

# Criteria of positivity for the density of the law of a Wiener functional

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**ABSTRACT.** We consider a function  $f$  on an abstract Wiener space, with values in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , which is regular and non-degenerate in the sense of the Malliavin calculus. Its law admits a density  $\mathbf{p}$  which is  $C^\infty$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . We give criteria ensuring that  $\mathbf{p}(\xi) > 0$  for a fixed  $\xi$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The first one is stated in terms of capacities  $c_{r,p}$  on the Wiener space. The second one is related to some “restrictions” of  $f$  to subspaces of dimension  $d$  of the Cameron-Martin space. Finally, we apply this criterion to obtain another one, previously given by Aida-Kusuoka-Stroock, in the case where function  $f$  admits a “skeleton”. The criteria are actually proved in the more general situation where the basic Wiener measure is replaced by a measure with a regular density.

## 1 Introduction

In several works, criteria of positivity of densities were studied for solutions of SDE's ([3], [1]) or SPDE's ([13]). These criteria are based on the existence of a “skeleton”, which is a well defined “restriction” to the Cameron-Martin space which determines the function. A general version of this kind of criteria is given in [1] and, under a slightly different form, in [13].

In sections 2 and 3 of this paper, we are interested in criteria of positivity without any assumption of existence of a skeleton. Then, in section 4, we show that the criterion of section 3 allows us to obtain essentially the result of [1] just above mentioned.

The setting of this paper is that of an abstract Wiener space  $(E, H, \mu)$ , and we widely use, without defining them, the notions and notation of Malliavin's calculus (we refer, for example, to [15] and [4]). The characterizations

that we have in mind are related to capacities on Wiener space, for which we refer to [11], [14], [7], [12],...

We consider, throughout all this work, an element  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_d)$  in  $(\mathbb{D}^\infty)^d$ , where  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$  denotes the set of real smooth functionals on  $E$  in the sense of Malliavin. We set  $Jf = [\det \langle Df_i, Df_j \rangle_H]^{1/2}$  and we assume the classical condition of non-degeneracy

$$\frac{1}{Jf} \in \cap_{p>1} L^p(\mu).$$

We also consider a non-negative function  $g$  in  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$  and we denote by  $\mu_g$  the measure with density  $g$  with respect to  $\mu$ . It then is known that the law  $\mu_g \circ f^{-1}$  of  $f$  under  $\mu_g$  has a smooth density with respect to the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . In what follows, we denote this density by  $\mathbf{p}_g$  (abbreviated in  $\mathbf{p}$  if  $g = 1$ ).

If  $r \geq 0$  and  $p > 1$ , there exists a capacity  $c_{r,p}$  associated with the Sobolev space  $\mathbb{D}_p^r$  on  $E$  ( $r$  is the ‘‘order of derivation’’ and  $p$  is the ‘‘power of integration’’). Then  $f$  (resp.  $g$ ) admits a  $\mu$ -representative which is quasi-continuous with respect to all capacities  $c_{r,p}$  (we shall say that it is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous). Henceforth,  $f$  (resp.  $g$ ) denotes ‘‘this’’ representative.

## 2 Positivity and capacities

Our goal, in this section, is to prove the following result:

**Theorem 1** *Let  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . The following properties are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$
- (ii)  $\exists r \geq 0 \exists p > 1 \quad c_{r,p}(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g > 0\}) > 0$
- (iii)  $\forall r > 0$  and  $\forall p > 1$  such that  $rp > d$ ,  $c_{r,p}(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g > 0\}) > 0$ .

We begin with a key lemma.

**Lemma 1.1** *If  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = 0$ , then, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , for all  $r \in \mathbb{N}^d$  such that  $|r| < n$ ,  $\frac{\partial^{|r|}}{\partial x^r} \mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = 0$ .*

The above result is proved, for  $g = 1$ , in [2]. The following proof follows the same ideas.

