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A CHARACTERIZATION OF MONOTONE AND
REGULAR DIVERGENCES

by

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AMS 1980 Subjects Classifications: 62F10, 62B10, 62A99



Mathematics Preprint Series No. 213

July 1996

A characterization of monotone and regular divergences

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Abstract

In this paper we characterize monotone and regular divergences, which include f-divergences as a particular case, by giving their Taylor expansion up to fourth order. We extend a previous result obtained by Čencov, using the invariant properties of Amari's α -connections.

AMS 1980 subjects classifications: 62F10, 62B10, 62A99.

Keywords and phrases: differential geometry, divergence, embedding invariance, Markov embedding, string, α -connection.



1 Introduction

The necessity of measuring how different two populations are appears in many statistical problems. A wide class of indices or divergences has been used with such a finality (for a comprehensive exposition see Burbea (1983)). We are not able to give an universal rule for the choice of a divergence in each practical case. Anyway, we can investigate the general properties that an index of discrepancy should possess in order to describe a meaningful dissimilarity between populations. For instance, suppose to assemble the individuals of two finite populations in classes A_1, \dots, A_m . Let $D(P_1, P_2)$ be a convenient function of the proportions $P_i = (P_i(A_1), \dots, P_i(A_m))$, $i = 1, 2$, of individuals belonging to the different groups in the two populations. We can now decide to join several classes, obtaining B_1, \dots, B_l , $l < m$. If $\tilde{P}_i = (P_i(B_1), \dots, P_i(B_l))$, it is natural to demand that $D(\tilde{P}_1, \tilde{P}_2) \leq D(P_1, P_2)$, since the new classification brings less information than the previous one. It is also necessary to ask that the introduction of new artificial classes does not cause any change in the divergence. Formally, if $Q_i = (q_{11}P_i(A_1), \dots, q_{1r_1}P_i(A_1), \dots, q_{m1}P_i(A_m), \dots, q_{mr_m}P_i(A_m))$, $i = 1, 2$, where $\sum_{k=1}^{r_j} q_{jk} = 1$, $j = 1, \dots, m$, then $D(P_1, P_2) = D(Q_1, Q_2)$.

Divergences satisfying these two properties have already been studied by Čencov (1972). He gives their Taylor expansion up to second order, by means of the invariance of the Fisher metric. In this paper we extend Čencov's result to fourth order, using the invariance properties of the α -connections. Following Campbell (1986), we do not use the language of the categories.

An additional property allows us to extend a divergence to the case of when the individuals are classified in an infinite number of groups. This property expresses a sort of continuity of the divergence, when we let the number of classes tend to infinity.

2 Some basic definitions

In this section, we introduce operators representing an index of discrepancy between probability measures defined on the same measurable space.

In the sequel, we indicate with (χ, a) a measurable space. $a_\alpha \subseteq a$ is a finite sub σ -field of a and P_α is the restriction of P , defined on (χ, a) , to a_α .

Definition 2.1 A divergence $D(P, Q)$ is a real-valued function whose arguments are two probability measures defined on the same measurable space.

Definition 2.2 Let (χ_1, a_1) and (χ_2, a_2) be two measurable spaces. We say that $K : \chi_1 \times a_2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a Markov kernel, $K \in \text{Stoch}\{(\chi_1, a_1), (\chi_2, a_2)\}$, if it satisfies the following properties:

1. $\forall A_2 \in a_2, K(\cdot, A_2)$ is a measurable map;
2. $\forall x_1 \in \chi_1, K(x_1, \cdot)$ is a probability on (χ_2, a_2) ;

If P is a probability measure on (χ_1, a_1) , then K induces a probability measure on (χ_2, a_2) , KP , defined by

$$KP(A_2) = \int_{\chi_1} K(x, A_2)P(dx), \quad \forall A_2 \in a_2.$$

Let $D(\cdot, \cdot)$ be a divergence and (χ_1, a_1) and (χ_2, a_2) be two measurable spaces.

Definition 2.3 $D(P, Q)$ is said to be monotone with respect to Markov kernels if

$$(2.1) \quad -\infty < D(KP, KQ) \leq D(P, Q) \leq +\infty,$$

for every P, Q probability measures on (χ_1, a_1) , and for every Markov kernel $K \in \text{Stoch}\{(\chi_1, a_1), (\chi_2, a_2)\}$.

As observed in the introduction, (2.1) is a natural property to require, since a transformation through a Markov kernel will, in general, cause a loss of information that is well explained by a decreasing of the divergence.

Monotonicity of a divergence function implies its invariance under a particular class of Markov kernels. Let \mathcal{P} be a family of probabilities on (χ_1, a_1) .

Definition 2.4 $K \in \text{Stoch}\{(\chi_1, a_1), (\chi_2, a_2)\}$ is said to be Blackwell sufficient (*B-sufficient*) with respect to \mathcal{P} if there exists $N \in \text{Stoch}\{(\chi_2, a_2), (\chi_1, a_1)\}$ such that $N(KP) = P, \forall P \in \mathcal{P}$. We say that K is B-sufficient if \mathcal{P} is the family of all probability measures on (χ_1, a_1) .

Proposition 2.1 If D is a monotone function with respect to Markov kernels, then, for every B-sufficient K ,

$$(2.2) \quad D(P, Q) = D(KP, KQ), \quad \forall P, Q.$$

Proof:

$$D(P, Q) = D(N(KP), N(KQ)) \leq D(KP, KQ),$$

that, together with the monotonicity, gives (2.2). ■

This is also natural since a B-sufficient Markov kernel does not cause any loss of information.

