

## INEQUALITIES FOR QUANTUM $f$ -DIVERGENCE OF CONVEX FUNCTIONS AND MATRICES

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ABSTRACT. Some inequalities for quantum  $f$ -divergence of matrices are obtained. It is shown that for normalised convex functions it is nonnegative. Some upper bounds for quantum  $f$ -divergence in terms of variational and  $\chi^2$ -distance are provided. Applications for some classes of divergence measures such as Umegaki and Tsallis relative entropies are also given.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  be a measurable space satisfying  $|\mathcal{A}| > 2$  and  $\mu$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on  $(X, \mathcal{A})$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of all probability measures on  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  which are absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . For  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , let  $p = \frac{dP}{d\mu}$  and  $q = \frac{dQ}{d\mu}$  denote the *Radon-Nikodym* derivatives of  $P$  and  $Q$  with respect to  $\mu$ .

Two probability measures  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$  are said to be *orthogonal* and we denote this by  $Q \perp P$  if

$$P(\{q = 0\}) = Q(\{p = 0\}) = 1.$$

Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a convex function that is continuous at 0, i.e.,  $f(0) = \lim_{u \downarrow 0} f(u)$ .

In 1963, I. Csiszár [3] introduced the concept of  $f$ -divergence as follows.

**Definition 1.** Let  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then

$$(1.1) \quad I_f(Q, P) = \int_X p(x) f \left[ \frac{q(x)}{p(x)} \right] d\mu(x),$$

is called the  $f$ -divergence of the probability distributions  $Q$  and  $P$ .

**Remark 1.** Observe that, the integrand in the formula (1.1) is undefined when  $p(x) = 0$ . The way to overcome this problem is to postulate for  $f$  as above that

$$(1.2) \quad 0f \left[ \frac{q(x)}{0} \right] = q(x) \lim_{u \downarrow 0} \left[ uf \left( \frac{1}{u} \right) \right], \quad x \in X.$$

We now give some examples of  $f$ -divergences that are well-known and often used in the literature (see also [2]).

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**1.1. The Class of  $\chi^\alpha$ -Divergences.** The  $f$ -divergences of this class, which is generated by the function  $\chi^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in [1, \infty)$ , defined by

$$\chi^\alpha(u) = |u - 1|^\alpha, \quad u \in [0, \infty)$$

have the form

$$(1.3) \quad I_f(Q, P) = \int_X p \left| \frac{q}{p} - 1 \right|^\alpha d\mu = \int_X p^{1-\alpha} |q - p|^\alpha d\mu.$$

From this class only the parameter  $\alpha = 1$  provides a distance in the topological sense, namely the *total variation distance*  $V(Q, P) = \int_X |q - p| d\mu$ . The most prominent special case of this class is, however, *Karl Pearson's  $\chi^2$ -divergence*

$$\chi^2(Q, P) = \int_X \frac{q^2}{p} d\mu - 1$$

that is obtained for  $\alpha = 2$ .

**1.2. Dichotomy Class.** From this class, generated by the function  $f_\alpha : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f_\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} u - 1 - \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 0; \\ \frac{1}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} [\alpha u + 1 - \alpha - u^\alpha] & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}; \\ 1 - u + u \ln u & \text{for } \alpha = 1; \end{cases}$$

only the parameter  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$  ( $f_{\frac{1}{2}}(u) = 2(\sqrt{u} - 1)^2$ ) provides a distance, namely, the *Hellinger distance*

$$H(Q, P) = \left[ \int_X (\sqrt{q} - \sqrt{p})^2 d\mu \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Another important divergence is the *Kullback-Leibler divergence* obtained for  $\alpha = 1$ ,

$$KL(Q, P) = \int_X q \ln \left( \frac{q}{p} \right) d\mu.$$

**1.3. Matsushita's Divergences.** The elements of this class, which is generated by the function  $\varphi_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  given by

$$\varphi_\alpha(u) := |1 - u^\alpha|^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, \quad u \in [0, \infty),$$

are prototypes of metric divergences, providing the distances  $[I_{\varphi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^\alpha$ .

**1.4. Puri-Vincze Divergences.** This class is generated by the functions  $\Phi_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in [1, \infty)$  given by

$$\Phi_\alpha(u) := \frac{|1 - u|^\alpha}{(u + 1)^{\alpha-1}}, \quad u \in [0, \infty).$$

It has been shown in [19] that this class provides the distances  $[I_{\Phi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$ .

1.5. **Divergences of Arimoto-type.** This class is generated by the functions

$$\Psi_\alpha(u) := \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1} \left[ (1+u^\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - 2^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} (1+u) \right] & \text{for } \alpha \in (0, \infty) \setminus \{1\}; \\ (1+u) \ln 2 + u \ln u - (1+u) \ln(1+u) & \text{for } \alpha = 1; \\ \frac{1}{2} |1-u| & \text{for } \alpha = \infty. \end{cases}$$

It has been shown in [21] that this class provides the distances  $[I_{\Psi_\alpha}(Q, P)]^{\min(\alpha, \frac{1}{\alpha})}$  for  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$  and  $\frac{1}{2}V(Q, P)$  for  $\alpha = \infty$ .

