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# A REFINEMENT OF THE JENSEN-SIMIC-MERCER INEQUALITY WITH APPLICATIONS TO ENTROPY

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ABSTRACT. The Jensen, Simic and Mercer inequalities are very important inequalities in theory of inequalities and some results are devoted to this inequalities. In this paper, firstly, we establish extension of Jensen-Simic-Mercer inequality. After that, we investigate bounds for Shannons entropy of a probability distribution. Finally, We give some new applications in analysis.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Jensen, Simic and Mercer inequalities are important for obtaining bounds for entropies. In this paper, by applying an extensions of Simic's inequality and Mercer's inequality, we obtain some estimates for the Shannon's entropy. Let I := [a, b] be an interval,  $\mathbf{x} := \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \subseteq I$  and  $\mathbf{p} := \{p_i\}_1^n \subseteq [0, 1]$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ . The following inequality is well known in the literature as Jensens inequality.

**Theorem 1.1** ([10, Jensen's inequality]). If f is a convex function on an interval I,  $\mathbf{x} := \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \subseteq I$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ , then

$$0 \le \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i f(x_i) - f(\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i) := J_f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}).$$

In [17], Simic proved the following extension of Jensens inequality known as the Jensen Simic inequality.

**Theorem 1.2.** If f is a convex function on an interval I,  $x_i \in I$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i = 1$ , then

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$$0 \le \max_{1 \le r < s \le n} \{ p_r f(x_r) + p_s f(x_s) - (p_r + p_s) f(\frac{p_r x_r + p_s x_s}{p_r + p_s}) \}$$
  
$$\le \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i) \le f(a) + f(b) - 2f(\frac{a+b}{2}).$$

Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 yield the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.3.** If f is a convex function on an interval I,  $x_i \in I$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i = 1$ , then

$$0 \le \max_{r,s} \{ p_r f(x_r) + p_s f(x_s) - (p_r + p_s) f(\frac{p_r x_r + p_s x_s}{p_r + p_s}) \}$$
  
$$\le \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i) \le f(a) + f(b) - 2f(\frac{a+b}{2}).$$

A variant of Jensens inequality is obtained by Mercer [9].

**Theorem 1.4** ([9]). If f is a convex function on an interval  $I := [a,b], x_i \in I$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i = 1$ , then

(1.1) 
$$I_f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}) := f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) \le f(a) + f(b).$$

## 2. Refinement of Jensen-Simic-Mercer Inequality

In this section, we extend the Jensen-Mercer inequality (1.1) for convex functions.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let f be a convex function on an interval I,  $x_i \in I$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i = 1$ , then

$$2f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \le f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}x_{i}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}f(x_{i}) \le f(a) + f(b)$$
  
- 
$$\max_{r,s} \{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r}) + p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) - (p_{r}+p_{s})f(a+b-\frac{p_{r}x_{r}+p_{s}x_{s}}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\}$$
  
(2.1)  
 $\le f(a) + f(b).$ 

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Corollary 2.2. Let f be a convex function on I, then

$$2f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \le f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i f(x_i) \le f(a) + f(b) - \{p_r f(a+b-x_r) + p_s f(a+b-x_s) - (p_r+p_s)f(a+b-\frac{p_r x_r + p_s x_s}{p_r + p_s})\} \le f(a) + f(b),$$

for every  $r, s \in \{1, ..., n\}$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** If f is convex function on I,  $\mu := \min\{x_i\}$  and  $\nu := \max\{x_i\}$ , then

$$2f(\frac{\mu+\nu}{2}) \le f(\mu+\nu-\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}x_i) + \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}f(x_i)$$
$$\le f(\mu) + f(\nu) - \frac{1}{n}\{f(\mu) + f(\nu) - 2f(\frac{\mu+\nu}{2})\}.$$

# 3. Applications

In this section, we present some applications of Theorem 2.1 in information theory and analysis.

