

Due Fri. Apr. 7 in class.

1. Read lecture notes Chapter 4.1.
2. Let $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. standard exponential random variables. That is, $\mathbb{P}(X_1 > x) = e^{-x}, x > 0$. Show that

$$\max_{i=1, \dots, n} X_i - \log n$$

converges weakly as $n \rightarrow \infty$ to the so-called Gumbel distribution, which has cumulative distribution function $F(x) = \exp(-e^{-x}), x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Hint: prove by definition.

3. (Prelim April 2014 (4a)) Let $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. random variables distributed uniformly in $(0, \theta)$, for some $\theta > 0$. That is, $\mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq x) = x/\theta, x \in (0, \theta)$. Set $M_n := \max_{i=1, \dots, n} X_i$. Prove that

$$Z_n := n \left(\theta - \frac{n+1}{n} M_n \right)$$

converges weakly to a non-degenerate distribution, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Identify the limit distribution.

Hint: prove by definition.

4. (Prelim May 2015, 3(a)) Let $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. random variables with probability density function, for some fixed $\theta > 0$,

$$p(x) = \theta(\theta + 1)x^{\theta-1}(1-x), 0 < x < 1.$$

Consider

$$T_n := \frac{2S_n/n}{1 - S_n/n}, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Show that

$$\sqrt{n}(T_n - \theta) \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2(\theta)),$$

and identify the expression of $\sigma^2(\theta)$.

Hint: first verify $\mathbb{E}X_1 = \theta/(\theta + 2)$. Then $\sqrt{n}(T_n - \theta)$ can be rewritten in the form of

$$\sqrt{n}(T_n - \theta) = \frac{S_n - \mathbb{E}S_n}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot Z_n$$

for some random variable Z_n .

5. **(Problem for fun and extra credit)** Simulate a sequence of i.i.d. random variables $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, and plot the partial sums S_1, \dots, S_n as a (random) line. Start with $\mathbb{P}(X_i = \pm 1) = 1/2$.
 - (a) How does the plot change as n becomes larger and larger?
 - (b) What about taking other distributions for the steps $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$? Say, Gaussian, exponential, uniform, etc...
 - (c) What happens if each X_i is a Cauchy random variable?

Comment: the sequence $\{S_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is known as a *random walk*.