Corollary 2.1 The value of $D(P, P)$ is independent of P and it is a minimum value of the function D :

$$D(P, P) = D_0 \leq D(Q, R), \quad \forall P, Q, R.$$

Proof: Given a probability measure P , it always exists a Markov kernel K , taking every probability measure on P : $K(x, \cdot) = P(\cdot), \forall x \in \chi$. Then,

$$D(Q, R) \geq D(KQ, KR) = D(P, P), \quad \forall Q, R,$$

proving that $D(P, P)$ is a minimum value for D . Now, for every probability measure P' , K is B-sufficient with respect to the family $\mathcal{P} = \{P, P'\}$, since $N(x, \cdot) = P'(\cdot), \forall x \in \chi$, transforms P in P' . By (2.2),

$$D(P, P) = D(P', P') = D_0, \quad \forall P, P'.$$
■

Definition 2.5 $D(P, Q)$ is said to be regular if

$$(2.3) \quad D(P, Q) = \lim_{\alpha} D(P_{\alpha}, Q_{\alpha}),$$

for every P and Q probability measures on (χ, a) , where the limit is taken over the filter of all finite sub σ -fields a_{α} of a , that is, over any increasing sequence $\{a_n\}$ such that $\sigma(\bigcup_n a_n) = a$.

Remark. Since the restriction of a probability measure to a sub σ -field is a particular case of Markov kernel, for monotone divergences the limit in (2.3) is a supremum.

The regularity condition enables us to extend to the general case a divergence originally defined on probability measures over finite σ -fields.

3 The multinomial case

In the present section we consider equivalent probability measures defined on the measurable space (χ, a_m) , where a_m is a finite sub σ -field of a generated by the m atoms A_1, \dots, A_m . Every probability measure P on (χ, a) induces a probability measure on (χ, a_m) , defined by m values, x_1, \dots, x_m , with $x_i = P(A_i) > 0$ and $\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$. Thus, every P corresponds to a point of the simplex

$$S_{m-1} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^m : \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1, x_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, m \right\}.$$

S_{m-1} can be regarded as a surface in the differentiable manifold \mathbb{R}^m .

There is a tangent space M_x , with base $\left\{ X_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, i = 1, \dots, m \right\}$, associated to every point $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$. If $x \in S_{m-1}$, the derivative of a function $h(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ along a curve $x_i = \psi_i(t)$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, tangent to S_{m-1} , takes the form $\sum_{i=1}^m \psi'_i(t) \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_i}$. Since $\sum_{i=1}^m \psi_i(t) = 1$, then $\sum_{i=1}^m \psi'_i(t) = 0$ and every vector X tangent to the simplex S_{m-1} can be represented as $X = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i X_i$, with $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i = 0$.

For $n \geq m$, let B_1, \dots, B_n be a partition of χ such that $A_i = \bigcup_{j \in I_i} B_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, where I_1, \dots, I_m is a partition of $\{1, \dots, n\}$. For any probability measure P on (χ, a) , let $x_i = P(A_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, and $y_j = P(B_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, n$. Thus

$$(3.1) \quad x_i = \sum_{j \in I_i} y_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

Conversely, define

$$q_{ij} = P(B_j|A_i) = \begin{cases} \frac{y_j}{x_i} & \text{if } j \in I_i, \\ 0 & \text{if } j \notin I_i. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$(3.2) \quad y_j = \sum_{i=1}^m q_{ij} x_i, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Note that $(q_{ij})_{ij}$ is a stochastic matrix, that is: $q_{ij} \geq 0$, $\forall i, j$; $\sum_{j=1}^n q_{ij} = 1$, $\forall i$; and $q_{rj} q_{sj} = 0$ if $r \neq s$, $\forall j$. (3.2) defines a Markov kernel $f : S_{m-1} \rightarrow S_{n-1}$ and (3.1) an inverse of f , so that f is B-sufficient with respect to the family of all probability measures on (χ, a_m) . In fact, it is easy to prove that any B-sufficient Markov kernel with respect to the family of all probability measures on (χ, a_m) , can be written in the form (3.2). We call f a *Markov embedding*.

The jacobian map associated to f , $f^* : M_x \rightarrow M_y$, is defined by

$$(3.3) \quad f^* X_i = \sum_{j=1}^n q_{ij} Y_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

3.1 Embedding invariant structures

In the present section we consider geometrical structures defined on the simplex, that are invariant with respect to Markov embeddings. We characterize invariant Riemannian metrics and affine connections, showing that, up to constant factors, they coincide respectively with the Fisher metric and the α -connections.

3.1.1 Invariant Riemannian metrics

Definition 3.1 *If*

$$(3.4) \quad \langle U, V \rangle_m(x) = \langle f^* U, f^* V \rangle_n(y), \quad \forall U, V \in M_x,$$

where $x \in S_{m-1}$ and $y = f(x) \in S_{n-1}$, we say that f is an isometry and that $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is invariant under f . $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is said to be embedding invariant if it is invariant under every Markov embedding.

The following result was first given by Čencov (1972). Anyway, we refer the reader to Campbell (1986) for an easier proof.

Theorem 3.1 *The only embedding invariant Riemannian metrics are of the form*

$$(3.5) \quad \langle X_i, X_j \rangle_m(x) = A \frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i},$$

where $A > 0$ and δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta.

Remark. (The Fisher metric) Theorem 3.1 states the unicity, up to a multiplicative constant, of embedding invariant metrics. Let $u_i = X_i - X_m$, $i = 1, \dots, m-1$. Then

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle u_i, u_j \rangle_m(x) &= \langle X_i - X_m, X_j - X_m \rangle_m(x) \\ &= A \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} - \frac{\delta_{im}}{x_i} - \frac{\delta_{mj}}{x_j} + \frac{1}{x_m} \right) = A \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} + \frac{1}{x_m} \right), \end{aligned}$$

that is the same, up to a constant factor, that the Fisher metric in the multinomial case, see Amari (1985, p. 31).

3.1.2 Invariant affine connections

A similar characterization can be given for embedding invariant affine connections. For this purpose, even though the tangent space M_x has dimension $m-1$, it will be better for us to work with an overdefined system of m vectors, v_1, \dots, v_m , such that:

1. $\{v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_{m-1}}\}$ is a base of M_x , $\forall \{i_1, \dots, i_{m-1}\} \subset \{1, \dots, m\}$;
2. $\sum_{i=1}^m v_i = 0$.

We choose $v_i = X_i - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m X_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, where $X_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$, $i = 1, \dots, m$ is the usual base of M_x in \mathbb{R}^m . Notice that $v_i \in M_x$, $x \in S_{m-1}$, $\forall i = 1, \dots, m$, since $v_i = \sum_{j=1}^m a_j X_j$, with $a_j = \delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{m}$, and $\sum_{j=1}^m a_j = 0$. We suppose the tangent space is equipped with an embedding invariant Riemannian metric.

