

GAME VALUE DISTRIBUTIONS II¹

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1. Summary and introduction. An earlier paper [4] has been concerned with the distribution of the value of perfect information games with random payoffs of a certain very special type: two alternatives were assumed available to each player at every move, and the terminal payoffs were assumed to be iid and uniform. This paper considers a more general class of games, with p and q alternatives available, respectively, for players I and II at every move, and with the terminal payoffs arbitrarily distributed, though still iid. Specifically, consider a two-person zero-sum perfect information game, with player I and player II alternately choosing one of several alternative moves, with n choices to be made in all by each. It is assumed that there are always p and q alternatives available respectively to players I and II. Corresponding to each of the $(pq)^n$ possible sequences of moves, there are $(pq)^n$ payoffs (to player I) $x(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2n})$, where the indices $i_1, i_3, \dots, i_{2n-1}$, each with range $(1, 2, \dots, p)$ indicate the successive alternatives chosen by player I, and the indices $(i_2, i_4, \dots, i_{2n})$, each with range $(1, 2, \dots, q)$, indicate the successive alternatives chosen by player II. The value $v(\{x(i_1, \dots, i_{2n})\})$ of such a game is

$$\max_{i_1} \min_{i_2} \max_{i_3} \min_{i_4} \cdots \max_{i_{2n-1}} \min_{i_{2n}} x(i_1, \dots, i_{2n}).$$

Now replace the $(pq)^n$ numbers $x(i_1, \dots, i_{2n})$ by independent random variables $X(i_1, \dots, i_{2n})$, each with cdf F . This paper is concerned with the limiting behavior of the random values $V_n(F) \equiv v(\{X(i_1, \dots, i_{2n})\})$. The limiting behavior of $V_n(F)$ is investigated in Section 2 for uniform F ($F = U$). Analogous to the results for $p = q = 2$ obtained in [4], the limiting distribution for the sequence $\{V_n(U)\}$ is everywhere continuous and monotone increasing, and satisfies a certain functional equation. Limiting distributions arising from arbitrary F are considered in Section 3. Section 4 is devoted to some results concerning norming sequences and domains of attraction. The final corollary of Section 4 establishes that all of the common cdf's lead to the same limiting distribution.

This study bears a strong resemblance to Gnedenko's [1] study of extremes. Since, in Gnedenko's case, the limiting distributions for $Z_{(n)} = \max(Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$, where Z_n are independent identically distributed random variables, must in effect be limiting distributions for $Z_{(kn)}$ for every positive integer k , Gnedenko's argument involves an infinite sequence of functional equations [1], p. 431, namely, one functional equation for every k . In the present treatment the limiting distributions for $V_n(F)$ must satisfy only the single functional equation (6). It

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may thus be worth noting that even a stronger resemblance would exist between this paper and a study of the limiting distributions for $Z_{(k^n)}$, k fixed.

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2. The limit distribution for uniform payoffs. Define, for $0 \leq z \leq 1$, $\phi(z) = (1 - (1 - z)^q)^p$. Then the cdf for the random value $V_n(F)$ is $\phi^{(n)}[F(x)]$ where $\phi^{(n)}(z)$ is the n th iterate of $\phi(z)$. Also, let a be the interior fixed-point of $\phi(z)$ in $[0, 1]$ (property (A) below), and let $b \equiv \phi'(a) > 1$ be the slope of ϕ at a . Note that ϕ , and therefore a , b , and L_u defined below, are functions of p and q , the number of choices available respectively to players I and II at each move; however, in order to simplify the notation, this functional dependence on p and q will not be made explicit.

For uniform random payoffs ($F = U$) we have the following result concerning the asymptotic behavior of the game value $V_n(U)$.

