

## STABLE POISSON CONVERGENCE FOR INTEGER-VALUED RANDOM VARIABLES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we obtain some stable Poisson Convergence Theorems for arrays of integer-valued dependent random variables. We prove that the limiting distribution is a mixture of Poisson distribution when the conditional second moments on a given  $\sigma$ -algebra of the sequence converge to some positive random variable. Moreover, we apply the main results to the indicator functions of rowwise interchangeable events and obtain some interesting stable Poisson convergence theorems.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

It is likely that the greatest accomplishment of modern probability theory is the unified elegant theory of limits for sums of independent or stationary random variables. The former studies the limiting theorems when dependence structure is relaxed to comprising only independent random variables, while the later consider dependent but time-invariant distributed random variables. The mathematical theory of martingales may be regarded as an extension of the independence theory which has been firstly studied by Bernstein (1927) and Lévy (1935, 1937). Lévy introduced the conditional variance for martingales

$$V_n^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n E(X_j^2 | \mathcal{F}_{j-1}),$$

where  $(S_n, \mathcal{F}_n, n \geq 1)$  is a zero-mean, square integrable martingale and  $X_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$  is the martingale difference. Doob (1953), Billingsley (1961), and Ibragimov (1963) established the Central Limit Theorem for martingales with stationary and ergodic differences. For such martingales the conditional variance is asymptotically constant; namely,

$$(1) \quad s_n^{-2} V_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} 1,$$

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where  $s_n^2 = E(V_n^2)$ . Further extensions have been made by Rosén (1967a,b), Dvoretzky (1969, 1971, 1972) and Brown (1971), among others. Especially, as indicated by Brown (1971), the crucial point for martingale convergence is the condition (1) but stationarity or ergodicity. In McLeish (1974), an elegant proof about the martingale central limit theorem and invariance principles were given. The convergence of normalized martingales to more general distributions were investigated by Brown and Eagleson (1971), Eagleson (1976), Adler et al.(1978), among others. Since its first commencement in Rényi(1963), the concept of stable convergence has been largely extended and applied to many general setting and problems concerning asymptotic behaviors of martingale arrays or stationary arrays. The stable convergence can be defined as follows. Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  be a probability space,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $(Y_n)$  be a sequence of random variables. Let  $Y_n \xrightarrow{d} Y$ . If for every  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ , there is a countable, dense set of points  $x$ , such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(\{Y_n \leq x\} \cap B) = Q(x, B)$$

exists, then we say that  $Y_n$  converges stably in  $\mathcal{G}$  to  $Y$  and denote it by  $Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{stably}} F_Y$  (or  $Y$ ) on  $\mathcal{G}$ , or

$$Y_n \xrightarrow{(s, \mathcal{G})} Y.$$

The mapping  $Q(x, B)$  in the above definition is a distribution function when we fix  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ , and it is a probability measure on  $\mathcal{G}$  when we fix the real number  $x$ . If  $\mathcal{G} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ , then  $\xrightarrow{(s, \mathcal{G})}$  is just  $\xrightarrow{d}$ . If  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{F}$ , then  $\xrightarrow{(s, \mathcal{G})}$  is the usual  $Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{stably}} F_Y$  (we drop the  $\mathcal{F}$ ), denoted by  $\xrightarrow{s}$ . From the proof of Lemma 1 in Cheng and Chow (2002), we know that for almost every  $x$  in the value set of  $Y_n$ ,  $Q(x, \cdot)$  is a measure absolutely continuous with respect to  $P$ . Unlike convergence in distribution, stable convergence in distribution is a property of sequences of random variables rather than that of their corresponding distribution functions. For more details about stable convergence we refer the readers to Aldous (1978).

The idea behind Rényi's stable convergence is to generalize the renowned Central Limit Theorems to a mixture of normal distributions. The notion of a mixture of a well known distribution with a random parameter stems from Bayesian analysis. In Bayesian structure, a parameter emerging in the probability density function is assumed to be nonconstant, more generally, a random variable. The distribution of the random parameter is called the "prior". Imagine a sequence of dependent random variables which converges "in distribution" to a well known distribution, say, to a normal distribution when conditioned on the event that the random parameter is fixed at some constant value. We will try to look for the posterior utilizing the observations at hand.

