

## 6. Convergence of Random Variables

### 6.2 Types of convergence

$X_n$  **converges to  $X$  in probability**, written  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$ , if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

$X_n$  **converges to  $X$  in distribution**, written  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ , if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(t) = F(t)$$

for all  $t$  for which  $F$  is continuous.

$X_n$  **converges to  $X$  in quadratic mean**, written  $X_n \xrightarrow{qm} X$ , if,

$$\mathbb{E}(X_n - X)^2 \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Theorem 6.4.** The following relationships hold:

1.  $X_n \xrightarrow{qm} X$  implies that  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$ .
2.  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$  implies that  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ .
3. if  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$  and if  $\mathbb{P}(X = c) = 1$  for some real number  $c$ , then  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$ .

#### Proof

1. Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Using Chebyshev's inequality,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X|^2 < \epsilon^2) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}|X_n - X|^2}{\epsilon^2} \rightarrow 0$$

1. Fix  $\epsilon > 0$  and let  $x$  be a point of continuity of  $F$ . Then

$$F_n(x) = \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq x) = \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq x, X \leq x + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq x, X > x + \epsilon) \quad (1)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq x + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \quad (2)$$

$$= F(x + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \quad (3)$$

Also,

$$F(x - \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x - \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x - \epsilon, X_n \leq x) + \mathbb{P}(X \leq x - \epsilon, X_n > x) \quad (4)$$

$$\leq F_n(x) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \quad (5)$$

Hence,

$$F(x - \epsilon) - \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) \leq F_n(x) \leq F(x + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon)$$

Take the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to conclude that

$$F(x - \epsilon) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) \leq F(x + \epsilon)$$

1. Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - c| > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(X_n < c - \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(X_n > c + \epsilon) \quad (6)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq c - \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(X_n > c + \epsilon) \quad (7)$$

$$= F_n(c - \epsilon) + 1 - F_n(c + \epsilon) \quad (8)$$

$$\rightarrow F(c - \epsilon) + 1 - F(c + \epsilon) \quad (9)$$

$$= 0 + 1 - 1 = 0 \quad (10)$$

Now, to show that the reverse implications do not hold:

### Convergence in probability does not imply convergence in quadratic mean

Let  $U \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$ , and let  $X_n \sim \sqrt{n}I_{(0, 1/n)}(U)$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(|X_n| > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(\sqrt{n}I_{(0, 1/n)}(U) > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(0 \leq U < 1/n) = 1/n \rightarrow 0$ . Hence, then  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ . But  $\mathbb{E}(X_n^2) = n \int_0^{1/n} du = 1$  for all  $n$  so  $X_n$  does not converge in quadratic mean.

### Convergence in distribution does not imply convergence in probability

Let  $X \sim N(0, 1)$ . Let  $X_n = -X$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ; hence  $X_n \sim N(0, 1)$ .  $X_n$  has the same distribution as  $X$  for all  $n$  so, trivially,  $\lim_n F_n(x) \rightarrow F(x)$  for all  $x$ . Therefore,  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ . But  $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(|2X| > \epsilon) \neq 0$ . So  $X_n$  does not tend to  $X$  in probability.

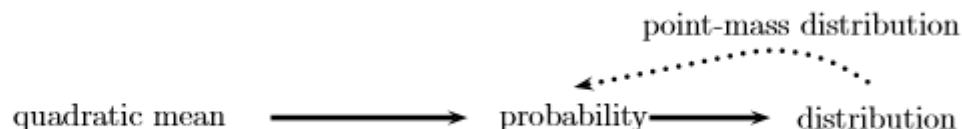


FIGURE 6.1. Relationship between types of convergence.

**Theorem 6.5** Let  $X_n, X, Y_n, Y$  be random variables. Let  $g$  be a continuous function. Then:

1. If  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X$  and  $Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} Y$ , then  $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X + Y$ .
2. If  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} X$  and  $Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} Y$ , then  $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} X + Y$ .
3. If  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$  and  $Y_n \rightsquigarrow c$ , then  $X_n + Y_n \rightsquigarrow X + c$ .
4. If  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X$  and  $Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} Y$ , then  $X_n Y_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} XY$ .
5. If  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$  and  $Y_n \rightsquigarrow c$ , then  $X_n Y_n \rightsquigarrow cX$ .
6. If  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X$  then  $g(X_n) \xrightarrow{\text{P}} g(X)$ .
7. If  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$  then  $g(X_n) \rightsquigarrow g(X)$ .

