

**Chapter 6**  
**COMPLEX MEASURES**  
**Absolute Continuity and Representation Theorems**

**Introduction**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a measure space and let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a complex  $\mu$ -integrable function. Let us consider the set function  $\nu$  given by:

$$\nu(A) = \int_A f d\mu, \quad A \in \mathcal{F} \quad (*)$$

Such set function has the following properties:

(1) ( $\sigma$ -additivity): For any sequence  $(A_n)$  of pairwise disjoint sets  $A_n$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  we have  $\nu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) = \sum_n \nu(A_n)$

(2) (absolute continuity): Let  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $\mu(A) = 0$  then  $\nu(A) = 0$ , because  $f \cdot I_A = 0$   $\mu$ -a.e., we say that  $\nu$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . This relation will be denoted by  $\nu \ll \mu$

(3). If  $f$  is real valued let us write  $f = f^+ - f^-$  then  $\nu(A) = \int_A f d\mu = \int_A f^+ d\mu - \int_A f^- d\mu$  so we have  $\nu(A) = \nu_1(A) - \nu_2(A)$ , with  $\nu_1(A) = \int_A f^+ d\mu$  and  $\nu_2(A) = \int_A f^- d\mu$  positive and  $\sigma$ -additive.

In this chapter we consider complex valued  $\sigma$ -additive set functions  $\lambda : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and we will show successively:

(a)  $\lambda$  is of bounded variation:

more precisely there is a positive finite measure  $|\lambda|$  on  $\mathcal{F}$  such that

$$|\lambda(E)| \leq |\lambda|(E), \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$$

$|\lambda|$  is called the total variation of  $\lambda$ .

(b) if  $\lambda$  is real valued then it can be written as  $\lambda = \lambda^+ - \lambda^-$

where  $\lambda^+, \lambda^-$  are finite positive measures.

This is called the Jordan decomposition.

(c)  $\lambda$  has the integral form (\*) for some complex  $\mu$ -integrable function  $f$  provided  $\lambda \ll \mu$  for some  $\sigma$ -finite positive measure  $\mu$ .

This is the Radon-Nicodym Theorem.

**1. Complex Measures property**

**Definition 1.1**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space and  $\lambda : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  a complex set function.

We say that  $\lambda$  is a complex measure if for every sequence  $(A_n)$  of pairwise disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{F}$  we have  $\lambda\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) = \sum_n \lambda(A_n)$ .

**Remark** (1) Let  $\sum_n z_n = M$  be a convergent series of real or complex numbers.

We say that the series is unconditionally convergent to  $M$  if for any permutation (i.e bijection)  $\sigma : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , the series  $\sum_n z_{\sigma(n)}$  converges to  $M$ . For real or complex numbers series unconditional convergence is equivalent to absolute convergence by **Riemann series theorem**.

(2) Let  $\sigma : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be a permutation of  $\mathbb{N}$  then  $\bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n A_{\sigma(n)} = A$  and the sets  $(A_{\sigma(n)})$  are pairwise disjoint so  $\lambda(A) = \sum_n \lambda(A_n) = \sum_n \lambda(A_{\sigma(n)})$ , since  $\sigma$  is arbitrary this implies that the series  $\sum_n \lambda(A_n)$  is unconditionally convergent and then absolutely convergent.

(3) If  $\lambda$  is a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  then one can write  $\lambda = \text{Re}(\lambda) + i \text{Im}(\lambda)$ , where it is easy to see that  $\text{Re}(\lambda)$  and  $\text{Im}(\lambda)$  are real  $\sigma$ -additive set functions on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ . This simple observation leads to the following definition:

**Definition 1.2**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space and  $\mu : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a real set function. We say that  $\mu$  is a real measure if for every sequence  $(A_n)$  of pairwise disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{F}$  we have  $\mu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) = \sum_n \mu(A_n)$ .

