

Homework 4, Part I: Concentration Inequalities and Law of Large Numbers

Submission Guidelines: Please combine all your write-ups (photos/scanned copies are acceptable; please make sure that the electronic files are of good quality and reader-friendly) into [one single .pdf file](#) and submit the file via E3.

Problem 1 (Techniques of Chernoff Bound)

(12+12=24 points)

Let X_1, \dots, X_N be non-negative independent random variables with continuous distributions (but X_1, \dots, X_N are not necessarily identically distributed). Assume that the PDFs of X_i 's are uniformly bounded by 1.

(a) Show that for every i , $E[\exp(-tX_i)] \leq \frac{1}{t}$, for all $t > 0$.

(b) By using (a), show that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, we have

$$P\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i \leq \varepsilon N\right) \leq (e\varepsilon)^N.$$

(Hint: For any $t > 0$, $P(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i \leq \varepsilon N) = P(e^{t \sum_{i=1}^N X_i} \leq e^{t\varepsilon N}) = P(e^{-t \sum_{i=1}^N X_i} \geq e^{-t\varepsilon N})$)

Problem 2 (Strong Law of Large Numbers)

(12 points)

Consider two sequences of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots and Y_1, Y_2, \dots defined on the same sample space. Suppose that X_n converges to a and Y_n converges to b , almost surely. Show that $X_n \cdot Y_n$ converges to $a \cdot b$, almost surely. (Hint: Consider two events A, B defined as $A = \{\omega : X_n(\omega) \text{ does not converge to } a\}$ and $B = \{\omega : Y_n(\omega) \text{ does not converge to } b\}$)

Problem 3 (Convergence in Probability)

(12+12=24 points)

A sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots is said to converge to a number c **in the mean square**, if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E[(X_n - c)^2] = 0.$$

(a) Show that convergence in the mean square implies convergence in probability. (Hint: For every $\varepsilon > 0$, consider $P(|X_n - c| \geq \varepsilon)$ and use Markov's inequality)

(b) Please construct an example that shows that “convergence in probability” does not imply “convergence in the mean square.”