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## INTEGRAL MULTILINEAR FORMS ON $C(K, X)$ SPACES

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*Abstract.* We use polymeasures to characterize when a multilinear form defined on a product of  $C(K, X)$  spaces is integral.

*Keywords:* integral multilinear forms, spaces of continuous functions, injective tensor product

*MSC 2000:* 46B28, 46G10

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND NOTATION

Given a compact Hausdorff space  $K$  with Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\Sigma$ , and Banach spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ , it is well known that an operator  $T: C(K, X) \rightarrow Y$  can be represented in terms of a measure  $m: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X; Y^{**})$  verifying certain properties (see for instance [5, § 19]).

In a series of papers (see [7], [8] and the references therein), Dobrakov developed a theory of *polymeasures* (set functions defined on a product of  $\sigma$ -algebras which are separately measures) that can be used to extend the classical Riesz representation theorem to a multilinear setting. With this theory, multilinear operators from a product of  $C(K, X)$  spaces into  $Y$  can be represented as operator valued polymeasures. This representation theorem can be found in [12, Theorem 1.1]. The theory of polymeasures has been used by different authors, see, f.i., [1], [9], [10], [6] and the references therein.

In [12] we used the above mentioned representation theorem to obtain necessary and sometimes sufficient conditions on the polymeasure  $\Gamma$  representing a multilinear operator  $T$  for  $T$  to be completely continuous or unconditionally converging. In this note, which can be thought of as a continuation to [12], we use some techniques

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developed in [3] to characterize the integral multilinear forms (see definition below)  $T: C(K_1, X_1) \times \dots \times C(K_n, X_n) \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$  in terms of their representing polymasures  $\Gamma$ .

In this note we follow the notation of [12]. However we recall some basic notation.  $K, K_i$  will always be compact Hausdorff spaces and  $\Sigma, \Sigma_i$  will be their Borel  $\sigma$ -algebras. If  $X$  is a Banach space,  $C(K, X)$  is the Banach space of the  $X$ -valued continuous functions, endowed with the supremum norm.  $S(\Sigma, X)$  is the space of the  $X$ -valued  $\Sigma$ -simple functions defined on  $K$  and  $B(\Sigma, X)$  is the completion of  $S(\Sigma, X)$  under the supremum norm. It is well known that  $C(K, X)^* = \text{bvrc}(\Sigma; X^*)$ , the space of regular measures with bounded variation defined on  $\Sigma$  with values in  $X^*$ , endowed with the variation norm. We write  $\text{bv}(\Sigma; X)$  for the measures from  $\Sigma$  into  $X$  with bounded variation and similarly we write  $\text{bv}(\Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_n; X)$  for the polymasures from  $\Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n$  into  $X$  with bounded variation.

For notation and basic facts concerning polymasures we refer to [12] and the references therein.

The following two definitions go back to Grothendieck.

**Definition 1.1.** A multilinear form  $T \in \mathcal{L}^k(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is integral if  $\hat{T}$  (i.e., its linearization) is continuous for the injective  $(\varepsilon)$  topology on  $X_1 \otimes \dots \otimes X_n$ . Its norm (as an element of  $(X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*$ ) is the *integral norm* of  $T$ ,  $\|T\|_{\text{int}} := \|\hat{T}\|_\varepsilon$ .

**Definition 1.2.** An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X; Y)$  is integral if the associated bilinear form

$$B_T: X \times Y^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}, \\ (x, y) \mapsto y(T(x))$$

is integral. In that case the integral norm of  $T$ ,  $\|T\|_{\text{int}} := \|B_T\|_{\text{int}}$ .  $\mathcal{I}(X; Y)$  denotes the Banach space of the integral operators from  $X$  into  $Y$ , endowed with the integral norm.

We will use the fact that a bilinear form  $T \in \mathcal{L}^2(E_1, E_2)$  is integral if and only if any of the two associated linear operators  $T_1 \in \mathcal{L}(E_1; E_2^*)$  and  $T_2 \in \mathcal{L}(E_2; E_1^*)$  is integral in the above sense (see, f.i., [4, Chapter VI]).

We will also need the following result from [11].

**Proposition 1.3.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(C(K, X); Y)$  and let  $m$  be its representing measure. Then  $T$  is integral if and only if  $m$  is  $\mathcal{I}(X; Y)$ -valued and it has bounded variation when considered with values in this space.*

We will later need the following well known lemma, which can be found, for instance, in [2].

**Lemma 1.4.** Let  $\Sigma$  be a  $\sigma$ -algebra,  $X$  a Banach space and  $Y \subset X^*$  a subspace norming  $X$ . If  $m: \Sigma \rightarrow X$  is a strongly additive and  $\sigma(X, Y)$ -regular measure, then  $m$  is regular.

