

CONTINUATION OF DIRECT PRODUCTS OF DISTRIBUTIONS

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Preamble

If, in some problems, one has to deal with the “product” of distributions f_i (also called generalized functions) $\bar{T} = \prod_{i=1}^m f_i$, this product has a priori no definite meaning as a functional (\bar{T}, φ) for $\varphi \in S$. But if $x^{\kappa+1} \prod_{i=1}^m f_i$ exists, whatever the associativity is between some powers r_i of x ($r_i \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sum_i r_i \leq \kappa + 1$, $r_i \geq 0$) and the various f_i , then a continuation of the linear functional \bar{T} from M onto $S^{(N)}$ for some N is shown to exist¹ in such a way that $x^{\kappa+1} \bar{T}$ is defined unambiguously, and (\bar{T}, φ) , $\varphi \in S$, significant, though not unique.

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¹ M is a closed subspace of S^N for some N . It is a Banach space with norm $||| |||_N$.

1 Existence

In the sense of convergence in the space S^* (distributions),

$$f_\kappa = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0, y \in C^+} F_\kappa^y(x) ; \quad \kappa = 1, 2, \dots, m ,$$

with $F_\kappa^y(x) = f_\kappa^+(x + iy) - f_\kappa^-(x - iy)$, $(f_\kappa^\pm(x))$ are holomorphic in tabular domains T^{C^\pm} and satisfy

$$|f(x + iy)| \leq C(R', C')|y|^{-\alpha}(1 + |x|)^\beta \quad (1)$$

and

$$z \in R^n + i(C' \cap U(0, R'))$$

$\alpha, \beta \geq 0$, independent of R' and C' . From this, it follows that there exists in S^* a unique boundary value

$$f(x) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0, y \rightarrow c} f(x + iy) \in S^{(m)*}; \quad m = \alpha + \beta + n + 3 .$$

Let us suppose that for arbitrary $\varphi \in S$ there exists a finite limit

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow 0, y \in C^+} \int F_1^y(x) \cdots F_m^y(x) \cdot \varphi(x) dx \quad (2)$$

independent of the sequence $y \rightarrow 0, y \in C^+$. Then, since the space S^* is dense, this limit defines a distribution in S^* which we call the product $f_1 \cdot f_2 \cdots f_m$ of the distributions f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m . Thus

$$f_1 \cdot f_2 \cdots f_m = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0, y \in C^+} F_1^y \cdots F_m^y \quad (\text{in } S^*) \quad (3)$$

if the limit of the RHS exists and is independent of the sequence $y \rightarrow 0, y \in C^+$. This product is obviously commutative and associative. So the set of boundary values that are holomorphic in T^{C^+} and satisfy (1) constitute a commutative ring with unity, without zero divisors with respect to the multiplication defined above.

We note that the existence of the lim in (2) for $\varphi \in S$ implies the existence of the limit in (3) with respect to the norm of the functional in $S^{(N)*}$ for some N , which depends on $f_1 \dots f_m$ (notice that weak convergence in S^* implies strong convergence).

2 General case

Suppose now that (2) does not exist for all $\varphi \in S$, but that it exists for all φ in a closed subspace M of $S^{(N)}$ for some N . (Since M is closed in $S^{(N)}$ it is a Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|_N$). From the Banach-Steinhaus theorem, (2) defines a continuous linear functional \bar{T} on M . We use now the term ‘product’ $f_1 \cdots f_m$ of the distributions f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m for any continuous linear functional in

the space $S^{(N)*} \subset S^*$ that is a continuation of \overline{T} from M to $S^{(N)}$. According to the Hahn-Banach theorem, such an extension always exists but is not unique in general.

We shall concentrate now on the case of those φ in $S^{(N)}$ that vanish together with all derivatives of order $p \leq N$ inclusively, at $x = 0$. In this case, all continuations $f_1.f_2.\dots.f_m$ of \overline{T} from M onto $S^{(N)}$ are given by

$$(f_1.f_2.\dots.f_m, \varphi) = (\overline{T}, \overline{\varphi}) + \sum_{\kappa \leq p} c_\kappa (\delta^{(\kappa)}, \varphi) \quad (4)$$

where

$$\overline{\varphi}(x) = \varphi(x) - \sum_{\kappa \leq p} \varphi^{(\kappa)}(0) \omega(x) \frac{x^\kappa}{\kappa!}$$

and $\omega(x)$ is an arbitrary function, $\omega \in S$, identically equal to 1 in a neighbourhood of the point $x = 0$; the c_κ are arbitrary constants. (Notice that the extension (4) is actually independent of $\omega(x)$).

In conclusion, the formula (4) represents the desired result, given at the end of the preamble with $\sum_{\kappa \leq p} c_\kappa \delta^{(\kappa)}$ the general solution of $(f_1.\dots.f_m, \varphi) = 0$ and $(T, \overline{\varphi}) = (\overline{T}, x^{\kappa+1}\psi) = (x^{\kappa+1}\overline{T}, \psi)$, $\psi \in S$, a particular solution of $(f_1.\dots.f_m, \varphi)$.

It is therefore shown that the solution (4) is not unique, the c_κ being arbitrary constants.