essentially the same convergence properties as the doubly-infinite Godard equalizer, with the advantage that those properties are not destroyed by finite truncations.

Comparing the anchored blind equalizers with energy cost functions and the Godard-type blind equalizers, we conclude the following.

- a) For doubly-infinite nonrecursive equalization Godard-type cost functions are superior as they achieve global convergence, whereas the anchored equalizers may have inadmissible global minima.
- b) For semi-infinite nonrecursive equalization, both equalizers achieve convergence if the channel is minimum-phase, otherwise, both equalizers have spurious local minima. The reason why the Godard equalizer suffers from this problem is the noninvertibility of the semi-infinite channel convolution matrix [5] in the nonminimum-phase case.
- c) For finitely parametrized equalizers, the truncation of the Godard-type equalizers leads to ill-convergence even for the simplest channels [4], whereas the anchored equalizers based on convex cost functions inherit the convergence properties of their infinite-dimensional counterparts which can be approximated as accurately as desired. Furthermore, in contrast to the Godardtype equalizers, exact finite-dimensional implementable blind equalization is achievable by anchored blind equalizers.

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## Convergence of Best $\phi$ -Entropy Estimates

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Abstract—Minimization problems involving  $\phi$ -entropy functionals (a generalization of Boltzmann—Shannon entropy) are studied over a given set A and a sequence of sets  $A_n$  and the properties of their optimal solutions  $x_\phi, x_n$ . Under certain conditions on the objective functional and the sets A and  $A_n$ , it is proven that as n increases to infinity, the optimal solution  $x_n$  converges in  $L_1$  norm to the best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate  $x_\phi$ .

Index Terms—Entropy functionals, norm convergence, maximum entropy methods, convex optimization, set-convergence.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Let us consider a convex, continuous function  $\phi:\mathbb{R}_+\to\mathbb{R}$  and put

$$\phi(u) = \begin{cases} \lim_{v \downarrow 0} \phi(v), & \text{if } u = 0 \\ +\infty, & \text{if } u < 0. \end{cases}$$

Denote by  $\phi'_+(u)$  the (finite) right-hand derivative of  $\phi$  at  $u \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . It is well known (see, Rockafellar [25]), that for any  $v \in \mathbb{R}_+$  it holds

$$\phi(u) > \phi(v) + \phi'_{+}(v)(u - v), \qquad u \in \mathbb{R}. \tag{1}$$

It follows from here

$$\phi(u) \in (-\infty, \infty], \qquad u \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Consider further a finite measure space  $(S,\mu)$  and the corresponding Banach spaces  $L_{\alpha}(S,\mu), 1 \leq \alpha \leq \infty$ , with norms  $\|\cdot\|_{\alpha}$ . It follows from (1) that the formula

$$I_{\phi}(x) := \int_{S} \phi(x(s)) d\mu(s) \tag{2}$$

defines a mapping  $I_\phi:L_1(S,\mu)\to (-\infty,\infty].$  This mapping is called the  $\phi$ -entropy.

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<sup>1</sup>Throughout this correspondence, we use the extended real line arithmetic rules common to integration theory. These rules include e.g.,  $0 \cdot \infty = 0$ , see e.g., Rudin [27, p. 19].

By a best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate from a given set  $A \subset L_1(S, \mu)$  we mean a solution  $x_{\phi}$  of the optimization problem

$$(P_{\phi})$$
 minimize  $I_{\phi}(x)$  subject to  $x \in A$ .

Special versions of this problem play an important role in mathematical statistics, information theory and many other areas of engineering and have been extensively studied, see e.g., Csiszár [12]; Liese, Vajda [19, pp. 121–133], Vajda [29, pp. 274–297], and Kay and Marple [18]. Recently, dual methods for solving  $(P_{\phi})$  have also been studied under various choices and conditions for  $\phi$  and the set A, (see e.g., Ben-Tal, Borwein, and Teboulle [4], [5], Borwein and Lewis [8], Decarreau et al. [15]).

A typical example of the set A is

$$A_n = \left\{ x \in L_1(S, \mu) : \int_S x a_i d_\mu = b_i \ i = 1, \dots, n, x \ge 0 \right\},$$

where the  $a_i$ 's are given functions in  $L_{\infty}(S,\mu)$  and  $b_1,\cdots,b_n$  are observed moments.

