used here,  $G_p(w) = \frac{1}{2}[g_p(w) + \tilde{g}_{1-p}(w)]$ .

Therefore, it suffices to consider the case  $U = I$ . For  $p \in (0, 1)$  Hölders inequality implies  $\text{Tr } A^p B^{1-p} \leq (\text{Tr } A)^p (\text{Tr } B)^{1-p} = 1$  with equality if and only if  $A = B$ . It immediately follows that

$$J_p(I, A, B) \geq \frac{1}{p(1-p)}(\text{Tr } A - 1) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad J_p(I, A, B) = 0 \Leftrightarrow A = B. \quad (14)$$

For  $p = 1$ , the result is well-known [38, Sec. 2.5.2] and originally due to Klein ([17]). For  $p \in (1, 2)$  we write  $p = 1 + r$  and again use Hölder's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = \text{Tr } A &= \text{Tr } B^{-\frac{r}{2(r+1)}} AB^{-\frac{r}{2(r+1)}} B^{\frac{r}{r+1}} \\ &\leq \left[ \text{Tr} \left( B^{-\frac{r}{2(r+1)}} AB^{-\frac{r}{2(r+1)}} \right)^{1+r} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\text{Tr } B)^{\frac{r}{1+r}} \\ &\leq [\text{Tr } B^{-\frac{1}{2}} A^{1+r} B^{-\frac{1}{2}}]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\text{Tr } A^{1+r} B^{-r})^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where we used  $\text{Tr } B = 1$  and the second inequality follows from a classic result of Lieb–Thirring [25, Appendix B, Theorem 9].  $\square$

Because the denominator  $p(1-p)$  changes sign at  $p = 0$  and  $p = 1$ , both  $g_p$  and  $\tilde{g}_p$  are convex. In fact, they satisfy the much stronger condition of operator convexity for  $p \in (0, 2]$  and  $p \in [-1, 1)$  respectively. Since  $g(0) = 0$  and

$$\frac{g_p(x)}{x} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p(1-p)}(1 - x^{p-1}) & p \neq 1 \\ \log x & p = 1 \end{cases}, \quad (16)$$

it follows that  $g_p(x)/x$  is operator monotone [3, 10, 27], for  $p \in (0, 2]$ , i.e.  $g_p$  can be analytically continued to the upper half plane, which it maps into itself. By applying Nevanlinna's theorem [1, Sec. 59, Theorem 2] to  $g_p(x)/x$ , one finds that  $g_p(x)$  has an integral representation of the form

$$\begin{aligned} g_p(x) &= ax + \int_0^\infty \frac{x^2 t - x}{x + t} d\nu(t) \\ &= ax + \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{x^2}{x + t} - \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{x + t} \right] t d\nu(t) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

with  $\nu(t) \geq 0$ . Integral representations are not unique, and making a suitable change of variable in the classic formula

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{p-1}}{x+1} = \frac{\pi}{\sin p\pi} \equiv \frac{1}{c_p} \quad p \in (0, 1) \quad (18)$$

allows us to give the following explicit representations

$$g_p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p(1-p)} \left[ x + c_p \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{t}{x+t} - 1 \right) t^{p-1} dt \right] & p \in (0, 1), \\ \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{x^2}{x+t} - 1 + \frac{t}{x+t} \right) \frac{1}{1+t} dt & p = 1, \\ \frac{1}{p(1-p)} \left[ x - c_{p-1} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^2}{x+t} t^{p-2} dt \right] & p \in (1, 2), \\ \frac{1}{2}(-x + x^2) & p = 2. \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

Note that for  $p \in (0, 2)$  the integrand is supported on  $(0, \infty)$ . This plays a key role in the equality conditions; therefore, we will henceforth concentrate on  $p \in (0, 2)$ .

**Theorem 2.** *The function  $J_p(K, A, B)$  defined in (6) is jointly convex in  $A, B$ .*

**Proof.** It follows from (17) that

$$\begin{aligned} J_p(K, A, B) &= a \operatorname{Tr} K^* A K \\ &\quad + \int_0^\infty \left[ \operatorname{Tr} K^* A \frac{1}{L_A + t R_B} (A K) - \frac{\operatorname{Tr} K B K^*}{t} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \operatorname{Tr} B K^* \frac{1}{L_A + t R_B} (K B) \right] t \nu(t) dt. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

The joint convexity then follows immediately from that of the map  $(X, A, B) \mapsto \operatorname{Tr} X^* \frac{1}{L_A + t R_B} (X)$  which was proved in [37] following the strategy in [24]. The proof is also given in the Appendix.  $\square$

For other approaches, see [30, 31, 11]. The advantage to the argument used here is that it immediately implies that equality holds in joint convexity if and only if it holds for each term in the integrand.

**Corollary 3.** *The relative entropy  $H(A, B) = J_1(I, A, B)$  is jointly convex in  $A, B$ .*

## 2.2. Extensions with $r \neq 1 - p$

We now consider extensions of Theorem 2 to situations considered by Ando ([4]) and Lieb ([20]) in which  $B^{1-p}$  is replaced by  $B^r$  with  $r \neq 1 - p$ . Our approach uses an idea from Bekjan ([6]) and Effros ([11]). We will also show that equality holds in these extensions only under trivial conditions. For this we first need an elementary lemma, which we prove for the concave case.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $f(\lambda): [0, \infty) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  be a nonlinear convex or concave operator function, let  $A_1, A_2$  be density matrices and  $A = \lambda A_1 + (1 - \lambda) A_2$  with  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Then  $f(A) = \lambda f(A_1) + (1 - \lambda) f(A_2)$  if and only if  $A_1 = A_2$ .*

**Proof.** Since any operator concave function is analytic, nonlinearity implies that  $f$  is strictly concave. If  $f(A) = \lambda f(A_1) + (1 - \lambda)f(A_2)$ , then

$$\langle v, f(A)v \rangle = \lambda \langle v, f(A_1)v \rangle + (1 - \lambda) \langle v, f(A_2)v \rangle \quad (21)$$

for any vector  $v$ . Now choose  $v$  to be a normalized eigenvector of  $A$ . Then inserting this on the left above and applying Jensen's inequality to each term on the right, one finds

$$f(\langle v, Av \rangle) \leq \lambda f(\langle v, A_1 v \rangle) + (1 - \lambda) f(\langle v, A_2 v \rangle). \quad (22)$$

But this contradicts concavity unless equality holds, which implies that  $v$  is also an eigenvector of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . But then the strict concavity of  $f$  also implies that  $\langle v, A_1 v \rangle = \langle v, A_2 v \rangle$ . Since this holds for an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of  $A$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , we must have  $A_1 = A_2$ .

