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NOTES ON COMARGINAL PROBABILITY MEASURES

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1. INTRODUCTION.

By $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ we shall denote a system consisting of two σ -algebras B, C of subsets of Ω , the generated σ -algebra $A=\tau(B,C)$, and probabilities P_1 , P_2 defined on B,C respectively, which are compatible in the sense that $P_1 = P_2 = P$ on the intersection σ -algebra $\mathcal{D} = B \cap C$.

A probability Q on A such that its restrictions to B, C are P_1, P_2 , respectively, is said to be *comarginal* with P_1 , P_2 , or briefly comarginal.

A probability Q on A, not neccesarily comarginal, is called *commutative* if on A-measurable Q-integrable functions:

(1) $E_Q^B \cdot E_Q^C = E_Q^C \cdot E_Q^B = E_Q^D$ [Q],

where E_Q^G denotes the conditional expectation operator with respect to the σ -algebra $G \subset A$ and to the measure Q.

The main problem we consider here is to search under'what conditions a system S admits a comarginal and commutative measure Q. For such a measure we can assert its uniqueness. Owing to this fact and to the following example we shall call Q the (generalized) product measure on S.

Given the probability spaces (Ω_1, B', P_1') , (Ω_2, C', P_2') the system S formed by $\Omega = \Omega_1 \times \Omega_2$, $B = \pi_1^{-1}(B')$, $C = \pi_2^{-2}(C')$, $A = \tau(B,C)$, $P_i = P_i' \pi_i$, $(\pi_i = \text{projection on } \Omega_i)$, i=1,2, admits the comarginal and commutative measure $Q = P_1' \times P_2'$. The relation of commutation (1) is here Fubini's theorem.

In this example $\mathcal{D} = \{\phi, \Omega\}$; the opposite extreme case, when $\mathcal{D} = B$ (or $\mathcal{D} = C$), gives us also an example very trivial for a product measure: $Q = P_2$ (or $Q = P_1$).

Intermediate cases can be given as follows:

Let $\Omega = \Omega_x \times \Omega_y \times \Omega_z$ and probabilities dx, dy, dz be given on σ -algebras B_x , B_y , B_z of Ω_x , Ω_y , Ω_z respectively. We define $B = \{\phi, \Omega_x\} \otimes B_y \otimes B_z$, $C = B_x \otimes \{\phi, \Omega_y\} \otimes B_z$ and the probabilities $dP_1 = dy dz$, $dP_2 = dx dz$. Here \mathcal{D} is isomorphic to B_z and the system $(\Omega, A, B, C, P_1 P_2)$ has the product measure dQ = dx dy dz.

The preceding situation always appears in a Markov process. Assume

 $\{x_i\}_{i=1,2..}$ is a Markov chain and $B = \tau(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$, $C = \tau(x_n, x_{n+1}..)$ and $\mathcal{D} = \tau(x_n)$. The product measure Q turns out to be the probability associated with the process, and the relation of commutation (1) can be rewritten as expressing the conditional independence of past (B) and future (C), given the present (p). (cf. [1], \$14, or [4], part A, ch. II).

For further examples we refer to $\{1\}$, §3.

2. COMARGINAL MEASURES AND BILINEAR FORMS.

We shall say that T: $B \times C \longrightarrow [0, +\infty)$ is a (positive) bilinear form on the system $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ if T(B,C) is additive in each variable separately; and T will be said to be *compatible* (with P_1, P_2) if T(B, Ω) = P₁(B), T(Ω, C) = P₂(C), for any B \in B, C \in C.

To each finitely additive measure Q on the algebra $A_0 = B \vee C \operatorname{comar}$ ginal with P_1 , P_2 we associate the compatible bilinear form T(B,C) = Q(BC), which verifies: T(B,C) = 0 if $BC = \emptyset$. Conversely:

THEOREM 1. Every compatible bilinear form T on C such that T(B,C)=0 whenever BC = ϕ , defines on A₀ a unique finitely additive comarginal probability given by Q(B,C) = T(B,C).

Proof: We define Q(BC) = T(B,C). If BC = B'C', then $BC = (BB')(CC') = B_1C_1$. To prove that T(B,C) = T(B',C') it is enough to prove that $T(B,C) = T(B_1,C_1)$. It follows from $T(B,C) = T(B_1,C) + T(B-B_1,C) = T(B_1,C)$, since $(B-B_1)C = \emptyset$, and from $T(B_1,C) = T(B_1,C_1)$. Hence Q is well defined on sets of the form BC, $B \in B$, $C \in C$.

Let BC = $\sum_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}C_{\alpha}$, where α runs on a finite family of indices. In or der to prove that Q can be (uniquely) extended to A_{0} as a finitely additive measure it is enough to prove that Q(BC) = $\sum_{\alpha} Q(B_{\alpha}C_{\alpha})$.

Let $\{B_i\}$ be the partition of B defined by the B_{α} 's and $\{C_j\}$ that defined by the C_{α} 's on C. We can assume from the beginning that $B_{\alpha} \subset B$, $C_{\alpha} \subset C$. Since $B_{\alpha} = \sum_{m} B_{\alpha,m}$, $C_{\alpha} = \sum_{n} C_{\alpha,n}$, denoting by $B_{\alpha,n}$ ($C_{\alpha,n}$) the sets of the mentioned partition of B (C) included in B_{α} (C_{α}), we have:

$$\sum_{i,j} B_i C_j = BC = \sum_{\alpha} B_{\alpha} C_{\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha} (\sum_{m} B_{\alpha,m}) (\sum_{n} C_{\alpha,n}) = \sum_{\alpha} (\sum_{m,n} B_{\alpha,m} C_{\alpha,n})$$

This means that in the first and last sums appear the same non-void terms. Therefore, from the bilinearity of T we get

 $Q(BC) = T(B,C) = \sum_{i,j} T(B_i,C_j) = \sum_{\alpha} (\sum_{m,n} T(B_{\alpha,m},C_{\alpha,n})) = \sum_{\alpha} T(\sum_{m} B_{\alpha,m},\sum_{n} C_{\alpha,n}) =$

REMARKS. 1) It is not true, in general, that Q is σ -additive. In fact, let Ω be the triangle on the plane defined by x > 0, y > 0, x + y < 1. B (C) the Borel sets of Ω depending only of x(y). For B ε B (C ε C) we define P₁(B) = m(B'), (P₂(C) = m(C')), where B'(C) denotes the projection of B (C) on the x (y) axis and m the Lebesgue measure on (0,1).

