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## FURTHER REFINEMENT OF RESULTS ABOUT MIXED SYMMETRIC MEANS AND CAUCHY MEANS

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**Abstract.** Recently, Horváth introduced a new method to refine the well known discrete Jensen's inequality (see [2]). He also gave a parameter dependant refinement of the discrete Jensen's inequality (see [3]). We apply the new exponential convexity method as illustrated in [7], to the functionals obtained from the refinement results of [2] and [3]. In this way we are able to generalize the results given in [4] as well as given in [1].

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### 1. Introduction and Preliminary Results

We start with the notations given in [2]:

Let  $X$  be a set. The power set of  $X$  is denoted by  $P(X)$ .  $|X|$  means the number of

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elements in  $X$ . For every nonnegative integer  $m$ , let

$$P_m(X) := \{Y \subset X \mid |Y| = m\}.$$

We need the following hypotheses:

(H<sub>1</sub>) Let  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  be finite, pairwise disjoint and nonempty sets, let

$$S := \bigcup_{j=1}^n S_j,$$

and let  $c$  be a function from  $S$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  such that

$$c(s) > 0, \quad s \in S, \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{s \in S_j} c(s) = 1, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Let the function  $\tau : S \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  be defined by

$$\tau(s) := j, \quad \text{if} \quad s \in S_j.$$

(H<sub>2</sub>) Suppose  $\mathcal{A} \subset P(S)$  is a partition of  $S$  into pairwise disjoint and nonempty sets. Let

$$k := \max \{|A| \mid A \in \mathcal{A}\},$$

and let

$$\mathcal{A}_l := \{A \in \mathcal{A} \mid |A| = l\}, \quad l = 1, \dots, k.$$

Then  $\mathcal{A}_l$  ( $l = 1, \dots, k-1$ ) may be the empty set, and  $|S| = \sum_{l=1}^k l |\mathcal{A}_l|$ . The empty sum is taken to be zero.

In the sequel, we also require the following hypotheses:

(H<sub>3</sub>) Let  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  be an interval,  $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in J^n$ , and  $\mathbf{p} := (p_1, \dots, p_n)$  be a positive  $n$ -tuple such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ .

(H<sub>4</sub>) Let  $f : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function.

(H<sub>5</sub>) Let  $h, g : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous and strictly monotone functions.

**Theorem 1.1.** [2] *Assume (H<sub>1</sub>)-(H<sub>4</sub>). Then*

$$(1) \quad f\left(\sum_{j=1}^n p_j x_j\right) \leq N_k \leq N_{k-1} \leq \dots \leq N_2 \leq N_1 = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j f(x_j),$$

where

$$(2) \quad N_k := \sum_{l=1}^k \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) f \left( \frac{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} x_{\tau(s)}}{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right) \right),$$

and for every  $1 \leq m \leq k-1$  the number  $N_{k-m}$  is given by

$$(3) \quad N_{k-m} := \sum_{l=1}^m \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} f(x_{\tau(s)}) \right) \right) + \sum_{l=m+1}^k \left( \frac{m!}{(l-1) \dots (l-m)} \right. \\ \left. \cdot \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{B \in P_{l-m}(A)} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) f \left( \frac{\sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} x_{\tau(s)}}{\sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right) \right) \right).$$

Assume (H<sub>1</sub>), (H<sub>2</sub>) and

(H<sub>6</sub>) Let  $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $\mathbf{p} := (p_1, \dots, p_n)$  be positive  $n$ -tuples such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ .

We define the power means of order  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  corresponding to  $A \in \mathcal{A}_l$  ( $l = 1, \dots, k$ ) as follows:

$$(4) \quad M_r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, A) := \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} x_{\tau(s)}^r}{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}; & r \neq 0, \\ \left( \prod_{s \in A} x_{\tau(s)}^{c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}}}; & r = 0. \end{cases}$$

We also use the means

$$M_r := \begin{cases} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i^r \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}, & r \neq 0, \\ \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{p_i}, & r = 0. \end{cases}$$

Assume (H<sub>1</sub>), (H<sub>2</sub>) and (H<sub>6</sub>), and let  $\gamma, \eta \in \mathbb{R}$ . We define the mixed symmetric means corresponding to (2) and (3) as follows:

$$M_{\eta, \gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) \\ := \begin{cases} \left( \sum_{l=1}^k \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) M_{\gamma}^{\eta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, A) \right) \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}}; & \eta \neq 0, \\ \prod_{l=1}^k \left( \prod_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \left( M_{\gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, A) \right)^{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right); & \eta = 0, \end{cases}$$

and for  $1 \leq m \leq k - 1$

$$M_{\eta,\gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - m) := \left( \sum_{l=1}^m \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} x_{\tau(s)}^\eta \right) \right) + \sum_{l=m+1}^k \left( \frac{m!}{(l-1) \dots (l-m)} \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{B \in P_{l-m}(A)} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) M_\gamma^\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, B) \right) \right) \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}},$$

if  $\eta \neq 0$  and for  $\eta = 0$ , we have

$$M_{\eta,\gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - m) := \prod_{l=1}^m \left( \prod_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \prod_{s \in A} x_{\tau(s)}^{c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right) \times \prod_{l=m+1}^k \left( \left( \prod_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \prod_{B \in P_{l-m}(A)} (M_\gamma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, B))^{\left( \sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right)} \right) \right) \right)^{\frac{m!}{(l-1) \dots (l-m)}}.$$

The monotonicity of these mixed symmetric means is a consequence of Theorem 1.1.