For  $f$  continuous convex on  $[0, \infty)$  we obtain the *\*-conjugate* function of  $f$  by

$$f^*(u) = uf\left(\frac{1}{u}\right), \quad u \in (0, \infty)$$

and

$$f^*(0) = \lim_{u \downarrow 0} f^*(u).$$

It is also known that if  $f$  is continuous convex on  $[0, \infty)$  then so is  $f^*$ .

The following two theorems contain the most basic properties of  $f$ -divergences. For their proofs we refer the reader to Chapter 1 of [20] (see also [2]).

**Theorem 1** (Uniqueness and Symmetry Theorem). *Let  $f, f_1$  be continuous convex on  $[0, \infty)$ . We have*

$$I_{f_1}(Q, P) = I_f(Q, P),$$

for all  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$  if and only if there exists a constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$f_1(u) = f(u) + c(u-1),$$

for any  $u \in [0, \infty)$ .

**Theorem 2** (Range of Values Theorem). *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function on  $[0, \infty)$ .*

*For any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , we have the double inequality*

$$(1.4) \quad f(1) \leq I_f(Q, P) \leq f(0) + f^*(0).$$

(i) *If  $P = Q$ , then the equality holds in the first part of (1.4).*

*If  $f$  is strictly convex at 1, then the equality holds in the first part of (1.4) if and only if  $P = Q$ ;*

(ii) *If  $Q \perp P$ , then the equality holds in the second part of (1.4).*

*If  $f(0) + f^*(0) < \infty$ , then equality holds in the second part of (1.4) if and only if  $Q \perp P$ .*

The following result is a refinement of the second inequality in Theorem 2 (see [2, Theorem 3]).

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $f$  be a continuous convex function on  $[0, \infty)$  with  $f(1) = 0$  ( $f$  is normalised) and  $f(0) + f^*(0) < \infty$ . Then*

$$(1.5) \quad 0 \leq I_f(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f^*(0)] V(Q, P)$$

for any  $Q, P \in \mathcal{P}$ .

For other inequalities for  $f$ -divergence see [1], [5]-[15].

Motivated by the above results, in this paper we obtain some new inequalities for quantum  $f$ -divergence of matrices. It is shown that for normalised convex functions it is nonnegative. Some upper bounds for quantum  $f$ -divergence in terms of variational and  $\chi^2$ -distance are provided. Applications for some classes of divergence measures such as Umegaki and Tsallis relative entropies are also given.

## 2. QUANTUM $f$ -DIVERGENCE

Quasi-entropy was introduced by Petz in 1985, [22] as the quantum generalization of Csiszár's  $f$ -divergence in the setting of matrices or von Neumann algebras. The important special case was the relative entropy of Umegaki and Araki.

In what follows some inequalities for the quantum  $f$ -divergence of convex functions in the finite dimensional setting are provided.

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes the algebra of all  $n \times n$  matrices with complex entries and  $\mathcal{M}^+$  the subclass of all positive matrices.

On complex Hilbert space  $(\mathcal{M}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2)$ , where the *Hilbert-Schmidt inner product* is defined by

$$\langle U, V \rangle_2 := \text{tr}(V^*U), \quad U, V \in \mathcal{M},$$

for  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}^+$  consider the operators  $\mathfrak{L}_A : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathfrak{R}_B : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  defined by

$$\mathfrak{L}_A T := AT \text{ and } \mathfrak{R}_B T := TB.$$

We observe that they are well defined and since

$$\langle \mathfrak{L}_A T, T \rangle_2 = \langle AT, T \rangle_2 = \text{tr}(T^*AT) = \text{tr}(|T^*|^2 A) \geq 0$$

and

$$\langle \mathfrak{R}_B T, T \rangle_2 = \langle TB, T \rangle_2 = \text{tr}(T^*TB) = \text{tr}(|T|^2 B) \geq 0$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ , they are also positive in the operator order of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})$ , the Banach algebra of all bounded operators on  $\mathcal{M}$  with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_2$  where  $\|T\|_2 = \text{tr}(|T|^2)$ ,  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Since  $\text{tr}(|X^*|^2) = \text{tr}(|X|^2)$  for any  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ , then also

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(T^*AT) &= \text{tr}(T^*A^{1/2}A^{1/2}T) = \text{tr}\left(\left(A^{1/2}T\right)^* A^{1/2}T\right) \\ &= \text{tr}\left(|A^{1/2}T|^2\right) = \text{tr}\left(|\left(A^{1/2}T\right)^*|^2\right) = \text{tr}\left(|T^*A^{1/2}|^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

for  $A \geq 0$  and  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

We observe that  $\mathfrak{L}_A$  and  $\mathfrak{R}_B$  are commutative, therefore the product  $\mathfrak{L}_A \mathfrak{R}_B$  is a selfadjoint positive operator in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})$  for any positive matrices  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}^+$ .

