

An exact functional Radon–Nikodym theorem for Daniell integrals

by

E. DE AMO (Almería), I. CHITESCU (Bucureşti)
and M. DÍAZ CARRILLO (Granada)

Abstract. Given two positive Daniell integrals I and J , with J absolutely continuous with respect to I , we find sufficient conditions in order to obtain an exact Radon–Nikodym derivative f of J with respect to I . The procedure of obtaining f is constructive.

1. Introduction. In this paper we consider two positive Daniell integrals I and J on a lattice of functions B which is also a unitary algebra, J being absolutely continuous with respect to I . We give sufficient conditions to obtain, in a constructive manner, an “exact” Radon–Nikodym derivative f of J with respect to I , i.e., to have $J(u) = I(fu)$ for every u in B . Generally, the derivative thus obtained must be in a larger space than B , so the relation $J(u) = I(fu)$ actually holds for the canonical extensions of I and J .

We recognize the strong influence of [6] and [8].

2. Main result. We shall consider a nonempty set X (the total space) and a vector lattice B of functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (with pointwise operations and order). We shall also assume that B is an algebra with unit $1 \in B$. We denote by $+B$ the positive elements in B .

In what follows, $I : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ will be a *positive Daniell integral* (i.e., I is linear, positive and $I(f_n) \searrow 0$ whenever the decreasing sequence (f_n) in B is such that $f_n \searrow 0$ pointwise). For Daniell integrals, see [9] and [10], and for general measure theory, see [5], [7] and [10].

Let also $J : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a positive linear functional. We shall assume that J is *absolutely continuous with respect to I* , i.e., for all $\varepsilon > 0$ and for all u in $+B$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that, for all v in $+B$ with $v \leq u$ and $I(v) < \delta$ one has $J(v) < \varepsilon$ (see [1] and [3]), which is denoted by $J \ll I$.

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Notice that J must also be a Daniell integral (due to its absolute continuity with respect to I).

According to the general theory, I generates the vector lattice $L(I)$ of all I -integrable functions and J generates the vector lattice $L(J)$ of all J -integrable functions. We shall denote by $L_b(I)$ (resp. $L_b(J)$) the set of all bounded I -integrable (resp. J -integrable) functions. Recall that for $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, to say that f is in $L(I)$ means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exist $g, h : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with the following three properties:

- (a) There exists an increasing sequence $(g_n)_n$ in B such that $g_n \nearrow g$ and

$$I^*(g) := \sup_n I(g_n) < \infty.$$

- (b) There exists a decreasing sequence $(h_n)_n$ in B such that $h_n \searrow h$ and

$$I_*(h) := \inf_n I(h_n) > -\infty.$$

- (c) One has the inequalities $h \leq f \leq g$ and $0 \leq I^*(g) - I_*(h) < \varepsilon$ (the last inequality actually means that $\sup_n [I(g_n - h_n)] < \varepsilon$).

In case $f \geq 0$ one can suppose $h \geq 0$.

Then I can be uniquely extended to a linear positive functional $\bar{I} : L(I) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ having the property that $I_*(h) \leq \bar{I}(f) \leq I^*(g)$ for all h and g as above.

Similar considerations apply to the extension of J .

LEMMA 1. *If $J \ll I$, then $L_b(I) \subset L_b(J)$.*

Proof. Let $u \geq 0$ in $L_b(I)$. We shall prove that $u \in L(J)$ (i.e., $u \in L_b(J)$) and this will imply $L_b(I) \subset L_b(J)$, in view of the decomposition $u := u^+ - u^-$ with u^+, u^- in $L_b(I)$ for arbitrary $u \in L_b(I)$.

Consider a number $M > 0$ such that $u \leq M$. Take $\varepsilon > 0$. Since $J \ll I$, one can find $\delta > 0$ such that for all $0 \leq v \leq 2M, v \in B$, the inequality $I(v) < \delta$ implies that $J(v) < \varepsilon$.

We can consider $h \leq u \leq g$ with $g_n \nearrow g, h_n \searrow h \geq 0, I^*(g) - I_*(h) < \delta/2$, as above. One can assume $0 \leq h_n \leq M, 0 \leq g_n \leq M$, because $g_n \vee 0 =: g'_n \nearrow g = g \vee 0$ and $g''_n := g'_n \wedge M \nearrow g \wedge M \geq u; h_n \vee 0 =: h'_n \searrow h = h \vee 0$; and

$$I^*(g \wedge M) - I_*(h) = \sup_n [I(g''_n - h'_n)] \leq I^*(g) - I_*(h) = \sup_n [I(g_n - h_n)] < \delta/2.$$

For all n one has $|g_n - h_n| \leq g_n + h_n \leq 2M$. On the other hand, $|g_n - h_n| \rightarrow |g - h| = g - h$ pointwise. Since all g_n and h_n are in $L(I)$, we can use the measure space generated by I and Lebesgue's Dominated Convergence Theorem to conclude that $\bar{I}(g - h) = \lim_n I(|g_n - h_n|)$.

