

DECOMPOSABLE SUMS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS ON NATURALLY QUASICONVEX RISK MEASURES

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We certify that we have read this thesis and that in our opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.



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ABSTRACT

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When measuring risk in finance, it is natural to expect that risk decreases with diversification. For risk measures, convexity and quasiconvexity are the two properties which capture the concept of diversification. In between these two properties, there is natural quasiconvexity. Natural quasiconvexity is an old but not so well-known property which is weaker than convexity but stronger than quasiconvexity. In the literature, a lot of effort is put on the analysis of the convexity and the quasiconvexity properties of risk measures. However, a detailed discussion on naturally quasiconvex risk measures is still missing and this thesis aims to fill this gap. Natural quasiconvexity is equivalent to a property called $\star$ -quasiconvexity. By making use of this equivalence, we relate naturally quasiconvex risk measures to additively decomposable sums. A notion called convexity index, which is defined in the literature in 1980s, plays a crucial role in the discussion of additively decomposable sums. Next, we turn our attention to naturally quasiconvex risk measures. By making use of the results on additively decomposable sums, we prove that natural quasiconvexity and convexity are exactly the same properties for conditional risk measures defined on L^p , for $p \geq 1$, under some mild conditions. Lastly, we study naturally quasiconvex risk measures on L^2 as a special case.

Keywords: Risk measures, natural quasiconvexity, additively decomposable sums, convexity index.

ÖZET

AYRIŞTIRILABİLİR TOPLAMLAR VE DOĞAL YARI-DIŞBÜKEY RISK ÖLÇERLER ÜZERİNDEKİ SONUÇLARI

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Finansta, risk ölçümünde çeşitlendirme ile riskin düşmesi beklenen bir durumdur. Risk ölçerlerde bu durum dışbükeylik ve yarı-dışbükeylik özellikleri ile sağlanır. Bu iki özelliğin arasında doğal yarı-dışbükeylik özelliği vardır. Doğal yarı-dışbükeylik, eski bir özellik olmakla birlikte pek bilinmemektedir, yarı-dışbükeylikten güçlü fakat dışbükeylikten daha zayıf bir özelliktir. Akademik kaynaklarda, risk ölçerlerin dışbükeylik ve yarı-dışbükeylik özelliklerini irdelemek için yapılmış birçok çalışma bulunmaktadır. Ancak, doğal yarı-dışbükey risk ölçerler üzerine yapılmış kapsamlı bir çalışma mevcut değildir. Bu tezde, literatürdeki bu boşluğu giderme amacı güdülmüştür. Doğal yarı-dışbükeylik, $\star$ -yarı-dışbükeylik özelliğine denktir. Bu iki özelliğin denkliğinden faydalanarak, doğal yarı-dışbükey risk ölçerler ayrıştırılabilir toplamlar olarak yazılabilir. Bu sebepten, doğal yarı-dışbükey risk ölçerleri incelemek için öncelikle ayrıştırılabilir toplamların çalışılması gerekmektedir. Bu tezin ilk bölümünde ayrılabilir toplamlar üzerinde durulmuştur. 1980’li yıllarda tanımlanan dışbükeylik indisi, ayrıştırılabilir toplamları analiz etmemizde önemli bir araç olmuştur. Tezin ikinci kısmında, doğal yarı-dışbükey risk ölçerler anlatılmıştır. İlk kısımda elde ettiğimiz sonuçlardan faydalanarak, makul koşullar altında ve her $p \geq 1$ için, L^p uzaylarında tanımlı risk ölçerler için dışbükeylik ve doğal yarı-dışbükeylik özelliklerinin denk olduğu gösterilmiştir. Son olarak L^2 uzayında tanımlı risk ölçerler, özel bir durum olarak incelenmiştir.

Anahtar sözcükler: Risk ölçer, doğal yarı-dışbükeylik, ayrıştırılabilir toplam fonksiyonları, dışbükeylik indisi.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

A major issue in finance is the measurement of risk of a financial position and the tools that are used to measure it are called risk measures. A risk measure is said to be conditional if it measures the risk of a financial position not today but at an intermediate time. In the study of risk measures, a lot of emphases is given on the analysis of properties of risk measures, however, a property called natural quasiconvexity is still not very well-understood. In this thesis, we are concerned with investigating natural quasiconvexity property for conditional risk measures.

An axiomatic approach to (monetary) risk measures is given in the seminal paper Artzner et al. [1], in which the so-called coherent risk measures are defined. Within the framework of the aforementioned paper, financial positions are modelled as random variables and a risk measure is a real-valued functional defined on a suitable linear space of financial positions. Under the axioms of a coherent risk measure, greater returns for all possible scenarios means lower risk (monotonicity), a deterministic amount added to the position reduces the risk by the same amount (translativity or cash additivity) and risk increases in a sublinear way (subadditivity and positive homogeneity). Coherent risk measures are then generalized to convex risk measures in Föllmer and Schied [2], Frittelli and Gianin [3] and Heath [4]. The motivation behind this generalization is that the risk of a financial position may increase in a nonlinear way with the size of a

position. Therefore, subadditivity and positive homogeneity axioms are replaced with the weaker convexity axiom. It is noteworthy that convexity explicitly captures the idea that diversification does not increase risk. Later, it is argued in El Karoui and Ravanelli [5] that cash additivity should be replaced with cash sub-additivity since the former ignores uncertainty about interest rates. Moreover, it is a well-known result that quasiconvexity and convexity are equivalent under cash additivity. (see, e.g., Marinacci and Montrucchio [6, Corollary 4.2]). Hence, the replacement of cash additivity with cash sub-additivity pave the way for drawing the distinction between quasiconvexity and convexity properties of risk measures. Important works along these lines are in Cerreia-Vioglio et al. [7], Drapeau and Kupper [8], Frittelli and Maggis [9]. Furthermore, it is argued in Cerreia-Vioglio et al. [10] that quasiconvexity is indeed the right mathematical formulation of diversification under cash sub-additivity.

In the conditional setting, a risk measure gives the risk of a financial position not necessarily in the present time. In other words, it measures the risk of a financial position possibly at an intermediate time. For discussions on conditional risk measures we refer the reader to Bion-Nadal [11], Detlefsen and Scandolo [12], Frittelli and Maggis [9], Riedel [13], Frittelli and Gianin [14] and Ruszczyński and Shapiro [15].

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space, $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ and $p \geq 1$. A conditional risk measure $\rho: L^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow L^p(\Omega, \mathcal{G}, \mathbb{P})$ is called naturally quasiconvex if for every $X, Y \in L^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ there exists $\mu \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y) \leq \mu \rho(X) + (1 - \mu) \rho(Y) \quad \text{for every } X, Y \in \mathcal{X},$$

Clearly, natural quasiconvexity is a property that is stronger than quasiconvexity but weaker than convexity. Furthermore, natural quasiconvexity is equivalent to a property called $\star$ -quasiconvexity. It turns out that, in view of the equivalence of natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity, naturally quasiconvex risk measures are highly related with additively decomposable sums, which we discuss next.

In Debreu and Koopmans [16] and Crouzeix and Lindberg [17], an indepth

discussion on additively decomposable sums can be found. In their setting, a real-valued function s defined on a product space $X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$ is called additively decomposable if

$$s(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f_1(x_1) + \dots + f_n(x_n), \quad (1.0.1)$$

where X_i is an open convex subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ and $f_i: X_i \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ for each $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ for each $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. They define for every real-valued function defined on an open set of $\mathbb{R}$ an index, namely convexity index, which can be used to determine whether it is convex or not. They showed that in the setting of (1.0.1), quasiconvexity of s have implications on convexity of each f_i , via convexity indices. To study naturally quasiconvex functions, we generalize their results to more general settings, in particular to functions defined on general vector spaces and to additively decomposable infinite sums.

The remainder of this thesis is organized as follows. In Chapter 2, additively decomposable sums on general vector spaces are studied. We introduce the convexity index for extended real-valued functions defined on general vector spaces and present some important properties of it in Section 2.1. Then, in Section 2.2, we show that an additively decomposable finite sum is quasiconvex if and only if either all functions that appear in the sum is convex or all except one is convex together with a condition on the sum of the convexity indices of them. It is noteworthy that Sections 2.1 and 2.2 have strong links with Debreu and Koopmans [16] and Crouzeix and Lindberg [17] since most of the results in these sections are generalizations of their results to real-valued functions defined on general topological vector spaces. To make that generalization, it appears that we only need lower semi-continuity assumption on each function that appears in the additively decomposable sum. In Section 2.3, we showed that almost the same result with the one in the previous section holds for additively infinite sums. In Chapter 3, we studied naturally quasiconvex conditional risk measures. Section 3.1 is a brief introduction to risk measures. In Section 3.2, we discuss natural quasiconvexity and give an equivalent characterization of it. In Section 3.3, we show that convexity and natural quasiconvexity are exactly the same properties for conditional risk measures, under some mild conditions. Finally, in Section 3.4, we define a new property, namely locality with respect to a basis, and show that, under that

property, naturally quasiconvexity and convexity are equivalent with respect to the preorder defined by the cone generated by the elements of the basis that the risk measure local with respect to.



Chapter 2

Decomposable sums in general topological vector spaces

2.1 Convexity index

Convexity index for real-valued functions defined on $\mathbb{R}^n$ is first introduced in Debreu and Koopmans [16] and redefined in Crouzeix and Lindberg [17]. The main concern of this section is to extend the definition of convexity index to extended real-valued functions defined on general topological vector spaces. This will be a building block in the study of additively decomposable sums in general vector spaces.

As we work with extended real-valued functions, the following conventions for the arithmetic on $\bar{\mathbb{R}} = [-\infty, +\infty]$ are used throughout the paper. We have $0 \cdot (+\infty) = 0 \cdot (-\infty) = 0$, $\frac{1}{0} = +\infty$. We also set $e^z = +\infty$ if $z = +\infty$ and $e^z = 0$ if $z = -\infty$.

Let X be a topological vector space and $f: X \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$ a function which we keep fixed except stated otherwise. We define the *effective domain* of f as the set

$$\text{dom } f := \{x \in X : f(x) < +\infty\}.$$

We assume that f is proper in the sense that $\text{dom } f \neq \emptyset$ and $f(x) > -\infty$ for every $x \in X$. For each $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, we associate to f the function $r_\lambda: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$r_\lambda(x) := e^{-\lambda f(x)}, \quad x \in X. \quad (2.1.1)$$

First, we present an auxiliary result related to the convexity properties of r_λ , $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, which is helpful to have a better grasp of the definition of convexity index.

Lemma 2.1.1. *The following results hold for r_λ , $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, associated to $f: X \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$.*

- (i) *Let $\lambda < 0$. Then, r_λ is convex if and only if r_μ is convex for each $\mu < \lambda$.*
- (ii) *Let $\lambda > 0$. Then, r_λ is concave if and only if r_μ is concave for each $\mu \in [0, \lambda)$.*
- (iii) *If r_λ is concave for some $\lambda > 0$, then r_μ is convex for each $\mu < 0$.*

Proof. Let $\lambda \neq 0$ and $\mu < \lambda$. Then, we may write $r_\mu = k_{\mu,\lambda} \circ r_\lambda$, where $k_{\mu,\lambda}(t) := t^{\frac{\mu}{\lambda}}$ for each $t \in [0, +\infty]$ with the conventions $0^0 = (+\infty)^0 = 1$, $(+\infty)^a = +\infty$ for $a > 0$, and $(+\infty)^a = 0$ for $a < 0$.

- (a) Let $\lambda < 0$. Suppose that r_λ is convex and let $\mu < \lambda$. Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. For every $t \in [0, +\infty]$, we have

$$k'_{\mu,\lambda}(t) = \frac{\mu}{\lambda} t^{\frac{\mu}{\lambda}-1} \geq 0, \quad k''_{\mu,\lambda}(t) = \left(\frac{\mu}{\lambda}\right) \left(\frac{\mu}{\lambda} - 1\right) t^{\frac{\mu}{\lambda}-2} \geq 0$$

since $\frac{\mu}{\lambda} > 1$. Hence $k_{\mu,\lambda}$ is convex and increasing. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} r_\mu(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) &= k_{\mu,\lambda} \circ r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \\ &\leq k_{\mu,\lambda}(\eta r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2)) \\ &\leq \eta k_{\mu,\lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta) k_{\mu,\lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_2) \\ &= \eta r_\mu(x_1) + (1 - \eta) r_\mu(x_2), \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality holds since r_λ is convex, $k_{\mu,\lambda}$ is increasing and the second inequality follows from the convexity of $k_{\mu,\lambda}$. Therefore, r_μ is convex.

Conversely, assume that r_μ is convex for each $\mu < \lambda$. Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. For every $\mu < \lambda$, we have

$$r_\mu(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \leq \eta r_\mu(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\mu(x_2).$$

Thanks to the continuity of the power function $\mu \mapsto e^{-\mu a}$ on $(-\infty, 0)$ for each fixed $a \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$, we may let $\mu \rightarrow \lambda$ and get

$$r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \leq \eta r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2).$$

Hence r_λ is convex.

- (b) Let $\lambda > 0$. Suppose that r_λ is concave. Clearly, $r_0 \equiv 1$ is convex. Let $\mu \in (0, \lambda)$. Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. Similar to (i), it is easy to check that $k_{\mu, \lambda}$ is concave and increasing since $0 \leq \frac{\mu}{\lambda} < 1$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} r_\mu(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) &= k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \\ &\geq k_{\mu, \lambda}(\eta r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2)) \\ &\geq \eta k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_2) \\ &= \eta r_\mu(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\mu(x_2), \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality holds since r_λ is concave, $k_{\mu, \lambda}$ is increasing and the second inequality follows from concavity of k . Therefore, r_μ is concave.

Conversely, assume that r_μ is concave for each $\mu \in [0, \lambda)$. Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. For every $\mu \in [0, \lambda)$, we have

$$r_\mu(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \geq \eta r_\mu(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\mu(x_2).$$

By letting $\mu \rightarrow \lambda$ similar to (i), we get

$$r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \geq \eta r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2).$$

Hence r_λ is concave.

- (c) Assume that there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that r_λ is concave. Let $\mu < 0$, $x_1, x_2 \in X$

and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. Similar to (i) and (ii), we may conclude that $k_{\mu, \lambda}$ is convex and decreasing since $\frac{\mu}{\lambda} < 0$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} r_\mu(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) &= k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \\ &\leq k_{\mu, \lambda}(\eta r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2)) \\ &\leq \eta k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \eta)k_{\mu, \lambda} \circ r_\lambda(x_2) \\ &= \eta r_\mu(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_\mu(x_2), \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality holds since r_λ is concave, $k_{\mu, \lambda}$ is decreasing and the second inequality follows from convexity of k . Therefore, r_μ is convex. □

Let us consider the following two cases. First, assume that there exists $\lambda < 0$ such that r_λ is not convex. Then, according to Lemma 2.1.1(i), r_γ is not convex for every $\gamma \in [\lambda, 0)$. Moreover, if there exists $\mu < \lambda$ such that r_μ is convex, then r_γ is convex for every $\gamma \in (-\infty, \mu]$. Second, assume otherwise that r_λ is convex for every $\lambda < 0$. In view of Lemma 2.1.1(iii), this is a necessary condition for r_μ to be concave for some $\mu > 0$. Moreover, if r_μ is concave for some $\mu > 0$, then r_γ is concave for every $\gamma \in [0, \mu)$ by Lemma 2.1.1(ii). Figure 3.2 and Figure 2.2 below depict these two cases.

