ON THE GLIVENKO-CANTELLI THEOREM FOR INFINITE INVARIANT MEASURES¹

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1. Introduction. Let (Ω, α, μ) be a sigma-finite measure space. Let τ be a (i) measure preserving (ii) conservative (iii) ergodic point-transformation on Ω . That is, we assume that: (i) $A \in \Omega$ implies $\tau^{-1}(A) \in \Omega$ and $\mu(\tau^{-1}A) = \mu(A)$; (ii) $A \in \Omega$, $A \cap \tau^{-i}A = \emptyset$ for $i = 1, 2, \cdots$ implies $\mu(A) = 0$; (iii) the invariant sigma-field $\mathfrak{g} = \{A : \tau^{-1}A = A \in \Omega\}$ is trivial, i.e. $A \in \mathfrak{g}$ implies $\mu(A) = 0$ or $\mu(\Omega - A) = 0$. In probability theory, null-recurrent Markov chains and Markov processes satisfying the Harris condition give rise to such transformations (see Harris and Robbins [4], Harris [3], Kakutani and Parry [6]).

Let X_0 , Y_0 be fixed real-valued measurable functions on Ω and let $X_n = X_0 \circ \tau^n$, $Y_r = Y_0 \circ \tau^n$, $n = 1, 2, \cdots$. If s, x, t, y are extended real numbers, let

$$(1.1) F_n^s(x) = 1_{(s,x)} \circ X_n, G_n^t(y) = 1_{(t,y)} \circ Y_n, n = 0, 1, \cdots,$$

and

(1.2)
$$F^{s}(x) = \int_{\Omega} F_{0}^{s}(x) \mu(d\omega), \qquad G^{t}(y) = \int_{\Omega} G_{0}^{t}(y) \mu(d\omega).$$

Our theorem asserts that the ratio $\sum_{k=0}^{n} F_k^{s}(x) / \sum_{k=0}^{n} G_k^{t}(y)$ converges almost everywhere uniformly in (x, y), which is however restricted to a set on which F^s , G^t behave with some moderation.

Theorem 1.1. Let s, t $\varepsilon \bar{R}$ (extended real line). Let C and D be sets in \bar{R} such that for some positive constants c, d

$$(1.3) C = \{x: F^s(x) \le c\}, D = \{y: G^t(y) \ge d\}.$$

Let $B = C \times D$ and

$$(1.4) \quad \Delta_n = \sup_{(x,y) \in B} |(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} F_i^s(x) / \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} G_i^t(y)) - (F^s(x) / G^t(y))|.$$

Then for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\Delta_n=0.$$

We note that Theorem 1 implies the Glivenko-Cantelli theorem (see [9], p. 335, [7], p. 20, Tucker [10]; also Fortet and Mourier [2]). Let μ be a probability measure and let $X_0 = Y_0$. Further set $s = t = -y = -\infty$ and c = d = 1. Then the denominator in the first ratio in (1.4) is simply n and Theorem 1.1 asserts the uniform convergence a.e. of the experimental distribution function $n^{-1}\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} F_i^{-\infty}(x)$ of a strictly stationary ergodic process (X_n) , to the distribution

Received 25 November 1966.

¹ This paper is based on a part of a Ph.D. dissertation written at the Ohio State University under the direction of Professor L. Sucheston to whom the author gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness for advice and encouragement.