In this transcript, we will basically cover the textbook *Probability and Random Process by Geoffrey R Grimmett, David R Stirzaker* which used in course MATH2431 Honors Probability in HKUST. However, instead of using wording appeared in the textbook, I would use the wording that I can understand better personally. If you find any problems regarding this transcript, please contact me via khliuae@connect.ust.hk. Thanks a lot.

Contents

1	Sample space, σ -field, measure space, and probability	2
2	Probability Generating function	8
3	Characteristic Function	14
4	Convergence of Random Variables	15

1 Sample space, σ -field, measure space, and probability

- 1. Initial Terminology
 - (a) Experiments/ Trials: coin flipping, die rolling, lifetime of bulb
 - (b) Outcome/ result: $\{H,T\} \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}, t \in [0,\infty)$
 - (c) Probability: $\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\}, \{\frac{1}{6}, \dots \frac{1}{6}\},$
- 2. Sample space Ω

the set of all outcomes (denoted by ω) of an experiment, denoted as Ω , given an experiment

 $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, ..., \omega_n\}$

coin flipping	$\Omega = \{H, T\}$
die rolling	$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
lifetime of light bulb	$\Omega = [0, \infty)$
two coins flipping	$\Omega = \{(H, H), (H, T), (T, H), (T, T)\}$

- 3. Event E
 - (a) event is a subset of the sample space Ω

Remarks: all events are subsets of Ω , but not all subsets of Ω are events.

Die rolling $\Omega = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$	
"the outcome is even"	in words
"outcome is 2, 4, 6"	in math
"the event 2, 4, 6 occurs"	jargon

(b) elementary events

In an unknown number of die rollings, if the outcome w=2 occurs, many events will occur, e.g., $\{2\}, \{2,4,6\}, \{1,2,3\},...$

(c) example: tossing coins until the first head turns up

 $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, ...\}$, where ω_i denotes the outcome when the first i-1 tosses are tails and the i th toss is a head. Let event A be that the first head occurs after an even number of tosses, i.e., $A = \{\omega_2, \omega_4, \omega_6, ...\} \subset \Omega$.

4. Set notations for events

$E \cup F$	E or F
$E \cap F$	E and F
E^c	Not E

5. Power set $2^{\Omega}, 0, 1^{\Omega}$

Power set is the class of all subsets of Ω .

6. Field \mathcal{F} : a pre-version of σ -field

a sub-collection of the set of all subsets of Ω , and satisfying:

- (a) if $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$, then $A \cup B \in \mathcal{F}$ (and thus $A \cap B \in \mathcal{F}$ by De Morgan's Law).
- (b) if $A \in \mathcal{F}$, then $A^c \in \mathcal{F}$
- (c) $\phi \in \mathcal{F}$, $(\Omega \in \mathcal{F} \text{ by (ii)})$

To use layman languages to explain that,

- (a) that's a definition in modern probability
- (b) if we know $\mathbb{P}(A)$, then we have know that $\mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 \mathbb{P}(A)$

(c) we must know $\mathbb{P}(\phi) = 0, \mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$

With properties (a), (b), (c) of a field \mathcal{F} , it follows that it's **closed under finite unions** (and thus interceptions by *De Morgan's Law*).

if
$$A_1, A_2, A_3, ..., A_n \in \mathcal{F}$$
, then $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$

Example: tossing coins until the first head turns up (revisited)

As discussed before, $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, ...\}$, $A = \{\omega_2, \omega_4, \omega_6, ...\}$. A is an infinite countable union of members of Ω and we require that $A \in \mathcal{F}$ in order to discuss its probability.

7. σ -field \mathcal{F} : a class of events of interest

Why σ -field but not just power set? It is because we're only interested in certain events. σ -field \mathcal{F} is a collection of set of subsets of Ω satisfying:

- (a) $\phi \in \mathcal{F}$
- (b) **closed under countably (finite/ infinite) unions** (and thus interceptions by *De Morgan's Law*):

if
$$A_1, A_2, ... \in \mathcal{F}$$
, then $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{F}$

(c) if $A \in \mathcal{F}$, then $A^c \in \mathcal{F}$.

