

---

**Series 6: Borel-Cantelli lemma**

---

**Exercise 1**

Let  $X$  be a real random variable, and  $U$  be a uniform random variable on  $[0, 1]$ . Let  $F$  be the c.d.f. of  $X$ , and  $F^{-1}(y) = \inf\{x : y \leq F(x)\}$ . Show that  $F^{-1}(U)$  has the same law as  $X$ . (Remark: this is convenient when one wants to generate random variables on a computer, since there is usually a “built-in” way to generate uniform random variables.)

**Exercise 2**

Show that for every sequence  $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$  of random variables, there exists a sequence of real numbers  $c_n \rightarrow +\infty$  such that

$$\frac{X_n}{c_n} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

**Exercise 3**

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be independent random variables. Show that  $\sup X_n < \infty$  a.s. if and only if there exists  $A > 0$  such that  $\sum_n \mathbb{P}\{X_n > A\} < \infty$ .

**Exercise 4**

Let  $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables such that  $X_1 \sim \exp(1)$ , and let  $c > 0$ . Compute

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \frac{X_n}{\log(n)} > c \quad \text{for infinitely many } n \right].$$

What is  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} X_n / \log(n)$ ?

**Exercise 5**

(i.) Show that if  $\mathbb{P}\{A_n\} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}\{A_n^c \cap A_{n+1}\} < \infty$ , then  $\mathbb{P}\{A_n \text{ i.o.}\} = 0$ .

(ii.) Find a sequence  $A_n$  which satisfies the assumptions of (i.) but not those of the Borel-Cantelli lemma.

**Exercise 6**

Consider the probability space  $([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]), \mathbb{P} = \text{Lebesgue measure})$ . For every  $n \geq 1$ , we define the random variable  $X_n(\omega) = \lfloor 2^n \omega \rfloor - 2 \lfloor 2^{n-1} \omega \rfloor$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  is the integer part of a real number  $x$ . Show that for every  $\omega$ ,  $X_n(\omega) \in \{0, 1\}$  and

$$\omega = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} X_k(\omega) 2^{-k}.$$

(In other words,  $(X_k(\omega))_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  are the coefficients of the (proper) dyadic expansion of  $\omega$ .) Show that  $(X_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  are independent and identically distributed random variables, and give their common distribution. Show that almost surely, every finite sequence of 0's and 1's appears infinitely many times in the sequence  $(X_k(\omega))_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*}$ .

**Exercise 7**

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Show that for almost every  $x \in [0, 1]$  (with respect to Lebesgue measure), there exists no more than a finite number of rationals  $p/q$  such that

$$\left| x - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q^{2+\epsilon}}.$$

Give points for which this condition is satisfied, and others for which it is not.