THEOREM 1. *The sequence $b^n[V_n(U) - a]$ converges in distribution to an everywhere continuous and monotone increasing cdf L_u , where L_u satisfies the functional equation*

$$(1) \quad \phi[L_u(y/b)] = L_u(y) \quad \text{for} \quad -\infty < y < \infty.$$

In Section 3 of [4], Theorem 1 was proven for the special case when $p = q = 2$. Essentially the proof consisted of establishing the following: (i) for each y the sequence $\phi^{(n)}(a + y/b^n)$ is eventually non-decreasing which implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi^{(n)}(a + y/b^n) \equiv L_u(y)$ exists. (ii) The function $L_u(y)$, being the limit of a sequence of functions convex in a neighborhood of $y = 0$, is convex and therefore continuous in a neighborhood of $y = 0$. (iii) The function $L_u(y)$ satisfies $L_u(-\epsilon) < a < L_u(\epsilon)$ for all $\epsilon > 0$. This relation was established by the use of functions λ and μ which bound ϕ , are easily iterated, and tend to simple limit functions under the norming $1/b^n$. With the use of the functional equation (1), results (ii) and (iii) led to the result that $L_u(y)$ is a continuous monotone increasing cdf.

For arbitrary integers $p \geq 2, q \geq 2$ some modification of the proof given in [4] is required. The modifications are necessary as a result of the following two facts: (I) For arbitrary p and q , the sequence $\phi^{(n)}(a + y/b^n)$ is either eventually non-decreasing in n , as it is for $p = q = 2$, or eventually non-increasing; (II) it has only been possible, for arbitrary p and q , to show that the functions μ and λ , defined in (F) of [4], bound ϕ in some neighborhood of a fixed-point a .

The remainder of this section is devoted to the necessary modifications of the argument in [4] required in view of I and II. Recall that capital letters, i.e., (A), (B), \dots , denoted successive steps in the argument of [4]. A starred letter will refer to such a step; this device also is used for equation numbers.

(A) Define, for all $n \geq 1$ and $0 \leq v \leq 1$, $\phi^{(n+1)}(v) = \phi(\phi^{(n)}(v)) = \phi^{(n)}(\phi(v))$; then

- (i) $0 \leq \phi^{(n)}(v) \leq 1$ on $[0, 1]$,
- (ii) $\phi^{(n)}(v)$ is monotone increasing on $[0, 1]$, and

- (iii) $\phi^{(n)}(v)$ is continuous on $[0, 1]$.
- (B) There is a unique number a , $0 < a < 1$, such that, for all $n \geq 1$,
 - (i) $0 < \phi^{(n)}(v) < v$ for $0 < v < a$,
 - (ii) $v < \phi^{(n)}(v) < 1$ for $a < v < 1$, and
 - (iii) $0, a$, and 1 are the only fixed points of $\phi^{(n)}$ on $[0, 1]$.
- (C) By using (B)(i) and (B)(ii) it is easily shown that

$$(2) \quad a \begin{matrix} \leq \\ \geq \end{matrix} m \text{ iff } [1 - ((q(p - 1))/(pq - 1))^p]^q \begin{matrix} \leq \\ \geq \end{matrix} 1 - (q(p - 1))/(pq - 1)$$

where m is defined as in (C)*. However, equality cannot hold in (2) for integers $p \geq 2, q \geq 2$ since the polynomial $(1 - x^p)^q = 1 - x$ has no rational roots in the open interval $(0, 1)$.

For the case when $a < m$ in (2), the only modifications required are given below in (F) and (G). The other case, $a > m$, requires, in addition, the further modifications below.

(D) In (D)*, note that $b \equiv \phi'(a)$ no longer necessarily equals $4a$; also, reverse the inequalities in (10*), (12*), and (13*) and replace the range $[-a, m - a]$ in (11*) and (12*) by the range $[m - a, 1 - a]$.

(E) As in (E)*, except for the third sentence, which is modified to: then, according to (D), there exists n_0 such that, for $n > n_0$, $\phi^{(n+1)}(a + y/b^{n+1}) \leq \phi^{(n)}(a + y/b^n)$, i.e., $\phi^{(n)}(a + y/b^n)$ is eventually monotone non-increasing.

(F) Change (F)(i)* to read $\lambda(v) \leq \phi(v) \leq \mu(v)$ in some neighborhood (\underline{v}, \bar{v}) of $v = a$. This relation follows by a simple application of the mean value theorem and the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(a) &= \phi(a) = \mu(a) = a, \\ \lambda'(a) &= \phi'(a) = \mu'(a) = b, \\ \lambda''(a) &< \phi''(a) < \mu''(a). \end{aligned}$$

