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TRANSPORT PROOFS OF SOME FUNCTIONAL INVERSE SANTALÓ INEQUALITIES

MATTHIEU FRADELIZI, NATHAEL GOZLAN, AND SIMON ZUGMEYER

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we present a simple proof of a recent result of the second author which establishes that functional inverse Santaló inequalities follow from Entropy-Transport inequalities. Then, using transport arguments together with elementary correlation inequalities, we prove these sharp Entropy-Transport inequalities in dimension 1, which therefore gives an alternative transport proof of the sharp functional Mahler conjecture in dimension 1, for both the symmetric and the general case. We also revisit the proof of the functional inverse Santaló inequalities in the n dimensional unconditional case using these transport ideas.

1. INTRODUCTION

The classical Blaschke-Santaló inequality [San49] gives the following sharp relation between the volume of a convex body K in \mathbb{R}^n and the volume of its polar $K^* = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n; x \cdot y \leq 1, \forall x \in K\}$: there exists $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $|K|(K - z)^* \leq |B_2^n|^2$, where B_2^n denotes the Euclidean ball of radius one. Mahler [Mah39b] conjectured that the following optimal lower bound holds:

$$|K||K^*| \geq \frac{4^n}{n!},$$

for any centrally symmetric convex body K , with equality for example if K is a cube. Among general convex bodies K , the conjecture is that the lower bound should be reached for simplices. Both conjectures were proved by Mahler in dimension 2 [Mah39a], while the conjecture for symmetric bodies was established by Iriyeh and Shibata in dimension 3 [IS20a] (see also [FHM⁺21]). The conjectures were proved for particular families of convex bodies like unconditional convex bodies [SR81, Mey86], zonoids [Rei86, GMR88], bodies having symmetries [BF13, IS20b]. Bourgain and Milman [BM87] (see also [Kup08, Naz12, Blo14, GPV14, Ber20a, Ber20b]) established an asymptotic form of the conjectures by proving that there exists a constant c such that $|K||K^*| \geq c^n/n!$.

Functional forms of the Mahler conjectures were proposed, where the convex bodies are replaced by log-concave functions and polar convex bodies by the Fenchel-Legendre transform. More precisely, it is conjectured that, for any convex function $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ such that $0 < \int e^{-V} dx < +\infty$, it holds

$$\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx \geq e^n,$$

where the Fenchel-Legendre transform of V is defined by

$$V^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{x \cdot y - V(x)\}, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

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If, in addition, V is even, it is conjectured that

$$\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx \geq 4^n.$$

These functional forms were proved in dimension 1 in [FM08b, FM08a, FM10] and the even case was proved in dimension 2 in [FN21]. The inequality was proved for unconditional functions in [FM08b, FM08a]. These conjectures are slightly stronger than Mahler's conjectures for sets, because the latter are implied by the former, whereas the inequality for sets must be true in any dimension for the functional inequality to hold, as proved in [FM08b].

To present the class of Entropy-Transport inequalities considered in this work, we need to introduce some definitions and notations.

The set of all Borel probability measures on \mathbb{R}^n will be denoted by $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. For $k \geq 1$, we will denote by $\mathcal{P}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the subset of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ of probability measures admitting a finite moment of order k . Recall that $\eta \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is said log-concave, if it admits a density with respect to the Lebesgue measure of the form e^{-V} , where $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ is a lower semicontinuous convex function. The function V will be referred to as the potential of η . Note that we will not consider log-concave measures supported by a strict affine subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . The moment measure associated to a log-concave probability measure η with potential V is the measure $\nu = \nabla V \# \eta$ defined as the pushforward of η under the map ∇V : in other words, for any bounded measurable test functions, it holds

$$\int f(x) \nu(dx) = \int f(\nabla V(x)) \eta(dx).$$

We recall that convex functions are differentiable Lebesgue almost everywhere, so that this definition makes sense. When η does not have full support, i.e. when $\text{supp}(\eta) \neq \mathbb{R}^n$, some extra regularity will be required at the boundary. We will say that a log-concave probability measure η , with potential V , has an essentially continuous density, if $e^{-V}(x) = 0$ for \mathcal{H}_{n-1} almost all $x \in \partial \text{Supp}(\eta)$, where $\text{Supp}(\eta)$ denotes the support of η . Note that this terminology slightly differs from the one of [CEK15] where it was the potential V that was called essentially continuous.

Definition 1.1 (Entropy-Transport inequality). We will say that the inequality $\text{ET}_n(c)$ is satisfied for some constant $c > 0$ if, for all log-concave probability measures η_1, η_2 on \mathbb{R}^n having essentially continuous densities, it holds

$$(1) \quad H(\eta_1) + H(\eta_2) \leq -n \log(c e^2) + \mathcal{T}(\nu_1, \nu_2),$$

where ν_1, ν_2 are the moment measures of η_1, η_2 .

Similarly, we say that $\text{ET}_{n,s}(c)$ is satisfied, if equation (1) holds for all log-concave measures η_1, η_2 that are also symmetric (i.e. such that $\nu_i(A) = \nu_i(-A)$ for all measurable sets A).

