

100. Markovian Systems of Measures on Function Spaces

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A Markovian process defined on a path space is a system of non-negative probability measures on a function space. In this note we construct systems of signed measures corresponding to contraction semigroups (Theorem 1). These systems can be regarded as a generalization of Markovian processes. It is well known that the generator of a continuous Markovian process on a Euclid space is a generalized elliptic differential operator of second order. An analogous result holds also in our cases (Theorem 2).

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1. Let (E, ρ) be a σ -compact metric space, and C be the Banach space consisting of all real-valued, continuous, and bounded functions on E with the uniform norm $\|\cdot\|$. Let T_t be a strongly continuous contraction semigroup on C . We assume that the operators T_t are expressed in the integral form:

$$T_t f(x) = \int_E f(y) P(t, x, dy) \quad (f \in C),$$

where $P(t, x, \cdot)$ are signed measures¹⁾ which satisfy the Kolmogoroff-Chapman equation

$$P(t+s, x, \cdot) = \int_E P(t, x, dy) P(s, y, \cdot).$$

Let ∂ be an extra point added to E and put

$$\tilde{P}(t, x, \cdot) = \begin{cases} P(t, x, E \setminus \cdot) + \delta_\partial(\cdot) \{1 - P(t, x, E)\}, & \text{if } x \in E, \\ \delta_\partial(\cdot) & , \text{ if } x = \partial, \end{cases}$$

where δ_∂ is the Dirac measure. Then $\tilde{P}(t, x, \cdot)$ are measures on $E \cup \partial$, which satisfy the Kolmogoroff-Chapman equation and also the equality

$$(1) \quad \tilde{P}(t, x, E \cup \partial) = 1.$$

We assume in the following that the function 1 belongs to the domain $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{G})$ of the generator \mathcal{G} of the semigroup T_t . We have

$$(2) \quad |\tilde{P}|(t, x, E \cup \partial) \leq e^{\gamma t},^{2)}$$

where $\gamma = \|\mathcal{G}1\|$.

Let Ω be the set of all functions that are defined on $[0, \infty)$ and take values from $E \cup \partial$. We write

1) Hereafter we omit the adjective "signed".

2) By $|\tilde{P}|$ we denote the total variation of \tilde{P} .

$$p_t(\omega) = \omega(t) \text{ for } \omega \in \Omega \text{ and } t \in [0, \infty).$$

We denote by \mathfrak{F}_T the algebra generated by the sets of the form

$$I = \{\omega: p_{t_1}(\omega) \in \Gamma_1, p_{t_2}(\omega) \in \Gamma_2, \dots, p_{t_n}(\omega) \in \Gamma_n\},$$

where $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n \leq T$ and $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \dots, \Gamma_n$ are Borel sets in $E \setminus \partial$.

Put

$$P_x(I) = \int_{\Gamma_1} \int_{\Gamma_2} \dots \int_{\Gamma_n} \tilde{P}(t_1, x, dy_1) \tilde{P}(t_2 - t_1, y_1, dy_2) \dots \tilde{P}(t_n - t_{n-1}, y_{n-1}, dy_n).$$

Because of the equation (1) and of the Kolmogoroff-Chapman equation the value $P_x(I)$ is independent of the expression of I . The set function $P_x(\cdot)$ is easily extended to a finitely additive measure on \mathfrak{F}_T , the total variation of which is bounded by e^{T^2} because of the inequality (2). Therefore P_x is decomposed into the positive part and the negative one (Jordan's decomposition). By Kolmogoroff's extension theorem [3] both parts are extended to σ -additive measures on the σ -algebra \mathfrak{B}_T generated by \mathfrak{F}_T . We need the σ -compactness of the space E for application of the theorem. Thus P_x is extended to \mathfrak{B}_T .

