



香港中文大學  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# Chapter 11

# Continuous-Valued Channels

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# Preamble

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- A [waveform channel](#) is one such that transmission is in continuous time.
- At the physical layer, we need to deal with channels such that the values taken are continuous and transmission is in continuous time.



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# 11.1 Discrete-Time Channel

**Definition 11.1 (Continuous Channel I)** Let  $f(y|x)$  be a conditional pdf defined for all  $x$ , where

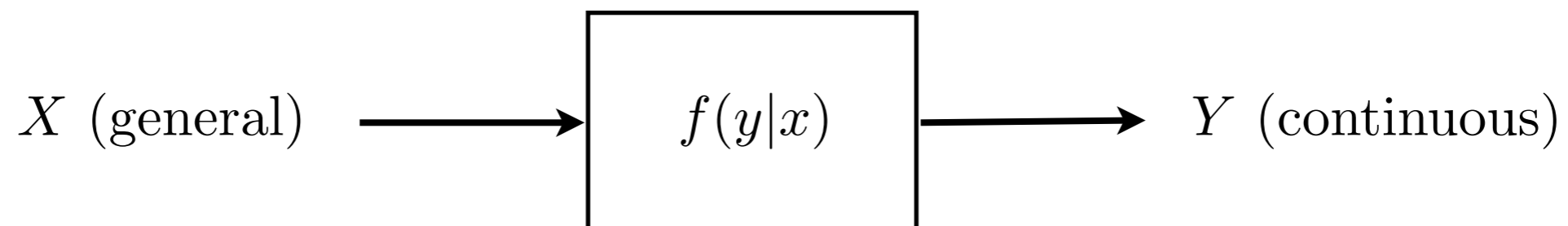
$$-\int_{\mathcal{S}_Y(x)} f(y|x) \log f(y|x) dy < \infty$$

for all  $x$ . A (discrete-time) continuous channel  $f(y|x)$  is a system with input random variable  $X$  and output random variable  $Y$  such that  $Y$  is related to  $X$  through  $f(y|x)$ .

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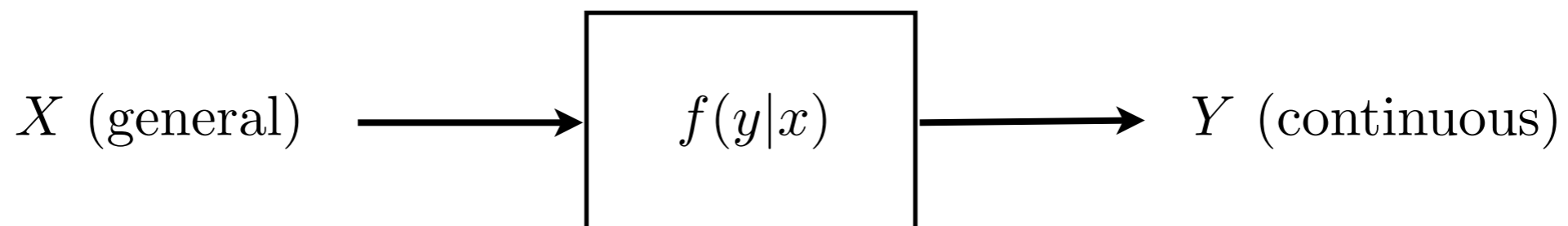


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**Remark** The integral in Definition 11.1 is precisely the conditional differential entropy  $h(Y|X = x)$ , which is required to be finite.