Classical Poisson limit theorems assume the random variables to be i.i.d., integer-valued or just be independent but not identically distributed. For an infinite exchangeable sequence of random variables, conditioned on the tail events, the sequence will

behave like an i.i.d. sequence (Chow and Teicher 1997). However, this property doesn't hold for an array of finitely exchangeable random variables. Martingale methods provide a unified approach to both situations. The martingale method was suggested by Loynes (1969) in the context of U-statistics and developed by Eagleson (1979, 1982) and Weber (1980) for exchangeable variables. A Poisson convergence theorem follows from the results for infinitely divisible laws developed by Brown and Eagleson (1971). See also Freedman (1974).

**Theorem A.** (Brown and Eagleson 1971, Freedman 1974). *Let  $\{A_{n,k}, \mathcal{F}_{n,k}; 1 \leq k \leq n, n \geq 1\}$  be an array of dependent events on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  ( $\mathcal{F}_{n,k} \subset \mathcal{F}_{n,k+1} \subset \mathcal{F}$ ,  $A_{n,k}$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{n,k}$ -measurable) and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}_{n,1}$ . If  $\lambda > 0$  is a constant and for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$\sum_{k=1}^n P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{P} \lambda,$$

$$\max_{1 \leq k \leq n} P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{P} 0,$$

then  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n I_{A_{n,k}} \xrightarrow{d} \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ .

The conditions in Theorem A have also been used by Kaplan(1977), Brown(1978) and Silverman and Brown(1978). However, so far as our knowledge goes, there were no literature discussing stable Poisson convergence. Therefore, we are going to try to derive a stable Poisson convergence theorem (SPCT, for abbreviation) with the limiting distribution of the type of a Poisson mixture, namely, with the intensity parameter  $\lambda$  being a nonnegative random variable. In Cheng and Chow (2002), they proved an auxiliary lemma and obtained some interesting theorems on stable convergence to normal mixture. Under a mild (but not trivial) modification, we may obtain some theorems on stable Poisson convergence.

This paper is organized as below: In Section 2, we consider  $\lambda$  to be a random variable and generalize the Poisson convergence theorem to comprises the stable Poisson convergence theorems by exploiting the conditional characteristic function introduced by Brown (1971), Hall and Heyde (1980), and Cheng and Chow (2002). In Section 3, we apply our main results to arrays of row-exchangeable events. Throughout this paper, all equalities and inequalities between random variables are in the sense of "with probability one" and  $I_A$  denotes the indicator function of the set. All kinds of convergence, in distribution, in probability and in  $L_p$ , are denoted respectively by  $\xrightarrow{d}$ ,  $\xrightarrow{P}$ , and  $\xrightarrow{L_p}$ . The fact that  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$  in probability is abbreviated by  $X_n = o_p(1)$ .

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

The following result is an auxiliary lemma for proving stable convergence.

**Lemma 2.1.** (Cheng and Chow, 2002).  $Y_n \xrightarrow{(s,\mathcal{G})} Y$  iff there exists a r.v.  $Y'$  on  $(\Omega \times I, \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{B}, P \times u)$ , where  $I = (0, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  is the class of all Borel sets in  $I$  and  $u$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathcal{B}$ , with the same distribution as  $Y$  such that for all real  $t$ ,  $E(e^{itY_n} I_A) \rightarrow E(e^{itY'} I_{A \times I})$ , for all  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ , and  $E(e^{itY'} I_{A \times I})$  is continuous at  $t = 0$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ .

Let  $\{A_{n,k}, \mathcal{F}_{n,k}; 1 \leq k \leq m_n, n \geq 1\}$  be an array of events on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}_{n,1}$ . Set  $\widetilde{X}_{n,k} = I_{A_{n,k}}$ ,  $\widetilde{S}_n = \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \widetilde{X}_{n,k}$ , and  $f_n(t) = \prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}})$ , where  $E_{n,k-1}(X) = E(X|\mathcal{F}_{n,k-1})$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Suppose there exists a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  and a positive  $\mathcal{G}$ -measurable random variable  $\lambda$  such that for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(2) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{P} \lambda,$$

$$(3) \quad \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{P} 0,$$

$$(4) \quad E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} - f_n(t) | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{P} 0,$$

then  $\widetilde{S}_n \xrightarrow{(s,\mathcal{G})} Z$ , where the random variable  $Z$  has characteristic function  $E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\})$  and for any  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A)$ .

