

SOME REMARKS ON PRAMARTS AND MILS

by ZHEN-PENG WANG[†] and XING-HONG XUE

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1. Notations and summary. Let F be a Banach space, (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) a fixed probability space, D a directed set filtering to the right with the order \leq , and (\mathcal{F}_t, D) a stochastic basis of \mathcal{F} , i.e. (\mathcal{F}_t, D) is an increasing family of sub- σ -algebras of \mathcal{F} : $\mathcal{F}_s \subset \mathcal{F}_t$ for any $s, t \in D$ and $s \leq t$. Throughout this paper, (X_t) is an F -valued, (\mathcal{F}_t) -adapted sequence, i.e. X_t is \mathcal{F}_t -measurable, $t \in D$. We also assume that $X_t \in L^1$, i.e. $\int \|X_t\| < \infty$. We use $I(H)$ to denote the indicator function of an event H . Let ∞ be a such element: $t < \infty$, $t \in D$, $\bar{D} = D \cup \infty$, and $\mathcal{F}_\infty = \sigma\left(\bigcup_{t \in D} \mathcal{F}_t\right)$. A stopping time is a map $\tau: \Omega \rightarrow \bar{D}$ such that $(\tau \leq t) \in \mathcal{F}_t$, $t \in D$. A stopping time τ is called simple (countable) if it takes finitely (countably) many values in $D(\bar{D})$. Let T and T_c be the sets of simple and countable stopping times respectively and $T_f = \{\tau \in T_c: \tau < \infty \text{ a.s.}\}$. Clearly, (T, \leq) and (T_f, \leq) are directed sets filtering to the right. For $\tau \in T_c$, let

$$\mathcal{F}_\tau = \{H \in \mathcal{F}: H(\tau = t) \in \mathcal{F}_t \text{ for all } t \in D\}, \quad X_\tau = \sum_{t \in D} X_t I(\tau = t),$$

and

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ (X_t) : \sup_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ (X_t) : \int_{(\tau < \infty)} \|X_\tau\| < \infty, \tau \in T_c \right\},$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{C}} = \left\{ (X_t) : \text{there is } \sigma \in T_f \text{ such that } \int_{(\tau < \infty)} \|X_\tau\| < \infty, \sigma \leq \tau \in T_c \right\},$$

$\mathcal{S} = \{(X_t) : (X_\tau, \tau \in T) \text{ converges stochastically (i.e. in probability) in the norm topology}\}$,

$\mathcal{E} = \{(X_t) : (X_\tau, \tau \in T) \text{ converges essentially in the norm topology}\}$.

Clearly, $\bar{\mathcal{C}} \supset \mathcal{C} \supset \mathcal{B}$ and $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{S}$. If (\mathcal{F}_t) satisfies the Vitali condition V, particularly, if $D = \mathbf{N} \equiv \{1, 2, \dots\}$, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{E}$ if and only if $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ (cf. [18], [23], and [20]). Hence, in this case, $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{E}$.

Mucci ([21], [22]) and Millet and Sucheston ([19], [20]) introduced the notations of martingales in the limit, pramarts, and subpramarts, generalizing those of martingales, amarts (Edgar and Sucheston [7]), uniform amarts (Bellow [2]), and submartingales, and provided some sufficient conditions to ensure that $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ (cf. monographs [10] and [15]).

DEFINITION 1 ([21], [20]). A stochastic process (X_t, \mathcal{F}_t, D) is called a *martingale in the limit* if

$$\text{ess lim}_{t \in D} \text{ess sup}_{t \leq s \in D} \|X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t)\| = 0 \text{ a.s.}$$

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DEFINITION 2 ([19], [20]). (i) A stochastic process (X_t, \mathcal{F}_t, D) is called a *pramart* if

$$s. \lim_{\sigma \leq \tau; \sigma, \tau \in T} \|X_\sigma - E(X_\tau | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)\| = 0,$$

i.e., for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\sigma_0 \in T$ such that, for all $\sigma, \tau \in T$ and $\sigma_0 \leq \sigma \leq \tau$,

$$P\{\|X_\sigma - E(X_\tau | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)\| > \epsilon\} < \epsilon.$$

(ii) A stochastic process (X_t, \mathcal{F}_t, D) is called a *subpramart*, if F is a Banach lattice, and if

$$s. \lim_{\sigma \leq \tau; \sigma, \tau \in T} \|(X_\sigma - E(X_\tau | \mathcal{F}_\sigma))^+\| = 0.$$

Millet and Sucheston [20] proved that if the Vitali condition V holds (it is also necessary), then every pramart (X_t) is a martingale in the limit. There is a more general class of adapted processes.

DEFINITION 3 [31]. (i) A stochastic process (X_t, \mathcal{F}_t, D) is called a *mil* if

$$s. \lim_{\sigma \leq t; \sigma \in T; t \in D} \|X_\sigma - E(X_t | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)\| = 0,$$

i.e., for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\sigma_0 \in T$ such that, for all $\sigma_0 \leq \sigma \in T$ and $\sigma \leq t \in D$,

$$P\{\|X_\sigma - E(X_t | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)\| > \epsilon\} < \epsilon.$$

The mil defined here was called mil(3) in [31], and when $D = \mathbf{N}$, it is equivalent to Talagrand’s mil [28] (see [31]). Clearly, pramart \Rightarrow mil, and martingale in the limit \Rightarrow mil [31]. The following theorem was proved by Millet and Sucheston [19].