We will describe an affine connection on S_{m-1} through the coefficients γ_{ij}^k obtained by evaluating it on the vectors v_1, \dots, v_m :

$$(3.7) \quad \nabla_{v_i} v_j = \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{ij}^k v_k, \quad \forall i, j = 1, \dots, m.$$

Since $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is not a base of M_x , γ_{ij}^k 's are not Christoffel symbols for the connection ∇ and, moreover, they are not uniquely determined. We choose the γ_{ij}^k 's satisfying the following condition:

$$(3.8) \quad \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{ij}^k = 0, \quad \forall i, j = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Condition (3.8) guarantees that expression (3.7) is a good definition for ∇ . To see this, let

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \gamma'_{ij}{}^k v_k = \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{ij}^k v_k,$$

that is

$$\sum_{k=1}^m (\gamma'_{ij}{}^k - \gamma_{ij}^k) v_k = 0.$$

Since

$$0 = \sum_{k=1}^m a_k v_k = \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (a_k - a_m) v_k \Rightarrow a_k = a_m, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m-1,$$

then

$$\gamma'_{ij}{}^k - \gamma_{ij}^k = \gamma'_{ij}{}^m - \gamma_{ij}^m, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

By (3.8),

$$\sum_{k=1}^m (\gamma'_{ij}{}^k - \gamma_{ij}^k) = m(\gamma'_{ij}{}^m - \gamma_{ij}^m) = 0,$$

that is $\gamma'_{ij}{}^m = \gamma_{ij}{}^m$ and

$$\gamma'_{ij}{}^k = \gamma_{ij}{}^k, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

From the $\gamma_{ij}{}^k$'s, $i, j, k = 1, \dots, m-1$, we can easily obtain Christoffel symbols $\Gamma_{ij}{}^k$ for ∇ , with respect to the base v_1, \dots, v_{m-1} :

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{v_i} v_j &= \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{ij}{}^k v_k = \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (\gamma_{ij}{}^k - \gamma_{ij}{}^m) v_k = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (\gamma_{ij}{}^k + \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} \gamma_{ij}{}^l) v_k = \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \Gamma_{ij}{}^k v_k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$(3.9) \quad \Gamma_{ij}{}^k = \gamma_{ij}{}^k + \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} \gamma_{ij}{}^l, \quad i, j, k = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Let $\overset{m}{\nabla}$, $\overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k$ and $\overset{m}{\Gamma}_{ij}{}^k$ denote respectively the affine connection ∇ on S_{m-1} , its coefficients in (3.7) and the corresponding Christoffel symbols in (3.9). We will omit the superscript m when not necessary.

If f is a Markov embedding between S_{m-1} and S_{n-1} , $m < n$, then $\overset{m}{\nabla}$ induces through f an affine connection on $f(S_{m-1})$, an $(m-1)$ -dimensional submanifold of S_{n-1} , defined by

$$f^* \left(\overset{m}{\nabla}_U V(x) \right), \quad \forall U, V \in M_x,$$

where $f^* : M_x \rightarrow M_y$ is the jacobian function corresponding to f . Moreover, as a submanifold of the Riemannian manifold S_{n-1} , $f(S_{m-1})$ naturally inherits the affine connection of S_{n-1} :

$$\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*U} f^*V(y), \quad \forall U, V \in M_x,$$

where $\overset{n}{\nabla}$ is the orthogonal projection of $\overset{n}{\nabla}$ on the tangent space to $f(S_{m-1})$. We can thus give the following definition of invariance:

Definition 3.2 *An affine connection ∇ is said to be embedding invariant if the affine connection induced by $\overset{m}{\nabla}$ on $f(S_{m-1})$ through f coincides with that induced*

on $f(S_{m-1})$ by $\overset{n}{\nabla}$, that is

$$(3.10) \quad f^* \left(\overset{m}{\nabla}_U V(x) \right) = \overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*U} f^*V(y),$$

for every Markov embedding f .

Next theorem gives a characterization of the affine connections defined on the probability simplex, that are invariant under Markov embeddings. Following Campbell's characterization of invariant metrics, we give a proof that does not use Čencov's language of categories.

Theorem 3.2 *The only affine connections that are embedding invariant are of the form*

$$\gamma_{ij}^k(x) = I \left(x_k - \frac{\delta_{ik} + \delta_{jk}}{2} \right) + G \frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} (x_k - \delta_{ik}),$$

where I and G are constants and δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta.

Proof: Condition (3.10) of invariance for ∇ can be written in terms of the vectors v_1, \dots, v_m of M_x as

$$(3.11) \quad f^* \left(\overset{m}{\nabla}_{v_i} v_j(x) \right) = \overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*v_i} f^*v_j(y), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, m.$$

Consider first the case of $m = n$. In this situation, $f(S_{m-1}) = S_{n-1}$ and $\overset{n}{\nabla}$ coincides with $\overset{n}{\nabla}$. If f interchanges x_r and x_s , then f^* interchanges X_r and X_s , and thus v_r and v_s . Let $x_1 = \dots = x_m$, that is $x = \left(\frac{1}{m}, \dots, \frac{1}{m} \right)$; then $f(x) = x$.

