

**BSc, MSci and MSc EXAMINATIONS (MATHEMATICS)**

**May-June 2018**

This paper is also taken for the relevant examination for the Associateship of the  
Royal College of Science

**Probability Theory**

Date: Wednesday, 23 May 2018

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Time Allowed: 2.5 hours

**This paper has 5 questions.**

Candidates should use ONE main answer book.

Supplementary books may only be used after the relevant main book(s) are full.

All required additional material will be provided.

- DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR TELLS YOU TO.
- Affix one of the labels provided to each answer book that you use, but DO NOT USE THE LABEL WITH YOUR NAME ON IT.
- Each question carries equal weight.
- Calculators may not be used.

1. (1.a) Give the definition of a probability space explaining carefully all notions involved.  
 (1.b) Explain giving reasons which of the following is a probability space and which is not.

(1.b.i)  $((0, 1), \mathcal{O}, \lambda_0)$ ,

where

$\mathcal{O} \equiv$  set containing all open intervals  $(a, b) \subset (0, 1)$ , with  $a < b$ , and all countable unions of such intervals

and

$$\lambda_0(A) \equiv \inf_{\{(a_i, b_i) \subseteq (0, 1)\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}} \left\{ \sum_i |b_i - a_i| : A \subset \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (a_i, b_i) \right\}.$$

(1.b.ii)  $(\mathbb{N}, 2^{\mathbb{N}}, \kappa)$ ,

where  $\mathbb{N}$  are natural numbers,  $2^{\mathbb{N}}$  denotes the family of all subsets in  $\mathbb{N}$

and, for  $p_i \in (0, 1]$  such that  $\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} p_i = 1$ , one defines

$\kappa : 2^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by

$$\kappa(A) \equiv \begin{cases} \sum_{i \in A} p_i & \text{if } A \text{ is finite} \\ 1 & \text{if } A = \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(1.c)

Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a probability space. Prove the following statements.

- (1.c.i) If  $A_n \in \Sigma$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$ , then

$$\mu \left( \bigcup_n A_n \right) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_k).$$

- (1.c.ii) If  $A_n \in \Sigma$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$ , then

$$\mu \left( \bigcap_n A_n \right) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_k).$$

2.

- (2.a) Give the definition of mutually independent random variables explaining carefully all notions involved.
- (2.b) Prove or disprove that Hermite polynomials in the space  $(\mathbb{R}, \Sigma_{Leb}, \mu)$ , where  $d\mu \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} d\lambda$ , are mutually independent.
- (2.c) State and prove the basic Weak Law of Large Numbers.
- (2.d) Suppose  $X_j$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , are random variables on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , for which the expectations of fourth power are uniformly bounded. Suppose for  $|j - i| \geq 2$  they are mutually independent.

Prove that the following sequence of random variables

$$s_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j)$$

converges almost everywhere to 0.

3.

(3.a) State and prove the Borel-Cantelli Lemmas.

(3.b) Let  $Y_j$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be i.i.d. random variables on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ . For  $L_n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$A_n \equiv \bigcap_{j=2n}^{2n+L_n} \{Y_j = 1\}.$$

Assume  $\mu(\{Y_1 = 1\}) = q \in (0, 1)$ . Prove or disprove the following claims.

(3.b.i) If  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $L_n = 2n$ , then

$$\mu \left( \bigcap_{n=1} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) = 0.$$

(3.b.ii) If  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $L_n \leq \frac{\log(n+1)}{\log \frac{1}{q}}$ , then

$$\mu \left( \bigcap_{n=1} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) = 1.$$

4.

