

# Probability Theory

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June 30, 2022

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## **Part I**

# **Probability distributions**

# Chapter 1

## Random variables

### 1.1 Sample spaces and distributions

sample space of an "experiment" random variables distributions expectation, moments, inequalities  
equally likely outcomes coin toss dice roll ball drawing number permutation life time of a light bulb  
joint distribution transformation of distributions distribution computations

### 1.2 Discrete probability distributions

### 1.3 Continuous probability distributions

### 1.4 Independence

**1.1** (Dynkin's  $\pi$ - $\lambda$  lemma). Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a  $\pi$ -system and  $\mathcal{L}$  a  $\lambda$ -system respectively. Denote by  $\ell(\mathcal{P})$  the smallest  $\lambda$ -system containing  $\mathcal{P}$ .

- (a) If  $A \in \ell(\mathcal{P})$ , then  $\mathcal{G}_A := \{B : A \cap B \in \ell(\mathcal{P})\}$  is a  $\lambda$ -system.
- (b)  $\ell(\mathcal{P})$  is a  $\pi$ -system.
- (c) If a  $\lambda$ -system is a  $\pi$ -system, then it is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.
- (d) If  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{L}$ , then  $\sigma(\mathcal{P}) \subset \mathcal{L}$ .

**1.2** (Monotone class lemma).

## Chapter 2

# Conditional probability

**2.1 (Monty Hall problem).** Suppose you're on a game show, and you're given the choice of three doors  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . Behind one door is a car; behind the others, goats. You pick a door, say  $A$ , and the host, who knows what's behind the doors, opens another door, say  $B$ , which has a goat. He then says to you, "Do you want to pick door  $C$ ?" Is it to your advantage to switch your choice?

*Proof.* Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be the events that a car is behind the doors  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , respectively. Let  $X$  be the event that the challenger picked  $A$ , and  $Y$  the event that the game host opened  $B$ . Note  $\{A, B, C\}$  is a partition of the sample space  $\Omega$ , and  $X$  is independent to  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . Then,  $P(A) = P(B) = P(C) = P(X) = 1/3$ , and

$$P(Y|X, A) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad P(Y|X, B) = 0, \quad P(Y|X, C) = 1.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} P(C|X, Y) &= \frac{P(X \cap Y \cap C)}{P(X \cap Y)} \\ &= \frac{P(Y|X, C)P(X \cap C)}{P(Y|X, A)P(X \cap A) + P(Y|X, B)P(X \cap B) + P(Y|X, C)P(X \cap C)} \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot \frac{1}{9}}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{9} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{9} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{9}} = \frac{2}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $P(A|X, Y) = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $P(B|X, Y) = 0$ . □

## Chapter 3

# Convergence of probability measures

### 3.1 Weak convergence in $\mathbb{R}$

**3.1 (Portemanteau theorem).** Let  $F_n$  and  $F$  be distribution functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . We will define the *weak convergence* as follows:  $F_n$  converges weakly to  $F$  if  $F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$  for every continuity point  $x$  of  $F(x)$ .

(a)  $F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$  for all continuity points  $x$  of  $F$ .

**3.2 (Skorokhod representation theorem).**

**3.3 (Continuous mapping theorem).**

**3.4 (Slutsky's theorem).**

**3.5 (Helly's selection theorem).** (a) Monotonically increasing functions  $F_n : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  has a point-wise convergent subsequence.

(b) If  $(F_n)_n$  is tight, then

**3.6 (Properties of probability Borel measures).** Let  $S$  be a topological space.

(a) Every single probability Borel measure is regular if  $S$  is perfectly normal.

(b) Every single probability Borel measure is tight if  $S$  is Polish.

### 3.2 Weak topology in the space of probability measures

**3.7 (Local limit theorems).** Suppose  $f_n$  and  $f$  are density functions.

(a) If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  a.s., then  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $L^1$ .

(Scheffé's theorem)

(b)  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $L^1$  if and only if in total variation.

