# Computability in ergodic theory 

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Given a computable dynamical system,

- is it possible to compute its invariant measures? the ergodic ones?
- is it possible to compute the speed of convergence of Birkhoff averages?
- is it possible to compute the ergodic decomposition of invariant measures?


## Computability of invariant measures

Proposition (Galatolo, H. \& Rojas, 2009)

There exists a computable dynamical system $T: \mathscr{S}^{1} \rightarrow \mathscr{S}^{1}$ with no computable invariant measure.


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If a computable dynamical system is uniquely ergodic then its ergodic measure is computable.

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## Proposition

If a computable dynamical system is uniquely ergodic then its ergodic measure is computable.

Open question
What about the finitely ergodic case?

## Birkhoff ergodic theorem

Let $\sigma:\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be the shift map and $\mu$ a computable $\sigma$-invariant measure.

$$
f^{(n)}=\frac{f+f \circ \sigma+\ldots+f \circ \sigma^{n-1}}{n} \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\longrightarrow} f^{*} \quad\left(L^{1}(\mu) \text { and a.s. }\right)
$$

Theorem (V'yugin, 1997)
Let $f(x)=x_{0}$. There exists a computable shift-invariant measure $\mu$ such that the speed of convergence of $f^{(n)}$ to $f^{*}$ is not computable.

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## Theorem (Avigad, Gerhardy \& Towsner, 2010)

The speed of convergence of $f^{(n)}$ to $f^{*}$ is always computable from $f$ and $\left\|f^{*}\right\|_{2}$.
In particular, if $\mu$ is ergodic then the speed is computable from $f$, as $\left\|f^{*}\right\|_{2}=\|f\|_{1}$.

## Computable probability measure

## Definition

A probability measure $\mu$ is computable if the following equivalent conditions hold:

- there is an algorithm $A:\{0,1\}^{*} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ such that

$$
|A(w, n)-\mu[w]|<2^{-n},
$$

- there is a randomized algorithm computing a.s. a sequence $x \in\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, whose distribution is $\mu$, i.e.

$$
\mathbb{P}(x \in[w])=\mu[w] .
$$

## Ergodic decomposition

- Let $\mu$ be a computable $\sigma$-invariant measure.
- By definition of computable, there is a randomized algorithm computing sequences with distribution $\mu$.


## Definition

The ergodic decomposition of $\mu$ is computable if there is a randomized algorithm with two random oracles $\omega_{1}, \omega_{2}$ computing a.s. a sequence $x$, such that

- the distribution of $x$ is $\mu$,
- for a.e. fixed $\omega_{1}$, the distribution of $x$ is an ergodic measure.

Ergodic decomposition
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## Ergodic decomposition

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$$
\mu[w]=\frac{|w|_{0}!\times|w|_{1}!}{(|w|+1)!}
$$

- $\mu$ is $\sigma$-invariant
- $\mu$ is the uniform average of the Bernoulli measures $\mu_{p}, 0 \leq p \leq 1$ :

$$
\mu[w]=\int_{0}^{1} \mu_{p}[w] \mathrm{d} p
$$

- its ergodic decomposition is computable: for each oracle $\omega_{1}$, the algorithm $A\left(\omega_{2}\right)$ simulates $\mu_{p}$ where $p=0 . \omega_{1}$.
Computational consequences in terms of memory [Freer \& Roy, 2009].


## Ergodic decomposition

Let $\mu$ be a computable $\sigma$-invariant measure. The following are equivalent:

- the ergodic decomposition of $\mu$ is computable,
- there exists a probabilistic algorithm computing a.s. an ergodic measure $\nu$, and such that

$$
\mu[w]=\mathbb{E}(\nu[w]),
$$

- the speed of convergence of $\mathbf{1}_{[w]}^{(n)}$ to $\mathbf{1}_{[w]}^{*}$ is computable (unif. in $w$ ),
- the mapping $L^{1}(\mu) \rightarrow L^{1}(\mu), f \mapsto f^{*}$ is computable.