In the definition above, $H(\eta)$ denotes the relative entropy of η with respect to the Lebesgue measure (which is also equal to minus the Shannon entropy of η) and is defined by

$$H(\eta) = \int \log\left(\frac{d\eta}{dx}\right) d\eta.$$

The quantity \mathcal{T} appearing in (1) is the so-called maximal correlation optimal transport cost, defined, for any $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$, by

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu_1, \mu_2) = \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \left\{ \int f d\mu_1 + \int f^* d\mu_2 \right\},$$

where $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is the set of convex and lower semicontinuous functions $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ which are proper (i.e. take at least one finite value). Since elements of $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ always admit affine lower bounds, note that $\int g d\mu_i$ makes sense in $\mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ for all $g \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, so that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_1, \mu_2)$

is well defined whenever $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. In the case where $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, it follows from the Kantorovich duality theorem [Vil09] that

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu_1, \mu_2) = \sup_{X_1 \sim \mu_1, X_2 \sim \mu_2} \mathbb{E}[X_1 \cdot X_2] = \sup_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)} \int x \cdot y \pi(dxdy),$$

where $\Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ denotes the set of probability measures on $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ with marginals μ_1 and μ_2 .

Definition 1.1 is motivated by a recent result of the second author [Goz21], which states that inequality (1) is equivalent to the functional version of Mahler's conjecture (also called inverse Santaló inequality), as formulated by Klartag and Milman [KM05] and Fradelizi and Meyer [FM08b] that we now recall.

Definition 1.2 (Inverse Santaló inequality). We will say that the inequality $\text{IS}_n(c)$ is satisfied for some c , if for all functions $f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that both $\int e^{-f(x)} dx$ and $\int e^{-f^*(x)} dx$ are positive, it holds

$$(2) \quad \int e^{-f(x)} dx \int e^{-f^*(x)} dx \geq c^n.$$

Similarly, we say that $\text{IS}_{n,s}(c)$ is satisfied if equation (2) holds for all even functions $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

With this definition, the functional forms of Mahler's conjectures are $\text{IS}_n(e)$ and $\text{IS}_{n,s}(4)$.

Theorem 1.3 ([Goz21]). *The inequality $\text{ET}_n(c)$ (resp. $\text{ET}_{n,s}(c)$) is equivalent to $\text{IS}_n(c)$ (resp. $\text{IS}_{n,s}(c)$).*

As shown in Theorem 1.2 of [Goz21], inequalities $\text{ET}_n(c)$ or $\text{ET}_{n,s}(c)$ can be restated as improved versions of the Gaussian log-Sobolev inequality. In particular, the results of [FM08b, FM08a] lead to sharp lower bounds on the deficit in the Gaussian log-Sobolev inequality for unconditional probability measures (see Theorem 1.4 of [Goz21]).

The main contributions of the paper are the following. In Section 2 we give a new proof of the implication

$$\text{ET}_n(c) \Rightarrow \text{IS}_n(c),$$

and we show, in particular in Corollary 2.4, that only a restricted form of the inequality $\text{ET}_n(c)$ is enough to get $\text{IS}_n(c)$. This new proof significantly simplifies the proof given in [Goz21]. Then, we prove in Section 3, using transport arguments together with correlation inequalities, that $\text{ET}_1(e)$ and $\text{ET}_{1,s}(4)$ are satisfied. In particular, this gives new and short proofs of the sharp functional Mahler conjecture in dimension 1. Finally, in Section 4, we propose a short proof of $\text{IS}_{n,s}(4)$ when we restrict ourselves to unconditional functions, i.e. functions that are symmetric with respect to all coordinate hyperplanes, blending tools from this paper and the proof given in [FM08b].

2. ENTROPY-TRANSPORT AND INVERSE SANTALÓ INEQUALITIES

2.1. From Entropy-Transport to inverse Santaló inequalities. The following result provides the key identity connecting the quantities appearing in the inverse functional inequalities to their dual transport-entropy counterparts.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be a convex function such that $Z := \int e^{-V} dx \in (0, \infty)$ and let ν be the moment measure of $\eta(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V} dx$. Then, it holds*

$$(3) \quad -\log\left(\int e^{-V} dx\right) = \int -V^* d\nu + \mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) + H(\eta).$$

Proof. According to Proposition 7 of [CEK15] and its proof, $V^* \in L^1(\nu)$ and $V \in L^1(\eta)$. We claim that

$$(4) \quad \mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) = \int V^* d\nu + \int V d\eta = \int x \cdot \nabla V(x) \eta(dx).$$

Indeed, by definition of \mathcal{T} , it is clear that the left hand side of (4) is less than or equal to its right hand side. On the other hand, if $f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \int f^* d\nu + \int f d\eta &= \int f^*(\nabla V(x)) + f(x) \eta(dx) \\ &\geq \int \nabla V(x) \cdot x \eta(dx) \\ &= \int V^*(\nabla V(x)) + V(x) \eta(dx) \\ &= \int V^* d\nu + \int V d\eta. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, optimizing over $f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, yields the converse inequality in (4). To conclude the proof of (3), just observe that

$$H(\eta) = -\log Z - \int V d\eta.$$

□

It will be convenient to introduce the following class of potentials. We will denote by $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the class of all convex functions $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $V^* : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (thus V, V^* are continuous and with full domain).