**Corollary 5.** *The function  $(A, B) \mapsto \operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^r$  is jointly concave on the set of positive definite matrices when  $p, r \geq 0$  and  $p + r \leq 1$ . Moreover, when  $p + r < 1$  and  $K$  is invertible, the convexity is strict unless  $B_1 = B_2$  and  $A_1 = A_2$ .*

**Proof.** It is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2 that  $(A, B) \mapsto \operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-p}$  is jointly concave in  $A, B$ . Now write  $\operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^r = \operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K (B^s)^{1-p}$  with  $s = r/(1 - p)$ . First, observe that for  $0 < s < 1$  the function  $f(x) = x^s$  satisfies the hypotheses of Lemma 4. Therefore,

$$(\lambda B_1 + (1 - \lambda) B_2)^s > \lambda B_1^s + (1 - \lambda) B_2^s \quad (23)$$

with  $0 < \lambda < 1$  and  $B_1 \neq B_2$ . The operator monotonicity of  $x \mapsto x^{1-p}$  for  $0 < p < 1$  then implies

$$(\lambda B_1 + (1 - \lambda) B_2)^r > (\lambda B_1^s + (1 - \lambda) B_2^s)^{1-p}, \quad (24)$$

and the joint concavity of  $\operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-p}$  implies

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K (B^s)^{1-p} &\geq \operatorname{Tr} K^* (\lambda A_1 + (1 - \lambda) A_2)^p K (\lambda B_1^s + (1 - \lambda) B_2^s)^{1-p} \\ &\geq \lambda \operatorname{Tr} K^* A_1^p K B_1^{s(1-p)} + (1 - \lambda) \operatorname{Tr} K^* A_2^p K B_2^{s(1-p)} \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where  $A = \lambda A_1 + (1 - \lambda) A_2$ ,  $B = \lambda B_1 + (1 - \lambda) B_2$ , which is precisely the joint concavity of  $\operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^r$ . Moreover, equality in joint concavity implies equality in (25) and, since  $K^* A^p K$  is strictly positive, this implies equality in (23). Therefore, equality in (25) gives a contradiction unless  $B_1 = B_2$ . In that case, the joint concavity reduces to concavity in  $A$  for which, by a similar argument, equality holds if and only if  $A_1 = A_2$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 6.** *The function  $(A, B) \mapsto \operatorname{Tr} K^* A^p K B^{1-r}$  is jointly convex on the set of positive definite matrices when  $1 < r \leq p \leq 2$ . Moreover, when  $r < p$  and  $K$  is invertible, the convexity is strict unless  $B_1 = B_2$  and  $A_1 = A_2$ .*



**Proof.** The argument is similar to that for Corollary 5. Write  $\text{Tr } K^* A^p K B^{1-r} = \text{Tr } K^* A^p K (B^s)^{1-p}$  with  $s = \frac{1-r}{1-p}$ . Since  $s \in (0, 1)$  and  $1-p \in (-1, 0)$  when  $1 < r < p < 2$ , it follows that  $x^s$  is operator concave and  $x^{1-p}$  is operator monotone decreasing.  $\square$

### 2.3. Monotonicity under partial traces

Let  $X$  and  $Z$  denote the generalized Pauli operators whose action on the standard basis is  $X|e_k\rangle = |e_{k+1}\rangle$  (with subscript addition mod  $d$ ) and  $Z|e_k\rangle = e^{i2\pi k/d}|e_k\rangle$ . It is well known and easy to verify that  $\frac{1}{d} \sum_k Z^k A Z^{-k}$  is the projection of a matrix onto its diagonal. If  $D$  is a diagonal matrix, then  $\sum_k X^k D X^{-k} = (\text{Tr } D)I$ . Now let  $\{W_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots,d^2}$  denote some ordering of the generalized Pauli operators, e.g.,  $W_{j+k(d-1)} = X^j Z^k$  with  $j, k = 1, 2, \dots, d$ . Then  $\frac{1}{d} \sum_n W_n A W_n^* = (\text{Tr } A)I$  and

$$\frac{1}{d} \sum_n (W_n \otimes I_2) A_{12} (W_n \otimes I_2)^* = I_1 \otimes (\text{Tr}_1 A) = I_1 \otimes A_2. \quad (26)$$

Using the fact that replacing  $W_n$  by  $U W_n U^*$  with  $U$  unitary, simply corresponds to a change of basis which does not affect (26) and then multiplying both sides by  $U^* \otimes I_2$  on the left and  $U \otimes I_2$  on the right gives the equivalent expression

$$\frac{1}{d} \sum_n (W_n U^* \otimes I_2) A_{12} (W_n U^* \otimes I_2)^* = I_1 \otimes A_2. \quad (27)$$

Combining this with joint convexity yields a slight generalization of the well-known monotonicity of  $J_p(K, A, B)$  under partial traces (MPT), first proved by Lieb in [20] for the case  $K_{12} = I_1 \otimes K_2$  when  $p \in (0, 1)$ .

**Theorem 7.** Let  $J_p$  be as in (7),  $A_{12}, B_{12}$  strictly positive in  $M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$  and  $K_{12} = V_1 \otimes K_2$  with  $V_1$  unitary in  $M_{d_1}$ . Then

$$J_p(K_2, A_2, B_2) \leq J_p(K_{12}, A_{12}, B_{12}). \quad (28)$$

**Proof.** Writing  $\mathcal{W}_n$  for  $W_n \otimes I_2$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  for  $V_1 \otimes I_2$  and using (27) gives

$$\begin{aligned} J_p(K_2, A_2, B_2) &= \frac{1}{d_1} J_p(I_1 \otimes K_2, I_1 \otimes A_2, I_1 \otimes B_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{d_1} J_p \left( I_1 \otimes K_2, \frac{1}{d_1} \sum_n \mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{V}^* A_{12} \mathcal{V} \mathcal{W}_n^*, \frac{1}{d_1} \sum_n \mathcal{W}_n B_{12} \mathcal{W}_n^* \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{d_1^2} \sum_n J_p(I_1 \otimes K_2, \mathcal{W}_n (V_1^* \otimes I_2) A_{12} (V_1 \otimes I_2) \mathcal{W}_n^*, \mathcal{W}_n B_{12} \mathcal{W}_n^*) \\ &= J_p(V_1 \otimes K_2, A_{12}, B_{12}) \end{aligned}$$

where the final equality follows from the unitary invariance of the trace.  $\square$

Because  $\text{Tr}_{12}(V_1 \otimes K_2)A_{12}(V_1 \otimes K_2)^* = \text{Tr}_2 K_2 A_2 K_2^*$ , (28) is equivalent to

$$\text{Tr } K_2^* A_2^p K_2 B_2^{1-p} - \text{Tr}(V_1 \otimes K_2)^* A_{12}^p (V_1 \otimes K_2) B_{12}^{1-p} \begin{cases} \geq 0 & p \in (0, 1) \\ \leq 0 & p \in (1, 2) \end{cases}. \quad (29)$$

