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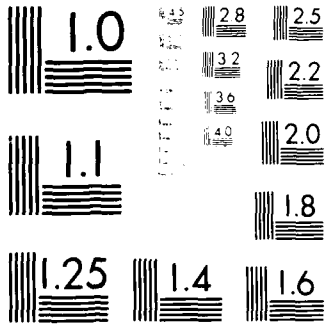
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Department of Statistics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina



STRONG REPRESENTATION OF WEAK CONVERGENCE

by

Z.D. Bai

W.Q. Liang

and

W. Vervaat

Technical Report No. 186

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## STRONG REPRESENTATION OF WEAK CONVERGENCE

Z.D. BAI\*

*Center for Multivariate Analysis, 515 Thackeray Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA*

W.Q. LIANG\*

*Center for Multivariate Analysis, 515 Thackeray Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA*

Wim VERVAAT\*\*

*Department of Mathematics, Catholic University, Toernooiveld 5, 6525 ED Nijmegen, The Netherlands*

The following result is proved. If  $S_n$  is a separable metric space for  $n \leq \infty$ ,  $q_n: S_n \rightarrow S_\infty$  is measurable for  $n < \infty$ ,  $X_n$  is an  $S_n$ -valued random variable for  $n \leq \infty$  and  $q_n(X_n) \rightarrow_d X_\infty$  in  $S_\infty$ , then there exist  $S_n$ -valued random variables  $X_n^*$  such that  $X_n^* \equiv_d X_n$  for  $n \leq \infty$  and  $q_n(X_n^*) \rightarrow X_\infty^*$  wpl. Conditions on  $S_n$  and  $q_n$  are presented that allow a construction in the context of Polish spaces.

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Skorohod's representation theorem • strong representation of weak convergence

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In this paper we prove the following variant of Skorohod's representation theorem for weak convergence. Equality in distribution is denoted by  $\equiv_d$ , convergence in distribution by  $\rightarrow_d$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $S_n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$  be a separable metric space and let  $q_n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  be a measurable function from  $S_n$  into  $S_\infty$ . If  $X_n$  is an  $S_n$ -valued random variable for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$  and  $q_n(X_n) \rightarrow_d X_\infty$  in  $S_\infty$ , then there exist  $S_n$ -valued random variables  $X_n^*$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$  defined on one probability space and such that  $X_n^* \equiv_d X_n$  in  $S_n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$  and  $q_n(X_n^*) \rightarrow X_\infty^*$  wpl in  $S_\infty$ .*

When  $S_n = S$  (separable) and  $q_n = \text{id}_S$  for all  $n$ , then the above theorem specializes to Dudley's (1968) variant of Skorohod's representation theorem. In Skorohod's (1956) original version  $S$  was required to be complete as well. See Wichura (1970) and Blackwell & Dubins (1983) for further extensions. Our proof of the present theorem amounts to the construction of a special metric space  $T$  to which Dudley's theorem can be applied.

Theorem 1 turns out to be useful in many instances. It is applied in Bai (1984), Bai & Yin (1986) and Yin (1984). The need for these applications led the first two authors to the present research.

Here is the simplest example of a theorem that can be proved by Theorem 1, but not by the theorem of Skorohod-Dudley in its original form. It is Theorem 4.1 of Billingsley (1968), restricted to separable metric spaces.

**Theorem 2.** *If  $S$  is a separable metric space with metric  $\rho$ ,  $(X_n, Y_n)$  are  $S^2$ -valued random variables for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $X$  is an  $S$ -valued random variable such that  $X_n \rightarrow_d X$  in  $S$  and  $\rho(X_n, Y_n) \rightarrow_d 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $Y_n \rightarrow_d X$  in  $S$ .*

**Proof.** By Billingsley (1968, Th.4.4) we have  $(X_n, \rho(X_n, Y_n)) \rightarrow_d (X, 0)$  in  $S \times \mathbb{R}$ . Apply Theorem 1 with  $S_1 = S \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $S_n = S^2$ ,  $X_n$  replaced by  $(X_n, Y_n)$  and  $q_n(x, y) = (x, \rho(x, y))$ , all for  $n < \infty$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.** All statements involving  $n$  are supposed to hold for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$  unless restricted explicitly: limit statements without explicit tendency hold as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $T$  be the disjoint union of all  $S_n$ . Let  $s: T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, \infty\}$  be defined by  $s(x) = n$  if  $x \in S_n$ . Set  $q_{\infty} := \text{id}_S$  and define  $q: T \rightarrow S$  by  $q(x) := q_{s(x)}(x)$ . Let  $\rho_n$  be the metric of  $S_n$ . Let  $\varepsilon_n$  be positive for  $n < \infty$ , decreasing to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and set  $\varepsilon_{\infty} := 0$ . We now define what is going to be the metric on  $T$ :

$$(1) \quad \delta(x, y) := \rho(q(x), q(y)) + \begin{cases} \varepsilon_{s(x)} \wedge \rho_{s(x)}(x, y) & \text{if } s(x) = s(y), \\ \varepsilon_{s(x)} \vee \varepsilon_{s(y)} & \text{if } s(x) \neq s(y). \end{cases}$$

