

Theorem 1.6.8.

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 $|x| \rightarrow \infty$,
- and (iii) $Eg(X_n) \leq K < \infty$ for all n .

Then $Eh(X_n) \rightarrow Eh(X)$.

Proof. By subtracting a constant from h , we can suppose without loss of generality that $h(0) = 0$. Pick M large so that $P(|X| = M) = 0$ and $g(x) > 0$ when $|x| \geq M$. Given a random variable Y , let $\bar{Y} = Y1_{(|Y| \leq M)}$. Since $P(|X| = M) = 0$, $\bar{X}_n \rightarrow \bar{X}$ a.s. Since $h(\bar{X}_n)$ is bounded and h is continuous, it follows from the bounded convergence theorem that

(a)

$$Eh(\bar{X}_n) \rightarrow Eh(\bar{X})$$

To control the effect of the truncation, we use the following:

- (b) $|Eh(\bar{Y}) - Eh(Y)| \leq E|h(\bar{Y}) - h(Y)| \leq E(|h(Y)|; |Y| > M) \leq \epsilon_M Eg(Y)$ where $\epsilon_M = \sup\{|h(x)|/g(x) : |x| \geq M\}$. To check the second inequality, note that when $|Y| \leq M$, $\bar{Y} = Y$, and we have supposed $h(0) = 0$. The third inequality follows from the definition of ϵ_M . Taking $Y = X_n$ in (b) and using (iii), it follows that

(c)

$$|Eh(\bar{X}_n) - Eh(X_n)| \leq K\epsilon_M$$

To estimate $|Eh(\bar{X}) - Eh(X)|$, we observe that $g \geq 0$ and g is continuous, so Fatou's lemma implies

$$Eg(X) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} Eg(X_n) \leq K$$

Taking $Y = X$ in (b) gives

(d)

$$|Eh(\bar{X}) - Eh(X)| \leq K\epsilon_M$$

The triangle inequality implies

$$\begin{aligned} |Eh(X_n) - Eh(X)| &\leq |Eh(X_n) - Eh(\bar{X}_n)| \\ &\quad + |Eh(\bar{X}_n) - Eh(\bar{X})| + |Eh(\bar{X}) - Eh(X)| \end{aligned}$$

Taking limits and using (a), (c), (d), we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |Eh(X_n) - Eh(X)| \leq 2K\epsilon_M$$

which proves the desired result since $K < \infty$ and $\epsilon_M \rightarrow 0$ as $M \rightarrow \infty$.