

A Radon-Nikodym Derivative of the Product Measure

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this note is to sketch how a Radon-Nikodym derivative of the product measure is represented.

To prove the main result, we will introduce some definitions and theorems. Notations and definitions used in this note are collected in [1], [2] and [3].

Theorem 1.1 (Radon-Nikodym theorem). *Let (X, S) be a measurable space and let μ and ν be finite measures on (X, S) . If ν is absolutely continuous with respect to μ , then there is an S -measurable function $g : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that $\nu(E) = \int_E g d\mu$ holds for each E in S .*

The function g is unique up to μ -almost everywhere equality.

In the Theorem 1.1 an S -measurable function g on X that satisfies $\nu(E) = \int_E g d\mu$ for each E in S is called the Radon-Nikodym derivative of ν with respect to μ , which is denoted by $\frac{d\nu}{d\mu}$.

We now consider the product measure.

Definition 1.2: If (X_1, S_1, μ_1) and (X_2, S_2, μ_2) are finite measure spaces, then the set function λ , defined for every set E in $S_1 \times S_2$ by

$$\lambda(E) = \int \mu_2(E_{x_1}) d\mu_1(x_1) = \int \mu_1(E_{x_2}) d\mu_2(x_2),$$

is a finite measure with the property that, for every measurable rectangle $A_1 \times A_2$,

$$\lambda(A_1 \times A_2) = \mu_1(A_1) \cdot \mu_2(A_2).$$

The measure λ is called the *product* of the given measure μ_1 and μ_2 , and is denoted by

$$\lambda = \mu_1 \times \mu_2;$$

the measure space $(X_1 \times X_2, S_1 \times S_2, \mu_1 \times \mu_2)$ is called the *Cartesian product* of the given measure spaces.

Proceeding by mathematical induction we can define the *Cartesian product* of finite measure spaces (X_i, S_i, μ_i) , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, there is one and only one measure μ (denoted by $\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n$) on $S \times \dots \times S$ such that $\mu(A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i(A_i)$ for every measurable rectangle $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$.

The classical product measure theorem in [3] extends as follows;

Theorem 1.3. For each $i = 1, 2, \dots$, let (X_i, S_i, μ_i) be an arbitrary probability space. Let $X = \times_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i$, $S = \times_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i$. There is a unique probability measure μ on S such that $\mu\{X \in S : X_1 \in A_1, \dots, X_n \in A_n\} = \prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i(A_i)$ for all $n = 1, 2, \dots$ and all $A_i \in S_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$.

We call μ the *product* of the μ_i , and write $\mu = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_i$.

2. Main result

Now we need the following lemma,

Lemma 2.1. Let (X_1, S_1) and (X_2, S_2) be measurable spaces, let μ_1 and ν_1 be finite measures on (X_1, S_1) , and let μ_2 and ν_2 be finite measures on (X_2, S_2) , if ν_1 is absolutely continuous with respect to μ_1 and ν_2 is absolutely continuous with respect to μ_2 , then $\nu_1 \times \nu_2$ is absolutely continuous with respect to $\mu_1 \times \mu_2$.

Proof: If $(\nu_1 \times \nu_2)(A_1 \times A_2) = 0$ for any measurable set $A_1 \times A_2 \in S_1 \times S_2$, then $\mu_1(A_1) = 0$ or $\mu_2(A_2) = 0$ for $A_1 \in S_1$ and $A_2 \in S_2$. Hence $\mu_1(A_1) = 0$ or $\mu_2(A_2) = 0$,

$$(\mu_1 \times \mu_2)(A_1 \times A_2) = \mu_1(A_1) \cdot \mu_2(A_2) = 0$$

Therefore $\nu_1 \times \nu_2$ absolutely continuous with respect to $\mu_1 \times \mu_2$.

We write $\nu \ll \mu$ if ν is absolutely continuous with respect to μ .

Theorem 2.2. Let (X_i, S_i) be measurable spaces, let μ_i and ν_i be finite measures on (X_i, S_i) where $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. If $\nu_1 \ll \mu_1, \nu_2 \ll \mu_2, \dots, \nu_n \ll \mu_n$, then

$$\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n \ll \mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n.$$

Proof: Clear from the Lemma 2.1.

Now we will show how a Radon-Nikodym derivative of the n -dimensional product measure is represented.

Theorem 2.3. Let (X_i, S_i) be measurable spaces, let μ_i and ν_i be finite measures on (X_i, S_i) and $\nu_i \ll \mu_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Then a Radon-Nikodym derivative of the product measure $\nu = \nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n$ with respect to $\mu = \mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n$ is represented by

$$\frac{d(\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n)}{d(\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n)} = \frac{d\nu_1}{d\mu_1} \cdot \frac{d\nu_2}{d\mu_2} \dots \frac{d\nu_n}{d\mu_n}.$$

Proof: Since $\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n$ and $\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n$ are finite measures on

$$(X_1 \times X_2 \times \dots \times X_n, S_1 \times S_2 \times \dots \times S_n)$$

and $\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n \ll \mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n$. By the Radon-Nikodym theorem on a product measure space, there is an $S_1 \times S_2 \times \dots \times S_n$ -measurable function $G : X_1 \times X_2 \times \dots \times X_n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that

$$(\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n)(A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n) = \int_{A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n} G d(\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n)$$

for $A_i \in S_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

On the other hand, since $\nu_i \ll \mu_i$ for each i , there is a unique S -measurable function g_i such that $\nu_i(A_i) = \int_{A_i} g_i d\mu_i$ for $A_i \in S_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n)(A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n) &= \nu_1(A_1)\nu_2(A_2)\dots\nu_n(A_n) \\ &= \int_{A_1} g_1 d\mu_1 \int_{A_2} g_2 d\mu_2 \dots \int_{A_n} g_n d\mu_n \\ &= \int_{A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n} G d(\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore a Radon-Nikodym derivative of the n -dimensional product measure can be represented by

$$\frac{d(\nu_1 \times \nu_2 \times \dots \times \nu_n)}{d(\mu_1 \times \mu_2 \times \dots \times \mu_n)} = \frac{d\nu_1}{d\mu_1} \cdot \frac{d\nu_2}{d\mu_2} \dots \frac{d\nu_n}{d\mu_n}.$$

An extension of a Radon-Nikodym derivative to an infinite dimensional product measure is followed by Theorem 1.3 and the above.

References

1. D. L. Cohn, "Measure Theory," Birkhäuser, Boston, 1980.
2. P. R. Halmos, "Measure Theory," Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1974.
3. R. B. Ash, "Measure, Integration, and Functional Analysis," Academic Press Inc., New York, 1972.