We can obtain a weak reversal of this for  $p \in (0, 1)$ . The argument in the Appendix shows that for any  $p$  and fixed  $A, B \geq 0$  both  $\text{Tr } K^* A^p K B^{1-p}$  and  $\text{Tr } K^* A K$  are convex in  $K$ . This was observed earlier by Lieb ([20]) and also follows from the results in [24]. One can then apply the argument above in the special case  $A_{12} = I_1 \otimes A_2, B_{12} = I_1 \otimes B_2$  to conclude that

$$\text{Tr } K_2^* A_2^p K_2 B_2^{1-p} \leq \frac{1}{d_1} \text{Tr } K_{12}^* (I_1 \otimes A_2)^p K_{12} (I_1 \otimes B_2)^{1-p} \quad (30)$$

$$\leq \text{Tr } K_{12}^* (I_1 \otimes A_2)^p K_{12} (I_1 \otimes B_2)^{1-p} \quad (31)$$

independent of whether  $p < 1$  or  $p > 1$ . However, because the term  $\text{Tr } K^* A K$  is convex rather than linear in  $K$ , (30) does not allow us to draw any conclusions about the monotonicity of  $J_p(K_{12}, I_1 \otimes A_2, I_1 \otimes B_2)$ .

To prove Theorem 7 we showed that joint convexity implies monotonicity; the reverse implication also holds. Let  $A_1, \dots, A_m, B_1, \dots, B_m$  be positive definite matrices in  $M_d, A = \sum_j A_j, B = \sum_j B_j$ , and put

$$\tilde{A}_{12} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes A_j, \quad \tilde{B}_{12} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes B_j, \quad (32)$$

for  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  the standard basis of  $\mathbf{C}^m$ . Then  $\tilde{A}_{12}$  and  $\tilde{B}_{12}$  are block diagonal, and  $\tilde{A}_2 = \text{Tr}_1 \tilde{A}_{12} = \sum_k A_k = A$  and similarly for  $B$ . Then if monotonicity under partial traces holds, one can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} J_p(K, A, B) &= J_p(K, \tilde{A}_2, \tilde{B}_2) \\ &\leq J_p(I_1 \otimes K, \tilde{A}_{12}, \tilde{B}_{12}) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, B_j) \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Thus, monotonicity under partial traces also directly implies joint convexity of  $J_p$ .

Applying (28) in the case  $K = I$ , and  $A_{12} \mapsto A_{123}$  and  $B_{12} \mapsto A_{12} \otimes I_3$  gives

$$J_p(I_{23}, A_{23}, A_2 \otimes I_3) \leq J_p(I_{123}, A_{123}, A_{12} \otimes I_3). \quad (34)$$

When  $p = 1$ , it follows from (7) that

$$J_1(I_{23}, A_{23}, A_2 \otimes I_3) = H(A_{23}, A_2 \otimes I_2) = -S(A_{23}) + S(A_2)$$

where  $S(A) = -\text{Tr } A \log A$ . Thus, (34) becomes

$$-S(A_{23}) + S(A_2) \leq -S(A_{123}) + S(A_{12})$$

or, equivalently

$$S(A_2) + S(A_{123}) \leq S(A_{12}) + S(A_{23}) \quad (35)$$

which is the standard form of SSA.

### 3. Equality for Joint Convexity of $J_p(K, A, B)$

#### 3.1. Origin of necessary and sufficient conditions

Looking back at the proof of Theorem 2, we see that for  $p \in (0, 2)$ , equality holds in the joint convexity of  $J_p(K, A, B)$  if and only if equality holds in the joint convexity for each term in the integrand in (17). It should be clear from the argument given in the Appendix, that this requires  $M_j = 0$  for all  $j$  with  $M_j$  given by (70). This is easily seen to be equivalent to

$$(L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j})^{-1}(X_j) = (L_A + tR_B)^{-1}(X) \quad \text{for all } j, \quad (36)$$

with  $A = \sum_j A_j$ ,  $B = \sum_j B_j$ , and  $X = \sum_j X_j$  with  $X_j = A_j K$  and/or  $X_j = K B_j$ . By writing  $AK = L_A(K)$  in the former case and  $KB = R_B(K)$  in the latter we obtain the conditions

$$(I + t\Delta_{A_j B_j}^{-1})^{-1}(K) = (I + t\Delta_{AB}^{-1})^{-1}(K) \quad \forall j \quad \forall t > 0, \quad (37a)$$

$$(\Delta_{A_j B_j} + tI)^{-1}(K) = (\Delta_{AB} + tI)^{-1}(K) \quad \forall j \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (37b)$$

From the integral representations (19), one might expect it to be necessary for either or both of (37a) and (37b) to hold depending on  $p$ . In fact, either will suffice because (37a) holds if and only if (37b) holds. Because  $\Delta_{AB}$  is positive definite, by analytic continuation (37b) extends from  $t > 0$  to the entire complex plane, except points  $-t$  on the negative real axis for which  $t \in \text{spectrum}(\Delta_{AB})$ . Therefore, by using the Cauchy integral formula, one finds that for any function  $G$  analytic on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$   $G(\Delta_{A_j B_j})(K) = G(\Delta_{AB})(K)$ .

**Theorem 8.** For fixed  $K$ , and  $A = \sum_j A_j$ ,  $B = \sum_j B_j$ , the following are equivalent

- (a)  $J_p(K, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, B_j)$  for all  $p \in (0, 2)$ .
- (b)  $J_p(K, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, B_j)$  for some  $p \in (0, 2)$ .
- (c)  $(\Delta_{A_j B_j} + tI)^{-1}(K) = (\Delta_{AB} + tI)^{-1}(K)$  for all  $j$  and for all  $t > 0$ .
- (d)  $A_j^{it} K B_j^{-it} = A^{it} K B^{-it}$  for all  $j$  and for all  $t > 0$ .
- (e)  $(\log A - \log A_j)K = K(\log B - \log B_j)$  for all  $j$ .

**Proof.** Clearly (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). The implications (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d), as well as (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a), follow from the discussion above. Differentiation of (d) at  $t = 0$  gives (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (e), and it is straightforward to verify that (e)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) with  $p = 1$ . Moreover, (d) implies  $\sum_j \text{Tr } K^* A_j^{it} K B_j^{1-it} = \text{Tr } K^* A^{it} K B^{1-it}$  for all  $t$ , which implies (a) by analytic continuation.  $\square$

#### 3.2. Sufficient subalgebras

When  $K = I$ , we can obtain a more useful reformulation of the equality conditions by using results about sufficient subalgebras obtained in [14, 15, 33]. Since the definition and convexity properties of  $J_p(I, A, B)$  extend by continuity to positive

semidefinite matrices, with  $\ker B \subseteq \ker A$ , we will formulate the conditions in this more general situation, using the conventions in Sec. 1.2.