We observe that the only difference between a field and a σ -field is as follows:

J		
Field	σ -field	
closed under finite unions	closed under countably (finite/ infinite) unions	

Remark:

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a + \frac{1}{n}, b - \frac{1}{n}\right] = (a, b)$$

This will be used in countable properties for probability measure later. Examples of σ -field

- (a) smallest σ -field associated with Ω is $\mathcal{F} = \{\phi, \Omega\}$ Proof:
 - i. $\phi \in \mathcal{F}$
 - ii. $\phi, \Omega \in \mathcal{F} \implies \phi \cup \Omega = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}$
 - iii. $\phi^c = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}, \Omega^c = \phi \in \mathcal{F}$
- (b) largest σ -field associated with Ω is $\mathcal{F} = \text{power set of } \Omega = 2^{\Omega} = \{0, 1\}^c$ Power set is the collection/class of all subsets of Ω . Proof:

i.
$$\phi \in 2^{\Omega} = \mathcal{F}$$

ii.
$$\forall P_n \in 2^{\Omega}$$
 which Ω is finite set, $\bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} P_n = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}$

- iii. $\forall P \in 2^{\Omega}, \exists P^c \in 2^{\Omega} \text{ since } 2^{\Omega} \text{ includes all the subsets of } \Omega.$
- (c) if A that is any subset of Ω , then $\mathcal{F} = \{\phi, A, A^c, \Omega\}$ is a σ -field. Proof:

i.
$$\phi \in 2^{\Omega} = \mathcal{F}$$

ii.
$$\phi \cup A \cup A^c \cup \Omega = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}$$

 $\phi \cup \Omega = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}$
 $A \cup A^c = \Omega \in \mathcal{F}...$

iii.
$$\phi^c = \Omega \in \mathcal{F},$$

 $A^c, (A^c)^c = \Omega \in \mathcal{F},$
 $\Omega^c = \phi \in \mathcal{F}$

- 8. Exercises for Section 1.2 in textbook
 - (a) Let $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ be a collection of sets. Prove "De Morgan's Laws":

$$(\bigcup_i A_i)^c = \bigcap_i A_i^c, \ (\bigcap_i A_i)^c = \bigcup_i A_i^c.$$

For
$$(\bigcup_i A_i)^c = \bigcap_i A_i^c$$
, suppose $x \in (\bigcup_i A_i)^c \iff x \notin \bigcup_i A_i \iff \forall i, x \notin A_i \iff \forall i, x \in A_i^c \iff x \in \bigcap_i A_i^c$.

For
$$(\bigcap_i A_i)^c = \bigcup_i A_i^c$$
,
suppose $x \in (\bigcap_i A_i)^c \iff x \notin \bigcap_i A_i \iff \exists i, x \notin A_i \iff \exists i, x \in A_i^c \iff x \in \bigcup_i A_i^c$

- (b) Let A and B belong to some σ -field \mathcal{F} . Show that \mathcal{F} contains the sets $A \cap B$, $A \setminus B$, and $A \Delta B$.
 - i. To show $A \cap B \in \mathcal{F}$, $A, B \in \mathcal{F} \implies A^c, B^c \in \mathcal{F} \implies A^c \cup B^c \in \mathcal{F} \iff A \cap B \in \mathcal{F}$.
 - ii. To show $A \setminus B \in \mathcal{F}$, which is same as $A \cap B^c \in \mathcal{F}$, $A, B \in \mathcal{F} \implies A^c \in \mathcal{F} \implies A^c \cup B \in \mathcal{F} \implies (A^c \cup B)^c \in \mathcal{F} \iff A \cap B^c \in \mathcal{F}$.
 - iii. To show $A\Delta B \in \mathcal{F}$, which $A\Delta B = (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$, that is also true by the facts shown above.
- (c) A conventional knock-out tournament (such as that at Wimbledon) begins with 2n competitions and has n rounds. There are no play-offs for the position 2, 3, ..., 2n 1, and the initial table of draws is specified. Give a concise description of the sample space of all possible outcomes. (TO BE COMPLETE)
- 9. Measurable space: (Ω, \mathcal{F})
- 10. Probability (measure) P

Given a measurable space (Ω, \mathcal{F}) , A probability on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) is a function

$$\mathbb{P}: \mathcal{F} \to [0,1]$$

$$E \in \mathcal{F} \to \mathbb{P}(E)$$

, which is satisfying

- (a) $\mathbb{P}(\phi) = 0, \mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$
- (b) Countable additivity

If $A_1, A_2, ... \in \mathcal{F}$ and they are disjoint, i.e., $A_i \cap A_j = \phi, \forall i \neq j$, then

$$\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_i)$$

.

