# ON SOME ASYMPTOTIC PROPERTIES OF POISSON PROCESS

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The Poisson process  $X(t, \omega)$ ,<sup>1)</sup> ( $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $0 \leq t < \infty$ ), as is well-known, is a temporally and spatially homogeneous Markoff process satisfying

(1) 
$$X(0, \omega) = 0$$
 and  $X(t, \omega) =$ integer  $\ge 0$  for every  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,

(2) 
$$Pr\{X(t, \omega) - X(t', \omega) \ge k\} = \sum_{i=k}^{\tau} \frac{\langle \lambda(t-t') \rangle^i}{i!} e^{-\lambda(t-t')} \quad \text{for} \quad t > t',$$

where k is a non-negative integer and  $\lambda$  is a positive constant. In this note we consider the random variable  $L_m(\omega)$  which denotes the length of *t*-interval such that  $X(t, \omega) = m$  (m = 0, 1, 2, ...) and some of other properties concerning them.

## § 1. The known results on $L_m$ .

Definition. We define  $L_m(\omega)$ , the function of m and  $\omega$ , as follows,

$$t_m(\omega) = \operatorname{Min} \{\tau; X(\tau, \omega) = m\}.$$

 $L_m(\omega) = t_{m+1}(\omega) - t_m(\omega),$ 

This  $t_m(\omega)$  exists almost certainly by the right continuity property of Poisson process, and furthermore it is clear that  $t_m(\omega)$  is measurable. Thus  $L_m(\omega)$  becomes a non-negative random variable.

THEOREM 1.  $L_0, L_1, \ldots, L_m, \ldots$  are mutually independent random variables with a common distribution function F(l), where

(3) 
$$F(l) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-\lambda} & \text{if } l \ge 0, \\ 0 & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

**Furthermore** 

(4)

where

(5) 
$$V(L_m)^{2} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \qquad m = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$$

This theorem was already suggested by P. Levy  $[2]^{3}$  and a rigorous proof was

 $E(L_m)^{(2)}=\frac{1}{\lambda}$ 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)</sup>  $\omega$  denotes the probability parameter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2)</sup>  $E(\ldots)$  and  $V(\ldots)$  denote the mean and the variance respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3)</sup> Numbers in brackets refer to the bibliography at the end of this note.

given by T. Nishida [1]. From this theorem we can easily conclude the following corollaries.

COROLLARY 1. The characteristic function  $\varphi_L(z)$  of  $L_m$ , and therefore that of F, is  $\frac{\lambda e^{iz}}{\lambda - iz}$ .

COROLLARY 2. The probability  $L_m \ge l(\ge l_0)$  under the assumption  $L_m \ge l_0$  is  $e^{-\lambda(l-l_0)}$  and its conditional expectation is  $\frac{1}{\lambda} + l_0$ .

§2. The definitions and the behaviours of  $M_n$  and  $m_n$ Definition. Let  $M_n$  be defined by

$$M_n(\omega) = \max \{L_0(\omega), L_1(\omega), \ldots, L_{n-1}(\omega)\}.$$

 $M_n(\omega)$  is monotone non-decreasing with respect to *n* for every  $\omega$ . The probability law of  $M_n(\omega)$  is easily obtained as follows:

(6) 
$$Pr\{M_{n} < x\} \quad (=Pr\{M_{n} \le x\})$$
$$= Pr\{L_{0} < x, L_{1} < x, \ldots, L_{n-1} < x\}$$
$$= Pr\{L_{0} < x\}Pr\{L_{1} < x\} \ldots Pr\{L_{n-1} < x\}$$
$$(as L_{m} is mutually independent)$$
$$= (1 - e^{-\lambda x})^{n}.$$

THEOREM 2.  $E(M_n) = O(\log n)$ .