An important question arising with the corresponding sequence of optimization problems

$$(P_n)$$
 minimize  $I_{\phi}(x)$  subject to  $x \in A_n$ 

is then to know under what conditions on the problem's data and how, the best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate  $x_n$  solution of  $(P_n)$  will converge as the number of given moments  $A_n$  increases. This question was recently studied in Borwein and Lewis [7]. It was proved there that if the objective functional in  $(P_\phi)$  is chosen to be the (minus) Boltzmann-Shannon entropy and if  $A_n$  is a nested sequence of closed subsets  $L_1 \supset A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \cdots$  satisfying  $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty A_n$ , then  $x_n$  converges in  $L_1$  norm to the best entropy estimates minimizing the Boltzmann-Shannon entropy.

In this correspondence, we extend and strengthen this result. Under an appropriate assumption (see Section IV), we prove that if  $A_n$  are nested around A in the sense that for each n either  $A_n \subset A$  or  $A \subset A_n$  then  $\|x_n - x_\phi\|_1 \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$  and that this statement holds not only for the Boltzmann-Shannon entropy, but for the more general class of  $\phi$ -entropy under consideration. At this juncture, we would like to thank a referee for pointing out to us the work of Visitin [30], and the more recent one of Borwein and Lewis [10], where results similar to ours have been obtained using very different techniques. After giving in Section II some examples of  $\phi$ -entropy, existence and characterization of best  $\phi$ -entropy estimates are studied in Section III, and in Section IV we prove our convergence result. Our proofs are self-contained and rely on basic convex and functional analysis arguments.

#### II. Examples of $\phi$ -Entropy

If  $\phi(u)=u\log u, u>0$ , then the (minus)  $\phi$ -entropy is the well-known Boltzmann-Shannon entropy of the signed measure

$$\nu(E) = \int_E x(s) d\mu(s), \qquad E \subset S \text{ measurable}.$$

To avoid the trivial infinity value one has to restrict it to  $x \geq 0$ . The Boltzmann-Shannon entropy of probability measures is one of the well-known fundamental concepts of information theory (see Blahut [6]). If  $\phi(u) = u - u^{\alpha}$ , u > 0, for a fixed  $a \in (0,1)$  then

$$I_{\phi}(x) = ||x||_1 - \int_{S} x^a(s) d\mu(s), \quad \text{for } x \ge 0.$$

In the particular case, where  $a=1/2, S=(-\pi,\pi)$  and  $\mu$  is uniform on S, the Ornstein's distance of a Gaussian random signal  $X_1,X_2,\cdots$ 

with power 1 and spectral density  $x \in L_1(S, \mu)$  from the white noise signal  $Y_1, Y_2, \cdots$  with power 1 happens to be

$$\frac{I_\phi(x)}{\pi} = 2 \bigg(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sqrt{x(s)} \, ds \bigg) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \bigg(\sqrt{x(s)} - 1\bigg)^2 ds$$

(cf. Gray, Neuhoff, and Shields [16]). Other examples of  $\phi$ -entropies together with their various applications in information theory, can be found e.g., in Arimoto [1], Poor [24], Clarke and Barron [13], Longo *et al.* [22], Jones and Byrne [17], and Lin [20].

However, best known are the  $\phi$ -entropies in the case where S is finite,  $S=\{1,\cdots,m\}$ , and  $\mu$  is the uniform counting measure on S. Then, the  $\phi$ -entropies

$$I_{\phi}(x) = \sum_{s=1}^{m} \phi(x(s)), \qquad x \equiv (x(1), \cdots, x(m)) \in (0, \infty)^{m}$$

are well-known measures of inequality of coordinates of x and  $-I_{\phi}(x)$  measures of equality (see Marshall and Olkin [23]). The  $\phi$ -entropies of probability vectors x, i.e., vectors with x(i) > 0,

$$||x||_1 = \sum_{s=1}^m x(s) = 1,$$

have been introduced independently by several authors (see e.g., Vosatka [31], Ben Bassat [2], Burbea and Rao [11], Ben-Tal and Teboulle [3]).

