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# **The Value of Information in Zero-Sum Games**

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# THE VALUE OF INFORMATION IN ZERO-SUM GAMES

OLIVIER GOSSNER AND JEAN-FRANÇOIS MERTENS

ABSTRACT. We study the description and value of information in zero-sum games. We define a series of informational relations between information schemes, and show that informational equivalence classes are captured by canonical information structures. Moreover, two information schemes induce the same value in every game if and only if they are informationally equivalent.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Appropriate description of information depends on the class of strategic situations faced by players. For one-person decision problems, Blackwell (1951, 1953) shows that information is captured by a *canonical experiment*, i.e. a probability distribution over the agent's beliefs on the state of nature. For  $n$ -players games, Dekel, Fudenberg, and Morris (2007) show that two player's types have the same interim correlated rationality hierarchy if and only if they have same universal type associated in the sense of Mertens and Zamir (1985). The universal type space thus summarizes all strategically relevant information for interim correlated rationalizability, and not more than that. In this paper we focus on the description of information for two-players zero-sum games.

Zero-sum games are interesting for several reasons. First, they constitute an intermediate class between one-person decision problems and  $n$ -player games. Second, they are the basis of decision making when one considers an adversarial nature, minmax regret (Savage, 1951), or ambiguity adverse agents (Gilboa and Schmeidler, 1989). And third, understanding zero-sum games is often a fundamental step in understanding general classes of games. This is at the heart, for instance, of von Neumann and Morgenstern (1944)'s theory of Games and Economic Behavior, the Folk Theorem in repeated games (Aumann and Shapley, 1994; Fudenberg and Maskin, 1986), stochastic games (Mertens and Neyman, 1981), and cooperative solutions to strategic games (Shapley, 1990; Kalai and Kalai, 2013).

Zero-sum games are also advantageous from a methodological point of view. First of all, their solution concept, the value, is both a point solution concept and is uniquely defined, just like the value of a one-

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person decision problem is. Unlike for  $n$ -person general games, a canonical way of describing information doesn't have to hinge on a particular choice of solution concept. Also in the vein of one-person decision problems, the value of information cannot be negative: more information is always beneficial to the player receiving it, and detrimental to the other player. This allows to consider a more informative scheme for a player as *more advantageous* for this player independently of the underlying zero-sum payoff structure.

On the class of 2-person information schemes, and based on informational criteria, we define an equivalence relation and three binary orderings. Two information structures  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  are equivalent, and we denote  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{F}$ , when one can transform  $\mathfrak{E}$  into  $\mathfrak{F}$  through a series of operations which are neither advantageous or disadvantageous for any of the players. We define the relations  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_1 F$  [resp.  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_2 F$ ] when one can transform  $\mathfrak{E}$  into  $\mathfrak{F}$  through a series of equivalence relations or increases of information to player 1 [resp. decreases to player 2], and  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{F}$  by using at every step either an equivalence, an increase of information for player 1, or a decrease of information for player 2.

In this paper we show that all orderings induce the same equivalence classes as the equivalence relation, and that equivalence classes are given by canonical information structures. Furthermore, two information structures are equivalent if and only if they induce the same value in every game. Therefore, canonical information structures capture all relevant information according to these informational relations, and equivalence according to informational criteria coincide with strategic equivalence in zero-sum games.

We establish directly that an information structure is informationally equivalent for the  $\sim$  relation to its canonical information structure associated. The result comes from the existence of a belief-preserving transformation from any information scheme to its canonical information structure associated Mertens and Zamir (1985), also coined by Gossner (2000) as *faithful* transformations. The more challenging part is to show that two distinct canonical information structures cannot be informationally equivalent. We prove this part by relying on the value of information, showing that distinct information structures necessarily have different values for some payoff structure.

In order to show this later part, we construct a *revealing game*, in which players have unique optimal strategies that fully reveal their canonical types. The construction of this game is inductive on players' hierarchies of beliefs. First, using a generalized scoring rule in which players place (first order) bets on the state of nature, we construct a decision problem in which each player's unique best strategy is to reveal her first order belief on the state of nature. From there, our goal is to construct a game in which each player's reveals both her belief on the state of nature and on the other player's first order belief. The

idea is to ask players to place a first order bet, as well as a (second order) bet on the other player's first order bet. The difficulty in doing so is that, because all games considered are zero-sum, the construction gives incentives to players not to reveal their beliefs on nature in their first order bets. We rely on a logic similar to Mill's derivative which shows that the value of a game perturbed by another game is obtained by considering the value of the second game when restricted to optimal strategies in the first. We show that when the weight of second order bets becomes negligible compared to that of first order bets, our game can be analyzed as one in which players announce first order bets truthfully, and thus also reveal their second order beliefs through their second order bets. Continuing this construction inductively provides a revealing game in which players' only optimal strategy is to announce simultaneously all their hierarchies of beliefs, hence their canonical types.

Values of games are thus appropriately studied on canonical information structures. We characterize the informational orderings  $\preceq$ ,  $\preceq_1$ , and  $\preceq_2$  between canonical information structures through stochastic transformations of signals, *à la* Blackwell (1951, 1953). This, in turn, allows to fully characterize the different orderings using finite chains of elementary transformations.

Section 2 presents the model and main results, and section 3 contains the proofs.

## 2. MODEL AND RESULTS

**2.1. Information schemes and games.** For any Hausdorff space  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{B}^X$  denotes its borel  $\sigma$ -field. The set of states of nature  $K$  is a Hausdorff space endowed with  $\mathcal{B}^K$ .

**Definition 1.** An information scheme  $\mathfrak{E} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i), P, \kappa_E)$  is given by

- a probability space  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$
- two sub  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  of  $\mathcal{E}$ .
- a  $P$ -measurable map  $\kappa: (E, \mathcal{E}, P) \rightarrow (K, \mathcal{B}^K)$  s.t.  $P \circ \kappa^{-1}$  is tight.

**Definition 2.** A pay-off function  $g$  is a bounded continuous map  $g: A_1 \times A_2 \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are player 1 and player 2's compact action spaces.

$K$  is the "parameter space" of the statisticians, and  $g$  is the equivalent of the decision problem. A "state of the world" in  $E$  describes players' information on  $K$ , but also their whole hierarchies of beliefs on  $K$ , as well as potential correlated information they may receive.

$[g, \mathfrak{E}]$  denotes the extended (two person zero-sum) game in which initial information of the players and the true state of nature are initially generated by  $\mathfrak{E}$ , next players choose actions in  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , and finally

pay-offs (to player 1) are determined by  $g$ . We rely on the following version of the **min max** Theorem. From Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, III.4.2 p. 155) — cf. also below, after prop. 25:

**Theorem 3.** *The game  $[g, \mathfrak{E}]$  has a value, denoted  $v_g(\mathfrak{E})$ , and there are optimal strategies.*

The formalism allows to vary separately the information scheme and the game. It allows us to study how changes in the information structure affects values across games.

**2.2. Ordering of information schemes.** We now introduce basic relationships between information schemes.

First, *decreasing  $i$ 's information*:

$\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_i \mathfrak{E}'$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) when  $\mathfrak{E} = \mathfrak{E}'$  except for  $\mathcal{E}'_i \subseteq \mathcal{E}_i$ .

The decrease may be immaterial, hence an equivalence (sufficiency):

$\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{S}_i \mathfrak{E}'$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) when  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_i \mathfrak{E}'$  and  $P(A|\mathcal{E}_i)$  is  $\mathcal{E}'_i$ -measurable  $\forall A \in \mathcal{E}_j \vee \kappa^{-1}(\mathcal{B}^K)$  ( $j \neq i$ ).

A decrease in the  $\sigma$ -algebra on states of the world is immaterial, hence we consider it as an equivalence:

$\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{E}'$  when  $\mathfrak{E} = \mathfrak{E}'$  except for  $\mathcal{E}' \subseteq \mathcal{E}$

Finally, *inclusion of an information scheme into another* is the equivalence in which a zero probability common knowledge event is deleted:

$\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{I} \mathfrak{E}'$  when  $E \in \mathcal{E}'_1 \cap \mathcal{E}'_2$  with  $P'(E) = 1$  and  $\mathfrak{E} = \mathfrak{E}'|_E$

For two binary relations  $U$  and  $V$ , we denote  $UV$  and  $U^{-1}$  the constructed binary relations:

$$X UV Y \iff \exists Z, X U Z \text{ and } Z V Y$$

$$X U^{-1} Y \iff Y U X$$

We are interested in those relations between information schemes that (weakly) improve player 1's situation in 2-person zero-sum games. We thus consider chains of relations that consist of increasing player 1's information, decreasing player 2's information, and of equivalences.

**Definition 4.** *Let  $\preceq$  be the relation between information schemes induced by any finite sequence of  $\mathbf{I}$ ,  $\mathbf{I}^{-1}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}^{-1}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{S}_1$ , and  $\mathbf{S}_2^{-1}$ .*

The following relation means that there exists a faithful relation from  $\mathfrak{E}$  to  $\mathfrak{F}$  (as in Gossner, 2000).

**Definition 5.** *We let  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{F} \mathfrak{F}$  when there is a commutative diagram*

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{E} & \xrightarrow{d_1} & \mathfrak{E}_1 \\ \downarrow d_2 & & \downarrow s_2 \\ \mathfrak{E}_2 & \xrightarrow{s_1} & \mathfrak{F} \end{array}$$

where  $d_i$  is a  $\mathbf{D}_i$  map and  $s_i$  a  $\mathbf{S}_i$  map. (I.e.,  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{D}_1 \mathbf{S}_2 \cap \mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{S}_1$ .)

Since  $\mathbf{D}_1\mathbf{S}_2$  weakly worsens player 1's situation, while  $\mathbf{D}_2\mathbf{S}_1$  weakly improves it,  $\mathbf{F}$  neither improves nor weakens player 1's situation. It can therefore be considered as an equivalence.

Based on these relations, we now consider chains consisting of decreasing only one of the player's information as well as equivalences.

**Definition 6.** Let  $\preceq_1$  be defined as  $\preceq$  except that  $\mathbf{D}_2$  (and  $\mathbf{S}_1$ ) cannot be used, but  $\mathbf{F}$  can. Similarly, let  $\preceq_2$  be defined as  $\preceq$  except that  $\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$  (and  $\mathbf{S}_2^{-1}$ ) cannot be used, but  $\mathbf{F}^{-1}$  can. Finally,  $\sim$  is defined as  $\preceq$  except that  $\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_2$  and  $\mathbf{S}_2^{-1}$  cannot be used, but  $\mathbf{F}$  and  $\mathbf{F}^{-1}$  can.

The Theorem below relate those orderings.

**Theorem 7.** (1)  $\preceq$ ,  $\preceq_1$ ,  $\preceq_2$  and  $\sim$  are transitive and reflexive, and  $\sim$  is symmetric.

(2) Those relations are represented by:

$$(a) \preceq = \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{D}_2\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}$$

$$(b) \preceq_1 = \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}$$

$$(c) \preceq_2 = \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{D}_2\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}$$

$$(d) \sim = \mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^{-1}\mathbf{I}^{-1}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{D}$$

(3)  $\preceq_1$  and  $\preceq_2$  commute.

(4)  $\preceq = \preceq_1\preceq_2$

(5)  $\sim$  is the equivalence relation induced by any of the three orders, i.e.  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{F}$  iff  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{F}$  and  $\mathfrak{E} \succ \mathfrak{F}$ .

Point 1 follows straight from the definitions. Point 2 characterizes each of the orderings through finite chains of elementary transformations. Although statements of points 2 - 5 are elementary and rely on definitions of information schemes and elementary transformations between them, their proofs rely on the equivalence of an information structure with its canonical information structures, as well as on analytical characterization of the orderings between these canonical information structures.

The following relates the orderings to the value of information.

**Theorem 8.** (1) All functions  $v_g(\cdot)$  are  $\preceq$ -monotone.

(2)  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{F}$  iff  $v_g(\mathfrak{E}) = v_g(\mathfrak{F})$  for every (finite)  $g$ .

In order to characterize the equivalence classes for  $\preceq$ , we need a few additional tools, introduced in the next section. Part 2 of the Theorem was complemented by Peşki (2008) who showed that  $\mathfrak{E} \succ \mathfrak{F}$  iff  $v_g(\mathfrak{E}) \geq v_g(\mathfrak{F})$  for every game  $g$ . Note however that neither our result implies Peşki (2008), nor the contrary.

**2.3. Universal belief space, and consistent priors.** We recall a couple of definitions and properties from Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, ch. III).

For any Hausdorff space  $X$ ,  $\Delta(X)$  denotes the (Hausdorff) space of tight probability measures on  $\mathcal{B}^X$ .

As in Harsanyi (1967/68) and in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015) (see comment III.1.1 p. 127), a *beliefs system* is pair of Hausdorff spaces  $(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2)$  together with continuous maps  $\sigma_i: \Sigma_i \rightarrow \Delta(K \times \Sigma_{-i})$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

The *universal type space* (*ibid.*) is a beliefs system  $(\Theta_i, \theta_i)_{1,2}$  such that for every beliefs system  $(\Sigma_i, \sigma_i)_{1,2}$ , there exist continuous maps  $(\phi_i)_{1,2}$  such that the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma_i & \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} & \Delta(K \times \Sigma_{-i}) \\ \downarrow \phi_i & & \text{id.} \downarrow \downarrow \phi_{-i} \\ \Theta_i & \xrightarrow{\theta_i} & \Delta(K \times \Theta_{-i}) \end{array}$$

Then, the  $\phi_i$  are unique.

The universal type space always exists, the  $\theta_i$  are then homeomorphisms, and  $\Theta_i$  is “unique” (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.1.1 p. 124).

Let  $\Omega = K \times \Theta_1 \times \Theta_2$  be the universal belief space, and for  $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ , denote by  $P_i$  its marginal on  $\Theta_i$ .

$P$  is *consistent* iff  $P(B) = \int \theta_i(B) P_i(d\theta_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ )  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}^\Omega$  (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, def. III.2.1 p. 139). The space  $\Pi$  of consistent priors is closed and convex (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.2.2 p. 139).

Any  $Q \in \Delta(\Omega)$  is identified with the information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}_Q = (\Omega, \mathcal{B}^\Omega, Q, (\mathcal{T}_i)_{1,2}, \kappa)$ , where  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is the  $\sigma$ -field spanned by  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}$ , and  $\kappa: \Omega \rightarrow K$  is the projection map. For  $Q \in \Pi$  such information schemes are called canonical.

Further, for any information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}$ , there exists a unique corresponding  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} \in \Pi$ , with a “unique” map from  $E$  to  $\Omega$  (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.2.4 p. 142).

For  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_1)$ , define  $Q_\mu$  by  $Q_\mu(d\theta_1, d\theta_2, dk) = \theta_1(d\theta_2, dk)\mu(d\theta_1)$ , and let  $\Delta_b(\Theta_1)$  be the set of  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_1)$  such that the marginal of  $Q_\mu$  on  $K$  is tight. For  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_1)$ ,  $P_\mu$  represents the consistent prior  $P_{\mathfrak{E}_{Q_\mu}}$  (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, def. III.4.6 p. 148). Define similarly  $\Delta_b(\Theta_2)$  and  $P_\nu$  for  $\nu \in \Delta_b(\Theta_2)$ .

**Theorem 9.**  $\Pi$  is the set of equivalence classes of  $\preceq$ . i.e.,  $\mathfrak{E}_1 \sim \mathfrak{E}_2$  iff  $P_{\mathfrak{E}_1} = P_{\mathfrak{E}_2}$ .

**Corollary 10.**  $\preceq$  and the  $\preceq_i$  induce orders (i.e., anti-symmetric) on  $\Pi$ .

**Corollary 11.**  $\forall g, v_g$  becomes a function on  $\Pi$  (i.e.,  $v_g(\mathfrak{E}) = v_g(P_{\mathfrak{E}}) \forall \mathfrak{E}$ ).

