

**Tutorial 10**  
**December 2, 2011**

1. Random variable  $X$  is uniformly distributed between  $-1.0$  and  $1.0$ . Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$ , be independent identically distributed random variables with the same distribution as  $X$ . Determine which, if any, of the following sequences (all with  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ) are convergent in probability. Give reasons for your answers. Include the limits if they exist.
  - (a)  $X_i$
  - (b)  $Y_i = \frac{X_i}{i}$
  - (c)  $Z_i = (X_i)^i$
2. Define  $X$  as the height in meters of a randomly selected Canadian, where the selection probability is equal for each Canadian, and denote  $\mathbf{E}[X]$  by  $h$ . Bo is interested in estimating  $h$ . Because he is sure that no Canadian is taller than 3 meters, Bo decides to use 1.5 meters as a conservative (large) value for the standard deviation of  $X$ . To estimate  $h$ , Bo averages the heights of  $n$  Canadians that he selects at random; he denotes this quantity by  $H$ .
  - (a) In terms of  $h$  and Bo's 1.5 meter bound for the standard deviation of  $X$ , determine the expected value and standard deviation for  $H$ .
  - (b) Help Bo by calculating a minimum value of  $n$  (with  $n > 0$ ) such that the standard deviation of Bo's estimator,  $H$ , will be less than 0.01 meters.
  - (c) Bo would like to be 99% sure that his estimate is within 5 centimeters of the true average height of Canadians. Using the Chebyshev inequality, calculate the minimum value of  $n$  that will make Bo happy.
  - (d) Redo part (c) using the Central Limit Theorem instead.
  - (e) If we agree that no Canadians are taller than three meters, why is it correct to use 1.5 meters as an upper bound on the standard deviation for  $X$ , the height of any Canadian selected at random?
3. The lifetime of a type-A bulb is exponentially distributed with parameter  $\lambda$ . Type-B bulbs are identical to Type-A bulbs except for their shorter average lifetime. In particular, the lifetime of type-B bulbs is exponentially distributed with parameter  $\mu$ , where  $\mu > \lambda > 0$ . In general, a third of all bulbs are type-B. You found a box full of same type lightbulbs, and you would like to know whether they are of type A or B.
  - (a) You observe that the lifetime of one bulb is  $T_1 = t_1$ , what is the MAP estimate of its type based on this information?
  - (b) What is the probability of error of the MAP estimate?
  - (c) What is the LMS estimator of  $T_2$ , the lifetime of another lightbulb from the same box, based on observing  $T_1$ ? Assume that the lifetimes of bulbs are conditionally independent given their type.