

AN INTERPOLATION THEOREM IN SYMMETRIC FUNCTION F -SPACES

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ABSTRACT. It is well known that every separable or perfect symmetric Banach function space X is an interpolation space between L^1 and L^∞ (see [1] and [4]). In this paper we prove that every symmetric function F -space is interpolation between L^0 and L^∞ , where L^0 is the space of all measurable functions whose support has finite measure. Moreover, for any function $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$ the norm $\|f\|_{L^0 + L^\infty}$ is computed in the terms of the nonincreasing rearrangement function f^* of f as well as in terms of its distribution function d_f .

1. INTRODUCTION

In the sequel (I, m) will denote the Lebesgue measure space on $I = [0, 1]$ or on $I = [0, \infty)$. By $S = S(I, m)$ we mean the space of all equivalence classes of measurable real-valued functions defined on I .

Assume that $E = E(m)$ is a subgroup of $S(I, m)$ endowed with a functional $\|\cdot\|_E: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ that is even vanishing only at zero and satisfying the triangle inequality. Then E is said to be a *function F^* -group*. A function F^* -group $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$ such that E is a linear space and the operation of multiplication by scalars is continuous is called a *function F^* -space*. Any function F^* -group $(F^*$ -space) that is a complete metric space with respect to the metric $d(f, g) = \|f - g\|_E$ is called a *function F -group* (F -space). For details concerning F -spaces see [7].

By $L^0 = L^0(m)$ we shall denote the space of all measurable functions defined on I whose support has finite measure. This space is endowed with the group-norm

$$\|f\|_0 = m(\text{suppf}), \text{ where } \text{suppf} = \{t \in I: f(t) \neq 0\}.$$

By $L^\infty = L^\infty(m)$ we shall mean the Banach space of all m -essentially bounded functions endowed with the norm $\|f\|_\infty = \text{ess}_{t \in I} \sup |f(t)|$.

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The intersection and the algebraic sum of the spaces L^0 and L^∞ shall be written as $L^0 \cap L^\infty$ and $L^0 + L^\infty$, respectively. The norms in these spaces will be defined as follows

$$\begin{aligned}\|f\|_{L^0 \cap L^\infty} &= \max\{\|f\|_0, \|f\|_\infty\}, \\ \|f\|_{L^0 + L^\infty} &= \inf\{\|g\|_0 + \|h\|_\infty : f = g + h, g \in L^0, h \in L^\infty\}.\end{aligned}$$

The spaces L^0 and $L^0 \cap L^\infty$ are function F -groups, and $L^0 + L^\infty$ is a function F -space (all are symmetric, see below).

In $f \in S(I, m)$, then the distribution function d_f is defined by

$$d_f(s) = m(\{t \in I : |f(t)| > s\}), \quad s \geq 0.$$

The nonincreasing *rearrangement* of f is given by

$$f^*(t) = \inf\{s > 0 : d_f(s) \leq t\}, \quad \inf \phi = \infty.$$

Clearly, d_f and f^* are nonincreasing right-continuous functions on $[0, \infty)$. Notice that if $mI = \infty$, then these functions may also take value ∞ .

A function F -group (F -space) $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$ is called *symmetric* (or *rearrangement invariant*) if:

1. $g \in S$, $f \in E$, and $|g| \leq |f|$, a.e., imply $g \in E$ and $\|g\|_E \leq \|f\|_E$,
2. For any $g \in S$ equimeasurable with $f \in E$, i.e., if $d_g = d_f$, then one has $g \in E$ and $\|g\|_E = \|f\|_E$.

Conditions 1 and 2 are equivalent to the following:

1: If $g \in S$, $f \in E$, $g^*(t) \leq f^*(t)$, and all $t \in I$, then $g \in E$ and $\|g\|_E \leq \|f\|_E$. Some properties of symmetric function F -spaces have been studied in [3].

2. IMBEDDING THEOREM AND EXAMPLES

Our first result is related to the problem given at the end of [2].