Since $\bar{I}(g - h) = I^*(g) - I_*(h) < \delta/2$, there exists a natural number n_0 such that $I(|g_n - h_n|) < \delta$ for all $n \geq n_0$. It follows that for all $n \geq n_0$ one

has $J(|g_n - h_n|) < \varepsilon$, because $|g_n - h_n| \leq 2M$; consequently,

$$J(g_n - h_n) \leq J(|g_n - h_n|) < \varepsilon.$$

Since the sequence is increasing, one gets

$$\sup_n J(g_n - h_n) = J^*(g) - J_*(h) \leq \varepsilon,$$

which means that $u \in L(I)$, because ε is arbitrary. ■

LEMMA 2. *One has $\bar{J} \ll \bar{I}$ for bounded functions; i.e., for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and every $M > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ having the property that if $u \in L(I)$ is such that $0 \leq u \leq M$ and $\bar{I}(u) < \delta$, then $\bar{J}(u) < \varepsilon$. Consequently, if $0 \leq u \in L(I)$ is such that $\bar{I}(u) = 0$, one has $u \in L(J)$ and $\bar{J}(u) = 0$.*

Proof. Let $\varepsilon, M > 0$. There exists $\delta_1 > 0$ such that for all $v \in B$ with $0 \leq v \leq M$ and $I(v) < \delta_1$ one has $J(v) < \varepsilon/2$. Set $\delta := \delta_1/4$.

Now, take $u \in L(I)$ with $0 \leq u \leq M$ and $\bar{I}(u) < \delta$. Consider h_n, g_n in B with $g_n \nearrow g$, $h_n \searrow h$, $h \leq u \leq g$ and $I^*(g) - I_*(h) = \sup_n [I(g_n - h_n)] < \delta_1/4$ as above. As we have seen, one can consider that $0 \leq h_n \leq M$, $0 \leq g_n \leq M$.

Choose $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\bar{J}(u) \leq J^*(g) = \sup_n J(g_n) < J(g_{n_0}) + \varepsilon/2$; therefore

$$(1) \quad \bar{J}(u) < J(g_n) + \varepsilon/2, \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, one has

$$(2) \quad I(g_n) = I(g_n - h_n) + I(h_n) < I(h_n) + \delta_1/4.$$

Since $I_*(h) := \inf_n I(h_n)$, one can find $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $I(h_{n_1}) < I_*(h) + \delta_1/4 \leq \bar{I}(u) + \delta_1/4$, therefore

$$(3) \quad I(h_n) < \bar{I}(u) + \delta_1/4, \quad \forall n \geq n_1.$$

Now, let $n \geq \max\{n_0, n_1\}$. In view of (2) and (3), one gets

$$I(g_n) < I(h_n) + \delta_1/4 < \bar{I}(u) + \delta_1/2 < 3\delta_1/4 < \delta_1,$$

which implies that $J(g_n) < \varepsilon/2$.

In view of (1), one has

$$(4) \quad \bar{J}(u) < J(g_n) + \varepsilon/2 < \varepsilon$$

and, because ε is arbitrary, (4) shows that $\bar{J} \ll \bar{I}$ for bounded functions in $L(I)$.

For the case $0 \leq u \in L(I)$ with $\bar{I}(u) = 0$, one has $u = \sup_n u_n$, where $(u_n)_n$ is the increasing sequence in $L_b(I)$ given by $u_n := u \wedge n$. For every n one has $\bar{I}(u_n) = 0$ and the absolute continuity for bounded functions gives $\bar{J}(u_n) = 0$. Since $\sup_n \bar{J}(u_n) = 0$, Beppo-Levi's theorem implies $u \in L(J)$, and $\bar{J}(u) = 0$. ■

REMARK. $\bar{J} \ll \bar{I}$ for bounded functions means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and $0 \leq h \in L_b(I)$, there exists $\delta > 0$ having the property that if $u \in L(I)$ is such that $0 \leq u \leq h$, the inequality $\bar{I}(u) < \delta$ implies $\bar{J}(u) < \varepsilon$.