(c) If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in total variation, then  $f_n \rightarrow f$  weakly.

**3.8 (Portmanteau theorem).** Let  $S$  be a normal space and,  $\mu_\alpha$  be a net in  $\text{Prob}(S)$ . We define the *weak convergence* as follows:  $\mu_\alpha$  converges weakly to  $\mu$  if

$$\int f d\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \int f d\mu$$

for every  $f \in C_b(S)$ . The following statements are all equivalent.

- (a)  $\mu_\alpha \Rightarrow \mu$
- (b)  $\mu_\alpha(g) \rightarrow \mu(g)$  for every uniformly continuous  $g \in C_b(S)$ .
- (c)  $\limsup_\alpha \mu_\alpha(F) \leq \mu(F)$  for every closed  $F$ .
- (d)  $\liminf_\alpha \mu_\alpha(U) \geq \mu(U)$  for every open  $U$ .
- (e)  $\lim_\alpha \mu_\alpha(A) = \mu(A)$  for every Borel  $A$  such that  $\mu(\partial A) = 0$ .

*Proof.* (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) Clear.

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) Let  $U$  be an open set such that  $F \subset U$ . There is uniformly continuous  $g \in C_b(S)$  such that  $\mathbf{1}_F \leq g \leq \mathbf{1}_U$ . Therefore,

$$\limsup_\alpha \mu_\alpha(F) \leq \limsup_\alpha \mu_\alpha(g) = \mu(g) \leq \mu(U).$$

By the outer regularity of  $\mu$ , we obtain  $\limsup_\alpha \mu_\alpha(F) \leq \mu(F)$ .

(c) $\Leftrightarrow$ (d) Clear.

(c)+(d) $\Rightarrow$ (e) It easily follows from

$$\limsup_\alpha \mu_\alpha(\bar{A}) \leq \mu(\bar{A}) = \mu(A) = \mu(A^\circ) \leq \liminf_\alpha \mu_\alpha(A^\circ).$$

(e) $\Rightarrow$ (a) Let  $g \in C_b(S)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since the pushforward measure  $g_*\mu$  has at most countably many mass points, there is a partition  $(t_i)_{i=0}^n$  of an interval containing  $[-\|g\|, \|g\|]$  such that  $|t_{i+1} - t_i| < \varepsilon$  and  $\mu(\{x : g(x) = t_i\}) = 0$  for each  $i$ . Let  $(A_i)_{i=0}^{n-1}$  be a Borel decomposition of  $S$  given by  $A_i := g^{-1}([t_i, t_{i+1}))$ , and define  $f_\varepsilon := \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} t_i \mathbf{1}_{A_i}$  so that we have  $\sup_{x \in S} |g_\varepsilon(x) - g(x)| \leq \varepsilon$ . From

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu_\alpha(g) - \mu(g)| &\leq |\mu_\alpha(g - g_\varepsilon)| + |\mu_\alpha(g_\varepsilon) - \mu(g_\varepsilon)| + |\mu(g_\varepsilon) - \mu(g)| \\ &\leq \varepsilon + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |t_i| |\mu_\alpha(A_i) - \mu(A_i)| + \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

we get

$$\limsup_\alpha |\mu_\alpha(g) - \mu(g)| < 2\varepsilon.$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, we are done. □

**3.9** (Embedding by Dirac measures). Let  $S$  be a normal space.

- (a)  $S \rightarrow \text{Prob}(S)$  is an embedding.
- (b)  $S \subset \text{Prob}(S)$  is sequentially closed.
- (c)

*Proof.* (a) It uses Urysohn.

(b) It uses (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) of Portmanteau. □

**3.10** (Lévy-Prokhorov metric). Let  $S$  be a metric space, and  $\text{Prob}(S)$  be the set of probability (regular) Borel measures on  $S$ . Define  $\pi : \text{Prob}(S) \times \text{Prob}(S) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that

$$\pi(\mu, \nu) := \inf\{\alpha > 0 : \mu(A) \leq \nu(A^\alpha) + \alpha, \nu(A) \leq \mu(A^\alpha) + \alpha, \forall A \in \mathcal{B}(S)\},$$

where  $A^\alpha$  is the  $\alpha$ -neighborhood of  $A$ .