The bilinear form $T(B,C) = \int_{0}^{1} 1_{B'}(t) 1_{C'}(1-t)dt$ is compatible with P_1 , P_2 but, as it is easy to see, Ω can be put as a countable sum of rectangles B.C for which T(B,C) = 0.

2) Let us observe that if T is bilinear and comarginal then T is also σ -bilinear; i.e. σ -additive in each variable. In fact,

$$T\left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} B_{j}, C\right) = T\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} B_{j}, C\right) + T\left(\sum_{n+1}^{\infty} B_{j}, C\right), \text{ then}$$
$$\left|T\left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} B_{j}, C\right) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} T\left(B_{j}, C\right)\right| \leq \sum_{n+1}^{\infty} T\left(B_{j}, \Omega\right) = \sum_{n+1}^{\infty} P_{1}\left(B_{j}\right) \longrightarrow 0 \text{ if } n \longrightarrow \infty.$$

Then the proof of the theorem remains true if we assume that α runs on a countable family of indices such that the B_{α} 's and the C_{α} 's de fine, respectively, countable partitions of the spaces α .

For example, we can assert the $\sigma\text{-additivity}$ of Q if A is defined by a countable partition of $\Omega.$

3) In theorem 1 we can assume $T(B_o, C_o) = 0$ if $B_oC_o = \emptyset$ for $B_o\varepsilon B_o C_o = B_o C_o = C$, where B_o, C_o are collections of sets with the *approximation property*: $P_1(B) = \sup_{b_o \in B_o} P_1(B_o)$, $P_2(C) = \sup_{c_o \in C} P_2(C_o)$, for $B \in B, C \in C$. In fact, if $B_o = B$, $C_o = C$, and $B.C = \emptyset$: $T(B,C) = T(B-B_o+B_o, C-C_o+C_o) = T(B-B_o, C) + T(B_o, C-C_o) + T(B_o, C_o) \le P_1(B-B_o) + P_2(C-C_o)$. The last member can be done arbitrarily small, hence T(B,C) = 0.

4) The σ -additivity of Q follows under the following hypothesis

1) $K_B \subset B$, $K_C \subset C$ are *semi-compact classes* (i.e. every countable family of K_B (K_C) with an empty intersection has a finite subfamily which also intersects in the empty set) verifying the approximation property (as defined above).

2) $K_B \cdot K_C = \{K.L; K \in K_B, L \in K_C\}$ is a semicompact class of sets. In fact, the class *L* of finite unions of sets of $K_B \cdot K_C$ enjoys the property of approximation in $B \lor C$, since, as it was shown above, for $K \in B$, $L \in C$ we have $Q(BC - KL) \leq P_1(B - K) + P_2(C - L)$, then Q(BC - KL) can be done arbitrarily small. *L* being compact

0.E.D.

and with the approximation property the σ -additivity of Q follows from a theorem of Alexandrov (cf {4}, pp. 47).

3. ∇-COMMUTATIVE SYSTEMS.

For any probability space (Ω, A, P) we define the measurable hull of $X \subset \Omega$ as a set $A \in A$ containing X except by a set of P-outer measure zero and with minimal P-measure. Of course, the measurable hull is defined except on a null set of A, and it provides a well defined <u>e</u> lement of the Boolean measure algebra: A/[P]. If $B \subset A$ is a σ -sub-algebra of A the measurable hull of X ϵ A with respect to B coincides with $\{E_{p}^{B} | 1_{v} > 0\}$, [P].

For a system $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ we shall designate $\nabla^1 X$, $\nabla^2 X$, ∇X the measurable hulls of $X \subset \Omega$ with respect to B, C, D and to the measures P_1 , P_2 , P respectively.

If Q is a comarginal measure on S and E, F, G denote E_Q^B , E_Q^C , E_Q^p respectively, we can see that the condition EF = FE = G[Q] (on boun ded A- measurable functions) is equivalent to Ef = Gf $[P_1]$ (on C-measurable functions) and also to Ff = Gf $[P_2]$ (on B-measurable functions) (cf {1}, \$ 1).

For a comarginal measure Q on S, the condition EF = FE = G implies $\nabla^1 \nabla^2 X = \nabla^2 \nabla^1 X = \nabla X$ [Q] for X ε A. This condition is equivalent to $\nabla^2 B = \nabla B$ [P₂], for any B ε B, and also to $\nabla^1 C = \nabla C$ [P₁], for any C ε C. (cf. {1}, \$5).

We note that any of these last conditions can be introduced even if we do not assume that a comarginal measure Q is known. Then we adopt the following definition:

We shall say that the system $S \nabla$ -commutes if $\nabla^2 B = \nabla B [P_2]$, $\forall B \in B$. From the above considerations it follows:

In order that there exists a comarginal and commutative measure on $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ it is necessary that S be a ∇ -commutative system.

An independent proof will be given in next theorem 2.

A ∇ -commutative system is said to be *simple* if $\mathcal{D}/[P]$ is the Boolean algebra {0,1}.

4. THE FINITELY ADDITIVE MEASURE ASSOCIATED TO A ∇ -commutative system.

Given the system $S = (\alpha, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ we observe that the conditional expectation operator G can be calculated on B (C)-measurable functions, with respect to P_1 (P_2) even if there is no comarginal measure. Hence we can define the compatible bilinear form:

(2)
$$T(B,C) = \int GI_B \cdot GI_C dP$$
.

THEOREM 2. In order that Q(BC) = T(B,C) defines a finitely additive comarginal measure on S it is neccessary and sufficient that S be a ∇ -commutative system.

In this case, if Q is a probability on A (i.e. if Q is σ -additive), Q is the unique commutative comarginal measure on S. (uniqueness of the product measure).