Collary: Countable additivity implies finite additivity.

Proof: Let $A_{k+1}, A_{k+2}, ... = \phi$. $\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \mathbb{P}(A_i)$ and finite additivity implies a lot of trivial things:

e.g.,
$$\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = \mathbb{P}(A \cup A^c) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 \implies \mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(A)$$

e.g., Let's say
$$A \subset B$$
, $\mathbb{P}(B) = \mathbb{P}(A \cup (B \setminus A)) = \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B \setminus A) > \mathbb{P}(A)$

e.g., Inclusion-exclusion formula (TO BE COMPLETE)

- 11. Probability space: $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$
- 12. General measure μ

Given a measurable space (Ω, \mathcal{F}) , a measure μ is a set function $\mu : \mathcal{F} \to [0, \infty]$, such that

- (a) $\mu(\phi) = 0$
- (b) countable additivity

$$\mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i)$$

e.g., Lebesgue measure: $\mu((a,b)) = b - a$, $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$.

e.g., Counting measure: $\mu(A) = |A|$, $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$.

13. Measure space: $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$

Caution: probability space is not part of measure space. They are in different areas of interests.

14. Continuity of probability measure

Recall: continuity of a function $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$

f is continuous at some point x, if $\forall x_n, x_n \to x, n \to \infty$, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} f(x_n) = f(\lim_{n \to \infty} x_n) = f(x)$$

Similarly, we say a set function μ is continuous, if $\forall A_n$ with $\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n = A$, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(A_n) = \mu(\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n) = \mu(A).$$

Definition: set limit $(\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n = A)$

Recall: limit of numbers x_n , ...where $n \ge 1$

$$\limsup x_n = \lim_{m \uparrow \infty} \sup_{n \ge m} x_n = \lim_{m \uparrow \infty} c_m$$

$$\lim\inf x_n = \lim_{m \uparrow \infty} \inf_{n \ge m} x_n = \lim_{m \uparrow \infty} b_m$$

We say x_n is convergent in $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm \infty\}$ if $\limsup x_n = \liminf x_n$.

Given $A_1, A_2, ..., A_n, ... \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty}A_n:=\bigcap_{m=1}^\infty\bigcup_{n=m}^\infty A_n=\{\omega\in\Omega:\omega\in A_n\text{ for infinitely many n}\}=A_n\text{ infinitely often}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Proof} \colon \text{Let } \textit{LHS} = \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n, \, \textit{RHS} = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A_n \text{ for infinitely many n}\} \implies \exists, \\ \text{If } \omega \in \textit{RHS} \implies w \in \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n, \forall m \geq 1 \implies \omega \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n = \textit{LHS} \\ \text{If } \omega \notin \textit{RHS} \implies \exists m_0, \text{s.t. } \omega \notin \bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n \forall m \geq m_0 \implies \omega \notin \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n = \textit{LHS} \end{array}$$

If
$$\omega \notin RHS \implies \exists m_0, \text{ s.t. } \omega \notin \bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n \forall m \geq m_0 \implies \omega \notin \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n = LHS$$

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} A_n := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A_n \text{ for all but finitely many } n\} = A_n \text{ all but finitely often}$$

Remarks: $\liminf_{n\to\infty} A_n \subseteq \limsup_{n\to\infty} A_n$

Definition: Set Limit $\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n$

We say A_n converges if $\liminf_{n\to\infty} A_n = \limsup_{n\to\infty} A_n$

Example: If $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq A_3$...

$$\lim \sup_{n \to \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n$$

$$= \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$

$$\lim \inf_{n \to \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n$$

$$= (A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3 \cap \dots) \cup (A_2 \cap A_3 \cap \dots) \cup (A_3 \cap A_4 \cap \dots) \cup \dots$$

$$= A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots$$

$$= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$

As a result, $\limsup_{n\to\infty} A_n = \liminf_{n\to\infty} A_n \implies \lim_{n\to\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ **Example**: If $A_1 \supseteq A_2 \supseteq A_3 \supseteq ...$,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$$

Proof: by De Morgan's Law, If $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq A_3 \subseteq ...$, then $A_1^c \supseteq A_2^c \supseteq A_3^c \supseteq ...$. Let $B_i = A_i^c, \forall i \ge 1 \implies A_1^c \supseteq A_2^c \supseteq A_3^c \supseteq ... = B_1 \supseteq B_2 \supseteq B_3 \supseteq ...$,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} B_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} A_n^c$$

$$= (\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n)^c$$

$$= (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n)^c$$

$$= (\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n^c)$$

$$= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$$

Remark:

For
$$\mathbf{1}_{A(\omega)} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \omega \in A \\ 0, & \text{if } \omega \in A^c \end{cases}$$
 (1)

 $\limsup_{n\to\infty} = \{\omega \in \Omega : \limsup_{n\to\infty} \mathbf{1}_{A(\omega)} = 1\}$ $\lim \sup_{n\to\infty} = \{\omega \in \Omega : \lim \inf_{n\to\infty} \mathbf{1}_{A(\omega)} = 1\}$

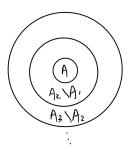
Theorem: Continuity of probability measure \mathbb{P}

Given a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$, let $A_1, A_2, A_3, ... \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n (=A)$ exists. Then

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \mathbb{P}(\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n) = \mathbb{P}(A)$$

Proof: (for the special case where $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq A_3...$) Notice that in this special case, $\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$, so

$$\mathbb{P}(\lim_{n\to\infty} A_n) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n)$$



Let $B_n = A_n \backslash A_{n-1}$, $A_0 = \phi$

$$\mathbb{P}(\lim_{n \to \infty} A_n) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(B_n) \text{ (countable additivity)}$$

$$= \lim_{N \to \infty} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \mathbb{P}(B_n)$$

$$= \lim_{N \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{n=1}^{N} B_n)$$

$$= \lim_{N \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n)$$

2 Probability Generating function

1. Definition: generating function

Let's say we have a sequence $a_i = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, ...\}$, we can define a generating function $G_a(s)$ for a_i .

$$G_a(s) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i s^i$$

We could get back a_i from $G_a(s)$ in most but not all cases (only when the derivatives and countable sum are inter-changable).

$$a_i = \frac{G_a^{(i)}(0)}{i!}$$

counter-example:

$$a_1 = \sin nx$$
, $a_n = \frac{\sin nx}{n} - \frac{\sin (n-1)x}{n-1}$ for $n = 2, 3, ...$

2. Convolution

Suppose we have two sequence a_i , b_i ,

$$a_i = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}, b_i = \{b_0, b_1, b_2, \dots\}$$

we then define another sequence c_i ,

$$c_n = a_n * b_n = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i b_{n-i}$$

$$c_i = \{a_0b_n, a_0b_n + a_1b_{n-1}, a_0b_n + a_1b_{n-1} + a_2b_{n-2}\}\$$

Then, we claim that $G_c(s) = G_a(s)G_b(s)$.

Proof:

$$G_{c}(s) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_{n} s^{n}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^{n} a_{i} b_{n-i} s^{n}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^{n} a_{i} b_{n-i} s^{i} s^{n-i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=i}^{\infty} a_{i} b_{n-i} s^{i} s^{n-i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_{i} s^{i} \sum_{n=i}^{\infty} b_{n-i} s^{n-i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_{i} s^{i} \sum_{n=i=0}^{\infty} b_{n-i} s^{n-i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_{i} s^{i} \sum_{n=i=0}^{\infty} b_{n} s^{i} = G_{a}(s) G_{b}(s)$$

3. Definition: Probability Generating Function

The probability generating function of a discrete random variable X taking non-negative integer value is given by

$$G_X(s) = \mathbb{E}(s^X) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} f_X(i)s^i$$

Power series (review of calculus II)

Let's say we a power series $f(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n s^n$, how to find its radius of convergence R?

(a) use root test (definition)

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n s^n|} < 1$$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} |s| < 1$$

$$|s| = \frac{1}{\lim_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}} := R$$

(b) use ratio test (informal)

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1} s^{n+1}}{a_n s^n} \right| < 1$$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| |s| < 1$$

$$|s| < \frac{1}{\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|} := R$$

Theorem If R is the radius of convergence of $G_a(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n s^n$, then

- (a) $G_a(s)$ converges absolutely for all |s| < R and diverges for all |s| > R.
- (b) for |s| < R, $G_a(s)$ is differentiable or integratable for any fixed number of times term by term (i.e. derivative and countable summation is interchangable).
- (c) for $R \neq 0$, and $G_a(s) = G_b(s)$ for |s| < R' for some 0 < R' < R, then $a_n = b_n$ for all n.

