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On the central limit theorem in R_k

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1. Introduction

Let $X^{(\nu)} = (X_1^{(\nu)}, \dots, X_k^{(\nu)}), \nu = 1, 2, \dots n$, be a sequence of independent and identically distributed random vectors (r.v.'s) in R_k , k > 1, with zero mean and non-singular covariance matrix M. Then, according to the Central Limit Theorem, the normed sum $Y_n = n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{\nu=1}^n X^{(\nu)}$ is approximately normally distributed, with the same moments of the first and second orders as $X^{(1)}$. In the present paper, we shall consider the distribution of the norm $|Y_n| = (Y_{n1}^2 + \ldots + Y_{nk}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$, and estimate the difference

$$P(|Y_n| \le a) - \int_{|x| \le a} d\Phi(x), \tag{1}$$

where $\Phi(x)$, $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_k)$ is the corresponding normal distribution function (d.f.) and $|x| = (x_1^2 + \ldots + x_k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. If the moments of the fourth order exist and if M = E(unit matrix of order $k \times k$), then (Esseen [3])

$$|P(|Y_n| \le a) - K_k(a^2)| \le Cn^{-k/(k+1)},$$
 (2)

where $K_k(x)$ is the d.f. of the χ^2 -distribution with k degrees of freedom, and C is a finite constant, only depending on the moments of $X^{(1)}$. Here we shall study the difference (1) as a function of both n and a.

2. Convergence of characteristic functions

We introduce the d.f.'s F(x) and $F_n(x)$ and the characteristic functions (ch.f.'s) f(t) and $f_n(t)$ of $X^{(1)}$ and Y_n respectively. We have

$$f(t) = \int_{R_k} e^{i(t,x)} dF(x), \quad t = (t_1, \ldots, t_k), \quad (t,x) = \sum_{j=1}^k t_j x_j$$

and $f_n(t) = f^n(t/\sqrt{n})$. If the moment $\beta_r = E |X^{(1)}|^r < \infty$, r integer ≥ 3 , then $\log f(t)$ has the Taylor expansion

$$\log f(t) = -\frac{1}{2}(t, Mt) + \sum_{\nu=3}^{r} \frac{(\varkappa, it)^{\nu}}{\nu!} + o(|t|^{r}),$$
(3)

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where $(\varkappa, it)^{\nu} = (\varkappa_1 it_1 + \ldots + \varkappa_k it_k)^{\nu}$, and $\varkappa_1^{i_1} \ldots \varkappa_k^{i_k}$ is the semi-invariant of order (i_1, \ldots, i_k) . According to (3), the relation

$$e^{(t, Mt)/2} f_n(t) = 1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{r=2} n^{-\nu/2} P_{\nu}(it) + o\left(n^{-\frac{r-2}{2}}\right)$$
(4)

defines a sequence of polynomials P_{ν} of degree 3ν , the coefficients of which are functions of the moments of $X^{(1)}$. By estimating the remainder term in (4), we obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 1. If $\beta_r < \infty$, r integer ≥ 3 , then for all t with $|t| \le K \sqrt{n}$

$$\left|f_n(t) - \left(1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{r-2} n^{-\nu/2} P_{\nu}(it)\right) e^{-(t, Mt)/2} \right| \leq C \frac{d(n)}{n^{(r-2)/2}} |t|^r e^{-\alpha |t|^2};$$

K and α are positive constants, only depending on k, r and the moments of $X^{(1)}$; d(n) is bounded by one and $\lim_{n\to\infty} d(n) = 0$. Here and in what follows, we denote by C unspecified constants, with the same properties as K and α .

A proof of the lemma in the one-dimensional case is given by Gnedenko and Kolmogorov ([5] pp. 204-208). The present case is treated in the same way.