Proof. We have

$$E(M_n) = n\lambda \int_0^\infty x e^{-\lambda x} (1 - e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx$$
  
=  $-\frac{1}{\lambda} n \int_0^\infty \log (1 - e^{-y}) e^{-ny} dy$   
=  $-\frac{1}{\lambda} n \int_0^e -\frac{1}{\lambda} n \int_e^\infty$ 

where  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary small such that  $1 - e^{-y} \sim y$  when  $0 \leq y \leq \varepsilon$ . The second term is  $o(\log n)$  when  $n \to \infty$ , and

$$-n\int_0^\varepsilon \log y e^{-ny} dy = \log n \int_0^{n\varepsilon} \left(1 - \frac{\log z}{\log n}\right) e^{-z} dz$$
$$= O(\log n).$$

Hence we can conclude  $E(M_n) = O(\log n)$ .

THEOREM 3.  $\lambda M_n/\log n$  converges in law to the random variable Y which takes the value 1 with probability 1.

Proof. We have

(7) 
$$Pr\{\lambda M_n/\log n < x\} = (1-1/n^{\tau})^n \rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 1\\ 0 & \text{if } 1 > x \ge 0, \end{cases}$$

as *n* tends to  $\infty$ .

More precisely we may prove

THEOREM 4. If  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , then

(8) 
$$Pr\{\liminf_{n \to \infty} \lambda M_n / \alpha \log n \ge 1\} = 1$$

In order to prove the theorem above we need the following lemma.

LEMMA. The series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-1/n^{\alpha})^n$$

is convergent when  $0 < \alpha < 1$ .

**Proof of the Lemma.** It is sufficient to prove  $u_n/v_n \rightarrow 0$   $(n \rightarrow \infty)$ , where

$$u_n = (1 - 1/n^{\alpha})^n, \quad v_n = 1/n^2.$$

Let

$$f(x) \equiv x^2(1-1/x^{\alpha})^x.$$

Then

$$\log f(x) = 2 \log x + x \log (1 - 1/x^{\alpha})$$
  
=  $\frac{(2 \log x)/x + \log (1 - 1/x^{\alpha})}{1/x}$   
 $\rightarrow \frac{2((1 - \log x)/x^2) + \alpha x^{\alpha - 1}/(1 - x^{-\alpha})}{-1/x^2}$  ( $x \rightarrow \infty$ )  
=  $2(\log x - 1) - \alpha x^{-\alpha + 1} - 1$   
=  $\left(\frac{2(\log x - 1)}{x/(x^{\alpha} - 1)} - \alpha\right) \cdot \frac{x}{x^{\alpha} - 1}$ .

Here

$$2 \frac{\log x - 1}{x/(x^{\alpha} - 1)} \to 0, \quad \frac{x}{x^{\alpha} - 1} \to \infty. \quad (x \to \infty)$$

Hence  $\log f(x) \to -\infty$  and therefore  $f(x) \to 0$  when  $x \to \infty$ . Thus  $u_n/v_n \to 0$  when  $n \to \infty$ .

Proof of Theorem 4. We have, by (6) and by the Lemma above,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr\left\{M_n < \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \log n\right\} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^{\alpha}}\right)^n < \infty.$$

Therefore, by the Borel-Cantelli's Lemma,

$$\Pr\{\liminf_{n\to\infty} E_n^c\}=1,$$

where

$$E_n = \left\{\omega; M_n(\omega) < \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \log n\right\}.$$

On the other hand

(9) 
$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} E_n^c \subseteq \bigg\{\omega; \ \liminf_{n\to\infty} M_n(\omega) \Big/ \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \log n \ge 1 \bigg\}.$$

This shows that (8) is valid.