Let  $N \subseteq M_d$  be a subalgebra, then there is a trace preserving conditional expectation  $E_N$  from  $M_d$  onto  $N$ , such that  $\operatorname{Tr} AX = \operatorname{Tr} E_N(A)X$  for all  $X \in N$ . In particular, if  $N = M_{d_1} \otimes I \subseteq M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$ , then we have  $E_N(A_{12}) = \operatorname{Tr}_2 A \otimes \frac{1}{d_2} I$ .

Let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m \in M_d^+$  and assume that  $\ker Q_m \subseteq \ker Q_j$  for all  $j$ . The subalgebra  $N$  is said to be sufficient for  $\{Q_1, \dots, Q_m\}$  if there is a completely positive trace preserving map  $T: N \rightarrow M_d$ , such that  $T(E_N(Q_j)) = Q_j$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, m$ . This definition is due to Petz ([33, 32]) and it is a quantum generalization of the well known notion of sufficiency from classical statistics. In [33], it was shown that sufficient subalgebras can be characterized by the condition

$$H(Q_j, Q_m) = H(E_N(Q_j), E_N(Q_m)), \quad \text{for all } j.$$

We combine this with the results of the previous section to obtain other useful characterizations of sufficiency.

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m \in M_d^+$  be such that  $\ker Q_m \subseteq \ker Q_j$  for all  $j$ . Let  $N \subseteq M_d$  be a subalgebra. The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $N$  is sufficient for  $\{Q_1, \dots, Q_m\}$ .
- (ii)  $E_N(Q_j)^{it} E_N(Q_m)^{-it} P_{(\ker Q_m)^\perp} = Q_j^{it} Q_m^{-it}$ , for all  $j, t \in \mathbf{R}$ .
- (iii) There exist  $Q_{j,0} \in N^+$ , and  $D \in M_d^+$ , such that  $\ker D = \ker Q_m$ , and  $Q_j = Q_{j,0} D$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .
- (iv)  $J_p(I, Q_j, Q_m) = J_p(I, E_N(Q_j), E_N(Q_m))$  for all  $j$  and some  $p \in (0, 1)$ .

The proof of the conditions (i)–(iii) can be found in [14], see also [28]. The condition (iv) was proved in [15].

### 3.3. Equality conditions with $K = I$

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $A_1, \dots, A_m$  and  $B_1, \dots, B_m$  be positive semi-definite matrices with  $\ker B_j \subseteq \ker A_j$ , and let  $A = \sum_j A_j, B = \sum_j B_j$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (a)  $J_p(I, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(I, A_j, B_j)$  for all  $p \in (0, 2)$ .
- (b)  $J_p(I, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(I, A_j, B_j)$  for some  $p \in (0, 2)$ .
- (c)  $A_j^{it} B_j^{-it} = A^{it} B^{-it} P_{(\ker B_j)^\perp}$  for all  $j$  and  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ .
- (d) There are positive matrices  $D_1, \dots, D_m$ , with  $\ker D_j = \ker B_j$ , such that  $[A_j, D_j] = [B_j, D_j] = 0$ , and with  $D = \sum_j D_j$ .

$$A_j = AD^{-1}D_j, \quad B_j = BD^{-1}D_j. \quad (38)$$

**Proof.** As in Sec. 3.1, (b) implies (36) on  $(\ker B_j)^\perp$ , with  $X_j = B_j, X = B$ . This gives

$$(\Delta_{A_j B_j} + tI)^{-1}(I) = (\Delta_{AB} + tI)^{-1}(I) \quad \text{on } (\ker B_j)^\perp. \quad (39)$$

Then (c) follows from the Cauchy integral formula as in Sec. 3.1.

To show (c) implies (d), we will use Theorem 9. First let  $N = I \otimes M_d \subseteq M_m \otimes M_d$  and let  $\tilde{A}_{12}, \tilde{B}_{12}$  be the block-diagonal matrices in  $M_m \otimes M_d$ , defined by (32). Clearly, we have  $\ker \tilde{A}_{12} \supseteq \ker \tilde{B}_{12} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes \ker B_j$  and  $E_N(\tilde{A}_{12}) = \frac{1}{m}I \otimes A, E_N(\tilde{B}_{12}) = \frac{1}{m}I \otimes B$ . Then (c) implies  $E_N(\tilde{A}_{12})^{it} E_N(\tilde{B}_{12})^{-it} P_{(\ker \tilde{B}_{12})^\perp} = \tilde{A}_{12}^{it} \tilde{B}_{12}^{-it}$  for all  $t$ . Then by using Theorem 9 with  $Q_1 = \tilde{A}_{12}, Q_m = Q_2 = \tilde{B}_{12}$ , we can conclude that there are positive matrices  $A_0, B_0 \in M_d$  and  $D_{12} \in (M_m \otimes M_d)^+$ , such that  $\ker D_{12} = \ker \tilde{B}_{12}, [I \otimes A_0, D_{12}] = [I \otimes B_0, D_{12}] = 0$  and

$$\tilde{A}_{12} = (I \otimes A_0)D_{12}, \quad \tilde{B}_{12} = (I \otimes B_0)D_{12}. \quad (40)$$

Since  $\tilde{A}_{12}, \tilde{B}_{12}$  are block diagonal,  $D_{12} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes D_j$  must also be block diagonal with  $D_j \in M_d^+, \ker D_j = \ker B_j, [A_0, D_j] = [B_0, D_j] = 0$  for all  $j$  and

$$A_j = A_0 D_j, \quad B_j = B_0 D_j. \quad (41)$$

Taking  $\text{Tr}_1$  in (40) gives  $A = A_0 D$  and  $B = B_0 D$ . Using this in (41) gives (38) which proves (d). The implications (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) are straightforward.  $\square$

We return briefly to the case of arbitrary  $K$ . Note that if the condition (d) holds and  $[D_j, K] = 0$  for all  $j$ , then  $J_p(K, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, B_j)$  for all  $p \in (0, 2)$ , this gives a sufficient, but not necessary, condition for equality if  $K \neq I$ . The next result reduces the case of  $K$  unitary to  $K = I$ . Then, we can apply the conditions of Theorem 10 to  $A_j$  and  $KB_j K^*$ .