If we take

$$\phi_a(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{u - u^a}{1 - a}, & \text{for } a \in (0, 1), \\ u \ln u, & \text{for } a = 1, \end{cases}$$

then the following continuity takes place for every  $x \equiv (x(1), \cdots, x(m)) \in (0, \infty)^m$ :

$$\lim_{a \uparrow 1} I_{\phi_a}(x) = \lim_{a \uparrow 1} \frac{1}{1 - a} \left( 1 - \sum_{s=1}^m x^a(s) \right)$$
$$= \sum_{s=1}^m x(s) \ln x(s) = I_{\phi_a}(x).$$

Various other examples can be found in the recent work Dacunha-Castelle and Gamboa [14].

It follows from Proposition 2.14 in [19], that this approximation of Boltzmann-Shannon entropy holds for every  $\mu$  and  $x \in L_1(S,\mu)$  such that  $\mu(S) = 1, x \geq 0, \|x\|_1 = 1$ . Using an evident modification of the proof presented there one can extend this limit relation to arbitrary  $\mu$  and  $x \in L_1(S,\mu)$  under consideration.

Let us return to  $\phi$ -entropies of probability vectors  $x \in (0, \infty)^m$ . Using the convexity of  $\phi$ -entropy (see Lemma 1 below), one easily obtains the inequalities

$$I_{\phi}(x_s) \ge I_{\phi}(x) \ge I_{\phi}(x_u), \qquad s = 1, \cdots, m,$$

where  $x_s \in (0,\infty)^m$  has all coordinates zero except the sth which is 1 and  $x_u = (m^{-1}, m^{-1}, \cdots, m^{-1}) \in (0,\infty)^m$  is the uniform probability vector. This relation explains why  $-I_\phi(x)$  is a good measure of uncertainty of a random variable distributed by x. It is often preferred to put the uncertainty of a constant to be equal zero, i.e.,

$$I_{\phi}(x_s) = 0, \qquad s = 1, \cdots, m.$$

This is satisfied with the normalization  $\phi(0) = \phi(1) = 0$ , which is verified for the functions  $\phi_a, a \in (0, 1]$  previously considered.

### III. EXISTENCE OF BEST $\phi$ -ENTROPY ESTIMATES

We first summarize some basic functional properties of  $\phi$ -entropy. The next Lemma could alternatively be proved using results from Rockafellar [26]. We give a self-contained proof enlightening the importance of (3). The uniform integrability on subsets of  $L_1(S,\mu)$  with upperbounded  $\phi$ -entropy, established in this proof, is directly employed in the proof of Lemma 2.

Lemma 1: The  $\phi$ -entropy defined by (2) is a lower semicontinuous proper convex function on  $L_1(S,\mu)$ . If  $\phi$  is strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  then the  $\phi$ -entropy is strictly convex on its domain

dom 
$$I_{\phi} := \{ x \in L_1(S, \mu) | I_{\phi}(x) < \infty \}.$$

Ιf

$$\lim_{u \to \infty} \frac{\phi(u)}{u} = \infty,\tag{3}$$

then the level sets

$$B_{\alpha} = \{ x \in L_1(S, \mu) | I_{\phi}(x) \le \alpha \}, \qquad \alpha \in \mathbb{R},$$

are weakly compact.

*Proof:* It is clear from (2) that  $I_{\phi}$  is proper convex. The lower semicontinuity will be proved if we prove that each  $B_{\alpha}$  is closed. Consider a sequence  $x_n \in B_{\alpha}, x_n \to \overline{x} \in L_1(S,\mu)$ . Since  $x_n \geq 0$ , it follows that  $x \geq 0$ . Moreover, there exists a subsequence  $x_{n_k} \to \overline{x}$   $\mu$ -a.s. Since  $\phi$  is assumed to be continuous on  $(0,\infty)$ , this implies  $\phi(x_{n_k}) \to \phi(\overline{x})$   $\mu$ -a.s. Hence, by Fatou's lemma

$$\alpha \ge \liminf_{k \to \infty} I_{\phi}(x_{n_k}) \ge I_{\phi}(\overline{x}),$$

which proves that  $B_{\alpha}$  is closed.