### 6.3 The Law of Large Numbers

**Theorem 6.6 (The Weak Law of Large Numbers (WLLN)).** If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are IID, then  $\overline{X}_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} \mu$ .

**Proof:** Assume that  $\sigma < \infty$ . This is not necessary but it simplifies the proof. Using Chebyshev's inequality,

$$\mathbb{P}(|\overline{X}_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(|\overline{X}_n - \mu|^2)}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\overline{X}_n)}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2}$$

which tends to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

### 6.4 The Central Limit Theorem

**Theorem 6.8 (The Central Limit Theorem (CLT)).** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be IID with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Let  $\overline{X}_n = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ . Then

$$Z_n \equiv \frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \rightsquigarrow Z$$

where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . In other words,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(Z_n \leq z) = \Phi(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx$$

In addition to  $Z_n \rightsquigarrow N(0, 1)$ , there are several forms of notation to denote the fact that the distribution of  $Z_n$  is converging to a Normal. They all mean the same thing. Here they are:

$$Z_n \approx N(0, 1) \tag{11}$$

$$\bar{X}_n \approx N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right) \tag{12}$$

$$\bar{X}_n - \mu \approx N\left(0, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right) \tag{13}$$

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu) \approx N(0, \sigma^2) \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \approx N(0, 1) \tag{15}$$

The central limit theorem tells us that  $Z_n = \sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)/\sigma$  is approximately  $N(0, 1)$ . However, we rarely know  $\sigma$ . We can estimate  $\sigma^2$  from  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  by

$$S_n^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2$$

This raises the following question: if we replace  $\sigma$  with  $S_n$  in the central limit theorem still true? The answer is yes.

**Theorem 6.10.** Assume the same conditions as the CLT. Then,

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{S_n} \rightsquigarrow N(0, 1)$$

You might wonder how accurate the normal approximation is. The answer is given by the Berry-Essèen theorem.

**Theorem 6.11 (Berry-Essèen).** Suppose that  $\mathbb{E}|X_1|^3 < \infty$ . Then

$$\sup_z |\mathbb{P}(Z_n \leq z) - \Phi(z)| \leq \frac{33}{4} \frac{\mathbb{E}|X_1 - \mu|^3}{\sqrt{n}\sigma^3}$$

There is also a multivariate version of the central limit theorem.

**Theorem 6.12 (Multivariate central limit theorem).** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be IID random vectors where

$$X_i = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1i} \\ X_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ X_{ki} \end{pmatrix}$$

with mean

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E}(X_{1i}) \\ \mathbb{E}(X_{2i}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{E}(X_{ki}) \end{pmatrix}$$

and variance matrix  $\Sigma$ . Let

$$\overline{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{X}_1 \\ \overline{X}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \overline{X}_k \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\overline{X}_r = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{ri}$ . Then,

$$\sqrt{n}(\overline{X} - \mu) \rightsquigarrow N(0, \Sigma)$$

## 6.5 The Delta Method

**Theorem 6.13 (The Delta Method).** Suppose that

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(Y_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \rightsquigarrow N(0, 1)$$

and that  $g$  is a differentiable function such that  $g'(u) \neq 0$ . Then

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(g(Y_n) - g(u))}{|g'(u)|\sigma} \rightsquigarrow N(0, 1)$$

In other words,

$$Y_n \approx N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right) \Rightarrow g(Y_n) \approx N\left(g(\mu), (g'(\mu))^2 \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$

**Theorem 6.15 (The Multivariate Delta method).** Suppose that  $Y_n = (Y_{n1}, \dots, Y_{nk})$  is a sequence of random vectors such that

$$\sqrt{n}(Y_n - \mu) \rightsquigarrow N(0, \Sigma)$$

Let  $g : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let

$$\nabla g = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_k} \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\nabla_\mu$  denote  $\nabla g(y)$  evaluated at  $y = \mu$  and assume that the elements of  $\nabla_\mu$  are non-zero. Then

$$\sqrt{n}(g(Y_n) - g(\mu)) \rightsquigarrow N(0, \nabla_\mu^T \Sigma \nabla_\mu)$$

## 6.6 Technical appendix

$X_n$  **converges to  $X$  almost surely**, written  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{as}} X$ , if

$$\mathbb{P}(\{s : X_n(s) \rightarrow X(s)\}) = 1$$

$X_n$  **converges to  $X$  in  $L_1$** , written  $X_n \xrightarrow{L_1} X$ , if

$$\mathbb{E}|X_n - X| \rightarrow 0$$

**Theorem 6.17.** Let  $X_n$  and  $X$  be random variables. Then:

1.  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{as}} X$  implies that  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X$ .
2.  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} X$  implies that  $X_n \xrightarrow{L_1} X$ .
3.  $X_n \xrightarrow{L_1} X$  implies that  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} X$ .