*Proof:* Let  $r \in \mathbb{N}^d$ . By [15, Lemma 2, p.54], there exists a linear functional

$l_r$  from  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$  into itself, such that, for any smooth function  $u$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with compact support and for any  $h \in \mathbb{D}^\infty$ ,

$$\int \frac{\partial^{|r|} u}{\partial x^r} \circ f h d\mu = \int u \circ f l_r(h) d\mu.$$

By the explicit form of  $l_r(h)$ , one sees that  $l_r(h)$  depends linearly on  $h$  and on its Malliavin derivatives up to order  $|r|$ . Hence, if  $|r| < n$ , there exists  $h_{r,n} \in \mathbb{D}^\infty$  such that  $l_r(g^n) = g h_{r,n}$ . Therefore, if  $|r| < n$ , for any  $u$  as above,

$$\int u(x) \frac{\partial^{|r|}}{\partial x^r} \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x) dx = (-1)^{|r|} \int u \circ f g h_{r,n} d\mu.$$

Now, by [15, Theorem 1.14, p.60] and the notation therein, the last integral may be written as  $\int u(x) \langle \delta_x(f), g h_{r,n} \rangle dx$ . We therefore have

$$\frac{\partial^{|r|}}{\partial x^r} \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(\xi) = (-1)^{|r|} \langle \delta_\xi(f), g h_{r,n} \rangle.$$

According to [14],  $\delta_\xi(f)$  may also be viewed as a measure, the pairing corresponding to the integral of the  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous representative. Thus, if  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = \langle \delta_\xi(f), g \rangle = 0$ , then  $g = 0$   $\delta_\xi(f)$ -a.e. and therefore,  $\langle \delta_\xi(f), g h_{r,n} \rangle = 0$ , which yields the desired result. 2

**Lemma 1.2** *Assume  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = 0$ . Then, for all  $r \in \mathbb{N}^d$ , for all  $i \geq 0$  and  $a > 0$ ,*

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^{-i} \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^d |f_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} \exp\left(-a \frac{|f - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right) g^n \right] = 0$$

for  $n$  big enough.

*Proof:* We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^d |f_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} \exp\left(-a \frac{|f - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right) g^n \right] \\ &= \int \prod_{j=1}^d |x_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} \exp\left(-a \frac{|x - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right) \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Denote by  $\varphi_\varepsilon$  the indicator of  $\{x; |x - \xi|^2 \leq \varepsilon\}$ . We have

$$\int (1 - \varphi_\varepsilon(x)) \prod_{j=1}^d |x_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} \exp\left(-a \frac{|x - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right) \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x) dx$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[\prod_{j=1}^d |f_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} g^n] \exp(\frac{-a}{\varepsilon}),$$

and, by Taylor's formula and lemma 1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \varphi_\varepsilon(x) \prod_{j=1}^d |x_j - \xi_j|^{r_j} \exp(-a \frac{|x - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2}) \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x) dx \\ & \leq (n!)^{-1} \sup_{|x - \xi| \leq \varepsilon} |\nabla^n \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x)| \int \varphi_\varepsilon(x) |x - \xi|^{|r|+n} dx \\ & \leq (n!)^{-1} C_d \sup_{|x - \xi| \leq 1} |\nabla^n \mathbf{p}_{g^n}(x)| \varepsilon^{(|r|+n+d)/2}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_d$  denotes the volume of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The result follows directly. 2

We then deduce the implication (ii)  $\implies$  (i) in theorem 1:

**Corollary 1.2.1** *If  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = 0$ , then  $c_{r,p}(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g > 0\}) = 0$  for all  $r \geq 0$  and  $p > 1$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $r \geq 0$  and  $p > 1$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = 0$  and let  $F_\varepsilon = \exp(-\frac{|f - \xi|^2}{\varepsilon^2})$ . Then  $F_\varepsilon$  is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous and belongs to  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$ . Let  $D$  be the derivative operator (from  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$  into  $\mathbb{D}^\infty(H)$ ). Let  $k$  be an integer greater than  $r$ . Then, by lemma 1.2 (and the Schwartz inequality), there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for  $0 \leq k' \leq k$ ,