Let  $\sigma : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be a permutation of  $\mathbb{N}$  then  $\bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n A_{\sigma(n)} = A$  and the sets  $(A_{\sigma(n)})$  are pairwise disjoint so  $\mu(A) = \sum_n \mu(A_n) = \sum_n \mu(A_{\sigma(n)})$ , since  $\sigma$  is arbitrary this implies that the series  $\sum_n \mu(A_n)$  is unconditionally convergent and then absolutely convergent (see **Remark** (1))

**2. Total variation of a complex measure**

Let  $\lambda$  be a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$   
Among all positive measures  $\mu$  on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  satisfying  
 $|\lambda(E)| \leq \mu(E), \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$ , there one and only one called the Total variation of  $\lambda$  and given by the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.1** If  $\lambda$  is a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$   
let us define the positive set function  $|\lambda| : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  by:

$$E \in \mathcal{F}, |\lambda|(E) = \sup \left\{ \sum_n |\lambda(E_n)|, (E_n) \text{ partition of } E \text{ in } \mathcal{F} \right\}$$

the supremum being taken over all partitions  $(E_n)$  of  $E$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then:  
 $|\lambda|$  is a positive bounded measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  satisfying

$$|\lambda(E)| \leq |\lambda|(E), \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$$

moreover  $|\lambda|$  is the smallest positive bounded measure with this property.

**Proof.** Let  $E$  be a set in  $\mathcal{F}$

If  $(E_n)$  is a sequence of pairwise disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{F}$  we have to prove that:

$$|\lambda|\left(\bigcup_n E_n\right) = \sum_n |\lambda|(E_n)$$

let us put  $E = \bigcup_n E_n$  and take a partition  $(A_m)$  of  $E$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  then we have:

$(A_m \cap E_n)_{n \geq 1}$  is a partition of  $A_m$

$(A_m \cap E_n)_{m \geq 1}$  is a partition of  $E_n$

so  $|\lambda(A_m)| = \left| \sum_n \lambda(A_m \cap E_n) \right| \leq \sum_n |\lambda(A_m \cap E_n)|, \forall m \geq 1$  and then

$$\sum_m |\lambda(A_m)| \leq \sum_m \sum_n |\lambda(A_m \cap E_n)| = \sum_n \sum_m |\lambda(A_m \cap E_n)|$$

but we have from the definition of  $|\lambda|$   $\sum_m |\lambda(A_m \cap E_n)| \leq |\lambda|(E_n) \quad \forall n \geq 1$   
therefore we deduce that  $\sum_m |\lambda(A_m)| \leq \sum_n |\lambda|(E_n)$  inequality valid for every  
partition  $(A_m)$  of  $E$  and implies  $|\lambda|(E) \leq \sum_n |\lambda|(E_n)$  by the definition of  $|\lambda|(E)$ .

It remains to prove that  $\sum_n |\lambda|(E_n) \leq |\lambda|(E)$ , to do this we use characteristic  
property of the supremum: for each  $n \geq 1$  let  $a_n > 0$  be any real number  
such that  $a_n < |\lambda|(E_n)$ , then from the definition of  $|\lambda|(E_n)$  there is a partition  
 $(A_{mn})_{m \geq 1}$  of  $E_n$  with  $a_n < \sum_m |\lambda(A_{mn})|$ , but we have  $E = \bigcup_n E_n = \bigcup_{mn} A_{mn}$   
and  $\sum_n a_n < \sum_n \sum_m |\lambda(A_{mn})|$ . Since  $(A_{mn})_{m,n \geq 1}$  is a partition of  $E$  we deduce  
that  $\sum_n \sum_m |\lambda(A_{mn})| \leq |\lambda|(E)$  and so  $\sum_n a_n < |\lambda|(E)$ , but this is true for all  
 $a_n > 0$  satisfying  $\sum_n a_n < \sum_n |\lambda|(E_n)$  this implies that  $\sum_n |\lambda|(E_n) \leq |\lambda|(E)$ . The  
proof of the boundedness of  $|\lambda|$  is left to the reader. ■

**Theorem 2.2** If  $\lambda$  is a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$   
For any increasing or decreasing sequence  $(A_n)$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  we have

$$\lambda\left(\lim_n A_n\right) = \lim_n \lambda(A_n)$$

where  $\lim_n A_n$  stands for  $\bigcup_n A_n$  in the increasing case  
and for  $\bigcap_n A_n$  in the decreasing one.

