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A LIMIT DISTRIBUTION RELATED TO RANDOM MAPPINGS AND ITS APPLICATION TO AN EPIDEMIC PROCESS

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In this paper we consider random graphs, corresponding to random self-mappings of the finite set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. The limit distribution of the number of cyclic graph's elements, which are contained in components of sizes exceeding $\alpha \cdot n$, $0 < \alpha < 1$, is derived for $n \rightarrow \infty$. This result is obtained in terms of Laplace-Stiltjes transforms. Some limit properties of the inverse epidemic process, introduced by I. B. Gertsbakh (1977), are proved.

1. Introduction. Consider the set \mathcal{T}_n of all the mappings of the finite set $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$ into itself, which satisfy $Tx \neq x$, $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$, $x \in X$. There are $(n-1)^n$ different mappings in \mathcal{T}_n . Each mapping $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ is a digraph G_T , whose points belong to the set X ; the points x and y are joined by an arrow iff $y = Tx$. The graph G_T may consist of disjointed components and each component includes only one cycle. We classify the components of G_T corresponding to their size, i. e. to the number of points they consist of. Let an uniform probability distribution on \mathcal{T}_n be given (each mapping $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ has probability $(n-1)^{-n}$). The random mappings just described are the second type mappings studied by B. Harris [1].

Let $\mu_{s,n} = \mu_{s,n}(T)$, $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ be the number of cyclical points of G_T , which are contained in components of sizes exceeding $s (\geq 2)$. Suppose that $n \rightarrow \infty$, $s \sim \alpha n$, $0 < \alpha < 1$. We derive an asymptotic result for the distribution of $\mu_{s,n}$ in terms of Laplace-Stiltjes transforms. As an application of this limit theorem, we discover some asymptotics for the inverse epidemic process introduced by I. B. Gertsbakh [2].

2. Preliminary results. The mapping $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ is called indecomposable iff it generates only one cycle. Let $C_{n,k}$ denote the number of indecomposable mappings in \mathcal{T}_n , which have exactly k cyclic elements. It is known, that for $n \geq k \geq 2$ [2, p. 432] $C_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k} k! n^{n-k-1}$. The number of all indecomposable mappings in \mathcal{T}_n is

$$(1) \quad B_n = \sum_{k=2}^n C_{n,k} = (n-1)! \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} \frac{n^k}{k!} = \sqrt{\pi n/2} e(n-1)^{n-1} (1 + o(1)), \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Assign to each indecomposable mapping T the probability B_n^{-1} , and denote by ξ_n the number of cyclic elements in T . The probability distribution of ξ_n is

$$(2) \quad P\{\xi_n = k\} = n! n^{n-k-1} / (n-k)! B_n, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, n.$$

The random variables ξ_n have generating functions

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$$(3) \quad P_n(x) = \frac{n^{n-1}}{B_n} \sum_{k=2}^n \binom{n}{k} k! n^{-k} x^k.$$

Let $M_n(k_2, \dots, k_n)$ be the number of all mappings $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$, which have k components of size i , $k_i \geq 0$, $i = 2, \dots, n$, $\sum i k_i = n$. It is easy to see that

$$M_n(k_2, \dots, k_n) = n! B_2^{k_2} \dots B_n^{k_n} / (2!)^{k_2} \dots (n!)^{k_n} k_2! \dots k_n!$$

Now define the sequence of generating functions of the numbers $M_n(k_2, \dots, k_n)$:

$$m_0 = 1, m_1 = 0, m_n(x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{\substack{k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ \sum i k_i = n}} M_n(k_2, \dots, k_n) x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n}, n \geq 2.$$

The following relation between the generating functions m_n and P_m is obtained in [3]:

Lemma 1. If $|z| \leq e^{-1}$, $z \neq e^{-1}$, then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} m_n(P_2(x_2), \dots, P_n(x_n)) \frac{z^n}{n!} = \exp\left(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{B_k}{k!} P_k(x_k) z^k\right)$$

holds for $|x_k| \leq 1$, $k = 2, \dots, n$.

