

Teoria Ergódica Diferenciável

lecture 4: Weak-* topology on measures

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σ -algebras and measures (reminder)

DEFINITION: Let M be a set. A σ -algebra of subsets of X is a Boolean algebra $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$ such that for any countable family $A_1, \dots, A_n, \dots \in \mathfrak{A}$ the union $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$ is also an element of \mathfrak{A} .

REMARK: We define the operation of addition on the set $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ in such a way that $x + \infty = \infty$ and $\infty + \infty = \infty$. On finite numbers the addition is defined as usually.

DEFINITION: A function $\mu : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ is called **finitely additive** if for all non-intersecting $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$, $\mu(A \amalg B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B)$. The sign \amalg denotes union of non-intersecting sets. μ is called **σ -additive** if $\mu(\amalg_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum \mu(A_i)$ for any pairwise disjoint countable family of subsets $A_i \in \mathfrak{A}$.

DEFINITION: A **measure** in a σ -algebra $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$ is a σ -additive function $\mu : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$.

EXAMPLE: Let X be a topological space. The **Borel σ -algebra** is a smallest σ -algebra $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$ containing all open subsets. **Borel measure** is a measure on Borel σ -algebra.

Measurable maps and measurable functions (reminder)

DEFINITION: Let X, Y be sets equipped with σ -algebras $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$ and $\mathfrak{B} \subset 2^Y$. We say that a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is **compatible with the σ -algebra**, or **measurable**, if $f^{-1}(B) \in \mathfrak{A}$ for all $B \in \mathfrak{B}$.

REMARK: This is similar to the definition of continuity. In fact, **any continuous map of topological spaces is compatible with Borel σ -algebras**.

DEFINITION: Let X be a space with σ -algebra $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$. A function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called **measurable** if f is compatible with the Borel σ -algebra on \mathbb{R} , that is, if the preimage of any Borel set $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ belongs to \mathfrak{A} .

DEFINITION: Let X, Y be sets equipped with σ -algebras $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^X$ and $\mathfrak{B} \subset 2^Y$, $f : X \rightarrow Y$ a measurable map. Let μ be a measure on X . Consider the function $f_*\mu$ mapping $B \in \mathfrak{B}$ to $\mu(f^{-1}(B))$.

EXERCISE: Prove that $f_*\mu$ is a measure on Y .

DEFINITION: The measure $f_*\mu$ is called **the pushforward measure**, or **pushforward** of μ .

Ergodic measures (reminder)

DEFINITION: Let Γ be a group acting on a measured space (M, μ) and preserving its σ -algebra. We say that the Γ -action is **ergodic** if for each Γ -invariant, measurable set $U \subset M$, either $\mu(U) = 0$ or $\mu(M \setminus U) = 0$. In this case μ is called **an ergodic measure**.

THEOREM: Let M be a second countable topological space, and μ a Borel measure on M . Let Γ be a group acting on M by homeomorphisms. Suppose that any non-empty open subset of M has positive measure, and action of Γ is ergodic. Then **for almost all $x \in M$, the orbit $\Gamma \cdot x$ is dense in M .**

THEOREM: Let (M, μ) be a space with finite measure, and Γ a group acting on M and preserving the measure. Then the following are equivalent.

(a) The action of Γ is ergodic.

(b) For each integrable, Γ -invariant function $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, f is constant almost everywhere.

(c) For each square integrable, Γ -invariant function $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, f is constant almost everywhere.

Radon-Nikodym theorem

DEFINITION: Let S be a space equipped with a σ -algebra, and μ, ν two measures on this σ -algebra. We say that ν is **absolutely continuous** with respect to μ if for each measurable set A , $\mu(A) = 0$ implies $\nu(A) = 0$. This relation is denoted $\nu \ll \mu$; clearly, it defines a partial order on measures.

EXERCISE: Find an example of a Borel measure on \mathbb{R}^n which is **not absolutely continuous with respect to the usual Lebesgue measure**.

EXERCISE: Find an infinite family \mathfrak{M} of measures on \mathbb{R}^n such that **each measure $\mu \in \mathfrak{M}$ is not absolutely continuous with respect to each other $\mu' \in \mathfrak{M}$** .