Question Why do we care about s = 1?

Because we can find the moment $\mathbb{E}X$ using $G_X'(1)$, however, (b) in above theorem haven't cover the case when s=1. (we still don't know if we can inter-change derivative and countable summation when s < R = 1)

This could be solved by applying abel theorem as following.

4. Abel Theorem

If $a_n \geq 0 \ \forall n$, $G_a(s)$ is its generating function having the radius of convergence R = 1, then additionally if $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ converges in $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$, then we have

$$\lim_{s \to 1^{-}} G_a(s) = \lim_{s \to 1^{-}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n s^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \lim_{s \to 1^{-}} s^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$$

5. Probability generating functions of some typical random variables

Random variables	Generating functions	interval of s
Be(p)	$G_X(s) = 1 - p + ps$	\mathbb{R}
Bin(p)	$G_X(s) = (1 - p + ps)^n$	R
$Poisson(\lambda)$	$G_X(s) = e^{\lambda(s-1)}$	\mathbb{R}
Geom(p)	$G_X(s) = \frac{ps}{1 - s(1 - p)}$	$ s < \frac{1}{1-p}$

6. Moment and probability generating functions If X has probability generating function $G_X(s)$ then

(a)
$$\mathbb{E}X = \lim_{s \to 1^{-}} G'(s) := G'(1)$$

(b)
$$\mathbb{E}[X(X-1)(X-2)...(X-(k-1))] = \mathbb{E}\frac{X!}{(X-k)!} = \lim_{s\to 1^-} G^k(s) := G^k(1)$$

Remark

$$Var(X) = \mathbb{E}X^{2} - (\mathbb{E}X)^{2}$$
$$= \mathbb{E}X(X - 1) + \mathbb{E}(X) - (\mathbb{E}X)^{2}$$
$$= G''(1) + G'(1) - (G'(1))^{2}$$

7. Sum of independent random variables Theorem if $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$, then $G_{X+Y}(s) = G_X(s)G_Y(s)$ Proof

$$f_{X+Y}(z) = f_X * f_Y(z) = \sum_{x=0}^{z} f_X(x) f_Y(n-x)$$

$$G_{X+Y}(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_{X+Y}(z) z^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{x=0}^{z} f_X(x) f_Y(n-x) z^x z^{n-x}$$

$$= \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \sum_{z=x}^{\infty} f_X(x) f_Y(n-x) z^x z^{n-x}$$

$$= \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} f_X(x) z^x \sum_{z=x}^{\infty} f_Y(n-x) z^{n-x}$$

$$= G_x(z) G_Y(z)$$

Caution: its converse may not be true!

8. Sum of random number of random variables Theorem

If $X_1, X_2, X_3, ..., X_N$ (i.i.d) with common probability generating function $G_X(s)$ and $N \geq 0$ is a random variable independent of all X_i 's with probability generating function $G_N(s)$. Let

$$T = X_1 + X_2 + ... + X_N$$

, then

$$G_T(s) = G_N(G_X(s))$$

Proof

$$G_T(s) = \mathbb{E}s^T$$

$$= \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(s^T|N))$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}(s^T|N=n)\mathbb{P}(N=n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}(s^{X_1+X_2+...+X_n})\mathbb{P}(N=n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (G_X(s))^n \mathbb{P}(N=n)$$

$$= G_N(G_X(s))$$

Example Sum of a Poisson number of independent Bernouli is still a Poisson.

A hen lays N eggs where $N \sim Poisson(\lambda)$. Each egg hatches with probability p independently. Let K be the number of chicks. Then,

$$K = X_1 + X_2 + ... + X_N$$

, where $X_i \sim Be(p)$ is the indicator random variable indicating where the *i*-th egg hatches or not, i.e.,

$$X_i = 1$$
, if i-th egg hatches, $X_i = 0$, otherwise

Therefore we can just apply the formula,

$$G_K(s) = G_N(G_X(s))$$

$$= e^{\lambda(G_X(s)-1)}$$

$$= e^{\lambda(1-p+ps-1)}$$

$$= e^{\lambda p(1-s)}$$

Therefore, we could deduce that $K \sim Poisson(\lambda p)$

9. Multivariate extension: joint probability generating function

$$G_{X_1,X_2}(s_1,s_2) = \mathbb{E}s_1^{X_1}s_2^{X_2} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} s_1^i s_2^j f_{X_1,X_2}(i,j)$$

$$f_{X_1,X_2}(i,j) = \frac{1}{i!j!} \frac{\partial^{i+j}}{\partial s_1^i \partial s_2^j} G_{X_1,X_2}(s_1,s_2)|_{(s_1,s_2)=(0,0)}$$

