

# Advanced Theory of Probability

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## 1 Measure Theory

- Fatou's lemma: If  $f_n \geq 0$  then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int f_n d\mu \geq \int \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n d\mu$ .
- Monotone convergence theorem: If  $f_n \geq 0$  and  $f_n \uparrow f$  then  $\int f_n d\mu \uparrow \int f d\mu$ .
- Dominated convergence theorem: If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  a.e.,  $|f_n| \leq g$  for all  $n$ , and  $g$  is integrable, then  $\int f_n d\mu \rightarrow \int f d\mu$ .
- Suppose  $X_n \rightarrow X$  a.s. Let  $g, h$  be continuous functions with (i)  $g \geq 0$  and  $g(x) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ ; (ii)  $|h(x)|/g(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ ; (iii)  $\mathbb{E}g(X_n) \leq K < \infty$  for all  $n$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}h(X_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}h(X)$ .
- Fubini's theorem: If  $f \geq 0$  or  $\int |f| d\mu < \infty$ , then  $\int_X \int_Y f(x, y) \mu_2(dy) \mu_1(dx) = \int_{X \times Y} f d\mu = \int_Y \int_X f(x, y) \mu_1(dx) \mu_2(dy)$ .

## 2 Laws of Large Numbers

### 2.1 Independence

- Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ . Two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if for all  $C, D \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $P(X \in C, Y \in D) = P(X \in C)P(Y \in D)$ . Two  $\sigma$ -fields  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  are independent if for all  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $B \in \mathcal{G}$  the events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent.
- $\sigma$ -fields  $\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_n$  are independent if whenever  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , we have  $P(\cap_{i=1}^n A_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(A_i)$ . Random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent if whenever  $B_i \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  we have  $P(\cap_{i=1}^n \{X_i \in B_i\}) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i \in B_i)$ . Sets  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are independent if whenever  $I \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have  $P(\cap_{i \in I} A_i) = \prod_{i \in I} P(A_i)$ .
- A sequence of events  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  with  $P(A_i \cap A_j) = P(A_i)P(A_j)$  for all  $i \neq j$  is called pairwise independent.
- $\pi$ - $\lambda$  theorem: If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\pi$ -system and  $\mathcal{L}$  is a  $\lambda$ -system that contains  $\mathcal{P}$  then  $\sigma(\mathcal{P}) \subset \mathcal{L}$ .
- Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$  are independent and each  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is a  $\pi$ -system. Then  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}_1), \dots, \sigma(\mathcal{A}_n)$  are independent.
- Suppose  $\mathcal{F}_{i,j}, 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m(i)$  are independent and let  $\mathcal{G}_i = \sigma(\cup_j \mathcal{F}_{i,j})$ . Then  $\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_n$  are independent.
- If for  $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m(i)$ ,  $X_{i,j}$  are independent and  $f_i : \mathbb{R}^{m(i)} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are measurable then  $f_i(X_{i,1}, \dots, X_{i,m(i)})$  are independent.
- If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent and have (a)  $X_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$ , or (b)  $\mathbb{E}|X_i| < \infty$  for all  $i$  then  $\mathbb{E}(\prod_{i=1}^n X_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}X_i$ .
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$ , and  $G(y) = P(Y \leq y)$ , then  $P(X + Y \geq z) = \int F(z - y) dG(y)$ .

