

High Dimensional Probability Notes

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1 Basic Distribution Theory

1.1 Basic Inequalities

First, we revisit the definition of a random variable as well as some basic inequalities that we learned in introductory statistics.

Definition 1.1 (Random variable).

Let $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space. A random variable X is defined as a mapping from the sample space Ω to \mathbb{R} :

$$X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

Σ is the σ -algebra containing the possible events (collection of subsets of Ω) and \mathbb{P} is a probability measure that assigns events with probabilities:

$$\mathbb{P} : \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1] \quad (2)$$

For a given probability space $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$ and a random variable $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we will use the following basic notations throughout this note:

- $\|X\|_{L^p}$ - The p^{th} root of the p^{th} moment of the random variable X .

$$\|X\|_{L^p} = (\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{1/p}, \quad p \in (0, \infty) \quad (3)$$

$$\|X\|_{L^\infty} = \text{ess sup } |X| \quad (4)$$

- $L^p(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$ - The space of random variables X satisfying:

$$L^p(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P}) = \left\{ X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \|X\|_{L^p} < \infty \right\} \quad (5)$$

Some basic inequalities and identities:

- **1. Jensen's Inequality** - For a random variable X and a convex function $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have:

$$\varphi(\mathbb{E}X) \leq \mathbb{E}\varphi(X) \quad (6)$$

- **2. Monotonicity of L^p norm** - For a random variable X :

$$\|X\|_{L^p} \leq \|X\|_{L^q}, \quad 0 \leq p \leq q \leq \infty. \quad (7)$$

- **3. Minkowski's Inequality** - For $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ and two random variables X, Y in $L^p(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$ space:

$$\|X + Y\|_{L^p} \leq \|X\|_{L^p} + \|Y\|_{L^p}. \quad (8)$$

- **4. Holder's Inequality** - For $p, q \in [1, \infty]$ such that $1/p + 1/q = 1$. Then, for random variables $X \in L^p(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$ and $Y \in L^q(\Omega, \Sigma, \mathbb{P})$, we have:

$$|\mathbb{E}XY| \leq \|X\|_{L^p} \cdot \|Y\|_{L^q}. \quad (9)$$

- **5. Markov's Inequality** - For a non-negative random variable X and $t > 0$, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}X}{t}. \quad (10)$$

We can also generalize Markov's Inequality for p^{th} moment:

$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[|X|^p]}{t^p}, \quad \forall t > 0, p \in [2, \infty). \quad (11)$$

- **6. Chebyshev's Inequality** - For a random variable X with mean μ and variance σ^2 . Then, for any $t > 0$, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{t^2}. \quad (12)$$

- **7. Integral Identity** - Let X be a non-negative random variable, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}X = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(X > t)dt. \quad (13)$$

Exercises

Exercise 1.1.1: Generalized Integral Identity

Let X be a random variable (not necessarily non-negative). Prove the following identity:

$$\mathbb{E}X = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(X > t)dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbb{P}(X < t)dt. \quad (14)$$

Solution (Exercise 1.1.1).

For $x \in \mathbb{R}$, using the basic integral identity, we have:

$$|x| = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < |x|\}dt$$

We consider the following cases:

- When $x < 0 \implies x = -|x|$:

$$x = - \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < |x|\}dt = - \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < -x\}dt = - \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{-t > x\}dt = - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbf{1}\{t > x\}dt.$$

- When $x \geq 0 \implies x = |x|$:

$$x = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < |x|\}dt = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < x\}dt.$$

Therefore, for $x \in \mathbb{R}$, we can write:

$$x = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < x\}dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbf{1}\{t > x\}dt.$$

Therefore, for a random variable X not necessarily non-negative, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}X &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < X\}dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbf{1}\{t > X\}dt \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}\{t < X\}dt - \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbf{1}\{t > X\}dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \mathbb{E} \mathbf{1}\{t < X\}dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbb{E} \mathbf{1}\{t > X\}dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(t < X)dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathbb{P}(t > X)dt. \end{aligned}$$

□.

Exercise 1.1.2: p^{th} -moments via tails

Let X be a random variable and $p \in (0, \infty)$. Show that:

$$\mathbb{E}|X|^p = \int_0^\infty pt^{p-1}\mathbb{P}(|X| > t)dt. \quad (15)$$

Solution (Exercise 1.1.2). _____

Let X be a random variable that is not necessarily non-negative. Using the integral identity, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}|X|^p = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(u < |X|^p)du.$$

Let $t^p = u \implies pt^{p-1}dt = du$. Since we integrate u from $0 \rightarrow \infty$, we also integrate t from $0 \rightarrow \infty$ when changing the variables. Hence, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}|X|^p = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(t^p < |X|^p)pt^{p-1}dt = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P}(t < |X|)pt^{p-1}dt.$$

Hence, we obtained the desired identity. \square .

1.2 Limit Theorems**1.2.1 Weak Law of Large Numbers****Theorem 1.1: Weak Law of Large Numbers (WLLN)**

Let X_1, \dots, X_N be *i.i.d* random variables with mean μ . Consider the sum:

$$S_N = X_1 + \dots + X_N$$

Then, the sample mean **converges to μ in probability** ($S_N/N \xrightarrow{p} \mu$):

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(|S_N/N - \mu| > \epsilon\right) = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0 \quad (16)$$

Proof (Weak Law of Large Numbers (WLLN)). _____

We split the proof into two sections corresponding to the assumptions of finite variance and non-finite variance.

1. **Finite variance case:** Suppose that $\text{Var}X_i = \sigma^2 < \infty$ for all $1 \leq i \leq N$. Let $\bar{X} = S_N/N$. Then, \bar{X} is a random variable with the following mean and variance:

$$\mathbb{E}\bar{X} = \mu \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}\bar{X} = \frac{\sigma^2}{N}.$$

Hence, by the Chebyshev's inequality, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|S_N/N - \mu| > \epsilon\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(|\bar{X} - \mu| > \epsilon\right) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2}.$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(|S_N/N - \mu| > \epsilon\right) \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2} = 0.$$

Hence, we have $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(|S_N/N - \mu| > \epsilon\right) = 0$ and we obtained **(WLLN)**.

2. **Non-finite variance case:** In this case, we rely on the Levy Continuity Theorem (**LCT**), which relies on the convergence of the characteristic function. For $n \geq 1$, define the sequence of random variable $Y_n = S_n/n$. Hence, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{Y_n}(t) &= \varphi_{S_n/n}(t) \\ &= \varphi_{S_n}(t/n) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \varphi_{X_i}(t/n) = \left[\varphi_X(t/n) \right]^n,\end{aligned}$$

Where $X = X_1 = \dots = X_n$. By Taylor's expansion, we have:

$$\varphi_X(t/n) = 1 + \frac{it\mathbb{E}[X]}{n} + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2) = 1 + \frac{it\mu}{n} + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2).$$

Hence, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{Y_n}(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{it\mu}{n} + \mathcal{O}(1/n^2) \right)^n = e^{it\mu}.$$

Therefore, by (**LCT**), we have $Y_n \xrightarrow{p} \mu$.

Remark 1.1 (Taylor expansion of Moment Generating and Characteristic Functions). _____
Given a random variable X . For reference, the following are the Taylor expansions of the Moment Generating Function $M_X(t)$ and the Characteristic Function $\varphi_X(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned}M_X(t) &= \mathbb{E}[e^{tX}] = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} \mathbb{E}[X^n], \\ \varphi_X(t) &= \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(it)^n}{n!} \mathbb{E}[X^n].\end{aligned}\tag{17}$$

For the sake of my laziness, here are the Taylor expansion for the first three terms of both the MGF and the CF:

$$\begin{aligned}M_X(t) &= 1 + t\mathbb{E}[X] + \frac{t^2}{2}\mathbb{E}[X^2] + \mathcal{O}(t^3), \\ \varphi_X(t) &= 1 + it\mathbb{E}[X] - \frac{t^2}{2}\mathbb{E}[X^2] + \mathcal{O}(t^3).\end{aligned}\tag{18}$$

□.

Theorem 1.2: Levy Continuity Theorem (**LCT**)

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be *i.i.d* random variables. Then:

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{R} : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{X_n}(t) = \varphi_X(t) \iff X_n \xrightarrow{d} X,\tag{19}$$

for some random variable X . In a special case where $X = c$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have:

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{R} : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{X_n}(t) = e^{itc} \iff X_n \xrightarrow{p} c.\tag{20}$$

Proof (Levy Continuity Theorem (**LCT**)). _____
The proof for (**LCT**) can be found in Gut 2004, Section 9.1, Theorem 9.1 and Collorary 9.1 □.

1.2.2 Strong Law of Large Numbers

Theorem 1.3: Strong Law of Large Numbers (**SLLN**)

Let X_1, \dots, X_N be *i.i.d* random variables with mean $\mu < \infty$. Consider the sum:

$$S_N = X_1 + \dots + X_N$$

Then, the sample mean **converges to μ almost surely** ($S_N/N \xrightarrow{a.s} \mu$):

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} |S_N/N - \mu| > \epsilon\right) = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0 \quad (21)$$

Proof (Strong Law of Large Numbers (**SLLN**)).

For the sake of simplicity, we will present the proof for (**SLLN**) with an additional assumption that $\mathbb{E}[|X_n|^4] < \infty, \forall n \geq 1$. The proof for the general case of (**SLLN**) (also called the Kolmogorov Strong Law) can be found in Gut 2004, Section 6, Theorem 6.1. For convenience, we assume the following:

1. $\mathbb{E}[|X_n|^4] = K < \infty$.
2. $\mathbb{E}[X_n] = 0$. For non-zero mean case, we can set $Y_n = X_n - \mu$ and repeat the same arguments made below.

