

## CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREMS FOR INFINITE URN MODELS

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An urn model is defined as follows:  $n$  balls are independently placed in an infinite set of urns and each ball has probability  $p_k > 0$  of being assigned to the  $k$ th urn. We assume that  $p_k \geq p_{k+1}$  for all  $k$  and that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k = 1$ . A random variable  $Z_n$  is defined to be the number of occupied urns after  $n$  balls have been thrown. The main result is that  $Z_n$ , when normalized, converges in distribution to the standard normal distribution. Convergence to  $N(0, 1)$  holds for all sequences  $\{p_k\}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Var } Z_{N(n)} = \infty$ , where  $N(n)$  is a Poisson random variable with mean  $n$ . This generalizes a result of Karlin.

**1. Introduction.** An urn model is defined in the following way:  $n$  balls are placed independently in an infinite set of urns and each ball has probability  $p_k > 0$  of being assigned to the  $k$ th urn, for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . We assume that the urns are arranged in decreasing order, so that  $p_k \geq p_{k+1}$  for all  $k$  and that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k = 1$ . We define the random variable

$$X_{nk} = \text{number of balls in the } k \text{th urn after } n \text{ throws.}$$

We will need to consider the case where the number of throws is not fixed in advance but depends on the outcome of a random experiment. Specifically, suppose that the number of balls thrown is a Poisson random variable with mean  $n$ , denoted by  $N(n)$ . We have  $P[N(n) = r] = e^{-n} n^r / r!$ .

We define

$$X_{N(n), k} = \text{number of balls in the } k \text{th urn after } N(n) \text{ throws.}$$

By calculating a joint probability distribution for any  $M$ -tuple (as in [2], page 216), it is easy to show that the random variables  $\{X_{N(n), k}\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , are mutually independent Poisson variables with respective means  $\{np_k\}$ , so that  $P[X_{N(n), k} = r] = \exp(-np_k)(np_k)^r / r!$ . The random variables  $\{X_{nk}\}$ , where the sample size  $n$  is fixed and  $k$  varies, are not independent.

We next define the random variable

$$Z_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi(X_{nk}), \quad \text{where } \varphi(u) = \begin{cases} 1, & u > 0, \\ 0, & u = 0. \end{cases}$$

Similarly,

$$Z_{N(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi(X_{N(n), k}).$$

The random variable  $Z_n$  is the number of occupied urns after  $n$  balls have been thrown, and  $Z_{N(n)}$  is the number of occupied urns after  $N(n)$  balls have been thrown.

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We will use the notation  $\mu_n$  and  $\sigma_n^2$  for the mean and variance of  $Z_n$ ; we will use  $\mu(n)$  and  $\sigma^2(n)$  for the mean and variance of  $Z_{N(n)}$ . The standard normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 1 is denoted by  $N(0, 1)$ .

We will prove in this paper that  $Z_n$ , when appropriately normalized, obeys a central limit law under quite general conditions—valid for the same sets  $\{p_k\}$  for which the corresponding “Poissonized” random variable  $Z_{N(n)}$  obeys a central limit law based on the Lindeberg conditions.

Specifically, we will prove the following result: For all  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbf{A} = \{\{p_k\} | \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(n) = \infty\}$ ,  $[Z_n - \mu_n]/\sigma(n)$  converges in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

This compares with Karlin's result ([4], Theorem 4, or [3], page 370), which can be stated as follows:  $[Z_n - \mu_n]/b_n$  converges in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$  for all  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbf{B} = \{\{p_k\} | \alpha(x) = x^\gamma L(x), 0 < \gamma \leq 1\}$ , where  $\alpha(x) = \max\{k | p_k \geq 1/x\}$  and  $L(x)$  is slowly varying, that is,  $L(cx)/L(x) \rightarrow 1$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  for any fixed  $c > 0$ . Thus,  $\alpha(x)$  is of regular variation in the sense of Karamata. The normalizing function  $b_n$  is such that  $b_n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $b_n \sim \sigma_n$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . An explicit formula for  $b_n^2$  is given in [4] (page 386). As will be shown by examples in the next section, the class  $\mathbf{A}$  is wider than the class  $\mathbf{B}$ . It is convenient in our proofs to normalize  $Z_n$  by  $\sigma(n)$  rather than by its own standard deviation  $\sigma_n$ . By Khintchine's convergence of types theorem ([5], page 216) any nontrivial limit law that holds for  $Z_n$  is independent of the normalizing constants used.

