variational expression for $\alpha > 1$ (short proof)

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We give the element which attains the supremum of inequality (14) in [1] when $Q_{\alpha,z}(\psi||\varphi)$ is finite.

If $Q_{\alpha,z}(\psi||\varphi) < \infty$, that is, there exists an $x \in (s(\varphi)L^z(\mathcal{M})s(\varphi))_+$ such that $h_{\psi}^{\alpha/z} = h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}xh_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}$ holds, then the element $w_0 = x^{\alpha-1} \in (s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha-1)}s(\varphi))_+$ attains the supremum of the right-hand side of inequality (14) in [1] since $\{h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}ah_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}; a \in \mathcal{M}_+\}$ is dense in $(s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha-1)}s(\varphi))_+$.

Proof. We show the element $w_0 = x^{\alpha-1} \in (s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha-1)}s(\varphi))_+$ attains the supremum of the right-hand side of inequality (14) when $Q_{\alpha,z}(\psi||\varphi) < \infty$. For any $a \in \mathcal{M}_+$, we observe that

$$\begin{split} &\alpha\operatorname{tr}\left((a^{1/2}h_{\psi}^{\alpha/z}a^{1/2})^{z/\alpha}\right) - (\alpha - 1)\operatorname{tr}\left((a^{1/2}h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/z}a^{1/2})^{z/(\alpha - 1)}\right) \\ &= \alpha\operatorname{tr}\left((a^{1/2}h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z}xh_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z}a^{1/2})^{z/\alpha}\right) - (\alpha - 1)\operatorname{tr}\left((a^{1/2}h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/z}a^{1/2})^{z/(\alpha - 1)}\right) \\ &= \alpha\operatorname{tr}\left((x^{1/2}h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z}ah_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z}x^{1/2})^{z/\alpha}\right) - (\alpha - 1)\operatorname{tr}\left((h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z}ah_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/2z})^{z/(\alpha - 1)}\right) \end{split}$$

by identity (\spadesuit) and Lemma 3 in [1]. Here we use the fact that $\{h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}ah_{\varphi}^{(\alpha-1)/2z}; a \in \mathcal{M}_+\}$ is dense in $(s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha-1)}s(\varphi))_+$. Hence, we have

$$\sup_{a \in \mathcal{M}_{+}} \left\{ \alpha \operatorname{tr} \left((a^{1/2} h_{\psi}^{\alpha/z} a^{1/2})^{z/\alpha} \right) - (\alpha - 1) \operatorname{tr} \left((a^{1/2} h_{\varphi}^{(\alpha - 1)/z} a^{1/2})^{z/(\alpha - 1)} \right) \right\}$$

$$= \sup_{w \in (s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha - 1)} s(\varphi))_{+}} \left\{ \alpha \operatorname{tr} \left((x^{1/2} w x^{1/2})^{z/\alpha} \right) - (\alpha - 1) \operatorname{tr} \left(w^{z/(\alpha - 1)} \right) \right\}.$$

Taking $w_0 := x^{\alpha-1} \in (s(\varphi)L^{z/(\alpha-1)}s(\varphi))_+$, we have

$$\alpha \operatorname{tr}((x^{1/2}w_0x^{1/2})^{z/\alpha}) - (\alpha - 1)\operatorname{tr}(w_0^{z/(\alpha - 1)}) = \alpha \operatorname{tr}(x^z) - (\alpha - 1)\operatorname{tr}(x^z) = \operatorname{tr}(x^z) = Q_{\alpha,z}(\psi||\varphi),$$
 which implies that inequality (14) becomes equality.

Thus, we can show that inequality (14) becomes equality when $z \ge \alpha/2$ by using the joint lower semi-continuity (Theorem 2(iv)) and Lemma 6 in [1].

References

[1] Shinya Kato, On $\alpha\text{-}z\text{-R\'{e}nyi}$ divergence in the von Neumann algebra setting 2023, arXiv:2311.01748