Theorem 1. (a) *If E is a nontrivial symmetric function F -group then*

$$(1) \quad L^0 \cap L^\infty \subset E.$$

(b) *If E also satisfies one of the following conditions:*

- (i) $\|1_A\|_E < \infty$ implies $mA < \infty$, or
- (ii) E is a symmetric function F -space,

then

$$(2) \quad E \subset L^0 + L^\infty.$$

Proof. (a) Let $0 \neq f \in E$. Define $A_n = \{t \in I : |f(t)| \geq \frac{1}{n}\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. We have $A_n \uparrow$ and $\cup_{n=1}^\infty A_n = \text{supp } f$. Thus, $mA_k > 0$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $k^{-1}1_{A_k} \leq |f|$, we have $k^{-1}1_{A_k} \in E$. By the assumption on E we have $1_{A_k} \in E$. Now, let $g \in L^0 \cap L^\infty$. There exist pairwise disjoint sets B_1, B_2, \dots, B_ℓ such that $m(B_i) = m(A_k)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ and $\text{supp } g \subset \cup_{i=1}^\ell B_i$. All functions

$1_{B_i} (i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell)$ and 1_{A_k} are pairwise equimeasurable. Since, in view of our assumption, E is symmetric, we have

$$\|1_{B_1}\|_E = \|1_{B_2}\|_E = \dots = \|1_{B_\ell}\|_E = \|1_{A_k}\|_E.$$

Hence

$$\|1_{\text{suppg}}\|_E \leq \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} 1_{B_i} \right\|_E \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \|1_{B_i}\|_E = \ell \|1_{A_k}\|_E < \infty$$

and so $\|g\|_E \leq \left\| \|g\|_{\infty} 1_{\text{suppg}} \right\|_E \leq (\lceil \|g\|_{\infty} \rceil + 1) \|1_{\text{suppg}}\|_E < \infty$, where $\lceil \|g\|_{\infty} \rceil$ denotes the integer part of the number $\|g\|_{\infty}$. Thus, $g \in E$ and the inclusion (1) is proved.

(b) Assume first that E satisfies condition (i). Let $f \in E$ and $A = \{t \in I : |f(t)| \leq 1\}$. Then $f1_A \in L^{\infty}$ and

$$\|1_{I \setminus A}\|_E \leq \|f1_{I \setminus A}\|_E \leq \|f\|_E < \infty.$$

Thus, in view of (i), $m(I \setminus A) < \infty$, i.e., $f1_{I \setminus A} \in L^0$.

Now assume that E satisfies condition (ii) and $f \in E$. Define $A_n = \{t \in I : |f(t)| \geq n\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. We shall prove that $m A_k < \infty$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$. In fact, if not, then we have $m A_n = \infty$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Choose $B_n \subset A_n$ with $m B_n = 1$ for any natural n . All functions 1_{B_n} are equimeasurable, and so

$$0 \leq \|1_{B_1}\|_E = \|1_{B_n}\|_E \leq \left\| \frac{1}{n} f 1_{B_n} \right\|_E \leq \left\| \frac{1}{n} f \right\|_E \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thus, $\|1_{B_1}\|_E = 0$, a contradiction. Since $f1_{A_k} \in L^0$ and $f1_{I \setminus A_k} \in L^{\infty}$, the proof is finished.

Remarks. (1). O'Neil proved in [5] that the symmetric Orlicz group L^{ψ} generated by generalized Young function ψ satisfies $L^0 \cap L^{\infty} \subset L^{\psi} \subset L^0 + L^{\infty}$. Moreover, L^{ψ} is an F -space, i.e., the scalar multiplication is continuous in L^{ψ} if and only if $\lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \psi(u) = 0$.

(2). Let us note that in (b) it can be obtained that if $f \in E$ then for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there are functions $f_1 \in L^{\infty}$ and $f_2 \in L^0$, with $f_1 + f_2 = f$ such that $\|f_1\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon$ in the first case and $\|f_2\|_0 \leq \varepsilon$ in the second one.