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|D^{k'}(F_\varepsilon g^n)\|_{L^p(\mu)} = 0,$$

and, therefore,  $F_\varepsilon g^n$  tends to 0 in  $\mathbb{D}_p^r$  as  $\varepsilon$  tends to 0. Since, for  $a > 0$ ,  $F_\varepsilon g^n \geq a^n$  on  $\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g \geq a\}$ , we get (cf. for example [10])  $c_{r,p}(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g \geq a\}) = 0$ . The result then follows, letting  $a$  tend to 0. 2

The implication (iii)  $\implies$  (ii) is obvious. Let us then show the implication (i)  $\implies$  (iii). Let us first recall that, by [16], the distribution  $\delta_\xi(f)$  belongs to the dual space of  $\mathbb{D}_p^r$  for any  $r > 0$  and  $p > 1$  such that  $rp > d$ . Assume that  $r$  and  $p$  are thus fixed. As a measure,  $\delta_\xi(f)$  is then an  $(r, p)$ -finite energy measure and, therefore, it does not charge the  $(r, p)$ -polar sets (see [14], [12]). On the other hand, it is easy to prove, by approximation of this measure, that  $\langle \delta_\xi(f), |f - \xi|^2 \rangle = 0$  and therefore measure  $\delta_\xi(f)$  does not charge the set  $\{f \neq \xi\}$ . Consequently, if  $c_{r,p}(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g > 0\}) = 0$ , then measure  $\delta_\xi(f)$  does not charge the set

$\{g > 0\}$ . Therefore  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = \langle \delta_\xi(f), g \rangle = 0$  and property (i) would not be satisfied. Theorem 1 is then proved.

**Remark** In [8], the authors built a ‘‘Gaussian Hausdorff measure on  $E$  of codimension  $d$ ’’, denoted by  $\rho_d$ . As a consequence of their theorem 21, the equality  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) = \int_{\{f=\xi\}} g (Jf)^{-1} d\rho_d$  holds (where  $Jf$  denotes the representative defined in lemma 3.1 below). It follows that  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$  if and only if  $\rho_d(\{f = \xi\} \cap \{g > 0\}) > 0$ , which implies, by [8, theorem 9], property (iii) in the above theorem. This is another proof of the implication (i)  $\implies$  (iii), which needs actually less restrictive assumptions on  $f$  and  $g$  and was communicated to us by D. Feyel.

Clearly, as a consequence of the previous theorem, we have in particular that  $\mathbf{p}(\xi) > 0$  if and only if  $c_{d,2}(\{f = \xi\}) > 0$ . To illustrate this criterion, we shall give another proof of a result due to S. Fang ([5]).

**Theorem 2** *Suppose  $d = 1$ . Then  $\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$  is the interior of the support of  $\mathbf{p}$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $\xi$  be in the interior of the support of  $\mathbf{p}$ . Then  $\mu(\{f < \xi\}) > 0$  and  $\mu(\{f > \xi\}) > 0$ . By ergodicity of the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck semi-group, one sees that, if  $(X_t)$  is the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process in  $E$  with  $\mu$  as initial law, then  $\mathbb{P}(f(X_0) < \xi \text{ and } f(X_t) > \xi) > 0$  for  $t$  big enough. Now, as  $f$  is quasi-continuous, almost-surely the function  $t \longrightarrow f(X_t)$  is continuous ([9]). Therefore  $\mathbb{P}(\exists t \ f(X_t) = \xi) > 0$ . This is equivalent ([9]) to  $c_{1,2}(\{f = \xi\}) > 0$  and hence, by theorem 1,  $\mathbf{p}(\xi) > 0$  holds. 2

**Remarks**

- 1) The above result is no longer true for  $d \geq 2$  (see [1, Example 3.45]). D. Nualart gave recently another simpler example.
- 2) The result also is generally false, if  $d = 1$ , if  $\mathbf{p}$  is replaced by  $\mathbf{p}_g$ .
- 3) D. Nualart gave recently a very short, analytic proof of the previous theorem under much weaker assumptions on  $f$ .