We aim to prove that $\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} |S_N/N| > \epsilon\right) = 0$ for any $\epsilon > 0$. Firstly, use the Multinomial formula to expand $\mathbb{E}[S_n]$. The expansion will contain the terms in the following forms:

$$X_i^2, X_i^3 X_j, X_i^2 X_j^2, X_i^2 X_j X_k, X_i X_j X_k X_\ell,$$

where i, j, k, ℓ are distinct indices. By independence, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[X_i^3 X_j] = \mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j X_k] = \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j X_k X_\ell] = 0.$$

As a result, we have the following remaining terms by the Multinomial formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[S_n^4] &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i^4] + \binom{4}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j^2] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i^4] + 6 \underbrace{\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j^2]}_{n(n-1)/2 \text{ terms}} \\ &= nK + 3n(n-1)\mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j^2]. \end{aligned}$$

By independence, we have $\mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j^2] = \mathbb{E}[X_i^2] \mathbb{E}[X_j^2]$ and for any $1 \leq i \leq n$. Furthermore, we have $\mathbb{E}[X_i^2] = \text{Var}(X_i) + \mu^2 = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$. Therefore:

$$\mathbb{E}[S_n^4] = nK + 3n(n-1)(\sigma^2 + \mu^2) < nK + 3n^2(\sigma^2 + \mu^2).$$

Applying Markov's Inequality with the fourth moment, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|S_n/n| \geq \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}(|S_n| \geq n\epsilon) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[S_n^4]}{n^4 \epsilon^4} \\ &< \frac{K}{n^3 \epsilon^4} + \frac{3(\sigma^2 + \mu^2)}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|S_n/n| \geq \epsilon) < \frac{K}{\epsilon^4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-3} + 3(\sigma^2 + \mu^2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-2} < \infty \quad (22)$$

Finally, by the Borel-Cantelli Lemma (**BCL**), we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |S_n/n| \geq \epsilon\right) = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0.$$

□.

Theorem 1.4: Borel-Cantelli Lemma (**BCL**)

1. First Borel-Cantelli Lemma: Given a probability space $(X, \mathcal{S}, \mathbb{P})$ and a sequence $\{A_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathcal{S}$. If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty$, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = 0. \quad (23)$$

2. Second Borel-Cantelli Lemma: On the other hand, if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) = \infty$, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) = 1. \quad (24)$$

Proof (Borel-Cantelli Lemma (**BCL**)).

We focus on proving the first Borel-Cantelli lemma. We define another sequence of \mathcal{S} -measurable sets $\{B_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ such that:

$$B_n = \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k.$$

Hence, we have $B_{\ell+1} \subset B_{\ell}$ for every $\ell \geq 1$. In other words, B_n is a decreasing sequence of \mathcal{S} -measurable sets. By continuity of measure, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_n\right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(B_n) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_k) \quad (\text{By additivity}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_i) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_k) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_n\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right).$$

Hence proved the first Borel-Cantelli Lemma. To prove the second Borel-Cantelli Lemma, we prove the following:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left\{\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\right\}^c\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n^c\right) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□.

1.2.3 Uniform Law of Large Numbers

The Uniform Law of Large Numbers (**ULLN**) provides a convergence result for collection of estimators where the convergence is uniform in the parameters space.

Theorem 1.5: Uniform Law of Large Numbers (**ULLN**)

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample from a distribution p_{θ_*} over \mathcal{X} that depends on the true parameters θ_* . Let $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be the parameters space and $f_\theta : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function indexed by $\theta \in \Theta$ that satisfies the following conditions:

1. $\theta_* \in \Theta$ and Θ is compact.
2. $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |f_\theta(X)|] < \infty^a$.
3. $f_\theta(x)$ is continuous in θ for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$.

Then, we have:

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f_\theta(X_i) - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[f_\theta(X)] \right| \xrightarrow{p} 0. \quad (25)$$

^a \mathbb{E}_{θ_*} denotes the expectation taken over the distribution described by p_{θ_*} .

Proof (Theorem 1.5).

A nice proof is provided in Ferguson 1996, Theorem 16, Page 111. However, we will conduct our own version of the proof relying on results in learning theory. For $\theta \in \Theta$, define the following function:

$$\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X}) = \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(f_\theta(X_i) - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[f_\theta(X)] \right) \right| \quad (26)$$

We have to prove that $\mathbb{P}(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X})| \geq \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ for all $\epsilon > 0$. For $\epsilon > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X})| \geq \epsilon\right) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left\{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \phi_\theta(\mathbf{X}) \geq \epsilon\right\} \cup \left\{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} (-\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X})) \geq \epsilon\right\}\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \phi_\theta(\mathbf{X}) \geq \epsilon\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} (-\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X})) \geq \epsilon\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\mathbb{E}\left[\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \phi_\theta(\mathbf{X})\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} (-\phi_\theta(\mathbf{X}))\right] \right) \quad (\text{Markov's Inequality}) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we need to bound the expectations on the right-hand-side. To do so, we use the symmetrization trick. Specifically, given a sequence of i.i.d random variables $S = \{Z_1, \dots, Z_n\} \sim \rho^n$ sampled from a distribution ρ and a class of functions \mathcal{F} . Let $S' = \{Z'_1, \dots, Z'_n\} \sim \rho^n$ be a another sample

from the same distribution ρ (which we called the phantom sample), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}_S \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(Z_i) - \mathbb{E}_S[f(Z_i)]) \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_S \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(Z_i) - \mathbb{E}_{S'}[f(Z'_i)]) \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_S \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(Z_i) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_{S'}[f(Z'_i)] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_S \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E}_{S'} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(Z_i) - f(Z'_i)) \right] \right] \\
&\leq \mathbb{E}_{S, S'} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(Z_i) - f(Z'_i)) \right] \quad (\text{Jensen's Inequality}) \\
&= \mathbb{E}_{S, S', \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i (f(Z_i) - f(Z'_i)) \right] \quad (\sigma \sim \text{Rad}^n, f(Z_i) - f(Z'_i) \text{ is symmetric}) \\
&\leq \mathbb{E}_{S, \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i f(Z_i) \right] + \mathbb{E}_{S', \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (-\sigma_i) f(Z'_i) \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_{S, \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i f(Z_i) \right] + \mathbb{E}_{S', \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i f(Z'_i) \right] \quad (\text{Rademacher variables are symmetric}) \\
&= 2\mathbb{E}_{S, \sigma} \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i f(Z_i) \right] \quad (S \text{ and } S' \text{ are identically distributed}) \\
&= 2\mathfrak{R}_n(\mathcal{F}).
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Using the same argument, we can also have:

$$\mathbb{E}_S \left[\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbb{E}_S[f(Z_i)] - f(Z_i)) \right] \leq 2\mathfrak{R}_n(\mathcal{F}). \tag{28}$$

Using equations 27 and 28 to bound $\mathbb{P}(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\phi_\theta(S)| \geq \epsilon)$, we have:

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\phi_\theta(S)| \geq \epsilon \right) \leq \frac{4\mathfrak{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_\Theta)}{\epsilon}, \text{ where } \mathcal{F}_\Theta = \{f_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}.$$

To complete the proof, we have to show that the Rademacher complexity $\mathfrak{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By the definition of Rademacher Complexity, we have:

$$\mathfrak{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X} \sim p_{\theta_*}^n} \mathbb{E}_\sigma [\hat{\mathfrak{R}}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta)],$$

It is sufficient to prove that the Empirical Rademacher Complexity $\hat{\mathfrak{R}}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Using Dudley's Entropy Integral Bartlett et al. 2017, Lemma A.5, we have:

$$\hat{\mathfrak{R}}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) \leq \frac{12}{\sqrt{n}} \int_\alpha^M \sqrt{\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta, \epsilon, L_2(\mathbf{X}))} d\epsilon, \quad \alpha > 0, \tag{29}$$

where $M < \infty$ is a constant such that $|f_\theta(x)| \leq M$ p_{θ_*} -(almost everywhere) on \mathcal{X} for all $\theta \in \Theta^1$. Now, we need to construct a cover in L_2 norm for the class \mathcal{F}_Θ . Since $f_\theta(x)$ is continuous in θ for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$, for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta_x > 0$ such that $\|\theta - \theta'\|_2 < \delta_x \implies |f_\theta(x) - f_{\theta'}(x)| < \epsilon$. Define $\delta > 0$ as follows:

$$\delta = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \delta_{X_i}, \quad X_i \in \mathbf{X}. \tag{30}$$

¹M exists because we have $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |f_\theta(X)|] < \infty$.

Due to continuity, constructing an ϵ -cover in \mathcal{F}_Θ is equivalent to constructing a δ -cover for Θ with respect to the Euclidean norm. Since Θ is compact, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and a sequence of open balls $\{\mathcal{B}(y_j, r_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ where $y_j \in \Theta$ for all $1 \leq j \leq N$ such that:

$$\Theta \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N \mathcal{B}(y_j, r_j). \quad (31)$$

By Long et al. 2020, Lemma A.8, we have:

$$\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B}(y_j, r_j), \delta, \|\cdot\|_2) \leq m \log \left(\frac{3r_j}{\delta} \right). \quad (32)$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\log \mathcal{N}(\Theta, \delta, \|\cdot\|_2) \leq \sum_{j=1}^N \log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B}(y_j, r_j), \delta, \|\cdot\|_2) \leq mN \log \left(\frac{\prod_{j=1}^N r_j}{\delta^N} \right). \quad (33)$$

From the above covering number bound, we can see that $\log \mathcal{N}(\Theta, \delta, \|\cdot\|_2)$ does not grow with n and therefore, $\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta, \epsilon, L_2(\mathbf{X}))$ does not grow with n . Therefore, we have $\hat{\mathfrak{R}}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) \in \mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{n})$ and $\hat{\mathfrak{R}}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathcal{F}_\Theta) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. \square .

