

# Convergence of Sequences of Random Variables<sup>1</sup>

1. Definitions (All quantities in boldface are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  unless otherwise stated )

★  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mathbf{X}$  means  $P\{s : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{X}_n(s) = \mathbf{X}(s)\} = 1$ .

★  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X}$  means  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{|\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{X}| < \epsilon\} = 1$ .

★  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$  means for every continuity point  $\mathbf{x}$  of  $F_{\mathbf{X}}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\mathbf{X}_n}(\mathbf{x}) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$ .

2.  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mathbf{X} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$ .

3. If  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector of constants,  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{a} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{a}$ .

4. Strong Law of Large Numbers (SLLN): Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be i.i.d. random vectors with finite first moment. Then  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} E(\mathbf{X}_1)$ .

5. Central Limit Theorem: Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be i.i.d. random vectors with expected value vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$  and covariance matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ . Then  $\sqrt{n}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu})$  converges in distribution to a multivariate normal with mean  $\mathbf{0}$  and covariance matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ .

6. Slutsky Theorems for Convergence in Distribution:

(a) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$  and if  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  (where  $q \leq m$ ) is continuous except possibly on a set  $C$  with  $P(\mathbf{X} \in C) = 0$ , then  $f(\mathbf{X}_n) \xrightarrow{d} f(\mathbf{X})$ .

(b) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$  and  $(\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{Y}_n) \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{0}$ , then  $\mathbf{Y}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$ .

(c) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_n \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_n \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{c}$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_n \\ \mathbf{Y}_n \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{d} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix}$$

7. Slutsky Theorems for Convergence in Probability:

(a) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X}$  and if  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  (where  $q \leq m$ ) is continuous except possibly on a set  $C$  with  $P(\mathbf{X} \in C) = 0$ , then  $f(\mathbf{X}_n) \xrightarrow{P} f(\mathbf{X})$ .

(b) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X}$  and  $(\mathbf{X}_n - \mathbf{Y}_n) \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{0}$ , then  $\mathbf{Y}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X}$ .

(c) If  $\mathbf{X}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_n \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_n \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{Y}$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_n \\ \mathbf{Y}_n \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{P} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix}$$

8. Delta Method (Theorem of Cramér, Ferguson p. 45): Let  $g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  be such that the elements of  $\dot{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial x_j} \right]_{k \times d}$  are continuous in a neighborhood of  $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . If  $\mathbf{X}_n$

is a sequence of  $d$ -dimensional random vectors such that  $\sqrt{n}(\mathbf{X}_n - \boldsymbol{\theta}) \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X}$ , then  $\sqrt{n}(g(\mathbf{X}_n) - g(\boldsymbol{\theta})) \xrightarrow{d} \dot{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\mathbf{X}$ . In particular, if  $\sqrt{n}(\mathbf{X}_n - \boldsymbol{\theta}) \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{X} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ , then  $\sqrt{n}(g(\mathbf{X}_n) - g(\boldsymbol{\theta})) \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{Y} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \dot{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\dot{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta})')$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>This material can be found in many texts. I took it from T. S. Ferguson's *A course in large sample theory*: Chapman and Hall, 1996