In order to continue our investigations, we introduce, for every $u \geq 0$ in $L_b(I)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$:

(a) the *average range of \bar{J} with respect to \bar{I} on u* , which is the set of real numbers

$$A(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(u) := \{\bar{J}(v)/\bar{I}(v); 0 \leq v \leq u, v \in L(I), \bar{I}(v) > 0\};$$

(b) the ε -*approximate average range of \bar{J} with respect to \bar{I} on u* , which is the set of real numbers (possibly empty)

$$A_\varepsilon(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(u) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}; |x - a| \leq \varepsilon \text{ for all } a \in A(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(u)\}.$$

We make three assumptions which will be discussed and justified at the end of the paper. \mathbb{N} denotes the set $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ of all natural numbers.

ASSUMPTION 1. This assumption is sequential and inductive, consisting of the following sequence of steps:

$s(1)$: There exists a sequence $(h_{n;1})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ or a finite family $(h_{n;1})_{1 \leq n \leq p_1}$ of positive functions in $L(I)$ such that $\bar{I}(h_{n;1}) > 0$ for all n and

$$(i)_1 \quad \sum_n h_{n;1} = 1$$

with pointwise convergence.

$s(2)$: For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ or $1 \leq n \leq p_1$, there exists a sequence $(h_{(n,i);2})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ or a finite family $(h_{(n,i);2})_{1 \leq i \leq p_2}$ of positive functions in $L(I)$ such that $\bar{I}(h_{\alpha;2}) > 0$ for all possible $\alpha := (n, i)$, and for all possible n we have pointwise

$$(i)_2 \quad \sum_i h_{(n,i);2} = h_{n;1}.$$

This implies $\sum_\alpha h_{\alpha;2} = 1$, where the sum \sum_α is taken pointwise over the set of all possible α .

Assuming that the step $s(n-1)$ for $n \geq 2$ of the assumption has been defined (this pertains to the family $(h_{\alpha;n-1})_\alpha$ where $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^{n-1}$ ranges over all possible α) we shall write $(\alpha, i_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$, for every $\alpha = (i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{N}^{n-1}$ and $i_n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Now we are able to write the next step:

$s(n)$: For every $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^{n-1}$ in the set of all possible α given by the previous steps, there exists a sequence $(h_{(\alpha,i);n})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ or a finite set $(h_{(\alpha,i);n})_{1 \leq i \leq p_n}$ of positive functions in $L(I)$ such that $\bar{I}(h_{\beta;n}) > 0$ for all possible β . Moreover,

for all possible α , we have pointwise

$$(i)_n \quad \sum_i h_{(\alpha,i);n} = h_{\alpha;n-1}$$

where the sum \sum_i is taken over the set of all possible i . This implies, in view of $\sum_\alpha h_{\alpha;n-1} = 1$ in $s(n-1)$ and in view of $(i)_n$, that $\sum_\beta h_{\beta;n} = 1$, where β ranges over the set of all possible β .

Final comment upon Assumption 1: For every possible $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^m$, if $n > m$, one has

$$h_{\alpha;m} = \sum_\beta h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}$$

where the sum runs over all possible $\beta \in \mathbb{N}^{n-m}$, with obvious notations. Note that all the $h_{\alpha;m}$ are in $L_b(I)$.

ASSUMPTION 2. For every natural number n and for every $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n$ in the set of all possible α , one has

$$A_{2^{-n}}(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(h_{\alpha;n}) \neq \emptyset.$$

ASSUMPTION 3. There exists a number $M > 0$ such that for all n in \mathbb{N} and for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n$ in the set of all possible α , one has

$$A_{2^{-n}}(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(h_{\alpha;n}) \subset [-M, M].$$

The general theory says that if f is a bounded function in $L(I)$ and u is in $L(I)$, then fu is in $L(I)$. We can now state the main result of this paper.

THEOREM (An exact Radon–Nikodym theorem for Daniell integrals). *Assume that I, J are as above and Assumptions 1–3 are fulfilled. Then there exists a positive bounded function f in $L(I)$ such that*

$$\bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(fu)$$

for all u in $L(I)$. The function f (called the Radon–Nikodym derivative of \bar{J} with respect to \bar{I}) is I -almost unique, which means that if g in $L(I)$ is such that $\bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(gu)$ for all u in $L(I)$ then $\bar{I}(|f-g|) = 0$.

Proof. We shall construct a sequence $(f_n)_n$ of bounded I -integrable functions.