If  $\Gamma: \Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n \rightarrow X$  is a polymasure, we define its *variation*

$$v(\Gamma): \Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$$

by

$$v(\Gamma)(A_1, \dots, A_n) = \sup \left\{ \sum_{j_1=1}^{m_1} \dots \sum_{j_n=1}^{m_n} \|\Gamma(A_{1,j_1}, \dots, A_{n,j_n})\| \right\}$$

where  $(A_{i,j_i})_{j_i=1}^{m_i}$  is a  $\Sigma_i$ -partition of  $A_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ).

The following lemma can be found in [3].

**Lemma 1.5.** Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_n$  sets and  $\Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_n$   $\sigma$ -algebras defined on them. Let now  $\gamma: \Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n \rightarrow X$  be a polymasure and let  $\varphi_1: \Sigma_1 \rightarrow \text{pm}(\Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_n; X)$  be the measure given by  $\varphi_1(A_1)(A_2, \dots, A_n) = \gamma(A_1)(A_2, \dots, A_n)$ . Then  $v(\gamma) < \infty$  if and only if  $\varphi_1$  takes values in  $\text{bvp}(\Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_n; X)$  and  $v(\varphi_1) < \infty$  when we consider the variation norm in the image space. In that case,  $v(\varphi_1)(A_1) = v(\gamma)(A_1, \Omega_2, \dots, \Omega_n)$  and  $v(\varphi_1(A_1))(A_2, \dots, A_n) \leq v(\gamma)(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$ . Of course the role played by the first variable could be played by any of the other ones.

## 2. THE RESULT

We can present now our main result. In the following we write  $B_0(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n)$  for the  $\sigma$ -algebra of the Borel sets of  $C(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}^k(C(K_1, X_1), \dots, C(K_n, X_n))$  and let  $\Gamma$  be its representing polymasure. Then the following are equivalent:

- a) The polymasure  $\Gamma: \Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n \rightarrow (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\pi \dots \hat{\otimes}_\pi X_n)^*$  can be extended to a measure  $m \in \text{bvrca}(B_0(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n); (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*)$  (which implies in particular that  $\Gamma$  is  $(X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*$ -valued).
- b)  $\Gamma$  is  $(X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*$ -valued and  $v(\Gamma) < \infty$ , when we consider the integral norm in the image space.
- c)  $T$  is integral.

Moreover, in that case  $v(\Gamma) = v(\mu) = \|T\|_{\text{int}}$ , so there is an isometric isomorphism between  $(C(K_1, X_1) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_n, X_n))^*$  and the space of separately regular polymeasures with bounded variation defined on  $\Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n$  with values in  $(X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*$ , endowed with the variation norm.

**Proof.** (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): If

$$T: C(K_1, X_1) \times \dots \times C(K_n, X_n) \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

is integral, then we can consider the continuous linear operator

$$T': C(K_1) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_n) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

and, using the associativity of the injective tensor product and the fact that  $C(K_1) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_n) \approx C(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n)$ , we can define the integral operator

$$T_1: C(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n) \longrightarrow (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*.$$

Let  $\mu \in \text{bvrca}(B_0(K_1 \times \dots \times K_n); (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*)$  be the representing measure of  $T_1$ .

From regularity it follows that, for every  $(A_1, \dots, A_n) \in \Sigma_1 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n$ ,

$$\mu(A_1 \times \dots \times A_n) = \Gamma(A_1, \dots, A_n),$$

i.e., that  $\mu$  extends  $\Gamma$ .

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) is clear (observe that  $v(\Gamma) \leq v(m)$ ).

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): We reason by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 1$  there is nothing to prove. Let us consider  $n = 2$  and let  $T$  and  $\Gamma$  be as in the hypothesis.

Let  $\varphi_1: \Sigma_1 \longrightarrow \text{bv}(\Sigma_2; (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$  be the measure associated to  $\Gamma$  given by  $\varphi_1(A_1)(A_2) = \Gamma(A_1, A_2)$ . Since  $v(\Gamma) < \infty$ , Lemma 1.5 assures that  $\varphi_1$  is indeed  $\text{bv}(\Sigma_2; (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$ -valued and has bounded variation with values in this space.

**Claim 1.** For every  $A_1 \in \Sigma_1$ ,  $\varphi_1(A_1)$  is a regular measure.

Every measure of bounded variation is strongly additive ([4, Proposition I.1.15]). So, by Lemma 1.4, to prove the claim we just need to check that, for every  $g \in X_1 \otimes X_2$ ,  $g \circ \varphi_1(A_1)$  is regular. So, let us first suppose that  $g = x_1 \otimes x_2$ . Then

$$(x_1 \otimes x_2) \circ \varphi_1(A_1)(A_2) = \Gamma(A_1, A_2)(x_1, x_2).$$

Since  $\Gamma$  is weak\*-separately regular (see [12, Theorem 1.1]) we get that  $(x_1 \otimes x_2) \circ \varphi_1(A_1)$  is regular. From here the result follows easily for a general  $g \in X_1 \otimes X_2$  and the claim is established. As a consequence of it we obtain that  $\varphi_1$  is  $\text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$ -valued.

