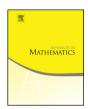


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# Projections of planar Mandelbrot random measures



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#### ABSTRACT

Let  $\mu$  be a planar Mandelbrot measure and  $\pi_*\mu$  its orthogonal projection on one of the principal axes. We study the thermodynamic and geometric properties of  $\pi_*\mu$ . We first show that  $\pi_*\mu$  is exact dimensional, with  $\dim(\pi_*\mu) =$  $\min(\dim(\mu),\dim(\nu))$ , where  $\nu$  is the Bernoulli product measure obtained as the expectation of  $\pi_*\mu$ . We also prove that  $\pi_*\mu$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\nu$  if and only if  $\dim(\mu) > \dim(\nu)$ . Our results provides a new proof of Dekking-Grimmett-Falconer formula for the Hausdorff and box dimension of the topological support of  $\pi_*\mu$ , as well as a new variational interpretation. We obtain the free energy function  $\tau_{\pi_*\mu}$  of  $\pi_*\mu$  on a wide subinterval  $[0,q_c)$  of  $\mathbb{R}_+$ . For  $q \in [0, 1]$ , it is given by a variational formula which sometimes yields phase transitions of order larger than 1. For q > 1, it is given by  $\min(\tau_{\nu}, \tau_{\mu})$ , which can exhibit first order phase transitions. This is in contrast with the analyticity of  $\tau_{\mu}$  over  $[0, q_c)$ . Also, we prove the validity of the multifractal formalism for  $\pi_*\mu$  at each  $\alpha \in (\tau'_{\pi_*\mu}(q_c-), \tau'_{\pi_*\mu}(0+)]$ .

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#### 1. Introduction

Mandelbrot measures are statistically self-similar measures introduced in early seventies by B. Mandelbrot in [41] as a simplified model for energy dissipation in intermittent turbulence. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , such a non-trivial random measure  $\mu$  is built on  $[0,1]^2$  and is characterized by  $\mathbb{E}(\mu([0,1]^2)) = 1$  and the equality in law

$$\mu = \sum_{0 \le i, j \le m-1} W_{i,j} \,\mu^{(i,j)} \circ S_{i,j}^{-1},\tag{1.1}$$

where m is an integer  $\geq 2$ ,  $S_{i,j}$  are similarity maps on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  defined by

$$S_{i,j}(x,y) = \left(\frac{x+i}{m}, \frac{y+j}{m}\right),$$

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