*Proof.* For clarity and convenience, we define  $E_{n,k-1}(X) = E(X | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1})$ . First, we want to show that  $f_n(t) \xrightarrow{P} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\}$ . According to the inequality  $|e^{ix} - \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(ix)^k}{k!}| \leq \min\{\frac{2|x|^n}{n!}, \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}\}$ , we have  $|e^{ix} - 1 - ix| \leq \min\{2|x|, \frac{|x|^2}{2}\}$ . We might set  $B(x) \equiv 2 \wedge \frac{|x|}{2}$  and consider a function, say  $A(x)$ , with  $|A(x)| \leq B(x)$  such that  $e^{ix} = 1 + ix + x \cdot A(x)$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} E_{n,k-1}(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}}) &= 1 + iE_{n,k-1}(t\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + tE_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k} \cdot A(t\widetilde{X}_{n,k})) \\ &= 1 + itE_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + tA(t)E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}). \end{aligned}$$

Fix  $t$ , define  $\delta_{n,k} \equiv itE_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + tA(t)E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k})$ . Since  $|A(t)| \leq 2$ , we have

$$|\delta_{n,k}| = |itE_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + tA(t)E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k})| \leq 3|t| \cdot E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}).$$

By (3),

$$(5) \quad \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| \leq 3|t| \cdot \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) \xrightarrow{P} 0.$$

Since for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|z| \leq 1$ ,

$$\log(1 + z) - z = \int_0^z \left( \frac{1}{1+w} - 1 \right) dw = \int_0^z \frac{-w}{1+w} dw.$$

Hence,

$$|\log(1 + z) - z| \leq \int_0^{|z|} \left| \frac{-w}{1+w} \right| dw \leq \frac{1}{1-|z|} \cdot \int_0^{|z|} w dw \leq \frac{1}{1-|z|} \cdot \frac{|z|^2}{2},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \log f_n(t) &= \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \log E_{n,k-1}(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}}) = \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \log(1 + \delta_{n,k}) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \delta_{n,k} + R_n, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$|R_n| \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \frac{|\delta_{n,k}|^2}{1 - |\delta_{n,k}|},$$

and  $\max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| < 1$ .

On the set  $\{w \in \Omega ; \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| < 1\}$ , by (2), (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |R_n| &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \frac{|\delta_{n,k}|^2}{1 - |\delta_{n,k}|} \leq \frac{1}{1 - \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|} \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{1 - \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|}{1 - \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|} + \frac{\max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|}{1 - \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|} \right) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|^2 \\ (6) \quad &= (1 + o_p(1)) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} |\delta_{n,k}|^2 = 9t^2(1 + o_p(1)) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}^2(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) \\ &\leq Ct^2 \cdot \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) \xrightarrow{p} 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by (6), for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P(|R_n| > \varepsilon) &= P(|R_n| > \varepsilon, \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| < 1) + P(|R_n| > \varepsilon, \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| \geq 1) \\ &\leq P(|R_n| > \varepsilon, \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| < 1) + P(\max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} |\delta_{n,k}| \geq 1) \\ &\rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\log f_n(t) &= \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \delta_{n,k} + o_p(1) \\ &= it \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + tA(t) \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(\widetilde{X}_{n,k}) + o_p(1) \\ &\xrightarrow{p} it\lambda + tA(t)\lambda = \lambda(it + tA(t)) = \lambda(e^{it} - 1).\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $f_n(t) \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\}$ , and as a result, for all  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,

$$f_n(t) \cdot I_A \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A.$$

By uniform integrability,

$$E(f_n(t) \cdot I_A) \rightarrow E[\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A].$$

By (4) and uniform integrability, for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,

$$E[(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} - f_n(t)) \cdot I_A] \rightarrow 0.$$

