

Indicator function for \limsup and \liminf

Guo Linsong 518030910419

March 24, 2020

Question 1. $(E_n, n \in \mathbb{N})$ is a sequence of events. Show that

$$\forall \omega \in \Omega, \limsup 1_{E_n}(\omega) = 1_{\limsup E_n}(\omega) \text{ and } \liminf 1_{E_n}(\omega) = 1_{\liminf E_n}(\omega)$$

Proof.

By definition (2.5(a)) in textbook, $\limsup 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \downarrow \lim_m \{\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)\}$.

Let us consider $\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)$ firstly.

$$\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \bigcup_{n \geq m} E_n \text{ (i.e. } \exists n \geq m \text{ s.t. } \omega \in E_n) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Thus

$$\downarrow \lim_m \{\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)\} = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \bigcap_m \bigcup_{n \geq m} E_n \text{ (i.e. } \forall m \exists n \geq m \text{ s.t. } \omega \in E_n) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

According to the definition (2.6(a)), $\limsup E_n = \bigcap_m \bigcup_{n \geq m} E_n$

$$\downarrow \lim_m \{\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)\} = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \limsup E_n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = 1_{\limsup E_n}(\omega) \quad (3)$$

Therefore

$$\forall \omega \in \Omega, \limsup 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \downarrow \lim_m \{\sup_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)\} = 1_{\limsup E_n}(\omega)$$

□

Next we establish the corresponding result for \liminf s.

Proof.

By definition (2.5(b)) in textbook, $\liminf 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \uparrow \lim_m \{\inf_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega)\}$.

$$\inf_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \bigcap_{n \geq m} E_n \text{ (i.e. } \forall n \geq m, \omega \in E_n) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Thus

$$\uparrow \lim_m \{ \inf_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega) \} = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \bigcup_m \bigcap_{n \geq m} E_n \text{ (i.e. } \exists m \forall n \geq m, \omega \in E_n) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

According to the definition (2.8(a)), $\liminf E_n = \bigcup_m \bigcap_{n \geq m} E_n$

$$\uparrow \lim_m \{ \inf_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega) \} = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega \in \liminf E_n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = 1_{\liminf E_n}(\omega) \quad (6)$$

Therefore

$$\forall \omega \in \Omega, \liminf 1_{E_n}(\omega) = \uparrow \lim_m \{ \inf_{n \geq m} 1_{E_n}(\omega) \} = 1_{\liminf E_n}(\omega)$$

□