The functions  $v_g$  are continuous and affine on  $\Pi$ .

*Proof.* The first sentence follows from theorem 7, point 6 and corollary 10. For the second, cf. (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, prop. III.4.3 p. 156).  $\square$

To prove as stated in Theorem 9 that  $\mathfrak{E} \sim P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  and thus that  $P_{\mathfrak{E}_1} = P_{\mathfrak{E}_2}$  implies  $\mathfrak{E}_1 \sim \mathfrak{E}_2$ , is relatively elementary, and relies on the construction of an explicit chain of elementary equivalences between  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$ . The converse proof, that two distinct canonical information structures cannot be equivalent, relies on values of games and on the Theorem below.

**Theorem 12.** *For  $K$  completely regular, the functions  $v_g$  (with finite action sets) span the topology on  $\Pi$ .*

In turn, the proof of Theorem 12 relies on the construction of a *revealing game*, in which players' unique optimal strategies require them to use all and only their canonical information.

**Theorem 13.** *Assume  $K$  is a separable metric space. There exists a game  $\gamma$  with compact metric action spaces and continuous pay-offs s.t. each player has a unique best reply for any prior on  $K$  and his opponent's action, and s.t., for any consistent prior  $P$ , there are pure optimal strategies which are borel isomorphisms from  $\Theta_i$  to its image.*

#### 2.4. Analytic characterizations.

**Theorem 14.** *For  $P$  and  $Q$  in  $\Pi$ ,  $P \preceq Q$  (resp.  $P \preceq_1 Q$ ,  $P \preceq_2 Q$ ) iff there exists  $R \in \Delta(\Omega \times \Omega')$  (where  $\Omega' = K' \times \Theta'_1 \times \Theta'_2$  is a copy of  $\Omega$ ) with  $P$  and  $Q$  as first and second marginals and s.t.:*

- (1) *the support of  $R$  is contained in the diagonal of  $K \times K'$*
- (2)  *$\Omega$  and  $\Theta'_2$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta_2$*
- (3)  *$\Omega'$  and  $\Theta_1$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta'_1$*
- (4) *for  $\preceq_1$ :  $\Omega'$  and  $\Theta_2$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta'_2$*   
*for  $\preceq_2$ :  $\Omega$  and  $\Theta'_1$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta_1$*

**Corollary 15.** *Assume  $K$  completely regular. Then the graphs of  $\preceq$ ,  $\preceq_1$  and  $\preceq_2$  in  $\Delta(\Omega) \times \Delta(\Omega)$  are closed and convex.*

**Corollary 16.** *For  $K$  completely regular, any monotone net in  $\Pi$  for  $\preceq$ ,  $\preceq_i$ , and the opposite orders converges, and the monotonicity is preserved at the limit.*

Remark that in the 1-person situation, and if  $K$  were a separable metric space, the martingale convergence theorem would imply that, when the player is faced with an increasing or a decreasing sequence of  $\sigma$ -fields of observations (on the same sample space), his posteriors would converge a.s. to the limiting posteriors. Here our observations are not on the same sample space, so there would be no meaning even to a convergence in probability: the convergence has to be weakened to a convergence in distribution: all the sharpness of the martingale convergence theorem is gone. But given that, we obtain a generalization to 2 players, with any of the orders, with arbitrary nets instead of sequences, and arbitrary completely regular spaces. However, as



shown by Gensbittel, Peşki, and Renault (2019) who answer negatively a conjecture of Mertens (1986), and in contrast with one-player decision problems, convergence of information in zero-sum doesn't imply uniform convergence of the value of games.

Corollary 16 also shows that our definition of the orders using finite chains of basic relations was right: infinite chains would not yield anything more.

The following Theorem shows how  $\preceq$  on canonical information structures can be obtained by degrading the information of player 1, then augmenting that of player 2.

**Theorem 17.**  $P \preceq P'$  iff  $\exists Q \in \Pi$  s.t.

- (a) *there exists a transition probability  $\rho$  from  $\Theta_2$  to  $\Theta'_2$  s.t., with  $\mathfrak{E}$  the information scheme on  $\Omega \times \Theta'_2$  with  $P \otimes \rho$  where player 2 is informed (only) of  $\theta'_2$ ,  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = Q$ . And then  $\rho$  can be chosen such that the above “unique map” from  $\mathfrak{E}$  to  $\Omega$  induces the identity on  $\Theta_2$ , more precisely, define  $g$   $P_1$  measurable from  $\Theta_1$  to  $(\Theta_1, \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1})$  such that  $P_1$ -a.e.  $g(\theta_1)[d\theta_2, dk] = \int_{\tilde{\Theta}_2} \rho(d\theta_2 | d\tilde{\theta}_2) \theta_1(d\tilde{\theta}_2, dk)$ , then if  $h$  denotes the “unique” map  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1} \otimes \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2} \otimes \mathcal{B}^K$ ,  $h^{-1}(B) = (h \times \mathbb{I}_{\Theta_2} \times \mathbb{I}_K)^{-1}(B)$   $P \otimes \rho$  a.e., where  $\mathbb{I}_{\Theta_2}$  is the identity map from  $\Theta'_2$  to  $\Theta_2$ .*

and dually:

- (b) *there exists a transition probability  $\rho'$  from  $\Theta_1$  to  $\Theta'_1$  s.t., with  $\mathfrak{E}'$  the information scheme on  $\Omega \times \Theta'_1$  with  $P' \otimes \rho'$  where player 1 is informed (only) of  $\theta'_1$ ,  $P_{\mathfrak{E}'} = Q$  and  $\int \rho' dP'_1 = Q_1$ . And then ...*

or equivalently:

- (a') *there exists  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_2)$  such that  $\int \phi d\mu \leq \int \phi dP_2$  for every convex l.s.c. function  $\phi$  on  $\Theta_2$  which is bounded below, and such that  $P_\mu = Q$ .<sup>1</sup>*
- (b') *there exists  $\nu \in \Delta(\Theta_1)$  such that  $\int \psi d\nu \leq \int \psi dP'_1$  for every convex l.s.c. function  $\psi$  on  $\Theta_1$  which is bounded below, and such that  $P_\nu = Q$ .*

**Corollary 18.** *A function  $v$  on  $\Pi$  is  $(\preceq)$ -monotone iff it is*

- (a) *monotone w.r.t. 2:  $\forall P \in \Pi, \forall \mu \in \Delta(\Theta_2), \int \phi d\mu \leq \int \phi dP_2 \forall \phi$  convex l.s.c. on  $\Delta(\Theta_2) \Rightarrow v(P) \leq v(P_\mu)$*
- (b) *and similarly, monotone w.r.t. 1:  $\forall P \in \Pi, \forall \nu \in \Delta(\Theta_1), \int \phi d\nu \leq \int \phi dP_1 \forall \phi$  convex l.s.c. on  $\Delta(\Theta_1) \Rightarrow v(P_\nu) \leq v(P)$*

Monotonicity w.r.t. 1 [resp. 2] corresponds to the classical convexity (w.r.t. 2) [resp. concavity w.r.t. 1] found in repeated games with incomplete information. And they strengthen the tentative generalizations

<sup>1</sup>The first condition ensures that  $\mu \in \Delta_b(\Theta_2)$ , and in particular  $P_\mu$  is well defined

of concavity and convexity at the end of Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, ch. III).

### 3. PROOFS

**3.1. Functorial aspects of consistent priors.** For a “paving”  $\mathcal{P}$  (a set of subsets of a set  $X$ ),  $\mathcal{P}_\sigma$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_\delta$  and  $\mathcal{P}_c$  denote the pavings consisting respectively of the countable unions, the countable intersections and the complements of elements of  $\mathcal{P}$ ;  $\mathcal{P}_{\sigma\delta} = (\mathcal{P}_\sigma)_\delta$ , and so on. If  $X$  is a topological space,  $\mathcal{Z}$  denotes the paving of zero sets, i.e., sets  $f^{-1}(0)$  for  $f$  real-valued and continuous, and  $\mathcal{K}$  that of compact subsets.

For beliefs spaces, functorial properties were obtained in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.1.2 p. 127). We will need analogous properties for consistent priors of point 3 there (point 1 is dealt with in cor. III.2.3 p. 140 *loc. cit.*, and, as to point 2, consistent priors are only defined on the universal beliefs space).

**Proposition 19.** *Assume  $K_1, K_2$  Hausdorff. For  $f: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  continuous, let  $\Omega(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f \times \Theta_1(f) \times \Theta_2(f): \Omega(K_1) \rightarrow \Omega(K_2)$ , and  $\Pi(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Delta(\Omega(f))|_{\Pi(K_1)}$ .*

- (1) *The transpose  $\Omega^*(f)$  of  $\Omega(f)$  embeds  $C(\Omega(K_2))$  into  $C(\Omega(K_1))$ , as Banach algebras, and commutes with the  $\theta_i$  as operators from  $C(\Omega(K_1))$  to itself.*
- (2) *For  $K$  compact,  $C(\Omega)$  is the smallest closed algebra  $A$  containing  $C(K)$  and s.t.  $\theta_i(f) \in A$  ( $i = 1, 2$ )  $\forall f \in A$ .*

For any information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}$  about  $K_1$ , let  $f \circ \mathfrak{E}$  be the information scheme about  $K_2$  obtained by replacing  $\kappa_1$  in  $\mathfrak{E}$  by  $f \circ \kappa_1$ , and  $T(f): \mathfrak{E} \rightarrow f \circ \mathfrak{E}$  be the identity on  $E$ .

- (3)  $\Pi(f): \Pi(K_1) \rightarrow \Pi(K_2)$  is continuous, and the following diagram commutes (a.e.), the maps  $\phi_i$  being as in (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.2.4 p. 142), — so  $\Pi(f)(P_{\mathfrak{E}}) = P_{f \circ \mathfrak{E}}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{E} & \xrightarrow{T(f)} & f \circ \mathfrak{E} \\ \downarrow \phi_1 & & \downarrow \phi_2 \\ P_{\mathfrak{E}} & \xrightarrow{\Omega(f)} & P_{f \circ \mathfrak{E}} \end{array}$$

- (4) *If  $f: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  is one-to-one, or an inclusion (of a closed subset, of a  $\mathcal{Z}$ -subset, of a  $\mathcal{Z}_{c\delta}$ -subset), so is  $\Pi(f): \Pi(K_1) \rightarrow \Pi(K_2)$ . In case of an inclusion,  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$ , one has more precisely  $\Pi(K_1) = \Pi(K_2) \cap \Delta(\Omega(K_1)) = \{Q \in \Pi(K_2) \mid (Q \circ \kappa_2^{-1})(K_1) = 1\}$ .*
- (5) *For  $K_1$   $K$ -analytic, if  $f: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  is onto, so is  $\Pi(f)$ .*

*Proof.* 1: Follows immediately from property (P) (thm. III.1.1.1 p. 124 in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015).

2: Suffices by Stone-Weierstrass to show that  $A$  separates points, and hence that it separates points of all  $\Omega_n$ 's (=  $\Omega$  with the hierarchies

of beliefs truncated at level  $n$  Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (cf. 2015, thm. III.1.1.3 p. 124)). This follows by induction: it holds by definition for  $\Omega_{-1} = K$ , and for the induction step, when knowing that we have all continuous functions  $f$  on  $\Omega_n$  (Stone-Weierstrass as above), those  $f$  will separate points of  $\Delta(\Omega_n)$ , hence in particular the  $\theta_i(f)$  separate points of  $\Theta_{i,n+1}$ .

3: Continuity of  $\Pi(f)$  follows by definition from that of  $\Omega(f)$  (property (P) in thm. III.1.1.1 p. 124 in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015); and that its values are contained in  $\Pi(K_2)$  follows from the last statement, applied to the canonical information schemes. As to that one, by Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.2.4.2 p. 142), suffices to show that  $\Omega(f) \circ \phi_1$  satisfies the requirements on a  $\phi_2$  in point 1 of that theorem,  $T(f)$  being the identity on  $E$ ; continuity of  $\Omega(f)$  ensures the measurability and point 1b, point 1a is by definition of  $\Omega(f)$  and of  $\phi_1$ , while the left hand member in point 1c equals  $\theta^i(\phi_1(e))([\Omega(f)]^{-1}(B))$  by property (P) *loc. cit.* and the right hand member equals  $P(\phi_1^{-1}([\Omega(f)]^{-1}(B)) | \mathcal{E}_i)(e)$  (by definition), hence equality follows from point 1c *loc. cit.* for  $\phi_1$ .

4: The corresponding results for  $\Omega(f)$  (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.1.2.3a p. 127, A.9.b.1 and A.9.b.2 p. 521), imply our conclusions, except:

(a) for the “more precisely”, remains to show that  $Q \in \Pi(K_2), (Q \circ \kappa_2^{-1})(K_1) = 1 \Rightarrow Q \in \Pi(K_1)$ , since the inclusions from left to right are now clear. Fix then  $B \subseteq K_1$  in  $\mathcal{B}^{K_2}$  with  $Q(\kappa_2^{-1}(B)) = 1$ ; using Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.1.2.3b p. 127) with  $B$  as  $K_1$ , we conclude that inductively  $A_n^i$  is borel and  $Q(A_n^i) = 1$ , hence  $Q(\Omega(K_1)) = 1$  since  $\Omega(B) \subseteq \Omega(K_1)$  (point 3a *loc. cit.*), so  $Q \in \Pi(K_2) \cap \Delta(\Omega(K_1))$ .  $Q \in \Pi(K_1)$  follows now straight from the definition of consistency.

(b) for the inclusion of a closed subset, of a  $\mathcal{Z}$ -subset, of a  $\mathcal{Z}_{c\delta}$ -subset, our conclusions are that  $\Delta(\Omega(K_1))$  is such a subset of  $\Delta(\Omega(K_2))$ ; the equality  $\Pi(K_1) = \Pi(K_2) \cap \Delta(\Omega(K_1))$  implies then the result.

5: For  $Q \in \Pi(K_2)$ , choose  $\mu \in \Delta(K_1)$  s.t.  $f(\mu) = \kappa_2(Q)$ , using A.9.b.3 in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, p. 521). Let  $\nu$  denote the image of  $\mu$  on the graph of  $f$ , and use Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, II.1Ex.16c p. 86) to get a corresponding transition probability  $\rho$  from  $K_2$  to  $K_1$ , i.e.,  $\rho: K_2 \rightarrow \Delta(K_1)$  is such that the inverse image of every borel set is  $\kappa_2(Q)$ -measurable, the induced probability on  $\mathcal{B}^{\Delta(K_1)}$  is tight, and  $\nu(B) = \int \rho(B|x)(\kappa_2(Q))(dx)$  for all  $B$  in the product of the borel  $\sigma$ -fields.

$Q \otimes \rho$  defines a tight distribution on  $\Omega(K_2) \times K_1$ ; with the projection to  $K_1$ , this defines an information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}$  about  $K_1$ : let  $P = P_{\mathfrak{E}}$ , and  $Q' = \Pi(f)(P)$ . We must show that  $Q' = Q$ . By (3),  $Q' = P_{f \circ \mathfrak{E}}$ , and  $f \circ \mathfrak{E}$  is the (canonical) information scheme  $Q$  (about  $K_2$ ), followed by the transition  $\rho$  to  $K_1$  and then  $f$  from  $K_1$  to a copy  $K'_2$  of  $K_2$ , and where

the “state of nature” is generated from the coordinate in  $K'_2$ . There is no loss to extend this to a tight distribution on  $\Omega(K_2) \times K_1 \times K'_2$ . We claim that this distribution is carried by the diagonal in  $K_2 \times K'_2$ . To prove this, suffices to take a pair of disjoint open sets  $O$  and  $O'$  in  $K_2$ , and to prove that  $(\kappa_2(Q) \otimes (f \circ \rho))(O \times O') = 0$ . The left hand member equals  $\int \rho(O \times f^{-1}(O')|x)(\kappa_2(Q))(dx)$ , i.e.,  $\nu(O \times f^{-1}(O'))$ . Since  $\nu$  is by definition carried by the graph of  $f$ , we get indeed 0. The intermediate factor  $K_1$  (as well as the factor  $K_2$ ) can be forgotten for computing the associated consistent prior since it affects neither the true state of nature nor the information of the players. Thus our distribution on  $K_2 \times \Theta_1(K_2) \times \Theta_2(K_2) \times K'_2$  has  $Q$  as marginal on the first 3 factors, and is carried by the diagonal in  $K_2 \times K'_2$ : its marginal on the last 3 factors is also  $Q$ . So  $Q' = P_{f \circ \mathfrak{E}}$  is the canonical distribution associated to  $\mathfrak{E}_Q$ :  $Q' = Q$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 20.**

- (1) For  $K_1$  compact, if  $f$  is a quotient map, so are  $\Omega(f)$  and  $\Pi(f)$ .
- (2) For  $K$  compact, and for a sequence  $f_n$  of continuous functions on  $\Omega$ , there is a metrisable quotient  $\bar{K}$  of  $K$  s.t. the  $f_n$  factor through the map  $\Omega \rightarrow \Omega(\bar{K})$ .