Example 1. Let $E = S$ on $I = [0, \infty)$ with the F -group norm

$$\|f\|_E = \frac{m(\text{suppf})}{1 + m(\text{suppf})} \quad (\text{taking by definition } \frac{\infty}{1 + \infty} = 1).$$

Then E does not satisfy any condition (i) and (ii) from Theorem 1, and $E \not\subset L^0 + L^{\infty}$.

Thus, it is interesting to pose the following problem:

Is the alternative of conditions (i) and (ii) necessary for (2)? Now, we give examples of symmetric function F -spaces and F -groups connected with Orlicz and Marcinkiewicz spaces.

Example 2. Let ψ be an Orlicz function, i.e., a continuous increasing function on $[0, \infty)$ such that $\psi(0) = 0$. The Orlicz space L^ψ is the space of all $f \in S$ such that $I_\psi(\lambda f) = \int_I \psi(\lambda|f(t)|) dm < \infty$ for some $\lambda > 0$ depending on f . The functional $\|\cdot\|_\psi$ defined on L^ψ by $\|f\|_\psi = \inf\{\lambda > 0: I_\psi(f/\lambda) \leq \lambda\}$ is an F -norm. Define a new Orlicz function φ by

$$\varphi(u) = \frac{\psi(u)}{1 + \psi(u)}.$$

Then $L^\psi = L^0 + L^\varphi$ and $\|f\|_\psi \leq \|f\|_+ \leq 4\|f\|_\psi$, where

$$\|f\|_+ = \inf\{\|f_0\|_0 + \|f_1\|_\varphi: f = f_0 + f_1, f_0 \in L^0, f_1 \in L^\varphi\}.$$

In fact, from the inequality $\psi(u) \leq \min(1, \varphi(u))$ we have $L^0 \subset L^\psi$ and $L^\varphi \subset L^\psi$, which imply $L^0 + L^\varphi \subset L^\psi$ and the first inequality on the F -norms. On the other hand, if $f \in L^\psi$ and $\|f\|_\psi < \lambda$ then $I_\psi(f/\lambda) \leq \lambda$, and if $A = \{t \in I: |f(t)| > \lambda\varphi^{-1}(1)\}$, then

$$\frac{mA}{2} \leq I_\psi(f1_A/\lambda) \leq I_\psi(f/\lambda) \leq \lambda.$$

Hence $f1_A \in L^0$ and

$$I_\varphi(f1_{I \setminus A}/\lambda) \leq 2I_\psi(f1_{I \setminus A}/\lambda) \leq 2I_\psi(f/\lambda) \leq 2\lambda,$$

i.e., $f1_{I \setminus A} \in L^\varphi$. Thus $f \in L^0 + L^\varphi$ and $\|f\|_+ \leq \|f1_A\|_0 + \|f1_{I \setminus A}\|_\varphi \leq mA + 2\lambda \leq 4\lambda$.

Example 3. Let ψ be an Orlicz function. Define the Marcinkiewicz space M^ψ generated by functional

$$\|f\|_{M^\psi} = \inf\{\lambda > 0: \sup_{t>0} \frac{f^*(t)}{\psi^{-1}(\lambda/t)} \leq \lambda\}.$$

Then M^ψ is the symmetric function F -group. It is sufficient to prove the triangle inequality for $\|\cdot\|_{M^\psi}$. If $\|f\|_{M^\psi} < \lambda_1$ and $\|g\|_{M^\psi} < \lambda_2$, then $f^*(t) \leq \lambda_1\psi^{-1}(\lambda_1/t)$ and $g^*(t) \leq \lambda_2\psi^{-1}(\lambda_2/t)$ for any $t > 0$. Hence, by the property of rearrangement and the above,

$$\begin{aligned} (f+g)^*(t) &\leq f^*\left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1+\lambda_2}t\right) + g^*\left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1+\lambda_2}t\right) \\ &\leq \lambda_1\psi^{-1}\left(\frac{\lambda_1+\lambda_2}{t}\right) + \lambda_2\psi^{-1}\left(\frac{\lambda_1+\lambda_2}{t}\right) \end{aligned}$$