- (4.a) State Lévy's continuity theorem explaining carefully all notions involved.
- (4.b) Let  $Z_j$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be random variables on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , with joint Gaussian distribution of mean zero and covariance

$$C_{jk} \equiv E_\mu(Z_j Z_k).$$

Using the following integration by parts formula for Gaussian random variables

$$\int \sum_i C_{ji} \partial_i F d\mu = \int Z_j F d\mu,$$

or otherwise, prove that the characteristic function  $\varphi(t)$  of

$$V_n \equiv \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j Z_j$$

is equal to

$$\varphi(t) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{t^2}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \alpha_k \right\}.$$

- (4.c) Suppose  $\sum_{k=1}^\infty C_{jk}$  is convergent, uniformly with respect to  $j$ , to a number  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  independent of  $j$ . For each  $\beta \in (0, \infty)$ , prove or disprove that for  $\alpha_j \equiv \frac{1}{n^\beta}$ , the corresponding sequence of characteristic functions converges to a characteristic function.

5.

- (5.a) State the Poincaré and Log-Sobolev inequalities for a probability measure in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (5.b) Prove that the Poincaré inequality satisfy the product property.
- (5.c) Assuming that the Log-Sobolev inequality holds, prove that the distribution of any Lipschitz random variable has Gaussian tails.
- (5.d) Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a probability space, where  $\Omega \equiv \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$  and  $\Sigma$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra including the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $\Omega$ .

Assume that Poincaré inequality holds. Let  $\varphi$  be a Lipschitz function of one real variable. Let  $\pi_j$  denote a projection  $\Omega \ni \omega = (\omega_i \in \mathbb{R})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mapsto \pi_j(\omega) \equiv \omega_j$ . Define a random variable

$$X_j \equiv \varphi \circ \pi_j.$$

Define

$$s_n \equiv \frac{1}{(2n+1)^d} \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j).$$

Prove that

$$s_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

almost everywhere.

## Solutions

S.1.

(S.1.a) Suppose  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be a  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $\Omega$ , that is a family of subsets of  $\Omega$  such that :

- (a)  $\Omega \in \Sigma$ ;
- (b)  $A \in \Sigma \implies \Omega \setminus A \in \Sigma$ ;
- (c)  $\forall A_n \in \Sigma, n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \Sigma$ .

A probability measure is a function  $\mu : \Sigma \longrightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfying

- (i)  $\mu(\Omega) = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $\forall A_n \in \Sigma, n \in \mathbb{N}, A_n \cap A_k = \emptyset$  if  $n \neq k \implies \mu(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n)$ .

A triple  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , which members are described above, is called a probability space.

(S.1.b)

(S.1.b.i)

The family of open sets  $\mathcal{O}$  does not contain closed sets which are by definition complements of open sets. Hence  $\mathcal{O}$  is not a  $\sigma$ -algebra and so  $((0, 1), \mathcal{O}, \lambda_0)$  is not a probability space.

(S.1.b.ii)

Since  $p_i \in (0, 1]$  is such that  $\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} p_i = 1$ , there exists an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n > N$  we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i > \frac{1}{2}$$

Consider an infinite set  $\mathbb{I} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  which contains  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . The  $\mathbb{I}$  is countable union of pairwise disjoint one point sets

$$\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{I}} \{k\} = \mathbb{I}.$$

Hence, according to the definition of the function  $\kappa(\cdot)$ , we have  $\kappa(\mathbb{I}) = \frac{1}{2}$  which is not equal to  $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{I}} \kappa(\{k\}) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{I}} p_k > \frac{1}{2}$ . Thus  $\kappa$  is not countably additive.

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(S.1.c)

(S.1.c.i)

Suppose  $A_n \in \Sigma$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , are such that  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$ . Define  $B_1 \equiv A_1$  and for  $n > 1$ , define  $B_n \equiv A_{n+1} \setminus A_n$ . By this definition the sets  $B_n$  are pairwise disjoint and

3pts  
seen

$$\bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n B_n.$$

Hence using the  $\sigma$ -additivity of the probability measure, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) &= \mu\left(\bigcup_n B_n\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(B_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \mu(B_k) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^{n-1} B_k\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n).\end{aligned}$$

(S.1.c.ii)

Proof of (S.1.c.i)  $\implies$  (S.1.c.ii):

Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a probability space. We note first that if  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$ , then  $\Omega \setminus A_{n+1} \subset \Omega \setminus A_n$ . Next because of de Morgan Law, we have