## 2.2 Weak Laws of Large Numbers

- $L^2$  weak law: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be uncorrelated random variables with  $\mathbb{E}X_i = \mu$  and  $\text{var}(X_i) \leq C < \infty$ . If  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $S_n/n \rightarrow \mu$  in  $L^2$  and in probability.
- Let  $\mu_n = \mathbb{E}[S_n]$ ,  $\sigma_n^2 = \text{var}(S_n)$ . If  $\sigma_n^2/b_n^2 \rightarrow 0$  then  $\frac{S_n - \mu_n}{b_n} \rightarrow 0$  in probability.
- Truncation: To truncate a random variable  $X$  at level  $M$  means to consider  $\bar{X}_M = X1_{\{|X| \leq M\}}$ .
- For each  $n$ , let  $X_{n,k}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$  be independent. Let  $0 < b_n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\bar{X}_{n,k} = X_{n,k}1_{\{|X_{n,k}| \leq b_n\}}$ . Suppose that as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (1)  $\sum_{k=1}^n P(|X_{n,k}| > b_n) \rightarrow 0$ ; (2)  $b_n^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^n \text{var}(\bar{X}_{n,k}) \rightarrow 0$ . If we let  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n X_{n,k}$  and  $a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}_{n,k}]$ , then  $\frac{S_n - a_n}{b_n} \rightarrow 0$  in probability.
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $xP(|X_1| > x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$  and let  $\mu_n = \mathbb{E}[X_1 1_{\{|X_1| \leq n\}}]$ . Then  $S_n/n - \mu_n \rightarrow 0$  in probability.
- If  $Y \geq 0$  and  $p > 0$  then  $\mathbb{E}[Y^p] = \int_0^\infty py^{p-1}P(Y > y)dy$ .
- Let  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[|X_i|] < \infty$ . Let  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$  and let  $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X_1]$ . Then  $S_n/n \rightarrow \mu$  in probability.
- The distribution of  $X$  is infinitely divisible iff for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists i.i.d.  $Y_i$ 's such that  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ .
- The distribution of  $X$  is stable if for all  $a, b > 0$ , and  $X_1, X_2$  i.i.d. copies of  $X$ ,  $aX_1 + bX_2 \stackrel{d}{=} cX + d$  for some  $c > 0$ .

## 2.3 Borel-Cantelli Lemmas

- If  $A_n$  is a sequence of subsets of  $\Omega$ , then we write

$$\limsup A_n = \cap_{n=1}^\infty \cup_{m=n}^\infty A_m = \{\omega : \omega \text{ in infinitely many } A_i \text{'s}\}$$

$$\liminf A_n = \cup_{n=1}^\infty \cap_{m=n}^\infty A_m = \{\omega : \omega \text{ in all but finitely many } A_i \text{'s}\}$$

- $P(\limsup A_n) \geq \limsup P(A_n)$ ,  $P(\liminf A_n) \leq \liminf P(A_n)$ .
- Borel-Cantelli lemma: If  $\sum_i P(A_i) < \infty$ , then  $P(A_n \text{ i.o.}) = 0$ .
- Let  $y_n$  be a sequence of elements of a topological space. If every subsequence  $y_{n(m)}$  has a further subsubsequence  $y_{n(m_k)}$  that converges to  $y$ , then  $y_n \rightarrow y$ .
- $X_n \rightarrow X$  in probability iff for every subsequence  $X_{n(m)}$  there is a further subsubsequence  $X_{n(m_k)}$  that converges a.s. to  $X$ .
- If  $f$  is continuous and  $X_n \rightarrow X$  in probability then  $f(X_n) \rightarrow f(X)$  in probability. If in addition  $f$  is bounded then  $\mathbb{E}[f(X_n)] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$ .
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu$  and  $\mathbb{E}[X_i^4] < \infty$ . Then  $S_n/n \rightarrow \mu$  a.s.
- For events  $A_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , independent such that  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty P(A_n) = \infty$ , then  $P(A_n \text{ i.o.}) = 1$ .

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- If  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  are i.i.d. random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \infty$ , then  $P(|X_n| \geq n \text{ i.o.}) = 1$ . Let  $C = \{\lim S_n/n \text{ exists \& is finite}\}$ . Then  $P(C) = 0$ .
- If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are pairwise independent and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n) = \infty$  then  $\sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i} / \sum_{i=1}^n P(A_i) \rightarrow 1$  a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- For a sequence of increasing events  $A_n$ ,  $P(A_n \text{ i.o.}) = 1$  iff  $\sum_n P(A_n | A_{n-1}^c) = \infty$ .

### 2.4 Strong Law of Large Numbers

- Strong law of large numbers: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be pairwise independent identically distributed random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] < \infty$ . Let  $\mathbb{E}X_i = \mu$  and  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Then  $S_n/n \rightarrow \mu$  a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X^+] = \infty$  and  $\mathbb{E}[X^-] < \infty$ , then  $S_n/n \rightarrow \infty$  a.s.
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $0 < X_i < \infty$ , write  $T_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$  and let  $N_t = \sup\{n : T_n \leq t\}$ . If  $\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \mu \leq \infty$ , then as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $N_t/t \rightarrow 1/\mu$ , a.s.
- If  $X_n \rightarrow X_\infty$  a.s. and  $N(n) \rightarrow \infty$  a.s. then  $X_{N(n)} \rightarrow X_\infty$  a.s. But the analogous result for convergence in probability is false!
- Empirical distribution functions: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with distribution  $F$  and let  $F_n(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n 1_{X_i \leq x}}{n}$ . As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\sup_x |F_n(x) - F(x)| \rightarrow 0$  a.s.
- Uniform law of large numbers: Suppose  $f(x, \theta)$  is continuous in  $\theta \in \Theta$  for some compact  $\Theta$ . Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables. If  $f$  is continuous at  $\theta$  for a.s. all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and measurable of  $x$  at each  $\theta$  and there exists some function  $d(x)$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[d(X_i)] < \infty$  and for all  $\theta \in \Theta$ ,  $|f(x, \theta)| \leq d(x)$ . Then  $\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(X_i, \theta) - \mathbb{E}[f(X_1, \theta)]| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$ .