and so $\|f+g\|_{M^\psi} \leq \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$, which gives the triangle inequality. Let us note that

$$\|f\|_{M^\psi} = \inf\left\{\lambda > 0: \sup_{s>0} \psi(s/\lambda)d_f(s) \leq \lambda\right\}$$

and

$$\|f\|_{M^\psi} \leq \|f\|_\psi \quad \text{for } f \in L^\psi.$$

M^ψ is a symmetric function F -space, i.e., the scalar multiplication is continuous in M^ψ if and only if ψ^{-1} satisfies the Δ_2 -condition (see [5, Theorem 9.9]). Moreover, $M^\psi(0, 1)$ is separable if and only if $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \psi(u) = c < \infty$ and $M^\psi(0, \infty)$ is not separable (see [5, Theorems 9.14 and 9.15]).

3. AN INTERPOLATION THEOREM

The first result is closely connected with the approximation spaces introduced by Peetre and Sparr in [6].

Proposition 1. *Let $f \in S$ and $0 \leq s, t < mI$. Then*

$$(3) \quad f^*(t) = \inf\{\|f - g\|_\infty : \|g\|_0 \leq t\} = \inf\{\|f - f1_A\|_\infty : mA \leq t\}$$

and

$$(4) \quad d_f(s) = \inf\{\|f - h\|_0 : \|h\|_\infty \leq s\}.$$

Proof. Let $f^*(t) < \infty$ and $B = \{x \in I : |f(x)| > f^*(t)\}$. Then $mB = d_f(f^*(t)) \leq t$ and

$$\begin{aligned} E(t, f) &= \inf\{\|f - g\|_\infty : \|g\|_0 \leq t\} \\ &\leq \inf\{\|f - f1_A\|_\infty : mA \leq t\} \\ &\leq \|f - f1_B\|_\infty = \|f1_{I \setminus B}\|_\infty \leq f^*(t). \end{aligned}$$

If $f^*(t) = \infty$ then $mI = \infty$ and $f \notin L^\infty$. Hence for any $g \in L^0$ with $\|g\|_0 \leq t$, we have $f - g \notin L^\infty$ and $E(t, f) = \infty$. Conversely, if $E(t, f) < \infty$, then for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $g \in L^0$ with $\|g\|_0 \leq t$ such that $\|f - g\|_\infty < E(t, f) + \varepsilon$. Assuming $\|f - g\|_0 = u$ we get $|f| - |g| \leq |f - g| \leq u$, a.e. in I , and so

$$\{x \in I : |f(x)| > u\} \subset \{x \in I : |g(x)| > 0\} \cup A,$$

where $A \subset I$ is a set of measure zero. Thus,

$$d_f(u) \leq \|g\|_0 \leq t \quad \text{and} \quad f^*(t) \leq u = \|f - g\|_\infty < E(t, f) + \varepsilon.$$

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, the proof of (3) is complete. If $h \in L^\infty$ is such that $\|h\|_\infty \leq s$, then

$$|f(x) - h(x)| \geq |f(x)| - |h(x)| \geq |f(x)| - s \quad \text{a.e. in } I$$

and so

$$A_s = \{x \in I : |f(x)| > s\} \subset \{x \in I : |f(x) - h(x)| > 0\} \cup A,$$

where $A \subset I$ is a set of measure zero. Thus $d_f(s) = mA_s \leq \|f - h\|_0$. Moreover, taking $h_0 = f1_{I \setminus A_s}$ we have $\|h_0\|_\infty \leq s$ and $\|f - h_0\|_0 = \|f1_{A_s}\|_0 = d_f(s)$. Thus

$$\inf\{\|f - h\|_0 : \|h\|_\infty \leq s\} = d_f(s).$$

Proposition 2. *Let E be a symmetric function F -space.*

- (a) *If A is a subset of I of finite measure and $f, f_n \in E$ are such that $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly in $A \setminus B$, with $mB = 0$, then $\|(f - f_n)1_A\|_E \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.*
- (b) *The set of countable valued real functions is dense in E .*
- (c) *An operator σ_a ($a > 0$) defined on E by $\sigma_a f(t) = f(t/a)$ is continuous in E and*

$$\|\sigma_a f\|_E \leq K_a \|f\|_E$$

for any $f \in E$ and for a constant $K_a > 0$ independent of f .

