

On alternative quantization for doubly weighted approximation and integration over unbounded domains

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Abstract

It is known that for a ϱ -weighted L_q -approximation of single variable functions f with the r th derivatives in a ψ -weighted L_p space, the minimal error of approximations that use n samples of f is proportional to $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}$, where $\omega = \varrho/\psi$ and $\alpha = r - 1/p + 1/q$. Moreover, the optimal sample points are determined by quantiles of $\omega^{1/\alpha}$. In this paper, we show how the error of best approximations changes when the sample points are determined by a quantizer κ other than ω . Our results can be applied in situations when an alternative quantizer has to be used because ω is not known exactly or is too complicated to handle computationally. The results for $q = 1$ are also applicable to ϱ -weighted integration over unbounded domains.

Keywords: quantization, weighted approximation, weighted integration, unbounded domains, piecewise Taylor approximation

MSC 2010: 41A25, 41A55, 41A60

1 Introduction

In various applications, continuous objects (signals, images, etc.) are represented (or approximated) by their discrete counterparts. That is, we deal with *quantization*. From a pure mathematics point of view, quantization often leads to approximating functions from a given space by step functions or, more generally, by (quasi-)interpolating piecewise polynomials of certain degree. Then it is important to know which quantizer should be used, or how to select n break points (knots) to make the error of approximation as small as possible.

It is well known that for L_q approximation on a compact interval $D = [a, b]$ in the space $F_p^r(D)$ of real-valued functions f such that $f^{(r)} \in L_p(D)$, the choice of an optimal quantizer is not a big issue, since equidistant knots lead to approximations with optimal L_q error

$$c(b-a)^\alpha \|f^{(r)}\|_{L_q} n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+} \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha := r - \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q}, \quad (1)$$

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where c depends only on r , p , and q , and where $x_+ := \max(x, 0)$. The problem becomes more complicated if we switch to weighted approximation on unbounded domains. A generalization of (1) to this case was given in [5], and it reads as follows. Assume for simplicity that the domain $D = \mathbb{R}_+ := [0, +\infty)$. Let $\psi, \varrho : D \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ be two positive and integrable *weight* functions. For a positive integer r and $1 \leq p, q \leq +\infty$, consider the ϱ -weighted L_q approximation in the linear space $F_{p,\psi}^r(D)$ of functions $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with absolutely (locally) continuous $(r-1)$ st derivative and such that the ψ -weighted L_p norm of $f^{(r)}$ is finite, i.e., $\|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} < +\infty$. Note that the spaces $F_{p,\psi}^r(D)$ have been introduced in [7], and the role of ψ is to moderate their size.

Denote

$$\omega := \frac{\varrho}{\psi}, \quad (2)$$

and suppose that ω and ψ are nonincreasing on D , and that

$$\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} := \int_D \omega^{1/\alpha}(x) dx < +\infty. \quad (3)$$

It was shown in [5, Theorem 1] that then one can construct approximations using n knots with ϱ -weighted L_q error at most

$$c_1 \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}.$$

This means that if (3) holds true, then the upper bound on the worst-case error is proportional to $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}$. The convergence rate $n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}$ is optimal and a corresponding lower bound implies that if (3) is not satisfied then the rate $n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}$ cannot be reached (see [5, Theorem 3]).

The optimal knots

$$0 = x_0^* < x_1^* < \dots < x_{n-1}^* < x_n^* = +\infty$$

are determined by quantiles of $\omega^{1/\alpha}$, to be more precise,

$$\int_0^{x_i^*} \omega^{1/\alpha}(t) dt = \frac{i}{n} \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}. \quad (4)$$

In order to use the optimal quantizer (4) one has to know ω ; otherwise he has to rely on some approximations of ω . Moreover, even if ω is known, it may be a complicated and/or non-monotonic function and therefore difficult to handle computationally. Driven by this motivation, the purpose of the present paper is to generalize the results of [5] even further to see how the quality of best approximations will change if the optimal quantizer ω is replaced in (4) by another quantizer κ .

A general answer to the aforementioned question is given in Theorems 1 and 3 of Section 2. They show, respectively, tight (up to a constant) upper and lower bounds for the error when a quantizer κ with $\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} < +\infty$ instead of ω is used to determine the knots. To be more specific, define

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) = \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa} \right\|_{L_\infty} \quad \text{for } p \leq q, \quad (5)$$

and

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) = \left(\int_D \frac{\kappa^{1/\alpha}(x)}{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}} \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1/q-1/p}} dx \right)^{1/q-1/p} \quad \text{for } p \geq q. \quad (6)$$

(Note that (5) and (6) are consistent for $p = q$.) If $\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) < +\infty$ then the best achievable error is proportional to

$$\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}.$$

This means, in particular, that for the error to behave as $n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}$ it is sufficient (but not necessary) that $\kappa(x)$ decreases no faster than $\omega(x)$ as $|x| \rightarrow +\infty$. For instance, if the optimal quantizer is Gaussian, $\omega(x) = \exp(-x^2/2)$, then the optimal rate is still preserved if its exponential substitute $\kappa(x) = \exp(-a|x|)$ with arbitrary $a > 0$ is used. It also shows that, in case ω is not exactly known, it is much safer to overestimate than underestimate it, see also Example 5.

The use of a quantizer κ as above results in approximations that are worse than the optimal approximations by the factor of

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa) = \frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha}{\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha} \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) \geq 1.$$

In Section 3, we calculate the exact values of this factor for various combinations of weights ϱ , ψ , and κ , including: Gaussian, exponential, log-normal, logistic, and t -Student. It turns out that in many cases $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa)$ is quite small, so that the loss in accuracy of approximation is well compensated by simplification of the weights.

The results for $q = 1$ are also applicable for problems of approximating ϱ -weighted integrals

$$\int_D f(x) \varrho(x) dx \quad \text{for } f \in F_{p,\psi}^r(D).$$

More precisely, the worst case errors of quadratures that are integrals of the corresponding piecewise interpolation polynomials approximating functions $f \in F_{p,\psi}^r(D)$ are the same as the errors for the ϱ -weighted $L_1(D)$ approximations. Hence their errors, proportional to n^{-r} , are (modulo a constant) the best possible among all quadratures. These results are especially important for unbounded domains, e.g., $D = \mathbb{R}_+$ or $D = \mathbb{R}$. For such domains, the integrals are often approximated by Gauss-Laguerre rules and Gauss-Hermite rules, respectively, see, e.g., [1, 3, 6]; however, their efficiency requires smooth integrands and the results are asymptotic. Moreover, it is not clear which Gaussian rules should be used when ψ is not a constant function. But, even for $\psi \equiv 1$, it is likely that the worst case errors (with respect to $F_{p,\psi}^r$) of Gaussian rules are much larger than $O(n^{-r})$, since the Weierstrass theorem holds only for compact D . A very interesting extension of Gaussian rules to functions with singularities has been proposed in [2]. However, the results of [2] are also asymptotic and it is not clear how the proposed rules behave for functions from spaces $F_{p,\psi}^r$. In the present paper, we deal with functions of bounded smoothness ($r < +\infty$) and provide worst-case error bounds that are minimal. We stress here that the regularity degree r is a fixed but arbitrary positive integer. The paper [4] proposes a different approach to the weighted integration over unbounded domains; however, it is restricted to regularity $r = 1$ only.