- (a)  $\pi$  is a metric.
- (b)  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  in  $\pi$  implies  $\mu_n \Rightarrow \mu$ .
- (c)  $\mu_\alpha \Rightarrow \mu$  implies  $\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \mu$  in  $\pi$ , if  $S$  is separable.

- (d)  $(S, d)$  is separable if and only if  $(\text{Prob}(S), \pi)$  is separable.
- (e)  $(S, d)$  is compact if and only if  $(\text{Prob}(S), \pi)$  is compact
- (f)  $(S, d)$  is complete if and only if  $(\text{Prob}(S), \pi)$  is complete.

*Proof.* (c) □

**3.11** (Prokhorov's theorem). Let  $S$  be a normal space. Let  $\text{Prob}(S)$  be the space of probability measures on  $S$  endowed with the topology of weak convergence.

- (a) The relative compactness implies the tightness if  $S$  is Polish.
- (b) The tightness implies the relative compactness.

*Proof.* (a) Fix a complete metric  $d$  on  $S$ . For each entourage  $E$ , we want to find a finite union of closed  $E$ -neighborhood that is arbitrarily full. And we require the countable fundamental system of uniformity.

(b) □

### 3.3 Characteristic functions

**3.12** (Characteristic functions). Let  $\mu$  be a probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then, the *characteristic function* of  $\mu$  is defined by

$$\varphi(t) := Ee^{itX} = \int e^{itx} d\mu(x).$$

Note that  $\varphi(t) = \hat{\mu}(-t)$  where  $\hat{\mu}$  is the Fourier transform of  $\mu \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ .

- (a)  $\varphi \in C_b(\mathbb{R})$ .

**3.13** (Inversion formula). Let  $\mu$  be a probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\varphi$  its characteristic function.

- (a) For  $a < b$ , we have

$$\mu((a, b)) + \frac{1}{2}\mu(\{a, b\}) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-T}^T \frac{e^{-ita} - e^{-itb}}{it} \varphi(t) dt.$$

- (b) For  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\mu(\{a\}) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T e^{-ita} \varphi(t) dt$$

- (c) If  $\varphi \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ , then  $\mu$  has density

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int e^{-itx} \varphi(t) dt$$

in  $C_0(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

**3.14** (Lévy's continuity theorem). The continuity theorem provides with a tool to verify the weak convergence in terms of characteristic functions. Let  $\mu_n$  and  $\mu$  be probability distributions on  $\mathbb{R}$  with characteristic functions  $\varphi_n$  and  $\varphi$ .

- (a) If  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  weakly, then  $\varphi_n \rightarrow \varphi$  pointwise.
- (b) If  $\varphi_n \rightarrow \varphi$  pointwise and  $\varphi$  is continuous at zero, then  $(\mu_n)_n$  is tight and  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  weakly.



*Proof.* (a) For each  $t$ ,

$$\varphi_n(t) = \int e^{itx} d\mu_n(x) \rightarrow \int e^{itx} d\mu(x) = \varphi(t)$$

because  $e^{itx} \in C_b(\mathbb{R})$ .

(b)

□

### 3.15 (Criteria for characteristic functions). Bochner's theorem and Polya's criterion

There are two ways to represent a measure: A measure  $\mu$  is absolutely continuous iff its distribution  $F$  is absolutely continuous iff its density  $f$  is integrable. So, the fourier transform of an absolutely continuous measure is just the fourier transform of  $L^1$  functions.

## 3.4 Moments

moment problem

moment generating function defined on  $|t| < \delta$

## Exercises

**3.16.** Let  $\varphi_n$  be characteristic functions of probability measures  $\mu_n$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ . If there is a continuous function  $\varphi$  such that  $\varphi_n = \varphi$  on  $n^{-1}\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\mu_n$  converges weakly.