The weak law of large numbers says that  $\overline{X}_n$  converges to  $\mathbb{E}X$  in probability. The strong law asserts that this is also true almost surely.

**Theorem 6.18 (The strong law of large numbers).** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be IID. If  $\mu = \mathbb{E}|X_1| < \infty$  then  $\overline{X}_n \xrightarrow{\text{as}} \mu$ .

A sequence is **asymptotically uniformly integrable** if

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(|X_n| I(|X_n| > M)) = 0$$

If  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{P}} b$  and  $X_n$  is asymptotically uniformly integrable, then  $\mathbb{E}(X_n) \rightarrow b$ .

The **moment generating function** of a random variable  $X$  is

$$\psi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tX}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tu} f_X(u) du$$

**Lemma 6.19.** Let  $Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n$  be a sequence of random variables. Let  $\psi_n$  be the mgf of  $Z_n$ . Let  $Z$  be another random variable and denote its mgf by  $\psi$ . If  $\psi_n(t) \rightarrow \psi(t)$  for all  $t$  in some open interval around 0, then  $Z_n \rightsquigarrow Z$ .

### Proof of the Central Limit Theorem

Let  $Y_i = (X_i - \mu)/\sigma$ . Then,  $Z_n = n^{-1/2} \sum_i Y_i$ . Let  $\psi(t)$  be the mgf of  $Y_i$ . The mgf of  $\sum_i Y_i$  is  $(\psi(t))^n$  and the mgf of  $Z_n$  is  $[\psi(t/\sqrt{n})]^n \equiv \xi_n(t)$ .

Now  $\psi'(0) = \mathbb{E}(Y_1) = 0$  and  $\psi''(0) = \mathbb{E}(Y_1^2) = \mathbb{V}(Y_1) = 1$ . So,

$$\psi(t) = \psi(0) + t\psi'(0) + \frac{t^2}{2!}\psi''(0) + \frac{t^3}{3!}\psi'''(0) + \dots \quad (16)$$

$$= 1 + 0 + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{3!}\psi'''(0) + \dots \quad (17)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{3!}\psi'''(0) + \dots \quad (18)$$

Now,

$$\xi_n(t) = \left[ \psi \left( \frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right]^n \quad (19)$$

$$= \left[ 1 + \frac{t^2}{2n} + \frac{t^3}{3!n^{3/2}} \psi'''(0) + \dots \right]^n \quad (20)$$

$$= \left[ 1 + \frac{\frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{3!n^{1/2}} \psi'''(0) + \dots}{n} \right]^n \quad (21)$$

$$\rightarrow e^{t^2/2} \quad (22)$$

which is the mgf of  $N(0, 1)$ . The result follows from the previous theorem. In the last step we used the fact that, if  $a_n \rightarrow a$ , then

$$\left( 1 + \frac{a_n}{n} \right)^n \rightarrow e^a$$

## 6.8 Exercises

**Exercise 6.8.1.** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be iid with finite mean  $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X_i)$  and finite variance  $\sigma^2 = \mathbb{V}(X_i)$ . Let  $\bar{X}_n$  be the sample mean and let  $S_n^2$  be the sample variance.

(a) Show that  $\mathbb{E}(S_n^2) = \sigma^2$ .

**Solution:**

$S_n^2$  is the sample variance, that is,  $S_n^2 = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2$ . Therefore:



$$\mathbb{E}[S_n^2] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( X_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \right)^2 \right] \quad (23)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[ X_i^2 - \frac{2}{n} X_i \sum_{j=1}^n X_j + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \sum_{k=1}^n X_k \right] \quad (24)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{n-2}{n} \mathbb{E}[X_i^2] - \frac{2}{n} \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j] + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k \neq j} \mathbb{E}[X_j X_k] + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_j^2] \right] \quad (25)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{n-2}{n} (\sigma^2 + \mu^2) - \frac{2}{n} (n-1) \mu^2 + \frac{1}{n^2} n(n-1) \mu^2 + \frac{1}{n} (\sigma^2 + \mu^2) \right] \quad (26)$$

$$= \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 \quad (27)$$

(b) Show that  $S_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} \sigma^2$ .