If $i = j$, by (3.11) we obtain:

$$f^* (\nabla_{v_i} v_i(x)) = f^* (\gamma_{ii}^k(x) v_k) = \gamma_{ii}^k(x) f^* v_k = \nabla_{f^*v_i} f^* v_i(x).$$

It follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{rr}^r(x) &= \gamma_{ss}^s(x), \\ \gamma_{ii}^r(x) &= \gamma_{ii}^s(x), \quad i \notin \{r, s\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\gamma_{rr}^i(x) = \gamma_{ss}^i(x), \quad i \notin \{r, s\}.$$

Since r and s may be chosen arbitrarily, we may write

$$\gamma_{ii}^i(x) = F_m$$

and

$$\gamma_{ii}^k(x) = G_m, \quad i \neq k.$$

If $i \neq j$,

$$f^*(\nabla_{v_i} v_j(x)) = f^*(\gamma_{ij}^k(x) v_k) = \gamma_{ij}^k(x) f^* v_k = \nabla_{f^* v_i} f^* v_j(x).$$

It follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{rs}^k(x) &= \gamma_{sr}^k(x), \\ \gamma_{kr}^s(x) &= \gamma_{ks}^r(x), \\ \gamma_{sk}^r(x) &= \gamma_{rk}^s(x), \\ \gamma_{ij}^r(x) &= \gamma_{ij}^s(x), \end{aligned}$$

where $k, i, j \notin \{r, s\}$, which imply

$$\gamma_{ij}^k(x) = I_m, \quad i \neq j \neq k.$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{ir}^i(x) &= \gamma_{is}^i(x), \\ \gamma_{ri}^r(x) &= \gamma_{si}^s(x), \\ \gamma_{ir}^r(x) &= \gamma_{is}^s(x), \\ \gamma_{ri}^i(x) &= \gamma_{si}^i(x), \end{aligned}$$

where $i \notin \{r, s\}$, together with the symmetry condition

$$\gamma_{ij}^k = \gamma_{ji}^k,$$

imply

$$\gamma_{ij}^k(x) = H_m, \quad k \in \{i, j\}.$$

Thus, for $x = \left(\frac{1}{m}, \dots, \frac{1}{m}\right)$,

$$\gamma_{ij}^m{}^k(x) = \begin{cases} F_m & i = j = k \\ G_m & i = j \neq k \\ H_m & i \neq j, \quad k \in \{i, j\} \\ I_m & i \neq j, \quad k \notin \{i, j\}. \end{cases}$$

Next, let $n = hm$, where h is an integer bigger than one. If f_h is the Markov embedding defined by $y = f_h(x) = \left(\frac{x_1}{h}, \dots, \frac{x_1}{h}, \dots, \frac{x_m}{h}, \dots, \frac{x_m}{h}\right)$, each component being repeated h times, then $f^*X_i = \frac{1}{h}(Y_{(i-1)h+1} + \dots + Y_{ih})$ and $f^*v_i = \frac{1}{h}(u_{(i-1)h+1} + \dots + u_{ih}) = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r$, where $u_i = Y_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n Y_j$ and $R_i = \{(i-1)h+1, \dots, ih\}$, $i = 1, \dots, m$.

For $i = j$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f^*\left(\frac{m}{\nabla_{v_i}} v_i(x)\right) &= f^*\left(\gamma_{ii}^m{}^k(x) v_k\right) = \gamma_{ii}^m{}^k(x) f^*v_k = \frac{1}{h} \gamma_{ii}^m{}^k(x) \sum_{r \in R_k} u_r \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left(\gamma_{ii}^m{}^i(x) \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + \sum_{k \neq i} \gamma_{ii}^m{}^k(x) \sum_{r \in R_k} u_r \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left(F_m \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + G_m \sum_{r \notin R_i} u_r \right), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{\nabla_{f^*v_i}} f^*v_i(y) &= \\ &= \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{r,s \in R_i} \frac{n}{\nabla_{u_r}} u_s(y) = \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{r,s \in R_i} \gamma_{rs}^n{}^k(y) u_k \\ &= \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{r \in R_i} \gamma_{rr}^n{}^k(y) u_k + \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{\substack{s \in R_i \\ s \neq r}} \gamma_{rs}^n{}^k(y) u_k \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{r \in R_i} \gamma_{rr}^n{}^r(y) u_r + \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{k \neq r} \gamma_{rr}^n{}^k(y) u_k + \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{\substack{s \in R_i \\ s \neq r}} \sum_{\substack{k \neq r, s}} \gamma_{rs}^n{}^k(y) u_k \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{\substack{s \in R_i \\ s \neq r}} \left(\gamma_{rs}^n{}^r(y) u_r + \gamma_{rs}^n{}^s(y) u_s \right) \Bigg] \\
& = \frac{1}{h^2} \left[F_n \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + h G_n \sum_{r \notin R_i} u_r + (h-1) G_n \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r \right. \\
& \quad \left. + h(h-1) I_n \sum_{r \notin R_i} u_r + (h-1)(h-2) I_n \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + 2(h-1) H_n \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*v_i} f^*v_i(y)$ belongs to the tangent space to $f(S_{m-1})$ in y , we do not need to project it to find $\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*v_i} f^*v_i(y)$, that is, $\overset{n}{\nabla} = \overset{n}{\nabla}$.

Condition (3.11) implies:

$$(3.12) \quad G_m = G_n + (h-1)I_n$$

and

$$(3.13) \quad F_m = \frac{F_n}{h} + \frac{h-1}{h} G_n + \frac{(h-1)(h-2)}{h} I_n + 2 \frac{h-1}{h} H_n.$$

For $i \neq j$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
f^* \left(\overset{m}{\nabla}_{v_i} v_j(x) \right) & = f^* \left(\overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k(x) v_k \right) = \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k(x) f^* v_k = \frac{1}{h} \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k(x) \sum_{r \in R_k} u_r \\
& = \frac{1}{h} \left(\sum_{k \notin \{i,j\}} \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k(x) \sum_{r \in R_k} u_r + \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^i(x) \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^j(x) \sum_{r \in R_j} u_r \right) \\
& = \frac{1}{h} \left(I_m \sum_{r \notin R_i \cup R_j} u_r + H_m \sum_{r \in R_i \cup R_j} u_r \right),
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*v_i} f^*v_j(y) & = \\
& = \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{s \in R_j} \overset{n}{\nabla}_{u_r} u_s(y) = \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{s \in R_j} \gamma_{rs}^n{}^k(y) u_k \\
& = \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{s \in R_j} \sum_{k \neq r,s} \gamma_{rs}^n{}^k(y) u_k + \sum_{r \in R_i} \sum_{s \in R_j} \left(\gamma_{rs}^n{}^r(y) u_r + \gamma_{rs}^n{}^s(y) u_s \right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$



$$= \frac{1}{h^2} \left[h^2 I_n \sum_{r \notin R_i \cup R_j} u_r + h(h-1) I_n \sum_{r \in R_i \cup R_j} u_r + h H_n \sum_{r \in R_i \cup R_j} u_r \right].$$

$\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^*v_i} f^*v_j(y)$ still belongs to the tangent space to $f(S_{m-1})$ in y and $\overset{n}{\nabla}$ coincides with $\overset{n}{\nabla}$.