An elementary calculation shows that for $0 < t < u < T$,

$$(3) \quad P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[\omega: \rho(p_t(\omega), p_u(\omega)) > \varepsilon] \\ \leq e^{T^2} M_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[\tilde{P}\{u-t, p_t(\omega), U(p_t(\omega), \varepsilon)^c\} + e^{i(u-t)} - 1].^{(3)}$$

From this inequality and the strong continuity of the semigroup T_t we get a convergence

$$P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[\omega: \rho(p_t(\omega), p_u(\omega)) > \varepsilon] \rightarrow 0 \quad (u-t \downarrow 0),$$

which enables us to apply Slutsky's method [4] in order to obtain the following

Proposition 1. *There exists a mapping $x_t(\omega)$ measurable in (t, ω) such that*

$$P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[\omega: x_t(\omega) \neq p_t(\omega)] = 0, \quad \text{for } t \leq T.$$

The objects which we have constructed satisfy the following conditions.

- a) $x(t, \omega) \equiv x_t(\omega)$ is a measurable mapping from $[0, \infty) \times \Omega$ into $E \setminus \partial$.
- b) \mathfrak{B}_t is a σ -algebra of subsets of Ω for $t > 0$.
- c) $\mathfrak{B}_t \supset \mathfrak{B}_s$ for $t > s$.
- d) $P_x(\cdot)$ is a measure on \mathfrak{B}_t .
- e) $\{\omega: x_t(\omega) \in \Gamma\} \in \mathfrak{B}_t$ for any Borel set Γ in E .
- f) $P_x[x_t \in \Gamma]$ is measurable in x .
- g) $P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[x_0(\omega) \neq x] = 0$ for $T > 0$.
- h) $P_x[I_1 \theta I_2] = \int_{I_1} P_{x_t(\omega)}(I_2) P_x(d\omega)$ for any $I_1 \in \mathfrak{B}_t$ and $I_2 \in \mathfrak{B} \equiv \bigcup_{t>0} \mathfrak{B}_t$.⁽⁴⁾

3) We denote by $P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[A]$ the variation of P_x on A over the σ -algebra \mathfrak{B}_T , by $M_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)$ the integration by the measure $P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T)[d\omega]$, by $U(x, \varepsilon)$ the ε -neighbourhood of x .

4) The definition of the operator θ_t is found in [1].

We call $X \equiv (x_t, \mathfrak{B}_t, P_x, \theta_t)$ a Markovian system on the phase space E defined on the space Ω of elementary events.

Theorem 1. Let be given a σ -compact metric space (E, ρ) and a strongly continuous contraction semigroup T_t on the Banach space C consisting of all real-valued, continuous, bounded functions on E . Assume that the operators T_t are expressed in the integral form, and that the domain of the generator of the semigroup contains the function 1.

Then there exists a Markovian system $X = (x_t, \mathfrak{B}_t, P_x, \theta_t)$ such that for any $f \in C$,

$$T_t f(x) = M_x[f(x_t)].$$

2. Kac's theorem in the theory of Markovian processes is generalized to our cases.

Proposition 2. Let V be an element of C . Put, for $f \in C$,

$$T'_t f(x) = M_x \left[f(x_t) \exp \left\{ \int_0^t V(x_s) ds \right\} \right].$$

Then T'_t is a strongly continuous semigroup on C , the generator of which is $\mathcal{G} + V$.

The analogue of Kinney's estimate on the right-continuity of Markovian processes is valid.

Proposition 3. We assume the completeness of the phase space E . If for any $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\sup_{x \in E} \tilde{P}\{t, x, U(x, \varepsilon)^c\} \rightarrow 0 \quad (t \downarrow 0),$$

then we can construct a Markovian system such that the measures P_x concentrate on the set of ω for which $x_t(\omega)$ is right-continuous in t .

The method for the construction is analogous to Theorem 6.3 of Dynkin [1]. Here we use a convergence

$$\sup_{x \in E} P_x(\mathfrak{B}_T) [\rho(x_u, x_t) > \varepsilon] \rightarrow 0 \quad (u - t \downarrow 0),$$

which follows from the inequality (3) and the assumption of the proposition.

