# Recap: Multi-dimensional Gaussian density

 $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \cdots, X_n)^T$  are said to be jointly Gaussian if

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}$$

- $E\mathbf{X} = \boldsymbol{\mu}$  and  $\Sigma_X = \Sigma$ .
- ▶ The moment generating function is given by

$$M_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{s}) = e^{\mathbf{s}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{s}}$$

 $\qquad \qquad \mathbf{W} \text{hen } X,Y \text{ are jointly Gaussian, the joint density is given by }$ 

$$f_{XY}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x\sigma_y\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \left(\frac{(x-\mu_x)^2}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{(y-\mu_y)^2}{\sigma_y^2} - \frac{2\rho(x-\mu_x)(y-\mu_y)}{\sigma_x\sigma_y}\right)}$$

### Recap: Properties

- The multi-dimensional Gaussian density has some important properties.
- ▶ If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are jointly Gaussian then they are independent if they are uncorrelated.
- ▶ If  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be jointly Gaussian (with zero means) then there is an orthogonal transform  $\mathbf{Y} = A\mathbf{X}$  such that  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are jointly Gaussian and independent.
- ▶  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are jointly Gaussian if and only if  $\mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}$  is Gaussian for for all non-zero  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

- Suppose  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \cdots, X_n)^T$  be jointly Gaussian and let  $W = \mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}$ .
- Let  $\mu_X$  and  $\Sigma_X$  denote the mean vector and covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{X}$ . Then

$$\mu_w \triangleq EW = \mathbf{t}^T \mu_X; \quad \sigma_w^2 \triangleq \mathsf{Var}(W) = \mathbf{t}^T \Sigma_X \mathbf{t}$$

ightharpoonup The mgf of W is given by

$$M_W(u) = E\left[e^{uW}\right] = E\left[e^{u\mathbf{t}^T\mathbf{X}}\right]$$
$$= M_X(u\mathbf{t}) = e^{u\mathbf{t}^T\mu_x + \frac{1}{2}u^2\mathbf{t}^T\Sigma_x\mathbf{t}}$$
$$= e^{u\mu_w + \frac{1}{2}u^2\sigma_w^2}$$

- showing that W is Gaussian
- Shows density of  $X_i$  is Gaussian for each i. For example, if we take  $\mathbf{t} = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)^T$  then  $\mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}$  would be  $X_1$ .

Now suppose  $W = \mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}$  is Gaussian for all  $\mathbf{t} \neq 0$ .

$$M_W(u) = e^{u\mu_w + \frac{1}{2}u^2\sigma_w^2} = e^{u\mathbf{t}^T\mu_X + \frac{1}{2}u^2\mathbf{t}^T\Sigma_X\mathbf{t}}$$

► This implies

$$E\left[e^{u \mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}}\right] = e^{u \mathbf{t}^T \mu_X + \frac{1}{2} u^2 \mathbf{t}^T \Sigma_X \mathbf{t}}, \ \forall u \in \Re, \forall \mathbf{t} \in \Re^n, \ \mathbf{t} \neq 0$$

$$E\left[e^{\mathbf{t}^T \mathbf{X}}\right] = e^{\mathbf{t}^T \mu_X + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}^T \Sigma_X \mathbf{t}}, \ \forall \mathbf{t}$$

This implies X is jointly Gaussian.

► This is a defining property of multidimensional Gaussian density

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^T$  be jointly Gaussian.
- ▶ Let A be a  $k \times n$  matrix with rank k.
- ▶ Then Y = AX is jointly Gaussian.
- ► We will once again show this using the moment generating function.
- Let  $\mu_x$  and  $\Sigma_x$  denote mean vector and covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{X}$ . Similarly  $\mu_y$  and  $\Sigma_y$  for  $\mathbf{Y}$
- We have  $\mu_y = A\mu_x$  and

$$\Sigma_{y} = E \left[ (\mathbf{Y} - \mu_{y})(\mathbf{Y} - \mu_{y})^{T} \right]$$

$$= E \left[ (A(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x}))(A(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x}))^{T} \right]$$

$$= E \left[ A(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x})(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x})^{T} A^{T} \right]$$

$$= A E \left[ (\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x})(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{x})^{T} \right] A^{T} = A \Sigma_{x} A^{T}$$

