

ON THE EXISTENCE OF INVARIANT PROBABILITY MEASURES

BY

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ABSTRACT

Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a measurable mapping. Consider a family \mathcal{M} of probability measures on \mathcal{A} which satisfies certain closure conditions. If $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} such that, for every $A \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the sequence $((1/n) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1_A \circ T^i)$ converges in distribution (with respect to some probability measure $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$), then there exists a T -invariant element in \mathcal{M} . In particular, for the special case of a topological space X and a continuous mapping T , sufficient conditions for the existence of T -invariant Borel probability measures with additional regularity properties are obtained.

Introduction

Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a measurable mapping. If there is a T -invariant probability measure μ on \mathcal{A} , then, by Birkhoff's ergodic theorem, the averages $(1/n) \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f \circ T^i$ converge μ -a.e. for every $f \in \mathcal{L}_1(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$. Our paper is concerned, among others, with the converse of this statement.

Consider a family \mathcal{M} of probability measures on \mathcal{A} which satisfies certain closure conditions. If $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} (cf. [3]) such that, for every $A \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the sequence $((1/n) \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1_A \circ T^i)$ converges in distribution (with respect to some probability measure $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$), then there exists a T -invariant element in \mathcal{M} . In particular, for the special case of a topological space X and a continuous mapping T , we obtain sufficient conditions for the existence of T -invariant Borel probability measures with additional regularity properties.

If $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{A}$ is a semicompact δ -lattice satisfying some further conditions, then another central theorem of this paper states that a T -invariant \mathcal{K} -regular probability measure on \mathcal{A} exists provided that, for some $K_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ and $x_0 \in X$,

$$\limsup_n \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1_{K_0} \circ T^i(x_0) > 0$$

holds. Especially, this result enables us to extend a theorem of Oxtoby and Ulam ([10]) on the existence of invariant Radon probability measures from Polish spaces to arbitrary Hausdorff spaces.

2. Definitions and auxiliary results

\mathbf{N} [\mathbf{N}_0] denotes the set of positive [nonnegative] integers. The set \mathbf{R} of real numbers is always assumed to be equipped with the Euclidean topology.

Let X be an arbitrary set and let $\mathcal{P}(X)$ be the power set of X . 1_Q denotes the indicator function of a set $Q \in \mathcal{P}(X)$. For $f \in \mathbf{R}^X$ we put $\|f\| := \sup\{|f(x)| : x \in X\}$. id_X denotes the identity map on X .

Let \mathcal{K} be a subset of $\mathcal{P}(X)$. Then \mathcal{K}_δ denotes the family of all countable intersections of members of \mathcal{K} , while $\sigma(\mathcal{K})$ stands for the σ -algebra generated by \mathcal{K} . Furthermore,

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{K}) := \{F \in \mathcal{P}(X) : F \cap K \in \mathcal{K} \text{ for all } K \in \mathcal{K}\}$$

denotes the collection of all “local \mathcal{K} -sets”. \mathcal{K} is said to be semicompact if every countable subfamily of \mathcal{K} having the finite intersection property has nonvoid intersection. \mathcal{K} is called a lattice [δ -lattice] if $\emptyset \in \mathcal{K}$ and \mathcal{K} is closed under finite unions and finite [countable] intersections.

By a measure we always understand a $[0, \infty)$ -valued σ -additive function defined on a σ -algebra. If μ is a measure on \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{K} is a subset of \mathcal{A} , then μ is said to be \mathcal{K} -regular if

$$\mu(A) = \sup\{\mu(K) : K \in \mathcal{K}, K \subset A\} \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathcal{A}.$$

If μ and ν are measures on \mathcal{A} , then we write $\mu \ll \nu$ if, for any $A \in \mathcal{A}$, $\nu(A) = 0$ implies $\mu(A) = 0$. We write $\mu \sim \nu$ if $\mu \ll \nu$ and $\nu \ll \mu$.

Let (X, \mathcal{A}, μ) be a measure space. If (Y, \mathcal{B}) is a measurable space and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{B} -measurable, then $f(\mu)$ denotes the image measure of μ under the mapping f , i.e. $f(\mu)(B) := \mu(f^{-1}B)$ for $B \in \mathcal{B}$. If $T: X \rightarrow X$ is \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable, then μ is said to be T -invariant if we have $\mu = T(\mu)$.

If X is a topological space, then we denote by $\mathcal{C}(X)$ [$\mathcal{C}^b(X)$] the family of all

continuous [and bounded] real-valued functions on X . A cozero-set in X is a set of the form $\{f \neq 0\}$ with $f \in \mathcal{C}(X)$. We write $\mathcal{F}(X)$, $\mathcal{G}(X)$, $\mathcal{K}(X)$, $\mathcal{U}(X)$ for the collection of all closed, open, compact, cozero-sets in X , respectively. We will consider also the class

$$\mathcal{G}_r(X) := \{G \in \mathcal{G}(X) : G = (\bar{G})^0\} = \{F^0 : F \in \mathcal{F}(X)\}$$

of the so-called regular open sets which is, in general, a proper subclass of $\mathcal{G}(X)$. Here \bar{A} [A^0] denotes the closure [interior] of a subset A of X .