**Corollary 1.2.** *Assume  $(H_1)$ ,  $(H_2)$  and  $(H_6)$ . Let  $\eta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\eta \leq \gamma$ . Then*

$$(5) \quad M_\eta \leq M_{\gamma,\eta}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) \leq M_{\gamma,\eta}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - 1) \leq \dots \leq M_{\gamma,\eta}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, 1) = M_\gamma,$$

and

$$(6) \quad M_\eta = M_{\eta,\gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, 1) \leq \dots \leq M_{\eta,\gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - 1) \leq M_{\eta,\gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) \leq M_\gamma.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $\eta, \gamma \neq 0$ . To obtain (5) we apply Theorem 1.1 for the function  $f(x) = x^{\frac{\gamma}{\eta}}$  ( $x > 0$ ) and the  $n$ -tuples  $(x_1^\eta, \dots, x_n^\eta)$  in (1) and then raising the power  $\frac{1}{\gamma}$ . (6) can be proved in a similar way by using  $f(x) = x^{\frac{\eta}{\gamma}}$  ( $x > 0$ ) and  $(x_1^\gamma, \dots, x_n^\gamma)$  and raising the power  $\frac{1}{\eta}$ .

When  $\eta = 0$  or  $\gamma = 0$ , we get the required results by taking limit.  $\square$

Assume  $(H_1-H_3)$  and  $(H_5)$ . Then we define the generalized means with respect to (2) and (3) as follows:

$$M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) := h^{-1} \left( \sum_{l=1}^k \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) h \circ g^{-1} \left( \frac{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} g(x_{\tau(s)})}{\sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right) \right) \right),$$

and for  $1 \leq m \leq k - 1$

$$M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - m) := h^{-1} \left( \sum_{l=1}^m \left( \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{s \in A} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} h(x_{\tau(s)}) \right) \right) + \sum_{l=m+1}^k \left( \frac{m!}{(l-1) \dots (l-m)} \times \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}_l} \left( \sum_{B \in P_{l-m}(A)} \left( \left( \sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} \right) h \circ g^{-1} \left( \frac{\sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)} g(x_{\tau(s)})}{\sum_{s \in B} c(s) p_{\tau(s)}} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right).$$

We also need the quasi-arithmetic mean. Assume  $(H_3)$ , and let  $q : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous and strictly monotone function:

$$M_q := q^{-1} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n p_i q(x_i) \right).$$

The monotonicity of the generalized means is given in the next corollary.

**Corollary 1.3.** *Assume  $(H_1-H_3)$  and  $(H_5)$ . Then*

$$(7) \quad M_g \leq M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) \leq M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - 1) \leq \dots \leq M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, 1) = M_h,$$

*if either  $h \circ g^{-1}$  is convex and  $h$  is strictly increasing or  $h \circ g^{-1}$  is concave and  $h$  is strictly decreasing;*

$$(8) \quad M_g = M_{g,h}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, 1) \leq \dots \leq M_{g,h}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k - 1) \leq M_{g,h}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) \leq M_h,$$

*if either  $g \circ h^{-1}$  is convex and  $g$  is strictly decreasing or  $g \circ h^{-1}$  is concave and  $g$  is strictly increasing.*

*Proof.* First, we can apply Theorem 1.1 to the function  $h \circ g^{-1}$  and the  $n$ -tuples  $(g(x_1), \dots, g(x_n))$ , then we can apply  $h^{-1}$  to the inequality coming from (1). This gives (7). A similar argument gives (8):  $g \circ h^{-1}$ ,  $(h(x_1), \dots, h(x_n))$  and  $g^{-1}$  can be used.  $\square$

We illustrate the means defined above by a concrete example based on an example from [2]. Further interesting means can be derived from the other examples in [2].

