

Sanov's theorem

Restriction and conditioning

Consider a sequence $(\mu_n)_n$ satisfying the LDP with rate function I and an open set $G \subset \mathcal{K}$ such that $\inf_G I = \inf_{\bar{G}} I$.

Proposition 1. (RESTRICTION) *For every $f \in C(\mathcal{K})$*

$$\lim_n \|1_G f\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} = \lim_n \|1_{\bar{G}} f\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} = \sup_G (|f|e^{-I}) = \max_{\bar{G}} (|f|e^{-I}).$$

Proof. We can restrict ourselves to $f \geq 0$ and by density assume that $f > 0$. We thus write $f = e^{-h}$ with $h \in C(\mathcal{K})$ and define new probability measures by $\nu_n = c_n e^{-h} \mu_n$ for suitable constants c_n . The sequence $(\nu_n)_n$ satisfy the the LDP with rate function $J = I + h - \min_{\mathcal{K}} (I + h)$, since h is continuous $\inf_G J = \inf_{\bar{G}} J$ so

$$\|1_G f\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} = \|f\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} (\nu_n(G))^{1/n} \rightarrow \exp(-\inf_G J - \min_{\mathcal{K}} (I + h)) = \exp(-\inf_{\bar{G}} (I + h)).$$

□

If $I(x) < +\infty$ for some $x \in \bar{G}$ then $\mu_n(\bar{G}) > 0$ for n large enough and we can introduce conditional measures ν_n such that $\nu_n(f) = \mu_n(f 1_{\bar{G}}) / \mu_n(\bar{G})$ for all f bounded Borel on \mathcal{K} . The set \bar{G} is another compact metrizable space.

Corollary 2. *Assume $\min_{\bar{G}} I < +\infty$. The sequence of conditional measures $(\nu_n)_n$ obey the LDP with rate function $J: \bar{G} \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ given by $J(x) = I(x) - \min_{\bar{G}} I$ for all $x \in \bar{G}$.*

Proof. Take $f \in C(\bar{G})$ and let $\hat{f} \in C(\mathcal{K})$ any continuous extension of f (which exists for example due to separability of $C(\mathcal{K})$, think about it). Then $\|\hat{f} 1_{\bar{G}}\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} \rightarrow \max_{\bar{G}} (|\hat{f}|e^{-I})$ so $\|f\|_{L^n(\nu_n)} = \|\hat{f} 1_{\bar{G}}\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} / \|1_{\bar{G}}\|_{L^n(\mu_n)} \rightarrow \max_{\bar{G}} (|\hat{f}|e^{-I}) / \max_{\bar{G}} (e^{-I})$. □

Tensorization and projections

Theorem 3. *Consider two compact Polish spaces \mathcal{K}_1 and \mathcal{K}_2 . Let $(\mu_n^1)_n$ and $(\mu_n^2)_n$ be sequences resp in $\Pi(\mathcal{K}_1)$ and $\Pi(\mathcal{K}_2)$ which obey the LDP with rate functions I_1 and I_2 . Then the sequence $(\nu_n = \mu_n^1 \times \mu_n^2)_n$ in $\Pi(\mathcal{K}_1 \times \mathcal{K}_2)$ obey the LDP with rate function $I(x_1, x_2) = I_1(x_1) + I_2(x_2)$.*

Proof. Take $f(x_1, x_2) = (f_1 \otimes f_2)(x_1, x_2) f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2)$. Then for any LD-converging sub-sequence of $(\nu_n)_n$ we have, for some rate function I' ,

$$\lim_k \|f_1 \otimes f_2\|_{L^{n_k}(\nu_{n_k})} = \sup_{x \in \mathcal{K}_1 \times \mathcal{K}_2} (f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2) e^{-I'(x_1, x_2)}).$$

On the other hand $\|f_1 \otimes f_2\|_{L^{n_k}(\nu_{n_k})} = \|f_1\|_{L^{n_k}(\mu_{n_k}^1)} \|f_2\|_{L^{n_k}(\mu_{n_k}^2)}$ and then