**Theorem 11.** *If  $K$  is unitary, then  $J_p(K, A, B) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, B_j)$  if and only if  $J_p(I, A, KBK^*) = \sum_j J_p(I, A_j, KB_j K^*)$*

**Proof.** When  $K$  is unitary, then  $KB^p K^* = (KBK^*)^p$  which implies  $J_p(K, A, B) = J_p(I, A, KBK^*)$ .  $\square$

One can try to extend the results of this section to the case  $\|K\| \leq 1$ , and hence to all  $K$ , by using the unitary dilation

$$\mathcal{U} = \begin{pmatrix} K & L \\ -L & K \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $L = U(1 - |K|^2)^{1/2}$  and  $K = U|K|$  is the polar decomposition. Then, with

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{B} = \begin{pmatrix} B & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

we have  $J_p(K, A, B) = J_p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ , so that we may use Theorem 11 to get conditions for equality. But note that the conditions of Theorem 10 require that  $\ker \mathcal{UB}_j\mathcal{U}^* \subseteq \ker \mathcal{A}_j$  and it can be shown that this implies  $P_{(\ker A_j)^\perp} K P_{(\ker B_j)^\perp} K^* = P_{(\ker A_j)^\perp}$ , where  $P_{\mathcal{N}}$  denotes a projection onto the subscribed space. In particular, if all  $A_j$  and  $B_j$  are invertible, this restricts us to unitary  $K$ .

### 3.4. Equality in monotonicity under partial trace

It is easy to see that when  $A_{12} = A_1 \otimes A_2$  and  $B_{12} = B_1 \otimes B_2$ , then  $J_p(I, A_{12}, B_{12}) = J_p(I, A_2, B_2)$  if and only if  $A_1 = B_1$  with  $\text{Tr } A_1 = 1$ . However, it is not necessary that  $A_{12} = A_1 \otimes A_2$ . The equality conditions are given by the following theorem.

**Theorem 12.** Let  $K_{12} = I_{12}$  and  $A_{12}, B_{12} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2)^+$ , with  $\ker B_{12} \subseteq \ker A_{12}$ . Equality holds in (28) if and only if

- (i)  $\mathcal{H}_2 = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{H}_n^L \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^R$ ,
- (ii)  $A_{12} = \bigoplus_n A_n^L \otimes A_n^R$  with  $A_n^L \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^L)^+$  and  $A_n^R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n^R)^+$ ,
- (iii)  $B_{12} = \bigoplus_n B_n^L \otimes B_n^R$  with  $B_n^L \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^L)^+$  and  $B_n^R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n^R)^+$ ,
- (iv)  $A_n^L = B_n^L$  for all  $n$ .

**Proof.** Let us denote  $A_j = \frac{1}{d_1} \mathcal{W}_j A_{12} \mathcal{W}_j^*$ ,  $B_j = \frac{1}{d_1} \mathcal{W}_j B_{12} \mathcal{W}_j^*$ , with  $\mathcal{W}_j$  defined as in the proof of Theorem 7. Then we get that equality in (28) is equivalent to

$$J_p \left( I_{12}, \sum_j A_j, \sum_j B_j \right) = \sum_j J_p(I_{12}, A_j, B_j).$$

By Theorem 10, equality for some  $p$  implies equality for all  $p$ , so that  $J_p(I_{12}, A_{12}, B_{12}) = J_p(I_2, \text{Tr}_1 A, \text{Tr}_1 B) = J_p(I_{12}, E_N(A_{12}), E_N(B_{12}))$  for  $p \in (0, 1)$ , where  $N$  is the subalgebra  $I_1 \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2)$ . Hence  $N$  is sufficient for  $\{A_{12}, B_{12}\}$  and, by Theorem 9, there are some  $A_R, B_R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2)^+$  and  $D \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2)^+$ ,  $\ker D = \ker B_{12}$ , such that  $[(I_1 \otimes A_R), D] = [(I_1 \otimes B_R), D] = 0$  and

$$A_{12} = D(I_1 \otimes A_R), \quad B_{12} = D(I_1 \otimes B_R). \quad (42)$$

Now let  $M_1$  be the subalgebra in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2)$ , generated by  $A_R, B_R$ . Then  $D \in (I_1 \otimes M_1)' = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1) \otimes M_1'$  where  $M_1'$  denotes the commutant of  $M_1$ . There is a decomposition  $\mathcal{H}_2 = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{H}_n^L \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^R$ , such that

$$M_1' = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n^L) \otimes 1_n^R, \quad M_1 = \bigoplus_n 1_n^L \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n^R)$$

and  $D = \bigoplus_n D_n \otimes 1_n^R$ , where  $D_n \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^L)$ . Since  $A_R, B_R \in M_1$ , we get the result, with  $A_n^L = B_n^L = D_n$ . The converse can be verified directly.  $\square$

Applying this result in the case  $A_{12} \mapsto A_{123}$  and  $B_{12} \mapsto A_{12} \otimes I_3$  gives equality conditions in (34). Since these are independent of  $p$ , they are identical to the conditions, first given in [13], for equality in SSA (35) which corresponds to  $p = 1$ .

**Corollary 13.** *Equality holds in (34) if and only if*

- (i)  $\mathcal{H}_2 = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{H}_n^L \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^R$ .
- (ii)  $A_{123} = \bigoplus_n A_n^L \otimes A_n^R$  with  $A_n^L \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^L)$  and  $A_n^R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n^R \otimes \mathcal{H}_3)$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to let  $A_{12} \rightarrow A_{123}$  and  $B_{12} \rightarrow A_{12} \otimes I_3$  in Theorem 12. □

To apply these results in Sec. 4, it is useful to observe that condition (ii) in Corollary 13 above can be written as

$$A_{123} = (F_L \otimes I_3)(I_1 \otimes F_R) \quad (43)$$

with  $F_L \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2)^+$ ,  $F_R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3)^+$ ,  $[F_L \otimes I_3, I_1 \otimes F_R] = 0$ . Combining this with part (d) of Theorem 10 gives the following useful result, which essentially allows us to bypass the need to apply Theorem 10 to  $J_p(I, A_j, \mathcal{W}_n A_j \mathcal{W}_n)$ .

**Corollary 14.** *Let  $A_j \in M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$ ,  $A = \sum A_j$ . Then*

$$J_p(I_{12}, A, (\text{Tr}_2 A) \otimes I_2) = \sum_j J_p(I_{12}, A_j, (\text{Tr}_2 A_j) \otimes I_2) \quad (44)$$

*if and only if there are  $D_j \in M_{d_1}^+$ , such that  $\ker D_j = \ker \text{Tr}_2 A_j$ ,  $[A_j, D_j \otimes I] = 0$  and  $A_j = A(D^{-1} D_j \otimes I)$  with  $D = \sum_j D_j$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{A}_{123} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes A_j \in M_m \otimes M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$ , then  $A = \tilde{A}_{23} \in M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$  and (44) can be written as

$$J_p(I_{23}, \tilde{A}_{23}, \tilde{A}_2 \otimes I_3) = J_p(I_{123}, \tilde{A}_{123}, \tilde{A}_{12} \otimes I_3).$$