Let us first verify that  $\delta$  is indeed a metric. Obviously,  $\delta(x, y) = \delta(y, x)$  and  $\delta(x, x) = 0$ . If  $\delta(x, y) = 0$ , then  $s(x) = s(y)$  and  $\rho_{s(x)}(x, y) = 0$ , so  $x = y$ . The triangle inequality can be verified separately for both terms on the right-hand side of (1). We note the following properties of  $\delta$ -convergence:

$$(2) \quad \delta = \rho_{\infty} \text{ on } S_{\infty} \times S_{\infty}.$$

(3) If  $x, x_k \in S_n$ , then  $\delta(x, x_k) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  iff  $\rho_n(x, x_k) \rightarrow 0$  and  $\rho_n(q_n(x), q_n(x_k)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . It follows that the  $\rho_n$ -topology in  $S_n$  is coarser than or equal to the trace in  $S_n$  of the  $\delta$ -topology in  $T$ , which is homeomorphic via  $S_n \ni x \mapsto (x, q_n(x))$  to the trace in the graph of  $q_n$  of the product topology in  $S_n \times S_{\infty}$ . The last topology is separable, and so is the trace of the  $\delta$ -topology in each  $S_n$ . Consequently,  $\delta$  is separable.

$$(4) \quad S_n \text{ is } \delta\text{-open for } n < \infty.$$

$$(5) \quad \text{If } x_n \in S_n \text{ for each } n < \infty, \text{ then } x_n \rightarrow x \text{ iff } x \in S_{\infty} \text{ and } q_{\infty}(x_n) \rightarrow x \text{ in } S_{\infty}.$$

Having established that  $T$  with  $\delta$  is a separable metric space, we may apply Dudley's theorem to  $T$ -valued random variables. However, there is one more barrier to take. We want to identify  $S_n$ -valued random variables with  $T$ -valued random variables having range in  $S_n$ . In the first appearance random variables must be  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable, where  $\mathcal{S}_n$  is the Borel field in  $S_n$  generated by  $\rho_n$ . In the

second appearance they must be  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable, where  $\mathcal{S}_n$  is the trace in  $S_n$  of  $\mathcal{S}$ , the Borel field in  $T$  generated by  $\delta$ . So we must prove  $\mathcal{S}_n = \mathcal{S}_n$ .

From the second clause in (3) it follows that  $\mathcal{S}_n \subset \mathcal{S}_n$ . For the converse inclusion we must do a little more. First note that  $\mathcal{S}$  is already generated by the open  $\delta$ -balls in  $T$ , since  $\delta$  is separable. This can be phrased equivalently by stating that  $\mathcal{S}$  is the smallest  $\sigma$ -field in  $T$  which makes the functions  $\delta(x, \cdot)$  measurable for all  $x \in T$ . Consequently,  $\mathcal{S}_n$  is the smallest  $\sigma$ -field in  $S_n$  which makes the functions  $\delta(x, \cdot)$ , restricted to  $S_n$ , measurable for all  $x \in T$ . First suppose  $n = \infty$ . Then  $\delta(x, y) = \varrho_n(q(x), y) + \varepsilon_{\{x\}}$  for  $x \in T, y \in S_n$ , which, as a function of  $y$ , is obviously  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable. So  $\mathcal{S}_n \subset \mathcal{S}_n$ . Considering (1) for  $x \in T$  as a function of  $y \in S_n$  we observe that  $\varrho_n(x, \cdot)$  is  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable, and that  $\varrho_n(q(x), q_n(\cdot))$  is  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable as composition of the  $\mathcal{S}_n$ - $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable function  $q_n$  and the  $\mathcal{S}_n$ -measurable function  $\varrho_n(q(x), \cdot)$ .

We now write down the scheme of implications that proves the theorem. We are given  $S_n$ -valued random variables  $X_n$  such that

$$(6) \quad q_n(X_n) \rightarrow_d X \quad \text{in } S_n.$$

The major point, to be proved below, is that this implies

$$(7) \quad X_n \rightarrow_d X \quad \text{in } T.$$

By Dudley's theorem there are  $T$ -valued random variables  $Y_n$ , defined on one probability space, such that  $Y_n \equiv_d X_n$  in  $T$  and  $Y_n \rightarrow Y$  wpl in  $T$ . By (4) we have  $S_n \in \mathcal{S}$  for each  $n$ , so there is a measurable function  $J_n: T \rightarrow S_n$  such that the restriction of  $J_n$  to  $S_n$  is the identity map on  $S_n$ ; take  $J_n$  to be the identity map on  $S_n$  and constant on  $T \setminus S_n$ . Set  $X_n^* := J_n Y_n$ . Then  $X_n^*$  has range in  $S_n$ , and  $X_n^* = Y_n$  wpl in  $T$ , since  $\mathbb{P}[Y_n \in S_n] = \mathbb{P}[X_n \in S_n] = 1$ . From  $X_n^* = Y_n$  wpl and  $Y_n \equiv_d X_n$  in  $T$  it follows that  $X_n^* \equiv_d X_n$  in  $T$ . As  $X_n^*$  has range in  $S_n$ , this implies  $X_n^* \equiv_d X_n$  in  $S_n$ . From  $X_n^* = Y_n$  wpl in  $T$  and  $Y_n \rightarrow Y$  wpl in  $T$  we obtain  $X_n^* \rightarrow X^*$  wpl in  $T$ . As  $X_n^*$  has range in  $S_n$ , this implies by (5)

$$q(X_n^*) \rightarrow X^* \text{ wpl in } S_n.$$

We have arrived at all conclusions of the theorem.