1.2.4 Central Limit Theorem

Theorem 1.6: Central Limit Theorem (CLT)

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a sequence of *i.i.d* random variables with expected value μ and finite variance σ^2 . Then, we have:

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (34)$$

where $\bar{X}_n = S_n/n$ and $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ is the standard normal distribution.

Proof (Central Limit Theorem (CLT)).

We prove this via the Characteristic Function. Let $\bar{Z}_n = \frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$, notice that:

$$\bar{Z}_n = \frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i - \mu}{\sigma},$$

Let $Z_i = X_i - \mu$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and suppose $Z = Z_1 = \dots = Z_n$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{\bar{Z}_n}(t) &= \varphi_{\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i} \left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} \right) = \left[\varphi_Z \left(\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right]^n \\ &= \left[1 + \frac{it\mathbb{E}[Z]}{\sqrt{n}} - \frac{t^2}{2n} \mathbb{E}[Z^2] + \mathcal{O}(1/n) \right]^n \quad (\text{Taylor's Expansion}) \\ &= \left[1 - \frac{t^2}{2n} + \mathcal{O}(1/n) \right]^n. \end{aligned}$$

The final equality comes from the fact that $\mathbb{E}[Z] = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}[Z^2] = \mathbb{E}[Z]^2 + \text{Var}(Z) = 1$. Finally, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{\bar{Z}_n}(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[1 - \frac{t^2}{2n} + \mathcal{O}(1/n) \right]^n = e^{-t^2/2}.$$

Since $e^{-t^2/2}$ is the Characteristic Function of the standard normal distribution, by **(LCT)**, we have $\bar{Z}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. \square .

1.3 Convergence of Random Variables

1.3.1 Convergence in Distribution

Definition 1.2 (Convergence in Distribution).

 Given a sequence of real-valued random variables X_1, X_2, \dots with CDFs F_1, F_2, \dots . We say that the sequence converges in distribution to a random variable X with CDF F , denoted $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x) = F(x), \quad (35)$$

for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ at which F is continuous. Convergence in distribution can also be referred to as weak convergence in measure theory.

Theorem 1.7: Slutsky's Theorem (**SLUTSKY**)

Let X_n and Y_n be two sequences of random variables such that $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ and $Y_n \xrightarrow{d} c^a$ where $c < \infty$ is a constant. Then, we have:

1. $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X + c$.
2. $X_n Y_n \xrightarrow{d} cX$.
3. $X_n/Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X/c$ if $c \neq 0$.

^aIn the next section, we will see that $Y_n \xrightarrow{d} c$ implies $Y_n \xrightarrow{p} c$ for a constant c .

Proof (Theorem 1.7).

1. $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X + c$. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be any positive constant, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X_n+Y_n}(t) &= \mathbb{P}(X_n + Y_n \leq t) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X_n + Y_n \leq t, |Y_n - c| \leq \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(X_n + Y_n \leq t, |Y_n - c| > \epsilon) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(X_n + Y_n \leq t, |Y_n - c| \leq \epsilon) + \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - c| > \epsilon)}_{\text{approaches 0 as } n \rightarrow \infty}. \end{aligned}$$

In the event that $|Y_n - c| \leq \epsilon$, we have $Y_n \geq c - |Y_n - c| \geq c - \epsilon$. Therefore, we have:

$$F_{X_n+Y_n}(t) \leq \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq t - c + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|Y_n - c| > \epsilon).$$

Similarly, we have:

$$F_{X_n+Y_n}(t) \geq \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq t - c - \epsilon) - \mathbb{P}(|Y_n - c| > \epsilon).$$

Taking limits of both inequalities, we have:

$$F_X(t - c - \epsilon) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n+Y_n}(t) \leq F_X(t - c + \epsilon).$$

Let $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n+Y_n}(t) \rightarrow F_X(t - c) = F_{X+c}(t)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

2. $X_n Y_n \xrightarrow{d} cX$. (Apply the same proof method as (1)).
3. $X_n/Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X/c$ if $c \neq 0$. (Apply the same proof method as (1)).

\square .

Connection to Weak Convergence of Measures

Definition 1.3 (Continuity Sets).

Let X be a metric space and \mathcal{B} be the Borel- σ -algebra generated from open subsets of X . Let $A \in \mathcal{B}$ be a Borel set. Then, we say that A is a continuity set with respect to a measure μ , or A is a μ -continuity set, if:

$$\mu(\partial A) = 0, \text{ or } \mu(\text{cl}_X(A)) = \mu(A), \quad (36)$$

where ∂A is the topological boundary of A , defined as:

$$\partial A = \text{cl}_X(A) \setminus \text{in}_X(A), \quad (37)$$

where $\text{cl}_X(A)$ is the closure, which contains all limit points of A and $\text{in}_X(A)$ is the set of all interior points of A . Intuitively, a set is continuous with respect to a measure if its closure does not change its measure.

Remark 1.2 (Non-examples of Continuity Sets).

Some examples of the non-continuity sets are as follows:

1. The set of rational numbers \mathbb{Q} is not a continuity set with respect to the Lebesgue measure λ because its closure is the set of real numbers. Hence, we have:

$$\lambda(\partial \mathbb{Q}) = \lambda(\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}) = \infty.$$

2. Given an experiment of rolling an unfair 6-sided die with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_6 . Let the sample space $\Omega = [1, 6]$ and $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$ be the Borel- σ -algebra generated from open subsets of the sample space. Then, we have the corresponding probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}(\Omega), \mu)$ where μ is defined as:

$$\mu((a, b)) = \sum_{i=\lfloor a \rfloor}^{\lfloor b \rfloor} p_i, \quad \forall (a, b) \in \mathcal{B}(\Omega),$$

which denotes the probability that the rolled die lands on a face in the range between a and b . Then, any set (a, b) in $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$ where a or b is integer is not μ -continuous. For example:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu((2, 4.5)) &= p_3 + p_4, \\ \mu(\text{cl}((2, 4.5))) &= \mu([2, 4.5]) = p_2 + p_3 + p_4 > \mu((2, 4.5)). \end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.4 (Weak Convergence of Measures).

Let $\{\mu_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of measures and μ be a measure on a measurable space (X, \mathcal{F}) . We say that μ_n converges weakly to a measure μ if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_n(A) = \mu(A), \quad (38)$$

for all μ -continuity sets $A \in \mathcal{F}$.

Theorem 1.8: Portmanteau's Theorem (PORTMANTEAU)

Let $\{\mathbb{P}_n\}_{n=1}^\infty, \mathbb{P}$ be probability measures on a measurable space (X, \mathcal{F}) . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

1. \mathbb{P}_n converges weakly to \mathbb{P} .
2. $\int f d\mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \int f d\mathbb{P}$ for all $f \in C_b(X)^a$.
3. $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(F) \leq \mathbb{P}(F)$ for all closed $F \in \mathcal{F}$.
4. $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \mathbb{P}(G)$ for all open $G \in \mathcal{F}$.

^a $C_b(X)$ denotes the space of bounded continuous $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ functions.

Proof (Theorem 1.8).

Assume that for all Borel sets $A \in \mathcal{F}$ that is \mathbb{P} -continuity, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(A) = \mathbb{P}(A)$. We prove the following:

1. $\int f d\mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \int f d\mathbb{P}$ for all $f \in C_b(X)$: Let $b > 0$, without loss of generality, suppose that $0 \leq f \leq b$ for all $f \in C_b(X)$. By the integral identity, we have:

$$f(x) = \int_0^b \mathbf{1}\{t < f(x)\} dt, \quad \forall x \in X.$$

Hence, for $n \geq 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int f d\mathbb{P}_n &= \int \int_0^b \mathbf{1}\{t < f\} dt d\mathbb{P}_n \\ &= \int_0^b \int \mathbf{1}\{t < f\} d\mathbb{P}_n dt \quad (\text{Fubini's Theorem}) \\ &= \int_0^b \mathbb{P}_n(f^{-1}(t, b)) dt. \end{aligned}$$

We have $\partial f^{-1}(t, b) \subseteq f^{-1}(\{t, b\})$. Hence, we have $\mathbb{P}(\partial f^{-1}(t, b)) \leq \mathbb{P}(f^{-1}(\{t, b\})) = 0$, which means that $f^{-1}(t, b)$ is a \mathbb{P} -continuity set. Therefore, by the initial assumption, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(f^{-1}(t, b)) = \mathbb{P}(f^{-1}(t, b)).$$

By Dominated Convergence Theorem, we have $\int_0^b \mathbb{P}_n(f^{-1}(t, b)) dt \rightarrow \int_0^b \mathbb{P}(f^{-1}(t, b)) dt$. Hence, we obtain the desired result.

2. $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \mathbb{P}(G)$ for all open $G \in \mathcal{F}$: Let $G \in \mathcal{F}$ be an open set and let $U = G^c$. Consider the following sequence of continuous, bounded functions:

$$f_m(s) = \min(1, m \cdot d_X(s, U)),$$

where we denote:

$$d_X(s, U) = \inf_{x \in U} d_X(s, x),$$

which is the projection of a point s onto the set U . We can re-write f_m as follows:

$$f_m(s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } d(s, U) \geq \frac{1}{m} \\ m \cdot d(s, U), & \text{if } d(s, U) < \frac{1}{m} \end{cases}.$$

In other words, $f_m(s) = 1$ when the point s is sufficiently far away from the complement U and as m increases, the distance threshold required for $f_m(s) = 1$ becomes smaller, making f_m approaches the indicator function $\mathbf{1}_G$. Hence, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}_n(G) = \int \mathbf{1}_G d\mathbb{P}_n \geq \int f_m d\mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \int f_m d\mathbb{P}, \quad (\text{By (1)}).$$

Hence, we have $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \int f_m d\mathbb{P}^2$. Taking $m \rightarrow \infty$ and using Monotone Convergence Theorem, we have:

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int f_m d\mathbb{P} = \int \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} f_m d\mathbb{P} = \int \mathbf{1}_G d\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}(G).$$

3. $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(F) \leq \mathbb{P}(F)$ for all closed $F \in \mathcal{F}$: Taking the complement of F and apply (2), we obtain the desired result.