Since  $B_{\alpha}$  is convex, Mazur's theorem implies that  $B_{\alpha}$  is also weakly closed (see e.g., V.1 in Yoshida [32]). This implies that  $I_{\phi}$  is weakly lower semicontinuous too. Therefore, to prove the weak compactness of  $B_{\alpha}$  it suffices to show the sequential compactness of  $B_{\alpha}$ . To this end it suffices to show that all elements of  $B_{\alpha}$  are uniformly  $\mu$ -integrable. If  $x \in B_{\alpha}$  and  $\|x\|_1 > 0$ , then it follows from (3) that for all sufficiently large u and for  $v = \|x\|_1$ ,

$$\begin{split} \int_{\{x>u\}} x d\mu &= \int_{\{x>u\}} x \frac{\phi(x) - \phi(v) - \phi'_+(v)(x-v)}{\phi(x) - \phi(v) - \phi'_+(v)(x-v)} \, d\mu \\ &\leq \int_S \left[ \phi(x) - \phi(v) - \phi'_+(v)(x-v) \right] \, d\mu \\ &\cdot \frac{u}{\phi(u) - \phi(v) - \phi'_+(v)(u-v)}, \end{split}$$

where the inequality follows from the fact that the expression in brackets is by (1) nonnegative and also increasing in x for sufficiently large x. Since the last integral is bounded above by

$$I_{\phi}(x) - \phi(v) \le \alpha - \phi(v),$$

it holds

$$\lim_{u \to \infty} \int_{\{x > u\}} x d\mu \le (\alpha - \phi(v))$$

$$\cdot \lim_{u \to \infty} \frac{u}{\phi(u) - \phi(v) - \phi'_{\perp}(v)(u - v)} = 0.$$

The convergence on the right-hand side is uniform for  $v=\|x\|_1, x\in B_\alpha$ , since the Jensen inequality implies

$$\alpha \ge \int_{S} \phi(x) d\mu \ge \mu(S) \phi\left(\frac{\|x\|_{1}}{\mu(S)}\right)$$

so that  $||x||_1$  is bounded on  $B_{\alpha}$ .

It remains to prove the strict convexity of  $I_{\phi}$ . Since  $\phi$  is given strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ , then it holds for all  $x, y \in \text{dom } I_{\phi}$ 

$$\frac{\phi(x)+\phi(y)}{2} \ -\phi\Big(\frac{x+y}{2}\,\Big)>0, \qquad \mu \ -\text{a.s.}$$

Hence, it follows from (2),

$$\frac{I_{\phi}(x) + I_{\phi}(y)}{2} - I_{\phi}\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) > 0.$$

For examples of kernels  $\phi$  satisfying (3), we refer the reader to Ben-Tal, Borwein, and Teboulle [5] and Borwein and Lewis [8].

It follows from the lower semicontinuity of  $I_{\phi}$  established in Lemma 1 that for convex, compact  $A\subset L_1(S,\mu)$  the best estimate exists. The following assertion goes deeper. This assertion is not new (cf. Proposition 8.5 in Liese and Vajda [19]), but its proof is short and we present it here for the sake of completeness.

Theorem 1: If  $\emptyset \neq A \subset L_1(S,\mu)$  is weakly closed (e.g., convex and closed) and (3) of Lemma 1 holds then the solution  $x_\phi$  of  $(P_\phi)$  exists. If moreover  $\phi$  is strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ , and  $I_\phi(x_\phi) < \infty$  then this solution is unique.

Proof: Put

$$\alpha = \inf_{x \in A} I_{\phi}(x).$$

If  $\alpha=\infty$ , then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $\alpha<\infty$ , consider the nonempty set

$$C_{\alpha} = A \cap \{x \in L_1(S, \mu) | I_{\phi}(x) \le 2\alpha\}.$$

By Lemma 1, this set is weakly compact and  $I_{\phi}(x)$  is weakly lower semicontinuous. Hence, the best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate from  $C_{\alpha}$ , and consequently from A, exists. Let us now assume that  $\phi$  is strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and consider two best  $\phi$ -entropy estimates  $x_{\phi}, y_{\phi} \in A$ . If  $I_{\phi}(x_{\phi}) = I_{\phi}(y_{\phi}) < \infty$ , then  $x_{\phi}, y_{\phi} \geq 0$  and

$$I_{\phi}\left(\frac{x_{\phi}+y_{\phi}}{2}\right)-\frac{I_{\phi}(x_{\phi})+I_{\phi}(y_{\phi})}{2}=0.$$

