Blackwell-Monotone Information Costs

ITAM

Xiaoyu Cheng

Florida State University

Yonggyun (YG) Kim

Florida State University

October 25, 2024

- Agenda: integration of costly information across various fields
- Question: Which information cost function should or could be used
 - Information cost: a map from a statistical experiment to a cost
- Examples
 - Entropy Costs: Sims (2003); Matějka, McKay (2015)
 - Posterior Separable Costs: Caplin, Dean, Leahy (2022); Denti (2022)
 - Log-Likelihood Ratio Costs: Pomatto, Strack, Tamuz (2023)
- Common Principle: Blackwell Monotonicity
 - More informative in Blackwell's order ⇒ higher cost
 - Minimum requirement for plausible information costs

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- Consider consumers seeking to acquire information about their COVID-19 status
- Two tests are available in the competitive market:

	signal					signal		
		n	p			n	p	
state	_	80%	20%		_	60%	40%	
	+	80% 20%	80%	state	+	60% 15%	85%	
	Test A (\$10)					(\$12)		

• Test B can be replicated using test A, which costs \$10

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Blackwell's Theorem

• A is more informative than $B \Leftrightarrow B$ is a garbling of A

Blackwell Monotonicity

ullet A should be more costly than B whenever A is Blackwell more informative than B

This paper

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- characterizes a practical and tractable class of information cost functions



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Roadmap

- 1. Preliminaries
- 2. Binary Experiments
- 3. Finite Experiments: more than two signals
- 4. Likelihood Separable Costs
- 5. Application: Bargaining and Information Acquisition

Preliminaries

Experiments

- $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n\}$: a finite set of states
- $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_m\}$: a finite set of signals
- A statistical experiment $f: \Omega \to \Delta(\mathcal{S})$ can be represented by an $n \times m$ matrix:

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} f_1^1 & \cdots & f_1^m \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_n^1 & \cdots & f_n^m \end{bmatrix},$$

where
$$f_i^j = \Pr(s_j|\omega_i)$$
, thus, $f_i^j \geq 0$ and $\sum_{j=1}^m f_i^j = 1$

- Let f^j denote j-th column vector, namely the likelihood vector of signal j
- ullet $\mathcal{E}_m\subset\mathbb{R}^{n imes m}$: the space of all experiments with m possible signals

- $f \succeq_B g$: f is Blackwell more informative than g iff g is a garbling of f: \exists a stochastic matrix M s.t. g = f M
- Examples of garbling under binary signal
 - 1. Signal Replacement: for some $\epsilon > 0$,

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \epsilon & \epsilon \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

meaning that s_1 is replaced with s_2 with probability ϵ

Permutation:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Information Costs and Blackwell Monotonicity

Information Costs

- $C: \mathcal{E}_m \to \mathbb{R}_+:$ an information cost function
- ullet \mathcal{C}_m : the set of all absolutely continuous information cost functions defined over \mathcal{E}_m
- Absolute continuity ensures that a derivative exists a.e. and is integrable
- ullet In the talk, assume that C is differentiable and the gradient exists

Blackwell Monotonicity

• An information cost function $C \in \mathcal{C}_m$ is **Blackwell monotone** if for all $f, g \in \mathcal{E}_m$, $C(f) \geq C(g)$ whenever $f \succeq_B g$.

Permutation Invariance

• Any Blackwell-monotone information cost function is **permutation invariant**, i.e., C(f) = C(f|P) for any permutation matrix P

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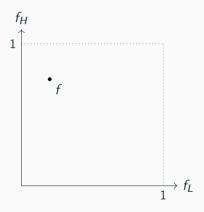
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- Focus on the case where n = m = 2
- Any experiment can be represented by $f \equiv (f_L, f_H)^{\mathsf{T}} \in [0, 1]^2$:

$$[1-f,f] = \begin{array}{c|c} s_L & s_H \\ \hline \omega_L & 1-f_L & f_L \\ \omega_H & 1-f_H & f_H \end{array}$$

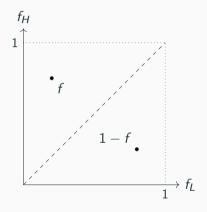
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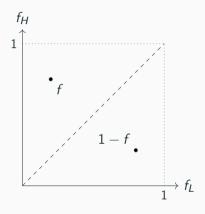
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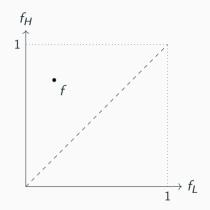