For  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}^+$  with  $B$  invertible, we define the *Araki transform*  $\mathfrak{A}_{A,B} : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathfrak{A}_{A,B} := \mathfrak{L}_A \mathfrak{R}_{B^{-1}}$ . We observe that for  $T \in \mathcal{M}$  we have  $\mathfrak{A}_{A,B} T = ATB^{-1}$  and

$$\langle \mathfrak{A}_{A,B} T, T \rangle_2 = \langle ATB^{-1}, T \rangle_2 = \text{tr}(T^*ATB^{-1}).$$

Observe also, by the properties of trace, that

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{tr}(T^*ATB^{-1}) &= \operatorname{tr}\left(B^{-1/2}T^*A^{1/2}A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right) \\ &= \operatorname{tr}\left(\left(A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right)^* \left(A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right)\right) = \operatorname{tr}\left(\left|A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right|^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

giving that

$$(2.1) \quad \langle \mathfrak{A}_{A,B}T, T \rangle_2 = \operatorname{tr}\left(\left|A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right|^2\right) \geq 0$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

We observe that, by the definition of operator order and by (2.1) we have  $r1_{\mathcal{M}} \leq \mathfrak{A}_{A,B} \leq R1_{\mathcal{M}}$  for some  $R \geq r \geq 0$  if and only if

$$(2.2) \quad r \operatorname{tr}\left(|T|^2\right) \leq \operatorname{tr}\left(\left|A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right|^2\right) \leq R \operatorname{tr}\left(|T|^2\right)$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

We also notice that a sufficient condition for (2.2) to hold is that the following inequality in the operator order of  $\mathcal{M}$  is satisfied

$$(2.3) \quad r|T|^2 \leq \left|A^{1/2}TB^{-1/2}\right|^2 \leq R|T|^2$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{B}_2(H)$ .

Let  $U$  be a selfadjoint linear operator on a complex Hilbert space  $(K; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ . The *Gelfand map* establishes a  $*$ -isometrically isomorphism  $\Phi$  between the set  $C(\operatorname{Sp}(U))$  of all *continuous functions* defined on the *spectrum* of  $U$ , denoted  $\operatorname{Sp}(U)$ , and the  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(U)$  generated by  $U$  and the identity operator  $1_K$  on  $K$  as follows:

For any  $f, g \in C(\operatorname{Sp}(U))$  and any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  we have

- (i)  $\Phi(\alpha f + \beta g) = \alpha\Phi(f) + \beta\Phi(g)$ ;
- (ii)  $\Phi(fg) = \Phi(f)\Phi(g)$  and  $\Phi(\bar{f}) = \Phi(f)^*$ ;
- (iii)  $\|\Phi(f)\| = \|f\| := \sup_{t \in \operatorname{Sp}(U)} |f(t)|$ ;
- (iv)  $\Phi(f_0) = 1_K$  and  $\Phi(f_1) = U$ , where  $f_0(t) = 1$  and  $f_1(t) = t$ , for  $t \in \operatorname{Sp}(U)$ .

With this notation we define

$$f(U) := \Phi(f) \quad \text{for all } f \in C(\operatorname{Sp}(U))$$

and we call it the *continuous functional calculus* for a selfadjoint operator  $U$ .

If  $U$  is a selfadjoint operator and  $f$  is a real valued continuous function on  $\operatorname{Sp}(U)$ , then  $f(t) \geq 0$  for any  $t \in \operatorname{Sp}(U)$  implies that  $f(U) \geq 0$ , i.e.  $f(U)$  is a positive operator on  $K$ . Moreover, if both  $f$  and  $g$  are real valued functions on  $\operatorname{Sp}(U)$  then the following important property holds:

$$(P) \quad f(t) \geq g(t) \quad \text{for any } t \in \operatorname{Sp}(U) \quad \text{implies that } f(U) \geq g(U)$$

in the operator order of  $B(K)$ .

Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function. Utilising the continuous functional calculus for the Araki selfadjoint operator  $\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})$  we can define the *quantum  $f$ -divergence* for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M}) := \{P \in \mathcal{M}, P \geq 0 \text{ with } \operatorname{tr}(P) = 1\}$  and  $P$  invertible, by

$$S_f(Q, P) := \left\langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 = \operatorname{tr}\left(P^{1/2}f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})P^{1/2}\right).$$

If we consider the continuous convex function  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , with  $f(0) := 0$  and  $f(t) = t \ln t$  for  $t > 0$  then for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$  and  $Q, P$  invertible we have

$$S_f(Q, P) = \text{tr}[Q(\ln Q - \ln P)] =: U(Q, P),$$

which is the *Umegaki relative entropy*.