Finally, $\mathcal{B}_0(X) := \sigma(\mathcal{U}(X))$ [$\mathcal{B}(X) := \sigma(\mathcal{G}(X))$] denotes the Baire [Borel] σ -field in X . A measure defined on $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$ [$\mathcal{B}(X)$] is called a Baire [Borel] measure on X . A Borel measure μ on X is said to be τ -smooth if $\lim_\alpha \mu(F_\alpha) = \mu(F)$ for every net (F_α) in $\mathcal{F}(X)$ with $F_\alpha \downarrow F$. $\mathcal{F}(X)$ -regular Borel measures on X are simply called regular. On the other hand, a $\mathcal{K}(X)$ -regular Borel measure on a Hausdorff space X is called a Radon measure.

In the sequel let X be an arbitrary set and $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbf{R}^X$ a vector lattice (with respect to pointwise operations). We write $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ for the smallest σ -algebra in X making all functions $f \in \mathcal{V}$ measurable. $\Gamma(\mathcal{V})$ denotes the subfamily of $\mathbf{R}^{\mathcal{V}}$ consisting of all nonnegative linear functionals. For a sequence (f_n) in \mathcal{V} we write $f_n \downarrow f$ if (f_n) is decreasing and converges pointwise to $f \in \mathbf{R}^X$. $\Phi \in \Gamma(\mathcal{V})$ is said to be σ -smooth if $f_n \downarrow 0$ implies $\lim_n \Phi(f_n) = 0$. Define $\Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V}) := \{\Phi \in \Gamma(\mathcal{V}) : \Phi \text{ is } \sigma\text{-smooth}\}$. We call \mathcal{V} a *Daniell lattice* ([2]) if $\Gamma(\mathcal{V}) = \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$.

If X is a topological space, then a classical theorem of Alexandroff (see [4], Theorem 19.3 or [12], Theorem II.19) states that the limit of a pointwise convergent sequence in $\Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{C}^b(X))$ is again an element of $\Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{C}^b(X))$. In the following we need this property for arbitrary vector lattices of real-valued functions:

We say that the vector lattice $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbf{R}^X$ has the *Alexandroff property* if, for every sequence $(\Phi_n) \subset \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ such that $\Phi(f) := \lim_n \Phi_n(f)$ exists in \mathbf{R} for all $f \in \mathcal{V}$, we have $\Phi \in \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$.

It is trivial that every Daniell lattice has the Alexandroff property. A deeper result is given in

2.1. PROPOSITION. \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property provided that \mathcal{V} satisfies the following condition:

$$(2.1) \quad \text{If } f_1, f_2, \dots \in \mathcal{V}_+ \text{ and } \sum_{k \in \mathbf{N}} f_k \in \mathcal{V}, \text{ then } \sum_{k \in A} f_k \in \mathcal{V} \text{ for all } A \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{N}).$$

PROOF. Let $(\phi_n) \subset \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ be such that $\Phi(f) := \lim_n \phi_n(f)$ exists in \mathbf{R} for

all $f \in \mathcal{V}$. Obviously we have $\Phi \in \Gamma(\mathcal{V})$. To prove the σ -smoothness of Φ it suffices to show $\Phi(\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} f_k) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \Phi(f_k)$ for every sequence (f_k) in \mathcal{V}_+ with $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} f_k \in \mathcal{V}$.

Let such a sequence (f_k) be given. In view of (2.1), we can define

$$\mu_n(A) := \Phi_n \left(\sum_{k \in A} f_k \right) \text{ and } \mu(A) := \Phi \left(\sum_{k \in A} f_k \right) \text{ for } A \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \text{ and } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

(μ_n) is a sequence of measures on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ such that $\lim_n \mu_n(A) = \mu(A) \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $A \subset \mathbb{N}$. By Nikodym's theorem (see [8], III. 7.4), μ is also a measure on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$. This implies

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \Phi(f_k) = \Phi \left(\sum_{k=1}^n f_k \right) = \mu(\{1, \dots, n\}) \rightarrow \mu(\mathbb{N}) = \Phi \left(\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} f_k \right),$$

i.e. $\Phi(\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} f_k) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \Phi(f_k)$. □

If (X, \mathcal{A}, μ) is a measure space and $p \in [1, \infty)$, then it is an immediate consequence of 2.1 that $\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{L}_p(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$ has the Alexandroff property.

We will now give another example of a vector lattice with the Alexandroff property. For this purpose consider a δ -lattice \mathcal{L} of subsets of X with $X \in \mathcal{L}$. A real-valued function f on X is said to be \mathcal{L} -continuous if $f^{-1}F \in \mathcal{L}$ for all closed subsets F of \mathbb{R} . Note that a function $f \in \mathbb{R}^X$ is \mathcal{L} -continuous iff the sets $\{f \geq t\}$ and $\{f \leq t\}$ belong to \mathcal{L} for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Define

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L}) := \{f \in \mathbb{R}^X : f \text{ is } \mathcal{L}\text{-continuous}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L}) := \{f \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L}) : f \text{ is bounded}\}.$$

Then $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L})$ and $\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L})$ are vector lattices containing the constants.