By (43), this is equivalent to the existence of  $F_L$  and  $F_R$ ,  $[(F_L \otimes I_3), (I_1 \otimes F_R)] = 0$ , such that  $\tilde{A}_{123} = (F_L \otimes I_3)(I_1 \otimes F_R)$ . Since  $\tilde{A}_{(1)(23)}$  is block-diagonal,  $F_L$  must be of the form  $F_L = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes D_j$ , so that  $A_j = F_R(D_j \otimes I)$ . Then  $\text{Tr}_2 A_j = D_j \text{Tr}_2 F_R$  which implies that  $\ker D_j \subseteq \ker \text{Tr}_2 A_j$ . If we let  $P_j = P_{(\ker \text{Tr}_2 A_j)^\perp}$ , then  $P_j$  commutes with  $D_j$  and

$$A_j = (P_j \otimes I)A_j = (P_j D_j \otimes I)F_R,$$

so that we can assume that  $\ker D_j = \ker \text{Tr}_2 A_j$ , by taking  $P_j D_j$  instead of  $D_j$ . Taking  $\text{Tr}_1$  of (43) gives  $A = (D \otimes I_3)F_R = F_R(D \otimes I_3)$  so that  $A_j = A(D^{-1} D_j \otimes I)$ . □

#### 4. Equality in Joint Convexity of Carlen–Lieb

Carlen and Lieb [8] obtained several convexity inequalities from those of the map

$$\Upsilon_{p,q}(K, A) \equiv \text{Tr}(K^* A^p K)^{q/p} \quad (45)$$

using an identity which we write only for  $q = 1$  and  $p > 1$  in our notation as

$$\Upsilon_{p,1}(K, A) = (p-1) \inf \left\{ J_p(K, A, X) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } X + \frac{1}{p(p-1)} \text{Tr } K^* A K : X > 0 \right\}. \quad (46)$$

We introduce the closely related quantity

$$\widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(K, A) = \inf \left\{ J_p(K, A, X) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } X : X > 0 \right\} \quad (47)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(p-1)} \left( \Upsilon_{p,1}(K, A) - \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } K^* A K \right) \quad (48)$$

which is well-defined for all  $p \in (0, 2)$  and allows us to continue to treat the cases  $p < 1$  and  $p > 1$  simultaneously, as well as include the special case  $p = 1$  for which

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Upsilon}_{1,1}(K, A) &= -\text{Tr } K^* A K \log(K^* A K) + \text{Tr } K^* (A \log A) K + \text{Tr } K^* A K \\ &= S(K^* A K) + \text{Tr } K K^* A \log A + \text{Tr } K^* A K. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Since we are dealing with finite dimensional spaces, the infimum in (46) has a minimizer which satisfies

$$X_{\min} = (K^* A^p K)^{1/p}. \quad (50)$$

For fixed  $K$ , let  $X_j$  denote the minimizer associated with  $A_j$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(K, A_1) + \widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(K, A_2) &= J_p(K, A_1, X_1) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } X_1 + J_p(K, A_2, X_2) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } X_2 \\ &\geq J_p(K, A_1 + A_2, X_1 + X_2) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } (X_1 + X_2) \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \inf \left\{ J_p(K, A_1 + A_2, X) + \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } X : X > 0 \right\} \\ &= \widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(K, A_1 + A_2) \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

which proves convexity of  $\widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}$ . Note that equality above requires both  $X = \sum_j X_j$  and  $J_p(K, A, X) = \sum_j J_p(K, A_j, X_j)$ , where  $X$  is the minimizer associated with  $A$ .

Now we introduce some notation following the strategy in the published version of [8]. Let  $|1\rangle$  denote the vector  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$  with all components 1 and  $|e_1\rangle$  the



vector  $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . Define

$$\mathcal{K} = \frac{1}{d} I \otimes |\mathbb{1}\rangle\langle e_1| = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ I & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ I & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (53)$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}_j = \sum_k A_{jk} \otimes |e_k\rangle\langle e_k| = \bigoplus_k A_{jk} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{j1} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & A_{j2} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A_{j3} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \quad (54)$$

and  $\mathcal{A} = \sum_j \mathcal{A}_j = \sum_k A_k \otimes |e_k\rangle\langle e_k| = \bigoplus_k A_k$  with  $A_k = \sum_j A_{jk}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{K}^* \mathcal{A}^p \mathcal{K} = \left( \sum_k A_k^p \right) \otimes |e_1\rangle\langle e_1|$$

With this notation, we make some definitions following Carlen and Lieb but modified to allow a unified treatment of  $p \in (0, 2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}) &= \Phi_{(p,1)}(A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots) \\ &\equiv \Upsilon_{p,1}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}) \\ &= \text{Tr}(A_1^p + A_2^p + A_3^p + \dots)^{1/p}, \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}) &= \widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots) \\ &\equiv \widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(p-1)} \left[ \Phi_{(p,1)}(A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots) - \frac{1}{p} \sum_k \text{Tr } A_k \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

The definitions of  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  apply only when  $\mathcal{A}$  is a block diagonal matrix in  $M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$ . We now extend this to an arbitrary matrices  $\mathcal{A}_{12} \in M_{d_1} \otimes M_{d_2}$ .

$$\Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) \equiv \text{Tr}_1(\text{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_{12}^p)^{1/p}, \quad (57)$$

$$\widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) \equiv \frac{1}{(p-1)} \left[ \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) - \frac{1}{p} \text{Tr } \mathcal{A}_{12} \right]. \quad (58)$$

For  $p = 1$ , the formulas with hats are related to the conditional entropy, from which they differ by a constant

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\Phi}_{(1,1)}(A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots) - \text{Tr } \mathcal{A}_{12} &= -\text{Tr} \left( \sum_k A_k \right) \log \left( \sum_k A_k \right) + \sum_k A_k \log A_k \\ &= S \left( \sum_k A_k \right) - S(\mathcal{A}_{12}) \\ &= J_1(I, \mathcal{A}_{12}, \text{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_{12} \otimes I_2),\end{aligned}\quad (59)$$

$$\widehat{\Psi}_{(1,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) - \text{Tr } \mathcal{A}_{12} = S(\mathcal{A}_1) - S(\mathcal{A}_{12}) = H(\mathcal{A}_{12}, \mathcal{A}_1 \otimes I_2). \quad (60)$$

When  $\mathcal{A}_{12}$  is block diagonal,  $\Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) = \Phi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12})$  with the understanding that  $\text{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_{12} = \sum_k A_k$ . Now let  $W_n$  denote the generalized Pauli matrices as in Sec. 2.3,  $\mathcal{W}_n = I_1 \otimes W_n$  and define

$$\mathcal{A}_{123} = \sum_n \mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A}_{12} \mathcal{W}_n^* \otimes |e_n\rangle\langle e_n| = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A}_{12} \mathcal{W}_n^* \quad (61)$$

so that  $\mathcal{A}_{123}$  is block diagonal with blocks  $\mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A}_{12} \mathcal{W}_n^*$ . Then

$$d_2^{\frac{1+p}{p}} \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12}) = \Phi(\mathcal{A}_{(12)(3)}) = \Phi(\mathcal{W}_1 \mathcal{A}_{12} \mathcal{W}_1^*, \mathcal{W}_2 \mathcal{A}_{12} \mathcal{W}_2^*, \dots). \quad (62)$$

It is straightforward to show that for  $p \in (0, 2)$  the functions  $\widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A})$  are all convex in  $\mathcal{A}$ , inheriting this property from the quantities from which they are defined. In view of (59) and (60), the conditions for equality in the next two theorems are not surprising.