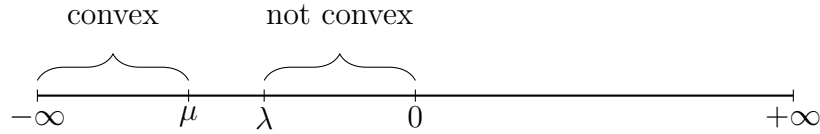


Figure 2.1: r_λ is not convex for some $\lambda < 0$.

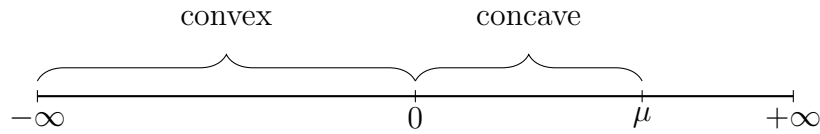


Figure 2.2: r_λ is convex for every $\lambda < 0$.

Considering the cases described above, an intriguing query arises to determine the largest $\lambda < 0$ for which r_λ is convex (first case) and the largest $\lambda \geq 0$ for

which r_λ is concave (second case). The following definition is motivated by these ideas.

Definition 2.1.2. *The convexity index $c(f) \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$ of f is defined as follows:*

(i) *if there exists $\bar{\lambda} < 0$ such that $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ is not convex, then*

$$c(f) := \sup\{\lambda < 0 : r_\lambda \text{ is convex}\}.$$

(ii) *if $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ is convex for every $\bar{\lambda} < 0$, then*

$$c(f) := \sup\{\lambda \geq 0 : r_\lambda \text{ is concave}\}.$$

Remark 2.1.3. By the discussion preceding Definition 2.1.2, it is clear that $c(f) \in [-\infty, 0)$ in case (i) and $c(f) \in [0, +\infty]$ in case (ii).

As its name suggests, convexity index of f tells whether it is convex or not as stated in the next theorem.

Theorem 2.1.4. *The function f is convex if and only if $c(f) \geq 0$.*

Proof. Assume that f is a convex function. Let $\bar{\lambda} < 0$. For every $\eta \in [0, 1]$, $x_1, x_2 \in X$,

$$\begin{aligned} r_{\bar{\lambda}}(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) &= e^{-\bar{\lambda}f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2)} \\ &\leq e^{-\bar{\lambda}(\eta f(x_1) + (1 - \eta)f(x_2))} \\ &\leq \eta r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x_1) + (1 - \eta)r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x_2), \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality follows from the convexity of f and monotonicity of $t \mapsto e^{-\bar{\lambda}t}$, the second inequality holds since $t \mapsto e^{-\bar{\lambda}t}$ defined on $[0, +\infty]$ is convex. Therefore, $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ is convex. Hence, by Definition 2.1.2,

$$c(f) = \sup\{\lambda \geq 0 : r_\lambda \text{ is concave}\}$$

so that $c(f) \geq 0$.

Conversely, assume that $c(f) \geq 0$. Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\eta \in [0, 1]$. We claim that

$$f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \leq \eta f(x_1) + (1 - \eta)f(x_2). \quad (2.1.2)$$

Note that (2.1.2) holds trivially if $f(x_1) = +\infty$ or $f(x_2) = +\infty$. Hence, we consider the following cases:

- (a) $f(x_1) < +\infty, f(x_2) < +\infty, f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) < +\infty,$
- (b) $f(x_1) < +\infty, f(x_2) < +\infty, f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) = +\infty.$

For each $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, define

$$\begin{aligned} k(\lambda) &:= r_\lambda(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) - \eta r_\lambda(x_1) - (1 - \eta)r_\lambda(x_2) \\ &= e^{-\lambda f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2)} - \eta e^{-\lambda f(x_1)} - (1 - \eta)e^{-\lambda f(x_2)}. \end{aligned}$$

By Remark 2.1.3, r_λ is convex for every $\lambda < 0$, which implies that $k(\lambda) \leq 0$ for every $\lambda < 0$. Observe that $k(\lambda) = +\infty$ for every $\lambda < 0$ if case (b) is true, which is in contradiction with the previous statement. Therefore, we are only left with case (a). Noting that $k(0) = 0$, we get

$$k'_-(0) := \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{k(\lambda) - k(0)}{\lambda} \geq 0.$$

Furthermore, k is differentiable everywhere on $\mathbb{R}$, in particular, at $\lambda = 0$. Hence, the derivative and the left derivative of k at 0 are equal, that is,

$$0 \leq k'_-(0) = k'(0) = -f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) + \eta f(x_1) + (1 - \eta)f(x_2).$$

Therefore, (2.1.2) holds. Since η, x_1, x_2 are arbitrary, f is convex. $\square$

Before proceeding further, we give a basic result which will be useful in the following sections.

Lemma 2.1.5. *Let $w \in \mathbb{R}_+$. $c(wf) = \frac{1}{w}c(f)$.*

Proof. The result follows trivially when $w = 0$. Suppose $w > 0$. We need to consider the following two cases:

- (a) f is convex. Then, wf is convex. Theorem 2.1.4 together with Remark 2.1.3 implies that $c(wf) = \sup\{\lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda \geq 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is concave}\}$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} c(wf) &= \sup\{\lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda \geq 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is concave}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} \sup\{\lambda w \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda \geq 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is concave}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} \sup\{\mu \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda \geq 0, e^{-\mu f} \text{ is concave}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} c(f). \end{aligned}$$

- (b) f is non-convex. Then, wf is non-convex. Theorem 2.1.4 together with Remark 2.1.3 implies that $c(wf) = \sup\{\lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda < 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is convex}\}$. Similar to the previous case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} c(wf) &= \sup\{\lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda < 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is convex}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} \sup\{\lambda w \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda < 0, e^{-\lambda wf} \text{ is convex}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} \sup\{\mu \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda < 0, e^{-\mu f} \text{ is convex}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{w} c(f). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the result holds. □

As discussed in Crouzeix and Lindberg [17, Proposition 3(b)], constant real-valued functions defined on $\mathbb{R}^n$ can be characterized in terms of convexity index. In the proof of this result, they use the fact that convexity of a function with finite values implies continuity. Such a result does not hold for extended real-valued functions defined on general topological vector spaces. Fortunately, the characterization is still valid under a mild condition, as shown in the next theorem.

Theorem 2.1.6. *Assume that f is lower semicontinuous. Then, f is a constant function if and only if $c(f) = +\infty$.*

Proof. Assume that f is a constant function. Then, for every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, the function r_λ is constant, hence convex. By Definition 2.1.2, we have

$$c(f) = \sup\{\lambda \geq 0: r_\lambda \text{ is concave}\}. \quad (2.1.3)$$

Moreover, for each $\lambda \geq 0$, the constant function r_λ is also concave. Therefore, $c(f) = +\infty$.

Conversely, assume that $c(f) = +\infty$. Then, by Theorem 2.1.4, f is convex. To get a contradiction, suppose that f is not constant. We need to consider the following two cases:

- (a) Suppose that f takes only one finite value, that is, $f(X) = \{c, +\infty\}$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, for every $\lambda < 0$, we have $r_\lambda(x) = e^{-\lambda c}$ for every $x \in \text{dom } f$ and $r_\lambda(x) = +\infty$ for every $x \in X \setminus \text{dom } f$; hence r_λ is convex. So (2.1.3) is valid. Moreover, since f is proper and lower semicontinuous, $\text{dom } f = \{x \in X: f(x) \leq c\}$ is a closed set. Let $\lambda > 0$. Then, $r_\lambda(x) = e^{-\lambda c} > 0$ for every $x \in \text{dom } f$ and $r_\lambda(x) = 0$ for every $x \in X \setminus \text{dom } f$. Let $x_1 \in \text{dom } f$ and $x_2 \in X \setminus \text{dom } f$. Since X is a topological vector space, the function $[0, 1] \ni \eta \mapsto x^\eta := \eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2 \in X$ is continuous. Hence, $\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} x^\eta = x_2$. Since $x_2 \in X \setminus \text{dom } f$ and $X \setminus \text{dom } f$ is an open set, continuity at $\eta = 0$ implies that there exists $\bar{\eta} \in (0, 1)$ such that $x^{\bar{\eta}} \in X \setminus \text{dom } f$. In particular, $f(x^{\bar{\eta}}) = +\infty$ and $r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) = 0$. It follows that

$$r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) = 0 < \bar{\eta}e^{-\lambda c} = \bar{\eta}r_\lambda(x_1) + (1 - \bar{\eta})r_\lambda(x_2)$$

so that r_λ is not concave. Therefore, $c(f) = 0$ by (2.1.3), which is a contradiction to $c(f) = +\infty$. So this case is eliminated.

- (b) Suppose that f takes at least two finite values, that is, there exist $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that $f(x_1) < f(x_2) < +\infty$. Since f is convex and $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$, for every $\eta \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$f(\eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2) \leq \eta f(x_1) + (1 - \eta)f(x_2) < f(x_2). \quad (2.1.4)$$

Moreover, since f is lower semi-continuous at x_2 ,

$$f(x_2) \leq \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_2} f(x),$$

where

$$\liminf_{x \rightarrow x_2} f(x) = \sup \{ \inf \{ f(x) : x \in U \setminus \{x_2\} \} : U \subseteq X \text{ is open, } x_2 \in U, U \setminus \{x_2\} \neq \emptyset \}.$$

Since $f(x_1) < f(x_2) \leq \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_2} f(x)$, there exists an open neighborhood $\bar{U}$ of x_2 such that

$$f(x_1) < \inf \{ f(x) : x \in \bar{U} \setminus \{x_2\} \}.$$

Observe that

$$f(x_1) < f(x) \text{ for every } x \in \bar{U}. \quad (2.1.5)$$

Similar to case (a), the function $[0, 1] \ni \eta \mapsto x^\eta := \eta x_1 + (1 - \eta)x_2 \in X$ is continuous with $\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} x^\eta = x_2$, which implies that there exists $\bar{\eta} \in (0, 1)$ such that $x^{\bar{\eta}} \in \bar{U}$. By (2.1.5), $f(x_1) < f(x^{\bar{\eta}})$. Together with (2.1.4), we have

$$f(x_1) < f(x^{\bar{\eta}}) < f(x_2). \quad (2.1.6)$$

By Remark 2.1.3, r_λ is concave for every $\lambda \geq 0$ since $c(f) = +\infty$. Therefore,

$$r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - \bar{\eta}r_\lambda(x_1) - (1 - \bar{\eta})r_\lambda(x_2) \geq 0 \text{ for every } \lambda > 0. \quad (2.1.7)$$

Let $\lambda > 0$. With some algebraic operations, (2.1.7) can be rewritten as

$$\frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x_2)}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} \leq \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}}. \quad (2.1.8)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x_2)}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} &= \frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) + r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} \\
&= \frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}})}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} + 1 \\
&\geq \frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}})}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} \\
&\geq \frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}})}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}})} \\
&\geq \frac{r_\lambda(x_1)}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}})} - 1 \\
&= e^{-\lambda(f(x_1) - f(x^{\bar{\eta}}))} - 1
\end{aligned}$$

By (2.1.6), $f(x_1) - f(x^{\bar{\eta}}) < 0$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\limsup_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r_\lambda(x_1) - r_\lambda(x_2)}{r_\lambda(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_\lambda(x_2)} &\geq \limsup_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\lambda(f(x_1) - f(x^{\bar{\eta}}))} - 1 \\
&= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\lambda(f(x_1) - f(x^{\bar{\eta}}))} - 1 \\
&= +\infty.
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that there exists $\bar{\lambda} > 0$ such that

$$\frac{r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x_1) - r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x_2)}{r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x^{\bar{\eta}}) - r_{\bar{\lambda}}(x_2)} > \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}}.$$

By (2.1.8), $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ is not concave, which is in contradiction with (2.1.7). Hence, f is constant.

□

2.2 Finite Decomposable Sums

In this section, additively decomposable quasiconvex functions defined on general topological vector spaces is discussed. The main results of this section are as the

followings: (i) Theorem 2.2.2, which characterizes a quasiconvex decomposable sum in terms of sum of the convexity indices of its coordinate functions, and (ii) Theorem 2.2.5 in which it is presented that given a quasiconvex decomposable sum, either all coordinate functions are convex, or all except one are convex and convexity indices of coordinate functions satisfies an additive formula, and vice versa.

First we prove a technical result that we need in the following part.

Lemma 2.2.1. *If f is quasiconvex and not convex, then there exist $x_1, x_2 \in \text{dom } f$, $\bar{t} \in [0, 1)$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_2) &< \alpha \leq f(x_1), \\ f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) &\leq \alpha + (f(x_1) - f(x_2))(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{for every } t \in [0, \bar{t}], \\ \alpha &\leq f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) < \alpha + (f(x_1) - f(x_2))(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{for every } t \in (1, \bar{t}, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Since f is not convex, there exists $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that

$$\Delta := \sup_{t \in [0, 1]} g(t) > 0, \tag{2.2.1}$$

where $g(t) := f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) - tf(x_1) - (1-t)f(x_2)$. Without loss of generality, assume that $f(x_1) \geq f(x_2)$. For every $t \in [0, 1]$,

$$g(t) \leq f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) - f(x_2) \leq f(x_1) - f(x_2),$$

where the first inequality holds since $f(x_1) \geq f(x_2)$ and the second inequality follows from quasiconvexity of f . Hence,

$$0 < \Delta \leq f(x_1) - f(x_2). \tag{2.2.2}$$

For every $\gamma \in [0, \Delta)$, define $t_\gamma := \sup\{t \in [0, 1] : g(t) \geq \gamma\}$. Obviously $t_\gamma \geq 0$. We claim that

$$t_\gamma \leq \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \gamma}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}.$$

Suppose not. Then, there exists $t^* \in \left(\frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \gamma}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}, t_\gamma \right]$ such that

$$g(t^*) \geq \gamma. \quad (2.2.3)$$

Observe that

$$t^* > \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \gamma}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)} \iff t^* f(x_1) + (1 - t^*) f(x_2) > f(x_1) - \gamma.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} g(t^*) &= f(t^* x_1 + (1 - t^*) x_2) - t^* f(x_1) - (1 - t^*) f(x_2) \\ &< f(t^* x_1 + (1 - t^*) x_2) - f(x_1) + \gamma \\ &\leq \max\{f(x_1), f(x_2)\} - f(x_1) + \gamma \\ &= \gamma, \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows from quasiconvexity of f while the last equality follows from the assumption that $f(x_1) \geq f(x_2)$. This is in contradiction with (2.2.3). Therefore,

$$0 < t_\gamma \leq \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \gamma}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}, \quad \text{for every } \gamma \in [0, \Delta). \quad (2.2.4)$$

Moreover, if $\gamma_1 \leq \gamma_2$, then $\{t \in [0, 1] : g(t) \geq \gamma_2\} \subseteq \{t \in [0, 1] : g(t) \geq \gamma_1\}$. Hence,

$$t_{\gamma_1} \geq t_{\gamma_2} \quad \text{for every } \gamma_1 \leq \gamma_2. \quad (2.2.5)$$

Let us define

$$\bar{t} := \lim_{\gamma \rightarrow \Delta} t_\gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha := \Delta + \bar{t} f(x_1) + (1 - \bar{t}) f(x_2).$$