*Proof.* 1: Since any continuous map from a compact space onto a Hausdorff space is a quotient map, this follows from point 5 of prop. 19.

2: Consider, for each finite subset  $\alpha$  of  $C(K)$ , the smallest algebra  $A_\alpha$  containing  $\alpha$  and s.t.  $\theta_i(f) \in A_\alpha$  ( $i = 1, 2$ )  $\forall f \in A_\alpha$ . By prop. 19.2,  $\bigcup_\alpha A_\alpha$  is dense in  $C(\Omega)$ . We obtain thus a sequence  $\alpha_k$ , s.t. all  $f_n$  are in the closure of  $\bigcup_k A_{\alpha_k}$ . Then the closed algebra  $C_0$  spanned by  $\bigcup_k \alpha_k$  and the constants defines the metrisable quotient  $\bar{K}$ , with quotient map  $\phi$ . The image of  $C(\Omega(\bar{K}))$  by  $\Omega^*(\phi)$  contains all  $f_n$ , by prop. 19.1, since all operations to construct them from elements of  $C_0$  (algebra-,  $\theta_i(\cdot)$ , limits) are preserved by  $\Omega^*(\phi)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 21.** Let  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{F}$  be two information schemes about  $K$ . Assume  $f: K' \rightarrow K$  is continuous, and either an inclusion, with  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}(K') = 1$ , or bijective, with  $K'$   $K$ -analytic. Then  $\mathfrak{E}' = f^{-1} \circ \mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}' = f^{-1} \circ \mathfrak{F}$  (with the obvious meaning — cf. prop. 19) are well-defined information schemes about  $K'$ , with  $\mathfrak{E}' \preceq \mathfrak{F}'$ , and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}'} = P_{\mathfrak{F}'}$  iff  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P_{\mathfrak{F}}$ .

*Proof.* The schemes are well-defined: first, also  $P_{\mathfrak{F}}(K') = 1$ , since  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{F}$  implies they induce the same distribution on  $K$ . Next, for the inclusion, the definition assumes that  $E' = \kappa_E^{-1}(f(K'))$ , and use prop. 19.4 and 19.3. For the bijection, suffices clearly to show that  $f^{-1}$  is universally measurable (à la Lusin). Now, by A.9.b.3 in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, p.521), every  $\mu \in \Delta(K)$  is the image by  $\Delta(f)$  of some  $\mu' \in \Delta(K')$ . Then with  $C$  a compact subset of  $K'$  with large  $\mu'$ -measure,  $f(C)$  is compact in  $K$  with large  $\mu$ -measure, and  $f^{-1}$  is continuous on it:  $f^{-1}$  is  $\mu$ -Lusin measurable.

$P_{\mathfrak{E}'} = P_{\mathfrak{F}'}$  if  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P_{\mathfrak{F}}$  by prop. 19.4, and conversely, because  $\mathfrak{E} = f \circ \mathfrak{E}'$  and  $\mathfrak{F} = f \circ \mathfrak{F}'$  (up to null sets in case of an inclusion, i.e.,  $f \circ \mathfrak{E}' \mathbf{I} \mathbf{S}_1 \mathbf{S}_2 \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{E}$ , where the last 3 operations only remove null sets.).

$\mathfrak{E}' \preceq \mathfrak{F}'$ : since  $f \circ \mathfrak{E}' \mathbf{I} \mathbf{S}_1 \mathbf{S}_2 \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{E}$  which are equivalences, we can assume that  $\kappa_E(E) \subseteq f(K')$ , so now the schemes are strictly well-defined, and  $\mathfrak{E} = f \circ \mathfrak{E}'$ . By the same argument, all  $\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{I}^{-1}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{D}^{-1}, \mathbf{D}_1^{-1}, \mathbf{D}_2, \mathbf{S}_1, \mathbf{S}_2^{-1}$  in the chain are still such operations when viewed as operating between the corresponding schemes about  $K'$  (recall that sufficiency, being defined in terms of conditional expectations, is unaffected by null sets).  $\square$

3.1.1. *A modification of canonical information schemes.* Assume  $P$  is a canonical information scheme, then replacing  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega$  by  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{B}^K \times \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1 \times \Theta_2}$  leads to a modified canonical information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}_P^m$  such that  $P \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{E}_P^m$ .

**Lemma 22.** *For any information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}$ , there is a modified map  $\phi^m: E \rightarrow \Omega$  having the same properties as  $\phi$  in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.2.4 p. 142), except that  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega$  is replaced by  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\phi^m = (\kappa, \phi_1, \phi_2)$ , where  $\phi_i$  is  $\mathcal{E}_i \vee \mathcal{N}$ -measurable to  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i} - \mathcal{N}$  denoting the  $\sigma$ -field of all negligible subsets of  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$ .*

*Remark 23.* So  $\phi^m$  induces the modified canonical information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}_{P\mathfrak{E}}^m$ .

*Proof.* Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, rem. III.2.9 p. 147) proves the statement, except that the measurability of  $\phi_i$  is only obtained (from Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.2.4.1c p. 142)) as “ $\phi_i(B)$  is  $\mathcal{E}_i \vee \mathcal{N}$ -measurable for every  $B \in \mathcal{P}$ ”. To conclude from this to our statement, observe that (by tightness) it suffices to prove that  $\phi_1^{-1}(C)$  is  $\mathcal{E}_i \vee \mathcal{N}$ -measurable for any compact set  $C \subseteq \Theta_1$ . Let then  $C'$  be a compact subset disjoint from  $C$ : by the same argument, suffices to show that there exists a borel subset  $B \supseteq C$  with  $B \cap C' = \emptyset$  s.t.  $\phi_1^{-1}(B)$  is  $\mathcal{E}_i \vee \mathcal{N}$ -measurable. Suffices thus to prove that every  $x \neq y$  there is such a borel set  $B$  which is a neighbourhood of  $x$  and whose complement is one of  $y$ . Observe that the proof that  $\Delta(X)$  is Hausdorff for  $X$  Hausdorff rests on the fact that, given  $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2 \in \Delta(X)$ , there exist disjoint open sets  $O_1$  and  $O_2$ , and  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 > 1$  s.t.  $\mu_i(O_i) > \alpha_i$ , so with  $V_i = \{\mu \in \Delta(X) \mid \mu(O_i) > \alpha_i\}$ ,  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are disjoint open sets in  $\Delta(X)$  containing resp.  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ . When taking  $(\mu_1, \mu_2) = (x, y)$ , the set  $V_1$  becomes our desired set  $B$ .  $\square$

### 3.2. Values.

**Proposition 24.** *Let  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2$  be compact convex spaces, and  $G_n = ((\Sigma_i)_i, g_n)$  and  $G = ((\Sigma^i)_i, g)$  be zero-sum games (complete information). Assume all pay-off functions  $g_n, g$  are separately continuous in both arguments, quasi-concave in the first and quasi-convex in the second, and such that  $(g_n)_n$  converges uniformly to  $g$ . Then:*

- (1) Values  $V(G_n)$ ,  $V(G)$  exist as well as optimal strategies in the corresponding games, and  $\lim V(G_n) = V(G)$ ;
- (2) If  $\sigma_n^i \in \Sigma_i$  is  $(\varepsilon)$ -optimal for player  $i$  in  $G_n$  and if  $\lim \sigma_n^i = \sigma^i$ , then  $\sigma^i$  is  $(\varepsilon)$ -optimal in  $G$ .

*Proof.* The existence of values and optimal strategies follow by Sion's theorem (e.g., Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, theorem I.1.1 p. 5). For point 2, by the uniform convergence, and monotonicity, increasing a bit  $\varepsilon$  allows to assume that  $g_n = g \forall n$ . Then  $\forall \tau$ ,  $g(\sigma_n, \tau) \geq V(G) - \varepsilon \forall n \Rightarrow g(\sigma, \tau) \geq V(G) - \varepsilon$  by the separate continuity.  $\square$

We will apply the above result via:

**Proposition 25.** *For a game with incomplete information, endow each player  $i$ 's strategy space  $\Sigma_i$  — the set of transition probabilities from  $(E, \mathcal{E}_i)$  to his action space  $A_i$  — with the “weak” topology, i.e., the weakest making continuous all integrals of products of an integrable function on  $(E, \mathcal{E}_i)$  with a continuous function on  $A_i$ .*

*Each  $\Sigma_i$  is then compact convex in a locally convex space, and metrisable if  $A_i$  is so and  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$  is separable; and the pay-off, separately continuous.*

*Proof.* Cf. first paragraph of the proof of Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, prop. III.4.2 p. 155). The metrisability conclusion is then obvious, from the existence of a countable set of continuous functions that separates points.  $\square$

*Proof of thm. 3 and of thm. 7.1.* Thm. 3 is immediate from the above. Thm. 7.1 follows then from the monoticity of values w.r.t. information, except for  $\mathbf{S}_i$  which is also a classic argument, cf. e.g. the proof of prop. III.4.4 p. 157 in (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015).  $\square$

**Proposition 26.**  $\mathfrak{E} \sim P_{\mathfrak{E}}$

*Proof.* Let  $\phi^m$  be the modified map from  $\mathfrak{E} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i), \kappa_E, P)$  to  $\mathfrak{E}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}}^m = (\Omega, \mathcal{P}, (\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}), \text{proj}_K, P_{\mathfrak{E}})$  as in lemma 22.

Let  $\mathfrak{E}^c$  be  $\mathfrak{E}$  in which all  $\sigma$ -algebras are completed by elements of  $P$  probability zero — hence  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{S}_1 \mathbf{S}_2 \mathfrak{E}^c$  —, and let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be obtained from  $\mathfrak{E}^c$  by replacing  $\mathcal{E}_i^c$  by  $\mathcal{F}_i = \phi^{m,-1}(\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i})$ . It follows from lemma 22 that  $\mathcal{F}_i \subseteq \mathcal{E}_i^c$  and that  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is a sufficient statistic for  $\mathcal{E}_i^c$  on  $\mathcal{F}_j \vee \kappa_E^{-1}(\mathcal{K})$  ( $j \neq i$ ), hence  $\mathfrak{E}^c \mathbf{F} \mathfrak{F}$ .

First assume  $E \cap \Omega = \emptyset$ . Let  $G = E \cup \Omega$ , endowed with  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{E}^c \vee \mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_i = \mathcal{F}_i \vee \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}$ , and  $\kappa_G = \kappa_E \vee \text{proj}_K$ . Considering  $P$  and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  as probabilities on  $\mathcal{G}$ , this defines  $\mathfrak{G}_P = (G, \mathcal{G}, (\mathcal{G}_i), \kappa_G, P)$  and  $\mathfrak{G}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}} = (G, \mathcal{G}, (\mathcal{G}_i), \kappa_G, P_{\mathfrak{E}})$  such that  $\mathfrak{F} \mathbf{I} \mathfrak{G}_P$  and  $\mathfrak{E}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}}^m \mathbf{I} \mathfrak{G}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}}$ .

We now connect  $\mathfrak{G}_P$  to  $\mathfrak{G}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}}$ . First, decrease  $\mathcal{G}_i$  to  $\mathcal{G}'_i$  spanned by the sets  $\phi^{m,-1}(B) \cup B$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}$ , and next  $\mathcal{G}$  to  $\mathcal{G}'$  spanned by the sets  $\phi^{m,-1}(B) \cup B$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{P}$ . Note that  $\kappa_G$  is  $\mathcal{G}'$ -measurable since  $\phi^m$  is the

modified map, and that  $P$  and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  coincide on  $\mathcal{G}'$  ( $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  being the image of  $P$  by  $\phi^m$ ), hence denote the resulting scheme by  $\mathfrak{G}_0$ . Now, each element of  $\mathcal{G}_i$  differs of an element of  $\mathcal{G}'_i$  by an element of  $\mathcal{G}_i$  of  $P$ -probability 0, and by an element of  $\mathcal{G}_i$  of  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$ -probability 0. Hence  $\mathfrak{G}_P \mathbf{S}_1 \mathbf{S}_2 \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{G}_0$ , and  $\mathfrak{G}_0 \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{S}_1^{-1} \mathbf{S}_2^{-1} \mathfrak{G}_{P_{\mathfrak{E}}}$ .

If  $E \cap \Omega \neq \emptyset$ , let  $P'_{\mathfrak{E}}$  be a copy of  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  over a space  $\Omega'$  s.t.  $\Omega' \cap \Omega = \Omega' \cap E = \emptyset$ . The previous construction shows that  $E \sim P'_{\mathfrak{E}} \sim P_{\mathfrak{E}}$ .  $\square$

### 3.3. Topological properties of strategy spaces.

**Lemma 27.** *Let  $(g_n)$  converge to  $g_\infty$  in  $(L_\infty, \sigma(L_\infty, L_1))$ . There exists a sequence of convex combinations of  $(g_n)$ ,  $g'_k = \sum_n \alpha_{k,n} g_n$ , such that:*

- $\alpha_{n,k}$  goes to infinity, i.e. for every  $n$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{n,k} = 0$ .
- $g'_n$  converges to  $g_\infty$  *P* a.s.