Consequently,

$$E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A).$$

Next, put  $\beta(\omega, x) = P(X \leq x | \lambda)$ , where  $X$  is a mixture of a Poisson distribution with random intensity  $\lambda$ . Define  $Y'(\omega, y)$  on  $(\Omega \times I, \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{B}, P \times u)$  as in Lemma 1 of Cheng and Chow (2002), i.e.  $Y'(\omega, y) = \inf\{x : -\infty < x < \infty, \beta(\omega, x) \geq y\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}E\left(e^{itY'(\omega,y)} \cdot I_{A \times I}\right) &= \int_A dP \int_0^1 e^{itY'(\omega,y)} dy \\ &= \int_A dP \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} d\beta(\omega, x) = \int_A \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} dP \\ &= E[\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A].\end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.1, we complete the proof. ■

**Remark 2.1.** It seems that the conditions of Theorem 2.1 are stronger than Theorem A. It is because that, similar to Theorem 1 in Cheng and Chow (2002), the stable convergence is a generalization of the classical distributional convergence. When  $\mathcal{G} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ , condition (4) is satisfied automatically (see Remark 2.2 below), and in this case, Theorem A is valid as a result. The function  $f_n(t)$  plays an important role in proving the stable convergence. However, when conditioned on  $\mathcal{G} \neq \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ , it might not be coincident with  $E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n})$  which is crucial in proving distributional convergence. It will be interesting to study the conditions implying the coincidence of  $f_n(t)$  and  $E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n})$  when conditioned on  $\mathcal{G} \neq \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ .

In order to obtain a more complete version of SPCT, we add a condition to the original assumptions of Theorem 2.1 to ensure the SPCT for the partial sum  $S_n$ . Let  $\{X_{n,k}, \mathcal{F}_{n,k}; 1 \leq k \leq m_n\}$  be any array of nonnegative integer-valued random variables on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}_{n,1}$ . Set  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} X_{n,k}$ ,  $\tilde{X}_{n,k} = I_{\{X_{n,k}=1\}}$ ,  $\tilde{S}_n = \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} \tilde{X}_{n,k}$ , and  $f_n(t) = \prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(e^{it\tilde{X}_{n,k}})$ .

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $\lambda$  be a positive  $\mathcal{G}$ -measurable random variable, where  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{F}$ . If for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$(7) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(X_{n,k} = 1 \mid \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{p} \lambda,$$

$$(8) \quad \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} P(X_{n,k} = 1 \mid \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}) \xrightarrow{p} 0,$$

then  $f_n(t) \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\}$ . Moreover, if  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  and

$$(9) \quad E(e^{it\tilde{S}_n} - f_n(t) \mid \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} 0,$$

$$(10) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(X_{n,k} \geq 2) \rightarrow 0,$$

then  $S_n \xrightarrow{(s,\mathcal{G})} Z$ , where where the random variable  $Z$  has characteristic function  $E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\})$  and for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $E(e^{itS_n} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A_{n,k} = \{X_{n,k} = 1\}$ . From (10), we have

$$P(S_n \neq \tilde{S}_n) = P(S_n - \tilde{S}_n > 0) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(X_{n,k} \geq 2) \rightarrow 0.$$

Therefore, by Theorem 2.1, we have completed the proof. ■

**Remark 2.2.** When  $\lambda$  is a constant, according to the Theorem 3 of Beška(1982), we have  $\tilde{S}_n \xrightarrow{d} Poisson(\lambda)$ , if  $f_n(t) \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\}$ . And by (10),  $S_n \xrightarrow{d} Poisson(\lambda)$ .

From Corollary 2.1 and Remark 2.2, we can obtain the following corollary concerning classical Poisson convergence theorem for arrays of independent integer-valued random variables.

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $X_{n,k}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq m_n$ , be independent nonnegative integer-valued*

random variables. If  $\lambda > 0$  is a constant and for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(X_{n,k} = 1) &\rightarrow \lambda, \\ \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} P(X_{n,k} = 1) &\rightarrow 0, \\ \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(X_{n,k} \geq 2) &\rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

then

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} X_{n,k} \xrightarrow{d} \text{Poisson}(\lambda).$$

The following theorem can be proven in a fashion similar to Theorem 2.1 given in Section 2.

