

CHARACTERIZATIONS OF JOINT DISTRIBUTIONS, COPULAS, INFORMATION, DEPENDENCE AND DECOUPLING, WITH APPLICATIONS TO TIME SERIES ^{1 2 3}

Victor H. de la Peña⁴, Rustam Ibragimov⁵ and Shaturgun Sharakhmetov⁶
Columbia University, Yale University and Tashkent State Economics University

Abbreviated title: Copulas, information and dependence

Abstract

In this paper, we obtain general representations for the joint distributions and copulas of arbitrary dependent r.v.'s absolutely continuous with respect to the product of given one-dimensional marginal distributions. The characterizations obtained in the paper represent joint distributions of dependent r.v.'s and their copulas as sums of U -statistics in independent r.v.'s. We show that similar results also hold for expectations of arbitrary statistics in dependent r.v.'s. As a corollary of the results, we obtain new representations for multivariate divergence measures as well as complete characterizations of important classes of dependent r.v.'s that give, in particular, methods for constructing new copulas and modelling different dependence structures.

The results obtained in the paper provide a device for reducing the analysis of the convergence in distribution of a sum of a double array of dependent random variables to the study of convergence in distribution of a (completely decoupled) double array of independent random variables with the original marginal distributions along with the convergence to zero of one of a series of dependence measures including the multivariate extension of Pearson's correlation, the relative entropy as well of other multivariate divergence measures. A closely related result involves conditions for the convergence in distribution of estimators of m -dimensional parameters of time series and convergence to zero of measures of intertemporal dependence in the time series. The tools used include new sharp estimates for the distance between the distribution function of an arbitrary statistic in dependent r.v.'s and the distribution function of the statistic in independent copies of the r.v.'s in terms of the measures of dependence of the r.v.'s. Furthermore, we obtain new sharp complete decoupling moment and probability inequalities for dependent r.v.'s in terms of their dependence characteristics.

1. Introduction

In recent years, a number of studies in statistics, economics, finance and risk management have focused on dependence measuring and modelling and testing for serial dependence in time series. It was observed in several studies that the use of the most widely applied dependence measure, the correlation, is problematic in many setups. For example, Boyer, Gibson and Loretan (1999) reported that correlations can provide little information about the underlying dependence structure in the cases of asymmetric dependence. Naturally

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⁴Department of Statistics, Columbia University, 2990 Broadway, New York, NY 10027; E-mail: vp@stat.columbia.edu

⁵Corresponding author. Current address: Department of Economics, Harvard University, Littauer Center, 1875 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138; E-mail: ribragim@fas.harvard.edu

⁶Department of Probability Theory, Tashkent State Economics University, Ul. Uzbekistanskaya, 49, Tashkent, 700063 Uzbekistan; E-mail: tim001@tseu.silk.org

(see, e.g., Blyth (1996) and Shaw (1997)) the linear correlation fails to capture nonlinear dependencies in data on risk factors. Embrechts, McNeil and Straumann (2002) presented a rigorous study concerning the problems related to the use of correlation as measure of dependence in risk management and finance. As discussed in Embrechts et. al. (2002) (see also Hu (2001)), one of the cases when the use of correlation as measure of dependence becomes problematic is the departure from multivariate normal and, more generally, elliptic distributions. As reported in Shaw (1997), Ang and Chen (2002) and Longin and Solnik (2001), the departure from Gaussianity and elliptical distributions occurs in real world risks and financial market data. Some of the other problems with using correlation is that it is a bivariate measure of dependence and even using its time varying versions, at best, leads to only capturing the pairwise dependence in data sets, failing to measure more complicated dependence structure. In fact, the same applies to other bivariate measures of dependence such as the bivariate Pearson coefficient, Kullback-Leibler and Shannon mutual information, or Kendall's tau. Also, the correlation is defined only in the case of data with finite second moments and its reliable estimation is problematic in the case of infinite higher moments. However, as reported in a number of studies (see, e.g., the discussion in Loretan and Phillips (1994), Cont (2001) and Ibragimov (2004, 2005) and references therein), many financial and commodity market data sets exhibit heavy-tailed behavior with higher moments failing to exist and even variances being infinite for certain time series in finance and economics.⁷ Several approaches have been proposed recently to deal with the above problems. E.g., Joe (1987, 1989) proposed multivariate extensions of Pearson's coefficient and the Kullback-Leibler and Shannon mutual information. A number of papers have focused on statistical and econometric applications of mutual information and other dependence measures and concepts (see, among others, Lehmann (1966), Golan (2002), Golan and Perloff (2002), Massoumi and Racine (2002), Miller and Liu (2002), Soofi and Retzer (2002) and Ullah (2002) and references therein). Several recent papers in econometrics (e.g., Robinson (1991), Granger and Lin (1994) and Hong and White (2000)) considered the problems of estimating entropy measures of serial dependence in time series. In a study of multifractals and generalizations of Boltzmann-Gibbs statistics, Tsallis (1988) proposed a class of generalized entropy measures that include, as a particular case, the Hellinger distance and the mutual information measure. The latter measures were used by Fernandes and Flôres (2001) in testing for conditional independence and noncausality. Another approach, which is also becoming more and more popular in econometrics and dependence modelling in finance and risk management is the one based on copulas. Copulas are functions that allow one, by a celebrated theorem due to Sklar (1959), to represent a joint distribution of r.v.'s as a function of marginal distributions (see Section 3 below for the

⁷A number of frameworks have been proposed to model heavy-tailedness phenomena, including stable distributions and their truncated versions, Pareto distributions, multivariate t -distributions, mixtures of normals, power exponential distributions, ARCH processes, mixed diffusion jump processes, variance gamma and normal inverse Gamma distributions (see Cont (2001) and Ibragimov (2004, 2005) and references therein), with several recent studies suggesting modelling a number of financial time series using distributions with "semiheavy tails" having an exponential decline (e.g., Barndorff-Nielsen and Shephard (2001) and references therein). The debate concerning the values of the tail indices for different heavy-tailed financial data and on appropriateness of their modelling based on certain above distributions is, however, still under way in empirical literature. In particular, as discussed in Ibragimov (2004, 2005), a number of studies continue to find tail parameters less than two in different financial data sets and also argue that stable distributions are appropriate for their modelling.

formulation of the theorem). Copulas, therefore, capture all the dependence properties of the data generating process. In recent year, copulas and related concepts in dependence modelling and measuring have been applied to a wide range of problems in economics, finance and risk management (e.g., Taylor (1990), Fackler (1991), Frees, Carriere and Valdez (1996), Klugman and Parsa (1999), Patton (2000, 2002), Richardson, Klose and Gray, (2000), Embrechts, Lindskog and McNeil (2001), Hu (2001), Reiss and Thomas (2001), Granger, Teräsvirta and Patton (2002) and Miller and Liu (2002)). Patton (2000) studied modelling time-varying dependence in financial markets using the concept of conditional copula. Patton (2002) applied copulas to model asymmetric dependence in the joint distribution of stock returns. Hu (2001) used copulas to study the structure of dependence across financial markets. Miller and Liu (2002) proposed methods for recovery of multivariate joint distributions and copulas from limited information using entropy and other information theoretic concepts.

The multivariate measures of dependence and the copula-based approaches to dependence modelling are two interrelated parts of the study of joint distributions of random variables (r.v.'s) in mathematical statistics and probability theory. A problem of fundamental importance in the field is to determine a relationship between a multivariate cumulative distribution function (cdf) and its lower dimensional margins and to measure degrees of dependence that correspond to particular classes of joint cdf's. The problem is closely related to the problem of characterizing the joint distribution by conditional distributions (see Gouriéroux and Monfort (1979)). Remarkable advances have been made in the latter research area in recent years in statistics and probability literature (see, e.g., papers in Dall'Aglio, Kotz and Salinetti (1991), Beneš and Štěpán (1997) and the monographs by Joe (1997), Nelsen (1999) and Mari and Kotz (2001)).