We shall use also the power series $B(z) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} B_n z^n / n!$, $S(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^n z^n / n!$ and $\Theta(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{n-1} z^n / n!$ ($|z| \leq e^{-1}$, $z \neq e^{-1}$). It is well-known [4, Section 7.1 and 7.2] that the function $\Theta(z)$ satisfies the transcendental equations

$$(4) \quad \Theta e^{-\Theta} = z, \quad \Theta(z e^{-z}) = z \quad (\Theta(e^{-1}) = 1),$$

and

$$(5) \quad S(z) = [1 - \Theta(z)]^{-1}.$$

Using some general combinatorial results [5 p. 179] we can obtain also that

$$(6) \quad \exp\{B(z)\} = S(z) \exp\{-\Theta(z)\}.$$

We also need the limit distribution of the random variables ξ_n (see (2)) for $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Lemma 2. If $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $u = o(n^{1/6})$, $u > 0$, then

$$(7) \quad P\{\xi_n / \sqrt{n} = u\} = \sqrt{2/\pi n} e^{-u^2/2} (1 + o(1)).$$

Proof. Applying the limit-relation (1) and Stirling's formula in (2) for $u = k/\sqrt{n}$, we obtain

$$P\{\xi_n / \sqrt{n} = u\} = e^{-u\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{2/\pi} (1 - u/\sqrt{n})^{-n+u\sqrt{n}-1/2} (1/\sqrt{n}) (1 + o(1)).$$

For every $u = o(n^{1/6})$ we have $(-n + u\sqrt{n} - 1/2) \ln(1 - u/\sqrt{n}) = u\sqrt{n} - u^2/2 + o(1)$. These two relations give the limit distribution (7).

3. The limit distribution of $\mu_{s,n}$. Consider the random variable $\mu_{s,n}$, defined in the introduction. In [3] is obtained the following result: If $n \rightarrow \infty$, and $s \sim \alpha n$, $0 < \alpha < 1$, then

$$E \mu_{s,n} = \sqrt{2n/\pi} (\pi/2 - \arcsin \sqrt{\alpha}) + O(1).$$

Here we shall give an asymptotic relation for the Laplace-Stiltjes transformation of $\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}$.

Theorem 1. *If $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $s \sim an$, $0 < a < 1$, then for a fixed $t \geq 0$*

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(-t\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) = \sum_{0 \leq k < 1/a} \frac{I_k(t, a)}{2^k k!} + o(1),$$

where $I_0(t, a) = 1$,

$$I_k(t, a) = \int_{V_{a,k}} \dots \int \frac{[f(t\sqrt{x_1})-1] \dots [f(t\sqrt{x_k})-1] dx_1 \dots dx_k}{x_1 \dots x_k \sqrt{1-x_1-\dots-x_k}}, \quad k \geq 1,$$

$V_{a,k} = \{x_i \geq a; i = 1, \dots, k, x_1 + \dots + x_k \leq 1\}$, and

$$(8) \quad f(t) = \sqrt{2/\pi} \int_0^\infty \exp(-tx - x^2/2) dx.$$

Proof. By lemma 1, substituting $x_j = 1$ for $j \leq s$ and $x_j = x$ for $j \geq s+1$, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^\infty \Psi_n(x) \frac{z^n}{n!} = \exp\{B(z) + \sum_{k=s+1}^\infty \frac{B_k z^k}{k!} (P_k(x) - 1)\},$$

where $\Psi_n(x) = m_n(\overbrace{1, \dots, 1}^s, P_{s+1}(x), \dots, P_n(x))$. Hence for the generating function of $\mu_{s,n}$ it follows

$$\mathbb{E} x^{\mu_{s,n}} = (n-1)^{-n} \Psi_n(x) = \frac{n!}{(n-1)^n} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint \exp\{B(z) + \sum_{k=s+1}^\infty \frac{B_k z^k}{k!} (P_k(x) - 1)\} \frac{dz}{z^{n+1}}.$$

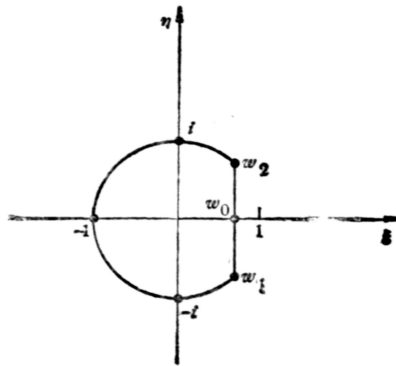


Fig. 1

Substitute in the last integral $z = w e^{-w}$, $x = e^{-t/\sqrt{n}}$ ($t \geq 0$) and choose the path of integration C in the plane $w = \xi + i\eta$ as on Fig. 1 (see [6, p. 648]). Here $w_0 = 1 - 1/\sqrt{s}$, $w_1 = 1 - 1/\sqrt{s} - i \sqrt{1 - (1 - 1/\sqrt{s})^2}$, $w_2 = 1 - 1/\sqrt{s} + i \sqrt{1 - (1 - 1/\sqrt{s})^2}$. By (4)–(6) we obtain

