

# Convexity of Generators of $L^p$ -like Paranorms

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Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a measure space with at least two disjoint sets of finite and positive measure, and  $S_+ = S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  denote the set of all  $\mu$ -integrable simple functions  $\mathbf{x} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  having support  $\Omega(\mathbf{x})$  of positive measure. Then, for an arbitrary bijection  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ , the functional  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi : S_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  given by  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x}) := \varphi^{-1}(\int_{\Omega(\mathbf{x})} \varphi \circ \mathbf{x} d\mu)$  is well defined. The results presented support the conjecture that subadditivity of  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  implies the convexity of  $\varphi$ . The case of superadditivity of  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  is also discussed.

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## 1. Introduction

To describe the investigation, denote by  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  an arbitrary measure space, by  $S(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  the set of all  $\mu$ -integrable simple functions  $\mathbf{x} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and put

$$S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu) := \{\mathbf{x} \in S(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu) : \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}.$$

For an arbitrary bijection  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ , the functional

$$\mathbf{P}_\varphi : S(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu) \rightarrow [0, \infty), \quad \mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{cases} \varphi^{-1}\left(\int_{\Omega(\mathbf{x})} \varphi \circ |\mathbf{x}| d\mu\right) & \text{if } \mu(\Omega(\mathbf{x})) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \mu(\Omega(\mathbf{x})) = 0 \end{cases},$$

where  $\Omega(\mathbf{x}) := \{\omega \in \Omega : \mathbf{x}(\omega) \neq 0\}$  is the support of  $\mathbf{x} \in S(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , is well-defined.

If a bijection  $\varphi$  generating  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  is a power function such that  $\varphi(t) = \varphi(1)t^p$  for some  $p \geq 1$ , then  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$ , being the  $L_p$ -norm, satisfies the Minkowski triangle inequality, in particular it is subadditive in  $S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ :

$$\mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \leq \mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu), \quad (1)$$

and  $\varphi$  is convex.

Under rather weak regularity condition on  $\varphi$  (which can be omitted if the range of measure is enough rich), inequality (1) implies that  $\varphi$  is increasing (see Remark 1 and accompanying conjecture). Therefore, for the convenience, in this paper we can assume that  $\varphi$  is an increasing homeomorphism of  $(0, \infty)$ .

Recall the following converse of the Minkowski inequality: if  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a measure space such that for some  $A, B \in \Sigma$  we have

$$0 < \mu(A) < 1 < \mu(B) < \infty,$$

then (1) holds if and only if  $\varphi$  is a power function and  $\varphi(t) = \varphi(1)t^p$  for some  $p \geq 1$ ; so, if and only if  $P_\varphi$  is the  $L^p$ -norm [4]. If the measure space is such that, for every  $A \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\mu(A) \neq 0 \implies \mu(A) \geq 1$$

(for instance, when  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  a counting measure space), then inequality (1) is satisfied, if  $\varphi$  is convex (with respect to arithmetic mean) and geometrically convex, i.e. convex with respect to geometric mean, which means that

$$\varphi(\sqrt{st}) \leq \sqrt{\varphi(s)\varphi(t)}, \quad s, t > 0,$$

(see Mulholland [11], and [6]). In the remaining possible case, if  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is such that, for every  $A \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\mu(A) \neq \infty \implies \mu(A) \leq 1,$$

inequality (1) holds, if the two-variable function

$$(0, \infty)^2 \ni (s, t) \longmapsto \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t))$$

is concave, which implies the convexity of  $\varphi$  (see [4]).

In the present paper, assuming that  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a measure space with at least two disjoint sets of finite and positive measure (referred in the sequel nontrivial), we prove that if  $\varphi$  satisfies inequality (1) that is sharp for all not proportional functions, and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = \infty,$$

then  $\varphi$  is convex (Theorem 1). Moreover, without any additional conditions on  $\varphi$ , if in the measure space there are two disjoint sets  $A, B \in \Sigma$  such that

$$\min(\mu(A), \mu(B)) \leq 1 \leq \mu(A) + \mu(B),$$

then  $\varphi$  is convex (Theorem 2). In the proof a method of Gauss-type invariant means is applied.