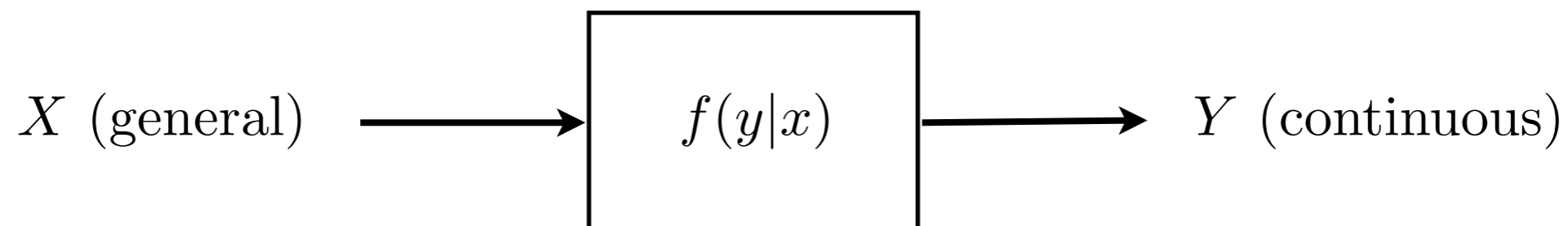


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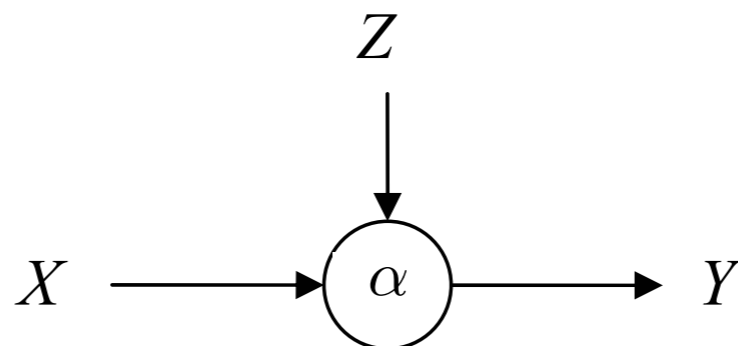


**Definition 11.2 (Continuous Channel II)** Let  $\alpha : \mathfrak{R} \times \mathfrak{R} \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$ , and  $Z$  be a real random variable, called the noise variable. A (discrete-time) continuous channel  $(\alpha, Z)$  is a system with a real input and a real output. For any input random variable  $X$ , the **noise random variable  $Z$  is independent of  $X$** , and the output random variable  $Y$  is given by

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**Definition 11.3** Two continuous channels  $f(y|x)$  and  $(\alpha, Z)$  are equivalent if for every input distribution  $F(x)$ ,

$$\Pr\{X \leq x, \alpha(X, Z) \leq y\} = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{Y|X}(v|u) dv dF_X(u)$$

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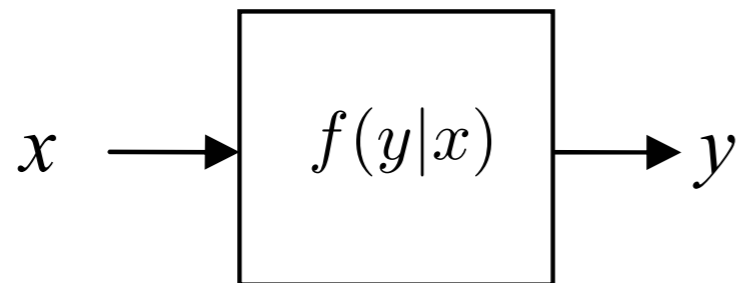
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$$F_{XY}(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$$