THEOREM A [19]. Let $(X_n) \equiv (X_n, n \in \mathbf{N})$ be a pramart of class \mathcal{B} . If F has the Radon–Nikodym property, then $(X_n) \in \mathcal{E}$.

In a real-valued case Millet and Sucheston [20] proved this result.

THEOREM B [18]. Let (X_t) be a real-valued subpramart satisfying condition (d), i.e.

$$\liminf_D \int X_t^- + \liminf_D \int X_t^+ < \infty.$$

Then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.

Later, Egghe [9], [10], Słaby [26], [27] and Frangos [11] worked on a problem raised by Sucheston: if F has the Radon–Nikodym property, does every L^1 -bounded pramart (X_t) belong to \mathcal{S} ? When F is a Banach lattice, Słaby and Frangos proved the following positive subpramart convergence theorem, extending Heinrich’s positive submartingale convergence theorem [16].

THEOREM C ([11] and [27]). Let F be a Banach lattice with the Radon–Nikodym property. If (X_t) is a positive subpramart satisfying $\liminf \int \|X_t\| < \infty$, and if (\mathcal{F}_t) satisfies the Vitali condition V and F is separable, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{E}$.

They also solved Sucheston’s problem when F is a separable dual (Frangos [11]), or a weakly sequentially complete space (Slaby [27]). The following theorem completely solved the problem.

THEOREM D. (i) ([28], also see [31].) *Let (X_t) be a mil satisfying $\liminf \int \|X_t\| < \infty$. If F has the Radon–Nikodym property, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.*

(ii) ([31].) *If $F = R_1$ and (X_t) is a mil satisfying*

$$\liminf \left\{ \min \int X_t^+, \int X_t^- \right\} < \infty,$$

then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.

Part (ii) of Theorem D is an improvement of Mucci’s L^1 -bounded, real-valued martingale in the limit convergence theorem [22].

Suggested by Chow’s submartingale convergence theorem ([4], also see Remark 2), Yamasaki [34] proved the following theorem.

THEOREM E [34]. *Suppose that (X_n) is a real-valued martingale in the limit and $(X_n) \in \mathcal{C}$. Then $(X_n) \in \mathcal{E}$.*

Yamasaki [34] also provided an example, showing that there exists a real-valued martingale in the limit which belongs to \mathcal{C} , but for which $\int X_n^+ \uparrow \infty$.

In this paper we show that Theorem E can be extended to vector-valued mils, and for pramarts the condition $\liminf \int \|X_t\| < \infty$ in Theorem D can be weakened to $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$. On the other hand, it is of interest to characterize a subclass of \mathcal{S} .

Using Bellow’s uniform amart convergence theorem, we can get: if F has the Radon–Nikodym property and the net $(X_\tau, \tau \in T)$ is uniformly integrable, then (X_n) is a uniform amart if and only if $(X_n) \in \mathcal{E}$ (Gut [14]). Krengel and Sucheston [17] also provided an example showing that there exists a real-valued $(X_n) \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}$ such that (X_n) is uniformly integrable, but (X_n) is not an amart. However, Talagrand [28] and Wang and Xue [31] proved that if (X_t) is uniformly integrable, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ if and only if (X_t) is a mil, and Xue [32] proved that the converse of Theorem A is true: if $(X_n) \in \mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{B}$, then (X_n) is a pramart. In this paper we prove that the converse of Theorem E is also true. More specifically, we have Theorem 1.

THEOREM 1. *Suppose that F has the Radon–Nikodym property.*

(a) *If $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$, then*

(i) *$(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \Leftrightarrow (X_t)$ is a pramart $\Leftrightarrow (X_t)$ is a mil, and if the Vitali condition V holds,*

$$(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \Leftrightarrow (X_t) \text{ is a martingale in the limit;}$$

(ii) *if (X_t) is a pramart (mil), so is $(\|X_t\|)$, and under the Vitali condition V , if (X_t) is a martingale in the limit, so is $(\|X_t\|)$.*

(b) *If (X_t) is a pramart satisfying $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.*

Suppose that F is a Banach lattice. Then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \Rightarrow (|X_t|) \in \mathcal{S}$, where

$|X_t| = X_t^+ + X_t^-$. Since, for $x \in F$,

$$X_t \vee x = \frac{X_t + x + |X_t - x|}{2}, \quad X_t \wedge x = \frac{X_t + x - |X_t - x|}{2} \tag{1}$$

(cf. [25, Proposition 2.5]), we have the following corollary.

COROLLARY 1. *Suppose that F is a Banach lattice with the Radon–Nikodym property. Then the set of pramarts (mils) of class \mathcal{C} is a vector lattice; and, under the Vitali condition V , the set of martingales in the limit of class \mathcal{C} is also a vector lattice.*

When F is a Banach lattice, we have similar results for subpramarts. The part (i) of the following theorem is an improvement of Theorem C.