*Proof.* Let  $D$  be the set of convex combinations of  $(g_n)_n$ , and let  $\bar{D}$  be the closure of  $D$  for the Mackey topology  $\tau(L_\infty, L_1)$ . Since  $\bar{D}$  is  $\tau(L_\infty, L_1)$  closed it is also  $\sigma(L_\infty, L_1)$  closed. Hence  $g_\infty \in \bar{D}$ . Recall that on bounded subsets of  $L_\infty$ ,  $\tau(L_\infty, L_1)$  coincides with the topology of convergence in probability (and also with the  $L_2$  and  $L_1$  topologies). Since  $\bar{D}$  is bounded in  $L_\infty$ , the result follows by Egorov's theorem.  $\square$

**Proposition 28.** *For  $X$  compact metric, there exists a borel map  $h$  from  $X^\mathbb{N}$  to  $X$  such that  $h((x_n)_n) = x$  whenever  $x_n$  converges to  $x$ .*

*Proof.* First notice that the set  $C$  of converging sequences of elements of  $[0, 1]$  is a borel subset of  $[0, 1]^\mathbb{N}$ . Indeed, for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $F_{m,\varepsilon}$  be the set of sequences  $(y_n)_n \in [0, 1]^\mathbb{N}$  such that there exists  $n, n' > n$  with  $|y_n - y_{n'}| > \varepsilon$ .  $F_{m,\varepsilon}$  is open in  $[0, 1]^\mathbb{N}$ , and  $C$  is simply the complement of  $\cup_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \cap_{m \in \mathbb{N}} F_{m,1/k}$ . Let  $(\phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of continuous functions from  $X$  to  $[0, 1]$  that separates points. A sequence  $(x_n)_n \in X^\mathbb{N}$  converges if and only if for every  $i$ ,  $(\phi_i(x_n))_n \in C$ . Hence the subset  $D \subseteq X^\mathbb{N}$  of converging sequences is borel. The mapping  $h$  from  $D$  to  $X$  that associates its limit to every converging sequence is borel if and only if for every continuous function  $\phi$  from  $X$  to  $[0, 1]$ ,  $\phi \circ h$  is borel. Since  $(\phi \circ h)((x_n)_n) = \lim_n \phi(x_n)$ , it is enough to prove that the map  $l$  from  $C$  to  $[0, 1]$  such that  $l((y_n)_n) = \lim_n y_n$  is borel. This last point comes from the fact that  $l$  is the limit of the sequence of measurable "projection" maps  $p_i: C \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by  $p_i((y_n)_n) = y_i$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 29.** *Fix an information scheme  $\mathfrak{E} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i)_i, P, \kappa_E)$ , compact metric convex sets  $A_i$ , and  $(\gamma_n)_n = ((A_i)_i, g_n)_n$  and  $\gamma = ((A_i)_i, g)$  s.t. all pay-off functions  $(g_n)_n$  and  $g$  are separately continuous from  $A_1 \times A_2 \times K$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ , and concave in the first argument, and s.t.  $(g_n)_n$  converges uniformly to  $g$ . For any sequence of pure optimal strategies  $(\sigma_{1,n})_n$  in  $\Gamma(\gamma_n, \mathfrak{E})$ , there exists a borel map  $f_1: (A_1)^\mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_1$  such that the strategy  $\sigma_1$  defined by  $\sigma_1(e) = f_1(\sigma_{1,n}(e))$  is optimal in  $\Gamma(\gamma, \mathfrak{E})$ .*

*Proof.* By prop. 24 and 25, extract a subsequence along which  $\sigma_{1,n}$  converges, say to  $\sigma_1$  (note that the sub- $\sigma$ -field of  $\mathcal{E}_1$  spanned by the  $\sigma_{1,n}$  is separable);  $\sigma_1$  is then optimal in  $\Gamma(\gamma, \mathfrak{E})$ . So there is a sequence of convex combinations of the unit masses at the  $\sigma_{1,n}$  s.t. those combinations converge, for a.e.  $e$ , weakly in  $\Delta(A_1)$  to  $\sigma_1(e)$ : let  $g_n$  be a dense sequence of continuous functions on  $A_1$ , and take by lemma 27 for each  $n_0$  a convex combination of  $(\delta_{\sigma_{1,n}})_{n \geq n_0}$  which is, in  $L_1(E, \mathbb{R}^{n_0})$ ,  $2^{-n_0}$  close to  $\sigma_1$  on each of  $g_1 \dots g_{n_0}$ ; then a.s. those convex combinations converge to  $\sigma_1$  on a dense set of continuous functions, hence weakly. Apply now prop. 28; since the sequence of convex combinations of point masses is clearly a borel function on  $A_1^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $\sigma_1(e)$  is a borel function of  $(\sigma_{1,n}(e))_n$ . Map finally each  $\sigma_1(e)$  to its barycentre; this is clearly borel, and still yields an optimal strategy by the concavity of the pay-off. Let  $f_1$  be the composition of those two borel maps.  $\square$

### 3.4. Required information in a game.

**Definition 30.** *Let  $\gamma$  be a game with compact metric action spaces and continuous pay-off function, and  $\mathfrak{E} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i), P, \kappa_E)$  be an information scheme. The sub-sigma-field  $\mathcal{F}_i$  of  $\mathcal{E}_i$  is required for player  $i$  in a game  $\gamma$  with action spaces  $(A_j)$  when for any optimal (behavioral) strategy  $\sigma_i$  of player  $i$  in  $\gamma$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ , there exists a map  $F_i$  from  $A_i$  to the set of probability measures on  $(E, \mathcal{F}_i)$  such that:*

- $\forall X \in \mathcal{F}_i$ , the map  $a_i \mapsto F_i(X)(a_i)$  is measurable.
- $\forall X \in \mathcal{F}_i$ ,  $(F_i \circ \sigma_i)(X)(e) = 1_X$  a.s.

where by definition,  $(F_i \circ \sigma_i)(X)(e) = \int_{A_i} F_i(X)(a_i) d\sigma_i(a_i)(e)$ .

**Lemma 31.** *Let  $K$  be a separable metric space and  $\gamma$  a game with compact metric  $A_i$ 's and continuous pay-off function. There exists a game  $\gamma'$  with compact metric  $A_i'$ 's and continuous pay-off function s.t.,  $\forall i$ :*

- In  $\gamma'$ ,  $i$  has a unique best reply for each belief on  $K \times A'_{3-i}$ .
- For any information scheme  $\mathfrak{E} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i), P, \kappa_E)$  and sub  $\sigma$ -fields  $\mathcal{F}_i$  of  $\mathcal{E}_i$  such that  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is required for player  $i$  in  $\gamma$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is also required in  $\gamma'$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ .

In particular,  $\gamma'$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$  has  $P$ -a.s. unique optimal strategies.

*Proof.* First, consider the game  $\bar{\gamma}$  with action spaces  $S_i = \Delta(A_i)$  (with the weak\* topology) and pay-off function  $\bar{g}$  defined by  $\bar{g}(s_1, s_2, k) = E_{s_1, s_2} g(a_1, a_2, k)$ . Choose strictly concave functions<sup>2</sup>  $f_i$  on  $S_i$ , and define a sequence of ‘‘perturbed’’ games  $\bar{\gamma}_n$  with action spaces  $S_i$  and pay-off functions defined by  $\bar{g}_n(s_1, s_2, k) = \bar{g}(s_1, s_2, k) + \frac{1}{n}(f_1(s_1) - f_2(s_2))$ . For each belief on  $K \times S_{3-i}$ , each player  $i$  has an unique best response in  $\bar{\gamma}_n$ . Hence in  $\bar{\gamma}_n$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ , each player  $i$  has a pure and  $P$ -a.s. unique

<sup>2</sup>For instance, consider a dense sequence  $(\phi_n)_n$  of continuous linear functionals on  $\Delta(A_i)$  (which is compact metric), and let  $f_i(x) = \sum_n 2^{-n} \|\phi_n\|^{-2} (\phi_n(x))^2$ .



optimal strategy  $\sigma_{i,n}$ . We finally define a game  $\gamma' = ((A'_i)_i, g')$  in which the sequence of games  $(\bar{\gamma}_n)_n$  is played simultaneously:  $A'_i = (S_i)^\mathbb{N}$  and  $g'((s_{1,n})_n, (s_{2,n})_n, k) = \sum_n 2^{-n} g(s_1, s_2, k)$ . The  $A'_i$  are compact metric (for the product topology) and  $g'$  is continuous. The unique optimal strategy for player  $i$  in  $\gamma'$  is  $\sigma_i$  defined by  $\sigma_i(e) = (\sigma_{i,n}(e))_n$ .

We now prove that  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is required in  $\gamma'$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ . Since the sequence of pay-off functions  $(g_n)$  converges uniformly to  $g$ , proposition 29 provides a measurable map  $f_i$  from  $A'_i = S_i^\mathbb{N}$  to  $S_i = \Delta(A_i)$ , thus a transition probability from  $A'_i$  to  $A_i$  such that  $\sigma_i$  defined by  $\sigma_i(e) = f_i((\sigma_{i,n}(e))_n)$  is optimal in  $\gamma$  extended by  $\mathfrak{E}$ . Now,  $\mathcal{F}_i$  being required in  $\gamma$ , let  $F_i$  from  $A_i$  to  $(E, \mathcal{F}_i)$  be as in definition 30. Then  $F_i \circ f$  is the required transition probability from  $A'_i$  to  $(E, \mathcal{F}_i)$ .  $\square$

**3.4.1. One person decision problems.** In the one player case, a (canonical) information scheme  $I$  is called a (canonical) statistical experiment, and a game  $d$ , decision problem—with value  $val(I, d)$ . An experiment  $I_1$  is said less informative than another  $I_2$ , denoted  $I_1 \leq I_2$ , if for any decision problem  $d$  with finite action set  $D$  and continuous pay-off function on  $K \times D$ ,  $val(I_1, d) \leq val(I_2, d)$ .

**Lemma 32.** *If  $K$  is compact metric and  $I_1 \leq I_2$ , then for every decision problem  $d$  on  $K$  with a Blackwell space of actions  $D$  and borel nonnegative pay-off function on  $K \times D$ ,  $val(I_1, d) \leq val(I_2, d)$ .*

*Proof.* First we assume  $D$  compact metric, and show that  $val(I_1, d) \leq val(I_2, d)$  for a decision problem  $d$  with a continuous pay-off function  $g$  on  $K \times D$ . The map  $f$  that associates to any belief  $x \in \Delta(K)$  the maximum expected pay-off under  $x$ ,

$$f(x) = \sup_{a \in D} \mathbf{E}_x g(k, a)$$

is continuous and convex on  $\Delta(K)$ . Thus there exists a sequence  $a_n \in D$  s.t.  $f_n(x) = \sup_{i \leq n} \mathbf{E}_x g(k, a_i)$  converges uniformly to  $f$ . The restriction  $d_n$  of  $d$  to  $\{a_1 \dots a_n\}$  is a decision problem with finite decision set and continuous pay-off, so  $val(I_1, d_n) \leq val(I_2, d_n)$ . Moreover, if  $\mu_j$  ( $j \in \{1, 2\}$ ) is the marginal on  $\Theta$  (the set of types of the player) of the canonical statistical experiment associated to  $I_j$ , one has

$$val(I_j, d) = \int_{\Delta(K)} f d\mu_j$$

and similarly for  $d_n$ . Hence in the limit  $val(I_1, d) \leq val(I_2, d)$ .

Now, by a theorem of Blackwell, Cartier, Fell and Meyer (see e.g., Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, remark II.1.36 p. 89), there exists a family  $(T_x)_{x \in \Delta(K)}$  of probability measures on  $\Delta(K)$  such that each  $T_x$  has barycentre  $x$ , for every borel set  $B$  of  $\Delta(K)$  the map  $x \rightarrow T_x(B)$  is borel, and  $\mu_2(B) = \int_{x \in \Delta(K)} T_x(B) d\mu_1$ . Let  $d$  be a decision problem on  $K$  with Blackwell space of actions  $D$  and borel nonnegative

pay-off function on  $K \times D$ , and let  $f$  be the convex universally measurable function defined as before on  $\Delta(K)$ : then  $\text{val}(I_j, d) = \int_{\Delta(K)} f d\mu_j$ , because there exist universally measurable strategies which are uniformly  $\varepsilon$ -optimal,  $D$  being Blackwell. Thus  $\int_{\Delta(K)} f d\mu_1 \leq \int_{\Delta(K)} f d\mu_2$  by Jensen's inequality. Hence the result.  $\square$

**Lemma 33.** *Given  $K$  compact metric, there exists a decision problem  $d$  with compact metric action space and continuous pay-off function such that for every canonical experiment  $I$ , the borel  $\sigma$ -field on  $\Delta(K)$  is required in  $d$  extended by  $I$ . More precisely, there exists a continuous function  $F$  from  $A$  to  $\Delta(K)$  s.t. for any canonical experiment  $I$ , and any optimal decision function  $\sigma$  in  $d$  extended by  $I$ ,  $F(\sigma(x)) = x$  a.s.*

*Proof.* Fix two arbitrary decisions  $a'$  and  $a''$ . Let  $D$  be the set of continuous functions from  $K \times \{a', a''\}$  to  $[0, 1]$ , and  $D'$  a countable dense subset of  $D$ , for the uniform topology. For any pair of beliefs  $x_1, x_2$  on  $K$ , there exists two continuous functions  $g(a', \cdot)$  and  $g(a'', \cdot)$  on  $K$  s.t.  $\mathbf{E}_{x_1}g(a', \cdot) > \mathbf{E}_{x_1}g(a'', \cdot)$  and  $\mathbf{E}_{x_2}g(a'', \cdot) > \mathbf{E}_{x_2}g(a', \cdot)$ , hence there exist  $d \in D'$  s.t. the optimal actions in  $d$  given  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  differ. Let  $(d_l)_{l \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  be an enumeration of  $D'$ , and  $d$  the decision problem with action set  $A = \{a', a''\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and pay-off function  $d_0((a_l)_{l>0}, k) = \sum_{l>0} 2^{-l} d_l(a_l, k)$ .  $d_0$  is jointly continuous, so the expected pay-off is jointly continuous on  $A \times \Delta(K)$ . Thus, with  $R(x)$  be the set of best responses to  $x \in \Delta(K)$ ,  $x \mapsto R(x)$  is u.s.c. on  $\Delta(K)$ ; in particular,  $R(\Delta(K))$  is compact. Notice that  $R(x_1) \cap R(x_2) = \emptyset$  for  $x_1 \neq x_2$ . Define  $F: R(\Delta(K)) \rightarrow \Delta(K)$  as  $F(a) = x$  whenever  $a \in R(x)$ . Then  $F$  is a map with closed graph ( $R$  u.s.c.) between compact spaces, hence continuous on its domain  $R(\Delta(K))$ . So the "more precisely" clause is established, and hence the borel  $\sigma$ -field on  $\Delta(K)$  is required in  $\Gamma(I, d)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 34.** *Given a compact metric  $K$ , there exists a decision problem  $d_0$  with action space  $\Delta(K)$  such that for any belief  $x$  on  $K$ , the only optimal action in  $d_0$  is  $x$ .*

*Proof.* Take the decision problem  $d$  of lemma 33, and apply lemma 31 to it: in the new decision problem  $d_0$ , with action set  $A'$ , there is a unique optimal action for each belief on  $K$ , so this is a continuous function  $f: \Delta(K) \rightarrow A'$ .  $f$  is one to one because the borel  $\sigma$ -field on  $\Delta(K)$  is required in  $d_0$  for any canonical experiment. We have thus still all those properties when reducing the action set to  $A'' = f(\Delta(K))$ . But now  $f$  is a homeomorphism between  $A''$  and  $\Delta(K)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 35.** *For a decision problem  $d_0$  as in prop. 34, for any pair  $I_1, I_2$  of statistical experiments on  $K$  with  $I_1 \leq I_2$ , either  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are associated to the same canonical experiment, or  $\text{val}(I_1, d_0) < \text{val}(I_2, d_0)$ .*

*Proof.* By lemma 32,  $\text{val}(I_1, d_0) \leq \text{val}(I_2, d_0)$ , with equality when  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  have the same canonical experiment. Let  $I_1 \leq I_2$  be canonical,

i.e.  $I_i$  is represented by a probability  $\mu_i$  over  $X_i = \Delta(K)$ .  $I_i$  also defines a probability measure  $P_i$  over  $X_i \times K$ . Since  $I_1 \leq I_2$ , there exists a transition probability  $Q$  from  $X_2$  to  $X_1$  s.t.  $P_1$  is the marginal on  $X_1 \times K$  of the law induced by  $P_2$  and  $Q$  on  $X_1 \times X_2 \times K$ . If  $\text{val}(I_1, d_0) = \text{val}(I_2, d_0)$ , following  $Q$  and playing optimally given  $x_1$  is an optimal strategy in  $d_0$  extended by  $I_2$ . By uniqueness of the optimal action in  $d_0$ , it follows that  $Q(x_2, \cdot)$  is the Dirac mass at  $x_2$ ,  $\mu_2$  a.s. Hence  $\mu_1 = \mu_2$ .  $\square$

### 3.4.2. Main lemma of this part.

**Lemma 36.** *Assume  $K$  is compact metric. For any game  $\gamma$  with compact metric action spaces and continuous pay-off there exists a game  $\gamma'$  with compact metric action spaces and continuous pay-off such that, for any information scheme  $\mathfrak{C} = (E, \mathcal{E}, (\mathcal{E}_i)_{i \in I}, P, \kappa_E)$ , if  $\mathcal{F}_i \subseteq \mathcal{E}_i$  is required for some player  $i$  in  $\gamma$ , then the sub- $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}_{3-i}$  of  $\mathcal{E}_{3-i}$  generated by his opponent's beliefs on  $K \times (E, \mathcal{F}_i)$  is required for this opponent in  $\gamma'$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma = (A, B, g)$ . We shall fix  $i = 2$  throughout the proof, constructing thus in fact a game  $\gamma'_2$ ;  $\gamma'$  will be the game  $\gamma'_1 \times \gamma'_2$  where both are played in parallel. Using lemma 31, we can assume that in  $\gamma$ , player 2 has a unique best response for each belief on  $K \times A$ . Hence player 2's optimal strategy is unique, and pure, thus the unit mass at some point  $b(e)$ , where  $b: E \rightarrow B$  is  $\mathcal{E}_2$ -measurable. For the space of states of nature  $K \times B$ , let  $d$  be a "separating" decision problem for player one (in the sense of prop. 34) with action space  $X = \Delta(K \times B)$ .