### 2.5 Convergence of Random Series

- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$  be a sequence of random variables. Define  $\mathcal{F}'_n = \sigma(X_n, X_{n+1}, \dots)$  as the information of the future after time  $n$ . Let  $\mathcal{I} = \cap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}'_n$  be the tail  $\sigma$ -field, i.e., the information in the remote future. Intuitively,  $A \in \mathcal{I}$  if and only if changing a finite number of values does not affect the occurrence of the event.
- Kolmogorov's 0-1 law: If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$  are independent and  $A \in \mathcal{I}$ , then  $P(A) = 0$  or  $1$ .
- A finite permutation of  $\mathbb{N}$  is a map from  $\mathbb{N}$  onto  $\mathbb{N}$  such that there is a finite  $I$  with  $\pi(i) = i$  for all  $i \geq I$ . For  $S^{\mathbb{N}}$ , associated with its natural product sigma field  $\mathcal{F}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , and any  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots)$ , let  $\pi(\omega) = (\omega_{\pi(1)}, \omega_{\pi(2)}, \dots)$ . An event  $A \in \mathcal{F}^{\mathbb{N}}$  is permutable if  $\pi^{-1}(A) = A$  for any finite permutation  $\pi$ . All permutable events form the exchangeable  $\sigma$ -field, denoted by  $\mathcal{E}$ . All events in the tail  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{I}$  are permutable.
- Hewitt-Savage 0-1 law: If  $X_1, X_2, \dots$ , are i.i.d. and  $B \in \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}})$ . Denote  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots)$ . Then  $P(X \in B) = 0$  or  $1$ .

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- Kolmogorov's maximal inequality: Suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are independent with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$ ,  $\text{var}(X_i) < \infty$ . Let  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , then  $P(\max_{k \leq n} |S_k| \geq x) \leq \frac{\text{var}(S_n)}{x^2}$ .
- We call a sequence of r.v's  $S_1, S_2, \dots$  a martingale if (i) there is a sequence of  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{F}_1 \subset \mathcal{F}_2 \subset \dots$  and  $S_i \in \mathcal{F}_i$  for all  $i$ ; (ii)  $S_i$ 's are integrable; (iii) For each  $k$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[S_{k+1} | \mathcal{F}_k] = S_k$ . If the "=" in (iii) is replaced by  $\geq$  (resp.  $\leq$ ), then we say that this sequence is a submartingale (resp. supermartingale).
- Second-moment criterion: Suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  are independent and centered (i.e., for all  $i$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$ ). If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{var}(X_n) < \infty$ , then  $P(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n(\omega) \text{ converges}) = 1$ .
- Kronecker's lemma: If  $a_n \uparrow \infty$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n/a_n$  converges, then  $a_n^{-1} \sum_{m=1}^n x_m \rightarrow 0$ .
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}[X_i^2] = \sigma^2 < \infty$ . Let  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . If  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $S_n/n^{1/2}(\log n)^{1/2+\epsilon} \rightarrow 0$  a.s.
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}[|X_i|^p] < \infty$  where  $1 < p < 2$ . Write  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Then  $S_n/n^{1/p} \rightarrow 0$  a.s.
- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \infty$  and let  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Let  $a_n$  be a sequence of positive numbers with  $a_n/n$  increasing. Then  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |S_n|/a_n = 0$  or  $\infty$  according as  $\sum_n P(|X_1| \geq a_n) < \infty$  or  $= \infty$ .
- Kolmogorov's three-series theorem: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$  be independent random variables. Let  $A > 0$  and  $Y_i = X_i 1_{|X_i| \leq A}$ . In order to show that  $\sum X_i$  converges a.s., it is necessary and sufficient that (i)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(|X_n| > A) < \infty$ ; (ii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[Y_n]$  converges; (iii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{var}(Y_n) < \infty$ .