► The mgf of Y is

$$\begin{split} M_Y(\mathbf{s}) &= E\left[e^{\mathbf{s}^T\mathbf{Y}}\right] \quad (\mathbf{s} \in \Re^k) \\ &= E\left[e^{\mathbf{s}^TA\mathbf{X}}\right] \\ &= M_X(A^T\mathbf{s}) \\ &= (\operatorname{Recall} M_X(\mathbf{t}) = e^{\mathbf{t}^T\mu_x + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}^T\Sigma_x\mathbf{t}}) \\ &= e^{\mathbf{s}^TA\mu_x + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{s}^TA\Sigma_xA^T\mathbf{s}} \\ &= e^{\mathbf{s}^T\mu_y + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{s}^T\Sigma_y\mathbf{s}} \end{split}$$

This shows Y is jointly Gaussian

▶ Why did we assume A has rank k?

- **X** is jointly Gaussian and A is a  $k \times n$  matrix with rank k.
- ▶ Then Y = AX is jointly Gaussian.
- ► This shows all marginals of X are gaussian
- $\blacktriangleright$  For example, if you take A to be

$$A = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

then 
$$Y = (X_1, X_2)^T$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^T$  is a Gaussian vector when  $X_1, \dots X_n$  are jointly Gaussian.
- ▶ They have many interesting special properties.
- $\triangleright$   $X_i$  are independent iff they are uncorrelated
- ▶ t<sup>T</sup>X being Gaussian for every non-zero t is a defining property of Gaussian vectors.

- ► Finding the distribution of a rv by calculating its mgf is useful in many situations.
- ▶ Let  $X_1, X_2, \cdots$  be iid with mgf  $M_X(t)$ .
- ▶ Let  $S_N = \sum_{i=1}^N X_i$  where N is a positive integer valued rv which is independent of all  $X_i$ .
- We want to find out the distribution of  $S_N$ .
- We can calculate mgf of  $S_N$  in terms of  $M_X$  and distribution of N.
- ▶ We can use properties of conditional expectation for this

▶ The mgf of  $S_N$  is  $M_{S_N}(t) = E\left[e^{tS_N}\right]$ 

$$E\left[e^{tS_N} \mid N=n\right] = E\left[e^{t\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i} \mid N=n\right]$$

$$= E\left[e^{t\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i} \mid N=n\right]$$

$$= E\left[e^{t\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i}\right] = E\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n} e^{tX_i}\right]$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} E\left[e^{tX_i}\right] = (M_X(t))^n$$

► Hence we get

$$E\left[e^{tS_N}\mid N\right] = \left(M_X(t)\right)^N$$

 $\blacktriangleright$  We can now find mgf of  $S_N$  as

$$M_{S_N}(t) = E \left[ e^{tS_N} \right]$$

$$= E \left[ E \left[ e^{tS_N} \mid N \right] \right]$$

$$= E \left[ \left( M_X(t) \right)^N \right]$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( M_X(t) \right)^n f_N(n)$$

$$= G_N(M_X(t))$$

where  $G_N(s) = Es^N$  is the generating function of N

▶ This method is useful for finding distribution of  $S_N$  when we can recognize the distribution from its mgf

- We can also find distribution function of  $S_N$  directly using the technique of conditional expectations.
- ▶  $F_{S_N}(s) = P[S_N \le s]$  and we know how to find probabilities of events using conditional expectation.

$$P\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{i} \leq s\right] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{i} \leq s \mid N=n\right] P[N=n]$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_{i} \leq s\right] P[N=n]$$

P S Sastry, IISc, E1 222 lecture 15, Aug 2021 13/34

### Jensen's Inequality

▶ Let  $g: \Re \to \Re$  be a convex function. Then

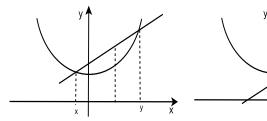
$$g(EX) \le E[g(X)]$$

- ▶ For example,  $(EX)^2 \le E[X^2]$
- ▶ Function *q* is convex if

$$g(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y) \le \alpha g(x) + (1-\alpha)g(y), \ \forall x, y, \ \forall 0 \le \alpha \le 1$$

