# Multiple hypothesis testing for arbitrarily varying sources

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Highly unstable environments can be modeled by arbitrarily varying (information) sources (AVS). We conduct a study of multiple hypothesis testing (HT) for those sources within two approaches existing in an information-theoretic area of statistical analysis. First we characterize the attainable exponent trade-offs for all kind of error probabilities and indicate the corresponding decision schemes or testing strategies. Then we treat the same problem from an optimality achieving perspectives.

Moreover, Chernoff bounds for both the binary and M-ary HT are specified via indication of a Sanov theorem for AVS's. Additional geometric interpretations help to digest the structure of HT in derived solutions.

Keywords and Phrases: Arbitrarily varying sources, multiple hypothesis testing, error exponents, Chernoff bounds, Sanov theorem.

# 1. Introduction

Unstable systems and environments can be characterized by multiple probabilistic laws (distributions) depending on "states" they stay at rather than a single such law. Moreover, how those states commutate with each other has no statistical description and is arbitrary. The corresponding model of information source, arbitrarily varying source (AVS), was introduced by Berger [\[2\]](#page-20-0) in a source coding game context as a rate-distortion problem. An extended analysis of this problem in terms of error probability exponents can be found in [\[12\]](#page-21-1).

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Beyond natural phenomena which can be modeled by AVS's, examples of these kind of environments range from biometric verification systems (biometric templates are taken at arbitrary states of the enroller device or individual, see [\[13\]](#page-21-2)) to cloud computing networks with state variability of virtual devices migrating over all the cloud landscape. Many problems of decision making in those transient environments relate to hypothesis testing (HT) and especially to multiple HT. That motivates the current study of multiple HT bounds within the classical framework of statistics and information theory initially started with the paper [\[9\]](#page-20-1).

The problem of testing of hypotheses for AVS's is not new and is formulated by Fu and Shen [\[8\]](#page-20-2) in binary case as extension of simpler discrete memoryless source (DMS) scenario. So the HT problem of [\[8\]](#page-20-2) targets the identification of the distribution family of observations instead of predicting the generic distribution of a DMS without option to reject both the hypothetical laws about it. Furthermore, the work [\[1\]](#page-20-3) considered the problem by Fu and Shen [\[8\]](#page-20-2) in case of decision making with known to statistician states of the source. This side information simplifies the decision making.

The prior research on HT topic starts with the groundbreaking papers by Hoeffding [\[14\]](#page-21-3), Csiszár and Longo [\[7\]](#page-20-4), and Blahut [\[4\]](#page-20-5). The latter characterized the achievable error probability exponents in binary HT for DMS's and established also the strong tie between information theory and HT. Further advancement in the area covers the extension of binary HT to any M alternative hypotheses. Haroutunian's [\[10\]](#page-20-6) generalization of HT for DMS was devoted to the maximum (best, optimal) error probability exponents for a collection of error kinds while having a "core" set of them within certain levels. This approach is known as log-asymptotic optimal (LAO) testing having roots in Birgé [\[3\]](#page-20-7). In particular, the work  $[10]$  specifies the LAO interdependencies between error exponents/reliabilities for all possible pairs of hypotheses. The same HT problem with an alternative setting is the subject of [\[16\]](#page-21-4). Being interested in attainable interconnections between all sort of error probabilities it specifies the corresponding achievable region of those tradeoffs, thus introducing a broader and unified description to the problem solution.

In this paper we extend the results by [\[10\]](#page-20-6), [\[8\]](#page-20-2), and [\[16\]](#page-21-4), simultaneously, considering the multiple HT problem for AVS's targeting the specification of both the achievability region of error exponents and the LAO tradeoffs of those exponents. Moreover, we deepen the analysis to derive the Chernoff error bounds in HT for AVS's, thus extending the result by Leang and Johnson [\[15\]](#page-21-5) for DMS's. For that purpose we prove a generalized Sanov theorem. In all cases the decision schemes supporting the error probability bounds are constructed. We attach also geometric interpretations to our analysis.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section [2](#page-2-0) introduces the problem formally with necessary definitions. Section [3](#page-5-0) is a summary on the employed in the paper methodological tool of empirical distributions in AVS context. In Section [4](#page-6-0) the achievable reliability region we are looking for is characterized. The optimal error bounds within that region is the subject of Section [5.](#page-9-0) In Section [6](#page-13-0) a Sanov theorem for AVS's is formulated and proved. In Section [7](#page-16-0) the Chernoff bound for M-ary HT problem is presented and specialized to the binary case. Finally, Section [8](#page-18-0) addresses geometric interpretations of HT mechanisms for AVS's.

### 2. Models of information source and HT

<span id="page-2-0"></span>An AVS is a varying state-based DMS with finite alphabet  $\mathcal{X}$ . Those states alter within another finite set  $\mathcal S$  in a non-probabilistic and arbitrary manner. It means that an AVS  $\{X, \mathcal{S}\}\$ can be defined by a family of conditional probability distributions (PD)  $G_s^*$  (subset of all distributions  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ ) depending on source state  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ :

$$
(1) \t\t \mathcal{G}^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{G_s^*, s \in \mathcal{S}\}
$$

with  $G_s^*$  $\stackrel{\triangle}{=}$  { $G^*(x|s)$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ }. From the condition of the state-based DMS, the probability of a vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_N) \in \mathcal{X}^N$  emitted by the AVS while sequentially stayed at components of a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^{N}$  is determined by the following product

<span id="page-2-1"></span>
$$
G^*(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \prod_{n=1}^N G^*(x_n|s_n).
$$

The probability of a subset  $\mathcal{A}_N \subset \mathcal{X}^N$  subject to a  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  is the sum

<span id="page-2-2"></span>
$$
G^*(\mathcal{A}_N|\mathbf{s}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}_N} G^*(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s}).
$$

The multiple HT problem for this source admits  $M > 2$  different hypotheses about the distribution [\(1\)](#page-2-1):

