

# INFINITE PRODUCTS OF INFINITE MEASURES

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ABSTRACT. Let  $(X_i, \mathcal{B}_i, m_i)$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) be a sequence of Borel measure spaces. There is a Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} X_i$  such that if  $K_i \subseteq X_i$  is compact for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(K_i)$  converges then

$$\mu\left(\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} K_i\right) = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(K_i)$$

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(X_i, \mathcal{B}_i, m_i)$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) be a sequence of Borel measure spaces, where each  $X_i$  is a Hausdorff topological space. We prove the following:

**Theorem 1.1.** *There is a Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\prod_i X_i$  (with respect to the product topology) such that if  $K_i \subseteq X_i$  is compact for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(K_i)$  converges then  $\mu\left(\prod_i K_i\right) = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(K_i)$*

We note that the result even for the case where  $X_i = \mathbb{R}$  and  $m_i$  is Lebesgue measure was proved only fairly recently ([2]), and moreover the techniques used in [2] to prove this special case depend heavily on the metric structure of  $\mathbb{R}$ . The proof we use for this more general result is very different, but not more difficult.

## 2. LEMMAS

We begin with some useful lemmas. The first concerns the behavior of infinite products, and was certainly known to Euler, though perhaps a rigorous proof was as recent as Cauchy. For completeness we include a proof in Section 4.

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We say that a product  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i$  converges to  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  (in which case we write  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i = r$ ) if  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i \leq N} a_i = r$ . (We remark that the definition of ‘convergence’ is often restricted to preclude the case  $r = 0$ ; we make no such restriction here.)

**Lemma 2.1.** *Suppose  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i = r$  and  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} b_i = s$ . Then:*

1. *If  $r \neq 0$  then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i \geq N} a_i = 1$ ;*
2.  *$\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i b_i = rs$ ;*
3. *If  $s \neq 0$  then  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{a_i}{b_i} = \frac{r}{s}$ ;*
4. *If  $0 \leq c_i \leq a_i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} c_i$  converges (possibly to 0);*
5. *If  $0 \leq a_i \leq b_i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $r \neq 0$  then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i \geq N} (1 - \frac{a_i}{b_i}) = 0$ .*

The next two lemmas are general measure-theoretic results. Recall that a *measurable space* is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  where  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$ . If  $\mu$  is a measure on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  and  $Z \in \mathcal{B}$  then let  $\mu|_Z$  be the new measure on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  defined by  $\mu|_Z(E) = \mu(E \cap Z)$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** (Pasting Lemma) *Let  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  be a measurable space,  $\mathcal{Z}$  a subset of  $\mathcal{B}$  which is closed under finite unions, and suppose  $\{\mu_Z\}_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}}$  are finite measures on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  satisfying: if  $Z_1 \subseteq Z_2$  then  $\mu_{Z_1} = (\mu_{Z_2})|_{Z_1}$ . Then  $\mu = \sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}} \mu_Z$  defines a (possibly infinite) measure on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$ .*

*Proof.* The only nontrivial verification is countable additivity. Let  $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of disjoint elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ , and put  $A = \bigcup_n A_n$ . Since for any  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$   $\mu_Z(A) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu_Z(A_n) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n)$ ,  $\mu(A) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n)$ . In particular, if  $\mu(A) = \infty$  then  $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) = \infty$ . Suppose conversely that  $\mu(A) = r < \infty$ , and (for a contradiction) that  $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) > r + \epsilon$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ . For some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\sum_{n \leq N} \mu(A_n) > r + \epsilon$ . Since  $\mathcal{Z}$  is closed under finite unions, there is a  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that  $\sum_{n \leq N} \mu_Z(A_n) > r + \epsilon$ . Then  $\mu(A) \geq \mu_Z(A) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu_Z(A_n) \geq \sum_{n \leq N} \mu_Z(A_n) > r + \epsilon$ , a contradiction.  $\dashv$

Suppose  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  is a measurable space, that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a family of finite measures on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$ , and that  $Y$  is a topological space. Call a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$   $\mathcal{M}$ -measurable if for every  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$   $f$  is measurable with respect to the completion of  $\mu$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** (Forgetful Measurability)

Suppose:

1.  $(X_1, \mathcal{B}_1)$  and  $(X_2, \mathcal{B}_2)$  are measurable spaces;
2.  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  is  $X_1 \times X_2$  with the product sigma algebra;
3.  $\{a\} \in \mathcal{B}_2$  for some  $a \in X_2$ ;
4.  $\mathcal{M}_1$  is a family of finite measures on  $(X_1, \mathcal{B}_1)$ ;
5.  $\mathcal{M} = \{\mu \times \delta_a : \mu \in \mathcal{M}_1\}$  (where  $\delta_a$  is a point mass at  $a$ );
6.  $g : X_1 \rightarrow Y$  for some topological space  $Y$ ; and
7.  $f(x_1, x_2) = g(x_1)$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -measurable.

Then  $g$  is  $\mathcal{M}_1$ -measurable.

*Proof.* Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_1$  and  $u \subseteq Y$  open; we need to show that  $g^{-1}(u)$  is completion-measurable for  $(X_1, \mathcal{B}_1, \mu)$ .  $L = X_1 \times \{a\}$ , and  $\nu = \mu \times \delta_a$ . Observe that if  $E \in \mathcal{B}$  then  $E \cap L = E_1 \times \{a\}$  for some  $E_1 \in \mathcal{B}_1$  (This is clearly true when  $E$  is a measurable rectangle, and the property is preserved under complements and countable unions, so it holds for all of  $\mathcal{B}$ .) It follows that the completion of  $\nu$  is the product of the completion of  $\mu$  with  $\delta_a$ . By hypothesis  $f^{-1}(u)$ , and therefore  $L \cap f^{-1}(u) = g^{-1}(u) \times \{a\}$ , is  $\nu$ -measurable, so  $g^{-1}(u)$  is  $\mu$ -measurable.  $\dashv$

## 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

Put  $X = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} X_i$ , and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$  with respect to the product topology.

Call a product  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} E_i$  a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube if each  $E_i$  is a compact subset of  $X_i$  and  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(E_i) = r$  for some  $r \in (0, \infty)$ . If instead each  $E_i$  is an open subset of  $X_i$  than call  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} E_i$  a  $\mathcal{U}$ -tube. Note that while a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube is necessarily compact, a  $\mathcal{U}$ -tube will not in general be open.

The problem is to find a measure on  $(X, \mathcal{B})$  that assigns the ‘correct’ probability to  $\mathcal{K}$ -tubes.

Let  $\mathcal{Z}$  consist of all (nonempty) finite unions of  $\mathcal{K}$ -tubes.

For the remainder of the paper it will be convenient to work in the framework of nonstandard analysis; we adopt the notation of [2].

Fix once and for all some  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}$ . If  $E = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} E_i$  write  $\#E = \prod_{i \leq H} E_i$ ; extend this in the obvious way to finite unions of such sets.

Define a partial function  $\text{st}_\# : {}^\#X \rightarrow X$  by  $\text{st}_\#(\langle x_i \rangle_{i \leq H}) = \langle x_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$

The following is a truncated version of Tychonoff’s Theorem:

**Proposition 3.1.** *If  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  then  $\#Z \subseteq \text{st}_\#^{-1}(Z)$*

*Proof.* It suffices to assume that  $Z = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} K_i$ ,  $K_i$  compact. If  $\langle x_i \rangle_{i \leq H} \in \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} K_i$  then  $x_i \in {}^*K_i$  for all standard  $i$ ; since  $K_i$  is compact,  $x_i$  exists in  $K_i$ , so  $\text{st}_\#(\langle x_i \rangle_i) \in \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} K_i$   $\dashv$

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  then the  $\text{st}_\#$  is universally Loeb measurable from  $\#Z$  to  $Z$  (and hence to  $X$ ).*

*Proof.* This follows immediately from forgetful measurability, compactness of  $Z$ , and the fact (see [1]) that the standard part map on  ${}^*Y$  is universally Loeb measurable for any compact Hausdorff space  $Y$ .  $\dashv$

Let  $\lambda$  be the product measure  $\prod_{i \leq H} m_i$  on  $\#X$ , and for  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  let  $\lambda_Z = \lambda|_{\#Z}$ . Note  $\lambda_Z$  is finite. For each  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  apply the Loeb measure construction (see [1]) to the internal  ${}^*$ Borel measure  $\lambda_Z$  to get a standard, complete measure  $\lambda_{ZL}$ . By Lemma 3.1  $\text{st}_\#$  is  $\lambda_{ZL}$ -measurable from  $\#Z$  to  $X$ ; let  $\mu_Z$  be the Borel image measure on  $X$  of  $\lambda_{ZL}$  under  $\text{st}_\#$ . (Note in particular that  $\mu_Z = \mu_Z|_Z$ .)