▶ If g is convex, then, given any  $x_0$ , exists  $\lambda(x_0)$  such that

$$g(x) \ge g(x_0) + \lambda(x_0)(x - x_0), \ \forall x$$



## Jensen's Inequality: Proof

▶ We have:  $\forall x_0$ ,  $\exists \lambda(x_0)$  such that

$$g(x) \ge g(x_0) + \lambda(x_0)(x - x_0), \ \forall x$$

▶ Take  $x_0 = EX$  and  $x = X(\omega)$ . Then

$$g(X(\omega)) \ge g(EX) + \lambda(EX)(X(\omega) - EX), \ \forall \omega$$

▶  $Y(\omega) \ge Z(\omega), \ \forall \omega \implies Y \ge Z \implies EY \ge EZ$ Hence we get

$$g(X) \geq g(EX) + \lambda(EX)(X - EX)$$
  

$$\Rightarrow E[g(X)] \geq g(EX) + \lambda(EX) E[X - EX] = g(EX)$$

This completes the proof

- ▶ Consider the set of all mean-zero random variables.
- ▶ It is closed under addition and scalar (real number) multiplication.
- $\operatorname{Cov}(X,Y) = E[XY]$  satisfies
  - 1. Cov(X,Y) = Cov(Y,X)2.  $Cov(X,X) = Var(X) \ge 0$  and is zero only if X = 0
  - 3. Cov(aX, Y) = aCov(X, Y)
  - 4.  $Cov(X_1 + X_2, Y) = Cov(X_1, Y) + Cov(X_2, Y)$
- ▶ Thus Cov(X,Y) is an inner product here.
- ▶ The Cauchy-Schwartz inequality ( $|\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{y}| \le ||\mathbf{x}|| \ ||\mathbf{y}||$ ) gives

$$|\mathsf{Cov}(X,Y)| \leq \sqrt{\mathsf{Cov}(X,X)\;\mathsf{Cov}(Y,Y)} = \sqrt{\mathsf{Var}(X)\;\mathsf{Var}(Y)}$$

- ▶ This is same as  $|\rho_{XY}| < 1$
- A generalization of Cauchy-Schwartz inequality is Holder inequality

### Holder Inequality

▶ For all p,q with p,q>1 and  $\frac{1}{p}+\frac{1}{q}=1$ 

$$E[|XY|] \le (E|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E|Y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

(We assume all the expectations are finite)

• If we take p = q = 2

$$E[|XY|] \le \sqrt{E[X^2] \ E[Y^2]}$$

▶ This is same as Cauchy-Schwartz inequality. This implies  $|\rho_{XY}| < 1$ .

$$\begin{split} \left| \mathsf{Cov}(X,Y) \right| &= \left| E[(X - EX)(Y - EY)] \right| \\ &\leq E\left[ \left| (X - EX)(Y - EY) \right| \right] \\ &\leq \sqrt{E[(X - EX)^2]} \; E[(Y - EY)^2] \\ &= \sqrt{\mathsf{Var}(X) \; \mathsf{Var}(Y)} \end{split}$$

#### **Proof**

▶ First we will show, for p, q > 1 and  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ 

$$|xy| \le \frac{|x|^p}{p} + \frac{|y|^q}{q}, \ \forall x, y \in \Re$$

- For x > 0,  $g(x) = -\log(x)$  is convex because  $g''(x) = 1/x^2 \ge 0$ ,  $\forall x$ .
- ▶ Hence, for all  $x_1, x_2 > 0$  and  $0 \le t \le 1$ ,

$$-\log(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \leq -t\log(x_1) - (1-t)\log(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) \geq \log\left(x_1^t x_2^{(1-t)}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow tx_1 + (1-t)x_2 \geq x_1^t x_2^{(1-t)}$$

• We have for all  $x_1, x_2 > 0$  and 0 < t < 1,

$$tx_1 + (1-t)x_2 > x_1^t x_2^{(1-t)}$$

▶ Take  $x_1 = |x|^p$ ,  $x_2 = |y|^q$ ,  $t = \frac{1}{p}$  (and hence  $1 - t = \frac{1}{q}$ )

$$(|x|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (|y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}} \le \frac{1}{p} |x|^p + \frac{1}{q} |y|^q$$

$$\Rightarrow |xy| \leq \frac{|x|^p}{p} + \frac{|y|^q}{q}, \ \forall x, y$$

$$|xy| \le \frac{|x|^p}{p} + \frac{|y|^q}{q}, \ \forall x, y$$

▶ Take 
$$x = X(\omega) \left( E|X|^p \right)^{-\frac{1}{p}}$$
,  $y = Y(\omega) \left( E|Y|^q \right)^{-\frac{1}{q}}$ 

