

Probability Theory 2

Method of characteristic functions

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- **Lévy's continuity theorem**

Let X_n be random variables and ϕ_n their characteristic functions. If

(i) for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi_n(t) = \phi(t)$ exists

(ii) $t \mapsto \phi(t)$ is continuous at $t = 0$

then

$$X_n \xrightarrow{d} X,$$

where ϕ is the characteristic function of X .

- **Cramer-Slutsky theorem**

Let X_n, Y_n, Z_n and X be random variables over the same probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$. If

(i) $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$

(ii) $Y_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} y \in \mathbb{R}$

(iii) $Z_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} z \in \mathbb{R}$

then

$$X_n Y_n + Z_n \xrightarrow{d} X \cdot y + z.$$

- **Central limit theorem**

Let X_n be i.i.d. random variables with $\mu := \mathbb{E}(X_n)$ and $\sigma^2 := \mathbb{D}^2(X_n) < \infty$. Let

$$S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n.$$

Then

$$\frac{S_n - n\mu}{\sqrt{n}\sigma} \xrightarrow{d} X,$$

where $X \sim N(0, 1)$.

- **Some characteristic functions**

$$\text{BIN}(n, p) \quad t \mapsto (1 + p(e^{it} - 1))^n$$

$$\text{POI}(\lambda) \quad t \mapsto \exp(\lambda(e^{it} - 1))$$

$$\text{GEO}(p) \quad t \mapsto \frac{p}{1 - (1-p)e^{it}}$$

$$\text{EXP}(\lambda) \quad t \mapsto \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - it}$$

$$\text{UNI}(a, b) \quad t \mapsto \frac{e^{itb} - e^{ita}}{it(b-a)}$$

$$N(\mu, \sigma^2) \quad t \mapsto \exp\left(it\mu - \frac{t^2\sigma^2}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{CAU}(a, b) \quad t \mapsto \exp(ita - b|t|)$$