THEOREM 2. *Let F be a Banach lattice with the Radon–Nikodym property and (X_t) a positive subpramart. If one of the following holds, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$:*

- (i) $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$;
- (ii) $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$ and \mathcal{F}_∞ is nonatomic or $s.\liminf_{\tau \in T} \|X_\tau\| < \infty$ a.s., where

$$s.\liminf_{\tau \in T} \|X_\tau\| = \text{ess sup} \left\{ \xi : \lim_{\tau \in T} P(\|X_\tau\| < \xi) = 0 \right\},$$

the stochastic lower limit of $(\|X_\tau\|, \tau \in T)$.

For real-valued processes, we show that condition (d) in Theorem B can be weakened to a one-sided condition and the requirement of being positive in Theorem 2 can be dropped.

THEOREM 3. *Let $F = R_1$.*

(a) *If (i) or (ii) holds, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$:*

- (i) (X_t) is a subpramart satisfying $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^+ < \infty$;
- (ii) (X_t) is a subpramart or a mil, $(X_t^+) \in \mathcal{C}$, and \mathcal{F}_∞ is nonatomic or

$s.\liminf_{\tau \in T} \|X_\tau\| < \infty$ a.s..

(b) *If $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ and $(X_t^-) \in \mathcal{C}$, then (X_t) is a subpramart.*

Part of Theorem 3 was proved by Wang [29]. The proof here is new.

COROLLARY 2. *Suppose that $F = R_1$.*

(a) *If $(X_t^-) \in \mathcal{C}$ and $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^+ < \infty$, then $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ if and only if (X_t) is a subpramart.*

(b) *If $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$ and if $s.\liminf_{\tau \in T} \|X_\tau\| < \infty$ a.s. or \mathcal{F}_∞ is nonatomic, then*

$$(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \Leftrightarrow (X_t) \text{ is a subpramart} \Leftrightarrow (X_t) \text{ is a pramart.}$$

Austin, Edgar, and Ionescu Tulcea [1] (also see [7]) proved that L^1 -bounded, real-valued amarts form a vector lattice. This result was extended by Ghoussoub [12] to L^1 -bounded, Banach lattice-valued order amarts when the Radon–Nikodym property holds, and by Schmidt [24] to L^1 -bounded, l^1 -valued uniform amarts. It is natural to ask: can we change “class \mathcal{C} ” to “ L^1 -bounded class” in Corollary 1? For martingales in the

limit and mils, it is impossible. Indeed, Bellow and Dvoretzky [3] presented an example showing that there exists a uniformly integrable, real-valued martingale in the limit (X_n) such that $(|X_n|)$ is not a martingale in the limit, and Talagrand [28] constructed an L^1 -bounded, real-valued martingale in the limit (X_n) with $X_n \rightarrow 0$ a.s. such that $(|X_n|)$ is not a mil. Hence, the set of L^1 -bounded, real-valued martingales in the limit (mils) is not a vector lattice. Talagrand also presented an L^1 -bounded, l^2 -valued pramart (X_n) such that $(|X_n|)$ is not a pramart. However, Talagrand [28] and Wang [29] proved that the set of L^1 -bounded, real-valued pramarts is a vector lattice. In fact, Talagrand and Wang proved that if (X_n) is a real-valued pramart satisfying $\liminf \int |X_n| < \infty$, then so is $(|X_n|)$. The following theorem is an improvement of their result. ⁿ

THEOREM 4. *If (X_t) is a real-valued pramart satisfying $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \min\{\int X_\tau^-, \int X_\tau^+\} < \infty$, then $(|X_t|)$ is a pramart, hence, for each $\lambda \in R_1$, both $(X_t \vee \lambda)$ and $(X_t \wedge \lambda)$ are pramarts.*

In Section 2 we characterize real-valued pramarts and subpramarts via Snell's envelopes. We prove Theorems 1–4 in Section 3. In Section 4 we make some comments pointing out that: (i), for pramarts, the condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$ is weaker than the condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$; (ii), in general, the condition $(X_t^-) \in \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ in Theorem 3 cannot be dropped; (iii) the condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \min\{\int X_\tau^+, \int X_\tau^-\} < \infty$ in Theorem 4 is necessary; (iv), in general, the set $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ is larger than \mathcal{C} .

2. Snell's envelopes and characterizations of pramarts and subpramarts. In this section we assume that $F = R_1$. We use the following Snell's envelopes to characterize real-valued pramarts and subpramarts. For a real-valued process (X_t) we denote

$$Y_t = \text{ess sup}_{t \leq \tau \in T} E(X_\tau | \mathcal{F}_t), \quad P_t = \text{ess sup}_{t \leq \tau \in T} E(X_\tau^+ | \mathcal{F}_t), \quad R_t = \text{ess inf}_{t \leq \tau \in T} E(X_\tau | \mathcal{F}_t).$$

The following lemma is well known in the martingale theory and the theory of optimal stopping (cf. [5], [13], and [23]).