**Theorem 2.2.** Suppose there exists a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{G} \subset \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_{n,0}$  such that  $\{A_{n,k}; 1 \leq k \leq m_n, n \geq 1\}$  be conditional independent given  $\mathcal{G}$  in each row. Let  $\lambda$  be a positive  $\mathcal{G}$ -measurable random variable. If for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(11) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} \lambda,$$

$$(12) \quad \max_{1 \leq k \leq m_n} P(A_{n,k} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} 0,$$

then  $\widetilde{S}_n \xrightarrow{(s, \mathcal{G})} Z$ , where the random variable  $Z$  has characteristic function  $E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\})$  and for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A)$ .

*Proof.* By the same way of Theorem 2.1, we have

$$\prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\},$$

which implies that for any  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}} | \mathcal{G}) \cdot I_A \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A.$$

Due to the property of conditional independence,

$$E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} | \mathcal{G}) = | \mathcal{G} ) = \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E(e^{it\widetilde{X}_{n,k}} | \mathcal{G}).$$

Hence,

$$(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} I_A | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} \exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A.$$

Since  $\{E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} | \mathcal{G}); n \geq 1\}$  is uniformly integrable, for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$

$$E(e^{it\widetilde{S}_n} \cdot I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} \cdot I_A). \quad \blacksquare$$

### 3. APPLICATIONS

Let  $\{A_{n,k}, k = 1, 2, \dots, m_n, n \geq 1\}$  be an array of row-exchangeable events. Set  $S_{n,j} = \sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_{n,0} = \sigma(\sum_{k=1}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}})$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,j} = \sigma(I_{A_{n,1}}, I_{A_{n,2}}, \dots, I_{A_{n,j}}, \sum_{k=j+1}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}})$ , for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m_n$ . Let  $f_n(t) = \prod_{k=1}^{m_n} E_{n,k-1}(e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}})$ . Similar to Eagleson (1979), we may obtain the following results.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_{n,0}$ , and  $\lambda$  a positive  $\mathcal{G}$ -measurable random variable. If for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$(13) \quad n \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{L_1} \lambda,$$

$$(14) \quad n^2 \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})^2 - n^2 \cdot P(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{L_1} 0,$$

$$(15) \quad n \cdot P(A_{n,1} A_{n,2}^c) \rightarrow 0,$$

$$(16) \quad m_n/n \rightarrow \infty,$$

then  $S_{n,n} \xrightarrow{(s,\mathcal{G})} Z$ , where the random variable  $Z$  has characteristic function  $E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\})$  and for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $E(e^{itS_{n,n}} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A)$ .

*Proof.* By (13), we have

$$(17) \quad nP(A_{n,1}) \rightarrow E(\lambda) < \infty$$

which yields

$$(18) \quad P(A_{n,1}) \rightarrow 0.$$

Similarly, we have

$$E[n^2 \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})^2 - n^2 \cdot P(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2} | \mathcal{G})] \rightarrow 0,$$

which implies

$$(19) \quad n^2 \cdot E(I_{A_{n,1}} \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})) - n^2 \cdot P(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2}) \rightarrow 0.$$

Fix  $n, j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m_n$ .

By exchangeability, for any  $B \in \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}$ , and each  $k, j \leq k \leq m_n$ ,

$$(20) \quad E(I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_B) = E(I_{A_{n,k}} \cdot I_B).$$

Hence, for any  $B \in \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}$ ,

$$E(I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_B) = E\left(\frac{\sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}}}{m_n - j + 1} \cdot I_B\right).$$

And  $\frac{\sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}}}{m_n - j + 1}$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}$ -measurable, we have

$$E(I_{A_{n,j}} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) = \frac{\sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}}}{m_n - j + 1}.$$

Similarly, for each  $t$  with  $j \leq t \leq m_n$ ,

$$(21) \quad P(A_{n,t} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) = \frac{\sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}}}{m_n - j + 1}.$$

In particular, for each  $j$  with  $1 \leq j \leq m_n$ ,

$$(22) \quad P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) = P(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}).$$

Moreover, for each  $t$  with  $1 \leq t \leq m_n$ ,

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}) &= E(P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{G}) | \mathcal{F}_{n,0}) = E(P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{F}_{n,0}) | \mathcal{G}) \\ &= E(P(A_{n,t} | \mathcal{F}_{n,0}) | \mathcal{G}) = P(A_{n,t} | \mathcal{G}). \end{aligned}$$

Now, we want to claim that  $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) \xrightarrow{p} 0$ .