Let n be in \mathbb{N} . In order to construct f_n , we take an element $r_{\alpha;n}$ in each $A_{2^{-n}}(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(h_{\alpha;n})$ for all possible α in \mathbb{N}^n , according to Assumption 2. We define $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ pointwise by

$$f_n := \sum_\alpha r_{\alpha;n} h_{\alpha;n}$$

(where $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n$ ranges over the set of all possible α).

One has clearly

$$|f_n| \leq \sum_{\alpha} |r_{\alpha;n}| h_{\alpha;n} \leq M \sum_{\alpha} h_{\alpha;n} = M,$$

so f_n is bounded. Here we have used Assumption 3 and again Assumption 1. If μ is the measure induced by the Daniell integral I (according to the general theory), then the functions f_n are clearly μ -measurable and, being bounded, are also μ -integrable, i.e., they are in $L(I)$.

Now we prove that the sequence (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy, which implies that it is uniformly convergent to a function f . Indeed, let $m < n$ in \mathbb{N} . We shall prove that for all t in X one has

$$(5) \quad |f_m(t) - f_n(t)| \leq 2^{1-m}$$

and this will prove the assertion.

Take $t \in X$. We have (here $\beta \in \mathbb{N}^{n-m}$ is taken to be in the set of all possible such indices)

$$\begin{aligned} |f_m(t) - f_n(t)| &= \left| \sum_{\alpha} r_{\alpha;m} h_{\alpha;m}(t) - \sum_{\gamma} r_{\gamma;n} h_{\gamma;n}(t) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha} \left| r_{\alpha;m} h_{\alpha;m}(t) - \sum_{\beta} r_{(\alpha,\beta);n} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{(\alpha,\beta)} |r_{\alpha;m} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) - r_{(\alpha,\beta);n} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t)| \\ &= \sum_{(\alpha,\beta)} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) |r_{\alpha;m} - r_{(\alpha,\beta);n}| \end{aligned}$$

(see the final comment upon Assumption 1).

For every (α, β) we take a natural i such that (with obvious notation)

$$0 \leq h_{(\alpha,\beta,i);n+1} =: v \leq h_{(\alpha,\beta);n} \leq h_{\alpha;m}, \quad \bar{I}(v) > 0.$$

Summing upon all possible (α, β) and finding each time such a $v = v(\alpha, \beta)$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} |f_m(t) - f_n(t)| &\leq \sum_{(\alpha,\beta)} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) \left(\left| r_{\alpha;m} - \frac{\bar{J}(v)}{\bar{I}(v)} \right| + \left| \frac{\bar{J}(v)}{\bar{I}(v)} - r_{(\alpha,\beta);n} \right| \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{(\alpha,\beta)} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) (2^{-m} + 2^{-n}) \\ &\leq 2^{-m+1} \sum_{(\alpha,\beta)} h_{(\alpha,\beta);n}(t) = 2^{-m+1}, \end{aligned}$$

and (5) is proved.

Let $\tilde{f} : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the (uniform) limit $\tilde{f} := \lim_n f_n$.

It is clear (because $|f_n| \leq M$) that $|\tilde{f}| \leq M$ and so \tilde{f} is bounded, therefore $\tilde{f} \in L(I)$ according to the general theory.

We prove that for all u in $L(I)$,

$$(6) \quad \bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(\tilde{f}u).$$

We show that (6) holds for every positive bounded $u \leq 1$ in $L(I)$. Indeed, one can write $\lim_n f_n u = \tilde{f}u$ and $|f_n u| \leq M$, $|\tilde{f}u| \leq M$ (everything pointwise) and this implies

$$(7) \quad \lim \bar{I}(f_n u) = \bar{I}(\tilde{f}u).$$

On the other hand, for every n in \mathbb{N} ,

$$|\bar{J}(u) - \bar{I}(f_n u)| = \left| \bar{J}(u) - \bar{I}\left(\left(\sum_{\alpha} r_{\alpha;n} h_{\alpha;n}\right)u\right) \right| = \left| \bar{J}(u) - \sum_{\alpha} r_{\alpha;n} \bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n}) \right|$$

(again by dominated convergence).