**Proof.**

use the  $\sigma$ -additivity of  $\lambda$  and the fact that  $|\lambda(E)| < \infty, \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$ . ■

**Theorem 2.3**

Let  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$  be the family of all complex measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$

let  $\lambda, \nu$  be in  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$  and let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , then define:

$$\lambda + \nu, \quad \alpha \cdot \nu, \quad \|\lambda\|, \text{ by the following recipe}$$

$$(\lambda + \nu)(E) = \lambda(E) + \nu(E), \quad (\alpha \cdot \nu)(E) = \alpha \cdot \nu(E), \quad E \in \mathcal{F}$$

$$\|\lambda\| = |\lambda|(X)$$

Then  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$  is a vector space on  $\mathbb{C}$ , and  $\|\lambda\|$  is a norm on  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$

Moreover  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$ , endowed with the norm  $\|\lambda\|$ , is a Banach space.

**Proof.** see any standard book on measure theory for a classical proof.e.g.[R - F] ■

### 3. Hahn-Jordan Decomposition of a Real Measure

#### Theorem 3.1 Jordan Decomposition of a Real Measure

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space and  $\mu : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a real measure (Definition 1.2)

Let us define the set functions  $\mu^+, \mu^-$  as follows: for each  $E \in \mathcal{F}$

$$\mu^+(E) = \sup \{ \mu(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}, F \subset E \}$$

$$\mu^-(E) = -\inf \{ \mu(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}, F \subset E \}$$

Then  $\mu^+, \mu^-$  are positive bounded measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  satisfying:

$$(i) \mu^+ = \frac{1}{2} (|\mu| + \mu) \quad (ii) \mu^- = \frac{1}{2} (|\mu| - \mu)$$

$$(iii) \mu = \mu^+ - \mu^- \quad \text{(Jordan Decomposition)}$$

$$(iv) |\mu| = \mu^+ + \mu^-$$

#### Proof

First it is enough to prove that  $\mu^+$  is a positive bounded measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  because  $\mu^- = (-\mu)^+$ .

From the definition of the total variation of  $\mu$  we can see that for  $E \in \mathcal{F}$

$$\forall F \in \mathcal{F}, F \subset E \dots \mu(F) \leq |\mu(F)| \leq |\mu|(F) \leq |\mu|(E) \leq |\mu|(X) < \infty$$

so we deduce that  $\mu^+$  is positive bounded;

it remains to prove that  $\mu^+$  is  $\sigma$ -additive

Let  $(E_n)$  be pairwise disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{F}$ , we have to prove:

$$\mu^+ \left( \bigcup_n E_n \right) = \sum_n \mu^+(E_n)$$

Since  $\forall n \geq 1 \quad \mu^+(E_n) < \infty$ , we have from the definition of  $\mu^+$  :

let  $\epsilon > 0$  then for each  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\exists F_n \subset E_n$  such that  $\mu^+(E_n) - \frac{\epsilon}{2^n} < \mu(F_n)$

summing over  $n$  we get  $\sum_n \mu^+(E_n) - \epsilon < \sum_n \mu(F_n) = \mu \left( \bigcup_n F_n \right)$

but  $\bigcup_n F_n \subset \bigcup_n E_n \implies \mu \left( \bigcup_n F_n \right) \leq \mu^+ \left( \bigcup_n E_n \right)$ , therefore  $\sum_n \mu^+(E_n) - \epsilon < \mu^+ \left( \bigcup_n E_n \right)$

since  $\epsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, we obtain  $\sum_n \mu^+(E_n) \leq \mu^+ \left( \bigcup_n E_n \right)$  after making  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

On the other hand let  $F \subset \bigcup_n E_n \dots F \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $F = \bigcup_n (E_n \cap F)$  and

$$\mu(F) = \sum_n \mu(E_n \cap F) \leq \sum_n \mu^+(E_n) \quad \text{because } E_n \cap F \subset E_n$$

since  $F \subset \bigcup_n E_n \dots$  is arbitrary in  $\mathcal{F}$ , we deduce that  $\mu^+ \left( \bigcup_n E_n \right) \leq \sum_n \mu^+(E_n)$

so  $\mu^+$  is a positive measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ .

We have  $(i) = (ii) - (iii)$  and  $(iv) = (ii) + (iii)$

it is enough to prove  $(i)$  because  $(ii)$  follows with  $\mu^- = (-\mu)^+$

then we get  $(iii)$  with  $(ii) - (i)$  and  $(iv)$  with  $(ii) + (iii)$ .