**Example 1.4.** *Let  $n \geq 1$  and  $k \geq 1$  be fixed integers, and let  $I_k \subset \{1, \dots, n\}^k$  such that*

$$\alpha_{I_k, i} \geq 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n,$$

where  $\alpha_{I_k, i}$  means the number of occurrences of  $i$  in all the sequences  $\mathbf{i}^k := (i_1, \dots, i_k)$  from  $I_k$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, n$  we introduce the sets

$$S_j := \{((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) \mid (i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k, \quad 1 \leq l \leq k, \quad i_l = j\}.$$

Let  $c$  be a positive function on  $S := \bigcup_{j=1}^n S_j$  such that

$$\sum_{((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) \in S_j} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) = 1, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

The condition  $(H_2)$  is fulfilled if

$$\mathcal{A} := \{((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) \mid l = 1, \dots, k\} \mid (i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k\}.$$

In this case  $\mathcal{A}_k = \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_l = \emptyset$  ( $l = 1, \dots, k-1$ ). If  $(H_3)$  and  $(H_4)$  also hold, then the numbers  $N_{k-m}$  ( $0 \leq m \leq k-1$ ) are given as follows:

$$(9) \quad N_k := \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \left( \sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} \right) f \left( \frac{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} x_{i_l}}{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}} \right) \right),$$

and for every  $1 \leq m \leq k-1$

$$(10) \quad N_{k-m} := \frac{m!}{(k-1) \dots (k-m)} \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \sum_{1 \leq l_1 < \dots < l_{k-m} \leq k} \left( \left( \sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} \right) \times f \left( \frac{\sum_{l=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} x_{i_{l_j}}}{\sum_{l=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}}} \right) \right) \right).$$

(a) Assume  $(H_6)$ . For  $1 \leq m \leq k-1$  let

$$J_{k-m} := \{(l_1, \dots, l_{k-m}) \in \{1, \dots, k\}^{k-m} \mid 1 \leq l_1 < \dots < l_{k-m} \leq k\}.$$

We give the analogue of the power means defined in (4). For  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbf{i}^k \in I_k$

$$M_r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k) := \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} x_{i_l}^r}{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}} \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}; & r \neq 0, \\ \left( \prod_{l=1}^k x_{i_l}^{c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{l=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}}}; & r = 0, \end{cases}$$

and for  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{i}^k \in I_k$  and  $\mathbf{l}^{k-m} \in J_{k-m}$

$$M_r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k, \mathbf{l}^{k-m}) := \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} x_{i_{l_j}}^r}{\sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}; & r \neq 0, \\ \left( \prod_{j=1}^{k-m} x_{i_{l_j}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}}}; & r = 0, \end{cases}$$

Now let  $\gamma, \eta \in \mathbb{R}$ . The mixed symmetric means corresponding to (9) and (10) can be written as

$$M_{\eta, \gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) = \begin{cases} \left( \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} \right) M_{\gamma}^{\eta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k) \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}}; & \eta \neq 0, \\ \prod_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( (M_{\gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k))^{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}} \right); & \eta = 0, \end{cases}$$

and for  $1 \leq m \leq k-1$

$$M_{\eta, \gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k-m) = \left( \frac{m!}{(k-1) \dots (k-m)} \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \sum_{1 \leq l_1 < \dots < l_{k-m} \leq k} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} \right) M_{\gamma}^{\eta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k, \mathbf{l}^{k-m}) \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{\eta}},$$

if  $\eta \neq 0$ , and for  $\eta = 0$ , we have

$$M_{\eta, \gamma}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k-m) = \left( \prod_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \prod_{1 \leq l_1 < \dots < l_{k-m} \leq k} (M_{\gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{i}^k, \mathbf{l}^{k-m}))^{\left( \sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} \right)} \right) \right)^{\frac{m!}{(k-1) \dots (k-m)}}.$$

(b) Assume  $(H_3)$  and  $(H_5)$ . The generalized means with respect to (9) and (10) can be written as

$$M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k) := h^{-1} \left( \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \left( \sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} \right) h \circ g^{-1} \left( \frac{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l} g(x_{i_l})}{\sum_{l=1}^k c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) p_{i_l}} \right) \right) \right),$$

and for  $1 \leq m \leq k-1$

$$M_{h,g}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, k-m) :=$$

$$h^{-1} \left( \frac{m!}{(l-1)\dots(l-m)} \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_k) \in I_k} \left( \sum_{1 \leq l_1 < \dots < l_{k-m} \leq k} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} \right) h \circ g^{-1} \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}} g(x_{i_{l_j}})}{\sum_{j=1}^{k-m} c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l_j) p_{i_{l_j}}} \right) \right) \right)$$

**Remark 1.5.** By choosing

$$c((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) = \frac{1}{|S_j|} = \frac{1}{\alpha_{I_k, j}} \quad \text{if } ((i_1, \dots, i_k), l) \in S_j$$

in the previous example, we have the means defined in [4] (1.14), (1.15), (1.20) and (1.21) as special cases. Thus we have some extensions of these means.

**Remark 1.6.** Results about mixed symmetric means and generalized means similar to Corollary 1.2 and Corollary 1.3 can be given for Example 1.4 as a special case.

The following result is given in [3].