4Pts  
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$$\Omega \setminus \bigcup_n A_n = \bigcap_n \Omega \setminus A_n.$$

Hence, using the fact that  $\mu$  is a probability measure, we have

$$\mu\left(\Omega \setminus \bigcup_n A_n\right) = \mu(\Omega) - \mu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) = 1 - \mu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right).$$

Thus, if the first statement (S.1.c.i) is true, we have

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_n \Omega \setminus A_n\right) = 1 - \mu\left(\bigcup_n A_n\right) = 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \mu(A_n)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(\Omega \setminus A_n).$$

This means (S.1.c.i)  $\implies$  (S.1.c.ii).



S.2.

(S.2.a)

Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a probability space. Random variables  $X_j : (\Omega, \Sigma) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , are called mutually independent iff the following  $\sigma$ -algebras 4pts  
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$$X_j^{-1}(\mathcal{B}), \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

are mutually independent, that is for any  $A_j \in X_j^{-1}(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , one has

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{j=1, \dots, n} A_j\right) = \prod_{j=1, \dots, n} \mu(A_j).$$

(S.2.b)

Mutual independence of random variables  $X_j : (\mathbb{R}, \Sigma_{Leb}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ , implies that 5pts  
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$$E_\mu(f(X_1)g(X_2)) = E_\mu(f(X_1))E_\mu(g(X_2))$$

for all Borel measurable real functions  $f$  and  $g$  for which all the integrals are well defined. One can check by direct calculation with  $H_1 = x$  and  $H_2 = \alpha(x^2 - 1)$ , where  $\alpha \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(x^2)}}$ , that

$$0 < E_\mu(H_1^2 H_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int \alpha(x^4 - x^2) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx = 2\alpha \neq E_\mu(H_1^2) E_\mu(H_2) = 0,$$

where on the left hand side one uses integration by parts formula

$$\int x^4 e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx = \int x^3 \left( -\frac{d}{dx} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \right) dx = \int 3x^2 e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx.$$

Thus Hermite polynomials are in general not mutually independent.

Although this is not required, one can show (by induction) a more general statement

$$0 < E_\mu(H_1^n H_n) \neq E_\mu(H_1^n) E_\mu(H_n) = 0$$

(S.2.c) Theorem (WLLN) : Let  $X_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be real valued random variables on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ . Assume  $\sup_n (E_\mu(X_n^2)) < \infty$  and, for  $j \neq k$ ,  $E_\mu((X_j - E_\mu X_j)(X_k - E_\mu X_k)) = 0$ . Then 5pts  
seen

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$$

in probability.

*Proof:* We need to show that  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu \left( \left\{ \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \right| > \varepsilon \right\} \right) = 0.$$

To this end, we use Chebyshev inequality

$$\mu \left( \left\{ \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \right| > \varepsilon \right\} \right) \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} E_\mu \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \right|^2.$$

Using the condition  $E_\mu((X_j - E_\mu X_j)(X_k - E_\mu X_k)) = 0$ , for  $k \neq j$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} E_\mu \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \right|^2 &\leq \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n E_\mu (X_k - E_\mu X_k)^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_\mu (X_k - E_\mu X_k)^2 \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \end{aligned}$$

This together with the Chebyshev inequality, the above implies that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (X_k - E_\mu X_k) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

in probability.

(S.2.d) We have

$$\sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) = s_1 + s_2$$

where  $s_k$  for  $k = 0$  and  $k = 1$  denote the sum over the odd and even indices, respectively. With this notation we have

$$E_\mu \left( \left| \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right|^4 \right) \leq 8E_\mu \left( |s_1|^4 \right) + 8E_\mu \left( |s_2|^4 \right),$$