It follows from (2.2.2) and letting $\gamma \rightarrow \Delta$ in (2.2.4) that

$$0 \leq \bar{t} \leq \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \Delta}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)} < 1. \quad (2.2.6)$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x_2) &< f(x_2) + \Delta + \bar{t}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \\
&= \alpha \\
&\leq f(x_2) + \Delta + \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2) - \Delta}{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) = f(x_1),
\end{aligned}$$

where the strict inequality holds since $\Delta + \bar{t}(f(x_1) - f(x_2))$ is positive by (2.2.2), (2.2.6), and the inequality follows from (2.2.6). Hence, we have

$$f(x_2) < \alpha \leq f(x_1). \quad (2.2.7)$$

By the definition of Δ , for every $t \in [0, 1]$,

$$f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \leq \Delta + tf(x_1) + (1-t)f(x_2) = \alpha + (t - \bar{t})(f(x_1) - f(x_2)). \quad (2.2.8)$$

Now, assume that the inequality above holds with equality for some $\hat{t} \in [0, 1]$. Then, $g(\hat{t}) = \Delta$. Observe that, $g(\hat{t}) > \gamma$ for every $\gamma \in [0, \Delta)$. By (2.2.5), $\hat{t} \leq t_\gamma$ for every $\gamma \in [0, \Delta)$. Letting $\gamma \rightarrow \Delta$, we have $\hat{t} \leq \bar{t}$. Thus, if $t > \bar{t}$ we have

$$f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) < \alpha + (t - \bar{t})(f(x_1) - f(x_2)). \quad (2.2.9)$$

Summing up, from (2.2.8) and (2.2.9) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) &\leq \alpha + (t - \bar{t})(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \quad \text{for every } t \in [0, \bar{t}], \\
f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) &< \alpha + (t - \bar{t})(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \quad \text{for every } t \in (\bar{t}, 1].
\end{aligned} \quad (2.2.10)$$

Let $t \in (\bar{t}, 1]$. It remains to show that $\alpha \leq f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2)$. By the definition of $\bar{t}$ and (2.2.5), we have $t_\gamma \geq \bar{t}$ for every $\gamma \in [0, \Delta)$. Hence, there exists $\bar{\gamma} \in (0, \Delta)$ such that

$$\bar{t} \leq t_\gamma < t \quad \text{for every } \gamma \in [\bar{\gamma}, \Delta). \quad (2.2.11)$$

For all $\gamma \in [\bar{\gamma}, \Delta)$ and $\epsilon \in (0, \frac{t_\gamma}{2})$, there exists $t_{\gamma, \epsilon} \in [t_\gamma - \epsilon, t_\gamma]$ such that $g(t_{\gamma, \epsilon}) \geq \gamma$. By the definition of g , this is equivalent to

$$f(t_{\gamma, \epsilon}x_1 + (1 - t_{\gamma, \epsilon})x_2) \geq \gamma + f(x_2) + t_{\gamma, \epsilon}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) > f(x_2). \quad (2.2.12)$$

Note that $t \mapsto f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2)$ is quasiconvex on $[0, 1]$ as it is the composition of an affine function with a quasiconvex function. Observe that $t_{\gamma, \epsilon}$ can be written as a convex combination of 0 and t since $0 < t_{\gamma, \epsilon} \leq t_\gamma < t$. Therefore,

$$f(t_{\gamma, \epsilon}x_1 + (1 - t_{\gamma, \epsilon})x_2) \leq \max\{f(x_2), f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2)\}.$$

By (2.2.12), $f(t_{\gamma, \epsilon}x_1 + (1 - t_{\gamma, \epsilon})x_2) > f(x_2)$. Hence,

$$f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \geq f(t_{\gamma, \epsilon}x_1 + (1 - t_{\gamma, \epsilon})x_2). \quad (2.2.13)$$

It follows from (2.2.11), (2.2.12) and (2.2.13) that

$$\begin{aligned} f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) &\geq \gamma + f(x_2) + t_{\gamma, \epsilon}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \\ &\geq \gamma + f(x_2) + (t_\gamma - \epsilon)(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \\ &\geq \gamma + f(x_2) + (\bar{t} - \epsilon)(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \end{aligned}$$

Letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ and $\gamma \rightarrow \Delta$ gives

$$f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \geq \Delta + f(x_2) + \bar{t}(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) = \alpha. \quad (2.2.14)$$

The result follows from (2.2.7), (2.2.10) and (2.2.14). $\square$

For the rest of this section, we fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and let X_i be a topological vector space and f_i be a proper extended real-valued function defined on X_i for each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Furthermore, we define the function $s: X_1 \times \dots \times X_n \mapsto \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ by

$$s(x_1, \dots, x_n) := f_1(x_1) + \dots + f_n(x_n). \quad (2.2.15)$$

In Debreu and Koopmans [16] and Crouzeix and Lindberg [17] implications of quasiconvexity of s on f_i when X_i is an open subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ is studied. In this section, we extend their results to general topological vector spaces.

Theorem 2.2.2. *Assume that $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ are non-constant. s is quasiconvex*

if and only if

$$c(f_1) + \dots + c(f_n) \geq 0$$

Proof. It is enough to consider the case $n = 2$ and we write $f = f_1$, $g = f_2$, $X_1 = X$ and $X_2 = Y$. Assume that s is quasiconvex and assume to the contrary that $c(f) + c(g) < 0$. Given $\bar{y} \in Y$, for every $x_1, x_2 \in X$, and $t \in [0, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) + g(\bar{y}) &= s(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2, \bar{y}) \\ &\leq \max\{s(x_1, \bar{y}), s(x_2, \bar{y})\} \\ &= \max\{f(x_1) + g(\bar{y}), f(x_2) + g(\bar{y})\} \\ &= \max\{f(x_1), f(x_2)\} + g(\bar{y}). \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting $g(\bar{y})$ from both sides yields

$$f(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \leq \max\{f(x_1), f(x_2)\}. \quad (2.2.16)$$

Therefore, f is quasiconvex. By a similar argument, g is also quasiconvex. Without loss of generality we can assume that $c(f) \leq c(g)$. Then, there exists $\lambda < 0$ such that

$$c(f) < \lambda < -c(g). \quad (2.2.17)$$

For every $(x, y) \in X \times Y$, define

$$\bar{f}(x) := e^{-\lambda f(x)}, \quad \bar{g}(y) := e^{\lambda g(y)} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{s}(x, y) := e^{-\lambda s(x, y)}.$$

$\bar{s}$ is a quasiconvex function since it is the composition of a quasiconvex function with a non-decreasing function. It follows from Definition 2.1.2 and Remark 2.1.3 that $\bar{f}$ is not convex. Moreover, $-\bar{g}$ is not convex. To see this, assume to the contrary that $\bar{g}$ is concave. Then, r_μ associated with g is convex for every $\mu < 0$ by Lemma 2.1.1-(iii). Hence, $c(g) = \sup\{\gamma \in \mathbb{R} : \gamma \geq 0, r_\gamma \text{ is concave}\}$ by Definition 2.1.2. Since $\bar{g}$ is assumed to be concave, $-\lambda \in \{\gamma \in \mathbb{R} : \gamma \geq 0, r_\gamma \text{ is concave}\}$. By Lemma 2.1.1, $c(g) \geq -\lambda$. This is in contradiction with (2.2.17).

Observe that $\bar{f}$ and $-\bar{g}$ are composition of f and g respectively with a non-decreasing function. Therefore $\bar{f}$ and $-\bar{g}$ are quasiconvex.

Next, we will apply Lemma 2.2.1 to $\bar{f}$ and $-\bar{g}$ since they are quasiconvex but not convex functions. There exist $x_1, x_2 \in \text{dom } \bar{f}$, $y_1, y_2 \in \text{dom } \bar{g}$, $\bar{t}, \bar{u} \in [0, 1]$ and $\alpha, \beta > 0$ such that

$$0 < \theta(0) < \alpha \leq \theta(1), \quad (2.2.18)$$

$$\theta(t) \leq \alpha + m(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \bar{t}, \quad (2.2.19)$$

$$\alpha \leq \theta(t) < \alpha + m(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{if } \bar{t} < t \leq 1, \quad (2.2.20)$$

$$\mu(0) < -\beta \leq \mu(1) < 0, \quad (2.2.21)$$

$$\mu(u) \leq -\beta + n(u - \bar{u}) \quad \text{if } 0 \leq u \leq \bar{u}, \quad (2.2.22)$$

$$-\beta \leq \mu(u) < -\beta + n(u - \bar{u}) \quad \text{if } \bar{u} < u \leq 1, \quad (2.2.23)$$

where

$$\theta(t) := \bar{f}(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \quad \text{for every } t \in [0, 1],$$

$$\mu(u) := -\bar{g}(uy_1 + (1-u)y_2) \quad \text{for every } u \in [0, 1],$$

$$m := \theta(1) - \theta(0) > 0,$$

$$n := \mu(1) - \mu(0) > 0.$$

Define

$$\xi(t, u) := -\frac{\theta(t)}{\mu(u)} \quad \text{for all } (t, u) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1],$$

$$S := \left\{ (t, u) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1] : \xi(t, u) < \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right\},$$

$$T := \{(t, u) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1] : m\beta(t - \bar{t}) + n\alpha(u - \bar{u}) \leq 0\}.$$

Notice that

$$\xi(t, u) = e^{-\lambda s(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2, uy_1 + (1-u)y_2)}.$$

ξ is quasiconvex in (t, u) since s is quasiconvex. As a strict lower level set of a quasiconvex function, S is a convex set. Moreover,

$$S = \left\{ (t, u) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1] : \beta\theta(t) + \alpha\mu(u) < 0 \right\}.$$

From (2.2.19), (2.2.20), (2.2.22) and (2.2.23), we immediately derive

$$S \cap \left((\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1] \right) = \emptyset, \quad (2.2.24)$$

$$S \supseteq T \cap \left([0, \bar{t}] \times (\bar{u}, 1] \right), \quad (2.2.25)$$

$$S \supseteq T \cap \left((\bar{t}, 1] \times [0, \bar{u}] \right), \quad (2.2.26)$$

There are four possible cases:

(a) Suppose that $\bar{t} > 0$ and $\bar{u} > 0$. Let

$$k := \frac{m\beta}{n\alpha},$$

$$\epsilon := \min \left\{ \bar{t}, \frac{1 - \bar{u}}{k}, 1 - \bar{t}, \frac{\bar{u}}{k} \right\}.$$

It is not hard to see that $(\bar{t} - \epsilon, \bar{u} + k\epsilon) \in T \cap \left([0, \bar{t}] \times (\bar{u}, 1] \right)$ and $(\bar{t} + \epsilon, \bar{u} - k\epsilon) \in T \cap \left((\bar{t}, 1] \times [0, \bar{u}] \right)$. In view of (2.2.25) and (2.2.26), $(\bar{t} - \epsilon, \bar{u} + k\epsilon), (\bar{t} + \epsilon, \bar{u} - k\epsilon) \in S$. It follows from convexity of S that

$$(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) = \frac{1}{2}(\bar{t} - \epsilon, \bar{u} + k\epsilon) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)(\bar{t} + \epsilon, \bar{u} - k\epsilon) \in S.$$

Hence, $\beta\theta(\bar{t}) + \alpha\mu(\bar{u}) < 0$. On the other hand, by (2.2.19) and (2.2.22), $\beta\theta(\bar{t}) \leq \alpha\beta$ and $\alpha\mu(\bar{u}) \leq -\alpha\beta$. Then, we have either $\alpha\mu(\bar{u}) < -\alpha\beta$ or $\beta\theta(\bar{t}) < \alpha\beta$.

Assume that the latter holds. Choose $u^* \in (\bar{u}, 1]$ such that

$$u^* - \bar{u} < \frac{\alpha\beta - \beta}{n\alpha},$$

i.e. such that

$$n\alpha(u^* - \bar{u}) < \alpha\beta - \beta\theta(\bar{t}).$$

For instance, one can choose $u^* = \bar{u} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha\beta - \beta\theta(\bar{t})}{n\alpha}$. It follows from (2.2.23) that

$$\beta\theta(\bar{t}) + \alpha\mu(u^*) < \beta\theta(\bar{t}) - \alpha\beta + n\alpha(u^* - \bar{u}) < 0.$$

Therefore, $(\bar{t}, u^*) \in S$.

Next, note that one can choose $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times [0, \bar{u}]$ such that

$$m\beta(t^{**} - \bar{t}) + n\alpha(u^{**} - \bar{u}) \leq 0.$$

Hence, $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in T \cap \left((\bar{t}, 1] \times [0, \bar{u}] \right)$, and consequently $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$ by (2.2.26). Notice that, since $\bar{t} < t^{**}$ and $u^{**} < \bar{u} < u^*$, there exists $\bar{\lambda} \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$(\bar{\lambda}t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})\bar{t}, \bar{\lambda}u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})u^*) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1].$$

Moreover, S is convex. Therefore,

$$(\bar{\lambda}t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})\bar{t}, \bar{\lambda}u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})u^*) \in S.$$

This is in contradiction with (2.2.24).

Lastly, assume $\alpha\mu(\bar{u}) < -\alpha\beta$. Observe that there exists $t^* \in (\bar{t}, 1]$ such that $m\beta(t^* - \bar{t}) < -\alpha\beta - \alpha\mu(\bar{u})$. Hence,

$$\beta\theta(t^*) + \alpha\mu(\bar{u}) < \alpha\beta + m\beta(t^* - \bar{t}) + \alpha\mu(\bar{u}) < 0,$$

where the first strict inequality follows from (2.2.20). Therefore $(t^*, \bar{u}) \in S$.

Next, we can choose $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in [0, \bar{t}] \times (\bar{u}, 1]$ such that

$$m\beta(t^{**} - \bar{t}) + n\alpha(u^{**} - \bar{u}) \leq 0.$$

Therefore, $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in T \cap [0, \bar{t}] \times (\bar{u}, 1]$. By (2.2.25), $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$. Observe that, since $t^{**} < \bar{t} < t^*$ and $\bar{u} < u^{**}$. Therefore, there exists $\bar{\lambda} \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$(\bar{\lambda}t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})t^*, \bar{\lambda}u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})\bar{u}) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1].$$

Moreover S is convex. Hence,

$$(\bar{\lambda}t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})\bar{t}, \bar{\lambda}u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})u^*) \in S.$$

This is a contradiction by (2.2.24).

- (b) Suppose that $\bar{t} = 0$ and $\bar{u} > 0$. By (2.2.18), we have $\alpha - \theta(0) > 0$. Choose $u^* \in (\bar{u}, 1]$ such that

$$n\alpha(u^* - \bar{u}) < \beta(\alpha - \theta(0)).$$

For instance, one can choose $u^* = \bar{u} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\beta(\alpha - \theta(0))}{n\alpha}$. Observe that

$$\beta\theta(0) + \alpha\mu(u^*) < \beta\theta(0) - \beta\alpha + n\alpha(u^* - \bar{u}) < 0.$$

where the first strict inequality follows from (2.2.23). By the definition of S , $(0, u^*) \in S$. Choose $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times [0, \bar{u}]$ such that

$$m\beta(t^{**} - \bar{t}) + n\alpha(u^{**} - \bar{u}) \leq 0.$$

In other words, $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in T$. By (2.2.26), $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$. Since S is convex and $(0, u^*), (t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$, for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$(\lambda t^{**} + (1 - \lambda)0, \lambda u^{**} + (1 - \lambda)u^*) \in S.$$

On the other hand, $0 = \bar{t} < t^{**}$ and $u^{**} \leq \bar{u} < u^*$. Therefore, there exists $\bar{\lambda} \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$(\bar{\lambda}t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})0, \bar{\lambda}u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})u^*) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1].$$

This is a contradiction by (2.2.24).