Using (2), this means

$$\phi\left(\frac{x_{\phi} + y_{\phi}}{2}\right) - \frac{\phi(x_{\phi}) + \phi(y_{\phi})}{2} = 0 \qquad \mu\text{-a.s.}$$

and the strict convexity of  $\phi$  leads to  $x_{\phi}=y_{\phi}\mu$ -a.s. Therefore, the elements  $x_{\phi},y_{\phi}\in L_1(S,\mu)$  coincide.  $\Box$ 

Our next result gives a simple characterization of best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate. It is an extension of Theorem 5a in Rűschendorf [28].

Theorem 2: Let  $\phi$  be differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  with derivative  $\phi'(u), u \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , and put

$$\phi'(0) = \lim_{v \downarrow 0} \frac{\phi(v) - \phi(0)}{v}$$
, where  $-\infty < \phi(0) \le \infty$ .

If  $A \subset \text{dom } I_{\phi}$  is convex then  $\overline{x} \in A$  solves  $(P_{\phi})$  iff

$$\int_{S} \phi'(\overline{x})(x - \overline{x}) d\mu \ge 0, \qquad x \in A. \tag{4}$$

*Proof:* Let  $\overline{x} \in A$ . It follows from the assumed properties of  $\phi$  in the domain  $(0,\infty)$  that for every  $x \in A$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0,1]$  it holds everywhere on S

$$\phi'(\overline{x})(x-\overline{x}) \leq \frac{\phi((1-\varepsilon)\overline{x}+\varepsilon x) - \phi(\overline{x})}{\varepsilon} \leq \phi(x) - \phi(\overline{x}).$$

Hence, it follows from the monotone convergence theorem for integrals that

$$\{\phi'(\overline{x})(x-\overline{x})|x\in A\}\subset L_1(S,\mu)$$

and

$$\int_{S} \phi'(\overline{x})(x - \overline{x}) d\mu = \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \frac{I_{\phi}((1 - \varepsilon)\overline{x} + \varepsilon x) - I_{\phi}(\overline{x})}{\varepsilon}$$
 (5)

$$\leq I_{\phi}(x) - I_{\phi}(\overline{x}), \qquad x \in A.$$
 (6)

From (4) and (6), we have  $\overline{x} = x_{\phi}$ . Conversely, let  $\overline{x} = x_{\phi}$ . Then,

$$I_{\phi}((1-\varepsilon)\overline{x}+\varepsilon x)-I_{\phi}(\overline{x})>0, \quad x\in A.$$

and (5) implies (4).

Example 1: Let us consider the set A to be the convex set  $A_n$  defined in the Introduction, and a function  $\phi$  satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 2. Denote the restriction of  $\phi'(u)$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  by  $\psi(u)$ , assume that  $\psi$  is increasing on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and denote its inverse by  $\psi^{-1}$ . For example, if  $\phi(u) = u \ln u$ , then  $\psi(u) = \ln u + 1$ . Let us suppose that there exist real  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  such that

$$\overline{x} = \psi^{-1} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i a_i \right) \tag{7}$$

belongs to A. Since  $a_i$ 's are bounded, this takes place iff there exists a solution  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  of the system of equations

$$\int_{S} a_i \psi^{-1} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n} c_j a_j \right) d\mu = b_i, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

The positive case  $\overline{x}$  given by (7) is the best  $\phi$ -entropy estimate  $x_{\phi}$ . This follows from Theorem 2 since (7) satisfies for every  $x \in A$  the condition

$$\int_{S} x \psi(\overline{x}) d\mu = \int_{S} x \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{i} a_{i} d\mu = \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{i} b_{i}$$
$$= \int_{S} \overline{x} \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{i} a_{i} d\mu = \int_{S} \overline{x} \psi(\overline{x}) d\mu.$$

If it holds

$$\int_{S} \phi \left( \psi^{-1} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{i} a_{i} \right) \right) d\mu < \infty, \tag{8}$$

then any other solution  $c_1^*, \dots, c_n^*$  of the previously considered system of equations satisfies the relation

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (c_i - c_i^*) a_i = 0, \qquad \mu\text{-a.s.}$$

This assertion follows from the uniqueness in Theorem 1 since  $A_n$  is closed in  $L_1(S,\mu)$  and that  $\phi$  with a derivative strictly increasing on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  is strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ . It follows from here in particular that for  $a_i$ 's linearly independent on a set of positive  $\mu$ -measure there is at most one solution of the mentioned system of equations.