Hint: show that  $S_n^2 = c_n n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - d_n \bar{X}_n^2$  where  $c_n \rightarrow 1$  and  $d_n \rightarrow 1$ . Apply the law of large numbers to  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$  and to  $\bar{X}_n$ . Then use part (e) of Theorem 6.5.

**Solution:**

We have:

$$\bar{X}_n^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2 \quad (28)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, i \neq j}^n X_i X_j \quad (29)$$

Isolating the sum of products, we have:

$$\sum_{j=1, i \neq j}^n X_i X_j = n^2 \bar{X}_n^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$$

Now, from the sample variance :

$$S_n^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 \quad (30)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( X_i^2 - 2X_i\bar{X}_n + \bar{X}_n^2 \right) \quad (31)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n X_i X_j + \bar{X}_n^2 \quad (32)$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{2}{n^2} \right) \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, i \neq j}^n X_i X_j + \bar{X}_n^2 \quad (33)$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{2}{n^2} \right) \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \frac{2}{n^2} \left( n^2 \bar{X}_n^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right) + \bar{X}_n^2 \quad (34)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \bar{X}_n^2 \quad (35)$$

We can use  $c_n = 1$  and  $d_n = 1$ , as suggested in the hint. Applying the law of large numbers,

$$n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \xrightarrow{P} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(X_i^2) = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$$

$$\bar{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu \Rightarrow \bar{X}_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} \mu^2$$

Therefore, from theorem 6.5.e,  $S_n^2 = c_n n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - d_n \bar{X}_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} \sigma^2 + \mu^2 - \mu^2 = \sigma^2$ .

**Exercise 6.8.2.** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be a sequence of random variables. Show that  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} b$  if and only if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n) = b \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}(X_n) = 0 \quad (36)$$

**Solution:**

$X_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} b$  is equivalent to:

$$\mathbb{E}[(X_n - b)^2] \rightarrow 0 \quad (37)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n^2 - 2bX_n + b^2] \rightarrow 0 \quad (38)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n^2] - 2b\mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (39)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n^2] - 2b\mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (40)$$

$$\mathbb{V}[X_n] + (\mathbb{E}[X_n])^2 - 2b\mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (41)$$

If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n] = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n] = b$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[(X_n - b)^2] = \quad (42)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n] + (\mathbb{E}[X_n])^2 - 2b\mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 \quad (43)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n] + (\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n])^2 - 2b \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 \quad (44)$$

$$= 0 + b^2 - 2b^2 + b^2 \quad (45)$$

$$= 0 \quad (46)$$

On the other direction, if  $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} b$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n] + (\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n])^2 - 2b \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n] + b^2 = 0 \quad (47)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n] + (\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_n] - b)^2 = 0 \quad (48)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}[X_n - b] + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\mathbb{E}[X_n - b])^2 = 0 \quad (49)$$

Since both terms inside the limits are non-negative, the limits themselves are non-negative. Two non-negative values add up to 0, so they must both be zero, and so we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(Y_n) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}(Y_n) = 0 \quad (50)$$

or, equivalently,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n) = b \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{V}(X_n) = 0 \quad (51)$$

**Exercise 6.8.3.** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be iid and let  $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X_i)$ . Suppose that variance is finite. Show that  $\overline{X}_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} \mu$ .

**Solution.**

Let  $Y_i = X_i - \mu$ . It has variance  $\sigma_Y = \sigma$  and mean  $\mu_Y = 0$ . We have:

$$\mathbb{E}[(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2] = \quad (52)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu) \right)^2 \right] \quad (53)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right)^2 \right] \quad (54)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[Y_i^2] - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \mathbb{E}[Y_i Y_j] \right) \quad (55)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} ((\sigma_Y^2 + \mu_Y^2) - (n-1)\mu_Y^2) \quad (56)$$

$$= \frac{\sigma}{n} \quad (57)$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma/n = 0$ , and so  $\bar{X}_n \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} \mu$ .

**Exercise 6.8.4.** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be a sequence of random variables such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_n = \frac{1}{n}\right) = 1 - \frac{1}{n^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(X_n = n) = \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (58)$$

Does  $X_n$  converge in probability? Does  $X_n$  converge in quadratic mean?