If we take the continuous convex function  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(t) = |t - 1|$  for  $t \geq 0$  then for  $Q, P \in S_1(H)$  with  $P$  invertible we have

$$S_f(Q, P) = \text{tr}(|Q - P|) =: V(Q, P),$$

where  $V(Q, P)$  is the *variational distance*.

If we take  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(t) = t^2 - 1$  for  $t \geq 0$  then for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$  with  $P$  invertible we have

$$S_f(Q, P) = \text{tr}(Q^2 P^{-1}) - 1 =: \chi^2(Q, P),$$

which is called the  $\chi^2$ -*distance*

Let  $q \in (0, 1)$  and define the convex function  $f_q : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $f_q(t) = \frac{1-t^q}{1-q}$ . Then

$$S_{f_q}(Q, P) = \frac{1 - \text{tr}(Q^q P^{1-q})}{1 - q},$$

which is *Tsallis relative entropy*.

If we consider the convex function  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $f(t) = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{t} - 1)^2$ , then

$$S_f(Q, P) = 1 - \text{tr}(Q^{1/2} P^{1/2}) =: h^2(Q, P),$$

which is known as *Hellinger discrimination*.

If we take  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(t) = -\ln t$  then for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$  and  $Q, P$  invertible we have

$$S_f(Q, P) = \text{tr}[P(\ln P - \ln Q)] = U(P, Q).$$

The reader can obtain other particular quantum  $f$ -divergence measures by utilizing the normalized convex functions from Introduction, namely the convex functions defining the dichotomy class, Matsushita's divergences, Puri-Vincze divergences or divergences of Arimoto-type. We omit the details.

In the important case of finite dimensional spaces and the generalized inverse  $P^{-1}$ , numerous properties of the quantum  $f$ -divergence, mostly in the case when  $f$  is *operator convex*, have been obtained in the recent papers [17], [18], [22]-[25] and the references therein.

In what follows we obtain several inequalities for the larger class of convex functions on an interval.

### 3. INEQUALITIES FOR $f$ CONVEX AND NORMALIZED

Suppose that  $I$  is an interval of real numbers with interior  $\overset{\circ}{I}$  and  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a convex function on  $I$ . Then  $f$  is continuous on  $\overset{\circ}{I}$  and has finite left and right derivatives at each point of  $\overset{\circ}{I}$ . Moreover, if  $x, y \in \overset{\circ}{I}$  and  $x < y$ , then  $f'_-(x) \leq f'_+(x) \leq f'_-(y) \leq f'_+(y)$ , which shows that both  $f'_-$  and  $f'_+$  are nondecreasing function on  $\overset{\circ}{I}$ . It is also known that a convex function must be differentiable except for at most countably many points.

For a convex function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the subdifferential of  $f$  denoted by  $\partial f$  is the set of all functions  $\varphi : I \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$  such that  $\varphi(\dot{I}) \subset \mathbb{R}$  and

$$(G) \quad f(x) \geq f(a) + (x-a)\varphi(a) \text{ for any } x, a \in I.$$

It is also well known that if  $f$  is convex on  $I$ , then  $\partial f$  is nonempty,  $f'_-, f'_+ \in \partial f$  and if  $\varphi \in \partial f$ , then

$$f'_-(x) \leq \varphi(x) \leq f'_+(x) \text{ for any } x \in \dot{I}.$$

In particular,  $\varphi$  is a nondecreasing function.

If  $f$  is differentiable and convex on  $\dot{I}$ , then  $\partial f = \{f'\}$ .

We are able now to state and prove the first result concerning the quantum  $f$ -divergence for the general case of convex functions.

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function that is normalized, i.e.  $f(1) = 0$ . Then for any  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, we have*

$$(3.1) \quad 0 \leq S_f(Q, P).$$

Moreover, if  $f$  is continuously differentiable, then also

$$(3.2) \quad S_f(Q, P) \leq S_{\ell f'}(Q, P) - S_{f'}(Q, P),$$

where the function  $\ell$  is defined as  $\ell(t) = t$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is convex and normalized, then by the gradient inequality (G) we have

$$f(t) \geq (t-1)f'_+(1)$$

for  $t > 0$ .

Applying the property (P) for the operator  $\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}$ , then we have for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 &\geq f'_+(1) \langle (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - 1_{\mathcal{B}_2(H)})T, T \rangle_2 \\ &= f'_+(1) [\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - \|T\|_2^2], \end{aligned}$$

which, in terms of trace, can be written as

$$(3.3) \quad \text{tr}(T^* f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T) \geq f'_+(1) \left[ \text{tr} \left( \left| Q^{1/2} T P^{-1/2} \right|^2 \right) - \text{tr}(|T|^2) \right]$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Now, if we take in (3.3)  $T = P^{1/2}$  where  $P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, then we get

$$S_f(Q, P) \geq f'_+(1) [\text{tr}(Q) - \text{tr}(P)] = 0$$

and the inequality (3.1) is proved.