By (3.11),

$$(3.14) \quad I_m = h I_n$$

and

$$(3.15) \quad H_m = H_n + (h-1) I_n.$$

Now, by (3.14), $m I_m = n I_n = I$, that is

$$I_m = \frac{I}{m}.$$

By (3.15), $H_m - I_m = H_n - I_n = H$, so

$$H_m = H + \frac{I}{m}.$$

A similar expression holds, by (3.12), for G :

$$G_m = G + \frac{I}{m}.$$

Finally, (3.13) implies that $\frac{1}{m}(F_m - G - 2H - I_m) = \frac{1}{n}(F_n - G - 2H - I_n) = F$, that is

$$F_m = mF + \frac{I}{m} + G + 2H.$$

We can then write, for $x = \left(\frac{1}{m}, \dots, \frac{1}{m}\right)$,

$$\overset{m}{\gamma}_{ij}{}^k(x) = \begin{cases} mF + I/m + G + 2H & i = j = k \\ G + I/m & i = j \neq k \\ H + I/m & i \neq j, \quad k \in \{i, j\} \\ I/m & i \neq j, \quad k \notin \{i, j\}. \end{cases}$$

Let now $x = \left(\frac{r_1}{n}, \dots, \frac{r_m}{n}\right)$, where $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i = n$, and all r_i are positive integers. Define

$$q_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r_i} & \text{if } j \in R_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $R_i = \{r_1 + \dots + r_{i-1} + 1, \dots, r_1 + \dots + r_i\}$, $i = 1, \dots, m$. The corresponding Markov embedding f maps x to $y = \left(\frac{1}{n}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}\right)$. Moreover

$$f^* X_i = \frac{1}{r_i} (Y_{r_1+\dots+r_{i-1}+1} + \dots + Y_{r_1+\dots+r_i})$$

and thus

$$f^* v_i = \frac{1}{r_i} (u_{r_1+\dots+r_{i-1}+1} + \dots + u_{r_1+\dots+r_i}) = \frac{1}{r_i} \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r.$$

For $i = j$, we have

$$f^* \left(\overset{n}{\nabla}_{v_i} v_i(x) \right) = \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ii}^k(x) f^* v_k = \frac{1}{r_k} \overset{m}{\gamma}_{ii}^k(x) \sum_{r \in R_k} u_r,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^* v_i} f^* v_i(y) &= \frac{1}{r_i^2} \sum_{r, s \in R_i} \overset{n}{\nabla}_{u_r} u_s(y) = \frac{1}{r_i^2} \sum_{r, s \in R_i} \overset{n}{\gamma}_{rs}^k(y) u_k \\ &= \frac{1}{r_i^2} \left[\sum_{r \in R_i} \overset{n}{\gamma}_{rr}^k(y) u_k + \sum_{\substack{r, s \in R_i \\ s \neq r}} \overset{n}{\gamma}_{rs}^k(y) u_k \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{r_i^2} \left[\left(nF + \frac{I}{n} + G + 2H \right) \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + r_i \left(G + \frac{I}{n} \right) \sum_{r \notin R_i} u_r \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (r_i - 1) \left(G + \frac{I}{n} \right) \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + r_i(r_i - 1) \frac{I}{n} \sum_{r \notin R_i} u_r \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (r_i - 1)(r_i - 2) \frac{I}{n} \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r + 2(r_i - 1) \left(H + \frac{I}{n} \right) \sum_{r \in R_i} u_r \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\overset{n}{\nabla}_{f^* v_i} f^* v_j(y)$ belongs to the tangent space to $f(S_{m-1})$ in y , $\overset{n}{\nabla} = \overset{n}{\nabla}$.

Invariance condition (3.11) gives:

$${}^m\gamma_{ii}{}^i(x) = \frac{1}{r_i} \left[nF + r_i G + 2r_i H + \frac{I}{n} \right] = \frac{F}{x_i} + G + 2H + Ix_i$$

and

$${}^m\gamma_{ii}{}^k(x) = \frac{r_k}{r_i} G + \frac{r_k}{n} I = G \frac{x_k}{x_i} + Ix_k, \quad k \neq i.$$

For $x = \left(\frac{r_1}{n}, \dots, \frac{r_m}{n} \right)$, we have:

$${}^m\gamma_{ij}{}^k(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{F}{x_i} + Ix_i + G + 2H & i = j = k \\ G \frac{x_k}{x_i} + Ix_k & i = j \neq k \\ H + Ix_k & i \neq j, \quad k \in \{i, j\} \\ Ix_k & i \neq j, \quad k \notin \{i, j\}. \end{cases}$$

Finally, any $x \in S_{m-1}$ can be approximated arbitrarily well by an x of the form $\left(\frac{r_1}{n}, \dots, \frac{r_m}{n} \right)$. Since the ${}^m\gamma_{ij}{}^k$'s are C^∞ functions, then

$$(3.16) \quad {}^m\gamma_{ij}{}^k(x) = Ix_k + H(\delta_{ik} + \delta_{jk}) + \delta_{ij} \left[G \frac{x_k}{x_i} + F \frac{\delta_{ik}}{x_i} \right], \quad \forall x \in S_{m-1}.$$

We can now impose condition (3.8) on the coefficients ${}^m\gamma_{ij}{}^k$'s. If $i \neq j$, we obtain $H = -\frac{I}{2}$; for $i = j$, we have $F = -G$. Substituting these conditions in (3.16) gives the result. ■

Remark. (α -connections) By (3.9), we can obtain the Christoffel symbols of any embedding invariant connection on the simplex S_{m-1} , with respect to the base $\{v_1, \dots, v_{m-1}\}$:

$$(3.17) \quad {}^m\Gamma_{ij}{}^k(x) = I \left(x_k - x_m - \frac{\delta_{ik} + \delta_{jk}}{2} \right) + G \frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} (x_k - x_m - \delta_{ik}).$$

Let us now show that the affine connections characterized by (3.17) are in fact, up to a constant factor, Amari's α -connections.