**Theorem 15.** *The function  $\widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A})$  is convex in  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $p \in (0, 2)$ . Moreover, the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $J_p(I, \mathcal{A}, (\text{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}) \otimes I_2) = \sum_j J_p(I, \mathcal{A}_j, (\text{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_j) \otimes I_2)$ ,
- (ii) *There are matrices  $D_j > 0$ ,  $D = \sum_j D_j$ , such that  $[A_{jk}, D_j] = 0$ ,  $\ker D_j = \ker(\sum_k A_{jk})$  and  $A_{jk} = A_k D^{-1} D_j$ ,*
- (iii)  $\widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots) = \sum_j \widehat{\Phi}_{(p,1)}(A_{j1}, A_{j2}, A_{j3} \dots)$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Corollary 14 and the fact that  $\mathcal{A}_j$  are block-diagonal that (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) and it is straightforward to verify that (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Moreover, (iii) implies (i) for  $p = 1$ , by (59). To show that (iii) implies (ii) for  $p \neq 1$ , observe that (iii), implies  $\widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}) = \sum_j \widehat{\Upsilon}_{p,1}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}_j)$ , and this implies

$$J_p(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X}) = \sum_j J_p(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}_j, \mathcal{X}_j) \quad (63)$$

where  $\mathcal{X}_j = (\mathcal{K}^* \mathcal{A}_j^p \mathcal{K})^{1/p} = X_j \otimes |e_1\rangle\langle e_1|$  and  $\sum_j \mathcal{X}_j = \mathcal{X} = (\mathcal{K}^* \mathcal{A}^p \mathcal{K})^{1/p} = X \otimes |e_1\rangle\langle e_1|$ , with  $X_j = (\sum_k A_{jk}^p)^{1/p}$  and  $X = (\sum_k A_k^p)^{1/p}$ . Since

$$\mathcal{K}^* \mathcal{A}_j^p \mathcal{K} \mathcal{X}_j^{1-p} = \sum_k A_{jk}^p X_j^{1-p} \otimes |e_1\rangle\langle e_1|,$$

with a similar expression for  $\mathcal{K}^* \mathcal{A}^p \mathcal{K} \mathcal{X}^{1-p}$ , we find

$$\sum_k J_p(I, A_k, X) = J_p(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X}) = \sum_j J_p(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{A}_j, \mathcal{X}_j) = \sum_{k,j} J_p(I, A_{jk}, X_j).$$

Convexity then implies that we must have

$$J_p(I, A_k, X) = \sum_j J_p(I, A_{jk}, X_j) \quad \forall k. \quad (64)$$

Since  $\ker X_j \subseteq \ker A_{jk}$ , Theorem 10 implies that

$$A_k^{it} X^{-it} P_{(\ker X_j)^\perp} = A_{jk}^{it} X_j^{-it}, \quad \text{for all } k, j, t. \quad (65)$$

After writing  $\tilde{A}_k = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes A_{jk}$ ,  $\tilde{X} = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes X_j$ , this reads

$$\tilde{A}_k^{it} \tilde{X}^{-it} = \left( \frac{1}{m} I \otimes \text{Tr}_1 \tilde{A}_k \right)^{it} \left( \frac{1}{m} I \otimes \text{Tr}_1 \tilde{X} \right)^{-it} P_{(\ker \tilde{X})^\perp},$$

so that, by Theorem 9, there are elements  $B_k \in M_d^+$  and  $D \in (M_m \otimes M_d)^+$ , such that  $\ker D = \ker \tilde{X}$ ,  $[(I \otimes B_k), D] = 0$  and  $\tilde{A}_k = (I \otimes B_k)D$ . As before, one finds  $D = \sum_j |e_j\rangle\langle e_j| \otimes D_j$  for some  $D_j \in M_d^+$  which implies (ii).  $\square$

**Theorem 16.** *The function  $\hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12})$  is convex in  $\mathcal{A}_{12}$  for  $p \in (0, 2)$ . Moreover, if we let  $\mathcal{A}_{123}$  denote the block diagonal matrix with blocks  $\mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A} \mathcal{W}_n^*$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $J_p(I, \mathcal{A}_{123}, \mathcal{A}_1 \otimes I_{23}) = \sum_j J_p(I, (\mathcal{A}_{123})_j, (\mathcal{A}_1)_j \otimes I_{23})$  with  $\mathcal{A}_{123}$  defined by (61),
- (ii) There are matrices  $D_j \in M_{d_1}^+$ ,  $D = \sum_j D_j$ , such that  $\ker D_j = \ker (\mathcal{A}_1)_j$ ,  $[\mathcal{A}_j, D_j \otimes I] = 0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_j = \mathcal{A}(D^{-1} D_j \otimes I)$ .
- (iii)  $\hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_j \hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_j)$ .

**Proof.** It follows from the definition of  $\mathcal{A}_{123}$ , that  $d_2^{\frac{1+p}{p}} \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}) = \Phi(\mathcal{A}_{123})$ . The equivalence (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii) follows immediately from Theorem 15, and (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) can be shown to follow from Corollary 14.  $\square$

**Theorem 17.** *The following monotonicity inequalities hold,*

$$\hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23}) \leq \hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{123}), \quad p \in (0, 2), \quad (66a)$$

$$\Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23}) \geq \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{123}), \quad p \in (0, 1), \quad (66b)$$

$$\Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23}) \leq \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{123}), \quad p \in [1, 2). \quad (66c)$$

Moreover, equality holds if and only if the conditions of Corollary 13 are satisfied.