### 3 Positivity and restrictions to $d$ -dimensional subspaces of $H$

Before stating the main result of this section, we introduce some notation. Since function  $f$  is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous, we know according to [7] that, for any finite dimensional subspace  $K$  of  $H$ , there exists a slim set  $E_K$  in  $E$  (i.e.,  $\forall r, p \ c_{r,p}(E_K) = 0$ ) such that, for any  $\omega \notin E_K$ , the function

$$f_\omega^K : x \in K \longrightarrow f(\omega + x)$$

is  $C^\infty$  on  $K$ . We can define similarly the  $C^\infty$ -function  $g_\omega^K$  on  $K$ , for  $\omega$  out of a slim set. If the dimension of  $K$  is  $d$ , we shall denote by  $J(f_\omega^K)$  the absolute value of the determinant of the Jacobian matrix of  $f_\omega^K$ . In what follows,  $\infty$ -quasi-everywhere means out of a slim set.

We fix a complete orthonormal basis,  $\{h_0, h_1, \dots\}$ , of  $H$ . Denote by  $\Theta$  the set of subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  containing  $d$  elements. For  $\theta \in \Theta$ ,  $K_\theta$  denotes the space spanned by  $\{h_i; i \in \theta\}$ . In what follows, we often replace in the notation  $K_\theta$  simply by  $\theta$ . For example,  $f_\omega^\theta$  is set for  $f_\omega^{K_\theta}$ . We then have the following result.

**Theorem 3** *Let  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$  if and only if there exists  $\theta \in \Theta$  such that*

$$\mu(\{\omega; \exists x \in K_\theta \ f_\omega^\theta(x) = \xi, g_\omega^\theta(x) > 0 \text{ and } J(f_\omega^\theta)(x) > 0\}) > 0.$$

We begin with a few lemmas.

**Lemma 3.1** *There exists an  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous representative of  $Jf$ , still denoted by  $Jf$ , and  $Jf > 0$   $\infty$ -quasi-everywhere.*

*Proof:* It is well-known that  $Jf$  and  $(Jf)^{-1}$  belong to  $\mathbb{D}^\infty$ . Denoting in the same way the  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous representatives, we have  $(Jf)(Jf)^{-1} = 1$   $\mu$ -a.s. and therefore, by a classical result,  $(Jf)(Jf)^{-1} = 1$   $\infty$ -quasi-everywhere. The result follows. 2

For  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $h \in H$ , we denote by  $D_h f_i$  the  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous representative of  $\langle Df_i, h \rangle_H$ . If  $\theta \in \Theta$ , we set

$$J_\theta f = |\det(D_{h_k} f_i)_{1 \leq i \leq d, k \in \theta}|^{1/2}.$$

**Lemma 3.2** *The set  $\cap_{\theta \in \Theta} \{J_\theta f = 0\}$  is a slim set.*

*Proof:* Clearly,  $\{Jf > 0\} = \cup_{\theta \in \Theta} \{J_\theta f > 0\}$  up to a slim set. The result follows then from lemma 3.1. 2

It should be noticed that, if  $K$  is a finite dimensional subspace of  $H$ , for  $\infty$ -quasi-every  $\omega \in E$  and for all  $h$  and  $x \in K$ ,  $D_h f(\omega + x) = \partial_h f_\omega^K(x)$  where  $\partial_h$  denotes the usual derivative in direction  $h$ . Therefore, for  $\infty$ -quasi-every  $\omega$ , for all  $\theta \in \Theta$ ,  $(J_\theta f)_\omega^\theta = J(f_\omega^\theta)$  on  $K_\theta$ .

**Lemma 3.3** *Let  $\varphi$  be a smooth function from  $\mathbb{R}^d$  into  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and let  $l$  be a non-negative continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then, for  $\xi, z \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,*

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\varphi(x) = \xi + rz, J(\varphi)(x) > 0} \frac{l(x)}{J(\varphi)(x)} \geq \sum_{\varphi(x) = \xi, J(\varphi)(x) > 0} \frac{l(x)}{J(\varphi)(x)}.$$

*Proof:* It is an easy consequence of the inverse mapping theorem. 2

Set, for  $x \in H$ ,  $q(x) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \exp(-\frac{|x|_H^2}{2})$ . We denote, for  $\theta \in \Theta$ , by  $\omega_\theta$  the pseudo-orthogonal projection of  $\omega \in E$  onto  $K_\theta$ .