LEMMA 1. *$(Y_\tau, \mathcal{F}_\tau, T)$ is a generalized supermartingale (i.e. Y_τ takes values in $(-\infty, \infty]$, $EY_\tau^- < \infty$ and $E(Y_\tau | \mathcal{F}_\sigma) \leq Y_\sigma$ a.s. for all $\tau, \sigma \in T$ and $\tau \geq \sigma$), and for any $\tau \in T$ there exist $(\tau_n) \subset T$ such that $\tau \leq \tau_n$ and*

$$E(X_{\tau_n} | \mathcal{F}_\tau) \uparrow Y_\tau = \text{ess sup}\{E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau) : \tau \leq \sigma \in T\}.$$

Therefore, if $\int |Y_t| < \infty$, $t \in D$, then $(-Y_t)$ is a subpramart. Moreover, if $\sup_t \int |Y_t| < \infty$, then (Y_t) is an amart, hence a pramart.

PROPOSITION 1. (i) *(X_t) is a subpramart if and only if $(X_\tau - R_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability. In this case, $\lim_{\tau \in T} P(R_\tau = -\infty) = 0$.*

(ii) *(X_t) is a pramart if and only if $(Y_\tau - R_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability. In this case, $\lim_{\tau \in T} P(R_\tau = -\infty) = \lim_{\tau \in T} P(Y_\tau = \infty) = 0$.*

Proof. For any $\tau \in T$, by Lemma 1, we can choose $\tau \leq \tau_n \in T$ such that $E(X_{\tau_n} | \mathcal{F}_\tau) \downarrow R_\tau$. Since $X_t \geq R_t$ a.s.,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{\tau \leq \sigma \in T} P(X_\tau - E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) &\leq P\left(\text{ess sup}_{\tau \leq \sigma \in T} (X_\tau - E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau)) > \epsilon\right) \\ &= P(X_\tau - R_\tau > \epsilon) = P(|X_\tau - R_\tau| > \epsilon) = \int \lim_n I(X_\tau - E(X_{\tau_n} | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) \\ &= \lim_n \int I(X_\tau - E(X_{\tau_n} | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) \leq \sup_{\tau \leq \sigma \in T} P(X_\tau - E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (X_t) is a subpramart if and only if $(X_\tau - R_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability. In this case, $\lim_{\tau \in T} P(R_\tau = -\infty) \leq \lim_{\tau \in T} P(X_\tau - R_\tau > 1) = 0$. Finally (ii) follows from (i) and the symmetric property.

COROLLARY 3. *Suppose that $(X_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability. Then*

- (i) *(X_t) is a subpramart if and only if $(R_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability;*
- (ii) *if, in addition, (X_t) is nonnegative, then (X_t) is a pramart if and only if $(Y_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges to zero in probability.*

REMARK 1. When (X_t) is nonpositive, (i) in Proposition 1 was proved by Millet and Sucheston [20]. The proof here is adopted from their paper. When $D = \mathbf{N}$, (ii) in Corollary 3 is an analogue of Theorem 11 in [28].

3. Proofs of Theorems 1–4. To prove Theorems 1–4, we need the following lemmas. Let

$$W_t = \text{ess sup}_{t \leq \tau \in T} E(\|X_\tau\| | \mathcal{F}_t), \quad A_t = (W_t = \infty).$$

DEFINITION 4 (cf. [10]). Let F be a Banach lattice. A stochastic process (X_t, \mathcal{F}_t, D) is called a *GBT* (a game which becomes better with time), if

$$s. \lim_{t \leq s; t, s \in D} \|(X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t))^+\| = 0.$$

LEMMA 2. (i) ([33]) $A_t \subset A_s$ a.s. for all $s \leq t$. Hence $A^* \equiv \text{ess lim } A_t$ exists.

(ii) If $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$, then $P(A^*) = 0$ or A^* is a union of atoms of \mathcal{F}_∞ .

Proof. When $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$, (ii) was proved in [33]. Now assume that $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$ and for some $\sigma \in T_f$ and each $\sigma \leq \tau \in T_c$, $\int_{(\tau < \infty)} \|X_\tau\| < \infty$. Choose $(t_n) \subset D$ such that $P(\sigma < t_n) \uparrow 1$. Since $(X_t I(\sigma \leq t_n), \mathcal{F}_t, t_n \leq t \in D) \in \mathcal{C}$, $A^* \cap (\sigma \leq t_n)$ is a union of atoms of \mathcal{F}_∞ or ϕ , $n \geq 1$, and so is A^* .

LEMMA 3. *Suppose that (X_t) is a real-valued GBT (subpramart or mil) and $(X_t^+) \in \mathcal{C}$. Then $(X_t)((X_\tau, \tau \in T))$ converges stochastically to a r.v. ξ such that $-\infty < \xi \leq +\infty$, $(\xi = +\infty) = A^{*+}$ a.s., and A^{*+} is a union of atoms of \mathcal{F}_∞ or ϕ , where $A^{*+} = \text{ess lim } A_t^+$, $A_t^+ = (P_t = \infty)$.*

Proof. As the proof of Lemma 2 we may assume that $(X_t^+) \in \mathcal{C}$. Then the conclusions for GBTs and subpramarts follow from Theorems 9 and 10 in [33]. Now assume that (X_t) is a mil. Choose $(t_n) \subset D$ such that $A_{t_n}^+ \downarrow A^{**}$. For any fixed $n \geq 1$ and $K \geq 1$, by Lemma 1, it is easy to see that $(X_t I(P_{t_n} \leq K), t \geq t_n)$ is a mil and

$$\liminf_t EX_t^+ I(P_{t_n} \leq K) \leq EP_{t_n} I(P_{t_n} \leq K) < \infty.$$

Hence $(X_t I(P_{t_n} \leq K)) \in \mathcal{S}$ (Theorem D). Since $\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \bigcup_{K \geq 1} (P_{t_n} \leq K) = \Omega \setminus A^{**}$, $(X_t I(\Omega \setminus A^{**})) \in \mathcal{S}$. Since every mil is a GBT, $s. \lim_T X_t I(A^{**}) = \infty I(A^{**})$.