**3.17** (Convergence determining class).

**3.18** (Vague convergence). Let  $S$  be a locally compact Hausdorff space.

- (a)  $\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \mu$  vaguely if and only if  $\int g d\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \int g d\mu$  for all  $g \in C_c(S)$ .
- (b)  $\mu_\alpha \rightarrow \mu$  weakly if and only if vaguely.
- (c)  $\delta_n \rightarrow 0$  vaguely but not weakly. (escaping to infinity)

*Proof.*

□

## **Part II**

# **Discrete stochastic process**

## Chapter 4

# Limit theorems

### 4.1 Laws of large numbers

Our purpose is to find appropriate  $a_n$  and slowly growing  $b_n$  such that  $(S_n - a_n)/b_n \rightarrow 0$  in probability or almost surely.

**4.1** (Kolmogorov-Feller theorem). Let  $X_i$  be an uncorrelated sequence of random variables such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_i xP(|X_i| > x) = 0.$$

This condition is called the *Kolmogorov-Feller* condition. Let  $Y_{n,i} := X_i \mathbf{1}_{|X_i| \leq c_n}$ .

(a) We have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(S_n \neq T_n) = 0$$

if  $n \lesssim c_n$ .

(b) We have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\left|\frac{T_n - ET_n}{b_n}\right| > \varepsilon\right) = 0$$

if  $nc_n \lesssim b_n^2$ .

(c) We have

$$\frac{S_n - ET_n}{n} \rightarrow 0$$

in probability.

*Proof.* Write  $g(x) := \sup_i xP(|X_i| > x)$  so that  $g(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

(a) It follows from

$$P(S_n \neq T_n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(|X_i| > c_n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{c_n} g(c_n) \lesssim g(c_n).$$

(b) We write

$$\begin{aligned}
P\left(\left|\frac{T_n - ET_n}{b_n}\right| > \varepsilon\right) &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} E|T_n - ET_n|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n E|Y_{n,i} - EY_{n,i}|^2 \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n E|X_i \mathbf{1}_{|X_i| \leq c_n}|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^{c_n} 2xP(|X_i| > x) dx \\
&\leq \frac{2n}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \int_0^{c_n} g(x) dx \\
&= \frac{2nc_n}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \int_0^1 g(c_n x) dx \\
&\lesssim \int_0^1 g(c_n x) dx.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $g(x) \leq x$  and  $g(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , the function  $g$  is bounded. By the bounded convergence theorem, we get  $\int_0^1 g(c_n x) dx \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

**4.2 (St. Petersburg paradox).** We want see the asymptotic behavior of the partial sums  $S_n$  of i.i.d. random variables  $X_i$  such that  $E|X_i| = \infty$ . Let

$$P(X_n = 2^m) = 2^{-m} \quad \text{for } m \geq 1.$$

Let  $Y_{n,i} := X_i \mathbf{1}_{|X_i| \leq c_n}$ .

(a) We have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(S_n \neq T_n) = 0$$

if  $n \ll c_n$ .

(b) We have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\left|\frac{T_n - ET_n}{b_n}\right| > \varepsilon\right) = 0$$

if  $nc_n \ll b_n^2$ .

(c) We have

$$\frac{S_n - n \log_2 n}{n^{1+\varepsilon}} \rightarrow 0$$

in probability for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

*Proof.* (a) It follows from

$$P(S_n \neq T_n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(X_i \neq Y_{n,i}) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(|X_i| > c_n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2}{c_n} = \frac{2n}{c_n}.$$

(b) It follows from

$$\begin{aligned}
P\left(\left|\frac{T_n - ET_n}{b_n}\right| > \varepsilon\right) &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} E|T_n - ET_n|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n E|Y_{n,i} - EY_{n,i}|^2 \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n E|X_i \mathbf{1}_{|X_i| \leq c_n}|^2 \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 b_n^2} n \cdot 2c_n
\end{aligned}$$

□

4.3 (Borel-Cantelli lemmas).

4.4 (Head runs).