Remark 2.2. Note that we proved Lemma 2.1 for convex V without assuming essential continuity. In the case where the measure is assumed to be essentially continuous, then Lemma 4.2 applies, and equation (3) reduces to

$$-\log \left(\int e^{-V} dx \right) = \int -V^* d\nu + n + H(\eta).$$

This is true in particular whenever V is assumed to have full domain, i.e. to never take the value $+\infty$. This case was already treated in the proof of Corollary 3 in [Goz21], for example.

Thanks to Lemma 2.1, we can show the following.

Proposition 2.3. *Let $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$; denote by $\eta(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V} dx$, $\eta^*(dx) = \frac{1}{Z^*} e^{-V^*} dx$, where Z, Z^* are the normalizing constants, and let ν, ν^* be the moment measures associated to η, η^* . If*

$$(5) \quad H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) \leq -n \log(ce^2) + \mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*),$$

then

$$\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx \geq c^n.$$

Note that, according to e.g Lemma 4 in [Goz21], if $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ then $Z := \int e^{-V} dx$ and $Z^* := \int e^{-V^*} dx$ are both finite, and so the log concave probability measures η and η^* are well defined.

Proof. Applying Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 4.2 to V and V^* yields

$$\begin{aligned} -\log\left(\int e^{-V} dx\right) &= \int -V^* d\nu + \mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) + H(\eta) = \int -V^* d\nu + n + H(\eta) \\ -\log\left(\int e^{-V^*} dx\right) &= \int -V d\nu^* + n + H(\eta^*). \end{aligned}$$

Adding these two identities yields

$$\begin{aligned} -\log\left(\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx\right) &= -\left(\int V^* d\nu + \int V d\nu^*\right) + H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) + 2n \\ &\leq -\mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*) + H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) + 2n \\ &\leq -n \log(ce^2) + 2n = -\log(c^n), \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality comes from the definition of $\mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*)$ and the second inequality from (5). \square

Corollary 2.4. *Inequality $\text{IS}_n(c)$ (resp. $\text{IS}_{n,s}(c)$) holds true as soon as for all $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (resp. for all symmetric $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$)*

$$H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) \leq -n \log(ce^2) + \mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*),$$

where $\eta(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V} dx$, $\eta^*(dx) = \frac{1}{Z^*} e^{-V^*} dx$ with Z, Z^* the normalizing constants and where ν, ν^* are the moment measures associated to η, η^* .

Proof. According to Proposition 2.3, it holds

$$\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx \geq c^n,$$

for all $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Let $V \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be such that $0 < \int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx < \infty$. For all $k \geq 1$, consider

$$V_k(x) = V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)(x) + \frac{|x|^2}{2k}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the standard Euclidean norm on \mathbb{R}^n and \square is the infimum convolution operator, defined by

$$f \square g(x) = \inf \{ f(y) + g(x - y) : y \in \mathbb{R}^n \}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Since the infimum convolution leaves the class of convex functions stable, it is clear that V_k is still convex for all $k \geq 1$. It is also clear that V_k takes finite values on \mathbb{R}^n . Since $(f + g)^* = f^* \square g^*$ and (equivalently) $(f \square g)^* = f^* + g^*$ for all $f, g \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, it is not difficult to check that

$$V_k^*(y) = \left(V^* + \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2k} \right) \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)(y), \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

and so V_k^* takes finite values on \mathbb{R}^n . In other words, $V_k \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for all $k \geq 1$. Since

$$V_k \geq V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad V_k^* \geq V^* \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right),$$

one gets that

$$\int e^{-V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)} dx \int e^{-V^* \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)} dx \geq \int e^{-V_k} dx \int e^{-V_k^*} dx \geq c^n.$$

Note that $V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)$ is the Moreau-Yosida approximation of V . In particular, it is well known that if $V \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ then $V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} \right)(x) \rightarrow V(x)$, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, as $k \rightarrow \infty$ (see e.g [FN21,

Lemma 3.6]). Since $V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2}\right) \geq V \square \left(\frac{|\cdot|^2}{2}\right)$, it easily follows, from the dominated convergence theorem, that

$$\int e^{-V \square \left(k \frac{|\cdot|^2}{2}\right)} dx \rightarrow \int e^{-V} dx,$$

as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Reasoning similarly for the other integral, one concludes that

$$\int e^{-V} dx \int e^{-V^*} dx \geq c^n,$$

which completes the proof. \square

Remark 2.5. Note that the functions V_k and V_k^* are both continuously differentiable on \mathbb{R}^n . This follows from a well known regularizing property of the Moreau-Yosida approximation (see e.g [Roc97, Theorem 26.3]). Therefore, the conclusion of Corollary 2.4 is still true if the Entropy-Transport inequality (5) is only assumed to hold for $V \in \mathcal{V}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$, where $\mathcal{V}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ denotes the set of $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that V and V^* are continuously differentiable.