The paper is organized as follows. In the following section, we present ideas and results about alternative quantizers. The main results are Theorems 1 and 3. In Section 3, we apply our results to some specific cases for which numerical values of $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa)$ are calculated.

2 Optimal versus alternative quantizers

We consider ϱ -weighted L_q approximation in the space $F_{p,\psi}^r(D)$ as defined in the introduction; however, in contrast to [5], we do not assume that the weights ψ and ω are nonincreasing. Although the results of this paper pertain to domains D being an arbitrary interval, to begin with we assume that

$$D = \mathbb{R}_+.$$

We will explain later what happens in the general case including $D = \mathbb{R}$.

Let the knots $0 = x_0 < \dots < x_n = +\infty$ be determined by a nonincreasing function (quantizer) $\kappa : D \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ satisfying $\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} < +\infty$, i.e.,

$$\int_0^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(t) dt = \frac{i}{n} \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha = r - \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q}. \quad (7)$$

Let $\mathcal{T}_n f$ be a piecewise Taylor approximation of $f \in F_{p,\psi}^r(D)$ with break-points (7),

$$\mathcal{T}_n f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i)}(x) \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_{i-1})}{k!} (x - x_{i-1})^k.$$

We remind the reader of the definition of the quantity $\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa)$ in (5) and (6), which will be of importance in the following theorem.

Theorem 1 *Suppose that*

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) < +\infty.$$

Then for every $f \in F_{p,\psi}^q(D)$ we have

$$\|(f - \mathcal{T}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q} \leq c_1 \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} n^{-r+(1/p-1/q)_+}, \quad (8)$$

where

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{(r-1)!((r-1)p^* + 1)^{1/p^*}}.$$

Proof. We proceed as in the proof of [5, Theorem 1] to get that for $x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i)$

$$\begin{aligned} \varrho(x)|f(x) - \mathcal{T}_n f(x)| &= \varrho(x) \left| \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} f^{(r)}(t) \frac{(x-t)_+^{r-1}}{(r-1)!} dt \right| \\ &\leq c_1 \frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} |f^{(r)}(t)\psi(t)|^p dt \right)^{1/p} \kappa(x)(x - x_{i-1})^{r-1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Since (cf. [5, p.36])

$$\kappa(x)(x - x_i)^{r-1/p} \leq (\kappa^{1/\alpha}(x))^{1/q} \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^{r-1/p},$$

the error is upper bounded as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \|(f - \mathcal{T}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \varrho^q(x) |f(x) - \mathcal{T}_n f(x)|^q dx \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq c_1 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^{r-1/p} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^q dx \right) \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} |f^{(r)}(t)\psi(t)|^p dt \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q}. \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

Now we maximize the right hand side of (9) subject to

$$\|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p}^p = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} |f^{(r)}(t)\psi(t)|^p dt = 1.$$

After the substitution

$$A_i := \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^q dx, \quad B_i := \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} |f^{(r)}(t)\psi(t)|^p dt \right)^{q/p},$$

this is equivalent to

$$\text{maximizing } \sum_{i=1}^n A_i B_i \quad \text{subject to } \sum_{i=1}^n B_i^{p/q} = 1.$$

We have two cases:

For $p \leq q$, we set $i^* = \arg \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} A_i$, and use Jensen's inequality to obtain

$$\sum_{i=1}^n A_i B_i \leq A_{i^*} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \leq A_{i^*} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n B_i^{p/q} \right)^{q/p} = A_{i^*}.$$

Hence the maximum equals A_{i^*} and it is attained at $B_i^* = 1$ for $i = i^*$, and $B_i^* = 0$ otherwise. In this case, the maximum is upper bounded by $\|\omega/\kappa\|_{L_\infty}^q \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}/n$, which means that

$$\|(f - \mathcal{T}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q} \leq c_1 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^\alpha \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa} \right\|_{L_\infty} \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p}.$$

For $p > q$ we use the method of Lagrange multipliers and find this way that the maximum equals

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n A_i^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}} \right)^{1-q/p} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^q dx \right)^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}} \right)^{1-q/p},$$

and is attained at

$$B_i^* = \left(\frac{A_i^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}}}{\sum_{j=1}^n A_j^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}}} \right)^{q/p}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Since $1/(1-q/p) > 1$, by the probabilistic version of Jensen's inequality with density $n \kappa^{1/\alpha} / \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}$, we have

$$\left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^q dx \right)^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}} \leq \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{p/q-1}} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1/q-1/p}} dx.$$

This implies that

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n A_i^{\frac{1}{1-q/p}} \right)^{1-q/p} \leq \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^{q/p} \left(\int_0^{+\infty} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1/q-1/p}} dx \right)^{1-q/p},$$

and finally

$$\|(f - \mathcal{T}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q} \leq c_1 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n} \right)^r \left(\int_0^{+\infty} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1/q-1/p}} dx \right)^{1/q-1/p} \|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p},$$

as claimed since $1/q - 1/p = \alpha - r$. □

Remark 2 If derivatives of f are difficult to compute or to sample, a piecewise Lagrange interpolation \mathcal{L}_n can be used, as in [5]. Then the result is slightly weaker than that of the present Theorem 1; namely (cf. [5, Theorem 2]), there exists $c'_1 > 0$ depending only on p , q , and r , such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{f \in F_{p,\psi}^r(D)} \frac{\|(f - \mathcal{L}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q}}{\|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p}} n^{r+(1/p-1/q)_+} \leq c'_1 \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa).$$

We now show that the error estimate of Theorem 1 cannot be improved.