Both results strongly support our conjecture: if  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a nontrivial measure space, then subadditivity of  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  implies the convexity of  $\varphi$ .

The respective implication that superadditivity of  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  implies the concavity of  $\varphi$  is easier for research and it is discussed in Section 3.

## 2. Results and proofs

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a measure space with at least two disjoint sets of finite and positive measure. Assume that an increasing bijection  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  satisfies inequality (1). If inequality (1) is sharp for all not proportional functions  $x, y \in S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = \infty,$$

then  $\varphi$  is convex.

**Proof.** By the assumption there are two disjoint  $\Sigma$ -measurable sets  $A, B \in \Sigma$  of finite and positive measure. Setting

$$\mathbf{x} = x_1\chi_A + x_2\chi_B, \quad \mathbf{y} = y_1\chi_A + y_2\chi_B$$

in (1), where  $\chi_A$  stands for the characteristic function of  $A$ , we get, for all positive real  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 > 0$ ,

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2 + y_2)) \leq \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) + \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(y_1) + b\varphi(y_2)).$$

where  $a = \mu(A)$ ,  $b = \mu(B)$ . Since  $\varphi(0+) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \varphi(t) = 0$ , putting  $\varphi(0) := 0$ , we hence get

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2 + y_2)) \leq \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) + \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(y_1) + b\varphi(y_2)) \quad (2)$$

for all  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 \geq 0$ . Setting here

$$x_2 = y_1 = 0, \quad x_1 = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{a}\right), \quad y_2 = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{t}{b}\right),$$

we get

$$\varphi^{-1}(s + t) \leq \varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t), \quad s, t \geq 0.$$

Since  $\varphi$  is strictly increasing, it follows that  $\varphi$  is superadditive i.e. that

$$\varphi(s + t) \geq \varphi(s) + \varphi(t), \quad s, t \geq 0.$$

Note that if  $s, t > 0$  then the functions  $\mathbf{x} = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{a}\right)\chi_A$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{t}{b}\right)\chi_B$  are not proportional, and in consequence, so are the vectors  $(x_1, x_2) = (\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{a}\right), 0)$  and  $(y_1, y_2) = (0, \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{t}{b}\right))$ , and the above inequality is sharp, that is  $\varphi$  is strictly superadditive:

$$\varphi(s + t) > \varphi(s) + \varphi(t), \quad s, t > 0.$$

Setting  $y_2 = 0$  in (2) we have, for all  $x_1, y_1, x_2 \geq 0$ ,

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) \leq \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) + \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(y_1)). \quad (3)$$

Take arbitrary  $s, t > 0$ ,  $s < t$ . By the strict monotonicity of  $\varphi$ ,

$$\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) - \varphi^{-1}(s) > 0,$$

so

$$y := \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{a}\varphi\left(\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) - \varphi^{-1}(s)\right)\right) > 0,$$

is a well defined positive number. Note that

$$\varphi(y) < \frac{t-s}{2a}. \quad (4)$$

Indeed, by the definition of  $y$  and the strict superadditivity of  $\varphi$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(y) &= \frac{1}{a}\varphi\left(\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) - \varphi^{-1}(s)\right) \\ &< \frac{1}{a}\left[\varphi\left(\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right)\right) - \varphi\left(\varphi^{-1}(s)\right)\right] = \frac{1}{a}\left(\frac{s+t}{2} - s\right) = \frac{t-s}{2a}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that there exists  $x > 0$  such that

$$\varphi(x+y) - \varphi(x) > \frac{t-s}{2a}. \quad (5)$$

Indeed, in the opposite case we would have

$$\varphi(x+y) \leq \varphi(x) + \frac{t-s}{2a},$$

and hence, for every  $x > 0$ ,

$$\varphi(x+2y) = \varphi((x+y)+y) \leq \varphi(x+y) + \frac{t-s}{2a} \leq \varphi(x) + 2\frac{t-s}{2a},$$

and, by the induction,

$$\varphi(x+ny) \leq \varphi(x) + n\frac{t-s}{2a}, \quad x > 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N},$$

whence 
$$\frac{\varphi(x+ny)}{x+ny} \leq \frac{\varphi(x)}{x+ny} + \frac{n}{x+ny} \frac{t-s}{2a}, \quad x > 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