Take 
$$x=X(\omega)$$
  $(E|X|^p)^{-p}$  ,  $y=Y(\omega)$   $(E|Y|^q)^{-q}$  
$$|X(\omega)Y(\omega)| \qquad \leq |X(\omega)|^p \ (E|X|^p)^{-1} \ \perp \ |Y(\omega)|^p \ (E|X|^p)^{-1}$$

$$\frac{|X(\omega)Y(\omega)|}{(E|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E|Y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \le \frac{|X(\omega)|^p (E|X|^p)^{-1}}{p} + \frac{|Y(\omega)|^q (E|Y|^q)^{-1}}{q}$$

$$|XY| \qquad |X|^p (E|X|^p)^{-1} \quad |Y|^q (E|Y|^q)^{-1}$$

>	$\frac{ XY }{(E X ^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E Y ^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}}$	$\leq$	$\frac{ X ^p (E X ^p)^{-1}}{p}$	$+ \frac{ Y ^q (E Y ^q)^{-1}}{q}$	
>	$\frac{E XY }{(E Y p)^{\frac{1}{p}}(E Y q)^{\frac{1}{q}}}$	$\leq$	$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$		

$$\frac{E|XY|}{(E|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E|Y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \le \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow E|XY| \le (E|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E|Y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

▶ Jensen's Inequality: If g is convex and EX and E[g(X)] exist

$$g(EX) \le E[g(X)]$$

▶ Holder Inequality: For p, q > 1 and  $\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ 

$$|E|XY| \le (E|X|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} (E|Y|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

(assuming all expectations exist)

- ▶ For p = q = 2, the above is Cauchy-Schwartz inequality
- ▶ This implies  $|\rho_{XY}| < 1$
- Minkowski's Inequality:

$$(E|X+Y|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} < (E|X|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} + (E|Y|^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$$

#### Chernoff Bounds

 Recall Markov inequality. If h is positive, strictly increasing

$$P[X > a] = P[h(X) > h(a)] \le \frac{E[h(X)]}{h(a)}$$

▶ Take  $h(x) = e^{sx}$ , s > 0. Then

$$P[X > a] \le \frac{E[e^{sX}]}{e^{sa}} = \frac{M_X(s)}{e^{sa}}, \forall s > 0$$

► The RHS is a function of S. We can get a tight bound by using a value of s which minimizes RHS.

## Hoeffding Inequality

- Often we need to deal with sums of iid random variables.
- ► Here is a simple version of an inequality very useful in such situations.
- ▶ Let  $X_i$  be iid and let  $X_i \in [a, b], \forall i$ . Let  $EX_i = \mu$

$$P\left[\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i - n\mu\right| \ge \epsilon\right] \le 2e^{-\frac{2\epsilon^2}{n(b-a)}}, \ \epsilon > 0$$

Note we do not need knowledge of any moments of  $X_i$  to calculate the bound

- Let  $X_1, X_2, \cdots$  be iid random variables
- Let  $EX_i = \mu$  and let  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$
- ▶ Define  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ . Then

$$ES_n = \sum_{i=1}^n EX_i = n\mu;$$
 and  $Var(S_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n Var(X_i) = n\sigma^2$ 

▶ Consider  $\frac{S_n}{n}$ , average of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

$$\begin{split} E\left[\frac{S_n}{n}\right] &= \frac{1}{n}ES_n = \mu, \ \, \forall n \\ \operatorname{Var}\left(\frac{S_n}{n}\right) &= \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2\operatorname{Var}(S_n) = \frac{n\sigma^2}{n^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}, \ \, \forall n \end{split}$$

### Weak Law of large numbers

lacksquare  $X_i$  are iid,  $EX_i = \mu$ ,  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$ ,  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ 

$$E\left[\frac{S_n}{n}\right] = \mu; \quad \text{ and } \quad \operatorname{Var}\left(\frac{S_n}{n}\right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

- As n becomes large, variance of  $\frac{S_n}{n}$  becomes close to zero
- $ightharpoonup rac{S_n}{n}$  'converges' to its expectation,  $\mu$ , as  $n o \infty$
- By Chebyshev Inequality

$$P\left[\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \mu\right| \ge \epsilon\right] \le \frac{\mathsf{Var}(\frac{S_n}{n})}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2}, \ \forall \epsilon > 0$$

► Thus, we get

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P\left[ \left| \frac{S_n}{n} - \mu \right| \ge \epsilon \right] = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0$$

