

# SOME PROBLEMS ARISING FROM PREDICTION THEORY AND A THEOREM OF KOLMOGOROV

by

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## 1. INTRODUCTION.

Let  $T = \{ e^{2\pi i x} \mid 0 \leq x < 1 \}$  denote the unit circle identified in the natural way with the interval  $[0, 1]$  and provided with normalized Lebesgue measure  $m$ , so that  $m(T) = 1$ . Denote by  $P$  the vector space of all trigonometric polynomials, and consider the subspaces

$$P_+ = \{ g \in P \mid \hat{g}(k) = 0 \text{ for all } k \leq 0 \}$$

$$P_0 = \{ g \in P \mid \hat{g}(0) = 0 \}$$

If  $\mu$  is a positive finite Borel measure in  $T$ , the distance in  $L^p(\mu)$  between 1 and  $P_+$  is given by the beautiful formula

$$\inf_{g \in P_+} \int |1 + g(x)|^p d\mu(x) = \exp \int \log w(x) dx \quad (1)$$

$(0 < p < \infty)$

where  $d\mu(x) = w(x) dm(x) + d\mu_s(x)$  is the Lebesgue decomposition of  $\mu$ . The identity (1) has important consequences in the Theory of Functions, Fourier Analysis, Orthogonal Polynomials and Prediction Theory. It was first proved by Szegő in the case:  $p = 2$ ,  $\mu \ll m$ , and subsequently generalized by several authors (see Helson [4]). The same question can be asked for  $P_0$  instead of  $P_+$ , i.e., which is the value of

$$d_p(\mu) = \inf_{g \in P_0} \int |1 + g(x)|^p d\mu(x) \quad (2)$$

Observe that  $d_p(\mu) > 0$  means that no character in  $T$  can be approximated in the metric of  $L^p(\mu)$  by linear combinations of characters different from it. In

terms of Prediction Theory.  $d_2(\mu) > 0$  means that, for a certain stochastic process represented by  $\mu$ , the strict past and the strict future together do not determine the present (see [10]). When  $p = 2$ , an answer to this question was given by Kolmogorov:

**Theorem 0:** Let  $d\mu(x) = w(x) dm(x)$ . Then

$$d_2(\mu) = \left( \int_T w(x)^{-1} dm(x) \right)^{-1}$$

In particular,  $d_2(\mu) > 0$  if and only if  $w(x) > 0$  a.e. and  $w^{-1} \in L^1(T)$ .

The proof of theorem 0 is simple and based on orthogonality arguments in the Hilbert space  $L^2(\mu)$ . Our aim here is to present a different approach which is suitable to deal with  $L^p(\mu)$ ,  $0 < p < \infty$ , and even with Orlicz spaces. Some other related problems will be considered along the way.

## 2. THE MAIN RESULT FOR ORLICZ SPACES.

The following notation will be used throughout.  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  will be two conjugate Young functions in  $[0, \infty)$ , and  $L_\Phi(\mu)$ ,  $L_\Psi(\mu)$  will denote the corresponding Orlicz spaces defined on the measure space  $(T, \mu)$ . Here  $\mu$  is a positive finite Borel measure in  $T$  with Lebesgue decomposition:

$$d\mu(x) = w(x) dm(x) + d\mu_s(x).$$

When  $\mu$  is absolutely continuous, we identify  $\mu$  with the weight  $w(x)$ , and write  $L_\Phi(w)$  instead of  $L_\Phi(\mu)$ . Finally, for every trigonometric polynomial  $f \in P$ , we denote by  $Hf(x) = \tilde{f}(x)$  the conjugate of  $f$ , and by

$$S_n f(x) = \sum_{|k| \leq n} \hat{f}(k) \exp(2\pi i k x)$$

the  $n$ -th partial sum of  $f$ .

**Theorem 1:** The following statements are equivalent:

- a)  $\inf \{ \|1 + g\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} : g \in P_0 \} = c > 0$
- b)  $w(x) > 0$  a.e. and  $w^{-1} \in L_\Psi(w)$

- c)  $m(\{x: |Hf(x)| > t\}) \leq Ct^{-1} \|f\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} \quad (f \in P)$   
 d)  $m(\{x: |S_n f(x)| > t\}) \leq Ct^{-1} \|f\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} \quad (f \in P; n \geq 0)$

where  $C > 0$  denotes an absolute constant which depends only on  $\mu$ .

