

NONCONVENTIONAL LIMIT THEOREMS.

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ABSTRACT. The polynomial ergodic theorem (PET) which attracted substantial attention in ergodic theory studies the limits of expressions having the form $1/N \sum_{n=1}^N T^{q_1(n)} f_1 \cdots T^{q_\ell(n)} f_\ell$ where T is a weakly mixing measure preserving transformation, f_i 's are bounded measurable functions and q_i 's are polynomials taking on integer values on the integers. Motivated partially by this result we obtain a central limit theorem for even more general expressions of the form

$$1/\sqrt{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (F(X_1(q_1(n)), X_2(q_2(n)), \dots, X_\ell(q_\ell(n))) - \bar{F})$$

where X_i 's are exponentially fast ψ -mixing bounded stationary processes, F is a Lipschitz continuous function, $\bar{F} = \int F d(\mu_1 \times \cdots \times \mu_\ell)$, μ_j is the distribution of $X_j(0)$, and q_i 's are positive functions taking on integer values on integers with some growth conditions which are satisfied, for instance, when q_i 's are polynomials of growing degrees. When $F(x_1, \dots, x_\ell) = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_\ell$ exponentially fast α -mixing already suffices. This result can be applied in the case when $X_i(n) = T^n f_i$ where T is a mixing subshift of finite type, a hyperbolic diffeomorphism or an expanding transformation taken with a Gibbs invariant measure, as well, as in the case when $X_i(n) = f_i(\xi_n)$ where ξ_n is a Markov chain satisfying the Doeblin condition considered as a stationary process with respect to its invariant measure.