Since for each  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\{P(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}), \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$  is a martingale.

Hence, by (21), (22) and Doob's inequality, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) > \varepsilon\right) &= P\left(\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} P(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) > \varepsilon\right) \\ &\leq \frac{E[P(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,n-1})]}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \frac{P(A_{n,m_n})}{\varepsilon} = \frac{P(A_{n,1})}{\varepsilon} \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

Next, claim that  $\sum_{j=1}^n P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) \xrightarrow{p} \lambda$ . By (13), we only need to show that  $\sum_{j=1}^n P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - n \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} 0$ .

Since for each  $j$  with  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , by (13), (14), (15) and Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})|)^2 = (\mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G})|)^2 \\ & \leq \mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G})|^2 \\ & = \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G}))) \\ & = \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \frac{\sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}}}{m_n - j + 1}) - \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G})) \\ & \leq \frac{\mathbb{P}(A_{n,1})}{m_n - j + 1} + \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2}) - \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G})), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})| \\ & \leq [\frac{\mathbb{P}(A_{n,1})}{m_n - j + 1}]^{\frac{1}{2}} + [\mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2}) - \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G}))]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by (13)-(16), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})| \leq [n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1})]^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot [\frac{n}{m_n - n}]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & + [n^2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} \cap A_{n,2}) - n^2 \cdot \mathbb{E}(I_{A_{n,m_n}} \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,m_n} | \mathcal{G}))]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(\lambda) \cdot 0 + 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}(|\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})| > \varepsilon) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbb{E}|\sum_{j=1}^n [\mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})]| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}|\mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G})| \longrightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) \xrightarrow{p} \lambda$ .

Next, since for any fixed  $n$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |I_{A_{n,k}} - E(I_{A_{n,k}} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1})| \\
 &= I_{A_{n,k}} - \frac{1}{m_n - k + 1} \sum_{j=k}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_{A_{n,k}} + \frac{1}{m_n - k + 1} \sum_{j=k}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_{A_{n,k}^c} \\
 &= \frac{1}{m_n - k + 1} \sum_{j=k+1}^{m_n} (I_{A_{n,k}} - I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_{A_{n,k}} + I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_{A_{n,k}^c}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{m_n - k + 1} \left[ \sum_{j=k+1}^{m_n} (I_{A_{n,k}} \cdot I_{A_{n,j}^c} + I_{A_{n,j}} \cdot I_{A_{n,k}^c}) \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

we have for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , by (15),

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{k=1}^n E|I_{A_{n,k}} - E(I_{A_{n,k}} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1})| \\
 &= 2 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{m_n - k}{m_n - k + 1} \cdot P(A_{n,1}A_{n,2}^c) \leq 2 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n P(A_{n,1}A_{n,2}^c) = 2n \cdot P(A_{n,1}A_{n,2}^c) \rightarrow 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that for any fixed  $n, 1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |I_{A_{n,k}^c} - E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}^c})| = |1 - I_{A_{n,k}} - 1 + E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}})| \\
 &= |E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}}) - I_{A_{n,k}}| = |I_{A_{n,k}} - E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}})|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E\left(\sum_{k=1}^n |e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}} - E_{n,k-1}(e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}})|\right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^n E|e^{it \cdot I_{A_{n,k}}} + I_{A_{n,k}^c} - e^{it} \cdot E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}}) - E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}^c})| \\
 &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n E|I_{A_{n,k}} - E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}})| + \sum_{k=1}^n E|I_{A_{n,k}^c} - E_{n,k-1}(I_{A_{n,k}^c})| \rightarrow 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P\{|E(e^{itS_{n,n}} - f_n(t) | \mathcal{G})| > \varepsilon\} &\leq P\{E(|e^{itS_{n,n}} - f_n(t)| | \mathcal{G}) > \varepsilon\} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot E(|e^{itS_{n,n}} - f_n(t)|) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot E\left(\sum_{k=1}^n |e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}} - E_{n,k-1}(e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}})|\right) \rightarrow 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.1, we have completed the proof. ■

Let  $\{A_{n,k}\}_{k \geq 1}$  be an array of rowwise exchangeable events. Set  $S_{n,j} = \sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_{n,j} = \sigma(\sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}, I_{A_{n,j+1}}, I_{A_{n,j+2}}, \dots)$ ,  $j \geq 1$ , and  $\mathcal{G}_{n,\infty} = \bigcap_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{G}_{n,j}$ ,  $\mathcal{G} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}$ . Similar to Weber(1980), we may obtain the following results.