If g(t) is the Fourier-Stieltjes Transform (F.S.T.) of G(x), that is

$$g(t) = \int_{R_k} e^{i(t, x)} dG(x),$$

then $-it_jg(t)$ is the F.S.T. of $\partial G(x)/\partial x_j$ and thus $P_r(it) e^{-(t,Mt)/2}$ is the F.S.T. of $P_r(-D) \Phi(x)$, where $P_r(-D)$ is a derivation operator obtained from P(it) by replacing it_j by $-\partial/\partial x_j$. We put

$$G_n(x) = \left(1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{r-2} n^{-\nu/2} P_{\nu}(-D)\right) \Phi(x)$$
(5)

and $H_n(x) = F_n(x) - G_n(x)$, and thus, the corresponding F.S.T.'s are

$$g_n(t) = \left(1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{r-2} n^{-\nu/2} P_{\nu}(it)\right) e^{-(t, Mt)/2}$$
$$h_n(t) = f_n(t) - g_n(t). \tag{6}$$

and

3. Main formula

In order to estimate $P(|Y_n| \le a)$, we shall use the formula (Bochner [2], p. 318)

$$\int_{R_k} U(|x|) \, dH_n(x) = (2\pi)^{-k} \int_{R_k} u(|t|) \, h_n(t) \, dt \quad (dt = dt_1 \dots dt_k), \tag{7}$$

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where U(|x|) and u(|t|) are integrable functions in R_k , only depending on |x| and |t| respectively and being F.T.'s in R_k , that is (Bochner [2], p. 235)

$$u(|t|) = \int_{R_k} e^{i(t,x)} U(|x|) \, dx = (2\pi)^{k/2} t^{-k/2+1} \int_0^\infty x^{k/2} J_{k/2-1}(x|t|) \, U(x) \, dx$$

U(|x|) is to be approximately 1 when $|x| \le a$ and 0 when |x| > a, and for this purpose we let U(|x|) be the convolution in R_k of two functions V(|x|) and $\lambda^k Q(\lambda |x|), \lambda > 0$:

$$U(|x|) = \int_{R_k} V(|y|) \,\lambda^k Q(\lambda |x-y|) \,dy$$

= $2\lambda^k \pi^{(k-1)/2} (\Gamma((k-1)/2))^{-1} \iint_{v \ge 0} V(\sqrt{u^2 + v^2}) \,Q(\lambda \sqrt{(|x| - u)^2 + v^2}) \,v^{k-2} \,du \,dv.$ (8)

We take
$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \leq b \\ 0, & x > b \end{cases}$$

and choose the function Q(|x|) with compact support and rapidly decreasing F.T., the existence of which is guaranteed by the following lemma.

Lemma 2. If $\varepsilon(t)$ is a positive function monotonically decreasing to zero when $t \to \infty$ and if $\int_1^{\infty} \varepsilon(t)/t \, dt < \infty$, then there exist two functions Q(x) and q(t), defined for $x \ge 0$ and $t \ge 0$ respectively, being F.T.'s in R_k , that is

$$q(|t|) = \int_{R_k} e^{i(t,x)} Q(|x|) \, dx, \quad t \in R_k$$
(9)

and satisfying $Q(x) \ge 0$, $0 \le q(t) \le q(0) = 1$ Q(x) = 0 when $x \ge 1$ q(t) and q'(t) are $O(e^{-t\varepsilon(t)})$ when $t \to \infty$.

In the one-dimensional case, the lemma follows from theorems proved by Paley and Wiener [7] and Ingham [6]. In the present case it can be proved by putting

$$q(t) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \Gamma(k/2+1) \, 2^{k/2} (\varrho_n t)^{-k/2} J_{k/2}(\varrho_n t),$$

the quantities ϱ_n being suitably chosen and satisfying $\varrho_n > 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varrho_n \leq 1$. We put $P(|Y_n| \leq a) = \mu(a)$ and

$$\eta(a) = \int_{|x| \leq a} dH_n(x) = \int_{|x| \leq a} dF_n(x) - \int_{|x| \leq a} dG_n(x) = \mu(a) - \psi(a)$$

and thus the formula (7) becomes

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} U(x) \, d\eta(x) = \int_{R_{k}} (b/2\pi \, |t|)^{k/2} \, J_{k/2}(b \, |t|) \, q(|t|/\lambda) \, h_{n}(t) \, dt \tag{10}$$

which is the starting-point for our estimations.

4. Point estimations

We first show two theorems, which are generalizations to the multi-dimensional case of results given by Esseen [3].