(2) 
$$
H_m: \mathcal{G}^* = \mathcal{G}_m, \quad m = \overline{1, M}
$$

with

$$
\mathcal{G}_m \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{G_{m,s}, s \in \mathcal{S}\},\
$$

where

<span id="page-3-0"></span>
$$
G_{m,s} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{G_m(x|s), \ x \in \mathcal{X}\}, \ s \in \mathcal{S}.
$$

Let  $G_m$  be the stochastic matrix defined by [\(3\)](#page-3-0). Based on N observations of the source, namely on  $x$ , one should make decision in favor of one (of  $M$ ) hypotheses [\(2\)](#page-2-2). A test  $\varphi_N$  by the statistician is an algorithm partitioning  $\mathcal{X}^N$  into M disjoint subsets  $\mathcal{A}_{N}^m$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M}$ :

$$
\mathcal{A}_N^m \cap \mathcal{A}_N^l = \emptyset, \quad m \neq l, \quad \bigcup_m \mathcal{A}_N^m = \mathcal{X}^N.
$$

If  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}_{N}^{m}$  then the test adopts the hypothesis  $H_{m}$ . Inevitably, in decision making in favor of one of M alternatives he/she may commit  $M(M-1)$ different kinds of errors, which are denoted by  $\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N)$  – the probability (maximized over  $\mathcal{S}^N$ ) of the erroneous acceptance by the test  $\varphi_N$  of the hypothesis  $H_l$  provided that  $H_m$  is true,

(4) 
$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \max_{\mathbf{s}\in\mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{A}_N^l|\mathbf{s}), \quad 1 \leq m \neq l \leq M.
$$

Another type of error can be observed related to wrong decision in case of true  $H_m$  with the probability

<span id="page-3-1"></span>(5) 
$$
\alpha_m(\varphi_N) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^m | \mathbf{s}) \leq \sum_{l \neq m}^M \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N), \quad m = \overline{1, M}.
$$

From the perspectives of study of achievable reliabilities in  $M$ -ary HT [\[16\]](#page-21-4), consider the  $M(M-1)$ -dimensional vector  $\mathbf{E} \triangleq \{E_{l,m}\}_{l,m=\overline{1,M}}, l \neq m$ , with each index  $(l, m)$  corresponding to error exponent  $-\frac{1}{N}$  $\frac{1}{N} \log \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N)$ .

Definition 1. E is an achievable collection of error exponents (reliabilities) if for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a decision scheme  $\{\mathcal{A}_{N}^{m}\}_{m=1}^{M}$  or test  $\varphi_{N}$  with

$$
-\frac{1}{N}\log\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N) > E_{l,m} - \varepsilon
$$

for all  $m \neq l$  and large enough N.

Let  $\mathcal{R}_{\text{AVS}}$  denotes the set of all achievable reliability vectors. One of our goals is to characterize this region.

Another goal is to look for optimal tests and trade-offs between error exponents under certain conditions. For that purpose we introduce the following definitions:

<span id="page-4-0"></span>(6) 
$$
\overline{E}_{l,m} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_{l,m}(\varphi) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \limsup_{N \to \infty} -\frac{1}{N} \log \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N), \quad l,m = \overline{1,M}, \ l \neq m,
$$

<span id="page-4-1"></span>(7) 
$$
\overline{E}_m \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_m(\varphi) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \limsup_{N \to \infty} -\frac{1}{N} \log \alpha_m(\varphi_N), \quad m = \overline{1, M},
$$

where  $\varphi \stackrel{\triangle}{=} {\varphi_N}_{N=1}^{\infty}$ . Note that the equations [\(5\)](#page-3-1), [\(6\)](#page-4-0) and [\(7\)](#page-4-1) imply

<span id="page-4-3"></span>(8) 
$$
\overline{E}_m(\varphi) \leq \min_{l=\overline{1,M}, l \neq m} \left[ \overline{E}_{l,m}(\varphi) \right], \quad m = \overline{1,M}.
$$

Naturally, the asymptotic exponents in [\(6\)](#page-4-0) and [\(7\)](#page-4-1) are in cross trade-offs for any decision scheme. Therefore, the quality of a test scheme can be measured by the maximum exponents it provides for selected error kinds while keeping the rest of them within acceptable degrees. This concept of optimality is historically preceding (see Birge [\[3\]](#page-20-7), Haroutunian [\[10\]](#page-20-6)) the generic notion of achievability region for error exponent trade-offs by Tuncel [\[16\]](#page-21-4). In [\[10\]](#page-20-6) the optimal test is defined by  $M-1$  fixed error exponents which indicate the "degrees of freedom" in the HT problem formulation. Therefore, in our case, the definition of a test optimality can be formulated in the following way.

<span id="page-4-2"></span>**Definition 2.** A test  $\varphi^*$  is optimal if for every other test  $\varphi'$  achieving equal-degree errors for wrong decisions on every true hypotheses:

$$
\overline{E}_m^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_m^*(\varphi^*) = \overline{E}_m' \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_m'(\varphi'), \quad m = \overline{1, M - 1},
$$

it holds that all the pair-wise error exponents of  $\varphi^*$  are superior to those achieved by the other test:

$$
\overline{E}_{l,m}^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_{l,m}(\varphi^*) \geq \overline{E}_{l,m}' \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \overline{E}_{l,m}(\varphi'), \quad l,m = \overline{1,M}, \ l \neq m,
$$
  

$$
\overline{E}_M(\varphi^*) \geq \overline{E}_M(\varphi').
$$

So by looking for this kind of optimal tests and relevant error exponents they achieve, we are interested in special/optimal "trajectories" in the achievability region  $\mathcal{R}_{AVS}$  that provide the best error trade-offs for pairs of hypotheses with the same degrees of overall error probabilities.

#### 3. Empirical distributions in AVS context

<span id="page-5-0"></span>The language of typical sequences is a convenient tool to apply in our analysis. In the sequel we'll use important properties of typical sequences (empirical distributions) tuned for the AVS context. In this section we make a short survey of some basic concepts and facts needed for further expansion of the subject.