Because $u = u \sum_{\alpha} h_{\alpha;n}$, one also has $\bar{J}(u) = \sum_{\alpha} \bar{J}(u h_{\alpha;n})$ and so

$$(8) \quad |\bar{J}(u) - \bar{I}(f_n u)| = \left| \sum_{\alpha} (\bar{J}(u h_{\alpha;n}) - r_{\alpha;n} \bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n})) \right|.$$

In case $\bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n}) = 0$ one has $\bar{J}(u h_{\alpha;n}) = 0$, because $\bar{J} \ll \bar{I}$. In case $\bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n}) > 0$ one has $0 \leq u h_{\alpha;n} \leq h_{\alpha;n}$ and then

$$\left| \frac{\bar{J}(u h_{\alpha;n})}{\bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n})} - r_{\alpha;n} \right| \leq 2^{-n},$$

which implies in all situations that

$$(9) \quad |\bar{J}(u h_{\alpha;n}) - r_{\alpha;n} \bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n})| \leq 2^{-n} \bar{I}(u h_{\alpha;n}) \leq 2^{-n} \bar{I}(h_{\alpha;n}).$$

In view of (8) and (9), one obtains

$$|\bar{J}(u) - \bar{I}(f_n u)| \leq 2^{-n} \sum_{\alpha} \bar{I}(h_{\alpha;n}) = 2^{-n} \bar{I}(1),$$

which implies

$$(10) \quad \lim \bar{I}(f_n u) = \bar{J}(u).$$

From (7) and (10) we obtain (6), which therefore holds for positive bounded functions u in $L(I)$.

If u is an arbitrary positive function in $L(I)$, we have the pointwise convergence $u_n \nearrow u$, where $u_n := u \wedge n$. Since $\bar{J}(u_n) = \bar{I}(\tilde{f}u_n)$ for all n , it follows, by passing to suprema, that $\bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(\tilde{f}u)$ and (6) is true for all positive functions in $L(I)$. By linearity, (6) holds for all functions in $L(I)$.

If μ is the (complete) measure induced by the Daniell integral I , then (6) implies ($\chi_A =$ the indicator function of A)

$$0 \leq \bar{J}(\chi_A) = \int_A \tilde{f} d\mu$$

for all $A \subset X$ with $\chi_A \in L(I)$. General measure theory says that $\tilde{f}(t) \geq 0$ μ -almost everywhere.

The set $M := \{t \in X; \tilde{f}(t) < 0\}$ has the properties $\chi_M \in L(I)$ and $\mu(M) = \bar{I}(\chi_M) = 0$. Defining $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ via

$$f(t) := \begin{cases} \tilde{f}(t), & t \notin M, \\ 0, & t \in M, \end{cases}$$

one has $f \geq 0$ everywhere, $f = \tilde{f}$ μ -almost everywhere and therefore

$$\bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(\tilde{f}u) = \bar{I}(fu)$$

for all u in $L(I)$.

For the unicity, consider another function g in $L(I)$ such that $\bar{J}(u) = \bar{I}(gu)$ for all u in $L(I)$. So, we have $\bar{I}(f\chi_A) = \bar{I}(g\chi_A)$, which means that $\int_A f d\mu = \int_A g d\mu$ for all $A \subset X$ with $\chi_A \in L(I)$. General measure theory says that $g = f$ μ -almost everywhere, which means

$$0 = \int |f - g| d\mu = \bar{I}(|f - g|). \quad \blacksquare$$

3. Other results and comments

3.1. We begin with a general result which will furnish material for some comments. Assume therefore that $X \neq \emptyset$ is an abstract set, B a vector lattice of functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $I, J : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are linear positive functionals. Using the conventions $\frac{0}{0} := 0$ and $\frac{a}{0} := \infty$ for $a > 0$ we shall modify the previous definitions a little. Namely, for every u in $+B$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, we set

$$A'(I, J)(u) := \{J(v)/I(v); 0 \leq v \leq u, v \in B\},$$

$$A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}; |x - a| \leq \varepsilon, a \in A'(I, J)(u)\}.$$

PROPOSITION. (i) *Assume that for all u in $+B$, the set $A'(I, J)(u)$ is bounded (e.g. in case there exists a number $M > 0$ such that $J \leq MI$). Then $J \ll I$.*

(ii) *For every u in $+B$ and every $\varepsilon > 0$, the set $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$ is closed (actually compact).*

(iii) *For every u in $+B$ we have $0 < \varepsilon < \gamma \Rightarrow A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u) \subset A'_\gamma(I, J)(u)$.*

(iv) *Assuming that u in $+B$ is such that $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u) \neq \emptyset$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$, the intersection $\bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$ contains exactly one point.*

Proof. (i) Assume that for all u in $+B$ the set $A'(I, J)(u)$ is bounded. If $J \ll I$ is false, we can find $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ and u in $+B$ with the property that

for all n in \mathbb{N} , there exists $0 \leq u_n \leq u$ in B such that $I(u_n) < 1/n$ and $J(u_n) \geq \varepsilon_0$.