*Proof:* (a) implies (b). For every  $f \in P$  we have the inequality

$$|\hat{f}(0)| \leq c^{-1} \|f\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} \quad (3)$$

In fact, this is obvious when  $\hat{f}(0) = 0$ , and when  $\hat{f}(0) \neq 0$  we apply (a) to the trigonometric polynomial  $[\hat{f}(0)]^{-1} f \in 1 + P_0$ . Let  $E_\Phi(\mu)$  denote the closure of  $P$  in  $L_\Phi(\mu)$ , which coincides with the closure of  $L^\infty(\mu)$  in  $L_\Phi(\mu)$  (by Lusin's theorem and Weierstrass' approximation theorem). By (3), the mapping  $f \rightarrow \hat{f}(0)$  extends to a continuous linear functional on  $E_\Phi(\mu)$ , and it is known ([6]) that all such functionals are represented by functions in  $L_\Psi(\mu)$ , i.e., there exists  $h \in L_\Psi(\mu)$  such that

$$\int f(x) dm(x) = \hat{f}(0) = \int f(x) h(x) d\mu(x) \quad (f \in P) \quad (4)$$

It follows that  $h d\mu = dm$ , i.e.

$$h = 0 \quad \mu_s \cdot \text{ a.e.}, \quad h(x) = w(x)^{-1} m \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Therefore,  $h \in L_\Psi(\mu)$  is equivalent to  $w^{-1} \in L_\Psi(w)$ .

(b) implies (c) and (d). We shall need the extension of Hölder's inequality

$$\|fg\|_{L^1} \leq \|f\|_{L_\Phi} \|g\|_{L_\Psi}$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{L_\Phi}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{L_\Psi}$  are the Orlicz norms. By Kolmogorov's inequality (see [11])

$$\begin{aligned} m(\{x: |Hf(x)| > t\}) &\leq At^{-1} \int |f(x)| dm(x) = \\ &= At^{-1} \int |f| w^{-1} w dm \leq A \|w^{-1}\|_{L_\Psi(w)} t^{-1} \|f\|_{L_\Phi(w)} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|w^{-1}\|_{L_\Phi(w)} < \infty$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{L_\Phi(w)} \leq \|\cdot\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)}$ , we have proved (c). The same argument can be applied to  $\{S_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  instead of  $H$  to prove (d).

(c) implies (a). For every  $f \in P$  we have

$$Hf(x) \cdot e^{2\pi i x} H(fe^{-2\pi i \cdot})(x) = -i [\hat{f}(0) + \hat{f}(1) e^{2\pi i x}]$$

and from (c) we obtain

$$m(\{x: |\hat{f}(0) + \hat{f}(1) e^{2\pi i x}| \geq t\}) \leq 4 C t^{-1} \|f\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} \quad (f \in P)$$

Now, if  $\hat{f}(0) = 1$ , there is an interval of length  $1/2$  such that, for all  $x$  in that interval:  $\operatorname{Re}(\hat{f}(1) e^{2\pi i x}) \leq 0$ , and therefore  $|1 + \hat{f}(1) e^{2\pi i x}| \geq 1$ . Then

$$1/2 \leq 4 C \|f\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} \quad (f \in 1 + P_0)$$

which is (a).

(d) implies (a). It suffices to use the inequality for  $S_0 f = \hat{f}(0)$ , which gives (3) for every  $f \in P$ , and (3) is equivalent to (a).

**Remarks:** 1.- A retrospective look at the proof of the theorem shows that the best  $C$  in (c) and (d) is equivalent to  $1/c$  and to  $\|w^{-1}\|_{L_\Psi(w)}$ , i.e.

$$1/c \leq k_1 \|w^{-1}\|_{L_\Psi(w)} \leq k_2 C \leq k_3/c$$

for some constants  $k_1, k_2, k_3 > 0$  independent of  $\mu$ .