Let $u_i = v_i - v_m = X_i - X_m$, $i = 1, \dots, m-1$. Then $v_m = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} u_i$. Using the repeated index convention and avoiding the superindex m ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla_{u_i} u_j &= \nabla_{v_i - v_m} (v_j - v_m) \\
 &= \nabla_{v_i} v_j - \nabla_{v_i} v_m - \nabla_{v_m} v_j + \nabla_{v_m} v_m \\
 &= \gamma_{ij}^k v_k - \gamma_{im}^k v_k - \gamma_{jm}^k v_k + \gamma_{mm}^k v_k \\
 &= (\gamma_{ij}^k - \gamma_{im}^k - \gamma_{jm}^k + \gamma_{mm}^k) \left(u_k - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} u_i \right) \\
 &= \left(\gamma_{ij}^k - \gamma_{im}^k - \gamma_{jm}^k + \gamma_{mm}^k - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m (\gamma_{ij}^k - \gamma_{im}^k - \gamma_{jm}^k + \gamma_{mm}^k) \right) u_k,
 \end{aligned}$$

for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$. Now, by (3.8) and since

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{im}^k = I \sum_{k=1}^m \left(x_k - \frac{\delta_{ik} + \delta_{mk}}{2} \right) + G \frac{\delta_{im}}{x_i} \sum_{k=1}^m (x_k - \delta_{ik}) = 0$$

for $i = 1, \dots, m$, we have

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \gamma_{ij}^k - \gamma_{im}^k - \gamma_{jm}^k + \gamma_{mm}^k,$$

for $i, j, k = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$. That is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma_{ij}^k &= I \left(x_k - \frac{\delta_{ik} + \delta_{jk}}{2} - x_k + \frac{\delta_{ik} + \delta_{mk}}{2} - x_k + \frac{\delta_{jk} + \delta_{mk}}{2} + x_k - \frac{\delta_{mk} + \delta_{mk}}{2} \right) \\
 &\quad + G \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} (x_k - \delta_{ik}) - \frac{\delta_{im}}{x_i} (x_k - \delta_{ik}) - \frac{\delta_{jm}}{x_j} (x_k - \delta_{jk}) + \frac{1}{x_m} (x_k - \delta_{mk}) \right) \\
 &= G \left(x_k \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} + \frac{1}{x_m} \right) - \frac{\delta_{ij} \delta_{ik}}{x_i} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma_{ijk} &= \Gamma_{ij}^r g_{rk} = G \sum_{r=1}^{m-1} \left(x_r \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{x_i} + \frac{1}{x_m} \right) - \frac{\delta_{ij} \delta_{ir}}{x_i} \right) \left(\frac{\delta_{rk}}{x_r} + \frac{1}{x_m} \right) \\
 (3.18) \quad &= G \left(\frac{1}{x_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{x_i^2} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

that coincides, up to a constant factor, with the coefficient of the α -connections in the multinomial case, see Amari (1985, p. 43).

3.2 An expansion for D

To study the local behaviour of a divergence D , suppose it is weakly smooth, that is, at any point of S_{m-1} it admits an expression in local coordinates that is differentiable up to necessary order.

Theorem 3.3 *At each point P of S_{m-1} , any monotone divergence $D(P, Q)$, admits the expansion*

$$\begin{aligned} D(P, Q) = & D_0 + D_1 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^2}{P(A_i)} + D_2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^3}{P(A_i)^2} \\ & + D_3 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^4}{P(A_i)^3} + D_4 \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^2}{P(A_i)} \right)^2 \\ & + o(\|Q - P\|^4), \end{aligned}$$

where D_0, D_1, D_2, D_3, D_4 are constants, $D_1 > 0$.

Proof: Consider in S_{m-1} the system of local coordinates that to each $P \in S_{m-1}$ associates a vector $p = (p_1, \dots, p_{m-1})$, where $p_i = P(A_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, m$. Then $D(P, Q) = d(p, q)$ is the expression of D in local coordinates. In a neighborhood of p , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} d(p, q) = & d(p, p) + d_{;i}(p, p)(q_i - p_i) + \frac{1}{2}d_{;ij}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j) \\ & + \frac{1}{6}d_{;ijk}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k) \\ & + \frac{1}{24}d_{;ijkh}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k)(q_h - p_h) + o(\|q - p\|^4), \end{aligned}$$

where $d_{;i}$ are the partial derivatives of d with respect to the two arguments. For any divergence we have that:

$$d(p, p) = d_0,$$

$$d_{;i}(p, p) = 0$$

and

$$d_{;ij}(p, p) \geq 0,$$

since d takes minimum value in the diagonal. Moreover, by Proposition 2.1, monotonicity of D implies its invariance; then, if it does not vanish, that is the only interesting case, $d_{;ij}(p, p)$ defines an inner product on \mathbb{R}^{m-1} which is embedding invariant. We take $d_{;ij}(p, p)$ as the metric tensor and denote by $d^{;ij}$ the inverse matrix of $d_{;ij}$. By (3.6), we obtain

$$(3.19) \quad d_{;ij}(p, p) = A \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{p_i} + \frac{1}{p_m} \right), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, m-1, \quad A > 0.$$

Thus,

$$(3.20) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j=1}^{m-1} d_{;ij}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j) &= \\ &= A \sum_{i,j=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{\delta_{ij}}{p_i} + \frac{1}{p_m} \right) (q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j) \\ &= A \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i} + \sum_{i,j=1}^{m-1} \frac{(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)}{p_m} \right) \\ &= A \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i} + \frac{(q_m - p_m)^2}{p_m} \right) \\ &= A \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i}, \end{aligned}$$

since $q_m - p_m = - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (q_i - p_i)$.