▶ Known as weak law of large numbers

- ▶ Suppose we are tossing a (biased) coin repeatedly
- $X_i = 1$  if  $i^{th}$  toss came up head and is zero otherwise.
- $EX_i = p$  where p is the probability of heads.
- $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is the number of heads in n tosses
- $\frac{S_n}{n}$  is the fraction of heads in n tosses.
- We are saying  $\frac{S_n}{n}$  'converges' to p
- ► The probability of head is the limiting fraction of heads when you toss the coin infinite times

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P\left[ \left| \frac{S_n}{n} - p \right| \ge \epsilon \right] = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0$$

- This is true of any event.
- ► Consider repeatedly performing a random experiment
- lacksquare  $X_i$  be the indicator of event A on  $i^{th}$  repetition
- ▶ Then  $EX_i = P(A), \forall i$
- $ightharpoonup rac{S_n}{n}$  is the fraction of times the event A occurred.
- ► The fraction of times an event occurs 'converges' to its probability as you repeat the experiment infinite times

- ▶ X is a random variable and we want to find EX.
- ▶ Make multiple independent observations of X. Call them  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .
- ▶ These are called samples of X.  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- $ightharpoonup \frac{S_n}{n}$  is the sample mean average of all samples.
- ▶  $\frac{S_n}{n}$  has the same expectation as X but has much smaller variance.
- ► Sample mean 'converges' to expectation ('population mean')
- ► This is the principle of sample surveys
- ▶ In general one can get an approximate value of expectation of *X* through simulations/experiments
- Known as Monte Carlo simulations

lacksquare  $X_i$  are iid,  $EX_i = \mu$ ,  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$ ,  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ 

$$E\left[\frac{S_n}{n}\right] = \mu; \quad \text{ and } \quad \operatorname{Var}\left(\frac{S_n}{n}\right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

- ▶ As n becomes large, variance of  $\frac{S_n}{n}$  becomes close to zero
- We would like to say  $\frac{S_n}{n} \to \mu$ .
- We need to properly define convergence of a sequence of random variables
- ▶ One way of looking at this convergence is

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P\left[ \left| \frac{S_n}{n} - \mu \right| \ge \epsilon \right] = 0, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0$$

► There are other ways of defining convergence of random variables

- ▶ Recall convergence of real number sequences.
- A sequence of real numbers  $x_n$  is said to converge to  $x_0$ ,  $x_n \to x_0$ , if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists N < \infty, \ s.t. \ |x_n - x_0| < \epsilon, \ \forall n > N$$

- ► To show a sequence converges using this definition, we need to know (or guess) the limit.
- Convergent sequences of real numbers satisfy the Cauchy criterion

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists N < \infty, \ s.t. |x_n - x_m| \le \epsilon, \ \forall n, m \ge N$$

- Now consider defining sequence of random variables  $X_n$  converging to  $X_0$
- ▶ These are not numbers. They are, in fact functions.
- ► There are different notions of convergence of a sequence of functions to a function.

- ▶ Consider a sequence of functions  $g_n$  mapping  $\Re$  to  $\Re$ .
- We can say  $g_n \to g_0$  if  $g_n(x) \to g_0(x)$ ,  $\forall x$ .
- ► This is known as point-wise convergence
- ▶ Or we can ask for  $\int |g_n(x) g_0(x)|^2 dx \to 0$ .
- ► There are multiple notions of convergence that are reasonable for a sequence of functions.
- ► Thus there would be multiple ways to define convergence of sequence of random variables.

## Convergence in Probability

▶ A sequence of random variables,  $X_n$ , is said to **converge** in **probability** to a random variable  $X_0$  is

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P[|X_n - X_0| > \epsilon] = 0, \ \forall \epsilon > 0$$

This is denoted as  $X_n \stackrel{P}{\to} X_0$ 

- We would mostly be considering convergence to a constant.
- By the definition of limit, the above means

$$\forall \delta > 0, \ \exists N < \infty, \ s.t. \ P[|X_n - X_0| > \epsilon] < \delta, \ \forall n > N$$

• We only need marginal distributions of individual  $X_n$  to decide whether a sequence converges to a constant in probability

## Example: Partial sums of iid random variables

- $ightharpoonup X_i$  are iid,  $EX_i = \mu$ ,  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$ ,  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- ▶ Then we saw

$$P\left[\left|\frac{S_n}{n} - \mu\right| \ge \epsilon\right] \le \frac{\sigma^2}{n\epsilon^2}, \ \forall \epsilon > 0$$

- ► Hence we have  $\frac{S_n}{n} \stackrel{P}{\to} \mu$
- Weak law of large numbers says that sample mean converges in probability to the expectation