By our assumption each of the sums  $s_k$  consists of independent random variables. Using this, with  $\chi_k$  denoting characteristic function of indices being odd if  $k = 0$  and even if  $k = 1$  indices, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_\mu \left( |s_k|^4 \right) &\leq \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} \chi_k(j) E_\mu \left( |X_j - E_\mu X_j|^4 \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{j, i=1, \dots, n \\ j \neq i}} \chi_k(j) \chi_k(i) E_\mu \left( |X_j - E_\mu X_j|^2 \right) E_\mu \left( |X_i - E_\mu X_i|^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

since for  $j \neq i$ , we have

$$E_\mu \left( |X_j - E_\mu X_j|^2 |X_i - E_\mu X_i|^2 \right) \leq E_\mu \left( |X_j - E_\mu X_j|^2 \right) E_\mu \left( |X_i - E_\mu X_i|^2 \right).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E_\mu(|s_k|^4) &\leq n \sup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} E_\mu(|X_j - E_\mu X_j|^4) \\ &\quad + n^2 \left( \sup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} E_\mu(|X_j - E_\mu X_j|^2) \right)^2 \\ &\leq 2n^2 \sup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} E_\mu(|X_j - E_\mu X_j|^4) \end{aligned}$$

(where in last step we used Cauchy-Schwartz inequality). From the above we conclude that

$$\sum_n E_\mu \left( \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right|^4 \right) \leq \sum_n \frac{1}{n^4} \left( 16n^2 \sup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} E_\mu(|X_j - E_\mu X_j|^4) \right)$$

converges. Hence by monotone convergence theorem, the series

$$\sum_n \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right|^4$$

converges almost everywhere. Hence, by the necessary condition of the convergence of a series, we have

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

almost everywhere.

S.3.

7pts  
seen

(S.3.a) Borel-Cantelli Lemma:

Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a probability space. Suppose  $A_n \in \Sigma$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(S.3.a.i) Suppose

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) < \infty.$$

Then

$$\mu \left( \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) = 0.$$

(S.3.a.ii) Suppose the events  $A_n \in \Sigma$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , are mutually independent and

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) = \infty$$

Then

$$\mu \left( \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) = 1.$$

*Proof of (S.3.a.i)*

By monotonicity and subadditivity of the probability, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \left( \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) &\leq \mu \left( \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{k \geq n} \mu(A_k) \end{aligned}$$

Since by our assumption

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) < \infty$$

this implies that

$$\sum_{k \geq n} \mu(A_k) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

*Proof of (S.3.a.ii)*

It is sufficient to show that the complement

$$\Omega \setminus \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcap_{k \geq n} (\Omega \setminus A_k)$$

of the event of interest to us has probability zero. This will be achieved if we show that

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \mu \left( \bigcap_{k \geq n} \Omega \setminus A_k \right) = 0.$$

By mutual independence of the events  $A_k$ 's, also  $\Omega \setminus A_k$ 's are mutually independent. Therefore, for any  $m > n$ , we have

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{k=n}^m \Omega \setminus A_k\right) = \prod_{k=n}^m \mu(\Omega \setminus A_k) = \prod_{k=n}^m (1 - \mu(A_k))$$

Using inequality  $1 - x \leq e^{-x}$ , for  $x \in [0, 1]$ , we get

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{k=n}^m \Omega \setminus A_k\right) \leq \exp\left\{-\sum_{k=n}^m \mu(A_k)\right\}$$

Thus if

$$\sum_{k=n}^{\infty} \mu(A_k) = \infty$$

we get

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{k \geq n} \Omega \setminus A_k\right) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mu\left(\bigcap_{k=n}^m \Omega \setminus A_k\right) \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \exp\left\{-\sum_{k=n}^m \mu(A_k)\right\} = 0$$

which ends the proof of the second part of Borel - Cantelli lemma.

(S.3.b)

- (S.3.b.i) Suppose  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad L_n = 2n$ . By mutual independence of the random variables  $Y_j$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and the definition of  $A_n$ 's, we have 5pts  
unseen

$$\mu(A_n) = \prod_{j=2n}^{2n+L_n} \mu(\{Y_j = 1\}) = q^{L_n} = q^{2n}.$$

Hence for  $q \in (0, 1)$ , one has

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) = \frac{q^2}{1 - q^2} < \infty$$

Hence by the first part of the Borel-Cantelli lemma

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{n=1} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k\right) = 0$$

holds.