REMARK 2. Suppose that (X_n) is a real-valued process and $(X_n^+) \in \mathcal{C}$. Chow [4] proved that if (X_n) is a submartingale, then (X_n) converges a.s. to a r.v. ξ which takes values in $(-\infty, +\infty]$. Yamasaki [34] obtained the same result for martingales in the limit. In Lemma 3, we extend their results to subpramarts and mils and show that $(\xi = +\infty)$ is a union of atoms of \mathcal{F}_∞ or ϕ .

Let F^* be the dual space of F and F^{**} the positive cone of F^* if F is a Banach lattice.

LEMMA 4.(i) *Suppose that F is a Banach lattice. If (X_t) is a positive GBT, then so are $(\|X_t\|)$ and $(f(X_t)), f \in F^{**}$.*

(ii) *If F is a Banach lattice and (X_t) is a positive subpramart, then so are $(\|X_t\|)$ and $(f(X_t)), f \in F^{**}$.*

(iii) *If (X_t) is a mil, then $(\|X_t\|)$ is a GBT and $(f(X_t))$ is a mil, $f \in F^*$.*

Proof. If F is a Banach lattice and (X_t) is positive, then for $t, s \in D$ and $\sigma \in T$,

$$\|(X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t))^+\| \geq (\|X_t\| - \|E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t)\|)^+ \geq (\|X_t\| - E(\|X_s\| | \mathcal{F}_t))^+,$$

and

$$\|(X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t))^+\| \geq \frac{f(X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t))^+}{\|f\|} \geq \frac{(f(X_t) - E(f(X_s) | \mathcal{F}_t))^+}{\|f\|}, f \in F^{**} \setminus 0,$$

(i) holds. Similarly, we get (ii). Since

$$\|X_t - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_t)\| \geq \|X_t\| - E(\|X_s\| | \mathcal{F}_t),$$

and

$$\|X_\sigma - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)\| \geq \frac{|f(X_\sigma - E(X_s | \mathcal{F}_\sigma))|}{\|f\|} = \frac{|f(X_\sigma) - E(f(X_s) | \mathcal{F}_\sigma)|}{\|f\|}, f \in F^* \setminus 0,$$

(iii) holds.

LEMMA 5. *Suppose that (X_t) is a mil and $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$. Then $P(A^*) = 0$.*

Proof. Assume that $P(A^*) > 0$. By Lemma 2, we may assume that A^* is an atom of \mathcal{F}_∞ and $X_t = x$, on A^* . Since (X_t) is a mil, by Lemmas 3 and 4,

$$\limf_t(x_t) \text{ exists and is finite for each } f \in F^*,$$

and

$$\|x_t\| \rightarrow \infty,$$

which contradicts the Banach–Steinhaus theorem.

When $D = N$, the following lemma was proved in [32]. The proof here is new.

LEMMA 6. Assume that $(X_t) \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{S}$. Then (X_t) is a pramart.

Proof. Assume that $(X_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges stochastically to X . By Fatou’s lemma, $X \in L^1$. Let

$$Z_t = X_t - E(X | \mathcal{F}_t).$$

Then $(Z_t) \in \mathcal{B}$. Clearly, we need only to show that (Z_t) is a pramart. Since $(E(X | \mathcal{F}_\tau), \tau \in T)$ converges stochastically to X , $(\|Z_\tau\|, \tau \in T)$ converges stochastically to zero. Hence, we need only to show that $(S_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges stochastically to zero, where

$$S_t = \text{ess sup}_{t \leq \sigma \in T} E(\|Z_\sigma\| | \mathcal{F}_t).$$

First we show that $(S_t) \in \mathcal{S}$. By Lemma 1, (S_t) is a pramart satisfying

$$\sup_{t \in D} \int |S_t| = \sup_{\tau \in T} \int \|Z_\tau\| \leq \sup_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| + \int \|X\| < \infty.$$

Hence, by Theorem B, $(S_t) \in \mathcal{S}$. Assume that $(S_\tau, \tau \in T)$ does not converge stochastically to zero, then $(\|Z_\tau\| - S_\tau, \tau \in T)$ converges stochastically to a nonpositive r.v. ξ such that $P(\xi < 0) > 0$, since $S_t \geq \|Z_t\|$ and $(S_t), (\|Z_t\|) \in \mathcal{S}$. Then, by Fatou’s lemma,

$$\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int (S_\tau - \|Z_\tau\|) \geq \int \lim_{\tau \in T} (S_\tau - \|Z_\tau\|) > 0. \tag{2}$$

On the other hand, by Lemma 1,

$$\lim_{\tau \in T} \int S_\tau = \lim_{\tau \in T} \left(\sup_{\tau \leq \tau' \in T} \int \|Z_{\tau'}\| \right) = \lim_{\tau \in T} \sup_{\tau' \in T} \int \|Z_{\tau'}\| < \infty,$$

which contradicts (2).