2.2. Different equivalent formulations of inverse Santaló inequalities. The following result gathers different equivalent formulations of $\text{IS}_n(c)$.

Theorem 2.6. *Let $c > 0$; the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *the inequality $\text{IS}_n(c)$ holds,*
- (ii) *the inequality $\text{ET}_n(c)$ holds,*
- (iii) *for all $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$,*

$$H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) \leq -n \log(c e^2) + \mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*),$$

where η, η^ are the log-concave probability measures with respective potentials V, V^* and associated moment measures ν, ν^* ,*

- (iv) *for all $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$,*

$$H(\eta) + H(\eta^*) \leq -n \log(c e^2) + \int V^* d\nu + \int V d\nu^*,$$

with the same notation as above.

The same equivalence is true for $\text{IS}_{n,s}(c)$ and $\text{ES}_{n,c}(c)$ assuming in (iii) and (iv) that $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is symmetric.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) follows from Theorem 1.3 proved in [Goz21].

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) is straightforward.

(iii) \Rightarrow (iv) follows from the inequality $\mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*) \leq \int V^* d\nu + \int V d\nu^*$.

(iv) \Rightarrow (i) follows from the proof of Proposition 2.3 and Corollary 2.4. \square

Remark 2.7. Let us make some comments on Theorem 2.6.

- (a) The proof of (i) \Rightarrow (ii) given in [Goz21] makes use of the following variational characterization of moment measures due to Cordero-Klartag [CEK15] and Santambrogio [San16]: a measure ν is the moment measure of a log-concave probability measure η with an essentially continuous density if and only if it is centered and not supported by an hyperplane; moreover, the measure η is the unique (up to translation) minimizer of the functional

$$\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\} : \eta \mapsto \mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) + H(\eta).$$

- (b) In [Goz21], the implication $(ii) \Rightarrow (i)$ has been established using the following duality formula: for all $V \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $\int e^{-V^*} dx > 0$, it holds

$$L(V) := -\log \left(\int e^{-V^*} dx \right) = \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)} \left\{ \int -V d\nu - K(\nu) \right\},$$

with $K(\nu) = \inf_{\eta \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)} \{ \mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) + H(\eta) \}$, $\nu \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. This equality, established in [Goz21], shows that the functionals L and K are in convex duality. The route followed in the present paper, based on the key Lemma 2.1, turns out to be simpler and more direct.

- (c) Let us finally highlight the fact that the equivalence of (iii) and (iv) is a bit surprising. Namely, for a fixed $V \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, the formulation (iii) is in general strictly stronger than (iv) , because the inequality $\mathcal{T}(\nu, \nu^*) \leq \int V^* d\nu + \int V d\nu^*$ is strict in general. Indeed, equality here means that (V^*, V) is a couple of Kantorovich potentials between ν and ν^* . If ν has a density with respect to Lebesgue, this means that ∇V^* transports ν onto ν^* which is not true in general.

3. PROOFS OF ENTROPY-TRANSPORT INEQUALITIES IN DIMENSION 1

In this section, we show that inequalities $\text{ET}_{1,s}(4)$ and $\text{ET}_1(e)$ hold true. The reason why the case of dimension 1 is simple is that optimal transport maps for the cost \mathcal{T} are given in an explicit form. Recall that the cumulative distribution function of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ is the function

$$F_\mu(x) = \mu((-\infty, x]), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Its generalized inverse is the function denoted F_μ^{-1} defined by

$$F_\mu^{-1}(t) = \inf\{x : F_\mu(x) \geq t\}, \quad t \in (0, 1).$$

Lemma 3.1. *Let $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R})$ be such that $\mathcal{T}(\eta_1, \eta_2)$ is finite. It holds*

$$\mathcal{T}(\eta_1, \eta_2) \geq \int_0^1 F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(x) F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(x) dx,$$

with equality if $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$. More generally, if $\nu_1 = S_1 \# \eta_1$ and $\nu_2 = S_2 \# \eta_2$ with $S_1, S_2 : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ two measurable maps, and if $\nu_1, \nu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R})$ are such that $\mathcal{T}(\nu_1, \nu_2)$ is finite, then

$$\mathcal{T}(\nu_1, \nu_2) \geq \int_0^1 S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(x)) S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(x)) dx.$$

Proof. It is well known that, if X is uniformly distributed on $(0, 1)$, then $(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X), F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X))$ is a coupling between η_1 and η_2 called the monotone coupling. Therefore, $(S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X)), S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X)))$ is a coupling between ν_1, ν_2 . Suppose that $\mathcal{T}(\nu_1, \nu_2)$ is finite, then, if $f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$ is such that $f \in L^1(\nu_1)$ and $f^* \in L^1(\nu_2)$, Young's inequality yields

$$f(S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X))) + f^*(S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X))) \geq S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X)) S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X)).$$

Therefore, $[S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X)) S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X))]_+$ is integrable, and taking expectation, we get

$$\int_0^1 S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(x)) S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(x)) dx = \mathbb{E}[S_1(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(X)) S_2(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(X))] \leq \int f d\nu_1 + \int f^* d\nu_2.$$