4.5 (Strong laws of large numbers for  $L^1$ ). Proof by Ettemadi

Random series proof

## 4.2 Renewal theory

## 4.3 Central limit theorems

4.6 (Central limit theorem for  $L^3$ ). Replacement method by Lindeman and Lyapunov

4.7 (Lindeberg-Feller theorem). Let  $X_i$  be independent random variables such that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{s_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n E|X_i - EX_i|^2 \mathbf{1}_{|X_i - EX_i| > \varepsilon s_n} = 0.$$

This condition is called the *Lindeberg-Feller* condition. Let  $Y_{n,i} := \frac{X_i - EX_i}{s_n}$ .

(a) We have

$$|Ee^{it(S_n - ES_n)/s_n} - e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2}| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |Ee^{itY_{n,i}} - e^{-\frac{1}{2}E(tY_{n,i})^2}|.$$

(b) For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have an estimate

$$\left|Ee^{itY} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2\right)\right| \lesssim_t \varepsilon EY^2 + EY^2 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| > \varepsilon}$$

for all random variables  $Y$  such that  $EY^2 < \infty$ .

(c) For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have an estimate

$$\left|e^{-\frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2\right)\right| \lesssim_t EY^2(\varepsilon^2 + EY^2 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| > \varepsilon}).$$

for all random variables  $Y$  such that  $EY^2 < \infty$ .

(d)

*Proof.* (a) Note

$$Ee^{it(S_n - ES_n)/s_n} = \prod_{i=1}^n Ee^{itY_{n,i}} \quad \text{and} \quad e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2} = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\frac{1}{2}E(tY_{n,i})^2}.$$

(b) Since

$$\left| e^{ix} - \left(1 + ix - \frac{1}{2}x^2\right) \right| = \left| \frac{i^3}{2} \int_0^x (x-y)^2 e^{iy} dy \right| \leq \min\left\{\frac{1}{6}|x|^3, x^2\right\}$$

for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| Ee^{itY} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2\right) \right| &\leq E \left| e^{itY} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}(tY)^2\right) \right| \\ &\lesssim_t E \min\{|Y|^3, Y^2\} \\ &\leq E|Y|^3 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| \leq \varepsilon} + EY^2 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| > \varepsilon} \\ &\leq \varepsilon EY^2 + EY^2 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| > \varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

(c) Since

$$|e^{-x} - (1-x)| = \left| \int_0^x (x-y)e^{-y} dy \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

for  $x \geq 0$ , we have

$$\left| e^{-\frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}E(tY)^2\right) \right| \lesssim_t (EY^2)^2 \leq EY^2(\varepsilon^2 + EY^2 \mathbf{1}_{|Y| > \varepsilon}).$$

□

**4.8.** Let  $X_n : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be independent random variables. If there is  $\delta > 0$  such that the *Lyapunov condition*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{s_n^{2+\delta}} \sum_{i=1}^n E|X_i - EX_i|^{2+\delta} = 0$$

is satisfied, then

$$\frac{S_n - ES_n}{s_n} \rightarrow N(0, 1)$$

weakly, where  $S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  and  $s_n^2 := VS_n$ .

Berry-Esseen inequality

## Exercises

**4.9** (Bernstein polynomial). Let  $X_n \sim \text{Bern}(x)$  be i.i.d. random variables. Since  $S_n \sim \text{Binom}(n, x)$ ,  $E(S_n/n) = x$ ,  $V(S_n/n) = x(1-x)/n$ . The  $L^2$  law of large numbers implies  $E(|S_n/n - x|^2) \rightarrow 0$ . Define  $f_n(x) := E(f(S_n/n))$ . Then, by the uniform continuity  $|x - y| < \delta$  implies  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$ ,

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq E(|f(S_n/n) - f(x)|) \leq \varepsilon + 2\|f\|P(|S_n/n - x| \geq \delta) \rightarrow \varepsilon.$$

**4.10** (High-dimensional cube is almost a sphere). Let  $X_n \sim \text{Unif}(-1, 1)$  be i.i.d. random variables and  $Y_n := X_n^2$ . Then,  $E(Y_n) = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $V(Y_n) \leq 1$ .