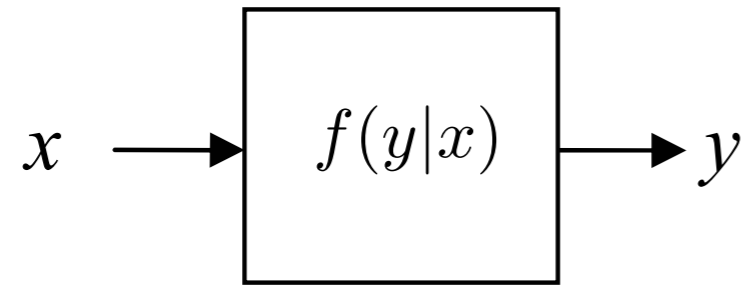


## Definition 11.1

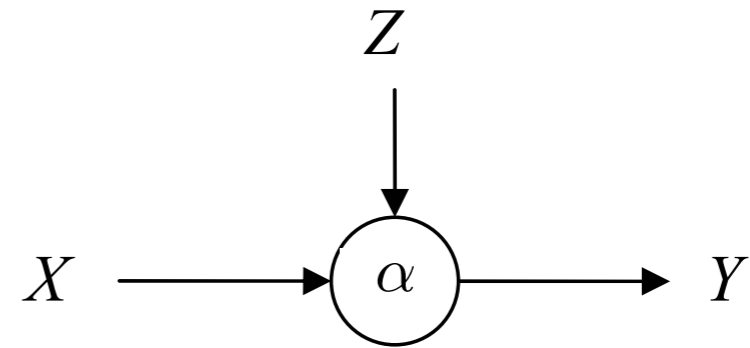




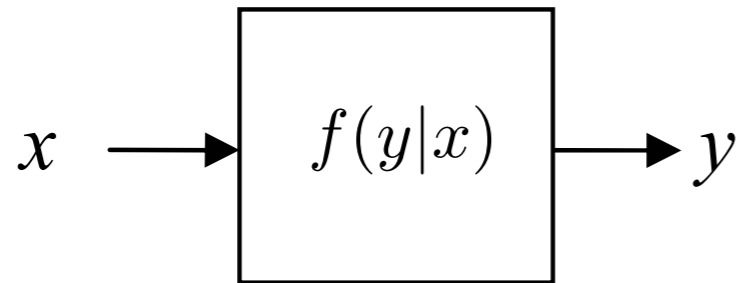
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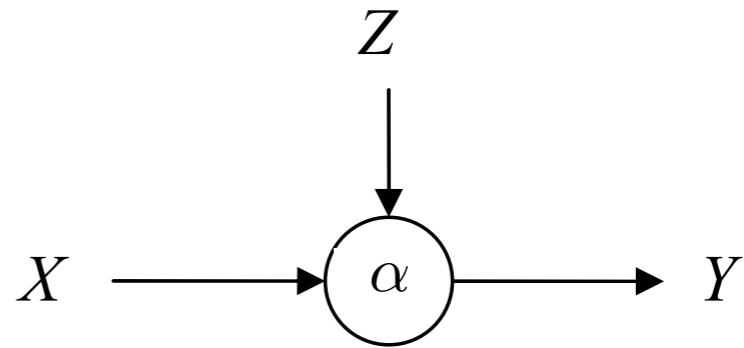
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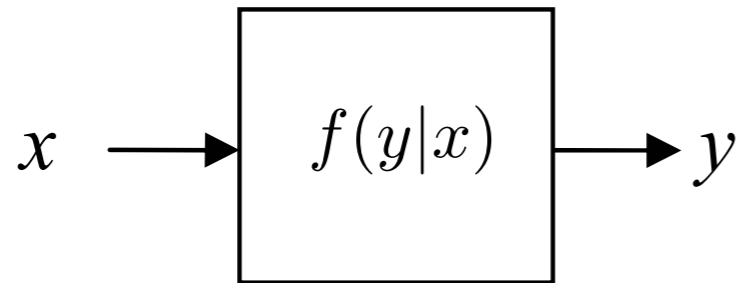


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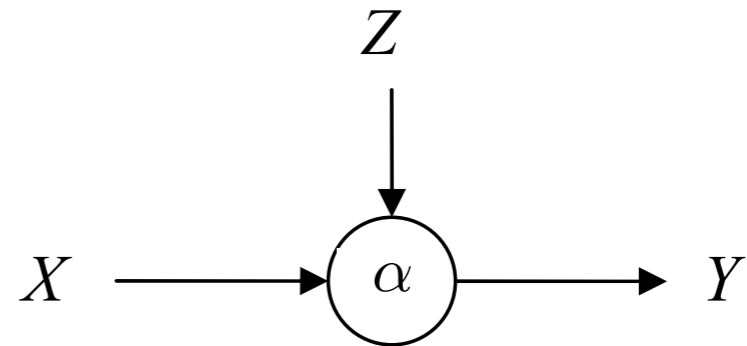