2.2. EXAMPLES. (a) Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space. Then $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{A})$ [$\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{A})$] is the family of all [bounded] \mathcal{A} -measurable real-valued functions on X .

(b) If X is a topological space, then we have $\mathcal{C}(X) = \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F}(X))$ and $\mathcal{C}^b(X) = \mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{F}(X))$.

2.3. PROPOSITION. *The vector lattices $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L})$ and $\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L})$ have the Alexandroff property.*

PROOF. Let $\mathcal{V} \in \{\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L}), \mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L})\}$. We show that \mathcal{V} satisfies (2.1). Let $(f_k) \subset \mathcal{V}_+$ with $f := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} f_k \in \mathcal{V}$ be given. We must prove $\sum_{k \in A} f_k \in \mathcal{V}$ for every infinite subset A of \mathbb{N} . If $\mathbb{N} - A$ is finite, then $\sum_{k \in A} f_k = f - \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N} - A} f_k \in \mathcal{V}$

\mathcal{V} . Thus we assume that A and $N - A$ are infinite. Let $A = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$ with $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$ and $N - A = \{r_1, r_2, \dots\}$ with $r_1 < r_2 < \dots$. For any $t \in \mathbf{R}$, we obtain

$$\left\{ \sum_{k \in A} f_k \leq t \right\} = \bigcap_{m \in \mathbf{N}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m f_{n_k} \leq t \right\} \in \mathcal{L}$$

and

$$\left\{ \sum_{k \in A} f_k \geq t \right\} = \left\{ \sum_{k \in N - A} f_k - f \leq -t \right\} = \bigcap_{m \in \mathbf{N}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m f_{r_k} - f \leq -t \right\} \in \mathcal{L}.$$

Hence $\sum_{k \in A} f_k$ is \mathcal{L} -continuous. □

From 2.2 and 2.3 we deduce

2.4. COROLLARY. (a) *If (X, \mathcal{A}) is a measurable space, then the vector lattice of all [bounded] \mathcal{A} -measurable real-valued functions on X has the Alexandroff property.*

(b) *If X is a topological space, then the vector lattice of all [bounded] continuous real-valued functions on X has the Alexandroff property.*

2.5. PROPOSITION. *Let \mathcal{V}_0 and \mathcal{V} be vector lattices of bounded real-valued functions on X satisfying the following three conditions:*

- (i) $1 \in \mathcal{V}_0 \subset \mathcal{V}$;
- (ii) \mathcal{V}_0 is dense in \mathcal{V} (with respect to the topology of uniform convergence);
- (iii) \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property.

Then \mathcal{V}_0 has the Alexandroff property, too.

PROOF. Let $(\Phi_n) \subset \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V}_0)$ be a sequence such that $\lim_n \Phi_n(f)$ exists in \mathbf{R} for all $f \in \mathcal{V}_0$. By the Daniell–Stone theorem (see [5], Satz 39.4), there is, for any $n \in \mathbf{N}$, a measure μ_n on $\sigma(\mathcal{V}_0)$ such that $\Phi_n(f) = \int f d\mu_n$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}_0$.

Next we show that

$$(2.2) \quad \lim_n \int f d\mu_n \quad \text{exists in } \mathbf{R} \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Note that $\sigma(\mathcal{V}) = \sigma(\mathcal{V}_0)$ by (ii). Let $f \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Put

$$\varepsilon' := \frac{\varepsilon}{3(a + 1)} \quad \text{where } a := \lim_n \Phi_n(1).$$

Choose an $f_0 \in \mathcal{V}_0$ such that $\|f - f_0\| < \varepsilon'$. Then one can find an index n_0 such that

$$|\Phi_m(f_0) - \Phi_n(f_0)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_m(1) \leq a + 1 \quad \text{for all } m, n \geq n_0.$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int f d\mu_m - \int f d\mu_n \right| &\leq \int |f - f_0| d\mu_m + |\Phi_m(f_0) - \Phi_n(f_0)| + \int |f_0 - f| d\mu_n \\ &\leq \varepsilon' \Phi_m(1) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \varepsilon' \Phi_n(1) \\ &\leq \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } m, n \geq n_0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (2.2) holds.

Since \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property, we infer from (2.2) that $\Phi(f) := \lim_n \int f d\mu_n$, $f \in \mathcal{V}$, defines an element Φ of $\Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$. In particular, the restriction of Φ onto \mathcal{V}_0 , i.e. the mapping $f \in \mathcal{V}_0 \rightarrow \lim_n \Phi_n(f)$, is an element of $\Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V}_0)$. □

2.6. COROLLARY. *If (X, \mathcal{A}) is a measurable space, then the vector lattice \mathcal{V} of all \mathcal{A} -step functions has the Alexandroff property.*

PROOF. \mathcal{V} is dense in $\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{A})$. By 2.4(a), $\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{A})$ has the Alexandroff property. Thus our claim follows from 2.5. □

REMARK. If \mathcal{A} is an algebra, then the vector lattice of all \mathcal{A} -step functions does not have the Alexandroff property, in general (see 3.5).