Proof: By theorem 1, to prove that ∇ -commutativity implies that Q is a finitely additive measure, we have to show that B.C = \emptyset implies T(B,C) = 0. From B.C = \emptyset we get $\nabla^2 B.C = \nabla B.C = \emptyset[P_2]$; i.e. $\{G1_B > 0\}.C =$ $= \emptyset[P_2]$. Then $T(B,C) = \int_C G1_B.dP_2 = 0$. Conversely, if Q is a finite ly additive and comarginal measure, S ∇ -commutes. In fact, $\nabla^2 B$ $C \nabla B[P_2]$ and on the other hand from $P_2^*(B - \nabla^2 B) = 0$ we have $B - \nabla^2 B$ $C' \in C$ with $P_2(C') = 0$. Hence $Q(B - \nabla^2 B) \leq Q(C') = P_2(C') = 0$. Then, $Q(B - \nabla^2 B) = \int_{C} G1_B.dP_2 = 0$. This means $\{G1_B > 0\}.(\nabla^2 B = \emptyset[P_2])$ which implies $\nabla B \subset \nabla^2 B[P_2]$. If Q, as defined above, is a measure, and E, F the conditional expectations with respect to B.C :

(3)
$$Q(B.C) = \int G_B \cdot G_C dP = \int_C G_B dQ = \int_C F_B dQ$$

Then $G_{B}^{1} = F_{B}^{1}$, $V = E_{\epsilon}^{1}$ B. This implies the commutation of Q. Another comarginal commutative measure Q' must verify (3), but since

$$\int_{C} G_{B}^{1} dQ' = \int_{C} F_{B}^{1} dQ' = Q'(B.C) = Q(B.C) ,$$

Q and Q' coincide on $B \lor C$, and therefore on A. QED.

REMARK: The condition $\nabla^2 B = \nabla B [P_2]$, $B \in B$, defining a ∇ -commutative system implies the symmetric one $\nabla^1 C = \nabla C [P_1]$, $C \in C$.

In fact, the first one implies that $\int G_{B}^{1} G_{C}^{1} dP$ defines a finitely ad ditive measure, and from this we derive $\nabla^{1}C = \nabla C [P_{1}]$ as it was done with $\nabla^{2}B = \nabla B [P_{2}]$ in the proof of theorem 2. Now, we obtain easily

 $\nabla^2 \nabla^1 X = \nabla^1 \nabla^2 X = \nabla X [P]$ for each $X \in B \vee C$.

THEOREM 3. i) If the ∇ -commutative system S is simple (i.e. $D/[P] = \{0,1\}$) then $Q(B.C) = P_1(B) \cdot P_2(C)$. In particular for a system S obtained from a cartesian product (as described in the introduction), $Q = P'_1 \times P'_2$.

ii) If, conversely, $Q(B.C) = P_1(B) \cdot P_2(C)$ defines a finitely additive measure on $B \lor C$, S is a simple ∇ -commutative system.

Proof: i) It follows from theorem 2 and the fact that $G1_B = P_1(B) \cdot I_{\Omega}$, $G1_C = P_2(C) \cdot I_{\Omega}$.

ii) If $D \in \mathcal{D}$ we have $Q(D) = P(D) = Q(D.D) = P(D)^2$, then P(D) = 0 or 1. $G1_B$, $G1_C$ are computed like in i), then $\int G1_B.G1_C = P_1(B).P_2(C)$. From theorem 2) it follows that S is a ∇ -commutative system.

We shall say that a system S is *complete* with respect to a comarginal probability P defined on A if every P-null set of A belongs to P.

THEOREM 4. If the system S is complete with respect to a comarginal probability P and R is a commutative probability on S equivalent to P then the product measure Q exists and it is equivalent to P.

Proof: Assume $f = \frac{dR}{dP}$. By hypothesis $F_R = G_R$ on B-measurable functions and $E_R = G_R$ on C-measurable functions. We have (c.f. { 1 } §2):

$$E_{R}(h) = E(f.h) / E(f)$$
,
 $F_{R}(g) = F(f.g) / F(f)$, $G_{R}(m) = G(f.m) / G(f)$,

where E, F, G denote here the conditional expectation operators with respect to the measure P and B, C, D respectively.

In {1}, th. 2, \$10, it is proved that the probability measures equivalent to R that also commute are characterized as those whose Radon-Nikodym derivatives with respect to R are of the form: g.h, where g (h) is a B(C)-measurable function (both positive and finite [R]). Let us consider the functions:

$$g = \frac{+\sqrt{Gf}}{Ef}$$
 , $h = \frac{+\sqrt{Gf}}{Ff}$

Then, g.E(h.f) = Gf.E(f/Ff) /Ef = Gf.E_R(1/Ff) = Gf.G_R(1/Ff) = G(f/Ff) = = GF(f/Ff) = 1. Analogously h.F(g.f) = 1. From $\int_{\mathbb{R}} ghf dP = \int_{\mathbb{R}} gE(hf) dP =$ $= \int_{B} 1 \, dP = P(B) \text{ and } \int_{C} ghf \, dP = P(C)$ We see that the probability Q defined by

 $Q(A) = \int_{A} gh.f dP = \int_{A} gh dR$ is comarginal with P and since $\frac{dQ}{dR} = g.h$, it commutes and obviously $Q \sim R$. QED.

REMARK: If the system S is complete with respect to P any other comarginal measure R is absolutely continuous with respect to P, since P(A) = 0 implies A εP and then R(A) = P(A) = 0. Then, if a product measure Q exists on S, we have Q \ll P. In spite of the fact that for B ε B, C ε C, Q(B.C) = 0 implies P(B.C) = 0 (since $\int G1_BG1_CdP = 0$ implies $P_2(\nabla B.C) = 0$ and then P(B.C) = 0) we have not Q $\sim P$, in general. Let us see the following example:

Let Ω be the product of X and Y, X = Y = (0,1), A = the Borel sets of X × Y, B (C) the Borel sets independent of y (x), P the probability on A equal to $\frac{m \times m}{2}$ (m the Lebesgue measure on (0,1)) plus a measure of total mass 1/2 concentrated on the diagonal and uniformely distributed there.