Motivated by the recent surge in the interest on the study and application of dependence measures and related concepts to account for the complexity in problems in statistics, economics, finance and risk management, in this paper we provide the first characterizations of joint distributions and copulas for multivariate vectors. The characterizations obtained in the paper represent joint distributions of dependent r.v.'s and their copulas as sums of U -statistics in independent r.v.'s. We use these characterizations to introduce a unified approach to modelling multivariate dependence and provide new results concerning convergence of estimators of characteristics of time series. The results obtained in the paper provide a device for reducing the analysis of convergence of finite-dimensional characteristics of time series to the study of convergence of the measures of intertemporal dependence in the time series (e.g., the multivariate Pearson coefficient, the relative entropy, the multivariate divergence measures, the mean information for discrimination between the dependence and independence, the generalized Tsallis entropy and the Hellinger distance). Furthermore, they allow one to reduce the problems of the study of convergence of estimators of statistics of intertemporally dependent time series to the study of convergence of corresponding estimators in the case of intertemporally independent time series. E.g., the characterizations for copulas obtained in the paper imply results which put into correspondence to any set of arbitrarily dependent r.v.'s a sum of U -statistics in independent r.v.'s with canonical

kernels. Thereby, they allow one to reduce problems for dependent r.v.'s to well-studied objects and to transfer results known for independent r.v.'s and U -statistics to the case of arbitrary dependence (the reader is referred to, e.g., Ibragimov and Sharakhmetov (1997, 1999, 2001a, b, 2002), Ibragimov, Sharakhmetov and Cecen (2001), de la Peña, Ibragimov and Sharakhmetov (2002, 2003) and references therein for general moment inequalities for sums of U -statistics and their particular important cases, sums of r.v.'s and multilinear forms, and to Ibragimov and Phillips (2004) for a new and conceptually simple method for obtaining weak convergence of multilinear forms, U -statistics and their non-linear analogues to stochastic integrals based on general asymptotic theory for semimartingales and for applications of the method in a wide range of linear and non-linear time series models).

As a corollary of the results for copulas, we obtain new complete characterizations of important classes of dependent r.v.'s that give, in particular, methods for constructing new copulas and modelling different given dependence structures. The results in the paper provide, among others, complete positive answers to the problems raised by Kotz and Seeger (1991) concerning characterizations of density weighting functions (d.w.f.) of dependent r.v.'s, existence of methods for constructing d.w.f.'s, and derivation of d.w.f.'s for a given model of dependence (see also Miller and Liu (2002) for a discussion of d.w.f.'s).

Along the way of developing the above results we develop a general methodology (of intrinsic interest within and outside economics and finance) for analyzing key measures of dependence among r.v.'s. Using the methodology, we obtain sharp decoupling inequalities for comparing the expectations of arbitrary (integrable) functions of dependent variables to their corresponding counterparts with independent variables through the inclusion of multivariate dependence measures.

On the methodological side, the paper shows how the results in theory of U -statistics, including inversion formulas for these objects that provide the main tools for the argument for representations in this paper (see the proof of Theorem 1), can be used in the study of joint distributions, copulas and dependence.

The paper is organized as follows. Sections 2 and 3 contain the results on general characterizations of copulas and joint distributions of dependent r.v.'s. Section 4 presents the results on reduction on characterizations of dependence based on U -statistics in independent r.v.'s. In Sections 5 and 6, we apply the results for copulas and joint distributions to characterize different classes of dependent r.v.'s. Section 7 contains the results on reduction of the analysis of convergence of estimators of characteristics of time series to the study of convergence of the measures of intertemporal dependence in time series as well as the results on sharp decoupling inequalities for dependent r.v.'s. The proofs of the results obtained in the paper are given in the Appendix.

2. General characterizations of joint distributions of arbitrarily dependent random variables

In the present section, we obtain explicit general representations for joint distributions of arbitrarily dependent r.v.'s absolutely continuous with respect to products of marginal distributions.

Let $F_k : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, be one-dimensional cdf's, that is, nondecreasing right-continuous functions

on \mathbf{R} such that $\lim_{x_k \rightarrow -\infty} F_k(x_k) = 0$, $\lim_{x_k \rightarrow \infty} F_k(x_k) = 1$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and let ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n be independent r.v.'s on some probability space $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, P)$ such that $P(\xi_k \leq x_k) = F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$ (we formulate the results for the case of right-continuous cdf's; however, completely similar results hold in the left-continuous case).

In what follows, $F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $x_i \in \mathbf{R}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, stands for a function satisfying the following conditions:

- (a) $F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_n \leq x_n)$ for some r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, P)$; that is, $F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is an n -dimensional cdf;
- (b) the one marginal cdf's of F are F_1, \dots, F_n ;
- (c) F is absolutely continuous with respect to $dF(x_1) \dots dF(x_n)$.

In addition to that, throughout the paper, $F(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k})$, $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 2, \dots, n$, stand for the k -dimensional marginal cdf's of $F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Also, in what follows, $\frac{dF(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k})}{dF_{j_1} \dots dF_{j_k}}$, $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 2, \dots, n$, is to be taken to be 1 if x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k} are points of increase of F_{j_1}, \dots, F_{j_k} , respectively.

Throughout the paper, the functions g appearing in the representations obtained are assumed to be Borel measurable.

Theorem 1 *A function $F : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a joint cdf with the one-dimensional marginal cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, absolutely continuous with respect to the product of marginal cdf's $\prod_{k=1}^n F_k(x_k)$, if and only if there exist functions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} : \mathbf{R}^c \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfying conditions*

A1 (integrability):

$$E|g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})| < \infty,$$

A2 (degeneracy):

$$E(g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_{k-1}}, \xi_{i_k}, \xi_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) | \xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_{k-1}}, \xi_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_{k-1}}, x_{i_k}, \xi_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) dF_{i_k}(x_{i_k}) = 0, \text{ (a.s.)}$$

$$1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n, k = 1, 2, \dots, c, c = 2, \dots, n,$$

A3 (positive definiteness):

$$\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \geq -1 \text{ (a.s.)}$$

and such that the following representation holds for F :

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i). \quad (1)$$

Moreover, $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = f_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, where

$$f_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) = \sum_{k=2}^c (-1)^{c-k} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \in \{i_1, \dots, i_c\}} \left(\frac{dF(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k})}{dF_{j_1} \dots dF_{j_k}} - 1 \right).$$

Remark 1 It is not difficult to see that if r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n have a joint cdf given by (1) then the r.v.'s X_{j_1}, \dots, X_{j_k} , $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 2, \dots, n$, have the joint cdf

$$F(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k}) = F(x_1, \dots, x_n)|_{x_s=\infty, s \neq j_1, \dots, j_k} = \int_{-\infty}^{x_{j_1}} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_{j_k}} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^k \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_k\}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^k dF_{j_i}(t_{j_i})$$

with the same functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} .

Theorem 1 can be equivalently formulated as in the following remark.

Remark 2 A function $F : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a joint cdf with the one-dimensional marginal cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, absolutely continuous with respect to the product of marginal cdf's $\prod_{k=1}^n F_k(x_k)$, if and only if there exist functions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} : \mathbf{R}^c \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfying conditions A1-A3 and such that the element of frequency $dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ can be expressed in the form

$$dF(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(x_i) \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) \right). \quad (2)$$

Remark 3 Sharakhmetov (2001) provided proof of (2) in the case of density functions (of r.v.'s absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure), with a mention that a similar representation holds for distributions of discrete r.v.'s. The setup considered in this paper includes (among others) the class of vectors of dependent absolutely continuous and discrete r.v.'s as well as vectors of mixtures of absolutely continuous and discrete r.v.'s. Furthermore, our proof easily extends to the case of general Banach spaces, in particular, the spaces R^k .

3. Applications to copulas

Let us start with the definition of copulas and formulation of Sklar's theorem mentioned in the introduction (see e.g., Nelsen (1999) and Embrechts et. al. (2002)).

Definition 1 A function $C : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is called a n -dimensional **copula** if it satisfies the following conditions:

1. $C(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ is increasing in each component u_i .
2. $C(u_1, \dots, u_{k-1}, 0, u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n) = 0$ for all $u_i \in [0, 1]$, $i \neq k$, $k = 1, \dots, n$.
3. $C(1, \dots, 1, u_i, 1, \dots, 1) = u_i$ for all $u_i \in [0, 1]$, $i = 1, \dots, n$.
4. For all $(a_1, \dots, a_n), (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in [0, 1]^n$ with $a_i \leq b_i$,

$$\sum_{i_1=1}^2 \dots \sum_{i_n=1}^2 (-1)^{i_1 + \dots + i_n} C(x_{1i_1}, \dots, x_{ni_n}) \geq 0,$$

where $x_{j1} = a_j$ and $x_{j2} = b_j$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Equivalently, C is a n -dimensional copula if it is a joint cdf of n r.v.'s each of which is uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$.