Let

$$
\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{S}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{P(s), \ s \in \mathcal{S}\}
$$

be the collection of all distributions on  $S$  and let  $PG$  be the marginal distribution on  $X$  defined by

$$
PG(x) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} P(s)G(x|s), x \in \mathcal{X}.
$$

The type of the vector  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  is the empirical distribution defined by  $P_{\mathbf{s}}(s) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \frac{1}{N}N(s|\mathbf{s})$ , where  $N(s|\mathbf{s})$  is the number of occurrences of s in s. Let's denote the set of all types of N-size state vectors by  $\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{S})$ . For a pair of sequences  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^N$  and  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  let  $N(x, s | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s})$  be the number of occurrences of  $(x, s)$  in  $\{x_n, s_n\}_{n=1}^N$ . The conditional type  $G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}$  of the vector  $\mathbf{x}$  with respect to the vector s is defined by

(9) 
$$
G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}(x|s) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} N(x,s|\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s})/N(s|\mathbf{s}), \quad x \in \mathcal{X}, s \in \mathcal{S}.
$$

The joint type of vectors **x** and **s** is the empirical distribution  $P_s \circ G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}$ defined by

<span id="page-5-1"></span>
$$
P_{\mathbf{s}} \circ G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} = \{ P_{\mathbf{s}}(s) G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}(x|s), \ x \in \mathcal{X}, \ s \in \mathcal{S} \}.
$$

For brevity we may omit the indices for type notations hereafter, however keep the unambiguity of formulations.

Let  $\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$  be the set of all conditional types [\(9\)](#page-5-1). Denote by  $\mathcal{T}_G^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s})$ the set of vectors  $x$  which have the conditional type  $G$  for given  $s$  having type P. Let the conditional entropy of G given type P be  $H(G|P) \stackrel{\triangle}{=}$  $-\sum P(s)G(x|s)\log G(x|s).$ 

The<br>note by  $D(G \parallel G_m | P)$  the KL divergence between G and  $G_m$  given type P and by  $D(PG \| PG_m)$  the one between PG and PG<sub>m</sub>.

<span id="page-6-6"></span>For every  $G_m \in \mathcal{G}_m$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M}$ , the following inequality holds

(10) 
$$
D(G \parallel G_m | P) \ge D(PG \parallel PG_m).
$$

The upper bound for the cardinality of  $\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$  is

<span id="page-6-5"></span>
$$
(11) \t\t |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| < (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}||\mathcal{S}|}.
$$

We need some properties for types. The size of type class  $G \in \mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$ , where  $P \in \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{S})$ , has the following estimate

<span id="page-6-1"></span>(12) 
$$
|\mathcal{T}_G^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s})| \le \exp\{NH(G|P)\}.
$$

For a distribution  $G_m \in \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$  the sequence  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{T}_G^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s})$  has the probability

<span id="page-6-2"></span>(13) 
$$
G_m^N(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s}) = \exp\{-N[H(G|P) + D(G || G_m|P)]\}.
$$

Note that [\(12\)](#page-6-1) and [\(13\)](#page-6-2) give the estimate for conditional type class probability

<span id="page-6-4"></span>(14) 
$$
G_m^N(\mathcal{T}_G^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s})|\mathbf{s}) \ge (N+1)^{-|\mathcal{X}||\mathcal{S}|} \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_m|P)\},
$$

<span id="page-6-7"></span><span id="page-6-0"></span>(15)  $G_m^N(\mathcal{T}_G^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s})|\mathbf{s}) \le \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_m|P)\}.$ 

#### 4. Characterizing the achievable reliabilities

The achievability region characterization below extends the result by [\[16\]](#page-21-4). In other words, it describes the tradeoff between all error exponents for  $M$ -ary AVS HT problem. To demonstrate the result, we'll need the convex hull of the family of distributions  $\mathcal{G}_m$  for each  $m = \overline{1, M}$ ,

<span id="page-6-8"></span>(16) 
$$
\mathcal{W}_m \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \left\{ W_m(x) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \lambda_s G_{m,s}(x|s), x \in \mathcal{X}, 0 \leq \lambda_s \leq 1, \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \lambda_s = 1 \right\}.
$$

Then we introduce the region  $\mathcal{E}_{AVS}$  of  $M(M-1)$ -dimensional vectors

<span id="page-6-3"></span>(17)  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{AVS}} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \Big\{ \mathbf{E} : \forall W \; \exists l,$ such that  $\min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m) > E_{l,m}$  for  $\forall m \neq l$ .

We want to show in the next theorem that  $(17)$  completely characterizes the desired  $\mathcal{R}_{\text{AVS}}$ .

<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Theorem 1.**  $\mathcal{E}_{AVS}$  is an achievable region of reliabilities:  $\mathcal{E}_{AVS} \subset \mathcal{R}_{AVS}$ . Conversely, if  $\mathbf{E} \in \mathcal{R}_{AVS}$ , then for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_{\delta} \in \mathcal{E}_{AVS}$ , where  $\mathbf{E}_{\delta} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{E_{l,m} \delta\}_{l \neq m}$ .

**Remark [1](#page-7-0).** Setting  $|\mathcal{S}| = 1$  in Theorem 1 we'll readily get the region of achievable exponents in M-ary hypothesis testing for DMS [\[16\]](#page-21-4). Denote it by  $\mathcal{R}_{\text{DMS}}$ .