- (S.3.b.ii) Suppose  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad L_n \leq \frac{\log(n+1)}{\log \frac{1}{q}}$ . By mutual independence of the random variables  $Y_j$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and the definition of  $A_n$ 's, we have 8pts  
unseen

$$\mu(A_n) = \prod_{j=2n}^{2n+L_n} \mu(\{Y_j = 1\}) = q^{L_n} = q^{\frac{\log(n+1)}{\log \frac{1}{q}}} = \frac{1}{n+1}.$$

Hence, one has

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) = \infty.$$

Since the events  $A_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , are mutually independent by the second part of the Borel-Cantelli lemma we have

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{n=1} \bigcup_{k \geq n} A_k\right) = 1.$$

S.4.

(S.4.a)

5pts  
seen

Let  $X$  be a real valued random variable on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , i.e.  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function with a property that  $X^{-1}(\mathcal{B}) \subset \Sigma$ , where  $\mathcal{B}$  denotes Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of sets in  $\mathbb{R}$ . A distribution function  $F_X$  of the random variable  $X$  is by definition given by

$$F_X(z) \equiv \mu(\{X \leq z\}).$$

A characteristic function  $\varphi_X$  of the random variable  $X$  is by definition given by

$$\varphi(t) \equiv E_\mu(e^{itX}).$$

**Lévy's continuity theorem:** Let  $F_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $F$  be a distribution function with a characteristic function  $\varphi_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\varphi$ , respectively. If  $F_n \rightarrow F$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  at all points of continuity of  $F$ , then  $\varphi_n \rightarrow \varphi$  uniformly on finite intervals.

Conversely, suppose  $\varphi_n$  is the characteristic function corresponding to a distribution function  $F_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $\varphi_n \rightarrow \varphi$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\varphi$  is continuous at 0, then  $\varphi$  is a characteristic function of some distribution  $F$  and  $F_n \rightarrow F$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

(S.4.b)

8pts  
unseen

Let  $Z_j$ , be the Gaussian variables on a probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , with mean zero and strictly positive covariance

$$C_{jk} \equiv E_\mu(Z_j Z_k)$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $d\gamma_n$  denote the Gaussian probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  corresponding to the joint distribution of  $X_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . That is, with a positive definite operator  $A \equiv C^{-1}$ , we have

$$d\gamma_n = \frac{1}{D} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\langle x, Ax \rangle} \lambda_n(dx)$$

where  $\lambda_n(dx)$  denotes the  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure and  $D \in (0, \infty)$  is the normalisation factor. Using this one can derive the following formula for integration by parts for Gaussian measure in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\int \sum_i C_{ji} \partial_i F d\mu = \int Z_j F d\mu$$

for a differentiable function  $F \equiv F(Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$  for which the integrals are well defined. By definition the characteristic function of

$$V_n \equiv \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j Z_j$$

is given by

$$\varphi(t) \equiv \int e^{itV_n} d\mu.$$

For Gaussian random variables  $\varphi(t)$  is differentiable and we have

$$\begin{aligned} -i \frac{d}{dt} \varphi(t) &= \int V_n e^{itV_n} d\mu \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \int Z_j e^{itV_n} d\mu. \end{aligned}$$

Using integration by parts formula, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \int Z_j e^{itV_n} d\mu &= i \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \int \partial_k e^{itV_n} d\mu \\ &= -t \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \alpha_k \varphi(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get

$$\frac{d}{dt} \varphi(t) = -t \left( \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \alpha_k \right) \varphi(t).$$

That is we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \exp \left\{ +\frac{t^2}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \alpha_k \right\} \varphi(t) \right) = 0.$$

Integrating this relation and taking into the account that for a characteristic function  $\varphi(t=0) = 1$ , one arrives at

$$\varphi(t) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{t^2}{2} \sum_{j,k=1}^n \alpha_j C_{jk} \alpha_k \right\}.$$

