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Nonuniqueness in g -functions. (English) Zbl 0786.60043
Isr. J. Math. 84, No. 1-2, 153-160 (1993).

Let (X_n) be a one-sided shift with a finite state space A . The conditional expectation $P(X_0 = a_0 \mid X_{-1} = a_{-1}, X_{-2} = a_{-2}, \dots)$ gives a function $f(a_0 \mid a_{-1}, a_{-2}, \dots)$ with

$$0 \leq f(a_0 \mid a_{-1}, a_{-2}, \dots) \leq 1, \quad \sum_{a \in A} f(a \mid a_{-1}, a_{-2}, \dots) = 1.$$

Such functions are called g -functions; they were introduced by *W. Doeblin* and *R. Fortet* [Bull. Soc. Math. Fr. 65, 132-148 (1937; [Zbl 0018.03303](#))]. To a g -function there might exist a corresponding stationary process, i.e. a (shift-)invariant measure on $A^{\mathbb{N}}$. *M. Keane* [Invent. Math. 16, 309-324 (1972; [Zbl 0241.28014](#)); for more results see also *H. Berbee*, Probab. Theory Relat. Fields 76, 243-253 (1987; [Zbl 0611.60059](#))] showed that this is the case for continuous g -measures and gave conditions for which the measure is strongly mixing and unique. *B. Petit* [C. R. Acad. Sci., Paris, Sér. A 280, 17-20 (1975; [Zbl 0301.28012](#))] showed that all differentiable g -functions f with

$$\varepsilon \leq f \leq 1 - \varepsilon \tag{*}$$

for some $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$ have unique measures which are weakly Bernoulli. *S. Kalikow* [Isr. J. Math. 71, No. 1, 33-54 (1990; [Zbl 0711.60041](#))] noticed that the continuity of a g -function f is equivalent to uniform convergence of the martingales $P(X_0 = a_0 \mid X_{-1}, X_{-2}, \dots, X_{-n})$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$, $a_0 \in A$, where (X_i) is the corresponding stationary process. The martingales converge uniformly if and only if (X_i) is a random Markov chain, i.e. there exist r.v. N_i with values in \mathbb{N} such that (X_i, N_i) is a stationary process, N_0 is independent of $(a_i, N_i)_{i < 0}$ and

$$P(X_0 = a_0 \mid X_{-1} = a_{-1}, \dots, X_{-n} = a_{-n}, N_0 = n) = P(X_0 = a_0 \mid (X_i)_{i < 0} = (a_i)_{i < 0}, N_0 = n) \tag{**}$$

for all n , $(a_i)_{i < 0}$.

From the proof of Theorem 7 of the Kalikow's paper one can derive that if a continuous g -function f satisfies (*) and (**) with $EN_0 < \infty$, then the corresponding invariant measure is determined uniquely. The paper under review gives an example of a continuous g -function which satisfies (*) but has two measures.

Reviewer: [D. Volný \(Praha\)](#)

MSC:

[60G10](#) Stationary stochastic processes

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