EXERCISE: Let μ be a measure on a space M with σ -algebra, and $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ an integrable function. Define a measure $f\mu$ by $A \rightarrow \int_A f\mu$. **Prove that $f\mu \ll \mu$** .

THEOREM: (Radon-Nikodym) Let μ, ν be two measures on a space S with a σ -algebra, satisfying $\mu(S) < \infty$, $\nu(S) < \infty$ and $\nu \ll \mu$. **Then there exists an integrable function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ such that $\nu = f\mu$** .

Proof: I will distribute it at certain point. ■

Convex cones and extremal rays

DEFINITION: Let V be a vector space over \mathbb{R} , and $K \subset V$ a subset. We say that K is **convex** if for all $x, y \in K$, the interval $\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y$, $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ lies in K . We say that K is a **convex cone** if it is convex and for all $\lambda > 0$, the homothety map $x \rightarrow \lambda x$ preserves K .

EXAMPLE: Let M be a space equipped with a σ -algebra $\mathfrak{A} \subset 2^M$, and V the space formally generated by all $X \in \mathfrak{A}$. Denote by \mathcal{S} subspace in V^* generated by all finite measures. This space is called **the space of finite signed measures**. **The measures constitute a convex cone in \mathcal{S} .**

DEFINITION: Extreme point of a convex set K is a point $x \in K$ such that for any $a, b \in K$ and any $t \in [0, 1]$, $ta + (1 - t)b = x$ implies $a = b = x$. **Extremal ray** of a convex cone K is a non-zero vector x such that for any $a, b \in K$ and $t_1, t_2 > 0$, a decomposition $x = t_1 a + t_2 b$ implies that a, b are proportional to x .

DEFINITION: Convex hull of a set $X \subset V$ is the smallest convex set containing X .

EXAMPLE: Let V be a vector space, and x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots linearly independent vectors. **Simplex** is the convex hull of $\{x_i\}$. Its extremal points are $\{x_i\}$ **(prove it)**.

Ergodic measures as extremal rays (1)

Lemma 1: Let (M, μ) be a measured space, and Γ a group which acts ergodically on M . Consider a measure ν on M which is Γ -invariant and satisfies $\nu \ll \mu$. **Then** $\nu = \text{const} \cdot \mu$.

Proof: Radon-Nikodym gives $\nu = f\mu$. The function $f = \frac{\nu}{\mu}$ is Γ -invariant, because both ν and μ are Γ -invariant. Then $f = \text{const}$ almost everywhere. ■

Lemma 2: Let μ_1, μ_2 be measures, $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{>0}$, and $\mu := t_1\mu_1 + t_2\mu_2$. **Then** $\mu_1 \ll \mu$.

Proof: $\mu_1(U) \leq t_1^{-1}\mu(U)$, hence $\mu_1(U) = 0$ whenever $\mu(U) = 0$. ■

Ergodic measures as extremal rays (2)

THEOREM: Let (M, μ) be a space equipped with a σ -algebra and a group Γ acting on M and preserving the σ -algebra, and \mathcal{M} the cone of finite invariant measures on M . Consider a finite, Γ -invariant measure on M . Then the following are equivalent.

(a) $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ lies in the extremal ray of \mathcal{M}

(b) μ is ergodic.

(a) implies (b): Let U be an Γ -invariant measurable subset. Then $\mu = \mu|_U + \mu|_{M \setminus U}$, and one of these two measures must vanish, because μ is extremal.

(b) implies (a): Let $\mu = \mu_1 + \mu_2$ be a decomposition of the measure μ onto a sum of two invariant measures. Then $\mu \gg \mu_1$ and $\mu \gg \mu_2$ (Lemma 2), hence μ is proportional to μ_1 and μ_2 (Lemma 1). ■

REMARK: A probability measure μ lies on an extremal ray if and only if it is extreme as a point in the convex set of all probability measures (prove it).

Existence of ergodic measures: strategy

To prove existence of ergodic measures, we shall use the following strategy:

1. Define topology on the space \mathcal{M} of finite measures ("measure topology" or "weak-* topology") such that the space of probability measures is compact.
2. Prove Krein-Milman theorem

THEOREM: (Krein-Milman) Let $K \subset V$ be a compact, convex subset in a locally convex topological vector space. **Then K is the closure of the convex hull of the set of its extreme points.**

This theorem implies that any Γ -invariant finite measure is a limit of finite sums of ergodic measures.