So let us prove  $(i)$  that is  $\mu^+ = \frac{1}{2} (|\mu| + \mu)$  :

fix  $\epsilon > 0$  then from the definition of the total variation  $|\mu|$

there is a partition  $(E_n)$  of  $E$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  such that  $(*) \quad |\mu|(E) - \epsilon < \sum_n |\mu(E_n)|$ .

Let us put  $L = \{l : \mu(E_l) \geq 0\}$  and  $K = \{k : \mu(E_k) < 0\}$ , we get:

$$\sum_n |\mu(E_n)| = \sum_L \mu(E_l) - \sum_K \mu(E_k)$$

now define  $F = \bigcup_L E_l$  and  $G = \bigcup_K E_k$ , so by the  $\sigma$ -additivity of  $\mu$  we deduce

$$\mu(F) = \sum_L \mu(E_l) \text{ and } \mu(G) = \sum_K \mu(E_k), \text{ then } \sum_n |\mu(E_n)| = \mu(F) - \mu(G)$$

therefore we obtain from the inequality (\*) that

$$(2^*) |\mu|(E) - \epsilon < \sum_n |\mu(E_n)| = \mu(F) - \mu(G)$$

but since  $E = F \cup G$  we have

$$(3^*) \mu(E) = \mu(F) + \mu(G)$$

adding (2\*) + (3\*) we get:

$$|\mu|(E) + \mu(E) - \epsilon < 2\mu(F)$$

the definition of  $\mu^+$  implies  $\mu(F) \leq \mu^+(E)$ , because  $F \subset E$

finally  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E) - \epsilon) < \mu^+(E)$  with nothing depending on  $\epsilon$  apart  $\epsilon$ ,

making  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  we get  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E)) \leq \mu^+(E)$ .

This inequality cannot be strict:

indeed suppose that we have  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E)) < \mu^+(E)$ , this would imply

the existence of an  $F$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $F \subset E$  and  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E)) < \mu(F) < \mu^+(E)$

but the set function  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E))$  is a positive measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ ,

since  $F \subset E$  we should have  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(F) + \mu(F)) \leq \frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E))$

since  $\mu(F) \leq |\mu|(F)$ , we have  $\mu(F) = \frac{1}{2} (\mu(F) + \mu(F)) \leq \frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(F) + \mu(F)) \leq$

$\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E)) < \mu(F)$  which is absurd

so we deduce that  $\frac{1}{2} (|\mu|(E) + \mu(E)) = \mu^+(E)$ . ■

**Remark.**

The Jordan decomposition of a real measure  $\mu$  as difference of two positive bounded measures  $\mu = \mu^+ - \mu^-$  is not unique, since for any positive bounded measure  $\nu$  one can write  $\mu = (\mu^+ + \nu) - (\mu^- + \nu)$ .

However such decomposition is minimal in the sense that if  $\mu = \lambda - \nu$

with  $\lambda, \nu$  positive bounded measures then  $\mu^+ \leq \lambda$  and  $\mu^- \leq \nu$ ; to see this use the facts  $\mu \leq \lambda$  and  $(-\mu) \leq \nu$  in the definition of  $\mu^+, \mu^-$ .

**Theorem 3.2 The Hahn Decomposition**

Let  $\mu : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a real measure on the measurable space  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ .

There exists a partition of  $X$  in two sets  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  such that:

$$(1) \mu(F) \geq 0 \text{ for every } F \subset A \text{ and } \mu^-(A) = 0$$

$$(2) \mu(F) \leq 0 \text{ for every } F \subset B \text{ and } \mu^+(B) = 0$$

The partition  $X = A \cup B$  satisfying (1), (2) is unique in the following sense:

if  $C, D$  is another partition of  $X$  satisfying (1), (2) then  $|\mu|(A \Delta C) = 0$  and  $|\mu|(B \Delta D) = 0$ , (see  $[R - F]$  for the Proof).