The product measure $Q = m \times m$ is not equivalent to P.

If $D \in \mathcal{D}$ defines an atom of the σ -algebra $\mathcal{D}/[P]$ it can be seen that $S_{\rm D} = (D, A \land D, B \land D, C \land D, P_1/P_1(D), P_2/P_2(D))$ is a simple ∇ -commutative system, whenever S is a ∇ -commutative system. Moreover, if Q is the (product) finitely additive measure on S defined above , $\frac{Q(B.C.D)}{Q(D)}$ is the product measure on $S_{\rm D}$ as it is easily seen. Since $S_{\rm D}$ is simple: $\frac{Q(B.C.D)}{Q(D)} = \frac{P_1(B.D)}{P(D)} \cdot \frac{P_2(C.D)}{P(D)}$, and then

(4)
$$Q(B.C.D) = P_1(B.D).P_2(C.D)/P(D)$$

THEOREM 5. If in a ∇ -commutative system S, A is defined by a countable partition of Ω , there exists the product measure Q. If $\{D_i\}$ is the partition defining D, then Q is defined by:

(5)
$$Q(B.C) = \sum_{i} \frac{P_1(BD_i) \cdot P_2(CD_i)}{P(D_i)}$$

Proof: The σ -additivity of Q follows from the second remark in §2. We have Q(B.C) = $\sum_{i} Q(B.C.D_{i})$, and applying (4) we obtain the equality (5).

5. THE BOOLEAN MEASURE STRUCTURE OF A V-COMMUTATIVE SYSTEM

From a given probability space (Ω, A, P) and a σ -subalgebra B of A, we get the (measure) Boolean algebra A = A/[P] quotient of A mod. P-null sets and the subalgebra B = B/[P]. To the operation of take ing the B-measurable hull in A corresponds in A a so called *monadic* operator (c.f. {2}).

Let A be a Boolean algebra with a subalgebra B such that for each a ε A there exists an element b ε B which is the least element of B verifying b \geq a ; we set b = ∇ a, and we call ∇ the monadic operator in A related to B.

A monadic operator verifies the following properties: $\nabla 0 = 0$, $\nabla(a \lor b) = \nabla a \lor \nabla b$, $\nabla \nabla a = \nabla a$, $\nabla(a \land \nabla b) = \nabla a \land \nabla b$.

The algebraic system (A, B, ∇) is called a monadic algebra. Let us consider a ∇ -commutative system $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ with a product measure Q. By passing to the quotient mod. [Q] we get the Boolean (measure) algebras A, B, C, D, which are the images of A, B, C, D resp.; B, C, D are subalgebras of A and D = B \cap C. If we denote by $A_0 = B \vee C$ then $A_0 = B \vee C \simeq A_0/[Q]$, where $B \vee C$ is the Boolean algebra generated by B and C.

If $\nabla^1, \nabla^2, \nabla$ designate the monadic operators in A corresponding to the measurable hull operations in A denoted before with the same symbols we have $\nabla^1 \nabla^2 a = \nabla^2 \nabla^1 a = \nabla a$ for any $a \in A$. The same hold if we restrict our-selves to elements $a \in A_o = B \vee C$. So we have an instance of what is called a biadic algebra (c.f. {2}).

The algebraic system $(A_o, B, C, \nabla^1, \nabla^2)$ is called a *biadic algebra* if (A_o, B, ∇^1) , (A_o, C, ∇^2) are monadic algebras, $A_o = B \lor C$ and $\nabla^1 \nabla^2 = \nabla^2 \nabla^1$. It is easy to see that in this case $\nabla = \nabla^1 \nabla^2$ defines the monadic operator related to $D = B \cap C$.

We can say that the underlying Boolean structure of a ∇ -commutative system is a biadic algebra. We have seen this when a product measure Q is given in the system and it is easy to see that the same is true even if Q does not admit a σ -additive extension from A_c to A.

In particular, if S is a simple ∇ -commutative system, we obtain a simple biadic algebra $(A_0, B, C, \nabla^1, \nabla^2)$ i.e. it verifies $D = B \wedge C =$ = {0,1}. For such simple algebras we have $A_0 = B \oplus C$, direct sum of B, C which means that $A_0 = B \vee C$ and, for $b \in B$, $c \in C$, $b \wedge c = 0$ implies b = 0 or c = 0 (in fact, if $b \wedge c = 0$ then $0 = \nabla(b \wedge c) =$ = $\nabla^1 \nabla^2 (b \wedge c) = \nabla^1 (\nabla^2 b \wedge c) = \nabla^1 (\nabla^2 \nabla^1 b \wedge c) = \nabla^1 (\nabla^2 \nabla^1 b \wedge c) = \nabla b \wedge \nabla c$, therefore $\nabla b = 0$ or $\nabla c = 0$, so b = 0 or c = 0 (The converse also holds: if $A_0 = B \oplus C$, $(A_0, B, C, \nabla^1, \nabla^2)$ is a simple biadic algebra).

In simple ∇ -commutative systems, for example the systems obtained from cartesian products, what really matters from the point of view of the theory of measure Boolean algebras are the algebras B, C and A_o . Explicitly, if A'_o , B', C' are obtained from another simple ∇ -commutative system S', then if we have Boolean isomorphisms B = B' and C = C' we get $A_o = A'_o$. This is due to the fact that A_o , A'_o are direct sums. In fact, the direct sum $A_o = B \oplus C$ has the property of extension of homomorphisms: if $B \longrightarrow \bar{A}$ and $C \longrightarrow \bar{A}$ are Boolean homomorphisms with range a Boolean algebra \bar{A} , there exists one and only one extension of them to a homomorphism: $A_o = B \oplus C \longrightarrow \bar{A}$. (c.f. {5}).

On the other hand, if (B,P_1) (C,P_2) are given Boolean measure algebras we can construct at least a simple ∇ -commutative system S for which the associated biadic algebra is precisely $(B \oplus C, B, C, \nabla^1, \nabla^2)$. In fact, it is well known that the Stone space of $B \oplus C$ is the cartesian product of the Stone spaces of B and C, $S(B \oplus C) = S(B) \times S(C)$ (Precisely the algebra of clopens of $S(B) \times S(C)$ is used to define $B \oplus C$). We set on the clopens of S(B) and S(C) the measures P_1 and P_2 in the obvious way and we extend P_1 , P_2 to the σ -algebras generated by clopens associated to elements of B, C respectively. The product of the probability spaces so obtained gives us the required system S.