LEMMA 7. If $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \cap \bar{\mathcal{C}}$, then $P(A^*) = 0$.

Proof. Assume that $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S} \cap \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ and $P(A^*) > 0$. Then, by Lemma 2, we may assume that A^* is an atom of \mathcal{F}_∞ , and A_t is an atom of \mathcal{F}_t such that $A_t \supset A^*$, $\|X_t\| = a_t$ on A_t , and $\lim a_t = a \in R_1$. We may also assume that $a_t < a + 1, t \in D$. For any $\sigma \in T_f$, there is $t_0 \in D, P(A^* \cap (\sigma = t_0)) > 0$. Since $(\sigma = t_0) \in \mathcal{F}_{t_0}, A_{t_0} \subset (\sigma = t_0)$. Since $W_{t_0} = \infty$ on A_{t_0} , there is $t_0 \leq \tau_1 \in T$ such that $E(\|X_{\tau_1}\| | \mathcal{F}_{t_0}) > (a + 2)/P(A_{t_0})$ on A_{t_0} , and there is $t_1 \in D$ such that $P(A^* \cap (\tau_1 = t_1)) > 0$ (then $A_{t_1} \subset (\tau_1 = t_1)$). Assume that we have chosen $t_{n-1} \leq \tau_n \in T$ such that $E(\|X_{\tau_n}\| | \mathcal{F}_{t_{n-1}}) \geq (a + 2)/P(A_{t_{n-1}})$ on $A_{t_{n-1}}$. Then there is $t_n \in D$ such that $P(A^* \cap (\tau_n = t_n)) > 0$, (hence $A_{t_n} \subset (\tau_n = t_n)$). And we can choose $t_n \leq \tau_{n+1} \in T$ such that $E(\|X_{\tau_{n+1}}\| | \mathcal{F}_{t_n}) \geq (a + 2)/P(A_{t_n})$ on A_{t_n} . Let $\tau = \sum_{n \geq 1} \tau_n I(A_{t_{n-1}} \setminus A_{t_n}) + \sigma I(\Omega \setminus A_{t_0}) + \infty I(A^*)$.

Then $\sigma \leq \tau \in T_c$ and

$$E \|X_\tau\| I(\tau < \infty) \geq \sum_n (E \|X_{\tau_n}\| I(A_{t_{n-1}}) - E \|X_{t_n}\| I(A_{t_n}))$$

$$\geq \sum_n (E \|X_{\tau_n}\| I(A_{t_{n-1}}) - (a + 1)) \geq \sum_n (E(E(\|X_{\tau_n}\| | \mathcal{F}_{t_{n-1}}) I(A_{t_{n-1}}) - (a + 1))) = \infty.$$

Hence, for any $\sigma \in T_f$ there is $\sigma \leq \tau \in T_c$ such that $E \|X_\tau\| I(\tau < \infty) = \infty$, i.e. $(X_t) \notin \mathcal{C}$, a contradiction.

Proof of Theorem 1. (a) Since $(X_t) \in \mathcal{C}$, by Lemmas 5 and 7, either $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$ or being a mil implies $P(A^*) = 0$, and we can choose $(t_k) \subset D$ such that $t_1 < t_2 < \dots$ and $P(A_{t_k}) \downarrow 0$. For $m, k \in \mathbf{N}$ define

$$X_t^k = X_t I(W_{t_k} < m), \quad t_k \leq t \in D.$$

Since $E(\|X_\tau\| | \mathcal{F}_t) \leq W_t$, a.s., $t \leq \tau \in T$, by Lemma 1,

$$\sup_{t_k \leq \tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau^k\| \leq \int W_{t_k}(W_{t_k} < m) < \infty.$$

Hence, $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D)$ is of class \mathcal{B} . If (X_t) is a mil, then $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D)$ is a mil of class \mathcal{B} , and by Theorem D, $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D) \in \mathcal{S}$; if $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$, then, $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D) \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{S}$, and, by Lemma 6, $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D)$ is a pramart. Since $\bigcup_{k,m \in \mathbf{N}} (W_{t_k} < m) = \Omega \setminus A^* = \Omega$ a.s. and every pramart is a mil (a martingale in the limit, if the Vitali condition holds), we get (a).

Now we prove (b). Assume that (X_t) is a pramart satisfying $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| < \infty$. It is easy to show that $(X_\tau, \mathcal{F}_\tau, \tau \in T)$ is a mil, and applying Theorem D, $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.

Proof of Theorem 2. Proof of (i). Suppose that F has the Radon–Nikodym property and (X_t) is a positive subpramart satisfying $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau\| = M < \infty$. Choose $(t_n) \subset D$ such that $t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots$ and

$$\sup_{t_n \leq \tau \leq \sigma: \tau, \sigma \in T} P(\|(X_\tau - E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau))^+\| > 1/n) < 2^{-n}. \tag{3}$$

We claim that the following fact holds:

for all $(\tau_n, \sigma_n) \subset T$ such that $t_n \leq \tau_n \leq \sigma_n \leq \tau_{n+1}$, and $\int \|X_{\sigma_n}\| < M + 1$,
 $(X_{\tau_1}, X_{\sigma_1}, \dots, X_{\tau_n}, X_{\sigma_n}, \dots)$ converges almost surely to a finite r.v.