Further, if  $f$  is continuously differentiable, then by the gradient inequality we also have

$$(t-1)f'(t) \geq f(t)$$

for  $t > 0$ .

Applying the property (P) for the operator  $\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}$ , then we have for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\langle (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - 1_{\mathcal{B}_2(H)}) f'(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 \geq \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2,$$

namely

$$\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} f'(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 - \langle f'(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 \geq \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2,$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ , or in terms of trace

$$(3.4) \quad \operatorname{tr}(T^* \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} f'(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) T) - \operatorname{tr}(T^* f'(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) T) \geq \operatorname{tr}(T^* f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) T),$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

If in (3.4) we take  $T = P^{1/2}$ , where  $P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, then we get the desired result (3.2).  $\square$

**Remark 2.** If we take in (3.2)  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(t) = -\ln t$  then for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$  and  $Q, P$  invertible we have

$$(3.5) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \chi^2(P, Q).$$

We need the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $S$  be a selfadjoint operator on the Hilbert space  $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  and with spectrum  $\operatorname{Sp}(S) \subseteq [\gamma, \Gamma]$  for some real numbers  $\gamma, \Gamma$ . If  $g : [\gamma, \Gamma] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a continuous function such that

$$(3.6) \quad |g(t) - \lambda| \leq \rho \text{ for any } t \in [\gamma, \Gamma]$$

for some complex number  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and positive number  $\rho$ , then

$$(3.7) \quad |\langle Sg(S)x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle \langle g(S)x, x \rangle| \leq \rho \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle \\ \leq \rho \left[ \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ .

*Proof.* We observe that

$$(3.8) \quad \langle Sg(S)x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle \langle g(S)x, x \rangle = \langle (S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)(g(S) - \lambda 1_H)x, x \rangle$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ .

For any selfadjoint operator  $B$  we have the modulus inequality

$$(3.9) \quad |\langle Bx, x \rangle| \leq \langle |B| x, x \rangle \text{ for any } x \in H, \|x\| = 1.$$

Also, utilizing the continuous functional calculus we have for each fixed  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$

$$|(S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)(g(S) - \lambda 1_H)| = |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| |g(S) - \lambda 1_H| \\ \leq \rho |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H|,$$

which implies that

$$(3.10) \quad \langle |(S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)(g(S) - \lambda 1_H)| x, x \rangle \leq \rho \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ .

Therefore, by taking the modulus in (3.8) and utilizing (3.9) and (3.10) we get

$$(3.11) \quad |\langle Sg(S)x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle \langle g(S)x, x \rangle| \\ = |\langle (S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)(g(S) - \lambda 1_H)x, x \rangle| \\ \leq \langle |(S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)(g(S) - \lambda 1_H)| x, x \rangle \\ \leq \rho \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ , which proves the first inequality in (3.7).



Using Schwarz inequality we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle &\leq \left\langle (S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H)^2 x, x \right\rangle^{1/2} \\ &= \left[ \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \right]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ , and the lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *With the assumption of Lemma 1, we have*

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma - \gamma) \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma - \gamma) \left[ \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \right]^{1/2} \leq \frac{1}{4} (\Gamma - \gamma)^2, \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ .

*Proof.* If we take in Lemma 1  $g(t) = t$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma + \gamma)$  and  $\rho = \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma - \gamma)$ , then we get

$$(3.13) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma - \gamma) \langle |S - \langle Sx, x \rangle 1_H| x, x \rangle \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma - \gamma) \left[ \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \right]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in H$ ,  $\|x\| = 1$ .

From the first and last terms in (3.13) we have

$$\left[ \langle S^2 x, x \rangle - \langle Sx, x \rangle^2 \right]^{1/2} \leq \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma - \gamma),$$

which proves the rest of (3.12).  $\square$

We can prove the following result that provides simpler upper bounds for the quantum  $f$ -divergence when the operators  $P$  and  $Q$  satisfy the condition (2.2).

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function that is normalized. If  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, and there exists  $R \geq 1 \geq r \geq 0$  such that*

$$(3.14) \quad r \operatorname{tr}(|T|^2) \leq \operatorname{tr} \left( \left| Q^{1/2} T P^{-1/2} \right|^2 \right) \leq R \operatorname{tr}(|T|^2)$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ , then

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq S_f(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] V(Q, P) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] \chi(Q, P) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)]. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Without losing the generality, we prove the inequality in the case that  $f$  is continuously differentiable on  $(0, \infty)$ .

Since  $f'$  is monotonic nondecreasing on  $[r, R]$  we have that

$$f'(r) \leq f'(t) \leq f'(R) \text{ for any } t \in [r, R],$$

which implies that

$$\left| f'(t) - \frac{f'(R) + f'(r)}{2} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)]$$

for any  $t \in [r, R]$ .