Theorem 3 *There exists $c_2 > 0$ depending only on p , q , and r with the following property. For any approximation \mathcal{A}_n that uses only information about function values and/or its derivatives (up to order $r - 1$) at the knots x_0, \dots, x_n given by (7), we have*

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{f \in F_{p,\psi}^r(D)} \frac{\|(f - \mathcal{A}_n f)\varrho\|_{L_q}}{\|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p}} n^{r-(1/p-1/q)_+} \geq c_2 \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa). \quad (10)$$

Proof. We fix n and consider first the weighted L_q approximation on $[0, x_{n-1}]$ assuming that in this interval the weights are step functions with break points x_i given by (7). Let ψ_i , ϱ_i , $\omega_i = \varrho_i/\psi_i$, and κ_i be correspondingly the values of ψ , ϱ , ω , and κ on successive intervals $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$. Then we clearly have that $(x_i - x_{i-1})\kappa_i^{1/\alpha} = \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(0, x_{n-1})}/(n - 1)$.

For simplicity, we write $I_i := (x_{i-1}, x_i)$. Let f_i , $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, be functions supported on I_i , such that $f_i^{(j)}(x_{i-1}) = 0 = f_i^{(j)}(x_i)$ for $0 \leq j \leq r - 1$, and

$$\|f_i\|_{L_q(I_i)} \geq c_2 (x_i - x_{i-1})^\alpha \|f_i^{(r)}\|_{L_p(I_i)}. \quad (11)$$

We also normalize f_i so that $\|f_i^{(r)}\|_{L_p(I_i)} = 1/\psi_i$. We stress that a positive c_2 in (11) exists and depends only on r , p , and q .

Since all $f_i^{(j)}$ nullify at the knots x_k , the ‘sup’ (worst case error) in (10) is bounded from below by

$$\text{Sup}(n) := \sup \left\{ \|f\varrho\|_{L_q} : f = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \beta_i f_i, \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\beta_i|^p = 1 \right\},$$

where we used the fact that $\|f^{(r)}\psi\|_{L_p} = (\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\beta_i|^p)^{1/p}$. For such f we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\varrho\|_{L_q} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \beta_i^q \|f_i\varrho\|_{L_q(I_i)}^q \right)^{1/q} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (|\beta_i| \varrho_i \|f_i\|_{L_q(I_i)})^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\geq c_2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(|\beta_i| \varrho_i (x_i - x_{i-1})^\alpha \|f_i^{(r)}\|_{L_p(I_i)} \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= c_2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(|\beta_i| \frac{\omega_i}{\kappa_i} \kappa_i (x_i - x_{i-1})^\alpha \right)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n - 1} \right)^\alpha \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} |\beta_i|^q \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\kappa_i} \right)^q \right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we arrive at a maximization problem that we already had in the proof of Theorem 1.

For $p \leq q$ we have

$$\text{Sup}(n) = c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right)^\alpha \max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \frac{\omega_i}{\kappa_i} = c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right)^\alpha \text{ess sup}_{0 \leq x < x_{n-1}} \frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)},$$

while for $p > q$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sup}(n) &= c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right)^\alpha \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\kappa_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-r}} \right)^{\alpha-r} \\ &= c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right)^r \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right) \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\kappa_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-r}} \right)^{\alpha-r} \\ &= c_2 \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n-1} \right)^r \left(\int_0^{x_{n-1}} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-r}} dx \right)^{\alpha-r}, \end{aligned}$$

as claimed.

For arbitrary weights, we replace ψ , ϱ , and κ with the corresponding step functions with

$$\psi_i = \text{ess sup}_{x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i)} \psi(x), \quad \varrho_i = \text{ess inf}_{x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i)} \varrho(x), \quad \kappa_i = \left(\frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}}{n(x_i - x_{i-1})} \right)^\alpha, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-1,$$

and go with n to $+\infty$. □

We now comment on what happens when the domain is different from \mathbb{R}_+ . It is clear that Theorems 1 and 3 remain valid for D being a compact interval, say $D = [0, c]$ with $c < +\infty$. Consider

$$D = \mathbb{R}.$$

In this case, we assume that κ is nonincreasing on $[0, +\infty)$ and nondecreasing on $(-\infty, 0]$. We have $2n+1$ knots x_i , which are determined by the condition

$$\int_0^{x_i} \kappa^{1/\alpha}(t) dt = \frac{i}{2n} \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(\mathbb{R})}, \quad |i| \leq n \quad (12)$$

(where $\int_0^{-a} = -\int_a^0$). Note that (12) automatically implies $x_0 = 0$. The piecewise Taylor approximation is also correspondingly defined for negative arguments. With these modifications, the corresponding Theorems 1 and 3 have literally the same formulation for $D = \mathbb{R}$ and for $D = \mathbb{R}_+$.

Observe that the error estimates of Theorems 1 and 3 for arbitrary κ differ from the error for optimal $\kappa = \omega$ by the factor

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa) := \frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha}{\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha} \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa).$$

From this definition it is clear that for any $s, t > 0$ we have

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, s\omega, t\kappa) = \text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa).$$

This quantity satisfies the following estimates.

Proposition 4 *We have*

$$1 = \text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \omega) \leq \text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa) \leq \frac{\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha}{\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha} \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa} \right\|_{L_\infty}. \quad (13)$$

The rightmost inequality is actually an equality whenever $p \leq q$.

Proof. Assume without loss of generality that $\|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} = \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} = 1$, so that $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa) = \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa)$. Then for any p and q

$$1 = \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \leq \|\kappa^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha \left\| \frac{\omega^{1/\alpha}}{\kappa^{1/\alpha}} \right\|_{L_\infty}^\alpha = \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa} \right\|_{L_\infty}^\alpha,$$

which equals $\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa)$ for $p \leq q$. For $p > q$ we have $(1/q - 1/p)/\alpha = 1 - r/\alpha < 1$, so that we can use Jensen's inequality to get

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) = \left(\int_D \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega^{1/\alpha}(x)}{\kappa^{1/\alpha}(x)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-r}} dx \right)^{(\frac{\alpha-r}{\alpha})\alpha} \geq \left(\int_D \kappa^{1/\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{\omega^{1/\alpha}(x)}{\kappa^{1/\alpha}(x)} \right) dx \right)^\alpha = 1.$$

The remaining inequality $\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) \leq \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa} \right\|_{L_\infty}^\alpha$ is obvious. \square

Although the main idea of this paper is to replace ω by another function κ that is easier to handle, our results allow a further interesting observation that is illustrated in the following example.