## 2.6 Large Deviations

- Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \mu$  and let  $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ . According to CLT, the typical value of  $S_n - n\mu$  is  $O(\sqrt{n})$ . What about atypical deviations of  $S_n - n\mu$ ? According to WLLN, we know that for any  $a > \mu$ ,  $P(S_n > na) \rightarrow 0$ . We want to discuss the existence and value of the limit:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log P(S_n > na)$ .
- Let  $\pi_n = P(S_n \geq na)$ . Then  $\pi_{n+m} \geq P(S_n \geq na, S_{n+m} - S_n \geq ma) = \pi_n \pi_m$ . Let  $\gamma_n = \log \pi_n$ ,  $\gamma_{n+m} \geq \gamma_n + \gamma_m$ . As  $n \rightarrow \infty$  the limit of  $\gamma_n$  exists and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\gamma_n}{n} = \sup_n \frac{\gamma_n}{n}$ . We define  $\gamma(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_n/n \leq 0$ . Then for any distribution and any  $n$  and  $a$ ,  $P(S_n \geq na) \leq e^{n\gamma(a)}$ . We want to show  $\gamma(a) < 0$  if  $a > \mu$ .
- If the moment generating function  $\psi(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(\theta X_1)] < \infty$  for some  $\theta > 0$ , then  $P(S_n \geq na) \leq \exp[n(\log \psi(\theta) - \theta a)]$ . Let  $\kappa(\theta) = \log \psi(\theta)$ . If  $a > \mu$ , then  $a\theta - \kappa(\theta) > 0$  for all sufficiently small  $\theta$ .
- We will further strengthen our upper bounds by finding the maximum of  $\lambda(\theta) = a\theta - \kappa(\theta)$ . Let  $\theta_+ = \sup\{\theta : \psi(\theta) < \infty\}$  and  $\theta_- = \inf\{\theta : \psi(\theta) < \infty\}$ . Now since that  $\psi(\theta) \in C^\infty$  within  $(\theta_-, \theta_+)$ , we have  $\lambda'(\theta) = a - \frac{\psi'(\theta)}{\psi(\theta)}$ . So the maximal point of  $\lambda$  must satisfy  $\psi'(\theta)/\psi(\theta) = a$ . For

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the existence and uniqueness of such point(s), we introduce a new distribution, and use a trick named “tilting”.

- We now introduce the distribution  $F_\theta$  by “reweighting  $F$ ”:  $F_\theta(x) = \frac{1}{\psi(\theta)} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{y\theta} dF(y)$ . By simple calculus,  $\int x dF_\theta(x) = \frac{\psi'(\theta)}{\psi(\theta)}$ ,  $\psi''(\theta) = \int x^2 e^{\theta x} dF(x)$ ,  $\frac{d}{d\theta} \frac{\psi'(\theta)}{\psi(\theta)} = \int x^2 dF_\theta(x) - (\int x dF_\theta(x))^2 \geq 0$ . If we assume the distribution  $F$  is not a point mass at  $\mu$ , then  $\frac{\psi'(\theta)}{\psi(\theta)}$  is strictly increasing and  $a\theta - \log \psi(\theta)$  is concave. Since we have  $\frac{\psi'(0)}{\psi(0)} = \mu$ , this shows that for each  $a > \mu$  there is at most one  $\theta_a \geq 0$  that solves  $a = \frac{\psi'(\theta_a)}{\psi(\theta_a)}$ , and this value of  $\theta$  maximizes  $a\theta - \log \psi(\theta)$ . Let  $F^n$  be the c.d.f. of  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$  and  $F_\lambda^n$  be the c.d.f. of  $S_n^\lambda = X_1^\lambda + \dots + X_n^\lambda$  where  $X_i$  i.i.d.  $\sim F$  and  $X_i^\lambda$  i.i.d.  $\sim F_\lambda = \frac{1}{\psi(\lambda)} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{y\lambda} dF(y)$ . By induction,  $\frac{dF^n}{dF_\lambda^n} = e^{-\lambda x} \psi(\lambda)^n$ . Then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $n^{-1} \log P(S_n \geq na) \rightarrow -a\theta_a + \log \psi(\theta_a)$ .
- Some important information:  $\kappa(\theta) = \log \psi(\theta)$ ,  $\kappa'(\theta) = \frac{\psi'(\theta)}{\psi(\theta)}$ ,  $\theta_a$  solves  $\kappa'(\theta_a) = a$ ,  $\gamma(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log P(S_n \geq na) = -a\theta_a + \kappa(\theta_a)$ .
- Suppose  $x_o = \sup\{x : F(x) < 1\} = \infty$ ,  $\theta_+ < \infty$ , and  $\psi'(\theta)/\psi(\theta)$  increases to a finite limit  $a_0$  as  $\theta \uparrow \theta_+$ . If  $a_0 \leq a < \infty$ ,  $n^{-1} \log P(S_n \geq na) \rightarrow -a\theta_+ + \log \psi(\theta_+)$ , i.e.  $\gamma(a)$  is linear for  $a \geq a_0$ .
- Suppose  $x_o = \sup\{x : F(x) < 1\} < \infty$  and  $F$  has no mass at  $x_o$ . Then  $\psi(\theta) < \infty$  for all  $\theta > 0$  and  $\psi'(\theta)/\psi(\theta) \rightarrow x_o$  as  $\theta \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Now, we have shown the decaying asymptotic for all possible situations:
 