Given  $n > 0$ , let  $\gamma'_n$  be the game with action spaces  $A \times X$  and  $B$ , and with pay-off  $g'_n(a, x, b, k) = g(a, b, k) + \frac{1}{n}d(k, b, x)$ . Finally,  $\gamma'$  is the game with action spaces  $A' = (A \times X)^{\mathbb{N}}$  and  $B' = B^{\mathbb{N}}$  and pay-off  $g'((a_n, x_n), (b_n), k) = \sum_n 2^{-n} \cdot g'_n(a_n, x_n, b_n, k)$ .

*Claim 37.* Let  $\tau$  be any optimal strategy of 2 in  $\gamma'$ . Then  $b_n$  converges in  $P \times \tau$ -probability to  $b(e)$ .

*Proof.* By the uniqueness of 2's optimal strategy in  $\gamma$ , prop. 24 and 25 imply the convergence of  $\tau_n$  to  $\delta_{b(\cdot)}$  in the sense that, for any continuous function  $f$  on  $B$ ,  $\tau_n(f)$  converges  $\sigma(L_\infty, L_1)$  to  $f(b(e))$ .

Let then  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be 2 disjoint closed sets in  $B$ . There is a continuous function  $f$  from  $B$  to  $[0, 1]$  which equals 1 on  $B_1$  and 0 on  $B_2$ . Let  $Y = b^{-1}(B_2)$ : the weak convergence implies that the integral on  $Y$  of  $\tau_n(f) - f(b(e))$  tends to 0. But since  $f(b(e)) = 0$  and  $\tau_n(f) \geq \tau_n(B_1)$ , this implies that  $\mu_n(B_1 \times B_2)$  tends to zero, with  $\mu_n$  the probability on  $B \times B$  induced by  $(\tau_n, \tau_0)$ . By compactness of  $B$ , there exists for every neighborhood  $U$  of the diagonal in  $B^2$  a finite number of pairs of disjoint closed sets  $B_1$  et  $B_2$  s.t. the products  $B_1 \times B_2$  cover  $\mathcal{C}U$ :  $\mu_n(U)$  tends to 1, for every such neighborhood, i.e.,  $d(x, y)$  tends in probability to 0 under  $\mu_n$ , and hence, being bounded, its integral tends to zero:  $E \int_B d(b(e), y) \tau_n(dy|e) \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

*Claim 38.* Let  $\tau$  be optimal for 2 in  $\gamma'$ . Then  $(P \times \tau)(k, b_n | \mathcal{E}_1)$  converges weakly to  $(P \times \tau)(k, b(e) | \mathcal{E}_1)$  in  $P$ -probability.

*Proof.* Since  $K \times B$  is compact metric, the conditional probabilities exist. Suffices to prove that from any subsequence we can extract a further subsequence along which the conclusion holds. Since  $b_n \rightarrow b(e)$  in probability (claim 37), extract an a.s. convergent subsequence (Egorov). Now for any continuous function  $f$  on  $K \times B$ ,  $E(f(k, b_n) | \mathcal{E}_1) \rightarrow E(f(k, b(e)) | \mathcal{E}_1)$  a.s. (dominated convergence).  $\square$

*Claim 39.* Given a pair of optimal strategies  $(\sigma, \tau)$ , there exists  $G: A' \rightarrow \Delta(K \times B)$  such that  $G(a_n, x_n) = Q(k, b(e) | \mathcal{E}_1)$  a.s.

*Proof.* Use  $x_n \stackrel{\text{a.s.}}{=} Q(k, b_n | \mathcal{E}_1)$  (prop. 34), claim 38, Egorov, and prop. 28.  $\square$

### 3.5. $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$ depends only on the $\preceq$ indifference class of $\mathfrak{E}$ .

*Proof of Theorem 13.* The separable metric spaces are the subspaces of compact metric spaces; by Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, theorem III.1.2.3a p. 127) and prop. 19.4, topological inclusion is preserved when going to the universal type, so we can assume  $K$  compact metric, the borel isomorphism property being preserved by restriction to a subspace. Use then lemma 36 inductively, starting with  $\mathcal{F}_i = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$  and  $\gamma_0$  a game with singleton action sets. Let  $\gamma_n$  be the game obtained at the  $n^{\text{th}}$  stage of the induction. If  $\mathcal{T}_i^n$  denotes the sub- $\sigma$ -field of  $\mathcal{T}_i$  spanned by the first  $n$  levels of the hierarchy of types, then  $\mathcal{T}_i^n$  is by construction required for  $i$  in  $\gamma_n$ , for any consistent prior  $P$ .

Let  $\gamma_\infty = \prod_n \gamma_n$  be the game where all  $\gamma_n$  are played in parallel (and pay-offs summed after multiplication by suitable weights):  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is required in  $\gamma_\infty$  for each  $i$  and any consistent prior  $P$ . Using lemma 31 yields now further the uniqueness of best replies, and so the existence of pure, borel optimal strategies ( $i$  using at each  $\theta_i$  the unique best reply against some fixed borel optimal strategy of  $j$ ). With  $M$  the sup norm of the game, replace then  $A_i$  by its disjoint union with a copy  $\Theta'_i$  of  $\Theta_i$ , defining  $i$ 's pay-off as  $-M - 1$  when he plays in  $\Theta'_i$  and his opponent not, and as 0 when both do: our previous conclusions are unaffected. Given a pure borel optimal strategy  $a_i(\theta_i)$ , there is,  $\mathcal{T}_i$  being required, a borel map  $f_i: A_i \rightarrow \Theta_i$  s.t.  $f_i \circ a_i$  is a.e. the identity (separability of  $\sigma$ -fields):  $N = \{\theta_i \mid (f_i \circ a_i)(\theta_i) \neq \theta_i \text{ or } a_i(\theta_i) \in \Theta'_i\}$  is a negligible borel set, and  $a_i$  injective outside. Redefine then  $a_i$  on  $N$  by  $a_i(\theta_i) = \theta_i \in \Theta'_i$ : it is still a borel pure optimal strategy, and is one to one, hence (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, A.5.e p. 517) a borel isomorphism with its image,  $A_i$  and  $\Theta_i$  being compact metric.  $\square$

*Remark 40.* 1) Uniqueness of the best reply implies its continuity on  $\Delta(K \times A_{-i})$ , and the a.s. uniqueness of optimal strategies.

2) So, for any consistent  $P$ , the distribution  $\bar{P}$  (with marginal  $\bar{P}_i$  on  $A_i$ )

on  $\Omega \times A_1 \times A_2$  induced by  $P$  and optimal strategies depends only on  $P$ .  
 3)  $P \mapsto \bar{P}_i$  is injective: for  $P \neq P'$ , their marginals on  $\Theta_i$  also differ; a pure optimal strategy in  $\frac{1}{2}P + \frac{1}{2}P'$  which is a borel isomorphism with its image is optimal in  $P$  and  $P'$ , so by the borel isomorphism,  $\bar{P}_i \neq \bar{P}'_i$ .

**Lemma 41.** *Assume  $K$  compact metric. For consistent priors  $P \neq P'$ ,  $v_g(P) \neq v_g(P')$  for some pay-off function with finite action spaces  $g$ .*

*Proof.* Else  $v_g(P) = v_g(P')$  for any pay-off function  $g$ : if e.g.  $v_g(P) > v_g(P')$  for some  $g$ , this relation is preserved when replacing the action spaces by a sufficiently fine finite discretisation (use first (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, prop. III.4.2 p. 155) for player II in  $\gamma(P')$ , next for player I in  $\gamma(P)$ ). Let then  $G = ((A_i), g)$  be as in prop. 13; for a continuous function  $h$  on  $A_1$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  let  $G_\epsilon$  be the game with action spaces  $(A_i)$  and pay-off function  $g_\epsilon(a_1, a_2, k) = g(a_1, a_2, k) + \epsilon h(a_1)$ . The Mills derivative  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} (V(G_\epsilon, P) - V(G, P))/\epsilon$  is then also equal at  $P$  and  $P'$ , and (cf. Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, I.1Ex.6 p. 11) equals  $\int h d\bar{P}_1$  (rem. 2 above):  $\forall h, \int h d\bar{P}_1 = \int h d\bar{P}'_1$ , contradicting rem. 3 above.  $\square$

*Proof of theorem 12.* As in prop. 13, suffices to deal with the case of compact  $K$ , since the completely regular spaces are the subspaces of compact spaces. And then the space of consistent priors is also compact (cf. Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, cor. III.2.3 p. 140), so suffices to show that the  $V(G, P)$  separate points.

$P_1 \neq P_2$  implies there is a continuous function on  $\Omega$  whose integral differs under  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Hence by cor. 20.2, for some metrisable quotient  $\bar{K}$  of  $K$ , still  $P_1 \neq P_2$  for the induced priors (cf. prop. 19.3) on  $\Omega(\bar{K})$ . Apply now lemma 41: there is a game  $G$  with finite action spaces and with pay-offs continuous on  $\bar{K}$ , for which  $Val(G, P_1) \neq Val(G, P_2)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 42.**  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  depends only on the  $\preceq$  indifference class of  $\mathfrak{E}$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{E}' \preceq \mathfrak{E}$ , and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} \neq P_{\mathfrak{E}'}$ . Fix (tightness) a sequence  $K_i$  of disjoint compact subsets of  $K$  s.t., with  $K_\infty = \bigcup_i K_i$ ,  $P_{\mathfrak{E}}(K_\infty) = P_{\mathfrak{E}'}(K_\infty) = 1$ . By lemma 21,  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{E}'$  can be viewed as schemes over  $K_\infty$ , and still  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{E}' \preceq \mathfrak{E}$  when viewed as schemes over  $K_\infty$ , and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} \neq P_{\mathfrak{E}'} \in \Pi(K_\infty)$ . Thus we can assume  $K = \bigcup_i K_i$ .

Let now  $L$  denote the space  $K$ , with each  $K_i$  as additional open subset: the map  $f: L \rightarrow K$  is bijective and continuous, and  $L$  is completely regular, being locally compact, and  $K$ -analytic, being a  $\mathcal{K}_\sigma$ . So by lemma 21, we still have  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{E}' \preceq \mathfrak{E}$  when viewed as schemes over  $L$ , and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} \neq P_{\mathfrak{E}'}$ , thus contradicting thm. 12 (by thm. 7.1 and prop. 26).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 9.* Use prop. 42 and prop. 26.  $\square$

*Remark 43.* Cor. 10 and 11 follow now. Thm. 7.5 and 7.1 are also established: for 7.5, from prop. 42 and prop. 26, because  $\sim \subseteq \preceq_i \subseteq \preceq$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ); and 7.1 was done after prop. 25. Thus remain to be proved before theorem 14 only points 2 to 4 of thm. 7.

### 3.6. Comparison of canonical information structures.

*Proof of Theorem 14.* We first claim that there exists such  $R$  iff there exist  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  with  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P$ ,  $P_{\mathfrak{F}} = Q$ , and  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathfrak{F}$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathfrak{F}$ ,  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathfrak{F}$ ). Assume such  $R$  exists, and let  $\tilde{E} = \{(\omega, \omega') \in \Omega \times \Omega' \mid k = k'\}$  endowed with  $R$ , and let  $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_i = \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i} \times \mathcal{B}^{\Theta'_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  are the same except that  $\mathcal{E}_1 = \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2 = \mathcal{B}^{\Theta'_2}$ . It is then clear that  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathfrak{F}$ , and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P$  by 2 and  $P_{\mathfrak{F}} = Q$  by 3. For  $\preceq_1$ , the argument is the same except that already  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = Q$  since  $\tilde{\mathfrak{E}} \mathbf{F} Q$  by 3 and 4. Dually for  $\preceq_2$ .

Assume now such  $\mathfrak{E}$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}$ , where w.l.o.g. the  $\sigma$ -fields contain all null sets. Thus,  $\mathcal{F}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{E}_2$  and  $\mathcal{E}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{F}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{E}$  on  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$ . Let  $\phi_{\mathfrak{E}}$  and  $\phi_{\mathfrak{F}}$  from  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$  to  $\Omega$  and to  $\Omega'$  be the modified maps of lemma 22 corresponding to  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $\phi = (\phi_{\mathfrak{E}}, \phi_{\mathfrak{F}})$  from  $(E, \mathcal{E}, P)$  to  $\Omega \times \Omega'$ . Then,  $\phi$  is by definition measurable to  $\mathcal{B}^K \times \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1 \times \Theta_2} \times \mathcal{B}^{K'} \times \mathcal{B}^{\Theta'_1 \times \Theta'_2}$ , hence induces a probability measure  $R$  on the product of those four  $\sigma$ -fields. The marginals of  $R$  on  $\Omega$  and on  $\Omega'$  are the restrictions to the corresponding  $\sigma$ -fields of  $P$  and  $Q$  respectively, in particular tight, hence  $R$  has a unique tight extension to  $\mathcal{B}^{\Omega \times \Omega'}$ , and this has  $P$  and  $Q$  as marginals on  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega'$ . Every product of disjoint open sets in  $K$  and  $K'$  (times  $\Theta_1 \times \Theta_2 \times \Theta'_1 \times \Theta'_2$ ) is  $R$ -negligible. Hence point 1.

$\theta'_2 = \theta'_2(\phi_{\mathfrak{F}}(e))$  is (lemma 22)  $\mathcal{F}_2$ -, hence  $\mathcal{E}_2$ -measurable, thus  $\mathcal{E}_2$ 's independence of  $\Omega$  given  $\Theta_2$  implies 2. Point 3 is dual.

Similarly for point 4. Hence our first claim.

We have thus proved the existence of such  $R$  when  $E \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} F$  or  $E \mathbf{D}_2 F$ . Recall that  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P_{\mathfrak{F}}$  whenever  $E$  and  $F$  are related by  $\mathbf{I}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$ , or  $\mathbf{F}$ . Hence the existence of a composition of such  $R$  when  $P \preceq Q$ ,  $P \preceq_1 Q$ , or  $P \preceq_2 Q$ . Remains thus only to show that the relation of  $P$  and  $Q$  to be related by such an  $R$  is transitive (in each of the three cases).

Assume  $P, P'$  on  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega'$  are related by  $R$  and  $P', P''$  on  $\Omega'$  and  $\Omega''$  by  $R'$ . Let  $\rho(d\omega|\omega')$  and  $\rho'(d\omega''|\omega')$  be the conditionals defined by  $R$  and  $R'$  (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, II.1Ex.16c p. 86), and define a tight distribution  $\tilde{R}$  on  $\Omega \times \Omega' \times \Omega''$  by its marginal  $P'$  on  $\Omega'$  and by having the product  $\rho \otimes \rho'$  as conditional on  $\mathcal{B}^{\Omega} \times \mathcal{B}^{\Omega''}$  given  $\Omega'$ .  $\tilde{R}$  has  $R$  and  $R'$  as marginals on  $\Omega \times \Omega'$  and on  $\Omega' \times \Omega''$  resp., hence its support is contained in the diagonal of  $K \times K' \times K''$ , and  $\Omega \times \Omega'$  and  $\Omega' \times \Omega''$  are conditionally independent under  $\tilde{R}$  given  $\Omega'$ .