(S.4.c) Using the formula for characteristic function described above with  $\alpha_j \equiv \frac{1}{n^\beta}$ , we need to discuss behaviour of 7pts  
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$$\frac{1}{n^{2\beta}} \sum_{j,k=1}^n C_{jk}.$$

To this end we note that

$$\sum_{j,k=1}^n C_{jk} = nC - \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} C_{jk} \right).$$

By our assumption the series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_{jk}$  converges uniformly with respect to  $j$  to a number  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  independent of  $j$ . Hence for any  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ , exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n > N$ , we have

$$\left| \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} C_{jk} \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Therefore for sufficiently large  $n$ , we have

$$n(C - \varepsilon) \leq \sum_{j,k=1}^n C_{jk} \leq n(C + \varepsilon).$$

This implies that for  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$  the sequence of the characteristic functions in question converges to the characteristic functions of a Gaussian random variable given by

$$\Phi(t) = e^{-\frac{ct^2}{2}}$$

For  $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$  the corresponding sequence converges to 1, that the characteristic function of zero random variable.

For  $0 < \beta < \frac{1}{2}$  the corresponding sequence converges to 0, which is not a characteristic function.



S.5.

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(S.5.a) We say that a probability measure  $\mu$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfies Poincaré inequality iff

$$\exists m \in (0, \infty) \quad m \cdot \text{Var}_\mu(f) \leq E_\mu(|\nabla f|^2)$$

for any function  $f$  for which the right hand side is well defined, and that it satisfies Logarithmic Sobolev inequality iff

$$\exists c \in (0, \infty) \quad \text{Ent}_\mu(f^2) \leq c E_\mu(|\nabla f|^2)$$

where

$$\text{Ent}_\mu(f^2) \equiv E_\mu \left( f^2 \log \frac{f^2}{E_\mu f^2} \right)$$

for any function  $f$  for which the right hand side is well defined.

(S.5.b) [Proof of product property of Poincaré inequality]

Suppose probability measure  $\mu_i$ , satisfy Poincaré inequality with a constant  $m_i \in (0, \infty)$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $\mu \equiv \mu_1 \otimes \mu_2$ . Then by a property of variance, for the product measure  $\mu$ , we have

$$E_\mu(f - E_\mu f)^2 = E_{\mu_2} E_{\mu_1} (f - E_{\mu_1} f)^2 + E_{\mu_1} (E_{\mu_1} f - E_{\mu_2} E_{\mu_1} f)^2$$

for any square integrable function  $f$ . Suppose  $f$  is differentiable with square integrable gradient. Applying Poincaré inequality for the measures  $\mu_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , to each term on the right side, we get

$$E_\mu(f - E_\mu f)^2 = E_{\mu_2} \frac{1}{m_1} E_{\mu_1} |\nabla_1 f|^2 + \frac{1}{m_2} E_{\mu_2} |\nabla_2 E_{\mu_1} f|^2$$

where  $\nabla_i$  denote the gradient with respect to the integration variables of  $\mu_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , respectively. Next using the following bound

$$|\nabla_2 E_{\mu_1} f|^2 = |E_{\mu_1} \nabla_2 f|^2 \leq E_{\mu_1} |\nabla_2 f|^2$$

which is a consequence of Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we arrive at

$$\min(m_1, m_2) E_\mu(f - E_\mu f)^2 \leq E_\mu(|\nabla_1 f|^2 + |\nabla_2 f|^2)$$

(S.5.c)

We prove in part I below that, under the assumption of Log-Sobolev inequality, for Lipschitz random variables a Gaussian exponential bound holds. Then, in part II, we show that the desired estimate of probability tails follows from Chebyshev inequality. 6pts

Part I:

Let  $f$  be a Lipschitz random variable which is bounded. If Log-Sobolev inequality holds, then in particular for a function  $e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}$ , with  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , we have

$$E_{\mu} \left( e^{\frac{1}{4}tf} \log \frac{e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}}{E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}} \right) \leq \frac{1}{4} t^2 c E_{\mu} (|\nabla f|^2 e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}).$$

and hence

$$E_{\mu} \left( e^{\frac{1}{4}tf} \log \frac{e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}}{E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}} \right) \leq \frac{1}{4} t^2 c \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2 \cdot E_{\mu} (e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}).$$