**4.11** (Coupon collector's problem).  $T_n := \inf\{t : |\{X_i\}_i| = n\}$  Since  $X_{n,k} \sim \text{Geo}(1 - \frac{k-1}{n})$ ,  $E(X_{n,k}) = (1 - \frac{k-1}{n})^{-1}$ ,  $V(X_{n,k}) \leq (1 - \frac{k-1}{n})^{-2}$ .  $E(T_n) \sim n \log n$

**4.12** (An occupancy problem).

**4.13.** Find the probability that arbitrarily chosen positive integers are coprime.

Poisson convergence, law of rare events, or weak law of small numbers (a single sample makes a significant attribution)

## Chapter 5

# Martingales

### 5.1 Submartingales

### 5.2 Martingale convergence theorem

5.1 (Doob's upcrossing inequality). (a)

5.2 (Martingale convergence theorems). (a)

5.3. (a)

### 5.3 Convergence in $L^p$ and uniform integrability

### 5.4 Optional stopping theorem

## **Chapter 6**

# **Markov chains**



## **Part III**

# **Continuous stochastic processes**

## Chapter 7

# Brownian motion

### 7.1 Kolmogorov extension

**7.1 (Kolmogorov extension theorem).** A *rectangle* is a finite product  $\prod_{i=1}^n A_i \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  of measurable  $A_i \subset \mathbb{R}$ , and *cylinder* is a product  $A^* \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$  where  $A^*$  is a rectangle. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the semi-algebra containing  $\emptyset$  and all cylinders in  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ . Let  $(\mu_n)_n$  be a sequence of probability measures on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that satisfies *consistency condition*

$$\mu_{n+1}(A^* \times \mathbb{R}) = \mu_n(A^*)$$

for any rectangles  $A^* \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , and define a set function  $\mu_0 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  by  $\mu_0(A) = \mu_n(A^*)$  and  $\mu_0(\emptyset) = 0$ .

- (a)  $\mu_0$  is well-defined.
- (b)  $\mu_0$  is finitely additive.
- (c)  $\mu_0$  is countably additive if  $\mu_0(B_n) \rightarrow 0$  for cylinders  $B_n \downarrow \emptyset$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- (d) If  $\mu_0(B_n) \geq \delta$ , then we can find decreasing  $D_n \subset B_n$  such that  $\mu_0(D_n) \geq \frac{\delta}{2}$  and  $D_n = D_n^* \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$  for a compact rectangle  $D_n^*$ .
- (e) If  $\mu_0(B_n) \geq \delta$ , then  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$  is non-empty.

*Proof.* (d) Let  $B_n = B_n^* \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$  for a rectangle  $B_n^* \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . By the inner regularity of  $\mu_{r(n)}$ , there is a compact rectangle  $C_n^* \subset B_n^*$  such that

$$\mu_0(B_n \setminus C_n) = \mu_{r(n)}(B_n^* \setminus C_n^*) < \frac{\delta}{2^{n+1}}.$$

Let  $C_n := C_n^* \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and define  $D_n := \bigcap_{i=1}^n C_i = D_n^* \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ . Then,

$$\mu_0(B_n \setminus D_n) \leq \mu_0\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_n \setminus C_i\right) \leq \mu_0\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i \setminus C_i\right) < \frac{\delta}{2},$$

which implies  $\mu_0(D_n) \geq \frac{\delta}{2}$ .

(e) Take any sequence  $(\omega_n)_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that  $\omega_n \in D_n$ . Since each  $D_n^* \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is compact and non-empty, by diagonal argument, we have a subsequence  $(\omega_k)_k$  such that  $\omega_k$  is pointwise convergent, and its limit is contained in  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} D_i \subset \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i = \emptyset$ , which is a contradiction that leads  $\mu_0(B_n) \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

## **Part IV**

# **Stochastic calculus**