The first two of the above relations follow directly from the definitions, while the third seems to require considerable algebraic manipulations: By direct substitution of the expressions for $\lambda''(a)$, $\phi''(a)$, and $\mu''(a)$ in the third relation we have that $\lambda''(a) < \phi''(a) < \mu''(a)$ iff

$$(3) \quad -b(b - 1)/(1 - a) < b[q(p - 1)a^{-1/p} - pq + 1]/(1 - a) < b(b - 1)/a.$$

By using the relation $b = pqa(a^{-1/p} - 1)/(1 - a)$ (and the relation $1 - a^{1/p} = (1 - a)^q$ when simplifying the left inequality) the left and right inequalities in (3) can be shown to hold iff

$$(4) \quad a < 1 - (p)^{-(q-1)^{-1}} \quad \text{and} \quad (q)^{-p/(p-1)} < a,$$

respectively. Then, using the property (see (B)) $a \leq x$ iff $x \leq \phi(x)$, the inequalities in (4) are equivalent to

$$[1 - (p)^{-(q-1)^{-1}}]^{1/p} < 1 - (p)^{-q/(q-1)} \quad \text{and} \quad [1 - (q)^{-p/(p-1)}]^{1/q} < 1 - (q)^{-p/(p-1)}.$$

Finally, these inequalities can be established for $p \geq 2, q \geq 2$ by expanding the

natural logarithm of each side and noticing the term by term dominance by the series on the right side of the inequalities.

(G) In (G)*, define the neighborhood $J = (y^-, y^+) \cap (y - a, \bar{v} - a) = (y_l, y_u)$ where y^-, y^+ are defined in (19*). Change the range $[0, 1]$ to (y_l, y_u) in (16*), (17*), (22*), (25*), and (26*).

(I) In (I)*, replace 'convex' by 'concave'; reverse all inequalities, and replace in the last paragraph the interval $[0, m]$ by the interval $[m, 1]$.

(J) In (J)*, replace 'convex' by 'concave', reverse all inequalities except $n > n_0$, and replace 'non-decreasing' by 'non-increasing' in the second sentence.

3. Limit distributions. In this section limit distributions will be considered for game values $V_n(F)$, where, as before, F represents the common distribution of the random payoffs.

For cdf's $G, \{G_n\}$ the symbol $G_n \rightarrow G$ will indicate convergence in distribution, i.e. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_n = G$ for all continuity points of G . Also, all cdf's are taken to be everywhere continuous from the right.

DEFINITION 1. (Gnedenko). The cdf's $G_1(x)$ and $G_2(x)$ are said to be of the same type if, for some constants α and $\beta > 0$, $G_1(x) = G_2(\beta x + \alpha)$ for $-\infty < x < \infty$.

DEFINITION 2. A cdf F will be said to belong to the domain of attraction of a non-degenerate cdf L (denoted by $F \in \mathfrak{D}(L)$) if there exists a sequence of constants $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0), n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, such that $\phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \rightarrow L(y)$.

DEFINITION 3. The non-degenerate cdf L will be said to be a limit distribution if $\mathfrak{D}(L)$ is not empty.

Let \mathfrak{L}^* be a suitable set of non-degenerate cdf's that satisfy

$$(5) \quad L(-\epsilon) < a \leq L(\epsilon) \quad \text{for all } \epsilon > 0,$$

and contains exactly one member of every possible type. Without loss of generality, consider the problem of characterizing the class \mathfrak{L} of limit distributions contained in \mathfrak{L}^* . The actual members of \mathfrak{L}^* are not specified at this point to allow the simplest possible description of \mathfrak{L} in the subsequent argument.

THEOREM 2. The cdf $L \in \mathfrak{L}$ iff there exists a constant $\beta, 0 < \beta \leq 1$, such that

$$(6) \quad \phi[L(\beta y)] = L(y) \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty.$$

PROOF. First, suppose that $L \in \mathfrak{L}$. Then by definition there exists a cdf F and a sequence $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0)$ for which

$$(7) \quad \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \rightarrow L(y).$$

Define the function $G(y)$ by

$$(8) \quad G(y) = \phi^{-1}[L(y)].$$

It is easily seen from property (A) of ϕ that $G(y)$ is a non-degenerate cdf. Then, using the continuity of ϕ , it follows from (7) and (8) that

$$(9) \quad \phi^{(n)}[F(b_{n+1}y + a_{n+1})] \rightarrow G(y).$$

Then from (7), (9) and Theorem 1 [2], p. 40, it follows that G is of the same type as L , i.e., there are constants $\beta > 0$, α for which $G(y) = L(\beta y + \alpha)$ for $-\infty < y < \infty$. Therefore (8) yields

$$(10) \quad \phi[L(\beta y + \alpha)] = L(y) \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty.$$