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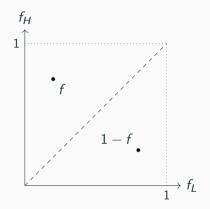


• Recall that $f \succeq_B g$ iff

$$[1-g,g] = [1-f,f] M$$

for some stochastic matrix M

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
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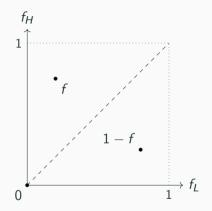


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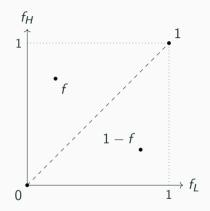


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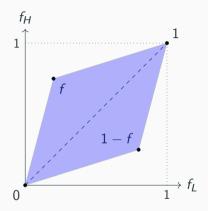


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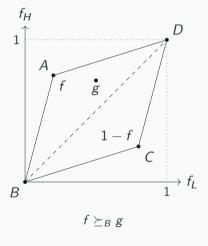


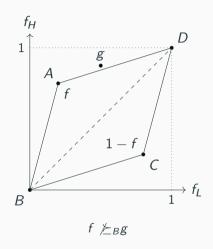
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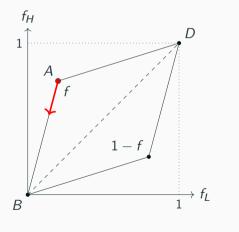
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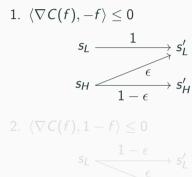




Necessary Conditions for Blackwell Monotonicity

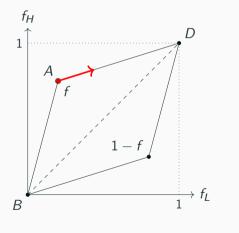
When an information cost C is Blackwell monotone,

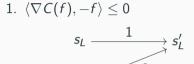


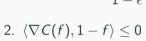


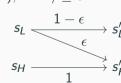
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Theorem for Binary Experiments

Theorem 1

 $C \in \mathcal{C}_2$ is Blackwell monotone if and only if it is

- 1. permutation invariant;
- 2. for all $f \in \mathcal{E}_2$,

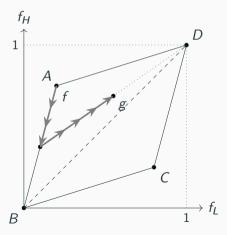
$$\langle \nabla C(f), f \rangle \ge 0 \ge \langle \nabla C(f), 1 - f \rangle.$$
 (1)

• This theorem holds for the cases with more than two states, but the binary signal assumption is crucial.



Proof for Sufficiency

For any $f \succeq_B g$, we can find a path from f to g (or the permutation of it) along which Blackwell informativeness decreases



Further Characterizations with

Binary States

Quiz

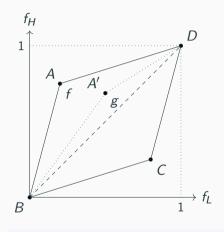
Which of the followings (defined over $f_H > f_L$) are Blackwell-monotone information cost functions?

1.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = \frac{f_H(1 - f_H)}{f_L(1 - f_L)} - 1$$

2.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = \frac{f_H}{f_L} + \frac{1 - f_L}{1 - f_H} - 2$$

3.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = (f_H - f_L)^2$$

4.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = f_H - 2f_L$$



 $f \succeq_B g$ is equivalent to:

1. AB steeper than A'B:

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{f_H}{f_L} \ge \frac{g_H}{g_L} \equiv \alpha'$$

 α : likelihood ratio (LR) of receiving s_H

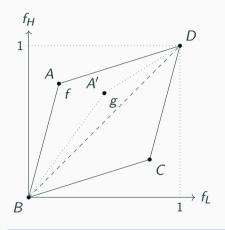
2. AD shallower than A'D:

$$\beta \equiv \frac{1 - f_L}{1 - f_H} \ge \frac{1 - g_L}{1 - g_H} \equiv \beta'$$

 β : the inverse of LR of receiving s_L

Proposition

C is Blackwell monotone iff it is increasing in α and β after reparametrization



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Proposition

C is Blackwell monotone iff it is increasing in α and β after reparametrization

1.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = \frac{f_H(1 - f_H)}{f_L(1 - f_L)} - 1$$
 with $1 > f_H > f_L > 0$

$$\tilde{C}(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} - 1$$

• \tilde{C} is increasing in α but not in β , thus, \tilde{C} is not Blackwell monotone.