□.

1.3.2 Convergence in Probability

Definition 1.5 (Convergence in Probability). _____

Given a sequence of real-valued random variables X_1, X_2, \dots . We say that the sequence converges in probability to a random variable X , denoted $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$ if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0. \quad (39)$$

We also refer to convergence in probability as convergence in measure in measure theory.

Proposition 1.1: $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$

Let X and the sequence X_1, X_2, \dots be real-valued random variables. If $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$, then $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$.

Proof (Proposition 1.1). _____

We first prove the following claim: Let X, Y be random variables, $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\epsilon > 0$, the inequality $\mathbb{P}(Y \leq a) \leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|Y - X| \geq \epsilon)$ holds. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(Y \leq a) &= \mathbb{P}(Y \leq a, X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(Y \leq a, X \geq a + \epsilon) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(Y - X \leq a - X, a - X \leq -\epsilon) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(Y - X \leq -\epsilon) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(Y - X \leq -\epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(Y - X \geq \epsilon) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|Y - X| \geq \epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Using the above inequality, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq a - \epsilon) - \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) \leq \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq a) \leq \mathbb{P}(X \leq a + \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon).$$

Taking limits as $n \rightarrow \infty$ from both sides, we have:

$$F_X(a - \epsilon) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(a) \leq F_X(a + \epsilon).$$

Taking $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(a) = F_X(a)$. □.

²From $\mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \int f_m d\mathbb{P}_n$, we have $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_n(G) \geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int f_m d\mathbb{P}_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int f_m d\mathbb{P}_n = \int f_m d\mathbb{P}$.

Proposition 1.2: $X_n \xrightarrow{d} c \iff X_n \xrightarrow{p} c$

Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$ be a constant and X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of real-valued random variables. Then, $X_n \xrightarrow{d} c \iff X_n \xrightarrow{p} c$.

Proof (Proposition 1.2, Pishro-Nik 2014). _____

Since $X_n \xrightarrow{d} c$, we immediately have the following:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(c - \epsilon) &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(c + \epsilon/2) &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

Then, for any $\epsilon > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - c| \geq \epsilon) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[\mathbb{P}(X_n \leq c - \epsilon) + \mathbb{P}(X_n \geq c + \epsilon)] \\ &= \underbrace{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(c - \epsilon)}_{=0} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \geq c + \epsilon) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(X_n \geq c + \epsilon/2) \\ &= 1 - \underbrace{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(c + \epsilon/2)}_{=1} \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

From the above, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - c| \geq \epsilon) = 0$ and $X_n \xrightarrow{p} c$. □.

1.3.3 Convergence in L^p norm

Definition 1.6 (Convergence in L^p norm). _____

Given a sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots and a real number $p \in [1, \infty)$. We say that the sequence converges in L^p norm to a random variable X , denoted as $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X$ if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}|X_n - X|^p = 0. \quad (40)$$

Proposition 1.3: $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$

Let $p \geq 1$ and X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of real-valued random variables. Let X be a random variable, then, $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$.

Proof (Proposition 1.3). _____

Let $\epsilon > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X|^p \geq \epsilon^p) \quad (p \geq 1) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}|X_n - X|^p}{\epsilon^p}. \quad (\text{Markov's Inequality})\end{aligned}$$

Taking the limits from both sides, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) = 0$ and $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$. □.

1.3.4 Almost-sure Convergence

Definition 1.7 (Convergence almost-surely). _____

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of real-valued random variables that map from a sample space Ω . Let X also be a real-valued random variable. We say that X_n converges almost surely to X , denoted as $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X$, if $X_n(\omega) \rightarrow X(\omega)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\{\omega \in \Omega : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} X_n(\omega) = X(\omega)\right\}\right) = 1. \quad (41)$$

In other words, we can write:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} E_n\right) = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad E_n = \left\{\omega \in \Omega : |X_n(\omega) - X(\omega)| \geq \epsilon\right\}. \quad (42)$$

Remark 1.3 (Consequence of **(BCL)**). _____

Let X, X_1, X_2, \dots be random variables defined over the same probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$. For $\epsilon > 0$ be chosen arbitrarily, let $E_n = \{\omega \in \Omega : |X_n(\omega) - X(\omega)| \geq \epsilon\}$. Then, we have:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(E_n) < \infty \implies X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X. \quad (43)$$

In other words, if the sequence $\{\mathbb{P}(E_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges, then X_n converges almost surely to X .

Proposition 1.4: $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \implies X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of real-valued random variables and also let X be a real valued random variables. If $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X$ then $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$.

Proof (Proposition 1.4). _____

Let $f_n : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a sequence of nonnegative Borel-measurable functions such that $f_n(\omega) = |X_n(\omega) - X(\omega)|$. By Fatou's Lemma (reverse), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{\omega \in \Omega : |X_n(\omega) - X(\omega)| \geq \epsilon\}\right)}_{=0} &= \int f_n d\mathbb{P} \\ &\geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) \\ &\geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \epsilon) = 0$ and $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X$. □.

Theorem 1.9: Continuous Mapping Theorem (CMT)

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous almost everywhere function and X_1, X_2, \dots be a sequence of real-valued random variables. Then, the following statements hold:

1. $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X \implies f(X_n) \xrightarrow{d} f(X)$.
2. $X_n \xrightarrow{p} X \implies f(X_n) \xrightarrow{p} f(X)$.
3. $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \implies f(X_n) \xrightarrow{a.s.} f(X)$.

Proof (Continuous Mapping Theorem (**CMT**)).

We handle each statement separately:

1. Let \mathbb{P}_n, \mathbb{P} be the probability measures induced by X_n and X , respectively. By (**PORTMANTEAU**), \mathbb{P}_n converges weakly to \mathbb{P} is equivalent to $\int g d\mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \int g d\mathbb{P}$ for all continuous, bounded $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For all g continuous and bounded, $g \circ f$ is also continuous and bounded. Hence:

$$\int g \circ f d\mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \int g \circ f d\mathbb{P} \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Hence, let $\mathbb{P}_n f$ and $\mathbb{P} f$ be the probability measures induced by $f(X_n)$ and $f(X)$, respectively. We have $\mathbb{P}_n f$ converges $\mathbb{P} f$ weakly. Therefore, $f(X_n) \xrightarrow{d} f(X)$.

2. Let C_f denotes the set of points on \mathbb{R} where f is continuous. By assumption, we have $\mathbb{P}(x)$. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be arbitrary. For all $\delta > 0$, we denote the following set:

$$B_\delta = \left\{ x \in C_f : \exists y \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } |x - y| < \delta \text{ but } |f(x) - f(y)| \geq \epsilon \right\}$$

In other words, B_δ denotes the set of all continuous points x of f such that we can find a point close to x but its output is not close to $f(x)$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|f(X_n) - f(X)| \geq \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left\{X \notin C_f\right\} \cup \left\{|X_n - X| \geq \delta\right\} \cup \left\{X \in B_\delta\right\}\right) \\ &\leq \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(X \notin C_f)}_{=0} + \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \delta) + \mathbb{P}(X \in B_\delta) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \delta) + \mathbb{P}(X \in B_\delta). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| \geq \delta) = 0$ for all $\delta > 0$ by assumption and $\mathbb{P}(X \in B_\delta) = 0$ when $\delta \rightarrow 0$, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|f(X_n) - f(X)| \geq \epsilon) = 0 \text{ or } f(X_n) \xrightarrow{p} f(X).$$

3. Since f is continuous, for any $\omega \in \Omega$ such that $X_n(\omega) \rightarrow X(\omega)$, we have $f(X_n(\omega)) \rightarrow f(X(\omega))$. Therefore, we have:

$$\left\{ \omega \in \Omega : X_n(\omega) \rightarrow X(\omega) \right\} \subseteq \left\{ \omega \in \Omega : f(X_n(\omega)) \rightarrow f(X(\omega)) \right\}.$$

Therefore, for all $\epsilon > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{P}\left(\left\{ \omega \in \Omega : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(X_n(\omega)) = f(X(\omega)) \right\}\right) \\ &\geq \mathbb{P}\left(\left\{ \omega \in \Omega : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} X_n(\omega) = X(\omega) \right\}\right) = 1, \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have $f(X_n) \xrightarrow{a.s.} f(X)$.

□.

2 Point Estimation

2.1 Properties of Point Estimators

In this section, we will discuss “point estimators”, the desirable properties of classes of point estimators and important results. Firstly, let us define what a point estimator is:

Definition 2.1 (Point Estimator). _____

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random i.i.d sample from a distribution p_{θ_*} over \mathcal{X} that relies on parameter(s) θ_* . Let $\theta \in \Theta$ be a population parameter (population mean, variance, etc). A point estimator for θ is a mapping:

$$\hat{\Theta} : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \Theta, \quad (44)$$

where $\hat{\Theta}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ serves as a “best guess” of the quantity θ based on the available data. Due to the randomness of the sample, the estimator $\hat{\Theta}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is a **random variable**.

2.1.1 Sufficiency

Definition 2.2 (Sufficient Statistics). _____

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim p_{\theta_*}$ be a random sample drawn i.i.d from a distribution with parameters θ_* . Let $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ be a statistic, then it is called a sufficient statistic if the conditional distribution $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}}$ does not depend on θ_* .