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } x_o < \infty : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a < x_o : \text{exponential, rate} = \theta_a \\ a = x_o : \text{exponential if } P(X_1 = x_o) > 0, 0 \text{ otherwise} \\ a > x_o : 0 \end{array} \right. \\ \text{If } x_o = \infty : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } \theta_+ = \infty : \text{exponential, rate} = \theta_a \\ \text{If } \theta_+ < \infty : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } \psi'(\theta)/\psi(\theta) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } \theta \rightarrow \theta_+ : \text{exponential, rate} = \theta_a \\ \text{If } \psi'(\theta)/\psi(\theta) \rightarrow a_0 \text{ as } \theta \rightarrow \theta_+ : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a < a_0 : \text{exponential, rate} = \theta_a \\ a \geq a_0 : \text{exponential, rate} = \theta_+ \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$$
- Cramér’s theorem: Let  $I(a)$  be the Legendre transform of  $\log \psi(\cdot)$ :  $I(a) := \sup_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} (\theta a - \log \psi(\theta))$ . Then for any closed set  $F$ ,  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \log P(\frac{S_n}{n} \in F) \leq -\inf_{x \in F} I(x)$ ; for any open set  $G$ ,  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \log P(\frac{S_n}{n} \in G) \geq -\inf_{x \in G} I(x)$ .
- Intuition behind the tilting: Why do we want to introduce the measure  $F_\theta$ ? Intuitively, the new measure is like a “distorting mirror” – it “distorts” our view on how each event is likely to happen. So, when we want to estimate a rare event  $A$  under  $P$ , suppose (1) we can construct a new measure  $Q$  such that  $Q[A]$  is easily calculable, e.g.,  $Q[A] \approx 1$ ; (2) we have a uniform lower bound of the R-N derivative  $dP/dQ \geq c$  on  $A$ . Then we can conclude that  $P[A] = \int_A \frac{dP}{dQ} dQ \geq cQ[A]$ .
- Let  $\Sigma = \{a_1, \dots\}$  stand for a finite-size alphabet. Let  $M_1(\Sigma)$  be the space of all probability measures on  $\Sigma$ . The entropy of some  $\nu \in M_1(\Sigma)$  is  $H(\nu) := -\sum_{i=1}^{|\Sigma|} \nu(a_i) \log(\nu(a_i))$ . The relative entropy of  $\nu$  with respect to some other  $\mu \in M_1(\Sigma)$  is  $H(\nu|\mu) := \sum_{i=1}^{|\Sigma|} \nu(a_i) \log \frac{\nu(a_i)}{\mu(a_i)}$ .

## CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREMS

- Let  $Y_i$  be i.i.d. r.v.s,  $\mu \in M_1(\Sigma)$ . For  $n \geq 1$ , write  $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  and call  $L_n^Y \in M_1(\Sigma)$  be the empirical frequency of  $Y$ . Let  $T_n(\nu)$  be the set of  $y$  a sequence of  $n$  letters whose empirical measure is  $\nu$ .
- If  $y \in T_n(\nu)$ , then  $P_\mu(Y = y) = e^{-n(H(\nu) + H(\nu|\mu))}$ . In particular, if  $y \in T_n(\mu)$ , then  $P_\mu(Y = y) = e^{-nH(\mu)}$ .
- For every possible empirical measure  $\nu$  of  $n$  letters,  $(n+1)^{-|\Sigma|} e^{nH(\nu)} \leq |T_n(\nu)| \leq e^{nH(\nu)}$ .
- For every possible empirical measure  $\nu$  of  $n$  letters,  $(n+1)^{-|\Sigma|} e^{nH(\nu|\mu)} \leq P_\mu(L_n^T = \nu) \leq e^{nH(\nu|\mu)}$ .
- Sanov's theorem: For every set  $\Gamma \subset M_1(\Sigma)$ ,  $-\inf_{\nu \in \Gamma^\circ} H(\nu|\mu) \leq \liminf_n \frac{1}{n} \log P_\mu(L_n^Y \in \Gamma) \leq \limsup_n \frac{1}{n} \log P_\mu(L_n^Y \in \Gamma) \leq -\inf_{\nu \in \Gamma} H(\nu|\mu)$ .