2.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = \frac{f_H}{f_L} + \frac{1 - f_L}{1 - f_H} - 2$$
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$$\tilde{C}(\alpha,\beta) = \alpha + \beta - 2$$

• \tilde{C} is increasing in both α and β , thus, \tilde{C} is **Blackwell monotone**.

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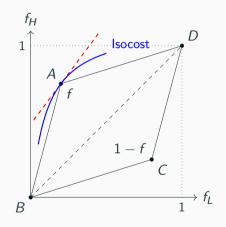
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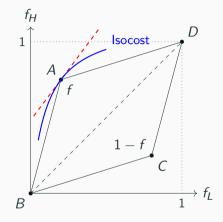
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 $\langle \nabla C(f), f \rangle \ge 0 \ge \langle \nabla C(f), 1 - f \rangle$ is equivalent to:

$$\underbrace{\frac{f_H}{f_L}}_{\text{the slope}} \geq \underbrace{-\frac{\partial C/\partial f_L}{\partial C/\partial f_H}}_{\text{the slope of the isocost curve}} \geq \underbrace{\frac{1-f_H}{1-f_L}}_{\text{the slope}}$$

• Interpretation: a marignal rate of information transformation (MRIT) lies between the two likelihood ratios provided by the experiment.



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3. $C(f_L, f_H) = (f_H - f_L)^2$ with $1 > f_H > f_L > 0$

$$\frac{f_H}{f_L} \ge -\frac{\partial C/\partial f_L}{\partial C/\partial f_H} = \mathbf{1} \ge \frac{1 - f_H}{1 - f_L}$$

- The above inequalities hold for all $1 > f_H > f_L > 0$, thus, it is **Blackwell monotone**.
- 4. $C(f_L, f_H) = f_H 2f_L$ with $1 > f_H > f_L > 0$

$$\frac{f_H}{f_L} \ge -\frac{\partial C/\partial f_L}{\partial C/\partial f_H} = 2 \ge \frac{1 - f_H}{1 - f_L}$$

• The above inequalities does not always hold, e.g., $f_L = .5$ and $f_H = .6$, thus, it is not Blackwell monotone.

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$$C(f_L, f_H) = (f_H - f_L)^2$$
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Answer for the Quiz

Which of the followings are Blackwell-monotone information cost functions?

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3.
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2.
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4.
$$C(f_L, f_H) = f_H - 2f_L$$

Finite Experiments: more than two

signals

Necessary Conditions for Blackwell Monotonicity

Now assume that there are more than two signals.

- Permutation invariance is still necessary
- For any pair (i, j), the following garbling worsens the informativeness:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
s_i & \xrightarrow{1-\epsilon} s'_i \\
s_j & \xrightarrow{1} s'_j
\end{array}$$

• This gives us $\langle \nabla^{i \to j} C(f), f^i \rangle \leq 0$, where

$$\langle
abla^{i o j} C(f), f^i
angle \equiv - \sum_{s=1}^n rac{\partial C}{\partial f^i_s} \cdot f^i_s + \sum_{s=1}^n rac{\partial C}{\partial f^j_s} \cdot f^i_s$$

Necessary Conditions for Blackwell Monotonicity

Now assume that there are more than two signals.