Theorem 1. If $\beta_r < \infty$, r integer ≥ 3 , and if m is the largest eigenvalue of the matrix M, then

$$\left| P(|Y_n| \leq a) - \int_{|x| \leq a} d\Phi(x) \right| \leq C \cdot a^{-r} \cdot \frac{d(n)}{n^{(r-2)/2}}$$
$$a \geq (\frac{5}{4}m(r-2)\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

for

Proof. We take $G_n(x)$ according to (5) and obtain

$$\eta(a) = P(|Y_n| \leq a) - \int_{|x| \leq a} d\Phi(x) + \sum_{\nu=1}^{r-2} n^{-\nu/2} \int_{|x| \leq a} dP_{\nu}(-D) \Phi(x).$$

In order to estimate $\eta(a)$, we choose Q(|x|) and q(|t|) according to Lemma 2, such that $q(|t|) \leq C(1+|t|^{r+k/2})^{-1}$ and distinguish between the two cases $\eta(a) \geq 0$ and $\eta(a) < 0$. If $\eta(a) \geq 0$, we put $b = a + \lambda^{-1}$, and thus U(x) = 1 when $x \leq a$, $0 \leq U(x) \leq 1$ when $a \leq x \leq a + 2/\lambda$ and U(x) = 0 when $x > a + 2/\lambda$. Since $d\eta(x) = d\mu(x) - d\psi(x)$ and $d\mu(x) \geq 0$, we obtain from (10)

$$\eta(a) \leq |I| + \int_{a}^{a+2/\lambda} |d\psi(x)|, \qquad (11)$$

where I is the integral of the right-hand side of (10). We put $2/\lambda = a/2$ and divide I into two parts:

$$I = \int_{|t| \leq K \sqrt{n}} + \int_{|t| > K \sqrt{n}}.$$

In the first integral, we use Lemma 1 and in the second one the inequality $|h(t)| \leq C$ for estimating h(t). Easy calculations now give

$$|I| \leq Ca^{-r} \frac{d(n)}{n^{(r-2)/2}}.$$

The last term of (11) is at most equal to

$$\int_{|x|$$

where p(y), y > 0, is a positive polynomial. Now $(x, M^{-1}x) \ge m^{-1} |x|^2$ for all $x \in R_k$ and consequently

$$\int_{a}^{a+2/\lambda} \left| d\psi(x) \right| \leq C \int_{a}^{a+2/\lambda} p(x) \, e^{-x^2/2m} \, x^{k-1} \, dx \leq C \cdot a^{-r} \frac{d(n)}{n^{(r-2)/2}}$$

since $a^2/m \ge \frac{5}{4}(r-2)\log n$.

It now remains to estimate $\int_{|x| \leq a} dP_{\nu}(-D) \Phi(x)$, $\nu = 1, 2, ..., r-2$, but since $\int_{R_k} dP_{\nu}(-D) \Phi(x) = 0$, they can be treted in exactly the same way as the last term of (11), and thus the theorem is proved if $\eta(a) \geq 0$. If $\eta(a) < 0$, we choose $b = a - \lambda^{-1}$ and proceed in a similar way.

The proof is concluded.

In the remaining interval $a \leq \sqrt{\frac{5}{4}}m(r-2)\log n$ the estimations are more complicated, and the convergence of $P(|Y| \leq a)$ towards $\int_{|x| \leq a} d\Phi(x)$ is slower. In the following theorem we shall make use of Esseen's result (2), and thus we have to assume that M = E.

Theorem 2. If $\beta_4 < \infty$ and if M = E, then for $a \leq \sqrt{\frac{5}{2} \log n}$

$$|P(|Y| \le a) - K_k(a^2)| \le Cn^{-k/(k+1)}(1+a^{k+2}) e^{-\delta a^2}_{a^{-1/2}} + O\left(\frac{(\log n)^{(k-1)/4}}{n}\right),$$

where $\delta = \frac{1}{8}$ if k = 2, and $\delta = (k-1)/2(k+1)$ if $k \ge 3$.