Definition 2 A copula $C : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is called **absolutely continuous** if, when considered as a joint cdf, it has a joint density given by $\partial C^n(u_1, \dots, u_n) / \partial u_1 \dots \partial u_n$.

Theorem 2 (Sklar (1959)). If X_1, \dots, X_n are random variables (r.v.'s) defined on a common probability space, with the one-dimensional cdf's $F_{X_k}(x_k) = P(X_k \leq x_k)$ and the joint cdf $F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_n \leq x_n)$, then there exists an n -dimensional copula $C_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ such that $F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = C_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(F_{X_1}(x_1), \dots, F_{X_n}(x_n))$ for all $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$.

The following theorems give analogues of the representations in the previous section for copulas. Let U_1, \dots, U_n denote independent r.v.'s uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$.

Theorem 3 A function $C : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is an absolutely continuous n -dimensional copula if and only if there exist functions $\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c} : \mathbf{R}^c \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfying the conditions

A4 (integrability):

$$\int_0^1 \dots \int_0^1 |\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c})| dt_{i_1} \dots dt_{i_c} < \infty,$$

A5 (degeneracy):

$$E(\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_{k-1}}, U_{i_k}, U_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, U_{i_c}) | U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_{k-1}}, U_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, U_{i_c}) = \int_0^1 \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_{k-1}}, t_{i_k}, U_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, U_{i_c}) dt_{i_k} = 0 \text{ (a.s.)},$$

$$1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n, k = 1, 2, \dots, c, c = 2, \dots, n,$$

A6 (positive definiteness):

$$\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_c}) \geq -1 \text{ (a.s.)}$$

and such that

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \int_0^{u_1} \dots \int_0^{u_n} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dt_i. \quad (3)$$

Theorem 3 and Sklar's theorem formulated above imply the following representation for a joint distribution of r.v.'s.

Theorem 4 A function $F : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a joint cdf with the one-dimensional marginal cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, absolutely continuous to the product of marginal cdf's $\prod_{k=1}^n F_k(x_k)$ if and only if there exist functions $\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c} : [0, 1]^c \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfying the conditions A4-A6 and such that the following representation holds for F :

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_0^{F_1(x_1)} \dots \int_0^{F_n(x_n)} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dt_i, \quad (4)$$

or, equivalently, if and only if the element of joint frequency dF can be expressed in the form

$$dF(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(x_i) \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(F_{i_1}(x_{i_1}), \dots, F_{i_c}(x_{i_c})) \right).$$

Remark 4 The functions g and \tilde{g} in Theorems 1-4 are related in the following way: $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) = \tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(F_{i_1}(x_{i_1}), \dots, F_{i_c}(x_{i_c}))$.

Theorems 1-4 provide a general device for constructing multivariate copulas and joint distributions. E.g., taking in (3) and (4) $n = 2$, $\tilde{g}_{1,2}(t_1, t_2) = \alpha(1 - 2t_1)(1 - 2t_2)$, $\alpha \in [-1, 1]$, we get the family of bivariate Eyraud-Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern copulas $C_\alpha(u_1, u_2) = u_1 u_2 (1 + \alpha(1 - u_1)(1 - u_2))$ and corresponding bivariate distributions $F_\alpha(x_1, x_2) = F_1(x_1)F_2(x_2) (1 + \alpha(1 - F_1(x_1))(1 - F_2(x_2)))$. More generally, taking $\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n-1$, $\tilde{g}_{1,2,\dots,n}(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) = \alpha(1 - 2t_1)(1 - 2t_2)\dots(1 - 2t_n)$, we obtain the following multivariate Eyraud-Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern copulas $C_\alpha(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n u_i (1 + \alpha \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - u_i))$ and corresponding multivariate cdf's $F_\alpha(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i) (1 + \alpha \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - F_i(x_i)))$.

Let $\alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c} \in \mathbf{R}$ be constants such that $\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c} \delta_{i_1} \dots \delta_{i_c} \geq -1$ for all $\delta_i \in \{0, 1\}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. The choice $\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) = \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c} (1 - 2t_{i_1})(1 - 2t_{i_2})\dots(1 - 2t_{i_c})$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, gives the following generalized multivariate Eyraud-Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern copulas (see Johnson and Kotz (1975) and Cambanis (1977))

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \prod_{k=1}^n u_k \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c} (1 - u_{i_k}) \right) \quad (5)$$

and the corresponding cdf's

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i) \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c} (1 - F_{i_k}(x_{i_k})) \right).$$

The importance of the generalized Eyraud-Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern copulas and cdf's stems, in particular, from the fact that, as shown in Sharakhmetov and Ibragimov (2002), they completely characterize joint distributions of two-valued r.v.'s.

Taking $n = 2$, $\tilde{g}_{1,2}(t_1, t_2) = \theta c(t_1, t_2)$, where c is a continuous function on the unit square $[0, 1]^2$ satisfying the properties $\int_0^1 c(t_1, t_2) dt_1 = \int_0^1 c(t_1, t_2) dt_2 = 0$, $1 + \theta c(t_1, t_2) \geq 0$ for all $0 \leq t_1, t_2 \leq 1$, one obtains the class of bivariate densities studied by Rüschendorf (1985) and Long and Krzysztofowicz (1995) (see also Mari and Kotz (2001), pp. 73-78) $f(x_1, x_2) = f_1(x_1)f_2(x_2)(1 + \theta c(F_1(x_1), F_2(x_2)))$ with the covariance characteristic c and the covariance scalar θ . Furthermore, from Theorems 1-4 it follows that this representation in fact holds for an arbitrary density function and the function $\theta c(t_1, t_2)$ is unique.

4. From dependence to independence through U -statistics

Denote by \mathcal{G}_n the class of sums of U -statistic of the form

$$U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) = \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}),$$

where the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} , $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfy conditions A1-A3, and, as before, ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n are independent r.v.'s with cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$. The following theorem puts into correspondence to any set of arbitrarily dependent r.v.'s a sum of U -statistics in independent r.v.'s with canonical kernels. Thereby, it allows one to reduce problems for dependent r.v.'s to well-studied objects and to transfer results known for independent r.v.'s and U -statistics to the case of arbitrary dependence. In what follows, the joint distributions considered are assumed to be absolutely continuous with respect to the product of the marginal distributions $\prod_{k=1}^n F_k(x_k)$.

Theorem 5 X_1, \dots, X_n are with the one-dimensional cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, if and only if there exists a statistic $U_n \in \mathcal{G}_n$ such that for any Borel measurable function $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ for which the expectations exist⁸,

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) = Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)). \quad (6)$$

Note that the above theorem 5 holds for complex-valued functions f as well as for the real-valued ones. E.g., choosing $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \exp(i \sum_{k=1}^n t_k x_k)$, $t_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, one gets the following representation for the joint characteristic function of the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n :

$$E \exp \left(i \sum_{k=1}^n t_k X_k \right) = E \exp \left(i \sum_{k=1}^n t_k \xi_k \right) + E \exp \left(i \sum_{k=1}^n t_k \xi_k \right) U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n).$$

5. Characterizations of classes of dependent random variables

The following Theorems 6-13 give characterizations of different classes of dependent r.v.'s in terms of functions g that appear in the representations for joint distributions obtained in Section 2. Completely similar results hold for the functions \tilde{g} that enter corresponding representations for copulas in Section 3.

Theorem 6 $R.v.$'s X_1, \dots, X_n with the one-dimensional cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, are independent if and only if the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$.

Theorem 7 A sequence of r.v.'s $\{X_n\}$ is strictly stationary if and only if the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) for any finite-dimensional distribution (see Remark 1) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1+h, \dots, i_c+h}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})$ (a.s.) $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, 3, \dots$, $h = 0, 1, \dots$

⁸As follows from the proof of Theorem 5, the expectation on the left-hand side of (6) exists if and only if it exists on the right-hand side of (6) and vice versa.

Theorem 8 A sequence of r.v.'s $\{X_n\}$ with $EX_k = 0$, $EX_k^2 < \infty$, $k = 1, 2, \dots$, is weakly stationary if and only if the functions g in representations (1) and (2) for any finite-dimensional distribution have the property that the function $h(s, t) = E\xi_s \xi_t g_{st}(\xi_s, \xi_t)$, depends only on $|t - s|$, $t, s = 1, 2, \dots$

Definition 3 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n with $EX_i = 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, are called **orthogonal** if $EX_i X_j = 0$ for all $1 \leq i < j \leq n$.