**Theorem 2.**  $\mathcal{E}_{DMS} \subset \mathcal{R}_{DMS}$ . Conversely, if  $\mathbf{E} = \{E_{l,m}\} \in \mathcal{R}_{DMS}$ , then for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_{\delta} \in \mathcal{E}_{DMS}$ , where  $\mathbf{E}_{\delta} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{E_{l,m} - \delta\},\$ 

 $\mathcal{E}_{DMS} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{ \mathbf{E} : \forall W \exists l, \text{ such that } D(W|W_m) > E_{l,m} \text{ for } \forall m \neq l \}.$ 

**Remark 2.** For  $M = 2$  we have the binary AVS HT model by Fu and Shen [\[8\]](#page-20-2) and the corresponding results. It can be easily seen by representing the region  $\mathcal{E}_{AVS}$  in the following way:

<span id="page-7-1"></span>(18) 
$$
\mathcal{E}_{\text{AVS}}^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \Big\{ \mathbf{E} : \forall W \text{ either } \min_{W_1 \in \mathcal{W}_1} D(W|W_1) > E_{2,1},
$$

$$
\text{or } \min_{W_2 \in \mathcal{W}_2} D(W|W_2) > E_{1,2} \Big\}.
$$

The alternative characterization of [\(18\)](#page-7-1) is the following set

$$
\mathcal{E}_{\text{AVS}}^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{ \{ E_{1,2}, E_{2,1} \}: E_{1,2} < E_{1,2}(E_{2,1}) \},
$$

where

$$
E_{1,2}(E_{2,1}) = \min_{W_2 \in \mathcal{W}_2} \min_{W_1 \in \mathcal{W}_1} \min_{W: D(W||W_1) < E_{2,1}} D(W || W_2),
$$

which is the binary AVS HT exponent function [\[8\]](#page-20-2).

*Proof.* Let us prove the first part of Theorem [1.](#page-7-0) If  $\mathbf{E} \in \mathcal{E}_{AVS}$ , then from [\(12\)](#page-6-1), [\(13\)](#page-6-2) and [\(14\)](#page-6-4), for any  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  with type  $P_{\mathbf{s}} = P$  we have

<span id="page-7-2"></span>(19) 
$$
G_m(\mathcal{A}_N^l | \mathbf{s}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}_N^l} G_m(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{s})
$$

$$
\leq \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{T}_0^N(\mathcal{X} | \mathbf{s}) \subset \mathcal{A}_N^l}} \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_m | P)\}
$$

$$
\leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X} | \mathcal{S})| \exp\{-ND(PG \parallel PG_{m,s})\},
$$

where G is a type  $G \in \mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$ .

For every  $W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m$  there exists  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$ , such that  $W_m = P_{\mathbf{s}} G_m$ . There-fore, from [\(19\)](#page-7-2) and the polynomial order [\(11\)](#page-6-5) of  $\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$  we have

$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N) \leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp\{-N \min_{W_m} D(W \parallel W_m)\}\
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp\{-N E_{l,m}\}\
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \exp\{-N(E_{l,m}-\delta)\}.
$$

This signals about a proven direct part of the theorem.

To proceed with the converse reasoning we should assume that a  $\mathbf{E} \in \mathbb{R}$  $\mathcal{R}_{\text{AVS}}$ . This assures that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a decision scheme  ${ {\mathcal{A}}_N^m }_{m=1}^M$  that starting from an  $N > N_0(\varepsilon)$  validates the inequality

<span id="page-8-2"></span>(20) 
$$
-\frac{1}{N}\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N) > E_{l,m} - \varepsilon
$$

for all  $m \neq l$ . For a picked  $\delta > 0$  we need to show that

<span id="page-8-1"></span>(21) 
$$
\forall W \exists l, s.t. \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W|W_m) > E_{l,m} - \delta, \forall m \neq l.
$$

To come to this statement we apply an estimate. For each  $W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m$  and  $\mathcal{A}_N^l \subseteq \mathcal{X}^N$  the following inequality holds for N large enough:

<span id="page-8-0"></span>(22) 
$$
W_m(\mathcal{A}_N^l) \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{A}_N^l | \mathbf{s}) = \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N).
$$

To show [\(22\)](#page-8-0), first note that for any  $W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m$  there exist a collection of  $\lambda_s$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda_s \leq 1$ ,  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ , with the property  $\sum$ s∈S  $\lambda_s = 1$ , such that  $W_m =$  $\sum$ s∈S  $\lambda_s G_{m,s}$ . Whence, for  $\lambda_s \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \prod^N$  $\prod_{n=1} \lambda_{s_n}$  and any  $\mathcal{A}_N^l \in \mathcal{X}^N$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}_N^l$ , at which the test  $\varphi_N$  adopts the hypothesis  $H_l$ , the following can be performed:

$$
W_m(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{n=1}^N W_m(x_n) = \prod_{n=1}^N \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \lambda_s G_m(x_n|s) = \sum_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} \lambda_{\mathbf{s}} \prod_{n=1}^N G_m(x_n|s_n)
$$
  

$$
\leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} \prod_{n=1}^N G_m(x_n|s_n) \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s}).
$$

Thus [\(22\)](#page-8-0) follows.

Now turning to the proof for [\(21\)](#page-8-1), by the continuity of  $D(\cdot || W_m)$  in the first argument, there exists a type  $Q \in \mathcal{P}^{N}(\mathcal{X})$  that for  $N > N_1(\varepsilon)$  satisfies

<span id="page-9-1"></span>(23) 
$$
D(Q \parallel W_m) \le D(W \parallel W_m) + \delta/2
$$

for a fixed  $m$ .

Let  $\overline{W}_{m^*} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \arg\left[\max_m \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m)\right]$ , then in light of [\(22\)](#page-8-0) and [\(12\)](#page-6-1) we have

$$
\alpha_{m^*}(\varphi_N) \ge \overline{W}_{m^*}(\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*})
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \overline{W}_{m^*}(\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X}))
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X})} \exp\{-N[H(Q) + D(Q \parallel \overline{W}_{m^*})]\}
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge |\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X})| \exp\{-NH(Q)\} \exp\{-ND(Q \parallel \overline{W}_{m^*})\},
$$

where  $Q_{\ast}$  is a type-approximation of W defined by [\(23\)](#page-9-1) for  $\overline{W}_{m^*}^N$ . Note that  $|\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X})| \exp\{-NH(Q)\} \ge \exp\{-N\delta/4\}$  for  $N > N_2(\delta)$ . It follows from the inequality  $|\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{N}^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_{Q}^{N}(\mathcal{X})| \geq \frac{|\mathcal{T}_{Q}^{N}(\mathcal{X})|}{M}$ :