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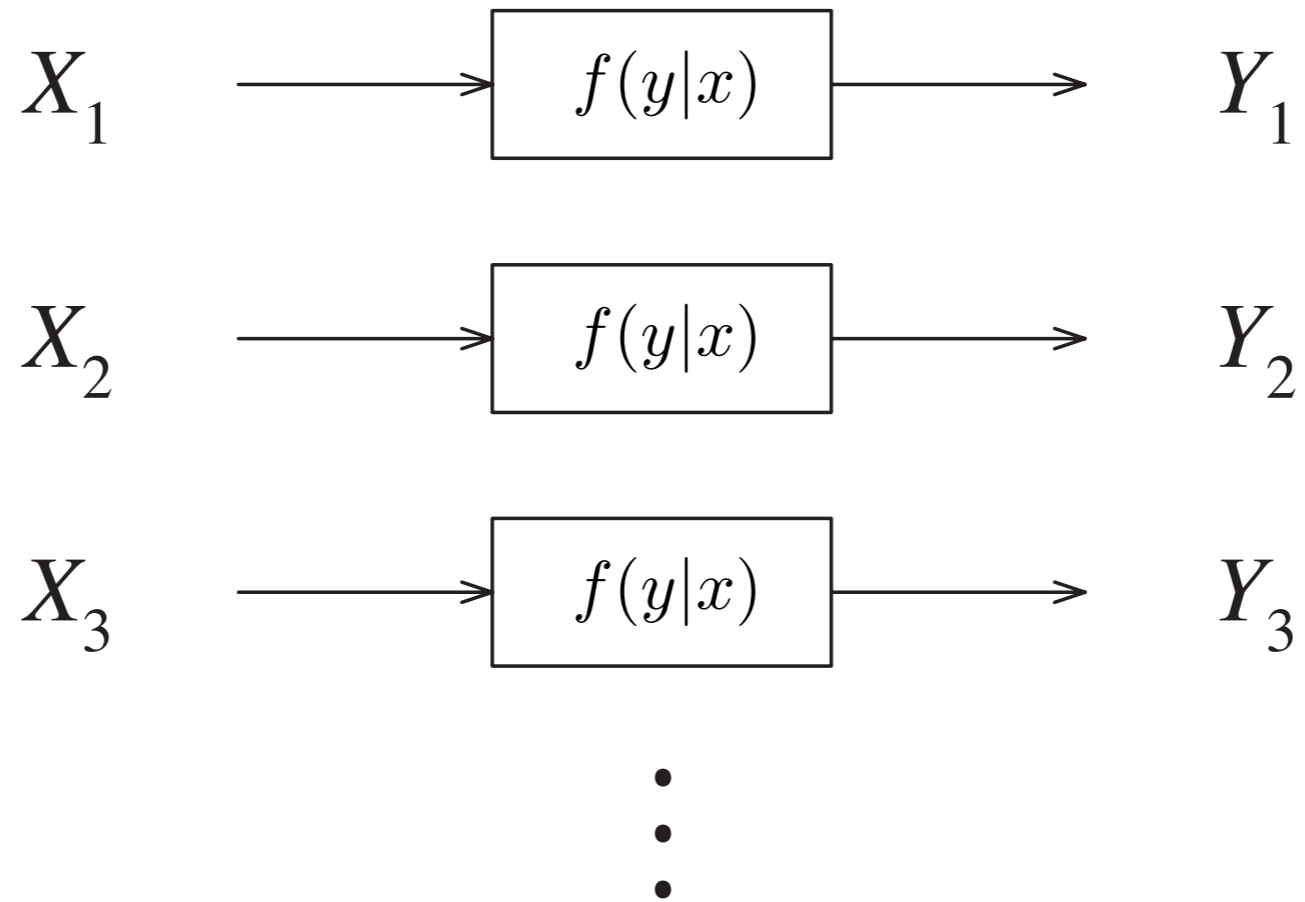
### Definition 11.2



- Definition 11.2 is more general than Definition 11.1 because the former does not require the existence of  $f(y|x)$ .
- We confine our discussion to channels defined by Definition 11.1.

