

# HAUSDORFF DIMENSION IN PROBABILITY THEORY II

BY

PATRICK BILLINGSLEY

## 1. Introduction and definitions

Let  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$  be a stochastic process, with finite or countable state space  $\sigma$ , defined on a probability measure space  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{B}, \mu)$ . In [1] a Hausdorff dimension  $\dim_\mu M$  was defined for each set  $M \subset \Omega$ , in the following way.<sup>1</sup> A cylinder (of rank  $n$ ) is defined to be a set of the form  $\{\omega: x_k(\omega) = a_k, k = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , where  $a_k \in \sigma$ . If  $M \subset \Omega$  and  $\rho > 0$ , a  $\mu$ - $\rho$ -covering of  $M$  is a finite or countable collection  $\{v_i\}$  of cylinders such that  $M \subset \bigcup_i v_i$  and  $\mu(v_i) < \rho$  for each  $i$ . If  $\rho, \alpha > 0$ , put  $L_\mu(M, \alpha, \rho) = \inf \sum_i \mu(v_i)^\alpha$ , where the infimum extends over all  $\mu$ - $\rho$ -coverings  $\{v_i\}$  of  $M$ , and let  $L_\mu(M, \alpha) = \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} L_\mu(M, \alpha, \rho)$ . If  $L_\mu(M, \alpha) < \infty$ , then  $L_\mu(M, \alpha + \varepsilon) = 0$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ; hence we can define

$$(1.1) \quad \dim_\mu M = \sup \{\alpha: L_\mu(M, \alpha) = \infty\} = \inf \{\alpha: L_\mu(M, \alpha) = 0\}.$$

It was shown in [1] that if  $\Omega$  is the unit interval  $(0, 1]$ , if  $\mu$  is Lebesgue measure, and if  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n(\omega)s^{-n}$  is, for each  $\omega$ , the nonterminating base  $s$  expansion of  $\omega$ , then this definition reduces to the classical one due to Hausdorff.

The dimension of  $M$  depends both on the measure  $\mu$  and the process  $\{x_n\}$ . The dependence upon  $\{x_n\}$  is not exhibited in the notation  $\dim_\mu M$ , since  $\{x_n\}$  will remain fixed throughout the discussion. However, we will consider several measures  $\mu$  simultaneously, and the main purpose of the paper is to investigate how  $\dim_\mu M$  varies as  $\mu$  varies. For  $\omega \in \Omega$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , put

$$u_n(\omega) = \{\omega': x_k(\omega') = x_k(\omega), k = 1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

In other words,  $u_n(\omega)$  is that cylinder of rank  $n$  which contains  $\omega$ . In §2 we prove several refinements of the fact that if  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are probability measures on  $\mathfrak{B}$ , and if

$$(1.2) \quad M \subset \left\{ \omega: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lg \nu(u_n(\omega))}{\lg \mu(u_n(\omega))} = \delta \right\},$$

then

$$(1.3) \quad \dim_\mu M = \delta \dim_\nu M.$$

In §3, the results of §2 are used to extend and simplify some of the theorems of [1]. The essential idea here is to compute  $\dim_\mu M$  for certain sets  $M$  by constructing a measure  $\nu$  such that (1.2) holds and such that  $\dim_\nu M = 1$ . It then follows from (1.3) that  $\dim_\mu M = \delta$ . Finally, §4 contains some re-

---

Received May 18, 1960.

<sup>1</sup> In [1] the state space  $\sigma$  was assumed to be finite, but the definition applies to a countable  $\sigma$  as well.