For  $X \in \mathcal{B}^{\Omega''}$ , by the conditional independence of  $\Omega \times \Omega'$  and  $\Omega' \times \Omega''$  given  $\Omega'$ ,  $\tilde{R}(X|\Omega \times \Omega') = \tilde{R}(X|\Omega')$ , which equals  $\tilde{R}(X|\Theta'_2)$  by point 2 for the marginal  $R'$  of  $\tilde{R}$ . Taking now conditional expectations given  $\Omega$  yields:  $\tilde{R}(X|\Omega) = \mathbb{E}(\tilde{R}(X|\Theta'_2)|\Omega) = \mathbb{E}(\tilde{R}(X|\Theta'_2)|\Theta_2)$  by point 2 for the

marginal  $R$  of  $\tilde{R}$ , hence  $= \mathbf{E}(\tilde{R}(X|\Omega \times \Omega')|\Theta_2) = \tilde{R}(X|\Theta_2)$ . Hence point 2 for (the marginal on  $\Omega \times \Omega'$  of)  $\tilde{R}$ , and point 3 is dual. Remains to deal with point 4, e.g. for  $\preceq_2$ : this is the same argument, with subscripts 1 instead of 2, replacing just (twice) the use of (2) by that of (4).  $\square$

*End of proof of thm. 7.* If  $P$  and  $Q$  are related by  $R$  as in prop. 14, we proved above that then  $P \sim \mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathfrak{F} \sim Q$ , hence point 4, and clearly  $\mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 = \mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$ , hence point 3.

By remark 43, remains thus only to deal with point 2. We start with a lemma:

**Lemma 44.** *Let  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{F}$ , be such that  $E \cap F = \emptyset$  and all  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}^i$ ,  $\mathcal{F}^i$  are complete ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Then  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{IFDD}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{I}^{-1} \mathfrak{F}$ .*

*Proof of lemma 44.* The inclusions embed  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  into  $\mathfrak{G}$ , the union  $\mathfrak{E} \cup \mathfrak{F}$ , endowed resp. with  $P_E$  and  $P_F$ . (The  $\sigma$ -fields and the map  $\kappa$  on  $\mathfrak{G}$  are the obvious ones.) Let  $\phi_E^m$  and  $\phi_F^m$  denote the maps from lemma 22 for  $\mathfrak{E}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}$  resp., and use them to define  $\phi$  on  $\mathfrak{G}$ . Define then  $\mathcal{G}'$  and  $\mathcal{G}'_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) as the inverse images by  $\phi$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  and of  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}$  resp. It follows from lemma 22 that  $\mathcal{G}' \subseteq \mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}'_i \subseteq \mathcal{G}_i$ , that  $\kappa$  is  $\mathcal{G}'$ -measurable, and that decreasing both  $\mathcal{G}_i$  on  $\mathfrak{G}$  (with  $P_E$  or  $P_F$ ) to  $\mathcal{G}'_i$  is  $\mathbf{F}$ . Decreasing then also  $\mathcal{G}$  to  $\mathcal{G}'$  is  $\mathbf{D}$ . And on  $\mathcal{G}'$ ,  $P_E$  and  $P_F$  coincide, because it is the probability distribution induced by the common canonical prior  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P_{\mathfrak{F}}$  (thm. 9).  $\square$

*Proof of thm. 7 2d.* Let  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{F}$ . Take a copy  $\mathfrak{E}'$  of  $\mathfrak{E}$  s.t.  $E'$  is disjoint from both  $E$  and  $F$ , and add all null sets to  $\mathcal{E}'$  and to  $\mathcal{E}'_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Let also  $\mathfrak{F}'$  denote  $\mathfrak{F}$  where all null sets have been added to  $\mathcal{F}'$  and to  $\mathcal{F}'_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Clearly  $\mathfrak{F}' \mathbf{FD} \mathfrak{F}$ , and  $\mathfrak{E}' \mathbf{IFDD}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{I}^{-1} \mathfrak{F}'$  by lemma 44. To prove  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{IFDD}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{I}^{-1} \mathfrak{E}'$ , argue as in the proof of lemma 44, except that now  $\mathcal{G}'$  and  $\mathcal{G}'_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are the  $\sigma$ -fields  $\{B \cup B' \mid B \in \mathcal{E} \text{ (resp. } \mathcal{E}_i)\}$ , where  $B'$  is the copy of  $B$  in  $E'$ .  $\square$

*Proof of thm. 7 2a, 2b and 2c.* Let  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_1 \mathfrak{F}$  (or  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_1 \mathfrak{F}$ , or  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_1 \mathfrak{F}$ ), and  $R \in \Delta(\Omega \times \Omega')$  as in prop. 14. The set  $G = \{(\omega, \omega') \in \Omega \times \Omega' \mid k = k'\}$  has  $R$ -outer measure 1, since any set in  $\mathcal{B}^{\Omega \times \Omega'}$  disjoint from  $G$  has  $R$ -measure 0. Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the trace of  $\mathcal{B}^{\Omega \times \Omega'}$  on  $G$ , and  $R$  the induced probability measure on it. Endow  $G$  with  $\kappa$  to  $K$  defined the obvious way, and with the trace  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{G}_E^i$  and  $\mathcal{G}_F^i$  of  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_i}$  and  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta'_i}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Complete  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_E^i$  and  $\mathcal{G}_F^i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) on  $G$  by all  $R$ -null sets, and still denote them the same way. Assume  $G \cap E = G \cap F = \emptyset$ , or take a copy of  $G$  with this property. This defines two information structures  $\mathfrak{G}_E = (G, \mathcal{G}, (\mathcal{G}_E^i)_{i=1,2}, R, \kappa)$  and  $\mathfrak{G}_F = (G, \mathcal{G}, (\mathcal{G}_F^i)_{i=1,2}, R, \kappa)$  such that  $\mathfrak{E} \sim \mathfrak{G}_E$  and  $\mathfrak{F} \sim \mathfrak{G}_F$ .

Hence from lemma. 44  $\mathfrak{E} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{IFDD}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{I}^{-1} \mathfrak{G}_E$  and  $\mathfrak{G}_F \mathbf{IFDD}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{I}^{-1} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{D} \mathfrak{F}$ .

If  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_1 \mathfrak{F}$ , point 2 of prop. 14 implies that adding  $\mathcal{G}_F^2$  to  $\mathcal{G}_E^2$  in  $\mathfrak{E}_E$  is  $\mathbf{S}_2^{-1}$ . Adding then  $\mathcal{G}_F^1$  is  $\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$ , and by points 3 and 4, going from  $((\mathcal{G}_E^1 \vee \mathcal{G}_F^1), (\mathcal{G}_E^2 \vee \mathcal{G}_F^2))$  to  $(\mathcal{G}_F^1, \mathcal{G}_F^2)$  is  $\mathbf{F}: \mathfrak{E}_E \mathbf{S}_2^{-1} \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{F} \mathfrak{E}_F$ . And similarly,  $\mathfrak{E}_E \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{S}_1 \mathfrak{E}_F$  if  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq_2 \mathfrak{F}$ , and  $\mathfrak{E}_E \mathbf{S}_2^{-1} \mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{S}_1 \mathfrak{E}_F$  if  $\mathfrak{E} \preceq \mathfrak{F}$ .

To complete the proof, notice that  $\mathbf{FIF} = \mathbf{IF}$ , and in particular  $\mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{IF} = \mathbf{IF}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).  $\square$

This ends the proof of thm. 7 — and of everything up to theorem 14 included.  $\square$

### 3.7. Vector orderings.

**Lemma 45.** *Given an inclusion  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$ , the inclusion  $\Pi(K_1) \subseteq \Pi(K_2)$  (prop. 19.4) is order-preserving for any of the orders  $\preceq, \preceq_1$  and  $\preceq_2$ .*

*Proof.* Obvious (cf. also lemma 21).  $\square$

**Corollary 46.** *Assume  $K$  completely regular (this is not needed for the convexity part of the conclusions).*

- (1) *The subset of  $R$ 's (with arbitrary marginals) in  $\Delta(\Omega \times \Omega')$  satisfying theorem 14 is closed and convex.*
- (2) *The graphs of  $\preceq, \preceq_1$  and  $\preceq_2$  in  $\Delta(\Omega) \times \Delta(\Omega)$  are closed and convex.*

*Remark 47.* Point 2 proves cor. 15.

*Proof.* 1. Our set equals  $\{R \in \Delta(\Omega \times \Omega^1) \mid \text{marginals belong to } \Pi, (1), (2), (3), (4)\}$ . Now condition (1) is equivalent to  $R(O \times O') = 0$  for any pair of disjoint open sets  $O$  and  $O'$  in  $K$ , so determines a closed convex subset. Also  $\Pi$  is closed and convex in  $\Delta(\Omega)$ , as mentioned before, so since the map from  $\Delta(\Omega \times \Omega')$  to  $\Delta(\Omega)$  is affine and continuous, the condition that the marginals belong to  $\Pi$  determines also a closed, convex subset.

Finally, the conditional independence conditions can be rewritten as

$$(2) \quad E[\varphi(\omega)\psi(\theta_2, \theta'_2)] = E[\theta_2(\varphi)\psi(\theta_2, \theta'_2)]$$

$$(3) \quad E[\varphi(\omega')\psi(\theta_1, \theta'_1)] = E[(\theta'_1(\varphi))\psi(\theta_1, \theta'_1)]$$

$$(4) \quad (\preceq_1): E[\varphi(\omega')\psi(\theta_2, \theta'_2)] = E[\theta'_2(\varphi)\psi(\theta_2, \theta'_2)]$$

for bounded borel functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  (bounded continuous functions in the completely regular case). Since for  $\varphi$  bounded (resp., continuous),  $\theta_i(\varphi)$  is so too, it follows that conditions (2), (3) and (4) are of the form that a family of bounded borel (resp., continuous) affine functions of  $R$  vanishes — so, the set of solutions is convex (and closed).

2. The convexity part follows immediately from 1. The closedness also does — first in the compact case, since a continuous image of a compact set is compact, next in the completely regular case, by lemma 45.  $\square$



**Lemma 48.**  $\Pi$  is a simplex, i.e., the linear subspace it spans of the space of signed measures on  $\Omega$  is a (complete) sublattice.

*Proof.* Taking marginals on  $\Theta_i$  commutes with the lattice operations, since all measures have the same conditionals on  $K \times \prod_{j \neq i} \Theta_j$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 49.** (1) The sets  $C = \{\lambda(P - Q) \mid P \succcurlyeq Q, \lambda \geq 1\}$ , and  $C_i$  similarly defined with  $\succcurlyeq_i$ , are pointed convex cones.

(2)  $P \succcurlyeq Q \Leftrightarrow P - Q \in C, \forall P, Q \in \Pi$  (i.e.,  $\succcurlyeq$  is a “vector ordering”) iff

$$\alpha P + (1 - \alpha)R \succcurlyeq \alpha Q + (1 - \alpha)R \Rightarrow P \succcurlyeq Q, \forall P, Q, R \in \Pi, \forall \alpha \in ]0, 1[$$

and similarly for  $\succcurlyeq_i$  and  $C_i$ .

(3) For  $K$  completely regular, the cone  $C$  or  $C_i$  is closed if the corresponding order satisfies the conditions sub 2.

*Proof.* 1.  $C$  is a cone, since for  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$  and  $P \succcurlyeq Q$ ,  $\lambda(P - Q) = (\lambda P + (1 - \lambda)R) - (\lambda Q + (1 - \lambda)R)$  ( $R \in \Pi$  arbitrary), which belongs to  $C$  by convexity of the graph of  $\preccurlyeq$  (cor. 46).  $C$  is a convex cone since  $\lambda(P - Q) + \lambda'(P' - Q') = (\lambda + \lambda') \left[ \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \lambda'} P + \frac{\lambda'}{\lambda + \lambda'} P' \right) - \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \lambda'} Q + \frac{\lambda'}{\lambda + \lambda'} Q' \right) \right]$ , which again belongs to  $C$  by convexity of the graph. And  $C$  is pointed because  $\preccurlyeq$  is an order (anti-symmetric).

2. The condition is clearly necessary. So assume it holds, and consider  $P', Q' \in \Pi$  with  $P' - Q' = \lambda(P - Q)$  and  $P \succcurlyeq Q$ : we have to show that  $P' \succcurlyeq Q'$ . Let  $R' = P' \wedge Q'$ ,  $r = \|R'\|$ ,  $R'' = \frac{1}{r}R'$ ,  $P'' = \frac{1}{1-r}(P' - R')$ ,  $Q'' = \frac{1}{1-r}(Q' - R')$  (and say  $R'' \in \Pi$  arbitrary if  $r = 0$ , and assume w.l.o.g. that  $r < 1$ ). Then  $P'', Q''$  and  $R''$  belong to  $\Pi$  by lemma 48, and  $P' = (1 - r)P'' + rR''$ ,  $Q' = (1 - r)Q'' + rR''$  — so, by convexity of the graph, it suffices to prove that  $P'' \succcurlyeq Q''$ . Since  $P'' - Q'' = \frac{\lambda}{1-r}(P - Q)$ , we are reduced to the initial problem, but where  $P'$  and  $Q'$  are in addition mutually singular. Then  $\lambda P \geq P' - Q'$  and  $\lambda P \geq 0$  imply, by the mutual singularity, that  $\lambda P \geq P'$ , so  $\lambda \geq 1$  and  $\lambda P - P' = \lambda Q - Q' = (\lambda - 1)R$  with  $R \in \Pi$ . I.e.,  $P = \frac{1}{\lambda}P' + \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}R$ , and  $Q = \frac{1}{\lambda}Q' + \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}R$ , hence by one condition,  $P \succcurlyeq Q$  does indeed imply  $P' \succcurlyeq Q'$ .

3. Consider first the case where  $K$  is compact.  $C$  being convex, to prove that it is weak-closed it suffices to show that its intersection with every closed ball is so, using e.g. cor. 22.7 in Kelley, Namioka, and Co-Authors (1963). Let thus  $R_\alpha = \lambda_\alpha(P_\alpha - Q_\alpha)$  be a bounded net in  $C$ , converging say to  $R$  (in the space of signed measures on  $\Omega$ ). By our condition sub 2 and lemma 48, we can remove the common part of  $P_\alpha$  and  $Q_\alpha$ , and still preserve their order (after renormalizing): i.e., we can assume that  $P_\alpha$  and  $Q_\alpha$  are mutually singular. Since  $\|P_\alpha - Q_\alpha\| = 2$ , it follows that  $\lambda_\alpha$  is bounded. Fix an ultrafilter on  $\alpha$ , and let  $P_\alpha \rightarrow P$ ,  $Q_\alpha \rightarrow Q$ ,  $\lambda_\alpha \rightarrow \lambda$  according to this ultrafilter (compactness, ...). Then, by closedness of the graph,  $P \succcurlyeq Q$ , hence indeed  $R = \lambda(P - Q) \in C$ .

Consider finally the completely regular case: embedding  $K$  into its Stone-Čech compactification  $\hat{K}$ , the result follows by lemma 45 from the previous case.  $\square$

*Remark 50.* Points 2 and 3 of the corollary imply, by the separation theorem, that  $\preceq$  (or  $\preceq_i$ ) is a vector ordering iff it is generated by the monotone continuous affine functionals (i.e.,  $P \succcurlyeq Q$  iff  $\varphi(P) \geq \varphi(Q)$  for every  $\preceq$ -monotone continuous affine functional  $\varphi$  on  $\Pi$ ).