## 5. Absolute Continuity of Measures Radon-Nikodym Theorem

### Definition 5.1

Let  $\lambda$  be a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and  $\mu$  a positive measure. We say that  $\lambda$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  if:

for  $E \in \mathcal{F}$  satisfying  $\mu(E) = 0 \implies \lambda(E) = 0$

**notation:**  $\lambda \ll \mu$

### Example 5.2

Let  $f \in L_1(\mu)$ , then the complex measure  $\lambda$  on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  given by:

$$E \in \mathcal{F}, \lambda(E) = \int_E f.d\mu \quad (*)$$

is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ , indeed suppose  $\mu(E) = 0$

then  $\int_E f.d\mu = 0$   $\mu$ -a.e and  $\int_E f.d\mu = \int_X f.I_E.d\mu = 0 \implies \lambda$  absolutely continuous

with respect to  $\mu$ .(by the property of the integral)

This example is fundamental in the following sense:

If  $\mu$  is  $\sigma$ -finite then the complex measure in the integral form (\*) is the only one which is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$

this is due to the **Radon-Nikodym Theorem**. First let us look at some properties of the absolute continuity.

### Theorem 5.3

Let  $\lambda$  be a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and  $\mu$  a positive measure.

The following properties are equivalent:

(a)  $\lambda \ll \mu$

(b) For any  $\epsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta = \delta_\epsilon > 0$  such that for  $A \in \mathcal{F}$

$\mu(A) < \delta \implies |\lambda|(A) < \epsilon$

### Proof.

(b)  $\implies$  (a)

if  $\mu(A) = 0$  then  $\mu(A) < \delta \forall \delta > 0$ , so  $|\lambda|(A) < \epsilon \forall \epsilon > 0$

that is  $|\lambda|(A) = 0$

(a)  $\implies$  (b)

we prove that *not* (b)  $\implies$  *not* (a)

suppose *not* (b) then there is  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for each  $n \geq 1$

there exists  $E_n \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $\mu(E_n) < \frac{1}{2^n}$  and  $|\lambda|(E_n) \geq \epsilon$

put  $E = \limsup_n E_n = \bigcap_n \bigcup_{k \geq n} E_k$ , then since  $|\lambda|$  is bounded we get:

$$|\lambda|(E) = \lim_n |\lambda|\left(\bigcup_{k \geq n} E_k\right) \geq \lim_n |\lambda|(E_n) \geq \epsilon > 0.$$

On the other hand since we have  $\sum_n \mu(E_n) < \sum_n \frac{1}{2^n} < \infty$ , we can apply

the Borel-Cantelli Lemma to the sequence  $E_n$  to get  $\mu(E) = \mu\left(\limsup_n E_n\right) = 0$

so *not* (a) is satisfied and *not* (b)  $\implies$  *not* (a) is proved. ■

**Definition 5.4 (Singular Measures)**

Let  $\mu, \nu$  be positive measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ .

We say that  $\mu, \nu$  are singular if there is a partition  $\{A, B\}$  of  $X$  such that

$$\mu(A) = \nu(B) = 0$$

**notation:**  $\mu \perp \nu$

If  $\mu, \nu$  are complex measures then they are singular if  $|\mu| \perp |\nu|$

**Remark.**

Suppose  $\mu, \nu$  positive or complex measures and  $\mu \perp \nu$

if  $\{A, B\}$  is the partition of  $X$  defining the singularity then we have

$$\text{for } E \in \mathcal{F} \quad \mu(E) = \mu(E \cap B) \text{ and } \nu(E) = \nu(E \cap A)$$

**Proposition 5.5**

Let  $\mu, \lambda_1, \lambda_2$ , be measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  with  $\mu$  positive and  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ , complex then

- (a)  $\lambda_1 \perp \mu$  and  $\lambda_2 \perp \mu \implies \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \perp \mu$
- (b)  $\lambda_1 \ll \mu$  and  $\lambda_2 \ll \mu \implies \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \ll \mu$
- (c)  $\lambda_1 \ll \mu \implies |\lambda_1| \ll \mu$
- (d)  $\lambda_1 \ll \mu$  and  $\lambda_2 \perp \mu \implies \lambda_1 \perp \lambda_2$
- (e)  $\lambda_1 \ll \mu$  and  $\lambda_1 \perp \mu \implies \lambda_1 = 0$

**Proof**

(b) and (c) are deduced from definition, (e) is a consequence of (d)

so let us prove (a) and (d).

To see (a) let  $\{A_1, B_1\}, \{A_2, B_2\}$  be two partitions of  $X$  with

$$|\lambda_1|(A_1) = \mu(B_1) = 0 \text{ and } |\lambda_2|(A_2) = \mu(B_2) = 0$$

put  $A = A_1 \cap A_2$  and  $B = B_1 \cup B_2$ , then  $\{A, B\}$  is a partition of  $X$  and we have

$$|\lambda_1 + \lambda_2|(A) \leq (|\lambda_1| + |\lambda_2|)(A) = 0 \text{ and } \mu(B) \leq \mu(B_1) + \mu(B_2) = 0$$

therefore  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \perp \mu$  this proves (a).