Remark 2.1 (Intuition for “Sufficiency”). _____

To give a bit of intuition into what we consider a “sufficient” statistics. Given a random sample \mathbf{X} from a distribution whose parameters are denoted as θ_* . A statistics $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ is **sufficient** for the inference of θ_* iff **once we know \mathbf{U} , there is no further information about θ_* that we can derive from the data \mathbf{X}** . For example, given $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim_{\text{i.i.d}} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and our task is to estimate the expectation μ . Consider the following intuitive example:

- (i) $\mathbf{U}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$: \mathbf{U}_1 is a sufficient statistics because we have used up all the information from the sample \mathbf{X} . More specifically, we have taken the sample mean of all available instances available.
- (ii) $\mathbf{U}_2 = X_1$: While it is unbiased like \mathbf{U}_1 , this is not a sufficient statistics because there are further information (the remaining instances X_2, \dots, X_n) that is yet to be utilized in the random sample \mathbf{X} .

Example 2.1 (Intuition for “Sufficiency” - A Gaussian Illustration). _____

Suppose that we are conducting a survey about children’s height. Suppose that the distribution of heights follows a Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and we are given a random sample of size 2: $X_1, X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Then, we use the following statistics to make inference about μ :

- (i) $\mathbf{U}_1 = X_1$, and
- (ii) $\mathbf{U}_2 = \frac{X_1 + X_2}{2}$.

Now, we analyse the sufficiency of both $\mathbf{U}_1, \mathbf{U}_2$ by calculating the conditional density functions $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_1}$ and $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_2}$ as follows: Let $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, x_2\}$ be a particular observation of the random sample \mathbf{X} and $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2$ be values of $\mathbf{U}_1, \mathbf{U}_2$. We have

(i) **Calculation of $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_1}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_1)$:** Obviously, when $x_1 \neq \mathbf{u}_1$, we have $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_1}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_1) = 0$. On the other hand, if $x_1 = \mathbf{u}_1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_1}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_1) &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2 | \mathbf{U}_1 = \mathbf{u}_1) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 = \mathbf{u}_1, X_2 = x_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp \left[-\frac{(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mu)^2 + (x_2 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right], \end{aligned}$$

which still depends on μ . Therefore, \mathbf{U}_1 is not a sufficient statistics.

(ii) **Calculation of $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_2}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_2)$:** Again, when $x_1 + x_2 \neq \mathbf{u}_2$, $p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_2}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_2) = 0$. Suppose that $x_1 + x_2 = \mathbf{u}_2$, using Bayes rule, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_2}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_2) &= \mathbb{P} \left(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2 \middle| \frac{X_1 + X_2}{2} = \mathbf{u}_2 \right) \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2 | X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2) \mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2)}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2)} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2)}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\mathbf{U}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{2})$. Hence, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{U}_2}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{u}_2) &= \frac{\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp \left[-\frac{(x_1 - \mu)^2 + (x_2 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right]}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left[-\frac{(\mathbf{u}_2 - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right]} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sigma\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[-\frac{-(x_1 - \mu)^2 + (x_2 - \mu)^2 - 2(\mathbf{u}_2 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sigma\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[-\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2\mathbf{u}_2^2}{2\sigma^2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since the above conditional density is independent of μ , it is a sufficient statistics for μ .

Example 2.2 (Bernoulli random variables).

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\theta)$ be a random sample from the Bernoulli distribution. Let $\mathbf{U} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, then \mathbf{U} is a sufficient statistic of θ . To illustrate this, suppose that

$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is an observation of the random sample \mathbf{X} and $\mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u})}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u})} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n, \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i)}{\mathbb{P}(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i)} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n)}{\mathbb{P}(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i)} \\ &= \frac{\theta^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} (1 - \theta)^{n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}}{\mathbb{P}(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, setting $k = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$, The denominator is basically the probability that the Bernoulli variables sums up to k . Hence, we can calculate the denominator as follows:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = k\right) = \binom{n}{k} \theta^k (1 - \theta)^{n-k}.$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}) = \frac{\theta^k (1 - \theta)^{n-k}}{\binom{n}{k} \theta^k (1 - \theta)^{n-k}} = \frac{1}{\binom{n}{k}}.$$

Therefore, the conditional distribution does not depend on θ and \mathbf{U} is a sufficient statistic.

Definition 2.3 (Sufficiency Principle).

If $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ is a sufficient statistic for θ_* , then any inference about θ_* should only depend on the sample \mathbf{X} through \mathbf{U} . In other words, if we estimate θ_* using an estimator $\hat{\theta}_*$, only \mathbf{U} shows up in the formula of $\hat{\theta}_*$, not the sample \mathbf{X} itself. We will see why this is the case in the Factorisation Theorem (**FacT**), which states that we can factorise the density function into a function of \mathbf{U}, θ_* and a function of the observations \mathbf{x} and thus, the inference about θ_* is independent of the observations \mathbf{x} .

Theorem 2.1: (Fisher-Neyman) Factorisation Theorem (**FacT**)

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample with joint density function p_{θ_*} over \mathcal{X}^n . The statistic $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ is sufficient for the parameters θ_* if and only if we can find functions h, g such that:

$$p_{\theta_*}(\mathbf{x}) = g(T(\mathbf{x}), \theta_*) h(\mathbf{x}),$$

for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\theta_* \in \Theta$.

Proof (Factorisation Theorem (**FacT**)).

We have to conduct the proof in both directions.

- $T(\mathbf{X})$ is sufficient \implies Factorisation exists: Let $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ be a sufficient statistics and $\mathbf{u} = T(\mathbf{x})$ be the statistics evaluated on the observations \mathbf{x} . Then, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\theta_*}(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}; \theta_*) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \theta_*) \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \theta_*). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathbf{U} = T(\mathbf{X})$ is a sufficient statistics, $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$ does not depend on $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. Hence, we denote $h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$. Furthermore, $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$ is a function of \mathbf{u} and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. We denote this function as $g(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$ and conclude that the factorisation $p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x}) = h(\mathbf{x})g(T(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$ indeed exists.

- Factorisation exists $\implies T(\mathbf{X})$ is sufficient: Suppose that there exists g, h such that we have the factorisation $p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x}) = g(T(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)h(\mathbf{x})$. We then have:

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) = \frac{p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x})}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)} = \frac{g(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)h(\mathbf{x})}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)}.$$

We denote $A_{\mathbf{u}} = \{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{X}^n : T(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathbf{u}\}$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) &= \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in A_{\mathbf{u}}} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in A_{\mathbf{u}}} p(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in A_{\mathbf{u}}} g(T(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}), \boldsymbol{\theta}_*)h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \\ &= g(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in A_{\mathbf{u}}} h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}). \end{aligned}$$

From the above, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{u}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) = \frac{h(\mathbf{x})}{\sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in A_{\mathbf{u}}} h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})},$$

and the above expression does not depend on $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. Hence, $T(\mathbf{X})$ is a sufficient statistics. \square .

2.1.2 Bias and Efficiency

2.1.3 Consistent Estimator

2.2 Important Results

2.2.1 Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

Definition 2.4 (Likelihood Function).

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample whose distribution belongs to a family of distributions $\mathcal{P} = \{p_{\theta} : \theta \in \Theta\}$. Let $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be an observation of the random sample \mathbf{X} . Then, the likelihood function $L(\theta; \mathbf{x})$ is defined as follows:

$$L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_{\theta}(x_i), \quad \theta \in \Theta. \quad (45)$$

In some cases, we also use the log-likelihood function:

$$\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \log L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i), \quad \theta \in \Theta. \quad (46)$$

Essentially, $L(\theta; \mathbf{x})$ quantifies the likelihood that θ generates the observations \mathbf{x} . In a way, it is the inverse of probability density (mass) functions, we can see the contrast as follows:

- **Probability Density Function:** The parameters are fixed but the observations are random.
- **Likelihood Function:** The observations are fixed but the parameters are variable.

Definition 2.5 (Maximum Likelihood Estimator).

Given $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample whose distribution belongs to a family of distributions $\mathcal{P} = \{p_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$ and let $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be an observation of the random sample \mathbf{X} . The Maximum Likelihood Estimator $\theta_{MLE} \in \Theta$ is the parameter that maximizes the likelihood function:

$$\theta_{MLE} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L(\theta; \mathbf{x}). \quad (47)$$

In the subsequent propositions, we will discuss some of the key properties of MLE.

Proposition 2.1: Consistency of MLE

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample from a distribution p_{θ_*} over \mathcal{X} dependent on a true set of parameters θ_* . Let Θ be the parameters space. Then, the Maximum Likelihood Estimator $\Theta_{MLE} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L(\theta; \mathbf{X})$, which is a random variable, is consistent, meaning $\Theta_{MLE} \xrightarrow{P} \theta_*$, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. $\theta_* \in \Theta$ and Θ is a compact space.
2. $\log p_\theta(x)$ is continuous in θ for almost all $x \in \mathcal{X}$.
3. $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\log p_\theta(X)|] < \infty$.
4. The mapping $\xi \mapsto p_\xi$, $\xi \in \Theta$ is one-to-one (Identifiability).^a

Furthermore, we can also show that Θ_{MLE} is asymptotically unbiased. In other words, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\Theta_{MLE}] = \theta_*$.

^aIn general, it is required that the model is strongly identifiable. However, since the parameters space Θ is compact, this requirement is satisfied.

Proof (Proposition 2.1).

A proof for consistency of MLE can be found in “[Chapter 36 Large sample estimation and hypothesis testing](#)” 1994, Theorem 2.5 but we attempt our own proof anyway. The general proof strategy is listed below:

1. First, prove that $\theta_* = \arg \max_{\xi \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_\xi(X)]$.
2. Then, by **(ULLN)**: $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_\theta(X_i) \xrightarrow{P} \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_\theta(X)]$, $\forall \theta \in \Theta$.
3. Prove that if a stochastic process converges in probability to a deterministic process, then the maximizers of the stochastic process converges in probability to the maximizer of the deterministic process.

