

# Probability Refresher

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- ▶ Probability of event  $A$  is denoted by  $\mathbb{P}(A)$ .

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Probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$  is a **set function**, i.e. it acts on sets and measures the probability of such sets.

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- ▶ The  $\sigma$ -algebra is said to be closed under formation of compliments and countable unions.
- ▶ Is it also closed under the formation of countable intersections?

When  $\Omega$  is countable and finite, we will consider power-set  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  as the domain.

# Formal definition of Probability measure $\mathbb{P}$

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1.  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0, \quad \mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$
2. For a disjoint collection of event sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  from  $\mathcal{F}$  we have

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- The trio  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is called as a probability space.

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- ▶ The conditional probability of event  $B$  given event  $A$  is defined as  $\mathbb{P}(B/A) := \frac{\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)}{\mathbb{P}(A)}$  when  $\mathbb{P}(A) > 0$ .

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- ▶ Bayes rule:  $P(B/A) = \frac{P(A/B)P(B)}{P(A)}$ .

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- ▶ If  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive, then they are not independent (and vice versa).

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- ▶ Random variable is a device which precisely helps us make this mapping from  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  to a 'simpler'  $(\Omega', \mathcal{F}', P_X)$ .
- ▶  $P_X$  is called as an induced probability measure on  $\Omega'$ .

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- ▶ Notation: Random variables denoted by capital letters like  $X, Y, Z$  etc. and their realizations by small letters  $x, y, z$ ..

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- ▶ HW: Prove that  $E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$
- ▶ For  $Y = aX + b$ , what is  $E[Y]$ ?  $E[Y] = aE[X] + b$ .  
(Linearity of expectation)

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- ▶ Basic models of Multi-arm bandit problem assume Bernoulli Bandits.
- ▶  $E[X] = p, E[X^n] = p.$

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- ▶ HW: What is  $E[N]$ ,  $E[N^2]$ ,  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?

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- ▶ Mean of binomial is  $np$  so  $p$  should decrease while  $n$  increases.

# Continuous random variables

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- ▶ For  $Y = aX + b$ ,  $E[Y] = aE[X] + b$ .

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Also revise conditioning of variables.



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HW: What if  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent?

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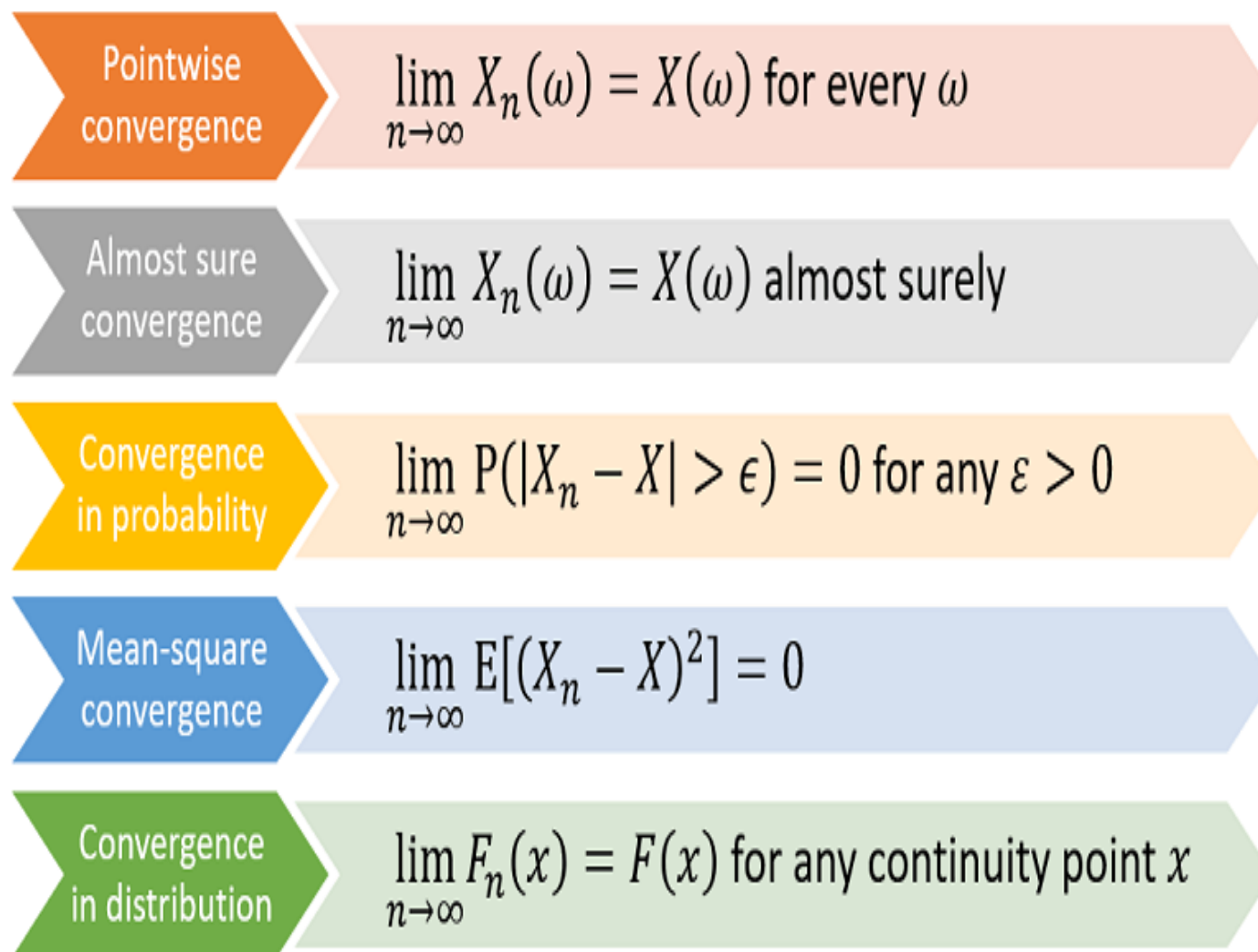
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# Convergence of Random Variables