As regards the third order term, by differentiating (3.19), we obtain that

$$(3.21) \quad d_{;ijk}(p, p) + d_{k;ij}(p, p) = A \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right).$$

On the other hand, $d_{k;ij}(p, p)$ behaves as the Christoffel symbols of an affine connection, see Amari (1985, p. 98). Since D is an invariant divergence, the affine connection is embedding invariant and by (3.18) we can write

$$d_{k;ij}(p, p) = H \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right), \quad i, j, k = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

By (3.21),

$$(3.22) \quad d_{;ijk}(p, p) = (A - H) \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right) = B \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right).$$

Thus,

$$(3.23) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{m-1} d_{;ijk}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k) &= \\ &= B \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right) (q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k) \\ &= -B \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^3}{p_i^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us now study the fourth order term. By differentiating (3.22), we obtain

$$(3.24) \quad d_{;ijkh}(p, p) + d_{h;ijk}(p, p) = B \left(\frac{\delta_{ijkh}}{p_i^3} + \frac{1}{p_m^3} \right).$$

Since $d_{;ijk}^t(p, p) = d^{ht} d_{h;ijk}(p, p)$, behaves as the components of a connection string (see Blaesild (1988)), we can write

$$d_{;ijk}^t e_t = \nabla_i \nabla_j e_k,$$

for some covariant derivative ∇ and any vector e . Moreover, by the invariance of D , ∇ must be embedding invariant, that is, the corresponding Christoffel symbols are of the form

$$\Gamma_{ijk} = G \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{p_i^2} \right).$$

In order to calculate $d_{;ijk}^t$, we will need the following expressions:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_i g_{st} &= A \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ist}}{p_i^2} \right), \\ \partial_i \Gamma_{jkr} &= 2G \left(\frac{1}{p_m^3} + \frac{\delta_{ijkr}}{p_i^3} \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
d^{rs} &= A^{-1}(\delta_{rs}p_r - p_r p_s), \\
\sum_{r,s=1}^{m-1} d^{rs} &= A^{-1}p_m(1 - p_m), \\
\sum_{r,s=1}^{m-1} d^{rs}\delta_{jkr} &= A^{-1}\delta_{jk}p_j p_m, \\
\sum_{r,s=1}^{m-1} d^{rs}\delta_{jkr}\delta_{ist} &= A^{-1}(\delta_{ijkt}p_i - \delta_{jk}\delta_{it}p_i p_j).
\end{aligned}$$

We thus have

$$\begin{aligned}
d_{ijk}^t e_t &= \nabla_i \nabla_j e_k = \nabla_i (\Gamma_{jk}^s e_s) = \partial_i (\Gamma_{jk}^s) e_s + \Gamma_{jk}^s \nabla_i e_s \\
&= (\partial_i \Gamma_{jk}^t + \Gamma_{jk}^s \Gamma_{is}^t) e_t.
\end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_i \Gamma_{jk}^t + \Gamma_{jk}^s \Gamma_{is}^t &= \\
&= -d^{rs} d^{ht} \partial_i d_{,sh} \Gamma_{jkr} + d^{rs} d^{ht} \Gamma_{jkr} \Gamma_{ish} + d^{ht} \partial_i \Gamma_{jkh} \\
&= d^{ht} [d^{rs} \Gamma_{jkr} (-\partial_i d_{,sh} + \Gamma_{ish}) + \partial_i \Gamma_{jkh}] \\
&= d^{ht} \left[d^{rs} G(G - A) \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{ish}}{p_i^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p_m^2} - \frac{\delta_{jkr}}{p_j^2} \right) + 2G \left(\frac{1}{p_m^3} + \frac{\delta_{ijkh}}{p_i^3} \right) \right] \\
&= d^{ht} \left[C \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{ih}}{p_i} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{jk}}{p_j} \right) + F \left(\frac{1}{p_m^3} + \frac{\delta_{ijkh}}{p_i^3} \right) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$d_{h;ijk} = C \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{jk}}{p_j} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{ih}}{p_i} \right) + F \left(\frac{1}{p_m^3} + \frac{\delta_{ijkh}}{p_i^3} \right).$$

Finally, we substitute the preceding expression in (3.24), obtaining

$$(3.25) \quad d_{ijkh}(p, p) = C \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{jk}}{p_j} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{ih}}{p_i} \right) + D \left(\frac{1}{p_m^3} + \frac{\delta_{ijkh}}{p_i^3} \right).$$

Thus,

$$(3.26) \quad \sum_{i,j,k,h=1}^{m-1} d_{ijkh}(p, p)(q_i - p_i)(q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k)(q_h - p_h) =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= C \left[\sum_{j,k=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{jk}}{p_j} \right) (q_j - p_j)(q_k - p_k) \sum_{i,h=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{1}{p_m} + \frac{\delta_{ih}}{p_i} \right) (q_i - p_i)(q_h - p_h) \right] \\
&\quad + D \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^4}{p_i^3} \\
&= C \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i} \right)^2 + D \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^4}{p_i^3}
\end{aligned}$$

By (3.20), (3.23) and (3.26), we can finally write

$$\begin{aligned}
d(p; q) &= d_0 + d_1 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i} + d_2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^3}{p_i^2} + d_3 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^4}{p_i^3} \\
&\quad + d_4 \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(q_i - p_i)^2}{p_i} \right)^2 + o(\|q - p\|^4),
\end{aligned}$$

$d_1 > 0$, that, written in terms of D , gives the result. ■

4 The general case

In the preceding section, we obtained a local expression for monotone divergences defined on multinomial distributions. Using the regularity condition, we are able to extend this expansion to the general case. We need the following result:

Theorem 4.1 *Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a convex function. For any P and Q , equivalent probability measures on (χ, a) , there exists a non negative integral*

$$\int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ}{dP}(x) \right) P(dx) = \lim_{\alpha} \sum_i f \left(\frac{Q(A_i)}{P(A_i)} \right) P(A_i),$$

where the limit is taken over the filter of all finite sub σ -fields a_{α} of a .