Applying Lemma 1 and Corollary 1 in the Hilbert space  $(\mathcal{M}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2)$  and for the selfadjoint operator  $\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} f' (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) T, T \rangle_2 - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} T, T \rangle_2 \langle f' (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) T, T \rangle_2 \right| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)] \left| \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} T, T \rangle_2 1_{\mathcal{B}_2(H)} \mid T, T \rangle_2 \right| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)] \left[ \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}^2 T, T \rangle_2 - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} T, T \rangle_2^2 \right]^{1/2} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] \end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\|T\|_2 = 1$ .

If in this inequality we take  $T = P^{1/2}$ ,  $P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \left\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} f' (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 - \left\langle f' (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 \right| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)] \left| \left\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - \left\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 1_{\mathcal{B}_2(H)} \mid P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 \right| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'(R) - f'(r)] \left[ \left\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}^2 P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2 - \left\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} P^{1/2}, P^{1/2} \right\rangle_2^2 \right]^{1/2} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)], \end{aligned}$$

which can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} |S_{\ell f'}(Q, P) - S_{f'}(Q, P)| & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] V(Q, P) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] \chi(Q, P) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)]. \end{aligned}$$

Making use of Theorem 4 we deduce the desired result (3.15).  $\square$

**Remark 3.** If we take in (3.15)  $f(t) = t^2 - 1$ , then we get

$$\begin{aligned} (3.16) \quad 0 \leq \chi^2(Q, P) & \leq \frac{1}{2} (R - r) V(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2} (R - r) \chi(Q, P) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r)^2 \end{aligned}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

If we take in (3.15)  $f(t) = t \ln t$ , then we get the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} (3.17) \quad 0 \leq U(Q, P) & \leq \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{R}{r} \right) V(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{R}{r} \right) \chi(Q, P) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) \ln \left( \frac{R}{r} \right) \end{aligned}$$

provided that  $Q, P \in S_1(H)$ , with  $P, Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

With the same conditions and if we take  $f(t) = -\ln t$ , then

$$(3.18) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \frac{R-r}{2rR} V(Q, P) \leq \frac{R-r}{2rR} \chi(Q, P) \leq \frac{(R-r)^2}{4rR}.$$

If we take in (3.15)  $f(t) = f_q(t) = \frac{1-t^q}{1-q}$ , then we get

$$(3.19) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \leq S_{f_q}(Q, P) &\leq \frac{q}{2(1-q)} \left( \frac{R^{1-q} - r^{1-q}}{R^{1-q}r^{1-q}} \right) V(Q, P) \\ &\leq \frac{q}{2(1-q)} \left( \frac{R^{1-q} - r^{1-q}}{R^{1-q}r^{1-q}} \right) \chi(Q, P) \\ &\leq \frac{q}{4(1-q)} \left( \frac{R^{1-q} - r^{1-q}}{R^{1-q}r^{1-q}} \right) (R-r) \end{aligned}$$

provided that  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P, Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

#### 4. OTHER REVERSE INEQUALITIES

Utilising different techniques we can obtain other upper bounds for the quantum  $f$ -divergence as follows. Applications for Umegaki relative entropy and  $\chi^2$ -divergence are also provided.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function that is normalized. If  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, and there exists  $R \geq 1 \geq r \geq 0$  such that the condition (3.14) is satisfied, then*

$$(4.1) \quad 0 \leq S_f(Q, P) \leq \frac{(R-1)f(r) + (1-r)f(R)}{R-r}.$$

*Proof.* By the convexity of  $f$  we have

$$f(t) = f\left(\frac{(R-t)r + (t-r)R}{R-r}\right) \leq \frac{(R-t)f(r) + (t-r)f(R)}{R-r}$$

for any  $t \in [r, R]$ .

This inequality implies the following inequality in the operator order of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})$

$$f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) \leq \frac{(R1_{\mathcal{M}} - \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})f(r) + (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - r1_{\mathcal{M}})f(R)}{R-r},$$

which can be written as

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} &\langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 \\ &\leq \frac{f(r)}{R-r} \langle (R1_{\mathcal{M}} - \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 + \frac{f(R)}{R-r} \langle (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - r1_{\mathcal{M}})T, T \rangle_2 \end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Now, if we take in (4.2)  $T = P^{1/2}$ ,  $P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , then we get the desired result (4.2).  $\square$

**Remark 4.** *If we take in (4.1)  $f(t) = t^2 - 1$ , then we get*

$$(4.3) \quad 0 \leq \chi^2(Q, P) \leq (R-1)(1-r) \frac{R+r+2}{R-r}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

If we take in (4.1)  $f(t) = t \ln t$ , then we get the inequality

$$(4.4) \quad 0 \leq U(Q, P) \leq \ln \left[ r^{\frac{(R-1)r}{R-r}} R^{\frac{R(1-r)}{R-r}} \right]$$

provided that  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P, Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

If we take in (4.1)  $f(t) = -\ln t$ , then we get the inequality

$$(4.5) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \ln \left[ r^{\frac{1-R}{R-r}} R^{\frac{r-1}{R-r}} \right]$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P, Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