This can be transformed into the following relation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{t} \log (E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}) \right) \leq \frac{1}{4} c \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2.$$

Integrating this inequality from  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  to  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , after simple transformations, one gets

$$\log (E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf}) \leq \frac{1}{4} t^2 c \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2 + t \log \left( (E_{\mu} e^{\varepsilon f})^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \right).$$

Using the following limiting behaviour for the last term on the right hand side

$$(E_{\mu} e^{\varepsilon f})^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} = (1 + \varepsilon E_{\mu} f + O(\varepsilon^2))^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} e^{E_{\mu} f}.$$

we conclude with the following exponential bound

$$E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf} \leq e^{\frac{1}{4}t^2 c \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2 + t E_{\mu} f}.$$

For general Lipschitz function  $f$ , we apply the above arguments first to a cutoff function  $f\chi(|f| \leq L)$ , with some  $L \in (0, \infty)$ , and pass to the limit with  $L \rightarrow \infty$  in the last bound.

Part II:

From this, applying Chebyshev inequality, we have the following estimate on the tails of the distribution

$$\mu(\{f > x\}) = \mu(\{e^{\frac{1}{4}tf} > e^{\frac{1}{4}tx}\}) \leq e^{-tx} E_{\mu} e^{\frac{1}{4}tf} \leq e^{-tx} e^{\frac{1}{4}t^2 c \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2 + t E_{\mu} f}.$$

Optimising this with respect to  $t$ , we obtain

$$\mu(\{f > x\}) \leq e^{-\frac{(x - E_{\mu} f)^2}{c^2 \cdot \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}^2}}.$$

(S.5.d)

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We note that if  $\mu$  satisfies Poincaré inequality, than in particular we have

$$E_\mu(G^4) = \text{Var}_\mu(G^2) + (E_\mu G^2)^2 \leq \frac{4}{m} E_\mu G^2 |\nabla G|^2 + (E_\mu G^2)^2$$

We will apply this relation to a function

$$G \equiv \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j)$$

where

$$X_j \equiv \varphi \circ \pi_j,$$

with a Lipschitz function  $\varphi$  of one real variable. First we note that

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla G|^2 &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left| \nabla_k \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left| \nabla_k \sum_{|j| \leq n} (\varphi \circ \pi_j) \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{|j| \leq n} |(\nabla \varphi) \circ \pi_j|^2 \leq \| |\nabla \varphi|^2 \|_\infty \cdot \frac{4}{m} (2n+1)^d \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_\mu \left( \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^4 &\leq \frac{4}{m} (2n+1)^d E_\mu \left( \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^2 \\ &\quad + \left( E_\mu \left( \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since by Poincaré inequality we have

$$E_\mu \left( \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^2 \leq \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} E_\mu \left| \nabla_k \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{m} (2n+1)^d \| |\nabla \varphi|^2 \|_\infty,$$

therefore we have

$$E_\mu \left( \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^4 \leq \frac{5}{m^2} (2n+1)^{2d} \| |\nabla \varphi|^2 \|_\infty^2.$$

For normalised sum

$$s_n \equiv \frac{1}{(2n+1)^d} \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j)$$

this implies that

$$E_\mu \left( \frac{1}{(2n+1)^d} \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_\mu X_j) \right)^4 \leq \frac{5}{m^2 (2n+1)^{2d}} \| |\nabla \varphi|^2 \|_\infty^2.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E_{\mu} \left( \frac{1}{(2n+1)^d} \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_{\mu} X_j) \right)^4 < \infty.$$

Therefore the series

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left( \frac{1}{(2n+1)^d} \sum_{|j| \leq n} (X_j - E_{\mu} X_j) \right)^4$$

converges almost everywhere to a finite limit. This implies that

$$s_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

almost everywhere.