For general ∇ -commutative systems we can prove analogous results.

To a ∇ -commutative system $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ we have associated a biadic algebra (A_0, B, C) . Moreover B,C are measure Boolean algebras with the probabilities P_1 , P_2 defined on B, C, respectively, coinciding in $D = B \cap C$. Let us call $M(S) = (A_0, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ this Boolean measure structure associated with S. We shall say that the ∇ -commutative systems S, S' have the same Boolean measure structure, $M(S) \equiv M(S')$, if under a unique Boolean isomorphism $A_0 \cong A'_0$, $B \cong B'$, $C \cong C'$ and $D \cong D'$; and the probabilities P_1 , P_1' (i=1,2) correspond under the isomorphism.

THEOREM 6. 1) Given two probability Boolean algebras $(B,P_1), (C,P_2)$ and sub-s-algebras $D \subset B$, $D' \subset C$ such that $D \cong D'$ under a fixed isomorphism preserving the measures $P_1 | _D$, $P_2 | _D'$, there exists a ∇ -com mutative system S such that $M(S) = (\bar{A}_0, \bar{B}, \bar{C}, \bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2)$, where $\bar{B} \cong B, \bar{C} \cong C$ are measure preserving isomorphisms (with respect to P_1 , $\bar{P}_1 = 1, 2$) which restricted to $\bar{D} = \bar{B} \cap \bar{C}$ are isomorphisms $\bar{D} \cong D$, $\bar{D} \cong D'$ commuting with the given one $D \cong D'$. 2) Such a ∇ -commutative system admits a product measure Q.

3) If S' is another ∇ -commutative system verifying the properties of S in (1), then $M(S) \equiv M(S')$.

The proof of 1) and 3) are based on an algebraic theorem concerning biadic algebras that we give next.

We shall write the complete proof of theorem 6 in §7.

THEOREM 7. 1) Given two monadic algebras (B, D, ∇^1) and (C, D', ∇^2) and a fixed isomorphism: D = D' there exists a biadic algebra $(\bar{A}, \bar{B}, \bar{C})$ such that $\bar{B} = B$, $\bar{C} = C$ are isomorphisms which restricted to $\bar{D} = \bar{B} \wedge \bar{C}$ give isomorphisms $\bar{D} = D$, $\bar{D} = D'$ commuting with the given one: D = D'. 2) If there is another biadic algebra $(\bar{A}, \bar{B}, \bar{C})$ with the same proper ties, then the isomorphisms $\bar{B} = \bar{B}$, $\bar{C} = \bar{C}$ obtained through the isomorphisms of \bar{B} , \bar{C} with B and C, have a unique common extension to an isomorphism $\bar{A} = \bar{A}$.

Proof: By identifying the isomorphic algebras D, D' through the given isomorphism we can, without loss of generality, consider only the case that B and C are extensions of the same algebra D. So we have the monadic algebras (B,D,∇^1) and (C,D,∇^2) .

A filter $F
ightharpownewspace{2}{B}$ with the set X_F of ultrafilters of B that contains F, this is a closed subset that represents with the relative topology the quotient algebra B/F (c.f. {5}). In other words, $X_F = S(B/F)$, and in such a way that if \hat{b} is the clopen set that represents b ϵ B, then $\hat{b}
ightharpownewspace{2}{X}_F$ is the clopen set that represents the class in B/F containing b. Given an ultrafilter U in D, let us denote with (U) the filter generated in B by U. Then {X_(U)} is a partition of X. In fact, if m ϵ X corresponds to the ultrafilter M and U = M \cap D, then m ϵ X_(U); if m ϵ X_(U) \cap X_(U'), then M \cap D \supset U, U', which implies U = U'.

Moreover, the monadic operator ∇^1 corresponds with saturation with respect to the partition $\{X_{(U)}\}$; i.e. if $a \in B$, $\nabla^1 a = sat \hat{a} = \bigcup \{X_{(U)}\}$; $\hat{a} \cap X_{(U)} \neq \emptyset\}$.

We include the proof of this well-known fact (c.f. {2}) for the sake of completeness. If $d \in D$, then $d \in U$ iff $X_{(U)} \subset \hat{d}$, and it is equivalent to $X_{(U)} \cap \hat{d} \neq \emptyset$, as it is easy to see. In consequence, $\hat{a} \cap X_{(U)} \neq \emptyset$ iff $\nabla^1 a \supset X_{(U)}$, which is also equivalent to $\nabla^1 a \in U$. In fact, $\nabla^1 a \in U$ implies $\hat{a} \cap X_{(U)} \neq \emptyset$, since otherwise $X_{(U)} \subset \hat{C} \hat{a} = \hat{C} \hat{a}$, i.e. (a ε (U), then for some d ε U, d \leq (a, and hence d $\land \nabla^1 a = 0$, which contradicts the fact that U is a proper filter of D.

Let us observe that given a set X, a partition I of X and a algebra B of subsets of X stable under the sat operation with respect to I, if D is the algebra of saturated sets of B, we have a monadic algebra (B,D,sat.)

Let us suppose now that an extension A of the algebras B, C exists, such that (A,B,C) is a biadic algebra; it is easy to verify that the ∇ operators defined by B, C on A coincide on B, C with the previously given. We call $\nabla = \nabla^1 \nabla^2 = \nabla^2 \nabla^1$ to the monadic operator defined by D.

Since B \oplus C applies homomorphically onto A, preserving the identity mappings on B and C, A = B \oplus C/F for a filter F in B \oplus C. Then the Stone space of A is a closed subset T of S(B \oplus C) = X × Y.