The measures  $\mu_Z$  ( $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$ ) evidently satisfy the hypothesis of the Pasting Lemma, so  $\mu = \sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}} \mu_Z$  defines a Borel measure on  $X$ . The next two lemmas show that  $\mu$  gives the right measure to  $\mathcal{K}$ -tubes.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Suppose  $E = \prod_i E_i$  and  $F = \prod_i F_i$  are  $\mathcal{K}$ -tubes, that  $U = \prod_i U_i$  is a  $\mathcal{U}$ -tube, and  $E \subseteq U$ . Then  $\lambda_{FL}(\text{st}_\#^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F \setminus \#U)) = 0$*

*Proof.* Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{st}_\#^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F \setminus \#U) &= \{ \langle x_i \rangle_{i \leq H} \in \#F : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \circ x_i \in E_i \cap F_i \text{ and } \exists \text{ infinite } i \leq H \ x_i \in (F_i \setminus U_i) \} \\ &\subseteq \{ \langle x_i \rangle_{i \leq H} \in \#F : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \ x_i \in U_i \cap F_i \text{ and } \exists \text{ infinite } i \leq H \ x_i \in (F_i \setminus U_i) \} \end{aligned}$$

We now consider two cases:

1.  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(F_i \cap U_i) = 0$ : Let  $\epsilon > 0$ ; then for sufficiently large  $N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\prod_{i \leq N_0} m_i(F_i \cap U_i) < \epsilon$  and, since  $F$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube,  $\prod_{i > N_0} m_i(F_i) < 1 + \epsilon$  (by Lemma 2.1). It follows from the latter inequality and the nonstandard criterion for convergence (see Section 4) that  $\prod_{N_0 < i \leq H} m_i(F_i) < 1 + \epsilon$ . By the properties of finite product measures, transferred to  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda(\prod_{i \leq N_0} (F_i \cap U_i) \times \prod_{N_0 < i \leq H} F_i) < \epsilon(1 + \epsilon)$ . It

suffices to observe (by the note above) that  $\text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F \setminus \#U) \subseteq$   
 $* \prod_{i \leq N_0} (F_i \cap U_i) \times \prod_{N_0 < i \leq H} F_i$ .

2.  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(F_i \cap U_i)$  doesn't converge to 0: Then by Lemma 2.1,  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(F_i \cap U_i)$  converges to a positive value. Put  $r = \lambda(\#F) \approx \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} m_i(F_i)$ . If  $n \leq H$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda((F_n \setminus U_n) \times \prod_{n \neq i \leq H} F_i) &= m_n(F_n \setminus U_n) \times \prod_{n \neq i \leq H} m_i F_i \\ &= r \frac{m_n(F_n \setminus U_n)}{m_n(F_n)} \\ &= r \left(1 - \frac{m_n(F_n \cap U_n)}{m_n(F_n)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

If  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\lambda_{FL} \left( \bigcup_{N \leq n \leq H} (F_n \setminus U_n) \times \prod_{n \neq i \leq H} F_i \right) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq N} r \left(1 - \frac{m_n(F_n \cap U_n)}{m_n(F_n)}\right)$$

Since the right-hand summand tends to 0 as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  (By Lemma 2.1), and

$$\text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F \setminus \#U) \subseteq \bigcup_{N \leq n \leq H} (F_n \setminus U_n) \times \prod_{n \neq i \leq H} F_i$$

for any standard  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , the lemma follows.  $\dashv$

**Lemma 3.3.** *If  $E = \prod_i E_i$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube then  $\mu(E) = \prod_i m_i(E_i)$*