**Theorem 1.7.** Assume  $(H_3)$  and  $(H_4)$  and let  $\lambda \geq 1$  be a real number. We introduce the sets

$$S_k := \left\{ (i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n \mid \sum_{j=1}^n i_j = k \right\}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$$

and for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  define the numbers

$$\begin{aligned} C_k(\lambda) &= C_k(x_1, \dots, x_n; p_1, \dots, p_n; \lambda) \\ &:= \frac{1}{(n+\lambda-1)^k} \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in S_k} \frac{k!}{i_1! \dots i_n!} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{i_j} p_j \right) f \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{i_j} p_j x_j}{\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{i_j} p_j} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$f \left( \sum_{j=1}^n p_j x_j \right) = C_0(\lambda) \leq C_1(\lambda) \leq \dots \leq C_k(\lambda) \leq \dots \leq \sum_{j=1}^n p_j f(x_j).$$

**Remark 1.8.** The results about mixed symmetric means and generalized means corresponding to Theorem 1.7 are given in [3].

**Remark 1.9.** Under the conditions  $(H_1)$ - $(H_3)$  we define



$$\begin{aligned}\Upsilon^1(f) &:= \Upsilon_{m,l}^1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, f) := N_m - N_l; \quad 1 \leq m < l \leq k, \\ \Upsilon^2(f) &:= \Upsilon_l^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, f) := N_l - f\left(\sum_{j=1}^n p_j x_j\right); \quad 1 \leq l \leq k,\end{aligned}$$

and under the conditions  $(H_3)$  we define

$$\begin{aligned}\Upsilon^3(f) &:= \Upsilon_{m,l}^3(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, f) := C_m(\lambda) - C_l(\lambda); \quad 0 \leq l < m \leq k, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \\ \Upsilon^4(f) &:= \Upsilon_l^4(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, f) := \sum_{j=1}^n p_j f(x_j) - C_l(\lambda); \quad 0 \leq l \leq k, \quad k \in \mathbb{N},\end{aligned}$$

where  $f : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function.

It is easy to see that the functionals  $f \rightarrow \Upsilon^i(f)$  are linear,  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ , and Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.7 imply that

$$\Upsilon^i(f) \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, 4$$

if  $f : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a convex function.

In [1] the log-convexity and in [6] exponential convexity is proved for some functionals obtained from the interpolations of the discrete Jensen's inequality. The results in [1] are without weights but in [6] are with weights. In [4], a more general class of twice differentiable convex functions is used to construct the exponential convexity of some more general functionals. In [7] a notion of  $n$ -exponential convexity is introduced as a generalizations of log-convexity.

In this paper, we use a new method given in [7], to prove the  $n$ -exponential convexity and exponential convexity of the functionals  $f \rightarrow \Upsilon^i(f)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ , together with the Cauchy type mean value theorems. In this way, our results are more general than the corresponding results in [4].

The notion of  $n$ -exponentially convex function and the following properties of *exponentially convex* function defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , are given in [7].

**Definition 1.** A function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  *$n$ -exponentially convex* in the Jensen sense if

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_i a_j g\left(\frac{x_i + x_j}{2}\right) \geq 0$$

holds for every  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and every  $x_i \in I$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

A function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $n$ -exponentially convex if it is  $n$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense and continuous on  $I$ .

**Remark 1.10.** *From the definition it is clear that 1-exponentially convex functions in the Jensen sense are in fact the nonnegative functions. Also,  $n$ -exponentially convex functions in the Jensen sense are  $m$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense for every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \leq n$ .*

**Proposition 1.11.** *If  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $n$ -exponentially convex function, then for every  $x_i \in I$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \leq n$  the matrix  $\left[ g\left(\frac{x_i+x_j}{2}\right) \right]_{i,j=1}^m$  is a positive semi-definite matrix. Particularly,*

$$\det \left[ g\left(\frac{x_i+x_j}{2}\right) \right]_{i,j=1}^m \geq 0$$

for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Definition 2.** A function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is exponentially convex in the Jensen sense, if it is  $n$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

A function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is exponentially convex if it is exponentially convex in the Jensen sense and continuous.

**Remark 1.12.** *It is easy to see that a positive function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is log-convex in the Jensen sense if and only if it is 2-exponentially convex in the Jensen sense, that is*

$$a_1^2 g(x) + 2a_1 a_2 g\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) + a_2^2 g(y) \geq 0$$

holds for every  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x, y \in I$ .

Similarly, if  $g$  is 2-exponentially convex, then  $g$  is log-convex. Conversely, if  $g$  is log-convex and continuous, then  $g$  is 2-exponentially convex.

Divided differences are fertile to study functions having different degree of smoothness.