Definition. Let  $m_n(\omega)$  be defined by

 $m_n(\omega) = \operatorname{Min} \{ L_0(\omega), L_1(\omega), \ldots, L_{n-1}(\omega) \}.$ 

 $m_n(\omega)$  is monotone non-increasing with respect to *n* for every  $\omega$ . The law of  $m_n$  is calculated in the same way as  $M_n$ :

(10) 
$$Pr\{m_n > x\} \quad (=Pr\{m_n \ge x\})$$
$$= Pr\{L_0 > x, L_1 > x, \ldots, L_{n-1} > x\}$$
$$= (e^{-\lambda x})^n = e^{-\lambda n x},$$

and hence

$$Pr\{m_n < x\} = 1 - e^{-\lambda nx}.$$

THEOREM 5. If  $\beta > 1$ , then

(11) 
$$Pr\{\limsup_{n \to \infty} \lambda m_n / \beta n^{-1} \log n \ge 1\} = 0$$

Proof. We have

$$Pr\{m_n \ge \beta \log n/\lambda | n\} = 1/n^3 \text{ and } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-3} < \infty.$$

Thus, by the Borel-Cantelli's Lemma,

$$Pr\{\limsup_{n\to\infty}F_n\}=0,$$

where

$$F_n = \{\omega; m_n(\omega) \ge \beta \log n/\lambda n\}.$$

On the other hand

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} F_n \supseteq \{\omega; \limsup_{n\to\infty} \lambda m_n(\omega)/\beta n^{-1} \log n \ge 1\}$$

Thus we obtain (11).

# § 3. Asymptotic properties of $Z_n$

Let  $Z_n(\omega)$  be defined by

$$Z_n(\omega) = (L_0(\omega) + L_1(\omega) + \ldots + L_{n-1}(\omega))/M_n(\omega).$$

Remembering

$$Pr\{L_0 = M_n\} = Pr\{L_1 = M_n\} = \ldots = Pr\{L_{n-1} = M_n\} = 1/n,$$

we see that  $Z_n$  has the first and the second (absolute) moments:

(12) 
$$E(Z_n) = \int_0^\infty dx_1 \cdot n \left( \int_0^{x_1} \dots \int_0^{x_1} \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{x_1} \times \lambda^n e^{-\lambda x_1} e^{-\lambda x_2} \dots e^{-\lambda x_n} dx_2 \dots dx_n \right).$$

<sup>4)</sup> See e.g. D. A. Darling [3].

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(13) 
$$E(Z_n^2) = \int_0^\infty dx_1 \cdot n \left( \int_0^{x_1} \dots \int_0^{x_1} \left( \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{x_1} \right)^2 \times \lambda^n e^{-\lambda x_1} e^{-\lambda x_2} \dots e^{-\lambda x_n} dx_2 \dots dx_n \right).$$

The characteristic function  $\varphi_{Z_n}(z)$  of  $Z_n$  satisfies

(14) 
$$\varphi_{Z_{n}}(z) = E(e^{iz}(L_{0} + L_{1} + \ldots + L_{n-1})/M_{n})$$

$$= n\lambda^{n} \int_{0}^{\infty} dx_{1} \left( \int_{0}^{x_{1}} \ldots \int_{0}^{x_{1}} e^{iz \frac{x_{1} + x_{2} + \ldots + x_{n}}{x_{1}}} \times e^{-\lambda(x_{1} + x_{2} + \ldots + x_{n})} dx_{2} \ldots dx_{n} \right)$$

$$= n\lambda^{n} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{iz - \lambda x_{1}} dx_{1} \left( \int_{0}^{x_{1}} e^{iz \frac{x}{x_{1}} - \lambda x} dx \right)^{n-1}$$

(as  $L_1, L_2, \ldots, L_{n-1}$  are mutually independent)

$$= n\lambda^n \int_0^\infty e^{iz - \lambda x_1} x_1^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz - \lambda x_1}}{iz - \lambda x_1}\right)^{n-1} dx_1$$
  
=  $n\lambda^n e^{iz} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz - \lambda x}}{iz - \lambda x}\right)^{n-1} dx.$ 