3. Main results

A sequence (f_n) of real-valued random variables defined on a probability space (X, \mathcal{A}, ν) is said to converge in distribution (with respect to ν) if the corresponding sequence $(f_n(\nu))$ of image measures converges weakly to some probability measure ρ defined on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ (i.e. $\lim_n \int g df_n(\nu) = \int g d\rho$ for all $g \in \mathcal{C}^b(\mathbb{R})$). The following result can be proved by the same method as the first part of Theorem 5.4 in [6].

3.1. LEMMA. *Let (X, \mathcal{A}, ν) be a probability space. If (f_n) is a uniformly integrable sequence of real-valued random variables which converges in distribution, then we have*

$$\lim_n \int f_n d\nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho,$$

where ρ denotes the weak limit of the sequence $(f_n(\nu))$.

In the following we consider an arbitrary nonvoid set X and a fixed mapping $T: X \rightarrow X$. Then we define

$$A_n f := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f \circ T^i \quad \text{for every } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and every bounded } f \in \mathbb{R}^X.$$

As $(A_n f) \circ T = A_n(f \circ T)$, we simply write $A_n f \circ T$ for this function. Finally, for $Q \in \mathcal{P}(X)$, we write $A_n Q$ instead of $A_n 1_Q$.

3.2. LEMMA. *Let (X, \mathcal{A}, ν) be a probability space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping. Furthermore, let $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbb{R}^X$ be a family of bounded \mathcal{A} -measurable functions such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges in distribution. Then we have*

$$\lim_n \int A_n f d\nu = \lim_n \int A_n f \circ T d\nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho_f \quad \text{for every } f \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Here ρ_f denotes the weak limit of the sequence $(A_n f(\nu))$.

PROOF. For any $f \in \mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{A})$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ is uniformly integrable, since

$$|A_n f| \leq \|f\| \in \mathcal{L}_1(X, \mathcal{A}, \nu) \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Thus 3.1 implies

$$\lim_n \int A_n f d\nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho_f \quad \text{for } f \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Furthermore, as the difference $A_n f \circ T - A_n f$ converges in probability to 0, $(A_n f \circ T(\nu))$ is also weakly convergent to ρ_f by Slutsky's theorem (see [7], Theorem 8.1.1). Therefore

$$\lim_n \int A_n f \circ T d\nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho_f \quad \text{for } f \in \mathcal{V}$$

holds again by 3.1. □

By means of 3.2, we can now prove the following basic result.

3.3. THEOREM. *Let $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbb{R}^X$ be a vector lattice of bounded functions such that $1 \in \mathcal{V}$. Assume that \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property. If $T: X \rightarrow X$ is a mapping such that $f \circ T \in \mathcal{V}$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}$, then the following three statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a probability measure ν on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges ν -a. e.*
- (2) *There is a probability measure ν on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges in distribution.*
- (3) *There is a T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$.*

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2) is obvious.

(2) \Rightarrow (3). By assumption, there is a probability measure ν on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$, the sequence $(A_n f(\nu))$ converges weakly to a probability measure ρ_f on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$. Since T is $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$, $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ -measurable, we infer from 3.2

$$\lim_n \int A_n f d\nu = \lim_n \int A_n f \circ T d\nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho_f \quad \text{for all } f \in \mathcal{V}.$$

We define

$$\Phi_n(f) := \int A_n f d\nu \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi(f) := \int \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}} d\rho_f \quad \text{for } f \in \mathcal{V} \quad \text{and} \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then $(\Phi_n) \subset \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ and

$$\Phi(f) = \lim_n \Phi_n(f) = \lim_n \Phi_n(f \circ T) = \Phi(f \circ T) \quad \text{for all } f \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Since \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property, we conclude $\Phi \in \Gamma_\sigma(\mathcal{V})$. Thus, by the Daniell–Stone theorem ([5], Satz 39.4), there is a measure μ on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ such that $\Phi(f) = \int f d\mu$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}$. It follows $\mu(X) = \Phi(1) = \lim_n \Phi_n(1) = 1$.

Next we show that μ is T -invariant. For this purpose, it suffices to prove $\mu(H) = \mu(T^{-1}H)$ for all $H \in \mathcal{H}$ where $\mathcal{H} := \{\{f = 0\} : f \in \mathcal{V}\}$ is a lattice generating $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$. Let $H \in \mathcal{H}$ be given, i.e. $H = \{f = 0\}$ for some $f \in \mathcal{V}$. Put $f_n := 1 - \min(1, n|f|)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $\mathcal{V} \ni f_n \downarrow 1_H$ and hence $f_n \circ T \downarrow 1_{T^{-1}H}$. It follows

$$\mu(T^{-1}H) = \lim_n \int f_n \circ T d\mu = \lim_n \Phi(f_n \circ T) = \lim_n \Phi(f_n) = \lim_n \int f_n d\mu = \mu(H).$$

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Let μ be a T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$. Since \mathcal{V} is a subset of $\mathcal{L}_1(X, \sigma(\mathcal{V}), \mu)$, (1) follows from Birkhoff’s ergodic theorem (see [13], Theorem 1.14). □

3.4. REMARKS. (a) If, in addition to the assumptions of 3.3, \mathcal{V} is separable (with respect to the topology of uniform convergence), then a straightforward argument (cf. the proof of Lemma 6.13 in [13]) shows that each of the statements (1)–(3) of 3.3 is equivalent to

(4) There is a probability measure ν on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ and a set $X_0 \in \sigma(\mathcal{V})$ with $\nu(X_0) = 1$ such that $\lim_n A_n f(x)$ exists for all $x \in X_0$ and all $f \in \mathcal{V}$.