# Summary



1

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<sup>1</sup>Image from [probabilitycourse.com](http://probabilitycourse.com)

# Relation between modes of convergence (no proofs)

Almost sure  
convergence

Mean square  
convergence

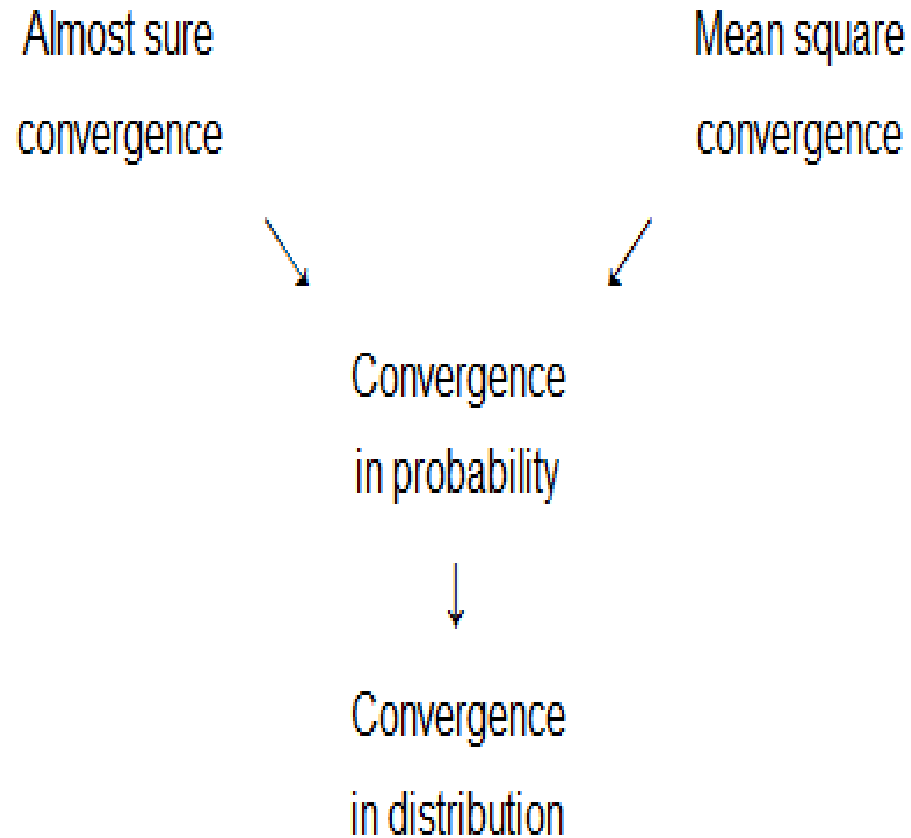


Convergence  
in probability



Convergence  
in distribution

# Relation between modes of convergence (no proofs)



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs\\_of\\_convergence\\_of\\_random\\_variables](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs_of_convergence_of_random_variables)



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- ▶ Random variable  $X(t)$  is often denoted by  $X(\omega, t)$ .
- ▶ When  $t$  is fixed and  $\omega$  is the only variable, we have a random variable  $X(\cdot, t)$ . When  $\omega$  is fixed and  $t$  is the variable, we have a  $X(\omega, \cdot)$  as a function of time. This is also called as a realization or sample path of a stochastic process.

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- ▶ When  $T$  is countable, we have a discrete time process.
- ▶ If  $T$  is a subset of real line, we have a continuous time process.
- ▶ State space could be integers or real numbers
- ▶ State space could be  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  valued

# Elementary Examples

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- ▶ The process of rolling a dice 6 times.

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- ▶ The process of rolling a dice 6 times.
- ▶ Your bank balance over a week.

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- ▶ Temperature fluctuations in a 1hr window.

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- ▶ The process of rolling a dice 6 times.
- ▶ Your bank balance over a week.
- ▶ Temperature fluctuations in a 1hr window.
- ▶ Number of customers in IKEA every day.