(15) 
$$\frac{1}{i} \frac{d\varphi_{z_n}(z)}{dz} = n\lambda^n e^{iz} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-1} dx + n(n-1)\lambda^n e^{iz} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-2} \times \frac{(iz-\lambda x)e^{iz-\lambda x}-e^{iz-\lambda x}+1}{(iz-\lambda x)^2} dx.$$

$$(16) \qquad \left(\frac{1}{i}\right)^{2} \frac{d^{2} \varphi_{z_{n}}(z)}{dz^{2}} = n\lambda^{n} e^{iz} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-1} dx \\ + 2n(n-1)\lambda^{n} e^{iz} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-2} \\ \times \frac{(iz-\lambda x)e^{iz-\lambda x}-e^{iz-\lambda x}+1}{(iz-\lambda x)^{2}} dx \\ + n(n-1)(n-2)\lambda^{n} e^{iz} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-2} \\ \times \frac{\{(iz-\lambda x)e^{iz-\lambda x}-e^{iz-\lambda x}+1\}^{2}}{(iz-\lambda x)^{4}} dx \\ + n(n-1)\lambda^{n} e^{iz} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{e^{iz-\lambda x}-1}{iz-\lambda x}\right)^{n-2} \\ \times \frac{(iz-\lambda x)^{2} e^{iz-\lambda x}-2\{(iz-\lambda x)e^{iz-\lambda x}-e^{iz-\lambda x}+1\}}{(iz-\lambda x)^{3}} dx.$$

The differentiations in (15) and (16) are possible since  $Z_n$  has the first and the second moments.

THEOREM 6.  $Z_n$  has the first and second absolute moments. And if n is

sufficiently large, the mean and the standard deviation of  $Z_n$  are both of order  $n/\log n$ .

Proof. The first half of the theorem is proved above. Thus

(17) 
$$E(Z_n) = \frac{1}{i} \left( \frac{d\varphi_{Z_n}(z)}{dz} \right)_{z=0} = n\lambda^n \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left( \frac{e^{-\lambda x} - 1}{-\lambda x} \right)^{n-1} dx + n(n-1)\lambda^n \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left( \frac{1 - e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda x} \right)^{n-2} \frac{-\lambda x e^{-\lambda x} - e^{-\lambda x} + 1}{\lambda^2 x^2} dx = \varphi_{Z_n}(0) - n(n-1)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-2\lambda x} (1 - e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx + n(n-1) \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-\lambda x} (1 - e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx.$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{Z_n}(0) &= 1, \\ n(n-1)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx \\ &= n(n-1)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx - n(n-1)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx \\ &= n(n-1)\lambda \Big(\frac{1}{\lambda(n-1)} - \frac{1}{\lambda n}\Big) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The last term of (19),  $I_n = \int_0^\infty n(n-1)x^{-1}e^{-\lambda x}(1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1}dx$ , is of order  $n/\log n$ .

It is proved as follows. We have

$$I_n = \int_0^\infty \frac{n(n-1)e^{-\lambda x}}{x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx = n(n-1) \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-ny}}{-\log(1-e^{-y})} dy.$$

Let *a* be sufficiently small such that  $e^{-t} \sim 1-t$  when 0 < t < a, and let *K* be sufficiently large such that  $\log(1-e^{-t}) \sim e^{-t}$  when t > K. Then

(18)  

$$\frac{I_n}{n(n-1)} = \int_0^a + \int_a^K + \int_K^\infty + \int_K^\infty + \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-nt}}{-\log (1-e^{-t})} dt \sim \int_0^a \frac{e^{-nt}}{-\log t} dt = \frac{1}{n \log n} \int_0^{na} \frac{e^{-y}}{1-\log y/\log n} dy \quad (nt = y) < \frac{1}{n \log n} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-y}}{1-\log y/\log n} dy = O\left(\frac{1}{n \log n}\right),$$

since

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-y}}{1 - \log y / \log n} \, dy = \int_0^\infty \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{e^{-y}}{1 - \log y / \log n} \, dy = \int_0^\infty e^{-y} \, dy = 1.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\frac{1}{n\log n} \int_{0}^{na} \frac{e^{-y}}{1 - \log y / \log n} dy \ge \frac{1}{n\log n} \int_{1}^{na} \frac{e^{-y}}{1 - \log y / \log n} dy$$

 $\geq \frac{1}{n \log n} \int_{1}^{na} e^{-y} dy = \frac{1}{n \log n} (e^{-1} - e^{-na}).$ 

Hence

$$\int_{a}^{a} \frac{e^{-nt}}{-\log(1-e^{-t})} dt = O(1/n\log n),$$
  
$$\int_{a}^{K} \frac{e^{-nt}}{-\log(1-e^{-t})} dt = C(e^{-na} - e^{-nK}) = o(e^{-n}),$$

where  $0 < 1/(-\log(1-e^{-a})) \le C \le 1/(-\log(1-e^{-K})) < \infty$ .