To prove (d): since  $\lambda_2 \perp \mu$  let  $\{A, B\}$  be a partition of  $X$  with  $|\lambda_2|(A) = \mu(B) = 0$

but we have also  $\lambda_1 \ll \mu$  so we will have  $|\lambda_1|(B) = 0$  by (c), finally we get  $|\lambda_2|(A) = |\lambda_1|(B) = 0$

that is  $\lambda_1 \perp \lambda_2$ , then we deduce (d). ■

**Theorem 5.6 Radon-Nikodym-Lebesgue Theorem.**

Let  $\mu, \lambda$ , be measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  with  $\mu$  positive  $\sigma$ -finite and  $\lambda$  complex then:

(1) There is a unique pair of complex measures  $\lambda_a, \lambda_s$  such that

$$\lambda_a \ll \mu, \lambda_s \perp \mu \text{ and } \lambda = \lambda_a + \lambda_s$$

moreover  $\lambda = \lambda_a + \lambda_s$  **Lebesgue Decomposition**

(2) There is a unique function  $h \in L_1(\mu)$  such that

$$\lambda_a(E) = \int_E h.d\mu \quad \text{for every } E \in \mathcal{F}. \text{Radon-Nikodym Theorem}$$

**Proof**

Let us point out:

(i) uniqueness in (1) of  $\lambda_a, \lambda_s$ : if  $\lambda'_a, \lambda'_s$  is an other pair of complex measures with  $\lambda'_a \ll \mu, \lambda'_s \perp \mu$  and  $\lambda = \lambda'_a + \lambda'_s = \lambda_a + \lambda_s$  then we have  $\lambda'_a - \lambda_a = \lambda_s - \lambda'_s$ ; we deduce from Proposition 5.5 (a) that  $\lambda_s - \lambda'_s \perp \mu$

and from Proposition 5.5 (b) that  $\lambda'_a - \lambda_a \ll \mu$

so part (e) of the same Proposition implies  $\lambda'_a - \lambda_a = \lambda_s - \lambda'_s = 0$ , whence the uniqueness of the decomposition.

(ii) uniqueness in (2) of the function  $h$ : if  $h' \in L_1(\mu)$  is an other function with

$$\lambda_a(E) = \int_E h' .d\mu \text{ for every } E \in \mathcal{F} \text{ then } \int_E h .d\mu = \int_E h' .d\mu, \forall E \in \mathcal{F}, \text{ and so by}$$

the property of the integral we get  $h = h' \mu - a.e.$

We prove the theorem when  $\mu, \lambda$  are positive bounded measures the proof in this case is due to John Von Neuman.

(for the general case see reference  $[R - F]$ ).

Let  $\mu, \lambda$  be positive bounded measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and put  $m = \mu + \lambda$  then  $m$  is a positive bounded measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and we have

$$\int_X f .dm = \int_X f .d\mu + \int_X f .d\lambda$$

for any measurable positive function  $f$  on  $X$

this can be checked easily for simple positive functions

by using **Beppo-Levy** convergence theorem one can prove it for measurable positive functions.

Observe that  $L_1(m) = L_1(\mu) \cap L_1(\lambda)$  because  $\int_X |f| .dm = \int_X |f| .d\mu + \int_X |f| .d\lambda$

Now take  $f$  in the Hilbert space  $L_2(m)$  then we have by the Schwarz inequality

$$\left| \int_X f .d\lambda \right| \leq \int_X |f| .d\lambda \leq \int_X |f| .dm \leq \left( \int_X |f|^2 .dm \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} . (m(X))^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

consequently the linear functional  $f \longrightarrow \int_X f .d\lambda$  is continuous on the Hilbert

Space  $L_2(m)$ . Therefore there is a unique function  $g$  in  $L_2(m)$  such that :