**2. Preliminary results.** We will calculate the means of  $Z_{N(n)}$  and  $Z_n$ . It follows by additivity that  $\mu(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - e^{-np_k})$  and

$$\mu_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 - (1 - p_k)^n].$$

The series for  $\mu(n)$  converges absolutely for fixed  $n$ , since  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - e^{-np_k}) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} np_k = n$ . It is clear that  $\mu(n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . When  $n$  is replaced by the continuous variable  $t$ ,  $\mu(t)$  is differentiable and is a  $C^\infty$  function.

In order to calculate the variance of the random variable  $Z_{N(n)}$ , we use the representation  $Z_{N(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi(X_{N(n), k})$ , which is a sum of independent binomial random variables each assuming the values 1 or 0. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2(n) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sigma^2 \varphi(X_{N(n), k}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (e^{-p_k n} - e^{-2p_k n}) \\ &= \mu(2n) - \mu(n). \end{aligned}$$

The following result, needed later, shows that the limiting behavior of  $\mu(n)$  and  $\mu_n$  is the same (cf. [4], page 381).

**LEMMA 1.** For any sequence  $\{p_k\}$  defined as before,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\mu_n - \mu(n)] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [e^{-p_k n} - (1 - p_k)^n] = 0.$$

PROOF. We use the inequality ([6], page 530)

$$0 \leq e^{-x} - \left(1 - \frac{x}{n}\right)^n \leq \frac{x^2}{n} e^{-x}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq n,$$

which gives

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [e^{-np_k} - (1 - p_k)^n] \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} np_k^2 e^{-np_k} \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k e^{-1}.$$

The sum is dominated by the convergent positive series  $\sum p_k e^{-1}$  and therefore we can interchange the limit and summation operations, which proves the lemma.  $\square$

We conclude this section by giving examples that distinguish between the classes  $\mathbb{A}$  and  $\mathbb{B}$ . Roughly speaking,  $\mathbb{A}$  contains sequences  $\{p_k\}$  possessing irregularities, where the variances  $\sigma^2(n) \rightarrow \infty$  for  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and the smoothness conditions  $\alpha(x) = x^\gamma L(x)$ ,  $0 < \gamma \leq 1$ , need not hold. Karlin has shown [4] that if  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbb{B}$ , then  $\sigma^2(n) \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and therefore  $\mathbb{B}$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{A}$ .

We need to establish a sufficient condition in order that the variances have an infinite limit, stated as follows: If  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_{k+1}/p_k = 1$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(n) = \infty$ . To show this, we express  $\sigma^2(n)$  as a Stieltjes integral using the definition of  $\alpha(x)$  and then integrate by parts (cf. [4], page 384),

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2(n) &= \int_0^\infty [e^{-n/x} - e^{-2n/x}] d\alpha(x) \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{2n}{x^2} e^{-2n/x} - \frac{n}{x^2} e^{-n/x} \right] \alpha(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{n}{x^2} e^{-n/x} [\alpha(2x) - \alpha(x)] dx. \end{aligned}$$

The condition  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_{k+1}/p_k = 1$  implies that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [\alpha(2x) - \alpha(x)] = \infty$  ([4], page 378) and the desired conclusion follows from the following lemma.