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{K}_1 \times \mathcal{K}_2} (f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2) e^{-I'(x_1, x_2)}) = \sup_{x_1 \in \mathcal{K}_1} (f_1(x_1) e^{-I_1(x_1)}) \sup_{x_2 \in \mathcal{K}_2} (f_2(x_2) e^{-I_2(x_2)})$$

For some fixed $z \in \mathcal{K}_1 \times \mathcal{K}_2$ choose $f_i(x_i) = \exp(-Nd_i(x_i, z_i))$ for $i = 1, 2$. Letting $N \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$I'(z_1, z_2) = I_1(z_1) + I_2(z_2) = I(z)$$

(prove it!) thus all possible accumulation points of $(\nu_n)_n$ have the same rate functions so the whole sequence satisfy the LDP with rate function I . \square

Exercise 1. Prove that $(\mu_n^1 \times \mu_n^2)_n$ is LD-convergent if and only if $(\mu_n^1)_n$ and $(\mu_n^2)_n$ are LD-convergent.

Theorem 4. (Dawson-Gartner) Consider a sequence of measures $(\mu_n)_n$. Let $\{g_k\}_{k \geq 1} \subseteq C(\mathcal{K})$ be a family of continuous functions which separates the points of \mathcal{K} . Define $G_k: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ as $G_k(x) = (g_1(x), \dots, g_k(x))$. Assume that for all $k \geq 1$ the laws $\mu_n^k = (G_k)_* \mu_n$ of the vector (g_1, \dots, g_k) obey the LDP with rate function I_k on the compact set $G_k(\mathcal{K})$. Then $(\mu_n)_n$ satisfy the LDP with rate function

$$I(x) = \sup_k I_k(G_k(x)).$$

Proof. By the Stone-Weierstrass theorem the functions of the form $f = g(G_k)$ are dense in $C(\mathcal{K}_0)$ and the limit $\lim_n \|g \circ G_k\|_n$ exists. Convergence of $\|f\|_n$ for a dense set of f imply LD-convergence. Let us call I' the rate function, then

$$I'(x) = \log \sup \{f(x) : \lim_n \|f\|_n \leq 1\} \geq \log \sup \{g(G_k(x)) : \lim_n \|g \circ G_k\|_n \leq 1\} = I_k(G_k(x))$$

so $I'(x) \geq \sup_k I_k(G_k(x)) = I(x)$. Now for every $f \in C(\mathcal{K})$ such that $\lim_n \|f\| \leq 1$ choose k and g such that $\|f - g \circ G_k\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon$. Then

$$f(x) \leq g(G_k(x)) + \varepsilon \leq \lim_n \|g \circ G_k\|_n e^{I_k(G_k(x))} + \varepsilon \leq (1 + \varepsilon) e^{I(x)} + \varepsilon$$

so $I'(x) \leq \log[(1 + \varepsilon)e^{I(x)} + \varepsilon]$ for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$. Then $I = I'$. \square

Large deviations for coin tossing and Boltzmann discovery

Let $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be an iid sequence with law Bernoulli(p) for some $p \in [0, 1]$. Consider the r.v. $N_n = \sum_{k=1}^n X_k = \#\{X_k = 1 : 1 \leq k \leq n\}$ which counts the number of ones in the sequence. Of course $N_n \sim B(n, p)$ and if μ_n is the law of N_n/n we have

$$\|f\|_n = \left[\sum_{k=0}^n |f(k/n)|^n \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \right]^{1/n}$$

Recall that given $\mu, \nu \in \Pi(\{0, \dots, N\})$ the relative entropy of ν wrt μ is given by

$$H(\nu|\mu) = \sum_{i=0}^N \nu(i) \log \frac{\nu(i)}{\mu(i)}.$$

Exercise 2. Prove that $(\mu_n)_n$ satisfy the LDP with rate function

$$I(x) = x \log(x/p) + (1-x) \log((1-x)/(1-p)) = H(\text{Ber}(x)|\text{Ber}(p)).$$

Hints:

- a) Prove that $\|f\|_n \sim \max_{0 \leq k \leq n} (|f(k/n)| \binom{k}{n}^{1/n} p^{k/n} (1-p)^{1-k/n})$ using the fact that the cardinality of the summation in the definition of $\|f\|_n$ is of order n .
- b) Prove that, uniformly in $0 \leq k \leq n$,

$$\binom{k}{n}^{1/n} \sim \left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^{-k/n} \left(1 - \frac{k}{n}\right)^{-(1-k/n)}$$

by observing that the bound

$$\int_{1/k}^1 \log x dx \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{m=1}^k \log(m/k) \leq \int_0^1 \log x dx$$

imply $(k!)^{1/k} \sim (k/e)$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$ and then conclude that $(k!)^{1/n} \sim (k/e)^{k/n}$ uniformly in k by using different arguments for small and large k .

For sequences $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$ of iid variables on the finite set $\mathcal{K} = \{1, \dots, N\}$ with common law $\rho \in \Pi(\mathcal{K})$ we can define the *empirical vector* L_n with values in the compact metrizable space $\Pi(\mathcal{K}) = \{p \in [0, 1]^N : p_1 + \dots + p_N = 1\}$ as

$$L_n(i) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n 1_{X_k=i} = \frac{\#\{1 \leq k \leq n : X_k=i\}}{n}$$

and let μ_n to be the law on L_n (thus $\mu_n \in \Pi(\Pi(\mathcal{K}))$).

Theorem 5. (Boltzmann, 1877) *The sequence $(\mu_n)_n$ satisfy the LDP on $\Pi(\mathcal{K})$ with (convex) rate function $I(\nu) = H(\nu|\rho)$.*

The key point of a direct proof of this theorem is that the set of all possible empirical vectors of a sample of size n is of cardinality not larger than $(n+1)^N$ (each of the N components can take at most $n+1$ values). This magnitude disappear in the LD limit since it is sub-exponential in n . Only the asymptotic size of the set of the microscopic configurations compatible with a given empirical vector will contribute to the rate function, as in the coin tossing ($N=2$) case.

Another possible proof of this theorem goes via Cramér theorem on \mathbb{R}^N . Replace each X_n by the vector of Bernoulli variables $(Y_n^1, \dots, Y_n^N) : \Omega \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^N$ where $Y_n^i = 1_{X_n=i}$ and observe that $L_n(i) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_n^i$ so that empirical measure becomes an empirical mean. Then Cramér's theorem gives that the rate function on $\Pi(\mathcal{K})$ is given by the Fenchel-Legendre transform $\Lambda : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the log mgf of the vector Y_1 , but

$$\Lambda(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = \log \mathbb{E}(e^{\lambda_1 Y_1^1 + \dots + \lambda_N Y_1^N}) = \log \sum_{i=1}^N e^{\lambda_i} \rho_i$$

so, for every $x_1, \dots, x_N \in [0, 1]$ with $x_1 + \dots + x_N = 1$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} I(x_1, \dots, x_N) &= \sup_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N} [\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_N x_N - \log \sum_{i=1}^N e^{\lambda_i} \rho_i] \\ &= H((x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq N} | (\rho_i)_{1 \leq i \leq N}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{x_i}{\rho_i}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 6. Boltzmann discovered this asymptotic probability in 1877 during his attempt to ground thermodynamics of the perfect gas on a microscopic statistical theory of a system of free particles. His proof, using Stirling asymptotic formula for $n!$, was not completely rigorous but nonetheless right. His work showed that the physical entropy of thermodynamics is linked with the mathematical entropy of a probability distribution as a measure of its “unevenness”.

Now we are ready to generalize Sanov theorem to compactly supported measures on \mathbb{R}^d , not necessarily discrete. Let \mathcal{K} a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^d and $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$ an iid sequence with values in \mathcal{K} with law $\rho = (X_1)_* \mathbb{P} \in \Pi(\mathcal{K})$ and $\mu_n \in \Pi(\Pi(\mathcal{K}))$ the law of the empirical measure L_n defined via $L_n(f) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n f(X_i)$ for all bounded measurable $f: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (alternatively $L_n(dx) = n^{-1} \sum_i \delta_{X_i}(dx)$).