# IV. CONVERGENCE FOR APPROXIMATE OPTIMIZATION CONSTRAINTS

Throughout this section, we consider  $\phi$ -entropy  $I_{\phi}(x), x \in L_1(S,\mu)$ , for  $\phi$  strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and satisfying (3). In addition to  $(P_{\phi})$ , we consider a sequence of sets  $A_n \subset L_1(S,\mu)$  and a sequence of optimization problems

$$(P_n)$$
 minimize  $I_{\phi}(x)$  subject to  $x \in A_n$ .

Assumption 1: There exist solutions  $x_{\phi}$  of  $(P_{\phi})$  and  $x_n$  of  $(P_n)$  and it holds

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} I_{\phi}(x_n) = I_{\phi}(x_{\phi}) < \infty. \tag{9}$$

The relation (9) will be interpreted as a condition of asymptotic approximation of the constraint A by the constraints  $A_n$ . Of course, (9) does not necessarily mean the setwise convergence  $A_n \to A$ , (in the sense defined below) but the converse is sometimes true, namely: if  $A_n \to A$  setwise, then (9) holds.

Example 2: Let  $\phi$  satisfy (3) of Section III, e.g., let  $\phi(u) = u \log u$  or  $u^a - u, u \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , where a > 1 (these examples satisfies the normalization  $\phi(0) = \phi(1) = 0$  of Section II). If  $A, A_1, A_2, \cdots$  are weakly closed (e.g., convex and closed), then the existence part of Assumption 1 holds. If moreover,  $A_n \to A$  setwise, in the sense that  $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \cdots$  and

$$A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n,$$

then it follows from the properties of  $\phi$ -entropy established in Lemma 1 and from Theorem 3.1 in Borwein and Lewis [7] (for a complete version of this theorem, see Borwein and Lewis [9]) that (9) holds too. See also the recent work of Borwein and Lewis [10] which addresses the question of checking (9).

One of the main result of Borwein and Lewis [7] essentially is that if the constraints  $A,A_n$  satisfy the assumptions of Example 2 then the solutions  $x_{\phi},x_n$  of  $(P_{\phi}),(P_n)$ , respectively, for the Boltzmann–Shannon entropy (i.e., corresponding to the special choice  $\phi(u)=u\log u$ ) satisfy the limit relation  $||x_n-x_{\phi}||_1\to 0$  as  $n\to\infty$ . We extend this result for any  $\phi$ -entropy under consideration and when the  $A_n$  are nested around A.

Lemma 2: If Assumption 1 holds and  $A_n \supset A$  for all n then  $\|x_n - x_\phi\|_1 \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ .

*Proof:* Consider for u, v > 0, the difference

$$\Delta(u,v) = \frac{\phi(u) + \phi(v)}{2} - \phi\left(\frac{u+v}{2}\right) \ge 0.$$

The finiteness in (9) implies  $x_n, x_\phi \ge 0$  for all sufficiently large n. Hence, for these n, it holds

$$\begin{split} \int_{S} \triangle(x_n, x_{\phi}) \, d\mu &= \frac{I_{\phi}(x_n) + I_{\phi}(x_{\phi})}{2} \, - I_{\phi}\Big(\frac{x_n + x_{\phi}}{2}\Big) \\ &\leq \frac{I_{\phi}(x_{\phi}) - I_{\phi}(x_n)}{2} \end{split}$$

since  $A_n \supset A$  implies

$$I_{\phi}(x_n) \le I_{\phi}\left(\frac{x_n + x_{\phi}}{2}\right). \tag{10}$$

Consequently,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \int_S \Delta(x_n, x) \, d\mu = 0.$$