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\theta \in \Theta$ . Then,*

$$\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) \geq \int \sum_{f_\omega^\theta(x)=\xi, J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)>0} \frac{g_\omega^\theta(x) q(\omega_\theta + x)}{J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)} d\mu(\omega).$$

*Proof:* Let  $B(\xi, r)$  be the open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with center  $\xi$  and radius  $r$  and let  $C_d$  denote the volume of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then, by the quasi-invariance of measure  $\mu$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}_g(\xi) &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f g d\mu \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int \int_{E \times K_\theta} 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f(\omega + x) g(\omega + x) q(\omega_\theta + x) d\mu(\omega) dx \\ &\geq \liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int \int_{E \times K_\theta} 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f(\omega + x) g(\omega + x) q(\omega_\theta + x) 1_{\{J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)>0\}} d\mu(\omega) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Using the change of variables formula (cf. [6]), we obtain

$$\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) \geq \liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int \int_{E \times B(\xi, r)} \sum_{f_\omega^\theta(x)=y, J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)>0} \frac{g_\omega^\theta(x) q(\omega_\theta + x)}{J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)} d\mu(\omega) dy.$$

The result follows then from lemma 3.3, using Fatou's lemma. 2

The previous lemma shows immediately that the condition in the statement of theorem 3 is sufficient. Suppose now  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$ . We have seen that  $\delta_\xi(f)$  is a non-nul  $(d, 2)$ -finite energy measure and  $\delta_\xi(f)(\{g > 0\}) > 0$ . According to lemma 3.2, there exist  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$\delta_\xi(f)(\{J_\theta f \geq \varepsilon\} \cap \{g \geq \varepsilon\}) > 0.$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a real smooth function on  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying

$$0 \leq \varphi \leq 1, \varphi = 0 \text{ on } ]-\infty, \varepsilon^2/4] \text{ and } \varphi = 1 \text{ on } [\varepsilon^2, +\infty[.$$

Then  $\varphi((J_\theta f)^2) \in \mathbb{D}^\infty$  and  $1_{\{J_\theta f \geq \varepsilon\}} \leq \varphi((J_\theta f)^2) \leq 1_{\{J_\theta f \geq \varepsilon/2\}}$ , and similarly for  $\varphi(g^2)$ . Let  $(F_n)$  be an increasing sequence of closed sets such that  $c_{d,2}(F_n^c) \downarrow 0$  and let, for any  $n$ ,  $\varphi_n$  be the  $(d, 2)$ -equilibrium potential of  $F_n^c$  (cf. [14] or [12]). Then,

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int_{F_n} 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f \varphi((J_\theta f)^2) \varphi(g^2) d\mu$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \langle \delta_\xi(f), \varphi((J_\theta f)^2) \varphi(g^2) \rangle > -C \|\varphi_n\|_{\mathbb{D}_2^d} \\ &\geq \delta_\xi(f)(\{J_\theta f \geq \varepsilon\} \cap \{g \geq \varepsilon\}) - C c_{d,2}(F_n^c) \end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  does not depend on  $n$ . Hence, for  $n$  big enough,

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int_{F_n} 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f \, 1_L \, d\mu > 0,$$

where  $L$  denotes the set  $\{J_\theta f \geq \varepsilon/2\} \cap \{g \geq \varepsilon/2\}$ . Notice that, by [7], if  $\phi$  is an  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous function and if  $K$  is a finite dimensional subspace of  $H$ , the function  $\omega \in E \rightarrow \phi_\omega^K$  is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous as a function from  $E$  into  $\mathcal{C}(K)$ . It follows that

$$\gamma_\theta(\omega) = \sup\{|(D_{h_k} D_{h_l} f_j)_\omega^\theta(x)|; k, l \in \theta, 1 \leq j \leq d, x \in K_\theta \text{ and } |x|_H \leq 1\}$$

is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous. We deduce from this result and from the tightness of capacity  $c_{d,2}$  (cf. for example [7]) that there exists a compact set  $F$  in  $E$ , such that  $\gamma_\theta$  and, for  $k \in \theta$  and  $1 \leq j \leq d$ ,  $D_{h_k} f_j$  are continuous on  $F$ , and satisfying