**Proof.** It suffices to give the proof for  $\hat{\Psi}$  since the other inequalities follow immediately. The argument is similar to that for Theorem 7. Let  $W_n$  denote the generalized Pauli matrices of Sec. 2.3, but now let  $W_n = W_n \otimes I_{23}$ . Then the convexity

of  $\widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23})$  implies

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23}) &= \frac{1}{d_1} \widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(I_1 \otimes \mathcal{A}_{23}) \\ &= \frac{1}{d_1} \widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)} \left( \frac{1}{d_1} \sum_n \mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A}_{123} \mathcal{W}_n \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{d_1^2} \sum_n \widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{W}_n \mathcal{A}_{123} \mathcal{W}_n) = \widehat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{123})\end{aligned}$$

where we used the invariance of  $\widehat{\Psi}$  under unitaries of the form  $U_1 \otimes I_{23}$ . In the case  $p = 1$ , it follows from (60) that  $\widehat{\Psi}_{(1,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{23}) \leq \widehat{\Psi}(1,1)(\mathcal{A}_{123})$  becomes

$$S(\mathcal{A}_2) - S(\mathcal{A}_{23}) \leq S(\mathcal{A}_{12}) - S(\mathcal{A}_{123}) \quad (67)$$

which is SSA. Because the equality conditions in Theorem 16 are independent of  $p$ , they are identical to those for SSA, which are given in Corollary 13.  $\square$

The Carlen–Lieb triple Minkowski inequality for the case  $q = 1$  is an immediate corollary of Theorem 17. Observe that

$$\mathrm{Tr}_3 \mathrm{Tr}_1(\mathrm{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_{123}^p)^{1/p} = \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{(13),(2)}) \quad (68a)$$

$$\mathrm{Tr}_3[\mathrm{Tr}_2(\mathrm{Tr}_1 \mathcal{A}_{123})^p]^{1/p} = \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{32}) \quad (68b)$$

so that it follows immediately from (66c) that

$$\mathrm{Tr}_3[\mathrm{Tr}_2(\mathrm{Tr}_1 \mathcal{A}_{123})^p]^{1/p} = \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{32}) \leq \Psi_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{132}) = \mathrm{Tr}_3 \mathrm{Tr}_1(\mathrm{Tr}_2 \mathcal{A}_{123}^p)^{1/p} \quad (69)$$

for  $1 < p \leq 2$  and from (66b) that the inequality reverses for  $0 < p < 1$ . Moreover, the conditions for equality are again independent of  $p$  and identical to those for equality in SSA, given in Corollary 13.

## 5. Final Remarks

It should be clear that the results in Sec. 2 are not restricted to  $J_p(K, A, B)$ . The function  $g_p(x)$  given in (6) can be replaced by any operator convex function of the form  $g(x) = xf(x)$  with  $f$  operator monotone on  $(0, \infty)$ . Moreover, if the measure  $\nu(t)$  in (17) is supported on  $(0, \infty)$ , then the conditions for equality are identical to those in Sec. 3.

In particular, our results go through with  $g_p$  replaced by  $\widetilde{g}_p$  and  $J_p(I, A, B)$  replaced by  $\widetilde{J}_p(I, A, B)$ , which is well-defined for  $p \in [-1, 1)$  with  $\widetilde{J}_0(I, A, B) = H(B, A)$ . Thus our results can be extended to all  $p \in (-1, 2)$ . The case  $p = 2$  reduces to the convexity of  $(A, X) \mapsto \mathrm{Tr} X^* A^{-1} X$  with  $A > 0$  proved in [24]. One can show that equality holds if and only if  $X_j = A_j T \quad \forall j$  with  $T = A^{-1} X$ . We recently learned that Kiefer ([16]) proved the  $p = 2$  convexity, by a different method, much earlier and also found these equality conditions.

There have been various attempts, e.g., the Renyi ([35]) and Tsallis ([40]) entropies, to generalize quantum entropy in a way that gives the usual von Neumann entropy at  $p = 1$ . In this paper we have considered two extensions of the conditional entropy involving an exponent  $p \in (0, 2)$ , namely,

- $J_p(I, A_{12}, A_1)$  which gives  $\text{Tr } A_{23}^p A_2^{1-p} \begin{matrix} \leq & p \in (0, 1) \\ \geq & p \in (1, 2) \end{matrix} \text{Tr } A_{123}^p A_{12}^{1-p}$  and can be thought of as a pseudo-metric; and
- $\hat{\Psi}_{(p,1)}(\mathcal{A}_{12})$  which gives  $\text{Tr}_2(\text{Tr}_3 \mathcal{A}_{23}^p)^{1/p} \begin{matrix} \geq & p \in (0, 1) \\ \leq & p \in (1, 2) \end{matrix} \text{Tr}_{12}(\text{Tr}_3 \mathcal{A}_{123}^p)^{1/p}$  and can be thought of as a pseudo-norm.

These expressions are quite different for  $p \neq 1$ , but arise from quantities with the same convexity and monotonicity properties, as well as the same equality conditions which are independent of  $p$ . Moreover, both yield SSA at  $p = 1$  and the equality conditions for  $p \neq 1$  are identical to those for SSA. This independence of non-trivial equality conditions on the precise form of the function seems remarkable.

If one uses  $\tilde{g}_p$  and  $\tilde{J}_p(I, A, B)$  from (10), then the inequalities above hold with  $p \in (1, 2)$  replaced by  $p \in (-1, 0)$  and SSA corresponds to  $p = 0$ .

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## Appendix. Proof of the Key Schwarz Inequality

For completeness, we include the proof of the joint convexity of  $(A, B, X) \mapsto \text{Tr } X^*(L_A + tR_B)^{-1}(X)$  when  $A, B > 0$  and  $t > 0$ . Since this function is homogeneous of degree one, it suffices to prove subadditivity. Now let

$$M_j = (L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j})^{-1/2}(X_j) - (L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j})^{1/2}(\Lambda). \quad (70)$$

Then one can verify that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \sum_j \text{Tr } M_j^* M_j = \sum_j \langle M_j, M_j \rangle \\ &= \sum_j \text{Tr } X_j^* (L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j})^{-1}(X_j) - \text{Tr} \left( \sum_j X_j^* \right) \Lambda \\ &\quad - \text{Tr } \Lambda^* \left( \sum_j X_j \right) + \text{Tr } \Lambda^* \sum_j (L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j}) \Lambda. \end{aligned} \quad (71)$$

Next, observe that for any matrix  $W$ ,

$$\sum_j (L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j})(W) = \sum_j (A_j W + tW B_j) = L_{\sum_j A_j}(W) + tR_{\sum_j B_j}(W).$$

Therefore, inserting the choice  $\Lambda = (L_{\sum_j A_j} + tR_{\sum_j B_j})^{-1}(\sum_j X_j)$  in (71) yields

$$\mathrm{Tr} \left( \sum_j X_j \right)^* \frac{1}{L_{\sum_j A_j} + tR_{\sum_j B_j}} \left( \sum_j X_j \right) \leq \sum_j \mathrm{Tr} X_j^* \frac{1}{L_{A_j} + tR_{B_j}} (X_j). \quad (72)$$

□

for any  $t \geq 0$ .

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