Theorem 9 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n with $EX_k = 0$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, are orthogonal if and only if the functions g in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $E\xi_i \xi_j g_{ij}(\xi_i, \xi_j) = 0$, $1 \leq i < j \leq n$.

Definition 4 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are called **exchangeable** if all $n!$ permutations $(X_{\pi(1)}, \dots, X_{\pi(n)})$ of the r.v.'s have the same joint distributions.

Theorem 10 Identically distributed r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are exchangeable if and only if the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = g_{i_{\pi(1)}, \dots, i_{\pi(c)}}(\xi_{i_{\pi(1)}}, \dots, \xi_{i_{\pi(c)}})$ (a.s.) for all $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, and all permutations π of the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

Definition 5 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are called **m -dependent** ($1 \leq m \leq n$) if any two vectors $(X_{j_1}, X_{j_2}, \dots, X_{j_{a-1}}, X_{j_a})$ and $(X_{j_{a+1}}, X_{j_{a+2}}, \dots, X_{j_{l-1}}, X_{j_l})$, where $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_a < \dots < j_l \leq n$, $a = 1, 2, \dots, l-1$, $l = 2, \dots, n$, $j_{a+1} - j_a \geq m$, are independent.

Theorem 11 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are m -dependent if and only if the functions g in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_k, i_{k+1}, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_k}, \xi_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = g_{i_1, \dots, i_k}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_k}) g_{i_{k+1}, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})$ for all $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k < i_{k+1} < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $i_{k+1} - i_k \geq m$, $k = 1, \dots, c-1$, $c = 2, \dots, n$.

Definition 6 R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n form a **multiplicative system** of order $\alpha \in \mathbf{N}$ (shortly, $MS(\alpha)$) if $E|X_j|^\alpha < \infty$, $j = 1, \dots, n$, and $E \prod_{j=1}^n X_j^{\alpha_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n EX_j^{\alpha_j}$ for any $\alpha_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$.

The systems $MS(1)$ and $MS(2)$ under the names multiplicative and strongly multiplicative systems, respectively, were introduced by Alexits (1961). Multiplicative systems of an arbitrary order were considered, e.g., by Kwapien (1987) and Sharakhmetov (1993). Examples of the multiplicative systems $MS(1)$ are given, besides independent r.v.'s, by the lacunary trigonometric systems $\{\cos 2\pi n_k x, \sin 2\pi n_k x, k = 1, 2, \dots\}$ on the interval $[0, 1]$ with the Lebesgue measure for $n_{k+1}/n_k \geq 2$ important in Fourier analysis of time series and also by such important classes of dependent r.v.'s as martingale-difference sequences. Examples of strongly multiplicative systems (that is, the systems $MS(2)$) are given by the lacunary trigonometric systems for $n_{k+1}/n_k \geq 3$ and martingale-difference sequences X_1, \dots, X_n satisfying the conditions $E(X_n^2 | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) = b_n^2 \in \mathbf{R}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Examples of the systems $MS(\alpha)$ include, for instance, the lacunary trigonometric systems with large lacunas, that is, with $n_{k+1}/n_k \geq \alpha + 1$ and also ϵ -independent and asymptotically independent r.v.'s introduced by Zolotarev (1991).

Theorem 12 *R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n form a multiplicative system of order α if and only if the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $E\xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots \xi_{i_c}^{\alpha_{i_c}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, $\alpha_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$.*

Definition 7 *R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are called r -independent ($2 \leq r < n$) if any r of them are jointly independent.*

Theorem 13 *R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are r -independent if and only if the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, r$.*

Remark 5 *Let $F_1(x), \dots, F_n(x)$ be arbitrary one-dimensional distribution functions, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in (-1, 1) \setminus \{0\}$, $\sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| \leq 1$. Taking in Theorem 4 $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, $c \neq r+1$, $g_{i_1, \dots, i_{r+1}}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_{r+1}}) = \frac{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}{\alpha_{i_1} \dots \alpha_{i_{r+1}}} ((k+1)t_{i_1}^k - (k+2)t_{i_1}^{k+1}) \dots ((k+1)t_{i_{r+1}}^k - (k+2)t_{i_{r+1}}^{k+1})$, $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, we obtain the following extensions of the examples of r -independent r.v.'s obtained by Wang (1990):*

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i) \left(1 + \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_{r+1} \leq n} \frac{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}{\alpha_{i_1} \dots \alpha_{i_{r+1}}} (F_{i_1}^k(x_{i_1}) - F_{i_1}^{k+1}(x_{i_1})) \dots (F_{i_{r+1}}^k(x_{i_{r+1}}) - F_{i_{r+1}}^{k+1}(x_{i_{r+1}})) \right),$$

$k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ (Wang's examples are with $k = 0$).

6. Further applications: a structural property of multiplicative systems

The following theorem establishes an important structural property of multiplicative systems. It shows that r.v.'s forming a multiplicative system of order α and taking not more than $\alpha + 1$ values are in fact jointly independent. Below, $\text{card}(A_i)$ denotes the number of elements in (finite) sets A_i .

Theorem 14 *Let $\alpha \in \mathbf{N}$, and let A_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, be sets of real numbers such that $\text{card}(A_i) \leq \alpha + 1$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. R.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n taking values in A_1, \dots, A_n , respectively, form a multiplicative system of order α if and only if they are jointly independent.*

Remark 6 *From Theorem 14 with $\alpha = 1$ the following result obtained in Sharakhmetov and Ibragimov (2000) follows: A sequence of r.v.'s $\{X_n\}$ on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, P)$ assuming two values is a martingale-difference with respect to an increasing sequence of σ -algebras $\mathfrak{F}_0 = (\Omega, \emptyset) \subseteq \mathfrak{F}_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$ if and only if the r.v.'s $\{X_n\}$ are jointly independent. In addition to the above we obtain that if a sequence of r.v.'s $\{X_n\}$ assuming three values is a martingale-difference with respect to (\mathfrak{F}_n) such that $E(X_n^2 | \mathfrak{F}_{n-1}) = b_n^2 \in \mathbf{R}$, then the r.v.'s are jointly independent.*

7. Measures of dependence and sharp moment and probability inequalities for dependent random variables

In this section, we apply the results obtained in Section 2 to study properties of different measures of dependent r.v.'s and convergence of estimators of finite-dimensional characteristics of time series. We obtain results that allow one to reduce the analysis of convergence of estimators of finite-dimensional characteristics of time series to the study of convergence of the measures of intertemporal dependence in the time series and limit behavior of the estimators in the case of independence. We also prove new sharp complete decoupling inequalities for dependent r.v.'s in terms of their dependence characteristics. The theory of complete decoupling inequalities has experienced an impetus in recent years. The interested reader should consult de la Peña (1990), de la Peña and Giné (1999) and de la Peña and Lai (2001) (a survey) for more on the subject.

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be r.v.'s with the one-dimensional cdf's $F_k(x_k)$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, and the joint cdf $F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Let us consider the following measures of dependence for the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n :

$$\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(dF(x_1, \dots, x_n))^2}{dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n)} - 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} \right)^2 dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n) - 1$$

(multivariate analog of Pearson's ϕ^2 coefficient), and

$$\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left(\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} \right) dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

(relative entropy), where the integral signs are in the sense of Lebesgue-Stieltjes and $\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n}$ is to be taken to be 1 if x_1, \dots, x_n are points of increase of F_1, \dots, F_n , and to be 0 otherwise. In the case of absolutely continuous r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n the measures δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} and ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 were introduced by Joe (1987, 1989). In the case of two r.v.'s X_1 and X_2 the measure ϕ_{X_1, X_2}^2 was introduced by Pearson (1904) and was studied, among others, by Lancaster (1958, 1963, 1969). In the bivariate case, the measure δ_{X_1, X_2} is commonly known as Shannon or Kullback-Leibler mutual information between X_1 and X_2 . It should be noted (see Joe (1989)) that if $(X_1, \dots, X_n)' \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$, then $\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = |R(2I_n - R)|^{-1/2} - 1$, where I_n is the $n \times n$ identity matrix, provided that the correlation matrix R corresponding to Σ has the maximum eigenvalue of less than 2 and is infinite otherwise ($|A|$ denotes the determinant of a matrix A). In addition to that, if in the above case $\text{diag}(\Sigma) = (\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_n^2)$, then $\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = -5 \log(|\Sigma| / \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2)$. In the case of two normal r.v.'s X_1 and X_2 with the correlation coefficient ρ , $(\phi_{X_1, X_2}^2 / (1 + \phi_{X_1, X_2}^2))^{1/2} = (1 - \exp(-2\delta_{X_1, X_2}))^{1/2} = |\rho|$.