Example 5 Let $D = \mathbb{R}$,

$$r = 1, \quad p = +\infty, \quad q = 1,$$

and the weights

$$\varrho(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2}\right), \quad \psi(x) = 1.$$

Then $\alpha = 2$ and $1/q - 1/p = 1$, and $\omega(x) = \varrho(x)$. Suppose that instead of ω we use

$$\kappa_\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma^2 > 0.$$

Since $p > q$, we have

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_\sigma) = \frac{\|\kappa_\sigma^{1/2}\|_{L_1}^2}{\|\omega^{1/2}\|_{L_1}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\kappa_\sigma^{1/2}(x)}{\|\kappa_\sigma^{1/2}\|_{L_1}} \frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_\sigma(x)} dx = \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{if } \sigma^2 \leq 1/2, \\ \frac{\sigma^2}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2-1}} & \text{if } \sigma^2 > 1/2. \end{cases}$$

The graph of $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_\sigma)$ is drawn in Fig. 1. It follows that it is safer to overestimate the actual variance $\sigma^2 = 1$ than to underestimate it.

3 Special cases

Below we apply our results to specific weights ϱ, ψ , and specific values of p and q .

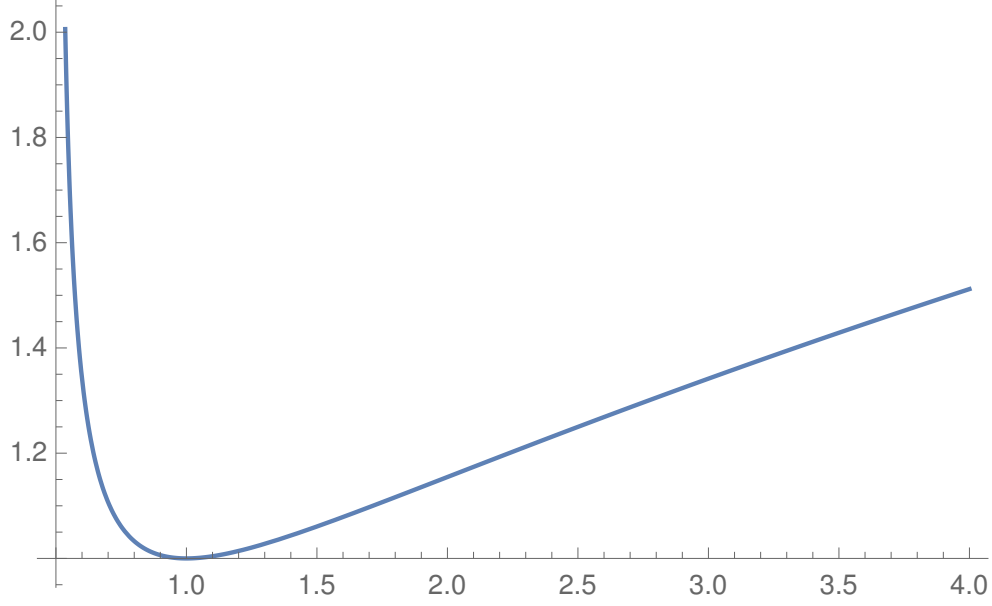


Figure 1: Plot of $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_\sigma)$ versus σ^2 from Example 5

3.1 Gaussian ϱ and ψ

Consider $D = \mathbb{R}$,

$$\varrho(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x) = \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\lambda^2}\right)$$

for positive σ and λ . Since

$$\omega(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2}(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})\right),$$

for $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} < \infty$ we have to have $\lambda > \sigma$, and then

$$\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1}^\alpha = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{\alpha 2\pi}{\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2}}\right)^{\alpha/2}.$$

We propose using

$$\kappa(x) = \kappa_a(x) = \exp(-|x|a) \quad \text{for } a > 0.$$

Then $\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)} = 2\alpha/a$ and the points x_{-n}, \dots, x_n satisfying (12),

$$\int_0^{x_i} \kappa_a^{1/\alpha}(t) dt = \frac{i}{2n} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \kappa_a^{1/\alpha}(t) dt \quad \text{for } |i| \leq n,$$

are given by

$$x_i = -x_{-i} = -\frac{\alpha}{a} \ln\left(1 - \frac{i}{n}\right) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n. \quad (14)$$

In particular, we have

$$x_{-n} = -\infty, \quad x_0 = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad x_n = \infty.$$

We now consider the two cases $p \leq q$ and $p > q$ separately:

3.1.1 Case of $p \leq q$

Clearly

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a) = \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L^\infty(D)} = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{a^2}{2(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right)$$

and

$$\min_{a>0} \|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L^1(D)}^\alpha \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L^\infty} \text{ is attained at } a_* = \sqrt{\alpha \left(\frac{1}{\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right)}.$$

Hence, for $p \leq q$ we have that

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{a_*}) = \left(\frac{2e}{\pi}\right)^{\alpha/2}.$$

Note that $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{a_*})$ does not depend on σ and λ (as long as $\lambda > \sigma$). For instance, we have the following rounded values:

α	1	2	3	4
$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{a_*})$	1.315	1.731	2.276	2.995

3.1.2 Case of $p > q$

We have now

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a) = \left(\frac{a}{\alpha}\right)^{\alpha-r} \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} A^{\alpha-r},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{x^2(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}{2(\alpha - r)} + \frac{axr}{\alpha(\alpha - r)}\right) dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2}}{2(\alpha - r)} \left(x - \frac{ar}{\alpha(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right)^2 + \frac{a^2 r^2}{2\alpha^2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{a^2 r^2}{2\alpha^2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right) \int_{-\frac{ar}{\alpha(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}}^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})t^2}{2(\alpha - r)}\right) dt \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{a^2 r^2}{2\alpha^2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\pi(\alpha - r)}{2(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}} \left[1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha \sqrt{2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}}\right)\right], \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{erf}(z) := \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^z e^{-t^2} dt$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a) &= \left(\frac{a^2 \pi (\alpha - r)}{\alpha^2 2 (\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right)^{(\alpha-r)/2} \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{a^2 r^2}{\alpha^2 2 (\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}\right) \\ &\quad \times \left[1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha \sqrt{2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}}\right)\right]^{\alpha-r}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\frac{\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L^1(D)}^\alpha}{\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L^1(D)}^\alpha} = \sigma \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\frac{2\alpha(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}{\pi a^2}\right)^{\alpha/2}$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_a) &= \left(\frac{2\alpha(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}{\pi a^2} \right)^{r/2} \left(\frac{\alpha - r}{\alpha} \right)^{(\alpha-r)/2} \exp\left(\frac{a^2 r^2}{2\alpha^2(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left[1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha \sqrt{2(\alpha - r)(\sigma^{-2} - \lambda^{-2})}} \right) \right]^{\alpha-r}. \end{aligned}$$

We provide some numerical tests for $q = 1$ and $p = 2$ or $p = \infty$. Then $\alpha = r + 1/2$ or $\alpha = r + 1$, respectively. Recall that results for $q = 1$ are also applicable to the ϱ -integration problem.