- Permutation invariance is still necessary
- For any pair (i, j), the following garbling worsens the informativeness:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} s_i & \xrightarrow{1-\epsilon} s'_i \\ s_j & \xrightarrow{1} s'_j \end{array}$$

• This gives us $\langle \nabla^{i \to j} C(f), f^i \rangle \leq 0$, where

$$\langle \nabla^{i \to j} C(f), f^i \rangle \equiv -\sum_{s=1}^n \frac{\partial C}{\partial f_s^i} \cdot f_s^i + \sum_{s=1}^n \frac{\partial C}{\partial f_s^j} \cdot f_s^i$$

- For binary experiments, sufficiency was established by finding a path between two experiments along which informativeness decreases
- However, when $m \ge 3$, there may not exist such path



• To overcome this issue, we impose quasiconvexity on *C*:

21/31

$$C(\lambda f + (1-\lambda)g) \leq \max\{C(f), C(g)\}.$$

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Theorem for Finite Experiments

Theorem 2

Suppose that $C \in \mathcal{C}_m$ is absolutely continuous and quasiconvex. Then, C is Blackwell monotone if and only if it is

- 1. permutation invariant;
- 2. for all $f \in \mathcal{E}_m$ and $i \neq j$,

$$\langle \nabla^{i \to j} C(f), f \rangle \le 0.$$
 (2)

- $S_B(f)$: the set of experiments that are less Blackwell informative than f
- Two conditions ensure that extreme points of $S_B(f)$ are not more costly than f
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Likelihood Separable Costs

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C is *likelihood separable* if there exist a constant a and an absolutely continuous function $\psi: \mathbb{R}^n_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$ such that, for all m and $f \in \mathcal{E}_m$,

$$C(f) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \psi(f^j) + a,$$

where f^{j} is the likelihood vector of signal j.

Let C^{LS} be the class of likelihood separable costs

Groundedness

C is grounded if it assigns zero cost to uninformative experiments. Let C^G be the class of grounded costs.

GSLS Costs

Theorem 3

When $C \in \mathcal{C}^{\mathit{LS}}$, C is Blackwell monotone if and only if ψ is sublinear:



- 1. positive homogeneity: $\psi(\alpha h) = \alpha \psi(h)$;
- 2. subadditivity: $\psi(k) + \psi(l) \ge \psi(k+l)$

Corollary: GSLS costs

C is called grounded sublinear likelihood separable (GSLS) if there exists a sublinear and absolutely continuous function ψ such that

$$C(f) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \psi(f^{j}) - \psi(1).$$

Then,

$$C^{GSLS} = C^{LS} \cap C^G \cap C^{BN}$$

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$$\mathcal{C}^{\textit{GSLS}} = \mathcal{C}^{\textit{LS}} \cap \mathcal{C}^{\textit{G}} \cap \mathcal{C}^{\textit{BM}}$$

Examples: GSLS Costs

1. Supnorm Costs

$$C(f) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \max_{i} f_i^j - 1,$$

2. Absolute-Linear Costs

$$C(f) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} |\langle a, f^j \rangle| - |\langle a, 1 \rangle| = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i f_i^j \right| - \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i \right|.$$

3. Linear ϕ -divergence Costs (including LLR costs of Pomatto, Strack, Tamuz (2023))

$$C(f) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{i,i'} \beta_{ii'} f_{i'}^{j} \phi_{ii'} \left(\frac{f_{i}^{j}}{f_{i'}^{j}} \right) = \sum_{i,i'} \beta_{ii'} \sum_{j=1}^{m} f_{i'}^{j} \phi_{ii'} \left(\frac{f_{i}^{j}}{f_{i'}^{j}} \right),$$

where $\phi_{ii'}:[0,\infty]\to\mathbb{R}\cup\{+\infty\}$ is a convex function with $\phi_{ii'}(1)=0$ and $\beta_{ii'}\geq 0$

(3)

GSLS Costs and Posterior Separability

Posterior Separability

C has a posterior separable (PS) representation at a prior belief $\mu \in \Delta(\Omega)$ if there exists a concave and absolutely continuous function $H:\Delta(\Omega) \to \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$C(f) = H(\mu) - \sum_{j=1}^m \tau_\mu(f^j) \cdot H(q_\mu(f^j))$$

where $q_{\mu}(f^{j})$ is the posterior belief upon receiving s_{j} and $\tau_{\mu}(f^{j})$ is the probability of receiving s_{j} .

Let C_{μ}^{PS} denote the class of cost functions that have PS representations at μ .

Proposition

For any full support prior $\mu \in \Delta(\Omega)$, $\mathcal{C}^{GSLS} = \mathcal{C}_{\mu}^{PS}$

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For any full support prior $\mu \in \Delta(\Omega)$, $C^{GSLS} = C_{\mu}^{PS}$.