Optimizing over f gives the desired inequality. In the case where $S_1 = S_2 = \text{Id}$ and η_1, η_2 have finite moments of order 2, then it is well known that the monotone coupling is optimal for W_2^2 and so also for \mathcal{T} . \square

Lemma 3.2. *The inequality $\text{ET}_1(c)$ is satisfied as soon as for all concave functions $f_1, f_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $f_1(0) = f_2(0) = f_1(1) = f_2(1) = 0$,*

$$(6) \quad \int_0^1 \log(f_1 f_2) dx \leq -\log(e^2 c) + \int_0^1 f_1' f_2' dx.$$

Similarly, the inequality $\text{ET}_{1,s}(c)$ is satisfied as soon as inequality (6) holds for all functions f_1, f_2 that are also symmetric with respect to $1/2$, i.e. $f_i(x) = f_i(1-x)$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$.

Proof. Let $\eta_i(dx) = e^{-V_i} dx$, $i = 1, 2$ be two log-concave probability measures on \mathbb{R} with essentially continuous densities. This latter condition means that, for some $-\infty \leq a_i < b_i \leq +\infty$, the convex function V_i takes finite values on (a_i, b_i) , is $+\infty$ on $\mathbb{R} \setminus (a_i, b_i)$ and is such that $V_i(x) \rightarrow +\infty$ when $x \rightarrow a_i$ and $x \rightarrow b_i$. As shown in the proof of Lemma 2.1,

$$\mathcal{T}(\eta_i, \nu_i) = \int x V_i'(x) \eta_i(dx) = \int_{a_i}^{b_i} x V_i'(x) e^{-V_i(x)} dx = 1,$$

where the second equality comes from an integration by parts, thanks to the boundary conditions (see Lemma 4.2 in the Appendix for the case of dimension n). To prove $\text{ET}_1(c)$, one can assume that $\mathcal{T}(\nu_1, \nu_2)$ is finite, otherwise there is nothing to prove. Using Lemma 3.1 with $S_i = V_i'$, we see that the inequality

$$(7) \quad H(\eta_1) + H(\eta_2) \leq -\log(c e^2) + \int_0^1 V_1'(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}(x)) V_2'(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}(x)) dx$$

implies $\text{ET}_1(c)$. For $i = 1, 2$, define

$$f_i(x) = F_{\eta_i}' \circ F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x) = \exp(-V_i \circ F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x)), \quad x \in (0, 1).$$

Note that, since F_{η_i} is strictly increasing and differentiable on (a_i, b_i) , the function $F_{\eta_i}^{-1}$ is the regular inverse of the restriction of F_{η_i} to (a_i, b_i) and is also differentiable on $(0, 1)$. Since $F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x) \rightarrow b_i$ as $x \rightarrow 1$ and $\exp(-V_i(y)) \rightarrow 0$ as $y \rightarrow b_i$, one sees that $f_i(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 1$. Similarly, $f_i(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$. Setting $f_i(0) = f_i(1) = 0$ thus provides a continuous extension of f_i to $[0, 1]$. The function f_i is moreover concave on $[0, 1]$. Indeed, denoting by f_i' and V_i' the left derivatives of f_i, V_i which are well defined everywhere on $(0, 1)$, we see that for all $x \in (0, 1)$,

$$f_i'(x) = (F_{\eta_i}' \circ F_{\eta_i}^{-1})'(x) = \frac{F_{\eta_i}'' \circ F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x)}{F_{\eta_i}' \circ F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x)} = -V_i'(F_{\eta_i}^{-1}(x)).$$

So, f_i' is decreasing on $(0, 1)$, and thus f_i is concave. Finally, note that

$$H(\eta_1) + H(\eta_2) = \int_0^1 \log(f_1 f_2) dx$$

and

$$\int_0^1 V_1'(F_{\eta_1}^{-1}) V_2'(F_{\eta_2}^{-1}) dx = \int_0^1 f_1' f_2' dx,$$

so that inequality (7) becomes

$$\int_0^1 \log(f_1 f_2) dx \leq -\log(e^2 c) + \int_0^1 f_1' f_2' dx.$$

It is furthermore clear that whenever η_1, η_2 are symmetric, then f_1, f_2 are also symmetric with respect to $1/2$, which concludes the proof. \square

Remark 3.3. The functions f_i are related to the isoperimetric profiles of the measures η_i in dimension 1. Moreover, there is a one to one correspondence between log-concave measures η and concave f on $(0, 1)$, see for example [Bob96, Proposition A.1].