LEMMA 2. If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [\alpha(2x) - \alpha(x)] = \infty$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(n) = \infty$ , where

$$\sigma^2(n) = \int_0^\infty \frac{n}{x^2} e^{-n/x} [\alpha(2x) - \alpha(x)] dx.$$

The proof of the lemma is routine and is not shown. We contrast this sufficient condition on the variances with [4] (page 383), where it is shown that if  $\limsup p_{k+1}/p_k < 1$ , then  $\sigma^2(n)$  is bounded for all  $n$ .

In each of the following examples, the set  $\{p_k\}$  belongs to  $\mathbb{A}$  but not to  $\mathbb{B}$ . Recall that  $\alpha(x) = \max\{k | p_k \geq 1/x\}$ .

EXAMPLE 1. Let  $p_k = C/k^{\log k}$ , where  $C$  is a normalizing constant. In this case,  $\alpha(x) \sim \exp(\log Cx)^{1/2}$ ,  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . It is routine to show that  $p_{k+1}/p_k \rightarrow 1$ ,  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , and this implies that  $\sigma^2(n) \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**EXAMPLE 2.** If  $p_k = C/k^r$ ,  $r > 1$ , then  $\alpha(x) \sim C^{1/r}x^{1/r}$ ,  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $\alpha(x)$  is of regular variation. However, we can combine in arbitrary ways terms of the form  $1/k^2$  and  $1/k^3$ . For example (the normalizing constant has been omitted), let  $\{p_k\}$  be defined by the following sequence:  $1/2^2, 1/3^2, \dots, 1/8^2, 1/5^3, \dots, 1/9^3, 1/28^2, \dots$ . Switches between the squared and cubed subsequences can be made when a perfect square integer is also a perfect cube. Thus  $1/64 = 1/8^2 = 1/4^3$  and  $1/729 = 1/9^3 = 1/27^2$ . In order to assure that  $\alpha(x)$  is not a function of regular variation, we can specify that the length of each subsequence increases rapidly with each switch, so that  $\alpha(x)$  is alternately approximated by  $Cx^{1/2}$  and  $Cx^{1/3}$ . In this case,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_{k+1}/p_k = 1$  and  $\sigma^2(n) \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**3. Related remarks.** As was mentioned earlier,  $Z_n$  will be normalized by  $\sigma(n)$  and not by its own standard deviation  $\sigma_n$ . The variance  $\sigma_n^2$  is not representable (because of the nonindependence of  $\{X_{nk}\}$ ) as a simple sum and is very difficult to work with in the absence of a regularity condition. Karlin ([4], page 385) first represents  $\sigma_n^2$  formally, with its “mixed” terms, and then assumes that  $\alpha(x) = x^\gamma L(x)$ ,  $0 < \gamma \leq 1$ , which makes possible a normalizing function  $b_n$  such that  $\sigma_n \sim \sigma(n) \sim b_n$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , for  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbb{B}$ .

The variances can, in general, exhibit erratic behavior and an example has been given ([4], page 384) where  $\sigma^2(n)$  oscillates unboundedly. If  $p_k = (1 - \theta)\theta^{k-1}$ ,  $0 < \theta < 1$ , then  $\sigma^2(n)$  is bounded as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Karlin has studied ([4], page 399) the random variable  $Z_{N(t)} - \mu(t)$  for the case  $p_k = (1 - \theta)\theta^{k-1}$ ,  $0 < \theta < 1$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , and asserts that it converges to a nondegenerate limit as the continuous variable  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . The assertion is based on analysis of convergence of moments and the applicability of Carleman’s criterion that a distribution is uniquely determined by its moments.