(24) 
$$
|\overline{\mathcal{A}}_N^{m^*} \cap \mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X})| \exp\{-NH(Q)\}\n\n\geq |\mathcal{T}_Q^N(\mathcal{X})| \exp\{-NH(Q)\} \exp\left\{-N\frac{\log M}{N}\right\}\n\n\geq \exp\{-N\delta/4\}.
$$

Whence, for  $N > \max\{N_1(\delta), N_2(\delta)\}\)$  we have

$$
\alpha_{m^*}(\varphi_N) \ge \exp\{-N[D(Q \parallel \overline{W}_{m^*}) - \delta/4]\}\
$$
  

$$
\ge \exp\{-N[D(W \parallel \overline{W}_{m^*}) + \delta/4]\}\
$$

that with [\(20\)](#page-8-2) and  $\varepsilon = 3\delta/4$  gives

$$
E_{m^*} - \delta < -\frac{1}{N} \log \alpha_{m^*}(\varphi_N) < D(W \parallel \overline{W}_{m^*})
$$

<span id="page-9-0"></span>for  $N > \max\{N_0(\varepsilon), N_1(\delta), N_2(\delta)\}\$ and for every W.

#### 5. Error exponents in optimal tradeoffs

Now we proceed with the goal of characterization of optimal tradeoffs for error probabilities in terms of Definition [2](#page-4-2) for fixed exponents  $\overline{E}_m$ ,  $m =$   $\overline{1, M-1}$ . First we introduce the following sets:

<span id="page-10-3"></span>(25) 
$$
\mathcal{B}_m(\mathcal{W}_m) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \Big\{ W : \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m) < \overline{E}_m \Big\}, \quad m = \overline{1, M - 1},
$$

<span id="page-10-4"></span>(26) 
$$
\mathcal{B}_M(\mathcal{W}_M) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \Big\{ W : \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m) > \overline{E}_m, \quad m = \overline{1, M-1} \Big\},
$$

and also define

<span id="page-10-0"></span>(27) 
$$
\overline{E}_{l,m}^* \triangleq \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_l(W_l)} \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m),
$$

$$
l = \overline{1, M-1}, \ m = \overline{1, M}, \ l \neq m,
$$

(28) 
$$
\overline{E}_{M,m}^* \triangleq \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(\mathcal{W}_M)} \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m), \quad m = \overline{1, M-1},
$$

<span id="page-10-1"></span>(29) 
$$
\overline{E}_M^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \min_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(\mathcal{W}_M)} \min_{W_M \in \mathcal{W}_M} D(W \parallel W_M).
$$

<span id="page-10-2"></span>**Theorem 3.** The optimal test  $\varphi^*$  is characterized by the reliabilities defined in [\(27\)](#page-10-0)–[\(29\)](#page-10-1) with the following restrictions for  $\overline{E}_m^*$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M-1}$ .

(30) 
$$
\overline{E}_{1}^{*} < \min_{m=2,M} \{ \min_{\substack{W_{1} \in \mathcal{W}_{1}, \\ W_{m} \in \mathcal{W}_{m}}} D(W_{m} \parallel W_{1}) \},
$$
  
(31) 
$$
\overline{E}_{m}^{*} < \min_{l \neq m} \left\{ \min_{l=1} \overline{\min}_{m=1} \overline{E}_{l,m}^{*}, \min_{l=m+1,M} \min_{\substack{W_{l} \in \mathcal{W}_{l}, \\ W_{l} \in \mathcal{W}_{l}}} D(W_{l} \parallel W_{m}) \right\},
$$

(31) 
$$
E_m < \min_{l \neq m} \left\{ \min_{l=1,m-1} E_{l,m}, \min_{l=m+1,M} \min_{\substack{W_l \in W_l, \\ W_m \in W_m}} D(W_l \parallel W_m) \right\},
$$

$$
m = 2, M - 1.
$$

**Remark [3](#page-10-2).** Setting  $|\mathcal{S}| = 1$  in Theorem 3 we'll readily get the optimal exponents in M-ary hypothesis testing for DMS [\[10,](#page-20-6) [11\]](#page-21-6).

Observe that the sets  $(25)-(26)$  $(25)-(26)$  $(25)-(26)$  specialize to

$$
\mathcal{B}_m(W_m) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{W : D(W \parallel W_m) < \overline{E}_m\}, \quad m = \overline{1, M - 1},
$$
\n
$$
\mathcal{B}_M(W_M) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{W : D(W \parallel W_m) > \overline{E}_m, \quad m = \overline{1, M - 1}\},
$$

and the definitions  $(27)-(29)$  $(27)-(29)$  $(27)-(29)$  specialize to

<span id="page-10-5"></span>(32) 
$$
\overline{E}_{l,m}^* \triangleq \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_l(W_l)} D(W \parallel W_m), \quad l = \overline{1, M-1}, \ m = \overline{1, M}, \ l \neq m,
$$

(33) 
$$
\overline{E}_{M,m}^* \triangleq \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(W_M)} D(W \parallel W_m), \quad m = \overline{1, M-1},
$$

<span id="page-10-6"></span>(34) 
$$
\overline{E}_M^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(W_M)} D(W \parallel W_m).
$$

**Theorem 4.** The optimal test  $\varphi^*$  is characterized by the reliabilities defined in [\(32\)](#page-10-5)–[\(34\)](#page-10-6) with the following restrictions for  $\overline{E}_m^*$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M-1}$ .