3.1. The one-dimensional symmetric case.

Theorem 3.4. *The inequality $\text{ET}_{1,s}(4)$ is satisfied and the constant 4 is optimal.*

Proof. Let f_1, f_2 be two concave functions on $[0, 1]$, equal to zero at 0 and 1, and symmetric with respect to $1/2$. Let us show that inequality (6) holds true with $c = 4$. It is enough to prove that

$$\int_0^{1/2} \log(f_1 f_2) dx \leq -1 - \log(2) + \int_0^{1/2} f_1' f_2' dx.$$

We use the following classical correlation inequality: if $h, k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are two non-increasing functions (or non-decreasing), and if μ is a finite measure on \mathbb{R} , then

$$(8) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} h(x) \mu(dx) \int_{\mathbb{R}} k(x) \mu(dx) \leq \mu(\mathbb{R}) \int_{\mathbb{R}} h(x) k(x) \mu(dx),$$

which follows from the integration of the inequality

$$(h(x) - h(y))(k(x) - k(y)) \geq 0.$$

As a result, since f_1' and f_2' are non-increasing, we get, for all $x \in [0, 1]$, that

$$(9) \quad f_1(x) f_2(x) = \int_0^x f_1'(t) dt \int_0^x f_2'(t) dt \leq x \int_0^x f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt.$$

For a later use, note that this inequality holds also even if f_1, f_2 are not symmetric. By symmetry, $f_1'(t) f_2'(t) \geq 0$ for all $t \in [0, 1/2]$, so we get

$$f_1(x) f_2(x) \leq x \int_0^{1/2} f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt, \quad \forall x \in [0, 1/2].$$

Thus, after integrating,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{1/2} \log(f_1(x) f_2(x)) dx &\leq \int_0^{1/2} \log(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\int_0^{1/2} f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{2} + \int_0^{1/2} f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt + \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \\ &= -1 - \log(2) + \int_0^{1/2} f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the inequality $\log(x) - \log(1/2) \leq 2x - 1$.

To see that this inequality is sharp, we can use the functions $f_1(x) = \min(x, 1-x)$ and f_2 an approximation of the constant function equal to $1/2$. The optimal constant is reached at the limit. \square

Remark 3.5. The choice $f_1(x) = \min(x, 1-x)$ corresponds to the log-concave probability measure $\eta(dx) = e^{-|x|} dx/2$, the polar transform of which is the uniform probability measure on $[-1, 1]$. These densities are the equality case in the functional Mahler inequality [FM08b]. However, the uniform probability measure on $[-1, 1]$ is not an admissible measure in our case, since it is not essentially continuous, thus the optimality is only reached at the limit.

Remark 3.6. Inequality (6) is also satisfied if we assume only one of the functions to be symmetric. Indeed, if f_2 is symmetric with respect to $1/2$, define $\tilde{f}_1(x) = \frac{1}{2}(f_1(x) + f_1(1-x))$. On the one

hand, using the concavity of the logarithm,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \log(\tilde{f}_1(x)f_2(x)) dx &= \int_0^1 \log \tilde{f}_1(x) dx + \int_0^1 \log f_2(x) dx \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \log(f_1(x)) + \log(f_1(1-x)) dx + \int_0^1 \log f_2(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \log f_1(x) dx + \int_0^1 \log f_2(x) dx = \int_0^1 \log(f_1(x)f_2(x)) dx, \end{aligned}$$

and on the other hand,

$$\int \tilde{f}_1' f_2' dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 f_1'(x) f_2'(x) dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 f_1'(x) f_2'(1-x) dx,$$

hence the claim, since $f_2'(x) = -f_2'(1-x)$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$.

3.2. The one-dimensional general case.

Theorem 3.7. *The inequality $\text{ET}_1(e)$ is satisfied and the constant e is sharp.*

Proof. Let us show that, if $f_1, f_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ are concave functions vanishing at 0 and 1, then

$$\int_0^1 \log(f_1 f_2) dx \leq -3 + \int_0^1 f_1' f_2' dx.$$

Just like before, it is enough to show that

$$\int_0^{1/2} \log(f_1 f_2) dx \leq -\frac{3}{2} + \int_0^{1/2} f_1' f_2' dx.$$

Applying the inequality $\log(b) \leq \log(a) + \frac{(b-a)}{a}$ to $b = f_1 f_2$ and $a = x(1-x)$, $x \in (0, 1)$, and using again the correlation inequality (9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{1/2} \log(f_1 f_2) dx &\leq \int_0^{1/2} \left(\frac{f_1(x)f_2(x)}{x(1-x)} + \log(x(1-x)) - 1 \right) dx \\ &\leq -\frac{3}{2} + \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{1-x} \left(\int_0^x f_1'(t) f_2'(t) dt \right) dx \\ &= -\frac{3}{2} + \int_0^{1/2} f_1'(t) f_2'(t) \log(2-2t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

and Lemma 3.9 below concludes the proof of the inequality.

To see that the inequality is optimal, we choose for f_1 and f_2 approximations of the functions $x \mapsto x$ and $x \mapsto 1-x$, which of course are not admissible, since they are not zero on the boundary. It is a straightforward calculation to see that equality is reached at the limit. \square

Remark 3.8. The function $f_1(x) = x$ is the isoperimetric profile of the log-concave probability measure $\nu(dx) = e^{-(1+x)} 1_{[-1, +\infty[} dx$, which density is an equality case in the functional Mahler inequality [FM08b].