Theorem $X_1 \perp \!\!\! \perp X_2 \iff G_{X_1,X_2}(s_1,s_2) = G_{X_1}(s_1)G_{X_2}(s_2)$

10. Application 1: recurrence/ transience of 1D simple random walk

Let $S_n = \sum_{i=0}^n X_i$, $S_0 = 0$, $n \ge 0$, where S_n is the location at n-step, X_i is representing the i-th step such that $\mathbb{P}(X_i = 1) = p$, $\mathbb{P}(X_i = -1) = 1 - p := q$.

Let $T_0 := \min\{i \geq 0 : S_i = 0\}$, representing the first return time to the origin (i.e., how many steps to take for return to the origin?).

Remark Y is "defective" random variable $\iff \mathbb{P}(Y = \infty) > 0$

Larry128

Question When is T_0 "defective"? It suffices to find $\mathbb{P}(T_0 = \infty)$ for different p and q. Solution

Let $f_0(n) := \mathbb{P}(S_1 \neq 0, S_2 \neq 0, S_3 \neq 0, ..., S_n = 0) = \mathbb{P}(T_0 = n)$ for $n \geq 1$.

Then, define its generating function $F_0(n)$

$$F_0(n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_0(n) s^n$$
$$= \lim_{N \to \infty} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f_0(n) s^n$$

Since ∞ is not measured by the random variable T_0

$$F_0(1) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f_0(n) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(T_0 = \infty)$$

Also, let $p_0(n)=\mathbb{P}(S_n=0)=\binom{n}{\frac{n}{2}}p^{n/2}q^{n/2}$ for even n and $p_0(0)=\mathbb{P}(S_0=0)=1$ since initial location is 0.

Similarly, define its generating function $P_0(s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_0(n) s^n = (1 - 4pqs^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ after some calculations

Theorem

- (a) $P_0(s) = 1 + P_0(s)F_0(s)$
- (b) $P_0(s) = (1 4pqs^2)^{-1/2}$ (known)
- (c) $F_0(s) = 1 (1 4pqs^2)^{1/2}$ (easy by (a) and (b))

Proof of (a)

Let $A_n = \{S_n = 0\}$ (i.e., at *n*-th step, it returns to origin),

 $B_k = \{S_1 \neq 0, S_2 \neq 0, ..., S_{k-1} \neq 0, S_k = 0\}$ (i.e., at k-th step, it returns to origin first time).

Note that $p_0(n) = \mathbb{P}(A_n)$, $f_0(k) = \mathbb{P}(B_n)$.

By law of total probability,

$$\mathbb{P}(A_n) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}(A_n|B_k)\mathbb{P}(B_k)$$

Let's consider

$$\mathbb{P}(A_n|B_k)\mathbb{P}(B_k) = \mathbb{P}(S_n = 0|S_1 = 0, S_2 = 0, ..., S_k = 0)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(S_n = 0|S_k = 0)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(S_{n-k} = 0)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(A_{n-k})$$

$$= p_0(n-k)$$

Therefore, we have

$$p_0(n) = \mathbb{P}(A_n)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_n|B_k)\mathbb{P}(B_k)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n p_0(n-k)f_0(k), \text{ for } n >= 1$$

$$p_0(0) = 1$$

As a result, we have

$$P_0(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_0(n)s^n$$

$$= p_0(0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n} p_0(n-k)f_0(k)s^n$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} p_0(n-k)f_0(k)s^n$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} p_0(n-k)f_0(k)s^ks^{n-k}$$

$$= 1 + P_0(s)F_0(s)$$

Conclusion

case 1

If $p = q = \frac{1}{2}$, then $F_0(1) = 1 - (1 - 4(1/2)(1/2)(1)^2)^{1/2} = 1$. Therefore, $\mathbb{P}(T_0 = \infty) = 1 - F_0(1) = 0$. In this case, we call this a recurrence since T_0 is not "defective".

case 2

If $p \neq q$, then $F_0(1) < 1$. $\mathbb{P}(T_0 = \infty) > 0$. We call this a transient since T_0 is "defective".