Theorem 7. (Sanov) *The sequence $(\mu_n)_n$ obey the LDP on $\Pi(\mathcal{K})$ with rate function $I(\nu) = H(\nu|\rho)$.*

Proof. Let $\{\varphi_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a countable dense set in $C(\mathcal{K})$ and let $\mathcal{F}_k = \sigma(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$ the associated filtration of the Borel σ -algebra $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K})$. Let $F_k: \Pi(\mathcal{K}) \rightarrow [-1, 1]^k$ be the continuous function $F_k(\nu) = (\nu(\varphi_1)/\|\varphi_1\|, \dots, \nu(\varphi_k)/\|\varphi_k\|)$. By Cramer’s theorem the image law $(\mu_n^k = (F_k)_* \mu_n)$ satisfy the LDP on $[-1, 1]^k$ with rate function $I_k(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ given by

$$I_k(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \sup_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k} [\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_k x_k - \log \mathbb{E}[e^{\sum_i \lambda_i \varphi_k(X_1)/\|\varphi_k\|}]].$$

Then by the Dawson-Gartner theorem

$$\begin{aligned} I(\nu) &= \sup_k I_k(F_k(\nu)) = \sup_k \sup_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k} [\nu(\lambda_1 \varphi_1 + \dots + \lambda_k \varphi_k) - \log \mathbb{E}[e^{\sum_i \lambda_i \varphi_k(X_1)}]] \\ &= \sup_{\varphi} [\nu(\varphi) - \log \mathbb{E}[e^{\varphi(X_1)}]] = H(\nu|\rho). \end{aligned}$$

□

Sanov’s theorem can be used to prove Cramér’s theorem. Indeed the empirical mean \hat{S}_n of a vector (X_1, \dots, X_n) is a function of the empirical distribution L_n : $\hat{S}_n = \int x L_n(dx) = m(L_n)$. If the variables take values on a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^d then $m: \Pi(\mathcal{K}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function and its image its compact. By the contraction principle the laws σ_n of \hat{S}_n obey the LDP with rate function $J(x) = \inf \{H(\nu|\rho) : \nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}), \mu(\nu) = x\}$. Introduce the probability measures $\rho_\lambda = e^{\lambda x - \log \Lambda_\rho(\lambda)} \rho$ and observe that for any $y \in \text{supp } \rho$ we can find λ such that $y = m(\rho_\lambda)$ and that

$$H(\nu|\rho_\lambda) = \int \log \frac{d\nu}{d\rho_\lambda} d\nu = H(\nu|\rho) - \lambda m(\nu) + \log \Lambda_\rho(\lambda)$$

so $J(y) = \inf \{H(\nu|\rho_\lambda) : \nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}), \mu(\nu) = y\} + \lambda y - \log \Lambda_\rho(\lambda) = \lambda y - \log \Lambda_\rho(\lambda) = \sup_\lambda [\lambda y - \log \Lambda_\rho(\lambda)]$ (think why). Conclusion : J is the Fenchel-Legendre transform of Λ_ρ .

Gibbsian conditioning

Sanov’s theorem allow us to discuss another physical phenomenon related to “Gibbsian” distributions. Let $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be an iid sequence with values in \mathcal{K} and law $\rho \in \Pi(\mathcal{K})$. Fix some integer $k \geq 1$ and consider the law $\mu_n \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}^k)$ of (X_1, \dots, X_k) conditional of an event involving $L_n = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{X_i}$, the empirical measure of the vector (X_1, \dots, X_n) :

$$\mu_n(f) = \int_{\mathcal{K}^k} f(x) \mu_n(dx) = \mathbb{E}[f(X_1, \dots, X_k) | L_n \in B]$$

where $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K}^k)$ and $B \in \mathcal{B}(\Pi(\mathcal{K}))$. We will work with $k = 1$ generalization to higher k being easy.

Exercise 3. Let $k = 1$, show that

$$\mu_n(f) = \mathbb{E}[f(X_1)|L_n \in B] = \mathbb{E}[L_n(f)|L_n \in B] = \int_{\Pi(\mathcal{K})} \sigma(f) \nu_n(d\sigma)$$

where ν_n is the law of L_n conditional to the event B .