(b) In view of Birkhoff's ergodic theorem, every T -invariant probability measure ν on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ satisfies condition (1) of 3.3. However, the converse is not true, in general: Let $X := [-1, 1]$, $T(x) := -x$ and $\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{C}^b(X)$. As the Lebesgue measure λ is T -invariant, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges λ -a.e. for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$. Let $g \in \mathcal{V}_+$ be such that $\int g d\lambda = 1$ and $\int_{[0,1]} g d\lambda \neq \frac{1}{2}$. Denote by ν the measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$ having the density g . Then $\nu \ll \lambda$ which implies that the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges ν -a.e. for every $f \in \mathcal{V}$, i.e. ν satisfies condition (1) of 3.3. However, ν is not T -invariant, since we have $\nu([-1, 0]) \neq \nu([0, 1])$.

The assumption that \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property is essential for the validity of 3.3 as the following example shows.

3.5. EXAMPLE. Let X be the set of integers, $\mathcal{A} := \{A \subset X : A \text{ or } X - A \text{ is finite}\}$ and \mathcal{V} the vector lattice of all \mathcal{A} -step functions. We consider the translation $Tx := x + 1$. Then $f \circ T \in \mathcal{V}$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}$, and it is well known that there is no T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{V}) = \mathcal{P}(X)$. On the other hand, it is easy to see that $\lim_n A_n f(x)$ exists for all $x \in X$ and all $f \in \mathcal{V}$.

3.6. COROLLARY. Let X be a topological space and $T : X \rightarrow X$ a continuous map. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) There is a Baire probability measure ν on X such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{C}^b(X)$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges ν -a.e.
- (2) There is a Baire probability measure ν on X such that, for every $f \in \mathcal{C}^b(X)$, the sequence $(A_n f)$ converges in distribution.
- (3) There is a T -invariant Baire probability measure on X .

PROOF. For $\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{C}^b(X)$, our claim follows from 3.3. Note that \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property by 2.4(b). □

Now we consider a probability space (X, \mathcal{A}, ν) and an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping $T : X \rightarrow X$. If \mathcal{V} denotes the vector lattice of all \mathcal{A} -step functions, then it is obvious that the two statements

$$(3.1) \quad (A_n E) \text{ converges } \nu\text{-a.e. for every } E \in \mathcal{A}$$

and

$$(3.2) \quad (A_n f) \text{ converges } \nu\text{-a.e. for every } f \in \mathcal{V}$$

are equivalent. Since \mathcal{V} has the Alexandroff property by 2.6, we thus infer from 3.3

3.7. COROLLARY. *Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping. Then the following two statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a probability measure ν on \mathcal{A} such that, for every $E \in \mathcal{A}$, the sequence $(A_n E)$ converges ν -a.e.*
- (2) *There is a T -invariant probability measure on \mathcal{A} .*

We will now give a sharpening of 3.7 in so far as we will show that even the convergence in distribution of the sequence $(A_n E)$ for all elements E of a certain subclass of \mathcal{A} is sufficient for the existence of a T -invariant probability measure on \mathcal{A} . For this purpose we need

3.8. DEFINITION. Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space, and let \mathcal{M} be a family of probability measures on \mathcal{A} .

- (a) A subset \mathcal{A}_0 of \mathcal{A} is said to be a *convergence class* for \mathcal{M} ([3]) if, for every sequence (μ_n) in \mathcal{M} , the existence of $\lim_n \mu_n(E)$ for all $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$ implies the existence of $\lim_n \mu_n(A)$ for all $A \in \mathcal{A}$.
- (b) If $T: X \rightarrow X$ is \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable, then \mathcal{M} is called *T -closed* if we have $T(\mu) \in \mathcal{M}$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (c) \mathcal{M} is said to be *sequentially closed* (with respect to the topology of set-wise convergence on \mathcal{A}) if, for every sequence (μ_n) in \mathcal{M} such that $\mu(A) := \lim_n \mu_n(A)$ exists for all $A \in \mathcal{A}$, we have $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$.

REMARK. Let \mathcal{A}_0 be a convergence class for \mathcal{M} , and let $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{M}$. If $\mu(A) = \nu(A)$ for all $A \in \mathcal{A}_0$, then $\mu = \nu$.