Setting $y = 0$ in (10) gives

$$\phi[L(\alpha)] = L(0) \geq a \Rightarrow L(\alpha) \geq a \Rightarrow \alpha \geq 0,$$

where the first implication follows from property (B) of ϕ , and the second from (5). Similarly, setting $y = -\alpha/\beta$ in (10) gives

$$\phi[L(0)] = L(-\alpha/\beta) \geq a \Rightarrow \alpha \leq 0,$$

where the implication follows from (5) and $\beta > 0$. Hence, expression (10) reduces to expression (6). Now, suppose that $\beta > 1$ in (6). Then for $y < 0$, $L(\beta y) \leq L(y)$. Property (B) of ϕ then implies that $L(y) \geq a$, which is a contradiction of (5).

Conversely, suppose that a cdf L satisfies (6) with $0 < \beta \leq 1$. Then n -fold iteration of (6) gives $\phi^{(n)}[L(\beta^n y)] = L(y)$ for $-\infty < y < \infty$; $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. Hence, in view of Definition 2, $L \in \mathfrak{D}(L)$; this is seen by letting $F = L$, $b_n = \beta^n$, and $a_n = 0$.

A more detailed description of \mathfrak{L} is provided by the following two lemmas.

LEMMA 1. *Define*

$$\begin{aligned} L^*(y) &= 1 \quad \text{for } y \geq 1 \\ &= a \quad \text{for } 0 \leq y < 1 \\ &= 0 \quad \text{for } y < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then L^* is the only member of \mathfrak{L} which satisfies (6) for $\beta = 1$.

PROOF. The proof follows immediately since the points 0, a , and 1 are the only fixed-points of $\phi(x)$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Let $\mathfrak{L}' = \mathfrak{L} - \{L^*\}$, and define the following three subclasses of \mathfrak{L}' :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}_I &= \{L \in \mathfrak{L}' \mid 0 < L(y) < a \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < 0, \quad a < L(y) < 1 \\ &\quad \text{for } 0 < y < \infty, \quad L(-0) = a = L(0)\}; \\ (11) \quad \mathfrak{L}_{II} &= \{L \in \mathfrak{L}' \mid 0 < L(y) < a \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < 0, \\ &\quad L(-0) = a, \quad L(0) = 1\}; \\ \mathfrak{L}_{III} &= \{L \in \mathfrak{L}' \mid a < L(y) < 1 \quad \text{for } 0 < y < \infty, \\ &\quad L(-0) = 0, \quad L(0) = a\}. \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 2. $\mathfrak{L}' = \mathfrak{L}_I \cup \mathfrak{L}_{II} \cup \mathfrak{L}_{III}$.

PROOF. Let L be any member of \mathfrak{L}' . Then by Theorem 2 and Lemma 1, $\phi^{(n)}[L(\beta^n y)] = L(y)$ for $-\infty < y < \infty$ and some β , $0 < \beta < 1$. The fact that

(property (B)) $\phi^{(n)}(x) = 0$ or 1 iff $x = 0$ or 1 , respectively, then leads to the following relations:

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} L(y) = 1 \quad \text{for some } y > 0 &\Rightarrow L(0) = 1; \\ L(y) = 0 \quad \text{for some } y < 0 &\Rightarrow L(-0) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$(13) \quad L(y) > a \quad \text{for } y > 0,$$

for, if not the functional equation $\phi^{(n)}[L(y)] = L(y/\beta^n)$ for $0 < \beta < 1$; $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ implies that $L(\infty) = a < 1$.

From the fact that

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi^{(n)}(x) &= 0 \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x < a \\ &= a \quad \text{for } x = a \\ &= 1 \quad \text{for } a < x \leq 1, \end{aligned}$$

the functional equations $\phi^{(n)}[L(\beta^n y)] = L(y)$, for some $0 < \beta < 1$; $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ lead to the following relations:

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} L(y) < 1 \quad \text{for some } y > 0 &\Rightarrow L(+0) = a; \\ L(y) > 0 \quad \text{for some } y < 0 &\Rightarrow L(-0) = a. \end{aligned}$$

Since \mathcal{L}' contains only non-degenerate cdf's relations (12), (13), and (15) establish the lemma.

