

[Lec 23]

Convergence in probability to a constant $X_n \xrightarrow{P} c$ means

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \lim P(|X_n - c| \geq \varepsilon) = 0.$$

Thm: If X_n has a finite variance for all n and $E[X_n] = \mu$ for all n , then...
First consider Chebyshev's Inequality:

$$P(|X_n - \mu| \geq \varepsilon) \leq \frac{\sigma_n^2}{\varepsilon^2} \quad \text{now take limits wrt } n \text{ of both sides!}$$

$$\lim P(|X_n - \mu| \geq \varepsilon) \leq \lim \frac{\sigma_n^2}{\varepsilon^2}$$

Since probabilities are in $[0, 1]$ if the rhs is 0, then the inequality becomes an equality. Thus, if we show:

$$\lim \frac{\sigma_n^2}{\varepsilon^2} = 0 \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{P} \mu$$

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$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \lim \sigma_n^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lim \sigma_n^2 = 0$$

The var
"large"

e.g. $X_n \sim U(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})$ WTS $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$

$$\mu = E[X_n] = 0, \sigma_n^2 = \frac{(\frac{1}{n} - (-\frac{1}{n}))^2}{12} = \frac{4}{12n^2}$$

$$\lim \sigma_n^2 = \lim \frac{4}{12n^2} = 0 \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0.$$

Another e.g. $X_n \sim N(0, \frac{1}{n})$ WTS $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$

$$\mu = 0, \sigma_n^2 = \frac{1}{n} \quad \lim \sigma_n^2 = \lim \frac{1}{n} = 0 \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$$

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be iid w/ mean μ and variance σ^2 both finite.

$$\bar{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum X_i \quad E[\bar{X}_n] = \mu, \text{Var}[\bar{X}] = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$\lim \text{Var}[\bar{X}] = \lim \frac{\sigma^2}{n} = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{X} \xrightarrow{P} \mu.$$

This is called the "weak" "weak law of large numbers" (WLLN).

The average converges to its mean w/a "large # of samples (n)".

(You actually don't need a finite variance for this to be true (see H.W.) proof in HW)

This is called weak b/c convergence in prob. is actually a weak type of convergence. We don't have time to talk about "strong convergence".

The third type of convergence is called "convergence in law" or "convergence in L^r norm" where $r \geq 1$. As before, we will only discuss convergence in law to a constant c . So:

$$X_n \xrightarrow{L^r} c \text{ means } \lim E[|X_n - c|^r] = 0.$$

E.g: $X_n \xrightarrow{L^1} c$ means $\lim E[|X - c|] = 0$ "convergence in mean"

$$X_n \xrightarrow{L^2} c \text{ means } \lim E[(X - c)^2] = 0$$

"mean square convergence"

A good

E.g.

$$X_n \sim U(0, \frac{1}{n})$$

$$n \mathbb{1}_{x \in [0, \frac{1}{n}]}$$

WTS $X_n \xrightarrow{L^r} 0$ $\lim E[|X_n - 0|^r] = \lim E[X^r]$

$$= \lim \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^r n \mathbb{1}_{x \in [0, \frac{1}{n}]} dx$$

$$= \lim n \int_0^{\frac{1}{n}} x^r dx = \lim n \left[\frac{x^{r+1}}{r+1} \right]_0^{\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{1}{r+1} \lim n \left(\frac{1}{n} \right)^{r+1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{r+1} \lim \frac{1}{n^r} \approx 0.$$

Which convergence is stronger? Law or probability?

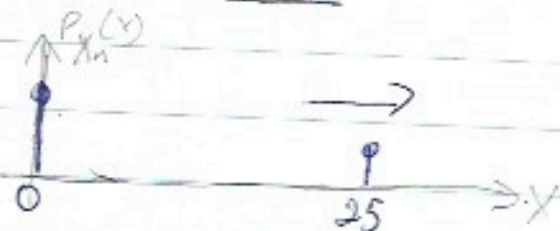
$$X_n \xrightarrow{L^r} c \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{P} c \quad \forall r \geq 1$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim P(|X_n - c| \geq \varepsilon) &= \lim P(|X_n - c|^r \geq \varepsilon^r) \leq \lim \frac{E[|X_n - c|^r]}{\varepsilon^r} \\ &= \frac{1}{\varepsilon^r} \lim E[|X_n - c|^r] \\ &= 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$X_n \xrightarrow{P} c \not\Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{L^r} c \quad \text{Counterexample:}$$

$$X_n \sim \begin{cases} n^2 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{n} \\ 0 & \text{w.p. } 1 - \frac{1}{n} \end{cases}$$



