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Prohorov inequality

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Theorem (Prohorov inequality, 1959):

Let $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$ be a collection of independent random variables satisfying the conditions:

- a) $E[X_i^2] < \infty \forall i$, so that one can write $\sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i^2] = v^2$
- b) $\Pr\{|X_i| \leq M\} = 1 \quad \forall i$.

Then, for any $\varepsilon \geq 0$,

$$\Pr\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - E[X_i]) > \varepsilon\right\} \leq \exp\left[-\frac{\varepsilon}{2M} \operatorname{arsinh}\left(\frac{\varepsilon M}{2v^2}\right)\right]$$
$$\Pr\left\{\left|\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - E[X_i])\right| > \varepsilon\right\} \leq 2 \exp\left[-\frac{\varepsilon}{2M} \operatorname{arsinh}\left(\frac{\varepsilon M}{2v^2}\right)\right]$$

(See <http://planetmath.org/AreaFunctions> here for the meaning of $\operatorname{arsinh}(x)$)