(\*)  $\int_X f .d\lambda = \int_X f .g .dm$ , by the isomorphism between  $L_2(m)$  and its strong dual

take  $f = I_E$  in equation (\*) to get

$$(**) \lambda(E) = \int_E g .dm, \text{ then since } 0 \leq \lambda(E) \leq m(E) \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$$

we obtain  $0 \leq g \leq 1$   $m - a.e.$ , but  $m = \mu + \lambda$ , from which (\*) gives

$$(***) \int_E f .(1 - g) .d\lambda = \int_E f .g .d\mu.$$

Now put  $A = \{0 \leq g < 1\}$ ,  $B = \{g = 1\}$  and define measures  $\lambda_a, \lambda_s$  as follows

$\lambda_a(E) = \lambda(A \cap E)$  and  $\lambda_s(E) = \lambda(E \cap B) \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$   
 putting  $E = X$ ,  $f = I_B$  in the relation (\*\*\*) gives



$$\int_B (1-g) .d\lambda = \int_B g .d\mu = \mu(B)$$

since  $g = 1$  on the set  $B$  we have  $\int_B (1-g) .d\lambda = 0$ , so  $\mu(B) = 0$

but  $\lambda_s(E) = 0$  for every  $E \subset A$ , therefore  $\lambda_s \perp \mu$ .

Again consider  $(***)$  but with  $f = [1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^n] .I_E$ , we get:

$$\int_E (1-g^{n+1}) .d\lambda = \int_{E \cap A} (1-g^{n+1}) .d\lambda + \int_{E \cap B} (1-g^{n+1}) .d\lambda = \int_{E \cap A} (1-g^{n+1}) .d\lambda$$

since  $g = 1$  on the set  $B$ .

On the other hand we have  $g^{n+1}(x) \downarrow 0 \forall x \in E \cap A$ , since  $A = \{0 \leq g < 1\}$  so  $1 - g^{n+1}(x) \uparrow 1 \forall x \in E \cap A$  and by **Beppo-Levy** convergence theorem we get:

$$(4*) \lim_n \int_{E \cap A} (1-g^{n+1}) .d\lambda = \lambda(E \cap A) = \lambda_a(E)$$

$$\text{but we have } g \cdot (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^n) \uparrow h = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{g}{1-g} \text{ on } A \\ \infty \text{ on } B \end{array} \right\}$$

since  $\mu(B) = 0$ , we deduce that

$$(5*) \int_E g \cdot (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^n) .d\mu \uparrow \int_E h .d\mu$$

now properties (4\*) and (5\*) jointly imply

$$\lambda_a(E) = \int_E h .d\mu \text{ and } h \in L_1(\mu)$$

which ends the proof of the Theorem. the function  $h$  is called the Radon-Nikodym density of  $\lambda$  with respect to  $\mu$  and is denoted by  $h = \frac{d\lambda}{d\mu}$ . ■

The following theorem is a version of the preceding one in the case  $\lambda, \mu$  positive  $\sigma$ -finite measures, the proof can be found in  $[R - F]$ .

### Theorem 5.7

Let  $\mu, \lambda$ , be positive  $\sigma$ -finite measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$

(1) There is a unique pair of positive measures  $\lambda_a, \lambda_s$  such that

$$\lambda_a \ll \mu, \lambda_s \perp \mu \text{ and } \lambda_a \perp \lambda_s$$

$$\text{moreover } \lambda = \lambda_a + \lambda_s$$

### Lebesgue Decomposition

(2) There is a unique positive function  $h$  locally  $\mu$ -integrable such that

$$\lambda_a(E) = \int_E h .d\mu \quad \text{for every } E \in \mathcal{F}. \text{Radon-Nikodym Theorem}$$

$h$  locally  $\mu$ -integrable means that there is a partition  $(X_n)$  of  $X$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  such that

$$\int_{X_n} h .d\mu < \infty \quad \forall n.$$

## 6. Applications

We recall that the structures given in Theorem 5.6 are valid on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  with  $\mu$  positive  $\sigma$ -finite and  $\lambda$  complex although its proof has been given for  $\mu, \lambda$  positive bounded. So hereafter we consider the general context of complex measures. Let us start by the relation of a complex measure and its total variation.

### Proposition 6.1

Let  $\lambda$  be a complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  then there exists a measurable function  $h : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$|h(x)| = 1 \text{ for every } x \in X \text{ and } \lambda(E) = \int_E h.d|\lambda| \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$$

where  $|\lambda|$  is the total variation of  $\lambda$  (see Theorem 2.1 for total variation of  $\lambda$ )

### Proof

Observe that  $\lambda \ll |\lambda|$  and use the Radon-Nikodym Theorem. ■

### Proposition 6.2

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a measure space and let  $f$  be in  $L_1(\mu)$ .