**Solution.**

For any distribution  $X$ , we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = \quad (59)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\left(|X_n - X| > \epsilon \mid X_n = \frac{1}{n}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(X_n = \frac{1}{n}\right) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon \mid X_n = n) \mathbb{P}(X_n = n) \quad (60)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{n} - X\right| > \epsilon\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + \mathbb{P}(|n - X| > \epsilon) \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (61)$$

Looking at the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \epsilon) = \quad (62)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{n} - X\right| > \epsilon\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|n - X| > \epsilon) \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (63)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X| > \epsilon) \quad (64)$$

If we set  $X = 0$ , the limit above will be zero for any positive  $\epsilon$  -- so we have  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ .

Now, for any quadratic mean potential convergence, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[(X_n - X)^2] = \quad (65)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[(X_n - X)^2 \middle| X_n = \frac{1}{n}\right] \mathbb{P}\left(X_n = \frac{1}{n}\right) + \mathbb{E}[(X_n - X)^2 | X_n = n] \mathbb{P}(X_n = n) \quad (66)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(X - \frac{1}{n}\right)^2\right] \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + \mathbb{E}[(X - n)^2] \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (67)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X^2 - 2Xn^{-1} + n^{-2}] \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + \mathbb{E}[X^2 - 2Xn + n^2] \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (68)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X^2] + \mathbb{E}[X] \left(\frac{-2}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) - \frac{2}{n}\right) + \frac{1}{n^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + 1 \quad (69)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}[X] \frac{2}{n} \left(2 + \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + \frac{1}{n^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) + 1 \quad (70)$$

Taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[(X_n - X)^2] = \quad (71)$$

$$= 1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X^2] \quad (72)$$

$$= 1 + \mathbb{E}[X^2] \quad (73)$$

$$\geq 1 \quad (74)$$

so there is no distribution  $X$  for which this value is 0, and so there is no quadratic mean convergence.

**Exercise 6.8.5.** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \xrightarrow{P} p \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \xrightarrow{\text{qm}} p \quad (75)$$

**Solution.**

Given that quadratic mean convergence implies probability convergence, we only need to prove the second proposition.

Let  $Y_i = X_i^2 - p$ . Then:

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_i] = \quad (76)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X_i^2] - p \quad (77)$$

$$= \mathbb{V}[X_i] + \mathbb{E}[X_i]^2 - p \quad (78)$$

$$= p(1 - p) + p^2 - p \quad (79)$$

$$= 0 \quad (80)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_i^2] = \quad (81)$$

$$= \mathbb{V}[Y_i] + \mathbb{E}[Y_i]^2 \quad (82)$$

$$= \mathbb{V}[X_i^2 - p] + 0^2 \quad (83)$$

$$= \mathbb{V}[X_i^2] + 0^2 \quad (84)$$

$$= \mathbb{V}[X_i] \quad (85)$$

$$= p(1 - p) \quad (86)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_i Y_j] = (\text{for independent variables}) \quad (87)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[Y_i] \mathbb{E}[Y_j] \quad (88)$$

$$= 0 \quad (89)$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right) - p \right)^2 \right] = \quad (90)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i^2 - p) \right)^2 \right] \quad (91)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right)^2 \right] \quad (92)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n Y_i Y_j \right] \quad (93)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} [Y_i^2] - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \mathbb{E} [Y_i Y_j] \right) \quad (94)$$

$$= \frac{p(1-p)}{n} \quad (95)$$

So, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , this expectation goes to 0, and we have quadratic mean convergence.

**Exercise 6.8.6.** Suppose that the height of men has mean 68 inches and standard deviation 4 inches. We draw 100 men at random. Find (approximately) the probability that the average height of men in our sample will be at least 68 inches.

**Solution.**

We assume all men's heights are measurements from iid variables  $X_i$  with mean  $\mu = 68$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 16$ .

We need to approximate  $\mathbb{P}(\bar{X}_{100} > \mu)$ . But by the central limit theorem,

$$\bar{X}_n \approx N \left( \mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \right)$$

so this probability will be approximately

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mu - \mu)}{\sigma} \right) = \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \geq 0 \right) = P(Z \geq 0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

**Exercise 6.8.7.** Let  $\lambda_n = 1/n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Let  $X_n \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_n)$ .

(a) Show that  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ .

**Solution.**

$$\mathbb{E}(X_n^2) = \mathbb{V}(X_n) + \mathbb{E}(X_n)^2 = \lambda_n^2 + \lambda_n^2 = 2\lambda_n^2 = 2/n^2$$

This quantity goes to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , so we have  $X_n \xrightarrow{qm} 0$ , which implies  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ .

(b) Let  $Y_n = nX_n$ . Show that  $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ .

**Solution.**

$$\mathbb{E}(Y_n^2) = \mathbb{V}(Y_n) + \mathbb{E}(Y_n)^2 = n^2\lambda_n^2 + n^2\lambda_n^2 = 2n^2\lambda_n^2 = 2$$

so we *don't* have a straightforward quadratic mean convergence on  $Y_n$ .

We *don't* have a straightforward  $L_1$  convergence either:

$$\mathbb{E}(|Y_n|) = \mathbb{E}(Y_n) = n\lambda_n = 1$$

However, we can show that  $Y_n \rightsquigarrow 0$ :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{Y_n}(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{Y_1}(t/n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{Y_1}(t/n) = 0$$

as, when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the portion of the CDF in the positive neighborhood of 0 shrinks to  $F_{Y_1}(0) = 0$ .

We also have a point mass distribution on our target distribution  $Y_\infty = 0$ : probability of 1 in point 0, and 0 everywhere else.

Therefore, from theorem 6.4 item c, we have  $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ .

**Exercise 6.8.8.** Suppose we have a computer program consisting of  $n = 100$  pages of code. Let  $X_i$  be the number of errors in the  $i$ -th page of code. Suppose that the  $X_i$ 's are Poisson with mean 1 and that they are independent. Let  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  be the total number of errors. Use the central limit theorem to approximate  $\mathbb{P}(Y < 90)$ .

**Solution.** We have  $Y = n\bar{X}_n$ , the total being  $n$  times the sample mean. We need to approximate:

We need to approximate  $\mathbb{P}(\bar{X}_{100} < 0.9)$ . But by the central limit theorem,



$$\bar{X}_n \approx N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$

so this probability will be approximately

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} < \frac{\sqrt{100}(0.9 - 1)}{0.1}\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} < -10\right) = P(Z < -10)$$

**Exercise 6.8.9.** Suppose that  $\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = \mathbb{P}(X = -1) = 1/2$ . Define

$$X_n = \begin{cases} X & \text{with probability } 1 - \frac{1}{n} \\ e^n & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{n} \end{cases} \quad (96)$$

Does  $X_n$  converge to  $X$  in probability? Does  $X_n$  converge to  $X$  in distribution? Does  $\mathbb{E}(X - X_n)^2$  converge to 0?

**Solution.**

For any potential quadratic mean convergence, we'd have:

$$\mathbb{E}(X - X_n)^2 = \quad (97)$$

$$= (\mathbb{E}(X - X_n | X_n = X) \mathbb{P}(X_n = X) + \mathbb{E}(X - X_n | X_n = e^n) \mathbb{P}(X_n = e^n))^2 \quad (98)$$

$$= \left( \mathbb{E}(0) \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) + \mathbb{E}(X - e^n) \frac{1}{n} \right)^2 \quad (99)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{E}(X - e^n)^2 \quad (100)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} (\mathbb{E}(X) - e^n)^2 \quad (101)$$

$$= \frac{e^{2n}}{n^2} \quad (102)$$

which does not converge to 0, so we do not have quadratic mean convergence.

For any potential distribution convergence,  $X_n$  has a point mass distribution, and we can write its CDF  $F_{X_n}$  explicitly as:

$$F_{X_n}(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < -1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) & \text{if } -1 \leq t < 1 \\ 1 - \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } 1 \leq t < e^n \\ 1 & \text{if } e^n \leq t \end{cases} \quad (103)$$

On the other hand, the CDF  $F_X$  of the target distribution  $X$  is:

$$F_X(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < -1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } -1 \leq t < 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq t \end{cases} \quad (104)$$

We then have:

$$F_X(t) - F_{X_n}(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < -1 \\ \frac{1}{2n} & \text{if } -1 \leq t < 1 \\ \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } 1 \leq t < e^n \\ 0 & \text{if } e^n \leq t \end{cases} \quad (105)$$

so  $0 \leq F_X(t) - F_{X_n}(t) \leq 1/n$ , which goes to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(t) = F_X(t)$ , or  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ .

Distribution convergence implies probability convergence, so we also have probability convergence,  $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$ .