If $I(u_n) = 0$, then $J(u_n)/I(u_n) = \infty$ and $A'(I, J)(u)$ is not bounded.

If $I(u_n) > 0$, then $J(u_n)/I(u_n) \geq n\varepsilon_0$ and, in this case too, $A'(I, J)(u)$ is not bounded. Contradiction, and (i) follows.

In the particular case when $J \leq MI$ for some positive M , one has obviously $A'(I, J)(u) \subset [0, M]$.

Assertion (ii) is clear when $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u) = \emptyset$. So, assume $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u) \neq \emptyset$.

If a number x is such that $x = \lim_n x_n$, where $(x_n)_n$ is a sequence in $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$, then for an arbitrary fixed $0 \leq v \leq u$ in B one has

$$\left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - x_n \right| \leq \varepsilon$$

for every n . Passing to the limit gives

$$\left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - x \right| \leq \varepsilon.$$

The fact that v is arbitrary shows that $x \in A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$.

Point (iii) is trivial. We prove (iv).

For every $\varepsilon > 0$, the nonempty set $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$ is bounded (for every x and y in $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$ one has $|x - y| \leq |x - a| + |y - a| \leq 2\varepsilon$, upon taking some a in $A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$), therefore compact, and the decreasing intersection is nonempty. Put $A := \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} A'_\varepsilon(I, J)(u)$.

Assume the existence of $x \neq y$ in A ; then one has, for a fixed $0 \leq v \leq u$ in B , the inequalities

$$\left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - x \right| \leq \frac{|x - y|}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - y \right| \leq \frac{|x - y|}{4}.$$

Hence

$$|x - y| \leq \left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - x \right| + \left| \frac{J(v)}{I(v)} - y \right| \leq \frac{|x - y|}{2},$$

which is false. ■

Commenting on the Proposition, we can say:

(a) Point (i) *motivates* Assumption 3 a little. For example, in the particular case when there exists a positive number M such that $J \leq MI$, one quickly sees that $\bar{J} \leq M\bar{I}$ and this implies that for every positive u in $L(I)$ one has $A'(I, J)(u) \subset [0, M]$.

(b) Point (iv) can give us some *ideas* in connection with the possible values of the function f . Namely, they should be *close* to the elements in the intersection of the form

$$\bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} A'_\varepsilon(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(h_{\alpha;n})$$

for large n . So, f is obtained via a kind of *differentiation* procedure.

(c) In connection with Assumption 2, which says that for large n the average range $A(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(h_{\alpha;n})$ must have very small diameter (see also comment (b)), the following example will be, perhaps, illuminating, putting into evidence a concrete construction of the family $(h_{\alpha;n})$.

3.2. We now give an example to show how the theorem effectively works.

We take $X := [0, 1]$ and $B :=$ the algebra of all continuous functions $u : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The functional $I : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by $I(f) := \int_0^1 u(x) dx$. In order to construct J we fix a positive function $f \in B$ and then $J : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by $J(u) := \int_0^1 f(x)u(x) dx$.

If $M := \max\{f(x); x \in [0, 1]\}$ then $J \leq MI$, which shows that $J \ll I$ and Assumption 3 is automatically satisfied.

One knows that \bar{I} is exactly the Lebesgue integral on the space $L(I)$ of all Lebesgue integrable functions, so

$$\bar{I}(u) = \int u d\mu, \quad \forall u \in L(I),$$

where $\mu : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow +\mathbb{R}$ is the Lebesgue measure (induced by I over the set \mathcal{M} of all Lebesgue measurable subsets of $[0, 1]$). Then \bar{J} acts via

$$\bar{J}(u) = \int f u d\mu, \quad \forall u \in L(I).$$

We now show how Assumptions 1 and 2 can be satisfied. To this end, we use the following

STATEMENT. *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a compact interval, μ the Lebesgue measure on U and $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a positive continuous function. Then, for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for every a in U which is not the right end of U , one has the property: for each interval $[a, b] \subset U$ with $b - a < \delta$ and for each Lebesgue integrable function $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 \leq u \leq \chi_{[a, b]}$ and u is not null μ -almost everywhere on $[a, b]$, the following relation holds:*

$$\frac{\int_{[a, b]} f u d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} u d\mu} \in [f(a) - \varepsilon/2, f(a) + \varepsilon/2].$$

Proof. Since f is bounded, there exists a natural number k , not depending on a , such that

$$(11) \quad \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{k^2} + \frac{f(a)}{k} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

In view of the uniform continuity of f , there exists $\delta > 0$ not depending on a such that

$$(12) \quad M := \sup\{f(x); x \in [a, b]\} \leq f(a) + 1/k$$

and

$$(13) \quad m := \inf\{f(x); x \in [a, b]\} \geq f(a) - 1/k$$

if $[a, b] \subset U$ is such that $b - a < \delta$.