- (c) Suppose that $\bar{t} > 0$ and $\bar{u} = 0$. By (2.2.21), we have $\mu(0) + \beta < 0$. Choose $t^* \in (\bar{t}, 1]$ such that

$$m\beta(t^* - \bar{t}) < -\alpha(\beta + \mu(0)).$$

For instance, one can choose $t^* = \bar{t} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha(\beta - \mu(0))}{m\beta}$. Observe that

$$\beta\theta(t^*) + \alpha\mu(0) < \alpha\beta + m\beta(t^* - \bar{t}) + \alpha\mu(0) < 0.$$

where the first strict inequality follows from (2.2.20). By the definition of S , $(t^*, 0) \in S$. Choose $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in [0, \bar{t}] \times (\bar{u}, 1]$ such that

$$m\beta(t^{**} - \bar{t}) + n\alpha(u^{**} - \bar{u}) \leq 0.$$

In other words, $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in T$. By (2.2.25), $(t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$. Since S is convex and $(t^*, 0), (t^{**}, u^{**}) \in S$, for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$(\lambda t^{**} + (1 - \lambda)t^*, \lambda u^{**} + (1 - \lambda)0) \in S.$$

On the other hand, $t^{**} \leq \bar{t} < t^*$ and $0 = \bar{u} < u^{**}$. Therefore, there exists $\bar{\lambda} \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$(\bar{\lambda} t^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})t^*, \bar{\lambda} u^{**} + (1 - \bar{\lambda})0) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1].$$

This is a contradiction by (2.2.24).

- (d) Suppose that $\bar{t} = \bar{u} = 0$. By (2.2.18) and (2.2.21), we have $\mu(0) + \beta < 0$ and $\alpha - \theta(0) > 0$. Choose $t^*, u^* \in (0, 1]$ such that

$$\beta m t^* < -\alpha(\beta + \mu(0)),$$

$$\alpha n u^* < \beta(\alpha - \theta(0)).$$

For instance, choose $t^* = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\beta(\alpha - \mu(0))}{\alpha n}$ and $u^* = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha(\beta + \mu(0))}{\beta m}$. Observe that,

$$\beta\theta(t^*) + \alpha\mu(0) < \alpha\beta + \beta m(t^* - \bar{t}) + \alpha\mu(0) < 0,$$

$$\beta\theta(0) + \alpha\mu(u^*) < -\beta\alpha + \alpha n(u - \bar{u}) + \beta\theta(0) < 0,$$

where the first strict inequalities on the two lines follow from (2.2.20) and (2.2.23), respectively. By the definition of S , $(t^*, 0) \in S$ and $(0, u^*) \in S$. Since S is convex, $(\lambda t^*, (1 - \lambda)u^*) \in S$ for any $\lambda \in (0, 1)$. On the other hand,

$(\lambda t^*, (1 - \lambda)u^*) \in (\bar{t}, 1] \times (\bar{u}, 1]$ which is a contradiction by (2.2.24).

Since (a), (b), (c) and (d) all lead to a contradiction, $c(f) + c(g) \geq 0$.

Conversely, assume that $c(f) + c(g) \geq 0$. Since f and g are non-constant, by Theorem 2.1.6 $c(f)$ and $c(g)$ are finite. If $c(f) \geq 0$ and $c(g) \geq 0$, by Theorem 2.1.4, f, g are convex. As the sum of two convex functions s is convex, hence it is also quasiconvex. If $c(f)$ and $c(g)$ are not both positive, then by symmetry it is enough to consider the case $c(f) < 0 < c(g)$. Define,

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(x) &:= e^{c(g)f(x)} && \text{for every } x \in X, \\ \zeta(y) &:= e^{-c(g)g(y)} && \text{for every } y \in Y.\end{aligned}$$

It follows from Definition 2.1.2 and Lemma 2.1.1-(i) that $x \mapsto e^{-c(f)f(x)}$ is convex. Since $-c(g) \leq c(f)$, by Lemma 2.1.1-(i), ψ is convex. Moreover, ζ is concave directly from the Definition 2.1.2 and Lemma 2.1.1-(ii). Let ρ on $X \times Y$ defined by

$$\rho(x, y) := e^{c(g)[f(x)+g(y)]} = \frac{\psi(x)}{\zeta(y)}.$$

Notice that for every $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in X \times Y$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$\rho(\lambda(x_1, y_1) + (1 - \lambda)(x_2, y_2)) = \frac{\psi(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2)}{\zeta(\lambda y_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_2)} \leq \frac{\lambda\psi(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)}{\lambda\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(y_2)} \quad (2.2.27)$$

where the inequality follows from convexity of ψ and concavity of ζ . Now, consider the following two cases:

Suppose that $\frac{\psi(x_2)}{\zeta(y_2)} \leq \frac{\psi(x_1)}{\zeta(y_1)}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(x_2)\zeta(y_1) &\leq \psi(x_1)\zeta(y_2) \\ \implies (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)\zeta(y_1) &\leq (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_1)\zeta(y_2) \\ \implies \lambda\psi(x_1)\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)\zeta(y_1) &\leq \lambda\psi(x_1)\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_1)\zeta(y_2) \\ \implies \zeta(y_1)[\lambda\psi(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)] &\leq \psi(x_1)[\lambda\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(y_2)] \\ \implies \frac{\lambda\psi(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)}{\lambda\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(y_2)} &\leq \frac{\psi(x_1)}{\zeta(y_1)}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\lambda\psi(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)}{\lambda\zeta(Y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(y_2)} \leq \rho(x_1, y_1). \quad (2.2.28)$$

Otherwise, $\frac{\psi(x_2)}{\zeta(y_2)} > \frac{\psi(x_1)}{\zeta(y_1)}$ holds. A similar argument with the previous case gives

$$\frac{\lambda\psi(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\psi(x_2)}{\lambda\zeta(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(y_2)} < \rho(x_2, y_2). \quad (2.2.29)$$

By (2.2.27), (2.2.28) and (2.2.29)

$$\rho(\lambda(x_1, y_1) + (1 - \lambda)(x_2, y_2)) \leq \max\{\rho(x_1, y_1), \rho(x_2, y_2)\}.$$

Therefore, ρ is quasiconvex. Furthermore,

$$\log(\rho(x, y)) = c(g)[f(x) + g(y)] = c(g)s(x, y)$$

is quasiconvex since quasiconvexity is stable under composition with a non-decreasing function. Hence, s is quasiconvex. $\square$

The following lemma is needed in the proof of Theorem 2.2.4.

Lemma 2.2.3. *Let ρ_1, ρ_2 be positive real-valued lower semi-continuous and convex functions defined on the topological vector spaces X and Y , respectively. Define ρ on $X \times Y$ by*

$$\rho(x, y) := [\rho_1(x)]^\alpha [\rho_2(y)]^\beta,$$

where $\alpha, \beta > 0$ and $\alpha + \beta = 1$. Assume that ρ is concave. Then, at least one of the functions ρ_1 and ρ_2 is concave.

Proof. Assume to the contrary that both ρ_1 and ρ_2 are not concave. Choose $\bar{y} \in Y$ such that $\rho_2(\bar{y}) > 0$. It follows from concavity of ρ that for every $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,

$$\rho(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2, \bar{y}) \geq \lambda\rho(x_1, \bar{y}) + (1 - \lambda)\rho(x_2, \bar{y}).$$

Dividing both sides by $[\rho_2(\bar{y})]^\beta$ yields

$$[\rho_1(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)x_2)]^\alpha \geq \lambda[\rho_1(x_1)]^\alpha + (1 - \lambda)[\rho_1(x_2)]^\alpha. \quad (2.2.30)$$

Note that $\lambda[\rho_1(x_1)]^\alpha + (1 - \lambda)[\rho_1(x_2)]^\alpha \geq \min\{[\rho_1(x_1)]^\alpha, [\rho_1(x_2)]^\alpha\} = \min\{\rho_1(x_1), \rho_1(x_2)\}^\alpha$. Therefore,

$$[\rho_1(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2)]^\alpha \geq \min\{\rho_1(x_1), \rho_1(x_2)\}^\alpha,$$

which implies

$$\rho_1(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2) \geq \min\{\rho_1(x_1), \rho_1(x_2)\}. \quad (2.2.31)$$

The supposition together with (2.2.31) implies that $-\rho_1$ is quasiconvex but not convex. According to Lemma 2.2.1, there exist $x_1, x_2 \in X$, $\bar{t} \in [0, 1)$ and $\gamma \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\theta(0) > \gamma \geq \theta(1) > 0, \quad (2.2.32)$$

$$\theta(t) \geq \gamma - m(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \bar{t}, \quad (2.2.33)$$

$$\gamma \geq \theta(t) > \gamma - m(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{if } \bar{t} < t \leq 1, \quad (2.2.34)$$

where $\theta(t) := \rho_1(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2)$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$ and $m := \theta(0) - \theta(1) > 0$.

The function $\bar{\theta}(t) := [\theta(t)]^\alpha$ is concave on $[0, 1]$ by (2.2.30) and the fact that the composition of a concave function with an affine function is concave. As a real-valued concave function defined on $[0, 1]$, $\bar{\theta}$ is continuous on $(0, 1)$ and have finite left, right derivatives. Consequently, $\theta = \bar{\theta}^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$ is continuous as it is the composition of two continuous. It is not hard to see that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\theta}'_+(t) &= \alpha(\theta(t))^{\alpha-1}\theta'_+(t), \\ \bar{\theta}'_-(t) &= \alpha(\theta(t))^{\alpha-1}\theta'_-(t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2.35)$$

Hence, θ also have finite left and right derivatives. Moreover, by (2.2.32) we have

$$\bar{\theta}(0) > \gamma^\alpha. \quad (2.2.36)$$

We claim that $\bar{t} \neq 0$. Suppose not; hence by (2.2.33)

$$\begin{aligned} & \gamma \geq \theta(t) \quad \text{for every } t \in (0, 1] \\ \implies & \gamma^\alpha \geq \bar{\theta}(t) \quad \text{for every } t \in (0, 1] \\ \implies & \gamma^\alpha \geq \bar{\theta}(0), \end{aligned}$$

where the last implication holds since $\bar{\theta}$ is right-continuous at 0. This is in contradiction with (2.2.36); therefore, $\bar{t} \neq 0$, and consequently $\bar{\theta}$ is continuous at $\bar{t}$. It results from (2.2.33) and (2.2.34) that $\theta(\bar{t}) = \gamma$ and $\theta'_-(\bar{t}) \leq -m \leq \theta'_+(\bar{t})$. Furthermore, $\bar{\theta}'_+(\bar{t}) \leq \bar{\theta}'_-(\bar{t})$ since $\bar{\theta}$ is concave. In view of (2.2.35), $\theta'_+(\bar{t}) = \theta'_-(\bar{t}) = -m$. Thus, θ has derivative at $\bar{t}$ and $\theta'(\bar{t}) < 0$. It follows from (2.2.34) that

$$\theta(t) > \theta(\bar{t}) + \theta'(\bar{t})(t - \bar{t}) \quad \text{if } \bar{t} < t \leq 1. \quad (2.2.37)$$

Reasoning as above, we can prove that there exists $y_1, y_2 \in Y$, $\bar{u} \in (0, 1)$ such that $\mu'(\bar{u}) < 0$ and

$$\mu(u) > \mu(\bar{u}) + \mu'(\bar{u})(u - \bar{u}) \quad \text{if } \bar{u} < u \leq 1. \quad (2.2.38)$$

where

$$\mu(u) := \rho_2(uy_1 + (1 - u)y_2).$$

Set

$$\zeta(t, u) := [\theta(t)]^\alpha [\mu(u)]^\beta \quad \text{for every } t, u \in [0, 1].$$

For every $\delta > 0$, define

$$\begin{aligned} h &:= -\delta \frac{\theta(\bar{t})}{\theta'(\bar{t})}, \\ k &:= -\delta \frac{\mu(\bar{u})}{\mu'(\bar{u})}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, choose δ so that $0 < h < 1 - \bar{t}$ and $0 < k < 1 - \bar{u}$. For instance, one can

choose $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min \left\{ -\frac{\theta'(\bar{t})}{\theta(\bar{t})}(1-\bar{t}), -\frac{\mu'(\bar{u})}{\mu(\bar{u})}(1-\bar{u}) \right\}$. By (2.2.34) and (2.2.38), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\theta(\bar{t} + h) &> \theta(\bar{t}) + \theta'(\bar{t})h = \theta(\bar{t})[1 - \delta] \\ \mu(\bar{u} + k) &> \mu(\bar{u}) + \mu'(\bar{u})k = \mu(\bar{u})[1 - \delta]\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k) > [\theta(\bar{t})]^\alpha [\mu(\bar{u})]^\beta [1 - \delta]. \quad (2.2.39)$$

On the other hand, for every $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta(\bar{t} + \lambda h, \bar{u} + \lambda k) &= \zeta((\bar{t}, \bar{u}) + \lambda(h, k)) \\ &= \zeta(\lambda(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k) + (1 - \lambda)(\bar{t}, \bar{u})) \\ &\geq \lambda\zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k) + (1 - \lambda)\zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) \\ &= \zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) + \lambda[\zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k) - \zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u})],\end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows from concavity of ζ on $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$. With some algebra, we get

$$\zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) + \frac{\zeta((\bar{t}, \bar{u}) + \lambda(h, k)) - \zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u})}{\lambda} \geq \zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k)$$

Moreover, directional derivative of ζ along the direction (h, k) and $(\bar{t}, \bar{u})$ exists. By letting $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$\zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) + \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t}(\bar{t}, \bar{u})h + \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial u}(\bar{t}, \bar{u})k \geq \zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k).$$

Plugging in the values of the partial derivatives yields

$$\zeta(\bar{t}, \bar{u}) \left[1 + \alpha h \frac{\theta'(\bar{t})}{\theta(\bar{t})} + \beta k \frac{\mu'(\bar{u})}{\mu(\bar{u})} \right] \geq \zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k),$$

It follows from the definition of h , k and ζ that

$$[\theta(\bar{t})]^\alpha [\mu(\bar{u})]^\beta [1 - \delta] \geq \zeta(\bar{t} + h, \bar{u} + k),$$

which is in contradiction with (2.2.39). Therefore, at least one of the functions ρ_1 and ρ_2 is concave. $\square$

The next proposition gives an additivity formula for the convexity index.

Proposition 2.2.4. *Assume that f_i is lower semi-continuous and convex for each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Then,*

$$\frac{1}{c(s)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c(f_i)}, \quad (2.2.40)$$

where s is defined as in (2.2.15).

Proof. It is enough to consider the following three cases with $n = 2$. Note that, since s is convex, by Theorem 2.1.4 implies that $c(s) \geq 0$.