To complete the proof, it is sufficient to prove the first point. For any $\theta \in \Theta$, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\log \frac{p_\theta(X)}{p_{\theta_*}(X)} \right] \leq \log \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\frac{p_\theta(X)}{p_{\theta_*}(X)} \right] = \log \int_{\mathcal{X}} \frac{p_\theta(x)}{p_{\theta_*}(x)} p_{\theta_*}(x) dx = \log 1 = 0.$$

Therefore, for all $\theta \in \Theta$: $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_\theta(X)] \leq \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_{\theta_*}(X)]$. Hence, $\theta_* = \arg \max_{\xi \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_\xi(X)]$ as desired. Define the following continuous mappings:

$$M_n = \xi \mapsto \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_\xi(X_i),$$

and $M = \xi \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*}[\log p_\xi(X)]$.

Then, by **(ULLN)**, we have $\|M_n - M\|_\infty \xrightarrow{p} 0$. This means that for any fixed $\epsilon > 0$ and $\delta \in (0, 1)$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N$, with probability of at least $1 - \delta$, we have:

$$|M_n(\hat{\theta}_n) - M(\hat{\theta}_n)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \quad \text{and} \quad |M_n(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - M(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2},$$

simultaneously, where $\hat{\theta}_n = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} M_n(\theta)$. From the above, with probability of at least $1 - \delta$, we have:

$$M(\hat{\theta}_n) \geq M_n(\hat{\theta}_n) - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \geq M_n(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \geq M(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - \epsilon.$$

Hence, we have $M(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - M(\hat{\theta}_n) < \epsilon$ with high probability. Since M is continuous on a compact space, for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a constant $\xi > 0$ such that $|\theta - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*| < \xi \implies |M(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - M(\theta)| < \epsilon$. Hence, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(|\boldsymbol{\theta}_* - \hat{\theta}_n| < \xi) = \mathbb{P}(|M(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) - M(\hat{\theta}_n)| < \epsilon) \geq 1 - \delta.$$

Hence, we have $|\boldsymbol{\theta}_* - \hat{\theta}_n| < \xi$ with high probability. Since δ is chosen arbitrarily, we can take $\delta \rightarrow 0$ and for all $\xi > 0$, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|\boldsymbol{\theta}_* - \hat{\theta}_n| < \xi) = 1 \implies \hat{\theta}_n \xrightarrow{p} \boldsymbol{\theta}_*.$$

□.

Proposition 2.2: Asymptotic Normality of MLE

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample from a distribution $p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$ dependent on a true set of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. Suppose that the MLE is consistent. Then, the Maximum Likelihood Estimator $\Theta_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L(\theta; \mathbf{X})$ is asymptotically normal:

$$\sqrt{n}(\Theta_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)^{-1}). \quad (48)$$

Proof (Proposition 2.2).

By the Mean Value Theorem, for a continuous function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have:

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = f'(c), \quad \text{for some } c \in [a, b].$$

Apply MVT for the log-likelihood function, for some φ_n within the interval formed by $\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$ (hence, φ_n is a random variable since $\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}}$ is random), we have:

$$\ell''(\varphi_n; \mathbf{X}) = \frac{\ell'(\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}}; \mathbf{X}) - \ell'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} = -\frac{\ell'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \quad \left(\ell'(\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}}; \mathbf{X}) = 0 \right).$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_* = -\frac{\ell'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\ell''(\varphi_n; \mathbf{X})} \implies \sqrt{n}(\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) = -\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\ell'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\frac{1}{n}\ell''(\varphi_n; \mathbf{X})}. \quad (\text{A})$$

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \ell'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) &= \sqrt{n} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d}{d\xi} \ln p_\xi(X_i) \right]_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \\
&= \sqrt{n} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; X_i) \right] \\
&= \sqrt{n} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; X_i) - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} [s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; X)]}_0 \right] \\
&\stackrel{d}{\rightarrow} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \text{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} [s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; X)]\right) \quad (\text{CLT}) \\
&= \mathcal{N}(0, \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)).
\end{aligned} \tag{B}$$

We also have:

$$\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\varphi_n; \mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X_i) \Big|_{\xi=\varphi_n} \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X) \Big|_{\xi=\varphi_n} \right]. \quad (\text{WLLN})$$

By the initial assumption, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{MLE}} \xrightarrow{p} \boldsymbol{\theta}_*$ and φ_n lies between $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{MLE}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. Therefore, $\varphi_n \xrightarrow{p} \boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. As a result, by **(CMT)**³, we have $\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X) \Big|_{\xi=\varphi_n} \right] \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X) \Big|_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \right] = -\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)$. Therefore, we have:

$$\frac{1}{n} \ell''(\varphi_n; \mathbf{X}) \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X) \Big|_{\xi=\varphi_n} \right] \xrightarrow{p} -\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*). \tag{C}$$

From Eqns. A, B, C and **(SLUTSKY)** lemma, we have $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{MLE}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_*) \stackrel{d}{\rightarrow} \mathcal{N}(0, \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)^{-1})$, as desired. \square .

2.2.2 Rao-Blackwell Theorem

Theorem 2.2: Rao-Blackwell Theorem **(RB)**

2.2.3 Cramer-Rao Lower Bound

Definition 2.6 (Fisher Information).

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$ be a random sample from a distribution $p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$ with the true unknown parameter $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. The Fisher Information about $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$ in the random sample \mathbf{X} is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*) = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \log L(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \right)^2 \right], \tag{49}$$

where $\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$ denotes the expectation conditioned on $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. The Fisher Information is the total information about $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$ contained in the sample \mathbf{X} .

³The mapping $p \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \ln p_\xi(X) \Big|_{\xi=p} \right]$ is a continuous mapping by the initial assumption that p_θ is continuous in θ for $\theta \in \Theta$.

Remark 2.2.

Some Notes on Fisher Information:

1. The expectation \mathbb{E}_θ conditioned on θ means that the expectation is taken over the sample \mathbf{X} under the hypothesis that θ is the true parameter of all the X_i 's.
2. Inside the expectation is the score function evaluated at θ_* .
3. From two points above, the Fisher Information is essentially calculated as **the variance conditioned on θ_* of the score evaluated at θ_*** .

Proposition 2.3: Alternative Representation of Fisher Information

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim p_{\theta_*}$ be a random sample from a distribution parameterized by a true unknown parameter θ_* . Let $\ell(\theta; \mathbf{X}) = \log L(\theta; \mathbf{X})$ be the log-likelihood function. Then, we have:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) = \text{Var}(s(\theta_*; \mathbf{X})), \quad (50)$$

where $s(\theta_*; \mathbf{X}) = \frac{\partial \ell(\theta_*; \mathbf{X})}{\partial \theta_*}$ is the score evaluated at the true parameter θ_* . Furthermore, we have:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) = -\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} \right]. \quad (51)$$

Proof (Proposition 2.3).

Denote $s(\theta_*; \mathbf{X})$ as the score evaluated at the true parameter θ_* , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(s(\theta_*; \mathbf{X})) &= \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} \right)^2 \right] - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} \right]^2 \\ &= \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \log p_{\xi}(X_i)}{\partial \xi} \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} \right] \\ &= \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} [s(\theta_*; X)]^2, \end{aligned}$$

where X is identically distributed as X_1, \dots, X_n . We claim that $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} [s(\theta_*; X)] = 0$. Let χ be the sample space, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} [s(\theta_*; X)] &= \int_{\chi} p_{\theta_*}(x) \frac{\partial \log p_{\xi}(x)}{\partial \xi} \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} dx \\ &= \int_{\chi} p_{\theta_*}(x) \cdot \frac{1}{p_{\theta_*}(x)} \frac{\partial p_{\theta_*}(x)}{\partial \theta_*} dx \\ &= \int_{\chi} \frac{\partial p_{\theta_*}(x)}{\partial \theta_*} dx \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_*} \int_{\chi} p_{\theta_*}(x) dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_*} 1 = 0. \quad (\text{Leibniz's Differentiation Rule}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have $\boxed{\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) = \text{Var}(s(\theta_*; \mathbf{X}))}$. Now, we prove the second point: $\mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta_*) = -\mathbb{E}_{\theta_*} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\theta_*} \right]$.

Expanding $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})^2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) \right]^2 + \frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})} \frac{\partial^2 L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} \\ &= -\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) \right]^2 + \frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})} \frac{\partial^2 L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, let $P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$ be the probability density function for the random sample \mathbf{X} . Then, essentially, $P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{X}) = L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})$. Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X} \sim P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}} \left[\frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})} \frac{\partial^2 L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} \right] &= \int_{\mathcal{X}^n} \frac{1}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})} \frac{\partial^2 L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{X}^n} \frac{\partial^2 L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} \int_{\mathcal{X}^n} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \quad (\text{Leibniz's Differentiation Rule}) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*^2} 1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have:

$$-\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \ell(\xi; \mathbf{X}) \Big|_{\xi=\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \right] = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}) \right)^2 \right] = \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*),$$

as desired. \square .

Remark 2.3 (Exchanging Derivative and Integral).

Note that in the proof of proposition 2.3, we exchanged the integration and the partial derivative to prove that $\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}[s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})] = 0$. This exchange of differentiation and integral can be done under certain conditions, which are listed in the appendix, section I.1.