### 3.1. Applications in information theory

**Definition 3.1.** The Shannon entropy of a positive probability distribution  $P = (p_1, ..., p_n)$  is defined by  $H(\mathbf{p}) := \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i}$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** Define  $\mu := \min_{1 \le i \le n} \{p_i\}$  and  $\nu := \max_{1 \le i \le n} \{p_i\}$ . Then

(3.1) 
$$\log(\frac{4\mu^2\nu^2}{(\mu+\nu)^2}) \le \log(\frac{\mu\nu}{\mu+\nu-n\mu\nu}) - H(\mathbf{p}) \le \log(\mu\nu) - \mu\log(\frac{\mu^2+\nu^2}{\mu(\mu+\nu)}) - \nu\log(\frac{\mu^2+\nu^2}{\nu(\mu+\nu)})$$

**Proposition 3.3.** Define  $\mu := \min_{1 \le i \le n} \{p_i\}$  and  $\nu := \max_{1 \le i \le n} \{p_i\}$ . Then

(3.2) 
$$(\mu + \nu) \log(\frac{\mu + \nu}{2}) \le (\mu + \nu - \frac{1}{n}) \log(\mu + \nu - \frac{1}{n}) - H(\mathbf{p})$$
$$\le \mu \log \mu + \nu \log \nu - \frac{1}{n} [\mu \log(\frac{2\mu}{\mu + \nu}) + \nu \log(\frac{2\nu}{\mu + \nu})].$$

**3.2.** Applications in analysis Let  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be a positive real sequence and

$$A:=\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \text{ and } G:=(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i)^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

denote the usual arithmetic and geometric means of  $\{x_i\}$ , respectively. Denote  $\mu := \min\{x_i\}, \nu := \max\{x_i\}, \tilde{A} := \mu + \nu - A, \tilde{G} := \frac{\mu\nu}{G}, A(\mu, \nu) := \frac{\mu+\nu}{2}$  and  $G(\mu, \nu) := \sqrt{\mu\nu}$ . From (2.1) we conclude the following result.

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $x_i > 0$  for all i = 1, ..., n,  $\mu = \min\{x_i\}$  and  $\nu = \max\{x_i\}$ , then

$$\tilde{G} \leq \tilde{G}\left[\frac{A(\mu,\nu)}{G(\mu,\nu)}\right]^{\frac{2}{n}} \leq \tilde{A} \leq \frac{[A(\mu,\nu)]^2}{G}.$$

Remark 3.5. Proposition 3.4 is equivalent to

$$\tilde{G} \leq (\frac{\tilde{A}+A}{2})^{\frac{2}{n}} \frac{\tilde{G}}{\sqrt[n]{\tilde{G}G}} \leq \tilde{A} \leq \frac{(\tilde{A}+A)^2}{4G}.$$

#### 4. Proofs

Proof of Theorem 2.1. Since  $\{x_i\}_i \subseteq [a, b]$ , there is a sequence  $\{\lambda_i\}_i (0 \leq \lambda_i \leq 1)$ , such that  $x_i = \lambda_i a + (1 - \lambda_i)b$ . Hence,

$$f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}x_{i}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i})$$
  
=  $f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}(\lambda_{i}a+(1-\lambda_{i})b)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(\lambda_{i}a+(1-\lambda_{i})b)$   
 $\geq f(a+b-a\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}\lambda_{i}-b\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}(1-\lambda_{i})) + f(a\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}\lambda_{i}+b\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}(1-\lambda_{i})).$ 

Denoting  $p := \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \lambda_i$  and  $q := 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \lambda_i$ . Consequently,

(4.1)  

$$I_{f}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}) \geq f(a+b-pa-qb) + f(pa+qb)$$

$$= f(qa+qb) + f(pa+qb)$$

$$\geq 2f(\frac{pa+qb}{2} + \frac{qa+pb}{2}) = 2f(\frac{a+b}{2})$$

Here the first inequality holds. On the other hand, by the use of Corollary 1.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}x_{i}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}) &= f(\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}(a+b-x_{i})) + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(a+b-x_{i}) - \max_{r,s}\{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r}) + p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) \\ &- (p_{r}+p_{s})f(\frac{p_{r}(a+b-x_{r}) + p_{s}(a+b-x_{s})}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\} + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(a+b-x_{i}) - \max_{r,s}\{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r}) + p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) \\ &- (p_{r}+p_{s})f(a+b-\frac{p_{r}x_{r}+p_{s}x_{s}}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\} + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}). \end{aligned}$$