However, the following example shows that the method of moments does not work. We have that  $\sigma^2(t) = \sum_{k=1}^\infty (e^{-p_k t} - e^{-2p_k t})$ . By successively setting  $t = 1/p_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , it follows that  $\sigma^2(1/p_k) \geq e^{-1} - e^{-2}$ . Therefore, the sequence  $\sigma^2(t_k)$  is bounded below for  $t_k = 1/p_k \rightarrow \infty$  and so the assertion ([4], page 385) that  $\sigma^2(t)$  converges to  $\log_{1/\theta} 2$  for all  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  cannot be true, because  $\log_{1/\theta} 2$  can be made as small as desired by choosing  $\theta$  small enough. This observation does not establish, of course, that the random variables in question do not converge, because a sequence of random variables can converge even if the moments do not. In fact, for the case  $p_k = 1/2^k$ ,

$$\sigma^2(t) = \sum_{k=1}^\infty [\exp(-t2^{-k}) - \exp(-t2^{-k+1})] = 1 - e^{-t},$$

so that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(t) = 1$  exists. However, other moments do not converge for this case, and for other values of  $\theta$  the variance itself does not converge. A more detailed discussion of the variance and specifically its connection with the integral representation used by Karlin ([4], pages 384–385) is given in [1]. There it is also shown that  $Z_{N(t)} - \mu(t)$  does not converge in distribution, and limits are identified along convergent subsequences.

We can write  $Z_{N(t)} - \mu(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Y_k(t)$ , where the  $Y_k(t)$  are independent,  $Y_k(t) = \exp[-p_k t]$  with probability  $1 - \exp[-p_k t]$  and  $Y_k(t) = \exp[-p_k t] - 1$  with probability  $\exp[-p_k t]$ . Let  $p_k = (1 - \theta)\theta^{k-1}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Inserting the values  $t_m = \theta^{-m+\gamma}$  ( $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  and  $\gamma$  is any real number) in  $Z_{N(t)} - \mu(t)$  produces a two-tailed sum and shows that  $Z_{N(t)} - \mu(t)$  converges in distribution along the sequence  $\{t_m\}$  to a random variable which is distributed as  $W(\gamma) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} W_k$ , where  $W_k$  are independent and

$$W_k = \begin{cases} \exp[-(1 - \theta)\theta^{k+\gamma}] - 1 & \text{with probability } \exp[-(1 - \theta)\theta^{k+\gamma}], \\ \exp[-(1 - \theta)\theta^{k+\gamma}] & \text{with probability } 1 - \exp[-(1 - \theta)\theta^{k+\gamma}]. \end{cases}$$

The distribution of  $W(\gamma)$  is periodic of period 1, but is not independent of  $\gamma$  and the limit along all  $t$  does not exist.

**4. Central limit property of  $Z_{N(n)}$ .** The number of occupied urns after  $N(n)$  balls have been thrown is  $Z_{N(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi(X_{N(n), k})$ , where  $\varphi(u) = 1$  for  $u > 0$  and  $\varphi(u) = 0$  for  $u = 0$ .  $\{X_{N(n), k}\}$  is a sequence of independent Poisson variables with respective means  $\{np_k\}$  and  $Y_{N(n), k} = \varphi(X_{N(n), k})$  are independent binomial variables,

$$Y_{N(n), k} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with probability } e^{-np_k}, \\ 1 & \text{with probability } 1 - e^{-np_k}. \end{cases}$$

We define now the centered and normalized variables

$$x_{nk} = \frac{Y_{N(n), k} - (1 - e^{-np_k})}{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sigma^2 Y_{N(n), k}}}.$$

The conditions for convergence to the standard normal distribution are satisfied and we state the following theorem, valid when  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(n) = \infty$  (cf. [4], page 387).

**THEOREM 1.**  $[Z_{N(n)} - \mu(n)]/\sigma(n)$  converges in distribution to the normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , for all  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbf{A}$ .

**PROOF.** We use Lindeberg's criterion for convergence and define an infinite rectangular array of random variables  $[x_{ij}]$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ . We have  $[Z_{N(n)} - \mu(n)]/\sigma(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_{nk}$  and the row sums are normalized, that is,  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sigma^2 x_{nk} = 1$ .

