

SGD - commuting gradient and expectation

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Let $L_D(\omega) = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim D} l(\omega, z)$. Is $\frac{d}{d\omega} L_D(\omega) = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim D} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} l(\omega, z)$?

Answer: Sometimes

Example $z \sim \text{Unif}(\{\pm 1\})$, $l(\omega, 1)$ isn't differentiable, $l(\omega, -1) := -l(\omega, 1)$
so $L_D(\omega) = 0$ which is differentiable

Example let $L_D(\omega) = |\omega|$ for $\omega \in (-\pi, \pi)$

the Fourier series is $= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^2} \cos((2n-1)\omega)$

So

$$\frac{\pi}{2} - |\omega| = \frac{4}{\pi} \cdot c \cdot \mathbb{E}_{z \sim D} \cos((2z-1)\omega)$$

not differentiable
at $\omega=0$

where $P[z=n] = \frac{1}{c \cdot (2n-1)^2}$ c a normalization constant

$l(\omega, z) = \cos((2z-1)\omega)$ is differentiable.

OR...

Use $L_D(\omega) = \omega$ which has Fourier series $\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin^2(n\omega)}{n^2}$ $\omega \in (0, \pi)$
 \uparrow not periodic \uparrow periodic
... so discontinuities at $0, \pi, \dots$

OR... $L_D(\omega) = \frac{\omega^2}{4} - \frac{\pi}{2}\omega + \frac{\pi^2}{6}$, Fourier Series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(n\omega)}{n^2}$ $\omega \in [0, 2\pi]$

Thm (1D case) cf. Folland Thm 2.2.7

Let $l: \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $\mathcal{H} = [a, b]$. If $\forall \omega \in \mathcal{H}, \mathbb{E} |l(\omega, z)| < \infty$

and $\frac{\partial l}{\partial \omega}$ exists, and $\exists g: \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ st.

$(\forall \omega, z) \quad \left| \frac{\partial l}{\partial \omega}(\omega, z) \right| \leq g(z)$ then

1) $L_D(\omega) := \mathbb{E}_{z \sim D} l(\omega, z)$ is differentiable, and

2) $\frac{d}{d\omega} L_D(\omega) = \mathbb{E}_z \frac{\partial l}{\partial \omega}(\omega, z)$

Proof: Lebesgue's Dominated Convergence Thm