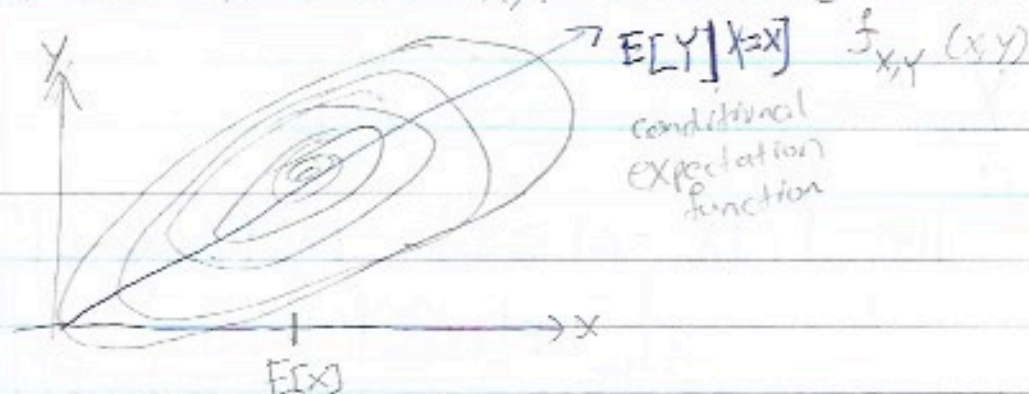
It's clear that $X_n \xrightarrow{P} 0$ but...

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_n^r] &= \sum_{x \in \{0, n^2\}} x^r P(x) \\ &= 0^r (1 - \frac{1}{n}) + (n^2)^r \frac{1}{n} = n^{2r-1} = n \end{aligned}$$

Complete the
Unit

Law of Iterated Expectation

Consider two r.v.'s X, Y and their joint density



Here's a nice identity:

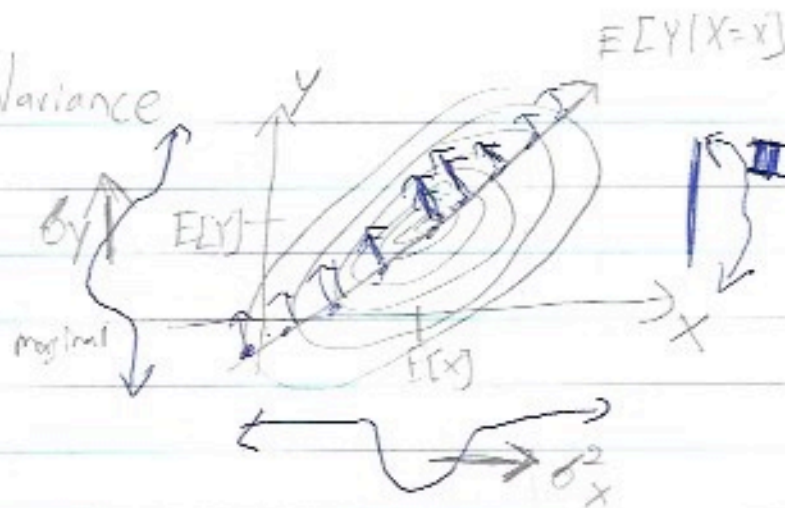
$$E[Y] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} y f_Y(y) dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}} y \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy =$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} y \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{Y|X}(y,x) f_X(x) dx dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} y f_{Y|X}(y,x) f_X(x) dy dx$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_X(x) \int_{\mathbb{R}} y f_{Y|X}(y,x) dy dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}} E[Y|X=x] f_X(x) dx$$

$$= E_X[E_Y[Y|X=x]]$$

Law of Total Variance



Here's a nice identity:

$$\text{Var}[Y] = E[Y^2] - E[Y]^2$$

$$= E_x[E_y[Y^2|X]] - E_x[E_y[Y|X]]^2$$

$$= E_x[\text{Var}_Y[Y^*|X] + E_r[Y^*|X]^2] - E_x[E_y[Y|X]]^2$$

$$= E_x[\text{Var}_Y[Y^*|X]] + E_x[E_y[Y^*|X]^2] - E_x[E[Y|X]]^2$$

$$= E_x[\text{Var}_Y[Y|X]] + \underbrace{E_x[C^2]}_{\text{Var}_X[C]} - E_x[C]^2$$

$$\text{Var}_Y[Y] = \underbrace{E_x[\text{Var}_Y[Y|X]]}_I + \underbrace{\text{Var}_X[E_r[E_y[Y|X]]]}_{II}$$

(I) Mean of the conditional variances. This is large when

(II) Variance of the conditional means. This will be large when the CDF line is tilted in place of high X density.