Fix the interval $[a, b]$ as in the Statement. First, we shall prove it for every Riemann integrable function

$$u \in H(a, b) := \{u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; 0 \leq u \leq \chi_{[a, b]}, u \neq 0 \text{ } \mu\text{-a.e.}\}.$$

There exist positive continuous functions $g, h : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$0 \leq h \leq u \leq g \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu > 0$$

(since $\int_{[a, b]} u \, d\mu > 0$).

In view of the general properties of the Daniell integral, we can find an increasing sequence $(h_n)_n$ of positive continuous functions $h_n : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $h_n \leq u$, and a decreasing sequence $(g_n)_n$ of positive continuous functions $g_n : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g_n \geq u$, such that

$$\int_{[a, b]} u \, d\mu = \sup_n \int_{[a, b]} h_n \, d\mu = \inf_n \int_{[a, b]} g_n \, d\mu.$$

One can find a natural n such that

$$(14) \quad 1 \leq \frac{\int_{[a, b]} g_n \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} h_n \, d\mu} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{k} \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \geq \frac{\int_{[a, b]} h_n \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} g_n \, d\mu} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k}.$$

Put $h := h_n$ and $g := g_n$. One has

$$\frac{\int_{[a, b]} f h \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu} \leq \frac{\int_{[a, b]} f u \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} u \, d\mu} \leq \frac{\int_{[a, b]} f g \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu}.$$

But using (12)–(14) gives

$$\int_{[a, b]} f g \, d\mu \leq M \int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu \leq \left(f(a) + \frac{1}{k}\right) \int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu;$$

therefore,

$$\frac{\int_{[a, b]} f g \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu} \leq \left(f(a) + \frac{1}{k}\right) \frac{\int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu} \leq \left(f(a) + \frac{1}{k}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right);$$

and

$$\int_{[a, b]} f h \, d\mu \geq m \int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu \geq \left(f(a) - \frac{1}{k}\right) \int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu;$$

therefore

$$\frac{\int_{[a, b]} f h \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu} \geq \left(f(a) - \frac{1}{k}\right) \frac{\int_{[a, b]} h \, d\mu}{\int_{[a, b]} g \, d\mu} \geq \left(f(a) - \frac{1}{k}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right).$$

It follows that

$$f(a) - \left(\frac{1}{k} + \frac{f(a)}{k} - \frac{1}{k^2} \right) \leq \frac{\int_{[a,b]} f u \, d\mu}{\int_{[a,b]} u \, d\mu} \leq f(a) + \left(\frac{1}{k} + \frac{f(a)}{k} + \frac{1}{k^2} \right),$$

which implies, using (11), that

$$f(a) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq \frac{\int_{[a,b]} f u \, d\mu}{\int_{[a,b]} u \, d\mu} \leq f(a) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Now, we prove the validity of the result for every Lebesgue integrable function $u \in H(a, b)$. There exists a sequence $(u_n)_n$ of Riemann integrable functions, $u_n : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, such that $\|u_n - u\|_1 := \int |u_n - u| \, d\mu \rightarrow 0$ and one can suppose that $u_n \rightarrow u$ μ -a.e. Then $\|u_n^+ - u\|_1 \rightarrow 0$, where $u_n^+ := u_n \vee 0$ (since $u = u \vee 0$) and hence $\|z_n - u\|_1 \rightarrow 0$, where $z_n := u_n^+ \wedge \chi_{[a,b]}$ (since $u \wedge \chi_{[a,b]} = u$). We have used the properties of the Banach lattice $L^1(\mu)$. One sees that $0 \leq z_n \leq \chi_{[a,b]}$, z_n are Riemann integrable and, for n greater than some n_0 , one must have $\int z_n \, d\mu > 0$, because $\int u \, d\mu > 0$.