**Exercise 6.8.10.** Let  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . Let  $t > 0$ .

(a) Show that, for any  $k > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}|Z|^k}{t^k}$$

**Solution.**

We have:

$$\mathbb{E}|Z|^k = \quad (106)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |z|^{k+1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (107)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^0 (-z)^{k+1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz + \int_0^{\infty} z^{k+1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (108)$$

$$= \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \int_0^{\infty} z^k \left( z e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (109)$$

For  $t > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) = \quad (110)$$

$$= 2 \int_t^{\infty} z \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (111)$$

$$= \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \int_t^{\infty} z e^{-z^2/2} dz \quad (112)$$

Now we need to prove:

$$\int_t^{\infty} z e^{-z^2/2} dz \leq \frac{1}{t^k} \int_0^{\infty} z^k \left( z e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz$$

As the integrands are always positive, we can prove the stronger statement that, for  $k \geq 0$ :

$$\int_t^{\infty} z e^{-z^2/2} dz \leq \frac{1}{t^k} \int_t^{\infty} z^k \left( z e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (113)$$

$$t^k \int_t^{\infty} z e^{-z^2/2} dz \leq \int_t^{\infty} z^k \left( z e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (114)$$

$$0 \leq \int_t^{\infty} (z^k - t^k) \left( z e^{-z^2/2} \right) dz \quad (115)$$

But that's true, since  $(z^k - t^k)(z e^{-z^2/2}) \geq 0$  whenever  $z \geq t$ . So the given statement follows.

**(b) (Mill's inequality)** Show that

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) \leq \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \frac{e^{-t^2/2}}{t}$$

Hint. Note that  $\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) = 2\mathbb{P}(Z > t)$ . Now write out what  $\mathbb{P}(Z > t)$  means and note that  $x/t > 1$  whenever  $x > t$ .

**Solution.**

The stronger result we proved in (a) was, for  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) = \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \int_t^\infty z e^{-z^2/2} dz \leq \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^k} \int_t^\infty z^k (z e^{-z^2/2}) dz$$

If we use  $k = 0$ , we get:

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| > t) \leq \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \frac{1}{t} \int_t^\infty z e^{-z^2/2} dz = \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \right\}^{1/2} \frac{e^{-t^2/2}}{t}$$

which is the desired result.

**Exercise 6.8.11.** Suppose that  $X_n \sim N(0, 1/n)$  and let  $X$  be a random variable with distribution  $F(x) = 0$  if  $x < 0$  and  $F(x) = 1$  if  $x \geq 0$ . Does  $X_n$  converge to  $X$  in probability? Does  $X_n$  converge to  $X$  in distribution?

**Solution.**

We do not have convergence in distribution:  $F_{X_n}(0) = 1/2$  for any  $n$  (as the normal distribution is symmetric around its mean), so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(0) = 1/2 \neq F_X(0) = 1$ .

We do have convergence in probability: for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X - X_n| > \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(|X_n| > \epsilon) = 2\mathbb{P}(X_n > \epsilon) = 2(1 - F_{X_n}(\epsilon))$$

so

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X - X_n| > \epsilon) = 2(1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(\epsilon)) = 2(1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_1}(n\epsilon)) = 2(1 - 1) = 0$$

**Exercise 6.8.12.** Let  $X, X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$  be random variables that are positive and integer valued. Show that  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$  if and only if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = k) = \mathbb{P}(X = k)$$

for every integer  $k$ .

**Solution.**

If  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) = F_X(k)$  for every integer  $k$ . But since the variables are positive and integer valued,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n = k) = F_{X_n}(k) - F_{X_n}(k-1) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(X = k) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1) \quad (116)$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) - F_{X_n}(k-1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k-1) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1) = \mathbb{P}(X = k)$$

On the other direction, if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n = k) = \mathbb{P}(X = k)$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (F_{X_n}(k) - F_{X_n}(k-1)) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1)$$

But the variables are positive and integer valued, so  $F_{X_n}(k) = F_X(k) = 0$  for  $k \leq 0$ . We can then show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) = F_X(k)$  for every integer valued  $k$  by induction in  $k$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (F_{X_n}(k) - F_{X_n}(k-1)) &= \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) \right) - F_X(k-1) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1) \\ &\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(k) = F_X(k) \end{aligned}$$

Since the result holds for every integer variable  $k$  and the random variables can only take integer values, it must hold for all values, therefore  $X_n \rightsquigarrow X$ .