It remains to prove the implication (6)  $\Rightarrow$  (7). We will interpret (6) and (7) by convergence of probability distributions on continuity sets, so we must compare the boundaries under  $\varrho_n$  and  $\delta$ . By (2) we have for  $A \subset T$ :

$$(8) \quad \mathcal{D}_n(A \cap S_n) = \mathcal{D}_{X_n}(A \cap S_n) = \mathcal{D}_S(A).$$

Let  $B(x, \varepsilon) := \{y \in T: \delta(x, y) < \varepsilon\}$  and set

$$(9) \quad \mathcal{V} := \{B(x, \varepsilon): \varepsilon < \varepsilon_{\{x\}}, \text{ if } s(x) < \infty, \mathbb{P}[X_n \in \mathcal{D}_S B(x, \varepsilon)] = 0\},$$

and let  $\mathcal{U}$  consist of the unions of finitely many elements of  $\mathcal{V}$ . By Billingsley (1968, Corollary 2 on p 15) it is sufficient for (7) that

$$(10) \quad \mathbb{P}[X_n \in A] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}[X \in A] \quad \text{for } A \in \mathcal{U}.$$

If  $B(x, \varepsilon) \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $s(x) < \infty$ , then  $B(x, \varepsilon) \subset S_{\{x\}}$ , so  $\mathbb{P}[X_n \in B(x, \varepsilon)] = 0$  unless  $n = s(x)$ . If  $B(x, \varepsilon) \in \mathcal{V}$  with  $x \in S_n$ , then

$$[X_n \in B(x, \varepsilon)] = [\varrho_n(x, q_n(X_n)) < \varepsilon - \varepsilon_n] = [q_n(X_n) \in B(x, \varepsilon - \varepsilon_n) \cap S_n],$$

so

$$(11) \quad [q_n(X_n) \in B(x, \varepsilon) \cap S_n] \subset \liminf [X_n \in B(x, \varepsilon)] \subset \limsup [X_n \in B(x, \varepsilon)] \\ \subset [q_n(X_n) \in \overline{B(x, \varepsilon) \cap S_n}].$$

By (6), (8) and (9) the outmost sides of (11) have equal probabilities. Combining the previous observations for separate  $B(x, \varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{V}$  we arrive at (11) with  $A \in \mathcal{U}$  instead of  $B(x, \varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{V}$ , again with equal probabilities for the outmost sides. This proves (10), hence (7). The proof of the theorem is complete.

**Remarks.** In general the space  $T$  is not complete under  $\delta$ , even if all  $S_n$  are under  $\varrho_n$ . To see this, consider the case that all  $x_n$  ( $n < \infty$ ) lie in  $S_m$  for one fixed  $m$ . Then  $(x_n)$  is  $\delta$ -Cauchy iff  $((x_n, q_m(x_n)))_{n \geq 1}$  is  $\varrho_m \times \varrho_m$ -Cauchy. If the latter holds, then  $((x_n, q_m(x_n)))$  converges in  $S_m \times S_m$ , but not necessarily in graph  $q_m$ , unless the latter is closed. This combined with the observation that  $\delta$ -Cauchy sequences  $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$  with  $x_n \in S_n$  converge if  $S_n$  is  $\varrho_n$ -complete leads us to the following result.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $S_n$  be separable and  $\varrho_n$ -complete for each  $n$ . Then  $T$  is  $\delta$ -complete iff graph  $q_n$  is closed in  $S_n \times S_n$  for each  $n$ .*

It is well-known that graph  $q_n$  is closed if  $q_n$  is continuous, and that  $q_n$  is continuous if graph  $q_n$  is closed and  $S_n$  is compact. Using the fact that a subset of a Polish space is Polish iff it is  $G_\delta$  (Dugundji (1966, Th. XIV.8.3)), we arrive at the following variation on Theorem 3.

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $S_n$  be Polish for each  $n$ . Then  $T$  is Polish iff graph  $q_n$  is  $G_\delta$  in  $S_n \times S_n$  for each  $n$ .*

For results on real functions with  $G_\delta$  graphs, see van Rooij & Schikhof (1982, Exerc. 11.Y.Z). Functions of the first class of Baire (pointwise limits of continuous functions) have  $G_\delta$  graphs.  $F_\sigma$  graphs are also  $G_\delta$ .

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