**Definition 3.** The second order divided difference of a function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  at mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$  is defined recursively by

$$[y_i; g] = g(y_i), \quad i = 0, 1, 2$$

$$[y_i, y_{i+1}; g] = \frac{g(y_{i+1}) - g(y_i)}{y_{i+1} - y_i}, \quad i = 0, 1$$

$$(11) \quad [y_0, y_1, y_2; g] = \frac{[y_1, y_2; g] - [y_0, y_1; g]}{y_2 - y_0}.$$

**Remark 1.13.** *The value  $[y_0, y_1, y_2; g]$  is independent of the order of the points  $y_0, y_1$ , and  $y_2$ . By taking limits this definition may be extended to include the cases in which any two or all three points coincide as follows:  $\forall y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$  such that  $y_2 \neq y_0$*

$$\lim_{y_1 \rightarrow y_0} [y_0, y_1, y_2; g] = [y_0, y_0, y_2; g] = \frac{g(y_2) - g(y_0) - g'(y_0)(y_2 - y_0)}{(y_2 - y_0)^2}$$

*provided that  $g'$  exists, and furthermore, taking the limits  $y_i \rightarrow y_0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  in (11), we get*

$$[y_0, y_0, y_0; g] = \lim_{y_i \rightarrow y_0} [y_0, y_1, y_2; g] = \frac{g''(y_0)}{2} \text{ for } i = 1, 2$$

*provided that  $g''$  exist on  $I$ .*

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** *Assume  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval, and assume  $\Lambda = \{\phi_t \mid t \in J\}$  is a family of functions defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , such that the function  $t \rightarrow [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) is  $n$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense on  $J$  for every three mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$ . Let  $\Upsilon$  be a linear functional on the vector space of real functions defined on  $I$  such that  $\Upsilon(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function  $f$  on  $I$ . Then  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is an  $n$ -exponentially convex function in the Jensen sense on  $J$ . If the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is continuous, then it is  $n$ -exponentially convex on  $J$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $t_k, t_l \in J$ ,  $t_{kl} := \frac{t_k + t_l}{2}$  and  $b_k, b_l \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $k, l = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and define the function  $\omega$  on  $I$  by

$$\omega := \sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \phi_{t_{kl}}.$$

Since the function  $t \rightarrow [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) is  $n$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense, we have

$$[y_0, y_1, y_2; \omega] = \sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_{t_{kl}}] \geq 0,$$

which implies that  $\omega$  is a convex function on  $I$ . Therefore we have  $\Upsilon(\omega) \geq 0$ , which yields by the linearity of  $\Upsilon$ , that

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \Upsilon(\phi_{t_{kl}}) \geq 0.$$

We conclude that the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is an  $n$ -exponentially convex function in the Jensen sense on  $J$ .

If the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is continuous on  $J$ , then it is  $n$ -exponentially convex on  $J$  by definition.  $\square$

As a consequence of the above theorem we can give the following corollaries.

**Corollary 2.2.** *Assume  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval, and assume  $\Lambda = \{\phi_t \mid t \in J\}$  is a family of functions defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , such that the function  $t \rightarrow [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) is exponentially convex in the Jensen sense on  $J$  for every three mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$ . Let  $\Upsilon$  be a linear functional on the vector space of real functions defined on  $I$  such that  $\Upsilon(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function on  $I$ . Then  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is an exponentially convex function in the Jensen sense on  $J$ . If the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is continuous, then it is exponentially convex on  $J$ .*

**Corollary 2.3.** *Assume  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval, and assume  $\Lambda = \{\phi_t : t \in J\}$  is a family of functions defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , such that the function  $t \rightarrow [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) is 2-exponentially convex in the Jensen sense on  $J$  for every three mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$ . Let  $\Upsilon$  be a linear functional on the vector space of real functions defined on  $I$  such that  $\Upsilon(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function on  $I$ . Then the following two statements hold:*

- (i) *If the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is positive and continuous, then it is 2-exponentially convex on  $J$ , and thus log-convex.*
- (ii) *If the function  $t \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in J$ ) is positive and differentiable, then for every  $s, t, u, v \in J$ , such that  $s \leq u$  and  $t \leq v$ , we have*

$$(12) \quad \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon, \Lambda) \leq \mathbf{u}_{u,v}(\Upsilon, \Lambda)$$

where

$$(13) \quad \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon, \Lambda) := \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\Upsilon(\phi_s)}{\Upsilon(\phi_t)} \right)^{\frac{1}{s-t}}, & s \neq t, \\ \exp \left( \frac{d}{ds} \frac{\Upsilon(\phi_s)}{\Upsilon(\phi_s)} \right), & s = t \end{cases}$$

for  $\phi_s, \phi_t \in \Lambda$ .

*Proof.* (i) See Remark 1.12 and Theorem 2.1.

(ii) From the definition of a convex function  $\psi$  on  $J$ , we have the following inequality (see [8, page 2])

$$(14) \quad \frac{\psi(s) - \psi(t)}{s - t} \leq \frac{\psi(u) - \psi(v)}{u - v},$$

$\forall s, t, u, v \in J$  such that  $s \leq u, t \leq v, s \neq t, u \neq v$ .