Then from Mercers inequality (1.1), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}x_{i}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}(f(a)+f(b)-f(x_{i})) - \max_{r,s}\{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r})+p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) \\ &-(p_{r}+p_{s})f(a+b-\frac{p_{r}x_{r}+p_{s}x_{s}}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\} + \sum_{i=1}^{n}p_{i}f(x_{i}) = f(a)+f(b) \\ &-\max_{r,s}\{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r})+p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) \\ &-(p_{r}+p_{s})f(a+b-\frac{p_{r}x_{r}+p_{s}x_{s}}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\},\end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

Proof of Corollary 2.2. Since

$$p_r f(a+b-x_r) + p_s f(a+b-x_s) - (p_r+p_s)f(a+b-\frac{p_r x_r + p_s x_s}{p_r + p_s}) \ge 0$$

for all r, s = 1, ..., n, the results follow from (2.1).

Proof of Theorem 2.3. Let  $1 \le \mu \le \nu \le n$ . Since

$$p_{\mu}f(a+b-x_{\mu}) + p_{\nu}f(a+b-x_{\nu}) - (p_{\mu}+p_{\nu})f(a+b-\frac{p_{\mu}x_{\mu}+p_{\nu}x_{\nu}}{p_{\mu}+p_{\nu}})$$
$$\max_{r,s}\{p_{r}f(a+b-x_{r}) + p_{s}f(a+b-x_{s}) - (p_{r}+p_{s})f(a+b-\frac{p_{r}x_{r}+p_{s}x_{s}}{p_{r}+p_{s}})\},\$$

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we have

$$2f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \le f(a+b-\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i f(x_i) \le f(a) + f(b) \\ - \{p_r f(a+b-x_r) + p_s f(a+b-x_s) - (p_r+p_s)f(a+b-\frac{p_r x_r + p_s x_s}{p_r + p_s})\},\$$

for all  $r, s \in \{1, ..., n\}\}$ . Now, putting  $p_i = \frac{1}{n}, i = 1, ..., n, x_r = x_1 = a$  and  $x_s = x_n = b$ , which provides the desired inequality.

Proof of Proposition 3.2. Applying Corollary 2.2 with  $f(x) = -\log(x)$  and putting  $x_i = \frac{1}{p_i}$  for all i = 1, ..., n,  $a = x_r = \frac{1}{\nu}$  and  $b = x_s = \frac{1}{\mu}$ , we get

$$-2\log(\frac{\mu+\nu}{2\mu\nu}) \le -\log(\frac{\mu+\nu-n\mu\nu}{\mu\nu}) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \log(\frac{1}{p_i}) \le \log\nu + \log\mu \\ -\{-\nu\log(\frac{1}{\mu}) - \mu\log(\frac{1}{\nu}) + (\nu+\mu)\log(\frac{1}{\nu} + \frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{2}{\nu+\mu})\},\$$

which completes the proof.

Proof of Proposition 3.3. Let  $f(x) = x \log x$ ,  $a = \mu$  and  $b = \nu$ . Then apply Theorem 2.3 with  $x_i$  replaced by  $p_i$ , we get

$$(\mu + \nu) \log(\frac{\mu + \nu}{2}) \le (\mu + \nu - \frac{1}{n}) \log(\mu + \nu - \frac{1}{n}) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \log p_i$$
  
$$\le \mu \log \mu + \nu \log \nu - \frac{1}{n} \{\mu \log \mu + \nu \log \nu - (\mu + \nu) \log(\frac{\mu + \nu}{2})\},$$

after some calculations the desired assertion follows.

Proof of Proposition 3.4. Applying Theorem 2.1 with  $f(x) = -\log x$ ,  $p_i = \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $i = 1, ..., n, a = \min\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $b = \max\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , the desired results follow.

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