Proof of the claim. For $n \geq 1$, let

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{X}_{2n-1} &= X_{\tau_n}, & \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{2n-1} &= \mathcal{F}_{\tau_n}; \\ \bar{X}_{2n} &= X_{\sigma_n}, & \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{2n} &= \mathcal{F}_{\sigma_n}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, $(\bar{X}_n, \bar{\mathcal{F}}_n, n \in \mathbf{N})$ is a positive subpramart satisfying

$$\liminf_n \int \|\bar{X}_n\| \leq \liminf_n \int \|X_{\sigma_n}\| < \infty.$$

Since \bar{X}_n being Bochner integrable is separably valued, so is $(\bar{X}_n, n \in \mathbf{N})$. By Theorem C, $(\bar{X}_n, n \in \mathbf{N}) \in \mathcal{E}$, and the claim has been proved.

The above claim implies that $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$. In fact, if $(X_t) \notin \mathcal{S}$, then there is a $c > 0$ such that for any $t \in D$ there exist $t \leq \tau, \rho \in T$,

$$P(\|X_\tau - X_\rho\| > c) > c. \tag{4}$$

Choose $t_1 \leq \tau_1, \rho_1 \in T$ such that (4) holds. Pick $\sigma_1 \in T$ such that $\sigma_1 \geq \tau_1, \sigma_1 \geq \rho_1, \sigma_1 \geq t_2$, and $\int \|X_{\sigma_1}\| < M + 1$. Assume that τ_n, ρ_n and σ_n have been chosen, choose τ_{n+1}, ρ_{n+1} and $\sigma_{n+1} \in T$ such that $\tau_{n+1} \geq \sigma_n, \rho_{n+1} \geq \sigma_n$, and $\sigma_{n+1} \geq \tau_{n+1}, \sigma_{n+1} \geq \rho_{n+1}, \sigma_{n+1} \geq t_{n+2}$, $\int \|X_{\sigma_{n+1}}\| < M + 1$, and

$$P(\|X_{\tau_{n+1}} - X_{\rho_{n+1}}\| > c) > c. \tag{5}$$

Then, by the claim,

$$(X_{\tau_1}, X_{\sigma_1}, \dots, X_{\tau_n}, X_{\sigma_n}, \dots)$$

and

$$(X_{\rho_1}, X_{\sigma_1}, \dots, X_{\rho_n}, X_{\sigma_n}, \dots)$$

converge almost surely to finite r.v.s. Hence,

$$(X_{\tau_1}, X_{\rho_1}, \dots, X_{\tau_n}, X_{\rho_n}, \dots)$$

converges almost surely to a finite r.v., which contradicts (5).

Proof of (ii). Under the assumptions of (ii), by Lemmas 2 and 3, $P(A^*) = 0$. Define X_t^k as that in the proof of Theorem 1. Then $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D)$ is a positive, L^1 -bounded subpramart, therefore, by part (i) of Theorem 2, $(X_t^k, t_k \leq t \in D) \in \mathcal{S}$, which implies $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$.

Proof of Theorem 3. (a) Assume that (X_t) is a real-valued subpramart and $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^+ < \infty$. By Proposition 1, we can choose $(t_n) \subset D$ such that $t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots$ and $P(R_{t_n} = -\infty) \rightarrow 0$. For $M > 0$, and $t_n \leq t \in D$, by Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \int |R_t| I(R_{t_n} > -M) &= \int -R_t I(R_{t_n} > -M) + 2 \int R_t^+ I(R_{t_n} > -M) \\ &\leq \int -R_{t_n} I(R_{t_n} > -M) + 2 \sup_{s \in D} \int R_s^+ \\ &\leq M + 2 \sup_{s \in D} \left(\inf_{s \leq \tau \in T} \int X_\tau^+ \right) = M + 2 \liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^+ < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $(R_t I(R_{t_n} > -M), t_n \leq t \in D)$ is an L^1 -bounded pramart, and $(R_t I(R_{t_n} > -M)) \in \mathcal{S}$ (Theorem B). By Proposition 1, $(X_t I(R_{t_n} > -M)) \in \mathcal{S}$. Since $\bigcup_n (R_{t_n} > -\infty) = \Omega$ a.s., $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$. The proof of (ii) is similar to the proof in Theorem 2 and, therefore, is omitted.

(b) Now we assume that $(X_t^-) \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{S}$. For any $\epsilon > 0$, by Theorem 1, we can choose $M > 0$ and $\rho \in T$ such that

$$\sup_{\rho \leq \tau \in T} P(X_\tau > M) < \epsilon$$

and

$$\sup_{\rho \leq \tau \leq \sigma; \tau, \sigma \in T} P(X_\tau \wedge M - E(X_\sigma \wedge M | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) < \epsilon,$$

since $(X_t \wedge M) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \cap \mathcal{S}$ and it is a pramart (Theorem 1). Hence, for any $\tau, \sigma \in T$ and $\rho \leq \tau \leq \sigma$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_\tau - E(X_\sigma | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) &\leq P\{(X_\tau - E(X_\sigma \wedge M | \mathcal{F}_\tau))I(X_\tau \leq M) > \epsilon\} + P(X_\tau > M) \\ &\leq P(X_\tau \wedge M - E(X_\sigma \wedge M | \mathcal{F}_\tau) > \epsilon) + \epsilon < 2\epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. (X_t) is a subpramart.

