

Problem 4.1 a) Let $\mu_n = \mathcal{N}(0, n)$ be the normal distribution with mean 0 and variance n on \mathbb{R} , ν the 0-measure (i.e., $\nu(A) = 0$ for all $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$), λ the Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R} . Check that $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\nu} \nu$ but the sequence (μ_n) does not converge weakly; furthermore, $\sqrt{2\pi n}\mu_n \xrightarrow{\nu} \lambda$.

b) For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ let X_n be geometric with parameter $p_n \in (0, 1)$, i.e., $\mathbb{P}(X_n = k) = p_n(1 - p_n)^k$, $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Under which conditions on the sequence $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ do we have $X_n/n \Rightarrow \text{Exp}(\alpha)$ for $\alpha > 0$?

c) Let X_1, X_2, \dots i.i.d. $\text{Exp}(1)$, put $M_n := \max\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$. The *Gumbel distribution* Gu (named after Emil J. Gumbel, 1891–1966) has distribution function $y \mapsto \exp(-e^{-y})$, $y \in \mathbb{R}$. Check that $M_n - \log n \Rightarrow \text{Gu}$.

[Hint: $\mathbb{P}(M_n \leq a) = \mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq a)^n$.]

Problem 4.2 Let $P \in \mathcal{M}_1([0, \infty))$ with $m_P := \int x P(dx) \in (0, \infty)$, define a probability measure $\widehat{P}(A) \in \mathcal{M}_1([0, \infty))$ via

$$\widehat{P}(A) := \frac{1}{m_P} \int_A x P(dx), \quad A \in \mathcal{B}([0, \infty)).$$

\widehat{P} is the so-called *size-biased* distribution corresponding to P .

Let $(X_i)_{i \in I}$ non-negative real random variables with $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 1$ for all $i \in I$, $P_i := \mathcal{L}(X_i)$. Check that

$$\{\widehat{P}_i : i \in I\} \text{ tight} \iff \{X_i : i \in I\} \text{ uniformly integrable.}$$

Problem 4.3 Show that the Stone-Weierstraß theorem does in general not hold when E is not compact.

[Hint: Consider $E = \mathbb{R}$, construct a countable algebra $C' \subset C_b(\mathbb{R})$ so that C' separates points in \mathbb{R} , then use that $C_b(\mathbb{R})$ is not separable.]

Problem 4.4 Let X and Y be independent, real-valued random variables. Show that $X+Y \stackrel{d}{=} X$ implies $\mathbb{P}(Y = 0) = 1$.

[Hint: Consider the characteristic functions of X and of $X + Y$.]

Problem 4.5* (Moment problem) Let X be a real-valued random variable with

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} (\mathbb{E}[|X|^n])^{1/n} < \infty.$$

Check that the characteristic function φ_X is analytic. Furthermore, the distribution of X is determined by its moments: If Y is a real-valued random variable with $\mathbb{E}[Y^n] = \mathbb{E}[X^n]$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $Y \stackrel{d}{=} X$.

[Hint: You can use the fact that $\mathbb{E}[|X|^n] < \infty$ implies that $\varphi_X \in C^n(\mathbb{R})$ with $\frac{d^n}{dt^n} \varphi(t) = \mathbb{E}[(iX)^n e^{itX}]$.]

Problem 4.6* (The Prohorov metric generates the topology of weak convergence.)

Let (E, d) be a metric space, for $B \subset F$, $\varepsilon > 0$ put $B^\varepsilon := \{y \in F : d(y, B) < \varepsilon\}$. For $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{M}_1(E)$ define

$$d_P(\mu, \nu) := \inf \{ \varepsilon > 0 : \mu(F) \leq \nu(F^\varepsilon) + \varepsilon \text{ for all closed } F \subset E \} (\geq 0).$$

a) Check that d_P is a metric on $\mathcal{M}_1(E)$, i.e.,

i) $d_P(\mu, \nu) = d_P(\nu, \mu)$

ii) $d_P(\mu, \nu) = 0$ if and only if $\mu = \nu$

iii) $d_P(\nu, \nu') \leq d_P(\nu, \mu) + d_P(\mu, \nu')$

b) Assume that (E, d) is a complete, separable metric space. Show that then $\mu_n \xrightarrow{w} \mu \iff d_P(\mu_n, \mu) \rightarrow 0$.

[Hints: a) Note that $E \setminus F^\varepsilon$ is closed and $(E \setminus F^\varepsilon)^\varepsilon \subset E \setminus F$; closed subsets are a \cap -stable generator of $\mathcal{B}(E)$; for $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$, $\overline{F^\varepsilon}^\delta = F^{\varepsilon+\delta}$. b) Use the Portmanteau theorem, for “ \Rightarrow ” use also that a weakly convergent sequence in $\mathcal{M}_1(E)$ is tight.]