2.- If  $\Psi$  satisfies the  $\Delta_2$  condition:

$$\Psi(2t) \leq (\text{Const.}) \Psi(t), t > 0,$$

then (b) can be written as

$$\int \Psi(w(x)^{-1}) w(x) dm(x) < \infty$$

### 3. THE CASE OF $L^p$ SPACES.

The proof of theorem 1 shows that, in general

$$\inf \{ \|1 + g\|_{L_\Phi(\mu)} : g \in P_0 \}^{-1}$$

equals the norm of  $w^{-1}$  as an element of  $[E_\Phi(w)]^*$ . When  $\Phi(t) = t^p$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$ , this is exactly  $\|w^{-1}\|_{L^{p'}(w)}$ . Thus we have

**Theorem 2:** Let  $d_p(\mu)$  be defined by (2). If  $1 < p < \infty$ , we have  $d_p(\mu) > 0$  if and only if  $w^{-p'/p} \in L^1(T)$ , and, more precisely

$$d_p(\mu) = \left\{ \int w(x)^{-p'/p} d\mu(x) \right\}^{-p/p'}$$

Observe that Kolmogorov's theorem 0 is a particular case of theorem 2. The case  $p = 1$  can be treated exactly as in theorem 1 (and it is even simpler), with  $L_p$  and  $L_\psi$  replaced by  $L^1$  and  $L^\infty$  respectively. We limit ourselves to state the results:

**Theorem 3:** The following statements are equivalent:

- a)  $d_1(\mu) = \inf \{ \int |1 + g| d\mu : g \in P_0 \} > 0$
- b) there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $k \leq w(x)$  a.e.
- c)  $H$  extends to a bounded operator from  $L^1(\mu)$  into  $L_*^1(T) = \text{weak-}L^1(T)$ .

Moreover, we have the identity

$$d_1(\mu) = \|w^{-1}\|_\infty^{-1} = \text{ess inf}_{x \in T} w(x)$$

**Theorem 4:**  $d_p(\mu) = 0$  for all  $0 < p < 1$ .

*Proof:* If  $d_p(\mu) > 0$  for some  $p < 1$ , then  $f \rightarrow \hat{f}(0)$  extends to a continuous linear functional on  $L^p(\mu)$ , and (4) will be verified for some function  $h$  which is a countable linear combination of  $\mu$ -atoms ([2]). In particular,  $\text{supp}(h) \subset \text{supp}(\mu_s)$ . (Since there are no  $\mu$ -atoms in the absolutely continuous part of  $\mu$ ) and this makes (4) impossible.

The result of theorem 2, and in particular, the formula for  $d_p(\mu)$ , merits further discussion. First, if we recall that, in a probability space, the norms  $\|g\|_r$  converge to the geometric mean of  $|g|$  as  $r \rightarrow 0$  (see [5], 13.32) we have

**Corollary 1:**  $d_p(\mu)$  is an increasing function of  $p$ , and

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} d_p(\mu) = \exp \int \log w(x) d\mu(x)$$

If one combines this with Szegő's formula, it turns out that, although the left hand side of (1) is greater than  $d_p(\mu)$  for each  $p > 0$ , both terms converge to the same limit when  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Corollary 2:** *The following statements are equivalent:*

- a)  $\log w \in L^1(T)$
- b)  $\inf \{ \int |1 + g|^p d\mu : g \in P_+ \} > 0$  for all  $p > 0$
- c)  $\inf \{ \int |1 + g|^p d\mu : g \in P_+ \} > 0$  for some  $p > 0$
- d)  $\inf \{ \int |1 + g|^p d\mu : g \in P_0 \} > 0$  for some  $p > 0$
- e)  $\inf \{ \|1 + g\|_{\exp L(\mu)} : g \in P_0 \} > 0$

In fact, it is obvious from (1) that (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (c), the equivalence (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d) follows from Corollary 1, and the remark 2 of the previous section applied to

$$\Psi(t) = t \log^+ t, \text{ yields (a) } \Leftrightarrow \text{(e).}$$

There is a final remark to make if the formula for  $d_p(\mu)$  is written as

$$\inf_{g \in P_0} \int |1 + g(x)/p|^p w(x) dm(x) = \left\{ \int w(x)^{-p'/p} dm(x) \right\}^{-p/p} \\ (1 < p < \infty)$$

Letting  $p \rightarrow \infty$  and proceeding formally (i.e., replacing  $\lim(\inf \dots)$  by  $\inf(\lim \dots)$ ) one gets

$$\inf_{g \in P_0} \int e^{R_g(x)} w(x) dm(x) = \exp \int \log w(x) dm(x) \quad (5)$$

It turns out that (5) actually holds, and it is a well known identity ([9], 8.3).