The multivariate Pearson's ϕ^2 coefficient and the relative entropy are particular cases of multivariate divergence measures $D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^\psi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi \left(\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} \right) dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n)$, where ψ is a strictly convex function on \mathbf{R} satisfying $\psi(1) = 0$ and $\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n)}$ is to be taken to be 0 if x_1, \dots, x_n are not points of increase of F_1, \dots, F_n , respectively. Bivariate divergence measures were considered, e.g., by Ali and Silvey (1966) and Joe (1989). The multivariate Pearson's ϕ^2 corresponds to $\psi(x) = x^2 - 1$ and the relative entropy is obtained with $\psi(x) = x \log x$.

A class of measures of dependence closely related to the multivariate divergence measures is the class of generalized entropies introduced by Tsallis (1988) in the study of multifractals and generalizations of

Boltzmann-Gibbs statistics (see also Fernandes and Flôres (2001), Golan (2002) and Golan and Perloff (2002))

$$\rho_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{(q)} = (1/(1-q)) \left(1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} \right)^{1-q} dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n) \right),$$

where q is the entropic index. In the limiting case $q \rightarrow 1$, the discrepancy measure $\rho^{(q)}$ becomes the relative entropy δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} and in the case $q \rightarrow 1/2$ it becomes the scaled squared Hellinger distance between dF and $dF_1 \dots dF_n$

$$\rho_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{(1/2)} = 1/2 \left(1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} \right)^{1/2} dF_1(x_1) \dots dF_n(x_n) \right) = 2H_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2$$

(H_{X_1, \dots, X_n} stands for the Hellinger distance). The generalized entropy has the form of the multivariate divergence measures $D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{\psi}$ with $\psi(x) = (1/(1-q))(1-x^{1-q})$.

In information theory terminology (see, e.g., Akaike (1973)) the multivariate analog of Pearson coefficient, the relative entropy and, more generally, the multivariate divergence measures represent the mean amount of information for discrimination between the density f of dependent sample and the density of the sample of independent r.v.'s with the same marginals $f_0 = \prod_{k=1}^n f_k(x_k)$ when the actual distribution is dependent $I(f_0, f; \Phi) = \int \Phi(f(x)/f_0(x))f(x)dx$, where Φ is a properly chosen function. The multivariate analog of Pearson coefficient is characterized by the relation (below, f_0 denotes the density of independent sample and f denotes the density of a dependent sample) $\phi^2 = I(f_0, f; \Phi_1)$, where $\Phi_1(x) = x$; the relative entropy satisfies $\delta = I(f_0, f; \Phi_2)$, where $\Phi_2(x) = \log(x)$; and the multivariate divergence measures satisfy $D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{\psi} = I(f_0, f; \Phi_3)$, where $\Phi_3(x) = \psi(x)/x$.

If $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c})$ are functions corresponding to Theorem 1 and Remark 2, then from Theorem 5 it follows that the measures δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} , ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 , $D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{\psi}$, $\rho_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{(q)}$ (in particular, $2H_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2$ for $q = 1/2$) and $I(f_0, f; \Phi)$ can be written as

$$\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = E \log(1 + U_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) \log(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)), \quad (7)$$

$$\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^2 - 1 = EU_n^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) = EU_n(X_1, \dots, X_n), \quad (8)$$

$$D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{\psi} = E\psi(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)), \quad (9)$$

$$\rho_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^{(q)} = (1/(1-q))(1 - E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^q), \quad (10)$$

$$2H_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = 1/2(1 - E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/2}), \quad (11)$$

$$I(f_0, f; \Phi) = E\Phi(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)), \quad (12)$$

where $U_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c})$ is the sum of U -statistics corresponding to the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n .

From (8) it follows that the following formula that gives an expansion for ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 in terms of the “canonical” functions g holds: $\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} E g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}^2(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})$. In particular, in the case of, e.g., the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n with the generalized multivariate Eyraud-Farlie-Gumbel-Mongers copulas (5) the measure of dependence ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 is given by $\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 = \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c}^2$.

It is well known that the mutual information between two r.v.'s X_1 and X_2 is nonnegative (see, e.g., Cover and Thomas (1991), p. 27). The multivariate analog of this property for δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} follows from the results obtained by Joe (1989). It is interesting to note that nonnegativity of δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} can be easily obtained from (7). E.g., since the function $(1+x)\ln(1+x)$ is convex in $x \geq 0$, by Jensen inequality we get $\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} \geq (1 + EU_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) \log(1 + EU_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) = 0$. The following theorem gives an inequality between the measures δ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} and ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2 that generalizes and improves the results obtained, in the bivariate case, by Dragomir (2000) (see also Mond and Pečarič (2001)).

Theorem 15 *The following inequalities hold: $\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} \leq \log(1 + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2) \leq \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2$.*

The results obtained in the previous sections, in particular, Theorem 5, provide a device for reducing the analysis of convergence in distribution of double arrays of dependent variables to the study of the convergence in distribution of a decoupled counterpart plus a measure of dependence in the time series. We apply this idea in dealing with estimators of finite-dimensional characteristics of time series in the study of convergence of the measures of intertemporal dependence of the time series, e.g., the above multivariate Pearson coefficient ϕ , the relative entropy δ , the divergence measures D^ψ and the mean information for discrimination between the dependence and independence $I(f_0, f; \Phi)$. E.g., we obtain the following Theorem 16 which deals with the convergence in distribution of estimators of m -dimensional parameters of time series. The results on the convergence allow one to reduce the problems of the study of convergence of estimators of parameters of intertemporally dependent time series to the study of convergence of corresponding estimators in the case of intertemporally independent time series.

Let $h : \mathbf{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be an arbitrary function of m arguments, Y and T be some r.v. and let ψ be a convex function increasing on $[1, \infty)$ and decreasing on $(-\infty, 1)$ with $\psi(1) = 0$.

Theorem 16 *For the double array $\{X_i^n\}, i=1, \dots, n, n=0, 1, \dots, \infty$ let functionals $\phi_{n,n}^2 = \phi_{X_1^n, X_2^n, \dots, X_n^n}^2$, $\delta_{n,n} = \delta_{X_1^n, X_2^n, \dots, X_n^n}$, $D_{n,n}^\psi = D_{X_1^n, X_2^n, \dots, X_n^n}^\psi$, $\rho_{n,n}^{(q)} = \rho_{X_1^n, X_2^n, \dots, X_n^n}^{(q)}$, $q \in (0, 1)$, $H_{n,n} = (1/2\rho_{n,n}^{(q)})^{1/2}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ denote the corresponding distances. Then, if*

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^n \rightarrow Y$$

(in distribution) as $n \rightarrow \infty$, and either $\phi_{n,n}^2 \rightarrow 0$, $\delta_{n,n} \rightarrow 0$, $D_{n,n}^\psi \rightarrow 0$, $\rho_{n,n}^{(q)} \rightarrow 0$ or $H_{n,n} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^n \rightarrow Y$$

(in distribution) as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

For a time series $\{X_t\}_{t=0}^\infty$ let the functionals $\phi_t^2 = \phi_{X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}}^2$, $\delta_t = \delta_{X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}}$, $D_t^\psi = D_{X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}}^\psi$, $\rho_t^{(q)} = \rho_{X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}}^{(q)}$, $q \in (0, 1)$, $H_t = (1/2\rho_t^{(q)})^{1/2}$, $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ denote the m -variate Pearson coefficient, the relative entropy, the multivariate divergence measure associated with the function ψ , the generalized Tsallis entropy and the Hellinger distance for the time series, respectively.