Assume that B is closed and that $\inf_{B^o} H_\rho = \min_B H_\rho = H_\rho(\hat{\nu})$ for a unique minimum point $\hat{\nu} \in B$. Then the LDP for $(L_n)_{n \geq 1}$ and the restriction theorem imply that the sequence $(\nu_n)_{n \geq 1}$ obey the LDP on $B \subseteq \Pi(\mathcal{K})$ with rate function $J(\nu) = H_\rho(\nu) - H_\rho(\hat{\nu})$ and that $\nu_n \rightarrow \delta_{\hat{\nu}}$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then, for every continuous $f \in C(\mathcal{K})$, $\mu_n(f) = \int_{\Pi(\mathcal{K})} \sigma(f) \nu_n(d\sigma) \rightarrow \hat{\nu}(f)$ and we have proved that the sequence $(\mu_n)_{n \geq 1}$ converge weakly to the probability measure $\hat{\nu}$ which is the solution of the minimization of H_ρ over B .

Interesting case is where the conditioning set B is of the form $B = \{\nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}) : \nu(\varphi) \in [e, e + \delta]\}$ for some small $\delta > 0$ and $e \in \mathbb{R}$ is such that $\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_1)] < e < \sup_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi$. This last condition is to render the event $\{L_n \in B\} = \{L_n(\varphi) \in [e, e + \delta]\}$ atypical : by the LLN we have $L_n(\varphi) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_1)]$ a.s. In this case $\hat{\nu}$ can be described explicitly as an exponential perturbation of ρ . Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and introduce the ‘‘tilted’’ measures $\rho_\lambda = e^{\lambda f} \rho / Z(\lambda)$ with $Z(\lambda) = \int e^{\lambda f} d\rho$ and observe that $H_\rho(\nu) = H_{\rho_\lambda}(\nu) + \lambda \nu(f) - \log Z(\lambda)$.

Exercise 4. Show that there exists $\lambda > 0$ for which $\rho_\lambda(f) = e$ and that $H_\rho(\rho_\lambda) = \lambda e - \log Z(\lambda)$.

Now

$$H_\rho(\rho_\lambda) = \lambda e + \log Z(\lambda) = \min_{\nu: \nu(f) \in [e, e + \delta]} [H_{\rho_\lambda}(\nu) + \lambda \nu(f)] + \log Z(\lambda) = \min_B H_\rho$$

so $\hat{\nu} = \rho_\lambda$.

Let us extend the result to $k > 1$. It is enough to consider new ‘‘block’’ variables $\tilde{X}_i = (X_{1+k(i-1)}, \dots, X_{k+k(i-1)})$ and observe if $\tilde{L}_n \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}^k)$ is the empirical law of $(\tilde{X}_1, \dots, \tilde{X}_n)$ then $L_{nk}(f) = \tilde{L}_n(\tilde{f})$ where $\tilde{f}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = (f(x_1) + \dots + f(x_k))/k$.

Exercise 5. Let $\nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}^2)$, show that $H_{\rho \otimes \rho}(\nu) \geq H_{\rho \otimes \rho}(\nu_1 \otimes \nu_2) = H_\rho(\nu_1) + H_\rho(\nu_2)$ where ν_1, ν_2 are the marginals of ν . Hint: in the variational formula for $H_{\rho \otimes \rho}(\nu)$ take test functions φ of the form $\varphi_1 \otimes \varphi_2$.

Exercise 6. For B of the form $B = \{L_n(f) \in \mathcal{I}\}$ derive the LDP for $(\tilde{L}_i)_{i \geq 1}$ on $\Pi(\mathcal{K}^k)$ and obtain that the law of Y_1 conditional on B is given by the minimum $\tilde{\nu} \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}^k)$ of the functional $H_{\tilde{\rho}}$ over $\{\nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}^k) : \nu(\tilde{f}) \in \mathcal{I}\}$ where $\tilde{\rho} = \rho \otimes \dots \otimes \rho$ is the k -fold product measure with marginals ρ . Conclude that if $\hat{\nu}$ is the unique minimum of H_ρ over $\{\nu \in \Pi(\mathcal{K}) : \nu(f) \in \mathcal{I}\}$ then $\hat{\nu} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{\nu}$ is the unique minimum of the variational problem on $\Pi(\mathcal{K}^k)$ and observe that this imply the independence of (X_1, \dots, X_k) in the limit law.