By (i),  $s \rightarrow \Upsilon(\phi_s), s \in J$  is log-convex, and hence (14) shows with  $\psi(s) = \log \Upsilon(\phi_s), s \in J$  that

$$(15) \quad \frac{\log \Upsilon(\phi_s) - \log \Upsilon(\phi_t)}{s - t} \leq \frac{\log \Upsilon(\phi_u) - \log \Upsilon(\phi_v)}{u - v}$$

for  $s \leq u, t \leq v, s \neq t, u \neq v$ , which is equivalent to (12). For  $s = t$  or  $u = v$  (12) follows from (15) by taking limit. □

**Remark 2.4.** Note that the results from Theorem 2.1, Corollary 2.2, Corollary 2.3 are valid when two of the points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$  coincide, say  $y_1 = y_0$ , for a family of differentiable functions  $\phi_t$  such that the function  $t \rightarrow [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  is  $n$ -exponentially convex in the Jensen sense (exponentially convex in the Jensen sense, log-convex in the Jensen sense), and moreover, they are also valid when all three points coincide for a family of twice differentiable functions with the same property. The proofs can be obtained by recalling Remark 1.13 and suitable characterization of convexity.

The following result is related to the first condition of Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 2.5.** Assume  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval, and assume  $\Lambda = \{\phi_t \mid t \in J\}$  is a family of twice differentiable functions defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that the function  $t \mapsto \phi_t''(x)$

( $t \in J$ ) is exponentially convex for every fixed  $x \in I$ . Then the function  $t \mapsto [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) is exponentially convex in the Jensen sense for any three points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t_k, t_l \in J$ ,  $t_{kl} := \frac{t_k+t_l}{2}$  and  $b_k, b_l \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $k, l = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and fix  $x \in I$ . Then

$$\left( \sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \phi_{t_{kl}} \right)''(x) = \sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \phi_{t_{kl}}''(x) \geq 0.$$

It follows that the function

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \phi_{t_{kl}}$$

is convex, and hence

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_{t_{kl}}] = [y_0, y_1, y_2; \sum_{k,l=1}^n b_k b_l \phi_{t_{kl}}] \geq 0$$

for every three mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in I$ . This implies the exponential convexity of  $t \mapsto [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$  ( $t \in J$ ) in the Jensen sense.  $\square$

**Remark 2.6.** *It comes from either the conditions of Theorem 2.5 or the proof of this theorem that the functions  $\phi_t$ ,  $t \in J$  are convex.*

Now we formulate mean value theorems.

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $\Upsilon$  be a linear functional on the vector space of real functions defined on  $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\Upsilon(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ . Let  $g \in C^2[a, b]$ . Then there exists  $\xi \in [a, b]$  such that*

$$\Upsilon(g) = \frac{1}{2} g''(\xi) \Upsilon(x^2).$$

*Proof.* Since  $g \in C^2[a, b]$ , there exist the real numbers  $m = \min_{x \in [a, b]} g''(x)$  and  $M = \max_{x \in [a, b]} g''(x)$ . It is easy to show that the functions  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  defined on  $[a, b]$  by

$$\phi_1(x) = \frac{M}{2} x^2 - g(x),$$

and

$$\phi_2(x) = g(x) - \frac{m}{2} x^2,$$

are convex.

By applying the functional  $\Upsilon$  to the functions  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , we have the properties of  $\Upsilon$  that

$$\begin{aligned} & \Upsilon \left( \frac{M}{2} x^2 - g(x) \right) \geq 0, \\ (16) \quad & \Rightarrow \Upsilon(g) \leq \frac{M}{2} \Upsilon(x^2), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \Upsilon \left( g(x) - \frac{m}{2} x^2 \right) \geq 0 \\ (17) \quad & \Rightarrow \frac{m}{2} \Upsilon(x^2) \leq \Upsilon(g). \end{aligned}$$

From (16) and from (17), we get

$$\frac{m}{2} \Upsilon(x^2) \leq \Upsilon(g) \leq \frac{M}{2} \Upsilon(x^2).$$

If  $\Upsilon(x^2) = 0$ , then nothing to prove. If  $\Upsilon(x^2) \neq 0$ , then

$$m \leq \frac{2\Upsilon(g)}{\Upsilon(x^2)} \leq M.$$

Hence we have

$$\Upsilon(g) = \frac{1}{2} g''(\xi) \Upsilon(x^2).$$

□

**Theorem 2.8.** *Let  $\Upsilon$  be a linear functional on the vector space of real functions defined on  $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\Upsilon(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ . Let  $g, h \in C^2[a, b]$ . Then there exists  $\xi \in [a, b]$  such that*

$$\frac{\Upsilon(g)}{\Upsilon(h)} = \frac{g''(\xi)}{h''(\xi)},$$

provided that  $\Upsilon(h) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Define  $L \in C^2[a, b]$  by

$$L := c_1 g - c_2 h,$$

where

$$c_1 := \Upsilon(h)$$

and

$$c_2 := \Upsilon (g) .$$

Now using Theorem 2.7 for the function  $L$ , we have

$$(18) \quad \left( c_1 \frac{g''(\xi)}{2} - c_2 \frac{h''(\xi)}{2} \right) \Upsilon (x^2) = 0 .$$