3.9. THEOREM. *Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping. Furthermore, let \mathcal{M} be a convex family of probability measures on \mathcal{A} which is both T -closed and sequentially closed. If $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} , then the following three statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a probability measure $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$ such that, for every $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the sequence $(A_n E)$ converges ν -a.e.*
- (2) *There is a probability measure $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$ such that, for every $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the sequence $(A_n E)$ converges in distribution.*
- (3) *There is a T -invariant probability measure $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$.*

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2) is evident.

(2) \Rightarrow (3). By assumption, there is a $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$ such that, for every $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the

sequence $(A_n E(\nu))$ converges weakly to a probability measure ρ_E on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{R})$. From 3.2 we infer

$$\lim_n \int A_n E \nu = \lim_n \int A_n T^{-1} E \nu = \int \text{id}_{\mathbf{R}} d\rho_E \quad \text{for } E \in \mathcal{A}_0.$$

Now we define

$$\mu_n(F) := \int A_n F \nu = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} T^k(\nu)(F) \quad \text{for } F \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } n \in \mathbf{N}.$$

As \mathcal{M} is convex and T -closed, we have $(\mu_n) \subset \mathcal{M}$. In addition, $\lim_n \mu_n(E) = \lim_n \mu_n(T^{-1}E)$ exists for all $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$. Since \mathcal{A}_0 is a convergence class for the sequentially closed set \mathcal{M} , there exists a probability measure $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $\mu(A) = \lim_n \mu_n(A)$ holds for all $A \in \mathcal{A}$. Furthermore, for $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$, we have

$$\mu(E) = \lim_n \mu_n(E) = \lim_n \mu_n(T^{-1}E) = \mu(T^{-1}E).$$

Thus μ is T -invariant by the preceding remark.

(3) \Rightarrow (1) holds in view of Birkhoff's ergodic theorem. □

An analysis of the proof of the implication (2) \Rightarrow (3) of 3.9 reveals that the arguments of Wright ([14]) can be used to prove the following generalization of the main results of [14].

3.10. THEOREM. *Let (X, \mathcal{A}, ν) be a probability space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping such that $T(\nu) \ll \nu$. Assume that $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$ where \mathcal{M} is a convex family of probability measures on \mathcal{A} which is both T -closed and sequentially closed. Furthermore, let $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}$ be a convergence class for \mathcal{M} such that, for every $E \in \mathcal{A}_0$, the sequence $(A_n E)$ converges in distribution. Then there exists a T -invariant probability measure $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ such that*

(i) $\mu \ll \nu$ and (ii) $\mu(A) = \nu(A)$ for $A \in \mathcal{A}$ with $\nu(A \Delta T^{-1}A) = 0$ holds.

If, in addition, T is incompressible (i.e. $\nu(A - T^{-1}A) = 0$ implies $\nu(T^{-1}A - A) = 0$) or T is an automorphism (i.e. T is bijective and T^{-1} is also \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable), then (i) can be replaced by the stronger property (i') $\mu \sim \nu$.

Next we will study several topological special cases of 3.9.

3.11. COROLLARY. *Let X be a topological space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$, $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$ -measurable mapping. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a Baire probability measure on X such that, for any $U \in \mathcal{U}(X)$, the sequence $(A_n U)$ converges in distribution.*
- (2) *There is a T -invariant Baire probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Let \mathcal{M} be the family of all probability measures on $\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{B}_0(X)$. By [3], 4.2, $\mathcal{A}_0 := \mathcal{U}(X)$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} . Thus our claim follows from 3.9. □

3.12. COROLLARY. *Let X be a Hausdorff space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a continuous map. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a Radon probability measure on X such that, for any $G \in \mathcal{G}(X)$, the sequence $(A_n G)$ converges in distribution.*
- (2) *There is a T -invariant Radon probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Let \mathcal{M} be the family of all Radon probability measures on X . By [3], 4.3, $\mathcal{A}_0 := \mathcal{G}(X)$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} . Thus 3.9 completes the proof. □

3.13. COROLLARY. *Let X be a regular topological space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a continuous map. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a τ -smooth Borel probability measure on X such that, for any $G \in \mathcal{G}_r(X)$, the sequence $(A_n G)$ converges in distribution.*
- (2) *There is a T -invariant τ -smooth Borel probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Let \mathcal{M} be the family of all τ -smooth probability measures on $\mathcal{B}(X)$. By [3], 4.9, $\mathcal{A}_0 := \mathcal{G}_r(X)$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} . Now our claim follows from 3.9. □

3.14. COROLLARY. *Let X be a completely regular topological space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a continuous map. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a τ -smooth Borel probability measure on X such that, for any $U \in \mathcal{U}(X)$, the sequence $(A_n U)$ converges in distribution.*
- (2) *There is a T -invariant τ -smooth Borel probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Let \mathcal{M} be the family of all τ -smooth probability measures on $\mathcal{B}(X)$. By [3], 4.5, $\mathcal{A}_0 := \mathcal{U}(X)$ is a convergence class for \mathcal{M} . Now 3.9 completes the proof. □

3.15. COROLLARY. *Let X be a normal topological space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a closed continuous map. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There is a regular Borel probability measure on X such that, for any $U \in \mathcal{U}(X)$, the sequence $(A_n U)$ converges in distribution.*

