

## 45. On Potential Kernels Satisfying the Complete Maximum Principle

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Let  $(E, \mathcal{E})$  be a measurable space and  $V$  a proper kernel on  $(E, \mathcal{E})$  which satisfies the complete maximum principle. It is known that if  $V1$  is bounded, there then exists a sub-Markov resolvent  $(V_p)_{p>0}$  such that

$$(1) \quad V = \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} V_p$$

(see [4, p. 206]). On the other hand, if  $V1$  is unbounded, there is such a kernel  $V$  for which the condition (1) is never satisfied by any sub-Markov resolvent  $(V_p)_{p>0}$  (for an example, see also [4, p. 206]).

In this note we shall give a *sufficient* condition under which the kernel  $V$  can be expressed in the form (1) by a sub-Markov resolvent  $(V_p)_{p>0}$ . The condition is stated in terms of the pseudo-réduite and it is similar to that of Theorem 7 of Meyer [5].\*) Our result contains Theorem II of Lion [3] as a special case.

**1. Preliminary results.** Throughout this note notations and terminology are taken from Meyer [4]. We will omit the definitions of a *proper* [resp. *sub-Markov*] kernel, a *sub-Markov resolvent* (we shall call it simply a *resolvent*) and a *supermedian function* with respect to a resolvent. A subset of  $E$  and a function on  $E$  are always assumed to be  $\mathcal{E}$ -measurable, so we will omit the phrase “ $\mathcal{E}$ -measurable”.

Let  $A$  be a subset of  $E$  and  $h$  a supermedian function with respect to a resolvent  $(V_p)_{p>0}$ . Then the collection of supermedian functions that dominate  $h$  on  $A$  has the smallest element, which will be called the *pseudo-réduite* of  $h$  on  $A$  and denoted by  $H_A h$  [4, p. 200]. A resolvent  $(V_p)_{p>0}$  is said to be *closed* if the kernel  $V_0$  defined by  $V_0 = \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} V_p$  is proper. If  $(V_p)_{p>0}$  is closed and  $V_0 f$  ( $f \geq 0$ ) is finite, then the function  $V_0 f$  is supermedian with respect to  $(V_p)_{p>0}$ . If the support of  $f$  is contained in  $A$ , then  $H_A V_0 f = V_0 f$  [5, p. 231].

Let  $U$  be any proper kernel on  $(E, \mathcal{E})$ . A non-negative function

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\*) Meyer discussed the following problem and gave a necessary and sufficient condition for the kernel  $U$ . “When is the proper kernel  $U$  generated by a sub-Markov kernel  $P$  in the sense  $U = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P^n$ ”. This is closely connected to our problem.