Since  $\Upsilon (h) \neq 0$ , Theorem 2.7 implies that  $\Upsilon (x^2) \neq 0$ , and therefore (18) gives

$$\frac{\Upsilon (g)}{\Upsilon (h)} = \frac{g''(\xi)}{h''(\xi)} .$$

□

### 3. Applications to Cauchy Means

In this section we apply the main results to generate new Cauchy means. We mention that the functionals  $\Upsilon^i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 4$  defined in Remark 1.9 are linear on the vector space of real functions defined on the interval  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\Upsilon^i(f) \geq 0$  for every convex function on  $J$ .

**Example 3.1.** Assume  $(H_1)$ - $(H_3)$  with  $J = \mathbb{R}$ , and consider the linear functionals  $\Upsilon^i$  defined in Remark 1.9.

We consider the class of convex functions

$$\Lambda_1 := \{ \phi_t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \},$$

where

$$\phi_t(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{t^2} e^{tx}; & t \neq 0, \\ \frac{1}{2} x^2; & t = 0. \end{cases}$$

Then  $t \mapsto \phi_t''(x)$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) is exponentially convex for every fixed  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  (see [5]), thus by Theorem 2.5, the function  $t \mapsto [y_0, y_1, y_2; \phi_t]$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  is exponentially convex in the Jensen sense for every three mutually different points  $y_0, y_1, y_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Now fix  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ . By applying Corollary 2.2 with  $\Lambda = \Lambda_1$ , we get the exponential convexity of  $t \mapsto \Upsilon^i(\phi_t)$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) in the Jensen sense. This mapping is also differentiable, therefore exponentially convex, and the expression in (13) has the form



$$\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\Upsilon^i(\phi_s)}{\Upsilon^i(\phi_t)} \right)^{\frac{1}{s-t}}, & s \neq t, \\ \exp\left( \frac{\Upsilon^i(\text{id } \phi_s)}{\Upsilon^i(\phi_s)} - \frac{2}{s} \right), & s = t \neq 0, \\ \exp\left( \frac{\Upsilon^i(\text{id } \phi_0)}{3\Upsilon^i(\phi_0)} \right), & s = t = 0, \end{cases}$$

where “id” means the identity function on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

From (12) we have the monotonicity of the functions  $\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1)$  in both parameters.

Suppose  $\Upsilon^i(\phi_t) > 0$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ),  $a := \min\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $b := \max\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , and let

$$\mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1) := \log \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1); \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then from Theorem 2.8 we have

$$a \leq \mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1) \leq b,$$

and thus  $\mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1)$  ( $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) are means. The monotonicity of these means is followed by (12).

**Example 3.2.** Assume  $(H_1)$ - $(H_3)$  with  $J = (0, \infty)$ , and consider the linear functionals  $\Upsilon^i$  defined in Remark 1.9.

We consider the class of convex functions

$$\Lambda_2 = \{\psi_t : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\},$$

where

$$\psi_t(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{x^t}{t(t-1)}; & t \neq 0, 1, \\ -\log x; & t = 0, \\ x \log x; & t = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then  $t \mapsto \psi_t''(x) = x^{t-2} = e^{(t-2)\log x}$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) is exponentially convex for every fixed  $x \in (0, \infty)$ .

Now fix  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ . By similar arguments as given in Example 3.1 we get the exponential convexity of  $t \mapsto \Upsilon^i(\psi_t)$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) in the Jensen sense. This mapping is differentiable too, therefore exponentially convex. It is easy to calculate that (13) can be written as

$$\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\Upsilon^i(\psi_s)}{\Upsilon^i(\psi_t)} \right)^{\frac{1}{s-t}}; & s \neq t, \\ \exp\left( \frac{1-2s}{s(s-1)} - \frac{\Upsilon^i(\psi_s \psi_0)}{\Upsilon^i(\psi_s)} \right); & s = t \neq 0, 1, \\ \exp\left( 1 - \frac{\Upsilon^i(\psi_0^2)}{2\Upsilon^i(\psi_0)} \right); & s = t = 0, \\ \exp\left( -1 - \frac{\Upsilon^i(\psi_0 \psi_1)}{2\Upsilon^i(\psi_1)} \right); & s = t = 1. \end{cases}$$

Suppose  $\Upsilon^i(\psi_t) > 0$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ), and let  $a := \min\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $b := \max\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ . By Theorem 2.8, we can check that

$$(19) \quad a \leq \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2) \leq b; \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The means  $\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2)$  ( $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) are continuous, symmetric and monotone in both parameters (by use of (12)).