#### 4. A RELATED PROBLEM.

The condition  $w^{-p'/p} \in L^1(T)$  appearing in theorem 2, which is equivalent to  $L^p(w) \subsetneq L^1(T)$ , seems to be also the answer to several other questions. For instance, it is necessary and sufficient for the existence of some  $u(x) > 0$  such that

$$\int |Hf(x)|^p u(x) dm(x) \leq \int |f(x)|^p w(x) dm(x) \quad (f \in P)$$

(see [7], [8], [1]). The problem that we shall consider here is the following. For a given  $w \in L^1_+(T)$ ,  $H^p(w)$  and  $\widetilde{H}^p(w)$  denote, respectively, the closures in  $L^p(w)$  of the subspaces

$$\mathbb{C} \oplus P_+ = \{ g \in P \mid \hat{g}(k) = 0 \text{ for all } k < 0 \}$$

$$\mathbb{C} \oplus P_- = \{ g \in P \mid \hat{g}(k) = 0 \text{ for all } k > 0 \}$$

and we ask ourselves, for which  $w$  is  $H^p(w) \cap \tilde{H}^p(w) = \mathbb{C} = \{ \text{constant functions} \}$ . In terms of Prediction Theory, this condition means, in the case  $p=2$ , that the intersection of the past and the future is the present (where past and future refer to the stochastic process spectrally represented by  $w$ dm). For some similar questions, see [10].

**Theorem 5 :** *If  $w^{-p'/p} \in L^1(T)$ , then  $H^p(w) \cap \tilde{H}^p(w) = \mathbb{C}$ . However, if  $0 < q < p'/p$ , there exists  $w(x) > 0$  such that  $w^{-q} \in L^1(T)$  and*

$$H^p(w) \cap \tilde{H}^p(w) \supsetneq \mathbb{C}.$$

*Proof:*

Assume that

$$k = \left\{ \int w(x)^{-p'/p} dm(x) \right\}^{1/p'} < \infty$$

If  $f \in H^p(w) \cap \tilde{H}^p(w)$ , then  $f, \bar{f} \in H^p(w)$ , and there exist trigonometric polynomials  $\{P_n\}$  and  $\{Q_n\}$  of analytic type such that

$$\lim_n \|P_n - f\|_{L^p(w)} = \lim_n \|Q_n - \bar{f}\|_{L^p(w)} = 0$$

On the other hand, Holder's inequality gives us

$$\int |P_n(x) - f(x)| dm(x) \leq k \left\{ \int |P_n(x) - f(x)|^p w(x) dm(x) \right\}^{1/p} \rightarrow 0$$

$$(n \rightarrow \infty)$$

i.e.,  $f \in H^1(T)$ . By the same reason,  $\bar{f} \in H^1(T)$ , and both together imply  $f(x) = \text{constant}$ , a.e.

On the other hand, given  $q < p'/p$ , we choose  $s$  such that  $p-1 < s < 1/q$ , and define  $w(x) = |1 - e^{2\pi i x}|^s$ . The condition  $w^{-q} \in L^1(T)$  is then verified. We shall need the following description of  $H^p(w)$  (see [3]):

$$H^p(w) = K \cdot H^p(T) = \{ K(x) g(x) \mid g \in H^p(T) \}$$

where  $K$  is the boundary value of the outer function  $K(z)$  such that

$$|K(x)| = w(x)^{-1/p} \quad (\text{a.e. } x \in T)$$

Then  $g(z) = K(z)^{-1} (1+z)/(1-z)$  is an analytic function in the unit disc with radial limit  $g \in L^p(T)$ , since

$$\int |g(x)|^p dm(x) = \int |\sin x / (1 - \cos x)|^p w(x) dm(x) \leq C \int_0^1 x^{s-p} dx < \infty$$

Therefore,  $g \in H^p(T)$ , and  $f(x) = K(x)g(x) = \sin x / (1 - \cos x)$  belongs to  $H^p(w)$ . Since  $f(x)$  is real valued, it follows that  $f \in \widetilde{H}^p(w)$ . Thus,  $H^p(w) \cap \widetilde{H}^p(w)$  contains non constant functions.

This theorem leads naturally to formulate the following

*Conjecture:*  $H^p(w) \cap \widetilde{H}^p(w) = \mathbb{C}$  if and only if  $w^{-p'/p} \in L^1(T)$ .

Let us finally observe that all the results proved in this paper make sense and are also true if  $T$  is replaced by an arbitrary compact Abelian group with an ordered dual (see [4] and [9] for the extension of some classical facts to this context). Moreover, if one drops the statements (c) and (d) of theorem 1, (c) of theorem 3 and (b), (c) in Corollary 2, the whole sections 2 and 3 can be generalized to arbitrary compact groups.



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