- (2) *There is a regular Borel probability measure on X such that, for any $G \in \mathcal{G}_r(X)$, the sequence $(A_n G)$ converges in distribution.*
- (3) *There is a T -invariant regular Borel probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Let \mathcal{M} be the family of all regular probability measures on $\mathcal{B}(X)$. Since T is closed and continuous, \mathcal{M} is T -closed. By [3], 4.6 and 4.10, both $\mathcal{U}(X)$ and $\mathcal{G}_r(X)$ are convergence classes for \mathcal{M} . Now our claim follows from 3.9. □

REMARK. In view of 3.9, one can replace, in the statements 3.10–3.15, the convergence in distribution by the convergence a.e.

Next we will present a substantial generalization of a theorem due to Oxtoby and Ulam [10] (cf. 3.21). As for the proof, we have taken over from [10] the basic idea of using Banach limits. However, whereas Oxtoby and Ulam apply Carathéodory’s outer measure method, our procedure is based on an inner measure approach.

Recall that a *Banach limit* is a real-valued linear functional L defined on the vector space l_∞ of all bounded sequences of real numbers such that

- (i) $L(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots) \geq 0$ if $x_k \geq 0$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$;
- (ii) $L(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots) = L(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$;
- (iii) $L(1, 1, 1, \dots) = 1$.

We need the following functional analytic result which is a simple consequence of the Hahn–Banach theorem (see [9], pp. 64–65).

3.16. LEMMA. *Let $y = (y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots)$ be a fixed element of l_∞ . Then there exists a Banach limit L such that*

$$L(y) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} y_i.$$

3.17. THEOREM. *Let $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ be a semicompact lattice, \mathcal{A} a σ -algebra in X with $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{A} \subset \sigma(\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{K}_\delta))$ and $T: X \rightarrow X$ an \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} -measurable mapping. Assume that the family \mathcal{M} of all \mathcal{K}_δ -regular probability measures on \mathcal{A} is T -closed. Furthermore, let $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ be a lattice satisfying the following conditions:*

- (α) *For every $K \in \mathcal{K}$, there is a set $G \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $K \subset G$.*
- (β) *$K \in \mathcal{K}$ and $G \in \mathcal{G}$ imply $K - G \in \mathcal{K}$.*
- (γ) *\mathcal{G} separates \mathcal{K} (i.e. for any disjoint sets $K_1, K_2 \in \mathcal{K}$, there are disjoint sets $G_1, G_2 \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $K_i \subset G_i$ for $i = 1, 2$).*

(δ) $T^{-1}\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{G}$.

Then the following three statements are equivalent:

- (1) There exist a set $K_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ and a point $x_0 \in X$ such that $\lim_n A_n K_0(x_0) > 0$.
- (2) There exist a set $K_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ and a point $x_0 \in X$ such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n K_0(x_0) > 0.$$

- (3) There exists a T -invariant element of \mathcal{M} .

PROOF. We only prove (2) \Rightarrow (3), since the implication (3) \Rightarrow (1) can be proved in the same way as the corresponding part of Theorem 1 in [10]. For any $Q \subset X$ write $s_Q := (1_Q(T^k(x_0)))_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$. Let L be a Banach limit with the additional property

$$L(s_{K_0}) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n K_0(x_0)$$

(see 3.16).

Define a set function $\gamma : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $\gamma(G) := L(s_G)$. Obviously γ is isotone, additive and subadditive. For any $K \in \mathcal{K}$, set $\lambda(K) := \inf\{\gamma(G) : K \subset G \in \mathcal{G}\}$. By [11], Lemma 2, λ is a tight content. Thus, by [1], 2.7, λ can be extended to a \mathcal{H}_δ -regular measure μ on \mathcal{A} . Observe that $\lambda(K) \leq 1$ for all $K \in \mathcal{K}$ and $\lambda(K_0) \geq L(s_{K_0}) > 0$ by (2). Therefore, w.l.o.g., we can and do assume $\mu(X) = 1$, i.e. $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. Since \mathcal{M} is T -closed, we have $\nu := T(\mu) \in \mathcal{M}$. To prove the T -invariance of μ it suffices to show $\nu(K) \leq \mu(K)$ for $K \in \mathcal{K}$. This implies $\nu \leq \mu$ which together with $\nu(X) = \mu(X)$ yields $\nu = \mu$.

Suppose that we have $\nu(K) > \mu(K)$ for some $K \in \mathcal{K}$. Choose a set $G \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $K \subset G$ and $\nu(K) > \gamma(G)$. As L is a Banach limit, we have $\gamma(G) = \gamma(T^{-1}G)$ and so $\mu(T^{-1}K) > \gamma(T^{-1}G)$. On the other hand, $T^{-1}K \subset T^{-1}G$ implies $\mu(T^{-1}K) \leq \gamma(T^{-1}G)$. This contradiction proves our claim. □

3.18. COROLLARY. Let $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbb{R}^X$ be a Daniell lattice of bounded functions with $1 \in \mathcal{V}$. If $T : X \rightarrow X$ is a mapping such that $f \circ T \in \mathcal{V}$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}$, then there exists a T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{V})$.