(35) 
$$
\overline{E}_1^* < \min_{m=2,M} \{D(W_m \parallel W_1)\},
$$
  
\n(36)  $\overline{E}_m^* < \min_{l \neq m} \left\{ \min_{l=\overline{1,m-1}} \overline{E}_{l,m}^*, \min_{l=\overline{m+1,M}} D(W_l \parallel W_m) \right\}, \quad m = \overline{2,M-1}.$ 

*Proof.* (of Theorem [3\)](#page-10-2). Let the decision on  $m$  be made based on the partition:

$$
\mathcal{D}_m \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{B}_m(\mathcal{W}_m)} \mathcal{T}_W^N(\mathcal{X})
$$

for  $m = \overline{1, M}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}_l \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}_M \neq \emptyset$ . We are going to show that this is a partition that enables the optimal test sequence  $\varphi^* =$  $\{\varphi_N^*\}_{N=1}^\infty.$ 

For  $\overline{W}_m \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \arg \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(W \parallel W_m)$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M}$ , and  $\varphi^*$  we perform the following analysis applying the unconditional version of  $(14)$ :

$$
\alpha_{M,m}(\varphi_N^*) \ge \overline{W}_m(\mathcal{D}_M)
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \overline{W}_m\left(\bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(W_M)} \mathcal{T}_W^N(\mathcal{X})\right)
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \max_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(W_M)} \exp\{-N[D(W \parallel \overline{W}_m) + o_N(1)]\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_M(W_M)} D(W \parallel \overline{W}_m) + o_N(1)\right]\right\}.
$$

In a similar way we can obtain the inequalities

<span id="page-11-0"></span>
$$
(37) \quad \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N^*) \geq \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m W \in \mathcal{B}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)} \min D(W \parallel W_m) + o_N(1)\right]\right\},\
$$

<span id="page-11-1"></span>(38) 
$$
\alpha_M(\varphi_N^*) \ge \overline{W}_M(\overline{\mathcal{D}}_M)
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \overline{W}_M\left(\bigcup_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(W_M)} \mathcal{T}_W^N(\mathcal{X})\right)
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \max_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(W_M)} \exp\{-N[D(W \parallel \overline{W}_M) + o_N(1)]\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(W_M)} D(W \parallel \overline{W}_M) + o_N(1)\right]\right\}.
$$

The proof of the converse inequalities

<span id="page-12-3"></span><span id="page-12-2"></span>(39) 
$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N^*) \le \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)} D(W \parallel W_m) + o_N(1)\right]\right\}
$$
  
(40) 
$$
\alpha_M(\varphi_N^*) \le \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W_M \in \mathcal{W}_M} \min_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(\mathcal{W}_M)} D(W \parallel W_M) + o_N(1)\right]\right\}
$$

are presented in the sequel.

From [\(10\)](#page-6-6), [\(12\)](#page-6-1), [\(13\)](#page-6-2) and [\(15\)](#page-6-7) and  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  with type  $P_{\mathbf{s}} = P$  we have

<span id="page-12-1"></span><span id="page-12-0"></span>(41)  
\n
$$
G_m(\mathcal{B}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)|\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{B}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)} G_m(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s})
$$
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{\mathcal{T}_G(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s}) \subset \mathcal{B}_l} \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_m|P)\}
$$
\n(42)  
\n
$$
G_M(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(\mathcal{W}_M)|\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M(\mathcal{W}_M)} G_M(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s})
$$
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{\mathcal{T}_G(\mathcal{X}|\mathbf{s}) \subset \overline{\mathcal{B}}_M} \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_M|P)\}
$$
\n
$$
\leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp\{-ND(G \parallel G_M|P)\}
$$
\n
$$
\leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp\{-ND(PG \parallel PG_M)\}
$$

where  $G \in \mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})$  is a type.

For every  $\overrightarrow{W}_m \in W_m$  there exists  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$ , such that  $W_m = P_{\mathbf{s}} G_m$ . Hence, from [\(41\)](#page-12-0) for  $l \neq m, l, m = \overline{1, M}$ , we come to

$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N^*) \leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp \bigg\{-N \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} \min_{W \in \mathcal{B}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)} D(W \parallel W_m)\bigg\},\
$$

and from [\(42\)](#page-12-1) we get

$$
\alpha_M(\varphi_N^*) \leq |\mathcal{G}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S})| \exp \bigg\{-N \min_{W_M \in \mathcal{W}_M} \min_{W \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_l(\mathcal{W}_l)} D(W \parallel W_M) \bigg\}.
$$

Taking into account  $(37)$ ,  $(39)$ ,  $(38)$ ,  $(40)$  and the continuity of the functional  $D(W \parallel W_m)$  we obtain that the limit  $\lim_{N \to \infty} {\text{sup}} -N^{-1} \log \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N^*)$ exists and equals to  $\overline{E}_{l,m}^*$ . The same continuity argument applies to the exponent of  $\alpha_M(\varphi_N^*)$ .

To accomplish the proof by contradictory assumption let  $\varphi'$  be a test defined by the sets  $(\mathcal{D}'_m)$  such that

$$
\overline{E}'_{l,m} > \overline{E}^*_{l,m}, \quad l \neq m = \overline{1,M}. \qquad \overline{E}'_M > \overline{E}^*_{M}.
$$

It yields for N large enough that

$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N') < \alpha_{l,m}(\varphi_N^*), \quad \alpha_{M,m}(\varphi_N') < \alpha_{M,m}(\varphi_N^*).
$$

Below we examine the relation between  $(D_m, \mathcal{D}_M)$  and  $(\mathcal{D}'_m, \mathcal{D}'_M)$ . Four cases are possible:

- 1)  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}'_m = \emptyset,$ 2)  $\mathcal{D}_m \subset \mathcal{D}'_m$ ,
- 3)  $\mathcal{D}'_m \subset \mathcal{D}_m$ ,
- 4)  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}'_m \neq \emptyset$ .

The same cases exist also for  $\mathcal{D}_M$  and  $\mathcal{D}'_M$ . Consider the case of  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}'_m =$  $\emptyset$ . It follows that there exists  $l \neq m$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_m \cap \mathcal{D}'_l \neq \emptyset$ . That is there exists a W such that  $D(W \parallel \overline{W}_m) < \overline{E}'_m$ , so  $\mathcal{T}_{W}^{N}(\mathcal{X}) \subset \mathcal{D}'_l$ . Compute

$$
\alpha_{l,m}(\varphi'_N) = \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{D}'_l | \mathbf{s})
$$
  
\n
$$
\geq \overline{W}_m^N(\mathcal{T}_W^N(\mathcal{X}))
$$
  
\n
$$
\geq \exp\{-N[D(W \parallel \overline{W}_m) + o_N(1)]\}
$$
  
\n
$$
> \exp\{-N[\overline{E}'_m + o_N(1)]\}.
$$

Thus  $\overline{E}'_{l,m} < \overline{E}'_m = \overline{E}^*_m$  which contradicts to [\(8\)](#page-4-3).

