

95. On the Compactness Criterion for Probability Measures on Banach Spaces

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1. Introduction. A compactness criterion for a set of probability measures on a real separable Hilbert space was given by Prokhorov [11, Theorem 1.14], in terms of their characteristic functionals. In this note we shall prove that a natural generalization of Prokhorov's result to Banach spaces is not valid unless X is isomorphic to a Hilbert space. This is also concerned with author's paper [7].

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2. Preliminaries. Let X be a real separable Banach space, X^* its topological dual space and $\mathcal{B}(X)$ the Borel σ -algebra. By a *random element* in X defined on a basic probability space (Ω, \mathcal{A}, P) we mean a measurable mapping $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{B}(X))$. Every random element ξ induces on $(X, \mathcal{B}(X))$ the probability measure $\mu_\xi = P \circ \xi^{-1}$ which is called its *distribution*. A random element ξ is said to be *Gaussian* if for each $f \in X^*$, $\langle \xi(\cdot), f \rangle$ is a (possibly degenerate) real Gaussian random variables on (Ω, \mathcal{A}, P) .

We identify the set $\mathcal{P}(X)$ of all probability measures on $(X, \mathcal{B}(X))$ with the corresponding subset of $C(X)^*$ under the natural injection $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \int_X \varphi(x) \mu(dx)$, $\varphi \in C(X)$, where $C(X)$ is the Banach space of all bounded continuous real functions on X . In this note we define the topology on $\mathcal{P}(X)$ as the relative topology induced by the weak* topology on $C(X)^*$. Then $\mathcal{P}(X)$ is a Polish space (see [11]). For each $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ the *characteristic functional* of μ is defined by

$$\hat{\mu}(f) = \int_X \exp \{i \langle x, f \rangle\} \mu(dx), \quad f \in X^*.$$

We shall denote by $\mathcal{N}(X^*, X)$ the Banach space of all nuclear operators from X^* into X with the nuclear norm $\nu(\cdot)$ (see [4] and [12]). A nuclear operator $R: X^* \rightarrow X$ is called an *S-operator* if it is positive and symmetric, i.e., $\langle Rf, f \rangle \geq 0$ for all $f \in X^*$ and $\langle Rf, g \rangle = \langle Rg, f \rangle$ for all $f, g \in X^*$. Let ξ be a random element in X satisfying $\int \|\xi(\omega)\|^2 P(d\omega) < \infty$. Then the operator $R_\xi: X^* \rightarrow X$ defined by the equality

$$R_\xi f = \int_Q \langle \xi(\omega), f \rangle \xi(\omega) P(d\omega)$$

(the integral is understood in the sense of Bochner) is an *S-operator*, and it is called the *covariance operator* of ξ (see [2]).