3 Characteristic Function

1. definition: The characteristic function of a given random variable X is given by

$$\phi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{itX}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cos itx f_X(x) dx + i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin itx f_X(x) dx$$

4 Convergence of Random Variables

- 1. Modes of convergence of random variables
 - (a) Almost surely convergence

$$X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \iff \mathbb{P}(\lim_{n \to \infty} X_n(\omega) \to X, \forall \omega \in \Omega) \iff \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \ge \epsilon, i.o.) = 0$$

Remark: Almost surely convergence can be proved by B.C.I and disproved by B.C.II.

(b) Convergence in rth-mean

$$X_n \xrightarrow{r} X \iff \mathbb{E}(|X_n - X|^r) \to 0, r \ge 1$$

Alternatively, we have proof $\mathbb{E}(|X_n - X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} \to 0$. $Remark: X_n \xrightarrow{r} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{l} X \text{ for } 1 \leq l < r$

(c) Convergence in probability

$$X_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} X \iff \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \ge \epsilon) \to 0$$

(d) Convergence in distribution

$$X_n \xrightarrow{D} X \iff \mathbb{P}(X_n \le x) \to \mathbb{P}(X \le x)$$

- 2. Ways to proof convergences
 - (a) Almost surely convergence
 - i. Directly show for 'almost' all ω in Ω ,

$$\mathbb{P}(\lim_{n\to\infty} X_n(\omega) = X(\omega)) = 1$$

ii. (Seldom) Show

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \mathbb{P}(\lim_{n \to \infty} |X_n - X| < \epsilon) = 1$$

iii. Use Borel-Cantelli Lemma I Show that

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) < \infty$$

, then we can apply B.C. I to show that

$$\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \to \infty} |X_n - X| > \epsilon) = 0$$

iv. (As complement of (iii))

If we find $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_n)$

If we find $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = \infty$, show that for $\epsilon > 0$, let $B_n = \{|X_n - X| < \epsilon\}$,

$$X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \iff \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} B_m) = 1$$

Proof:

For all
$$\epsilon > 0$$
, let $A_n = \{|X_n - X| \ge \epsilon\}$.

$$X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \iff \mathbb{P}(A_n, i.o.) = 0$$

$$\iff \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n) = 0$$

$$\iff \mathbb{P}((\bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n)^c) = 1$$

$$\iff \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n^c) = 1$$

$$\iff \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n^c) = 1$$

$$\iff \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} B_n) = 1 \qquad (B_n := A_n^c)$$

Remark: If X_i 's are independent, then

$$X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \iff \lim_{n \to \infty} \prod_{n=m}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(B_n) = 1$$

- (b) Convergence in r-th mean
 - i. Directly show $\lim_{n\to\infty}\mathbb{E}|X_n-X|^r=0$ or $\lim_{n\to\infty}(\mathbb{E}|X_n-X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}=0$
 - ii. Useful formulas
 - Triangular inequality

$$(\mathbb{E}|X_n|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} = (\mathbb{E}|X_n - X + X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} \le (\mathbb{E}|X_n - X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} + (\mathbb{E}|X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$$

$$\iff (\mathbb{E}|X_n|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} - (\mathbb{E}|X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} < (\mathbb{E}|X_n - X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$$

• Hölder's inequality For $1 < p, q < \infty, \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$,

$$\mathbb{E}|XY| < (\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (\mathbb{E}|X|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

- (c) Convergence in probability
 - i. Directly show for all $\epsilon > 0$, $\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n X| \ge \epsilon) = 0$ or $\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n X| < \epsilon) = 1$
 - ii. (Partial converse theorem) Show that $X_n \xrightarrow{D} c$ which implies $X \xrightarrow{P} c$. *Proof:*

Suppose $X_n \xrightarrow{D} c$, then for all $\epsilon > 0$, $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(c - \epsilon) = 0$ and $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(c + \epsilon) = 1$. $\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - c| \ge \epsilon) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n - c \ge \epsilon) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n - c \le -\epsilon)$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - c| \ge \epsilon) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n - c \ge \epsilon) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n - c \le -\epsilon)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \ge \epsilon + c) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \le -\epsilon + c)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} (1 - \mathbb{P}(X_n < \epsilon + c)) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \le -\epsilon + c)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} (1 - F_{X_n}(c + \epsilon)) + \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(c - \epsilon)$$

$$= (1 - 1) + 0$$

$$= 0$$

Thus, $X \xrightarrow{P} c$.