EXERCISE: Find all ergodic measures on a cube with trivial group action and the standard measure.

Weak-* topology

DEFINITION: Let M be a topological space, and $C_c^0(M)$ the space of continuous function with compact support. Any finite Borel measure μ defines a functional $C_c^0(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ mapping f to $\int_M f \mu$. We say that a sequence $\{\mu_i\}$ of measures **converges in weak-* topology** (or **in measure topology**) to μ if

$$\lim_i \int_M f \mu_i = \int_M f \mu$$

for all $f \in C_c^0(M)$. **The base of open sets of weak-* topology** is given by $U_{f,]a,b[}$ where $]a,b[\subset \mathbb{R}$ is an interval, and $U_{f,]a,b[}$ is the set of all measures μ such that $a < \int_M f \mu < b$.

Tychonoff topology

DEFINITION: Let $\{X_\alpha\}$ be a family of topological spaces, parametrized by $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}$. **Product topology**, or **Tychonoff topology** on the product $\prod_\alpha X_\alpha$ is topology where the open sets are generated by unions and finite intersections of $\pi_\alpha^{-1}(U)$, where $\pi_\alpha : \prod_\alpha X_\alpha$ is a projection to the X_α -component, and $U \subset X_\alpha$ is an open set.

REMARK: Tychonoff topology is also called **topology of pointwise convergence**, because the points of $\prod_\alpha X_\alpha$ can be considered as maps from the set of indices \mathcal{I} to the corresponding X_α , and a sequence of such maps converges if and only if it converges for each $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}$.

REMARK: Consider a finite measure as an element in the product of $C_c^0(M)$ copies of \mathbb{R} , that is, as a continuous map from $C_c^0(M)$ to \mathbb{R} . **Then the weak-* topology is induced by the Tychonoff topology on this product.**

Measures as functionals on $C_c^0(M)$

DEFINITION: Locally finite measure is a Borel measure which is finite on a certain base of open sets.

DEFINITION: Uniform topology on functions is induced by the metric $d(f, g) = \sup |f - g|$.

Theorem (*): Let M be a metrizable, locally compact topological vector space, and $C_c^0(M)^*$ the space of functionals continuous in uniform topology. **Then locally finite measures can be characterized as elements $\mu \in C_c^0(M)^*$ which are non-negative on all non-negative functions.**

Proof: Clearly, all measures give such functionals. Conversely, consider a functional $\mu \in C_c^0(M)^*$ which is non-negative on all non-negative functions. Given a closed set $K \subset M$, the characteristic function χ_K can be obtained as a monotonously decreasing limit of continuous functions f_i which are equal to 1 on K (**prove it**). Define $\mu(K) := \lim_i \mu(f_i)$; this limit is well defined because the sequence $\mu(f_i)$ is monotonous. This gives an additive Borel measure on M (**prove it**). ■

Space of measures and Tychonoff topology

REMARK: (Tychonoff theorem)

A product of any number of compact spaces is compact.

This theorem is hard and its proof is notoriously counter-intuitive. However, from Tychonoff the following theorem follows immediately.

THEOREM: Let M be a compact topological space, and \mathcal{P} the space of probability measures on M equipped with the measure topology. **Then \mathcal{P} is compact.**

Proof. Step 1: For any probability measure on M , and any $f \in C_c^0(M)$, one has $\min(f) \leq \int_M f \mu \leq \max(f)$. Therefore, μ can be considered as an element of the product $\prod_{f \in C_c^0(M)} [\min(f), \max(f)]$ of closed intervals indexed by $f \in C_c^0(M)$, and **Tychonoff topology on this product induces the weak-* topology.**

Step 2: A closed subset of a compact set is again compact, hence **it suffices to show that all limit points of $\mathcal{P} \subset \prod_{f \in C_c^0(M)} [\min(f), \max(f)]$ are probability measures.** This is implied by Theorem (*). The limit measure satisfies $\mu(M) = 1$ because the constant function $f = 1$ has compact support, hence $\lim \int_M \mu_i = \int_M \mu$ whenever $\lim_i \mu_i = \mu$. ■

The space $C_c^0(M)$ is second countable (an exercise)

DEFINITION: Let $C \in \mathbb{R}^{>0}$. A function $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called **C -Lipschitz** if $|f(x) - f(y)| < Cd(x, y)$, and **Lipschitz** if it is C -Lipschitz for some $C > 0$.