Calling $\{Y_{(U)}\}$ the partition of Y associated to the ultrafilters U of D we have, after elimination of superfluous parentheses:

(*)
$$T = \sum_{U} X_{U} \times Y_{U}$$

In fact, if M ε T corresponds to an ultrafilter \overline{M} of A, and M = (M',M") (M' ε X, M" ε Y), considering the homomorphism mentioned above it follows that M' = B. \overline{M} , M" = C. \overline{M} . Therefore, M'.D = M".D = U is an ultra filter of D. Therefore, M ε X_U × Y_U. Conversely, if (M',M") ε X_U×Y_U, M'.D = M"D = U. To see that (M',M") ε T it suffices to see that there is an ultrafilter \overline{M} of A which is a simultaneous extension of M' and M". It is enough to verify that if b ε M', c ε M" then b $\wedge c \neq 0$. But $\nabla b \wedge \nabla c = \nabla (b \wedge c) \varepsilon$ U and therefore is not zero, which implies $b \wedge c \neq 0$.

Let us consider now the following partitions of T:

1) $\{T_x\}$, $x \in X$, $T_x = (\{x\} \times Y) \cap T$ 2) $\{T_y\}$, $y \in Y$, $T_y = (X \times \{y\}) \cap T$ 3) $\{T_U\}$, U ultrafilter of D, $T_U = X_U \times Y_U$. They define the sat operators corresponding to v^1 , v^2 , v of the biadic algebra (A,B,C). This is immediate for v^1 , v^2 . For v we observe that the monadic algebra (A,D) is represented by T and the partition associated with the ultrafilters U of D, which is precisely $\{X_U \times Y_U\}$ as it was shown in the proof of (*).

If we start with another extension A' of B and C such that (A',B,C)is a biadic algebra we get again the same set T representing S(A')because the second member of (*) depends only on (B,D) and (C,D). Then $A \simeq A'$ by a unique common extension of the identity isomorphisms of B and C. This proves 2) (except for isomorphic identifications). The fact that the definitions of T, the partitions 1), 2), 3), and the clopens corresponding to elements of B and C depend only on (B,D) and (C,D) allow us to construct a biadic algebra of sets (A',B',C') such that $B \approx B'$, $C \approx C'$ and these isomorphisms when restricted to D give an isomorphism $D \approx B' \wedge C' = D'$. That will prove (except for isomorphic identifications) the first part of the theorem.

Let us define A' as the algebra of sets of the form a' = $\hat{a} \cap T$, where \hat{a} is a clopen in S(B) × S(C) = X × Y. The algebras B' = { $(\hat{b} \times Y) \cap T_{b \in B}$, C' = { $(X \times \hat{c}) \cap T_{c \in C}$ generate A'.

We define for a' ε A', $\nabla^1 a'$ as the saturated set with respect to $\{T_x\}$, and $\nabla^2 a'$ that obtained from $\{T_y\}$. We must show that $\nabla^1 a' \varepsilon$ B' to show that (A',B') is monadic, the same for ∇^2 , and that ∇^1 , ∇^2 commute. To this end, let us prove:

6)
$$\nabla^1 c' = (\nabla c \times Y) \wedge T$$
, for c' ε C'.

 $\nabla^1 c' = \nabla^1 (\sum X_U \times (\widehat{c} \cap Y_U))$, where \widehat{c} is the projection of c' on Y, and the star means that the sum is extended to those U such that $\widehat{c} \cap Y_U \neq \emptyset$. Therefore, $\nabla^1 c' = \sum * (\nabla^1 (X_U \times (\widehat{c} \cap Y_U)) = [(\sum * X_U) \times Y] \cap T$. Then, since $\widehat{c} \cap Y_U \neq \emptyset$ is equivalent to $\widehat{\nabla c} = Y_U$, i.e. to $\nabla c \in U$, we get $\sum * X_U = \widehat{\nabla c}$, which proves the formula.

To show that $\nabla^1 a' \in B'$, for every $a' \in A'$, it suffices to see it for $a' = b' \cap c'$, $b' \in B'$, $c' \in C'$; $\nabla^1 (b' \cap c') = b' \cap \nabla^1 c' =$

= $[(\hat{b} \cap \nabla \hat{c}) \times Y] \cap T \in B'$.

If b' = c', then from (6) b' = $(\hat{d}_1 \times Y) \cap T = (X \times \hat{d}_2) \cap T$, which implies $\hat{d}_1 = \hat{d}_2$. Therefore, D' = B' \cap C' is defined as those sets of A' such that are saturated with respect to $\{T_U\}$ and project on the same ele - ment of D. Therefore, (6) means that $\nabla^1 c' \in D'$, which is equivalent to the commutation of ∇^1 , ∇^2 (c.f. $\{1\}$).

AN APPROXIMATION PROCESS.

The generalized product measure Q, when it exists, and in general the finitely additive product measure Q, associated with a ∇ -commutative system S, can be obtained as a limit of simpler measures in the way described in the next theorem. We need the following preliminary result:

PROPOSITION 1. i) If F is a finite part of (A, D, ∇) , a monadic algebra, and a_1, \ldots, a_r , the atoms of the Boolean subalgebra generated by F, then a_1, \ldots, a_r , $\nabla a_1, \ldots, \nabla a_r$ generate a subalgebra A_0 which is the

the least one containing F and stable for ∇ , (i.e., $\nabla A_0 \subset A_0$).

ii) Assume A₀ is a finite subalgebra of the biadic algebra (A,B,C, ∇^1, ∇^2), stable for $\nabla = \nabla^1 \nabla^2$, D = B \land C. If B₀ = B \land A₀, C₀ = C \land A₀ then there exist operators ∇^1_0, ∇^2_0 , such that (A₀, B₀, C₀, ∇^1_0, ∇^2_0) is a biadic algebra.

iii) Suppose that $(A_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ is the family of all the finite subalgebras of A stable for ∇ , ordered by inclusion, and generated by their elements belonging to B or C. Then:

- 1) every $(A_{\lambda}, B_{\lambda}=A_{\lambda} \cap B$, $C_{\lambda}=A_{\lambda} \cap C$, $\nabla_{\lambda}^{1}, \nabla_{\lambda}^{2}$) is a biadic algebra,
- 2) $(A_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ is filtering, if ordered by inclusion,
- 3) $\bigcup_{\lambda} A_{\lambda} = A$.

