

Lemma of replacement

Assume that $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is concave/convex, i.e. for some $0 < x < 1$, f is concave in $[0, x]$, convex in $[x, 1]$. For $P \in M_+^1(n)$ put

$$F(P) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(p_i).$$

Then, to any $P \in M_+^1(n)$ there exists $P_0 \in M_+^1(n)$ and $P_1 \in M_+^1(n)$ such that

$$F(P_0) \leq F(P) \leq F(P_1)$$

and such that P_1 is a mixture of U_1 and U_n and P_0 a mixture of U_k and U_{k+1} for some $1 \leq k \leq n-1$.

(U 's denote uniform distributions).