

Due Wed. Feb 29 in class. Problems with (\*\*) are for extra credits only.

1. Read lecture notes 3.1 – 3.2.
2. Recall the definition of convergence in probability: we say  $X_n$  converges to  $X$ , if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = 0, \text{ for all } \epsilon > 0. \quad (1)$$

Consider another condition:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \neq X) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Show that (2) implies (1), but the opposite is not necessarily true without further assumption.

3. Let  $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a stationary sequence of random variables with covariance function  $\varphi$ , so that  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \varphi(i - j)$ . Write  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ . Show that

$$\text{Var}(S_n) = \sum_{i=-n+1}^{n-1} (n - |i|)\varphi(i) = n\varphi(0) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (n - i)\varphi(i).$$

4. Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be uncorrelated random variables such that  $\mathbb{E}X_i = \mu_i$  and  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \text{Var}(X_i)/i = 0$ . Consider  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , and  $\nu_n = \mathbb{E}S_n/n$ . Show that  $S_n/n - \nu_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $L^2$  and in probability.

Hint: Compute  $\text{Var}(S_n)$  and find an upper bound for  $\text{Var}(S_n)/n^2$ . You may use the fact that for any sequence of real numbers  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = a.$$

5. (2016 April Prelim) Consider i.i.d. Poisson random variables  $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  with parameter  $\lambda > 0$ . Consider  $Y_n := X_n X_{2n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $T_n := Y_1 + \dots + Y_n$ .

- (a) Compute  $\mathbb{E}T_n$ .
- (b) Find an explicit constant  $C$  such that  $\text{Var}(T_n) \leq Cn$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Explain clearly how you determine the constant  $C$ . The constant does not have to be optimal and may depend on  $\lambda$ . However, it must be independent from  $n$ .

Hint:  $\{Y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is not a stationary sequence, so the calculation of  $\text{Var}(S_n)$  before cannot be used. However, the calculation of  $\text{Var}(T_n)$  is not much more complicated, and here we need only an upper bound instead of an exact expression.

- (c) Find a sequence of real numbers  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , such that

$$\frac{T_n}{a_n} \rightarrow 1 \text{ in probability.}$$

Justify your result.