

RT-MAE-8005

A CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM  
FOR STATIONARY PROCESSES

by

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PALAVRAS CHAVES: Finite Walsh-Fourier transform  
(Key Words) Walsh-Fourier spectrum  
Central Limit Theorem

CLASSIFICAÇÃO AMS : 60G10  
(Classification AMS) 62M10

NOVEMBRO DE 1980

## A CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM FOR STATIONARY PROCESSES

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\{X(n), n=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$  be a strictly stationary sequence with zero mean and covariance function  $R(k) = E\{X(n)X(n+k)\}$ .

For  $N=2^t$ ,  $t>0$  integer, let

$$d_N(\lambda) = N^{-1/2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} X(n)W(n, \lambda), \quad 0 \leq \lambda < 1 \quad (1)$$

be the finite Walsh - Fourier transform of the values  $X(0), \dots, X(N-1)$ , where  $\{W(n, \lambda), n=0, 1, 2, \dots, 0 \leq \lambda < 1\}$  is the orthonormal system of Walsh functions. For the definitions, notations and properties concerned with this system we refer to the papers by Fine (1949, 1950, 1957), Morettin (1974b, 1980) and Kohn (1980a, 1980b).

Our purpose is to prove a central limit theorem for  $d_N(\lambda)$ . Some previous results were derived by Morettin (1973, 1974a) and Kohn (1980a).

Let

$$\tau(j) = N^{-1} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} R(j \oplus k - k) \quad (2)$$

be the logical covariance (Robinson (1972), Kohn (1980a)).

It follows that  $E\{d_N(\lambda)\} = 0$  and

$$\text{Cov}\{d_N(\lambda), d_N(\mu)\} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} W(j, \lambda)W(k, \mu) \text{Cov}\{X(j), X(k)\}$$

$$= N^{-1} \sum_{j,k=0}^{N-1} W(j,\lambda) W(k,\mu) R(j-k) \quad (3)$$

It follows that the variance of  $d_N(\lambda)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}\{d_N(\lambda)\} &= N^{-1} \sum_{j,k=0}^{N-1} W(j \oplus k, \lambda) R(j-k) \\ &= N^{-1} \sum_{j,k=0}^{N-1} R(j \oplus k - k) W(j, \lambda) \end{aligned}$$

and using (2) we have that

$$\text{Var}\{d_N(\lambda)\} = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \tau(j) W(j, \lambda). \quad (4)$$

If we further assume that

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |\tau(j)| < \infty, \quad (5)$$

then  $\text{Var}\{d_N(\lambda)\}$  converges to

$$f(\lambda) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \tau(j) W(j, \lambda) \quad (6)$$

which we call the Walsh - Fourier spectrum of  $\{X(n), n=0, +1, \dots\}$ .

We now state

Assumption 1 [Kohn (1980a)] :  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{|j| < 2^n} (1 - \frac{|j|}{2^n}) |R(j)| < \infty$ .

It is easy to see that if Assumption 1 holds, then (5) follows and the spectrum  $f(\lambda)$  is well defined.

Let  $M_n$  be the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\{X(j); j \leq n\}$  and put

$$\alpha_j = [E\{E[X(n) | M_{n-j}] - E[X(n) | M_{n-j-1}]\}^2]^{1/2}, \quad j \geq 0.$$

Assuming that  $M_{-\infty}$  is trivial and that  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha_j < \infty$ , Kohn (1980a) proves a central limit theorem for  $d_N(\lambda)$ . The proof consists in adapting the proof of a central limit theorem for time series regression

due to Hannan (1973), which is complex.

As mentioned by Hannan (1973), it is possible to relax the conditions  $\sum |a(j)| < \infty$ , if we require  $\{X(n)\}$  to have higher moments. Following this line, we impose a further assumption and derive the same result of Kohn (1980a), the proof being considerably simpler.

## 2. THE CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

Let the cumulant of order  $r$  of  $X(n)$  be denoted by

$$C_r(j_1, \dots, j_r) = \text{cum}\{X(j_1), \dots, X(j_r)\}, \quad (7)$$

for  $j_1, \dots, j_r = 0, \pm 1, \dots$ , assuming  $E\{|X(n)|^r\} < \infty$ . By stationarity,

$$C_r(j_1, \dots, j_r) = C_r(j_1+j, \dots, j_r+j),$$

for  $j_1, \dots, j_r, j = 0, \pm 1, \dots$ , and in asymmetric notation,

$$C_r(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1}) = C_r(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1}, 0). \quad (8)$$

Assumption 2.  $\sum_{j_1=0}^{\infty} \dots \sum_{j_{r-1}=0}^{\infty} |C_r(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1})| < \infty. \quad (9)$

Under this assumption, values of the sequence well separated in time are weakly dependent; it is a form of "mixing" condition.

Lemma P4.5 of Brillinger (1975, p.403), plus the fact that all cumulants of order greater than two are zero for a normal distribution, will be used to prove the central limit theorem that follows.

Theorem 1. Suppose Assumptions 1 and 2 hold. Then  $d_N(\lambda)$  converges in distribution to a variable with distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, f(\lambda))$ , where  $f(\lambda)$  is given by (6).

Proof. We begin by noting that  $E\{d_N(\lambda)\} = 0$  and  $\text{Var}\{d_N(\lambda)\} \rightarrow f(\lambda)$ , when  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , hence the first and second-order cumulants behave in the

manner required by the theorem.

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{cum}\{d_N(\lambda_1), \dots, d_N(\lambda_r)\} = \\ & = N^{-r/2} \sum_{j_1=0}^{N-1} \dots \sum_{j_r=0}^{N-1} W(j_1, \lambda_1) \dots W(j_r, \lambda_r) \text{cum}\{X(j_1), \dots, X(j_r)\} \\ & = N^{-r/2} \sum_{j_1=0}^{N-1} \dots \sum_{j_r=0}^{N-1} C_r(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1}) W(j_1, \lambda_1) \dots W(j_r, \lambda_r). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$|\text{cum}\{d_N(\lambda_1), \dots, d_N(\lambda_r)\}| \leq N^{-r/2+1} \sum_{j_1=0}^{N-1} \dots \sum_{j_{r-1}=0}^{N-1} |C_r(j_1, \dots, j_{r-1})|$$

and by Assumption 2 the cumulant in question is of order  $O(N^{-r/2+1})$  and therefore tends to zero, as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , if  $r > 2$ . By the above mentioned lemma, the theorem is proved.

Remarks. a) For  $\lambda=0$  we have a central limit theorem for the variable  $Y_N = N^{-1/2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} X(n)$ :  $Y_N \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, f(0))$ , as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , with  $f(0) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f(j)$ .

b) In contrast to the trigonometric case, the finite Walsh-Fourier transforms are not necessarily asymptotic independent. For details, see Kohn (1980a).

c) The theorem holds for "frequencies"  $\lambda_j(N)$  which depend on  $N$ , for example, of the form  $\lambda_j(N) = j/N$ , in such a way that  $\lambda_j(N) \otimes \lambda \rightarrow 0$ .

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