Therefore

$$\int_{K}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-nt}}{-\log(1-e^{-t})} dt \sim \int_{K}^{\infty} e^{-(n-1)t} dt = o(e^{-n}),$$

and thus

$$I_n = O(n/\log n).$$

This proves

$$E(Z_n) = O(n/\log n).$$

Similarly we have

$$\begin{split} E(Z_n^2) &= \left(\frac{1}{i}\right)^2 \left(\frac{d^2 \varphi_{Z_n}(z)}{dz^2}\right)_{z=0} \\ &= \varphi_{Z_n}(0) + 2 n(n-1)\lambda^2 \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{1-e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda x}\right)^{n-2} \frac{1-e^{-\lambda x}-\lambda x e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda^2 x^2} dx \\ &+ n(n-1)(n-2)\lambda^n \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda x} x^{n-1} \left(\frac{1-e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda x}\right)^{n-3} \frac{(-\lambda x e^{-\lambda x}-e^{-\lambda x}+1)^2}{\lambda^4 x^4} dx \\ &= O(n/\log n) + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{x^2} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-3} (1-e^{-\lambda x}-\lambda x e^{-\lambda x})^2 dx \\ &- \frac{n(n-1)}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} \{\lambda^2 x^2 e^{-\lambda x} - 2(1-e^{-\lambda x}-\lambda x e^{-\lambda x})\} dx \\ &= O(n/\log n) + n(n-1)(n-2)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-3\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-3} dx \\ &- 2 n(n-1)(n-2) \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx \\ &+ \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx \\ &- n(n-1)\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx - 2 n(n-1) \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx \\ &+ \frac{2 n(n-1)}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx. \end{split}$$

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$$n(n-1)(n-2)\lambda \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-3\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx = 2,$$
  
$$n(n-1)\lambda \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx = 1,$$

we obtain

$$E(Z_n^2) = O(n/\log n) + 2 n(n-1)^2 \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx$$
$$- 2 n(n-1)^2 \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx.$$

Thus we have

(19) 
$$V(Z_n) = E(Z_n^2) - (E(Z_n))^2$$
$$= O(n/\log n) + \frac{2n(n-1)^2}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx$$
$$- 2n(n-1)^2 \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx$$
$$- \{n(n-1) \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx + o(n/\log n)\}^2$$
$$\ge O(n/\log n) + \frac{n(n-1)^2}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx$$
$$- 2n(n-1)^2 \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx,$$

since, by the Schwarz's inequality,

$$\left\{\int_{0}^{\infty} x^{-1} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx\right\}^{2} \leq \int_{0}^{\infty} x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx$$
$$= \frac{1}{n\lambda} \int_{0}^{\infty} x^{-2} e^{-\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx.$$

Similarly as in the proof of (18), we obtain

(20) 
$$\frac{n(n-1)^2}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{x^2} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1} dx = O(n^2/(\log n)^2).$$

There exists a large number M such that

(21) 
$$\frac{e^{-2\lambda x}}{x}(1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} < \frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{x^2}(1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-1}$$

whenever x > M. This fact implies that  $J_n = 2n(n-1)^2 \int_0^\infty x^{-1} e^{-2\lambda x} (1-e^{-\lambda x})^{n-2} dx$ is, when  $n \to \infty$ , negligible in the formula (19).

Therefore  $E(Z_n^2)$  and  $V(Z_n)$  are of order  $n^2/(\log n)^2$ .

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