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int_F 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f \, 1_L \, d\mu > 0.$$

By the remark following lemma 3.2,

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int_F 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f \, 1_L \, d\mu \\ &= \int \left[ \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int 1_{B(\xi, r)} \circ f_\omega^\theta(x) 1_F(\omega + x) 1_{L_\omega^\theta}(x) q(\omega_\theta + x) \, dx \right] d\mu(\omega), \end{aligned}$$

where  $L_\omega^\theta$  denote  $\{x \in K_\theta; J(f_\omega^\theta)(x) \geq \varepsilon/2 \text{ and } g_\omega^\theta(x) \geq \varepsilon/2\}$ . Denote by  $I(r, \omega)$  the quantity between brackets. We suppose that the condition in the statement of the theorem is not satisfied. In other words, we suppose that, for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,  $\{x \in K_\theta; f_\omega^\theta(x) = \xi, g_\omega^\theta(x) > 0 \text{ and } J(f_\omega^\theta)(x) > 0\}$  is empty. Then, for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,  $f_\omega^\theta(\{x \in K_\theta; \omega + x \in F \text{ and } x \in L_\omega^\theta\})$  is a compact in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  which does not contain  $\xi$ . Therefore, for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,  $I(r, \omega)$  is equal to 0 if  $r$  is small enough. Hence, to come to a contradiction, we have to dominate  $I(r, \omega)$  independently of  $r$  and  $\omega$ . Now, using again the change of variables formula,

$$I(r, \omega) = \frac{1}{C_d r^d} \int_{B(\xi, r)} \sum_{f_\omega^\theta(x)=y, x \in L_\omega^\theta, \omega+x \in F} \frac{q(\omega_\theta + x)}{J(f_\omega^\theta)(x)} \, dy.$$



Let  $L(y, \omega)$  be the quantity under the integral. We have

$$L(y, \omega) \leq \frac{2}{\varepsilon} \sum_{f_\omega^\theta(x)=y, J(f_\omega^\theta)(x) \geq \varepsilon/2, \omega+x \in F} q(\omega_\theta + x).$$

As functions  $\gamma_\theta$  and  $D_{h_k} f_j$  are continuous on  $F$  compact and therefore bounded, by the inverse mapping theorem there exists some  $\rho > 0$ , independent of  $\omega$  and  $y$ , such that, if  $x$  and  $x'$ ,  $x \neq x'$ , belong to the summation set, then  $|x - x'|_H \geq \rho$ . It is then easy to see that there exists a constant  $C$  depending only on  $d$  such that  $L(y, \omega) \leq C\varepsilon^{-1}\rho^{-d}$ . 2

## 4 Positivity and skeleton

In this section, we shall deduce from theorem 3 a characterization obtained in [1]. The hypothesis assumed by these authors is a hypothesis of existence of a skeleton in a meaning that we shall precise.

We denote, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , by  $\pi_n$  the pseudo-orthogonal projection from  $E$  onto space  $H_n$  spanned by  $\{h_i; 0 \leq i \leq n\}$ . We may suppose that  $\pi_n$  is  $\infty$ -quasi-continuous and admits a ‘‘restriction’’ to  $H$  which is the true orthogonal projection from  $H$  onto  $H_n$ .

Let  $\theta \in \Theta$ . If  $\varphi$  is a real continuous function on  $K_\theta$ , we set

$$m_\theta(\varphi)(x) = \sup_{t \in K_\theta, |t|_H \leq 1} |\varphi(x + t)|.$$

For a real  $C^2$ -function  $\varphi$  in  $K_\theta$ , we set

$$l_\theta(\varphi)(x) = \sup\{|\varphi(x)|, |\partial_{h_k} \varphi(x)|, m_\theta(\partial_{h_k} \partial_{h_l} \varphi)(x); k, l \in \theta\}.$$

If  $\varphi$  is  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued, we set  $l_\theta(\varphi) = \sup_{1 \leq j \leq d} l_\theta(\varphi_j)$ .