Then, if

$$h(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow T$$

(in distribution) as $t \rightarrow \infty$, and either $\phi_t^2 \rightarrow 0$, $\delta_t \rightarrow 0$, $D_t^\psi \rightarrow 0$, $\rho_t^{(q)} \rightarrow 0$ or $H_t \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, then

$$h(X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow Y$$

(in distribution) as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

From the discussion in the beginning of the present section it follows that in the case of Gaussian processes $\{X_t\}_{t=0}^\infty$ with $(X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}) \sim N(\mu_{t,m}, \Sigma_{t,m})$, the conditions of Theorem 16 are satisfied if, for example, $|R_{t,m}(2I_m - R_{t,m})| \rightarrow 1$ or $|\Sigma_{t,m}| / \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sigma_{t+i}^2 \rightarrow 1$, as $t \rightarrow \infty$, where $R_{t,m}$ denote correlation matrices corresponding to $\Sigma_{t,m}$ and $(\sigma_t^2, \dots, \sigma_{t+m-1}^2) = \text{diag}(\Sigma_{t,m})$. In the case of processes $\{X_t\}_{t=1}^\infty$ with distributions of r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n , $n \geq 1$, having generalized Eyrard-Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern copulas (5) (according to Sharakhmetov and Ibragimov (2002), this is the case for any time series of r.v.'s assuming two values), the conditions of the theorem are satisfied if, for example, $\phi_t^2 = \sum_{c=2}^m \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{t, t+1, \dots, t+m-1\}} \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_c}^2 \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

It is important to emphasize here that since Theorem 16 holds for Tsallis entropy and multivariate divergence measures, they allow one to study convergence of the estimators of time series in the case when only lower moments of the above-mentioned U -statistics underlying the dependence generating process for the time series exist. Therefore, they provide a unifying approach to studying convergence in “heavy-tailed” situations and “standard” cases connected with the convergence of Pearson coefficient and the mutual information and entropy (corresponding, respectively, to the cases of second moments of the U -statistics and the first moments multiplied by logarithm).

The following theorem provides an estimate for the distance between the distribution function of an arbitrary statistic in dependent r.v.'s from the distribution function of the statistic in independent copies of the r.v.'s. The inequality complements (and can be better than) the well-known Pinsker's inequality for total variation between the densities of dependent and independent r.v.'s in terms of the relative entropy (see, e.g., Miller and Liu (2002)).

Theorem 17 *The following inequality holds for an arbitrary statistic $h(X_1, \dots, X_n)$:*

$$|P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq x) - P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x)| \leq \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} \max \left[(P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x))^{1/2}, (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/2} \right], \quad x \in \mathbf{R}.$$

The following theorems allow one to reduce the problems of evaluating expectations of general statistics in dependent r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n to the case of independence. The theorems contain complete decoupling results for statistics in dependent r.v.'s using the relative entropy and the multivariate Pearson's ϕ^2 coefficient. The results provide generalizations of earlier known results on complete decoupling of r.v.'s from particular dependence classes, such as martingales and adapted sequences of r.v.'s to the case of arbitrary dependence.

Theorem 18 *If $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a nonnegative function, then the following sharp inequalities hold for $x \in \mathbf{R}$:*

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} (Ef^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/2}, \quad (13)$$

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq (1 + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2)^{1/q} (Ef^q(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/q}, \quad q \geq 2, \quad (14)$$

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq Eexp(f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) - 1 + \delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n}, \quad (15)$$

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq \left(1 + D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^\psi\right)^{(q-1)/q} (Ef^q(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/q}, \quad q > 1, \quad (16)$$

where $\psi(x) = |x|^{q/(q-1)} - 1$.

Remark 7 *It is interesting to note that from relation (8) and inequality (13) it follows that the following representation holds for the multivariate Pearson coefficient ϕ_{X_1, \dots, X_n} :*

$$\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = \max_{f: Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)=0, Ef^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)<\infty} (Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) - Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) / (Ef^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/2}. \quad (17)$$

The following result gives complete decoupling inequalities for the tail probabilities of arbitrary statistics in dependent r.v.'s.

Theorem 19 *The following inequalities hold:*

$$P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) > x) \leq P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x) + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/2},$$

$$P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) > x) \leq (1 + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2)^{1/2} (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/2},$$

$$P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) > x) \leq (e - 1)P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x) + \delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n},$$

$$P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) > x) \leq \left(1 + D_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^\psi\right)^{(q-1)/q} (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/q}, \quad q > 1,$$

$x \in \mathbf{R}$, where $\psi(x) = |x|^{q/(q-1)} - 1$.

Appendix: Proofs

Proof of Theorem 1. Let us first prove the necessity part of the theorem. Denote

$$T(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i).$$

Let $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$. Let us show that

$$T(\infty, \dots, \infty, x_k, \infty, \dots, \infty) = F_k(x_k), \quad (18)$$

$x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$. It suffices to consider the case $k = 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} T(x_1, \infty, \dots, \infty) &= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}}_n \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i) = \\ &= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}}_n \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i) + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}}_n g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i) \\ &= \Sigma' + \Sigma''. \end{aligned}$$

Obviously, $\Sigma' = F_1(x_1)$. Furthermore, it is easy to see that there is at least one t_s of t_2, \dots, t_n among the arguments of each of the functions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c})$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, in the latter summand. By A2 we get, therefore, that $\Sigma'' = 0$. Consequently, $T(x_1, \infty, \dots, \infty) = F_1(x_1)$, $x_1 \in \mathbf{R}$, and (18) holds. It is evident that

$$\lim_{x_k \rightarrow -\infty} T(x_1, \dots, x_k, \dots, x_n) = 0 \quad (19)$$

for all $x_j \in \mathbf{R}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$, $j \neq k$, $k = 1, \dots, n$. Since

$$T(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i) + E \left[\left(\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n I(\xi_i \leq x_i) \right],$$

from the monotone convergence theorem we obtain that $T(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is right-continuous in $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$.

Let $\delta_{[a,b]}^k T(x_1, \dots, x_n) = T(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, b, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n) - T(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, a, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n)$, $a < b$. By integrability of the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} and condition A3 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{[a_1, b_1]}^1 \delta_{[a_2, b_2]}^2 \dots \delta_{[a_n, b_n]}^n T(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n P(a_i < \xi_i \leq b_i) + \\ E \left[\left(\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n I(a_i < \xi_i \leq b_i) \right] &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

for all $a_i < b_i$, $i = 1, \dots, n$.⁹ Right-continuity of $T(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and (18)-(20) imply that $T(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is a joint cdf of some r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n with the one-dimensional cdf's $F_k(x_k)$. Furthermore, the joint cdf $T(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ satisfies (1).

⁹Note that (19) and (20) are immediate if the probability space and the random variables are defined in the canonical way with $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^n$ and $X_i(\omega) = \omega_i$ for $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$ and $P(A) = \int_A \left(1 + \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i)$.

Let us now prove the sufficiency part. Consider the functions

$$f_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) = \sum_{s=2}^c (-1)^{c-s} \sum_{j_1 < \dots < j_s \in \{i_1, \dots, i_c\}} \left(\frac{dF(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_s})}{dF_{j_1} \dots dF_{j_s}} - 1 \right),$$

$1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$. Obviously, the functions f_{i_1, \dots, i_c} satisfy condition A1. Let us show that they satisfy condition A2. It suffices to consider the case $i_1 = 1, i_2 = 2, \dots, i_c = c, k = 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} Eg_{1,2,\dots,c}(\xi_1, x_2, \dots, x_c) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_{1,2,\dots,c}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_c) dF_1(x_1) = \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{s=2}^c (-1)^{c-s} \left[\sum_{2 \leq i_2 < \dots < i_s \leq c} \left(\frac{dF(x_1, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_s})}{dF_1 dF_{i_2} \dots dF_{i_s}} - 1 \right) + \right. \\ &\quad \left. \sum_{2 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_s \leq c} \left(\frac{dF(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_s})}{dF_{i_1} dF_{i_2} \dots dF_{i_s}} - 1 \right) \right] dF_1(x_1) = \\ &= \sum_{s=2}^c (-1)^{c-s} \left[\sum_{2 \leq i_2 < \dots < i_s \leq c} \left(\frac{dF(x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_s})}{dF_{i_2} \dots dF_{i_s}} - 1 \right) + \sum_{2 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_s \leq c} \left(\frac{dF(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_s})}{dF_{i_1} \dots dF_{i_s}} - 1 \right) \right] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By the inversion formula (see, e.g., Borovskikh and Korolyuk (1997), pp. 177-178) it follows that if a_{i_1, \dots, i_c} , b_{i_1, \dots, i_c} , $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, are arbitrary numbers then the relations

$$b_{i_1, \dots, i_c} = \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{j_1 < \dots < j_s \in \{i_1, \dots, i_c\}} a_{j_1, \dots, j_s}, 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n, c = 2, \dots, n,$$

and

$$a_{i_1, \dots, i_c} = \sum_{s=2}^c (-1)^{c-s} \sum_{j_1 < \dots < j_s \in \{i_1, \dots, i_c\}} b_{i_1, \dots, i_c}, 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n, c = 2, \dots, n,$$

are equivalent. Taking here $a_{i_1, \dots, i_c} = g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c})$, $b_{i_1, \dots, i_c} = \frac{dF(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c})}{dF_{i_1}(x_{i_1}) \dots dF_{i_c}(x_{i_c})} - 1$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, we obtain, in particular, that

$$\frac{dF(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{dF_1 \dots dF_n} = 1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}). \quad (21)$$