Proof of Theorem 4. Without loss of generality we may and do assume that $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^- < \infty$. By Theorem 3, $(X_t) \in \mathcal{S}$. The condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau^- < \infty$ implies $(P_t = \infty) = (Y_t = \infty)$ a.s. (see [33, Lemma 3]), hence, by Proposition 1, we can choose $(t_k) \subset D$ such that

$$P(P_{t_k} = \infty) = P(Y_{t_k} = \infty) \rightarrow 0. \tag{6}$$

Then, it is easy to show that for each $k \geq 1$ and $M > 0$, $(X_t^+ I(P_{t_k} < M), t \geq t_k) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \cap \mathcal{S}$. Applying Theorem 1, $(X_t^+ I(P_{t_k} < M), t \geq t_k)$ is a pramart, and, by (6), (X_t^+) is also a pramart. Therefore, $(|X_t|) = (2X_t^+ - X_t)$ is a pramart. For each $\lambda \in R_1$, by (1), both $(X_t \wedge \lambda)$ and $(X_t \vee \lambda)$ are pramarts.

4. Some comments. 1. For a martingale (X_n) , clearly,

$$\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau^+\| < \infty \Leftrightarrow \liminf_n \int \|X_n^+\| < \infty.$$

However, for subpramarts, condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int \|X_\tau^+\| < \infty$ is weaker than condition $\liminf_n \int \|X_n^+\| < \infty$: let $\Omega = (0, 1]$, $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_n$ be the class of Borel sets of $(0, 1]$, and P the Lebesgue measure. Define $X_n = n^2 I(0, 1/n]$. Then (X_n) is a positive pramart, $\int X_n \uparrow \infty$, and $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \int X_\tau = 0$.

2. The following example shows that, in general, the condition $(X_t^-) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ in Theorem 3 can not be dropped.

Let (X_n) be independent r.v.s such that $X_n \leq 0$, $\int X_n \downarrow -\infty$ and $X_n \rightarrow 0$ a.s. and X_n is non-degenerate. Let $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(X_1, \dots, X_n)$. Clearly, (X_n) is not a subpramart, and we can show that $(X_n^-) \notin \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$. In fact, for each $\sigma \in T_f$, choose $n \in \mathbb{N}$ so large that $P(\sigma \leq n) > 0$. Then we can find $(A_k, k \geq n)$ such that $A_k \subset (\sigma \leq n)$, $A_k \in \mathcal{F}_k$, $P(A_k) > 0$, $P(A_k, A_j) = 0$, $j \neq k$. Choose $n_k \geq k$, $E|X_{n_k}| P(A_k) > 1$. Let $\tau = \sum_{k \geq n} n_k I(A_k) + \infty I(\Omega \setminus (\bigcup_k A_k))$. Then $\sigma \leq \tau \in T_c$ and $\int_{(\tau < \infty)} |X_\tau| = \infty$, $(X_n^-) \notin \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$.

3. The condition $\liminf_{\tau \in T} \min\{\int X_\tau^+, \int X_\tau^-\} < \infty$ in Theorem 4 is necessary. Let (ξ_n) be i.i.d. r.v.s, $P(\xi_n = 1) = P(\xi_n = -1) = 1/2$, $X_n = \sum_1^n \xi_i$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$. Then, (X_n) is a martingale, hence a pramart. It is well known that $\limsup_n X_n = \infty$ a.s. Hence, $(|X_n|) \notin \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$

and, by Theorem 3, $(|X_n|)$ is not a pramart. It is easy to see that, in this example,

$$\liminf_{\tau \in T} \min \left\{ \int X_{\tau}^+, \int X_{\tau}^- \right\} = \frac{1}{2} \lim_n \int |X_n| = \infty.$$

4. The set $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ is larger than \mathcal{C} . Let (Y_n) be i.i.d r.v.s, $P(Y_n = 2) = P(Y_n = -1) = P(Y_n = 0) = 1/3$. Let $X_n = 3^n \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} Y_i$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$. Then (X_n) is a real-valued martingale. Let $\sigma = \inf\{n \geq 1, Y_n = 0\}$. Clearly, $\sigma \in T_f$ and for any $\sigma \leq \tau \in T_c$, $\int_{\{\tau < \infty\}} |X_{\tau}| = 0$. Hence, $(X_n) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$. Now let $\tau = \inf\{n \geq 1, Y_n = -1\}$. Then $\tau \in T_f$, $\int |X_{\tau}| = \sum_n 6^n (P(Y_1 = 2))^n / 2 = \infty$, and $(X_n) \notin \mathcal{C}$.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS
EAST CHINA NORMAL UNIVERSITY
SHANGHAI 200062
CHINA

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK
NY 10027
U.S.A.