Application: Bargaining and

Information Acquisition

Chatterjee, Dong, Hoshino (2023)

- Consider a bargaining problem with information acquisition
 - Players: Seller and Buyer
 - State (**B**'s valuation): $v \in \{L, H\}$ with H > L > 0
 - Prior belief: $\pi \equiv \Pr(v = H) \in (0, 1)$
 - Timing of the game
 - 1. Nature draws v and **S** observes v
 - 2. **S** offers *p*
 - 3. B costly acquires information about v and then accepts or rejects
- Chatterjee et al. focus on specific types of information acquisition
- We extend their analysis by allowing B to choose information flexibly

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Chatterjee, Dong, Hoshino (2023): H-focused information

B's cost: $\lambda \cdot c(f_H)$

Result 1: pooling eq'm

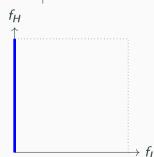
under H-focused signal structure, for any λ , there exists $\epsilon>0$ such that every equilibrium is a pooling equilibrium where

- 1. both types of **S** offer $p^* \in [L, L + \epsilon)$;
- 2. **B** accepts without information acquisition.

Moreover, $\epsilon \to 0$ as $\lambda \to 0$, thus, **B** extracts full surplus as $\lambda \to 0$

H-focused Information

	SL	SH
L	1	0
Н	$1-f_H$	f_H



Chatterjee, Dong, Hoshino (2023): L-focused information

B's cost: $\lambda \cdot c(1 - f_L)$

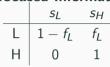
Result 2: almost-separating eq'm

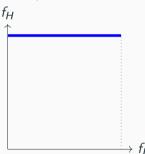
under L-focused signal structure, for any small enough λ , there exists an equilibrium such that

- 1. type H **S** offers $p^* \approx H$;
- 2. type L **S** offers *L* with prob. 1ϵ , p^* with prob. ϵ ;
- 3. **B** acquires information and conditions her purchase decision on the signal realization

Moreover, S's payoff is close to v and B's payoff is close to zero

L-focused Information





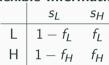
Flexible Information Acquisition

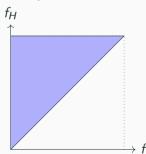
• We extend to the full domain and consider $\lambda |f_2 - f_1|$ and $\lambda (f_2 - f_1)^2$

Result 1': when $C(f_1, f_2) = \lambda |f_2 - f_1|$, the unique equilibrium is the pooling equilibrium, and as $\lambda \to 0$, **B** extracts full surplus

Result 2': when $C(f_1, f_2) = \lambda (f_2 - f_1)^2$, there exists an almost-separating equilibrium, and **S**'s payoff is close to v and **B**'s payoff is close to zero

Flexible Information





Conclusion

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- We identify necessary and sufficient conditions for Blackwell Monotonicity.
- Under likelihood separability, we show that the sublinearity of the component function is equivalent to Blackwell Monotonicity.
- Applications: we apply our results to extend
 - 1. Costly Persuasion (Gentzkow, Kamenica, 2014)
 - 2. Bargaining and Information Acquisition (Chatterjee, Dong, Hoshino, 2024)
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Thank You!

Related Literature

Posterior-based information costs

- Entropy cost: Sims [2003]; Matějka, Mckay [2015]
- Decision theory: Caplin, Dean [2015]; Caplin, Dean, Leahy [2022]; Chambers, Liu, Rehbeck [2020]; Denti [2022]
- Applications: Ravid [2020]; Zhong [2022]; Gentzkow, Kamenica [2014]

• Experiment-based information costs

- LLR cost: Pomatto, Strack, Tamuz [2023];
- Applications: Denti, Marinacci, Rustichini [2022]; Ramos-Mercado [2023]



Sufficient Conditions for Blackwell Monotonicity

When $m \ge 3$, there may not exist a path along which informativeness decreases

Proposition

Let

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 1/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 4/5 & 1/5 \\ 1/5 & 0 & 4/5 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathcal{E}_3.$$

If $f \succeq_B g$ and $f \in \mathcal{E}_3$, then f is a permutation of I_3 or g.