Let  $F_{nk}$  denote the distribution function of  $x_{nk}$ . Because of the condition  $\sigma^2(n) \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the set  $\{x_{nk}\}$  is uniformly bounded. This implies that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_k \int_{|x| \geq \epsilon} x^2 dF_{nk} = 0,$$

which means that the criteria for convergence of  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_{nk}$  to  $N(0, 1)$  are met ([5], page 307). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**5. Central limit property of  $Z_n$ .** In this section we develop the method that establishes the asymptotic normality of  $Z_n$ , valid for the same set  $\mathbf{A}$  as Theorem 1.

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $\mu(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty}(1 - e^{-p_k n})$  and  $\sigma(n) = \sqrt{\mu(2n) - \mu(n)}$ . Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\mu(n + M\sqrt{n}) - \mu(n)]/\sigma(n) = 0$  for every  $M > 0$ .*

**PROOF.** Note that the only restriction on  $\{p_k\}$  in this lemma and Lemma 4 is that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k = 1$ ,  $p_k \geq p_{k+1}$  and  $p_k > 0$  for all  $k$ . For convenience we replace  $n$  by the continuous variable  $t$ . It was previously noted that  $\mu(t)$  is a  $C^\infty$  function. We have

$$\mu'(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k e^{-p_k t} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu''(t) = - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k^2 e^{-p_k t} < 0.$$

The sign of the second derivative implies that  $\mu(t)$  is concave and  $\mu'(t)$  is positive and decreasing. Let  $f(t) = \mu'(t)$ . We write

$$\frac{\mu(n + M\sqrt{n}) - \mu(n)}{\sigma(n)} = \frac{\int_n^{n+M\sqrt{n}} f(t) dt}{[\int_n^{2n} f(t) dt]^{1/2}} \leq \frac{M\sqrt{n} f(n)}{\sqrt{nf(2n)}}.$$

Thus Lemma 3 follows if we prove that  $[\mu'(t)]^2/\mu'(2t) \rightarrow 0$ ,  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**LEMMA 4.** *Let  $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k e^{-p_k t}$ , where  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k = 1$ ,  $p_k \geq p_{k+1}$  and  $p_k > 0$  for all  $k$ . Then,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f^2(t)/f(2t) = 0$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $p_k > p_l$  be given. Then

$$\frac{e^{-p_k t}}{f(t)} \leq \frac{e^{(p_l - p_k)t}}{p_l},$$

which implies that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k e^{-p_k t}}{f(t)} = 1 \quad \text{for every } N.$$

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality implies that

$$\left[ \sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k e^{-p_k t} \right]^2 \leq \sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k \sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k e^{-2p_k t}.$$

It follows that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f^2(t)}{f(2t)} = \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{[\sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k e^{-p_k t}]^2}{\sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k e^{-2p_k t}} \leq \sum_{k=N}^{\infty} p_k.$$

The proof is completed by letting  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

REMARK. Under a slightly more stringent hypothesis, Lemma 3 implies that the variances  $\sigma^2(t + M\sqrt{t})$  and  $\sigma^2(t)$  are asymptotically equal. Let the conditions of Lemma 3 hold (i.e., there are given  $p_1 \geq p_2 \geq \dots$ , where  $p_k > 0$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^\infty p_k = 1$ ) and suppose, in addition, that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sigma^2(t) = \infty$ .

Then, for every  $M > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sigma(t + M\sqrt{t})}{\sigma(t)} = 1.$$

PROOF. We note that the hypotheses are those of Theorem 1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma^2(t + M\sqrt{t})}{\sigma^2(t)} &= \frac{\mu(2t + 2M\sqrt{t}) - \mu(t + M\sqrt{t})}{\mu(2t) - \mu(t)} \\ &= \frac{\mu(2t + 2M\sqrt{t}) - \mu(2t)}{\mu(4t) - \mu(2t)} \cdot \frac{\mu(4t) - \mu(2t)}{\mu(2t) - \mu(t)} \\ &\quad - \frac{\mu(t + M\sqrt{t}) - \mu(t)}{\mu(2t) - \mu(t)} + 1 \\ &= A \cdot B - C + 1. \end{aligned}$$

The concavity of  $\mu(t)$  implies that  $B \leq 2$ . As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , the terms  $A$  and  $C$  converge to zero by Lemma 3 and the condition  $\sigma^2(t) \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

We continue with the series of lemmas that leads to our main result, asymptotic normality for the random variable  $Z_n$ .