Proof. Because of (2), we can assume $a \ge 1$. We put

$$G_n(x) = \Phi(x) + n^{-\frac{1}{2}} P_1(-D) \Phi(x),$$

and then $\eta(a) = P(|Y| \le a) - K_k(a^2)$, since $dP_1(-D) \Phi(x)$ is odd. According to Lemma 2, we can find two functions Q(x) and q(t) defined for $x \ge 0$ and $t \ge 0$, satisfying (9), and

$$\begin{array}{l} Q(x) \ge 0, \quad 0 \le q(t) \le q(0) = 1, \\ q(t) = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad t \ge 1, \\ Q(x) \le C \, e^{-x^{\frac{3}{4}}}, \quad \left| Q'(x) \right| \le C \, e^{-x^{\frac{3}{4}}}. \end{array}$$

As in the proof of Theorem 1, we must consider separately the two cases $\eta(a) \ge 0$ and $\eta(a) < 0$. If $\eta(a) \ge 0$, we take $\varepsilon > 0$ (to be determined later), put $b = a + \varepsilon$ and use (10). After dividing the left-hand integral into three parts, corresponding to the intervals [0, a), $[a, a + 2\varepsilon)$ and $(a + 2\varepsilon, \infty)$, we obtain

$$\eta(a) = (1 - U(a)) \eta(a) + U(a + 2\varepsilon) \eta(a + 2\varepsilon) - \int_{a}^{a + 2\varepsilon} U(x) d\eta(x) + \left(\int_{0}^{a} + \int_{a + 2\varepsilon}^{\infty}\right) U'(x) \eta(x) dx + I, \quad (12)$$

where I is the integral on the right-hand side of (10). Using (2), we get, since $d\mu(x) \ge 0$,

$$\eta(a) \leq \int_{a}^{a+2\varepsilon} |d\psi(x)| + Cn^{-k/(k+1)} \left\{ 1 - U(a) + U(a+2\varepsilon) + \left(\int_{0}^{a} + \int_{a+2\varepsilon}^{\infty} \right) |U'(x)| \, dx \right\} + |I|.$$

We now put $\lambda = n^{k/(k+1)} e^{-2\beta a^2/(k-1)}$, $\varepsilon = a^3/\lambda$, and easily obtain

$$\int_{a}^{a+2\varepsilon} |d\psi(x)| \leq C \varepsilon a^{k-1} e^{-a^{2}/2} \leq C n^{-k/(k+1)} a^{k+2} e^{-\delta a^{2}}.$$

V(y) = 0 when $y > a + \varepsilon$, and thus we obtain from (8)

$$\begin{split} U(a) &\geq 2\lambda^{k} \pi^{(k-1)/2} \left(\Gamma((k-1)/2) \right)^{-1} \iint_{\substack{v \geq 0 \\ (u-a)^{2} + v^{2} \leqslant \epsilon^{4}}} Q(\lambda \sqrt{(u-a)^{2} + v^{2}}) v^{k-2} \, du \, dv \\ &= 1 - 2\pi^{k/2} (\Gamma(k/2))^{-1} \int_{\lambda \epsilon}^{\infty} Q(\varrho) \, \varrho^{k-1} \, d\varrho, \\ &1 - U(a) \leqslant C \int_{a^{3}}^{\infty} e^{-\varrho^{\frac{3}{2}}} \varrho^{k-1} \, d\varrho \leqslant C \cdot a^{k+2} \, e^{-\delta a^{3}}. \end{split}$$

and

 $U(a+2\varepsilon)$ is estimated in the same way.

By taking the derivative with respect to |x| in (8), we obtain

$$U'(x) = 2\lambda^{k+1}\pi^{(k-1)/2} (\Gamma((k-1)/2))^{-1} \iint_{\substack{u^2+v^2 \le b^2 \\ v \ge 0}} Q'(\lambda \sqrt[k]{(x-u)^2+v^2}) \frac{x-u}{\sqrt{(x-u)^2+v^2}} v^{k-2} du dv.$$

We first take $x \le a$. The integrand is an odd function with respect to u-x, and thus there is no contribution to the integral from the region $(u-x)^2 + v^2 \le (b-x)^2$, $v \ge 0$. After change of variables, we get

$$|U'(x)| \leq C\lambda \int_{\lambda(b-x)}^{\lambda(b+x)} |Q'(\varrho)| \varrho^{k-1} d\varrho, \quad x \leq a.$$