• I_3 is Blackwell more informative than g, but we cannot find a path from I_3 to g along which Blackwell informativeness decreases



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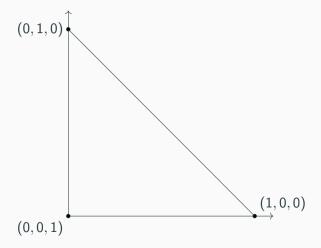
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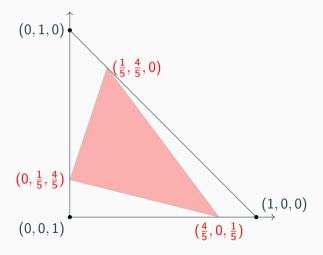
• I_3 is Blackwell more informative than g, but we cannot find a path from I_3 to g along which Blackwell informativeness decreases



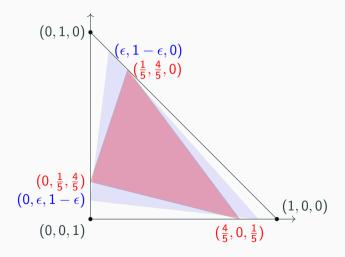
• When n = m = 3, $f \succeq_B g$ iff the triangle generated by f^1, f^2, f^3 includes the one generated by g^1, g^2, g^3



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Quasiconvexity

• Observe that there is a permutation of I_3 such that

$$g=\frac{4}{5}\cdot I_3+\frac{1}{5}\cdot (I_3\cdot P).$$

• If we impose quasiconvexity, with permutation invariance, we have

$$C(I_3)=C(I_3\cdot P)\geq C\left(\frac{4}{5}\cdot I_3+\frac{1}{5}\cdot I_3\cdot P\right)=C(g).$$



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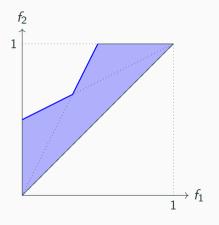
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Quasiconvexity

• The following information cost function for binary experiments is not quasiconvex



$$C(f_1, f_2) = \min \left\{ \frac{f_2}{f_1}, \frac{1 - f_1}{1 - f_2} \right\}$$
$$= \min \{\alpha, \beta\}$$

Garbling Quasiconvexity

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 $C \in \mathcal{C}_m$ is garbling-quasiconvex if for all $f \in \mathcal{E}_m$, any finite collection of its garblings, $\{g_1, \cdots, g_n\}$, and $\lambda_0, \cdots, \lambda_n \in [0,1]$ with $\sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i = 1$,

$$C(\lambda_0 f + \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i g_i) \leq \max\{C(f), C(g_1), \cdots, C(g_n)\}$$

Theorem 4

 $C \in \mathcal{C}_m$ is Blackwell monotone if and only if (i) C is permutation invariant; (ii) C is garbling-quasiconvex; and (iii) for all $f \in \mathcal{E}_m$,

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[Sublinearity \Rightarrow Blackwell Monotonicity]

- From sublinearity, we can show that *C* is convex.
- Consider the garbling of replacing s_j to s_k with prob. ϵ :

$$\Delta C = \psi(f^k + \epsilon \cdot f^j) + \psi((1 - \epsilon)f^j) - \left[\psi(f^k) + \psi(f^j)\right]$$

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$$= \psi(f^k + \epsilon \cdot f^j) - \psi(f^k) - \psi(\epsilon \cdot f^j) \le 0$$



[Blackwell Monotonicity ⇒ Sublinearity]

1. **Positive homegenity:** Note that $\psi(0) = 0$. For any $k \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$[\hat{f},0,\cdots,0,1-\hat{f}]\sim_B [\hat{f}/k,\hat{f}/k,\cdots,\hat{f}/k,1-\hat{f}] \quad \Rightarrow \quad \psi(\hat{f})=k \; \psi(\hat{f}/k).$$

Then, for any $(k, l) \in \mathbb{N}^2$, we also have

$$\frac{1}{k} \ \psi(\hat{f}) = 1 \ \psi\left(\frac{\hat{f}}{k}\right) = \psi\left(\frac{1}{k} \ \hat{f}\right)$$