Proof. (a) From Theorem 1 and the fact that mA is finite it follows that $1_A \in E$. Now, the continuity of the multiplication operation yields

$$\|(f - f_n)1_A\|_E \leq \|f - f_n\|_\infty \|1_A\|_E \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

(b) Let $f \in E$ and let $\{I_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of pairwise disjoint sets of positive finite measure such that $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty I_n = I$. For a given $\varepsilon > 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is a sequence $\{g_m^n\}_{m=1}^\infty$ of countable valued functions with supports in I_n and such that $g_m^n \rightarrow f$ uniformly in $I_n \setminus A_n$ where $mA_n = 0$, as $m \rightarrow \infty$. Thus, in view of (a), we have

$$\|f1_{I_n} - g_{m_n}^n\|_E \leq 2^{-n} \varepsilon$$

for an $m_n \in \mathbb{N}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Denote, for brevity, $g_{m_n}^n$ by g_n and define $g = \sum_{n=1}^\infty g_n$. Then

$$\|f - g\|_E = \left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty (f1_{I_n} - g_n) \right\|_E \leq \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|f1_{I_n} - g_n\|_E \leq \sum_{n=1}^\infty 2^{-n} \varepsilon = \varepsilon.$$

(c) By virtue of (b), the proof proceeds in the same way as the proof of Theorem 4.4 in [4].

Theorem 2. *Let $T: L^0 + L^\infty$ be a homomorphism, i.e.,*

$$T(f + g) = Tf + Tg \quad \text{and} \quad T(-f) = -Tf$$

for any $f, g \in L^0 + L^\infty$. Assume that T maps L^0 into L^0 and L^∞ into L^∞ , and

$$(5) \quad m(\text{supp}Tf) \leq M_0 m(\text{supp}f) \quad \forall f \in L^0,$$

$$(6) \quad \|Tf\|_\infty \leq M_1 \|f\|_\infty \quad \forall f \in L^\infty.$$

Then T maps any symmetric function F -space E into itself and there exists a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$(7) \quad \|Tf\|_E \leq M \|f\|_E$$

for any $f \in E$.

Proof. First we shall prove that

$$(8) \quad (Tf)^*(M_0 t) \leq M_1 f^*(t)$$

for any $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$ and $t > 0$.

For this purpose note that for any $g \in L^0$ with $\|g\|_0 \leq t$ we have $\|Tg\|_0 \leq M_0\|g\|_0 \leq M_0t$ and, in view of (3)

$$(Tf)^*(M_0t) \leq \|Tf - Tg\|_\infty = \|T(f - g)\|_\infty \leq M_1\|f - g\|_\infty,$$

i.e.,

$$(Tf)^*(M_0t) \leq M_1E(t, f) = M_1f^*(t).$$

Let $K > 0$ be a constant such that $\|\sigma_{M_0}f\|_E \leq K\|f\|_E$ for any $f \in E$ (see Proposition 2(c)). Since each $f \in E$ belongs to $L^0 + L^\infty$ (see Theorem 1) we can apply inequality (8) and we get $\|Tf\|_E = \|(Tf)^*\|_E \leq K\|\sigma_{1/M_0}(Tf)^*\|_E \leq K\|M_1f^*\|_E \leq K([M_1] + 1)\|f^*\|_E = K([M_1] + 1)\|f\|_E$, where $[M_1]$ denotes the integer part of the number M_1 . The proof is finished.

It is interesting, and useful as well, to describe the space $L^0 + L^\infty$ and the F -norms $K(u, f) = \inf\{\|g\|_0 + u\|h\|_\infty : f = g + h, g \in L^0, h \in L^\infty\}$, ($u > 0$) of any function $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$ in terms of its distribution function d_f as well as in terms of its nonincreasing rearrangement f^* .