In a similar way, we can estimate U'(x) for $x \ge a + 2\varepsilon$, and integration gives

$$\left(\int_0^a + \int_{a+2\varepsilon}^\infty\right) |U'(x)| \, dx \leq C a^{k+2} \, e^{-\delta a^a}.$$

It remains to estimate I. Now $q(|t|/\lambda) = 0$ when $|t| > \lambda$, and consequently

$$I = \int_{|t| \leq K \sqrt{n}} + \int_{K \sqrt{n} \leq |t| < \lambda} = I_1 + I_2.$$

We use Lemma 1 with r=4 for estimating I_1 . Our choice of δ implies that ε is finite and therefore $b \leq C(\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. We obtain

$$|I_1| \leq C n^{-1} (\log n)^{(k-1/4)}$$

We divide I_2 into two parts according to (6): $I_2 = I_{21} - I_{22}$, where

$$I_{21} = \int_{K\sqrt{n} \leq |t| < \lambda} (b/2\pi |t|)^{k/2} J_{k/2}(b|t|) q(|t|/\lambda) f^{n}(t/\sqrt{n}) dt.$$
(13)

After change of variables we get

$$|I_{21}| < C(b \sqrt{n})^{(k-1)/2} \int_{K < |t| \le \lambda/\sqrt{n}} |f^n(t)| |t|^{-(k+1)/2} dt$$

In order to estimate this integral, we need a more detailed knowledge of the value distribution of ch.f.'s.

Following Esseen ([3], pp. 94-98 and 107-108), we obtain

$$|I_{21}| \leq C(b\sqrt{n})^{(k-1)/2} n^{-k/2} (\lambda/\sqrt{n})^{(k-1)/2} \leq Ca^{(k-1)/2} e^{-\delta a^2} n^{-k/(k+1)}$$

 I_{22} is $o(n^{-1})$, and thus the theorem is proved in the case $\eta(a) \ge 0$. If $\eta(a) < 0$, we put $b = a - \varepsilon$, and obtain instead of (12)

$$\eta(a) = (1 - U(a - 2\varepsilon)) \eta(a - 2\varepsilon) + U(a) \eta(a) + \int_{a-2\varepsilon}^{\infty} (1 - U(x)) d\eta(x) + \left(\int_{0}^{a-2\varepsilon} + \int_{a}^{\infty}\right) U'(x) \eta(x) dx + I,$$

and proceed in the same way as when $\eta(a) \ge 0$.

When M = E, it is thus possible to express the probability $P(|Y| \le a)$ in terms of the normal d.f. and associated functions, except for quantities of the magnitude $o(n^{-(r-2)/2})$ for large values of a and $O(n^{-k/(k+1)})$ for small values of a. It is not possible in the general case to improve the latter result much. In fact, Esseen [3] has shown that, if F(x) is a lattice distribution and if k > 4, then $\mu(a)$ may have discontinuities of the magnitude $O(n^{-1})$. However, if the ch.f. of $X^{(1)}$ satisfies Cramér's condition

$$\overline{\lim_{|t|\to\infty}} |f(t)| < 1, \tag{C}$$

the following theorem holds.

Theorem 3. If $\beta_r < \infty$, r integer ≥ 3 , and if f(t) satisfies the condition (C), then uniformly in a

$$P(|Y| < a) = \int_{|x| \leq a} d\Phi(x) + \sum_{1 \leq \mu \leq (r-3)/2} n^{-\mu} \int_{|x| \leq a} dP_{2\mu}(-D) \Phi(x) + o\left(\frac{(\log n)^{(k-1)/4}}{n^{(r-2)/2}}\right).$$

Proof. Owing to Theorem 1, we can restrict ourselves to $a \leq \sqrt{\frac{5}{4}m(r-2)\log n}$. We define $G_n(x)$, Q(x) and q(t) in the same way as in the proof of that theorem, and thus

$$\eta(a) = P(|Y| \le a) - \int_{|x| \le a} d\Phi(x) - \sum_{1 \le \mu \le (r-3)/2} n^{-\mu} \int_{|x| \le a} dP_{2\mu}(-D) \Phi(x) + O(n^{-(r-2)/2}),$$

since $dP_{\nu}(-D)\Phi(x)$ is odd when ν is odd.