In the remainder of this section a characterization of \mathcal{L} will be given in terms of the limiting cdf L_u . For any cdf L define the function $C_L(y)$ as

$$(16) \quad C_L(y) = L_u^{-1}[L(y)] \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty.$$

Since L_u is everywhere monotone-increasing and continuous (Theorem 1) $C_L(y)$ is well-defined for all values of y for which $0 < L(y) < 1$. For values of y for which $L(y) = 0$ or 1 define $C_L(y) = -\infty$ or $+\infty$, respectively.

THEOREM 3. *A non-degenerate cdf $L \in \mathcal{L}$ iff there exists a constant β , $0 < \beta \leq 1$, for which*

$$(17) \quad bC_L(\beta y) = C_L(y) \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty.$$

PROOF. First, let L be any non-degenerate cdf and suppose there is a constant β , $0 < \beta \leq 1$, for which (17) holds. Then the functional equations for L_u and L (expressions (1) and (6), respectively) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi[L(\beta y)] &\equiv \phi[L_u(C_L(\beta y))] = \phi[L_u(C_L(y)/b)] \\ &= L_u[C_L(y)] \equiv L(y) \quad \text{for } -\infty < y < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, from Theorem 2, $L \in \mathcal{L}$.

Conversely, suppose that $L \in \mathcal{L}$. Then, relation (1) and Theorem 2 give, for

$-\infty < y < \infty$, $\phi[L_u(C_L(y)/b)] = L_u[C_L(y)]$ and $\phi[L_u(C_L(\beta y))] = L_u[C_L(y)]$. Thus, $L_u(C_L(y)/b) = L_u(C_L(\beta y))$ follows from the monotonicity of ϕ . Relation (17) then follows from the monotonicity of L_u .

By setting $\beta = (1/b)^{1/\gamma}$ in expression (17) of Theorem 3, the following two parameter family ($\gamma > 0, \tau > 0$) of cdf's is seen to belong to \mathcal{L}_I :

$$\left\{ L_{\gamma, \tau}(y) = L_u[C_{\gamma, \tau}(y)] \mid C_{\gamma, \tau}(y) = \begin{matrix} \tau y^\gamma & \text{for } y > 0 \\ -|y|^\gamma & \text{for } y < 0 \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

4. Domains of attraction. The results in this section concerning domains of attraction for limiting distributions of $V_n(F)$ are similar to results obtained by Gnedenko [1] in his study of extremes; Lemma 3 and Theorem 5 given below being the analogues respectively of Lemma 4 and the sufficiency part of Theorem 5 in [1].

LEMMA 3. *The cdf $F \in \mathcal{D}(L)$, for $L \in \mathcal{L}$, iff there exists a sequence of constants $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0); n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, for which*

$$(18) \quad b^n[F(b_n y + a_n) - a] \rightarrow C_L(y), \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

at all continuity points of $C_L(y)$, where, as before, $C_L(y) \equiv L_u^{-1}[L(y)]$.

PROOF. Let y be any continuity point of $C_L(y)$, or equivalently any continuity point of $L(y)$ since L_u is continuous.

CASE 1. $0 < L(y) < 1$. For this case $-\infty < C_L(y) < \infty$. Then L_u continuous and monotone-increasing implies that for any $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$(19) \quad L_u[C_L(y)] - \epsilon < L_u[C_L(y) - \delta] < L_u[C_L(y) + \delta] < L_u[C_L(y)] + \epsilon.$$

Suppose now that (18) holds for some cdf F and some sequence $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0)$. Then there exists a number n_0 such that

$$a + (C_L(y) - \delta)/b^n < F(b_n y + a_n) < a + (C_L(y) + \delta)/b^n \text{ for } n \geq n_0$$

which implies that

$$\phi^{(n)}[a + (C_L(y) - \delta)/b^n] < \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \leq \phi^{(n)}[a + (C_L(y) + \delta)/b^n]$$

for $n \geq n_0$, since $\phi^{(n)}$ is monotone-increasing. Therefore, from the definition of L_u and (19)

$$\begin{aligned} L_u[C_L(y)] - \epsilon &< L_u[C_L(y) - \delta] \leq \liminf \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \\ &\leq \limsup \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \leq L_u[C_L(y) + \delta] < L_u[C_L(y)] + \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \rightarrow L_u[C_L(y)] \equiv L(y)$, i.e. $F \in \mathcal{D}(L)$.