### 2.7 Percolation

- Fix  $p \in [0, 1]$  and consider the  $d$ -dimensional lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ . Assign to each edge  $e \in \mathbb{E}$  an independent Bernoulli r.v.  $I(e)$  with parameter  $p$ . If  $I(e) = 1$ , we say that this edge is open, otherwise closed. Consider the connected components of open edges, then for any  $p \in [0, 1]$ ,  $P_p(A) = 0$  or 1 where  $A = \{\exists \text{ infinite open clusters}\}$ .
- If  $A$  is translation-invariant, then  $P(A) = 0$  or 1.
- Actually we can go further and show that for any  $N = 0, 1, \dots, \infty$ ,  $P_p[A(N)] = 0$  or 1, where  $A(N) = \{\exists N \text{ infinite open clusters}\}$ . Or even further: for  $N = 2, 3, \dots$  and  $N = \infty$ ,  $P_p[A(N)] = 0$ .
- Let  $p_c = p_c(d) = \sup\{p : P_p(A) = 0\}$ . Then one can show that  $1/3 \leq p_c(2) \leq 2/3$ . More generally,  $p_c(1) = 1$  and for  $d \geq 2$ ,  $1/(2d-1) \leq p_c(d) \leq p_c(2)(= 1/2)$ .
- By knowledge of Galton-Watson tree and the analogy between  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  and  $2d$ -regular tree in high dimensions, we can take an educated guess that  $p_c(d) \sim \frac{1}{2d}$  as  $d \rightarrow \infty$ .

## 3 Central Limit Theorems

### 3.1 The De Moivre-Laplace Theorem

- Central Limit Theorem: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2 \in (0, \infty)$ . Write  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , then  $\frac{S_n - \mu n}{\sqrt{n}\sigma} \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .
- Before discussing the central limit theorem in full generality, we first see a special example for Bernoulli random variables. Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. random variables such that  $P(X_1 = 1) = P(X_1 = -1) = 1/2$  and write  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . For integers  $|k| \leq n$ ,  $P(S_{2n} = 2k) = C_{2n}^{n+k} 2^{-2n}$  since  $(S_{2n} + 2n)/2 \sim \text{Binomial}(2n, 1/2)$ .
- Local central limit theorem: If  $2k/\sqrt{2n} \rightarrow x$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\pi n)^{1/2} e^{x^2/2} P(S_{2n} = 2k) = 1$ .
- The De Moivre-Laplace Theorem: For  $a < b$ ,  $P(a \leq S_n/\sqrt{n} \leq b) \rightarrow \int_a^b (2\pi)^{-1/2} e^{-x^2/2} dx$ .