Let  $s, t, r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $r \neq 0$ . By the substitutions  $s \rightarrow \frac{s}{r}$ ,  $t \rightarrow \frac{t}{r}$ ,  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (x_1^r, \dots, x_n^r)$  in (19), we get

$$\bar{a} \leq \mathbf{u}_{s/r, t/r}(\mathbf{x}^r, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2) \leq \bar{b},$$

where  $\bar{a} := \min\{x_1^r, \dots, x_n^r\}$  and  $\bar{b} := \max\{x_1^r, \dots, x_n^r\}$ . Thus new means can be defined with three parameters:

$$\mathbf{u}_{s,t,r}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2) := \begin{cases} \left( \mathbf{u}_{s/r, t/r}(\mathbf{x}^r, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_2) \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}; & r \neq 0, \\ \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\log \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \Upsilon^i, \Lambda_1); & r = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\log \mathbf{x} = (\log x_1, \dots, \log x_n)$ .

The monotonicity of these three parameter means is followed by the monotonicity and continuity of the two parameter means.

**Example 3.3.** Assume  $(H_1)$ - $(H_3)$  with  $J = (0, \infty)$ , and consider the linear functionals  $\Upsilon^i$  defined in Remark 1.9.

We consider the class of convex functions

$$\Lambda_3 = \{ \eta_t : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty) \mid t \in (0, \infty) \},$$

where

$$\eta_t(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{t^{-x}}{\log^2 t}; & t \neq 1, \\ \frac{x^2}{2}; & t = 1. \end{cases}$$

$t \mapsto \psi_t''(x)$  ( $t \in (0, \infty)$ ) is exponentially convex for every fixed  $x \in (0, \infty)$ , being the restriction of the Laplace transform of a nonnegative function (see [5] or [9] page 210).

Now fix  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ . We can get the exponential convexity of  $t \mapsto \Upsilon^i(\psi_t)$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) as in Example 3.1. For the class  $\Lambda_3$ , (13) has the form

$$\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_3) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\Upsilon^i(\eta_s)}{\Upsilon^i(\eta_t)} \right)^{\frac{1}{s-t}}; & s \neq t, \\ \exp\left(-\frac{2}{s \log s} - \frac{\Upsilon^i(id\eta_s)}{s \Upsilon^i(\eta_s)}\right); & s = t \neq 1, \\ \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon^i(id\eta_1)}{3 \Upsilon^i(\eta_1)}\right); & s = t = 1. \end{cases}$$

The monotonicity of  $\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_3)$  ( $s, t \in (0, \infty)$ ) comes from (12).

Suppose  $\Upsilon^i(\eta_t) > 0$  ( $t \in (0, \infty)$ ), and let  $a := \min\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $b := \max\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , and define

$$\mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_3) := -L(s, t) \log \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_3), \quad s, t \in (0, \infty),$$

where  $L(s, t)$  is the well known logarithmic mean

$$L(s, t) := \begin{cases} \frac{s-t}{\log s - \log t}; & s \neq t, \\ t; & s = t. \end{cases}$$

From Theorem 2.8 we have

$$a \leq \mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_3) \leq b, \quad s, t \in (0, \infty),$$

and therefore we get means.

**Example 3.4.** Assume  $(H_1)$ - $(H_3)$  with  $J = (0, \infty)$ , and consider the linear functionals  $\Upsilon^i$  defined in Remark 1.9.

We consider the class of convex functions

$$\Lambda_4 = \{\gamma_t : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty) \mid t \in (0, \infty)\},$$

where

$$\gamma_t(x) := \frac{e^{-x\sqrt{t}}}{t}.$$

$t \mapsto \psi_t''(x) = e^{-x\sqrt{t}}$ ,  $t \in (0, \infty)$  is exponentially convex for every fixed  $x \in (0, \infty)$ , being the restriction of the Laplace transform of a non-negative function (see [5] or [9] page 214).

Now fix  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ . As before  $t \mapsto \Upsilon^i(\psi_t)$  ( $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ) is exponentially convex and differentiable. For the class  $\Lambda_4$ , (13) becomes

$$\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_4) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\Upsilon^i(\gamma_s)}{\Upsilon^i(\gamma_t)}\right)^{\frac{1}{s-t}}; & s \neq t, \\ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{t} - \frac{\Upsilon^i(id\gamma_t)}{2\sqrt{t}\Upsilon^i(\gamma_t)}\right); & s = t, \end{cases}$$

where  $id$  means the identity function on  $(0, \infty)$ . The monotonicity of  $\mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_4)$  ( $s, t \in (0, \infty)$ ) is followed by (12).

Suppose  $\Upsilon^i(\eta_t) > 0$  ( $t \in (0, \infty)$ ), let  $a := \min\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $b := \max\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , and define

$$\mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_4) := -(\sqrt{s} + \sqrt{t}) \log \mathbf{u}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_4), \quad s, t \in (0, \infty).$$

Then Theorem 2.8 yields that

$$a \leq \mathfrak{M}_{s,t}(\Upsilon^i, \Lambda_4) \leq b,$$

thus we have new means.

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