We also have:

**Theorem 7.** Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function that is normalized. If  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, and there exists  $R > 1 > r \geq 0$  such that the condition (3.14) is satisfied, then

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \leq S_f(Q, P) &\leq \frac{(R-1)(1-r)}{R-r} \Psi_f(1; r, R) \\ &\leq \frac{(R-1)(1-r)}{R-r} \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \Psi_f(t; r, R) \\ &\leq (R-1)(1-r) \frac{f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)}{R-r} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (R-r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)] \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Psi_f(\cdot; r, R) : (r, R) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$(4.7) \quad \Psi_f(t; r, R) = \frac{f(R) - f(t)}{R-t} - \frac{f(t) - f(r)}{t-r}.$$

We also have

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \leq S_f(Q, P) &\leq \frac{(R-1)(1-r)}{R-r} \Psi_f(1; r, R) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (R-r) \Psi_f(1; r, R) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (R-r) \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \Psi_f(t; r, R) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (R-r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)]. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By denoting

$$\Delta_f(t; r, R) := \frac{(t-r)f(R) + (R-t)f(r)}{R-r} - f(t), \quad t \in [r, R]$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.9) \quad \Delta_f(t; r, R) &= \frac{(t-r)f(R) + (R-t)f(r) - (R-r)f(t)}{R-r} \\
&= \frac{(t-r)f(R) + (R-t)f(r) - (T-t+t-r)f(t)}{R-r} \\
&= \frac{(t-r)[f(R) - f(t)] - (R-t)[f(t) - f(r)]}{M-m} \\
&= \frac{(R-t)(t-r)}{R-r} \Psi_f(t; r, R)
\end{aligned}$$

for any  $t \in (r, R)$ .

From the proof of Theorem 6 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.10) \quad &\langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T) \rangle_2 \\
&\leq \frac{f(r)}{R-r} \langle (R1_{\mathcal{M}} - \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})T, T \rangle_2 + \frac{f(R)}{R-r} \langle (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - r1_{\mathcal{M}})T, T \rangle_2 \\
&= \frac{(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r)f(R) + (R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2)f(r)}{R-r}
\end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\|T\|_2 = 1$ .

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.11) \quad 0 &\leq \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T) \rangle_2 - f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) \\
&\leq \frac{(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r)f(R) + (R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2)f(r)}{R-r} - f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) \\
&= \Delta_f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2; r, R) \\
&= \frac{(R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2)(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r)}{R-r} \Psi_f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2; r, R)
\end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\|T\|_2 = 1$ .

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.12) \quad \Psi_f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2; r, R) &\leq \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \Psi_f(t; r, R) \\
&= \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \left[ \frac{f(R) - f(t)}{R-t} - \frac{f(t) - f(r)}{t-r} \right] \\
&\leq \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \left[ \frac{f(R) - f(t)}{R-t} \right] + \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \left[ -\frac{f(t) - f(r)}{t-r} \right] \\
&= \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \left[ \frac{f(R) - f(t)}{R-t} \right] - \inf_{t \in (r, R)} \left[ \frac{f(t) - f(r)}{t-r} \right] \\
&= f'_-(R) - f'_+(r),
\end{aligned}$$

and, obviously

$$(4.13) \quad \frac{1}{R-r} (R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) (\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r) \leq \frac{1}{4} (R-r),$$

then by (4.11)-(4.13) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.14) \quad 0 &\leq \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T)_2 - f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) \\
&\leq \frac{(R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) (\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r)}{R - r} \Psi_f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2; r, R) \\
&\leq \frac{(R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) (\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r)}{R - r} \sup_{t \in (r, R)} \Psi_f(t; r, R) \\
&\leq (R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) (\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r) \frac{f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)}{R - r} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{4} (R - r) [f'_-(R) - f'_+(r)]
\end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\|T\|_2 = 1$ .

Now, if we take in (4.14)  $T = P^{1/2}$ , then we get the desired result (4.6).

The inequality (4.8) is obvious from (4.6).  $\square$

**Remark 5.** If we consider the convex normalized function  $f(t) = t^2 - 1$ , then

$$\Psi_f(t; r, R) = \frac{R^2 - t^2}{R - t} - \frac{t^2 - r^2}{t - r} = R - r, \quad t \in (r, R)$$

and we get from (4.6) the simple inequality

$$(4.15) \quad 0 \leq \chi^2(Q, P) \leq (R - 1)(1 - r)$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14), which is better than (4.3).