Theorem 2.3: Cramer-Rao Lower Bound (CRLB)

Let $\mathbf{X} = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ be a random sample where $X_i \sim p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}$. If $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{X})$ is an estimator (biased or unbiased) for $\boldsymbol{\theta}_*$ based on the random sample \mathbf{X} , then, we have:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{X})) \geq \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)^{-1} \left[\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \mathbb{E}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{X})] \right]^2. \quad (52)$$

When $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ is unbiased, we have $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{X})] = \boldsymbol{\theta}_*$. Hence, we have $\boxed{\text{Var}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{X})) \geq \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)^{-1}}$.

Proof (Cramer-Rao Lower Bound (**CRLB**)).

We make use of the following covariance inequality: For two random variables X, Y , the following inequality holds

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var}(X) \cdot \text{Var}(Y). \quad (53)$$

We denote X, Y as follows:

$$X = \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X}); \quad Y = s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}).$$

Applying the above inequality, we have:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X})) \geq \frac{\text{Cov}(\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X}), s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}))}{\text{Var}(s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}))} = \mathcal{I}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*)^{-1} \text{Cov}(\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X}), s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})).$$

Now, we derive the lower bound for $\text{Cov}(\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X}), s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X}))$. Suppose that the random variables X_i maps from a sample space to χ and $P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} : \chi^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is the probability density for the random sample \mathbf{X} , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X}), s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})) &= \mathbb{E}[\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X})s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})] - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X})]\mathbb{E}[s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{X})]}_{\text{Equals 0}} \\ &= \int_{\chi^n} \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{x})s(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\chi^n} \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{x})\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \ln L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\chi^n} \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{x})\frac{\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})}{L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})}P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\chi^n} \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{x})\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x} \quad (L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x}) = P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_*}(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \int_{\chi^n} \hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{x})L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_*; \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x} \quad (\text{Leibniz Differentiation Rule}) \\ &= \frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}_*} \mathbb{E}[\hat{\Theta}(\mathbf{X})]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we obtain the desired lower bound. □.

3 Concentration Inequalities

3.1 Sub-Gaussian Distributions

A random variable X is called “sub-Gaussian” if its distribution has a strong tail decay similar to that of a Gaussian distribution. More precisely, the tail of X ’s probability density/mass function is dominated by the tail of a Gaussian distribution, hence the name “sub-Gaussian”.

Sub-Gaussian is a particularly interesting family of random variables because by modelling random events using sub-Gaussian distributions, we can bound the probability of very rare events happening at the tail. Furthermore, sub-Gaussianity implies the following properties:

- (i) Bounded **tail probability**.
- (ii) Bounded **moment**.
- (iii) Bounded **moment generating function** (for X and X^2).
- (iv) Bounded **sub-Gaussian norm***.

Definition 3.1 (Sub-Gaussian Random Variable).

A random variable X is called sub-Gaussian if there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that:

$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp(-t^2/C^2). \quad (54)$$

Definition 3.2 (Sub-Gaussian Norm).

Let X be a random variable. Then, we denote the sub-Gaussian norm of X as:

$$\|X\|_{\psi_2} = \inf \left\{ t > 0 : \mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left(X^2/t^2 \right) \right] \leq 2 \right\}. \quad (55)$$

From the above definition and the definition of sub-Gaussian variables, we can deduce that X is sub-Gaussian if and only if $\|X\|_{\psi_2} < \infty$. Furthermore, the intuition behind $\|\cdot\|_{\psi_2}$ norm is that it measures the light-tailed-ness of a random variable. In other words, **the smaller the sub-Gaussian norm, the faster the tail decays**.

Definition 3.3 (Sub-Gaussian Variance Proxy).

Let X be a sub-Gaussian random variable. Then, we say that X is sub-Gaussian with variance proxy σ^2 if:

$$M_X(\lambda) \leq \exp(\lambda^2 \sigma^2 / 2), \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (56)$$

We denote that $X \in \mathcal{G}(\sigma^2)$.

Proposition 3.1: Properties of Sub-Gaussian Variables

Let X be a random variable with mean μ . Then, the following properties are equivalent:

- (i) **Sub-Gaussianity (bounded tail probability)**: There exists $K_1 > 0$ such that

$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{K_1^2}\right). \quad (57)$$

- (ii) **Bounded p -moment**: There exists $K_2 > 0$ such that

$$\|X\|_{L^p} = (\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{1/p} \leq K_2 \sqrt{p}, \quad \forall p \geq 1. \quad (58)$$

- (iii) **Bounded MGF (of X^2)**: There exists $K_3 > 0$ such that

$$M_{X^2}(\lambda^2) \leq \exp(K_3^2 \lambda^2), \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } |\lambda| < \frac{1}{K_3}. \quad (59)$$

- (iv) **Bounded MGF (of X)**: There exists $K_4 > 0$ such that

$$M_{X-\mu}(\lambda) \leq \exp(K_4^2 \lambda^2), \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (60)$$

In other words, $X - \mu$ has a variance proxy of $\sigma^2 \leq 2K_4^2$.

- (v) **Bounded sub-Gaussian norm**: There exists $K_5 > 0$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\exp\left(X^2/K_5^2\right)\right] \leq 2. \quad (61)$$

In other words, $\|X\|_{\psi_2} \leq K_5$.

The parameters K_1, \dots, K_5 differ from each other by at most an absolute constant. Meaning, there exists a constant C independent of K_1, \dots, K_5 such that $K_i \leq CK_j$ for any two $i, j \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$.

Proof (Proposition 3.1).

We prove that (i) \implies (ii) \implies (iii) \implies (v) then prove that (v) \implies (i). This means that the statements (i), (ii), (iii), (v) are equivalent. Then, we prove that (ii) \iff (iv). Without loss of generality, assume that $K_1 = 1$ because we can rescale X to X/K_1 .

1. (i) \implies (ii): By the integral identity for p^{th} moments, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}|X|^p &= \int_0^\infty pt^{p-1} \mathbb{P}(|X| > t) dt \\ &\leq 2p \int_0^\infty t^{p-1} e^{-t^2} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty u^{z-1} e^{-u} du$. By the change of variable, let $u = t^2$ (then, we have $du = 2t dt$). We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}|X|^p &\leq p \int_0^\infty (\sqrt{u})^{p-2} e^{-u} du \\ &= p \int_0^\infty u^{p/2-1} e^{-u} du = p\Gamma(p/2). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\Gamma(z) < 3z^z$ for all $z \geq 1/2$, we have $\mathbb{E}|X|^p \leq 3p(p/2)^{p/2}$. Taking p^{th} root from both sides, we can have $K_2 = 3$ since $[3p(p/2)^{p/2}]^{1/p} \leq 3\sqrt{p}$.

2. (ii) \implies (iii): Using the identity $e^x = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} M_{X^2}(\lambda^2) &= \mathbb{E} \exp(X^2 \lambda^2) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda^2 X^2)^k}{k!} \right] \\ &= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{2k} \mathbb{E}[X^{2k}]}{k!}. \end{aligned}$$

By property (ii), we have $\mathbb{E}[X^{2k}] \leq K_2^{2k} (2k)^k$. By Stirling's approximation, we have $k! \geq (k/e)^k$. Combining the bounds, we have:

$$M_{X^2}(\lambda^2) \leq 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{2k} K_2^{2k} (2k)^k}{(k/e)^k} = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2k \lambda^2 K_2^2)^k}{(k/e)^k} = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (2e \lambda^2 K_2^2)^k.$$

When $2e \lambda^2 K_2^2 < 1$, we have the sum of geometric series that converges to $\frac{1}{1-2e \lambda^2 K_2^2}$. Hence, we need $|\lambda| < \frac{1}{K_2 \sqrt{2e}}$. Therefore, property (iii) holds with $K_3 = K_2 \sqrt{2e}$.

3. (iii) \implies (v): Let $K_5 = \frac{K_3}{\sqrt{\ln 2}}$ and set $\lambda = \frac{1}{K_5}$. Since $K_5^{-1} < \frac{1}{K_3}$, statement (iii) holds with $\lambda = K_5^{-1}$. Therefore:

$$\mathbb{E} \exp \left[X^2 / K_5^2 \right] \leq \exp(K_3^2 / K_5^2) = \exp(\ln 2) = 2.$$

4. (v) \implies (i): Let $K_5 > 0$ be the constant that makes (v) hold. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|X| \geq t) &= \mathbb{P}(X^2 \geq t^2) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(e^{X^2/K_5^2} \geq e^{t^2/K_5^2}\right) \\ &\leq \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{K_5^2}\right) \mathbb{E}\left[e^{X^2/K_5^2}\right] \quad (\text{Markov's Inequality}) \\ &\leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{K_5^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (i) holds with $K_1 \geq K_5$. From here on, we have proved that the statements (i), (ii), (iii) and (v) are equivalent.

5. (i) \iff (iv): This relationship is proven below in theorem 3.1.

□.

Theorem 3.1: Bounded Tail Probability $\iff \mathcal{SG}$ (BTP – SG)

Let X be a random variable with mean $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mu$ and Z be the centered random variable $Z = X - \mu$. Then, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$,

- (i) $Z \in \mathcal{SG}(\sigma^2) \implies \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$ for some $\sigma > 0$.
- (ii) $\mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\xi^2}\right) \implies Z \in \mathcal{SG}(16\xi^2)$ for some $\xi > 0$.

Proof (Theorem **(BTP – SG)**).

We prove each bullet point one by one.