**Claim 2.** *The measure*

$$\varphi_1: \Sigma_1 \longrightarrow \text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$$

is regular.

We have that  $C(K_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)$  is isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of  $B(\Sigma_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)$ , which in turn is isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of  $C(K_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^{**} \approx (\text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*))^*$ . Moreover,  $S(\Sigma_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)$  is a dense subspace of  $B(\Sigma_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)$  and  $S(\Sigma_2, X_1 \otimes X_2)$  is a dense subspace of  $S(\Sigma_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)$ . So,  $S(\Sigma_2, X_1 \otimes X_2) \subset C(K_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^{**}$  is a subspace norming  $\text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$ . Therefore, by reasonings analogous to the proof of Claim 1, we just need to prove that, for every  $s \in S(\Sigma_2, X_1 \otimes X_2)$ ,  $s \circ \varphi_1$  is regular. This follows again from the separate weak\*-continuity of  $\Gamma$ , considering first  $s = \chi_A(x_1 \otimes x_2)$ , then  $s = \chi_A g$  for any  $g \in X_1 \otimes X_2$  and finally  $s = \sum_{m=1}^n \chi_{A_m} g_m$  for any  $A_m \in \Sigma_2$  and  $g_m \in X_1 \otimes X_2$ .

Therefore  $\varphi_1: \Sigma_1 \longrightarrow \text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*)$  is regular and  $v(\varphi_1) = v(\Gamma) < \infty$ . Observe that  $\text{bvrca}(\Sigma_2, (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^*) = C(K_2, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2)^* = (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_2, X_2))^* = I(X_1; C(K_2, X_2)^*)$ .

So, we can consider the operator  $T_{\varphi_1}: C(K_1, X_1) \longrightarrow C(K_2, X_2)^*$  defined by  $T_{\varphi_1}(f) = \int f d\varphi_1$  and, according to Proposition 1.3,  $T_{\varphi_1}$  is integral (and  $\|T_{\varphi_1}\| = v(\varphi_1) = v(\gamma)$ ). Hence, the bilinear form

$$\widetilde{T}_{\varphi_1}: C(K_1, X_1) \times C(K_2, X_2) \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

is integral.

Let

$$\overline{T}_{\varphi_1}: B(\Sigma_1, X_1) \times B(\Sigma_2, X_2) \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

be the extension of  $\widetilde{T}_{\varphi_1}$  given by [12, Theorem 1.1]. Then, for every  $x_i \in X_i$ ,  $A_i \in \Sigma_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 2$ ), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{T}_{\varphi_1}(x_1 \chi_{A_1}, x_2 \chi_{A_2}) &= \varphi_1(A_1)(A_2)(x_1 \otimes x_2) \\ &= \Gamma(A_1, A_2)(x_1 \otimes x_2) = \overline{T}(x_1 \chi_{A_1}, x_2 \chi_{A_2}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\overline{T}$  is the extension of  $T$  given by [12, Theorem 1.1].

Therefore  $\overline{T}_{\varphi_1} = \overline{T}$ , so  $\widetilde{T}_{\varphi_1} = T$  and  $\|T\|_{\text{int}} = \|\overline{T}_{\varphi_1}\|_{\text{int}} = v(\varphi_1) = v(\gamma)$ , which finishes the proof in the case  $n = 2$ .

Let us now suppose the result to be true for  $n = 1$ , consider

$$T: C(K_1, X_1) \times \dots \times C(K_n, X_n) \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

and let its associated polymasure  $\Gamma$  be as in the hypothesis. Let

$$\varphi_1: \Sigma_1 \longrightarrow \text{bvpm}(\Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_n; (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*)$$

be the measure associated to  $\Gamma$  given by  $\varphi_1(A_1)(A_2, \dots, A_n) = \Gamma(A_1, \dots, A_n)$ . By Lemma 1.5 we get that  $\varphi_1$  is well defined and with bounded variation. Similarly to the proof of Claim 1 above it can be proved that, for every  $A_1 \in \Sigma_1$ , the polymasure  $\varphi_1(A_1)$  is separately regular. Call  $Z$  the space of separately regular polymasures with bounded variation defined on  $\Sigma_2 \times \dots \times \Sigma_n$  and with values in  $(X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^*$ . Note that the induction hypothesis tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= C(K_2 \times \dots \times K_n, X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_2 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon X_n)^* \\ &= (X_1 \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_2, X_2) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_n, X_n))^* \\ &= I(X_1; (C(K_2, X_2) \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon \dots \hat{\otimes}_\varepsilon C(K_n, X_n))^*). \end{aligned}$$

Now we can continue similarly to the proof of the case  $n = 2$  to prove that  $\varphi_1$  is regular, and the proof finishes similarly to the case  $n = 2$ .  $\square$

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