- (a) Suppose that $c(f_1) = 0$ and $c(f_2) \in [0, +\infty)$. By Definition 2.1.2, r_λ associated with f_1 is not concave for any $\lambda > 0$. Suppose for a contradiction that there exists $\bar{\lambda} > 0$ such that $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ associated with s is concave. Then, for every $(x_1, x_2), (x'_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times \text{dom } f_2$, and $t \in [0, 1]$

$$e^{-\bar{\lambda}[f_1(tx_1+(1-t)x'_1)+f_2(x_2)]} \geq te^{-\bar{\lambda}[f_1(x_1)+f_2(x_2)]} + (1-t)e^{-\bar{\lambda}[f_1(x'_1)+f_2(x_2)]}.$$

Dividing both sides by $e^{-\bar{\lambda}f_2(x_2)}$ yields

$$e^{-\bar{\lambda}f_1(\eta x_1+(1-\eta)x'_1)} \geq \eta e^{-\bar{\lambda}f_1(x_1)} + (1-\eta)e^{-\bar{\lambda}f_1(x'_1)},$$

where $\eta := \frac{t}{e^{-\bar{\lambda}f_2(x_2)}}$. In other words, $r_{\bar{\lambda}}$ associated with f_1 is concave. This is in contradiction with the assumption $c(f_1) = 0$. Therefore, r_λ associated with s is not concave for every $\lambda > 0$. By Definition 2.1.2, $c(s) = 0$ and (2.2.40) holds.

- (b) Suppose that $c(f_1) = +\infty$ and $c(f_2) \in [0, +\infty]$. By Theorem 2.1.6, $f_1 \equiv K$, where $K \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ is a constant. If $K = +\infty$, then $s(x_1, x_2) = +\infty$ for every $(x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2$. Therefore, (2.2.40) holds trivially. If $c(s) = +\infty$, then f_1, f_2 are constant. Hence, (2.2.40) holds trivially. So assume $K > +\infty$ and $c(f_2) < +\infty$. Observe that

$$e^{-c(f_2)s(x_1, x_2)} = e^{-c(f_2)K} e^{-c(f_2)f_2(x_2)}, \quad (x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2.$$

$e^{-c(f_2)K} > 0$ is a constant and $x_2 \mapsto e^{-c(f_2)f_2(x_2)}$ is concave on X_2 . Therefore, $r_{c(f_2)}$ associated with s is concave. Definition 2.1.2 together with Lemma 2.1.1 implies that $c(f_2) \leq c(s)$.

On the other hand, $e^{-c(s)s}$ is concave by Definition 2.1.2. Moreover,

$$e^{-c(s)s} = e^{-c(s)K} e^{-c(s)f_2}$$

where $e^{-c(s)K} > 0$ is a constant. Therefore, $e^{-c(s)f_2}$ is concave. It follows from Definition 2.1.2 and Lemma 2.1.1 that $c(s) \leq c(f_2)$. Hence, $c(s) = c(f_2)$ and (2.2.40) holds.

- (c) Suppose that $0 < c(f_i) < +\infty$ for $i = 1, 2$. Set $\alpha_i = \frac{1}{c(f_i)}$ for $i = 1, 2$ and $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$. Then,

$$e^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}s(x_1, x_2)} = \left(e^{-c(f_1)f_1(x_1)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha}} \left(e^{-c(f_2)f_2(x_2)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha}}.$$

Note that $x_i \mapsto e^{-c(f_i)f_i(x_i)}$ is concave on X_i for $i = 1, 2$ and $g(u, v) = u^{\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha}} v^{\frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha}}$ is non-decreasing in each argument, concave on $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$. Therefore, $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto e^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}s(x_1, x_2)}$ is concave on $X_1 \times X_2$ as it is the composition of a concave functions with a function which is non-decreasing in each argument. In view of Definition 2.1.2, we have

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \leq c(s) \iff \frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} \geq \frac{1}{c(s)} \quad (2.2.41)$$

Next, assume that $\mu \in [0, \alpha)$. We have,

$$e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}s(x_i)} = \left(e^{-\frac{\alpha}{\mu}f_i(x_i)} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} = \left(e^{-\frac{\alpha}{\mu}c(f_i)f_i(x_i)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha}}, \quad x_i \in X_i$$

for each $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Since $\frac{\alpha}{\mu} > 1$, it follows from Definition 2.1.2 that $x_i \mapsto e^{-\frac{\alpha}{\mu}c(f_i)f_i}$ is not concave for each $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Moreover,

$$e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}s(x_1, x_2)} = \left(e^{-\frac{\alpha}{\mu}c(f_1)f_1(x_1)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha}} \left(e^{-\frac{\alpha}{\mu}c(f_2)f_2(x_2)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha}}, \quad (x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2.$$

In view of Lemma 2.2.3, $e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}s}$ is not concave and consequently $c(s) < \frac{1}{\mu}$.

Letting $\mu \rightarrow \alpha$, we have $c(s) \leq \frac{1}{\alpha}$. Thus,

$$\frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} \leq \frac{1}{c(s)} \quad (2.2.42)$$

Summing up, (2.2.41) and (2.2.42) imply (2.2.40).

□

Now, we are ready to give the main result of this section.

Theorem 2.2.5. *Assume that f_i is a non-constant lower semi-continuous function for each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Then, s is quasiconvex if and only if one of the following conditions holds:*

(i) $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ are convex.

(ii) All of $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ except one are convex and

$$\frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} + \dots + \frac{1}{c(f_n)} \leq 0. \quad (2.2.43)$$

Proof. Assume that s is quasiconvex. Then, $f_1, \dots, f_n$ are quasiconvex. We claim that at most one of the functions $f_1, \dots, f_n$ is not convex. Suppose for a contradiction that $f_{i_1}, \dots, f_{i_k}$ are not convex for some $k \geq 2$ so that from Theorem 2.1.4 we deduce $c(f_{i_j}) < 0$ for each $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$. Thus

$$c(f_{i_1}) + \dots + c(f_{i_k}) < 0. \quad (2.2.44)$$

Next, define $\bar{s}$ on $X_{i_1} \times \dots \times X_{i_k}$ by

$$\bar{s}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_k}) := f_{i_1}(x_{i_1}) + \dots + f_{i_k}(x_{i_k}).$$

Clearly, $\bar{s}$ is quasiconvex. Then, by Theorem 2.2.2,

$$c(f_{i_1}) + \dots + c(f_{i_k}) \geq 0,$$

which is in contradiction with (2.2.44). Hence, the claim holds. If $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ are convex, then we are done. Suppose that f_m is not convex for some $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and define $\hat{s}$ on $\times_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{m\}} X_i$ by

$$\hat{s}(x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}, x_{m+1}, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{m\}} f_i(x_i).$$

By Theorem 2.2.2,

$$c(\hat{s}) + c(f_m) \geq 0.$$

Since $c(f_m) < 0$, we can write it as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{c(\hat{s})} &\leq -\frac{1}{c(f_m)} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c(\hat{s})} + \frac{1}{c(f_m)} &\leq 0 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} + \dots + \frac{1}{c(f_n)} &\leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the last result follows from Proposition 2.2.4.

Conversely, assume that either $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ are convex or all of $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ except one are convex and (2.2.43) holds. If the former holds, then s is quasiconvex trivially. Suppose that the latter holds together with f_m is not convex for some $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $\hat{s}$ is defined as above. Proposition 2.2.4 together with (2.2.43) implies that

$$\frac{1}{c(\hat{s})} + \frac{1}{c(f_m)} \leq 0.$$

Since $c(f_m) < 0$, we can write it as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{c(\hat{s})} &\leq -\frac{1}{c(f_m)} \\ \Rightarrow c(\hat{s}) &\geq -c(f_m) \\ \Rightarrow c(\hat{s}) + c(f_m) &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

In view of Theorem 2.2.2, s is quasiconvex. □

Remark 2.2.6. The only if part of Theorem 2.2.5 still holds if we drop the assumption of f_i being non-constant for each $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.

2.3 Infinite Decomposable Sums

The aim of this section is to extend Theorem 2.2.5 to infinite decomposable sums. Similar to the notation of the previous sections, X_i is a topological vector spaces and f_i is an extended real-valued function defined on X_i for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$. For every $x \in X$, let

$$s_n(x) := \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(x_i),$$

$$s(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n(x),$$

where $X = \times_{i=1}^{\infty} X_i$, provided that the limit exists. It can be easily noticed that the lower semi-continuity of f_i on X_i for $i = 1, \dots, n$ implies lower semi-continuity of s_n on X . This is due to the fact that f_i is also lower semi-continuous on X and lower semi-continuity is preserved under finite sums. Before presenting the main result of this section, we give two separate conditions under which lower semi-continuity is preserved under infinite sums.

Lemma 2.3.1. *Assume that f_i is a lower semi-continuous function for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ and either one of the following holds:*

- (i) f_i is finite for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(s_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is uniformly convergent.
- (ii) $f_i \geq 0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Then, s is lower semi-continuous.

Proof. Assume that (i) holds. Let $x_0 \in X$. Note that $s_n(x_0) \in \mathbb{R}$ since each f_i

is finite. Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
s(x_0) &= s(x_0) - s_n(x_0) + s_n(x_0) \\
&\leq s_n(x_0) + |s(x_0) - s_n(x_0)| \\
&\leq s_n(x_0) + \sup_{x \in X} |s(x) - s_n(x)|.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.3.1}$$

It follows from lower semi-continuity of s_n at x_0 together with (2.3.1) that

$$s(x_0) \leq \sup_{x \in X} |s(x) - s_n(x)| + \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} s_n(x). \tag{2.3.2}$$

Moreover, similar to (2.3.1), for every $x' \in X$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$s_n(x') \leq \sup_{x \in X} |s(x) - s_n(x)| + s(x').$$

By taking limit infimums of both sides as $x' \rightarrow x_0$, we get

$$\liminf_{x' \rightarrow x_0} s_n(x') \leq \sup_{x \in X} |s(x) - s_n(x)| + \liminf_{x' \rightarrow x_0} s(x').$$

Together with (2.3.2), we have

$$s(x_0) \leq 2 \sup_{x \in X} |s(x) - s_n(x)| + \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} s(x).$$

It follows from uniform convergence of $(s_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ that

$$s(x_0) \leq \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} s(x).$$

Now, assume that (ii) holds. For every $r \geq 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define

$$\begin{aligned}
U_r &= \{x \in X : s(x) > r\}, \\
U_r^n &= \{x \in X : s_n(x) > r\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Fix $r \in \mathbb{R}$. We claim that

$$U_r = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_r^n. \tag{2.3.3}$$

Let $\bar{x} \in U_r$. Observe that, $(s_n(\bar{x}))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a non-decreasing sequence in $\mathbb{R}$ since f_i

is a non-negative function for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $s_N(\bar{x}) > r$. Then, $\bar{x} \in U_r^N$, and consequently, $U_r \subseteq \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_r^n$.

Next, for any given $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $x' \in \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_r^n$. Then, there exists $N' \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $x' \in U_r^{N'} \subseteq U_r$ since $(s_n(x'))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a non-decreasing sequence in $\mathbb{R}$. Hence, $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_r^n \subseteq U_r$, and consequently, the claim holds.

Moreover, U_r^n is open since s_n is lower semi-continuous on X for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. It follows from (2.3.3) that s is lower semi-continuous on X . $\square$

Remark 2.3.2. The converse implication of Lemma 2.3.1 is also valid for a more general setting. To be more specific, assume s is lower semi-continuous and let $r \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, $\{(x_1, x_2, \dots) \in X : s(x) < r\}$ is an open set. Since projection on general vector spaces is an open mapping, $\{x_i \in X_1 : f(x_1) < r\}$ is an open set in X_i for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$. In other words, lower semi-continuity of s implies that f_i is lower semi-continuous for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Now, we are ready to give the main result of this section.

Theorem 2.3.3. *Assume that f_i are non-constant lower semi-continuous functions for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that either $f_i \geq 0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ or f_i is finite for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ together with $(s_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is uniformly absolutely convergent. Then, s is quasiconvex if and only if one of the following conditions holds:*

- (i) f_i is convex for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$.
- (ii) All of $f_1, f_2, \dots$ except one are convex and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{c(f_i)} \leq 0. \quad (2.3.4)$$

Proof. Assume that s is quasiconvex. Then, f_i is quasiconvex for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$. We claim that at most one of f_i is not convex for $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Suppose not. Fix $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$

such that $n_0 \geq 2$ and define $\bar{s}$ on $\times_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty} X_i$ by

$$\bar{s}(x_{n_0+1}, x_{n_0+1}, \dots) := \sum_{j=n_0+1}^{\infty} f_j(x_j).$$

Then, it follows from Theorem 2.2.5 that at most one of $f_1, \dots, f_{n_0}, \bar{s}$ is not convex. We need to consider the following two cases:

- (a) $\bar{s}$ is convex. Then, at most one of $f_1, \dots, f_{n_0}$ is not convex.
- (b) $\bar{s}$ is not convex. Let us choose $i_0, i_1 > n_0$ such that f_{i_0}, f_{i_1} are not convex. It follows from the quasiconvexity of s on X that the function $\hat{s}$ defined on $X_1 \times \dots \times X_{n_0} \times X_{i_0} \times X_{i_1}$ by

$$\hat{s}(x_1, \dots, x_{n_0}, x_{i_0}, x_{i_1}) := f_1(x_1) + \dots + f_{n_0}(x_{n_0}) + f_{i_0}(x_{i_0}) + f_{i_1}(x_{i_1})$$

is quasiconvex. But then, by Theorem 2.2.5, at least one of f_{i_0}, f_{i_1} needs to be convex.

Therefore, either f_i is convex for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ or all of $f_1, f_2, \dots$ except one are convex. If the former holds, then we are done. Suppose that the latter holds. Without loss of generality, since s_n is absolutely convergent, we can assume f_1 be the function which is quasiconvex but not convex. For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define

$$a_n := \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c(f_{i+1})}.$$

Observe that $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a non-decreasing sequence of real numbers since $\frac{1}{c(f_i)} \geq 0$ for every $i \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ by Theorem 2.1.4. Moreover, quasiconvexity of s implies that s_n is quasiconvex. In view of Theorem 2.2.5, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{c(f_1)} + a_n &\leq 0, \\ a_n &\leq -\frac{1}{c(f_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists and it is finite since the sequence $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is non-decreasing and bounded above. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n &\leq -\frac{1}{c(f_1)} \\ \implies \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \frac{1}{c(f_1)} &\leq 0 \\ \implies \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{c(f_i)} &\leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, assume that either f_i is convex for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ or all of $f_1, f_2, \dots$ except one are convex and (2.3.4) holds. If the former holds, then s is quasiconvex trivially. Suppose that the latter holds. Without loss of generality, since s_n is absolutely convergent, we can assume that f_1 is not convex. Note that

$$\frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{c(f_i)}$$

since f_i is convex, and consequently, $c(f_i) \geq 0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ by Theorem 2.1.4. It follows from (2.3.4) that

$$\frac{1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(f_2)} \leq 0. \quad (2.3.5)$$

In view of Theorem 2.2.5, convexity of f_2 together with (2.3.5) implies that $f_1 + f_2$ is quasiconvex. Then, by Theorem 2.2.2,

$$c(f_1) + c(f_2) \geq 0. \quad (2.3.6)$$

Next, define $\bar{s}$ on $\times_{i=3}^{\infty} X_i$ by

$$\bar{s}(x_3, x_4, \dots) = \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} f_i(x_i).$$

Clearly, $\bar{s}$ is convex, and consequently, $c(\bar{s}) \geq 0$ by Theorem 2.1.4. By (2.3.6), we

have

$$c(f_1) + c(f_2) + c(\bar{s}) \geq 0.$$

It follows from Theorem 2.2.2 that s is quasiconvex.