Lemma 3.9. *Let $f, g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be two concave functions vanishing at 0 and 1. The following inequality holds:*

$$(10) \quad \int_0^{1/2} f'(t) g'(t) \log(2-2t) dt \leq \int_0^{1/2} f'(t) g'(t) dt.$$

Proof. For $0 \leq t \leq 1/2$, we define $\varphi(t) = 1 - \log(2) - \log(1 - t)$ and $\Phi(t) = \int_0^t \varphi(x) dx$. Notice that φ is increasing on $[0, 1/2]$ and $\varphi(0) = 1 - \log(2) > 0$, hence $\varphi > 0$ on $[0, 1/2]$. Let $u = f'$ and $v = g'$. The functions u and v are non-increasing and satisfy $\int_0^1 u dx = \int_0^1 v dx = 0$. Applying the correlation inequality (8) again, and integrating with respect to the measure with density φ on $[0, 1/2]$, we get

$$\int_0^{1/2} \varphi dx \int_0^{1/2} uv \varphi dx \geq \int_0^{1/2} u \varphi dx \int_0^{1/2} v \varphi dx.$$

Integrating by parts, one has

$$\int_0^{1/2} u \varphi dx = \left[u \Phi \right]_0^{1/2} + \int_0^{1/2} (-u') \Phi dx = u \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \Phi \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) + \int_0^{1/2} (-u') \Phi dx.$$

A quick calculation shows that $\Phi(1/2) = 1 - \log(2) = \varphi(0)$. Since φ is increasing, it follows that $\Phi(x) \geq \varphi(0)x = \Phi(1/2)x$. Using this inequality, the fact that u is non-increasing and integrating again by parts, we get

$$\int_0^{1/2} (-u'(x)) \Phi(x) dx \geq \Phi \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \int_0^{1/2} (-u'(x)) x dx = \Phi \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(- \left[u(x)x \right]_0^{1/2} + \int_0^{1/2} u(x) dx \right).$$

Thus, using that u is non-increasing again, we get

$$\int_0^{1/2} u \varphi dx \geq \Phi \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} u \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) + \int_0^{1/2} u(x) dx \right) \geq \Phi \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \int_0^1 u(x) dx = 0.$$

One also has $\int_0^{1/2} v \varphi dx \geq 0$, so we conclude that $\int_0^{1/2} uv \varphi dx \geq 0$, which establishes (10). \square

4. REVISITING THE UNCONDITIONAL CASE

Recall that a function $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said unconditional if

$$V(x_1, \dots, x_n) = V(|x_1|, \dots, |x_n|), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The following result is due to Fradelizi and Meyer [FM08b, FM08a].

Theorem 4.1. *Let $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be a convex unconditional function such that $0 < \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-V} dx < \infty$ then*

$$(11) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-V} dx \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-V^*} dx \geq 4^n.$$

Below, we show how Lemma 2.1 can be used to shorten the proof of [FM08b]. More precisely, from Lemma 2.1 we quickly derive the inequality (13) below, which is the key step of the argument, and then the rest of the proof follows the same path as in [FM08b].

Proof. Reasoning as in the proof of Corollary 2.4, it is enough to prove (11) when V, V^* have full domain and are continuously differentiable on \mathbb{R}^n . Since V and V^* are unconditional, it is clear that (11) is equivalent to

$$(12) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} e^{-V} dx \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} e^{-V^*} dx \geq 1.$$

Let us prove (12) by induction on n .

- For $n = 1$, (12) follows from Theorem 3.4.

- Let $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, with $n \geq 2$, satisfying the assumption of the theorem. For all $t > 0$, let $a(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} e^{-tV} dx$ and $\eta_t(dx) = \frac{1}{a(t)} e^{-tV(x)} 1_{\mathbb{R}_+^n}(x) dx$. Applying Lemma 2.1 to η_t and Jensen's inequality yields

$$H(\eta_t) + n + \log a(t) = t \int V^*(\nabla V) d\eta_t \geq tV^* \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} \nabla V d\eta_t \right), \quad t > 0.$$

Here, we have used that $\mathcal{T}(\nu, \eta) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} x \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = n$ because the boundary terms in the integration by parts are 0. A simple integration by parts shows that, for all $t > 0$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} \nabla V d\eta_t = \frac{G(t)}{ta(t)},$$

where $G(t) = (a_1(t), \dots, a_n(t))$ and $a_i(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}} e^{-tV_i(x)} dx$, with

$$V_i(x) = V(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}.$$

Since $H(\eta_t) + \log a(t) = t \frac{a'(t)}{a(t)}$, we get

$$(13) \quad \frac{a'(t)}{a(t)} + \frac{n}{t} \geq V^* \left(\frac{G(t)}{ta(t)} \right), \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Denoting $\alpha(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} e^{-tV^*} dx$ and $\Gamma(t) = (\alpha_1(t), \dots, \alpha_n(t))$, with $\alpha_i(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}} e^{-t(V^*)_i(x)} dx$, a similar calculation gives

$$(14) \quad \frac{\alpha'(t)}{\alpha(t)} + \frac{n}{t} \geq V \left(\frac{\Gamma(t)}{t\alpha(t)} \right), \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Adding (13) and (14) and applying Young's inequality gives, for all $t > 0$,

$$\frac{a'(t)}{a(t)} + \frac{\alpha'(t)}{\alpha(t)} + \frac{2n}{t} \geq V^* \left(\frac{G(t)}{ta(t)} \right) + V \left(\frac{\Gamma(t)}{t\alpha(t)} \right) \geq \frac{G(t)}{ta(t)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(t)}{t\alpha(t)} = \frac{1}{t^2 a(t) \alpha(t)} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(t) \alpha_i(t).$$