**Theorem 3.4.** *If there exists a  $\mathcal{G}$ -measurable integrable random variable  $\lambda$  such that for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$(24) \quad n \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}) \xrightarrow{P} \lambda,$$

$$(25) \quad n \cdot P(A_{n,1} A_{n,2}^c) \rightarrow 0,$$

then  $S_{n,n} \xrightarrow{(s,\mathcal{G})} Z$ , where the random variable  $Z$  has characteristic function  $E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\})$  and for  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $E(e^{itS_{n,n}} I_A) \rightarrow E(\exp\{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)\} I_A)$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $n, j$ . By exchangeability, for any  $B \in \mathcal{G}_{n,j}$ , and each  $k, 1 \leq k \leq j$ ,

$$E(I_{A_{n,1}} \cdot I_B) = E(I_{A_{n,k}} \cdot I_B).$$

Hence, for any  $B \in \mathcal{G}_{n,j}$ ,

$$E(I_{A_{n,1}} \cdot I_B) = E\left(\frac{\sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}}{j} \cdot I_B\right).$$

And  $\frac{\sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}}{j}$  is  $\mathcal{G}_{n,j}$ -measurable, we have

$$(26) \quad P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,j}) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^j I_{A_{n,k}}}{j}.$$

For each  $n$ , since  $\mathcal{G}_{n,j} \supseteq \mathcal{G}_{n,j+1}$ , then  $\{P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,j}), \mathcal{G}_{n,j}, n \geq 1\}$  is a reversed martingale, and by the reversed martingale convergence theorem, as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(27) \quad P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,j}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}_2} P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}).$$

Next, for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , we consider  $\sigma$ -field

$$\mathcal{F}_{n,j-1} \equiv \sigma(I_{A_{n,1}}, I_{A_{n,2}}, \dots, I_{A_{n,j-1}}, \sum_{k=j}^m I_{A_{n,k}}),$$

then for fixed  $n$  and  $j$ , by(26) and (27), as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) &= \frac{\sum_{k=j}^m I_{A_{n,k}}}{m - j + 1} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{k=1}^m I_{A_{n,k}} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{A_{n,k}})}{m - j + 1} \\ &= \frac{m}{m - j + 1} \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,m}) - \frac{j - 1}{m - j + 1} \cdot P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,j-1}) \\ &\xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}_1} P(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}), \end{aligned}$$

which in turn implies for each  $n$ , as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}_1} n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}).$$

Thus, for each  $n$ , there exists  $m_n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $m \geq m_n \geq n$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}) - n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}) \right| \right) < \frac{1}{n}.$$

Hence, for each  $n$ , we can choose  $\sigma$ -fields  $\mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}^* \equiv \sigma(I_{A_{n,1}}, I_{A_{n,2}}, \dots, I_{A_{n,j-1}}, \sum_{k=j}^{m_n} I_{A_{n,k}})$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}^*) - n \cdot \mathbb{P}(A_{n,1} | \mathcal{G}_{n,\infty}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}_1} 0.$$

So, by (24),

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}^*) \xrightarrow{p} \lambda.$$

And, in the same way as Theorem 3.1, we have  $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \mathbb{P}(A_{n,j} | \mathcal{F}_{n,j-1}^*) \xrightarrow{p} 0$ .

Taking  $\mathcal{G} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_{n,0}^*$  and  $f_n(t) = \prod_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}(e^{itI_{A_{n,k}}} | \mathcal{F}_{n,k-1}^*)$ , we also have

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{itS_{n,n}} - f_n(t) | \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{p} 0.$$

Then, by Theorem 2.1, we complete the proof. ■

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