- (i) From the definition, for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $M_Z(\lambda) = \mathbb{E} \exp[\lambda Z] \leq \exp\left(\frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right)$. For $\lambda > 0$ and for all $t > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left\{X - \mu \geq t\right\} \vee \left\{X - \mu \leq -t\right\}\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) + \mathbb{P}(Z \leq -t) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(e^{\lambda Z} \geq e^{\lambda t}) + \mathbb{P}(Z \leq -t) \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have the following inequalities:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{P}(e^{\lambda Z} \geq e^{\lambda t}) &\leq e^{-\lambda t} M_Z(\lambda) & (\text{Markov's Inequality}) \\ \mathbb{P}(Z \leq -t) &\leq e^{-\lambda t} M_Z(-\lambda) & (\text{Chernoff's Bound}) \end{cases},$$

where the second inequality comes from the left-tail Chernoff's Bound⁴. As a result, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) &\leq e^{-\lambda t} [M_Z(\lambda) + M_Z(-\lambda)] \\ &\leq 2e^{-\lambda t} \exp\left(\frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right) \\ &= 2 \exp\left(-\lambda t + \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Using Lagrange multiplier to solve for λ , we have $\lambda = \frac{t}{\sigma^2}$. Hence, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

- (ii) Firstly, we prove that bounded tail probability implies that $\mathbb{E}|Z|^{2q} \leq q!(4\xi^2)^q$ for all integers $q \geq 1$. Using the identity $\mathbb{E}|Z|^q = \int_0^\infty q t^{q-1} \mathbb{P}(|Z| \geq t) dt$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}|Z|^{2q} &= 2q \int_0^\infty t^{2q-1} \mathbb{P}(|Z| \geq t) dt \\ &\leq 4q \int_0^\infty t^{2q-1} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\xi^2}\right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Letting $u = \frac{t^2}{2\xi^2}$, hence $t^2 = 2u\xi^2$ and $dt = \frac{\xi^2 du}{t}$, the above integral becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}|Z|^{2q} &\leq 4q\xi^2 \int_0^\infty t^{2q-2} e^{-u} du \\ &= 4q\xi^2 \int_0^\infty (2u\xi^2)^{q-1} e^{-u} du \\ &= 2q \cdot (2\xi^2)^q \underbrace{\int_0^\infty u^{q-1} e^{-u} du}_{\Gamma(q)} \\ &= 2q!(2\xi^2)^q \leq q!(4\xi^2)^q. \end{aligned}$$

⁴ $\mathbb{P}(X \leq a) \leq e^{-sa} M_X(s)$ for all $s < 0$. Hence, $\mathbb{P}(Z \leq -t) \leq e^{st} M_Z(s)$ for all $s < 0$. Setting $s = -\lambda$, we have $\mathbb{P}(Z \leq -t) \leq e^{-\lambda t} M_Z(-\lambda)$.

Let \tilde{Z} be the i.i.d copy of Z . Hence, $Z - \tilde{Z}$ is symmetric about 0, which means that $\mathbb{E}[(Z - \tilde{Z})^p] = 0$ for odd-order p -moments. Therefore, For all $\lambda > 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} M_Z(\lambda)M_{-\tilde{Z}}(\lambda) &= M_{Z-\tilde{Z}}(\lambda) \quad (\text{Due to independence}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \exp \left(\lambda(Z - \tilde{Z}) \right) \\ &= 1 + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{2q} \mathbb{E}[(Z - \tilde{Z})^{2q}]}{(2q)!}. \end{aligned}$$

By the convexity of $f(z) = z^{2q}$, for all $t \in (0, 1)$, we have:

$$\left[tZ + (1-t)(-\tilde{Z}) \right]^{2q} \leq tZ^{2q} + (1-t)\tilde{Z}^{2q}.$$

Setting $t = \frac{1}{2}$, we have:

$$\left[\frac{Z - \tilde{Z}}{2} \right]^{2q} \leq \frac{Z^{2q} + \tilde{Z}^{2q}}{2} \implies (Z - \tilde{Z})^{2q} \leq 2^{2q-1}(Z^{2q} + \tilde{Z}^{2q}).$$

As a result, we have $\mathbb{E}[(Z - \tilde{Z})^{2q}] \leq 2^{2q-1}(\mathbb{E}[Z^{2q}] + \mathbb{E}[\tilde{Z}^{2q}]) = 2^{2q}\mathbb{E}[Z^{2q}]$. Plugging this back to the formula of $M_{Z-\tilde{Z}}(\lambda)$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda Z}]\mathbb{E}[e^{-\lambda \tilde{Z}}] &\leq 1 + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{2q} 2^{2q} \mathbb{E}[Z^{2q}]}{(2q)!} \\ &\leq 1 + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{2q} 2^{2q} (4\xi^2)^q q!}{(2q)!}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathbb{E}[e^{-\lambda \tilde{Z}}] \geq 1$ for all $\lambda > 0$ and

$$\frac{(2q)!}{q!} = \prod_{j=1}^q (q+j) \geq \prod_{j=1}^q (2j) = 2^q q!,$$

We have:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda Z}] \leq 1 + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2\lambda^2 \cdot 4\xi^2)^q}{q!} = e^{8\lambda^2 \xi^2}.$$

Hence, $Z \in \mathcal{SG}(16\xi^2)$.

□.

I . Appendix

I.1 Leibniz Differentiation Rule

Leibniz Differentiation/Integral Rule refers to the conditions by which differentiation and integration can be exchanged. Essentially, let Ω be a measure space and $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open subset. Then, if a function $f : A \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies:

1. For all $x \in A$, $\omega \mapsto f(x, \omega)$ is a measurable function in ω (f is a Caratheodory Function).
2. For almost all $\omega \in \Omega$, $\frac{\partial f(x, \omega)}{\partial x}$ exists for all $x \in A$.
3. For almost all $\omega \in \Omega$, there is an integrable function $h : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $|f(x, \omega)| \leq h(\omega)$ for all $x \in A$.

Then, we have:

1. $g(x) = \int_{\Omega} f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega)$ is continuous.
2. $D_i g(x) = \int_{\Omega} D_i f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega)$.

Definition I.1 (Caratheodory Function). _____

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ be a measure space and $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. We say $f : A \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a *Caratheodory Function* if it satisfies:

1. For all $x \in A$: $\omega \mapsto f(x, \omega)$ is \mathcal{F} -measurable.
2. For all $\omega \in \Omega$: $x \mapsto f(x, \omega)$ is continuous.

We also say that f is a *Caratheodory function* if it is measurable in ω and continuous in x .

Proposition I.1: Leibniz Differentiation Rule

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ be a measure space and $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open. Let the function $f : A \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy the following:

1. f is a Caratheodory function.
2. There exists $h : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $|f(x, \omega)| \leq h(\omega)$ for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$ for all $x \in A$.

Then, if we define $g(x) = \int_{\Omega} f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega)$, we have:

- (i) g is continuous.
- (ii) $D_i g(x) = \int_{\Omega} D_i f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega)$.

Proof (Proposition I.1). _____

We prove the above points one by one:

- (i) Suppose that $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset A$ is a sequence such that $x_n \rightarrow x \in A$. We have to prove that $g(x_n) \rightarrow g(x)$. Since f is a Caratheodory function, we have $x \mapsto f(x, \omega)$ is continuous for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$. Therefore, $f(x_n, \omega) \rightarrow f(x, \omega)$ for almost all $\omega \in \Omega$. Then, by the Dominated Convergence Theorem⁵:

$$\int_{\Omega} f(x_n, \omega) d\mu(\omega) \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega).$$

Hence, we have $g(x_n) \rightarrow g(x)$ as desired.

⁵DCT is applied for the sequence of functions $\{k_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ where $k_n : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $k_n(\omega) = f(x_n, \omega)$.

(ii) Let e_i denotes the i^{th} standard basis in \mathbb{R}^n . We have:

$$D_i f(x, \omega) = \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \xi e_i, \omega) - f(x, \omega)}{\xi}.$$

Furthermore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} D_i g(x) &= \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(x + \xi e_i) - g(x)}{\xi} \\ &= \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} \xi^{-1} \left[\int_{\Omega} f(x + \xi e_i, \omega) d\mu(\omega) - \int_{\Omega} f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega) \right] \\ &= \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} \frac{f(x + \xi e_i, \omega) - f(x, \omega)}{\xi} d\mu(\omega) \end{aligned}$$

By the Mean Value Theorem, there exists a point $y(\xi, \omega)$ between x and $x + \xi e_i$ such that:

$$f(x + \xi e_i, \omega) - f(x, \omega) = \xi D_i f(y(\xi, \omega), \omega).$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} D_i g(x) &= \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} D_i f(y(\xi, \omega), \omega) d\mu(\omega) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} D_i f(y(n^{-1}, \omega)) d\mu(\omega) \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_i f(y(n^{-1}, \omega)) d\mu(\omega) \quad (\text{Dominated Convergence Theorem}). \end{aligned}$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have $y(n^{-1}, \omega) \rightarrow x$ since it lies between x and $x + \frac{e_i}{n}$. Hence, we have $D_i f(y(n^{-1}, \omega), \omega) \rightarrow D_i f(x, \omega)$. Therefore, $D_i g(x) = \int_{\Omega} D_i f(x, \omega) d\mu(\omega)$ as desired.

□.

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IV . Important Propositions

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V . To-do List

1. (**DONE**) State and prove the Leibniz Differentiation Rule.
2. (**DONE**) State and prove the Cramer-Rao Lower Bound (CRLB).
3. (**IN-PROGRESS**) State and prove the Rao-Blackwell Theorem + Work on sufficiency principle.
4. (**DONE**) Prove the Asymptotic Normality of the MLE.
5. (**DONE**) Prove the properties of sub-Gaussian variables.
6. (**DONE**) Prove the relationship between bounded tail probability and sub-Gaussianity (Thm. 2.1 from Boucheron et. al).
7. (**IN-PROGRESS**) Create a brief chapter on Bayesian inference.
8. (**IN-PROGRESS**) Connect Bayesian inference to frequentist inference using the BvM theorem.
9. (**IN-PROGRESS**) Continue the “Concentration Inequality” chapter.
10. (**IN-PROGRESS**) Revisit the (**ULLN**) under learning theory’s perspective.

VI . References

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