For $r \in \{1, 2\}$, $p \in \{2, \infty\}$, $\lambda = 2$ and $\sigma = 1$, we vary a and obtain the following rounded values:

a	1	2	3	4		
FCTR(2, 1, ω, κ_a)	1.135	1.476	4.361	26.036	$r = 1$	$p = 2$
FCTR(2, 1, ω, κ_a)	1.645	1.552	5.836	65.061	$r = 2$	
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω, κ_a)	1.172	1.179	1.979	4.920	$r = 1$	$p = \infty$
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω, κ_a)	1.733	1.269	2.617	11.826	$r = 2$	

3.2 Gaussian ϱ and Exponential ψ

Consider $D = \mathbb{R}$,

$$\varrho(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x) = \exp\left(\frac{-|x|}{\lambda} \right)$$

for positive λ and σ . Now

$$\omega(x) = \frac{\varrho(x)}{\psi(x)} = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{|x|}{\lambda} \right), \quad (15)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha &= \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(2 \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\sigma^2\alpha} + \frac{x}{\lambda\alpha} \right) dx \right)^\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(2 \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-(x/\sigma - \sigma/\lambda)^2}{2\alpha} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\lambda^2\alpha} \right) dx \right)^\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2\lambda^2} \right) \left(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi\alpha} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\sigma/(\lambda\sqrt{2\alpha})}^\infty \exp(-y^2) dy \right)^\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2\lambda^2} \right) \left(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi\alpha} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\lambda\sqrt{2\alpha}} \right) \right) \right)^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

As before, we propose using $\kappa_a(x) = \exp(-|x|a)$. Hence $\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1} = 2\alpha/a$ and the points x_i are given by (14).

3.2.1 Case of $p \leq q$

We have

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a) = \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(a + \lambda^{-1})^2}{2} \right).$$

It is easy to verify that the minimum over $a > 0$ satisfies

$$\min_{a>0} \|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{2\alpha}{a_*} \right)^\alpha \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2 (a_* + \lambda^{-1})^2}{2}\right)$$

for

$$a_* = \frac{\sqrt{1 + 4\alpha \lambda^2 / \sigma^2} - 1}{2\lambda}.$$

Therefore

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{a_*}) = \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\pi}} \frac{1}{a_* \sigma (1 + \text{erf}(\sigma/\sqrt{2\alpha\lambda}))} \right)^\alpha \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2 a_* (a_* + 2/\lambda)}{2}\right).$$

Note that the value of FCTR depends on p and q only via α . Rounded values of FCTR for $\alpha \in \{1, 2\}$ and $\sigma = 1$ and various λ 's are¹:

λ	1	5	10	20	30	100	
FCTR	1.723	1.183	1.162	1.174	1.188	1.231	$\alpha = 1$
FCTR	2.468	1.460	1.436	1.465	1.491	1.573	$\alpha = 2$

3.2.2 Case of $p > q$

We have

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a) = \left(\frac{a}{\alpha}\right)^{\alpha-r} \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} A^{\alpha-r},$$

where now

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2(\alpha-r)} + x\left(\frac{a}{\alpha-r} + \frac{1}{\lambda(\alpha-r)} - \frac{a}{\alpha}\right)\right) dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(\alpha-r)}\left(x^2 - 2x\sigma^2\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)\right)\right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^2}{2(\alpha-r)}\right) \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \sigma^2\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right))^2}{2\sigma^2(\alpha-r)}\right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^2}{2(\alpha-r)}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2\pi(\alpha-r)}{2}} \left[1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}}\right)\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa) &= \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{a^2 \pi \sigma^2 (\alpha-r)}{2\alpha^2}\right)^{(\alpha-r)/2} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} \left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^2\right) \\ &\quad \times \left[1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}}\right)\right]^{\alpha-r}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\frac{\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha}{\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha} = \left(\frac{2\alpha}{a}\right)^\alpha \sigma \sqrt{2\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{\sigma^2}{2\lambda^2}\right) \left(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi\alpha} \left(1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\lambda\sqrt{2\alpha}}\right)\right)\right)^{-\alpha}$$

¹Computed with MATHEMATICA

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_a) &= \left(\frac{1}{a\sigma} \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\pi}} \right)^\alpha \left(\frac{a^2 \pi \sigma^2 (\alpha - r)}{2\alpha^2} \right)^{(\alpha-r)/2} \exp \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} \left(\left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \right) \right) \\ &\quad \times \frac{\left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\sigma \left(\frac{ar}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}} \right) \right]^{\alpha-r}}{\left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\sigma}{\lambda\sqrt{2\alpha}} \right) \right]^\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

We again provide numerical results, first for the case $p = 2$ and $q = 1$, i.e., $\alpha = r + 1/2$. For $r \in \{1, 2\}$ and varying a , we obtain the following rounded values:

a	1	2	3	4		
FCTR(2, 1, ω , κ_a)	1.273	2.426	9.570	66.233	$\lambda = 1, \sigma = 1$	$r = 1$
FCTR(2, 1, ω , κ_a)	1.181	1.642	4.652	23.070	$\lambda = 2, \sigma = 1$	
FCTR(2, 1, ω , κ_a)	1.747	2.546	12.473	146.677	$\lambda = 1, \sigma = 1$	$r = 2$
FCTR(2, 1, ω , κ_a)	1.747	1.729	5.683	44.797	$\lambda = 2, \sigma = 1$	

We now change p to $p = \infty$, and choose again $q = 1$, which implies $\alpha = r + 1$. For $r \in \{1, 2\}$ and varying a we obtain the following rounded values:

a	1	2	3	4		
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω , κ_a)	1.203	1.512	3.156	9.409	$\lambda = 1, \sigma = 1$	$r = 1$
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω , κ_a)	1.199	1.242	2.081	4.888	$\lambda = 2, \sigma = 1$	
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω , κ_a)	1.724	1.700	4.509	23.434	$\lambda = 1, \sigma = 1$	$r = 2$
FCTR(∞ , 1, ω , κ_a)	1.827	1.366	2.647	9.897	$\lambda = 2, \sigma = 1$	

3.3 Log-Normal ϱ and constant ψ

Consider $D = \mathbb{R}_+$, $\psi(x) = 1$ and

$$\varrho(x) = \omega(x) = \frac{1}{x \sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left(-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \quad (16)$$

for given $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma > 0$.

