UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO | Statistical Sciences

DoSS Summer Bootcamp Probability Module 8

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Recap

Learnt in last module:

- Stochastic convergence
  - Convergence in distribution
  - Convergence in probability
  - Convergence almost surely
  - Convergence in L^p
  - Relationship between convergences

Outline

- Convergence of functions of random variables
  - Slutsky's theorem
  - Continuous mapping theorem
- Laws of large numbers
  - WLLN
  - SLLN
  - Glivenko-Cantelli theorem
- Central limit theorem

Convergence of functions of random variables

Recall: Stochastic convergence If $X_n \to X$, $Y_n \to Y$ in some sense, how is the limiting property of $f(X_n, Y_n)$?

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Convergence of functions of random variables (a.s.)

Suppose the probability space is complete, if $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} Y$, then for any real numbers a, b,

- $aX_n + bY_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} aX + bY$;
- $X_n Y_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} XY$.

Remark:

- Still require all the random variables to be defined on the same probability space

Convergence of functions of random variables

Convergence of functions of random variables (probability)

Suppose the probability space is complete, if $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} Y$, then for any real numbers a, b,

- $aX_n + bY_n \xrightarrow{P} aX + bY$;
- $X_nY_n \xrightarrow{P} XY$.

Remark:

- Still require all the random variables to be defined on the same probability space

Convergence of functions of random variables

Convergence of functions of random variables (L^p)

Suppose the probability space is complete, if $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{L^p} Y$, then for any real numbers a, b,

- $aX_n + bY_n \xrightarrow{L^p} aX + bY$;

Remark:

- Still require all the random variables to be defined on the same probability space

Convergence of functions of random variables

Remark: Convergence in distribution is different.

Slutsky's theorem

If $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ and $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} c$ (c is a constant), then

- $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X + c$;
- $X_n Y_n \xrightarrow{d} cX$;
- $X_n / Y_n \xrightarrow{d} X/c$, where $c \neq 0$.

Convergence of functions of random variables

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Slutsky's theorem

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Remark:

- The theorem remains valid if we replace all the convergence in distribution with convergence in probability.

Convergence of functions of random variables

Remark: The requirement that $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} c$ (c is a constant) is necessary.

Convergence of functions of random variables

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Examples:

$X_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$, $Y_n = -Xn$, then

- $X_n \xrightarrow{d} Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{d} Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$;
- $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{d} 0$;
- $X_n Y_n = -X_n^2 \xrightarrow{d} -\chi^2(1)$;
- $X_n / Y_n = -1$.

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Convergence of functions of random variables

Continuous mapping theorem

Let X_n, X be random variables, if $g(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfies $\mathbb{P}(X \in D_g) = 0$, then

- $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(X_n) \xrightarrow{a.s.} g(X)$;
- $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(X_n) \xrightarrow{P} g(X)$;
- $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(X_n) \xrightarrow{d} g(X)$;

where D_g is the set of discontinuity points of $g(\cdot)$.

Convergence of functions of random variables

Continuous mapping theorem

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- $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(X_n) \xrightarrow{P} g(X)$;
- $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(X_n) \xrightarrow{d} g(X)$;

where D_g is the set of discontinuity points of $g(\cdot)$.

Remark:

- If $g(\cdot)$ is continuous, then ...
- If X is a continuous random variable, and D_g only include countably many points, then ...

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Law of large numbers

Weak Law of Large Numbers (WLLN)

If $X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n$ are i.i.d. random variables, $\mu = \mathbb{E}(|X_i|) < \infty$, then

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i}{n} \quad \xrightarrow{P} \quad \mu.$$

Remark:

A more easy-to-prove version is the L^2 weak law, where an additional assumption $Var(X_i) < \infty$ is required.

Sketch of the proof:

Law of large numbers

A generalization of the theorem: triangular array

Triangular array

A triangular array of random variables is a collection $\{X_{n,k}\}_{1\leq k\leq n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
&X_{1,1}\\
&X_{2,1}, X_{2,2}\\
&X_{3,1}, X_{3,2}, X_{3,3}\\
&\quad\vdots\\
&X_{n,1}, X_{n,2}, \cdots, X_{n,n}
\end{aligned}$$

Remark: We can consider the limiting property of the row sum S_n.