□



Chapter 3

Naturally quasiconvex conditional risk measures

Throughout this section, we fix a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$. Let $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ and $L^p(\mathcal{F}) := L^p(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}; \mathbb{R})$ for each $p \in [1, \infty]$. We assume that $L^p(\mathcal{F})$ space is equipped with the topology induced by the L^p -norm for each $p \in [1, \infty)$ and with the weak-* topology $\sigma(L^\infty(\mathcal{F}), L^1(\mathcal{F}))$ for $p = \infty$. We denote the dual space of $L^p(\mathcal{G})$ with $L^q(\mathcal{G})$, where $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ and $L_+^p(\mathcal{G}) := \{Y \in L^p(\mathcal{G}) : Y \geq 0\}$. The dual cone of $L_+^p(\mathcal{G})$ is denoted as $L_+^p(\mathcal{G})^+$ and defined by

$$L_+^p(\mathcal{G})^+ := \{Y \in L^q(\mathcal{G}) : \mathbb{E}[YZ] \geq 0 \text{ for every } Z \in L_+^p(\mathcal{G})\} \cong L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$$

All of the equalities and inequalities among random variables hold $\mathbb{P}$ -almost surely. For every $A \in \mathcal{F}$, the stochastic indicator function is denoted by $\mathbb{1}_A(\omega)$ being 1 if $\omega \in A$ and 0 if $\omega \notin A$.

3.1 Risk measures

In this section, we briefly discuss risk measures and review their basic properties. Let $p \in [1, \infty]$. In the following, we consider the risk measures which are defined

on $L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and take values in the closed linear subspace $L^p(\mathcal{G})$ of its domain. In this setting, a risk measure gives the risk of a financial position possibly at an intermediate time. In other words, we are in the conditional setting. Notice that the case where the risk measure is measured at the present time, namely the static case, can be covered by taking $\mathcal{G} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ (or a trivial σ -algebra) as a special case.

Below, we define a conditional risk measure as a functional with the minimal set of properties.

Definition 3.1.1. *A mapping $\rho: L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is a conditional risk measure if it satisfies the following properties:*

- (i) *Monotonicity : $X \leq Y$ implies $\rho(X) \geq \rho(Y)$ for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$.*
- (ii) *Quasiconvexity : $\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y) \leq \max\{\rho(X), \rho(Y)\}$ for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.*

The next definition provides some further properties of conditional risk measures which are of importance.

Definition 3.1.2. *A conditional risk measure $\rho: L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is called*

- (i) *translative if for every $Z \in L^p(\mathcal{G})$,*

$$\rho(X + Z) = \rho(X) - Z.$$

- (ii) *local if for every $X \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $A \in \mathcal{G}$,*

$$\rho(X \mathbb{1}_A) \mathbb{1}_A = \rho(X) \mathbb{1}_A.$$

- (iii) *convex if for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,*

$$\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y) \leq \lambda \rho(X) + (1 - \lambda) \rho(Y).$$

Remark 3.1.3. Locality property holds if and only if for every $X, U \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $A \in \mathcal{G}$

$$\rho(X\mathbb{1}_A + U\mathbb{1}_{A^c}) = \rho(X)\mathbb{1}_A + \rho(U)\mathbb{1}_{A^c}.$$

Translativity captures the following idea. Suppose that X, Z are financial positions such that worth of X and Z are fully known at the times T_1 and T_2 , respectively, where $T_1 < T_2$. Suppose further that ρ is a risk measure which measures risk of a financial position at time T_1 whose value is fully known at time T_2 . Then, one can expect that at time T_1 the risk of holding $X + Z$ is equal to the risk of holding X and liquidating Z .

Locality means that the events that will not happen in the future have no contribution to the value of risk. Note that this is exactly having a tree-like probabilistic setting as in Figure 3.1 when $\mathcal{F}$ is finitely generated.

Suppose X and Y are two financial positions. One can diversify by investing some fraction $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ of the resources on X and the remaining on Y . In other words, one can diversify by choosing to invest on the portfolio $\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y$ instead of taking position in only one of the assets. The convexity property exactly means that the risk of the diversified position is less than or equal to the weighted sum of individual risks with weights equal to the fractions of the assets in the diversified portfolio.

As discussed earlier, quasiconvexity is also considered as a formulation of diversification. Under quasiconvexity, for each possible scenario, risk of the diversified portfolio is less than or equal to the risk of the riskier asset. Although both convexity and quasiconvexity refers to the same concept, it is clear that convexity is a more conservative property to capture the concept of diversification.

3.2 Natural quasiconvexity

The two properties which are of the utmost importance for the remaining part are natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity. Natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity are introduced by Tanaka [18] and Jeyakumar et al. [19], respectively. First, let us start with definition of naturally quasiconvex conditional risk measure.

Definition 3.2.1. *A conditional risk measure $\rho : L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is naturally quasiconvex if for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ there exists $\mu \in [0, 1]$ such that*

$$\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y) \leq \mu \rho(X) + (1 - \mu) \rho(Y).$$

Clearly, natural quasiconvexity is a property which is stronger than quasiconvexity but weaker than convexity. Next, we give definition of $\star$ -quasiconvex risk measure.

Definition 3.2.2. *A conditional risk measure $\rho : L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is $\star$ -quasiconvex if for every $Z^* \in L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$*

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*]$$

is quasiconvex on $L^p(\mathcal{F})$.

Next, we show equivalence of natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity. Set-valued case of the following theorem can be found in Kuroiwa [20].

Theorem 3.2.3. *A conditional risk measure $\rho : L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is naturally quasiconvex if and only if it is $\star$ -quasiconvex.*

Proof. Assume that ρ is naturally quasiconvex and let $Z^* \in L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$. Then, for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ there exists $\mu \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^*] \leq \mu \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*] + (1 - \mu) \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^*].$$

Clearly,

$$\mu \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*] + (1 - \mu) \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^*] \leq \max\{\mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*], \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^*]\}.$$

Hence,

$$\mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^*] \leq \max\{\mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*], \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^*]\}$$

Conversely, assume that ρ is $\star$ -quasiconvex and assume to the contrary that ρ is not naturally quasiconvex. Then, there exists $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$, $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ and $A \in \mathcal{G}$ with $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$ such that for every $\mu \in [0, 1]$

$$\rho(\lambda X(\omega) + (1 - \lambda)Y(\omega)) > \mu \rho(X(\omega)) + (1 - \mu)\rho(Y(\omega)),$$

for every $\omega \in A$. Since singletons are closed convex bounded sets, by separation theorem, there exists $Z^* \in L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A] > \alpha > \mathbb{E}[(\mu \rho(X) + (1 - \mu)\rho(Y))Z^* \mathbb{1}_A].$$

Observe that, by setting $\mu = 0$ and $\mu = 1$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A] &> \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A], \\ \mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A] &> \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\mathbb{E}[\rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A] > \max\{\mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Z^*], \mathbb{E}[\rho(Y)Z^* \mathbb{1}_A]\}.$$

Note that $Z^* \mathbb{1}_A \in L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$. Then, by Definition 3.2.2, ρ is not $\star$ -quasiconvex which is a contradiction. Therefore, ρ is naturally quasiconvex. $\square$

3.3 Relationship between convexity and natural quasiconvexity

In light of the discussion of the previous section, natural quasiconvexity and convexity are closely related. Indeed, we will prove they are equivalent properties for risk measures under some mild assumptions. To be more precise, we need the risk measure to be in some sense non-constant lower semi-continuous and satisfy the locality property. In the example below, the role of being non-constant lower semi-continuous can be clearly seen since we make use of Theorem 2.2.5 which also requires these properties. On the other hand, locality is not explicitly emphasized but can be understood from the tree-like structure we work on as can be seen in the Figure 3.3.1. The next example illustrates these ideas when $\mathcal{F}$ is finitely generated.

Example 3.3.1. Let $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{10}\}$, $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be an integrable, $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable random variable and $\rho : L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ be a conditional risk measure. Take $\mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{G}$ as

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F} &= \sigma(\{\{w_1\}, \dots, \{w_{10}\}\}), \\ \mathcal{G} &= \sigma(\{\{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}, \{w_5, w_6, w_7\}, \{w_8, w_9, w_{10}\}\}).\end{aligned}$$

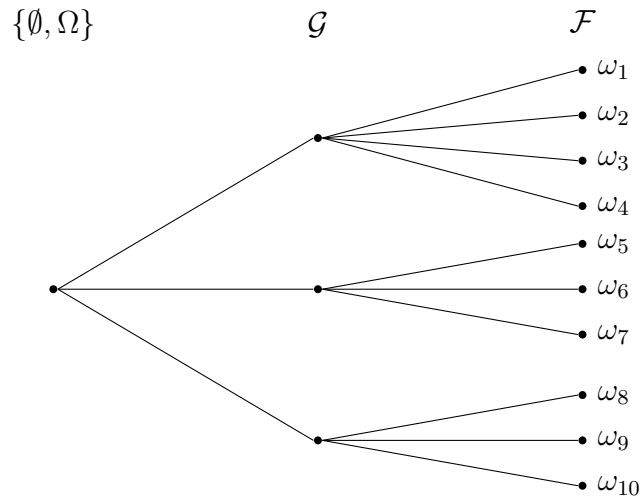


Figure 3.1: Relationship between convex risk measures and natural quasiconvex risk measures when $\mathcal{F}$ is finitely generated.

In this setting, $L^p(\mathcal{F}) \cong \mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \cong \mathbb{R}^{10}$ and $L^p(\mathcal{G}) \cong \mathbb{R}^3$. Since $X \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$, it can be seen as a vector in $\mathbb{R}^{10}$.

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} X(\omega_1) \\ \vdots \\ X(\omega_{10}) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$$

Furthermore, ρ can be seen as a vector valued function. For every $x \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$,

$$\rho(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_1(x_{1:4}) \\ \rho_2(x_{5:7}) \\ \rho_3(x_{8:10}) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

where $\rho_1 : \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\rho_2 : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\rho_3 : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Assume that ρ is naturally quasiconvex and ρ_i is lower semi-continuous, non-constant for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. Note that, in view of Remark 2.3.2, lower semi-continuity of ρ is sufficient for ρ_i being lower semi-continuous for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. It follows from Theorem 3.2.3 that ρ is $\star$ -quasiconvex. Then, by Definition 3.2.1, for every $w = (w_1, w_2, w_3) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3$,

$$w_1 \rho_1(x_{1:4}) + w_2 \rho_2(x_{5:7}) + w_3 \rho_3(x_{8:10}) \tag{3.3.1}$$

is quasiconvex on $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$. Consider the following four cases:

- (a) $c(\rho_1) \geq 0$, $c(\rho_2) \geq 0$ and $c(\rho_3) > 0$.
- (b) $c(\rho_1) \geq 0$, $c(\rho_2) \geq 0$ and $c(\rho_3) < 0$. Then, it follows from Theorem 2.1.4 that ρ_1, ρ_2 are convex and ρ_3 is non-convex. In view of (3.3.1) and Theorem 2.2.5, we have

$$\frac{1}{c(w_1 \rho_1)} + \frac{1}{c(w_2 \rho_2)} + \frac{1}{c(w_3 \rho_3)} \leq 0. \tag{3.3.2}$$

It follows from Lemma 2.1.5 together with (3.3.2) that

$$\frac{1}{c(w_1 \rho_1)} + \frac{1}{c(w_2 \rho_2)} + \frac{1}{c(w_3 \rho_3)} = \frac{w_1}{c(\rho_1)} + \frac{w_2}{c(\rho_2)} + \frac{w_3}{c(\rho_3)} \tag{3.3.3}$$

Notice that, since ρ_i is non-constant for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, $c(\rho_i) < +\infty$ for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. Let us set $(w_1, w_2, w_3) = (c(\rho_1), c(\rho_2), -c(\rho_3))$ in (3.3.3). Then,

$$\frac{1}{c(w_1\rho_1)} + \frac{1}{c(w_2\rho_2)} + \frac{1}{c(w_3\rho_3)} = 1,$$

which is in contradiction with (3.3.2). Hence, this case is eliminated.

- (c) $c(\rho_1) \geq 0$, $c(\rho_2) < 0$ and $c(\rho_3) < 0$. Then, ρ_2 and ρ_3 are not convex by Theorem 2.1.4. On the other hand, since (3.3.1) holds, it follows from Theorem 2.2.5 that at most one of ρ_1 , ρ_2 or ρ_3 is non-convex. We reached a contradiction, hence this case is eliminated.
- (d) $c(\rho_1) < 0$, $c(\rho_2) < 0$ and $c(\rho_3) < 0$. By a similar argument with the case (c), we can eliminate this case.

Observe that the remaining four cases are symmetric either with the case (b) or (c). Therefore, we are left with the case (a) and ρ_1, ρ_2, ρ_3 are convex. Hence, ρ is convex.

In Example 3.3.1, we need non-constancy of ρ_i for each $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ to draw the connection between naturally quasiconvexity and convexity. We need a similar assumption to generalize Example 3.3.1, which is stated in the following assumption.

Assumption 3.3.2. *For every $X \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $A \in \mathcal{G}$ with $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$*

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)1_A]$$

is non-constant.

To motivate this assumption, let us give an example of a quasiconvex risk measure which satisfies Assumption 3.3.2.

Example 3.3.3. Consider the certainty equivalent risk measure

$$\rho(X) = \ell^{-1} \mathbb{E}[\ell(-X)|\mathcal{G}]$$

where $\ell: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous increasing loss function. Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x_1 \neq x_2$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x_1) &= \ell^{-1} \mathbb{E}[\ell(-x_1)|\mathcal{G}] = \ell(\ell^{-1}(-x_1)) = -x_1, \\ \rho(x_2) &= \ell^{-1} \mathbb{E}[\ell(-x_2)|\mathcal{G}] = \ell(\ell^{-1}(-x_2)) = -x_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\rho(x_1)\mathbb{1}_A] - \mathbb{E}[\rho(x_2)\mathbb{1}_A] &= \mathbb{E}[(\rho(x_1) - \rho(x_2))\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(x_2 - x_1)\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &= (x_2 - x_1)\mathbb{P}(A) \\ &> 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the strict inequality holds since $x_1 \neq x_2$ and $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$. Hence,

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)\mathbb{1}_A]$$

is non-constant.

The next theorem is a generalization of Example 3.3.1.

Theorem 3.3.4. *Assume $\rho: L^p(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^p(\mathcal{G})$ is a lower semi-continuous local conditional risk measure which satisfies Assumption 3.3.2. Then, ρ is convex if and only if it is naturally quasiconvex.*

Proof. Assume ρ is convex. Then, ρ is naturally quasiconvex trivially.