Consider the complex measure  $\lambda$  on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  given by  $\lambda(E) = \int_E f.d\mu$

then we have  $|\lambda|(E) = \int_E |f|.d\mu \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$ .

### Proof

Let us consider the set measure  $\nu(E) = \int_E |f|.d\mu$  on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  then we have:

$$|\lambda(E)| = \left| \int_E f.d\mu \right| \leq \int_E |f|.d\mu = \nu(E) \implies |\lambda(E)| \leq \nu(E)$$

but we now that the total variation  $|\lambda|$  is the smallest positive measure satisfying  $|\lambda(E)| \leq |\lambda|(E)$  by theorem 2.1, so we deduce that  $|\lambda| \leq \nu$  and therefore  $|\lambda| \ll \nu$ . Since  $\nu$  is bounded by the Radon-Nikodym theorem there is  $\varphi \in L_1(\nu)$

with  $\varphi$  positive and  $|\lambda|(E) = \int_E \varphi.d\nu$ . The integral form of  $\nu$  allows to write

$|\lambda|(E) = \int_E \varphi.|f|.d\mu$ . By Proposition 6.1 there exists a measurable function  $h :$

$X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $|h(x)| = 1$  for every  $x \in X$  and  $\lambda(E) = \int_E h.d|\lambda| \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$ .

We deduce from the integration process that  $\lambda(E) = \int_E h.d|\lambda| = \int_E h.\varphi.|f|.d\mu$ .

By hypothesis  $\lambda(E) = \int_E f.d\mu$  so we get  $\int_E h.\varphi.|f|.d\mu = \int_E f.d\mu, \forall E \in \mathcal{F}$  and

then  $h \cdot \varphi \cdot |f| = f$   $\mu$ -a.e. But  $|h(x)| = 1$  for every  $x \in X$  so  $\varphi = 1$   $\mu$ -a.e. because  $\varphi \geq 0$ , finally  $|\lambda|(E) = \int_E \varphi \cdot d\nu = \nu(E) = \int_E |f| \cdot d\mu$ . ■

**Proposition 6.3**

Let  $\mu$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and let us denote by  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  the family of all complex measures absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  is a closed subspace of the Banach space  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$ . Moreover there is a linear isometry from  $L_1(\mu)$  onto  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$ .

**Proof**

Recall the Banach space  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$  of all complex measures on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  with the norm  $\|\lambda\| = |\lambda|(X)$  defined in Theorem 2.3.

It is easy to check that  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  is a subspace of  $M(X, \mathcal{F})$ . We prove that it is closed:

let  $(\lambda_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  converging to  $\lambda$

that is  $\lim_n \|\lambda_n - \lambda\| = \lim_n |\lambda_n - \lambda|(X) = 0$ . This implies that  $(\lambda_n(E))$

converges to  $\lambda(E)$  even uniformly with respect to  $E$ .

If we have  $\mu(E) = 0$  then  $\lambda_n(E) = 0 \forall n$ , so  $\lambda(E) = 0$  that is  $\lambda \in \mathcal{A}_\mu$

this shows that  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  is closed.

Now we define the linear isometry  $\Psi$  from  $L_1(\mu)$  onto  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  as follows:

for  $f \in L_1(\mu)$  put  $\Psi(f) = \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is the complex measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  given by

$$\lambda(E) = \int_E f \cdot d\mu. \text{ Then it is clear that } \Psi \text{ is linear, moreover it is invertible,}$$

indeed

if  $\lambda \in \mathcal{A}_\mu$  then  $\lambda \ll \mu$  and since  $\mu$  is  $\sigma$ -finite there is a unique  $f \in L_1(\mu)$  such that

$$\lambda(E) = \int_E f \cdot d\mu = \Psi(f), \text{ by the Radon-Nikodym Theorem. On the other hand}$$

$\Psi$  is an isometry

$$\text{since we have } \|\Psi(f)\| = \|\lambda\| = |\lambda|(X) = \int_X |f| \cdot d\mu = \|f\|_{L_1(\mu)}. \blacksquare$$

**References**

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