On the other hand, for each fixed c>0 and  $0< v\leq c$  the function  $u\to \Delta(u,v)$  is nondecreasing in the domain u>c. To see this, consider

$$u_i = v + 2t_i, \qquad i = 1, 2, t_2 > t_1 > 0,$$

and restrict ourselves to  $t_2 \ge 2t_1$  (the case  $t_1 < t_2 < 2t_1$  can be treated analogically). Let  $\psi(u)$  be the straight line passing through the planar points  $(u_i, \phi(u_i)), i = 1, 2$ . It holds

$$\psi(v+2t_i) = \phi(u_i), \qquad \phi(v+t_i) = \phi\left(\frac{u_i+v}{2}\right), \qquad i=1,2.$$

The convexity of  $\phi(u)$ , together with  $t_1 > 2t_1$ , implies

$$\psi(v + t_1) \le \phi(v + t_1), \qquad \psi(v + t_2) \ge \phi(v + t_2).$$

Since the linear function of variable  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$L(t) = \frac{\phi(v) + \psi(v+2t)}{2} - \psi(v+t)$$

is constant on  $\mathbb{R}$ , it holds  $L(t_1)=L(t_2)$ . The desired relation  $\Delta(u_1,v)\leq \Delta(u_2,v)$  follows from this equality and from the previous relations. Therefore, for each  $\varepsilon,c>0$ 

$$\delta(\varepsilon,c) := \inf_{\substack{0 \leq u < \infty, 0 \leq v \leq c \\ |u-v| > \varepsilon}} \Delta(u,v) = \inf_{\substack{0 \leq u, v \leq c \\ |u-v| > \varepsilon}} \Delta(u,v).$$

Moreover, by the assumed continuity and strict convexity of  $\phi$ , we then have the right-hand infimum that is positive. Therefore, it holds

$$\mu(\{|x_n - x_{\phi}| > \varepsilon\}) \le \mu(\{|x_n - x_{\phi}| > \varepsilon, x_{\phi} \le c\})$$

$$+ \mu(\{x_{\phi} > c\}) \le \frac{1}{\delta(\varepsilon, c)} \int_{\{|x_n - x_{\phi}| > \varepsilon, x_{\phi} \le c\}}$$

$$\Delta(x_n, x_{\phi}) d\mu + \frac{\|x_{\phi}\|_1}{c}$$

$$\le \frac{1}{\delta(\varepsilon, c)} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \Delta(x_n, x_{\phi}) d\mu + \frac{\|x_{\phi}\|_1}{c}.$$

Sending first  $n \to \infty$  and then  $c \to \infty$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(\{|x_n - x_{\phi}| > \varepsilon\}) = 0.$$

So  $x_n$  tends in  $\mu$ -measure to  $x_\phi$ . But it follows from the uniform  $\mu$ -integrability of elements of  $B_\alpha$  (cf. the proof of Lemma 1) that all but finitely many  $x_n$  are uniformly  $\mu$ -integrable. Hence, by the Theorem of  $L_r$ -convergence in [21, Ch. 3, Section 9.4], which obviously holds not only for probability, but also for finite measures, the convergence in  $\mu$ -measure implies the convergence in  $L_1(\mu)$ .

**Lemma 3:** If Assumption 1 holds and  $A_n \subset A$  for all n then  $||x_n - x_{\phi}||_1 \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ .

*Proof*: We proceed as in the previous proof with the only change that, instead of (10), in this case  $A_n \subset A$  implies

$$I_{\phi}(x_{\phi}) \le I_{\phi}\left(\frac{x_n + x_{\phi}}{2}\right).$$

Hence, the basic inequality has in this case the form

$$\int_{\mathcal{S}} \Delta(x_n, x_\phi) \, d\mu \le \frac{I_\phi(x_n) - I_\phi(x_\phi)}{2}.$$

The rest is the same as in the previous proof.

Theorem 3: If Assumption 1 holds and for every n either  $A_n \supset A$  or  $A_n \subset A$ , then  $||x_n - x_{\phi}||_1 \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ .

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*Proof*: Decompose the sequence  $x_n$  into two subsequences depending on whether  $A_n \supset A$  or  $A_n \subset A$ , respectively. Applying on one of these subsequences Lemma 2 and on the other Lemma 3 we obtain that  $x_{\phi}$  is the common limit of both subsequences.  $\square$ 

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