We set, for  $\omega \in E$ ,  $\omega_n = \pi_n(\omega)$  and  $\omega'_n = \omega - \omega_n$ . By [7], for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,  $f_{\omega'_n}^{H_n}$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $H_n$ . It follows that, if  $K$  is a subspace of  $H_n$ , then, for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$  and all  $h \in H_n$ ,  $f_{h+\omega'_n}^K$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $K$ . The similar properties also hold for  $g$ . We shall denote  $\pi_n h + \omega'_n$  by  $(h, \omega)_n$ .

**Definition** Function  $f$  will be said to be *s-regular* if there exists an  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued  $C^2$ -function  $\tilde{f}$  on  $H$  such that

( $S_1$ )  $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ , for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_\theta(f_\omega^\theta - \tilde{f}_{\omega_n}^\theta)(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \text{ in } K_\theta$$

(where, for all  $h \in H$  and for all  $x \in K_\theta$ ,  $\tilde{f}_h^\theta(x) = \tilde{f}(h + x)$ ),

(S<sub>2</sub>)  $\forall \theta \in \Theta, \forall h \in H$ , for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_\theta(\tilde{f}_h^\theta - f_{(h,\omega)_n}^\theta)(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \text{ in } K_\theta.$$

The function will be said to be *weakly s-regular* if the same properties hold, replacing “C<sup>2</sup>-function” by “continuous function” and “l<sub>θ</sub>” by “m<sub>θ</sub>”.

The function  $\tilde{f}$  is then called the *skeleton* of  $f$ .

**Remark** In properties (S<sub>1</sub>) and (S<sub>2</sub>), the convergence for all  $x$  in  $K_\theta$  can be replaced by the convergence for  $x = 0$ . This follows easily from the quasi-invariance of  $\mu$  and from the definition of  $m_\theta$ . Likewise, in the definition of  $m_\theta$ , one can replace “ $|t|_H \leq 1$ ” by “ $|t|_H \leq r$ ”, where  $r$  denotes any positive fixed real number.

**Theorem 4** *Assume that  $f$  is s-regular (resp.  $g$  is weakly s-regular) with skeleton  $\tilde{f}$  (resp.  $\tilde{g}$ ) and let  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$  if and only if there exists  $h \in H$  such that*

$$\tilde{f}(h) = \xi, \tilde{g}(h) > 0 \text{ and } \text{rank} D\tilde{f}(h) = d$$

(where  $D\tilde{f}$  denotes the differential of  $\tilde{f}$ ).

**Lemma 4.1** *Let  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi_n$  be C<sup>2</sup>-functions from  $\mathbb{R}^d$  into  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $\psi$  and  $\psi_n$  be continuous functions from  $\mathbb{R}^d$  into  $\mathbb{R}$ . Assume that, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup(|\varphi - \varphi_n|(x), |D\varphi - D\varphi_n|(x), \sup_{|t| \leq 1} |D^2\varphi - D^2\varphi_n|(x+t)) = 0$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|t| \leq 1} |\psi - \psi_n|(x+t) = 0.$$

*Then,  $\varphi(\{J\varphi > 0\} \cap \{\psi > 0\}) \subset \cup_n \varphi_n(\{J\varphi_n > 0\} \cap \{\psi_n > 0\})$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $\xi = \varphi(x)$  with  $J\varphi(x) > 0$  and  $\psi(x) > 0$ . Then, by the inverse mapping theorem, there exist  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that, for  $n$  big enough,  $\varphi_n$  is a C<sup>2</sup>-diffeomorphism from  $B(x, \delta)$  onto an open set containing  $B(\varphi_n(x), \varepsilon)$ . It can also be assumed that  $\psi_n > 0$  on  $B(x, \delta)$ . There exists  $n$  such that  $\xi \in B(\varphi_n(x), \varepsilon)$ , which yields the result. 2

