

Probability Assignment

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Question: Let $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ and Let $\{Y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be two sequences of random variables and X and Y be two random variables, all of them defined on the same probability space. Which one of the following statements is true?

- (A) If $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to a real constant c , then $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in probability to c .
- (B) If $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in probability to X , then $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in 3^{rd} mean to X .
- (C) If $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to X and $\{Y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to Y , then $\{X_n + Y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in distribution to $X + Y$.
- (D) If $\{E(X_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges to $E(X)$, then $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges in 1^{st} mean to X .

Solution:

- 1) X_n converges in distribution to X , $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$, then for all x ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(x) = F_X(x) \quad (1)$$

- 2) X_n converges in probability to X , $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$, then for all $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = 0 \quad (2)$$

- 3) X_n converges in p^{th} mean to X , then we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(|X_n - X|^p) = 0 \quad (3)$$

- (A) For $\epsilon > 0$, B be defined as

$$B = \{x : |x - c| \geq \epsilon\} \quad (4)$$

Now,

$$\Pr(|X_n - c| \geq \epsilon) = \Pr(X_n \in B) \quad (5)$$

Using Portmanteau Lemma, if $X_n \xrightarrow{d} c$, we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(X_n \in B) \leq \Pr(c \in B) \quad (6)$$

$$\leq \Pr(|0 - 0| \geq \epsilon) \quad (7)$$

$$\leq \Pr(0 \geq \epsilon) \quad (8)$$

$$\leq 0 \quad (9)$$

$$= 0 \quad (10)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(|X_n - c| > \epsilon) = 0 \quad (11)$$

From (2), $X_n \xrightarrow{p} c$. So, we have

$$X_n \xrightarrow{d} c \implies X_n \xrightarrow{p} c \quad (12)$$

Option (A) is correct.

- (B) Statement (B) is may or may not correct.

Counter Example: Consider

$$\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for probability } 1 - \frac{1}{n} \\ n & \text{for probability } \frac{1}{n} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

X_n converges in probability to $X = 0$. Since as n increases, the factor $1 - \frac{1}{n}$ increases. So, the area under curve $|X_n - X|$ decreases, at some point we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |X_n - X| < \epsilon \quad (14)$$

There exists an $\epsilon > 0$, so,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = 0 \quad (15)$$

But X_n does not converges in 3^{rd} mean to $X = 0$.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(|X_n - X|^3) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(X_n^3) \quad (16)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0^3 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) + n^3 \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \quad (17)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \neq 0 \quad (18)$$

- (C) Statement (C) is may or may not correct.

Counter Example: Consider

$$Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \quad (19)$$

Let $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ and $\{Y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be sequences of random variables such that they both converge in distribution as Z and $(-1)^n Z$. So, we have

$$F_{X_n + Y_n}(x) = \Pr(X_n + Y_n \leq x) \quad (20)$$

$$= \Pr(Z + (-1)^n Z \leq x) \quad (21)$$

For n is even

$$F_{X_n + Y_n}(x) = \Pr(2Z \leq x) \quad (22)$$

$$= \Pr\left(Z \leq \frac{x}{2}\right) \quad (23)$$

$$= Q\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \quad (24)$$

For n is odd

$$F_{X_n+Y_n}(x) = \Pr(0 \leq x) \quad (25)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases} = H(x) \quad (26)$$

So, on generalizing

$$F_{X_n+Y_n}(x) = \begin{cases} Q\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ H(x) & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n+Y_n}(x)$ oscillate between $Q\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$ and $H(x)$. This doesnot imply convergence.

(D) Statement (D) is may or may not correct.
Counter Example: Consider

$$\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for probability } 1 - \frac{1}{n} \\ n & \text{for probability } \frac{1}{n} \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(X_n) = 0 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) + n \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 1 \quad (29)$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, $E(X_n)$ converges to $E(X) = 1$. From (28),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} X_n = 0 = X \quad (30)$$

To find 1st mean convergennce of X_n . From (29)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(|X_n - X|) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(X_n) \quad (31)$$

$$= 1 \neq 0 \quad (32)$$

So, X_n does not converges in 1st mean to X .