If we take the convex normalized function  $f(t) = t^{-1} - 1$ , then we have

$$\Psi_f(t; r, R) = \frac{R^{-1} - t^{-1}}{R - t} - \frac{t^{-1} - r^{-1}}{t - r} = \frac{R - r}{rRt}, \quad t \in [r, R].$$

Also

$$S_f(Q, P) = \chi^2(P, Q).$$

Using (4.6) we get

$$(4.16) \quad 0 \leq \chi^2(P, Q) \leq \frac{(R - 1)(1 - r)}{Rr}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

If we consider the convex function  $f(t) = -\ln t$  defined on  $[r, R] \subset (0, \infty)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi_f(t; r, R) &= \frac{-\ln R + \ln t}{R - t} - \frac{-\ln t + \ln r}{t - r} \\
&= \frac{(R - r) \ln t - (R - t) \ln r - (t - r) \ln R}{(R - t)(t - r)} \\
&= \ln \left( \frac{t^{R-r}}{r^{R-t} R^{t-r}} \right)^{\frac{1}{(R-t)(t-r)}}, \quad t \in (r, R).
\end{aligned}$$

Then by (4.6) we have

$$(4.17) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \ln \left[ r^{\frac{1-R}{R-r}} R^{\frac{r-1}{R-r}} \right] \leq \frac{(R - 1)(1 - r)}{rR}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P, Q$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

We also have:

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous convex function that is normalized. If  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible, and there exists  $R > 1 > r \geq 0$  such that the condition (3.14) is satisfied, then*

$$(4.18) \quad 0 \leq S_f(Q, P) \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right].$$

*Proof.* We recall the following result (see for instance [4]) that provides a refinement and a reverse for the weighted Jensen's discrete inequality:

$$(4.19) \quad \begin{aligned} & n \min_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \{p_i\} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) - f\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{P_n} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f\left(\frac{1}{P_n} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \\ & \leq n \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \{p_i\} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) - f\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a convex function defined on the convex subset  $C$  of the linear space  $X$ ,  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \subset C$  are vectors and  $\{p_i\}_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}}$  are nonnegative numbers with  $P_n := \sum_{i=1}^n p_i > 0$ .

For  $n = 2$  we deduce from (3.6) that

$$(4.20) \quad \begin{aligned} & 2 \min\{s, 1-s\} \left[ \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2} - f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \right] \\ & \leq s f(x) + (1-s) f(y) - f(sx + (1-s)y) \\ & \leq 2 \max\{s, 1-s\} \left[ \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2} - f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x, y \in C$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

Now, if we use the second inequality in (4.20) for  $x = r$ ,  $y = R$ ,  $s = \frac{R-t}{R-r}$  with  $t \in [r, R]$ , then we have

$$(4.21) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{(R-t)f(r) + (t-r)f(R)}{R-r} - f(t) \\ & \leq 2 \max\left\{ \frac{R-t}{R-r}, \frac{t-r}{R-r} \right\} \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right] \\ & = \left[ 1 + \frac{2}{R-r} \left| t - \frac{r+R}{2} \right| \right] \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

for any  $t \in [r, R]$ .

This implies in the operator order of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(R1_{\mathcal{M}} - \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P})f(r) + (\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - r1_{\mathcal{M}})f(R)}{R-r} - f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}) \\ & \leq \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right] \\ & \times \left[ 1_{\mathcal{M}} + \frac{2}{R-r} \left| \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - \frac{r+R}{2} 1_{\mathcal{M}} \right| \right] \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.22) \quad & 0 \leq \langle f(\mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T) \rangle_2 - f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) \\
& \leq \frac{(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2 - r) f(R) + (R - \langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) f(r)}{R - r} - f(\langle \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P}T, T \rangle_2) \\
& \leq \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \times \left[ 1 + \frac{2}{R-r} \left\langle \left| \mathfrak{A}_{Q,P} - \frac{r+R}{2} 1_{\mathcal{M}} \right| T, T \right\rangle_2 \right] \\
& \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(r) + f(R)}{2} - f\left(\frac{r+R}{2}\right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

for any  $T \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\|T\|_2 = 1$ .

If we take in (4.22)  $T = P^{1/2}$ ,  $P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , then we get the desired result (4.18).  $\square$

**Remark 6.** If we take  $f(t) = t^2 - 1$  in (4.18), then we get

$$0 \leq \chi^2(Q, P) \leq \frac{1}{2}(R - r)^2$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14), which is not as good as (4.15).

If we take in (4.18)  $f(t) = t^{-1} - 1$ , then we have

$$(4.23) \quad 0 \leq \chi^2(P, Q) \leq \frac{(R - r)^2}{rR(r + R)}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

If we take in (4.18)  $f(t) = -\ln t$ , then we have

$$(4.24) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \ln \left( \frac{(R + r)^2}{4rR} \right)$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

From (3.18) we have the following absolute upper bound

$$(4.25) \quad 0 \leq U(P, Q) \leq \frac{(R - r)^2}{4rR}$$

for  $Q, P \in S_1(\mathcal{M})$ , with  $P$  invertible and satisfying the condition (3.14).

Utilising the elementary inequality  $\ln x \leq x - 1$ ,  $x > 0$ , we have that

$$\ln \left( \frac{(R + r)^2}{4rR} \right) \leq \frac{(R - r)^2}{4rR},$$

which shows that (4.24) is better than (4.25).

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