$$\mathbf{E} \exp(-t u_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) = \frac{n!}{(n-1)!} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{C}} e^{(\tau-1)\omega} \exp\left\{ \sum_{k=s+1}^{\infty} \frac{B_k \omega^k e^{-k\omega}}{k!} (P_k(e^{-t\sqrt{\tau}}) - 1) \frac{d\omega}{\omega^{n+1}} \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that the integral on the unit circle tends to 0, when $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $s \sim an$, $0 < a < 1$, and the non-zero part of the integral is on the chord $\omega_1 \omega_2$:

$$(9) \quad \mathbf{E} \exp(-t u_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) = \frac{n!}{(n-1)!} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\omega_1}^{\omega_2} e^{(n-1)\omega} \exp\left\{ \sum_{k=s+1}^{\infty} \frac{B_k \omega^k e^{-k\omega}}{k!} (P_k(e^{-t/\sqrt{n}}) - 1) \frac{d\omega}{\omega^{n+1}} + o(1) \right\}.$$

Put in this integral $\omega = 1 - v/\sqrt{s}$. For the same values of s it is easy to verify that

$$(10) \quad n! / (n-1)! e^{(n-1)(1-v/\sqrt{s})} (1 - v/\sqrt{s})^{-(n+1)} = \sqrt{2\pi n} e^{v^2/2s} (1 + o(1)),$$

$$(11) \quad (1 - v/\sqrt{s})^k e^{kv\sqrt{s}} = e^{-kv^2/2s} (1 + O(1/\sqrt{s})),$$

and

$$(12) \quad B_k e^{-k}/(k-1)! = 1/2 + O(1/\sqrt{k}), \quad k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now we shall study the asymptotic behaviour of the sum

$$\sigma_s(v) = \sum_{k=s+1}^{\infty} \frac{B_k}{k!} \left(1 - \frac{v}{\sqrt{s}}\right)^k e^{-k(1-v/\sqrt{s})} (P_k(e^{-t\sqrt{s}}) - 1).$$

Using (11) and (12) we obtain the representation

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma_s(v) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k>s} \frac{1}{k} e^{-kv^2/2s} (P_k(e^{-t/\sqrt{n}}) - 1) (1 + O(1/\sqrt{s})) \\ &= [\sigma_s^{(1)}(v) - \sigma_s^{(2)}(v)] (1 + O(1/\sqrt{s})), \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_s^{(1)}(v) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k>s} \frac{1}{k} e^{-kv^2/2s} P_k(e^{-t/\sqrt{s}}), \quad \sigma_s^{(2)}(v) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k>s} \frac{1}{k} e^{-kv^2/2s}.$$

We may consider $\sigma_s^{(2)}(v)$ as a Riemann's integral sum:

$$(14) \quad \sigma_s^{(2)}(v) = \frac{1}{2s} \sum_{k>s} \frac{1}{(k/s)} e^{-v^2(k/s)/2} = \frac{1}{2} \int_1^{\infty} \frac{e^{-uv^2}}{u} du + o(1) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{v^2}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-x/2}}{x} dx + o(1).$$

For the sum $\sigma_s^{(1)}(v)$ we shall use relation (7) of lemma 2, which can be written as

$$(15) \quad \mathbf{P}\{\xi_k = l\} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi k}} e^{-l^2/2k} (1 + o(1)),$$

for $k \geq s \sim an$, $0 < a < 1$, and $l = o(k^{2/3})$. For arbitrary l ($2 \leq l \leq k$) and $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a natural number k_0 such that

$$\mathbf{P}\{\xi_k = l\} \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \sqrt{2/\pi k} \exp(-l^2/k),$$

when $k \geq k_0$. Therefore

$$(16) \quad \sum_{k^{7/12} \leq l \leq k} P\{\xi_k = l\} e^{-tl/\sqrt{\pi}} \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \sqrt{2k/\pi} e^{-k^{1/5}} \rightarrow 0, \quad k \rightarrow \infty.$$

