

Laws of Large Numbers

Weak Law of Large Numbers: Fix $\epsilon > 0$ (usually small, e.g. $\epsilon = \frac{1}{10000}$) and consider an infinite sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots that are independent. Then the probability that the average of the first n random variables is more than ϵ away from the mean of the random variables converges to 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$. (Need the X_j 's to all share a common expected value, say μ .)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\left|\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n} - \mu\right| < \epsilon\right) = 1$$

i.e.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\left|\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n} - \mu\right| \geq \epsilon\right) = 0$$

Strong Law of Large Numbers

Again, assume X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots is an infinite sequence of independent random variables with mean μ . The strong law of large numbers says the average of the first n of the random variables will converge as $n \rightarrow \infty$ to the mean μ , with probability 1.

$$P\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n} = \mu\right) = 1.$$

Need higher math, especially to prove the Strong Law of Large Numbers in its full generality.