**Lemma 51.** *A subset of  $\Pi$  is tight iff the set of its marginals on  $K$  is so.*

*Proof.* We prove the lemma even in the  $I$ -person case. The set of marginals of a tight set is obviously always tight. For the converse, the set of marginals being tight means there exists a l.s.c. function  $\varphi_0: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $\varphi_0 \geq 1$ ,  $\{x \in K \mid \varphi_0(x) \leq L\}$  is compact  $\forall L \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\exists M \in \mathbb{R}: \int \varphi_0 dP \leq M, \forall P$  in our subset  $S$ . Let then inductively  $\psi_n^i = \theta_i(\varphi_n) \forall i \in I, \varphi_{n+1} = \varphi_n + \frac{1}{2^n} \frac{1}{\#I} \sum_{i \in I} \psi_n^i: S \subseteq \Pi$  implies  $\int \psi_n^i dP = \int \varphi_n dP \forall P \in S$ , hence  $\int \varphi_{n+1} dP = (1 + \frac{1}{2^n}) \int \varphi_n dP$ , so  $\int \varphi_n dP \leq M \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + \frac{1}{2^k}) \leq eM$ . Also inductively, each  $\psi_n^i$  and hence each  $\varphi_n$  is l.s.c., so, with  $\varphi = \lim_n \varphi_n$ , we get that  $\varphi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is l.s.c.,  $\geq 1$ , satisfies (monotone convergence)  $\int \varphi dP \leq eM \forall P \in S$ , and finally,  $\forall L, \{\omega \mid \varphi(\omega) \leq L\}$  is compact: using Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.1.1.3 p.124)), and observing that, by induction,  $\varphi_{n+1}$  depends only on  $\omega_n = ((\theta_{i,n})_{i \in I}, k)$ , one gets inductively over  $n$ , first that  $K_{n,L}^0 = \{\omega_{n-1} = ((\theta_{i,n-1})_{i \in I}, k) \mid \varphi_n(\omega_{n-1}) \leq L\}$  is compact  $\forall L$ , hence that  $K_{i,n,L} = \{\theta \in \Theta_{i,n} \mid \theta(\varphi_n) \leq L\}$  is compact  $\forall (i, L)$  by Prohorov's criterion, and thus  $K_{n+1,L}^0$  is compact, being a closed subset (l.s.c. of  $\varphi_{n+1}$ ) of the product of compact sets  $K_{n,L}^0 \times \prod_{i \in I} K_{i,n,2^n(\#I)L}$ . Therefore  $\{\omega \mid \varphi(\omega) \leq L\}$ , being a closed subset (projective limit, and lower-semi-continuity of  $\varphi$ ) of the product of compact sets  $K_{0,L}^0 \times \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{i \in I} K_{i,n,2^n(\#I)L}$ , is also compact. Thus  $S$  is tight.  $\square$

*Proof of corollary 16.* Since  $P \preceq Q$  implies that  $P$  and  $Q$  have the same marginal on  $K$  (e.g. by thm. 14.1), all  $P_\alpha$ , in the monotone net have the same marginal on  $K$ . Hence, by the above lemma, the  $P_\alpha$  are tight — thus, by Prohorov, relatively compact in  $\Delta(\Omega)$ . So the net has limit points. Let  $P$  be any such limit points: by closedness of the graph,  $\forall \alpha_0, \forall \alpha \geq \alpha_0, P_\alpha \geq P_{\alpha_0}$  goes to the limit and implies  $P \in \lim P_\alpha \geq P_{\alpha_0}$  (implying  $P \in \Pi$ ): so  $P \geq P_\alpha \forall \alpha$ . Then if  $P'$  is another limit point, we also have  $P' \geq P_\alpha, \forall \alpha$  — hence, going to the limit over  $\alpha$  (closedness of the graph again),  $P' \geq P$ . Thus dually  $P \geq P'$  also, and hence (anti-symmetry)  $P = P'$ : the limit point is unique. Together with relative compactness of the net, this implies that the net converges.  $\square$

### 3.8. Barycentres.

**Lemma 52.** *Let  $X = \Delta(Y)$  with  $Y$  Hausdorff, and  $\mu \in \Delta(X)$ . The  $\sigma$ -additive measure  $\bar{\mu}$  defined by  $\bar{\mu}(B) = \int x(B)\mu(dx)$  for  $B \in \mathcal{B}^Y$  is  $\tau$ -smooth.*

*Proof.* If  $0 \leq f_\alpha \rightarrow f$  is an increasing net of l.s.c. functions on  $Y$ ,  $\bar{\mu}(f_\alpha) \nearrow \bar{\mu}(f)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 53.**  $\lesssim$  is the partial order on  $\Delta(X)$  defined by  $\mu \lesssim \nu$  iff  $\mu(f) \leq \nu(f)$  for all  $f$  convex l.s.c. bounded from below.

**Lemma 54.** *Let  $X = \Delta(Y)$  with  $Y$  Hausdorff. The following definitions of the barycentre  $\bar{\mu}$  of  $\mu \in \Delta(X)$  are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\bar{\mu} \in X$  is such that  $\delta_{\bar{\mu}} \lesssim \mu$ .
- (2)  $\bar{\mu}$  defined as a  $\sigma$ -additive measure by  $\bar{\mu}(B) = \int x(B)\mu(dx)$  for  $B \in \mathcal{B}^Y$  belongs to  $\Delta(Y)$ .

*Proof.* (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) (“Jensen’s lemma”). When  $\mu$  has a compact support on which the restriction of  $\phi$  is continuous, approximating it by probability measures with finite support yields the result. (Recall that the topology on  $X$  is defined as the weakest topology for which the measures of open sets are l.s.c. functions and that  $X$  is a Hausdorff space itself under this topology. This implies indeed that if the  $\mu_\alpha$  converge to  $\mu$ , then their barycentres converge to the barycentre of  $\mu$ . Since  $\phi$  is continuous on the support of  $\mu$ ,  $\int \phi d\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \int \phi d\mu$ . On the other hand  $\phi$  l.s.c. implies  $\liminf \phi(\bar{\mu}_\alpha) \geq \phi(\bar{\mu})$ .)

In general, let  $K_n$  be a sequence of disjoint compact sets that exhaust  $\mu$  and such that the restriction of  $\phi$  to each  $K_n$  is continuous (use Lusin’s theorem). Let  $\mu_n$  be the normalized restriction of  $\mu$  to  $K_n$ , and  $\alpha_n = \mu(K_n)$ . Note that  $\bar{\mu}_n$  is in  $X$  because  $\bar{\mu} = \sum \alpha_n \bar{\mu}_n$  as  $\sigma$ -additive barycentres, hence the sum being tight, each of the summands is also tight. For each  $n$ ,  $\int \phi d\mu_n \geq \phi(\bar{\mu}_n)$ , and since each of the members is bounded below, this inequality extends to the sum:  $\int \phi d\mu \geq \sum \alpha_n \phi(\bar{\mu}_n)$ . To prove that  $\sum \alpha_n \phi(\bar{\mu}_n) \geq \phi(\bar{\mu})$ , remains thus only to prove the result for the case of a measure  $\mu$  with countable support.

We now view  $\alpha$  as a measure with countable support on  $X$ . The measures  $\beta_n = \frac{1}{\sum_1^n \alpha_i} \sum_1^n \alpha_i \delta_{x_i}$  converge in norm to  $\alpha$ , therefore the barycentres  $\bar{\beta}_n$  of  $\beta_n$  converge to the barycentre  $\bar{\alpha}$  of  $\alpha$ . To see that  $\sum_n \alpha_n \phi(x_n) \geq \phi(\bar{\alpha})$ , remark that for each  $m$ ,  $\sum_1^m \alpha_n \phi(x_n) \geq (\sum_1^m \alpha_n) \phi(\bar{\beta}_m)$ , that  $\sum_1^m \alpha_n \phi(x_n) \rightarrow \sum_n \alpha_n \phi(x_n)$  by boundedness below of  $\phi$ , and  $\liminf (\sum_1^m \alpha_n) \phi(\bar{\beta}_m) \geq \phi(\bar{\alpha})$  since  $\phi$  is l.s.c.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Let  $\bar{\mu}$  be as in (1), and  $\tilde{\mu}$  be defined by  $\tilde{\mu}(B) = \int x(B)\mu(dx)$  for  $B \in \mathcal{B}^Y$ . Then, for  $h$  l.s.c. and bounded from below on  $Y$ ,  $f$  given by  $f(x) = x(h)$  is convex l.s.c. and bounded from below, so  $\bar{\mu}(h) = f(\bar{\mu}) \leq \int f(x)\mu(dx) = \int x(h)\mu(dx) = \tilde{\mu}(h)$ . Hence  $\bar{\mu}(O) \leq \tilde{\mu}(O)$  for every open set  $O$ , so  $\bar{\mu}(B) \leq \tilde{\mu}(B)$  for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}^Y$  since  $\bar{\mu}$  is  $\tau$ -smooth. Hence  $\tilde{\mu} = \bar{\mu}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 55.**  $\mu \in \Delta(X)$  has a barycentre if and only if  $\bar{\mu}$  is carried by a  $K_\sigma$ .

*Proof.* Immediate since any  $\tau$ -smooth measure on a  $K_\sigma$  is tight.  $\square$

**Lemma 56.** Assume  $\mu \preceq \nu$ . Then  $\mu$  has a barycentre if and only if  $\nu$  has one, and both coincide.

*Proof.* If  $\mu$  has barycentre  $\bar{\mu}$ , then  $\delta_{\bar{\mu}} \preceq \mu \preceq \nu$  so that  $\nu$  has barycentre  $\bar{\mu}$ . Assume  $\nu$  has a barycentre  $\bar{\nu}$  and let  $\bar{\mu}(B) = \int x(B)\mu(dx)$ . For  $h$  bounded l.s.c. on  $Y$ , define  $f$  convex, bounded l.s.c. on  $X$  by  $f(x) = x(h)$ . Then  $\bar{\mu}(h) = \mu(f) \leq \nu(f) = \bar{\nu}(h)$ . For  $h$  bounded borel, let  $(h_n)$  be a decreasing sequence of l.s.c. functions  $\geq h$  s.t.  $\bar{\nu}(h_n)$  converges to  $\bar{\nu}(h)$ :  $\bar{\mu}(h) \leq \bar{\mu}(h_n) \leq \bar{\nu}(h_n)$ . Hence  $\bar{\mu}(h) \leq \bar{\nu}(h)$  for all bounded borel  $h$ , thus  $\bar{\mu} = \bar{\nu}$ . So  $\bar{\mu} \in \Delta(Y)$ .  $\square$

### 3.9. Cartier's Theorem.

**Proposition 57.** Assume either  $\mu$  or  $\nu$  have a barycentre. Then  $\mu \preceq \nu$  if and only if there exists  $P \in \Delta(X \times X)$  that has  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  as marginals and such that for every bounded borel function  $h$  on  $Y$ ,  $E_P(x_2(h)|x_1) = x_1(h)$   $P_1$ -a.s.

*Proof.* We first show that it suffices to prove the proposition assuming both  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  have a barycentre. In the direction where  $P$  has to be constructed, use lemma 56. In the other direction, note that  $\int x_1(B)\mu(dx_1) = \int E_P(x_2(B)|x_1)\mu(dx_1) = E_P x_2(B) = \int x_2(B)\nu(dx_2)$ , and apply lemma 54 (2).

Assume first  $Y$  is compact. For the “if” part use Jensen's theorem. For the “only if” part, theorem 35 p.288 of Meyer (1966) yields a measure  $\theta$  on  $D_0$  with barycentre  $\mu, \nu$ , where  $D_0$  is the set of pairs  $(\delta_x, \eta) \in \Delta(X)^2$  such that  $\delta_x \preceq \eta$ . Define now  $P$  by  $\int h(x, y)dP = \int h(x, y)\eta(dy)\theta(dx, d\eta)$ . Obviously  $P$  has  $(\mu, \nu)$  as marginals. For  $f$  affine and continuous,  $E_P(f(y)|\eta, x) = \int f(y)\eta(dy) = f(x)$   $P$  a.s. and thus  $E_P(f(y)|x) = f(x)$   $P_1$  a.s. This holds when  $f(\mu) = \mu(h)$  for  $h$  continuous, and by taking the limit for  $h$  Baire. This generalizes to  $h$  borel, since any such function is the sum of a Baire function and one which is negligible for both  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ .

We extend the proposition from  $Y$  compact to locally compact. Let  $Y$  be locally compact, and  $Y'$  its Alexandroff compactification,  $X' = \Delta(Y')$ . Since  $Y$  is borel (open) in  $Y'$ ,  $X$  and  $\Delta(X)$  are borel in  $X'$  and  $\Delta(X')$ . It suffices to show that each l.s.c. convex bounded below  $f$  on  $X$  is the restriction of such a map on  $X'$ ; this is because every convex l.s.c. function on  $X$  is a sup of integrals of bounded continuous functions on  $Y$  that converge at infinity.

We extend the proposition from  $Y$  locally compact to countable disjoint unions of compact sets. Let thus  $Y = \cup_n K_n$ , where  $(K_n)$  is a family of disjoint compact sets, and let  $Y'$  be  $Y$  endowed with the

topology with as open sets those whose intersection with each  $K_n$  is open in  $K_n$ .  $Y'$  is locally compact. Since the topology on  $K_n$  is unchanged, and since the  $K_n$  are borel both in  $Y$  and in  $Y'$ , the borel sets and the tight measures on  $Y$  and  $Y'$  are the same, i.e.  $X'$  is  $X$  endowed with a stronger topology. As  $Y'$  is  $K$ -analytic so are  $X'$  and  $\Delta(X')$ , and the continuous canonical injection from  $\Delta(X')$  to  $\Delta(X)$  is onto, cf. A.9.b.3 and A.9.c p. 521 in Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015):  $\Delta(X')$  is a reinforced topology on  $\Delta(X)$ , and so is  $\Delta(X' \times X')$  on  $\Delta(X \times X)$ .

Remains thus only to show that the order on measures is unchanged, i.e., that if  $\mu(f) \leq \nu(f)$  for all convex l.s.c.  $f$ , bounded below on  $X$ , the same holds on  $X'$ . Since  $X'$  is completely regular (locally compact), such an  $f$  on  $X'$  is a **sup** of integrals of bounded continuous functions. And since  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are tight, integrals go to the limit along increasing nets of l.s.c. functions. Suffices thus to consider  $f(x) = \max_{i=1\dots n} x(\varphi_i)$ , where the  $\varphi_i$  are bounded continuous functions on  $Y'$ .

Let now  $M = \sup_{i,y} \varphi_i(y)$ , and  $\varphi_i^k = \varphi_i$  on  $K_l$  for  $l \leq k$ , and  $= M$  for  $l > k$  and let  $f^k = \max_{i=1\dots n} x(\varphi_i^k)$ . Each  $\varphi_i^k$  is l.s.c. on  $Y$  hence  $f^k$  is convex l.s.c. bounded below on  $X$ . Hence the inequality for the  $f^k$ , so for  $f$  by monotone convergence.

We now prove the general case. Let  $\bar{\mu}$  and  $\bar{\nu}$  be the barycentres of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ , and  $(K_n)$  be a sequence of disjoint compact sets in  $Y$  that exhaust  $\bar{\mu} + \bar{\nu}$ . Let  $Y' = \cup_n K_n$  and  $X' = \Delta(Y')$ . Note that  $Y'$  is a borel subspace of  $Y$  hence  $X'$  is a borel subspace of  $X$  and, by the same argument,  $\Delta(X')$  is a borel subspace of  $\Delta(X)$ .

For one direction, assume  $P \in \Delta(X \times X)$  having the stated properties and observe first since the marginals  $\mu, \nu$  of  $P$  belong to  $\Delta(X')$ ,  $P \in \Delta(X' \times X')$ , and has the stated properties relative to  $X'$ . Hence that remains to show that  $\mu \preceq \nu$  relative to  $X$  whenever the same holds relative to  $X'$ . This is because restrictions to  $X'$  of convex l.s.c. functions on  $X$  have the same properties on  $X'$ .