Conversely, assume that ρ is naturally quasiconvex. Let us fix $A \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$. Then, as a special case of Theorem 3.2.3, for every $Y \in L_+^q(\mathcal{G})$ such

that $Y = y_1 \mathbb{1}_A + y_2 \mathbb{1}_{A^c}$,

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Y]$$

is quasiconvex on $L^p(\mathcal{F})$, where $y_i > 0$ for each $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Y] &= y_1 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X) \mathbb{1}_A] + y_2 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X) \mathbb{1}_{A^c}] \\ &= y_1 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X \mathbb{1}_A) \mathbb{1}_A] + y_2 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X \mathbb{1}_{A^c}) \mathbb{1}_{A^c}], \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the locality of ρ . Hence,

$$X \mapsto y_1 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X \mathbb{1}_A) \mathbb{1}_A] + y_2 \mathbb{E}[\rho(X \mathbb{1}_{A^c}) \mathbb{1}_{A^c}] \quad (3.3.4)$$

is quasiconvex on $L^p(\mathcal{F})$. Clearly, $X = X \mathbb{1}_A + X \mathbb{1}_{A^c}$. Let us denote $X_1 := X \mathbb{1}_A$ and $X_2 := X \mathbb{1}_{A^c}$, $L^p(A) := L^p\left(A, \mathcal{F} \cap A, \frac{\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F} \cap A}}{\mathbb{P}(A)}\right)$ and $L^p(A^c) := L^p\left(A^c, \mathcal{F} \cap A^c, \frac{\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F} \cap A^c}}{\mathbb{P}(A^c)}\right)$. Observe that $X_1 \in L^p(A)$ and $X_2 \in L^p(A^c)$. Thus,

$$L^p(\mathcal{F}) \cong L^p(A) \times L^p(A^c). \quad (3.3.5)$$

Next, define

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_1 &:= \rho|_{L^p(A)}, \\ \rho_2 &:= \rho|_{L^p(A^c)}, \\ f_1 &: L^p(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} :: X_1 \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho_1(X_1) \mathbb{1}_A], \\ f_2 &: L^p(A^c) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} :: X_2 \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho_2(X_2) \mathbb{1}_{A^c}]. \end{aligned}$$

In view of (3.3.4) and (3.3.5),

$$(X_1, X_2) \mapsto y_1 f_1(X_1) + y_2 f_2(X_2) \quad (3.3.6)$$

is quasiconvex on $L^p(A) \times L^p(A^c)$. Note that f_1, f_2 are lower semi-continuous by Remark 2.3.2. We need to consider the following four cases:

(a) $c(f_1) \geq 0, c(f_2) \geq 0$.

- (b) $c(f_1) \geq 0, c(f_2) < 0$. Then, it follows from Theorem 2.1.4 that f_1 is convex and f_2 is not convex. In view of (3.3.6) and Theorem 2.2.5, we have

$$\frac{1}{c(y_1 f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(y_2 f_2)} \leq 0. \quad (3.3.7)$$

Note that f_1 and f_2 are non-constant by Assumption 3.3.2, therefore $c(f_i) < +\infty$ for each $i \in \{1, 2\}$. By Lemma 2.1.5, we have

$$\frac{1}{c(y_1 f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(y_2 f_2)} = \frac{y_1}{c(f_1)} + \frac{y_2}{c(f_2)} \quad (3.3.8)$$

Let us set $(y_1, y_2) = (c(f_1), -\frac{1}{2}c(f_2))$ in (3.3.8). Then,

$$\frac{1}{c(y_1 f_1)} + \frac{1}{c(y_2 f_2)} = \frac{1}{2},$$

which is in contradiction with (3.3.7). Hence, this case is eliminated.

- (c) $c(f_1) < 0, c(f_2) \geq 0$. This case is symmetric with case (b), hence eliminated.
- (d) $c(f_1) < 0, c(f_2) < 0$. Then, f_1 and f_2 are not convex by Theorem 2.1.4. On the other hand, since (3.3.6) holds, it follows from Theorem 2.2.5 that at least one of f_1 or f_2 is convex. We reached a contradiction, hence this case is eliminated.

Summing up, we are left with the case (a). In particular, by making use of the locality property of ρ_1 , we have $X_1 \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho_1(X_1)\mathbb{1}_A]$ is convex on $L^p(A)$. But then, for every $X, Y \in L^p(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\rho((\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y))\mathbb{1}_A] &= \mathbb{E}[\rho((\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)\mathbb{1}_A)\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\rho_1(\lambda X\mathbb{1}_A + (1 - \lambda)Y\mathbb{1}_A)\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}[(\lambda\rho_1(X\mathbb{1}_A) + (1 - \lambda)\rho_1(Y\mathbb{1}_A))\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\lambda\rho(X\mathbb{1}_A)\mathbb{1}_A + (1 - \lambda)\rho(Y\mathbb{1}_A)\mathbb{1}_A] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(\lambda\rho(X) + (1 - \lambda)\rho(Y))\mathbb{1}_A], \end{aligned}$$

where the first and the last equalities holds since ρ is local and the inequality

follows from the convexity of ρ_1 . But then, for every $A \in \mathcal{F}$ with $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$

$$\mathbb{E}[\rho((\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y))\mathbb{1}_A] \leq \mathbb{E}[(\lambda\rho(X) + (1 - \lambda)\rho(Y))\mathbb{1}_A] \quad (3.3.9)$$

It is a well known result that (3.3.9) holds if and only if $\rho((\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)Y)) \leq \lambda\rho(X) + (1 - \lambda)\rho(Y)$ (see, e.g., Çinlar [21, Remark 2.3(d)]). Hence, ρ is convex on $L^p(\mathcal{F})$. $\square$

3.4 Relationship between convexity and natural quasiconvexity on L^2

Now, we turn our attention to the case $\rho: L^2(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Before we get into the discussion, let us review some basic properties of $L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $L^2(\mathcal{G})$.

$L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $L^2(\mathcal{G})$ are separable Hilbert spaces with respect to the inner product

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \mathbb{E}[XY]. \quad (3.4.1)$$

It is a well-known result that every separable Hilbert space has at least one countable orthonormal basis. Thus, one can find countable orthonormal bases for $L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Moreover, $L^2(\mathcal{G})$ is a closed subspace of $L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and we have

$$L^2(\mathcal{F}) = L^2(\mathcal{G}) \oplus L^2(\mathcal{G})^\perp,$$

where $L^2(\mathcal{G})^\perp = \{X \in L^2(\mathcal{F}) : \langle X, Y \rangle = 0 \text{ for every } Y \in L^2(\mathcal{G})\}$. We also define, for every $X \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$, the orthogonal complement of X by

$$X^\perp := X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}].$$

Let $\{e_i : i \in I\}$ be a countable orthonormal basis of $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. It is orthonormal in the sense that

- (i) $\|e_i\| = 1$ for each $i \in I$,

(ii) $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = 0$ for each $i, j \in I$ such that $i \neq j$,

where $\|\cdot\|$ is the L^2 -norm induced by the inner product in (3.4.1). Furthermore, for every $Y \in L^2(\mathcal{G})$, we have

$$Y = \sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle e_i.$$

A natural question is whether or not there is an extension of $\{e_i : i \in I\}$ to a countable orthonormal basis of $L^2(\mathcal{F})$. Luckily, one can find such an extension and a proof of this result can be found in Hunter and Nachtergaele [22, Theorem 6.29]. In light of these arguments, let $I' \supseteq I$ such that $\{e_i : i \in I'\}$ is a countable orthonormal basis of $L^2(\mathcal{F})$.

Let us come back to the discussion of this section. We start with defining a new property, called locality with respect to a given basis. This property precisely says that when one calculates the inner product of $\rho(X)$ with an element of the basis, one can replace X with the sum of its projection on that basis and its orthogonal complement.

Definition 3.4.1. ρ is called local with respect to the basis $\{e_i : i \in I\}$ if

$$\langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + X^\perp), e_i \rangle$$

for each $i \in I$.

Before proceeding further, let us give example of a risk measure which is local with respect to a basis.

Example 3.4.2. Let $\Omega = [0, 1]$, $\mathcal{F}$ be the Borel σ -algebra on $[0, 1]$, $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{B}([0, \frac{1}{2}]) \vee \{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]\}$ and $\mathbb{P}$ be the Lebesgue measure. Then,

$$L^2(\mathcal{G}) = \left\{ X \in L^2([0, 1]) : X \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]} = 0, X \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} = c \text{ for some constant } c \in \mathbb{R} \right\},$$

$$L^2(\mathcal{G})^\perp = \left\{ Z \in L^2([0, 1]) : Z \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} = 0 \right\}$$

For every $i \in \mathbb{N}$, let us define

$$\begin{aligned} e_i &:= \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} , \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{(0, \frac{1}{2}]} , 2 \mathbb{1}_{[\frac{1}{2}, 1]} \right\}, \\ \beta_i &:= \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]} , \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\{e_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ and $\{\beta_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ are orthonormal bases for $L^2(\mathcal{G})$ and $L^2(\mathcal{G})^\perp$, respectively. Furthermore, $\{e_i, \beta_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ is a basis for $L^2(\mathcal{F})$. Note that

$$\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] = X \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \mathbb{E}[2X \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]}].$$

Let us consider the conditional entropic risk measure $\rho: L^2(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{G})$ defined by

$$\rho(X) = \log(\mathbb{E}[e^{-X}|\mathcal{G}]).$$

For every $X \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$, define

$$X_s := \left\langle X, \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \right\rangle.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(X_s + X^\perp) &= \log(\mathbb{E}[e^{X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp} | \mathcal{G}]) \\ &= \log(e^{X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp} \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \mathbb{E}[2e^{X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i \omega) + X^\perp} \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]}]). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle \rho \left(X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp \right), \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \log \left(e^{-X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} - X^\perp} \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \mathbb{E} \left[2e^{X_s \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp} \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]} \right] \right) \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(-X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} - X^\perp \right) \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} -X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= -X_s \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin^2(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= -X_s.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4.2}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \rho(X), \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \log \left(e^{-X(\omega)} + \mathbb{E} [2e^{X_s} \mathbb{1}_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]}] \right) \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \log \left(e^{-X(\omega)} \right) \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} -X(\omega) \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) d\omega. \\
&= -X_s.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4.3}$$

In view of (3.4.2) and (3.4.3), we have

$$\langle \rho(X), \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle = \langle \rho \left(X_s \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp \right), \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle.$$

Similar calculations yields that

$$\langle \rho(X), \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle = \langle \rho \left(X_s \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + X^\perp \right), \frac{1}{2} \cos(4\pi i\omega) \mathbb{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} \rangle.$$

Hence, conditional entropic risk measure is local with respect to $\{e_i, \beta_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$.

In the following, we are concerned with connections between locality with respect to a given basis and the two of the properties given in Definition 3.1.2, namely locality and translativity. We start with the connection between locality with respect to a given basis and locality, but first we need some structural properties on the measure space that we work on.

Let $\mathcal{G} = \sigma(\{B_i : i \in I\})$, where $\{B_i : i \in I\}$ is a set of disjoint sets. Then, for any given $Y \in L^2(\mathcal{G})$, one can find $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$Y = \sum_{i \in I} y_i \mathbb{1}_{B_i}.$$

In other words, $\{\mathbb{1}_{B_i} : i \in I\}$ spans $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Moreover,

$$\langle \mathbb{1}_{B_i}, \mathbb{1}_{B_j} \rangle = 0$$

for every $i, j \in I$ such that $i \neq j$. Therefore, $\left\{ \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}} : i \in I \right\}$ is a countable orthonormal basis for $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Through out this section, we set

$$e_i^{\text{ind}} = \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}}$$

for each $i \in I$. We refer the countable orthonormal basis $\left\{ \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}} : i \in I \right\}$ as the e^{ind} basis.

We begin with the connection between the old locality (Definition 3.1.2) and the new locality (Definition 3.4.1).

Theorem 3.4.3. *If ρ is local then it is local with respect to e^{ind} .*

Proof. Let $X \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $i \in I$. It follows from the definition of e^{ind} that

$$\rho(\langle X, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}])) = \rho\left(\frac{\mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_i}] \mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\mathbb{P}(B_i)} + \sum_{j \in I} (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right). \quad (3.4.4)$$

Note that

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_i}] \mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\mathbb{P}(B_i)} = \mathbb{E}[X|B_i] \mathbb{1}_{B_i} = \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_i} | \mathcal{G}] \mathbb{1}_{B_i} \quad (3.4.5)$$

Moreover,

$$\sum_{j \in I} (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j} = \sum_{j \in I} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j} \quad (3.4.6)$$

It follows from (3.4.4), (3.4.5) and (3.4.6) that

$$\rho(\langle X, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}])) = \rho\left(X \mathbb{1}_{B_i} + \sum_{\substack{j \in I \\ j \neq i}} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right) \quad (3.4.7)$$

Since ρ is local, by using the alternative definition of locality (Remark 3.1.3), we can re-write (3.4.7) as

$$\rho\left(X \mathbb{1}_{B_i} + \sum_{\substack{j \in I \\ j \neq i}} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right) = \rho(X) \mathbb{1}_{B_i} + \rho\left(\sum_{\substack{j \in I \\ j \neq i}} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right) \mathbb{1}_{B_i^c} \quad (3.4.8)$$

In view of (3.4.4), (3.4.7) and (3.4.8), we have

$$\rho(\langle X, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}])) = \rho(X) \mathbb{1}_{B_i} + \rho\left(\sum_{\substack{j \in I \\ j \neq i}} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right) \mathbb{1}_{B_i^c}$$

By taking inner product of both sides with e_i^{ind} , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \rho(\langle X, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + (X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}])), e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle &= \langle \rho(X) \mathbb{1}_{B_i}, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle \\ &\quad + \left\langle \rho\left(\sum_{\substack{j \in I \\ j \neq i}} (X - \mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{1}_{B_j} | \mathcal{G}]) \mathbb{1}_{B_j}\right) \mathbb{1}_{B_i^c}, e_i^{\text{ind}} \right\rangle \\ &= \langle \rho(X) \mathbb{1}_{B_i}, e_i \rangle \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\rho(X) \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}] \\ &= \langle \rho(X), e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality holds since e_i^{ind} is orthogonal to $\mathbb{1}_{B_i^c}$. $\square$

Next, we examine the relation between translitivity and locality with respect to a given basis. In the usual sense, one can't draw any connection between translitivity and locality (Definition 3.1.2). An important result regarding the

newly defined locality (Definition 3.4.1) is that, given a countable orthonormal basis, translativity implies locality with respect to that basis, as shown in the next theorem.

Theorem 3.4.4. *Assume that ρ is translative and let $\{e_i: i \in I\}$ be any countable orthonormal basis of $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Then, ρ is local with respect to $\{e_i: i \in I\}$.*

Proof. Let $X \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$. Observe that, since ρ is translative, we have

$$\langle \rho(\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + X^\perp), e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(X) - \langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i \rangle. \quad (3.4.9)$$

Note that

$$\langle \rho(X) - \langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle - \langle X, e_i \rangle \langle e_i, e_i \rangle + \langle \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i \rangle.$$

Since $\{e_i: i \in I\}$ is orthonormal, $\langle e_i, e_i \rangle = 1$. Hence, we have

$$\langle \rho(X) - \langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle - \langle X, e_i \rangle + \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i].$$

It follows from the self-adjointness of conditional expectation that $\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i] = \langle X, e_i \rangle$. Thus,

$$\langle \rho(X) - \langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle. \quad (3.4.10)$$

By (3.4.9) and (3.4.10), we have

$$\langle \rho(\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + X^\perp), e_i \rangle = \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle,$$

that is, ρ is local with respect to $\{e_i: i \in I\}$. □

An important result of this section is Conjecture 3.4.7, given below. It gives the relation between natural quasiconvexity and convexity for risk measures on L^2 that are local with respect to a separable basis. In the proof of this result, we make use of Theorem 2.3.3, which is concerned with countable sums. Before, we get into the result, we need to introduce some notations and an assumption.