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When $\mu=\alpha_{1} \mu_{1}+\ldots+\alpha_{n} \mu_{n}\left(0<\alpha_{i} \leq 1, \sum \alpha_{i}=1, \mu_{i}\right.$ ergodic $)$, the decomposition of $\mu$ is computable iff all $\alpha_{i}, \mu_{i}$ are computable.

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\mu=\sum_{i} 2^{-i} \mu_{t(i)}
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where $t(i) \in \mathbb{N} \cup\{\infty\}$ is the halting time of program number $i$.

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- $\mu$ is computable but its decomposition is not.

Proof on an example.

| $\mu_{n}$ is given by | $\mu_{\infty}=\frac{1}{2}\left(\delta_{000 \ldots}+\delta_{111 \ldots}\right)$ |
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- $\mu:=\sum_{i} 2^{-i} \mu_{t(i)}$
- Every ergodic component $\nu$ of $\mu$ satisfies
(1) either $\nu[1]=\frac{1}{2}\left(\nu=\mu_{n}\right.$ for some $\left.n<\infty\right)$,
(2) or $\nu[1]=0\left(\nu=\delta_{000 \ldots} \ldots\right)$,
(3) or $\nu[1]=1\left(\nu=\delta_{111 \ldots .}\right)$.

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(3) or $\nu[1]=1\left(\nu=\delta_{111 \ldots}\right)$.
- The three events are "isolated from each other", hence distinguishable: their probabilities are computable if the decomposition of $\mu$ is computable.
- But $\mathbb{P}\left(\nu[1]=\frac{1}{2}\right)=\sum_{i \in K} 2^{-i}$ is not computable!


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- Let $f_{\infty}=0$ and $f_{n} \rightarrow\|\cdot\|_{\infty} f_{\infty}$ with $f_{n}^{\prime}(0)=1$.


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- Define $f=\sum_{i} 2^{-i} f_{t(i)}$.
- $f$ is not computable as $f(0)=\sum_{i \in K} 2^{-i}$.


## More generally

Theorem (Pour-El \& Richards, 1989)
Let $X$ and $Y$ be effective Banach spaces and $T: X \rightarrow Y$ a linear operator with c.e. closed graph. If $T$ is unbounded then there exists a computable point $x$ such that $T(x)$ is not computable.

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## Examples

The following operators are unbounded

- id : $L^{1}[0,1] \rightarrow L^{2}[0,1]$,
- id : $L^{1}[0,1] \rightarrow \mathscr{C}[0,1]$,
- $\frac{d}{d x}: \mathscr{C}[0,1] \rightarrow \mathscr{C}[0,1]$,
- solution operator of the wave equation $\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial t^{2}}=\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x^{2}}+\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial y^{2}}+\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial z^{2}}$.


## Main question

- V'yugin's example is an infinite combination of ergodic measures.
- What about the finite case?
- If $\mu=\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$ (with $\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}$ ergodic) is computable, are $\mu_{1}$ and $\mu_{2}$ computable as well?

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Theorem (H., 2011)
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There exist ergodic measures $\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}$ that are not computable while $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$ is computable.

## First result

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There exist ergodic measures $\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}$ that are not computable relative to $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$.

The set of such pairs is even co-meager!

## First result

$\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}=\{\sigma$-invariant measures $\}$.
Lemma
Let $C \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{\sigma} \times \mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$ be such that the function $\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}\right) \mapsto \frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$ restricted to $C$ is one-to-one and has a continuous inverse. $C$ is nowhere dense.

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- Let $\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}\right) \in C$
- $\left(\mu_{1}^{\prime}, \mu_{2}^{\prime}\right) \notin C$



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## Proof.

- Let $\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}\right) \in C$
- $\left(\mu_{1}^{\prime}, \mu_{2}^{\prime}\right) \notin C \ldots$
- ... for $\left(\mu_{1}^{\prime}, \mu_{2}^{\prime}\right)$ in an open set.