**Exercise 6.8.13.** Let  $Z_1, Z_2, \dots$  be iid random variables with density  $f$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{P}(Z_i > 0) = 1$  and that  $\lambda = \lim_{x \downarrow 0} f(x) > 0$ . Let

$$X_n = n \min\{Z_1, \dots, Z_n\}$$

Show that  $X_n \rightsquigarrow Z$  where  $Z$  has an exponential distribution with mean  $1/\lambda$ .

**Solution.**

Since  $\mathbb{P}(Z_i > 0) = 1$ , the cumulative density functions  $F$  assume value 0 for values up until 0 inclusive.

We have:

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n > x) = \mathbb{P}(n \min\{Z_1, \dots, Z_n\} > x) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(Z_i > x/n)$$

Expanding the probability based on its density function,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n > x) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(Z_i > x/n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_0^{x/n} f(u) du = \left( F\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \right)^n = \left( F(0) + F'(0)\frac{x}{n} + F''(0)\left(\frac{x}{n}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2!} + \dots \right)^n$$

Taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n > x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( F(0) + F'(0)\frac{x}{n} + F''(0)\left(\frac{x}{n}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2!} + \dots \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( F(0) + F'(0)\frac{x}{n} \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 0 + \lambda \frac{x}{n} \right)^n = e^{-\lambda x}$$

On the other hand,  $\mathbb{P}(Z > x) = e^{-\lambda x}$ , so the limit of the CDF complements are the same, and so  $X_n \rightsquigarrow Z$ .

**Exercise 6.8.14.** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ . Let  $Y_n = \overline{X}_n^2$ . Find the limiting distribution of  $Y_n$ .

**Solution.**

Let  $F_K(x)$  denote the CDF of random variable  $K$ .

The sample mean  $\overline{X}_n$  has a limiting distribution of  $X = 1/2$ , by the (strong) law of large numbers.

Then, for  $x \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(Y_n > x) = \mathbb{P}(\overline{X}_n^2 > x) = \mathbb{P}(\overline{X}_n > x^{1/2})$$

$$F_{Y_n}(x) = F_{\overline{X}_n}(x^{1/2})$$

Since  $\overline{X}_n \rightsquigarrow 1/2$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\overline{X}_n}(x) = F_{1/2}(x) \quad (117)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\overline{X}_n}(x^{1/2}) = F_{1/2}(x^{1/2}) \quad (118)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{Y_n}(x) = F_{1/2}(x^{1/2}) \quad (119)$$

Therefore,  $Y \rightsquigarrow Z$ , where  $F_Z(x) = F_{1/2}(x^{1/2})$ , that is,

$$F_Z(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t^{1/2} < 1/2 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < 1/4 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (120)$$

so  $Z$  assumes the constant value of  $1/4$ , and  $Y \rightsquigarrow 1/4$ .

**Exercise 6.8.15.** Let

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_{11} \\ X_{21} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} X_{12} \\ X_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} X_{1n} \\ X_{2n} \end{pmatrix}$$

be iid random vectors with mean  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2)$  and variance  $\Sigma$ .

Let

$$\bar{X}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{1i}, \quad \bar{X}_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{2i}$$

and define  $Y_n = \bar{X}_1 / \bar{X}_2$ . Find the limiting distribution of  $Y_n$ .

**Solution.**

Let

$$\bar{X} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \begin{pmatrix} X_{1i} \\ X_{2i} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{X}_1 \\ \bar{X}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

.

By the multivariate central limit theorem,

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{X} - \mu) \rightsquigarrow N(0, \Sigma)$$

Define  $g : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{\neq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as:

$$g \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = y_1 / y_2$$

Then,  $Y_n = g(\bar{X}_n)$  in every scenario where  $Y_n$  is defined.

Applying the multivariate delta method,

$$\nabla g = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_1} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{y_2} \\ -\frac{y_1}{y_2^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then,

$$\nabla_{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\mu_2} \\ -\frac{\mu_1}{\mu_2^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

and so

$$\sqrt{n}(Y_n - g(\mu)) \rightsquigarrow N(0, \nabla_{\mu}^T \Sigma \nabla_{\mu}) \quad (121)$$

$$Y_n \rightsquigarrow N(\mu_1/\mu_2, n^{-1/2} \nabla_{\mu}^T \Sigma \nabla_{\mu}) \quad (122)$$