Proposition 3. *The space $L^0 + L^\infty$ consists of all functions f in S such that $d_f(s) < \infty$ for some $s > 0$. Moreover, we have*

$$(9) \quad K(u, f) = \inf_{s>0}[su + d_f(s)] = \inf_{t>0}[t + uf^*(t)].$$

Proof. Assume that $d_f(s) < \infty$ for some $s > 0$, i.e., $mA_s < \infty$ where $A_s = \{x \in I : |f(x)| > s\}$. We have $f1_{A_s} \in L^0$, $f1_{I \setminus A_s} \in L^\infty$, $f = f1_{A_s} + f1_{I \setminus A_s}$ and so $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$. Now, assume that $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$, i.e., $f = g + h$ with $g \in L^0$ and $h \in L^\infty$. Let $s > 2\|h\|_\infty$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \{x \in I : |f(x)| > s\} &\subset \{x \in I : |g(x)| + |h(x)| > s\} \\ &\subset \{x \in I : |g(x)| > s/2\} \cup \{x \in I : |h(x)| > s/2\} \\ &= \{x \in I : |g(x)| > s/2\} \cup A. \end{aligned}$$

where $mA = 0$. Hence, $d_f(s) \leq d_g(s/2) \leq m(\text{supp } g) < \infty$. If $f \in L^0 + L^\infty$ then for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a decomposition $f = g + h$ such that $\|g\|_0 + u\|h\|_\infty < K(u, f) + \varepsilon$. Let $\|g\|_0 = a$ and $\|h\|_\infty = b$. Then by Proposition 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{t>0}[t + uf^*(t)] &\leq a + uf^*(a) \\ &= a + uE(a, f) \leq a + u\tilde{E}(a, f) \leq a + u\|h\|_\infty \\ &= \|g\|_0 + u\|h\|_\infty < K(u, f) + \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{E}(a, f) = \inf\{\|f - g\|_\infty : \|g\|_0 = a\}$, and

$$\inf_{s>0}[su + d_f(s)] \leq bu + d_f(b) \leq bu + \|g\|_0 = \|g\|_0 + u\|h\|_\infty < K(u, f) + \varepsilon.$$

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ was arbitrary, we have that $\inf_{t>0}[t + uf^*(t)]$ and $\inf_{s>0}[su + d_f(s)]$ do not exceed $K(u, f)$. On the other hand, if $d_f(s_0) < \infty$, then for $s > s_0$ the

measure of the sets $A_s = \{x \in I: |f(x)| > s\}$ is finite and their intersection has measure zero. Therefore $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} d_f(s) = 0$ and so $f^*(t) < \infty$ for any $t > 0$. Setting $A = \{x \in I: |f(x)| > f^*(t)\}$ we have $mA = d_f(f^*(t)) \leq t$ and

$$K(u, f) \leq \|f1_A\|_0 + u\|f1_{I \setminus A}\|_\infty \leq mA + uf^*(t) \leq t + uf^*(t)$$

for any $t > 0$. Thus

$$K(u, f) \leq \inf_{t > 0} [t + uf^*(t)].$$

For any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists an $s_0 > 0$ such that $s_0u + d_f(s_0) < \inf_{s > 0} [su + d_f(s)] + \varepsilon$. Then

$$K(u, f) \leq \|f1_{A_{s_0}}\|_0 + u\|f1_{I \setminus A_{s_0}}\|_\infty \leq d_f(s_0) + us_0 < \inf_{s > 0} [su + d_f(s)] + \varepsilon$$

and (9) is proved.

Remarks. (3) Putting together the results in [6, Proposition 4.4] and Proposition 1, we also get the proof of (9).

(4) All our results are also true for arbitrary measure space (Ω, Σ, μ) .

(5) Inequality $E(t, f) \leq \tilde{E}(t, f)$ always holds and if the measure is non-atomic, then it is possible to prove even the equality $E(t, f) = \tilde{E}(t, f)$.

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