Proof: i) It is evident that every subalgebra containing F and stable for ∇ must contain the a_i 's and the ∇a_i 's. Then, it suffices to prove that A_o is stable for ∇ . Every atom of A_o is of the form $a = a_i \wedge \bigwedge_j \nabla a_j$ where j runs on some indices 1,...,r. Therefore, $\nabla a = \nabla a_i \wedge \bigwedge_j \nabla a_j \in A_o$.

To finish the proof it suffices to observe that every element of A_0 is a union of atoms and that ∇ distributes over the union.

ii) ∇_{0}^{i} exists because A_{0} is finite. $a \in A_{0}$ implies $\nabla a = \nabla^{2} \nabla^{1} a \leq \nabla^{2} \nabla^{0} a \leq \nabla_{0} a = \nabla a$, where ∇_{0} denotes the operator relative to $D \cap A_{0}$. Then $\nabla_{0}^{2} \nabla_{0}^{1} = \nabla_{0}$ and analogously, $\nabla_{0}^{1} \nabla_{0}^{2} = \nabla_{0}$.

iii) It follows from i) and ii) and the observation that every $a \epsilon B \vee C$ belongs to a finite subalgebra generated by a finite set $F \cup G$ with $F \subset B$, $G \subset C$.

Given the ∇ -commutative system $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ let $M(S) = (A_0, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ be the associated Boolean measure structure. We apply proposition 1 to the biadic algebra (A_0, B, C) to get the filtering family $(A_\lambda)_\lambda$ described in iii). For each λ we select a representative $S_\alpha = (\Omega, A_\lambda, B_\lambda, C_\lambda, P_1, P_2)$ of $(A_\lambda, B_\lambda, C_\lambda, P_1, P_2)$, that means: B_λ, C_λ are finite subalgebras of B, C such that $M(S_\alpha) = (A_\lambda, B_\lambda, C_\lambda, P_1, P_2)$, $A_\lambda = B_\lambda \vee C_\lambda$. Here $\alpha = A_\lambda$, and we assume the α 's ordered by inclusion of the A_λ 's. Ussing theorem 5 we know that the measure Q_α associated to S_α is defined by

$$Q_{\alpha}(B.C) = \sum_{i} P_{1}(BD_{i}) P_{2}(CD_{i})/P(D_{i})$$

where the sum is on the atoms of \mathcal{D}_{λ} (it defines a comarginal commutative measure on S_{α}). Denote with G_{α} the conditional expectation operator relative to \mathcal{D}_{λ} and the probability Q_{α} in the system S_{α} . Then THEOREM 8. In a ∇ -commutative system S, it holds:

i) For $B \in B$, $C \in C$, $G_{\alpha} ^{1}_{B} \longrightarrow Gl_{B}$ and $G_{\alpha} ^{1}_{C} \longrightarrow Gl_{C}$, when $\alpha \uparrow$, uniformely a.e. [P].

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ii)
$$Q(A) = \lim_{\alpha} Q_{\alpha}(A)$$
, for any $A \in B \vee C$.

Proof: ii) follows from i) and

$$Q_{\alpha}(B.C) = \int G_{\alpha} \mathbf{1}_{B} \cdot G_{\alpha} \mathbf{1}_{C} dP \longrightarrow \int G \mathbf{1}_{B} \cdot G \mathbf{1}_{C} dP = Q(B.C)$$

i) For B ε B_{λ}, α = A_{λ}, we have G_{α}1_B = $\sum_{j} (P_1(BD_j)/P(D_j)) 1_{D_j}$, where the sum is on the atoms of \mathcal{D}_{λ} , since $Q_{\alpha}(BD_j) = \int_{D_j} G_{\alpha} 1_B dP =$

$$= P(BD_j)/P(D_j) \cdot Q_{\alpha}(D_j) = P_1(BD_j) \quad (P_1 = Q_{\alpha} \text{ on } B_{\lambda}).$$

Given G1_B, let us divide the set of real numbers on intervals $I_i = [m_i, M_i)$ of length $\varepsilon > 0$. Only for a finite number of them $D_i = (G1_B)^{-1}(I_i) \neq \emptyset$ [P]. Consider any finite system S_α such that $D_i \varepsilon \mathcal{D}_\lambda$ for all those D_i . Call $\{D_{ij}\}$ the family of atoms of \mathcal{D}_λ contained in D_i .

Since,
$$\mathfrak{m}_{i}P(D_{ij}) \leq \int_{D_{ij}} G \mathbf{1}_{B} dP \leq M_{i}P(D_{ij})$$

we obtain: $m_i P(D_{ij}) \leq P_1(BD_{ij}) \leq M_i P(D_{ij})$. Therefore on D_{ij} : |G 1_B - $P_1(BD_{ij})/P(D_{ij})| \leq \varepsilon$, a.e [P]. Then

$$|\sum_{i}\sum_{j} P_{1}(BD_{ij})/P(D_{ij}) |_{D_{ij}} - G |_{B}| \le \varepsilon$$
 a.e [P] QED

REMARK: If a comarginal probability P exists on A we, have $G_{\alpha} 1_{B} = E_{p}(1_{B} | \mathcal{D}_{\lambda})$. Using a result from martingale theory due to Helms {3}, we know that the G_{α} 's form a uniformly integrable martingale converging in L^{1} to $G_{1_{B}}$, which implies ii).

7. PRODUCT MEASURE

For special cases of ∇ -commutative systems we can assert that a product measure exists.

One of these cases, the discrete case, was considered in theorem 5. Using remark 4) of §2 we have also:

THEOREM 9. If the ∇ -commutative system S = (Ω , A, B, C, P₁, P₂) is such

that there are semi-compact classes $K_B \subset B$, $K_C \subset C$ with the property of approximation and $K_B \cdot K_C = \{K.L ; K \in K_B, L \in K_C\}$ is also semi-compact, then Q(B.C) = $\int Gl_B \cdot Gl_C dP$ defines, when extended to A, a probality, i.e. the product measure on S.