By the superadditivity of  $\varphi$  (see the respective result for subadditive functions [2], p. 248, Theorem 7.8.3), we have

$$\kappa := \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = \sup \left\{ \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} : x > 0 \right\}.$$

Hence, letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the previous inequality, we get

$$\frac{\varphi(x+ny)}{x+ny} \leq \frac{\varphi(x)}{x+ny} + \frac{n}{x+ny} \frac{t-s}{2a}, \quad x > 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N},$$

that is  $\kappa \leq \frac{t-s}{2ay}$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $\limsup_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} = \infty$ . Consequently, inequality (5) holds true as desired.

Since  $\varphi(0)=0$ , the continuity of  $\varphi$  and inequalities (4) and (5) imply that there is  $x_1$ ,

$$0 < x_1 < y \quad (6)$$

such that

$$\varphi(x_1+y) - \varphi(x_1) = \frac{t-s}{2a}.$$

Note that

$$x_2 := \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{b} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} - a\varphi(x_1) \right) \right)$$

is well defined, as, by the definition of  $x_1$ , (6), and the monotonicity of  $\varphi$ , we have

$$\frac{s+t}{2} - a\varphi(x_1) \geq \frac{s+t}{2} - a\varphi(y) = \frac{s+t}{2} - \varphi \left( \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right) - \varphi^{-1}(s) \right) > 0.$$

Putting  $y_1 := y$ , and taking into account the above definitions of  $x_1, x_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& a\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2) \\
&= a[\varphi(x_1 + y_1) - \varphi(x_1)] + [a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)] \\
&= a\left[\frac{t-s}{2a}\right] + \left[a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi\left(\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{b}\left(\frac{s+t}{2} - a\varphi(x_1)\right)\right)\right)\right] \\
&= \frac{t-s}{2} + \frac{s+t}{2} = t,
\end{aligned}$$

and 
$$a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2) = \frac{s+t}{2}.$$

Therefore, setting the numbers  $x_1, x_2, y_1$  into inequality (3), we obtain

$$\varphi^{-1}(t) \leq \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) + \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) - \varphi^{-1}(s),$$

that is 
$$\varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s+t}{2}\right) \geq \frac{\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t)}{2},$$

which shows that  $\varphi^{-1}$  is Jensen concave. Since  $\varphi$  is increasing, it follows that it is continuous and convex. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  an arbitrary measure space with two disjoint sets  $A, B \in \Sigma$  such that*

$$0 < \min(\mu(A), \mu(B)) \leq 1 \leq \mu(A) + \mu(B).$$

*If  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  is an increasing bijection satisfying inequality (1), then  $\varphi$  is convex.*

**Proof.** Assume first that

$$\min(\mu(A), \mu(B)) < 1 < \mu(A) + \mu(B).$$

By the converse Minkowski inequality [4] (see also [5]), there is  $p \geq 1$  such that  $\varphi(t) = \varphi(1)t^p$  for all  $t > 0$ . Consequently,  $\varphi$  is convex.

To simplify the notations in two remaining cases

$$\min(\mu(A), \mu(B)) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mu(A) + \mu(B) = 1,$$

we put 
$$a := \mu(A) \quad \text{and} \quad b := \mu(B)$$

and note that, similarly as in the previous proof, inequality (1) implies (2).

Consider the case  $\min(a, b) = 1$ .

Without any loss of generality, we can assume  $a = 1$ . Setting  $a = 1$  and  $y_2 = 0$  in (2), we have

$$\varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) \leq \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) + y_1, \quad x_1, x_2, y_1 > 0. \quad (7)$$

Take arbitrary fixed  $s, t > 0$ ,  $s < t$ . The numbers

$$x_1 = \varphi^{-1}(s), \quad x_2 = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{t-s}{2b}\right)$$

are positive and, by the assumed monotonicity of  $\varphi$ , so is the number

$$y_1 = \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right) - \varphi^{-1}(s).$$