The physical interpretation of this phenomenon goes as follows: consider an assembly of n independent particles each of them characterized by some quantity X_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ taking values in \mathcal{K} (e.g. energy, momentum, position, etc...) and assume that the allowed configurations of the whole system are those compatible with a given mean value of some function $f: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: $\sum_i f(X_i)/n \simeq e$ (e.g. energy per particle, density, etc...). This constraint is macroscopic in the sense that involves only an average over all the particles. Then in the limit of a infinite system ($n \rightarrow \infty$, in reality $n \simeq 10^{23}$) the configurations of a very small subsystem of size k (in our model k is fixed as $n \rightarrow \infty$) are described by iid configurations, each particle distributes as ρ_λ , the Gibbs distribution compatible with the macroscopic constraint.

Large deviations for processes

Let $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be an iid sequence of Bernoulli(p) r.v. For every n the vectors $X_{\leq n} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ are random elements in $\{0, 1\}^n$ which we will embed in $L^\infty([0, 1])$ as follows : for each n let

$$F_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i 1_{\theta \in [(i-1)/n, i/n]}$$

so that $F_n(X_{\leq n})$ is a random element in $\mathcal{K} = \{f \in L^\infty([0, 1]) : \|f\|_{L^1} \leq 1\}$ and we denote by μ_n its law. On \mathcal{K} we consider the weak- $*$ topology, i.e. the smallest topology which renders all the linear maps $f \mapsto \int_0^1 f(\theta) g(\theta) d\theta$ continuous for every $g \in L^1([0, 1])$. With this topology \mathcal{K} is compact and metrizable. A possible metric is obtained by taking a countable dense subset $\{\varphi_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ of the unit ball of L^1 and letting

$$d(f, g) = \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{|\varphi_k(f) - \varphi_k(g)|}{2^k}$$

Another possible metric is given by $d(f, g) = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |\int_0^t (f(\theta) - g(\theta)) d\theta|$. Let $J_p(x) = H(\text{Ber}(x) | \text{Ber}(p))$. Then we have the following result

Theorem 8. (Mogulskii) *The sequence $(\mu_n)_n$ obey the LDP on \mathcal{K} with rate function*

$$I(f) = \int_0^1 J_p(f(\theta)) d\theta.$$

Proof. We only need to uniquely identify the rate function I' of possible accumulation points. For each k define $Q_{k,l} = ((l-1)/k, l/k]$ and $G_k: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow [-1, 1]^k$ as $G_k(f) = (f_{k,1}, \dots, f_{k,k})$ where $f_{k,l} = \int_{Q_{k,l}} f / |Q_{k,l}|$ is the mean of f over $Q_{k,l}$ so that $\pi_k(f) = F_k(G_k(f)) \rightarrow f$ in \mathcal{K} (why?). By Cramér's theorem the laws μ_n^k of $G_k(F_{kn}(X_{\leq kn}))$ on $[-1, 1]^k$ satisfy the LDP with speed n/k and rate function $I_k(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k J_p(x_i)$ taking into account the change of speed we have that, for every $g \in \mathcal{K}$ and for every k ,

$$\min \{I'(f) : G_k(f) = G_k(g)\} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k J_p(G_k(g)_i) = \int_0^1 J_p(\pi_k(g)(\theta)) d\theta = I_k(g)$$

Now using Fatou lemma it is easy to compute the Γ -limit of the functional $\int_0^1 J_p(\pi_k(g)(\theta)) d\theta$ as

$$\Gamma \lim_k \int_0^1 J_p(\pi_k(g)(\theta)) d\theta = \int_0^1 J_p(g(\theta)) d\theta = I(g)$$

(exercise) while another easy argument gives $\Gamma \lim_k \min \{I'(f) : G_k(f) = G_k(g)\} = I'(g)$ since I' is lsc. Then we can conclude that $I(g) = I'(g)$. \square