Let us define for every $i \in I$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{Y}_i &:= \{\alpha e_i : \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}, \\ \mathcal{X}_i &:= \mathcal{Y}_i \times L^2(\mathcal{G})^\perp.\end{aligned}$$

We also define $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \times_{i \in I} \mathcal{X}_i$ by

$$\mathcal{S} := \left\{ ((Y_1, Z_1), \dots) \in \times \mathcal{X}_i : Y_i = \langle X, e_i \rangle e_i, \ Z_i = X^\perp \text{ for some } X \in L^2(\mathcal{F}), \text{ for each } i \in I \right\}.$$

Note that for every $X \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$, there is a unique representation of X such that

$$X = \sum_{i \in I} (\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i) + X^\perp$$

Hence, $\phi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{F})$ defined by

$$\phi\left(((Y_1, Z), (Y_2, Z), \dots))\right) := \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} Y_i\right) + Z$$

is a bijection. One can easily verify that, ϕ is also linear, and consequently its an isomorphism between $L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $\mathcal{S}$. Furthermore, let $f_i : \mathcal{X}_i \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is defined as

$$f_i(X_i) := \langle \rho(\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + X^\perp), e_i \rangle$$

Next, we define the preorder $\preceq$ on $L^2(\mathcal{G})$ by

$$Y \preceq V \iff \langle Y, e_i \rangle \leq \langle V, e_i \rangle \text{ for each } i \in I.$$

The ordering cone which corresponds to $\preceq$ is given as

$$C = \{Y \in L^2(\mathcal{G}) : Y \succeq 0\}.$$

Furthermore, the dual cone of C can be written explicitly as

$$C^+ = \{Y \in L^2(\mathcal{G}) : \langle Y, V \rangle \geq 0 \text{ for every } V \in C\}.$$

We will also need the following assumption in the sketch of proof of Conjecture

3.4.7.

Assumption 3.4.5. Let $\{e_i: i \in I\}$ be a countable orthonormal basis for $L^2(\mathcal{G})$. Then,

$$X \mapsto \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle$$

is non-constant.

The following is an example of a risk measure for which Assumption 3.4.5 holds.

Example 3.4.6. Let $\mathcal{G} = \sigma(\{B_i: i \in I\})$, where $\{B_i: i \in I\}$ is a set of disjoint sets and $\mathbb{P}(B_i) > 0$. Recall that e^{ind} basis is defined as $e_i^{\text{ind}} = \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}}$ for each $i \in I$. Consider the certainty equivalent risk measure

$$\rho(X) = \ell^{-1} \mathbb{E}[\ell(-X) | \mathcal{G}]$$

where $\ell: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous increasing loss function. Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x_1 \neq x_2$. We claim that Assumption 3.4.5 holds for ρ and e^{ind} basis. Observe that, for every $i \in I$,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\langle x_1, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + x_1^\perp) &= \rho(\mathbb{E}[x_1 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}}) \\ &= \ell^{-1} \mathbb{E}[\ell(-\mathbb{E}[x_1 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}}) | \mathcal{G}] \\ &= \ell^{-1} \ell(-\mathbb{E}[x_1 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i) \\ &= -\mathbb{E}[x_1 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}}. \end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation yields that

$$\rho(\langle x_2, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + x_2^\perp) = -\mathbb{E}[x_2 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle \rho(\langle x_1, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + x_1^\perp), e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle - \langle \rho(\langle x_2, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + x_2^\perp), e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle \\
&= \mathbb{E}[x_2 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}} - \mathbb{E}[x_1 e_i^{\text{ind}}] e_i^{\text{ind}} \\
&= (x_2 - x_1) \mathbb{E}[e_i^{\text{ind}}] \\
&= (x_2 - x_1) \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)}} \right] \\
&= (x_2 - x_1) \sqrt{\mathbb{P}(B_i)} \\
&> 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where the strict inequality holds since $x_1 \neq x_2$ and $\mathbb{P}(B_i) > 0$. Hence,

$$X \mapsto \langle \rho(\langle X, e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle e_i^{\text{ind}} + X^\perp), e_i^{\text{ind}} \rangle$$

is non-constant.

Now, we are ready to give sketch of the result.

Conjecture 3.4.7. Assume that ρ is naturally quasiconvex with respect to $\preceq$, continuous, local with respect to a basis $\{e_i : i \in I\}$ and Assumption 3.4.5 holds. Then, ρ is convex with respect to $\preceq$.

Sketch of Proof. Since ρ is naturally quasiconvex, in view of Theorem 3.2.3 ρ is $\star$ -quasiconvex. In other words, for every $Y \in C^+$

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Y] \tag{3.4.11}$$

is quasiconvex on $L^2(\mathcal{F})$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\rho(X)Y] &= \left\langle \rho(X), \sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle e_i \right\rangle \\
&= \sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle \\
&= \sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle \langle \rho(\langle X, e_i \rangle e_i + X^\perp), e_i \rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4.12}$$

where the third equality holds since ρ is local with respect to the basis $\{e_i : i \in I\}$. Furthermore, we define for every $Y \in C^+$, $s_Y : \times \mathcal{X}_i \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ by

$$s_Y(X_1, X_2, \dots) := \begin{cases} \sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle f_i(X_i) & \text{if } (X_1, X_2, \dots) \in S \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}. \quad (3.4.13)$$

In view of (3.4.11) and (3.4.12), s_Y is quasiconvex on $\times_{i \in I} \mathcal{X}_i$ for every $Y \in C^+$. Note that f_i is continuous since it is composition of two continuous function for each $i \in I$. In particular, f_i is lower semi-continuous. By applying Theorem 2.3.3 to (3.4.13) (see Remark 3.4.8), we can conclude that either one of the following two cases holds.

- (a) $X_i \mapsto \langle Y, e_i \rangle f_i(X_i)$ is convex for each $i \in I$.
- (b) $X_i \mapsto \langle Y, e_i \rangle f_i(X_i)$ is convex for all $i \in I$ except one and

$$\sum_{i \in I} \frac{1}{c(\langle Y, e_i \rangle f_i)} \leq 0. \quad (3.4.14)$$

Suppose that (b) holds. It follows from Theorem 2.1.4 that $c(f_i) \geq 0$ for all except for some $i_0 \in I$. It follows from Lemma 2.1.5 and (3.4.14), we have

$$\sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle Y, e_i \rangle}{c(f_i)} \leq 0. \quad (3.4.15)$$

Clearly, $e_i \in C$ for every $i \in I$. Moreover, since $\{e_i : i \in I\}$ is an orthonormal basis, $e_i \in C^+$ for each $i \in I$. Let us fix some $i_1 \in I \setminus \{i_0\}$ and set $Y = e_{i_1}$. Then,

$$\sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle Y, e_i \rangle}{c(f_i)} = \frac{\langle e_{i_1}, e_{i_1} \rangle}{c(f_{i_1})} = \frac{1}{c(f_{i_1})} > 0, \quad (3.4.16)$$

where the first equality follows from orthonormality of $\{e_i : i \in I\}$. Since (3.4.16) is in contradiction with (3.4.15), we can eliminate this case.

Therefore, case (a) holds. Since one can choose Y such that $\langle Y, e_i \rangle > 0$ and division of a real-valued convex function with a positive real number is convex ,

f_i is convex on $\mathcal{X}_i$. Then, in view of locality of ρ , for every $X, V \in L^2(\mathcal{F})$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$\langle \rho(\lambda X + (1 - \lambda)V), e_i \rangle \leq \lambda \langle \rho(X), e_i \rangle + (1 - \lambda) \langle \rho(V), e_i \rangle$$

for each $i \in I$. In other words, f_i is convex with respect to $\preceq$ for each $i \in I$. Consequently, ρ is convex with respect to $\preceq$ on $L^2(\mathcal{F})$. $\square$

Remark 3.4.8. In the proof of Theorem 3.4.7, s_Y is an additively decomposable sum if and only if $\sum_{i \in I} \langle Y, e_i \rangle f_i(X_i) = +\infty$ for every $(X_1, X_2, \dots) \in \times_{i \in I} \mathcal{X}_i \setminus S$. However, we don't have such a result, hence s_Y is not an additively decomposable sum. Moreover, if L^2 can be represented as an infinite product of topological vector spaces, then we can have an additively decomposable infinite sum by defining s_Y on that representation. However, there is no such representation of $L^2(\mathcal{F})$. We propose the following two ways, which needs to be worked on, to solve that problem:

- (i) If Theorem 2.3.3 generalized to a case where s converges only on a convex subset S of $\times_{i=1}^{+\infty} X_i$, then this generalization can be applied to s_Y to get the results of Theorem 3.4.7.
- (ii) If ρ can be approximated as a limit of decomposable sums defined on finite product spaces and natural quasiconvexity of ρ implies natural quasiconvexity of each additively decomposable sum, then one can show that ρ is convex by using results of Section 2.2 and a limit argument.

Lastly, to apply theorem Theorem 2.3.3 to s_Y , s_Y must be uniformly absolutely convergent. Either the uniformly absolutely convergence assumption in Theorem 2.3.3 needs to be relaxed or uniform absolute convergence of s_Y should be proved in order to complete the proof of Theorem 3.4.7.

The following figure is a summary of Chapter 3.

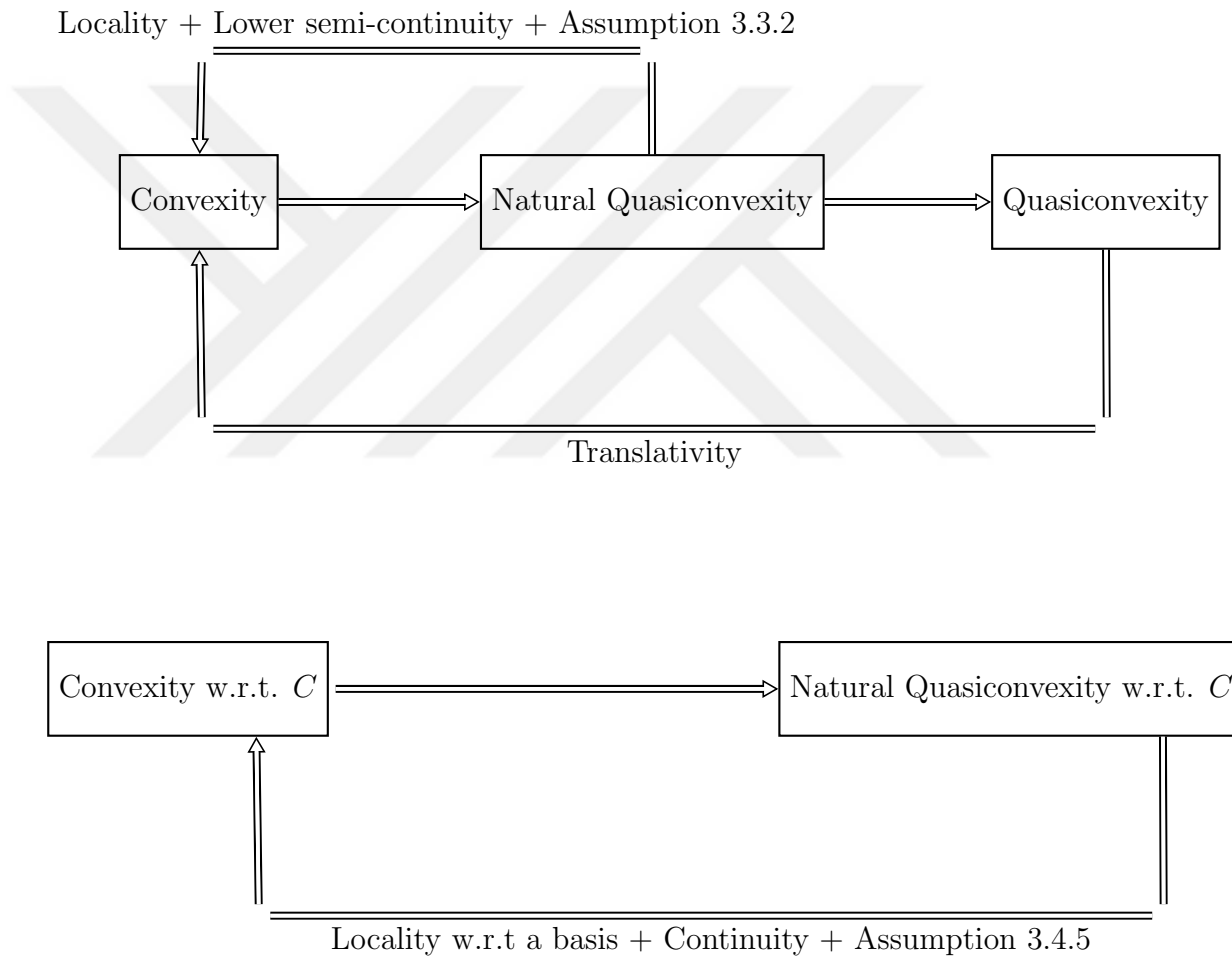


Figure 3.2: Summary of Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Conclusion

In this thesis, we investigate naturally quasiconvex risk measures. In particular, we discuss connections between natural quasiconvexity and convexity, locality and translativity properties for risk measures.

In Debreu and Koopmans [16] and Crouzeix and Lindberg [17], additively decomposable sums defined on open subsets of $\mathbb{R}^n$ are studied. We generalize their results to additively decomposable functions defined on general topological vector spaces. To achieve this generalization, in Section 2.1 we define convexity index for real-valued functions that are defined on a topological vector space. We show that all of the results regarding convexity indices for functions defined on $\mathbb{R}^n$ also holds for real-valued functions defined on a general topological vector space. In section 2.2, Theorem 2.2.5, generalizes the main result in Debreu and Koopmans [16] and Crouzeix and Lindberg [17] to general topological vector spaces. In particular, we show that quasiconvexity of an additively decomposable sum have either all coordinate functions convex or at most one is convex together with a condition on the sum of reciprocals of convexity indices of each coordinate function. To make the generalizations in Section 2.1 and 2.2, all we need to assume is f is lower semicontinuous. In Theorem 2.3.3 of Section 2.3, we extend the main result of the previous section to additively decomposable infinite sums, which was not available in the aforementioned papers, even for the functions

defined on $\mathbb{R}^n$. Study of additively decomposable infinite sums pave the way for the analysis we have in Section 3.4.

In Chapter 3, Section 3.1 and 3.2 are brief introductions to risk measures, natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity. An important result in these sections is Theorem 3.2.3 which states that natural quasiconvexity and $\star$ -quasiconvexity are equivalent properties. The most remarkable result in this thesis is Theorem 3.3.4 in Section 3.3, where we show that convexity and natural quasiconvexity is equivalent for local risk measures under some mild conditions. We also present a numeric example in Example 3.3.1 to give the intuition behind this theorem. In the last section, we are concerned with risk measures on L^2 and we define a new property called locality with respect to a basis. We showed in Example 3.4.2 that conditional entropic risk measure, which is a well-known example of a convex risk measure, is local with respect to a basis. Relationships between locality with respect to a basis with locality and translativity are given in Theorem 3.4.3 and Theorem 3.4.4, respectively. Lastly, we give a sketch of the proof of Theorem 3.4.7, which is concerned with the connection between convexity and natural convexity for risk measures that are local with respect to a basis.

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