#### 6. Generalized sanov theorem

<span id="page-13-0"></span>Here we are interested in large deviations framework for AVS's. Let a family of conditional probabilities G be defined according to [\(3\)](#page-3-0) and let  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$ be a subset of distributions on X. As in [\(16\)](#page-6-8) we define and denote by  $W$  the convex hull of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Note that

$$
G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} G(\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})|\mathbf{s}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \sum_{\mathbf{x}: \; G_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})} G(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s}).
$$

Let us define the following set for each s

$$
\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{s}} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{ G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} \in \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{S}) : \text{ such that } G_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X}) \}.
$$

AVS version of Sanov's theorem states:

**Theorem 5.** For given set  $C$ ,

<span id="page-14-0"></span>(43) 
$$
\max_{\mathbf{s}} G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s}) \le (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}||\mathcal{S}|} \exp\left\{-N \min_{W \in \mathcal{W}} D(V^* || W)\right\},
$$

where  $V^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \arg \min_{V \in \mathcal{C}} D(V \parallel W)$ . If, in addition, the set C is the closure of its interior, then

<span id="page-14-1"></span>(44) 
$$
\max_{\mathbf{s}} \frac{1}{N} \log G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s}) \to -\min_{W \in \mathcal{W}} D(V^* \parallel W).
$$

With  $|\mathcal{S}| = 1$  we get Sanov's theorem for DMS. It is formulated in the next claim.

<span id="page-14-2"></span>**Theorem 6.** For given set  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$ ,

$$
G(\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})) \le (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|} \exp\{-ND(G^* \parallel G)\},\
$$

where  $G^* \triangleq \arg \min_{G' \in \mathcal{C}} D(G' \parallel G)$ . If, in addition, C is the closure of its interior, then  $\frac{1}{N} \log G(\mathcal{C}) \to -D(G^* \parallel G)$ .

*Proof.* We first prove the upper bound [\(43\)](#page-14-0). For every  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N$  we have the following chain of estimates which is enough to be sure in [\(43\)](#page-14-0).

$$
G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s}) = G(\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^{N}(\mathcal{X})|\mathbf{s})
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{\mathbf{x}: G_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^{N}(\mathcal{X})} G(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{s})
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{\mathbf{x}: G_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^{N}(\mathcal{X})} \exp\{-N[H(G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}|P_{\mathbf{s}}) + D(G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} || G | P_{\mathbf{s}})]\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{s}}} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in T_{G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}}(X|\mathbf{s})} \exp\{-N[H(G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}|P_{\mathbf{s}}) + D(G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} || G | P_{\mathbf{s}})]\}
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}\n&\stackrel{(a)}{\leq} \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}\in\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{s}}}D(G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}\parallel G|P_{\mathbf{s}})-\epsilon\right]\right\} \\
&\stackrel{(b)}{\leq} \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}\in\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{s}}}D(P_{\mathbf{s}}G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}}\parallel P_{\mathbf{s}}G)-\epsilon\right]\right\} \\
&\stackrel{(c)}{\leq} \exp\left\{-N\left[D(G_{\mathbf{x}}^*\parallel W)-\epsilon\right]\right\} \\
&\stackrel{(d)}{\leq} \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{V\in\mathcal{C}}D(V\parallel W)-\epsilon\right]\right\} \\
&=\exp\left\{-N\left[D(V^*\parallel W)-\epsilon\right]\right\} \\
&\leq \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W\in\mathcal{W}}D(V^*\parallel W)-\epsilon\right]\right\},\n\end{aligned}
$$

where

- (a) follows from the fact that there are only polynomially many types in  $\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})$  and from [\(12\)](#page-6-1),
- (b) follows from the property for divergence [\(10\)](#page-6-6),
- (c)  $G^*_{\mathbf{x}}$  $\stackrel{\triangle}{=} P_{\bf s}G^*_{{\bf x},{\bf s}},\, G^*_{{\bf x},{\bf s}}$  $\stackrel{\triangle}{=} \arg \min_{G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{s}}} D(P_{\mathbf{s}} G_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{s}} \parallel P_{\mathbf{s}} G),$
- (d) follows from the argument that  $G^*_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Now we turn to the lower bound. Assume that  $\mathcal C$  is the closure of its interior. Since  $\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})$  is dense in the set of all distributions then  $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})$ is non-empty for all  $N > N_0$ , for some  $N_0$ . Furthermore, the assumption implies that for every  $W \in \mathcal{W}$  we can find a sequence of distributions  $Z_n$ such that  $Z_n \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})$  and  $D(Z_n \parallel W) \rightarrow D(V^* \parallel W)$ .

To show the limit [\(44\)](#page-14-1) we make the following estimate for any  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ employing the inequality [\(22\)](#page-8-0):

$$
\max_{\mathbf{s}\in\mathcal{S}^N} G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s}) \ge W(\mathcal{C}) = \sum_{Z\in\mathcal{C}\cap\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})} W(\mathcal{T}_V^N(\mathcal{X}))
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge \sum_{Z_n\in\mathcal{C}\cap\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})} W(\mathcal{T}_{Z_n}^N(\mathcal{X}))
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|} \max_{Z_n\in\mathcal{C}\cap\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})} W(\mathcal{T}_{Z_n}^N(\mathcal{X}))
$$
  
\n
$$
\stackrel{(a)}{\ge} \exp\left\{-N \min_{Z_n\in\mathcal{C}\cap\mathcal{P}^N(\mathcal{X})} D(Z_n \parallel W)\right\},
$$

where  $(a)$  follows from the unconditional version of  $(14)$ . Consequently,

$$
\liminf \frac{1}{N} \log \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G(\mathcal{C}|\mathbf{s})
$$
  