For κ we take

$$\kappa_c(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, e^\mu], \\ \exp(c(\mu - \ln x)) & \text{if } x > e^\mu, \end{cases}$$

for positive c . For $\kappa_c^{1/\alpha}$ to be integrable we have to restrict c so that

$$c > \alpha.$$

It can be checked that

$$\|\kappa_c^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \left(\frac{c}{c - \alpha} \right)^\alpha e^{\alpha\mu}.$$

Then the points x_i for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ that satisfy (7) are given by

$$x_i = \begin{cases} \frac{c}{c-\alpha} e^\mu \frac{i}{n} & \text{for } i \leq n \frac{c-\alpha}{c}, \\ e^\mu \left(\frac{\alpha}{c} \frac{n}{n-i} \right)^{\alpha/(c-\alpha)} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

3.3.1 Case of $p \leq q$

We determine $\|\omega/\kappa_c\|_{L_\infty(D)}$. For $x \leq e^\mu$ we have

$$\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_c(x)} = \omega(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(t-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} - t\right) \quad \text{with } t = \ln x \leq \mu.$$

Its maximum is attained at $t = \mu - \sigma^2$ and

$$\max_{x \leq e^\mu} \frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_c(x)} = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} - \mu\right).$$

For $x > e^\mu$,

$$\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_c(x)} = \frac{1}{\exp(c\mu)\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(t-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} + t(c-1)\right) \quad \text{with } t = \ln x > \mu.$$

The maximum of the expression above is attained at $t = \mu + \sigma^2(c-1)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{x > e^\mu} \frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_c(x)} &= \frac{1}{\exp(c\mu)\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left((c-1)\mu + \frac{(c-1)^2\sigma^2}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\mu + \frac{(c-1)^2\sigma^2}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

This yields that

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_c} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \max(1, (c-1)^2)\right).$$

To find the optimal value of c , note that

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_c} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} \|\kappa_c^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \frac{e^{(\alpha-1)\mu}}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} (f(c))^\alpha,$$

where $f(c)$ is given by

$$f(c) = \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2 \max(1, (c-1)^2)}{2\alpha}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{c-\alpha}\right).$$

Consider first $\alpha \geq 2$ and recall the restriction $c > \alpha$. For such values of c we have

$$f(c) = \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(c-1)^2}{2\alpha}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{c-\alpha}\right)$$

and hence

$$f'(c) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\alpha(c-\alpha)^2} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2\alpha}(c-1)^2\right) \left(c(c-1)(c-\alpha) - \frac{\alpha^2}{\sigma^2}\right).$$

Therefore,

$$\min_{c > \alpha} f(c) = f(c_*) = \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(c_*-1)^2}{2\alpha}\right) \frac{c_*}{c_*-\alpha}$$

for c_* such that

$$c_* > \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad c_*(c_* - 1)(c_* - \alpha) = \frac{\alpha^2}{\sigma^2}. \quad (17)$$

Consider next $\alpha \in (0, 2)$. Then for $c \leq 2$, the minimum of $f(c)$ is attained in $c = 2$, and it is a global minimum if $2(2 - \alpha) \geq \alpha^2/\sigma^2$. Otherwise, the minimum is at c_* given by (17).

In summary, for $\alpha > 0$, we have

$$\min_{c > \alpha} \left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_c} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} \|\kappa_c^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \frac{e^{(\alpha-1)\mu}}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \times \begin{cases} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(c_*-1)^2}{2}\right) \left(\frac{c_*}{c_*-\alpha}\right)^\alpha & \text{if } \alpha \geq 2 \\ \text{or } 2(2-\alpha) \leq \frac{\alpha^2}{\sigma^2}, \\ \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{2-\alpha}\right)^\alpha & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To derive the value of the L_1 norm of $\omega^{1/\alpha}$, we will use the following well-known facts: If $\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu}$ is a log-normally distributed random variable with parameters σ and μ , then the mean value and the variance of $\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu}$ are, respectively, equal to

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu}) = \exp(\sigma^2/2 + \mu) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu} - \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu}))^2 = (\exp(\sigma^2) - 1) \exp(\sigma^2 + 2\mu).$$

Hence

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{X}_{\sigma,\mu}^2) = \exp(2\sigma^2 + 2\mu). \quad (18)$$

If $\alpha = 1$, then $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = 1$, and then

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{c_*}) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \begin{cases} \frac{c_*}{c_*-1} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(c_*-1)^2}{2}\right) & \text{if } 2 \leq \frac{1}{\sigma^2}, \\ 2 \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For $\alpha \in (1, 2)$, to simplify the notation, we will use, in the following, parameters s and γ given by

$$s = \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma = \frac{\sigma \sqrt{\alpha}}{s}.$$

The change of the variable $x = t^s$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\sigma \sqrt{2\pi})^{1/\alpha} \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)} &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x^{1/\alpha}} \exp\left(\frac{-(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\alpha\sigma^2}\right) dx \\ &= s \int_0^\infty t^{s-s/\alpha-1} \exp\left(\frac{-(\ln t^s - \mu)^2}{2\alpha\sigma^2}\right) dt \\ &= s \int_0^\infty t \exp\left(\frac{-(\ln t - \mu/s)^2}{2(\sigma \sqrt{\alpha}/s)^2}\right) dt \\ &= s \gamma \sqrt{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{t^2}{t \gamma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-(\ln t - \mu/s)^2}{2\gamma^2}\right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

The last integral is the expected value of the square of a log-normal random variable $\mathbf{X}_{\gamma,\mu/s}$ with the parameter σ replaced by γ and μ replaced by μ/s . Hence

$$\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \frac{(s \gamma \sqrt{2\pi})^\alpha}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(2\gamma^2\alpha + \frac{2\mu\alpha}{s}\right) = \frac{(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}\alpha)^\alpha}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(\alpha-1)^2}{2} + \mu(\alpha-1)\right).$$

This gives us

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_{c_*}) = \left(\frac{c_*}{(c_* - \alpha) \sigma \sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} \right)^\alpha \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2 ((c_* - 1)^2 - (\alpha - 1)^2)}{2} \right)$$

if either $\alpha \geq 2$ or $\alpha < 2$ and $2(2 - \alpha) \leq \alpha^2/\sigma^2$, and

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_2) = \left(\frac{2}{(2 - \alpha) \sigma \sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} \right)^\alpha \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2 (1 - (\alpha - 1)^2)}{2} \right)$$

if $\alpha < 2$ and $2(2 - \alpha) > \alpha^2/\sigma^2$.