Conversely, suppose that $F \in \mathcal{D}(L)$, i.e., there exists a sequence $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0)$ for which $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] = L(y) \equiv L_u[C_L(y)]$. Now suppose on the contrary that (18) does not hold for the point y . Then there exists an $\epsilon > 0$ and an infinite subsequence $\{n_i\}$ of the positive integers for which

$$(20) \quad \begin{aligned} b^{n_i}[F(b_{n_i} y + a_{n_i}) - a] &\leq C_L(y) - \epsilon \\ &\text{or} \\ b^{n_i}[F(b_{n_i} y + a_{n_i}) - a] &\geq C_L(y) + \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

If the first relation of (20) holds, then $\phi^{(n)}$ monotone increasing implies that

$$\phi^{(n_i)}[F(b_{n_i}y + a_{n_i})] \leq \phi^{(n_i)}(a + (C_L(y) - \epsilon)/b^{n_i})$$

which further implies that $L_u[C_L(y)] \leq L_u[C_L(y) - \epsilon] < L_u[C_L(y)]$, since L_u in monotone increasing. Similarly, the second relation of (20) leads to the contradiction that (18) does not hold when $F \varepsilon \mathfrak{D}(L)$.

CASE 2. $L(y) = 0$ or $L(y) = 1$, i.e., $C_L(y) = -\infty$ or $C_L(y) = +\infty$. Then it must be shown that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b^n[F(b_n y + a_n) - a] = -\infty$ or $+\infty$ iff $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] = 0$ or 1. Since the equivalence of these relations follow from a straightforward modification of the proof given for Case 1 the details will not be given.

The following lemma establishes that, after a certain translation, scale norming alone is sufficient to reach any limit distribution $L \varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'$.

LEMMA 4. *If $F \varepsilon \mathfrak{D}(L)$ for $L \varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'$, then there exists a unique x_a satisfying*

$$(21) \quad F(x_a - \epsilon) < a < F(x_a + \epsilon) \quad \text{for all } \epsilon > 0$$

and there exists a positive sequence $\{b_n\}$ for which

$$(22) \quad \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + x_a)] \rightarrow L(y).$$

PROOF. If $F \varepsilon \mathfrak{D}(L)$ for $L \varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'$, i.e., there exists a sequence $\{a_n, b_n\} (b_n > 0)$ for which

$$(23) \quad \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y + a_n)] \rightarrow L(y),$$

then there must exist a point x_a which satisfies (21); for if not, there would be some interval $[x_l, x_u]$ on which $F(x) = a$. Then it would follow from (14) that $\phi^{(n)}[F(x)] \rightarrow L'(x)$, where L' is a cdf of the same type as L^* (defined in Lemma 1). However, $L^* \not\varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'$ which implies that $F \not\varepsilon \mathfrak{D}(L)$ for any $L \varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'$ since a non-degenerate limiting type is unique [2], p. 40.

By Theorem 2 [2], p. 42, all that needs to be established to prove that (23) implies (22) is that

$$(24) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = 0,$$

where $y_n = (x_a - a_n)/b_n$ and the constants $\{b_n\}$ are taken to be the same in (22) as in (23). From Lemma 2 we have

$$(25) \quad L(-\epsilon) < a < L(\epsilon) \quad \text{for all } \epsilon > 0 \quad \text{and all } L \varepsilon \mathfrak{L}'.$$