It thus suffices to estimate $\eta(a)$, and we get in the case $\eta(a) \ge 0$

$$\eta(a) \leq |I| + \int_a^{a+2/\lambda} |d\psi(x)|.$$

By putting $\lambda = n^{(r-2)/2}$, we can easily estimate the second term. We divide I into two parts

$$I = \int_{|t| < K \sqrt{n}} + \int_{|t| > K \sqrt{n}} = I_1 + I_2,$$

where, because of Lemma 1 and since $b \leq C (\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}}$,

$$I_1 = o(n^{-(r-2)/2} (\log n)^{(k-1)/4}).$$

We also put $I_2 = I_{21} - I_{22}$ according to (6), where

$$I_{21} = \int_{|t| > K\sqrt{n}} (b/2\pi |t|)^{k/2} J_{k/2}(b|t|) q(|t|/\lambda) f^n(t/\sqrt{n}) dt.$$

Now, since f(t) satisfies (C), there exists a constant $\gamma > 0$ such that $|f(t)| \leq e^{-\gamma}$ when |t| > K, that is $|f^n(t/\sqrt{n})| \leq e^{-\gamma n}$ in I_{21} , and thus after some calculation

$$|I_{21}| \leq C e^{-\gamma n} (\lambda b)^{(k-1)/2} \int_0^\infty q(t) t^{(k-3)/2} dt = o(n^{-(r-2)/2}).$$

Finally it is easy to show that $I_{22} = o(n^{-(r-2)/2})$ and the theorem is proved when $\eta(a) \ge 0$. The case $\eta(a) < 0$ is treated in a similar way.

Remark. R. R. Rao [8] has announced without proof a corresponding expansion for $P(Y \in A)$, where A is an arbitrary convex subset of R_k , but with the remainder term $O(n^{-(r-2)/2}(\log n)^{(k-1)/2})$.

5. Mean estimations

In the one-dimensional case, it is known (Agnew [1] and Esseen [4]) that $F_n(x)$ converges towards $\Phi(x)$ in L_p -mean, $p \ge 1$.

The two following theorems concerning the mean convergence of $P(|Y| \le x)$

towards $\int_{|y| \leq x} d\Phi(y)$ are immediate consequences of the theorems of the previous section. We define the L_p -norm

$$\|u(x)\|_p = \left(\int_0^\infty |u(x)|^p dx\right)^{1/p} \text{ for every function } u(x) \in L_p(0, \infty).$$

Theorem 4. If $\beta_5 < \infty$ and if f(t) satisfies (C), then for $p \ge 1$

$$\left\|P(|Y|\leq x)-\int_{|y|\leq x}d\Phi(y)\right\|_{p}=\frac{1}{n}\left\|\int_{|y|\leq x}dP_{2}(-D)\Phi(y)\right\|_{p}\left(1+O\frac{(\log n)^{\beta}}{\sqrt{n}}\right),$$

where $\beta = (k-1)/4 + 1/(2p)$.

Proof. Putting
$$u_1(x) = P(|Y| \le x) - \int_{|y| \le x} d\Phi(y)$$

$$u_2(x) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{|y| \leq x} dP_2(-D) \Phi(x)$$

and

and using Minkowsky's inequality

$$||u_{2}(x)||_{p} - ||u_{1}(x) - u_{2}(x)||_{p} \le ||u_{1}(x)||_{p} \le ||u_{2}(x)||_{p} + ||u_{1}(x) - u_{2}(x)||_{p}$$

we thus have to show that

$$||u_1(x) - u_2(x)||_p = O(n^{-\frac{3}{2}}(\log n)^{\beta})$$

but this easily follows from Theorem 1 with r=5 and Theorem 3.

In the same way we obtain from Theorem 1 with r=4 and Theorem 2 the following theorem.

Theorem 5. If $\beta_4 < \infty$ and if M = E, then

$$||P(|Y| \leq x) - K_k(x^2)||_p \leq Cn^{-k/(k+1)}.$$

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