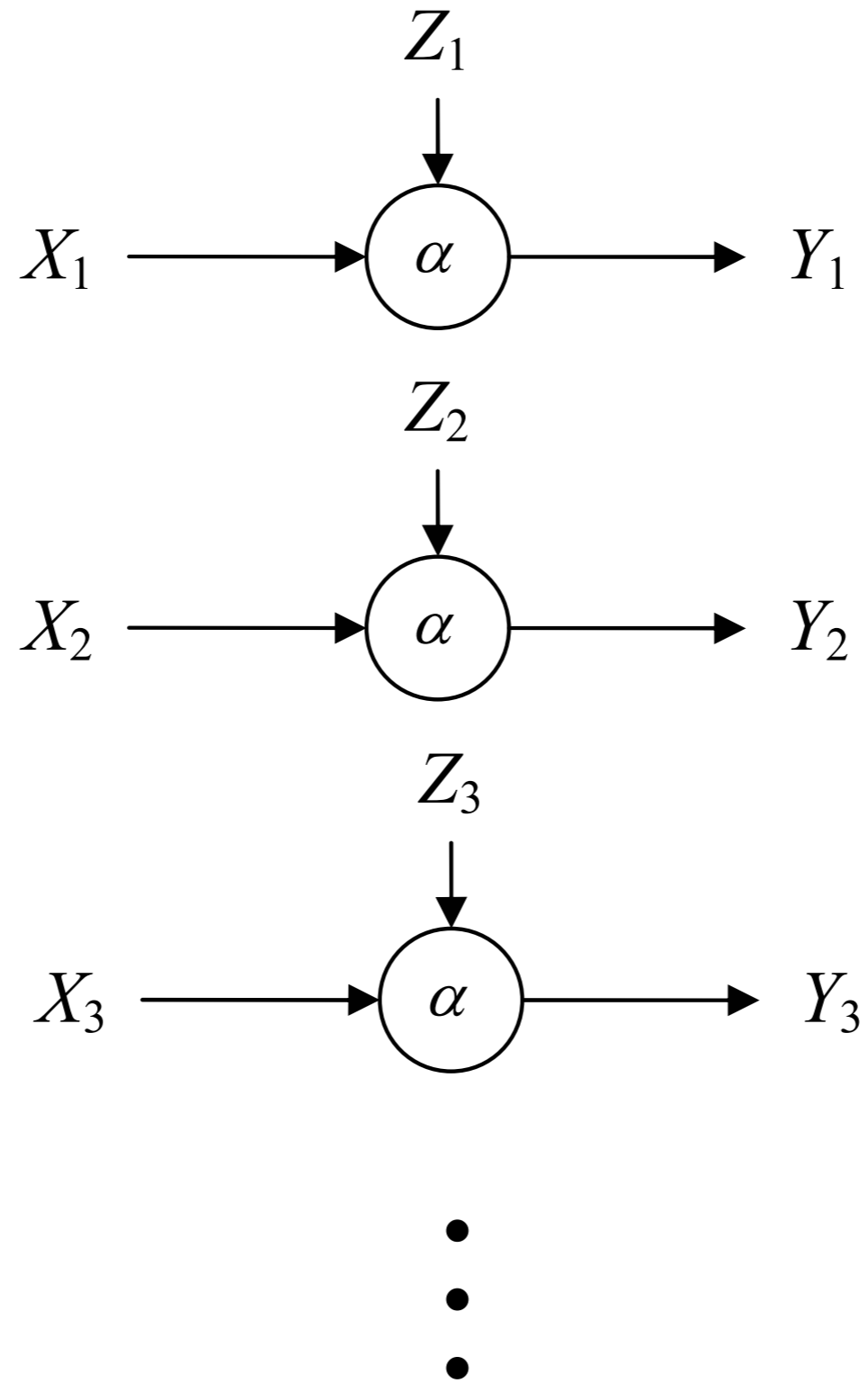
**Definition 11.4 (CMC I)** A continuous memoryless channel (CMC)  $f(y|x)$  is a sequence of replicates of a generic continuous channel  $f(y|x)$ . These continuous channels are indexed by a discrete-time index  $i$ , where  $i \geq 1$ , with the  $i$ th channel being available for transmission at time  $i$ . Transmission through a channel is assumed to be instantaneous. Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  be respectively the input and the output of the CMC at time  $i$ , and let  $T_{i-}$  denote all the random variables that are generated in the system before  $X_i$ . The Markov chain  $T_{i-} \rightarrow X_i \rightarrow Y_i$  holds, and

$$\Pr\{X_i \leq x, Y_i \leq y\} = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{Y|X}(v|u) dv dF_{X_i}(u).$$



**Definition 11.5 (CMC II)** A continuous memoryless channel  $(\alpha, Z)$  is a sequence of replicates of a generic continuous channel  $(\alpha, Z)$ . These continuous channels are indexed by a discrete-time index  $i$ , where  $i \geq 1$ , with the  $i$ th channel being available for transmission at time  $i$ . Transmission through a channel is assumed to be instantaneous. Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  be respectively the input and the output of the CMC at time  $i$ , and let  $T_{i-}$  denote all the random variables that are generated in the system before  $X_i$ . The noise variable  $Z_i$  for the transmission at time  $i$  is a copy of the generic noise variable  $Z$ , and is independent of  $(X_i, T_{i-})$ . The output of the CMC at time  $i$  is given by

$$Y_i = \alpha(X_i, Z_i).$$



**Definition 11.6** Let  $\kappa$  be a real function. An average input constraint  $(\kappa, P)$  for a CMC is the requirement that for any codeword  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  transmitted over the channel,

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**Definition 11.7** The capacity of a continuous memoryless channel  $f(y|x)$  with input constraint  $(\kappa, P)$  is defined as

$$C(P) = \sup_{F(x): E\kappa(X) \leq P} I(X; Y).$$

**Theorem 11.8**  $C(P)$  is non-decreasing, concave, and left-continuous.

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2. This property of  $C(P)$  is not used in this chapter.

**Theorem 11.8**

$$C(P) = \sup_{F(x): E\kappa(X) \leq P} I(X; Y) \quad (1)$$

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$$E\kappa(X_j) \leq P_j$$

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is non-decreasing, concave, and left-continuous.

**Proof** $C(P)$  is non-decreasing

Note that in (1), the supremum is taken over a larger set for a larger  $P$ .

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