By density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R} and the continuity of ψ , $\psi(\alpha \hat{f}) = \alpha \psi(\hat{f})$ for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$

2. **Subadditivity**:

$$[\hat{f},\hat{g},1-\hat{f}-\hat{g}]\succeq_B [\hat{f}+\hat{g},0,1-\hat{f}-\hat{g}] \quad \Rightarrow \quad \psi(\hat{f})+\psi(\hat{g})\geq \psi(\hat{f}+\hat{g})$$

Illustration: Quasiconvexity

- Consider COVID tests again
- Test C' is a convex combination of A' and B'

	n	p		n	p		n	p		
_	60% 20%	40%	_	80% 40%	20%	_	70%	30%		
+	20%	80%	+	40%	60%		30%			
Test A' (\$10)				Test B' (\$12)			Test C' (\leq \$12?)			

- Pay someone \$12 to perform the following process:
 - 1. toss a coin and run Test A' for heads, Test B' for tails
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Application: Costly Persuasion

- Consider a costly persuasion problem with the standard example
 - State: {innocent, guilty}
 - Receiver's action: Acquit or Convict
 - Sender's payoff: $u_S(C) = 1$, $u_S(A) = 0$
 - Receiver's payoff: $u_R(A, innocent) = u_R(C, guilty) = 1$ $u_R(C, innocent) = u_R(A, guilty) = 0$
 - Sender commits to an experiment at some cost
- GK focuses on posterior separable costs (e.g., entropy cost) to utilize concavification technique
- Can we solve this problem with any Blackwell-monotone information cost function?



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Costly Persuasion with Blackwell-Monotone Information Cost

- It is without loss to consider binary experiments since R's action is binary
 - $f_2 = Pr(C|guilty)$ and $f_1 = Pr(C|innocent)$
- When the prior is p, the sender's problem is

$$\max_{0 \le f_1 \le f_2 \le 1} pf_2 + (1-p)f_1 - C(f_1, f_2)$$

subject to

$$\frac{pf_2}{pf_2 + (1-p)f_1} \ge \frac{1}{2}.$$

• When $p \ge 1/2$, the solution is $f_1 = f_2 = 1$: always convict costlessly



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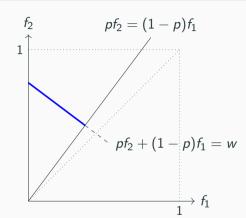


Cost Minimization

- Suppose p < 1/2.
- Cost minimization problem under

$$pf_2 + (1-p)f_1 = w$$
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min
$$C(f_1, f_2)$$
 s.t. $\begin{aligned} pf_2 + (1-p)f_1 &= w, \\ pf_2 &\geq (1-p)f_1 \end{aligned}$



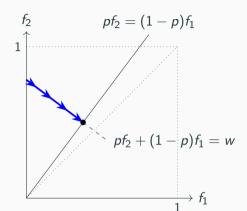
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Sender's Problem

• When $pf_2 + (1-p)f_1 = w$, the cost is minimized at

$$f_2 = \frac{w}{2p}$$
 and $f_1 = \frac{w}{2(1-p)}$.

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$$\max_{0 \le w \le 2p} w - C\left(\frac{w}{2(1-p)}, \frac{w}{2p}\right) \tag{4}$$

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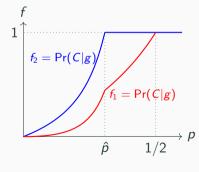
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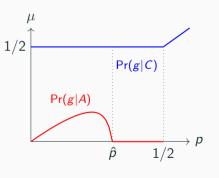


Costly Persuasion with Non-Posterior-Separable Cost

• When $C(f_1, f_2) = (f_2 - f_1)^2$, the solution for p < 1/2 is

$$f_2(p) = \min \left\{ 1, \; \frac{(1-p)^2p}{(1-2p)^2} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad f_1(p) = \frac{p}{1-p} \cdot f_2(p).$$





Optimal Experiments Posteriors

- Entropy cost: $k \cdot \mathbb{E}_{\pi|p}[H(p) H(\mu_s)]$ where $H(\mu) \equiv -\sum_{\omega} \mu(\omega) \log(\mu(\omega))$
 - ullet p is prior, and μ_i and μ_g are posteriors from an experiment π