\n
$$
\geq \liminf \left( -\frac{1}{N} - \min_{W \in \mathcal{W}} D(Z_n \parallel W) \right)
$$
  
\n
$$
= -\min_{W \in \mathcal{W}} D(V^* \parallel W).
$$

<span id="page-16-0"></span>Combining this with the upper bound establishes the theorem.  $\Box$ 

# 7. Chernoff error bounds

Here the idea is to minimize the overall probability of error given by the weighted sum of the individual probabilities of error. Those weights are obtained via Bayesian inference. Therefore, in our setup we can assume that there are  $M$  hypotheses

$$
H_m: \mathcal{G}_m = \{G_m(x|s), \ x \in \mathcal{X}, \ s \in \mathcal{S}\}, \quad m = \overline{1, M},
$$

with associated prior probabilities  $\pi_m$ . Denoting the optimal decision regions by  $\mathcal{A}_m$  and their complements by  $\mathcal{A}_m^c$ ,  $m = \overline{1, M}$ , Theorem [6](#page-14-2) yields

$$
\max_{\mathbf{s}\in\mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{A}_m^c|\mathbf{s}) \le \exp\left\{-N\left[\min_{W_m\in\mathcal{W}_m} D(V_m^* \parallel W_m) - \epsilon\right]\right\}
$$

for the error probability under each hypothesis, where

$$
V_m^* \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \arg\min_{V \in \mathcal{A}_m^c} D(V \parallel W_m).
$$

The overall probability of error is

$$
P_e(\varphi_N) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \sum_{m=1}^M \pi_m \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{A}_m^c | \mathbf{s}).
$$

Let

$$
D_{\text{AVS}}^{*}(M) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \min_{\varphi_N} -\frac{1}{N} \log P_e(\varphi_N).
$$

<span id="page-17-0"></span>**Theorem 7.**  $D_{AVS}^*(M) = C_{AVS}(W_1, \ldots, W_M)$ , where  $C_{AVS}(W_1, \ldots, W_M)$ is called the Chernoff distance for AVS and defined as

$$
C_{AVS}(\mathcal{W}_1,\ldots,\mathcal{W}_M)\stackrel{\triangle}{=} \min_m \left\{\min_{W_m\in\mathcal{W}_m} D(V_m^* \parallel W_m)\right\}.
$$

Proof.

$$
P_e(\varphi_N) = \sum_{m=1}^M \pi_m \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}^N} G_m(\mathcal{A}_m^c | \mathbf{s})
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{m=1}^M \pi_m \exp \left\{-N \left[ \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(V_m^* || W_m) - \epsilon \right] \right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \exp \left\{-N \left[ \min_{m} \min_{W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m} D(V_m^* || W_m) - \epsilon \right] \right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \exp \left\{-N \left[ C_{\text{AVs}}(\mathcal{W}_1, \dots, \mathcal{W}_M) \right] - \epsilon \right\}.
$$

 $\Box$ 

**Remark 4.** For  $|\mathcal{S}| = 1$  we get the result by Leang and Johnson [\[15\]](#page-21-5) for the Chernoff bound on DMS setting of HT.

For the binary case of  $M = 2$ , Theorem [7](#page-17-0) specializes to the following lemma.

Lemma 8. The Chernoff information between two families of distributions can be specified by the following representation:

$$
C_{AVS}(W_1, W_2) = \min \Big\{ \min_{W_1 \in W_1} D(V_1^* \parallel W_1), \min_{W_2 \in W_2} D(V_2^* \parallel W_2) \Big\}
$$
  
= 
$$
\min \{ D(V_1^* \parallel W_1^*), D(V_2^* \parallel W_2^*) \}
$$
  
= 
$$
C_{DMS}(W_1^*, W_2^*),
$$

where  $W_i^* = \arg\min_{W_i \in \mathcal{W}_i} D(V_i^* \parallel W_i), i = 1, 2, and C_{DMS}(W_1^*, W_2^*)$  is the Chernoff information for distributions  $W_1^*$  and  $W_2^*$  which according to [\[6\]](#page-20-8) [Chapter 12] satisfy the equalities

$$
D(V_1^* \parallel W_1^*) = D(V_2^* \parallel W_2^*), \ V_1^* = V_2^* = V^*.
$$

With  $|S| = 1$  the lemma easily specifies the binary Chernoff bound  $D^*$ for DMS that according to [\[6\]](#page-20-8) is determined by the following theorem.

Theorem 9.

$$
D^* = D(W_{\lambda^*} \parallel W_1) = D(W_{\lambda^*} \parallel W_2).
$$

where

$$
W_{\lambda} = \frac{W_1^{\lambda}(x)W_2(x)^{1-\lambda}}{\sum\limits_{a \in \mathcal{X}} W_1^{\lambda}(a)W_2(a)^{1-\lambda}}
$$

<span id="page-18-0"></span>and  $\lambda^*$  is the value of  $\lambda$  such that  $D(W_\lambda^* \parallel W_1) = D(W_\lambda^* \parallel W_2)$ .

# 8. Geometry of decision schemes and bounds

Fig. 1 presents a geometric interpretation for the decision scheme in Theorem [3.](#page-10-2) Fig. 2 and 3 illustrate the geometry of the Chernoff bounds derived in Section [7](#page-16-0) for binary and M-ary HT, respectively, (c.f. [\[5\]](#page-20-9) for DMS's).



Figure 1: Multiple HT for AVS. Dash-lines represent distances

$$
\min_{\substack{W_l \in \mathcal{W}_l, \\ W_m \in \mathcal{W}_m}} D(W_m \parallel W_l)
$$

between convex hulls  $(\mathcal{W}_l, \mathcal{W}_m)$ , where  $l, m = \overline{1, 3}, l \neq m$ .



Figure 2: Chernoff bound for AVS in binary HT.



Figure 3: Chernoff bound for AVS in multiple HT.

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