By virtue of (14)—(16) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_s^{(1)}(v) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \sum_{k > s} \frac{1}{k^{3/2}} e^{-kv^2/2s} \sum_{2 \leq l < k^{7/12}} \exp\left(-\frac{tl}{\sqrt{\pi}} - \frac{l^2}{k}\right) (1 + o(1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \sum_{k/s > 1} \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{(k/s)^{3/2}} e^{-kv^2/2s} \sum_{(k^{7/12}/\sqrt{s}) > (\cdot/\sqrt{s}) \geq (2/\sqrt{s})} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \exp\left(-\frac{t\sqrt{al}}{\sqrt{s}} - \frac{l^2}{s(k/s)}\right) \\ &\quad (1 + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Using again the Riemann's integral sums we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (17) \quad \sigma_s^{(1)}(v) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_1^\infty \frac{e^{-xv^2/2}}{x\sqrt{x}} \int_0^\infty e^{-t\sqrt{ax}y} e^{-y^2/2x} dy dx + o(1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_{v^2}^\infty \frac{e^{-x/2}}{x} \int_0^\infty e^{-t\sqrt{ax}y/v} e^{-y^2/2} dy dx + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

From (9), (10), (13), (14), and (17) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &E \exp(-t\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{2\pi i \sqrt{a}} \int_{-i\infty}^{1+i\infty} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_{v^2}^\infty \frac{e^{-x/2}}{x} \int_0^\infty e^{-t\sqrt{ax}y/v} e^{-y^2/2} dy dx\right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} \int_{v^2}^\infty \frac{e^{-x/2}}{x} dx\right) e^{v^2/2a} dv + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Putting again in the last integral $v^2 = p$ and then $x/2p = u$ we get

$$(18) \quad E \exp(-t\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2a}} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{II} \exp\left\{\int_{1/2}^\infty e^{-up} g_a(u, t) du\right\} \frac{e^{p/2a}}{\sqrt{p}} dp + o(1),$$

where the path of integration II is the corresponding to the substitution parabola, and

$$g_a(u, t) = \begin{cases} [f(t\sqrt{2au}) - 1]/2u, & \text{when } u \geq 1/2 \\ 0, & \text{when } u < 1/2, \end{cases}$$

($f(t)$ was defined by (8)). Let us represent the first exponential function in (18) as a power-series in

$$G_a(p, t) = \int_{1/2}^\infty e^{-up} g_a(u, t) du.$$

The powers $[G_a(p, t)]^k$ are Laplace transforms of the k th convolution $g_{a,k}(u, t)$ of the function $g_a(u, t)$. It is easy to see that the integral over II in (18) gives the inverse Laplace transform. Since $g_{a,k}(u, t) = 0$ whenever $0 \leq t < k/2$, the power series

$$\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2a}} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \int_{II} \frac{G_a^j(p, t)}{j!} \frac{e^{p/2a}}{\sqrt{p}} dp$$

is a finite sum whose powers are less than $1/\alpha$. Thus for any natural number $k < 1/\alpha$

$$L_{k,\alpha}(t) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\alpha}} \frac{1}{2\pi i k!} \int_H [G_\alpha(p, t)]^k \frac{e^{p/2\alpha}}{\sqrt{p}} dp = \frac{1}{k!} \int_{k/2}^{1/2\alpha} g_{\alpha,k}(u) \frac{du}{\sqrt{1-2\alpha u}}.$$

Performing this integral we get $L_{k,\alpha}(t) = \frac{1}{k! 2^k} I_k(t, \alpha)$. In order to complete the proof we shall remark that $E \exp(-t\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}) = \sum_{0 \leq k < 1/\alpha} L_{k,\alpha}(t) + o(1)$.

Corollary. If $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $s \sim \alpha n$, $0 < \alpha < 1$ then the sequence of random variables $\{n^{-1/2} \mu_{s,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ converges weakly to the random variable μ with Laplace transform

$$(19) \quad E e^{-t\mu} = \sum_{0 \leq k < 1/\alpha} I_k(t, \alpha) / 2^k k!.$$

The distribution function $H_\mu(x)$ of the random variable μ satisfy the inequality $H_\mu(0) \neq 0$ (see (19)). For example, let $1/2 < \alpha \leq 1$, then the sum in (19) has only two terms. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} H_\mu(x) &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-\alpha}}{1 - \sqrt{1-\alpha}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^x \int_\alpha^1 \frac{e^{-u^2/2y}}{y^{3/2}\sqrt{1-y}} dy du \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-\alpha}}{1 - \sqrt{1-\alpha}} + \int_0^x \frac{e^{-u^2/2}}{u} \Phi_0(u\sqrt{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1}) du, \end{aligned}$$

where $\Phi_0(u) = \sqrt{2/\pi} \int_0^u e^{-z^2/2} dz$.

