

Convergence of Random Variables

- we all get concepts of convergence in high school & first year calculus.
- \Rightarrow how to apply these to sequences of r.v.'s?

Recall WLLN's:

For any $\epsilon > 0$, $P(|\bar{X}_n - \mu| \geq \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

- we'd like to say the " \bar{X}_n converges to μ "
- need to define the word converges.
- \rightarrow use the WLLN's! to motivate the defn.

Defn: Convergence in Probability.

A sequence Y_n converges in probability to a scalar a if:

$$\boxed{\text{For any } \epsilon > 0, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(|Y_n - a| \geq \epsilon) = 0.}$$

- write $Y_n \xrightarrow{ip} a$.
- so the WLLN's states: $\bar{X}_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{ip} \mu$

A Picture: compare to ordinary idea of convergence of a sequence of numbers.

- recall we say a sequence: $a_n \rightarrow a$ when a_n gets arbitrarily close and stays close to a eventually.