PROOF. Put $\mathcal{K} := \{\{f \geq 1\} : f \in \mathcal{V}\}$ and $\mathcal{G} := \{\{f > 1\} : f \in \mathcal{V}\}$. It is easy to see that \mathcal{K} and \mathcal{G} are lattices of subsets of X which satisfy the conditions (α)–(δ) of 3.17. In addition, \mathcal{K} is semicompact by [2], Corollary 1. Since $1 \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\mathcal{A} := \sigma(\mathcal{V})$ is generated by \mathcal{K} , every probability measure on \mathcal{A} is \mathcal{H}_δ -regular. As condition (1) of 3.17 is satisfied for $K_0 = X$, the proof is complete. □

3.19. COROLLARY. *Let $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ be a δ -lattice with $X \in \mathcal{L}$ such that $\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{L})$ holds. Then, for any mapping $T: X \rightarrow X$ with $T^{-1}\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{L}$, there exists a T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L}))$.*

PROOF. By [2], Theorem 3, $\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{C}^b(\mathcal{L})$ is a Daniell lattice with $1 \in \mathcal{V}$. If $T: X \rightarrow X$ is a mapping satisfying $T^{-1}\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{L}$, then $f \circ T \in \mathcal{V}$ for $f \in \mathcal{V}$. Thus our claim follows from 3.18. □

3.20. COROLLARY. *Let X be a pseudocompact topological space. Then, for any continuous mapping $T: X \rightarrow X$, there exists a T -invariant Baire probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Apply 3.19 with $\mathcal{L} := \mathcal{F}(X)$. □

REMARKS. (a) The assumption of pseudocompactness is essential for the validity of 3.20: Consider the translation $T(x) = x + 1$ on the real line \mathbf{R} . T is a homeomorphism, but there is no T -invariant probability measure on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{R})$.

(b) It seems to be unknown whether the converse of 3.20 is also true, i.e. is a topological space X pseudocompact if for any continuous map $T: X \rightarrow X$ a T -invariant Baire probability measure on X exists?

The following result extends Theorem 1 of [10] from Polish spaces to arbitrary Hausdorff spaces.

3.21. COROLLARY. *Let X be a Hausdorff space and $T: X \rightarrow X$ a continuous map. Then the following three statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *There exist a compact set $K_0 \subset X$ and a point $x_0 \in X$ such that $\lim_n A_n K_0(x_0) > 0$.*
- (2) *There exist a compact set $K_0 \subset X$ and a point $x_0 \in X$ such that*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n K_0(x_0) > 0.$$

- (3) *There exists a T -invariant Radon probability measure on X .*

PROOF. Immediate consequence of 3.17 with $\mathcal{K} := \mathcal{K}(X)$, $\mathcal{G} := \mathcal{G}(X)$ and $\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{B}(X)$. □

3.22. COROLLARY. *Let X be an uncountable set and put*

$$\mathcal{K} := \{K \subset X: K \text{ or } X - K \text{ is finite}\}.$$

If $T: X \rightarrow X$ is a mapping such that $T^{-1}\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{K}$ holds, then there is a

T-invariant probability measure on $\mathcal{A} := \sigma(\mathcal{X}) = \{A \subset X : A \text{ or } X - A \text{ is countable}\}$.

PROOF. \mathcal{X} is a semicompact algebra. Thus our claim follows from 3.17 with $\mathcal{G} := \mathcal{X}$. □

REMARKS. (a) The following simple example shows that the condition $T^{-1}\mathcal{X} \subset \mathcal{X}$ is essential for the validity of 3.22:

Let $X := [0, \infty)$ and $A_0 := X - \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$ where A_n denotes the set of all rationals in the interval $[n - 1, n)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $A_n \in \sigma(\mathcal{X})$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Fix some element $x_n \in A_n$ and define $T(x) := x_{n+1}$ if $x \in A_n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Obviously T is $\sigma(\mathcal{X})$, $\sigma(\mathcal{X})$ -measurable. Assume that there is a T -invariant probability measure μ on $\sigma(\mathcal{X})$. Setting $p_n := \mu(A_n)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, we have

$$0 \leq p_n = \mu(T^{-1}x_{n+1}) = \mu(\{x_{n+1}\}) \leq \mu(A_{n+1}) = p_{n+1}.$$

Thus (p_n) is increasing which, however, contradicts $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n = 1$.

(b) Let X be a countable set. Then the algebra \mathcal{X} is, in general, not semicompact. Equipping X with the discrete topology, we infer from 3.21 that, for an arbitrary map $T : X \rightarrow X$, a T -invariant probability measure on $\sigma(\mathcal{X})$ exists if and only if there are two points $x, y \in X$ such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\{y\}(x) > 0$$

holds. That the latter condition is not implied by the inclusion $T^{-1}\mathcal{X} \subset \mathcal{X}$ can be seen e.g. for the translation $T(x) := x + 1$ on the integers.

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