LEMMA 5. For any  $M > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\mu_{n+M\sqrt{n}} - \mu_n] / \sigma(n) = 0$ .

PROOF. The result follows by applying Lemma 1 to Lemma 3.  $\square$

LEMMA 6. For any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P[|Z_{n+M\sqrt{n}} - Z_n| / \sigma(n) > \epsilon] = 0$ .

PROOF. By using Markov's inequality, we have

$$P[|Z_{n+M\sqrt{n}} - Z_n| / \sigma(n) > \epsilon] \leq [\mu_{n+M\sqrt{n}} - \mu_n] / \epsilon \sigma(n)$$

and the right-hand side goes to zero by Lemma 5.  $\square$

We can now prove the main theorem.

<sup>\*</sup>THEOREM 2. The random variable  $[Z_n - \mu_n] / \sigma(n)$  converges in distribution to the standard normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , for all  $\{p_k\} \in \mathbb{A}$ .

PROOF. We use the identity

$$(1) \quad P\left\{\frac{Z_{N(n)} - \mu_n}{\sigma(n)} \leq x\right\} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P\left\{\frac{Z_k - \mu_n}{\sigma(n)} \leq x\right\} \frac{n^k e^{-n}}{k!},$$

conditioning on the values of  $N(n)$ . The rest of the details are similar to those in Karlin ([4], page 390). With  $\varepsilon > 0$  given and  $n$  specified sufficiently large, there exists a constant  $C_1(\varepsilon)$  independent of  $n$  such that

$$\sum_{k=n-C_1 n^{1/2}}^{n+C_1 n^{1/2}} \frac{n^k e^{-n}}{k!} \geq 1 - \varepsilon.$$

Lemma 6 implies that for  $n > n_0(\varepsilon, \delta)$  and all  $k$  satisfying  $|k - n| \leq C_1 \sqrt{n}$ , the inequality

$$P[|Z_n - Z_k| > \delta \sigma(n)] < \varepsilon$$

holds, where  $\delta > 0$  is arbitrary and fixed.

It follows that for  $n > n_0(\varepsilon, \delta)$ ,

$$P\left\{\frac{Z_k - \mu_n}{\sigma(n)} \leq x\right\} \leq P\left\{\frac{Z_n - \mu_n}{\sigma(n)} \leq x + \frac{Z_n - Z_k}{\sigma(n)}\right\} \leq F_n(x + \delta) + \varepsilon,$$

where  $F_n(x) = P\{Z_n - \mu_n \leq x\sigma(n)\}$ . We apply this to (1) and get, for  $n > n_0(\varepsilon, \delta)$ ,

$$(2) \quad P[Z_{N(n)} - \mu_n \leq x\sigma(n)] \leq F_n(x + \delta) + \varepsilon.$$

The asymptotic normality of  $[Z_{N(n)} - \mu(n)]/\sigma(n)$  (Theorem 1), together with Lemma 1, gives

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left\{\frac{Z_{N(n)} - \mu_n}{\sigma(n)} \leq x\right\} = \Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x \exp\left(-\frac{s^2}{2}\right) ds.$$

Taking a limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and applying (2) gives, for all  $x$ ,

$$\Phi(x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x + \delta).$$

Similarly,

$$\Phi(x) \geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x - \delta), \quad \text{for all } x.$$

Together these two inequalities imply that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) = \Phi(x).$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

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