*Proof.* Put  $r = \prod_i m_i(E_i)$ . It suffices to show that  $\mu_Z(E) = r$  for all  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$  containing  $E$ ; so let  $Z = E \cup F^1 \cup \dots \cup F^m$ , where each  $F^i$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube. Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ , and let  $\langle r_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be any sequence from  $(1, \infty)$  such that  $\prod_i r_i \leq 1 + \epsilon$ , for example  $r_i = (1 + \epsilon)^{2^{-(i+1)}}$ . Borel measures are outer regular with respect to open sets, so for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  there is an open  $U_i$  with  $E_i \subseteq U_i$  and  $m_i(U_i) < r_i m_i(E_i)$ . Put  $U = \prod_i U_i$ , and note

(by Lemma 2.1) that  $s = \prod_i m_i(U_i)$  exists and  $r \leq s \leq r + r\epsilon$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
r &\approx \lambda_Z(\#E) \\
&\lesssim \lambda_{ZL}(\text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E)) \\
&\leq \lambda_{ZL}(\#U \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^m \text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F^i \setminus \#U)) \\
&\leq s + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_{ZL}(\text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F^i \setminus \#U)) \\
&= s + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_{F^i L}(\text{st}_{\#}^{-1}(E) \cap (\#F^i \setminus \#U)) \\
&\leq r + r\epsilon + \sum_{i=1}^m 0
\end{aligned}$$

The result follows since  $\epsilon$  is arbitrary.  $\dashv$

## REMARKS

1. Suppose each  $m_i$  is Haar measure on a locally compact additive group  $X_i$ . If  $x = \langle x_i \rangle_i \in X$  and  $K$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube then  $x + K$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -tube and  $\lambda(\#(x + K)) = \lambda(\#(K))$ ; it follows that the measure  $\mu$  we have constructed is translation-invariant.
2. We believe that the technique of using a nonstandard measure to ‘control’ the assembly of standard measures in this way is new with this paper.

## 4. PROOF OF LEMMA 2.1

We begin with a couple of easy propositions:

**Proposition 4.1.** *let  $\{a_i\}_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}, r \in \mathbb{R}$ . The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i = r$ ; (ii)  $\prod_{i \leq H} a_i \approx r$  for any infinite  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N}$

*Proof.* This is just the nonstandard criterion for limits, applied to the definition of  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} a_i = r$ .  $\dashv$

**Proposition 4.2.** *Fix  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and suppose  $t = \prod_{i \leq N} a_i \neq 0$ . Then  $\prod_i a_i$  converges to  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  if and only if  $\prod_{i > N} a_i$  converges to  $\frac{r}{t}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N}$  infinite; then  $\prod_{i \leq H} a_i = t\left(\prod_{N < i \leq H} a_i\right)$ , and the result follows from Proposition 4.1.  $\dashv$

We can now prove Lemma 2.1.

1. Since  $r \neq 0$ ,  $t_N = \prod_{i < N} a_i \neq 0$  for any  $N$ , so by Proposition 4.2  $\prod_{i \geq N} a_i = \frac{r}{t_N}$  which tends to  $\frac{r}{r} = 1$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
2. Let  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N}$  be infinite, then  $\prod_{i \leq H} (a_i b_i) = \prod_{i \leq H} a_i \prod_{i \leq H} b_i \approx r s$
3. Just like (2).
4. Without loss of generality we may assume  $c_i > 0$  for all  $i$ . Since  $c_i = (a_i)\left(\frac{c_i}{a_i}\right)$ , by (2) it suffices to show  $\prod_i \frac{c_i}{a_i}$  converges. Note that  $\prod_{i \leq N} \frac{c_i}{a_i}$  is decreasing in  $N$  (since  $0 < \frac{c_i}{a_i} \leq 1$ ), and it is bounded below by 0, so it has a limit in  $[0, 1]$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
5. Write  $c_i = \frac{a_i}{b_i}$ ,  $d_i = 1 - c_i$ . Note  $\prod_i \frac{1}{1-d_i} = \frac{s}{r} < \infty$  by (3). Since  $0 \leq 1 + x \leq \frac{1}{1-x}$  for  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  $\prod_{i \leq N} (1 + d_i) \leq \prod_{i \leq N} \frac{1}{1-d_i}$ , and by multiplying out the terms we have  $\sum_{i \leq N} d_i \leq \prod_{i \leq N} (1 + d_i)$ . It follows that  $\sum_{i \leq N} d_i$  is bounded above as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ; since every  $d_i \geq 0$ , the result follows.  $\dashv$

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