### 3.2 Weak Convergence

- A sequence of distribution function  $F_n$  is said to converge weakly to a limit  $F$ , denoted by  $F_n \Rightarrow F$ , if  $F_n(y) \rightarrow F(y)$  at every point of continuity of  $F$ , i.e. every  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $F(\cdot)$  is continuous at  $y$ .
- A sequence of random variables  $X_n$  is said to converge weakly or converge in distribution / law to a limit  $X_\infty$  if their distribution functions  $F_n$  converges weakly.
- Skorokhod's representation theorem: If  $F_n \Rightarrow F$  then there are random variables  $Y_n, 1 \leq n < \infty$  and  $Y$  with living in the same probability space such that  $Y_n \sim F_n, Y \sim F$  and  $Y_n \rightarrow Y$  a.s.
- $X_n \Rightarrow X$  if and only if for every bounded continuous function  $g$  we have  $\mathbb{E}g(X_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}g(X)$ .
- Continuous mapping theorem: Let  $g$  be a measurable function and  $D_g = \{x : g \text{ is discontinuous at } x\}$ . If  $X_n \Rightarrow X$ , and  $P(X \in D_g) = 0$ , then  $g(X_n) \Rightarrow g(X)$ .
- Portmanteau theorem: The following statements are equivalent: (1)  $X_n \Rightarrow X$ ; (2)  $G$  open,  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n \in G) \geq P(X \in G)$ ; (3)  $G$  closed,  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n \in G) \leq P(X \in G)$ ; (4) If  $P(X \in \partial A) = 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n \in A) = P(X \in A)$ .
- Helly's selection theorem: For every sequence  $F_n$  of distribution functions, there is a subsequence  $F_{n(k)}$  and a right continuous nondecreasing function  $F$  so that at all points of continuity  $y$  of  $F$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F_{n(k)}(y) = F(y)$ .
- Every subsequential limit of the sequence  $F_n$  is the distribution function of a probability measure iff the sequence is tight, i.e., for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is an  $M_\epsilon$  so that  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} [1 - F_n(M_\epsilon) + F_n(-M_\epsilon)] \leq \epsilon$ .
- If there is a function  $\phi \geq 0$  so that  $\phi(x) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$  and  $C = \sup_n \int \phi(x) dF_n(x) < \infty$ , then  $F_n$  is tight.

### 3.3 Characteristic Functions

- If  $X$  is a random variable, we define its Characteristic function (ch.f.) by  $\phi(t) := \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \mathbb{E}[\cos(tX)] + i\mathbb{E}[\sin(tX)]$ .
- All characteristic functions have the following properties: (i)  $\phi(0) = 1$ ; (ii)  $\phi(-t) = \overline{\phi(t)}$ ; (iii)  $|\phi(t)| = |\mathbb{E}e^{itX}| \leq \mathbb{E}|e^{itX}| = 1$ ; (iv)  $|\phi(t+h) - \phi(t)| \leq \mathbb{E}|e^{itX} - 1|$ , so  $\phi(t)$  is uniformly continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ ; (v)  $\mathbb{E}e^{it(aX+b)} = e^{itb}\phi(at)$ .
- If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent and have ch.f.'s  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ . Then  $X_1 + X_2$  has ch.f.  $\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2$ .
- Stein's Lemma: If  $X, Y$  are jointly Gaussian, then for differentiable  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , as long as the expectations are well-defined,  $\text{cov}(g(X), Y) = \text{cov}(X, Y)\mathbb{E}[g'(X)]$ .
- If  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  have ch.f.  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n$  and  $\lambda_i \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq n$  have  $\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n = 1$ . Then  $\sum \lambda_i F_i$  has ch.f.  $\sum \lambda_i \phi_i$ .



## CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREMS

- The inversion formula: For a probability measure  $\mu$ , recall  $\phi(t) = \int e^{itx} \mu(dx)$ . If  $a < b$ , then  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-T}^T \frac{e^{-ita} - e^{-itb}}{it} \phi(t) dt = \mu(a, b) + \frac{1}{2} \mu(\{a, b\})$ .
- If  $\int |\phi(t)| dt < \infty$ , then  $\mu$  has bounded continuous density  $f(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} \phi(t) dt$ .
- Continuity theorem: Let  $\mu_n, 1 \leq n \leq \infty$  be probability measures with ch.f.  $\phi_n$ . (i) If  $\mu_n \Rightarrow \mu_\infty$  then  $\phi_n(t) \rightarrow \phi_\infty(t)$  for all  $t$ . (ii) If  $\phi_n(t) \rightarrow \phi(t)$  for all  $t$ , and  $\phi(t)$  is continuous at 0. Then  $\{\mu_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is tight and has a weak limit with ch.f.  $\phi$ .
- Let  $\mu$  be a probability measure and  $\phi$  be its ch.f. Then  $\mu(\{x : |x| \geq 2u^{-1}\}) \leq u^{-1} \int_{-u}^u [1 - \phi(t)] dt$ .
- If  $\int |x|^n \mu(dx) < \infty$ , then its ch.f.  $\phi$  has a continuous derivative of order  $n$  given by  $\phi^{(n)}(t) = \int (ix)^n e^{itx} \mu(dx)$ . In particular,  $\phi^{(n)}(0) = \mathbb{E}[(iX)^n]$ .
- However, if a characteristic function  $\phi_X$  has a  $k$ -th derivative at zero, then the random variable  $X$  has all moments up to  $k$  if  $k$  is even, but only up to  $(k-1)$  if  $k$  is odd.
- $|e^{ix} - \sum_{m=0}^n \frac{(ix)^m}{m!}| \leq \min(\frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}, \frac{2|x|^n}{n!})$ .
- If  $\mathbb{E}|X|^2 < \infty$ , then  $\phi(t) = 1 + it\mathbb{E}X - t^2\mathbb{E}|X|^2/2 + o(t^2)$ .
- If  $\limsup_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{\phi(h) - 2\phi(0) + \phi(-h)}{h^2} > -\infty$ , then  $\mathbb{E}[X^2] < \infty$ .
- Given  $\phi$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , we can consider the matrix with  $(i, j)$  entry given by  $\phi(x_i - x_j)$ . Call  $\phi$  positive definite if this matrix is always positive semi-definite Hermitian.
- Bochner's theorem: A function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{C}$  which is continuous at origin with  $\phi(0) = 1$  is a ch.f. of some probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  if and only if it is positive definite.
- Pólya's theorem: If  $\phi$  is real-valued, even and continuous such that (i)  $\phi(0) = 1$ ; (ii)  $\phi$  is convex for  $t > 0$ ; (iii)  $\phi(\infty) = 0$ ; then  $\phi(t)$  is the ch.f. of a distribution symmetric about 0.