Proof: Since

$$\sum_i f \left(\frac{Q(A_i)}{P(A_i)} \right) P(A_i) = \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ_{\alpha}}{dP_{\alpha}}(x) \right) P_{\alpha}(dx),$$

the thesis can be written in the form

$$\lim_{\alpha} \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ_{\alpha}}{dP_{\alpha}}(x) \right) P_{\alpha}(dx) = \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ}{dP}(x) \right) P(dx).$$

It is sufficient to prove it for any increasing sequence $\{a_n\}$ of finite sub σ -field of a , such that $\sigma(\bigcup_n a_n) = a$. Since f -divergences are monotone, see Heyer (1982, Theorem 22.9, p.169), and by the remark following Definition 2.5, we obtain:

$$\lim_n \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ_n}{dP_n}(x) \right) P_n(dx) \leq \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ}{dP}(x) \right) P(dx).$$

We show now that the reverse inequality also holds. Since

$$\int_{\chi} \frac{dQ}{dP}(x) P(dx) = 1 < \infty,$$

we can apply a well known theorem of convergence of martingales, thus obtaining

$$\frac{dQ_n}{dP_n} = E \left(\frac{dQ}{dP} \middle| a_n \right) \xrightarrow{a.s.} E \left(\frac{dQ}{dP} \middle| a \right) = \frac{dQ}{dP}.$$

Since f is a continuous function, the convergence still holds:

$$f \left(\frac{dQ_n}{dP_n} \right) \xrightarrow{a.s.} f \left(\frac{dQ}{dP} \right).$$

By the Fatou lemma,

$$\int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ}{dP}(x) \right) P(dx) \leq \lim_n \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ_n}{dP_n}(x) \right) P(dx) = \lim_n \int_{\chi} f \left(\frac{dQ_n}{dP_n}(x) \right) P_n(dx),$$

and the thesis is proved. ■

Remark. The preceding theorem can be easily extended to the case of f being any linear combination of non negative convex functions.

We can now prove the main result of the present section:

Theorem 4.2 *If*

$$\int_{\chi} \left| \frac{Q(dx) - P(dx)}{P(dx)} \right|^4 P(dx) < \infty,$$

then, at each point P , any monotone and regular divergence $D(P, Q)$, admits the expansion

$$(4.1) \quad D(P, Q) = D_0 + D_1 \int_{\chi} \frac{[Q(dx) - P(dx)]^2}{P(dx)} + D_2 \int_{\chi} \frac{[Q(dx) - P(dx)]^3}{P(dx)^2} \\ + D_3 \int_{\chi} \frac{[Q(dx) - P(dx)]^4}{P(dx)^3} + D_4 \left(\int_{\chi} \frac{[Q(dx) - P(dx)]^2}{P(dx)} \right)^2 \\ + o(\|Q - P\|^4),$$

where D_0, D_1, D_2, D_3, D_4 are constants, $D_1 > 0$.

Proof: By Theorem 3.3, it holds:

$$D(P_{\alpha}, Q_{\alpha}) = D_0 + D_1 \sum_i \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^2}{P(A_i)} + D_2 \sum_i \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^3}{P(A_i)^2} \\ + D_3 \sum_i \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^4}{P(A_i)^3} + D_4 \left(\sum_i \frac{[Q(A_i) - P(A_i)]^2}{P(A_i)} \right)^2 \\ + o(\|Q_{\alpha} - P_{\alpha}\|^4),$$

for every P_{α} and Q_{α} , restrictions of P and Q to the finite dimensional sub σ -field a_{α} of a . We can now pass to the limit. The terms with coefficients D_1 and D_4 can be obtained by applying Theorem 4.1 with $f(x) = (x - 1)^2$. The same holds for the term with coefficient D_3 , with $f(x) = (x - 1)^4$. For the third order term we can use the remark following Theorem 4.1, since $f(x) = (x - 1)^3$ can be written as the difference of two non negative convex functions:

$$f(x) = f_1(x) - f_2(x),$$

where

$$f_1(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 1 \\ (x - 1)^3 & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_2(x) = \begin{cases} -(x - 1)^3 & x \leq 1 \\ 0 & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

The regularity of D guarantees the result. ■

4.1 The parametric case

Suppose now that P and Q belong to some regular parametric model, that is, P and Q are equivalent probability measures with densities $p(x; \theta)$ and $p(x; \theta')$, $\theta, \theta' \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^k$, with respect to some common dominating measure μ . By Theorem 4.2, we have that any monotone and regular divergence between P and Q can be expanded as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4.2) \quad D(P, Q) &= D(\theta, \theta') \\
 &= D_0 + D_1 \int \left(\frac{p(x; \theta') - p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} \right)^2 p(x; \theta) \mu(dx) \\
 &\quad + D_2 \int \left(\frac{p(x; \theta') - p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} \right)^3 p(x; \theta) \mu(dx) + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3).
 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x; \theta') &= p(x; \theta) + \partial_i p(x; \theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{ij} p(x; \theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) + o(|\theta' - \theta|^2),
 \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left(\frac{p(x; \theta') - p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} \right)^2 &= \\
 &= \left(\frac{\partial_i p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} (\theta'_i - \theta_i) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial_{ij} p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) \right)^2 + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3) \\
 &= \partial_i l(x; \theta) \partial_j l(x; \theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) \\
 &\quad + \partial_k l(x; \theta) [\partial_{ij} l(x; \theta) + \partial_i l(x; \theta) \partial_j l(x; \theta)] (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) (\theta'_k - \theta_k) \\
 &\quad + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3),
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left(\frac{p(x; \theta') - p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} \right)^3 = \left(\frac{\partial_i p(x; \theta)}{p(x; \theta)} (\theta'_i - \theta_i) \right)^3 + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3)$$

$$= \partial_i l(x; \theta) \partial_j l(x; \theta) \partial_k l(x; \theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) (\theta'_k - \theta_k) + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3).$$

By substituting in (4.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} D(\theta, \theta') &= D_0 + D_1 g_{ij}(\theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) \\ &\quad + D_1 \overset{m}{\Gamma}_{ijk}(\theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) (\theta'_k - \theta_k) \\ &\quad + D_2 T_{ijk}(\theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) (\theta'_k - \theta_k) + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3) \\ &= D_0 + D_1 \left[g_{ij}(\theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) + \overset{\alpha}{\Gamma}_{ijk}(\theta) (\theta'_i - \theta_i) (\theta'_j - \theta_j) (\theta'_k - \theta_k) \right] \\ &\quad + o(|\theta' - \theta|^3), \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha = -\frac{D_1 + 2D_2}{D_1}$ and $g_{ij}(\theta)$ and $\overset{\alpha}{\Gamma}_{ijk}(\theta)$ are respectively the Fisher metric and Amari's α -connections of the parametric model, see Amari (1985, pp. 26 and 39).

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