4. Application to an epidemic process. We shall apply the result of theorem 1 to study an epidemic process introduced by I. B. Gertsbakh [2].

Define $T^k x$ to be the k th iteration of $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ on $x \in X$, where k is integer, i. e. $T^k x = T(T^{k-1}x)$ and $T^0 x = x$. If for some $k \leq 0$ $T^k x = y$, y is said to be a k th inverse of x in T . The set of all k th inverses of x in T is denoted by $T^{(k)}(x)$ and $P_T(x) = \bigcup_{k=-n}^0 T^{(k)}(x)$ is the set of all inverses (or predecessors) of x .

Let m bacteria be placed at elements x_1, \dots, x_m , where $x_i \in X$, $i = 1, \dots, m$. All $\binom{n}{m}$ different occupations are equally probable. An inverse epidemic process (IEP) [2] is defined by the infection being delivered from the infected points to all their predecessors. The area which will be infected is the set of all inverses of x_1, \dots, x_m : $P_T(n) = \bigcup_{i=1}^m P_T(x_i)$. Denote the number of distinct elements in the set $P_T(n)$ by $|P_T(n)|$. Consider the function $C_I(n): \mathcal{T}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^1$ which maps each $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$ into the integer $|P_T(n)|$. Let $0 < \alpha < 1$, and consider the event $\{C_I(n) \geq \alpha n\}$ which denotes that the infected area arising from m bacteria exceeds a fixed α -ratio of all elements in X (m bacteria infect an essential part of the population).

In the paper [2] I. B. Gertsbakh has shown that $P\{C_I(n) \geq \alpha n\} \rightarrow 0$ for $m = O(\sqrt{n})$. In [3] is proved that $P\{C_I(n) \geq \alpha n\} \rightarrow 1$ for $\sqrt{n} = o(m)$.

Theorem 1 can be applied to study the limiting behaviour of the probability $P\{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\}$ for $m \sim \gamma\sqrt{n}$, $\gamma > 0$.

Theorem 2. If $n \rightarrow \infty$, $m \sim \gamma\sqrt{n}$, $\gamma > 0$, and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is fixed, then

$$(20) \quad M_1(\alpha, \gamma) \leq \mathbb{P}\{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\} \leq M_2(\gamma),$$

where $M_1(\alpha, \gamma) = 1 - E e^{-\gamma\alpha}$, and

$$M_2(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \gamma\sqrt{\pi/2} & \text{for } \gamma \leq \sqrt{2/\pi}, \\ 1 & \text{for } \gamma > \sqrt{2/\pi}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. In [2, pp. 434—435] Gertsbakh derives the inequality $\mathbb{P}\{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\} \leq m\sqrt{\pi/2n}$ for arbitrary m . Letting in this inequality $m \sim \gamma\sqrt{n}$ we obtain the upper bound $M_2(\gamma)$.

For the investigation of the lower bound of the probability $\mathbb{P}\{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\}$ we shall consider the random variable $\eta_{m,s}$ [3], which is equal to the number of bacteria, placed in cyclic elements belonging to components with sizes not less than s . According to the formula of total probability for the distribution of $\eta_{m,s}$, we obtain

$$(21) \quad \mathbb{P}\{\eta_{m,s} = k\} = \sum_{l=0}^n \frac{\binom{l}{k} \binom{n-l}{m-k}}{\binom{n}{m}} \mathbb{P}\{\mu_{s,n} = l\}.$$

Using relations $\{\eta_{m,s} \geq 1\} \subset \{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\}$, $\mathbb{P}\{\eta_{m,s} \geq 1\} = 1 - \mathbb{P}\{\eta_{m,s} = 0\}$, and letting in (21) $k=0$ we obtain, that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\{C_I(m) \geq \alpha n\} &\geq 1 - \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n-l}{m} \binom{n}{m}^{-1} \mathbb{P}\{\mu_{s,n} = l\} \\ &= 1 - \sum_{l=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{m}{n-l+1}\right) \mathbb{P}\{\mu_{s,n} = l\} \\ &> 1 - \sum_{l=0}^n \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^l \mathbb{P}\{\mu_{s,n} = l\} = 1 - E\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^{\mu_{s,n}} = 1 - E(a_{m,n})^{\mu_{s,n}/\sqrt{n}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $a_{m,n} = (1 - m/n)^{\sqrt{n}} = (1 - \gamma/\sqrt{n} + o(1/\sqrt{n}))^{\sqrt{n}} \rightarrow e^{-\gamma}$, $n \rightarrow \infty$. The Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem gives the first inequality in (20).

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