Another case in which we can assert the existence of product measure is referred in theorem 6, the proof of which we give now:

Proof of theorem 6. We will suppose, like in the proof of theorem 7, that D is identified to D' through the given isomorphism. By theorem 7 we have an extension algebra A_0 of B, C such that (A_0, B, C) is biadic and $B \cap C = D$. Then we have in the Stone space T of A_0 the algebras of clopens \hat{A}_0 , \hat{B} , \hat{C} relative to A_0 , B, C. We set $B = \tau(\hat{B})$, $C = \tau(\hat{C})$ and $A = \tau(\hat{A}_0) = \tau(B,C)$. We define in \hat{B} , \hat{C} the measures P_1 , P_2 given in B, C in the canonical way and extend them to B, C.

Let us prove that $S = (T, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ is a ∇ -commutative system. If $\hat{b} \in \hat{B}$ and $\hat{c} \in \hat{C}$ are such that $\hat{b}.\hat{c} = \emptyset$, i.e. $b \wedge c = 0$ in A; we have $0 = \nabla^2(b \wedge c) = \nabla^2 b \wedge c = \nabla^2 \nabla^1 b \wedge c = \nabla b \wedge c$. Then $\nabla \hat{b}.\hat{c} = \emptyset$, where $\nabla \hat{b} \in \hat{E} \wedge \hat{C}$ contains \hat{b} . Hence $\{G1_{\hat{b}}^{\hat{c}} > 0\} \subset \nabla \hat{b}$ [P], and then

 $\int G1_{\hat{\mathbf{b}}} \cdot G1_{\hat{\mathbf{c}}} \, dP = \int G1_{\hat{\mathbf{b}}} \cdot 1_{\hat{\mathbf{c}}} \, dP_2 \leq P_2(\hat{\mathbf{vb}}, \hat{\mathbf{c}}) = 0$

where G is defined on B(C)-measurable functions is the expectation operator relative on $\mathcal{D} = B \cap C$.

But $\hat{B} \subset B$ and $\hat{C} \subset C$ have the approximation property. Using remark 3 of §2 we can assert that Q(B.C) = $\int G1_B.G1_C$ dP is a finitely additive comarginal measure on S, and from theorem 2, S is a ∇ -commutative system.

Q being finitely additive on $B \vee C \supseteq \hat{A}_{o}$ is a fortiori σ -additive on the algebra of clopens \hat{A}_{o} and then can be extended uniquely to $A = \tau(\hat{A}_{o})$.

This proves 1) and 2) of the theorem (except for identifications) 3) follows immediately from theorem 7.

Finally we shall prove:

THEOREM 10. If $S = (\Omega, A, B, C, P_1, P_2)$ is a ∇ -commutative system with the property:

(P) Ω is the only set of B containing a set C ε C with $P_2(C) > 0$, then $Q(B.C) = P_1(B).P_2(C)$ can be extended to a probability on A. ((P) implies that S is simple). In order to prove the σ -additivity of $Q = P_1 \cdot P_2$ it is enough to prove that $\sum_{\alpha} B_{\alpha} \cdot C_{\alpha} = \Omega$ implies $\sum_{\alpha} P_1(B_{\alpha}) \cdot P_2(C_{\alpha}) = 1$. For each pair $\alpha \neq \beta$ of indices the set $N_{\alpha,\beta} = \{x ; (B_{\alpha}C_{\alpha})_x \cdot (B_{\beta}C_{\beta})_x \neq \emptyset \ [P_2]\}$ is contained in a set of B of P_1 -measure zero. In fact, from $B_{\alpha}C_{\alpha}B_{\beta}C_{\beta}=\emptyset$ we have either $P_1(B_{\alpha} \cdot B_{\beta}) = 0$ or $P_2(C_{\alpha} \cdot C_{\beta}) = 0$. In the first case, it follows from $N_{\alpha\beta} \subset B_{\alpha}B_{\beta}$, in the second one, since $(B_{\alpha}C_{\alpha})_x \cdot (B_{\beta}C_{\beta})_x$ $\subset C_{\alpha} \cdot C_{\beta}$ for every x, we have $N_{\alpha\beta} = \emptyset$.

Then except for a set B_o of B of P₁-measure zero (> $\bigcup_{\alpha \neq \beta} N_{\alpha\beta}$)

(7)
$$P_2(\bigcup_{\alpha} (B_{\alpha}, C_{\alpha})_x) = \sum_{\alpha} P_2((B_{\alpha}, C_{\alpha})_x) = \sum_{\alpha} P_2(C_{\alpha}) \cdot 1_{B_{\alpha}}(x)$$
.

Let b_x be the set of the partition of Ω defined by the sets B_α such that b_x 3 x

(8)
$$b_{\mathbf{x}} \subset \bigcup_{\alpha} (B_{\alpha}, C_{\alpha})_{\mathbf{x}}$$

In fact, let $y \in b_x$ and suppose $y \in B_\alpha \cdot C_\alpha$, then $B_\alpha \supset b_x \ni x$ and this implies $(B_\alpha \cdot C_\alpha)_x = C_\alpha$. Since $y \in C_\alpha$ we have $y \in \bigcup_\alpha (B_\alpha \cdot C_\alpha)_x$. This proves (8).

From $B \ni b_x \subset \bigcup_{\alpha} (B_{\alpha}.C_{\alpha})_x \in C$, and the assumed property (P) we have $P_2(\bigcup_{\alpha} (B_{\alpha}.C_{\alpha})_x) = 1$ for every x.

Hence, by virtue of (7) we have $\forall x \notin B_0$: $\sum_{\alpha} P_2(C_{\alpha}) 1_{B_{\alpha}}(x) = 1$. i.e. $\sum_{\alpha} P_2(C_{\alpha}) . 1_{B_{\alpha}} = 1_{\Omega} [P_1]$. By integration with respect to P_1 :

 $\sum_{\alpha} P_2(C_{\alpha}) \cdot P_1(B_{\alpha}) = 1 \qquad \text{QED}.$

Remark: Condition (P) is equivalent to: (P*) if $C \in C$ contains $B \neq \emptyset$, $B \in B$, then $C = \Omega$ a.e. $[P_2]$.

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