EXERCISE: Let M be a second countable metrizable topological space. Prove that the space of all Lipschitz maps with uniform topology has a countable dense subset.

EXERCISE: Let M be a second countable metrizable topological space. Prove that $C_c^0(M)$ has a countable dense subset.

The space of Lipschitz functions is second countable

DEFINITION: An ε -net in a metric space M is a subset $Z \subset M$ such that any $m \in M$ lies in an ε -ball with center in Z .

REMARK: A metric space is compact **if and only if it has a finite ε -net for each $\varepsilon > 0$ (prove it)**.

Claim 1: Let M be a compact metrizable topological space. **Then the space of C -Lipschitz functions has a countable dense subset.**

Proof. Step 1: Let Z be a finite ε/C -net in M_0 . Then for any C -Lipschitz functions f, g , one has

$$\left| \sup_{m \in M} |f - g| - \sup_{z \in Z} |f - g| \right| < 2\varepsilon,$$

because for each $m \in M$ there exists $m' \in Z$ such that $d(m, m') < \varepsilon/C$, and then $|f(m) - f(m')| < C\varepsilon/C = \varepsilon$, giving $|f(m) - g(m)| < |f(m') - g(m')| + 2\varepsilon$.

The space of Lipschitz functions is second countable

Proof. Step 1: Let Z be a finite ε/C -net in M_0 . Then for any C -Lipschitz functions f, g ,

$$\left| \sup_{m \in M} |f - g| - \sup_{z \in Z} |f - g| \right| < 2\varepsilon.$$

Step 2: Let R_ε be the set of all functions on Z with values in \mathbb{Q} . For each $\varphi \in R_\varepsilon$ denote by U_φ an open set of all C -Lipschitz functions f satisfying $\max_{z \in Z} |f(z) - \varphi(z)| < \varepsilon$. Then for all $f, g \in U_\varphi$, one has $\max_{z \in Z} |f(z) - g(z)| < 2\varepsilon$, and by Step 1 this gives $\sup_{m \in M} |f - g| < 4\varepsilon$.

Step 3: The set of all such U_φ is countable; choosing a function f_φ in each non-empty U_φ , we use $\sup_{m \in M} |f - g| < 4\varepsilon$ to see that $\{f_\varphi\}$ is a countable 4ε -net in the space of C -Lipschitz functions. ■

COROLLARY: Let M be a compact metrizable topological space. **Then $C_c^0(M)$ has a countable dense subset.**

Proof: Using Claim 1, we see that it is sufficient to show that Lipschitz functions are dense in the set of all continuous functions; this follows from the Stone-Weierstrass theorem. ■

Tychonoff theorem for countable families

REMARK: Let $\{F_i\}$ be a countable, dense set in $C^0(M)$. Then any measure μ is determined by $\int_M F_i \mu$, and **weak-* topology is topology of pointwise convergence on F_i** . This implies that **compactness of the space of measures is implied by the compactness of the product $\prod_{F_i} [\min(F_i), \max(F_i)]$, which is countable.**

THEOREM: (Countable Tychonoff theorem)

A countable product of metrizable compacts is compact.

Proof: Let $\{M_i\}$ be a countable family of metrizable compacts. We need to show that the space of sequences $\{a_i \in M_i\}$ with topology of pointwise convergence is compact. Take a sequence $\{a_i(j)\}$ of such sequences, and replace it by a subsequence $\{a'_i(j) \in M_i\}$ where $a_1(i)$ converges. Let $b_1 := \lim a'_i(1)$. Replace this sequence by a subsequence $\{a''_i(j) \in M_i\}$ where $a_2(i)$ converges. Put $b_2 = \lim_i a''_i(2)$ and so on. Then $\{b_i\}$ is a limit point of our original sequence $\{a_i(j)\}$. By Heine-Borel, compactness for second countable spaces is equivalent to sequential compactness, hence $\prod_i M_i$ is compact. ■