Suppose that for some $\delta > 0$

$$(26) \quad \liminf (y_n) = -\delta.$$

Let ϵ be chosen such that $0 < \epsilon < \delta$ and $-\epsilon$ is a continuity point of L . Then from (21), (23), (25) and (26)

$$\begin{aligned} a &\leq \liminf \phi^{(n)}[F(x_a)] \equiv \liminf \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n y_n + a_n)] \\ &\leq \liminf \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n(-\epsilon) + a_n)] = L(-\epsilon) < a; \end{aligned}$$

thus establishing that

$$(27) \quad \liminf (y_n) \geq 0.$$

Suppose now that for some $\delta > 0$

$$(28) \quad \limsup (y_n) = \delta.$$

Choose ϵ such that $0 < \epsilon < \delta/2$ and ϵ is a continuity point of L . Then from (21), (23), (25) and (28)

$$\begin{aligned} a &\geq \limsup \phi^{(n)}[F(x_a - (\delta b_n)/2)] \\ &\equiv \limsup \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n(y_n - \delta/2) + a_n)] \\ &\geq \limsup \phi^{(n)}[F(b_n\epsilon + a_n)] = L(\epsilon) > a; \end{aligned}$$

thus establishing that

$$(29) \quad \limsup (y_n) \leq 0.$$

Expressions (27) and (29) imply (24), and therefore (22).

Sufficient conditions for a cdf F to belong to the domain of attraction of a limit law are given in the following theorem.

THEOREM 4. *The cdf $F \in \mathfrak{D}(L)$, for $L \in \mathfrak{L}'$, if the following conditions are satisfied:*

(i) *there exists a point x_a for which*

$$F(x_a - \epsilon) < a < F(x_a + \epsilon) \quad \text{for all } \epsilon > 0,$$

and

(ii) *there exists a point $y_0 \neq 0$ for which*

$$(30) \quad C_L(y_0) \text{ is finite,}$$

$$(31) \quad F(y_0 z + x_a) \rightarrow a \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow +0,$$

$$(32) \quad [F(yz + x_a) - a]/[F(y_0 z + x_a) - a] \rightarrow C_L(y)/C_L(y_0), \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow +0,$$

for all continuity points y of $C_L(y)$.

PROOF. Let y_0 be any point for which conditions (i) and (ii) hold, and define

$$(33) \quad b_n = \min \{x \mid F(y_0 x + x_a) - a \geq C_L(y_0)/b^n\},$$

for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. Then (31) implies that

$$(34) \quad b_n > 0 \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

and condition (i) implies that

$$(35) \quad b_n \rightarrow +0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Let y be any continuity point of $C_L(y)$ and ϵ any positive number. Then there exists a number δ , $0 < \delta < 1$, for which

$$(36) \quad |C_L(y/(1 - \delta)) - C_L(y)| < \epsilon$$

and $y/(1 - \delta)$ is a continuity point of C_L .

CASE 1. $y_0 > 0$, i.e. $C_L(y_0) > 0$. For this case, (30), (33) and (34) imply that

$$(37) \quad F[y_0 b_n(1 - \delta) + x_a] - a \leq C_L(y_0)/b^n \leq F[y_0 b_n + x_a] - a$$

for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, which gives

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} & [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]/[F(b_n y_0 + x_a) - a] \\ & \geq b^n [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]/C_L(y_0) \\ & \geq [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]/[F(b_n y_0(1 - \delta) + x_a) - a] \end{aligned}$$

according to $y \geq 0$. Then it follows from (32) and (35) that

$$(39) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\limsup \{b^n [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]\} - \liminf \{b^n [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]\}| \\ & \leq |C_L(y/(1 - \delta)) - C_L(y)| < \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

CASE 2. $y_0 < 0$, i.e. $C_L(y_0) < 0$. Relation (39) also follows for this case since only the inequalities in (37) and (38) will be reversed when $y_0 < 0$.

Hence, it has been established that the sequence $\{b_n > 0\}$ defined in (33) satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{b^n [F(b_n y + x_a) - a]\} = C_L(y)$$

for all continuity points of $C_L(y)$. Then by Lemma 3 it follows that $F \varepsilon \mathcal{D}(L)$.

COROLLARY. *If the cdf $F(x)$ satisfies condition (i) of Theorem 4 and the density $f(x)$ exists and is larger than zero in some neighborhood of the point x_a (defined by condition (i)), then $F \varepsilon \mathcal{D}(L_u)$.*

PROOF. Since $F(yz + x_a) \rightarrow a$, as $z \rightarrow 0$, for $-\infty < y < \infty$, and the derivative of F exists in some neighborhood of x_a , L'Hospital's rule may be used, which yields

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} [F(yz + x_a) - a]/[F(z + x_a) - a] = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} yf(yz + x_a)/f(z + x_a) = y.$$

Hence, $F \varepsilon \mathcal{D}(L_u)$ by Theorem 4.

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