Setting them into inequality (7), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi^{-1} \left( \varphi \left( \varphi^{-1}(s) + \left( \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right) - \varphi^{-1}(s) \right) \right) + b \varphi \left( \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{t-s}{2b} \right) \right) \right) \\ & \leq \varphi^{-1} \left( \varphi \left( \varphi^{-1}(s) \right) + b \varphi \left( \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{t-s}{2b} \right) \right) \right) + \varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right) - \varphi^{-1}(s) \end{aligned}$$

which simplifies to

$$\varphi^{-1}(t) + \varphi^{-1}(s) \leq 2\varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right)$$

and shows that  $\varphi^{-1}$  is Jensen concave in  $(0, \infty)$ . Since  $\varphi$  is increasing, it follows that  $\varphi$  is Jensen convex. The continuity of  $\varphi$  implies its convexity (see, for instance, Kuczma [3]).

Now assume that  $a + b = 1$ .

Take arbitrary  $s, t > 0$ . Setting  $x_1 = y_2 = \varphi^{-1}(s)$ ,  $x_2 = y_1 = \varphi^{-1}(t)$  in the inequality (2), and taking into account that  $b = 1 - a$ , we get

$$\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t) \leq \varphi^{-1}(as + (1-a)t) + \varphi^{-1}((1-a)s + at)$$

(that is  $\varphi^{-1}$  is  $a$ -Wright convex). Putting

$$M(s, t) = as + (1-a)t, \quad N(s, t) = (1-a)s + at, \quad s, t > 0,$$

we can write this inequality as follows:

$$\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t) \leq \varphi^{-1}(M(s, t)) + \varphi^{-1}(N(s, t)), \quad s, t > 0. \quad (8)$$

Note that  $M$  and  $N$  are strict continuous means, and that the arithmetic mean  $A(s, t) = \frac{s+t}{2}$  is Gauss-invariant with respect to the mean-type mapping  $(M, N)$ , i.e. that  $A \circ (M, N) = A$ . It follows that (see [10], also [1]) the sequence  $(M_n, N_n) := (M, N)^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , of iterates of  $(M, N)$  converges (uniformly on compact subsets) to the mean-type mapping  $(A, A)$ , that is

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M_n(s, t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N_n(s, t) = \frac{s+t}{2}, \quad s, t > 0.$$

From (8), by induction, we have

$$\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t) \leq \varphi^{-1}(M_n(s, t)) + \varphi^{-1}(N_n(s, t)), \quad s, t > 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Hence, by the continuity of  $\varphi^{-1}$ , letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t) \leq 2\varphi^{-1} \left( \frac{s+t}{2} \right), \quad s, t > 0,$$

which shows that  $\varphi^{-1}$  is Jensen concave. Consequently, similarly as in the preceding case,  $\varphi$  is convex. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 imply that an increasing bijection  $\varphi$  of  $(0, \infty)$  satisfying inequality (1) can be not convex only if

$$\min(a, b) > 1 \quad \text{or} \quad a + b < 1$$

and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} \text{ is finite.}$$

**Example 2.3.** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be such that for every  $A \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\mu(A) \neq \infty \implies \mu(A) \leq 1.$$

If  $\varphi(t) = \frac{t^2}{t+1}$  or  $\varphi(t) = t \exp(-\frac{1}{t})$ , then the two variable function

$$(0, \infty)^2 \ni (s, t) \mapsto \varphi(\varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t))$$

is concave, so  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  is subadditive in  $S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ . In both cases  $\varphi$  we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = 1,$$

and  $\varphi$  is a convex increasing bijection of  $(0, \infty)$ . □

Since we doubt the existence of an example of a nonconvex increasing bijection  $\varphi$  of  $(0, \infty)$  satisfying (1) for a nontrivial measure space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , and such that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r}$  is finite, the following is our:

**Conjecture 2.4.** *If  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a nontrivial measure space and  $\varphi$  is a bijection of  $(0, \infty)$  satisfying (1), then  $\varphi$  is convex.*

The following remarks support admitting in this conjecture all bijections.