Note that for all $1 \leq i \leq n$, $(V_i)^* = (V^*)_i$ because V is non-decreasing with respect to each coordinate. By induction, for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $t > 0$,

$$t^{n-1} a_i(t) \alpha_i(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}} e^{-tV_i} dx \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}} e^{-(tV_i)^*} dx \geq 1.$$

Therefore, for all $t > 0$,

$$\frac{a'(t)}{a(t)} + \frac{\alpha'(t)}{\alpha(t)} + \frac{2n}{t} \geq \frac{n}{t^{n+1} a(t) \alpha(t)},$$

which amounts to

$$F'(t) \geq nt^{n-1},$$

with $F(t) = t^{2n} a(t) \alpha(t)$. Since $F(0) = 0$, one gets $F(1) \geq 1$, which is exactly (12). \square

APPENDIX

For completeness' sake, we provide here the proof of the following technical result, which mostly follows the arguments given in [CEK15].

Lemma 4.2. *For all essentially continuous log-concave probability measure $\eta \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, its moment measure ν satisfies $\mathcal{T}(\eta, \nu) = n$.*

Proof. Let $\eta(dx) = e^{-V(x)} dx$ be an essentially continuous probability measure, and $\nu = \nabla V \# \eta$ its moment measure. As established in Lemma 2.1, the maximal correlation is given by

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu) = \int x \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx.$$

Assuming everything is smooth, an integration by parts immediately proves that

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu) = \int \operatorname{div}(x) e^{-V(x)} dx - \int_{\partial \operatorname{dom} V} x \cdot n_{\operatorname{dom} V}(x) e^{-V(x)} d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(x) = n,$$

since $e^{-V(x)} = 0$ for \mathcal{H}_{n-1} -almost all $x \in \operatorname{dom} V$. In the general case, however, V is only Lipschitz on the interior of its domain. Thus, let us choose x_0 in the interior of the domain of V . According to [CEK15, Lemma 4],

$$\int \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = 0$$

by essential continuity, and thus

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu) = \int x \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = \int (x - x_0) \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx.$$

Convexity of V implies that the function $x \mapsto (x - x_0) \cdot \nabla V(x)$ is bounded from below by some constant (which is, of course, integrable against η), and so, if $(K_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$ is an increasing sequence of compact sets such that $\bigcup_N K_N = \operatorname{dom} V$,

$$\int (x - x_0) \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{K_N} (x - x_0) \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx.$$

For $N \in \mathbb{N}$, with $N > \min V$, the sets $\{V \leq N\}$ are convex, closed because of lower semicontinuity, with non empty interior since $\int e^{-V} > 0$, bounded since $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow +\infty} V(x) = +\infty$ and strictly increasing by the essential continuity of e^{-V} . Since convex bodies may be approximated by smooth convex bodies (see [Hö7, Lemma 2.3.2]), we can find a sequence (K_N) of smooth convex bodies such that

$$\{V \leq N\} \subset K_N \subset \{V \leq 2N\}$$

for all $N > \min V$. It is clear that then $\bigcup_N K_N = \operatorname{dom} V$. Since K_N is smooth, and V is Lipschitz on K_N , the divergence theorem applies:

$$\int_{K_N} (x - x_0) \cdot \nabla V(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = \int_{K_N} \operatorname{div}(x) e^{-V(x)} dx - \int_{\partial K_N} n_{K_N}(x) \cdot (x - x_0) e^{-V(x)} d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(x),$$

where $n_{K_N}(x)$ is the outer normal vector to K_N at x . Clearly,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{K_N} \operatorname{div}(x) e^{-V(x)} dx = n \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \eta(K_N) = n,$$

and we will show that the second term converges towards zero. To that end, note that since $e^{-V(x)}$ is integrable, there exist constants $a > 0$ and b such that $V(x) \geq a|x| + b$. As an immediate consequence, for all $N > b$, the sublevel set $\{V \leq N\}$ is included in the ball of center 0 and of radius $R_N = (N - b)/a$. Hence, whenever N is large enough so that $x_0 \in K_N$,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\partial K_N} n_{K_N}(x) \cdot (x - x_0) e^{-V(x)} d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(x) \right| &\leq \int_{\partial K_N} |x - x_0| e^{-V(x)} d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(x) \\ &\leq 2R_N e^{-N} \mathcal{H}_{n-1}(\partial K_N). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, if K, L are two convex bodies such that $K \subset L$, then $\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(\partial K) \leq \mathcal{H}_{n-1}(\partial L)$ (see [Sch14, (5.25)]), and so $\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(\partial K_N) \leq R_{2N}^{n-1} \mathcal{H}_{n-1}(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$, which is enough to conclude that

$$\left| \int_{\partial K_N} n_{K_N}(x) \cdot (x - x_0) e^{-V(x)} d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}(x) \right| \leq p(N) e^{-N},$$

where p is some polynomial, which proves our claim. \square

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