- iii. Useful properties
 - If $\omega \in A \implies \omega \in B$, then

$$\mathbb{P}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{P}(B)$$

• Triangular inequality $|X+Y| \leq |X|+|Y|,$ $|X|=|X-Y+Y| \leq |X-Y|+|Y|$

• Markov's inequality

$$\mathbb{P}(X \ge \epsilon) \le \frac{\mathbb{E}(g(X))}{g(\epsilon)}$$

- (d) Convergence in distribution
 - i. Directly show $\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq x) = \lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(X \leq x)$
 - ii. For non-negative integer valued discrete random variables If $X_1, X_2, X_3, ...$ are non-negative integer valued random variables, then

$$X_n \xrightarrow{D} X \iff \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \mathbb{P}(X = x)$$

Proof:

A. Proving $X_n \xrightarrow{D} X \implies \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \mathbb{P}(X = x)$ Suppose $X_n \xrightarrow{D} X \implies \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(x) = F_X(x)$, Note: since X_n 's are non-negative valued, then $F_{X_n(x)}$ is continuous in $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1, 2, 3, ...\}$.

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} (\mathbb{P}(X_n = x + \frac{1}{2}) - \mathbb{P}(X_n = x - \frac{1}{2}))$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(x + \frac{1}{2}) - \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(x - \frac{1}{2})$$

$$= F_X(x + \frac{1}{2}) - F_X(x - \frac{1}{2})$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(X = x)$$

Thus, $\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \mathbb{P}(X = x)$.

B. Proving $\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \mathbb{P}(X = x) \Longrightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{D} X$ Suppose $\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = \mathbb{P}(X = x)$,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{X_n}(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \le x)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \frac{1}{x} \rfloor} \mathbb{P}(X_n = i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \frac{1}{x} \rfloor} \mathbb{P}(X = x)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(X \le x)$$

$$= F_X(x)$$

Thus, we have $X_n \xrightarrow{D} X$.

- 3. Relationships between modes of convergence
 - (a) $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} X$

(b)
$$X_n \xrightarrow{r} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} X$$

(c)
$$X_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{D} X$$

4. Borel-Cantelli Lemma

Let's say A_n is a sequence of event in \mathcal{F} .

(a) B.C. I If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty$, then $\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \to \infty} A_n) = 0$. Proof:

$$\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \to \infty} A_n) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m)$$

$$\leq \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n)$$

$$= 0 \qquad (b)$$

(by the assumption in the if statement)

(b) B.C. II If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \infty$ and A_n 's are independent, then $\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \to \infty}) = 1$. proof:

We want to show that $\mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n\to\infty} A_n) = 1$.

This is same as showing that

$$\mathbb{P}((\limsup_{n \to \infty} A_n)^c) = \mathbb{P}((\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m)^c)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} A_n^c)$$

$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n^c)$$

$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} \lim_{r \to \infty} \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=m}^{r} A_n^c)$$

$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} \lim_{r \to \infty} \prod_{n=m}^{r} \mathbb{P}(A_n^c) \text{ (since } A_n\text{'s are independent)}$$

$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} \lim_{r \to \infty} \prod_{n=m}^{r} (1 - \mathbb{P}(A_n))$$

$$\leq \lim_{m \to \infty} \prod_{n=m}^{\infty} e^{-\mathbb{P}(A_n)}$$

$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} e^{-\infty}$$

$$= 0$$

Remark: B.C. II is a partial converse statement of B.C. I.

- 5. Different versions of Law of Large Numbers
 - (a) WLLN

If we have a sequence of random variables $X_1, X_2, ...$ (i.i.d.), with $\mathbb{E}(X_1) = \mu < \infty$, then let

$$S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

By WLLN, we have

$$\frac{S_n}{n} \xrightarrow{D/\mathbb{P}} \mu$$

(b) L^2 -WLLN

If we have a sequence of random variables $X_1, X_2, ...$ where X_i 's are uncorrelated with $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$ (common mean), $Var(X_i) \leq c < \infty$ (bound variance) for all i, then let

$$S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

By L^2 -WLLN, we have

$$\frac{S_n}{n} \xrightarrow{2} \mu$$

(c) SLLN

If we have a sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots (i.i.d.), with $\mathbb{E}(X_1) = \mu$ and $\mathbb{E}(|X_1|) < \infty$, then let

$$S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

By SLLN,

$$\frac{S_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mu$$