Law of Large Numbers

L^2 weak law for triangular array

Suppose $\{X_{n,k}\}$ is a triangular array, $n = 1, 2, \cdots, k = 1, 2, \cdots, n$. Let $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^{n} X_{n,k}$, $\mu_n = \mathbb{E}(S_n)$, if $\sigma_n^2 / b_n^2 \to 0$, where $\sigma_n^2 = Var(S_n)$ and b_n is a sequence of positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{S_n - \mu_n}{b_n} \xrightarrow{P} 0.$$

Remark:

The L^2 weak law for i.i.d. random variables is a special case of that for triangular array.

Law of large numbers

Proof:

Law of large numbers

Proof:

Remark:

A more generalized version incorporates truncation, then the second-moment constraint is relieved.

Law of large numbers

Strong Law of Large Numbers (SLLN)

Let $X_1, X_2, \cdots$ be an i.i.d. sequence satisfying $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$ and $\mathbb{E}(|X_i|) < \infty$, then $\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mu$.

Remark: The proof needs Borel-Cantelli lemma.

Law of large numbers

Strong Law of Large Numbers (SLLN)

Let $X_1, X_2, \cdots$ be an i.i.d. sequence satisfying $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$ and $\mathbb{E}(|X_i|) < \infty$, then $\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mu$.

Remark: The proof needs Borel-Cantelli lemma.

Glivenko-Cantelli theorem

Let $X_i, i = 1, \cdots, n$ i.i.d. with distribution function $F(\cdot)$, and let $F_n(x) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i \le x)$, then as $n \to \infty$,

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |F(x) - F_n(x)| \quad \to \quad 0, \quad a.s.$$

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Law of large numbers

Proof:

Limit Theorems and Counterexamples

Recall: For the law of large numbers to hold, the assumption $E|X| < \infty$ is crucial.

Law of Large Numbers fail for infinite mean i.i.d. random variables

If $X_1 X_2, \ldots$ are i.i.d. to X with $E|X_i| = \infty$, then for $S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$, $P(\lim_{n\to\infty} S_n/n \in (-\infty, \infty)) = 0$.

Proof: Omitted

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Central Limit Theorem

What is the limiting distribution of the sample mean?

Classic CLT

Suppose $X_1, \cdots X_n$ is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables with $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$, $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2 < \infty$, then

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \mu)}{\sigma} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1).$$

Remark:

- The proof involves characteristic function.
- A more generalized CLT is referred to as "Lindeberg CLT".

Central Limit Theorem

Example:

Suppose $X_i \sim Bernoulli(p)$, i.i.d., consider $Z_n = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}$, then by CLT, $Z_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ asymptotically.

Monotone Convergence Theorem

Monotone Convergence Theorem

If $X_n \geq c$ and $X_n \nearrow X$, then $EX_n \nearrow EX$

Usage:

Dominate Convergence Theorem

Dominated Convergence Theorem

If $X_n \to X$ a.s. and $|X_n| \leq Y$ a.s. for all n and Y is integrable, then $EX_n \to EX$

Usage:

Delta Method

More about CLT: Delta method

Suppose X_n are i.i.d. random variables with $EX_n = 0$, $VAR(X_n) = \sigma^2 > 0$. Let g be a measurable function that is differentiable at 0 with $g'(0) \neq 0$. Then

$$\sqrt{n}\left(g\left(\frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} X_k}{n} - g(0)\right)\right) \to N(0, \sigma^2 g'(0)^2) \quad \text{weakly.}$$

Proof under stronger assumption: Here, we suppose g is continuously differentiable on $\mathbb{R}$. If you are interested in a general proof refer to Robert Keener's *Theoretical Statistics*.

Problem Set

Problem 1: Prove that on a complete probability space, if $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} Y$, then $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X + Y$.

Problem 2: Prove that on a complete probability space, if $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$, $Y_n \xrightarrow{P} Y$, then $X_n + Y_n \xrightarrow{P} X + Y$.

Problem 3: A bank teller serves customers standing in the queue one by one. Suppose that the service time X_i for customer i has mean $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = 2$ (minutes) and $Var(X_i) = 1$. We assume that service times for different bank customers are independent. Let Y be the total time the bank teller spends serving 50 customers. Find $\mathbb{P}(90 < Y < 110)$.