### 3.4 Central Limit Theorems

- Central Limit Theorem: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. with  $\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \mu, \text{var}(X_1) = \sigma^2 \in (0, \infty)$ . If  $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ , then  $\frac{S_n - n\mu}{n^{1/2}\sigma} \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .
- The Lindeberg-Feller theorem: For each  $n$ , let  $X_{n,m}, 1 \leq m \leq n$ , be independent random variables for each  $n$  with  $\mathbb{E}[X_{n,m}] = 0$ . Suppose (i)  $\sum_{m=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_{n,m}^2] \rightarrow \sigma^2 > 0$ ; (ii) For all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{m=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_{n,m}^2 1_{|X_{n,m}| > \epsilon}] = 0$ . Then  $S_n = X_{n,1} + \dots + X_{n,n} \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Converging together lemma: If  $X_n \Rightarrow X$  and  $Y_n \Rightarrow c$ ,  $X_n + Y_n \Rightarrow X + c$ . A useful consequence of this result is that if  $X_n \Rightarrow X$  and  $Z_n - X_n \Rightarrow 0$  then  $Z_n \Rightarrow X$ .
- Lévy's condition for CLT: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be i.i.d. and  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . In order that there exist constants  $a_n$  and  $b_n > 0$  so that  $(S_n - a_n)/b_n \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ , it is necessary and sufficient that  $\frac{y^2 P(|X_1| > y)}{\mathbb{E}[X_1^2 1_{|X_1| \leq y}]} \rightarrow 0$ .

## CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREMS

- Chernoff bound: Let  $X_i$  be independent Bernoulli r.v.'s. Write  $S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$  and let  $\mu = \mathbb{E}[S_n]$ . Then for  $\delta > 0$ ,  $P(S_n > (1 + \delta)\mu) \leq e^{-\frac{\delta^2 \mu}{2 + \delta}}$ ,  $P(S_n < (1 - \delta)\mu) \leq e^{-\frac{\delta^2 \mu}{2}}$ .
- Hoeffding's inequality for bounded r.v. Let  $X_i$  be independent r.v.'s such that  $X_i \in [a_i, b_i]$  a.s. Write  $S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$  and let  $\mu = \mathbb{E}[S_n]$ . Then for  $\delta > 0$ ,  $P(|S_n - \mu| \geq \delta) \leq 2 \exp(-\frac{2n^2 \delta^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i)^2})$ .
- A random variable is sub-Gaussian, if and only if for some  $C < \infty$  and  $c > 0$ ,  $P(|X| \geq t) \leq Ce^{-ct^2}$ .
- Hoeffding's inequality for sub-Gaussian r.v.'s: Let  $X_i$  be independent zero-mean sub-Gaussian r.v.'s. Write  $S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$ . Then there exists some  $c > 0$  such that for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $P(|S_n| \geq \delta) \leq 2 \exp(-c\delta^2 / \sum_{i=1}^n \|X_i\|_{\psi_2})$ , where  $\|X\|_{\psi_2} = \inf\{c \geq 0 : \mathbb{E}[e^{X^2/c^2}] \leq 2\}$ .