## First result

Hence

- For each oracle Turing machine $M$, the set

$$
C_{M}:=\left\{\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}\right) \in \mathcal{M}_{\sigma} \times \mathcal{M}_{\sigma}: M^{\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}} \text { computes } \mu_{1}\right\}
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- In $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma} \times \mathcal{M}_{\sigma}, \mathscr{E}_{\sigma} \times \mathscr{E}_{\sigma}$ is co-meager.
- So in $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma} \times \mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$, the set

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\left(\mathscr{E}_{\sigma} \times \mathscr{E}_{\sigma}\right) \backslash \bigcup_{M} C_{M} \\
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$\left\{\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}\right) \in \mathscr{E}_{\sigma} \times \mathscr{E}_{\sigma}: \mu_{1}\right.$ is not computable relative to $\left.\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}\right\}$
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- As $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma} \times \mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$ is a Baire space, the set is non-empty.


## Second result

Theorem (H., 2012)
There exist ergodic measures $\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}$ that are not computable while $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$ is computable.

## Second result

- The construction is a game between a player and a countably infinite number of opponents (the programs).
- The player privately builds $\mu_{1}$ and $\mu_{2}$ and publicly describes $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$.
- Each opponent tries to guess $\mu_{1}$, i.e. to publicly describe $\mu_{1}$.
- The player wins if the opponent fails.
- Any public statement is irrevocable.


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Theorem
The player has a computable winning strategy.

## Second result

Against one opponent
Start from any ergodic $\mu_{1} \neq \mu_{2}$ and describe $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$.


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Knowledge of the opponent

Three cases:
(1) the opponent remains silent forever: do nothing.
(2) the opponent eventually makes a wrong guess: do nothing.
(3) the opponent eventually makes a correct guess: move $\mu_{1}$ and $\mu_{2}$ much but $\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}$ very little.

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Based on the "priority method with finite injury".

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- Run the strategies $S_{i}$ in parallel at different scales.
- The strategies may interfer. Put a priority ordering: $S_{i}$ has priority over $S_{j}$ if $i<j$.
- When $S_{i}$ acts, it can "injure" $S_{j}$ 's past actions if $i<j$, but $S_{j}$ is restarted.


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- The strategies may interfer. Put a priority ordering: $S_{i}$ has priority over $S_{j}$ if $i<j$.
- When $S_{i}$ acts, it can "injure" $S_{j}$ 's past actions if $i<j$, but $S_{j}$ is restarted.
- Every strategy eventually settles, so every strategy eventually acts without being injured any more ("finite injury").


## Second result

Against infinitely many opponents

Based on the "priority method with finite injury".

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- The strategies may interfer. Put a priority ordering: $S_{i}$ has priority over $S_{j}$ if $i<j$.
- When $S_{i}$ acts, it can "injure" $S_{j}$ 's past actions if $i<j$, but $S_{j}$ is restarted.
- Every strategy eventually settles, so every strategy eventually acts without being injured any more ("finite injury").
- The limit measures $\mu_{1}$ and $\mu_{2}$ are not computed by any opponent. However the player computes $\frac{\mu_{1}+\mu_{2}}{2}$.


## More generally

Let $X$ be an effective Polish space and $Y$ a second-countable topological space.
Definition
$f: X \rightarrow Y$ is irreversible if

- $\exists U \neq \emptyset$ open s.t. $\operatorname{int}(f(U))=\emptyset$ (inside $f(X)$ ),
- the same holds for the restriction $f_{\mid B}$ to any open $B$. $f$ is computably irreversible if $U_{B}$ can be computed from $B$.


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Theorem (H., 2012)
If $f$ is computable and computably irreversible then

- the set $\{x \in X: x$ is not computable from $f(x)\}$ is co-meager,
- there exist a non-computable $x$ such that $f(x)$ is computable.