3. In the following we consider only continuous Markovian systems, i.e., Markovian systems whose measures P_x concentrate on the set of continuous paths. Such systems have the strongly Markovian property (Theorem 5.10 of Dynkin [1]). Dynkin's formula (Theorem 5.1 of [2]) is valid in our cases for bounded Markovian times.

For any neighbourhood U of x , we put

$$\tau_U(\omega) = S \wedge \inf \{t: x_t \notin U\},$$

where S is an arbitrarily fixed positive constant.

We call a point x an irregular point, if

$$\lim_{U \downarrow x} \frac{M_x^-(\mathfrak{B}_T) [\tau_U]}{M_x^+(\mathfrak{B}_T) [\tau_U]} = 1^5)$$

5) $M_x^+(\mathfrak{B}_T)$ ($M_x^-(\mathfrak{B}_T)$) is the integration by the positive (resp. negative) part of P_x .

for any $T \geq S$. A Markovian system without any irregular point is called *regular*. The generator of a regular system is a restriction of the characteristic operator, i.e., there exists a sequence of neighbourhoods U_n of x converging to x , such that

$$\mathcal{G}g(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{M}_x[g(x(\tau_{U_n}))] - g(x)}{\mathbf{M}_x[\tau_{U_n}]}$$

for any $g \in \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$.

When the phase space E is an interval (finite or infinite) on a line, we have a more concrete form of the characteristic operator.

Proposition 4. *Let X be a regular system on an interval E . Assume that there exists a local coordinate $\kappa_x \in \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$ with $\kappa_x^2 \in \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$ such that $\kappa_x(\cdot) = \cdot - x$ in a neighbourhood of x . Further assume that*

$$(\text{diameter of } U)^2 = O(\mathbf{M}_x^+(\mathfrak{B}_T)[\tau_U]), \quad U \downarrow x.$$

Then, for any twice continuously differentiable function $g \in \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$,

$$\mathcal{G}g(x) = a(x)g''(x) + b(x)g'(x) + c(x)g(x),$$

where $a(x) = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{G}\kappa_x^2(x)$, $b(x) = \mathcal{G}\kappa_x(x)$ and $c(x) = \mathcal{G}\mathbf{1}(x)$.

Theorem 2. *If in the previous proposition $a(x)$, $b(x)$, and $c(x)$ are all continuous, and if $[C^2(E) \setminus C^\infty(E)] \cap \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$ is not empty, then $a(x)$ is nonnegative.*

Proof. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $b(x) \equiv 0$. If our assertion is not true, there exist $l < r$ such that $a(x) < -\varepsilon < 0$ for all $x \in [l, r]$. It is easy to see that $x_t^0(\omega) = x(t \wedge \tau(\omega), \omega)$ is a strongly Markovian system on the phase space $[l, r]$, where $\tau(\omega) = \inf \{t: x_t(\omega) \notin [l, r]\}$. By Volkonsky's random time change [5] corresponding to the additive functional

$$\alpha_t(\omega) = - \int_0^t a(x_s^0(\omega)) ds,$$

we obtain a Markovian system (x_t^1, P_x) with the generator $-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + c_1(x)$.

Take g from $[C^2(E) \setminus C^\infty(E)] \cap \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$ and put

$$u(t, x) = \mathbf{M}_x \left[g(x_{T-t}^1) \exp \left\{ - \int_0^{T-t} c_1(x_s^1) ds \right\} \right], \quad \text{for } t < T.$$

The function u is a solution of the initial-boundary value problem for the parabolic equation:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \\ u(0, x) = \mathbf{M}_x[g(x_T^1)], \\ u(t, l) = g(l), \quad u(t, r) = g(r). \end{cases}$$

This problem, as is well known, has the unique solution, which is infinitely differentiable in x for any $t > 0$. Therefore $u(T, x) = g(x)$ belongs to $C^\infty(E)$, which is incompatible with our situation that g is taken from $[C^2(E) \setminus C^\infty(E)] \cap \mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{G})$.

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