**Remark 2.5.** The assumption in Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 that the bijection  $\varphi$  is increasing can be replaced by each of the following conditions:

- (i)  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \varphi^{-1}(t) = 0$ ;
- (ii) ([9], Theorem 6) there is a set  $C \subset (0, \infty)$  such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \varphi^{-1}|_C(t) = 0$$

and the density of  $C$  at the point 0 with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $\lambda$ , defined by

$$\lambda_C(0) := \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0+} \frac{\lambda(C \cap (0, h])}{h},$$

is positive;

- (iii) [7] there exist  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n > 1$ , and  $A, B \in \Sigma$  such that

$$A \cap B = \emptyset, \quad \mu(A) = \frac{1}{n}, \quad \mu(B) = n;$$

- (iv) [7] there exist  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \neq m$ ,  $n > 1$ , and  $A, B, C \in \Sigma$  such that

$$A \cap B = \emptyset, \quad \mu(A) = \frac{m}{n}, \quad \mu(B) = \frac{n}{m}, \quad \mu(C) = n. \quad \square$$

**Remark 2.6.** Let  $\varphi$  be an arbitrary monotonic bijection of  $(0, \infty)$ , and  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a measure space with at least two disjoint sets  $A, B \in \Sigma$  of a positive and finite measure  $a = \mu(A)$  and  $b = \mu(B)$ . If  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$  satisfies (1), then  $\varphi$  is increasing.  $\square$

Indeed, setting the functions  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ ,

$$\mathbf{x} = x_1 \chi_A + x_2 \chi_B, \quad \mathbf{y} = y_1 \chi_A + y_2 \chi_B$$

into (1), we get the inequality (2) for all  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 > 0$ . If  $\varphi$  were decreasing, letting  $y_2 \rightarrow 0$ , by the continuity of  $\varphi$ , we would get

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1 + y_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) \leq \varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(x_1) + b\varphi(x_2)), \quad x_1, x_2, y_1 > 0,$$

which, letting  $x_1 \rightarrow 0$ , would give

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\varphi(y_1) + b\varphi(x_2)) \leq 0, \quad x_2, y_1 > 0,$$

which is a contradiction.

### 3. Superadditivity of $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$

Research of the class of all bijections  $\varphi$  satisfying the converse inequality (1) is much simpler, because we have the following (see [8]).

**Remark 3.1.** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a measure space with at least two disjoint sets of finite and positive measure, and  $\varphi$  be an arbitrary bijection of  $(0, \infty)$ . If

$$\mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \geq \mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{P}_\varphi(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu), \quad (9)$$

than  $\varphi$  is increasing.  $\square$

**Proof.** Let  $A, B \in \Sigma$  such that  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  and  $a = \mu(A)$ ,  $b = \mu(B)$  are finite and positive. For arbitrary  $s, t > 0$ , the functions

$$\mathbf{x} := \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \chi_A, \quad \mathbf{y} := \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{t}{b}\right) \chi_B$$

belong to  $S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ . Setting them into (9), by the definition of  $\mathbf{P}_\varphi$ , we get

$$\varphi^{-1}(s + t) \geq \varphi^{-1}(s) + \varphi^{-1}(t), \quad s, t > 0,$$

so  $\varphi^{-1}$  is superadditive. Since  $\varphi^{-1}$  is positive, it follows that it is increasing. It follows that  $\varphi$  is increasing.  $\square$

Using this remark, and arguing similarly as in the proofs of Theorems 1 and Theorem 2, we obtain two results and formulate a conjecture.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a measure space with at least two disjoint sets of finite and positive measure. Assume that a bijection  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  satisfies inequality (9). If (9) is sharp for all not proportional functions  $x, y \in S_+(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$

and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(r)}{r} = \infty,$$

then  $\varphi$  is concave.



**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  an arbitrary measure space with two disjoint sets  $A, B \in \Sigma$  such that*

$$0 < \min(\mu(A), \mu(B)) \leq 1 \leq \mu(A) + \mu(B).$$

*If  $\varphi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  is an arbitrary bijection satisfying inequality (9), then  $\varphi$  is concave.*

**Conjecture 3.4.** *If  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a nontrivial measure space and  $\varphi$  is a bijection of  $(0, \infty)$  satisfying (9), then  $\varphi$  is concave.*

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