The result already obtained for Riemann integrable functions yields for all $n \geq n_0$,

$$\frac{\int_{[a,b]} f z_n \, d\mu}{\int_{[a,b]} z_n \, d\mu} \in [f(a) - \varepsilon/2, f(a) + \varepsilon/2],$$

and passing to the n -limit, one obtains

$$\frac{\int_{[a,b]} f u \, d\mu}{\int_{[a,b]} u \, d\mu} \in [f(a) - \varepsilon/2, f(a) + \varepsilon/2]. \quad \blacksquare$$

Using this Statement, one can see that, for given $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for every $0 \leq a < b \leq 1$ with $b - a < \delta$, one has

$$A_\varepsilon(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(\chi_{[a,b]}) \neq \emptyset.$$

Indeed, we saw that for given $\varepsilon > 0$, one can find $\delta > 0$ such that for every a, b as above one has

$$A(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(\chi_{[a,b]}) \subset [f(a) - \varepsilon/2, f(a) + \varepsilon/2].$$

Then it is immediately seen that

$$[f(a) - \varepsilon/2, f(a) + \varepsilon/2] \subset A_\varepsilon(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(\chi_{[a,b]}).$$

We are prepared to satisfy Assumptions 1 and 2. The constructions indicated in the successive steps $s(1), s(2), \dots$ will give each time a finite number of results. More precisely:

$s(1)$: There exists a natural number p_1 such that for every interval $[a, b] \subset [0, 1]$ with $b - a \leq 1/p_1$, one has

$$A_{2^{-1}}(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(\chi_{[a,b]}) \neq \emptyset$$

as we have seen.

Let us divide $[0, 1]$ as follows:

$$0 =: x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{p_1} := 1, \quad x_i - x_{i-1} = 1/p_1.$$

Then we define $(h_{i;1})_{1 \leq i \leq p_1}$ via

$$h_{i;1} := \begin{cases} \chi_{[x_{i-1}, x_i[} \in L(I) & \text{for } i < p_1, \\ \chi_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} \in L(I) & \text{for } i = p_1. \end{cases}$$

$s(2)$: There exists a natural number p_2 such that for every interval $[a, b] \subset [0, 1]$ with $b - a \leq 1/p_2$, one has

$$A_{2-2}(\bar{I}, \bar{J})(\chi_{[a,b]}) \neq \emptyset.$$

Then, for every $i = 1, \dots, p_1$, we divide $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ as follows:

$$x_{i-1} =: x_{i,0} < x_{i,1} < \dots < x_{i,p_2} := x_i, \quad x_{i,k} - x_{i,k-1} = \frac{1}{p_1 p_2}.$$

Fixing $i = 1, \dots, p_1 - 1$, we can define the functions $(h_{(i,k);2})_{1 \leq k \leq p_2}$ by

$$h_{(i,k);2} := \chi_{[x_{i,k-1}, x_{i,k}[} \in L(I)$$

and for $i = p_1$ we define $(h_{(i,k);2})_{1 \leq k \leq p_2}$ by

$$h_{(i,k);2} := \begin{cases} \chi_{[x_{i,k-1}, x_{i,k}[} \in L(I) & \text{for } k < p_2, \\ \chi_{[x_{i,k-1}, x_{i,k}]} \in L(I) & \text{for } k = p_2. \end{cases}$$

We obtained the set of functions $(h_{\alpha;2})_{\alpha \in A}$ with $A := \{1, \dots, p_1\} \times \{1, \dots, p_2\}$ and this accomplishes the construction for step $s(2)$.

The procedure continues in the same manner (dividing all intervals into small subintervals of equal length a.s.o.).

The reader can see that, in this way, Assumptions 1 and 2 are satisfied.

One should add that the construction will give as uniform limit of the sequence $(f_n)_n$ so obtained a function which must be μ -almost everywhere equal to the initial f , which is the Radon–Nikodym derivative of J with respect to I .

3.3. We end with some supplementary considerations.

Our theorem gives an *exact* Radon–Nikodym derivative. One knows (see [1]) that for Daniell integrals one cannot generally find *exact* Radon–Nikodym derivatives, only *approximate* Radon–Nikodym derivatives existing always. The price paid in order to obtain this better situation was the following:

(a) We are obliged to work for the Daniell case, more particular than the case of general linear positive functionals. This general extension procedure has been studied in [2], being among the first ones concerned with Loomis systems.

(b) Additional assumptions 1–3 were adopted.

(c) The *exact* Radon–Nikodym derivative one can find generally belongs to the space $L(I)$, which is considerably larger than the initial space B .

The procedure presented is *constructive*, which distinguishes the present work from [1].

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Departamento de Álgebra y Análisis Matemático
 Universidad de Almería
 04120 Almería, Spain
 E-mail: edeamo@ualm.es

Faculty of Mathematics
 University of Bucharest
 Str. Academiei, 14
 București, Romania

Departamento de Análisis Matemático
 Universidad de Granada
 18071 Granada, Spain
 E-mail: madiatz@ugr.es

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