Suppose then  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$ . By theorem 3, there exists  $\theta \in \Theta$  such that  $\mu(\{\omega; \exists x \in K_\theta \ f_\omega^\theta(x) = \xi, g_\omega^\theta(x) > 0 \text{ and } J(f_\omega^\theta)(x) > 0\}) > 0$ . By property (S<sub>1</sub>) and the previous lemma,  $\mu(\{\omega; \exists n \exists x \in K_\theta \ \tilde{f}_{\omega_n}^\theta(x) =$

$\xi, \tilde{g}_{\omega_n}^\theta(x) > 0$  and  $J(\tilde{f}_{\omega_n}^\theta)(x) > 0\}$   $> 0$ . Consequently, there exist  $h \in H$  and  $x \in K_\theta$  such that

$$\tilde{f}(h+x) = \xi, \tilde{g}(h+x) > 0 \text{ and } \det(\partial_{h_j} \tilde{f}_i)_{1 \leq i \leq d, j \in \theta}(h+x) \neq 0.$$

In particular,  $\tilde{f}(h+x) = \xi, \tilde{g}(h+x) > 0$  and  $\text{rank} D\tilde{f}(h+x) = d$ .

Suppose, conversely, that there exists  $h^0 \in H$  such that  $\tilde{f}(h^0) = \xi, \tilde{g}(h^0) > 0$  and  $\text{rank} D\tilde{f}(h^0) = d$ . Then there exists  $\theta \in \Theta$  such that  $\tilde{f}_{h^0}^\theta(0) = \xi, \tilde{g}_{h^0}^\theta(0) > 0$  and  $J(\tilde{f}_{h^0}^\theta)(0) > 0$ . By property  $(S_2)$  and lemma 4.1, for  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ , there exists  $n$  such that  $\xi \in f_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta(\{J(f_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta) > 0\} \cap \{g_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta > 0\})$ . Consequently, there exists  $n$  such that, if we denote by  $A$  the set  $\{\omega \in E; \xi \in f_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta(\{J(f_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta) > 0\} \cap \{g_{(h^0, \omega)_n}^\theta > 0\})\}$ , then  $\mu(A) > 0$ . Obviously, it can be assumed that  $H_n \supset K_\theta$ . For  $\mu$ -almost every  $\omega$ , the map  $h \rightarrow f_{(h, \omega)_n}^\theta$  is continuous from  $H$  into  $\mathcal{C}^2(K_\theta)$  and the map  $h \rightarrow g_{(h, \omega)_n}^\theta$  is continuous from  $H$  into  $\mathcal{C}(K_\theta)$ . Therefore, by the same proof as in lemma 4.1, for all  $\omega \in A$ , there exists an open set  $O_\omega$  in  $H$  containing  $h^0$ , so that

$$h \in O_\omega \implies \xi \in f_{(h, \omega)_n}^\theta(\{J(f_{(h, \omega)_n}^\theta) > 0\} \cap \{g_{(h, \omega)_n}^\theta > 0\}).$$

The choice of  $O_\omega$  may be done in a measurable way with respect to  $\omega$ . Let then  $\nu_n$  be the standard Gaussian measure on  $H_n$ . As  $\nu_n$  charges all non-empty open sets and since  $\pi_n$  is an open map from  $H$  onto  $H_n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu[\{\omega; \xi \in f_\omega^\theta(\{J(f_\omega^\theta) > 0\} \cap \{g_\omega^\theta > 0\})\}] \\ &= \int_{H_n} \mu[\{\omega; \xi \in f_{h+\omega'_n}^\theta(\{J(f_{h+\omega'_n}^\theta) > 0\} \cap \{g_{h+\omega'_n}^\theta > 0\})\}] d\nu_n(h) \\ & \geq \int_A \nu_n(\pi_n(O_\omega)) d\mu(\omega) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3 then yields  $\mathbf{p}_g(\xi) > 0$ .

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