Therefore, representation (1) holds and the functions f_{i_1, \dots, i_c} satisfy condition A3. Suppose now that there exists another set of functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} satisfying conditions A1-A3 and such that (1) holds and, equivalently, (2) holds. By Remark 1 we have

$$\sum_{c=2}^s \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_s\}} f_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = \sum_{c=2}^s \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_s\}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \quad (22)$$

(a.s.) for $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_s \leq n$, $s = 2, \dots, n$. From (22) we subsequently obtain that $f_{i_1, i_2}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}) = g_{i_1, i_2}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2})$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n$; $f_{i_1, i_2, i_3}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}, \xi_{i_3}) = g_{i_1, i_2, i_3}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}, \xi_{i_3})$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n$; \dots , $f_{1,2,\dots,n}(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n) = g_{1,2,\dots,n}(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n)$ (a.s.), that is $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = f_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c})$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$. The proof is complete.

Proof of Theorems 3-5. By definition, a function $C : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a n -dimensional copula if and only if it is a joint cdf of n r.v.'s each of which is uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$. Let, as in Section 3, U_1, \dots, U_n denote independent r.v.'s with uniform distribution on $[0, 1]$. From Theorem 1 we obtain that $C : [0, 1]^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is an absolutely continuous copula if and only if there exist functions $\tilde{g}_{i_1, \dots, i_c} : \mathbf{R}^c \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, satisfying the conditions

$$E|g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_c})| < \infty,$$

$$E(g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_{k-1}}, U_{i_k}, U_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, U_{i_c}) | U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_{k-1}}, U_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, U_{i_c}) = 0, \text{ (a.s.)}$$

$$1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n, k = 1, 2, \dots, c, c = 2, \dots, n,$$

$$\sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(U_{i_1}, \dots, U_{i_c}) \geq -1 \text{ (a.s.)},$$

and such that representation (3) holds. This proves Theorem 3. Theorem 4 follows from Theorem 3 and the relation (given by Sklar's Theorem 2) $F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = C_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(F_{X_1}(x_1), \dots, F_{X_n}(x_n))$, $x_k \in \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$, between the joint distribution functions $F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and the corresponding copulas $C_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(u_1, \dots, u_n)$. If U_n is the U -statistic corresponding to the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n , then for any Borel measurable function f for which the expectations exist one has

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) = E \left[f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \right) \right] = E[f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))].$$

This and Theorem 1 implies Theorem 5.

Proof of Theorem 6. It is evident that the functions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) = 0$ satisfy conditions A1-A3. If $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, then representation (1) takes the form

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(x_i). \quad (23)$$

R.v.'s with the joint distribution function (23) are independent. Let now X_1, \dots, X_n be independent r.v.'s with one-dimensional distribution functions $F_i(x_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then their joint distribution function has form (23). This and the uniqueness of the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} given by Theorem 1 completes the proof of the theorem.

Proof of Theorems 7-13. Below, we give proofs of Theorems 12 and 13. The rest of the theorems can be proven in a similar way. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be r.v.'s with the joint distribution function satisfying representation (2) with functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} such that $E\xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots \xi_{i_c}^{\alpha_{i_c}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$, ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n are independent r.v.'s such that ξ_k is identically distributed with X_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Let $\alpha_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$,

$j = 1, \dots, n$. Taking in (6) $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{j=1}^n x_j^{\alpha_j}$ and using independence of the r.v.'s ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E \prod_{j=1}^n X_j^{\alpha_j} &= E \prod_{j=1}^n \xi_j^{\alpha_j} + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} E \prod_{j=1}^n \xi_j^{\alpha_j} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^n E \xi_j^{\alpha_j} + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} E \prod_{k=1}^c \xi_{i_k}^{\alpha_{i_k}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \prod_{k=1, \dots, n; k \neq i_1, \dots, i_c} E \xi_k^{\alpha_k}. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Using conditions $E \xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots \xi_{i_c}^{\alpha_{i_c}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$, we get from (24) $E \prod_{j=1}^n X_j^{\alpha_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n E \xi_j^{\alpha_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n E X_j^{\alpha_j}$, that is the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n form a multiplicative system of order α . Let us suppose now that r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n form a multiplicative system of order α , that is, $E|X_j|^\alpha < \infty$, $j = 1, \dots, n$, and for all $\alpha_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$, $j = 1, \dots, n$, $E \prod_{j=1}^n X_j^{\alpha_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n E X_j^{\alpha_j}$. From Remark 1 and Theorem 5 it follows that

$$E \prod_{r=1}^k X_{j_r}^{\alpha_{j_r}} = \prod_{r=1}^k E X_{j_r}^{\alpha_{j_r}} + \sum_{c=2}^k \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_k\}} \prod_{r=1}^c \xi_{i_r}^{\alpha_{i_r}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}),$$

$\alpha_{j_r} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$, $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 2, \dots, n$. Therefore, for all $\alpha_{j_r} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}$, $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 2, \dots, n$,

$$\sum_{c=2}^k \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_k\}} E \prod_{r=1}^c \xi_{i_r}^{\alpha_{i_r}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) \prod_{r=1, \dots, k; j_r \neq i_1, \dots, i_c} E \xi_{j_r}^{\alpha_{j_r}} = 0. \quad (25)$$

From (25) we subsequently obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} E \xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \xi_{i_2}^{\alpha_{i_2}} g_{i_1, i_2}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}) &= 0, \alpha_{i_1}, \alpha_{i_2} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}, 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n; \\ E \xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \xi_{i_2}^{\alpha_{i_2}} \xi_{i_3}^{\alpha_{i_3}} g_{i_1, i_2, i_3}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}, \xi_{i_3}) &= 0, \alpha_{i_1}, \alpha_{i_2}, \alpha_{i_3} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}, 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n; \\ E \xi_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \xi_n^{\alpha_n} g_{1, 2, \dots, n}(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n), &\alpha_k \in \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha\}, k = 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $E \xi_{i_1}^{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots \xi_{i_c}^{\alpha_{i_c}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, n$. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be r -independent r.v.'s. From Remark 1 it follows that

$$F(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k}) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_{j_1}} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_{j_k}} \left(1 + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_c \in \{j_1, \dots, j_k\}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^k dF_{j_i}(t_{j_i})$$

for all $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n$, $k = 1, \dots, r$. Using r -independence of X_i 's we subsequently obtain from here that $g_{i_1, i_2}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq n$; $g_{i_1, i_2, i_3}(\xi_{i_1}, \xi_{i_2}, \xi_{i_3}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n$; ..., $g_{i_1, \dots, i_r}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_r}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq n$. Therefore, $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, r$. Let now X_1, \dots, X_n be r.v.'s such that the functions g_{i_1, \dots, i_c} in representations (1) and (2) satisfy the conditions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = 0$ (a.s.), $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = 2, \dots, r$, that is their joint distribution function has the form

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= P(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_n \leq x_n) = \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} \left(1 + \sum_{c=r+1}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(t_i). \end{aligned}$$

Let $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_r \leq n$. Let us show that the r.v.'s X_{j_1}, \dots, X_{j_r} are jointly independent. Without a loss of generality, it suffices to consider the case $j_1 = 1, \dots, j_r = r$. We have, similarly to the proof of Theorem 1,

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, \dots, x_r) &= P(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_r \leq x_r) = \\ &= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_r} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}}_n \left(1 + \sum_{c=r+1}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \right) \prod_{i=1}^n dF_i(t_i) = \\ &= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_r} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}}_n \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(t_i) + \sum_{c=r+1}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c}) \prod_{i=1}^n F_i(t_i) = \Sigma' + \Sigma''. \end{aligned}$$

Evidently, $\Sigma' = \prod_{i=1}^r F_i(x_i)$. It is easy to see that there is at least one t_s of t_{r+1}, \dots, t_n among the arguments of each of the functions $g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_c})$, $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n$, $c = r+1, \dots, n$, in the latter summand and, therefore, by A2, $\Sigma'' = 0$. Consequently, $F(x_1, \dots, x_r) = \prod_{i=1}^r F_i(x_i)$ that establishes joint independence of the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_r . The proof is complete.