In the other direction, given  $\mu \preceq \nu$  on  $X$ , we first want to prove the same relation holds on  $X'$ . Since  $\bar{\mu}, \bar{\nu} \in X'$  it follows that  $\mu, \nu \in \Delta(X')$ . To prove that  $\mu \preceq \nu$  on  $X'$  let  $\varphi$  be bounded from below l.s.c. convex on  $X'$ , let  $\bar{\varphi} = \varphi$  on  $X'$  and  $\bar{\varphi} = +\infty$  on  $X - X'$ , let  $\hat{\varphi}(x) = \liminf_{y \rightarrow x} \bar{\varphi}(y)$  on  $X$ .  $\hat{\varphi}$  is clearly l.s.c. bounded below ( $X$  is Hausdorff), and  $\hat{\varphi}|_{X'} = \varphi$  follows from  $\varphi$  l.s.c. on  $X'$ . Remains the convexity: obviously  $\bar{\varphi}$  is convex. Let  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  and  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $x_{1,\alpha} \rightarrow x_1$  and  $x_{2,\alpha} \rightarrow x_2$  s.t.  $\bar{\varphi}(x_{i,\alpha}) \rightarrow \hat{\varphi}(x_i)$ , and let  $z = \beta x_1 + (1 - \beta)x_2$ ,  $z_\alpha = \beta x_{1,\alpha} + (1 - \beta)x_{2,\alpha}$ . For  $U$  open in  $Y$ ,  $\liminf z_\alpha \geq z(U)$  follows from  $\liminf x_{i,\alpha} \geq x_i(U)$ , hence by definition of the weak topology  $z_\alpha \rightarrow z$ . Since  $\hat{\varphi}$  is l.s.c. and convex,  $\hat{\varphi}(z) \leq \liminf \bar{\varphi}(z_\alpha) \leq \beta \hat{\varphi}(x_1) + (1 - \beta)\hat{\varphi}(x_2)$ . So, we proved that every convex l.s.c. bounded from below map on  $X'$  is the restriction of a such map on  $X$ , and the converse is straightforward. This shows  $\mu \preceq \nu$  on  $X'$ . The proposition on  $X'$  yields  $P \in \Delta(X' \times X')$  with

the desired properties. Since  $X' \times X'$  is a subspace of  $X \times X$ ,  $P$  has the desired properties in  $\Delta(X \times X)$ .  $\square$

**3.10. Proof of theorem 17.** Under (a), we have  $P \preceq_2 \mathfrak{E}$ , and since  $\mathfrak{E} \sim P_{\mathfrak{E}} = Q$  we get indeed  $P \preceq_2 Q$ . Similarly (b) yields  $Q \preceq_1 P'$ , hence the “if” part.

In the other direction, start from the distribution  $R$  in thm. 14 (with  $P'$  as  $Q$ ). Let  $\mathfrak{E} = (\Omega \times \Omega', R, \Theta_1, \Theta_2)$  (with the borel sets, and the obvious map to  $K$ ).

Let  $Q \in \Delta(\Omega'')$  be the canonical information structure associated to  $(\Theta_1 \times \Theta_2' \times K, R, \Theta_1, \Theta_2')$ , and  $\phi$  the corresponding canonical map,  $\phi$  is also canonical from  $\mathfrak{E}$  to  $Q$  since the properties to be checked Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, thm. III.2.4.1 p. 142) are the same.  $R$  and  $\phi$  induce a (tight) probability  $R'$  on  $\Omega \times \Omega' \times \Omega''$  (carried by “the diagonal of  $K \times K \times K$ ”).

For  $B'' \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2''}$ ,  $\phi^{-1}(B'')$  differs from some  $B' \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2'}$  by a null set (Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir, 2015, thm. III.2.4.1 p. 142). Since the conditional probability of  $B'$  given  $\Omega$  is  $\Theta_2$ -measurable by thm. 14.2, the conditional probability of  $B''$  given  $\Omega$  is so too:  $\Theta_2''$  and  $\Omega$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta_2$ . Hence, if  $\rho(\cdot|\cdot)$  is a regular conditional probability on  $\Theta_2''$  given  $\Theta_2$  (tightness), then  $\rho$  is also a regular conditional probability on  $\Theta_2''$  given  $\Omega$ . In particular,  $P$  and  $\rho$  induce the correct probability on  $\Omega \times \Theta_2''$ . Hence 17 (a), and 17 (b) is dual.

Remains to show that 17 (a) is equivalent to 17 (a') (and hence also 17 (b) to 17 (b')). Under 17 (a), let  $\nu(\theta_2')(d\theta_2)$  be a regular conditional probability on  $\Theta_2$  given  $\theta_2'$  under  $P \otimes \rho$ , in the sense of Mertens, Sorin, and Zamir (2015, II.1Ex.16c p. 86). Let  $\pi(\theta_2')(d\omega) = \theta_2(d\theta_1, dk)\nu(\theta_2')(d\theta_2)$ . Note that, by continuity of  $\theta_2$ , for any open set  $O$  in  $\Omega$ ,  $\theta_2(O)$  is l.s.c. in  $\theta_2$  (i.e.,  $\theta_2$  is also a continuous map to  $\Delta(\Omega)$ ). Therefore, for any borel set  $B$  in  $\Omega$ ,  $\theta_2(B)$  is borel measurable, and hence  $\pi(\theta_2')(B)$  is well defined, and borel measurable. It follows then immediately that  $\pi$  is a borel transition probability from  $\Theta_2'$  to  $\Omega$ . Further, consider now an increasing net  $O_\alpha$  of open sets in  $\Omega$ , with union  $O$ . The  $\theta_2(O_\alpha)$  form then, as argued above, an increasing net of l.s.c. functions, and converge pointwise to  $\theta_2(O)$  by regularity of  $\theta_2$ . So, by regularity of  $\nu(\theta_2')$ ,  $\pi(\theta_2')(O_\alpha)$  increases pointwise to  $\pi(\theta_2')(O)$ : each  $\pi(\theta_2')$  is “ $\tau$ -smooth”, so to prove its tightness, remains only to show it is carried by a  $K_\sigma$ . Note that, under  $P \otimes \rho$ ,  $\theta_2'$  and  $\omega$  are independent given  $\theta_2$ , so for  $B$  borel in  $\Omega$ ,  $Prob(B|\theta_2, \theta_2') = P(B|\theta_2) = \theta_2(B)$  (consistency of  $P$ ). Thus  $Prob(B|\theta_2') = \int \theta_2(B)\nu(\theta_2')(d\theta_2) = \pi(\theta_2')(B)$ :  $\pi$  is the conditional probability on  $\Omega$  given  $\theta_2'$  under  $P \otimes \rho$ . Therefore, let  $B$  be a  $K_\sigma$  in  $\Omega$  with  $P(B) = 1$ : one must also have  $\pi(\theta_2')(B) = 1$  a.e., so, redefining  $\nu(\theta_2')$  on the exceptional set, we get now that each  $\pi(\theta_2')$  is tight. Let then  $\bar{\nu}(\theta_2')$  denote the marginal of  $\pi(\theta_2')$  on  $\Theta_1 \times K$ : it is tight too, hence in  $\Theta_2$  (by its homeomorphism with  $\Delta(\Theta_1 \times K)$ ),

and is the barycentre of  $\nu(\theta'_2)$ . Thus each  $\nu(\theta'_2) \in \Delta(\Theta_2)$  indeed has a barycentre  $\bar{\nu}(\theta'_2)$  in  $\Theta_2$ .

We now show that the map  $\bar{\nu}: \Theta'_2 \rightarrow \Theta_2$  is, under  $P \otimes \rho$ , borel-measurable, and induces a tight distribution  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_2)$  on the borel sets of  $\Theta_2$ . Observe that the map from  $\nu(\theta'_2) \in \Delta(\Theta_2)$  to  $\pi(\theta'_2) \in \Delta(\Omega)$  is continuous (this is just on the range of  $\nu$ , since elsewhere the values might not even belong to  $\Delta(\Omega)$ ), by the continuity of  $\theta_2$  (argument as above). And the map from  $\pi(\theta'_2)$  to its marginal  $\bar{\nu}(\theta'_2)$  is clearly continuous. So the borel measurability of  $\nu$  to  $\Delta(\Theta_2)$ , and the tightness of the induced distribution on  $\mathcal{B}^{\Delta(\Theta_2)}$ , are preserved by composition with those continuous maps.

For  $\phi$  on  $\Theta_2$  convex l.s.c. and bounded below, we apply lemma 54.1, with  $\Theta_2 (= \Delta(K \times \Theta_1))$  for  $X$ , and obtain  $\int \phi(\theta_2)\nu(\theta'_2)(d\theta_2) \geq \phi(\bar{\nu}(\theta'_2))$ . Both sides of the inequality are borel-measurable w.r.t.  $\theta'_2$ , by our measurability properties for  $\nu$  and  $\bar{\nu}$ ; since they are also bounded below, we can integrate the inequality w.r.t.  $\theta'_2$ . The repeated integral in the left hand member becomes then just  $\int \phi(\theta_2)P(d\theta_2)$ , since  $\phi$  is  $P$ -integrable — and hence  $P \otimes \rho$ -integrable with the same integral. And by definition of  $\mu$ , the right hand side becomes just  $\int \phi d\mu$ : our inequality is established.

Remains thus only to prove that  $P_\mu = Q$ . By definition,  $P_\mu = P_{\mathfrak{E}_\mu}$ , where  $\mathfrak{E}_\mu$  equals  $\Omega$  endowed with  $\theta_2(d\theta_1, dk)\mu(d\theta_2)$ . And  $Q = P_{\mathfrak{E}}$  (where player 2 is informed only of  $\theta'_2$ ). Now in  $\mathfrak{E}$ ,  $\bar{\nu}(\theta'_2)$ , being the posterior of 2 on  $\Theta_1 \times K$ , is a sufficient statistic for 2, so  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = P_{\mathfrak{E}'}$ , where  $\mathfrak{E}'$  equals  $\mathfrak{E}$  except that player 2 is only informed of  $\bar{\nu}(\theta'_2)$ . Now the joint distribution under  $\mathfrak{E}'$  of  $(\theta_1, \bar{\nu}(\theta'_2), k)$  equals  $\theta_2(d\theta_1, dk)\mu(d\theta_2)$ , thus  $\mu \in \Delta_b(\Theta_1)$ ,  $P_\mu$  is well defined, and  $P_{\mathfrak{E}'} = P_{\mathfrak{E}_\mu}$ , and hence our equality.

To prove that (a') implies (a), observe that  $P_2$  has a barycentre: the marginal of  $P$  on  $\Theta_1 \times K$ . So, by lemma 56,  $\mu$  also has a barycentre, and in particular  $\mu \in \Delta_b(\Theta_2)$ :  $P_\mu$  is well defined. And proposition 57 yields  $R \in \Delta(\Theta_2 \times \Theta'_2)$ , with  $P_2$  and  $\mu$  as respective marginals, such that  $E(\theta_2(h)|\theta'_2) = \theta'_2(h)$   $\mu$  a.e. for every  $h$  borel bounded on  $\Theta_1 \times K$ . Let  $\rho$  be the conditional under  $R$  on  $\Theta'_2$  given  $\Theta_2$ . We know that  $P_\mu = Q$  and need to prove that  $P_{\mathfrak{E}} = Q$ , where  $\mathfrak{E}$  is the information scheme on  $(\Omega \times \Theta'_2, P \otimes \rho)$  where player 2 observes  $\theta'_2$  only. Let now  $\bar{P}$  denote  $R \otimes \theta_2$ : since  $R \in \Delta(\Theta_2 \times \Theta'_2)$  and  $\theta_2$  is continuous from  $\Theta_2$  to  $\Delta(\Theta_1 \times K)$ ,  $\bar{P}$  is  $\tau$ -smooth on  $\mathcal{B}^{\Omega \times \Theta'_2}$ , with  $\int h(\omega, \theta'_2)d\bar{P} = E_R \int h(\omega, \theta'_2)\theta_2(d\omega) \forall h \geq 0$  borel on  $\Omega \times \Theta'_2$  — in particular,  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega$  and  $\mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2 \times \Theta'_2}$  are conditionally independent given  $\Theta_2$  under  $\bar{P}$ . Observe finally that  $\bar{P}$  has  $P$  as marginal on  $\Omega$  since the marginal of  $R$  on  $\Theta_2$  is  $P_2$ , and hence  $\bar{P} \in \Delta(\Omega \times \Theta'_2)$ , being  $\tau$ -smooth and having tight marginals  $P$  on  $\Omega$  and  $R$  on  $\Theta_2 \times \Theta'_2$ . By the conditional independence,  $\rho$  is also the conditional probability on  $\Theta'_2$  given  $\Omega$  under  $\bar{P}$ .

So  $P \otimes \rho$  is well defined on  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega \otimes \mathcal{B}^{\Theta'_2}$  and is the restriction of  $\bar{P}$  to

that  $\sigma$ -field. Thus  $\mathfrak{E}$  is equivalent ( $\mathbf{D}^{-1}$ ) to the information scheme  $(\Omega \times \Theta'_2, \bar{P})$  in which player 2 only observes  $\theta'_2$ . Let  $\tilde{P}$  be the marginal of  $\bar{P}$  on  $\tilde{\Omega} = \Theta_1 \times \Theta'_2 \times K$ .  $\tilde{P} \in \Delta(\tilde{\Omega})$  and the marginal of  $\tilde{P}$  on  $\tilde{\Theta}_2$  is  $\mu$ , the marginal of  $R$  on  $\Theta'_2$ . Now  $\mathfrak{E}$  becomes equivalent ( $\mathbf{D}$ ) to  $(\tilde{\Omega}, \tilde{P})$ . Remains to show that  $(\tilde{\Omega}, \tilde{P})$  is also the information scheme  $\mathfrak{E}_\mu$  induced by  $\mu$ .

I.e., that  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}^\Omega$ ,  $\tilde{P}(B) = \int \theta_2(B) \mu(d\theta_2)$ . Let  $P'$  denote the right-hand member. Since  $\mu \in \Delta(\Theta_2)$  and since  $\theta_2$  is continuous from  $\Theta_2$  to  $\Delta(\Omega)$ ,  $P'$  is  $\tau$ -smooth on  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega$ . For  $B = B_1 \times B_2$  with  $B_1 \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1 \times K}$  and  $B_2 \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2}$  this means:  $E_{\tilde{P}}[\mathbb{I}_{B_1} | \theta'_2] = \theta'_2(B_1)$ . The left hand equals  $E_{\tilde{P}}[E_{\tilde{P}}[\mathbb{I}_{B_1} | \theta_2, \theta'_2] | \theta'_2]$ . Since by the conditional independence above  $E_{\tilde{P}}[\mathbb{I}_{B_1} | \theta_2, \theta'_2] = \tilde{P}(B_1 | \theta_2)$ ,  $= P(B_1 | \theta_2)$   $P$  being the marginal on  $\Omega$ ,  $= \theta_2(B_1)$  since  $P \in \Pi$ , the left hand member equals  $E_R[\theta_2(B_1) | \theta'_2]$ ,  $R$  being the marginal on  $\Theta_2 \times \Theta'_2$ ,  $= \theta'_2(B_1)$  by the property of  $R$ . This proves the particular case. Thus  $P'$  is  $\tau$ -smooth on  $\mathcal{B}^\Omega$ ,  $\tilde{P} \in \Delta(\Omega)$ , and  $P'(B_1 \times B_2) = \tilde{P}(B_1 \times B_2)$  for all  $B = B_1 \times B_2$  with  $B_1 \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_1 \times K}$  and  $B_2 \in \mathcal{B}^{\Theta_2}$ . This extends immediately to finite unions of such sets, since every such finite union can be re-written as a disjoint finite union. In particular,  $P'(B) = \tilde{P}(B)$  whenever  $B$  is a basic open set (i.e., a finite union of products of an open set in  $\Theta_1 \times K$  and an open set in  $\Theta_2$ ). Hence, by  $\tau$ -smoothness, this extends to every open  $B$ , and then to every  $B$  borel.  $\square$

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