Rounded values for FCTR for various σ and α are²:

σ	1	2	3	
FCTR	1.315	2.948	23.941	$\alpha = 1$
FCTR	2.988	4.615	7.573	$\alpha = 2$

3.3.2 Case of $p > q$

Now

$$\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_c) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{c - \alpha}{c e^\mu} \right)^{\alpha - r} (I_1 + I_2)^{\alpha - r},$$

where

$$I_1 = \int_0^{e^\mu} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha - r} \left[\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln x \right] \right) dx$$

and

$$I_2 = \int_{e^\mu}^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha - r} \left[\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln x \right] - \frac{rc}{\alpha(\alpha - r)} (\mu - \ln x) \right) dx.$$

In what follows, for both integrals, we will use first the change of variables $y = \ln x - \mu$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp(y + \mu) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha - r} \left[\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + y + \mu \right] \right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\mu \frac{\alpha - r - 1}{\alpha - r} \right) \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha - r} \left[\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + (1 + r - \alpha)y \right] \right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\mu \frac{\alpha - r - 1}{\alpha - r} \right) \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp\left(-\frac{y^2 + 2y\sigma^2(1 + r - \alpha)}{2\sigma^2(\alpha - r)} \right) dx \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{1 + r - \alpha}{\alpha - r} \left(\frac{\sigma^2(1 + r - \alpha)}{2} - \mu \right) \right) \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp\left(-\frac{[y + \sigma^2(1 + r - \alpha)]^2}{(\alpha - r)2\sigma^2} \right) dy \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{1 + r - \alpha}{\alpha - r} \left(\frac{\sigma^2(1 + r - \alpha)}{2} - \mu \right) \right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2(\alpha - r)\pi}{2}} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma(1 + r - \alpha)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha - r)}} \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

²Computed with MATHEMATICA.

Similarly for I_2 we get

$$\begin{aligned}
I_2 &= \exp\left(\mu \frac{\alpha - r - 1}{\alpha - r}\right) \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha - r} \left[\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + y - y\left(\alpha - r + \frac{rc}{\alpha}\right)\right]\right) dy \\
&= \frac{\exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(1+r-\alpha-rc/\alpha)^2}{2(\alpha-r)}\right)}{\exp\left(\frac{1+r-\alpha}{\alpha-r}\mu\right)} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{[y + \sigma^2(1+r-\alpha-rc/\alpha)]^2}{(\alpha-r)2\sigma^2}\right) dy \\
&= \frac{\exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2(1+r-\alpha-rc/\alpha)^2}{2(\alpha-r)}\right)}{\exp\left(\frac{1+r-\alpha}{\alpha-r}\mu\right)} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2(\alpha-r)\pi}{2}} \left[1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma(1+r-\alpha-rc/\alpha)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}}\right)\right].
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
&(I_1 + I_2)^{\alpha-r} \\
&= \frac{\exp(\sigma^2(1+r-\alpha)^2/2)}{\exp(\mu(1+r-\alpha))} \left[\frac{\sigma^2(\alpha-r)\pi}{2}\right]^{(\alpha-r)/2} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma(1+r-\alpha)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}}\right)\right. \\
&\quad \left. + \exp\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2(\alpha-r)}\left(-\frac{2rc}{\alpha}(1+r-\alpha) + \left(\frac{rc}{\alpha}\right)^2\right)\right) \left[1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma(1+r-\alpha-rc/\alpha)}{\sqrt{2(\alpha-r)}}\right)\right]\right]^{\alpha-r}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since computing $\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_c)$ for arbitrary parameters $q \leq p$ is very challenging, we will do this for $p = \infty$ and $q = 1$, which—as already mentioned—corresponds to the integration problem. In this specific case, we have $\alpha = r + 1$ and

$$(I_1 + I_2)^{\alpha-r} = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2\pi}{2}} \left[1 + \exp\left(\frac{(\sigma(\alpha-1)c)^2}{2\alpha^2}\right) \left[1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(-\frac{\sigma(\alpha-1)c}{\alpha\sqrt{2}}\right)\right]\right].$$

This yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{FCTR}(\infty, 1, \omega, \kappa_c) &= \frac{(c-\alpha)\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}{2c} \left(\frac{c}{(c-\alpha)\sigma\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}}\right)^\alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\sigma^2(\alpha-1)^2}{2} - \mu(\alpha-1)\right) \\
&\quad \times \left[1 + \exp\left(\frac{(\sigma(\alpha-1)c)^2}{2\alpha^2}\right) \left[1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{-\sigma(\alpha-1)c}{\alpha\sqrt{2}}\right)\right]\right].
\end{aligned}$$

As a numerical example we consider the case $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$. For fixed $\alpha \in \{1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5\}$ we numerically minimize³ $\text{FCTR}(\infty, 1, \omega, \kappa_c)$ as a function in c . The results together with the optimal c_* are presented in the following table:

α	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5
$\text{FCTR}(\infty, 1, \omega, \kappa_{c_*})$	1.058	1.224	1.594	2.314	3.648
c_*	2.555	2.973	3.422	3.899	4.392

3.4 Logistic ϱ and Exponential ψ

Consider $D = \mathbb{R}$,

$$\varrho(x) = \frac{\exp(x/\nu)}{\nu(1 + \exp(x/\nu))^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x) = \exp(-b|x|)$$

³Using the MATHEMATICA command `FindMinimum`

with parameters $\nu > 0$ and $b > 0$. Then

$$\omega(x) = \frac{\exp(x/\nu + b|x|)}{\nu(1 + \exp(x/\nu))^2}$$

which is quite complicated, in particular if one considers $\omega^{1/\alpha}$, and is not monotonic. Consider therefore

$$\kappa_a(x) = \exp(-a|x|) \quad \text{for some } a > 0.$$

Hence the points x_{-n}, \dots, x_n satisfying (12) are again given by (14).

To simplify the formulas to come, we use

$$\lambda := \frac{1}{\nu}, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \omega(x) = \frac{\lambda \exp(\lambda x + b|x|)}{(1 + \exp(\lambda x))^2}.$$

For $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha$ and $\|\omega/\kappa_a\|_{L_\infty(D)}$ to be finite, we need to have

$$\lambda > b \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda \geq a + b.$$

Since the integral in $\mathcal{E}_p^q(\omega, \kappa_a)$ becomes very complicated for this example we do not distinguish between $p \leq q$ and $p > q$. Instead we use the upper bound (13) here.