Proof of Theorem 14. Evidently, if the r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n are jointly independent, then they form a multiplicative system of order α . Let us show that if $\text{card}(A_i) \leq \alpha + 1$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, and r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n form a multiplicative system of order α , then they are jointly independent. It suffices to show that

$$E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(X_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n E f_i(X_i) \quad (26)$$

for all continuous functions $f_i : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, vanishing outside a finite interval (see Feller). Let $1 \leq i \leq n$. It is easy to see that if $f_i(x)$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$, is an arbitrary function, then there exists a polynomial $r_i(x)$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$, of degree not greater than α , such that $f_i(x) = r_i(x)$, $x \in A_i$, that is $f_i(\xi_i) = r_i(\xi_i)$ (a.s.). Using Theorems 5 and 12, we get that for all continuous functions $f_i : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ (below, $r_i(x)$ are polynomials corresponding to $f_i(x)$)

$$\begin{aligned} E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(X_i) &= E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(\xi_i) + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(\xi_i) g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = \\ &= E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(\xi_i) + \sum_{c=2}^n \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_c \leq n} E \prod_{i=1}^n r_i(\xi_i) g_{i_1, \dots, i_c}(\xi_{i_1}, \dots, \xi_{i_c}) = E \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(\xi_i). \end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete.

Proof of Theorem 15. From concavity of the functions $\log(1+x)$, relation (8) and the inequality $\log(1+x) \leq x$, $x \geq 0$, we get $\delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = E \log(1 + U_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)) \leq \log(1 + E U_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \log(1 + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2) \leq \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2$. The proof is complete.

Proof of Theorem 16. Let $h(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow Y$. By Theorem 5 we have that for any continuous bounded function $g : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

$$E g(h(X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1})) = E g(h(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})).$$

By Chebyshev's inequality and (8) we have that for all $\epsilon > 0$, $P(|U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})| > \epsilon) \leq \phi_t^2/\epsilon^2$.

Since the function $w(x) = (1+x)\ln(1+x) - x$ is increasing in $x \in [0, \infty)$ and decreasing in $x \in (-\infty, 0)$, we have that if $U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) > \epsilon$ or $U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) < -\epsilon$, then

$$w(U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})) > \min(w(\epsilon), w(-\epsilon)).$$

Therefore, by Chebyshev's inequality, (7) and the property $EU_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) = 0$ (by the degeneracy condition A2) we get, for $0 < \epsilon < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(|U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})| > \epsilon) &\leq P(w(U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})) > \\ &\min(w(\epsilon), w(-\epsilon)) \leq Ew(U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))/\min(w(\epsilon), w(-\epsilon)) = \\ E(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))\log(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))/\min(w(\epsilon), w(-\epsilon)) &= \\ \delta_t/\min(w(\epsilon), w(-\epsilon)). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

If $\epsilon \geq 1$, then by Chebyshev's inequality and the property $U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) \geq -1$ one has

$$P(|U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})| > \epsilon) \leq Ew(U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))/w(\epsilon) = \delta_t/w(\epsilon). \quad (28)$$

Similarly to the above, by Chebyshev's inequality and (9), for $0 < \epsilon < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(|U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})| > \epsilon) &\leq P(\psi(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})) > \min(\psi(1 + \epsilon), \psi(1 - \epsilon)) \leq \\ E\psi(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}))/\min(\psi(1 + \epsilon), \psi(1 - \epsilon)) &= D_t^\psi/\min(\psi(1 + \epsilon), \psi(1 - \epsilon)). \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

For $\epsilon \geq 1$,

$$P(|U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})| > \epsilon) \leq P(\psi(1 + U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1})) > \psi(1 + \epsilon)) \leq D_t^\psi/\psi(1 + \epsilon). \quad (30)$$

Inequalities (27)-(30) imply that $U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow 0$ (in probability) as $t \rightarrow \infty$, if $\phi_t^2 \rightarrow 0$, or $\delta_t \rightarrow 0$, or $D_t^\psi \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. The same argument as in the case of the measure D_t^ψ , used with $\psi(x) = x^{1-q}$, establishes that $U_m(\xi_t, \xi_{t+1}, \dots, \xi_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow 0$ (in probability) as $t \rightarrow \infty$, if $\rho_t^{(q)} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for $q \in (0, 1)$. In particular, the latter holds for the case $q = 1/2$, and, consequently, for the Hellinger distance H_t . The above implies, by Slutsky theorem that $Eg(h(X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1})) \rightarrow Eg(Y)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Since this holds for any continuous bounded function g , we get $h(X_t, X_{t+1}, \dots, X_{t+m-1}) \rightarrow Y$ (in distribution) as $t \rightarrow \infty$. The proof is complete. The case of double arrays requires only minor notational modifications.

Proof of Theorem 17. From Theorem 5, relation (8) and Hölder inequality we obtain that for any $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and r.v.'s X_1, \dots, X_n ($I(\cdot)$ denotes the indicator function)

$$\begin{aligned} P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq x) - P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x) &= EI(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x) U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq \\ \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x))^{1/2}, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) > x) - P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x) = EI(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x) U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq \quad (32)$$

$$\phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/2}. \quad (33)$$

The latter inequalities imply that for any $x \in \mathbf{R}$

$$|P(h(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq x) - P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x)| \leq \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n} \max \left[(P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq x))^{1/2}, (P(h(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) > x))^{1/2} \right].$$

The proof is complete.

Proof of Theorem 18. By Theorem 5 we have $Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) = Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) + EU_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$. By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and relation (8) we get

$$EU_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq (EU_n^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/2} (Ef^2(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^{1/2}.$$

Therefore, (13) holds. Sharpness of (13) follows from the choice of independent X_1, \dots, X_n . Similarly, from Hölder inequality it follows that if $q > 1$, $1/p + 1/q = 1$, then

$$Ef(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq (E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^p)^{1/p} (Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^q)^{1/q}. \quad (34)$$

This implies (16). If in estimate (34) $q \geq 2$ and, therefore, $p \in (1, 2]$, by Theorem 5 Jensen inequality and relation (8) we have

$$E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n))^p = E(1 + U_n(X_1, \dots, X_n))^{p-1} \leq (1 + EU_n(X_1, \dots, X_n))^{p-1} = (1 + \phi_{X_1, \dots, X_n}^2)^{p/2}.$$

Therefore, (14) holds. Sharpness of (14) and (16) follows from the choice of $X_i = \text{const}$ (a.s.), $i = 1, \dots, n$. According to Young's inequality (see, e.g., Dilworth (2001), p. 512), if $p : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is a non-decreasing right-continuous function satisfying $p(0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} p(t) = 0$ and $p(\infty) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p(t) = \infty$, and $q(t) = \sup\{u : p(u) \leq t\}$ is a right-continuous inverse of p , then

$$st \leq \phi(s) + \psi(t), \quad (35)$$

where $\phi(t) = \int_0^t p(s)ds$ and $\psi(t) = \int_0^t q(s)ds$. Using (35) with $p(t) = \ln(1+t)$ and (7), we get that

$$EU_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \leq E \exp(f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) - 1 - Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) +$$

$$E(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) \log(1 + U_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) = E \exp(f(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)) - 1 - Ef(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) + \delta_{X_1, \dots, X_n}.$$

This establishes (15). Sharpness of (15) follows, e.g., from the choice of independent X_i 's and $f \equiv 0$.

Proof of Theorem 19. The theorem follows from inequalities (13)-(16) applied to $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = I(h(x_1, \dots, x_n) > x)$.

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