We first study $\|\omega/\kappa_a\|_{L_\infty(D)}$. Since ω and κ_a are symmetric, we can restrict the attention to $x \geq 0$. By substituting $z = \exp(\lambda x)$, we get that

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \lambda \sup_{z \geq 1} \frac{z^{1+(a+b)/\lambda}}{(1+z)^2}.$$

When $a + b = \lambda$ the supremum is attained at $z = \infty$, otherwise it is attained at $z = (\lambda + a + b)/(\lambda - (a + b))$. Therefore

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \frac{\lambda}{4} \left(1 + \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1+(a+b)/\lambda} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1-(a+b)/\lambda},$$

with the convention that $0^0 := 1$, i.e., $\|\omega/\kappa_a\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \lambda$ if $a = \lambda - b$.

Indeed, the previous formula for $\|\omega/\kappa_a\|_{L_\infty(D)}$ can be shown by noting that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lambda \left[\frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \right]^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(1 + \frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \right)^{-2} = \lambda \left[\frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \right]^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(\frac{\lambda - (a+b)}{2\lambda} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{4} \left[\frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \right]^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{4} \left[\frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \right]^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1-\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{4} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1-\frac{a+b}{\lambda}} \left(\frac{\lambda + a + b}{\lambda - a - b} \cdot \frac{\lambda - a - b}{\lambda} \right)^{1+\frac{a+b}{\lambda}}. \end{aligned}$$

As above,

$$\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \left(\frac{2\alpha}{a} \right)^\alpha.$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned}\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha &= \lambda \left(2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp((\lambda+b)x/\alpha)}{(1+\exp(\lambda x))^{2/\alpha}} dx \right)^\alpha \\ &\geq \lambda \left(2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp(\lambda x/\alpha)}{(1+\exp(\lambda x/\alpha))^2} dx \right)^\alpha\end{aligned}$$

due to the fact that $1/(1+A)^{1/\alpha} \geq 1/(1+A^{1/\alpha})$ since $\alpha \geq 1$. Therefore

$$\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha \geq \lambda \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \right)^\alpha.$$

This gives

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_a) \leq \left(\frac{2\lambda}{a} \right)^\alpha \frac{1}{4} \left(1 + \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1+(a+b)/\lambda} \left(1 - \frac{a+b}{\lambda} \right)^{1-(a+b)/\lambda}.$$

As before the right-hand side above is

$$\left(\frac{2\lambda}{\lambda-b} \right)^\alpha \quad \text{if } a = \lambda - b.$$

Letting $x = a/\lambda$, the minimum is at $0 < x < 1 - b/\lambda$ that is the root of

$$x \left(\ln \left(1 + \frac{b}{\lambda} + x \right) - \ln \left(1 - \frac{b}{\lambda} - x \right) \right) - \alpha = 0.$$

Rounded values of the upper bound on FCTR for $\alpha = b = 1$ and various λ 's are⁴:

λ	2	5	10	15
Bound on FCTR	3.341	1.710	1.431	1.353

3.5 Student's ϱ and ψ

Consider Student's t -distribution on $D = \mathbb{R}$

$$\varrho(x) = T_\nu \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu} \right)^{-(\nu+1)/2} \quad \text{with} \quad T_\nu = \frac{\Gamma((\nu+1)/2)}{\sqrt{\nu\pi} \Gamma(\nu/2)} \quad \text{for } \nu > 0.$$

Here Γ denotes Euler's Gamma function $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt$. Let

$$\psi(x) = \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu} \right)^{-b/2} \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_a(x) = (1 + |x|)^{-a}$$

for $a > 0$ and $b \geq 0$. For $\|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}$, $\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}$, and $\|\omega/\kappa_a\|_{L_\infty(D)}$ to be finite, we have to assume that

$$\nu + 1 - b \geq a > \alpha.$$

It is easy to see that

$$\|\kappa_a^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha = \left(\frac{2\alpha}{a-\alpha} \right)^\alpha.$$

⁴Computed with MATHEMATICA.

Hence the points x_{-n}, \dots, x_n satisfying (12) are given by

$$x_i = -x_{-i} = \left(1 - \frac{i}{n}\right)^{-\frac{\alpha}{a-\alpha}} - 1 \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n.$$

To compute the norm of $\omega^{1/\alpha}$, make the change of variables $x/\sqrt{\nu} = t/\sqrt{\mu}$, where

$$\mu = \frac{\nu + 1 - b - \alpha}{\alpha} \quad \text{so that} \quad \frac{\mu + 1}{2} = \frac{\nu + 1 - b}{2\alpha}.$$

Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega^{1/\alpha}\|_{L_1(D)}^\alpha &= T_\nu \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-(\nu+1-b)/(2\alpha)} dx \right)^\alpha \\ &= T_\nu \left(\frac{\nu}{\mu}\right)^{\alpha/2} T_\mu^{-\alpha} \left(T_\mu \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(1 + \frac{t^2}{\mu}\right)^{-(\mu+1)/2} dt \right)^\alpha = T_\nu \left(\frac{\sqrt{\nu}}{T_\mu \sqrt{\mu}}\right)^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\frac{\omega(x)}{\kappa_a(x)} = T_\nu \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-(\nu+1-b)/2} (1 + |x|)^a,$$

we have

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = T_\nu (1 + \nu)^{(\nu+1-b)/2} \quad \text{for } a = \nu + 1 - b,$$

and

$$\left\| \frac{\omega}{\kappa_a} \right\|_{L_\infty(D)} = \frac{\omega(x_*)}{\kappa(x_*)} \quad \text{for } x_* = \frac{\sqrt{(\nu + 1 - b)^2 + 4a\nu(\nu + 1 - b - a)} - (\nu + 1 - b)}{2(\nu + 1 - a - b)}$$

for $a < \nu + 1 - b$.

This gives

$$\text{FCTR}(p, q, \omega, \kappa_a) \leq \begin{cases} (1 + \nu)^{(\nu+1-b)/2} \left(\frac{2T_\mu}{\sqrt{\nu\mu}}\right)^\alpha & \text{for } a = \nu + 1 - b, \\ \frac{(1+x_*)^a}{\left(1 + \frac{x_*^2}{\nu}\right)^{(\nu+1-b)/2}} \left(T_\mu \frac{2\alpha}{a-\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\nu}}\right)^\alpha & \text{for } a \in (\alpha, \nu + 1 - b), \end{cases}$$

with equality whenever $p \leq q$.

In the following numerical experiments for fixed values of α , b and ν , we choose $a \in (\alpha, \nu + 1 - b]$ of the form $a = \alpha + k/10$ such that it gives the smallest value of the above bound on FCTR. For example:

(ν, b, α)	$(3, 2, 1)$	$(4, 2, 2)$	$(5, 3, 2)$	$(6, 3, 3)$
FCTR	1.427	1.626	1.710	1.861

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